

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
In advance of Development of land at
Manor Road, St Nicholas-at-Wade,
Thanet, Kent

NGR: TR 26614 66361



Report for
H A S Trust care of G W Finn & Sons
Date of Report: 22/09/2015

SWAT. ARCHAEOLOGY

Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company
School Farm Oast, Graveney Road
Faversham, Kent
ME13 8UP

Tel; 01795 532548 or 07885 700 112

www.swatarchaeology.co.uk

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>List of Plates</i>	<i>iii</i>
1. SUMMARY.....	4
2. INTRODUCTION.....	10
2.1 Planning Background	10
2.2 The Proposed Development	11
2.3 Projects Constraints	11
2.4 Geology and Topography.....	11
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	12
3.1 Introduction	12
3.2 Desktop Study – Institute For Archaeologists (revised 2011)	12
4. METHODOLOGY	12
4.1 Desk-Based Assessment.....	13
4.1.1 Archaeological databases	13
4.1.2 Historical documents	13
4.1.3 Cartographic and pictorial documents	13
4.1.4 Aerial photographs	13
4.1.5 Geotechnical information	13
4.1.6 Secondary and statutory resources	13
5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT	14
5.1 Introduction	14
5.2 Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas	14
5.3 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age	15
5.4 Iron Age.....	15
5.5 Romano-British	15
5.6 Anglo-Saxon	16
5.7 Medieval	16
5.8 Post-Medieval	16
5.9 Modern	16
5.10 Undated	16
5.11 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression	16
6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	17

6.1	Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age	17
6.4	Anglo-Saxon	17
6.5	Medieval	17
6.6	Post-Medieval	17
7.	IMPACT ASSESSMENT	17
7.1	Existing Impacts	17
7.2	Proposed Impacts	18
8.	MITIGATION	18
9.	OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	18
9.1	Archive	19
9.2	Reliability/limitations of sources	19
9.3	Copyright.....	19
10.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	19
11.	REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY	20

Appendix 1. KCC HER data

List of Figures

Fig.1	O.S. map (1873)
Fig.2	O.S. map (1898)
Fig.3	O.S. map (1907)
Fig.4	O.S. map (1939)
Fig. 5	O.S. map (1969)
Fig. 6	O.S. map (1992)
Fig. 5	O.S. map (1995)

List of Plates

Plate 1.	Google Earth showing location of site
Plate 2.	Cropmarks to the south-west of the site
Plate 3.	View of the site (SW)
Plate 4.	View of the site (SE)
Plate 5.	View of the site (NW)
Plate 6.	View of the site (W)
Plate 7.	Andrews Dury Map of 1769
Plate 8.	OSSD map of 1798
Plate 9.	OS County map of 1800

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of Development on land at Manor Road, St Nicholas-at-Wade, Thanet, Kent

NGR: 626600 166350

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 Manor Road, St Nicholas-at-Wade, Thanet, Kent as part of the planning application by the HAS Trust care of G W Finn & Sons.

This Desk Based Assessment examines the wide variety of archaeological data held by Kent 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 Evaluation after planning permission has been obtained but prior to the initial ground works of the development.

The site is located west of Manor Road and lies within the Parish Boundary of St Nicholas-at-Wade, Thanet, Kent (Figure 7). It extends to about 2.4 hectares.

1.1 History of the site

St Nicholas-at-Wade is a small village located on a hill in the western part of the Isle of Thanet, Kent, England. It derives its name from the Saint to whom the church is dedicated (*St Nicholas, the patron Saint of sailors*) and its proximity to the 'Wantsume', a channel that separated the Isle of Thanet from the mainland, so shallow that it could be crossed by 'wading', from the Anglo Saxon "*wadan*" and Latin "*vado*" 'to wade' or "*Ad Vadum*," 'wading place'.

The landscape in which the proposed development sits is old and archaeological evidence has shown that Thanet Island was settled in at least the Bronze Age and has had continuous occupation since.

The area around the proposed development area (PDA) does have some evidence of Bronze Age activity in the form of an enclosure (Plate 2), ring ditch and pit (TR26NE28) dating to 2350 BC to the south of the village and a flint scraper and pottery sherds found at an evaluation (TR26NE252) towards the centre.

The *Wantsume* was at one time over a mile wide, guarded at either side by the Roman forts of *Reculver* and *Richborough* and remains of the Roman shipbuilding sites have been uncovered between St Nicholas-at-Wade and the nearby village of Sarre.

In 447AD Vortigen, King of the Britons, gave the Isle of Thanet to the chieftens of the Angles, Saxons and Jutes, Hengest and Horsa as a reward for coming to his aid when under attack from warring tribes.

In 1334–1335, according to Edward III's lay subsidy rolls, Thanet had the highest population density in Kent. It acted as a granary for Calais and documents towards the end of that century refer to turreted walls beneath the cliffs that have long since been destroyed by coastal erosion.

The church of At Nicholas-at-Wade, which is part Norman, part English construction, began its life in the 12th Century as a chapel of ease for St Mary's church at Reculver.

It was built by the Monks of Christ Church in Canterbury and was made parochial by the Archbishop Winchelsey. It is flint construction with a square embattled tower with five bells, a nave, two aisles, and three chancels. It has a fine example of a medieval underground chapel and is decorated with a carved oak pulpit dated 1615, 16th century brasses, and a coat of arms of king George III. The associated vicarage was destroyed by fire in 1620.

Over time the *Wantsume* silted up and the last ship sailed through the channel in 1672. It has now dwindled to two small rivers, the Wantsum/Wansum and the Stour. Thanet was known for being a predominantly a poor community of farm labourers and its close proximity to the marshes gained it a reputation as an unpleasant and unhealthy place to live.

The Medieval period continued in the farming vein and is represented by the Church of St Nicholas-at-Wade (C12th), an Aisled Barn (TR26NE1078) and Farmhouse (TR26NE84) at Crumps Farm and a Midden (TR26NE250) dated to 12th-13th Century, uncovered at Sun Cottages during a watching brief. A Copper Alloy Scabbard Chape (MKE80164) and Broach (MKE80177) have also been found along with two gold finger rings (MKE71546/MKE74040). Unfortunately, the rings were found in soil that had been imported during building works and so their provenance is uncertain.

Evidence of the post-medieval period is in abundance with twenty Listed Buildings, remnants of the original village, but all set at a fair distance from the PDA. Forge House (TR26NE1071) and its adjacent Forge (TR26NE1152), The Bell Inn (TR26NE1091), The School House (TR26NE1113) and several small farm cottages and farmsteads (Hall Farm MKE86696 and Streete House MKE86695) attest to the early structure of the village.

When the German offensive of WWII began it was reported that parachutists were likely to land and so the 1st London Infantry Brigade was ordered to take over the defense of the Isle of Thanet. Some of the houses were requisitioned by the army and Battalion headquarters were at St Nicholas-at-Wade. The modern period was responsible for several changes in the landscape, not least, the defences in preparation for War. A WWI practice Trench System (TR26NE228) and several WWII Zigzag Slit Trench Systems (MKE93200/ MKE93199/ MKE93218/ MKE93201/ MKE93203) along with a small Fort (MKE93198), Pillboxes and a Redoubt (MKE93217) were installed. The fort was partly demolished following the end of the war but a Pillbox (TR26NE1125) close to the PDA still survives.

