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**Fleet Bank Lane
Tollerton, North Yorkshire**

Archaeological Desk-based Appraisal

September 2010

Report No. 2120

CLIENT

Ian Pick Associates

Fleet Bank Lane Tollerton, North Yorkshire

Archaeological Desk-based Appraisal

Summary

A rapid archaeological appraisal was undertaken of the proposed site of new poultry sheds on land to the east of Fleet Bank Lane, near Tollerton, North Yorkshire. No records of any archaeological features or buildings were identified on the North Yorkshire County Council HER or the English Heritage NMR within a 500m study area around the proposed development. The presence of probable Iron Age or Roman period cropmark features identified close to the study area, however, suggests there may be potential for the survival of sub-surface archaeological features or deposits within the proposed development site.



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Report Information

Client: Ian Pick Associates
Address: Llewellyn House, Middle Street, Kilham,
Driffield, YO25 4RL
Report Type: Desk-based Appraisal
Location: Fleet Bank Lane
County: North Yorkshire
Grid Reference: SE 5283 6306
Period(s) of activity represented: Post-medieval/Modern
Report Number: 2120
Project Number: 3642
Site Code: FBL
Planning Application No.: n/a
Date of report: 30th September 2010
Project Management: Alistair Webb BA MifA
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Illustrations: Mitchell Pollington
Research: Zoe Horn BSc

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Authorisation for
distribution: _____

ISOQAR ISO 9001:2008
Certificate No. 125QM8003
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1 Introduction

Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS) was commissioned by Ian Pick Associates to undertake a rapid desk-based appraisal of land at Fleet Bank Lane, Tollerton, North Yorkshire, in advance of the submission of a planning application for the construction of new poultry buildings.

Site location and topography

The proposed development site covers an area of approximately 2.2 hectares situated about 1.5km to the south-east of the village of Tollerton, North Yorkshire, centred at SE 5283 6306 (see Figs 1 and 2).

The site is located within an arable field on the eastern side of Fleet Bank Lane. This is bounded by hedges and tree lines, with a small rectangular area of woodland outside its northern edge. It is situated on an area of level ground, sloping gently downwards towards the south-west, laying at a height of approximately 15m AOD.

The study area comprises all land within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site.

Geology and soils

The underlying solid geology of the proposed development site comprises Permian and Triassic Sandstones (BGS 2001), overlain by slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged, clayey and fine loamy soils (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1980).

2 Methodology and Sources

This report is the result of a rapid collation and appraisal of accessible archaeological records held in the North Yorkshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) and the English Heritage National Monuments Record (NMR), together with an assessment of the historical Ordnance Survey map coverage of the study area. No detailed documentary or further cartographic research was undertaken and no aerial photographs were consulted.

Archaeological records and archives

Information on previous archaeological finds and investigations within the study area was obtained from the North Yorkshire County Council HER and the English Heritage NMR.

Designated sites or areas

Information on designated sites of archaeological or historical significance, including Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings, was obtained from the English Heritage NMR.

Geological and soil surveys

Information on the underlying geology and soils within the study area was taken from data collected by the British Geological Survey (BGS 2001) and the Soil Survey of England and Wales (1980).

3 The Study Area

Identified archaeological sites, buildings and features

There are no records of any archaeological sites or historic buildings within the proposed development site or the study area held on the HER or the NMR.

Designated sites or areas

The study area contains no designated Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas.

Previous archaeological investigations

There are no records of any previous archaeological excavations or geophysical surveys within the study area.

Two desk-based assessments have previously been produced which both cover part of the present study area. Between 1988 and 1990 an archaeological assessment was carried out by Travers Morgan Ltd along the route of a proposed fuel pipeline, although no sites were identified within the proposed development site (Travers Morgan 1990; ENY 2668). In 1991 and 1992 a desk-based assessment was undertaken by Northern Archaeological Associates along the line of a proposed overhead power line between Picton and Shipton (Fraser 1992; ENY 3559). This identified a number of sites along its route, but none within the proposed development site.

