

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
DURHAM UNIVERSITY

on behalf of
The Northumberland Estates

Lloyds Field
Alnwick
Northumberland

archaeological desk-based assessment

report 2958
July 2012

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1. Summary

The project

- 1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological desk-based assessment, which was conducted in advance of a proposed development at Lloyd's Field, Alnwick, Northumberland. The assessment comprised a search of pertinent documentary and cartographic records, records of archaeological interventions, the Historic Environment Record, and a site walk-over survey.
- 1.2 The works were commissioned by The Northumberland Estates, and conducted by Archaeological Services Durham University.

The archaeological resource

- 1.3 There is no direct evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity within the study area, but the presence of activity in the surrounding vicinity indicates that an as yet unidentified resource has the potential to exist.
- 1.4 The area lay outside the medieval settlement at Alnwick and there is evidence to suggest it was part of Cawledge Park and also agricultural land during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Archaeological deposits relating to agricultural activity may survive on the site.

Impact assessment

- 1.5 The proposed development has the potential to impact upon any archaeological resource that may be present through ground reduction and the construction of foundations and associated services.

Recommendations

- 1.6 It is recommended that the potential archaeological resource is established by conducting a geomagnetic survey across the site, the results of which may need to be supplemented by trial trenching.

2. Project background

Location (Figures 1 & 2)

- 2.1 The site is located at Lloyd's Field, Alnwick, Northumberland (NGR centre: NU 2036 1240). It is roughly rectangular in plan, and covers an area of approximately 1.2 ha. To the north is the line of the former North Eastern Railway, to the west is the A1, agricultural land is to the east and the Willow Burn is to the south.

Development proposal

- 2.2 The proposal is for a static caravan site.

Objective

- 2.3 The objective of the scheme of works was to assess the nature, extent and potential significance of any surviving archaeological resource within the proposed development area, so that an informed decision may be made regarding the nature and scope of any further scheme of archaeological works that may be required in relation to the proposed development.

Methods statement

- 2.4 The works have been conducted in accordance with standard Archaeological Services' procedures for desk-based assessments. The works comprised the study of pertinent cartographic and other historical sources, records of previous archaeological interventions, sites listed in the Historic Environment Record (HER) within 1km of the proposed development area, and a site walk-over survey. HER references are referred to in brackets throughout the text of this report, and are listed in Appendix 1.

Planning guidance

- 2.5 This assessment and its recommendations are a considered response to the proposed development in relation to Government policy, as it is set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework*.

Dates

- 2.6 The field visit took place on 19th July 2012. This report was prepared for July 2012.

Personnel

- 2.7 Research was conducted and this report prepared by Catrin Jenkins, with illustrations by Janine Watson. The Project Manager was Daniel Still.

OASIS

- 2.8 Archaeological Services Durham University is registered with the Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS project (OASIS). The OASIS ID number for this project is **archaeol3-130597**.

3. Landuse, topography and geology

Landuse

- 3.1 At the time of this assessment, the proposed development area comprised the eastern part of a fallow arable field.

Topography

- 3.2 The proposed development area was predominantly level with a mean elevation of approximately 60m OD. The land drops to the east where the valley of the Willow Burn descends to 15m OD. The cutting of a former railway line extends along the north of the site.

Geology and soils

- 3.3 The solid geology of the area comprises Tournaisian and Viséan Lower Carboniferous Middle Limestones, with an intrusive Dyke of Igneous Basalt, Dolerite and Camptonite rising to the south of Alnwick. The superficial geology comprises Devensian Glaciofluvial deposits.

4. Site walk-over survey

- 4.1 A walk-over survey was conducted, to help ascertain the potential of the proposed development area to contain any archaeological resource. The visit noted site topography, earthworks and areas of modern overburden, modern services, boundaries, buildings and other upstanding remains. A *pro forma* recording sheet was completed.
- 4.2 The proposed development area comprises the eastern part of an arable field, which contains crop stubble (Figures 9-12). The eastern boundary of the site is formed by the Willow Burn, with mature trees lining the southern boundary. The cutting for the former Alnwick and Cornhill Railway bounds the site to the north and to the west is the Aln Valley Railway Museum. Here the ground has been disturbed and several bunds roughly mark this edge of the site. The land slopes slightly to the north-east where a track enters the field.

