



South Planks Farm, Garstang Road, Myerscough, Lancashire

Archaeological Desk- based Assessment and Walkover Survey



Oxford Archaeology North

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SUMMARY

Natural Retreats have proposed the construction of a holiday resort on land surrounding South Planks Farm, which was historically in the parish of Myerscough, now Myerscough and Bilborrow, and is south of both settlements (centred on NGR SD 5095 3849). The planning application (ref 11/00168/LMAJ) comprises the alteration and extension of existing buildings to form a trailhead, visitor centre with cafe, conference facilities, bike hire centre with ancillary facilities, nine accommodation units, 43 detached holiday lodges and the formation of wildlife lakes and habitat. Lancashire County Archaeological Service (LCAS) has recommended an archaeological desk-based assessment and walkover survey to inform the planning process as to the potential impact of the proposed development on the cultural heritage resources. Natural Retreats commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake the desk-based assessment and walkover survey, which were carried out in April and May 2011.

The study area for the desk-based assessment comprises an area 500m in radius surrounding the proposed development area. The desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER) in Preston, the Lancashire Record Office (LRO) in Preston, and the archives and library held at OA North. In addition to this, a walkover survey was carried out within the boundary of the proposed development, in order to relate the landscape and surroundings to the results of the desk-based assessment, and identify any additional features that would not be procured solely from documentary sources.

The earliest site is the putative route of the Roman road from Preston to Lancaster, which runs through the eastern part of the study area, purportedly to the west of the current A6. The parish of Myerscough was probably part of the forest of Amounderness in the medieval period, with much of this area being enclosed as a park and kept by the Earls of Derby. The land eventually passed to the Duchy of Lancaster, and by the late eighteenth century it was agricultural in use with three farms occupying the proposed development area. Numerous pits for sand and marl extraction are shown on the historic maps from the nineteenth century onwards, and part of the site has been quarried for sand in the last 20 years.

In total, 60 sites were identified within the study area. Sites **01-10** were identified from the HER and the remaining 50 sites (Sites **11-60**) were identified during the map regression and walkover survey. Three of the sites were Grade II listed (Sites **05**, **06** and **07**).

Together with the Roman road (Site **08**), the earliest sites in the study area are two possible medieval findspots retrieved during metal detecting (Sites **09** and **10**). Fifty-three of the sites are post-medieval in date, and comprise: former field boundaries, lynchets and lanes (Sites **11-14**, **17**, **19**, **27**, **31-32**, **35**, **40**, **43** and **56-60**); former farms and associated farm buildings (Sites **01**, **48-50**, **52** and **55**); a culvert (Site **51**); marl and sand pits and extraction areas (Sites **16**, **18**, **24-6**, **28**, **33-4**, **36-9**, **41-2**, **45-7** and **53-4**); gate posts (Sites **20-1** and **29-30**); a well (Site **02**); canal bridges (Sites **06** and **07**); a milestone (Site **05**); a former smithy (Site **04**); and a former kiln (Site **03**). The remaining four sites were industrial/modern in date, comprising a concrete slab (Site **44**), marker posts (Sites **22** and **23**) and a boundary (Site **15**).

Fifty-two of the sites (Sites **01-02**, **08**, **11-35** and **37-60**) are located within the proposed development area, and the remaining eight (Sites **03-07**, **09-10** and **36**), including the three listed buildings, within the wider study area.

Of the fifty-two sites, three (Sites **52**, **53** and **54**) are within an area of a modern quarry and, therefore, will have already been destroyed. The current client drawings indicate that Sites **16-17**, **25-26**, **33-34**, **37** and **45** are being retained within the proposed resort. The majority of the sites potentially impacted by the proposed development are considered to be of low importance and, therefore, no archaeological mitigation is recommended in advance of the development.

However, archaeological mitigation, all of which should be agreed in advance with LCAS, has been recommended with regard to Sites **01**, **08**, **20-23**, **29-30**, **32**, **35**, **48-50** and **55**. The route of the Roman road (Site **08**) is uncertain but is believed to lie somewhere within the eastern side of the study area, and so it is possible that the road, or features relating to it, may be located within the proposed development area. It is, therefore, recommended that a geophysical survey, specifically magnetometry, is carried out across the area proposed for the new resort buildings, which is the area of the highest impact on potential below ground remains. This should be followed by a programme of targeted trial trenching on features of potential identified in the survey results.

Trial trenching has also been recommended for the site of the two buildings south of South Planks (Site **01**), identified on a map from 1833 but demolished by the time of the Ordnance Survey first edition map of 1847, together with the site of a farm named Blackfields (Site **55**), identified on the 1847 map, but demolished by the time of the Ordnance Survey 1893 map. As these sites have remained undeveloped since the buildings were demolished it is thought that there is high potential for the remains of the farm buildings to survive below ground. Trenching has therefore been recommended for the site of the farm buildings and two parts of an enclosure around Blackfields identified by the walkover survey (Sites **32** and **35**). In addition, the larger, more upstanding, field boundaries (i.e. Site **12**) earmarked for removal should also be considered, together with any area of impact of the green lane (Site **13**).

The buildings that comprise South Planks Farm (Sites **48-50**) should be the subject of a building survey prior to any alterations taking place. In addition, there are four gate posts (Sites **20-21** and **29-30**) and two marker posts (Sites **22** and **23**) within the proposed development area that are of historical value, which may be impacted. Where possible, these should be retained, otherwise a full record should be made .

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OA North would like to thank Rob Fradley of Natural Retreats for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER) and the staff of the County Record Office in Preston for their assistance with this project.

The desk-based assessment was undertaken by Kathryn Blythe and the walkover survey by Peter Schofield, with the drawings produced by Mark Tidmarsh. The project was managed by Emily Mercer, who also edited the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Natural Retreats have proposed the construction of a holiday resort on land surrounding South Planks Farm, which was historically in the parish of Myerscough, now Myerscough and Bilsborrow, and is south of both settlements. The planning application (ref 11/00168/LMAJ) comprises the alteration and extension of existing buildings to form a trail head, visitor centre with cafe, conference facilities, bike hire centre with ancillary facilities, nine accommodation units, 43 detached holiday lodges and the formation of wildlife lakes and habitat. The Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) has recommended an archaeological desk-based assessment and walkover survey to inform the planning process as to the potential impact of the proposed development on the cultural heritage resource. Natural Retreats commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake the required work, which was carried out in April and May 2011.
- 1.1.2 The desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER) in Preston, the County Record Office in Preston, and the archives and library held at OA North. In addition to this, a walkover survey was carried out over the site of the proposed development, in order to not only relate the landscape and surroundings to the results of the desk-based assessment, but to investigate the potential for further archaeological remains that would not be identified from documentary sources.
- 1.1.3 This report sets out the results of the work in the form of a short document, outlining the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential and significance, and an assessment of the impact of the proposed development. The scheduling criteria employed by the Secretary of State to understand the importance of a site (Annex 1; DCMS 2010) has been used during this assessment to determine the significance of the archaeological resource and any impact.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area is located to the south of Bilsborrow (centred on NGR SD 5095 3849), some 20km to the south of Lancaster. The site is bounded to the west by the Lancaster Canal, and to the south by White Horse Lane. The current A6 runs north/south a short distance from the eastern boundary of the proposed development area, whilst the northern boundary meets agricultural fields (Fig 1).
- 1.2.2 South Planks Farm, on which the focus of the resort will be based, is located in the north-eastern portion of the proposed development area. The north-western portion has been quarried for sand in the last 20 years and is now largely taken up with two large lakes. Other smaller lakes and ponds are located across the site, several of which started out as marl or sand pits. The remaining land is currently agricultural and is defined as post-medieval enclosure, that is land

enclosed in a piecemeal fashion between 1600 and 1850, by the Lancashire County Council Historic Landscape Characterisation Programme (Ede with Darlington 2002, 106). The area is low lying at approximately 20-25m AOD.

- 1.2.3 The solid geology of the area consists of triassic rock (undifferentiated) comprising sandstone and conglomerate interbedded, overlain by glacial till. The numerous sand and marl pits in the area attest to the overlying deposits possibly as a result of the proximity of the site to the course of the river Brock, the old course of which runs to the immediate north of the study area (<http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/GeoIndex/default.aspx>).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 The desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the relevant IfA and English Heritage guidelines (Institute for Archaeologists 2008, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments*; Institute for Archaeologists 2010 *Code of Conduct*; English Heritage 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE)) and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 The aim of the desk-based assessment is not only to give consideration to the potential for archaeological remains on the development site, but also to put the site into its archaeological and historical context. All statutory and non-statutory sites within a 500m radius of the development site were identified and collated into a gazetteer (*Section 4*) and their location plotted on Figure 2. The principal sources of information consulted were historical and modern maps of the study area, although published and unpublished secondary sources were also reviewed. The study has focused on the proposed development area, although information from the immediate environs has been summarised in order to place the results of the assessment into context. The results were analysed using the set of criteria used to assess the national importance of an ancient monument (DCMS 2010).

2.2.2 **Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER):** the HER (known formerly as the Sites and Monuments Record), maintained by Lancashire County Council in Preston, holds records of archaeological sites within the county, and is held as both paper and digital information (database and GIS combined). A record, including grid reference and description, was obtained for the various sites within the defined study area, which were then added to a gazetteer (*Section 4*).

2.2.3 **Lancashire County Record Office, Preston (LRO):** the LRO in Preston was visited to consult historic maps of the study area, including the tithe map and relevant Ordnance Survey (OS) maps. A search was also made for any relevant historical documentation. Several secondary sources and archaeological or historical journals were also consulted, and the results of this have been incorporated into the historical background (*Section 3*).

2.2.4 **Oxford Archaeology North:** 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 WALKOVER SURVEY

2.3.1 A walkover survey of the site was undertaken on Thursday 28th April 2011, to relate the existing topography and land use with the results of the desk-based assessment, as well as to search for any additional sites of archaeological potential that would not be identified through documentary sources (Plates 1-16). The walkover survey also allowed an understanding of areas of impact by the proposed development, as well as areas of more recent disturbance that may affect the potential for the survival of archaeological deposits.

2.4 ARCHIVE

2.4.1 Copies of this desk-based assessment, including digital copies of the walkover survey photographs, will be deposited with the Lancashire HER for reference purposes.

3. 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 – 4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 – 2,500 BC
Bronze Age	2,500 – 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 BACKGROUND

3.2.1 **Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic Periods:** the prehistory of Lancashire is largely non-monumental in character, and is predominantly represented by finds of lithics and metalwork, made either by chance or during systematic surveys (Middleton *et al* 1995, 17). Scatters of lithic material recovered from ploughsoil constitute the commonest evidence for settlement in the period. Palaeolithic finds from Lancashire are limited, but the Mesolithic is better represented, with large numbers of upland sites, and an increasing body of lowland sites, particularly adjacent to wet mire, alluvial, and coastal deposits (Cowell 1996, 30). For the Neolithic, the distribution of lithics suggests that settlement was concentrated in the lowlands, mainly around the coasts and in the river valleys; in particular, the early farming communities seem to have sought out areas of gravel within a landscape predominantly covered with boulder clay (Middleton 1996, 40).

3.2.2 There are no known sites for these periods within the study area.

3.2.3 **Bronze Age Period:** a great increase in the variety and geographical spread of finds in the Bronze Age probably indicates a more extensive use of the landscape (*op cit*, 54). Finds of metalwork are concentrated in the lowlands,

particularly in the wetlands, although this may reflect depositional practices, rather than the location of settlements (*op cit*, 45); conversely, finds of axe hammers and other perforated stone implements, which are relatively common in north Lancashire, tend to be found in 'dry land' locations, evenly spread across the landscape. One axe hammer was recovered from Sandhole Wood, near Claughton Hall, c 3.8km north-east of the study area (HER PRN 119), and appears to have been associated with a cremation which formed the primary burial within a tumulus. A second axe hammer is noted in the HER as within grid square SD 54 SW, to the north of the study area (HER PRN 116). In addition, there is a considerable body of evidence for Bronze Age burial monuments in the wider area, dating to the period 2500-1600BC. Many of these lie in upland areas, such as The Bleasedale Circle (SM 23749; NGR SD 5771 4599), an enclosed urnfield, which lies some 9.9km to the north-west of the study area at c 200m OD.

3.2.4 There are no known sites for this period within the study area.

3.2.5 **Late Bronze Age and Iron Age Period:** artefactual evidence declined sharply after c 1400BC, and the development of blanket peats in the uplands and raised mires in the lowlands suggests that this may have been indicative of a genuine abandonment of some parts of the landscape (Middleton 1996, 55). Evidence for the Iron Age in lowland Lancashire is notoriously scarce, indeed very little is known about the nature of material culture and settlement in northern England generally (Cunliffe 1991, 101; Hodgson and Brennan 2006, 51); in part this is regarded as being a product of poor site visibility, with Iron Age pottery being relatively fragile, the boulder clay soils which cover much of the region not favouring aerial photographic or geophysical prospection, and the predominance of pastoral farming meaning that finds have less chance of being turned up by ploughing (Middleton *et al* 1995, 19). The contrast of limited artefactual evidence with substantial evidence for prolonged clearance in pollen diagrams suggests that the number of known archaeological sites of the period grossly under-represents actual settlement activity, and that many sites remain to be detected (Haselgrove 1996, 64).

