

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in  
Advance of the proposed development at Kent  
College, Whitstable Road, Rough Common,  
Canterbury, Kent CT2 9DT

NGR: TR13159 59348



Report for Fulkers

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development at Kent College, Canterbury, Whitstable Road, Rough Common,  
Canterbury, Kent CT2 9DT

NGR: TR13159 59348

**1. SUMMARY**

**1.1** *SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by Fulkers to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment on Kent College, Whitstable Road, Canterbury, Kent CT2 9DT.*

**1.2** *The proposed development comprises of the construction of a new Great Hall to the east of the existing college buildings.*

**1.3** *The proposed development area (PDA) is located in the city of Canterbury, a district of the county of Kent, in the South East of England. It lies northwest of the river Stour on the edge of the urban development of the city (TR13159 59348). The plot forms approximately 3000sqm of ground to the east of the college buildings that is currently used as sports fields. It is bounded to the north by the Whitstable Road, to the east by the continuing grounds of the college, to the south by college buildings and an all weather pitch and to the west by the main college building and chapel (Fig.1-2).*

**1.4** *This Desk Based Assessment has examined the wide variety of archaeological data held by KHER and other sources (section 10.2). Based on this data the potential for archaeological sites either on or in the near vicinity of the proposed development can be summarized as:*

- *Prehistoric: **Moderate***
- *Iron Age: **Moderate***
- *Romano-British: **Moderate***
- *Anglo-Saxon: **Low***
- *Medieval: **Low***
- *Post-medieval: **Low***
- *Modern: **high***

*The Desk Based Assessment concludes that the site has a **Moderate** potential for archaeological discoveries.*

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

**2.1** The PDA is centered on the National Grid Reference: TR13159 59348

The report has accessed various sources of information to identify any known heritage assets, which may be located within a c.500m vicinity of the Proposed Development Area.

**2.2** Archaeological investigations, both recent and historic have been studied and the information from these investigations has been incorporated into the assessment.

**2.3** This report is a desk-based appraisal from known cartographic, photographic and Archaeological sources and is a research led statement on the archaeological potential of the proposed development.

**2.4** It may be that intrusive investigations, such as a Geophysical Survey and/or an Archaeological Evaluation, with machine cut trial trenching, may be requested by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) as a Planning Condition.

### **3. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

#### **3.1 Geology**

**3.1.1** The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the PDA is set on Bedrock Geology of London Clay Formation (Clay and Silt); sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period in a local environment previously dominated by deep seas. These rocks were formed from infrequent slurries of shallow water sediments, which were then redeposited as graded beds.

**3.1.2** Superficial Deposits of River Terrace Deposits (4, Sand and gravel). Superficial deposits formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary period in a local environment dominated by rivers. These rocks were formed from rivers depositing mainly sand and gravel detrital material in channels to form river terrace deposits, with fine silt and clay from overbank floods forming floodplain alluvium and some bogs depositing peat.

#### **3.2 Topography**

**3.2.1** The PDA sits at an average height of 70m AOD. It lies on the northern edge of urban development in a semi rural location, c.2km from the River Stour and the city walls of Canterbury and c.300m to the east of Rough Common. The Blean Woods National Nature Reserve is c.1.2km to the northwest. A conservation area is located to the northwest along the Whitstable Road and encompassing Blean House and Weirs and to the southeast along St Thomas Hill. According to the Historic Landscape Characterisation Report, the site is in an area made up of small rectangular fields with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure) encroached by post 1810 settlement, C19th parkland to the west and C19th scarp and steep valley side woodland to the south. It also falls within the Stour Palaeolithic Character Area (Fig.1).

### **3.3 Historic Hedgerows**

Historically the PDA was in an area of open fields and trackways with the Whitstable Road to the north boundary. All four boundaries of the site are lined sporadically with hedges and trees, particularly the west boundary, however, there is no evidence that these hedgerows pre-date enclosure nor that they may otherwise qualify as 'important' as defined by Schedule 1 of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997.

The proposed development would not directly affect the boundaries or the woodland and parkland identified outside of the site boundary.

## **4. PLANNING BACKGROUND**

### **4.1 The Proposed Development**

The proposed development area is c.3000sqm and comprises of a planning application for the construction of a Great Hall within the grounds and east of the existing buildings of Kent College.

### **4.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) Policy 12**

The NPPF (2012) paragraphs 126 – 141 is the relevant policy for the historic environment, particularly paragraphs 126 and 128:

#### **4.2.1 Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment**

Paragraph 126. 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.

**4.2.2** Paragraph 128. 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 significant.

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 (NPPF 2012).

### **4.3 Planning Policy Guidance**

Planning Policy Guidance that help to preserve the built and archaeological heritage are:

- PPG15 Planning and the Historic Environment
- PPG16 Archaeology and Planning

#### **4.4 Statutory Protection**

Both above and below ground archaeological remains that are considered Nationally can be identified and protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Any works affecting a scheduled Monument should be preceded by an application to the Secretary of State for Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC). Geophysical investigation or the use of a metal detector requires advance permission from Historic England.

The legal requirements on control of development and alterations affecting buildings, including those which are listed or in conservation areas (which are protected by law), is set out in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

#### **4.5 Regional Policies**

**4.5.1** Canterbury City Council in the Canterbury District Local Plan Publication Draft 2 list a number of policies relevant to archaeology:

Policy HE1. Historic Environment and Heritage Assets

HE2. World Heritage Site and Buffer Zone

HE4. Listed Buildings

HE8. Heritage Assets

HE11. Archaeology

HE12. Area of Archaeological Importance

Policy HE1 relates to the importance of the historic environment, HE2 to the World Heritage site, HE 4 and 5 to Listed Buildings, HE 5-10 to the Conservation areas, HE12 to the World Heritage site and HE 13 to Historic Parks and Gardens.

Policy HE11 concerns below ground archaeological remains, their evaluation, excavation and mitigation strategies.

##### **Policy HE11**

*The archaeological and historic integrity of designated heritage assets such as Scheduled Ancient 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.*

*Where important or potentially significant heritage assets may exist, developers will be required to arrange for field evaluation to be carried out in advance of the determination of planning applications. The evaluation should define:*

- *The character, importance and condition of any archaeological deposits or structures within the application site;*
- *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*
- *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 City Council's Archaeological Officer or a competent archaeological organisation that has been agreed by the City Council in advance.*

**4.5.2** The South-East Research Framework (SERF) is on-going with groups of researchers producing a Resource Assessment, which will identify research questions and topics in order to form a Research Agenda for the future.

**4.6** This Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Good Practice Advice notes 1, 2 and 3, which now supersede the PPS 5 Practice Guide, which has been withdrawn by the Government.

The Good Practice Advice notes emphasizes 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.

## **5. PROJECT CONSTRAINTS**

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

## **6. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

**6.1** The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Fulkers in order to supplement a planning application for the proposed construction of a Great Hall, within the grounds and east of the existing buildings of Kent College (TR13159 59348), to establish the potential for archaeological features and deposits.

## **6.2 Desktop Study – Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2011)**

This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Institute for Archaeologists (2014). 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”.* (CiFA 2014)

## **7. METHODOLOGY**

### **7.1 Desk-Based Assessment**

#### **7.1.1 Archaeological Databases**

The Kent Historic Environment Record (HER) provides an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area (PDA) and the surrounding environs of Canterbury. The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) was also used. The search was carried out within a 500m radius of the proposed development site and relevant HER data is included in the report. The Portable Antiquities Scheme Database (PAS) was also searched as an additional source as the information contained within is not always transferred to the local HER.

#### **7.1.2 Historical Documents**

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

### **7.1.3 Cartographic and Pictorial Documents**

A cartographic and pictorial document search was undertaken during this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by Kent County Council, the Internet and Ordnance Survey Historical mapping (Figs. 1-12).

### **7.1.4 Aerial Photographs**

The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-6).

### **7.1.5 Geotechnical Information**

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

### **7.1.6 Secondary and statutory resources**

Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological Studies are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment where necessary.

## **8. RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS**

**8.1** The report has accessed various sources of information to identify any known heritage assets, which may be located within the vicinity of the Proposed Development Area. Archaeological investigations, both recent and historic have been studied and the information from these investigations has been incorporated into the assessment.

### **8.2 Archaeology**

**8.2.1** The site is located in the Stour Palaeolithic Character Area, within metres of the Conservation Area that covers the Weir, Blean House and the northwest of the Whitstable Road. There has been scant archaeological investigation within the surrounding area and as

a consequence there has been only four intrusive archaeological evaluations within a c.500m radius uncovering a prehistoric settlement at St Edmunds School (EKE379/TR15NW595) and the remains of the Medieval Homestead Moat (EKE4573/TR15NW13). (Appendix I, Fig.18, 19, 20, 21 23).

#### **8.2.2 0-100m Radius:**

In 2006, a watching brief (EKE10342) conducted on the trunk main lay between St Thomas Tower and Blean Reservoir, c.100m north of the PDA, by Kent Archaeological Projects produced a negative result.

#### **8.2.3 100-200m Radius:**

No recorded events within this distance.

#### **8.2.4 200-300m Radius:**

No recorded events within this distance.

#### **8.2.5 300-400m Radius:**

In 1998, a watching brief (EKE5379) carried out at St Edmunds School, c.300m southeast of the PDA, by Archeology Southeast revealed a prehistoric settlement. Two enclosure ditches containing significant amounts of charcoal, burnt flint and pottery fragments, postholes and a rare example of a domestic fire pit surrounded by six stake holes. Settlement, in two phases, appeared to be concentrated to the southeast and east of the site. Phase I consisted of shallow pits, post holes and two possible industrial structures measuring 4m x 2m, one containing slag and one containing fragments of loom waste. Phase II saw an enlargement of the settlement area surrounded by a large curvilinear ditch with two rounded termini forming an entrance to the northwest. Within the enclosure were a roundhouse c.15m diameter and two possible storage buildings measuring 4.8m x 3.8m x 0.3m deep, nearby a large pottery vessel was recovered. It was determined that the enclosure ditches were late Bronze Age and other features were Iron Age (*TR15NW595 - 1998, Archaeology South-East*).

#### **8.2.6 400-500m Radius:**

In 1977, a watching brief (EKE4573) carried out at the Moat House, Rough Common, c.400m northwest of the PDA, by Canterbury Archeological Trust confirmed the remains of the medieval moat. It appears on the OS map, the north and east arms remain wet but the remainder survives only as a shallow depression. A 1.5m trench to the south corner revealed that the moat was 4.0m wide at ground level, 2.0m deep with sloping sides giving way to a flat base of 2.5m. Pottery sherds from the C14th-18<sup>th</sup> were recovered (TR15NW13). In 2004, a watching brief (EKE10341) carried out on land at Park Wood site A, University of Kent (phase 6), c.450m north of the PDA, by Canterbury Archeological Trust produced a negative result. In 2009, a Geophysical survey (EKE12454) of land north of Beverly farm, c.500m east of the PDA, identified two areas of disturbance

### 8.2.7 Established stratigraphy

Excavations at St Edmunds School, c.300m southeast of the PDA, confirmed the natural geology level of London Clay to be 0.4m below the surface.

## 9. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

### 9.1 Table of Historical Periods

Paleolithic	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*

**9.2** 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 page 18 in **Table 1**.

### **9.3 Introduction**

The Archaeological record within the assessment area is diverse and should comprise possible activity dating from one of the earliest human period in Britain through to the modern period. The geographic and topographic location of Canterbury is within a landscape that has been the focus of trade, travel, settlement, industry and communication since the Palaeolithic.

### **9.4 History of the Locality**

**9.4.1** Canterbury is a historic English cathedral city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There is evidence that the city was occupied from the Palaeolithic period and some 2000 years ago was settled on both sides of the River Stour by the 'Belgae'.

**9.4.2** In the first century AD a major Iron Age settlement and Hillfort was established at Bigbury to the west of the city by the local Celtic tribe the Cantiaci and became known as '*Durovernon*' or "*Stronghold by the Alder Grove*".

