

Tubney Wood Fyfield and Tubney Oxon



Archaeological Desk-based Assessment



Oxford Archaeology

24th February 2002

Client Name: Hills Aggregates Ltd

Issue N^o: 1

NGR: SP 4460 0060 and SP 4490 0095

Client Name: Hills Agregates Ltd

Client Ref No:

Document Title: Tubney Wood, Fyfield & Tubney, Oxon.

Document Type: Desktop Assessment

Issue Number: 1

National Grid Reference: SP 4480 0080

Planning Reference:

OA Job Number: 1374

Site Code:

Invoice Code: T UWQCO

Museum Accession No:

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Date: 21st February 2003

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Date: 24th February 2003

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Document File Location \\SERVER3\ANDY.BUCKLEY\$\oau\DeskTops\Projects\
County\Oxon\Tubney\Tubney Wood DBA report.doc

Graphics File Location oau all drawings -
server4\oaupubs1\Alldrawings\T UWQCO

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Cover: current test pitting at Tubney. Oxford Archaeology

TUBNEY WOOD, FYFIELD AND TUBNEY, OXON.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT
FOR
HILLS AGGREGATES LTD

Summary

Hills Aggregates Ltd have commissioned Oxford Archaeology (OA) to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of a proposed development near Tubney Wood, Oxfordshire. The proposed development comprises quarrying and sand extraction on two areas of land to the south and east of Tubney Manor Farm (Sites 1 and 2). The area is currently under arable cultivation.

This desk-based assessment has identified very high potential for archaeology dated to the early Mesolithic with much less for the later Mesolithic period (only a single worked flint of this date has been recovered to date). It is noteworthy that in spite of the fact that the site has been farmed since at least the Roman period, it is clear from previous investigations that the archaeological artefact scatters have survived without appreciable disturbance.

There is low-medium potential for the discovery of early Neolithic and late Neolithic/early Bronze Age material being found and low potential for the recovery of Iron Age material. During the Roman period the proposed development areas was most likely to have been open fields and/or woodland adjacent to the Roman road. However, some pottery has been found and there is evidence for a cremation cemetery near to the road.

The potential for the discovery of early and later medieval remains is high. Site 1 contains at least part of a medieval graveyard associated with the settlement of Tubney; evidence for the deserted medieval village may also extend into the northern parts of both sites. The southern portions of both sites were probably in arable use.

During the post-medieval period the site was used for agriculture, with limited areas of quarrying; the potential for the recovery of material of this date is believed to be low.

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

- 1.1.1. Hills Aggregates Ltd have commissioned Oxford Archaeology (OA) to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of proposed development in the vicinity of Tubney Wood, Oxfordshire. The proposed development comprises quarrying and sand extraction on two areas of land (Sites 1 and 2, Fig. 1) which would totally remove any existing archaeological deposits. The area is currently under arable cultivation.
- 1.1.2. This desk-based assessment forms an initial stage of archaeological investigation. For the purposes of this report the archaeological and cartographic sources, including results from any archaeological investigations in the close proximity of the area of proposed development and a 1 km Study Area around it (designated centre point at NGR SP 4480 0080), were examined in order to determine the likely nature, extent, preservation and importance of any archaeological remains that may be present within the area of proposed quarrying. The assessment also included a site visit, which was carried out on the 2nd July 2002.

1.2. Site location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1. The proposed development site comprises two irregular areas of arable land, both measuring $c 950 \text{ m}^2$, which lie immediately to the south and east of Tubney Manor Farm and north of Tubney New Plantation (Fig. 1). They have been designated as Site 1 (centre point NGR SP 4460 0060) and Site 2 (NGR SP 4490 0095) respectively. The proposed development area falls within the combined parish of Fyfield and Tubney (Fig. 2), though was previously part of the ancient parish of Tubney, located $c 500 \text{ m}$ south-east of the historic village of Appleton, Oxfordshire.
- 1.2.2. The parish of Fyfield and Tubney lies on a deep deposit of Corallian sand beds (a formation long favoured for farming and settlement), known as the Corallian ridge which around Tubney is composed of yellow, white and buff sands overlying limestone (BGS sheet 236). The north-western limits of Sites 1 and 2 follows the 90 m OD contour line, rising in the south-east to $c 92 \text{ m OD}$ in Site 1 and $c 95 \text{ m OD}$ in Site 2.
- 1.2.3. There is an extensive area of quarrying between these Sites and the A420 Oxford to Faringdon road (Fig. 1). An area of land measuring $c 10\text{-}20 \text{ m}$ in width was left between the previous quarry limits and the field boundaries of the site of proposed quarrying.

2. METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES CONSULTED

2.1. Method of Assessment

- 2.1.1. The Oxfordshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) is the primary repository of information on all known archaeology in the area. Oxford Archaeology obtained a full print-out of all SMR data for all known archaeological sites and finds within 1 km surrounding the area of proposed development (referred to as the 'Study Area'). In addition the following sources were consulted:
- National Monuments Record, Swindon;
 - English Heritage - information on Scheduled Monuments within the Study Area;
 - English Heritage - National Mapping Programme;
 - Centre for Oxfordshire Studies, Oxford - historic maps and 20th-century Ordnance Survey Maps;
 - British Geological Survey map (Sheet 236);
 - Oxford Archaeology - published sources.

- 2.1.2. Appendix 1 is a gazetteer of archaeological sites and finds within the 1 km Study Area. Each entry has been allocated an OA number, which is included in the gazetteer, referred to in the text and marked on the Archaeological Features Mapping (Fig. 3). A more detailed map showing the location or limits of selected features and earthworks within and close to the two sites can be seen on Figure 4.
- 2.1.3. A detailed description of the main data-holding bodies consulted can be found in Appendix Two, while a full list of the sources consulted is listed in Appendix Three.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1. Past investigations

- 3.1.1. The region has long been the subject of considerable archaeological research, with Mesolithic, Neolithic, and Bronze Age flintwork recorded along the length of the Corallian Ridge, by fieldwalking, evaluation, excavation and as stray finds.
- 3.1.2. The Study Area was subjected to increasing archaeological investigation during the 20th century and both Sites 1 and 2 and the field between them were extensively fieldwalked by a Mr B. Astell in the 1940s (OA 10). This led to the discovery of:
- an early Neolithic leaf arrowhead almost immediately to the south of Site 2;
 - a number of Bronze Age flint arrowheads and worked flints, and Roman and medieval pottery just outside the north-western boundary of Site 1;
 - a large concentration of Roman pottery inside the eastern boundary of Site 1;
 - a scatter of later medieval pottery and coins inside the northern boundary of Site 1.
- 3.1.3. A number of archaeological investigations have been carried out in close proximity to the proposed development area.
- 3.1.4. A 1988 evaluation (OA 33) revealed two major concentrations of early Mesolithic flint and pottery ranging in date from the late Neolithic to the post-medieval period. No archaeological features were found.
- 3.1.5. Subsequently, excavation in 1991 (OA 33) targeted these early Mesolithic flint scatters, uncovering very high densities of flint representing the largest flint scatter discovered in Oxfordshire. The evidence was believed to represent early Mesolithic seasonal occupation and reflected a varied range of activities (Bradley & Hey 1993).
- 3.1.6. An evaluation by OA in 2001 (OA 28) in the field between Sites 1 and 2 exposed an extensive scatter of early Mesolithic flints, as well as a small number of later Neolithic and early Bronze Age flints and a ditch possibly dating from the early/middle Saxon period. Test-pitting over this site in 2002 (OA 28) aimed to further define the area of flint concentrations and uncovered a similar range of finds to those found during the earlier evaluation, including pieces of early Bronze Age pottery. Two Roman cremations (OA 35) were also found. Work is to continue in 2003.
- 3.1.7. The remaining known archaeological sites and finds within the Study Area are discussed by period below

3.2. Prehistoric Period (9 800 BP - 43AD)

- 3.2.1. There is widespread evidence of prehistoric activity within this area of Oxfordshire. Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flintwork have all been recorded along the length of the Corallian Ridge. Archaeological remains of prehistoric date have been discovered throughout the Study Area (OA 2, 11, 14, 19 and 24), and some are immediately adjacent to the proposed development area (OA 10, 12, 28 and 33). Archaeological investigations in the

- 3.3.3. Various Roman finds have been uncovered within the Study Area (OA 10, 19, 23, 28 and 33). These include a substantial collection of Roman pottery (OA 10) found during fieldwalking, within the eastern boundary of Site 1 (Fig. 4). In Appleton village, in the north of the Study Area, two Roman urns (OA 34) were found near the rectory in 1872.
- 3.3.4. In the 19th century two Romano-British 'vases' were found near the old church at Tubney (OA 23). Although little is known of these, they have been interpreted as probable cremation urns. The exact location of the discovery is unknown, but they may have been found close to the Roman road (OA 36). During the 2002 test-pitting (OA 28) two cremations from this period were found in the centre of the area. This evidence would suggest the presence of a more extensive cremation cemetery. Burials close to roads were common during the Roman period.
- 3.3.5. Roman pottery found during the 1991 investigations has been interpreted as manuring scatters, indicating that the fields were in arable use during at least some of the Roman period. A similar interpretation has been suggested for Roman pottery scatters found in the field between the two sites (OA 28), in New Plantation (OA 33) and c 700 m to the south-east of the site (OA 19).
- 3.3.6. Excavations also suggest that arable activity may have been intermittent with periods of tree growth and clearance. This may indicate both periods of agriculture and forest management, with the latter perhaps related to the pottery industry nearby (see above), which would have required vast quantities of firewood for fuel.
- 3.3.7. To summarise therefore no archaeological features indicating a settlement of Roman date have been found within, or close to the proposed development area and it is likely that the area of proposed quarrying was used for agricultural purposes or was woodland, or perhaps more likely, a combination of the two. However, there is clearly evidence of Roman activity in the wider Study Area (OA 19, 28 and 33) including evidence of burials (OA 23 and 35) and a road (OA 36), with Roman pottery found within and very close to Site 1 (OA 10). The presence of Roman activity on Sites 1 and 2 cannot, therefore, be totally discounted.

