

**PROPOSED NEW ACCESS,
MANOR FARM, CHURCH LANE, PADBURY,
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MONITORING AND RECORDING**

Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski MA (fieldwork & report) Hannah Tweedie MPhil (Research)	
NGR: SP 7207 3080	Report No. 3522
District: Aylesbury Vale	Site Code: AS 1302
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 3647
Signed:	Date: April 2010

98-100 Fore Street, Hertford SG14 1AB

Unit 6, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way,
Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AJ

Tel 01992 558170

Fax 01992 553359

e-mail info@ascontracts.co.uk

www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk

Registered Number: 4702122



Certificate No. FS 515590



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

This report is confidential to the client. Archaeological Solutions Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

CONTENTS

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

SUMMARY

- 1 *INTRODUCTION***
- 2 *DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE***
- 3 *TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS***
- 4 *ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND***
- 5 *METHODOLOGY***
- 6 *DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS***
- 7 *CONFIDENCE RATING***
- 8 *DISCUSSION***
- 9 *DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE***

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Proposed New Access, Manor Farm, Church Lane, Padbury, Buckinghamshire</i>		
<p><i>In April 2010 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording at Manor Farm, Church Lane, Padbury, Buckinghamshire (NGR SP 7207 3080). The monitoring was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Harvey in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the creation of a new access and 2m high brick wall at the rear of the property.</i></p> <p><i>The site lies within the historic core of Padbury and close to the medieval church of St Mary the Virgin. Several earthworks and other archaeological remains are recorded in vicinity of the site relating to the medieval village. The site had potential for the medieval and post-medieval remains, and possibly for Anglo-Saxon archaeology.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds, but the ground works were contained within the overburden.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>20th April 2010</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>3647</i>	Site code	<i>AS 1302</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Monitoring and Recording</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use	<i>Garden and side yard of the house</i>		
Planned development	<i>New access to the property</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Buckinghamshire</i>	<i>Aylesbury Vale</i>	<i>Padbury</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Buckinghamshire HER</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>MK18 2AG</i>		
Area of site	<i>c. 1500m²</i>		
NGR	<i>SP 7207 3080</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>107/108.50m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Zbigniew Pozorski</i>		
Funded by	<i>Mr & Mrs Harvey</i>		
Full title	<i>Proposed New Access, Manor Farm, Church Lane, Padbury, Buckinghamshire. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording</i>		
Authors	<i>Pozorski, Z., & Tweedie, H.</i>		
Report no.	<i>3522</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>April 2010</i>		

**PROPOSED NEW ACCESS,
MANOR FARM, CHURCH LANE, PADBURY,
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

SUMMARY

In April 2010 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording at Manor Farm, Church Lane, Padbury, Buckinghamshire (NGR SP 7207 3080). The monitoring was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Harvey in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the creation of a new access and 2m high brick wall at the rear of the property.

The site lies within the historic core of Padbury and close to the medieval church of St Mary the Virgin. Several earthworks and other archaeological remains are recorded in vicinity of the site relating to the medieval village. The site had potential for the medieval and post-medieval remains, and possibly for Anglo-Saxon archaeology.

In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds, but the ground works were contained within the overburden.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April 2010 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording at Manor Farm, Church Lane, Padbury, Buckinghamshire (NGR SP 7207 3080; Figs. 1 & 2). The monitoring was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Harvey in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the creation of a new access and 2m high brick wall at the rear of the property (Aylesbury Vale District Council Planning Ref. 08/02553/APP).

1.2 The monitoring was undertaken in accordance to a brief issued by Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service (BCAS; dated 21/09/2009), and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 22/09/2009), and approved by BCAS. The project conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2001).

1.3 The project objective was to identify and record any significant archaeological remains revealed by the groundworks, with particular regard to the potential for medieval and post-medieval features relating to the manor.

Planning policy context

1.4 PPG16 (1990), the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology and PPG15 (1994) the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to 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) have been replaced by Planning Policy Statement 5 (2010), the national Planning Policy Statement that applies to the historic environment

1.5 PPS5 states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement 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. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 Manor Farm is located in the centre of Padbury village, to the immediate east of A413 road at its junction with Church Lane (Figs. 1-2). The church of St Mary the Virgin is located 120m to the north-east. The site comprises roughly rectangular plot occupied by the Manor Farm House, property yard and a garden. The house is Grade II listed building of mid 18th century date and is situated in the north-eastern part of the site. The property is bounded by stone and brick walls and a timber fence.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The village is situated on the eastern slope of the valley of the Padbury Brook which is a tributary of the River Great Ouse. The site is situated 800m to the east of the river near the top of the eastern valley crest. It lies between 107m and 108.50m AOD. The land drops gradually towards the west with the bottom of the valley located at c. 78m AOD.