3.2.6 There are no known sites for this period within the study area.

3.2.7 **Roman Period:** a Roman military presence in the region is clearly attested by the forts of Kirkham and Ribchester, c 10.5km to the south-west and c 14.6km south-east of the subject site respectively; by the extensive first to third century site at Walton-le-Dale, c 11km to the south, which appeared to be involved in part with the manufacture and distribution of goods; and by the fort at Lancaster, c 23km to the north (Shotter 1997). Sections of a Roman Road leading from Walton-le-Dale to Lancaster have been identified on the ground, predominantly through topographic study and the examination of aerial photographs, and its probable course runs through the eastern portion of the study area (Site 08), to the west of the A6 (<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/historichighways/roman2.asp>). The nearest excavated evidence for the road comes from archaeological work in advance of a pipeline in the vicinity of Bradley Hill Farm c 2.7km to the north west of the current study area (SD 50322 41888). A cambered surface and associated ditch were found at the site (*ibid*).

- 3.2.8 The rural non-military archaeology of the Roman period remains elusive over much of northern Lancashire (Middleton *et al* 1995, 19), and few farms or rural settlements have been discovered. However, one recent example in the wider area was the excavation in 2003 of a late prehistoric/Romano-British farmstead at Barker House Farm, Lancaster University (centred at SD 4836 5694, c 17.5m to the north of the study area) (OA North 2004). The main focus of the excavation comprised a group of features located on top of a low promontory in the east of the site at 42m AOD, overlooking the river Conder. A combination of a few cultural indicators and radiocarbon dating identified this site as being active in the first to early fourth centuries AD. The main elements comprised the remains of a roundhouse, a circular enclosure, and associated linear arrangements of postholes interpreted as fence lines (*ibid*).
- 3.2.9 A Roman coin hoard was discovered in Myerscough Park, c 190m to the north-west of the study area, in the seventeenth century, but has since been lost (OA North 2002). The proximity of the road (Site **08**) to the proposed development area raises the potential for Roman sites in this area.
- 3.2.10 **Early Medieval Period:** evidence for early medieval activity is limited throughout northern Lancashire; few artefacts of the period have been recovered, and there is almost no archaeological evidence for settlement. However, it is likely that the rural settlements of the Roman period either continued or declined gradually, and by the end of the period, considerable densities of Scandinavian place names imply that a large number of settlements were in existence, either newly founded, or renamed (Newman 1996, 103). To the north of the study area, Catteral and Garstang are thought to be derived from Scandinavian names and may represent settlement in the lowland area flanking the river Wyre. It has also been suggested that Garstang represented the meeting place for the Scandinavian community in the Fylde (Kenyon 1991, 134-5). Settlement can also be inferred from the presence in the vicinity of a Scandinavian burial and hoard. The burial was found at Sandhole Wood near Claughton Hall, c 3.8km north-east of the study area, and took the form of a secondary interment within a Bronze Age tumulus (HER PRN 119). Several weapons were found, as well as a pair of 'tortoise' brooches of tenth century date, and a third brooch, a converted Carolingian baldric mount (Kenyon 1991, 124). In addition, one of the most significant British coin hoards of Scandinavian date, the Cuerdale Hoard, was found c 10km south-west of the study area, and is usually interpreted as either the pay chest of a war band, or a political payment (Newman 1996, 103).
- 3.2.11 There are no known sites for these periods within the study area.
- 3.2.12 **Late Medieval Period:** Myerscough does not appear in the Domesday Book and it is uncertain which township it was a part of at this time (Farrer and Brownbill 1912, 138-9). However, it appears to have initially been within the forest of Amounderness, and later became part of the forest of Lancaster (*ibid*). By 1297 the forest of Myerscough was worth 20s. a year to the Earl of Lancaster. The park was kept by the Earls of Derby, and in 1536 the park was described as '*a great park partly enclosed with a hedge, partly (all on the moor side) with a pale. On the right it is replenished with red deer. The Earl of Derby hath it in farm of the king*' (*op cit*, 139). It is unclear exactly where the boundaries of the park were, but towards the south extent of the parish and

- south of the study area ‘Park Head Bridge’ and two farms ‘Higher Park Head’ and ‘Lower Park Head’, might suggest that the study area was within the park.
- 3.2.13 By the late sixteenth century the park was owned by the Tyldesleys of Wardley and in the early seventeenth century it was kept by the Morleys, who lived at Myerscough Lodge, to the north of the study area. In 1620 the Morleys had a licence to enclose 90 acres of outwood at Myerscough. In 1643 the estate was sequestered, after which it became part of the Duchy of Lancaster estate. By the mid-eighteenth century the lodge had been sold, after which it was used as a farm before being demolished in 1888 (*op cit* 139-40).
- 3.2.14 There are two sites within the study area for this period (Sites **09** and **10**), both are findspots for artefacts found by a metal detector. Site **09** is a possible part of a bridle and Site **10** is a possible part of a hat pin.
- 3.2.15 **Post-medieval, Industrial and Modern Periods:** by the post-medieval period Myerscough was a small parish, and the study area was taken up by several farms. An examination of trade directories lists a Robert Billington as farmer at Head Nook in 1864, but neither Blackfields or South Planks is noted (Kelly, 1864). By 1917 the farmer at Head Nook was John Bargh and there were two farmers at South Planks, Alfred Dixon, who is noted as also being a shopkeeper, and John Gornall (Barrett and Co. 1917, 669-70). An examination of maps of this area from 1786 to the present day (*see Section 3.3*) indicates that the study area continued to be predominantly agricultural in use until the end of the twentieth century, when the north-western portion of the proposed development area was quarried for sand.
- 3.2.16 A significant change to the area was made at the end of the eighteenth century with the construction of the Lancaster Canal, which forms the western boundary of the study area. The Preston and Lancaster Railway (later the London and North Western Railway) line was then constructed a short distance to the east of the study area in 1840 and there was a station at Brock, to the north of the study area, which would have served those living in the Myerscough area. The identification of two boundary marker posts (Sites **22** and **23**) during the walkover survey on the eastern side of the canal would suggest that there were plans to construct an additional line, possibly across the proposed development site meeting up with the present Preston to Lancaster Railway.
- 3.2.17 Fifty-three of the gazetteer sites are post-medieval in date, and comprise former field boundaries, lynchets and lanes (Sites **11-14**, **17**, **19**, **27**, **31-32**, **35**, **40**, **43** and **56-60**); former farms and associated farm buildings (Sites **01**, **48-50**, **52** and **55**); a culvert (Site **51**); marl and sand pits and extraction areas (Sites **16**, **18**, **24-6**, **28**, **33-4**, **36-9**, **41-2**, **45-7** and **53-4**); gate posts (Sites **20-1** and **29-30**); a well (Site **02**); canal bridges (Sites **06** and **07**); a milestone (Site **05**); a former smithy (Site **04**); and a former kiln (Site **03**). Including the boundary marker posts, four further sites were modern in date, including a concrete slab (Site **44**), and a boundary (Site **15**).

3.3 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 3.3.1 **Introduction:** a number of cartographic sources were examined at the LRO, together with some held at OA North's offices and aerial photos available from Lancashire County Council's MARIO website.
- 3.3.1 **William Yates' map, 1786 (Fig 3):** this county map is small scale, and therefore contains a limited amount of information about the area at this time. The proposed development area is easily identifiable, however, as its southern border, White Horse Lane, is clearly depicted, as is Moss Lane, which runs east/west to the north-west of the proposed development area. The north/south aligned road on the east side of the site (now the A6) is also depicted. Several buildings are depicted within or in the immediate vicinity of this area, with one 'Head Nook' (Site 52) named, as well as depictions of buildings at 'Blackfields' (Site 55) and 'South Planks' (Site 48), as they are named on later mapping .
- 3.3.2 **Hennet's map, 1830 (Fig 4):** as with Yates' 1786 map, this is a small-scale county map and is limited in detail. The most significant change to this map from Yates' map is the depiction of the Lancaster Canal, which now forms the western boundary of the proposed development area. As with Yates' map, several buildings are depicted within the vicinity of the proposed development area, but only Head Nook (Site 52) is named.
- 3.3.3 **Commissioner's Award, 1833 (LRO AT/2) (Fig 5):** this map shows much more detail of the study area, and shows that the proposed development area was taken up with agricultural fields at this time. Head Nook (Site 52) is depicted in the north-western portion of the proposed development area as comprising three distinct buildings. A track (Site 17) heads south from Head Nook for a short distance before it terminates at the canal. This track was depicted on Yates' map as joining with White Horse Lane to the south and, therefore, the construction of the canal had left it redundant. Two buildings are depicted towards the southern extent of the proposed development area (named Blackfields on the OS first edition of 1847 (Site 55)). This farm has a short track linking it to White Horse Lane to the south. South Planks is depicted as two buildings (Sites 48 and 49) on either side of a lane (Site 13). In addition, there are two buildings to the south of the farm (Site 01). The award lists all the land within the proposed development area as being owned by the Duke of Lancaster, with the occupiers listed as John Catterall at Head Nook and Richard Critchley at South Planks and Blackfields. The award does not give any detail of the buildings or any field names.
- 3.3.4 **Ordnance Survey, First Edition, 6" to 1 mile, 1847 (Fig 6):** this map is very similar to the Commissioner's Award, with some additional detail, including labelled sites and buildings. A sand pit (Site 53) is marked to the south of Head Nook. A track leads northwards from Head Nook and splits into two with one track heading north-westwards to cross the railway and the other leading north-eastwards to Planks Farm. Blackfields (Site 55) has a possible track heading north (Site 40) to link with an east/west lane (Site 13) on the west side of South Planks (Site 48). The two buildings depicted to the south of South Planks Farm on the Commissioner's Award (Fig 5; Site 01) have been demolished and an orchard is now shown in this area. A well (Site 02) is

marked a short distance to the west of South Planks. A number of other sites were added to the gazetteer from this map including: field boundaries (Sites **11**, **12**, **14**, **19**, **27**, **31**, **40**, **43** and **56-60**); pits (Sites **16**, **18**, **24-26**, **28**, **33-34**, **36-38**, **45** and **54**); and an aqueduct or culvert (Site **51**).

- 3.3.5 **Ordnance Survey First Edition, 25" to 1 mile, 1893 (Fig 7)**: this map is very similar to the 1847 map, with the most significant change to the area being that the farm at Blackfields (Site **55**) has been demolished. Also, no longer extant by this time were the sandpit (Site **53**) to the south of Head Nook (Site **52**), two field boundaries (Sites **58** and **59**) to the north of South Planks (named Myerscough Planks on this map (Site **48**)), and the orchard (which replaced Site **01**) to the south of South Planks (Site **48**).
- 3.3.6 **Ordnance Survey, 6" to 1 mile, 1914 (Fig 8)**: this map is very similar to the 1893 map, with two more field boundaries (Sites **56** and **57**) to the north of South Planks having been removed by this time. The layout of South Planks (Site **48**) appears to have changed by this time, with an additional rectangular building being depicted to the south-west of the farmhouse.
- 3.3.7 **Ordnance Survey, 25" to 1 mile, 1932 (Fig 9)**: this map is very similar to the 1914 map, however it shows further detail of the buildings at South Planks. The rectangular building noted on the 1914 map had gone out of use by this time. The farm now comprised three main buildings around a small courtyard, through which the east/west lane (Site **13**) ran.
- 3.3.8 **1940s, 1960s and recent aerial photograph coverage (<http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/agsmario/default.aspx>)**: vertical black and white photographs from the 1940s and 1960s, that covered the whole of the study area, were consulted. No additional sites were added to the gazetteer.
- 3.3.9 **Ordnance Survey, 6" to 1 mile, 1990 (Fig 10)**: this map is very similar to the 1914 map, the only notable change being the addition of a square building to the south-west of the farmhouse at South Planks (Site **48**).
- 3.3.10 **Current OS mapping (Fig 2)**: the current map shows significant changes to the north-west area of the proposed development site with the area having been quarried. This has removed Head Nook Farm (Site **52**) and surrounding field boundaries; the site of the sand pit to its south (Site **53**); and a pit to its east (Site **54**). These areas are now taken up with several large lakes including a former marl pit (Site **26**). The quarry is bounded to the north and east by a track linking it to the A6.