3.4. Early Medieval Period (AD410 - 1066)

- 3.4.1. The parish of Tubney (Tobenie) (along with the nearby parishes of Appleton (Apletone) and Bessels Leigh (Leie)) was first documented in AD 965, when it was granted by King Edgar to Abingdon Abbey (VCH, iv, 379). Settlements in all three parishes are recorded in Domesday Book (1086 AD), suggesting pre-conquest origins.
- 3.4.2. It is likely that the Saxon settlement of Tubney was the precursor to the deserted later medieval settlement of Tubney (OA 7). It is also likely that it was nucleated and, with a population of 20 recorded in Domesday (Hinde 1985), Saxon settlement remains might be expected to underlie the deserted medieval village (OA 7), which surrounds Tubney Manor Farm (Fig. 5). The likelihood that the later medieval settlement had earlier medieval (Saxon) origins is strengthened by the fact that close to the northern boundary of the field, between Sites 1 and 2, evaluation discovered two ditches (OA 28) (OAU 2001, 8), one containing a piece of early/middle Saxon pottery (c 450 – 850 AD). The evaluation report concluded that they may 'indicate early origins to the medieval settlement' (OAU 2001, 8) and that they 'represent field ditches at the edge of settlement' (OAU 2001, 9).

3.5. Later Medieval Period (AD1066-1550)

- 3.5.1. There is a wide range of evidence for later medieval activity within the Study Area. It is summarised below.
- The deserted medieval village of Tubney (OA 7) and its associated 12th-century church and graveyard (OA 9) and the remains of a moat representing the site of Tubney Manor House (OA 8);

- The deserted medieval village of Besselsleigh (OA 16), its now destroyed medieval Manor House and well (OA 17) and gate pier (OA 15), and the grade II listed 12th-century church of St Lawrence (OA 18). This group lies *c* 300-350 m east of Site 2;
 - The church of St Lawrence (OA 2) and Appleton Manor House (OA 3), which both date from the late 12th century and are Grade II listed, lie *c* 700 m to the north-east of the site;
 - Within the northern boundary of Site 1 a large scatter of later medieval coins and pottery was discovered (OA 10) during fieldwalking.
- 3.5.2. Sites 1 and 2 lie just to the south of the medieval deserted medieval village of Tubney which surrounds Tubney Manor Farm and the cemetery associated with Tubney's 12th-century church (OA 9) extends into Site 1. Tubney Manor Farm itself probably stands on the site of the former Moated Manor House of Tubney (OA 8).
- 3.5.3. In 1327 the medieval village of Tubney had over 20 households wealthy enough to be taxed (Brooks 1984); in 1370 this number had fallen to 16 (Beresford and Hurst 1962, 94). Tubney continued to survive as a village in the late 14th century: by 1381 the poll-tax returns for Berkshire recorded 27 people making payments, while by 1394 an *extent* of the manor showed that Tubney had shrunk, but with 20 tenants it was hardly deserted (Brooks 1984).
- 3.5.4. In 1480, Tubney was granted to William de Waynflete, Bishop of Winchester, for his foundation of Magdalen College. However, documents which record the details of a land dispute with the college in the late 15th and early 16th centuries, make no mention of a village (Brooks 1984, 126). From 1524, collectors of the Tudor subsidy did not record any returns from Tubney (Brooks 1984, 125-6).
- 3.5.5. In the 16th century John Leland wrote of the village 'from Legh I rode a myle and cam to Towkey, wher had been a village. The church or chapell yet remayneth, and ther by in a wood was a manor place now clene downe' (Brooks 1984, 127). While the village may have been deserted for over a century at this point, it is thought that the decay of the manor house probably occurred after its transfer to Magdalen College in 1480 (Brooks 1984, 128). The chapel was similarly redundant in the absence of parishioners in the early 16th century, and later followed the village into decay (Brooks 1984, 128).
- 3.5.6. The graveyard (OA 9), associated with the chapel could still be seen in 1841 (VCH 1924, iv, 379; Brooks 1984, 129). On the 1767 map of Tubney estate the graveyard is shown as a small enclosure (Fig. 6). The projected position of the graveyard has been plotted on Figures 3 and 4 and clearly demonstrates that the graveyard runs into Site 1. An evaluation trench excavated by OA extending just inside the eastern boundary of the graveyard revealed only a north-east - south-west aligned ditch similar to others found to the east. This ditch contained pottery of 11th-16th-century pottery which would have been contemporary with the life of the graveyard thus it has been interpreted tentatively as its southern limit. If this is the case it would make the graveyard half the length plotted from documentary and map sources although it would still extend into Site 1.
- 3.5.7. Archaeological investigations in 1991 and 2001 indicate that land to the south and between Sites 1 and 2 were in agricultural use during this period. Small amounts of medieval pottery have been found just outside the eastern boundary of Site 1 (OA 10) and south of both Sites 1 and 2 (OA 33), interpreted as 'the result of manuring arable fields from adjacent contemporary settlements' (Bradley and Hey 1993, 26). The only medieval features found were ditches, probably representing field boundaries associated with the medieval settlement of Tubney (OAU 2001, 8). It is therefore also likely that the remainder of Site 1 and Site 2 was also in agricultural use at this time, although the fact that both sites lie closer to the known extent of the deserted medieval village, manor house and chapel may increase the likelihood of remains associated with the settlement being found within them.

3.6. Post-Medieval Period (AD1550+)

- 3.6.1. The earliest detailed map of the area consulted for this study is the 1761 map of Berkshire by Rocque (Fig. 5), which suggests that Sites 1 and 2 were probably arable or meadowland at this time. In addition, two roads that are no longer visible are shown on this map. One runs north of and parallel to the Oxford-Faringdon road, through the southern limits of both sites, the other runs south-eastwards from Tubney Manor Farm to this road, almost touching the north-western boundary of Site 2. There is also what appears to be a field boundary running roughly north-east through the centre of Site 2 (Fig. 5). While maps of this period are often rather inaccurate, it is possible that traces of these features will still be present under the current ploughsoil.
- 3.6.2. The 1767 estate map of Tubney (Fig. 6) shows the moat (OA 8), associated with the medieval moated manor and also depicts the limits of the graveyard. A large circular area to the south-east of Site 1 represents the tree covered limits of the suspected Bronze Age round barrow (OA 12). It would appear that both Sites 1 and 2 continue to be used for arable purposes. The road running along the southern limits of Sites 1 and 2 as shown on Rocque's map of Berkshire (Fig. 5) does not appear on the 1767 map. It is possible that the field boundary to the south of both sites and parallel to the Oxford road or the field boundary in the southern limits of Site 2 may mark the line of the suspected road. In addition, a suspected road, which on the earlier Rocque's map, was shown running south-eastwards from Tubney Manor between the two sites, also appears to be illustrated as a field boundary, while a field boundary is shown in the north of Site 2 for the first time (Fig. 6).
- 3.6.3. There are no features within the limits of Sites 1 and 2 shown on the 1875 1st edition 6" OS map (Fig. 7). The field boundaries which appear on the earlier maps have now disappeared and the possible Bronze Age round barrow to the south-east of Site 1 (OA 12) is now clearly marked as a tumulus, while an area of quarrying is illustrated immediately to the south of, and extending slightly into, the central section of the eastern boundary of Site 1. The road, or possible field boundary, shown on earlier maps running south-east to the Oxford – Faringdon road is now marked as a footpath.
- 3.6.4. The area of quarrying (see above) does not seem to extend very far into the limits of the Site 1, as confirmed by the 1st edition 25" OS Map of 1876 (Fig. 8). A similar situation is shown on the 2nd edition OS 6" map of 1899 (Fig. 9) and the revised 1st Edition 25" OS Map of 1913 (Fig. 10) although by this time the quarry is marked as old and its limits differ from earlier maps, appearing slightly to the east. The 1913 map also shows that a large area to the south of both sites had been converted into the New Plantation woodland. The 2nd revision of 6" OS map of 1922 shows no change apart from the creation of a sand quarry in New Plantation to the south (Fig. 10).
- 3.6.5. This sequence of maps illustrates that for at least 250 years the area around Tubney Manor Farm has changed little and that Sites 1 and 2 were used primarily for agriculture throughout the post-medieval period

4. SITE VISIT

- 4.1.1. A site visit was undertaken on 2nd July 2002 to assess the topography and areas of possible ground disturbance and provide information and archaeological evidence not available through other sources. The weather for undertaking the site walkover was good, being clear and sunny. However, both Sites 1 and 2 had a dense covering of maize over their entire limits, hindering the inspection of the ground surface. Although it was possible to detect large-scale changes in the topography of both sites, the dense crop covering prevented clear identification of any more detailed information and, therefore, it was difficult to distinguish man-made features from the natural topographical changes. Despite the crop covering, it was possible to detect a few, more noticeable anomalies on both sites, which did not appear to be natural and may be of interest (Fig. 4).

