

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
in advance of Proposed Development of
land to the East and West of Laindon
Road, Billericay, Essex

NGR: TQ 671 933 & TQ 677 933



Report for
Gleeson Developments Ltd
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SWAT. ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of Proposed Development of land East of B1007 and west of Laindon Road (A176), Billericay, Essex

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1 SUMMARY

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) has been commissioned to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development of residential dwellings on land adjacent to the B1007 and the Laindon Road (A176), Billericay Essex as part of the planning application submitted on behalf of Gleeson Developments Ltd.

This Desk Based Assessment examines the wide variety of archaeological data held by Essex County Council and other sources. This data is reviewed and it is recommended in this case that further archaeological assessment will be required in the form of an Archaeological Geophysical Survey followed by focused archaeological evaluation as a condition on the planning permission.

A Design and Access Statement has been prepared by Gleeson Developments Ltd and this document sets out the architectural proposals for the development of the site in a sustainable manner both environmentally and economically.

The proposals for a housing development of this site will provide for an innovative enterprise, which would provide for the immediate delivery of new affordable and market housing within an enhanced local environment.

The site lies within the civil parish of Billericay (Figure 8), located in the Basildon Borough. It comprises of two areas of Land located approximately 0.7 of a mile from Billericay town centre and in close proximity to Frith wood, Little Burstead and Tye Common. Site 1 is the larger plot of approximately 68 Hectares and is located to the east of the B1007, Site 2 is approximately 7.5 Hectares and is found to the east of the Laindon Road (A176) (Figure 8).

1.1 History of the site

The town of Billericay was founded in the 13th Century on wasteland at the point where the Mountnessing and Great Burstead (*Burhstede*) parish boundaries met.

The name Billericay (*Billyrica*), first recorded in 1291, has an uncertain origin. Suggestions range from the Romano- British name 'Villa Erica' (*Heather Villa*) to the Medieval 'Bellerica' (*Dyehouse or Tanhouse*) to 'Billers', the traditional name for watercress farmed in the local springs of the parish during the 20th Century.

It is also the name of an abandoned village in the parish of Lympne Kent, in close proximity to a Roman Saxon Shore Fort. The Tudor antiquarian John Leland suggested that Bellerica was a derivation of the latin 'Bellocastrum' (*Fair Castle*) referring to the Roman Fort. The name 'Billerica' and the 'Burgh' from Burstead may then refer to the Roman Fort at Blunts Wall Farm, Billericay.

The landscape in which the proposed development sits is home to the ancient Frith wood (HC1 – Ancient woodland site TQ669932), 6.2 hectares of lowland mixed deciduous woodland of Hornbeam, Sweet Chestnut and Aspen coppice with standards of Silver Birch and Pedunculate Oak. Under storey species are Hawthorn, Elder, Crab-Apple and Hazel with flora of Wood Anemone, Bluebell, Wood Sorrel, Pignut and Wood Sage.

The lowland heath of Laindon common is found on the south boundary and is still subject to ancient byelaws and 'commoner's grazing stints'. It is the site of an ancient well and accommodates over 81 species of birds and 120 species of moths including the rare 'Waved Black'. The hedgerows, estimated to be at least 600 years old, are a mixture of hawthorn, oak, elder and snowberry with thickets of gorse and broom.

Norsey Wood (TQ691956 Nature reserve and SSSI) is found north east of the site and is a mixed coppice woodland of 67.17 hectares dating back 4000 years. The wood contains ancient burial mounds thought to be the earliest evidence of human occupation within the area (Essex County Council HER data).

Metal detecting has uncovered evidence of Bronze Age activity at Frithwood in the form of two bronze objects, one unidentified and the second a Palstave (EHER 16057).

Iron Age occupation, in the form of field boundaries and ditches, have been discovered at Bell Hill (5399), Windmill Hill (5364) and Noak Hill (5401), where a brooch and mirror were recorded.

Billericay School has been the focus of several excavations, revealing Iron Age field boundaries and significant Roman features of a Kiln, a Corn drying oven, a Hypocaust system and a Cemetery (EHER 414311).

A further Hypocaust system was found north of Kennel Lane (EHER 5406) and evidence of cemeteries have been recorded at Kennel Lane (EHER 5406), Buckenham's Field (EHER 5400) and Noak Hill (EHER 5402); Individual cremations have also been found at Windmill Hill (EHER 5405) and Mill Cottages (EHER 638133). Small finds have been numerous either through formal excavations or by metal detecting and find spots and include a 'Gold Quarter Stater' (EHER 16058), a Gold coin (EHER 5405), a Fluted Urn (EHER 17468) and a Brooch, Mirror, Pin and Pendant (EHER 5365, 5401).

Quarrying formed part of the Medieval activity in the area (EHER 5398) and a Kiln with black-glazed tygs was also located in a field south of Quilters Field (EHER 16845). Metal detecting has uncovered thirteen silver hammered English coins, some Edward IV Groats and some Henry VIII Groats (EHER16059).

The Listed building in the vicinity of the Proposed Development Site (PDA) is 'Gatwick House' (EHER 1338414). An 18th century, two-storey, red brick house with attic and tile roof set in a small park with features that include a parapet and modillion, three gabled dormers and central door with open pediment.

The landscape around the PDA is in essence rural; farms, small-holdings and low density housing make up the southern boundaries and Burstead golf course provides the western boundary for Site 1. High-density housing spreads outwards from the town centre and meets the development area at its northern boundary and is visible on the horizon from both sites. The sites are separated by the two main roads that transect Billericay, the Southend road (A176) and the Laindon Road (B1007), which becomes the High Street and the Billericay School, the location of several archaeological excavations.

Map Regression 1783-1985

A map regression exercise on maps was carried out on the proposed development area and has shown that the site has not been developed.

Maps consulted for this period include, the *Essexiae Descriptio* map by Schenk (c.1700), Bowen & Kitchen map of 1749/56 and the Chapman Survey of 1833.

The scale on all these maps was too small to interpret detail of the site in question. The most productive early map is the 1799 Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawings held by the British Library surveyed by Charles Budgen. This map shows a landscape in which the roads and field systems are already established. The PDA –as now– shows a landscape that is for the most part fields and wood (Plate 8).

From the 1840s the Ordnance Survey started work on the Great Britain 'County Series', modelled on the earlier Ireland survey. A start was made on mapping the whole country, county by county, at six inches to the mile (1:10,560). From 1854, to meet requirements for greater detail, including land-parcel numbers in rural areas and accompanying information, cultivated and inhabited areas were mapped at 1:2500 (25.344 inches to the mile), at first parish by parish, with blank space beyond the parish boundary, and later continuously. Early copies of the 1:2500s were available hand-coloured. Up to 1879, the 1:2500s were accompanied by Books of Reference or "area books" that gave acreages and land-use information for land-parcel numbers. After 1879, land-use information was dropped from these area books; after the mid-1880s, the books themselves were dropped and acreages were printed instead on the maps. After 1854, the six-inch maps and their revisions were based on the "twenty-five inch" maps and theirs. The six-inch sheets covered an area of six by four miles on the ground; the "twenty-five inch" sheets an area of one by one and a half. One square inch on the "twenty-five inch" maps was roughly equal to an acre on the ground. In later editions the six-inch sheets were published in "quarters" (NW,NE,SW,SE), each covering an area of three by two miles on the ground. The first edition of the two scales was completed by the 1890s. A second edition (or "first revision") was begun in 1891 and completed just before the First World War. From 1907 till the early 1940s, a third edition (or "second revision") was begun but never completed: only areas with significant changes on the ground were revised, many two or three times.

