ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

HERITAGE CONSULTANCY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT:
BURNISTON MILL
BURNISTON
NORTH YORKSHIRE

Prepared For
EUROPA OIL AND GAS LIMITED

Report Compiled by
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National Grid Reference: SE 6401 3610



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1. SUMMARY

A desk-based assessment was undertaken to determine the archaeological implications of an gas infrastructure development east of Coastal Road, at Burniston Mill, Burniston, North Yorkshire.

The potential for archaeology to be located on the Site was assessed as being generally low, with nothing more than local significance. However, the density of previous archaeological work in the assessment area was low, which might account for the lack of evidence, rather than it being a genuine lack of early settlement.

There are no prehistoric, Roman (AD 43-410) or Saxon (AD 410-1066) remains known within the assessment area. However, the village of Burniston is thought to have been founded during the Saxon period.

During the medieval period (AD 1066-1540), the Site was in Burniston's eastern strip fields, known as 'Willymath,' but there are no known medieval remains in the assessment area, other than a few patches where ridge and furrow cultivation is still visible.

During the post-medieval period (AD 1540-1900) the site was probably inclosed in 1771 and subsequent maps do not reveal any significant changes.

A site visit did not identify any surface features which might suggest archaeological features, but did highlight the potential for distant intervisibility with designated assets should any of the proposed elements be over 5m in height.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Desk-Based Assessment

An archaeological desk-based assessment is defined as '*a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, in 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; 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*' (CIfA 2014).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Europa Oil And Gas Limited to undertake a desk-based assessment of land at Burniston Mill. The assessment was requested in support of proposed energy infrastructure.

2.3 Site Location

Burniston is located 5.2 km northwest of Scarborough and 58.8 km northeast of York in North Yorkshire (Fig. 1). The Site lies southeast of the village of Burniston, approximately 1 km west of the coastline of the North Sea, at National Grid Reference TF 02015 92770. The Site's access is from Coastal Road, through Wayside Farm (Fig. 1).

2.4 Geology and Topography

Local soils are slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (CSAI 2024). These soils are developed on superficial deposits of Devensian Till, diamicton, which in turn seals a solid geology of Long Nab Member sandstone, siltstone and mudstone (BGS 2024).

The site occupies approximately 1.4ha land that slopes down to the south, towards the base of a steep hill. Heights range from 58.2m AOD in the northern tip of the Site to 48.6m AOD in the south.

3. AIMS

The purpose of the desk-based assessment is to obtain information about the known and potential archaeological resource of the assessment area. In addition to the above, statutory and advisory heritage constraints are identified.

4. METHODS

In the following text, the term *Site* refers to the limits of the application site and the *Assessment Area* comprises an area of 1km radius from the edge of the application site.

Pre-application planning advice was sought from North Yorkshire Council in March 2024. NYC Archaeology was consulted and the response was that there are no known archaeological sites in the area or within the immediate vicinity.

The research undertaken in the compilation of this archaeological desk-based assessment involved the examination of all available sources relevant to the Site and the immediate surrounding area. These sources consisted of:

- Historical documents, held in the North Yorkshire Archives.
- Enclosure and other maps and plans held in the North Yorkshire Archives.
- Recent and early edition Ordnance Survey (OS) maps.
- The Historic Environment Record, located at North Yorkshire Council.
- Archaeological and historical books and journals.
- Aerial photographs
- Lidar data

A full list of the sources is contained within the bibliography.

This research was supplemented by a walkover survey of the Site, undertaken to assess the current ground conditions and land-use patterns and to ascertain the presence of any surface finds of an archaeological character, and of features that might indicate the presence of archaeological remains.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Historical Data

Burniston is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c.*1086 where it is referred to as *Bryningr.* The name is derived from the Old English and from *bryne* 'burning; a place cleared by burning' and *tūn***,** 'an enclosure; a farmstead; a village; an estate' (INS 2024). The burning may be a reference to heath clearance, which was done often to provide fresh grazing ground and which was still a regulated activity in the village in the 17th century (BLHG 1995).

An alternative has been proposed which instead sees it derived from an Old Norse personal name 'Bryningr' (INS 2024).

The parish of Burniston has a complex history, sometimes being united with Scalby and sometimes with Cloughton and Stainton. All four were a part of the King's manor of Falgrave in 1086. At the time of the Domesday Survey, the land was held by King William who was Lord and Tenant in Chief. There was 1 household and land for fifty ploughs. Mention is also made of "woodland 3 by 2 leagues" (Williams, A, and Martin 2003). Most of Falgrave was 'royal forest', in the medieval sense, meaning a hunting preserve, although in Falgrave's case, also mostly woodland.

Burniston Local History Group (1995) have produced a map of the medieval parish and the Site sits within the parish's southeastern strip fields, known as 'Willymath'. The planting strips were known as 'gangs,' a local term. Enclosure of Burniston's commons began in 1620 but was formalised by an act of parliament in 1771.

Of the industries that might leave archaeological traces, stone quarrying and lime burning were carried out in the parish, but from the period which we have records for, from the mid-19th century, these were not carried out in the vicinity of the Site (BLHG 1995, 23).

The parish was hit by six bombs in World War Two, but none of these are recorded as landing near the Site (BLHG 1995, 58).

5.2 Cartographic Data

The earliest detailed map of Burniston dates to 1726, but the state of survival is so poor that the location of the Site could not be fixed. The next available map is the Inclosure map of 1771 (Fig. 2). This shows the Site within a field belonging to 'W Hodgson,' but which is otherwise unremarkable. This was still the case in 1801, when a map of the estate of Sir Richard Bempde Johnstone (Fig. 3) lists William Hodgson as the owner, without showing any detail. Ordnance Survey maps are available from 1850 and show no substantial change down to the present day (Fig. 4). The southeastern boundary was reinforced with planting in the late 2000s and solar panels added southwest of the Site after 2009.

5.3 Aerial photographic and lidar data

Aerial photographs obtained from Google Earth and Historic England did not reveal any features on the Site.

The lidar data indicates two pronounced parallel ridges in a northeast to southwest alignment. These are thought most likely to be modern agricultural features (Plate 1).

