

**HERITAGE ASSET IMPACT ASSESSMENT:
LAND WEST OF BUNTINGFORD,
HERTFORDSHIRE**

*on behalf of
Vistry Homes Ltd*



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July 2023

Project reference: Ickniel Archaeology Ltd: 1917/BLW/1

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Site Data

<i>National Grid Ref (to 8 figs):</i>	TL 385 270
<i>Extent of site:</i>	28.95 hectares
<i>Present use:</i>	Agricultural land
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except for access) for development of 350 dwellings, with up to 4,400 sq m of commercial and services floorspace (Use Class E and B8), and up to 500 sq m of retail floorspace (Use Classes E) and other associated works including drainage, access into the site from the A10 and Luynes Rise (but no access within the site), allotments, public open space and landscaping.
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	East Hertfordshire District Council
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	3/17/1811/OUT
<i>Date of assessment:</i>	January 2013 (now updated 2017, 2022 & 2023)
<i>Commissioned by:</i>	Moult Walker Chartered Surveyors 5 Bridge Street Bishops Stortford Hertfordshire CM23 2JU
<i>Client:</i>	Vistry Homes Ltd Cleeve Hall Bishops Cleeve Cheltenham GL52 8GD
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Internal Quality Check

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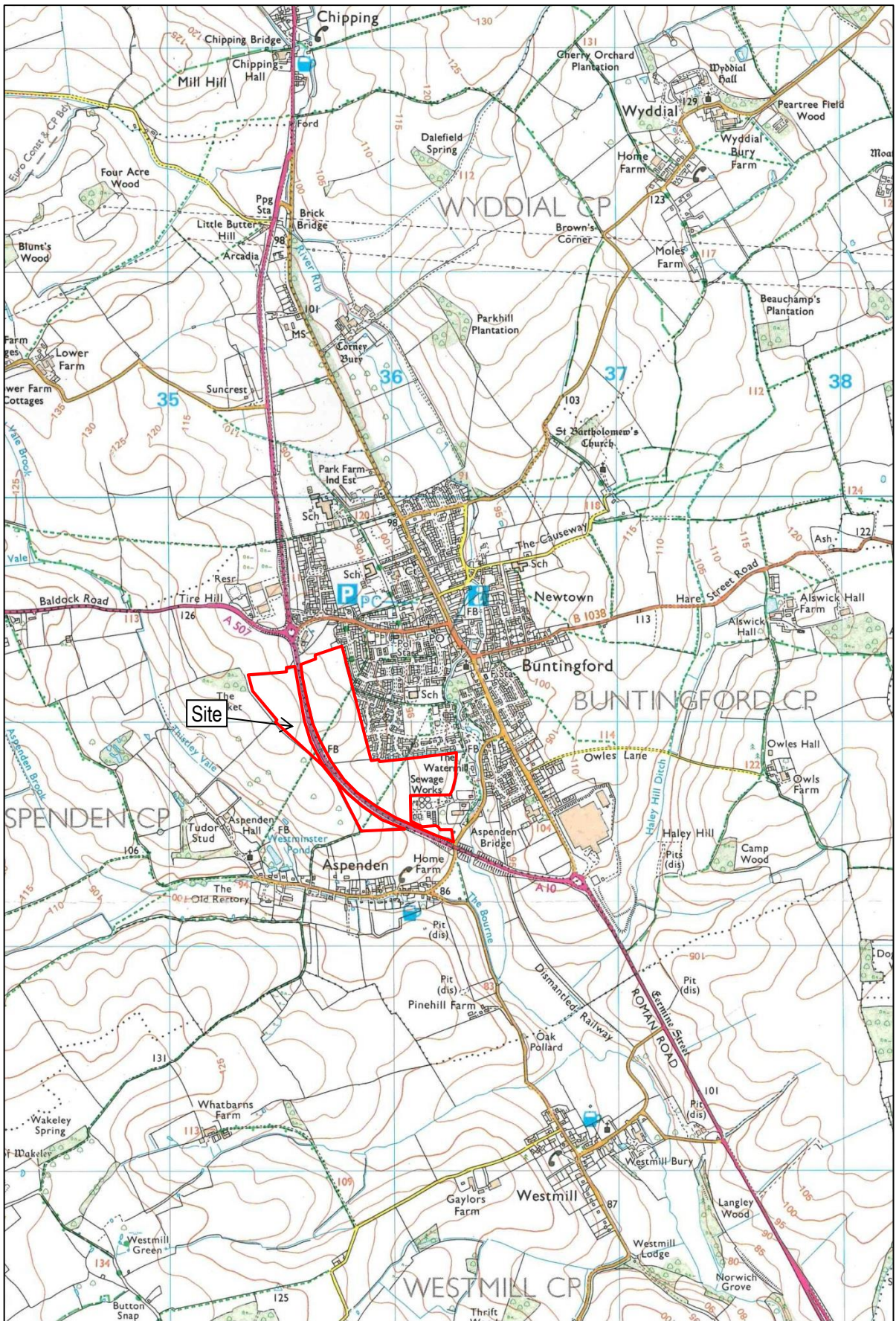


Figure 1: General location (Scale 1:25,000)

Summary

A heritage asset impact assessment was prepared for an area of land west of Buntingford, Hertfordshire in order to inform proposals for the development of the area. The original work relied on a walkover survey and historic mapping which suggested that the majority of the assessment area probably comprised open land since at least the 18th century. The present assessment has been greatly enhanced by the addition of a geophysical survey and extensive trial trenching across the entire area of the proposed development in 2015. The evaluation revealed significant archaeological features concentrated in the north and south west of site on predominantly higher ground. These consisted of a segmented enclosure of middle to late Bronze Age date (c. 1500-1100 BC), later Iron Age activity (350 BC-AD 50) and Romano-British field boundaries (AD 1st-2nd century). The finds suggest a degree of continuity between the Iron Age and Roman periods with little discernible activity into the post-Roman and medieval periods.

1. Introduction

1.1 In 2022 *Ickniel Archaeology Ltd* revised a heritage asset impact assess of an area of land west of Buntingford, Hertfordshire. This original project was commissioned in 2012 by *Moult Walker* on behalf of *Wattsdown Ltd* and was carried out according to a standard method statement prepared by *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) and approved by the *Historic Environment Unit* of *Hertfordshire County Council*, archaeological advisor (AA) to the local planning authority (LPA), *East Hertfordshire District Council*.

The document was revised by *Ickniel Archaeology Ltd* under the auspices of David Fell BA MA MCIfA & Jonathan Hunn BA PhD FSA MCIfA and revised again in 2017 and 2022 (this document).

1.2 This document refers to that part of the proposed development which lies west of Aspenden Road (Planning Ref: 3/17/1811/OUT; 2/8/17). The area east of Aspenden Road is the subject of a separate assessment (Fell 2012), which should be read in conjunction with this report.

1.3 *Management*

The original assessment was managed by and was carried out under the overall direction of Bob Zeepvat BA MCIFA (ASC: 1569/BLW). This revised document was undertaken by Jonathan Hunn BA PhD FSA MCIfA in 2017.

1.4 *The Site*

1.4.1 *Location & Description*

The assessment area is at Buntingford, in the administrative district of East Hertfordshire (Fig. 1). It comprises three irregular shaped areas of land totalling c.30 ha, separated by the A10 Buntingford bypass. The land to the east of the bypass is referred to as land Parcels 1, 2, 3 and 4. That to the west comprise Parcels 5 and 6 (Fig. 2); these areas are included in the assessment although they are not currently within the application red line. The two areas a linked by a footbridge over the bypass, which is located at the approximate centre of the

assessment area at Ordnance Survey national grid reference TL 385 290. The land drops from west to east and the elevation varies between c.120m OD west of the bypass and c.90m OD at Aspenden Lane to the east.

A detailed description of the assessment site appears in Section 3 of this report.

1.4.2 *Geology*

The natural soils of the assessment site comprise the Melford Association, namely deep well drained fine loamy soils with calcareous clayey subsoil (Soil Survey 1983, 571o). The underlying geology comprises Chalky Till over Upper Chalk (BGS, Sheet 221).

1.4.3 *Proposed Development*

The proposed development comprises:

Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except for access) for development of 350 dwellings, with up to 4,400 sq m of commercial and services floorspace (Use Class E and B8), and up to 500 sq m of retail floorspace (Use Classes E) and other associated works including drainage, access into the site from the A10 and Luynes Rise (but no access within the site), allotments, public open space and landscaping.

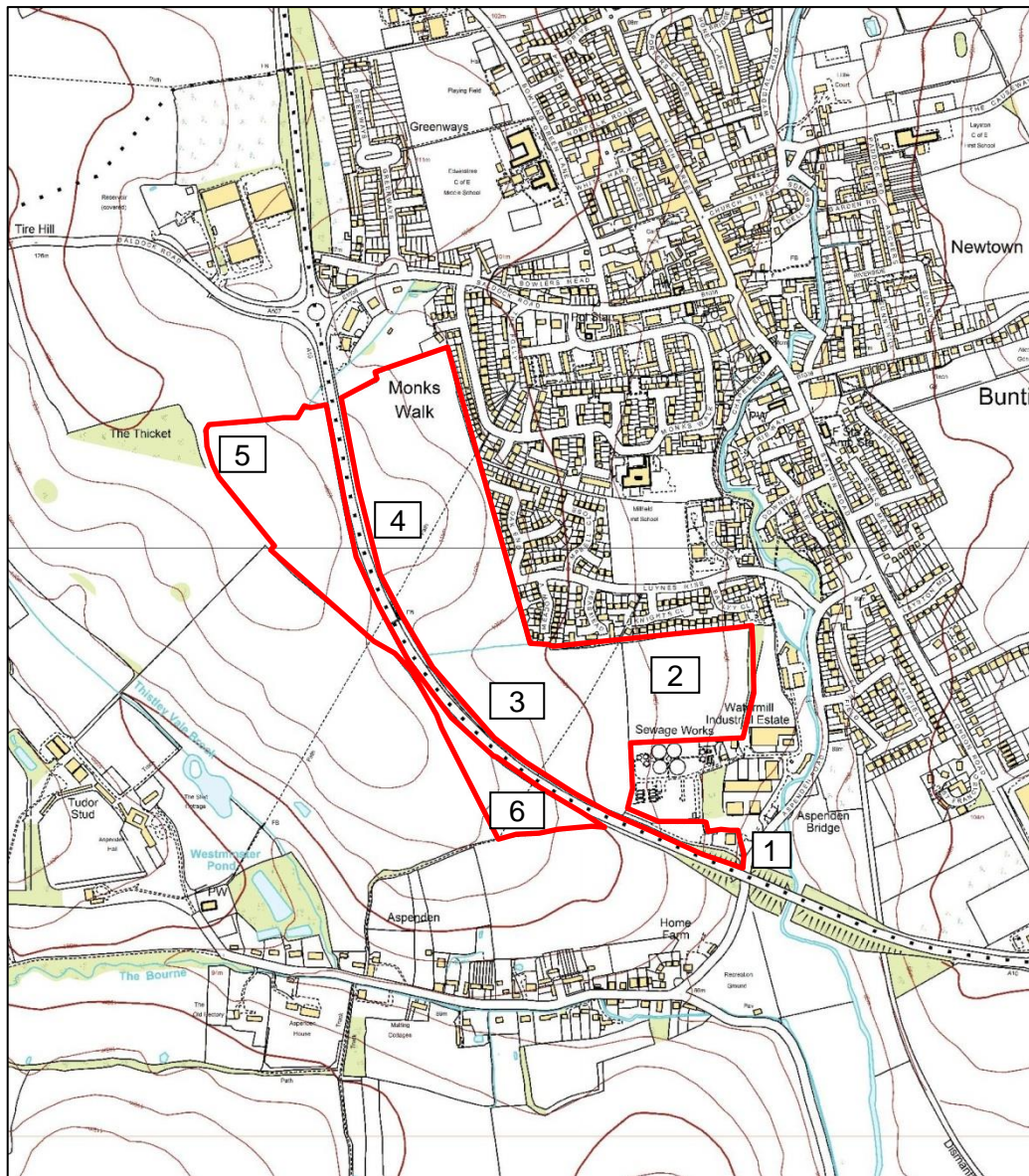


Figure 2: Site location (Scale 1:5000)



Figure 3: Land use Plan (not to scale)

2. Aims & Methods

- 2.1 ‘Desk-based assessment is a programme of a study of the historic environment within a specified area or site ... that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate’ (CIFA 2014).
- 2.2 The assessment was carried out according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists’ *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (CIFA 2014).
- 2.3 The following readily available sources of information were consulted for the assessment:
- 2.3.1 *Archaeological Databases*
Archaeological databases represent the standard references to the known archaeology of an area. The principal source consulted was the Hertfordshire *Historic Environment Record* (HER), County Hall, Hertford. The study area employed in the HER search includes the site itself, and a surrounding area of approximately 0.5km radius.
- 2.3.2 *Historic Documents*
Documentary research provides an overview of the history of a site and its environs, suggesting the effects of settlement and land-use patterns. The principal source consulted was *Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies* (HALS).
- 2.3.3 *Cartographic & Pictorial Documents*
Old maps and illustrations are normally a very productive area of research. The principal source consulted was HALS.
- 2.3.4 *Air Photographs*
Given favourable light and crop conditions, air photographs can reveal buried features in the form of crop and soil marks. They can also provide an overview of and more specific information about land use at a given time. The principal source consulted was HALS.
- 2.3.5 *Light Detection & Ranging (Lidar)*
This is a remote sensing technique method used to examine the surface of the earth. The airborne mapping technique uses lasers to measure the distance between the aircraft and the ground at a rate of 100,000 measurements per second. This allows the creation of detailed terrain models to be generated between 0.25m and 2m range. Some 70% of the England & Wales has been mapped using this technique by the Environment Agency’s specialist remote sensing team (© Environment Agency 2015).

2.3.6 *Geotechnical Information*

A description of the topography and solid and surface geology of the site and its environs was compiled, so as to appreciate the potential condition of any archaeological remains, to assess the hydrological conditions, and to appraise the potential for the survival of buried waterlogged archaeological and palaeo-environmental deposits.

