
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
LAND AT HEATH FARM / HEMPSTEAD ROAD
HOLT, NORFOLK**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

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NGR: TG 088 386	Report No: 4013
District: North Norfolk	Site Code: n/a
Approved: Claire Halpin MIfA	Project No: P4570
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Project details			
Project name	<i>Proposed Development, Land at Heath Farm/Hempstead Road, Holt, Norfolk</i>		
<i>In February 2012 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological desk based assessment on land at Heath Farm/Hempstead Road, Holt, Norfolk (TG 088 386). The assessment was prepared in support of a proposed planning application to redevelop the 15 hectare site for mixed use development</i>			
<i>No archaeological finds have previously been recorded on the assessment site. Two possible Bronze Age barrows and a burnt mound are located to the south of the assessment site (NHER 6483, 53183, 53186), and a small number of prehistoric flint flakes have been recovered from within the study area (NHER 28286, 28285). A small quantity of medieval archaeology has been located within the historic core of Holt comprising pottery, ditches and a fragment of a stone cross (NHER 55058, 35196, 13387, 51282). It is probable that the assessment site was located on common land from the late medieval period until the 19th century. The Holt branch of the Midland and Great Northern Railway bordered the north-west side of the assessment site which is now the course of the A148 (NHER 13584).</i>			
<i>Previous ground disturbance in the form of quarrying has occurred around the site, but there is no evidence for such ground reduction within it. The proposed development will have a high impact on any archaeological remains, if present that may be within the extensive area of the site.</i>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>January & February 2012</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work	<i>TBC</i>
P. number	<i>4570</i>	Site code	<i>-</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Desk Based Assessment</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use	<i>Farmland</i>		
Planned development	<i>Mixed including 200 dwellings, employment land and serviced industrial land</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Significant finds(dates)	<i>-</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Norfolk</i>	<i>North Norfolk</i>	<i>Holt</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Norfolk HER (NHER)</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>-</i>		
Area of site	<i>15 ha</i>		
NGR	<i>TG 088 386</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>67.5 and 62.5m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>N/A</i>		
Project supervisor (PO)	<i>-</i>		
Funded by	<i>Brown Brothers, Hopkins Homes Ltd and Bullen Investment Ltd.</i>		
Full title	<i>Proposed Development, Land at Heath Farm/Hempstead Road, Holt, Norfolk. An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment</i>		
Authors	<i>Thompson P.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4013</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>February 2012</i>		

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT, LAND AT HEATH FARM / HEMPSTEAD ROAD, HOLT, NORFOLK

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

SUMMARY

In February 2012 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological desk based assessment on land at Heath Farm/Hempstead Road, Holt, Norfolk (TG 088 386). The assessment was prepared in support of a proposed planning application to redevelop the 15 hectare site for mixed use development

No archaeological finds have previously been recorded on the assessment site. Two possible Bronze Age barrows and a burnt mound are located to the south of the assessment site (NHER 6483, 53183, 53186), and a small number of prehistoric flint flakes have been recovered from within the study area (NHER 28286, 28285). A small quantity of medieval archaeology has been located within the historic core of Holt comprising pottery, ditches and a fragment of a stone cross (NHER 55058, 35196, 13387, 51282). It is probable that the assessment site was located on common land from the late medieval period until the 19th century. The Holt branch of the Midland and Great Northern Railway bordered the north-west side of the assessment site which is now the course of the A148 (NHER 13584).

Previous ground disturbance in the form of quarrying has occurred around the site, but there is no evidence for such ground reduction within it. The proposed development will have a high impact on any archaeological remains, if present that may be within the extensive area of the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February 2012 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological desk based assessment on land at Heath Farm/Hempstead Road, Holt, Norfolk (TG 088 386; Figs. 1-2). The assessment was prepared in support of a proposed outline planning application to redevelop the 15 hectare site for mixed use development. This includes construction of approximately 200 dwellings, with provision of at least 3.5 hectares in employment land and 5 hectares as serviced industrial land. In rough approximation, the southern part of the site is proposed for light industrial use, the north-eastern part for commercial enterprise including hotels, and the remainder is for residential use.

1.2 The desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance to a specification compiled by AS (dated 23/09/2011). The desk based assessment

adhered to the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*, and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* (revised 2008). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The desk-based assessment's aims are as follows:

- To collate, verify and assess all information relevant to presence, survival and character of archaeological remains/structures within the study area;
- To provide a predictive model of the sub-surface deposits likely to be present on the site and assess their archaeological significance; and
- To assess the impact of development proposals for the site on any identified archaeological remains.

Planning policy context

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.5 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE (Figs. 1 - 2)

2.1 Holt is located on the A148 5km south of the north Norfolk coast and is approximately 15km west of Cromer. The assessment site is located on the south-eastern edge of Holt. The A148 forms the site's northern edge with the Hempstead Road demarcating the southern border. Hempstead Road Industrial Estate is situated on the south-eastern edge of the site, and a smaller industrial area is located towards the south-west corner of the assessment site which has a phone mast at its northern end. The western edge of the assessment site is bordered by a county wildlife site. The eastern edge of the assessment site is defined by a single track road and designated public footpath leading to Heath Farm.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Archaeological databases

The standard collation of all known archaeological sites and spot finds within Norfolk comes from the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER). In order to provide a representative sample, the NHER database was searched for all known entries within a c. 1 km radius of the site. Entries within the approximate 1 km radius are listed (Appendix 1) and plotted below (Fig. 4). Their significance, where relevant, is discussed in Section 4.2. Significant HER entries from beyond the 1 km radius have also been discussed where relevant. In the text the 1km radius is referred to as the study area and the proposed development area is called the assessment site.

3.2 Historical and cartographic sources

The principal sources for these types of evidence were the Norwich Millennium Centre (NML), and the Norfolk Heritage Centre (NHC), in Norwich. Relevant documents are listed in Appendix 2 & 3 and reproduced in Figures 5 to 9.

3.3 Secondary sources

The principal sources of secondary material were the Millennium Centre, and the Heritage Centre, both in Norwich, as well as AS's own reference library. All sources, including websites, are listed in the bibliography.

