

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
DURHAM UNIVERSITY

on behalf of
North Tyneside Council

Murton Gap
Murton
North Tyneside
Tyne and Wear

archaeological desk-based assessment

report 3862rev
February 2016

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1. Summary

The project

- 1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological desk-based assessment conducted in advance of a proposed development at Murton Gap, Murton, North Tyneside. 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 North Tyneside Council and conducted by Archaeological Services Durham University.

The archaeological resource

- 1.3 Rake House Farm is the only protected building on the site; several statutorily protected buildings are present in its vicinity. The structures on site are of 19th- and 20th-century date. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments on or in the near vicinity of the site.
- 1.4 There is a cropmark of a possible Iron Age settlement in the north-east corner of the proposed development area, and further evidence for prehistoric activity in the surrounding area. A resource relating to this exploitation may therefore survive, not just in the vicinity of the cropmark but throughout the proposed development area.
- 1.5 The area includes the medieval village of Murton and its surrounds. It is probable that most of the area was utilised in the medieval and post-medieval periods as agricultural land. Evidence relating to this, in the form of ridge and furrow cultivation and field boundaries, survives in places.
- 1.6 Coal mining has been an important part of the local economy since the 17th century. Small early pits would mainly have followed the outcrop of the Main Seam, which curves across the south-west corner of the site. Before 1720 most of these early pits had been worked out. A later phase of activity was represented by Murton Colliery; this was exploited from 1797 to 1825. Deposits associated with this pit are well preserved to the south of Murton Village, partly because later mining activity was largely absent until after World War II.
- 1.7 A large area in the south-east corner of the site was open-cast mined in 1948/9. A smaller area to its west formed the surface works to an underground mine of the 1950s. In addition, an area in the north-west corner of the site has recently been developed for an underground sewerage infrastructure. This recent activity will have removed any former archaeological deposits from these areas.

Impact assessment

- 1.8 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

- 1.9 No archaeological deposits have been identified which require preservation *in situ*.
- 1.10 It is recommended that the potential of the archaeological resource across the site is evaluated through a geophysical survey, followed by the excavation of a series of

trial trenches, in order to establish the nature and extent of any archaeological resource present which may be impacted upon. These works will exclude those parts of the site known to have been affected by 20th century developments.

- 1.11 It is recommended that a topographical survey is undertaken over areas of visible earthworks in Fields 10, 12-15, 23, 24, 33 and 34 to assist in establishing the nature and extent of the archaeological resource present in those areas.

2. Project background

Location (Figure 1)

- 2.1 The site is located around Murton Village, North Tyneside, Tyne and Wear (NGR centre: NZ 329 708). It is irregular in plan, and covers an area of approximately 240 ha. To the north is the Tyne and Wear Metro line, to the south are the A191 and New York village, to the west is Shiremoor and to the east is Monkseaton.

Development proposal

- 2.2 Murton Gap has been proposed as a strategic housing allocation area within the emerging North Tyneside Local Plan.

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.

Specification

- 2.4 The works have been undertaken in accordance with a specification provided by Capita (Appendix 3). 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 1.5km of the centre 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 and shown in Figure 2.

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 visits took place between 27th July and 30th July 2015. This report was prepared for August 2015 and revised in February 2016.

Personnel

- 2.7 Research was conducted and this report prepared by Andy Platell, with graphics by David Graham and 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 **archaeol3-219495**.

Acknowledgements

- 2.9 Archaeological Services Durham University is grateful for the assistance of staff of North Tyneside Central Library (local studies section), Durham Records Office, Northumberland Archives and Graham Deacon of Historic England Archives in facilitating this scheme of works.

3. Landuse, topography and geology

Landuse

- 3.1 At the time of this assessment, the proposed development area comprised around 25 large fields of arable crops and a number of smaller fields of pasture, together with allotments, playing fields and waste ground. The village of Murton and the outlying buildings of Murton Steads Farm, Rake House Farm, Moorlands, Murton Lodge Cattery (formerly Murton Nurseries) and an electricity sub-station are all included within the site boundaries.

Topography

- 3.2 The proposed development area was almost level, sloping very gently from south-west to north-east with mean elevations between approximately 47m and 72m OD. The River Tyne and the coast are both less than 3km from the site boundaries.

Geology and soils

- 3.3 The bedrock geology of the area comprises Westphalian strata of the Pennine Middle Coal Measures Formation, with a Palaeogene whinstone (correctly microgabbro) dyke intruded into these along its south-west boundary. These rocks are overlain by Devensian diamicton till (typically 5m to 10m in depth) across the entire site (www.bgs.ac.uk). Soils on the site are characterised as 'Soilscape 17: slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils' across most of the site and as 'Soilscape 18: slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils' across the south-east corner of the site (<http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscales/>).

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. These have been plotted on Figure 3. *Pro forma* recording sheets were completed and the data is summarised in Appendix 2. For convenience the fields have been numbered from 1 to 46 on Figure 3 and throughout the text. Based on this walk-over survey, the proposed development area can be divided into a number of regions of contrasting character.

West of Murton Village (Fields 1-4)

- 4.2 This area consisted of three large fields (Fields 1, 2 and 4) of cereal crop (Figure 19) and a few small paddocks (Field 3) behind Moorlands (Figure 20). Field boundaries are recent hedges, except around Moorlands, where a number of mature trees are present. No features of archaeological interest were noted.

South of Murton Village (Fields 5-15)

- 4.3 Most of this area consisted of small fields of pasture. Only Fields 6 and 8 were under cereal crop, although Field 7 has only recently been converted to pasture (and divided by a fence line down its centre). Aerial photographs show it under cereal crops until 2006.
- 4.4 Murton Lane is embanked between The Wheat Sheaf Inn and Moorlands by up to 0.5m above the level of the surrounding fields. Occasionally the upper stones of a retaining wall for this embankment are visible along its eastern side (Figure 21); the

wall itself is buried in the undergrowth. A short length of an upstanding stone wall survives along the top of part of this retaining wall. No retaining wall could be seen on the opposite side of the road; this may be due to denser vegetation here. Murton Lane is a minor road to a minor village and has always (in recent times) been a no-through road. It is improbable that this degree of engineering would have been used on such a minor road and it is likely that the road re-uses an earlier embankment. A waggonway branch, connecting the pit at Philadelphia with the main waggonway network to the south would be a candidate for such an embankment.

- 4.5 The boundary between Field 8 and Fields 6 and 7 to the west is an earth bank around 0.5m high, with a hedge along its top (Figure 22). This is likely to be of some antiquity and may originally have marked the boundary between Shiremoor and Murton.
- 4.6 Fields 10, 12 and 13 all contain well-preserved earthworks of ridge and furrow, overlain by irregular mounds thought to be due to mining spoil. At the southern end of Field 10 this ridge and furrow is orientated from east to west; around 100m further north its orientation changes abruptly to south-west to north-east. Spoil mounds from mining activity are present in the south-west corner of the field (Figure 23), in its east-centre and at its northern end (Figure 24). This latter mound extends northwards to cover most of Field 12 as well. Here a few stone blocks within an earth mound are all that survives of the former Murton Cottage (Figure 25). Another spoil mound is present in the north-west corner of Field 13 (Figure 26).
- 4.7 Fields 14 and 15 contain particularly well preserved ridge and furrow (Figure 27) on a similar alignment to that described above. This ridge and furrow is cut by a later track that crosses it perpendicularly, and by recent field drains that cross it at an angle.
- 4.8 Field 5 is a landscaped area of verge between the New York bypass and the original road through the settlement. Field 9 is a levelled playing field and Field 11 is allotment gardens.
- 4.9 No evidence could be seen for the mineshaft recorded by the Ordnance Survey in Field 7. This appears to have been capped and ploughed over.

North of Murton Village (Fields 16-29)

- 4.10 Most of this area consists of fields of cereal crop. Field sizes are generally smaller than in areas to the west and east of the village, but larger than those to its south. Field boundaries were normally recent hedges. Field 23 to the north-west of the village contained north-east to south-west aligned ridge and furrow. This was particularly well preserved towards the eastern end of the field (Figure 28), but became less distinct towards the west. A broad headland was present at this eastern end. The northernmost ridge had been levelled into a broad track (Figure 29), which was followed by a barbed wire fence (the field boundary is of recent date and is not shown on historical Ordnance Survey maps although the track itself is shown).
- 4.11 To the east and close to the village are two small fields (Fields 24 and 25). The southern one (Field 24) had a small area of poorly preserved ridge and furrow on a north-west/south-east orientation close to the village and then north-east/south-

west aligned ridges (as in Field 23) to the west. The northern field contained no earthworks.

