

**LAND AT BANK AND RIDGE FARMS  
CHICKERELL  
DORSET**

**RAPID ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL**

*For*

**C. G. FRY AND SON LTD**

CA PROJECT: 2613  
CA REPORT: 08106

MAY 2008

LAND AT BANK AND RIDGE FARMS  
CHICKERELL  
DORSET

RAPID ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL

CA PROJECT: 2445  
CA REPORT: 07130

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date	
issue	01

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## CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION .....	3
2.	METHODOLOGY .....	3
3.	BASELINE CONDITIONS .....	4
	<i>Designated Sites</i> .....	4
	<i>Listed Buildings</i> .....	4
	<i>Conservation Areas</i> .....	4
	<i>Previous Archaeological Work</i> .....	4
	<i>Geology and topography</i> .....	5
	<i>Prehistoric</i> .....	5
	<i>Roman</i> .....	5
	<i>Medieval</i> .....	5
	<i>Post-medieval and modern</i> .....	5
	<i>Undated</i> .....	6
4.	CONCLUSIONS .....	6
5.	PROJECT TEAM .....	6
5.	REFERENCES .....	6
	APPENDIX A: GAZETTEER OF RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES .....	8

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan
- Fig. 2 Known Cultural Heritage
- Fig. 3 Limekiln within site (Fig. 2, **10**), south-facing elevation
- Fig. 4 Top of drawhole arch at base of south-facing elevation of limekiln (Fig. 2, **10**)

## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** Land at Bank and Ridge Farms  
**Location:** Chickerell, Dorset  
**NGR:** SY 6442 8090  
**Type:** Rapid Archaeological Appraisal

In May 2008 Cotswold Archaeology was commissioned by C. G. Fry and Son to carry out a Rapid Archaeological Appraisal of Land at Bank and Ridge Farms, Chickerell, Dorset. The objective of the appraisal was to identify any major archaeological constraints to development within the site.

A review of archaeological databases, including the Dorset Historic Environments Record and the National Monuments Record Archaeological Database, and a site visit has revealed no major constraints to the deliverability of the site for residential development.

A limekiln of probable 19th-century date is situated in the northern area of the site. It may be possible to retain this feature within a proposed development scheme or its loss could be mitigated by a programme of recording. A north/south aligned bank identified within the site is thought to be a former field boundary of negligible value.

Steve Wallis, Dorset County Council Senior Archaeologist, has indicated that a programme of geophysical survey (magnetic susceptibility and detailed magnetometry) and trial trenching would be required to inform the determination of a planning application for the development of the site.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2008 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) was commissioned by C. G. Fry and Son to carry out a Rapid Archaeological Appraisal of Land at Bank and Ridge Farms, Chickerell, Dorset (centred on NGR: SY 6442 8090; Fig. 1). The objective of the assessment was to identify major archaeological constraints within the site.
- 1.2 The report is structured as follows:  
Section 2 *Methodology* outlines the data sources accessed for the appraisal;  
Section 3 *Baseline Survey* identifies and describes the extent and character of known archaeology and built heritage within the site;  
Section 4 *Conclusions* assesses constraints to development.
- 1.3 The site is approximately 12ha in area, and comprises seven fields of meadow and pasture, and two groups of modern farm buildings.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 The baseline survey involved consultation of readily available archaeological and historical information. The major repositories of information consulted comprised:

### *English Heritage*

- List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest;
- List of Scheduled Monuments;
- NMR list of archaeological sites and events (NMRAD);
- Register of Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest; and
- Register of Battlefields.

### *Dorset Historic Environment Record (DHER)*

- Database of known archaeological sites, findspots and previous works.

### *Online sources*

- DEFRA MAgiC website;
- Historic Ordnance Survey maps digitised on Oldmaps.co.uk.

### *Site Inspection*

- A site visit was made on 27th May 2008 to assess any visible cultural heritage features surviving within the site, and current landuse.

