

# WARNER'S Paddock

## DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

Warner's Paddock consists of three fields, called for the purpose of this study West Field, East Field and Paddock. (See Figure 1). All three of the fields are owned by the Crown Estates, but they have been leased to Bingham Town Council for 21 years from 2017. The northern part of West Field, on the corner of Long Acre and Jebb's Lane, had been leased separately

and earlier to the Bingham Bowls Club. All the rest is given over entirely to grazing for two horses.



**Figure 1.** Aerial view of Warner's Paddock, top is north. The geophysical survey baselines are shown in blue. The Bowling Club is top left; West Field is on the left; the small Paddock just right of the Bowling Club and East Field on the right. The shallow drain running the length of West Field is clearly visible. (Image from Google Earth)

The West Field slopes down to the north and there are steep banks at its boundary down to The Banks and Jebb's Lane. The field is divided approximately into two parts by a shallow ditch along what appears to be an old field boundary. The part of the field to the west of this ditch

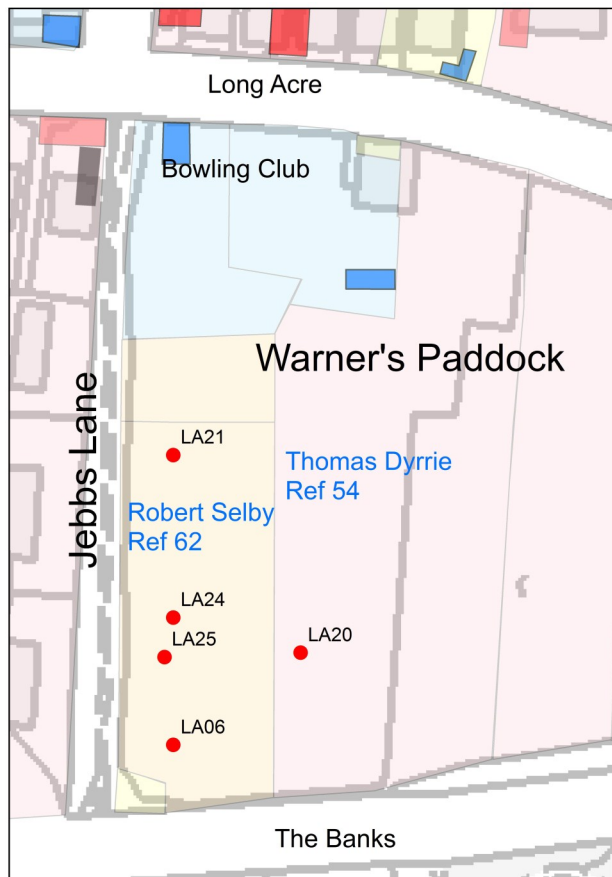
is about 60cm higher than on the east. This difference fades out northwards just short of the electric fence that the graziers use to partition the field. East Field is bounded on all sides by hedges and scrub and there are trees scattered about it. The stables lie on the boundary with West Field. Soil is thin and the sawn-off stubs of steel girders that supported a large barn can be seen in places. The north eastern corner of the field is fenced off scrub within which is an abandoned well.

The small field called the Paddock is east of the Bowls Club and is raised about 1 metre above the East Field.