- 4.12 An overgrown earthen mound, around 2m high, was present in the northern corner of Field 21 (Figure 30). Although this is not recorded by the Ordnance Survey until the 1950s, it is likely to be older since a cast iron fence post (Figure 31) was present in the hedge line immediately to its west. This post is likely to be of 19th century date and, assuming its location is not coincidental, would make the mound this date as well. The mound is likely to be another unrecorded mine working.
- 4.13 A cropmark of a probable Iron Age site is present in the north-east corner of Field 27 (see Paragraph 5.5 below). There were no visible earthworks associated with this cropmark (Figure 32).
- 4.14 Field 29 is an area of scrub vegetation. This was too overgrown to allow proper investigation, although a modern ditch and track were noted within it.
- 4.15 Field 17 in the north-west corner of the site contains a recently constructed underground sewerage infrastructure, with several long lines of drain covers being the only evidence for this on the surface. Construction of this will have removed any features of archaeological interest from this field.

North of Murton House (Fields 30-35)

- 4.16 This area consists of small fields, mainly of pasture. A large electricity sub-station, in a square enclosure and surrounded by trees, sits in the middle of this area. It is located on the site of a drift mine of the 1950s (see Paragraph 5.6 below) and disturbance associated with this mine will have removed any archaeological deposits from an area surrounding this sub-station.
- 4.17 Ridge and furrow on a north-east/south-west alignment is present across the southern half of Field 34. This ends abruptly towards the north, where the disturbed area associated with the former drift mine begins. Less well preserved ridge and furrow on a similar alignment is also present in Field 33 to the west. This is overlain by a prominent track leading northwards from Murton House towards Field 31 (Figure 33).
- 4.18 Fields 30 and 35 are small recently created fields of pasture with fence boundaries. Fields 31 and 32 are under cereal crops.

East of Murton Village (Fields 36-46)

- 4.19 Fields here are large, rectangular, have modern hedge boundaries and were under cereal crops. Most of this area has been mined by open-cast methods and restored since then (see Paragraph 5.2 below). Only its western edge was unaffected. Any features of archaeological interest would have been removed by this mining.
- 4.20 No evidence for any earthworks could be seen in the eastern halves of Fields 39 or 41 (Figure 34). Earthworks are reputed to have once been visible here. They were located within the open-cast area and would have been removed by this.
- 4.21 A triangular area of verge is present in the extreme south-east corner of the site. This area was cut off by realignment of Rake Lane in the 1990s. The former road

surface has been removed and no evidence for it is now visible. Land to the south, in the remainder of the triangle, was open-cast mined immediately before the road realignment.

5. Aerial photographs

- 5.1 Aerial photographs dating from the first national RAF aerial survey of Britain in 1945/6 up to modern images available online on Google Earth were examined as part of this assessment, together with a series of images from archive sources. Full details of surveys examined are provided in Section 10. Features visible on these photographs are plotted on Figure 3.
- 5.2 The most obvious feature visible is a large area of open-cast mining covering the south-east corner of the site in photographs of 1948 and 1949 (Figure 4). This open-cast area stretches from Rake Lane to north of Murton Steads Farm, almost entirely surrounding (but excluding) both of these farms. In an east-west direction it stretches from the eastern boundary of the site as far as the site of the (as yet unbuilt) electricity sub-station near Murton House. Photographs from 1956 show the open-cast site had been backfilled and restored to agriculture by this date.
- 5.3 Ridge and furrow is visible on early photographs in a number of fields where it is no longer evident. These areas are plotted on Figure 3. A number of former field boundaries, now removed, are also plotted.
- 5.4 Burnt House Nurseries in West Monkseaton extended into the proposed development area on 1946 aerial photographs (Figure 5). This extension was part of the area removed by open-cast operations in 1948/9 and is therefore not recorded on any editions of the Ordnance Survey. Earthworks are recorded in this area which had previously been suggested as the remains of East Murton village (HER 749; see below Paragraph 6.8).
- 5.5 A cropmark enclosure (HER 5102) is visible on photographs from a 1993 survey held by North Shields Central Library (not reproduced for copyright reasons). This enclosure is very clearly seen on photographs from this survey but is almost entirely invisible on any other photograph (it can be vaguely discerned on a 2012 image on Google Earth), indicating that the 1993 photographs had been taken at a time of abnormal clarity. The enclosure is 60m in length and sub-square. There is a circular cropmark in its centre, with three lines radiating out from this to the outer perimeter. The size and form of the cropmark is suggestive of an Iron Age settlement.
- 5.6 Rake Lane Drift Mine is shown on photographs of the 1950s. Most of the workings are underground; surface works only cover a similar area to that recorded on the 1957 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 16).
- 5.7 Other features visible on these photographs are still visible as surface features today and are described in Section 4 above.

6. Historical and archaeological development

Previous archaeological works

- 6.1 The only previous archaeological work to have been identified within the proposed development area is the monitoring of a water pipeline to the north of the village in 2013 (HER 2013/72). This identified a post-medieval culvert. A geophysical survey (HER 2002/6) followed by an evaluation (HER 2003/25) have been undertaken at Burnt House Nurseries in Monkseaton, immediately east of the proposed development area. These identified some coal spreads of a probable 19th century date and modern features relating to the former use of the site as a plant nursery.

The prehistoric period (up to AD 70)

- 6.2 Although no finds of a prehistoric date have been recovered from within the proposed development area, a number of such artefacts have been recovered from the surrounding area. These include prehistoric flints from Hartley (HER 781), Neolithic (c.4000 – 2300 BC) polished stone axes from Marden (HER 728) and Earsdon (HER 729), a Neolithic flint axe from Burradon (HER 307), Neolithic or Bronze Age flint artefacts (HER 5964) from Shiremoor, a Bronze Age (c.2300 -700 BC) spear from Wideopen (HER 780) and a Bronze Age axe mould (HER 4619) from Billy Mill.
- 6.3 A sub-square enclosure (HER 5102), around 60m in length, is intermittently visible as a crop mark on aerial photographs within the north-east corner of the proposed development area. The enclosure also shows a smaller internal circular crop mark and several radial lines. It is interpreted as an Iron Age (c.700 BC – AD 70) homestead. Several other similar enclosures are known from the surrounding area, including one at Holystone Farm (HER 5470), 2km to the west, and three separate enclosures at Burradon (north of Killingworth), 5km north-west of the site. This pattern of settlement may demonstrate that they are part of an organised landscape developing during the late prehistoric period and continuing into the Romano-British period (Hodgson *et al.* 2012).
- 6.4 There is a cropmark of a possible Iron Age settlement in the north-east corner of the proposed development area, and further evidence for prehistoric activity in the surrounding area. A resource relating to this exploitation may therefore survive, not just in the vicinity of the cropmark but throughout the proposed development area.

The Roman period (AD 70 to 5th century)

- 6.5 No sites of a Roman date are recorded from the vicinity of the site, although a hoard of Roman objects, including gold and silver items and around 280 coins, was found in the Backworth area to the north in 1812. Hadrian's Wall ended at Wallsend, around 4km south-west of the site. It is probable that some of the late prehistoric sites described above would have continued in use into the Roman period.

The medieval period (5th century to 1540)

- 6.6 Murton (HER 748) is first recorded in 1189 when, along with other nearby townships, it was confirmed in the possession of Tynemouth Priory (Craster 1907, 409). The name means 'moor settlement' and refers to its position on the edges of Shiremoor. Until enclosure in 1788, this moor surrounded the village on three sides. Only to the east did farmland continue right up to the neighbouring township of Monkseaton. The boundaries of the township were extended at the time of this enclosure to include parts of the former moor. However the old boundaries still

survive in places today, forming parts of Rake Lane, New York Road, Murton Lane and various field boundaries.

- 6.7 Although slightly obscured by modern developments, the village takes the characteristic form of a 'two-row village', with a row of cottages on either side of a wide village green, each cottage having a long, narrow garden plot behind it. This form is typical for this area and has been interpreted as being due to the deliberate planning of new communities in the 12th century, following the disruptions associated with the Norman Conquest (Roberts 1990). The settlement remained as a small village throughout the medieval period; only five tenants are recorded as contributing to the 1296 lay subsidy and in 1539 there were four copyhold tenants (Craster *ibid.*).
- 6.8 During the medieval period there appears to have been two settlements at Murton since in 1348 licence was granted to assign property in Estmoreton to Tynemouth Priory and in 1353 there was a similar licence for property in Westmorton (*ibid.* 410). There is another reference to East Morton in 1380. It is not known which of these is represented by the existing hamlet, nor where the missing one might be, and when it disappeared. Possible earthworks have been recorded to the north-east of Murton Steads Farm (HER 749) and it has been suggested that these are the remains of the former settlement of East Murton. No trace of these earthworks could be found during the walk-over survey, nor could they be identified on any aerial photographs, although a plant nursery was located slightly south of the recorded location in 1946 (see above, Section 5). The recorded earthworks may have been associated with this nursery but incorrectly located. In any case the area was open-cast mined in 1948/9 and any earthworks will have been removed by this mining.