2.3.7 *Archaeological Evaluation*

A total of 68 trial trenches were dug across the application area which amounted to 5967 sq. m or 3.19% of its footprint (i.e 3315m of trenches x 1.8m wide machine bucket. The field work was undertaken between 22/6/15 and 13/7/15 (OASIS ID preconst1-22102). See Figures 15-19 (after Jones 2016, Figs 4-8).

2.3.8 *Secondary & Statutory Sources*

The principal source consulted was HALS and ASC's in-house library.

2.4 *Walkover Survey*

As part of the assessment a walkover survey of the site was undertaken on 12th October 2012, with the following aims:

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

3. Walkover Survey

3.1 *Extent, Access & Present Use*

The assessment site comprises an irregular area of land of c.30 ha west of Buntingford town centre (Fig. 1). It is bounded by open land to the north and west, housing development on the west side of Buntingford to the east and the A10 Buntingford Bypass to the south. The area is effectively divided into two by the bypass which is aligned from northwest to southeast and separates land parcels 1-4 from parcels 5-6.

3.2 *Buildings*

A number of buildings are present in Parcel 1 (Plate 1). They comprise modern light industrial buildings and are unlikely to be considered to be of historical or architectural significance.

No other buildings or other structures are present in the assessment area.

3.3 *Services*

A number of service runs are present across the assessment area, notably overhead cables which traverse Parcels 1, 2, 3 and the south part of Parcel 5. Buried service runs may be expected across the area, notably in Parcel 1 to serve the industrial buildings. Drainage runs serving the Buntingford Bypass may be present on the periphery of Parcels 3, 4, 5 and 6.

A complete service search has not been made for the purposes of this assessment.

3.4 *Land Parcel 1*

Parcel 1 is the most southerly of the areas and comprises a subrectangular parcel of land of c.0.45 ha. It is bounded by the Buntingford bypass to the south and west, by Aspenden Lane to the east and Buntingford Sewage Works and the Watermill Industrial Estate to the north. Access is from the east, off Aspenden Lane (Plate 1).

The land is currently occupied by the offices and yard of *Jack Poulton & Son*. A number of modern industrial buildings are situated across the area and the land in the centre slopes from west to east suggesting that the east part of the area has been terraced, probably to accommodate the buildings and access road (Plate 2).

An overhead cable traverses this area from east to west and continues into Parcel 3.

No archaeological sites or artefacts were observed in this land parcel during the walkover survey.



Plate 1: Land Parcel 1 looking west from Aspenden Lane



Plate 2: View from the west end of Parcel 1

3.5 *Land Parcel 2*

Parcel 2 comprises a rectangular parcel of land of *c.*3.8 ha and at the time of the survey was in use as arable field (Plate 3). Access is from the south from the Watermill Industrial Estate.

The east side is defined by unmanaged trees. The latter continues along the south side of the area and separates the arable land from the Buntingford Sewage Works. A gap in the hedgeline at the southwest corner allows access between Parcels 2 and 3 and the hedge continues to the north, defining the west boundary of this parcel. Buildings to the rear of Knights Close lie to the north of the area and are separated from the field by a further hedgerow.

An overhead cable traverses the west part of the area and is aligned from southwest to northeast.

The visit did not reveal the presence of buried archaeological remains or artefacts.



Plate 3: Parcel 2 looking north from the Watermill Industrial Estate

3.6 *Land Parcel 3*

Parcel 3 comprises a rectangular area of land of *c.*9.7 ha. Its southwest boundary is defined by a hedge which separates it from the bypass. A gap at the northwest corner allows access to Parcel 4 and the hedge continues along the remainder of northern boundary. The east side is defined by a further hedge which separates Parcel 3 from Parcel 2. The hedge continues to the south shielding the area from the sewage works.

The overhead cables observed in Parcels 1 and 2 continue into this area and traverses the south and east parts of the area. A public footpath traverses the plot from southwest to northeast, where a gap in the hedge on the north boundary provides pedestrian access from Knights Close. At the time of the survey the land was utilised as an arable field.

No archaeological sites or artefacts were observed in this land parcel.



Plate 4: Parcel 3 looking south along the east boundary



Plate 5: Parcel 3 looking east from the west boundary



Plate 6: Parcel 3 looking north along the west boundary towards Parcel 4

3.7 *Land Parcel 4*

Land Parcel 4 is situated in the northern part of the assessment area and comprises a subrectangular plot of *c.* 10 ha (Plate 7). The bypass follows the entire western boundary, while a gap at the southwest corner allows access to Parcel 3. The remainder of the south boundary comprises a hedgerow (Plates 8 and 9). The east side of the plot follows the rear gardens of houses along Monks Walk, Oak End and Meadow View, from which it is separated by a hedge. The latter continues along the northern boundary and meets the bypass at the northwest corner of the land parcel.

Access to Parcel 4 is from the west, off the Buntingford bypass, and from Parcel 3 via gap in the hedge at the southwest corner. A public footpath from Aspenden is carried over the bypass by a footbridge and traverses the plot from southwest to northeast. A gap in the hedge on the east side of the plot provides pedestrian access to Monks Walk.

The land is slightly undulating with a drop to the south, towards Parcel 3. At the time of the survey the plot was in use as an arable field and no archaeological features or artefacts were observed during the survey.



Plate 7: Land Parcel 4 looking north from the footbridge over the Buntingford Bypass



Plate 8: Parcels 3 and 4 from footbridge over the Buntingford Bypass



Plate 9: Parcel 4 looking south along the west boundary towards Parcel 3

3.8 **Land Parcel 5**

Land Parcel 5 is situated on the west side of the bypass and comprises the northwest part of the assessment area. It comprises a triangular plot of land of c.4 ha and at the time of the survey comprised an arable field (Plates 10 and 11). Access is available from the bypass and also Parcel 6 from the south.

The east side of the parcel is defined by a hedge following the west side of the Buntingford bypass. The north side comprises a continuation of the hedge, which separates the plot from an arable field to the north before diverting to the south along the east side of the plot and joining the bypass to the south. A public footpath traverses the south part of this plot and continues into Parcel 4.

No archaeological features or artefacts were observed in Parcel 5.



Plate 10: Parcel 5 looking north



Plate 11: Parcel 5 looking north from the footbridge over the Buntingford Bypass

3.9 *Land Parcel 6*

Parcel 6 comprises the southeast part of the assessment area. It is a triangular parcel of *c.*2.7 ha and at the time of the survey was laid out to grass. Access is from the south from *Home Farm* and the north, from Parcel 5.

With the exception of the access point at the southeast corner of the plot the southern boundary is defined by a hedge which extends to the bypass. The bypass forms the northeast boundary and the hedge follows the west side of the bypass and continues into Parcel 5 to the north where the two parcels merge. The west boundary is defined by a further hedge, which separates the plot from further open fields to the west.

An overhead cable runs from east to west across the central part of the plot and a public footpath traverses the area from southwest to northeast, before crossing the bypass and continuing into Parcel 6.

No archaeological features or artefacts were observed in this part of the assessment area.



Plate 12: General view of Parcel 6

4. Archaeological & Historical Evidence

4.1 The local and regional settings of heritage assets are factors that are taken into consideration when assessing the planning implications of development proposals. The following sections provide a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the assessment area and its environs.

The study area lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and the assessment site has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods. The location of known heritage assets recorded in the HER (enquiry number 59.23) are shown in Fig. 4, and details appear in Appendix 1.

4.2 *Archaeological & Historical Background to the Study Area*

4.2.1 *Undated*

Little archaeological work has been undertaken in this area of Buntingford but the construction of the Buntingford bypass in 1986 provided the opportunity for limited archaeological recording. A ditch containing charcoal and bone was recorded along the line of the bypass, between Parcels 4 and 5 (Cave-Penny & Daniells 1988, Site A; HER 2258). A group of pits were recorded further to the west (HER 2259; Cave-Penny & Daniells 1988, Site B.) and further postholes and pits (HER 11435) have been recorded *c.*250m to the northeast. Dating evidence was not recovered from any of these features, which may range from the prehistoric to medieval periods.

4.2.2 *Prehistoric (before AD43)*

Little is known of the area during the early prehistoric periods but the valley of the river Rib was likely to have been exploited and a number of flint artefacts have been recorded in the study area. The majority of these are chance finds and are often poorly located (*eg.* HER 219, HER 220, etc.). However, where more recent fieldwork has been undertaken there is good evidence for Mesolithic and Bronze Age flint work (HER 30409); Neolithic pits (HER 31106) and Late Bronze Age enclosures off Oak End, Luynes Rise within the application area (HER31161).

The area was occupied during the Iron Age and several settlement sites are known to exist: an enclosure, which continued in use into the succeeding Roman period, has been recorded *c.*300m east of the assessment site (HER 16661; Bright 2010); a late Iron Age enclosure which also continued into the Roman period was discovered to the south of the Causeway (HER 18325); a late Iron Age / Romano-British enclosure north of Owles lane (HER 18767); a settlement north of Buntingford (HER 30410, 30411, 30412 & 30413). A middle Iron Age settlement is known north of Hare Street (HER 31116). Elsewhere a possible Iron Age field system has been suggested off Monks Walk within the application area (HER 31162); further finds have found in the study area (HER 6450) and a middle Iron Age ditch discovered along the course of the Buntingford by-pass (HER 31163). This evidence suggests that the landscape was fully developed in this period, although precise character of settlement has yet to be determined.

4.2.3 Roman (AD43-c.450)

During the Roman period the study area lay within the tribal capital of the *Trinovantes* with its capital at *Camulodunum* (Colchester). During this period transport and communications in the area were dominated by a major Roman road now known as *Ermine Street* (OS 1979) which linked the Roman small town at Braughing with *Durovigutum* (Godmanchester). The modern Buntingford High Street/London Road follows the approximate line of the Roman road c.400m east of the assessment area.

The Roman small town of Braughing was situated c.4km southeast of the assessment area and was centred on the west side of the river Rib (Niblett 1995, 55-58). Little is known in detail of the study area in this period but the valley of the river Rib may have attracted settlement and activity as a ditch, possibly forming part of an enclosure has been recorded c.200m southeast of the assessment area (HER 2257; Cave-Penny & Daniells Site F). A solitary pit behind 59 High Street, Buntingford hints at possible settlement (HER 18140). Cropmarks indicating the presence of a Roman villa have been observed on higher ground to the south of the assessment area (HER 13219). There is evidence for widespread cultivation from south of the Causeway (HER 31117) and off Luyne Rise (HER 31164) and off Longmead, Baldock Rd (HER 18762).

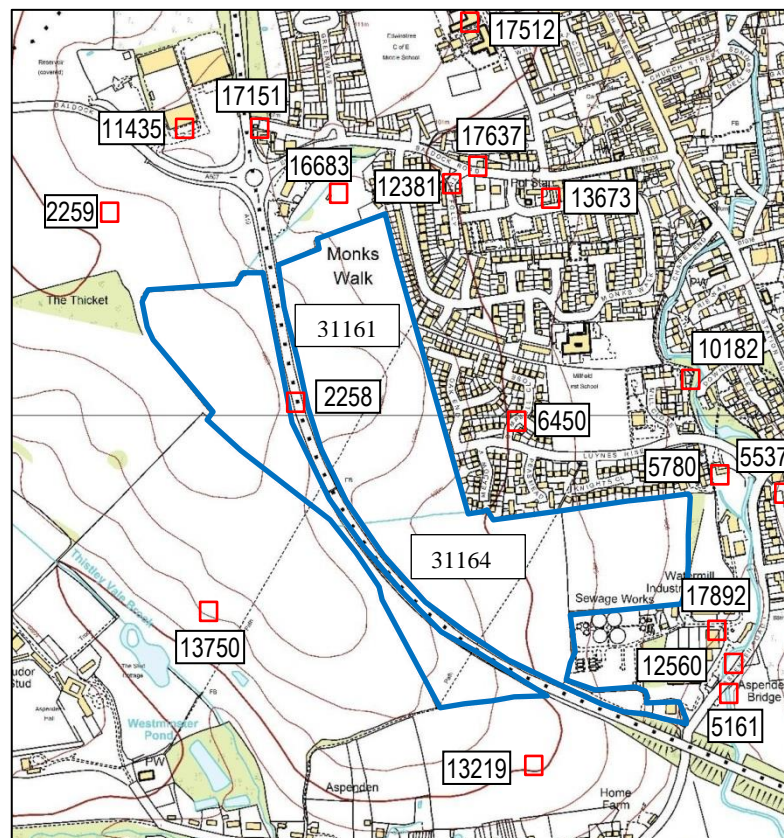


Figure 4: Heritage assets recorded in the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record.
(Scale = 1: 10,000)

4.2.4 *Saxon and Medieval (c.450-1500)*

Little is known of the area during Saxon period. The study area is situated to the northeast of the village of Aspenden, which may have developed during this period. Aspenden is included in the Domesday Survey (1086) where it is referred to as *Absesdene*. The land was held by *Eudo son of Hubert* and was valued at £4 (Morris 1976, 139). The early history of the settlement is not understood in detail but the village is mentioned in historical sources dating from the 13th and 14th centuries, where it is referred to as *Aspehal*, *Aspiden*, *Aspdene*, etc. (Page 1971, 17).

Medieval Buntingford has been subjected to historical analysis by Bailey (1993). It emerged at the beginning of the 13th century as an informal trading centre and exhibits one of the most complex development patterns in Hertfordshire due to it being composed of five interleaving and detached parochial territories (Slater 2004, 21-2). It was largely developed by the merchant and trading elite of the area, who used the market of New Chipping, which lay less than 1 km north of Buntingford, from 1252 until it was transferred to its present day location in 1360 (Page 1914, 78). It probably centred on the church of St Mary, which dates from the 13th century (Pevsner & Cherry 2002, 77-78). The present village takes the form of a linear settlement, with the church to the west, and this layout is shown in cartographic sources dating from the early 19th century (eg. Fig. 8).

There are fragments of former field systems and ploughing regimes within and adjacent to the survey area. There is the remains of ridge and furrow south of the Causeway (HER 18331) and strip field systems to the west of Luyne Rise (HER 31165). Elsewhere there are medieval ditches off Longmead (HER 18763) and Tylers Close (HER 18764)

The assessment site lies west of the settlement of *Scotts Green* which developed as a separate 'end' to the village (HER 17892). It was associated with the family of John Scot and is documented from the mid 14th century.

