

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment  
In advance of Development of land at  
Townsend Farm Road, St Margaret's Bay,  
St Margaret's at Cliffe, Dover, Kent

NGR: TR 35750 44899



Report for  
Murston Construction Ltd  
Date of Report: 9/10/2015

**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](http://www.swatarchaeology.co.uk)

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## **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of Development on land at Townsend Farm Road, St Margaret's Bay, St Margaret's at Cliffe, Dover, Kent**

**NGR: TR 35750 44899**

### **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 Townsend Farm Road, St Margaret's Bay, St Margaret's at Cliffe, Dover, Kent as part of the planning application by Murston Construction Ltd.*

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

*The proposals seek to develop the site in a responsible and sensitive manner to both respects the existing landscape whilst ensuring that the proposed development lessens the sites visual impact.*

*The site is located south of Townsend Farm Road and lies within the Parish Boundary of St Margaret at Cliffe, Dover, Kent (Figure 8). It extends to about 0.52 hectares.*

## 1.1 History of the site

St Margaret's Bay is a small village located north of the South Foreland and south of the Dover/Deal Road. It is set within the parish of St Margaret's at Cliffe, referred to in the Domesday Book as *Sancta Margharita*.

The Priors of St Martin built the village church, St Margaret of Antioch, some time between 1140 and 1296 on a Saxon foundation. It is Grade one listed and one of the earliest examples of an aisled Norman Church. Ancient maritime graffiti can be found in the stonework and the West Door stonework, is particularly important and one of the finest in Kent. It has an evocative stained glass window dedicated to the memory of three local men killed in the Herald of Free Enterprise disaster.

In 1367, Nicholas de Legh, a hermit monk, kept a light burning in a cave to warn mariners of the Goodwin sandbanks that were responsible for countless shipwrecks and Archbishop Langham granted forty days' indulgence to all who contributed to the maintenance of the hermitage. This led to the construction of the first towers in 1635 and finally the present towers built by Trinity House in 1843 at a cost of £4409 4s 3d. Smuggling was a large part of village life and the Church tower was used by the parish clerk to store the equipment needed to haul the contraband up the cliff wall. In 1821 the census showed 87 houses and a population of 613, including over a hundred boys at Dr Temple's Academy.

In 1851, the first electric telegraph cable was laid from England to France the light house received electric light in 1859. Test boring, by The Channel Tunnel Company began in 1865. In the late Victorian era St Margaret's became a popular holiday retreat and has welcomed visitors and residents such as Lord Arthur Cecil, Lord Byron, Admiral Seymour, Marie Corelli, Max Beerbohm, George Arliss, Noel Coward, Ian Fleming and Peter Ustinov.

In May 1918, the last bomb of the First World War to be dropped in England fell on St Margaret's; an Obelisk honouring the men of the three nations who took part in the Dover Patrol was commissioned in 1921 at Leathercote Point, matching those at Cap Gris Nez on the French coast and at Brooklyn Bridge, New York.

The Second World War saw the evacuation of all but necessary civilians and the area was occupied by troops. The village was subject to almost daily shellfire and bombing until 1945 and became known as Hell-fire Corner.

After the war the RAF camp was transformed into a holiday camp and the village saw a return to its popularity as a holiday retreat.

The landscape in which the proposed development sits is old and archaeological evidence has shown that the area has been settled since at least the Neolithic period.

The area around the proposed development area (PDA) does have some evidence of Bronze Age activity. In 2004 an evaluation (TR 34 SE 153) at Townsend Farm Road revealed post-holes, pottery and flint dating to Early Bronze Age. Following this in 2005, a watching brief (EKE8884) uncovered a possible ditch cut by an Anglo Saxon burial (TR 34 SE 368); further investigation (TR 34 SE 369) revealed a possible ring ditch which was interpreted as a Barrow with two burials of Bronze Age or Anglo Saxon period. Pottery and flint were also found at the site.

Further afield, in Nelson Park, approximately 600m northwest, there are several cropmarks of possible ring ditches, trackways and enclosures.

In 1775, c.30 cliff-top Barrows were recorded approximately 600m southwest of the site; between six and eight were opened yielding twenty glass beads and an iron arrowhead and again in 1782, fourteen were opened to uncover east-west graves and an iron knife (TR 34 SE 6).

A late Bronze Age Picardy-Type pin was found in the same area in a garden of the South Foreland Estate in 1938 and is on display in the Dover museum.

The Iron Age is represented at some distance in the form of coins of Silver (MKE63271), Gold (TR 34 SE 8) and Copper Alloy, found at Langdon Cliffs by metal detectors and washed up on shore approximately 600m southeast of the PDA.

Apart from a probable coin (TR 34 NE 247) found at Townsend farm during a metal detecting survey (EKE 8506) the Roman period appears to centre around the area of the cliff-top barrows where a Roman inhumation cemetery (TR 34 SE 7) was reported by E.G Amos in 1934 and Roman coin (MKE95029) Republican Denarius of the gens Titutia were found.

Several coins have been found at some distance from the PDA through the use of a metal detector. Most are copper alloy, some from the House of Constantine and others are Radiate and of an uncertain ruler. They date between c. AD 43-402 (MKE95030 – 34), MKE95036 – 43) and (MKE95094). A copper alloy Henig Type II ring, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD (MKE95044) and a copper alloy Colchester one-piece Brooch (MKE95045), mid to 1<sup>st</sup> century AD have also been found.

An Anglo-Saxon cemetery was recorded during a watching brief (TR 34 SE 370) at Townsend Farm Road during the excavation for drainage. The graves were cut from the natural chalk and each contained a single interment. There were twelve individuals with body adornments and iron weapons, eleven of which were exhumed and one, below the level of the excavation, left in situ. The cemetery is thought to extend further along the crest of the hill on the south east side of the field.

An evaluation (TR 34 SE 154) in 2004 at Townsend farm Road, uncovered a Medieval ditch, a 12<sup>th</sup> Century silver coin and pottery dating to AD c.1350-1500. The Church of St Margaret (TR 34 SE 4/ TR 34 SE 359) is Grade I listed and has been part of village life since 12<sup>th</sup> Century. Fragments of herringbone flint and flint quoins, thought to be remains of the earlier Anglo Saxon church testify to a continuous historical use of the site.

Ewan Christian restored the church in 1864 and it is the site of the Trigonometrical Station used for triangulation by the Ordnance Survey teams. Metal detecting has uncovered an Early Medieval silver Kentish Square-Headed Brooch (MKE95357), a Decorated Buckle Plate (EKE 8506/TR 34 NE 248) and a Gilded Horse Pendant (TR 34 NE 249) and three Shield Bosses, a heavily corroded knife, an iron spearhead and fragments of a brooch, found in the area were given to the museum sometime between 1939 and 1950 although the findspot is unknown (TR 34 SE 11).

Evidence of the Post-Medieval period is in abundance with several Grade II Listed Buildings. Townsend Farm House (TR 34 SE 346) and Donkey Wheel House, so named because of the discovery of a Donkey wheel at the site, the Cliffe Tavern Hotel (TR 34 SE 338), Holly Lodge (TR 34 SE 347) and Curfew Cottage (TR 34 SE 340) all date to the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. The Hope Inn (TR 34 SE 365) and Cliff Cottage (TR 34 SE 341) are late 17<sup>th</sup> to early 18<sup>th</sup> Century and the Red Lion Inn (TR 34 SE 350), Cliffe House (TR34 SE 358) and St Margaret's Church of England Primary School, now the Library and Social Club (TR 34 SE 362) are 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

A metal detecting survey (EKE8506) uncovered a 17<sup>th</sup> century copper alloy coin weight (TR 34 NE 250) and a George III Penny (TR 34 NE 251).

Townsend Farmstead (MKE88045), found on the northwest boundary of the PDA, was a regular courtyard U-plan with farmhouse detached side-on to the yard. The farm went into gradual decline after the death of William Wood Pilcher in 1869. The Livestock and furniture were sold and the farm leased.



The historic mapping shows the reduction in acreage as the farm sold its land so that by 1976 when it was developed it held only 1.3 Ha. Some of its original form was lost during the development process.