**9.4.3** In 43 AD the Romans invaded Britain and founded a settlement close to the River Stour and took over the Celtic settlement, rebuilding it and naming it 'Durovernum Cantiacorum' or "*Fortress of Kent*". It became one of the 28 cities of Roman Britain, connected to the major Kentish ports of Richborough, Dover and Lymne and therefore of considerable strategic importance. There was no major military Garrison but in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century an earth bank and city walls were constructed with seven gates, Northgate, Westgate, Riding gate, Burgate, Worth Gate, London gate and Queningate, leading

outwards to the Roman roads that created a network of communication across Kent. The walls enclosed 130 acres of the settlement including a cemetery to the south east that had always been beyond the city boundary; the industrial area remained beyond the gates to the west of the city. Excavations suggest that the defensive ditch that surrounded the city was c.25m wide and c.5.5m deep and may have been filled by the River Stour. The PDA is located on the road from Whitstable to Canterbury entering Canterbury via the West Gate. The West Gate, a medieval replacement of the Roman West Gate, is one of the more important gates leading to Rochester and London. Roman cemeteries are documented to the east, south and northwest of the city walls and burial mounds are to the east and south. Tile and brick kilns are to the northeast and north, in the vicinity of the PDA. The town flourished for 300 years but by the 4<sup>th</sup> century the Roman civilization was in decline and the Romans abandoned both Canterbury in 407AD and Britain in 410AD. Canterbury ceased to be a town, inhabited by the residual farming population that probably farmed lands beyond the walls.

**9.4.4** In the late 4th century, the Jutes arrived, a Germanic people that settled in Britain in the late C4<sup>th</sup> and made Canterbury or '*Cantwareburh*' meaning "*Kentish Stronghold*" their centre. In 597 AD the Pope sent Augustine with a group of monks to convert the Saxon population to Christianity. King Ethelbert the King of Kent, married to a Christian woman, gave little opposition and in 598AD Augustine and his monks built a church outside the city walls and in 602AD rededicated a deserted Roman church. Augustine became Archbishop in 603AD and by 672AD Canterbury was given complete authority over the English Church. The town began to prosper again and craftsmen returned to the town, particularly the leather industry for gloves, shoes, saddles and bottles and later the wool industry. The River Stour that forms the southern boundary of the PDA was a great source of trade from British towns as far as Ipswich and further afield in northern France and by 630AD gold and silver coins were being struck at the Canterbury mint.

**9.4.5** Peace was broken by the raiding of the Danes; close proximity to the eastern coast made the town a prime target and consequently it was raided in 842 and 851AD suffering great loss of life. Archbishop Dunstan refounded the abbey built by Augustine and recovery began. St Georges Gate or Newingate was constructed and in 923AD a cattle market began

beyond the city walls to the southwest. A second wave of attacks began in 991AD until finally in 1011 the Danes laid a siege on Canterbury that lasted 20 days, capturing the town, burning the cathedral and houses and killing the Archbishop.

**9.4.6** Following their experience of the Danes, Canterbury surrendered to the Norman invasion of 1066AD without a fight. At the time of the Domesday survey in 1086 Canterbury was flourishing, its population numbering some 6000 and new areas of settlement were growing outside of the city walls. The cathedral burned again and was replaced twice by the Normans in 1070 and 1175. The wooden motte-and-bailey castle that was constructed with the arrival of William the Conqueror was replaced in stone in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. There have been water mills on the River Stour since at least the 100AD.

At one point there were eleven mills documented but these have disappeared over time.

**9.4.7** In 1170AD, followers of King Henry II murdered the Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Becket, and the city became a major focus of pilgrimage in Britain and Europe. The number of pilgrims visiting the city brought trade and further prosperity. Eastbridge Hospital was built as a shelter for poor pilgrims in 1190AD. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century a leper hostel was dedicated to Saint Nicholas and the Hospital of Saints Nicholas and Saint Katherine was built for the poor.

During the Medieval period England's main export was wool and Canterbury thrived on both the wool and leather trade until 1348 when the Black Death arrived. Canterbury had the tenth largest population in England at 10,000 but that number fell dramatically to 3,000 by the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Westgate was rebuilt by Archbishop Simon Sudbury in 1379AD primarily as an entrance for the pilgrims and also in response to anticipated French raids. The town suffered again during the Peasant's Revolt in 1381, when the Archbishop's Palace and the castle were sacked. The Roman walls had been robbed of stone and damaged over the centuries and in 1380AD, in response to French raids, the walls were rebuilt on the Roman foundations. A survey in 1402AD shows that the city was defended by walls with the exception of a small area by the River Stour beyond Northgate. During the medieval period the river that flowed between Northgate and Westgate was used for defensive purposes and a medieval ditch is documented.

**9.4.8** In 1448 Canterbury was granted a City Charter, a Mayor and a High Sheriff and in 1453AD Henry VI gave permission for a jail at the Westgate. This became Canterbury's prison through to the C19th. In 1507AD the Old Weavers House was erected and Christchurch Cathedral built. At the Dissolution the Abbey and three Friaries were closed, Thomas Becket's shrine was demolished and all the gold, silver and jewels removed to the Tower of London. The removal of his image, name and feasts put an end to the constant stream of pilgrimages that entered the city. From 1567, Protestant Huguenots, fleeing from religious persecution in Belgium began to arrive in Canterbury, continuing to settle there through the 16<sup>th</sup> century and bringing with them the silk weaving trade. Religious persecution continued in England and in 1647 during the English civil war Canterbury's Mayor banned church services on Christmas day provoking riots. The trials that followed led to a Kent revolt against Parliamentary forces but following the battle of Maidstone, Canterbury surrendered to the Parliamentarians. In 1660AD the Archbishop Juxon installed new doors to Westgate suggesting that it remained an important entrance to the city. By 1770, the castle had fallen into disrepair and was demolished. In 1787 the City was improved with paving, lighting and regular cleaning of the streets and in 1780 the gates were demolished to allow for the growing coach traffic. The silk trade suffered from the import of Indian muslins and by the late 18<sup>th</sup> century Canterbury had quietened to a market town that traded in wheat and hops, with a successful leather and paper industry.

**9.4.9** The railway arrived in 1830, the St Augustine's Abbey was refurbished as a missionary college in 1848 and the population grew.

During WWI barracks and hospitals were created and a German bomber crashed at Broad Oak Road. World War II brought further destruction to the city; 10445 bombs were dropped in 135 raids culminating in the Baedeker Blitz of 1942 when 48 people were killed and part of the town was destroyed.

A focused history of the development site is examined in the next section.

## **9.5 Regression 1769 – 1992**

### **9.5.1 Historic maps**

**9.5.1.1** In an extract from the Topographical Map of the County of Kent by A Drury & W Herbert 1769, the PDA is located in woods to the west of St Thomas's Hill on the road leading from the Westgate of Canterbury to Whitstable (Plate 11).

## **9.5.2 The Ordnance Survey Maps**

The first Ordnance Survey map produced for Kent is the County map of 1801 (Plate 13) and derived from the Ordnance Surveyors Drawings (OSSD). The scale of the 1801 map is one inch to one mile whereas the OSSD map of Canterbury is at a scale of three inches to one mile. The OSSD map dated 1799 and archived at the British Library (Catalogue No. 107/109) shows with some clarity the site surveyed with acceptable standards in 1799 (Plate 12). It seems the woodland shown on the Andrews map of 1769 has gone to be replaced with rectangular field systems which on close inspection seem to be in filled by the cartographer with a series of wavy lines which may denote orchards. Unfortunately the accompanying field notes were destroyed in a German bombing raid on the Southampton headquarters of the Ordnance Survey in 1940.

### **9.5.2.1 OS County Series 1873 - 1874 1:2500**

The PDA is located in a rural area of rectangular fields 14, 7 and 31. It is bounded to the north by the Whitstable Road to the east, west and south by fields; a track way runs along the west boundary. The Moat House is northwest, Blean House to the north and St Thomas' college to the southeast. Interestingly the water reservoir which is now such a landmark was in place by 1874 (Fig.3).

### **9.5.2.2 OS County Series 1898 1:2500**

Kent College has been constructed in Field 14. St Thomas' College is now St Edmunds School and there has been little change to the surrounding area (Fig.4).

### **9.5.2.3 OS County Series 1907 1:2500**

Kent College has expanded to the north with a new wing and out buildings have been added to the southwest of the site (Fig.5).

### **9.5.2.4 OS County Series 1937-1938 1:2500**

Kent College has expanded to the west with a large out building and a new southerly wing. A new development has sprung up to the west around High Field Close. A swimming pool and pavilion are in the field to the south (Fig.6).

#### **9.5.2.5 OS National Grid 1956-57 1:1250**

Kent College has expanded once again with a west wing and a courtyard garden. The surrounding fields have been cultivated as orchard or hop. There is a note in the grounds of St Edmunds School – ‘Neolithic axe was found in 1952’ (Fig.7-9).

#### **9.5.2.6 OS National Grid 1964-1973 1:1250**

By 1964 the development around High Field Close is complete. Kent College has expanded to the southwest with new buildings around the swimming pool and by 1974 the pavilion has been rebuilt on a larger scale. There has been further low-density residential development to the northwest and southwest (Fig.10-13).

#### **9.5.2.7 OS National Grid 1980-92 1:1250**

By 1992 Kent College has expanded to the southeast with new external buildings, the pavilion has again been reconstructed on a larger scale and tennis courts and Austin House have been built in the east field along Neal’s Place Road. The site of St Edmunds School has been entirely re-developed (Fig.14-17).

### **9.6 Aerial photographs**

#### **9.6.1 1940**

The College is within a largely rural setting, bounded to the north by the Whitstable Road (A290) and to the west by a small cul-de-sac housing development. There are three main wings with several central buildings, formal grounds, a swimming pool and a pavilion (Plate 1). On close inspection the fields to the north have an interesting collection of cropmarks and these features may also be in the areas of the PDA (Plate 14).

#### **9.6.2 1960**

The surrounding area remains semi-rural, the college has expanded with a west wing and a new building has been constructed to the north of the swimming pool (Plate 2).

### **9.6.3 1990**

Residential development has spread to the northwest. The college is constructed to all four sides of the plot with formal gardens and buildings in the centre. The pavilion has been rebuilt on a much larger scale and several buildings have sprung up in the east field, along with tennis courts. A water tower has been built in a field to the south of Neal's Farm Road. St Edmunds School has been entirely rebuilt (Plate 3).

### **9.6.4 2003-2007**

By 2007 the swimming pool is housed within a building. St Edmunds School has expanded both north and west (Plate 4).

### **9.6.5 2007 - 2014**

By 2013 the eastern tennis courts have become a car park (Plate 4).

## **9.7 Scheduled Monuments; Listed Buildings; Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas**

**9.7.1** There are three Buildings and one monument recorded within the confines of the proposed development area (PDA). Six monuments, six Listed Buildings, five events, four farmsteads and one findspot, are recorded within a c.500m vicinity of the PDA; no listed building shares intervisibility with the PDA (Plates 7-10).

## **9.8 Setting of Listed Buildings**

**9.8.1** One of the tasks of the site visit was aimed to identify any designated heritage assets within the wider context of the PDA in accordance with The Setting of Heritage Assets – English Heritage Guidance (English Heritage 2011). This 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).

**9.8.2** There are six Grade II Listed Buildings within the assessment area:

Blean House, c.300m northwest, is a three-storey house with projecting first floor bay window and balcony, built 1800-1832 (TR15NW1542); P.C. Hardwick built St Edmunds School, c.350m southeast, in 1854-1855. It is two to three-storey, ragstone construction with stone dressing (TR15NW1072); the former Head Master’s house at St Edmunds School, c.350m southeast, is of similar construction and was built by Sir R Blomfield in 1897. The porch has four ionic pilasters and the roof has a cupola with a bell and weather vane (TR15NW1071); Hothe Court, c.350m north, is the site of a medieval manor. Sir Bartholomew de Badlesmere, leader of the opposition to Edward II is that to have lived in a house that predates the 16<sup>th</sup> century timber-framed Court House. Manor Court was held here in the medieval period and the property with post C18<sup>th</sup> restorations (TR15NW1317); A six bay aisled timber barn joins Hove Court to the north, c.400m north of the PDA, dating to 1600-1699 (TR15NW1347); Moat House, c.400m northwest, is a two-storey house, built 1780-1820 (TR15NW1315)

## **10. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

### **10.1 Walkover Survey**

**10.1.1** The walkover survey is for the purpose of:

1. Identifying any historic landscape features not shown on maps
2. Conducting a rapid survey for archaeological features
3. Making a note of any surface scatters of archaeological material
4. Constraints or areas of disturbance that may affect archaeological investigation

**10.1.2** The walkover survey (on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017) was not intended as a detailed survey but the rapid identification of archaeological features and any evidence for buried archaeology in the form of surface scatters of lithic or pottery artifacts.