The post-medieval period (1541 to 1899)

- 6.9 Coal mining is recorded around Tynemouth as early as the late 13th century. This early activity is likely to have been largely restricted to the near vicinity of the town, since along the coast coal seams are exposed directly below the soil, but further inland they are covered by a mantle of glacial deposits typically 5m to 10m in thickness. However, as the coal industry expanded, these deeper seams further inland began to be exploited. By the 17th century mining had extended to the vicinity of the site; in 1624 a grant was made of the coal in Murton and Billy Moor to Henry, ninth Earl of Northumberland (Craster 1907, 19). Here the miner's broke into the High Main Seam, the thickest and best quality seam in the whole coalfield. This seam rapidly came to dominate the industry and mining declined on the lower quality seams to the east (*ibid.*). The High Main Seam outcrops (below glacial deposits) in a line northwards from Flatworth through Billy Mill and Murton, then curving westwards across Shiremoor to Holystone where it is abruptly terminated by the 90 Fathom Fault. A line of small pits rapidly developed along the outcrop of this seam.
- 6.10 Cuthbertson produced a plan of part of the Manor of Tynemouth in 1720. Although this is mainly concerned with Flatworth to the south, it does extend northwards to include the proposed development area (Figure 6). This area is not shown in detail, but the boundaries of Billy Moor (part of Shiremoor) are marked, allowing the site to be located accurately. The entrance to the village from the moor, now followed by Murton Lane, is clearly marked. A couple of houses, named as Murton Houses, are present, possibly indicating the settlement later known as Philadelphia rather than

Murton Village itself. A building named as Gallow Houses is present to the south of the village, in the location of Murton House. The current Murton House is listed as being of the mid-18th century; it is not clear whether Gallow Houses on this map is the earliest representation of this building or is an earlier building on the same site. Rake Lane (the modern A191) is identified as the way to Monkseaton to the east; it is not formally shown to the west but marks the boundary to the moor. To the north of Murton grounds, and separating them from Earsdon grounds, there is another entrance to the moor named as 'the rake gate'. This is in the location of the modern Dickey's Holm.

- 6.11 A dashed line is marked from A to B across Billy Moor, crossing the south-west corner of the proposed development area. This is annotated 'to the eastward of this prick (sic) line most of the coal is wrought away'; an explanation panel on the side of the plan adds 'to the westward of a line represented by A and B the coal is unwrought occasioned by the depth of the colliery'. Pits are marked at C to F, with depths (given in the explanation panel) of up to 25 fathoms (c.50m), while unsuccessful trial borings, where the coal was too deep to be reached, are marked at G to J further south and west. The dashed line follows the outcrop of the High Main Seam, indicating that even by this early date most of the shallow exposures of this seam had been worked out.
- 6.12 Isaac Thompson produced a large-scale map of the manor of Tynemouth in 1757. This map (Figure 7) is detailed enough to show fields, roads and individual buildings within the various villages. Murton village has a similar form to that of today and is approached by two lanes following their current courses. Land to the north, south and west of the village is still the unenclosed moorland of Billy Mill Moor. Boundaries of the moor are the same as those shown on Cuthbertson's earlier map. Roads through the enclosed farmland follow similar courses to those seen on later maps; across Shiremoor they degenerate into irregular tracks. A colliery is present on Shiremoor to the south of Murton. It has several different pits; all are connected by a waggonway to Whitehill Point on the River Tyne. This colliery is located immediately south of the village of New York as shown on later maps, however this had not yet been built as only a couple of buildings are marked in this area. It (along with Philadelphia to the north) dates from the time of the American War of Independence (1775-83), with both settlements deriving their names from this conflict (Craster 1907, 412).
- 6.13 Sauthier produced a plan of the south-east corner of Northumberland, from Newcastle to the coast, for the Duke of Northumberland in 1778 (Figure 8). This plan is now held by Alnwick Castle Archives (ref. AC.O.XXII.58.2). It shows a similar situation to Thompson's earlier plan, with the unenclosed moorland of Shiremoor still surrounding Murton to the north, south and west. New York village is shown (and named) on this plan; it is located to the north of the colliery previously marked on Thompson's plan. A larger number of other coal pits are marked crossing Shiremoor, from Killingworth in the north-west to Flatworth in the south-east. There are now two waggonways associated with these pits, the original one from New York (now extended further onto Shiremoor) and a second from Flatworth to North Shields. All the pits are located along the southern edge of Shiremoor; no pits are present actually within the proposed development area.

- 6.14 The large expanse of moorland to the west of Murton, now collectively known as Shiremoor, was enclosed in 1790 and divided amongst the various townships (Craster 1907, 415). The map accompanying the award (Figure 9) shows the newly formed allotments on the moor. Highways and bridleways had been set out, including the 'Great Lime Road' along the course of the modern A191. This name indicates the contemporary importance of the lime kilns at Whitley to the east. The old enclosures around Murton village are not shown, but newly enclosed land surrounding them is marked. New York is a line of cottages on the north side of the Great Lime Road. A few scattered pits and a 'colliery agent's house' are marked on Shiremoor to the south, but they are no longer connected to any waggonways, and there are no indications of any having once extended across the road (as shown in the map described above). A few buildings are marked (and named) at Philadelphia, but again no mine workings are shown there. Murton House is identified as Henry Metcalfe's country house.
- 6.15 Murton Colliery is recorded from 1797 to 1825 (<http://www.dmm.org.uk/>) and is marked on Lambert's 1807 map of the Tyne and Wear collieries (Figure 10). Unfortunately the map is not particularly accurate and shortens the space between New York and Earsdon, omitting Murton completely. According to the map, the colliery (along with the nearby Shire Moor to the west) lies to the south of New York. However co-ordinates (as latitudes and longitudes) given for the recorded shafts (NEIMME 1887), along with the colliery name itself, place the colliery to the north of New York towards Murton village. The earliest boring is recorded as having taken place in the lane east of the village on 12/9/1796 at a location corresponding with the mound in the north of Field 13 (NZ 33030 70720), while the E shaft was sunk north of The Wheat Sheaf in 1807 at NZ 32370 70290. The British Geological Survey, from other data they hold (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>), also record the 'A' (Engine) shaft at NZ 32992 70532 (*i.e.* in Field 12), the 'B' shaft at NZ 33229 70401 (*i.e.* in Field 31 north of Murton House), the 'C' shaft at NZ 33251 70212 (*i.e.* immediately north of Murton House) and the 'D' shaft at NZ 33770 70330 (*i.e.* in Field 9, now levelled as a playing field. It may have extended as far as the mound visible in the south of Field 10 at NZ 33770 70330). Co-ordinates given by the BGS vary slightly from those given in the HER (HER 15447, 15448 and 15449).
- 6.16 An undated plan of the Shire of Tynemouth held by Durham County Records Office (DRO ref. NCB 1/P 75) shows the locations of coal workings and waggonways within the parish. The plan does not show fields or roads, but does mark township boundaries, allowing the proposed development area to be accurately located on it (Figure 11). The curving line of coal workings along the outcrop of the High Main Seam, stretching from Holy Stone across Shiremoor, Murton and Billy Mill to Chirton, is obvious. Most of these are already disused; a few appear to still be working. There is a more dispersed scatter of pits to the west, exploiting deeper levels of the High Main Seam. To the east there is a noticeable gap across most of Monkseaton Township before the pits in Whitley and Tynemouth Townships are reached. Two pits in Murton Township are connected by a branch line to the main waggonway further to the south-west. One of these is possibly 'D' shaft on the southern boundary of the township; the other is further north-east, possibly 'A' Shaft. If so, it would imply that a waggonway crossed part of the proposed development area, either running through Field 10 or along the eastern section of Murton Lane. However no such waggonway was noted by the walk-over survey and the accuracy with which these pits have been plotted is uncertain. The waggonway

shown could run along the western section of Murton Lane (where there is evidence that the current lane overlies such a feature – see Paragraph 4.4) to an otherwise unrecorded shaft at Philadelphia.