The modern period was responsible for several changes in the landscape, not least, the defences in preparation for War. The close proximity to the coast meant that when the German offensive of WWII began the village became a stronghold of sorts and all non-essential civilians were evacuated. The Royal marines underground Military Hospital (TR 34 SE 125), a Rifle Range (EKE8506/TR 34 NE 252) and the Rail gun magazines (TR 34 SE 126) that served the Railway guns and later the batteries of 'Winnie' and 'Pooh', so nicknamed, can be found close to Townsend Farm. The OS maps show two shelters in the village, one sited at the corner of Townsend Farm, and further afield a Military Railway (TR 34 SW 539), the Railway lines for the 13.5" Railway guns (TR 34 SE 150), a line of barbed wire and earthworks for a civilian shelter are evidence of the villages' participation in the war effort.

The landscape around the PDA is in essence rural and has been farmed for centuries and several of the old farmsteads are still in operation – Bockhill, Wansting, East Valley, Reach Manor, Court and Bere Farm. Hope Farm was taken over by the army in WWII and demolished and Street Farm and Townsend Farm were developed.

The PDA is bounded to the north, south and east by low-density residential housing and small shops that make up the High Street and Well Lane, some owing their heritage to at least the early 18<sup>th</sup> C. In its north corner are the dwellings that formed part of the first phase of development of Townsend Farm between 1976 and 1988.

The northwest flank is the Townsend Farm Road, which separates the PDA from the original site of Townsend Farm and the open fields and paddocks that lead to the Dover Road, The Patch and Nelson Park.

### **Map Regression 1783-1985**

It has been considered beyond the means of this project to pursue detailed questions requiring an in-depth study of primary documentary and cartographic sources. General historical context for archaeological findings is provided where applicable, and a survey of published and unpublished maps (including geology and contour survey) has been undertaken.

Only maps showing significant topographical developments are reproduced in this report. Aerial photographs and satellite imagery may also supplement this study. 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 presented in synthesis and 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 and the OS Surveyors Drawing (1798). The scale on all these maps was too small to interpret detail of the site in question.

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 1862 (Figure 1) shows the PDA within open field 30, set between Townsend Farm and St Margaret's Church Vicarage, although no tied boundaries are marked to confirm the ownership. In the northeast corner is a small plot attached to a dwelling that forms part of a cluster of buildings and plots of differing sizes marked as 70. Opposite this is a second group of buildings and irregular plots marked as 69. Both sets border Well Lane (67), which forms the East

boundary and presumably takes its name from the well that is sited here. St Margaret's Church and graveyard (66) are just to the east and is the site of a Trigonometrical Station and Benchmark 291.9. The Vicarage (68) is adjacent (south) and the Parsonage (65) is set just behind the church (east). Cliffe House, the Stocks and Hop Inn are all found northeast of the site and the Red Lion and National School to the north. Townsend Farm (28) is a courtyard style farmstead and forms the north and northwest boundary at Benchmark 270.8. A footpath running east west across the farm begins at the north corner of the PDA and continues to the north south road 28A at which point the Ordnance Survey Picket 256.6 can be found. Road 28a is the site of much confusion with undefined boundaries, defaced boundaries and the surviving 'Roots of the Hedge' which probably formed the original boundary, now undefined or defaced and the 'Side of the River', which is no longer in situ.

A croft is clearly marked on this road, although it is unclear what parcel of land it is referring to. Field 29 forms the southwest boundary and is itself, bounded to the west by an earthworks and a small pit. To the south boundary is another field (unmarked) and the Parish Boundary line appears to cross this field, 29 and 30.

The Ordnance Survey map of 1898 (Figure 2) shows the PDA within open field 66 of 6.628 acres. A small dwelling is on the plot in the northeast corner and Well Lane has a Post Office. Townsend Farm is marked as 22.644 acres with a pond 141.741. It has undergone some small changes in the addition and removal of buildings but the general layout remains the same.

The footpath has disappeared and a new raised track way heads off from its western corner. Two semi-detached dwellings with outbuilding have sprung up opposite its north corner, possibly a Road House and a Reading Room has appeared to the north. Field 29 is marked as 67 and is 7.111 acres and the west boundary, while still earthworks and a pit is also marked as a Croft.

By 1907 OS map (Figure 3) the field in which the PDA is found has increased to 6.638 acres and Townsend Farm to 23.729 acres. Aside from the amalgamation of a few buildings, Townsend Farm remains unchanged. There has been little development to the village except for the appearance of a hotel to the east of the site.

By 1938 OS map (Figure 4) the field within which the PDA is set is noted as 92 and the acreage has reduced to 2.521; a result of being parcelled in to several plots with dwellings that front Well Lane on the east boundary. Field 67 is noted as 91 and the acreage has reduced to 7.043. One of the paddocks that made up Townsend Farm is marked as 69 with an acreage of 1.145. The Farm has no additional acreage noted and it may be that the land has been sold and the Farm disbanded. Road names have

appeared – Chapel lane, Knots lane, Cripps lane and the village has seen some changes around the north end of Well Lane, where the original cluster of buildings has combined with the original Post Office, two Banks and a Public House to create a High Street.

The Well is no longer marked and further east is a Fire Engine Station and a Baptist Church and west is a Guide Post to facilitate the new Dover Road (B2058). The dwellings opposite Townsend Farm have been demolished and a new building is in place 'The Club House'; In addition there has been some parcelling of land and the construction of a new building.

The boundary issues to the west of Townsend Farm have been resolved with the construction of the new Dover Road (B2058), a small structure is in situ and the Benchmarks have all been revised. A tree-lined boundary (93) has been set up around the unmarked field, now 94 with an acreage of 1.017.

By 1957 OS map (Figure 5) the field within which the PDA is set, has been divided and the PDA now covers the parcel of land 7683 of 0.97 Ac. The adjacent fields are 6673 of 3.91 Ac and 5977 of 7.02 Ac. Four dwellings have been added to the plots that form the east boundary along Well Lane and on the east side of Well Lane the land adjacent to the church has been developed into six plots with dwellings. Townsend Farm has added two buildings. Paddock 69 is now 6788 with a small dwelling and a reduction in acreage to 0.89 and the adjacent plot is 7090 with an acreage of 0.44.

The western boundary has been developed into an eclectic collection of buildings adjacent to the earthworks and the plots at the northwest corner have been revised. Three buildings in the village are now marked as ruins, but two garages, one in the High Street and one behind the Church and a Builders Yard adjacent to the named 'Cliffe Hotel' have appeared. The High Street has acquired a Letter Box and a Telephone Call Box and the Reading Room is now the Men's Institution.

By 1976 OS map (Figure 6) the field within which the PDA is set has undergone further changes in its lay out and a tree lined track way has been added running north south to meet the southwest corner of the PDA. An electrical Sub-Station and a Shelter have appeared at the north corner of Townsend Farm and the land in which the farm sits has been amalgamated into one area 7290 of 1.310 Ha.

The dwellings to the East boundary have acquired names – April Cottage, Wayside, Greenacre, Shalimar, Millstone, Rock Rose, Erin Pinhoe and Baytree. The same can be seen all over the village. The Fire Station and The Builders Yard have gone, a

second shelter has been added and the Cliffe Hotel is renamed as Cliffe Tavern Public House. The Garage has moved and is known as Street Farm Garage, the Primary School has been developed into a Library, Hall and Tennis Courts and the Men's Institution is a Club with an adjacent Bowling Green.

One of the ruins at the northwest corner of Townsend farm has been turned into a second Electrical Sub Station. The Club has been demolished to accommodate the widening of the road B2058 and the addition of a traffic island and a dwelling known as The Patch has been constructed further west. The buildings on the western boundary have been removed and only two remain in situ adjacent to a footpath.

By 1988 OS map (Figure 7) the field in which the PDA stands has been divided once again and two plots with dwellings 1 & 2 have been added in an area known as Townsend Paddock. This is part of a development of the farm as a whole that includes the partition of existing buildings to form small dwellings, the removal of buildings and the construction of the Old Barn House and a new access road 'Townsend farm Road'. The village remains largely unchanged with the exception of a new Car Park and Public Convenience behind the Church.

By 1993 OS map (Figure 8) a small building has appeared within the PDA. A new large dwelling 'Holm Oaks' has been added to Townsend Farm. The Cliffe Tavern is operating as a Hotel again and there have been some small developmental changes around the village.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Planning Background**

The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

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

#### **12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment**

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.

