

The University Of Sheffield.

New Lodge, Athersley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire

Archaeological Desk-Based Appraisal

ARCUS report 1267.1(1)

February 2009

Client: Morgan Ashurst plc

Archaeological Desk-Based Appraisal

ARCUS

New Lodge, Athersley, Barnsley

Grid Reference: SE 3445 0927

Archaeological Desk-Based Appraisal

Assessment Report No. 1267.1(1)

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

In February 2009, ARCUS were commissioned by Morgan Ashurst plc to undertake an archaeological desk-based appraisal on a site at New Lodge, Athersley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (SE 3445 0927). The evaluation was required to inform a planning application for redevelopment at the site. The assessment consisted of rapid appraisal of documentary and cartographic research, and a site visit.

The site, known as New Laithes prior to the late 18th century, was obtained by William Blythman after the dissolution of the monasteries in 1538, prior to which it was part of the estates of the Monk Breton Priory. Little is known of the early history of the site but it is possible that a grange and barns were on the site from the medieval period. The Blythman family lived at New Laithes until the early 18th century, and are likely to have constructed a Tudor or Elizabethan house on the site.

The plot was sold to the architect John Carr in 1769 and was renamed New Lodge. The present house is likely to have been built between 1769 and 1802. The land to the northeast, including the development site, was part of the landscaped gardens for the house. Map evidence shows that there was a square feature in the northeast of the proposed development plot in the mid-19th century. This feature has been interpreted as the remains of a medieval moat, although it could be a post-medieval garden feature or fishpond. Geophysical survey has confirmed this area as having low resistivity.

A community archaeology project carried out in 2008 confirmed the presence of archaeological features to the southwest of the moated feature, including stone-built structures and a yard surface, most of which are likely to be of post-medieval date, possibly associated with the Tudor complex, but one of which could have had medieval origins. A core through the moat deposits indicated the potential for the survival of organic deposits, although no dateable material was recovered. The nature and date of the moated feature cannot be ascertained on the basis of currently available data.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of Report

This report presents the results of an archaeological desk-based appraisal on a site at New Lodge, Athersley, near Barnsley. This was required to inform a planning application for redevelopment at the site, and was undertaken in line with Barnsley UDP policy BE3, and with the government's guidance set down in PPG16. The assessment consisted of rapid documentary and cartographic research, as well as a site visit, and was prepared in accordance with Institute for Archaeologists guidelines (IfA 2008) and with a brief prepared by South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS). ARCUS were commissioned by Morgan Ashurst plc to undertake the assessment.

It was not possible to see the results of a recent geophysical survey undertaken on the site by Dearne Valley Archaeological Services, although the summary report on trial trenching undertaken on the basis of the survey by the New Lodge and Athersley Community Archaeological Project has been consulted.

1.2 Site Location

The site (centred on NGR SE 3445 0927) is located to the northeast of New Lodge, Athersley, 3km to the north of the centre of Barnsley (**Illustration 1**). It is located near the top of a hill, and is bounded by Wakefield Road on the northeast, Langsett Road on the northwest and Wensley Road on the southeast. The site is currently grassed open ground adjacent to a residential care facility.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims and Objectives

The general aim of the appraisal is to determine the nature of the archaeological resource in areas affected by the proposed development. This is achieved by collating existing archaeological and historical information relating to the proposed development and its immediate environs and by placing it in its local, regional and national context.

The specific aim of the appraisal is to assess the extent of survival and potential significance of buried archaeological remains associated with the possible moated site within the application area.

2.2 Methodology

All relevant and readily available published and unpublished documentary sources were consulted, including historic maps. Information on recorded archaeological sites was obtained from the regional authority. Data was collected from the following sources:

- South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR);
- University of Sheffield Department of Archaeology;
- New Lodge and Athersley Community Archaeology Project (NLACAP).

A site visit was made on 19th February 2009 by Helen Holderness, to assess the current land use and identify any visible archaeological or historic features. Areas of

previous ground disturbance which may have affected the survival of buried archaeological deposits were also noted. Recording consisted of an annotated sketch plan and digital photography.

2.3 Geotechnical Data

No known geotechnical investigations have been undertaken at the site. The results of previous archaeological investigations at the site are discussed in Sections 4 and 5.

3 PLANNING FRAMEWORK

3.1 Designations

All cultural heritage designations were checked for the area, including Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, and Registered Battlefield Sites. New Lodge is a grade II Listed Building. The proposed development site is not within a Conservation Area. Only one Scheduled Ancient Monument is located within 1km of the site, the 19th-century fan-house at East Gawber Hall Colliery (SAM 30951).

3.2 Planning Policies

Barnsley Unitary Development Plan, adopted 2003, contains policies for the protection of the historic environment, covering issues such as Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas, development within sensitive areas and archaeological remains. The policies are based on the government's planning guidelines set down in PPG15 (Planning and the Historic Environment, 1994) and PPG16 (Planning and Archaeology, 1990). PPG 16 emphasises the need for archaeological issues to be considered early in the planning process and provides a framework for the investigation of sites and the management of archaeological remains, which are considered to be a finite and non-renewable resource (PPG16, paragraph 6). Where archaeological remains of national significance are identified, preservation *in situ* is the preferred option, although in cases of lesser significance, preservation by record may be an acceptable alternative (PPG16 paragraph 25; UDP policies BE3 and BE4).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

This section presents a summary of the historical and archaeological background of the area, focusing in particular on the proposed development site. Information on known archaeological sites and findspots within 1km of the site was compiled from the South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). Historic maps and plans of the area were consulted, including the Ordnance Survey series. Documentary research undertaken by the New Lodge and Athersley Community Archaeology Project was also consulted (NLACAP research notes). A gazetteer of known archaeological sites and historic structures was compiled from this information, and is presented below, with the locations of the sites shown on **Illustration 2**.

