
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**MAVOURN FARM, THURLEIGH ROAD,
BOLNHURST, BEDFORD MK44 2EF**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MONITORING AND RECORDING**

Authors: Mark Blagg-Newsome (Fieldwork and report)	
Illustrations: Thomas Light	
NGR: TL 07098 57645	Report No: 5373
District: Bedford Borough	Site Code: AS 1851
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: 6802
	Date: May 2017
	Revised: 13/11/2017

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst, Bedford MK44 2EF</i>		
<p><i>In May 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring on land Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst, Bedford MK44 2EF (NGR 507098 257645). It is proposed to build a new grain store (BBC Planning Reference 16/00740/FUL). The monitoring was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval, based on the advice of Bedfordshire Borough Council Historic Environment Team (BBC HET).</i></p> <p><i>The site lies an area of high archaeological potential for remains of medieval activity associated with a double rectangular moated medieval site and associated settlement earthworks (scheduled ancient monument). The grain store is proposed in an area between the settlement earthworks and the moat, just outside the scheduled area. The current site had a potential for medieval activity associated with the adjacent moated enclosure and settlement earthworks.</i></p> <p><i>A trial trench evaluation revealed five features, all linear ditches (Monahan 2016). Ditch F1008 (Trench 1) contained two small sherds of Roman pottery, but these sherds are residual as Ditch F1008 cut Ditch F1012 which contained post-medieval CBM. Ditch F1004 (Trench 2) also contained post-medieval CBM, and Ditches F1010 (Trench 1) and Ditch F1106 (Trench 2) contained no finds.</i></p> <p><i>The archaeological monitoring and recording which formed the current investigation revealed a stone-built rectangular structure (M2003) with L2002 above that contained a high proportion of stone cobbles and ceramic building material and probably resulted from the demolition of the stone-built structure. The CBM report suggested a post medieval date for roofing tiles found, and while this can reflect re-roofing of an earlier structure it may be suggested that the structure itself was post-medieval in date, and most likely an agricultural or similar outbuilding. The thickness of the walls is notable though no evidence was revealed to suggest an original function.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>May 2017</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>6802</i>	Site code	<i>AS1851</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Monitoring</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use			
Planned development	<i>New grain store</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Stone built rectangular structure, likely post-medieval</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>None</i>		
<i>Project location</i>			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Bedfordshire</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Bolnhurst</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Bedfordshire Borough Council Historic Environment Record</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>MK44 2EF</i>		
Area of site	<i>585m2.</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 07098 57645</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>c.75m AOD</i>		
<i>Project creators</i>			
Brief issued by	<i>Bedfordshire Borough Council Historic Environment Team</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Mark Blagg-Newsome</i>		
Funded by	<i>Mr David Pell</i>		
Full title	<i>Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst, Bedford MK44 2E. Archaeological Monitoring</i>		
Authors	<i>Blagg-Newsome, M.</i>		
Report no.	<i>5373</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>May 2017 (Revised 13/11/2017)</i>		

MAVOURN FARM, THURLEIGH ROAD, BOLNHURST, BEDFORD MK44 2EF

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

SUMMARY

In May 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring on land Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst, Bedford MK44 2EF (NGR 507098 257645). It is proposed to build a new grain store (BBC Planning Reference 16/00740/FUL). The monitoring was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval, based on the advice of Bedfordshire Borough Council Historic Environment Team (BBC HET).

The site lies an area of high archaeological potential for remains of medieval activity associated with a double rectangular moated medieval site and associated settlement earthworks (fishponds, cultivation and occupation earthworks) (recorded on the Bedford Historic Environment Record – BBHER318), which are Scheduled as an Ancient Monument (NHLE1010913). The grain store is proposed in an area between the settlement earthworks and the moat, just outside the scheduled area.

The current site had a potential for medieval activity associated with the adjacent moated enclosure and settlement earthworks.

A trial trench evaluation revealed five features, all linear ditches (Monahan 2016). Ditch F1008 (Trench 1) contained two small sherds of Roman pottery, but these sherds are residual as Ditch F1008 cut Ditch F1012 which contained post-medieval CBM. Ditch F1004 (Trench 2) also contained post-medieval CBM, and Ditches F1010 (Trench 1) and Ditch F1106 (Trench 2) contained no finds.

The archaeological monitoring and recording which formed the current investigation revealed a stone-built rectangular structure (M2003) with L2002 that contained a high proportion of stone cobbles and ceramic building material and probably resulted from the demolition of the stone-built structure. The CBM report suggested a post medieval date for roofing tiles found, and while this can reflect re-roofing of an earlier structure it may be suggested that the structure itself was post-medieval in date, and most likely an agricultural or similar outbuilding. The thickness of the walls is notable though no evidence was revealed to suggest an original function.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.2 In May 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring on land Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst, Bedford MK44 2EF (NGR 507098 257645). It is proposed to build a new grain store (BBC Planning Reference 16/00740/FUL). The monitoring was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval, based on the advice of Bedfordshire Borough Council Historic Environment Team (BBC HET).

1.2 The monitoring was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by the Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team (BBC HET *Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication at Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst, Bedfordshire* (dated January 2017), and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AS and approved by CBC (dated 20th January 2017).

1.3 The monitoring conformed to the guidelines cited in the brief, in particular the ClfA Code of Conduct and relevant *Standards* documents, English Heritage *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991), Historic England *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment; the MoRPHE Project Managers Guide* (2015) and *Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Registered Museums in Bedfordshire* (2010).

1.4 The project objective was to identify and record any features of interest that are exposed during groundworks for the proposed development. The archaeological investigation was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of an archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting. Specific attention was paid to:

- establishing the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation on the development site;
- establishing the relationship of any remains identified to the surrounding contemporary landscapes;
- recovery of artefacts to assist in the development of a regional type series; and
- recovery of palaeo-environmental remains in order to determine local environmental conditions

Planning Policy Context

1.5 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.

1.6 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

2.1 The site lies in a rural location at Mavourn Farm, Bolnhurst, to the north of existing agricultural buildings. The site is currently open grassland, with an uneven ground level. It is proposed to erect a new grain store, with a footprint of some 585m².