3.4 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

- 3.4.1 There is no record of any previous archaeological work within the study area. To the north of the study area, however, a desk-based assessment was carried out by OA North in 2002 in advance of the Barton Grange Marina development (OA North 2002). The assessment highlighted the potential for Roman remains due to its proximity to the putative line of the Roman road. However, no further archaeological work was carried out at the site.

3.5 WALKOVER SURVEY

- 3.5.1 A walkover survey of the site was undertaken on Thursday 28th April 2011 (Plates 1-16). The HER sites within the proposed development area were visited (Sites **01** and **02**). Site **01** was recorded in the HER as earthworks possibly relating to a former homestead. Two buildings are noted in this area on the 1833 map (Fig 5). However, the walkover survey only noted earthworks consistent with the site of an orchard and field boundaries, which are shown on the OS first edition map (Fig 6) on the site of the earlier buildings (Plate 1). No evidence for Site **02**, a well marked on the OS first edition map, was identified by the walkover survey.
- 3.5.2 As a result of the walkover survey, 36 new sites (Sites **12-13**, **15-30**, **32-39**, **41-42** and **44-51**) were identified, some of which can also be observed on the OS first edition map (1847), which comprise field boundaries and green lanes (Sites **12-13**, **17**, **19** and **27**; Plates 2-5); marl pits (Sites **16**, **18**, **24-26**, **28**, **33-34**, **36-38** and **45**); farm buildings (Sites **48** and **49**; Plates 12-14); and a culvert (Site **51**; Plate 16). Additional new sites include buildings or features associated with South Planks Farm (Sites **44** and **50**); gate posts (Sites **20-21**; Plates 4 and 5; and Sites **29-30**; Plates 9 and 10); marker posts (Sites **22** and **23**; Plates 6 and 7); lynchets (Sites **32** and **35**; Plate 11); pits and extraction areas (Sites **39**, **41-42** and **46-47**); and a modern boundary (Site **15**). All of the sites identified were of the post-medieval/industrial period, apart from a concrete pad, possibly for a building at South Planks (Site **44**); and a modern boundary (Site **15**).

4. GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site number	01
Site name	Earthworks, South Planks, Myerscough
NGR	351150 438650
HER No	PRN3286
Designation	None
Site type	Earthworks
Period	Post-medieval?
Sources	HER, Walkover Survey, Commissioner's Award, 1833 (LRO AT/2)
Description	The HER record notes that aerial photographs show earthworks in the field centered on SD 5115 3869, which appear to be drainage or old field boundaries, but could be the remains of an earlier ploughed-out homestead (Plate 1). Two buildings are noted in this area on the 1833 Commissioner's Award (LRO AT/2; Fig 5). However, the walkover survey only noted earthworks consistent with the site of an orchard and field boundaries, which are shown on the OS first edition map of 1847 (Fig 6) on the site of the earlier buildings. The HER also notes a curving length of bank visible at SD 5115 3888, which reappears at SD 5125 3862 and may be the edge of an old stream course.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	02
Site name	Well, near South Planks
NGR	350980 438780
HER No	PRN5968
Designation	None
Site type	Well (Site of)
Period	Post-medieval?
Sources	HER, Walkover Survey
Description	This well near South Planks, is shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, but not on later maps. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the well.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	03
Site name	Brick pit and tile kiln, South Planks, Myerscough
NGR	351310 438920
HER No	PRN5969
Designation	None
Site type	Brick pit and tile kiln
Period	Post-medieval?
Sources	HER
Description	Brick pit and tile kiln shown on the OS first edition map of 1847.
Assessment	The site is outwith the proposed development area and will not be impacted by it.

Site number	04
Site name	Smithy, near the White Horse Hotel
NGR	35140 43832
HER No	PRN5970
Designation	None
Site type	Smithy
Period	Post-medieval?
Sources	HER
Description	This smithy is shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, but not on the current sheet, although the hotel is still extant.

Assessment The site is outwith the proposed development area and will not be impacted by it.

Site number 05
Site name Milestone on west side of Garstang Road
NGR 351412 438342
HER No PRN13897
Designation Listed Building (II) - 185855
Site type Milestone
Period Post Medieval
Sources HER
Description Two sides to the road lettered in cursive script: "To/Garstang/4 3/4/Miles" and "To/Preston/6/Miles". The milestone was erected by the Preston and Garstang Turnpike Trust, established in 1751. It is one of ten such milestones in an unbroken sequence.
Assessment The site is outwith the proposed development area and will not be impacted by it.

Site number 06
Site name Head Nook Bridge, Myerscough
NGR 350350 439040
HER No PRN16618
Designation Listed Building (II) - 185543
Site type Canal Bridge
Period Post-medieval
Sources HER
Description Bridge over Lancaster Canal, opened 1797, engineer John Rennie. Squared sandstone blocks. Single elliptical arch with stepped keystone. Band below solid parapet with rounded top.
Assessment The site is outwith the proposed development area and will not be impacted by it.

Site number 07
Site name White Horse Bridge, White Horse Lane, Myerscough
NGR 350777 438176
HER No PRN16622
Designation Listed Building (II) - 185547
Site type Canal Bridge
Period Post-medieval
Sources HER
Description Bridge over Lancaster Canal, opened 1797, Engineer John Rennie. Square sandstone blocks. Single elliptical arch with stepped keystone. Band below solid parapet with rounded top.
Assessment The site is outwith the proposed development area and will not be impacted by it.

Site number 08
Site name Roman Road 70d, Preston to Lancaster
NGR 350807 445865
HER No PRN26146
Designation None
Site type Roman Road
Period Roman
Sources HER
Description Preston to Lancaster Roman road. The course of the road from Preston to Galgate is described as probable and from Galgate to Lancaster as certain. In

Assessment September 2002 an assessment was carried out by OA North in response to a proposal for a marina and garden centre at Bilsborrow. The assessment demonstrated the probable course of a Roman road across the assessment study area. Further north, the Roman road (HER 18973) was observed to the south of Garstang (SD 50322 41888) at Bradley Hill Farm during archaeological work in advance of a pipeline. A cambered surface and the eastern agger ditch were located in the excavated trenches, although it was in a relatively poor state of preservation due to modern disturbance. A single sherd of probable Black Burnished Ware pottery was associated with the surface of the road.

The putative line of the Roman road lies to the east of the proposed development area. However, the line of the road through this area is not certain and, therefore, it is possible that the road or features associated with it may be within the proposed development area.

Site number 09
Site name Findspot, Bilsborrow
NGR 3510 4390
HER No PRN31978
Designation None
Site type Findspot
Period Medieval/post-medieval
Sources HER
Description Cast copper-alloy (or iron with copper-alloy coating) object which may have been part of a bridle/harness fitting. Found by a metal-detectorist in 2005.
Assessment The site is outwith the proposed development area and will not be impacted by it.

Site number 10
Site name Findspot, Bilsborrow
NGR 3510 4390
HER No PRN31979
Designation None
Site type Findspot
Period Medieval/post-medieval
Sources HER
Description Unidentified object which may have been the head of a (hat?) pin. Found by a metal-detectorist in 2005.
Assessment The site is outwith the proposed development area and will not be impacted by it.

Site number 11
Site Former field boundary, south of South Planks Farm
NGR SD 50997 38737
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Field boundary (Site of)
Period Post-medieval
Sources OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description A field boundary shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned east/west and located to the south of South Planks Farm. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the boundary.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	12
Site	Former field boundary, north-west of South Planks Farm
NGR	351020 438903
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Former field boundary
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description	The fragmentary remains of a linear field boundary shown on the OS first edition map of 1847 to the north-west of South Planks Farm. It is oriented roughly north/south and is visible in two sections, each measuring up to 2.5m wide and 0.8m high (Plate 2).
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	13
Site	Green lane, west of South Planks Farm
NGR	351035 438792
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Green lane
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description	A green lane shown on the OS first edition map of 1847 set between two field banks, located on the west side of South Planks Farm. The lane is slightly sunken in the centre and the field banks contain mature trees (Plate 3).
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	14
Site	Former field boundary, south of South Planks Farm
NGR	SD 51001 38704
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Field boundary (Site of)
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	A field boundary shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned east/west and located to the south of South Planks Farm. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the boundary.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	15
Site	Hedged boundary adjacent to the canal
NGR	350347 438944
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Boundary
Period	Modern
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	Short linear section of hedged boundary adjacent to the western edge of the canal, the only section surviving on the edge of the former quarry. The boundary measures 10m x 1m and is aligned east/west.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	16
Site	Marl pit, south of former Head Nook Farm
NGR	350552 438569
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Marl pit
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description	An amorphous marl pit, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, now filled with water.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area but current development proposals show it as being retained.

Site number	17
Site	Green lane, south of former Head Nook Farm
NGR	350615 438374
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Green lane
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description	A green lane, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, heading south from Head Nook. The lane has now been truncated by quarrying in the area of Head Nook at its north end and by the canal at its south end. The lane is sunken by c 1.5m and lies between two field banks containing some mature trees (Plates 4 and 5).
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area but current development proposals show it as being retained.

Site number	18
Site	Marl pits, south of former Head Nook Farm
NGR	350521 438545
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Marl pits
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description	A pair of sub-oval marl pits, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, the eastern of which is now filled with water.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	19
Site	Hedged boundary, south of former Head Nook Farm
NGR	350595 438467
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Hedged boundary
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description	A section of hedged boundary shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, which straddles a green lane (Site 17). The boundary runs east/west and then dog-legs to the south along the green lane.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	20
Site	Gate posts, south of former Head Nook Farm
NGR	350561 438479
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Gate posts
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	A pair of carved, quarried stone gate posts (Plate 4) situated on green lane, Site 17 .
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	21
Site	Gate post, south of former Head Nook Farm
NGR	350643 438298
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Gate posts
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	A single quarried stone gate post (Plate 5) situated at the southern extent of green lane, Site 17 .
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	22
Site	Marker post, south of former Head Nook Farm
NGR	350698 438290
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Marker post
Period	Industrial/Modern
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	A boundary marker post in cast iron, measuring 0.25m wide x 0.2m deep x 0.6m high. It is T-shaped in plan, with a curved top and the front face is inscribed 'L & NW RLY Co' (Plates 6 and 7). This is one of two markers (see also Site 23), which appear to represent a possible easement owned by the railway but never used, as the railway is located further east of the study area. The London and North Western Railway was merged in 1923, therefore these markers must pre-date 1923 (http://www.lnwrs.org.uk/history01.php).
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	23
Site	Marker post, north of White Horse Bridge
NGR	350766 438215
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Marker post
Period	Industrial/Modern
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	A boundary marker post in cast iron, measuring 0.25m wide x 0.2m deep x 0.4m high. It is T-shaped in plan, with a curved top and the front face is inscribed 'L & NW RLY Co'. This is one of two markers (see also Site 22 , Plates 6 and 7), which appear to represent a possible easement owned by the railway but never used, as the railway is located further east of the study area. The London and North Western Railway was merged in 1923, therefore these markers must pre-date 1923 (http://www.lnwrs.org.uk/history01.php).
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 24
Site Marl Pit
NGR 350759 438334
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Marl Pit
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description A semi-circular marl pit, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, on the west side of an existing field boundary. The pit is now filled with water.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 25
Site Two marl pits
NGR 350743 438418
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Marl Pits
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description Two semi-circular marl pit, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, on the west side of an existing field boundary. The southernmost pit is now filled with water.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area but current development proposals show it as being retained.

Site number 26
Site Marl Pit
NGR 350760 438558
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Marl Pit
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description A sub oval marl pit, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, on the north side of an existing field boundary. The pit is now filled with water.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area but current development proposals show it as being retained.

Site number 27
Site Former field boundary, south of former Blackfields Farm
NGR 350899 438272
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Former field boundary
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description An east/west aligned former field boundary located to the south of the former Blackfields Farm and shown on the OS first edition map of 1847. The western end is the best preserved, measuring 0.5m in height (Plate 8).
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 28
Site **Marl Pit, south of former Blackfields Farm**
NGR 350802 438191
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Marl Pit
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey; OS first edition map of 1847
Description A semi-circular marl pit, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, on the west side of an existing field boundary.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 29
Site **Gate posts, White Horse Lane**
NGR 351030 438174
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Gate posts
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey
Description A pair of quarried stone gate posts (Plate 9), situated on White Horse Lane, with curved tops and linear decoration.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 30
Site **Gate posts, White Horse Lane**
NGR 351053 438182
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Gate posts
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey
Description A pair of quarried stone gate posts (Plate 10), situated on White Horse Lane, with curved tops and linear decoration.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 31
Site **Former field boundary, west of Myerscough Cottage**
NGR 351016 438561
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Field boundary (Site of)
Period Post-medieval
Sources OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description A field boundary shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned east/west and located to the west of Myerscough Cottage. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the boundary.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 32
Site **Lynchet, former Blackfields Farm**
NGR 350949 438317
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Lynchet
Period Post-medieval

Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	A slight lynchet, aligned north/south on the south side of marl pit (Site 33). This possibly represents part of the enclosure for the Blackfields Farm (Site 55).
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	33
Site	Marl pit, north of former Blackfields Farm
NGR	350953 438353
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Pit
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	An amorphous marl pit, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, to the north of Blackfields Farm (Site 55). It is now water filled.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area but current development proposals show it as being retained.

