

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT:  
LAND AT WAKERLEY,  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

*on behalf of the  
Burghley House Preservation Trust*



**David Fell BA MA MIFA**

**November 2003**

**ASC: WKM03/1**

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## Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	WKM03	<i>Project No:</i>	525
<i>County:</i>	Northamptonshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Wakerley		
<i>Parish:</i>	Wakerley		
<i>NGR:</i>	SP 946 980		
<i>Present use:</i>	Agricultural		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Mineral extraction		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	Pre-planning		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	East Northamptonshire		
<i>Date of work:</i>	November 2003		
<i>Client:</i>	Burghley House Preservation Trust C/o Mineral Surveying Services 20 Saddlers Close Glenfield Leicester LE3 8QU		
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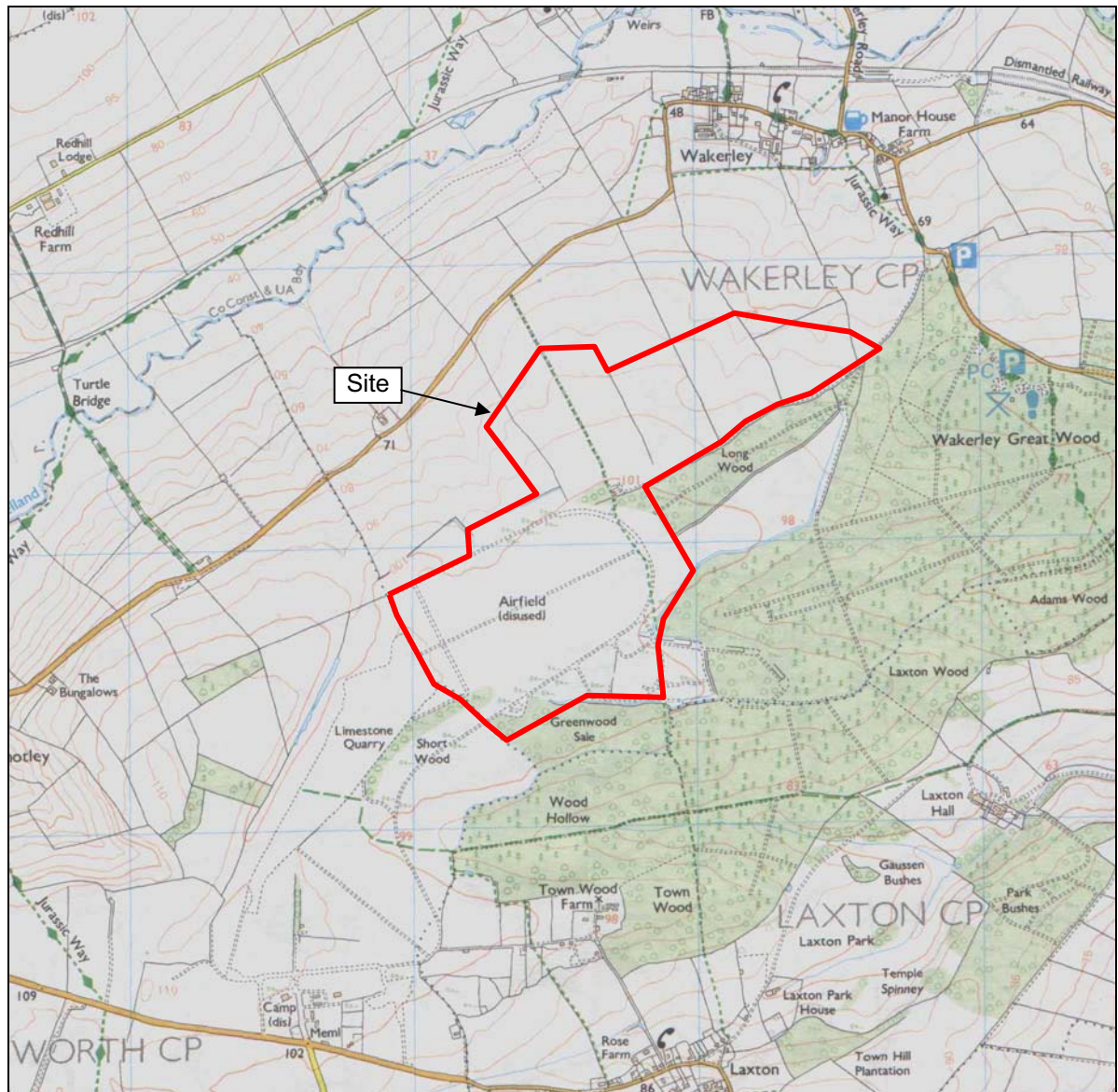
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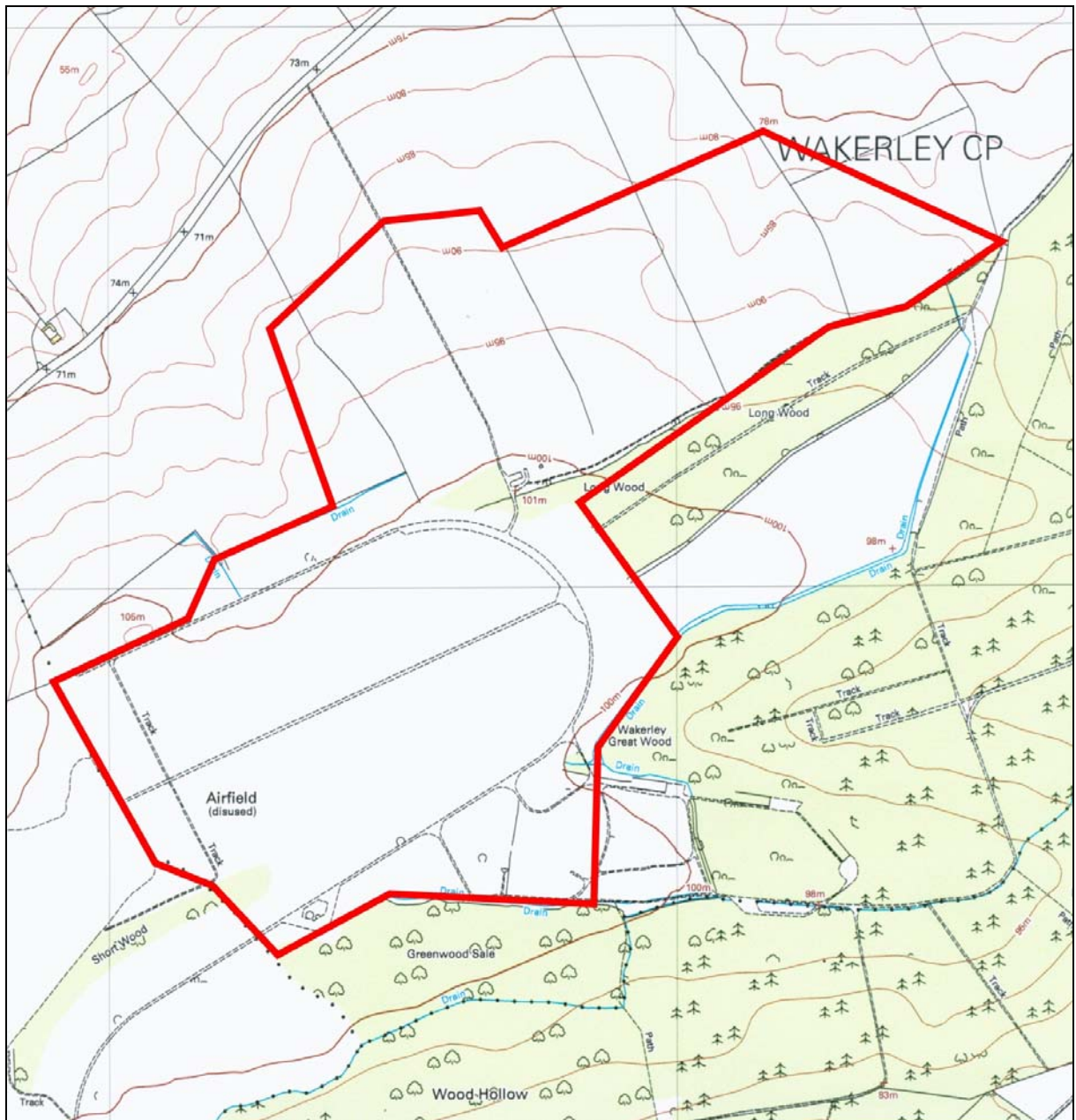
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**Figure 1:** General location (scale 1:25,000)



