

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

Land South of Greenhill Road, Herne Bay

JAC27111
Land South of Greenhill
Road, Herne Bay
Version 1 Draft for Comment
March 2021

Quality Management					
Version	Status	Authored by	Reviewed by	Approved by	Date
Version 1	Draft for Comment	James Archer	Duncan Hawkins	Duncan Hawkins	[Text]

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Land South of Greenhill Road, Herne Bay has been assessed for its below ground archaeological potential in advance of the proposed development of the site.
- The proposed development will not impact on any designated archaeological assets. The site is not located within a locally defined Area of Archaeological Interest.
- This assessment has identified a moderate archaeological potential at the study site for evidence dating to the Bronze Age, Iron Age or Roman periods, with a low potential identified for archaeological remains dating to all other past periods of human activity at the site. If present, any remains would most likely be of a local significance only.
- Past ground impacts at the site are likely to have been widespread as a result of arable plough activity. In addition, it is unclear whether construction groundworks were undertaken at the site in the early 20th century as a result of planned development. If undertaken, such works may have also had a widespread impact as a result of topsoil stripping for housing plots and new roadways.
- Given the site's modest archaeological potential, it is possible that the proposed development of the site could impact upon locally significant archaeological remains, most likely to comprise evidence for Later Prehistoric or Roman period field systems or possibly areas of occupation.
- It is anticipated that the archaeological advisor to Canterbury City Council will require a programme of archaeological work in advance of development as part of the relevant planning condition. In the first instance, this could comprise of geophysical survey followed by programmes of archaeological evaluation and mitigation as appropriate.

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1 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF STUDY

- 1.1 This below ground archaeological desk-based assessment has been researched by Alex Slater, prepared by James Archer, and approved by Duncan Hawkins of RPS Heritage on behalf of Bellway Homes Ltd (Kent).
- 1.2 The subject of this assessment, also known as the study site, is land south of Greenhill Road, Herne Bay. The site is approximately 22.05ha in extent and is centred at TR 16001 66336 (Fig. 1) within the administrative area of Canterbury City Council.
- 1.3 A planning application (CA/17/02907) has been approved in October 2020 by Canterbury City Council at the study site, for a mixed use development including up to 450 dwellings comprising: Detailed proposals for the change of use of agricultural land to outdoor sports playing pitches (for use by Briary School); Outline application for up to 450 dwellings with all matters reserved also including community facilities, a link road, pedestrian and cycle links, sustainable urban design drainage measures, landscaped bund/earthworks and boundary treatments, public open space, highway-related and utilities infrastructure. A relevant planning condition has been included on the consent as follows:
- 15. No development within a Phase as approved under condition 9 shall commence until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of:*
- i. Archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority; and*
- ii. Following on from the evaluation, any safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation, post-excavation assessment, analysis, publication or conservation in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*
- REASON: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded in accordance with policies HE11 and HE12 of the Canterbury District Local Plan 2017 and the National Planning Policy Framework.*
- 1.4 Accordingly, Bellway Homes Ltd (Kent) has commissioned RPS Heritage to establish the archaeological potential of the site and to provide guidance on ways to address any archaeological constraints identified.
- 1.5 In accordance with relevant policy and guidance on archaeology and planning, and in accordance with the 'Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessments' (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists October 2020), this assessment draws together the available archaeological, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the archaeological potential of the site.
- 1.6 This desk-based assessment comprises an examination of evidence on the Kent Historic Environment Record (HER), and other sources, and includes the results of a comprehensive map regression exercise.
- 1.7 This assessment thus enables relevant parties to assess the archaeological potential of various parts of the site and to consider the need for design, civil engineering, and archaeological solutions to the archaeological potential identified.

2 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 National legislation regarding archaeology, including scheduled monuments, is contained in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, amended by the National Heritage Act 1983 and 2002, and updated in April 2014.
- 2.2 In March 2012, the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which was most recently revised in June 2019. The NPPF is supported by the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), which was published online 6th March 2014 and has since been periodically updated.
- 2.3 The NPPF and NPPG are additionally supported by three Good Practice Advice (GPA) documents published by Historic England: GPA 1: The Historic Environment in Local Plans; GPA 2: Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment (both published March 2015). The second edition of GPA3: The Setting of Heritage Assets was published in December 2017.

National Planning Policy

- 2.4 Section 16 of the NPPF, entitled 'Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment' provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 16 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
- Delivery of sustainable development;
 - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment;
 - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance; and
 - Recognition that heritage makes a contribution towards our knowledge and understanding of the past.
- 2.5 Section 16 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. Paragraph 189 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset and that level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be no more than sufficient to review the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 2.6 *Heritage Assets* are defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF as: a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
- 2.7 Annex 2 also defines *Archaeological Interest* as a heritage asset which holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.
- 2.8 A *Nationally Important Designated Heritage Asset* comprises a: World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.
- 2.9 *Significance* is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

- 2.10 *Setting of a heritage asset* is defined as: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 2.11 In short, government policy provides a framework which:
- Protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets;
 - Protects the settings of such designations;
 - In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions;
 - Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not significant enough to merit *in-situ* preservation.
- 2.12 The NPPG reiterates that the conservation of heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance is a core planning principle, requiring a flexible and thoughtful approach. Furthermore, it highlights that neglect and decay of heritage assets is best addressed through ensuring they remain in active use that is consistent with their conservation. Importantly, the guidance states that if complete, or partial loss of a heritage asset is justified, the aim should then be to capture and record the evidence of the asset's significance and make the interpretation publicly available. Key elements of the guidance relate to assessing harm. An important consideration should be whether the proposed works adversely affect a key element of the heritage asset's special architectural or historic interest. Additionally, it is the degree of harm, rather than the scale of development, that is to be assessed. The level of 'substantial harm' is considered to be a high bar that may not arise in many cases. Essentially, whether a proposal causes substantial harm will be a judgment for the decision taker, having regard to the circumstances of the case and the NPPF. Importantly, harm may arise from works to the asset or from development within its setting. Setting is defined as the surroundings in which an asset is experienced and may be more extensive than the curtilage. A thorough assessment of the impact of proposals upon setting needs to take into account, and be proportionate to, the significance of the heritage asset and the degree to which proposed changes enhance or detract from that significance and the ability to appreciate it.
- 2.13 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the framework set by government policy, in this instance the NPPF, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.

Local Planning Policy

Canterbury City Council

- 2.14 The Canterbury Local Plan was adopted in July 2017 and contains the following relevant historic environment policy:

Policy HE1 Historic Environment and Heritage Assets

The City Council will support proposals which protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and the contribution it makes to local distinctiveness and sense of place. Proposals that make sensitive use of historic assets through regeneration and reuse, particularly where these bring redundant or under-used buildings and areas into an appropriate use, will be encouraged. Development must conserve and enhance, or reveal, the significance of heritage assets and their settings. Development will not be permitted where it is likely to cause substantial harm to the significance of heritage assets or their setting unless it is necessary to achieve substantial public benefit that would outweigh the

harm or loss, or all of the following apply: the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and, no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and, conservation by grant-funding or some form of charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and, the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use. Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use. Any development affecting directly, or the setting of, a listed or locally listed building, Conservation Area, Scheduled Monument, registered park or garden, historic landscape, or archaeological site will be required to submit a Heritage Statement with any Planning Application. The statement will need to outline and provide evidence as to the significance of the heritage asset including its setting, the likely impact of the development upon it and be proportional to the importance of the said heritage asset. Should permission be granted for the removal of part or all of a heritage asset the City Council will not permit the removal or demolition of the heritage asset until it is proven that the approved replacement development will proceed.

Policy HE11 Archaeology

The archaeological and historic integrity of designated heritage assets such as Scheduled Monuments and other important archaeological sites, together with their settings, will be protected and, where possible, enhanced. Development which would adversely affect them will not be permitted. Planning applications, on sites where there is or is the potential for an archaeological heritage asset, must include an appropriate desk based assessment of the asset. In addition where important or potentially significant archaeological heritage assets may exist, developers will be required to arrange for field evaluations to be carried out in advance of the determination of planning applications. The evaluation should define: a. The character, importance and condition of any archaeological deposits or structures within the application site; b. The likely impact of the proposed development on these features (including the limits to the depth to which groundworks can go on the site); and c. The means of mitigating the effect of the proposed development including: a statement setting out the impact of the development. Where the case for development affecting a heritage asset of archaeological interest is accepted, the archaeological remains should be preserved in situ. Where preservation in situ is not possible or justified, appropriate provision for preservation by record may be an acceptable alternative. In such cases archaeological recording works must be undertaken in accordance with a specification prepared by the Council's Archaeological Officer or a competent archaeological organisation that has been agreed by the Council in advance.

Policy HE12 Area of Archaeological Interest

Within the Canterbury Area of Archaeological Importance and areas of recognised archaeological potential elsewhere in the District the City Council will determine planning applications involving work below ground level once the applicant has provided information in the form of an evaluation of the archaeological importance of the site, and, an assessment of the archaeological implications of the proposed development.

Relevant National and Local Designations

- 2.15 In terms of relevant designated heritage assets, as defined above and as shown on Figure 2a, no designated World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Battlefield sites or Historic Wreck sites lie within the vicinity of the study site.