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 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 east of Townsend Farm Road, St Margaret's Bay and is some 0.52 hectares (1.28 acres).

The character of the site is partly infill between low to medium-density residential housing and partly open in character to its northwest boundary. Bounded on three sides by medium to large plots with dwellings and shops that have been gradually established from the 17<sup>th</sup> century (and possibly before) to the present day, the site has always been closely associated with the cluster that grew around the church to form Well Lane and the High Street.

The northwest boundary is open farmland that was at one time, probably associated with Townsend Farm. The site sits behind the rear gardens of the dwellings that surround it, but is partially screened from view by the tree lined boundaries on its south and east flank, however, it is open to the north and west and can be viewed from those adjoining gardens and Townsend Farm Road.

## **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 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.

NGR: TR 35750 44899/TR 357448  
X (Easting): 635750 Y (Northing): 144899  
Latitude: 51.154753 Longitude: 1.3698776

The site averages 85m AOD

## **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **3.1 Introduction**

The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Murston Construction Ltd in order to supplement a planning application for the development of the site at land adjacent to Townsend Farm Road, St Margaret's Bay, St Margaret's a Cliffe, Dover, Kent CT15 6JJ.

### **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 Margaret's Bay.

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 (20/11/14).



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

#### 4.1.2 *Historical documents*

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

#### 4.1.3 *Cartographic and pictorial documents*

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

#### 4.1.4 *Aerial photographs*

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

#### 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 Margaret's bay is diverse and comprises possible activity dating from the Neolithic 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). (Appendix 1).

## **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 and is not represented within the assessment area.

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 ditch, flints and pottery sherds found during a watching brief at Townsend Farm, northwest (c.50-100m) of the site (TR34SE368) and (TR34SE153/154), crop marks that show possible enclosures, trackways and ring ditches (TR34NE36/38/52) to the northwest (c.600m) and barrows (TR34SE6) to the southeast (c.600m).

#### **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 three find spots of coins within the assessment area, (MKE63271) northwest of the site (c.200m), (MKE95045) northeast (c.600m) and (TR34SE8) northwest (c.600m).

#### **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 a Roman inhumation cemetery (TR34SE7) southeast (c.600m) and several findspots of Roman coins, (MKE95029), (MKE95030 – 34), MKE95036 – 43) and (MKE95094), a copper alloy ring (MKE95044) and a copper alloy Brooch (MKE95045) northeast (c.600m), within the assessment area.

#### **5.6 Anglo-Saxon**

The Anglo-Saxon period is represented in the assessment area with a cemetery (TR34SE370) northwest (c.100m) of the site of the PDA.

#### **5.7 Medieval**

The medieval period is represented within the assessment area with a ditch, coin and pot found at an evaluation northwest (c.100m) of the PDA, the Church of St Margaret (TR34SE4/359) southeast (c.100-200m) and findspots for a Brooch (MKE95357), a Decorated Buckle Plate (TR34NE248) and Gilded Horse Pendant (TR34NE249).

#### **5.8 Post-Medieval**

Townsend Farmstead (MKE88045) shared the boundary with the PDA in historic times, but the Post Medieval period is most represented in an abundance of Grade II

Listed Buildings. Found within the confines of the village they are all at a distance of c.100-200m from the PDA and within the assessment area. Townsend Farm House (TR 34 SE 346) and Donkey Wheel House, the Cliffe Tavern Hotel (TR 34 SE 338), Holly Lodge (TR 34 SE 347) and Curfew Cottage (TR 34 SE 340) all date to the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. The Hope Inn (TR 34 SE 365) and Cliff Cottage (TR 34 SE 341) are late 17<sup>th</sup> to early 18<sup>th</sup> Century and the Red Lion Inn (TR 34 SE 350), Cliffe House (TR34 SE 358) and St Margaret's Church of England Primary School (TR 34 SE 362) are 18<sup>th</sup> Century. A metal detecting survey (EKE8506) uncovered a 17<sup>th</sup> century copper alloy coin weight (TR 34 NE 250) and a George III Penny (TR 34 NE 251) north of the site (c.600m).

### **5.9 Modern**

Within the assessment area and c.100-200m from the PDA are the Royal Marines Underground Military Hospital (TR 34 SE 125), a Rifle Range (EKE8506/TR 34 NE 252), the Rail gun magazines (TR 34 SE 126) and two shelters. At a further distance a Military Railway (TR 34 SW 539), the Railway lines for the 13.5" Railway guns (TR 34 SE 150), a line of barbed wire and earthworks for a civilian shelter testify to the impact of war 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**

There are no 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 1862 to 1993 show the area has always been open field.

## **6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

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

There are several records 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 **high**.

### **6.2 Iron Age**

The Iron Age is sparsely represented within the search area, therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to the Iron Age within the confines of the PDA is considered **low**.

### **6.3 Romano-British**

The minimal 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 is well represented. The potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period on the development site is considered as **high**.

### **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**

Townsend Farm has been in constant use and the much of the war preparations 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 has been for the most part, subject to farming and low residential development and the potential impact on buried archaeological deposits will have been due to agricultural and construction activities. Therefore, the previous impacts are considered **moderate to high**.

### **7.2 Proposed Impacts**

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

## **8 MITIGATION**

The purpose of this archaeological desk-based assessment was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record, in order to determine the

potential survival of archaeological deposits that maybe impacted upon during any proposed construction works.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **moderate to high** archaeological potential (Appendix 1).

It is recommended in this case that further archaeological assessment will be required and that a 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 further inform further mitigation if 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 Asset to the site is the Townsend Farm Farmstead (TR34SE346) that shared its original boundary line with the PDA before undergoing significant alterations in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The Farm no longer survives as a farmstead having undergone development into medium density housing. The new houses from this development are affected by shared intervisibility. A distance of at least 200m and medium density housing separates the PDA from all other Heritage Assets (Appendix 1). No intervisibility between the Site and the other designated heritage assets within the Study Area was established during the site visit (Plates 2-3).

### **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**

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## **10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The author would like to thank Murston Construction Ltd for commissioning this report.

Paul Wilkinson PhD., MifA., FRSA.  
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. The Google Earth view (1940) of the site (eye alt 312m)



Plate 2. The Google Earth view (1960) of the site (eye alt 407m)





Plate 3. The Google Earth view (2013) of the site (eye alt 407m)



Plate 4. The access to the site (on right)- looking east



Plate 5. The west edge of the site (looking south)



Plate 6. The site (looking south)