The Ordnance Survey map of 1874 (Figure 1) shows open fields in the area of the PDA with a stream bisecting the site from the north-west to the south-east. Adjacent to the stream in the south-east corner of the PDA is Kiln Farm itself east of a small area of woodland called Scrub Wood.

The main topographic feature of the PDA is Frith Wood which according to the place name specialist Margaret Gelling the word 'Frith' could mean land overgrown with brushwood and scrub on the edge of forest and as the names stems from Anglo-

Saxon could suggest that even at that early date this remnant of wood may not be an 'Ancient Woodland Site'.

To the east and running almost north-west to south-east is the dotted line of the parish boundary. Of particular interest is that on the 2008 Google Earth aerial photograph (Plates 1 & 2) can be seen a bank and ditch (red arrow) on the same alignment. Parish boundaries can date back to the Early Medieval period and this earthwork is a rare survival from the ecclesiastical landscape of Essex.

By 1895 (Figure 2) the Frith Farm has contracted in size but the main element in the landscape, Frith Wood does not change. There is no additional change to the landscape until 1938.

The OS map of 1938 shows residential development to the east of the PDA at First and Second Avenues (Figure 4).

By 1960 (Figure 5) Kiln Farm has been demolished to be replaced by the Great Burstead County Primary School. To the west residential development at Tye Common continues unabated to 1971 and onwards to the present time (Figure 6).

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

Policy 12 is the relevant policy for the historic environment:

12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

12.6. Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:

- *the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*
- *the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;*
- *the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and*
- *opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.*

12.8. In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by

their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

The Basildon Local Plan Saved Policies (2007) contains the following content of relevance:

Policy BAS C5 (trees and woodland):

Appendix 1 Sites of Importance to Nature Conservation (includes Frith Wood Ancient Woodland).

There are no supplementary planning policies of relevance.

2.2 This Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Good Practise Advice notes 1, 2 and 3 which now supersede the PPS 5 Practise Guide which has been withdrawn by the Government. The Good Practise Advice notes emphasises the need for assessments of the significance of any heritage assets which are likely to be changed, so the assessment can inform the decision process. Significance is defined in the NPPF Guidance in the Glossary as “the value of the heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic, or historical. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset’s physical presence, but also its setting”. The setting of the heritage asset is also clarified in the Glossary 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”.

This Desk-Based Assessment therefore forms the initial stage of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist in decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

2.3 The Proposed Development

The proposed development will comprise of the erection of housing and construction of vehicular access, associated car parking and landscaping.

The site is made up of two separate parcels of land.

Site 1 is the location of White Post Farm and lies to the west of the Laindon Road (B1007); Frith wood and Burstead Golf Course make up the western boundary and Laindon Common the southern boundary.

Site 2 is bounded to the west by the A176 and to the east by Kennel Lane.

The northern part of both sites meet existing high-density residential development and to the south and west are farms, small holdings and low density residential development. The area between the two sites is the location of Billericay School and the two main roads that transect the town, the Laindon Road (B1007) and the Southend Road (A176).

Site 1 comprises seven fields, each bounded by mature trees and hedging and encircling Frith Wood (Figure 8).

Site 2 comprises a single field of undulating ground of two hills meeting at an east west valley, the source of a natural spring that enters the land from the east. Mature trees and hedging occupy the boundaries (Figure 8).

The land has been farmed by the current tenant farmer for some 30 years and is currently sown for hay production. The crop cycle is four years hay, one year arable crop.

2.4 Project Constraints

No project constraints were encountered during the data collection for this assessment.

2.5 Geology and Topography

The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) indicates that 34 to 56 million years ago, during the Palaeogene period, the site was dominated by shallow seas.

The bedrock was formed from mainly siliciclastic sediments (comprising of fragments or clasts of silicate minerals) deposited as mud, silt, sand and gravel. The result is a Claygate member of clay, silt and sand, found across most of the western side of Site 1 and part of the eastern side of Site 2. A Bagshot formation of sand is found to the north east of Site 1 and to most of the western side of Site 2.

By the Quaternary period, the seas had retreated and the bedrock was formed from mainly sand and gravel detrital material deposited in channels to form river terrace deposits. Fine silt and clay from overbank floods formed floodplain alluvium and some bogs depositing peat. These superficial deposits found in the far north east corner of Site 1 are a Stanmore Gravel Formation of sand and gravel.

(BGS 1:50,000 digital).

Site 1		Site 2	
Centre of plot	TQ67108 93350	Centre of plot	TQ67715 93390
Latitude	51.614173	Latitude	51.614353
Longitude	0.412185	Longitude	0.42095661
X	567108	X	567715
Y	193350	Y	193390
Ha	68 Approx.	Ha	7.5 Approx.
Sqm	682,686.0 Approx.	Sqm	75,750.0 Approx
AOD	70-85 Average	AOD	80-88 Average

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by JB Planning Associates in order to supplement a planning application for the development of the site at land adjacent to B1007 & A176 Billericay, Essex.

3.2 Desktop Study – Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2014)

This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Institute for Archaeologists (revised December 2014). A desktop, or desk-based assessment, is defined as being:

“Desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant regulations of ClfA. In a development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so), and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact” (2014).

The purpose of a desk-based assessment is to gain an understanding of the historic environment resource in order to formulate as required:

1. an assessment of the potential for heritage assets to survive within the area of study

- 2. an assessment of the significance of the known or predicted heritage assets considering, in England, their archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interests*
- 3. strategies for further evaluation whether or not intrusive, where the nature, extent or significance of the resource is not sufficiently well defined*
- 4. an assessment of the impact of proposed development or other land use changes on the significance of the heritage assets and their settings*
- 5. strategies to conserve the significance of heritage assets, and their settings*
- 6. design strategies to ensure new development makes a positive contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of the historic environment and local place-shaping*
- 7. proposals for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research, whether undertaken in response to a threat or not (IFA 2014).*

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Desk-Based Assessment

4.1.1 Archaeological databases

The local Historic Environment Record (HER) held at Essex County Council provides an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding environs of Billericay.

The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) was also used. The search was carried out within a 500m radius of the proposed development site (20/11/14).

A listing of the relevant HER data is included in the report. The Portable Antiquities Scheme Database (PAS) was also used as an additional source as the information contained within is not always transferred to the local HER.

4.1.2 Historical documents

Historical documents, such as charters, registers, wills and deeds etc were not relevant to this specific study.

4.1.3 Cartographic and pictorial documents

A full map regression exercise was undertaken during this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by Essex County Council (ESRO), the Internet and Ordnance Survey Historical mapping (Figs. 1-8).