On 10th April 1941 at about 5pm a dogfight was ensuing in the skies over Thanet; a Messerschmitt Bf109E-4 was shot down by a pursuing Spitfire and crashed (TR26NE1182/TR26NE1183) with its pilot in a field northeast of the village of St Nicholas-at-Wade. Unfortunately the Spitfire pilot was also killed when he crashed performing his victory roll.

The landscape around the PDA is in essence rural and the PDA is surrounded on its western flank by meadow, arable and pasture land. The footpath has been trodden for many centuries and Manor Road and Canterbury Road began their lives as track ways connecting the small village to larger villages.

Map Regression 1769-1995

Only maps that show significant topographical developments are reproduced in this report. Aerial photographs have also been reviewed and included. Visits to the Kent Record Office were productive in viewing early maps including the Tithe maps and aerial photographs from the 1940's.

All results of analyses are shown in order of chronology.

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 Andrews and Dury map of 1769, the OS Surveyors Drawing (1798) and the first OS County map of 1800. The scale on these maps is too small to interpret detail of the site in question, but they are included in the plates (Plates 7, 8, 9).

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 1873 (Figure 1) shows the PDA within the area marked as field 257, bounded by field 265 to the east and to the south by a well developed tree-lined plot comprising of buildings, formal gardens, pond and orchard marked as New House 258. The site is separated from the adjoining fields by a footpath running

north to southwest along the northwest boundary and a track way 266 running north to south east along the eastern boundary. To the north a track way 80 leads to a small cluster of dwellings. A Post is located on the footpath, a Boundary Post in field 257 and a Guidepost at 'Evernden's Corner', the crossroads of track ways 266 and 76, early forms of signs and boundary markers .

By 1898 OS map (Figure 2) the field parcel numbers have been revised and the acreage marked, so that the field containing the PDA is marked as 244 (50.928 Ac), the track way 266 to the eastern boundary is 245 (0.635 Ac) and field 265 is 246 (10.920 Ac). The plot known as 'New House,' is now 'Evernden Farm' 247 (3.777 Ac) and has undergone several changes. The access road leading to field 246 and the tree-lined boundary have been removed and the formal gardens are open paddocks in a layout expected of a farm. The northeast field to the east of trackway 80 has been given over to 'Allotment Gardens' 213 (0.732 Ac). Two wells have now appeared, one adjacent to the Allotment Gardens and one with a small building attached on the boundary between the PDA and 'Evernden farm'. The Boundary Post and Footpath Post are no longer marked.

By 1907 OS map (Figure 3) the trees along the footpath and field boundary have been removed and two rectangular plots have been sectioned off in field 244 so that the acreage has reduced to 48.125. The two plots are marked as 244a (1.520 Ac) and 244b (1.345 AC) and a 'Stone' has been added to the outside corner of each plot. Another 'Stone' has been added to the northwest corner of the PDA, presumably as Boundary Markers. The field north west of the PDA is marked as having an acreage of 9.243. The 'Allotment Gardens' (213) have been reduced in size to 0.451 and the adjacent well is no longer marked. Field 246 has reduced to 10.689, although the reason for this is not shown within the map area. Bench Mark (B.M.79.8) has been added to track way 245 at the entrance to what was 'Evernden Farm', but which is now marked as 'The Manor' in reference to the substantial building that is now outlined in place of the comparably modest house that once stood there. Several of the out buildings have been extended, the access road has been removed and the single entrance to the house has been exchanged for an in and out access, perhaps to provide a grander entrance.

By 1939 OS map (Figure 4) the surrounding area has changed from a small village to a large village. The northwest field has been reduced to 8.010 acres although the reason for this is not visible within the mapping area. The Footpath is now marked as 244i (0.061 Ac) and a new section of footpath has opened up from the northwest corner of the PDA at the point of the boundary stone; the post is no longer marked. Field 244 has reduced to 31.464 acres as a result of the addition of a rectangular orchard 244f (4.183) and adjacent paddock 244e (3.948) that have appeared to the

south. Plots 244a, 244b have been restructured into three areas; 244b (1.414) has grown from a single building to a complex of seven buildings on a large plot; 244c (1.221) is an orchard and 244d (1.006) is a dwelling on a large plot with a paddock and small orchard or gardens. The well is still in situ and the associated building has been extended. The large outlined house on the site of 'The Manor' (247) is now complete and named as 'St Nicholas Lodge'. Gardens have been added to compliment the long in-out driveway, one of the large outbuildings has been demolished, the orchard has been reduced in size by one third and an adjacent paddock has been designated as 246e (0.847). Despite the fact that the property has been extended east to accommodate a new paddock, the loss of paddock 246e has reduced the overall acreage to 3.346. The 'Allotment Gardens' (213) have been increased to 1.315. The greatest changes have been to field 246 which has now been parcelled up and developed into several areas of housing which are marked in two cases with new Boundary Stones; 246h, a single dwelling of 0.250 acres; 246i, a group of two semi detached and two detached houses (0.469); 246j, a development of 6 terraced houses (0.627) as well as other areas of residential development falling just outside of the mapping area. The new housing has resulted in the trackway increasing to 0.681 Acres to accommodate the entrances and the crossroads has now changed from 'Evernden's Corner' to 'St Nicholas's Corner'.

By 1969 OS map (Figure 5) the village to the east has expanded to an organised housing estate. St Nicholas Lodge and the surrounding lands have been redeveloped into a medium density housing estate with two new access roads, 'Manor Lea Road' and 'Sandlewood Drive' and two Electrical Sub Stations. The houses referred to in the 1939 map have been named – The Gables, Alberta, The Haven, The Friary, Rose Cottages and Thanet View. The extension to the footpath has been removed and a treeline boundary has been introduced to field 244; the orchard and paddock to the south have been removed and a farm of several buildings (7522-2.058 Ha 5.08) has appeared. The Pillbox (TR26NE1125) is visible to the southwest of the PDA in what was field 244. The house at 244b is named 'Myrtle Villa', one of the existing buildings has been demolished and a section of the plot has been parcelled off to accommodate the construction of 'Manor Hall'. Plot 244d is now named Queensland and the plot has been subdivided for a new dwelling 'Ashbre'. The road adjacent to the Allotments has been named 'The Length' but the Allotments are no longer there.

By 1992 OS map (Figure 6) there has been further development around 'St Nicholas Lodge' and the addition of a telephone exchange. The northwest field is divided and the north section is a Recreation Ground named 'Bell Meadow' with a small development of terraces in the northwest corner. The farm south of the PDA has acquired an access road leading from Manor Road and has replaced four of its buildings with one large building.

By 1995 OS map (Figure 7) there has been further development to the east and the orchard to the south has been removed and is now designated scrubland.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

It is worth quoting from this long awaited planning document, in particular Policy 12:

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.

2.2 *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 lies west of Manor Road, St Nicholas-at-Wade and is some 2.33 hectares (5.758 acres).

The site is open in character, bounded to the east by a tree line that was established somewhere between 1939 and 1969 and open farmland probably associated with the farm that meets it at the south. The north still retains its village style character with low density housing on large plots and recreation ground that adjoin the PDA. To the east the development over the past one hundred years has been denser in nature so that the area comprises of low to medium density housing. It is screened from view by a treeline to its north, south and west boundaries, the east opening on to Manor Road (Plates 3-6).

