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**A Heritage Statement
for
Land north of Dittons Farm,
Polegate,
East Sussex**

CBAS0488

by
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Summary

This Heritage Statement has been prepared for land north of Dittons Farm, Polegate, East Sussex.

The Heritage Statement has established that there is potential for archaeology from the Mesolithic period onwards to be present on the site. A Roman road probably runs along Dittons Road, on the north site of the site, and Roman settlement has been found to the north-west of the site. Dittons Farm originates in the 13th century, and there is a possibility of archaeological remains from the medieval and Post Medieval periods being present.

The map regression shows the site to have been an open field for at least 200 years, and there have been no recent impacts that would have damaged or removed the potential archaeological remains on the site.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd has been commissioned by Mr Amed M Elsherif to prepare this Heritage Statement for a site north of Dittons Farm, Polegate, East Sussex, in order to establish the likely presence and importance of any archaeological remains that may be affected by the proposed development.

- 1.2** The Site is a sub-rectangular plot located to the south of Dittons Road (the B2247) and to the east of Chaucer Business Park, on the eastern fringes of Polegate, centred at TQ 6030 0459 (Fig. 1). To its south the Site is bound by Dittons Farm, and to the east the Golden Jubilee Way (the A22) which runs north through Dittons Road to reach the A27. The north side of the Site fronts onto Dittons Road

- 1.3** The Site is situated on a west-east aligned ridge. It lies above 10m OD with the land gradually rising to the south to c.15m OD. To the south of the Site, the terrain slopes gently downhill to a northwest-southeast aligned finger of land that lies below 5m OD and is drained by ditches that feed into Shinewater Lake to the southeast. Running east along the ridge towards the A22, Dittons Road crosses land that peaks above 15m OD, after which it largely follows the contour line for 10m OD. The land to the north of the road falls to below 5m OD beyond the A27.

- 1.4** According to the British Geological Survey, the geology of the Site comprises mudstone of the Weald Clay Formation. Deposits of colluvium were encountered on the same geology to the north of Dittons Road during a recent evaluation at the Bluebells residential development.

- 1.5** The Site stands in an Archaeological Notification Area (ANA) that covers the supposed Pevensey to Arlington Roman road (Fig. 2). The ANA for the prehistoric wetlands and waterlogged sites of the Willingdon Levels commence to the immediate south of the Site. An ANA has been designated for a Late Iron Age / Early Roman farmstead located to the west of the Site, behind the houses that face the north side of Dittons Road. A fourth ANA in the Study Area lies to the northeast, over the possible site of a moated medieval manor house at Sharnfold Farm. There are no Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas or Listed Buildings designated within a 1km radius of the Site.

- 1.6** This report initially covers the objectives and scope of the survey, then discusses the methodology used in preparing the Heritage Statement, and then reviews the archaeological heritage of the area. Finally a conclusion assesses the potential impact of the development.

2. Objectives & Scope of this Heritage Statement

- 2.1** The objective of this report is to gain information about the known or potential archaeological resource of the site and its immediate area. This will include information relating to the presence or absence of any archaeology, its character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation, and the relative quality of the potential archaeological resource.
- 2.2** This will allow an assessment of the merit of the archaeology in context to be made, leading to the formulation of a strategy for the recording, preservation and management of the resource or, where necessary, the formulation of a strategy for further investigation where the character and value of the resource is not sufficiently defined to permit a mitigation strategy or other response to be defined.
- 2.3** The report will consider the archaeological resource within a radius of 1km around the site, whilst also taking into account sites further afield where these may be considered to have an impact or relevance to the site in its landscape setting.
- 2.4** It should be noted that this report can only take into account the existing known archaeology, and by its nature cannot provide a complete record of the archaeological resource of the site. Its intention is to provide an overview of the known archaeology in the area of the site, from which judgements can be made about the potential archaeological resource of the site itself.

3. Methodology

3.1 This Heritage Statement has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012), the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001), and the *Standards for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording and Post Excavation Work in East Sussex* (ESCC 2008).

3.2 The research for this Heritage Statement has included an analysis of the following resources:

- ESCC Historic Environment Record (HER 077/13)
- East Sussex Record Office (ESRO)
- Sussex Archaeological Society Library
- Defence of Britain database
- WIRG iron site database
- British Geological Survey
- Aerial Photograph search
- Personal & Public library resources

3.3 The following maps were used:

- Yeakell and Gardiner (1778-1783)
- Ordnance Survey surveyor's draft of 1813
- 1838 Westham Tithe map (ESRO TD/E084)
- 1st Edition OS Map (1874-5)
- 2nd Edition OS Map (1899)
- 3rd Edition OS Map (1909-10)
- 4th Edition OS Map (1928)
- Later OS Maps

Information gained from the map regression exercise is contained in the Post Medieval section below.

3.4 The Sites and Listed Buildings recorded on the HER are shown on Fig. 3, and other sources are mentioned in the text where relevant. Historical and other sources are given as footnotes as appropriate.

4. Archaeological & Historical Background

4.0.1 This section considers each archaeological period in turn, reviewing the known archaeological resource of the area, defining its location and extent, character, date, integrity, state of preservation, and quality.

4.0.2 The review of each period will also bring in evidence for that period from a wider area, especially where there is little known archaeological evidence locally. This will enable a more accurate judgement to be made about the archaeological potential for the site. This evidence will include that taken from similar landscapes and geologies.

4.1 *Palaeolithic Period (750,000BC – 10,000BC)*

4.1.1 This period covers a huge expanse of time, during which early hominid occupation of Southern Britain was intermittent. The period is divided into warm and cold periods, with the evidence suggesting that hominid occupation occurred during some of the warm periods. Apart from a small number of exceptional sites (e.g. Boxgrove), most of the evidence for human activity in this period comes from isolated finds of stone tools, often in secondary deposits.

4.1.2 No Palaeolithic flintwork has been recovered from the Site or wider Study Area. Most local finds of Palaeolithic flintwork come from Beachy Head, East Dean, Friston, Exceat and Alfriston on the Sussex Downs, with two findspots having been found further up the Cuckmere valley at Arlington¹.