Site number	34
Site	Marl pit, north of former Blackfields Farm
NGR	SD 51016 38353
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Pit
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	An oval marl pit, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, to the north of Blackfields Farm (Site 55). It is now water filled.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area but current development proposals show it as being retained.

Site number	35
Site	Lynchet, former Blackfields Farm
NGR	351016 438321
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Lynchet
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	A slight lynchet, measuring up to 0.5m high (Plate 11), aligned north-west/south-east, and forming part of the eastern boundary of the enclosure for the Blackfields Farm (Site 55).
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	36
Site	Marl pit west of the White Horse Inn
NGR	351242 438207
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Pit
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	Two oval marl pits, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, to the west of the White Horse Inn. The walkover survey noted that this is now one partially infilled pit, currently in use as a garden.

Assessment The site is outwith the proposed development area and will not be impacted by it.

Site number 37
Site Group of two pits north-west of the White Horse Inn
NGR 351211 438376
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Pits
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey; OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description Two amorphous marl pits, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, to the north-west of the White Horse Inn. Both pits are currently water filled.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area but current development proposals show it as being retained.

Site number 38
Site Group of two pits west of Myerscough Cottage
NGR 351172 438579
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Pits
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey; OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description Two sub oval marl pits, shown on the OS first edition map of 1847, to the west of Myerscough Cottage. Both pits are currently water filled.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 39
Site Marl pit, south-west of Myerscough Cottage
NGR 351160 438515
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Marl pit
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey
Description A sub-oval marl pit, not shown on the historic mapping. The pit measures 0.3m x 0.25m x 0.3m deep and is currently dry.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 40
Site Former field boundary/track, south-west of South Planks Farm
NGR 350928 438556
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Field boundary (Site of)
Period Post-medieval
Sources OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description A field boundary or possible track shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned approximately north/south and located to the south-west of South Planks Farm it runs from the western extent of green lane (Site 13) to Blackfields (Site 55). The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for this feature.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 41
Site **Marl pit, north-west of Myerscough Cottage**
NGR 351187 438630
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Marl pit
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey
Description A semi-circular marl pit, not shown on the historic mapping. The pit measures 0.25m x 0.25m x 0.4m deep and is currently dry.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 42
Site **Marl pit, north-west of Myerscough Cottage**
NGR 351186 438711
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Marl pit
Period Post-medieval
Sources Walkover Survey
Description A semi-circular marl pit, not shown on the historic mapping. The pit measures 0.3m x 0.35m x 0.4m deep and is currently dry.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 43
Site **Former field boundary, south of Blackfields**
NGR 350939 438226
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Field boundary (Site of)
Period Post-medieval
Sources OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description A field boundary shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned north/south and located to the south of Blackfields. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the boundary.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 44
Site **Concrete pad, South Planks Farm**
NGR 351116 438744
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Concrete pad
Period Modern
Sources Walkover Survey
Description Rectangular concrete pad, measuring 5m x 4m, located on the south side of South Planks Farm. Possibly a small building platform, or the cover for a septic tank.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number 45
Site **Pit north-west of Myerscough Cottage**
NGR 351034 438685
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Pit

Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	A sub-oval marl pit, shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847. The pit is currently water filled.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area but current development proposals show it as being retained.

Site number	46
Site	Marl pit, north-west of Myerscough Cottage
NGR	351033 438630
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Marl pit
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	A sub-oval marl pit, not shown on the historic mapping. The pit measures 0.3m x 0.3m x 0.4m deep and is currently dry.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	47
Site	Possible extraction area, north of South Planks Farm
NGR	351109 438829
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Possible extraction area
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	A wide area of undulating ground located to the north of South Planks Farm. This may be the result of sand or marl extraction.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	48
Site	Farmhouse and cottage, Myerscough Planks (now South Planks)
NGR	351119 438768
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Building
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Yates' map of 1786; OS first edition 6" map of 1847; Walkover Survey
Description	Myerscough Planks is depicted as two buildings on either side of a lane on the first edition OS map of 1847, and named on the OS 1893 map as Myerscough Planks. The farm is possibly also represented on Yates' map of 1786, although this is not entirely clear. The walkover survey noted the site as a stone farmhouse to the east and a later brick cottage to the west (Plates 12 and 14). See also Sites 49 and 50 .
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area, and current proposals include modifying and extending the present buildings for the purposes of the trail head centre.

Site number	49
Site	Two barns, Myerscough Planks (now South Planks)
NGR	351121 438794
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Buildings
Period	Post-medieval

Sources	OS first edition 6" map of 1847; Walkover Survey
Description	Two brick barns to the immediate north of the farmhouse (Plates 13 and 14) at South Planks (Site 48). See also Site 50 .
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area, and current proposals include modifying and extending the present buildings for the purposes of the trail head centre.

Site number	50
Site	Farm building, Myerscough Planks (now South Planks)
NGR	351090 538774
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Building
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	An L-shaped single-storey farm building (Plates 14 and 15) containing cattle stalls, located to the west of the farmhouse at South Planks (Site 48). See also Site 49 .
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area, and current proposals include modifying and extending the present buildings for the purposes of the trail head centre.

Site number	51
Site	Culvert
NGR	350539 438468
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Culvert
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Walkover Survey; OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	A culvert, marked as 'aqueduct' on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847, which carries a stream beneath the canal. The culvert is located on the north side of boundary (Site 19), and is up to 1.5m deep on the east side of the canal (Plate 16).
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	52
Site	Head Nook
NGR	350503 438827
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Building (Site of)
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Yates' map of 1786; OS first edition 6" map of 1847; LRO QSP/2545/10
Description	A building named Head Nook, named on Yates' map of 1786. In 1807 the house was owned by William Catterall, yeoman, who was issued a certificate to use it as a 'protestant dissenter's meeting place' (LRO QSP/2545/10). Headnook Farm is depicted on the OS map for 1990, but has subsequently been demolished for quarrying.
Assessment	Head Nook is within an area of the proposed development that has been recently quarried and, consequently, has already been destroyed.

Site number	53
Site	Sand pit, south of Headnook
NGR	350508 438774
HER No	-

Designation	None
Site type	Sand pit (Site of)
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	A sand pit marked on the OS first edition map of 1847, but not on subsequent mapping. This area has now been destroyed by recent quarrying
Assessment	The pit is within an area of the proposed development that has been recently quarried and, consequently, has already been destroyed.

Site number	54
Site	Group of two pits, south-east of Headnook
NGR	350780 438693
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Pits (Site of)
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	Two marl pits shown to the south-east of Headnook on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847. This area has now been destroyed by recent quarrying.
Assessment	The pits are within an area of the proposed development that has been recently quarried and, consequently, have already been destroyed.

Site number	55
Site	Blackfields
NGR	350999 438304
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Building (Site of)
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Yates' map of 1786; OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	A farm shown on Yates' map of 1786 and on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but not on subsequent mapping. The walkover survey noted two lynchets which appeared to form the western and eastern boundaries of the enclosure for the farm (Sites 32 and 35), but no platforms for the farm buildings were evident.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	56
Site	Former field boundary, north-west of South Planks Farm
NGR	350927 438832
HER No	-
Designation	None
Site type	Field boundary (Site of)
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description	A field boundary shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned approximately east/west and located to the north-west of South Planks Farm. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the boundary.
Assessment	This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number	57
Site	Former field boundary, north-west of South Planks Farm
NGR	350969 438838
HER No	-
Designation	None

Site type Field boundary (Site of)
Period Post-medieval
Sources OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description A field boundary shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned approximately north/south and located to the north-west of South Planks Farm. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the boundary.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number **58**
Site **Former field boundary, north of South Planks Farm**
NGR 351072 438862
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Field boundary (Site of)
Period Post-medieval
Sources OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description A field boundary shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned approximately north/south and located to the north of South Planks Farm. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the boundary.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number **59**
Site **Former field boundary, north-east of South Planks Farm**
NGR 351137 438841
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Field boundary (Site of)
Period Post-medieval
Sources OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description A field boundary shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned approximately north/south and located to the north-east of South Planks Farm. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the boundary.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

Site number **60**
Site **Former field boundary, south of South Planks Farm**
NGR 351060 438757
HER No -
Designation None
Site type Field boundary (Site of)
Period Post-medieval
Sources OS first edition 6" map of 1847
Description A field boundary shown on the OS first edition 6" map of 1847 but no longer extant. Aligned north/south and located to the south of South Planks Farm. The walkover survey noted no surface evidence for the boundary.
Assessment This site is within the proposed development area and may be impacted by it.

5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE REMAINS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 In its Planning Policy Statement 5, the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) advises that the ‘*significance of the heritage assets affected and their contribution of their setting to that significance*’ be understood in order to assess the potential impact (Policy HE6, PPS 5, DCLG 2010). Therefore, the following section will determine the nature and level of the significance of the archaeological resource detailed in *Sections 3 and 4*. Sixty sites have been identified within the study area. Sites **01-10** were identified from the HER, three of which were Grade II listed buildings (Sites **05, 06** and **07**). The remaining fifty sites were identified through map regression and the walkover survey. Fifty-two of the sites are located within the proposed development area, and the remaining eight (Sites **03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 09, 10** and **36**), including the three listed buildings, are within the wider study area.

Period	No of Sites	Site Type
Neolithic	0	
Bronze Age	0	
Iron Age	0	
Romano-British	1	Road (08)
Early Medieval	0	
Late Medieval	2	Findspots (09 and 10)
Post-medieval/ Industrial Period	53	Former field boundaries and lanes (11-14, 17, 19, 27, 31, 40, 43, 56-60), former farm buildings (01 and 52-5), culvert (51), farm buildings (48-50), an extraction area (47), marl and sand pits (16, 18, 24-6, 28, 33-4, 36-9, 41-2, 45-6, 53-4), lynchets (32-35), gate posts (20-1 and 29-30), well (02), canal bridges (06-07), a milestone (05), a former smithy (04) and a former kiln (03)
Industrial/Modern	4	Concrete slab (44), marker posts (22-3) and a boundary (15)

Table 2: Number of sites by period

5.2 CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING SIGNIFICANCE

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’ (Annex 1; DCMS 2010). The sites previously listed (*Section 4*, above) were each considered using the criteria, with the results below.

- 5.2.2 **Period:** the Roman road (Site **08**) can be considered to be significant due to its period. The majority of the remaining sites within the gazetteer are post-medieval or later in date, relate to the agricultural use of the land, and are not significant due to period. The exception to this are the farmsteads of Blackfields (Site **55**) and South Planks (Sites **01** and **48-50**), which are both likely to be eighteenth century or earlier as they appear to be represented on Yates' map of 1786. Head Nook (Site **52**) was also likely to have been a contemporary to these farmsteads but has since been destroyed due to the quarry.
- 5.2.3 **Rarity:** the majority of the sites in the gazetteer are considered to be commonplace (e.g. the post-medieval/industrial period agricultural features, such as field boundaries (Sites **11-12**, **14-15**, **19**, **27**, **31**, **40**, **43** and **56-60**) and pits (Sites **16**, **18**, **24-26**, **28**, **33-34**, **37-39**, **41-42** and **45-47**)), and none are considered to be significant due to rarity.
- 5.2.4 **Documentation:** the majority of the sites have been identified from cartographic sources, and are unlikely to be further documented. As part of the desk-based assessment a search was made in the archives of the LRO for documents related to the farms (Head Nook (Site **52**), Blackfields (Site **55**) and South Planks (Sites **01** and **48-50**), but nothing of interest was identified. As the land is part of the Duchy of Lancaster it is possible that further records are held in a private archive. A late seventeenth century plan of Myerscough Park held by LRO (P/2) could not be found, but consultation of this at the National Archives would help to ascertain if the proposed development area was part of the former park. Further investigation could be made into the ownership of land by the London and North Western Railway Company (Sites **22** and **23**), and any proposed railway lines across the study area, but this would be unlikely to provide any additional information beneficial to the proposed development area.
- 5.2.5 **Group Value:** most of the sites can be sorted into groups, such as field boundaries and tracks (Sites **11-5**, **17**, **19**, **27**, **31**, **40**, **43** and **56-60**); pits (Sites **16**, **18**, **24-6**, **28**, **33-4**, **37-9**, **41-2**, **45-7** and **53-4**) etc, but the significance of the sites is not increased by this grouping. It is unclear, without further investigation, if the farms in the study area (Head Nook (Site **52**), Blackfields (Site **55**) and South Planks (Sites **01** and **48-50**) form a group, but it is possible they would on the grounds of contemporaneity or building fabric and style. Any remains of the Roman road (Site **08**) would add significance to this site in the wider area as its exact route from Preston to Garstang has not been precisely ascertained.
- 5.2.6 **Survival/Condition:** the north-western portion of the site has been subject to quarrying in the last 20 years and, therefore, Sites **52**, **53** and **54** will have been completely destroyed. Site **01**, two buildings to the south of South Planks, were shown on a map from 1833 but not on later mapping. Similarly, Site **55**, Blackfields Farm, was no longer extant by the time of the 1897 OS map. As the land on which these buildings were sited has remained undeveloped since, it is highly likely that below ground remains of these buildings survive.
- 5.2.7 **Fragility/Vulnerability:** the standing buildings that comprise South Planks Farm (Sites **48-50**) are vulnerable as the farm is proposed for redevelopment

for the purposes of the trail head centre. Any below ground remains pertaining to the Roman road (Site **08**), the former buildings at South Planks (Site **01**), and Site **55**, Blackfields Farm are vulnerable as they lie within the proposed development area. Also within the development area and therefore vulnerable are Sites **02**, **11-5**, **18-24**, **27-32**, **35**, **38-44**, **46-51**, and **55-60**. Of the remaining sites within the proposed development area, Sites **52-4** have already been destroyed by quarrying and Sites **16-7**, **25-6**, **33-4**, **37** and **45** appear on the current development proposals to be being retained. The two Grade II Listed canal bridges (Sites **06** and **07**) are located just outside of the south-west and north-west corners of the proposed development area, but are unlikely to be indirectly impacted (e.g. by vibration during construction or visually) by the proposed development as the western side of the proposed development is outlined to become a nature reserve.