**Figure 2:** Site location with proposal site outlined in red (scale 1:10,000)

## Summary

*In October and November 2003 an archaeological desk-based assessment was undertaken of land at Wakerley, Northamptonshire, in advance of proposals for development of the area for mineral extraction. The assessment revealed that the proposal site is of archaeological and historical significance. A number of archaeological sites of the prehistoric, Roman and Saxon periods have been identified within and adjacent to the proposal site. An airfield, known as Spanhoe Airfield was constructed in the north part of the site in 1943. The extent and condition of the archaeological remains is not known but the site is considered to offer high archaeological potential.*

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The *Burghley House Preservation Trust* intend putting forward proposals for mineral extraction at a site near Wakerley in Northamptonshire (Fig. 1). In line with the guidance contained in the document PPG16 *Archaeology and Planning* the archaeological planning officer of *Northamptonshire County Council* advised that the site may be archaeologically sensitive, required the developer to commission archaeological desk-based assessment and issued a *brief* for the project (Flitcroft 2002).
- 1.2 The developers consultant Mr M. Oldridge of *Mineral Surveying Services* commissioned *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) to prepare the desk-based assessment and this document presents the results of the assessment.



**Plate 1:** Aerial photograph of the proposal site (*not to scale*)

## 2 Setting

### 2.1 Location and Description

The proposal site is situated in Wakerley, in the administrative district of East Northamptonshire (Fig. 1). It lies to the south of the village of Wakerley, and follows the south slope of the valley of the river Welland.

The proposal site comprises an irregular area of land totalling c.102ha. and is bounded to the north by agricultural land facing onto an unclassified road linking Wakerley with the village of Harringworth. An area of woodland, known as *Wakerley Great Wood* borders the south side of the site, and a disused limestone quarry forms the western limit of the site (Figs. 1 and 2).

### 2.2 Geology and Topography

The proposal site is in a rural location and the natural soils survive across the site. These comprise predominantly the *Elmton 1 Association*, namely shallow calcareous soils over Jurassic limestone (Soil Survey 1983). Some *Ragdale Association*, comprising clayey and fine loamy soils may also be present. The site is essentially flat and lies at an elevation of c.100m. Land on the northern periphery slopes down to the north to form the valley of the river Welland.

### 2.3 Existing Buildings and Access

Access to the proposal site is from the north, via a track surfaced with tarmac and concrete. Two brick structures are situated in the centre of the site, adjacent to Long Wood (section see 5.2.3) and a portacabin type building used by model aeroplane enthusiasts is situated towards the west end of the site.

### 3 Aims and Methods

- 3.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment is an assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a given area, consisting of a collation of existing archaeological, historical and topographical information in order to identify the likely extent, character and quality of the known or potential archaeological resource, in order that appropriate measures might be considered.
- 3.2 The desk-based assessment was carried out according to the *brief*, and the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (IFA 2001).
- 3.3 The following readily available sources of information were consulted for the desk-based assessment:

#### 3.3.1 *Archaeological Databases*

Archaeological databases represent the standard references to the known archaeology of an area. The principal source consulted was the *Northamptonshire Sites & Monuments Record* (SMR). The study area employed in the SMR search includes the site itself, and a surrounding area of approximately 1km radius.

#### 3.3.2 *Historic Documents*

Documentary research provides an overview of the history of a site and its environs, suggesting the effects of settlement and land-use patterns. The principal source consulted was the *Northamptonshire County Records Office* (CRO).

#### 3.3.3 *Cartographic & Pictorial Documents*

Old maps and illustrations are normally a very productive area of research. The principal sources consulted were the CRO and Northampton Central Library.

#### 3.3.4 *Air Photographs*

Given favourable light and crop conditions, air photographs can reveal buried features in the form of crop and soil marks. They can also provide an overview of and more specific information about land use at a given time. The principal source consulted was the *Northamptonshire SMR*.



## 4 Archaeological and Historical Evidence

The local and regional settings of archaeological sites are factors that are taken into consideration when assessing the planning implications of development proposals. The following sections provide a review of the archaeological and historical background to the site. In order to provide as full a survey as possible and to set the proposal site in its local and regional context, the assessment includes the proposal site and a surrounding area of c.500m radius.

The study area lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest and the site has the potential to reveal evidence of a variety of periods. The definitive list of archaeological and historical sites is the county *Sites and Monuments Record* (SMR) and relevant sites included in the SMR are shown on Figure 3 and listed in section 9.

Section 4.1 provides a discussion of the archaeological and historical background to the landscape, while section 4.2 considers the proposal site itself.

### 4.1 *Archaeological & Historical Background*

Wakerley is an area of considerable archaeological and historical importance (RCHM 1984, 151-155; Rhodes 1994). The site has the potential to reveal evidence of a variety of periods, but the focus of interest is likely to lie in the Iron Age to Saxon periods.

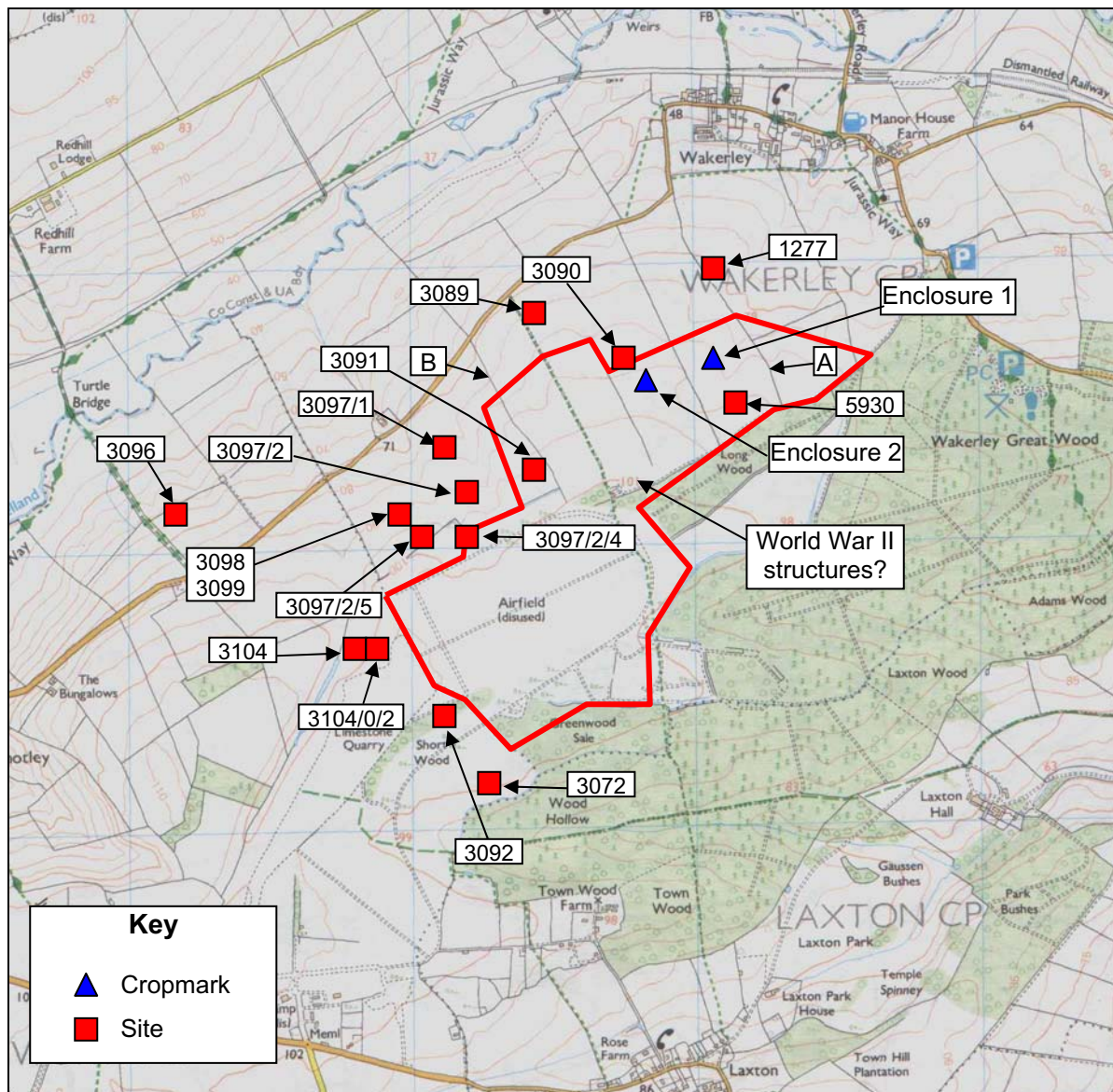
#### 4.1.1 *Early Prehistoric (Palaeolithic to Bronze Age) (before 600BC)*