**10.1.3** The site is a College with associated grounds and sports facilities and a walkover survey produced no archaeological features or artifacts as the site is laid to turf (Plates 10, 11, 12, 13).

**10.1.4** The PDA consists of a single plot that houses the myriad buildings that together form the Kent College and the associated grounds and sports facilities (Plates 7-10).

## **10.2 Kent Historic Environment Record**

See Appendix I & Fig.18-23

### **10.2.1 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age**

The Palaeolithic period represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has one record from this period within the assessment area. In 1978, three lower Palaeolithic axes were found near Moat house, Rough Common (TR15NW226), c.400m west of the PDA.

The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has no record from this period within the assessment area.

The Neolithic period was the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry. The Kent HER has one record dating to this period within the assessment area. In 1952, a Neolithic axe (TR15NW29) was found in 1952 in a garden to the rear of St Edmunds School, c.250m southeast of the PDA.

The Bronze Age was a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Kent HER has two

records dating to this period within the assessment area. A watching brief (EKE5379) in 1998 at St Edmund's School, c.250m southeast, in 1998 revealed a small pit containing burnt prehistoric pottery and flint (TR15NW595). Canterbury is known to have been inhabited during the prehistoric period and excavations at St Edmund's School, c.250m southeast, revealed a late Bronze Age /Iron Age settlement. The potential, therefore, for finding remains that date prior to the Iron Age within the confines of the proposed development is considered **moderate**.

### **10.2.2 Iron Age**

The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres (the Iron Age 'Tribal capital' or civitas of the Cantiaci). The Kent HER has no record of archaeological evidence within the assessment area, however, Canterbury was the main settlement of the Cantiaci tribe that inhabited most of Kent and an Iron Age settlement has been recorded at St Edmunds School, c.250m southeast, therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **moderate**.

### **10.2.3 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. There are no Kent HER records from this period within the assessment area, however, the City of Canterbury was taken by the Romans in the C1st, rebuilt and named *Durovernum Cantiacorum* and the Whitstable Road that passes to the north boundary of the PDA, left from the Westgate. Therefore, the potential for finding archaeological features or deposits from this period is considered **moderate**.

### **10.2.4 Anglo-Saxon**

After the Romans abandoned the City, an Anglo Saxon settlement grew within the city walls and Canterbury was chosen by Augustine as his episcopal see in Kent; thus beginning its history of religious importance. There are no Kent HER records from this period within the

assessment area; therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period in the PDA is considered **low**.

### **10.2.5 Medieval**

Canterbury was again taken during the Norman invasion and following the murder of Thomas Becket it became the centre of pilgrimage; the arrival of the Black Death, in 1348, significantly reduced the population. There are two records in the Kent HER within the assessment area. A trench cut through the site of Homestead Moat at Harbledown and Rough Common, c.400m northwest, confirmed the size of the original moat (TR15NW13). Hothe Court is a Grade II Listed site, c.350m north, that dates from 1066-1799AD and was first recorded as a manor, later a Court house and a timber-framed house (TR15NW1317). The potential, therefore, for finding remains dating to the medieval period is considered as **low**.

### **10.2.6 Post Medieval**

Canterbury, a religious centre, suffered under the dissolution and the PDA is located in an area beyond the city walls and outside of the local villages. There are three records of Grade II listed properties held at the Kent HER within the assessment area. Blean House, built 1800-1832, c.300m northwest of the PDA (TR15NW1452), the former Head Masters House at St Edmunds School, c.350m southeast, built 1897 by Sir R. Blomfield (TR15NW1072) and an aisled barn of six bays, joining Hove Court on the north, c.400m north, dates to 1600-1699 (TR15NW1347). Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to this period is considered **low**.

### **10.2.7 Modern**

The modern period saw the PDA developed as Kent College. There are seven Kent HER records within the assessment area relating to WWII. The Civil Defence Wardens Post, late October 1940 (TR15NW8000), a Defence First Aid Party, November 1940 (TR15NW799), a School Air Raid Shelter (TR15NW854) and a Military Head Quarters (TR15NW1150) are all recorded within the PDA. A Rocket Battery on St Edmunds School playing field, c.150m northeast of the PDA (TR15NW1138), a Pill Box on St Thomas' Hill, Rough Common, c.250m southeast (TR15NW1110) and a Road Block on Whitstable Road near the Water Tower,

c.300m southeast (TR15NW1157). Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to this period is considered as **high**.

### **10.2.8 Farmsteads**

There are two farmsteads recorded in the assessment area. Hothe Court is a post-medieval, loose courtyard plan with buildings to four sides of the yard, detached elements and farm house, in an isolated position, c.400m north of the PDA, with less than 50% loss of original form (MKE86202). Moat House is a post-medieval, regular courtyard with buildings to three sides of the yard with a detached farmhouse, located in a village, c.400m northwest of the PDA. Only the farmhouse remains (MKE86205).

### **10.2.9 Undated Records**

There are no undated records within the assessment area.

## **10.3 Summary of Potential**

**10.3.1** Archaeological evidence suggests that Canterbury was settled throughout the prehistoric period. Lower Palaeolithic axes were found near Moat house at Rough Common (TR15NW226), c.400m west of the PDA and a Neolithic axe (TR15NW29) was found in a garden to the rear of St Edmunds School, c.250m southeast. While a significant late Bronze Age settlement was uncovered at St Edmunds School, it was focused towards the southeast and east of the school, at the furthest distance from the PDA, therefore, the potential is considered moderate.

**10.3.2** While there has been scant evidence of the Iron Age within the vicinity of the PDA, Canterbury was the main settlement of the Cantiaci tribe and a Bronze Age settlement at St Edmunds School that continued into the Iron Age, suggests a moderate potential.

**10.3.3** In the C1st the City of Canterbury became the Roman town of *Durovernum Cantiacorum*. Roman activity in the area was prolific and St Dunstan Street was the Roman Road that led from the Westgate, later joining the Whitstable Road. Therefore, although there is no evidence in the HER of Roman occupation within the assessment area, close

proximity to the town and evidence of Roman settlement beyond the walls would suggest a moderate potential.

**10.3.4** Following the Roman retreat, Canterbury was settled by the Anglo Saxon peoples, a farming community that lived within, but farmed lands beyond the city walls. Despite this, there is no evidence in the Kent HER for this period therefore the potential is considered low.

**10.3.5** The medieval period saw a rise in population and in the number of people visiting the city on pilgrimage. The site is not on the main pilgrimage route and the only evidence of this period within the assessment area are the remains of Homestead Moat (TR15NW13) and Hothe Court (TR15NW1317) at a distance of c.350-400m suggesting a low potential.

**10.3.6** The Black Death had reduced the population of the city by almost a third and the dissolution would have had a profound impact on the city, removing some of its spiritual attraction and reducing a large part of its religious income and stability and would have affected the population beyond the city walls. As a consequence, perhaps, the surviving evidence for this period is in buildings that date to the later more prosperous time of C17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. Blean House, (TR15NW1452), the former Head Masters House at St Edmunds School, (TR15NW1072) and an aisled barn joining Hove Court (TR15NW1347) at c.3-400m distance, again suggesting a low potential.

**10.3.7** During the modern period Kent College was constructed and played its part in the war effort as the Kent HER record testifies; the Civil Defence Wardens Post (TR15NW8000), a Defence First Aid Party (TR15NW799), a School Air Raid Shelter (TR15NW854) and a Military Head Quarters (TR15NW1150). Further afield, evidence that Canterbury was preparing for invasion from the English Channel survives in a Rocket Battery on St Edmunds School playing field (TR15NW1138), a Pill Box on St Thomas' Hill (TR15NW1110) and a Road Block on Whitstable Road (TR15NW1157) suggesting a high potential for this period.

**10.3.8** The desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site. Archaeological investigations in the vicinity, map research, the historical environment

record results and recent archaeological investigations have shown that the PDA may contain archaeological sites and these can be summarised as:

- Prehistoric: **Moderate**
- Iron Age: **Moderate**
- Roman: **Moderate**
- Anglo-Saxon: **Low**
- Medieval: **Low**
- Post-Medieval: **Low**
- Modern: **High**

## 11. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### 11.1 Introduction

Cartographic Regression, Topographical Analysis, and Historic Research have provided evidence for the historic use of the site. By collating this information, we have assessed the impact on previous archaeological remains through the following method of categorisation:

- **Total Impact** - Where the area has undergone a destructive process to a depth that would in all probability have destroyed any archaeological remains e.g. construction, mining, quarrying, archaeological evaluations etc.
- **High Impact** – Where the ground level has been reduced to below natural geographical levels that would leave archaeological remains partly in situ either in plan or section e.g. the construction of roads, railways, buildings, strip foundations etc.
- **Medium Impact** – Where there has been low level or random disturbance of the ground that would result in the survival of archaeological remains in areas undisturbed e.g. the installation of services, pad-stone or piled foundations, temporary structures etc.

- **Low Impact** – Where the ground has been penetrated to a very low level e.g. farming, landscaping, slab foundation etc.

## **11.2 Historic Impacts**

**11.2.1** Cartographic regression (8.5), Topographic analysis (3.2) and Historical research (8.4) indicate that the expansion area was largely the subject of agriculture until the construction of Kent College in the modern period, therefore, previous impacts to archaeological remains from construction are considered to be **high**.

**11.2.2** Agriculture became gradually more intense over time and by the modern era it was mechanised. Although the farming process rarely penetrates below the upper layers of the ground, plough truncation can have a significant impact on preserved shallow deposits. The development area was open fields until the construction of the college in the modern period, therefore, the damage to archaeological remains from the agricultural process is considered to be **low**.

## **11.3 Summary of Impacts both Historic and Proposed**

**11.3.1** The development area appears to have been open fields until the modern period when the college was constructed and it is probable that the construction process has penetrated beneath the agricultural levels. The proposed building is sited close to the existing buildings, an area that, while undeveloped, may have received significant impact from the preparation of the ground for the construction of the college buildings.

**11.3.2** Investigations into the level of natural geology at St Edmunds School, c.250m east, revealed London Clay at 0.40m. No geotechnical investigation has as yet taken place on the PDA.

## **12. 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 may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **moderate** archaeological potential and the periods that have the highest potential for survival are Prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman and the Modern period. Archaeological investigations within the area of the site have shown that Prehistoric and Iron Age features are in situ and that the depth of natural geology is 0.40m. Modern buildings and monuments connected with WWII are recorded within the site.

### **13. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **13.1 Archive**

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

#### **13.2 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 SHER, and therefore considered as being reliable.

#### **13.3 Copyright**

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**Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA**

**SWAT Archaeology 10.05.2017**

## **14. REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Canterbury District Local Plan Publication Draft 2 (2014)

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

National Planning Policy Framework 2012

Data provided by Kent HER

*Unpublished document: Archaeology South-East. 1998. An Archaeological Watching Brief at St. Edmunds School, Canterbury, Kent.*



Plate 7. Aerial view of site



Plate 8. View of PDA (looking SW)



*Plate 9. View of PDA (looking W)*



*Plate 10. View of PDA (looking NW)*



Plate 11. Andrews Dury map of 1769 showing area of school (red circle)



*Plate 12. OSSD map of 1799 showing area of school (red circle)*



Plate 13. OS County map of 1801 showing area of school (red circle)



*Plate 14. Aerial Photo of 1940 showing cropmarks in adjacent field (red circle denotes site)*

EHER Ref	Type	Location	Period	Description
EKE10342	Event	c.100m N	N/A	2006-Watching brief conducted on the trunk main lay between St Thomas Tower and Blean Reservoir- Negative result.
EKE12454	Event	c.500m E	N/A	2009-Geophysical survey of land north of Beverly farm. Two areas of disturbance identified
EKE5379	Event	c.300m SE	Late Bronze Age	1998-Watching brief at St Edmunds School by Archeology Southeast. Shallow pit containing prehistoric pottery and burnt flint.
EKE4573	Event	c.400m NW	N/A	1977-Moat House, Rough Common. Watching brief by Canterbury Archeological Trust.
EKE10341	Event	c.450m N	N/A	2004-Watching brief on land at Park Wood site A. University of Kent (phase 6) by Canterbury Archeological Trust. Negative result.
TR15NW13	Monument	c.400m NW	Medieval	Homestead Moat, Harbledown and Rough Common. Some remains of north and east arms but the rest survives as a shallow depression.
TR15NW29	Find spot	c.250m SE	Neolithic	Neolithic axe found in 1952 in the garden to the rear of St Edmunds School.
TR15NW226	Monument	c.400m W	Palaeolithic	3 lower Palaeolithic axes found in 1978 near Moat House, Rough Common.
TR15NW595	Monument	c.250m SE	Bronze Age	Small pit with late bronze age pottery and flint at St Edmunds School
TR15NW1347	Listed building	c.400m N	Post-Medieval	Grade II listed, aisled barn joining Hove Court on the north dates 1600-1699. Six bays.
TR15NW1452	Listed building	c.300m NW	Post-Medieval	Grade II listed, Blean House. Built 1800-1832.
TR15NW1072	Listed building	c.350m SE	Post-Medieval	Grade II listed, St Edmunds School. Built 1854-1855 by P.C Hardwick
TR15NW1071	Listed building	c.350m SE	Post-Medieval	Grade II listed former Head Masters House at St Edmunds School built 1897 by Sir R. Blomfield
TR15NW1315	Listed building	c.400m NW	Post-Medieval	Grade II listed, Moat House. Built 1780-1820
TR15NW1317	Listed building	c.350m N	Medieval-Post-Medieval	Grade II listed, Hothe Court, built 1066-1799. Court House, Manor, timber-framed house, restorations post 18 <sup>th</sup> century.