- 2.16 In terms of relevant local designations, the study site is not located within an Area of High Archaeological Potential as defined by the Kent Historic Environment Record and referred to as “Areas of Archaeological Interest” in the Canterbury City Local Plan 2017.
- 2.17 In line with relevant planning policy and guidance, this desk based assessment seeks to clarify the site’s archaeological potential and the need or otherwise for additional mitigation measures.

3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Geology

- 3.1 The solid geology of the study site is provided by the British Geological Survey (BGS Online 2021), which shows the underlying geology at the study site as London Clay Formation (Clay, Silt & Sand). Apart from an outcrop of superficial Head deposits, consisting of Clay and Silt, located in the north of the site, no other superficial deposits are recorded.
- 3.2 No site specific or British Geological Survey borehole data is currently available for the study site.

Topography

- 3.3 The topography of the site incorporates a gradual upwards gradient from north to south. Ground level adjacent to the southern site boundary is recorded at a height of approximately 14m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD), decreasing to a height of approximately 10m AOD.
- 3.4 There are several drainage ditches present within the site, while the course of West Brook is present approximately 500m to the west of the site.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND WITH ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Timescales used in this report

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	900,000 -	12,000 BC
Mesolithic	12,000 -	4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 -	2,500 BC
Bronze Age (including Chalcolithic)	2,500 -	800 BC
Iron Age	800 -	AD 43

Historic

Roman	AD 43 -	410
Saxon/Early Medieval	AD 410 -	1066
Medieval	AD 1066 -	1485
Post Medieval	AD 1486 -	1799
Modern	AD 1800 -	Present

Introduction

- 4.1 This chapter reviews the available archaeological evidence for the study site and the archaeological/historical background of the study site and surrounding area, and, in accordance with NPPF, considers the potential for any as yet to be discovered archaeological evidence on the study site prior to any assessment of any later development or below ground impacts.
- 4.2 What follows comprises a review of known archaeological assets within a 1.25km radius of the study site (Figs. 2a-b), also referred to as the study area, held on the Kent Historic Environment Record (HER), together with a historic map regression exercise charting the development of the study area from the 18th century onwards until the present day.
- 4.3 In general, HER records within the study area comprise evidence for foci of later prehistoric and Roman activity to the east and north east of the study site. Evidence for the Medieval and Post Medieval rural landscape is recorded within the immediate area of the site itself.
- 4.4 The map regression exercise demonstrates that the study site comprised open land in the Post Medieval and Modern periods through to the early 20th century. Possible development is shown on the site on early 20th century maps, although it does not appear that these construction works went ahead. It is possible that remnants of that work may be present at the site. Mapping has demonstrated that the site has since generally remained open land to the present day, with a small area of sports pitches.
- 4.5 Chapter 5 subsequently considers the site conditions, later development and below ground impacts, and whether the proposed development is likely to impact archaeological assets and potential archaeological assets identified below.

Early Prehistoric – Palaeolithic & Mesolithic

- 4.6 No finds dating to either the Palaeolithic or the Mesolithic periods are recorded within 1.25km of the study site on the Kent HER. The presence of Early Prehistoric material can be notoriously difficult to predict and is typically dependent upon the presence of an appropriate underlying geology sequence (such as terrace gravels or brickearth), as well as suitable topography and access to nearby resources and water.
- 4.7 The Stour Palaeolithic Character Areas Project records the site within “North Blean, brickearth patches, dry valleys and terrace remnants” (see Figure 2a). The underlying geology at the site is recorded as London Clay deposits, with limited patches of head deposits at the northern part of the site (see Section 3).
- 4.8 Overall, given the underlying geology and the paucity of evidence from the nearby area, the archaeological potential at the study site for the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods is considered to be low.

Later Prehistoric – Neolithic, Bronze Age & Early Iron Age

- 4.9 A small assemblage of residual Neolithic worked flint was found during excavations at Herne Bay High School approximately 500m north east of the site (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 91, TR 1674 6692).
- 4.10 In 2005/06 an archaeological excavation was conducted approximately 750m to the east of the site boundary, immediately to the north of Thanet Way, which recovered a small assemblage of residual flints. The excavation of a palaeochannel and possible burnt mound adjacent to Plenty Brook produced a number of Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age worked and burnt flints, as well as pottery sherds (WA 2006 & HER Ref: TR 16 NE 1369, TR 1712 6631).
- 4.11 The archaeological evaluation adjacent to Thanet Way located approximately 750m to the east of the site, identified a scatter of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman features across the area of the site to the north of the Thanet Way (CAT 2005a). Subsequent detailed archaeological investigations on the site identified that the features recorded were primarily associated with the Middle to Late Bronze Age and Roman periods. A Middle Bronze Age ring ditch containing sherds of Deverul-Rimbury pottery was found nearby to the north, adjacent to a Late Bronze Age enclosure. A scatter of Late Bronze Age pits was recorded at intervals along the area of the excavation (WA 2006 & HER Ref TR 16 NE 1369).
- 4.12 Archaeological investigations approximately 800m to the north east of the study site have identified features dating to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. Two concentrations of features associated with this period were found consisting of several ditches, pits and postholes (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 85, TR 1711 6701).
- 4.13 Further Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age exploitation of the landscape has been identified approximately 750m north east of the site, where a trackway associated with multiple pits and ditch features were excavated (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 84, TR 1683 6697). Quarry pits have also been identified in the same area (HER Ref: TR 26 NE 1374, TR 1675 6700). A focus of early Iron Age hearths and occupation finds have been found at Hampton circa 1km to the north west of the study site (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 6, TR 15 67).
- 4.14 An isolated Iron Age coin was recovered approximately 250m to the east of the site (HER Ref: MKE94595, TR 16670 66240).
- 4.15 Evidence on the Kent HER suggests that the nearby area was subject to continuous occupation from the Bronze Age period onwards with particular foci of activity identified to the east and north east. Overall, the archaeological potential at the study site for the Neolithic period is likely to be low, whilst the archaeological potential for Bronze Age or Iron Age finds is likely to be moderate.

Late Iron Age & Roman

- 4.16 Evidence for continuity of Late Iron Age/Roman occupation has been identified within the study area. A concentration of pits, hearths, ditches and posthole, associated with large quantities of pottery, were excavated approximately 250m to the east of the site boundary on the line of Thanet Way (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 69, TR 1633 6610). Approximately 500m to the north east of the site, two sites have been excavated. The site at Herne Bay School recorded a high concentration of settlement activity relating to pits and ditches (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 88, TR 1675 6693), while a similar concentration of features, associated with a cremation burial, was found to the east of Herne Bay School (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 86, TR 1697 6695). Associated field systems have also been identified (HER Refs: TR 26 NE 1374; TR 16 NE 1358). This activity appears to occupy the high ground to the north of Plenty Brook.
- 4.17 During the excavations north of the Thanet Way, approximately 750m to the east of the site, a number of Roman linear and curvilinear ditches were encountered which are interpreted as being associated with a contemporary field system and stock herding activities (WA 2006 & HER Ref: TR 16 NE 1371, TR 1723 6637).
- 4.18 Several Roman ditches containing a small assemblage of pottery, were recorded approximately 550m to the north east of site (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 89, TR 1675 6697).
- 4.19 A recent extensive geophysical survey undertaken at Strode Farm, approximately 750m to the east of the site, identified a limited number of linear anomalies thought to represent agricultural activity, that are likely to be associated with a Late Prehistoric or Roman field system (GSB 2014).
- 4.20 Fragments of Roman tile were identified during archaeological investigations along Thanet Way, approximately 500m to the east of the site (HER Ref: TR16 NE 82, TR 1673 6610). Pottery sherds have also been found in association with a feature c.1km to the east, in which later Saxon period pottery was also found (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 70, TR 1721 6619).
- 4.21 The site is located circa 8km to the north of the Roman settlement at Canterbury and is circa 4.5km west of the nearest Roman road, comprising the road between Canterbury and Reculver (Margary 1955).
- 4.22 It is likely that continuity of settlement is shown in the study area from the Later Prehistoric periods through to the late Iron Age/Roman transition, as well as into the later Roman period. Overall, therefore, a moderate archaeological potential can be identified at the study site for evidence of late Iron Age and Roman period activity.

Anglo-Saxon/Early Medieval & Medieval

- 4.23 The place name *Herne* derives from the Anglo-Saxon word *hyrne*, signifying a nook or corner (Hasted 1797).
- 4.24 Two hearths, dated by radiocarbon analysis to the Anglo-Saxon period, were recorded in different areas of the 2005/06 Thanet Way excavation to the east of the site (WA 2006).
- 4.25 A small number of Anglo-Saxon ditches and pits were found approximately 250m east of the site along the alignment of Thanet Way (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 102, TR 1633 6610), with similar features from this period discovered approximately 1km to the north east of the site (TR 16 NE 87, TR 1716 6707). Saxon pottery sherds have been found in association with a feature at Strode Farm circa 1km to the east of the study site (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 70, TR 1721 6619).
- 4.26 The nearest early Medieval estates to the study site, as recorded by the Domesday Survey of 1086, were at Reculver to the east, Makinbrook to the south, and at Swalecliffe to the west (Open Domesday Online 2021).

