
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**LAND WEST OF 102 STATION RD, SOHAM,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

CHER No: ECB 3129

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NGR: TL 5882 7326	Report No: 3257
District: East Cambridgeshire	Site Code: AS1189
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No: 3383
Signed:	Date: Feb 2009

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**Project details**

In February 2009, Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of land west of 102 Station Rd, Soham, Cambridgeshire [NGR TL 5882 7326]. The evaluation was commissioned by Andrew Fleet prior to proposed redevelopment of the site into a residential care home with parking, landscaping and attendant services. The evaluation consisted of a desk-based assessment and field evaluation (trial trenching).

The desk based assessment suggested that until the mid- to late 19th century the site was marginal marshy land and that there are no recorded HER entries within 200m. There is some evidence for low-level prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and Medieval activity within the general area of Station Road, but closer to the centre of Soham. The Anchor Inn had been constructed in the north-east corner of the site sometime between the late 17th century and 1837, and in the later 19th century to 20th century the marshy land was reclaimed by dumps of earth and rubble

The evaluation revealed that the ground had been wetland, only becoming dry enough for a topsoil to form in the late 19th century. The ground was possibly drained as part of the remodelling of the west side of town to accommodate the railway and station in the 1870s. In the 20th century the ground level was raised by the dumping of demolition rubble and hardcore to form a firm, dry yard surface. No archaeological finds or features were present.

Project name	<i>Land west of 102 Station Rd, Soham, Cambridgeshire</i>		
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>11th and 12th February 2009</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	
P. number	<i>3383</i>	Site code	<i>AS1189</i>
Type of project	<i>Evaluation</i>		
Site status			
Current land use	<i>Wasteland</i>		
Planned development	<i>Residential care home with parking, landscaping and services</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>None</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>Early modern buried soil and wetland silt layer.</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Cambridgeshire</i>	<i>Ely</i>	<i>Soham</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Cambridge</i>		
Post code (if known)			
Area of site	<i>450 m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 5882 7326</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>4.80mAOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>CAPCA</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Gareth Barlow MSc</i>		
Funded by	<i>C J Murfitt Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Land west of 102 Station Rd, Soham, Cambridgeshire. An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Tara-Jane Sutcliffe (assessment), Gareth Barlow MSc (fieldwork)</i>		
Report no.	<i>3257</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>February 2009</i>		

LAND WEST OF 102 STATION RD, SOHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In February 2009, Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of land west of 102 Station Rd, Soham, Cambridgeshire [NGR TL 5882 7326]. The evaluation was commissioned by Andrew Fleet, on behalf of CJ Murfitt Ltd, prior to the proposed redevelopment of the site into a residential care home with parking, landscaping and attendant services. The evaluation consisted of a desk-based assessment and field evaluation (trial trenching).

The desk based assessment suggested that until the mid- to late 19th century the site was marginal marshy land. There are no recorded HER entries within 200m. There is some evidence for low-level prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and Medieval activity within the general area of Station Road, but closer to the centre of Soham. The Anchor Inn had been constructed in the north-east corner of the site sometime between the late 17th century and 1837, and in the later 19th century to 20th century the marshy land was reclaimed by dumps of earth and rubble

The evaluation revealed that the ground had been wetland, only becoming dry enough for a topsoil to form in the late 19th century. The ground was possibly drained as part of the remodelling of the west side of town to accommodate the railway and station in the 1870s. In the 20th century the ground level was raised by the dumping of demolition rubble and hardcore to form a firm, dry yard surface. No earlier archaeological finds or features were present.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February 2009, Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of land west of 102 Station Rd, Soham, Cambridgeshire [NGR TL 5882 7326] (Figs 1 and 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Andrew Fleet, on behalf of CJ Murfitt Ltd, prior to the proposed redevelopment of the site into a residential care home with parking, landscaping and attendant services. The evaluation consisted of a desk-based assessment and field evaluation (trial trenching).

1.2 The desk-based assessment and trial trenching were conducted in accordance with a brief issued by Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice (dated 27/01/09), and a specification compiled by AS (dated 28/01/09). The project followed the procedures outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment* (2001) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The objectives of the desk-based assessment were to provide for the identification of areas of archaeological potential within the site, to consider the site within its wider archaeological context and to describe the likely extent, nature, condition and importance of the archaeology.

1.4 The aims of the trial trench evaluation were to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to

be threatened by the proposed development. The evaluation also aimed to identify areas of previous ground disturbance on the site.

Planning policy context

1.5 An archaeological evaluation of the application area is required as the first stage of archaeological mitigation in advance of redevelopment. This is in accordance with government guidelines for cultural heritage management, namely Planning Policy Guidance Note 15, 'Planning and the Historic Environment' (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16, 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16).

1.6 PPG16 (1990) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology. It states that there should always be a presumption in favour of preserving nationally important archaeological remains *in situ*. However, when there is no overriding case for preservation, developers are required to fund opportunities for the recording and, where necessary, the excavation of the site. This condition is widely applied by local authorities.

1.7 PPG15 (1994) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to the conservation of the historic environment by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible. This condition is also widely applied by local authorities.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The parish town of Soham is situated on the borders of the low-lying fens of East Cambridgeshire, located *c.* 8km south-west of Ely and 9.5km north-west of Newmarket. The county town lies a further 19km to the south-west. To the north Soham is divided from Ely parish by The Crooked Drain, which curves south and further west; the modern southern boundary follows the historic division for tithe collection, which ran in places across shared open fields.

2.2 Soham was historically a prosperous port and trade centre owing to excellent water links to the Great River Ouse, River Cam and out into The Wash. The wetland environment of the fens has traditionally been exploited for reeds, sedge and peat, providing important resources for food, fuel and construction material. The former fenland lake of Soham Mere with an abundance of fish and wild-fowl formed a major part of the local economy; located to the west it is likely that this inspired the place-name of Soham, derived from the Old English elements *sæge* + *hām* meaning 'homestead by a swampy pool' (Mills 2003: 318). Before the drainage of the fens, Soham was also a sea port with ships frequently arriving from King's Lynn; a navigable canal, the Soham Lode joins the Ouse at Ely and historically served to transport coal, corn and merchandise from Lynn and Cambridge.

2.3 Largely linear in form, the town principally consists of one long street, aligned north-south and nearly two miles in length; from this a few smaller subsidiary streets diverge. The street morphology and standing structures suggest irregular and piecemeal building rather than wholesale planning. The development site lies on the outskirts of Soham, to the west of the historic medieval core, centred on the medieval parish church of St Andrew where a Saxon monastery and associated cemetery are believed to have been situated. Although never attaining the social or economic status of neighbouring Ely, by the medieval period Soham had

become a sizeable settlement, centred on Pratt Street, Churchgate Street and the High Street, with evidence of former burgrave plots and property boundaries from this period fossilised in a number of modern boundaries.

2.4 The development site comprises a rectangular plot of land some 450m², aligned north-south. It is bounded by Station Road to the south, by which direct access is provided. The site is bordered by light industrial premises to the east; to the west and north extends a small area of open land. The plot is currently the south-east portion of a larger field.

3 METHODOLOGY (Desk-based assessment)

Establishing the extent and nature of known archaeological remains within the vicinity of the proposed development site provides an indication of the potential for further discoveries during ground works. In order to achieve this aim a number of local and national data sources have been consulted; the different categories of evidence are discussed below.

3.1 Archaeological databases

A collation of all known archaeological sites and spot-finds from the study area was achieved through consultation of the Cambridge Historic Environment Record (HER) and the National Monuments Record (NMR), held by English Heritage. The databases were searched for all relevant entries within a 0.75km radius of the development site; hereafter the 'study area'. These sites and spot finds have been listed (Appendix I) and their distribution plotted (Fig. 3); their significance, where relevant, is discussed in section 4. For references contained in square brackets refer to Appendix I.

3.2 Documentary and cartographic evidence

The County Record Office (CRO), Cambridge, provided the principle source for historical research and consultation of the Tithe and early editions of the Ordnance Survey (OS) Map. The documentary and cartographic record provides a geographical, topographical and historical context for archaeological remains, allowing for a comprehensive overview and mapping of land-use changes and a sequence of historical development to be compiled.

3.3 Secondary sources

Published and unpublished sources provide information on the general history and archaeology of the study area, as well as being a source of reference for further primary information. The chief sources of secondary material were the Cambridgeshire Record Office and AS's own library. All publications and websites consulted are detailed in the bibliography.

3.4 Geological/geotechnical information

Geological conditions can be of significance in establishing the potential and likely survival of archaeological remains. The geology, hydrology and land-form of a site gives rise to particular and localised soil profiles or environmental conditions, which were historically utilised by humans according to technological ability and pressure on resources. A description of the solid and superficial geology was compiled from appropriate maps and publications from the British Geological Survey (BGS) and the Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW).

3.5 Aerial photographs

Aerial photographs (APs), taken from the 1940s onward, demonstrate not only modern changes in land use but also the presence of earlier structures and field systems, identifiable in crop and field marks. In heavily built up urban areas, APs are less useful for identifying remains of the distant past; rather, they provide indication of twentieth century development nonetheless of importance in a retrogressive study.

Cambridge HER provided chief access to the AP archive; additional repositories include the NMR in Swindon and the Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography (CUCAP). Consultation of Google Earth and Microsoft Virtual Earth augment the historical with a contemporary perspective.

3.6 Limitations of assessment

The provenance of sites and spot finds obtained from the HER and NMR are largely accurate to 100m, recorded as 6-figure grid references (Appendix 1). Plotting the distribution in relation to the development site is thus a meaningful exercise, from which patterns of activity can potentially be inferred (Fig. 3). However, spot finds nominally located to 'the Soham area' and provided with 4-figure grid references are consequently less accurate with a potential error of up to 1000m.

4 THE EVIDENCE

4.1 Topography, geology and soils

4.1.1 Soham is situated on a chalk spur (*c.* 5-10m AOD) that projects into the otherwise broad flat expanse of the fens; before wholesale drainage in the 17th century, the town occupied a privileged dryland location surrounded by wet fenland. The development site lies below the 5 m AOD contour on a solid geology of Lower Chalk with Gault clays and some 3rd terrace gravels and alluvium.

4.1.2 The soils of the area comprise of Milton and Evesham 3 associations. The latter are slowly permeable calcareous clayey, and fine loamy over clayey soils, with some slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged non-calcareous clayey soils. Modern agriculture supports winter cereal crops in the dry lowlands and grassland with some cereals on more moist ground. By contrast river terrace and chalky drift of the Milton associations consist of deep permeable calcareous fine loamy soils variably affected by groundwater. Suited to cereals, sugar beet and other modern arable crops (SSEW 1983), which Soham is noted for, its reclaimed land being particularly fertile.

4.2 Archaeological and historical background

All finds occur outside of 200m of the development site (Fig. 3), partially reflecting the level of archaeological intervention that has occurred in the vicinity and possibly reflecting the marginal position occupied by the site.

Prehistoric (to AD 43)

4.2.1 The changing environment of the Cambridgeshire fenland has greatly affected the nature and density of human activity over time. During the Mesolithic period (c. 12,000 - 4300 BC), the climate warmed, deciduous woodland was established and rising sea levels resulted in fresh water marshes in the fens. The landscape was clearly exploited by a population of mobile hunter-gatherer-fishers, attested by spot finds of antler mattocks and bone knives recovered from Soham Fen (Reynolds 2000: 6). Evidence within the core of Soham is however extremely scant and poorly located: four Mesolithic tranchet axeheads [07098] and a Neolithic axe and pestle find spot [07087] have been recorded merely 'from Soham'. Although the sedentary farmers of the Neolithic age have been evidenced elsewhere in the region (Pollard 2000), the combination of mereland and heavy gault clay at Soham appear to have acted as a deterrent to settlement.

4.2.2 For the Bronze Age, the parish at large has yielded bronze weapons, tools, and some pottery, including two urns found near an un-cremated skeleton in Clipsall field (VCH x: 490). In this area of East Cambridgeshire the period between c. 2500 - 800 BC is chiefly represented by barrows and in consequence more is known about the 'deathways' than 'lifeways' of inhabitants (Hall 1996: 75). A number of evaluations undertaken in advance of re-development have nonetheless provided piecemeal evidence of Bronze Age activity in Soham. To the rear of 52 Station Road a single grave was found; dating was based upon the absence of metal finds and an associated flint assemblage of Mesolithic to early Bronze Age date [MCB18106]. Multi-period remains were found at St. Andrews House in 2000, including a prehistoric ditch that produced Bronze Age flint debitage [CB15776]. An evaluation at 38 Station Rd conducted in 1997 found a small quantity of worked flint [11985]. In sum, the evidence appears to represent a background noise of lithics and a possible field system, rather than a significant area of Bronze Age occupation.

4.2.3 Early Iron Age remains are likewise scant. Activity in the area appears to have been concentrated on the sandier soils of the Greensand geology to the north and west (Hall 1996: 72; fig. 37). There are limited remains and evidence of permanent Iron Age settlement in Soham. An evaluation at 38 Station Rd conducted in 1997 found possible prehistoric or Roman ditches underlying Saxo-Norman occupation [11985]. Multi-period remains were also found during an evaluation in 2000, which included a small concentration of early Iron Age features consisting of two possible postholes, ditches and a few pits [CB15776]. Evaluation at Weatheralls Close in 2005 revealed a single ditch and sherd of early Iron Age pottery [MCB16872]. In addition, the discovery of an early Iron Age burial c. 800 – 401 BC of a male with spear and two dogs has been as interpreted as warrior from Soham [07086]. The composite picture is of an Iron Age field system with associated agricultural activity.

