



Cotswold
Archaeology

NYMNP

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Doves Nest North, North York Moors

Heritage Desk-Based Assessment

NYMNP

18 JAN 2013

for

York Potash Ltd

CA Project: 3415

CA Report: 12385

December 2012

Doves Nest North, North York Moors

Heritage Desk-Based Assessment



CA Project: 3415

CA Report: 12385

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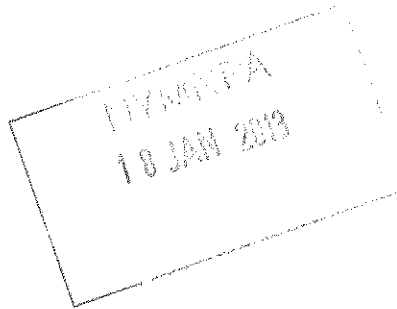
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SUMMARY

Project Name: Potash Exploration
Location: Doves Nest North, North York Moors
NGR: 489298 505435

In December 2012 Cotswold Archaeology was commissioned by York Potash Ltd to carry out a heritage desk-based assessment of land at Doves Nest North, Sneaton, North York Moors. The objective of the assessment was to identify the nature and extent of the heritage assets within the Proposed Development Area (PDA) and its immediate environs.

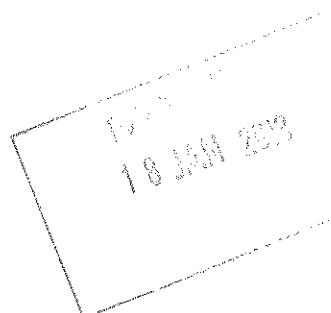
The proposed development will entail the creation of a compound of c.2.0 hectares, which will include all of the required facilities to maintain and operate a temporary deep drilling rig. The drill rig will stand c.32m tall.

No World Heritage Sites or sites included on the Tentative List of Future Nominations for World Heritage Sites (January 2012) are located within the Study Area or its immediate vicinity. No Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens or Registered Battlefields are located within the Study Area.

The only designated assets identified within the Study Area comprise two Grade II Listed buildings, these being a drinking fountain and a boundary stone, located c.500m from the PDA. Neither the Listed Buildings nor their settings will be harmed by the proposed development.

There is no evidence to suggest previous occupation within the PDA, which would appear to have remained primarily in agricultural usage. Given the proximity of prehistoric moorland funerary landscapes, and the small number of prehistoric sites identified within the wider Study Area, there is a slight, though unconfirmed, potential for prehistoric activity within the PDA. Local conditions may also be conducive to the preservation of organic material, though there is presently no evidence for the survival of such remains.

It is considered unlikely that the proposed development will have a significant impact upon the heritage resource. The development does not conflict with local or national heritage policy and there are not considered to be any heritage constraints sufficient to preclude the proposed development.



1 INTRODUCTION

Outline

- 1.1 In December 2012 Cotswold Archaeology was commissioned by York Potash Ltd to carry out a heritage desk-based assessment relating to land at Doves Nest North, Sneaton, North York Moors. (centred on 489298 505435; Fig. 1).

Location and landscape context

- 1.2 The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is approximately 2.0 hectares in size and comprises an area of land to the south of a large open field. The field is bounded on all sides by hedgerows, with the B1416 just beyond the western boundary.

- 1.3 At the time of preparation of this report, the field within which the PDA is situated was in agricultural use. Height above sea level is c.200m, and the surrounding landscape is one of undulating farmland interspersed with open moor.

Objectives

- 1.4 This assessment considered the cultural heritage resource within a Study Area, comprising a 1km buffer centred on the PDA (Fig. 2). The main objectives of the assessment were to:

- identify designated heritage assets within the Study Area;
- identify non-designated heritage assets within the Study Area;
- assess the potential for further unrecorded assets;
- evaluate the significance of those identified heritage assets; and
- determine any potential effects upon the heritage resource.



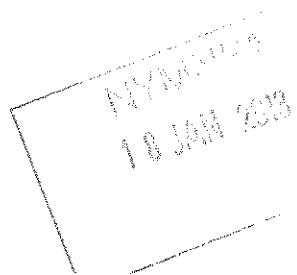
2 METHODOLOGY

General

- 2.1 The assessment methodology is based on guidance provided within the Institute for Archaeologist's *Standards and Guidance for Desk-based Assessment* (IfA 2011).
- 2.2 A Study Area was defined (as described in paragraph 1.4) in order to better contextualise the heritage resource identified within the PDA, by placing it within its wider landscape setting.
- 2.3 The identified heritage resource is discussed in Section 4, and a gazetteer of all known and potential heritage assets is provided in Appendix A. All assets have been attributed a unique reference number, and their locations are recorded in Figure 2.

