
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**LAND WEST OF TURNPIKE ROAD,
RED LODGE, SUFFOLK**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

Authors: Kate Doyle BA	
NGR: TL 6960 7050	Report No. 2045
District: Forest Heath	Site Code: n/a
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 2681
Signed:	Date: June 2006

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CONTENTS

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

SUMMARY

- 1 INTRODUCTION***
- 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE***
- 3 METHOD OF WORK***
- 4 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY & SOILS***
- 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND***
- 6 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS***
- 7 THE SITE***
- 8 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES***
 - 8.1 SAXTON'S MAP OF SUFFOLK, 1575***
 - 8.2 HODGKINSON'S MAP, 1783***
 - 8.3 FRECKENHAM ENCLOSURE MAP, 1824***
 - 8.4 1ST EDITION ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP, 1836***
 - 8.5 2ND EDITION ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP, 1883 - 1885***
 - 8.6 3RD EDITION ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP, 1903***
 - 8.7 4TH EDITION ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP, 1926***
 - 8.8 5TH EDITION ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP, 1952***
- 9 DISCUSSION***
 - 9.1 SUMMARY OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND***
 - 9.2 SITE DEVELOPMENT & DEPOSIT MODEL***
 - 9.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL***
 - 9.4 ARCHAEOLOGY OF RABBIT WARRENS***
 - 9.5 RESEARCH PRIORITIES***
- 10 CONCLUSION***

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDICES

- 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATABASE (SMR)***
- 2 CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE***

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name		<i>Land west of Turnpike Road, Red Lodge, Suffolk</i>	
Project description (250 words)			
<p><i>In June 2006, Archaeological Solutions (AS) Ltd carried out an archaeological desk-based assessment of land to the west of Turnpike Road, Red Lodge, Suffolk (NGR TL 6960 70502). The assessment was commissioned prior to an archaeological field evaluation, and in advance of the proposed construction of a residential development of 295 dwellings. The development will include the dedication of a public open space/heathland.</i></p> <p><i>The site is located to the west of Turnpike Road and includes the majority of a square-shaped enclosure (FRK 036), and the south-eastern corner of another (FRK 049). The historic cartographic sources date the two enclosures from at least 1824, the time of the Freckenham parish enclosure map, although the features had been removed from the cartographic sources by 1952. The SMR entries for the two square-shaped enclosures state that they represent enclosed rabbit warrens, an industry for which the Breckland area, and the area of Red Lodge, is renowned.</i></p> <p><i>The two enclosures are thought to date to the post-medieval period, particular since the enclosure of warrens by earthwork banks was common in the 17th and 18th centuries, but it is probable that the warren existed on the site during the medieval period, possibly from 1248 onwards. There is also evidence to suggest that the interior of the enclosures were ploughed, possibly also during the medieval period. The fact that much of the site has been used as a rabbit warren, however, suggests that subsurface deposits are likely to have been truncated and any earlier archaeological deposits disturbed.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)		<i>June 2006</i>	
Previous work (Y/N/?)		Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>Y</i>
P. number	<i>2681</i>	Site code	<i>n/a</i>
Type of project	<i>Desk-based assessment</i>		
Site status	<i>Red Lodge Warren County Wildlife Site</i>		
Current land use	<i>Heathland & grassland field</i>		
Planned development	<i>Residential</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>n/a</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>n/a</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Suffolk</i>	<i>Forest Heath</i>	<i>Red Lodge</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Suffolk SMR</i>		
Post code (if known)			
Area of site	<i>11.8 hectares</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 6960 7050</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>c. 18m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>SCC AS</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Kate Doyle/Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>		
Funded by	<i>Taylor Woodrow Developments Limited</i>		
Full title	<i>Land west of Turnpike Road, Red Lodge, Suffolk ; an archaeological desk-based assessment</i>		
Authors	<i>Doyle, K.</i>		
Report no.	<i>2045</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>June 2006</i>		

LAND WEST OF TURNPIKE ROAD, RED LODGE, SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

SUMMARY

In June 2006, Archaeological Solutions (AS) Ltd carried out an archaeological desk-based assessment of land to the west of Turnpike Road, Red Lodge, Suffolk (NGR TL 6960 70502). The assessment was commissioned prior to a proposed archaeological field evaluation, and in advance of the proposed construction of a residential development of 295 dwellings. The development will include the dedication of a public open space/heathland.

A large proportion of land to the east of Red Lodge and Warren Road, comprising Hundred Acre Farm, has previously been subject to a number of desk-based assessments (O'Brien 2002; Hogan 2006) and archaeological evaluations (Hounsell 2003; Crank 2003, & Doyle & McDonald 2005). Little archaeology was revealed during these investigations.

The site is located to the west of Turnpike Road and includes the majority of the extent of a square-shaped enclosure (FRK 036), and the south-eastern corner of another (FRK 049). Historic cartographic sources date the two enclosures from at least 1824, the time of the Freckenham parish enclosure map, although the features are not shown on cartographic sources after 1952. The Suffolk Sites & Monuments Record entries for the two square-shaped enclosures state that they represent enclosed rabbit warrens, an industry for which the Breckland area, and the area of Red Lodge, is renowned.

The two enclosures are thought to date to the post-medieval period, particularly since the enclosure of warrens by earthwork banks was common in the 17th and 18th centuries, but it is likely that the warren existed on the site during the medieval period, possibly from 1248 onwards. There is also evidence to suggest that the interior of the enclosures was ploughed, possibly also during the medieval period. The fact that much of the site has been used as a rabbit warren, however, suggests that subsurface deposits are likely to have been truncated and any earlier archaeological deposits disturbed.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In June 2006, Archaeological Solutions (AS) Ltd carried out an archaeological desk-based assessment of land to the west of Turnpike Road, Red Lodge, Suffolk (NGR TL 6960 7050; Figs. 1 & 2). The work was commissioned by Taylor Woodrow Developments Limited prior to a proposed archaeological field evaluation, and in advance of the proposed construction of a residential development of 295 dwellings. The development will include public open space/heathland. The assessment was undertaken to comply with a draft planning condition required by the local planning authority (based on advice from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS); Planning Application Refs; F98/402 & F/2001/030).

1.2 The desk-based assessment was conducted according to a brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS; dated 1st March 2006), and a specification prepared by AS (dated 14th March 2006). The assessment also conformed to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (1994, revised 2001). The project also adhered to the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14/ALGAO (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The desk-based assessment was to provide for the identification of areas of archaeological potential within the site of land to the west of Turnpike Road. It also considered the site within its wider archaeological context. The likely extent, nature, condition and importance of the archaeology have been described. The context of the development proposal for the site was examined, with areas of previous and proposed ground disturbance examined and discussed. The desk-based assessment precedes the archaeological field evaluation, and the results of the report shall inform any necessary trenching strategy.

1.4 The principal research objectives for the archaeological desk-based assessment element of the project were:

- to collate, verify and assess all information relevant to presence, survival and character of archaeological remains/structures within the site,
- 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.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site is situated to the west of the settlement of Red Lodge, which lies within the district of Forest Heath and county of Suffolk. Red Lodge is also located on the south-western edge of the environmentally-sensitive Breckland area, close to the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire border, and east of the Cambridgeshire fens. Mildenhall town centre is located *c.* 4.5km to the north of the village, Newmarket *c.* 8km to the south-west and Barton Mills *c.* 4km to the west. The A11 road from Newmarket to Thetford now by-passes the village on its western side, whilst the B1085 road parallels the same course (being the forerunner as the A11), running south-west to north-eastwards through the village centre, and merging with the new A11 to the north (Fig. 1).

2.2 The settlement of Red Lodge comprises a small ribbon development along the western side of the B1085, known as Turnpike Road, and consists of post World War II residential developments to the east of Turnpike Road and to the west of the smaller Warren Road. A large proportion of land to the east of Red Lodge and Warren Road, comprising Hundred Acre Farm, has previously been subject to desk-based assessments (O'Brien 2002; Hogan 2006) and archaeological evaluations (Hounsell 2003; Crank 2003, & Doyle & McDonald 2005), all of which were undertaken by AS prior to residential developments. The results of these surveys are discussed below.

2.3 The site itself is located to the immediate west of the former B1085 Turnpike Road trunk road and to the east of the recently constructed A11 bypass, both of which lie on a north-east to south-west alignment (Fig. 1). Although the north-western boundary of the site is demarcated by the A11 bypass, the south-eastern extent of the site is formed only partially by Turnpike Road, and mainly by the rears of properties fronting onto the road. The north-eastern boundary of the site is formed by the west-north-west to east-south-east orientated Elms Road, whilst the south-western boundary of the site is demarcated by the property boundary separating Nos. 34 and 36 Turnpike Road.

2.4 The site is thus aligned on a north-east to south-west orientation between the A11 bypass and the smaller Turnpike Road. It occupies an irregular shaped parcel of land measuring *c.* 460m in length at its north-western boundary, and *c.* 420m in width at the south-western extent of the site (Fig. 2). The site comprises an area of *c.* 11.8 hectares, which includes the properties of Nos. 28 - 34 Turnpike Road in its south-easternmost corner (RGL 2005). Towards the centre of its south-eastern boundary, the site also includes two residential bungalows that occupy the site of a former garage/filling station, which formerly fronted Turnpike Road.

2.5 The former garage/filling station element of the site comprises an area of *c.* 7,500m², measuring *c.* 115m in length and *c.* 65m in width, between Nos. 16 and 24 Turnpike Road. To the rear of the former garage/filling station area, towards the centre of the site, is a mound of hardcore. The garage/filling station, associated bungalows and Nos. 28 - 34 Turnpike Road are the only developments to have taken place within the site (Fig. 2). The majority of the development along Turnpike Road appears to have taken place during the 1940s, whilst the filling station closed to business in the early 1980s (RGL 2005). A pond is also indicated to the south of the site in what appears to have been a former chalk pit. The northern edge of a former square enclosure believed to be associated with former rabbit warrens on the site survives as a small earthwork in the northern part of the site.

2.6 The majority of the site comprises disused fields of grass and extensive areas of bracken, as well as a few small trees and shrubs to the rear of the housing fronting onto Turnpike Road. Much of the site consists of Red Lodge Warren County Wildlife Site in recognition of its areas of lichen heath. It is noted that the Red Lodge Warren County Wildlife Site consists of small fields, most of which are heavily grazed by rabbits, and although some parts of the site are colonised by bracken, the remaining areas support a valuable Breckland grassland community (SBRC 2005). The site is particularly noted for the presence of bird's-foot trefoil, harebell, heath bedstraw and the scarce purple fescue.

3 METHOD OF WORK

Information was sought from a variety of available sources, and reference was made to the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological desk-based assessments* (1994, revised 2001) and the relevant sections of the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). The following material was consulted as part of the assessment:

3.1 Archaeological databases

Known archaeological remains in the area can be indicative of the types and dates of archaeological remains that are likely to be discovered during the ground works on the site. The standard collation of all known archaeological sites and spot-finds in the area is the Suffolk Sites and Monuments Record Office (SMR). A 1km search radius yielded relatively few sites and finds, and therefore, knowing the wider area is home to substantial prehistoric activity, especially funerary monuments, the radius was expanded to 2 - 3km. Significant entries within an approximate 3km radius of the site are listed in Appendix 1 and plotted in Fig. 3. Their significance, where relevant, is discussed in Section 5.

3.2 Historical & cartographic documents

The principal source for historical and cartographic documents was the Suffolk Record Office (SRO), based in Bury St Edmunds. Relevant cartographic sources are listed in Appendix 2 and reproduced in Figs. 5 – 12.

3.3 Secondary sources

The principal source of secondary material was the Suffolk Record Office (SRO), based in Bury St Edmunds, as well as AS's own library. Relevant material relating to secondary sources is listed in the bibliography, and also listed in Appendix 2.

3.4 Geological/geotechnical information

The type and condition of the underlying geology are also important factors when considering the types of potential archaeology and their state of preservation. Geological factors give rise to specific localised soil profiles and environmental conditions, which in turn can determine the types of human activity possible in the area. 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 gathered from the appropriate maps published by the Geological Survey of Great Britain (BGS 1978) and the Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983), as well as from previous archaeological evaluations to the east of the site and a geotechnical investigation report supplied by the client.

3.6 Aerial Photography

Transcription of available air photographs has been prepared by Air Photo Services Ltd as part of the requirements of the project brief. The results of this are presented as a separate report.

4 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

4.1 The site is located to the immediate west of Red Lodge, which lies in the central to south-western Breckland area of Suffolk and to the east of the Cambridgeshire fens. The River Kennett passes south of the village, c. 600m south-

west of the site, and runs south-east to north-westwards thus draining into the fens to the north-west. The area surrounding the site has a relatively flat relief of heights of 15 – 20m AOD, and which slopes slightly to the south-west towards the small valley of the River Kennett. A spot height of 18m AOD is situated in the western corner of the site and, with the exception of the raised mound to the rear of the former garage/filling station, the site is relatively level.

4.2 The underlying solid geology of the Red Lodge area, which incorporates the site, is of Cretaceous Middle Chalk (BGS 1978). The ground condition/contamination report specific to the site revealed that the solid geology of weathered Middle Chalk was encountered from approximately 3.2 – 4.5m in depth and was proven to a depth in excess of 10m. Overlying the chalk was a drift geology of second River Terrace deposits, which were deposited at the close of the Pleistocene era and are described as a medium dense, gravelly sand (RGL 2005). Furthermore, the cryoturbation of chalk and overlying deposits in peri-glacial conditions brought about an extensive deposit of chalk-sand drift, from which wind-blow sand deposits derived.

4.3 Both the site and the majority of the area surrounding the site are located on soils of the Newport 4 association that commonly overlie glaciofluvial drift (SSEW 1983). Soils of the Newport 4 association are described as deep, well-drained sandy soils, with some very acid soils, often with a bleached subsurface horizon, especially under heath and in woodland. Although such soils are at risk of wind erosion, they are commonly used in agriculture for barley, other cereals and sugar beet, some carrots and potatoes, some coniferous woodland and lowland heath habitats, the latter of which is evident at the site to the west of Turnpike Road.