- 4.27 Evidence of Medieval activity has been encountered adjacent to Bullockstone Road, represented by several pits located approximately 300m to the east of the site (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 108, TR 1678 6647) and a small number of pits and ditches approximately 500m to the north east (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 90, TR 1679 6689).
- 4.28 Place name evidence hints at a possible Medieval occupation site at “Old House Field” circa 1km to the south west of the site (HER Ref: TR 16 NW 82, TR 1485 6595), whilst a coin find is recorded in the far north western part of the study area (HER Ref: MKE57310, TR 15050 67020). The monitoring of geotechnical test pits to the immediate south west of the study site has identified a limited number of Medieval pottery sherds and tile fragments, within the area nearby to the former farmstead at Little West End Farm (HER Ref: TR 16 NE 1362, TR 1565 6622).
- 4.29 The study site would have been located within a settled agricultural landscape during the Saxon and Medieval periods, although it is unlikely to have been subject to any occupation or settlement activity. Therefore, a generally low archaeological potential can be identified at the study site for the Saxon and Medieval periods, although evidence for rural land management or chance finds cannot entirely be ruled out at this stage.

Post Medieval & Modern (including map regression exercise)

- 4.30 A number of the HER records within the study area refer to Post Medieval and Modern archaeological remains which are not discussed in detail here unless relevant to the study site. The agricultural nature of the study area is represented by a number of recorded Post-Medieval farmsteads within the study area on the HER (HER Refs: MKE86295, TR 1552 6583; MKE86296, TR 1512 6632; MKE86299, TR 1641 6717; MKE86300, TR 1614 6687; MKE86301, TR 1604 6664; MKE86302, TR 1585 6616). The nearest of these to the study site is at Little West End Farm at the site's southern boundary (HER Refs: MKE86302, TR 16 NE 1343).
- 4.31 During the later Post Medieval and Modern periods, our understanding of settlement, land-use and the utilisation of the landscape is enhanced by cartographic and documentary sources, which can give additional detail to data contained within the HER.
- 4.32 The earliest such cartographic source is Andrews, Dury and Herbert's map of 1769 (Fig. 4). The map suggests that in the mid-18th century the site lay in open ground to the south of the hamlet of Love Street. The more detailed 1797 Ordnance Survey Drawing (Fig. 5) depicts the site occupied by multiple enclosed fields. Trackways and small farmsteads or groups of buildings are shown to the north, west, and south.
- 4.33 The 1839 Herne Tithe Map (Fig. 6) and associated Tithe Award record the site containing multiple fields of primarily arable use, with limited woodland shown adjacent to the northern site boundary. Little West End Farm is shown adjacent to the southern boundary of the site (HER Ref: MKE86302, TR 16 NE 1343, TR 1585 6616) where the alignment of a track enters the site.
- 4.34 The Ordnance Survey map of 1872-73 (Fig. 7) indicates that changes to the layout of the site are limited to the removal of several field boundaries, with the site now occupied by five large fields.
- 4.35 The layout of the site remains unaltered on the Ordnance Survey map of 1906 (Fig. 8), although the layout of a network of roads and associated property plots are depicted as insubstantial features, perhaps indicating an area of planned construction.
- 4.36 By 1938 (Fig. 9), part of the road network is marked in the eastern part of the site, but the remainder of the proposed new area of development has not been constructed. Two small properties and associated gardens have been built adjacent to the northern boundary of the site. This is further shown on a 1940 aerial photograph (Fig. 10).

- 4.37 By 1957 (Fig. 11), one of the small properties in the northern part of the site has been removed, while the alignment of Junction Road has been formalised, forming the north eastern site boundary. Three small plots of land have been marked out in the eastern part of the site, although these do not appear to be shown on a 1960 aerial photograph (Fig. 12).
- 4.38 By 1974 (Fig. 13), the boundaries within the site have been rearranged, whilst the smaller plots marked in the east are no longer shown. Little West End Farm has been demolished. With the exception of the introduction of the sports pitch in the eastern part of the site, minor internal boundary changes, and the incorporation of the former location of Little West End Farm into the Thanet Way road embankment, the layout of the site has remained unaltered to the present day (Figs. 14-17).
- 4.39 Historic mapping demonstrates that the study site comprised open land in the Post Medieval and Modern periods through to the early 20th century. Possible development is shown on the site on early 20th century maps, although it does not appear that these construction works went ahead. It is possible that remnants of that work may be present at the site. Mapping has demonstrated that the site has since generally remained open land to the present day, with a small area of sports pitches.
- 4.40 Therefore, a low archaeological potential is considered at the study site for previously unknown evidence dating to the Post Medieval and Modern periods. Possible evidence for Modern building foundations or roadways of negligible significance may be present which are not discussed further in this assessment.

Historic Landscape Characterisation

- 4.41 The Kent Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) data records the study site within an area of parliamentary enclosure (Fig. 2b).

LiDAR Plot

- 4.42 No clear evidence for archaeological anomalies is shown on the available Environment Agency LiDAR data (Fig. 3).

Aerial Photographic Analysis

- 4.43 Available aerial photographic sources held by Historic England, Kent County Council and Google Earth were consulted in order to establish if any visible features or cropmark could be identified within the site. A list of the sources consulted is presented in Appendix A.
- 4.44 A review of the available sources did not identify any features of archaeological interest within the study site.

Negative Evidence

- 4.45 In 1996, a 13 trench evaluation was undertaken at Bullockstone Farm approximately 600m southeast of the site boundary (EKE8347). No archaeological features were identified.
- 4.46 Immediately to the west of the site a watching brief monitored groundworks for a cable duct from Hampton Pier to Thornden Wood Road. No significant archaeological finds or features were observed (EKE12074).

Assessment of Significance

- 4.47 Existing national policy guidance for archaeology (the NPPF as referenced in section 2) enshrines the concept of the 'significance' of heritage assets. Significance as defined in the NPPF centres on the value of an archaeological or historic asset for its 'heritage interest' to this or future generations.

- 4.48 No relevant nationally significant designated heritage assets as defined in the NPPF are recorded within, or within the vicinity of, the study site. The site is not located within a locally defined Area of Archaeological Interest.
- 4.49 Based on current evidence, a moderate archaeological potential is identified at the study site for the Bronze Age, Iron Age, and Roman periods, with a low archaeological potential identified for all other past periods of human activity within the study site.
- 4.50 The significance of any archaeological remains which may be present would be derived from their evidential value and contributions that could be made towards local research agendas.
- 4.51 Whilst it is possible that archaeological remains could be present within the site, on the basis of the above, any remains, should they occur on the study site, would in the context of the Secretary of State's non-statutory criteria for Scheduled Monuments (DCMS 2013) most likely be of local significance.
- 4.52 As identified by desk based work, archaeological potential by period and the likely significance of any archaeological remains which may be present within the study site is summarised in table form below:

Period:	Identified Archaeological Potential and Likely Significance (if present):
Early Prehistoric (Palaeolithic & Mesolithic)	Low potential, Low (Local) Significance;
Neolithic	Low potential, Low (Local) Significance;
Bronze Age and earlier Iron Age	Moderate potential, Low (Local) Significance;
Late Iron Age & Roman	Moderate potential, Low (Local) Significance;
Anglo-Saxon & Medieval	Low potential, Low (Local) Significance;
Post Medieval & Modern	Low potential (likely to be entirely invested in evidence of land division, agricultural activity, and possible traces of 20 th century planned development), likely to be of Negligible to Low (None/Local) Significance.

5 SITE CONDITIONS, THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW OF POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSETS

Site Conditions

- 5.1 The study site currently comprises arable fields across the western and central areas of the site, with the far eastern areas including an area of pasture and a playing field (Fig. 17 & Plates 1-4).
- 5.2 Possible areas of groundworks across the site are shown on historic mapping in the early 20th century. Whilst it is unclear if any of this work went ahead, such work would have likely had a negative archaeological impact through topsoil stripping works at an early stage in the construction process.
- 5.3 The construction of a playing field in the north eastern part of the site will have had a localised severe impact through works to create a level playing surface.
- 5.4 Past agricultural land use will have had a moderate but widespread archaeological impact as a result of past ploughing.

Proposed Development

- 5.5 A planning application has been approved by Canterbury City Council at the study site, for a mixed use development including up to 450 dwellings comprising: Detailed proposals for the change of use of agricultural land to outdoor sports playing pitches (for use by Briary School); Outline application for up to 450 dwellings with all matters reserved also including community facilities, a link road, pedestrian and cycle links, sustainable urban design drainage measures, landscaped bund/earthworks and boundary treatments, public open space, highway-related and utilities infrastructure.
- 5.6 An indicative development proposal is included at Figure 18.

Review of Potential Development Impacts on Archaeological Assets

- 5.7 The proposed development will not impact on any designated archaeological assets. The site is not located within a locally defined Area of Archaeological Interest.
- 5.8 This assessment has identified a moderate archaeological potential at the study site for evidence dating to the Bronze Age, Iron Age or Roman periods, with a low potential identified for archaeological remains dating to all other past periods of human activity at the site. If present at the site, any remains would most likely be of a local significance only.
- 5.9 Past ground impacts at the site are likely to have been widespread as a result of arable plough activity. In addition, it is unclear whether construction groundworks were undertaken at the site in the early 20th century as a result of planned development. If undertaken, such works may have also had a widespread impact as a result of topsoil stripping for housing plots and new roadways.
- 5.10 Given the site's modest archaeological potential, it is possible that the proposed development of the site could impact upon locally significant archaeological remains, most likely to comprise evidence for Later Prehistoric or Roman period field systems or possibly areas of occupation.