4.2.5 *Post-Medieval (1500-1900)*

A number of small scale maps of Hertfordshire were produced during the 17th and 18th centuries (eg. Seller 1676; Fig. 5). These are of only limited use for the assessment but in general they show that the study area comprised open land between the settlements at Aspenden and Buntingford.

The first readily available map to show the study area in detail is the estate map of 'Scotch Green Farm', which was prepared in 1744 (Fig. 6). The map depicts the settlement or 'end' of *Scotts Green* which is shown as a modest group of buildings and enclosures, divided into two principal components by a road or track which follows a sinuous course west from Aspenden Road. The landscape is shown as largely open land referred to as 'Peridon', 'Readmead', 'Stoney Field' and 'Wind Mill Field'. The latter may be related to Buntingford Mill (below), or a windmill in Downhall Field c.200m east of the assessment area (HER 13385) which is shown on later 19th century mapping, but which could have had an earlier origin.

One of the principal landholdings in the village was the Aspenden Hall estate, a plan of which was prepared in 1810 (Fig. 7). The map shows the landscape in some detail and an undated linear cropmark (HER 13750) c.200m west of Parcel 6 may be associated with the hall. The map illustrates the principal communication routes through the area *eg.* Aspenden Road and Baldock Road and the settlement at Buntingford is depicted as largely ribbon development along the main street, which is labelled as a turnpike. The settlement of *Scotts Green* is shown in the southeast part of the study area with a mill to the northeast. The latter comprises a timber framed mill building dating from the 17th century (HER 5780). The remainder of the landscape comprised open land and is shown divided into subrectangular plots.

Bryant's map of Hertfordshire was published in 1822 and an extract is shown as Fig. 8. The map is drawn at a small scale but depicts the general layout of the area which is shown as open land between Aspenden Hall and Buntingford.

The Tithe map of Aspenden was compiled in 1845 (Fig. 9) and shows the study area in greater detail than previous maps. The land is referred to as *Chapel Field Common* and *Moor Mead Common* and is divided into a variety of subrectangular land parcels. The hamlet of *Scotts Green*, to the east of the assessment site, remained a prominent feature of the landscape but the urban development of Buntingford remained largely restricted to ribbon development along the High Street and Baldock Road. The map depicts *How Green Farm* on the south side of Baldock Road, where the farmhouse and barn date from the 16th or 17th centuries and are listed buildings (HER 17151; section 5.4). A track is depicted leading in a southwesterly direction, south of the farm, which is labelled *Milky Lane* on later mapping and may be a hollow way (HER 16683).

The enclosure map of Aspenden was published in 1869 and an extract is shown in Fig. 10. The map shows little change within Parcels 1, 2, 3 and 6 but the layout of the land units in the northern part of the assessment site had been simplified and had been consolidated into a smaller number of larger subrectangular plots. Like its predecessor the enclosure map labels the area as *Moor Mead Common* and the public footpath is shown traversing Parcels 4 and 5 from southwest to northeast.

The first edition six inch to the mile scale Ordnance Survey map was published in 1881 (Fig. 11) and a number of significant developments had taken place in the landscape since the preparation of the enclosure map. The pattern of land parcels to the east of the assessment site had been modified and a number of the smaller plots shown on the enclosure map had been combined with adjacent holdings to form a smaller number of significantly larger land parcels.

The map shows Aspenden Road and a 'Foot Bridge' is labelled at the point where the road crosses the river Rib. This bridge (HER 5161) remains in use, taking Aspenden Lane over the river and is an iron girder structure with brick piers. It was funded by private subscription in 1878 and is a Grade II listed structure (section 5.4).

4.2.6 *Modern* (c.1900-present)

The Ordnance Survey maps were revised in 1899 and 1919/23 (Figs. 12 and 13). They indicate that little change had taken place in the landscape during the late 19th and early 20th centuries and the area remained largely undeveloped. The land within and south of Parcel 1 had been laid out as a nursery during the early 20th century. Changes had also taken place at *Scotts Green* and the place name and buildings do not appear on the 1919/23 maps. An 'L' shaped structure is illustrated further to the west on the latter maps and a sewage farm (Buntingford R D C) is shown to the north. The map was revised in 1948 (Fig.14) but little change is recorded in the landscape.

The contemporary layout of the area is shown in Fig. 2 and depicts the area dominated by the A10 Buntingford bypass which was constructed in 1986. The west side of the study area largely retains its rural character, but 20th century expansion of Buntingford, notably the Monks Walk and Luynes Rise developments dominate the landscape to the east. Much of the area of the former *Scotts Green* settlement has been developed as the *Watermill Industrial Estate* and sewage works.

4.3 *The Known Archaeology & History of the Site*

4.3.1 *Mid to late Bronze Age* (c. 1500-1100 BC)

The most distinct prehistoric feature is located towards the northern end of the application area (Area 1) at NGR TL 35765-29100 (HER 31146). This consists of an irregular curvilinear, ditched enclosure approximately 0.83 ha (2 acres). Its ditch was segmented and varied between c. 4m wide by 1.1m deep and 1.1m wide by 0.5m deep. The ditch fills contained 29 sherds (296g) of middle Bronze Age date though there is evidence for early Bronze Age activity in the form of struck flints and a single sherd of early Bronze Age ware (Jones 2016, 63-4). In addition, there were eight intercutting pits and random post-holes. In all, a total of 80 sherds (433g) of middle Bronze Age pottery were recovered from the site. See Figs. 15 & 16 in this report.

4.3.2 *Later Iron Age* (2nd century BC-43 AD)

To the north of the Bronze Age enclosure lay a Later Iron Age ditched field system at NGR TL 3569-2927 (HER 31162). The ditches were relatively slight, being no more than 1.6m wide by 0.5m deep (Jones 2016, 65). The geophysics survey and trial trenching suggest the presence of a rectilinear field system together with some slight hints for the proximity of actual settlement in the form of ten fragments of pottery (24g) and pot boilers (*ibid.*). See Fig. 17 in this report.

4.3.3 *Later Iron Age – Romano-British period* (50 BC – 150AD)

The evidence for this period came from Areas 2 and 4 located in the middle of the evaluation area (Figs. 18 & 19 in this report). This consisted of a mix of curvilinear and rectilinear ditches indicative of possible settlement Jones 2016, 65-7). In addition to the linear features there were a number of circular features consistent with their being pits or hearths (*ibid.*). In all some 51 sherds (284g) of late Iron Age pottery were recovered from these areas (*ibid.*).

There is good evidence for a continuation of the late Iron Age field system into the Romano-British period, with densest concentration of RB features being adjacent to the A10 to the west (*ibid.*). Approximately 100m to the east of the A10 in Area 2, Trench 35 a group of seven features were recorded (Fig. 19). This consisted of five pits and two cremated bone deposits of early Roman date (*ibid.*). A total of 231 sherds (2886g) of early Romano-British pottery was recovered from the evaluation site. It has been argued that the evidence points to both the proximity of contemporary settlement together with a probable associated cremation cemetery (*ibid.*).

4.3.3 *Saxon* (c.450-1066)

No Saxon sites or artefacts have been recorded in the assessment area.

4.3.4 *Medieval* (1066-1500)

There is currently no evidence for medieval sites or significant artefacts within the assessment area. It is likely that the assessment area comprised open land during this period and was included within the open field landscape of Aspenden.

4.3.5 *Post-Medieval* (1500-1900)

The southeast part of the assessment area is shown in detail on the estate plan of *Scotts Green Farm*, dated 1744 (Fig. 6). The map depicts the east part of Parcel 1 which comprised parts of two irregular enclosures with Scots Green Farm to the northeast. The southeast corner of Parcel 2 is within the area shown on the map, but no detail is included.

The assessment area is shown on the 1810 estate plan of Aspenden Hall (Fig. 7). The map illustrates the assessment area in detail and Parcel 1 is shown as part of the hamlet of *Scotts Green*. Parcel 2 is illustrated as a single land parcel with the river Rib forming its east boundary. To the west, Parcels 3 and 6 comprised a single subrectangular block labelled *Chilly Hills*. The northern part of the assessment area is also shown as open land, the majority of which comprised an irregular plot labelled *Moors Mead Fields*. The map also shows a triangular plot labelled *Hill Chilly Hills*, with a series of rectangular strips to the east.

Bryant's map of Hertfordshire was published in 1822 and shows the assessment site at a small scale (Fig. 8). The assessment area is shown as open ground, the west side of which follows the northeast side of a major enclosure, which is likely to be the landholdings of Aspenden Hall.

The Tithe map of Aspenden was compiled in 1845 (Fig. 9) and shows the assessment area in greater detail. The western boundaries of Parcels 5 and 6 coincide with the northeast boundary of the Aspenden Hall Estate and Parcels 3 and 6 largely occupy a single square plot (no. 102) traversed by a footpath (sections 3.6 and 3.9). Parcel 2 is shown as a single square plot (no. 103) to the east. Parcel 1 comprised part of two irregular plots (nos. 106 and 108) traversed by a track leading from Aspenden Hall to *Scotts Green*.

The enclosure map of Aspenden was published in 1869 and an extract is shown in Fig. 10. The map shows little change within Parcels 1, 2, 3 and 6 but the layout

of the land units in the northern part of the assessment area had been simplified and had been consolidated into a smaller number of larger subrectangular plots. Like its predecessor the enclosure map labels the area as *Moor Mead Common* and the public footpath is shown traversing the area from southwest to northeast.

The assessment area is shown on the 1881 and 1899 edition six inch to the mile scale Ordnance Survey maps (Figs. 11 and 12). Little change appears to have taken place within the assessment area during the second half of the 19th century, which is shown as open land divided into four separate land parcels.

4.3.6 *Modern (1900-present)*

The map was revised in 1919/23 (Fig. 13) but the only significant change illustrated is within Parcel 1, which is shown as part of a nursery and allotment gardens. The situation was unchanged on the 1948 edition map (Fig. 14).

At the time of writing the assessment site largely comprises arable fields (Parcels 2 - 6. Parcel 1 is in industrial use which is currently occupied by the business of *Jack Poulton & Son*.

5. Statutory Constraints on Development

5.1 A range of planning constraints are in place in the area of the site. These constraints relate both to the area as a whole, and to individual buildings and sites. These constraints are taken into consideration when assessing the implications of planning and other proposals made to the local authority and to other local and national bodies.

5.2 *Archaeological Sites*

Part of the medieval/post-medieval settlement of *Scotts Green* (HER 17892; section 4.2.4) lies within the assessment site, in Parcel 1. An undated site excavated during the construction of the Buntingford bypass (HER 2258; 4.2.1) may extend into the assessment area and further sites are present in the surrounding area *eg.* HER 2259, 13219, 17892).

5.3 *Scheduled Ancient Monuments*

The assessment area does not contain any *Scheduled Ancient Monuments*.

5.4 *Listed Buildings*

No listed buildings are present within the assessment area but three are present in the surrounding area. These comprise a road bridge over the river Rib (HER 5161; section 4.2.5) and the farmhouse/stables and a barn at *How Green Farm* (HER 17151; section 4.2.5).

5.4.1 *Aspenden Bridge*

Aspenden Bridge (HER 5161) is situated on Aspenden Road c.100m east of the assessment area. The listing description readings:

TL 32NE ASPENDEN ASPENDEN ROAD 4/2 Aspenden Bridge (over River Rib) - II Road bridge over River Rib. Plaque on SE parapet wall reads 'ASPENDEN BRIDGE BUILT BY PRIVATE SUBSCRIPTION AD 1878 W WATSON ESQ'. Red brick abutments supporting parallel iron I-beams as deck with jack arches and tie-rods between beams. 4-bay trellis open work iron balustrade, with short brick parapet walls over the abutments with blue brick and stone copings. Projecting ramped wing walls in red brick along sides of river rebuilt c1983. Large cast iron plaque on NE parapet giving notice of weight restriction by the County Council dated 1899, No '256'.

5.4.2 *How Green Farm*

How Green Farm (HER 17151) is c.180m north of the assessment area and the listed structures comprise the farmhouse and attached stables and a separate barn. The listing descriptions reading:

Farmhouse and stables

TL 32NE ASPENDEN BALDOCK ROAD (south side) 4/5 Farmhouse at How Green Farm with attached stables - and outhouse to N GV II House with attached stables and outhouse. Late C17 house ('1696' in plaster oval plaque said to have been removed from N side in C20 to make a window). Timber frame on stuccoed plinth, stepped at E end. Roughcast with steep old red tile hipped roof. A 2- storeys, 3-cells, central-chimney plan house facing S. Central stack a third from E with parlour to E, hall to W, and service room at W end. 2 openings and oven projection at N wall in line with stack. Staircase

and passage on S side of stack. S front has 3 windows to each floor and a door into the hall. Flush casement windows, with mullions, leaded glazing and iron plate casements. Some renewed in wood. Chamfered axial beams and exposed joists in hall and service bay. Chamfered cross-beam in parlour with canted rear corners to brick fireplace. Old moulded plank door with iron strap hinges to staircase, and classical balusters between 2 rails to landing. Cyma moulded mullion to blocked window on landing. Oak frame with unjowled posts and soffits-squinted butt scarf-joint with secret bridle in wallplate. Specially interesting as a dated example of a late C17 timber-framed house. C19 L-shaped stable dark weatherboarded with red pantile roof, and lower similar weatherboarded outhouse extending to E with pitched roof formerly thatched now of corrugated iron. House and outbuildings enclose 3 sides of a yard on the N of the house and form a picturesque roadside group with the barn (q.v.).

5.4.3 Barn

TL 32NE ASPENDEN BALDOCK ROAD (south side) 4/6 Barn at How Green Farm 12m to NE of house - GV II Barn. Late.C16 or early C17, roof C19. Timber frame dark weatherboarded with a pitched roof formerly thatched but now of corrugated iron. A long 3-bay barn facing W. Jowled posts with long curved braces to cambered tie beams. Double doors off- centre to N. Included for group value with farmhouse.