Historic Landscape Characterisation

The proposed development site, and much of the eastern side of the study area, has been characterised by North Yorkshire County Council as consisting of large modern irregular fields defined by ditches (HNY 5550). The area to the immediate south of the proposed development site, between the railway line and Fleet Bank Lane, has been defined as planned enclosure consisting of medium sized fields, defined by straight hedgerows (HNY 6256).

Archaeological background, sites and features

Early prehistoric period

There is no recorded evidence for early prehistoric activity in the study area, and generally evidence for the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods is limited in North Yorkshire. Neolithic and early Bronze Age sites are also scarce in lowland areas, although the concentration of large ritual monuments dating to these periods within the Vale of York, such as Thornborough Henges and the Devil's Arrows at Boroughbridge, attest to the region's importance at this time.

Iron Age and Roman periods

In contrast to the earlier periods, there is more extensive evidence for Iron Age activity in North Yorkshire, much of which derives from cropmark evidence recorded through aerial photographic analysis, such as the work of the English Heritage National Mapping Programme for the Vale of York. This has recorded the remains of field systems, settlements and trackways dating to the late Iron Age and through into the Roman period.

Although there are no records of any Iron Age or Roman period features within the study area, the corner of a possible rectilinear enclosure, within an associated field system, has been identified as cropmarks in fields close to the north-western side of the study area (NMR no. 1331407).

Medieval period

There is little archaeological evidence for post-Roman or Anglo-Saxon activity within North Yorkshire, and none from within the study area. There was certainly a settlement at Tollerton by the late Anglo-Saxon period, as the township is listed in the Domesday Book as *Tolentun* (Page 1912, 213).

The township fell within the Forest of Galtres during the later medieval period, the boundary of which was defined by the river Kyle to the west of Tollerton, with the land held by York Minster (Bulmer 1890). There is, however, no archaeological evidence for the later medieval activity within the study area, and later enclosure and modern intensive farming practices have removed all traces of the medieval field pattern.