Data acquisition

- 2.4 Historic environment data was requested from the English Heritage Archive (EHA) and from North York Moors National Park Historic Environment Record (HER). This data related to all known designated and non-designated heritage assets recorded at the time of enquiry, and included detail on monuments, buildings, find-spots, historic land-use, and previous archaeological investigations.
- 2.5 In addition, the following resources were consulted:
- Historic OS mapping (25 inch to 1 mile);
 - The NMR aerial photograph collection;
 - The North York Moors National Park Authority Environment and Planning web pages;
 - The North Yorkshire County Council Historic Landscape Characterisation Project database;
 - The online British Geological Survey (2012) Geology of Britain Viewer.



2.6 A study of the relevant baseline information has indicated that the following types of heritage assets will not be affected by the proposed development:

- Scheduled Monuments;
- Listed Buildings;
- Conservation Areas;
- World Heritage Sites;
- Registered Battlefields;
- Registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest.

2.7 This assessment is therefore focused on the likely impacts of the proposed development on the significance of non-designated heritage assets and their settings. This includes any impacts that may be evident in relation to the wider historic landscape.

Site visit

2.8 The PDA was visited in order to identify any heritage assets not previously recorded, and to assess any other potential constraints affecting the proposed development. The site visit was carried out by a qualified archaeologist, with observations recorded on *pro forma* record sheets.



3 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

Planning policy and guidance context

3.1 This assessment has been prepared within the following legislative, planning policy and guidance context:

- National Heritage Act 1983 (amended 2002)
- Town and Country Planning Act (1990)
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)
- National Planning Policy Framework (2012)
- English Heritage Conservation Principles: policies and guidance for the sustainable management of the historic environment (2008)

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

3.2 The NPPF sets out national planning policy relating to the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.

3.3 The NPPF defines the historic environment as 'all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.'

3.4 Individual aspects of the historic environment are considered *heritage assets*: 'buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of their heritage interest.'

3.5 Heritage assets include designated sites and non-designated sites, and policies within the NPPF relate to both the treatment of assets themselves and of their settings, both of which are a material consideration in development decision making.

3.6 Key tenets of the NPPF are that:



- 1) when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be;
- 2) significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification. *Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional;*
- 3) where a proposed development will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal; and
- 4) with regard to non-designated heritage assets a balanced judgement will be required having due regard to the scale of any harm or loss and to the significance of the heritage asset affected.

3.7 Local planning authorities are urged to request applicants to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected by a proposed development, including any contribution made by their setting. *The level of detail required in the assessment should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.*

Local planning policy

3.8 The North York Moors National Park Authority Local Development Framework (LDF): Core Strategy and Development Policies (2008) provides the overall strategic planning context for the North York Moors National Park.

3.9 Heritage is provided for under Development Policy 7 'Archaeological Assets', and under Core Policy G 'Landscape, Design and Historic Assets'.

- *Development Policy 7: Archaeological Assets* states that: proposals for development that would have an unacceptable impact on the integrity or setting of a Scheduled Monument, or other sites or remains considered to be of national archaeological importance will not be permitted. In the case of sites or remains of regional or local importance, development proposals will only be permitted where the archaeological interest is capable of being preserved *in situ*. Where this is not justifiable or feasible, permission will only be granted where provision is made for appropriate preservation by record. In all cases, an appropriate assessment and evaluation will be required to be submitted as part of the planning application in areas of known or potential archaeological interest.

Core Policy G – Landscape, Design and Historic Assets' states that: the landscape, historic assets and cultural heritage of the North York Moors will be conserved and enhanced. High quality sustainable design will be sought which conserves or enhances the landscape setting, settlement layout and building characteristics of the landscape character areas identified in the North York Moors Landscape Character Assessment. Particular protection will be given to those elements which contribute to the character and setting of: Conservation Areas; Listed Buildings; Historic Parks and Gardens; and Scheduled Monuments and other sites of archaeological importance. The re-use of buildings of architectural and historic importance which make a positive contribution to the landscape and character of the National Park will be encouraged.



4 OVERVIEW OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCE AND A SUMMARY OF THE DEVELOPMENT HISTORY OF THE SITE AND ITS WIDER ENVIRONS

Introduction

- 4.1 This section provides an overview of the historical and archaeological background of the Study Area and the region surrounding it in order to provide a better understanding of the context and significance of the heritage resource that may be affected by the proposed development.