4.1.4 The likely impact of in-situ Palaeolithic archaeology being present on the site is considered to be low.

4.2 *Mesolithic Period (10,000BC – 4,000BC)*

4.2.1 The start of the Mesolithic period sees Britain largely covered by pine and birch woodland, which was gradually replaced by a mixed deciduous woodland that provided an ideal environment for the bands of hunter-gatherers who were exploiting the resources on a seasonal basis². The Levels were sited above sea level during the Mesolithic period. Lying at a height of over 10m OD, the Site would have been situated on the narrow neck of a promontory that jutted east into the Levels.

¹ Wymer, J. 1999. *The Lower Palaeolithic Occupation of Britain, Vol.1*. Wessex Archaeology and English Heritage.

² Holgate, R. 2003 'Late Glacial and Post-glacial Hunter-gatherers in Sussex', in Rudling, D. (Ed) *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*, Kings Lynn, Heritage Marketing & Publications Ltd, 29-38.

- 4.2.2 Monitoring of groundworks for the A22 (EES9625) unearthed a Mesolithic core from the borrow pit and small flood relief lake to the south of the Site and two Mesolithic cores and a possible Mesolithic / Early Neolithic scraper from the road cutting to the east³.
- 4.2.3 During excavations at the Bluebells residential development site behind Dittons Road, a background scatter of residual flintwork was found suggesting that tool manufacture and / or maintenance occurred at the site in the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods⁴. Slightly further to the west, the HER records a low level scatter of Mesolithic / Neolithic worked flint (MES20475) as having been discovered from unstratified contexts at the site of the pipeline replacement scheme.
- 4.2.4 Further onto the promontory itself, outside the Study Area, Mesolithic flintwork has been recovered from Hankham (e.g. MES5042 and MES5051) and between Westham and Pevensey⁵. These findspots are amongst a number sited along the edges of the Levels where peat encroachment stopped at the 5m contour line in the Bronze Age. The distribution of these finds may indicate that the Levels provided an ideal landscape for hunting and fishing throughout the Mesolithic period⁶.
- 4.2.5 Low level Mesolithic activity appears to have taken place along the approach route onto the promontory overlooking the Levels. Therefore, there is a medium possibility that a scatter of Mesolithic flintwork will be produced at the Site.

4.3 *Neolithic Period (4,000BC to 2,500BC)*

- 4.3.1 A number of changes occurred during the Neolithic, some of which may have had an impact on the local area. Environmental evidence suggests that some woodland was being cleared, and small-scale agricultural activities are likely to have started. However, the scatters of Neolithic flintwork and the individual finds of Neolithic axes⁷ suggest that hunting and fishing probably continued in and around the Levels, where the marshy landscape remained largely unchanged from the preceding Mesolithic period.
- 4.3.2 Other changes in the earlier part of the Neolithic period include the construction of large-scale monuments. The closest such site is the causewayed enclosure located at Combe Hill

³ Greatorrex, C. 1996. *An Archaeological Watching Brief maintained during groundworks associated with the A22 New Route (Contract 2) near Eastbourne, East Sussex*. ASE Report No. 412.

⁴ Stevens, S. 2011. *A Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design of Archaeological Excavations at The Bluebells Development, Dittons Road, Polegate, East Sussex*. ASE Report No. 2011101.

⁵ Burton, C.E.C-H. 1940. 'Mesolithic and Bronze Age Flints at Westham, Pevensey', *SN&Q* **8**, 43-44.

⁶ Butler, C. 2002. 'A Mesolithic site and later finds at Magham Down, near Hailsham, East Sussex', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **140**, 139-144.

⁷ Ibid.

on the South Downs above Willingdon. It would have looked out across the Levels and may have exerted an influence over this area⁸.

- 4.3.3 Within the Study Area, a possible Mesolithic / Early Neolithic scraper and a Late Neolithic arrowhead were recovered during the A22 watching brief (EES9625) of Areas B and C to the east and south of the Site. The fieldwork at the Bluebells residential development site yielded a small Neolithic core and several retouched Mesolithic / Neolithic tools. The flint assemblage from the A27 Polegate Bypass is more likely to date to the Bronze Age than the Later Neolithic period⁹.
- 4.3.4 The likelihood of finding Neolithic artefacts at the Site is considered to be low to medium on considering its location on the neck of the promontory within the exploited Levels.

4.4 *The Bronze Age (2500BC to 800BC)*

- 4.4.1 The Bronze Age saw continued clearance of the woodland in the adjacent Weald and Downland landscapes, although there is little to suggest complete clearance or widespread agriculture. The evidence implies that the Levels continued to be used for hunting and fishing, even though the peat had begun to accumulate during this period¹⁰, perhaps allowing greater access into the area.
- 4.4.2 During groundworks for the A22 (EES9625)¹¹, eight sherds of unstratified Bronze Age pottery were recovered from the borrow pit to the south of the Site. Further to the south, two Bronze Age timber trackways (MES15464 and MES15465) were discovered within the Willingdon Peat, along with a group of four vertical timbers (MES15466), during the construction of the small flood relief lake. One trackway (MES15464) ran broadly southwest to northeast for 100m whilst the other trackway (MES15465) ran to the east of it, in the opposite direction, for 46m. The longer surviving trackway appears to have led across a narrow finger of marshland towards the Site, whilst the other trackway looks to have run alongside the marshland.
- 4.4.3 Other Bronze Age trackways have been found in the wider area and include the Shinewater (MES7375) example located to the southeast of the Study Area. These trackways form an intricate communication network that presumably kept dispersed Bronze Age communities in contact with one another.

⁸ Oswald et al. 2001. *The Creation of Monuments*. Swindon: English Heritage.

⁹ Greatorex, C. 1996. *An Archaeological Watching Brief maintained during groundworks associated with the A22 New Route (Contract 2) near Eastbourne, East Sussex*. ASE Report No. 412.

¹⁰ Woodcock, A. 2003. 'The Archaeological implications of Coastal Change in Sussex', in Rudling, D. (Ed) *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*. Heritage Marketing and Publications Ltd.

¹¹ Greatorex, C. 1996. *An Archaeological Watching Brief maintained during groundworks associated with the A22 New Route (Contract 2) near Eastbourne, East Sussex*. ASE Report No. 412.

4.4.4 No Bronze Age remains were exposed at the Bluebells residential development site across the road from the Site¹². Nonetheless, the Bronze Age pottery from the borrow pit may imply that some degree of farming took place on the top of the ridge, as the sherds may have moved downslope from the land above. Therefore, there is a low to medium possibility that Bronze Age features associated with farming may be found at the Site in the form of field boundary ditches, drainage channels and negative lynchets, for instance.