Glossary of time periods referred to in the text:

Prehistoric:	500,000 BC-AD 43	Romano-British:	AD 43-450
Early Medieval	450-1066	Medieval:	1066-1485
Post-Medieval	1485-1900	Modern:	1901-present

4.1 Gazetteer of Known Archaeological Sites

SMR no	Description	NGR
2716	Site of Dearneside Colliery, a 19th-century coal mine shown on the 1855 OS map, but now under a modern tip.	SE 3351 0925
3521/01	New Lodge, Barnsley, 27 Wensley Road, Athersley. A large country house, built by John Carr for his nephew John Clarke. The site, formerly known as New Laithes, was purchased for the house in 1769. It later became a nursing home. Grade II listed.	SE 3436 0919
3521/02	A wall on the eastern boundary of the property contains blocked-up mullioned and transomed windows and door jambs, and was associated with two buildings shown on the 1854 OS map.	SE 3440 0919
3522	Site of a possible moat at New Lodge, Barnsley: a square feature shown on the 1854 OS map as a single island with a ditch on each side, and a possible entrance in the northeast corner. The site was partially built over by a council building. No clear remains currently visible above the ground surface, but archaeological investigation has indicated that some medieval pottery and below-ground building remains survive in the immediate vicinity. Possibly a medieval moated site, or a post-medieval garden feature associated with New Lodge.	SE 3445 0927
4651	East Gawber Colliery fanhouse. A late 19th-century Guibal fanhouse or exhauster house, of brick construction, associated with East Gawber Hall colliery, which opened in 1856 and closed *c.*1922. The Guibal fan was a steam-powered device used for mine ventilation, and was installed *c.*1875-80. Scheduled Ancient Monument 30951.	SE 3439 0865

4.2 Prehistoric to Romano-British

No remains of prehistoric to Romano-British date have been recorded within 1km of the proposed development area.

4.3 Medieval

In the medieval period, the site was part of the estates belonging to Monk Bretton Priory, and may have included a monastic grange or farm. No details associated with the grange are known, but in 1540 William Blythman purchased a large amount of the priory's estates, including 'the grange of New Laithes, with chapel, sheepcote, laithe and divers closes, pastures, meadows and appurtenances, worth £5 13s 4d per year' (Wilkinson 1883). The name of 'New Laithes', recorded in 1377 as *Newelaythys*, derives from 'new barns', a mixture of Old English (*nîwe*) and Old Norse (*hlaða*) place-name elements (Smith 1961, 276). The name may refer to barns associated with the monastic grange.

The location of the buildings mentioned in the purchase is not currently known, but geophysical survey undertaken in 2001 and 2008 identified probable structural remains in the area to the northeast of New Lodge (ASWYAS 2001). Trial trenching undertaken by the Community Archaeology Project in 2008 recovered remains of a large stone wall in Trench 3 (**Illustration 8**). The size and construction method, as well as the recovery of medieval green-glaze pottery adjacent to the exterior face, suggested that the wall was part of a medieval building, which had been reinforced or heavily altered in the post-medieval period by the addition of an adjacent wall against its internal face (**Plate 1**). The post-medieval phase of construction appeared to have removed any medieval floor layers, and the artefactual material from the interior was all of post-medieval date. The size of the earlier part of the structure is currently unknown, but the stretch of wall uncovered appears to form part of the northeast wall of the later structure (Merrony 2009).

4.4 Post-Medieval

As mentioned above, the site was purchased by William Blythman in 1540. Blytheman had been one of the commissioners appointed to dissolve the priory's lands after the Act of Dissolution in 1536. His list of purchases included 'the manor of Burton, alias Monk Bretton, and New Laithes, which became the family seat' (Wilkinson 1883). The chapel at New Laithes was demolished shortly after the purchase, and the family settled at New Laithes following Blythman's death in 1544. It seems likely that there were buildings on the site by that date, although it is not clear how much new construction was undertaken for the new family seat. The New Laithes house remained in the Blythman family until the late 17th/early 18th century, when it passed by marriage to Charles King esquire. King's granddaughters sold the house and lands to John Carr *c.*1769 (Wilkinson 1883).

John Carr, a noted architect, designed a large number of stately homes, houses, bridges and other public buildings, mainly in Yorkshire and the north of England. His works included the Knavesmere Grandstand at York Racecourse (1755), the Royal Crescent at Buxton (1781), Leeds General Infirmary (1768-71), Burton Constable Hall (1762) and Harewood House (1759-71). Following his purchase of the land at New Laithes, he demolished the existing buildings, known as Abbey Grange. It is stated that the land purchased included a chapel and messuage (NLACAP research notes). The site was renamed New Lodge at around the time of the construction of Carr's house.

There appears to be some confusion over the date of the purchase of the site and the construction of the New Lodge buildings (SMR site 3521/01), with various sources stating either 1769, 1780, 1795 or 1802. The English Heritage listing information states that it is late 18th century, with the land purchased in 1769. It has also been suggested both that the house was built for John Carr himself, and that he designed it for his nephew, John Clarke, although as Carr moved to York at around the time of New Lodge's construction, the latter theory seems more likely. The house has a symmetrical three-bay façade and a central Roman Doric doorcase, and Pevsner's description states that 'there was evidently not much money and the house is very plain' (Pevsner 2003, 94). A small, ornamental gatehouse was built at the entrance to the driveway to the northeast of the house.

The earliest detailed Ordnance Survey map to cover the site depicted a square moated feature (SMR site 3522) within the landscaped gardens to the northeast of the house, enclosing a tree-covered island (**Illustration 3**). This was partly within the proposed development site. No buildings were shown within the feature. The map also depicted a number of buildings to the north of the main house, which are likely to have been barns and outbuildings. The site and ornamental gardens were shown in more detail on the 1891 OS map (**Illustration 4**). A semi-circular curve to the southeast of the house is thought to have been a viewing platform, overlooking the valley. An engraving of the house, of unknown date, shows a large pond to the front of the house, although it is possible that the perspective has been altered to include the square moat feature, as no pond is shown on any maps in the location indicated by the illustration (**Plate 2**).

A wall now forming part of the eastern boundary of the New Lodge complex contains remains of a structure, including infilled mullioned and transomed windows and a doorway (SMR site 3521/02; **Plate 3**). It has been suggested that this may represent the remains of the 16th- to 17th-century Blythman house (NLACAP research notes); the wall appears to represent the western wall of a long outbuilding shown on the 1854 and 1891 OS maps, which may have pre-dated the construction of New Lodge. A blocked gateway visible in another section of the wall probably also relates to the

outbuildings (**Plate 4**).

The archaeological trial trenching undertaken in 2008 by NLACAP encountered the remains of post-medieval stone-built structures in Trenches 2 and 3 (**Illustration 8**), and an area of cobbled yard surface laid directly on the bedrock in Trench 4. No structural remains were encountered in Trench 1, although a series of shallow dumped deposits of 19th- to 20th-century date were revealed, including industrial waste. The remains in Trench 2 consisted of the south-western wall of a building of stone construction, with partial remnants of a flagged stone floor and one internal dividing wall. This dividing wall was of substantial construction, so may have been a division between two structures, or a load-bearing wall. The foundation trenches for the walls were cut into the underlying subsoil, and the flagged floor was laid on a clean sandy bedding layer which had been placed directly on the subsoil. All artefactual material was post-medieval.