3.2 The solid geology of the area is of Jurassic Kellaways formation and Oxford Clay formation (undifferentiated). These comprise mudstone, siltstone and sandstone (British Geological Survey 1978).

3.3 Soils on the site are clayey soils of the Hanslope association, described as slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils with some slowly permeable non-calcareous clayey soils, slightly affected by water erosion (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The site lies within the historic core of Padbury and close to the medieval church of St Mary the Virgin (HER 09280). Padbury is of Saxon origin, its name suggesting it was the location of a defended settlement. At the west of Main Street a possible Iron Age defended enclosure, listed as Scheduled Ancient Monument 29407 (HER 00783), might account for the village name, and was likely a focus for early Saxon activity. Padbury originated as a poly-focal settlement, developing around the church at the east end of Main Street and at Old End to the west.

4.2 The site of Manor Farm is thought to be the site of the capital *messuage* (dwelling of the lord of the manor) recorded in 1248. In addition, the 1795 enclosure map shows a number of house sites and closes to the south of Manor Farm. The extant building at Manor Farm is Grade II listed and of mid 18th century date.

4.3 An evaluation to the immediate north-east of the site revealed three ditches of medieval date (HER 08404) representing two different phases of activity and interpreted as lying at the periphery of the main focus of medieval settlement. Another evaluation carried out on land directly to the east of the site recorded modern garden disturbance overlying earlier features, including several ridge and furrow plough features, a drainage ditch and a possibly later bank and ditch earthwork.

4.4 Immediately to the south of the site an earthwork is recorded (HER 01607), which has been surveyed revealing a fairly level platform defined by a broad ditch 13.5m wide and 1m deep, a possible bank 4m wide and a second narrower ditch 5m wide and 0.5m deep, which are cut by a modern drainage ditch at their western end. Map regression has shown that these earthworks would seem to represent the remains of large rectangular occupation platform which is visible on 16th century maps and which is marked as a substantial residence, presumably with ancillary buildings, known as 'The Parsonage' in the late 16th century. Later maps show these buildings were cleared in the 17th – 18th centuries and a modest house and barns were erected. These have since been demolished and in the 19th century the area was converted to an agricultural yard. The extant buildings in the area are of 19th or 20th century date.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1. The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all groundworks, the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for

archaeological features and the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Archaeological features and deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and the excavated area was scanned by metal detector.

5.2 The principal element which was subject to intensive monitoring was mechanically-excavated ground reduction for a new access road within the property (Fig. 2). Within the area to the south-west of the house, occupied by a garden, the groundworks comprised stripping the land of the topsoil within the course of proposed access road. In the remaining area, to the east and north-east of the house, the works were limited to a partial removal of a concrete surface of the side yard.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 The south-western part of the site, occupied by a garden, was commonly overlain by Topsoil L1000, a mid brown, soft, sandy silt (0.12 – 0.28m thick). The topsoil was substantially thicker in the area along the south-western boundary wall, where it also overlay Subsoil L1002, a light to mid brown, friable, sandy silt (0.37m thick). Within the remaining part of the garden the topsoil directly overlay L1002, a mid yellow, friable, silty sand with CBM fragments. The natural geology was not encountered at the formation level for the new access.

<i>Ground reduction for new access, SW end, next to the boundary wall. Sample section, facing NW (DP 8)</i>		
<i>0.00 = 108.20m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. Mid brown, soft, sandy silt.
0.28 – 0.75m	L1001	Subsoil. Light to mid brown, friable, sandy silt.
0.75m+	L1002	A mid yellow, friable, silty sand with CBM.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

6.2 In the remaining part of the site, no other deposits were revealed as the groundworks comprised only levelling the existing concrete surface.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 Within the scope of the ground works it is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the programme of archaeological monitoring and recording.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for the medieval and post-medieval archaeology. Such remains have been found in

the vicinity of the site, suggesting the presence of extensive settlement around the nearby church. The site had also potential for Anglo-Saxon remains.

8.2 In the event no archaeological features or finds were revealed. The groundworks were very limited in depth and therefore earlier deposits other than those of modern date were not revealed. Deposit L1002 may have been a levelling layer related to landscaping of the garden or other activity on the site. No residual finds were recovered. If archaeological features are present below the formation level of the new access drive, they will be effectively preserved *in situ*.

9 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

9.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr & Mrs Harvey for funding the project.