5.5 Heritage & Planning

The *East Hertfordshire Local Plan (2018)* contains the following archaeological-related clauses:

21.3.1 Archaeological remains are a fragile and finite resource. Appropriate management of archaeological remains is essential to ensure they survive in good condition and are not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed. Areas of Archaeological Significance (AAS) are places within the District that are deemed to be of moderate or high archaeological potential, based on evidence from known heritage assets (buildings, sites, features and finds). Alterations to existing AAS or identification of new AAS may be required based on new data or understanding of significance.

21.3.2 Where a site has potential archaeological interest (whether scheduled or unscheduled) a desk based assessment will be required. This should be based on the collation of existing written and graphic information, in order to identify the likely character, extent and relative quality of the actual or potential archaeological resource. A field evaluation may also be necessary to define their character, extent and relative quality so that their worth may be assessed in local, regional and national contexts.

21.3.3 The case for preservation will be assessed on the merits of the individual application. In cases where preservation in situ would not be required, developers may be asked to enter into a Section 106 Agreement before planning permission is given. This secures excavation and recording of information prior to development starting and subsequent storage and display of material. Where planning permission is given, conditions may be attached to the grant of permission to ensure that excavation and recording is carried out before development work starts, and to ensure that a 'watching brief' is maintained while work progresses.

21.3.4 Areas of Archaeological Significance, including potential areas, are identified on the Policies Map. The sites are correct at the time of publication of the District Plan but may be subject to change through future reviews. The Council will refer to the most up-to-date position.

Policy HA3 Archaeology

- I. Where a site has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest (whether scheduled or unscheduled), applicants should consult with the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Unit to submit an appropriate desk based assessment and, where necessary, the results of a field evaluation, prior to the submission of an application.
- II. Where development is permitted on sites containing archaeological remains, planning permission will be subject to conditions and/or formal agreements requiring appropriate excavation and recording in advance of development and the subsequent storage and display of material.

Separate sections of the local plan deal with ‘heritage assets’ generally and Conservation Areas.

The framework for the management of heritage issues in the planning system is currently set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF). Decisions relating to archaeological matters within the area of the assessment site are taken by the local planning authority, acting on the advice of the *Historic Environment Unit* of Hertfordshire County Council.

6. Assessment of Archaeological Potential

6.1 Potential for the Presence of Heritage Assets

6.1.1 Prehistoric

There is clear evidence for the presence of Bronze Age activity towards the northern end of the site (Land parcel 4, Fig. 2). This takes the form an irregular curvilinear enclosure, defined by a single ditch (HER 31161). This encloses an area of approximately 0.8 ha which lies 0.5 km to the west of the present course of the R. Rib. It is therefore probable that there may be ancillary contemporary features in the immediate vicinity of the site.

Later prehistoric activity has been identified in Land parcel's 3, 4 and 6 in the form of rectilinear fields and finds that indicate the proximity of possible settlement, particularly towards the margins of the present A10. The relationship between the Bronze Age settlement and this later activity has yet to be established.

*The potential for the presence of prehistoric activity on the assessment area is assessed as **high**.*

6.1.2 Roman

There is a considerable degree of 'overlap' between this and the previous period (late Iron Age). The evidence from the trial trenching suggests the presence of rectilinear field systems on the periphery of settlement (HER 31164). There is also the potential for an associated activities in the form of rural structures, possible habitations, and cremations. This evidence is to be found in Land parcel's 3, 4 and 6, particularly notably adjacent to the A10.

*The potential for the presence of Roman activity on the assessment area is assessed as **high**.*

6.1.3 Saxon

There is no evidence for Saxon sites or artefacts on the assessment site or the study area.

*The potential for the presence of Saxon activity on the assessment area is assessed as **low**.*

6.1.4 Medieval

A settlement named *Scotts Green* (HER 17892) was situated on the west side of Aspenden Road, part of which lies within the east side of the assessment area (Parcel 1; section 4.2.4). The remainder of the assessment area probably comprised open land during this period and the settlements at Buntingford and Aspenden developed to the north and west of the assessment area respectively. This stretch of the river Rib was exploited during the medieval period and a mill (HER 5780; section 4.2.4) was situated c.50m northeast of the assessment area.

*The potential for the presence of medieval activity on the assessment area is assessed as **low**.*

6.1.5 *Post-medieval and modern*

The assessment area is shown on historic mapping from the 17th century and is depicted as open land. The Aspenden Hall Estate plan (Fig. 7) and the tithe and enclosure maps (Figs 9 and 10) show the layout of field boundaries in detail and depict *Buntingford Mill* (HER 5780) and *Aspenden Bridge* (HER 5161) both of which are to the east of the assessment area.

How Green Farm (HER 16683) lies to the north of the assessment area and may date from the 16th century (section 4.2.5). The presence of an earthwork, interpreted as a possible hollow way (HER 16683) indicates that settlement may be present over a wider area to the north of the assessment area.

Scotts Green was an area of medieval/post-medieval settlement which partially extended into the Parcel 1, at the southeast end of the assessment area. The principal farm buildings were situated close to the assessment area, but the possibility that further buildings may have been present in Parcel 1 cannot be entirely excluded.

Aspenden Bridge is a listed structure and *How Green Farm* contains listed buildings, but there is currently no evidence for the presence of buildings within the assessment site.

The potential for the presence of medieval activity on the assessment site is assessed as moderate.

6.2 *Potential for the Survival of Heritage Assets*

- 6.2.1 The survey indicates the presence of heritage assets throughout much of the proposed development area. These take the form of Bronze Age, later Iron Age and early Roman land use in the form of settlement enclosures and associated field boundaries. This evidence is particularly concentrated throughout Parcel 4, and in the western half of Parcel 3 and 6 (Fig. 2).
- 6.2.2 There is some historical indication of medieval/post-medieval settlement at *Scotts Green* (section 4.2.5). *Scotts Green* is known from historic mapping but has not been the subject of detailed archaeological work. The settlement may have extended into Parcel 1, which is currently occupied by light industrial buildings and the land may have been terraced. Accordingly any archaeological remains in this area may have been disturbed by recent development.
- 6.2.3 The potential for the survival of heritage assets in Land parcels 1 to 2 and the southern and western periphery of parcel 6 is assessed as between low to medium (Fig. 2). This may be the case for Land parcel 5, to the west of the A10 but this remains uncertain and so is currently assessed as 'unknown'.
- 6.2.4 No other heritage assets within the assessment area are currently recorded in the HER but the potential for the existence of currently unknown buried heritage assets remains high.

6.3 **Significance of Heritage Assets**

- 6.3.1 A middle Bronze Age enclosure has been identified in Land Parcel 1. That is, Area 4 of the recent field evaluation (Jones 2016, Figs. 5 & 5). There is a general lack of settlement evidence for this period as identified by Brown and Murphy in their research aims in the *local research agenda and strategy* (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 9-13). This makes this site of **regional significance**.
- 6.3.2 The later Iron Age and Roman field systems together with peripheral settlement activity has been identified throughout Land parcels 4, the western half of LP 3 and LP 6. See Fig. 2 (Areas 1, 2 and 4 in Jones 2016). Much of this evidence has been abraded by plough damage and the character of the soils are not favourable for the preservation of pollen. Nevertheless, the morphology of these boundaries and their relation to possible settlement sites, albeit of a peripheral nature) is of significance. The importance of recording linear Iron Age boundaries has been high-lighted by Bryant (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 14-17). This is also applicable to an understanding of field systems in relation to food production in the Roman period and their evolution and demise over time as identified by Going and Plouviez (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 19-21). This makes this site of at **local**, possibly of **regional significance**
- 6.3.3 Aspenden Bridge (HER 5161; section 5.4) lies outside the assessment area, but close to its west boundary. The bridge is included in the register of listed buildings and is likely to be regarded as being of *local significance*. The investigation of industrial period bridges has been identified as a research aim in the *local research agenda and strategy* (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 41). *How Green Farm* lies c.180m north of the assessment area and also contains listed buildings. The development of farmsteads and farm buildings have also been identified as research aims (*ibid*, 42) and *How Green Farm* is likely to be regarded as being of **local significance**.
- 6.3.4 Heritage assets of other periods are not currently known within the assessment area. A number are known in the surrounding area, notably the undated site observed during the construction of the A10 Buntingford bypass (HER 2258) the possible Roman villa (HER 13219) and *Buntingford Mill* (HER 5780). These sites are likely to be regarded as being of **local significance** but the significance of any currently unknown buried heritage assets within the assessment site cannot be defined.

7. Impact of the Proposed Development

- 7.1 This section of the report assesses the likely impact of the proposed development upon the assessment area. The proposed development comprises two principal areas of housing over an area of c.10.13 ha on the east side of the bypass. Designated areas of open space, playing fields, a water feature and associated access roads and services are also included within the scheme (Fig. 3).
- 7.2 The principal element of the development is the construction of new housing over an area of 10.13 ha. Any heritage assets within the footprints of any ground penetrating works including footing trenches, service runs, etc., have the potential to damage or disturb buried heritage assets. Any landscaping works, notably the excavation of the water feature and planting of trees also have the potential to cause disturbance to buried heritage assets.
- 7.3 The development of housing is restricted to the northeast and central parts of the assessment area (Parcels A and B on Fig. 3) and is likely that these will be the areas of greatest potential impact on buried heritage assets. The open areas to the east and west are likely to be subject to less disturbance, but the effect of any landscaping works and the insertion of any service runs should be taken into consideration.
- 7.4 In terms of the development those areas that are proposed to remain as amenity land, (Land parcels 2, 5 & 6) will experience either low or moderate impact. The new proposed residential areas coincide with those buried heritage assets that were identified during the archaeological evaluation (ie. the north western portion of LP 3 and all of Land parcel 4, as illustrated in (Figures 2 and 3). The potential impact of the proposed development has been categorised in Fig. 20 of this report.

8. Conclusions

8.1 Introduction

The assessment has considered the heritage issues relating to the construction of a housing development over c.28.95 ha of land west of Buntingford, Hertfordshire (Fig. 3).

8.2 Summary of Archaeological Background

The assessment has revealed that heritage assets of the prehistoric and early Roman periods are known to be present within the assessment area (Figs. 15-19). Part of the medieval/post-medieval settlement of *Scotts Green* (HER 17892; section 4.2.5) extends into Parcel 1, at the southeast corner of the assessment area. A listed structure of Aspenden Bridge (HER 5161) lies beyond the east boundary of the Assessment A and further listed buildings lie c.180m to the north of the assessment area, at *How Green Farm*. An undated archaeological site investigated during the construction of the bypass (HER 2258) which may extend into the assessment area lies between Parcels 4 and 5.

A number of heritage assets are also known within the area surrounding the assessment area, notably *Buntingford Mill* to the east (HER 5780) and the possible Roman villa to the south (HER 13219).

8.3 Potential for the Presence and Survival of Buried Heritage Assets

The evidence for the presence of buried heritage assets of the prehistoric, and Roman periods has been clearly demonstrated in this assessment report. Historical sources suggest that part of the medieval/post-medieval settlement of *Scotts Green* extends into the southeast side of the assessment area. The potential for the presence of currently unknown buried heritage assets on the assessment site cannot be entirely excluded and in addition a number of heritage assets are situated in the surrounding area (eg. HER 4580, 13219, etc.).

The potential for the presence of buried heritage assets on the assessment site is assessed as being between moderate/high to high (Land parcels 4, 3 and 6) and as low to moderate (all other parcels).

Parcel 1 in the southeast of the assessment area is the site of part of the medieval/post-medieval settlement of *Scotts Green*. The parcel is currently occupied by a number of light industrial buildings and parts of this area may have been terraced (section 3.4). Any buried heritage assets associated with the *Scotts Green* settlement in this area may have been damaged or disturbed by this recent activity.

Map regression analysis has demonstrated that the remainder of the assessment site has comprised open land since at least the 18th century (section 4.3.5). Some disturbance may have taken place to any buried heritage assets as a result of agricultural activity and as a result of the construction of the Buntingford bypass (section 1.4.1.) but the majority of the assessment area may be relatively undisturbed.

The potential for the survival of heritage assets in Plot 1 is assessed as *low to moderate*.

8.4 ***Impact of the Proposed Development***

The housing development is to take place over an area of c.10.13 ha and the excavation of footing trenches, service runs, landscaping works, etc., have the potential to disturb or destroy any buried heritage assets which may be present. The impact of the proposed development within the area of the proposed housing is assessed as being **high**.

The area west of the bypass (Parcels 5 and 6) and south of Knights Close (Parcel 2 and part of Parcel 3) are to remain as open land and are likely to undergo less disturbance than the areas allocated for housing. Some localised areas of disturbance may be anticipated, notably within the footprint of the proposed water feature and as a result of the insertion of any drainage runs and areas of tree planting. Some **moderate** to **high** disturbance may take place to buried heritage assets in these localised areas but elsewhere in the areas of open space and playing fields the impact of the proposed development is assessed as being **low**.

8.5 The imposition of a standard planning condition may suffice but decisions relating to archaeological matters are taken by the local planning authority, acting on the advice of the *Historic Environment Unit of Hertfordshire County Council*.

8.6 Suggested heritage associated planning conditions could include the following which were recommended in association with a previous assessment with development on this site:

No development shall take place within the development site until the applicant, or their agent, or their successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted to the planning authority and approved in writing. This condition will only be considered to be discharged when the planning authority has received and approved an archaeological report of all the required archaeological works and, if appropriate, a commitment to publication has been made.

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Appendix 1: Historic Environment Record Data

Heritage assets listed below are those within the study area, *i.e.* the assessment site and a surrounding area of c.0.5km.