The building in Trench 2 may have had a medieval origin (as discussed in Section 4.3), but appeared to have been remodelled or extended in the post-medieval period. Sections of the northeast and northwest walls were recorded, although it was not possible to excavate the northern corner of the structure. Both walls had two construction phases, with an inner wall built against an outer wall, which was probably the earliest element, based on the more substantial remains of the northeast walls. The northwest walls were of much rougher construction, on insubstantial foundations (**Plate 1**). The interior floor consisted of clean sand bedding, overlain by spreads of mortar and trample. The nature of the interior deposits suggested that the building was a workshop involving metal-working, possibly a smithy. The interior deposits represented the final use of the building, with no traces of any earlier floor layers surviving, and all interior artefactual material was post-medieval (Merrony 2009). The building was not shown on the 1854 OS map, suggesting that it may have been associated with the Blythman house, and pre-dated the landscaping of the park undertaken by Carr in the late 18th century. The archaeological remains lay directly under the topsoil, *c.*10cm below the ground surface.

4.5 Twentieth Century

The site layout was largely unchanged by 1931 (**Illustration 5**), although it appears that most of the trees had been removed from the garden, apart from on the square island feature. By 1938, the development of a housing estate had commenced to the north of Wakefield Road, and by 1956 housing surrounding the New Lodge site was shown as under construction (**Illustration 6**). The moated feature was not depicted on the 1956 or 1962 maps (**Illustration 7**). New Lodge itself became a residential home for elderly ladies in 1949, and was renovated as an old people's home in the 1980s-90s, after a period of dereliction from the 1960s (NLACAP research notes). It is currently in use as a residential care facility. The building was extended to the north in the later 20th century (**Plate 5**). The gatehouse lodge was still shown in 1931, but had been demolished by 1962, when it lay under the widened Wakefield Road.

A number of buildings were constructed across the proposed development area between 1962 and 1973. This included Langsett Court along the northwest edge, and a community centre on a northwest-southeast alignment across the centre of the site. The buildings have since been demolished, but some above-ground remains survive in the form of a raised mound (**Plate 6**), with sections of concrete flooring visible (**Plate 7**). The community centre was built partially across the northeast part of the moated feature. It is not recorded if any archaeological remains were noted during its

construction. No clear remains of the moated feature are visible on the ground, as slight terracing or hollows may be associated with the 1960s-70s buildings (**Plates 8-10**).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

5.1 Assessment of Current State of Knowledge

The current state of knowledge of above-ground remains is considered to be good, and is based on SMR records and the site visit. The current state of knowledge of the sub-surface archaeological resource is moderate, and is based on the results of the community archaeology project undertaken at the New Lodge site in 2008.

5.2 Potential for Survival of Archaeological Remains

The archaeological investigations undertaken in 2008 by NLACAP indicate that there is the potential for the survival of archaeological remains within the proposed development area.

The nature of the moated feature recorded on the 19th-century OS maps is currently unknown. A core sample 2m in depth was taken in the area of the moat (**Illustration 8**) using a gouge auger, following the initial excavation of a 2m by 1m trial pit through topsoil and dumped brick rubble (containing 19th- to 20th-century artefactual material, and probably associated with the community centre). The core revealed a gleyed silty clay moat or pond fill, containing frequent stones and some organic material. It did not appear to be a waterlogged deposit, but macroscopic organic data was present, indicating that it may be possible to recover environmental and dateable material from the fill (Merrony 2009).

It is possible that the moat may have been associated with the medieval grange at New Laithes. The remains of the building in Trench 3 suggest that there is the potential for the survival of medieval structures within the vicinity, and the extent of the complex purchased by Blythman in 1541 is not currently known. An alternative suggestion is that it could be a post-medieval garden feature, associated either with the Tudor house of the Blythman family, or with the landscaping undertaken by John Carr for New Lodge in the late 18th century. Rectangular arrangements of ponds were popular features for 16th- and 17th-century formal gardens, doubling as fishponds (Taylor 1978, 5). If the feature is associated with the Tudor gardens, there may be the potential for the survival of other sub-surface garden remains, such as walkways, planting beds and bridge footings. The hilltop location of the moat is relatively unusual, and the source of the water to fill it is currently unclear.

The construction of the former community centre may have impacted on the moated feature, although the extent of impact will have depended on the construction methods employed. Further archaeological evaluation will be required to assess the nature and date of the moated site.

6 CONCLUSIONS

The desk-based appraisal has indicated that archaeological deposits associated with the moated site survive within the proposed development site. There may also be the potential for medieval and post-medieval buildings in the vicinity, associated with a possible monastic grange, and the successive Tudor and late 18th-century houses of

New Laithes and New Lodge. The currently available data does not allow the date and nature of the moated site to be determined, although the potential for the survival of organic remains has been indicated by a core sample undertaken on the moat fill.

7 ARCHIVE

The appraisal archive, including primary written documents, plans and digital photographs, will be retained by ARCUS in the first instance, although it may be deposited with the relevant museum if any associated fieldwork is undertaken at the site at a later date. Copies of this report will be deposited with the South Yorkshire SMR, circulated to the client, and retained in the offices of ARCUS.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors would like to thank Colin Merrony of the University of Sheffield's Department of Archaeology, and Kate Faulkes of New Lodge and Athersley Stronger Neighbourhoods Initiative for their kind assistance and for data associated with the 2008 archaeological investigations. Andrew Lines and Sarah Howard of SYAS also assisted with information and data collection.