- 5.2.8 **Diversity:** none of the sites within the gazetteer is considered to be significant due to diversity. The gazetteer sites as a group are not particularly diverse as most are of the post-medieval/industrial period and relate to the agricultural use of the area. The only notable exceptions to this are the Roman road (Site **08**), the two possible medieval findspots (Sites **09** and **10**) and the canal bridges (Sites **06** and **07**).
- 5.2.9 **Potential:** there is low potential for any prehistoric sites within the proposed development area. There is some potential for Roman remains to be uncovered within the proposed development area as the putative course of the road from Preston to Lancaster (Site **08**) runs through the eastern portion of the study area. Two medieval findspots are located within the study area and there is low potential for further sites or finds from this period to be revealed within the proposed development area. The site appears to have been agricultural in nature up to the present day, when parts of it have been taken up by sand quarrying. Three farms are shown on Yates' map of 1786 (Head Nook (Site **52**), Blackfields (Site **55**) and South Planks (Sites **01** and **48-50**), but it is not known when these were built or when the land started to be used for agriculture. The majority of the remaining sites across the study area relate to the use of the land from the eighteenth century onwards and, therefore, there is high potential for the discovery of features and finds from this period to be identified within the proposed development area. However these sites have been identified as being of low significance (see *Section 5.3*, below), therefore, their potential for adding to the archaeological record is low.

5.3 IMPORTANCE

- 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.
- 5.3.2 Using the criteria outlined in Table 3, each of the sites listed in the gazetteer has been assessed for importance as a site of archaeological interest. Sites **05**, **06** and **07** are considered to be of *national importance*, due to their Grade II listed status. Sites **01-04** and **08-10** are rated as being of *regional/county importance*, as they are or have the potential to be of county or regional interest. Site **55**, the site of the former farm Blackfields, and Sites **48-50**, which comprise the extant farm South Planks are considered to be of

local/borough importance. Sites **11-47**, **51** and **56-60** comprise features related to the post-medieval and later local agricultural use and land management of the area and are therefore considered to be of *low local importance*. In addition, Sites **52-4** are considered to be of *negligible importance* as they are within an area already destroyed by recent quarrying.

Importance	Examples of Site Type
National	Scheduled Monuments (SMs), Grade I, II* and II Listed Buildings
Regional/County	Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens (Designated Heritage Assets) Sites and Monuments Record/Historic Environment Record
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
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
Negligible	Sites or features with no significant value or interest

Table 3: Criteria used to determine Importance of Sites

6. IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 IMPACT

6.1.1 Archaeological remains are ‘*a finite, irreplaceable and fragile resource*’ (DCMS 2010). Therefore, it has been the intention of this study to identify the archaeological significance and potential of the study area, and assess the impact of the proposals, thus allowing the advice of PPS 5 (DCLG 2010) 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 the proposals;
- 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 extent of any previous disturbance to buried archaeological levels is an important factor in assessing the potential impact of the development scheme. The north-western portion of the site has been subject to quarrying in the last 20 years and, therefore, Sites **52**, **53** and **54** will have been completely destroyed. The route of the Roman road (Site **08**) is projected and, consequently, it is not known if Roman remains are within the proposed development area. The remainder of the sites identified within the proposed development area (**01-02**, **11-35**, **37-51**, and **55-60**) are either extant as they have been identified by the walkover survey (Sites **12-3**, **15-30**, **32-5** and **37-9**, **41-2** and **44-51**) or have been identified by map regression but may survive below ground (Sites **01-02**, **11**, **14**, **31**, **41**, **43** and **55-60**).

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 and other modification/additional 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. *The following may require review once detailed design proposals are known.*

Site Number	Nature of Impact	Importance	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
01	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Regional/County	Moderate	Major/Intermediate
02	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Regional/County	Slight	Minor
03	No impact - outwith proposed development area	Regional/County	Negligible	Neutral
04	No impact - outwith proposed development area	Regional/County	Negligible	Neutral

Site Number	Nature of Impact	Importance	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
05	No impact - outwith proposed development area	National	Negligible	Neutral
06	No impact - outwith proposed development area	National	Negligible	Neutral
07	No impact - outwith proposed development area	National	Negligible	Neutral
08	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Regional/ County	Unknown	Unknown
09	No impact - outwith proposed development area	Regional/ County	Negligible	Neutral
10	No impact - outwith proposed development area	Regional/ County	Negligible	Neutral
11	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/ Minor
12	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/ Minor
13	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/ Minor
14	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/ Minor
15	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
16	No impact - retained within proposed development area	Local (low)	Negligible	Neutral
17	No impact - retained within proposed development area	Local (low)	Negligible	Neutral
18	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral

Site Number	Nature of Impact	Importance	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
19	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
20	Possible disturbance /removal of archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
21	Possible disturbance /removal of archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
22	Possible disturbance /removal of archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
23	Possible disturbance /removal of archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
24	Possible disturbance /removal of archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
25	No impact - retained within proposed development area	Local (low)	Negligible	Neutral
26	No impact - retained within proposed development area	Local (low)	Negligible	Neutral
27	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
28	Possible disturbance /removal of archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
29	Possible disturbance /removal of archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
30	Possible disturbance /removal of archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral

Site Number	Nature of Impact	Importance	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
31	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
32	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
33	No impact - retained within proposed development area	Local (low)	Negligible	Neutral
34	No impact - retained within proposed development area	Local (low)	Negligible	Neutral
35	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
36	No impact - outwith proposed development area	Local (low)	Negligible	Neutral
37	No impact - retained within proposed development area	Local (low)	Negligible	Neutral
38	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
39	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
40	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
41	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
42	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor

Site Number	Nature of Impact	Importance	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
43	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
44	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
45	No impact - retained within proposed development area	Local (low)	Negligible	Neutral
46	Possible disturbance of below ground remains and archaeological landscape feature	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
47	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
48	Alteration and extension of existing buildings	Local/Borough	Substantial	Intermediate
49	Alteration and extension of existing buildings	Local/Borough	Substantial	Intermediate
50	Alteration and extension of existing buildings	Local/Borough	Substantial	Intermediate
51	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
52	None - site already destroyed by quarrying	Negligible	Negligible	Neutral
53	None - site already destroyed by quarrying	Negligible	Negligible	Neutral
54	None - site already destroyed by quarrying	Negligible	Negligible	Neutral
55	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local/Borough	Substantial	Intermediate
56	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral
57	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Slight	Minor/Neutral

Site Number	Nature of Impact	Importance	Scale of Impact	Impact Significance
58	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
59	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/Minor
60	Possible disturbance of below ground remains	Local (low)	Substantial	Intermediate/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 investigation and mitigation, it is necessary to consider only those sites that will be affected by the proposed development. Current legislation draws a distinction between designated heritage assets and other remains considered to be of lesser significance; *‘There should be a presumption in favour of the conservation of designated heritage assets and the more significant the designated heritage asset, the greater the presumption in favour of its conservation should be...substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, including scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings and grade I and II* registered parks and gardens and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional’* (Policy HE9.1, PPS 5; DCLG 2010), and thereby preserved *in situ*. It is normally accepted that non-designated sites will be preserved by record, in accordance with their significance and the magnitude of the harm to or loss of the site as a result of the proposals, to *‘avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset’s conservation and any aspect of the proposals’* (Policy HE 7.2, *ibid*).
- 7.1.2 There are fifty-two sites (Sites **01-2**, **08**, **11-35** and **37-60**) located within the proposed development area. Of these, three (Sites **52**, **53** and **54**) are within an area of a modern quarry and, therefore, will have already been destroyed. The current development proposals indicate that Sites **16-17**, **25-6**, **33-4**, **37** and **45** are being retained within the proposed resort. This leaves 41 sites that may be impacted by the proposed development, these comprise: the putative course of the Roman road, or related features (Site **08**); earthworks relating to former buildings south of South Planks Farm (Site **01**); a well (Site **02**); former field boundaries (Sites **11-2**, **14**, **19**, **27**, **31**, **40**, **43** and **56-60**); the site of Blackfields Farm (Site **55**); a culvert (Site **51**); buildings and features relating to South Planks Farm (Sites **44** and **48-50**); sand/marl pits and an extraction area (Sites **18**, **24**, **28**, **38-9**, **41-2** and **46-7**); lynchets (Sites **32** and **35**); gate posts (Sites **20-1** and **29-30**); marker posts (Sites **22-3**); a modern boundary (Site **15**); and a green lane (Site **13**).
- 7.1.3 The majority of sites potentially impacted by the proposed development are considered to be of low importance and therefore no archaeological mitigation is required in advance of the development. There are four gate posts (Sites **20-1** and **29-30**) and two marker posts (Sites **22-3**) within the proposed development area, which may be impacted. Where possible these should be retained. Other recommendations are outlined below.
- 7.1.4 **Archaeological building recording:** the buildings that comprise South Planks Farm (Sites **48-50**) should be subject to a building survey prior to any alterations taking place.

- 7.1.5 **Geophysical Prospection:** the putative route of the Roman road (Site **08**) is located on the eastern side of the study area. As the route of the road is not certain in this area it is possible that the road, or features relating to it, may be located within the proposed development area. It is, therefore, recommended that a geophysical survey, specifically magnetometry, is carried out across the area proposed for the new resort buildings, which is the area of the highest impact on potential below ground remains. A limited area over the site of the two buildings south of South Planks (Site **01**) should also be subject to a resistivity survey to investigate the potential for below ground building remains. These surveys should be followed by a programme of targeted trial trenching on features of potential identified in the survey results.
- 7.1.6 **Archaeological evaluation trenching:** the site of the two buildings south of South Planks (Site **01**) and the site of Blackfields Farm (Site **55**) should be investigated by archaeological evaluation trenching to establish the survival of any below ground remains. This should also include the two lynchets (Sites **32-5**) that formed part of an enclosure around Blackfields Farm as they may contain dating evidence for the occupation of this building. In addition, the larger, more upstanding, field boundaries (i.e. Site **12**) earmarked for removal should also be considered, together with any area of impact of the green lane (Site **13**).