TR15NW8000	Building	Within PDA	Modern	WWII Civil Defence Wardens Post. Kent College. Late October 1940.
TR15NW799	Building	Within PDA	Modern	WWII Defence First Aid Party at Kent College. November 1940
TR15NW854	Monument	Within PDA	Modern	WWII School Air Raid Shelter at Kent College.
TR15NW1150	Building	Within PDA	Modern	WWII Military Head Quarters at Kent College.
TR15NW1110	Monument	c.250m SE	Modern	WWII Pillbox on St Thomas' Hill, rough common.
TR15NW1138	Monument	c.150m NE	Modern	WWII Rocket Battery on St Edmunds School playing field
TR15NW1157	Monument	c.300m SE	Modern	WWII Roadblock on Whitstable Road near the water tower.
MKE86202	Farmstead	c.400m N	Post-Medieval	Hothe Court. Loose courtyard plan with buildings to four sides of the yard and detached elements and farm house, isolated position, less than 50% loss of original form.
MKE86205	Farmstead	c.450m NW	Post-Medieval	Moat House. Regular courtyard with buildings to three sides of the yard in an L plan. Farmhouse detached. Located in village, only farmhouse remains.
MKE86234	Farmstead	c.200m E	Post-Medieval	Out farm east of Kent College, loose courtyard plan with buildings two sides of the yard, isolated position, demolished.
MKE88731	Farmstead	c.500m E	Post-Medieval	Out farm east of Gorse House, loose courtyard plan and buildings two sides of the yard, isolated position, demolished.
	Conservation area	c.50m NW		
	HLC			Post 1810 settlement
	SPCA			Stour Palaeolithic Character area 18.

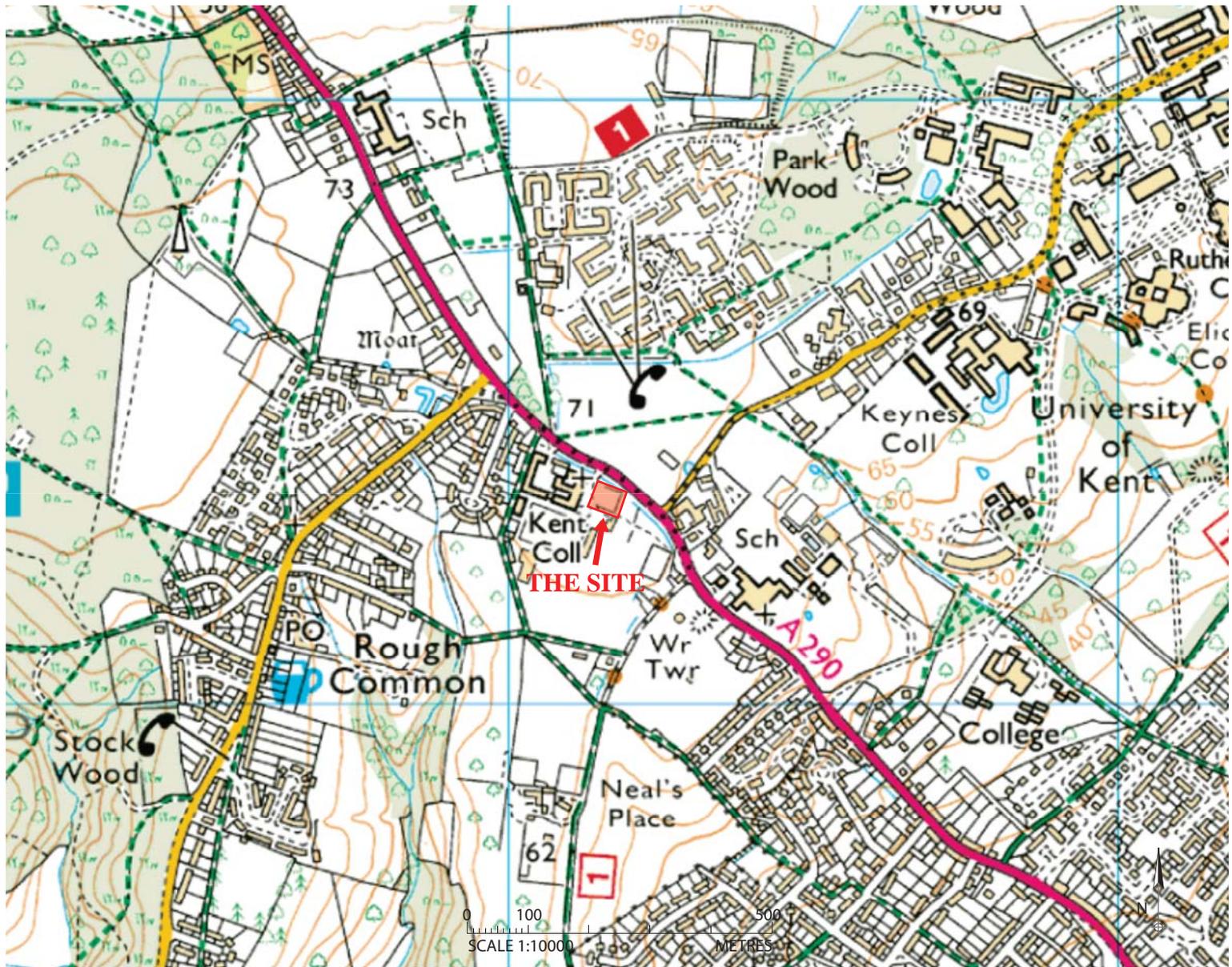


Figure 1: Site location map

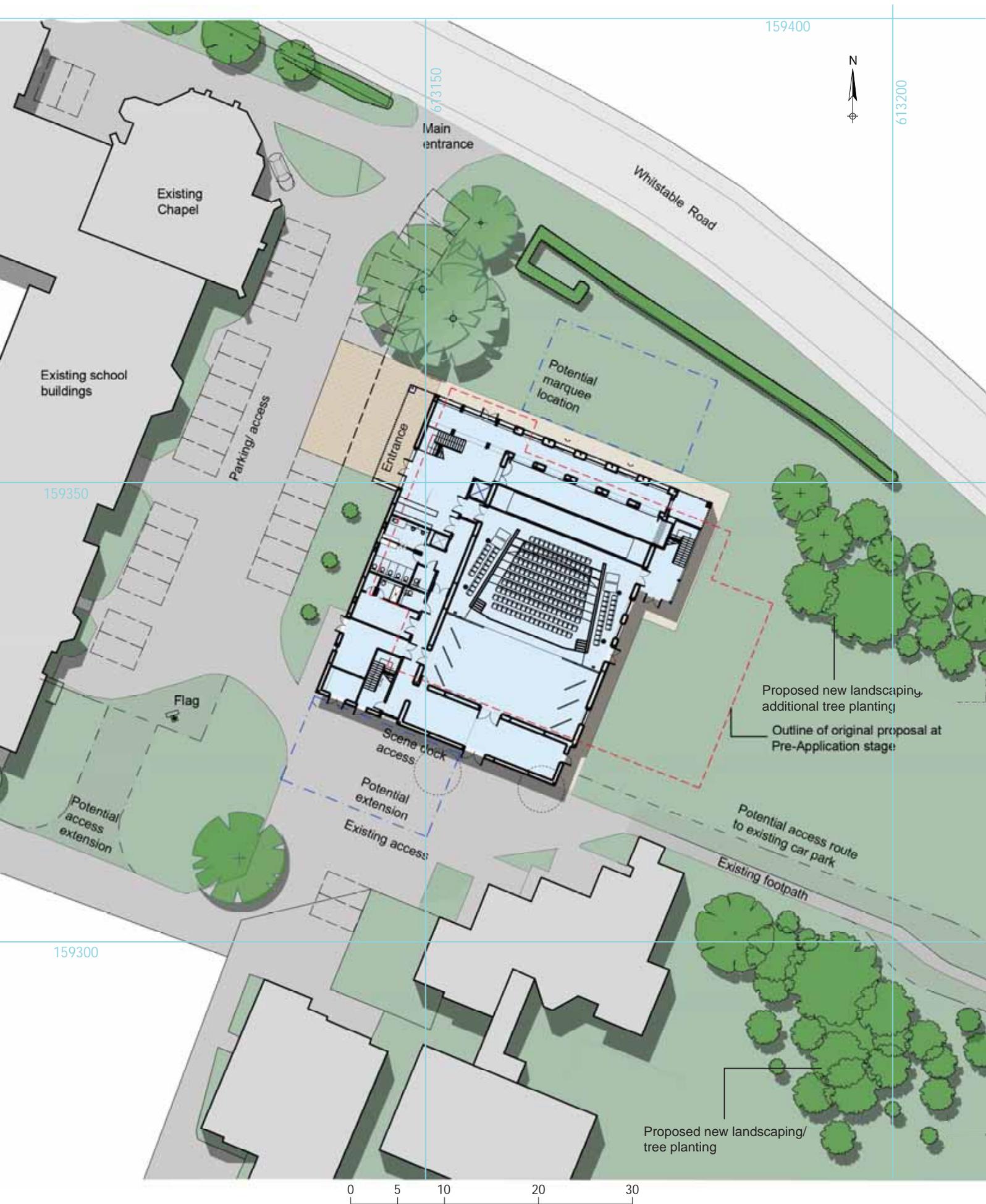


Figure 2: Plan of proposed development, scale 1:500.