2.2 The location of the site is notable in that the majority of the farm complex to the north, east and south forms a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM; Appendix 3) which includes the remains of a medieval moated site, fishponds, occupation and cultivation earthworks. The SAM is outlined on Fig. 2. The timber-framed farmhouse itself is located within the area of the moat to the south-east and is listed Grade II and described as 17th century in date (Appendix 3; Fig. 2). To the immediate east of the site within the area of the Scheduled Ancient Monument, there are two square enclosures which may have been constructed for horticultural purposes.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies at c.75m AOD on Oadby member deposits of the Wolston Formation, characterised as silty clays.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 With the exception of an assemblage of Iron Age pottery, suggestive of occupation of this date, identified during fieldwalking to the south of Park End Farm (HER 2748 - MBD2748), possible prehistoric activity recorded in the vicinity of Mavourn Farm is largely undated. This evidence comprises patches of slag of uncertain, but possibly Iron Age or Roman, date recorded during fieldwalking (HER 2738 - MBD2738; 2739 - MBD2739; 2740 - MBD2740; 2741 - MBD2741; 2742 - MBD2742; 2743 - MBD2743; 2744 - MBD2744; 2745 - MBD2745) and a variety of cropmark complexes recorded in the surrounding area (HER 3078 - MBD3078; 15012 - MBD15083; 15013 - MBD15084; 16636 - MBD16590; 16668 - MBD16622; 16669 - MBD16623; 16673 - MBD16627; 16674 - MBD16628). Roman pottery has been found nearby to the deserted medieval village of Tilwick (HER 1827 - MBD1827).

4.2 The site lies an area of high archaeological potential for remains of medieval date associated with a double rectangular moated site and associated settlement earthworks (fishponds, cultivation and occupation earthworks; HER 318) which are Scheduled as an Ancient Monument (NHLE1010913). The grain store is proposed in an area between the settlement earthworks and the moat, just outside the scheduled area.

4.3 The moated enclosure has a western outer ditch and external eastern banks. The outer part of the moat is some 95m x 80m with a 9m wide partially waterfilled ditch in places. Within the enclosure lies the Grade II listed post-medieval farmhouse (BBHER12035, NHLE1114775) and associated buildings. To the east of the house lie earthworks indicating the site of the former medieval house. Fishponds lie to the north of the moat, connected by a number of feeder and outflow channels. North of this is an area of deserted medieval settlement earthworks. These include house platforms, a hollow way leading to the moat, garden plots and ditches. Two square enclosures of possible horticultural origin lie between the fishponds and moat.

4.4 Further evidence of medieval activity is recorded in the area surrounding Mavourn Farm. Tilwick Deserted Medieval Village lies nearby to the south and is represented by hollow ways and earthworks (HER 1827 - MBD1827). Park End is a shrunken medieval settlement and this is represented by a green surrounded by small closes and possible earthworks (HER 2706 - MBD2706). Ploughed out earthworks surviving as cropmarks are the remains of the medieval settlement of Cross End, which contained at least eight houses (HER 2707 - MBD2707). Short Wood, to the south-west of Mavourn Farm, is an area of woodland, first documented in 1545 (HER 3241 - MBD3241). Further moated sites may exist at Crowhill Farm (HER 3884 - MBD3884) and at Cross End House (HER 3907 - MBD3907).

4.4 Documentary sources record the site as Maverns or Mavyon in the 16th century, owned by Canons Ashby Priory from the 13th century or earlier until the Dissolution. Occupation of the site may go as far back as the 8th century, with a bronze disc of this date being found at the farm in the early 1960s. The Mavourn manor was amalgamated with that of Glintells or Glintills and Lintells is shown as field name on the tithe map of 1847.

4.5 The 1847 Bolnhurst tithe map (Fig. 3) marks the positions of the various ponds and arms of the moat at Mavourn Farm but shows a completely different arrangement of buildings to that which is evident today. A long building range is marked to the north-west of the moated area in the approximate position of what is currently small-scale agricultural buildings and the outer yard of the farm. These would appear to be agricultural buildings, with the smaller structure within the moated area representing the house at Mavourn. By 1884 (Fig. 4) this arrangement appears to have been drastically altered with the farm buildings now arranged predominantly on a north-west/south-east alignment, leading away from the main house. This arrangement is also depicted on the 1901 Ordnance Survey map of the area (Fig. 5). By 1978, the farm buildings appear to have been rearranged to a configuration largely identical to that which may be observed today. No buildings or boundaries are depicted within the area of the site on any historic maps reproduced within this report.

5 PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION

5.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken (Monahan 2016). In summary:

The evaluation trenches revealed five features, all linear ditches. Ditch F1008 (Trench 1) contained two small sherds of Roman pottery, but these sherds are residual as Ditch F1008 cut Ditch F1012 which contained post-medieval CBM (ceramic building material). Ditch F1004 (Trench 2) also contained post-medieval CBM, and Ditches F1010 (Trench 1) and Ditch F1106 (Trench 2) contained no finds.

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 The site area was stripped using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 7; DP01).

6.2 The archaeological investigation comprised the observation of all groundworks likely to affect archaeological remains, the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Encountered features and deposits were cleaned by hand and recorded using *pro-forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds.

7 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

7.1 The encountered stratigraphy was recorded in two sample sections:

<i>Sample section 1 (DP02)</i> <i>0.00 = 76.83m AOD</i>		
0.00-0.19m	2000	Topsoil. Friable, dark reddish brown silty clay with occasional small angular stones
0.19m+	2001	Subsoil. Firm, mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional small angular stones

<i>Sample section 2 (DP03)</i> <i>0.00 = 75.82m AOD</i>		
0.00-0.22m	2000	Topsoil. Friable, dark reddish brown silty clay with occasional small angular stones
0.22m+	2001	Subsoil. Firm, mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional small angular stones

Description: A former structure, M2003, and associated demolition debris, L2002, were recorded. The infilling of a linear hollow (track), L2004, was also evident.

The site was not stripped to the base of the subsoil and the natural was not exposed.

L2002 was a demolition layer associated with M2003, and it comprised a firm, mid reddish brown silty clay with frequent cobbles and CBM. The CBM was identified as post-medieval in date and consistent with a date from the 17th to 19th centuries (Appendix 2).

M2003 was a small regular rectangular structure with a footprint measuring 7.90m x 6.50m x 0.10m+ (DP04). The four outer walls were contiguous with no entrances defined; this level was likely the foundation for an 'upper' structure. The walls themselves were of substantial thickness, being 1m deep in places and formed of light grey angular limestone pieces that appeared to be constructed with inner and outer wall faces and limestone rubble infill. It is possible that this building formed a post-medieval agricultural building, although no evidence was found to suggest a specific function. Following recording, M2003 was removed (DP05).

L2004 comprised dark black-brown silty clay, firm in consistency and seemingly a recent backfill layer to a modern trackway that extended north to an adjoining meadow.

8 CONFIDENCE RATING

8.1 It is not felt that any factors restricted the identification of archaeological features or finds.

9 DEPOSIT MODEL

9.1 Uppermost Topsoil L2000 was a friable, dark reddish brown silty clay with occasional small angular stones (0.19 – 0.22m thick). L2000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a firm, mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional small angular stones.

