

# Land at Higher Road Longridge Preston, Lancashire

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March 2024

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment  
Report EH290/01



# Land at Higher Road Longridge Preston, Lancashire

## Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment for NR Holdings Ltd

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██████████

Managing Director

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Heritage Impact Assessment  
Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment  
Historic Landscape and Building Surveys  
Written Scheme of Investigation

Geophysical Survey  
Trial Trench Evaluation  
Archaeological Excavation  
Archaeological Watching Briefs

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## Summary

Eden Heritage Ltd was commissioned by NR Holdings Ltd to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of land at Higher Road, Longridge, Preston, Lancashire to provide information in association with a planning application for a new dwelling on agricultural land to the south side of Cowley Brook Farm.

A Roman road from Ribchester Roman fort to Burrow-in-Lonsdale, known as Margary 7c, was believed to cross through the current application area. The desk-based assessment has confirmed that there is a high potential for archaeological remains relating to the Roman road to survive within the application site. A site visit revealed that remains of the Roman road are visible as a pronounced agger with drainage ditches in the southern part of the application site, but the earthwork has been largely lost to the north. It is also possible that features associated with the Roman road survive within the site, including a possible roadside quarry.

Historic mapping suggests that the northern part of the application site was uncultivated land on the southern edge of Longridge Fell until the 18th or 19th century, when it was enclosed. Several post-medieval trackways survive as earthworks at the site as well as possible evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation, as identified on LiDAR and aerial imagery of the site. The western part of the application area has been wooded since at least the mid-19th century as shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1847. Only modern features were identified in this area, which will not be impacted through the proposals.

The proposed new dwelling has been placed to avoid any impact to the recorded Roman road which may be approximately 12m wide based on previous archaeological investigations to the south of the site. Based on this evidence, the Roman road earthwork will not be impacted. The only known features which may be impacted by the proposals comprise post-medieval trackways and possible ridge and furrow cultivation.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Project Circumstances

- 1.1.1 Eden Heritage Ltd was commissioned by NR Holdings Ltd (the Client) to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment at Higher Road, Longridge, Preston, Lancashire (centred on Ordnance Survey grid reference SD 6415 3905). The assessment was required to provide information in association with a planning application for a new dwelling on land to the south side of Higher Road (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The area has significant archaeological potential. Ribchester Roman Fort (*Bremetennacum*) is situated c.4km to the south of the site on the northwest side of the River Ribble. The site is a scheduled monument and is contained within five separate areas of protection (Historic England List Entry 1005110). A Roman road is recorded to have run northwards from Ribchester Roman fort to Burrow-in-Lonsdale, crossing Jeffrey Hill on Longridge Fell (Shotter 1997, 17). Known as Margary 7c, one possible alignment of this road is through the current application area (Figure 2).
- 1.1.3 This report presents the results of the archaeological desk-based assessment including a site visit. The assessment may be used to help determine the need for, and scope of, any archaeological work and/or mitigation which may be required in association with the proposed development. This is in line with government advice as set out the National Planning Policy Framework (DLUHC 2023).

## 2 Methodology

### 2.1 Desk-Based Assessment

- 2.1.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment is intended to determine, as far as is reasonably possible from readily-available records, the nature, extent and significance of archaeological remains within a specified area, in this case within the application area as shown on Figure 2. The assessment was undertaken in accordance with the guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists in *'Standards and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessments'* (CIfA 2020).
- 2.1.2 In summary, the desk-based comprised an assessment of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely presence of archaeological remains, and their significance, and to provide information regarding the character of the study area.
- 2.1.3 The assessment included consultation of the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER) for records within a 1km radius of the application site. This assessment also involved consultation of various online resources, including the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) maintained by Historic England and reports or information held by the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).
- 2.1.4 Several published and unpublished sources were consulted for information of the proposed development site including resources held by Eden Heritage Ltd.
- 2.1.5 A search radius of 1km from the site was used, which was considered appropriate given the topographic context of the site. The 1km boundary search radius is shown on Figure 3.

### 2.2 Site Visit

- 2.2.1 The site and its environs were visited on the 18th March 2024. The application area was inspected to assess if there was any evidence for features of archaeological/historic interest within the application area as depicted on Figure 2, and to assess the character of the landscape of the site, including any evidence for previous landscaping and levelling activities which may have had an impact on any potential buried archaeological remains.
- 2.2.2 Photographs were taken using digital photography. Photographs were taken of any extant earthworks and other historic features identified during the survey. General views were also photographed to show the proposed development area's wider context and landscape.

### 2.3 Archive

- 2.3.1 The project archive was prepared in accordance with the recommendations in *'Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation'* (Brown 2011).

- 2.3.2 Copies of the final reports (in PDF/A format) will be provided to the Lancashire Historic Environment Record (HER), where it will be available on request.
- 2.3.3 Eden Heritage Ltd supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an online index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature created as a result of developer-funded archaeological fieldwork. As a result, details of the results of this study will be made available by Eden Heritage Ltd as a part of this national project, and a copy of the report will be uploaded to OASIS, once agreed with the client.

## 3 Desk-based Assessment

### 3.1 Location and Geological Context

- 3.1.1 Longridge is a market town and civil parish in the borough of Ribble Valley, located c.10km northeast of Preston in Lancashire. The town of Longridge is situated at the western end of Longridge Fell, which is an elongated ridge running to the north of the River Ribble. The application site is c.4km northeast of Longridge and c.4km north of Ribchester on the south side of the ridge (Figure 1).
- 3.1.2 The application site lies on the south side of Higher Road (Old Clitheroe Road), to the west of the junction with Stonygate Lane/Forty Acre Lane. Cowley Brook Farm lies to the north of the site, which comprises approximately 3ha agricultural land with some woodland on the west side (Figure 2).
- 3.1.3 The geology of the site comprises sandstone, known as the Pendle Grit Member. This sedimentary bedrock formed between 329 to 328 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period. This is overlain by glacial deposits of Till, which formed in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2024).
- 3.1.4 The land within the site occupies a southwest facing slope with elevations of c.199m aOD (above Ordnance Datum) to the northeast along Higher Road and c.177m aOD along the southwest boundary. Cowley Brook bounds the west side of the application area where the ground is steeper.

### 3.2 Locations of Heritage Assets

- 3.2.1 The locations of heritage assets are shown on Figure 3 with summary details included in Appendix 1.
- 3.2.2 There are no designated heritage assets recorded within the application boundary.
- 3.2.3 An assessment of the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) maintained by Historic England has confirmed there are no designated heritage assets within the 1km search area.
- 3.2.4 One heritage asset is recorded within the application site boundary, this being a portion of Roman Road 7c Ribchester to Tebay (Low Borrowbridge) as recorded in the Lancashire HER (Asset 43).
- 3.2.5 There are a total of 42 other non-designated heritage assets recorded within the 1km search radius. A full list of these heritage assets identified in the Lancashire Historic Environment Record is provided as a gazetteer in Appendix 1, with the locations shown on Figure 3. Only the heritage assets that are regarded as being of relevance to current study are discussed more in detail below.

