

BURY FARM MOATED SITE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

NETWORK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
for
DAVID BAZZARD BUILDING

Report 238

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Contents

1.	Summary	1
2.	Introduction	2
3.	Procedures	2
4.	Reliability and Potential Limitations of Data	3
5.	Description of the Site	4
6.	Archaeological and Historical Background	4
7.	Historical Development of Bury Farm	12
8.	Site Visit	16
9.	Significance	18
10.	Development Proposals	20
11.	Impacts and Recommendations	21
12.	Statement of Indemnity	24
13.	Acknowledgements	24
14.	References	25

Appendix A	Gazetteer of archaeological sites
Appendix B	Maps 1-2
Appendix C	Cartographic extracts
Appendix D	Building recording methodology

1. SUMMARY

1.1 Bury Farm, near Great Missenden, in south Buckinghamshire is thought to be a Medieval homestead moated site, although much of the moat has been backfilled. Three listed buildings and a renovated farmhouse with seventeenth century origins, stand on the moat's island.

1.2 Redevelopment of the site for residential purposes which is to take place particularly around the south east side of the moat, may have an impact on archaeological deposits. However, evidence of heavy development of the site over the last one hundred years, indicates that there is a low to moderate potential for the survival of Medieval archaeological remains.

1.3 Recommendations

Any impact upon the original fabric of buildings A, D and F (proposed Units 1, 2 and 3) may necessitate basic recording of the structures prior to renovation. However, the need for this work will be determined by the Conservation Officer for Chilterns District Council. Removal of internal concrete ground surfaces, and the excavation of narrow trenches at intervals across the floors, may require archaeological monitoring.

Removal of building foundations and internal ground surfaces within structures R, S and T may have an impact upon significant archaeological deposits relating to the moat, and may require archaeological monitoring.

A watching brief of ground reducing activities near Barns A and D, may also be appropriate.

Trench evaluation (prior to construction) is recommended for the proposed single garages near Bury Farm Cottage and Bungalow, while a watching brief is thought to be sufficient for the proposed double garage and double garaging unit which are located outside the moated area.

Hand augering along the line of the proposed access track, where it crosses the moat could establish the depth of recently disturbed ground, and the need for a watching brief of this area.

The proposed walls are likely to have a minimal impact upon surviving below ground archaeology, and as such a watching brief of the excavation of the footings should be sufficient.

Until the configuration of proposed services such as drainage and water supply is known, specific recommendations for any necessary archaeological mitigation cannot be made, although the excavation of any major service trenches may require a watching brief.

It is presumed that large areas of concrete, presently covering the farm yard, are to be removed. A watching brief of the more sensitive areas within the moated area, where recent disturbance has been limited, may be necessary.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

Bury Farm is a moated site situated in South Buckinghamshire (SP 906 020) (figure 1). Three eighteenth century, grade two listed buildings, including two barns and a granary stand within the moat (Map 1, A, D, F). The owner, David Bazzard wishes to convert the barns for residential use, and redevelopment the grounds (an area of c.1.9 ha), involving the demolition of modern buildings, and the construction of a number of garages, garden walls, parking and new access roads (Map 2).

In response to a pre-determination enquiry, a desk based and historic buildings assessment, took place in conjunction with a site visit, and the results of this work are the basis of this report.

2.2 Project Objectives

- 2.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to consider the archaeological implications of the proposed development, and to provide a basis for further stages of investigation.

The objectives of this assessment are listed in the brief (Buckinghamshire County Council Archaeological Service, 14/3/2000).

3. PROCEDURES

3.1 Standards

This assessment has been conducted according to the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* (1997) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (1994).

3.2 Study Area

Data collection focused mainly within a 500m radius of Bury Farm, and included relevant sites just beyond this delineation. Background information for the Chilterns was additionally studied to provide a broader archaeological context.

3.3 Data Sources

3.3.1 *English Heritage:*

- County list of Scheduled Ancient Monuments for England (SAMs - legally protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979)
- Survey Records of buildings at Bury Farm

3.3.2 *Buckinghamshire County Council Sites and Monuments Records:*

- county list of known archaeological sites and finds
- county list of Listed Buildings
- vertical aerial photographs
- relevant archaeological reports and journals

3.3.3 *Buckinghamshire Record Office*

- tithe maps, enclosure award maps, estate maps, title deeds

3.3.4 *Buckinghamshire Local Studies Library*

- Ordnance Survey maps, county journals, published books and excavation reports

3.3.5 *Owners of Bury Farm*

- photographs of buildings at Bury Farm, taken during the 1940s
- notes on own research regarding previous owners and tenants

3.3.6 *David Bazzard Building*

- Plans/elevations of existing/proposed buildings

4. RELIABILITY AND POTENTIAL LIMITATIONS OF DATA

4.1 The limitations of an impact assessment of the proposed development include:

- inaccuracies of map sources which make it difficult to provide a precise assessment of potential impact, particularly to the moat:

The Great Missenden Tithe (1839) and undated map showed an almost complete moat, but both have inherent inaccuracies, including the fact that neither are to scale, and they appear to have been plotted with the assumption that buildings C and D (Map 1) were parallel. This was not the case. Difficulties encountered when trying to align these early nineteenth century plots with later mapping, meant that they had to be rationalised on the basis of later Ordnance Survey plots (1880, 1938, 1975).

- the possibility that *unknown* archaeology will be encountered at the site

The development of mitigation strategies should take these points into consideration.

4.2 Information held by public data sources can normally be assumed to be reliable, but uncertainty can arise in a number of ways:

- The SMR can be limited because it depends on random opportunities for research, fieldwork and discovery

- Documentary sources are rare before the medieval period, and as documents were not usually compiled for archaeological purposes, they are inherently biased
- Primary sources, especially older records, often fail to accurately locate sites, and are obviously subjective in any interpretation

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

5.1 The Moat

Maps showing the presumed location of the Bury Farm moat, indicate that it was rectangular (c. 100m x 90m) with its corners oriented roughly towards the cardinal compass points.

5.2 The Buildings

Two eighteenth century, grade II listed barns and an eighteenth century granary, included for group value, are enclosed by the moat. Bury Farm House, a late seventeenth century building within the west side of the moated enclosure, has recently been omitted from the listing. Modern farm buildings, including cow sheds, an open Dutch barn, silage clamps, a silage tank and a shed, have been built over and outside the east corner of the moat. The farm yard is almost entirely surfaced with concrete, although gardens surround Bury Farm House, Farm Bungalow and Farm Cottage.

5.3 Location and Topography

Bury Farm lies north east of Great Missenden, on the west side of Potter Row, South Heath (SP 906 020) in the Chilterns. The site is situated close to the top of a south east facing slope (180m AOD), overlooking the River Misbourne (Figure 1).

5.4 Geology, Soils and Landuse

Chalk (including red chalk) geology (BGS 1979) lies beneath a slowly permeable, reddish, clay-enriched subsoil. This is overlain by a fine silty clay or loamy clay brown earth (*Batcombe*), which can be prone to seasonal waterlogging, although it can be well drained over chalk. The soil contains a variable amount of flint. *Batcombe* is suitable for growing cereals, permanent grassland and woodland (SSEW 1983).

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

(see Figure 2)

6.1 Palaeolithic (c.500,000 years ago)

6.1.1 Palaeolithic culture flourished during the Pleistocene. It was a period of glaciation interspersed with long periods of slightly warmer climate. Britain was still joined to continental Europe at this time. In periods of intense cold, such as the Last Glaciation (25,000 – 18,000 years ago), populations retreated to the warmer parts of the continent. Palaeolithic people lived by hunting and gathering. Even during the glacial periods they made seasonal food-gathering forays into the area that is present-day Britain.

6.1.2 Caddington Clay Pits, one of the earliest sites in the Chilterns, was found south of Luton, approximately 30km to the north east of Bury Farm. This lower Palaeolithic site dates to between c. 125,000 and 70,000 BC and is characterised by a distinct layer of flints sealed beneath brickearth deposits. Pollen analysis indicated that the focus of the site was a pond or shallow lake

in rough grassland, surrounded by dense oak, elm and ash woodland. Deer, elephant and rhinoceros species were present at the site. Other early sites have been found at Burnham, Farnham Royal and near Harpsden, all of which are located on the southern edge of the Chilterns, between c. 20-25km from Bury Farm (Hepple 1992, p16).

- 6.1.3 No Palaeolithic sites or find spots are known within a half kilometre radius of Bury Farm, or within the wider study area.