Roman (AD 44 – 410)

4.2.4 Romano-British settlement is well represented in the East Cambridgeshire fenland (Taylor 1985; VCH x: 490) with early drainage and land reclamation efforts dating from the 2nd century (Potter 2000). Hypocaust tiles and numerous 3rd and 4th century coins discovered in 1973 suggest the location of a villa site some 2 km north of the modern town. In Soham the evidence is of more modest activity, which appears to respect the linear morphology of the later town, concentrated to the east of the development site (Fig. 3).

4.2.5 A Roman cemetery has been identified at White Hart Lane [06971]; building works conducted in 2002 uncovered the most recent evidence which comprised a single inhumation accompanied by animal bone and a piece of 4th century grey ware [MCB17746]. An additional

human skull was found to the north of the town with pottery of 1st and 2nd century date [07100].

4.2.6 Evidence for Roman pitting was recorded during excavation towards the north-eastern area of the Parish Hall site. Sherds of pottery found within the pit fills were of Roman date [MCB18184]. Fieldwalking at land to the rear of 52 Station Rd revealed evidence of multi-period activity on the site, including a single sherd of Roman grey ware [MCB18105]. However, the evidence suggests limited occupation by a rural agricultural population during the Romano-British period.

Anglo-Saxon (AD 410 – 1066)

4.2.7 Anglo-Saxon activity in Cambridgeshire is well attested having been a primary zone of settlement during the Migration Period of the 5th and 6th centuries. Soham is no exception, with a notable clustering of evidence along the north-south axis of the High Street and Churchgate Street (Fig. 3). Evaluations conducted in the core of the town have uncovered evidence of late Saxon/Saxo-Norman property boundaries and domestic activity; these appear to respect the alignment of both the High Street and Station Road, suggesting that such elements were already in place [CB15776; MCB16868; 07099]. Isolated find spots include an iron socketed spearhead and leaf-shaped blade [02086]; a Saxon spearhead found in 1968 [07093]; and a Saxon pot sherd [11386].

4.2.8 The greatest body of evidence for the period comes however from the burial record; two separate cemeteries have been identified in Soham. One, on the site of the modern churchyard, has produced cruciform brooches suggesting a mid-6th century date [07123a]. A second cemetery, which lies partly within the modern burial ground off Fordham Road, was partially excavated in 1931 and its 25 burials consisted largely of poorly furnished inhumations (Meaney 1964: 69). More recently, construction at a house on White Hart Lane disturbed burials of possible Anglo-Saxon date [11789].

4.2.9 Soham is the alleged site of a mid- to late-Saxon monastery, founded c. 630 by St. Felix, first bishop of the East Saxons [07124]. The foundation, recorded in Bede's 8th century *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*, was reputedly destroyed and never rebuilt following the Viking incursions of the late 9th century (Oosthuizen 2000: 28). No physical evidence of the monastery remains and its exact former location is yet to be established.

4.2.10 A cathedral and palace were built during the 10th century by a Saxon nobleman by the name of Luttingus: traces of the cathedral are extant within the fabric of the present day Church of St. Andrew's which was built in the 12th Century; the Bishop's Palace existed as a picturesque ruin until the mid-19th century (VCH x: 490). The 10th century also provides the earliest documentary reference to the town, concerning the grant of lands at Rettendon, Soham and Ditton in AD 972 (Hart 1966) and by the early 11th century, Soham had become an important settlement (VCH x: 490).

Medieval (1066 – 1500)

4.2.11 The Domesday survey of 1086 describes Soham as a relatively wealthy rural settlement of some 13,500 acres in extent. It comprised three manors, the main one belonging to the king,

a smaller one belonging to the abbot of Ely and a third in secular ownership; land was also held by (Bury) St. Edmund's Church. The survey records some 60 peasants resident in Soham, engaged in arable and livestock farming. The agrarian economy was serviced by two mills and augmented by the rights and holdings of fishermen, nets and renders of eels (Morris 1975).

4.2.12 Soham appears to have flourished during the medieval period with expansion from the Saxon core stretching from north to south amid extensive closes and crofts along a long street that from the 12th century formed part of a route from Fordham to Ely (Fig. 3). Evaluations in the core of the town have revealed considerable evidence of 10th-13th activity of a small-scale urban nature [11932, 11985, CB15776, MCB16279, MCB16314, MCB16868, MCB16872, MCB18105, MCB18106, MCB18185] and the town benefited from a market by the 13th century.

4.2.13 The Church of St Andrew with its origins in the 12th century was altered and expanded in the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries [07123]. Belonging to the royal demesne manor until 1189, when given by Richard I to the Cistercian abbey of Le Pin (Vienne), the church was later ceded to Pembroke College, Cambridge, in 1451, with whom it still resides (VCH x: 498).

4.2.14 Windmills were introduced to reclaim the land for farming during the medieval period; early cartographic sources show their location to the west of the village. The River Snail was partially canalised at this time and the Mere Side became a focus of activity; its importance as a source of natural resources reflected in the growth of settlement along its shores. With the establishment of an inland port Soham appears to have become a wealthy town and centre of trade by the 15th century.

Post-medieval (AD 1500 – present)

4.2.15 With the exception of the Minster Church of St. Andrews, the earliest extant buildings in Soham date to the 16th century; timber-framed cottages, serving at one time as shops and inns are to be found along Churchgate Street, Fountain Lane, the High Street and Pratt Street. By the 18th century timber-framed construction gave way to the use of locally manufactured Gault Brick (Appendix 4). A brick-kiln was erected near the turnpike at Soham by 1787 and a century later there were four brickworks in the town (VCH x: 517), one of which was located c. 250 m north of the development site [07096].

4.2.16 In 1086 the royal demesne manor had included two mills and corn continued to be processed at Soham into the post-medieval period [06945; 07095]. Particularly notable was the former Lion Mills, situated on the Soham Lode c. 300 m to the south of the site. There was a mill at this location since at least the 17th century through until 2000 [MCB16612].

4.2.17 The draining of the fens, started in the 1660s, led to the introduction of pumping mills by the late 18th century and ditches continued to be dug for drainage purposes into the modern era; the archaeological evidence of the latter has been uncovered across the town [CB15264; MCB15832; MCB16314]. Large ditches near the development site off Mere Side are demonstrable in the early cartographic sources and in the landscape today (Figs 6-14). These may originate in the early 18th century, when improvements were made to the then Soham River, later styled Soham Lode (VCH x: 489).

4.2.18 Activity during the 17th and 18th centuries continued to be largely focused on the main north-south thoroughfare, with some in-filling of arterial roads and encroachment of common land evident. Both residential and commercial properties survive from this period; these

include three public houses [DCB1285; DCB1286; DCB691] and a steelyard weighing machine [MCB16611].

4.2.19 A grade II* listed manor house built c. 1730 attests the prosperity of Soham at this time [DCB686] and augments the archaeological evidence found of early modern domestic and industrial activity. Evaluation at St. Andrew's House revealed 17th-19th century ditches and pits, a brick-lined cellar and drain; ceramic evidence suggests intensive use of the site in the 17th and 18th centuries [MCB15832]. Further work undertaken at the High Street by Archaeological Solutions Ltd in 2005 demonstrated evidence of post-medieval backyard activity, comprising post holes, pits, two dog burials and a shallow gully; post-medieval quarrying activity was also revealed [MCB17349].

4.2.20 Mid 19th century industrial development included the local production of gas; the Soham and District Gasworks were opened in 1849 on land 30m south of the development site (VCH x: 221).

4.2.21 The 19th century station, only 90m west of the site, and surrounding area was destroyed by fire in 1944 when a consignment of bombs travelling through Soham caught fire. The incident destroyed several nearby buildings within a radius of c. 350m and damaged some 760 houses (Day 1944); debris from this incident may potentially be found in the plough zone of the development site. The station was never rebuilt; a temporary platform served the town until 1965 (Kirby 2000: 144-5).

4.2.22 The Council built extensively in the parish between the late 1960s and early 1980s. This urban regeneration resulted in the establishment of new businesses and workshops to the west in the vicinity of the former station; by the 1990s some 16-17 workshops and offices came to form the Mereside industrial estate (VCH x: 225).

4.3 Previous archaeological work

4.3.1 The Fenland Survey Project has systematically fieldwalked large swathes of the East Cambridgeshire Fens, at Soham however this was undertaken under poor conditions and the results are consequently limited; no direct evidence of former activity was found at the development site (Hall 1996: 74; fig. 36). Since the 1990s and the implementation of PPG16, a number of archaeological investigations have taken place in advance of the re-development of Soham, including a number directly within Station Rd; the principal findings are detailed below.

Fieldwalking and evaluation to the rear of 52 Station Road (Lopez Catalan 2008; Tann 2008)

4.3.2 A systematic fieldwalking survey was undertaken to the rear of 52 Station Road, 26 artefacts were collected from an area of c. 1450m². Finds included a single Roman grey ware sherd, medieval and post-medieval pottery, a fragment of roof tile and clay pipe stems; all sherds were well abraded and this suggests they may have been re-deposited in the plough zone through manuring.

4.3.3 An evaluation undertaken in 2008 and comprising four trenches found two concentrations of activity, dating to the prehistoric and medieval periods respectively. A single burial of a mother, infant and child was found, but in the absence of goods it is unclear whether the grave is prehistoric or Anglo-Saxon in date. Further, the excavation revealed ground level reduction in excess of 0.45m below the ground surface, of impact upon the survival of archaeological deposits. Excavation revealed the site to be located on West Melbury Marly

Chalk and Third Terrace River deposits; the topsoil consisted of a dark brown sandy silt/clay with frequent inclusions of flint.

Evaluation at 38 Station Road (Heawood 1997)

4.3.4 Prior to a small scale housing development an evaluation took place in 1997 comprising two trenches and a number of test pits; this uncovered evidence of late Saxon/Saxo-Norman occupation. The pottery assemblage suggests a date between the 10th and 12th century. A ditch parallel to Station Road also showed that the line of this street has probably been an important landscape feature since the Late Saxon period.

Evaluation at the Angel Public House, Station Road (McDonald, Prosser and Seddon 2000)

4.3.5 A desk-based assessment found the site to lie at the periphery of the medieval settlement, but within an area characterised by occupation since at least the 17th century. Evaluation revealed 17th-19th century ditches and pits, a brick-lined cellar and drain. The ceramic evidence suggests intensive use of the site in the 17th-18th century. Some residual late mediaeval material was present.

4.4 Cartographic sources

Palmer's map of Soham, 1656 (Figs 4-5)

4.4.1 The earliest extant cartographic source is a map of 1656 of the 'Manor of Soham and Fordham' surveyed by William Palmer. Palmer's map depicts the town in considerable detail and shows that the modern road layout had largely been achieved by this time: the main density of settlement is a classic ribbon development focused on the modern High Street with dispersed buildings branching off to the east and west. Field and property boundaries can be seen to respect the limits of the earlier Anglo-Saxon religious enclosure, an oval area bounded by Clay Street, Gardeners Lane, Fountain Lane and the High Street. This suggests continuity from the medieval through to early modern period.

4.4.2 The development site is shown to have been outside the core of the 17th century settlement in open field land that extended westward towards the Soham Lode. It was located off (*sic*) 'The Meare Banke Comon' (later Mere Side), a name suggestive of efforts to segregate marshland to the west from the settlement to the east; given the proximity to the river and the low level at which it lies, the site may conceivably have formerly been marshland. No indication is provided as to whether the site served any arable or pasture purposes and no buildings are depicted within its bounds.

Tithe map of 1837 (Fig. 6)

4.4.3 The tithe map and attendant apportionments show the layout and landuse of the town in 1837, with little change having occurred since 1656. Some alteration and addition to the field system is evident, with encroachment upon the Mere Bank. The smaller fields had by this time coalesced into larger units, a phenomenon witnessed across the country as a consequence of the increasing mechanisation and improvement of farming techniques. The road network had also expanded with the addition of a number of interconnecting lanes. One of which was Anchor Lane (precursor to Station Road), so-named after the Anchor Inn which formerly occupied the north-east quadrant of the development site (Appendix 3). By the early 19th century a dock was located on Soham Lode and this 'nautical' link may explain the choice of name.

4.4.4 The rest of the site appears to have served as a cottage garden for the inn with the adjoining fields to the north and west providing pasture land of some 11 acres for the then

tenant of the Anchor Inn one Giles Clarke Jnr. Contemporary trade directories confirm that Giles (*sic*) Clark was proprietor of the Inn from at least 1830 to 1851 (Pigots 1831: 23; Gardner 1851: 395), but by 1869 tenancy had transferred to one Robert Aspland Jnr (Kellys 1869: 88).

1st edition OS maps, 1886, 25" (Fig. 7) and 1887 6" (Fig. 8)

4.4.5 The railway arrived in Soham in 1879, providing transport and communications along the LNER Ely-Newmarket line and by the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1886 the western area of the town had undergone limited remodelling to accommodate the line and its station.

4.4.6 Some time during the mid century, Anchor Lane ceased to be so-called and became Cock Lane (VCH x: 493). By 1886 the Anchor Inn was no longer standing, possibly superseded by the Station Hotel. The lane was widened to provide access to the newly established railway station *c.* 100m to the west and was renamed Station Road by 1881 (VCH x: 493).

4.4.7 The site of the former inn was recorded as a field in the 1886 and subsequent editions of the OS map (see below); situated within a larger area of open land (0.759 acres: 0.307ha), the plot possibly served as pasture with no structures evident. In the absence of subsequent groundworks there was a high potential for the survival of below ground remains of the Anchor Inn.

4.4.8 In its broader context the plot lies within a light industrial or craft area of the town; the gas works are located directly opposite on the south of Station Road; a saw mill is located further south; and a further windmill is evident to the west. Open fields lead directly from the railway line towards the river Ouse and beyond to the west. The rural character of the town is further indicated by cattle pens located close to the station, suggesting an important trade in beef stock at this time; field names and road names in the vicinity such as Calf Fen Closes and Bull Lane confirm the long term importance of such.