## Appendix 1

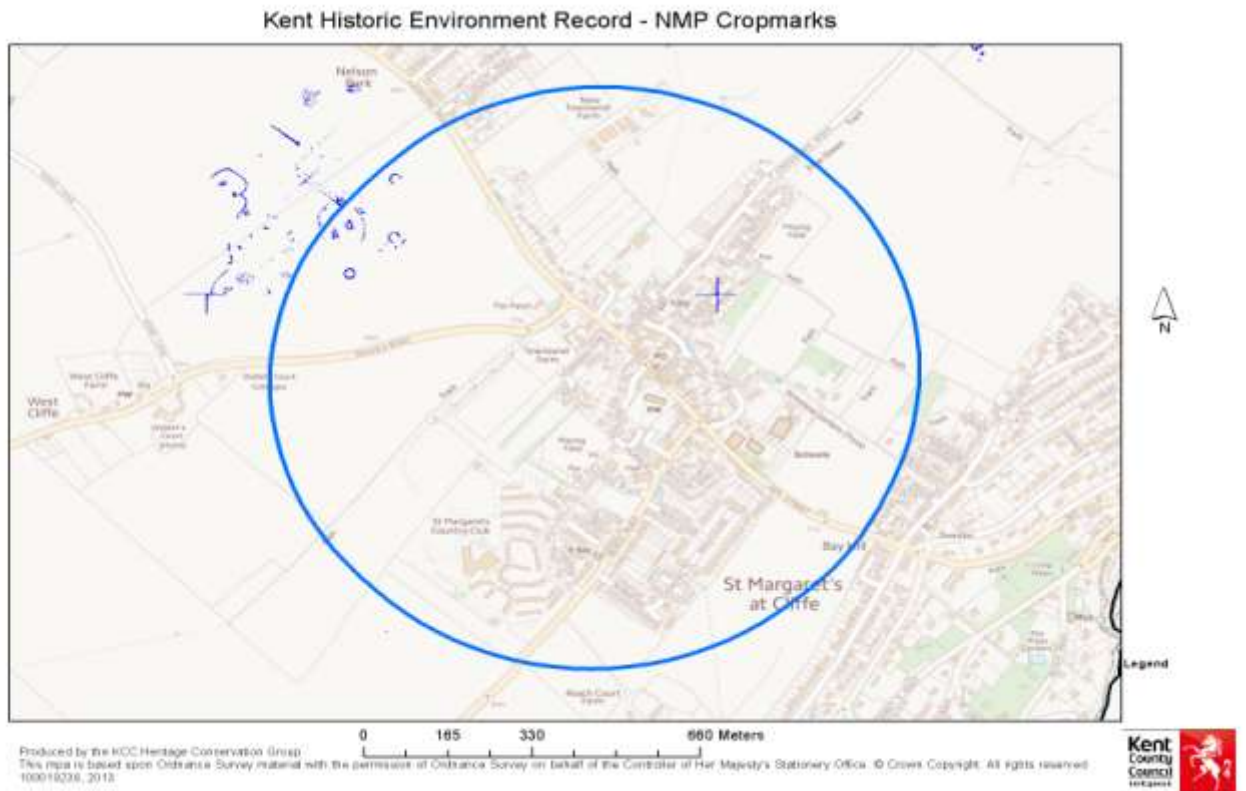


Plate 7. The site (cropmarks)

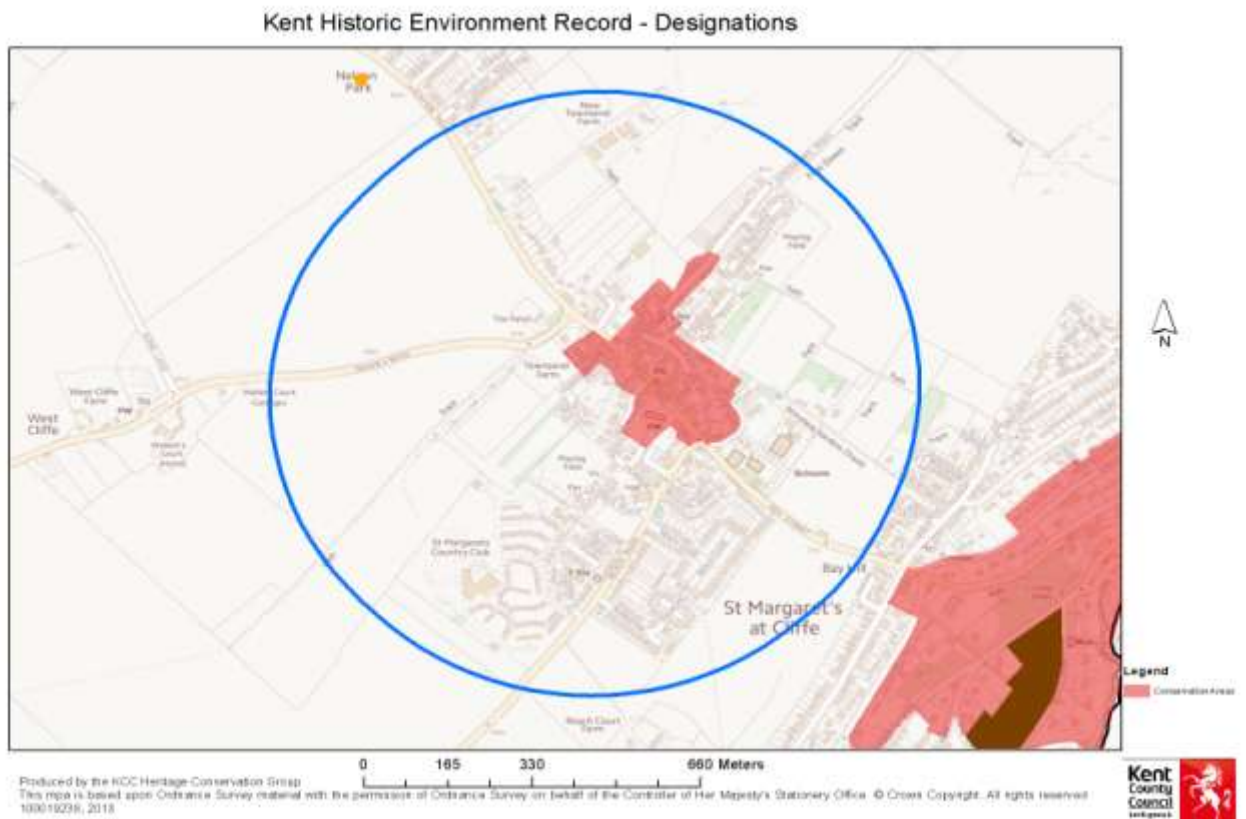


Plate 8. The site (Designations)

Kent Historic Environment Record - Events (NB not all labels may be shown on map)

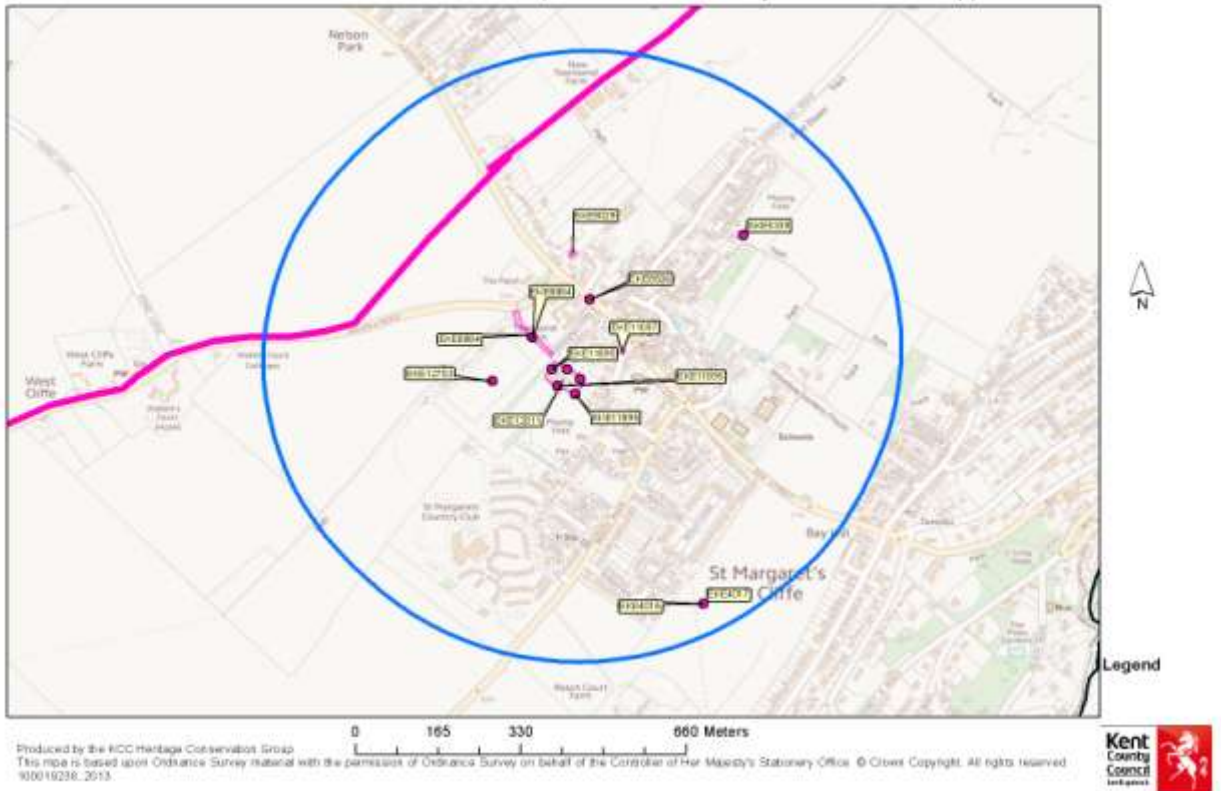


Plate 9. The site (Events)