### 3.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.3.1 This historical background is compiled from sources consulted during the desk-based research. It is intended only as a summary of historical developments within and around the application site.
- 3.3.2 The following chronological dates are based on Historic England's Period List. The date ranges have

been provided to assist with the identification of archaeological and cultural periods, however these dates should not be taken as definitive or absolute, as time periods vary depending on geographical focus and archaeological science disciplines (FISH 2024).

- 1.1.1 **Prehistoric (up to c. AD43):** there are no early prehistoric remains within 1km of the application site.
- 1.1.2 Evidence of Bronze Age activity is reflected in the presence of a cairn on Thornley Hall Fell approximately 1.3km to the north of the application site. The site is a scheduled monument and includes a prehistoric round cairn located on the summit of Thornley Hall Fell (NHLE Ref. 1019447). Field boundaries and a possible ring cairn of prehistoric or Roman date are also recorded 560m to the northwest of the application site on Longridge Fell (Asset 3), however their dating is uncertain.
- 3.3.3 The only other find of prehistoric material recorded within the Historic Environment Record within 1km of the site is the findspot of a very worn Bronze Age cast copper alloy palstave, located c.1km to the west of the site (Asset 42). The palstave dates from the Middle Bronze Age (1500-1150 BC).
- 3.3.4 During the Iron Age the impression nationwide is of an expanding population. The archaeological evidence in the North West and Lancashire for occupation in the Iron Age and the subsequent Romano-British period comprise a number of earthwork enclosures and cropmark enclosures, identified through aerial photography (Nevell 1999, 22). No Iron Age sites are recorded near the site.
- 3.3.5 Based on this evidence, the potential for archaeological remains relating to the prehistoric period within the application site is assessed as being low.
- 3.3.6 **Romano-British Period (c.AD 43 to c. 410):** the Roman advance on the northwest began in the 70s and 80s AD, proceeding north via the valleys of the River Eden and River Lune to Carlisle. Subsequent consolidation of the military occupation was under Agricola's governorship (AD c.78-84). The Roman military road network in the northwest comprised two main north to south routes between Cheshire with the frontier, between Chester and Lancaster, and from Manchester along the western Pennine edge to the Lune Valley and from there to Carlisle (Brennand 2006, 87).
- 3.3.7 The route running north from Ribchester to Burrow-in-Lonsdale may have been opened by Agricola (Shotter 1997, 15). Known as Margary 7c, the Roman road is recorded to have run northwards from Ribchester Roman fort to Low Borrowbridge, Tebay (Asset 43) crossing over Longridge Fell (Ibid., 17).
- 3.3.8 The route is believed to have followed Stonygate Lane northwards from Ribchester, before diverging and crossing fields to the junction with Clitheroe Road, where the road is visible as an earthwork with a pronounced c.12m-wide embankment (*agger*) with side ditches. This was confirmed through an archaeological evaluation undertaken in 1997 (Asset 19). A Roman road with side ditches was also observed here during a watching brief (Asset 2). From here the road is believed to have crossed further fields where it is visible as an earthwork on aerial photographs along with field boundaries and possible trackways (Assets 4, 6 and 7). The road then crosses through the application site running

in a northeast direction and then crossing Jeffrey Hill on Longridge Fell. Several possible Roman roadside quarries have been recorded here on Longridge Fell (Assets 20-25 and Asset 40).

- 3.3.9 Based on this evidence the potential for Roman remains within the application site is high.
- 3.3.10 **Early Medieval (AD c. 410-1066):** throughout the North West evidence for early medieval activity is very limited, although place-names suggest the survival of a British population (Newman 1996, 103). The name Longridge is derived from Old Norse, meaning 'long ridge' (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 11). Longridge Fell is recorded as '*Langrig*' in 1246 and '*Longerige*' in 1409 (Ekwall 1922, 140).
- 3.3.11 There are no known post-Roman or early medieval sites recorded in the vicinity of the proposed development area, or within the 1km search radius. The potential for archaeological remains dating to the early medieval period within the site boundary is therefore assessed as being low.
- 3.3.12 **Medieval (AD 1066-1540):** at the time of the Domesday Survey (1086) the area was thought to have comprised scattered farmsteads and much waste ground. The 12th and 13th centuries experienced sustained population growth nationally, with increased pressure on lands previously considered marginal. New areas, known as 'assarts' were taken out of woodland and waste, resulting in small irregularly shaped fields. New assarts were recorded on the slopes of Longridge Fell from the early 13th century onwards (Newman 1997, 117).
- 3.3.13 The traditional site of a cross and medieval hospital is recorded 110m to the east of the application site dated to c.1199-1216 (Asset 10). A Hospitaller's Camera is also recorded (a subsidiary farm of a preceptory; a medieval monastery of the military orders of Knights Templar or Knights Hospitaller).
- 3.3.14 There is no recorded evidence that the land within the site boundary was utilised in this period, although possible medieval ridge and furrow cultivation has been observed during the site visit (see below). The potential for medieval archaeological remains is therefore considered to be moderate.
- 3.3.15 **Post Medieval (AD 1540-1901):** Longridge appears to have originated as a hamlet which grew up around the Chapel of St Lawrence (Egerton Lea Consultancy 2006, 1). In 1650 Longridge Chapel had no minister, although the district contained 140 families who asked the legislature to afford them an endowment in order to appoint a minister and to constitute their district a parish. The endowment was not forthcoming until and the parish of Longridge was not formed until 1868 (Ibid. 2).
- 3.3.16 Although at a small scale, William Yates' 1786 map 'The county Palatine of Lancaster', depicts the the northern part of the application area as uncultivated land to the south of Higher Road and Longridge Fell (Plate 1). Christopher Greenwood's 1818 'Map of the County palatine of Lancaster' (not reproduced here) also shows the site as unoccupied and featureless but depicts a building to the north side of Higher Road. It is possible that this building relates to the farmhouse and attached barn at Cowley Brook Farm, which was noted to exist as a farmstead in 1838 (Asset 18).
- 3.3.17 The town of Longridge developed in the 19th century, based primarily on cottage industries, which
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included handloom-weaving and nail making (Brennand 2006, 186). It is recorded in the Victoria County History (1912) that the principal road from Longridge to Mitton and Clitheroe was to the south of the township. The road from Hurst Green to the lower Hodder bridge was made by McAdam in 1826, being one of the first attempts to apply his system. The older road from Longridge was apparently the present Higher Road, but this was noted to be used less often (BHO 2024).

