

Archaeological Pipeline Monitoring at Ickworth House, Suffolk



Archaeological Monitoring and Recording Report



November 2014

Client: National Trust

OA East Report No: 1681
OASIS No: oxfordar3-195727
NGR: TL 8135 6105

Archaeological Pipeline Monitoring at Ickworth House, Suffolk

Archaeological Watching Brief

By Kathryn Nicholls BA

With contributions by Carole Fletcher BA AifA, Chris Faine MA, MSc, AifA

Editor: Stephen Macaulay BA MPhil MifA

Illustrator: Charlotte Davies MPhil

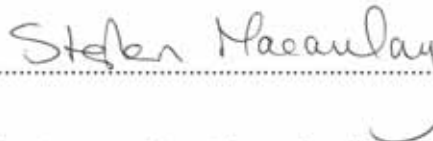
Report Date: November 2014

Report Number: 1681
Site Name: Ickworth House
HER Event No: n/a
Date of Works: September/October 2014
Client Name: National Trust
Client Ref: 17356
Planning Ref:
Grid Ref: TL 8135 6105
Site Code: XSFICK14
Finance Code: XSFICK14
Receiving Body: The National Trust

Accession No:

Prepared by: Kathryn Nicholls
Position: Assistant Supervisor
Date: 27/11/14

Checked by: Stephen Macaulay
Position: Senior Project Manager
Date: 27/11/14
Signed:



Disclaimer

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

Oxford Archaeology East,
15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridge,
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500
f: 01223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast>

© Oxford Archaeology East 2014
Oxford Archaeology Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

Table of Contents

Summary.....	5
1 Introduction.....	6
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	6
1.2 Geology and topography.....	6
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	6
1.4 Acknowledgements.....	7
2 Aims and Methodology.....	8
2.1 Aims.....	8
2.2 Methodology.....	8
3 Results.....	9
3.1 Introduction.....	9
3.2 Eastern end near Ickworth Village DMV.....	9
3.3 Western end.....	9
3.4 Finds Summary.....	9
4 Discussion and Conclusions.....	10
4.1 Discussion.....	10
Appendix A. Finds Reports.....	11
A.1 Pottery.....	11
A.2 Metal Small Finds Catalogue.....	12
Appendix B. Bibliography.....	13
Appendix C. OASIS Report Form.....	14

List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location map
Fig. 2 Cable route plan

List of plates

- Plate. 1 Photo of Trackway (5) and photo of possible pit (7)

Summary

Oxford Archaeology East undertook an archaeological monitoring over 8 days in September and October 2014 at Ickworth House, Suffolk. A pipe trench was excavated across part of the estate, in an area which had previously been used for agricultural purposes. A known Deserted Medieval Village (DMV) lie at the eastern end of the pipe route, close to the current Ickworth House. Much of the archaeology observed was already known to the landowner The National Trust, this included a trackway and culvert. One fairly large feature was found located close to the medieval village remains, which contained animal bone, tile and pottery dating to the 15th-16th centuries, no other archaeology was encountered during the monitoring.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Archaeological investigation comprising test pitting and watching brief was conducted by Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) on behalf of the National Trust at Ickworth House, Suffolk (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with instructions from the National Trust archaeologist.
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed area of pipeline trench impact, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by the National Trust, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 Ickworth House is located on a vast estate to the south west of Horringer. It lies on the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk Formation (British Geological Survey). The River Linnet runs through the Ickworth estate at the Western end of the proposed pipe route.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Ickworth Estate

- 1.3.1 There are a number of known Medieval and Post Medieval features and buildings present on the Ickworth estate. The earliest being the Deserted Medieval Village (DMV) known as Ickworth village, located approximately 170m west of the current Ickworth House. The first documentation for this village comes from 942 AD and the village is known to have been deserted by 1670. During this time the size of the village changed. Tax records in 1327 show that there were 26 households present on this site whereas in 1665 there were only 12 households present.
- 1.3.2 A Parsonage once stood approximately 170m west of the present Ickworth House close to a pond known as 'Parsonage Pond' (Phibbs & Gallagher 1980). The Parsonage (NT HBSMR 00288) dates from the Post Medieval period and is written about in documentary evidence from Hervey in 1849 where it is claimed that the Parsonage was pulled down in 1750. According to the deeds the Parsonage consisted of a hall, a parlour, a dairy, a buttery, two small lower chambers and three upper chambers.
- 1.3.3 The construction of the current Ickworth House commenced in 1796 by the 4th Earl of Bristol and was intended to replace Ickworth Manor House which now only survives as cropmarks approximately 250 south west of Ickworth House (NT HBSMR 00279). The earliest evidence for this Manor House comes from evidence for a timber structure dating to the 13th Century, which later underwent many alterations with brick from the 16th Century onwards (Filmer-Sankey 1986). The house was then demolished in 1710.