4.1.4 Aerial photographs

The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-3).

4.1.5 Geotechnical information

To date, no known geotechnical investigations have been carried out at the site.

4.1.6 Secondary and statutory resources

Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological studies, landscape studies; dissertations, research frameworks and Websites are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment where necessary.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Introduction

Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	c. 500,000 BC – c.10,000 BC
	Mesolithic	c.10,000 BC – c. 4,300 BC
	Neolithic	c. 4,300 BC – c. 2,300 BC
	Bronze Age	c. 2,300 BC – c. 600 BC
	Iron Age	c. 600 BC – c. AD 43
Romano-British		AD 43 – c. AD 410
Anglo-Saxon		AD 410 – AD 1066
Medieval		AD 1066 – AD 1485
Post-medieval		AD 1485 – AD 1900
Modern		AD 1901 – present day

Table 1 Classification of Archaeological Periods

The Archaeological record within the area of Billericay is diverse and comprises possible activity dating from the Bronze Age through to the Post-medieval period. The geographic and topographic location of the site is within a landscape that has been the focus of trade, travel and communication since the Bronze Age. There have

been numerous archaeological investigations that have delivered a wealth of potential, particularly relating to the Iron Age and Roman period.

This section of the assessment will focus on the archaeological and historical development of this area, placing it within a local context. Each period classification will provide a brief introduction to the wider landscape (500m radius centered on each site of the PDA), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed on the previous page in **Table 1**.

5.2 Scheduled Monuments; Listed Buildings; Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas

No scheduled monuments; One Listed Building; No Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas are recorded within the confines of the proposed development area (PDA). The listed building in the vicinity of the Proposed Development Site (PDA) is 'Gatwick House' (EHER 1338414) an early c.18th century two-storey, red brick house with attic and tile roof set in a small park with features that include a parapet and modillion, three gabled dormers and central door with open pediment

5.3 Prehistoric (Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age)

The Palaeolithic represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age.

The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age and is not represented within the assessment area.

The Neolithic period, the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry is not represented within the assessment area.

The Bronze Age, is a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Essex HER has one record of archaeological evidence, a metal detecting find at Frith wood of two bronze objects, one unidentified and the other a Palstave (EHER 16057)

5.4 Iron Age

The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres. The Essex HER records several excavations, monuments and find spots within the area of field boundaries and

ditches (EHER 5399, 5364, 5401) within the assessment area as well as small finds of a mirror, brooch and vessel (EHER 5401).

5.5 Romano-British

The Romano-British period is the term given to the Romanised culture of Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire, following the Claudian invasion in AD 43, Britain then formed part of the Roman Empire for nearly 400 years.

The predominant feature of the Roman infrastructure within Essex is arguably the extensive network of Roman roads connecting administrative centres: the towns to military posts and rural settlements (villas, farmsteads and temples) increasing the flow of trade, goods, communications and troops. The assessment area has undergone several excavations, particularly at Billericay School, the results of which demonstrate a substantial settlement within this period at the site of the school and extending out to Kennel Lane (EHER 5406), Buckenham Field (EHER 5400), Noak Hill (EHER 5401, 5402) and Windmill Hill (5405). These sites have unearthed several significant finds in the form of Kilns, Corn drying ovens, Hypocaust systems and cremations and small finds of vessels, coins, a mirror, brooch, pin and pendant (EHER 5365, 5401).

5.6 Anglo-Saxon

The Anglo-Saxon period is not represented in the assessment area.

5.7 Medieval

The medieval period is not represented within the assessment area.

5.8 Post-Medieval

The Post Medieval period is represented by Quarrying and Gravel pits at Billericay School Farm (EHER 638132, 5398), a Kiln south of Quilters Field (EHER 16845) and thirteen silver hammered English coins from the reign of Edward IV and Henry VIII (EHER 16059, 16060).

5.9 Modern

Modern development within the assessment area is focused on the northern boundary of both sites where high-density housing has spread outwards from the high street. However, the southern boundaries have been limited to low-density domestic housing, farming and light industry.

5.10 Undated

There are four undated records on the Essex HER that fall within the assessment area.

SMR. 17465 Grave in hedge between fields 385 & 387 (TQ676936) within 250m

SMR. 5404 Site of Gravel Hall on C & A map of 1777 (TQ675936) within 250m

SMR. 51652 Coin recorded on Portable Antiquities Scheme (TQ 67 93) within 500m

SMR. 51654 Coin recorded on Portable Antiquities Scheme (TQ 67 93) within 500m

SMR. 5483 Place name evidence "Kiln Farm" (TQ672 938) within 500m

5.11 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

A full map regression exercise carried out on the proposed development area has shown that the site has always been open ground. Eight detailed maps of the area dating from 1874 up to 2014 show the area has always been woodland/pasture.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

6.1 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age

There is one record that reflects prehistoric activity within the search area. The potential for finding remains that date prior to the Iron Age within the confines of the proposed development is therefore considered **undefined**.

6.2 Iron Age

There are several records that reflect Iron Age activity within the search area. The potential for finding remains dating to the Iron Age within the confines of the PDA is considered **medium**.

6.3 Romano-British

There are several records that reflect Romano-British activity within the search area. The potential for finding remains dating to Romano-British archaeology in the research area suggests that the potential is therefore to be considered **High**.

6.4 Anglo-Saxon

Anglo-Saxon archaeology within the assessment area has not been represented. The potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period on the development site is considered as **undefined**.

6.5 Medieval

Medieval archaeology within the assessment area has not been represented. The potential for finding remains dating to the Medieval period on the development site is considered as **undefined**.

6.6 Post-Medieval

There are five records that reflect Post-Medieval activity within the search area. The potential for finding remains dating to the post-medieval period is therefore considered as **low**.

7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 Existing Impacts

The search area is for the most part, subject to farming and the potential impact on buried archaeological deposits will have been due to agricultural activities. However, the farming is hay and the plough depth is only nine inches, therefore, the previous impacts are considered **low**.

7.2 Proposed Impacts

At the time of preparing this archaeological assessment, the extent of the proposed development was for the build of residential units, access roads, landscaping and car parking. Extensive impact is to be expected within the development area once construction begins. The excavation of footings and the installation of services will be the main cause of this impact and it is therefore considered as **moderate-high**.

8 MITIGATION

The purpose of this archaeological desk-based assessment was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record, in order to determine the potential survival of archaeological deposits that maybe impacted upon during any proposed construction works.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential.

It is recommended in this case that further archaeological assessment will be required subsequent to planning permission being granted and that a Geophysical Survey followed by an Archaeological Evaluation should be carried out under planning conditions. These procedures will provide an additional assessment of the

nature; depth and level of survival of any archaeological deposits present within the extents of the site and used to inform if further mitigation is necessary.