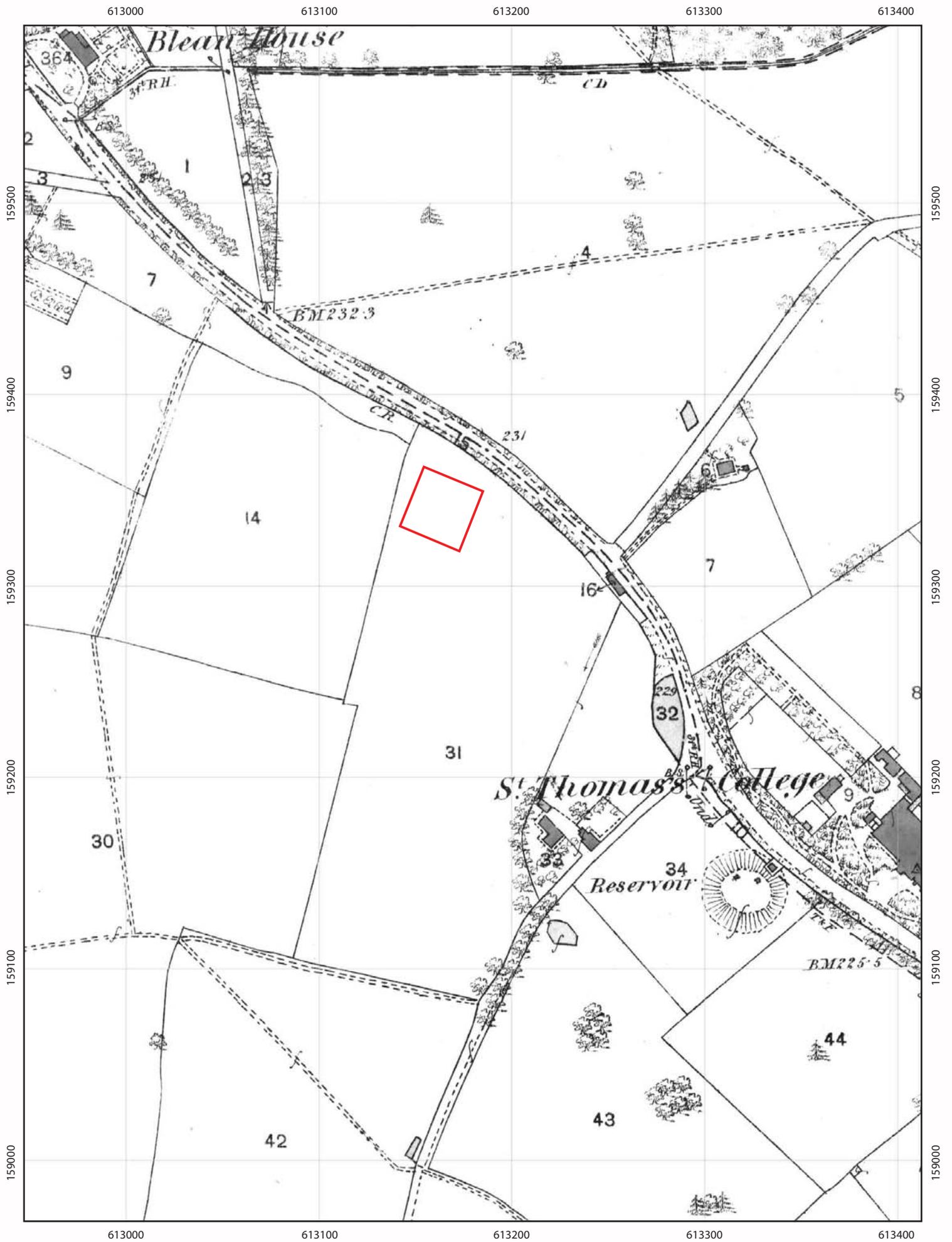


Figure 3: OS Historic map from 1873-1874, scale 1:2500



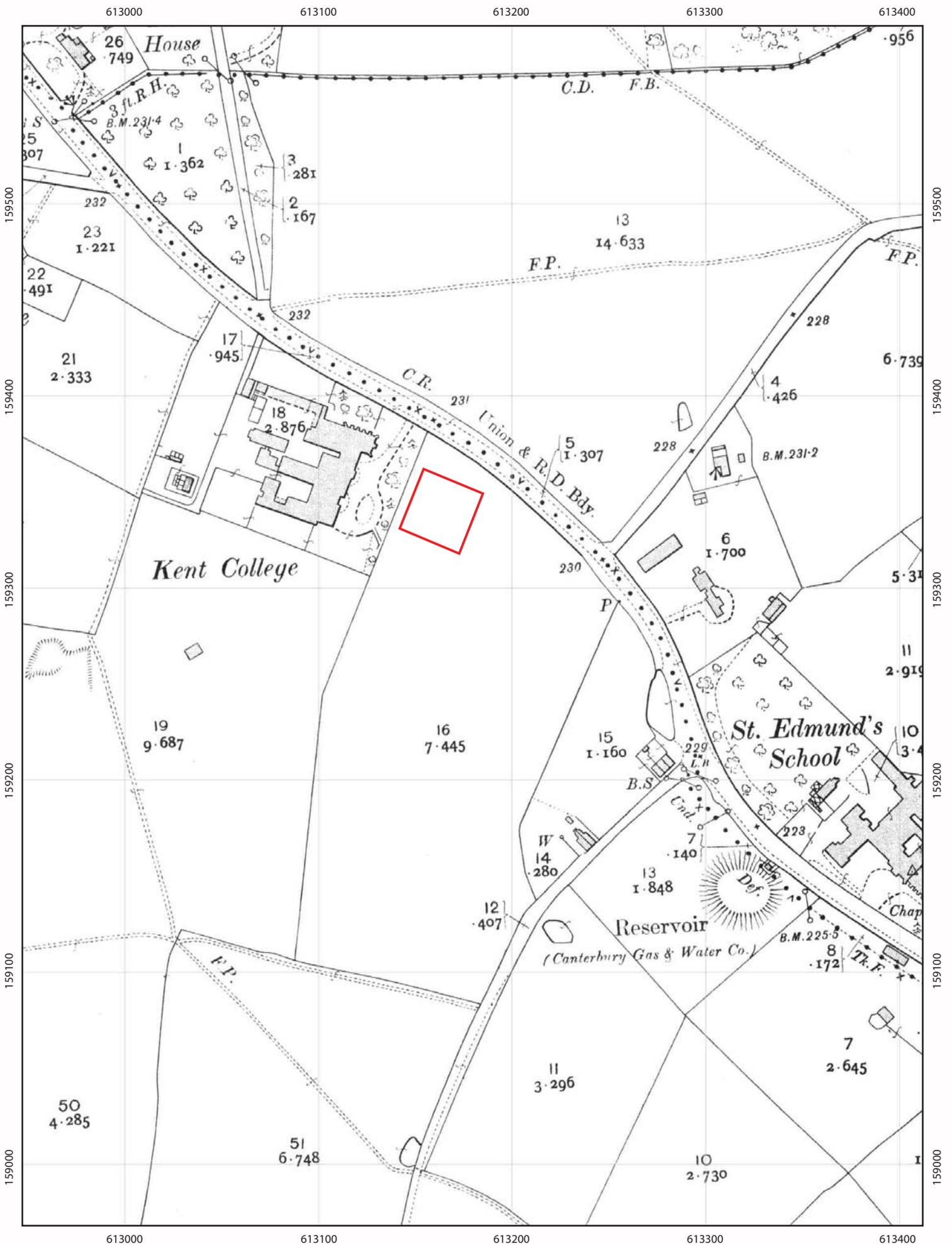


Figure 5: OS Historic map from 1907, scale 1:2500

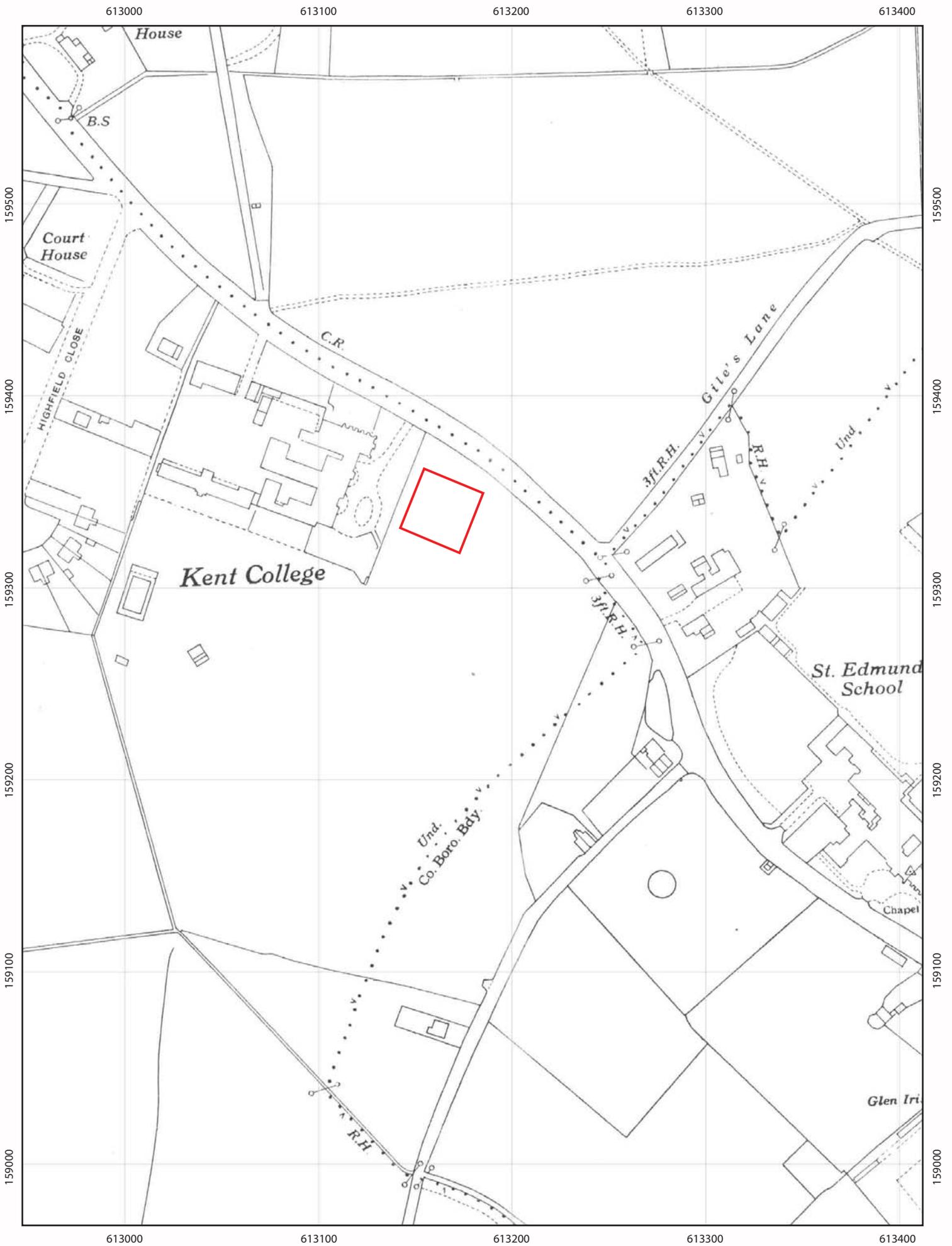


Figure 6: OS Historic map from 1937-1938, scale 1:2500

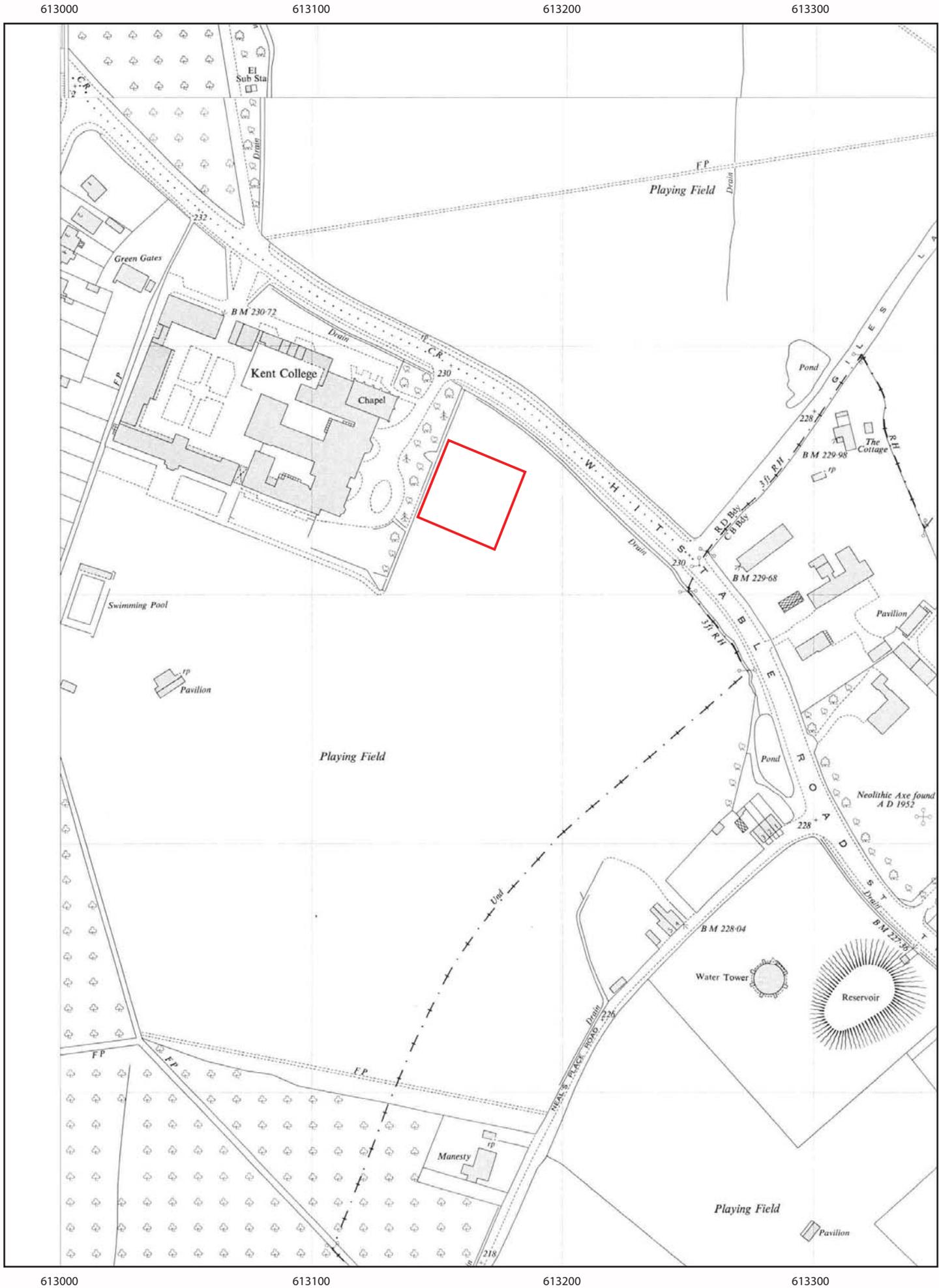


Figure 7: OS Historic map from 1956, scale 1:2000