6 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 Land South of Greenhill Road, Herne Bay has been approved for a mixed-use development including up to 450 dwellings. An associated planning condition requiring a programme of archaeological work has been included on the planning consent. Therefore, in accordance with relevant government planning policy and guidance, a desk based assessment has been undertaken to clarify the below ground archaeological potential of the study area.
- 6.2 In terms of relevant designated archaeological assets, no designated World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Battlefield sites or Historic Wreck sites lie within the vicinity of the study site.
- 6.3 In terms of relevant local designations, the site is not located within an Area of Archaeological Interest per the Canterbury City Local Plan 2017 and as defined by the Kent Historic Environment Record.
- 6.4 Based on current evidence, a moderate archaeological potential is identified at the study site for the Bronze Age, Iron Age, and Roman periods, with a low archaeological potential identified for all other past periods of human activity within the study site. If present at the site, any remains would most likely be of a local significance only.
- 6.5 Past ground impacts at the site are likely to have been widespread as a result of arable plough activity. In addition, it is unclear whether construction groundworks were undertaken at the site in the early 20th century as a result of planned development. If undertaken, such works may have also had a widespread impact as a result of topsoil stripping for housing plots and new roadways.
- 6.6 Given the site's modest archaeological potential, it is possible that the proposed development of the site could impact upon locally significant archaeological remains, most likely to comprise evidence for Later Prehistoric or Roman period field systems or possibly areas of occupation.
- 6.7 It is anticipated that the archaeological advisor to Canterbury City Council will require a programme of archaeological work in advance of development as part of the relevant planning condition. In the first instance, this could comprise of geophysical survey followed by programmes of archaeological evaluation and mitigation as appropriate.

Sources Consulted

General

British Library

Kent Historic Environment Record

Kent Record Office

The National Archive

Internet

British Geological Survey – <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>

British History Online – <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>

Domesday Online – <http://www.domesdaybook.co.uk/>

Historic England: The National Heritage List for England – <http://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>

Portable Antiquities Scheme – www.finds.org.uk

Bibliographic

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Historic England *Archaeological Priority Area Guidelines* July 2016 unpublished document

Historic England (formerly English Heritage) *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment* 2008 (new draft 2017)

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Historic England Historic Environment *Good Practice Advice in Planning: 3 The Setting of Heritage Assets* December 2017 unpublished document

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Margary I. D. *Roman Roads of Britain* 1955

Mills, A.D. *A Dictionary of British Place Names* 1991

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Wymer *The Lower Palaeolithic Occupation of Britain* 2 volumes 1999