- 6.17 A plan of the estate of the late Thomas Dryden Esq. in the township of Murton was produced by John Hays in 1826. A photocopy of the original plan is held by Northumberland Archives (ref. NRO 677/1) and is reproduced here (Figure 12). The estate covered eight fields to the north of New York and four more to the south (and therefore outside the proposed development area). One field (no. 5 on the plan) is identified as a 'pit heap'. This forms part of the now levelled playing field (Field 9 of this report) and confirms the accuracy of the BGS location for the 'D' Shaft of Murton Colliery (see above, Paragraph 6.15). One field (no. 6 on the plan, part of Field 8 of this report) is named as North Riggs, perhaps indicating that ridge and furrow had been visible here. It is not visible today, either as an earthwork or as a cropmark. Other field names are purely descriptive and provide no clues about former land use (e.g. Back Close).
- 6.18 The field pattern in this area has changed from that shown on Thompson's plan of 1757 and Sauthier's plan of 1778 (see above). This appears to have been a response to the development of Murton Colliery, with the east and west boundaries to the long, narrow Field 10 forming tracks or waggonways to the various pits of the colliery, and the field pattern being realigned to respect these tracks.
- 6.19 Various plans were produced as a response to the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836. The Murton tithe map was produced in 1842, while the Monkseaton tithe map (which covers the eastern edge of the proposed development area) was produced in 1845. Shiremoor, although divided amongst the various townships by the enclosure of 1790 (see above, Paragraph 6.14), was regarded for the purposes of this act as forming a single tithe district and is covered by a single map of 1845. Copies of the relevant sections of these three maps are reproduced in Figure 13.
- 6.20 With the exception of the area north of New York described above, there is little alteration to the field pattern from earlier plans within the proposed development area, except for the occasional amalgamation or sub-division of some of the earlier fields. There are no indications of active coal mining within the PDA. None of the maps name individual fields; instead they just identify the farm to which they belong. In Murton township most of the land is held by five farms; Murton North (1), Murton (2/8), Murton East (3), Murton House (5) and Dryden Place (6), with a small area held by Murton Lane Farm (9). Two fields are held by tenants (7 and 10) while Charity Field (4) is jointly owned by the Duchess of Weetslade and the poor of the township. In Monkseaton, Rake House Farm (13) is owned by the Duke of Northumberland and leased to Thomas Fenwick, while fields to the north belong to Seaton Villa Farm (12) and Burnt House Farm (11). In the extreme north-east of the PDA, there is another area owned by the Duke of Northumberland, this time leased to William Brown (8). In Shiremoor, Philadelphia (3) is owned by the Duke of Northumberland and leased to Backworth Colliery. It is described as a 'farm, colliery houses and gardens' and does not appear to be an active colliery. Other land within the PDA is owned by Hugh Taylor (8), the representatives of Matthew Wilson (9), Barbara Liddell (14) and the representatives of Thomas Dryden (17).

- 6.21 The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1865 (Figure 14) shows few changes since the tithe plans, but does show the area in greater detail. Murton is a small settlement laid out in the typical form of a two-row village. Along the main road to the south, New York is a line of cottages on the north side of the road only. To its west are Murton West House and the adjoining Wheat Sheaf public house (only named on the 25" edition). To its east are the Traveller's Rest public house and a smithy, and then after a short gap Murton House. Rake House and Murton Steads are two isolated farms further to the east. Philadelphia consists of a few cottages south-west of the village. An 'old quarry' is present immediately to their north-east and an 'old coal shaft' (HER 2178) is marked (on the 25" edition) to the south-east (N.B. the HER incorrectly states that this shaft post-dates this edition). This is the only indication of coal mining activity within the site on this map. Murton Cottage is marked on the location of the 'A' shaft of the colliery and is the building named as Murton Lane Farm on the tithe plan; it either re-uses or replaces the buildings of the former pit. At the northern end of the site, the Blyth and Tyne Railway (now the Metro) is not shown on the 25" edition of 1861 but is shown on the 6" edition of 1865. It was built in 1864.
- 6.22 The second edition Ordnance Survey map of 1898 (Figure 15) gives only a few changes within the proposed development area. The Traveller's Rest Inn and Murton West House are no longer named (although both buildings themselves still survive); only the adjoining smithy and Wheat Sheaf Inn respectively are named. There are a few additional cottages on the north side of the road at New York and at Murton House, while a building is marked at Dickey's Holm in the extreme north-east corner of the site. Outside the site, there are now some houses and a school to the south of the road at New York, and an old brick works is marked on Shiremoor. Collieries have been developed further to the west along the line of the Cramlington Colliery Railway (one of these is confusingly named as Shiremoor Colliery; it is unrelated to the earlier colliery of the same name).

The modern period (1900 to present)

- 6.23 The third edition Ordnance Survey map of 1919 (Figure 16) again only shown minor changes within the proposed development area. The buildings at Philadelphia are no longer shown and St. Matthew's Church has been built to the east of the Wheat Sheaf Inn. Outside the site, there has been continued expansion to the south of the road at New York, and to the west of the site at Shiremoor.
- 6.24 The fourth edition Ordnance Survey map of 1938 (Figure 17) shows that housing developments at Monkseaton to the east and at Shiremoor to the west have both extended as far as the site boundaries. Some new housing is also present along the main road to the east of New York. This housing is shown in a schematic form to save time; this is a characteristic of this particular edition which was produced in haste in the run up to World War II to assist in home defence provisions. Rural areas were copied wholesale from the previous edition, so the map can provide no details about any changes to those areas.
- 6.25 Following the war, in an attempt to ameliorate Britain's dire balance of payments crisis, a major effort was made to boost coal exports by any means possible, including open-cast mining. In a speech in Whitley Bay in January 1948, Alfred Robens (Minister for Fuel and Power) stated that 'Whitley Bay is ringed by coal, and all of it should go'. Several open-cast sites were opened, including one at Rake

House within the proposed development area. This operated from 1948 to 1949 and exploited the Yard Seam. At first the coal was transferred to the nearby Algernon Pit on West Allotment, but it was later screened (washed and sorted) on-site before being transferred to the docks for export. The site is estimated to have produced 2,000 tons daily (North Tyneside News Guardian 11/5/1991). It occupied all the land between Rake House and Murton Steads, although excluding those two properties; the affected area is shown on Figure 3.

- 6.26 The Ordnance Survey edition of 1957 (Figure 18) shows the pre-war housing in correct detail. On both sides of the site, the area covered by this housing has slightly increased. There is also further new housing on the north side of the road at New York, giving the settlement its current form here. Field boundaries have all been removed between Rake House and Murton Steads, but the open-cast site itself is not marked as this had closed by this date. However a new pit, the Rake Lane Drift Mine, is marked immediately to the west. This was a short-lived underground mine that operated from 1953 to 1958 (<http://www.dmm.org.uk>). Murton Cottage has been removed.
- 6.27 Later Ordnance Survey editions (not illustrated) show Rake Lane Drift Mine had been cleared on the edition of 1966, with new field boundaries and drainage ditches having been laid across the former open-cast site to its north and east. There had been further expansion at Shiremoor to the west and Monkseaton to the east, while housing at Billy Mill to the south had extended as far as the site boundaries. The edition of 1972 shows an electricity sub-station had been built on the site of the former drift mine, while Rake Lane had been straightened towards the eastern end of the site, cutting off a triangular area of the former field to the south. All field boundaries to the south have been realigned and this area (including the triangle of land within the proposed development area) is also marked by the Coal Authority as having been open-cast mined; this open-cast site appears to date from this time. The edition of 1982 shows the A191 New York bypass had been built, passing the settlement to the south, and Monkseaton High School had been built to the east of the site. North Tyneside Hospital had been built to its south-west by 1992.
- 6.28 Within Murton village there were few changes (apart for the removal of some outlying cottages) before the 1938 edition. Then this edition showed redevelopment along both sides of the road at the south-west end of the village. At the same time the gingang had been removed from the rear of Low Farm (to the north of the road and later known as East Farm). By 1955 the remaining cottages along the main street had been redeveloped, and the terrace of houses along the new street of Sherwood in the north-east of the village had been built. By this time the only buildings left in the village that had been present on the first edition were Low and High Farm (by now known as East Farm and North Farm respectively) and the Robin Hood Inn. Land in the south-west of the village had been redeveloped for a second time by 1972, forming the current Sherwood Close. East Farm had been cleared and its site redeveloped as housing by 1992, while North Farm had similarly been redeveloped by 2001.