## HISTORY OF THE SITE

### 1586

As with all other Bingham properties, the estate survey of 1586 is the earliest



**Figure 2.** Conjectural map for 1586 showing the division of Warner's Paddock into the tenancies of the time.

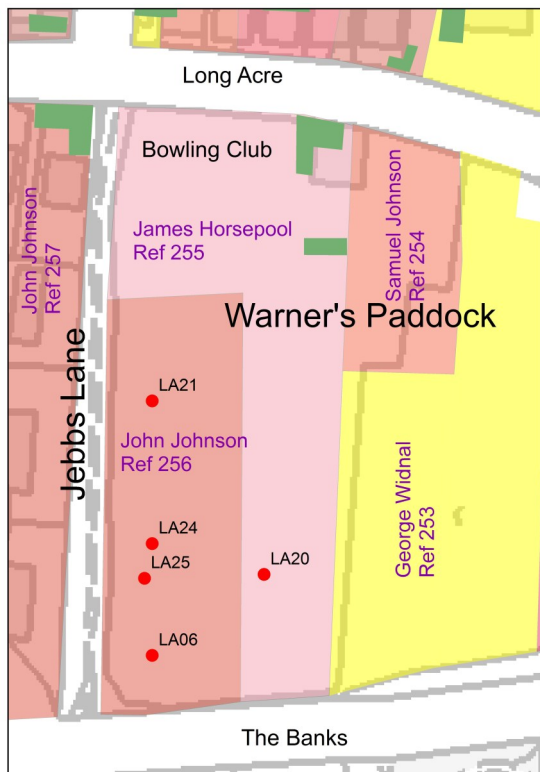
reference we have to land holdings in the parish. The map showing holdings in 1586 is based on the BHTA conjectural map of the estate survey text produced for the then Lord of the Manor, Bryan Stapleton (Figure 2). The four test pits along Jebb's Lane were dug on an area of Warner's paddock held in 1586 by Robert Selby. The fifth, which was sited on the shallow ditch running down West Field was on or close to the boundary with land held by Thomas Dyrrie, who occupied all the rest of what is now known as Warner's Paddock. This boundary coincides with the shallow ditch that runs down through West Field. Both were farmers who had their homesteads on Husband Street, now Long Acre. There were no houses on the land now known as Warner's Paddock all of which were "by-closes", probably for keeping stock. Indeed, the absence of ridge and furrow suggests that this land had never been ploughed and was used only for graz-

ing from the end the Black Death to the present.

Dyrrie's house, barns etc were on the eastern corner of Cherry Street and Long Acre (modern Dane Cottage). Selby's homestead was on the west side of Jebbs Lane stretching from Long Acre (Husband Street) to The Banks. Both were substantial farmers. Selby had 194 strips in the open fields and Dyrrie 124.

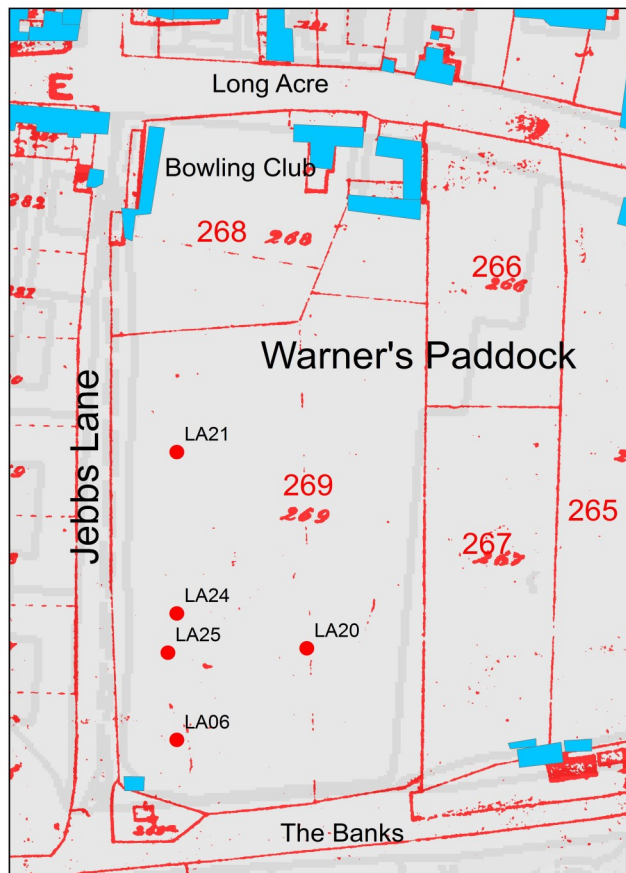
### 1776

In 1776 "Warner's Paddock" was divided into more plots than in 1586 (Figure 3). Selby's lands had by now passed to John Johnson, who held a total of 15 acres in the rest of the parish. James Horsepool, with a total of 37 acres, had a farmhouse and stockyard on plot number 255, which is the rest of