10 DISCUSSION

10.1 The site lies an area of high archaeological potential for remains of medieval activity associated with a double rectangular moated medieval site and associated settlement earthworks (fishponds, cultivation and occupation earthworks) recorded on the Bedford Historic Environment Record (BBHER318), which are Scheduled as an Ancient Monument (NHLE1010913). The grain store is proposed in an area between the settlement earthworks and the moat, just outside the scheduled area.

10.2 The current site had a potential for medieval activity associated with the adjacent moated enclosure and settlement earthworks.

10.3 The previous trial trench evaluation revealed five features, all linear ditches (Monahan 2016). Ditch F1008 (Trench 1) contained two small sherds of Roman pottery, but these sherds are residual as Ditch F1008 cut Ditch F1012 which contained post-medieval CBM. Ditch F1004 (Trench 2) also contained post-medieval CBM, and Ditches F1010 (Trench 1) and Ditch F1106 (Trench 2) contained no finds.

10.4 The archaeological monitoring and recording which formed the current investigation revealed a stone-built rectangular structure (M2003) with L2002 above that contained a high proportion of stone cobbles and ceramic building material and probably resulted from the demolition of the stone-built structure. The CBM report

suggested a post medieval date for roofing tiles found, and while this can reflect re-roofing of an earlier structure it may be suggested that the structure itself was post-medieval in date, and most likely an agricultural or similar outbuilding. The thickness of the walls is notable though no evidence was revealed to suggest an original function.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) would like to thank Mr David Pell for funding the work and for his assistance and Mr James Bailey of Brown & Co for his assistance.

AS would be pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr Geoff Saunders (Bedfordshire Borough Council Historic Environment Team).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Geological Survey 1991 *East Anglia Sheet 52°N-00° 1:250,000 Series Quaternary Geology*. Ordnance Survey, Southampton

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*, Reading, ClfA

Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper no. 14

Monahan, V., 2016. *Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst, Bedford MK44 2EF. Archaeological Evaluation and Heritage Statement*. AS Report No. 5218.

SSEW 1983 *Soil Survey of England and Wales: Soils of South East England (sheet 4)*. Harpenden, Rothamsted Experimental Station/Lawes Agricultural Trust

SSEW 1983 *Soil Survey of England and Wales: Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales* Harpenden, Rothamsted Experimental Station/Lawes Agricultural Trust

APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pottery Only)	Pottery (Qty)	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	Animal Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
1004	1005	-	2	Fill of Ditch				3661		Fe Fragment	1	24
1008	1009	-	1	Fill of Ditch	Roman	2	4					
1012	1013	-	1	Fill of Ditch				1301				

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

Peter Thompson

The archaeological monitoring recovered a single abraded sherd (2g) of Transfer Printed Ware (TPW) from Subsoil L2001 of 19th-20th centuries date.

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The monitoring recovered a total of 6 fragments (649g) in a moderately to highly fragmented condition. The CBM was contained in L2001, L2002 and L2003. A single fragment (249g) in L2003 was comprised of early modern pantile, while the remaining fragments in all three deposits were comprised of small fragments of late post-medieval peg tile. The tiles was manufactured in a calcareous clay (shell and oolitic inclusions, <0.5mm), fired to a pale red colour, sometimes with a mid grey core. The pantile is 15mm thick with a shallow s-profile, and was probably manufactured in the mid 18th to 19th centuries. The peg tile is 12mm, with circular pre-firing peg holes and a smooth (not sanded) base, with sparse grass/straw impressions. These technological traits are indicative of post-medieval roofing materials, potentially between the 17th to 19th centuries, though a later date in this range appears more likely.

APPENDIX 3 NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST ENTRIES

MAVOURN FARMHOUSE

List Entry Summary

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Name: MAVOURN FARMHOUSE

List Entry Number: 1114775

Location: MAVOURN FARMHOUSE

The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County	District	District Type	Parish
Beds	Bedford	Unitary Authority	Bolnhurst and Keysoe

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: II

Date first listed: 07-May-1952

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: LBS

UID: 36196

List Entry Description

Details

TL 05NE BOLNHURST AND KEYSOE BOLNHURST

6/10 Mavourn Farmhouse

7.5.52 II

Farmhouse. C17. Timber framed construction, some brick casing, some rough cast, the whole colour washed. C20 tile roof. T-plan, 2 storeys and attics, with later single-storeyed addition within SW angle. SE elevation: 2 C20 casements to each floor, central 4 panel door, brick central multiple ridge stack. Lean-to addition to NE gable end. NW gable retains sash to first floor and 2-light horizontal sash with glazing bars to attic. House situated within moated site.

Listing NGR: TL0717457581

National Grid Reference: TL 07174 57581

Mavourn moated site, with associated fishponds, enclosures and deserted settlement site

List Entry Summary

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Name: Mavourn moated site, with associated fishponds, enclosures and deserted settlement site

List Entry Number: 1010913

Location:

The monument may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County	District	District Type	Parish
Beds	Bedford	Unitary Authority	Bolnhurst and Keysoe

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: Not applicable to this List entry

Date first listed: 19-Mar-1991

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: RSM

UID: 11526

List Entry Description

Details

The monument includes the remains of a medieval moated enclosure, fishponds, occupation and cultivation earthworks. The moat has an outer ditch on the west side and external banks to the east. The outer edge of the moat measures some 95m. by 80m. including a partially water filled ditch which is about 9m. wide. The above ground remains of the post medieval farmhouse and farm buildings in the interior are excluded from the scheduling although the subsurface area is included as it is considered to preserve the remains of an earlier medieval building. Part of the latter can still be seen as a series of low earthworks east of the house. North of the moat are the remains of a number of fishponds connected by a series of supply and outflow channels. Also to the north are the earthworks of a deserted medieval settlement. The visible remains consist of a series of building platforms, garden plots, ditches and a hollow-way leading towards the moat. Between the fishponds and the moat are two square enclosures which may have been constructed for horticultural purposes.