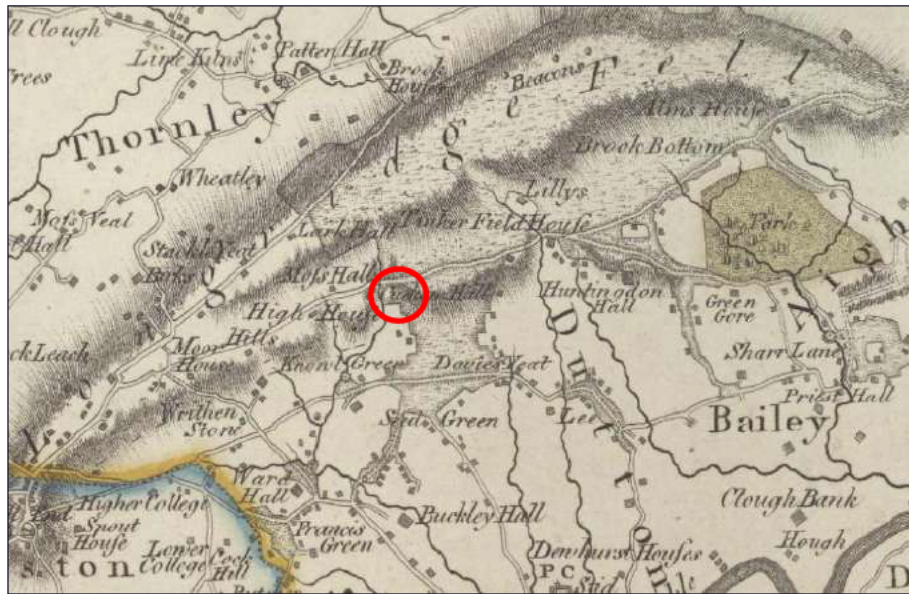


Plate 1: Extract from Yates' 1786 map, 'The county Palatine of Lancaster' (site circled in red)

- 3.3.18 The 1837 'Map of the Township of Dilworth in the Parish of Ribchester' shows that land to the west of Cowley Brook was subdivided into numerous small fields of pasture and meadow associated with Cuckoo Hall (National Archives reference IR 29/18/101). The application site was located within the Township of Ribchester, but there is apparently no equivalent plan showing the application area.
- 3.3.19 The earliest mapping revealed during the archaeological desk-based assessment to show the application site in detail was the First Edition 6 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1847 (Figure 4a). This shows the site divided into two rectilinear fields, with a wooded area bordering Cowley Brook to the west. A trackway ran north to south through the east side of the application area. The course of the Roman road is depicted on this map as twin parallel lines to the north and south, with only a single line shown in the northern portion of the site, suggesting the road here was less visible.
- 3.3.20 The subsequent 6 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map published in 1895 shows a similar layout of fields but the trackway had been diverted to the east by this time (Figure 4b). The alignment of the Roman road is indicated by a single dashed line within the application site but is depicted as an earthwork to the north of Higher Lane. Cowley Brook Farm is labelled on this map north of the road.
- 3.3.21 Water from Cowley Brook was used to power a water-powered corn mill, probably built pre-1785, and converted to cotton spinning in 1785 (Asset 12). A mill pond was to the north (Asset 11). An 18th

century bobbin mill, Moor Hay Mill (Asset 35) is also depicted to the south of the application site on the First Edition 6 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1847. The mill was in use until 1914.

- 3.3.22 Stone quarrying was one of Longridge's major industries. A sandstone quarry is depicted on this map to the northeast (Asset 39). This is marked as 'Old Quarry' on the 1895 mapping suggesting it had gone out of use by the end of the 19th century (Figure 4b). A further possible small quarry is indicated on the west side of Cowley Brook adjacent to Coochoo Hall (Asset 36).
- 3.3.23 Based on this evidence it is considered post-medieval archaeological remains within the application site are likely to be limited to agricultural features, including former field boundaries and trackways.
- 3.3.24 **Modern (AD 1901-2000):** no significant changes appear to have taken place within the application site in the early 20th century apart from the introduction of a small rectangular pen, which is depicted on the 1912 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 4c) but was removed prior to 1932 (Figure 4d).
- 3.3.25 **Aerial imagery:** Google Earth Satellite Imagery from 2003 shows the Roman road as a mark in pasture on the same alignment as the historic Ordnance Survey maps (Figure 5). A probable trackway is also visible in the northern part of the site to the east of the road, aligned northwest to southeast. Possible ridge and furrow ploughing is also visible in fields to the east on the google earth imagery.
- 3.3.26 There are a number of undated cropmark sites within the 1km search area, which have been recorded on aerial photographs of the area (Assets 1, 5, 8 and 9). Asset 8 is located in the field immediately to the east of the application site, but no information is provided in the HER record. It is feasible that this cropmark could relate to the recorded medieval site (Asset 10) but it is uncertain.

## 3.4 LiDAR Data

- 3.4.1 LiDAR (light detection and ranging) data has also been consulted to assess if there is any evidence for features within, or adjacent to, the application site. LiDAR data from 2022 shows a linear earthwork on the alignment of the Roman road, which may be the embankment or *agger* (Figure 6).
- 3.4.2 A series of other linear features, aligned north to south, may be agricultural features such as plough furrows and/or trackways. Another feature is aligned east-west which may also be a trackway.
- 3.4.3 A rectilinear sunken feature is visible on the southwest side of the site, which could possibly relate to a former building platform or potentially an area of quarrying associated with the Roman road.

## 3.5 Previous Archaeological Work

- 3.5.1 There have been no previous intrusive archaeological interventions within the application site.
- 3.5.2 An archaeological evaluation was conducted during the development of new drainage and a treatment plant which was on the alignment of the Roman road to the south of the Halls Arms on Clitheroe Road, approximately 1km to the south of the application site. This resulted in the recording

of the alignment of the exposed road and the remains of the road construction. A single 16.5m long trench was excavated, which revealed a 12m-wide road comprised of 0.1m of compacted sand and grit (assumed to be crushed sandstone) which was probably a road foundation layer. Above this were occasional pieces of sandstone which may have formed part of the road surface (UMAU 1997, 7). To the west a 0.5m-wide 0.4m-deep V-shaped ditch was revealed. To the east the presumed ditch measured 1.6m wide but upon excavation had no depth. No finds were recovered to date the road.

- 3.5.3 A photographic survey was undertaken at Cowley Brook Farm (Asset 18) in 2018 in association with conversion of the barn to residential use (HER Reference PRN42882). The survey revealed that Cowley Brook farmhouse and barn were a classic 'laithe-barn' of a type found in the Pennines as far south as the Peak District and west into Lancashire. Such farmhouses and barns commonly date to between 1780 and 1820 (OAN 2018).

## 4 Site Visit

### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The site was visited on the 18th March 2024. The site inspected for any evidence for features of archaeological interest and any evidence for previous landscaping/levelling activities was assessed, to determine if they may have had an impact on any potential archaeological remains (see Figure 7).



Plate 2: Higher Road to the north of the application site, looking east towards Cowley Brook Farm

### 4.2 Application site

- 4.2.1 At the time of the site visit the application site comprised two fields of pasture to the south of Cowley Brook Farm and Higher Road. The fields were bounded to the north by a hedge and bank, with a ditch running along the south side of the road from Cowley Brook Farm westwards into the Cowley Brook (Plate 1). Each field was accessed from Higher Road via a field gate with stone gate stoops present either side of the eastern gate and concrete gate stoops supporting the western field gate.
- 4.2.2 The application site was bounded to the east side by post and wire fence and drystone wall, with a metaled track running north-south between them. The two fields were separated by drystone walls, with a further post and wire fence to the south side. The west side of the application area encompassed the wooded valley of the Cowley Brook, which will not be impacted by the proposals.
- 4.2.3 The Roman road (Asset 43) is believed to have crossed the Cowley Brook to the north of Cowley Brook Cottage (Figure 7) and is aligned northwest to southeast where it is projected to cross the application area. There is an embankment within the application area immediately to the south of

Higher Road, but the road is not obvious as an earthwork over much of the northern field, indicating it may have been largely ploughed out in this area. The embankment is visible where it underlies the drystone wall separating the two fields (Plate 3) and is visible as a linear earthwork crossing the field to the south (Plate 4). In the southern field the road appears as a distinct c.8m-wide embankment or *agger*, with ditches either side. This earthwork crossed the whole of the southern field on the expected alignment and continued into the field to the south (outside the application area).