4.5 *The Iron Age (800BC to 43AD)*

4.5.1 The Willingdon Levels were formed in the Iron Age / Roman periods when this former lowland was flooded and then buried in alluvial deposits¹³. This flooding may have led to a decrease in activity in the area or more probably a retreat to higher ground.

4.5.2 One major feature of the Iron Age is the hillfort, of which 25 are known from Sussex. Many of these appear to have originated in the Late Bronze Age, with some having become important centres of control and redistribution in the Middle and Late Iron Age. It seems unlikely that the sphere of influence of any hillfort extended to the Levels.

4.5.3 Excavations carried out at the Bluebells residential development site exposed a complex of ditches, gullies and post-holes representing the remains of a Late Iron Age / Early Roman farmstead occupied during the first and second centuries AD²⁶. No domestic structures were uncovered, as these possibly lay closer to Dittons Road, just to the south of the area excavated. The farmstead was enclosed and had an associated field system with droveways. Salt-working and typical domestic / agricultural activities, such as crop processing and smithing, were undertaken at the site or nearby.

4.5.4 There is no archaeological evidence to suggest that the land elsewhere on the ridge, within the Study Area, was parcelled into Iron Age field systems. For instance, no archaeological features whatsoever were unearthed from the east half of the Bluebells residential development site or the A22 road cutting and its associated borrow pit (EES9625). This absence of material may imply that the land to the east of the farmstead was open pasture at the time whilst that below it on the north side of the ridge was cultivated, having probably been more sheltered. With this in mind, there is a low to medium chance of encountering evidence for Iron Age activity at the Site.

¹² Stevens, S. 2011. *A Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design of Archaeological Excavations at The Bluebells Development, Dittons Road, Polegate, East Sussex*. ASE Report No. 2011101.

¹³ Greator, C. 2003. 'Living on the margins? The Late Bronze Age Landscape of the Willingdon Levels', in Rudling, D. (Ed) *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*. Kings Lynn: Heritage Marketing and Publications Ltd.

4.6 *The Roman Period (43AD to 410AD)*

- 4.6.1 The coastline in the Roman period was very different from today (Fig. 4). The sea breached inland to flood the Pevensey Levels, leaving a large irregular-shaped peninsula to jut eastwards into an expanse of open water. Access onto the peninsula would have passed close to the Late Iron Age / Early Roman farmstead to the north of Dittons Road. A series of Roman ditches (MES20472) were discovered on land to its west during fieldwork for the pipeline replacement scheme. These ditches are presumably an extension of the field system associated with the settlement.
- 4.6.2 The farmstead was probably abandoned in the later part of the second century AD²⁹, possibly one century before the Saxon Shore Fort at Pevensey (MES4712) was built on the very east tip of the peninsula. A sheltered port (ME16194S) was created to its north whilst a Roman settlement developed outside it at Westham.
- 4.6.3 A Roman road (MES4753) linked the fort with Polegate and Arlington. Margary suggested it passed via Mill Hill to reach Peelings Lane, along which it heads west to Stone Cross (Fig. 1). Margary lost the route again on approaching Dittons, just to the west of where the supposed Stone Cross to Jevington Roman road (MES5058) branches off to the south, and did not pick it up until the Old Polegate Station is reached. Margary's route of the Roman road from Polegate towards Selmeston is believed to be largely satisfactory, although recent excavations of a substantial Roman settlement at Arlington have straightened a prominent kink in the Roman road before it crossed the River Cuckmere. Excavation revealed the Roman road to be about 10m wide with a V-shaped ditch to either side.
- 4.6.4 Parts of the line of the Roman road from Arlington through to Pevensey are uncertain. Margary shows the road following the line of Peelings Lane, to follow the ridge, thus avoiding the estuary of the Mountney Level¹⁴, and says that traces of metalling have been found in the verges of the present narrow lane.
- 4.6.5 Immediately to the west of the Site archaeological monitoring was carried out at land adjoining Chaucer Business Park, Dittons Road, Polegate¹⁵. No trace of the Roman road was found, and it was suggested that rather than crossing the site, the Pevensey to Arlington Roman road may have instead followed Dittons Road, with the nearby Late Iron Age / Early Roman farmstead having been confined to its north side. This theory is substantiated by the results of fieldwork to the north and south of Dittons Road, at the Bluebells residential development site and the borrow pit (EES9625), as neither site exposed the remains of a Roman road.

¹⁴ Margary, I.D. 1948 *Roman Ways in the Weald*, Phoenix House.

¹⁵ Russell, C. 2013 Archaeological Monitoring at land adjoining Chaucer Business Park, Dittons Road, Polegate, East Sussex. CBAS0397

- 4.6.6 There is no indication that the fields of the nearby Late Iron Age / Early Roman farmstead were part of an extensive field system that extended onto the very top of the ridge and down the more exposed south-facing slope. There is medium potential for discovering Roman remains at the Site associated with roadside use or farming.

4.7 *The Saxon Period (410AD to 1066AD)*

- 4.7.1 The Saxon Shore Fort at Pevensey was attacked and captured by Aelle in 48537. This was a momentous event, enabling the Saxons to break free of Roman control. Aelle then went on to become the first King of the South Saxons. In the Domesday Book of 1086, it is recorded that Pevensey had 24 burgesses (or 'towns' people) in the King's lordship prior to the Conquest. They paid a toll charge and a port due, and also paid for tribute and pasture.
- 4.7.2 It is probable that the Pevensey to Arlington Roman road (MES4753) was used to serve the Saxon settlement at Pevensey. In which instance, the road would have had to be maintained to some degree. Excavations at the Bluebells residential development site uncovered a scatter of charcoal-rich pits dating to the Mid-Saxon period (c.650-c.800)³⁹. No structures were, however, found associated with the pits to indicate the presence of a settlement. The 'fold' element of Sharfold Farm to the northeast of the Site suggests that a livestock enclosure or pen existed in the area in Saxon times.
- 4.7.3 A small lead casket (MES4534), decorated with 10th century knot-work, was found in 1847 in a cutting for the Polegate to Eastbourne railway. Although described as having been found at Willingdon, the poor provenance of this possible cist would place it within the Study Area. The Willingdon area contains a number of Early Saxon cemetery sites, which implies the presence of a settlement in the locality at that time. Willingdon was a hundred meeting place in the Late Saxon period.
- 4.7.4 Although the road to Pevensey perhaps passed close to the Site, there is still a low likelihood that Saxon features will be present at the Site.

