



**ROYAL NAVAL AIR STATION  
YEOVILTON AND  
MERRYFIELD AIRFIELD**

**BYELAWS 1988**

Made by the Secretary of State for Defence, under the provisions of the Military Lands Act 1892, for regulating the use of the above mentioned site.

## STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1988

No 2205

## DEFENCE

THE ROYAL NAVAL AIR STATION YEOVILTON  
AND MERRYFIELD AIRFIELD BYELAWS 1988

Made

22nd November 1988

Coming into force

31st December 1988

The Secretary of State for Defence, to whom belongs part of the land described below and who has the right to use the remainder of the land so described for military purposes, hereby, in exercise of his powers under Part II of the Military Lands Act 1892(a) makes the following byelaws:

## APPLICATION OF BYELAWS

1. These byelaws apply to the areas of land in Somerset (hereinafter referred to as "the Protected Areas") shown on the plans annexed to these byelaws as Protected Areas, which areas comprise the Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton known as "HMS HERON" and the support airfield known as "Merryfield Airfield" and include all perimeter fences.

## PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES – PROTECTED AREAS

2. No person shall:
  - (a) enter, pass through or remain in any part of the Protected Areas;
  - (b) enter or leave any part of the Protected Areas which are enclosed except by way of an authorised entrance or exit;
  - (c) cause or permit any animal or thing to enter into or pass through any part of the Protected Areas which are enclosed or the entry to which is shown by notice as being prohibited;
  - (d) board or interfere with any vehicle, aircraft or installation within the Protected Areas;
  - (e) obstruct the movement of any vehicle or aircraft within the Protected Areas;
  - (f) obstruct any constable, or any other person acting in the proper exercise or execution of his duty within the Protected Areas;

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(a) 1892 c.43.

- (g) distribute or display within the Protected Areas any handbill, leaflet, sign, advertisement, circular, poster, bill, notice or object or affix the same to any fence, wall or other surface;
- (h) interfere with any property, within the Protected Areas, which is under the control of the Crown or of the service authorities of a visiting force, or in either case its agents or contractors;
- (i) cause or permit aircraft to enter into or upon or to pass through or over the Protected Areas at a height of less than 500 feet above ground level;
- (j) cause or permit any vehicle to enter any part of the Protected Areas;
- (k) remain in the Protected Areas after having been directed to leave by any of the persons mentioned in byelaw 3;
- (l) being the owner or person for the time being in charge of any animal or thing upon the Protected Areas permit the same to remain after having been directed to remove the same by any of the persons mentioned in byelaw 3;
- (m) deface any sign, wall, fence, structure, floor, pavement or other surface within the Protected Areas;
- (n) take or cause to be taken upon the Protected Areas any offensive weapon;
- (o) take part in, attend or organise any meeting or procession within the Protected Areas;
- (p) camp (whether in tents, caravans or otherwise), bivouac or sleep out within the Protected Areas;
- (q) within the Protected Areas, take a photograph of any military installation;
- (r) deposit industrial refuse, rubble, waste or litter or abandon any vehicle or vehicle part or any other article within the Protected Areas;
- (s) do any act within the Protected Areas which causes or is likely to cause nuisance, annoyance or injury to other persons;
- (t) within the Protected Areas light fires, drop or leave lighted or live matches or burning cigarette ends or do any act or thing liable to cause an outbreak of fire;
- (u) fail to keep under control any dog or other animal within the Protected Areas;
- (v) engage in or carry on any trade or business of any description within the Protected Areas.

#### **EXCLUSION FROM THE PROTECTED AREAS**

3.-(1) If it appears to the Secretary of State or a member of the Ministry of Defence Police desirable to do so having regard to any military purpose for which the Protected Areas are appropriated or to the matters for which provision may be made under section 14(2) of the Military Lands Act 1892, may give a person a direction prohibiting that person from entering the Protected Areas.

(2) A person who has been given such a direction shall not enter the Protected Areas whilst the direction continues in force.

(3) Such a direction shall continue in force for 12 months unless earlier revoked by a notice in writing given by the Secretary of State or a member of the Ministry of Defence Police.

(4) The reference in this byelaw to a military purpose includes a reference to any purpose of the Ministry of Defence or any of Her Majesty's naval, military or air forces.

### CONTROL OF ROAD TRAFFIC

4.-(1) Any person who rides a horse, bicycle or tricycle or rides in or drives any vehicle in any part of the Protected Areas shall:

- (a) comply with directions, given orally or by signal, of any serviceman, provost or any constable;
- (b) comply with all service and other traffic signs;
- (c) ride or drive with due care for other persons.

(2) No person shall ride or drive any vehicle in any part of the Protected Areas when unfit to drive or ride through drink or drugs.