The buildings

- 6.29 There are no statutorily protected buildings within the proposed development area, although Rake House Farm lies on the North Tyneside 'local list'. Murton House, its gate piers and the New York war memorial outside the Wheatsheaf Inn are all Grade

2 listed buildings immediately outside the site, while West Monkseaton Railway Station and the Foxhunters Public House are buildings on the North Tyneside 'local list' immediately outside the eastern extremities to the site. A heritage statement (Capita 2015) has assessed the potential impact of the proposed development on these, and other undesignated buildings within the area.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other Designated Heritage Assets

- 6.30 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments or other Designated Heritage Assets within the proposed development area, or the near vicinity. Monkseaton conservation area starts around 800m east of the eastern boundary of the site.

7. The potential archaeological resource

- 7.1 There is a cropmark of a possible Iron Age settlement in the north-east corner of the proposed development area, and further evidence for prehistoric activity in the surrounding area. A resource relating to this exploitation may therefore survive, not just in the vicinity of the cropmark but throughout the proposed development area.
- 7.2 The area includes the medieval village of Murton and its surrounds. It is probable that most of the area was utilised in the medieval and post-medieval periods as moor or agricultural land. Evidence relating to this, in the form of ridge and furrow cultivation and field boundaries, survives in places.
- 7.3 Coal mining has been an important part of the local economy since the 17th century. Small early pits would mainly have followed the outcrop of the Main Seam, which curves across the south-west corner of the site. Before 1720 most of these early pits had been worked out. A later phase of activity was represented by Murton Colliery; this was exploited from 1797 to 1825. Deposits associated with this pit are well preserved to the south of Murton Village, partly because later mining activity was largely absent until after World War II.
- 7.4 A large area in the south-east corner of the site was open-cast mined in 1948/9. A smaller area to its west formed the surface works to an underground mine of the 1950s. In addition, an area in the north-west corner of the site has recently been developed for an underground sewerage infrastructure. This recent activity will have removed any former archaeological deposits from these areas.
- 7.5 The regional research framework (Petts & Gerrard 2006) contains an agenda for archaeological research in the region, which is incorporated into regional planning policy implementation with respect to archaeology. In this instance, the potential archaeological resource could address a number of agenda items, specifically Agenda Items Iii: Iron Age settlement; MDii: Medieval landscape; PM1: Post medieval early coal industry.

8. Impact assessment

- 8.1 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 in those areas of the site which have not been opencast or subject to modern development.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 No archaeological deposits have been identified which require preservation *in situ*.
- 9.2 It is recommended that the potential of the archaeological resource across the site is evaluated through a geophysical survey, followed by the excavation of a series of trial trenches, in order to establish the nature and extent of any archaeological resource present which may be impacted upon. These works will exclude those parts of the site known to have been affected by 20th century developments.
- 9.3 It is recommended that a topographical survey is undertaken over areas of visible earthworks in Fields 10, 12-15, 23, 24, 33 and 34 to assist in establishing the nature and extent of the archaeological resource present in those areas.

10. Sources

Cartographic sources

Cuthbertson, 1720 Plan of part of the Manor of Tinmouth
Thompson, 1757 Plan of part of the Manor of Tinmouth
Sauthier, 1778 Map of the part of the County of Northumberland
Wilkin, 1790 Map of Shiremoor
Anon n.d. Plan of Tynemouthshire
Hays, 1826 Plan of the estate of the late Thomas Dryden in Murton
Tithe plan of Murton (1842)
Tithe plan of Monkseaton (1845)
Tithe plan of Shiremoor (1845)
Ordnance Survey 6" editions of 1865, 1898, 1920, 1938, 1957, 1966, 1972, 1982 and 1992
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NCB 1/P 75 Plan of Tynemouthshire n.d. (c. 1800)

Northumberland Archives

EP/52/A/484 Monkseaton township tithe award and map (1845)
EP/52/A/488 Murton township tithe award and map (1842)
EP/6/A88 Shiremoor district tithe award and map (1845)

NRO 677/1 Plan of the estate of the late Thomas Dryden in Murton (1826)
(photocopy c.1972 of original document)

Websites

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<http://www.magic.gov.uk>

<http://www.old-maps.co.uk/index.html>

<http://www.twsitelines.info>

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Historic England Archive

1946 RAF-3G-TUD-UK-125-V-5111 to 5113, 5137 to 5140, 5168 to 5171

RAF-3G-TUD-UK-147-V-5074 to 5077

1947 RAF-CPE-UK-2352-RS-4158 to 4160

1948 RAF-58-B-32-V-5619 to 5623, 5643 to 5647, 5705 to 5711, 5730

1949 RAF-58-C-3-V-5001 to 5004

1956 RAF-540-1792-f21-17 to 19, 41 to 43, 63 to 64

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1977 MAL-77024-V-108

1978 TMG-1365-01

1988 OS-88051-V-32 to 146, 187 to 191

1988 OS-88052-V-140 to 146, 187 to 191

1993 OS-93161-V-184 to 146

2009 NMR-20926-01 to 09

North Shields Central Library

1991 Geonex Survey ACC 18833 and 18866

RCAHMS (<http://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/flight/afl3845>)

1947 EAW007882-92

Tyne and Wear Museums (https://www.flickr.com/photos/twm_news/sets/)

No relevant images

Google Earth

Images dated 2001, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2013 and 2015

Geotechnical works

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

Appendix 1: Historic Environment Record

The tables include sites recorded within the vicinity of the proposed development area (within an approximate radius of 1.5km from the centre of the site).

Historic Environment Record

(PRN = Public Record Number)

PRN	Description	Date
748	Murton village	medieval
749	East/West Murton village; deserted settlement	medieval
753	Preston common fields; ridge and furrow	medieval
789	Murton common fields; broad ridge and furrow	medieval
1050	Whitley Bay, Toll Road	19th century
1055	Blyth and Tyne Railway (Seghill Wagonway)	19th century
1056	Cramlington Colliery Railway/Cramlington Wagonway	19th century
1086	Tynemouth & Newcastle Railway	19th century
1111	Earsdon Colliery, Duke and Duchess Pit (N.B. HER grid ref. incorrect)	19th century
1113	Backworth Wagonway	19th century
1145	Shiremoor, Prospect Hill Station	19th century
1147	Shiremoor, John Pit	19th century
1148	Earsdon Colliery, Grange Pit	19th century
1370	Shiremoor, common land	medieval?
1605	West Monkseaton, Grange Park/Earsdon Road, Sewer Gas Lamp	20th century
1846	Preston Grange, Pillbox	20th century
1942	West Monkseaton, Railway Station	20th century
2148	Murton, Brickworks	19th century
2149	Murton, Smithy	19th century
2177	Backworth Colliery, Algernon Pit	19th century
2178	Murton, Air Shaft	19th century
5102	West Monkseaton, rectilinear enclosure	Iron Age
5824	Monkseaton, WW2 Roadblock	20th century
6078	West Monkseaton, Burnt House	18th century
6079	West Monkseaton, Seaton Villa	19th century
7273	New York, Rake Lane, Murton Farmhouse	18th century
7274	New York, Rake Lane, Murton Farmhouse, gate piers	18th century
9348	West Monkseaton, Monkseaton Community High School	20th century
9406	Rake House Farm	19th century
9459	New York, New York Road, Wheatsheaf Inn Public House	19th century
9461	Preston North Road, Foxhunters Public House	20th century
9478	Murton, war memorial	20th century
10975	New York, New York Road, War Memorial	20th century
11158	North York, North Tyneside General Hospital, 'Water Sculpture	20th century
11766	West Chirton, ridge and furrow	medieval
15265	New York, Coronation Terrace, United Methodist Church	20th century
15266	New York, New York Road, Wesleyan Methodist Church	19th century
15352	Murton (Tynemouth Moor) Colliery Waggonway	19th century
15447	New York, Murton D Pit	19th century
15448	New York, Murton Pit	18th century
15449	New York, Murton E Pit	19th century
16166	Murton, stone culvert	post medieval

Listed buildings

PRN	Description	Grade
1942	West Monkseaton, Railway Station	Local
7273	New York, Rake Lane, Murton Farmhouse	II
7274	New York, Rake Lane, Murton Farmhouse, gate piers	II
9406	Rake House Farm	Local
9461	Preston North Road, Foxhunters Public House	Local
10975	New York, New York Road, War Memorial	II

Previous archaeological interventions

PRN	description
2002/6	Burnt House Nurseries, Monkseaton; geophysical survey
2003/25	Burnt House Nurseries, Monkseaton; archaeological evaluation
2013/72	Murton Village, North Tyneside; archaeological monitoring