4.8 *The Medieval Period (1066AD to 1500AD)*

- 4.8.1 Dittons (MES21389) to the south of the Site is the site of a medieval and Post Medieval farm that can be referenced back to 1292. Whilst the farmhouse survives, the west side of the farmstead was demolished to make way for Dittons Business Park, which bounds the south-west side of the Site. It is highly probable that the Site was part of this farm from medieval times onwards.

- 4.8.2 Archaeological fieldwork for the Bluebells residential development uncovered no evidence of medieval occupation to the northwest of the Site, beyond Dittons Road. A few sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from earlier features, suggesting that the site was manured although no associated field system was recorded. However, a medieval field system with a trackway or droveway (MES21667) was found to the northwest of this site during the strip, map and sample exercise for the pipeline replacement scheme. It was dated to between 1150 and 1300 in one of the areas investigated.
- 4.8.3 A moated medieval manor house (MES5054) may have been sited at Sharnfold Farm, to the northeast of the Site beyond the A27. Its existence is given credence by a description of the land documented in 1556.
- 4.8.4 As documented by the Domesday Book for Willingdon Manor, for instance, salthouses were an important industry to those areas sited around the edges of the Levels, such as the southern parts of the Study Area.
- 4.8.5 On considering its location beside a medieval farmstead at Dittons, there is a medium prospect that medieval remains associated with farming will be found at the Site. The excavation of a late 12th to mid 14th century farmstead at Bramley Farm, sited to the immediate north of Polegate and west of the Study Area, revealed a range of medieval features, including enclosure ditches, pits and post-holes, which have the potential to also be uncovered at the Site.

4.9 *The Post Medieval Period (1500AD to the Present Day)*

- 4.9.1 A letter by Henry VIII⁴⁵, dated 12th July 1509, commissioned the excavation of sewers through various areas including ‘through the marsh of Wellyngdon and Moryngesmyll to Langneygotte, and thence to sea’. These sewers may have included the ditches that drain the land in the southern fringes of the Study Area.
- 4.9.2 Yeakell and Gardner’s map of 1778-1783 reveals that Polegate had yet to be established. Dittons Road is shown to lead east along the ridge to the turnpike at Stone Cross. A road / track is seen to run along the south slope of the ridge whilst the land in between it and Dittons Road has been parcelled into fields. Dittons (MES21389) is depicted on the map as a building set within an enclosure at the southwest corner of a narrow field. The Site appears to have located within the field immediately north of Dittons.
- 4.9.3 The Ordnance Survey surveyor’s draft of 1813 shows Dittons as comprising four buildings. In the Westham Tithe map of 1838¹⁶ (Fig. 5), the Site is located within an open area immediately north of Dittons Farm (Plot 110). To the west is an arable field called

¹⁶ ESRO TD/E 084

Ten Acres (Plot 111). Almost all the plots sited beside Dittons Road belonged to Dittons Farm which was owned by Lord Burlington and farmed by John Turner Filder; Plot 120 sited opposite the farm instead belonged to Lord Langford's farm of Peelings. Mixed farming was practiced at Dittons. Plot 112 beside Plot 111 was known as Kiln Field, which may be a reference to a brick kiln used to produce bricks for the construction of the Post Medieval farm. The lower road / track is labelled as a bridleway from Willington.

- 4.9.4 The London and Brighton Railway opened the Brighton to Hastings line via Lewes in 1846. It ran across the very south end of the Site. The lines to Hailsham and Eastbourne were opened a few years later, which began the growth of Polegate.
- 4.9.5 By the time of the 1st Edition OS map of 1874-1875 (Fig. 6), Dittons Farm had been enlarged. The site is now situated partly within a field immediately to the north of the farm, and partly within a second field on its east side. A small building may be situated on the southern boundary of the site, and there is a pond or quarry on the north edge of field adjacent to the road.
- 4.9.6 The 2nd Edition OS map of 1899 shows the field boundary between the two fields to have gone, as has the possible building. This situation then remains unchanged through to the mid 20th century. On the 3rd Edition OS map (1909-10) a tank is shown in the centre of the site, and is still there on the 4th Edition OS map (1928), at which time there is housing development along Dittons Road to the west of the site
- 4.9.7 A 1946 aerial photograph shows the field to be cultivated, whilst an aerial photograph of 1960 shows the quarry and tank still to be there. Apart from this the site is still an open field. The site does not appear to have been affected by the construction of the roundabout and Golden Jubilee Way in the 1990's (Fig. 7).

5 Conclusion

- 5.1** This Heritage Statement has shown that there is potential for possible Mesolithic activity at the site, but activity in other periods of prehistory is likely to be low. The presence of a Roman Road, probably following the line of the current Dittons Road, and nearby evidence for settlement to the north of the road, could suggest the possibility of Roman activity being found on the site, especially along the northern edge adjacent to the road.
- 5.2** Dittons Farm originates in the 13th century, and it is clear that the site, immediately to the north of the Farm, was part of and would have been associated with the farm from its start. However, the evidence from the earliest mapping suggests that it has been open field(s), for at least the last 200 years, and probably used for grazing or cultivation.
- 5.3** The lack of any known development on the site, and the absence of any impact from the construction of the adjacent roundabout and Golden Jubilee Way, would suggest that any archaeology preserved on the site has been largely unaffected by any impact and will thus be well preserved. The exception being the possible quarry on the north edge of the site.
- 5.4** Given the evidence accumulated during this Heritage Statement, the probability of finding remains from each of the different archaeological periods is shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1

Period	Probability
Palaeolithic	Low
Mesolithic	Medium
Neolithic	Low-Medium
Bronze Age	Low-Medium
Iron Age	Low-Medium
Roman	Medium
Saxon	Low
Medieval	Medium
Post Medieval	High

- 5.5** The outline development is shown for illustrative purposes only in Fig. 8.
- 5.6** It is considered that there will be limited potential for palaeo-environmental remains or geo-archaeological investigations at this site.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1** This Heritage Statement has established that there is potential for activity in the Mesolithic period, the Roman period, and in the Medieval and the Post Medieval periods. The map regression provides evidence for the more recent agricultural landscape in the immediate surroundings, which does not appear to have altered to any great extent over the last 200 years, and possibly earlier. The site has seemingly been unaffected by other nearby developments and road construction.