Summary of statutory and non-statutory designated heritage assets

- 4.2 There are no World Heritage Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Registered Battlefields or Scheduled Monuments within the PDA or Study Area. Two Grade II Listed Buildings lie within the Study Area, these being a drinking fountain (Fig. 2, 8) and a boundary stone (Fig. 2, 9). Both lie over 500m from the PDA.

Summary of non-designated or potential heritage assets

- 4.3 There are no known heritage assets recorded within the PDA, though a number are recorded within the wider Study Area. These are discussed in further detail below.

Geology, topography and the palaeoenvironment

- 4.4 The solid geology of the site comprises Sandstone of the Moor Grit Member (BGS Viewer, consulted December 2012). No drift deposits are recorded within the PDA or its vicinity. No deposits of palaeoenvironmental potential have been recorded within the PDA or the wider Study Area. However, the prevalence of both extant and former watercourses within the PDA increases the potential for preservation of organic remains, including wood and leather, as well as pollen, seeds and other environmental remains of possible archaeological value.

Prehistoric (pre-43 AD)

- 4.5 Moorland within the North York Moors National Park is typically rich in well-preserved prehistoric funerary and settlement remains. This includes cairns, barrows, and numerous other features, particularly of Bronze Age and Iron Age date (2400 BC to AD43).

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4.6 In proximity to the PDA is Ugglebarnby Moor, which is located c.2km to the south-east and which contains a dense concentration of recorded prehistoric sites. However, only one confirmed prehistoric findspot is recorded within the present Study Area, this being an unstratified assemblage of Bronze Age arrowheads, scrapers and knives located on moorland c.800m south of the PDA (Fig. 2, 1).

4.7 Although the PDA sits in relative proximity to a moorland prehistoric landscape, there is little evidence for that landscape having extended into the present Study Area. Some small-scale prehistoric activity might be inferred from the recovered flint tool assemblage, though these are not uncommon background finds and no firm evidence of *concerted* prehistoric occupation is recorded.

Roman (43 BC - AD 410)

4.8 The PDA is located c.63km north-east of the *civitas* capital at York (*Eboracum*). In greater proximity is the site of a coastal legionary fort / signal station at Ravenscar, c.9km to the south-east. Roman activity is otherwise extremely limited in this area of the North York Moors, and no sites dating to this period have been identified within the Study Area.

Early medieval (AD 410) to modern

4.9 By the mid 11th century the village of Sneaton, in the Hundred (Saxon administrative division) of Langbaugh, had a population of forty villagers, three smallholders and eight freemen (Domesday Book). It is likely that the PDA formed part of the village's agricultural hinterland. There are no recorded heritage assets of early medieval date within the Study Area. However, the parish boundary between Sneaton and Eskdaleside-cum-Ugglebarnby may have its origins in either this or, more likely, the subsequent Medieval period (Figure 2).

4.10 The PDA is likely to have continued in agricultural use throughout the medieval period, with areas of ridge and furrow agriculture and medieval settlements such as Sneatonthorpe, known locally. During the post-medieval period, a bank and ditch, forming the boundary of Haxby Plantation, was constructed c.900m to the south of the PDA (Fig. 2, 2), and a coal and ironstone mine was in operation c.800m to the south-west (Fig. 2, 3).

4.11 Nineteenth century Ordnance Survey mapping shows little difference between the site of the PDA during the mid 19th century and the site of the PDA today. The road

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defining the western boundary was in existence, as was Doves Nest Farm (Figure 2, 11), its associated fields, and Haxby Plantation. No modern finds or features of significance are recorded within the vicinity of the PDA, and no features of any kind have been identified on aerial photographs or historic mapping.

Undated

- 4.12 Several undated features have been identified. Principal amongst these is a cluster of five circular earthworks recently recorded within Haxby Plantation c.700m south-east of the PDA (Fig.2, 10). These earthworks comprise depressions defined by low earthen banks (possibly upcast). The field investigator records that these are reminiscent of Bronze Age ring cairns observed elsewhere within the National Park, though such an interpretation remains uncertain. An earthwork platform (a flattened-off build up of compacted earth) was also identified in association with the possible ring cairns.
- 4.13 A small enclosure has been identified on aerial photographs, c.400m north of the PDA, though this is unconfirmed on the ground and may be either agricultural or natural (Fig. 2, 5). A second enclosure has also been identified on Ugglebarnby Moor, c.600m west of the PDA (Fig. 2, 7), and a linear feature, probably a modern service, has been recorded to the north-west (Fig. 2, 6). A pond, of uncertain origin, lies c.600m to the south-east of the PDA (Fig. 2, 4).