The Welland valley is of considerable importance for the study of the early prehistoric period, but research has concentrated on the lower river valley and the fen edge (French *et al* 1992) and in comparison little work has been undertaken in the upper part of the river system, in the Wakerley area.

Late Neolithic and Bronze Age activity has been recorded c.200m northwest of the proposal site (SMR 3099). Excavation has revealed scattered remains of early Neolithic pits containing assemblages of worked flint, and Beaker period pits (Jackson 1978). An assemblage of prehistoric flint has also been recorded close to the northern boundary of the site (SMR 3090).

#### 4.1.2 *Iron Age (600BC-AD43)*

The higher ground on the south side of the river valley was settled during the Iron Age and a number of sites of this period have been recorded in the area surrounding the proposal site. An important Iron Age settlement has been recorded close to the northern boundary of the proposal site (SMR 3097/2; Jackson & Ambrose 1978, fig. 4), comprising enclosures and traces of circular buildings. The settlement may have been extensive as further enclosure ditches, structures and pits of this period have been recorded 500m to the southwest, just beyond the west boundary of the proposal site (Jackson 1981).



**Figure 3:** Archaeological Sites in the Northamptonshire Sites and Monuments Record with the extent of the proposal site outlined in red.

#### 4.1.3 Roman (AD43-c.450)

The Iron Age settlements continued to be occupied during the Roman period and the landscape developed during the early first millennium AD. The Iron Age settlement beyond the north side of the site expanded during the Roman period (Jackson & Ambrose 1978, fig. 5) when a new enclosure containing a pottery kiln and a barn was constructed on the south side of the Iron Age enclosure.

Roman occupation continued west from the latter site and a substantial masonry building was recorded c.500m to the west, during quarrying operations (Jackson 1981, fig. 8). It comprised a rectangular structure of two phases and was associated with further enclosure ditches and furnaces.

The SMR includes a number of references to iron smelting furnaces. These were generally recorded during quarrying operations on the west side of the proposal site (e.g. SMR 3097/2/2, 3097/2/3, 3097/2/4, 3097/2/5). Although undated, some may be dated to the Iron Age and Roman periods. Roman period settlements of the type recorded at Wakerley have been found at a number of other locations in the Welland valley, and Branigan has emphasised the significance of ironsmelting and pottery production to the economy of the area (Branigan 1987, 132-4).

#### 4.1.4 Saxon (c.450-1066)

The Wakerley area was occupied during the Saxon period. Settlement of this period in the area is difficult to identify, but the present village of Wakerley may have originated during this period. The place name Wakerley may be derived from 'wacor' meaning 'watchful' (over the Welland?) and 'leah' meaning 'valley' i.e. 'watchful due to its location above the valley' (Gover *et al* 1975). The original village may have been situated on the east side of the existing settlement, close to the later parish church (RCHM 1984, 151).

A Saxon cemetery was excavated in 1968 in advance of quarrying c.300m northwest of the proposal site (SMR 3097/1). Seventy two east to west aligned graves and a possible cremation were recorded. A variety of grave goods were recorded, including brooches, textiles, drinking horns and a variety of ceramic artefacts (Adams & Jackson 1989). The settlement associated with this cemetery has not been located.

#### 4.1.5 Medieval and post-medieval (1066-1900)

Wakerley is included in the Domesday survey (1086), where it is referred to as *Wacherlei*. The land was held by *Eudo son of Hubert* and was valued at 100 shillings (Morris 1979).

The village probably expanded during the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries and the parish church of St John the Baptist was probably constructed during this period (Pevsner and Cherry 1973, 440). The medieval and later manor house was situated to the north of the church (RCHM 1984, fig. 193; Steane 1974, 207)

and a stone bridge was constructed over the river during the medieval period (Pevsner and Cherry 1973, 440).

The manor of Wakerley was granted to *William de Lanvalley*, whose daughter married *John de Burgh* Earl of Kent. John de Burgh obtained a licence to enclose and convert the wood at Wakerley into a park and deer leap (Bridges 1791, 344) and parts of this park may survive as the present *Wakerley Great Wood*.

The lordship of Wakerley passed to *John de la Warre* in 1316 but reverted to the crown in 1427 (*ibid*). Henry VIII sold the manor in 1539 to Richard Cecil, the son of Lord Thomas Burghley. Cecil was made Earl of Exeter by James I (*ibid*) and the estate remains in the ownership of the Burghley family.

An Act of Parliament was passed in 1749, allowing the enclosure of the parish (Rhodes 1994, 24) and it is likely that the field boundaries and hedgerows currently in existence to the north of the proposed development area were laid out as a result of the enclosure. The area is shown on Eyre and Jeffries map of Northamptonshire published in 1791 (Fig. 4). This shows that the land comprised a mixture of woodland and open ground and was held by Hon. John Monckton.

The first edition 6 inch Ordnance Survey map was published during the 1880s and shows the site and the surrounding area in considerable detail (Fig. 5). The higher land at the top of the river valley largely comprised the parkland of Long Wood and Wakerley Great Wood. A number of clearings are present within the woodland, which may have been created during the late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, perhaps as part of the enclosure of the parish. The present (2003) northeast boundary of Long Wood had been established by the 1880s. The area to the north of the site comprised open land, divided up into arable fields. The field boundaries largely follow their present layout and comprise rectangular or square plots, created as a result of 18<sup>th</sup> century enclosure of the area.

#### 4.1.6 *Modern (1900-present)*

Few changes were made to the landscape during the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the layout of the area in 1901 is shown on the Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 6). The woodland to the south of the proposal site was largely unchanged since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century but minor modifications had been made to the field boundaries to the north of the proposal site. The situation in the areas adjacent area remained unchanged in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and is shown on the 1911 edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 7).

The quarrying of ironstone has probably taken place in the Wakerley area since the Iron Age (section 1.4.2), but the area was worked on a large scale during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The early 20<sup>th</sup> century workings are shown on the 1950 edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 8) and were located in the lower part of the river valley, to the south and west of the proposal site.

The area to the west of the proposal site changed radically in 1943 when an airfield was constructed (Smith 1998, 202-211: Plate 2). The airfield was officially known as Spanhoe and was used by the 315<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group of the American Ninth Air Force. Three separate runways were constructed to the west of, and partially within the proposal site and the main buildings were situated east of the minor road between Harringworth and Laxton, *c.*1km west of the site. The airfield remained in use until 1947 and a number of buildings and a stretch of one of the runways survive to the west of the proposal site. The airfield is not shown on the 1950 edition Ordnance Survey map (Fig 8) as the map was not a complete revision and reflected the pre-war landscape of the area. It is also possible that the area may still have been considered militarily sensitive.