- 6.2** It has not been possible to establish whether there is below-ground archaeology present on the site, due to the non-intrusive nature of this Heritage Statement. Any development at the site is likely to disturb and destroy any buried archaeology.

- 6.3** It is therefore recommended that a programme of archaeological work be undertaken prior to the development. Given the potential activity in a number of periods, and the presence of an adjacent medieval and Post Medieval farm, and the Roman road, it is recommended that a programme of archaeological work is carried out to determine whether there is any archaeology present on the site, and to inform the planning decision.

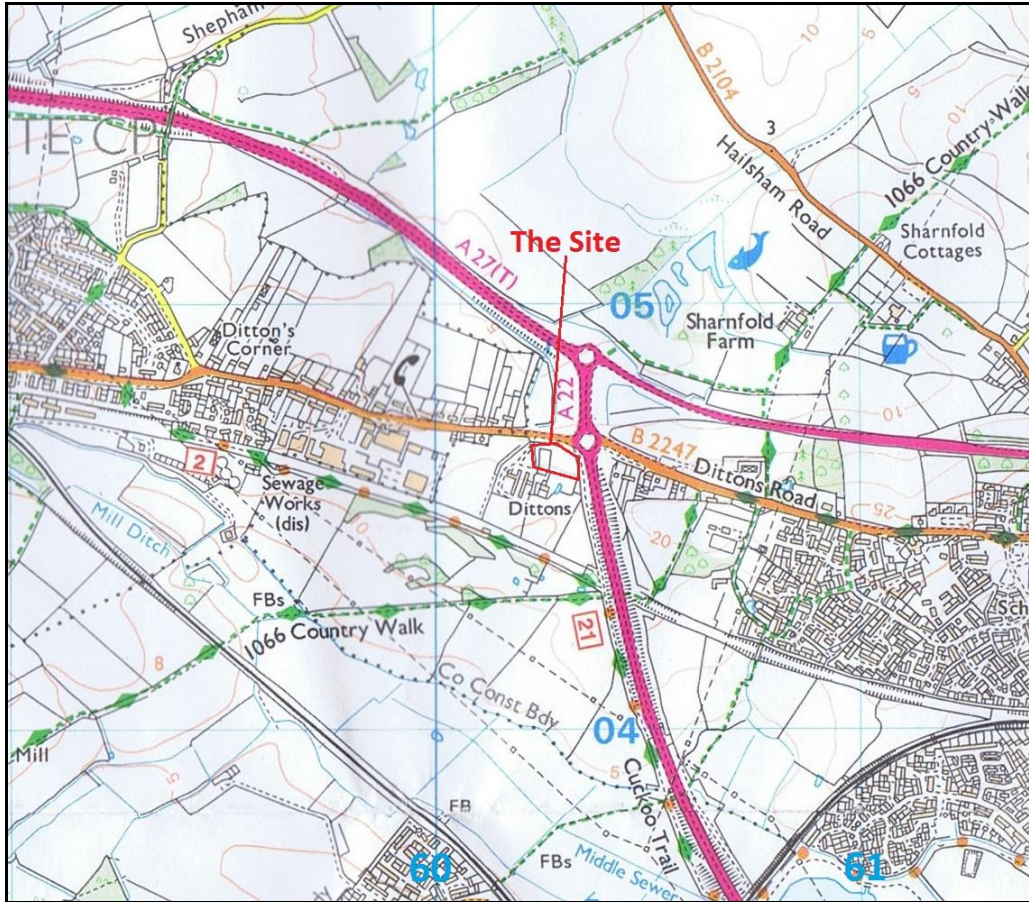


Fig. 1: Land north of Dittons Farm: Location Map
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471