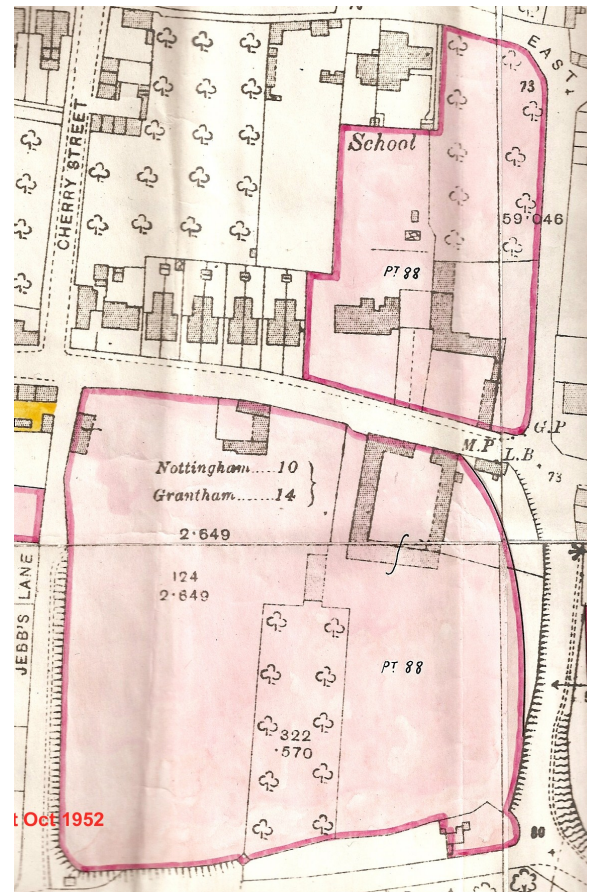


**Figure 3.** The map of Warner's Paddock for 1776 showing the location of the test pits dug in 2012/2013.

West Field, including the bowls club area, and used the southern part as a close. He probably built the dovecote and barn now used by the bowls club. Samuel Johnson's holding (plot 254) is almost the same as what we are now calling the Paddock, while George Widnal (plot 253) rented East Field. Thus the modern division of Warner's Paddock came into existence at some time between 1586 and 1776. The first farm buildings on Long Acre beneath what is now the car park for the Bowling Club also came into existence during this period.



**Figure 4.** The map for 1841. Information from the Tithe map showing plot numbers.



**Figure 5.** map for 1952 when the land was held by Mr Edward Warner, after whom the paddock is currently named. In addition to the paddock he rented an area north of Long Acre where his farm house was situated.



## **1841**

By 1811 John Horsepool had consolidated the holding into plots 268 and 269, which forms West Field (Figure 4). The small piece of land and the (blue) building at the extreme SW was a house and workshop held by John Nowell, described in the 1841 census as a stocking maker. Plot 266, equating to the modern Paddock, still existed, but East Field was divided up into two parts (plots 267 and 265). The boundary marked by the shallow ditch in West Field no longer existed (Figure 4).

## **1930s – 1960s**

The name Warner's Paddock is relatively recent (Figure 5). It was owned by Edward L Warner who lived opposite on the north side of Long Acre at Porchester Farmhouse. He was a farmer and chairman of the Rural District Council for a number of years. The 1952 map shows that Edward Warner rented all of what we call Warner's Paddock and a large area to the north of Long Acre. There were still substantial farm buildings on the northern part of Warner's Paddock and a large barn in East Field. These were demolished in the 1960s and all of the paddock was used for grazing thereafter.

# GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY



**Figure 6.** Alan Morris working with the fluxgate gradiometer



**Figure 7.** Alan with a helper working with the resistance meter.

The geophysical survey was carried out by Alan Morris with support from Trent & Peak Archaeology and BHTA volunteers.

The survey methodology was based upon guidelines set out in the English Heritage document *Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 2008)*.