9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Setting of Listed Buildings

The site visit aimed to identify any designated heritage assets within the wider context of the Site, which might be considered potential sensitive receptors to the proposed development, by comparing the theoretical Zone of Visual Influence (ZVI) to the actual views available of the landscape surrounding the Site. Other aspects of the landscape were also considered in order to attempt to establish whether the Site constituted or contributed to the setting of any monuments within the theoretical ZVI, in accordance with *The Setting of Heritage Assets – English Heritage Guidance* (English Heritage 2011). The above guidance states that “*setting embraces all of the surroundings (land, sea, structures, features and skyline) from which the heritage asset can be experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset*” (The Setting of Heritage Assets, English Heritage 2011).

The nearest Designated Heritage Assets to the Site are all at c.500m distance, ‘Gatwick House’ (EHER 1338414) is to the north east of the PDA and is screened from the proposed development by existing buildings or hedgerows, and share no intervisibility with it. No intervisibility between the Site and the other designated heritage assets within the Study Area was established during the site visit (Plates 6-9). No impact from the proposed development is foreseen on any cultural asset or Conservation Areas in the vicinity of the PDA.

9.1 Archive

Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, two copies of this desk-based assessment will be submitted to Essex County Council (Heritage) within 6 months of completion.

9.2 Reliability/limitations of sources

The sources that were used in this assessment were, in general, of high quality. The majority of the information provided herewith has been gained from either published texts or archaeological ‘grey’ literature held at Essex County Council, and therefore considered as being reliable.

9.3 Copyright

Swale & Thames Survey Company and the author shall retain full copyright on the commissioned report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. All rights

are reserved, excepting that it hereby provides exclusive licence to Gleeson Developments Ltd (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

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11th November 2015

10 REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY

IFA (revised 2014) STANDARD AND GUIDANCE for historic environment desk-based assessment.

National Planning Policy Statement 2010: Planning for the Historic Environment. TSO (The Stationery Office)

National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

Data provided by Essex H

Plates



Plate 1. The Google Earth view (2008) of the site (eye alt 680m). Note the bank and ditch of the Parish boundary (red arrow) and relict field systems (blue arrows)



Plate 2. Again showing the bank and ditch of the Parish boundary (red arrow) in 2011



Plate 3. The site in 2013



Plate 4. The west boundary of Site 1 (looking East)



Plate 5. The north boundary of Site 2 (looking South)



Plate 6. The east boundary of Site 2 (looking west)

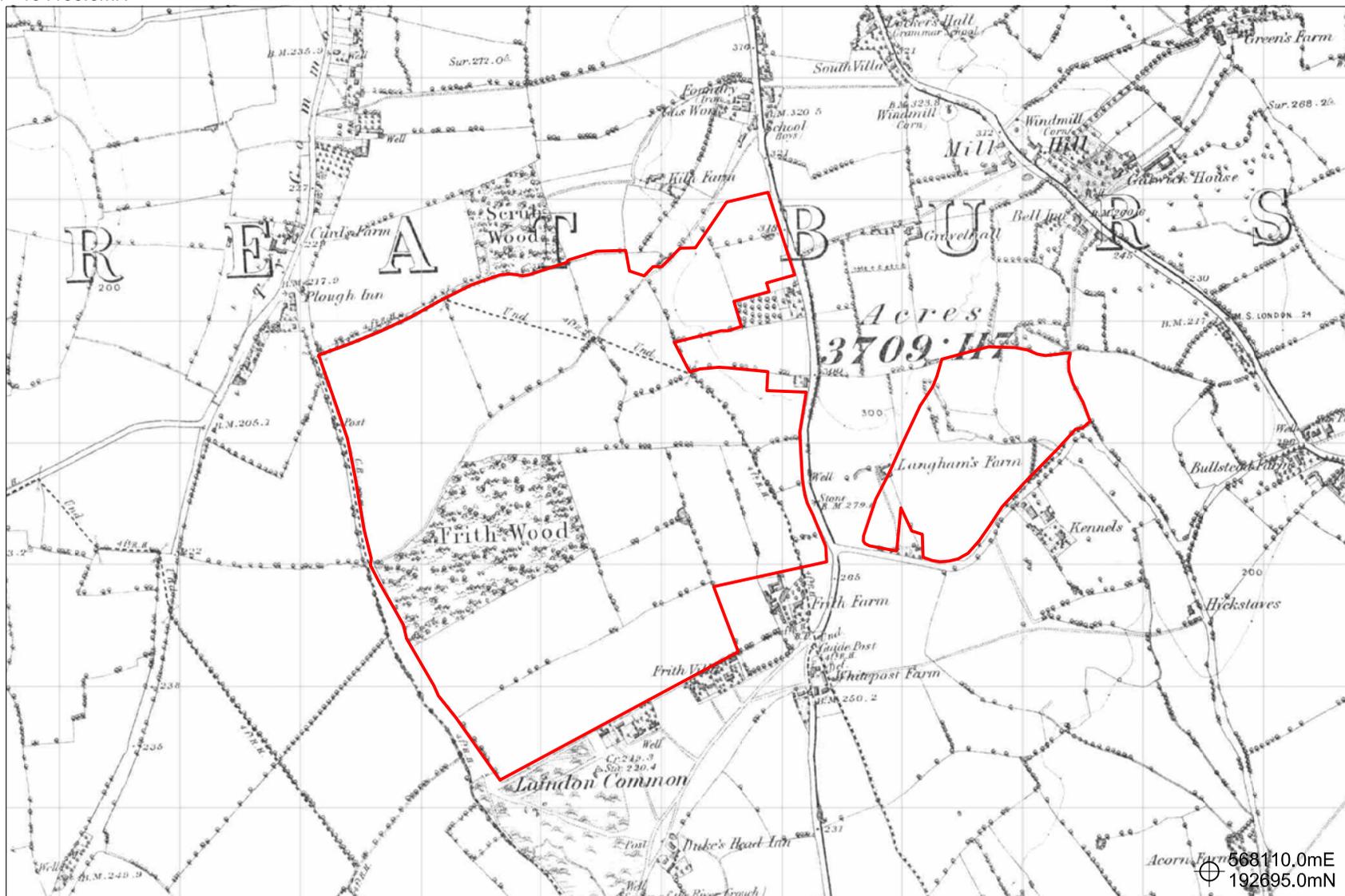


Plate 7. The south and west boundary of Site 2 (looking North East)



Plate 8. The Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawings (1799)