4.4.9 The land between the river and railway were liable to floods and this is directly indicated by the surveyor; protection against flooding is evident in earthworks or natural terracing on the land between the railway and the development site. Further indication of the hydrology of the site is provided: a pump is located in land directly to the east and a well to the west in the vicinity of the station. It is likely that these date to within 50 years' of the surveys completion, the parish church committee having had wells sunk and pumps erected during the 1840s-60s (VCH x: 530).

Early 20th century Ordnance Survey maps (figs 9-14)

4.4.10 OS maps from 1901 through to the 1930s show no alteration to the boundaries or use of the development plot, which remained open land throughout the period.

Microsoft Virtual Earth, Aerial Photograph, 2008 (fig. 15)

4.4.11 Images provided by Microsoft Virtual Earth show the site in 2008, continuing to be within a larger area of open land, either serving as pasture or waste; the regular patterning caused by ploughing is notably absent from the field, suggesting that it has not served arable purposes in recent times.

5 METHODOLOGY (Fieldwork)

5.1 Two trial trenches were excavated on the site, in locations approved by CAPCA (Fig. 2). Trench 1 was 11m long and Trench 2 was 13.5m long. The trench layout represented a 5% sample of the site. Undifferentiated overburden was mechanically removed using a 180° mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.60m wide toothless ditching bucket, under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Thereafter, all further investigation was conducted by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

6.1 Trench 1 (Figs 2 and 16)

<i>Sample Section: north end, east facing</i> 0.00=4.39m AOD		
0.00 – 0.49m	L1000	Modern made ground. Firm very dark grey brown, humic clay silt as a matrix containing <80% hardcore.
0.49 – 0.85m	L1001	Modern made ground. Friable, mid orangey brown sandy silt, with frequent building rubble.
0.85 – 1.02m	L1002	Buried soil. Firm darkish mid blue grey clay silt, with occasional sub-rounded flint (10 – 30mm).
1.02 – 1.39m	L1003	Silting layer. Firm, pale blue grey clay silt, mottled with pale brownish orange, silty clay, with occasional sub-rounded flint (10 – 30mm).
1.39m+	L1004	Natural deposits. Firm, pale blue grey gault clay.

<i>Sample Section: south end, east facing</i> 0.00=4.67m AOD		
0.00 – 0.13m	L1000	Modern made ground. As above.
0.13 – 0.62m	L1005	Modern made ground. Friable, pale orangey brown sand, with frequent building rubble.
0.62 – 0.82m	L1001	Modern made ground. As above.
0.82 – 1.20m	L1002	Buried soil. As above.
1.20 – 1.26m	L1003	Silting layer. As above.
1.26m+	L1004	Natural deposits. As above.

Description: Two layers (L1002 and L1003) were present beneath the modern made ground in Trench 1 and both contained material of early modern date. No archaeological features or finds were present.

6.1.1 Layer L1002 was present with an average thickness of 0.30m across the entire trench. It consisted of a firm, darkish mid blue grey clay silt. It contained late 19th/early 20th century pottery (4; 36g) and CBM, a sample of which was collected for dating.

6.1.2 Layer L1003 was present to a thickness of 0.37m across the entire trench. It consisted of a firm, pale blue grey, mottled with pale brownish orange, silty clay. This layer was similar to the natural clay below, but it contained silt. Layer L1003 also contained early 19th century pottery (1; 9g), animal bone, CBM and coal. A sample of the pottery only was collected for dating. Additionally, this layer also contained freshwater aquatic snail shells suggesting it was laid down in standing water, presumably the mere/marshland.

6.2 Trench 2 (Figs 2 and 16)

<i>Sample Section: west end, north facing</i> 0.00=4.69m AOD		
0.00 – 0.22m	L1006	Topsoil. Firm, dark grey brown sandy silt, with occasional sub-rounded flint (10 – 30mm).
0.22 – 1.08m	L1007	Modern made ground. Dumps of friable, mid grey brown sandy silt (c.50%) and friable, pale mid orangey grey brown silty sand (c.50%), with frequent building rubble.
1.08 – 1.34	L1002	Buried soil. As above.
1.34 – 1.58m	L1003	Silting layer. As above.
1.58m+	L1004	Natural deposits. As above.

<i>Sample Section: east end, north facing</i> 0.00=4.80m AOD		
0.00 – 0.10m	L1006	Topsoil. As above.
0.10 – 0.95m	L1007	Modern made ground. As above.
0.95 – 1.28m	L1002	Buried soil. As above.
1.28 – 1.50m	L1003	Silting layer. As above.
1.50m+	L1004	Natural deposits. As above.

Description: Trench 2 contained the same early modern layers (L1002 and L1003) beneath a modern make up layer (L1007). A modern ditch or service trench (F1008) running north-south was present near the eastern end of the trench. No other features or finds were present.

6.2.1 Ditch F1008 (1.60+ x 1.00 x 1.30+ m) ran north to south across the eastern end of the trench. It had near vertical sides. It was not bottomed and was cut through the topsoil. Its fill (L1009) was a firm, dark brownish grey mix of lenses of sandy silt and silty clay that contained very modern CBM (not recovered).

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 Although water trapped within the made ground layers ran into the trenches, and continued to do so for the duration of the evaluation, the bases remained dry for long enough to be cleaned and to establish that there were no archaeological features present. Therefore, it is not felt that any factors hindered the recognition of archaeological features and finds during the evaluation.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The deposit model was not uniform across Trenches 1 and 2. The top of the stratigraphic sequence in Trench 1 was a layer (L1000) of hardcore in a matrix of firm, very dark grey brown, humic clay silt which varied in thickness between 0.20m at the southern end and 0.60m at the northern end. Whilst the top layer (L1006) in Trench 2 was a firm, dark grey brown humic sandy silt topsoil with occasional sub-rounded flint (10 – 30mm) between 0.10 and 0.20m thick.

8.2 Beneath the hardcore layer in Trench 1, at the southern end only, was a 0.50m thick dump (L1005) of pale orangey brown sand, with frequent building rubble.

8.3 Beneath the hardcore layer in the rest of Trench 1 was a make up layer (L1001) of mid orangey brown sandy silt, with frequent building rubble, also 0.50m thick on average.

8.4 Beneath the topsoil in Trench 2 was a 0.90m thick make up layer (L1007) composed of dumps of mid grey brown sandy silt and pale mid orangey grey brown silty sand, containing frequent building rubble. This layer is probably a continuation of L1001/L1005 in Trench 1.

8.5 Below the make up layers in both trenches was a buried soil (L1002), which was firm pale blue grey clay silt, mottled with pale brownish orange silty clay, with occasional sub-rounded flint. This layer increased in thickness from 0.15m at the north end of Trench 1 to 0.40m thick at the south, and up to 0.40m in Trench 2.

8.6 Layer L1003 was sealed by layer L1002 in both trenches. L1003 was firm pale blue grey clay silt, mottled with pale brownish orange silty clay, with occasional sub-rounded flint, between 0.20m thick in Trench 2 and 0.40m thick in Trench 1.

8.7 At the base of the sequence was L1004, the natural deposit. This was firm pale blue grey gault clay, occurring between 1.26m and 1.58m below the current ground surface.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Summary of the archaeology

9.1.1 The evaluation revealed one feature and five layers, all of which were of relatively recent date.

9.1.2 The only feature (F1008) was a modern ditch cut from the topsoil, through all layers into the natural deposits.

9.1.3 Both trenches revealed modern made ground (L1000, L1001, L1005, and L1007) over a late 19th/early 20th century buried soil (L1002). The latter overlay L1003, a silting layer that had formed in standing water and contained early 19th century finds.

9.1.4 No archaeological features, except the modern ditch F1008, were present in the trenches.

9.2 Interpretation of the site: archaeology and history

9.2.1 The desk based assessment notes the presence of a late 17th - early 19th century Inn in the north-east quadrant of the site. No trace of this Inn was contained within the trenches, with the possible exception of CBM in layers L1002 and L1003 that included pale yellow hand made bricks. It is possible these may have come from the demolition of the Inn, but equally they could have come from elsewhere.

9.2.2 The desk based assessment also notes that the area in which the site is located is known as 'Mere Side', further suggesting this area may have been subject to flooding. Layer L1003, present in both trenches, may be the result of silting in standing water. This wet/marshy ground appears to have been present until it dried out or was drained in the later 19th century allowing a topsoil to form. It is conceivable that most of this land (away from the Anchor Inn) would have been drained when the railway arrived in 1879 and the construction of the station just to the west. In any event the railway embankment would presumably have cut off this land from the river and marsh to the west, which was still liable to flooding, allowing it to dry out.

9.2.3 In the later 20th century the ground level was raised further by the dumping of building rubble presumably to provide a firmer drier area that appears to have been used as a yard with a hardcore surface.

9.3 Research potential

9.3.1 The site investigated by this evaluation was itself only a small area in the south-east corner of the field behind 102 Station Road. So although there was no archaeological features within the trenches the desk based assessment suggests the presence of a late 17th – early 19th century Inn and outbuildings in that area. Further investigation just to the north of the current site may reveal evidence for this.

9.3.2 Due to the wet nature of the area prior to the late 19th century and the clay deposits the potential for earlier activity is limited.

10 CONCLUSION

10.1 The evaluation produced no evidence of the late 17th century – early 19th century Inn thought to have been present on the site, nor any of the buildings connected with the station or station hotel.

10.2 The wet nature of the site until recent times probably accounts for the absence of archaeological features.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
BGS	British Geological Survey
HER	Historic Environment Record
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
NMR	National Monuments Record
OS	Ordnance Survey
PPG15	Planning Policy Guidance Note 15, 'Planning and the Historic Environment'
PPG16	Planning Policy Guidance Note 16, 'Archaeology and Planning'
SSEW	Soil Survey of England and Wales
VCH	Victoria County History

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APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

The following sites are those that lie within a 750 m radius of the assessment site. The table has been compiled from data held by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record and the National Monuments Record. The location of these sites and spot finds is detailed in fig. 3; those of particular significance are discussed in section 4. No Scheduled Monuments are located within the study area, nor is it subject to any special designations (East Cambridgeshire Development Plan).

Ref No.	NGR TL	Description
Mesolithic (c. 12,000 – 4,300 BC)		
07098	59 73	Four Mesolithic tranchet axeheads found in Soham.
Neolithic (c. 4300 – 2100 BC)		
07087	59 73	Neolithic axe and pestle find spots; exact location unknown.
Bronze Age (c. 2500 – 800 BC)		
CB15776	59299 73058	Multi-period remains were found during an evaluation in 2000. Prehistoric activity was represented by a shallow ditch that produced Bronze Age flint debitage.
MCB18106	59108 73424	An evaluation to the rear of 52 Station Rd found a single grave, which in the absence of metal finds and based on associated flints of Mesolithic to early Bronze Age date.
11985	5924 7340	An evaluation at 38 Station Rd conducted in 1997 found a small quantity of worked flint; it appears to be residual representing a background noise of lithic rather than a significant cluster.
Iron Age (750 BC – AD 43)		
07086	59 73	Early Iron Age burial of a male with spear and two dogs, interpreted as warrior grave; c. 800 – 401 BC.
11985	5924 7340	An evaluation at 38 Station Rd conducted in 1997 found possible prehistoric or Roman ditches underlying Saxo-Norman occupation.
CB15776	59299 73058	Multi-period remains were found during an evaluation in 2000. A small concentration of early Iron Age features was recorded, consisting of two possible postholes, ditches and a few pits.
MCB16872	5954 7377	Evaluation at Weatheralls Close, Soham in 2005 revealed a single ditch and sherd of early Iron Age pottery, representing a probable field system.
Roman (AD 43 – 410)		
06971	594 733	Skeletons found in building trenches, 9 White Hart Lane; sherds of Roman pottery found here also.
07100	594 738	Roman pottery, Castor Ware and a cordoned jar of 1 st and 2 nd century AD date found with a human skull.
MCB17564	5895 7300	An evaluation by Oxford Archaeology identified 3 ditches of uncertain date and function. A struck flint, small quantity of animal bone and a sherd of Romano-British pottery were recovered; it is likely that this is residual material, the datable features on site being medieval or post-medieval.
MCB17746	59374 73207	Human remains were disturbed by building works at White Hart Lane in 2002. a single inhumation was partially uncovered; the grave contained animal bone and a piece of 4 th century grey ware.

		It is probably associated with the White Hart Lane cemetery.
MCB18105	59091 73405	Fieldwalking at land to the rear of 52 Station Rd revealed evidence of multi-period activity on the site, including a single sherd of Roman grey ware. This probably represents domestic refuse introduced to the site through manuring.
MCB18184	59448 7315	Evidence for Roman pitting was recorded during excavation towards the north-eastern area of the Parish hall site. Sherds of pottery found in the fills were of Roman date and lacked in situ abrasion, suggesting <i>in situ</i> deposition.
Anglo-Saxon (410-1066)		
02086	594 731	Find spot of an iron socketed spearhead and leaf-shaped blade.
07093	582 729	Saxon spearhead found in 1968, possibly 10 th century.
07123a	5930 7317	Anglo-Saxon inhumation cemetery.
07124	593 732	Alleged site of mid to late Saxon monastery, founded c. 630 by ST. Felix, first bishop of the East Saxons. The monastery at Ely was ravaged by Vikings in 870 and it is likely that Soham was likewise destroyed at this time.
11386	5935 7315	Saxon pottery sherd findspot.
11789	5943 7325	Disturbed Saxon inhumations and an assemblage of animal bone were found during construction at a house on White Hart Lane. The burials are likely to have been dragged from shallow graves within the cemetery of Felix's Abbey, dating to the 7 th -9 th centuries.
CB15776	59299 73058	Multi-period remains were found during an evaluation in 2000. Late Saxon activity was represented by a boundary ditch that may have represented the rear boundary of properties flanking the High Street. A further area revealed 10 th -14 th century activity. Quarrying appears to have occurred at the site into the 17 th century.
MCB16868	5943 7327	Excavations at Market Street revealed a beam slot and a posthole from a late Saxon house on this site.
Medieval (1066 - 1539)		
01068	5910 7280	Moated site evident as earthworks; no remains of a moat.
07099	5939 7356	Saxo-Norman ditched enclosures. An assessment excavation in 1991 revealed at least two substantial ditched enclosures. Lined with stake or post holes they could have served as cattle corrals or settlement boundaries.
07123	5930 7317	Saint Andrew's Church of late 12 th century construction.
11932	5927 7346	In advance of residential development an archaeological evaluation at Pratt Street in 1995 found linear and curvi-linear ditches, pits and postholes. Although finds were limited, owing to the level of the water table, pottery recovered suggests a date between the 10 th and 12 th centuries. Late 19 th or 20 th century rubbish pits were also found.
11985	5924 7340	An evaluation conducted in 1997 at 38 Station Rd found evidence of Saxo-Norman occupation. Foundation trenches were revealed with pottery dating between the 10 th and 12 th centuries.
CB15776	59299 73058	Multi-period remains were found during an evaluation in 2000. The medieval period is represented by quarrying, postholes, slots and ditches; the latter may have served as property boundaries.