AS would also like to thank Mr Tony Knight of Knight Architecture & Design for his assistance.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Ruth Beckley of Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Geological Survey (BGS), 1978, *Legend for the 1:625,000 Geological map of the United Kingdom (solid geology)*: London. Mansfield

Institute of Field Archaeologists (now Institute for Archaeologists), 1994 (revised 2001), *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*. IfA Reading.

Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW), 1983, *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales*. SSEW, Harpenden

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. Manor Farm, Church Lane, Padbury, Buckinghamshire. View NE.



DP 2. Church Lane and Manor Farm. View E.



DP 3. Groundworks in progress. View W.



DP 4. Ground reduction for a new access road, part E. View WNW.



DP 5. Ground reduction for a new access road, part E. View ENE.



DP 6. Ground reduction for a new access road, part W. View NW.



DP 7. Ground reduction for a new access road, part W. View N.



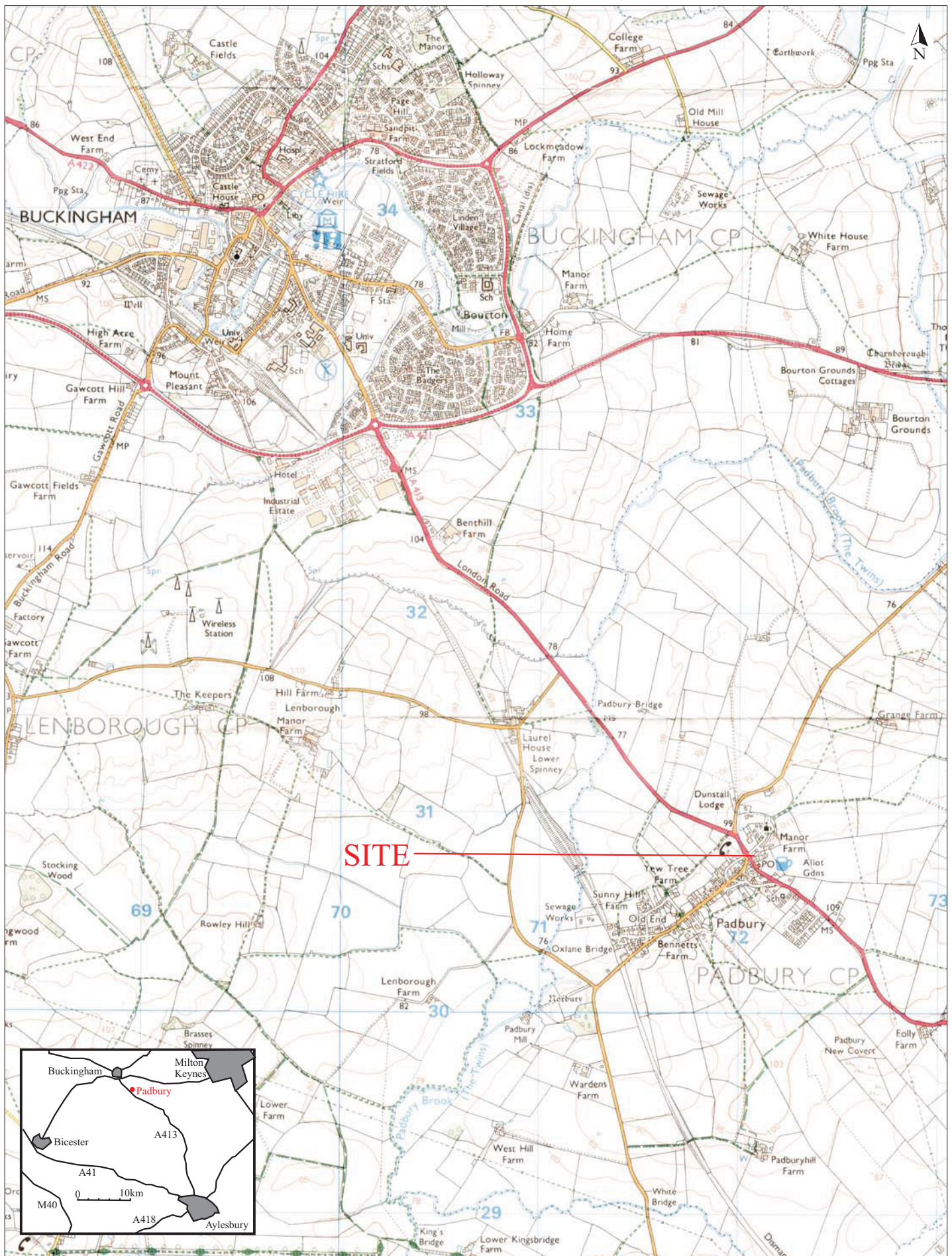
DP 8. Ground reduction for a new access road, part E. Sample section. View NW.



