

Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley, Phase 2
Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
September 2024

© Orion Heritage Ltd 2024

No part of this report is to be copied in any way
without prior written consent.

Every effort is made to provide detailed and accurate
information, however, Orion Heritage Ltd cannot be held
responsible for errors or inaccuracies within 3rd party data
supplied to Orion and referred to within this report.

© Ordnance Survey maps reproduced with the
sanction of the controller of HM Stationery Office.

Licence No: AC0000829241

Report

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

Site

Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley, Hertfordshire

Client

Gade Homes Limited

Date

September 2024

Planning Authority

North Hertfordshire District Council

Grid Reference

NGR 523023, 228231

Prepared By

Sylvia Lock BA ACIfA

Approved By

Cathy Patrick BA Dip Archaeol MPhil MCIfA

Report Status

FINAL

Orion Ref

PN4392/DBA/1

HER Ref

99.24

Orion QA Reference

RQA-00790-00768

Contents

Executive Summary

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Aims, Objectives & Methodology
- 3.0 Statutory and Planning Policy Framework
- 4.0 Archaeological & Historic Baseline
- 5.0 Proposed Development and Potential Impact on Heritage Assets
- 6.0 Summary and Conclusions

Sources Consulted

List of Illustrations

- Figure 1: Site Location
- Figure 2: Designated archaeological assets
- Figure 3: HER Data Plot – Monuments data
- Figure 4: HER Data Plot – Event data
- Figure 5: 1766 Andrews and Drury Map
- Figure 6: 1822 Bryant Map of Hertfordshire
- Figure 7: 1834 Greenwood County Map
- Figure 8: 1838 Graveley Tithe Map
- Figure 9: 1884 OS Map 1:10,000
- Figure 10: 1924-1925 OS Map 1:10,000
- Figure 11: 1976 OS Map 1:10,000
- Figure 12: 1999 OS Map 1:10,000
- Figure 13: 2006 OS Map 1:10,000
- Figure 14: 2021 OS Map 1:10,000
- Figure 15: 2023 Google Earth Image

Timescales Used in This Report

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	450,000 -12,000 BC
Mesolithic	12,000 - 4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 - 2,200 BC
Bronze Age	2,200 - 700 BC
Iron Age	700 - AD 43

Historic

Roman	43 - 410AD
Saxon/Early Medieval	410 - 1066AD
Medieval	1066 - 1485AD
Post Medieval	1486 - 1901AD
Modern	1901 - Present Day

Executive Summary

This archaeological desk-based assessment considers land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley, Hertfordshire (hereinafter referred to as the “study site”). In accordance with government policy (National Planning Policy Framework), this assessment draws together the available archaeological, historic, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the heritage significance and archaeological potential of the study site.

A review of the available evidence has confirmed a high potential for Iron Age/Roman remains. The line of the Roman Road from Baldock to Rush Green is projected to run on a southwest-northeast alignment through the centre of the study site.

The stable block within the study site comprises the only known previous phase of development, which would have had a localised impact on potential remains.

Archaeological remains, if present, are likely to be considered of local to regional significance. Archaeological remains of national significance requiring preservation in-situ are not expected. Archaeology is therefore not considered to present a design constraint on development.

Given the likely presence of a Roman Road within the study site, a requirement for further phased archaeological investigation is anticipated and discussions will be held with the LPA's archaeological advisor to agree an appropriate scope of works. These works could reasonably be secured as a condition of planning permission should it be granted.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This archaeological desk-based assessment considers land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley, Hertfordshire (Figure 1). It has been researched and prepared by Orion Heritage on behalf of Gade Homes Limited. The site (hereinafter referred to as the “study site”) is located at grid reference NGR 523023, 228231. It has been prepared in support of a planning application.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014; last updated 2020), the assessment draws together available information on designated and non-designated heritage assets, topographic and land-use information so as to establish the potential for non-designated archaeological assets within the study site. The assessment includes the results of a site survey, an examination of published and unpublished records, and charts historic land-use through a map regression exercise. The assessment also considers the setting of heritage assets and provides an assessment of how their settings contribute to their significance.
- 1.3 The assessment enables relevant parties to assess the significance of heritage/archaeological assets on and close to the study site and considers the potential for hitherto undiscovered archaeological assets, thus enabling potential impacts on assets to be identified along with the need for design, civil engineering or archaeological solutions. It also provides an understanding of any constraints to development of the study site due to the presence of nearby heritage assets and provides an assessment of the potential impact development would have on the significance of heritage assets and also provides design responses that would serve to reduce that impact in line with local and national policy.
- 1.4 The study area used in this assessment is a 1.5km radius from the centre of the study site (Figures 2, 3 and 4).

Location, Topography and Geology

- 1.5 The study site comprises a stable block and associated paddocks and a horse-riding arena. It is located on the north side of Milksey Lane and west of the High Street, in Graveley, Hertfordshire. Turf Lane is a footpath running parallel with the western study site boundary, beyond which lies an agricultural field. The study site slopes gently from c.110m aOD (above Ordnance Datum) along its northern boundary to c.104m aOD along its southern boundary and measures approximately 1.3 hectares.
- 1.6 The solid geology of the study site comprises chalk of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation. Superficial deposits consist of Glaciofluvial Deposits of Sand and Gravel in the centre of the study site and Diamicton of the Lowestoft Formation in the northwest and southeast of the study site.¹ No geotechnical data is currently available for the study site. A borehole was excavated to the study site's immediate north, along Graveley Lane, in 1963 which recorded sand underlain by clay with chalk and flint gravel randomly distributed.²

¹ https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?_ga=2.127469198.2049289651.1662547922-31267891.1662547922

² <https://api.bgs.ac.uk/sobi-scans/v1/borehole/scans/items/533486>

2.0 Aims, Objectives & Methodology

2.1 The principal aims of the desk-based assessment are to:

- Gain an understanding of the archaeological potential of the study site;
- Identify any archaeological constraints to the development of the study site; and to
- Assess the likely impact of the proposed development.

2.2 The results of the archaeological desk-based assessment will inform an archaeological strategy for further on-site assessment and formulation of a mitigation strategy, as appropriate to the archaeological potential of the study site.

2.3 This desk-based assessment conforms to the requirements of current national and local planning policy (including *National Planning Policy Framework* 2023) and it has been designed in accordance with current best archaeological practice, and the appropriate national and local standards and guidelines, including:

- Management of Recording Projects in the Historic Environment: MORPHE (Historic England 2015);
- Code of Conduct (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists [CIfA] 2014; last updated October 2022); and
- Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (CIfA January 2014, last updated October 2020).

2.4 It is noted that the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists defines desk-based assessment as:

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

2.5 The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard for desk-based assessment states that:

“Desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant regulations of CIfA. In a development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so) and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact.”

Methodology

2.6 The archaeological desk-based assessment will include:

- Map regression based on Ordnance Survey maps and tithe/enclosure maps and apportionments held online;

- Examination of material currently held in the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record, including Historic Landscape Characterisation, for the study site and for a 1.5km search radius; and
- Consultation of the National Heritage List for England.

2.7 The report will also include a consideration of LiDAR and aerial photography for the study site.

2.8 Lidar provides topographic data and is particularly useful in the detection and identification of heritage assets that survive as earthworks. The Environment Agency (EA) regularly collects Lidar data for England and makes these data available for public use through their online portal. Digital Terrain Models (DTM) are routinely used for heritage purposes as this model shows the grounds surface with buildings and trees filtered out to create a 'bare earth' effect. The Environment Agency collected Lidar data as part of the National LIDAR Programme that covers the study site and the 1.5km study area at 1m resolution in 2020. These data were processed using the Relief Visualisation Toolkit (RVT) version 1.2 and were reviewed using QGIS.

3.0 Planning Background and Development Plan Framework

Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979

- 3.1 The Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended) protects the fabric of Scheduled Monuments but does not afford statutory protection to their settings.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) & National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)

- 3.2 Government policy in relation to the historic environment is outlined in Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), entitled 'Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment'. This provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 16 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
- Delivery of sustainable development;
 - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment;
 - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance; and
 - Recognition of the contribution that heritage assets make to our knowledge and understanding of the past.
- 3.3 Section 16 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term.
- 3.4 Paragraph 200 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset, and that the level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be no more than sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 3.5 Paragraph 209 requires the decision-maker to take into account the effect on the significance of non-designated heritage assets and to take a balanced judgement having regard to the scale of harm or loss and the significance of the asset(s) potentially affected.
- 3.6 *Heritage Assets* are defined in Annex 2 as a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
- 3.7 *Archaeological Interest* is defined as a heritage asset which holds, or potentially could hold, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them.
- 3.8 *Designated Heritage Assets* comprise: A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Parks and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Areas designated under the relevant legislation.
- 3.9 *Significance* is defined as the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological,

architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

- 3.10 *Setting* is defined as the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 3.11 Heritage assets that have not been designated as a listed building, scheduled monument, registered park and garden, protected wreck, battlefield or conservation area are referred to as non-designated heritage assets.
- 3.12 The NPPF is supported by the National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG):
- 3.13 Paragraph 18a-001 makes a clear statement that any decisions relating to Listed Buildings and their settings and Conservation Areas must address the statutory considerations of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, as well as satisfying the relevant policies within the National Planning Policy Framework and the Local Plan.
- 3.14 Paragraph 18a-009 outlines that the assessment of the impact of a proposed development on the setting of a heritage asset needs to take into account and be proportionate to the significance of the asset being considered, and the degree to which the proposed development enhances or detracts from the significance of the asset and the ability to appreciate the significance.
- 3.15 The NPPG outlines that although the extent and importance of setting is often expressed in visual terms, it can also be influenced by other factors such as noise, dust and vibration. Historic relationships between places can also be an important factor stressing ties between places that may have limited or no intervisibility with each other. This may be historic as well as aesthetic connections that contribute or enhance the significance of one or more of the heritage assets.
- 3.16 Paragraph 18a-013 concludes:
- “The contribution that setting makes to the significance of the heritage asset does not depend on there being public rights or an ability to access or experience that setting. The contribution may vary over time. When assessing any application which may affect the setting of a heritage asset, local planning authorities may need to consider the implications of cumulative change. They may also need to consider the fact that developments which materially detract from the asset's significance may also damage its economic viability now, or in the future, thereby threatening its on-going conservation.”*
- 3.17 The key test in NPPF Paragraphs 205-208 is whether a proposed development will result in substantial harm or less than substantial harm. However, substantial harm is not defined in the NPPF. Paragraph 18a-018 of the NPPG provides additional guidance on substantial harm. It states:
- “What matters in assessing if a proposal causes substantial harm is the impact on the significance of the heritage asset. As the National Planning Policy Framework makes clear, significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. Whether a proposal causes substantial harm will be a judgment for the decision maker, having regard to the circumstances of the case and the policy in the National Planning Policy Framework. In general terms, substantial harm is a high test, so it may not arise in many cases. For example, in determining whether works to a listed building constitute substantial harm, an important consideration would be whether the adverse impact seriously affects a key element of its special architectural or historic interest. It is the degree*

of harm to the asset's significance rather than the scale of the development that is to be assessed."

- 3.18 Paragraph 208 of the NPPF outlines that where a proposed development results in less than substantial harm to the significance of a heritage asset, the harm arising should be weighed against the public benefits accruing from the proposed development. Paragraph 18a-020 of the NPPG outlines what is meant by public benefits:

"Public benefits may follow from many developments and could be anything that delivers economic, social or environmental progress as described in the National Planning Policy Framework (Paragraph 8). Public benefits should flow from the proposed development. They should be of a nature or scale to be of benefit to the public at large and should not just be a private benefit. However, benefits do not always have to be visible or accessible to the public in order to be genuine public benefits."

Local Planning Policy

The North Herts Local Plan 2011-2031 was adopted in November 2022. The study site ('Land at Milksey Lane') is allocated for housing under *Policy GR1*.

- 3.19 The following policies are also of relevance for this assessment:

Policy SP13: Historic Environment

The Council will balance the need for growth with the proper protection and enhancement of the historic environment. When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight will be given to the asset's conservation and the management of its setting. We will pursue a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment through: a) Maintaining a strong presumption in favour of the retention, preservation and enhancement of heritage assets and their setting according to their significance; b) Identifying sites on the national register of Heritage at Risk or on the Council's 'At Risk' register; c) Periodic reviews of Conservation Areas and other locally designated assets; and d) Publication of detailed guidance.

Policy HE1: Designated heritage assets

Planning applications relating to Designated heritage Assets or their setting shall be accompanied by a Heritage Assessment/Justification Statement that:

- i. Assesses the significance of heritage assets, including their setting;*
- ii. Justifies and details the impacts of any proposal upon the significance of the designated heritage asset(s); and*
- iii. Informs any necessary measures to minimise or mitigate against any identified harms.*

Planning permission for development proposals affecting Designated Heritage Assets or their setting will be granted where they (as applicable):

- a) Enable the heritage asset to be used in a manner that secures its conservation and preserves its significance;*
- b) Incorporate a palette of materials that make a positive contribution to local character or distinctiveness, where it is appropriate and justified; and*
- c) Will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of the designated heritage asset, and this harm is outweighed by the public benefits of the*

development, including securing the asset's optimum viable use. Where substantial harm to, or loss of significance, of a designated heritage asset is proposed the Council shall refuse consent unless it can be demonstrated that the scheme is necessary to deliver considerable public benefits that outweigh the harm or loss.