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 the underlying surface is anticipated to be superficial deposits of Head 2, clay and silt on a bedrock of Margate Chalk member (BGS 1:50,000 digital).

The Geology of the area shows that 71 to 86 million years ago, during the cretaceous period, sedimentary bedrock formed to produce Margate Chalk Member - Chalk. These rocks were formed in warm shallow 'Chalk' shelf seas with little sediment input from land. They often consist of a calcareous ooze of the microscopic remains of plankton, especially the disc shaped calcite plates or coccoliths that make up the spherical coccolithophores.

Up to 3 million years ago, in the Quaternary Period, in an environment dominated by subaerial slopes, superficial deposits produced Head, 2 – Clay and Silt. These rocks were formed from the material accumulated by down slope movements including landslide, debris flow, solifluction, soil creep and hill wash.

The site averages 23m AOD.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by G W Finn in order to supplement a planning application for the development of the site at land adjacent to Manor Road, St Nicholas-at-Wade, Thanet in Kent.

3.2 Desktop Study – Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2011)

This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Institute for Archaeologist (revised 2011). A desktop, or desk-based assessment, is defined as being:

“a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate”. (2011)

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 2011).

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Desk-Based Assessment

4.1.1 Archaeological databases

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

The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) and was also used. The search was carried out within a 1000m radius of the proposed development site (20/08/15). 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 Kent County Council, the Internet and Ordnance Survey Historical mapping (Plates 7-9, Figures. 1-7).

4.1.4 Aerial photographs

The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-2).

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 around St Nicholas-at-Wade is diverse and comprises possible activity dating from the Bronze Age through to the Modern 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 Palaeolithic. However, the area has had limited past archaeological investigations so for most periods the archaeological potential is unknown.

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 (1km radius centered on 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; no Listed Buildings; no Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas are recorded within the confines of the proposed development area (PDA). There is a WWII Zigzag Slit Trench System that shares the internal

northeast boundary of the PDA. Within the vicinity of the PDA and again sharing its original boundary line, is Evernden Farm, an isolated post-medieval farmstead of regular courtyard multi-yard style with detached farmhouse set side-on to the yard. It has suffered significant loss of its original form (probably at least 50%) having undergone several stages of development over a period of one hundred years and is currently medium density residential housing. A Pillbox (TR26NE1125), associated with the trench systems, stands at a distance of 50-100m.

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. The Kent HER has no record of archaeological evidence from this period 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 Bronze Age is represented within the assessment area in the discovery of a bronze age scraper and pottery sherds found during an evaluation at a Builders Yard northeast (50-100m) of the site (TR26NE252) and crop marks that show an enclosure, ring ditch and pit (TR26NE28) to the southwest (Plate2).

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 Kent HER records no activity within the assessment area.

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 Kent 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 Kent HER records no activity within the assessment area.

5.6 Anglo-Saxon

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

5.7 Medieval

The medieval period is represented within the assessment area with two early medieval finger rings found at different locations, northwest 100-200m(MKE71546) and west 200-300m(MKE74040). In both cases the soil was imported and the provenance is therefore questionable. A medieval midden was uncovered at Sun Cottage during a watching brief (EKE11137/TR26NE250) and the Grade I Listed Church of St Nicholas-at-Wade (TR26NE1082) and Grade II Listed Crump Farmhouse (TR26NE84) and Aisled Barn (TR26NE1078) can be found at a distance of 200-300m. A 'Copper Alloy Scabbard Chape' (MKE80164) and a 'Copper Alloy Broach' were found at 300-400m and 400-500m respectively.

5.8 Post-Medieval

Evernden Farmstead (MKE89997) shares the boundary line with the PDA, but the Post Medieval period is most represented in an abundance of Grade II Listed Buildings. Those at a distance of 100-200m are The Bell Inn (TR26NE1091), Forge house (TR26NE1071) and adjacent Forge (TR26NE1152), Pepper Alley (TR26NE1072), Elder cottages (TR26NE1112), Rose cottages (TR26NE1104), Bramble cottage (TR26NE1081) and Walmer cottage (TR26NE1112). Further afield are the Grade II Listed School House (TR26NE1113), the Farmstead of Hall farm (MKE86696) and the metal detecting find spot of a 'Copper Alloy Jetton' (MKE80166)

5.9 Modern

Zigzag slit trenches (MKE93200/MKE93199), a Fort (MKE93198), a Pillbox (TR26NE1125), Redoubt (MKE93217) and the crash site of a Messerschmitt Bf109E-4 (TR26NE1182/TR26NE1183) testify to the impact of WWI and WWII on the surrounding environment. Otherwise, modern development within the assessment area has been limited to domestic housing, farming and light industry– all being partly responsible for the present landscape.

5.10 Undated

Crump Farm (MKE86694) and Cropmarks showing a Ring Ditch (TR26NE229) are the only undated records on the Kent HER that fall within the assessment area.

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. Seven detailed maps of the area dating from 1769 to 1995 show the area has always been open fields.

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 **medium**.

6.2 Iron Age

The Iron Age is not represented within the search area, therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to the Iron Age within the confines of the PDA is considered **medium**.

6.3 Romano-British

The lack of presence of Romano-British archaeology in the search area suggests that the potential is therefore to be considered as **low**.

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 **low**.

6.5 Medieval

There are several Medieval sites and find spots within the search area (although they are at a distance of 200-300m) therefore the potential for finding remains dating to the medieval period is considered as **medium**.

6.6 Post-Medieval

Evernden Farmstead and a system of WW1 and WW2 Trenches, Pillbox and Fort border and surround the PDA, therefore the potential for finding remains dating to the post-medieval period is therefore considered as **high**.

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. Therefore, the previous impacts are considered **moderate**.

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 **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 **medium** archaeological potential.

It is recommended in this case that further archaeological assessment will be required and that an Archaeological Evaluation should be carried out. This 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 the Evernden Farm Farmstead (MKE86697) that shared its original boundary line with the PDA before undergoing

significant alterations in the 19th Century and a WWII Zigzag Trench System (MKE93200) that appears to be sited on the internal northwest boundary line shared with the property 'Queensland'. The site of another WWII Zigzag Trench System (MKE93201) and Pillbox (TR26NE1125) are at c.50-100m distance southeast of the PDA. Evernden Farm no longer survives as a farmstead having undergone development into medium density housing in the 19th Century and the WWII Pillbox and Trench Systems are not affected by shared intervisibility. A distance of at least 200m and medium density housing separates the PDA from all other Heritage Assets. No intervisibility between the Site and the other designated heritage assets within the Study Area was established during the site visit (Plates 3-6).

9.1 Archive

Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, two copies of this desk-based assessment will be submitted to Kent 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 Kent 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 G W Finn (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to thank G W Finn for commissioning this report.

Paul Wilkinson PhD., MifA., FRSA.