Site Number	Importance	Impact Significance	Recommendations
01	Regional/ County	Major/ Intermediate	Resistivity survey, and targeted archaeological evaluation trenching
02	Regional/ County	Minor	None
08	Regional/ County	Unknown	Reconnaissance technique, i.e. magnetometer survey
11	Local (low)	Intermediate/ Minor	None
12	Local (low)	Intermediate/ Minor	Possible targeted trial trenching
13	Local (low)	Intermediate/ Minor	Possible targeted trial trenching
14	Local (low)	Intermediate/ Minor	None
15	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
18	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
19	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
20	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	Retain if possible, otherwise photographic survey
21	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	Retain if possible, otherwise photographic survey
22	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	Retain if possible, otherwise photographic survey
23	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	Retain if possible, otherwise photographic survey
24	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
27	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
28	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
29	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	Retain if possible, otherwise photographic survey
30	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	Retain if possible, otherwise photographic survey
31	Local (low)	Intermediate/ Minor	None
32	Local (low)	Intermediate/ Minor	Archaeological evaluation trenching
35	Local (low)	Intermediate/ Minor	Archaeological evaluation trenching
38	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
39	Local (low)	Intermediate/ Minor	None

Site Number	Importance	Impact Significance	Recommendations
40	Local (low)	Intermediate/Minor	None
41	Local (low)	Intermediate/Minor	None
42	Local (low)	Intermediate/Minor	None
43	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
44	Local (low)	Intermediate/Minor	None
46	Local (low)	Intermediate/Minor	None
47	Local (low)	Intermediate/Minor	None
48	Local/Borough	Intermediate	Archaeological building recording
49	Local/Borough	Intermediate	Archaeological building recording
50	Local/Borough	Intermediate	Archaeological building recording
51	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	Watching brief/recording during works
55	Local/Borough	Intermediate	Archaeological evaluation trenching
56	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
57	Local (low)	Minor/Neutral	None
58	Local (low)	Intermediate/Minor	None
59	Local (low)	Intermediate/Minor	None
60	Local (low)	Intermediate/Minor	None

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

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8.4 PRIMARY SOURCES

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LRO (P/2) - Late 17th century plan of Myerscough Park (Duchy of Lancaster)

LRO QSP/2545/10 - 1807 - certificate of the use of Head Nook

9. ILLUSTRATIONS

9.1 FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Plan of gazetteer sites

Figure 3: Extract from Yates' map of Lancashire, 1786

Figure 4: Extract from Hennem's map, 1830

Figure 5: Extract from the Commissioner's Award, 1833

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Figure 7: Extract from the Ordnance Survey First Edition, 25":1 mile, 1893

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Figure 9: Extract from the Ordnance Survey, 25":1 mile, 1932, showing detail of South Planks Farm

Figure 10: Extract from the Ordnance Survey, 6":1 mile, 1990

9.2 PLATES

Plate 1: Area of earthworks (Site **01**) to the south of South Planks Farm (Sites **48-50**)

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Plate 7: Detail on cast iron London and North Western railway boundary marker post (Site **22**)

Plate 8: Former field boundary (Site **27**), south of Blackfields

Plate 9: Pair of gate posts (Site **29**) positioned on White Horse Lane

Plate 10: Pair of gate posts (Site **30**) positioned on White Horse Lane

Plate 11: Lynchet, Site **35**

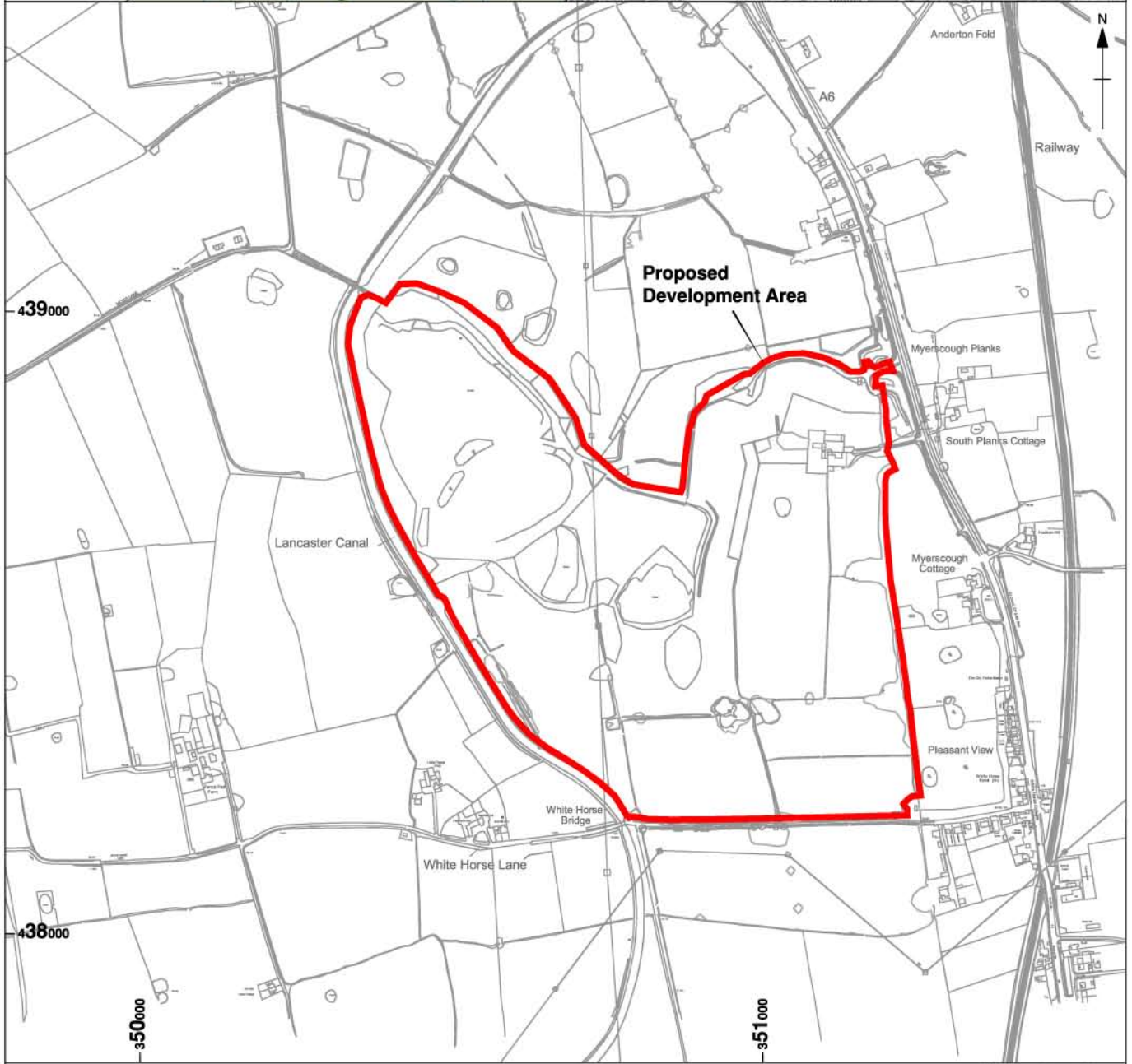
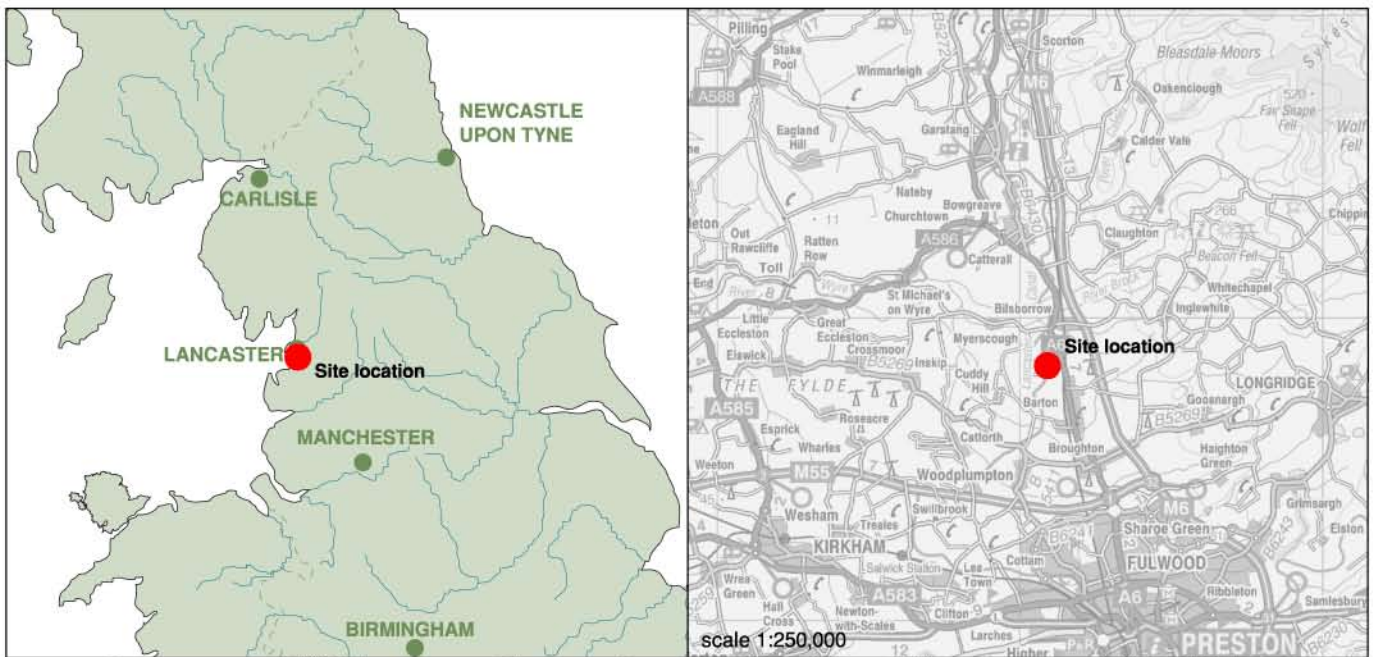
Plate 12: Farmhouse and cottage, South Planks, formerly Myerscough Planks (Site **48**)

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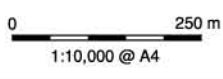
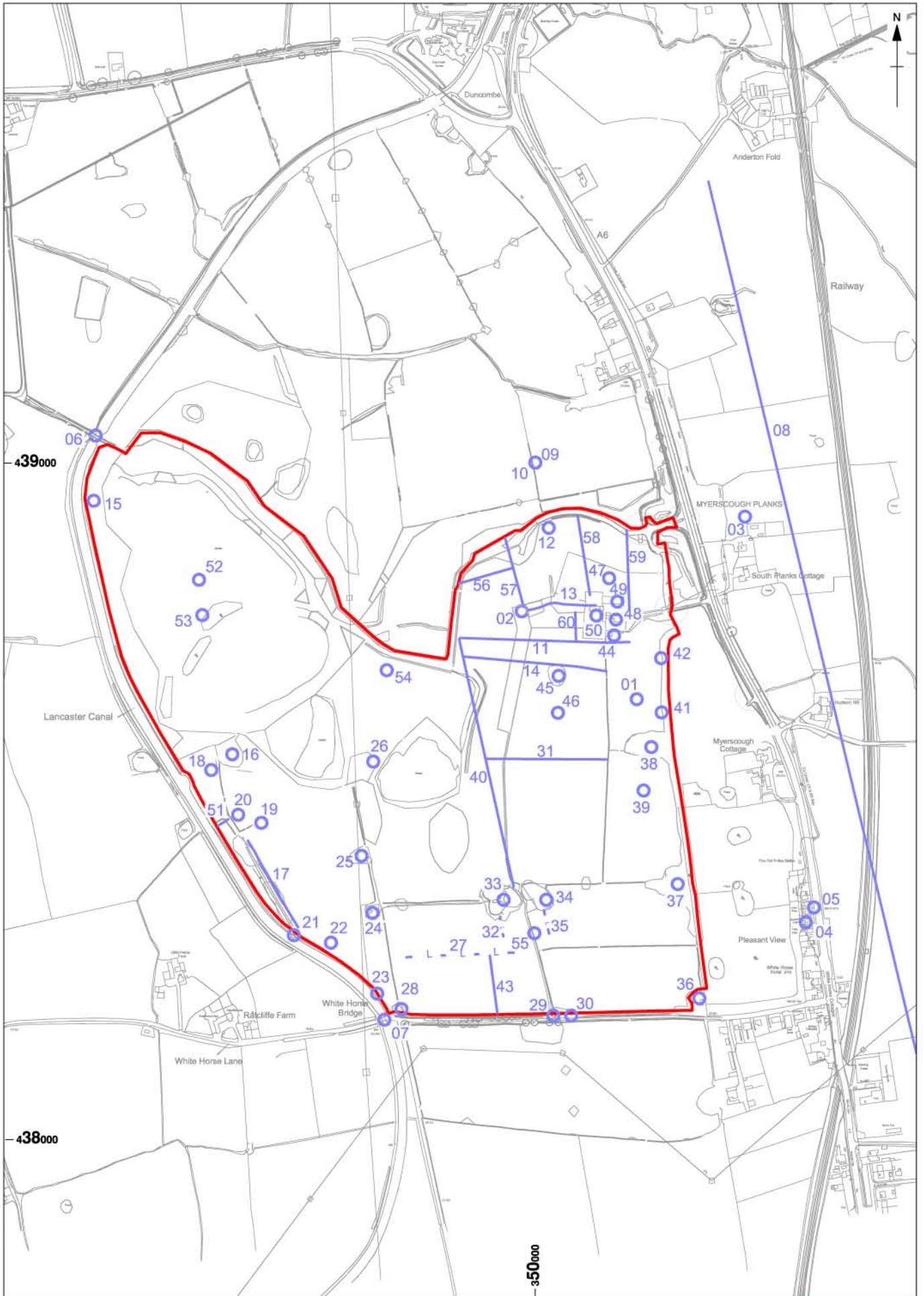