5. Historical and archaeological development

Previous archaeological works

- 5.1 There have been a number of archaeological works undertaken within the study area. Directly to the west of the proposed development area on the west side of the A1, an archaeological assessment (HER 13979) at Lion House identified the 19th century development of the area. A desk-based assessment (HER 13246) was carried out on the A1 trunk road from Hitchcroft to Cawledge, which noted archaeological sites along the route of the road, to the south of the proposed development area. A further desk-based assessment immediately to the south of the proposed development boundary, at Lionheart Enterprise Park, highlighted the area's archaeological potential (HER 345).
- 5.2 Approximately 200m to the south-west of the proposed development area at Willowburn Avenue, a geophysical survey (HER 13704) identified archaeological activity. Subsequent trial trenching (HER 13705) encountered features which were interpreted as indicating the edge of medieval occupation. Further archaeological works (HER 13852) in the area recorded ridge and furrow cultivation.
- 5.3 Farther to the south-west of the proposed development area on land at Cawledge, a geophysical survey (HER 380) identified magnetic anomalies. During trial trenching (HER 13246) these proved to be land drains and ferrous material in the ploughsoil. At Greensfield Moor, also to the south-west of the proposed development area, a

geophysical survey (HER 13227) identified possible archaeological features. However, trial trenching (HER 379) on the site found only a 19th century land drain. A desk-based assessment (HER 13557) at Greensfield Moor recorded farmland and parkland in the area during the medieval and post-medieval periods. An archaeological evaluation (HER 13702) here confirmed the lack of development in the area. Another desk-based assessment (HER 14719) was also undertaken just to the south-west of this at Greensfield.

- 5.4 There have been various other archaeological works within the study area. In the north-west on the Station Industrial Estate a desk-based assessment (HER 13684) and watching brief (HER 14388) did not encounter any archaeological activity. Desk-based assessments have also been undertaken at Willow Burn (HER 13485) to the south-west and at Windy Edge to the north-west (HER 14718).

The prehistoric period (up to AD 70)

- 5.5 There is no direct evidence of prehistoric activity in the proposed development area. However, there is evidence that the surrounding area was exploited in prehistory and a resource relating to this exploitation may therefore survive within the proposed development area. The earliest known activity dates to the Bronze Age and consists of two finds: a gold penannular ring (HER 4502) found near the Alnwick Station in 1850; and a decorated food vessel from Windy Edge, some 200m to the north of the proposed development area (HER 5723).
- 5.6 Evidence for later prehistoric activity in the study area is recorded some 600m to the south-east of the development boundary near the Cawledge Burn. This activity is defined by a cropmark and comprises an irregular single-ditched enclosure with at least one internal hut circle (HER 5708).

The Roman period (AD 70 to 5th century)

- 5.7 There is no known Roman activity within the study area, or within the wider landscape. However, during an evaluation (HER 13705) at Willowburn Avenue to the south-west, a possible sherd of residual Roman pot was found.

The medieval period (5th century to 1540)

- 5.8 The Alnwick place-name is probably early medieval and is a combination of the ancient British name for the River *Aln*, possibly meaning white and the Old English *Wic*, meaning settlement or dwelling. The settlement at Alnwick developed during the medieval period around the castle, which was constructed around 1096. The settlement was first recorded in 1135 and a charter confirming the right to hold a market at Alnwick was granted in 1297. The development of the medieval town was confined to within the town walls, which were constructed during the 15th century (HER 4497) and are over 1km from the proposed development boundary.
- 5.9 Around the town was a system of open fields that comprised the common land of Alnwick Moor (Conzen 1969, 46). The proposed development area lay between Alnwick and Shilbottle, an area which was described as being low-lying heathland interspersed with bogs. It was first referred to as *Clauvec* in around 1190 and again in 1241 as *Caweleg* (Northumberland County Council 1993, 6). In 1512 a parkland was noted in the area owned by the Earls of Northumberland, and 596 fallow deer were recorded here in the same year (Archaeological Services University of Durham 2002). The park boundary is not known, though it is speculated to have extended

from the Willow Burn to the west of the site across to the Cawledge Burn to the south of the site.

- 5.10 Early coal production is recorded to the south-east of the proposed development area in the village of Bilton. It is recorded that in 1470, a new coal pit and fifteen wagonloads of timber were transported from Cawledge to Shilbottle Wood (Northumberland County Council 1993, 7).

The post-medieval period (1541 to 1899)