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Historic maps

1854 *Ordnance Survey 6 inch: 1 mile map.*

1891 Ordnance Survey 25 inch: 1 mile map.

1931 Ordnance Survey 25 inch: 1 mile map.

1938 Ordnance Survey 6 inch: 1 mile map.

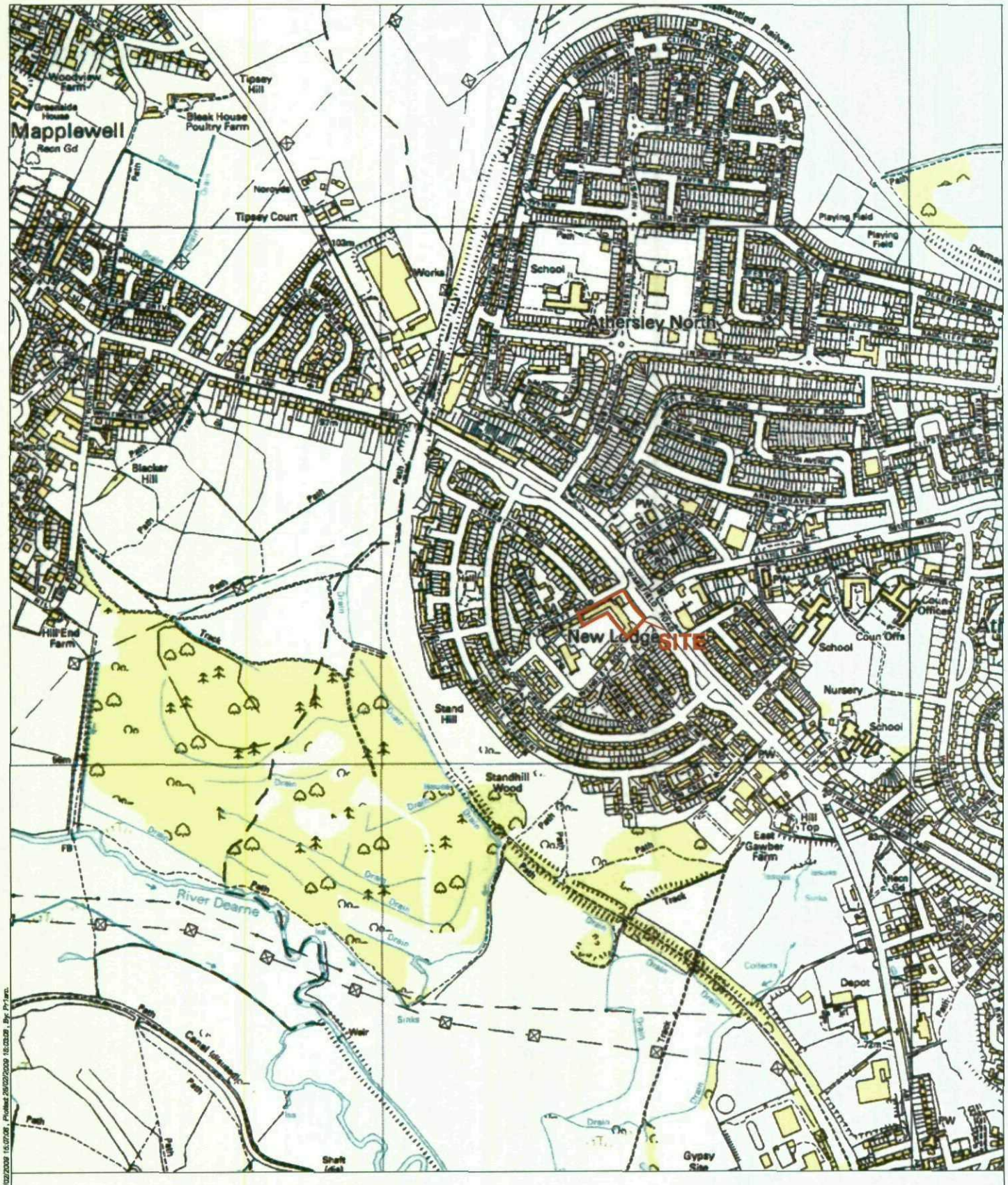
1956 Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 map.

1962 Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 map.

1973 Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 map.

1988 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map.

10 ILLUSTRATIONS AND PLATES



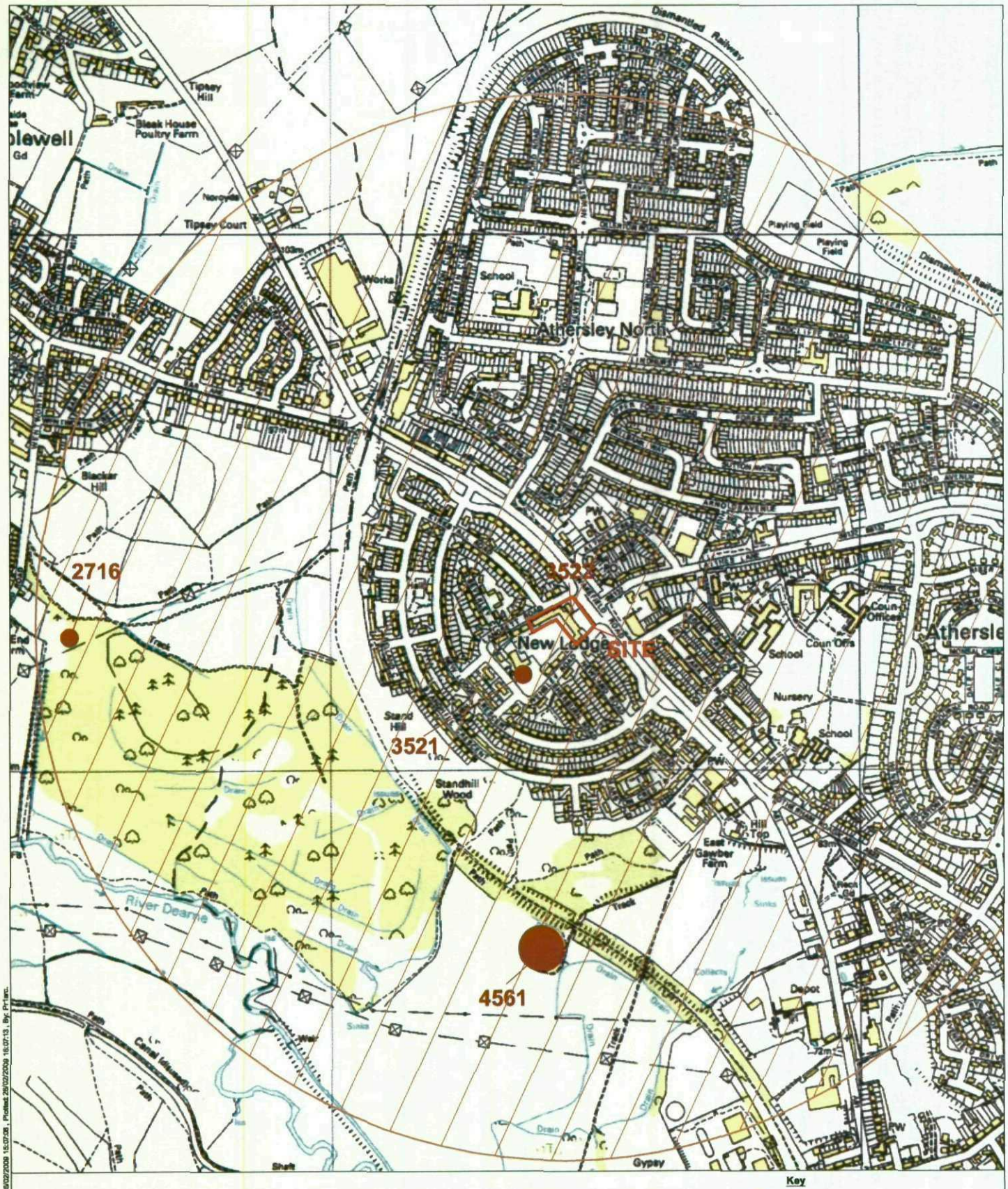
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Title: ***Site location***	Project No.: **1267**	Illustration No.: **1**