22nd September 2015

11 REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY

IFA (revised 2011) 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 Kent HER

Plates

- Plate 1. Google Earth showing location of site
- Plate 2. Cropmarks to the south-west of the site
- Plate 3. View of the site (SW)
- Plate 4. View of the site (SE)
- Plate 5. View of the site (NW)
- Plate 6. View of the site (W)
- Plate 7. Andrews Dury Map of 1769
- Plate 8. OSSD map of 1798
- Plate 9. OS County map of 1800

Figures

- Figure 1. OS map 1:2,500 1873
 - Figure 2. OS 1:2,500 map of 1898
 - Figure 3. OS 1:2,500 1907 map
 - Figure 4. OS 1:2,500 map of 1939
 - Figure 5. OS 1:2,500 map of 1969
 - Figure 6. OS 1:2,500 map of 1992
 - Figure 7. OS 1:2,500 map of 1995
- Appendix 1. KCC HER data

Plates



Plate 1. Proposed Development Area (PDA) in white outline

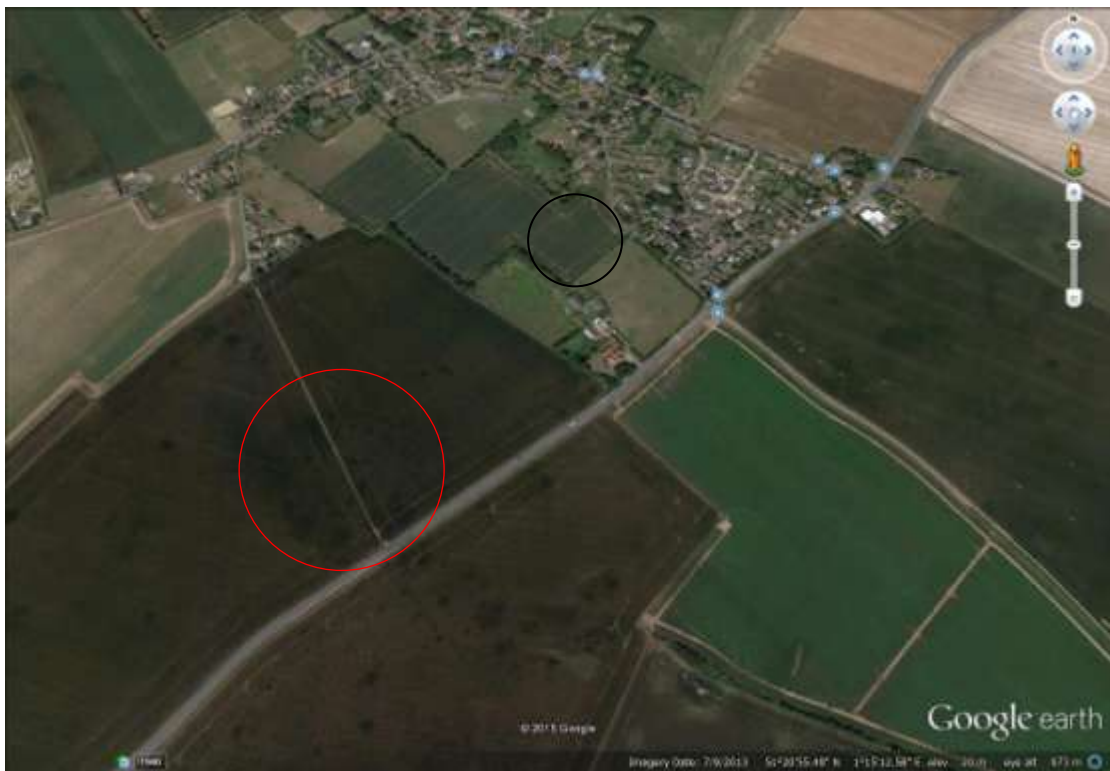


Plate 2. Cropmarks to the south-west of the PDA



Plate 3. View of the PDA (looking south-west)



Plate 4. View of the PDA (looking south-east)



Plate 5. View of the PDA (looking north-west)



Plate 6. View of the PDA (looking west)



Plate 7. 1769 Andrews and Dury map (area of PDA in red outline)

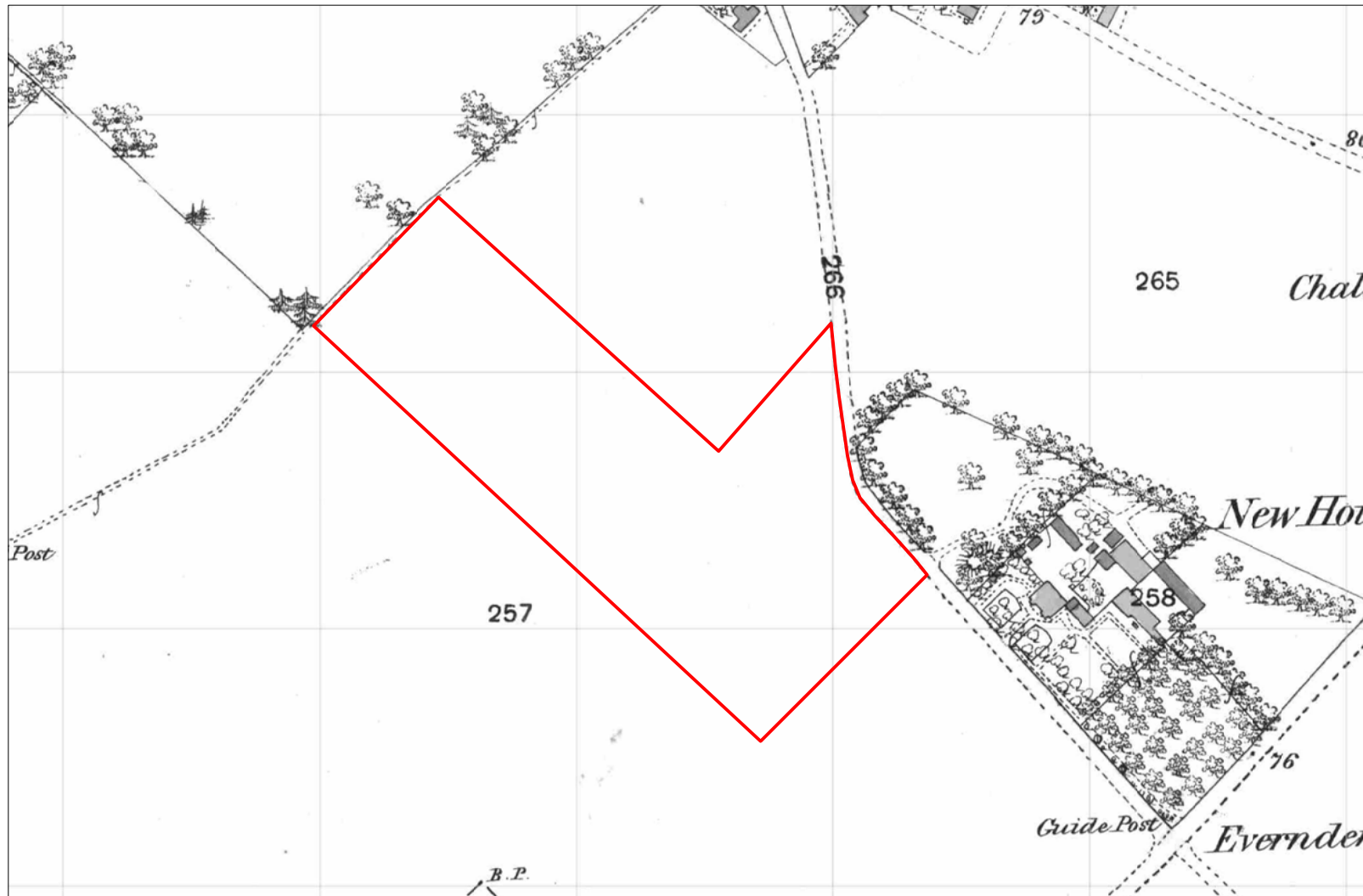
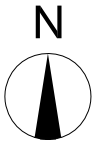