5 POTENTIAL, SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT

Potential development impacts

- 5.1 The proposed development will entail the creation of a 2.0 hectare compound that will contain all of the facilities required to maintain and operate a deep drilling rig. The drill rig will stand at approximately 32m in height and will be accompanied by supporting single storey structures, surrounded by an earthen bank and fence.
- 5.2 The compound will be a temporary construction and will be in place for an estimated six months. The rig itself will be operational (and erect) for much of this six month period.
- 5.3 The creation of the compound will require the removal of topsoil and subsoil which might disturb or remove any buried archaeological remains should they survive within the proposed development site.

Significance

- 5.4 No archaeological features have been identified within the PDA and, given the lack of evidence for archaeological activity, the potential for encountering significant unknown heritage assets can only be considered low.
- 5.5 No features of significance are recorded on either the historic mapping or aerial photography, suggesting that any remains that do survive are likely to be no later than early 19th century. Any undetected sites would be anticipated to be agricultural and no earlier than post-medieval.
- 5.6 No features, finds or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during an archaeological watching brief undertaken during the recent installation of a drilling rig immediately south of the PDA. The watching brief revealed only modern drainage / plough channels and a number of possible tree throws.

Impacts

- 5.7 No known heritage assets would be physically affected by the proposed works.
- 5.8 Although the rig would be visible from heritage assets across a wide area, the key significances of these assets would not be affected.



Conclusion

- 5.9 No World Heritage Sites or sites included on the Tentative List of Future Nominations for World Heritage Sites (January 2012) are located within the Study Area or its immediate vicinity. No Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens or Registered Battlefields are located within the Study Area.
- 5.10 The only designated assets identified within the Study Area comprise two Grade II Listed buildings, these being a drinking fountain (Fig. 2, 8) and a boundary stone (Fig. 2, 9). Both lie c.500m from the PDA and neither they nor their settings, will be harmed by the proposed development.
- 5.11 There is no evidence to suggest previous occupation within the PDA, which would appear to have remained primarily in agricultural usage. Given the proximity of prehistoric moorland funerary landscapes, and the small number of prehistoric sites identified within the wider Study Area, there is a slight, though unconfirmed, potential for prehistoric activity within the PDA. Local conditions may also be conducive to the preservation of organic material, though there is presently no evidence for the survival of such remains.
- 5.12 In summary, it is considered unlikely that the proposed development will have a significant impact upon the heritage resource. The development does not conflict with local or national heritage policy and there are not considered to be any heritage constraints sufficient to preclude the proposed development.



6 REFERENCES

Relevant Policy Documents

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979).

English Heritage 2008, Conservation Principles: Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment.

Heritage Coast, North Yorkshire and Cleveland, Management Plan 2008-2013 (3rd Review).

National Heritage Act 1983 (amended 2002).

National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

North York Moors National Park Authority Local Development Framework: Core Strategies and Development Policies, 2008, North York Moors National Park Authority.

Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Textual sources

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Institute for Archaeologists 2011, *Standard and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessment*.

Margary, I.D., 1973, *Roman Roads in Britian: Third Edition*, London, John Baker.

White, Young Green, 2003, North York Moors National Park, Landscape Character Assessment.

Maps

1893 Ordnance Survey 25" First Edition Map of Yorkshire

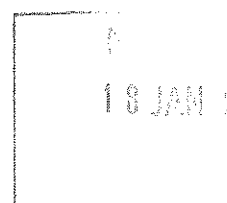
Historic Maps consulted via www.old-maps.co.uk in December 2012



APPENDIX A - GAZETTEER OF RECORDED HERITAGE ASSETS AND OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE HISTORIC ENVIROMENT

No.	Description	Period	Status	NGR (all NZ)	HER ref. NMR ref. EH ref.	Major Source
1	Bronze Age arrowhead and assemblage	Prehistoric	-	8930 0460	12245 12245.00001	HER
2	Bank and ditch forming field boundary along belt plantation	Post-medieval	-	8962 0451	06/97	HER
3	Coal and ironstone mine	Modern	-	8861 0454	14176	HER
4	Pond	Undated	-	8981 0518	06/96	HER
5	Enclosure	Undated	-	8930 0568	7593	HER
6	Linear feature identified from APs – HER suggests it may be a modern service	Undated	-	8891 0552	7591	HER
7	Possible ditched enclosure	Undated	-	8866 0540	7592	HER
8	Public drinking fountain	Modern	Grade II Listed Building	8830 0568	327542	EH
9	Boundary stone at Red Gate	Modern	Grade II Listed Building	8924 0469	327514	EH
10	Possible ring ditches and platform	Undated	-	89562 04738	-	FS
11	Doves Nest Farm	Modern	-	89500 05100	-	HER

Key: North York Moors Historic environment record (HER); English Heritage archive (EH); Field Survey (FS).