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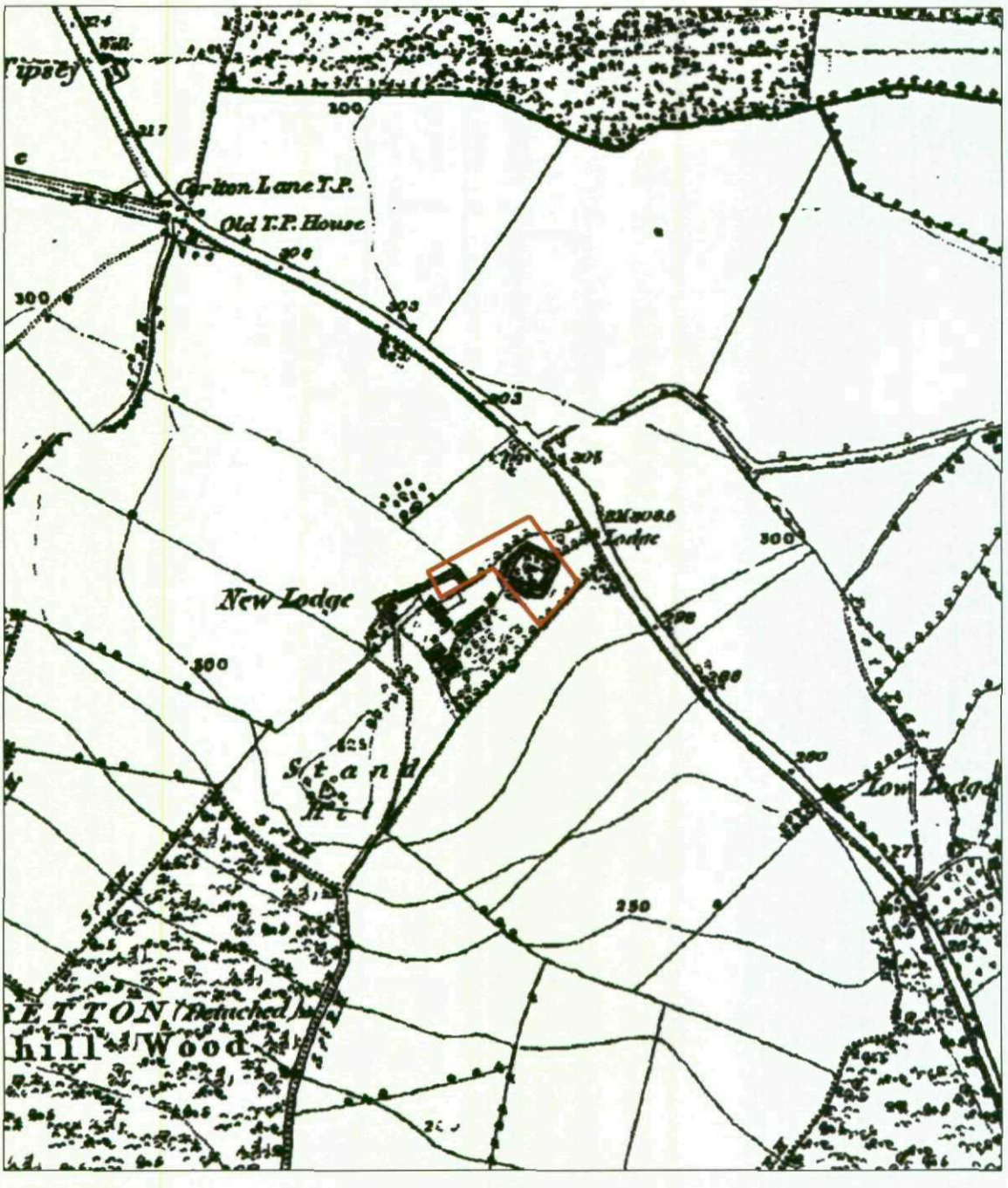
- SMR site
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Project:	Scale	Date
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Title: **Location of known archaeological sites**	Project No.: **1267**	Illustration No.: **2**