2.2 All points of cultural heritage interest discussed in the text are located on Fig. 2. The gazetteer (Appendix A) correlates points of interest with their reference number on the DHER, as well as any other relevant statutory designation or status. Points of interest are marked in bold in the body of the text thus, **00**.

## **3. BASELINE CONDITIONS**

### ***Designated Sites***

3.1 No World Heritage Sites or sites included on the Tentative List of Future Nominations for World Heritage Sites issued by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport are situated within the site or its immediate vicinity. Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site is situated c. 1km to the south-west of the site. No Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Battle Sites are present within the site or its immediate vicinity.

### ***Listed Buildings***

3.2 No Listed buildings are located within the site. Six Listed buildings are situated in the immediate vicinity, which are summarised in the table below.

**Table 1. Listed buildings within 50m of the site**

<b>No. on Fig. 2</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>
<b>1</b>	Church of St Mary	II*
<b>2</b>	Stonebank	II
<b>3</b>	Stile east of Church	II
<b>4</b>	Stile west of Church	II
<b>5</b>	6 North Square	II
<b>6</b>	8 North Square	II

### ***Conservation Areas***

3.3 Chickerell Conservation Area is situated immediately south of the site (Fig. 2, **7**). A proposed extension is situated to east of the existing Conservation Area, to the south-east of the site (Fig. 2, **7**).

### ***Previous Archaeological Work***

3.4 No previous archaeological work is recorded within the site or its immediate vicinity.

### ***Geology and topography***

- 3.5 The solid geology of the site comprises Cornbrash Formation and Forest Marble Formation of the Jurassic period (BGS 2000). The site is situated on a south facing slope to the north of Chickereil.

### ***Prehistoric***

- 3.6 No prehistoric sites are recorded within the site or its immediate vicinity.

### ***Roman***

- 3.7 No Roman finds or features are recorded within the site or the immediate vicinity. Two burials dated to the late Roman or post-Roman period, which were potentially part of a larger cemetery, were recorded c. 500m to the north-west of site (Fig. 2, **8**; NMRAD). There is no evidence of associated Roman activity within the site.

### ***Medieval***

- 3.8 A shrunken medieval settlement is situated c. 350m south-east of the site. The settlement, the remains of which comprise earthworks covering an area of three acres, was first documented in 1237 (Fig. 2, **9**; DHER). There is no evidence of associated medieval features within the site.

### ***Post-medieval and modern***

- 3.9 A limekiln is situated within the site (Fig. 2, **10**; Fig. 3, Fig. 4; DHER) which was shown on the 1890 Ordnance Survey map and is most likely of 19th-century date. This would have produced agricultural lime for local use. The limekiln is situated within a wooded belt at the centre of the site, adjacent to Barn Lane, and is partially built into the natural slope of the hill. Constructed from rough courses of undressed stone, it is c. 3.5m square with walls c. 0.5m thick. The south-facing elevation is c. 1.8m high and the ground to the north has been built up and is level with the top of the limekiln. There is evidence of an increase in ground level to the south of the structure: the top of the drawhole arch, which allowed air into the base of the limekiln, is barely visible at the base of the southern elevation (Fig. 3, Fig. 4).
- 3.10 Consultation of the First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1890 indicates that a second limekiln recorded within the site was actually situated outside the site boundary (Fig. 2, **11**; DHER).

**Undated**

- 3.11 A slight linear bank, most likely representing an old field boundary, was observed running north/south through the central part of the site during the site visit (Fig. 2, 12).

**4. CONCLUSIONS**

- 4.1 Consultation of archaeological databases and a site visit has identified no overriding archaeological constraints to development within the site.
- 4.2 A limekiln of local cultural heritage value is situated within the site. It may be possible to retain this feature during any residential development scheme or its loss may be mitigated by a programme of recording. If the linear bank identified within the site is a former field boundary it is likely to be of negligible archaeological value.
- 4.3 Steve Wallis, Dorset County Council Senior Archaeologist, has indicated that a programme of geophysical survey (magnetic susceptibility and detailed magnetometry) and trial trenching would be required to inform the determination of any planning application for the development of the site. This would to identify and assess the character, extent and value of any previously unrecorded archaeological deposits present within the site.
- 4.4 Consideration of the setting of the Conservation Area and Listed buildings identified in the vicinity of the site would be necessary during the formation of development plans.