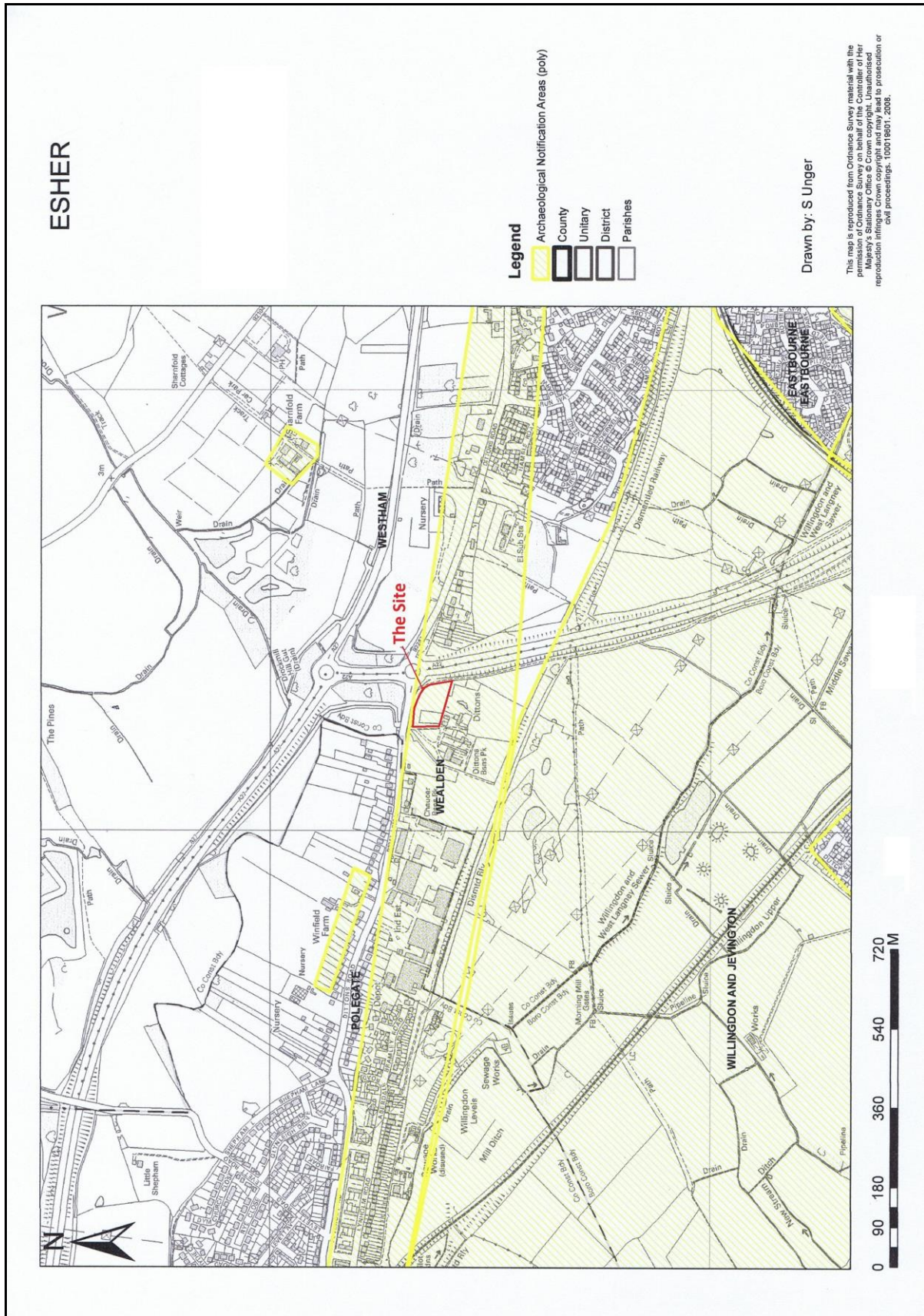


Fig. 2: Land north of Dittons Farm: ANA Map
(Adapted from map provided by ESCC)
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471