Policy HE3: Non-designated heritage assets

Permission for a proposal that would result in harm to, or the loss of, a non-designated heritage asset will only be granted provided that a balanced judgement has been made that assesses the scale of harm to, or loss of significance of the non-designated asset and, where the proposal results in the loss of a non-designated heritage asset:

- a) The replacement building contributes to preserving the local character and distinctiveness of the area; and
- b) Where the asset is located in a conservation area a continuous contract for the demolition and redevelopment of the site has been secured, unless there are justifiable grounds for not developing the site.

Policy HE4: Archaeology

Permission for development proposals affecting heritage assets with archaeological interest will be granted provided that:

- a) Developers submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where justified, an archaeological field evaluation.
- b) It is demonstrated how archaeological remains will be preserved and incorporated into the layout of that development, if in situ preservation of important archaeological remains is considered preferable; and
- c) Where the loss of the whole or a material part of important archaeological remains is justified, appropriate conditions are applied to ensure that the archaeological recording, reporting, publication and archiving of the results of such archaeological work is undertaken before it is damaged or lost.

Where archaeological sites have been assessed to meet the criteria for inclusion on adopted registers or maps of locally important heritage assets these shall be treated in the same way as archaeology areas and areas of archaeological significance.

Areas of as yet, unknown archaeology may be identified during research, or through the planning or plan making process. These sites or areas should be treated in the same way as archaeology areas and areas of archaeological significance.

Guidance

Historic Environment Good Practice Advice In Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment (Historic England 2015)

- 3.20 The purpose of this document is to provide information to assist local authorities, planning and other consultants, owners, applicants and other interested parties in implementing historic environment policy in the NPPF and NPPG. It outlines a six-stage process to the assembly and analysis of relevant information relating to heritage assets potentially affected by a proposed development:
- Understand the significance of the affected assets;
 - Understand the impact of the proposal on that significance;
 - Avoid, minimise and mitigate impact in a way that meets the objectives of the NPPF;

- Look for opportunities to better reveal or enhance significance;
- Justify any harmful impacts in terms of the sustainable development objective of conserving significance and the need for change; and
- Offset negative impacts on aspects of significance by enhancing others through recording, disseminating and archiving archaeological and historical interest of the important elements of the heritage assets affected.

4.0 Archaeological and Historic Baseline

Archaeological Heritage Assets

- 4.1 The heritage assets under consideration have been identified by means of a review of the following resources:
- Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) Data;
 - The National Heritage List for England (NHLE) held by Historic England;
 - Historic England Archive;
 - Heritage Gateway
 - Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) data;
 - Google Earth and Bing aerial imagery; and
 - Review of historic mapping.
- 4.2 These resources have been used to provide an understanding of the heritage assets which may be affected by the proposed development. This chapter will describe the heritage assets which may be affected and assess their significance.
- 4.3 The locations of heritage assets recorded on the HER within the 1.5km radius study area are shown on Figures 2-4 and are listed in full at Appendix A.
- 4.4 An Archaeological Alert Area lies a short distance to the southeast of the study site and highlights the potential there for archaeological remains associated with settlement at Graveley.

Previous archaeological investigations

- 4.5 No previous archaeological investigations have been carried out within the study site. Immediately south of the study site an archaeological desk-based assessment (Orion Heritage, 2021) and an archaeological trial trenching evaluation (EHT9127; Cotswold Archaeology, 2022) were carried out. The trial trenching evaluation comprised 12 trenches and confirmed the presence of a northeast-southwest orientated Roman Road (Viatores 221), identified near the site's western boundary. Roadside ditches and an undated gully were also recorded and additional features comprised two northwest-southeast orientated postmedieval/modern field boundaries and one probable palaeochannel. Evidence for modern disturbance/made ground was also recorded in northeastern corner of the site. A review of publicly available information on the North Herts Council planning portal has confirmed that an archaeological open area excavation of the western part of the site, which contains the Roman Road, will be required prior to development of the site in order to preserve the remains by record.
- 4.6 A geophysical survey (EHT9273) was carried out in 2021 across c.85ha of land c.200m west of the study site. The survey area comprised five agricultural fields. Within Area 4, which is located closest to the study site, anomalies of archaeological interest were concentrated in a reverse L-shape, covering an area of c.8ha. The anomalies were interpreted as a possible Romano-British ladder settlement, however, it was also thought possible that the anomalies could indicate a medieval settlement associated with Wymondley Priory to the west. The geophysical survey report states that the archaeology present within the survey area was generally spatially constrained, however, it is possible that some of the features extend eastwards beyond the survey area, towards the study site.
- 4.7 A geophysical survey across c.75ha of land c.1.1-2.2km southeast of the study site in 2013 identified two areas of definite archaeological features and a scatter of other features (EHT8571). Evaluations in 2016 with thirty-six trenches across the

western and central part of the site found significant archaeology in six trenches, clustered in the northwest corner (EHT8186). Features appear to be associated with a late Iron Age/Roman farmstead. A ring ditch was identified to the southwest of the area. No archaeological deposits are recorded in the summary of evaluations at Site NS1 North Stevenage, which took place to the north of this area in 2018 (EHT8671). This suggests that the archaeological features encountered do not extend to their north.

Undated

- 4.8 A gully or small ditch of unknown date was uncovered during excavation of a water pipeline c.200m to the north of the study site (MHT1833).
- 4.9 Earthworks of rectangular banks and a mound of unknown purpose have been noted in a field c.360m to the east of the study site (MHT364). The area was surveyed in 1986-7 and this recorded two surviving ditched enclosures containing probable building platforms. The features may relate to a possible medieval moated site but may also be post-medieval in date. Another group of curving earthworks can be seen in aerial photographs to their south, south of Church Lane (MHT13421). These are located within a large Archaeological Alert Area associated with the settlement of Graveley.
- 4.10 Cropmarks of linear ditches (MHT4485) and an enclosure (MHT4494) have been identified at least c.700m away to the northwest of the study site. Further cropmarks of probable Bonze Age ring ditches can be seen at least 1.2km away to the northwest of the study site (MHT2893, MHT2894). All of those are located within Archaeological Alert Areas.
- 4.11 Cropmarks of a ring ditch or round barrow have also been noted c.700m northeast of the study site (MH4441).
- 4.12 A possible Roman Villa has been identified from cropmarks c.1.1km northeast of the study site (MHT4423). These may be associated with rectilinear ditches nearby (MHT7355). The latter are located within an Archaeological Alert Area.
- 4.13 A cropmark of a possible large penannular or pentagonal enclosure (MHT665) was identified c.1.14km south/southwest of the study site.
- 4.14 An undated ditch, which was thought to possibly represent a post-medieval field boundary (MHT9782) was recorded during fieldwork (EHT4301 and EHT4302) c.1.2km south of the study site.
- 4.15 Approximately 1.3km northeast of the study site cropmarks are suggestive of a small circular ditched enclosure or ploughed out Bronze Age barrow (MHT4434). These are located within an Archaeological Alert Area.
- 4.16 A circular soilmark c.1.3km to the northeast of the study site was found south of Lannocks Farm, with a disturbed inhumation on its east side (MHT2887). The inhumation was undated and might be Neolithic to early Bronze Age or a much later Saxon secondary burial.
- 4.17 Undated earthworks of cultivation terraces (MHT9801) were identified within woodland c.1.4km east of the study site.

Prehistoric

- 4.18 Prehistoric flints were recovered as surface finds c.200m west of the study site (MHT6653).

- 4.19 Prehistoric flints (MHT6652, MHT6651, MHT6649) were recovered during fieldwalking prior to the A1(M) widening scheme c.800m-1.4km south/southwest of the study site.
- 4.20 A ring ditch thought to be suggestive of a ploughed out late Neolithic or Bronze Age barrow has been identified from geophysics c.1.2km south/southeast of the study site (MHT31556). Although the ditch was evidently kept clean before being abandoned a small amount of Iron Age pottery was found in its upper fill.
- 4.21 Prehistoric occupation of the study area is indicated by the numerous cropmarks in the vicinity of the study site, although no features have been detected which are suggestive of occupation within the study site itself. There is, therefore, considered to be a low to moderate potential for Prehistoric finds or features within the study site.

Iron Age/Roman

- 4.22 The line of the Roman Road Viatores 221 (MHT4632) is still in use as a road in its northern part from Baldock to Rush Green west of Stevenage and is predicted to cross the study site's central area on a southwest-northeast alignment. During recent archaeological investigations in the form of a trial trenching evaluation immediately south of the study site evidence for the Roman Road was found in four trenches (EHT9127). Roadside ditches and an undated gully were also recorded. A possible section of the road and an associated ditch were also exposed during pipeline construction c.760m north/northeast of the study site (MHT2065). Much of the route is considered to have followed a late Iron Age Road (MHT4635). The route runs southwest from Baldock and is well documented in places for 10km but disappears south of Rush Green (MHT4632). The route to the south of today's Corey Mill Roundabout, Viatores route 220, is thought doubtful (MHT4184).
- 4.23 Evidence for a possible Late Iron Age/Roman-British farmstead was found during construction of a pipeline in 1975 c.230m west of the study site (MHT101). An artefact scatter of Iron Age sherds was found here (MHT121). The site may have been partially destroyed by the construction of the A1(M). Twenty-two sherds of Late Iron Age, Roman and medieval pottery were also recovered from fieldwalking in the immediate vicinity (MHT6654). It was within this area that a 2021 geophysical survey (EHT9273) found evidence for a possible Romano-British (or medieval) ladder settlement. The geophysical survey report states that the archaeology present within the survey area was generally spatially constrained, however, it is possible that some of the features extend eastwards beyond the survey area, towards the study site.
- 4.24 The findspot of sherds of abraded Roman or medieval pottery (MHT6652) was recorded c.850m south of the study site.
- 4.25 Approximately 930m north of the study site five bell-shaped pits were discovered in 1930 during construction of a garage (MHT193). The pits contained rubbish which included late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pottery, a small iron needle or pin, two weights and animal and human bone. Contemporary occupation features, a ditch and pit, have also been detected just to the north of this (MHT2075) along with early Iron Age pottery suggestive of an unenclosed Iron Age settlement in the area (MHT1150).
- 4.26 The findspot of a Roman coin (MHT4047) was recorded c.1km north of the study site.
- 4.27 A rural enclosure and other features of a possible late Iron Age Roman farmstead was found during excavation c.1.14km south/southeast of the study site

(MHT31557). The irregular enclosure was identified in geophysics, evaluated in 2016 and found with associated enclosures or boundary ditches. Pottery from the ditches was largely dated to the Late Iron Age to 2nd century.

- 4.28 A Roman cremation cemetery (MHT473) was found in 1882 c.1.3km northwest of the study site. Forty-three urns were found and they were thought to be of 2nd century date. A possible infant's feeding bottle (MHT1458) was found in association with the cemetery. The findspot of Roman pottery (MHT1459) was also recorded in the immediate vicinity, however, it is thought that the NGR is approximate.
- 4.29 A findspot of Roman pottery (MHT12567) was recorded c.1.4km south of the study site, north of Corey's Mill.
- 4.30 A road scheme excavation, evaluation and watching brief south of Little Wymondley, c.1.5km southwest of the study site, revealed a substantial Romano-British farmstead thought to spread over 2-4ha. A well-appointed multi-room masonry footed building, which could be interpreted as a 'cottage style' villa was also excavated.³
- 4.31 Finds retrieved c.230m west of the study site are considered likely to be associated with a possible Romano-British ladder settlement, which was recorded during a geophysical survey in 2021. The postulated line of a Roman Road, which has potential Iron Age antecedents, most likely runs through the centre of the study site and occupation features of this date are often found associated with the Roman transport network. The current available evidence therefore indicates a high potential for Iron Age or Roman period remains based on proximity to known sites.

Saxon and early Medieval

- 4.32 There are no entries on the Historic Environment Record of Saxon or early medieval date of relevance to the study site.
- 4.33 The manor of Graveley is recorded in Domesday as '*Gravelai*', meaning '*clearing by a grove or copse*'.⁴ It was recorded in the hundred of Broadwater, in the county of Hertfordshire. It had a recorded population of 27 households in 1086, putting it in the largest 40% of settlements at the time.⁵ The pre-conquest overlord was recorded as Godwin Benfield in 1066, before William of Letchworth became Lord and Robert Gernon Tenant-in-chief in 1086. It has been suggested that the medieval village originated by the church and migrated at a later date to the High Street, although there is no physical evidence for this. The village does seem to have reduced in size, most likely in the later medieval period (MHT2691).
- 4.34 It is likely that original settlement in the area grew from occupation around the church of St Mary in Graveley, to the east of the study site, or around the later Augustinian Priory at Wymondley, to the west of the study site. The proximity of these areas of settlement indicates a moderate potential for Saxon and early medieval archaeological remains relating to agricultural practice within the study site.

