

CLAYTON-LE- WOODS, LANCASHIRE

Archaeological Desk- based Assessment



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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	3
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	4
1. INTRODUCTION.....	5
1.1 Circumstances of the Project.....	5
1.2 Location, Topography and Geology.....	5
2. METHODOLOGY.....	7
2.1 Introduction	7
2.2 Desk-based Assessment	7
2.3 Site Visit.....	8
2.4 Archive	8
3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	9
3.1 Introduction	9
3.2 The Prehistoric Period.....	9
3.3 The Historic Period	11
3.4 Map Regression Analysis.....	15
3.5 Aerial Photographs.....	17
3.6 Previous Archaeological Work	17
3.7 Site Visit.....	18
4. GAZETTEER OF SITES.....	23
5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE REMAINS.....	31
5.1 Introduction	31
5.2 Criteria.....	31
5.3 Significance.....	33
6. IMPACT	35
6.1 Impact.....	35
6.2 Impact Assessment.....	36

7. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION	38
7.1 Introduction	38
8. BIBLIOGRAPHY	39
8.1 Primary and Cartographic Sources.....	39
8.2 Secondary Sources	39
8.3 Websites	41
9. ILLUSTRATIONS	42
9.1 List of Figures	42

SUMMARY

Fox Land and Property has proposed a residential development at Clayton-le-Woods in Lancashire (NGR SD 5582 2288) and, in order to support the promotion of the site through the Local Development Framework process, commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site. The principal aim of the assessment was to identify, as far as possible, the nature and significance of the cultural heritage and sub-surface archaeological resource within the study area, and to establish the impact of the proposed development upon this resource.

Whilst the route of a Roman road between Wigan and Preston (Site **14**) has been projected to cross the site, representing its most important archaeological attribute, the only subsequent activity within the proposed development area appears to have been agricultural. The site formed part of Clayton manor until at least the late seventeenth century, and is likely to have been entirely rural. A farmstead named Woodcocks (Site **11**), situated just beyond the boundary of the proposed development, is thought to date from at least the late sixteenth century. Another farmstead, Cuerdens (Site **10**), lies partially within the proposed development area, and dates from the early seventeenth century. Features in the modern landscape of the site, including field boundaries and extraction pits, reflect post-medieval agricultural practices such as field enclosure and marling. The wider area remained rural until the mid-twentieth century, when suburb expansion encroached on former fields around Clayton-le-Woods.

In total, 29 sites of archaeological interest were identified within the study area during the desk-based assessment, although only 15 lie within the boundary of the proposed development. The sites included the projected line of a putative Roman road (Site **14**) from Wigan to Preston, which runs parallel and a short distance to the east of the modern A49. All of the other archaeological sites of interest are likely to be of post-medieval origin, and pertain to agricultural practices. No listed buildings or Scheduled Monuments were identified within the study area, although the site lies within an area defined as 'Ancient Enclosure' by the Lancashire County Council Historic Landscape Characterisation programme, reflecting the antiquity of the surviving hedgerows.

The assessment has concluded that some intrusive archaeological investigation may be required in advance of development. In the first instance, this is likely to comprise a limited programme of trial trenching, which should be targeted on the projected line of the Roman road. The principal aim of the trial trenching would be to confirm the presence or absence of any buried archaeological remains. Any buried remains of post-medieval buildings associated with Cuerdens farm complex (Site **10**) would also merit archaeological investigation. The most appropriate strategy here may be a programme of strip and record.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Simon Turner of Fox Land and Property for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Ken Davies at Lancashire County Council Historic Environment Record (LCCHER), and the staff at Lancashire County Record Office in Preston.

Kathryn Blythe undertook the desk-based assessment, and Ian Miller carried out the site visit. The report was compiled by Kathryn Blythe, and Anne Stewardson and Alix Sperr produced the illustrations. The report was edited by Ian Miller, who was also responsible for project management.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

1.1.1 Fox Land and Property has proposed a residential development at Clayton-le-Woods in Lancashire (Fig 1), and commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment to support the promotion of the site through the Local Development Framework process. The principal aim of the assessment was to identify, as far as possible, the nature and significance of the cultural heritage and sub-surface archaeological resource within the study area, and to establish the impact of the proposed development upon this resource. The resource has been examined to see if it includes Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields, hedgerows of historic importance, and non-designated features of regional or local archaeological or historical interest and value.

1.1.2 This report sets out the results of the desk-based assessment, along with a gazetteer of major sites. The report also includes a statement of the archaeological potential and significance (defined by the criteria detailed in PPG 16 (DoE 1990)), in which an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the historic environment is taken into account. This has been carried out in accordance with government advice in the form of Planning Policy Guidance notes 15 Planning and the Historic Environment (DoE/DoNH 1994) and 16 Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990). That advice is supported by policies relating to archaeology, historic buildings and development within the Lancashire Structure Plan and Local Plans (<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/archaeologyandheritage>).

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1.2.1 Clayton-le-Woods is a village in the borough of Chorley, Lancashire. The proposed development area comprises two plots (Plate 1), located to the north of the village, and to the east of Leyland, on the east side of the M6 motorway (NGR SD 5582 2288). The southern plot is bounded to the west by the A49, by housing to the south, and by agricultural land to the north and east. The northern area, which is considerably smaller than the south, is bounded to the west by the A49, to the south by an equestrian centre, to the north by residential development, and to the east by agricultural land. The site lies on relatively flat land at approximately 60m AOD, less than 1km to the west of the River Lostock (Ordnance Survey 1983).

1.2.2 The proposed development area occupies an area defined as ‘Ancient Enclosure’ by the Lancashire County Council Historic Landscape Characterisation programme, that is land that was enclosed by *c* 1600 (Ede with Darlington 2002, 97). Ancient enclosure is typically characterised by small irregular fields, with sinuous or wavy-edged boundaries and winding lanes or tracks connecting dispersed farmsteads and small hamlets.



Plate 1: Recent aerial view of the proposed development area

- 1.2.3 The solid geology of the region comprises mostly Permo-Triassic sedimentary rocks with the Keuper Marls of the Lostock Hall area to the north-west being disrupted by the Great Haigh Fault, which runs north-west/south-east through Cuerden Gates Farm. The overlying drift geology is essentially post-glacial boulder clay deposits (Countryside Commission 1998). The soils, as mapped by the Ordnance Survey Soil Survey of England and Wales (1983), are predominantly of the Salop series, which are typical stagnogley soils, but there are also areas of the Enborne series along the river valleys, which are typical alluvial gley soils.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 The desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the relevant IFA and English Heritage guidelines (Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001 *Standard and guidance for archaeological Desk-based Assessments*; English Heritage 2006 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE)).

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 A study area that extended 0.5km outside of the proposed development area, was examined. All known archaeological sites identified have been integrated into the Historical and Archaeological Background (*Sections 3.2 and 3.3*) in order to assess the impact of the proposed development. The location of these sites is shown in Figure 2.

2.2.2 Several sources of information were consulted as part of the assessment, which have provided a good understanding of the developmental history of the study area. Archive sources that were consulted include:

- ***Lancashire County Council Historic Environment Record (LCCHER)***: the Historic Environment Record held in Preston was consulted to establish the presence of sites of cultural heritage interest already known within a 0.5km radius of the proposed development area;
- ***Lancashire County Record Office, Preston***: the record office holds cartographic and documentary sources relating to the study area;
- ***Harris Museum, Art Galley and Library, Preston***: the local studies section within the Harris Museum contains an extensive archive of secondary sources relevant to the study area;
- ***National Monument Record (NMR)***: the NMR is a national resource that holds data on the historic environment from a variety of sources. Baseline data on sites and excavations can be accessed via their internet portal. The resource is complementary to the Lancashire HER and although the two databases may hold the same information for the most part, the NMR may sometimes contain additional sites, particularly those recognised from aerial photograph interpretation;
- ***OA North Library***: OA North has an extensive archive of secondary sources relevant to the study area, as well as numerous unpublished client reports on work carried out both as OA North and in its former guise of Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU). These were consulted where necessary.

2.3 SITE VISIT

- 2.3.1 The study area was the subject of a rapid site visit to assess the information pertaining to the baseline conditions, and to relate the past landscape and surroundings to that of the present. Additional information on the sites of significance has been added to the Site Gazetteer (*Section 4, below*), where appropriate, and a photographic record was compiled.
- 2.3.2 The site was viewed from the boundaries of the proposed development area. At the time of the site visit, in May 2008, the fields within the larger, southern part of the proposal area supported a crop of long grass, which obscured the natural topography and surface features. Conversely, the grass covering the northern part had been cut, and the natural topography was clearly visible.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 Copies of this desk-based assessment will be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office and the Lancashire County Council Historic Environment Service.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1.1 The following section presents a summary of the historical and archaeological background of the general area. This is presented by historical period, and has been compiled in order to place the study area into a wider archaeological context.

Period	Date Range
Palaeolithic	30,000 – 10,000 BC
Mesolithic	10,000 – 3,500 BC
Neolithic	3,500 – 2,200 BC
Bronze Age	2,200 – 700 BC
Iron Age	700 BC – AD 43
Romano-British	AD 43 – AD 410
Early Medieval	AD 410 – AD 1066
Late Medieval	AD 1066 – AD 1540
Post-medieval	AD 1540 – c1750
Industrial Period	cAD1750 – 1901
Modern	Post-1901

Table 1: Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges

3.2 THE PREHISTORIC PERIOD

- 3.2.1 **Mesolithic-Neolithic (c 8000–2400 cal BC):** during the Mesolithic period the inhabitants of the British Isles employed a subsistence strategy viewed traditionally as the exploitation of natural resources by activities based on hunting, gathering, and fishing. Although numerous sites of Mesolithic origin have been found within historic south-west Lancashire, the majority of those from lowland contexts have been concentrated in the southern part of the area, within, or close to, Merseyside (Cowell 1996, 23). Many of the finds of surface scatters have been found in coastal and estuarine areas (*ibid*), and a pattern of coastal base camps and inland specialist sites, such as seasonal hunting camps, has been suggested for lowland Lancashire during the Mesolithic (*op cit*, 28). The closest known Mesolithic sites are, approximately, 15km west of the study area, between Hesketh Bank and Banks, 12km to the south-west, at Mawdesly (Middleton *et al* forthcoming), and 22km to the north-west, at Peel (Middleton 1996, 36). A sample of peat from the nearby Farington Moss, approximately 3km to the west, suggested that peat growth in this area began soon after 3770 BC (Middleton *et al* forthcoming) and, therefore, this area must have been a wetland environment prior to this date.
- 3.2.2 Approximately commensurate with the adoption of farming, from c 4000 BC, the Neolithic period saw an increase in more permanent settlement, and the beginnings of widespread construction of monumental architecture. It has been suggested (Middleton 1996, 36–9) that, although the Neolithic period marks the transition from generally transient hunting, fishing, and gathering based subsistence strategies to the adoption of more settled agricultural communities,

there may still have been a great deal of wild resource exploitation during the Neolithic in Lancashire. As a result, many Neolithic sites are situated in coastal, riverine, and wetland locations that mirror the Mesolithic zones of activity (*op cit*, 40). In addition, there are chambered cairns, such as the Pike Stones, on Anglezarke Moor, approximately 9km to the south-east, which demonstrate some activity on the uplands (Howard-Davis 1996). However, there are no known Mesolithic or Neolithic sites within the study area.