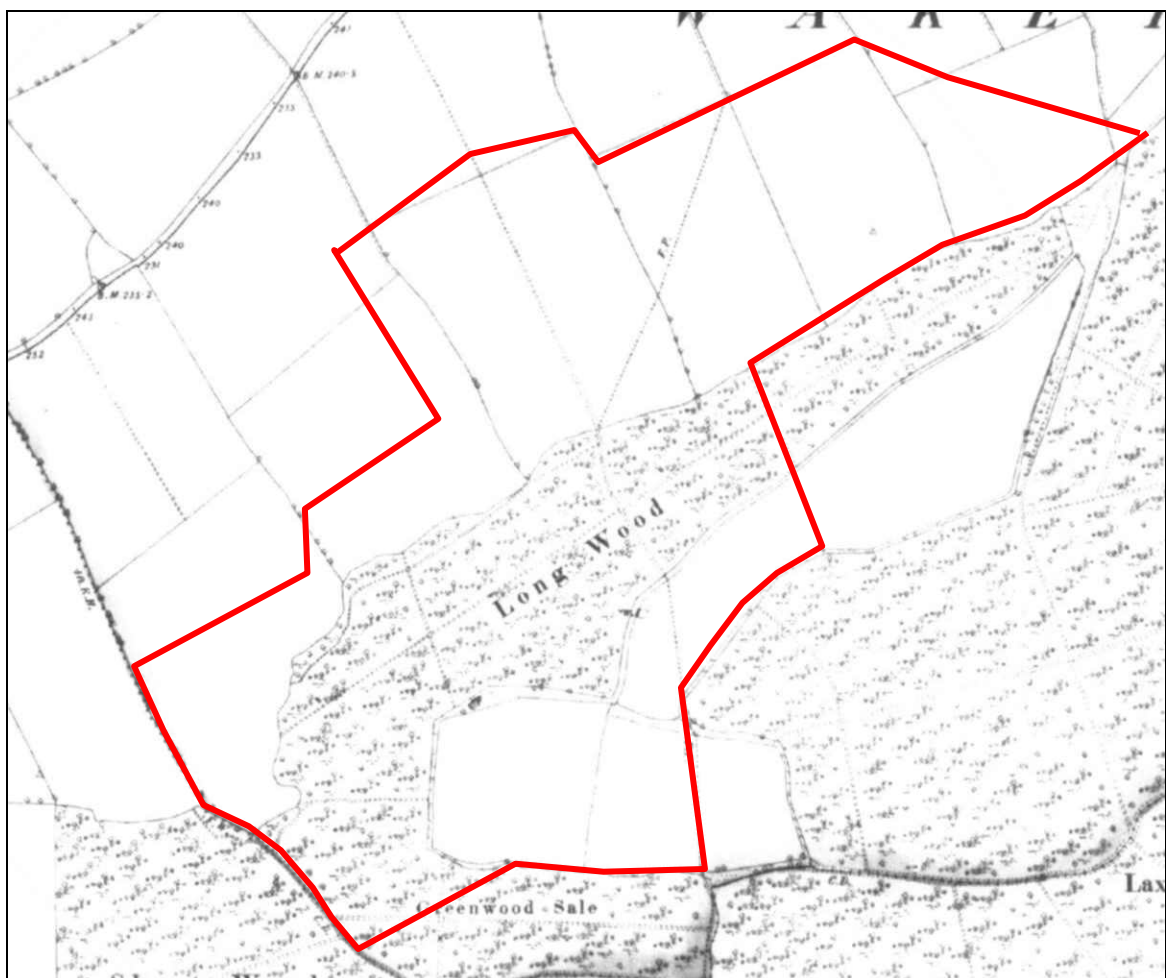
The construction of the airfield had a considerable impact on the landscape and this is illustrated on the next edition of the Ordnance Survey map, produced during the 1950s (Fig. 9). The airfield was disused by this time and individual features within the airfield are not shown but the airfield site is shown as a featureless open area. Construction of the runways had necessitated the removal of much of Long Wood and Short Wood and the field boundaries on the north side of the woods had been moved to the north to accommodate the perimeter road.

The area probably remained as open land during the 1950s and early 1960s and may partially have reverted to agricultural use. The area to the west of the proposal site underwent a radical transformation during the 1960s and 1970s when it was quarried for ironstone (Plate 2). The importance of ironstone quarrying and smelting was referred to above (section 4.1.3) and a large area of land to the south of the Harringworth to Wakerley road was given over to quarrying. Many of the archaeological sites referred to above (*e.g.* Jackson & Ambrose 1978; Jackson 1981, etc) were discovered as a result of the quarrying operation which are likely to have destroyed all archaeological remains from the footprint of the quarry.

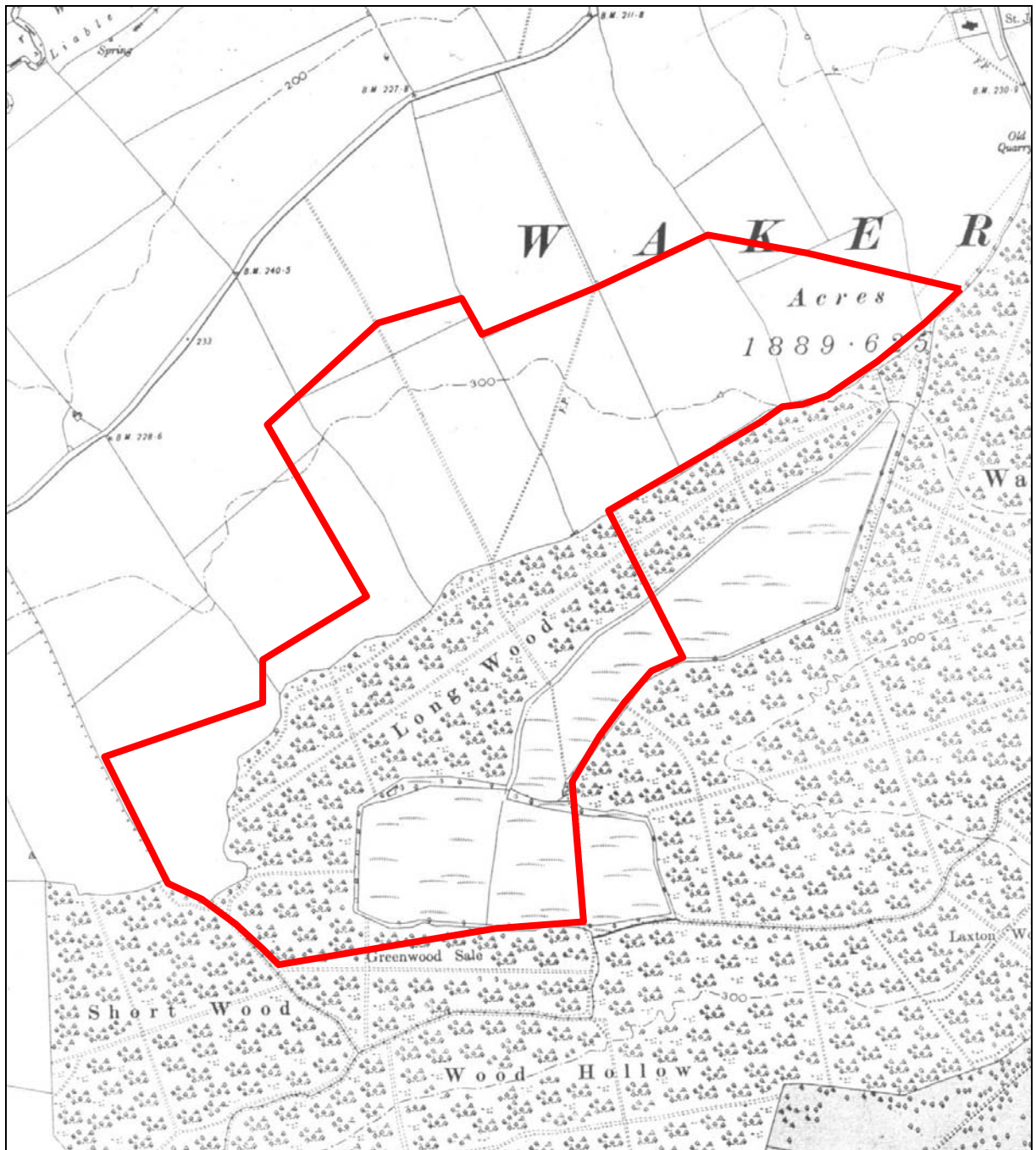
The present layout of the landscape around the proposal site is shown in Figure 2 and at the time of writing (2003) the quarry site is in disused condition. The land south of the Harringworth to Wakerley road comprises arable fields while the area to the south of the proposal site still largely comprises woodland.