**5. PROJECT TEAM**

- 5.1 The project was researched and the report produced by Rosemary Blackwell, and illustrated by Peter Moore. The project was managed by Gail Stoten.

**5. REFERENCES**

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2000 *1:50,000 geological map, sheet 342: West Fleet and Weymouth*
- DHER Dorset Historic Environments Record



NMRAD National Monument Record Database of Archaeological Sites

***Cartographic sources***

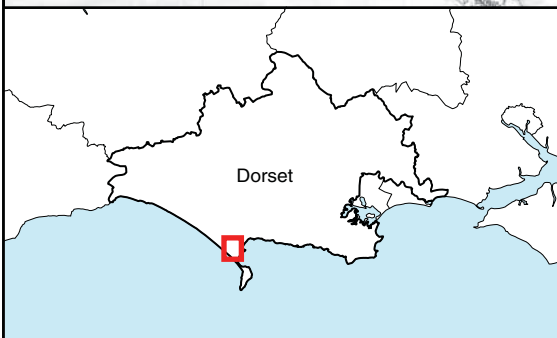
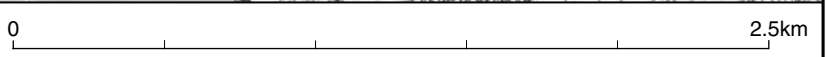
1890 *1st Edition OS 25" series*, Dorset, online [www.oldmaps.co.uk](http://www.oldmaps.co.uk), viewed 23/05/2008

## APPENDIX A: GAZETTEER OF RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

KEY: PH = Prehistoric; Neo = Neolithic; BA = Bronze Age; IA = Iron Age; Rom = Roman; PR = Post-Roman; Sax = Saxon; Med = medieval; PM = post-medieval; MOD = modern; U = undated.

No.	Description	Period	Status	NGR (all SY)	HER ref. NMRAD ref. EH ref	Source
1	Church of St Mary	Med	II*	6438 8069	<b>1431265</b> 105226	EH
2	Stonebank	PM	II	6430 8069	105232	EH
3	Stile east of Church	PM	II	6440 8069	105227	EH
4	Stile west of Church	PM	II	6434 8069	105227	EH
5	6 North Square	PM	II	6442 8065	105228	EH
6	8 North Square	Mod	II	6445 8065	105229	EH
7	Chickerell Conservation Area	-	CA	6447 8057	-	West Dorset Local Plan
8	Two burials	Rom/ PR	-	6518 8134	<b>1093359</b>	NMRAD
9	Shrunken settlement	Med	-	6484 8051	1 033 031 <b>452817</b>	DHER
10	Limekiln	PM/Mod	-	6443 8095	1 033 041	DHER Site visit
11	Limekiln	PM/Mod	-	6432 8078	1 033 044	HHER
12	Bank	U	-	6455 8088	-	Site visit