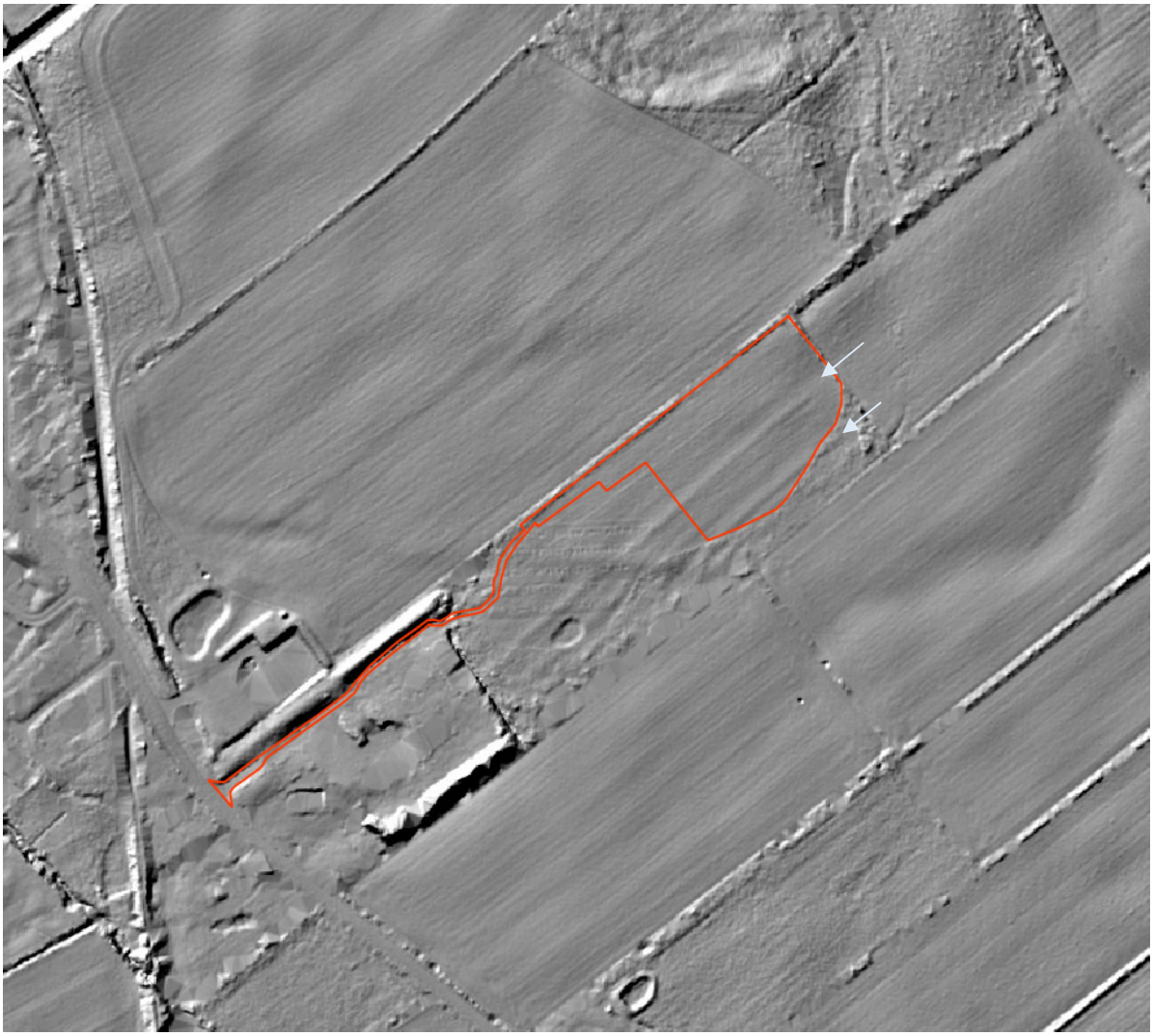


Plate 1. Lidar data, showing two parallel ridges crossing the Site.

5.4 Archaeological Data

Records of archaeological sites and finds within the assessment area are held at the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER). Table 1 summarises the available records and Figure 5 shows the entries' locations.

The Portable Antiquity Scheme was also consulted, but there were no finds recorded in the assessment area.

Table 1: HER entries

HER ref	Type	Period	GridRef
MNY31612	Ridge and furrow	Medieval	TA 01551 93414
MNY31614	Ridge and furrow	Medieval	TA 01358 93273
MNY31615	Ridge and furrow	Medieval	TA 02400 93788
MNY31633	Ridge and furrow	Medieval	TA 02525 92132
MNY31634	Ridge and furrow	Medieval	TA 02494 91996
MNY15812	Village	Medieval	TA 012 929
MNY31306	Ridge and furrow	Post medieval (16th Century to 18th Century)	TA 02026 92969
MNY31621	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 01328 93682
MNY31622	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 01186 93518
MNY31623	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 01167 93228
MNY31624	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 01436 93149

MNY31625	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 01532 93252
MNY31626	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 01817 93051
MNY31627	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 01753 93531
MNY31628	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 01900 93399
MNY31629	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 02684 93624
MNY31630	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 02563 93123
MNY31631	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 02700 92653
MNY31632	Ridge and furrow	Post Medieval	TA 02142 92234
MNY37618	Landing point	Post Medieval	TA 028 934
MNY37617	Trackway	Post Medieval	TA 026 935
MNY31305	Building (Burniston Fields)	19th Century	TA 02483 93776
MNY36609	Milepost	19th Century	TA 010 931

Prehistoric
No prehistoric entries are recorded for the assessment area.

Roman Period
No Roman entries are recorded for the assessment area.

Saxon Period
No Saxon period entries are recorded for the assessment area, although it is likely that the village of Burniston was founded at this time.

Medieval
There are five sets of ridge and furrow identified around the village, which are thought to potentially be medieval in date. The nearest to the site is over 670m. However, it should be remembered that the medieval fields are likely to have incorporated the Site, just not survived as visible ridge and furrow.

Post-medieval
Large areas of ridge and furrow have been identified which are thought to have a post-medieval origin. This includes an area directly northwest of the Site. The remaining post-medieval entries are for a landing point and associated trackway over 850m northeast of the Site, with a nearby building, and mile post on the High Street, within Burniston.

Previous archaeological interventions
Several sets of trial trenching and episodes of archaeological monitoring have been conducted in the assessment area. These are shown on Figure 6. None resulted in archaeological finds. Geophysical surveys also suggested a relatively low density of potential archaeological features.

5.5 Walkover Survey

The Site was visited on 29th August 2024 in order to assess the ground conditions, to identify any potential archaeological features and to note any constraints to further work. The weather conditions were clear and bright. The results of the survey are shown on Figure 8.

Access to the site was through the yard of the adjacent farm, off Coastal Road. At the time of the survey the field was under long grass so the surface could not be inspected for finds (Plates 2 and 3). No features likely to be archaeological features were identified. The field is separated from its neighbours by mature hedges, particularly to the southeast, and by a steep hill to the northwest.