## Methodology

The evidence of the smithy slag, much of which is magnetic, suggests that it was appropriate to carry out a detailed magnetic survey employing a Fluxgate Gradiometer (Figure 6), and where applicable any anomalies of interest showing in the magnetic plot would be targeted using earth resistance techniques (Figures 7).

The tables below summarise the survey parameters:-

**Table 1 Fluxgate Gradiometer**

Instrument	Bartington grad601-2
Grid size	20x20m
Sample interval	0.25m
Traverse interval	1.0m
Traverse method	Zig-zag
Sensitivity	0.1nT
Processing software	Geoplot 3.0u
Date of survey	1st – 3rd May 2017

**Table 2 Resistance Meter**

Instrument	Geoscan Research RM-15D
Grid size	20x20m
Sample interval	1m
Traverse interval	1m
Traverse method	Zig-zag
Processing software	Geoplot 3.0u
Date of survey	4 <sup>th</sup> May 2017

## Results

### East Field (Gradiometer survey)

As will be seen in Figure 8 the entire area surveyed is dominated by magnet-

Warners Paddock - East Field

Fluxgate Gradiometer Survey (1st&2nd May 2017)

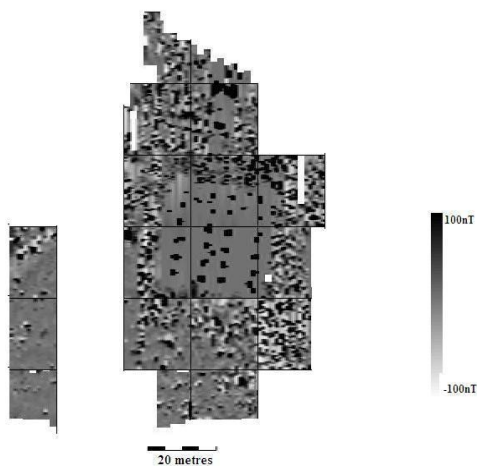


Figure 8: Grey scale plot

ic debris. A large number of dipolar anomalies (iron spikes) with a very high amplitude can be seen in the plot, many forming a regular grid pattern. This result is not surprising as there are large iron and concrete foundations extant (Figure 9) and numerous fired bricks and concrete bases distributed across the site. These dipolar anomalies are magnetically strong enough to

**Figure 8. East Field.** Plot of magnetic results (above) showing a considerable amount of magnetic 'noise' indicating that much of the field had buried magnetic debris. The square area in the middle is the site of a barn, now removed.

**Figure 9. Aerial view (right)** with part of Warner's Paddock in the bottom left corner. The farm buildings are present and part of the barn is the lowest structure on the bottom left.

mask the response from archaeological features. As a result no anomalies with



archaeological potential are perceptible in the magnetic plot and an earth resistance survey was not carried out here.

### Small Paddock (Gradiometer survey)

No anomalies were detected in the survey of the small paddock.

### West Field (Gradiometer survey)

The magnetic data is presented as a grey scale plot in Figure 10.

The principal anomalies encountered in the survey are annotated in Figure 11 and summarised in table 3 below:-

<b>Table 3 Description and interpretation of magnetic anomalies (see Fig. 11.)</b>		
Anomaly No	Description	Interpretation
a1	A partial rectilinear anomaly with a weak positive response	May represent ditches that form part of an enclosure
a2	A cluster of positive 'spots' in a square configuration	Possibly a small enclosure.
a3	A partial rectilinear anomaly with a configuration of weak positive and negative responses	May represent banks and ditches that form part of an enclosure
a4	Strong dipolar anomaly	The strength of the anomaly suggests ferrous rubbish.