- 1.3.4 Ickworth Lodge is situated on the edge of Ickworth Green and dates from 1665 when it was used as a farmhouse (NT HBSMR 00281). Ickworth was inhabited by the Hervey family during the time Ickworth Manor was demolished in 1710 until the construction of Ickworth house was complete in 1830. Ickworth Lodge is one of three buildings shown on a 1665 survey of Ickworth Green and could potentially be the site of a deserted Medieval village which has associated ditches and banks.
- 1.3.5 There are a number of other buildings still present on the Ickworth estate. The current church is thought to date to as early as the 13th Century and lies 375m south west of the current house. Other buildings include that of a summer house which is to the south west of the church and dates to 1703. The White House (NT HBSMR 00286) is situated approximately 875m west of Ickworth House and most likely dates between 1830 and 1840 although it may have been built upon an earlier house site. Mordaboys cottages are located 750m north west of Ickworth House and are dated to the 17th Century and underwent alterations in the 18th Century (Phibbs & Gallagher 1980).

Horringer

- 1.3.6 Finds dating to earlier than the Medieval period have been found in Horringer which lies 1km north east of the Ickworth estate. Four scrapers have been found dating to the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age (HGR 004). Roman activity is noted in the form of pottery and tile (HGR 003) and also a number of more precious objects have been found such as a brooch, coin and a lead model of a votive axe (HGR 018).

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank the National Trust for commissioning the work and Jonathan Rhodes for his help on site. The author would also like to thank Morrisons for their work and good communication on site and to Stephen Macaulay for managing the project.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this Watching Brief was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 A trench measuring 0.40m wide and approximately 0.80m deep would be machine excavated along the proposed cable route (Fig. 2) which would then be immediately backfilled. The focus will be on two main areas of interest, the western end of the pipe route and the area surrounding the known DMV to the east. The area within 50m of the house did not need to be monitored due to the area being heavily disturbed by previous cables.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Before excavation commenced there was some knowledge of the possible location of archaeological features. A brick culvert known to run from the house to the pond would be located close to the cable route. The cable trench would also run close to a known Deserted Medieval Village (DMV) near to the pond. A small trackway can be seen on the surface and would also be encountered.

3.2 Eastern end near Ickworth Village DMV

3.2.1 A brick drain (4) which runs approximately north-west/south-east and measures 0.25m wide is located within the deer park. This drain potentially runs towards a culvert believed to be located south of the cable trench.

3.2.2 An old trackway (5) and (6) appears to run north-west/south-east and is comprised of a chalk and gravel layer (Plate. 1). This trackway measures 0.15m in thickness and is only 0.10m below the surface. This trackway could be seen in earthworks.

3.2.3 A large feature (7) which measures approximately 5m in width with a depth that exceeds 0.80m is located approximately 27m south west from where the culvert crosses the road and is within close proximity to the pond (Plate.1). This feature contained fragments of bone and 4 sherds of pottery dating to 15th-16th Century. There were also metal objects found within this feature dated to later periods of Post-Medieval date.

3.2.4 A culvert, which is circular in shape and approximately 1m wide and deep, runs from the house in a south west direction towards the pond. This culvert has been encountered where the cable trench crosses the road and its location was already known.