- 3.2.3 ***The Bronze Age (c 2400–700 cal BC)***: the beginning of the Bronze Age in Britain developed gradually from the preceding Neolithic during the mid-third millennium BC, although beyond the appearance of metal artefacts the distinction is somewhat overstressed (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 29-30).
- 3.2.4 Bronze Age sites also show a lowland and riverine distribution, from evidence such as metal finds, but the lithic finds from this period have mostly been casual, and are generally not well located (Middleton 1996). Barrows and burial cairns appear to be associated with upland locations, such as Parlick summit, in the Forest of Bowland. ‘Flat’ or eroded burial sites are suggested at sites such as Walmsley and Haulgh Hall in Bolton (*ibid*).
- 3.2.5 A large assemblage of artefacts was recovered during the construction of Preston Dock, approximately 7km to the north-west of the study area. These included 24 human skulls, the antlers of around 100 red deer, the bones of several horses and wild fauna, two dugout canoes, a Bronze Age socketed spearhead, and a perforated shaft-hole axe (Crosby 2000, 10–11; Middleton 1996, 46). There may also have been a wooden structure associated with these finds, consisting of a brushwood platform supported by a series of pile-driven stakes (Crosby 2000, 10–11). It has been suggested that this assemblage may represent the deliberate deposition of artefacts within a riverine context (Middleton 1996, 46), but might equally represent material of disparate origin that had washed downstream. There are no Bronze Age sites from the study area.
- 3.2.6 ***The Iron Age (c 700 cal BC – AD 43)***: a comparative lack of material culture in the North West relating to the Iron Age has historically made sites of this period difficult to identify in the archaeological record, particularly with reference to small-scale rural sites (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 51; Haselgrove 1996, 61). This is probably influenced as much by the poor survival of material of this date, the lack of a temporally distinct material culture, and the inherent difficulty of recognising potentially subtle regional site-types (Hodgson and Brennand 2006, 53; Cowell 2005, 75; Haselgrove 1996, 64), as it is by the often-quoted suggestion of a low population density (Haselgrove 1996, 64). Pollen data from the various wetland areas show widespread forest clearance (reduced levels of tree pollen recorded), which seems to indicate a possible increase in arable activity during this period, and the expansion into wider areas of land, both lowland and upland (Middleton *et al* 1995). The closest known Iron Age sites to the study area lie approximately 15km to the south-west, at Dutton’s Farm in Lathom, and 22km to the north-east at Portfield Camp in Whalley (Cowell 2005, 68–72). There are no known Iron Age sites within the study area.

3.3 THE HISTORIC PERIOD

- 3.3.1 ***The Romano-British Period (c AD 43 – AD 410)***: Walton-le-Dale, located 4.5km to the north of the proposed development area, was a significant site during the Romano-British period and may have functioned as a part of a network of industrial centres and supply bases. The settlement was well situated to exploit the navigable River Ribble and the overland road network (Philpott 2006, 70; 75), particularly that following the northern side of the River Ribble, running eastwards towards the forts at Kirkham and then Ribchester, before continuing across the Pennines to York (*op cit*, 60; 87). The postulated route of the Roman road that ran between Wigan and Preston (Site 14) runs through the proposed development area, and crosses the River Ribble to the north of Walton-le-Dale, close to the position of the current A6 (Philpott 2006, 60).
- 3.3.2 Evidence for the continuity of occupation from the Iron Age into the Roman period comes from Dutton's Farm, in Lathom (Cowell 2005, 69–70). Continuity or reoccupation of an Iron Age site in the Romano-British period was also evident further south at Brook House Farm in Halewood (*op cit*, 67).
- 3.3.3 ***Early Medieval Period (AD 410 - 1066)***: this was a period of numerous social and political fluctuations. In the seventh century, most of the small kingdoms that had emerged in northern England, following the decline of the Roman empire, were subsumed within the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumbria (Newman 2006, 91–3). From the late eighth century, the decline of Northumbria left a power vacuum in the north-west that was further destabilised by pressure from Scandinavian and Hiberno-Norse groups (*ibid*). The political nature of northern England remained unstable into the tenth century when the expanding English kingdom of Mercia exerted pressure on the region, followed by the English kingdom of Wessex, which eventually achieved dominance (*ibid*).
- 3.3.4 Place-name evidence indicates the presence of Scandinavian and Hiberno-Norse influences in the landscape throughout Lancashire (Kenyon 1991; Ekwall 1922), and also suggests some Norse settlement south of the Ribble around Cuerden, Brinscall, and the eastern part of Leyland township (Hallam 1980). Place-name evidence should be treated with caution however, as whilst this might reflect the arrival of settlers of Anglo-Saxon and Scandinavian origin into the region, they might, alternatively, attest to a high level of political influence that was not necessarily accompanied in all areas by a high degree of new settlement (Newman 2006, 95).
- 3.3.5 Archaeological evidence for early medieval activity in the wider locale is not particularly widespread, but is extremely significant: the largest Scandinavian hoard in north-west Europe was found at Cuerdale Hall, around 6.5km to the north-east of the study area (Newman 1996, 103). The 40kg hoard, dated to AD 905, comprised 75% hack silver together with over 7250 coins, many minted in York (*ibid*; Newman 2006, 111). It has been suggested that the hoard, located so close to the Ribble, may have represented funds being gathered to finance a reinvasion of Ireland, following the expulsion of the Norsemen in AD 902 from the settlements they had founded (Newman 2006,

112). Excavations at Penwortham's Norman motte and bailey castle, 6.7km to the north-west of the proposed development area, (HER 284) have revealed early remains that may represent the site of a Saxon hall. There are no known early medieval sites within the study area.

- 3.3.6 **Medieval Period (AD 1066 - 1540):** the township of Clayton-le-Woods was one of nine townships in the Hundred of Leyland. The manor was a member of the fee of Penwortham, and in c 1160 it was granted by Richard Bussel to Richard Fitton (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 29). The early history of the manor is not complete, but it passed from the Lea family to the de Hoghton family and was in the hands of the Clayton family between the thirteenth and sixteenth centuries. The earliest reference to the Claytons is the ownership of the manor by Gerald de Clayton in 1213 (*ibid*).
- 3.3.7 The area was adjacent to the barony of Penwortham, which was created between 1102 and 1118 and encompassed much of the Hundred of Leyland (Kenyon 1991, 163). There was a motte and bailey castle and later a small monastic cell of the Benedictine order at Penwortham (Wood 1996, 148); its position allowed it to take advantage of good local agricultural land, the favourable communications of roads and river and access to resources and people (Newman, R 1996; White 1996). In the thirteenth century, Clayton-le-Woods was on the western periphery of the Penwortham demesne forest, and it is probable that the moated manor of Clayton Hall was one of the forest assarts (Lewis 1978, 54-5)
- 3.3.8 In addition to the controlling castles, such as Penwortham, several moated homesteads, which typically date from the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, were established within the region, including Clayton Hall, Lower Farington Hall, and Broughton Tower (Hallam 1980). Fourteenth-century pottery has been found at Clayton Hall, which suggests that the moated site was in place by this time (OA North 2002, 6). It is not known exactly what land holdings these halls would have had at the time of their foundation, but Clayton Hall is located approximately 650m to the south of the proposed development area and is therefore the most likely manor to have held the land.
- 3.3.9 Medieval townships were often composed of a scatter of hamlets. Cuerden Nook, to the north of the study area, was the chief hamlet of Cuerden but effectively disappeared in the nineteenth century (Hallam 1980). Cuerden Green survives as a name and relates to a small grouping of buildings at the corner of Old School Lane and Stoney Lane, approximately 1.5km to the north-west of the proposed development area. The possible location of a shrunken medieval village at Clayton (Site 3) is located at the east extent of the study area.
- 3.3.10 **Post-medieval Period (AD 1540 - present):** in 1557 Clayton manor was split and part of it, including 800 acres of land, was sold to the Anderton family. The Andertons were Catholics, and took the King's side in the Civil War. James Anderton was captured in Preston in 1643 and as a direct result of his allegiance to King Charles, his lands were sold off, although the Andertons managed to recover them by 1661, and in 1683 the manor and estates were sold to Lord Molyneux (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 29). The house was sold

to John Wright in 1717 and to the Bootles of Lathom in 1750, and it remained in that family to the twentieth century (*op cit* 31). The land was sold off in the 1960s, the house ceased to be occupied in 1968 and was finally demolished in 1976 (Hallam *c* 1983).

- 3.3.11 Two farmsteads in the vicinity of the proposed development area (Cuerdens (Site **10**) and Woodcocks (Site **11**)), are thought to have existed by 1622, when a ‘cause in variance’ was cited in the court rolls of that year between two closely located ‘tenements’ occupied by Thurstan Leyland and Thomas Woodcock (Bolton 1985, 32). A hearth tax from 1664 records two farms, each with two hearths, within the study area: one belonging to John Woodcock (Site **11**); and the other belonging to Thurstan Leyland (Site **10**). These farms are likely to have been part of the Clayton manor estate until 1677, when properties in the manor began to be sold off. Woodcocks (Site **11**) appears to have taken its name from a late sixteenth-century tenant (*op cit* 46), although evidently the farm remained in the Woodcock family for some time. Cuerdens (Site **10**) was originally occupied by the Leyland family and only took its current name in the early eighteenth century, when Matthew Cuerden was the tenant (*ibid*).
- 3.3.12 The sixteenth century saw the beginning of a process of enclosure that had a dramatic effect on the area over the following two centuries (Crosby 2000, 81). Whereas during the medieval period there had been large tracts of common land that allowed a degree of communal, yet financially independent, subsistence, these areas were gradually enclosed, sub-divided, and taken into private ownership. Parliamentary enclosure was gradual and small-scale during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and more widespread in the nineteenth century.
- 3.3.13 Agriculture was central to the local economy in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and local practices were diverse with the maintenance of sheep and cattle herds, food crops, such as wheat, beans, peas, oats, and barley, and the production of cheese and butter (*ibid*). Crops were also grown for animal fodder and wool, hemp, and flax were produced as raw materials for cloth (*op cit*, 70). The retting process, for the preparation of plant fibres prior to weaving, used pits or ponds to soak plant bundles (*ibid*). It should be noted that several ponds (Sites **2** and **21-9**) were noted within the study area on the historic map sources examined, which could be interpreted as evidence for retting. However, it is more likely that these ponds are relict marl pits, used for the provision of fertile mud. Agriculture was supplemented by a range of other industries, including black smithing, fishing, and cloth weaving (*op cit*, 67–9).
- 3.3.14 Another significant aspect of the post-medieval period was the increased use of brick both for rebuilding of wooden residences and for new structures. With the increased demands for buildings such as mills and warehouses, brick became the prevalent material (Hallam 1980).
- 3.3.15 Numerous sources provide details of the population figures from the sixteenth century onwards, as well as information on economic activities. Much of the region, including nearby Preston, became increasingly engaged in the manufacture and distribution of textiles, or the development of associated

machinery (Fletcher 1996). In the first quarter of the eighteenth century, approximately half the men in Cuerden were employed in the textile industry (Hunt 1990, 76); in 1854, there were three cotton factories in Cuerden township (Mannex and Co 1854, 114).