4.4 As a result of its drought-prone sandy soils and sub-soils, the Breckland area is recognised as an Environmentally Sensitive Area (Corbett 1973; O'Brien 2002). The low chalk plateau receives minimal rainfall and the free draining soils give rise to a distinctive heathland environment. The central Breckland area, in which the site lies, is characterised by an undulating plateau rising from river valleys, with frequent pine shelter-belts, plantations, arable heath and grass land (Sussams 1996). Conifer plantations have been established in an attempt to stabilise the soil, but at the expense of rabbit warrens and the earlier medieval landscape of open heaths.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 The Breckland environment

5.1.1 Both the site to the west of Turnpike Road and the settlement of Red Lodge are located within the south-western corner of the Breckland area, where palaeo-ecological work has demonstrated the delicate and fluctuating environmental balance in the area over time. Analysis of the pollen from sediments of Hockham Mere implied that a deciduous forest existed *c.* 9000 BP (Bennett 1983). This forest was interrupted only by small-scale clearances until *c.* 2000 BP, after which time substantial clearance and cultivation resulted in the evolution of heath land.

5.1.2 Studies of molluscs from Grimes Graves (Evans in Mercer 1981, 106 - 7) have hinted at a similar sequence of events, with woodland reappearing after late Neolithic

flint mining had ceased. The general area was likely to have consisted of patchy woodland and sporadic clearings during the prehistoric period. The light Breckland soils have been subjected to human activity since the Neolithic and Bronze Age, with continued exploitation of the land by humans and animals has causing episodes of sand blow and settlement abandonment, thus turning cultivatable land into heathland.

5.2 Upper Palaeolithic & Mesolithic

5.2.1 Prehistoric activity in the immediate area of the site is mostly confined to the Bronze Age, yet two hand axes dating to the Palaeolithic have been discovered on Red Lodge Heath (FRK Misc), and a number of implements from this period, including a hoard of 58 hand axes have been found within an area extending less than 800m to the south, south-west and south-east of the site, and in the direction of the Rover Kennett (BTM Misc SF 17631; SF230; SF231).

5.2.2 Information from the Mesolithic period, however, in the wider area is primarily palaeoecological. During this period, the silt and peat fens to the west of the site encroached inland from the Wash. The raised chalk area of the Breckland formed a natural outcrop of dry land amid the eastern margins of the encroaching wet fen edge. This environment would have probably created an attractive location for fishing and hunting, although no evidence of such activity has been recorded in the area to date.

5.3 Neolithic

5.3.1 Although settlement evidence for this period is rare, a number of specific and non-specific Neolithic finds are listed in the SMR and fall within the immediate area of the site. An oval scraper was discovered c. 680m south-south-west of the site, close to the Red Lodge caravan park (FRK Misc). Other finds within a 2km radius of the site, predominantly to the south and east, include arrow heads (BTM Misc SF233), axes (BTM Misc SF232; HGW Misc 14629), a Neolithic white chipped flint implement found at Chalk Hill during construction of the A11 bypass (BTM Misc SF234), and a saddle quern (HGW Misc SF6492). A programme of field walking in 1991 produced a scatter of prehistoric worked flint and debitage spreading over 100m in length, c. 2.20km to the south-east of the site (HGW 009 SF13726).

5.3.2 The Icknield Way Path, located 600m to the south of the site, is one of several paths in the area purporting to follow the route of the Icknield Way, a route way leading along the chalk ridge from Wiltshire to north Norfolk, and commonly believed to date to the late prehistoric period (Muir 2000, *passim*). This route way has been traced in a number of areas in southern and eastern England, but there is no evidence to support the claim that the trackway on the southern edge of the site follows the true course of this prehistoric route way.

5.4 Bronze Age

5.4.1 A number of barrow mounds and possible barrow sites are known within a 0.2 - 3km radius of the site. One of the barrow sites (FRK 008) was depicted on the 1st edition OS map of 1836 and lies barely 1.25km to the south-east of the site. This barrow was not represented on any later maps and therefore may have been levelled

by ploughing after 1836, although a low mound consistent with the presence of a barrow in this location was identified in 2002. The SMR account states that the grid reference may be incorrect, and a circular crop mark at an alternative grid reference was identified in an aerial photograph of 1995. It has been interpreted as either the site of the barrow, or possibly the 13th century gallows mentioned in documentary sources.

5.4.2 Other barrows within 2.80km of the site include those at Triangle Plantation (HGW 001, now levelled), Warrenhill Farm (Monument ID no. 3111; HGW 004 SF6482), Lumber Hill (Monument ID no. 33372), Shooting Lodge Plantation (HGW 002 SF6480), and Swale's Plantation (WGN 003) (Fig. 3). The latter, a bowl barrow known as Swale's Tumulus, was excavated in 1954, yielding a number of cremation burials. A further barrow group (BTM 027, 028, 017, 012, 013) is known *c.* 2km north-east of the site, on the higher ground of the Chalk Hill and Chalkhill Farm area. As many barrow sites are located on prime agricultural land, they have suffered from plough damage greatly reducing their visibility in the landscape.

5.4.3 Despite the existence of so many barrows in the immediate and wider area, there is very little indication of permanent occupation during the Bronze Age period. Pollen analysis, however, suggests that forest clearance continued into this period. Scatters of burnt flint have been found during field walking, indicating activity at this time, and fragments of a Bronze Age copper dagger were found to the east-south-east of the site during ploughing (HGW 010 SF13726). Environmental cooling and subsequent vegetation changes at this time would probably have encouraged population movement to the dry chalk lowlands (Sussams 1996, 185; Munby 1967, 4 - 5).

5.5 Iron Age

5.5.1 In the Iron Age, the River Lark formed a border between the lands of the Trinovantes in the south and the Iceni in the north. The area in which Red Lodge now exists is a strategic location between the fens and the Breckland, and close to the Iron Age tribal boundary. There is significant evidence for Iron Age activity in the wider area surrounding the site, at Gallows Hill, Barnham Enclosure and Micklemoor Hill (O'Brien 2002), although so far, no activity of this date has been recorded in the immediate of the site.

5.5.2 It may be possible to attribute the lack of Iron Age activity to the difficulty in differentiating between late Iron Age and Romano-British materials and crop marks, although it is also possible that the rising water levels in the fens would have prompted settlement relocation to the higher chalk grounds. According to Callard (1924), a hoard of ninety gold coins of the Iceni tribe and dating specifically to the time of Queen Boadicea (*d.* 60/61) was discovered on Mortimer Lane in Freckenham, which runs parallel to the course of Lee Brook, a tributary of the Lark. This record is dubious as there are no other available reports of it, although this type of find is by no means uncommon.

5.6 Romano-British

5.6.1 The closest Roman administrative centre to the site was at Icklingham on the River Lark, *c.* 7km north-east of Red Lodge. The Roman quarry at Chalk Hill (BTM

026 SF17750) and the surface scatter of pot sherds found in Red Lodge (HRW 007) imply activity during this period. Approximately 2 - 3km to the east, toward Tuddenham, finds of substantial scatters of metalwork and pottery (TDD 006 SF10297; 013 SF17566) are indicative of industrial activity. The continual rising of the water levels in the fens at during the Romano-British period led local populations to shift to higher grounds. There is evidence that the area flooded for a time, which may have forced the Romans out of the area (O'Brien 2002), although the industrial activity indicates that at some time, populations did utilise and probably inhabit the lower grounds.

5.6.2 Finds west of Red Lodge, at Jude's Ferry, are indicative of a villa complex, possible forming part of a series of estates situated on the dry, fertile chalk belt above the wet fens to the west. The existence of such a villa would be in keeping with the linear pattern of Roman buildings along the south-eastern fen edge. Finds in that area have included stray coins and coin hoards, coffined burials and hypocaust fragments (Doyle & McDonald 2005; O'Brien 2002). The industrial activity within the vicinity of the site along with the evidence from nearby Tuddenham and the possible villa complex point to the existence of a Roman settlement within the area, although no concrete evidence has yet been discovered to support this claim.

5.7 Anglo-Saxon

5.7.1 Suffolk was a principal settlement area during the Anglo-Saxon migration period (5th – 6th centuries AD). Suffolk fell within the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of the East Angles and the fens formed part of the natural frontier. The Freckenham/Red Lodge area fell within East Anglia, but also within the border zone between this kingdom and Mercia. In the 7th century, Raedwald (*d.* c.627), the most prominent king of the East Angles, under whose reign the kingdom reached the height of its power, gradually extended his domain as far as the River Cam at Cambridge, encroaching on the lands of Mercia. Devil's Dyke, located to the south-west of the site and Red Lodge (CSMR 07801/SAM 005) is thought to have traditionally marked the boundary between these two kingdoms, although it has also been argued that the earthwork was built as a sea wall to hold back the flood waters of the River Lark (Callard 1924, 18).

5.7.2 Some occupation evidence was found during excavations near the River Lark in 1930 (Lethbridge & O'Reilly 1932), and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery was discovered in a gravel pit near Tuddenham village, approximately 3.20km to the east (Lethbridge 1931; TDD 001 SF246). Only a single gilded bronze brooch from the Anglo-Saxon period has been found within the vicinity of the site and *c.* 600m to the south-east (BTM Misc SF 236), however the existence of the cemetery and the location of the site within a Anglo-Saxon frontier highlight the possibility of contemporary settlement or defensive remains.

5.8 Late Saxon/Saxo-Norman

5.8.1 A charter of questionable authenticity, cited by Callard (1924), states that the parishes of Freckenham and Isleham in Cambridgeshire were given to the Bishop of Rochester by Alfred the Great (AD 871 – 99) including their "belongings, marshes, pastures, meadow-lands, fields, waters, fisheries and fowling, to be free forever from the King's authority" (Sawyer 1968; Hart 1966; Callard 1924, 27-9). Freckenham was

later “plundered and sold by the Danes” between AD 955- 984, and then restored to Rochester through St Dunstan (*b.* 924 – *d.* 988). However, during the reign of King Harold I (AD 1035 – 1040), the earl of East Anglia bequeathed the lands to one of his thanes (Geddes 2000; O’Brian 2002).

5.8.2 According to the Domesday survey of AD 1086, Freckenham manor, which encompassed the parish of Red Lodge, was held by Orthi, a thane of Harold II, although it was granted to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lanfranc (AD 1070 - 89), some time soon after the survey (Raven 1895). After the Conquest, Lanfranc judged Freckenham, known as *Fracenham*, to be within the Bishopric of Rochester and the manor estate of Freckenham was once again bestowed to Rochester in *c.* AD 1071. The estate included a manor, a meadow, one mill and two fisheries, with sixteen villagers, eight smallholders and six slaves. Also listed as belonging to the estate are three horses, six beehives, thirteen cattle, forty pigs and two hundred and thirty sheep.

5.8.3 The River Lark *c.*4km north of the site has been an important source of food and transportation, at least since the Anglo-Saxon period, if not significantly earlier. Alfred the Great purportedly mentioned his rights to the fisheries of Freckenham in his charter to Rochester and the industry is again referred to in 1347 by the Vicar of Freckenham, Dno. Alybourne (Callard 1924, 15). Specifically, the river was fished for herring, and the industry undoubtedly gave rise to the medieval village name Herringswell, 2.40km east-south-east of the site. The industry was so strong, that at one time, herring was used to pay tolls and tribute to the Abbot of St Edmundsbury (Callard 1924).

5.8.4 Although physical evidence is lacking, documentary sources indicate that despite unsuitable soils, settlements of the late Saxon and Saxo-Norman period were maintained by animal husbandry and the fishing industry. The draining of the fens, however, in the early 18th century along with some natural silting of the rivers gradually ground the extensive fishing industry to a halt, causing a lull in human activity. In the following early medieval period, Freckenham was located in the administrative district of the Lackford Hundred. The origins of the hundred division are uncertain, although the continued use of the term in the early medieval period further substantiates earlier Saxon use of the area (Muir 2000, 78).

5.9 Early medieval

5.9.1 In the early 13th century, the Bishop of Rochester, lord over Freckenham manor, challenged the Abbot of St Edmund’s holdings and claimed one of the markets belonging to the Abbey. This act instigated a High Court battle, and in 1221, Freckenham was granted the market on the proviso that it was to pay annual tribute on the feast of St Edmund. A new trial resulted in the Abbot having to “forgo his claim to the right of seizure of the lands of Freckenham and the Bishop of Rochester was able to maintain his prerogative of capturing and hanging robbers as he thought fit, but with the proviso that the gallows he maintained should be placed on the boundary of Freckenham and Herringswell (Hogan 2006), the manor of Herringswell being within the holdings of the Abbey of St Edmundsbury. Both Weston (1990) and Callard (1924) cite the location of the medieval gallows on the boundary of Freckenham and Herringswell.

5.9.2 Although the location of the gallows remains unknown, a series of cropmarks at a point 1.35km to the south-east of the site has been suggested as the location of the medieval gallows, particularly since it lies on the boundary (FRK Misc SF16950). Highway intersections were often used for the hanging and burial of criminals (O'Brien 2002). If a road ran along the course of Green Lane/the Icknield Way Path, the line of the boundary between Freckenham and Herringswell at this time, then a gallows may have been located at its intersection with Warren Lane. The area of raised land to the south of the Icknield Way Path is another possible site for the 13th century gallows.