3.4 Geological/geotechnical information

A description of the superficial and solid geology of the local and surrounding area was compiled in order to assess the likely presence and potential condition of any archaeological remains on the site. This information was drawn from appropriate maps based on the work of the British Geological Survey.

4 THE EVIDENCE

4.1 Topography, geology and soils

4.1.1 The assessment site is located 550m north-west of the River Glaven on ground that slightly undulates between c.67.50 and c.62.52m AOD (Fig. 3). The highest point of the assessment site is at the centre and southern end which is between 67.50 and 66.83m AOD. The ground slopes down to 62.52m AOD at the north-eastern edge of the assessment site and 64.22 m AOD at the western edge.

4.1.2 The underlying solid geology is Upper Cretaceous Chalk. The local soils are of the Wick 3 association classed as typical brown earth which are non-alluvial loamy soils with a non-calcareous subsoil without significant clay enrichment.

4.1.3 In 2007 John Moore Heritage Services conducted an archaeological watching brief on land approximately 200m north of the assessment site. Here the topsoil comprised a dark grey-black sandy loam 0.2m thick. On the periphery of the site this lay over a subsoil of orange-brown to light grey sandy clay up to 0.25m thick. In the middle of the site, the subsoil was replaced by disturbed or made ground forming a compact layer of pale orange-brown clay sand containing 50% flint pebbles mixed with brick fragments and other modern demolition debris, along with 19th century mass produced white earthenware pottery. Beneath this disturbed layer was present, in patches only, a thin deposit of dark grey mottled with orange-brown clayey sand between 0.05 and 0.3m thick. The underlying natural on the site comprised firm yellow-orange sand with gravel and pebbles (John Moore Heritage Services 2007).

4.2 Archaeological and historical background

Palaeolithic and Mesolithic (c. 900,000 BC – 4,500 BC)

4.2.1 Small concentrations of Palaeolithic handaxes have been found in the north Norfolk region, including one from near Hempstead Hall (NHER 6509; Wymer 2005). A Late Glacial site at Kelling Heath to the north-east of Holt is one of the richest known in Norfolk, although only stone tools survive from the occupation site owing to the acidity of the soil (NHER 6246; Wymer 2005a). However, there is very little evidence for earlier prehistoric activity immediately around Holt. A Palaeolithic flint flake was found near Lodge Bottom during field walking approximately 750m north-east of the assessment site (NHER 28286).

Neolithic

4.2.2 It is in the Neolithic period that evidence for human activity becomes a little more common, mainly indicated by the presence of flint axe heads and other stone tools. Neolithic axe and adze heads have been recovered in the environs of Holt Country Park to the south (NHER 6510, 6511, 6512, 40766). A polished

axe head was found near Holt Hall to the north-west (NHER 6194), while a similar example was discovered at Bacton Gas Terminal amongst stone imported from pits dug at Holt (NHER 6482). Prehistoric flint flakes were found during field walking at Heath Plantation 600-650m east of the assessment site (NHER 28285). A Neolithic longbarrow has been identified from aerial photography at High Kelling 2km north-east of the assessment site (NHER 6300).

Bronze Age

4.2.3 The first metal tools appeared in Norfolk c.2,500 BC, becoming more common after c.2,100 BC, and by the late Bronze Age metalwork find spots are spread almost uniformly across much of the county (Ashwin 2005). A middle Bronze Age rapier (NHER 32027), and a copper alloy palstave (NHER 6484) have been recovered within the parish of Holt taken from unspecified locations.

4.2.4 The earliest manmade monuments to become prevalent on the landscape are round barrows which date to the early and middle Bronze Age. These structures may imply greater social hierarchy as only a small percentage of the population was buried beneath them (Ashwin 2005). Over 30 round barrows are located at Kelling Heath forming the largest barrow group in Norfolk (NHER 38629). Two possible Bronze Age barrows are located to the south of the assessment site (NHER 6483, 53183). The nearest is approximately 600m away (NHER 6483) and has a burnt mound approximately 80m to its south-west (NHER 53186). The second is another 500m south-west of the first barrow (NHER 53183). Two further undated ring ditches identified from aerial photography are located 2km north-west of the assessment site (NHER 19387, 19388).

Iron Age

4.2.5 The Iron Age saw more intensive exploitation of the landscape with “hill forts” appearing as the most distinctive monuments, although in Norfolk they are uncommon and mainly confined to the west of the county. There is however, no evidence for Iron Age occupation identified so far within Holt parish (NHER Holt parish). The closest excavated major settlement to the study area is in Sandringham parish (Hutcheson and Ashwin 2005). A possible Iron Age enclosure or Roman signal station is located east of the assessment site on Bodham Common (NHER 18191), and a series of rectilinear enclosures of possible late Iron Age or Roman date are recorded from the vicinity of Kelling Heath (NHER 27978).

Roman

4.2.6 Over three and a half centuries of Roman rule saw unprecedented change in the landscape, social environment and infrastructure of Britain. A network of forts, towns and roads crossed much of the country with the material culture

becoming more organised and visible, particularly seen in the introduction of masonry buildings, a largely coin based economy, and other durable materials. The nearest large Romano-British settlement is the defended 30ha town of Brampton located 20 km south-east of Holt. It was the centre of a large-scale pottery industry with 140 kilns known to date (Green 1977). Further pottery producing sites are known closer to Holt at Sheringham (Howlett 1960), and Weybourne (NHER 6273). However, no Romano-British structural remains have been located within the parish of Holt although small scatters of pottery, coins and brooches indicate that there was a presence within the area. Pottery, tile and a coin was found in a field to the north-west of Holt Hall (NHER 15024). Most of the remaining finds were made from metal detecting and their precise locations are not recorded, but the two closest finds, both brooches, were found no nearer than approximately 700m west of the assessment site (NHER 18103, 28656).

Anglo-Saxon

4.2.7 The end of Roman rule is officially dated to AD 410, and with it came the collapse of the infrastructure, the end of town and villa life and a decline in population. At this time some level of Anglo-Saxon immigration occurred whether as mercenaries or farmers, although much of the existing population must have remained. Due to a switch to a less archaeologically visible material culture settlement evidence is hard to detect, but the general picture is one of continuity of smaller farmsteads but often with the introduction of Anglo-Saxon style sunken featured buildings (SFBs) and timber halls. The pattern of early Anglo-Saxon settlement is generally similar to the prehistoric and Roman pattern being thinly spread across Norfolk's central Boulder Clay plateau. In some areas however, extensive field systems have now been identified dating back at least to the Romano-British period which were taken over, or continued in use, during the Anglo-Saxon period (Penn 1994).