- 3.3.16 In order to serve the industries active in the area, transport systems developed to serve many locations. The turnpike road network, centred on the main north/south road (the modern A6), was well established by the mid-eighteenth century. In the vicinity of the proposed development area the main road north was the Wigan to Preston road (now the A49), which is located on the approximate route of a Roman road (Site **14**). In the thirteenth century it was apparently still the main route to the north, as documentary sources refer to it as the 'King's Highway' (Bolton 1985, 3). In 1726, this road became a turnpike road (*op cit*, 4).
- 3.3.17 In the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries the canals through Lancashire were developed and linked with suitable river systems. This was carried out in conjunction with the expansion of heavy industry, and extractive industries such as coal. The canals were eventually superseded by the railways, which developed rapidly during the mid-nineteenth century.
- 3.3.18 Three post-medieval halls are located in the wider area: Clayton Hall, dating to the late sixteenth or early seventeenth century, built on the site of a moated manor (OA North 2002); Cuerden Hall located approximately 1km to the north-east of the proposed development area; and Woodcock Hall to the north-west of the study area. The original Cuerden Hall was a seventeenth-century building, of which there are no remains (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 25), and Woodcock Hall which was built at a similar time and survives as a three-storey red brick structure (*op cit*, 26). The standing Cuerden Hall was remodelled in 1816-9 but has earlier surviving elements that were in existence in 1717 (Pevsner 1969, 110).
- 3.3.19 There are 26 post-medieval sites within the study area, Sites **2**, **4-13** and **15-20**. Sites **2** and **20-9** are ponds, which probably originated as marl pits, Sites **4** and **6-11** are farms, Site **5** is the location of two pumps at Berkeley Farm (Site **4**), Site **12** is a well and Site **13** is a milestone. Site **15** was a track noted on the first edition OS map, and Site **16** is a house noted on late nineteenth-century mapping (*Section 3.4*). Site **17** is the possible location of a well noted on the tithe map of 1838, and Sites **18-20** are three former field boundaries also noted on the tithe.
- 3.3.20 **Undated:** Site **1** is an undated oval cropmark, located at the southern extent of the study area, in an area that is now developed extensively with housing. The cropmark measures c110m from north-west to south-east and 50m in width. The date and function of this feature is not known, and it is possible that it could be geological in origin.

3.4 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 3.4.1 **Yates' map of 1786 (Fig 3):** this is the first detailed map of Lancashire, although the large-scale production of the survey compromises its accuracy. The mapping shows that the main road network in the vicinity of the study area was set out by this time. The north/south-aligned road on the west side of the proposed development area (now the A49) is shown, as is the east/west-aligned road to the south (now Lancaster Lane). East of the study area, before this road crosses the River Lostock, is the settlement of Clayton. Clayton Hall is marked a short distance to the south of the study area, and Cuerden Hall to the north. Within the northern part of the study area a small settlement named 'Head', represented by three buildings, is depicted. These are likely to include the farmsteads 'Cuerdens' (Site 10) and 'Woodcocks' (Site 11), which were both extant by this time (*Section 3.3.11 above*).
- 3.4.2 **Hennet's map of 1830 (Fig 4):** whilst the road network in the vicinity of the study area is roughly the same as on Yates' map, some of the nearby settlements had changed by the time of this mapping. The settlement in the northern part of the proposed development area, which was named 'Head' on Yates' map, is now named 'Lidget Head', and several more buildings are depicted in this area, which probably indicate the farmsteads Cuerdens (Site 10) and Woodcocks (Site 11) and their associated outbuildings. The park land within which Cuerden Hall is set to the east of the study area is defined distinctly, bound to its east by the River Lostock and to its west by a north/south road (now named Shady Lane). At the south extent of the park, which is bounded by Lancaster Lane, several buildings are shown, which were previously named as the settlement of Clayton, but are not named on this mapping. Clayton Hall is shown clearly to the south of the study area, although unlike Cuerden Hall no associated parkland is depicted. Aside from the buildings representing Cuerdens (Site 10) and Woodcocks (Site 11), the proposed development area is undeveloped and was presumably being used as agricultural land at this time.
- 3.4.3 **Clayton-le-Woods tithe map of 1838 (Fig 5):** this map is the earliest detailed survey of the study area, and may be relied upon for its accuracy. It shows a similar road layout to Hennet's map, but contains a lot more detail as individual fields are depicted and named in the accompanying apportionment, although farm names are not given. The two farmsteads, Cuerdens and Woodcocks (Sites 10 and 11), are depicted in the area between the northern and southern proposed development plots. Several small plots of land surround these two farms, which are described in the apportionment as orchards, gardens and folds. Cuerdens (Site 10) comprises an approximate north/south-aligned farm building with two outbuildings to its west, presumably part of the fold yard, and Woodcocks (Site 11) comprises four small buildings. Two more farmsteads are shown in the area to the north of the proposed development area. In the wider area, including the remainder of the proposed development area the township is occupied by fairly small rectangular fields. Several ponds are shown across this area (Sites 21-9), at least some of which probably originated as marl pits, Clayton Hall is marked and named on this mapping, and Clayton Town is named to the east of the study area. The majority of the

field boundaries shown on the current OS mapping within the proposed development area can be seen on this tithe map, although there are some more recent boundaries on the west side of the proposed development area, dividing new housing from fields. Three field boundaries shown on the tithe which are no longer extant have been added to the Site Gazetteer (Sites **18-20**). One field located towards the north of the southern proposed development plot was also added to the Gazetteer (Site **17**) as it is named 'Well Meadow' on the tithe apportionment, thereby indicating that there was a well located in this field. The majority of the fields within the proposed development area are listed as pasture or meadow, although one is listed as arable, indicating that some ploughing was taking place in the area by this time.

3.4.4 In his will of 1721, John Clayton bequeathed the rents of two closes of land (the Moor Hey on Lancaster Lane and Intack on the Wigan to Preston road) to the benefit of needy inhabitants (Bolton 1985, 30). Two fields named 'Poor Land' owned by the 'Poor of Clayton' were identified on the tithe mapping, both outside of the proposed development area. Field 282 was on the west side of the Wigan to Preston road, opposite Cuerdens (Site **10**) and Woodcocks (Site **11**) and Field 283 was to the south of the west extent of the proposed development area, bordered to the south by Lancaster Lane and to the west by the Wigan to Preston road.

3.4.5 *Ordnance Survey first edition 6" map of 1848 (Fig 6)*: the layouts of both Cuerdens (Site **10**) and Woodcocks (Site **11**) are the same on this mapping as on the tithe map of 1838. A track links Cuerdens farmstead (Site **10**) to the north/south road (now the A49) to its west, and three small fields are located to the west of the farmhouse, on the south side of the track. Tracks connect Cuerdens and Woodcocks, and also link Woodcocks with the north/south road. A track (Site **15**) can also be seen linking Woodcocks to a farmstead named Calderbanks, to the east, on Shady Lane. A milestone (Site **13**) is marked on the east side of the north/south road, marked 'Preston 5 Wigan 12'. A short distance to the north of the proposed development area is a farmstead named 'Lidiate Head', presumably a continuation of the name 'Lidget Head' given to this area on the 1830 mapping. In the wider area, small settlements are shown at Farington and Clayton, and several farmsteads and houses are shown to the south of Farington.

3.4.6 *Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1893 and 25" map of 1894 (Fig 7)*: by the time of this mapping both Cuerdens (Site **10**) and Woodcocks (Site **11**) have changed in layout. The main building at Cuerdens appears to have been altered or replaced, as it is shorter than on the 1848 map. Also, two additional outbuildings are shown to the west of the main building. Woodcocks also appears to have undergone changes, as the most northern of the four buildings has been replaced by a larger rectangular building aligned east/west. To the west of Woodcocks, located outside of the proposed development area, is a new residence named Green Bank Villa (Site **17**), comprising one main square building and a smaller building to its east. Several new buildings are also shown on the east side of the north/south road, to the immediate north of the proposed development area boundary. Several field boundaries have been

removed within the proposed development area, presumably to enlarge the fields.

- 3.4.7 ***Ordnance Survey 25” map of 1911 and 6” map of 1912:*** on this mapping both Cuerdens (Site 10) and Woodcocks (Site 11) have additional out-buildings. A development to the north of the proposed development area is named ‘Southworts’, and wells are marked at Cuerdens, Woodcocks and Southworts. A new property named ‘Minden’ is located to the south, just to the west of the proposed development area, and comprises one building and two small out buildings. A new farm named ‘Lydiat Farm’ is located outside of the proposed development area on the opposite side of the road to Green Bank Villa (Site 17).
- 3.4.8 ***Ordnance Survey 6” and 25” maps of 1931:*** this mapping is very similar to the 1911/1912 mapping. ‘Minden’ is now named ‘Highfield’, but its layout appears to be the same.

3.5 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

- 3.5.1 Aerial photographs from the 1940s, 1960s and 1990s/2000s were consulted on Lancashire County Council’s ‘Mario’ website (www.mario.lancashire.gov.uk). The 1940s coverage showed the field layout very similar to how it is today, although the north side of Lancaster Lane and the area to the west of the southern portion of the proposed development area were not as developed as they are today. The most striking difference between the 1940s and late 1960s coverage is the addition of the M6 motorway on the west side of the study area. In addition, further development has taken place on the north side of Lancaster Lane, and to the west of the southern portion of the proposed development area by this time. The area to the north has also been further developed. By the time of the most recent photo coverage, the area to the north of the proposed development area had been developed heavily and additional buildings are shown to the east of Cuerdens, in particular buildings associated with a riding school are now shown in this area. No sites, for instance earthworks or evidence of ridge and furrow, were added to the Gazetteer from these photographs.

3.6 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

- 3.6.1 ***Cuerden, Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Walkover Survey (NGR SD 555 246):*** a proposed development area located approximately 750m to the north of the current proposed development area was investigated in 2003 (OA North 2003). The proximity of the site to the putative line of the Preston to Wigan Roman road was highlighted, as well as the potential for medieval archaeology. Medieval sites included several areas of relict field system and post-medieval sites included several marl pits and grubbed-out sections of field boundaries relating to fields shown on a c 1700 estate map.
- 3.6.2 There is no record of any formal archaeological interventions having been carried out within the study area.

3.7 SITE VISIT

- 3.7.1 The proposed development site comprises two components; a group of seven fields of various sizes, enclosed by hedgerows and wide ditches, form the southern portion, and a smaller area lies immediately to the north of Cuerden Farm. All of the fields in the southern portion support improved grassland (Plates 2 and 3), and are entirely agricultural. No earthworks representing ancient agricultural practices, such as ridge and furrow cultivation, were visible, although the long grass obscured surface features.