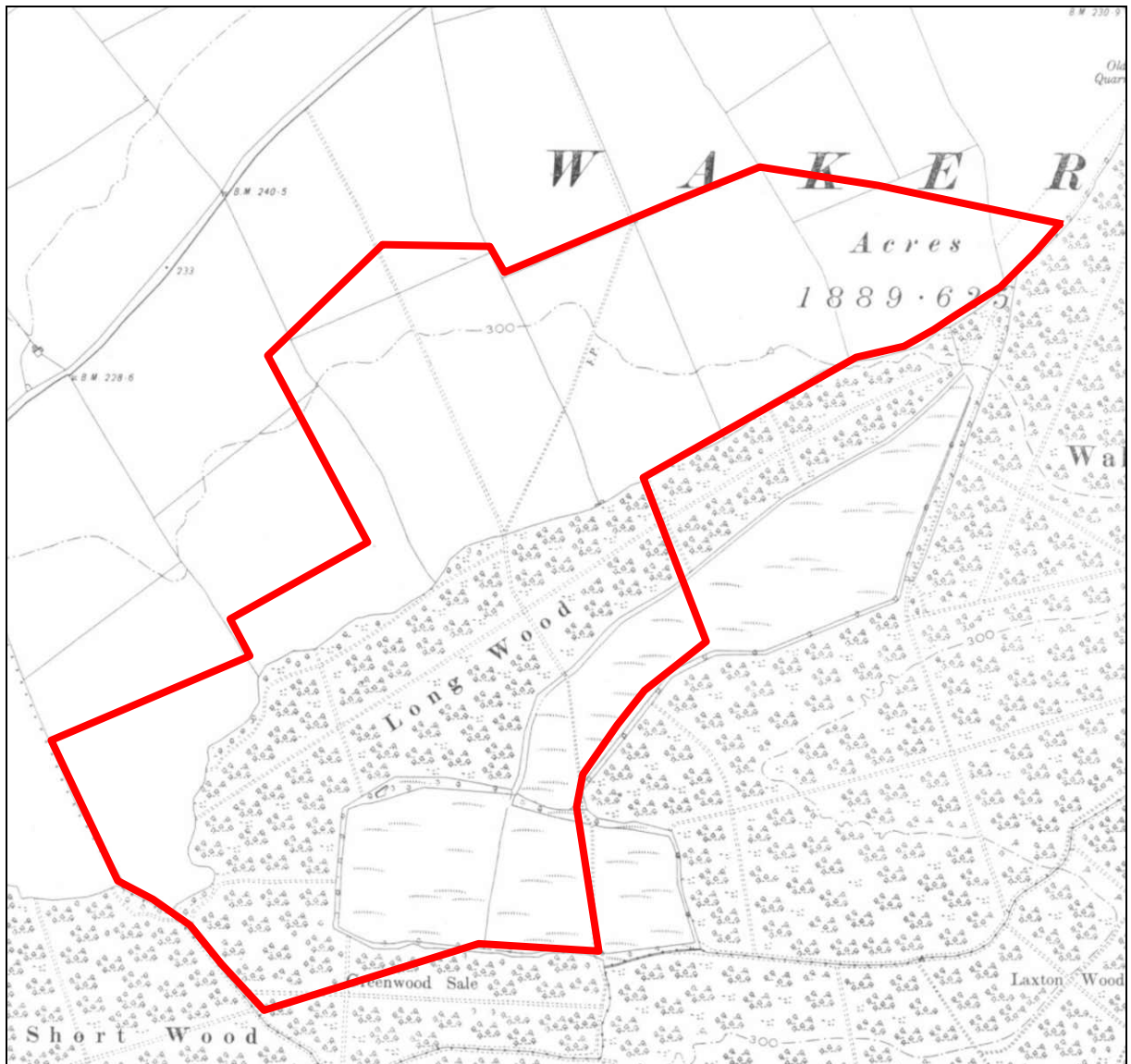
**Figure 4:** Extract from Eyre and Jeffries map (1791)