Site 1

- 4.1.2. It was possible to detect undulations in all areas of Site 1, though due to crop coverage it was not possible to clearly define these. On current evidence they appear to be natural. However, in the southern section of the field, parallel to the eastern limits of Site 1, two linear cropmarks (OA 29), with smaller, differently coloured maize growth were detected. These ran parallel to each other, *c* 3 m apart for *c* 30 m. Although it is not possible to positively identify the exact nature of this feature, it may be associated with earlier cultivation of the site, or represent a possible trackway or precursor of the existing field boundary, to which it runs parallel. A sunken semicircular area *c* 15 m wide identified against the western limits of site 1 (OA 32) may represent an area of early quarrying.

Site 2

- 4.1.3. In common with Site 1, large-scale undulations probably natural in origin were present in all areas of Site 2. Site 2 rises quite steeply in its southernmost third, before gradually falling slightly. A raised circular mound measuring *c* 20-30 m in width is located at its peak, adjacent to the southern boundary of Site 2. It is quite visible when viewed from certain angles, though due to crop covering its form and function are at present unclear.
- 4.1.4. Another area of interest in this site lies in the centre of its northern limits, where there is a large (*c* 30 m wide) sub-circular depression in the ground (OA 31) with a thin raised area of ground extending into its western half. The sunken area has noticeably thinner crop growth, that is more yellowed than the dark green maize surrounding it, while the raised mound/band extending into the depression is covered with maize that is very thick and very dark green. It was not possible to clearly define the form of this feature, although it may be an area of old quarrying.
- 4.1.5. Further work, initially in the form of a site inspection once the crop is cleared, may be desirable in advance of any quarrying of these areas.

5. PAST IMPACTS ON THE SITE

- 5.1.1. Both cartographic and excavation evidence suggests that both areas of proposed quarry development with the exception of the graveyard have been used throughout history for arable and/or woodland. This would have led to disturbance and/or truncation of some archaeological deposits. However, excavation has shown that valuable information may still be present in the form of cut features, and for the Mesolithic it was concluded that ploughing over the area to the south of both sites 'does not appear to have completely dislocated the original distribution patterns' [of the flint artefacts] (1991, 26).
- 5.1.2. Other impacts may have included earlier quarrying, some of which has been documented (Fig. 7). In addition, the site visit suggested that small areas within both Site 1 (OA 32) and Site 2 (OA 31) could also have been quarried. Any quarrying within either site is likely to have caused damage to sub-surface archaeological remains.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

- 6.1.1. The potential for both Sites 1 and 2 to contain early Mesolithic remains is high; the potential for the discovery of early Neolithic and late Neolithic/early Bronze Age remains is more limited. Excavations immediately adjacent to both sites revealed extensive collections of Mesolithic flint suggesting that a wide range of activities were undertaken, with considerable evidence of knapping and retouching of artefacts, hide scraping and preparation, food preparation and domestic fires. In both areas investigated (OA 28 and 33), the evidence indicates 'repeated or extended habitation' (OAU 2001, 8), possibly representing a winter base camp (Bradley and Hey 1993). The flints were found in the topsoil, in the subsoil and were redeposited in three-throw holes. Some plough disturbance has therefore occurred,

though the fact that many scatters have remained concentrated suggests that the disturbance is limited.

- 6.1.2. Early agricultural exploitation of the already poor sandy soils within the two proposed development areas may have led to its increased infertility. With the exception of a few late Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age artefacts, little evidence was found for activity dating to the later prehistoric period during excavations in the vicinity of Sites 1 and 2.
- 6.1.3. Two Bronze Age barrows were apparently present in the 19th century to the south of Sites 1 and 2 but neither was found during excavations in the area so their existence remains uncertain.
- 6.1.4. Investigation to the south, and between the two sites, suggests that the fields had been ploughed at least periodically during the Roman period with some evidence for woodland. On the basis of this evidence it can be supposed that the archaeological potential of the areas of proposed quarrying is low, but the discovery of cremations in 2002 (OA 35) and probable cremation urns (OA 23) dating to this period suggest the presence of a cemetery close to the Oxford-Wantage Roman Road (located c 200 m to the south of Site 1). In addition, Roman pottery (OA 10) was uncovered during fieldwalking, in the eastern part of Site 1 (Fig. 4)
- 6.1.5. The graveyard (OA 9) associated with the chapel immediately to the north of Site 1 clearly extends into it so there is very high potential for the discovery of medieval human remains within this part of Site 1. It is likely that the remainder of Sites 1 and Site 2 were probably used chiefly for agriculture in the early and later medieval periods. Archaeological investigations in 1988, 1991 and 2001 all indicate that land to the south and between Sites 1 and 2 were in agricultural use during this period. Ditches dating to the early and later medieval periods have been found during these excavations, and these probably represent field boundaries associated with the Saxon/medieval settlement of Tubney (OAU 2001, 8). It is also likely that similar features will be found in Sites 1 and 2, although the fact that both Sites lie closer to the deserted medieval village, manor house and chapel may increase the likelihood of remains associated with the settlement being found, especially in the northern parts of both Site 1 and 2.
- 6.1.6. It is likely that Sites 1 and 2 were predominately agricultural during the post-medieval period. Historic maps show little change from the 18th through to the 20th century, although this assessment has identified a possible post-medieval road running through the south of both Sites.

7. IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 7.1.1. The proposed development will involve the creation of deep sand quarries over the entire area of both Sites 1 and 2. This would affect all archaeological deposits located within the limits of both sites.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1.1. This desk-based assessment has identified very high potential for archaeology dated to the early Mesolithic with much less for the later Mesolithic period (only a single worked flint of this date has been recovered to date). It is noteworthy that in spite of the fact that the site has been farmed since at least the Roman period, it is clear from previous investigations that the level of disturbance to archaeological artefact scatters has not been great.
- 8.1.2. There is low-medium potential for the discovery of early Neolithic and late Neolithic/early Bronze Age material being found and a low potential for the recovery of Iron Age material. During the Roman period the proposed development areas are most likely to have been open fields and/or woodland adjacent to the Roman road, however, evidence for a possible cremation cemetery and pottery has been found nearby.

- 8.1.3. Site 1 contains at least part of a medieval graveyard associated with the settlement of Tubney; evidence for this deserted medieval village may also possibly extend into the northern parts of both sites. The southern portions of both sites probably only contain evidence of arable use. The potential for the discovery of early and later medieval remains is therefore high.
- 8.1.4. During the post-medieval period the site was used for both agriculture with limited areas of quarrying; the potential for the recovery of material of this date is believed to be low.
- 8.1.5. Several possible archaeological features were identified during the site walkover, but only further investigation would confirm their character.
- 8.1.6. The proposed development comprises the creation of a deep sand quarry over both Sites 1 and 2, which would totally remove all archaeological deposits.

Oxford Archaeology
February 2003

Appendix One

Gazetteer of known archaeology within 1 km Study Area
(As plotted on Figures 3-4).