Plate 2: View east from the A49 across the central part of the site



Plate 3: View south-west across the central part of the site



Plate 4: View west along the boundary forming the northern edge of the southern development plot



Plate 5: View north-east across the central part of the site, showing damaged field boundary

- 3.7.2 Most of the field boundaries incorporate some mature trees, including oak, indicating that they are of some antiquity (Plate 4). However, the boundaries are generally straight and create a fairly regular field pattern, rather than the sinuous or wavy-edged boundaries that characterise ancient enclosure. Several isolated trees across the present fields represent the vestiges of former hedgerows that were removed in the nineteenth century, and hedges have been partially removed from some boundaries more recently (Plate 5).
- 3.7.3 Several ponds are present in the southern part of the site (Sites **21-9**) (Plates 6 and 7). These are likely to have originated as extraction pits, presumably for marl, and are probably of a post-medieval date.



Plate 6: View south across a pond on the eastern boundary of the site



Plate 7: View east across a pond in the centre of the site

- 3.7.4 The northern part of the site comprises a smaller area of improved grassland to the north of Cuerdens, partitioned with modern post and rail fencing (Plate 8). Several modern structures associated with the riding school occupy part of the area.



Plate 8: View north-east across the northern part of the site



Plate 9: View east across a pond in the centre of the site

- 3.7.5 A stone milestone (Site 13) survives *in-situ* on the eastern side of the A49 (Plate 9). This formed part of the infrastructure of the Wigan and Preston

(north of Yarrow) Turnpike Trust; this road was turnpiked in 1727 (13 Geo I c9), representing one of the first turnpike roads in the county. The milestone is marked 'Preston 5, Wigan 12', and the lettering has been carved into the stone rather than cast onto an iron plate. The date of the milestone is uncertain.

4. GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site Name **Ulson Meadow**
Site number **01**
NGR 356250 422150 (point)
HER no PRN3908
Site Type Oval cropmark
Period Undated
Statutory
Designation -
Source HER
Description Large c.110m NW-SE x 50m oval cropmark, seen on 1963 vertical sortie, in Ulson Meadow (1838 tithe map fieldname). It could be archaeological or geological, but now lies under new houses.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed development area and will not be affected by the works.

Site Name **Ulson Meadow**
Site number **02**
NGR 356246 422144 (point)
Ref no PRN3909
Site Type Pond
Period Post-medieval
Statutory
Designation -
Source HER
Description 20m diameter circular pond shown on 1838 tithe map and OS maps 1848-1972, in Ulson Meadow (1838 tithe map fieldname).
Assessment The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name **Clayton Village**
Site number **03**
NGR 356600 422800 (point)
Ref no PRN3960
Site Type Probable medieval shrunken village
Period Medieval
Statutory
Designation -
Source HER
Description Probable shrunken medieval village, identified from pre-1600 documentary sources ('Research In 1980: Fieldwork: Lancashire' Med. Village Research Group Annual Report 28, 7).
Assessment The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name **Berkeley Farm, Cuerden**
Site number **04**
NGR 356270 423690 (point)
Ref no PRN7101
Site Type Farm and pump
Period Post-medieval
Statutory

Designation	-
Source	HER
Description	A set of buildings is shown on the OS first edition map, 1848, on a site now occupied by Berkeley Farm. It seems probable that the farmstead has developed from these former gardener's buildings. A pump is shown nearby on the OS first edition map.
Assessment	The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name	Near Berkeley Farm, Cuerden
Site number	05
NGR	356150 423700 (point)
Ref no	PRN7102
Site Type	Two pumps
Period	Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	HER
Description	Two pumps near Berkeley Farm are shown on the OS first edition 1:10,560 map, 1848, but not on the current sheet.
Assessment	The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name	Fowler's Farm
Site number	06
NGR	356480 422990 (point)
Ref no	PRN19264
Site Type	Farmhouse
Period	Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	HER
Description	There is a Fowler's Farm marked on OS first edition map of 1848, but it is further south, at the junction of Shady Lane and Sheep Hill Brow, on same side of road as Whittle's Farm is today. The Fowler's Farm as shown on current sheet is marked but unnamed on the first edition map.
Assessment	The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name	Abbotts Farm
Site number	07
NGR	356470 422870 (point)
Ref no	PRN19265
Site Type	Farmhouse
Period	Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	HER
Description	Marked on OS first edition map, 1848, and on the current sheet.
Assessment	The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name	Town End/Brow
Site number	08
NGR	356490 422720 (point)
Ref no	PRN19269

Site Type Farmhouse
Period Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source HER
Description Marked on OS first edition map, 1848, but unnamed. Also on the current sheet.
Assessment The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name **Lancaster House**
Site number **09**
NGR 355690 422400 (point)
Ref no PRN19270
Site Type Farmhouse
Period Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source HER
Description Marked on the OS first edition map, 1848.
Assessment The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name **Cuerden Farm**
Site number **10**
NGR 355820 423220 (point)
Ref no PRN19275
Site Type Farmhouse
Period Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source HER
Description Marked on the OS first edition, 1848, and on the current sheet.
Assessment The farmhouse lies outside of the proposed development area, but two outbuildings to its west lie within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name **Woodcocks**
Site number **11**
NGR 355820 423180 (point)
Ref no PRN19276
Site Type Farmhouse
Period Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source HER
Description Marked on the OS first edition, 1848, and on the current sheet.
Assessment The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name **Well, rear of 23 Whernside Way, Turpin Green, Leyland**
Site number **12**
NGR 355180 422500 (point)
Ref no PRN21064
Site Type Well
Period Post-medieval
Statutory

Designation	-
Source	HER
Description	Well, post-1848. No longer extant.
Assessment	The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name	Milestone, Wigan Road, west of Cuerden Farm, Leyland
Site number	13
NGR	355690 423236 (point)
Ref no	PRN21083
Site Type	Milestone
Period	Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	HER
Description	Milestone, pre-1848, marked 'Preston 5, Wigan 12'. Formed part of the infrastructure of the Wigan and Preston (north of Yarrow) Turnpike Trust; this road was turnpiked in 1727 (13 Geo I c9), representing one of the first turnpike roads in the county. The milestone is of stone, and the lettering has been carved rather than cast onto an iron plate. The date of the milestone is uncertain.
Assessment	The site lies immediately beyond the boundary of the proposed development area, and should not be affected by the proposed development. Its retention <i>in-situ</i> , however, should be monitored during development work.

Site Name	Roman Road 70c Wigan to Preston
Site number	14
NGR	Centroid 355430 419610
Ref no	PRN26143
Site Type	Roman road
Period	Roman
Statutory Designation	-
Source	HER; Margary, ID 1957 Roman Roads in Britain.
Description	The possible line of a Roman road from Wigan to Preston, however there are no visible remains. Excavations were carried out by the Chorley and District Archaeological Society in 1955 and 1985 at Coppull Moor Lane. The remains of a road were uncovered, but there was no dating evidence.
Assessment	The site crosses the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name	Track between Woodcocks and Calderbanks farms
Site number	15
NGR	355975 423005
Ref no	-
Site Type	Track
Period	Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression; Bolton 1985
Description	A track, which links Woodcocks (Site 11) to Calderbanks, located to the east on the east side of Shady Lane. A smithy is thought to have been located opposite Calderbanks on the west side of Shady Lane and the track would have linked the smithy to the Wigan to Preston Road (Bolton 1985, 23). Fields 121 and 120 located to the immediate east of the south end of the proposed development area are named 'Further Smithy Field' and 'Nearer Smithy Field' on the tithe of 1838.
Assessment	The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name	Green Bank Villa
Site number	16
NGR	355718 423170
Ref no	-
Site Type	House
Period	Nineteenth Century
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression
Description	A house named Green Bank Villa, first shown on the 1st edition 25" mapping of 1894. An outbuilding is shown to the east of the house on the mapping. At the time of the site visit renovation works were taking place on the house.
Assessment	The site lies beyond the boundary of the site, and the proposed development will have a negligible archaeological impact.

Site Name	Well Meadow
Site number	17
NGR	355780 423036
Ref no	-
Site Type	Field name
Period	?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression
Description	A field (no. 377) named Well Meadow on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, which suggests that a well was located in this field. The precise location of the well is unknown.
Assessment	The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name	Former Field Boundary
Site number	18
NGR	355732 422962
Ref no	-
Site Type	Former Field Boundary
Period	?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression
Description	A field boundary noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, but no longer extant. The field boundary was still extant on the first edition mapping of 1848, however by the time of the 1894 mapping only the southern portion was depicted.
Assessment	The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name	Former Field Boundary
Site number	19
NGR	355945 422860
Ref no	-
Site Type	Former Field Boundary
Period	?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression

Description	A field boundary noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, but no longer extant. The field boundary was still extant on the first edition mapping of 1848, but had been removed by the time of the 1894 mapping.
Assessment	The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.
Site Name	Former Field Boundary
Site number	20
NGR	355899 422781
Ref no	-
Site Type	Former Field Boundary
Period	?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression
Description	A field boundary noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, but no longer extant. The field boundary was still extant on the first edition mapping of 1848, but had been removed by the time of the 1894 mapping.
Assessment	The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name	Extraction Pit
Site number	21
NGR	355803 422810
Ref no	-
Site Type	Pit
Period	?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression
Description	A pond noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map. The pond is likely to have originated as a marl extraction pit. A second small pond is shown to the south on the tithe mapping. The ponds are no longer extant.
Assessment	The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name	Extraction Pit
Site number	22
NGR	355739 422974
Ref no	-
Site Type	Pit
Period	?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression
Description	A pond noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, and still extant. The pond is likely to have originated as a marl extraction pit.
Assessment	The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name	Extraction Pit
Site number	23
NGR	355891 422960
Ref no	-
Site Type	Pit
Period	?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression
Description	A pond noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map. The pond is likely to have originated as a marl extraction pit. A second small pond is shown to the south on the tithe mapping. The ponds are still extant.

Assessment The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name Extraction Pit
Site number 24
NGR 355792 422880
Ref no -
Site Type Pit
Period ?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source Map regression
Description A pond noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, and still extant. The pond is likely to have originated as a marl extraction pit.
Assessment The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name Extraction Pit
Site number 25
NGR 355931 422838
Ref no -
Site Type Pit
Period ?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source Map regression
Description A pond noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, and still extant. The pond is likely to have originated as a marl extraction pit.
Assessment The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name Extraction Pit
Site number 26
NGR 355851 422700
Ref no -
Site Type Pit
Period ?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source Map regression
Description A pond noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, and still extant. The pond is likely to have originated as a marl extraction pit.
Assessment The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name Extraction Pit
Site number 27
NGR 355830 422578
Ref no -
Site Type Pit
Period ?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation -
Source Map regression
Description A pond noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, and still extant. The pond is likely to have originated as a marl extraction pit.
Assessment The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name	Extraction Pit
Site number	28
NGR	355970 422605
Ref no	-
Site Type	Pit
Period	?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression
Description	A pond noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, and still extant. The pond is likely to have originated as a marl extraction pit.
Assessment	The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

Site Name	Extraction Pit
Site number	29
NGR	356022 422606
Ref no	-
Site Type	Pit
Period	?Post-medieval
Statutory Designation	-
Source	Map regression
Description	A pond noted on the 1838 Clayton-le-Woods Tithe map, and still extant. The pond is likely to have originated as a marl extraction pit.
Assessment	The site within the proposed development area and may be affected by the works.