HER no	NGR (TL)	Period	Type	Description	Proximity to site (m)
219	36 29	Neolithic	Axehead	Basalt axe. Find spot not accurately recorded	-
220	36 29	Bronze Age	Barbed & tanged arrowhead	Arrowhead. Find spot not accurately recorded	-
2257	366 283	Roman	Ditch	Ditch containing Roman pottery observed during construction of Buntingford Bypass (Cave-Penny & Daniells Site F)	300
2258	356 290	Undated	Ditch	Undated ditch containing charcoal and bone recorded during construction of Buntingford bypass	-
2258	356 290	Undated	Ditch	Undated ditch containing charcoal and bone recorded during construction of Buntingford bypass	-
2259	353 293	Undated	Pit?	Three circular pits recorded during construction of Buntingford bypass	110
5161	363 285	Modern	Bridge	Aspenden Bridge. Road bridge over Aspenden Road. Listed building	80
5780	363 289	Post-med	Watermill	Buntingford Mill: 17 th century timber framed mill	50
6450	36 29	Iron Age	Coin	Bronze coin of Cunobelin	-
10182	363 291	Modern	Gas Works	18 th century gas works	180
11435	354 294	Undated	Ditch/Pit	Undated post holes and two possible pits	200
12381	359 294	-	Common Land	The Folly: Registered common land	90
12560	363 286	-	Common Land	Registered common land near Aspenden Bridge	100
13219	360 284	Roman	Villa?	Cropmark of possible Roman corridor villa.	100
13673	360 294	Modern	House/Timber framed barn	Bell Barns: Timber framed barns and cottage, shown on 1838 tithe map (Winter & Wilcox 2008).	210
13750	354 286	Undated	Rectilinear Enclosure	Undated linear cropmarks. May be related to Aspenden Hall.	200
16661	367 285	Iron Age	Ditch/Rectilinear Enclosure/Cremation	Late Iron Age enclosure ditch and a possible Roman cremation. SW corner of a rectilinear enclosure (Bright 2010).	300
16683	357 294	Undated	Hollow way	Linear depression. Possibly a former boundary or hollow way.	50
17151	355 295	Post-med	Listed building	How Green Farm: Timber framed farmhouses, possibly dating from 1696 with a 16/17 th century barn.	180
17512	359 297	Modern	School	Edwinstree C O E Middle School: Unaltered 1950s Hertfordshire school building	280
17637	359 294	Post-med	Timber framed house	66 Baldock Road: 18 th century or earlier timber framed house	120
17892	363 286	Medieval	Hamlet	Scott's Green: Medieval hamlet.	Partially within the assessment site
18140	361 295	Roman	Pit	Behind 59 High Street	Within search area
18325	367 295	Iron Age	Enclosures and RB pits	South of causeway	ditto
18331	368 267	Medieval	Ridge & furrow	South of the causeway, Buntingford	ditto
18762	356 293	Roman	Ditch system	Off Long mead, Baldock road	ditto
18763	357 294	Medieval	ditches	Off Long mead, Baldock road	ditto
18764	355 295	Medieval	ditch	North of Tylers Close	ditto
18767	368 290	LIA/RB	Enclosures & ditches	North of Owles lane, Buntingford	ditto
30409	357 303	Mesolithic & BA	Struck flints	North of Buntingford	ditto

30410	355 303	Iron Age	Field system?	North of Buntingford	ditto
30411	357 303	Iron Age	Ditches/hollow ways	North of Buntingford	ditto
30412	356 304	Iron Age	settlement	North of Buntingford	ditto
30413	358 301	MIA	features	North of Buntingford	ditto
30580	356 293	undated	cremation	Off Longmead, Buntingford	ditto
31106	366 295	neolithic	pits	North of Hare Street Rd	ditto
31116	367 294	MIA	settlement	North of Hare Street	ditto
31117	367 294	RB	Cultivation furrows	South of Causeway	ditto
31161	357 291	LBA	enclosures	Off Oak End, Luynes Rise	Within devel. area
31162	356 292	Iron Age	Fild system ?	Off Monks Walk, Buntingford	ditto
31163	358 286	MIA	ditch	Buntingford by-pass	ditto
31164	357 287	Roman	Field system & cremation site	Off Luynes Rise	ditto
31165	357 290	Medieval	Strip ditches	West of Luynes Rise, Buntingford	ditto

Appendix 2: Cartographic Sources

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

Date	Reference	Description
1676	-	Seller's map of Hertfordshire
1810	HALS D/3H/P3	Aplan of the Apseden Hall Estate Situate in the Parish of Aspeden, Layston and Cottered in the County of Hertford belonging to Charles Boldero, Esq.
1822		Bryant's map of Hertfordshire
1845	HALS DSA4_7_2	Tithe map of Aspenden
1869	HALS QS/E10	Enclosure map of Aspenden
1899	Herts XIII.NE	Ordnance Survey 1: 10,560 scale mapping. County Series
1899	Herts XIV.NW	Ordnance Survey 1: 10,560 scale mapping. County Series
1923	Herts XIV.NW	Ordnance Survey 1: 10,560 scale mapping. County Series
1925	Herts XIII.NE	Ordnance Survey 1: 10,560 scale mapping. County Series
1948	Herts XIII.NE	Ordnance Survey 1: 10,560 scale mapping. County Series
1948	Herts XIV.NW	Ordnance Survey 1: 10,560 scale mapping. County Series
1995	221	British Geological Survey 1: 50,000 scale mapping
2006	194	Ordnance Survey 1 to 25,000 scale Explorer Series mapping
2012	-	Ordnance Survey 1:5,000 Landplan data

Appendix 3: Assessment Method Statement

Desk-based assessment is a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site ... that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate (CIFA 2014).

Standards

The assessment will be carried out in accordance with Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIFA 2010). This specification has been prepared with reference to the IFA's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (CIFA 2014).

Aims

In general terms, the aims of the assessment shall be:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of the historic environment of the site, from documentary sources;
- To provide a comprehensive assessment of the regional context within which the archaeological evidence rests, and to highlight any research priorities relevant to any further investigation of the site;
- To provide a predictive model of the heritage assets likely to be present on site, and to assess their significance;
- To provide sufficient information to enable the formulation of an appropriate strategy for the management and/or investigation of the historic environment of the site.

Methods

Any of the following sources of information may be consulted for the assessment, providing that they are readily available:

Archaeological Databases

Archaeological databases represent the standard references to the known archaeology of an area.

SOURCE TYPE: Archaeological Excavation & Survey Records, National Monuments Records, National Buildings Records, County Heritage Environment Records, Listed Buildings Lists, Scheduled Ancient Monuments Lists, Regional Inventories, Public & Private Collections of Artefacts and Ecofacts.

SOURCE LOCATION: National Heritage Bodies, Royal Commissions, Local Authorities, Museums, Archaeological Trusts & Units, Universities, Ordnance Survey, Local Archaeological & Historical Societies.

Historic Documents

Documentary research provides an overview of the history of a site and its environs, suggesting the effects of settlement and land-use patterns. The potential for further detailed documentary research will also be considered in the assessment.

SOURCE TYPE: Charters, Registers, Manuscript Collections (secular and ecclesiastical), Deeds, Wills, Estate Papers, Electoral Rolls, Contemporary Published Accounts (e.g. County & Agricultural Surveys), Industrial Investigations, Trade Directories.

SOURCE LOCATION: Public Record Office, Parish Records, Estate Collections, Museums, National & Local Libraries, County & District Archives, Study Centres, Press Libraries, Ordnance Survey, British Library.

Cartographic & Pictorial Documents

This is normally a very productive area of research.

SOURCE TYPE:	Early Maps, Prints and Paintings, Inclosure & Tithe Maps, Ordnance Survey maps, Estate Plans, Goad Maps.
SOURCE LOCATION:	Public Record Office, Parish Records, Estate Collections, Museums, National & Local Libraries, County & District Archives, Press Libraries, Ordnance Survey, Private Collections, Local Archaeological & Historical Societies.

Aerial Photographs

Given favourable light and crop conditions, aerial photographs can reveal buried features in the form of crop and soil marks. They can also provide an overview of and more specific information about land use at a given time.

SOURCE TYPE:	Air Photographs.
SOURCE LOCATION:	National Registers of Air Photographs (inc. RAF & OS flights), Museum Collections, National Heritage Bodies, Sites & Monuments Records, University Collections, Private Collections.

Geotechnical Information

A description of the topography and solid and surface geology of the site and its environs will be compiled, so as to appreciate the potential condition of any heritage assets, to assess the hydrological conditions, and to appraise the potential for the survival of buried waterlogged archaeological / palaeoenvironmental deposits.

SOURCE TYPE:	Borehole & Test-Pit Logs, Site Surveys, Geological Maps.
SOURCE LOCATION:	Client's Engineers Records, Ordnance Survey, British Standards Institute, British Geological Publications.

Secondary & Statutory Sources

SOURCE TYPE:	Regional & Period Archaeological Studies, Landscape Studies, Local Knowledge, Dissertations, Policy Statements and Research Frameworks, Legislative documents, European Directives, Local Government Plans, Constraints Maps.
SOURCE LOCATION:	Libraries, Local Landowners, Local & National Museums, Universities, Academic Journals, Monographs & Other Publications, Local Archaeological & Historical Societies.

Preliminary Walk-Over Survey

As part of the assessment a preliminary walk-over survey of the site will be undertaken with the following aims:

1. To examine any areas of archaeological potential identified during research for the assessment, in particular with a view to gauging the possible survival or condition of any heritage assets present.
2. To consider the significance of any above-ground structures, historic buildings or historic landscape features present.
3. To assess the present site use and ground conditions, with a view to the appropriate deployment of fieldwork techniques, if required.
4. With regard to (3), to carry out a Health & Safety Risk Assessment of the site.

Reporting

The assessment report will normally be prepared within four weeks, and will typically include:

- a concise non-technical summary of the results
- information relating to the circumstances of the project
- background information about the site
- a summary of the aims of the project and the methods used
- the results of the research detailed above, supported by appropriate illustrative material
- a predictive model of the nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of any archaeological material on the site revealed by the assessment
- the contents and location of the archive
- a database of information and a full bibliography

Copies of the report will be provided as required.