5.10 High & late medieval

5.10.1 The village names of Worlington, Herringswell and Freckenham are referred to during the 13th century, which indicates that the area surrounding the site had at least three well-established settlements by the time of the high and late medieval periods. '*Worl*' derives from the Old English '*Wordwell*' or '*Wridewellan*'; the latter of which being an archaic name for the River Lark (Ekwall 1966), and supports the notion that settlements had been established in the area during an earlier period. St Ethelbert's church, adjacent to Church Farm and 2.25km east-south-east of the site, for instance, dates to the High medieval period (HGW 008 SF2686), as does medieval pottery found in council house gardens further eastwards. A hunting lodge identified at Red Lodge Warren (FRK 073), less than 500m south of the site, and a building 600m to the south-west are also medieval in date (BTM Misc SF2665).

5.10.2 The churches at Freckenham, Worlington and Herringswell, along with other buildings in these three villages, date back to the medieval period, and still show remnants of Old English and Gothic style architecture (White 1844; Kelly's Directories 1937). Despite the surrounding activity during the high and late medieval periods, there is little evidence for a settlement of any size in the Red Lodge area. A 13th century notation granted powers and lands extending to '*the red lodge*' to the Bishop of St Edmundsbury, yet this may imply the presence of a building in the vicinity at that time (Hogan 2006), but there is no further evidence of this, and nothing to suggest the use to which such a building was put, although a hunting lodge is a possibility.

5.11 Post-medieval

5.11.1 Red Lodge, or Red House, was referred to as a hostelry in AD 1675 on a map and in a traveller's guide, and again in the Quarter Session Minutes of 1688 (Cook 2000, 26), where its location was described as being one mile from the inhabited part of the village. The inn served the surrounding villages and travellers on route from Newmarket toward Barton Mills and Thetford, along the course of the B1085 Turnpike Road. The landlord of the inn at this time, Edmund Lowen, was allegedly accused of managing an unruly house and trafficking stolen goods. The local constabulary were afraid to search the premises given its remote location and subsequently enforced a legal prohibition against the selling of alcohol at Red Lodge inn. A possible post-medieval ice house associated with Herringswell House, now Herringswell Manor Farm, is also recorded (HGW Misc SF11251).

5.11.2 By the time Kirby's Traveller of 1735 was written, the inn was referred to as a

warren, inhabited by the local warrener and his family (Cook 2000, 26). From this time, the lands of Red Lodge, including the site and the area now pertaining to Hundred Acre Farm, were used primarily as warrens and for some sheep and cattle grazing. Square-shaped enclosures seen on the 1824 enclosure map, one of which lies within the site, and referred to in the SMR (FRK 036, 049 and 050), are probably related to the rabbit warrens. By 1794 the Red Lodge had been leased to a Mr James Barton, whose carelessness left the buildings in a dilapidated state. He was later declared bankrupt and his belongings, including the buildings associated with Red Lodge were sold off (Cook 2000, 26). The medieval hunting lodge at Red Lodge Warren, however, was extended by an additional structure in the 18th century (FRK 073).

5.12 Modern

5.12.1 The route from Newmarket to Barton Mills involved passage via the Red Lodge, and by 1768, toll gates had been erected at Freckenham, Red Lodge and Elveden, and the road was known as the Thetford Turnpike Road. The toll gate at Red Lodge can clearly be seen on the enclosure map of 1824. The Turnpike Trust was formed to maintain and keep this road, although the isolated section through the heath land and warrens of Red Lodge were prone to unfortunate circumstances. One report told of a mail coach that fell into a “deep and awful gulf” at Chalk Hill; the accident killed the passengers and the four horses (Cook 1000, 27).

5.12.2 This remote area through the Red Lodge heathland also made it an ideal location for highwaymen and bandits. One September night in 1776, a horseman attacked and shot the toll keeper, John Flower, threatened his wife, and robbed them of the toll money. The toll was eventually abolished and by 1871 the toll gate was inhabited by agricultural labourers. A building still stood there in 1918 and was used as a residential cottage. The Red Lodge public house is still a popular stop for lorry drivers and travellers en route to Norfolk, although it has been largely rebuilt since its original construction.

5.12.3 In 1844, documents noted 495 people and 2520 acres of land pertaining to Freckenham and 351 people and 1955 acres to Worlington (White 1844), although the census of 1841 recorded only two residencies in the Red Lodge area; the Red Lodge and Hundred Acre Farm. By this time, the farm had reclaimed land from the warren, land which probably only extended half as far north as it does today. The farm existed on land known as Hundred Acres Hill and the farm was probably also known by this name. By 1861, John Tolworthy was the owner of the Red Lodge, and by 1926, his family had sold it to the brewery of Bury St Edmunds (Cook 2000, 27), from which time it was again used as a pub.

6 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

6.1 As stated previously, a large proportion of land to the east of Red Lodge and Warren Road, comprising Hundred Acre Farm has been subject to a number of desk-based assessments and archaeological evaluations, all of which were undertaken prior to residential development (Fig. 4). In 2003, AS completed an evaluation of land on the western side of Hundred Acre Farm (Phases I and II), whilst in 2005 a further two

phases were completed (III and IV). Over 300 trenches were dug throughout the four phases, although no archaeological features were identified, and the only finds were sporadic pieces of struck flint recovered from the topsoil. Many of the flints, including a small end scraper were found in the southern area, toward the supposed location of the ploughed out barrow (Doyle and McDonald 2003).

6.2 Phase I of the archaeological evaluations at Hundred Acre Farm (Hounsell 2003) encompassed a *c.* 6 hectare field in the north-western corner of the overall area (Fig. 4). No archaeological features were revealed during the first phase of the archaeological evaluation. Phase II (Crank 2003), encompassed two fields, comprising some 10.25 hectares, in the north-eastern corner of the overall area, and was linked to a small land parcel proposed for a storage pond. Two smaller land parcels were also evaluated at this stage, but once again, no archaeological features were revealed.

6.3 Phases III and IV of the archaeological evaluations at Hundred Acre Farm were located due south of the previous Phase I bordering Warren Road to the west and Green Lane to the south. Phase III encompassed a single field of *c.* 0.8 hectares in the south-western corner of the overall area of proposed development (Fig. 4). Phase IV comprised an irregularly shaped section between Phases I, II and III and to the immediate east of Warren Road. None of the evaluation trenches excavated during the two phases revealed archaeological features, nor did the observation of the ground works associated with road construction in the area of Phase IV. Nevertheless, sparse struck flint was recovered from the topsoil during the Phase III, and four struck flints were recovered from the topsoil towards the southern end of the site.

6.4 As was the case to the precursor to the four phases of the archaeological excavations (O'Brien 2002), an archaeological desk-based assessment was undertaken in early 2006 on land in the eastern area of Hundred Acre Farm, 1km to the east of the site (Hogan 2006; Fig. 4). Once again, the assessment highlighted the moderate potential for archaeological remains from the prehistoric, specifically Bronze Age, period. The Iron Age through to Saxon era saw relatively little activity, and although there was some human activity in the wider area during the medieval period, the desk-based assessment suggested that Red Lodge itself was not extensively settled until the modern period (Hogan 2006).

7 THE SITE

7.1 No documentary evidence regarding the site of land to the west of Turnpike Road at Red Lodge could be found in the Suffolk Record Office (SRO), which suggests that the site, as consistent with the cartographic evidence (see Section 8, below), was relatively undeveloped until the construction of residential ribbon development and the garage along Turnpike Road in the modern period. The Freckenham parish enclosure map of 1824 (Ref. Q/R117), for instance, lists a Nathaniel Barnardiston Esq. as the owner of the Red Lodge warren, of which the site formed a part, yet little more is known of the warren itself, other than that assumed from the physical form of the two square-shaped enclosures.

7.2 The SMR entries for the two square-shaped enclosures, which were identified by crop marks that fall within the extent of the site, indicate their link to the rabbit warrens known to have existed in the area at least during the post-medieval period (FRK 036 & FRK 049). The crop mark of the easternmost square-shaped enclosure is shown by cartographic sources to have lain almost entirely within the site, on a north-north-east to south-south-west orientation (FRK 036; Figs. 9 - 11). It is believed to have measured *c.* 210m in length and width, with the southern half of interior divided into strips *c.* 12m wide. A slight earthwork follows the northern edge of the eastern enclosure within the northern part of the site.

7.3 Only the south-east corner of the westernmost square-shaped enclosure lay within the site, towards the site's south-western corner (FRK 049). The enclosure appears on cartographic sources to have been the same size as its neighbour and aligned on the same north-north-east to south-south-west orientation, as well as comprising 11.136 acres in area. The SMR also records a third square-shaped enclosure *c.* 350m to the south of the site, although the crop mark only demarcates the south-eastern section of the enclosure (FRK 050). Although the date and exact purpose of the enclosure remain unknown, the site nevertheless lies in an area known to have an archaeological potential.

8 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

8.1 Saxton's map of Suffolk, 1575

The earliest cartographic source available is Saxton's map of Suffolk, which dates to 1575 (Fig. 5). Although the map is drawn to too small a scale to be of use in determining land use or the existence of features within the site, it nevertheless depicts the proximity of the site to the Cambridgeshire border and the Cambridgeshire fens to the north-west. Saxton's map shows the settlements and churches of Freckenham, Worlington and Herringswell, but noticeably does not include Red Lodge, which comprises a predominantly post World War II residential development, rather than a defined settlement dating back to the early post-medieval period.

8.2 Hodgkinson's map, 1783

The second cartographic source, dating to over 200 years after the first, is Hodgkinson's map of 1783 (Fig. 6). Unlike the former, the Hodgkinson's map shows the location of Red Lodge along the Turnpike from Newmarket, although Red Lodge at the time appeared to be little more than a single structure, possibly now an inn, at the turnpike. The site, however, lay to the immediate west of Turnpike Road and to the south of the north-west to south-east aligned road from Freckenham. No development is depicted within the site on the 1783 map, although the western section of the site appears to have been traversed by a road, which curved slightly on a roughly north to south alignment.

8.3 Freckenham enclosure map, 1824

8.3.1 The Freckenham enclosure map of 1824, which incorporates the Red Lodge area into the parish of Freckenham, depicts Red Lodge only as a small nucleus of

buildings to the south of the site, and beyond which lay the single road-side structure of the tollgate (Fig. 7; Ref. Q/RI17). It is believed that the site had formed part of the open field system of Freckenham until the enclosure of the parish in 1824 (Corbett 1973), although the map clearly shows that the surrounding land was used as warrens and for some sheep and cattle grazing. Common lands were incorporated into allotments, and it was during this enclosure period that ditches, banks and hawthorn hedges were laid out around the newly subdivided warren.

8.3.2 The 1824 Freckenham enclosure map is the earliest cartographic source to depict the site, that to the west of Turnpike Road, in any significant detail (Fig. 7). Like Hodgkinson's map, the enclosure map shows the north-east to south-west aligned Turnpike road at the south-eastern extent of the site, and the road running along the north-eastern boundary of the site, which was then labelled as '*The Bury Road No. 6*'. Unlike the previous map, by 1824 there is no evidence for a road having crossed the site towards its western corner, yet in the northern and central section of the site was a single square-shaped enclosure, thought to indicate one of the primary locations of the warrens associated with Red Lodge. The enclosure map also lists a Nathaniel Barnardiston Esq. as owning the field in the north-eastern corner of which lies the site.

8.4 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, 1836

Post-dating the enclosure map by only twelve years is the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, which dates to 1836 (Fig. 8). Despite its much smaller and less detailed scale, the 1836 clearly depicts the site to the north of the single property labelled as 'Red Lodge'. In 1836, the site appears to have been devoid of any development and thus appeared to comprise a large proportion of a grassland and heathland field bordered by Turnpike Road and the north-west to south-east aligned road to Freckenham.

8.5 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, 1883 – 1885

By the time of the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1883 – 1885 (Fig. 9), it is evident that the site and the field in which it lies, labelled as '*Redlodge Warren*' have been retained as grassland and heathland. Unlike many of the surrounding fields, the site is depicted as heathland, yet the 1883 – 1885 map is also the first cartographic source to show two large square-shaped enclosures within the field and partially within the site itself. It is thought that the two enclosures correspond with the two square-shaped enclosures identified on the SMR (FRK 036 & FRK 049), and represent rabbit warrens, as suggested by the label '*Redlodge Warren*', maintained during the post-medieval period. To the north-east of the site lay the tree-lined road from Freckenham and to the south-east lay Turnpike Road. The south-western and north-western extents of the site, however, were not demarcated by any physical features in 1883 – 1885. The buildings of Red Lodge are by now marked as a public house.

8.6 3rd edition Ordnance Survey map, 1903

The 3rd edition Ordnance Survey map, which dates to 1903, also depicted the two square-shaped enclosures that lie partly within the site and similarly describes the field in which the site lies as '*Redlodge Warren*' (Fig. 10). As previously, the site is

depicted as heathland, which has expanded to the north of the site and supports the historical and environmental information about the Breckland area (see Section 5.1, above). Although the south-western and north-western boundaries of the site are not demarcated in 1903 by a field boundary or road, to the south of the site, within the same field, lies a footpath. Localised mineral extraction, perhaps to maintain the turnpike, can be seen in the areas of ‘old chalk pit’ and ‘gravel pits’ either side of the road.

8.7 4th edition Ordnance Survey map, 1926

In comparison to the cartographic source of 23 years previous, the 4th edition Ordnance Survey map of 1926 reveals that the site has undergone a relatively large degree of change (Fig. 11). Although the site remains part of the heathland surrounding Red Lodge, and the two square-shaped enclosures are unchanged, by 1926 there is ribbon development along the western side of Turnpike Road. The south-easternmost corner of the site thus incorporated four residential properties, known to have been Nos. 28 - 34 Turnpike Road. The road forming the north-eastern boundary of the site, however, was known as Drift Road in 1926 rather than Elms Road as it is today, whilst beyond the south-western corner of the site was an extensive gravel pit.