OA = Oxford Archaeology

OAU = Oxford Archaeological Unit

SMR = Sites and Monuments Record

NMP = National Mapping Programme

NMR = National Monuments Record

OA No.	Description	SMR No./ NMR No.
1	Evangelical Mission Hall. A simple red brick post-medieval building.	SMR 10333
2	The church of St Lawrence. A late 12th-century church, built on the site of a Saxon church. It had alterations and additions in the 13th and 15th–18th centuries and was restored in 1883. Listed Grade II. A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered during an archaeological evaluation.	SMR L/9526 NMR 336562 NMR event 336563 + 1087138 OAU, 1995
3	Manor House, Appleton, is surrounded by a dry moat, still complete on three sides. Built of stone c 1200 and altered in the late 16th century, it was entirely refaced in 1924. Listed grade II.	SMR L/1676 NMR 336540 NMR 545946 NMR event 336541
4	Cropmark of undated linear feature.	SMR 15070
5	Tinteyns Manor House and moat. Constructed in Elizabethan period it was divided into tenements. The 1828 enclosure map shows two sides of a moat around it and third side marked by small wood called 'Moat Coppice'. In c 1930 the building was demolished and the moat filled in; no trace now visible.	SMR 9527 NMR 336559 NMR event 336560
6	Cropmark of an undated linear system.	SMR
7	Deserted medieval village of Tubney. First recorded in AD 965 when it was granted to Abingdon Abbey, ownership remained with the Abbey throughout the medieval period. It appeared to survive the late 14th century but by the early 16th century had been abandoned. It would have been situated around Tubney Manor Farm.	SMR 1694 NMR 336577 NMR event 336578
8	Remains of small, water-filled moat on two sides of Tubney Manor Farm (the farm is not included with this entry).	SMR 1693 NMR 336574 NMR event 336575
9	Site of chapel at Tubney, mentioned in 12th century it had disappeared before the early 19th century. The graveyard, shown on the 1841 Tithe map, lies somewhere between Tubney Wood and Tubney Manor Farm. Its limits are shown on Figure 4.	SMR 1691 NMR 336571 NMR event 336572
10	Neolithic and Bronze Age flint arrowheads and worked flints found along with Roman and medieval pottery, medieval coins, mainly surface finds.	SMR NMR 336553 NMR event 336554
11	Nine flint flakes and two flint cores of late Neolithic/Bronze Age date recovered.	SMR 9075
12	Site of round barrow identified from historic maps. Work by OA in 1988 and 1991 failed to uncover any evidence for the barrow. Some Mesolithic flints have been recovered from here. A second round barrow has also been tentatively identified in this area; reportedly levelled prior to c 1880. Its position is unknown.	SMR 4694 NMR 336565 NMR 661790
13	Milestone. T ₂ type. At point 6 miles from Oxford and 11 miles from Faringdon.	SMR 10115
14	Findspot of prehistoric (exact period uncertain) flint flakes.	SMR 9536 NMR 336441 NMR Event 336442
15	Post-medieval (mid 17th century) Besselesleigh Manor House and gate pier. Listed grade II.	SMR 11158
16	The deserted medieval village of Bessels Leigh. Placename evidence suggests it originated in the Saxon period. Its church is now completely isolated, whereas Rocque's map of 1761 shows five buildings immediately to the west.	SMR 9538 NMR 661791
17	Medieval Manor House and well of Besselesleigh. Recorded in a document of AD 965 as <i>Leo</i> and in Domesday as <i>Lie</i> . Mentioned by Leland [c 1534 – 42], it was destroyed in 1784. While Rocques' map of 1761 shows five buildings immediately	SMR 9537 NMR 336491 NMR Event

	west of the church, the Manor House is not identifiable. The only feature still standing is the Manor's gate pier (OA 15), south-west of the church.	336492
18	The 12th-century church of St Lawrence, with 13th–15th-century alterations and additions. It underwent further restoration in 1632. Listed grade II	SMR 7476 NMR 336488 NMR Event 336489
19	Flint and pottery scatters were recorded here and while no highly indicative diagnostic flints were discovered, it is likely they date between the early Neolithic and late Bronze Age. The pottery discovered dates from the Romano-British to the post-medieval period, suggesting long term manuring in this area.	SMR 15696
20	Negative Evidence. Archaeological excavation in this area revealed no archaeological features or artefacts.	SMR
21	Area of cropmarks, their date and form is uncertain. Identified by the NMP.	NMP
22	Large cropmark of uncertain date and form, identified by the NMP.	NMP
23	Two late Roman vases were found near a barrow, in Tubney Wood, close to the line of the Roman road. They were interpreted as cremation urns.	NMR 336537 NMR event 336538
24	Flint flakes found.	NMR 335543 NMR event 336544
25	Negative evidence – monitoring of groundworks in advance of development revealed no archaeological deposits.	NMR event 1159632
26	A possible medieval or later field system, appearing as a series of linear features, each defined by one ditch with a maximum length of 155 m.	NMR 1077815
27	Possible medieval or later field boundary and ditches seen as earthwork on AP's.	NMR 1077816 NMR event 1005262
28	An archaeological evaluation (OAU 2001) discovered an extensive scatter of early Mesolithic flints, as well as a small number of later Neolithic and early Bronze Age flints, Roman pottery and a possible ditch from the early/middle Saxon period. Excavation, currently been undertaken is detecting a similar range of finds, including pieces of early Bronze Age Pottery.	OAU 2001
29	Two linear cropmarks, running parallel with the modern site boundary may represent the furrows of ridge and furrow cultivation.	Site visit
30	Raised circular area on top of hill in the south of Site 2. Form and function unclear (see Figure 4).	Site visit
31	Circular depression in north of Site 2, with raised area extending into its western half. Could represent early quarrying not recorded on maps (see Figure 4).	Site visit
32	Area of probable quarrying (see Figure 4).	Site visit
33	A 1988 evaluation by OAU, adjacent to the site, revealed two dense concentrations of Mesolithic flints and pottery ranging in date from late Neolithic to post-medieval (OAU 1988). A 1991 (OAU) excavation targeting these flint scatters uncovered very high densities of flint (largest) flint scatter discovered in Oxfordshire. It suggested the site was early Mesolithic, reflecting a varied range of activities.	OAU 1988 OAU 1991 NMR event 1050682 + 655923 SMR 4694
34	Two Roman urns, reputedly found near Appleton rectory in 1873.	NMR 336580
35	Two Roman cremations, found in 2002 test pits.	OA 2002
36	Line of Oxford to Wantage Roman road, as identified by Margary (1967).	-

Appendix Two

The Oxfordshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the National Monuments Record (NMR), Swindon

Oxfordshire County Council maintains the SMR for the county of Oxfordshire. This is a database of all known archaeological sites and findspots within the county, constructed from evidence supplied by archaeological investigation, early maps, aerial photographs and local knowledge. The NMR, as maintained by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME), is the national database of archaeological and architectural sites and buildings in England. Initially based on the Ordnance Survey field inspector's records it is updated from various sources, including the National Library of Aerial Photographs and any information received from the MRs of England. The SMR and NMR form the prime sources of information on recorded archaeological remains in England.

Centre for Oxfordshire Studies, Oxford

Historic maps and 20th-century Ordnance Survey (OS) maps. This assessment involved examination of all accessible early maps up to the beginning of the 20th century (including the OS 1st Edition 6" plans) at the centre for Oxfordshire Studies, Oxford. Appendix Three contains a list of all the cartographic sources used.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments

English Heritage was consulted in order to determine whether the Study Area contained any Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs). SAMs are nationally important sites protected by government legislation. The Study Area did not contain any SAMs.

English Heritage - National Mapping Programme

OS 1:10,000 cropmark transcription quartersheets SU 49 NE, SP 40 SW & SP 40 SE were examined as part of this assessment. No sheet covering the area SU 49 NW has been produced as yet. This identified two sites not recorded by other sources (**OA 21 and 22**).

British Geological Survey map (Sheet 236)

The geology of an area has a strong influence on its historic development, therefore the geological and topographical mapping for this area was analysed.

Published sources

A range of published sources, including previous archaeological investigations, held by Oxford County Council SMR and Oxford Archaeology, were examined to gain an understanding of the archaeological background of the area. Appendix Three contains a full bibliography. This identified two sites not recorded by other sources (**OA 28 and 37**).

Field inspection

A site inspection can provide further information on the archaeological potential of a site based on topography, current land use, and the extent of past ground disturbance. For this assessment a field inspection was undertaken on Tuesday 2nd July 2002. The results of the site visit are discussed in section 6.

Appendix Three

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Bradley and Hey. 1993 'A Mesolithic Site at New Plantation, Fyfield and Tubney, Oxfordshire', in *Oxoniensia* LVIII p. 1-26.

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Ordnance Survey 1978 *Map of Roman Britain*, 4th Edition.

VCH 1924 *The Victoria County History of Berkshire*. Volume 4, p 379-80.