5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE REMAINS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 In total, 29 sites of archaeological interest were identified within the study area during the desk-based assessment, of which 14 are recorded in the Lancashire HER, and 15 were identified through map regression analysis (Sites **15-29**). Of these, 15 sites lie within the boundary of the proposal site, and may be affected by the proposed development. The distribution of sites by period is shown in Table 2.

5.1.2 There were no designated sites (eg Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings) within the study area, and it is not a Conservation Area, a Registered Battlefield, or a Registered Park and Garden. The southern part of the proposed development area is, however, designated as a site of Biological Heritage in the Chorley Borough Local Plan (Chorley Borough Council 2003), and the site is defined as ‘Ancient Enclosure’ by the Lancashire County Council Historic Landscape Characterisation programme.

Period	No of Sites	Site Type
Neolithic	0	
Bronze Age	0	
Iron Age	0	
Romano-British	1	Preston to Wigan Roman road (14)
Early Medieval	0	
Medieval	1	Shrunken medieval village (3)
Post-medieval	26	Ponds, which probably originated as marl pits (2 and 21-9), seven farms (4 and 6-11), the location of two pumps (5), a well (12), a milestone (13), a track (15), a house (16), a possible well (17) and three former field boundaries pre-dating 1838 (18-20)
Modern	0	
Undated	1	A cropmark (1)

Table 2: Number of sites by period

5.2 CRITERIA

5.2.1 There are a number of different methodologies used to assess the archaeological significance of sites; that to be used here is the Secretary of State’s criteria for scheduling ancient monuments which is included as Annex 4 of PPG 16 (DoE 1990). The sites identified were each considered using the criteria, with the results below.

5.2.2 **Period:** the earliest known site is the projected line of the Roman road (Site **14**) between Wigan and Preston. The precise route of the road awaits confirmation, but it is thought lie on the east side of the A49 at Clayton-le-Woods, and passes through the proposed development area.

5.2.3 A shrunken medieval village (Site **3**) is thought to be located at Clayton, at the eastern extent of the study area. This, together with the fourteenth-century

moated manor at Clayton Hall to the south of the study area, and other medieval halls in the wider area, indicate that the area was being divided up, managed and farmed in the medieval period. It is possible that some of the field boundaries have their origins in the medieval period; the boundaries certainly appear to have been established by the late eighteenth century. However, the potential for buried archaeological remains of medieval date within the proposed development area is considered to be low.

- 5.2.4 The majority of the sites from the study area are post-medieval farms and their associated features: field boundaries, extraction pits, wells, pumps, and a track. These sites reflect the use of this area for agriculture throughout the period.
- 5.2.5 **Rarity:** the Roman road (Site **14**), whilst potentially significant, is not considered to be rare. The shrunken medieval village (Site **3**) is also not rare, although any further evidence for it would be of local interest. The post-medieval farmsteads are commonplace and the other post-medieval features: wells, pumps, field boundaries, ponds/pits, a track and a milestone are also considered to be commonplace.
- 5.2.6 **Documentation:** the shrunken medieval village (Site **3**) has been identified from documentary sources pre-dating 1600. The site is located on the eastern edge of the study area, and will not therefore be impacted by the proposed development.
- 5.2.7 The post-medieval farmsteads within, or close to, the proposed development area (Sites **10**, **11** and **16**) appear on historic mapping from the late eighteenth century, as has the track (Site **15**) on the east side of Site **11**. Further documentary research may furnish additional details, including more precise dating of individual buildings, although this is unlikely to alter the conclusions of the present assessment. Site **17**, the possible location of a well, Sites **18-20**, three field boundaries that are no longer extant, and Sites **2** and **21-9**, probable former marl pits, were identified through consultation of the Clayton-le-Woods tithe mapping for 1838.
- 5.2.8 **Group Value:** the post-medieval farmsteads and their associated landscape of enclosed fields have a group value, as together they show the use and division of land during this period. However, the fact that there are a group of these buildings within the study area does not enhance their individual importance.
- 5.2.9 **Survival/Condition:** the presence of the Roman road (Site **14**) across the proposed development area has not so far been confirmed, and its survival and condition as a buried feature is unknown. However, the site does not appear to have been developed, increasing the likelihood that the putative road may be in good condition.
- 5.2.10 Site **17** is field name evidence for a well. Whether there is the remains of a well within or near this field has not been confirmed. Sites **18-20** are three field boundaries, shown on the tithe mapping of 1838, but no longer extant. Only one of the probable former marl pits located within the proposed development area is no longer extant (Site **21**), the others (Sites **22-9**) survive as ponds.

- 5.2.11 **Fragility/Vulnerability:** the Roman road (Site **14**), potentially surviving as a buried feature within the proposed development area, is vulnerable. It is not confirmed that the road actually crossed the site, and the extent, location, condition and depth of remains is not known.
- 5.2.12 Pending final design proposals, two out-buildings shown on the west side of Cuerdens farmhouse (Site **10**) on the tithe map of 1838 are vulnerable as they could be impacted on by the proposed development. It is unclear whether either of these buildings remain as part of the riding school, or have been replaced since their first appearance on the tithe.
- 5.2.13 Any remains associated with the possible well (Site **17**) and the former field boundaries (Sites **18-20**) are also vulnerable to impact by the proposed development. The possible former marl pits (Sites **21-9**) are vulnerable to impact by the proposed development.
- 5.2.14 The milestone (Site **13**) is located on the edge of the western boundary of the northern proposed development plot, and is not likely to be affected by the proposed development. However, care should be taken not to move or damage this monument during construction work associated with the development.
- 5.2.15 **Diversity:** none of the sites within the Gazetteer is considered to be significant due to diversity.
- 5.2.16 **Potential:** there are no prehistoric sites within the study area and the potential for archaeology from this period to be located within the proposed development area is considered to be low.
- 5.2.17 The projected line of the putative Roman road from Preston to Wigan (Site **14**) runs through the proposed development area. There is therefore potential to confirm the presence or absence of the road, either through physical remains of the road itself or associated features or finds. However, there are no recorded findspots of Roman material in the HER.
- 5.2.18 Medieval halls and settlements testify to probable medieval activity in the study area. However any archaeological remains are likely to be associated with the agricultural use of the area in this period, for instance field boundaries or chance findspots of discarded material.
- 5.2.19 The northern plot of the proposed development area has some potential for post-medieval archaeology, as this area has been occupied by two farmsteads (Sites **10** and **11**) since the late sixteenth/early seventeenth centuries. In particular, two out-buildings associated with Cuerdens (Site **10**), first shown on the tithe of 1838, are located within the boundary of the proposal site, and may be affected by development. To the south of the farmsteads, the proposed development area was shown as fields on the historic maps and has remained in use as agricultural land to the present day.

5.3 SIGNIFICANCE

5.3.1 Table 3 shows the sensitivity of the site scaled in accordance with its relative importance using the following terms for the cultural heritage and archaeology issues, with guideline recommendations for a mitigation strategy.

Importance	Examples of Site Type	Negative Impact
National	Scheduled Monuments (SMs), Grade I, II* and II Listed Buildings	To be avoided
Regional/County	Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens (Statutory Designated Sites) Sites and Monuments Record/Historic Environment Record	Avoidance recommended
Local/Borough	Sites with a local or borough value or interest for cultural appreciation Sites that are so badly damaged that too little remains to justify inclusion into a higher grade	Avoidance not envisaged
Low Local	Sites with a low local value or interest for cultural appreciation Sites that are so badly damaged that too little remains to justify inclusion into a higher grade	Avoidance not envisaged
Negligible	Sites or features with no significant value or interest	Avoidance unnecessary

Table 3: Criteria used to determine Importance of Sites

5.3.2 In total, 15 of the archaeological sites listed in the Gazetteer could potentially be impacted on by the proposed development. Two of these have previously been identified by the HER (Sites **10** and **14**), and 13 were identified by map regression (Sites **17-29**). The Roman road (Site **14**) is considered to be of Regional/County importance, the out-buildings associated with Site **10** are considered to be of Local/Borough importance, and Sites **17-29** are considered to be of Low Local importance. This is based on the current state of knowledge and the subsequent discovery of additional features or evidence relating to these sites could alter their assessed levels of significance.

6. IMPACT

6.1 IMPACT

6.1.1 In its Planning Policy Guidance *Note 16*, the Department of the Environment (DoE) advises that archaeological remains are a continually diminishing resource and ‘should be seen as finite, and non-renewable resource, in many cases, highly fragile and vulnerable to destruction. Appropriate management is therefore essential to ensure that they survive in good condition. In particular, care must be taken to ensure that archaeological remains are not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed’. It has been the intention of this study to identify the archaeological potential of the study area, and assess the impact of redevelopment, thus allowing the advice of the DoE to be enacted upon. Assessment of impact has been achieved by the following method:

- assessing any potential impact and the significance of the effects arising from redevelopment;
- reviewing the evidence for past impacts that may have affected the archaeological sites;
- outlining suitable mitigation measures, where possible at this stage, to avoid, reduce or remedy adverse archaeological impacts.

6.1.2 The impact is assessed in terms of the sensitivity or importance of the site to the magnitude of change or potential scale of impact during the future redevelopment scheme. The magnitude, or scale, of an impact is often difficult to define, but will be termed as substantial, moderate slight, or negligible, as shown in Table 4, below.

Scale of Impact	Description
Substantial	Significant change in environmental factors; Complete destruction of the site or feature; Change to the site or feature resulting in a fundamental change in ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.
Moderate	Significant change in environmental factors; Change to the site or feature resulting in an appreciable change in ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.
Slight	Change to the site or feature resulting in a small change in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.
Negligible	Negligible change or no material changes to the site or feature. No real change in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.

Table 4: Criteria used to determine Scale of Impact

6.1.3 The interaction of the scale of impact (Table 4) and the importance of the archaeological site (Table 3) produce the impact significance. This may be calculated by using the matrix shown in Table 5, below.

Resource Value (Importance)	Scale of Impact Upon Archaeological Site			
	Substantial	Moderate	Slight	Negligible
National	Major	Major	Intermediate/Minor	Neutral
Regional/County	Major	Major/Intermediate	Minor	Neutral
Local/Borough	Intermediate	Intermediate	Minor	Neutral
Local (low)	Intermediate / Minor	Minor	Minor/Neutral	Neutral
Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

Table 5: Impact Significance Matrix

6.1.4 The 15 sites identified within the proposed development area comprise the possible line of a Roman road (Site **14**), Cuerdens (Site **10**), a farmstead which lies partially within the proposed development area, the possible site of a well (Site **17**), three former field boundaries (Sites **18-20**), and nine probable marl pits (Sites **21-9**). The part of Site **10** that could potentially be impacted refers to buried remains of former out-buildings, rather than standing structures, which are understood to be being avoided by the proposed development.

6.1.5 The extent of any previous disturbance to buried archaeological levels is an important factor in assessing the potential impact of the development scheme. These sites are all located within agricultural land and could have potentially been impacted on previously by agricultural practices, such as ploughing, although in broad terms it seems unlikely that any buried archaeological levels will have been disturbed substantially.