Figure 5: Extract from Seller's map of Hertfordshire, 1676

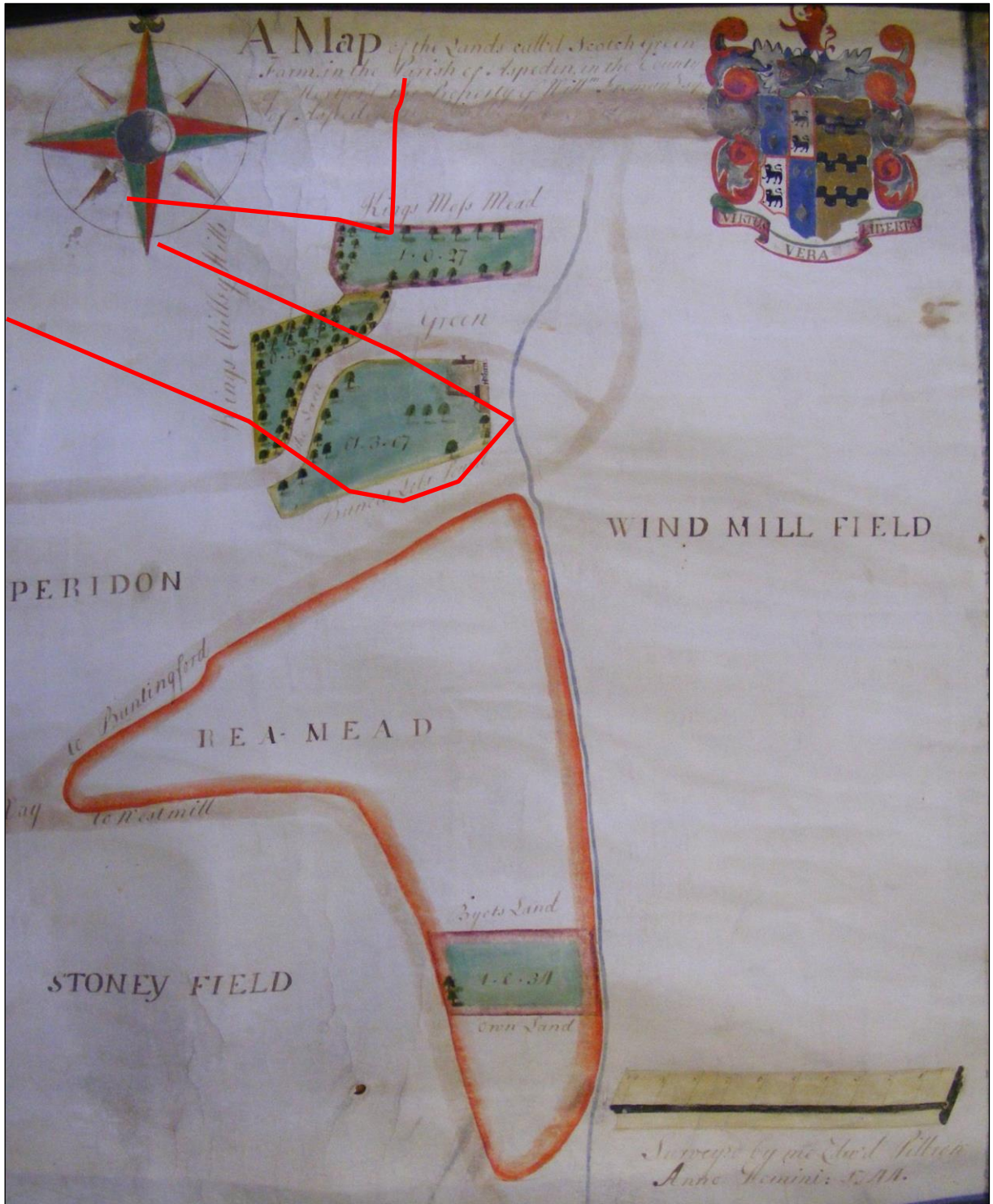


Figure 6: Plan of Scotts Green Farm, 1744



Figure 7: Extract from the estate plan of Aspenden Hall, 1810

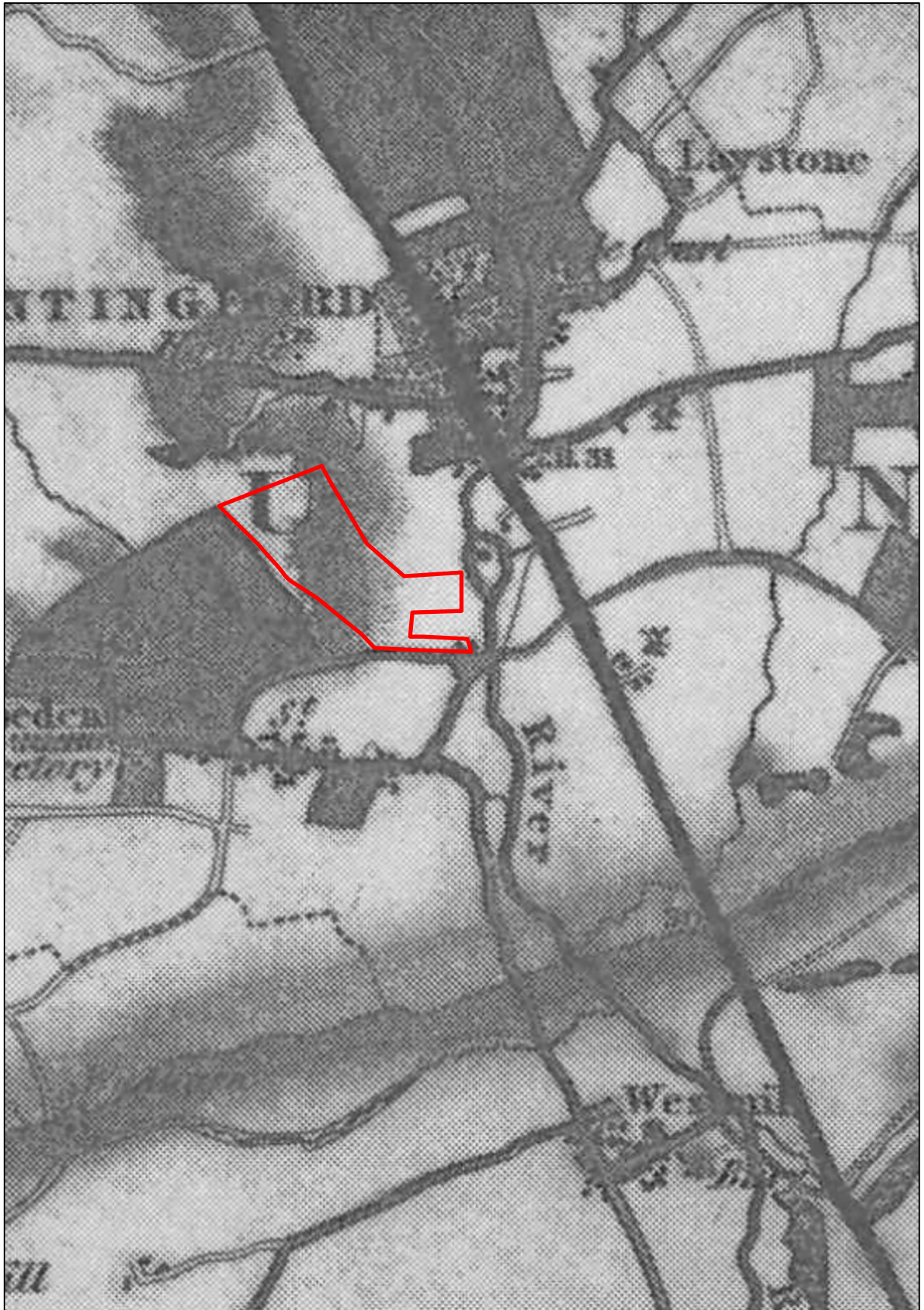


Figure 8: Extract of Bryant's map of Hertfordshire, 1822

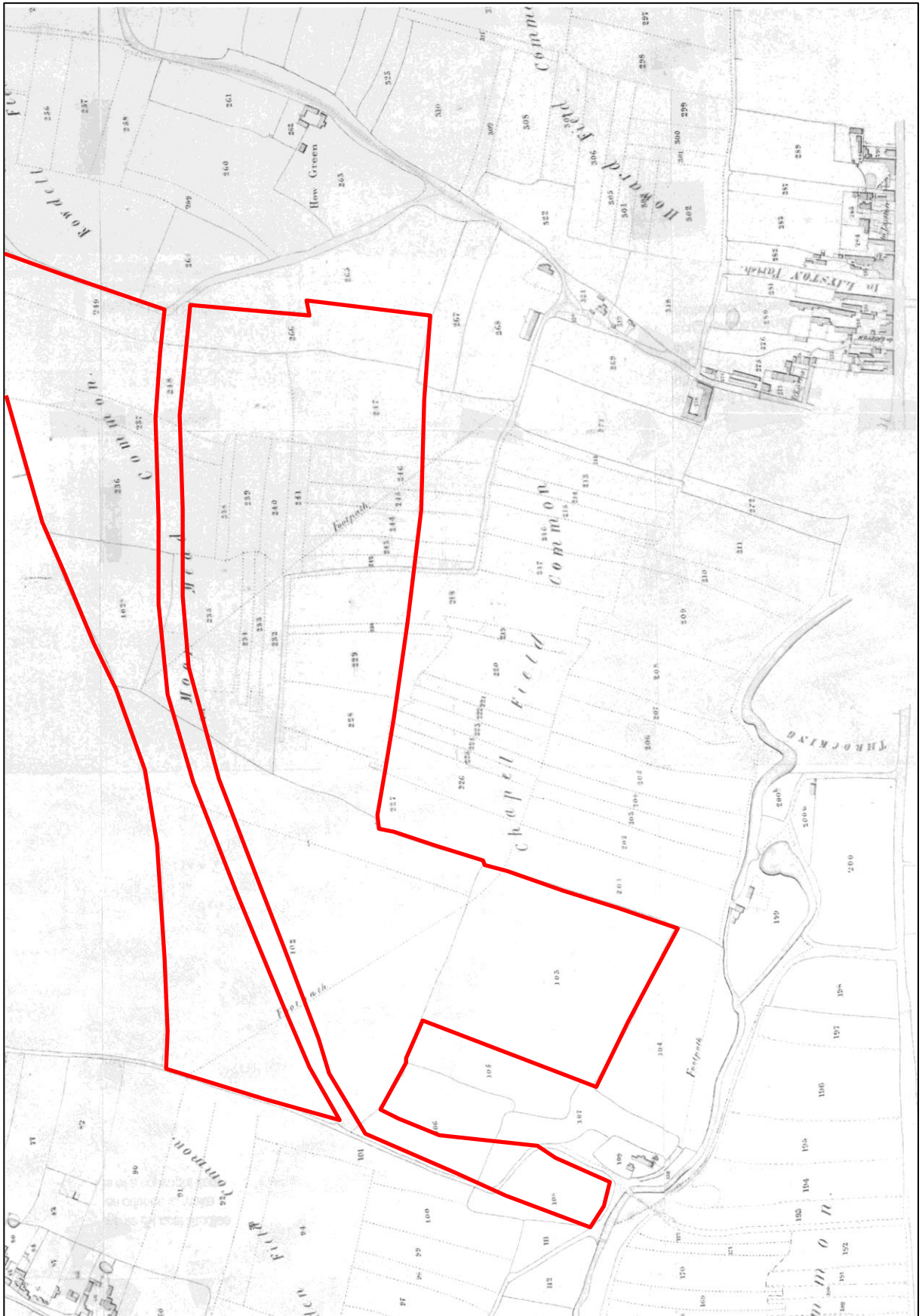


Figure 9: Extract from the tithe map of Aspenden, 1845



Figure 10: Extract from the Enclosure map of Aspenden, 1869

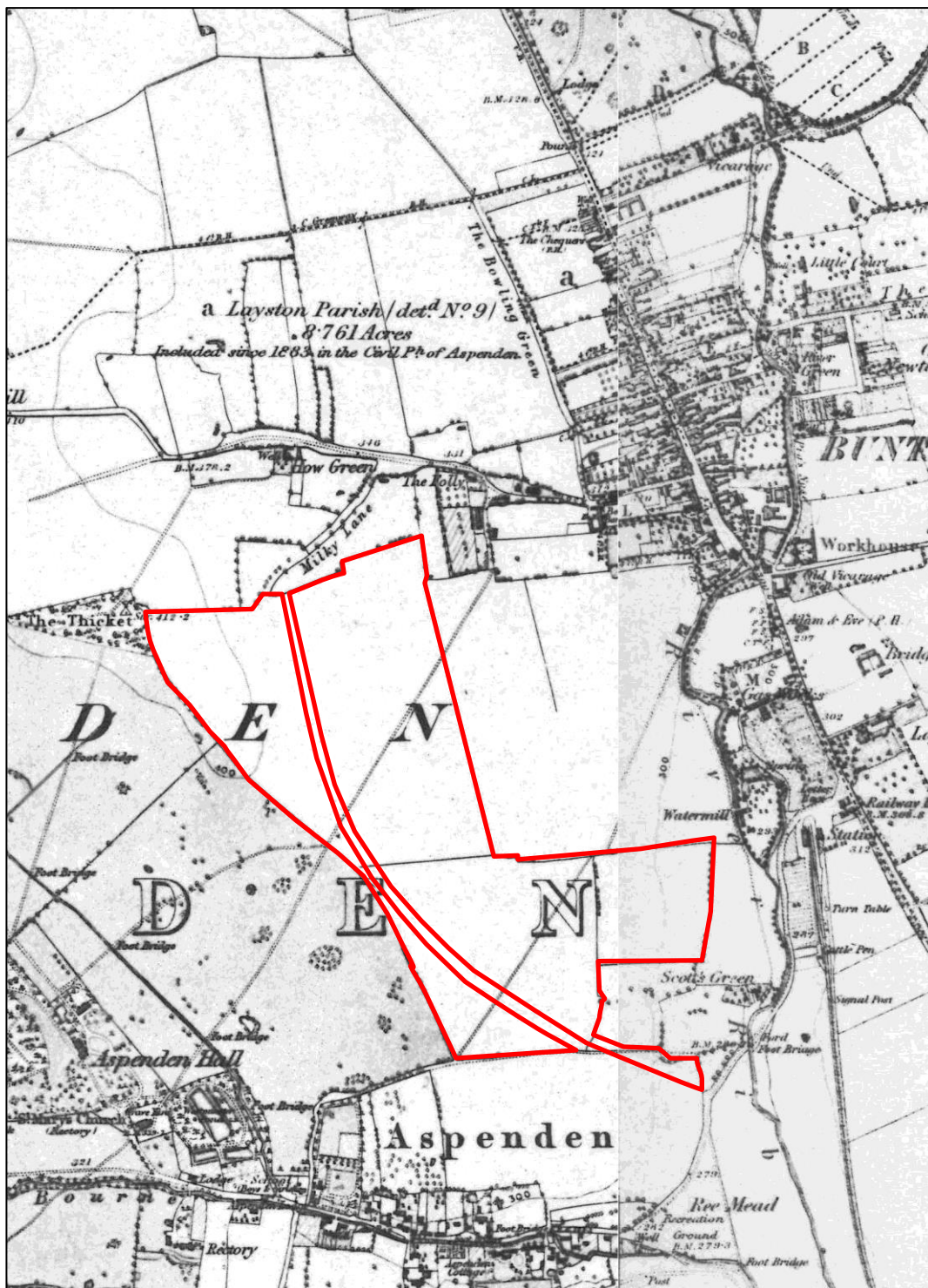


Figure 11: Extract from the 1881 edition 10,560 scale Ordnance Survey map

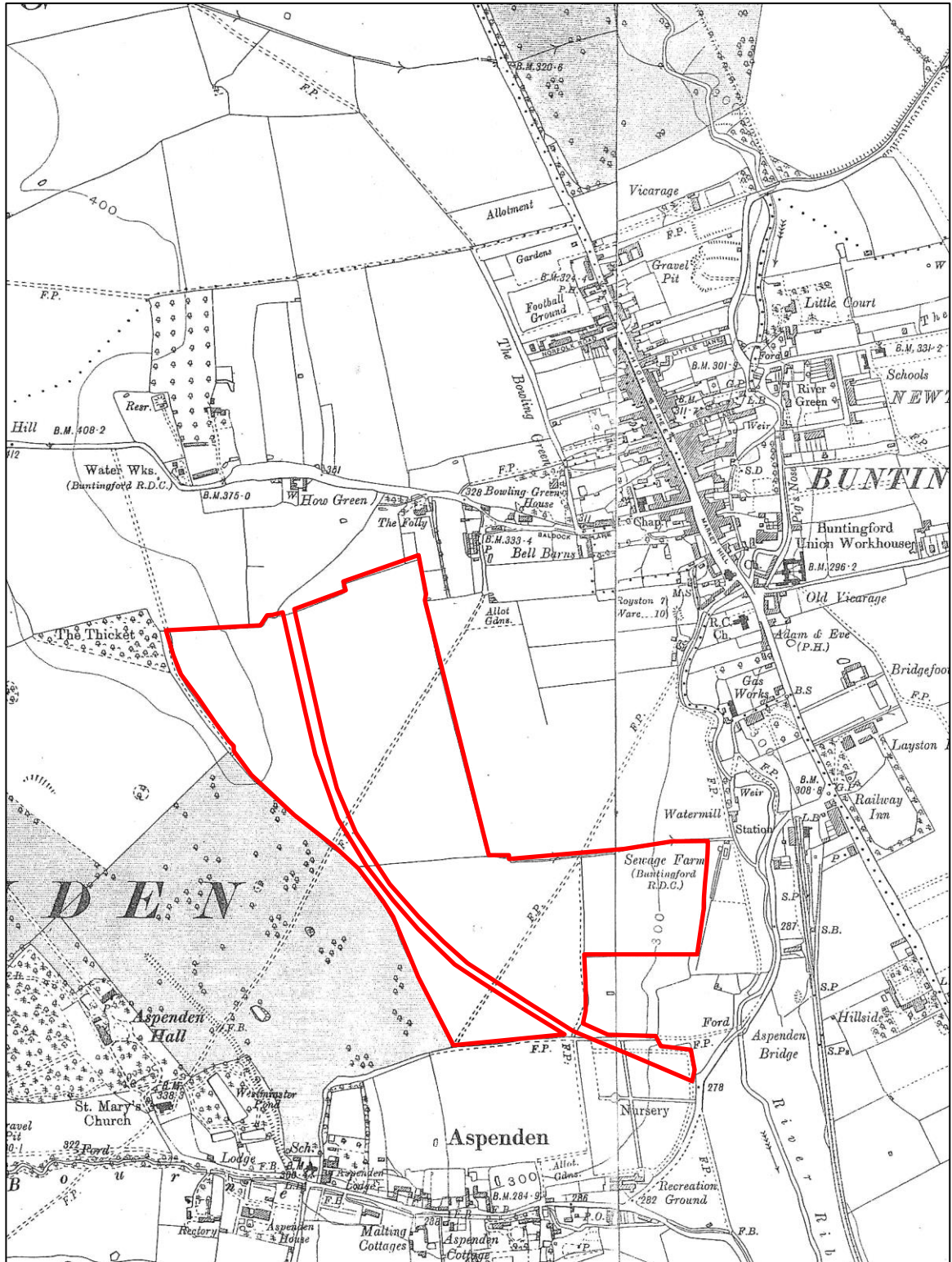


Figure 13: Extract from the 1919 & 1923 edition 10,560 scale Ordnance Survey maps