MCB16279	59387 73633	Evaluation at Ten Bell Lane, revealed a late medieval pit possibly associated with sand extraction and two parallel shallow ditches, possibly the remains of burgage plot boundaries.
MCB16314	59481 73017	An evaluation was carried out at Brook Dam Lane. It revealed a pit tentatively dated to the medieval period.
MCB16868	5943 7327	An evaluation conducted at No. 8 Market Street revealed ditches and pits dated 12 th -13 th century; these probably represented property boundaries.
MCB16872	5954 7377	Evaluation at Weatheralls Close, revealed a furrow indicative of medieval arable ridge and furrow farming.
MCB17497	5908 7308	An evaluation on the site of a the former Lion Mills revealed evidence for early medieval occupation along Clay Street, consisting of medieval ditches and pits. An undated ditch parallel to the road frontage was also revealed.
MCB18105	59091 73405	Fieldwalking at land to the rear of 52 Station Rd revealed evidence of multi-period activity on the site, including medieval pottery. This probably represents domestic refuse introduced to the site through manuring.
MCB18106	59108 73424	An evaluation to the rear of 52 Station Rd found a small number of medieval features.
MCB18185	59419 73155	Evidence for medieval settlement remains was recorded during excavation towards the south-western area of the Parish Hall site, comprising a ditch, several pits and a metalled surface to the southwest. The ditch was aligned in an east-west direction, perpendicular to the High Street and also defined the boundary of the metalled surface and pits.
<i>Post Medieval / Early Modern (1540 – 1900)</i>		
06945	592 739	Windmill evident on an 1847 parish plan.
07095	586 735	Site of former Smockmill, built in 1867 and destroyed in 1948.
07096	588 735	Brick kiln, evident in the 19 th century tithe map.
CB15264	59528 72961	Drainage ditches of post-medieval and modern date were recorded during an evaluation. Some residual medieval material was found, but no evidence of occupation on the site.
MCB15832	59033 73309	An evaluation at St. Andrew's House revealed 17 th – 19 th century ditches and pits, a brick-lined cellar and drain. Ceramic evidence suggests intensive use of the site in the 17 th and 18 th centuries. Some residual late medieval material was present.
MCB16314	59481 73017	An evaluation was carried out at Brook Dam Lane. It revealed a ditch containing post-medieval pottery and a Victorian rubbish pit.
MCB16611	5930 7325	Steelyard weighing machine, no. 1 Fountain Lane; rare survivor from the 18 th century, rebuilt in the 20 th , it served to lift wagons up to 3 tons.
MCB16612	5892 7294	Lion Mills. On this 17 th century watermill site, a previous mill of c. 1820, and 19 th century roller mills burnt down in 1945.
MCB17130	5918 7338	United Reform Church, built 1841, north of Cock Lane, later Station Road. Grade II listed building.
MCB17131	5940 7298	Baptist Church, originally built 1783, the chapel was rebuilt in 1837.

MCB17133	5913 7359	Methodist Church, built 1841; rebuilt in 1869.
MCB17349	59304	An evaluation by Archaeological Solutions Ltd in 2005 demonstrated evidence of post-medieval backyard activity, comprising post holes, pits, two dog burials and a shallow gully. Post-medieval quarrying activity was also revealed.
MCB18105	59091 73405	Fieldwalking at land to the rear of 52 Station Rd revealed evidence of multi-period activity on the site, including post-medieval pottery, tile and clay pipe stems. This probably represents domestic refuse introduced to the site through manuring.
Undated		
07090	59 73	Cinerary urns of unknown date found at Clipsel Fields, Soham.

APPENDIX 2 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Date	Map	Scale
1656	Palmer's map of the manors of Soham and Fordham	n/a
1837	Tithe map of the parish of Soham	n/a
1886	1 st edition OS map	25"
1887	1 st edition OS map	6"
1901	OS map	25"
1903	OS map	6"
1925	OS map	25"
1932	OS map	25"
1930s/50	OS map, provisional edition	6"

APPENDIX 3 1846 TITHE AWARD

Plot no.	Owner	Occupier	Plot/field name	Land use	Area (a. r. p.)	Rent (£ s. d.)
1130	Joseph Ames	Himself	Cottage & Garden	--	-- 14	

1131	John Ames	Himself	Garden	--	-- 12	
1139	James Bradley	Himself	Cottage & Garden	--	-- 27	-- 10
1125	Daniel Clarke	John Layton	Cottage & Garden	--	-- 14	
1134	Giles Clarke Jnr	Robert Sizer & another	Cottage & Garden	--	-- 16	- 1, 8
1135	George & John Hall	Giles Clarke Jnr	Anchor Inn & premises	--	1, 2, -	- 13, 10
1136	George & John Hall	Giles Clarke Jnr	Middle Ground	Pasture	4, - 10	} 1, 14, -
1137	George & John Hall	Giles Clarke Jnr	Further Ground	Pasture	3, - 29	
1138	George & John Hall	Giles Clarke Jnr	First Ground Driftway	Pasture	2, 2, 21	
1133	John Merton	Mr. Webb & others	Cottage & Garden	--	- 1, 12	- 1, 10
1132	Philip Smith	Himself	Pightle	Arable	- 3, 27	- 10, 3

Source: Apportionment of the rent charge in lieu of tithes in the parish of Soham, 1837 (Cambridge CRO: P142/27/1). Key: a – acres, r – rods, p – perches; bold type indicates former the development site, plot 1135.

APPENDIX 4. LISTED BUILDINGS

The following table details the Listed Buildings within the study area; they are located on Churchgate Street, Clay Street, Fountain Lane, Hall Street, High Street, Mereside, Paddock Street, Pratt Street, Red Lion Square, Sand Street, Station Road and White Hart Lane.

Ref No.	Grade	Location	Description	Date
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<i>Churchgate Street</i>				
DCB680	II	No. 5	Four bays surviving from a row of medieval timber-framed shops with jettied first floor halls	Early 16 th century
DCB913	II	No.s 2 & 4	Aberdeen House, formerly the White Hart Inn	Early 16 th century
DCB681	II	No. 6	Grey, gault brick houses	c. 1840
DCB914	II		The Vicarage	Early 19 th century
<i>Clay Street</i>				
DCB1411	II	No.s 2 & 2a	Yellow gault brick house	Late 18 th century
DCB1290	II	No.s 29 & 31	Formerly two cottages, now one; of gault brick	Late 18 th /early 19 th century
DCB1290	II		Church of England school building	1863
<i>Fountain Lane</i>				
DCB915	II		The Fountain Public House	16 th century inn, mostly destroyed by fire and rebuilt c. 1900
DCB1412	II		Steelyard at the Fountain Inn; a device for weighing wagons	18 th century
<i>Hall Street</i>				
DCB683	II	No.s 19 & 21	Timber-framed cottages	18 th and early 19 th century
DCB1285	II		Bushell & Strike Public House	Early 18 th century
DCB684	II	64	Double fronted house	c. 1840
<i>High Street</i>				
DCB687	I		Minster Church of St. Andrews	c. 1180-90 with later medieval accretions
DCB689	II	No. 48	Two timber-framed cottages, now one, with brick façade	16 th century with 17 th and 19 th century additions
DCB1286	II		Red Lion Public House	Late 17 th /early 18 th century
DCB1282	II	No. 8	Timber-framed house with brick façade	c. 1630-40 with 19 th century additions
DCB686	II*		Manor House of	c. 1730

			gault brick	
DCB1289	II		St. Andrews House, formerly the Rectory	c. 1840
DCB688	II	No. 6	Gault brick house	c. 1830
DCB685	II		War Memorial	20 th century
<i>Mereside</i>				
DCB1283	II		Timber-framed cottage	Late 17 th century
<i>Paddock Street</i>				
DCB920	II	No.s 33 & 35	Timber-framed cottages	17 th century
DCB690	II		Coach house and stables to the vicarage	Early 19 th century
<i>Pratt Street</i>				
DCB1414	II	No.s 34-36	Timber-framed house encased in gault brick	Mid 16 th century with remodelling c. 1800.
DCB922	II	No. 20	Gault brick house	Mid 18 th century
DCB691	II	No. 22	Gault brick house, formerly the Jolly Gardeners Public House	1781, with 19 th century additions
DCB651	II	No. 11	Clunch and gault brick cottage	Late 18 th /early 19 th century
DCB1433	II	No. 13	Gault brick cottage	Late 18 th century
<i>Red Lion Square</i>				
DCB652	II		Baptist Chapel	c. 1832
DCB668	II		K6 telephone Kiosk of 1935 design	20 th century
<i>Sand Street</i>				
DCB653	II	No. 18	Gault brick house	Late 18 th century; extended c. 1830
DCB1434	II	No. 2	Brick lodge	c. 1825
<i>Station Road</i>				
DCB1436	II		United Reformed Church	1841
<i>White Hart Lane</i>				
DCB924	II	No.s 1, 3 & 5	Row of three houses, formerly part of the White Hart Inn	c. 1840

APPENDIX 5: FINDS CONCORDANCE

Feature	Description	Spot Date	Pottery
1002	Layer	Late 19th - Early 20th	(4) 36g
1003	Layer	Late 18th - Late 19th	(1) 9g

APPENDIX 6: THE POTTERY

Peter Thompson

The evaluation recovered 5 pieces of ceramic material weighing 45g. Layer 1003 contained a single rim sherd of Creamware from a dish or bowl, dating between the mid 18th and late 19th centuries.

Layer 1002 contained two sherds of refined factory made white earthenware, one with willow pattern decoration. The remaining ceramics from this layer comprised a piece of clay pipe unlikely to post-date c.1925, and a fragment of sewage pipe post-dating c.1860. The layer would suit a late 19th to early 20th century date.

1002	Layer	1x2g factory made white earthenware 1x1g Transfer Printed Ware 1x1g clay pipe 1x31g sewage pipe	Late 19 th -early 20 th	TPW - Willow Pattern
1003	Layer	1x 10g Creamware	Late 18 th -late 19 th	

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX

DP 1.

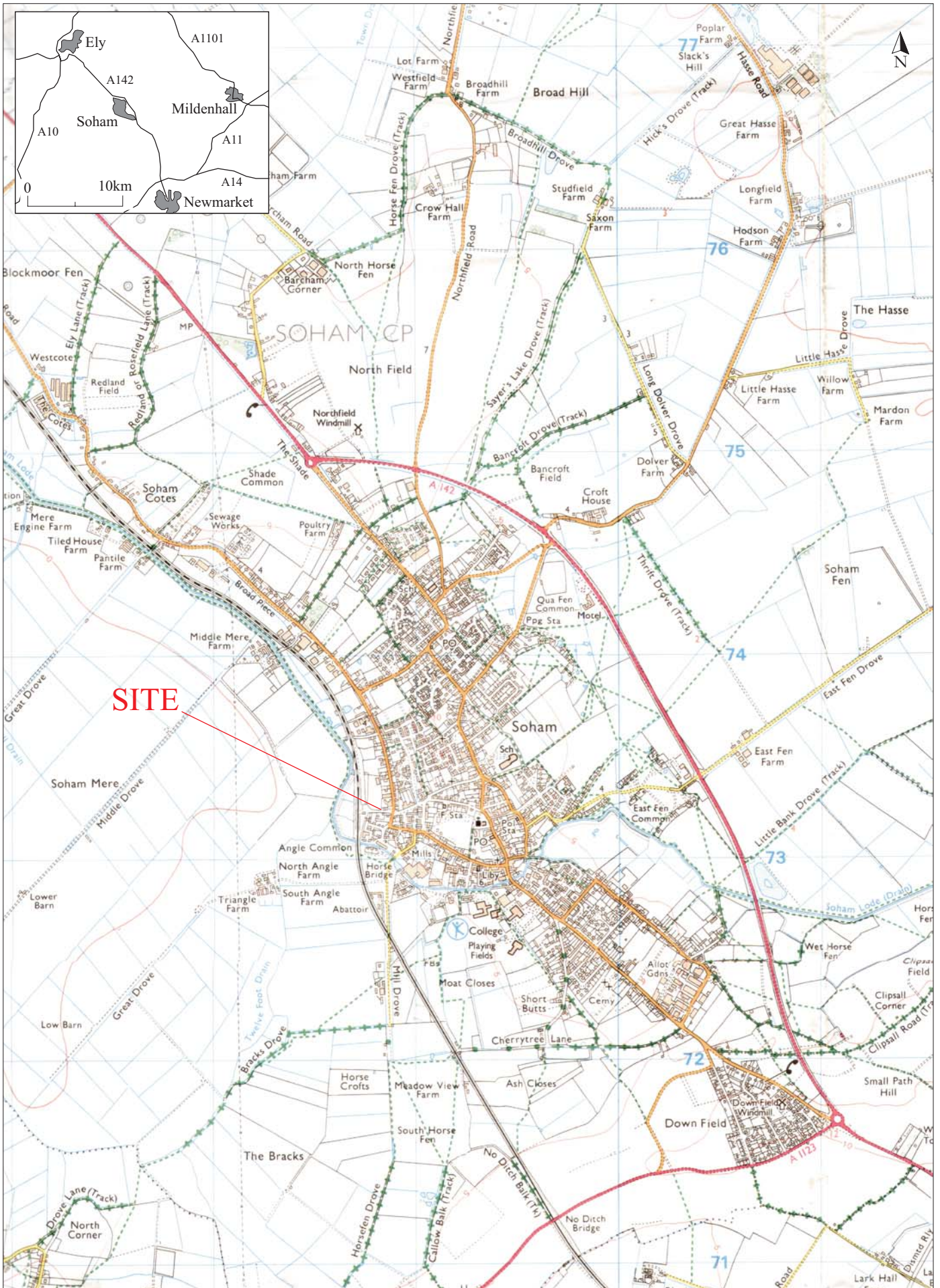


Sample section, Trench 1. Looking west.