Appendix 2: Summary of field survey results

Field	Crop	Earthworks / cropmarks
1	Cereal	Old field boundaries
2	Cereal	Old field boundaries, hollow in NE corner visible as a cropmark
3	Pasture	Divided into a number of small paddocks
4	Cereal	Old field boundaries, quarry on E boundary visible as a cropmark
5	Verge	Landscaped roadside verge
6	Cereal	Road on W boundary is embanked – former waggonway?
7	Pasture	None, divided in two by modern fence
8	Cereal	W boundary forms a pronounced bank
9	Playing field	None – levelled as a playing field
10	Rough pasture	Ridge and furrow, mining spoil at S, centre and N end
11	Allotments	None
12	Rough pasture	Ridge and furrow, mining spoil, building remains
13	Rough pasture	Ridge and furrow, mining spoil
14	Pasture	Ridge and furrow
15	Pasture	Ridge and furrow
16	Cereal	None
17	Cereal	Modern sewerage infrastructure occupies northern half of field
18	Cereal	None
19	Cereal	None
20	Cereal	Old field boundary visible as a cropmark
21	Cereal	Old field boundaries visible as a cropmark, mine working in NE corner
22	Cereal	Ridge and furrow visible as a cropmark
23	Pasture	Ridge and furrow, track
24	Pasture	Ridge and furrow
25	Pasture	None
26	Cereal	Ridge and furrow visible as a cropmark
27	Cereal	Enclosure and ridge and furrow visible as cropmarks
28	Cereal	None
29	Scrub	Modern ditch and track
30	Pasture	None, divided in two by modern fence
31	Cereal	Wide track along SE boundary
32	Cereal	None
33	Pasture	Ridge and furrow, track
34	Cereal	Ridge and furrow, N half disturbed by modern mine working
35	Pasture	Ridge and furrow visible as a cropmark, S half disturbed by modern mine working
36	Cereal	Ridge and furrow visible as a cropmark
37	Fallow	None, E half open-cast mined
38	Cereal	None, E half open-cast mined
39	Cereal	None, open-cast mined
40	Cereal	None, most of field open-cast mined
41	Cereal	None, most of field open-cast mined, former nursery at E end
42	Cereal	None, most of field open-cast mined
43	Cereal	None, open-cast mined
44	Cereal	None, open-cast mined
45	Cereal	None, open-cast mined
46	Verge	Former line of road along N boundary, remainder open-cast mined

Appendix 3: Project specification



North Tyneside Local Plan
Murton Gap Strategic Development Site
Archaeological Desk Based Assessment Brief

June 2015



Introduction

Murton Gap (site grid reference: NZ 329 708), which is approximately 240 hectares in size, has been identified as a suggested strategic allocation within the emerging North Tyneside Local Plan. The site boundary is displayed in Appendix 1.

A number of archaeological sites are known to be within the development site. The HER¹ entries for these are available at Appendix 2. There may be other sites or assets within or immediately adjacent the site for which there is no HER record.

A Desk Top Assessment is required to appraise the likelihood that important archaeological deposits survive on the site, and assess the impact on those deposits by construction work associated with the proposed development. It will make recommendations for further archaeological work required. It is anticipated that geophysics will be required and fieldwalking on any arable fields. The key parts of the assessment process are the examination of aerial photographs (not just Google Earth) and a walk over survey.

The assessment must be carried out by a suitably qualified and experienced archaeological organisation. The purpose of this brief is to obtain tenders for this work. The report must be the definitive record for deposition in the Tyne and Wear HER.

A draft Heritage Statement has already been produced that identifies the built heritage assets on the site and assesses their significance. The appointed archaeologist must read this document before starting work, as it intended that the work contained therein need not be repeated.

This Brief has been prepared by Jennifer Morrison, Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer, on behalf of the Tyne and Wear Specialist Conservation Team.

Research Aims and Objectives

The assessment should make reference to Regional and Thematic Research Frameworks.

'Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment' by David Petts with Christopher Gerrard, 2006 notes the importance of research as a vital element of development-led archaeological work. It sets out key research priorities for all periods of the past allowing commercial contractors to demonstrate how their fieldwork relates to wider regional and national priorities for the study of archaeology and the historic environment. The aim of NERRF is to ensure that all fieldwork is carried out in a secure research context and that commercial contractors ensure that their investigations ask the right questions.

¹ Tyne and Wear Historic Environment Record



See <http://www.algao.org.uk/Association/England/Regions/ResFwks.htm>

'Frontiers of Knowledge' edited by Matthew FA Symonds and David JP Mason 2010 is the Research Framework for Hadrian's Wall, part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site. The aim of the publication is to assess the existing knowledge base for our understanding of the monument, to identify and prioritise key themes for future research and to set out a strategy and action plan by which the initial set of objectives might be achieved.

Ideally and where possible the evaluation should cross-reference its aims and objectives to national priorities, defined in SHAPE (Strategic Frameworks for Historic Environment Activities and Programmes in English Heritage), and the English Heritage Research Agenda 2005-2010.

Where appropriate note any similar nationwide projects using ADS, internet search engines, ALSF website, HEEP website, OASIS, NMR excavation index.

All work must be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists and must follow the IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk Based Assessments, revised September 2001
www.archaeologists.net

Project Design

Because this is a detailed specification, a Project Design is not required from the appointed archaeologist. The appointed archaeologist is expected comply with the requirements of this specification.

Archaeological Brief

1. The Assessment must inform the planning authority of the archaeological and historical importance of the site.
2. The following sources **must** be consulted:
 - Tyne and Wear Historic Environment Record, Newcastle City Council, Development Management, Civic Centre, Barras Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8QH. Telephone (0191) 2116218 or jennifer.morrison@newcastle.gov.uk

An appointment must be made.



Archaeological contractors are advised that there is a search fee payable for consulting the HER (Access and Pricing Policy available on request). Contractors visiting the HER in person and conducting their own research will be charged the basic search fee of **£50** plus photocopying costs.

GIS shapefiles and an Excel spreadsheet of monument data from the HER database can be provided by email if required. This will be charged at £50 per half hour of the Archaeology Officer's time. Typically an HER search will take around one hour so will cost **£100**. Particularly large search areas will cost more

Event data cannot be provided digitally. Nor can the paper archive, which is held by the HER (maps, photos, articles on individual monuments etc). Digital copies of grey literature reports are not sent out due to copyright restrictions. These have to be viewed in person in the HER office.

The County Industrial Archaeologist, Ian Ayris must be consulted on any industrial aspects of the Assessment (Telephone (0191) 2777190 or ian.ayris@newcastle.gov.uk)

- **Archive Sources**

Please note - Tyne and Wear is a modern county (in operation as a County Council 1974-1986). The area was formerly divided between County Durham and Northumberland. Archive sources for Tyne and Wear are therefore spread between Tyne and Wear Archives, County Durham Record Office, Northumberland Museum and Archives and 5 district local studies libraries. Those relevant are:

- Northumberland Museum and Archives at Woodhorn, Queen Elizabeth II Country Park, Ashington NE63 9YF (open Wed-Sun) 01670 528041

Mostly holds records for Newcastle and North Tyneside but does hold some records relating to those districts south of the River Tyne and has a lot of mining records.

- Tyne and Wear Archives at Blandford House, Blandford Square, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4JA (tel. 0191 2326789 ext 407)

Amongst other items they hold Building Control Plans for Tyne and Wear which provide useful information on the location of cellars or basements or other features which may have destroyed or truncated archaeological deposits. The location of the cellars or areas of disturbance must be marked on a plan in the finished report.

- North Tyneside Central Library, Customer First Centre, Northumberland Square, North Shields NE30 1QU (tel. 0191 6435270)
- Mining Institute Library, Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE), Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2GZ (tel. 01793 414600)

www.pastscape.org.uk – publicly accessible online version of the NRHE



- Any other local resource with relevant information.