Cartographic

1769 Andrews, Dury and Herbert's Map of Kent

1797 Ordnance Survey Drawing

1801 Faden Map of Kent

1839 Herne Parish Tithe Map

1872-73 Ordnance Survey

1906 Ordnance Survey

1938 Ordnance Survey

1940 Aerial Photograph

1957 Ordnance Survey

1960 Aerial Photograph

1974 Ordnance Survey

1985-90 Ordnance Survey

1990 Aerial Photograph

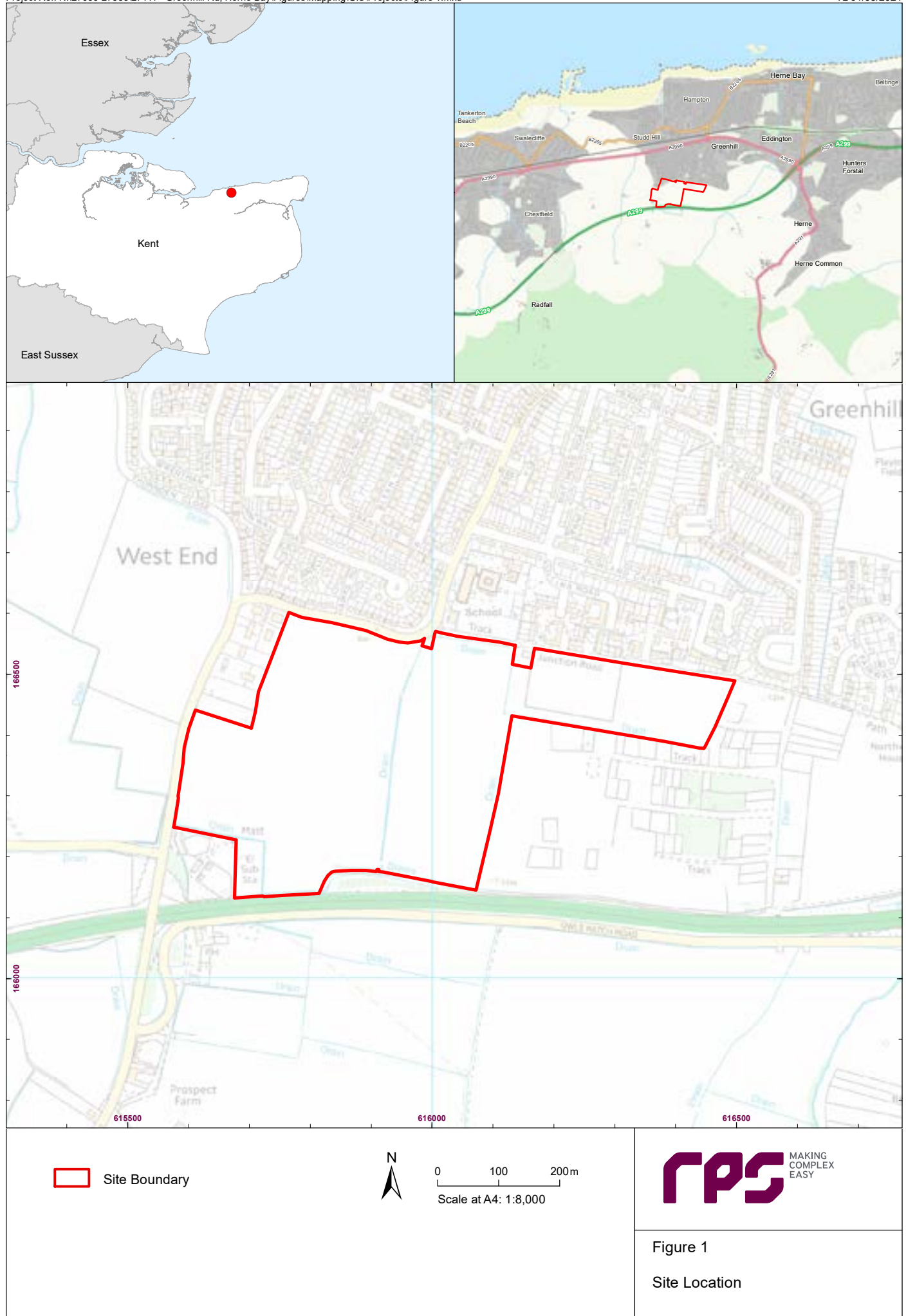
2002 Ordnance Survey

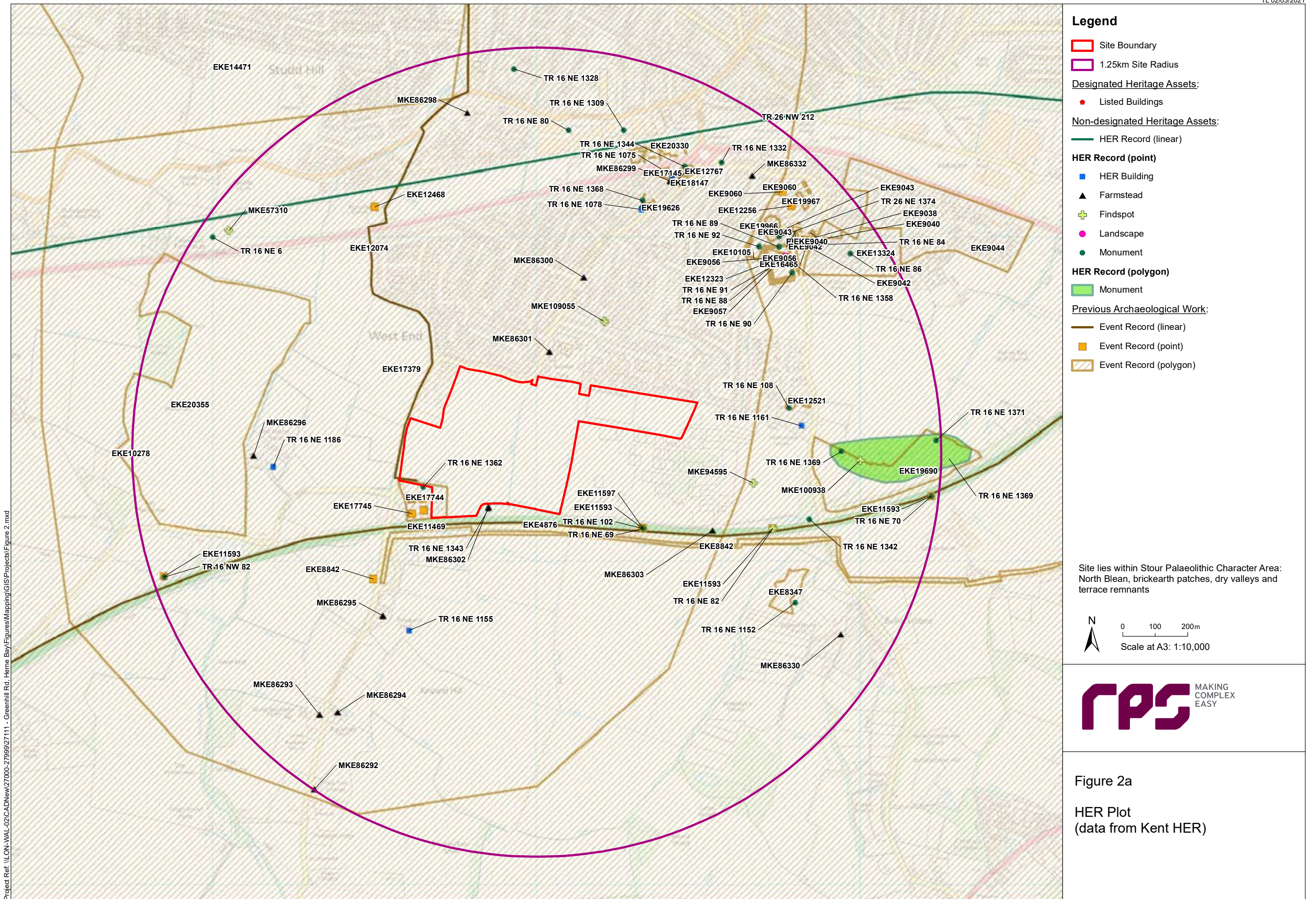
2003 Google Earth Image

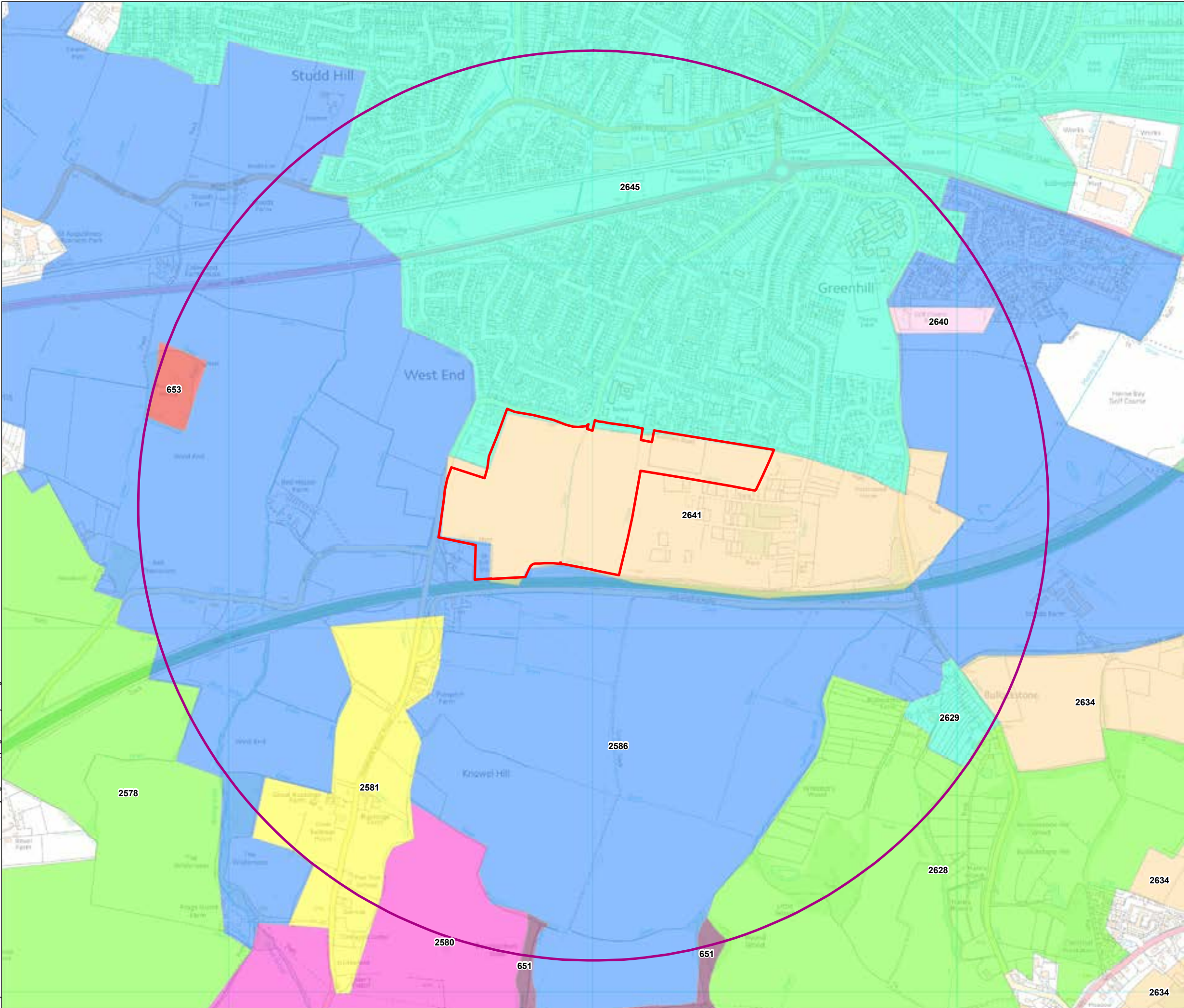
2014 Google Earth Image

2019 Google Earth Image

FIGURES







Legend

- Site Boundary
- 1.25km Site Radius
- Historic Landscape Characterisation:**
 - Golf Courses
 - Medium regular with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure)
 - Miscellaneous valley bottom paddocks and pastures
 - Post 1810 settlement (general)
 - Pre 19th century Coppices
 - Rectilinear with wavy boundaries (?late medieval to 17th / 18th century enclosure)
 - Scattered settlement with paddocks (post 1800 extent)
 - Small regular with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure)
 - Valley floor woodlands

N
0 100 200m
Scale at A3: 1:10,000



Figure 2b
HLC Plot
(data from Kent HER)

LiDAR DATA

Source:
Environment Agency

Data Type: DSM

Resolution: 1m

Date Captured:
28/11/2015

Processing:
Multi-direction Hillshade overlaid on
simple Local Relief Model

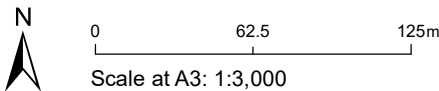


Figure 3
LiDAR Plot



Site Boundary (approximate)



Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 4

1769 Andrews, Dury & Herbert
Map of Kent



 Site Boundary (approximate)



Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 5

1797 Ordnance Survey Drawing



 Site Boundary (approximate)