613000

613100

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159500

159500

159400

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159200

159200

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159100

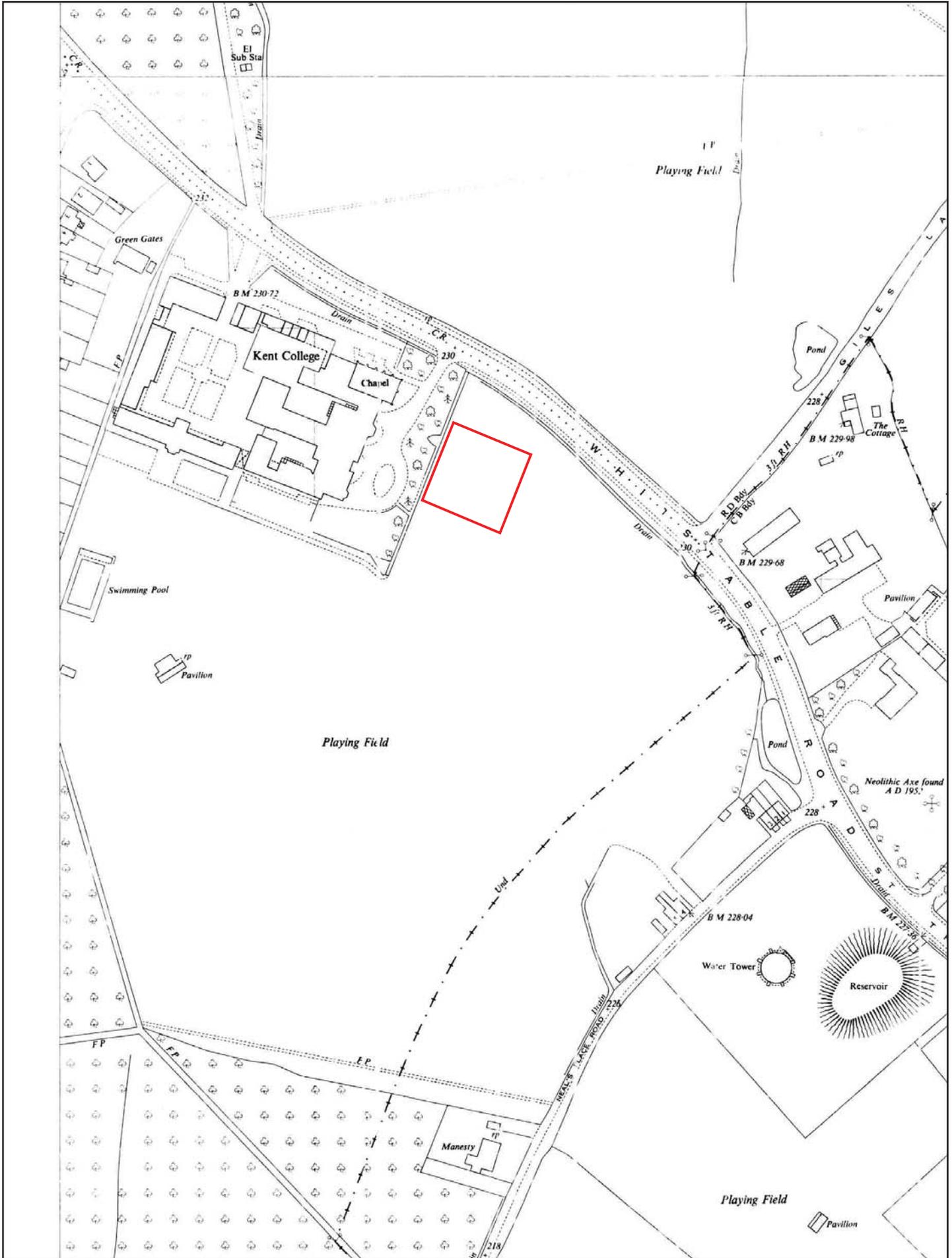


Figure 8: OS Historic map from 1957, scale 1:2000

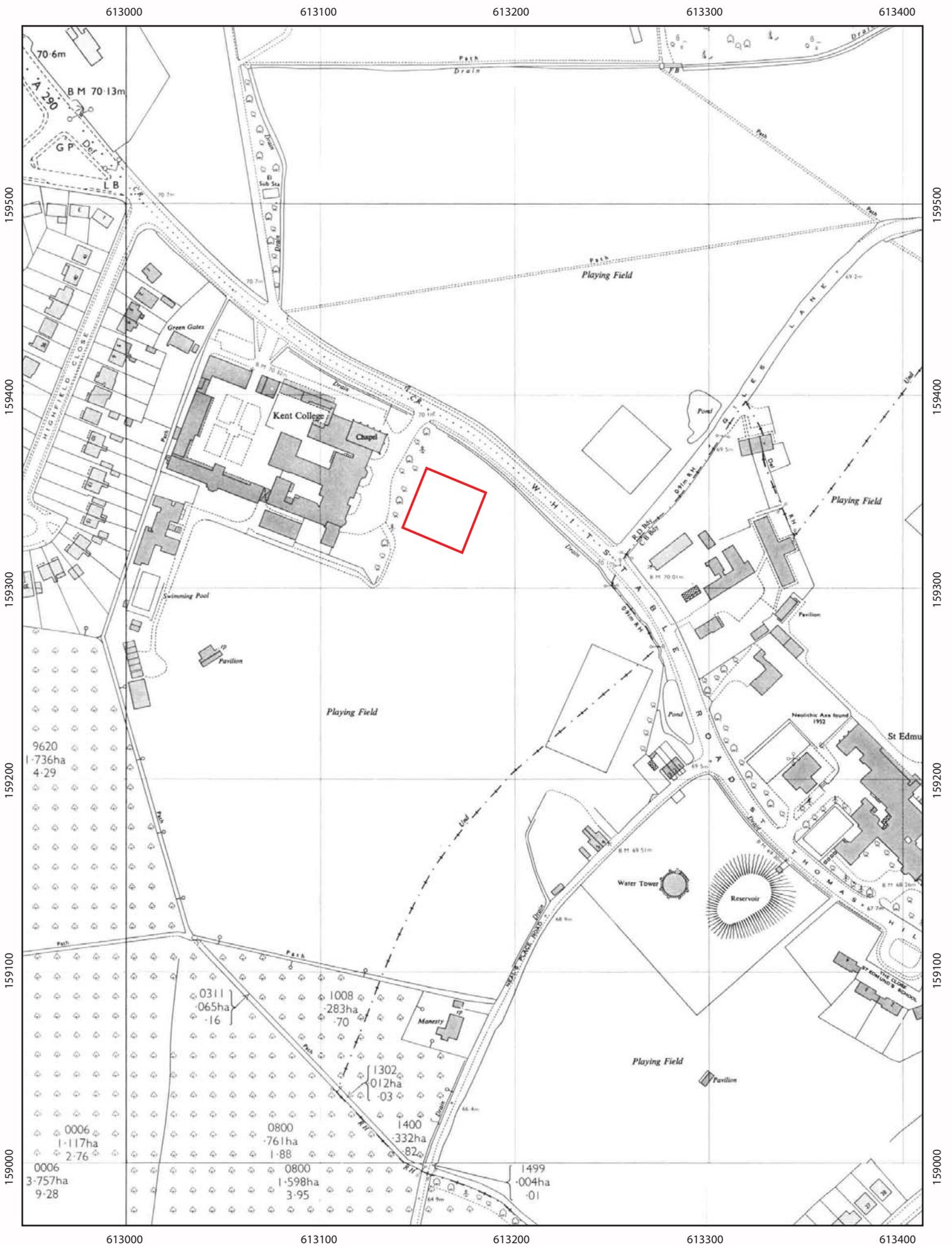