Visibility was checked with neighbouring designated assets using a drone situated at the centre of the Site, making viewings in increments of 5m of height. There was no visibility at 5m height, but from 10m visibility could be drawn to the upper windows of Barn House 550m

away, and as heights increase, larger areas of the Conservation Area become visible (Plate 4). It should also be noted that at 10m height and above, the Scheduled Monument of Scarborough Castle, over 4.4km southeast, is also visible (Plate 5).



Plate 2. General view of the Site. Looking south.



Plate 3. General view of the Site. Looking north.



Plate 4. A view towards Burniston at 10m height. Inset is a zoomed-in view showing Barn House.

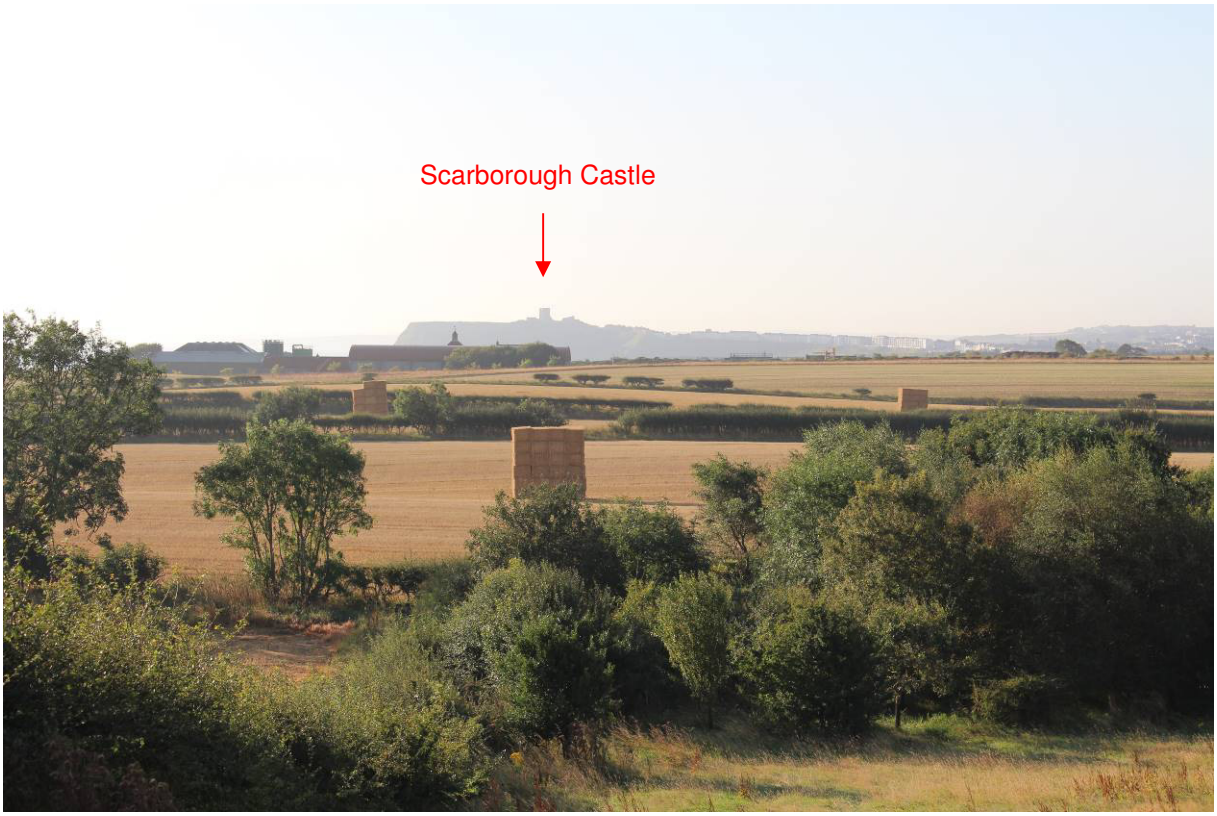


Plate 5. A view towards Scarborough Castle from the hill at the edge of the site, comparable to 10m height towards the centre.

6. CONSTRAINTS

6.1 Heritage Constraints

There are no Scheduled Monuments protected by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979 (HMSO) present within the assessment area. However, Scarborough Castle was very distantly visible over 4.4km away from the hill at the northwest edge of the Site.

There are a total of 12 Listed Buildings lying within the assessment area, all but one within the Burniston Conservation Area (Figure 7). See table 2, below.

Table 2: Designated assets

Name	Grade	List no.
Cliff Top House	II	1148195
Three Jolly Sailors	II	1148196
Low Farm	II	1148197
Rose Cottage	II	1148198
Overgreen Farmhouse and attached Outbuildings to Rear	II	1148199
Prickybeck Bridge	II	1148200
Barn House	II	1148201
Barn and Stable attached to south of South End Farm Cottages	II	1167820
Cherry Tree Cottage	II	1296714
32, High Street	II	1316421
Beck Farmhouse	II	1316423
Single Storey Range attached to north of South End Farm Cottages	II	1316424
Scarborough Castle	Scheduled	1011374

All other archaeological remains within the assessment area are protected only through the implementation of the National Planning Policy Framework which identifies the historic environment as a non-renewable resource (MHCLG 2021). The historic environment's fragile and finite nature is a particularly important consideration in planning. The effect of an application on the significance of a heritage asset or its setting is a material consideration in determining the application.

6.2 Other Constraints

No specific checks were carried out to determine the presence of services (gas, water, electricity *etc.*) at the site.

7. ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

Past impacts on the site are largely restricted to agriculture.

Plans include the establishment of a topsoil bund, hard standing and several pieces of built infrastructure. A drilling rig, 38m in height, is proposed on site for a maximum of eight weeks, including mobilisation and demobilisation. The rig has the potential to be distantly visible from designated assets for a temporary period. Groundworks for the Proposed Development, including the construction of the wellsite, earth bunds and enabling works, have the potential to impact surviving buried archaeological remains and would likely truncate or remove any surviving archaeological remains to the depth of construction. Mitigation to offset the impact from the Proposed Development will be required, in the first instance, in the form of a programme of archaeological evaluation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation to be agreed with the Principal Archaeologist for North Yorkshire Council.

8. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL AND SIGNIFICANCE

Information collated in the production of this document has allowed an assessment of the known and potential archaeological resource.

No prehistoric, Roman or Saxon period archaeology is known from the assessment area. However, there has been a low number of archaeological investigations close to the Site, so it is possible this represents a gap in our knowledge rather than a genuine absence of remains.

There are no archaeological remains in the area earlier than medieval ridge and furrow. In the medieval period the Site would have been in the eastern agricultural field of Burniston, known as 'Willymath'. The potential to encounter remains dated to this period is considered low, and likely to be confined to agricultural features.