- 5.11 Armstrong's map of 1769 (Figure 3) depicts the proposed development area as *Cawledge* with buildings, possibly farms, at *Cawledge* and *Moss House*. A park is labelled to the south of the Willow Burn. In 1789 Cary's map of Northumberland (Figure 4) depicts Cawledge Park enclosed by fencing and extending from just south of the Alndike almost as far as Shilbottle. The Willow Burn is shown running through the centre of the park. Greenwood's map of 1828 (Figure 5) provides little detail of the proposed development area, though the park may have been reduced in size by this time, with only buildings labelled at Cawledge East Park to the south.
- 5.12 To the north-east of Alnwick, some 500m to the north-east of the proposed development area, there were two mills. One called Denwick Mill (HER 5724) and the other, just to the south called Alnwick Mill (HER 5725). Only parts of these post-medieval mills survive.
- 5.13 The Shilbottle Wagonway (HER 15533) is recorded on Greenwood's map of 1828 (Figure 5); it was used to transport coal from Shilbottle and Newton to Alnwick. By 1860 the wagonway was no longer in use.
- 5.14 The town of Alnwick itself remained little developed until the 18th or 19th centuries. At this time the town expanded outside of the walls and new developments were seen along the roads to the east of the town, such as at Duke Street and back Duke Street (HER 4882). A number of Grade 2 listed buildings (HER 4759, 14090, and 14091) of early to mid -19th century date to the east of the town provide further evidence of this growth.
- 5.15 Some 250m to the north-east of the proposed development boundary, is an early 19th-century house, Alndyke. The Grade 2 listed building was probably part of the Northumberland Estate and has the Percy crest on the rainwater pipe head (HER 14092).
- 5.16 A new cemetery was constructed to accommodate the growing town in 1856 and a south (HER 14102) and north chapel (HER 14101) were added both of which are Grade 2 listed. The lodge and gates (HER 14103) of the cemetery are part of the same development and also Grade 2 listed. A milepost is found opposite the cemetery (HER 16751).
- 5.17 Extending along the northern boundary of the proposed development area is the line of the North Eastern Railway's (NER) Alnwick to Alnmouth branch (HER 23890). It was opened in 1850 and was extended in 1887. It was constructed to link the farming communities of north Northumberland with the market town of Alnwick and also to link the North Eastern Railway's Kelso line to its Alnwick Branch. The line was closed in 1953.

- 5.18 The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of the 1860s (Figure 6) depicts the proposed development area as agricultural land. There is a north-east to south-west field boundary which divides the proposed development area. The NER Alnwick Branch extends to the north and there are areas of bog depicted beyond the north-eastern corner of the field. The farm at Cawledge East Park is to the south and the new cemetery is shown to the west.
- 5.19 The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of the 1890s (Figure 7) does not show a great deal of change. A gas works has been constructed to the north-east of the cemetery and the town's suburbs have extended along the Alnwick Road to the north of the proposed development area.

The modern period (1900 to present)

- 5.20 By the time of the 3rd edition Ordnance Survey map in the 1920s, the proposed development area has not altered. The map illustrates the eastward and southward growth of the town (Figure 8).
- 5.21 Remnants of the World War II north-eastern coastal defences survive across Northumberland. Loop-holed walls were an economic way at the time to modify structures for defence and there are two of these within the study area. One (HER 19897) is located some 250m to the west of the proposed development area and the other (HER 19898) adapted part of the Alnwick Cemetery wall. There is also a pillbox (HER 19994) approximately 400m to the north-east of the site near Bogmill.

The buildings

- 5.22 There are several Grade 2 listed buildings to the east of Alnwick (Appendix 1): these are unlikely to be affected by the proposed development.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other Designated Heritage Assets

- 5.23 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the proposed development area, or the near vicinity. The Alnwick Castle park, a registered park and garden, is located some 400m to the north of the proposed development boundary and the Alnwick Conservation Area is approximately 400m to the north-west.

6. The potential archaeological resource

- 6.1 There is no direct evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity within the study area, but the presence of activity in the surrounding vicinity, indicates that an as yet unidentified resource has the potential to exist.
- 6.2 The area lay outside the medieval settlement at Alnwick and there is evidence to suggest it was part of Cawledge Park and also agricultural land during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Archaeological deposits relating to agricultural activity may survive on the site.

7. Impact assessment

- 7.1 The proposed development has the potential to impact upon any archaeological resource that may be present through ground reduction and the construction of foundations and associated services.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 It is recommended that the potential archaeological resource is established by conducting a geomagnetic survey across the site, the results of which may need to be supplemented by trial trenching.

9. Sources

Cartographic sources

Armstrong, 1769 A map of the County of Northumberland

Cary, 1789

Greenwood 1828

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition, 1860s

Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition, 1890s

Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition, 1920s

Other sources

Archaeological Services University of Durham 2002 *Land adjacent to Lionheart Enterprise Park, Alnwick, Northumberland: archaeological desk-top assessment*, unpublished report **910**

Conzen, M.R.G., 1960, *Alnwick, Northumberland; A Study in Town Plan Analysis* George Phillip & Son, Ltd, London

Petts, D, & Gerrard, C, 2006 *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment*. Durham

The Northumberland Estates

D/Sa/D 26-139 Salvin Family Records 1834

Websites

Keys to the Past - www.keystothe past.info

Aerial Photographs and satellite images

No archaeological resource was noted on aerial photographs or satellite images.

Geotechnical works

No records of geotechnical works within the proposed development area were identified.