566105.0mE
194155.0mN



568110.0mE
192695.0mN

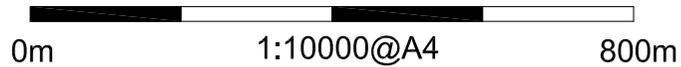


Figure 1: Historic mapping 1874

566105.0mE
194155.0mN

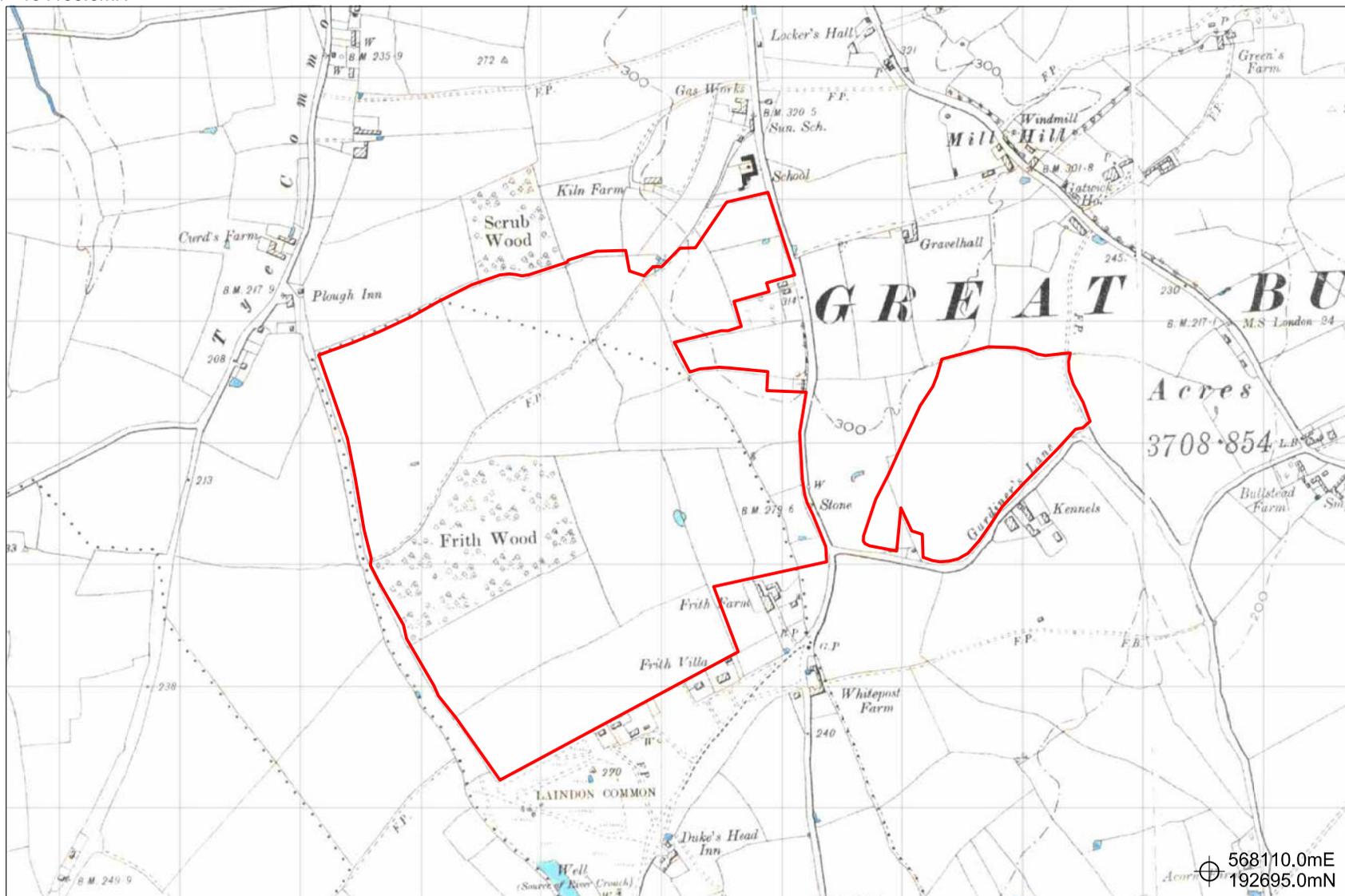


Figure 2: Historic mapping 1895

0m

1:10000@A4

800m

566105.0mE
194155.0mN