4.2.8 The finding of five early Saxon brooches to the north of the parish during metal detecting suggests the presence of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery, although the precise location is uncertain (NHER 3172). The only Anglo-Saxon finds recovered from within the study area are two sherds of Saxo-Norman Thetford ware pottery from a not closely recorded location west of the assessment site (NHER 51282).

Medieval

4.2.9 The earliest record for Holt is in the 1086 Domesday Survey (*Holte*). The name is common and derives from place at the wood or thicket (Mills 1991). In the reign of Edward the Confessor the manor of Holt was held in royal demesne but by 1086 belonged to the De Vaux family (Kelly's Directory 1875 & Morris 1984). The Domesday survey records 2 hides at Holt that always had 24 villagers, 24 smallholders and 2 slaves. There was always 1 plough in lordship and ?another could be restored with 11 men's ploughs. In 1066 there was 5

acres of meadow, woodland for 60 pigs, 5 mills and always 1 cob. In 1086 there were 20 pigs and 60 sheep otherwise the estate remained the same (Morris 1984). The early medieval village appears to have had two foci centred on the church and on a large market place which may have been the centre of a large Anglo-Saxon estate (Penn 1994b). The market is therefore believed to have been in existence by 1086, although it is first recorded in 1309 and its original plan is lost due to the encroachment of subsequent rows of houses.

4.2.10 In the late medieval period Holt was a satellite village to the more populous townships of Blakeney, Wiveton and Cley. By c.1350 eastern Norfolk was the most densely populated area of England and due to the high population, hunger for land, and a level of freedom permitted owing to manorial fragmentation, diversification into cloth making took place (Sutton 1989). North-east Norfolk became a centre for production of high quality linen and a wide range of woollen textiles including Aylsham and Worsted cloth both named after local villages. In the case of Holt, this appears to have had a detrimental effect as towards the end of the medieval period much of the village was destroyed by the landlords to accommodate sheep farming (Miller & Thirsk 1991, 55). The continuance though of Holt market into the 17th century indicates that the village was still functioning if at a reduced level.

4.2.11 There are few medieval remains known from within 1km of the assessment site. The base of a medieval stone cross is recorded as having been used as a mounting block at Shire Hall (NHER 13387). A ditch containing medieval pottery was found approximately 380m north-west of the assessment site (NHER 55058), and two more medieval ditches were identified 500m to the north-west, adjacent to the White Lion (NHER 35196).

Post-medieval

4.2.12 In the period c.1500-1750, the location of Holt on good agricultural land saw the development of a complex system of field systems around the village interspersed with common heath land. The irregular-shaped fields followed the three-shift rotation while tenants enlarged their holdings by reclaiming heath (Holderness 1994, 102). The Church of St. Andrews located some 380m north-west of the assessment was rebuilt in the early modern period after a May Day fire in 1708 (NHER 6520) but contains medieval remains from its predecessor. A gibbet is recorded 320-350m north-east of the assessment site (NHER 15218), and a post-medieval kiln is recorded 150-70m to the north (NHER 36187). A second such kiln site is located beyond it (NHER 3186), and a third is recorded just over 1km north-east of the assessment site in Heath Plantation (NHER 36188). Such village kiln sites were sited on, or adjoining, common land predating enclosure in the 18th and 19th centuries partly due to the availability of natural resources (Lucas 2000). Two post-medieval ditches excavated near the nearest kiln are thought to be ditches shown on the tithe map (NHER 50267, John Moore Heritage Services). The site of a workhouse is situated 250m north-

west of the assessment site (NHER 15217).

Modern

4.2.13 A large number of WWII defences are located in the countryside surrounding Holt, while WWI slit trenches are located in the grounds of Holt Country Park (NHER 53093).

4.3 Previous phases of investigation

4.3.1 No archaeological excavations have previously taken place on the assessment site and no cropmarks of archaeological features have been identified.

4.4 The assessment site

Early maps of Norfolk

4.4.1 The 1810 Holt inclosure map shows the assessment site is on land owned by Henry Dampier and Jeremiah Smith (Fig. 5). There are land allotments to the north and west. The 1839 tithe map shows that the most of the assessment site lies across three arable field plots 186, 187 & 188 which were all owned by the executors of Richard Gurney Esquire and occupied one John Blade (Fig. 6, Appendix 3). The west side of the assessment site runs into a wooded area and borders a gravel extraction pit.

OS Maps

4.4.2 The 1886-7 First Edition OS maps (Fig. 7) shows little change to the tithe map other than the presence of the railway. The Holt branch of the Midland and Great Northern Joint Railway had an extension from Melton Constable to Holt station completed by 1886 (NHER 13584). A draft branch of the railway can also be seen bordering, and in one place crossing, the assessment site. The 1907 Second Edition OS map (Fig. 8) shows the railway has been completed with its final route altered to border the north-western edge of the assessment site. There is a track or double field boundary shown crossing the assessment site running towards the railway line. It is no longer shown on the 1929 OS map of which only the top section was held at the Norwich Millennium Library (Fig. 9).

Crop Marks

4.4.3 A crop mark transcript identified from aerial photography was requested for the assessment site and its environs from the Norfolk HER, but there are none recorded on the database. The closest group of cropmarks to the assessment site reach to within 1.75 km to the east, and represent undated multi-period activity (NHER 35425). They comprise a curvilinear feature running

parallel with existing field boundaries which is suggested as a park boundary. This boundary appears to post-date a possible square enclosure with an entrance to the north-east. The remaining cropmarks probably represent land divisions and field boundaries and are thought to relate to Baconsthorpe Castle situated a further kilometre to the east. This is the site of a 15th century moated and fortified manor house. The cropmark of an undated enclosure is situated 1.6 km south-west of the assessment site (NHER 18188). The next nearest group of cropmarks identified from aerial photography are approximately 2km from the assessment site and have been cited above (4.2).