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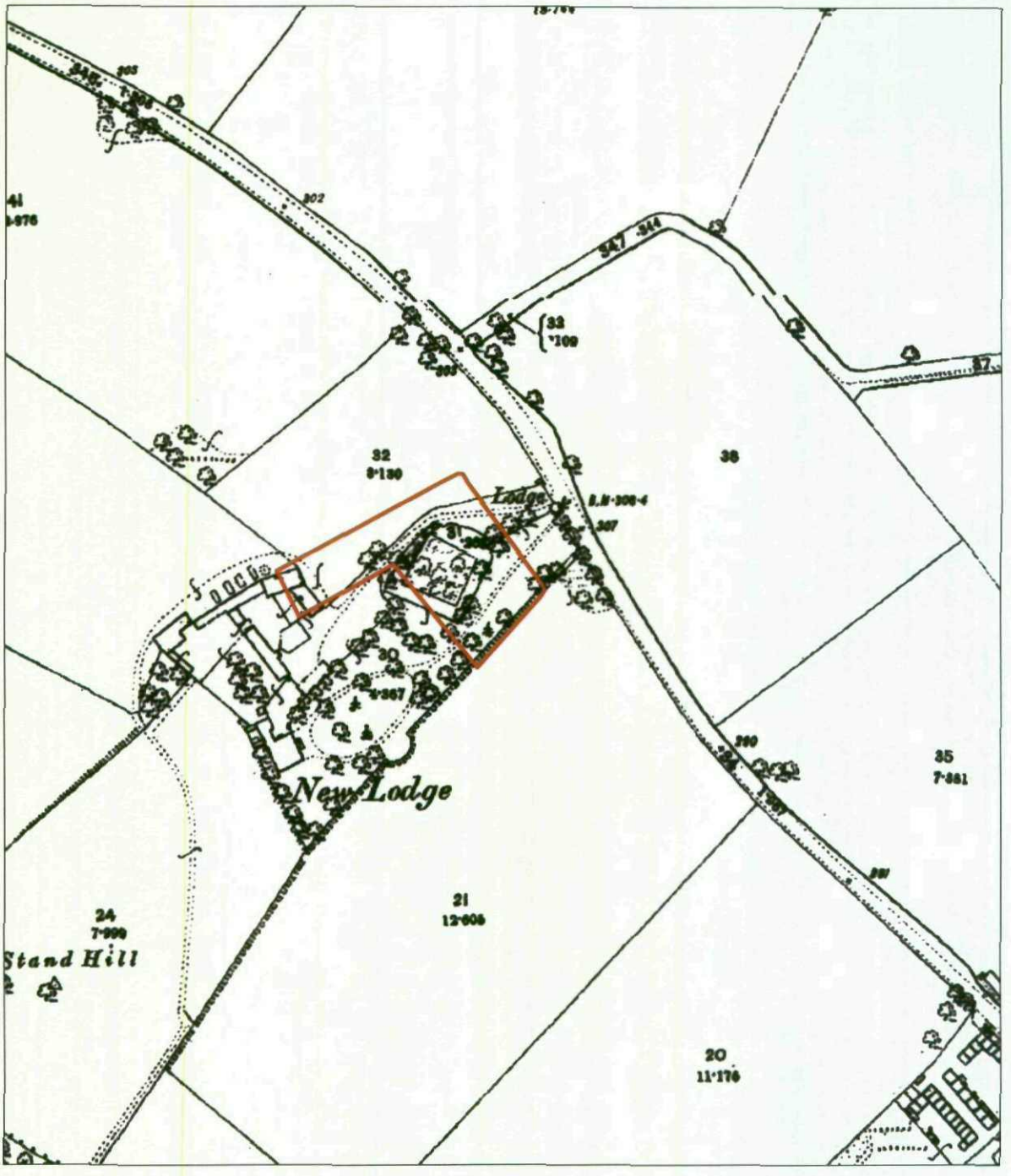


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Project: **New Lodge, Athersley**		Scale -	Date February 2009
Title **1854 OS map (6 inch: 1 mile)**		NGR SE 3445 0927	Drawn J Debska
		Project No. **1267**	Illustration No. **3**

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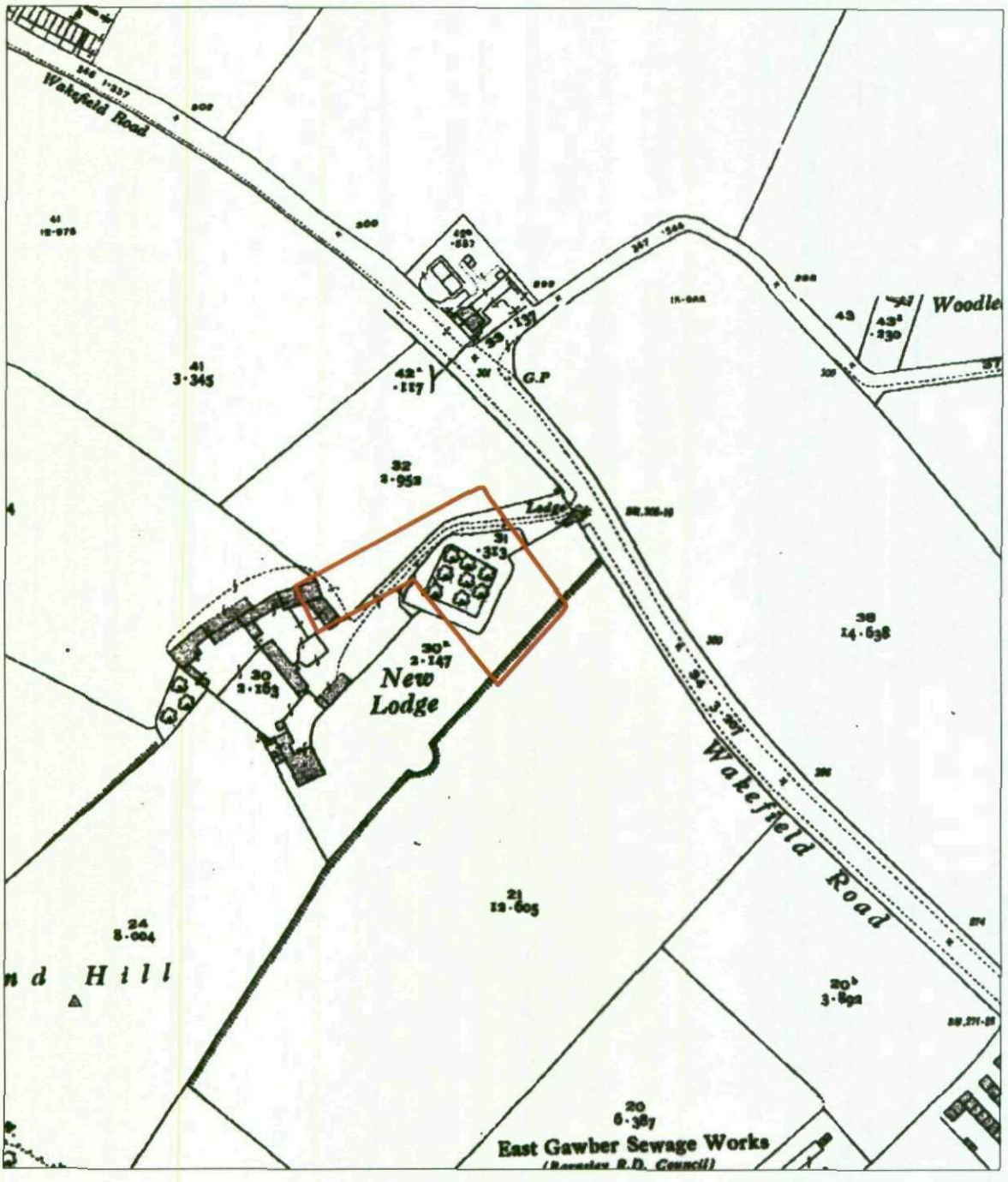