8.8 5th edition Ordnance Survey map, 1952

The final historic cartographic source reproduced dates to 1952 and comprises the 5th edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 12). The 1952 map is notable as it does not depict the two enclosures evident on the site since at least 1883, although the area has remained the name ‘*Redlodge Warren*’ and the majority of the site has remained a heathland. The south-eastern section of the site, however, not only included the four properties of Nos. 28 - 34 Turnpike Road, but has also been divided into a number of long thin plots to the rear of the same houses. Towards the north-eastern corner of the site are further residential dwellings fronting onto Turnpike Road, yet the extent of the site reaches only as far as their rear gardens.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Summary of the archaeological background

9.1.1 The site is located in the Breckland, an area of free-draining, sandy, chalky heathland that has long been a marginal area subject to drought, erosion and sandblows (O’Brien 2002). Human occupation of the Breckland has varied according to climate and environmental change, and in turn, the fluctuating Breckland soils and habitats have been influenced by changes in land use and agricultural techniques. The palaeoecological evidence and topography of the area suggest that people were active in the area during the earlier prehistoric period, although they may have favoured the higher and more fertile lands for settlement.

9.1.2 The sporadic presence of prehistoric, especially Palaeolithic and Neolithic, rather than Mesolithic, flint implements in the vicinity of the site, as well as the presence of the Icknield Way Path, located 600m to the south of the site, gives rise to

the possibility of similar finds being present within the site itself. The lighter soils of the Breckland river valleys appear to have been attractive to Bronze Age settlers, and thus Bronze Age barrows are numerous in the area. Despite the existence of such barrows, there is very little indication of permanent occupation during the Bronze Age period, although forest clearance continued in the Breckland area throughout the Bronze Age period.

9.1.3 With the exception of a dubious report of a coin hoard (see Section 5.5.2, above), no evidence of Iron Age activity has been found in the area of the site, possibly due to the rising water levels in the fens that would have prompted settlement relocation to the higher chalk grounds. Similarly, there is limited evidence for industrial activity, namely gravel quarrying and metal working, in the area of the site during the Romano-British period, but no clear evidence for occupation or settlement. At Jude's Ferry to the west, however, there may have been a Romano-British villa estate, which would be in keeping with the linear pattern of Roman buildings along the south-eastern fen edge, rather than consistent the Red Lodge area.

9.1.4 The presence of a Saxon cemetery at Tuddenham suggests the possibility of an Anglo-Saxon settlement nearby, although no such evidence has been reported in the immediate area of the site other than the few finds from excavations near the River Kennett (Hogan 2006). From the early medieval period, documentary information is limited to the manors of Freckenham and Herringswell, and there is no archaeological evidence for significant activity in the vicinity of the site other than a possible site of the parish gallows. The later medieval and post-medieval phases saw the construction of Red Lodge inn prior to 1675 and Turnpike Road and its toll gates soon after, but the majority of the settlement of Red Lodge dates to the post-World War II era of the 20th century.

9.2 Site development and deposit model

9.2.1 The historic cartographic sources indicate that the site has been in agricultural use for at least the last three hundred years (Figs. 5 – 12, Section 8). Although a tithe map did not exist for the site, and an apportionment book did not accompany the enclosure map, the site nevertheless appeared to comprise grassland and heathland from the mid 19th century onwards. The enclosure map of 1824, however, was the first cartographic source to depict a square-shaped enclosure within the site, and this was later accompanied by a second enclosure, located slightly to the west from at least 1883 onwards. The size and outer shape of the enclosures, which existed until at least 1926, are similar to enclosures on Lakenheath Warren, and are believed to demarcate rabbit warrens.

9.2.2 The two square-shaped enclosures that lie within the site (FRK 036 & FRK 049) can be identified only by crop marks. It is therefore likely that ploughing has virtually levelled the sides of the enclosure, and may also have caused disturbance to shallow sub-soil archaeological deposits (Hogan 2006), though a shallow earthwork on the site reflects the northern edge of the eastern enclosure. The SMR entries for the square-shaped enclosures mentions that the southern half of the easternmost enclosure's interior appears to have been divided into strips *c.* 12m wide. The similarly shaped enclosures on Lakenheath Warren are also reported to have traces of ridge and furrow cultivation on the interior. The use of much of the site as rabbit

warren enclosures dating to at least the post-medieval period will mean that intensive burrowing may have caused significant damage to shallow sub soil deposits.

9.2.3 Information regarding the likely deposit model for the site is obtainable from previous evaluations to the east of the site (Fig. 4) as well as the ground condition/contamination report undertaken at the site (RGL 2005). A deposit of made ground was only encountered in the former garage/filling station section of the site, and lay at depths of up to 1.10m, whilst sandy topsoils were encountered in the remainder of the site at 0.2 – 0.6m depth, above river terrace deposits of gravelly sand. The river terrace deposits were found across the entire site beneath the topsoil and made ground (to a depth of 3.2-4.5m below ground level) above deposits of Middle Chalk (RGL 2005).

9.2.4 The proposed development for the site will comprise the construction of a residential development of 295 dwellings, as well as the dedication of a public open space/heathland (Fig. 13). The residential dwellings will be situated in the south-eastern and southern sections of the site, as well as within the area of the former garage/filling station. It is notable for the survival of archaeological deposits that buried fuel tanks were evidently originally present within the south-west of the former filling station forecourt, close to the boundary with No. 24 Turnpike Road (RGL 2005). Although a major change in the character of the landscape will occur as a result of the proposed development, the north-western section will remain as Breckland heathland (PPG 2005).

9.3 Archaeological potential

9.3.1 The main archaeological potential of the site is that relating to the two square shaped crop mark enclosures that lie within the site (FRK 036 & FRK 049; Fig. 14). Although the enclosures are undated features according to the SMR entry, that they are depicted consistently on the enclosure map of 1824 as well as the Ordnance Survey maps until at least 1926 suggest that the enclosures were in use for at least the post-medieval and modern periods, and possibly the medieval period. It is thought that the enclosures represent rabbit warrens, known in the area of Red Lodge from 1248 onwards, and is also suggested by the name '*Redlodge Warren*' given to the area of heathland and grassland that incorporates the site (Section 9.4).

9.3.2 As with the Phases I – IV at Hundred Acre Farm and to the east of Red Lodge, the site also has a less specific archaeological potential relating to the abundance of Bronze Age barrows located in the vicinity, as well as the site's proximity to a territorial boundary in both the Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon periods. Known archaeology of either period, however, is very scarce in the area, and there is no reason to assume that the site has any greater potential for such remains than the landscape surrounding it. The potential for archaeological finds dating to the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Romano-British periods to be found within the site, may therefore be considered similarly low.

9.3.3 Other than the strong potential for archaeological remains relating to the post-medieval rabbit warren enclosures, the archaeological potential of the site is similar to that judged for the sites to the east of Red Lodge (O'Brien 2002 & Hogan 2006). Despite this potential, none of the evaluation trenches excavated during Phases

I, II, III and IV at Hundred Acre Farm revealed archaeological features (Hounsell 2003; Crank 2003, & Doyle & McDonald 2005). Only sparse struck flint was recovered from the topsoil during Phase III, and given the lack of pre-modern development on the site, it is plausible that archaeological finds and features may also be scarce within the site to the west of Turnpike Road.

9.3.4 Other than the two square shaped crop mark enclosures that lie within the site, and the possible ridge and furrow strips located in the southern section of the easternmost enclosure, a number of post-medieval and modern features may also be detected within the site. These include the property boundaries demarcating the dwellings fronting onto Turnpike Road and illustrated either on the Ordnance Survey map of 1952 or the recent site map (Fig. 14), and the trackway thought to traverse the south-western corner of the site (Fig. 6). Factors negatively affecting the archaeological potential of the site, however, include the former garage/filling station, the associated buried fuel tanks, previous modern structures and the west-north-west aligned track across the site (Fig. 14).

9.4 Archaeology of rabbit warrens

9.4.1 As discussed previously (Section 5.11), large rabbit warrens are known to have been situated in the east of the parish of Freckenham, near the Red Lodge on the Norwich turnpike. No warrens were mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and it is likely that rabbits were introduced into Britain by the Normans for their fur and meat (Sussams 1996, 95). In the 13th century the rabbit was worth more than a craftsman's daily wage, and during the reign of Henry III, rabbits were included in food lists for Westminster and were being distributed in order to establish new warrens (Geddes 2000, 17). It is believed, however, that 'warren' place names date from the post-medieval period, rather than the medieval period (Muir 2000, 128).

9.4.2 Although originally from a Mediterranean climate, rabbits were ideally suited to the warmer, drier climate and sandy soils of Breckland, than the rest of Britain. A grant of '*Free Warren*', for example, was conferred on Richard de Wendover, Bishop of Rochester in 1248 by Henry III in respect of the Manor of Freckenham and Isleham, most likely within the area of Red Lodge and the site (Callard 1924, 59). Rochester's tax assessment for 1292, however, simply values the Heath around what was to become Red Lodge at one mark and makes no mention of coneys or a coney warren (Geddes 2000, 17).

9.4.3 To protect their investment, warren owners built strong lodges often on rising ground or with tower look-outs, thus commanding wide views over the surrounding countryside (Geddes 2000, 17). A wooden watchtower, for example, was built at Lakenheath Warren in 1365, and it is believed that the Red Lodge public house, located c. 400m south of the site, may have originated as a warren house, rather than a hunting lodge, during the medieval period (FRK 073). In Kirby's Traveller of 1735, the Red Lodge is referred to as '*a warren house on the left*' (Geddes 2000, 26), and the 18th century additional structure to Red Lodge Warren would be roughly contemporary with the enclosure located within the site (FRK 073).

9.4.4 Manorial Court Rolls indicate that warrens and the rights to the rabbits was strictly guarded, but, since warrens were established mostly in remote areas, poaching

was difficult to control. At Freckenham in 1551 the rabbits were described as *'increasing and multiplying on the common land'*, and rabbit prices show that the meat was now being more widely consumed (Sussams 1996, 113). In the 1549 - 1551 Court Rolls of Freckenham manor references are made to the *'killing of the coneys'* on the warren, presumably that at Red Lodge, and 17th century farmers leasing the land were bonded not to kill the coneys found there. In 1676 the sale of a warren in Freckenham, which was in the occupation of John Dixon, also mentions *'the warren of the coneys'* leased by Nathaniel Crabbe.

9.4.5 Freckenham Warren and the Red Lodge Warren covered an area of 450 acres in 1794 and were valued at £67 and 10s. The two warrens, including that incorporating the site, were leased for 14 years at £63 per annum to a widow, Margaret Barton, and her son James (Cook 2000). The lease also stipulated that they were to provide *'15 couple of good rabbits in the season'*, although the warren land also provided grazing for sheep and cattle, bracken for bedding and furze and turves for fuel. The sale of Freckenham Hall in 1918 called the heath *'of little value except for rabbits'* and informed prospective buyers that *'1200 - 1500 rabbits killed per year'*.

9.4.6 It was during the 18th and 19th centuries, when the Breckland area was dominated by large shooting estates, that rabbit warrens became more formalised (Sussams 1996, 113). In 1918 there were 88 acres of Red Lodge Warren and 45 acres of heath adjoining it, of which 40 acres had been worked and of which c. 30 acres (11.8 hectares) comprises the site. By the early 20th century, however, the heyday of the rabbit was over, and the population explosion since the mid 19th century had become a threat to advances in agriculture. Thus in 1926 the 88 acres of warren running along side the main road, and therefore presumably opposite the site, were sold to allow for the development of the village of Red Lodge in the post World War II era.

9.4.7 During the 18th and 19th centuries, the boundaries between the warrens and the surrounding arable land were established to act as a natural buffer zone, although rabbits were spreading into the latter area and plundering crops, and confrontations between warrener and farmer continued (Sussams 1996, 114). The function of these banks was to define the boundary of the warrens as well as to keep the rabbits from feasting on neighbouring crops, and their design was especially intended to reflect this latter purpose (Sussams 1996, 116). Francois de la Rochefoucauld in the 18th century described how the boundary of one of the warrens to the north of Thetford was *'a four-foot bank of turf sown with gorse, which forms a boundary beyond which rabbits cannot go'* (Scarfe 1988).

9.4.8 Enclosed warrens for breeding rabbits were widely established on heathland that was of little use for anything else. It is not known exactly when warrens became formerly bounded, although it was presumably linked to the increasing number of rabbits and to colonies spawning outside existing warrens with the subsequent damage to crops, as well as to clarify disputes over ownership where warrens bordered each other (Sussams 1996, 97). The enclosing of warrens by earthwork banks was occurring by the early 17th century, but seems to have become more widespread in the 18th century, a date slightly earlier than the first depiction of the square-shape enclosures first shown at the site by the 1824 enclosure map.

9.4.9 Most of the medieval warrens were therefore probably without substantial physical boundaries, and it is thus possible that the warrens located within the site date to the medieval period, but were not enclosed until the 17th or 18th century. All that may have been needed during the medieval period was a ditch, such as that created at Lakenheath by the early 14th century, and a ditch feature may possibly be revealed by archaeological investigation. Unlike the 1835 map of Lakenheath Warren, which was provided to accompany a petition to divide up the warren, no cartographic source exists for the site at Red Lodge that clearly marks the rabbit warren enclosures with banks.

9.4.10 Unequivocal dating evidence is given for Mildenhall and Elveden warrens, which were banked in the early 18th century, although it is not clear when the substantial banks surrounding the 2,300 acre warren at Lakenheath were constructed (Sussams 1996, 114). A square-shaped enclosure, very similar to those encountered at the site, is also located immediately adjacent to the warren banks separating Santon Downham Warren and Thetford Warren. Evidence going back to the medieval period shows that nets and ‘snares’ were used for catching the rabbits and may have been used in conjunction with the earthwork banks, yet are unlikely to have left any archaeological remains (Sussams 1996, 116).

9.4.11 As discussed previously for the site (see Section 9.2.2, above), the southern half of the easternmost enclosure’s interior appears to have been divided into strips *c.* 12m wide. Furthermore, an aerial photograph taken in 1946 reveals traces of ridge and furrow inside both enclosures, and thus giving rise to the probability that the enclosed land within the site had been ploughed at some time. The westernmost enclosure, only the south-eastern corner of which lies within the site, also appeared in 1946 to have an artificial bank on the northern side, and neither enclosure showed any evidence of an entrance.