Wacher 1990 *The 'small towns' of Roman Britain*

Cartographic Sources

A topographical map of the county of Berkshire by J. Rocque (1761)

Tubney Estate map (1767) Magdalen College

Jeffrey's map of Oxford (1769)

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 6". Oxon XXXVIII (b) (1875)

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 25". Berks. XXXVIII (1876)

Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition 25". Berks. Sheet 5-16 (1899)

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 25" Revised. Berks. V.12-16 (1913)

Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition. Berks 5:12 (1913)

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 6" 2nd Revision. Oxon. 38 (1922)

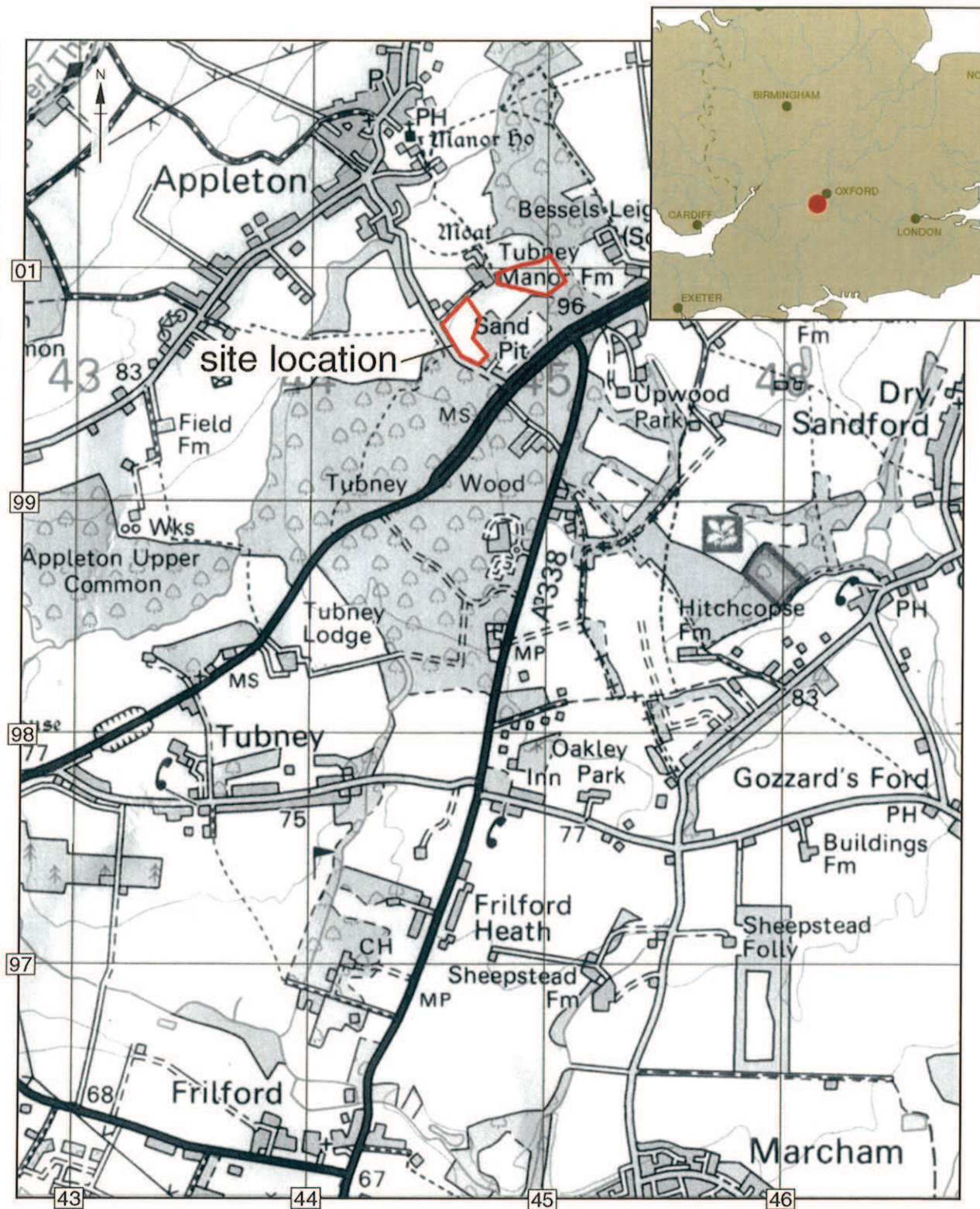
Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 (SP40SW)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 (SP40SE)

Ordnance Survey 1:25,00 (SP40/50)

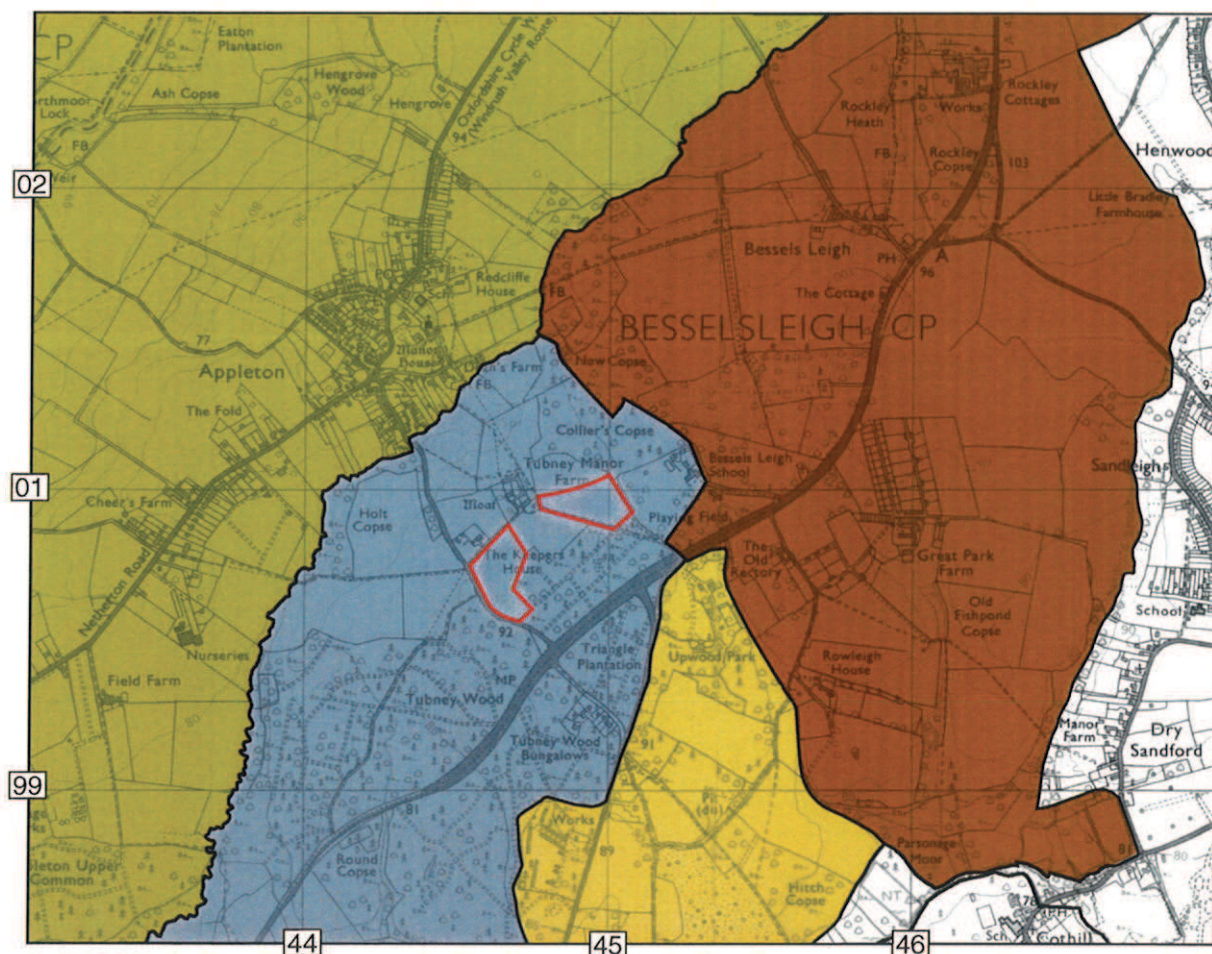
Ordnance Survey 1:25,00 (SU49/59)

British Geological Survey Sheet 253 (1971)



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Figure 1 Site location.



Scale 1:25,000

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- Fyfield and Tubney
- Besselsleigh
- Marcham
- Appleton with Eaton
- Area of investigation

Figure 2: Parish Boundaries.



Figure 3: Archaeological features mapping.