Useful Websites

www.twsitelines.info - **not** to be used instead of visiting the HER in person because it is only updated every six months and does not include event data/grey literature reports

<http://local.live.co.uk> – aerial photographic coverage

www.finds.org.uk Portable Antiquities Scheme

<http://museums.ncl.ac.uk/archive/index>

www.sine.ncl.ac.uk

www.beamishcollections.com – building and street photographic collection

<http://www.twmuseums.org.uk/museum-and-gallery-collections.html> - art and objects collection

www.helm.org.uk

www.wellinever.info

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/newcastlelibraries> - Tyneside Life and Times

www.magic.gov.uk/website/magic/

www.tomorrows-history.com

www.dur.ac.uk/picturesinprint/

www.englishpastforeveryone.org.uk

www.nemlac.co.uk – North East Museums Libraries & Archives Council

www.collectbritain.co.uk/galleries - Grimm's sketches of C18 Northumberland and Durham

www.newcastle.gov.uk/SOPNE - images of the NE region

www.neemark.com - collection of mining archives based at Murray Library, Sunderland University

www.dmm.org.uk – Durham Mining Museum



<http://coal.decc.gov.uk/en/coal/cms/publications/data/map/map.aspx> Coal Authority Interactive Map Viewer (shows mine shafts and development high risk areas)

www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.9596 - database of all English Heritage Department reports completed since 2006

www.britarch.ac.uk/archlib

www.biab.ac.uk

Documentary Sources

All relevant documentary sources relating to the vicinity must be consulted and synthesised within the report (and images copied if copyright allows this), including:

- local history books
- journals
- papers
- documents
- county histories
- trade directories
- census returns
- council minutes
- court rolls
- wills
- newspaper cuttings
- historic photographs and postcards
- prints and engravings

Cartographic Sources

All relevant cartographic sources relating to the vicinity must be consulted and synthesised within the report (and copied if copyright allows this), including:

- historic mapping
- archive plans
- building control plans
- surveys
- Goad Insurance Plans
- estate plans
- tithe maps
- OS mapping – all editions first to present

The National Library of Scotland has digitised the historic OS maps:

<http://maps.nls.uk/geo/find/#zoom=6&lat=56.71138&lon=4.9&layers=B000000TFFFFFFFFFFFTTTTTTTTTT>



Geological bedrock and drift mapping

Geological bedrock and drift mapping for the area must be analysed.

Aerial Photographs

There must be a search of aerial photographs at:

- University of Newcastle <http://museums.ncl.ac.uk/archive/index>
- North Tyneside Council
- The NRHE at Swindon
- Aerofilms Collection 1916 to 2006, NMR Katy.Whitaker@englishheritage.org.uk
- <http://local.live.co.uk>
- www.ukaerialphotos.com – online RAF photos from WW2 to present day
- Cambridge University Committee on Aerial Photography
- Google Earth
- Google Maps

3. The Assessment must describe the land-use history of this part of Murton and assess the probability that archaeological deposits survive on this site.
4. The Assessment must describe the geology, topographic position, soil type and drainage of the site, using geological and soil survey maps. The report must make reference to the anticipated preservation conditions likely to be encountered on the site, especially relating to variables affecting the preservation of biological or organic remains.
5. The archaeological contractor must make at least one site visit and the finished Assessment will briefly describe the current condition of the site. Site photographs must be included in the finished report.

The Assessment Report

The Assessment report must contain and synthesise the results of the analysis of all the sources mentioned above. As far as possible, all maps shown should be at the same scale, to assist in comparing maps of different date and scale, ideally as overlays on a modern base-map, although highlighted enlargements may be used to facilitate the addition of extra annotation.

The report must include a catalogue/gazetteer of features of archaeological or historical interest within or close to the study area. Their location must be shown on a site plan. This must include all sites of interest, **not** just those currently included in the HER.



A final section of the report should consist of recommendations (in the opinion of the consultant, after assessing all evidence available at the present time) about the type, scale and location of any future archaeological work needed to locate and record historic buildings or archaeological deposits suspected on the site. If evaluation is recommended then the finished report will include a site plan showing the scale and location of suggested trial trenches.

The report must have the following features:

- i. Site location plan and grid reference
- ii. Plan of proposed development
- iii. List of all sources consulted, and their location
- iv. Details of field visits undertaken by the consultant
- v. Site photographs
- vi. Geology of site
- vii. Period by period discussion of site history and development
- viii. Historic map regression
- ix. Aerial photographs with transcription of any potential archaeological features
- x. Plan showing location of cultural heritage features (not just those on HER)
- xi. Copies of any relevant archive plans and historic photographs
- xii. Brief discussion of the potential of the site in relation to NERRF, EH research agenda and other relevant agenda
- xiii. A card cover with title, date, author, consultant organisation and commissioning client
- xiv. Some form of binding which allows easy copying of the report
- xv. Copy of this specification

One paper copy of the report needs to be submitted:

- for deposition in the County HER

Two pdf copies on CD are needed:

- one for the commissioning client
- and one for deposition in the County HER - to be sent with the paper report but not attached to it.

Timescales

In order for the conclusions of Archaeological Assessment to inform the ongoing masterplanning work at Killingworth Moor and Murton Gap, Capita North Tyneside would seek preparation of a Final Draft by **end of August 2015**.

OASIS

The Tyne and Wear County Archaeologist supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an



online index/access to the large and growing body of archaeological grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded fieldwork.

The archaeological contractor is therefore required to register with OASIS and to complete the online OASIS form for their desk based assessment at <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/>. Please ensure that tenders for this work takes into account the time needed to complete the form.

Once the OASIS record has been completed and signed off by the HER and NMR the information will be incorporated into the English Heritage Excavation Index, hosted online by the Archaeology Data Service.

The ultimate aim of OASIS is for an online virtual library of grey literature to be built up, linked to the index. The unit therefore has the option of uploading their grey literature report as part of their OASIS record, as a Microsoft Word document, rich text format, pdf or html format. The grey literature report will only be mounted by the ADS if both the unit and the HER give their agreement. The grey literature report will be made available through a library catalogue facility.

Please ensure that you and your client understand this procedure. If you choose to upload your grey literature report please ensure that your client agrees to this in writing to the HER.

For general enquiries about the OASIS project aims and the use of the form please contact:

Mark Barratt at the National Monuments Record (tel. 01793 414600 or oasis@english-heritage.org.uk).

For enquiries of a technical nature please contact:

Catherine Hardman at the Archaeology Data Service (tel. 01904 433954 or oasis@ads.ahds.ac.uk).

Or contact the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer, Jennifer Morrison.



Appendix 1

Please see attached document titled, 'Murton Red Line Boundary - 150629 V.2'



Appendix 2

- HER 748 Murton village

The earliest reference is in a list of townships of which Tynemouth Priory received confirmation in 1189. Five tenants contributed to the 1296 lay subsidy. In the mid C14 there are references to "Estmoreton" and "Westmorton", but it is not known which is the surviving village. In 1539 there were 4 copyhold tenants each with a tenement, 42 acres of arable, 8 of meadow, and rights of common on Shire Moor, enclosed in 1790. On the 1st ed. OS Murton was a 2-row hamlet with green, and at least 2 farms still on the main street. Today it largely consists of modern houses. A watching brief in 2013 revealed a post-medieval culvert in the fields to the north of the present village but nothing relating to the medieval settlement.

- HER 749 East/West Murton village

In 1348 licence was granted to assign property in Estmoreton etc. to Tynemouth Priory, and in 1353 there was a similar licence for property in Westmorton. There is another reference to East Morton in 1380. It is not known which is represented by the existing hamlet of Murton, and hence where the missing one might be, or when it disappeared. It has been suggested that there are possible earthworks north-east of Murton Steads Farm, c. NZ 335 712, 337 711.

- HER 789 Murton common fields

Ridge and furrow survives as earthworks in pasture in fields north-west and south-east of Murton, viz. 1) NZ 3270 7095, 2) 3295 7071, 3) 3302 7061, 4) 3290 7041. The APs suggest the presence of other features, perhaps bell pits, in 3 and 4. At NZ 3298 7053 there is a small enclosure, with earthworks, perhaps ridge and furrow and the remains of Murton Cottage.

- HER 1370 Shiremoor

The common of the manor (shire) of Tynemouth, enclosed in 1790 by Act of Parliament (28 Geo. III). It lay between grid lines NZ 301(W), 340(E), 720(N), 689(S), had a maximum altitude of 70 m OD, and amounted to over 1000 acres. To the W it marched with Killingworth Moor. Rights of common were confined to the copyhold tenants of Preston, East and Middle Chirton, Whitley and Monkseaton, Murton, Earsdon and Backworth, and to 6 freehold farms belonging to the lord of the manor of Tynemouth. Early surveys recorded a 3 pinfold and the herd's house on the moor. Were these together, and can they be identified with HER 750?

- HER 2178 Air shaft

Air Shaft, not on 1st edition OS mapping so dates from after 1858.

- HER 5102 West Monkseaton, rectilinear enclosure

Rectilinear enclosure shown on aerial photographs with a central circular feature. Enclosed homestead, likely to be of Iron Age date. Internal features are evident including partitions and a roundhouse. An entrance is evident on the north-east side. An old field boundary abuts the north east perimeter of the site.