9.4.12 References to arable plots within warrens may point to a class of earthwork which may possibly be medieval in date, contemporaneous with ridge and furrows. The four enclosures on Lakenheath Warren, which are of a similar size to those at the site, reported by Crompton and Taylor in 1971, also showed signs of internal ridge and furrow ploughing, perhaps for the cultivation of crops for winter or rabbit fodder. However, there is no firm dating evidence for these features and they are equally likely to be post-medieval arable plots constructed at one of the many times that parts of warrens were temporarily turned over to agriculture (Sussams 1996, 99). A lease to James Barton in 1817, for instance, shows that Nathaniel Barnardiston waived his sole right of sheepwalk over all the unenclosed warren in the winter and spring time.

9.5 Research Priorities

9.5.1 As stated previously (see Section 4, above), the site is located on the Breckland edge, in an area of free-draining, sandy soils and is prone to drought and erosion. A number of specific archaeological research agendas, as listed below, were formulated for the Breckland Environmentally Sensitive Area (Sussams 1996, 21) and are applicable to the site:

- distribution of settlements of different periods in relation to water, soil types and landscape zones,
- marginality on the Breckland,
- changes in settlement densities, land use and soil changes,
- pre-enclosure field patterns, and;
- assessment of the archaeological association of specialised Breckland farming systems, notably sheepwalks and rabbit warrens.

9.5.2 These research priorities adequately summarise those discussed in Brown and Glazebrook (2000). Three of the Breckland area-specific agendas are of particular interest to the site of land to the west of Turnpike Road. Any archaeological investigations within the site have the potential to reveal deposits indicative of palaeoenvironment and changes in it over time. Further investigation may also determine the correct interpretation and dating of the two square-shaped enclosures, thus potentially extending the regional knowledge of specialised Breckland rabbit warrens. In particular, it would be important to find evidence of rabbit warrens within the site during the medieval period, and datable evidence of banks demarcating the enclosures.

9.5.3 Although the site has a predominant archaeological potential for remains relating to the rabbit warren and the two square-shaped enclosures dating to the post-medieval, modern and possibly medieval periods, the site also has a medium to low archaeological potential for remains dating to the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon periods. The key issues for the Neolithic and Bronze Age, which are applicable to the site, centre on the theme of the development of farming and the attendant development and integration of monuments, fields and settlements (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 9 – 13), whilst research topics for the Iron Age include further research into the development of the agrarian economy, and also the development of tribal politics (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 14 – 18).

9.5.4 Research topics for the rural landscape in the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods, however, are suggested by Wade in Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 23 - 26. These include the examination of population during this period in the form of distribution and density and as well as physical structure, settlement characterisation of form and function as well as the creation and testing of settlement diversity models, specialisation and surplus agricultural production which will be of particular interest for the rabbit warrens of the Red Lodge area, detailed study of changes in land use, and the impact of colonists such as the Normans as well as the major institutions such as the Church.

10 CONCLUSION

10.1 The site to the west of Turnpike Road includes the majority of a square-shaped enclosure (FRK 036), and the south-eastern corner of another (FRK 049). The historic cartographic sources date the two enclosures from at least 1824, the time of the Freckenham parish enclosure map, although the features had been removed from the cartographic sources by 1952. The SMR entries for the two square-shaped enclosures

state that they represent enclosed rabbit warrens, an industry for which the Breckland area, and the area of Red Lodge, is renowned.

10.2 The two enclosures are known to date to the post-medieval period, particular since the enclosure of warrens by earthwork banks was common in the 17th and 18th centuries, but it is likely that the warren existed on the site during the medieval period, possibly from 1248 onwards. There is also evidence to suggest that the interior of the enclosures were ploughed, possibly also during the medieval period. That much of the site has been used as a rabbit warren, however, suggests that subsurface deposits are likely to have been truncated and any shallower earlier archaeological deposits disturbed.

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APPENDIX 1

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATABASE (SMR)

The following sites lie within a radius of between 1km and 3km of the site. The search area was expanded given the intensity of prehistoric activity outside of the 1km radius, and the central location of the site amid this activity. Fig. 3 shows only those SMR points which fall within its area; points outside of this area are marked in the following table with an 'X'.

FRK = Freckenham; WGN = Worlington; BTM = Barton Mills; TDD = Tuddenham; CSMR = Cambridge Sites and Monuments Record; SAM = Scheduled Ancient monument.

SMR	NGR TL	Description
Prehistoric (to AD 43)		
FRK Misc	6900 7000	Palaeolithic triangular hand-axe, carinated hand-axe and other flint implements found at Red Lodge Heath
BTM Misc SF 17631	7000 7000	Palaeolithic implements found, now in Cambridge Museum
BTM Misc SF 230	7000 7000	Palaeolithic implements found, now in Cambridge Museum
BTM Misc SF 231	7000 7000	58 Palaeolithic hand axes and flour flakes were discovered
BTM Misc SF 232	7000 7000	A Neolithic polished flint axe was found in 1881
BTM Misc SF 233	7000 7000	Neolithic arrow heads found
FRK Misc	6930 7000	Neolithic oval scraper
BTM Misc SF 234	7000 7100	Neolithic white chipped flint implement found at Chalk Hill during construction of the A11 bypass
HGW Misc SF 6492	7200 7100	Neolithic saddle quern found on land belonging to Fen Farm
HGW Misc SF 14629	7100 6900	Neolithic stone axe found in Herringswell
HGW 009 SF 13202	7077 6867	In 1991, during a field walking assessment of a proposed Cambridge Water Company water pipeline route, a scatter of prehistoric worked flint was found that spread over 100m in length
HGW 010 SF 13726	7171 6971	Two fragments of a Bronze Age copper tanged dagger found caught up in a piece of agricultural machinery in a field behind Church Farm
FRK 008	7065 6980	Bronze Age barrow marked on 1 st edition OS map (1836), although is no longer visible. It may have been the subject of a 1995 aerial photograph (SAS AP2548). The site of the barrow is located between Hundred Acre Farm and Beech Belt in the south
HGW 001	7137 6984	A round bowl barrow noted on the 1 st edition OS map (1836), c.30m diameter and 0.4m high. It has been levelled by ploughing
HGW 002 SF 6480	7135 6955	Site of a round barrow at Shooting Lodge Plantation
HGW 003 SF 6481	7089 6847	Site of a round barrow

SMR	NGR TL	Description
HGW 004 SF 6482	7162 6863	Site of a round barrow, marked on the 1 st edition OS map
Monument ID no. 31111	7167 6859	Two bowl barrows, possibly connected to HGW 004
BTM 004 SF 216	7088 7215 X	Round barrow on Chalk Hill
BTM 012	7115 7165	Round barrow near Chalkhill Farm, marked on 1 st edition OS map (1836)
BTM 013	7120 7175 X	Round barrow near Chalkhill Farm, marked on 1 st edition OS map (1836)
BTM 017	7070 7280 X	Ring ditch with 30m diameter, seen in an aerial photograph of 1956
BTM 027	7093 7211 X	Round barrow, part of the Chalkhill group
BTM 028	7079 7222 X	Round barrow, part of the Chalkhill group
WGN 003	6992 7145	Swale's Tumulus, excavated in 1954 by Lady G Briscoe. Bowl barrow with cremations
TDD 004 SF 249	7320 7021 X	Two possible ploughed out round barrows
Monument ID no. 33372	6771 6996	Lumber Hill bowl barrow
Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)		
HGW 007	7206 7028	Surface scatter of pottery sherds
BTM 026 SF 17750	7110 7210 X	Chalkhill Roman quarry. A woman whose father used to work at Chalk Hill lime pits made a report to Mick King (of Mildenhall District Detector Club) stating that her father had seen the remains of a Roman villa in the area. Indeed, if there was a Roman quarry, there may have been some sort of contemporary building, although there is no evidence of a villa per se
TDD 006 SF 10297	7355 7139 X	Roman finds scatter including pottery and metalwork; may indicate settlement and vocational activity in the area
TDD 013 SF 17566	7370 6999 X	A large quantity of Roman metalwork was found by metal detecting on Field Farm, near Tuddenham
Anglo-Saxon (AD 411 – 1065)		
BTM Misc SF 236	7000 7000	An East Saxon gilded bronze roundel brooch was found
TDD 001 SF 246	7410 7038 X	Anglo-Saxon cemetery found in a gravel pit, half a mile from Tuddenham church
TDD 014 SF 17779	7385 7060 X	Silver Saxon sceat
CSMR 07801 SAM 005	Various X	Devil's Dyke
Medieval (AD 1066 – 1539)		
FRK Misc SF 16950	7000 6900	A convention of 1238 between the Bishop of Rochester and the Abbott of St Edmund's stated that the gallows shall in future be built on the border of Freckenham and Herringswell. It is probably this record that has confused the issue of FRK 008
HGW 008 SF 2686	7181 6996	St Ethelbert's church, adjacent to Church Farm
HGW 012	7226 7016	Medieval pottery found in council house gardens

SMR	NGR TL	Description
FRK 073	6941 7000	Red Lodge Warren, hunting lodge
BTM Misc SF 2665	7000 7000	Medieval buildings
Post-medieval and modern (AD 1540 – present)		
FRK 073	6941 7000	Red Lodge Warren, hunting lodge – 18 th century additional structure
HGW Misc SF 11251	7100 7100	Possible post medieval ice house associated with Herringswell House (now Herringswell Manor Farm)
Undated		
BTM Misc SF 235	7000 7000	Undated human bones, including a skull, ribs, an arm and part of the pelvis, found during a home extension of The Croft
WGN 013 SF 11615	7050 7227 X	Undated human bones, probably from a single inhumation, found during construction work for a radio mast adjoining a building at Bay Farm, Chalk Hill. This may mark the location of another round barrow of the Chalk Hill group given its proximity to other barrow sites.
FRK 035 SF 15680	6800 7088 X	Rectangular enclosure, c. 130m x 100m, defined by a narrow crop mark on the north and eastern sides. The south and west sides are heavily eroded, possibly due to their proximity to the river flood plains
FRK 036	6960 7060	Crop mark – square enclosure with sides c.210m long, southern half of interior divided into strips c. 12m wide. Possibly linked to the rabbit warren
FRK 049	6938 7067	Crop mark – sub-square enclosure mapped and recorded as being 11.136 acres in area. Possibly linked to the rabbit warren
FRK 050	6950 7000	Crop mark – south eastern part of sub-square enclosure. Possibly linked to rabbit warren
FRK Misc	6925 7006	Mound sketched on Freckenham Hall Estate Plan (pre-1816)

APPENDIX 2

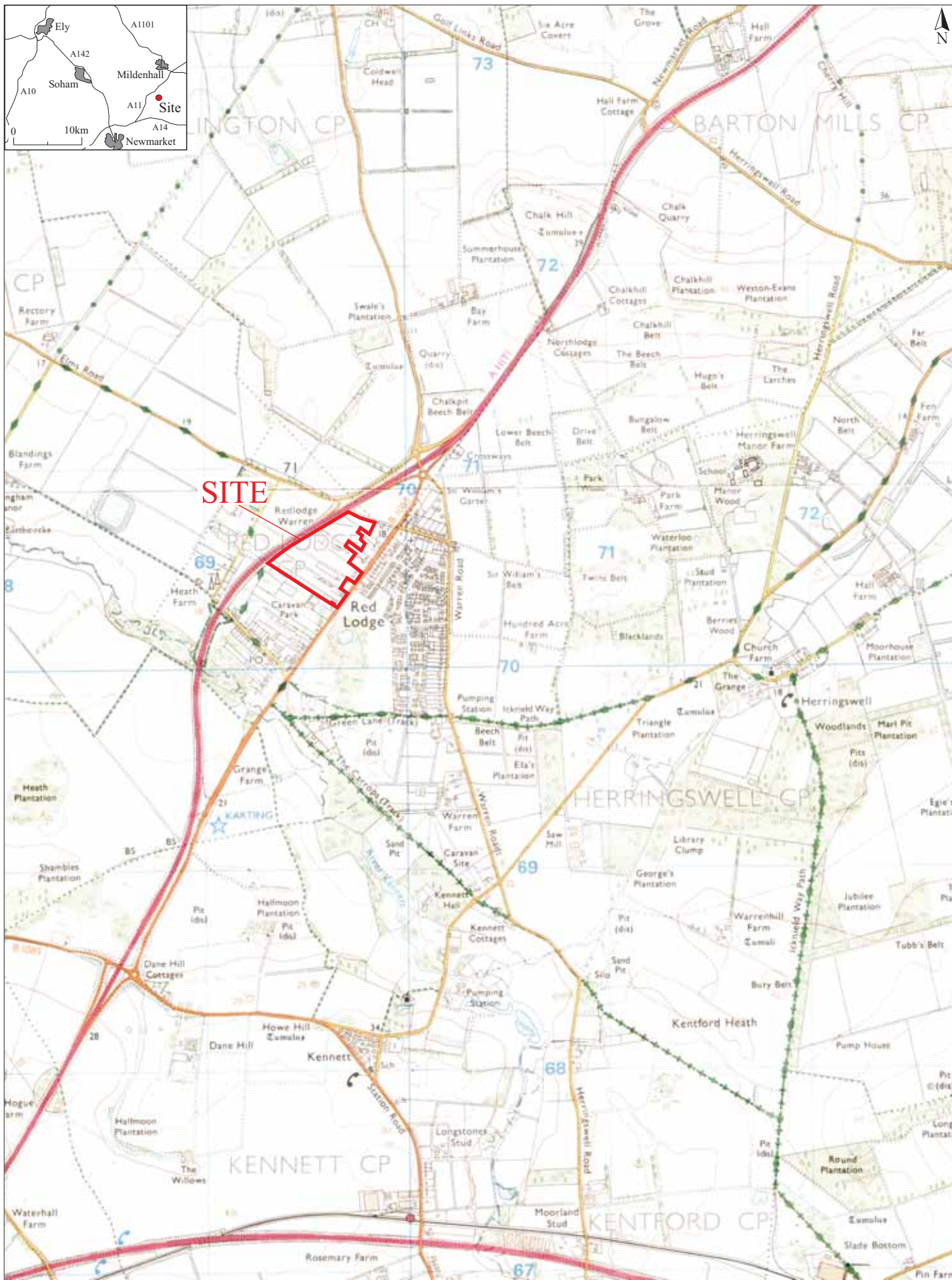
CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

The historic cartographic sources were gathered from the Suffolk Record Office (SRO) in Bury St Edmunds. Relevant maps have been reproduced in Figs. 5 - 12 and are discussed in Section 8, above.