**Figure 5:** Extract from the first edition six inch Ordnance Survey map (1880s)

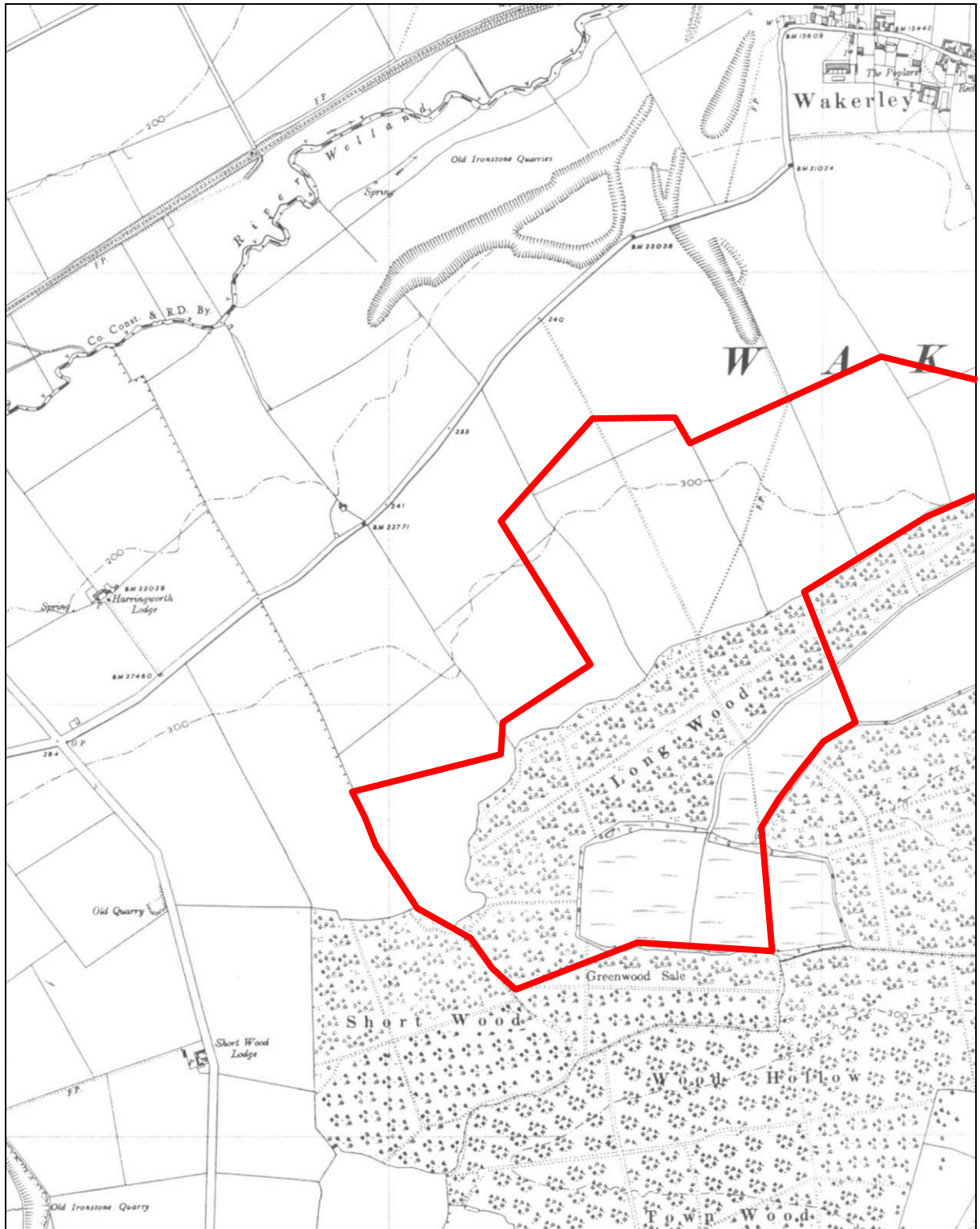


**Figure 6:** Extract from the 1901 edition Ordnance Survey map (scale=1:10,560)



**Figure 7:** Extract from the 1911 edition Ordnance Survey map (scale=1:10,560)





**Figure 8:** Extract from the 1950 edition Ordnance Survey map (*not to scale*)

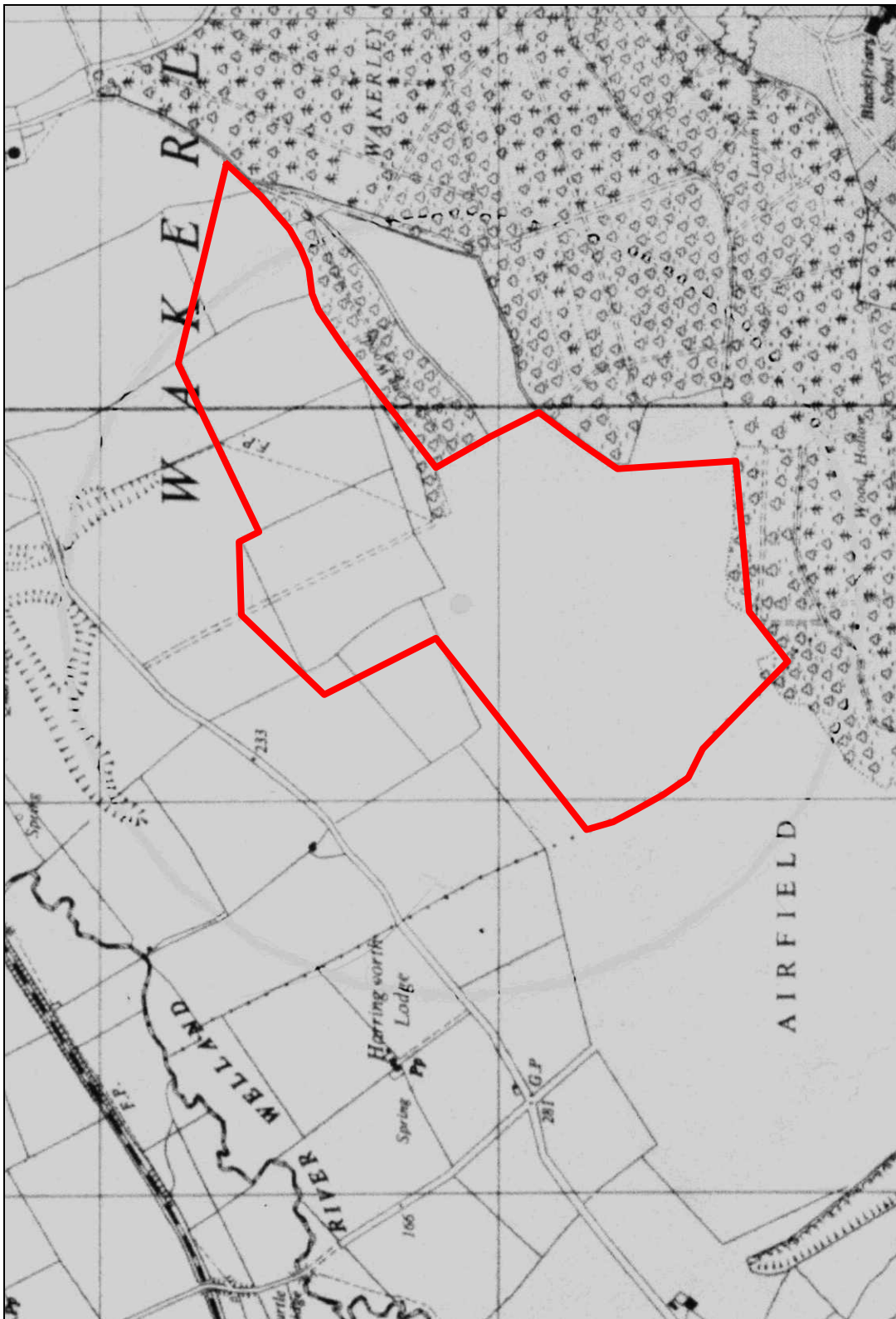


Figure 9: Extract from the 1950s Ordnance Survey map (scale 1:10,560)



**Plate 2:** Aerial photograph of the west part of the proposal site in 1974 with Spanhoe Airfield in the background and quarrying in the foreground  
*(Courtesy Northamptonshire County Council)*

## 4.2 *The Known Archaeology and History of the Site*

### 4.2.1 *Early-prehistoric (Palaeolithic- Bronze Age) (before 600BC)*

No prehistoric remains are known within the proposal site but a fieldwalking survey (SMR 3090) has produced prehistoric flints from an area adjacent to the northern edge of the site (section 4.1.1).

### 4.2.2 *Iron Age and Roman (600BC-c.AD450)*

Iron Age and Roman activity is not currently known from the proposal site. However a number of sites of this period are situated in close proximity to the northwest boundary of the area (SMR 3091, SMR 3097). It is likely that these sites may be more extensive than currently known and may extend eastwards into the proposal site.

### 4.2.3 *Saxon and medieval (c.450-1500)*

No Saxon or medieval remains have been identified within the proposal site and the area probably comprised the common lands of the parishes of Wakerley and Laxton. The northern extent of Long Wood and Wakerley Great Wood during these periods is not known. It is possible that the woodland may have been more extensive than at present and may have extended into the proposal site.

### 4.2.4 *Post-Medieval (1500-1900)*

The proposal site largely comprised open land during the post-medieval period and is shown on Eyre and Jeffries map (1791; Figure 4). The map illustrates the northern part of the site as open land and does not show the individual land parcels created as a result of the enclosure of the land earlier in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Part of the southwest side of the site is shown as woodland.

The layout of the proposal site during the later 19<sup>th</sup> century and first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century is shown on successive editions of the Ordnance Survey maps (Figs. 6, 7 and 8). These show the arrangement of the arable fields in the northern part of the site and woodland towards the south. The area underwent very few changes during this period and the landscape established as a result of the 18<sup>th</sup> century enclosure remained until the construction of the airfield in 1943.