DP2.

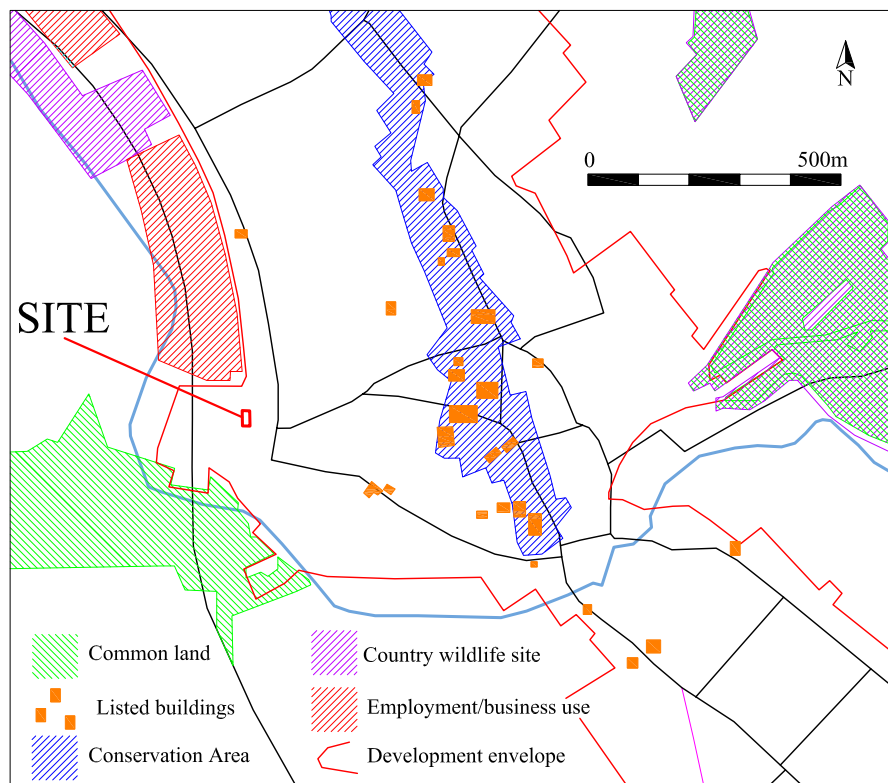
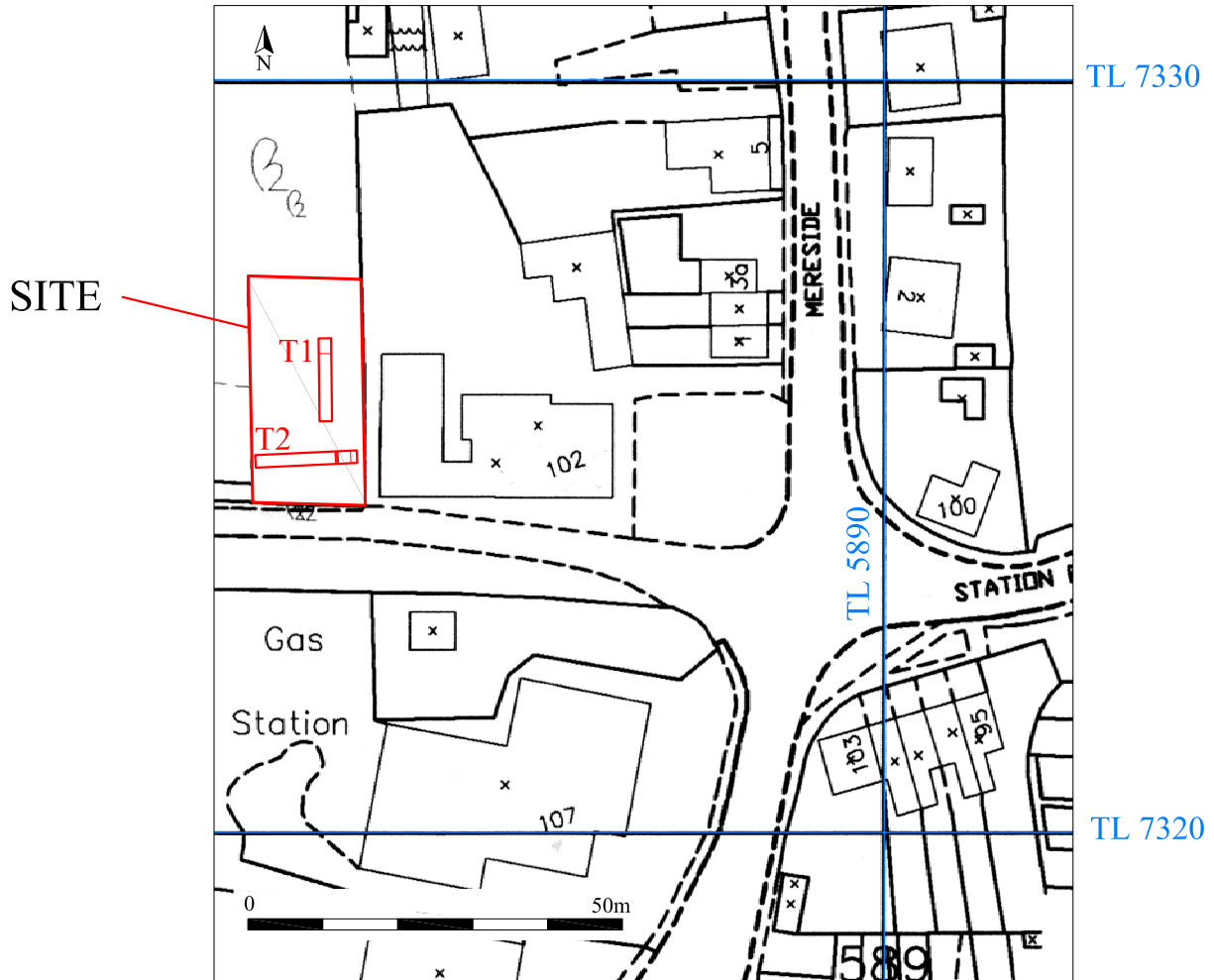


Sample section, Trench 2. Looking south.



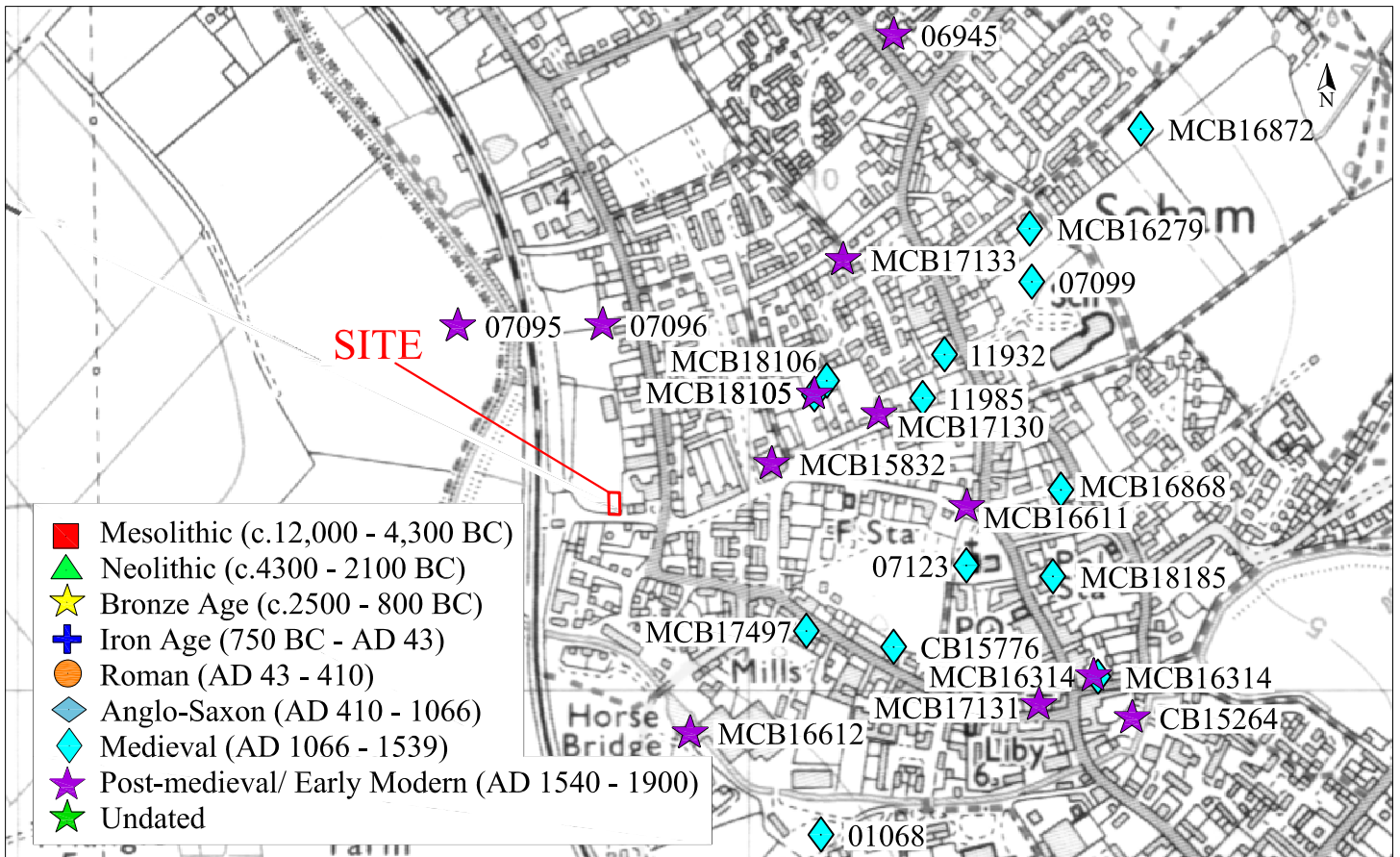
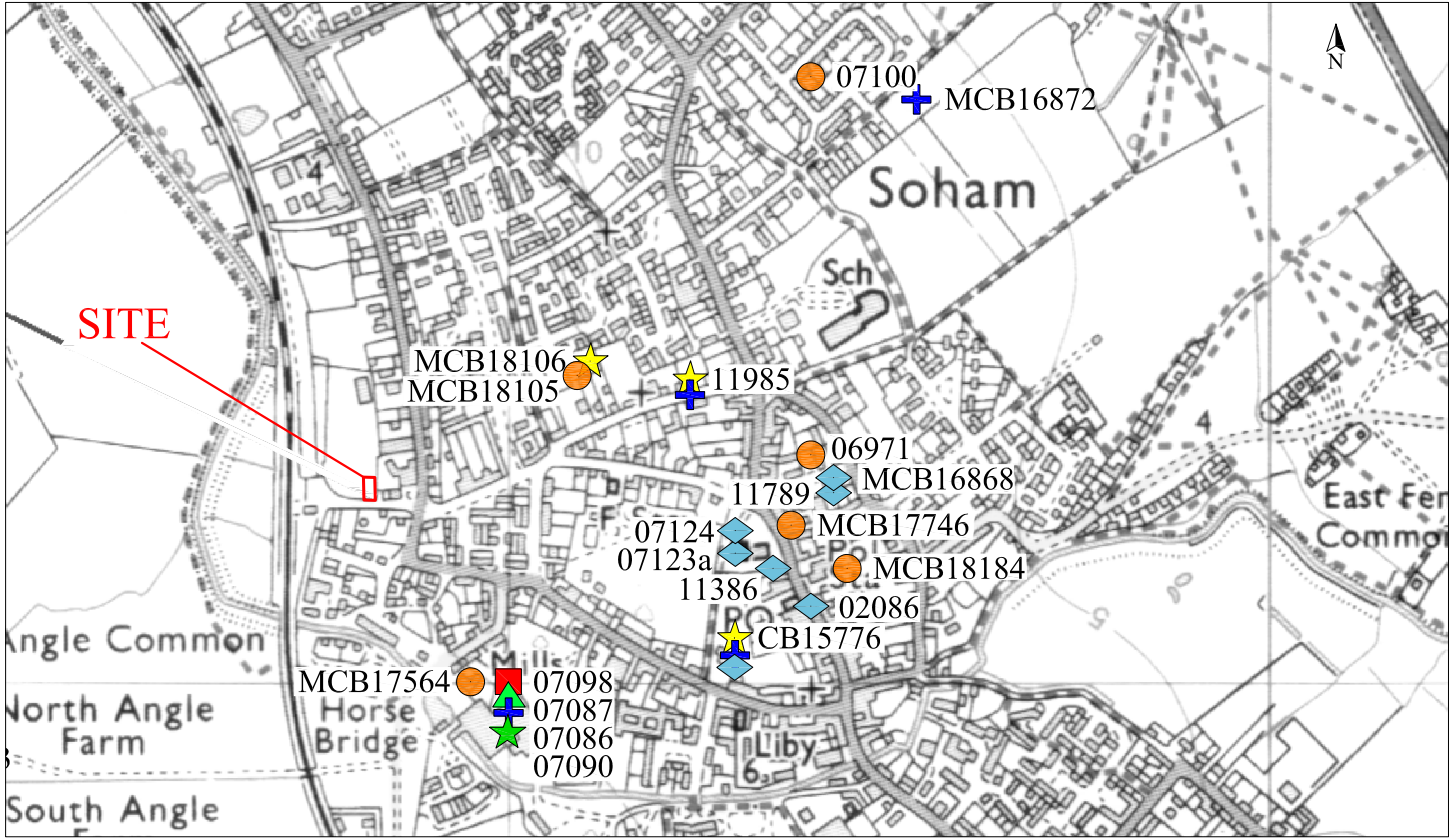
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:1000 and 1:15,000 at A4