³ <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/romangl/maprecord.cfm?id=3029> and https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archiveDS/archiveDownload?t=arch-1352-1/dissemination/pdf/Herts_grey_lit_reports/GL3012_Little_Wymondley_Bypass_PXA.pdf

⁴ Mills, A.D. 2011. A Dictionary of British Place Names. Oxford University Press

⁵ <https://opendomesday.org/place/TL2327/graveley/>

- 4.35 A large quantity of medieval pottery, tiles, building stone and animal bones were noted during topsoil stripping for a water pipeline c.230m west of the study site (MHT4533). Following construction of the pipe trench several features were revealed including the remains of rubbish pits which produced stratified 12th to 13th century pottery, thought to be evidence for a farmstead. It was within this area that a 2021 geophysical survey (EHT9273) found evidence for a possible medieval (or Roman) settlement. The geophysical survey report states that the archaeology present within the survey area was generally spatially constrained, however, it is possible that some of the features extend eastwards beyond the survey area, towards the study site. Further medieval sherds were noted along the route of the pipe to the south (MHT1774).
- 4.36 The manor of Graveley was held in the time of King Edward by Swen, one of Earl Harold's men, and was granted by William the Conqueror to Goisbert of Beauvais. At this time it was assessed at 2 hides. Half a hide, formerly held by two men of Godwin of Bendfield, was held in 1086 by William of Robert Gernon.⁶
- 4.37 The manor of Goisbert of Beauvais seems to have been granted with Great Wymondley (q.v.) to Reginald de Argentein early in the 12th century. The estate of Robert Gernon in Little Wymondley was held in the 13th century by the Argenteins, so it is probable that here the two estates of 1086 became amalgamated. The overlordship of this manor, therefore, follows the descent of Great Wymondley. In about 1337 Thomas Fitz Eustace conveyed the manor to John de Blomvile, lord of the manor of Chesfield who died in the same year.⁷
- 4.38 The manor of Chesfield (or Chisfield) may be identified by its subsequent history with the holdings of Peter de Valognes in 1086. John de Blomvile held it in 1303 and died in 1337. Immediately before his death he became lord of the manor of Graveley, which passed to his son, and Chesfield has descended with that manor until the present day.⁸
- 4.39 The manor of Graveley Hall was formed from the lands in Graveley which belonged to Sopwell Nunnery, St. Albans. It is unfortunately impossible to ascertain who made the donation to the nunnery and the overlordship is unknown. In 1538 the king renewed the lease for twenty-one years to Agnes Gascoigne, widow, and John Graveley. The reversion and rent were granted later in the same year to James Needham of Wymondley Priory, who in 1541 obtained a licence to alienate them to John Graveley and his heirs. A later descendent Thomas Graveley and Winifred his wife sold the manor in 1627 to Richard Nixon, and he in 1637 sold it to Eustace Needham. Graveley Hall thus returned to the family of its early owners. Almost a hundred years later the Needham co-heirs were still holding the manor, after which it seems to have followed the descent of Wymondley Priory Manor.⁹
- 4.40 The church of St Mary at Graveley lies c.455m east of the study site (MHT4303). It has a 12th nave and the chancel was enlarged or rebuilt in the 13th century. The earthwork remains of the possible medieval manorial site of Graveley can be seen on aerial photographs just to the west of the church (MHT364). There are two surviving ditched and banked enclosures containing probable building platforms with hollow ways to the north and south.

⁶ <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/herts/vol3/pp85-90>

⁷ <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/herts/vol3/pp85-90>

⁸ <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/herts/vol3/pp85-90>

⁹ <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/herts/vol3/pp85-90>

- 4.41 Also in Graveley earthworks of house platforms, an enclosure and a linear bank (perhaps an earlier route of the High Street) have been identified approximately 550m south of the study site (MHT4225).
- 4.42 Thirty or forty sherds of medieval pottery (MHT6088) were found during pipeline construction works c.750m north of the study site.
- 4.43 The findspot of a few sherds of abraded Roman or medieval pottery (MHT6652) was recorded c.850m south of the study site.
- 4.44 Features associated with the Scheduled Monument of Wymondley Priory (NHLE 1013338) lie c.800m-1km west of the study site, with the conduit well-head being the element located closest to the study site, at a distance of c.800m and the second, larger element of the scheduled monument located c.1km west of the study site. The priory was originally established as a hospital in 1203-7 and dedicated to St Mary by Richard de Argentien (MHT1037). It was converted into a house (MHT15660) by James Needham when granted to him following the dissolution. The west end of the un-aisled nave of the priory church survives. Part of the cloister may have remained until c.1700 but the eastern parts were destroyed by fire in the 18th century. The post-dissolution great barn (MHT74) stands within a possible medieval moated enclosure (MHT75), however this may also be a post-medieval garden earthwork. Later, 17th and 18th century timber farm buildings in the form of a barn and a stable (MHT15085) also survive. Further earthworks (MHT159) and the conduit well-head (MHT1957) lie beyond the enclosure to the north and northeast. All of these features are located within an Archaeological Alert Area. Cropmarks of small, ditched enclosures, ditches, ridge and furrow and general disturbance indicative of medieval settlement (MHT17679) were recorded to the southeast of the priory.
- 4.45 Medieval pottery sherds (MHT1521) were found c.1.2km southwest of the study site during construction of a water pipeline.
- 4.46 Elements of a medieval farmstead have been excavated a short distance to the west of the study site and a geophysical survey in the same area in 2021 recorded anomalies possibly indicative of further medieval settlement. Medieval settlement is also confirmed at Graveley to the east and at Wymondley Priory to the west. It is thought that the study site lay beyond nearby medieval settlement cores, however, based on the results of nearby investigations, a moderate potential for medieval finds and features is considered for the study site.

Post Medieval

- 4.47 Graveley pond lies on registered common land c.360m south of the study site (MHT12563). It is typical of many historic village ponds with sloping access for animals.
- 4.48 Birdham Lane (MHT31558) was located c.660m south of the study site and was shown and named on the 1838 tithe map, running along the parish boundary between Graveley and Little Wymondley. The historic route had been removed by the late 19th century and a footpath on a slightly altered alignment replaced the lane.
- 4.49 A large quantity of post-medieval brick and tile debris (MHT6652), indicative of a building, was recorded c.850m south of the study site, however, no building is shown in this location on mid to late 19th century mapping.
- 4.50 Graveley Hall is a 16th century manor house immediately west of the Church of St Mary in Graveley (MHT15663), c.430m east of the study site. The manor was formed after the Dissolution from land belonging to Sopwell Nunnery. Earthwork

surveys to the north and west have revealed what appears to be evidence for the medieval manorial complex (MHT364). Graveley Hall Farm (MHT10893) is also located in the immediate vicinity. This post-medieval house incorporates the shell of a timber-framed house.

- 4.51 Chesfield Park, a significant park, is shown on maps of 1766 the 1st edition OS map and on Stanford's map of 1925 at least 1.4km southeast of the study site (MHT9567). The present house was built in 1950 on the site of a 17th century house. To the southwest of the park ditches visible on aerial imagery from 1955 appear to show remnant medieval or post-medieval ridge and furrow (MHT16257).
- 4.52 Wymondley Hall is a late 16th century farmhouse built for the Needham family as home farm to Wymondley Priory and is located c.1.5km southwest of the study site (Grade II* listed, NHLE 1102501). Although it was altered in the mid-17th and 19th centuries the house retains a timber-framed six gabled front. The timber farmstead buildings lie to its southeast (MHT11070).
- 4.53 Further post-medieval and modern HER entries relate to farmsteads, dovecotes, milestones and a kiln. The locations of these assets are shown at Figure 3 and are listed at Appendix A of this report.
- 4.54 It is considered that the study site was in agricultural use in the post-medieval period. As such there is a low potential for finds or features, other than those associated with agricultural practices.

Historic Maps

- 4.55 The 1766 Andrews and Drury map (Figure 5) shows the study site as part of a large enclosed agricultural field. Buildings are indicated to the south in Graveley, as well as towards the Church in Graveley. Settlement at Great and Little Wymondley can be seen to the southwest.
- 4.56 The 1822 Bryant Map of Hertfordshire (Figure 6) shows the study site within an unoccupied parcel of land to the north of houses fronting Graveley High Street. Birdham Lane appears to form the study site's western boundary and Milksey Lane can be seen on its current alignment forming the southern study site boundary.
- 4.57 The 1834 Greenwood County map (Figure 7) shows no changes for the area within which the study site is located.
- 4.58 The majority of the study site is shown in detail on the 1838 Tithe Map (Figure 8). It occupies plots 378 and 379. These are described as follows in the associated apportionment:

Landowner	Occupier	Plot Number	Name	Cultivation
Reverend J Allington	William Stratton	378	Part of Kings Croft	Arable
Mrs Bishop	In Hand	379	Little Hundred Acres	Grass

- 4.59 Mrs Bishop lived at Graveley House, which is extant and is located c.90m south of the study site's southern boundary. The study site's western-most part fell within Little Wymondley parish, however, no tithe map coverage is available for that part of the parish.
- 4.60 The 1884 OS Map (Figure 9) shows the study site boundaries in their current layout. What is now Graveley Lane immediately north of the study site is shown as Pinch Lane. Milksey Lane forms the southern site boundary, the High Street runs to

the east and a track/path forms the western site boundary. No building stock is shown within the study site.

- 4.61 No changes are visible on the 1924-1925 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 10).
- 4.62 By 1976, as shown on the OS Map (Figure 11), the A1(M) had been constructed c.130m west of the study site's western boundary. Pinch Lane, to the immediate north of the study site, appears to have been widened. The path/track forming the study site's western boundary is labelled as a footpath.
- 4.63 The 1999 OS Map (Figure 12) shows a stable building and paddocks within the study site.
- 4.64 By 2006, as shown on the OS Map (Figure 13), the stable building appears to have been extended to form a U-shape.
- 4.65 The 2021 OS Map (Figure 14) shows further internal divisions as well as a horse-riding arena to the immediate south of the stable block. One building and two ancillary structures had been constructed to the immediate north of the study site boundary, between Graveley Lane and the study site (a review of Google Earth imagery (see below) has shown that the building had been constructed by 2000).
- 4.66 Figure 15 (latest available Google Earth Image) shows the study site in its current layout. The stable building, internal boundary fencing and horse-riding arena are visible. Milksey Lane runs on the inside of the western study site boundary towards the recently constructed buildings to the immediate north of the study site and a footpath is shown running parallel to Milksey Lane. The two are separated by a hedgerow. Mature vegetation is visible along the High Street and Milksey Lane.

Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS)

- 4.67 The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) encourages the recording of archaeological objects found by members of the public in England and Wales. The PAS data is not available to download with spatial data, however, rough spatial information can be viewed, but not reproduced, using the PAS KML download in Google Earth. The KML layer did not show any finds within the study site itself.
- 4.68 PAS findspots within 1km from the study site comprise Roman, medieval and post-medieval finds and details of those are appended to this report at Appendix A.

Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) data

- 4.69 The study site falls within the Historic Landscape Characterisation "20th century enclosure" (HHT7390).

Lidar and Online Aerial Imagery

- 4.70 The Environment Agency (EA) National Lidar Programme (NLP) collected DTM data in 2020 at 1m resolution, which covers the study site and the 1km study area. The processed data shows no features of archaeological interest; only features associated with the study site's current use are visible.
- 4.71 Google Earth holds imagery which covers the study site for the period 1985-2024. The 1985 image is of poor quality and has therefore not been assessed. The remaining images show the stable block within the study site by 2000 and the paddocks and horse-riding arena by 2007.

- 4.72 Undated imagery available at Bing Aerial shows the study site in a similar condition to the recent Google Earth Images. Variations in the geology are visible, as is a high traffic area used by horses.

Historic England Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer

- 4.73 The study site is located within an area covered by the Historic England Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer.¹⁰ A hand drawn project was completed in 1991 by the Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England, using oblique aerial photographs (report number 89/1992). However, no cropmarks/soilmarks/earthworks are recorded within the study site.

Historic England Aerial Photo Explorer

- 4.74 The study site is not shown on any images held online as part of the Historic England Aerial Photo Explorer.¹¹

Designated archaeological assets

- 4.75 No statutory designations in the form of Scheduled Monuments are located within or adjacent to the study site. Features associated with the Scheduled Monument Wymondley Priory, barn, moat, associated earthworks, enclosures, platforms, hollow-way and conduit head (NHLE 1013338) lie c.800m-c.1km to the west of the study site. Great Wymondley Castle lies c.1.4km to the west of the study site (NHLE 1010761). This is a motte and bailey castle and associated manorial enclosure 20m east of St Marys Church in Great Wymondley. The remains of Chesfield Church (NHLE 1003542) are located c.1.7km east of the study site. The Roman villa (site of) 330yds (300m) N of Ninesprings (NHLE 1003547) is located c.2.3km northwest of the study site.
- 4.76 A review of aerial imagery available online has confirmed that due to distance and intervening vegetation none of the scheduled monuments will be negatively impacted by the proposed development. As such, no further assessment is necessary.