Appendix 1: Historic Environment Record

The tables include sites recorded within the vicinity of the proposed development area (within an approximate radius of 1km from the site).

Historic Environment Record

(PRN = Public Record Number, SAM = Scheduled Ancient Monument)

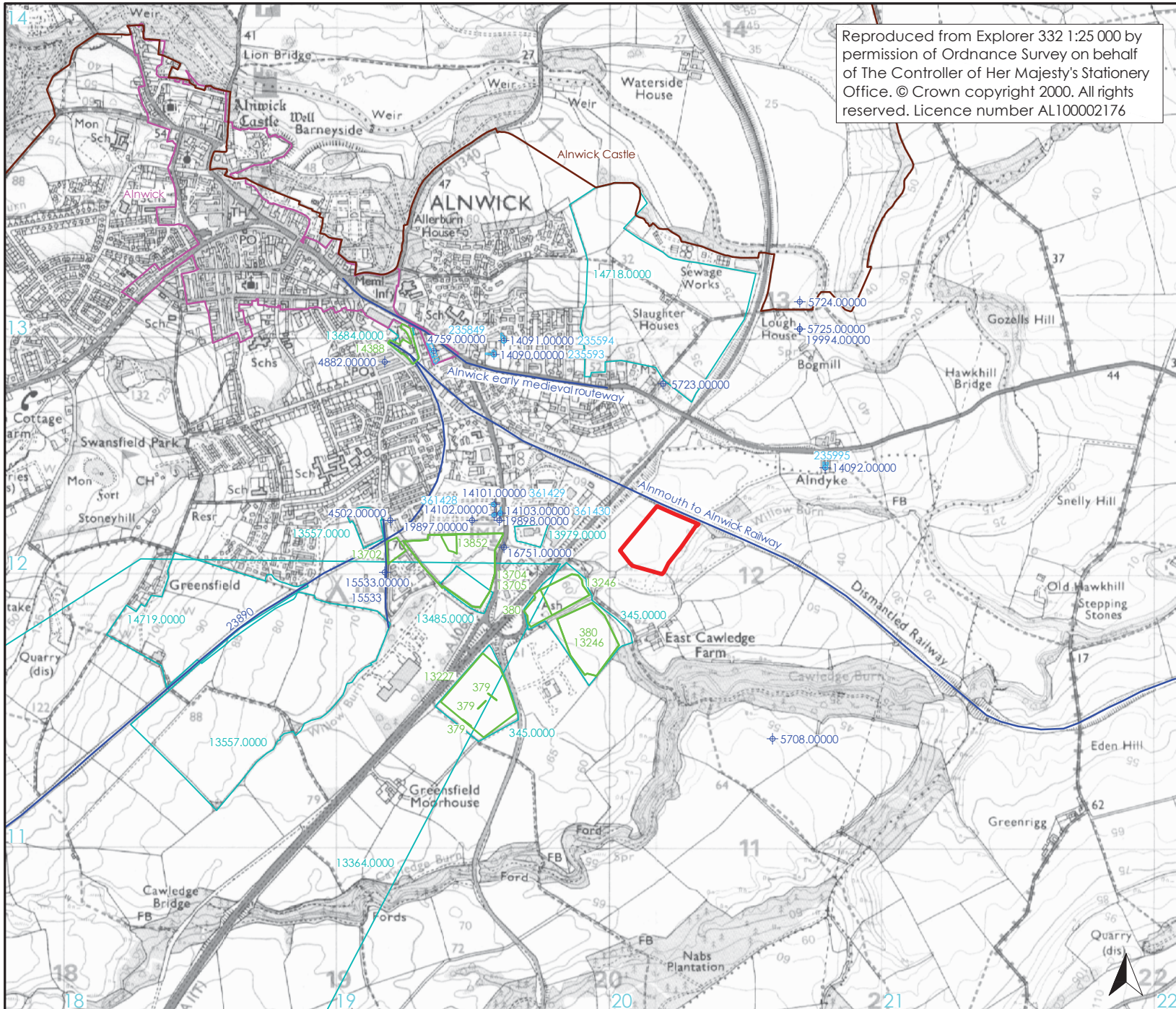
PRN	Description	Date
4502	Gold penannular ring	Bronze Age
4759	Nos 1 to 6 Belvedere Terrace, South Road	Early 19th century
4882	Duke Street and back Duke Street	19th century
5708	Cawledge Burn enclosed settlement cropmark	Iron Age/Romano British
5723	Food vessel	Bronze Age
5724	Denwick Mill	Post-medieval
5725	Alnwick Mill	Post-medieval
14090	Alnbank House, Alnmouth Road	Early to mid 19th century
14091	House, Freeland, Alnmouth Road	1817
14092	House, Alndyke, Alnmouth Road	Early 19th century
14101	North Chapel at Alnwick Cemetery	1856
14102	South Chapel at Alnwick Cemetery	1856
14103	Lodge and gates at Alnwick Cemetery	1856
15533	Shilbottle wagonway	Post-medieval
16751	Milepost opposite Alnwick Cemetery	Post-medieval
19897	Loopholed wall	Modern
19898	Loopholed wall at Alnwick Cemetery	Modern
19994	Pillbox	Modern
23890	Alnwick and Cornhill Railway	1882