Kent Historic Environment Record - Monuments (NB not all labels may be shown on map)

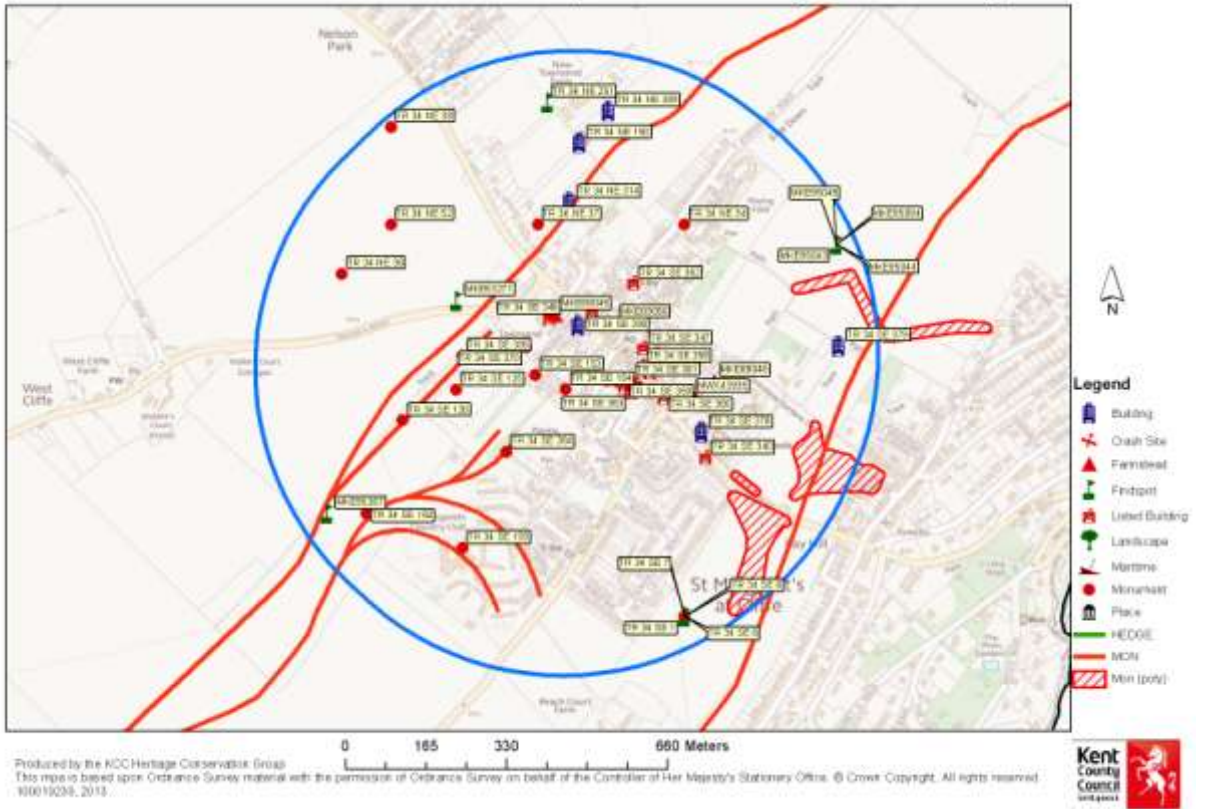
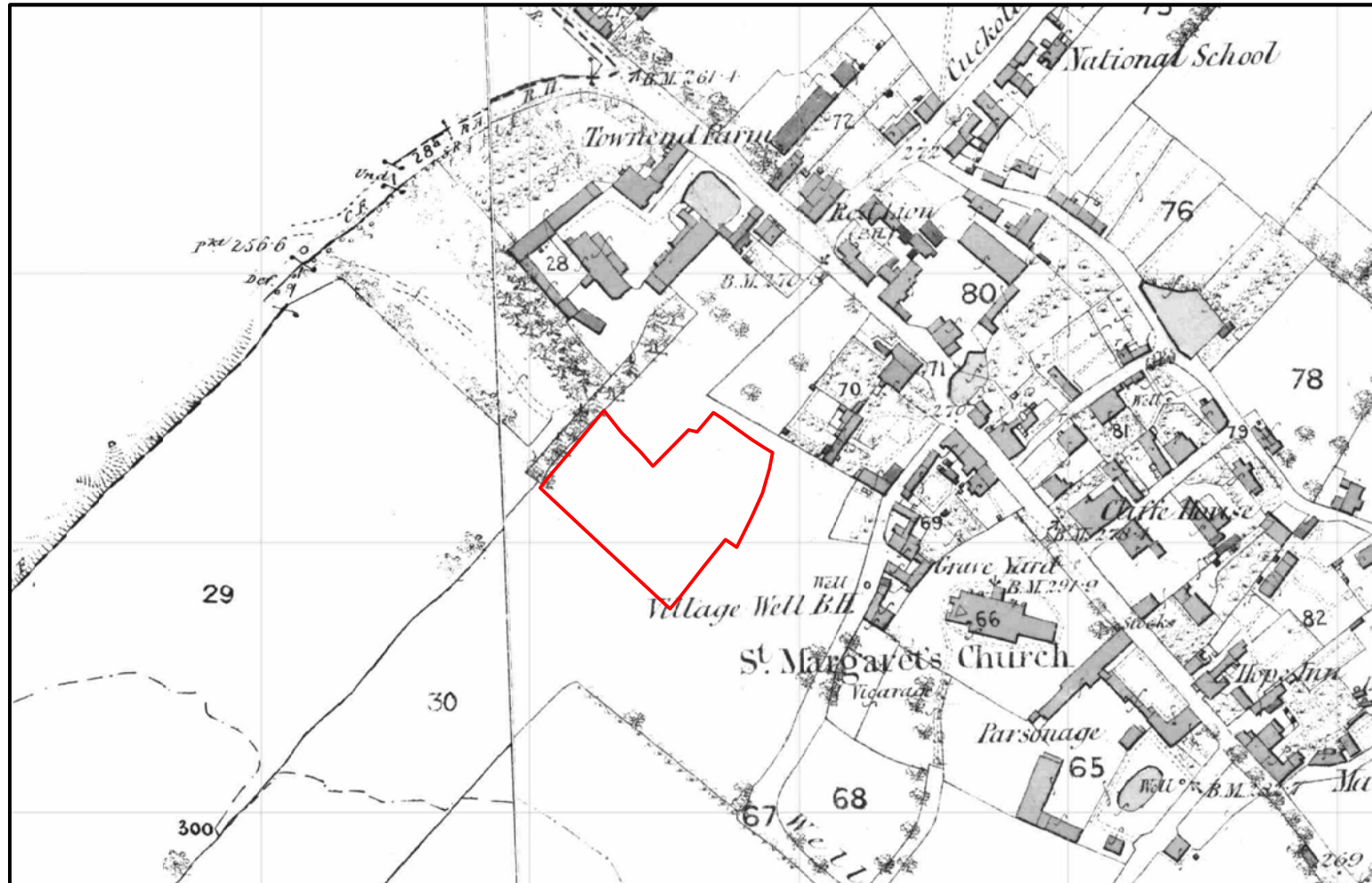
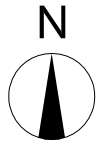


Plate 10. The site (monuments)