Post-medieval and modern periods

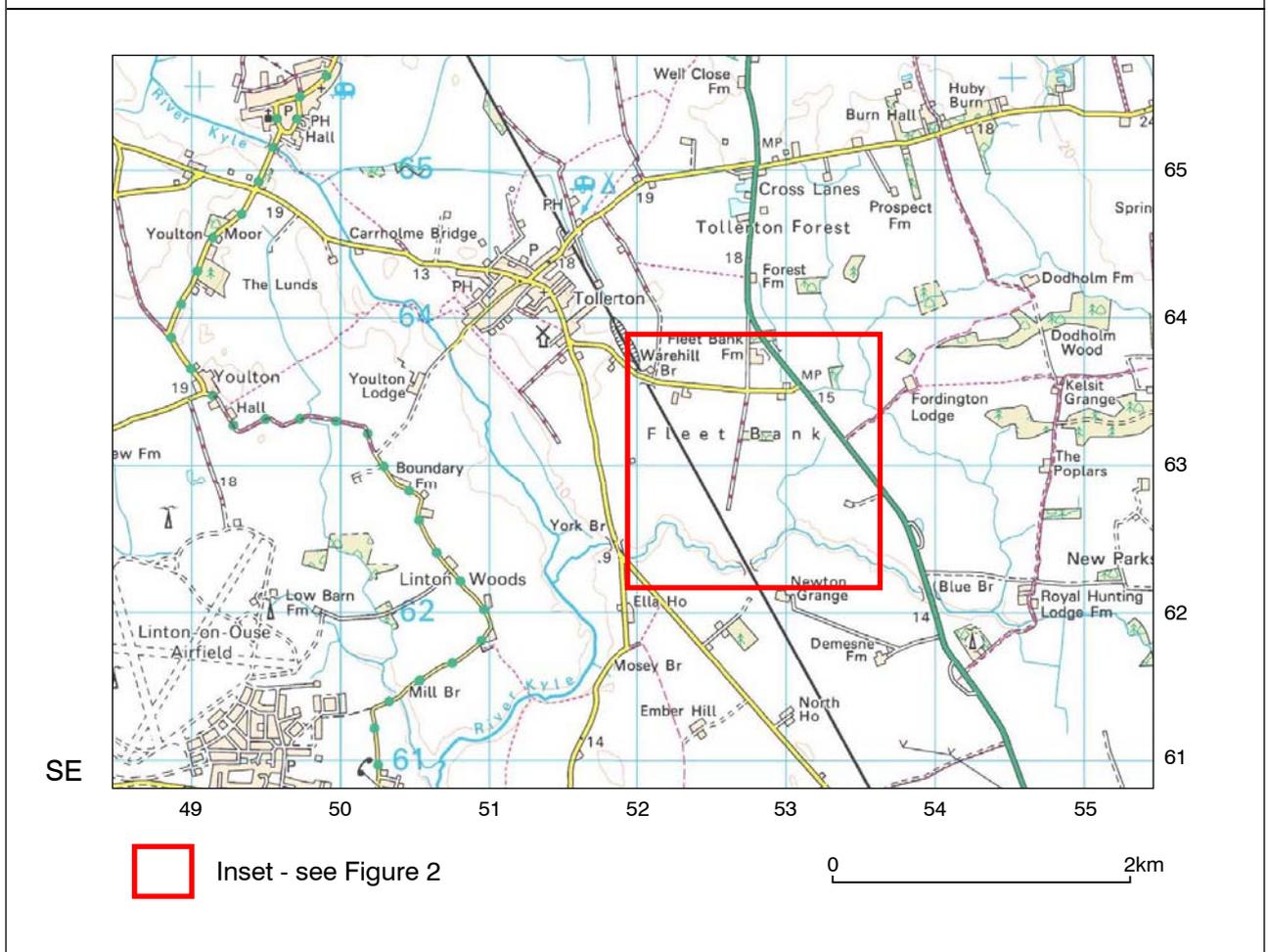
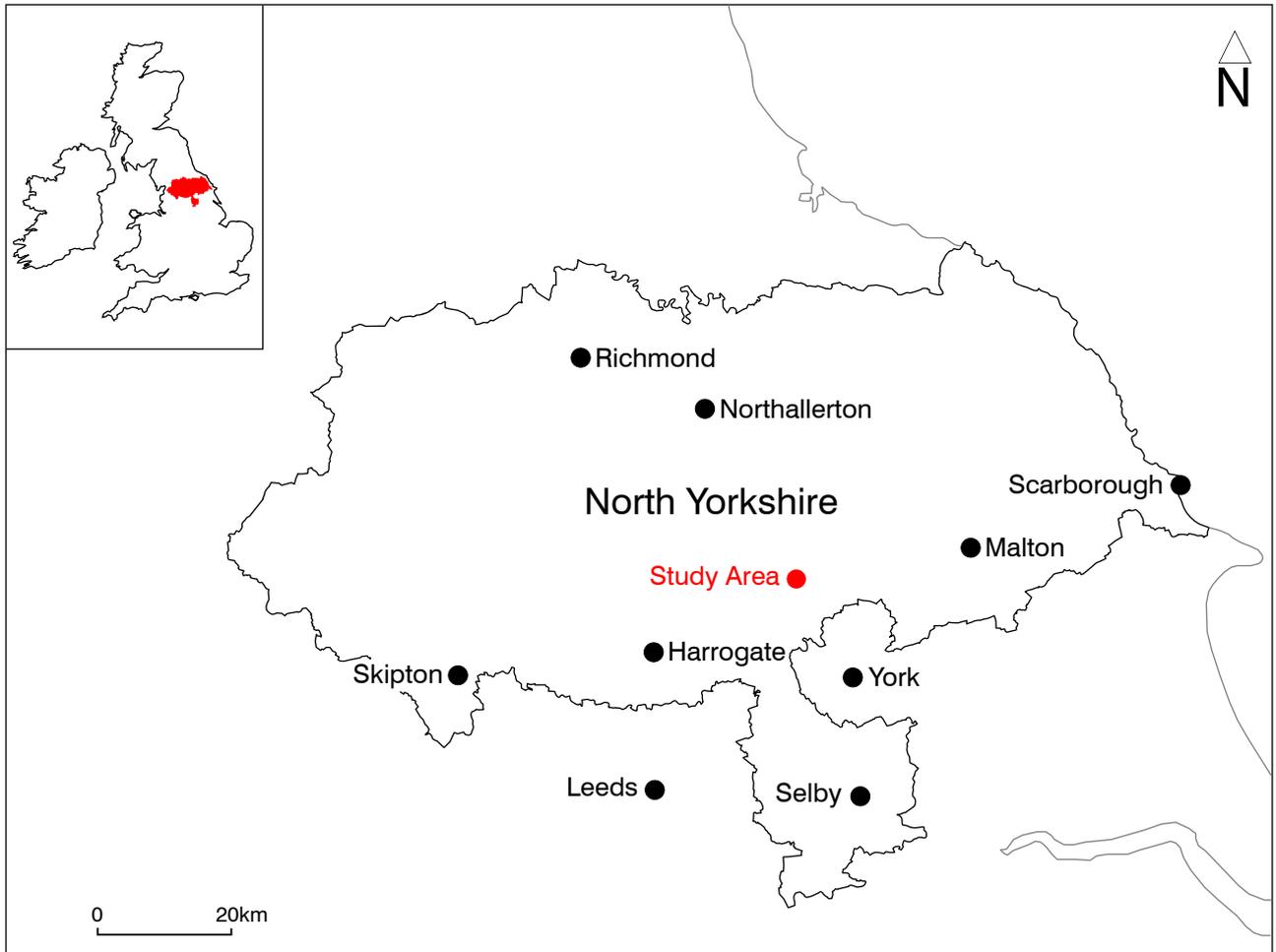
The present landscape within the study area is largely a product of early 19th-century enclosure which was carried out following an Act of Parliament in 1810 (Tollerton Enclosure Act 1810). This produced a landscape divided into varying sized fields defined by straight hedge rows, as well as new roads such as Fleet Bank Lane (see Figs 3 to 5; Ordnance Survey 1856; 1895; 1912).