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Title: **1891 OS map (25 inch: 1 mile)**		Project No.: **1267**	Illustration No.: **4**

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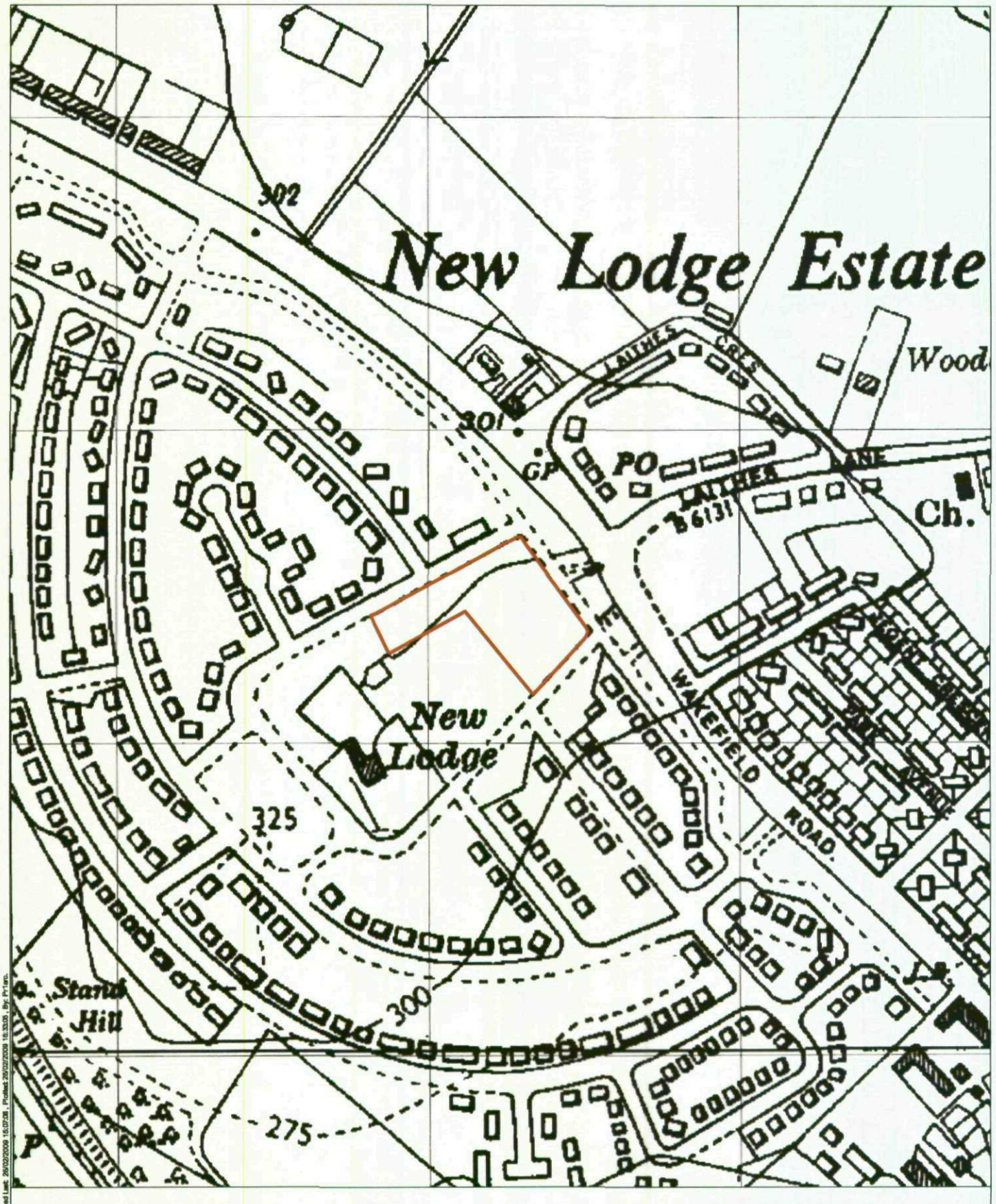
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Project: **New Lodge, Athersley**		Scale -	Date February 2009
		NGR SE 3445 0927	Drawn J Debska
Title **1931 OS map (25 inch: 1 mile)**		Project No. 1267	Illustration No. 5