6.2 Mesolithic (c.8,300 BC)

- 6.2.1 The separation of Britain from the Continent occurred gradually at the end of the last Ice Age. The climate became warmer and wetter encouraging the spread of birch-clumps, followed by coniferous forest, and later, mixed, broad leaved woodlands of oak, elm and lime. Permanent human occupation of Britain began in this period, and hafted flint axes and fire were used to clear small areas of woodland.
- 6.2.2 Small communities of hunter-gatherers migrated seasonally between different areas. Their tools were fashioned from stone, wood or bone. Spears were still used, but bows and arrows were now widespread. In addition, greater reliance was placed on composite tools, particularly small flint blades (microliths) set in wooden shafts.
- 6.2.3 Mesolithic axes and microliths are being found increasingly across the Chilterns, and it is thought that the area 'may have been quite heavily exploited' (Mike Farley in Hepple 1992, p16). A Mesolithic flint working or occupation site was found in Chesham, c. 7km east of Bury Farm. The site lay beneath two feet of hillwash, upon which stood a 17th century cottage. Hunting activities were evidenced by the butchered bones of red deer, wild boar and auroch (forerunner of the domestic cow) found at the site.
- 6.2.4 The impact of Mesolithic land management on the Chilterns landscape was minimal, and is probably less visible than the climatic and vegetative changes which have since taken place (Hepple 1992, p19). No Mesolithic sites or find spots are known within a half kilometre radius of Bury Farm, or within the wider study area.

6.3 Neolithic (c.5000 BC) and Bronze Age (c.2,300 BC)

- 6.3.1 The Neolithic period is characterised by the shift from hunting and gathering to a settled agrarian economy. This change is manifested in the archaeological record by the appearance of new artefact types - querns, sickles, pottery and polished stone axes. These began to replace the microliths, spears and digging sticks used throughout the Mesolithic period. Environmental remains support the artefactual evidence, indicating permanent land clearance by fire and axe, the introduction of wheat and sheep and the domestication of native animals such as cattle and pigs. New types of site emerged, including settlements, and large ceremonial monuments.

- 6.3.2 The Bronze Age was heralded by the introduction of metalworking technology, new types of flint-tool and new styles of pottery design from continental Europe. The settled farming society established in the Neolithic period, became increasingly sophisticated. Cereal crops and stock-rearing remained the economic mainstays, whilst trade links forged in the Neolithic continued to develop. Changes in society were reflected in the emergence of new methods of burial, particularly the construction of round barrows as funerary monuments.
- 6.3.3 Systematic forest clearance which began in the Neolithic period, continued into the Middle Ages.
- 6.3.4 The edge of the Chiltern escarpment was very suitable for Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement: The light and well drained soils here were more easily tilled than the heavy drift deposits which cover much of the Chilterns; sparse woodland made land clearance easier; a line of springs provided a good water supply; and the scarp provided a cross country route (The Ridgeway/Icknield Way) between cultural centres in Wessex and East Anglia (Hepple 1992, p21). Bury Farm lies less than 5km south of the nearest point on the Ridgeway.
- 6.3.5 Three main areas of occupation stand out: The Thames gravels, on the southern edge of the Chilterns; the rounded hills around Luton and Dunstable in the north; and a broad, lowland area to the east of the Chiltern scarpment, in the valley between Saunderton and Bradenham (Hepple 1992, p22). The latter area is less than 10km west of Bury Farm.
- 6.3.6 The survival of Neolithic and Bronze age sites is probably biased towards more marginal areas, where human and environmental catalysts to change have been limited.
- 6.3.7 Two Neolithic/Bronze Age sites, found by systematic fieldwalking, are known close to Bury Farm. One hundred and two worked flints and two pot boilers were retrieved from the nearest site (CASS 4479), which lies less than 400m south of Bury Farm. Twenty five worked flints (CASS 4873) were retrieved from a field c. 800m north of Bury Farm. Further flints, probably associated with this site were found at a Medieval pottery site (CASS 2577) during fieldwalking of a neighbouring field on Potter Row.

6.4 Iron Age (c.700BC)

- 6.4.1 Iron-working was among the new technologies introduced to Britain from the Continent in this period. Population growth and climatic deterioration (colder, wetter summers) led to competition for land and the development of a more organised and territorial society. Hill forts and defensive enclosures are manifestations of this social shift.
- 6.4.2 Samples of buried soil taken from the foot of the Chiltern scarp indicate that a high degree of woodland clearance and agricultural expansion was taking place in the Iron Age. Ploughwash, up to 3m deep in scarp coombes and

0.6m deep in dip-slope valleys, such as at Chesham, indicated that the scale of land clearance was causing increased erosion (Hepple 1992, p31).

- 6.4.3 Fields typically around 64m square were cultivated. Lynchet banks and slopes marked their perimeters, creating the 'Celtic' fields characteristic of Iron Age arable agriculture. Later, Medieval and modern agricultural practices obscured or destroyed most of these field systems (Hepple 1992, p31).
- 6.4.4 A number of Iron Age settlement sites lie within a 20km radius of Bury Farm. The nearest settlement was located c. 9km to the north west, at Ellsborough. There were others at, Bledlow, Chinnor and Lewknor.
- 6.4.5 The emergence of a distinctive and sophisticated pottery type, 'Chinnor ware', may have been encouraged by demand caused by the density of settlement along the Chiltern scarp. 'Chinnor ware', with its flaring rims and shoulders, and strong geometric patterns was probably the work of specialist, local potters (Hepple 1992, p30).
- 6.4.6 Numerous hillforts were built along the full length of the Chilterns. Most hillforts, such as Ivinghoe Beacon, one of Britain's earliest (800-700 BC.), looked towards the Icknield Way from the scarp. However, some hillforts were located on ridges deeper within the Chilterns. These forts may represent later expansion of settlement (Hepple 1992, p31). Examples include Cholebury hillfort (1st century BC.), 6km north east of Bury Farm, and others at West Wycombe, Whelpley Hill and Gerrards Cross.
- 6.4.7 Grim's Ditch, another territorial earthen structure crossing the Chilterns, is thought to have been constructed during the Iron Age. The structure is represented by sequences of major ditches and banks. Their construction was quite an undertaking, and probably represents a treaty or a number of treaties at different times, as it is unlikely to have been achieved without the cooperation of opposing peoples. Parts of Grim's Ditch pass within five kilometres of Bury Farm
- 6.4.8 Trade contacts and possible influxes/invasions of foreigners from Gaul in the Late (Pre-Roman) Iron Age, brought about cultural changes. New tribal groupings and political organisations emerged during this period, and in the last century BC., the Catuvellauni tribe controlled the Chilterns region.
- 6.4.9 Archaeological evidence for these changes includes circulation of coinage, wheel thrown pottery, new burial practices and new forms of settlement known as *oppida*. These incorporated extensive, although minor, linear defences (30-50 ha), designed to protect the houses and cattle enclosures within from attack. *Oppida* tend to be found in the Chiltern valleys, rather than along the scarp, although this pattern may result from differential archaeological survival, visibility and opportunities for field study.
- 6.4.10 The main focus of the changes in the Chilterns seems to be the lower ground at the east end of the hills, in present day Hertfordshire. No evidence of Late

Pre-Roman Iron Age activity is known of within a half kilometre radius of Bury Farm, or within the wider study area.

6.5 Romano-British (AD 43)

- 6.5.1 Over most of England, the Roman invasion was followed by a rapid implementation of centralised administration based on towns and supported by a network of roads.
- 6.5.2 Road networks had previously been little more than tracks formed by the feet of people and livestock. Roman army engineers built more substantial roads with metalled and cambered surfaces, to expedite the movement of soldiers, food and equipment. Naturally these roads were also exploited as trade and communication routes. Two major Roman roads (Akeman Street and Watling Street) cross the Chilterns on a roughly north west to south east orientation. Akeman street lies closest to Bury Farm, but is 10km distant. Minor routes linked with the more major roads, but none are known in the vicinity of Bury Farm.
- 6.5.3 A number of villa sites are known throughout the Chilterns, particularly around the Bulbourne, Chess, Misbourne and Wye valleys. Villas in the Chilterns were flint and brick built, and tended to incorporate large estates (450-500 acres) of meadow, arable, pasture and woodland. The nearest villa sites to Bury Farm are located at Mantles Green Farm near Amersham, Little Kimble, Saunderton Lee and Bledlow.
- 6.5.4 The settlement pattern in the Chilterns appears to be quite different to that encountered elsewhere. Usually, the trend appears to be one where the majority of the native population continued to live on Pre-Roman style farmsteads, whilst the more wealthy and influential lived in Roman style villas. In the Chilterns, very few native sites are known, and the villa sites appear to be very regularly spaced, suggesting that a 'planned, villa-based colonisation' of the Chilterns was able to take place due to the general lack of previous valley habitation (Hepple 1992, p46).
- 6.5.5 The development of villas in the Chilterns does not appear to have kept pace with that in other areas. Regional and local economic and political shifts caused a downturn in the Chiltern's fortunes during the third century, and although there was some recovery during the fourth century, most Chiltern villas remained relatively small and simple in plan, with estates of a modest size. Around half of the excavated villas in the Chilterns are thought to have been abandoned, or severely reduced by the 350s AD.
- 6.5.6 Industrial evidence encountered in the Chilterns include an iron-smelting and smithing site 6km south east of Bury Farm, at the Mantles Green Villa near Amersham, and sites at Fulmer and Hedgerly, 16km and 20km respectively, south of Bury Farm.
- 6.5.7 The Chiltern woodlands were an important source of building materials and fuel, which would have required careful management.