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PROJECT TITLE
Doves Nest North, North Yorkshire Moors

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan

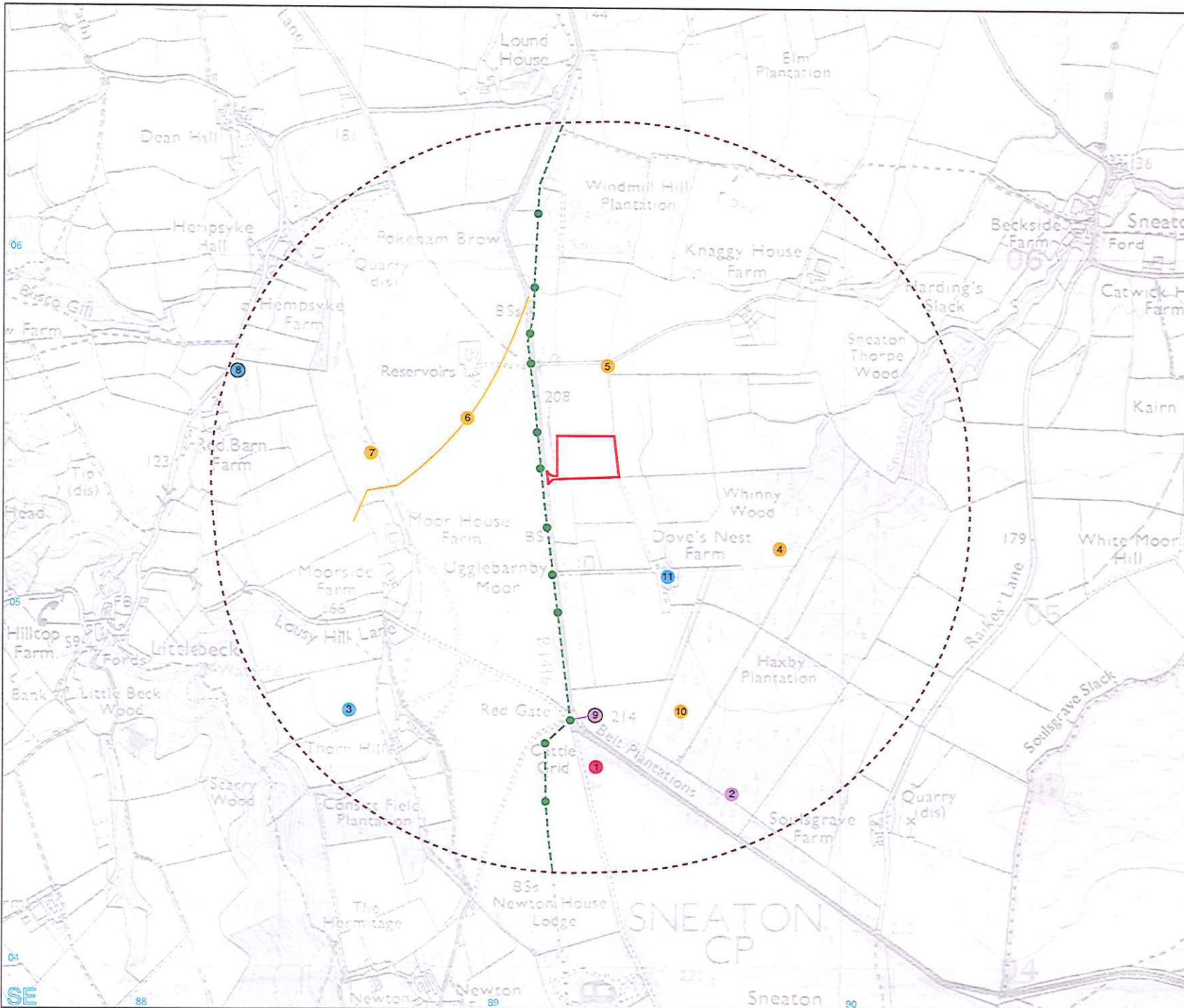


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FIGURE NO

1



- site
- study area
- prehistoric
- post-medieval
- modern
- undated
- Grade II Listed building
- Parish boundary
- Parish boundary marker stones