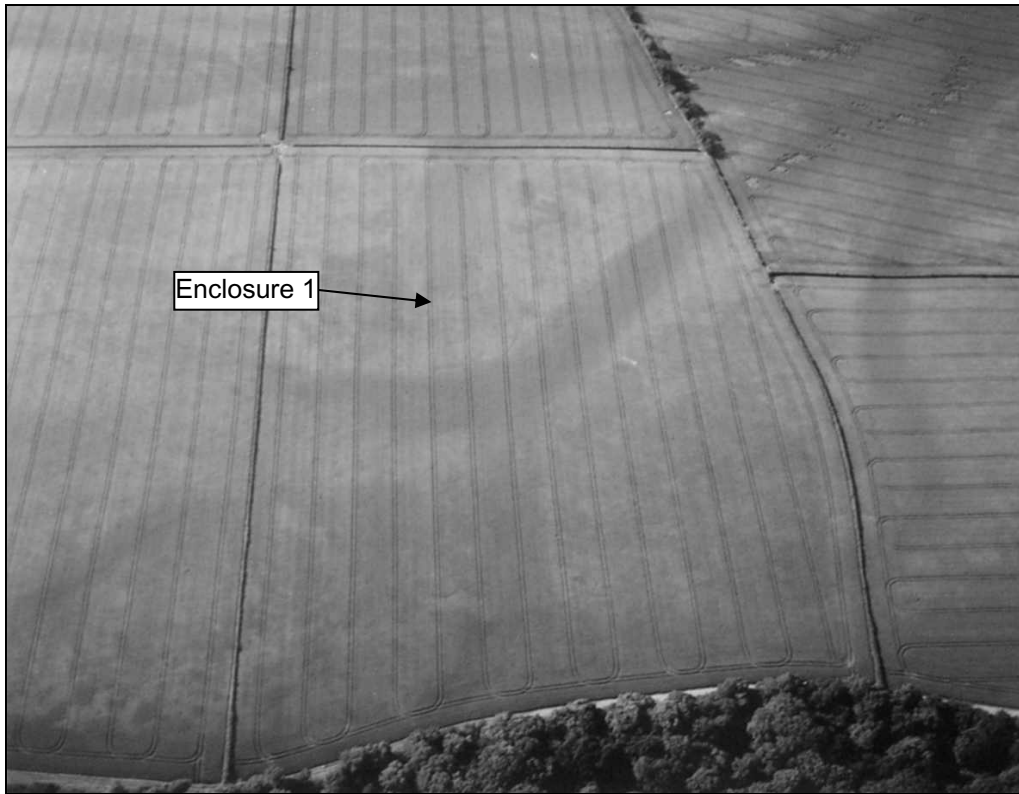
### 4.2.5 *Modern (1900-present)*

The land on the west side of the proposal site was incorporated into Spanhoe Airfield in 1943 (section 4.1.6: Plate 2). The development of part of the perimeter road resulted in the removal of the west part of Long Wood and the east end of the main east to west runway was laid out in the west side of the area (Rhodes 1994). Two red brick constructed structures at the south end of the track leading from the Harringworth to Wakerley road were also probably constructed during the 1940s (section 5.2.3).

At the time of the walkover survey (October 2003) the proposal site once again largely comprised arable fields, with minor areas of woodland comprising truncated parts of Long Wood.

#### 4.2.6 *Undated*

Survey work and aerial photography have revealed the presence of two archaeological sites in the east part of the proposal site (SMR 5930). Two groups of cropmarks are present (Enclosures 1 and 2), which are interpreted as ditches of enclosures (Plates 1 and 2). This part of the site has been subject to a field survey but it was not possible to assign a date to the sites.



**Plate 3:** Aerial photograph showing Enclosure 1



**Plate 4:** Aerial photograph showing Enclosure 2

## 5 The Walk-Over Survey

As part of the desk-based assessment a preliminary walk-over survey of the site was undertaken on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2003.

### 5.1 *Aims of the Walk-Over Survey*

The walk-over survey had the following aims

- To examine any areas of archaeological potential identified during research for the assessment, in particular with a view to gauging the possible survival or condition of any remains present.
- To consider the significance of any above-ground structures, historic buildings or historic landscape features present.
- To assess the present site use and ground conditions, with a view to the appropriate deployment of fieldwork techniques, if required by the CAO.

### 5.2 *Results of the Walk-Over Survey*

- 5.2.1 Access to the proposal site is from the north, along a road/track leading from the Harringworth to Wakerley road (Plate 5). The track is surfaced with tarmac and concrete which is in poor condition. Pedestrian access from the west may be available along the former perimeter road of the airfield, which also provides access to the northwest part of the area. Access to the east end is via a rough track from the northern access road.
- 5.2.2 The proposal site largely comprises arable fields (Plates 6 & 7). A number of areas of rough grass are present, notably at the south end, adjacent to Short Wood (Plate 8) and at the east end, adjacent to Long Wood (Plate 9).
- 5.2.3 Two redbrick buildings are situated adjacent to the southern end of the access road which are probably Word War II structures, associated with the former airfield. A square building, now partially concealed by trees (Plate 9) is interpreted as a pillbox and a part of a larger structure currently used for storing sugarbeet (Plate 10) is present immediately to the west.
- 5.2.4 Parts of the former perimeter road and runway of the airfield survive in the west of the proposal site (Plates 5, 11 and 12). The perimeter roads are surfaced with concrete and at a number of locations provide hard standing for haystacks and farm machinery. A portacabin used by model aeroplane enthusiasts is situated on the south side of the runway. A narrow strip of land immediately to the west, has been grassed over and extending to the west side of the proposal area is used as the club runway (Plate 12).



**Plate 5:** View looking south along the access road



**Plate 6:** View of arable fields on the north side of the proposal site



**Plate 7:** View looking west from the east end of the former airfield





**Plate 8:** View of the south west end of the site. Short Wood is visible at left centre



**Plate 9:** View of grassland at the east of the site. Pillbox in woodland in the background



**Plate 10:** Internal view of World War II (?) structure



**Plate 11:** View of the west end of the site showing the former quarry (background) and runway (foreground)



**Plate 12:** View from the west end of the proposal site, showing part of the former runway. The area used by the model aeroplane club visible to the right

### 5.3 *The Hedgerows*

A number of hedgerows cross the proposal site. The north part of the site is divided into a regular series of land parcels characterised by linear hedges and boundaries typical of 18<sup>th</sup> century parliamentary enclosure. The majority of the hedges in this area are straight and probably date to the 18<sup>th</sup> century or later but two (A and B on Plan 3) are sinuous and may have earlier origins. These hedges have been removed where they cross the proposal site, but are extant further to the north. The north boundary of Long Wood may predate the 18<sup>th</sup> century enclosures and the enclosure boundaries respect the north side of the wood.

Elsewhere in the proposal area the pattern of land divisions was extensively disturbed during the laying out of the airfield and the remaining hedgerows and boundaries are likely to date to the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century.

A more detailed study of the hedgerows is required as part of a wider *environmental impact assessment*.

## 6 Constraints on Development

6.1 A variety of planning constraints are in place in the area. These constraints relate both to the area as a whole and to the proposal site. These constraints are taken into consideration when assessing the implications of planning and other proposals made to the local authority and other local and national bodies.

### 6.2 *Scheduled Ancient Monuments*

No scheduled monuments are situated within the proposal site or in the immediately surrounding area.

### 6.3 *Listed Buildings*

Listed buildings are not present within the proposal area.

Two red brick structures are present in the east part of the site. These were probably defensive buildings constructed during World War II and may have comprised part of Spanhoe Airfield. 20<sup>th</sup> century defensive structures are now recognised as being worthy of study (Lowry (ed) 1996) and appropriate measures should be put forward for the management of these structures when advancing proposals for the development of the area.

### 6.4 *Archaeological Sites and Monuments*

A number of archaeological sites and monuments are known within the proposal area (Fig. 3). The SMR lists two separate areas (3091 and 5930) and in addition, two sites have been identified as cropmarks in the east part of the proposal area (section 4.2.6). In addition a number of sites (*e.g.* 3097) have been identified very close to the boundary of the proposal area (Fig. 3) and may continue into the proposal area. Sites such as these are not subject to statutory protection and the document PPG16 *Archaeology and Planning* provides the planning framework for the management of sites of this type.

### 6.5 *Monuments Protection Programme (MPP)*

Archaeological sites and monuments in Northamptonshire are currently being assessed by English Heritage as part of the *Monuments Protection Programme (MPP)*. The Iron Age and Romano-British iron production sites (SMR 3097), which are close to the proposal site have been provisionally shortlisted for protection under the MPP.