- Mesolithic (c.12,000 - 4,300 BC)
- ▲ Neolithic (c.4300 - 2100 BC)
- ★ Bronze Age (c.2500 - 800 BC)
- ⊕ Iron Age (750 BC - AD 43)
- Roman (AD 43 - 410)
- ◆ Anglo-Saxon (AD 410 - 1066)
- ◆ Medieval (AD 1066 - 1539)
- ★ Post-medieval/ Early Modern (AD 1540 - 1900)
- ★ Undated

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Fig. 3 HER Data

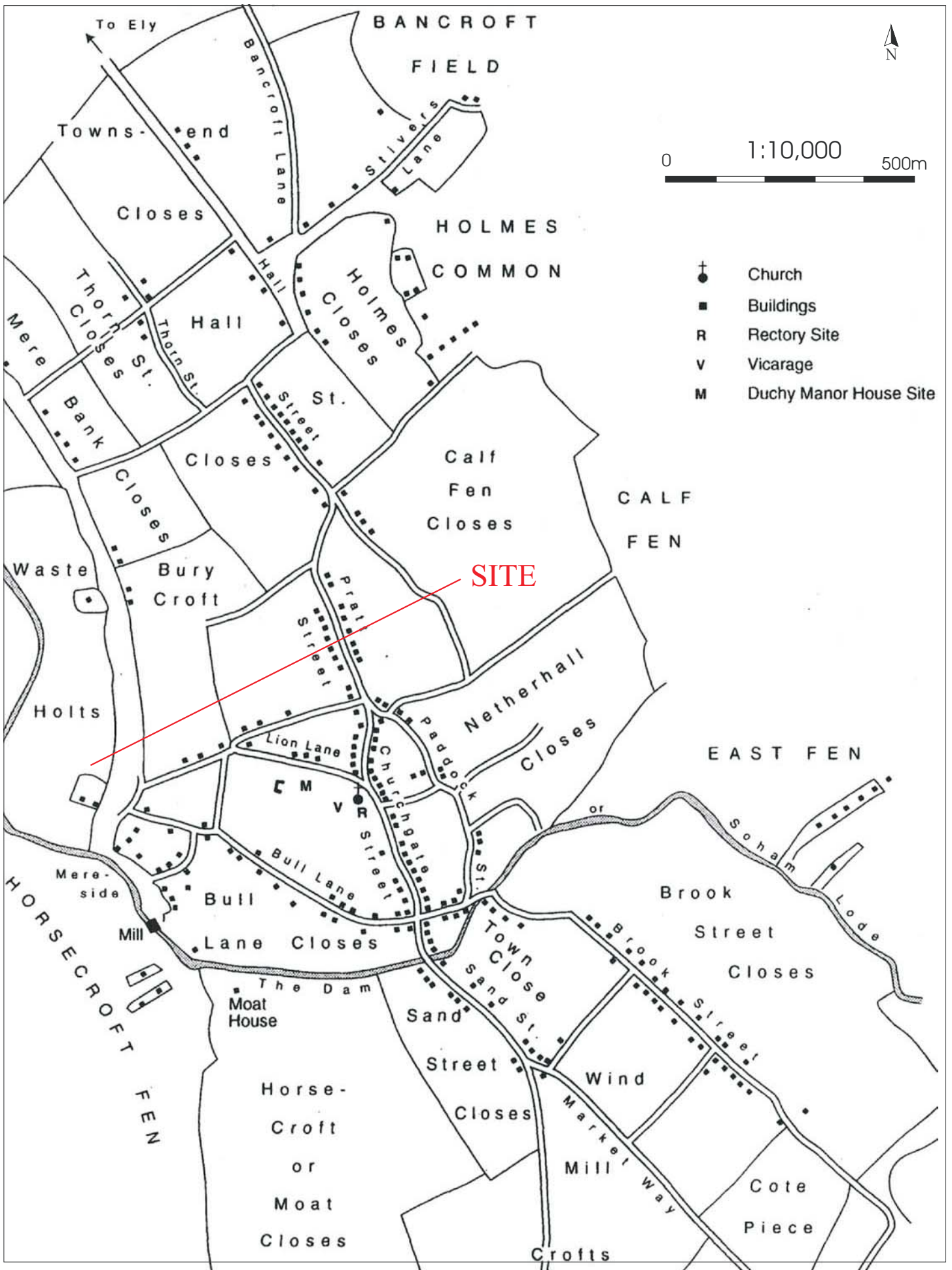
Scale 1:10,000 at A4



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Fig. 4 Palmer's map of Soham, 1656 (1860 copy)

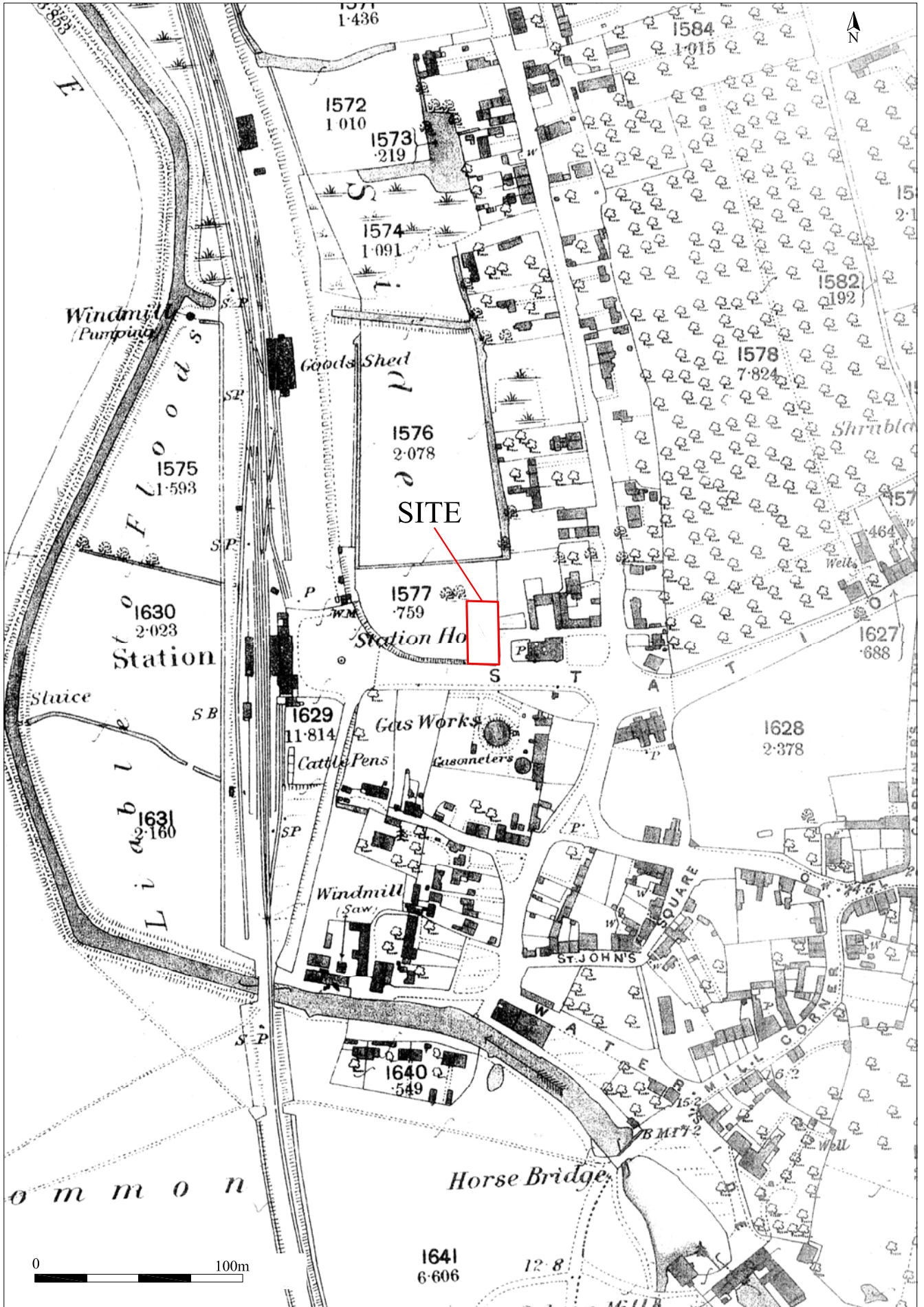
Not to scale



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Fig. 5 Soham Village c. 1650
 Scale 1:10,000. Taken from VCH X: 491

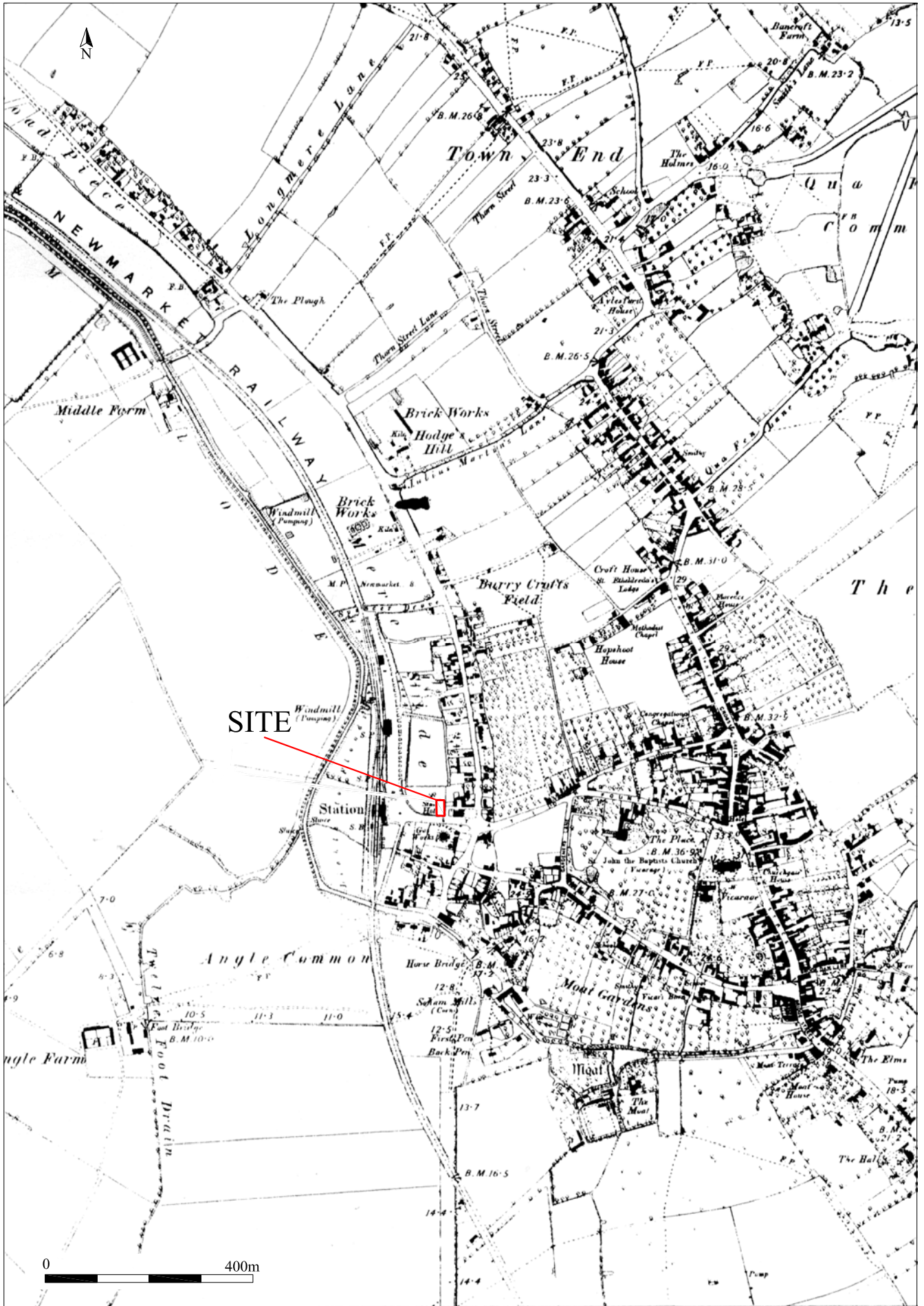


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Fig. 6 Soham Tithe map, 1837
Not to scale