Plate 8. 1798 OSSD (area of PDA in red outline)



Plate 9. 1800 OS County map (area of PDA in red outline)

626370.0mE
166570.0mN



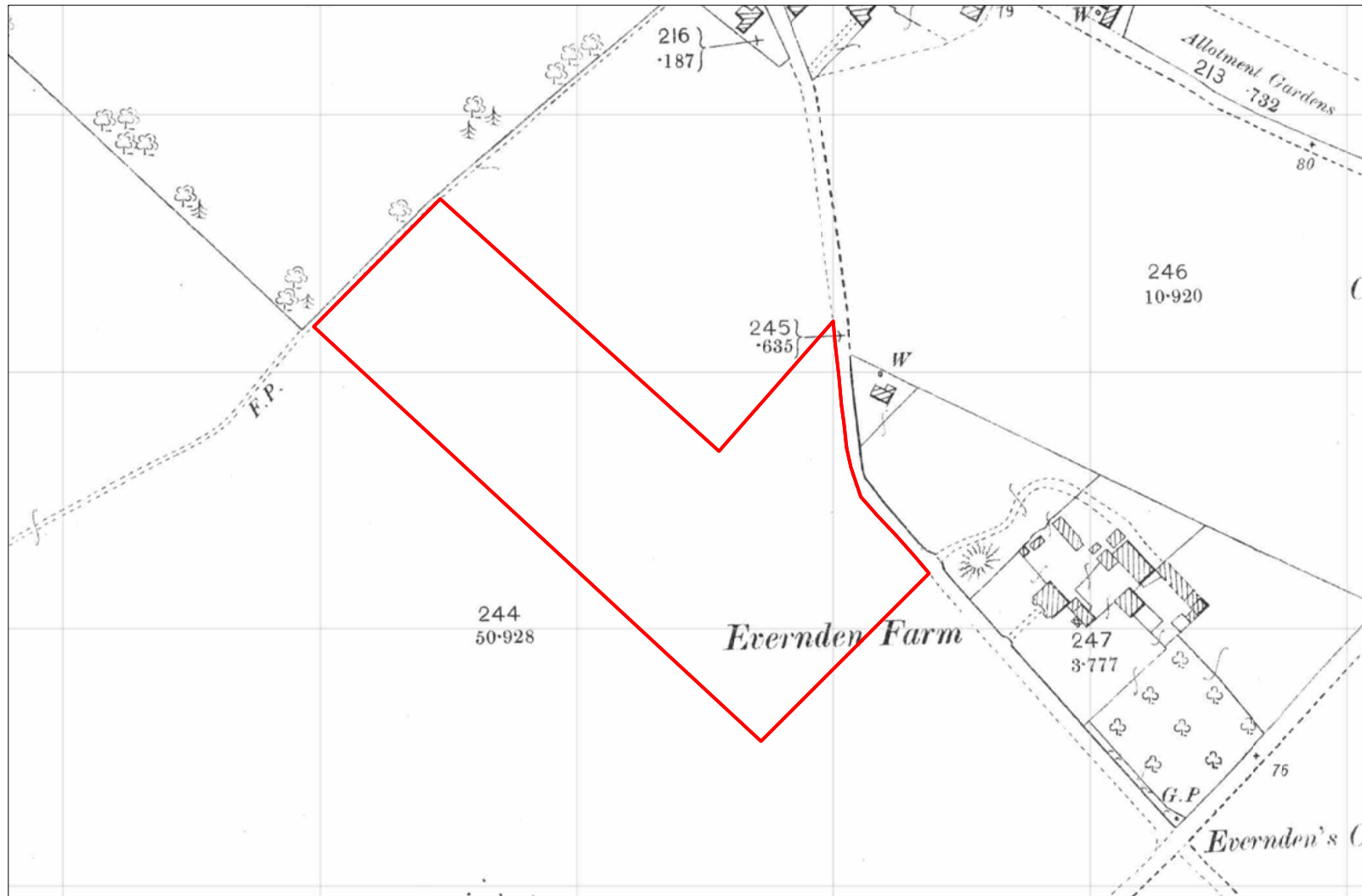
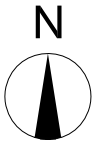
1:2500@A4

626900.0mE
166175.0mN



Figure 1: Historic mapping 1873

626370.0mE
166570.0mN



1:2500@A4

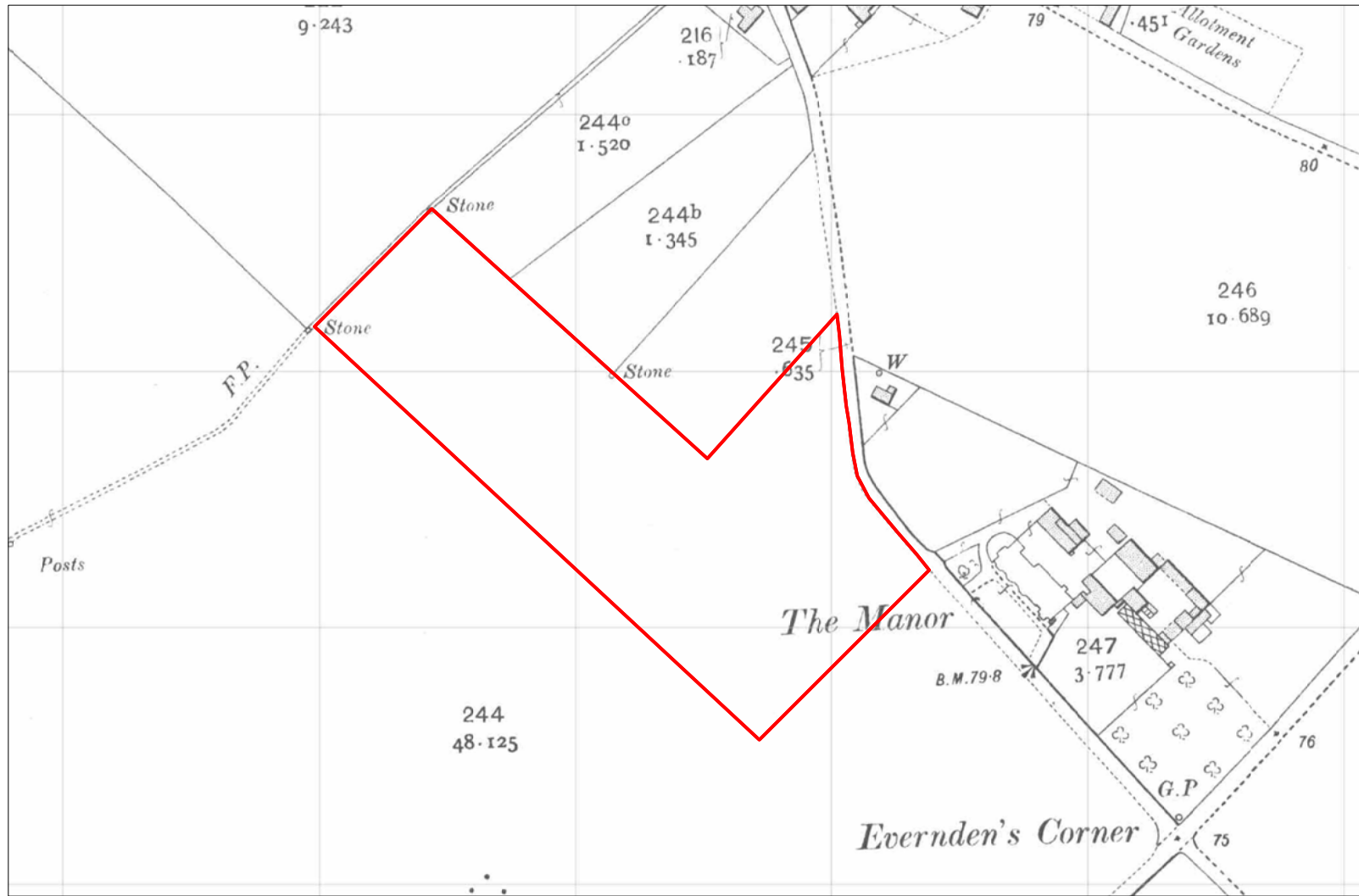
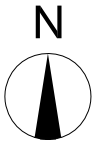
626900.0mE
166175.0mN