Figure 1: Site location

AP*L10163*MAT*Sept 09




EM*L10365*MAT*March 2011

	Proposed Development Area		Gazetteer Site (lynchet)
	Gazetteer Site (linear)		Gazetteer Site (linear)



1:7500 @ A4

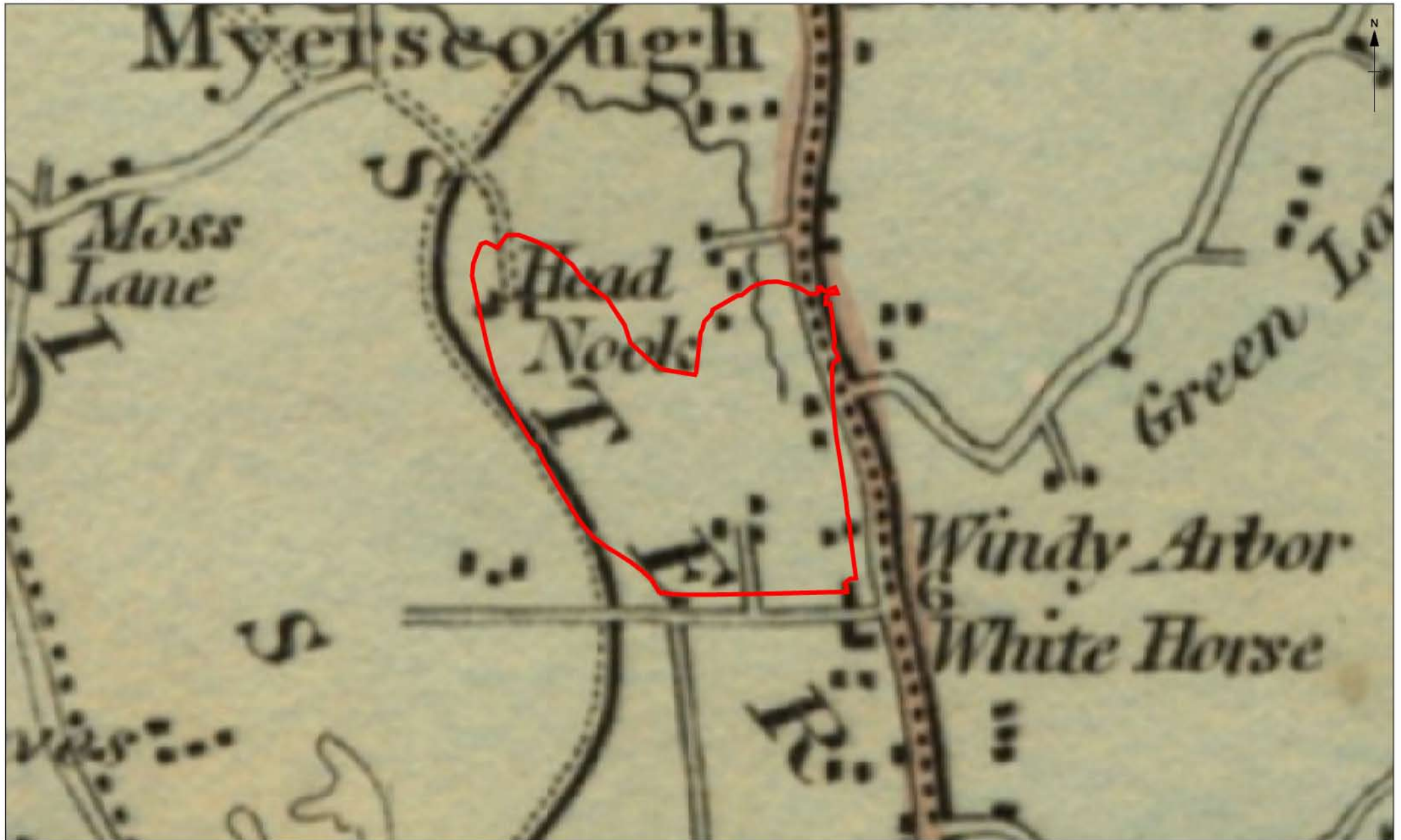



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Figure 2: Plan of gazetteer sites