Listed buildings

PRN	Description	Grade
235593	Alnbank House	II
235594	House, Freeland	II
235595	House, Alndyke	II
235849	Terrace, Nos 1 to 6 Belvedere Terrace, South Road	II
361428	South Chapel at Alnwick Cemetery	II
361429	North Chapel at Alnwick Cemetery	II
361430	Lodge and gates at Alnwick Cemetery	II

Previous archaeological interventions

PRN	description
345	Desk-based assessment on land adjacent to Lionheart Enterprise Park
379	Evaluation on land at Greensfield Moor
380	Geophysical survey on land at Cawledge
13227	Geophysical survey on land at Greensfield Moor
13246	Evaluation on land at Cawledge
13364	Desk-based assessment on the A1 trunk road; Hitchcroft to Cawledge improvement
13485	Desk-based assessment at Willow Burn
13557	Desk-based assessment on land at Greensfield and Alnwick Football Club
13684	Desk-based assessment on Station Industrial Estate, Wagonway Road
13702	Evaluation on land at Greensfield Industrial
13704	Geophysical survey at Willowburn Avenue,
13705	Evaluation at Willowburn Avenue,
13852	Archaeological monitoring at Willowburn Avenue
13979	Desk-based assessment at Lion House
14388	Watching brief at Station Industrial Estate
14718	Desk-based assessment at Windy Edge
14719	Desk-based assessment at Greensfield, south of Weavers Way



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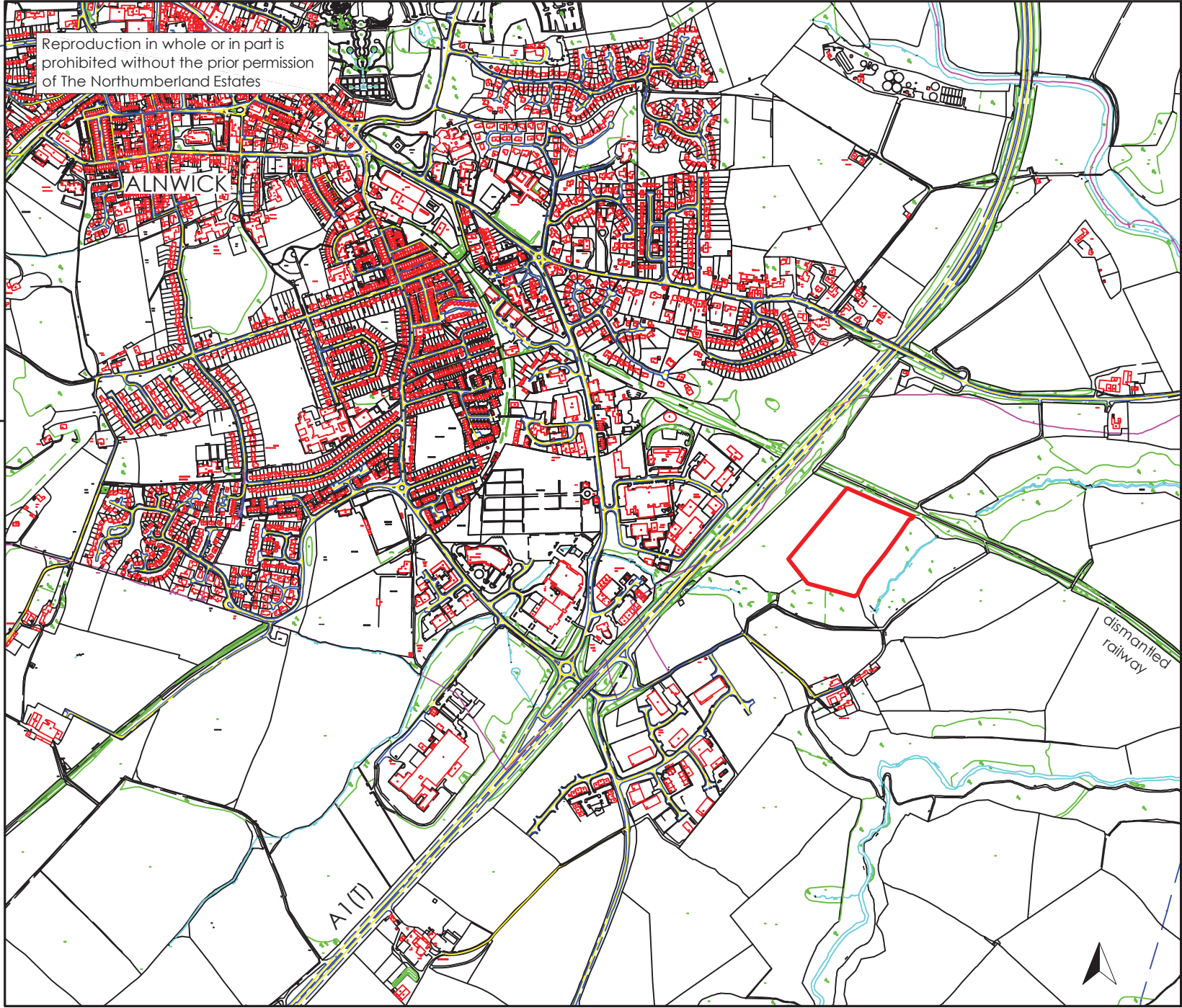
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Figure 1: Site location and
Historic Environment Record