Selected Sources

Books and journals

Simco, A, 'Beds Archaeology' in The Moated Siteat Mavourn Farm, Bolnhurst, (1986), 77-85

Simco, A, 'Beds Archaeology' in The Moated Siteat Mavourn Farm, Bolnhurst, (1986)

Other

County Records Office, Various (County Records Office),

FN 1097, 1254, A87, Franklin, E, Inventory, (1633)

Title: Tithe map (1847) Source Date: 1847 Author: Publisher: Surveyor: MAT 7

National Grid Reference: TL 07136 57573

APPENDIX 4 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst
County: Bedfordshire	District: <i>Bedford</i>
Village/Town: Bolnhurst	Parish: <i>Bolnhurst</i>
Planning application reference:	BBC Planning Reference 16/00740/FUL
Client name/address/tel:	Mr David Pell
Nature of application:	Construction of new grain store
Present land use:	Empty, meadow
Size of application area:	Size of area investigated
NGR (8 figures):	<i>TL 07098 57645</i>
Site Code:	AS1851
Site director/Organisation:	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Type of work:	Archaeological monitoring and recording.
Date of work:	May 2017
Location of finds/Curating museum:	Bedford
Related HER Nos: BBHER12035 BBHER318	Periods represented: Post-medieval
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	Monahan, V., 2016. <i>Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst, Bedford MK44 2EF. Archaeological Evaluation and Heritage Statement. AS Report No. 5218.</i>
Summary of fieldwork results:	<p><i>In May 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring on land Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh Road, Bolnhurst, Bedford MK44 2EF (NGR 507098 257645). It is proposed to build a new grain store (BBC Planning Reference 16/00740/FUL). The monitoring was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval, based on the advice of Bedfordshire Borough Council Historic Environment Team (BBC HET).</i></p> <p><i>The site lies an area of high archaeological potential for remains of medieval activity associated with a double rectangular moated medieval site and associated settlement earthworks (scheduled ancient monument). The grain store is proposed in an area between the settlement earthworks and the moat, just outside the scheduled area. The current site had a potential for medieval activity associated with the adjacent moated enclosure and settlement earthworks.</i></p> <p><i>A trial trench evaluation revealed five features, all linear ditches (Monahan 2016). Ditch F1008 (Trench 1) contained two small sherds of Roman pottery, but these sherds are residual as Ditch F1008 cut Ditch F1012 which contained post-medieval CBM. Ditch F1004 (Trench 2) also contained post-medieval CBM, and Ditches F1010 (Trench 1) and Ditch F1106 (Trench 2) contained no finds.</i></p> <p><i>The archaeological monitoring and recording which formed the current investigation found a single stone-built rectangular structure (M2003) with L2002 above that contained a high proportion of stone cobbles and ceramic building material and probably resulted from the demolition of the stone-built structure. The CBM report suggested a post medieval date for roofing tiles found, and while this can reflect re-roofing of an earlier structure it may be suggested that the structure itself was post-medieval in date, and most likely an agricultural or similar outbuilding. The thickness of the walls is notable though no evidence was revealed to suggest an original function.</i></p>
Author of summary: T Collins	Date of Summary: May 2017

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1: View of site looking north-west