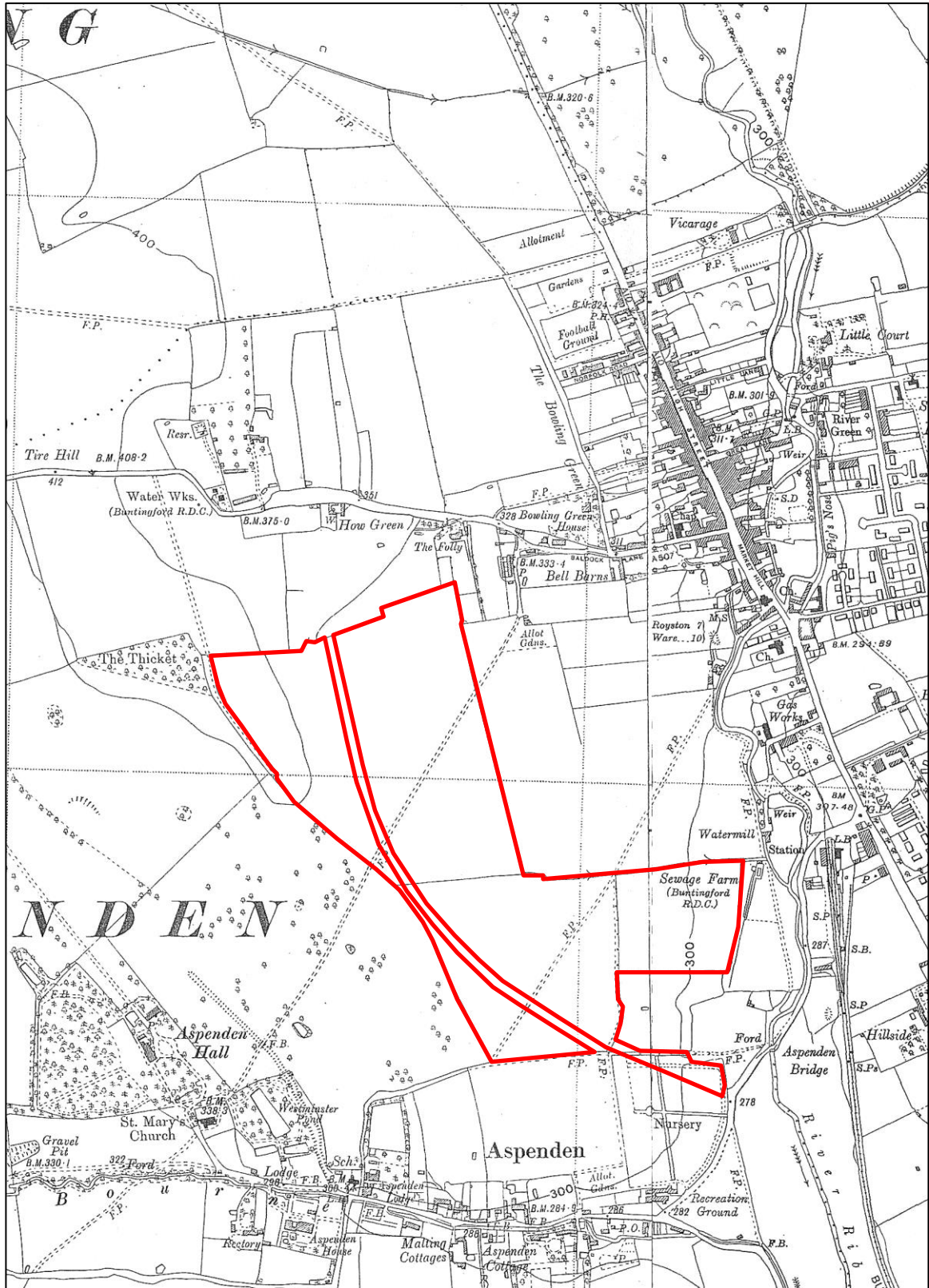


Figure 14: Extract from the 1948 edition 10,560 scale Ordnance Survey map

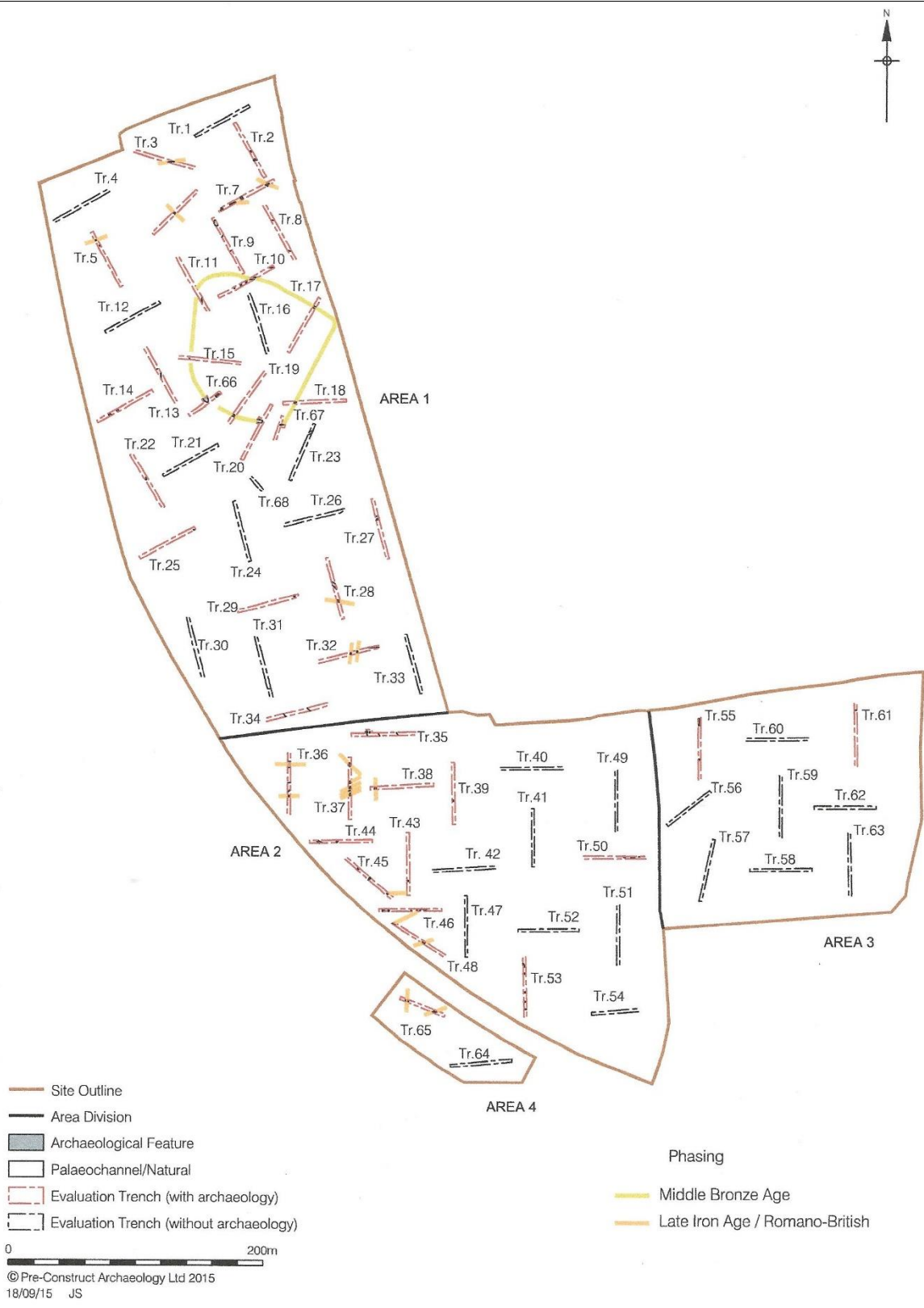


Figure 4
All Trenches with Areas of Dated Archaeology and Associated Conjectures
1:4,000 at A4

Figure 15: Plan of trial trenching (Jones 2016, Fig. 4)

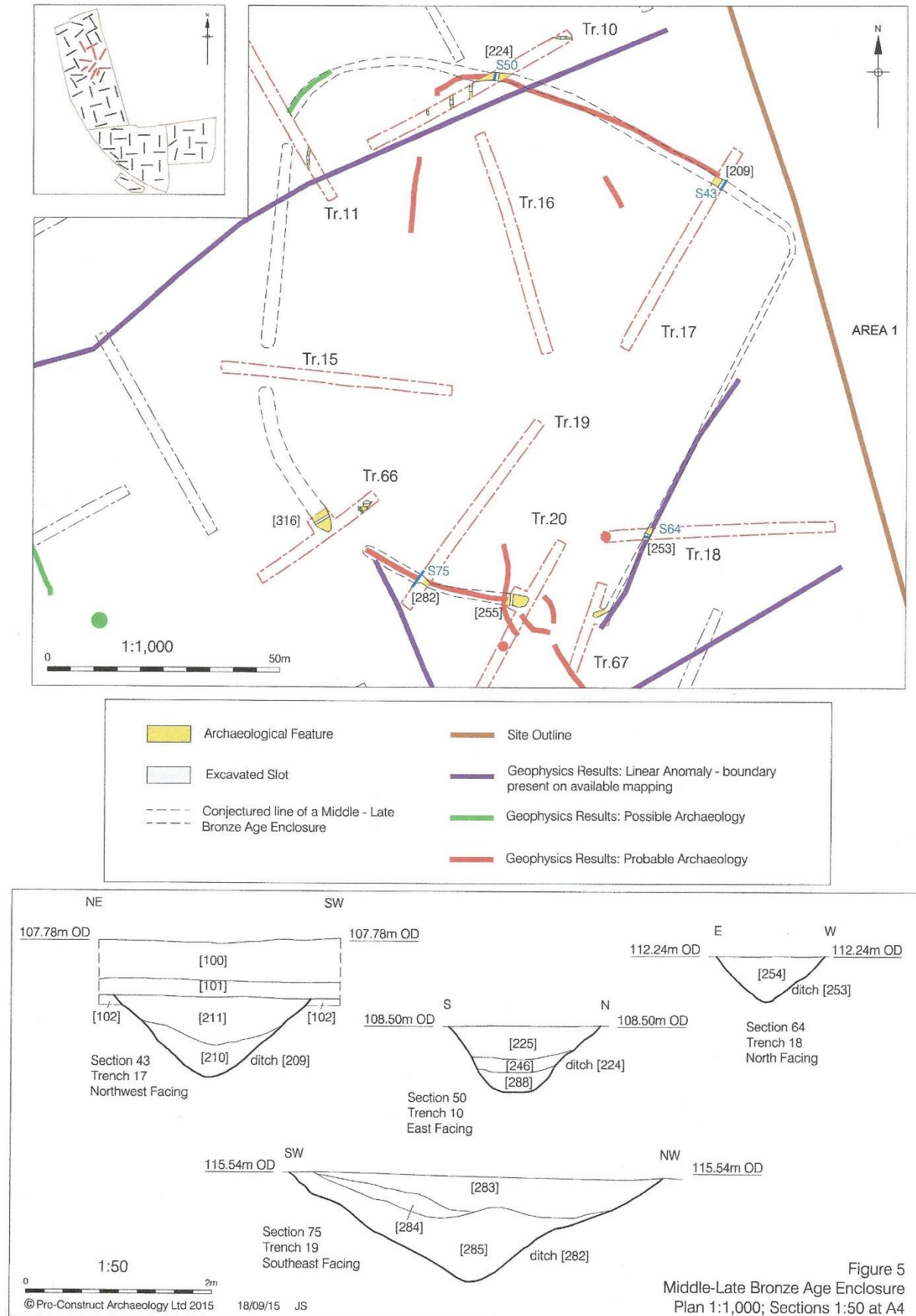


Figure 16: Middle-late Bronze Age enclosure (Jones 2016, Fig. 5)