### CONTRAVICTION OF BYELAWS

5. Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with byelaws 2, 3 or 4 shall be guilty of an offence.

### ENFORCEMENT

6. The following persons are hereby authorised to remove from the Protected Areas and to take into custody without warrant any person committing an offence against any of the preceding byelaws and remove from such areas and impound until conclusion of legal proceedings any vehicle, animal, aircraft or thing whatsoever found therein in contravention of any of these byelaws:

- (a) the Flag Officer Naval Air Command;
- (b) the Commanding Officer, RNAS Yeovilton;
- (c) any officer, any warrant officer or non-commissioned officer in uniform and being for the time being under the command of any of the officers mentioned in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of this byelaw;
- (d) any person being a Crown servant authorised in writing by or on behalf of any of the officers mentioned in sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) of this byelaw;
- (e) any constable.

## EXEMPTIONS

7-(1) Nothing done by a person acting under and in accordance with any authority or permission given by or on behalf of the Secretary of State, Flag Officer Naval Air Command or the Commanding Officer, RNAS Yeovilton, shall be a contravention of these byelaws.

(2) It shall not be an offence against these byelaws if it is proved that an act or omission was unavoidable by the exercise of reasonable care.

(3) The boarding or interference with any property by the owner or with his consent shall not, in relation to that property, be a contravention of these byelaws.

(4) Byelaw 2a shall not apply to members of the public using the Fleet Air Arm Museum and Concorde Exhibition (Science Museum) for legitimate purposes.

(5) Nothing done on the Protected Areas on land comprising Courtney Farm or Manor Farm by:-

- (a) the landowners or their tenants or
- (b) any person acting under and in accordance with any authority or permission given by or on behalf of the landowners or their tenants shall be a contravention of these byelaws.

## RIGHTS OF WAY

8. Nothing in these byelaws shall affect the lawful exercise by any person of a public right of way.

## INTERPRETATION

9. In these byelaws:

“aircraft” includes any craft or contrivance which though not an aircraft is for the time being airborne;

“meeting” means a meeting held for the purpose of the discussion of matters of public interest or for the purpose of the expression of views on such matters;

“offensive weapon” means any article made or adapted for use for:

- (a) causing injury to or incapacitating a person;
- (b) causing injury to, incapacitating or trapping an animal or bird;

or intended by the person having it with him for such use or for threatening such use;

“photograph” includes any cinematograph film and any form of video recording;

“service authorities” means naval, military or air force authorities;

"visiting force" means such body, contingent or detachment of the force of any country as is a visiting force for the purposes of any of the provisions of the Visiting Forces Act 1952. (a)

### COMMENCEMENT AND CITATION

10. These byelaws shall come into force on the 31st day of December 1988, and may be cited as the Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton and Merryfield Airfield Byelaws 1988.

Dated 22nd November, 1988

(Signed) ROGER FREEMAN

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

(These notes are for information only and are not part of the byelaws)