During the 20th century many of the early 19th-century boundaries were removed to create larger fields, including an east to west orientated boundary that originally divided the area in which the proposed development site is situated (see Figs 3 to 5; Ordnance Survey 1856; 1895; 1912). The surviving field boundaries, however, are all the result of early 19th century enclosure.

4 Conclusion

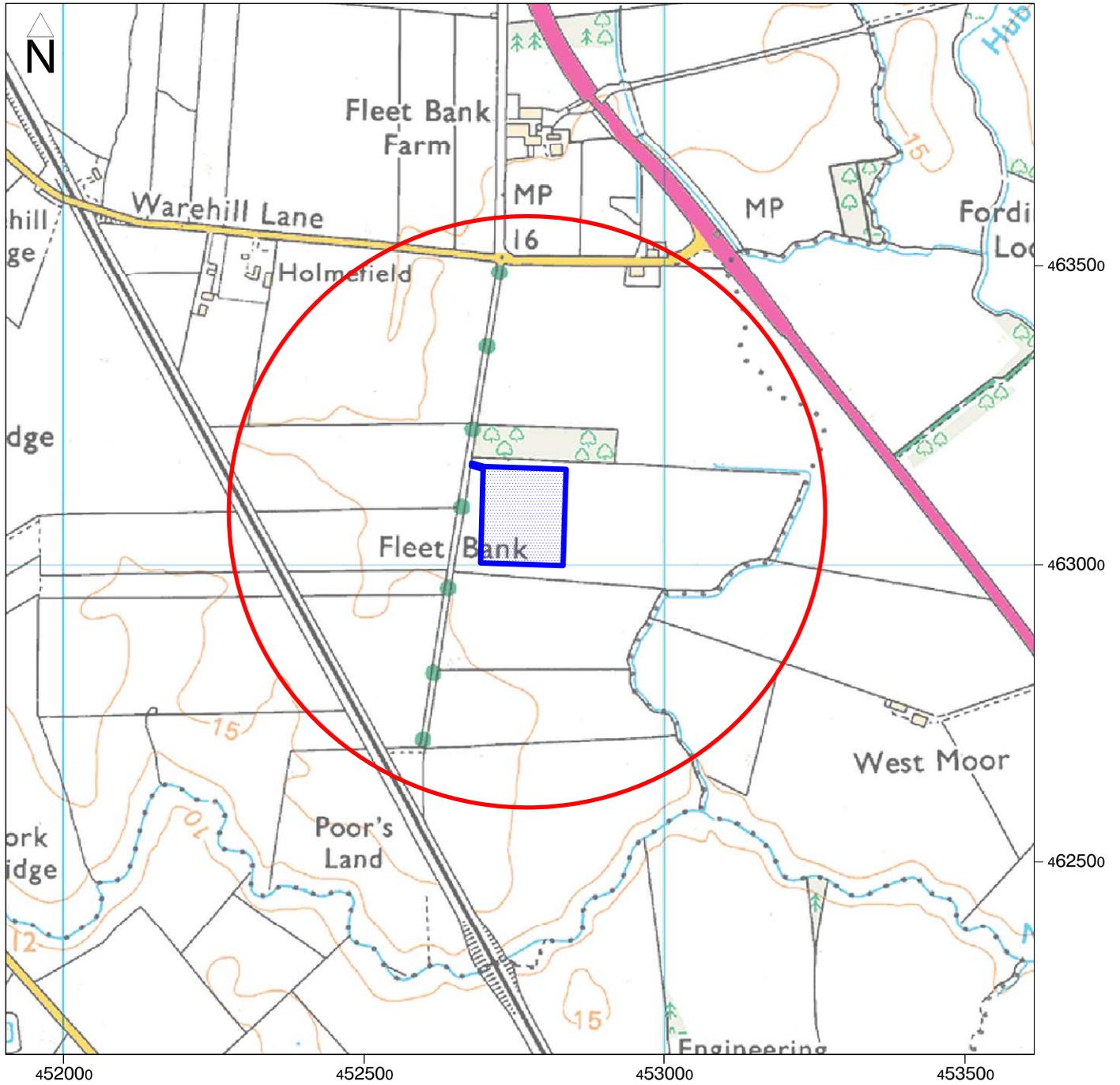
The proposed development site is located within a field system that was created following an Act of Parliament in 1810, and it is likely that the site has remained in agricultural use from at least the early medieval period.

Although there is no recorded archaeological evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity within the proposed development site and surrounding study area, this may reflect a lack of previous archaeological investigations in the area. The identification of cropmarks of possible Iron Age or Roman period features just outside the north-western edge of the study area suggest settlement in the surrounding area during these periods, a pattern that is reflected across the Vale of York as a whole. Therefore, there is potential for the survival of previously recorded sub-surface archaeological features and deposits within the proposed development site.