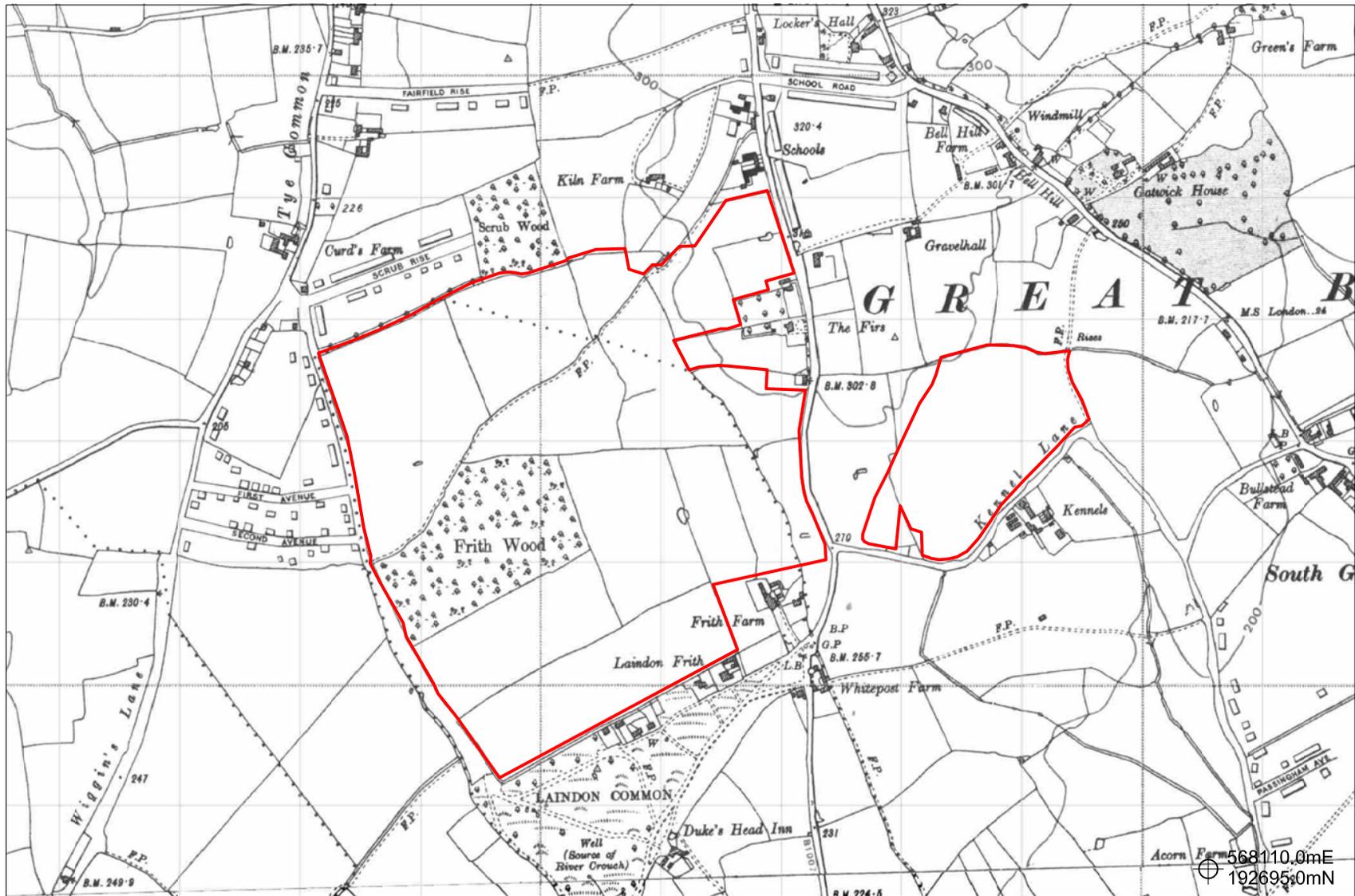


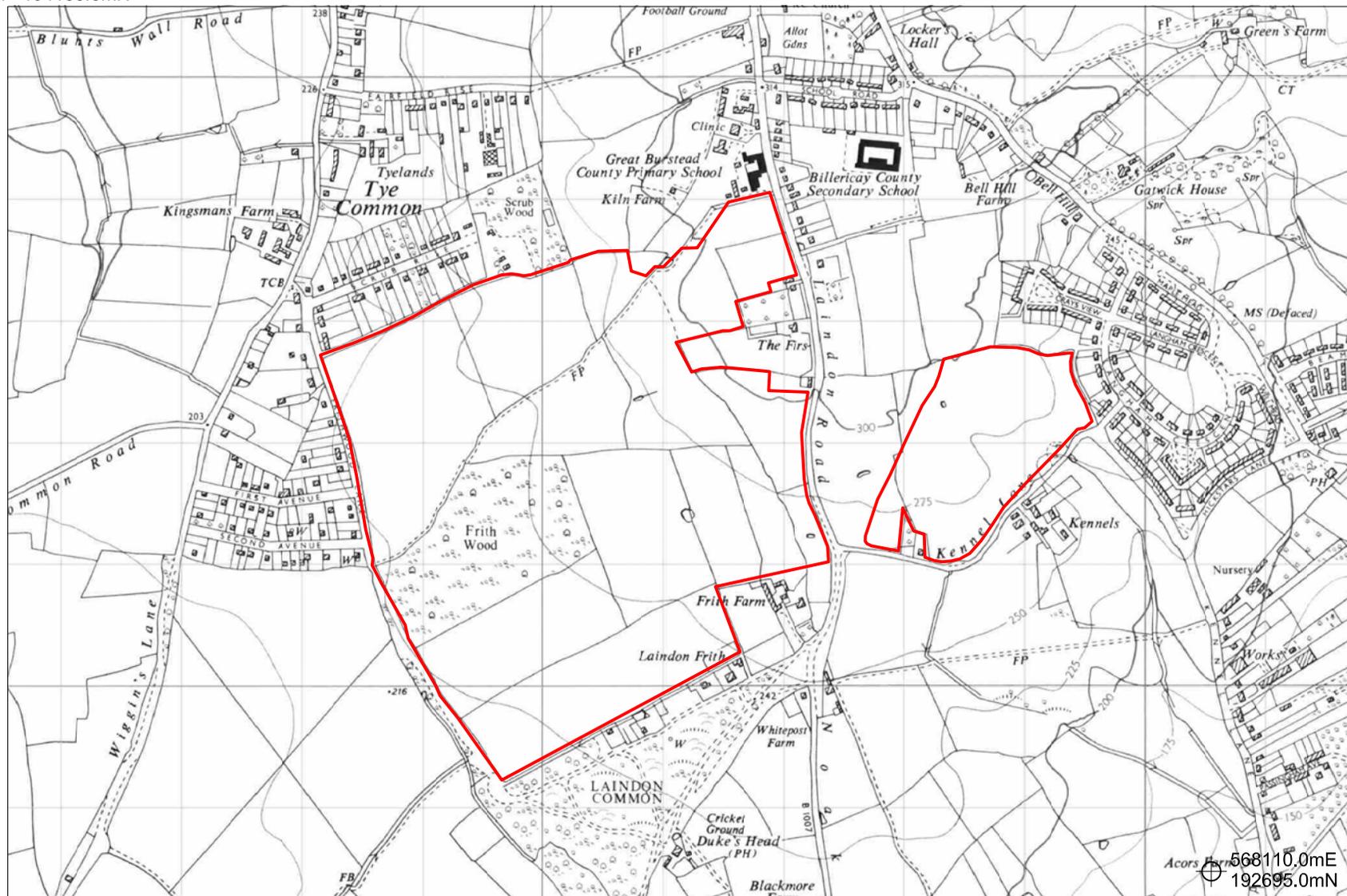
Figure 4: Historic mapping 1938

0m

1:10000@A4

800m

566105.0mE
194155.0mN



568110.0mE
192695.0mN

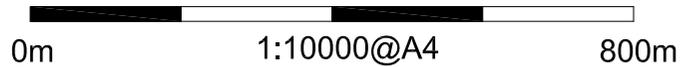
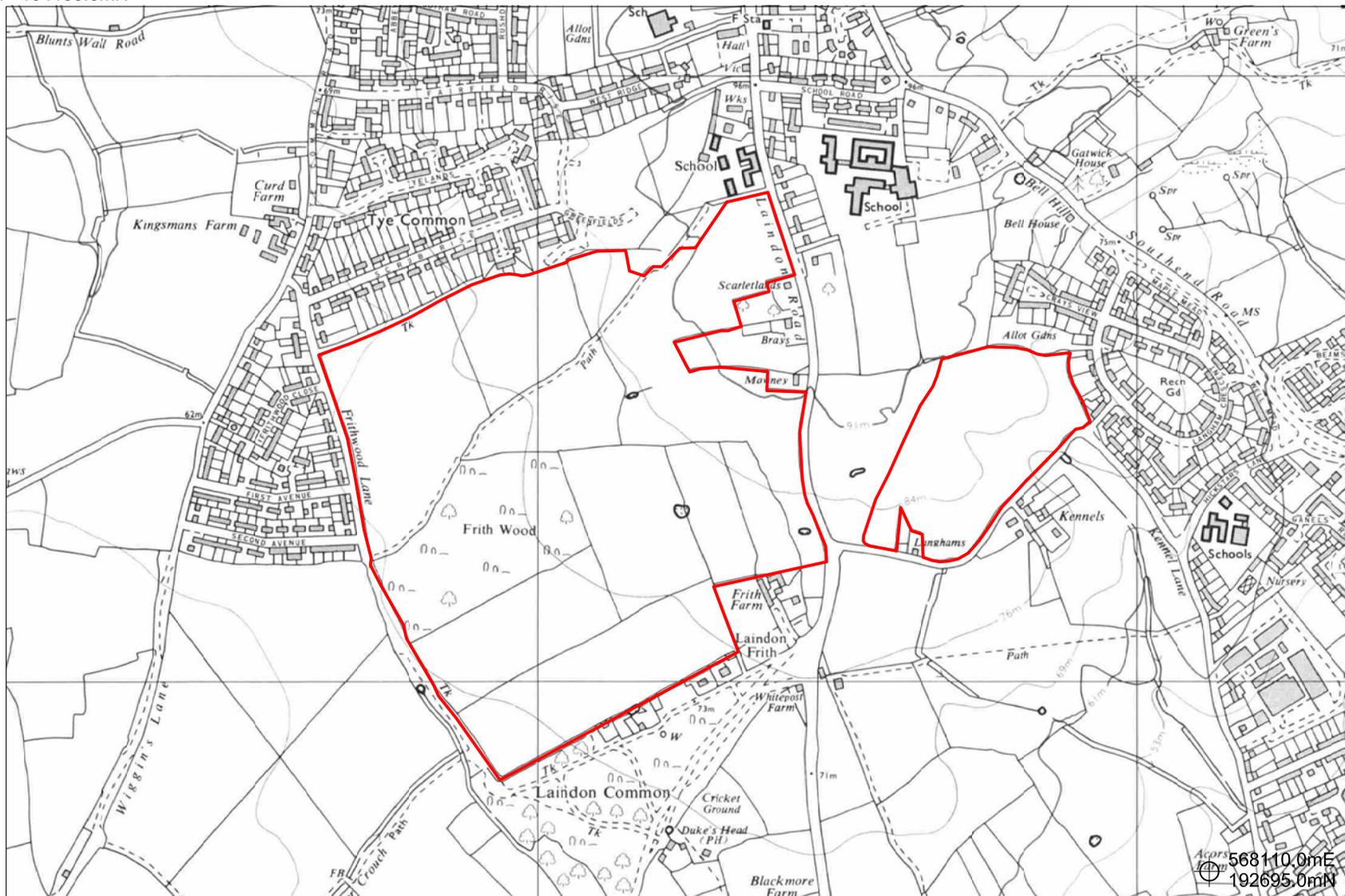