Date	Description	Fig. No.	Scale	Location
1575	Saxton's map of Suffolk	5	-	SRO
1783	Hodgkinson's 'The County of Suffolk Surveyed' map	6	-	SRO
1824	Freckenham enclosure map	7	As shown	SRO
1836	1 st edition Ordnance Survey map	8	1"	SRO
1883 - 1885	Suffolk (West) sheet XXXI.NE; 2 nd edition Ordnance Survey map	9	6"	SRO
1903	Suffolk (West) sheet XXXI.NE; 3 rd edition Ordnance Survey map	10	6"	SRO
1926	Suffolk (West) sheet 31.8; 4 th edition Ordnance Survey map	11	25"	SRO
1952	Suffolk (West) sheet XXXI.NE; 5 th edition Ordnance Survey map	12	6"	SRO
2000	Ordnance Survey Explorer Sheet 226; Ely and Newmarket; site location plan	1	1:25,000	AS
2000	Detailed site location plan	2	1:4,000	Client
2000	Ordnance Survey Explorer Sheet 226; Ely and Newmarket; SMR data	3	1:12,500	AS
2000	Ordnance Survey Explorer Sheet 226; Ely and Newmarket; previous archaeological investigations	4	1:12,500	AS
2005	Proposed development	13	-	PPG 2005
2006	Areas of archaeological potential	14	1:2,000	RGL 2005

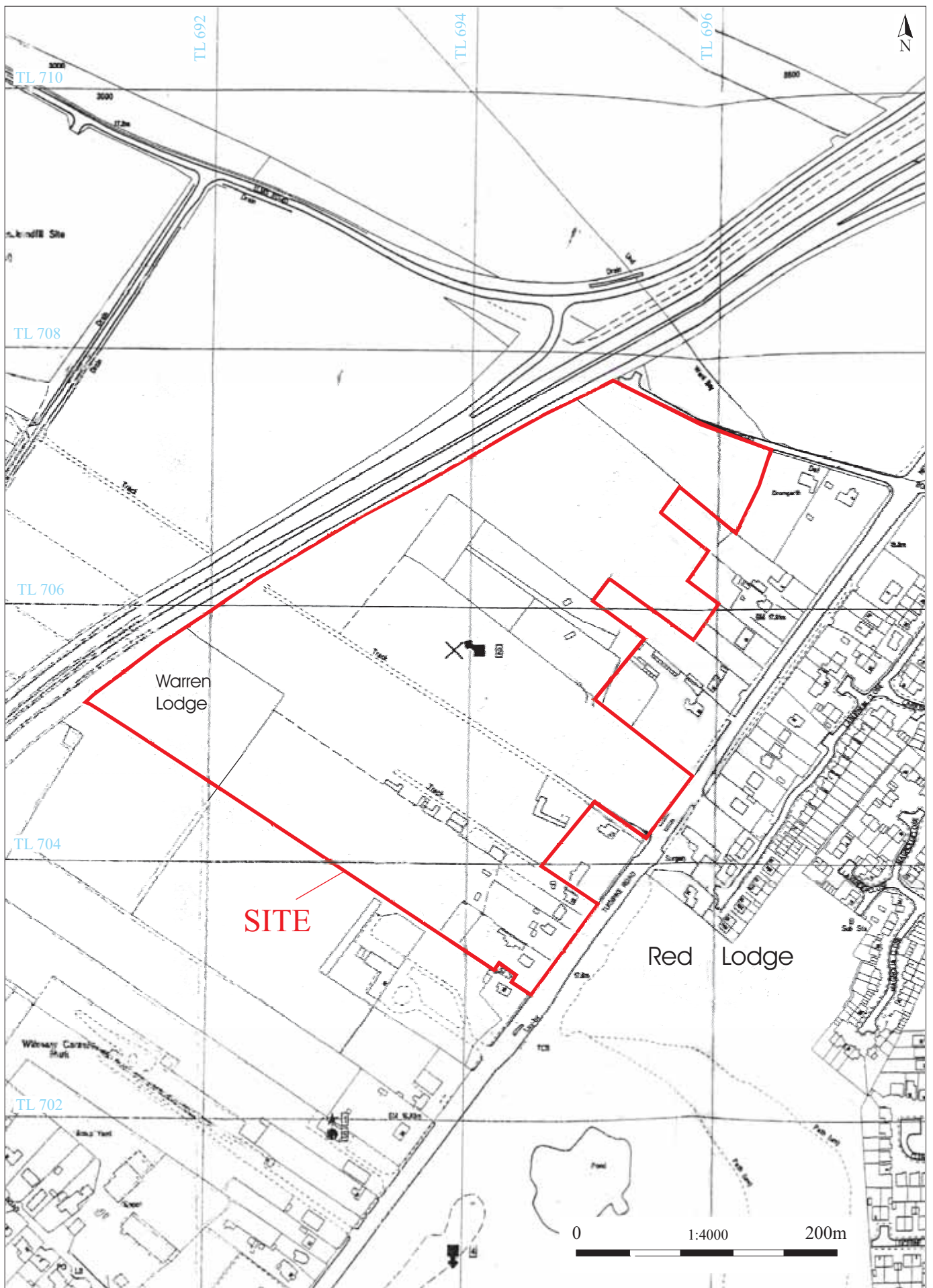
Documents consulted at SRO;

Freckenham enclosure map, 1824 Ref. Q/RI17



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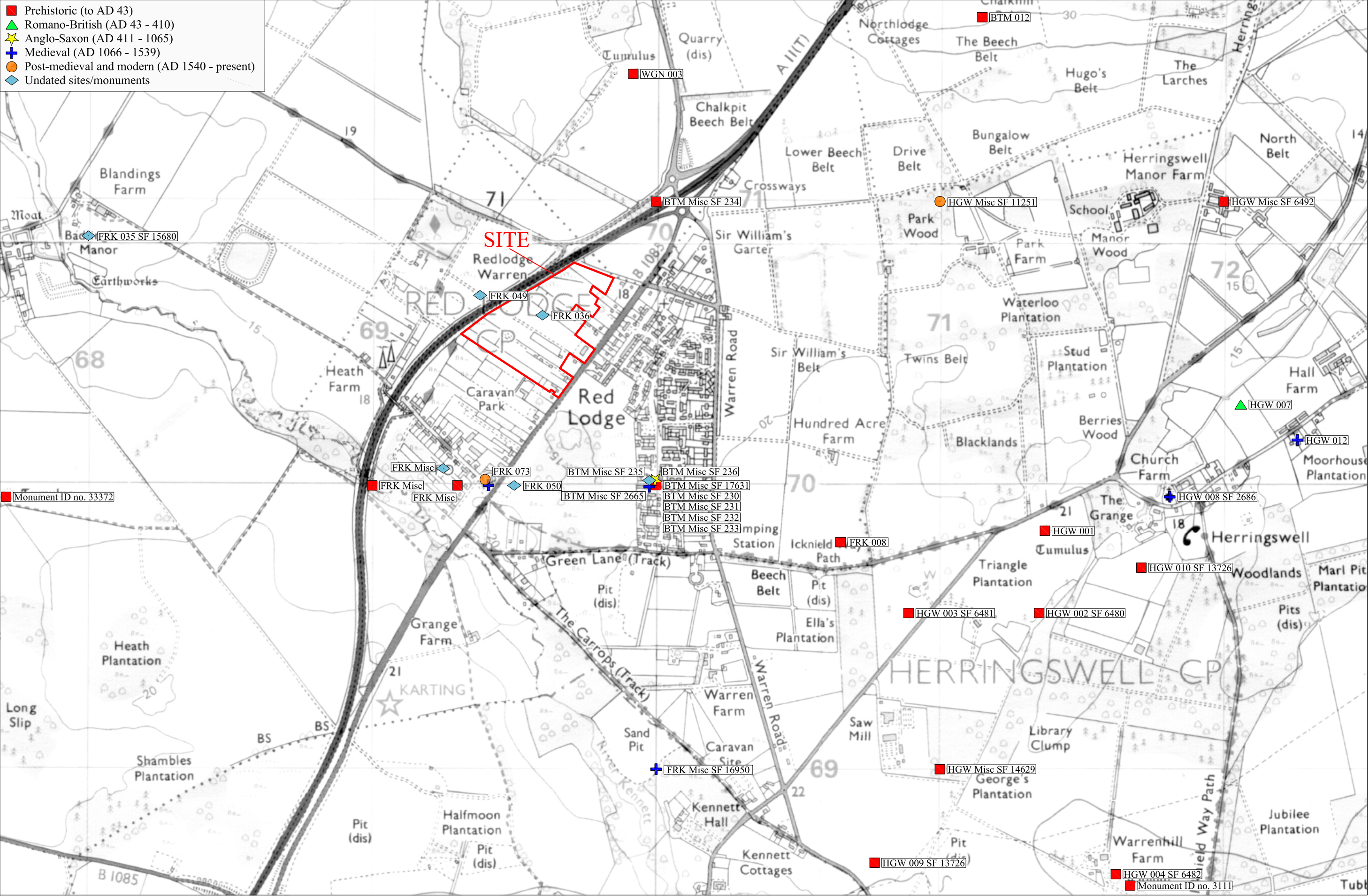
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 1 Site Location
 Scale 1:25000



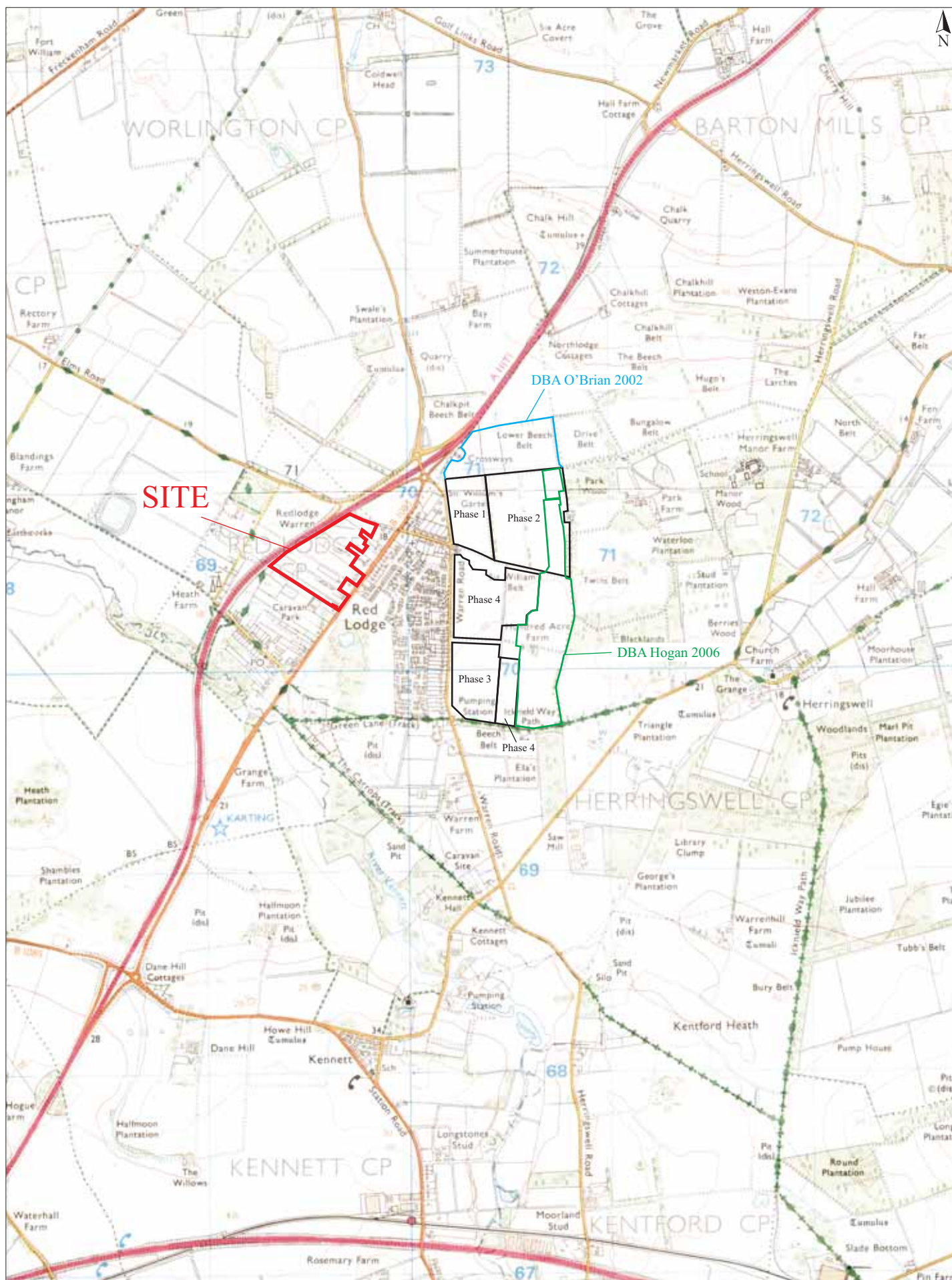
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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:4000

