

Shirley

Conservation Area Appraisal

3. Archaeological Significance



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Historic Environment Record (HER) contains references to a number of buildings and structures in the settlement (and its vicinity) and two instances of landscape archaeology (ridge & furrow and the moated site to the Hall). The HER contains the following buildings/structures/sites:

Church (25401)
Churchyard Cross (25402)
Moated Site (25404)
Shirley Hall (25405)
Old Rectory (25409)
Shirley Mill (25410)
Cruck Barn (at Old Rectory) (25411)
Wesleyan Chapel (25412)
Ridge & Furrow (north of Shirley Hall) (25413)

The Wesleyan Chapel (25412), which was constructed in an isolated location south of the village in 1855, was demolished in 1996. Detailed architectural surveys have been undertaken on the Old Rectory and its attached cruck barn. These were undertaken in 1995 by the Derby Buildings Record.

There are no Scheduled Monuments in the settlement or its vicinity.

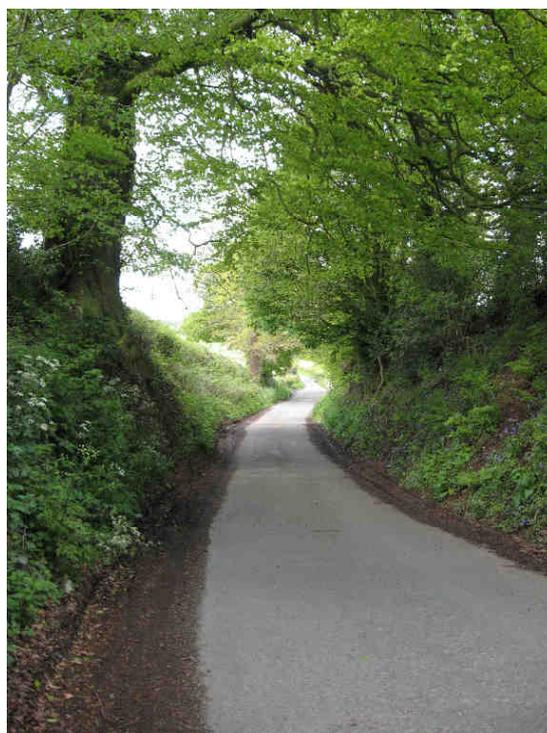
A settlement existed here, with a church, at the time of the Domesday survey (1086) which suggests that a late Anglo-Saxon settlement was established towards the end of the first millennium. No physical evidence or finds have been recorded from that period or the early Norman period. It was in the Anglo-Saxon period, and into the Norman period, that the settlement became established. This early settlement was, most probably all of timber frame construction, with, perhaps, the exception of the church. As timber-framing has a relatively limited life-span (unless constantly repaired and maintained) it is probable that the early timber-framed buildings decayed and were not rebuilt or were re-constructed.

In the medieval period the Hall was constructed to the north of the settlement and built within a moated site. The moat (dry) still exists. The current Hall dates from the 17th century and lies immediately east of the moated site.

As the village evolved its surrounding field pattern was established. The earliest field enclosures were located close to, and around, the village itself. The 1838 Tithe map indicates a large number of field boundaries that have since been removed (to enlarge fields). What remains is, for the most part,

the medieval field pattern, fossilized in the landscape with hedging. The aerial photograph of 1971 shows a small amount of ridge & furrow surviving immediately around Shirley Hall and to the south of it. Since then, however, much has been ploughed out, however, small vestiges have survived (close to Shirley Hall).