### PENALTY FOR OFFENCES

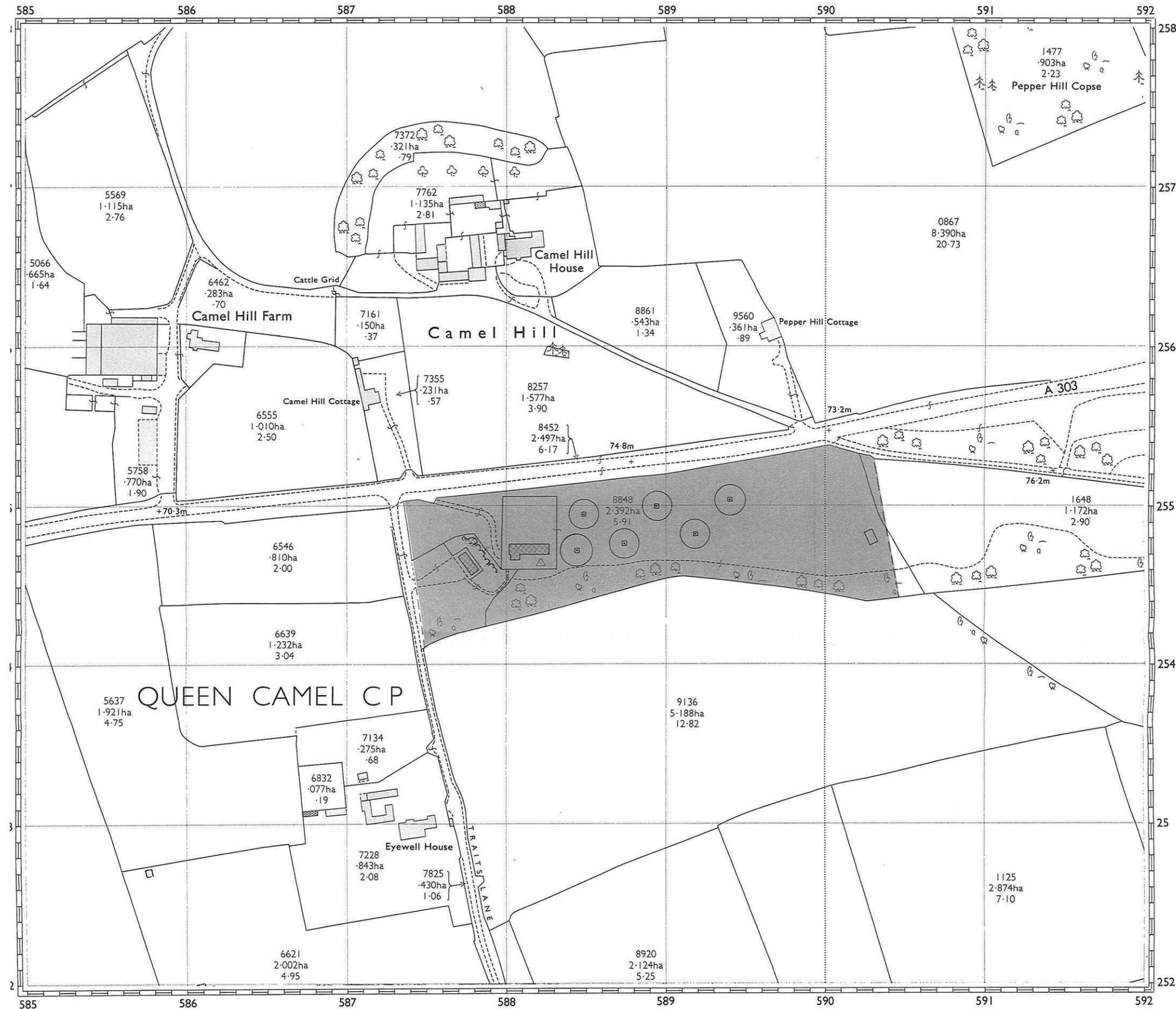
1. By section 17(2) of the Military Lands Act 1892, as amended by section 39 of and schedule 3 to the Criminal Justice Act 1982 (c.48), it is provided:

**"If any person commits an offence against any byelaw under this Act, he shall be liable, on conviction before a court of summary jurisdiction, to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale, and may be removed by any constable or officer authorised in manner provided by the byelaw from the area, whether land or water, to which the byelaw applies, and taken into custody without warrant, and brought before a court of summary jurisdiction, to be dealt with according to law, and any vehicle, animal, vessel, or thing found in the area in contravention of any byelaw, may be removed by any constable or such officer as aforesaid, and on due proof of such contravention, be declared by a court of summary jurisdiction to be forfeited to Her Majesty."**

At the time of printing the maximum fine on scale 2 is ONE HUNDRED POUNDS (£100).

### INSPECTION OF BYELAWS

2. A copy of these byelaws may be obtained on postal application to the Defence Land Agent, Pilgrim House, 17 Derry's Cross, Plymouth, PL1 2SW or from Defence Lands Safeguarding & Byelaws, Room B4/3, Government Buildings, Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Surrey KT9 2LU.