2: Sample Section 1 looking south-west



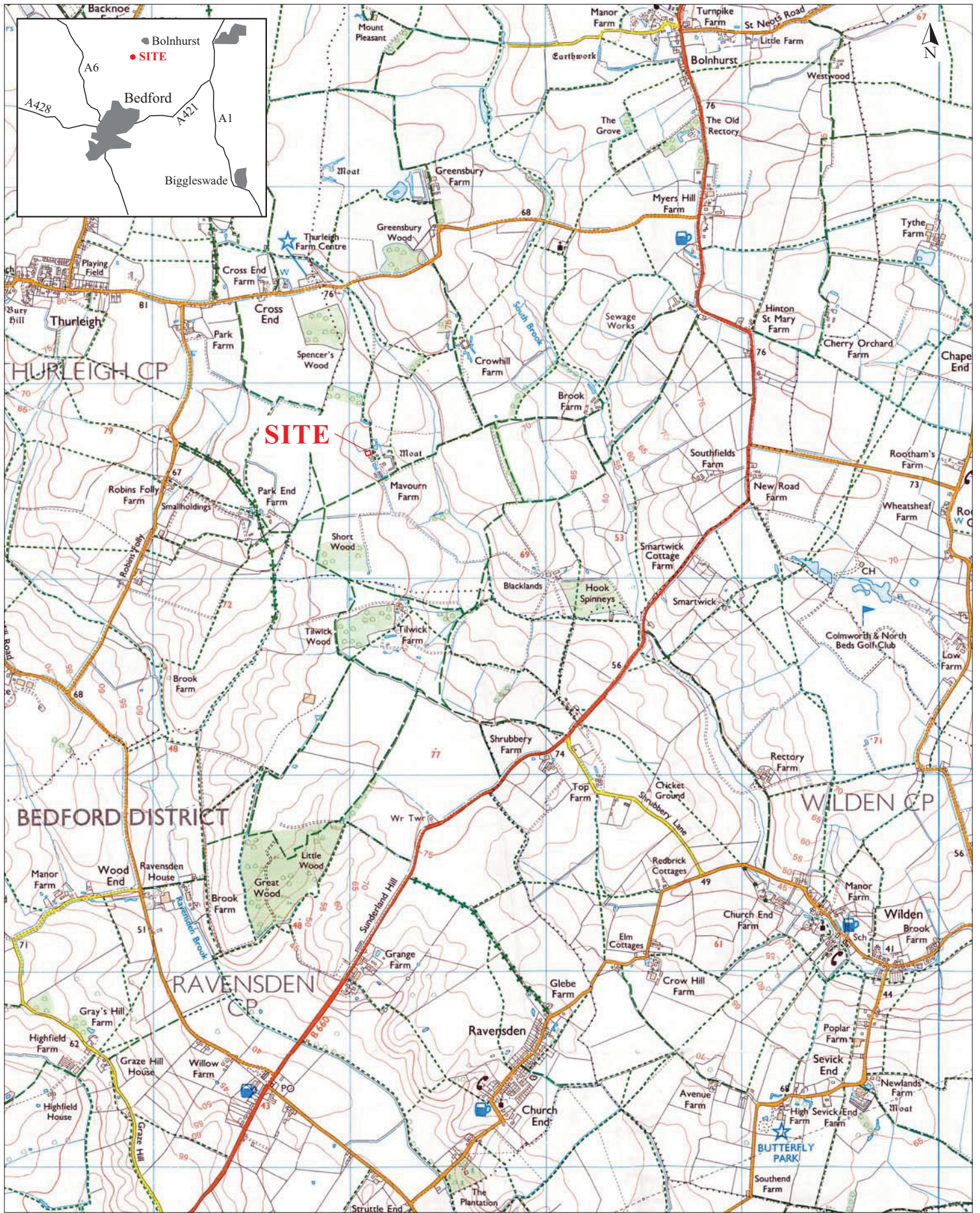
3: Sample Section 2 looking north-west



4: Structure 2003 looking north-west

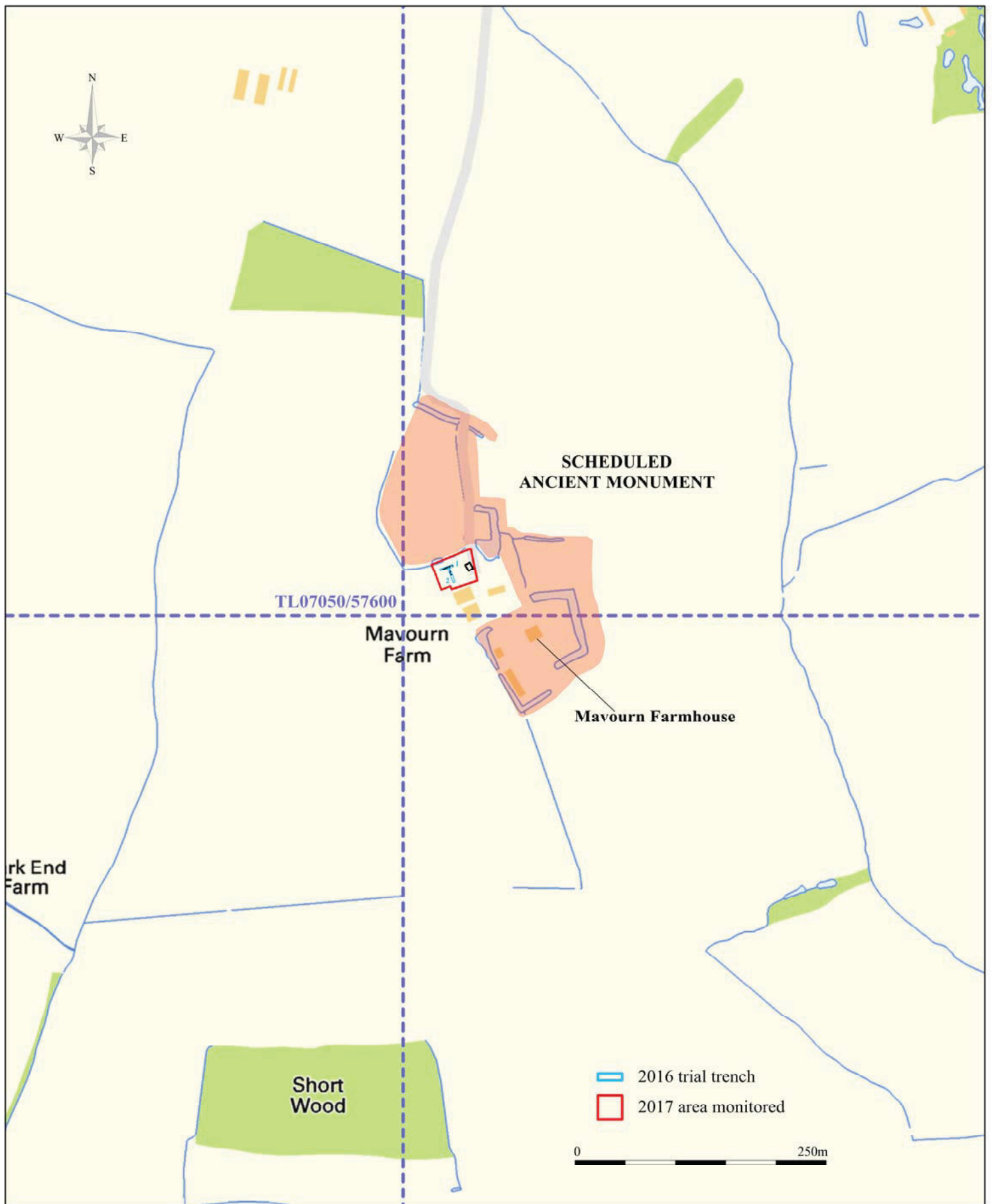


5: Site subsequent to the removal of Structure 2003, looking south-east



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 Mavourn Farm, Bolnhurst, Bedfordshire (P6802)