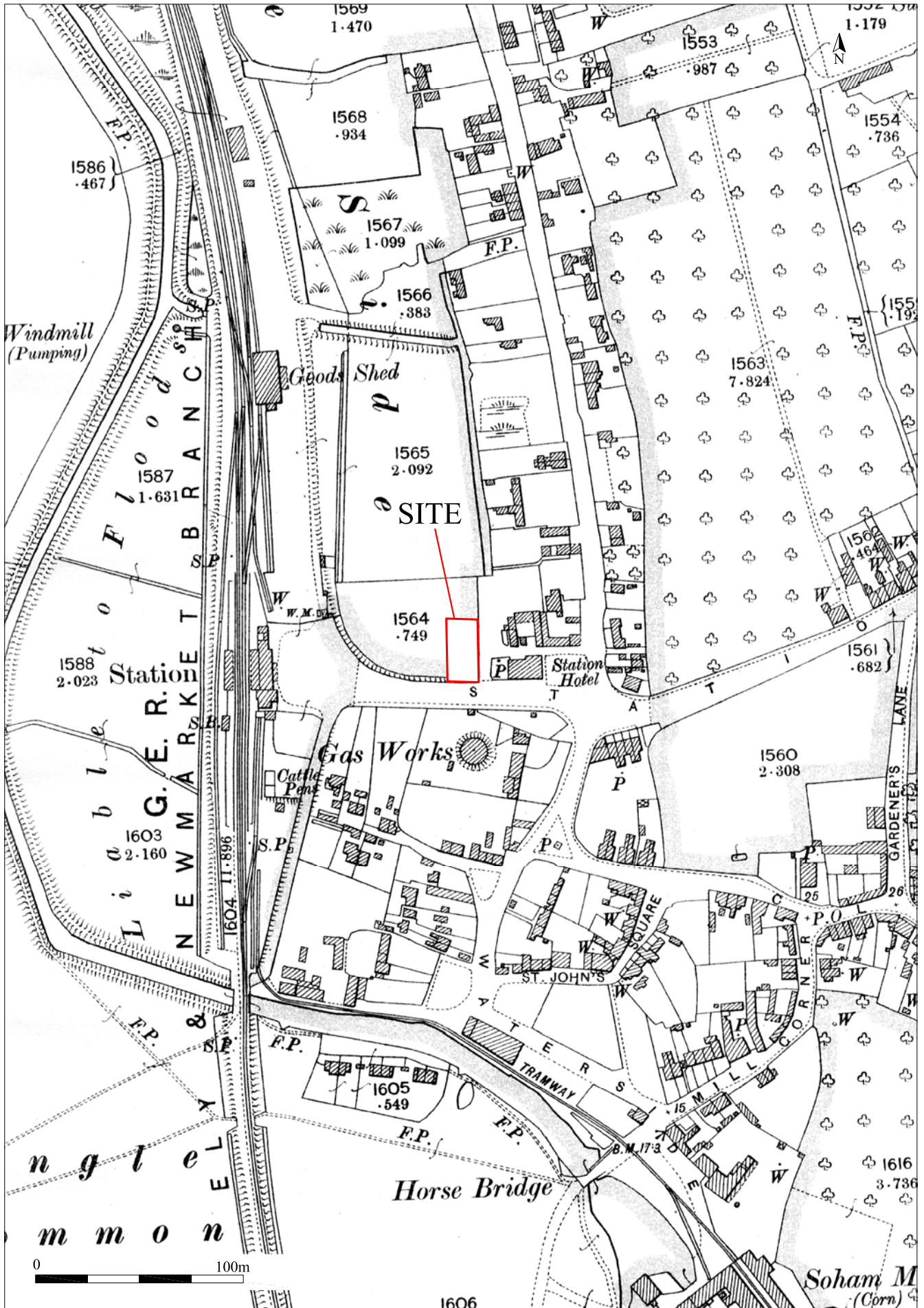
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Fig. 7 1st edition OS map, 1886
 Scale 1:2,500. Taken from the 25" to 1 mile map.



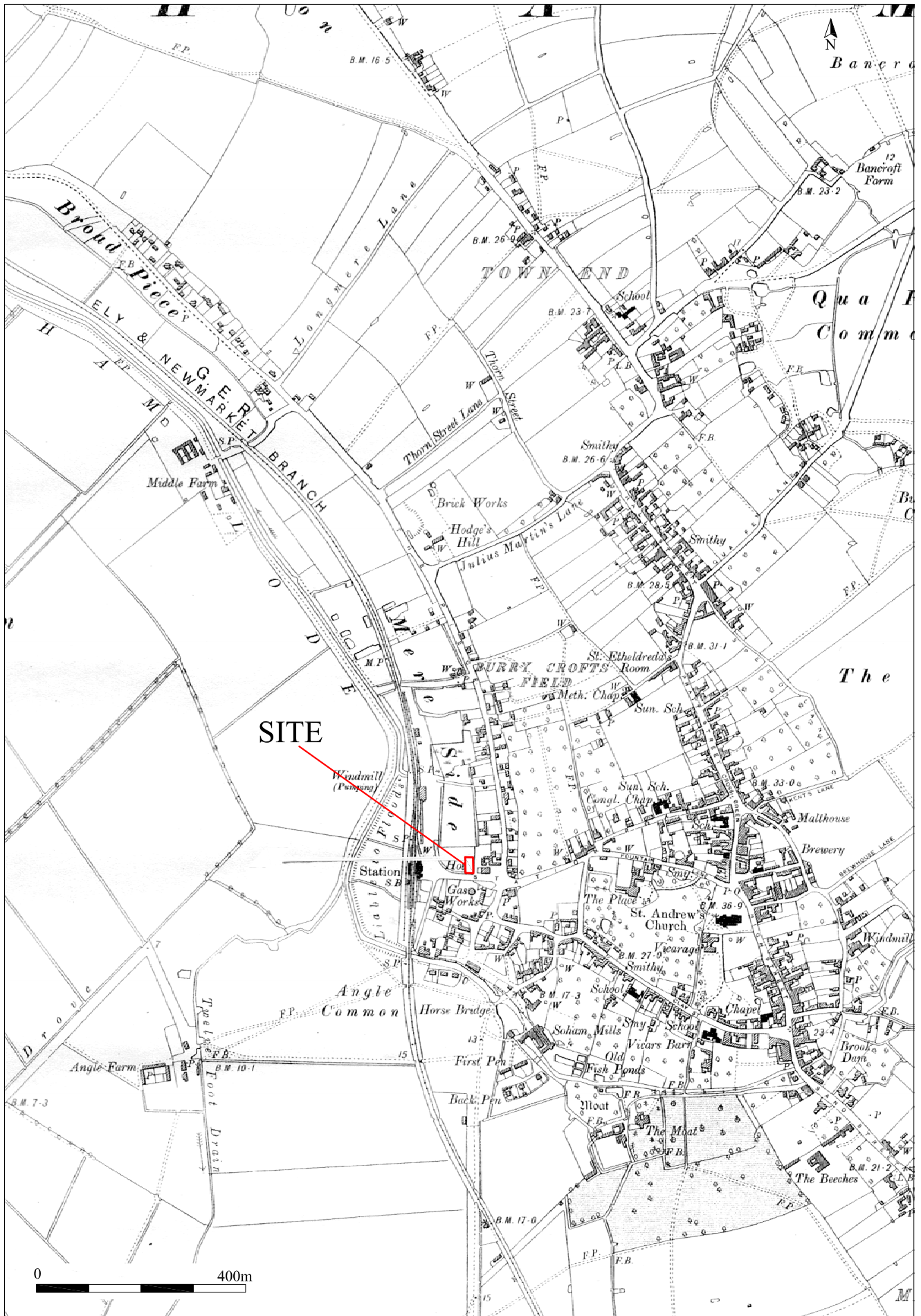
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Fig. 8 1st edition OS map, 1887
 Scale 1:10,000. Taken from the 6" to 1 mile map.



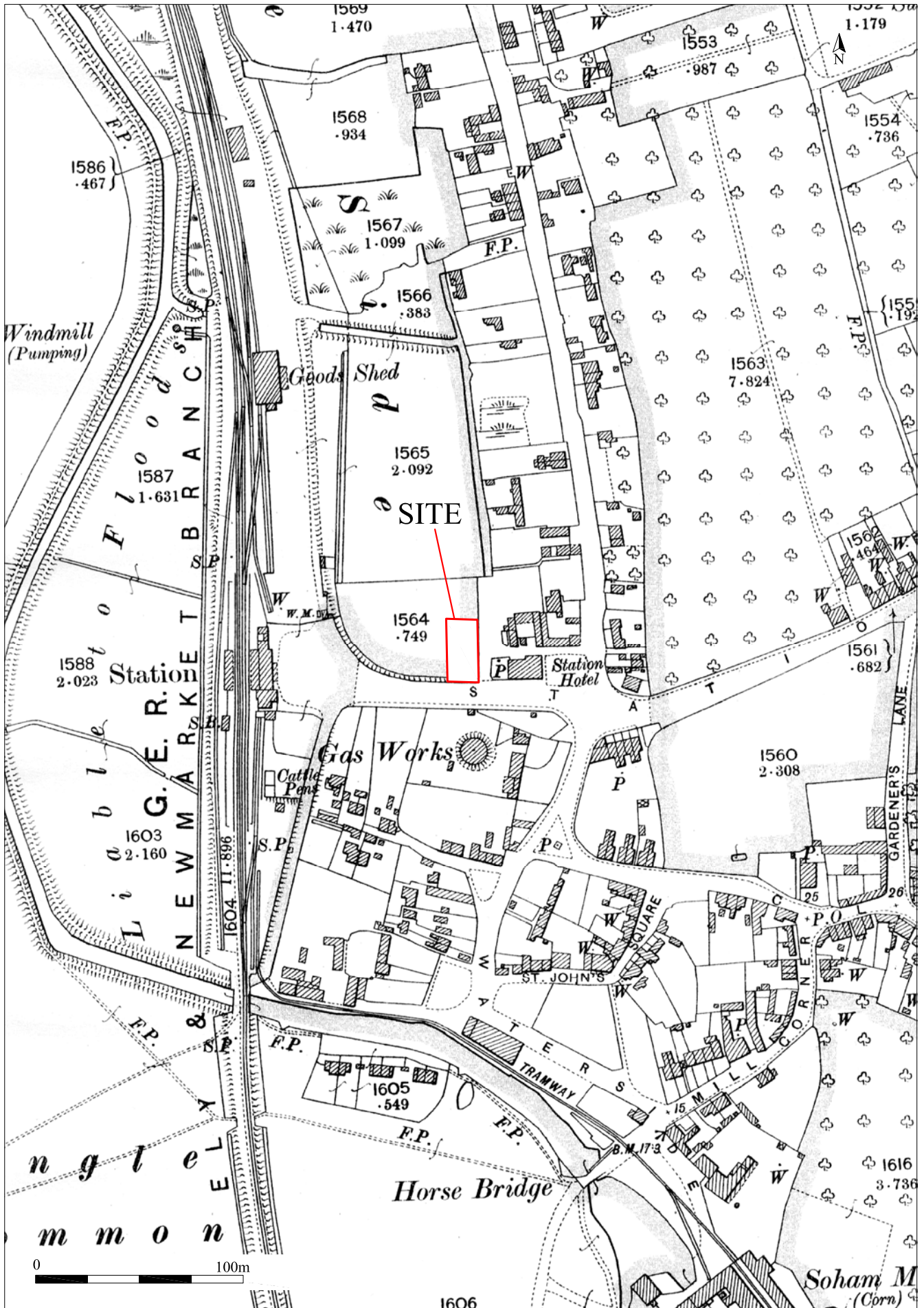
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Fig. 9 OS map, 1901
 Scale 1:2,500. Taken from the 25" to 1 mile map.



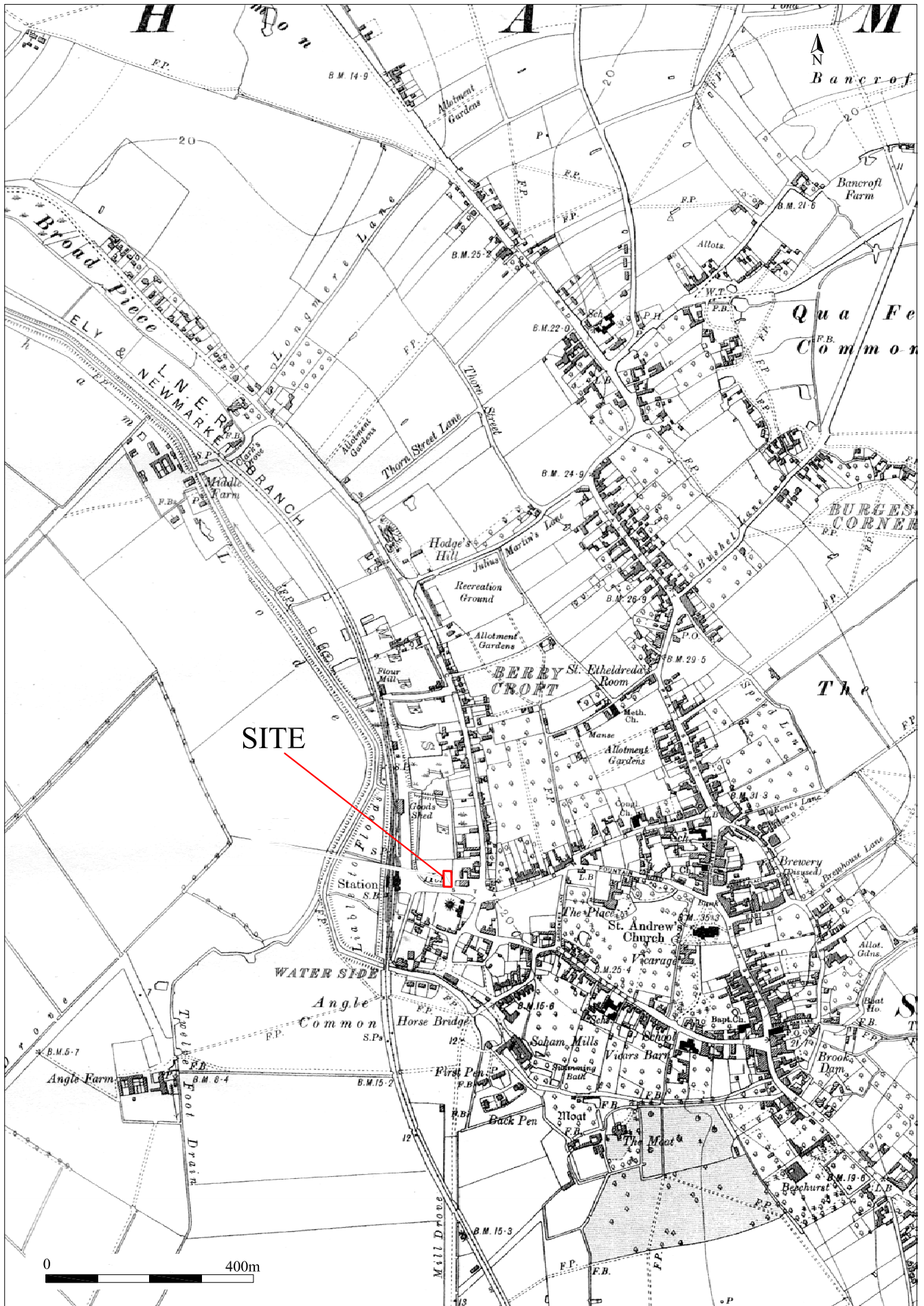
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Fig. 10 2nd edition OS map, 1903
 Scale 1:10,000. Taken from the 6" to 1 mile map.