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Fig. 1. Site location



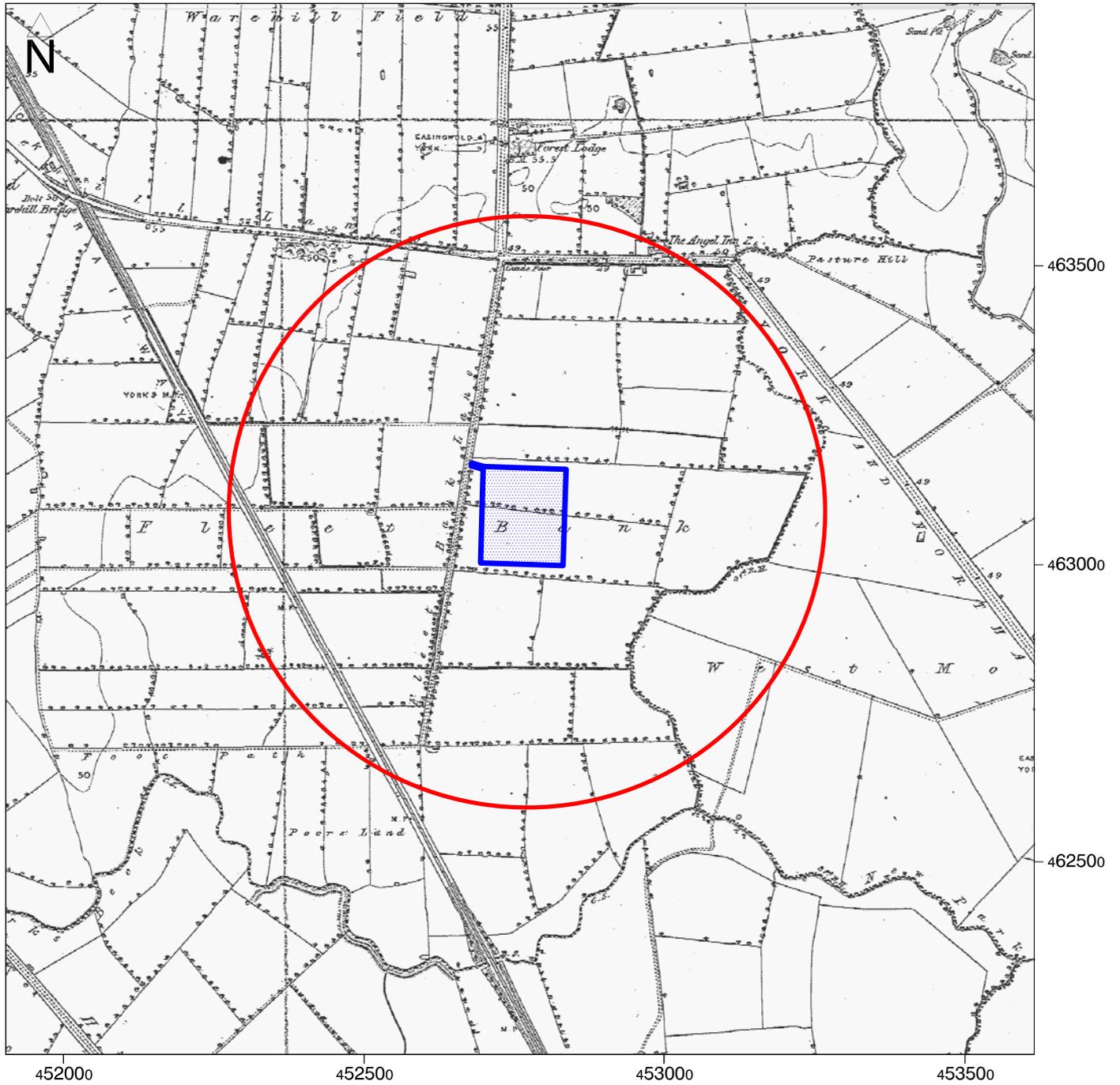

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	Proposed development site
	Study Area

0 500m
 1:10 000@ A4

Fig. 2. The proposed development site and the study area (1:10 000 scale based on 1:25 000 scale mapping)