0 1km
scale 1:20 000 for A4 plot

-  proposed development area
-  conservation area
-  registered park and garden
-  HER site
-  event
-  assessment
-  listed building



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Figure 2: Site as existing

0 500m
scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot

 proposed development area



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Figure 3: Extract from Armstrong's
Map of Northumberland, 1769

not to scale

 approximate location of the
proposed development area



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Figure 4: Extract from Cary's Map of Northumberland, 1789

not to scale



approximate location of the
proposed development area



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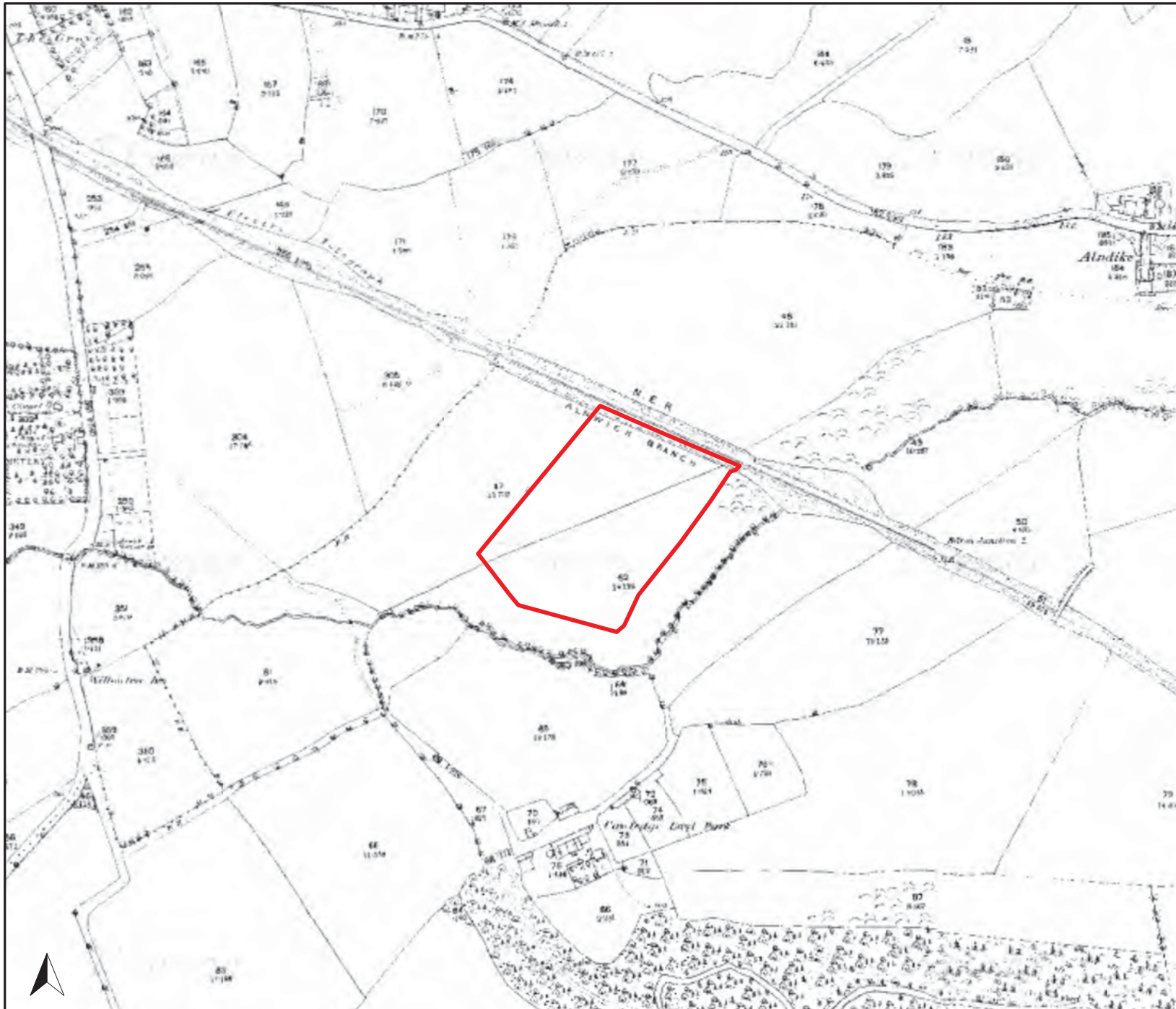
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Figure 5: Extract from
Greenwood's Map of the County
of Northumberland, 1828