DP 9. SE part of the property prepared for a new yard layout. View ENE.

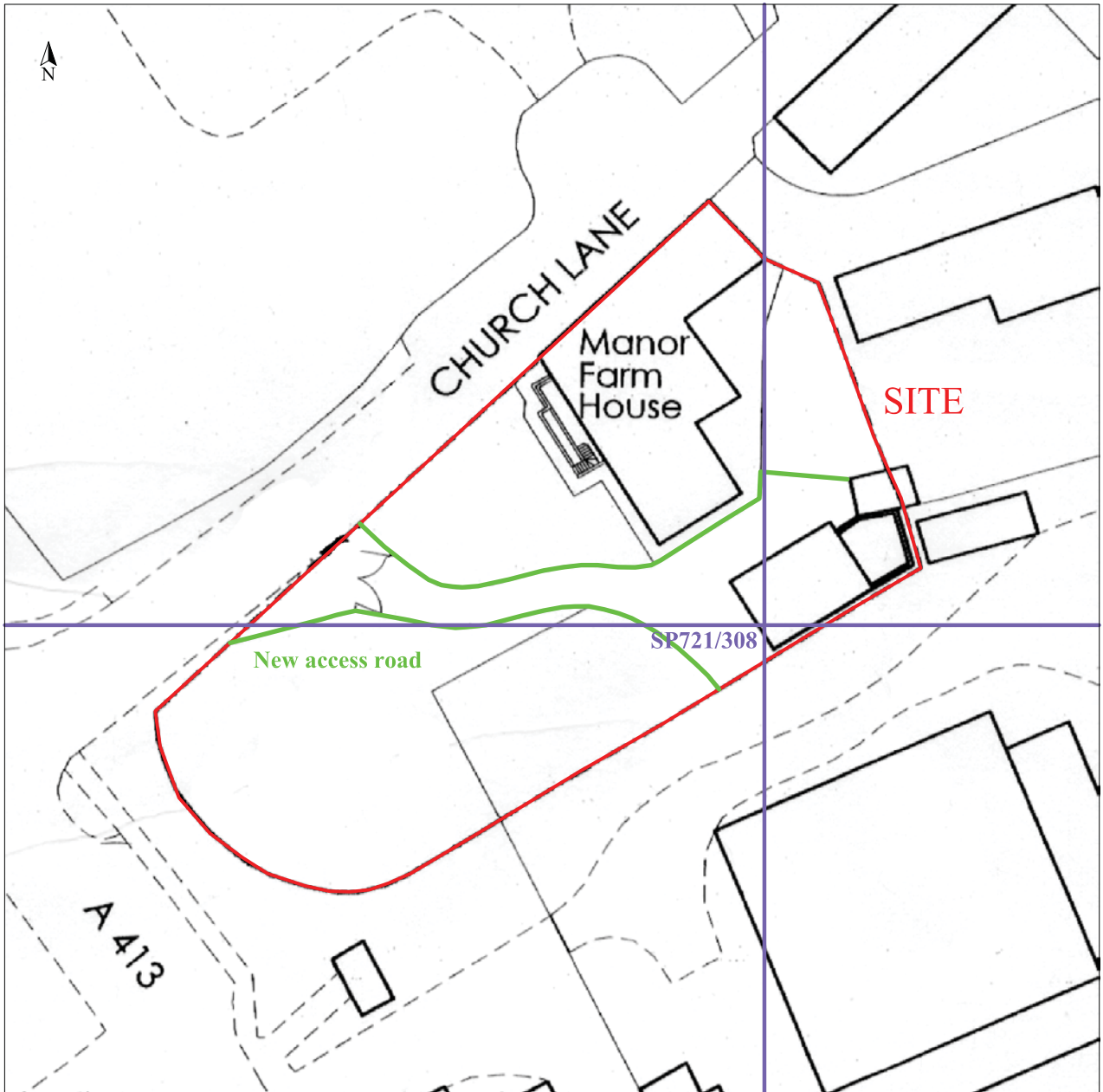


DP 10. E part of the property prepared for a new yard and access road layout. View NE.