Figure 9: OS Historic map from 1970, scale 1:2500

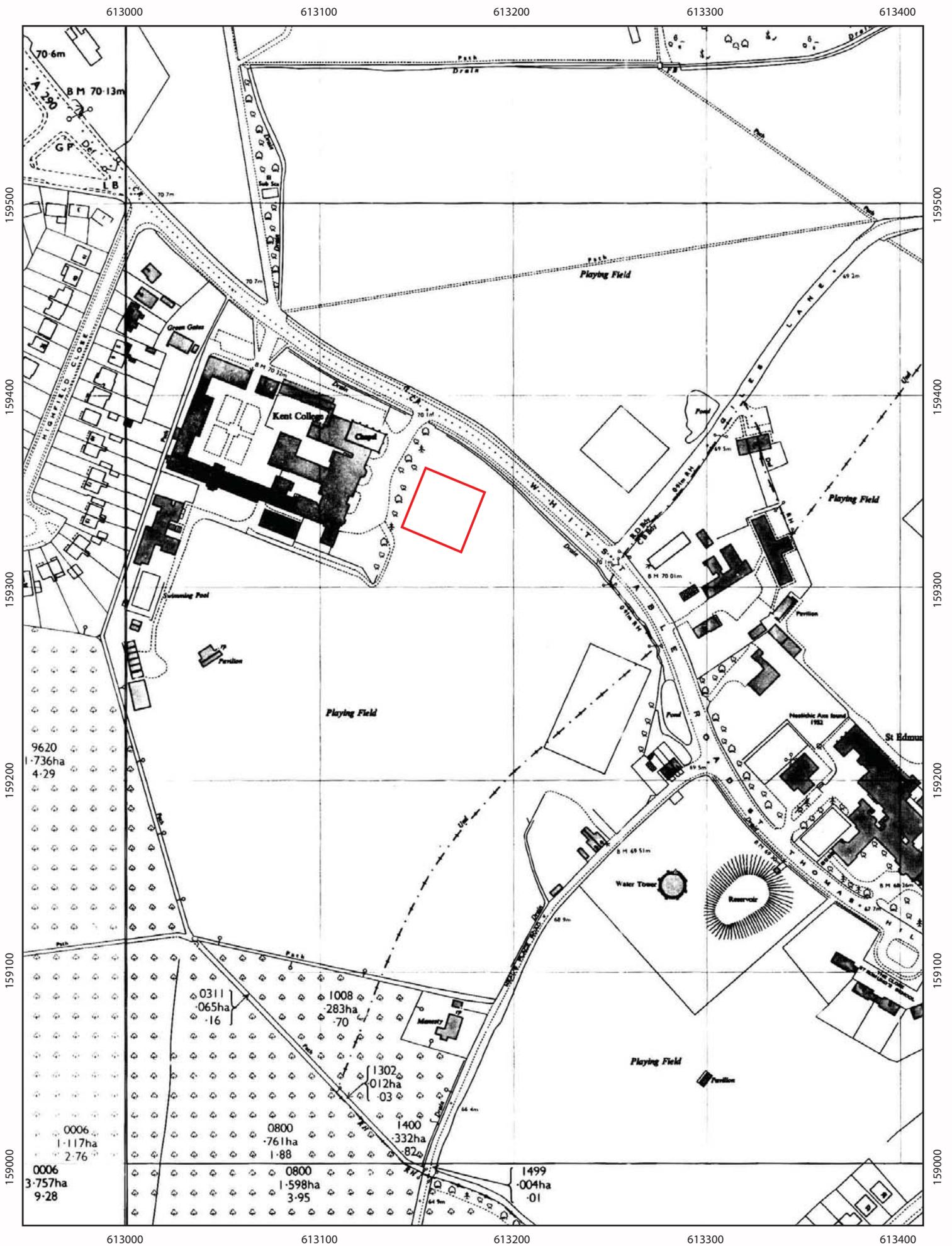


Figure 10: OS Historic map from 1972, scale 1:2500

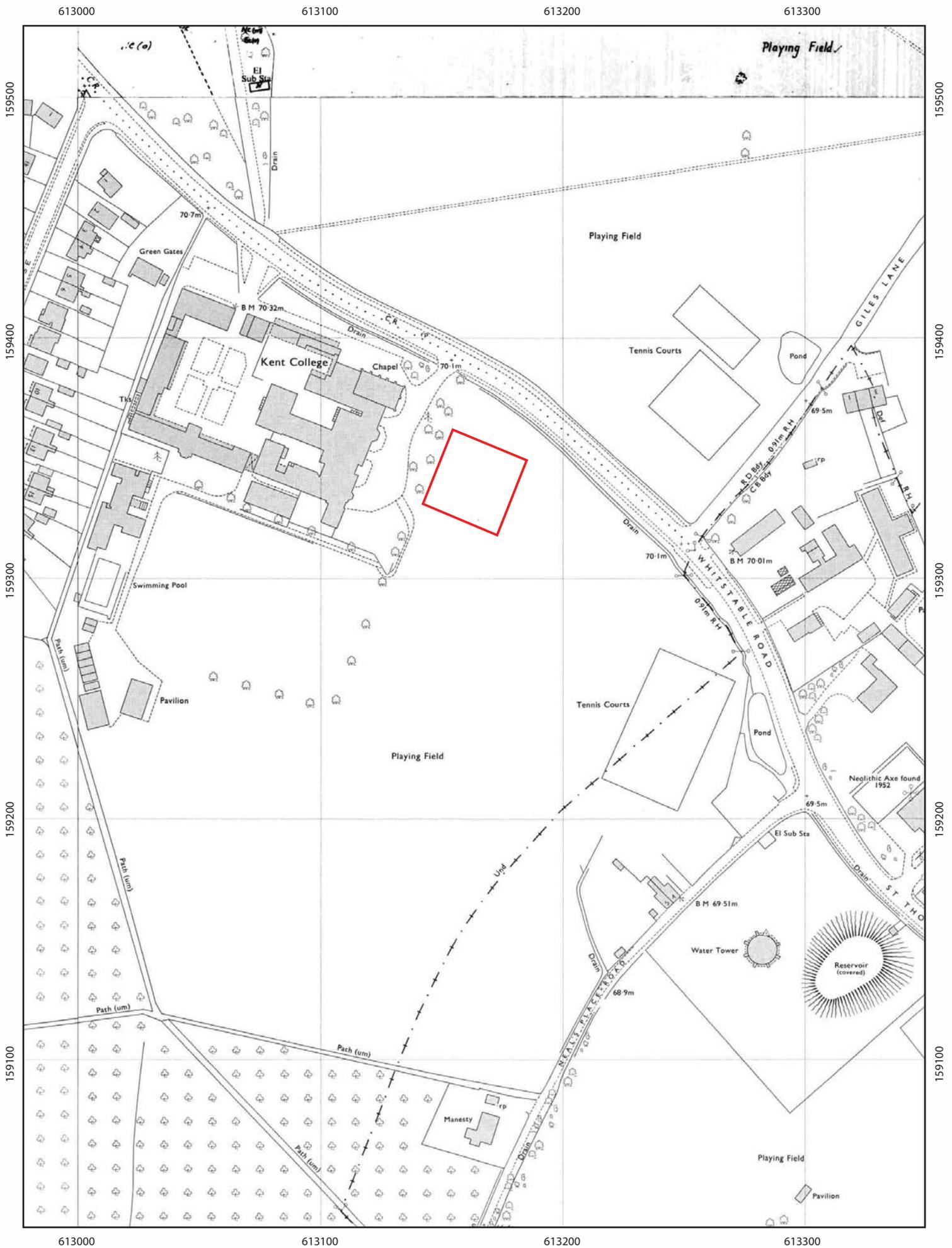


Figure 11: OS Historic map from 1973, scale 1:2000

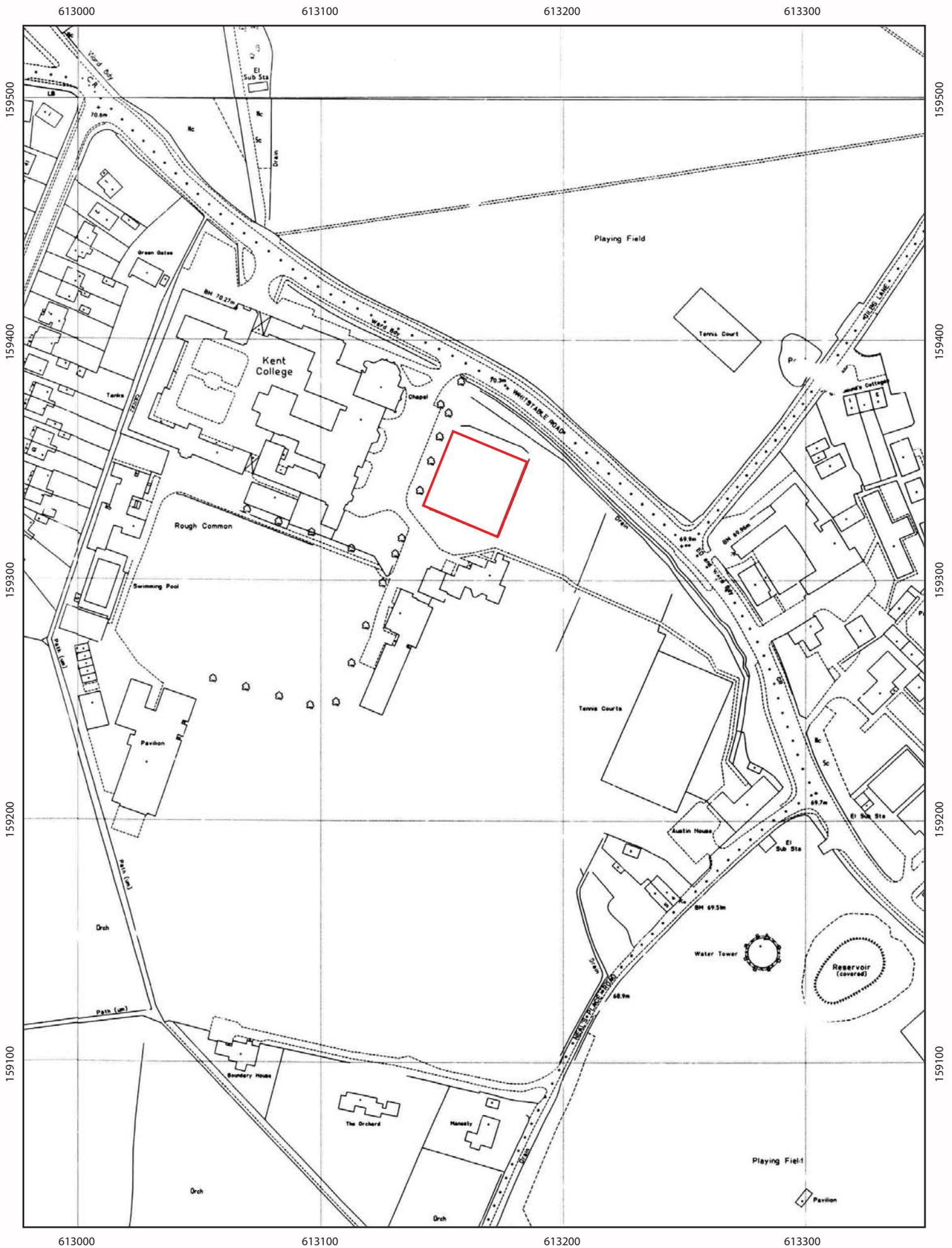
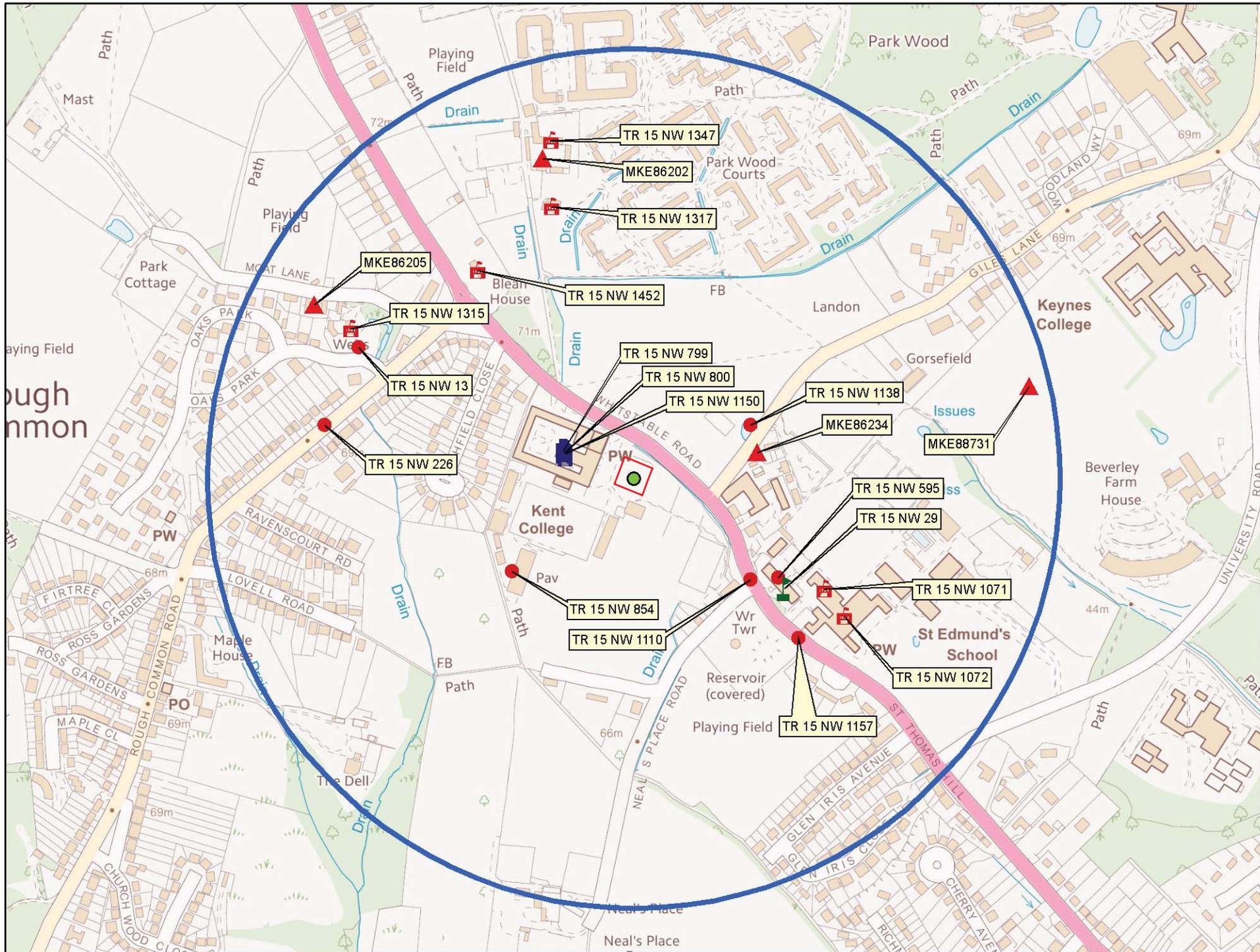
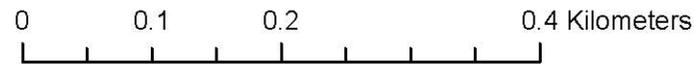