Plate 3: The northern field, looking southeast along the presumed alignment of the Roman road



Plate 4: The southern field, showing the embankment of the Roman road (on the right) and a probable roadside ditch (centre), looking north

- 4.2.4 There were a number of other earthworks in the southern field as indicated by the LiDAR imagery. These included a number of possible ridges and furrows, aligned north to south, which may be indicative of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. At least two trackways were also noted, appearing as holloways with a similar alignment, including those seen on historic mapping (Plate 5). One trackway could be seen to bisect the Roman road, demonstrating it was a later feature.



Plate 5: Former trackway crossing the southern field (shown on the 1847 Ordnance Survey map), looking south



Plate 6: Possible platform or area of quarrying on the southwest side of the site, looking north

- 4.2.5 A c.60m by 10m sunken area was visible on the sloping southwest side of the application area (Plate 6). This was also noted on LiDAR imagery and appeared to cut into the slope forming a possible sub-rectangular platform, with a trackway and ridge and furrow earthworks visible to the east side.
- 4.2.6 The east side of the application area contained very little evidence of earthworks or other archaeological features, indicating it may have been more intensively cultivated (Plates 7 & 8). The only feature identified crossing the area of the proposed new dwelling was a trackway (see Plate 5).



Plate 7: East side of the application area, looking north



Plate 8: Location of the proposed new dwelling, looking southwest

- 4.2.7 The wooded west side of the application area was inspected for completeness, but only modern features were identified, including a pipeline supported by stone piers (Plate 9) and a wooden shed.
- 4.2.8 A modern concrete 4m by 2m foundation was also noted to the south side of Higher Road, which may be associated with Cowley Brook Farm, which is located immediately to the north (Plate 10).



Plate 9: Wooded west side of the application area showing supported pipeline, looking southeast



Plate 10: Modern concrete foundation adjacent to Higher Road, looking east

## 4.3 Discussion

- 4.3.1 The 'classic' Roman road in Britain has two small outer ditches, marking the area which was cleared of vegetation, and two large drainage ditches located either side of the central mound (the *agger*) upon which a metalled surface was constructed (Davies 2011). However, it is evident that roads can become altered by heavy use, may be subject to several phases of re-construction and may also suffer from erosion. The foundation layers and the metalling of the road can also vary considerably depending on local conditions and materials. Kerb stones are sometimes used to help keep the metalling in place and counter the effects of erosion and traffic but not all roads have them. Road width could vary depending on the purpose and importance of the road; most Roman roads in Britain the average width of metaling is 6.51m (22 *pedes*) based on 488 sampled sites (Ibid. 73). The archaeological evaluation at the Halls Arms on Clitheroe Road suggests a road width of 12m and the presence of roadside ditches. However, the surface had mostly been lost in this section of the road.
- 4.3.2 Within the south side of the application area, the Roman road was seen to survive as a c.8m wide *agger* with drainage ditches either side. However, in the northern field the earthwork was not as visible, apart from at the field edges, suggesting it may have been disturbed by later activity in the northern part of the site. This would concur with the evidence of the First Edition 6 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1847 (Figure 4a) which shows the road as a single line in the northern portion of the site, and double lines to the north and south, suggesting the road here was less visible.
- 4.3.3 The south side of the application area contains a series of other linear earthworks which are indicative of ridge and furrow cultivation of possible medieval date. Trackways were also visible, and in places it was difficult to distinguish the difference between these and the ridge and furrow. The trackways are believed to be post-medieval based on the evidence of historic mapping, and one was seen to clearly cut through the Roman road demonstrating it was a later feature.
- 4.3.4 The nature of the rectangular sunken area on the southwest side of the site is uncertain, but it appeared to be respected by the trackways and ridge and furrow cultivation (and possibly overlain by them), suggesting it was earlier or contemporary. Quarrying is known to have taken place in association with the construction of the Roman road, but this is speculative for the application site.

## 5 Conclusions

### 5.1 The application site

- 5.1.1 The desk-based assessment has revealed that the potential for archaeological remains relating to the Roman period within the application site is high, comprising the sub-surface remains of the Roman road between Ribchester and Low Borrowbridge at Tebay (Asset 43). This road is believed to have run from the Roman fort at Ribchester northwards to Burrow-in-Lonsdale, crossing Jeffrey Hill on Longridge Fell. Several possible Roman roadside quarries have been recorded on Longridge Fell.
- 5.1.2 Historic mapping suggests that the northern part of the application site was uncultivated land on the southern edge of Longridge Fell until the 18th or 19th century, when it was enclosed into two straight-sided fields, with a trackway running from Higher Road across the east side of the site. The western part of the application area has been wooded since at least the mid-19th century as shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1847.
- 5.1.3 The site visit has revealed that remains of the Roman road are visible as a pronounced agger with drainage ditches in the southern part of the application site, but the earthwork has been largely lost to the north. A number of other earthworks have been identified within the application site on LiDAR and satellite imagery, which possible ridge and furrow cultivation, post-medieval trackways and a rectilinear feature, which may be a platform or possibly quarrying associated with the Roman road.

### 5.2 Impact assessment

- 5.2.1 The proposal is to construct a new dwelling in the southeast portion of the application site, with a walled garden and Ha Ha to the south and access from Higher Road to the north (Figure 7). Most of the application area will be restored to meadow and land adjacent to the woodland will be rewilded.
- 5.2.2 Ground disturbance associated with the new dwelling and associated services would have the potential to disturb buried archaeological remains if present in these portions of the site.
- 5.2.3 The dwelling has been placed to avoid any impact to the recorded Roman road (Asset 43) which may be approximately 12m wide based on previous archaeological investigations to the south of the site (see Figure 7). Based on this evidence the earthwork will not be impacted. The only known features which may be impacted comprise post-medieval trackways and possible ridge and furrow cultivation.
- 5.2.4 It is anticipated that any required archaeological mitigation in association with the application could be secured as a condition of planning permission. However, the requirement for any archaeological work at the site in association with the planning application for the new dwelling will need to be determined in consultation with Lancashire County Council Historic Environment Team (LCCHET).