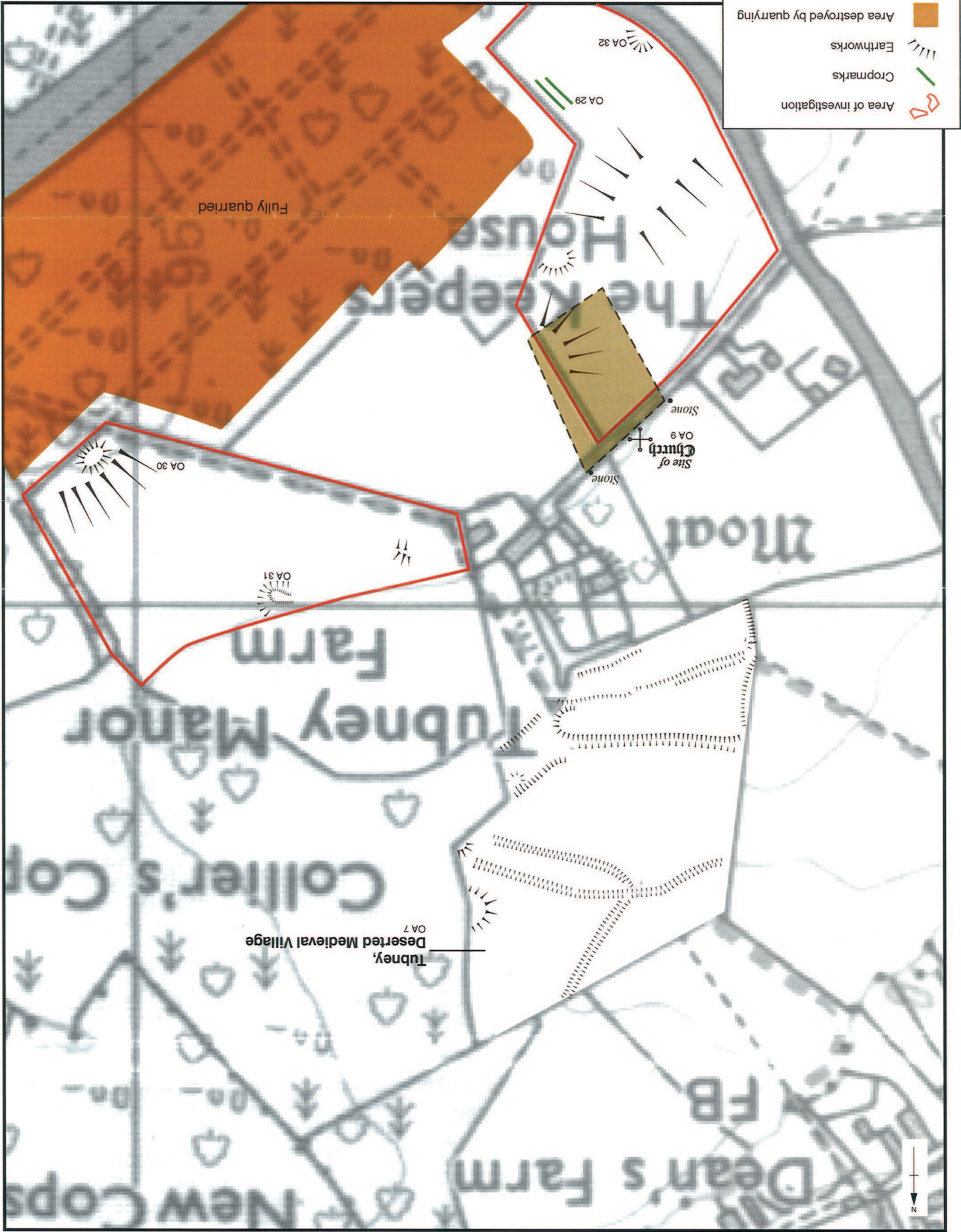
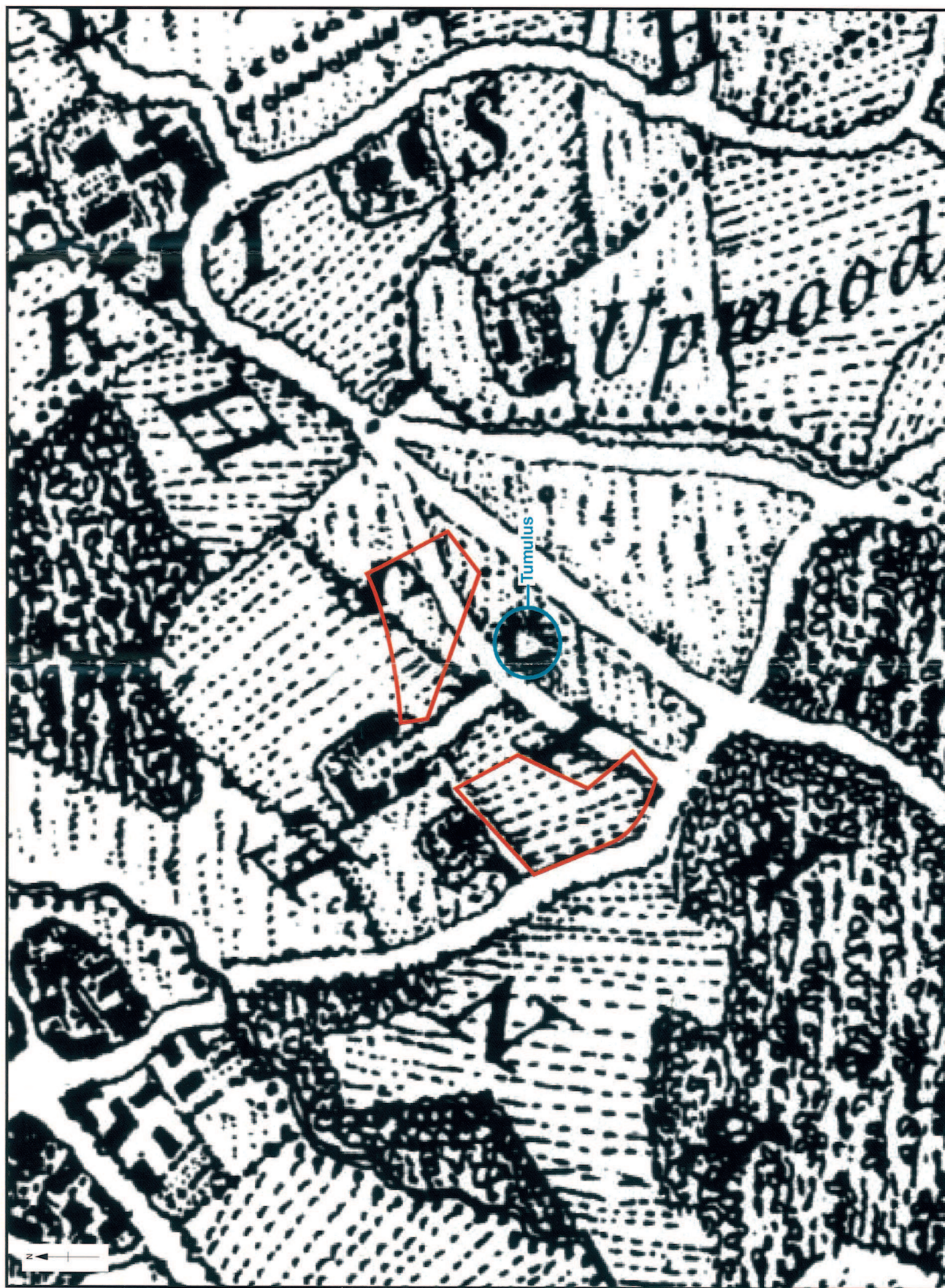


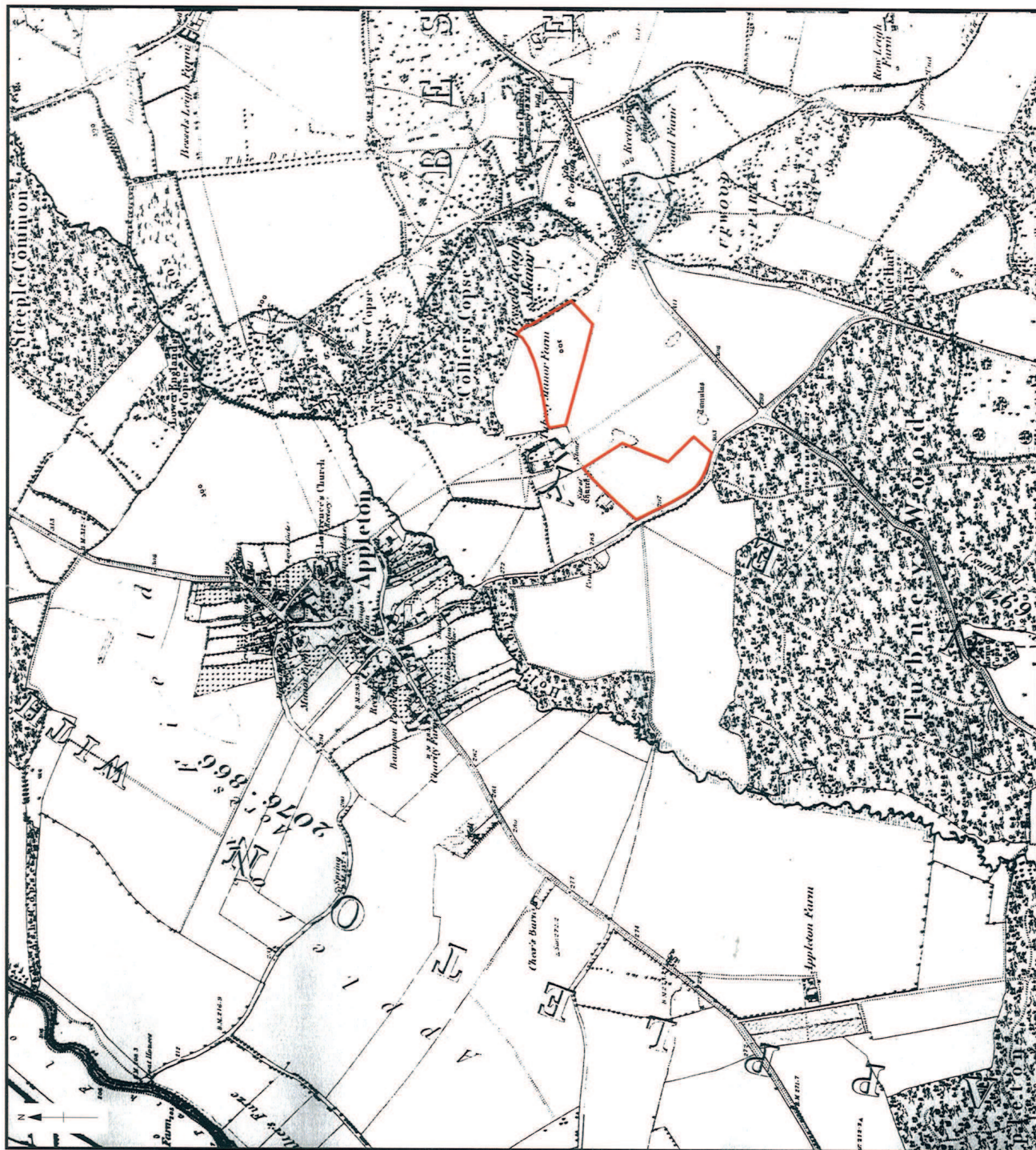
Figure 4: detail of area of investigation showing features and earthworks noted during walkover survey.