- 6.5.8 Soil marling was probably done to improve the heavy clay soils of the Chiltern valleys. This method involved mixing chalk extracted from pits, with the soil. Disused chalk pits, east of Prestwood and near Potter Row are mentioned in volume iv of the Victoria County History (Page 1969, p347). The date of the pits is unknown, and they are perhaps more likely to date to the Post Medieval period, when the practice of marling was revived.
- 6.5.9 Evidence of two possible Roman summer camps is known within the wider study area for Bury Farm. One camp (SAM 27151) lies on Frith Hill, 1km south west of Bury Farm, and the other, at a site known as *The Castle* (SAM 19060), lies 1.5km to the south of the farm. The interpretation of both sites is based on appearance combined with the presence of Roman pottery.

6.6 Early Medieval (AD 410)

- 6.6.1 Roman rule in Britain and Roman authority began to disintegrate long before the departure of the Romans in AD 410.
- 6.6.2 After the end of Roman rule, the economy stagnated, coins stopped circulating and much of the Roman infrastructure ceased to be used. South and south-east Britain were brought under Anglo-Saxon control during the later fifth and sixth centuries, with the Chilterns being absorbed and settled after the states of Wessex and Mercia. However, Anglo-Saxon influence concentrated around the edge of the Chilterns, making few inroads into the hills until the end of the pagan period (c. 650 AD.).
- 6.6.3 Colonisation of the hill area took place gradually over a century or more. *Cilternsaete* ('people of the Chiltern') colonised the headwater areas of the south east flowing streams, particularly the Misbourne and the Chess. The land was initially divided into royal vills, essential administrative and economic units. However, in the eighth and ninth centuries, fragmentation and restructuring created territories which were typically long and narrow cross sections of the Chilterns, incorporating a share of the different soils and relief provided by the landscape.
- 6.6.4 Many of the present day land divisions in the Chilterns, date from this period of restructuring, although the hilly areas are thought to have experienced much less reorganisation than the lowlands. Farms are thought to have remained dispersed, and the open field agriculture with strip fields, typical of arable land in the lowlands during the Saxon and Medieval periods, is not thought to have taken place in the hills.
- 6.6.5 No evidence of Saxon activity is known of within a half kilometre radius of Bury Farm, or within the wider study area.

6.7 Medieval (AD 1066)

- 6.7.1 By Medieval times, England was divided into tax paying districts, which the Domesday survey of 1086 refers to as 'hundreds'. These comprise a number

of parishes and/or townships. Bury Farm lies in the parish of Great Missenden, which has been in the hundred of Aylesbury since at least 1316, although at the time of the Domesday Survey Missenden was within the hundred of Stane/?Stone (8).

- 6.7.2 Great Missenden was known in the eleventh century as *Missedene*. The manor of Great Missenden already existed in the time of Edward the Confessor, and was held by one of the king's thegns. After the Norman conquest, the manor passed into the hands of Walter Giffard, and remained under Giffard family ownership, until 1164, when a Walter Giffard died without issue.
- 6.7.3 William de Missenden, Lord of the manor of Missenden, is thought to have been granted the sub-tenancy of the manor early in the eleventh century. In 1133, William founded an Augustinian abbey in Great Missenden, the site of which lies approximately 1.5 km south west of Bury Farm. He endowed the abbey with parish lands, including Potter Row (Page 1969, vol iv, p 350). The land at Bury Farm may therefore have belonged to the abbey after 1133.
- 6.7.4 The Books of the Court of Augmentation detailing the former monastic land leased to Richard Grenewey in 1540/1541, indicates that the land at *Potterstewe* (Potter Row) remained in the possession of Great Missenden Abbey until its dissolution in 1538 (Dugdale 1830, in Ashworth 1983, p153).
- 6.7.5 The Domesday Book describes the Chilterns as 'one of the two great areas of woodland in south-east England' (Hepple 1992, p76). However, in spite of this, and the fact that wood products, particularly fuel, were important to Medieval society and economy, pastoral and woodland elements do not appear to have been the main economic base of the Chilterns. Domesday records indicate that there was a considerable amount of arable agriculture taking place.
- 6.7.6 The diverse nature Chilterns' terrain prevented the use of the classic Midland open field system for arable agriculture, and there must have been considerable internal variety of land use (Hepple 1992, p76). Thirteenth century documents indicate that instead of the two or three field crop rotation system employed in the Midlands, as many as twenty or thirty fields which were often quite small, were used in rotation (Hepple 1992, p82).
- 6.7.7 The twelfth and thirteenth centuries were a period of relative affluence and population growth, but cracks began to show as increasing stress was put on the environment and the agricultural system. Marginal lands were gradually brought under cultivation in order to cope with greater demands for food, but these soils were soon exhausted. The early fourteenth century saw a series of failed harvests due to bad weather, which in turn caused massive inflation and famine. Different epidemics affecting human and livestock populations, worsened matters, as did high taxes. Significant amounts of land were abandoned in the Chilterns, and soil poverty was frequently cited as the reason. In 1348, the Black Death caused even more extensive depopulation of the countryside.

6.7.8 Following these events, the land became concentrated in fewer hands. Sheep farming on vast, consolidated and enclosed areas of land became prevalent on the lower ground, and there numerous cases of forced abandonment of villages to make way for this type of agriculture. In contrast, the Chilterns remained relatively unchanged, partly because the hills were not ideal for the large scale sheep grazer, and because the economic flexibility of the diverse Chilterns landscape enabled it to survive the economic collapse better than other areas (Hepple 1992, p102-104).

6.7.9 The area surrounding Bury Farm is quite rich in Medieval remains. There are two ecclesiastical buildings: Missenden Abbey (CASS 1855) (c. 1.5km south west of Bury Farm) and Lee Chapel (2238) (c. 2.5km north west of Bury Farm). The site of a pottery kiln (CASS 2577) (c. 1 km north of Bury Farm) lies in a garden on Potter Row. Several earthworks of moats and other enclosures are also known.

6.7.10 *Moats and Enclosures*

The moat at Bury Farm (CASS 0384) appears to be one of a number of Medieval enclosures in the locale. According to Pike (1995, p118), the Chilterns enclosures tend to lie between 155m and 190m OD, and are mainly located within woodland. On average, the enclosures measure 150m by 75m.

Their purpose has not been well documented, and very few have been equated with known manors. On this basis, Pike (*ibid*) argues that enclosures were constructed for defensive rather than administrative and 'decorative' purposes. According to the Victoria County History "The purpose of the typical homestead moat was to afford protection from marauders or wolves, and possibly to avoid risk of loss of, or damage to, cattle and farm produce from a spreading fire. Yet, although they were not constructed to withstand powerful enemies.....they were not infrequently of considerable size." (Page 1969, vol ii, p29).

Industrial activity is suggested by the presence of iron slag within some of the enclosures. Saw pits are also known to exist in the woods close to many of the enclosures. The location of many of the enclosures within woodland also suggests that they were connected with hunting activities. House sites indicated by subsidiary enclosures within many of them may have been hunting lodges or dwellings for game-keepers (Pike 1995, p118).

In Jenkins Wood, less than 100m north west of Bury Farm, a sub-rectangular moat-like enclosure lies within the area of a low bank and ditch surrounding the wood (CASS 0548). The baulks of the outer enclosure were used as a pathway known as Nun's Walk, but no special significance has been attributed to this name. The site, described in the SMR as a 'moat and bailey', is thought to be comparable with nearby homestead moats at Redding Wick (SAM 27157), less than 1.5km east, and Bray's Wood (CASS 0175), about 3km north north-east.

An earthwork enclosure (CASS 5238), comparable in size and shape to the earthworks in Jenkins Wood, lies less than 250m north east of Bury Farm. The site could represent a medieval or later farmstead in a woodland clearing, or simply an enclosed field with well defined boundaries.