Figure 12: OS Historic map from 1987-1992, scale 1:2000

# Kent Historic Environment Record - Kent College, Canterbury - Monuments



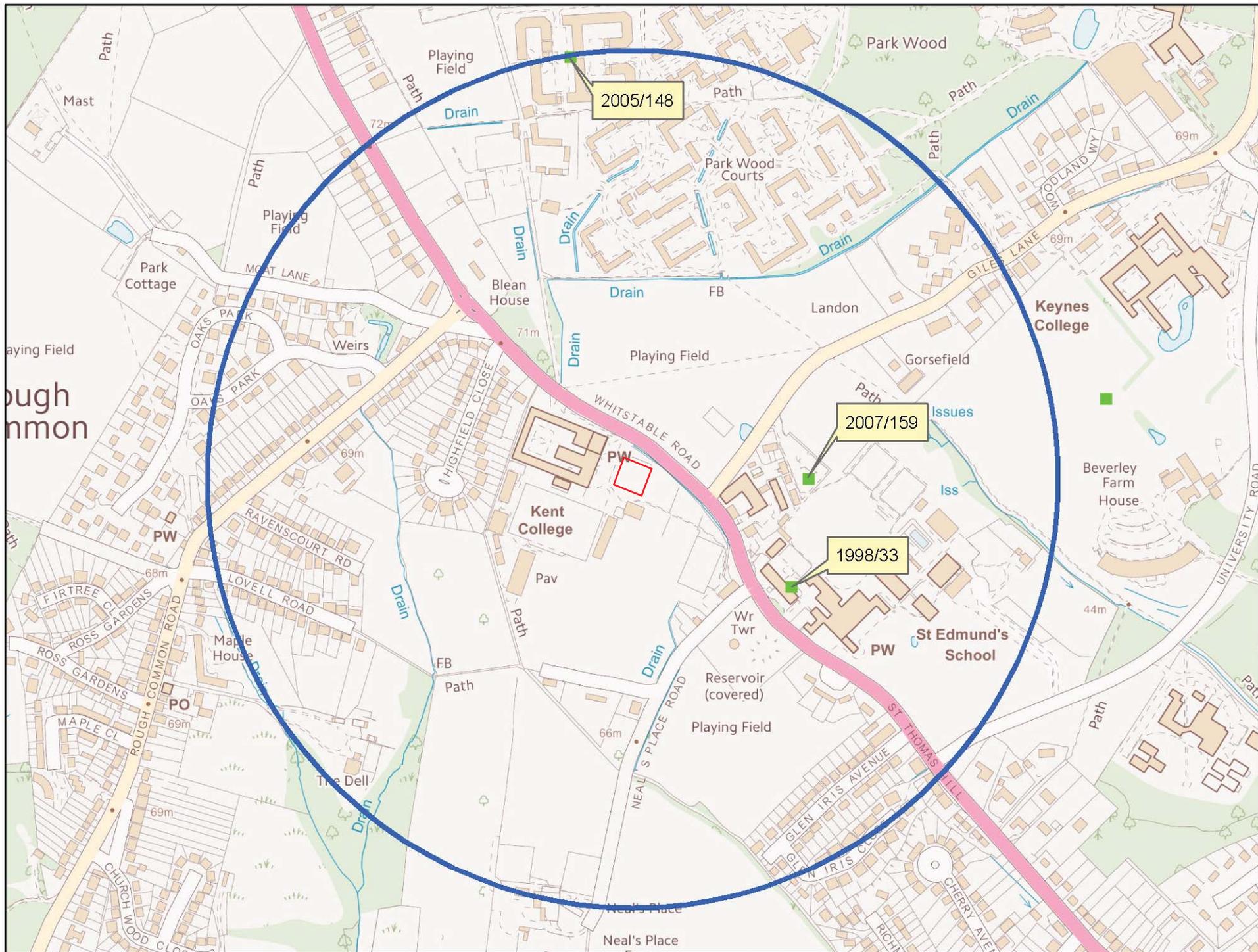
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  - Crash Site
  - Farmstead
  - Findspot
  - Listed Building
  - Landscape
  - Maritime
  - Monument
  - Place



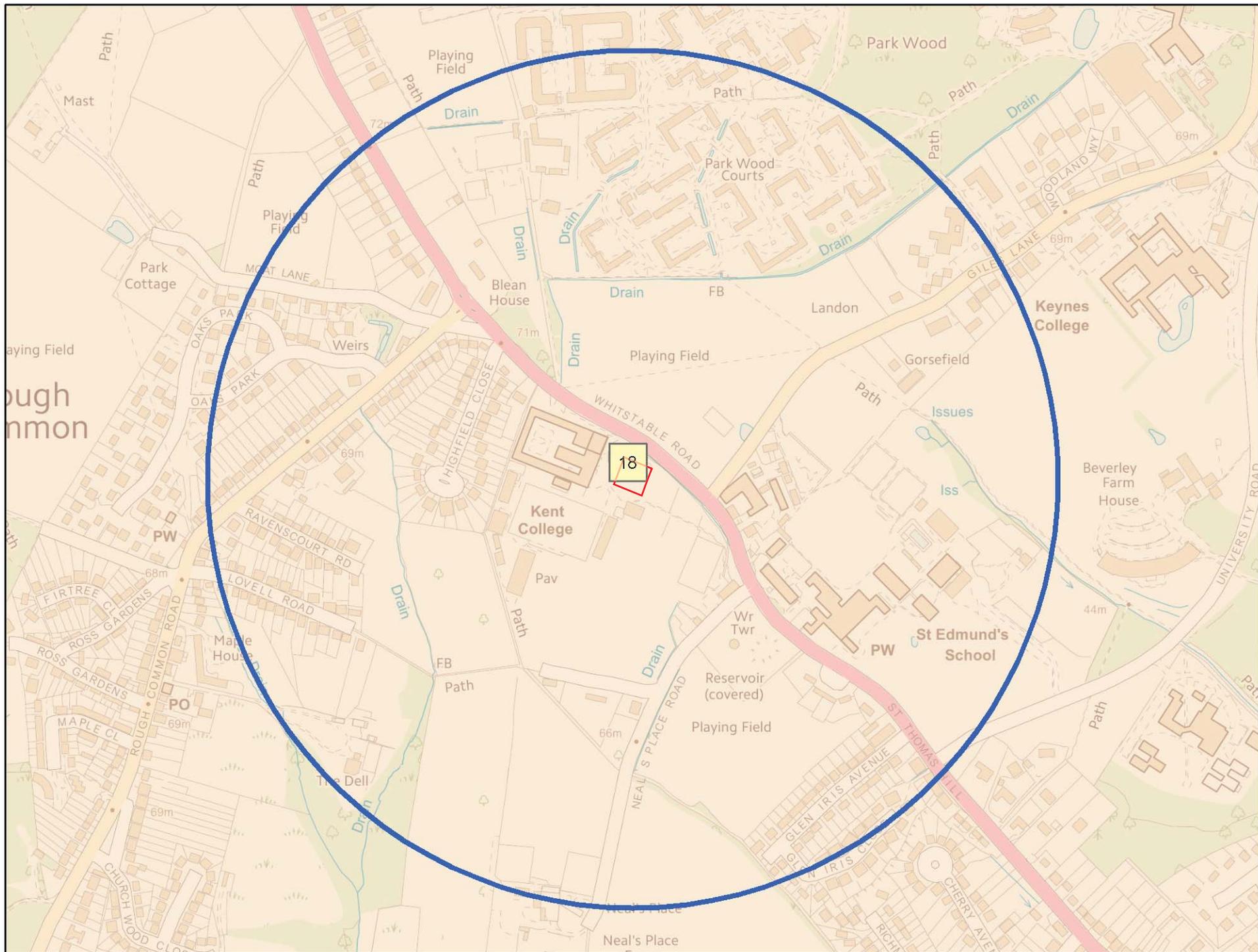




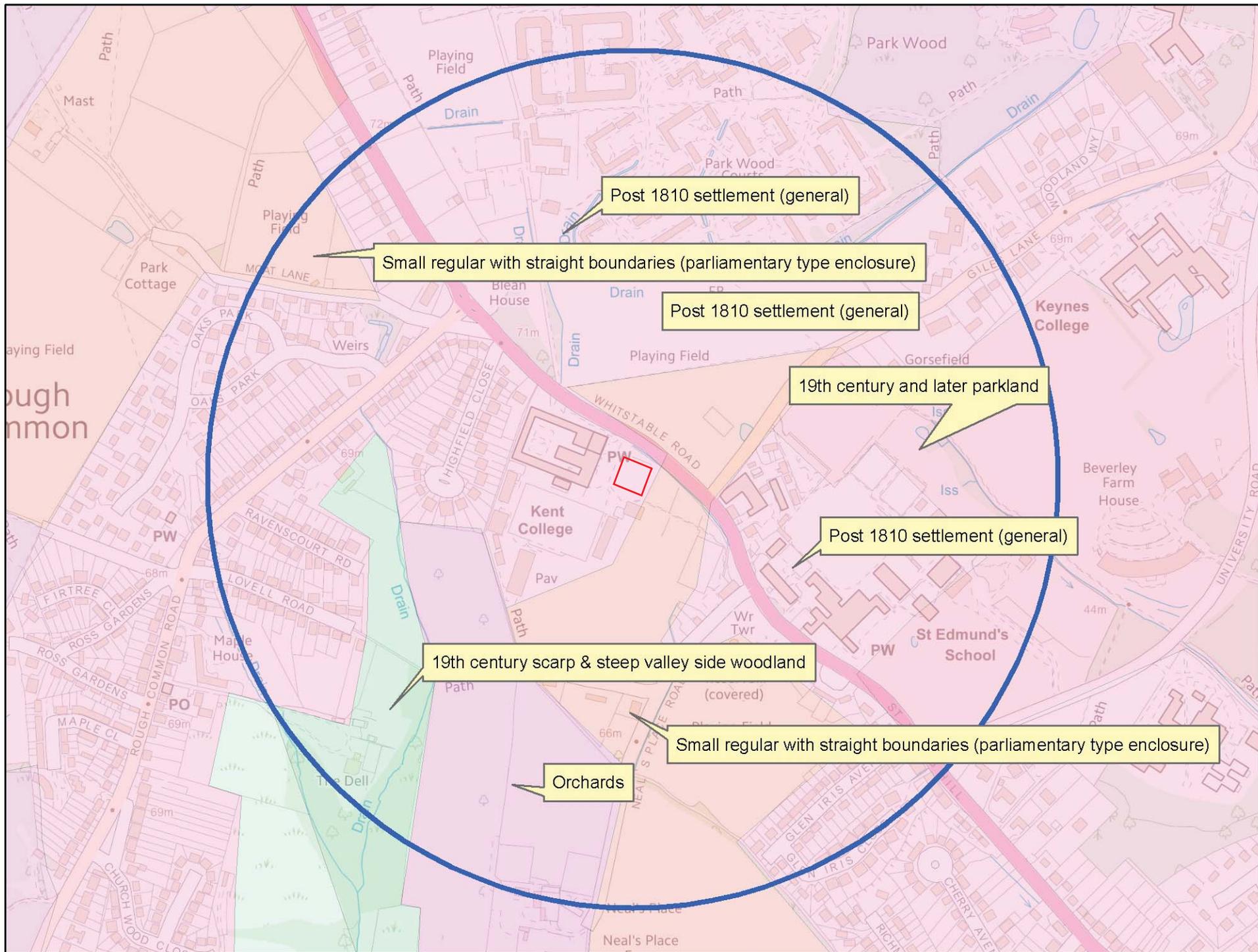
# Kent Historic Environment Record - Kent College, Canterbury - Reports



# Kent Historic Environment Record - Kent College, Canterbury - Stour Palaeolithic Character Area



# Kent Historic Environment Record - Kent College, Canterbury - Historic Landscape Character





**Plate 1: Google Earth aerial photograph from 1940**



**Plate 2: Google Earth aerial photograph from 1960**



**Plate 3: Google Earth aerial photograph from 1990**



**Plate 4: Google Earth aerial photograph from 2003**



**Plate 5: Google Earth aerial photograph from 2008**



**Plate 6: Google Earth aerial photograph from 2009**



**Plate 7: Google Earth aerial photograph from 2015**