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## APPENDIX 1: Heritage Asset Gazetteer

Asset No.	HER Ref.	Site Name	Brief Description	Designation	Period
1	PRN11208	Gannow Fell	Aerial photography site	Non-designated	Undated
2	PRN11768	Halls Arms, Clithroe Road, Knowle Green	Watching Brief Site January 1997. Roman road with side ditches observed.	Non-designated	Roman
3	PRN12817	Longridge Fell, Thornley with Wheatley	Field boundaries and ring cairn. Suggested as Roman and prehistoric but potentially more recent.	Non-designated	Prehistoric /Roman?
4	PRN1508	Roman Road	Air photo shows traces of Roman Road and earthworks	Non-designated	Roman
5	PRN1509	Moor Heys Farm, Ribchester	General air photo	Non-designated	Undated
6	PRN1510	Colhurst Barn, Knowle Green	Aerial photograph shows traces of Roman Road and field boundaries.	Non-designated	Roman
7	PRN1511	Loft Shaw, Clitheroe Road, Ribchester	Aerial photography shows possible traces of the Roman road or a trackway	Non-designated	Roman
8	PRN1518	Near Newdrop Inn, Stoneygate Lane, Knowle Green	General air photo	Non-designated	Undated

Asset No.	HER Ref.	Site Name	Brief Description	Designation	Period
9	PRN1519	North-west of Dutton Manor	General air photo	Non-designated	Undated
10	PRN1774	Near the White Cross Inn, Stoneygate Lane, Knowle Green	Traditional site of a cross; possible site of a hospital, c.1199-1216 and a Hospitaller's Camera, c.1265-1338.	Non-designated	Medieval
11	PRN19094	Knowle Green Lodge, Ribchester	Mill pond site, extant at least 1818-1893 but since lost.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
12	PRN19095	Knowle Green Cotton Factory, Ribchester	Site of water-powered corn mill, probably built pre-1785, converted to cotton spinning in 1785, closed in 1864 and now demolished.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
13	PRN19096	Clitheroe Road, Knowle Green	Independent chapel, 1831, and associated burial ground site. Building later (1867) used as a school but since demolished.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
14	PRN19098	Knowle Green	Weir	Non-designated	Post-medieval
15	PRN19099	Knowle Green	Quarry	Non-designated	Post-medieval
16	PRN19110	Hoardsell	Farmhouse	Non-designated	Post-medieval

Asset No.	HER Ref.	Site Name	Brief Description	Designation	Period
17	PRN19114	Loft Shay Farm, Clitheroe Road, Ribchester	Farmstead, pre-1838. Shown on earlier maps as Loft Shaw.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
18	PRN19115	Cowley Brook Farm, Higher Road, Knowle Green, Longridge	Farmhouse and attached barn, steading noted in 1838. Barn granted consent for conversion to residential.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
19	PRN23752	Halls Arms, Clitheroe Road, Knowle Green	Archaeological evaluation 1997. Presence of Roman road confirmed.	Non-designated	Roman
20	PRN31178	Longridge Fell, Thornley with Wheatley	Possible Roman roadside quarries.	Non-designated	Roman
21	PRN31178	Longridge Fell, Thornley with Wheatley	Possible Roman roadside quarries.	Non-designated	Roman
22	PRN31178	Longridge Fell, Thornley with Wheatley	Possible Roman roadside quarries.	Non-designated	Roman
19	PRN31178	Longridge Fell, Thornley with Wheatley	Possible Roman roadside quarries.	Non-designated	Roman
24	PRN31178	Longridge Fell, Thornley with Wheatley	Possible Roman roadside quarries.	Non-designated	Roman

Asset No.	HER Ref.	Site Name	Brief Description	Designation	Period
25	PRN31178	Longridge Fell, Thornley with Wheatley	Possible Roman roadside quarries.	Non-designated	Roman
26	PRN35462	Longridge Fell, Thornley with Wheatley	Possible field barn shown on OS six inch map, 1847, no longer extant.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
27	PRN35464	Reedy Snape, Dutton	Farmstead shown on OS six inch map, 1847, no longer extant.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
28	PRN35464	Reedy Snape, Dutton	Farmstead shown on OS six inch map, 1847, no longer extant.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
29	PRN35464	Reedy Snape, Dutton	Farmstead shown on OS six inch map, 1847, no longer extant.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
30	PRN35465	Dodds Hall, Ribchester	Country house shown on OS six inch map, 1847, no longer extant.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
31	PRN35466	Dutton and Ribchester boundary, Gannow Fell	Three parish boundary stones shown on OS mapping of 1847. Only one still extant.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
32	PRN38093	Knowle Green (known as)	A cast copper-alloy buckle frame of post-medieval date. It is a rectangular frame which is rectangular in section with a narrowed circular bar for the pin which is present.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
33	PRN40053	Halls Arms, Clitheroe Road, Ribchester	Public House, now business centre. Named as 'Grimshaw Pits (Public House)' on the OS first edition map, 1847.	Non-designated	Post-medieval

Asset No.	HER Ref.	Site Name	Brief Description	Designation	Period
34	PRN6202	Grimshaw Quarry, Clitheroe Road, Ribchester	Sandstone quarry and well shown on OS first edition map, 1847.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
35	PRN6203	Moor Hey Mill, Knowle Green	Derelict remains of a late C18 water-powered bobbin mill, in use until 1914.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
36	PRN6205	Cuckoo Hall, Old Clitheroe Road, Longridge	Farmhouse	Non-designated	Post-medieval
37	PRN6206	Newdrop Inn, Stoneygate Lane, Knowle Green	Public house, formerly White Cross Farm	Non-designated	Post-medieval
38	PRN6207	Colthurst Barn, Knowle Green	Gravel pit shown on OS first edition map of 1847	Non-designated	Post-medieval
39	PRN6210	Gannow Fell, Ribchester	Sandstone quarry shown on OS first edition map, 1847, still extant.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
40	PRN9118	Longridge Fell	Aerial photography site, showing Roman road and possible Roman roadside quarries, as well as a later quarry.	Non-designated	Roman

Asset No.	HER Ref.	Site Name	Brief Description	Designation	Period
41	PRN40939	Junction of Clitheroe Road and Greenmoor Road, Ribchester	A silver halfgroat of James I of the second coinage with the initial mark a coronet I D G ROSA SINE SPINA is the ob legend and TVE[ATVR VNITA DEVS] is the rev, date is 1607-09AD.	Non-designated	Post-medieval
42	PRN41673	Longridge (known as)	A very worn cast copper alloy palstave with an extremely worn shield shaped pattern below the stop ridge, and raised flange facets. The palstave dates from the Middle Bronze Age (1500-1150 BC).	Non-designated	Prehistoric
43	PRN26148	Roman Road 7c Ribchester to Tebay (Low Borrowbridge)	The line of this Roman road is certain from Ribchester to Low Bentham and probable from here to the Greta River. From the river to Casterton the course is again certain.	Non-designated	Roman