Castle Hill (SAM 19060), just over 1.5km south of Bury Farm, is the site of a substantial and very regular, rectangular earthwork enclosure. Fragments of probable Roman pottery recovered from the site are not sufficient to determine the date of origin for this major landscape feature, but it was probably a Medieval manorial stronghold or homestead moat.

A pentagonal homestead moat (SAM 32122) at Little Pednor Farm, lies c. 2km north east of Bury Farm. Earthworks at Frith Hill (SAM 27151), c. 1km south west of Bury Farm appear to be the remains of a Medieval enclosure and ringwork. At The Lee, just under 2.5km north west of Bury Farm, a rectangular embankment encloses the church and earthworks of a deserted Medieval village site.

6.8 Post Medieval (1485)

- 6.8.1 Economic revival in the early 16th century led to significant changes. Population growth in London increased demands for food and fuel, which reached into the Chilterns, and in turn led to a spate of enclosure. The pattern of enclosure in the hills was very different to that in the surrounding lowlands, and was gradually achieved mainly through piecemeal agreements. Whilst the Medieval field patterns in the lowlands were virtually destroyed, this did not happen in the Chiltern Hills.
- 6.8.2 Transport routes saw rapid expansion in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Initially, turnpikes were used to raise money to improve the state of the roads. Later in the 1790s, the Grand Junction (now Union) Canal was constructed to encourage the transport of goods between London and Birmingham. The trade of coppiced wood for fuel in London proved very profitable for the Chilterns until the improved transport allowed wood fuel to be out-competed by coal from Newcastle. The resulting collapse in the wood-fuel market and the growth of the Chiltern chair making industries were principal catalysts in the conversion of the woods to beech forest. Railways, built during the 1830s, brought world-wide competition. This was devastating to the home-grown wheat market, and led to the extension of grass acreage, while the number of grazing animals declined. A lot of grassland reverted to scrub and woodland.
- 6.8.3 Farming incomes were supplemented by rural craft industries such as straw plaiting, lace making and woodland crafts. Straw plaiting was particularly profitable in the early nineteenth century as there was a fashion for straw hats. However, in the late nineteenth century, the competition brought by improved trade and transport links all but destroyed these industries.

- 6.8.4 A Post Medieval pottery kiln site (CASS 2341) lies less than 500m north of Bury Farm, on Potter Row, close to the site of a Medieval/Post Medieval pottery kiln site (CASS 2577) (see para. 5.8.9). The place name evidence and the finds indicate that pottery production in this area began at least as early as the fourteenth century and continued into the seventeenth century.

6.9 Modern

- 6.9.1 Many villages in the Chilterns have expanded, some of them into towns, as the railways built in the nineteenth century, and modern trunk roads and cars have made it convenient to live in the countryside and work in London.

7. HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF BURY FARM

(see Map 1)

7.1 Origins

The date when the Bury Farm moat was constructed is unknown, but it shares the characteristics of a number of other moats in the Chilterns, which date to the Medieval period. The Bury Farm moat is therefore likely to be Medieval.

Pike (1995, p118-119) suggests that “a second, smaller enclosure [indicating a house site] may have lain in the south [of the moated enclosure], now mutilated by farm buildings.” Otherwise, there is no evidence of Medieval buildings within the moated enclosure, and the earliest known building at the site is the present farm house, which dates to the late seventeenth century.

7.2 Purpose

There are three main interpretations of Bury Farm: It could be the manor site for either the Overbury moiety or Netherbury moiety of the Manor of Great Missenden, but there is no documentary evidence to support this.

Alternatively, the site could be a typical homestead moat, constructed for defensive purposes (see 6.7.10). A third option, suggested by Pike (1995, p119) and based on the fact that the site is not located within woodland, is that it may simply represent an early field enclosure.

7.3 Documentary Evidence

The earliest documentary references to Bury Farm dated to 1709 (research undertaken at Aylesbury Record Office, April 2000). The owners and tenants of Bury Farm are listed below in chronological order (owners' names are bolded):

- 1709 - tenanted by John and Simon Harcourt (owned by **John Proby**)
- 1709 - sale of land by **John Proby** to the **Drake** family
- 1709 - tenanted by ?Barradoo and Keene
- 1806 - end of tenancy by William Dwight (owned by **Thomas Tyrwitt-Drake**)
- 1841 - tenanted by John Carter (owned by **T. Drake**)
- 1863 - tenanted by Samuel Carter

- 1876 - tenanted by Samuel Carter
- 1891 - tenanted by Samuel Carter
- 1895 - tenanted by Samuel Carter
- 1907 - tenanted by William Judge
- 1910 - tenanted by William Judge

The Drake family owned a great deal of land around Great Missenden, which they added to in 1709 with the purchase of Bury farm.

None of the above names correlate with the owners of the Great Missenden Overbury and Netherbury manors (Page 1969). This suggests that Bury Farm is more likely to be the site of a homestead moat (see 7.2).

7.4 Map and Photographic Evidence

Jeffries county map (of 1768) has the placename "Missenden's Bury". This might imply that the Bury Farm site was under the moiety of Great Missenden, which, in 1252, was divided into the Overbury and Netherbury manors until they were rejoined in 1684 under the ownership of William Fleetwood (Page 1969). However, ownership details do not accord with this interpretation (see 7.3).

All maps showing the actual layout of Bury Farm, and changes to the layout, date from the nineteenth century onwards.

Aerial photographic coverage of the site began in 1946. No oblique photographs were available, and the vertical coverage was at an insufficient scale to determine significant changes to the farm's layout.

Major alterations to some of the farm buildings took place between 1941 and 1945. A photographic record of these changes was made from the ground (see 7.5.4).

7.5 Evolution of the Site since The Early Nineteenth Century

7.5.1 *The Moat*

Missenden Bury Farm Belonging to T.T. Drake Esq, although undated, is thought to be the earliest of the maps viewed, because a T.T. Drake is known to have owned the farm from 1806, possibly until 1841. Meanwhile, the Tithe map was surveyed in 1839. Both maps show the moat as a rectangular enclosure with three narrow gaps denoting entrances to the island in the centre of the north east, north west and south west sides. A larger gap is shown on the south east side of the moat on both maps, although it is smaller on the tithe map. This implies that the original medieval moat was rectangular with small, opposing entrances onto the island, and by the early nineteenth century at least part of the south east side had been backfilled.

Ordnance survey maps of 1880 and 1881, presenting the earliest scale plots of Bury Farm, show that the moat was slightly trapezoidal, with the north east side being longer than the south west. The south east side is shown extending westwards, as far as the western limit of Barn A. This indicates that the moat had either been extended, or re-excavated to this point.

In 1880, it appears that a pond was dug out of the western leg of the north corner of the moat. This pond still exists. Three further ponds/reservoirs were excavated from the south, east and west corners of the moat. These ponds disappeared after 1938. A fifth pond dug in the north corner of the island was backfilled after 1975 (Map 1, teal).

By 1898, the northern leg of the east corner of the moat is no longer shown, suggesting that it has been backfilled, and the north corner is shown by a single set of hachures, implying that the moat may no longer be fully extant here.

Ordnance Survey maps dating to 1900 and 1938, were not of a sufficient scale to show the full complexity of the moat. However, the ponds/reservoirs within the south, east and west corners of the moat, and the pond on the north corner of the island, are still visible on these maps.

Sheahan (1971, p177) stated that distinct traces of a deep moat and the remains of what appeared to be fish ponds were visible on the east side of the moat. Sheahan also observed frequent foundations of buildings.

The 1975 OS map shows that parts of the moat's west corner were still extant, but the remainder of the moat is either plotted as a single line of hachures, or is non-existent, indicating that most of the moat had been backfilled by this time.

A site visit (Network Archaeology Ltd, May 2000) found that the condition of the moat had changed little since 1975. Additional excavations appeared to have taken place on the west leg of the north corner of the moat, and a new ditch was seen running parallel to the exterior of the west leg of the moat's south corner (Map 1, red). The ditch was thought to be a field boundary or drainage channel, perhaps related to the swimming pool situated further west. The preserved, westernmost corner of the moat had three mature oaks and a mature cherry tree growing within it. Further probable remains of the moat were seen in the form of a ditch and bank, immediately east of the south corner.

7.5.2 *The Island, buildings and surrounds*

The Drake map and the Great Missenden Tithe map both show a pond towards the westernmost corner of the island, and a number of buildings: A, C, D, F, AH and AI (Map 1, purple).

7.5.3 Only two changes were recorded by the *Great Missenden Tithe* of 1839. An Orchard had been planted outside the south east side of the moat, and another building (AO) had been built against the north east edge of the island, towards the northern corner (Map 1, yellow).