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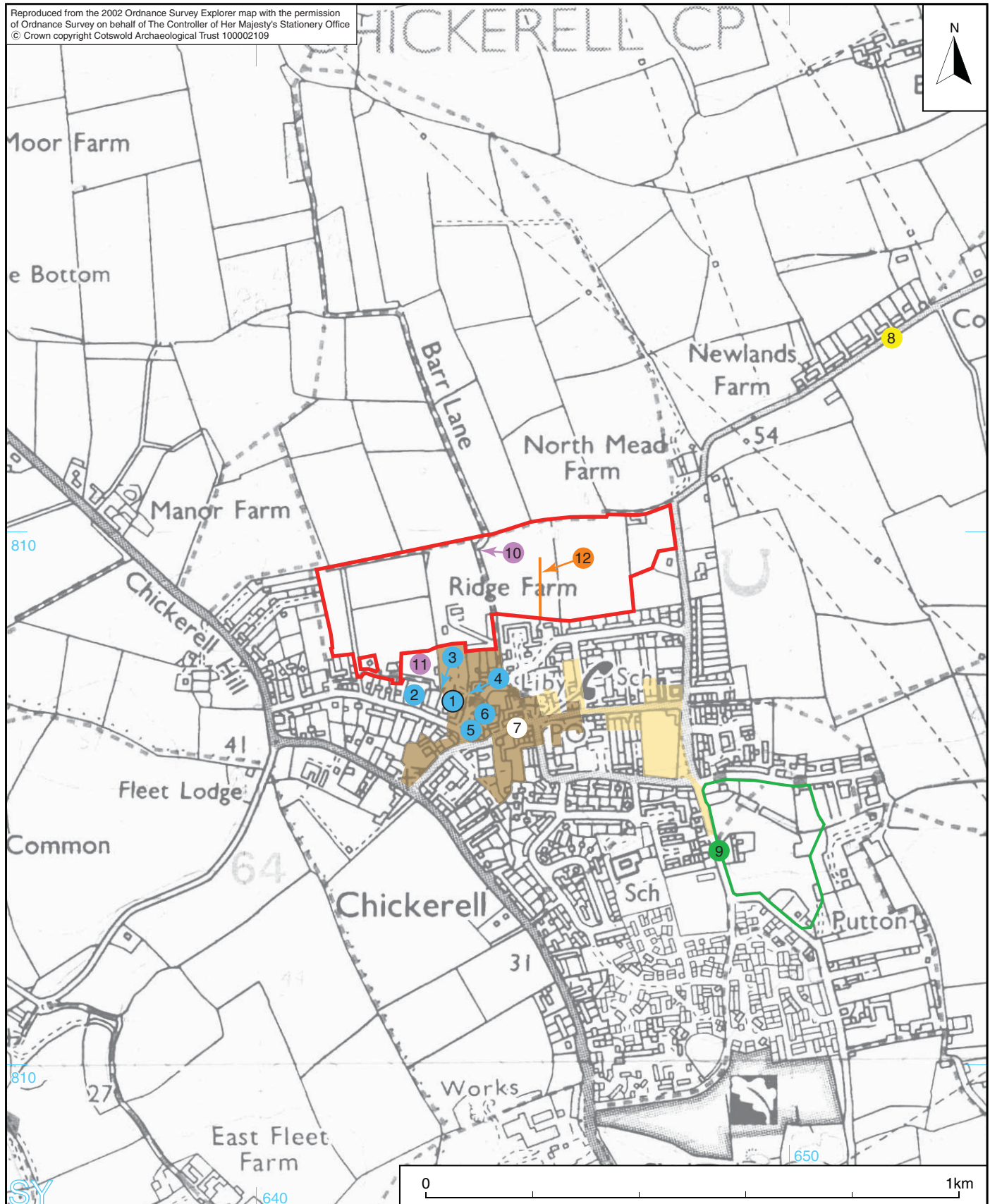











 **COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY**


PROJECT TITLE  
**Bank and Ridge Farms, Chickerell Dorset**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Site location plan**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
PJM	1:25,000@A4	2613	<b>1</b>



	site		Roman
	Grade II* Listed Building		medieval
	Grade II Listed Building		modern
	Conservation Area		undated
	Proposed extension to Conservation Area		

 **COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY**

PROJECT TITLE  
**Bank and Ridge Farms, Chickerell Dorset**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Known Cultural Heritage**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
PJM	1:10,000@A4	2613	<b>2</b>



3



4

3 Limekiln within site (Fig 2, 10), south-facing elevation

4 Top of drawhole arch at base of south-facing elevation of limekiln (Fig 2, 10)



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

Bank and Ridge Farms, Chickerell  
Dorset

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

DRAWN BY

PJM

SCALE

n/a

PROJECT NO.

2613

FIGURE NO.

3 & 4