Figure 5
Middle-Late Bronze Age Enclosure
Plan 1:1,000; Sections 1:50 at A4

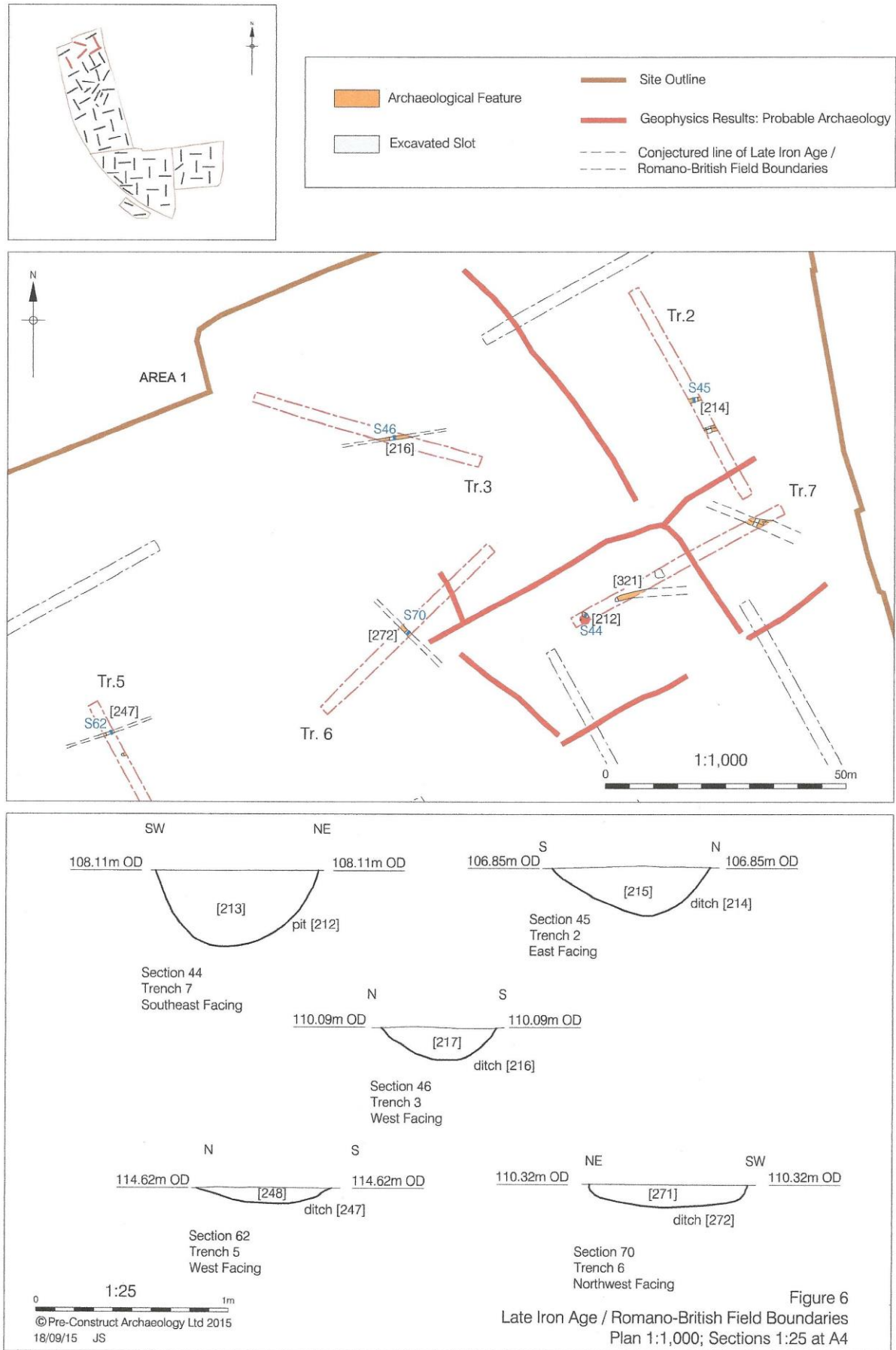


Figure 17: Late Iron Age/Romano-British field boundaries (Jones 2016, Fig. 6)

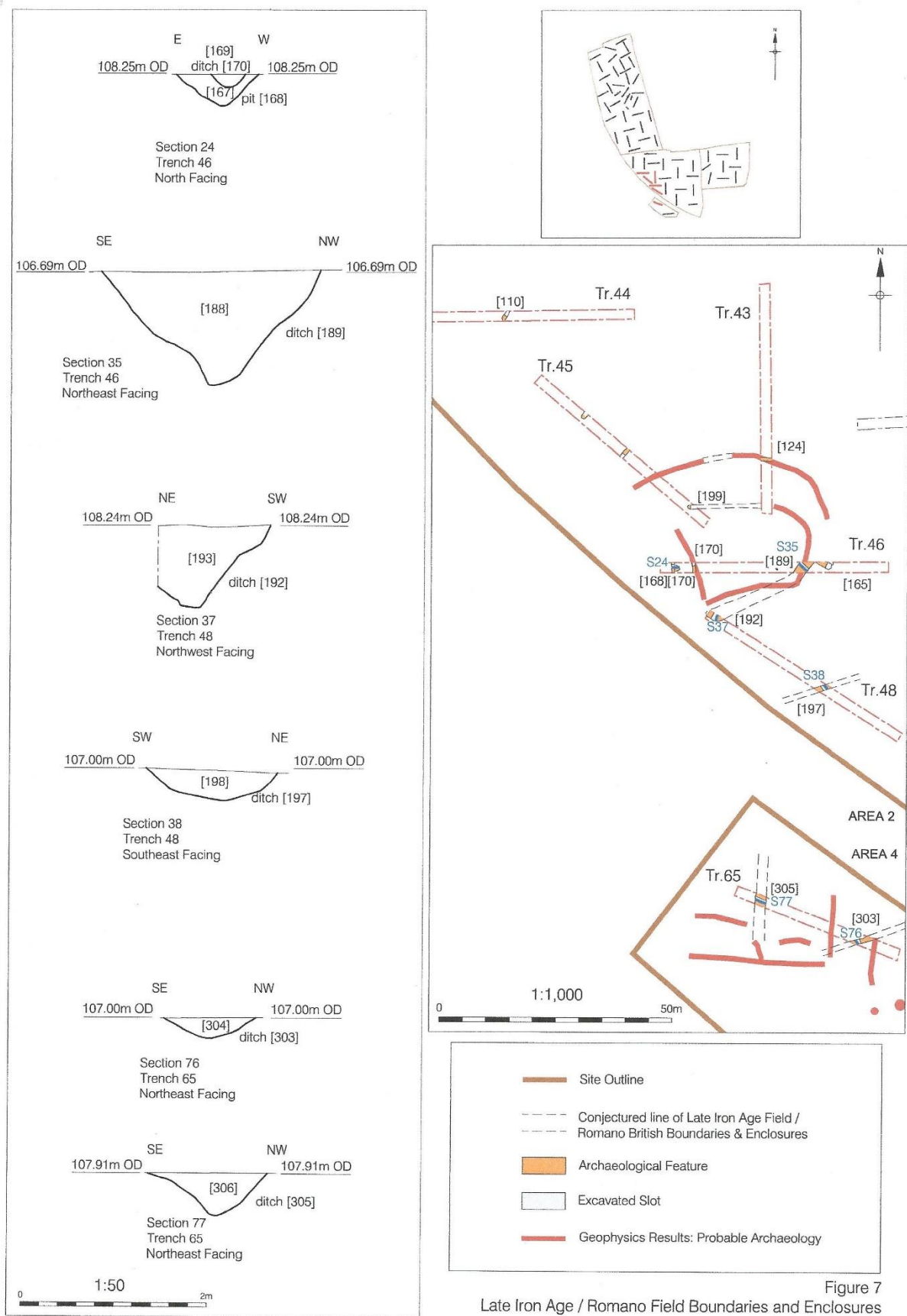
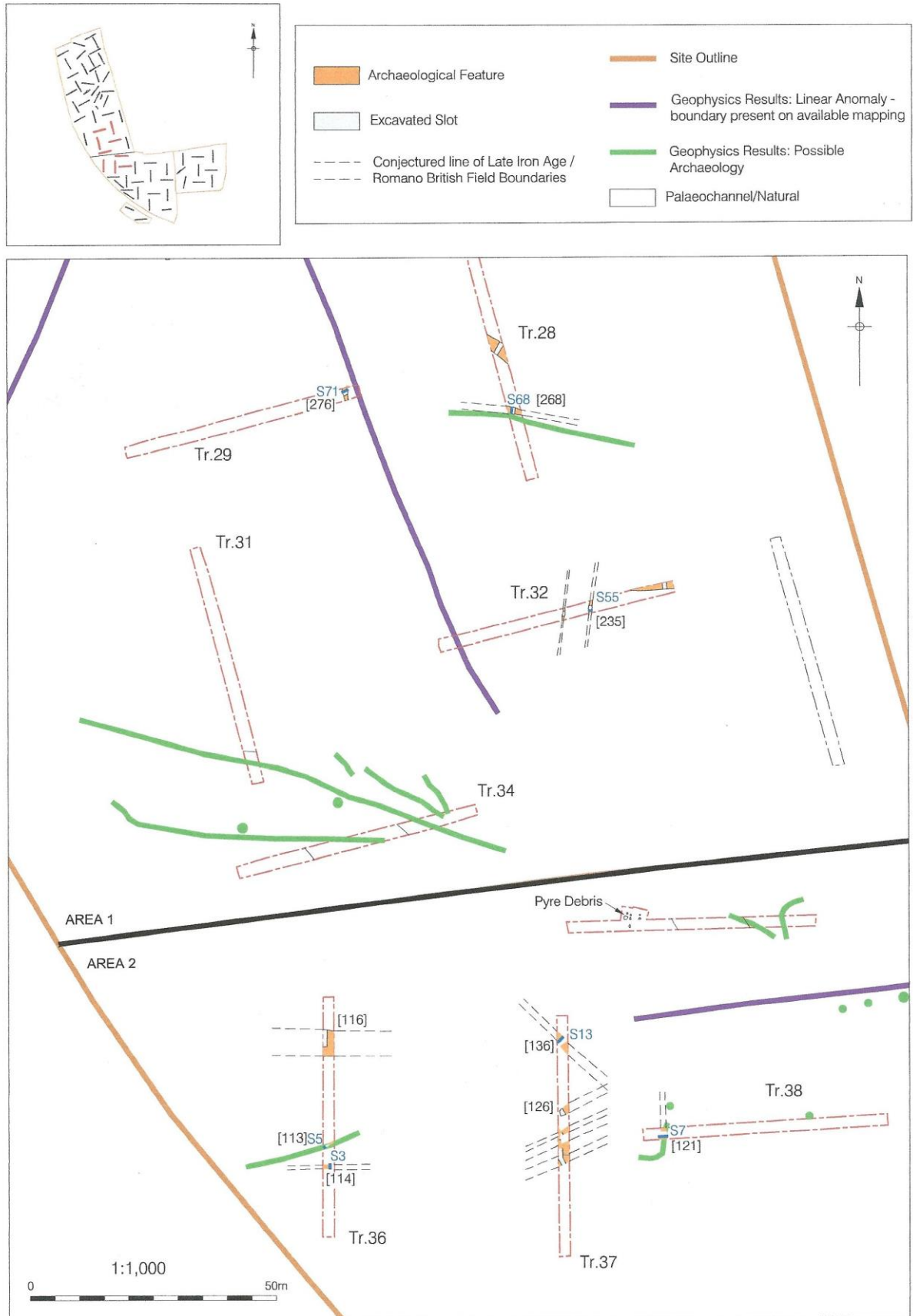


Figure 7
Late Iron Age / Romano Field Boundaries and Enclosures
Plan 1:1,000; Sections 1:50 at A4

Figure 18: Late Iron Age/Romano-british field boundaries & enclosures (Jones 2016, Fig. 7)



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Figure 8
Late Iron Age / Romano British Field Boundaries
1:1,000 at A4

Figure 19: Late Iron Age/Romano-British field boundaries (Jones 2016, Fig. 8)

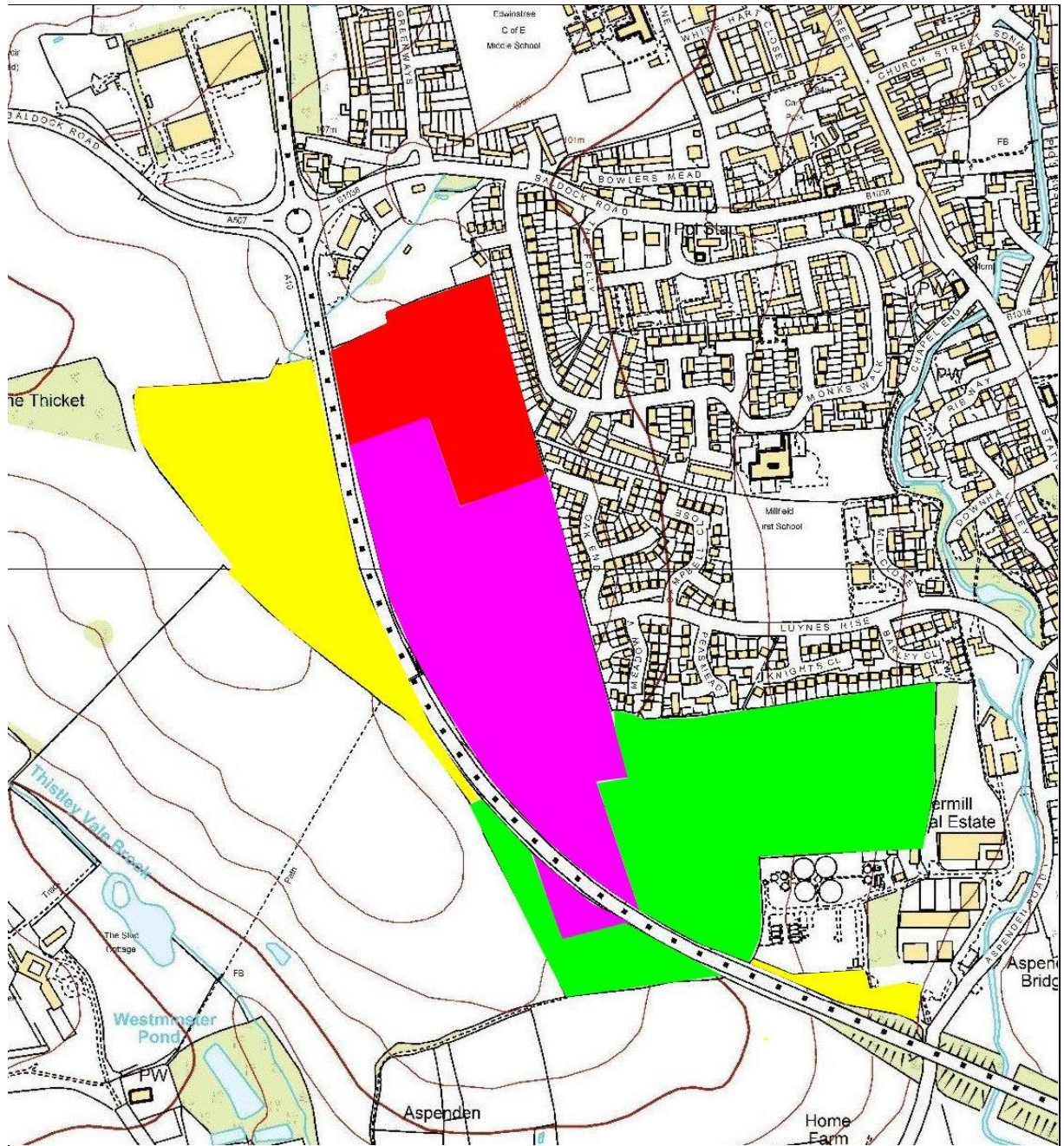


Figure 20: Archaeological potential of land Off Luynes Rise
(Red = High; Purple = Moderate to High; Green = Low to moderate; Yellow = unknown)