## APPENDIX 2: Figures






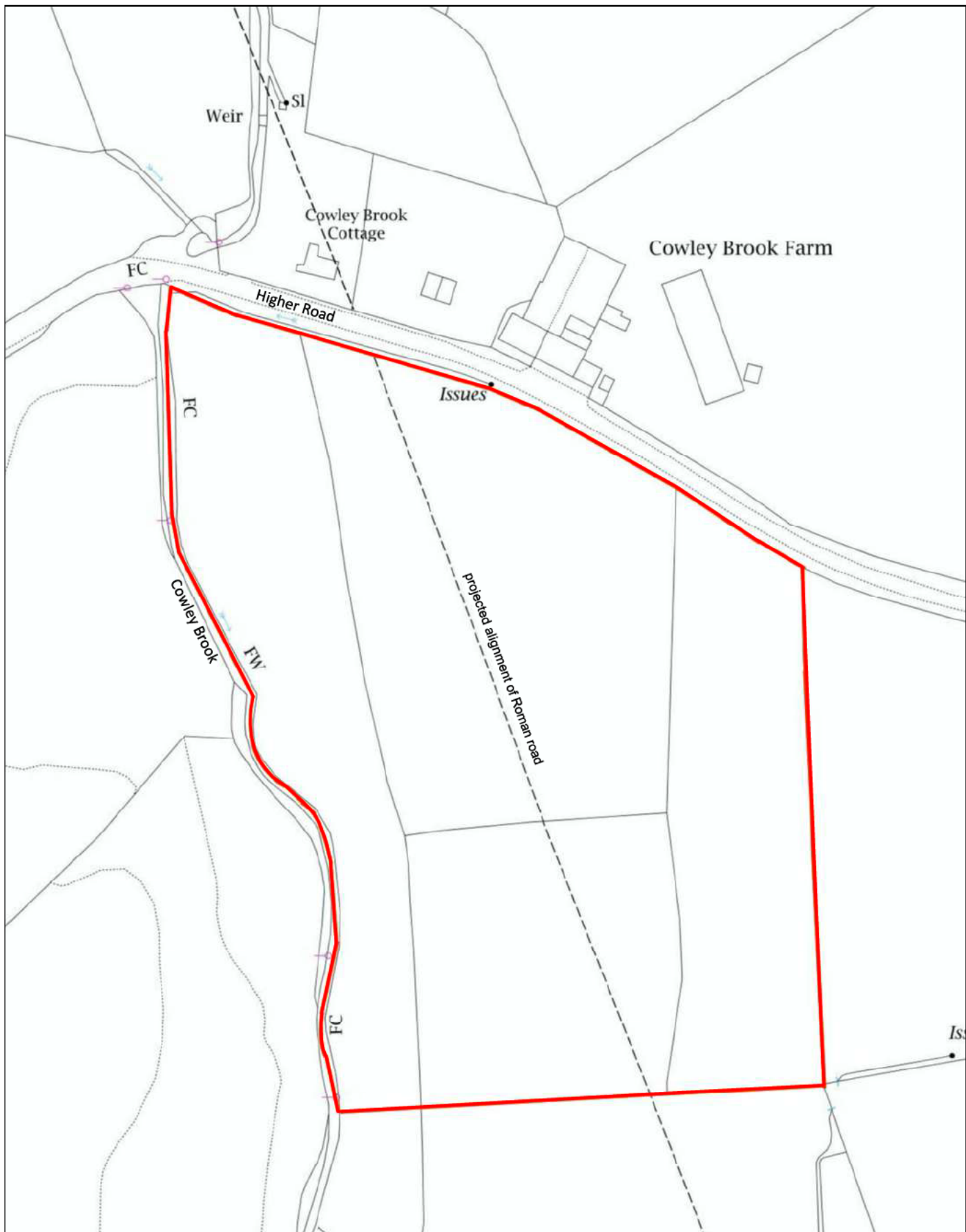
 <p>Eden Heritage Ltd 2024</p>	<p><b>PROJECT:</b> Land at Higher Road, Longridge Preston, Lancashire</p> <p><b>CLIENT:</b> NR Holdings Ltd</p> <p><b>REPORT:</b> EH290/01</p> <p><b>SCALE:</b> 1:25,000 at A4</p> <p><b>DRAWN BY:</b> MDR</p> <p><b>DATE:</b> March 2024</p>	<p><b>KEY:</b></p>  <p>outline of application area</p>	 <p>Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2018)</p>
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Figure 1: Site Location.






 <p>Eden Heritage Ltd 2024</p>	<p><b>PROJECT:</b> Land at Higher Road, Longridge Preston, Lancashire</p> <p><b>CLIENT:</b> NR Holdings Ltd</p> <p><b>REPORT:</b> EH290/01</p> <p><b>SCALE:</b> 1:1,500 at A4</p> <p><b>DRAWN BY:</b> MDR</p> <p><b>DATE:</b> March 2024</p>	<p><b>KEY:</b></p>  <p>outline of application area</p>	
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Figure 2: Detailed site location.

**PROJECT:**

Land at Higher Road, Longridge  
Preston, Lancashire

**CLIENT:**

NR Holdings Ltd

**REPORT:**

EH290/01

**SCALE:**

1:10,000 at A3





**DRAWN BY:**

MDR

**DATE:**

March 2024

**KEY:**

-  outline of application area
-  1km search area
-  1 non-designated heritage assets
-  projected alignment of Roman road