Summary of Archaeological Potential and Assessment of Significance

- 4.77 The available evidence has been assessed in an attempt to determine the nature and extent of any previous impacts upon any potential below ground archaeological deposits which may survive within the bounds of the proposed development site.
- 4.78 Prehistoric settlement of the study area is indicated by a number of cropmarks in the vicinity of the study site. There is, therefore, considered to be a low to moderate potential for Prehistoric finds or features within the study site.
- 4.79 Finds retrieved c.230m west of the study site are considered likely to be associated with a possible Romano-British ladder settlement, which was recorded during a geophysical survey in 2021. The projected line of a Roman Road, which has potential Iron Age antecedents, most likely runs through the centre of the study site; it is noted that occupation features of this date can be associated with the

¹⁰

<https://historicengland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d45dabecef5541f18255e12e5cd5f85a>

¹¹ <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/>

Roman transport network, however no occupation evidence was found in the site immediately to the south of the study site. The current available evidence therefore indicates a high potential for Iron Age or Roman period remains based on proximity to known sites.

- 4.80 A moderate potential for Saxon and early medieval archaeological remains relating to agricultural practice is considered for the study site.
- 4.81 The study site is considered to have a moderate potential for finds and features from the medieval period and a low potential for finds and features from the post-medieval period, other than those associated with agricultural practices.
- 4.82 A historic map regression exercise and review of aerial imagery available online has shown that the study site has remained undeveloped with the exception of the stable block and associated paddocks and arena. As such, past impacts are localised in the area of the stable block and minimal in the remainder of the study site.
- 4.83 Archaeological remains, if present, are likely to be considered of local to regional significance. Archaeological remains of national significance requiring preservation in-situ are not expected. Archaeology is therefore not considered to present a design constraint on development.

5.0 Proposed Development and Potential Impact on Heritage Assets

Site Conditions

- 5.1 The study site currently comprises a stable block with associated paddocks and a horse-riding arena which are currently used for kenneling dogs.

The Proposed Development

- 5.2 Current development proposals comprise residential development on the site.
- 5.3 Full details of the scheme were not available at the time of writing and so the following assessment of impact is based on a generalised impact typical of residential development.

Potential Archaeological Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- 5.4 Prehistoric settlement of the study area is indicated by a number of cropmarks in the vicinity of the study site. There is, therefore, considered to be a low to moderate potential for Prehistoric finds or features within the study site.
- 5.5 A review of the available evidence has confirmed a high potential for Iron Age/Roman remains. The line of the Roman Road from Baldock to Rush Green is projected to run on a southwest-northeast alignment through the centre of the study site.
- 5.6 A moderate potential for Saxon and early medieval archaeological remains relating to agricultural practice is considered for the study site.
- 5.7 The study site is considered to have a moderate potential for finds and features from the medieval period and a low potential for finds and features from the post-medieval period, other than those associated with agricultural practices.
- 5.8 The stable block within the study site comprises the only known previous phase of development, which would have had a localised impact on potential remains.
- 5.9 Archaeological remains, if present, are likely to be considered of local to regional significance. Archaeological remains of national significance requiring preservation in-situ are not expected. Archaeology is therefore not considered to present a design constraint on development.
- 5.10 Given the likely presence of a Roman Road within the study site, a requirement for further phased archaeological investigation is anticipated and discussions will be held with the LPA's archaeological advisor to agree an appropriate scope of works. These works could reasonably be secured as a condition of planning permission should it be granted.

6.0 Summary and Conclusions

- 6.1 This archaeological desk-based assessment considers land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley, Hertfordshire, which is proposed for a residential development (Fig. 1).
- 6.2 Prehistoric settlement of the study area is indicated by a number of cropmarks in the vicinity of the study site. There is, therefore, considered to be a low to moderate potential for Prehistoric finds or features within the study site.
- 6.3 A review of the available evidence suggests a high potential for Iron Age/Roman remains. The line of the Roman Road from Baldock to Rush Green is projected to run on a southwest-northeast alignment through the centre of the study site.
- 6.4 A moderate potential for Saxon and early medieval archaeological remains relating to agricultural practice is considered for the study site.
- 6.5 The study site is considered to have a moderate potential for finds and features from the medieval period and a low potential for finds and features from the post-medieval period, other than those associated with agricultural practices.
- 6.6 The stable block within the study site comprises the only known previous phase of development, which would have had a localised impact on potential remains.
- 6.7 Archaeological remains, if present, are likely to be considered of local to regional significance. Archaeological remains of national significance requiring preservation in-situ are not expected. Archaeology is therefore not considered to present a design constraint on development.
- 6.8 Given the likely presence of a Roman Road within the study site, a requirement for further phased archaeological investigation is anticipated and discussions will be held with the LPA's archaeological advisor to agree an appropriate scope of works. These works could reasonably be secured as a condition of planning permission should it be granted.

General

British Library
The National Archives
Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record

Cartographic

1766 Andrews and Drury Map
1822 Bryant Map of Hertfordshire
1834 Greenwood County Map
1838 Graveley Tithe Map
1884 OS Map 1:10,000
1924-1925 OS Map 1:10,000
1976 OS Map 1:10,000
1999 OS Map 1:10,000
2006 OS Map 1:10,000
2021 OS Map 1:10,000

Websites

Archaeology Data Service – <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>
British History Online – <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>
British Geological Survey Geology Viewer –
https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?_ga=2.127469198.2049289651.1662547922-31267891.1662547922
British Geological Survey GeoIndex Onshore (borehole data) –
<https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html>
Flood Map for Planning - [https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/flood-zone-results?polygon=\[\[471894,173891\],\[472174,173869\],\[472169,173811\],\[471888,173838\],\[471894,173891\]\]¢er=\[472031,173851\]&location=RG1%25208BW](https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/flood-zone-results?polygon=[[471894,173891],[472174,173869],[472169,173811],[471888,173838],[471894,173891]]¢er=[472031,173851]&location=RG1%25208BW)
Heritage Gateway – www.heritagegateway.org.uk
Historic England Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer –
<https://historicengland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d45dabecef5541f18255e12e5cd5f85a>
Historic England Aerial Photo Explorer –
<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/>
Historic England Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance –
<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/conservation-principles-sustainable-management-historic-environment/conservationprinciplespoliciesandguidanceapril08web/>
Historic England National Heritage List for England –
<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>
Historic England Local Heritage Listing: Identifying and Conserving Local Heritage –
<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7/>
MAGIC – www.magic.gov.uk
Natural England – <https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/>
Open Domesday – www.opendomesday.org

Bibliographic

AOC Archaeology. 2021. Wymondley Solar Farm, Hertfordshire. Archaeological Geophysical Survey

Cotswold Archaeology. 2022. Land at Milksey Lane, Graveley, Hertfordshire. Archaeological Evaluation.

DCMS, 2013. Scheduled Monuments & nationally important but non-scheduled monuments.

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government. 2019. Planning Practice Guidance

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. 2023. National Planning Policy Framework DCLG

Historic England 2015. Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 2 – Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment

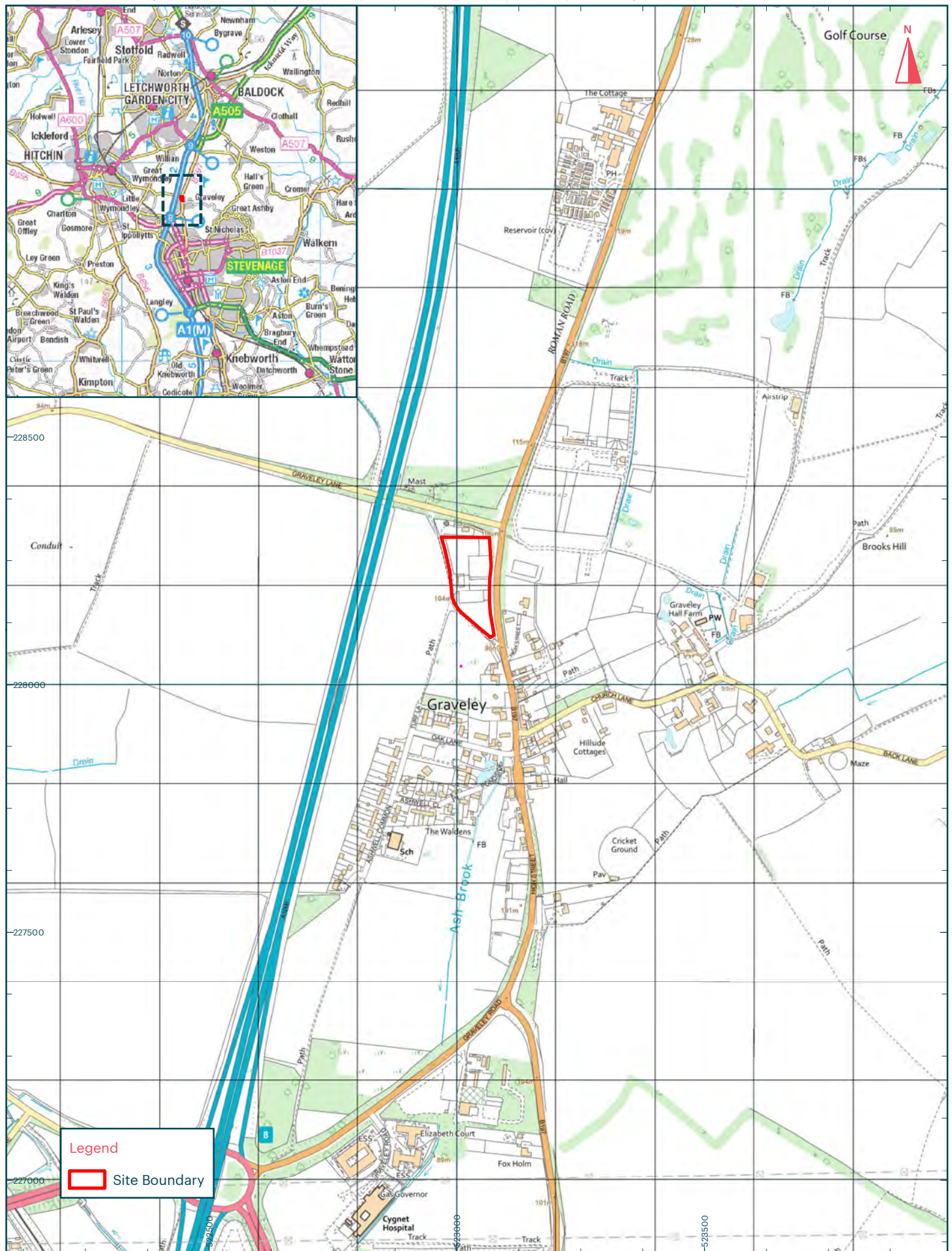
Historic England. 2017. Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 – The Setting of Heritage Assets

Mills, A.D. 2011. A Dictionary of British Place Names. Oxford University Press.

Lidar

Lidar data were downloaded from the Environment Agency website in September 2024 - <https://environment.data.gov.uk/DefraDataDownload/?Mode=survey>

Tile Name	Year	Resolution (m)
TL22nw	2020	1



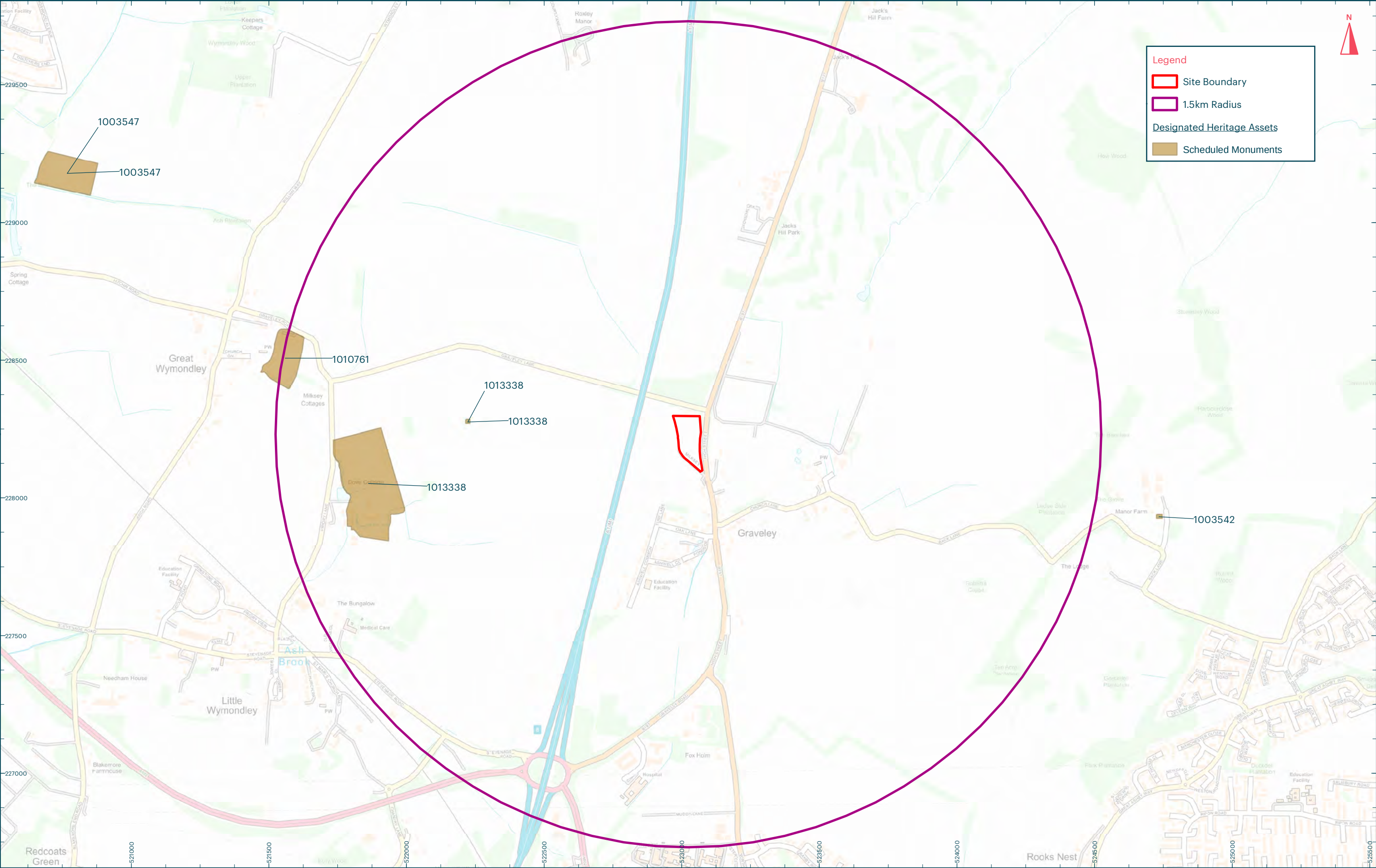
Title:
Figure 1: Site Location

Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:10,000

0 300m

orion.