635483.0mE  
145028.0mN



636008.0mE  
144656.0mN

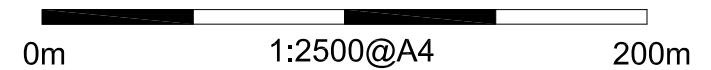
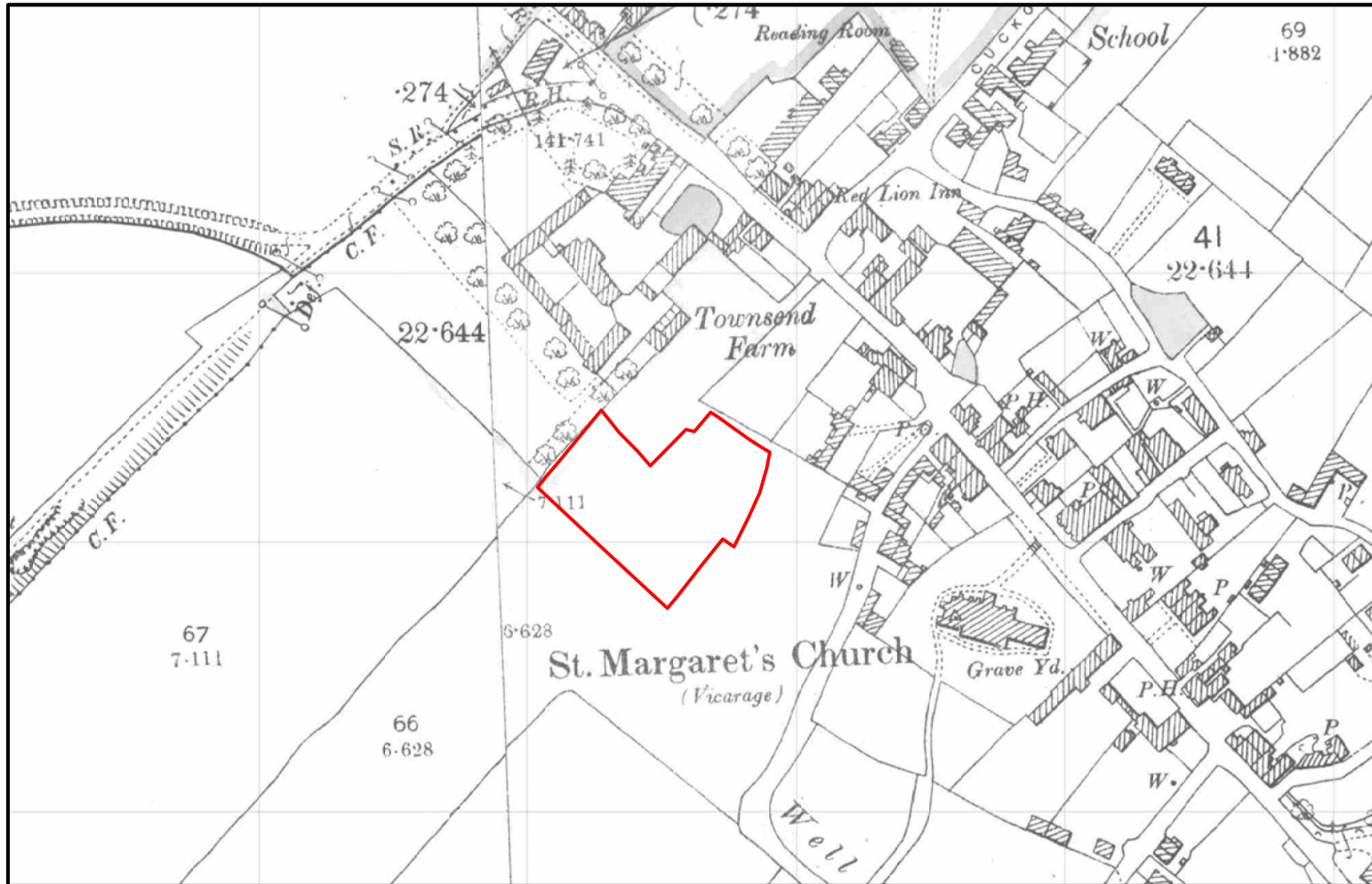
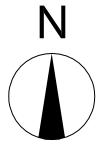


Figure 1: Historic mapping 1862

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636008.0mE  
144656.0mN

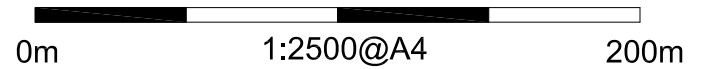
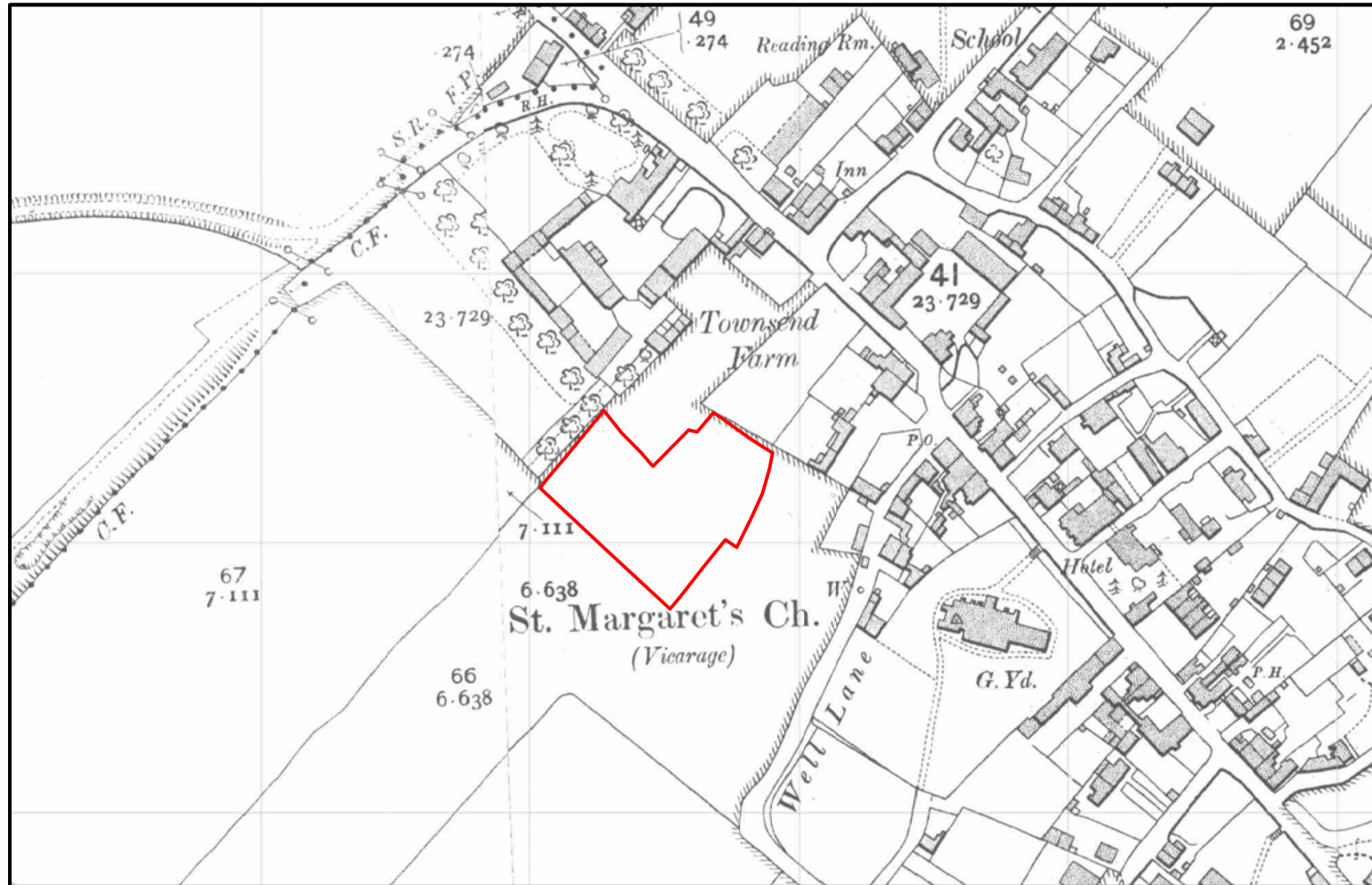
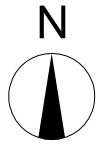