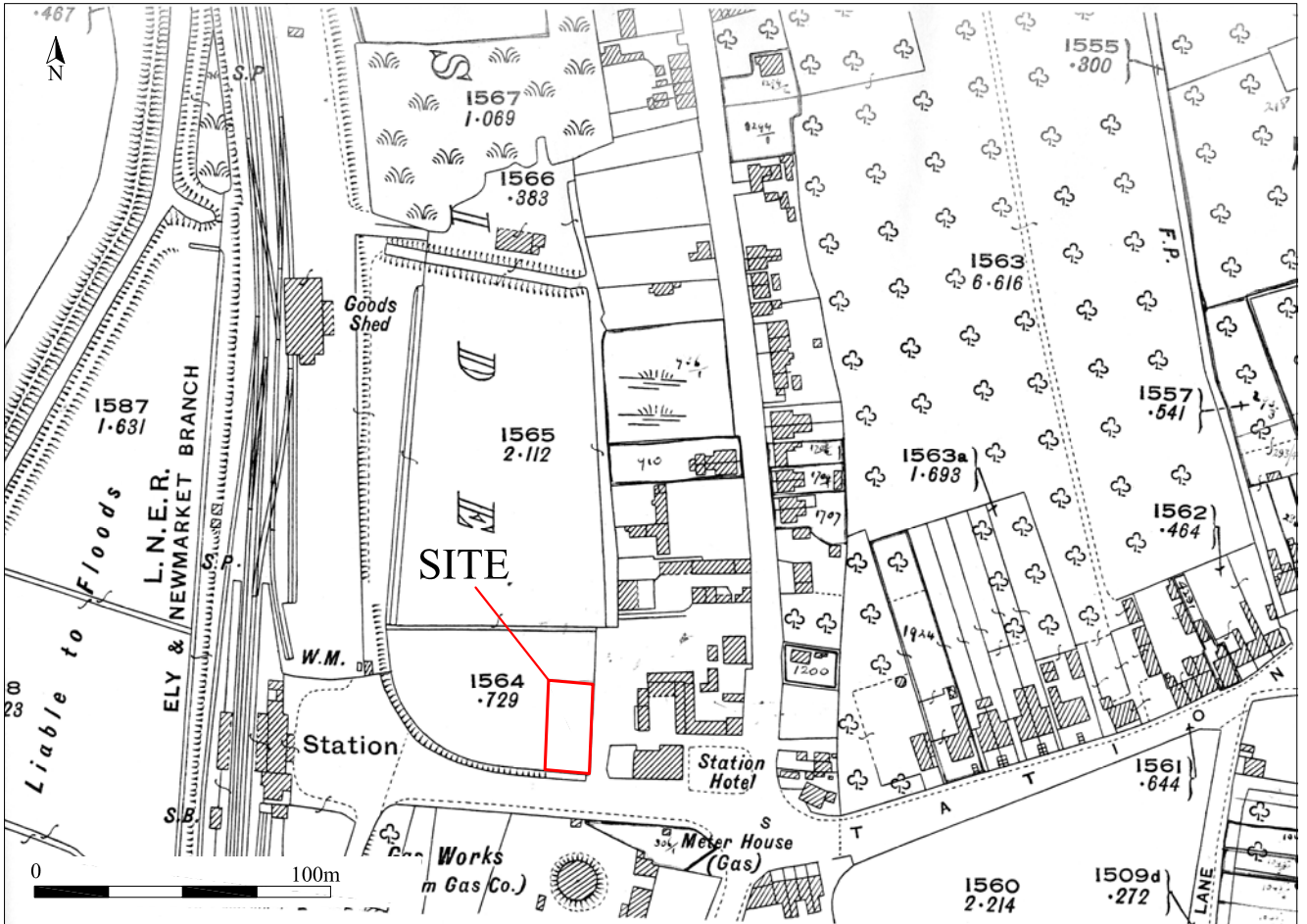
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Fig. 11 OS map, 1925
 Scale 1:2,500. Taken from the 25" to 1 mile map.



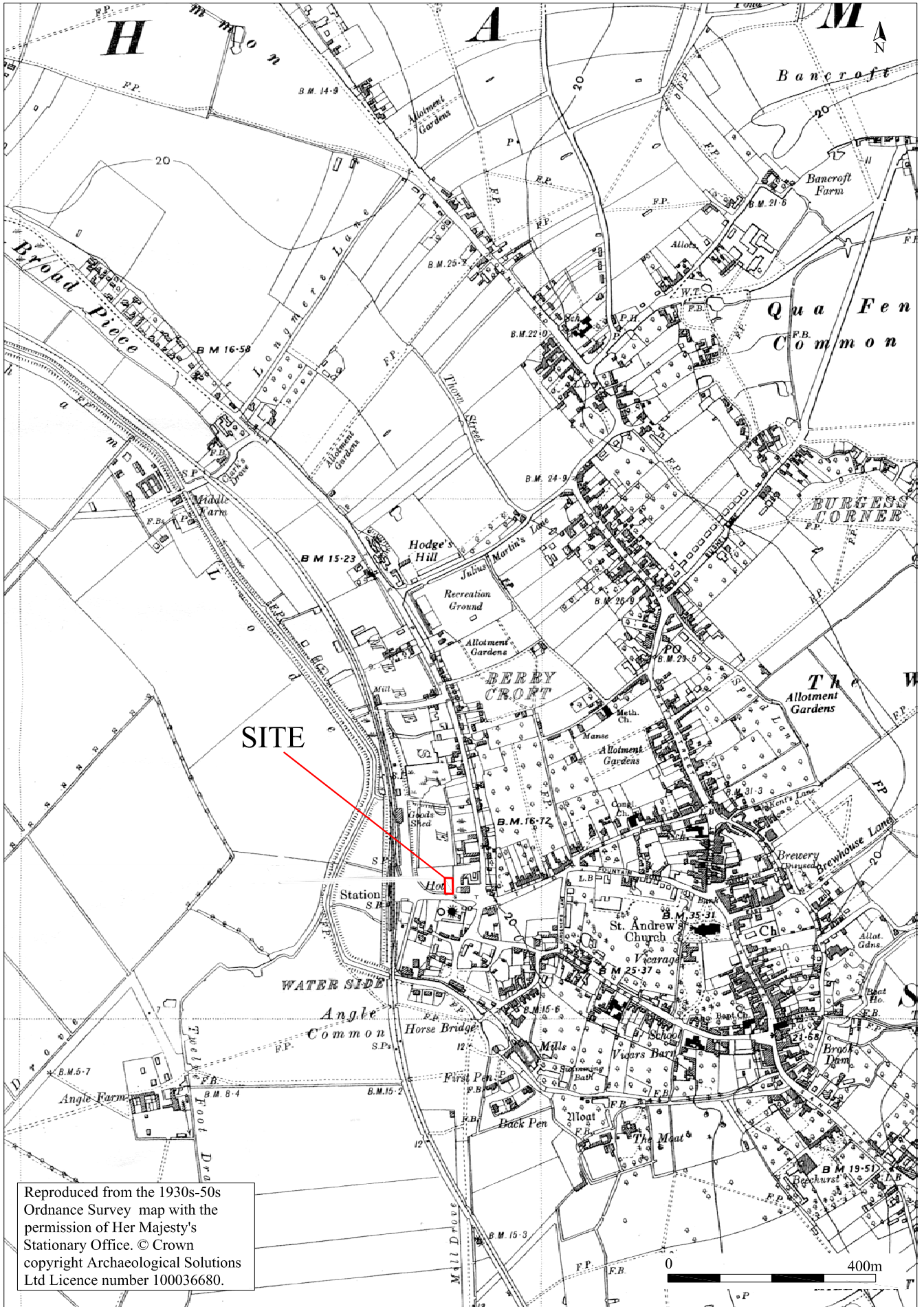
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Fig. 12 OS map, 1927
 Scale 1:10,000. Taken from the 6" to 1 mile map.



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Fig. 13 OS map, 1932
 Scale 1:2,500. Taken from the 25" to 1 mile map.



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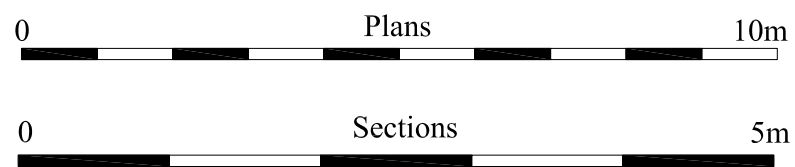
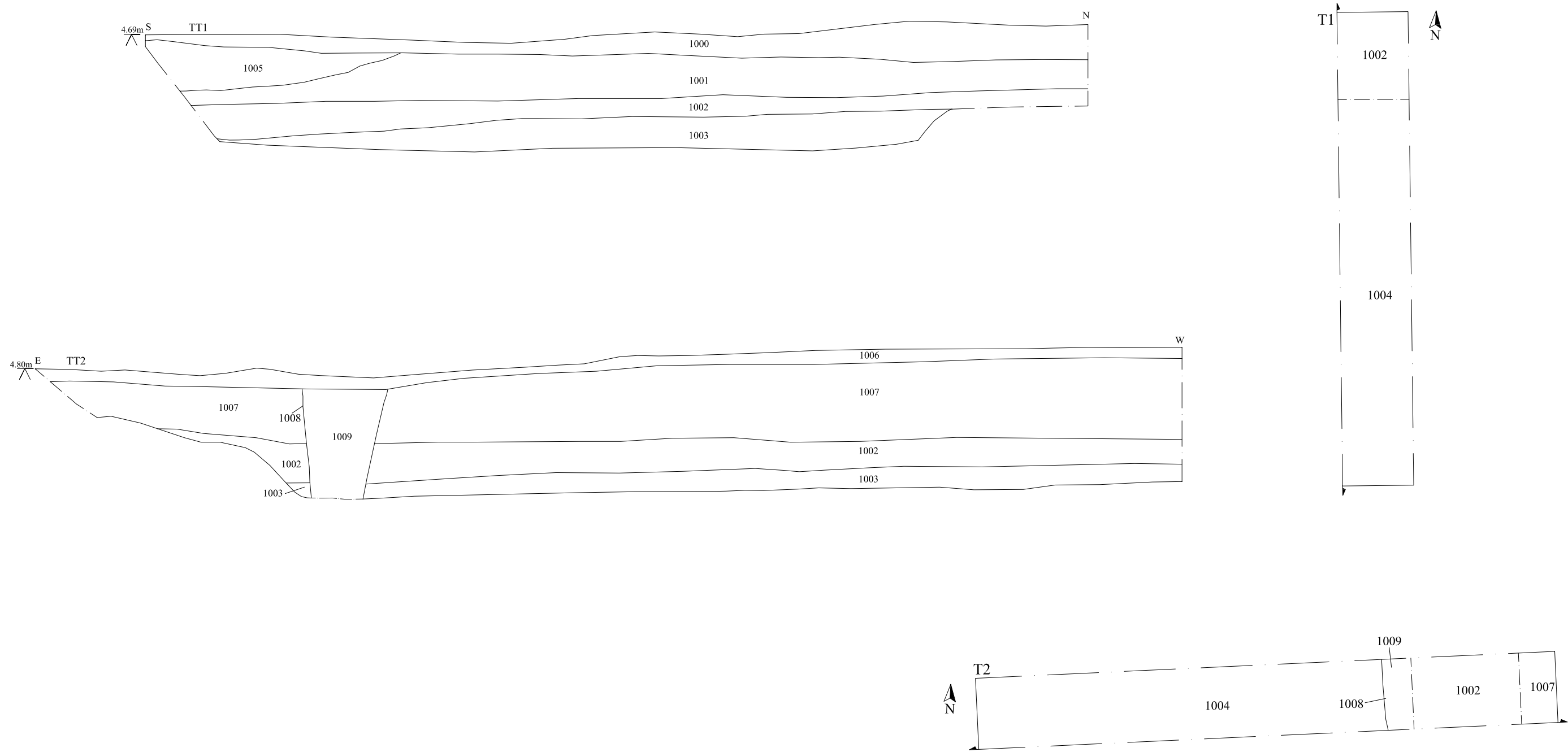
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Fig. 14 1930s-1950s provisional edition OS map

Scale 1:10,000.



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Fig.15 Aerial photograph of site
Not to scale. Taken from Microsoft Virtual Earth.



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Fig. 16 Trench plans and sections

Plans at 1:100 and sections at 1:50 at A3