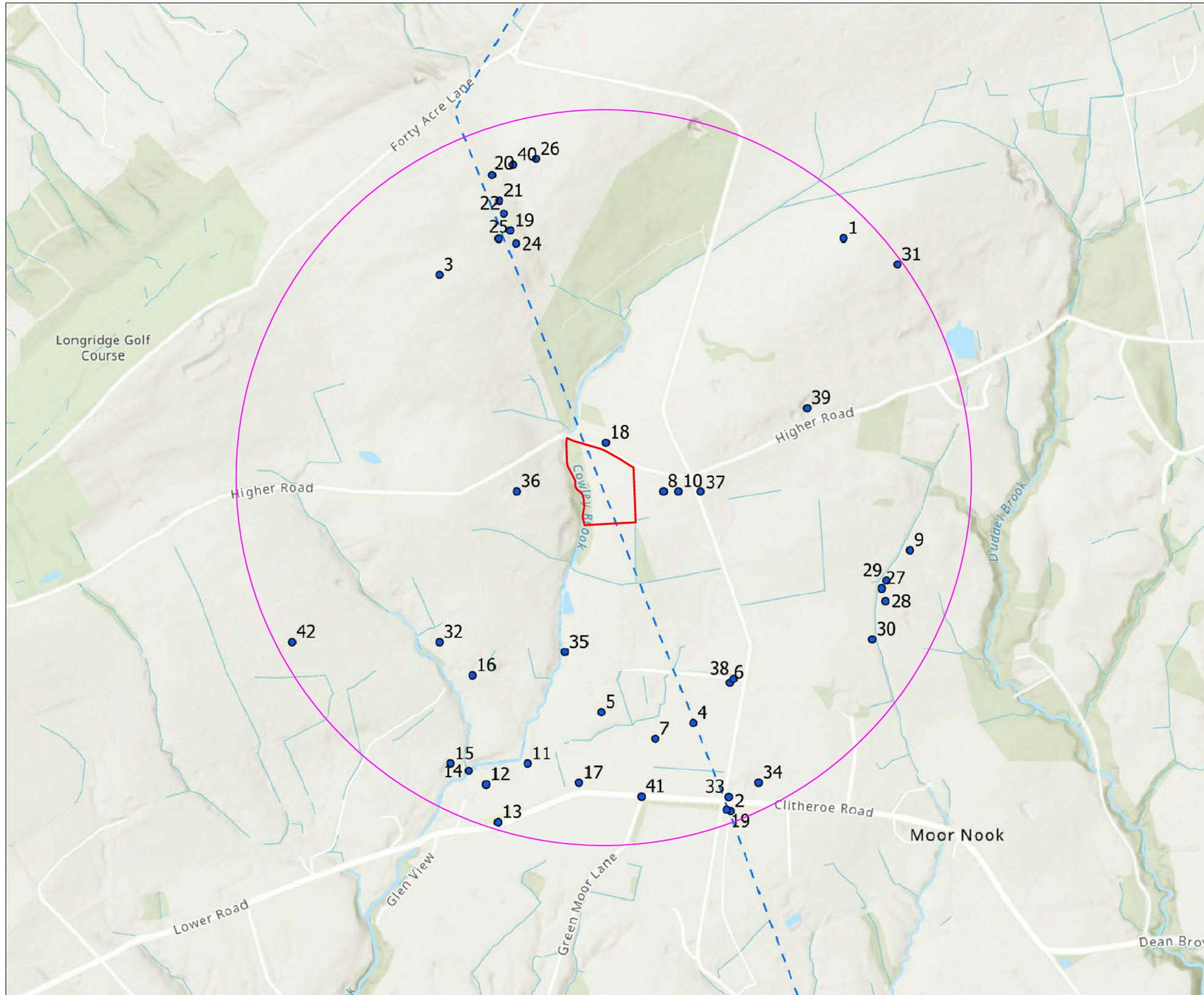
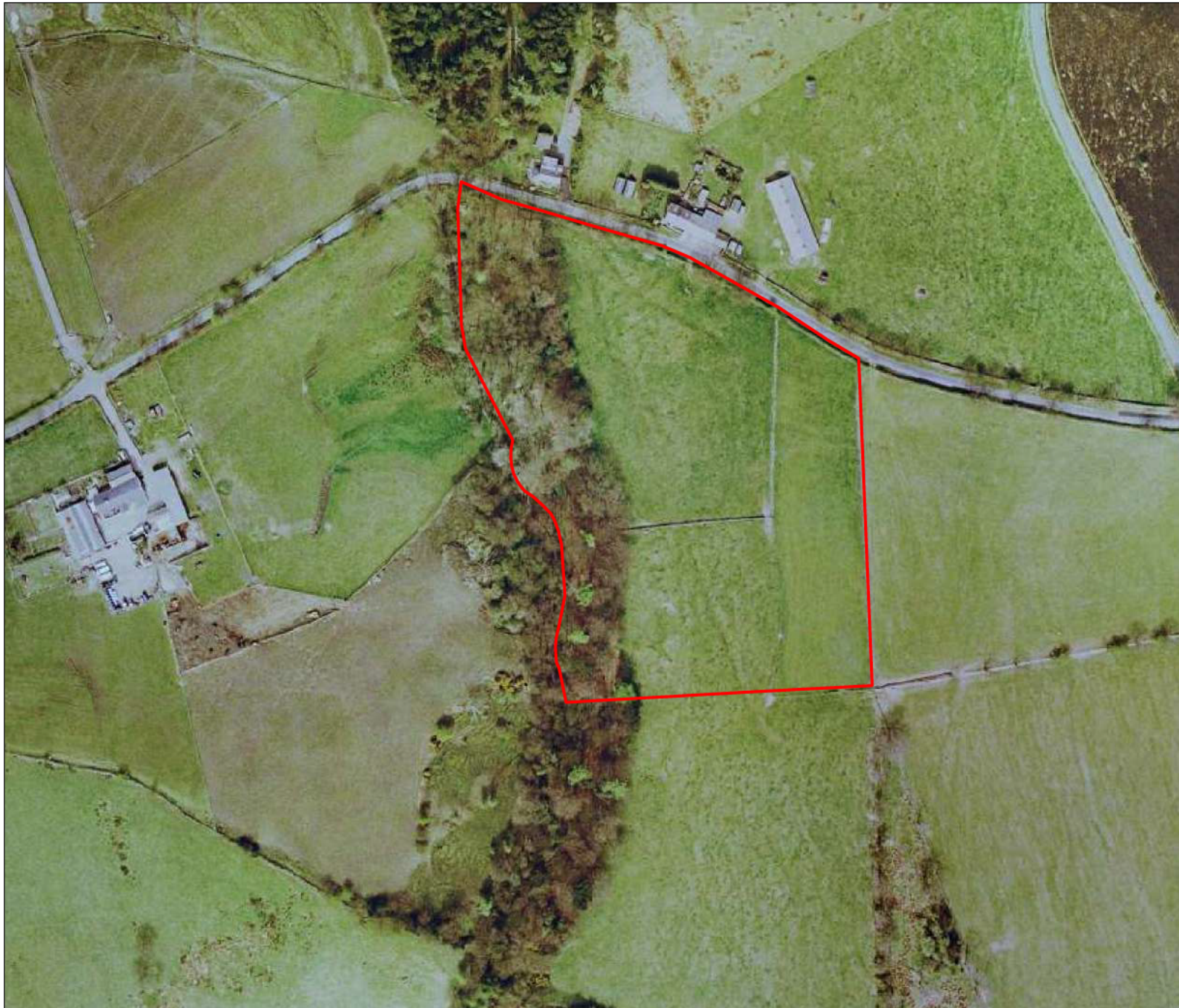


Figure 3: Locations of heritage assets.



Figure 4: Extracts from historic Ordnance Survey maps (1847-1932).