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Compiled Area

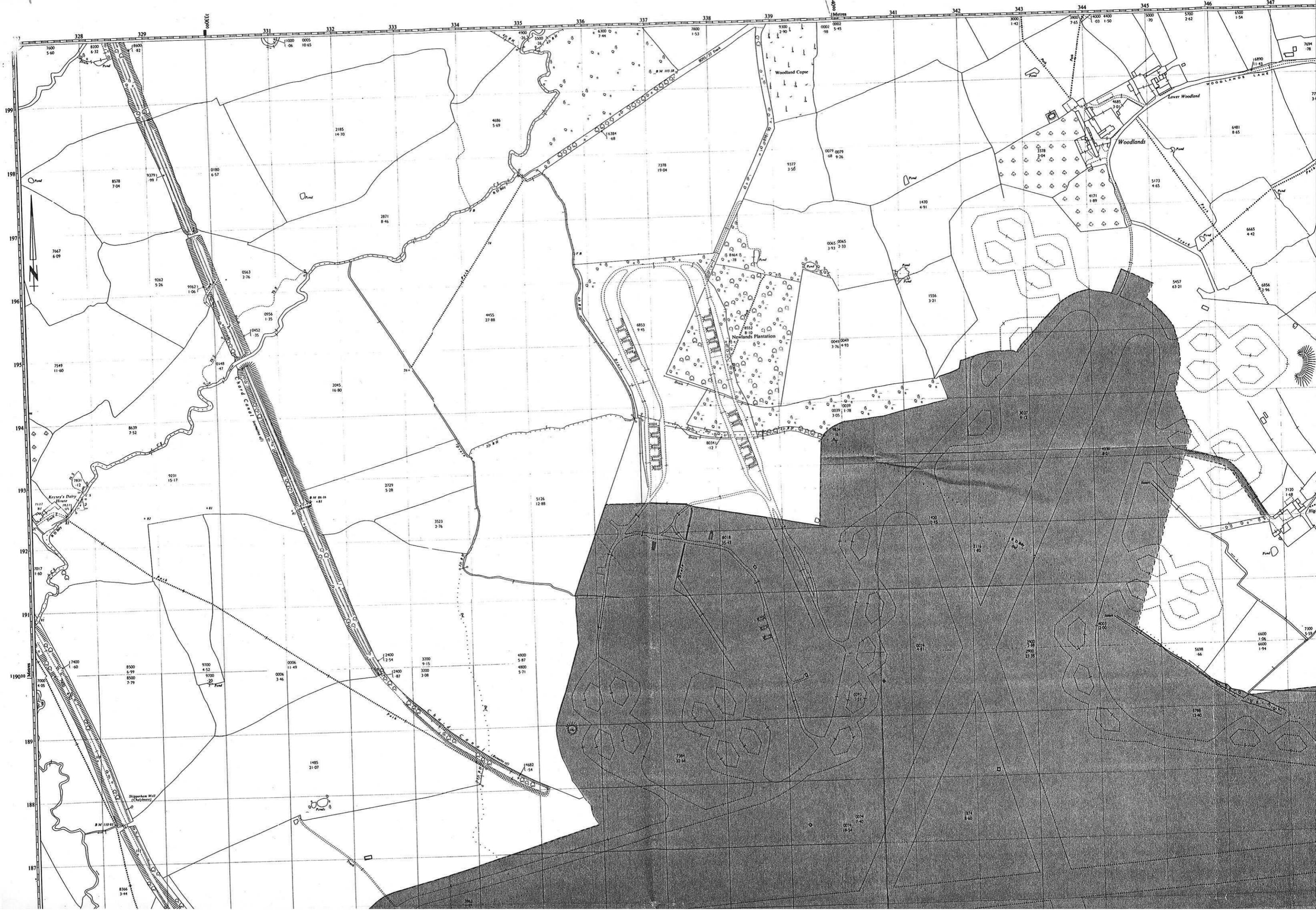