- Prehistoric (to AD 43)
- ▲ Romano-British (AD 43 - 410)
- ★ Anglo-Saxon (AD 411 - 1065)
- ✚ Medieval (AD 1066 - 1539)
- Post-medieval and modern (AD 1540 - present)
- ◆ Undated sites/monuments



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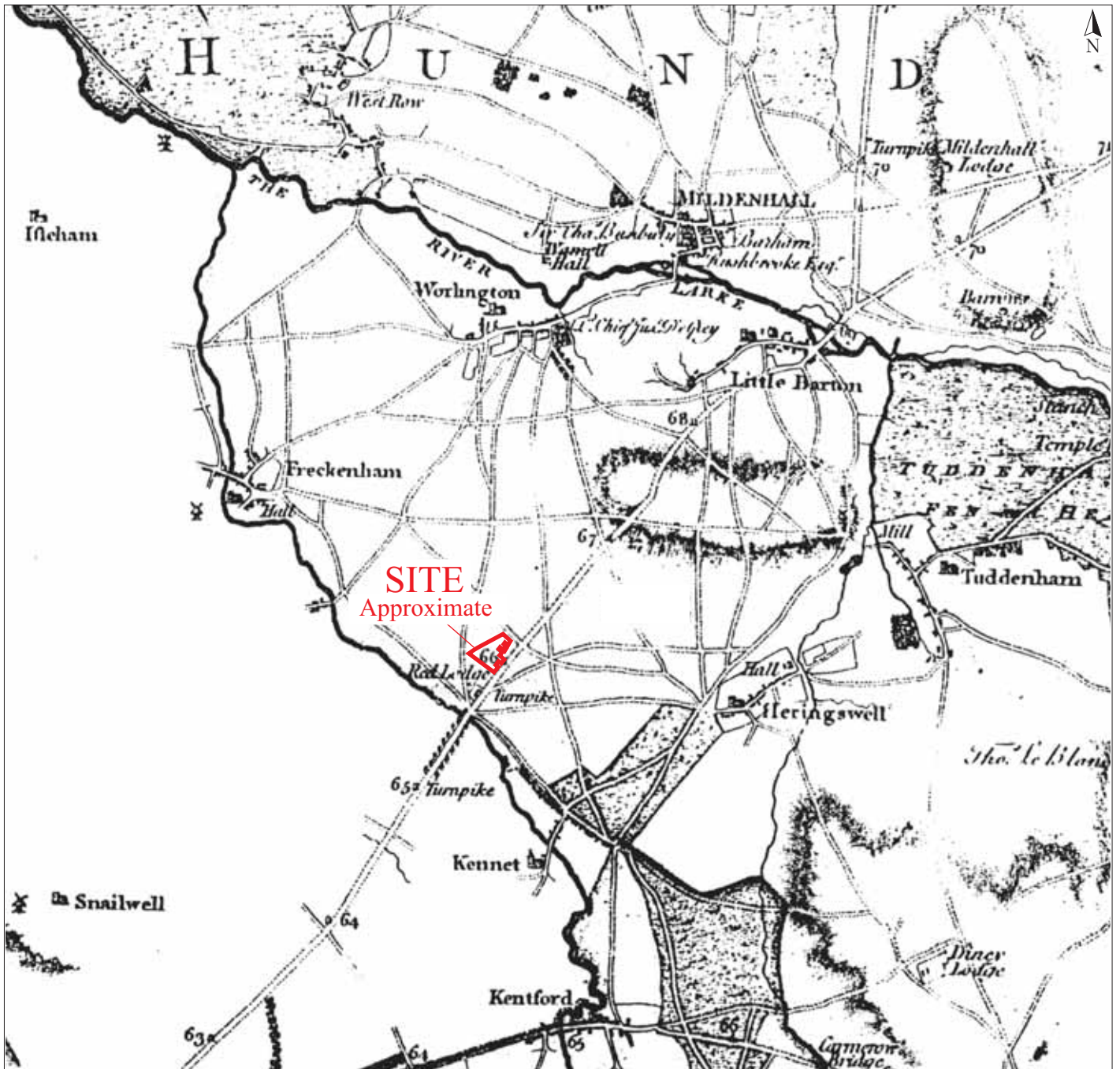
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Fig. 4 Previous archaeological investigations

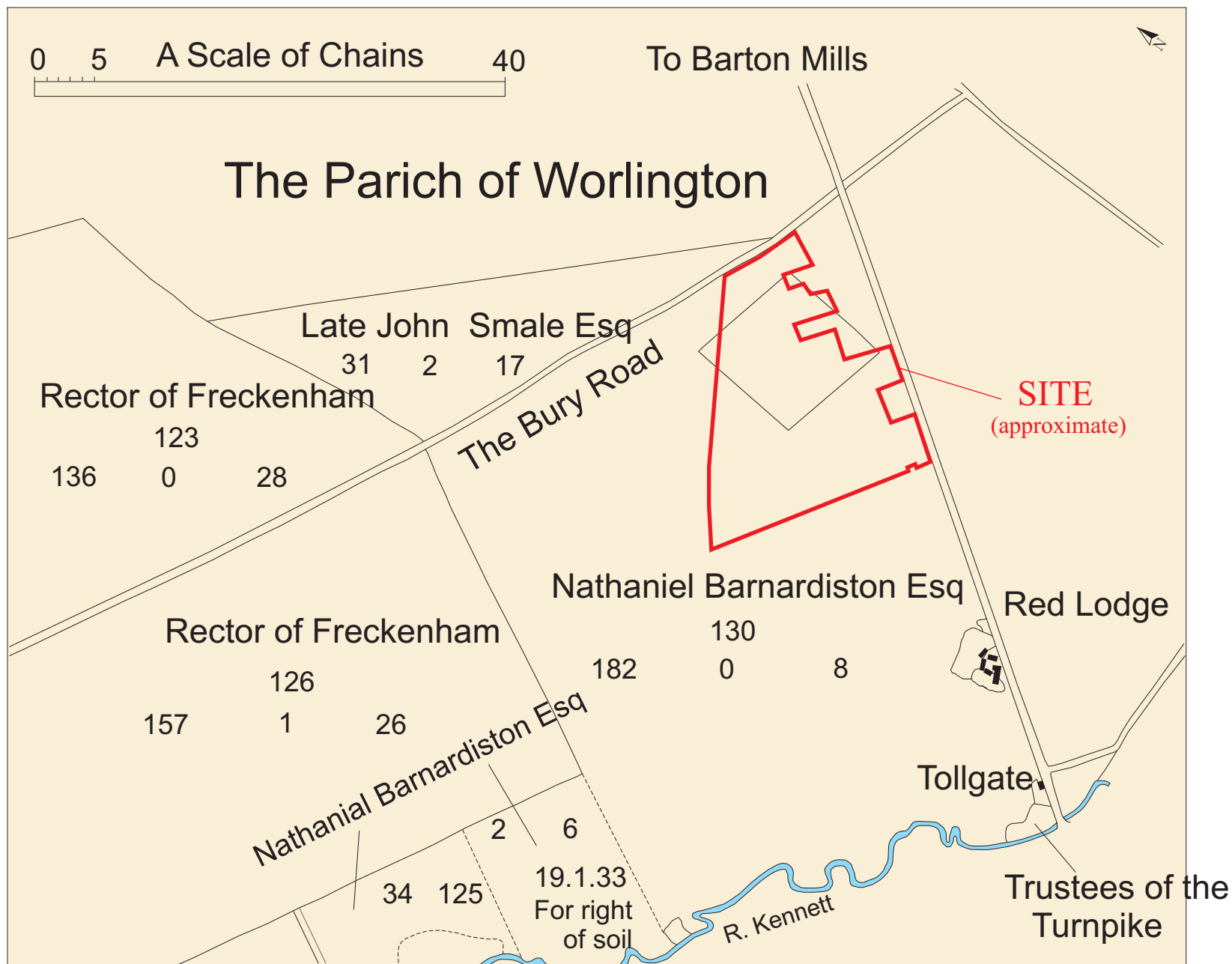
Scale 1:25000



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 Fig. 5 Saxton's Map of Suffolk, 1575
 Not to scale



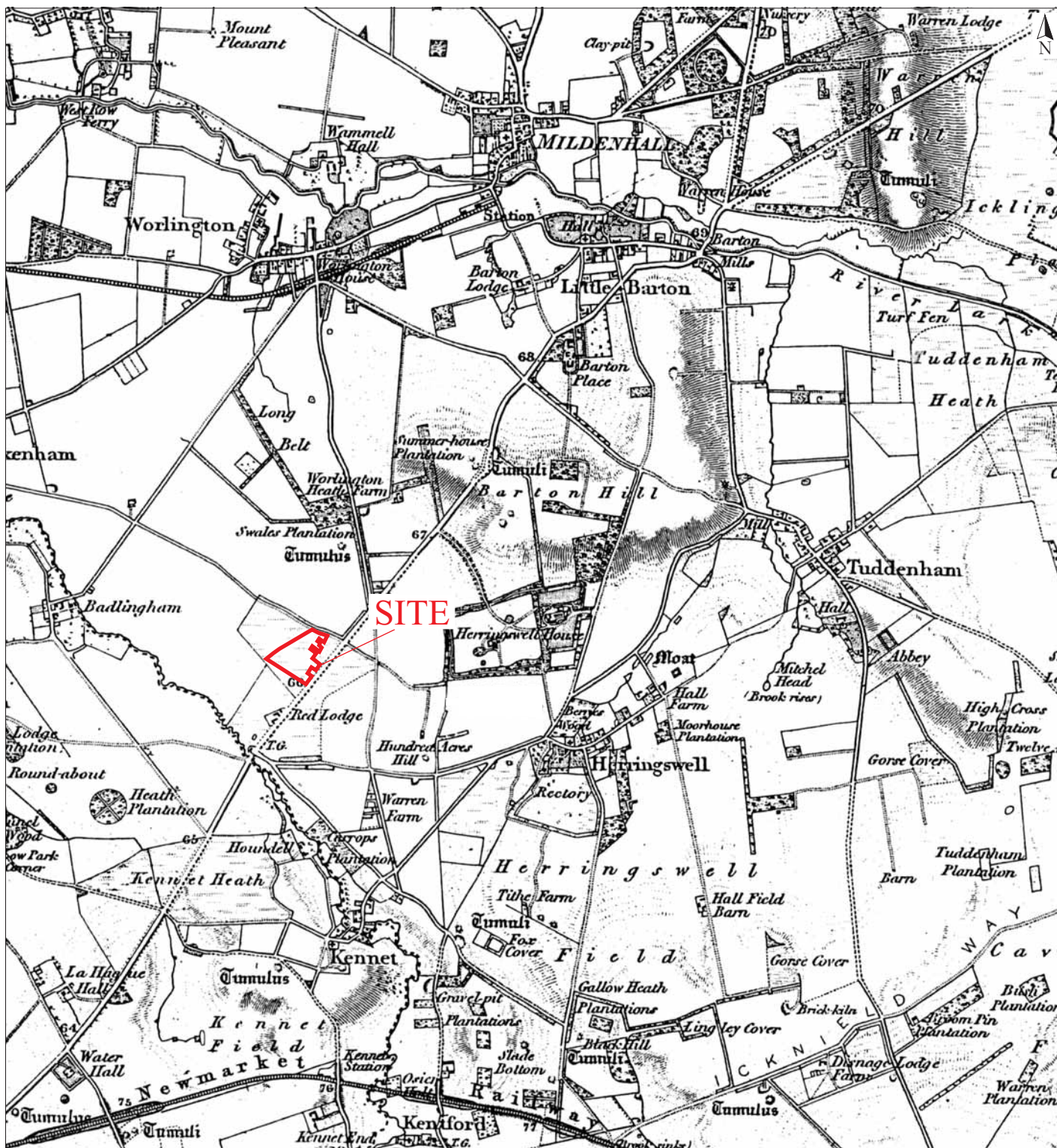
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
 Fig. 6 Hodkinson's Map, 1783
 Not to scale