not to scale



approximate location of the
proposed development area



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Figure 6: Extract from the 1st
edition Ordnance Survey map,
1860s

0 300m
scale 1:6000 for A4 plot

 proposed development area


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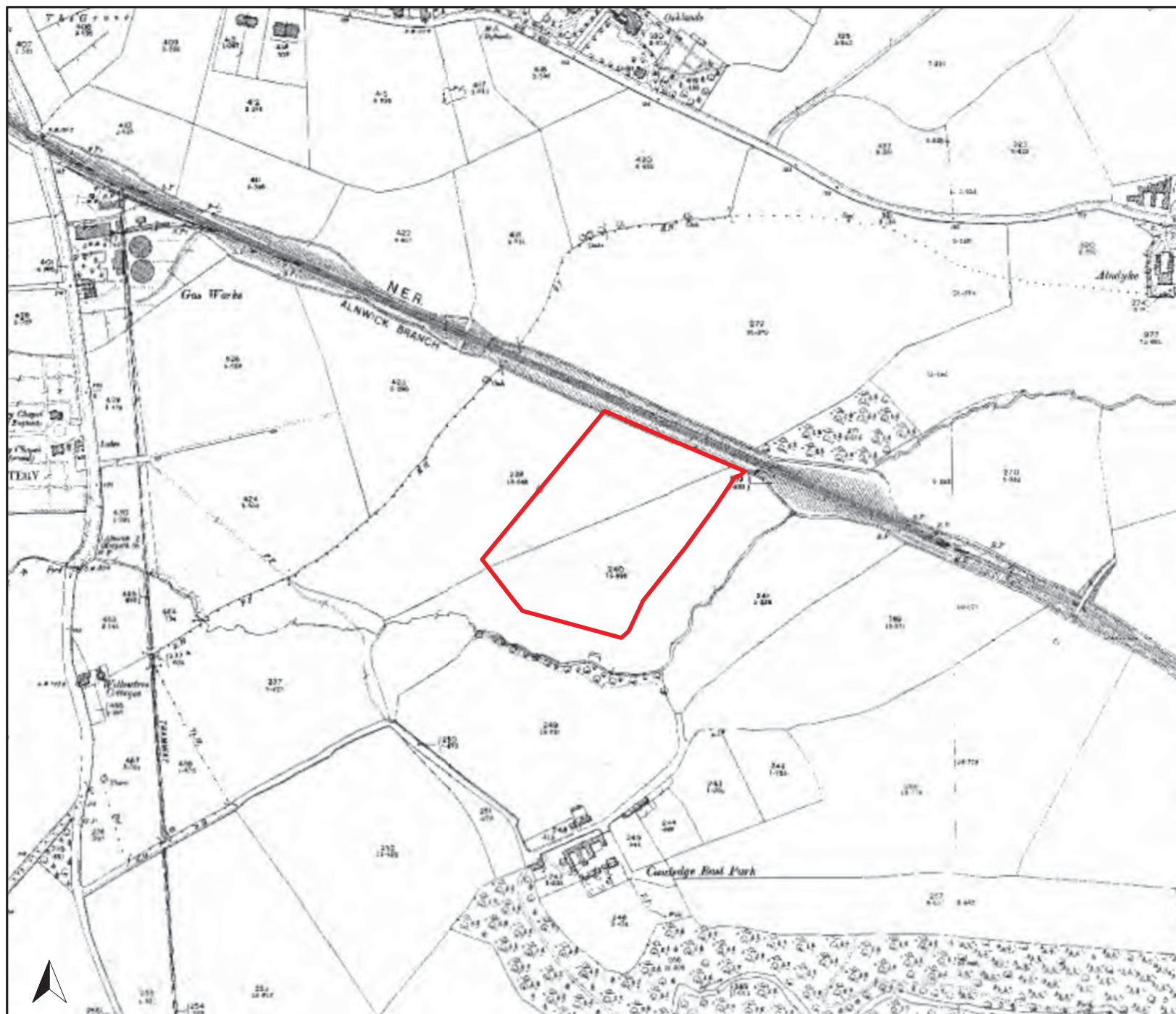
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Figure 7: Extract from the 2nd
edition Ordnance Survey map,
1890s