6.2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.2.1 Following on from the above considerations, the significance of effects has been determined based on an assumption that there will be earth-moving works associated with the development, and the present condition of the archaeological assets/sites. The results are summarised in Table 6, below, in the absence of mitigation; *these may require review once detailed design proposals are known.*

6.2.2 The proposed development area occupies an area of Ancient Enclosure (pre c 1600 AD), as defined by Lancashire County Council (Ede with Darlington, 2002). In addition to the sites listed in the Gazetteer (*Section 4, above*), it is anticipated that development of the site may result in the loss of some hedgerows. The pattern of field boundaries shown on historical mapping is of a form that is consistent with being of a sixteenth- or seventeenth-century date, although further information could be elucidated from a species survey. Hawthorn, for instance, is commonly associated with Parliamentary enclosure of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Site Number	Nature of Impact	Importance	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
10	Disturbance of related artefacts or features by groundworks	Local/Borough	Substantial or moderate	Intermediate
14	Disturbance of related artefacts or features by groundworks	Regional or County	Substantial or moderate	Major/Intermediate
17	Disturbance of related artefacts or features by groundworks	Low Local	Substantial or moderate	Minor
18-20 (former field boundaries)	Disturbance of related artefacts or features by groundworks	Low Local	Substantial or moderate	Minor
21-9 (possible former marl pits)	Disturbance of related artefacts or features by groundworks	Low Local	Substantial or moderate	Minor

Table 6: Assessment of the impact significance on each site during development

7. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

7.1 INTRODUCTION

- 7.1.1 In terms of the requirement for further archaeological work, it is necessary to consider only those sites that will be affected by the proposed development. Current legislation draws a distinction between archaeological remains of national importance and other remains considered to be of lesser significance. Those perceived to be of national importance may require preservation *in-situ*, whilst those of lesser significance may undergo preservation by record, where high local or regional significance can be demonstrated.
- 7.1.2 The scope and specification of any archaeological recording required in advance of redevelopment would be devised in consultation with the Development Control Officer with Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS). In general terms, however, it may be anticipated that a programme of archaeological evaluation may be required, which would be targeted on the line of the putative Roman road (Site **14**). The primary objective of any such evaluation would be to establish the presence, date and extent of any buried remains. Depending on the findings of the archaeological evaluation, further archaeological work may be required if significant archaeological remains are discovered. This may constitute areas of open-area excavation and/or a watching brief during ground works. The need for any further work would be discussed with LCAS, following the evaluation.
- 7.1.3 Any buried remains of post-medieval buildings associated with Cuerdens farm complex (Site **10**) would also merit archaeological investigation. The most appropriate strategy in this instance may be a programme of strip and record, depending upon the details of any future design proposals. This may be coupled with a study of the historic landscape, which may include analysis of any Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) data available for the site, which would place the farm buildings in their historic landscape setting.
- 7.1.4 The milestone (Site **13**), is located beyond the western boundary of the proposal area, and should therefore not be impacted on by the proposed development. Its presence should, however, be noted during development.

Site Number	Significance	Impact Significance	Recommendations
10	Local/Borough	Intermediate	Archaeological Evaluation
14	Regional or county	Major/Intermediate	Archaeological Evaluation
17	Low Local	Minor	None
18-20	Low Local	Minor	None
21-9	Low Local	Minor	None

Table 7: Summary of site-specific recommendations for further archaeological investigation and provisional mitigation

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9. ILLUSTRATIONS

9.1 LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Location of proposed development site, and wider study area

Figure 2: Plan of gazetteer sites

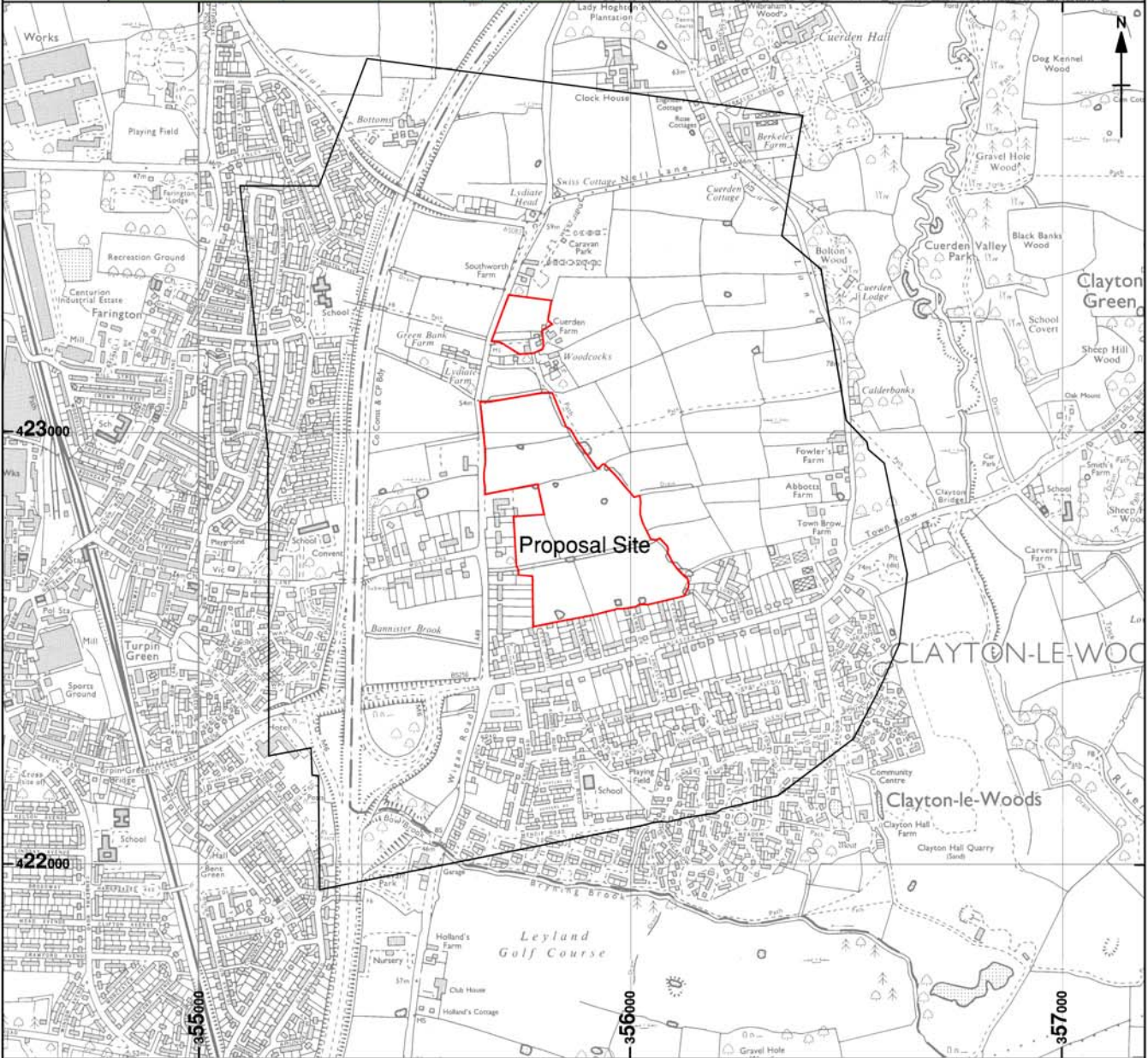
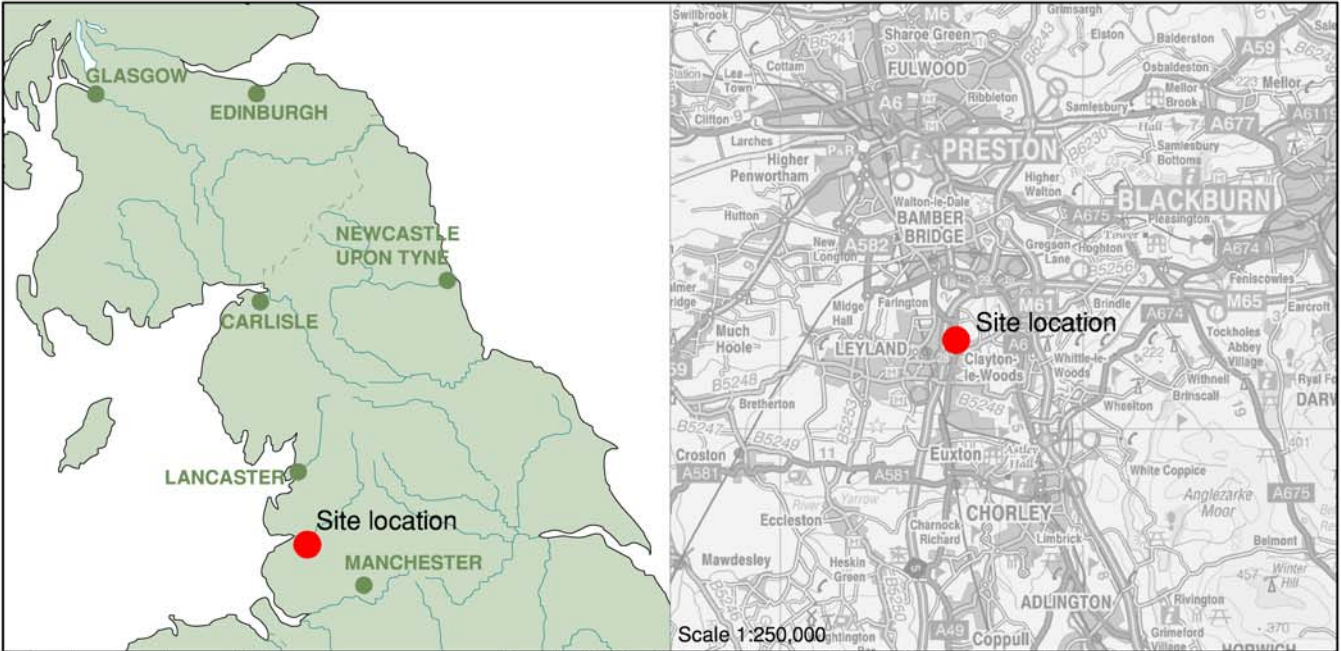
Figure 3: Extract from Yates' map of 1786