0m

200m

Figure 2: Historic mapping 1898

626370.0mE
166570.0mN



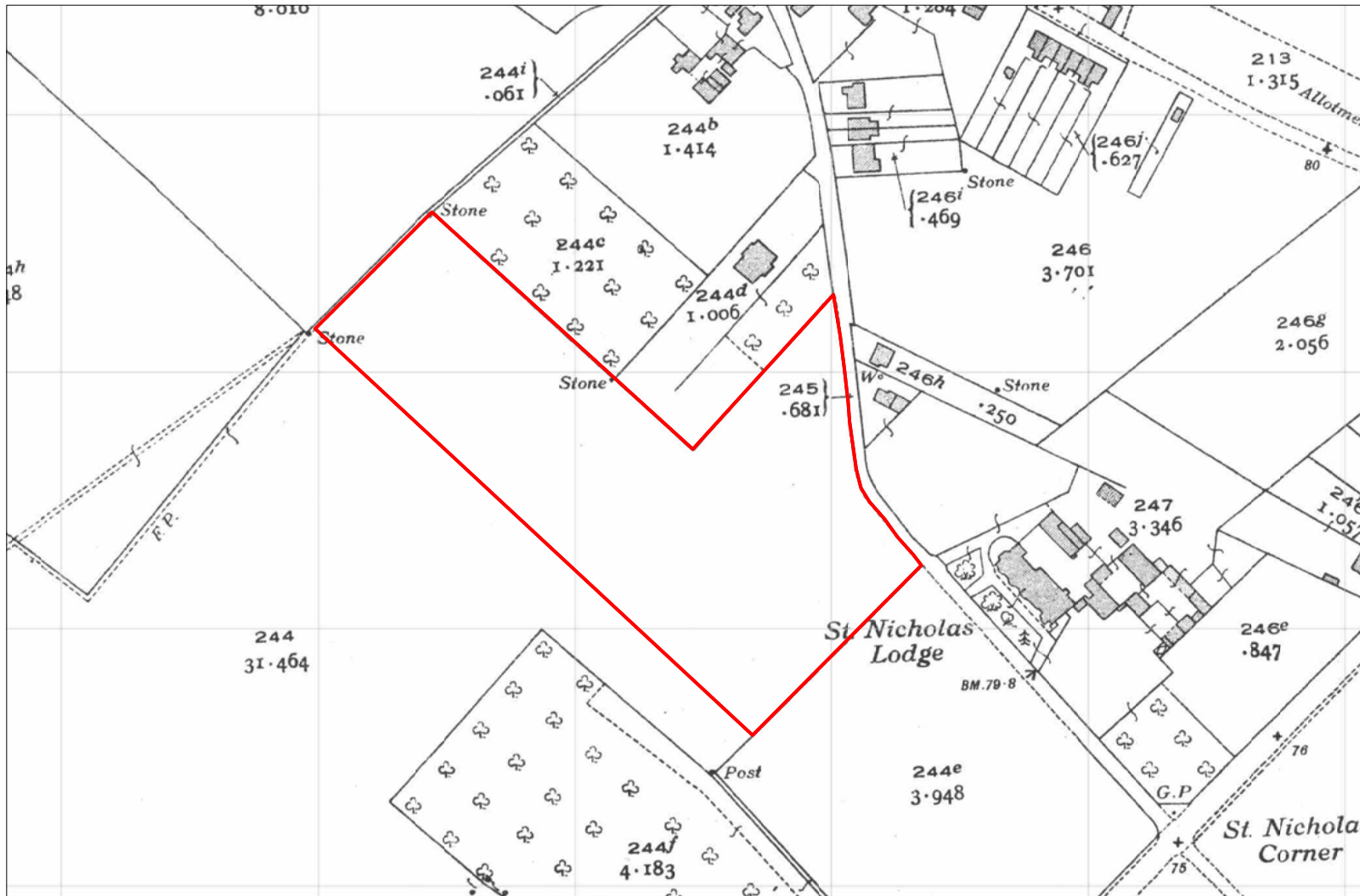
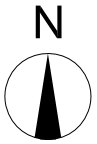
1:2500@A4