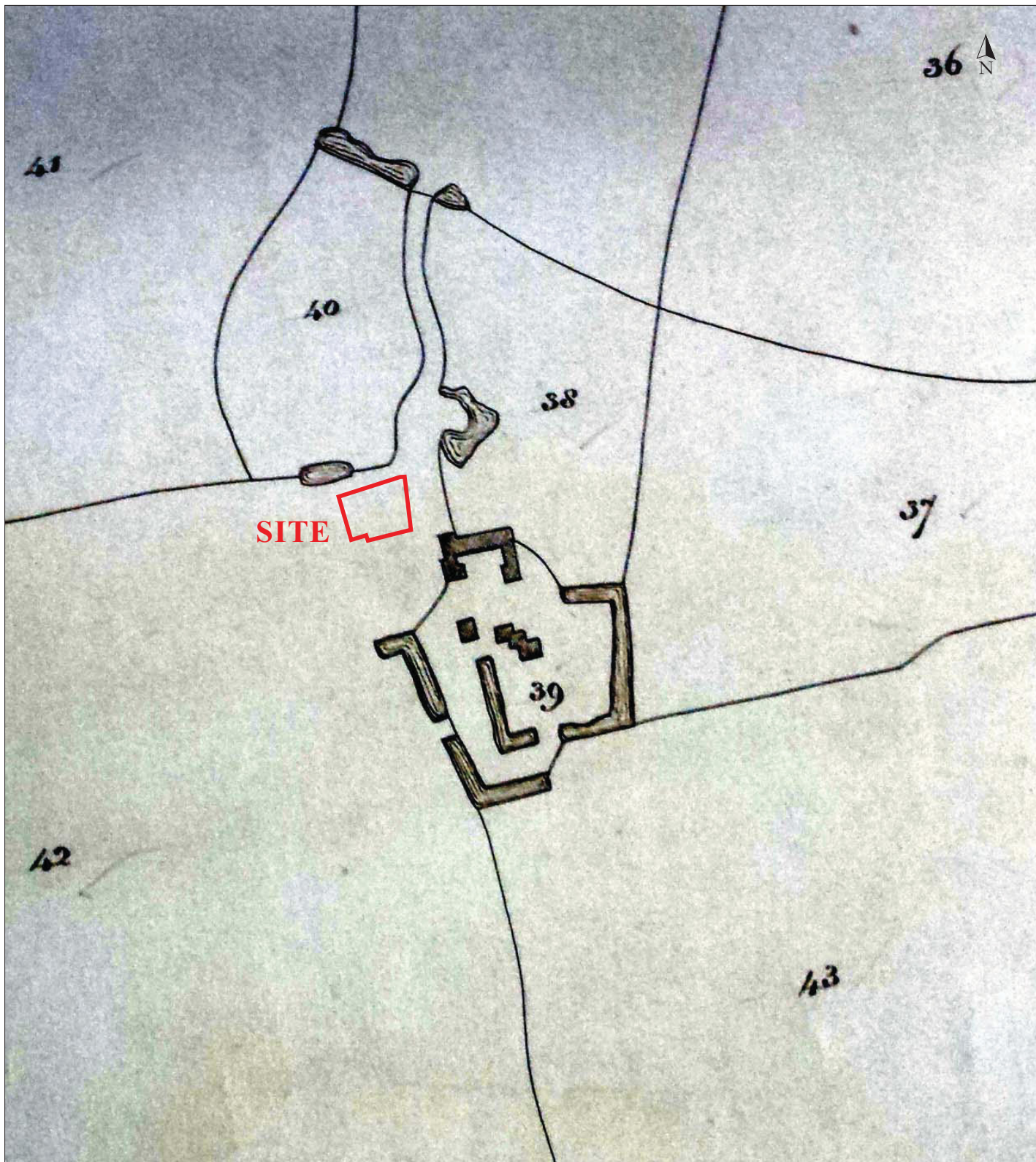


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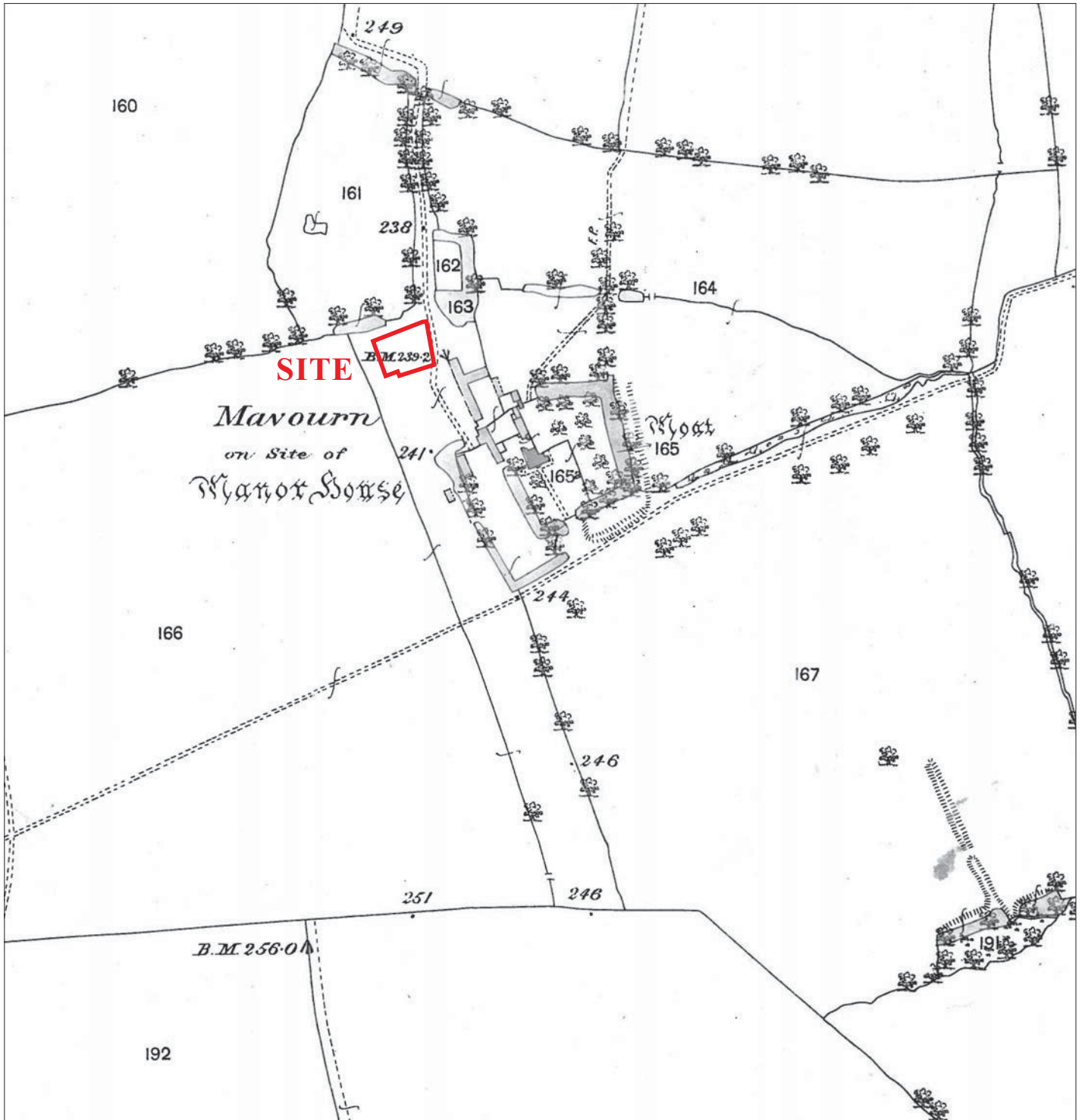
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:5000 at A4

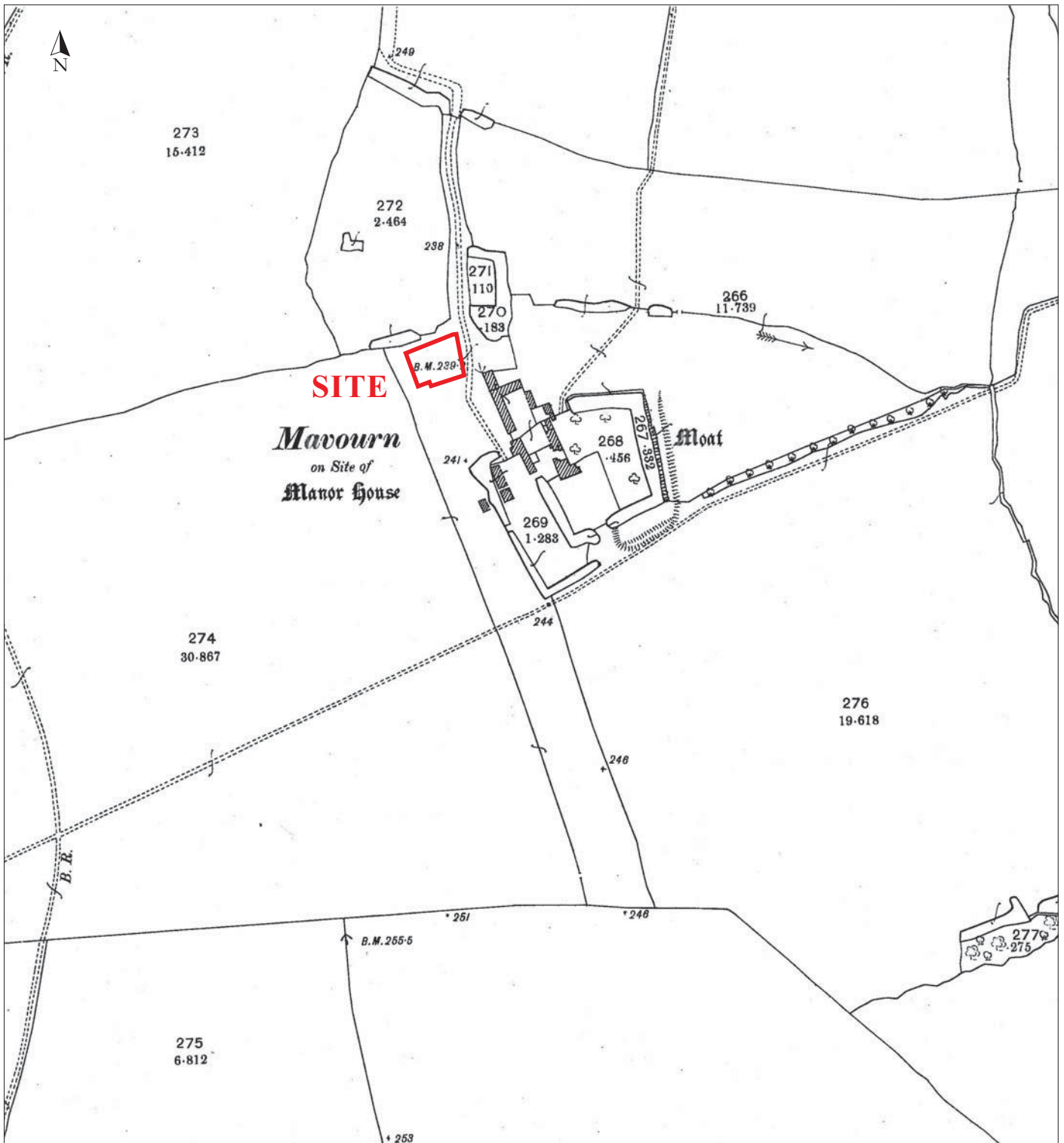
Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh, Bedfordshire (P6802)