Figure 5: Historic mapping 1960

566105.0mE
194155.0mN

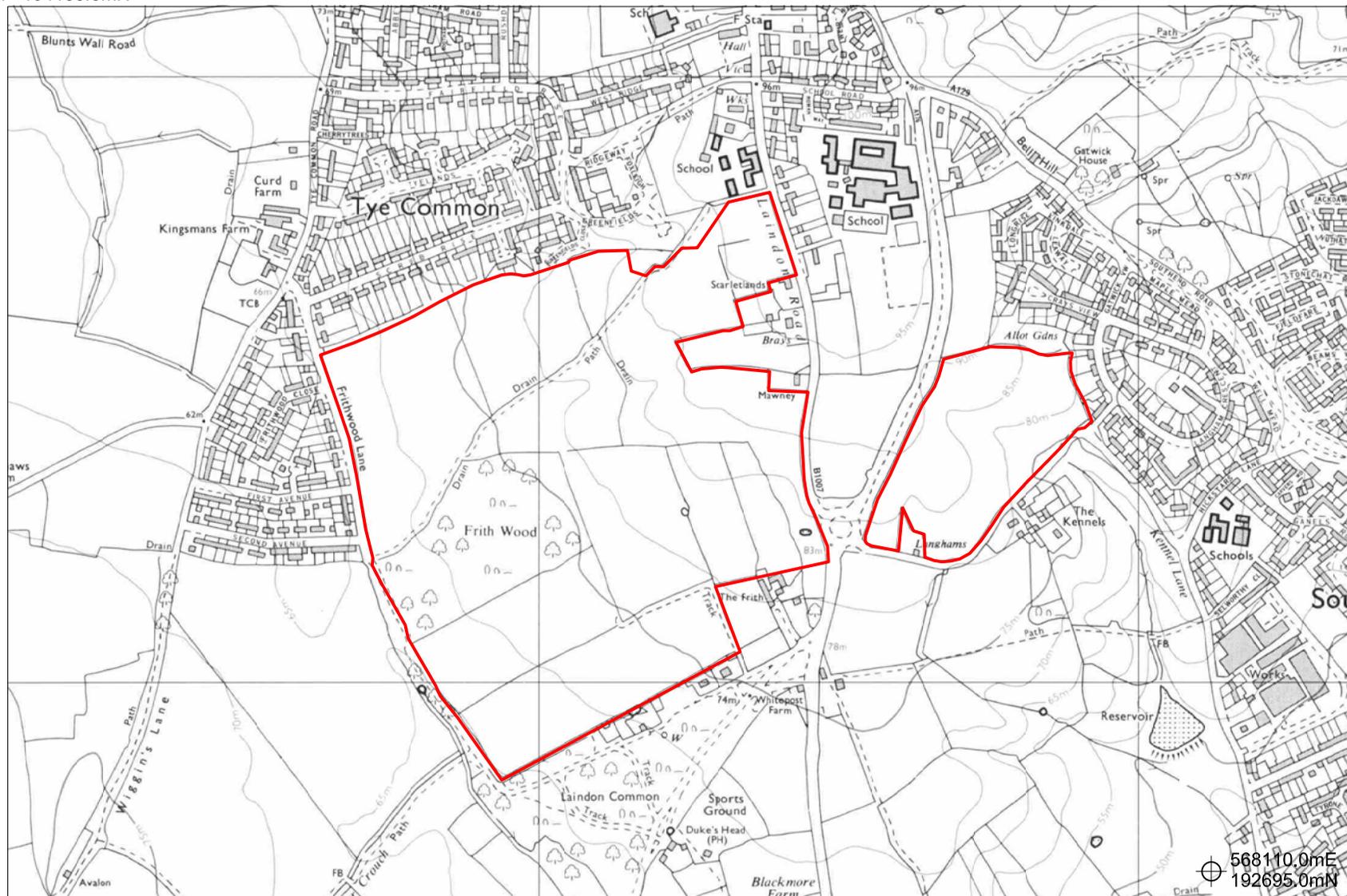


568110.0mE
192695.0mN

0m 1:10000@A4 800m

Figure 6: Historic mapping 1971

566105.0mE
194155.0mN



568110.0mE
192695.0mN

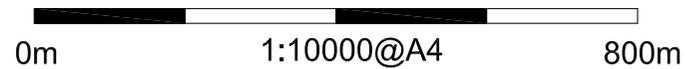


Figure 7: Historic mapping 1982

566105.0mE
194155.0mN



568110.0mE
192695.0mN