626900.0mE
166175.0mN



Figure 3: Historic mapping 1907

626370.0mE
166570.0mN



1:2500@A4

626900.0mE
166175.0mN

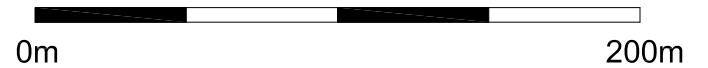
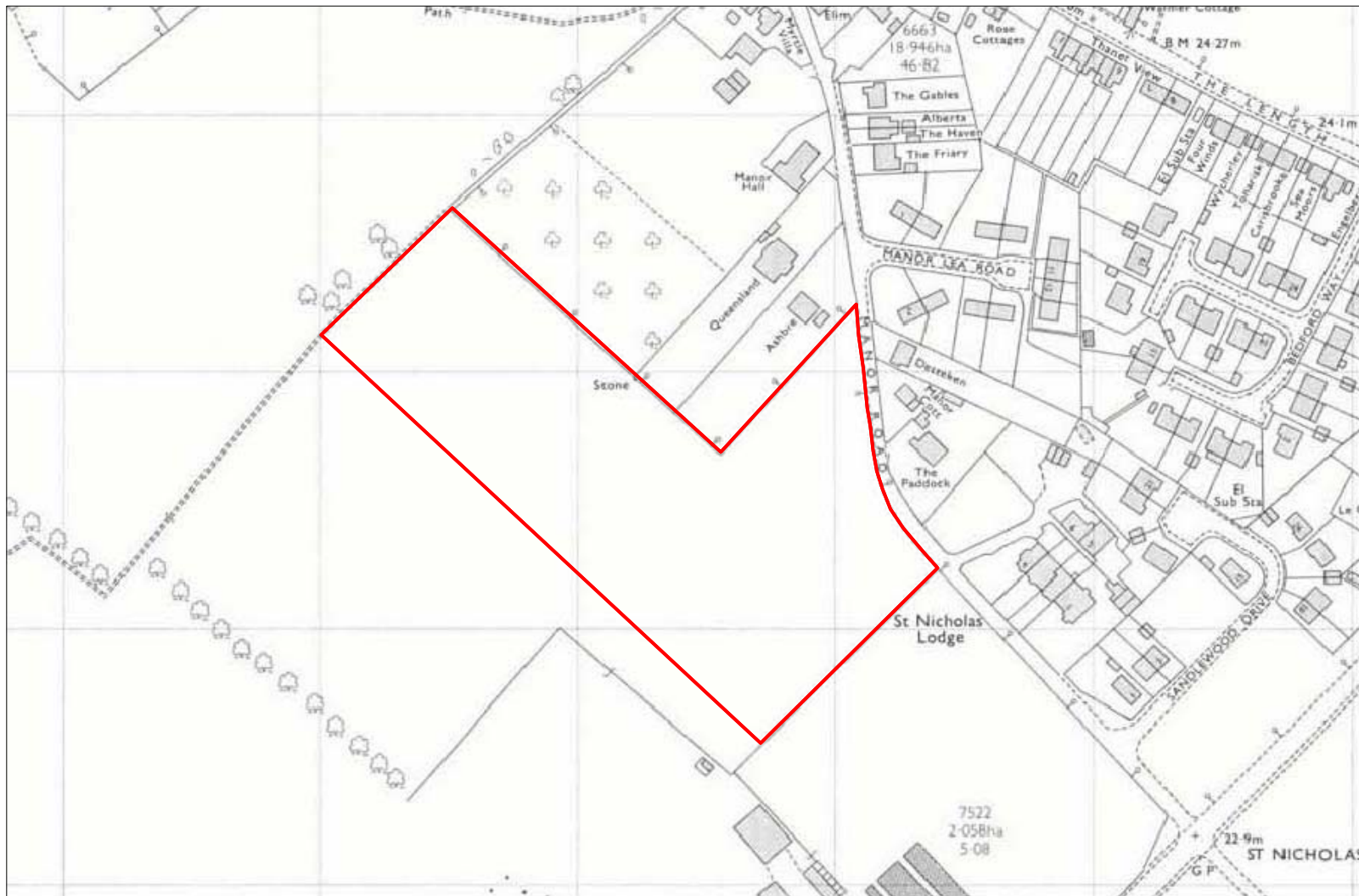
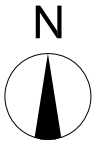


Figure 4: Historic mapping 1939

626370.0mE
166570.0mN



1:2500@A4

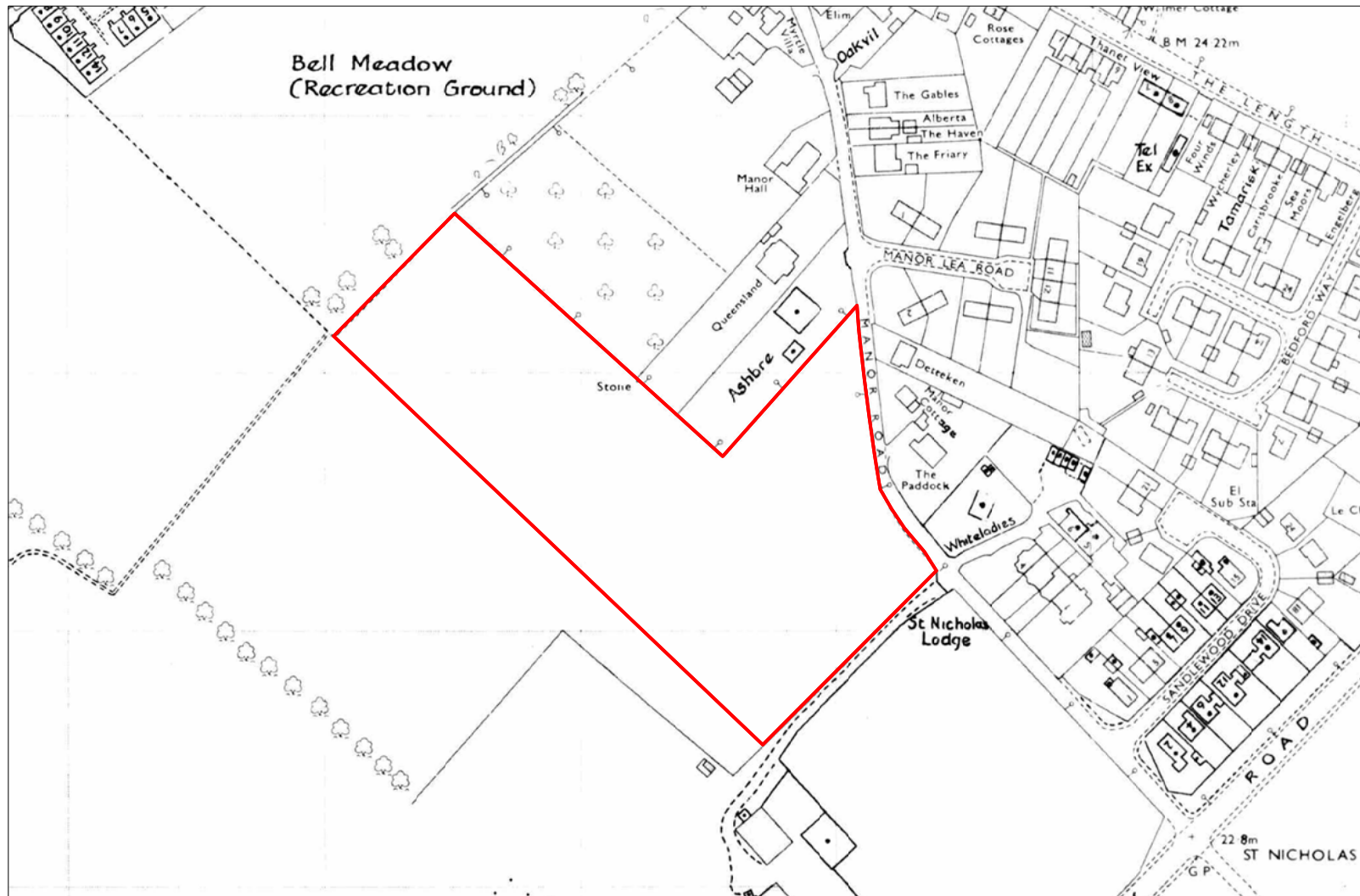
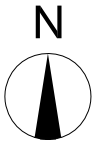
626900.0mE
166175.0mN