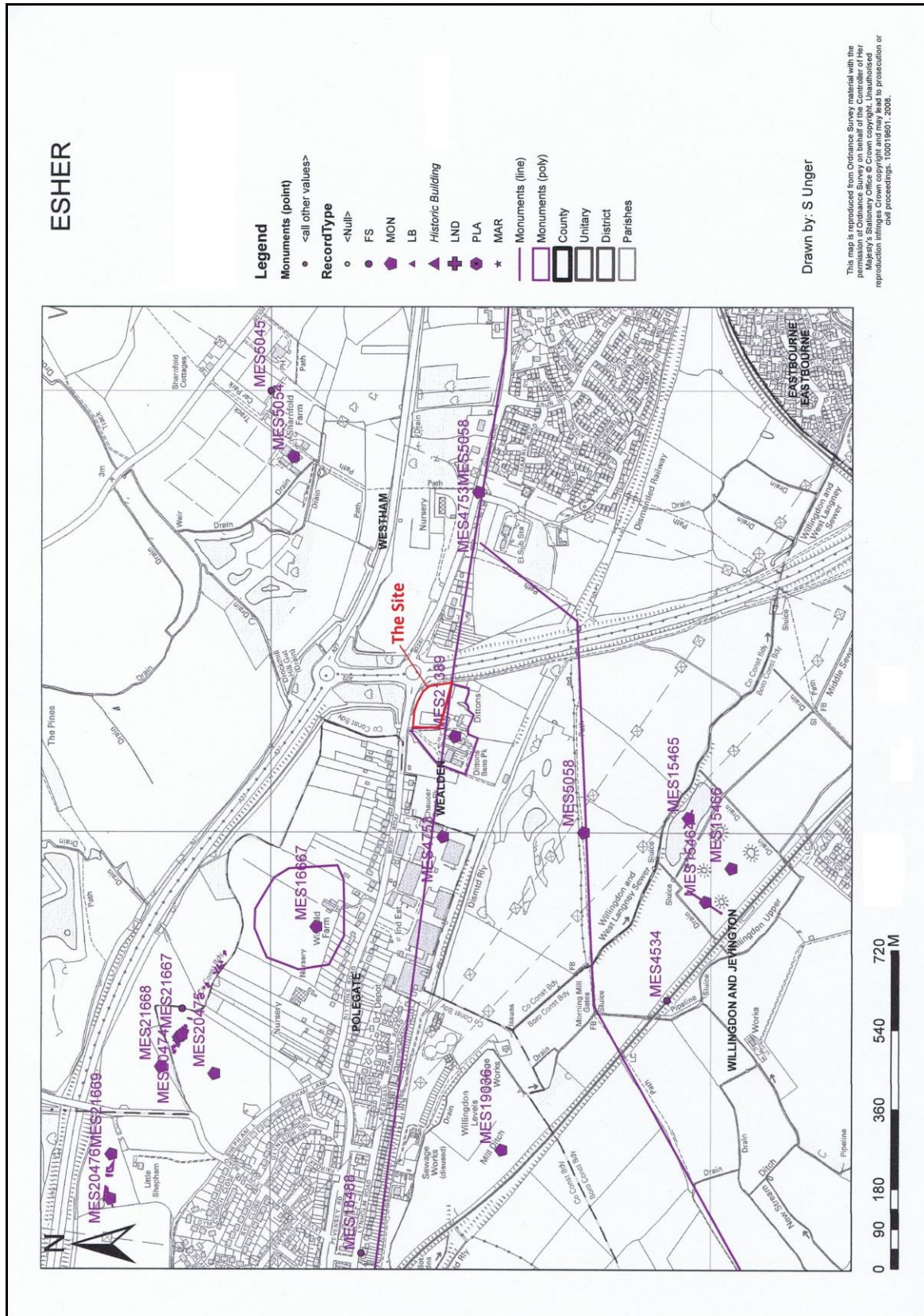


Fig. 3: Land north of Dittons Farm: HER Map
(Adapted from map provided by ESCC)
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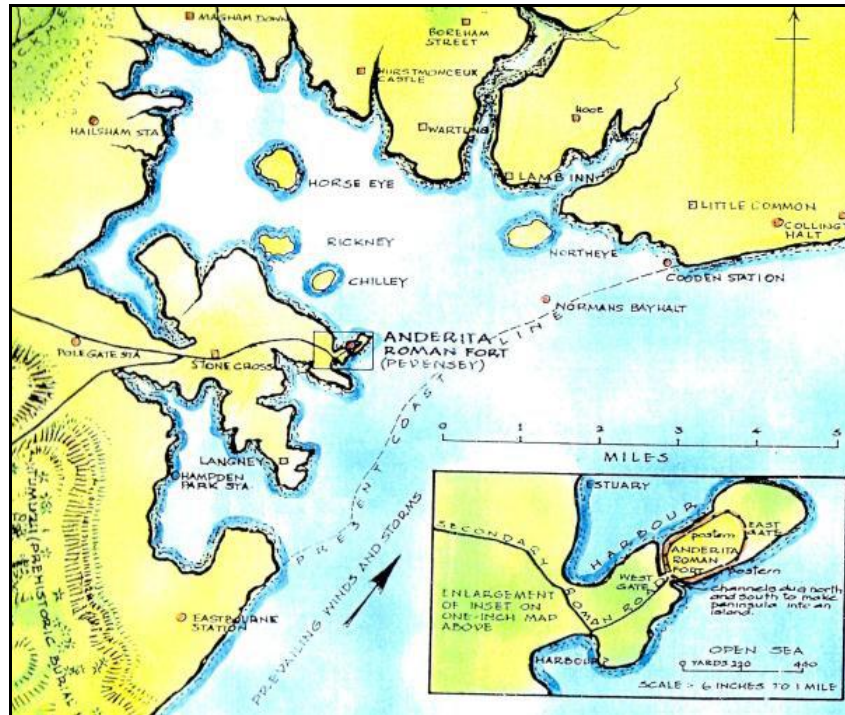