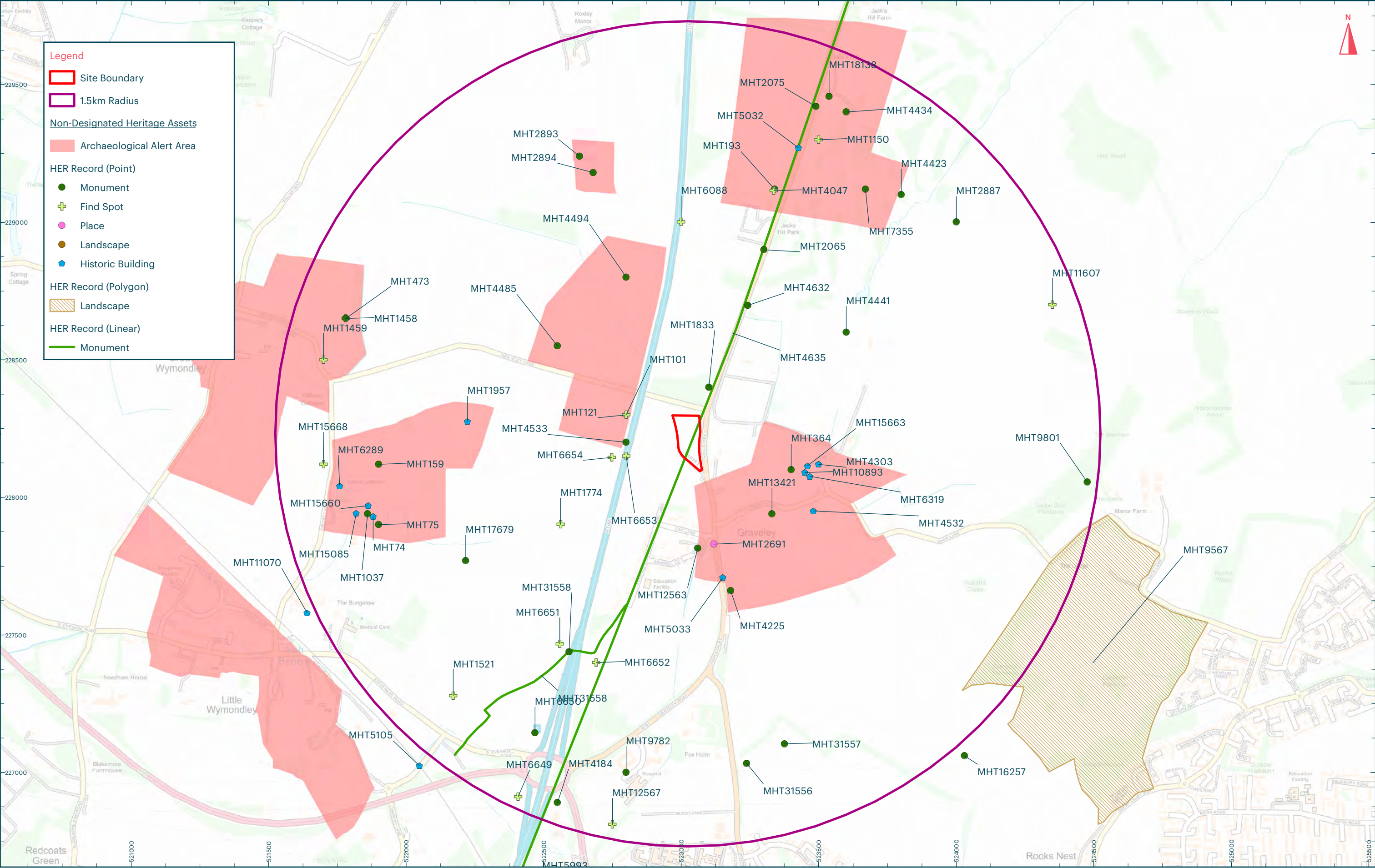
Title:
Figure 2: Designated archaeological assets

Address:
Land at Milksey Lane, Graveley, Hertfordshire Phase 2

Scale at A3: 1:12,500

0 400m





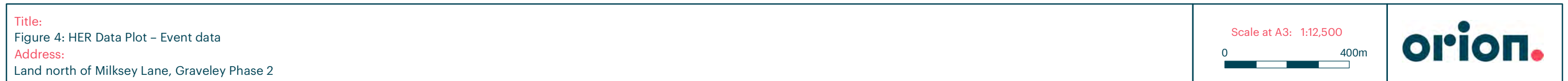
Title:
Figure 3: HER Data Plot – Monuments data

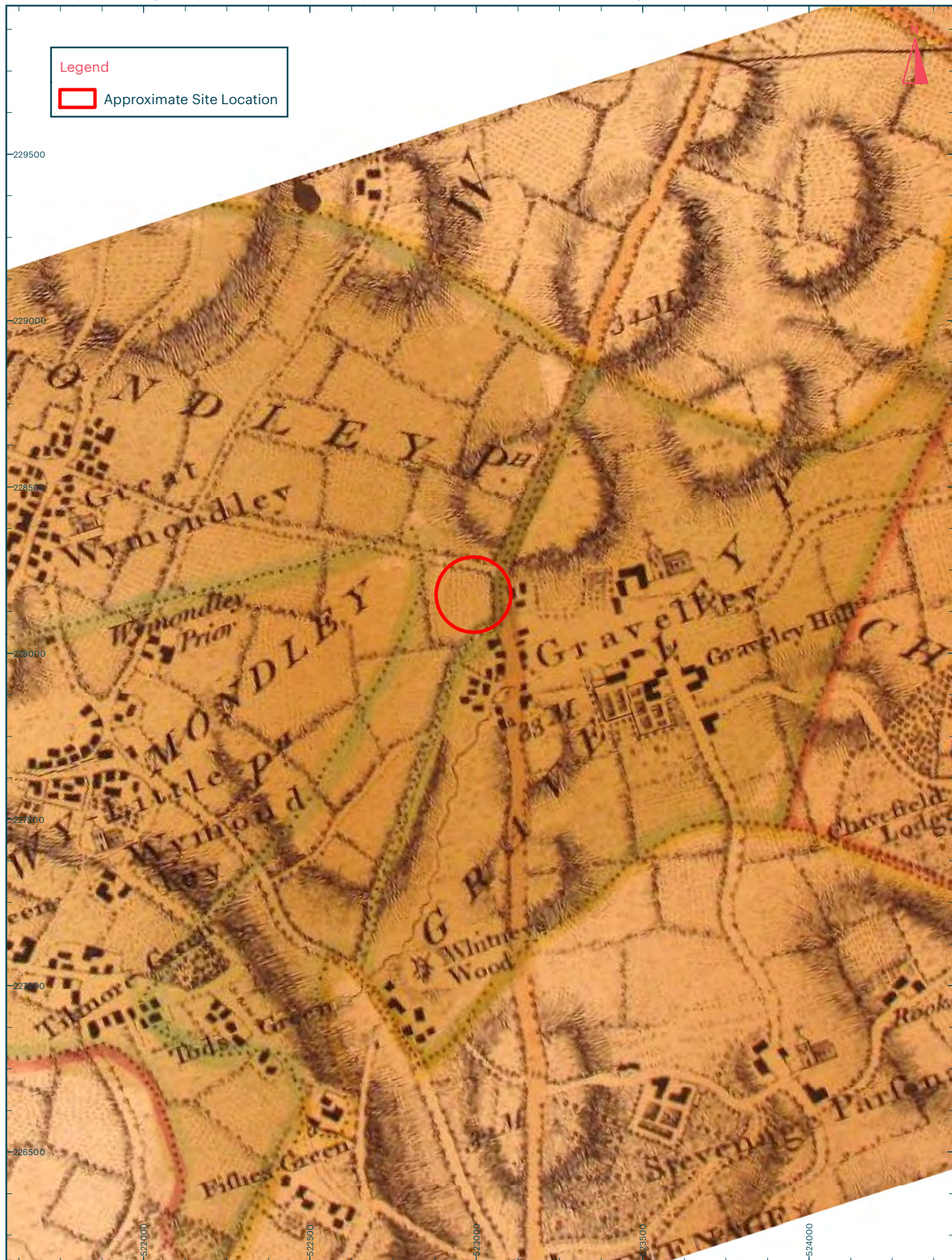
Address:
Land at Milksey Lane, Graveley, Hertfordshire Phase 2

Scale at A3: 1:12,500

0 400m







Title:
Figure 5: 1766 Andrews and Drury Map
Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:15,000



orion.



Title:
Figure 6: 1822 Bryant Map of Hertfordshire
Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:15,000

0 500m

orion.



Title:
Figure 7: 1834 Greenwood County Map
Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:15,000
0 500m

orion.