Inclosure probably occurred in 1771 when the Site was part of a large rectangular field. This was subdivided by 1850. No significant changes have occurred since this date.

The Site would be suitable for a magnetometry survey, which might serve to corroborate the absence of archaeological features. This method of investigation is good at detecting ditches, industrial remains and the sites of substantial buildings, but may miss more subtle features like posthole foundations.

There are no questions posed in the Regional Research Framework which the site might contribute to, based on current evidence (Roskams and Whyman 2007).

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Alastair Stuart and Jamie McGill for commissioning the work on behalf of Europa Oil and Gas. Heather Davies collected preliminary data and Paul Cope-Faulkner edited this report. The walkover survey was undertaken by Jonathon Smith. Leonora Goldsmith kindly provided the data from the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record. Thanks are also due to the staff of the Northallerton County Record Office and Scarborough Central Library.

The HER data used in the production of this report is copyright of North Yorkshire Council.

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

The following references were consulted in the research. However, as some of them duplicated evidence given in others, or proved not to be relevant to the assessment, not all of them have been specifically referred to in the text.

Primary Sources

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Ordnance Survey, 1926 *Yorkshire. Sheet LXXVII.4,* 25" map

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
APS	Archaeological Project Services
BGS	British Geological Survey
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CSAI	Cranfield Soil Agri-Institute
HER	North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record
HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationery Office
INS	Institute for Name Studies
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

NCRO Northallerton Country Record Office

OS Ordnance Survey

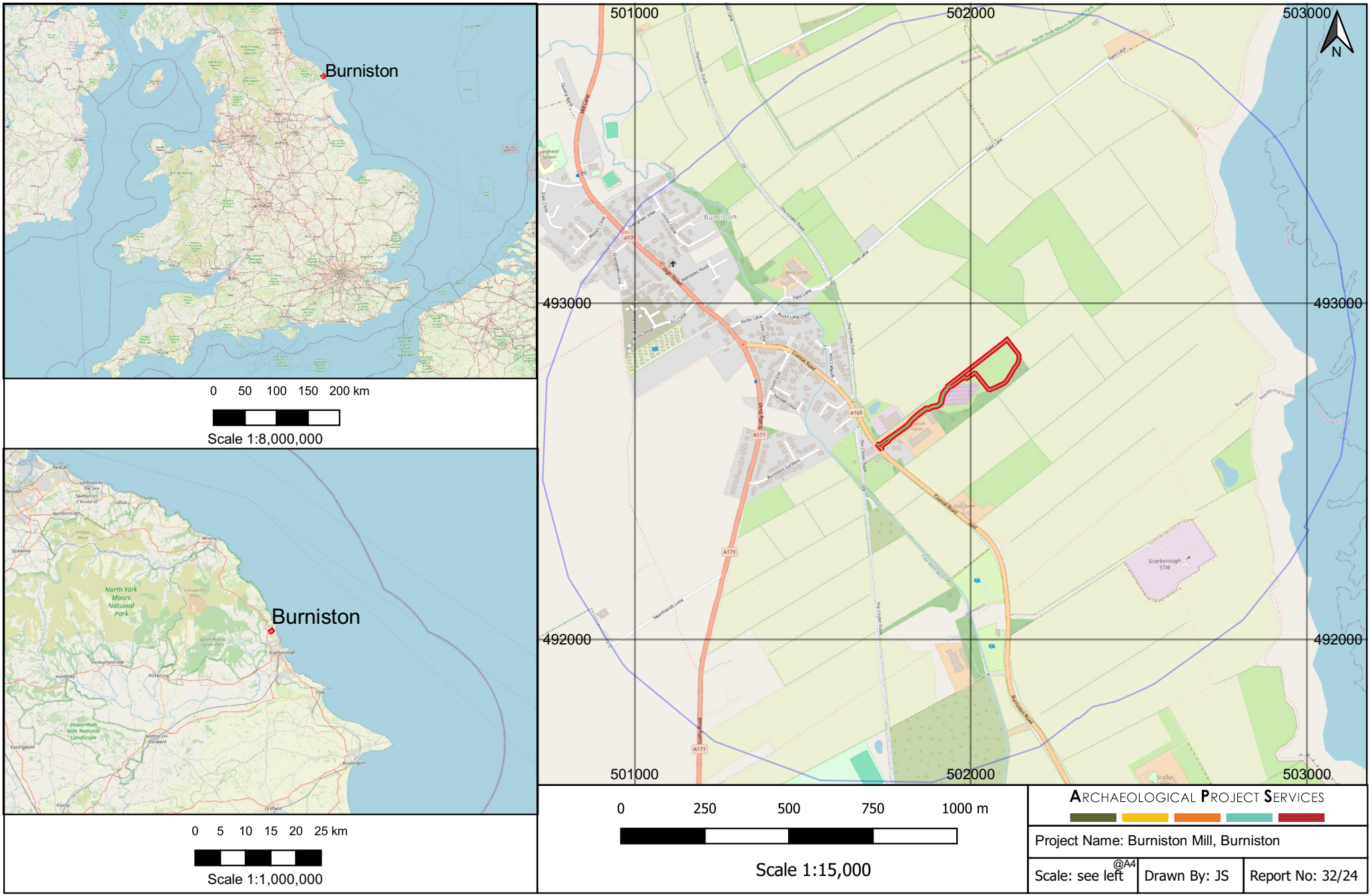
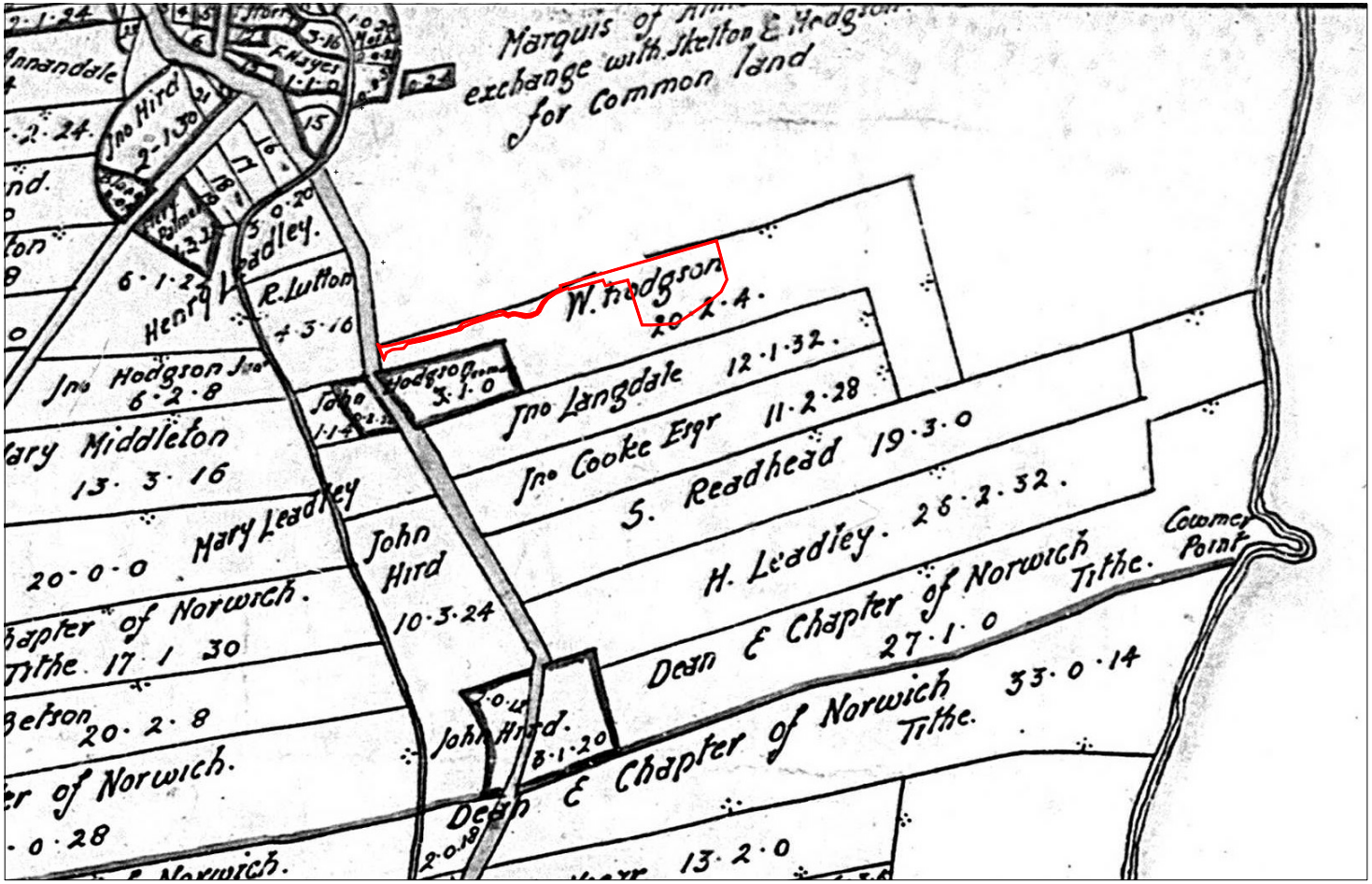