Warners Paddock - West Field

Fluxgate Gradiometer Survey (2nd&3rd May 2017)

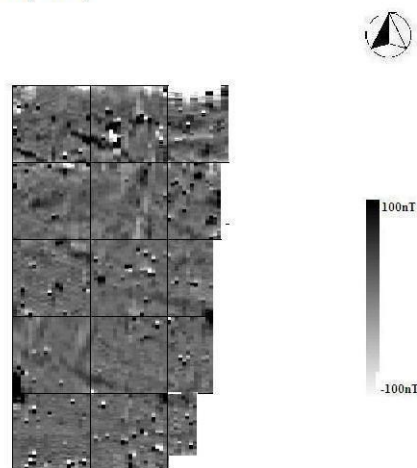
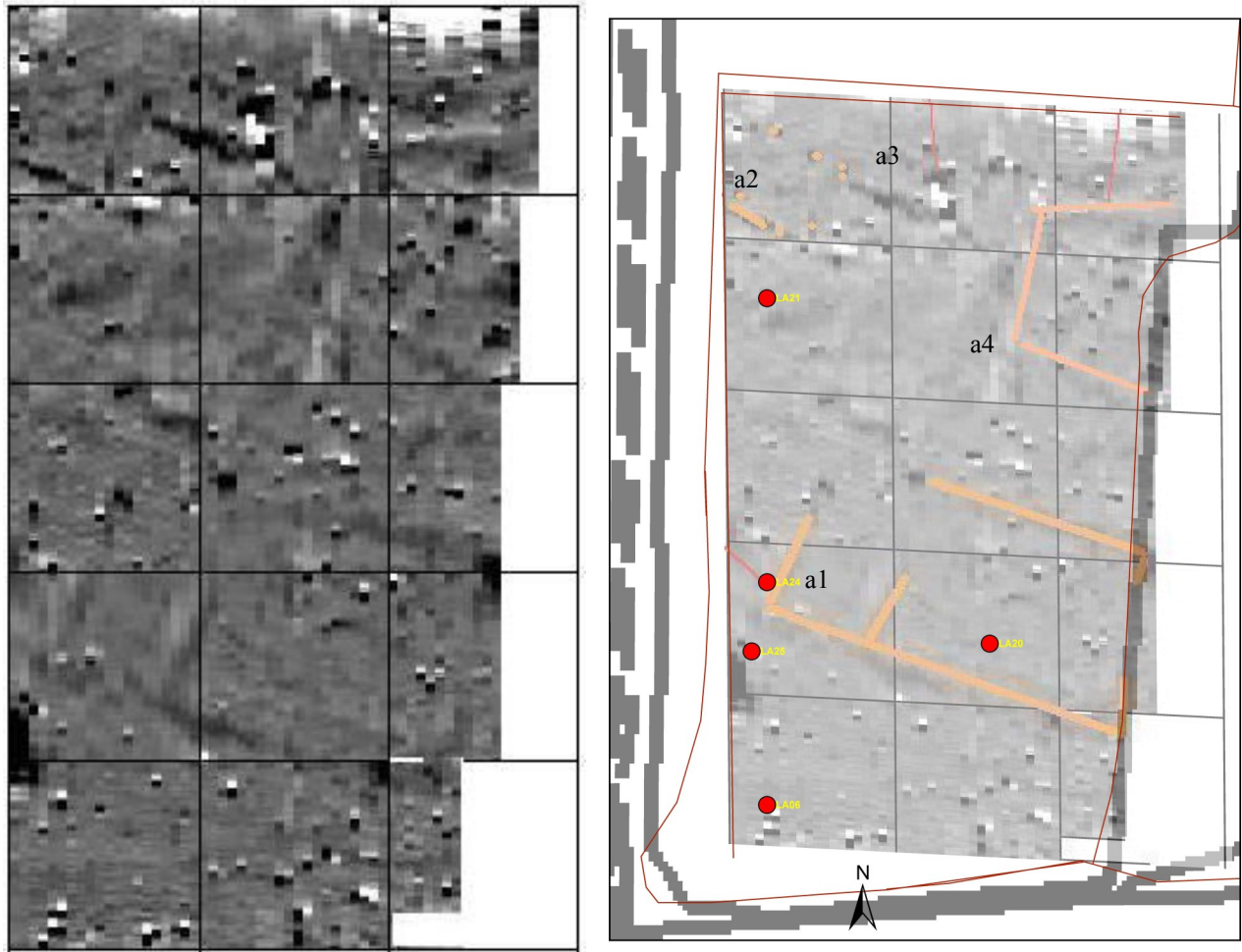


Figure 10 grey scale plot

**Figure 10.** West Field, showing several magnetic anomalies.





**Figure 11.** The magnetic anomalies in West Field on the left compared with an annotated version on the right. These highlighted anomalies are numbered and relate to Table 3. The red dots are test pit sites.