3.2.5 No Archaeology was observed between the location of the brick culvert and Ickworth House.

3.3 Western end

3.3.1 No archaeology was observed within the cable trench west of where the brick drain (4) was located.

3.4 Finds Summary

3.4.1 Finds were only recovered from one feature (7). This feature contained four sherds of pottery dating to the 15th-16th Centuries and included one body sherd of East Anglian redware. A small number of metal finds were recovered from pit (7) these include a possible lead weight, a large iron masonry nail and two fragments of iron window/door fitting. All of which are Post-Medieval or modern in date, indicating a degree of later truncation of this feature. Other finds included a small amount of animal bone and ceramic building material.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Discussion

- 4.1.1 Very little archaeology was uncovered during this monitoring of the pipe trench, despite its proximity to known areas of archaeology. The majority of features uncovered was to be expected, as its existence and location was already known thanks to records kept by the National Trust. Only one feature (7), a possible pit, was of significance and this is because of its close proximity to known medieval archaeology. Although pottery recovered from this feature dates to the 15th-16th Centuries, i.e. the later medieval period, finds of later dates was also recovered, indicating a degree of truncation. The metal finds from this feature all date to the Post Medieval period or in deed later modern dates. Ickworth Village had a small number of households present throughout the Medieval period and these persisted into the Post-Medieval period. It is possible that this feature is a rubbish pit used by the occupants of the village.
- 4.1.2 Unfortunately no more can be said about this feature due to the limited area of the trench cut. This watching brief has helped to clarify the areas of archaeological interest across the Ickworth estate and largely supports information that was already known about the presence of archaeology here.

APPENDIX A. FINDS REPORTS

A.1 Pottery

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction

- A.1.1 Archaeological works produced a pottery assemblage of four sherds, weighing 0.016kg from a single context. The assemblage spans the medieval and late medieval-transitional period. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded and the mean sherd weight is low at 0.004kg.

Methodology

- A.1.2 The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG, 1998) and *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics* (MPRG, 2001) act as a standard.
- A.1.3 Recording was carried out using OA East's in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described medieval and post-medieval types. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed on a context-by-context basis. The assemblage is recorded in the summary catalogue. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.
- A.1.4 The assemblage is domestic in nature, indicating low levels of pottery deposition. The Late medieval and transitional fabrics may be relatively local, although the fabrics could not be identified to specific production centres. Sue Anderson discusses the late medieval pottery industry in *Medieval Ceramics 20* (Anderson et al, 1996).

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Context Date Range
8	Late medieval and transitional	Jug body sherd	1	0.003	15h-16th century
	Late medieval and transitional	Jug or drinking vessel rim	1	0.003	
	East Anglian redware	Jug body sherd	1	0.003	
	Unidentified fine quartz temper, occasional shell, dull red-brown surfaces and margins with grey-brown core	Body sherd	1	0.007	
Total			4	0.016	

Table: Pottery

Bibliography

- Anderson, S, 1996 'The late medieval pottery industry on the North Suffolk border', *Medieval Ceramics 20*, MPRG
- Breen, A., Caruth, J. and Gill, D
- Medieval Pottery 1998 *A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic*

Research Group

Forms. Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 1

Medieval Pottery 2001
Research Group

Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics
Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

A.2 Metal Small Finds Catalogue

By Chris Faine 26/11/14

- A.2.1 SF 1 (8): Cast lead object. Length: 56.9mm Width: 17mm. Two oval objects conjoined at their ends with a small rim (flashing?), surrounding both in their entirety. Function and date unknown. They could represent net weights discarded after casting.
- A.2.2 SF 2 (8): Large Iron square section masonry nail with square head. Length: 108mm. Head width: 47.9mm. Date: Post-Medieval/Modern.
- A.2.3 SF 3 (8): Two fragments of iron window/door fitting. Length: 101/132mm. Date: Post-Medieval/Modern

APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Filmer-Sankey, W. 1986. The excavations on the site of Ickworth Manor. *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. Vol XXXVI Part 2

Phibbs, J,L & Gallagher, C. 1980. Ickworth. *A Survey of the Landscape*. National Trust Report

Martins, W,P. *The Archaeology and Historic Landscape features of the Ickworth Estate, Suffolk*. Unpublished.

Online resources

Heritage Gateway. <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/>. Accessed 3/11/14

British Geological Survey. <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>. Accessed 3/11/14

APPENDIX C. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-195727			
Project Name	Watching Brief at Ickworth House			
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	30-09-2014	Finish	23-10-2014
Previous Work (by OA East)	No		Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XSFICK14	Planning App. No.	N/A
HER No.		Related HER/OASIS No.	N/A

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15
Development Type	Pipelines/Cables

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/> Grab-Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-Core	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Augering	<input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography	

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
DMV	Medieval 1066 to 1540	Ceramic	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
Culvert	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901		Select period...
Pit	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901		Select period...