0 300m
scale 1:6000 for A4 plot

 proposed development area




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Figure 8: Extract from the 3rd
edition Ordnance Survey map,
1920s

0 300m
scale 1:6000 for A4 plot

 proposed development area

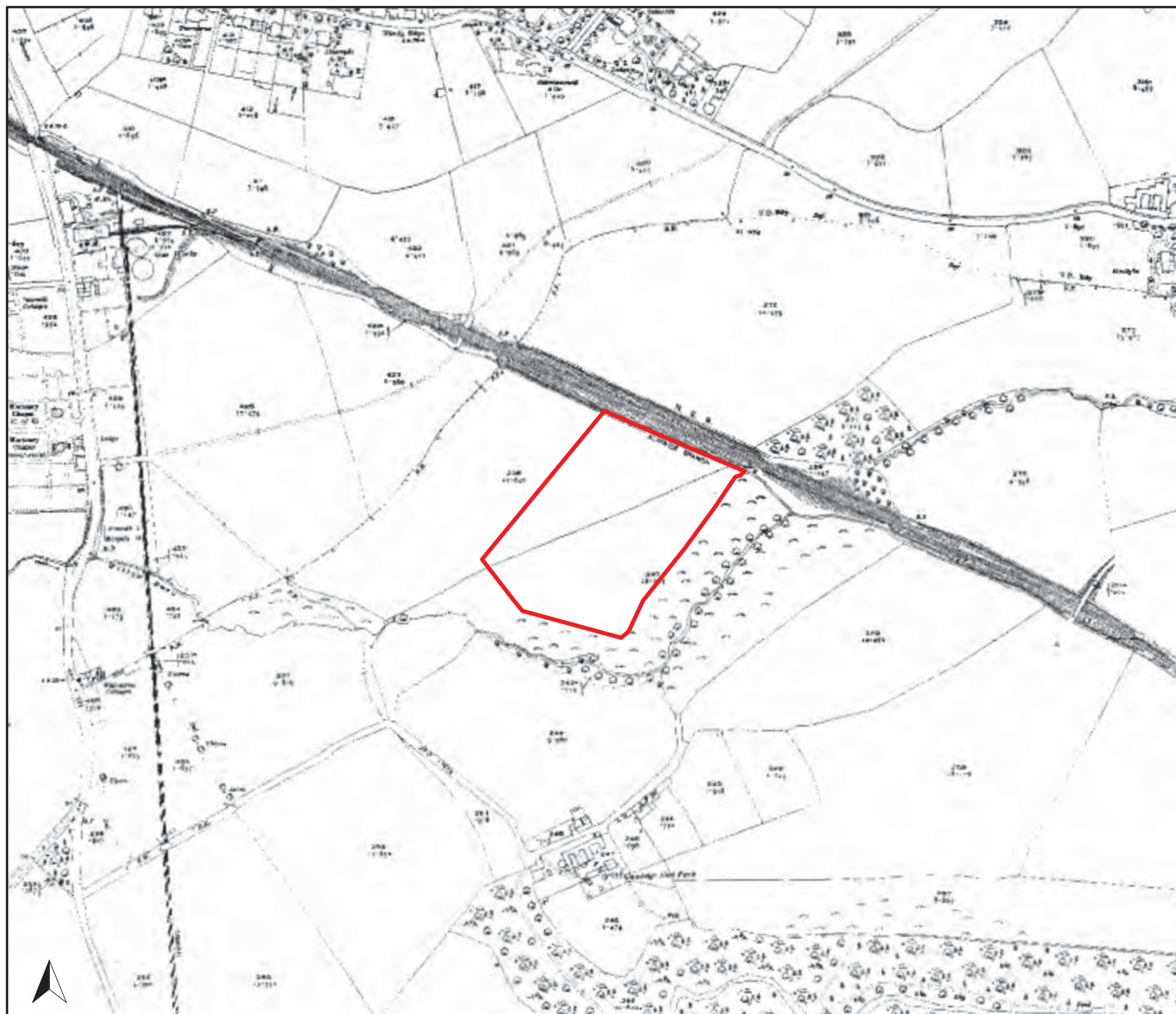




Figure 9: South-west facing view of the proposed development area



Figure 10: South-east facing view of the proposed development area



Figure 11: North-east facing view of the proposed development area



Figure 12: North-facing view of the proposed development area