Figure 4: Extract from Hennet's map of 1830

Figure 5: Extract from Clayton-le-Woods Township tithe, 1838

Figure 6: Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1848

Figure 7: Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey 25" map of 1894

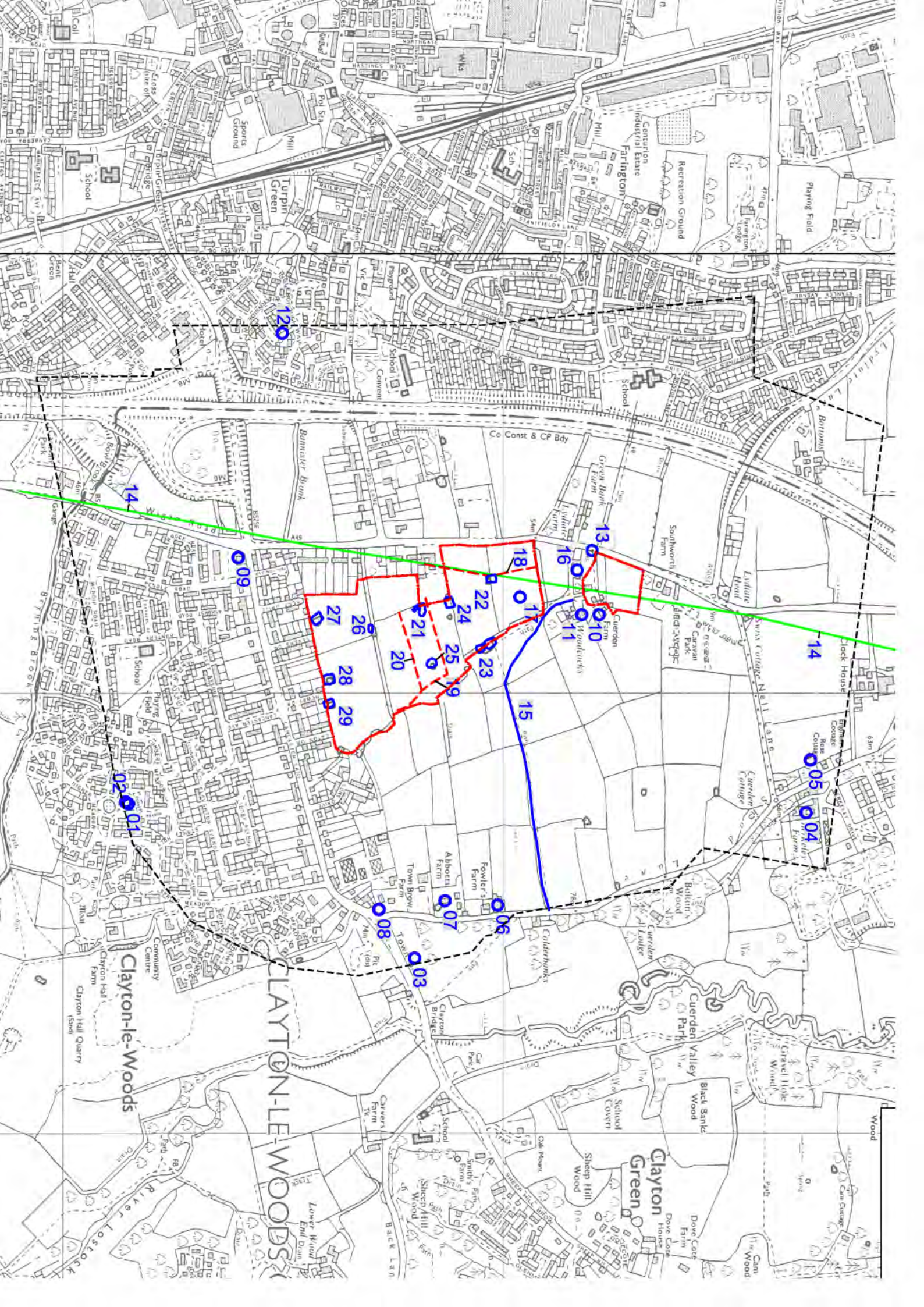


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Scale 1:15,000



Figure 1: Location of proposed development site, and wider study area



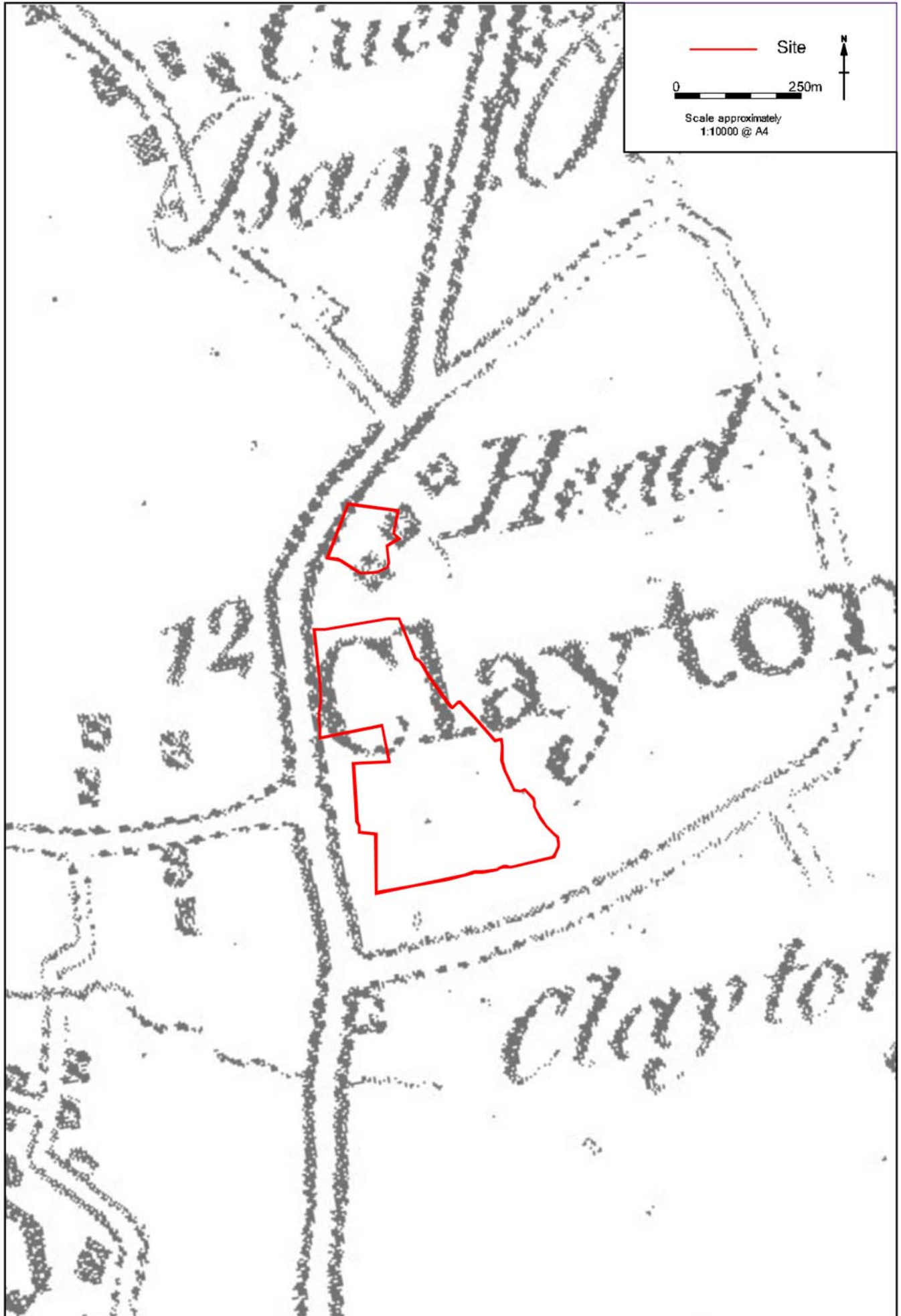