5 SITE VISIT (DPs 1 - 12)

5.1 The assessment site was visited on 07/02/2012 in snowy conditions. The site can be divided into three main areas which are separated by field boundaries and industrial buildings. The westernmost area is divided from the rest by a strip of light industrial land currently used for storage, which stretches north from Hempstead Road to a phone mast. Beyond the mast a tree-lined field boundary continues north to meet the A148. This western area is heavily overgrown with broom and long grass (Photos 1-3) and is accessed from the end of Gravel Pit Lane which leads onto Hempstead Road. The second part of the site is located between the light industrial strip and Hempstead Road Industrial Estate, and between Hempstead Road and an east-west running field boundary of thorn trees (Photos 4-6). The ground here is uneven and covered in coarse grass and occasional bushes. The ground has been disturbed in isolated places and several linear earthworks of unknown function, up to 1m in height, are present (Photo 7). Two main earthworks run parallel east-west with each other and are between approximately 20-30 and 30-50m in length respectively, but these features are almost certainly modern. The third and largest part of the site is the north-eastern area which comprises the majority of a larger field that has recently been harvested of a sugar beet crop (Photos 8-12).

6 CONSTRAINTS

Scheduled Monuments – There are no scheduled monuments within 1km of the assessment site

Areas of Archaeological Potential – The site is not in a designated area of archaeological potential

Listed Buildings – The closest listed buildings are 200m to the north-east comprising Heath Farmhouse (NHER 47528) and a barn north-east of the farmhouse (NHER 47717).

Conservation Areas – The Holt County Wildlife site abuts the western edge of the assessment site. Wildlife sites are not designated site but are protected through inclusion the in formal planning and development process (www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk). To the south of the assessment site is Holt Lowes which is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). It comprises nearly 50 hectares of heathland, woodland and bog and is accessed via Holt Country Park (www.holtlowes.org.uk/lowes.html)

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Previous Ground Disturbance

7.1.1 The modern OS map shows that disused pits are located to the north and west of the site (Fig. 1). The latter site is accessed via Gravel Pit Lane and the pit is present on the tithe map (Fig. 7). There is no evidence to show that quarrying has taken place on the assessment site other than the small scale shallow earth disturbances described in the Site Visit (Section 5, Photo 7).

7.2 Impact on Archaeological Remains

7.2.1 No systematic archaeological work has previously been carried out on or in the vicinity of the site, therefore the proposed development could potentially have a very high impact on any archaeological remains, if present, that may extend or be distributed within the extensive area of the site. It is anticipated that further archaeological field work may be required, which will be determined by the local planning authority (based on advice form Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service).

7.3 Archaeological Potential

The following assessments are based on the evidence described above.

Prehistoric – Low to moderate. Two possible Bronze Age barrows and a burnt mound are located to the south of the assessment site (NHER 6483, 53183, 53186). Several prehistoric flint flakes have also been recovered (NHER 28286, 28285). However, there have been no prehistoric finds from within approximately 500m of the assessment site.

Roman – Low. Several small scatters of pottery and metalwork have been recovered from the parish, but no structural remains have been found and there have been no finds from with 1km of the assessment site.

Anglo-Saxon – Low. An early Saxon cemetery is postulated in the northern part of the parish, and Holt is hypothesised as being located within a large Anglo-

Saxon estate. However, the only finds recorded from within 1km of the assessment site are two sherds of Saxo-Norman pottery.

Medieval – Low to moderate. Several medieval ditches have been recorded and pottery finds have been made within the historic core of the village, but none closer than the church (NHER 55058, 35196, 13387, 51282). In the late medieval period the village was much reduced in size but its core was centred on the church and the market, west of the church, and therefore at its greatest extent the village outskirts would not have reached as far as the assessment site.

Post-medieval – Moderate. In the early post-medieval period the assessment site was heath land evidenced by place names and the siting of brick kilns. The site of the Midland and Great Northern Railway borders the north-west edge of the assessment site (NHER 13584).

8 CONCLUSION

8.1 Archaeological evidence for prehistoric to medieval activity in the vicinity of the assessment site is limited. Two possible Bronze Age barrows and a burnt mound are located to the south of the assessment site and a small number of prehistoric flint flakes have been recorded. A small quantity of medieval archaeology has been located from within the historic core of Holt comprising pottery, ditches and a fragment of a stone cross (NHER 55058, 35196, 13387, 51282).

8.2 Place names such as Heath Farm, and the introduction of brick kilns in the area, which is a phenomenon generally predating enclosure, indicates that the assessment site was common land by the early 19th century. It is likely that this may have been the case since at least the late medieval period when the area around the village was given over to sheep farming. The Holt branch of the Midland and Great Northern Railway bordered the north-west side of the assessment site which is now the course of the A148 (NHER 13584).

8.3 Previous ground disturbance in the form of quarrying has occurred around the site, but there is no evidence for such ground reduction within it. The proposed development will have a high impact on any archaeological remains, if present that may be within the extensive area of the site.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Limited would like to thank Hopkins Homes Ltd, Brown Brothers and Bullen Investments Ltd. for funding the assessment, and their consultants, Strutt and Parker for commissioning the work and for their assistance (in particular Mr David Fletcher).

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Wymer, J. 2005 'The Palaeolithic Period' in Ashwin, T., and Davison, A. (ed.) An Historical Atlas of Norfolk *Phillimore*

Wymer, J. 2005a 'Late Glacial and Mesolithic Hunters' Ashwin, T., and Davison, A. (ed.) An Historical Atlas of Norfolk *Phillimore*