0m

200m

Figure 5: Historic mapping 1969

626370.0mE
166570.0mN



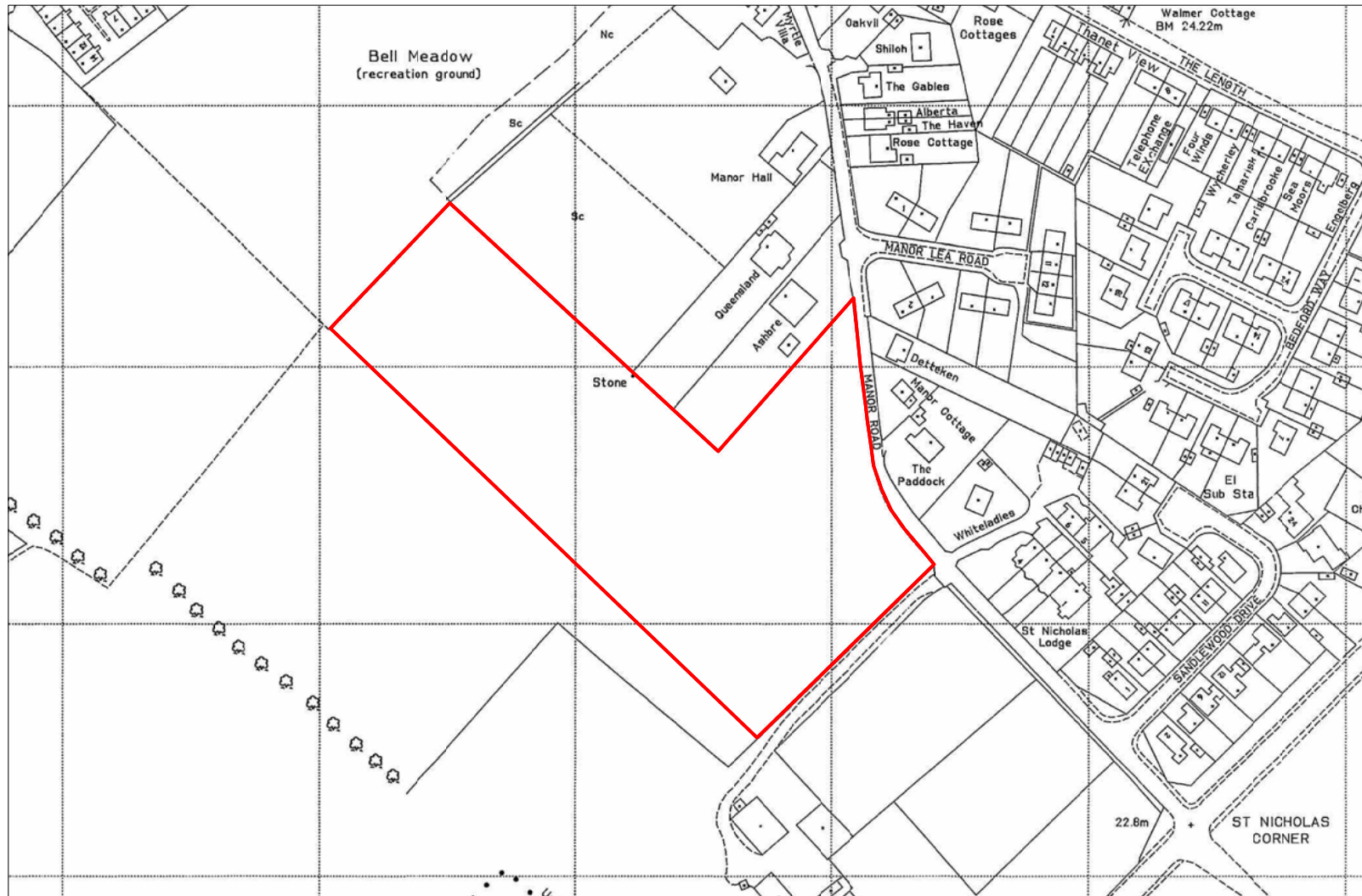
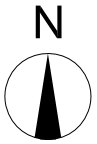
1:2500@A4

626900.0mE
166175.0mN



Figure 6: Historic mapping 1992

626370.0mE
166570.0mN



1:2500@A4

626900.0mE
166175.0mN

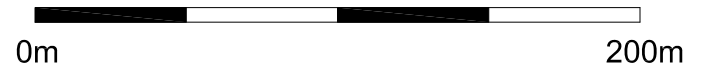
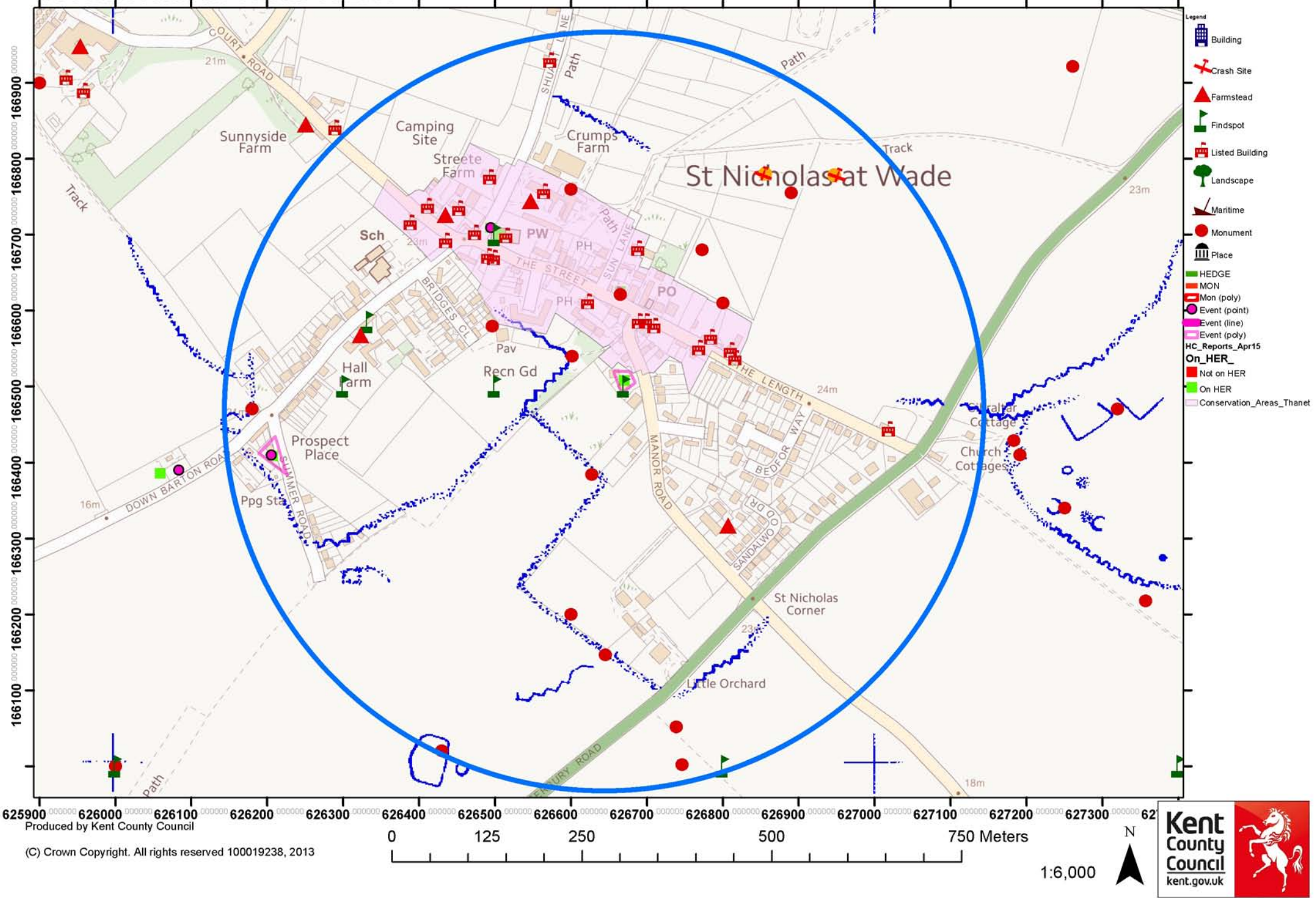


Figure 7: Historic mapping 1995

St Nicholas at Wade HER4



St Nicholas at Wade HER1