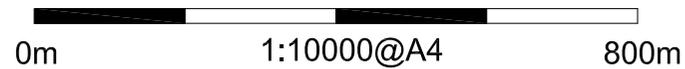
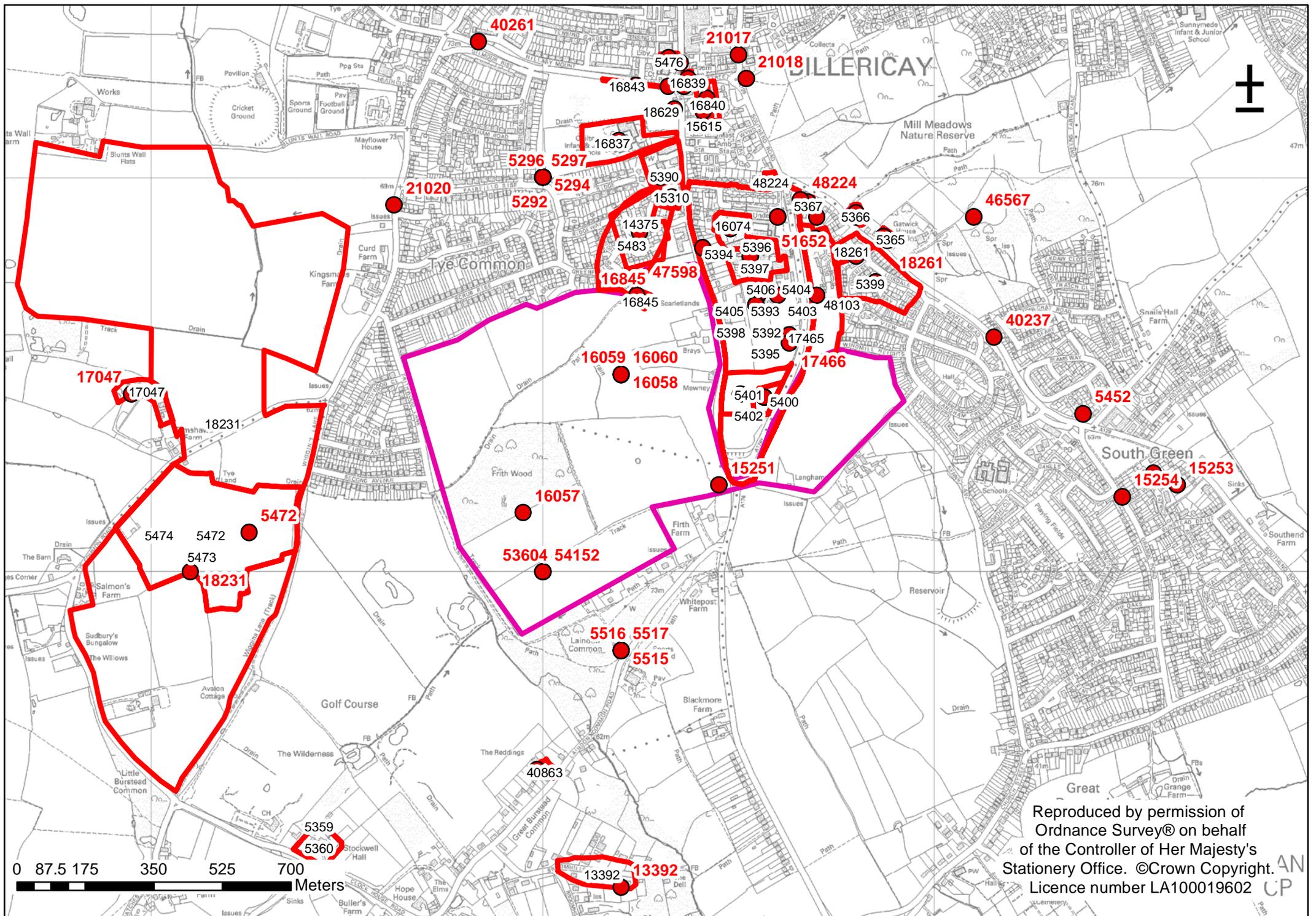
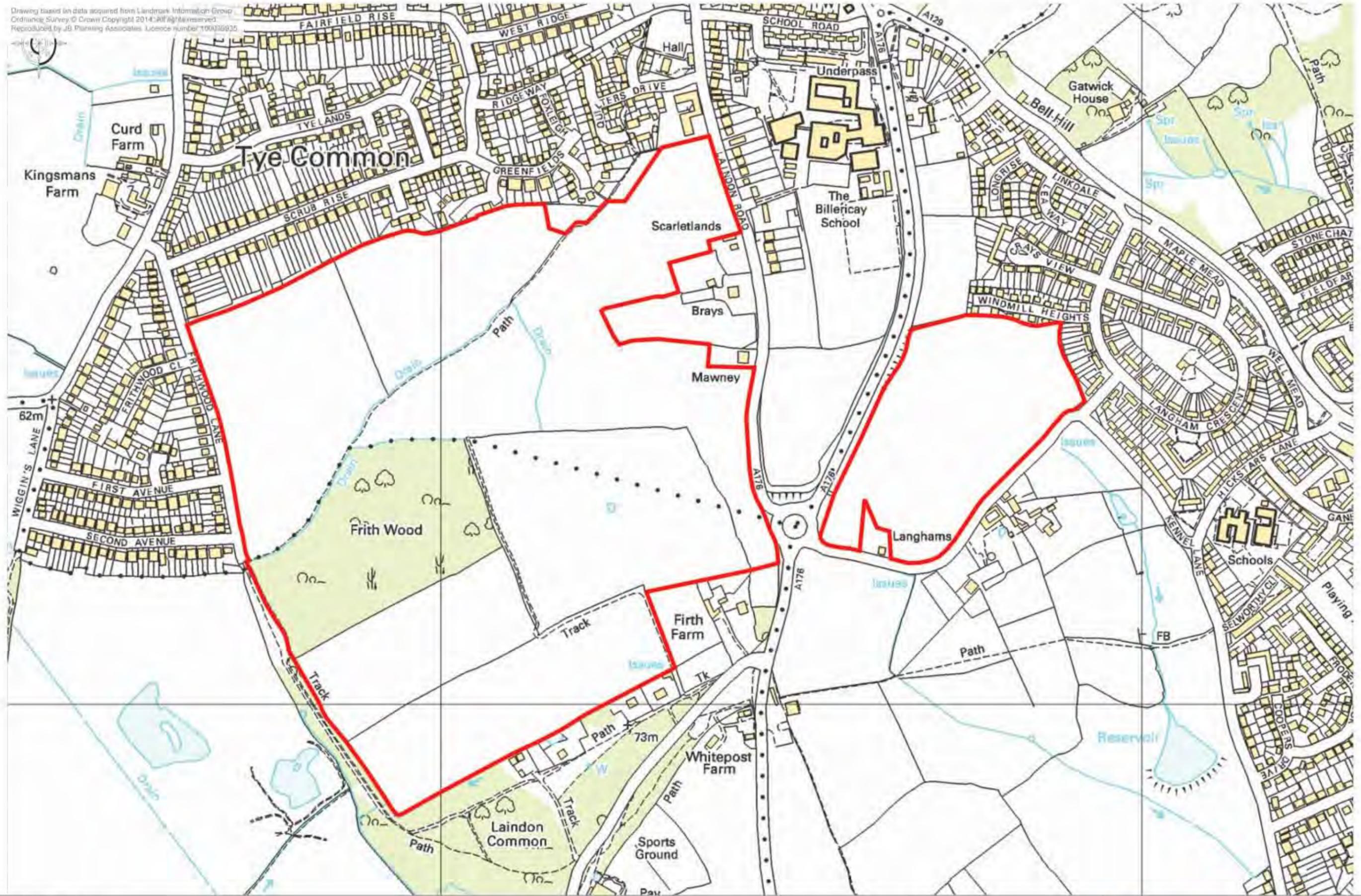


Figure 8: Historic mapping 2014



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Frith Park, Billericay LOCATION PLAN



1126/02
Rev DRAFT VERSION 1
Scale: 1:10,000 (A1)
14/05/14
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