Fig. 4: Land north of Dittons Farm: Roman coastline

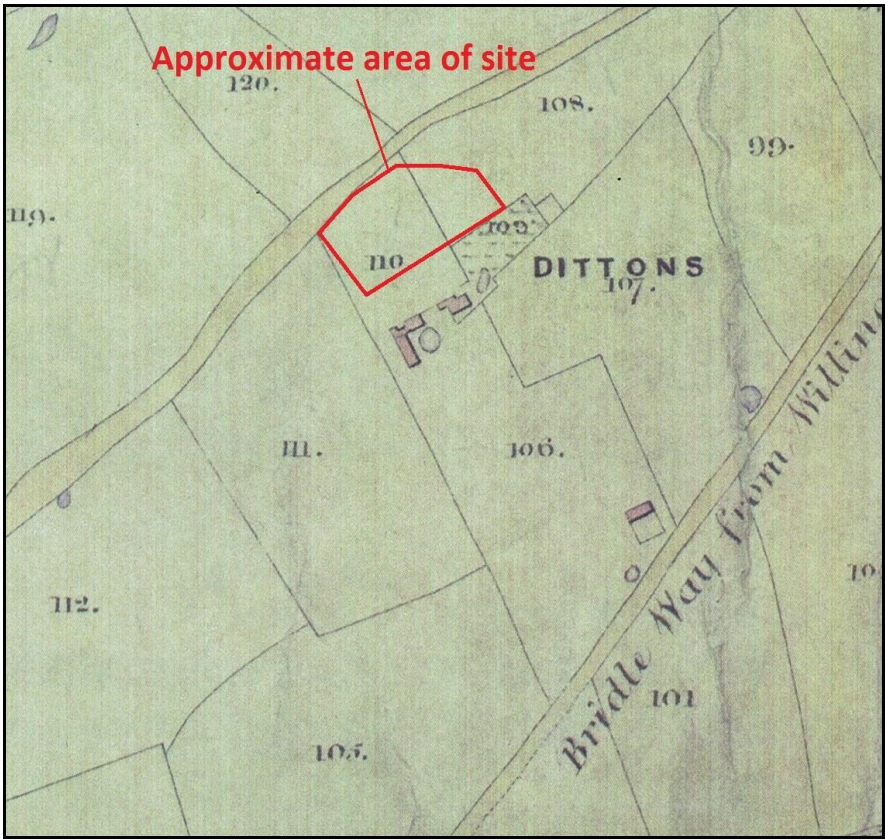


Fig. 5: Land north of Dittons Farm: 1838 Tithe Map

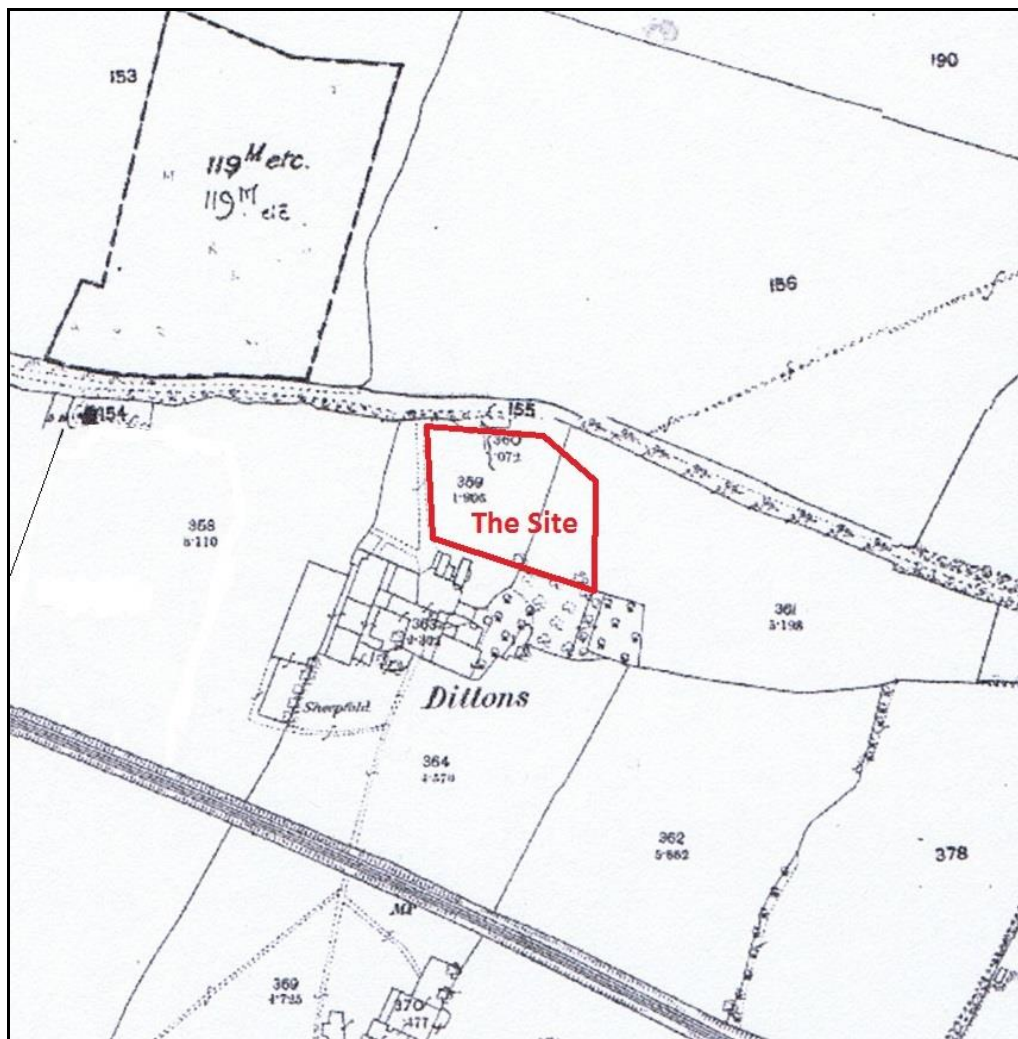


Fig. 6: Land at Netherfield: 1st Edition OS Map 1874

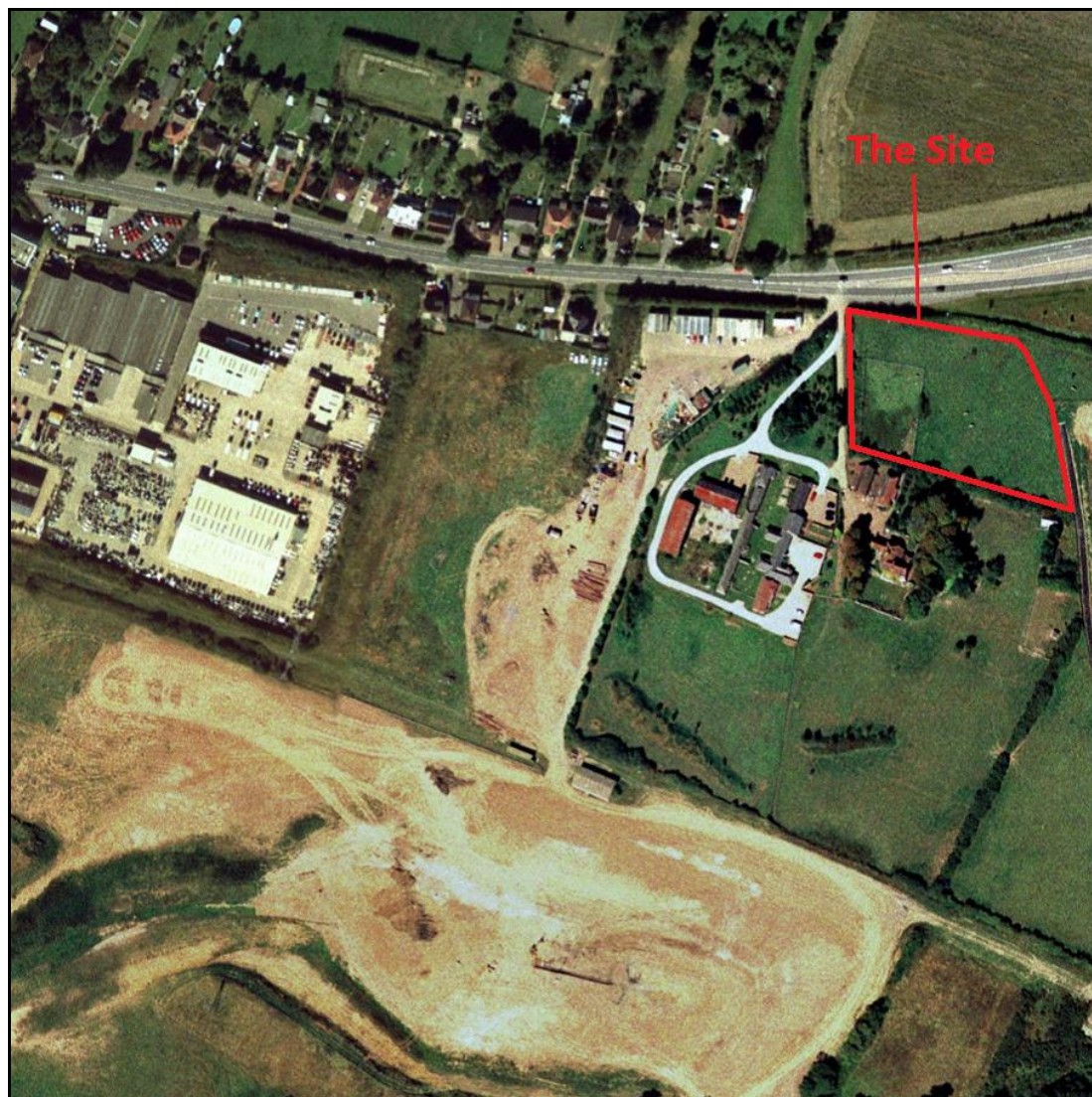


Fig. 7: Land north of Dittons Farm: The Site in c.1996

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd

Chris Butler has been an archaeologist since 1985, and formed the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team in 1987, since when it has carried out numerous fieldwork projects, and was runner up in the Pitt-Rivers Award at the British Archaeological Awards in 1996. Having previously worked as a Pensions Technical Manager and Administration Director in the financial services industry, Chris formed **Chris Butler Archaeological Services** at the beginning of 2002.

Chris is a Member of the Institute for Archaeologists, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and was a part time lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Sussex, and taught A-Level Archaeology at Bexhill 6th Form College, qualifying as a teacher in 2006.

Chris specialises in prehistoric flintwork analysis, but has directed excavations, landscape surveys, watching briefs and evaluations, including the excavation of a Beaker Bowl Barrow, a Saxon cemetery and settlement, Roman pottery kilns, and a Mesolithic hunting camp. Chris is Co-Director of the Barcombe Roman Villa excavations. He has also recently undertaken archaeological surveys of Ashdown Forest and Broadwater Warren.

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd is available for Flintwork Analysis, Project Management, Military Archaeology, Desktop Assessments, Field Evaluations, Excavation work, Watching Briefs, Fieldwalking, Landscape & Woodland surveys, Standing Building Surveys, Post Excavation Services and Report Writing.

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