Figure 3: Extract from Yates' map of 1786

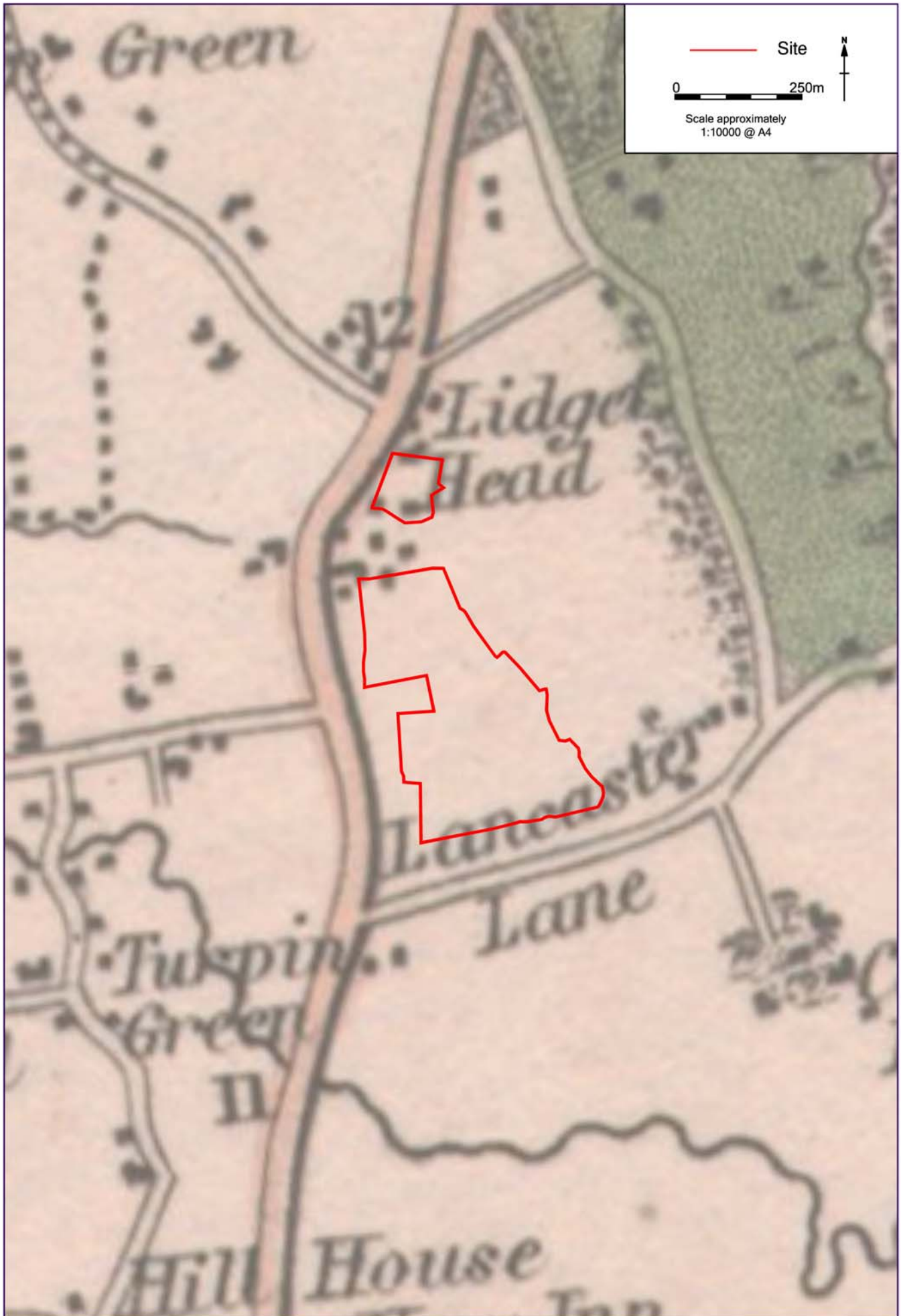


Figure 4: Extract from Hennets' map of 1830

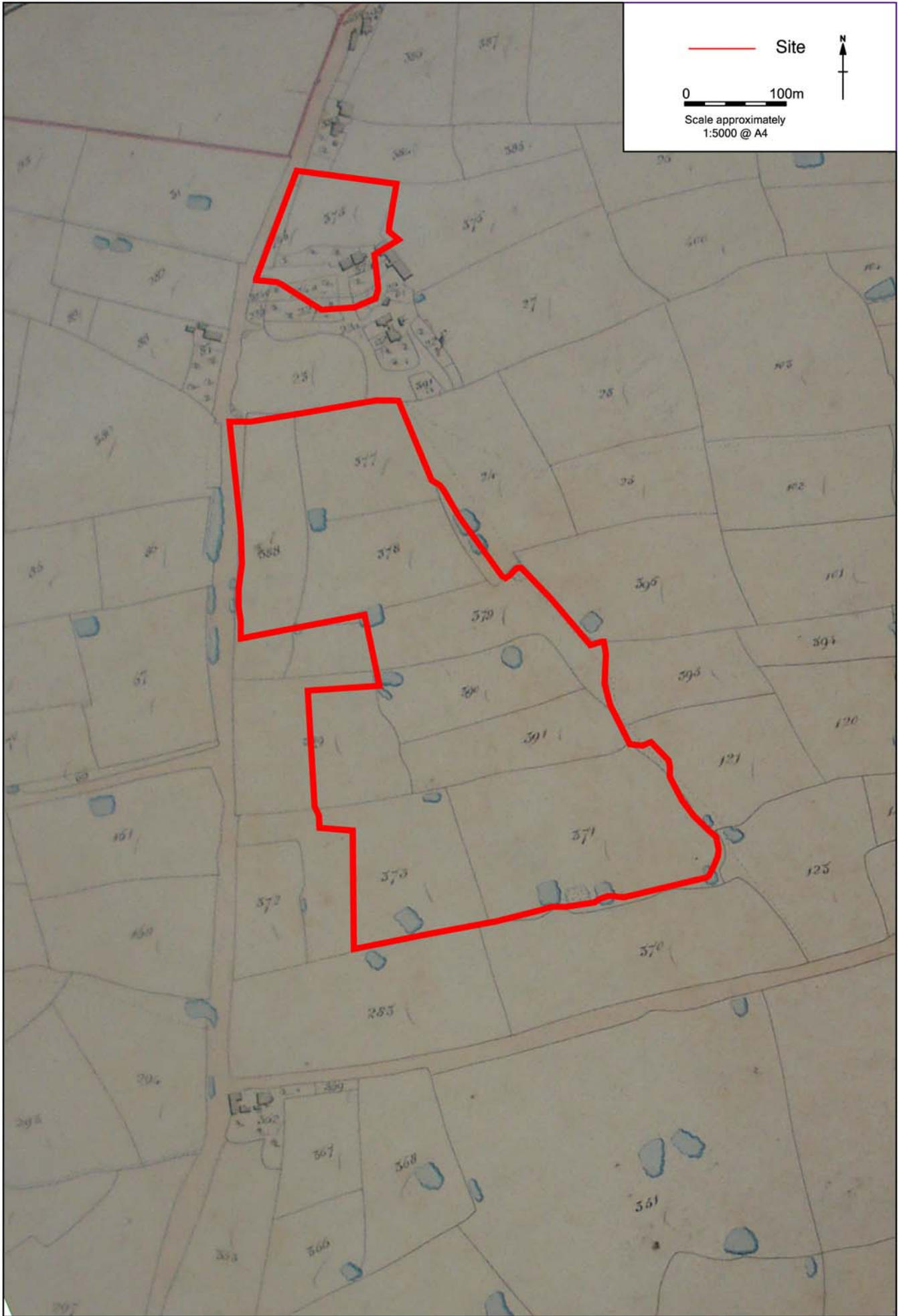


Figure 5: Extract from Clayton-le-Woods Township Tithe, 1838

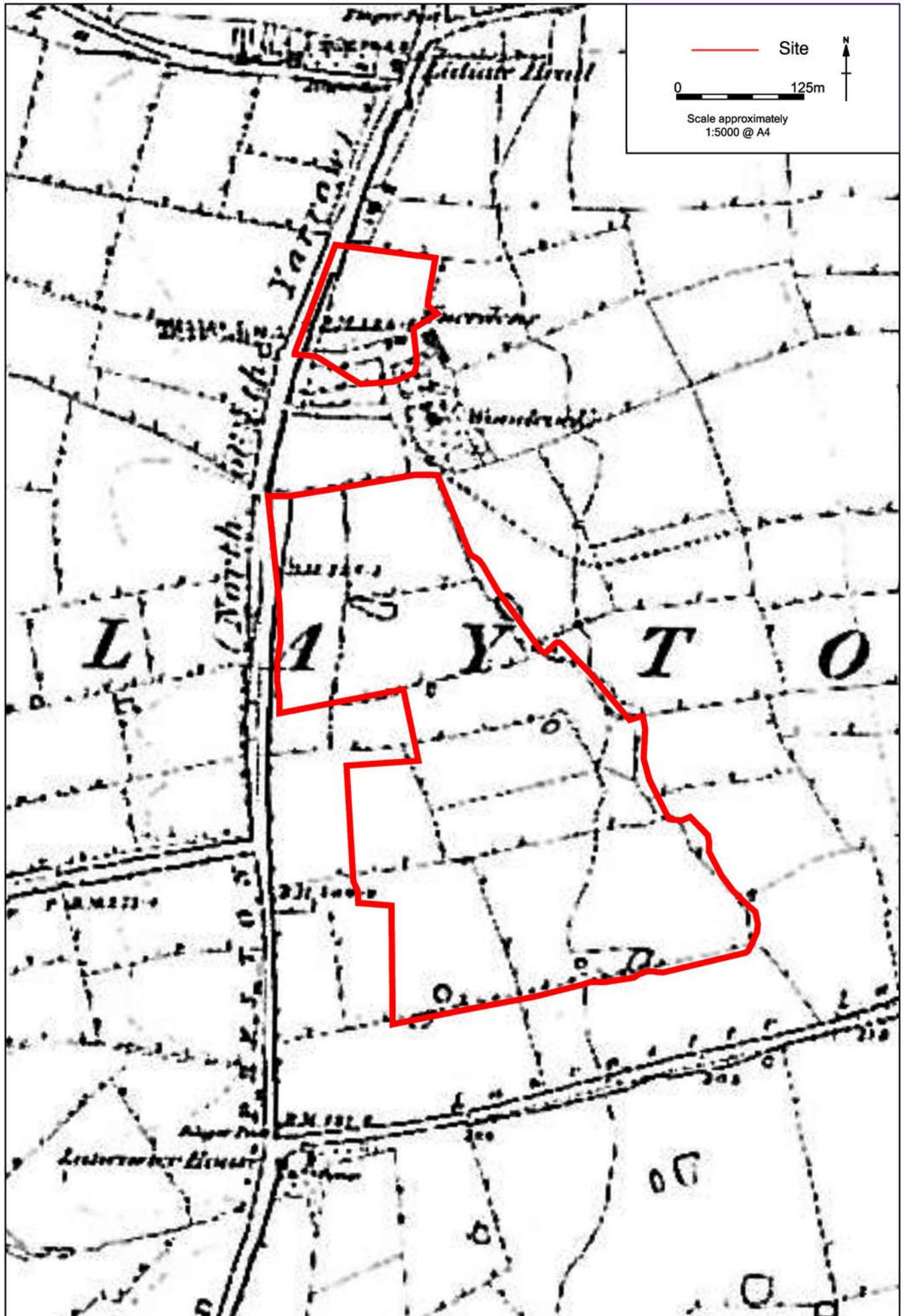


Figure 6: Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1848

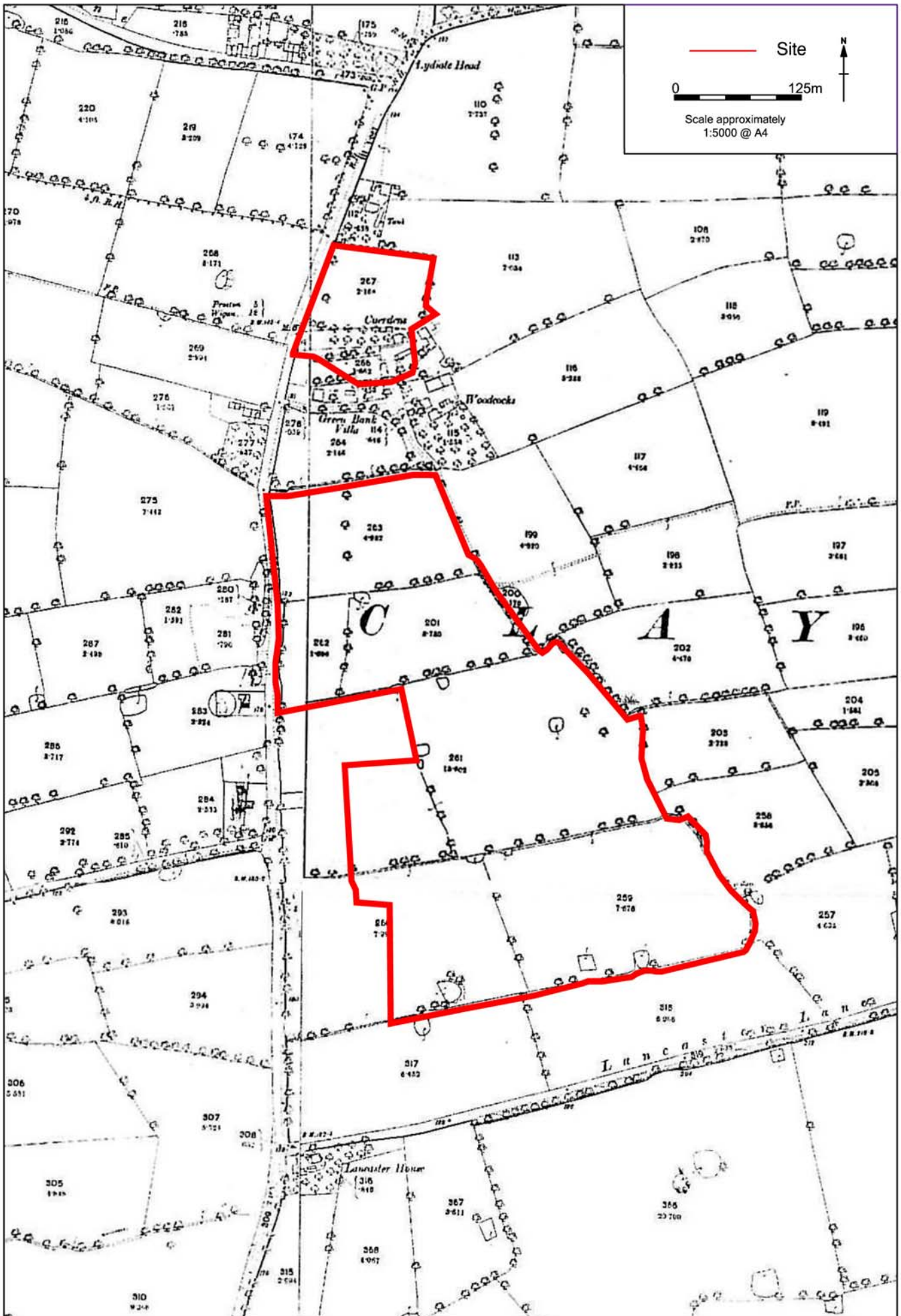


Figure 7: Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey 25" map of 1894