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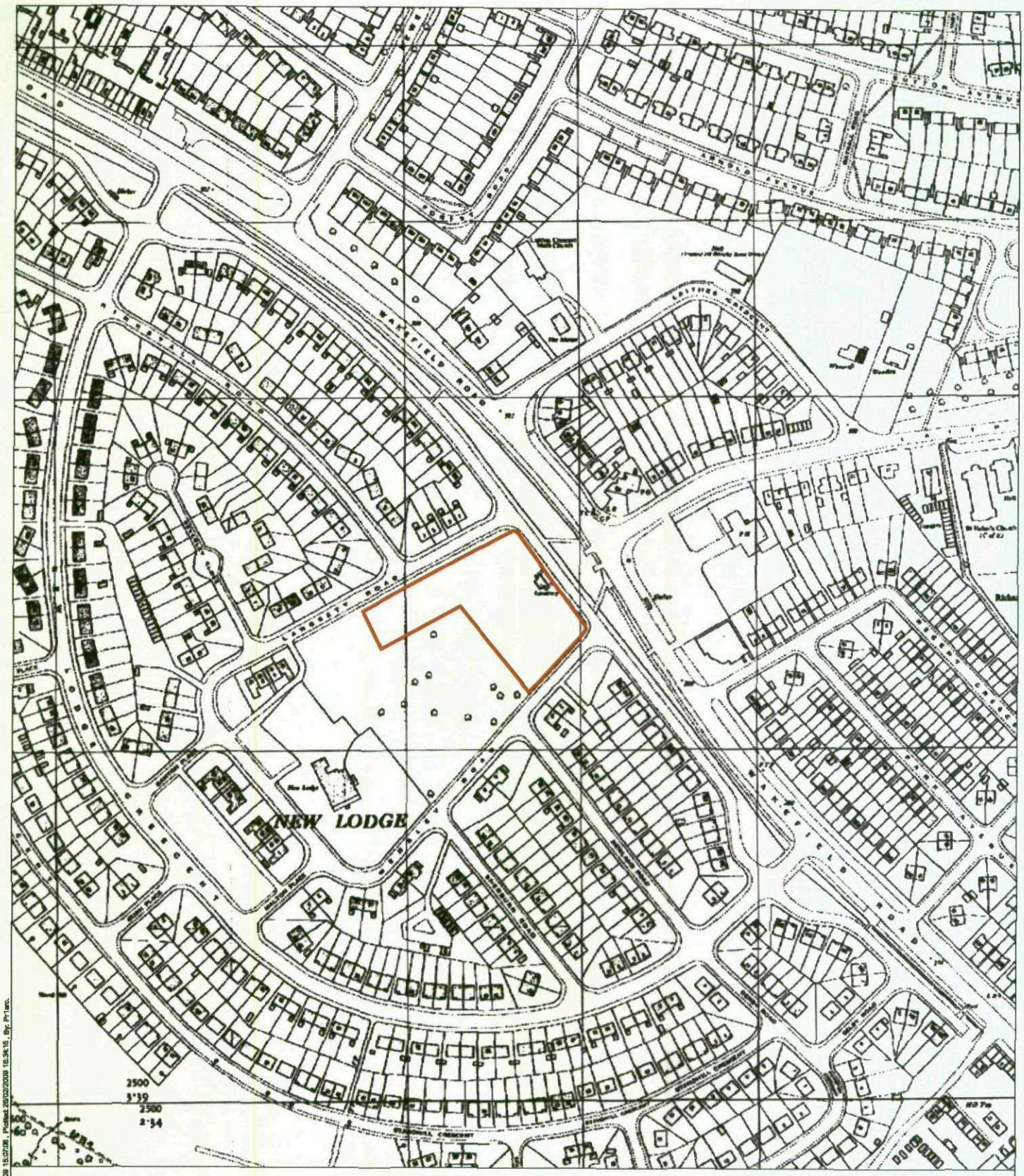
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Project: **New Lodge, Athersley**		Scale -	Date February 2009
		NGR SE 3445 0927	Drawn J Debska
Title **1956 OS map (1:10,560)**		Project No. **1267**	Illustration No. **6**

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Project: **New Lodge, Athersley**		Scale 1:3000	Date February 2009
		NGR SE 3445 0927	Drawn J Debska
Title **1962 OS map (1:2500)**		Project No. **1267**	Illustration No. **7**

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Project: **New Lodge, Athersley**

Title: **Location of 2008 archaeological trenches**

Scale	Date
1:1000	February 2009
NGR: SE 3445 0927	Drawn: J Debska
Project No.: 1267	Illustration No.: 8

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PLATES



Plate 1 – Possible medieval stone wall uncovered in Trench 3, 2008 evaluations, with post-medieval wall built adjacent to right, viewed facing southeast
(reproduced courtesy of Colin Merrony, University of Sheffield)



Plate 2 – Southwest view of New Lodge house, unknown date



Plate 3 – Re-used stone from an unknown building, viewed facing southwest

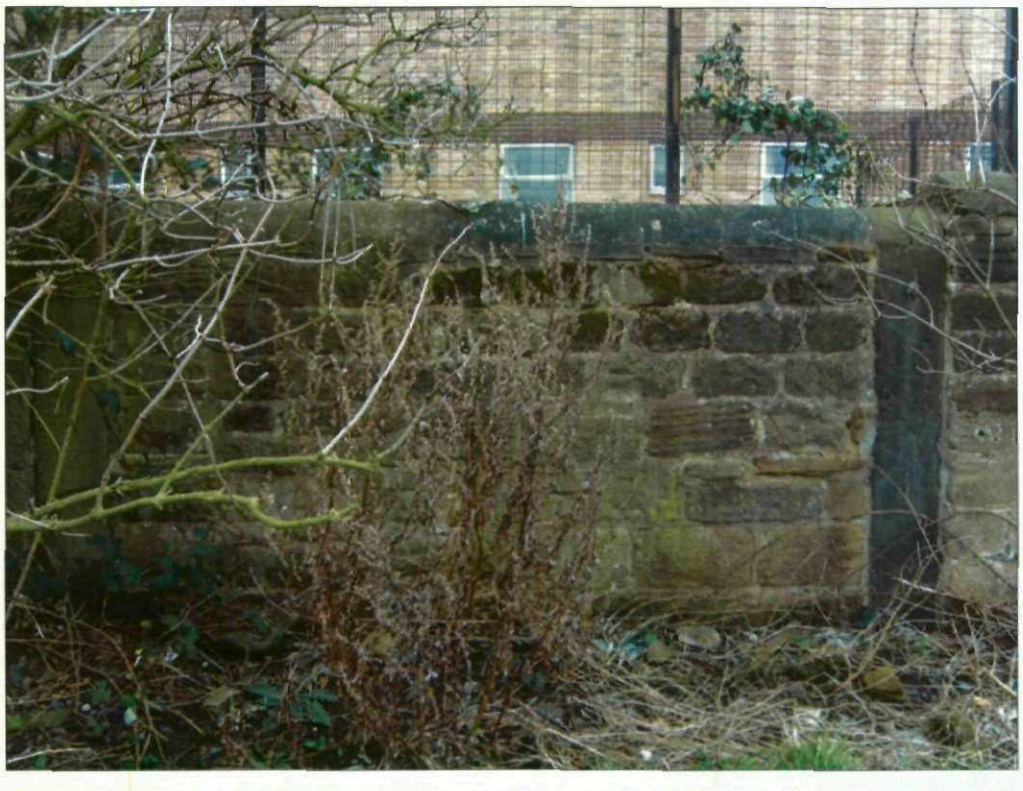


Plate 4 – Blocked-in gateway between New Lodge house and the site, viewed facing southwest



Plate 5 – New Lodge house, designed by John Carr, with modern extension, viewed facing southwest



Plate 6 – View northeast towards remains of demolished community centre, visible as a raised mound



Plate 7 – Remains of concrete floor of community centre toilet block



Plate 8 – View northeast across site, with remains of possible moat on the right of the picture



Plate 9 – Location of possible moat, viewed facing east



Plate 10 – View facing southwest towards New Lodge house, with possible moat site on the left