11 WEB SITES

www.britarch.ac.uk/ba/ba5/NEWS.HTML

www.consult.north-norfolk.gov.uk/...area.../holt_conservation_area_appraisals

www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/

www.holtlowes.org.uk/lowes.html

www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

www.northnorfolk.org/planning.asp

www.soilsworldwide.net/united_kingdom_soil_classification_system

APPENDIX 1: HER Information

HER No.	NGR TF	Description
Prehistoric (c. 700,000 BC – AD 43)		
6483	0903 3778	A Bronze Age round barrow on heathland. It was excavated in 1934, but nothing was found. The barrow was visible again after a heath fire in 1986, being 7 metres in diameter and about 60 centimetres high.
28285	097 390	Heath Plantation: prehistoric flakes and post-medieval pottery found during field walking
28286	097 384	Lodge Bottom: a late Palaeolithic flint flake and post-medieval pottery found during field walking
53183	0860 3740	Possible Bronze Age barrow 8m diameter by 1.2m high identified in earthwork survey in 2009
53186	0912 3775	Prehistoric burnt flint noted during a rapid earthwork survey in 2009
Roman (AD 43- 410)		
Anglo-Saxon (AD 410 – 1066)		
51282	08 38	Several sherd of pottery including Thetford ware and Grimston ware found in 2007
Medieval (AD 1066 – 1550)		
13387	0781 3879	The base of a medieval stone cross was reported in 1930 being used as a mounting block by Shire Hall, alternately it may have been incorporated in the town hall
35196	08015 38849	An NAU evaluation in 200 revealed two medieval ditches and medieval and post-medieval pottery sherds on land adjacent to the White Lion
55058	0812 3877	A west aligned ditch containing medieval pottery sealed by rubble and soil possibly deriving from the 1708 destroyed church
Post-medieval (AD 1550 – 1900)		
6520	0812 3879	St Andrew's Church: A 19 th century building to replace its predecessor burnt down in 1708. Contains 13 th -14 th century remains
13584	082 385	Midland and Great Northern Railway (grid reference is for the station). 19 th century railway from Norwich to Cromer via Holt. The Norwich to Melton Constable section opened in 1882 with the extension to Holt in 1886 which closed in 1964
15217	0843 3886	Former workhouse. One storey building in E-shaped plan 1779-1835
15218	092 392	Site of post-medieval gibbet shown on a map of 1797
15823	077 390	Site of a post-medieval windmill built in 1792 and last used in 1918. A modern mill is now on the site
33477	078 400	Holt Hall Park: Although there is no direct evidence of a designed landscape associated with Holt Hall until the 19 th century, it is possible that there was an earlier deer park on the site. In the mid 19 th century the landscape around the site of the new hall was dramatically replanned by the new

		owner, Walter Pemberton. An earlier pond was extended to create an ornamental lake and a long avenue was planted with conifers.
33478	083 376	The Lodge and the country park are on the site of Red House Farm, a 17th century farm. In 1753 a race-course was created on the land around Red House Farm. By 1810 the race-course and the farm had been demolished, and a new house was built on the site. The grounds were extended when the parish was enclosed in 1810. By the mid 19th century there was a walled kitchen garden and orchard close to the Lodge with mixed plantations and a belt of woodland in the rest of the park. The grounds continued to develop throughout the 19th century, with the addition of summerhouses and shrubberies.
33602	0800 3880	An evaluation by the NAU in 1998 in gardens by Wansbeck House found a late post-medieval pit and post-hole. A second evaluation found no archaeological features
36186	086 391	Site of a post medieval kiln marked on Bryant's map of 1826
36187	086 389	Site of a post medieval kiln marked on Bryant's map of 1826
36188	102 390	Site of a post medieval kiln marked on Bryant's map of 1826
41486	09397 39437	Site of post-medieval brickyard shown on 1886 OS map possibly associated with the railway constructed in 1883
47528	0926 3873	Heath Farmhouse: early 19 th century two storeys grey brick and flint Grade II listed (223758)
47717	0927 3878	Barn north-east of Heath Farmhouse: Grade II listed, built in 1818 (223759)
49708	08994 37559	Holt Lowes rifle butts shown on 1 st edition 6" map
53091	0873 3746	Post-medieval boundary thought to date to the Enclosure
50267	08607 38925	A watching brief recorded two post-medieval ditches which appear on the tithe map, and an early modern pit containing a Boveril pot
53092	0891 3803	Three circular depressions believed to be extraction pits or possible military remains, Holt Lowes
53093	0884 3782	A complex of part-infilled slit trenches and shallow depressions believed to date to WWI

APPENDIX 2 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Fig. No.	Map	Date	Scale	Location	Ref.
1	Site location	modern	1:25,000	OS Explorer	
2	Detailed site location showing land allocated for development and its planned land use	modern	1:2,000	Client	
3	Topographical map	modern		client	
4	HER Information	modern	1:12,500	AS	
5	Holt Inclosure map	1810		NAC	C/Sca 2/165
6	Holt tithe map	1839		NAC	DN/TA 494
7	1 st Edition OS map	1886-87	1:2,500	NML	10.13, 10.14, 18.1, 18.2
8	2 nd Edition OS map	1907	1:10,560	NML	10 SW, 18 NW
9	OS map	1929	1:10,560	NML	10 SW

APPENDIX 3 TITHE AWARDS

Plot	Owner	Occupier	Field Name	Land Use
181	Richard Gurney Esquire (executor of)	Themselves	Plantation	Wood
182	Rev. Humphrey Jackson Glebe	Himself, John Blomfield, Henty Fuller cottagers	Cottage allotments	Arable
183	William Batsman	William Lawson	-	Arable
184	Surveyors of Highways William Boyd, John Humphreys, John Howel	Themselves	Gravel pit	Extraction
185	The executors of George Dawson	Thomas Haywood	-	Arable
186	The executors of Richard Gurney Esquire	Charles Blade	?Barrow 15 acres	arable
187	The executors of Richard Gurney Esquire	Charles Blade	? 17 acres	Arable
188	The executors of Richard Gurney Esquire	Charles Blade	?	Arable
189	The executors of Richard Gurney Esquire	Charles Blade	The 18 acres	Arable
190	The executors of Richard Gurney Esquire	Charles Blade	Drift	Pasture

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1 View looking east of the western edge of the site (indicated by the fence line). This part of the site is covered in broom.



2 View of the broom covered western part of the site taken from the access point from Hempstead Road to the south



3 View across the western part of the site taken from immediately north of the phone mast



4 View from near Hempstead Road looking north. An area of light industry connected with storage is to the left (west). The phone mast is located at the north end of this unit.



5 View of a tree lined field boundary running west to east across the site taken from just south-east of the phone tower.