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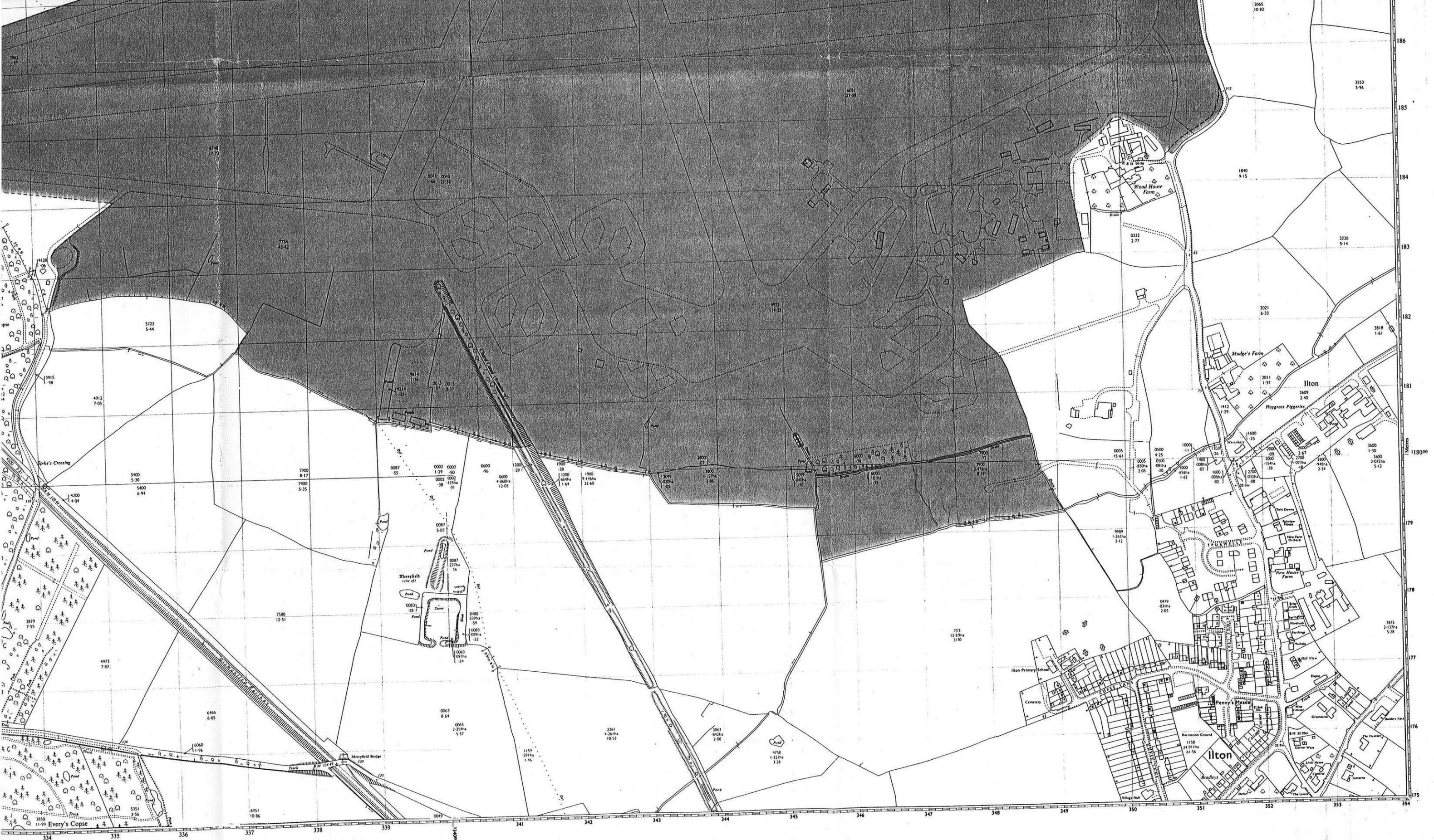
SOMERSET