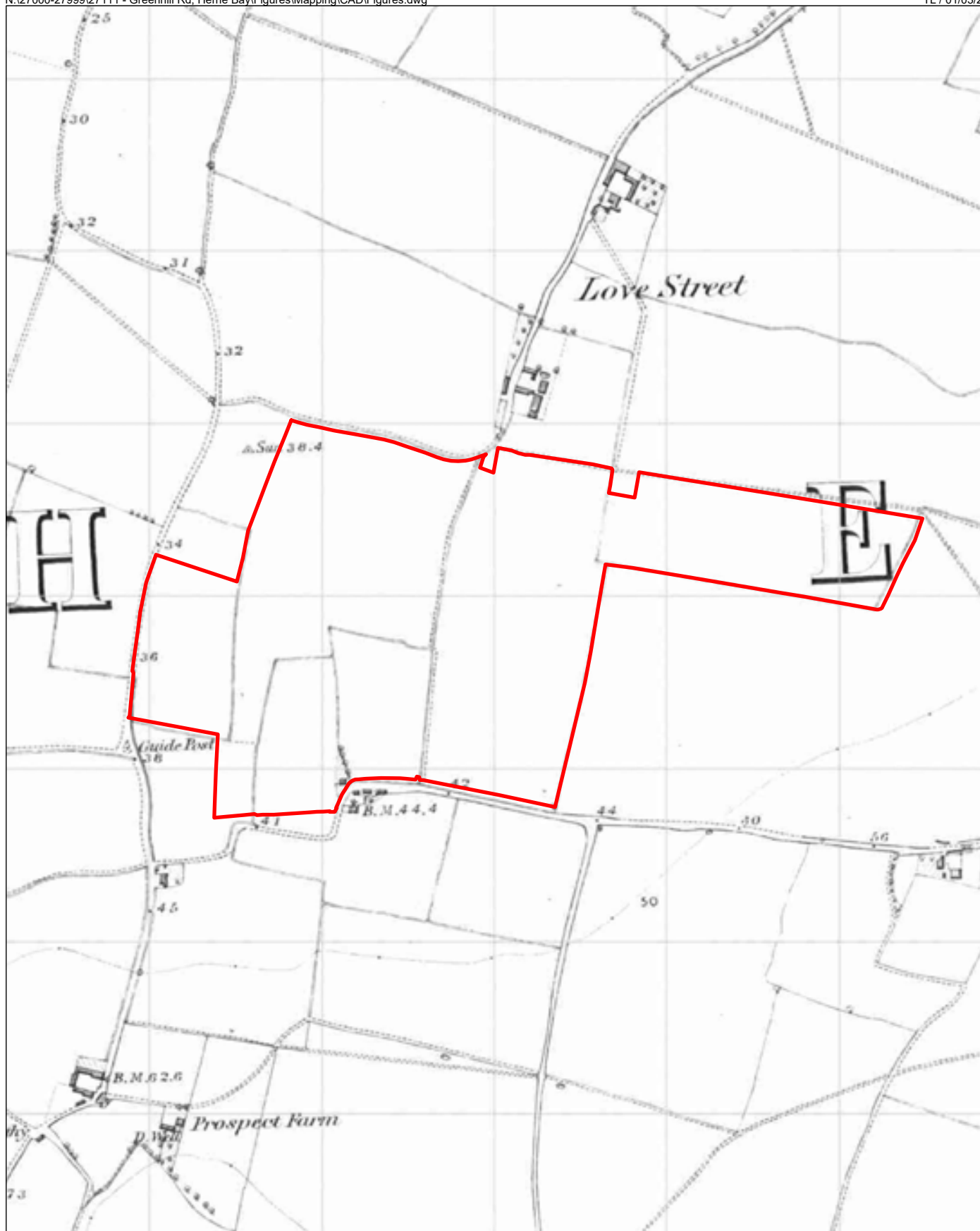


Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 6

1839 Herne Parish Tithe Map



 Site Boundary

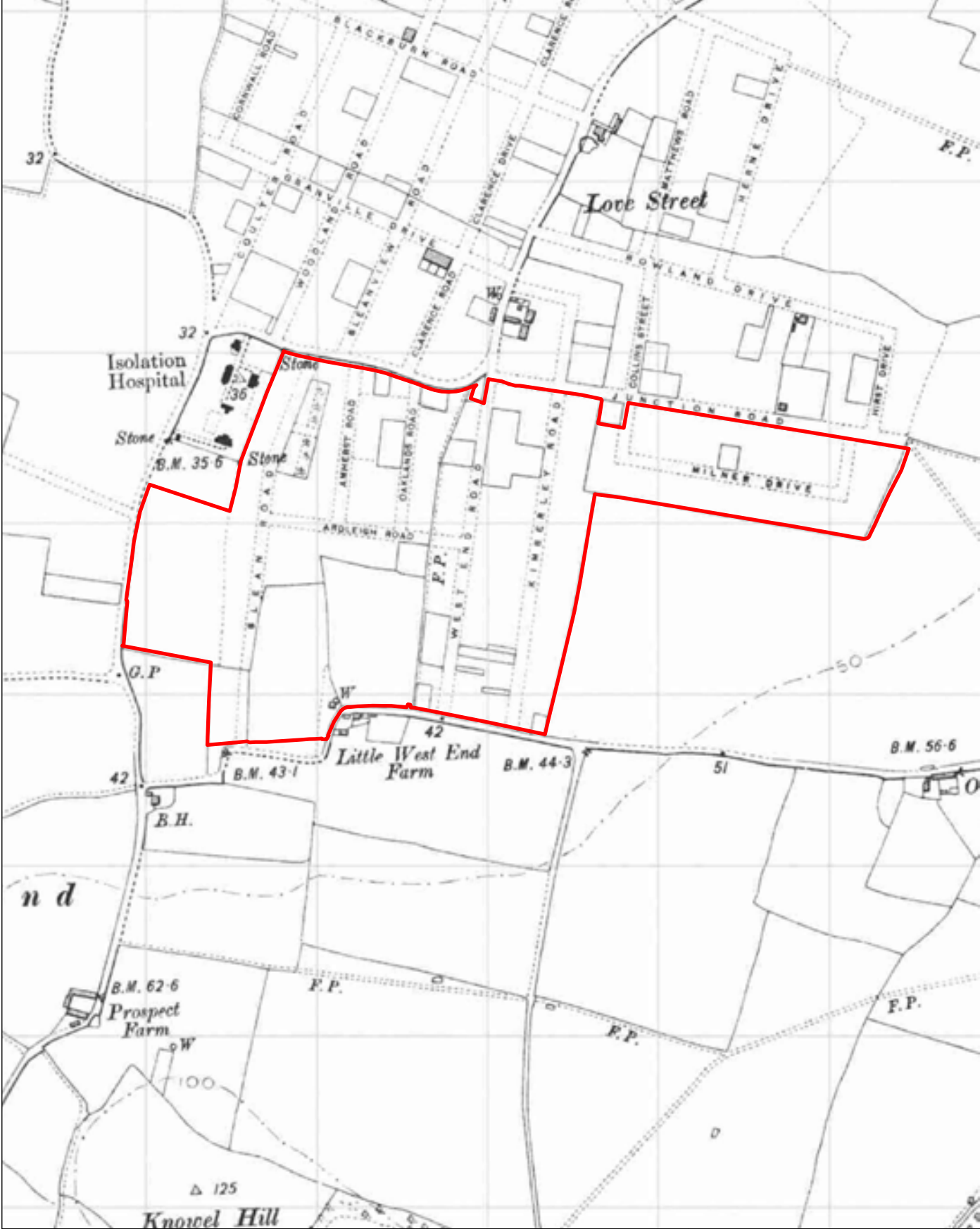


Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 7

1872-73 Ordnance Survey Map



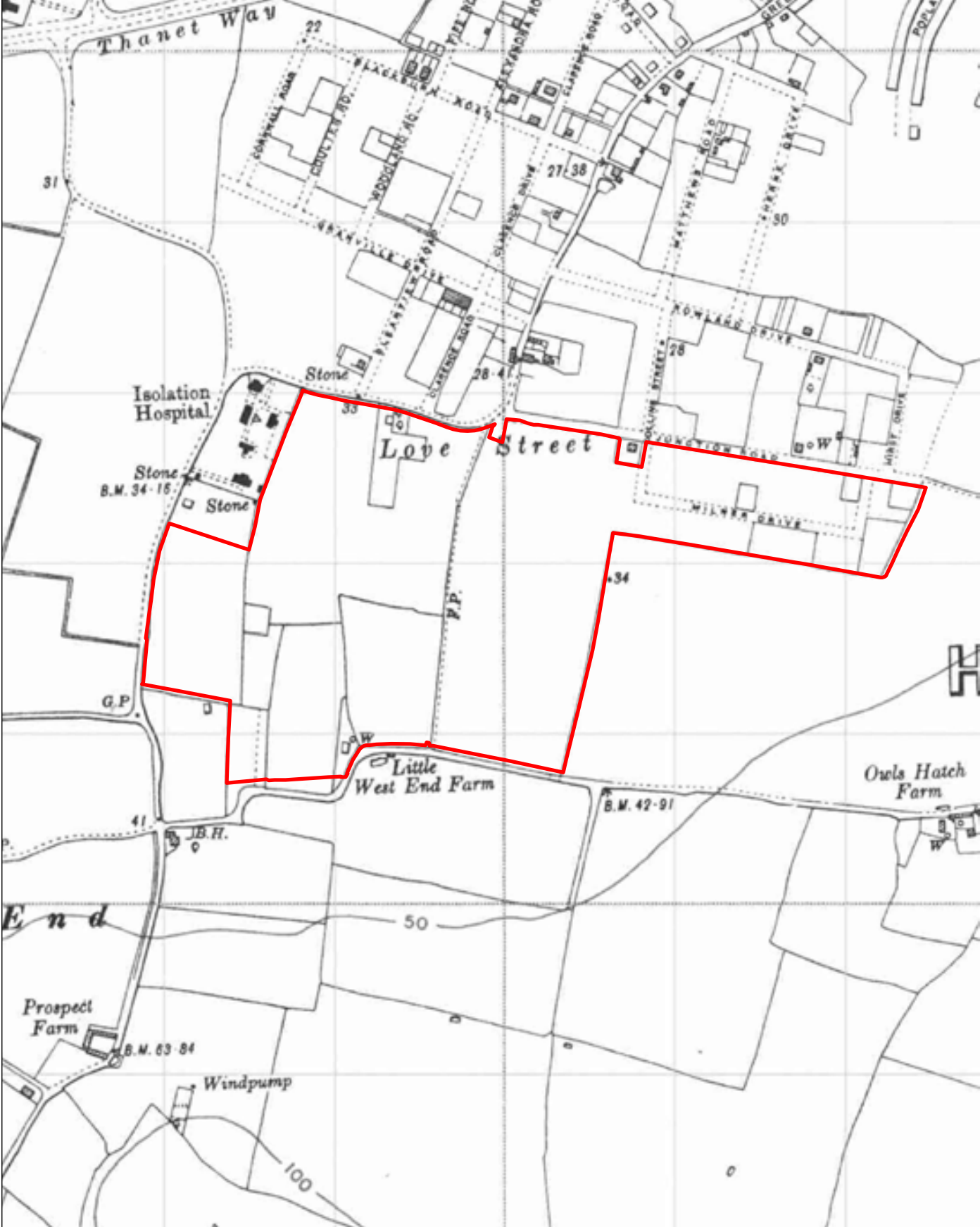
 Site Boundary



Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 8
1906 Ordnance Survey Map



 Site Boundary



Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 9
1938 Ordnance Survey Map



 Site Boundary (approximate)