Area of investigation



Figure 5: A topographical map of the county of Berkshire
by J Rocque, 1761, sheet XVI.



Area of investigation

Figure 7: 1st Edition 6" OS, Berks, XXXVIII(B) 1875.

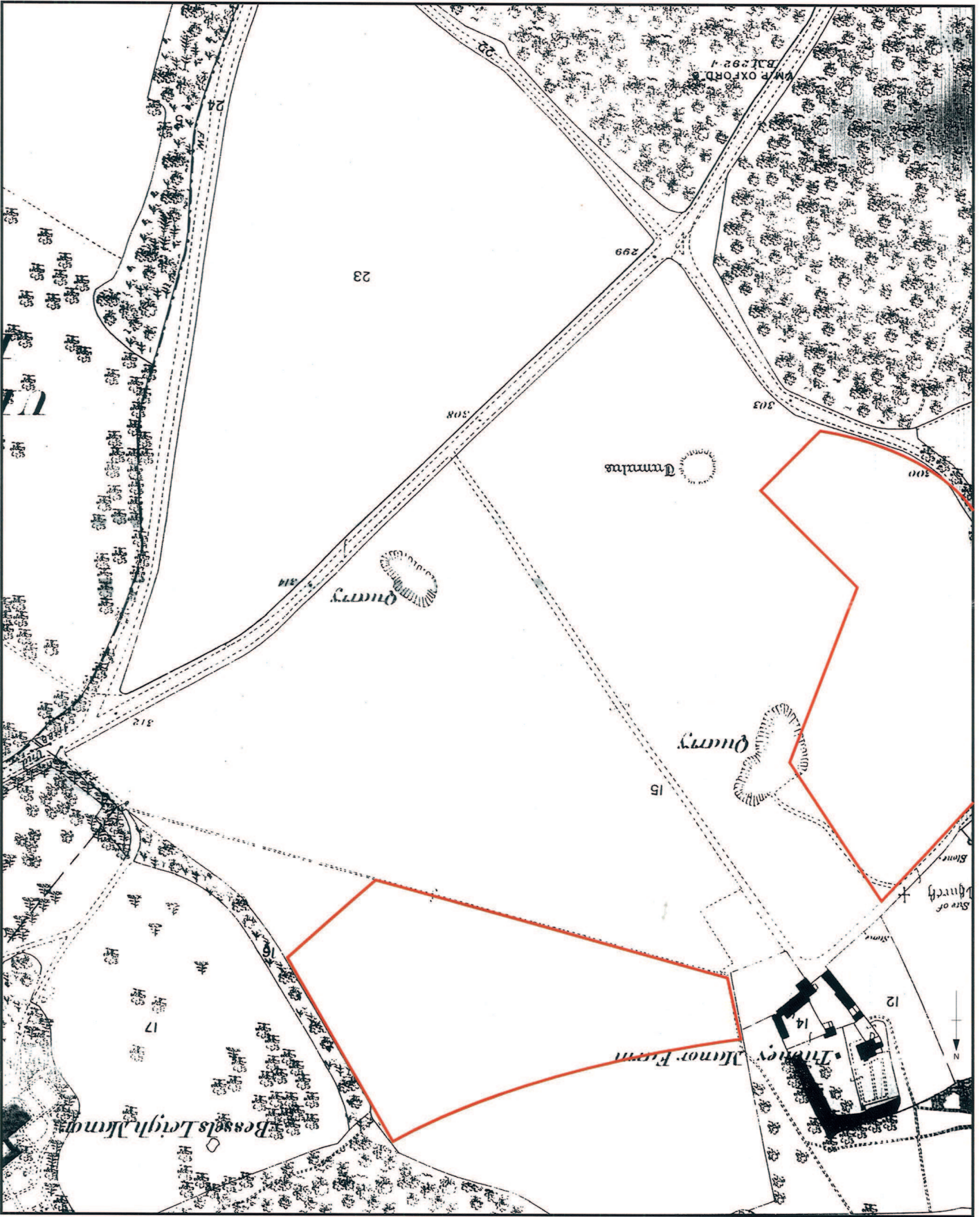


Figure 8: 1st Edition 25" OS, Berks, XXXVIII(B) 1876.

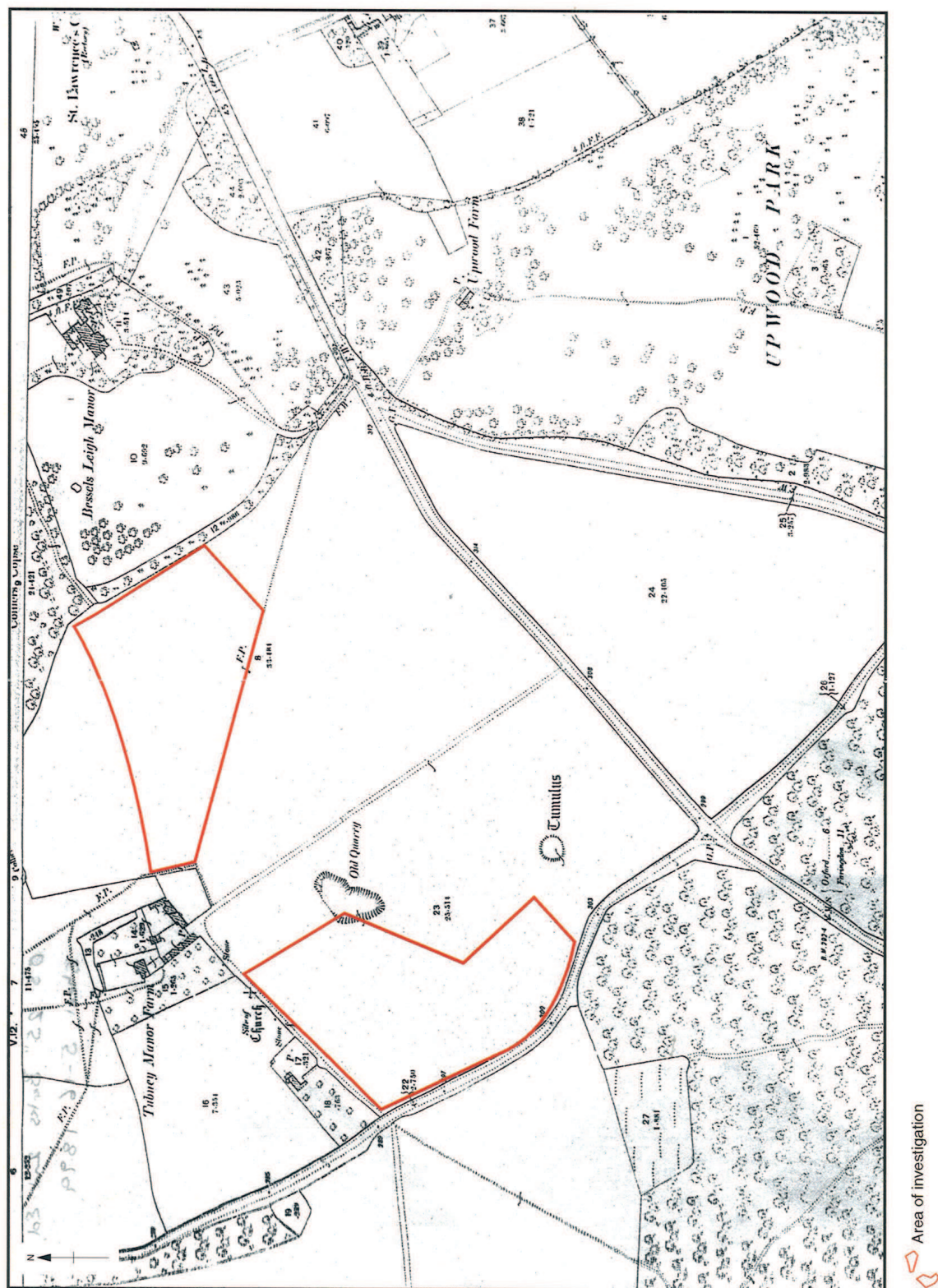


Figure 9: 2nd Edition 6" OS, Berks, sheet 5-16, 1899.