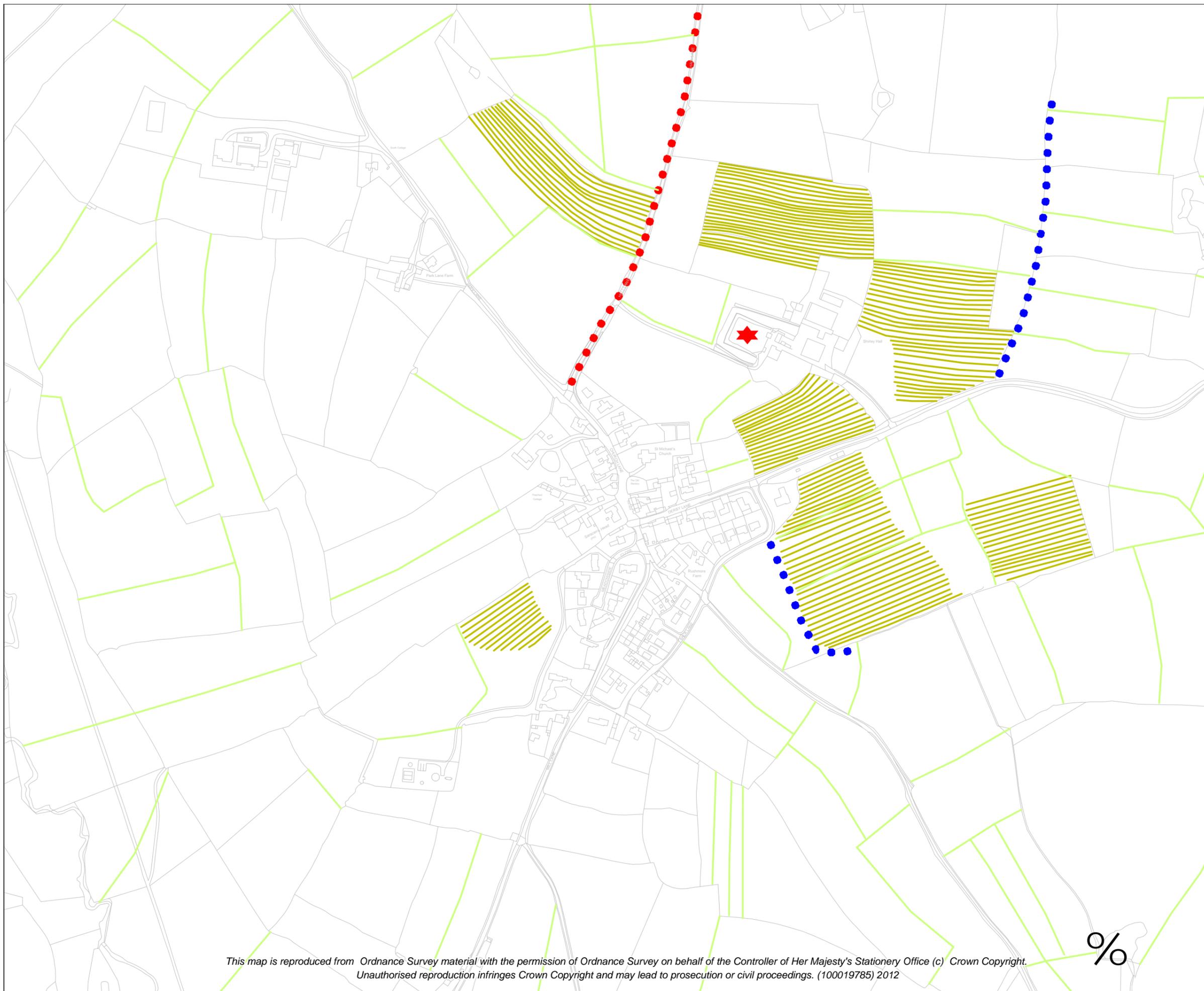
The current road & lane layout/system of the settlement has early origins and relates to the topography of the area. Many of the roads/lanes are very narrow with high sides (often referred to as 'holloways'). As a fossilized network this has some archaeological, and historical, importance to the character and appearance of the village. The Tithe map of 1838 indicates two trackways leading into the field systems, to the east of the village, which no longer survive. It is also possible that the road connecting the village to the A52 was formed between c. 1790 and 1820. This may require further research.



One of the narrow lanes entering the village

Using map regression it does not appear that many buildings have been lost over time. It is probable that many have been re-built or re-fashioned but no buildings appear to have been destroyed and their sites left open.

Within the village framework there is a reasonable expectation that archaeological deposits and evidence relating to the medieval and post-medieval periods survive below ground. Such evidence may be brought to light during excavation work for new services or new dwellings/extensions.



KEY

-  Hall Lane - This does not appear on the 1787 map and may therefore date from c1790 - 1820
-  Lost trackways (since 1838)
-  Lost field boundaries (since 1838)
-  Remains of ridge + furrow (as extent in 1971). Much now lost.
-  Moated site at Shirley Hall

SHIRLEY
CONSERVATION AREA

Historic Landscape

FIG 8

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (c) Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. (100019785) 2012