6 View looking south-east towards Hempstead Road Industrial Estate taken from south-east of the phone tower.



7 View looking north of one of the earthworks to the west of Hempstead Road Industrial Estate



8 View looking west along the east to west field boundary taken from the access point from the lane and public footpath leading to Hempstead Road



9 View from the north – east edge of the site looking south-west towards the phone mast



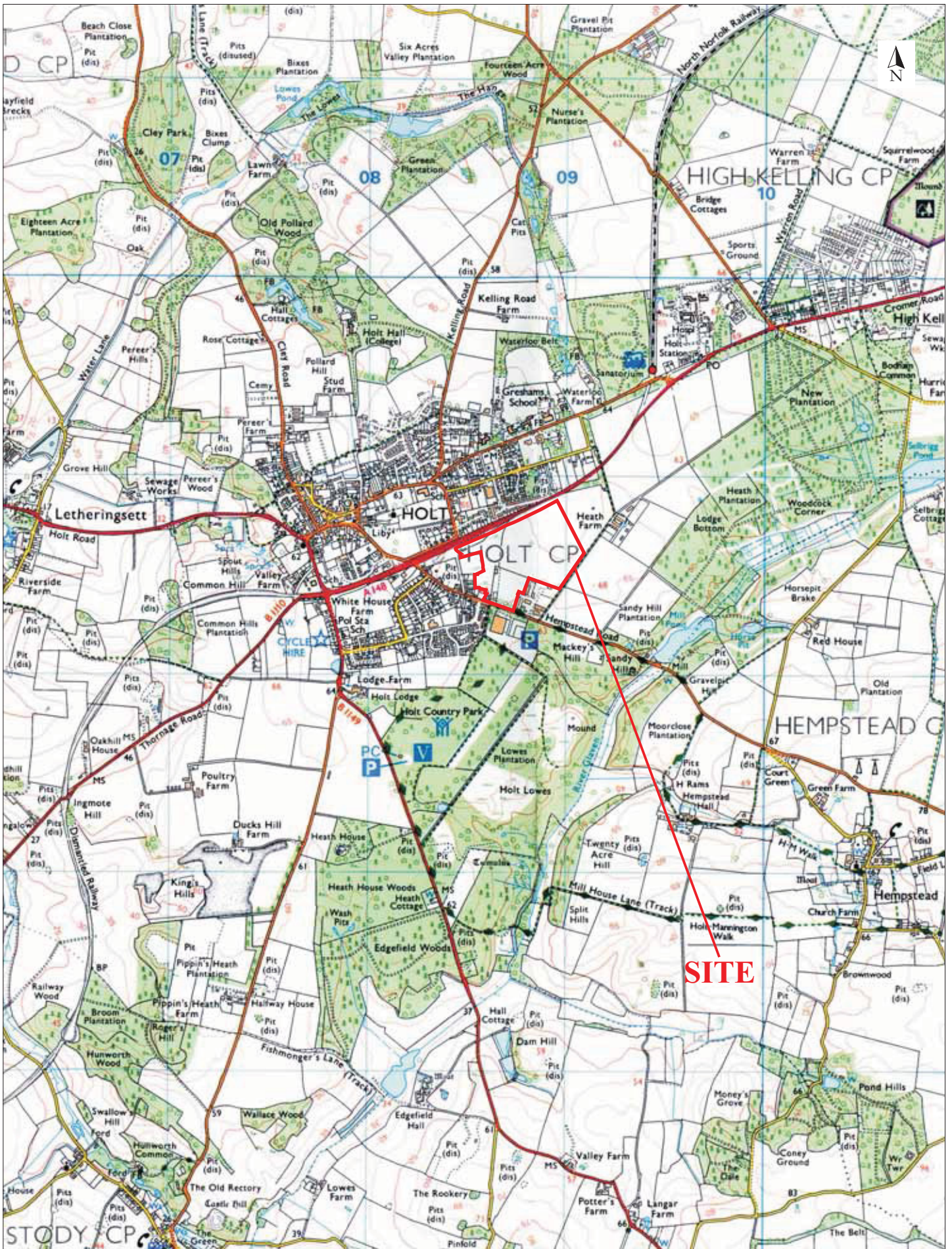
10 View looking west-north-west towards the northern part of the site, taken from the north-eastern corner