Figure 1 - Site Location

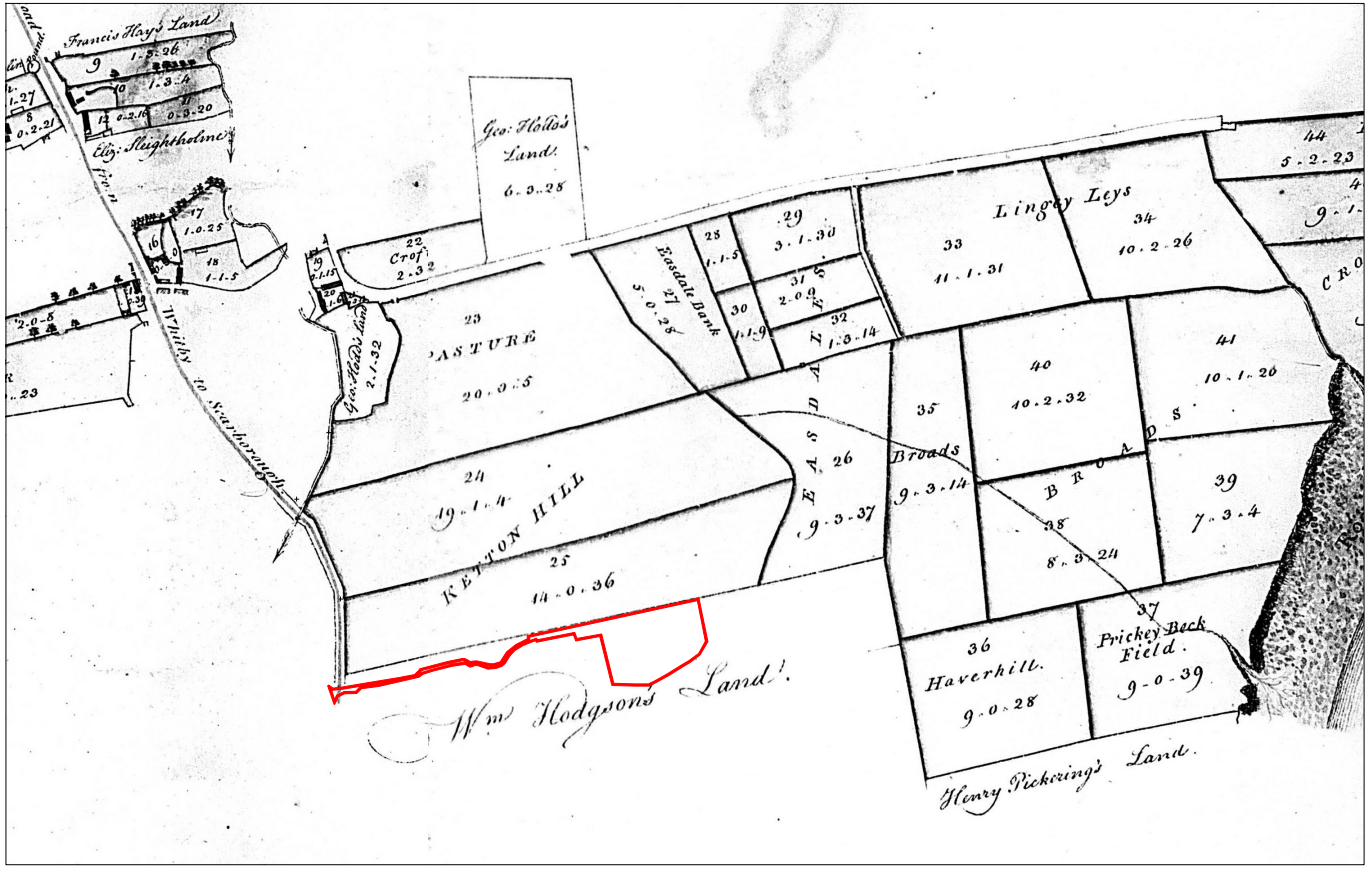


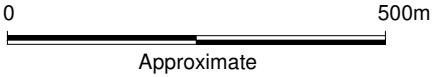
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Approximate