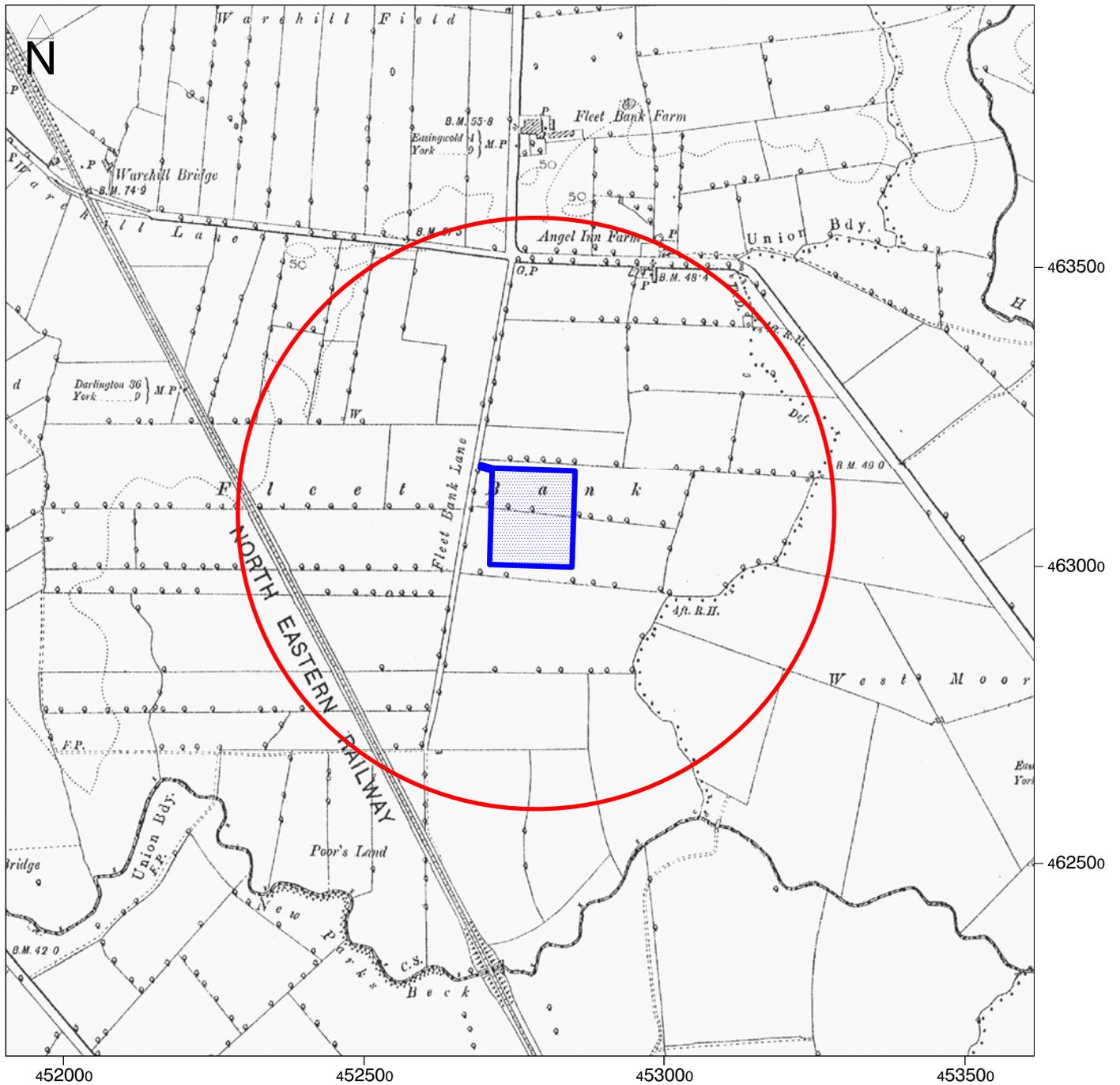



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	Proposed development site
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0 500m
 1:10 000@ A4

Fig. 3. Extract from the First Edition 6 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1856 with the proposed development site and the study area highlighted (sheet 139; 1:10 000 scale)