PSA ESTATES, DOE.	
Room A4/8, Govt. Buildings, Leatherhead Rd, CHESSINGTON, Tel: 01-397 5266	
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Protected Area



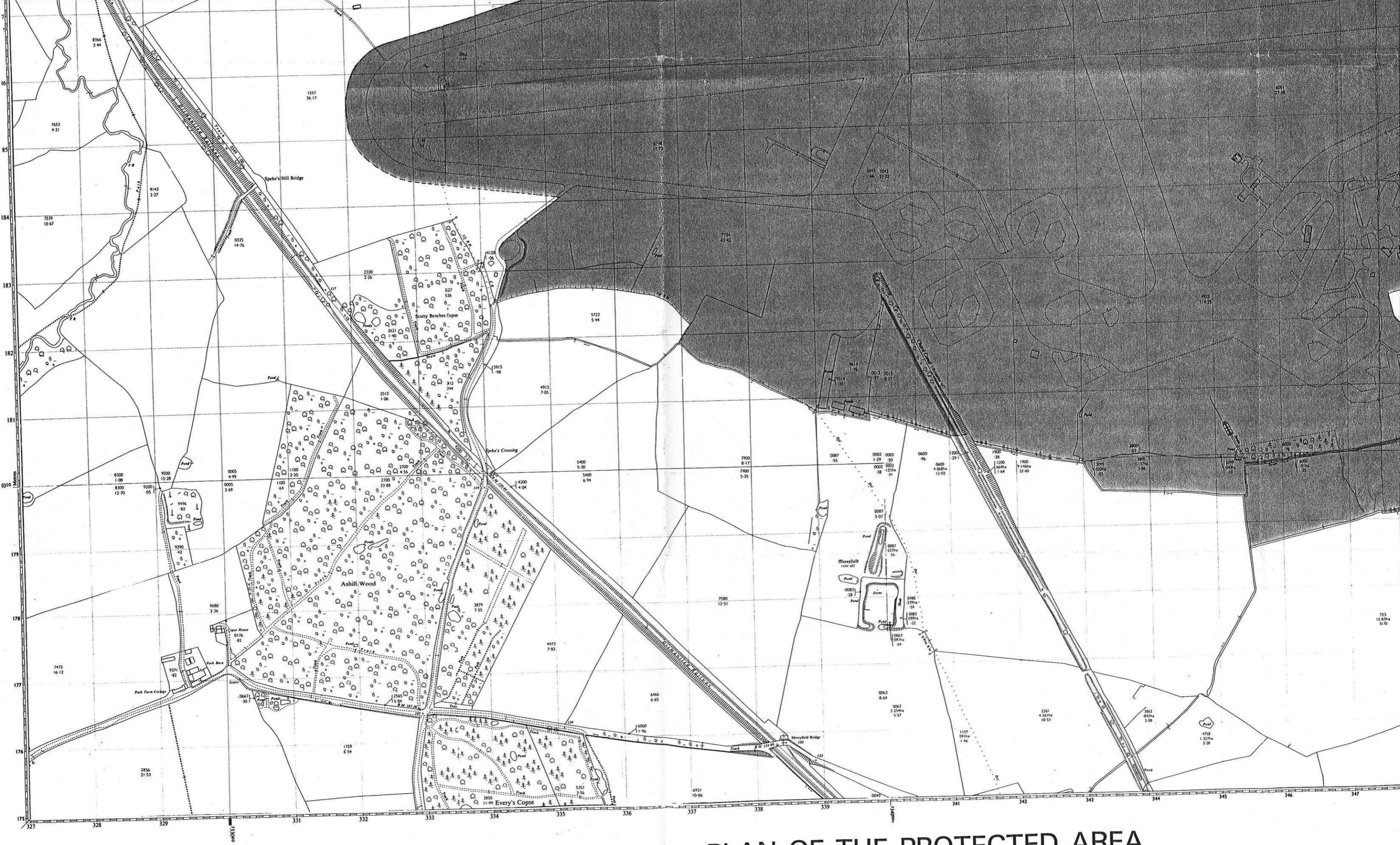




## PLAN OF THE PROTECTED AREA AT MERRYFIELD AIRFIELD

<b>PSA ESTATES, DOE.</b>	
DESD R/DO, Room A4/8, Govt. Buildings, Leatherhead Road, CHESSINGTON, Surrey, KT6 2LX. Tel: 01-397 5266	