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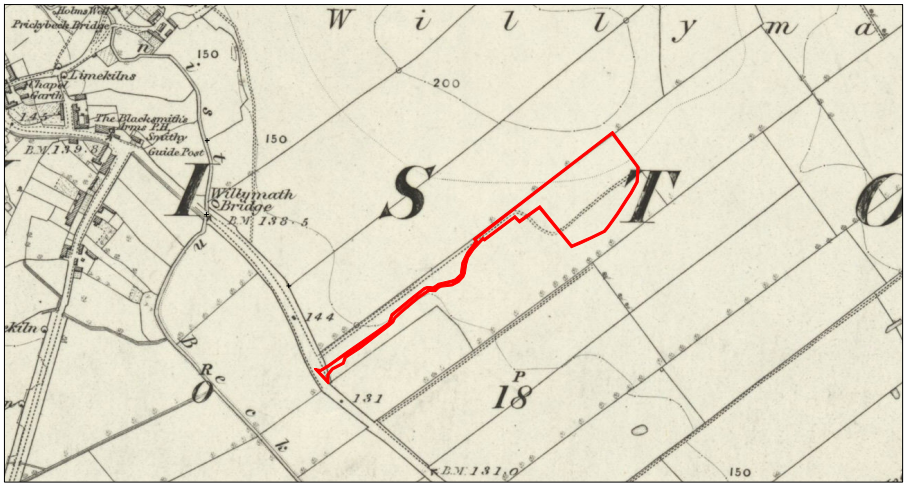
Figure 2 - 1771 Inclosure map



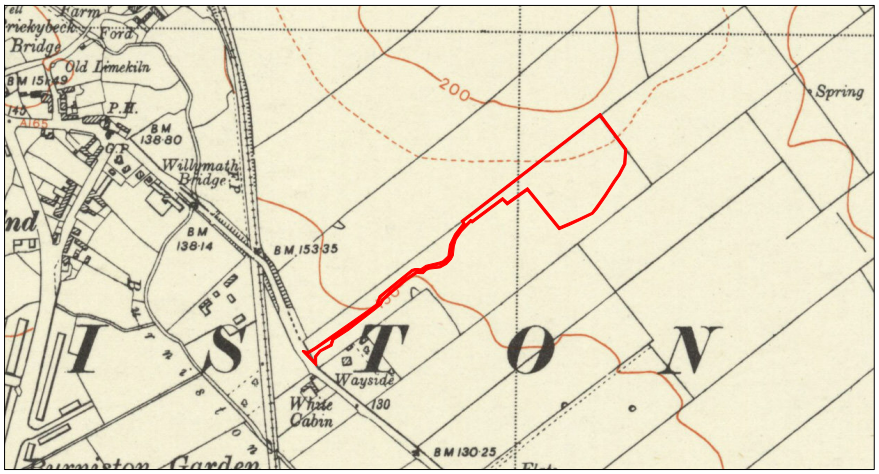


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Figure 3 - 1801 Bempde Johnstone Estate map



a) 1850 Ordnance Survey, Yorkshire sheet 77, 6"



b) 1950 Ordnance Survey, Yorkshire Sheet LXXVII.NE, 6"

0 500m

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Figure 4 - 1850 and 1950 Ordnance Survey maps