11 View looking north along a tree-lined field boundary taken from immediately north of the phone mast

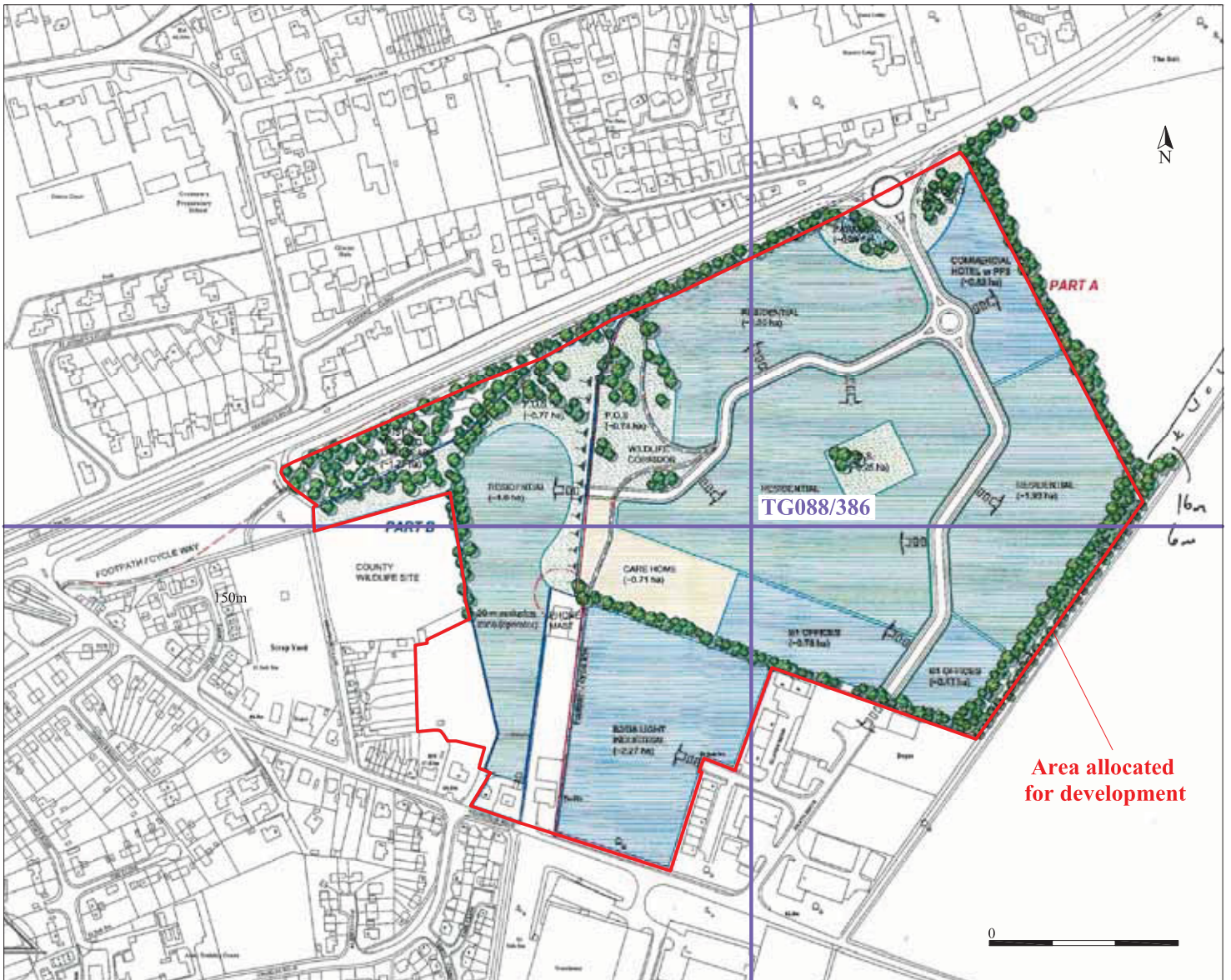


12 View north-east towards Heath Farm taken from immediately north of the phone mast



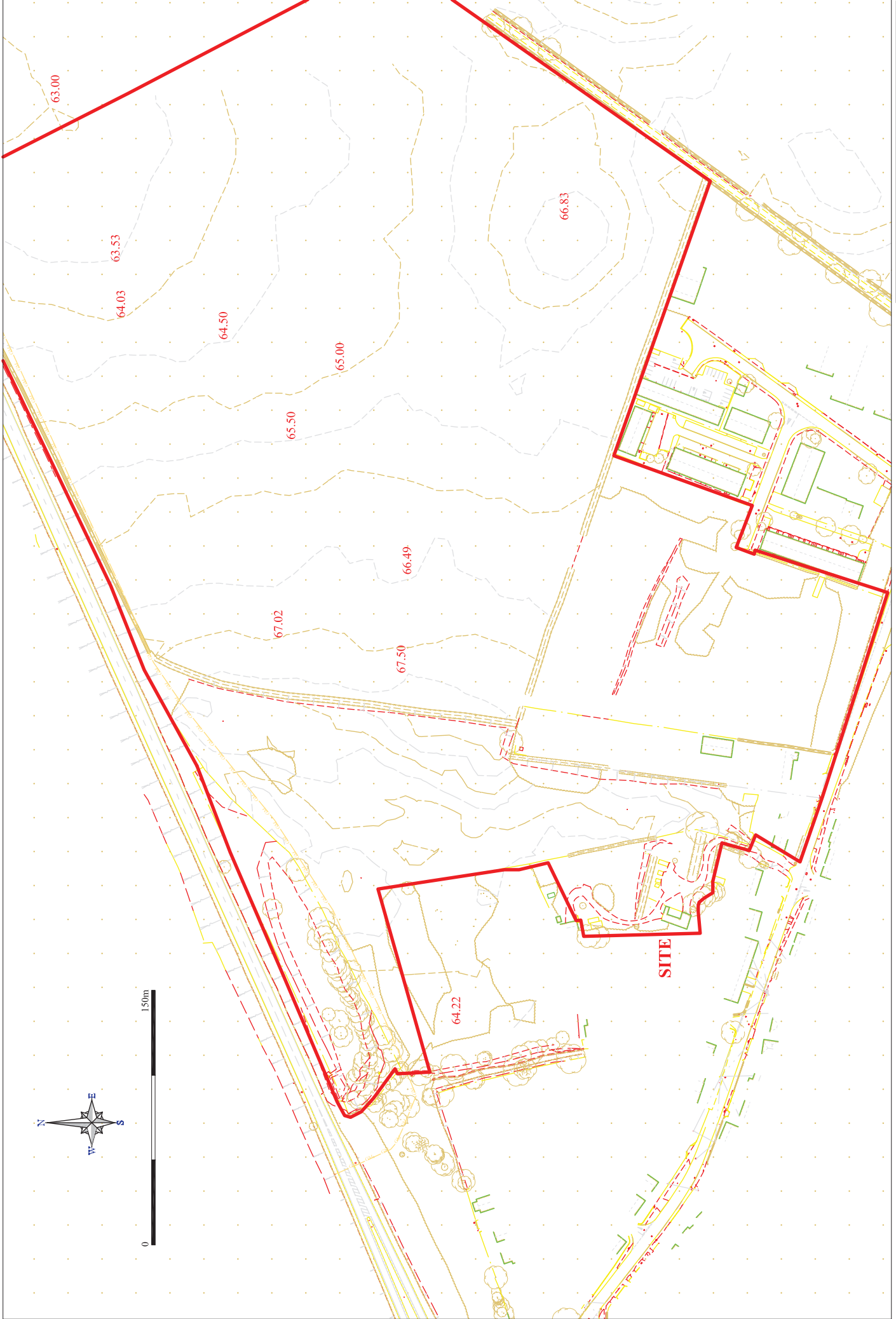
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