7.5.4 By 1880, building AO appears to have been demolished, and replaced by buildings V and W (Map 1, pale blue) located a little further west (Ordnance

Survey 1880). There is the possibility, however, that AO was plotted incorrectly on the earlier tithe map, and that it actually represents buildings V and W. This seems unlikely considering that edge of the island provided a semi-fixed point, against which AO could be plotted.

Five buildings (I, AJ, AK, AL, AN) appeared on the site between 1880 and 1898 (Map 1, dark blue hatches). Building I was located partially over the moat, which must have been thoroughly consolidated by this time. All of the remaining new buildings lay outside the moated enclosure.

A great deal of demolition took place between 1898 and 1938. Four of the buildings (I, AJ, AL, AN) built between 1880 and 1898, are not plotted on the OS map of 1938. Building AJ is suspiciously similar in dimensions and orientation to building T. It is possible that inaccuracies of the 1898 map showing AJ, mean that the building was plotted slightly too far east, and in fact is the same as building T (OS 1975). However, there is unlikely to have been confusion over whether the building was located outside, or over the moat, and no buildings are shown in this area in 1938.

Redevelopment of the site, between 1941 and 1945, was recorded by a series of 'before and after' photographs, kept in an album by the present owners. Building AH, last plotted on the OS map of 1938, is recorded as having been demolished during this phase of development, although the northernmost end of this building must already have been demolished prior to 1941, in order to make way for the rear extension of Bury Farm House (C). Land to the south and west of the farm house, including the area where AH had stood were landscaped and turned into a garden. Renovation of farm buildings V and W, created a cottage and bungalow.

A tree covered mound, observed during a site visit (Network Archaeology Ltd, May 2000), towards the west side of the site is thought to be related to a concrete lined water tank which was sited in this corner of the moat during World War II.

The 1975 OS map confirms that some considerable changes took place between 1938 and 1975. Ten major new structures (I, J, N, O, P, Q, S, T, AG, AM) went up over the east corner of the site, both inside and outside the moated area. The farmhouse, cottage and bungalow were extended, a swimming pool was built, and a number of minor structures, including green houses (AA, AB) and lean-tos (B, E, AE) went up around the farm.

The pond, located towards the west corner of the site, and present on the nineteenth century Drake map, must have been backfilled during this period. The orchard on the 1839 Tithe map also disappeared between 1938 and 1975, as did buildings AI and AH.

A site visit (Network Archaeology Ltd, May 2000) revealed that two new structures (K, R) had been built (Map 1, red), three buildings (AF, AG, AM) had been demolished, and the pond in the northern corner of the site (first plotted in 1880) had been backfilled since 1975.

8. SITE VISIT

Further observations made during a site visit in May 2000 are as follows:

8.1 Barn A (Listed Grade II - 2/93)

Dated in the listing to the eighteenth century and thought by the farmer to be c.1720, this oak-framed barn has 7 bays and 2 gabled cart entrances. Parts of the timber framework are certainly original and possibly parts of the roof. The posts have curved jowls and curved braces. There are carpenters' marks throughout the building. These might be useful tools to assist in establishing the development of the building, and in establishing a broader chronology. The mid-rails are largely intact as are many of the studs. Some of the studs may be affected by the provision of new openings. Parts of the structure are clad with dark-stained weatherboarding and others have 1930s(?) brick nogging. Whilst Barn D is included in the listing for its "group value", Barn A is listed because of its special architectural/historic importance.

The roof has been lined and relaid using original tiles. The trusses are original. The ties carry curved principals which support two sets of purlins and a collar. There is a ridge plate, which has led to the suggestion that this barn may be younger than the adjacent smaller barn (*D*), which has pegged paired rafters and no ridge piece.

There is an outshot along the entire north west elevation. The small outshot (*G*) on the south east elevation is probably a nineteenth century addition, though it incorporates older timbers.

In the south west corner of Barn A there is a twentieth century brick-built room. The depth of its footings is uncertain.

The existing plans of this barn are external (ie. they show modern cladding and weatherboarding).

8.2 Barn (D) (listed grade II - 2/94)

Also listed as eighteenth century and believed by the farmer to be c.1720, this oak-framed barn has 4 bays and one gabled cart entrance. Parts of the timber framework are certainly original and possibly parts of the roof. Parts of the structure are clad with dark-stained weatherboarding and others have 1930s(?) brick nogging.

The construction is different to that of Barn A, the posts are not jowled, though there are curved braces and there is an outshot (along the south west elevation). There is a kingpost roof, which the listing describes as "not original". The kingposts and struts are sawn and decidedly newer than the purlins and rafters, but they are so well integrated into the framework that it seems the roof must have been dismantled and reassembled in order to accommodate them. The upper ends of the king-struts do not appear to be fixed. There are carpenters' marks throughout the building, including on the

relatively new truss timbers. The roof has been lined and relaid using original tiles.

Blockwork lining the north wall and southern bays of Barn D was introduced by the present farmer and does not have significant foundations. The modern brick wall which partitions off the north end of Barn D may have deeper footings.

The adjoining cartshed (F) was still open on the south west side in the 1940s. The old clay tile roof is hipped at the north west end. There are 3 bays and a queenpost roof construction. Although it post-dates Barn D, it may also be of eighteenth or nineteenth century origin.

The tile-hung lean-to (B) at the southern end of Barn D contains reused timbers from an older building, and has a central brick partition wall of unknown foundation depth. The lean-to is roofed with old clay tiles and built of Flemish bond brickwork, suggesting a nineteenth or early twentieth century origin.

There is a small outshot (E) at the southern end of the north east elevation. Probably of twentieth century origin, the outshot consists of a brick plinth and weatherboarded superstructure.

The existing plans of this barn are external (ie. they show modern cladding and weatherboarding).

8.3 Ground Conditions

The entire farmyard is currently under concrete, with the exception of a small square of timbers laid north to south, just to the north west of the silage clamp (Map 2). There is gravel over the concrete in the area bounded by the barns (A, D), the cottage and the farmhouse. There is concrete flooring in all the farm buildings.

The back gardens of Bury Farm Cottage and Bury Farm Bungalow are under lawn, with a series of bird cages along the eastern perimeter fence. It is unlikely that these cages have significant footings.

The farmhouse garden lies in the west corner of the proposed development area, and is also under lawn, with flowerbeds, and a patio on the south side of the farmhouse. A flower and tree-covered mound, over 2m high and roughly 25m long, runs parallel to the southern perimeter fence of the garden, and may be related to a concrete-lined water-tank which was sited in this corner of the moat during World War Two.

Inside the north western arm of the moat, just west of the pond, there are two greenhouses (Map 1, AA & AB), which are unlikely to have deep footings. The perimeter fence here is lined with trees, shrubs and holly bushes. In the western corner three mature oaks are growing inside the moat, and about 20m west of the pond there is a mature cherry tree growing in the centre of the moat.

There are a number of boundaries which could be classed as having hedgerows, but none of these meet the historical criteria required by the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 (Section 97 of the Environment Act 1995).

9. SIGNIFICANCE

To establish significance necessarily requires the barns at Bury Farm to be considered in their wider setting. However, the lack of previous, systematic study of such barns makes this difficult.

9.1 Lack of comparative sites

English Heritage has carried out a study of East Anglian farm buildings, but so far there has been no such work on barns in the Buckinghamshire/Hertfordshire area. Pevsner's "Buildings of England Series" gives a broad overview of buildings by county and provides some information on comparable barns in the vicinity of Bury Farm. Pevsner's omission of the barns at Bury Farm may stem from a general bias against vernacular architecture, but it indicates that the series provides an incomplete picture. Pevsner lists only eight, 18th century or possibly 18th century farm buildings in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire. The nearest is a granary building at the Manor House in Cublington, c. 20km from Bury Farm. The most distant is a brick-fronted barn (possibly 18th century) at Westmill Bury, Westmill near Braughing. The others are all about 30km away:

- Codicote, Tithe Farm - two barns, ?18th century, weatherboarded, one converted to house,
- Monken Hadley, Gladsmuir House - weatherboarded, timber-framed barn, 18th century
- Monkenmead, Hadley Wood Rd - barn 18th century
- Totteridge, Pound House - weatherboarded barn 18th century
- Totteridge, Laurel Farm - barn, 18th century

A greater number of earlier barns are mentioned by Pevsner. Within c.15 miles of Bury farm lie barns at:

- Manor Farmhouse, Green, Haddenham - barn, 15th century, roof with tie-beams and queenposts, weatherboarded
- Wellwick Manor, Pound St, Wendover - barn, Elizabethan/Jacobean (c1550 - 1630), weatherboarded barns (c1616)
- Grange Farm, Quainton - barn, Medieval, roof with queenpost (pre-Reformation)
- Church Farm, Edlesborough - barn, 16th century, timber-framed with brick infilling (mid C16)
- Grove Farm, Ashley Green - barn, 15th century, part of former domestic building; barn, 16th century, part of former domestic building (C15 or early C16)
- Moat House, Shreding Green, Iver - barn, Elizabethan/Jacobean (c1550 - 1630) two other barns c.1600
- Rentstreet Barns, Bovingdon - 17th century, timber-framed barn
- Parsonage Farm, Abbots Langley - Medieval, aisled barn
- Ashridge College, Little Gaddesden - Medieval, much altered barn
- Croxley Hall Farm, Croxley Green - 14th century barn, aisled, with crown-post roof (?c.1400AD)

Also within a c. 20km radius of Bury Farm Pevsner lists undated barns at:

- Bank Farmhouse, Tring Rd - weatherboarded barn,
- Manor Farm, Wendover Dean - weatherboarded barn,
- Manor House, Bledlow - weatherboarded barn,
- Manor Farm, Little Hampden - weatherboarded barn,
- Frogmore Farmhouse, Saunderton - barn, seven bays
- Great Pednor, Pednor - barn with massive timbers
- Lodge Farm, Medmenham - timber-framed barn
- Old Jordans Farm (former), Jordans - barn, ?built with timber from the 'Mayflower'
- Parson's Close, Horn St, Winslow - barn
- Parsonage Farmhouse, Penn - barn and square granary
- Prebendal School, Aylesbury - barn with queenpost roof
- Spade Oak Farm, Little Marlow - barn
- Turville Grange, Turville Heath - barn
- Wooster's Farm, Meadle - barn, cruck construction
- Hadham Hall, Little Hadham - brick barn
- Church Farmhouse, Aldenham - barn
- Pale Farm, Chipperfield - barn

Some of these undated barns may be contemporary with those at Bury Farm. Comparative studies of dated barns in the immediate vicinity could help to indicate the age of undated examples. There would appear to be enough medieval and (apparently) undated barns in the Great Missenden area to provide a basis for locally-based typological study. The barns at Bury Farm are quite well preserved and could thus contribute to the study of Post-medieval developments.

There are surely more 18th century barns in the area than Pevsner recognises, but the lack of research, and in particular the uncertain dating of many barns makes it almost impossible to assess the specific importance of those at Bury Farm. Consequently, the only indicator as to their general significance is their listing status (grade II), which indicates that English Heritage regard them as nationally important.

10. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

Four main activities are encompassed by the development proposals: renovation, demolition, groundworks and construction:

10.1 Renovation

Barn A (listed Grade II - 2/93)

Barn D (listed grade II - 2/94)

Renovation of both these structures will involve:

- removal of the internal concrete flooring
- excavation of narrow trenches at intervals across the width of the barns to provide footings for new internal structures.
- the partial removal of 1930s(?) brick nogging
- the relining of the roofs and re-laying of the roof tiles.

Cart Shed F

- to be converted for use as two garaging units, integral with Barn D

10.2 Demolition

- the small outshot (G) on the south east elevation of Barn A
- the modern lean-to (B) at the southern end of Barn D
- the small, modern outshot (E) at the southern end of the east elevation of Barn D
- modern structures: H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T

10.3 Groundworks

- external ground level is to be reduced by approximately 1m in a strip about 5m wide adjacent to the north north-west elevation of Barn A, though the ground level at the cart entrances will remain virtually unchanged.
- excavation beside both of Barn D's main elevations.
- water pipes and drainage
- removal of shrubbery and larch tree on west side of the development area, between Bury Farm House and the swimming pool

10.4 Construction

- single garage north east of cottage W
- single garage north west of bungalow V
- double garage south of swimming pool and west of moat
- two garaging units immediately north west of cow shed N
- access track around the southern end of the proposed development area
- brick walls demarcating rear gardens to south and east sides of barns A and D

11 IMPACTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 Renovations

Impacts on Barns A, D, & Cartshed F:

The appearance and function of these structures will be altered, and parts of their original fabric could be removed, particularly by the provision of new openings, although care has been taken to use existing, glazed cart shed door openings to supply light to the interior. Reuse of salvaged timber will largely be restricted to internal partitions (eg. barns A, D and F), which will be clearly recognisable as the modern adaptation to domestic use. The conversion design is sympathetic to the form and scale of the original structure. Original bays are to become large, first floor living spaces, three of which are open to the roof, and the open hallway spaces also respect the scale of the original building.

Narrow trenches to be excavated at intervals across each building are expected to be about one metre deep and may therefore impinge upon significant archaeological deposits.

Recommendations: The impact of the proposed alterations upon original fabric is unknown. If it can be demonstrated that there is no impact, there will be no legal obligation to undertake any level of recording of the buildings. However, if the proposed alterations are to affect the original fabric, it may be appropriate to undertake limited recording prior to renovation. The Conservation Officer for Chilterns District Council is responsible for making this assessment.

A record of Barns A and D, and Cartshed F could include the adjoining structures B and G, which are to be demolished (see para. 10.2). The record could consist of a written account supplemented by monochrome photographs and drawings (see Appendix D).

The removal of internal concrete ground surfaces and the excavation of trenches, at intervals, across the buildings may require archaeological monitoring.

11.2 Demolition

Impact of Demolition of Buildings/Structures B, E, G, H, I, J, L, M, O, P, Q, R, S, T, & AE: Most of these buildings are modern, having been mapped for the first time by OS in 1975, and half lie outside the moated area. The buildings themselves are of no archaeological significance, except for B and G, which contain reused material of possible interest. The sites of former buildings AK, AL, and AP, which underlie some of the modern buildings, are also relatively recent, and of no archaeological significance.

Below ground works could encounter significant archaeological deposits, but in view of so much recent disturbance, this is unlikely. Barns S and T and the silage clamp (R), all overly parts of the moat where there is a greater possibility for archaeological survival.

Recommendations: It may be appropriate to conduct an archaeological watching brief of structures R, S and T in order to investigate and record potential below ground archaeological deposits. No other recommendations are made.

11.3 Groundworks

Impacts of Ground Level Reduction: A one metre reduction in ground level adjacent to the north north-west elevation of Barn A, and excavation beside both of Barn D's main elevations, may extend below the depth of recently disturbed ground.

Recommendations: An archaeological watching brief may be required to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains, and provide an opportunity to record them.

Impacts of Drainage: The configuration of the drainage system is to be decided once ground conditions are properly understood (i.e. once work has commenced). The drainage trenches, measuring about 0.6m deep x 0.6m wide, may extend below the depth of recently disturbed ground. There are 2 manholes in Potter Row: one opposite the main driveway and another due east of Bury Farm Bungalow. There is a septic tank by the eastern end of the Dutch Barn (building S).

Impacts of Water Mains: New water pipes will be required for the development, but their configuration has yet to be established, although they will certainly be running through the moated area. The water main runs along the north western perimeter fence. Water is piped to the swimming pool along the south western perimeter fence and to the farmhouse and dairy along a boundary oriented roughly west to east, bisecting the moat.

Recommendations: Specific recommendations cannot be made at present, although an archaeological watching brief of trenches dug for major services may ultimately be necessary in order to record archaeological deposits encountered.

Impact of concrete removal from yard: Large areas of concrete, presently covering the farm yard, may be removed to enable landscaping. The more sensitive areas, where recent disturbance have been limited, may be affected by this activity.

Recommendations: Until full details are known, specific recommendations cannot be made, although a watching brief of the more sensitive areas may be necessary.

Impact of the removal of the shrubbery and larch tree: The leaning larch on the western side of the moat is to be sawn down. There are no plans at present to grub out the stump, but this may change. The present plans will have no impact on any archaeological deposits.

Recommendations: none

11.4 Construction

Impact of Garages: All the garages are to be constructed on concrete rafts set to a depth of 0.6m, which may be below the depth of recently disturbed ground. The potential for significant archaeology is low in the vicinity of the double garage to the south of the swimming pool and the double garaging unit north of Cow Shed N: The garages will lie outside the moated area, and the latter will be constructed on an area which has already seen a great deal of recent disturbance. There is a higher potential for the presence and survival of archaeological deposits in the vicinity of the bungalow and the cottage, where two single garages are proposed: This area lies on the island, in an area which has seen little recent disturbance.

Recommendations: An archaeological trench evaluation could be conducted on the proposed sites of the two single garages, prior to their construction. This would involve the machine excavation, investigation and recording of a single, c. two metre wide trench along the centre of the long axis of each building. As the garage behind the bungalow may be withdrawn from the proposal, this may only be necessary for the garage to the rear of the cottage.