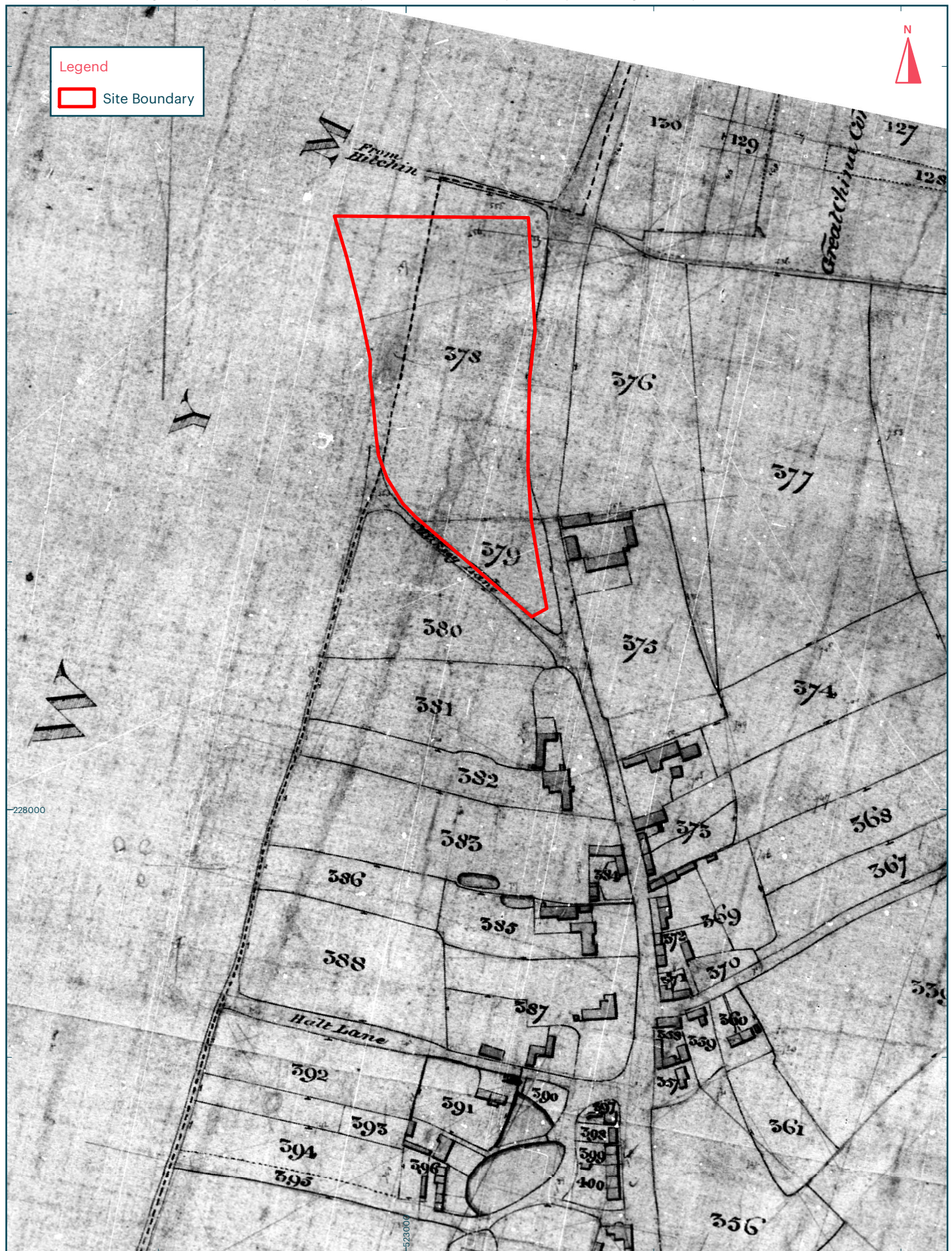
**Title:**

Figure 8: 1838 Graveley Tithe Map

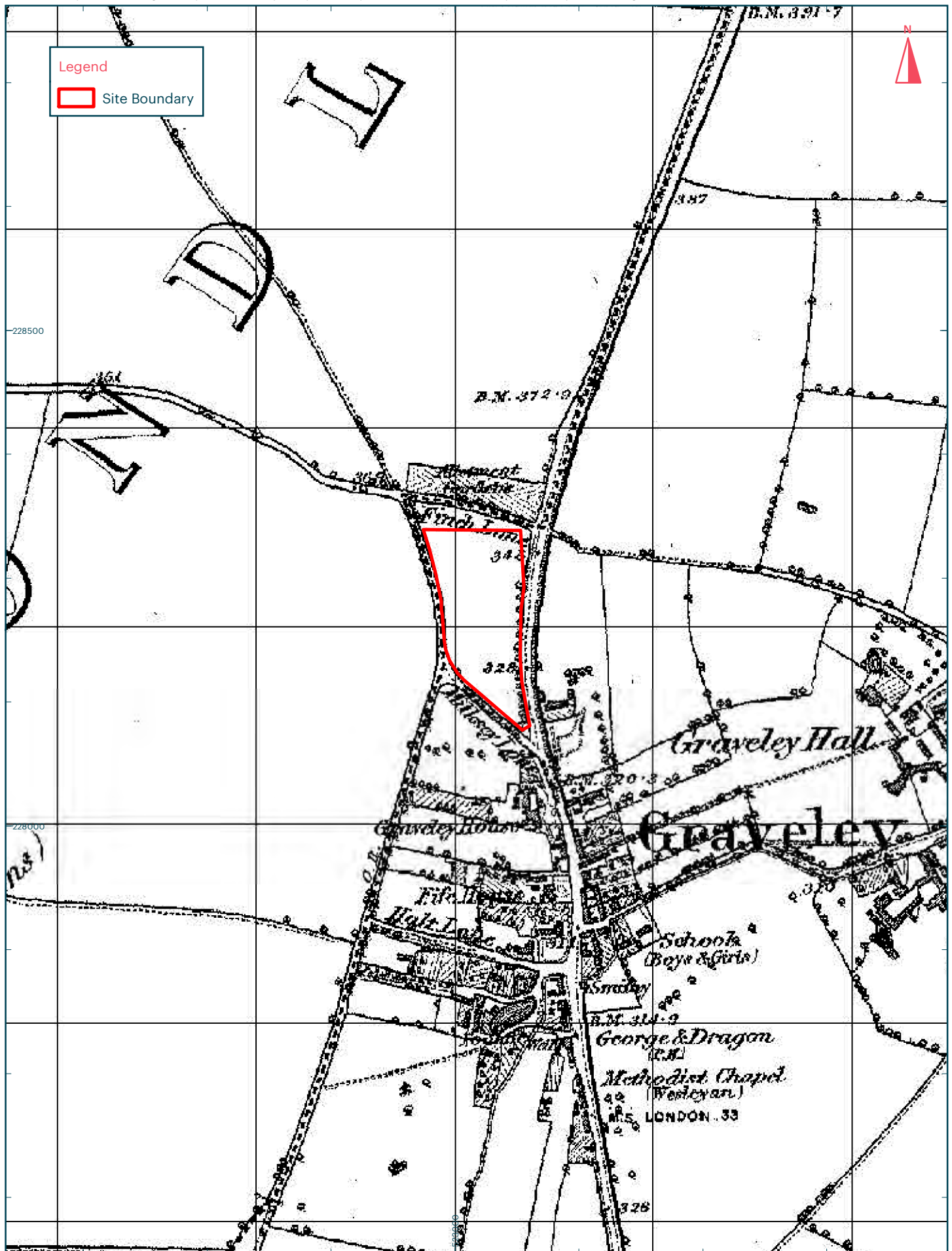
Address:

Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:2,500

0 80m

orion.



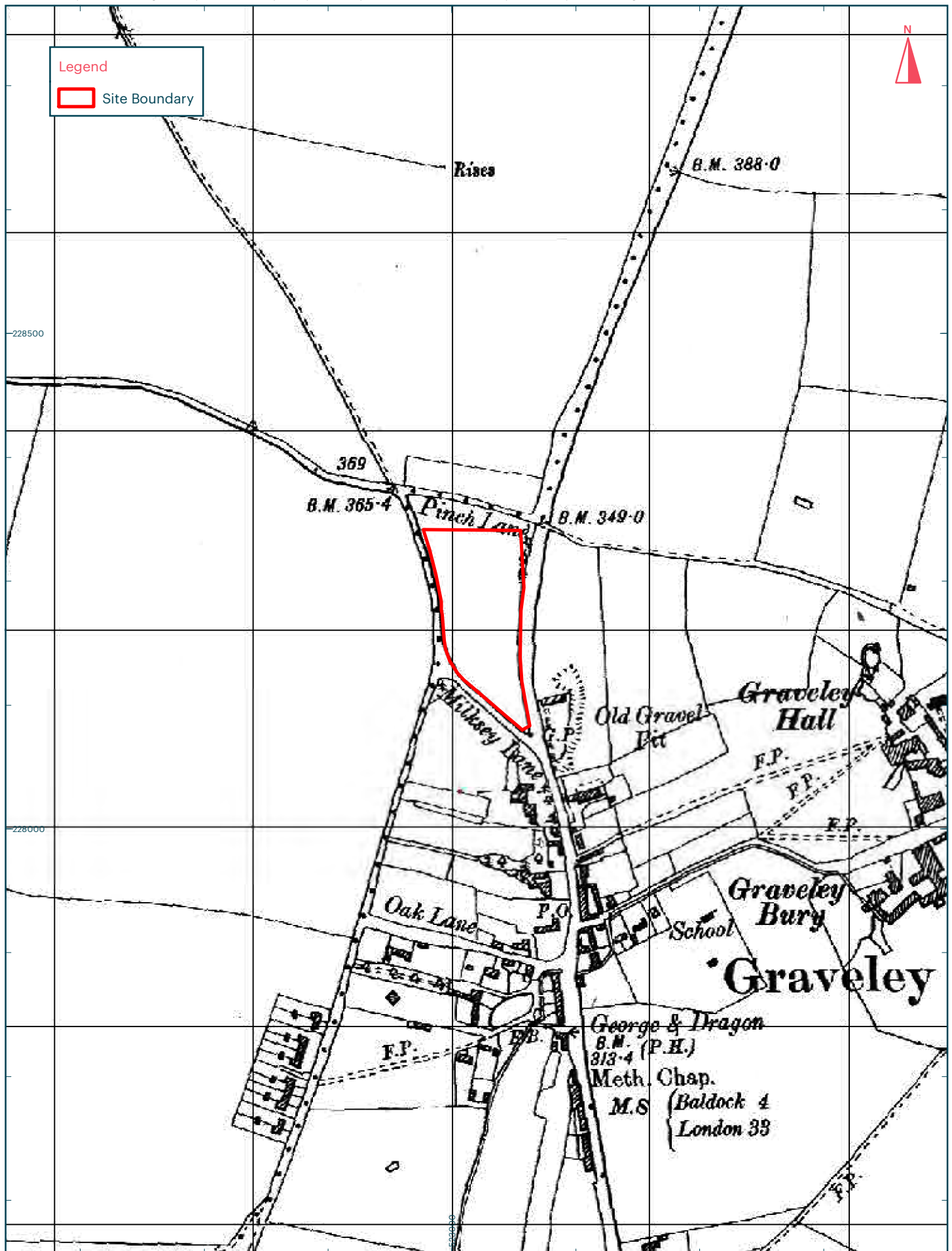
Title:
Figure 9: 1884 OS Map 1:10,000

Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:5,000



orion.



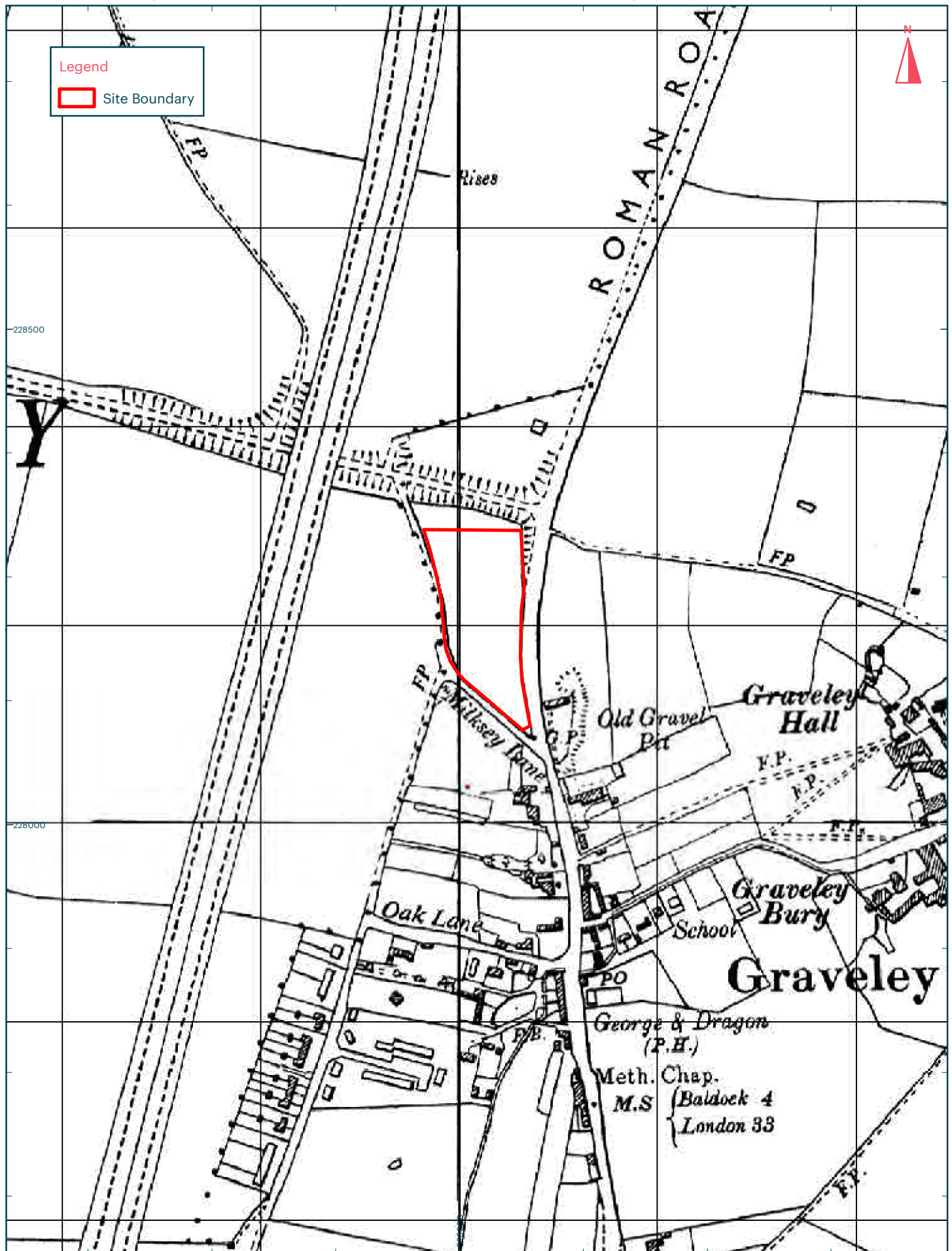
Title:
Figure 10: 1924-1925 OS Map 1:10,000

Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:5,000

0 200m

orion.