Project Location

County	Suffolk	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	Bury St Edmunds	Ickworth House Bury St Edmunds IP29 5QE
Parish	Ickworth	
HER	Suffolk	
Study Area	700m	National Grid Reference TL 8135 6105

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	National Trust
Project Design Originator	
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay
Supervisor	Kathryn Nicholls

Project Archives

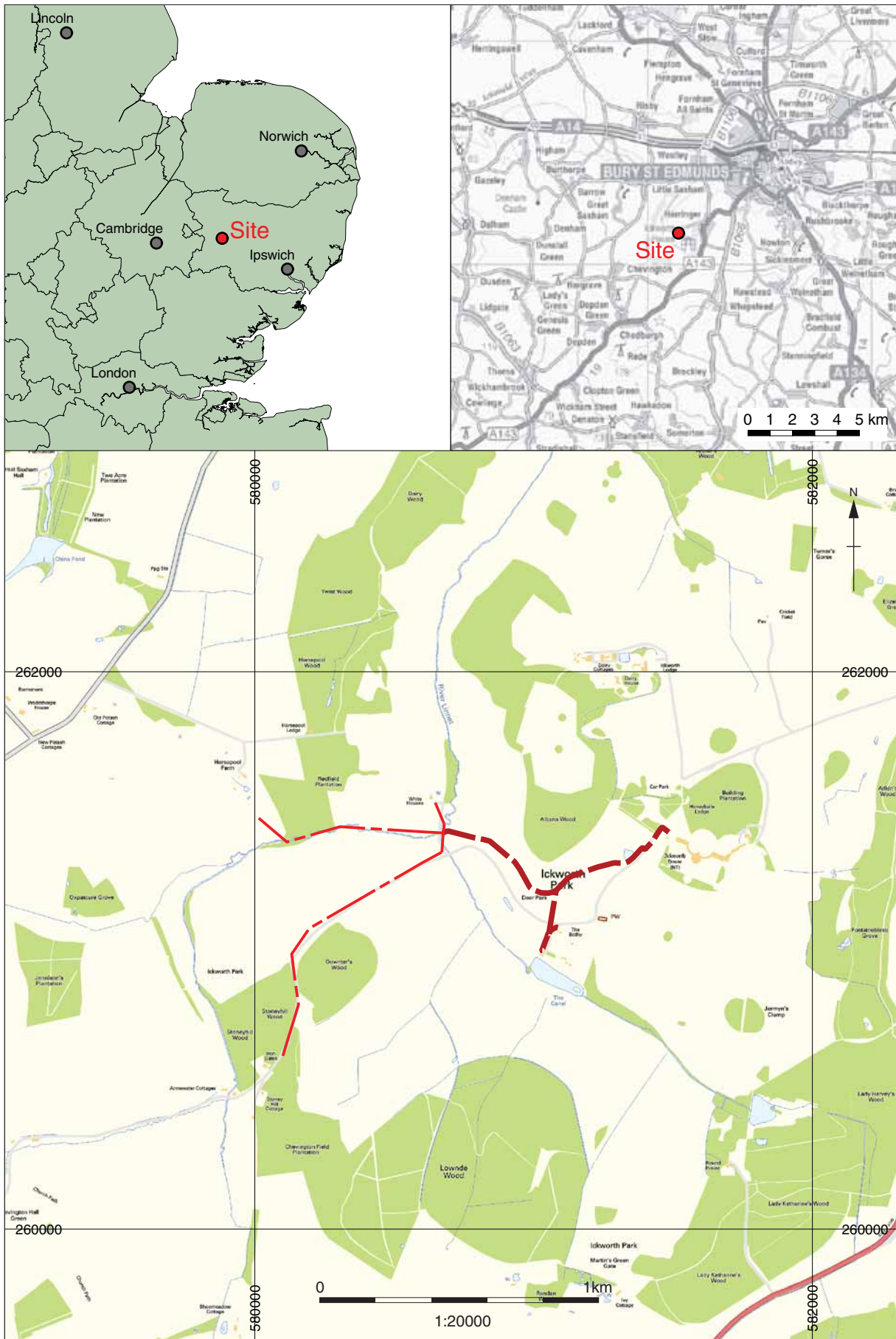
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
National Trust	OA East	National Trust
XSFICK14	XSFICK14	XSFICK14

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2014. All rights reserved.