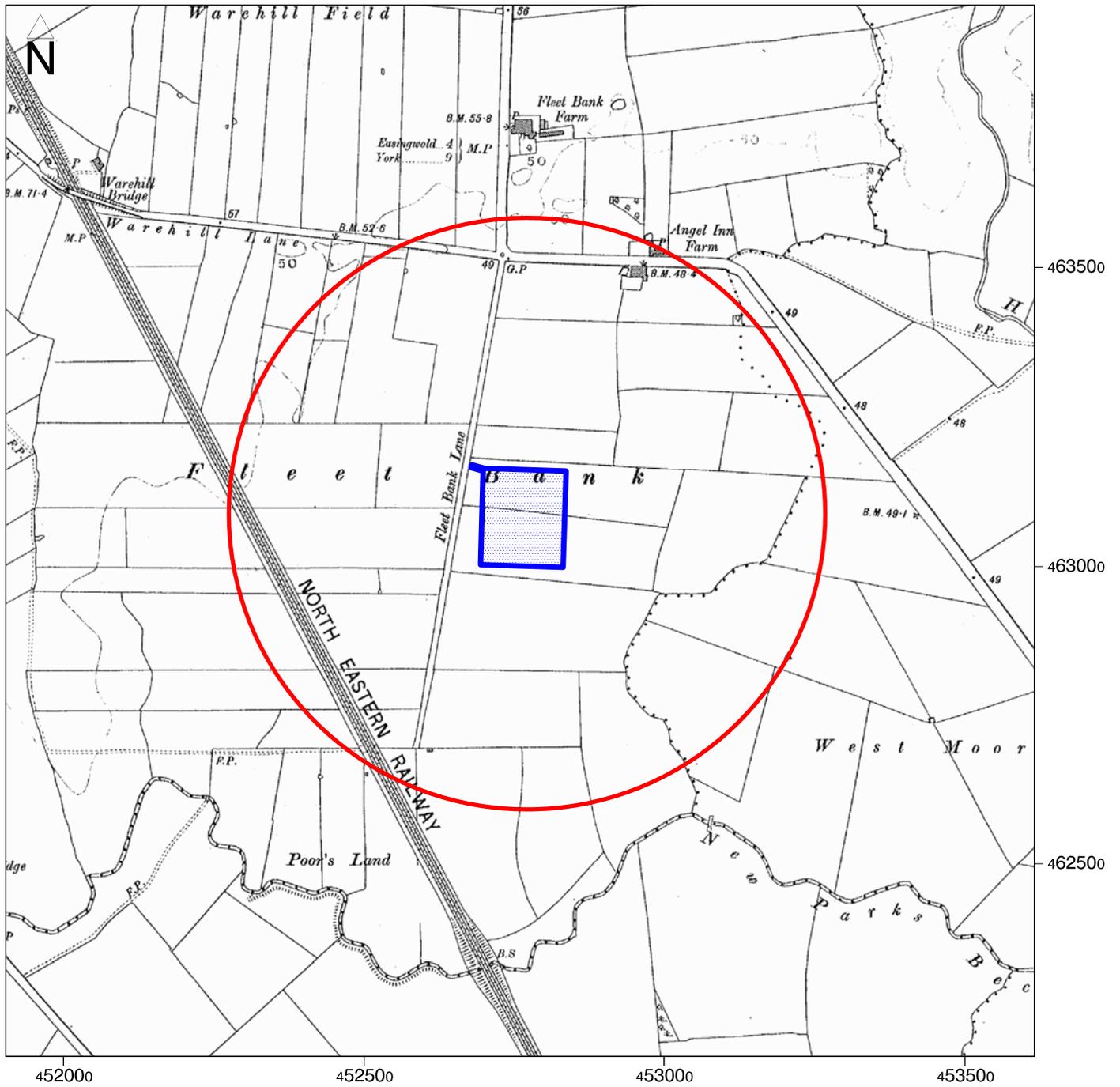



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	Proposed development site
	Study Area

0 500m
 1:10 000@ A4

Fig. 4. Extract from the 6 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1895 with the proposed development site and the study area highlighted (sheet 139 SE; 1:10 000 scale)




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	Proposed development site
	Study Area

0 500m
 1:10 000@ A4

Fig. 5. Extract from the 6 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1912 with the proposed development site and the study area highlighted (sheet 139 SE; 1:10 000 scale)

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