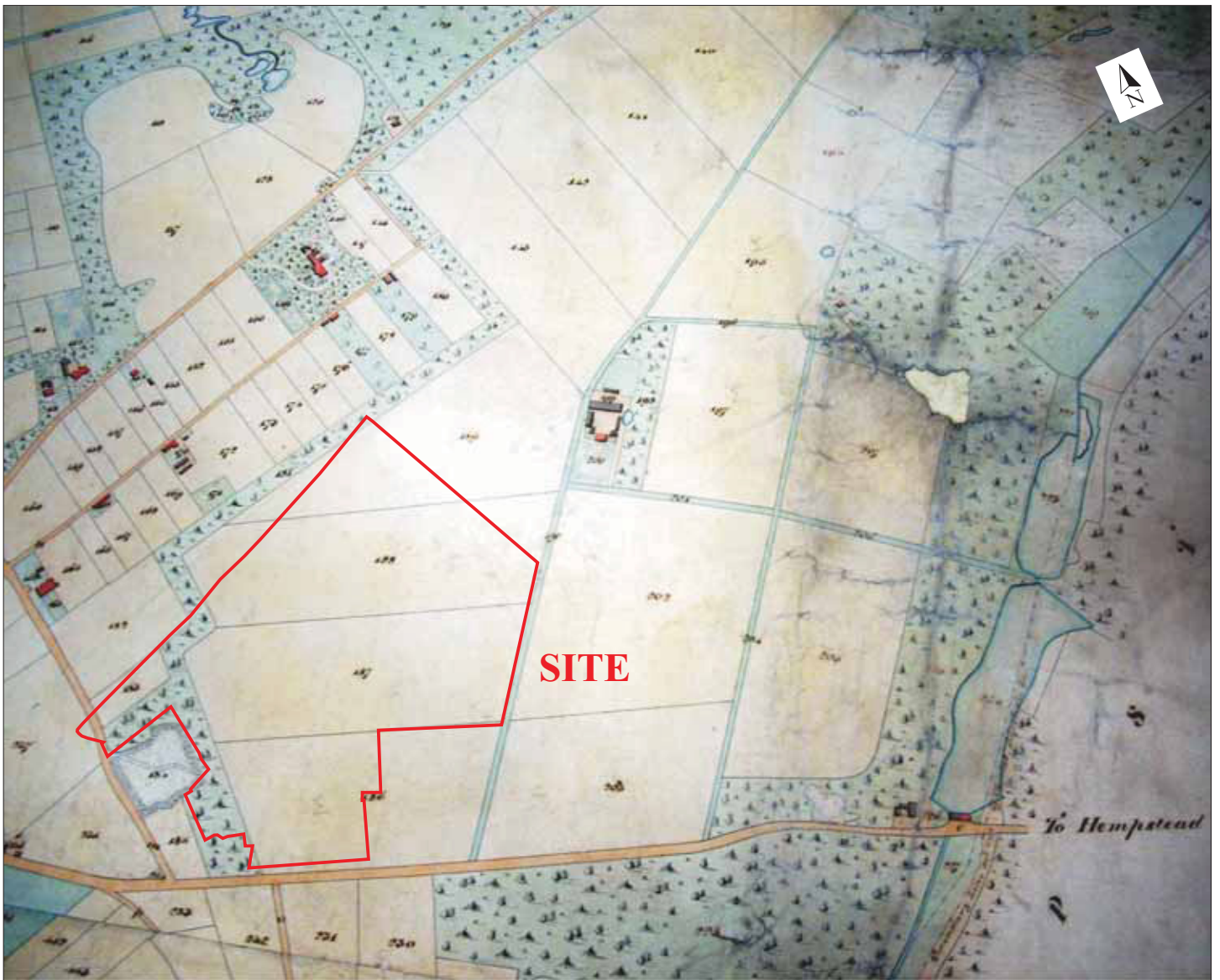
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Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:5000 at A4

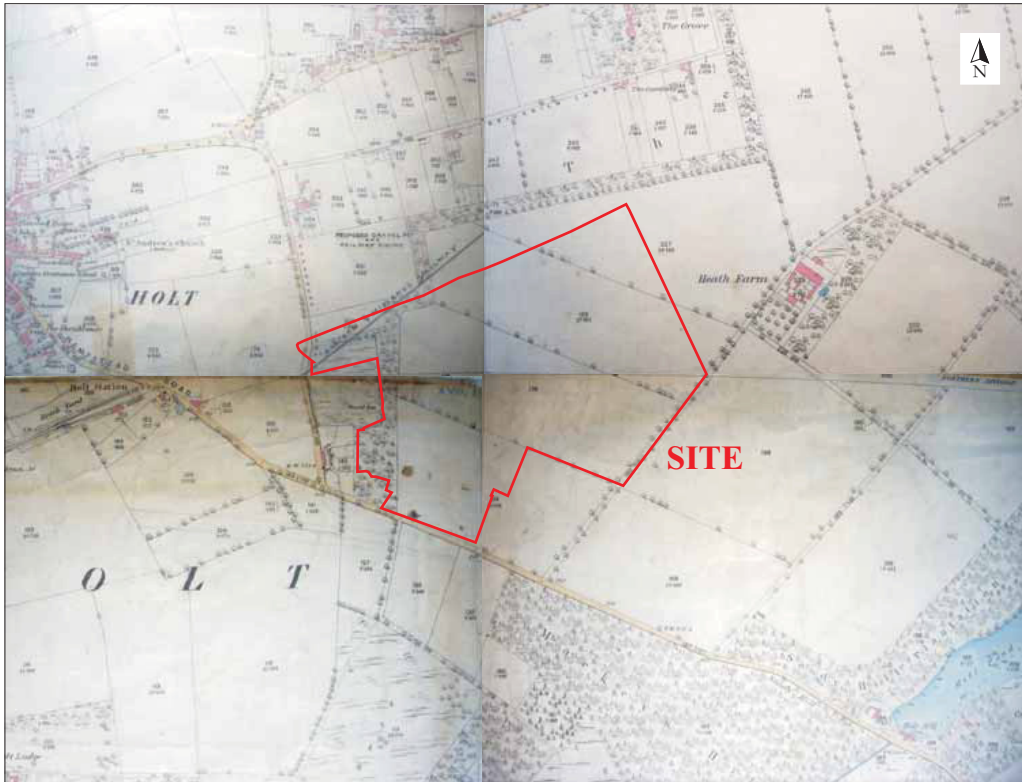




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 Fig. 5 Inclosure map, 1810
 Not to scale



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Fig. 6 Tithe map, 1839
Not to scale



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Fig. 7 OS map, 1886-7
Not to scale



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Fig. 8 OS map, 1907
 Not to scale



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Fig. 9 OS map, 1929
Not to scale