Impacts of Access Track: Most of the development area crossed by the proposed track has already been disturbed by late nineteenth and twentieth century development, including former buildings AK and AL which were first mapped by OS in 1898, and a number of late twentieth century buildings (to be demolished - see para. 10.2). The track lies mainly outside the moated area, skirting its southern perimeter, although the track crosses the south west side of the moat at one point. It is envisaged that no more than 0.25m depth of excavation will be required to lay the track for the new complex, and it is expected that over most parts, recent disturbances probably reach below this depth.

Recommendations: Hand augering along the line of the proposed track, where it crosses the moat could establish the depth of recently disturbed ground, and the need for a watching brief of this area. The augering could take place in conjunction with other archaeological investigations, prior to construction.

Impacts of new brick walls: The brick walls are expected to have footings 0.5 to 0.6m deep, and where the walls cross softer ground (particularly where one crosses the backfilled moat at right angles) it may be necessary to introduce concrete raft foundations. The walls may have an impact below the depth of recently disturbed ground.

Recommendations: A watching brief of the excavation of the wall trenches could be carried out on an opportunistic basis, in order to establish and record the presence or absence of archaeological deposits.

12. STATEMENT OF INDEMNITY

Every effort has been taken in the preparation and submission of this report in order to provide as complete an assessment as possible within the terms of the brief, and all statements and opinions are offered in good faith. Network Archaeology Ltd cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for any loss or other consequences arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this report and any supplementary papers, howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived, or as a result of unknown and undiscovered sites of artefacts.

13. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Finance Act, 1910

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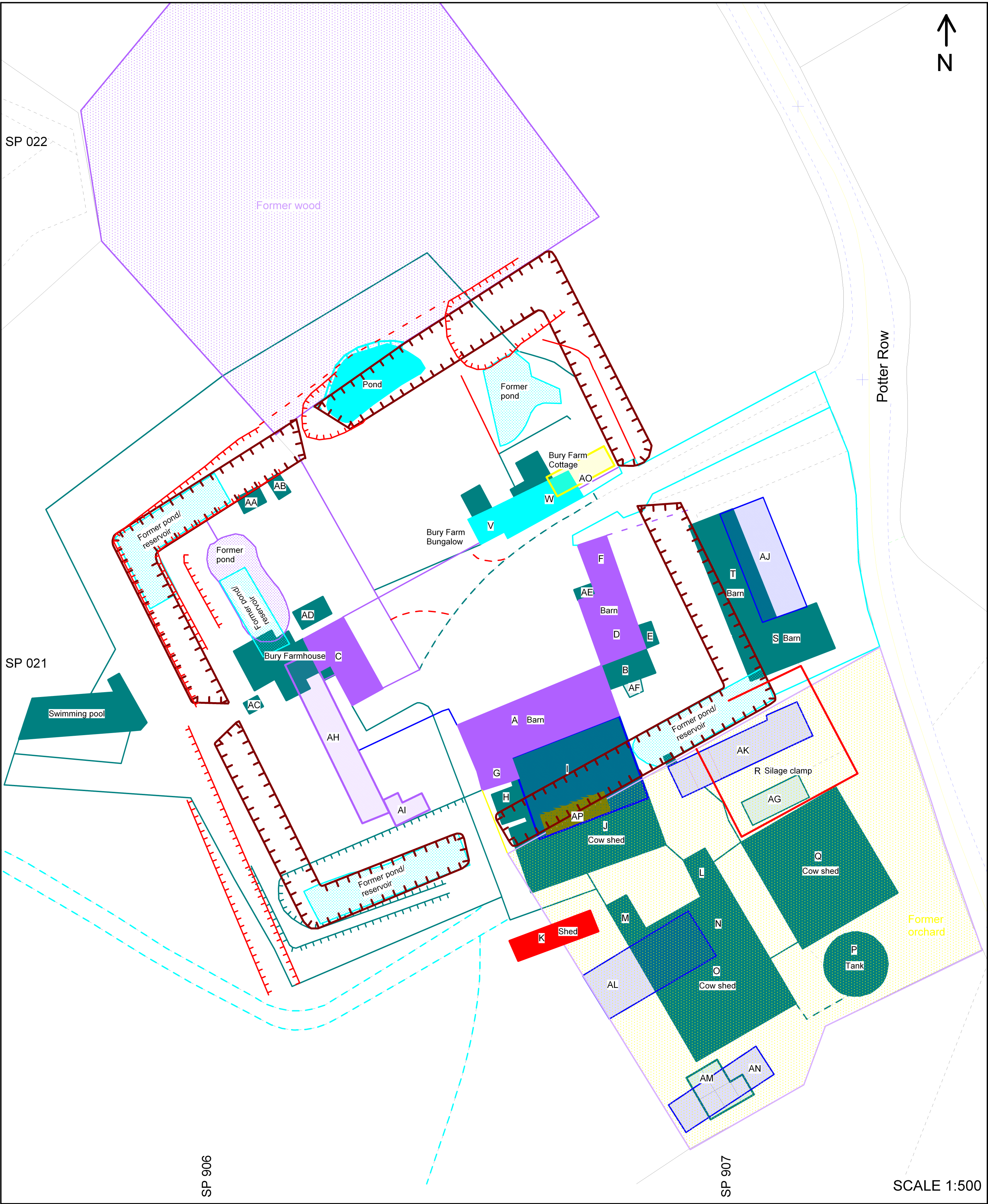
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APPENDIX A
Gazetteer of archaeological sites

SMR Reference	Description	Period	Grid Reference (SP)
SAM 27151	EW:enclosure, ringwork	?Med	9001 0126
SAM 27157	EW:enclosure,moated site	Med	9166 0207
LB 1/91	Sedges Farmhouse	?C17	8912 0008
LB 1/96	Hammonds Hall Farmhouse	?C17	8974 0312
LB 1/97	Rignalls Farmhouse	C18	8808 0208
LB 2/93	large barn at Bury Farmhouse	C18	9066 0209
LB 2/94	timber frame barn at Bury Farm	C18	9068 0211
LB 2/95	granary at Bury Farm	C18	9065 0212
CASS 0174	castle hill enclosure, moated site,pottery,slag	?Roman/ Med	9086 0042
CASS 0384	Bury Farm	Med/PM	9064 0205
CASS 0385	?manor moated site	Med	9250 0282
CASS 0548	EW:enclosure, Jenkins Wood	?Med	9043 0219
CASS 1738	EW:enclosure, house platforms,village	Med	8975 0435
CASS 1855	Missenden Abbey,fishpond,mansion	Med/PM	8975 0100
CASS 2238	church of St John Baptist	Med	8978 0438
CASS 2341	pottery kiln	PM	9032 0253
CASS 2577	pottery kiln Potter Row	PM	9029 0270
CASS 4479	flints	Neo/BA	9069 0156
CASS 4873	flint scatter	Neo/BA	9041 0287
CASS 5238	EW:enclosure	?Med	9069 0237