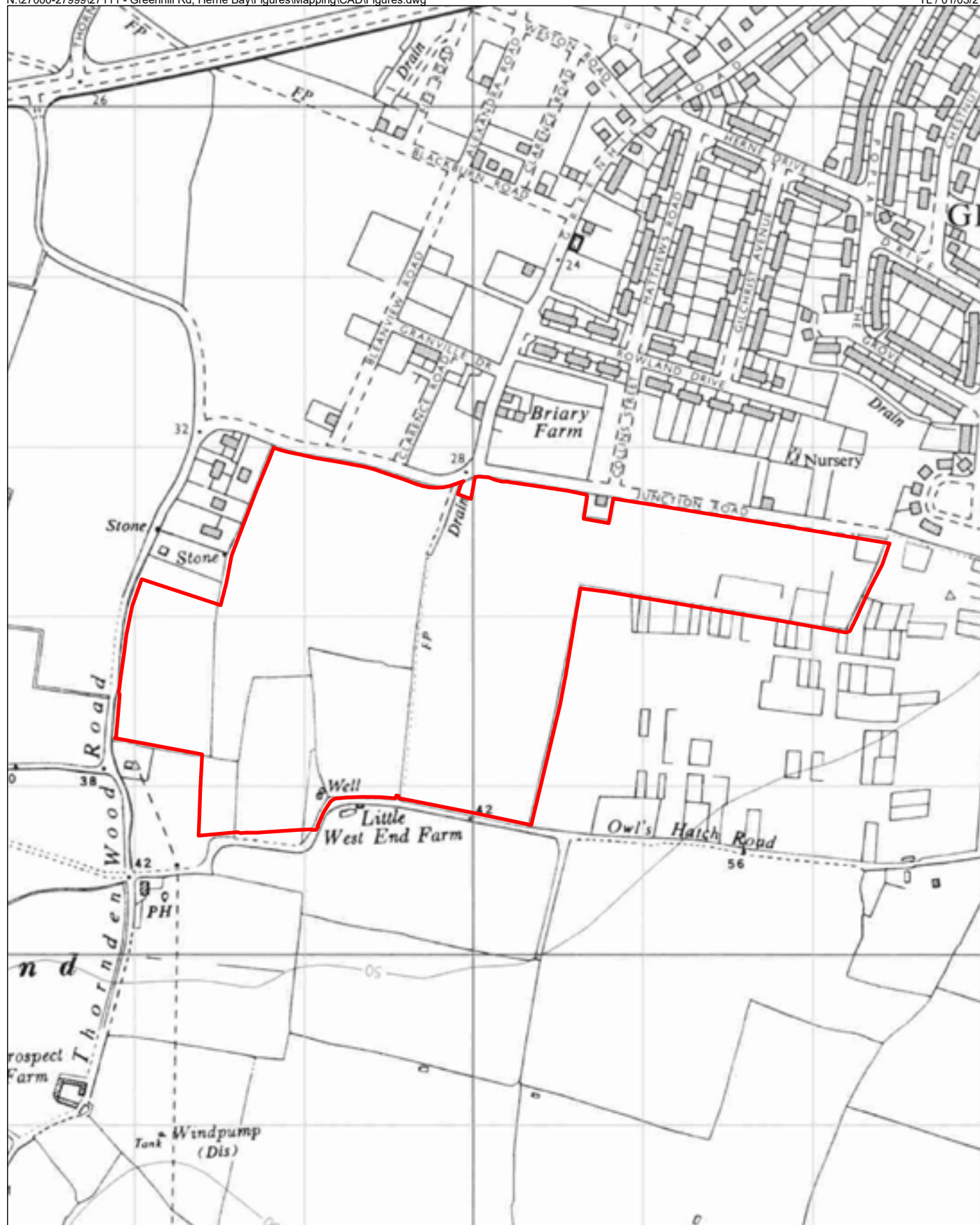


Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 10

1940 Aerial Photograph



 Site Boundary



Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 11

1957 Ordnance Survey Map



 Site Boundary (approximate)