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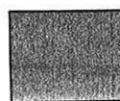


**PLAN OF THE PROTECTED AREA  
AT MERRYFIELD AIRFIELD**

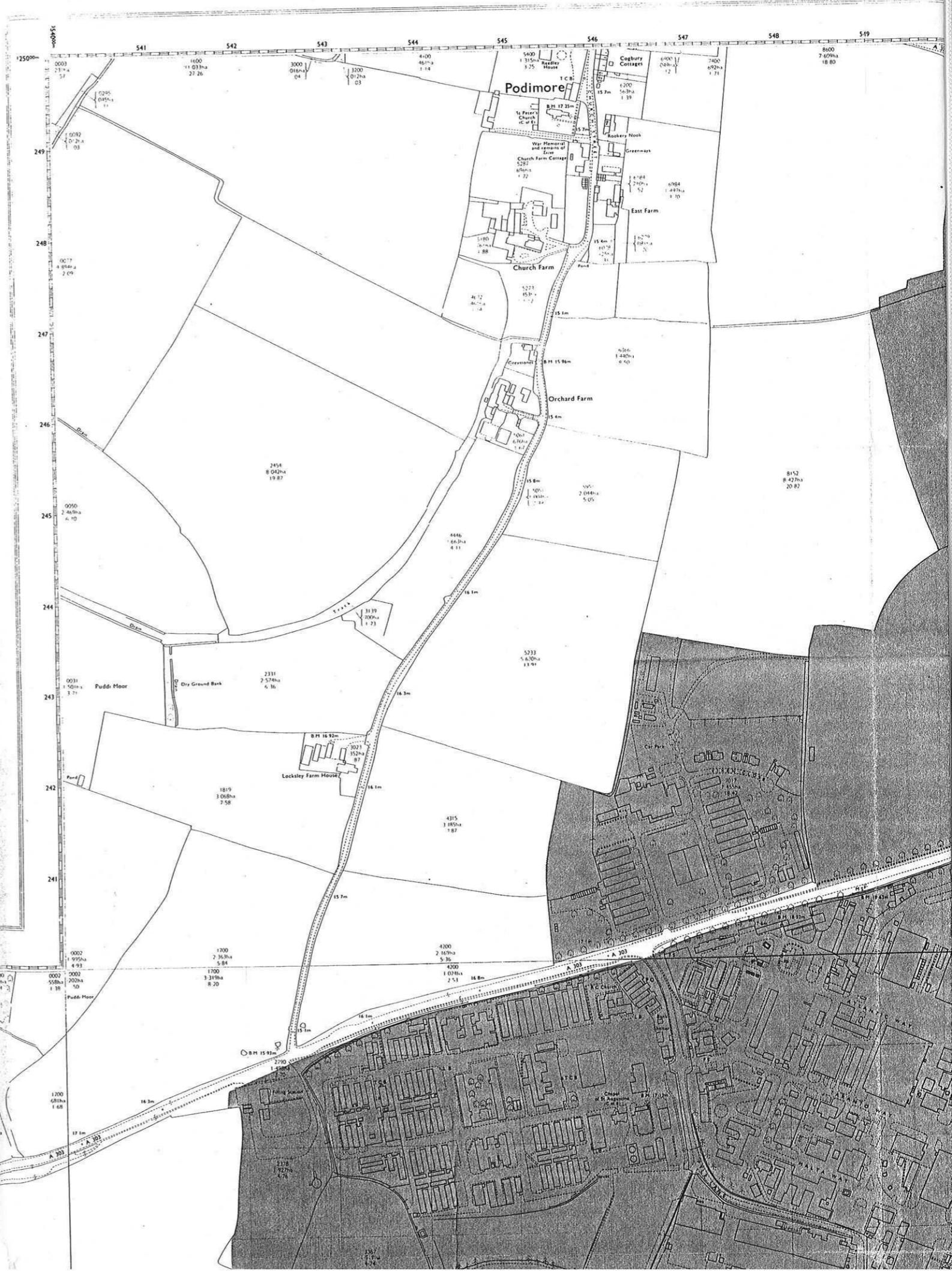
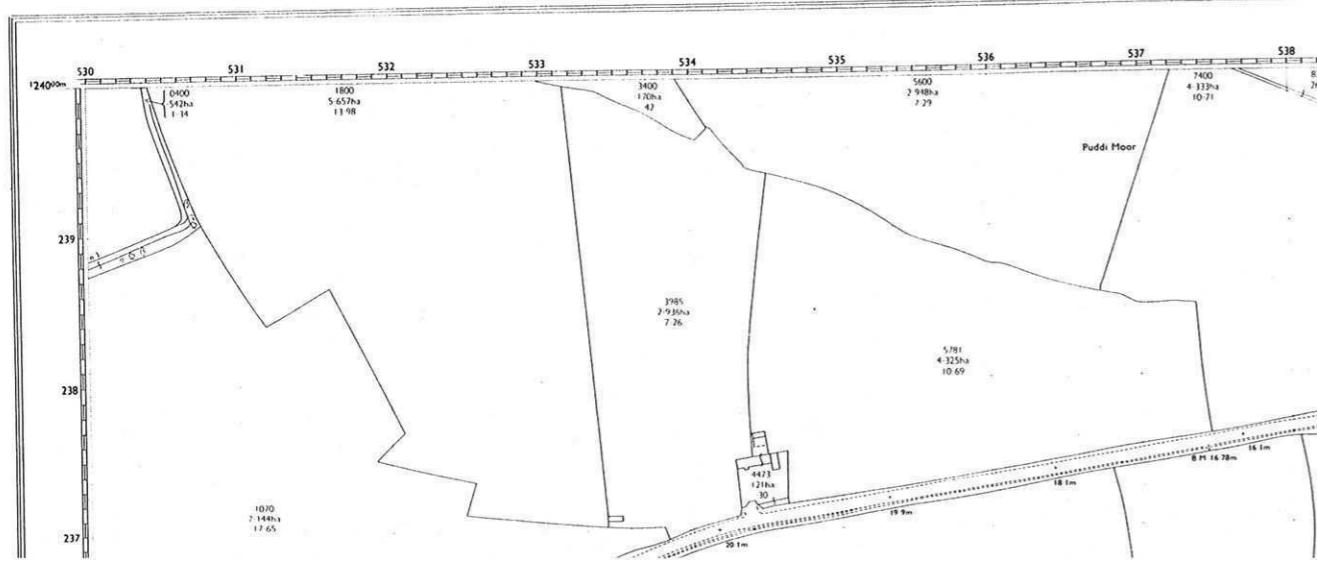
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Pt ST 3218-3318	Pt ST 3418-3518
Pt ST 3217-3317	Pt ST 3417-3517