**PROJECT:**

Land at Higher Road, Longridge  
Preston, Lancashire

**CLIENT:**

NR Holdings Ltd

**REPORT:** EH290/01

**SCALE:** 1:2,500 at A4

**DRAWN BY:** MDR

**DATE:** March 2024

**KEY:**


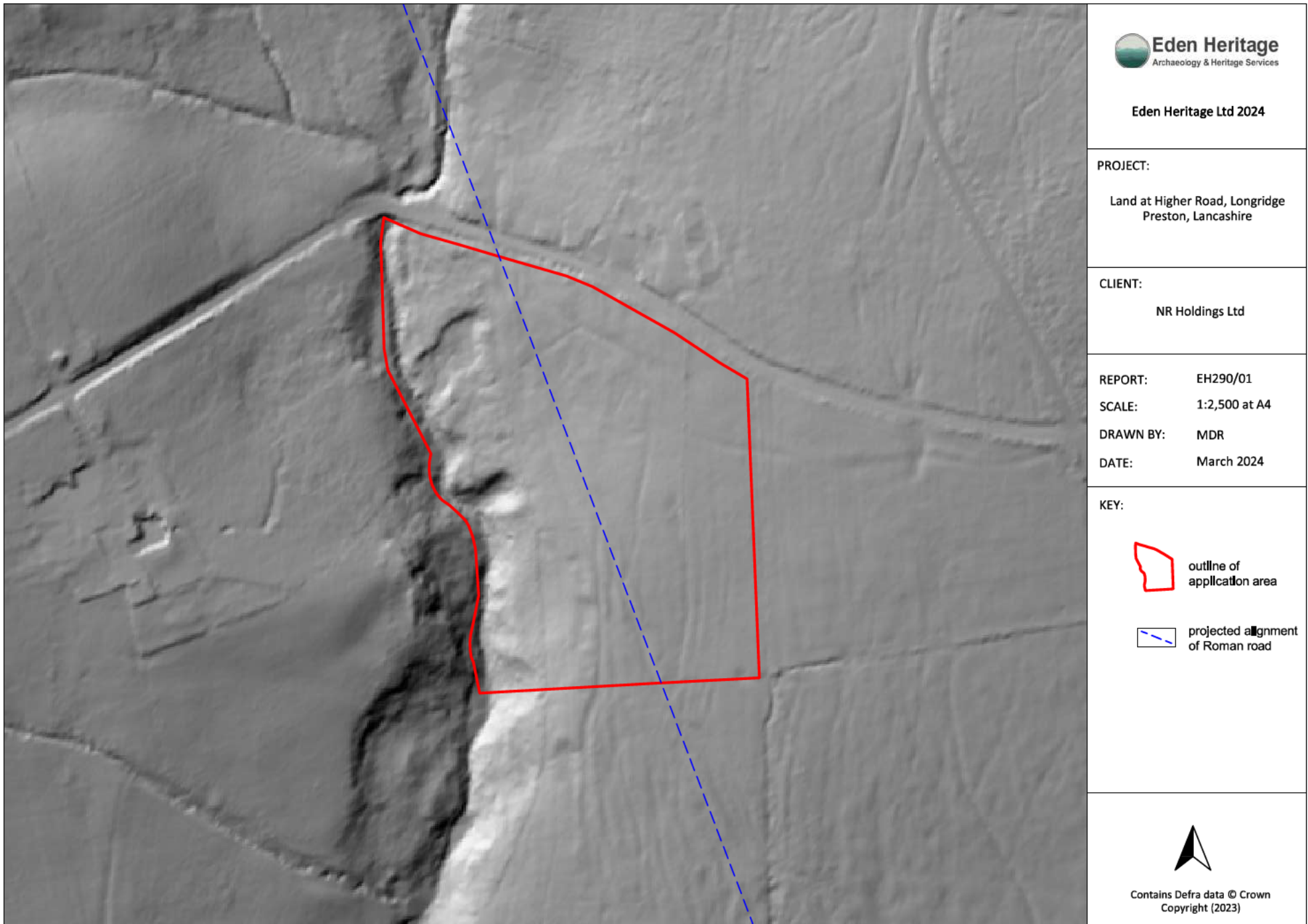
 outline of  
application area



Figure 5: Extract from modern satellite imagery (2003).



**PROJECT:**  
Land at Higher Road, Longridge  
Preston, Lancashire

**CLIENT:**  
NR Holdings Ltd

**REPORT:** EH290/01  
**SCALE:** 1:2,500 at A4  
**DRAWN BY:** MDR  
**DATE:** March 2024

**KEY:**



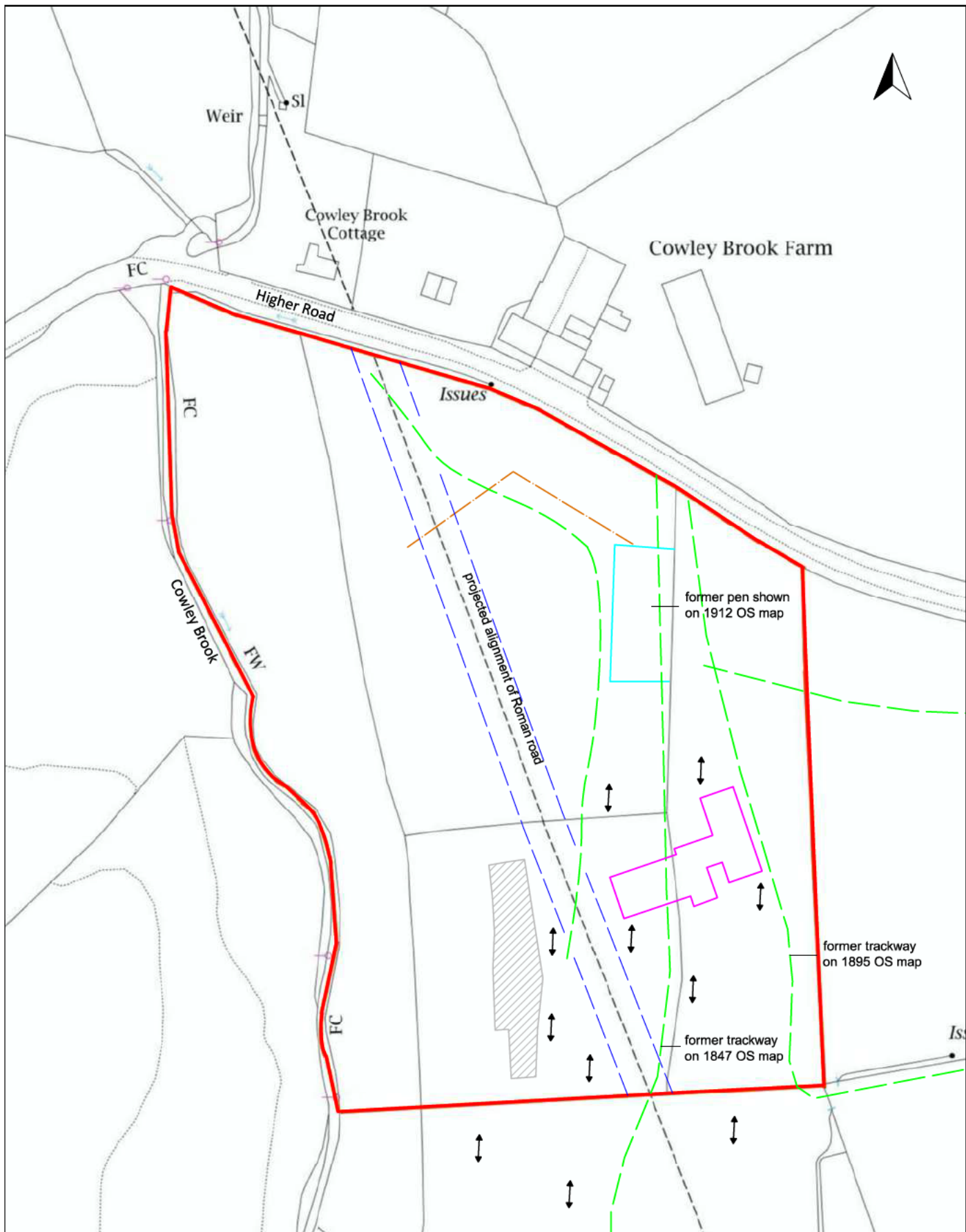
-  outline of application area
-  projected alignment of Roman road



Figure 6: Extract from 1m LiDAR data (2022).



<p><b>Eden Heritage</b> Archaeology &amp; Heritage Services</p> <p>Eden Heritage Ltd 2024</p>	<p><b>PROJECT:</b> Land at Higher Road, Longridge Preston, Lancashire</p>	direction of ploughing	outline of application area  outline of proposed dwelling
	<p><b>CLIENT:</b> NR Holdings Ltd</p>	platform/quarrying	
	<p><b>REPORT:</b> EH290/01</p>	probable trackways	
	<p><b>SCALE:</b> 1:1,500 at A4</p>	modern ditch/drain(?)	
	<p><b>DRAWN BY:</b> MDR</p>	presumed extent of Roman road	
<p><b>DATE:</b> March 2024</p>			

Figure 7: Potential archaeological features within the application site.

**Heritage Impact Assessment  
Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment  
Historic Landscape and Building Surveys  
Written Scheme of Investigation**

**Geophysical Survey  
Trial Trench Evaluation  
Archaeological Excavation  
Archaeological Watching Briefs**

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