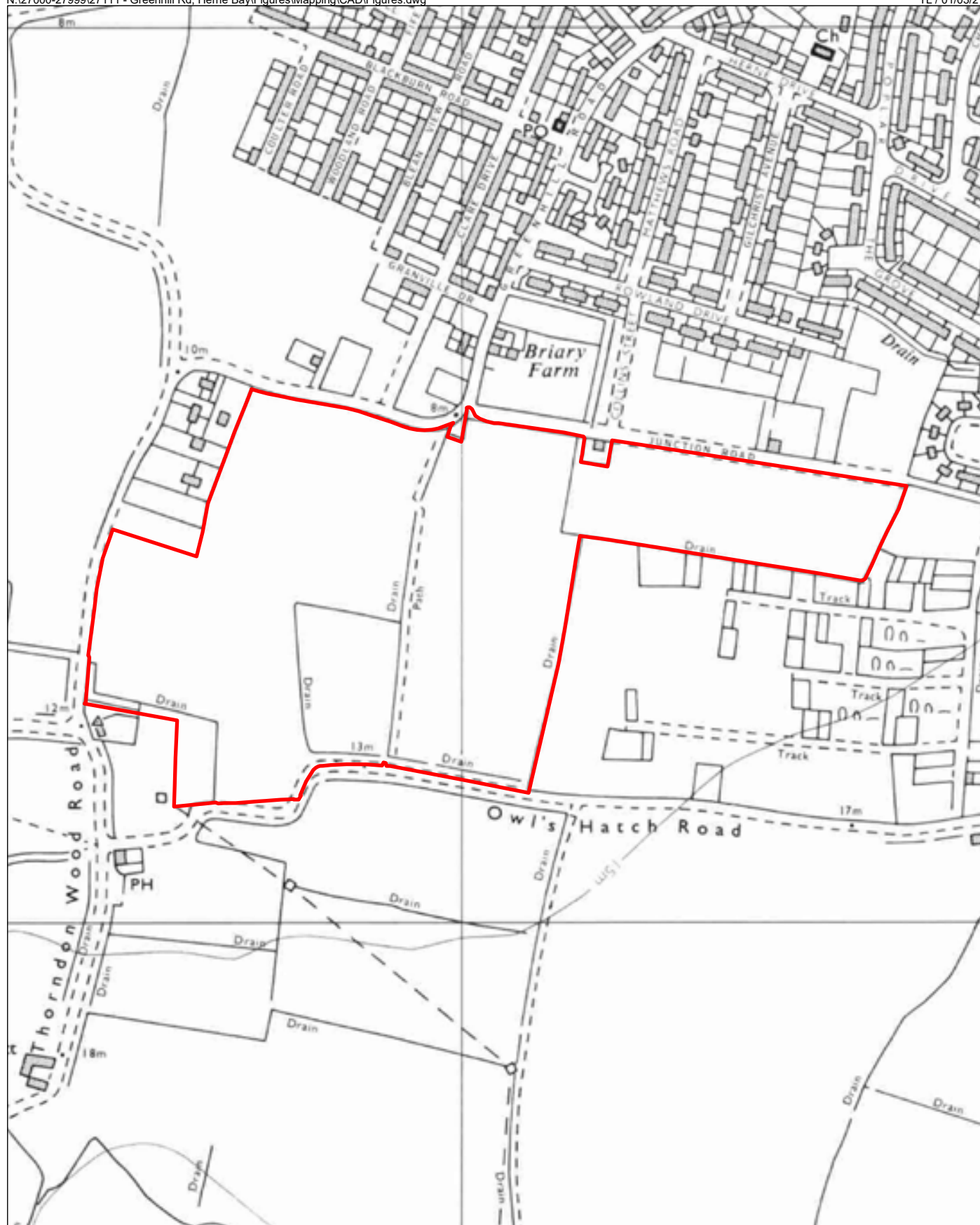


Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 12

1960 Aerial Photograph



 Site Boundary

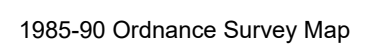


Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

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EASY

Figure 13

1974 Ordnance Survey Map





 Site Boundary

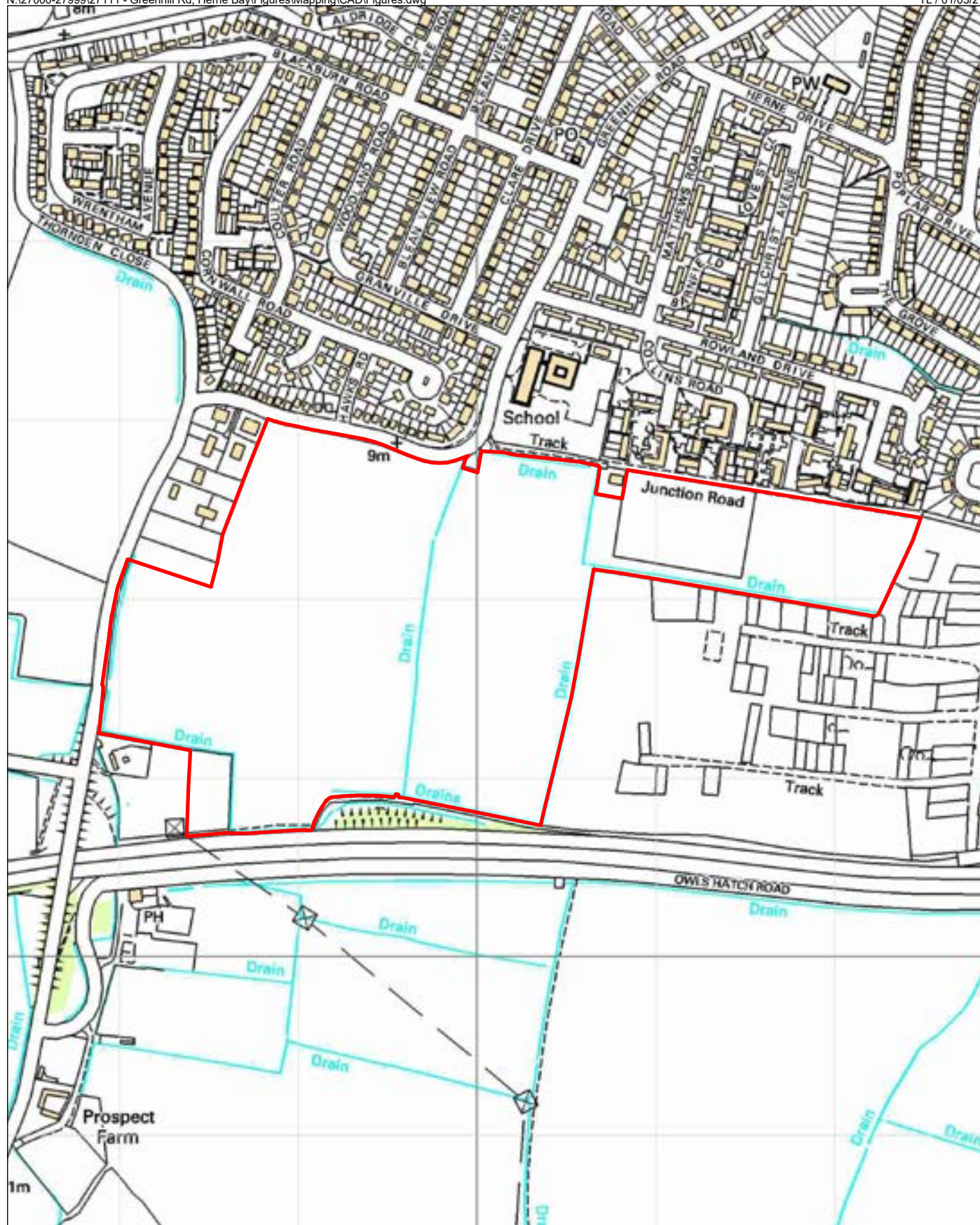


Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 15

1990 Aerial Photograph



Site Boundary



Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

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COMPLEX
EASY

Figure 16

2002 Ordnance Survey Map



 Site Boundary



Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 17

2019 Google Earth Image



 Site Boundary

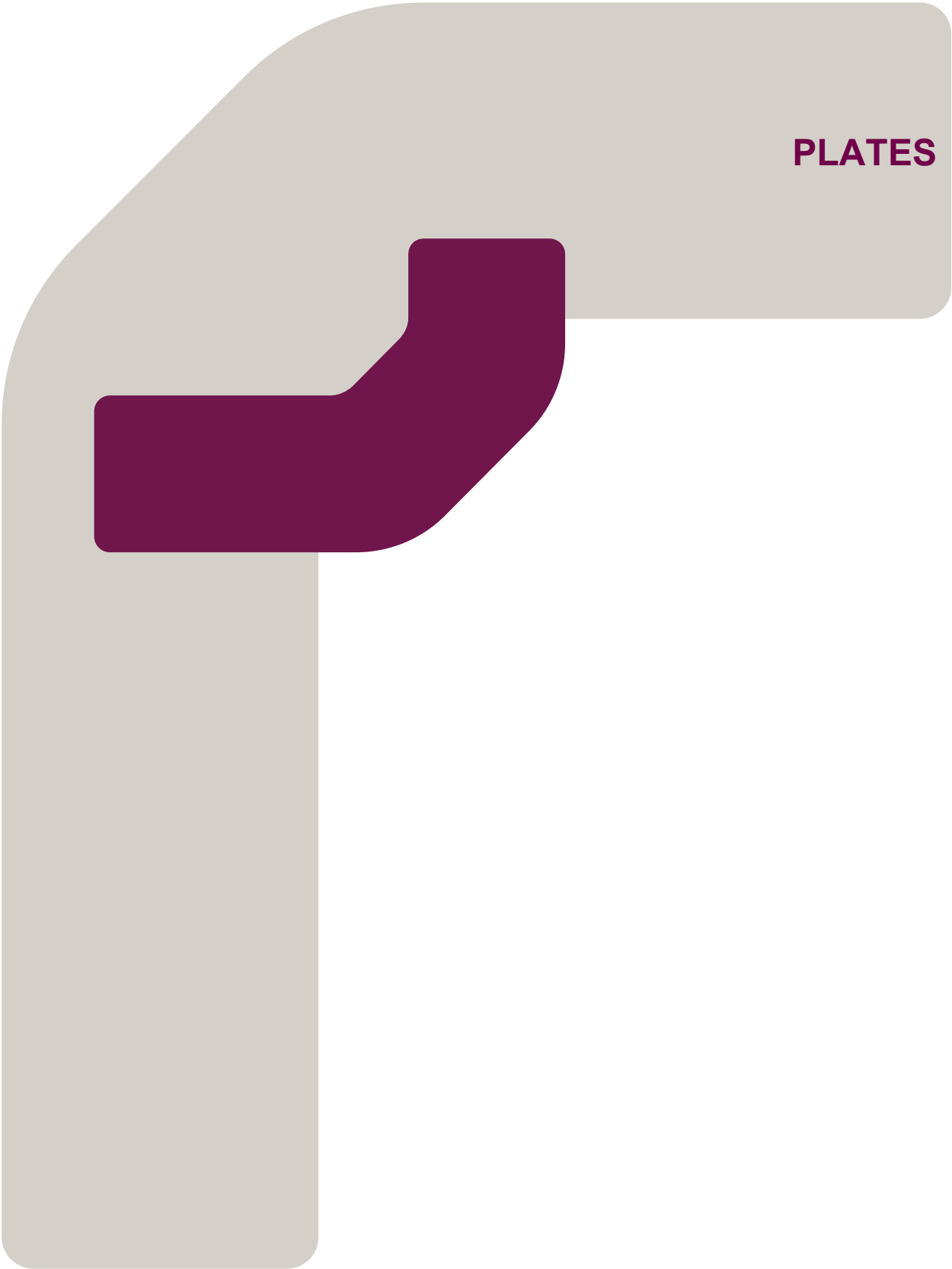


Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only



Figure 18

Proposed Development



PLATES



Plate 1: Central area of the site looking northwest



Plate 2: Central area of the site looking northeast



Plate 3: Eastern playing fields looking southeast



Plate 4: Eastern area of the site looking east

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Aerial Photographic Sources Consulted

Historic England

Sortie number	Library number	Camera position	Frame number	Held	Centre point	Run	Date	Sortie quality	Scale 1:	Focal length (in inches)	Film details (in inches)	Film held by
RAF/106G/UK/1378	295	FV	7013	P	TR 151 662	3	04 APR 1946	A	11500	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/106G/UK/1378	295	FV	7014	P	TR 158 664	3	04 APR 1946	A	11500	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/540/458	1151	RS	4413	P	TR 158 663	45	17 APR 1951	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/540/458	1151	RS	4414	P	TR 164 663	45	17 APR 1951	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/82/709	1354	Vp1	145	P	TR 165 661	4	04 FEB 1953	AC	4800	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
RAF/58/1779	1649	F21	65	P	TR 166 655	4	06 JUN 1955	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/1779	1649	F21	66	P	TR 160 655	4	06 JUN 1955	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/1779	1649	F21	67	P	TR 154 655	4	06 JUN 1955	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/1779	1649	F22	65	P	TR 165 674	17	06 JUN 1955	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/1779	1649	F22	66	P	TR 160 675	17	06 JUN 1955	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/1779	1649	F22	67	P	TR 154 675	17	06 JUN 1955	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/540/1699	1680	F22	67	P	TR 158 666	12	12 AUG 1955	AB	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/540/1699	1680	F22	68	P	TR 164 667	12	12 AUG 1955	AB	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
OS/65214	11035	V	4	P	TR 154 670	1	21 SEP 1965	A	7500	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/65214	11035	V	5	P	TR 160 670	1	21 SEP 1965	A	7500	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR

OS/65214	11035	V	6	P	TR 167 670	1	21 SEP 1965	A	7500	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/65214	11035	V	14	P	TR 163 658	2	21 SEP 1965	A	7500	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/65214	11035	V	15	P	TR 157 658	2	21 SEP 1965	A	7500	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/68074	11428	V	41	P	TR 160 667	3	21 APR 1968	A	7000	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/68074	11428	V	42	P	TR 159 660	3	21 APR 1968	A	7000	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/68074	11428	V	43	P	TR 159 654	3	21 APR 1968	A	7000	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR

Kent County Council – Dated 1946 & 1990

Google Earth – Dated 1940, 1960, 1990, 2003, 2007, 2009, April 2011, September 2011, & 2013.



rpsgroup.com