.....Protected Area

# PLAN OF THE PROTECTED AREAS AT RNAS YEOVILTON SOMERSET



Protected Areas



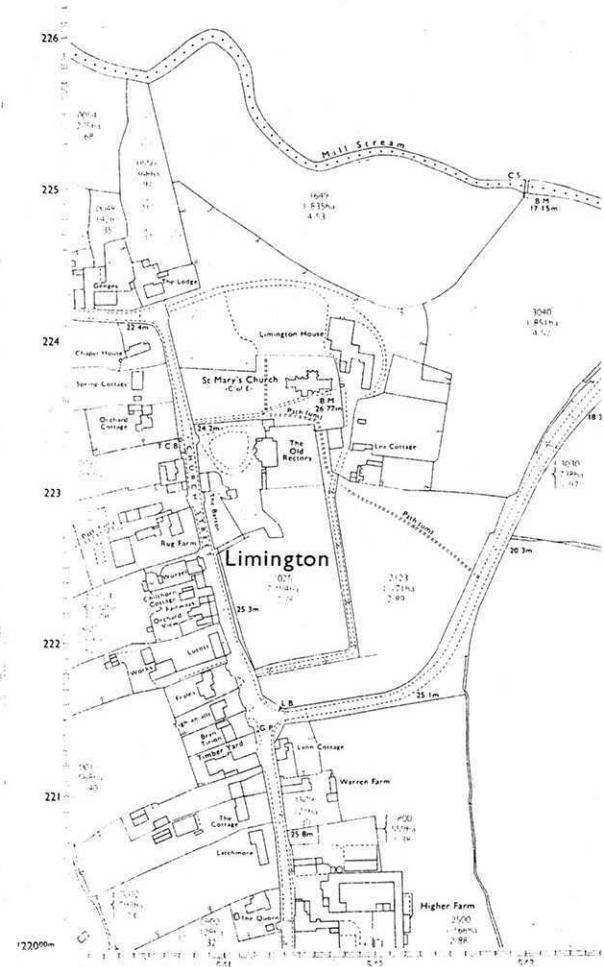


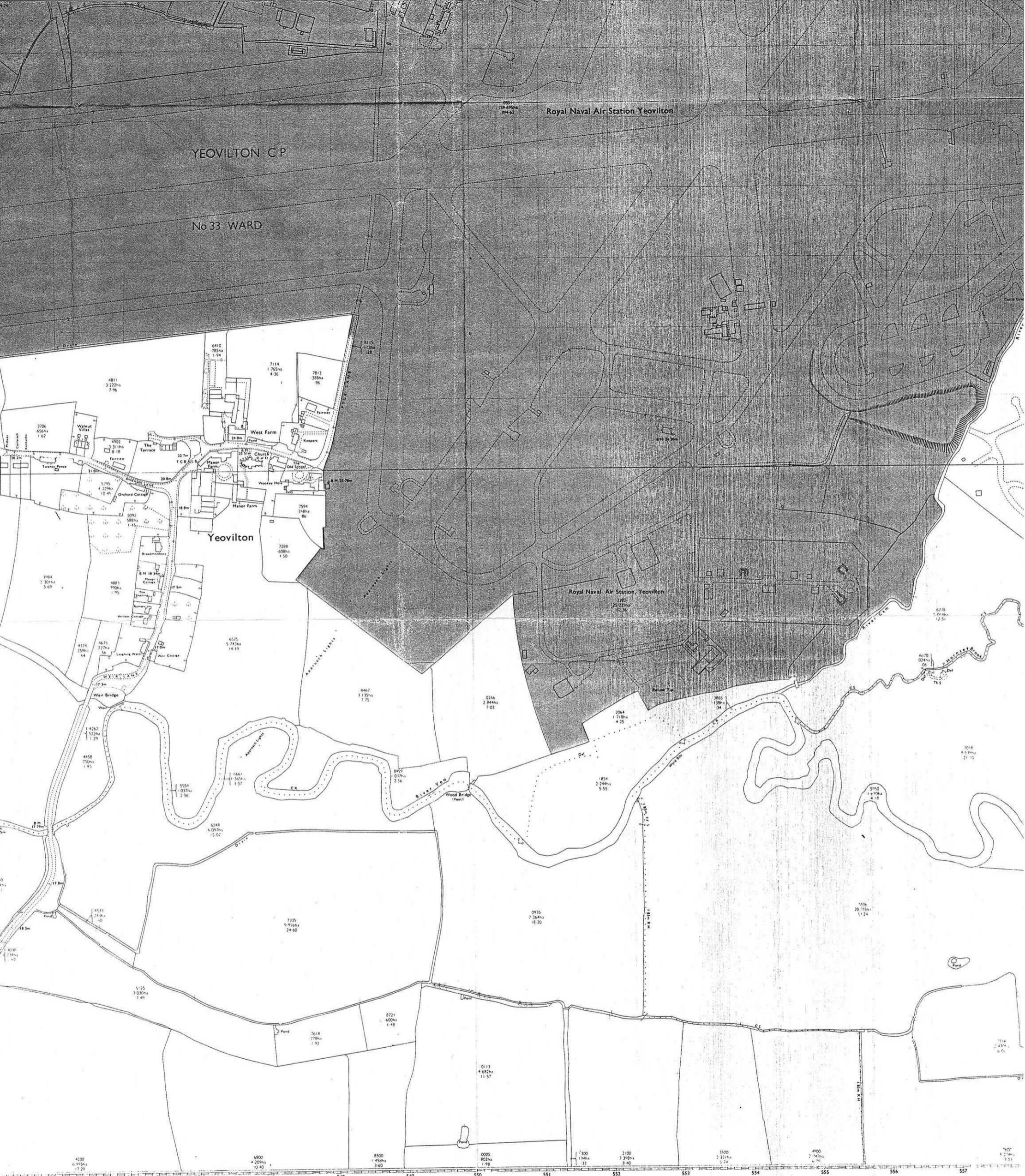


**Compiled from O.S. National Grid Sheets**

**SCALE: 1 / 5000**

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ST 5323	ST 5423-5523	ST 5623
	ST 5422-5522	





Scale: 1:25000  
OS Grid Ref: ST 550 550



*Notwithstanding any fine limit mentioned in the above byelaws  
the current maximum fine as at 01/09/2008 is the sum of £500  
being the maximum on level 2 of the standard scale.*