Figure 3: Extract from Yates' map of Lancashire, 1786



 Proposed Development Area

Not to Scale

Figure 4: Extract from Hennet's map of Lancashire, 1830

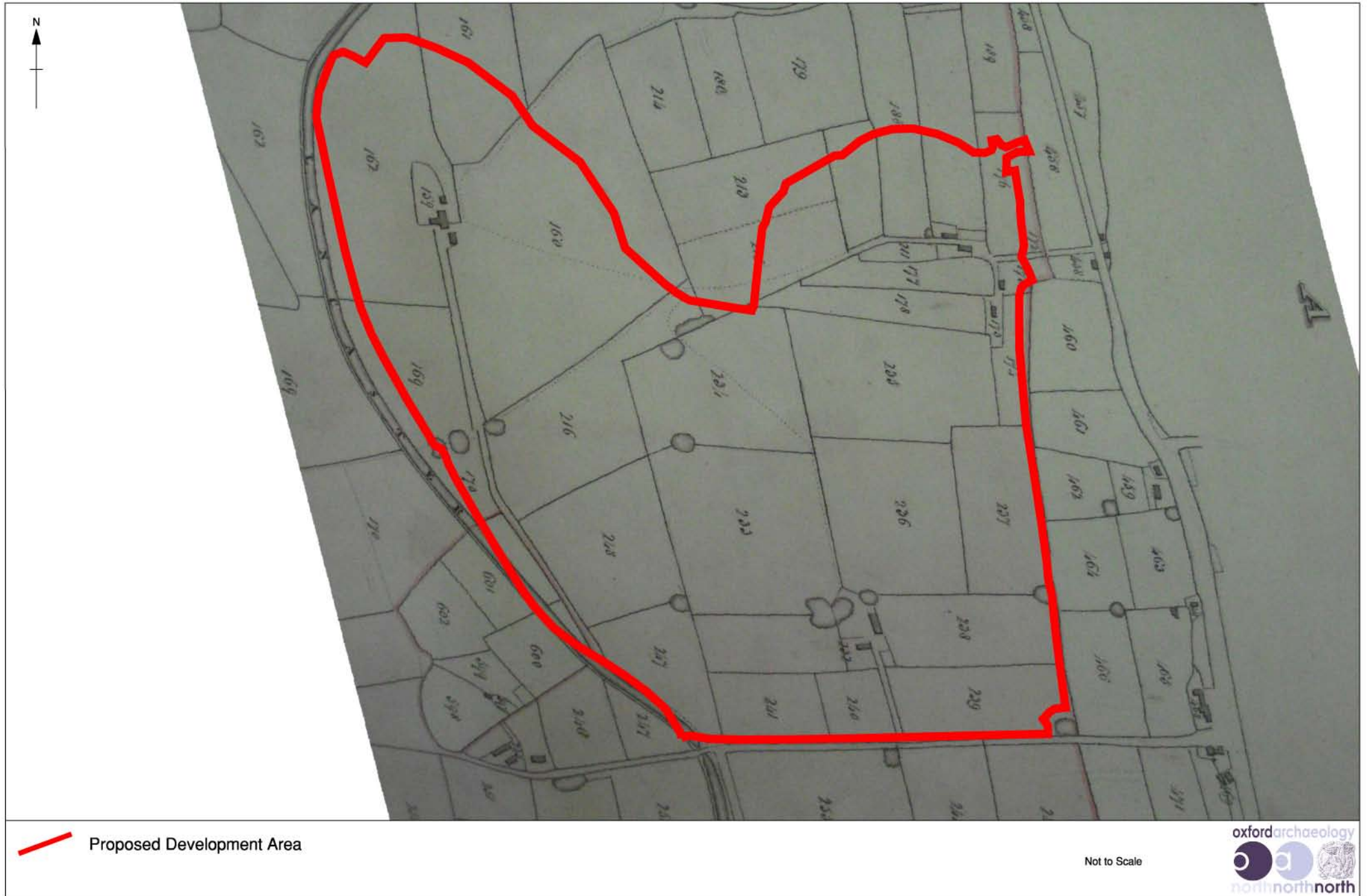


Figure 5: Extract from the Commissioner's Award map, 1833

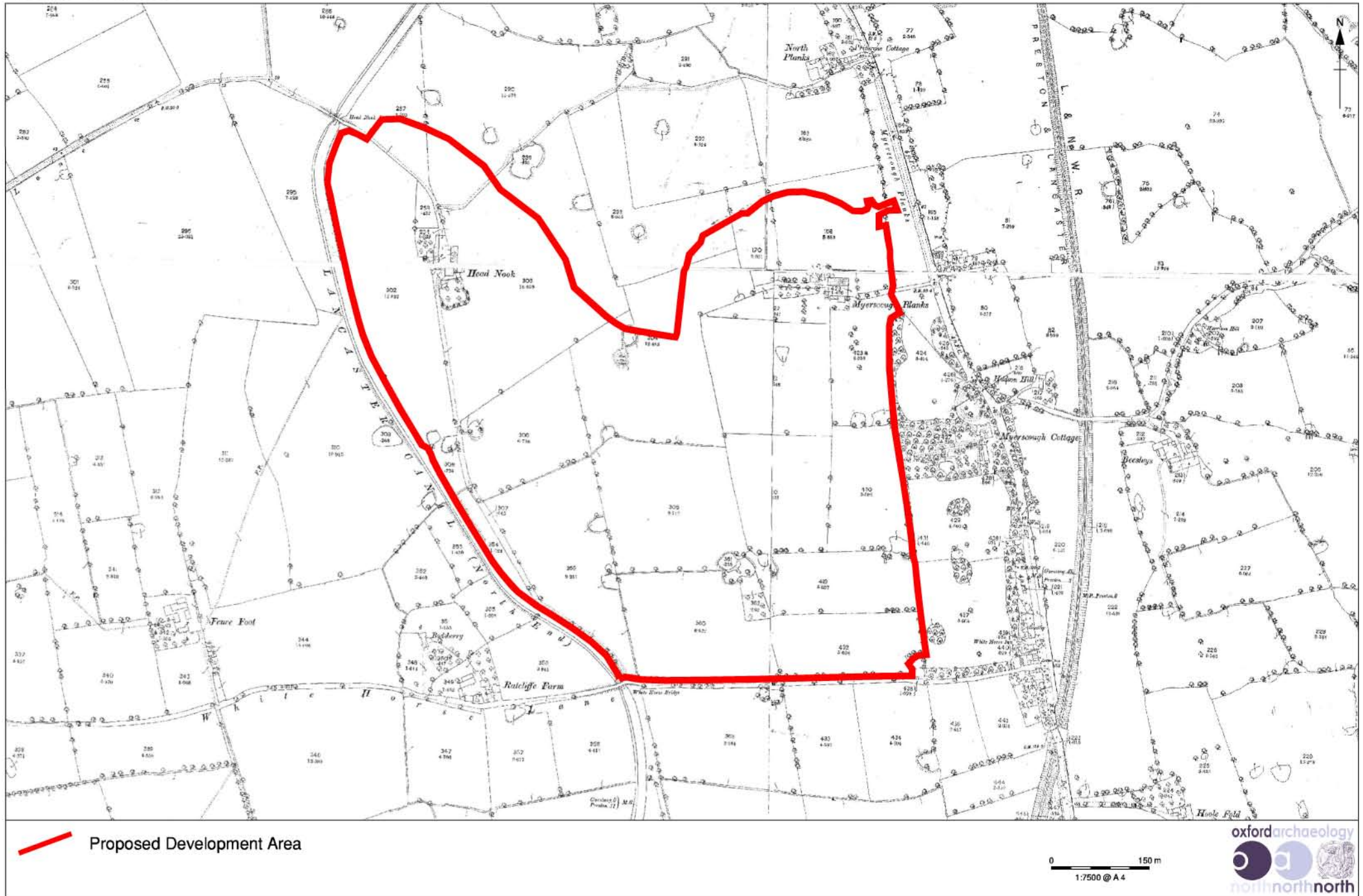


Figure 7: Extract from the Ordnance Survey First Edition 25":1 mile map, 1893

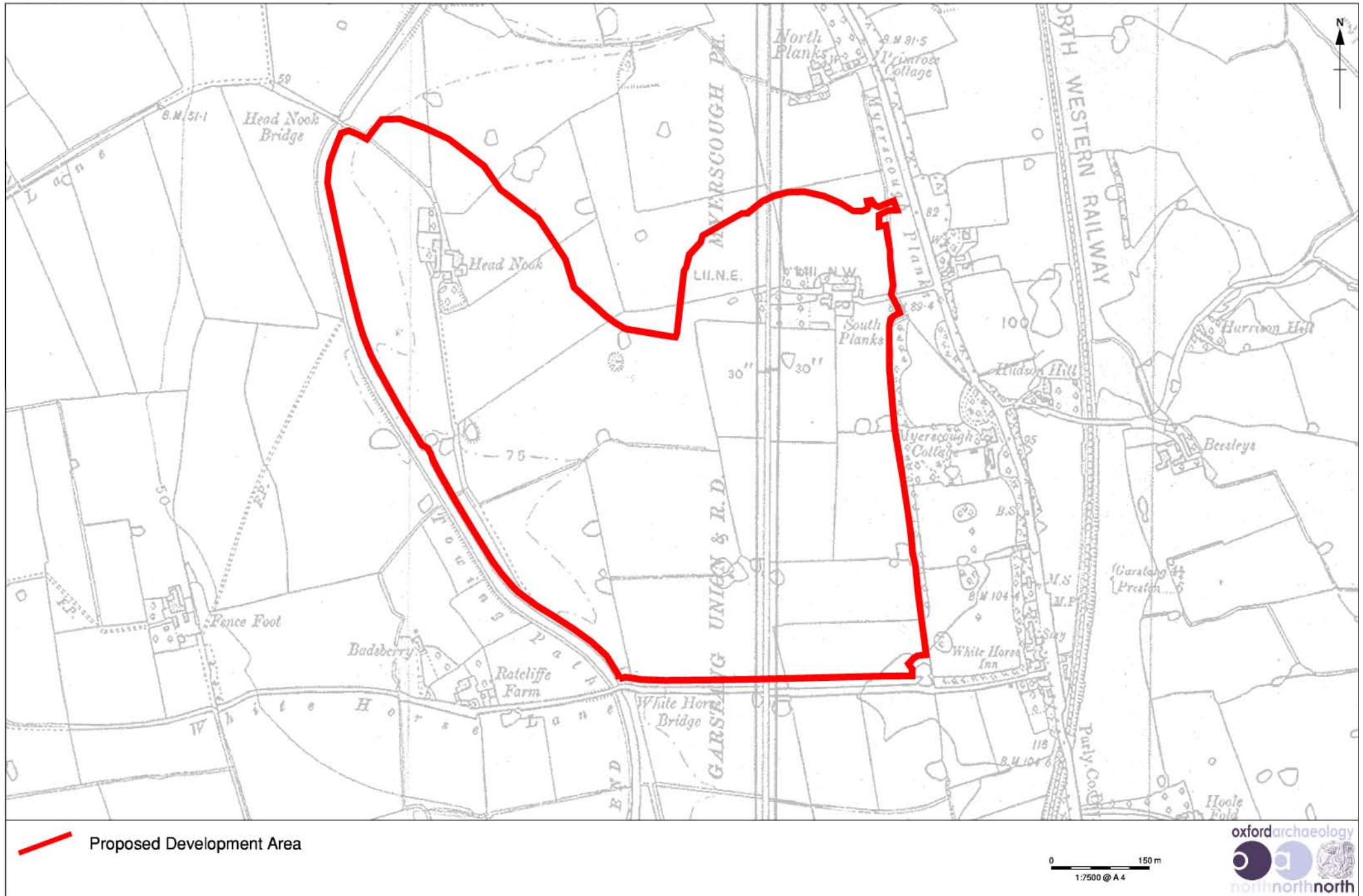


Figure 8: Extract from the Ordnance Survey Third Edition 6":1 mile map, 1914

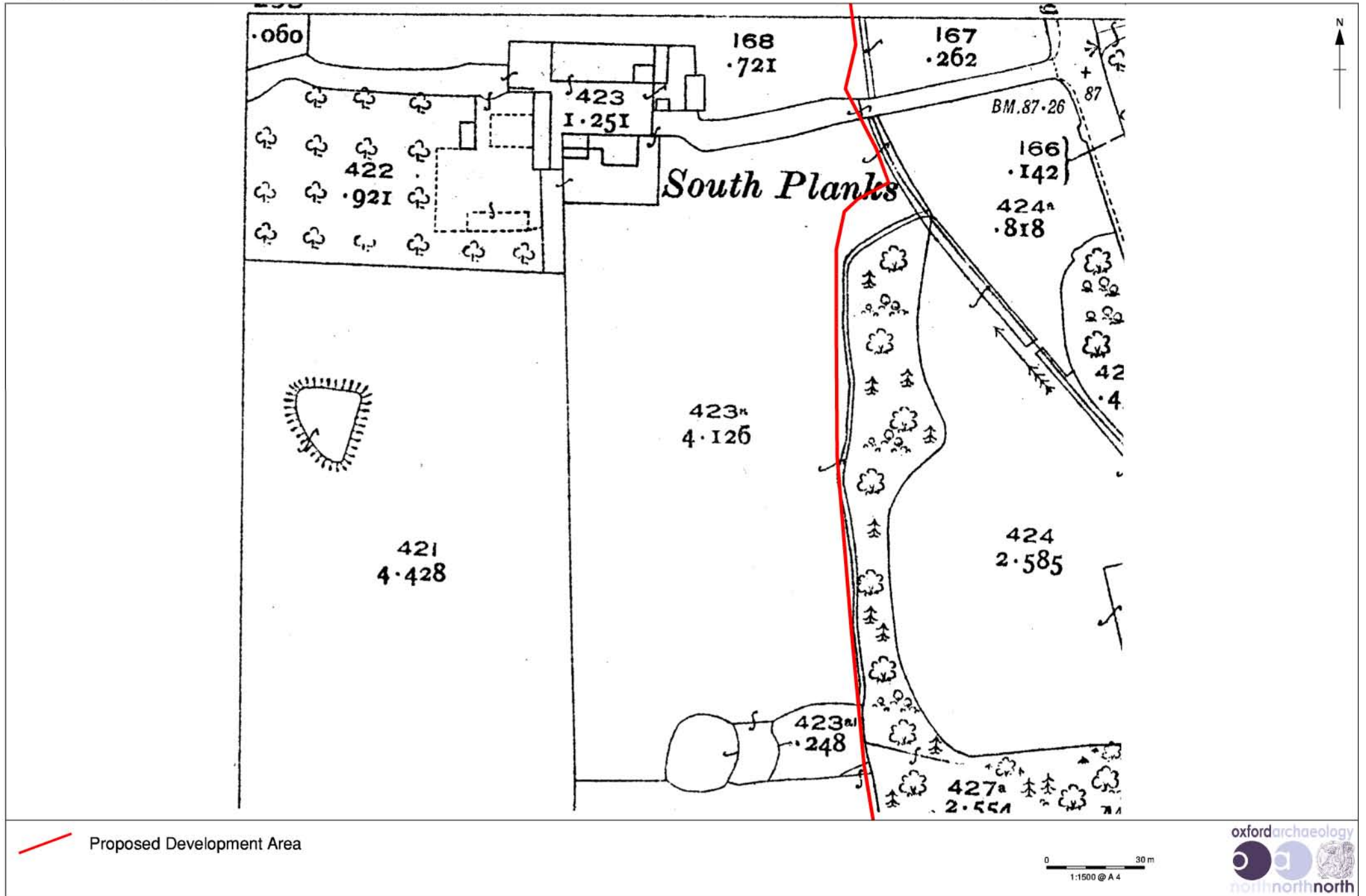


Figure 9: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map, 1932, showing detail of South Planks Farm

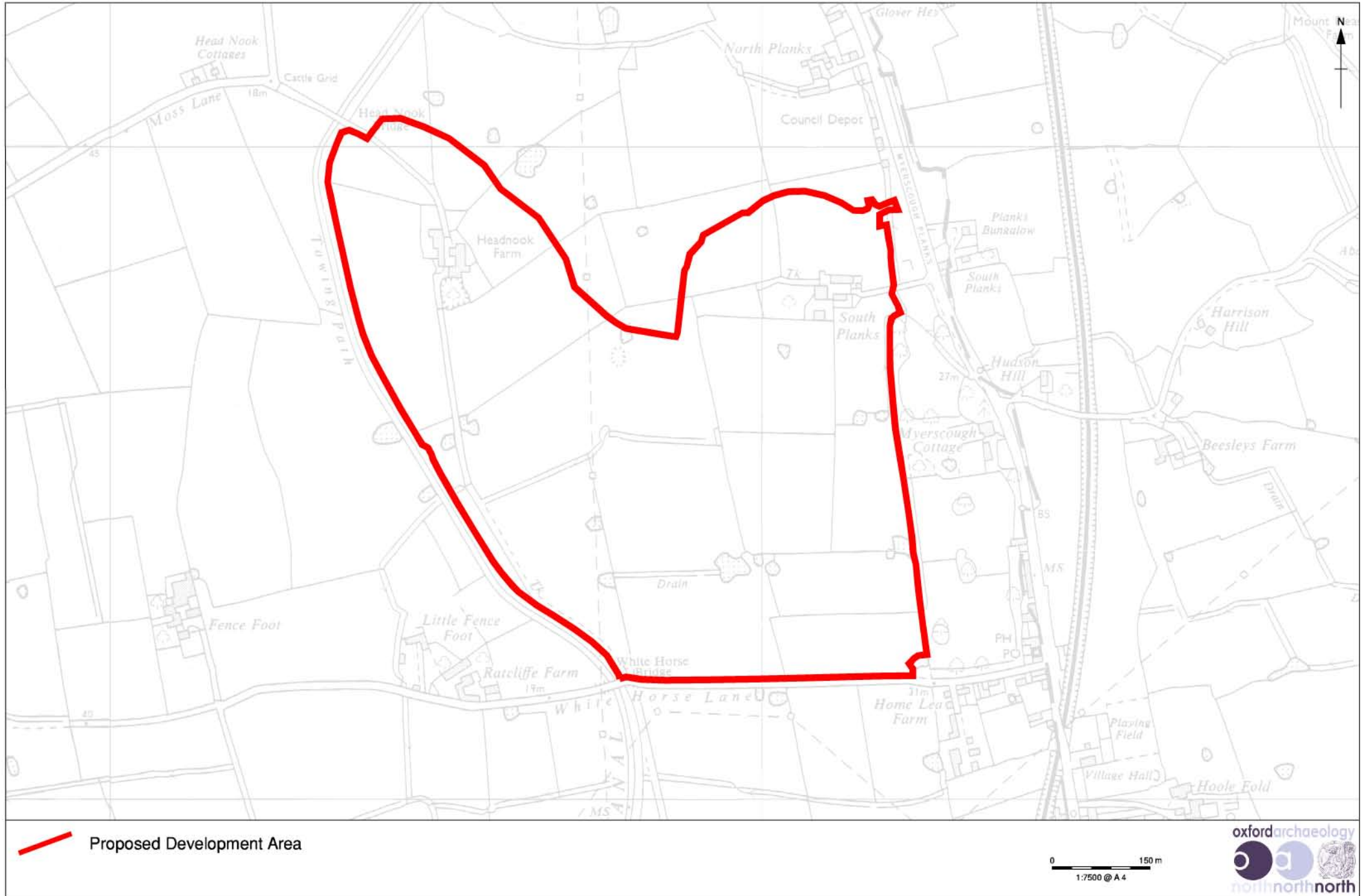


Figure 10: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1:10000 map, 1990



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Plate 15: West-facing elevation of the farm building at South Planks Farm, formerly Myerscough Planks (Site 50)

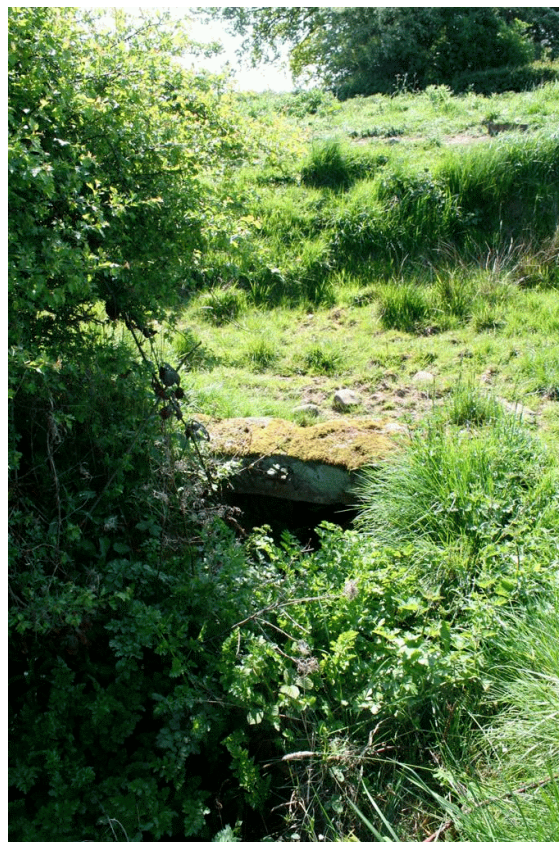


Plate 16: View of culvert (Site 51)