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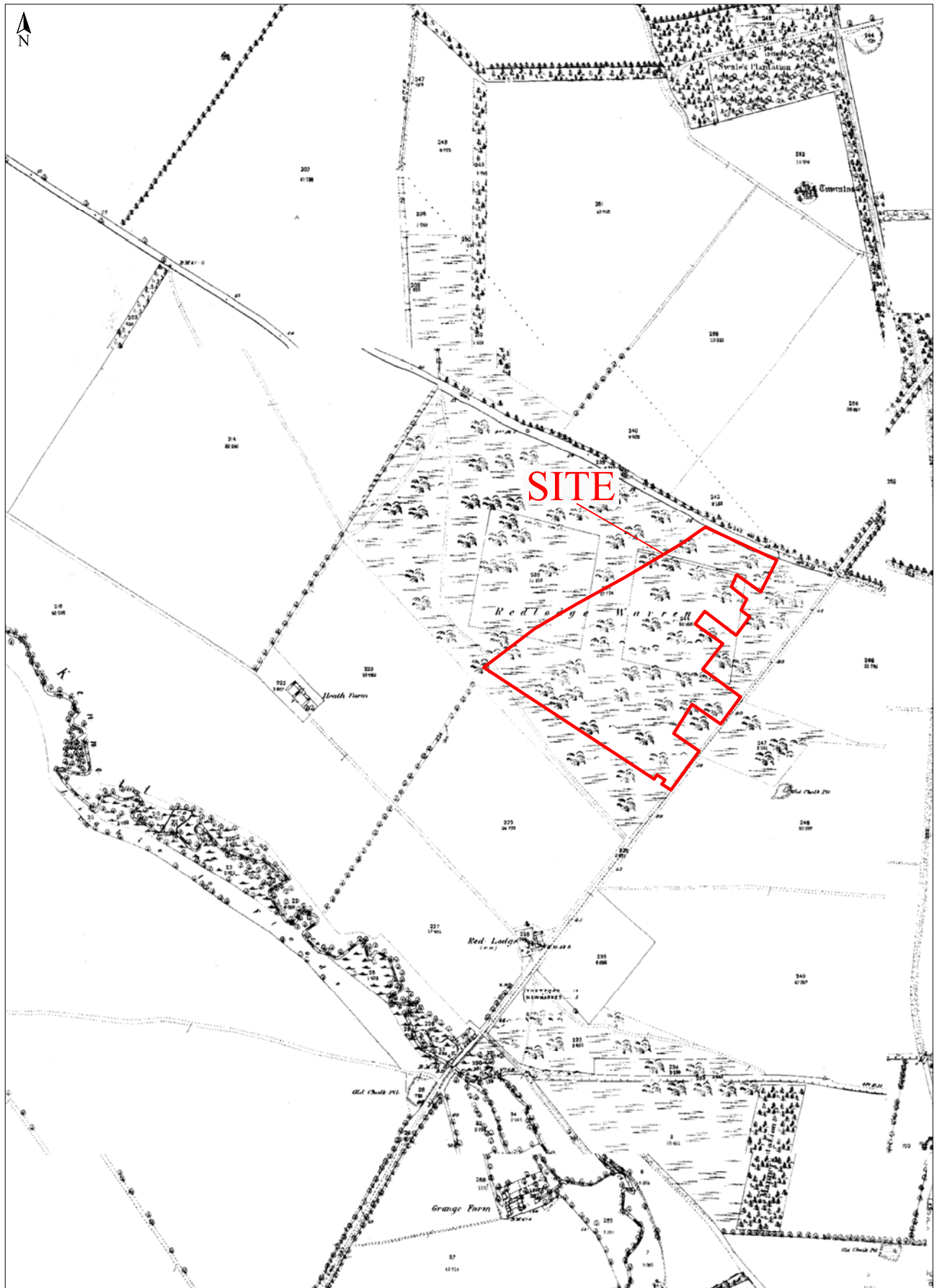
Fig. 7 Freckenham enclosure map, 1824

Scale as above



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Fig. 8 1st edition OS map, 1836
 Scale 1" to 1 mile

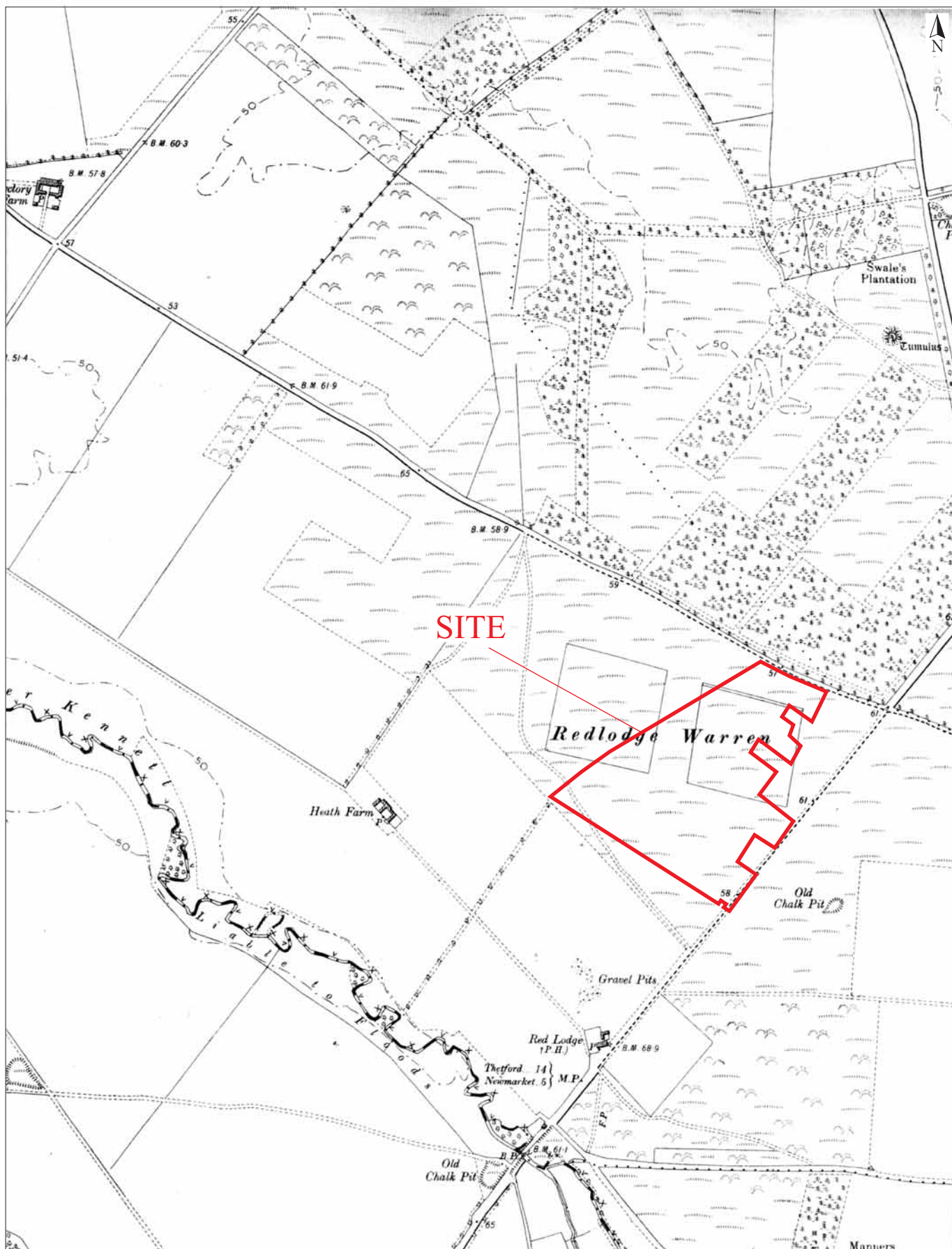


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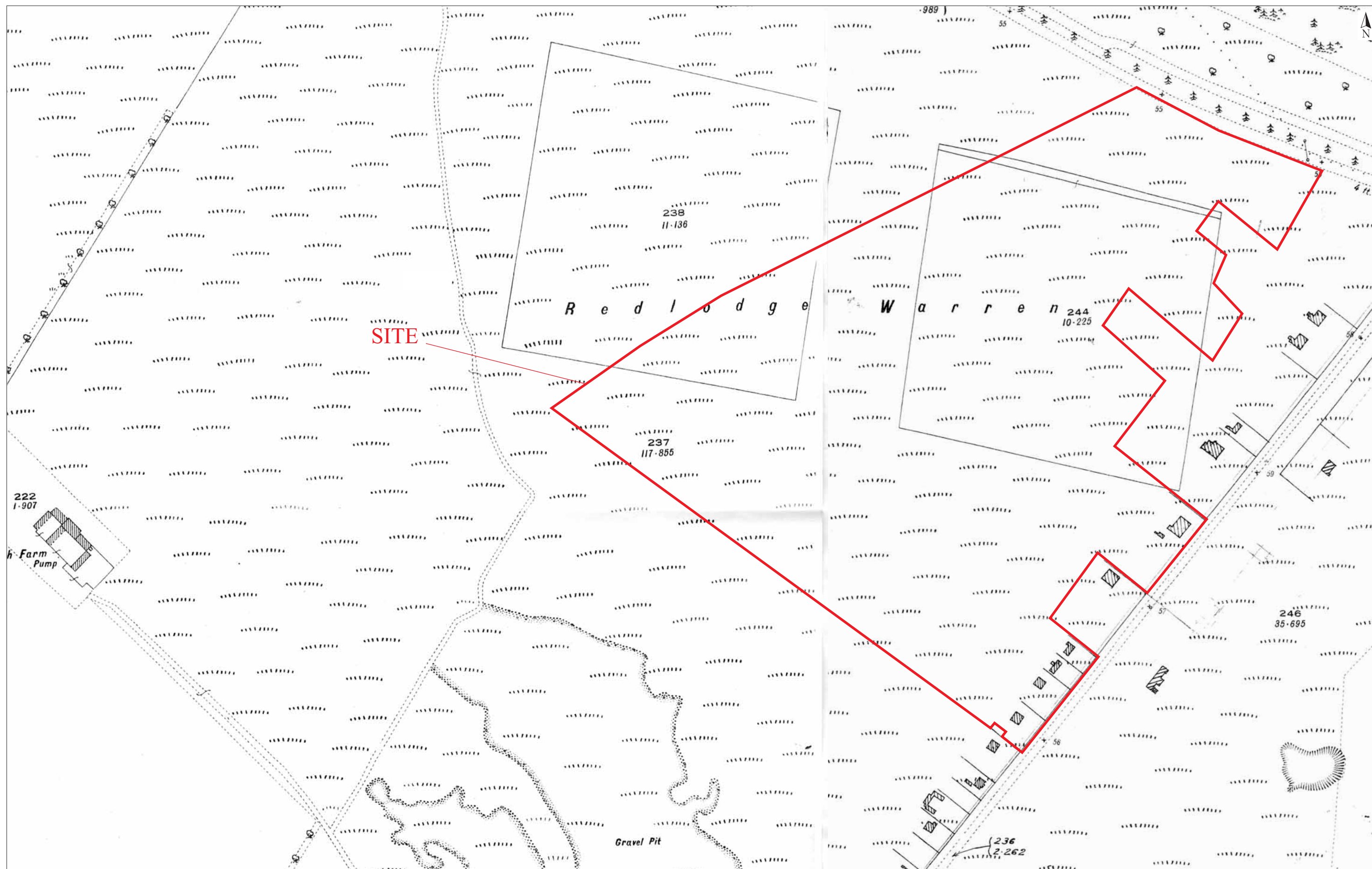
Fig. 9 2nd edition OS map, 1883-1885

Scale 6" to 1 mile



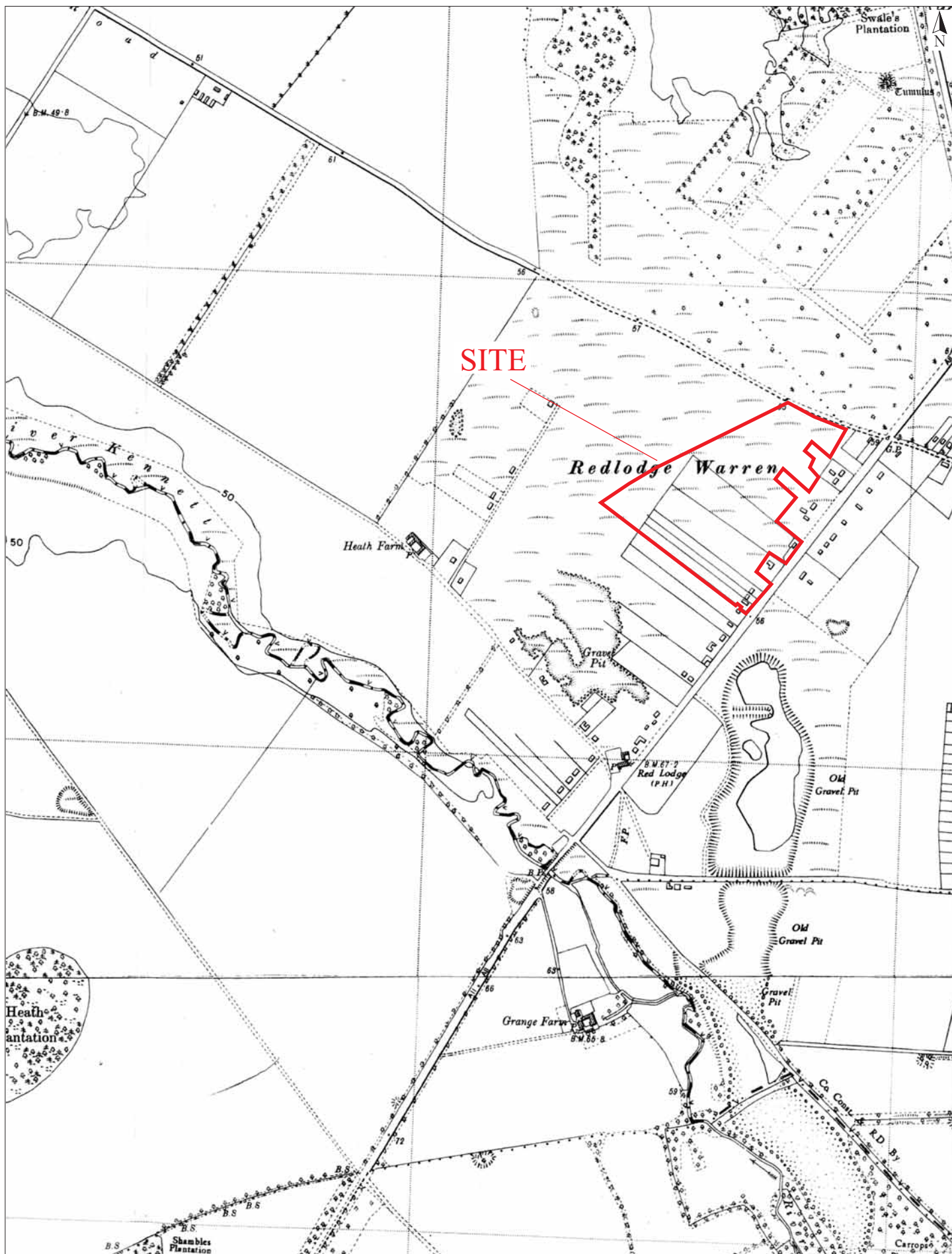
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Fig. 10 3rd edition OS map, 1903
 Scale 6" to 1 mile



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Fig. 11 4th edition OS map, 1926
Scale 25" to 1 mile



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Fig. 12 5th edition OS map, 1952
Scale 6" to 1 mile