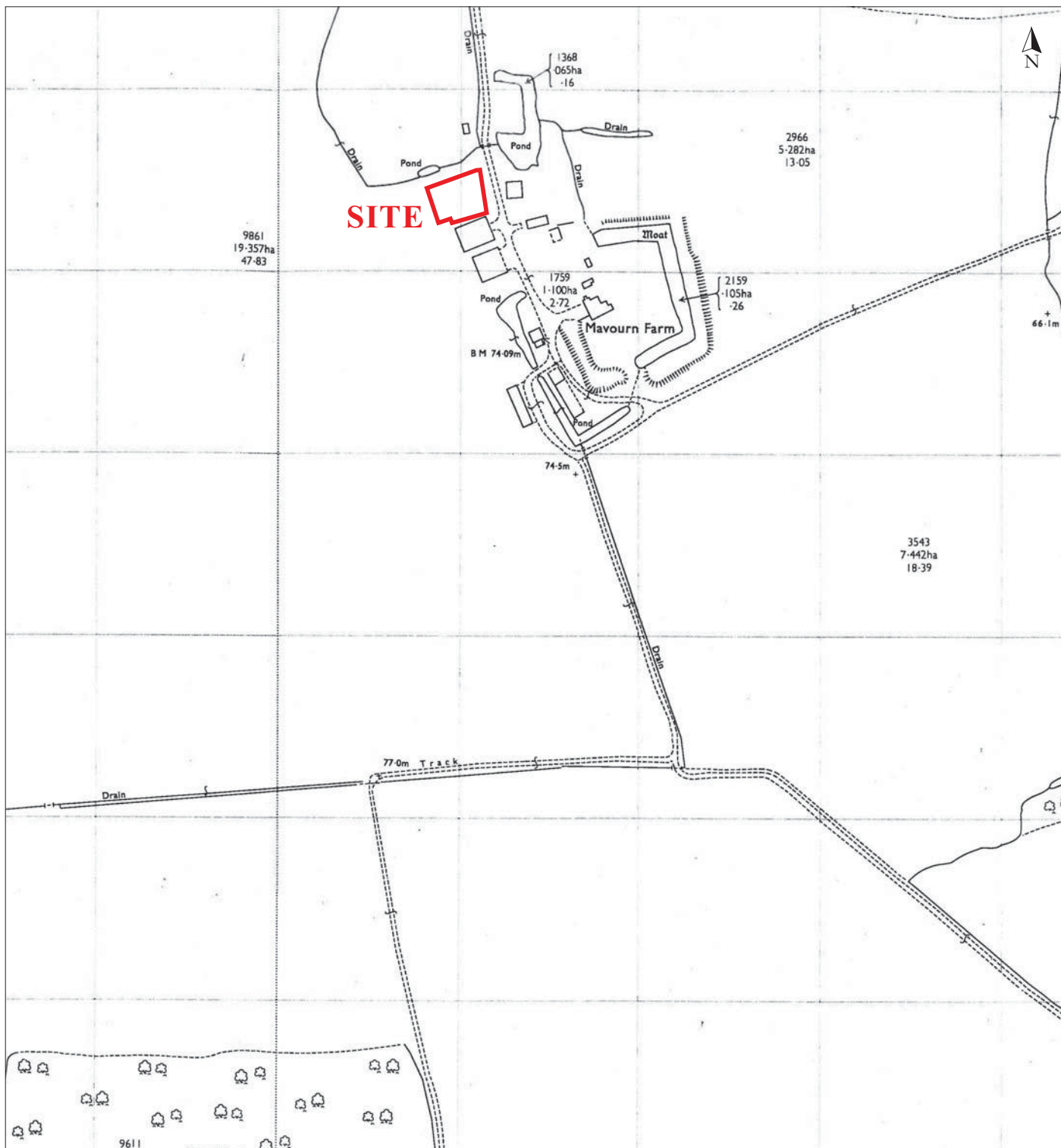
<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 3 Tithe map, 1847
Not to scale
Mavourn Farm, Bolnhurst, Bedfordshire (P6802)