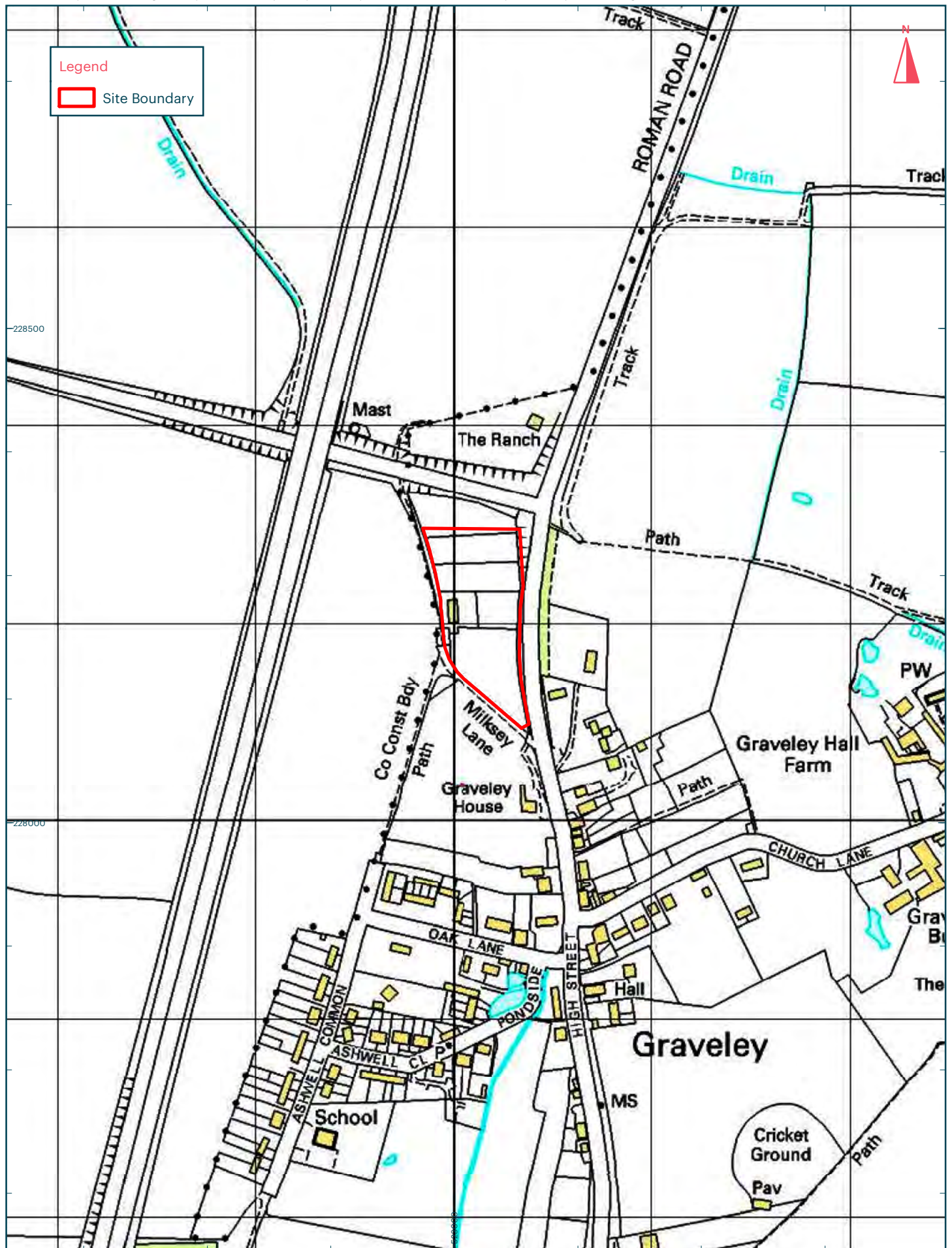
Title:
Figure 11: 1976 OS Map 1:10,000

Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:5,000

0 200m

orion.



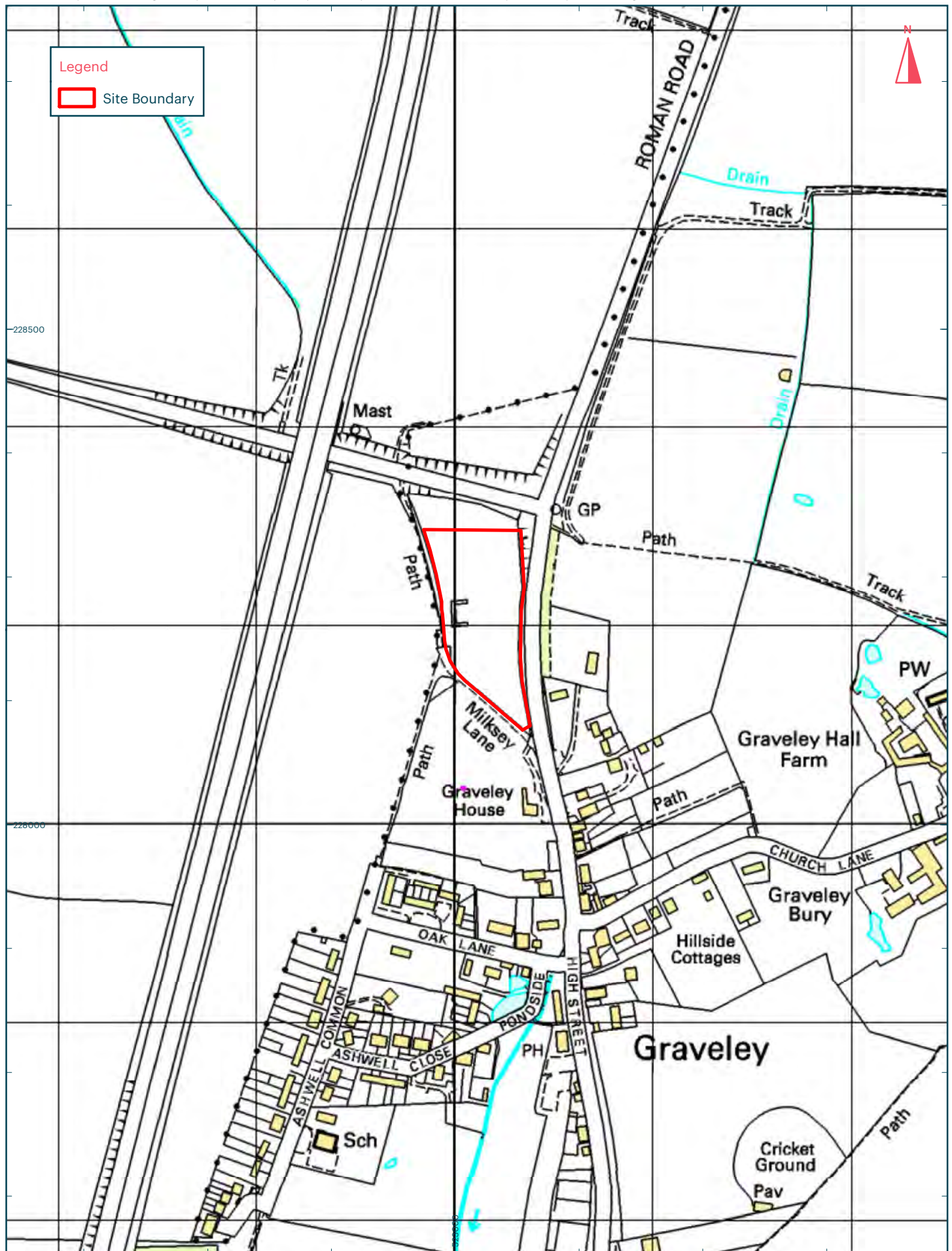
Title:
Figure 12: 1999 OS Map 1:10,000

Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:5,000



orion.



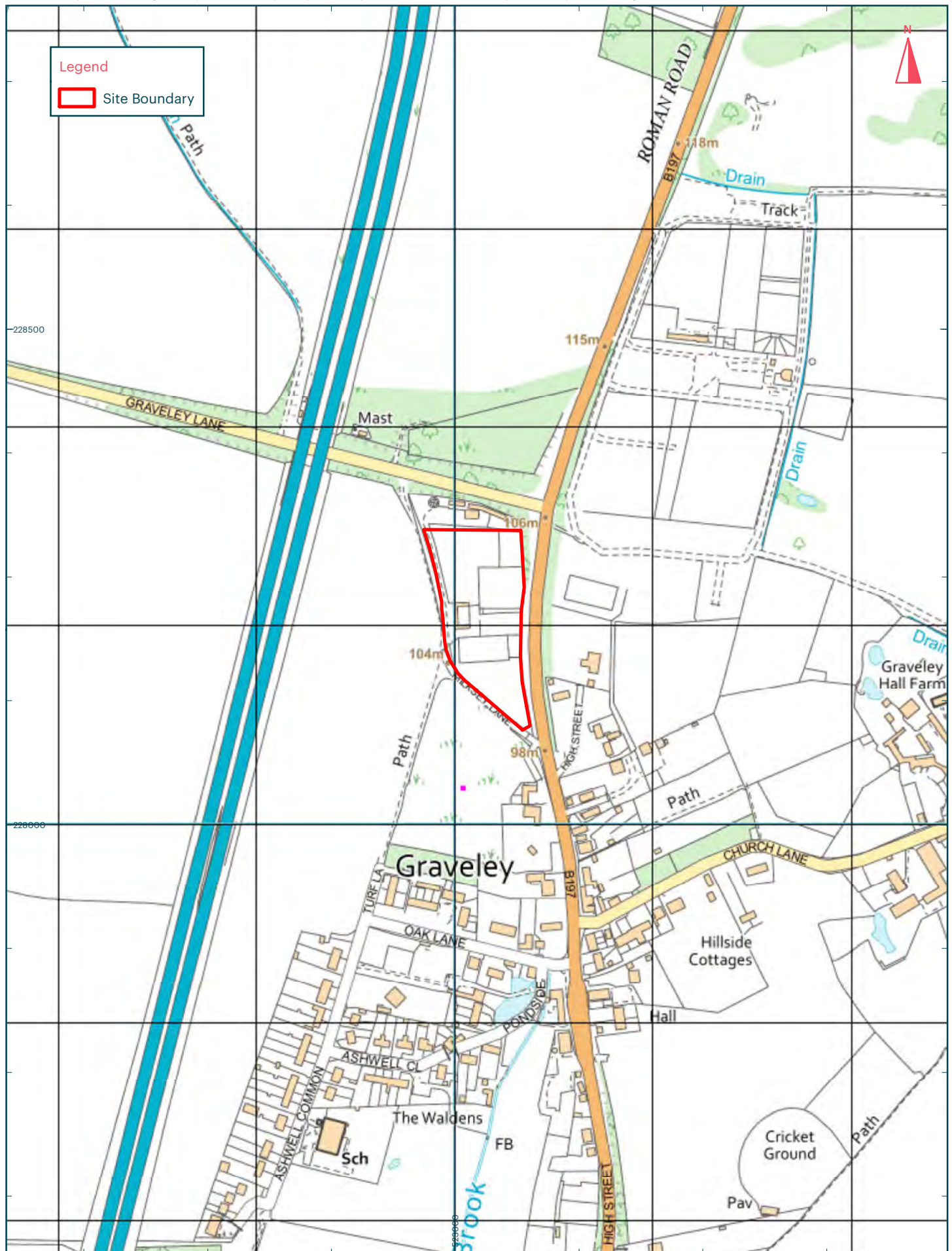
Title:
Figure 13: 2006 OS Map 1:10,000

Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:5,000

0 200m

orion.



Title:
Figure 14: 2021 OS Map 1:10,000

Address:
Land north of Milksey Lane, Graveley Phase 2

Scale at A4: 1:5,000

0 200m

orion.



GAZETTEER OF HERITAGE ASSETS

In order to understand the nature and extent of the surrounding archaeological resource, a study area of a 1.5km radius from the site's centre was adopted. The following gazetteer represents all of the entries from the Hertfordshire HER.

Abbreviations:**HHER:**

Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record

HER Number:

HHER monument identification reference number

PREFREF	NAME	PERIOD
13421	EARTHWORKS, CHURCH LANE, GRAVELEY	Unknown
17679	CROPMARKS OF MEDIEVAL OCCUPATION, SW OF WYMONDLEY PRIORY	Unknown
1833	GULLY OF UNKNOWN DATE, GRAVELEY	Unknown
27935	UNKNOWN DATE LEAD WEIGHT, WYMONDLEY	Unknown
4485	CROPMARKS OF LINEAR DITCHES, WYMONDLEY	Unknown
4494	CROPMARKS OF AN ENCLOSURE, WYMONDLEY	Unknown
6650	CROPMARK OF POSSIBLE ENCLOSURE, NORTH OF JUNCTION 8, A1(M), STEVENAGE	Unknown
9801	CULTIVATION TERRACES, LEDGE SIDE PLANTATION, THE GROVE, CHESFIELD, GRAVELEY	Unknown
6649	PREHISTORIC FLINTS, SSW OF A1(M) JUNCTION 8, STEVENAGE	Prehistoric
6651	PREHISTORIC FLINTS, N OF JUNCTION 8, A1(M), STEVENAGE	Prehistoric
6653	PREHISTORIC FLINTS, S OF GRAVELEY LANE, WYMONDLEY	Prehistoric
2887	INHUMATION AND RING DITCH, SOUTH OF LANNOCKS FARM, WESTON	Neolithic to Bronze Age
2893	CROPMARK OF RING DITCH, JACKS HILL, LETCHWORTH	Neolithic to Bronze Age
2894	CROPMARK OF RING DITCH, LETCHWORTH	Neolithic to Bronze Age
31556	PROBABLE ROUND BARROW, NORTH ROAD, STEVENAGE	Neolithic to Bronze Age
4434	CROPMARK OF A RING DITCH, JACKS HILL, LETCHWORTH	Neolithic to Bronze Age
4441	CROPMARK OF RING DITCH, GRAVELEY	Neolithic to Bronze Age