### **West Field (Earth resistance survey)**

The resistance data are presented as a grey scale plot in Figure 12 and the most obvious anomaly appears in the shallow ditch aligned N-S. The strength of the anomaly suggests a row of substantial stones, which could be the remnants of an early field drain i.e. before ceramic drainage tiles came into use. Another possibility is the stones form part of a track. The southern part of the anomaly a1, evident on the magnetic survey (Figure 11), also shows on the earth resistance survey.

### **Conclusions**

The fluxgate gradiometer survey in the East Field clearly identified the site of the barn, but magnetic spikes in the rest of the field obscured anything else that may have archaeological significance.

Nothing of any significance showed up in the small Paddock.

In West Field the magnetic survey located several areas of anomalies that



are likely to represent enclosures and the main one (a1) was also shown on the earth resistance map. The enclosures revealed by the geophysical survey, particularly those represented by anomaly a1, are not parallel to either the later field boundaries or to Jebb's Lane. With historical evidence of the field boundaries shown on the map for 1586 it is likely that the field system shown by anomaly a1 on the geophysics plots is earlier than this. The test pits showed that Warner's Paddock remained central to Bingham until after

Warners Paddock - West Field

Earth Resistance Survey (4th May 2017)

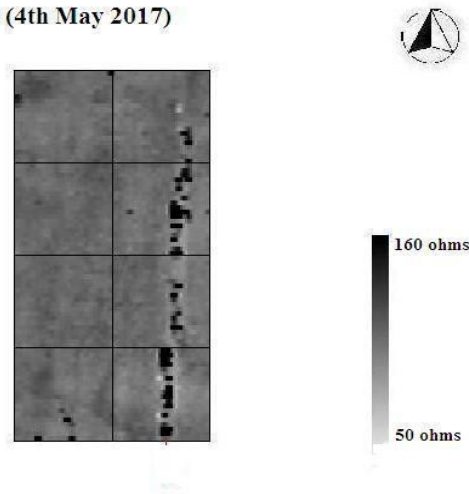


Figure grey scale plot

**Figure 12.** Greyscale plot of the resistance data from West Field, north to the top. Parts of the anomaly shown as a1 on the magnetic greyscale plot are seen in the lower part of the plot. The main anomaly is labelled as a1 on this plot and coincides with the shallow ditch that runs north to south along this field.

the Norman Conquest, but that on the arrival of a resident lord of the manor in the mid 13th century it went into decline and after the Black Death the area was no longer occupied. It is likely that the fields were used for pasture only after this date.

The field system revealed by the geophysical survey must pre-date the mid 13th century decline. The well ordered, rectilinear shape to the field system marked as a1 and its presence in both the magnetic and earth resistance surveys suggests that the anomalies are showing ditched boundaries, which are most likely to have originated between the Roman conquest and the 12th century. This is the period when the Warner's Paddock area was busi-

est. The purpose of the excavation planned for 2018, but not carried out, was to attempt to date these fields.

The orientation of the field system as not parallel either to Jebb's Lane or The Banks suggests that there is no connection between them. The implication of this is that the origin of Jebb's Lane might be as late as the 9th century when the open fields are thought to have been created and the lane would have been used for access from the area around the church to The Banks, which bordered the northern edge of the open fields. This being so it makes it likely that the field system was created during the Roman or early/middle Anglo-Saxon periods.

No strong evidence of a smithy was found, but there was one site near the north of the West Field (a3) that was considered a possible site.

The strongest earth resistance anomaly was that along the shallow ditch down West Field that marked the boundary between land plots in the period 1586 to 1776.