0 500m

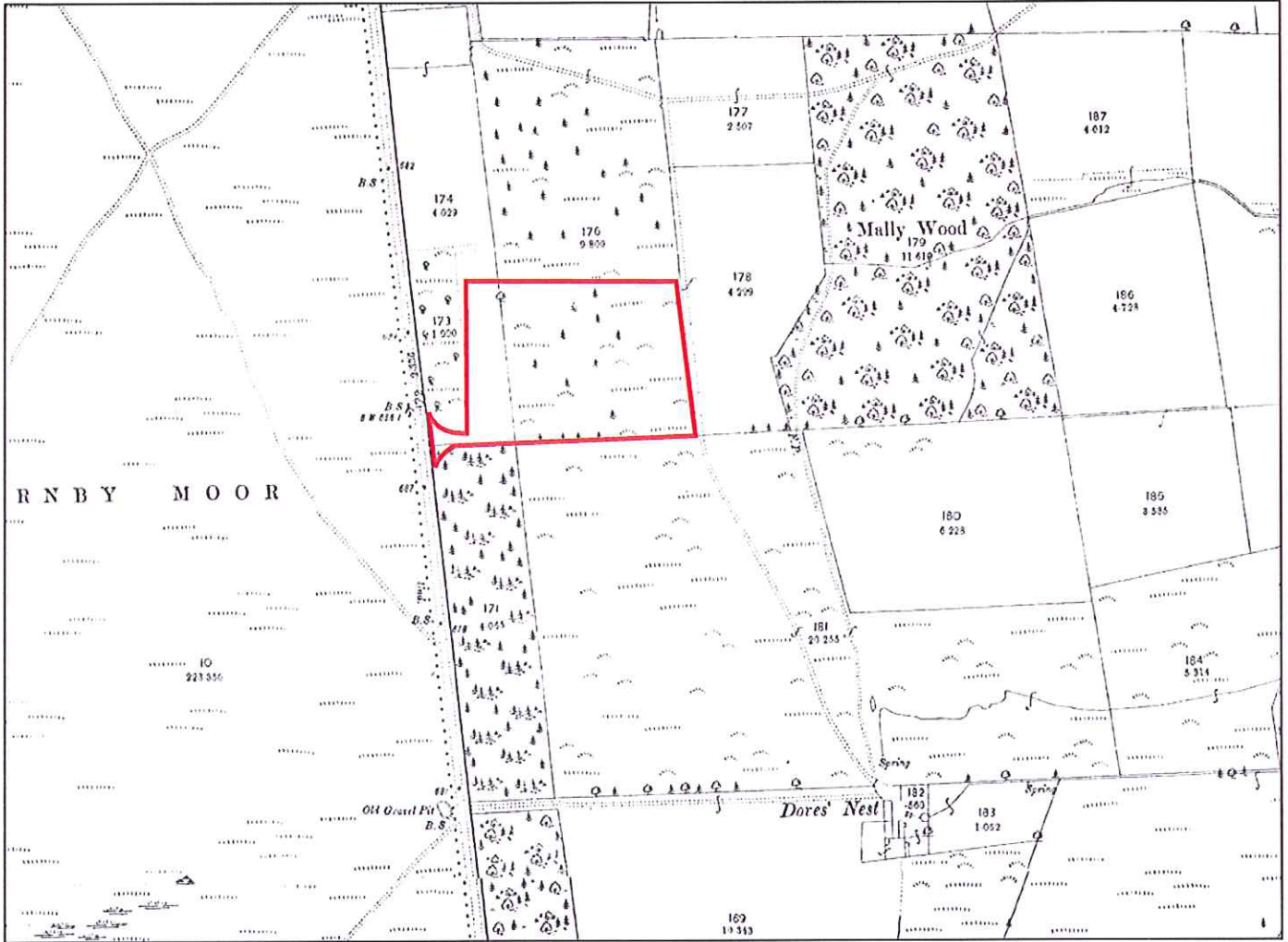
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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Recorded heritage assets

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PROJECT TITLE
Dove's Nest North, North York Moors

FIGURE TITLE
Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1893

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APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A4	approx. 1:5000	