PREFREF	NAME	PERIOD
18138	LATE BRONZE AGE/EARLIER IRON AGE PITS, CHESFIELD DOWNS GOLF COURSE, JACK'S HILL, GRAVELEY	Bronze Age to Iron Age
193	LATE BRONZE AGE OR EARLY IRON AGE PITS, JACK'S HILL GARAGE, WILLIAN	Bronze Age to Iron Age
26637	BRONZE AGE COPPER-ALLOY SWORD, WYMONDLEY	Bronze Age to Iron Age
1150	EARLY IRON AGE POTTERY, JACK'S HILL, GRAVELEY	Iron Age
121	IRON AGE POTTERY, EAST OF GREAT WYMONDLEY	Iron Age
2075	EARLY IRON AGE FEATURES, LETCHWORTH	Iron Age
21066	LATE IRON AGE GOLD QUARTER STATER, WYMONDLEY	Iron Age
29127	LATE IRON AGE COPPER-ALLOY COIN, GRAVELEY	Iron Age
29831	LATE IRON AGE GOLD STATER, STEVENAGE	Iron Age
26842	LATE IRON AGE COPPER ALLOY BUCKET FRAGMENT, WYMONDLEY	Iron Age to Roman
31557	LATE IRON AGE-ROMAN FARMSTEAD, EAST OF NORTH ROAD, STEVENAGE	Iron Age to Roman
6654	LATE IRON AGE, ROMAN AND MEDIEVAL POTTERY, S OF GRAVELEY LANE, WYMONDLEY	Iron Age to Medieval
101	POSSIBLE ROMAN FARMSTEAD, EAST OF GREAT WYMONDLEY	Roman
12567	ROMAN POTTERY, NORTH OF COREY'S MILL, STEVENAGE	Roman
1458	?ROMANO-BRITISH FEEDING BOTTLE, NE OF WYMONDLEY	Roman
1459	ROMANO-BRITISH POTTERY, 'GRAVELEY ROAD, LETCHWORTH'	Roman
2065	POSSIBLE ROMAN ROAD SECTION AND ASSOCIATED DITCH, GRAVELEY	Roman
21067	EARLY ROMAN COPPER-ALLOY BOW BROOCH, WYMONDLEY	Roman
27929	EARLY ROMAN COPPER-ALLOY HARNESS FITTING, WYMONDLEY	Roman
4047	ROMAN COIN, JACKS HILL GARAGE, WILLIAN	Roman
4184	SUPPOSED LINE OF ROMAN ROAD	Roman
4423	CROPMARKS OF POSSIBLE ROMAN VILLA, JACK'S HILL, GRAVELEY	Roman
4632	SUPPOSED ROMAN ROAD, 'COLEMAN GREEN TO BALDOCK'	Roman
473	ROMANO-BRITISH CREMATION CEMETERY, NE OF GREAT WYMONDLEY	Roman
7355	CROPMARK OF RECTILINEAR DITCHES, JACK'S HILL, GRAVELEY	Roman
4635	LINE OF ROMAN ROAD FROM BALDOCK TO RUSH GREEN	Roman

PREFREF	NAME	PERIOD
6652	POST-MEDIEVAL BRICK & TILE, AND MEDIEVAL OR ROMAN SHERDS, S OF GRAVELEY	Roman to Post Medieval
20478	MIDDLE SAXON COPPER-ALLOY COIN, WYMONDLEY	Saxon/Early Medieval
21145	MIDDLE SAXON SILVER COIN, WYMONDLEY	Saxon/Early Medieval
21146	MIDDLE SAXON SILVER SCEAT, WYMONDLEY	Saxon/Early Medieval
21147	MIDDLE SAXON SILVER PLATED SCEAT IMITATION, WYMONDLEY	Saxon/Early Medieval
21148	MIDDLE SAXON SILVER SCEAT, WYMONDLEY	Saxon/Early Medieval
1037	AUGUSTINIAN PRIORY, WYMONDLEY PRIORY, WYMONDLEY	Medieval
1521	MEDIEVAL POTTERY, WYMONDLEY	Medieval
159	EARTHWORKS, PROBABLY PART OF THE PRIORY, WYMONDLEY	Medieval
1774	MEDIEVAL POTTERY, WYMONDLEY	Medieval
1957	CONDUIT HEAD, WYMONDLEY PRIORY, WYMONDLEY	Medieval
24424	MEDIEVAL COPPER-ALLOY STRAP-END, GRAVELEY	Medieval
26640	MEDIEVAL SILVER LONG-CROSS FARTHING, WYMONDLEY	Medieval
2691	VILLAGE OF GRAVELEY	Medieval
364	EARTHWORKS, POSSIBLE MANORIAL SITE, GRAVELEY	Medieval
4225	SETTLEMENT EARTHWORKS, GRAVELEY	Medieval
4303	CHURCH OF ST MARY, GRAVELEY	Medieval
4533	MEDIEVAL FEATURES, WYMONDLEY	Medieval
6088	MEDIEVAL POTTERY, JACKS HILL, GRAVELEY	Medieval
12563	GRAVELEY POND, GRAVELEY	Medieval to Post Medieval
15660	PRIORY HOUSE, PRIORY LANE, LITTLE WYMONDLEY	Medieval to Post Medieval
15663	GRAVELEY HALL, GRAVELEY	Medieval to Post Medieval
16257	RIDGE AND FURROW, SW OF CHESFIELD PARK, STEVENAGE	Medieval to Post Medieval
75	MEDIEVAL MOAT OR POST-MEDIEVAL GARDEN EARTHWORK, WYMONDLEY PRIORY	Medieval to Post Medieval

PREFREF	NAME	PERIOD
10893	GRAVELEY HALL FARM, GRAVELEY	Post Medieval
11070	WYMONDLEY HALL FARM, PRIORY LANE, LITTLE WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
11607	GOLD POSY RING, N OF MANOR FARM, GRAVELEY	Post Medieval
15085	TIMBER FARM BUILDINGS, THE PRIORY, PRIORY LANE, LITTLE WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
15668	SITE OF POSSIBLE POST-MEDIEVAL BRICK CLAMP, PRIORY LANE, WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
19304	POST-MEDIEVAL COPPER-ALLOY BUCKLE, WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
19976	POST-MEDIEVAL SILVER THREEPENCE, WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
24423	POST-MEDIEVAL LEAD CLOTH SEAL, GRAVERLY	Post Medieval
27934	POST-MEDIEVAL LEAD WEIGHT, WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
27936	POST-MEDIEVAL LEAD WEIGHT, WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
31558	BIRDHAM LANE, GRAVELEY/WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
4532	GRAVELEY BURY FARM, GRAVELEY	Post Medieval
5032	MILESTONE, SOUTH OF JACKS HILL, LETCHWORTH	Post Medieval
5033	MILESTONE, SOUTH OF GRAVELEY	Post Medieval
5105	ROAD BRIDGE, CHANTRY LANE, WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
5993	SITE OF COREY'S MILL, STEVENAGE	Post Medieval
6289	DOVECOTE (DOVE COTTAGE), PRIORY LANE, LITTLE WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
6319	DOVECOTE, GRAVELEY HALL FARM, GRAVELEY	Post Medieval
74	PRIORY BARN, WYMONDLEY PRIORY, LITTLE WYMONDLEY	Post Medieval
9782	UNDATED DITCH, HITCHIN ROAD, STEVENAGE	Post Medieval
9567	CHESFIELD PARK, CHESFIELD, GRAVELEY	Post Medieval

GAZETTEER OF PREVIOUS EVENTS

The following gazetteer represents all events recorded by the HHER within the 1.5km study area.

Abbreviations:

Event ID: HHER event identification reference number

EVENT ID	NAME
EHT1599	Strip, map and record of maternity unit extension, Lister Hospital, Stevenage, 2009
EHT1666	AIR PHOTO SHOWING RECTILINEAR EARTHWORKS, GRAVELEY
EHT2090	AIR PHOTO SHOWING RING DITCHES, LETCHWORTH
EHT2091	AIR PHOTO SHOWING CROPMARKS OF RING DITCHES, LETCHWORTH
EHT2139	AIR PHOTO SHOWING ENCLOSURES AND LINEAR DITCHES, WYMONDLEY
EHT2233	AIR PHOTO OF EARTHWORKS ASSOCIATED WITH WYMONDLEY PRIORY
EHT2348	AIR PHOTO OF EARTHWORKS OF A MOATED SITE AND DITCHES, WYMONDLEY
EHT2349	AIR PHOTO OF EARTHWORKS OF A MOATED SITE, WYMONDLEY
EHT3276	AIR PHOTOGRAPH OF FIELDS WEST OF A1(M), STEVENAGE
EHT3656	PHOTO OF FARM BUILDINGS AT GRAVELEY HALL FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3657	PHOTO OF FARM BUILDINGS AT GRAVELEY HALL FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3658	PHOTO OF FARM BUILDINGS AT GRAVELEY HALL FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3659	PHOTO OF FARM BUILDINGS AT GRAVELEY HALL FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3660	PHOTO OF FARM BUILDINGS AT GRAVELEY HALL FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3661	PHOTO OF FARM BUILDINGS AT GRAVELEY HALL FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3662	PHOTO OF PLANNED FARM AT GRAVELEY BURY FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3663	PHOTO OF PLANNED FARM AT GRAVELEY BURY FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3664	PHOTO OF PLANNED FARM AT GRAVELEY BURY FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3665	PHOTO OF PLANNED FARM AT GRAVELEY BURY FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3666	PHOTO OF PLANNED FARM AT GRAVELEY BURY FARM, GRAVELEY
EHT3768	PHOTOGRAPH OF BARNs, WYMONDLEY HALL, LITTLE WYMONDLEY

EVENT ID	NAME
EHT3769	PHOTOGRAPH OF BARN, WYMONDLEY HALL, LITTLE WYMONDLEY
EHT3770	PHOTOGRAPH OF BARN, WYMONDLEY HALL FARM, LITTLE WYMONDLEY
EHT4204	Excavation at Wymondley Priory, 1992
EHT4301	Evaluation of land at Hitchin Road, Stevenage, 1996
EHT4302	Fieldwalking on land at Hitchin Road, Stevenage, 1996
EHT4462	Evaluation at Wymondley Priory, 1989
EHT4815	Earthwork survey at Graveley Hall Farm, Graveley, 1998
EHT5315	Tree-ring dating of Priory Barn, Little Wymondley, 1999-2000
EHT6785	Watching brief at Wymondley Priory, 2010
EHT6894	Watching brief on the site of the multi-storey car park, Lister Hospital, Stevenage, 2010
EHT7471	Geotechnical investigation at Stevenage Town Rugby Club, North Road, Stevenage, 2012
EHT8186	Evaluation on land north of Stevenage, 2016
EHT8571	Geophysical survey on land north of Stevenage, 2013
EHT8670	Geophysical Survey at Site NS1, North Stevenage, 2018
EHT8671	Evaluation (Phase 1) at Site NS1, North Stevenage, Hertfordshire, 2018
EHT8714	Evaluation at Wymondley Hall Farm, Priory Lane, Little Wymondley 2019
EHT9061	Phase 2 evaluation at Land To The North Of Stevenage, 2022
EHT9075	Evaluation at Land North of the Depot 1A High Street Graveley, 2022
EHT9127	Evaluation at Land Off Milksey Lane Graveley, 2022
EHT9273	Geophysical survey at Land To The North And East Of Great Wymondley, 2021
EHT9308	Evaluation at Land Rear Of 33 High Street Graveley, 2024
EHT9321	Excavation at Land Rear Of 33 High Street Graveley, 2024

GAZETTEER OF PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME DATA

The following gazetteer represents all known Portable Antiquities Scheme Data within 1km of the study site.

Abbreviations:

PAS: Portable Antiquities Scheme
PAS ID: PAS Identification Reference Number

PAS ID	Name	Period
BH-F5A402	UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT	UNKNOWN
BH-2E676A	BELL	ROMAN
BH-9E6AD6	BRACELET	ROMAN
BH-9DA858	COIN	ROMAN
BH-98353D	VESSEL	ROMAN
BH-08BF84	BROOCH	ROMAN
BH-F6F6E8	COIN	ROMAN
BH-F6DC8B	COIN	ROMAN
BH-CC986F	COIN	ROMAN
BH-1C7E6C	PIN	EARLY MEDIEVAL
BH-2EDE3D	MOUNT	MEDIEVAL
BH-2DF7B4	BUCKLE	MEDIEVAL
BH-2D060C	COIN	MEDIEVAL
BH-89797E	COIN	MEDIEVAL
BH-8946B9	BUCKLE	MEDIEVAL
BH-F73963	COIN	MEDIEVAL
BH-F71602	BUCKLE	MEDIEVAL
BH-241C3C	COIN	MEDIEVAL
BH-2D4101	COIN	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-2CD812	COIN WEIGHT	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-9E0A85	STRAP FITTING	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-9D7B28	BUCKLE	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-9BE692	MOUNT	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-9927F3	SEAL MATRIX	POST MEDIEVAL

PAS ID	Name	Period
BH-98DF96	TOKEN	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-98BA33	MOUNT	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-986A18	MOUNT	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-89D1CD	BUCKLE	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-88E2C9	CUFF LINK	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-8894FE	COIN	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-088302	BOOK FITTING	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-F8C776	BUCKLE	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-24688B	SEAL	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-2A28E5	TOKEN	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-1D3373	TOKEN	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-1D0AC4	TOKEN	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-1CE32D	TOKEN	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-1CA861	TOKEN	POST MEDIEVAL
BH-F60027	BUTTON	MODERN