Figure 2: Historic mapping 1898

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145028.0mN



636008.0mE  
144656.0mN

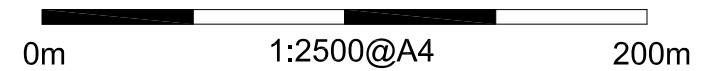
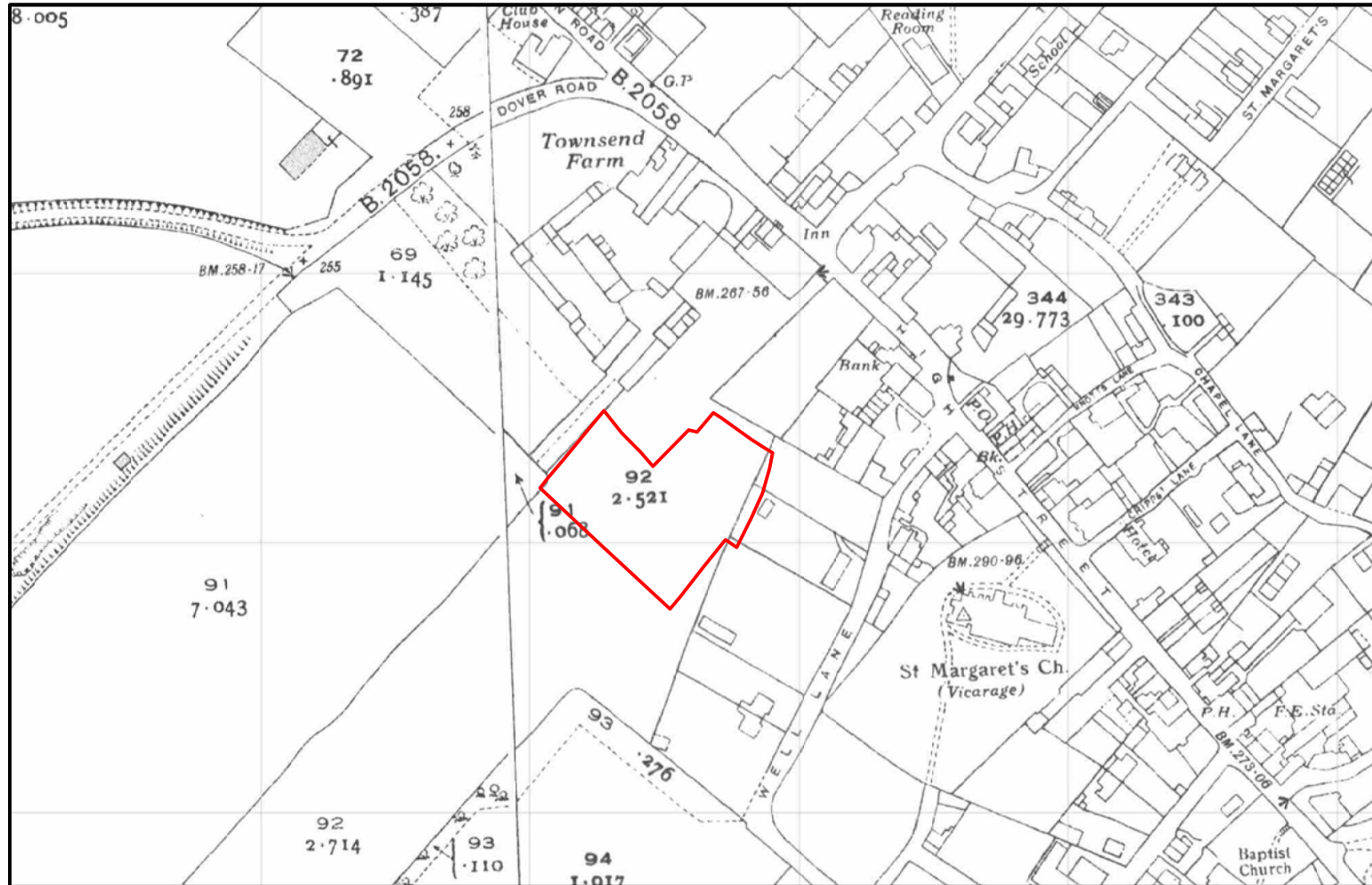
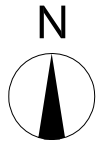


Figure 3: Historic mapping 1907

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145028.0mN



636008.0mE  
144656.0mN

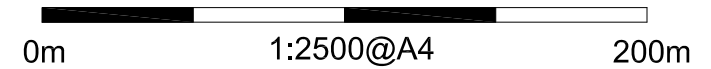
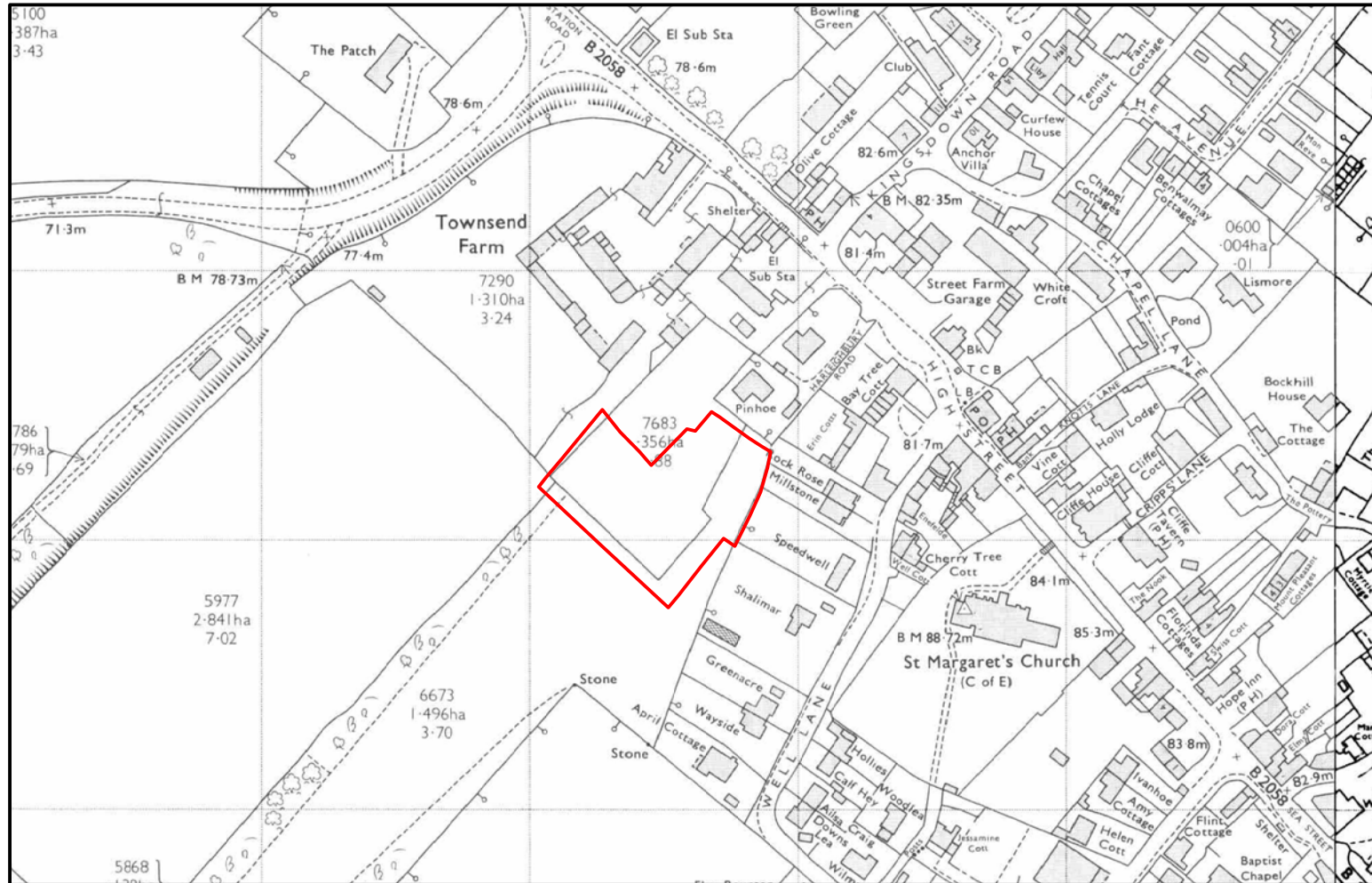
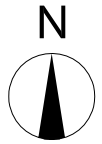