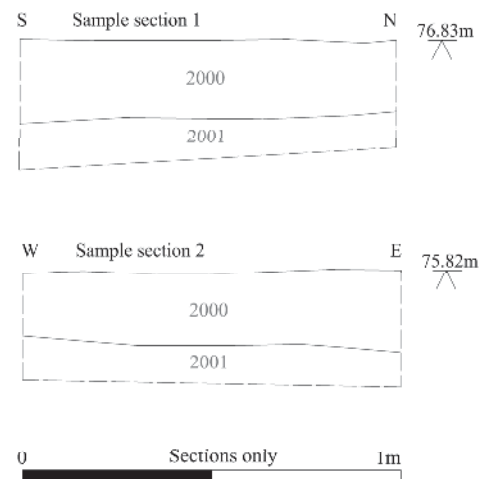
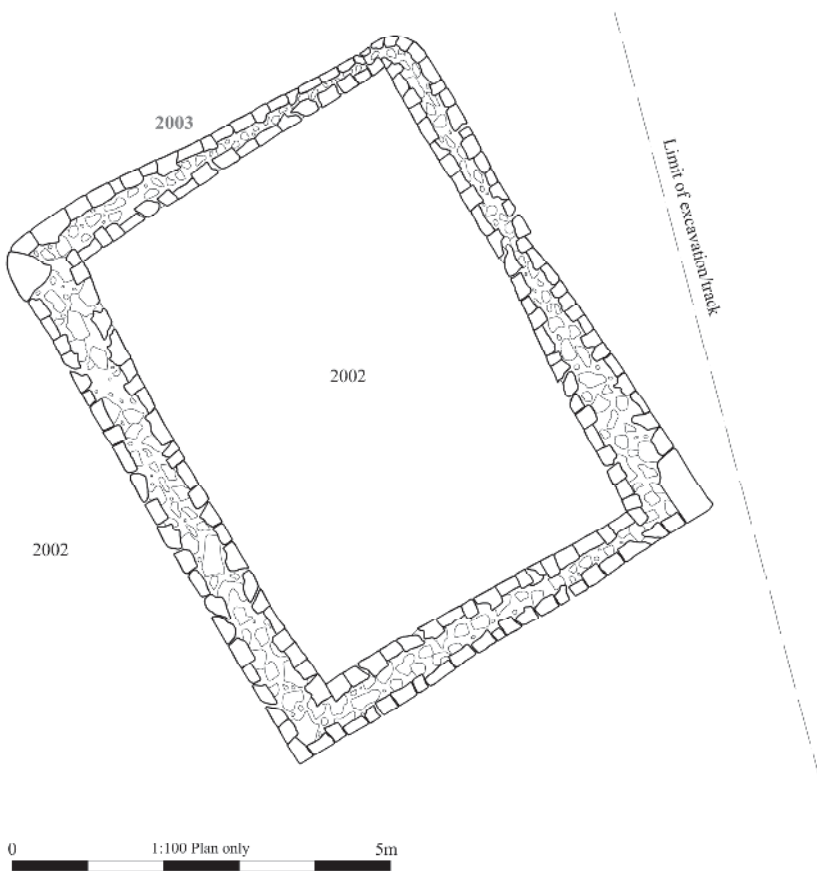
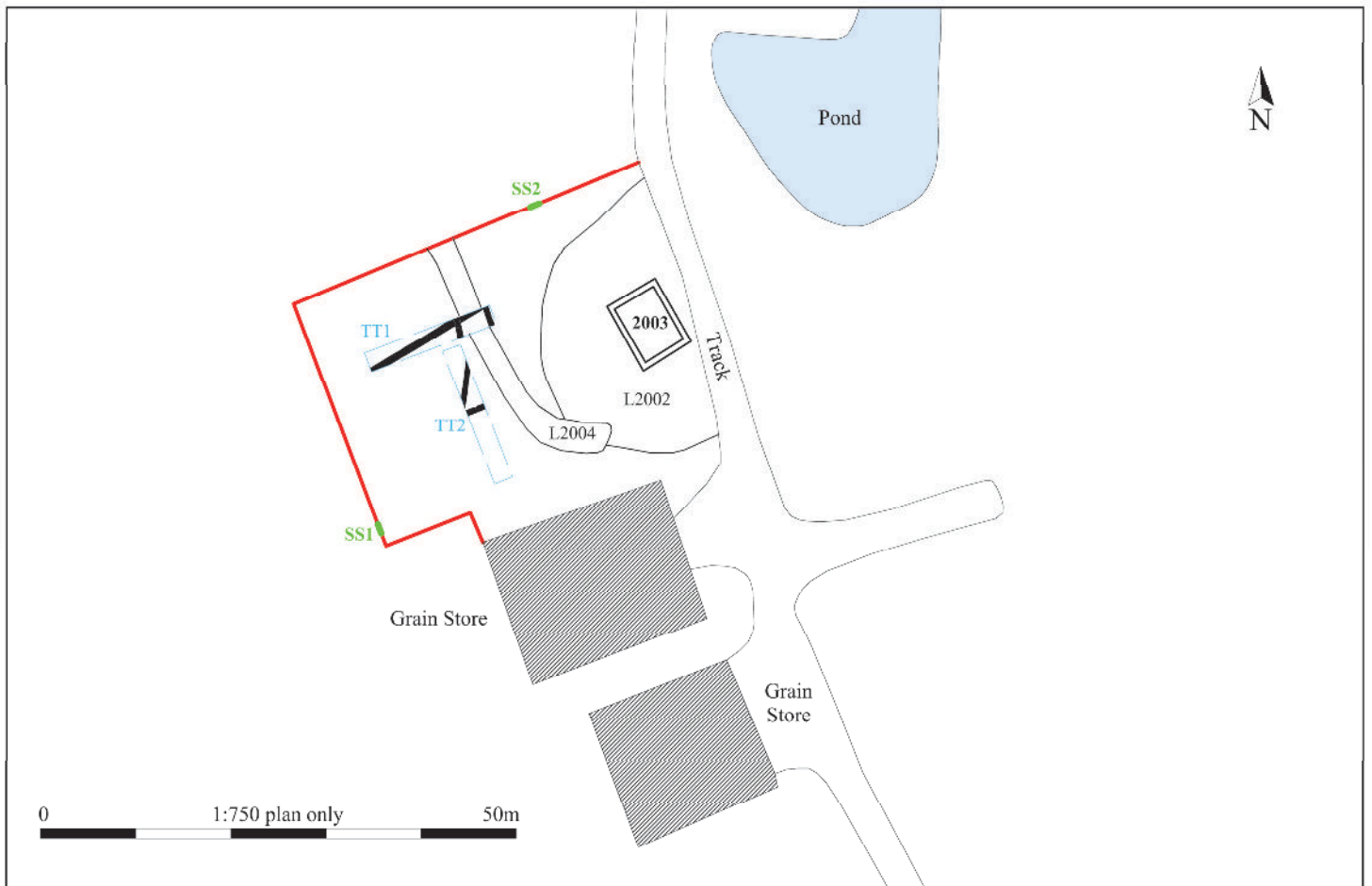
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Fig. 4 First ed. OS map, 1884
Not to scale
Mavourn Farm, Bolnhurst, Bedfordshire (P6802)



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Fig. 5 OS map, 1901
Not to scale
Mavourn Farm, Bolnhurst, Bedfordshire (P6802)



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Fig. 6 OS map, 1978
Not to scale
Mavourn Farm, Bolnhurst, Bedfordshire (P6802)



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Fig. 7 2017 WB plans and sections

Scale 1:750, 1:100 and 1:20 at A4

Mavourn Farm, Thurleigh, Bedfordshire (P6802)