Figure 1: Site location showing cable route (red)

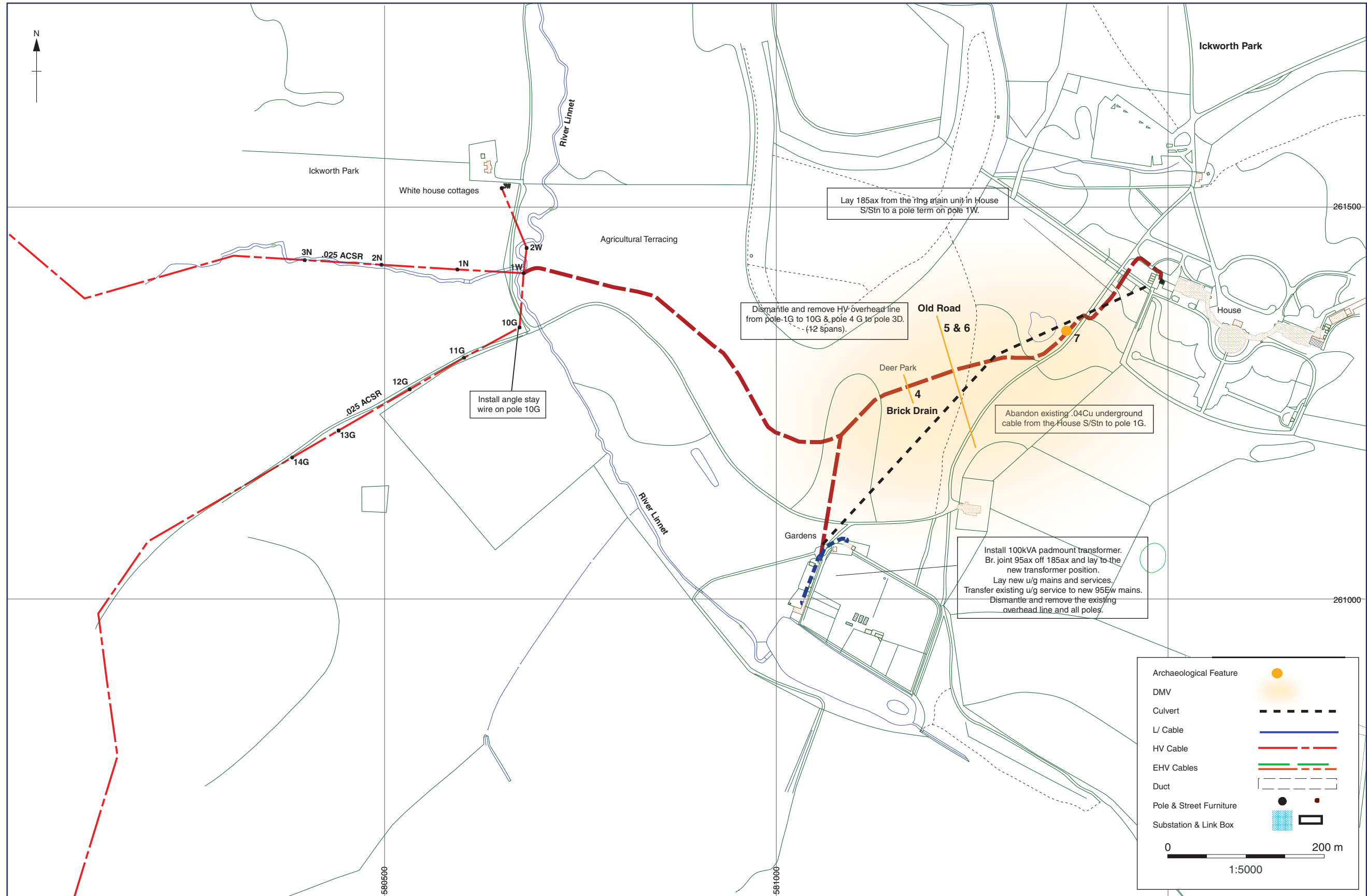


Figure 2: Cable route plan



Plate 1: Photo of Trackway (5)



Plate 2: Photo of possible pit (7)



**Head Office/Registered Office/
OA South**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MIFA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*