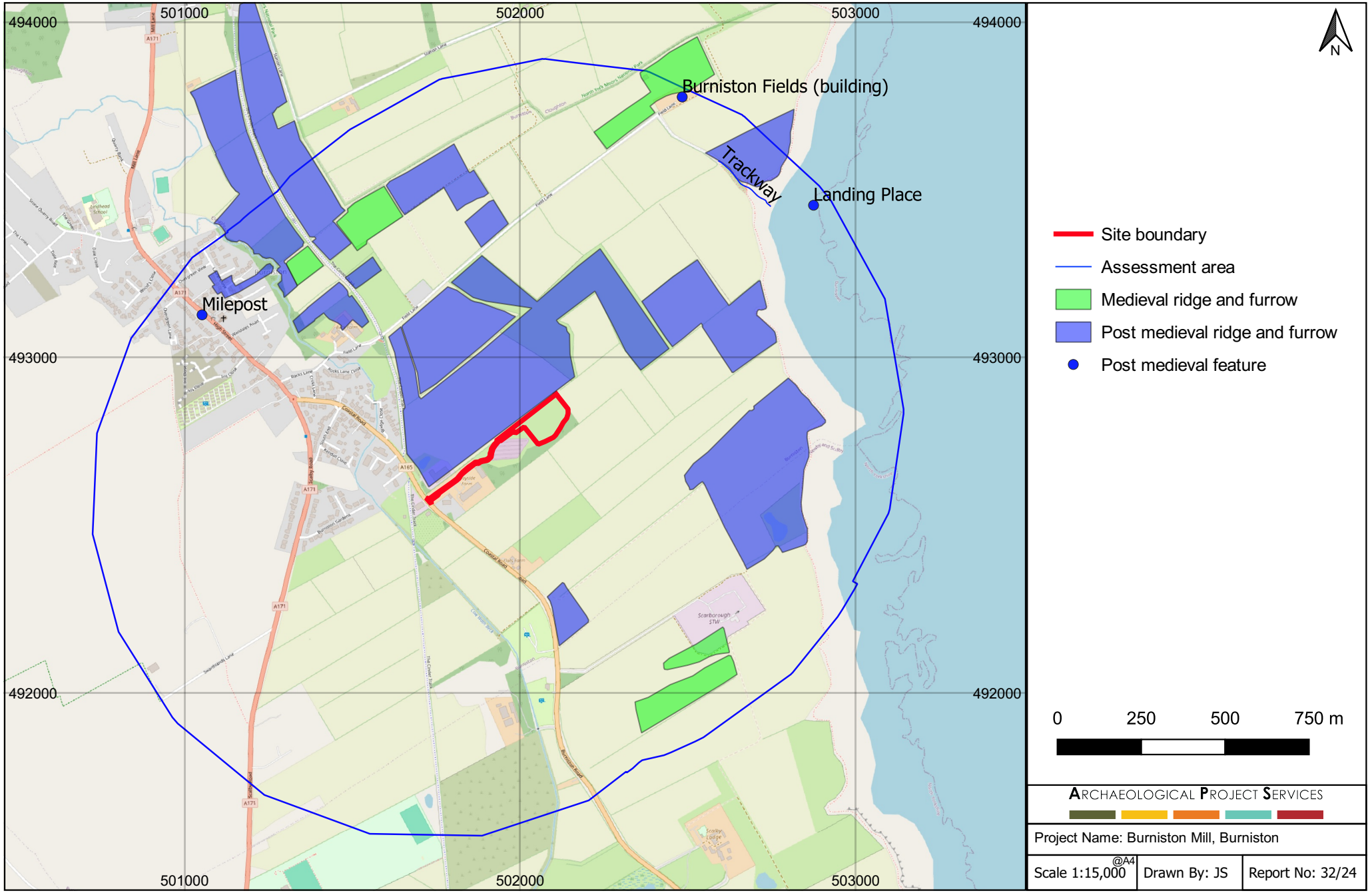


Figure 5 - Archaeological sites and findspots within the assessment area

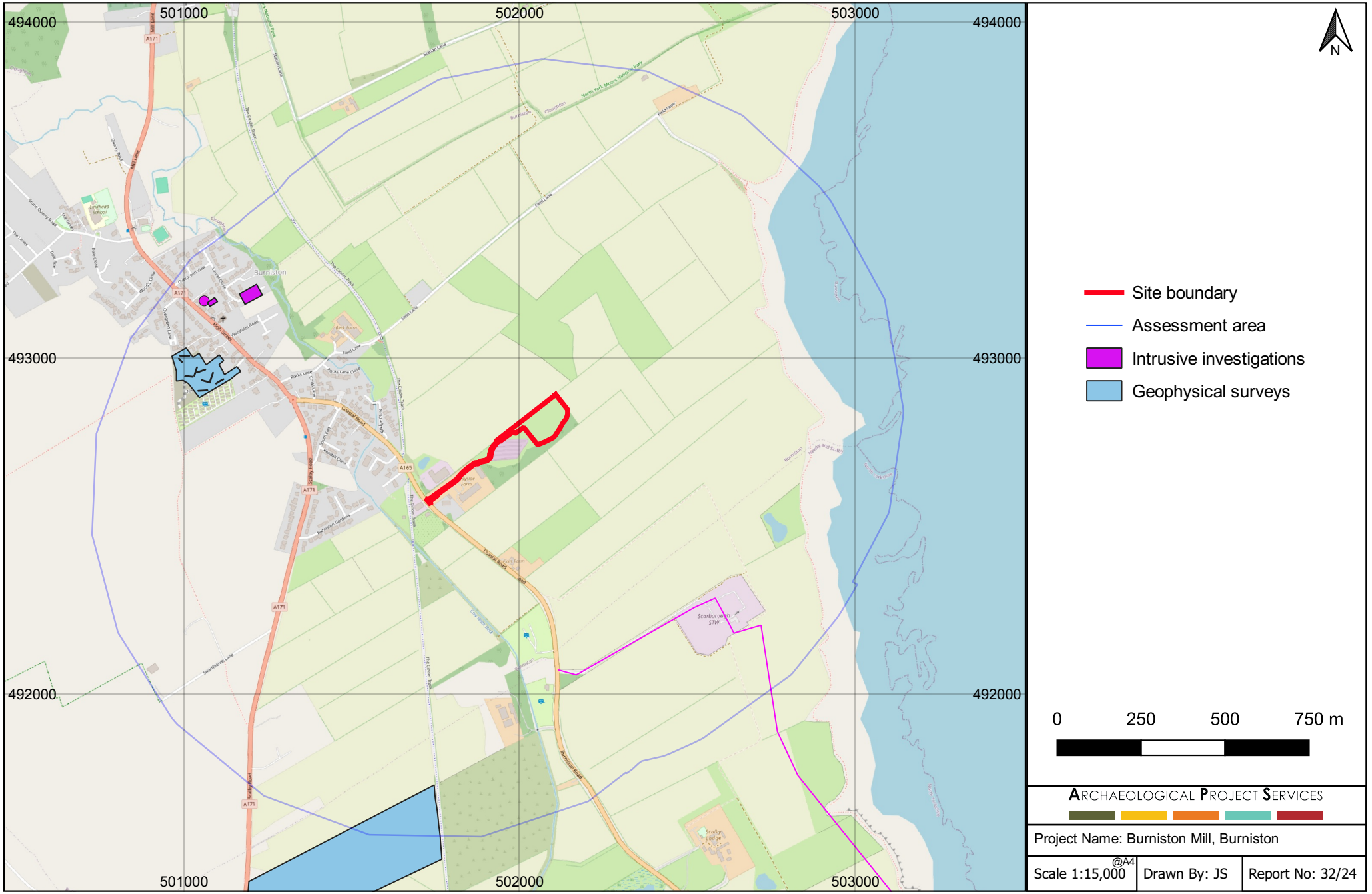


Figure 6 - Archaeological events

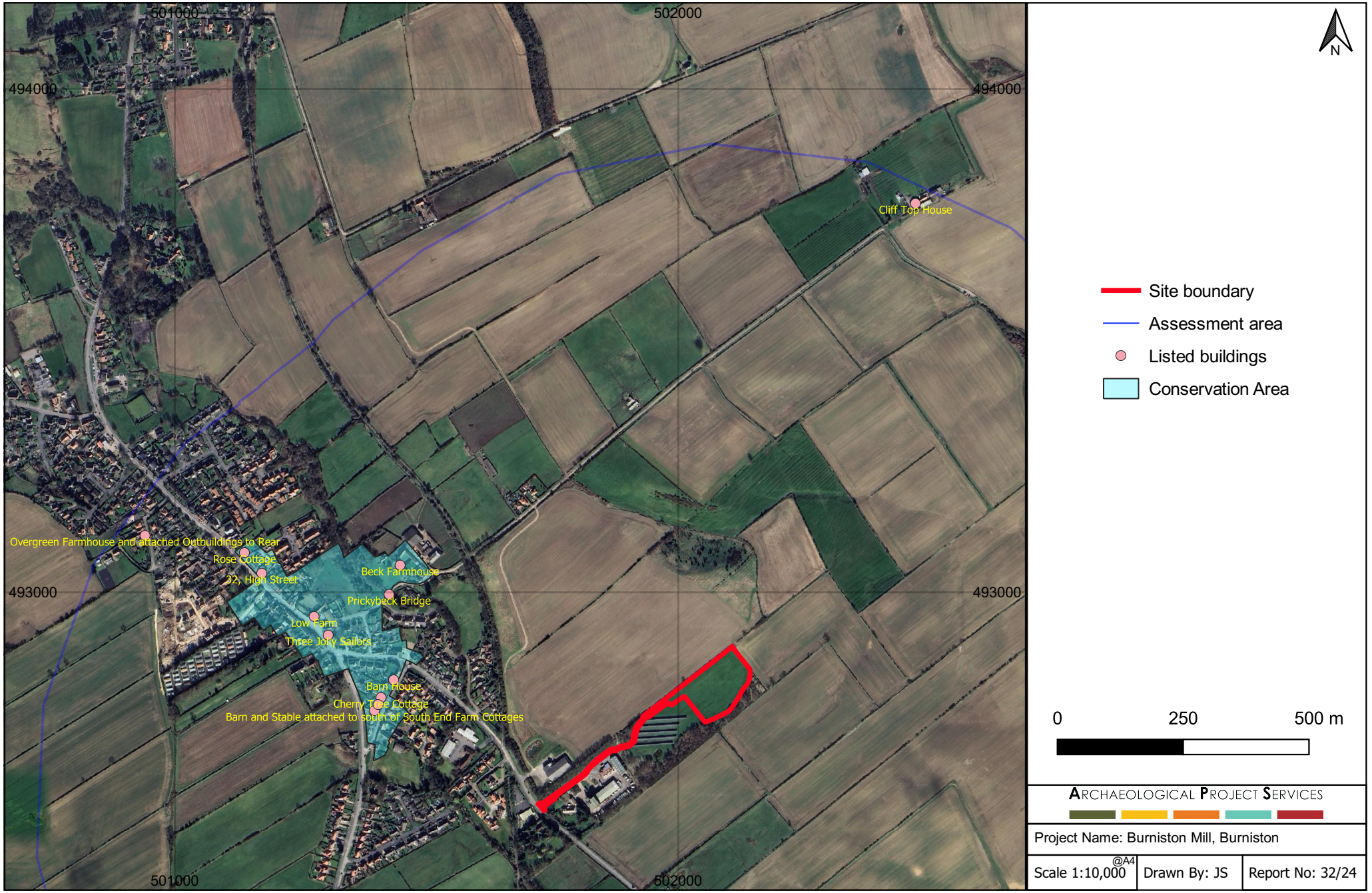


Figure 7 - Designated assets

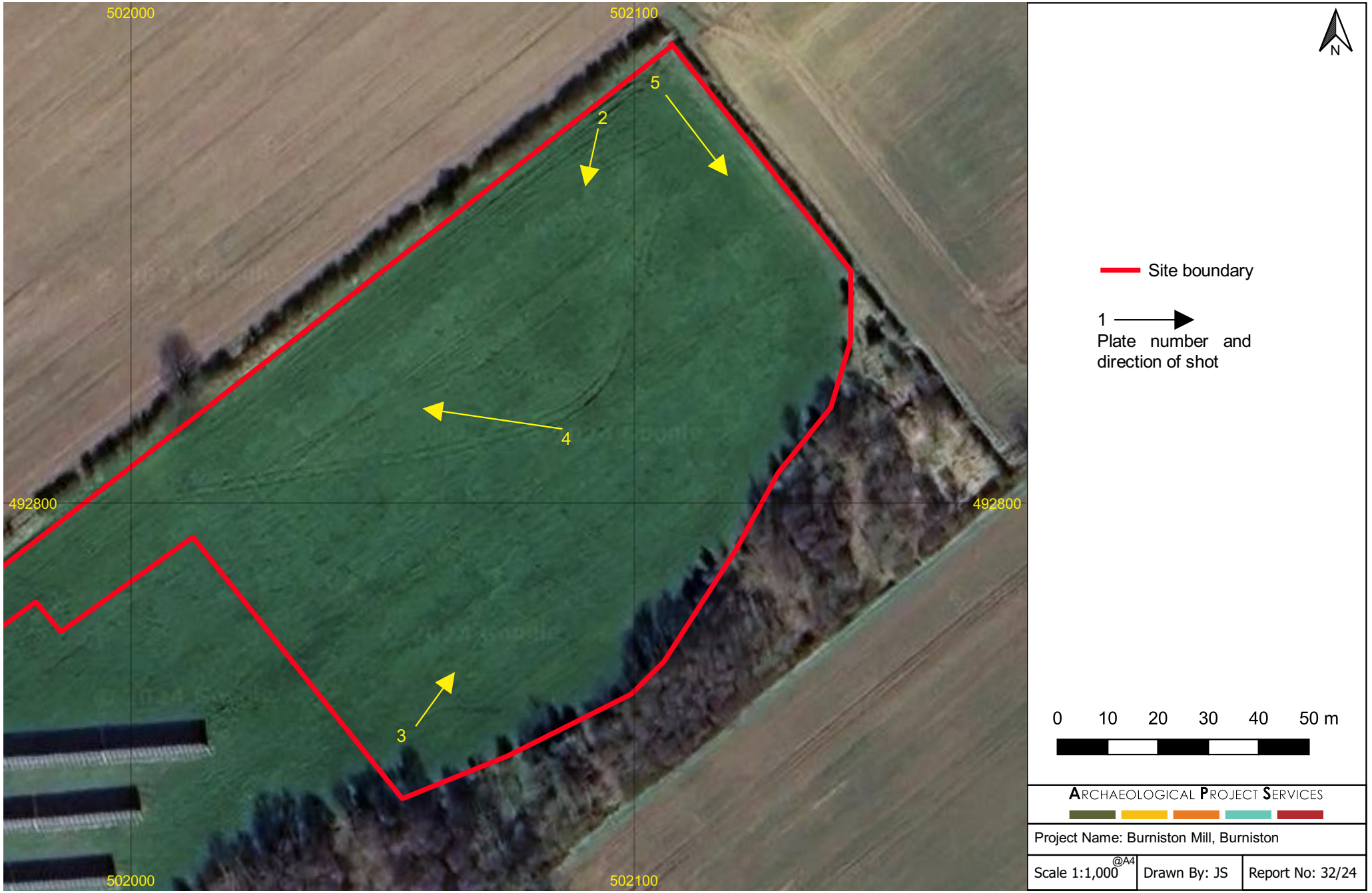


Figure 8 - Site visit photo locations

Appendix

GLOSSARY

Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
Drift	Material that has been eroded, transported or deposited by glaciers (or their melt water). The term 'drift' is commonly used to describe any deposits of Quaternary age.
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Inclosure	Inclosure is the legal term that refers to the conversion of common land into private land. It is conceptually distinct from an 'enclosure,' a physical boundary around a piece of land, although in practice the two usually occurred at the same time.
Lidar	An aircraft-based method of survey using analysis of pulses of laser light reflected from the surfaces of the ground and buildings. It is cable of identifying subtle differences in topography.
Manuring Scatter	A distribution of artefacts, usually pottery, created by the spreading of manure and domestic refuse from settlements onto arable fields. Such scatters can provide an indication of the extent and period of arable agriculture in the landscape.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Modern	The current period, dating from around AD 1900 to the present time.
Old English	The language used by the Saxon (*q.v.*) occupants of Britain.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1900.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Ridge and Furrow	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
Roman	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas.

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