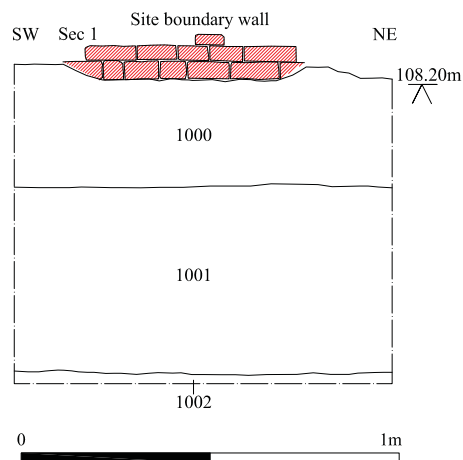
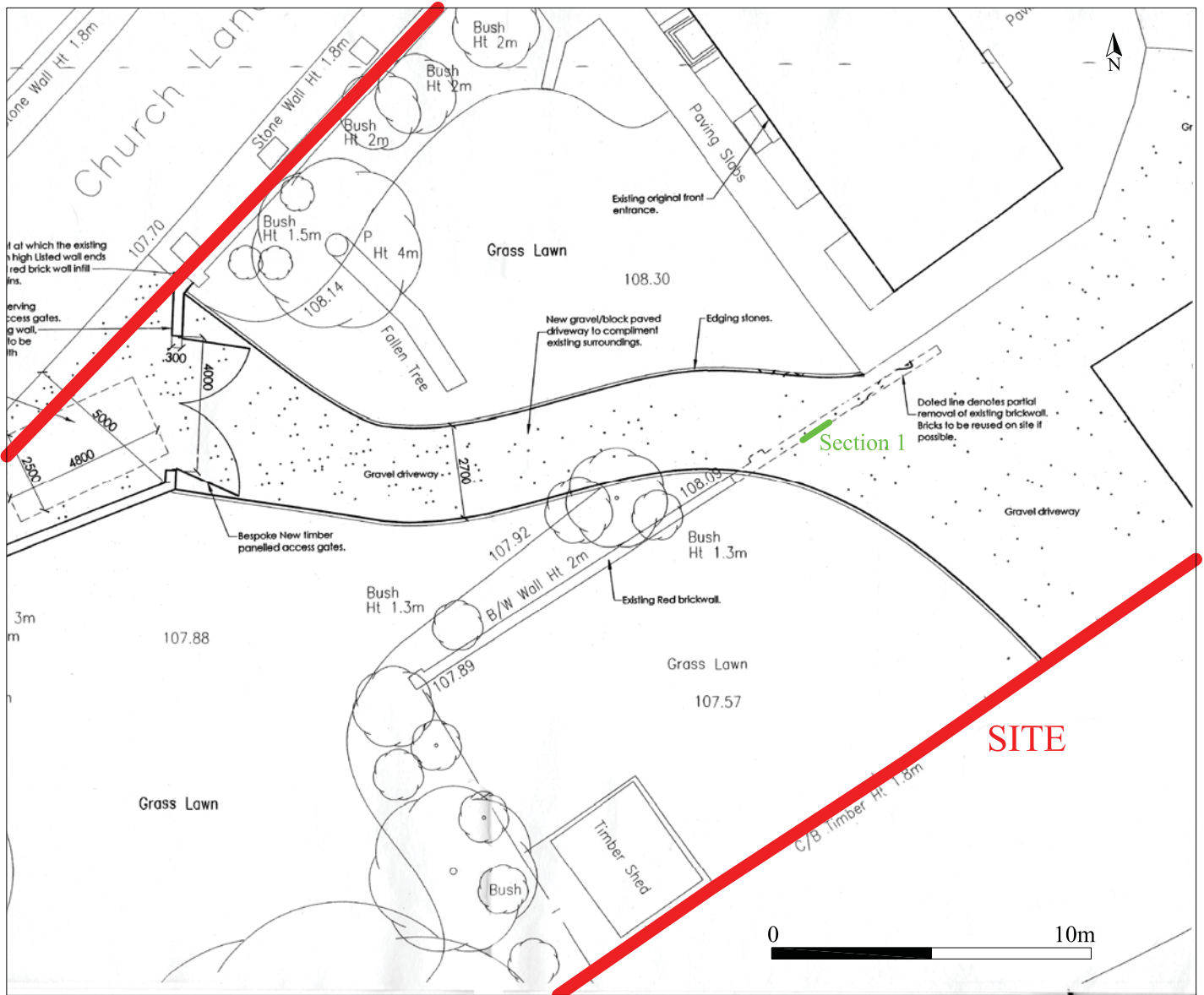
Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680

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



0 30m

Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:500 at A4



Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 3 Section location plan
 Scale Plan 1:200, section 1:20 at A4