Figure 4: Historic mapping 1938





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145028.0mN



636008.0mE  
144656.0mN

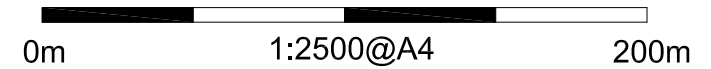
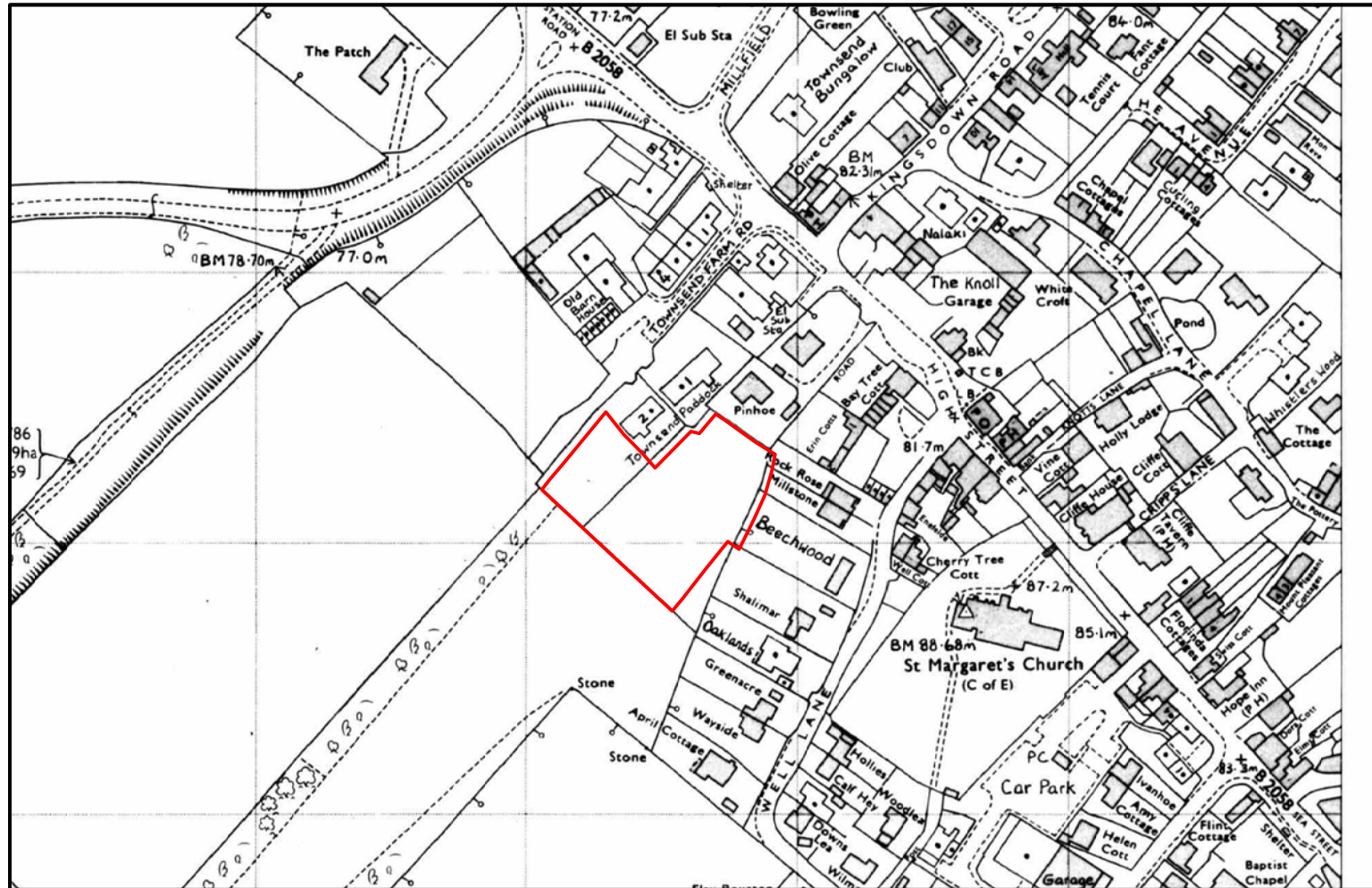
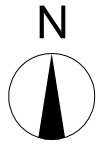


Figure 6: Historic mapping 1976

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636008.0mE  
144656.0mN

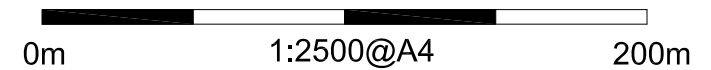
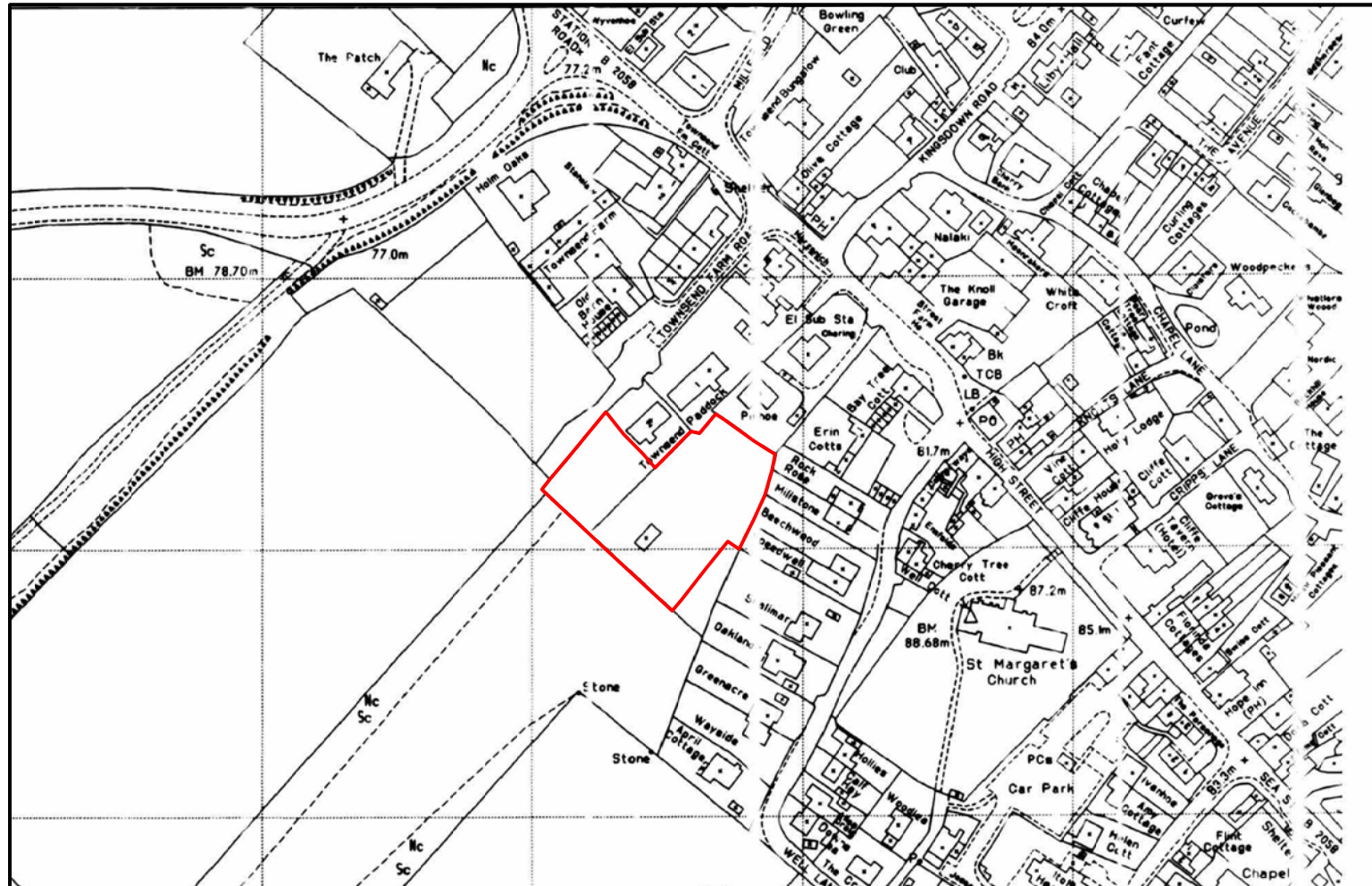
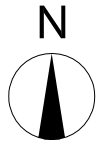


Figure 7: Historic mapping 1988

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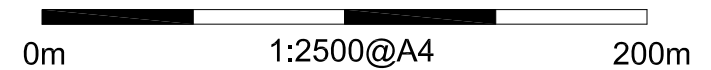


Figure 8: Historic mapping 1993