APPENDIX B

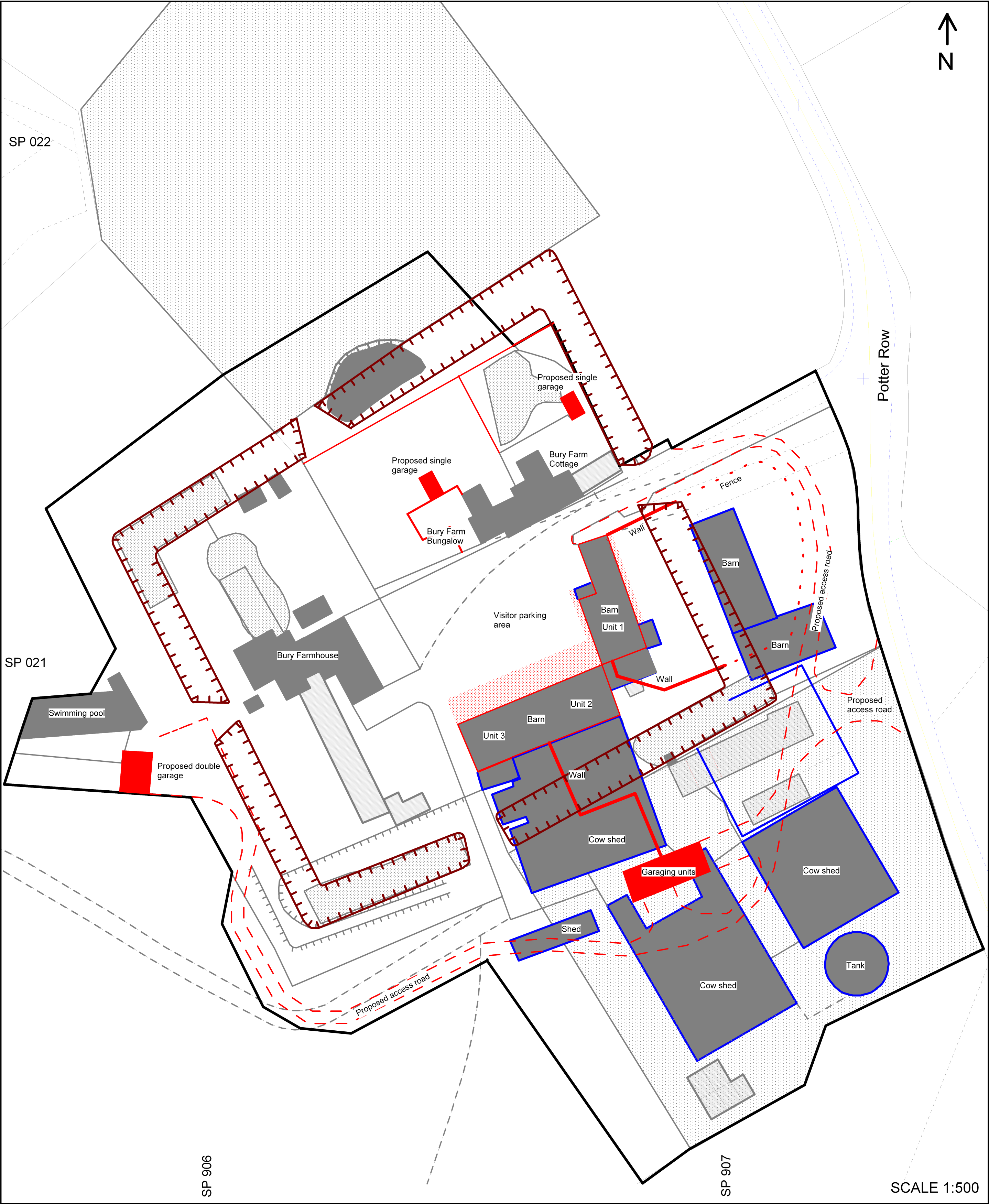
Maps 1-2



- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| Building (existing), coloured according to period when first recorded | Missenden Bury Farm Belonging to T T Drake Esq (undated) | Ordnance Survey Bucks sheet 38 SE (1938) |
| Building (former), coloured according to period when first recorded | Great Missenden Tithe (1839) | Ordnance Survey Bucks sheet 38 SE (1975) |
| Other (former), coloured according to period when first recorded | Ordnance Survey Bucks Sheet 38 SE (1880) | Site visit (2000) |
| | Ordnance Survey Bucks sheet 38.11 (1898) | Moat (accuracy from ordnance survey data and detail from earlier cartographic sources) |

MAP 1
Historical development of Bury Farm

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- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | Building (existing) |  | Existing building to be developed |
|  | Building (former) |  | Existing building to be removed |
|  | Other (former) |  | Proposed new buildings |
|  | Proposed development area |  | Proposed area of ground reduction |
|  | Moat | | |

MAP 2
Proposed development of Bury Farm
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APPENDIX C

Cartographic Extracts



Figure 1: Bury Farm, Great Missenden

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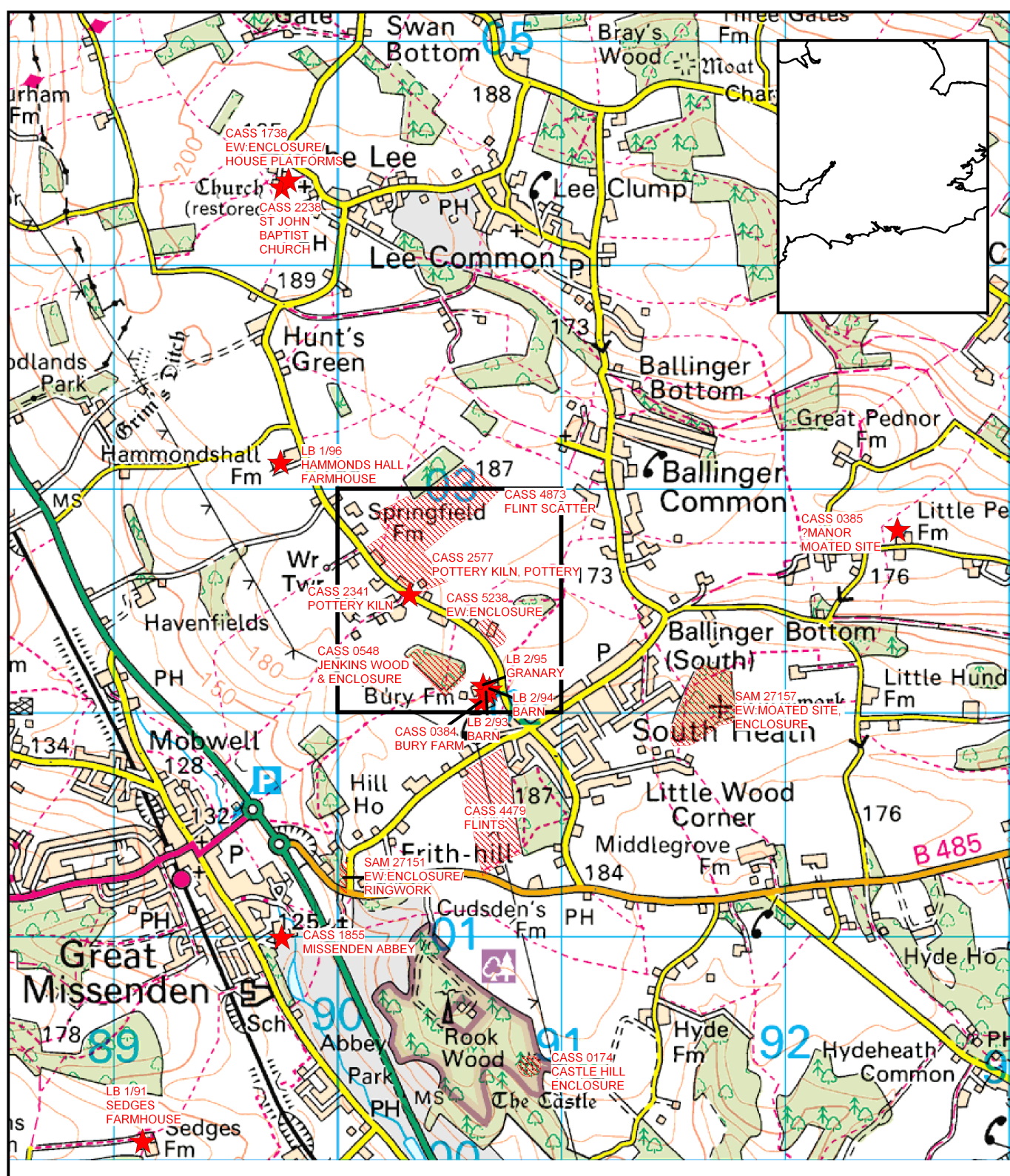


Figure 2: Sites and Monuments Record surrounding Bury Farm, Great Missenden

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APPENDIX D

Building recording methodology

Building recording methodology

The photographic record could include:

- any external or internal detail relevant to design, development or function (e.g. roof trusses)
- the overall appearance of the interior spaces: internal elevations (see below) general views of the exterior
- views showing the relationships of the barns to each other, to the farmhouse and to the surrounding farm buildings

The brief written account could include:

- the precise location of the buildings and date of the record
- a brief outline of the plan, form, function, age and development sequence and any supporting evidence for this analysis
- a statement of past and present use
- a brief account of any fixtures, fittings, plant or machinery associated with the buildings
- any evidence for the former existence of demolished structures or plant associated with the buildings
- a note of the buildings' past and present relationships to their setting
- relevant information from readily available sources (e.g. published books, owners and builders)
- a note of the location of any other records of the buildings

The drawn record could include:

- a 1:100 scale ground plan of both barns and their adjoining structures, showing the locations of the photographs
- a 1:20 or 1:50 section across the smaller barn showing one of the replacement kingpost trusses
- a 1:20 or 1:50 section across the large barn showing a roof truss, jowled uprights and lean-to
- a 1:20 or 1:50 gable-end elevation of the smaller barn showing one of the queen-strut trusses.
- sketches drawn to scale as appropriate (see below)

The record would be made in advance of works and would seek to identify any original fabric. Areas of original fabric could be shown either on sketches drawn to scale or on scale elevations. The siting of any new openings could be decided in the light of this analysis in order to minimise disturbance to the original timber frame.

Full coverage of internal elevations can be provided by either:

- photographs supplemented by sketches drawn to scale where camera access is restricted, or
- scale drawings of all the internal elevations of the two barns