## 7 Conclusions

- 7.1 The desk-based assessment has revealed that a number of archaeological sites are situated in the proposal site and a number are also known in the surrounding area (Figure 3). This area of Wakerley was of importance during the Iron Age and Romano-British periods and was extensively exploited for the mining and smelting of ironstone. Further undiscovered sites may exist across the proposal area. Such remains are likely to be disturbed or destroyed as a result of any mineral extraction.
- 7.2 Archaeological sites have been identified in the east part of the proposal site. These have been identified through aerial photography and field survey and may date to the Iron Age and Romano-British periods. Upstanding earthworks are not present and the sites are likely to comprise negative features (buried ditches, etc.) and possibly structures associated with iron smelting. A concentration of sites has also been recorded close to the northwest side of the proposal area (SMR 3097, 3098, etc), which may continue into the proposal area.
- 7.3 The west side of the proposal area comprises part of the site of the former Spanhoe Airfield, which was constructed in 1943/4. The major airfield buildings were situated to the west of the proposal site but a large part of one of the runways and also the perimeter road were situated in the west part of the proposal site. Two brick built buildings, which may date to this period are situated close to Long Wood. World War II sites and structures of these types are considered to be of historical and archaeological significance and should be treated as part of the archaeological record.
- 7.4 The layout of the landscape probably dates from the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century when the parish of Wakerley was enclosed. The north part of the site, which was not incorporated into the airfield, is characterised by linear hedges and field boundaries and hedges, typical of 18<sup>th</sup> century parliamentary enclosure. Two exhibit definite bends and may have an earlier origin. The north boundary of Long Wood may be a longer established land division but the boundaries in the south and west part of the site are largely modern, and laid out as a result of the development of the airfield during the 1940s. A more detailed study of the hedgerows is required as part of a wider *environmental impact assessment*.
- 7.5 *Archaeological Potential of the Site*
- It is likely that a number of archaeological sites are present within the proposal site and the area is considered to offer *high archaeological potential*.
- 7.5.1 Four archaeological sites have been identified in the east part of the proposal site. The full extent, nature and surviving condition of these sites is not known and will require further assessment. The area currently comprises arable fields and has been subject to ploughing but the area is considered to offer *high archaeological potential*.
- 7.5.2 The west side of the site comprises the area of the former airfield. Archaeological sites are not currently known in this area, but a number are known immediately to the north which may continue into this part of the proposal site. The extent of disturbance caused during the construction of the

airfield is not known but ground reduction operations during the laying out of the runway and perimeter roads may have caused disturbance to any archaeological remains present. Archaeological sites excavated prior to quarrying operations west of the proposal site survived beneath the airfield indicating and consequently the west side of the proposal site is also considered to offer *high archaeological potential*.

- 7.6 The framework for the management of archaeological issues in the planning system is provided in the document PPG16 *Archaeology and Planning*. Decisions relating to archaeological matters within this area of Northamptonshire are taken on behalf of the local authority by the Planning Archaeologist of *Northamptonshire County Council*.

## **8 Acknowledgements**

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Historical research for the assessment was undertaken for *ASC Ltd* by Sallianne Willcox BA MA AIFA and David Fell BA MA MIFA. The walkover survey was undertaken by David Fell. The report was prepared by David Fell and edited by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

## 9 Sites and Monuments Data

Sites listed below are those within the study area, *i.e.* the site and an additional radius of *c.*250m.

CAS No	NGR	Period	Type	Description
3072	SP 94309720	None given	Event	Survey 1982
3072/0	SP 94309720	None given	Event	Survey 1982
3072/0/0	SP 94309720	Unassigned	Event	Soilmark. Possible linear ditch
3089	SP 94449880	None given	Event	Survey
3089/0	SP 94449880	None given	Event	Survey
3089/0/0	SP 94449880	Roman?	Event	Field walking survey; Roman pottery sherds
3090	SP 94719864	None given	Event	Survey
3090/0	SP 94719864	None given	Event	Survey
3090/0/0	SP 94719864	Prehistoric	Event	Field walking survey 1982; prehistoric flints
3091	SP 94489825	None given	Event	Survey
3091/0	SP 94489825	None given	Event	Survey
3091/0/0	SP 94489825	125,000BC to 2,000AD	Event	Field walking survey 1982; slag
3092	SP 94109747	None given	Event	Survey
3092/0	SP 94109747	None given	Event	Survey
3092/0/0	SP 94109747	125,00BC to 2,000AD	Event	Field walking survey 1982; slag
3097	SP 94169818	Iron Age to early Saxon	Intervention	Excavated early Iron Age to early Saxon funerary site, industrial site and settlement
3097/1	SP 94109830	Saxon	Intervention	Excavated early Saxon cemetery
3097/1/1	SP 94109830	Saxon	Intervention	Excavated Saxon inhumations. See Northants Archaeology 1975 & RCHME 1982
3097/2	SP 94169818	Iron Age, Roman & Saxon	Intervention	Iron Age and Romano-British enclosed settlement with iron mining / production. Saxon burials, slag, shaft furnaces, hearths. See MPP Bloomery Iron Industry 1998, Britannia
3097/2/1	SP 941983	Iron Age & Roman	Intervention	Iron Age and Roman settlements. See Northants Archaeology 1973, 74, 75 & 76, Britannia 1973, 74, 75 & 78, CBA Group 9 1973, 74 & 75, BAR Series 1976, RCHME 1982
3097/2/2	SP 94139827	125,00BC to 2,000AD	Intervention	Iron smelting furnace. See Northants Archaeology 1981
3097/2/3	SP 94169820	125,00BC to 2,000AD	Intervention	Iron working site
3097/2/4	SP 94239808	125,00BC to 2,00AD	Intervention	Iron smelting furnace. See Northants Archaeology 1981
3097/2/5	SP 94099806	125,00BC to 2,00AD	Intervention	Iron smelting furnace. See Northants Archaeology 1971 & 81, RCHME 1975, Archaeological Excavations 1970.
3097/2/6	SP 94109830	Early Saxon	Intervention	Barn with associated Early Saxon skeletal remains
3098	SP 93909820	Saxon	Intervention	Funerary site
3098/1	SP 93909820	Saxon	Intervention	Cemetery
3098/1/1	SP 93909820	Saxon	Intervention	Excavated cemetery; Medieval archaeology 1969, 70 & 71, Northants Archaeology 1970, 71 & 78,



				Archaeological excavations 1970, RCHME 1975, Pot analysis unspecified
3099	SP 939982	Bronze Age	Intervention	Excavation 1970, Bronze Age settlement
3099/0/0	SP 93909820	Bronze Age	Intervention	Excavation 1970, Bronze Age pottery with plant remains
3099/0/1	SP 93909820	Late Neolithic/ Bronze Age	Intervention	Excavation 1970, Late Neolithic / early Bronze Age Beaker pottery
3104	SP 93759765	Iron Age	Intervention	Iron Age settlement
3104/0/2	SP 938977	Iron Age	Intervention	Iron Age pit with 48 pottery sherds; Northants Archaeology 1981
3104/0/3	SP 93909770	Unassigned	Intervention	Pits; Northants Archaeology 1981
5930	SP 95109850	Unassigned	Event	Survey
5930/0	SP 95109850	None given	Event	Survey
5930/0/1	SP 95109850	Unassigned	Event	Survey. Crop marks, possible ditch and geological feature

## 10 Bibliography

*The following references were consulted in the course of this assessment:*

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## 11 Cartographic Sources

*The following maps and plans were consulted during the course of this assessment:*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
1701	-	Eyres and Jeffries Map of Northamptonshire
1880	Northants VI SW	Ordnance Survey 6 inch map. County Series
1901	Northants VI SW	Ordnance Survey 6 inch map. County Series
1911	Northants VI SW	Ordnance Survey 6 inch map. County Series
1950	Northants VI SW	Ordnance Survey 6 inch map. County Series
c.1955	Northants VI SW	Ordnance Survey 6 inch map. County Series
1998	OS Explorer 224	Ordnance Survey Explorer Series 1:25,000 series Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough
2003	SP 948 980	Ordnance Survey Landplan

## 12 Aerial Photographs

*The following photographs were examined in the course of this assessment:*

<b>Identification</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Type (O/V)</b>
Nths SMR map 133	1974	O
NHC11918/11 9498/001	1990	O
NMR2493/01+3 9598/001	1984	O
NHC11918/10 9598/003	1990	O