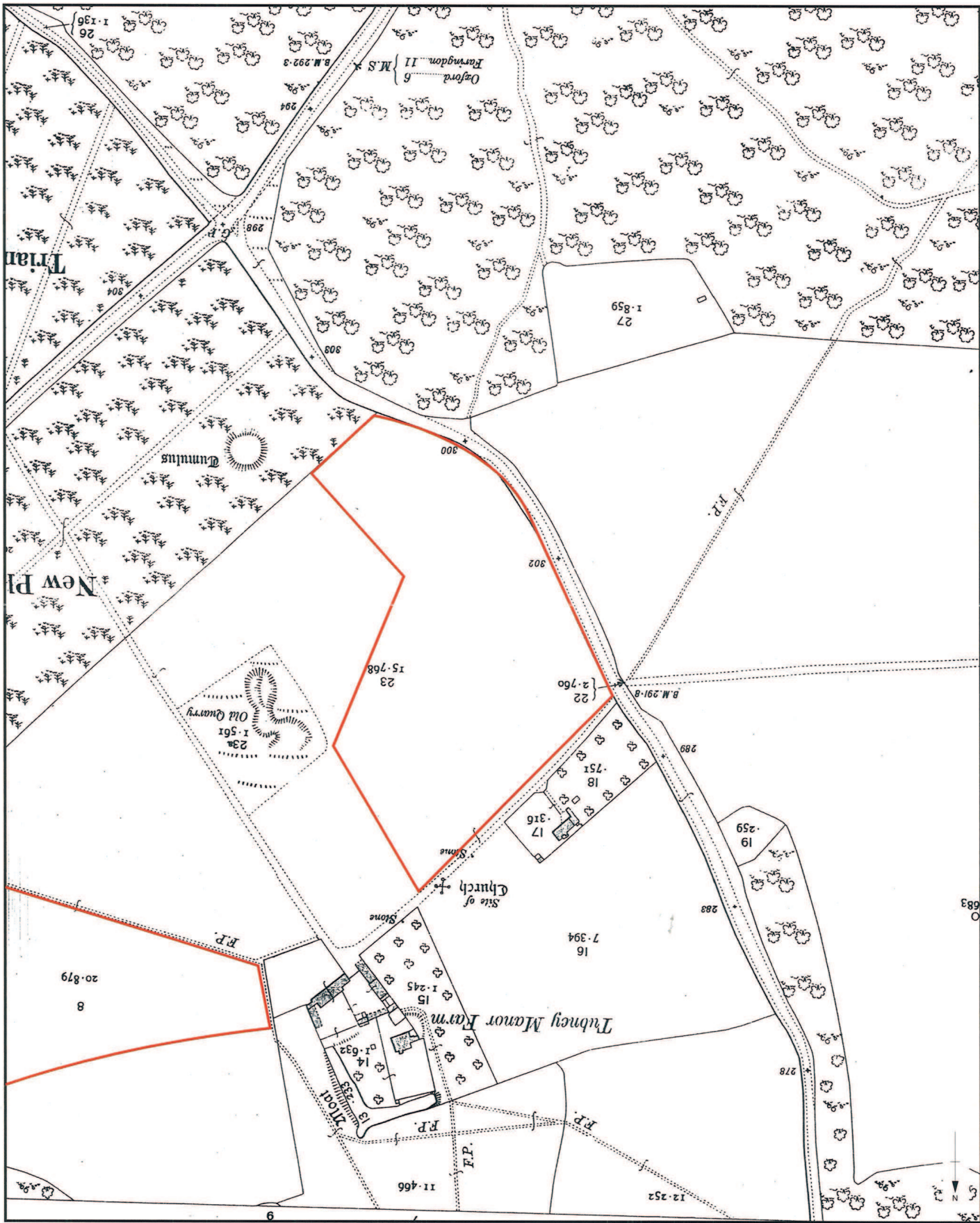
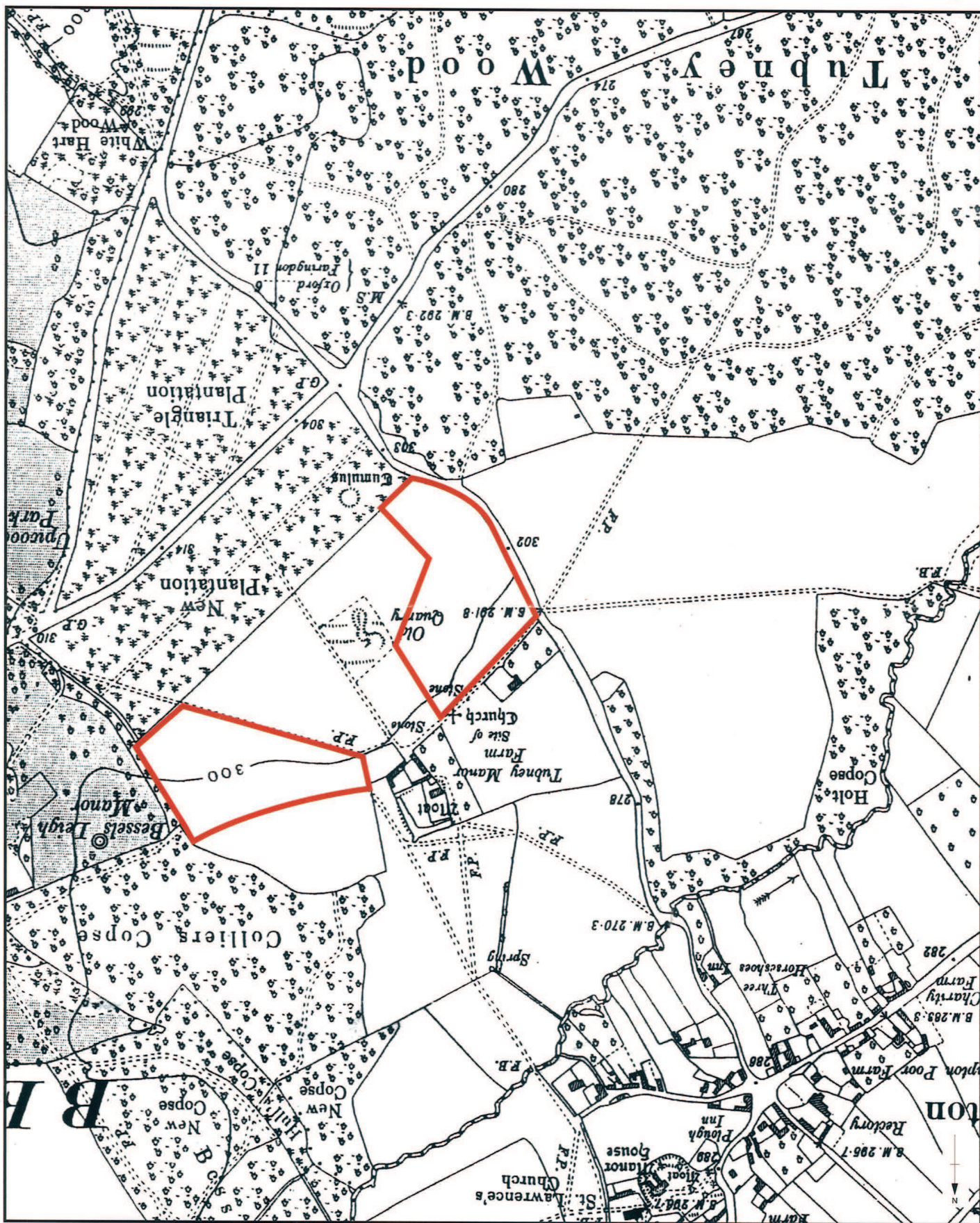


Figure 10: Revised 1st Edition 25" OS, Berks, 1913.

Figure 11: 2nd Revision 6" OS, Berks 38, 1922. (not to scale)

Area of investigation





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