- HER 9406 Rake House Farm

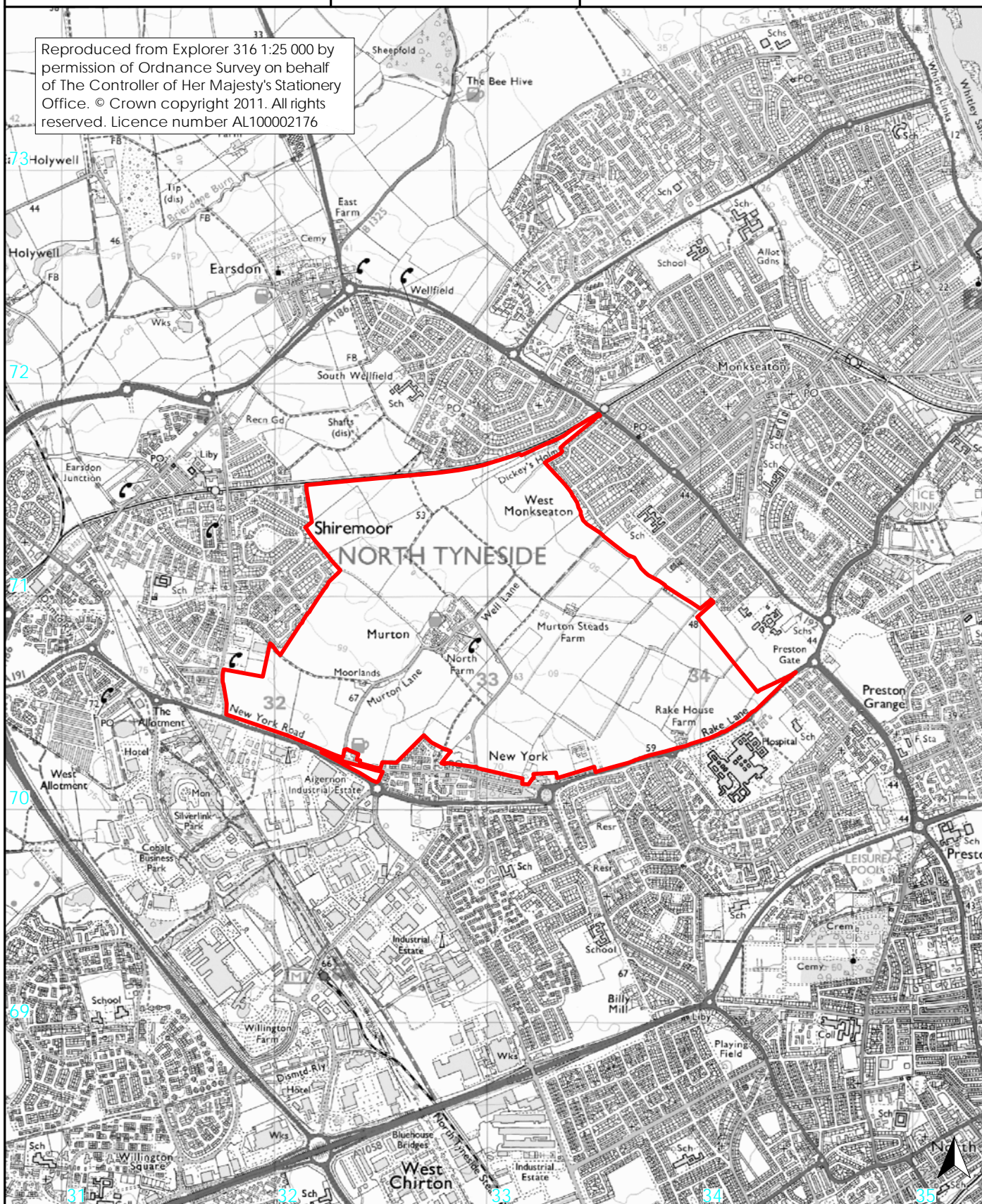
According to CW Steel's book on Monkseaton there was a Rake House Farm present in 1660. The present buildings are C19 in date. The earliest documentary reference is in 1841 when it appears in the census records for Monkseaton Township. In 1849 the farm was leased to Joseph and William Fenwick. At this time the farm contained just over 120 acres. During the midlate 19th century the farm grew in size. The mid 19th century gingang was demolished in the mid 1970s. A buildings recording of the farmhouse, cart shed, granary, threshing shed, east and west wing, central extension and yard was undertaken in 2008 by Entec ahead of the farms conversion to offices. The report concluded that most of the elements of the farm predated the 1870s. The central part of the outbuildings appeared to be the earliest in date. The date above the farmhouse door '1824' is earlier than any documentary evidence for the occupation of the farm. The farmhouses is also not shown on plans dated 1841. The stone is most likely re-used.

- HER 9478 war memorial

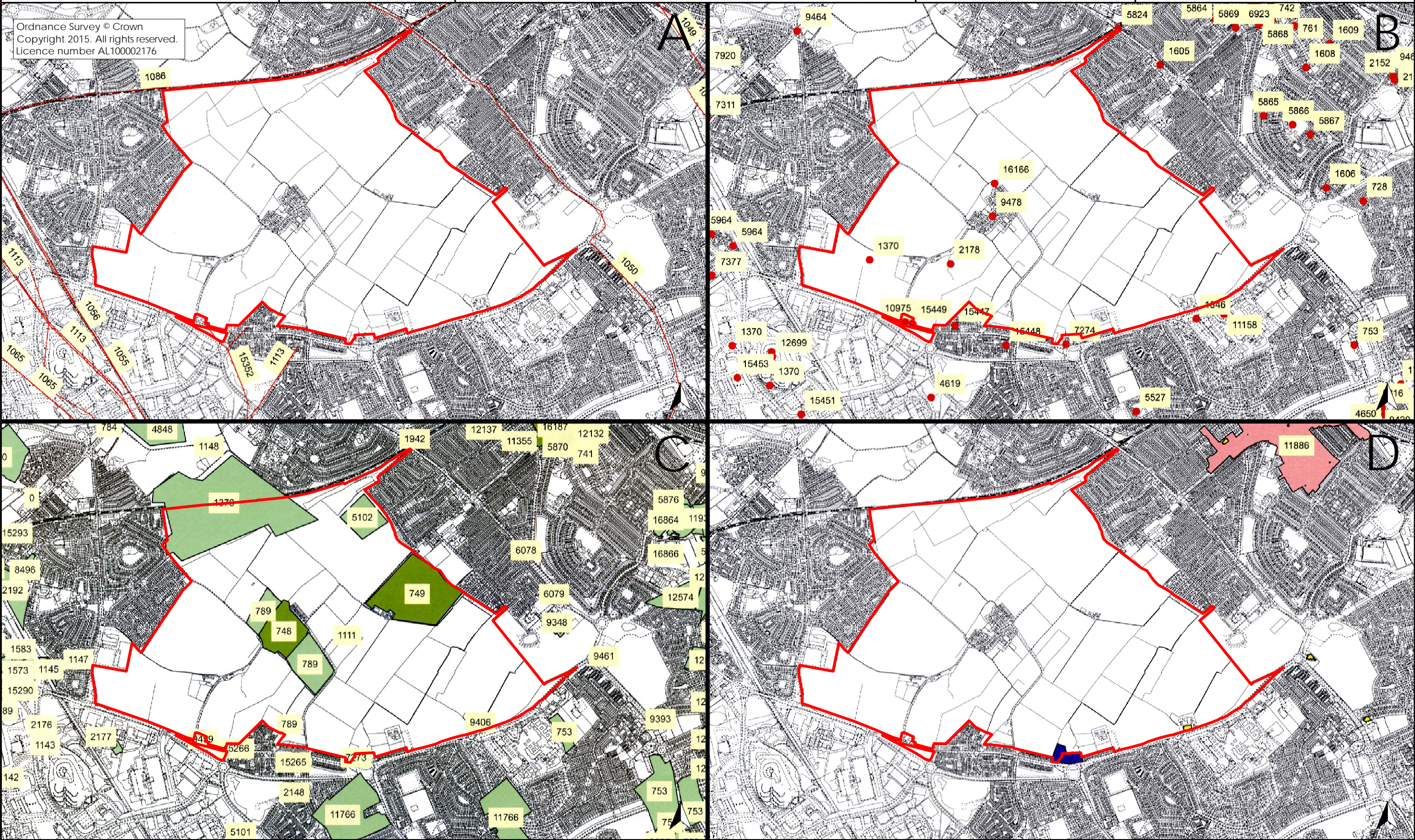
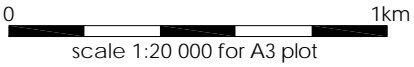
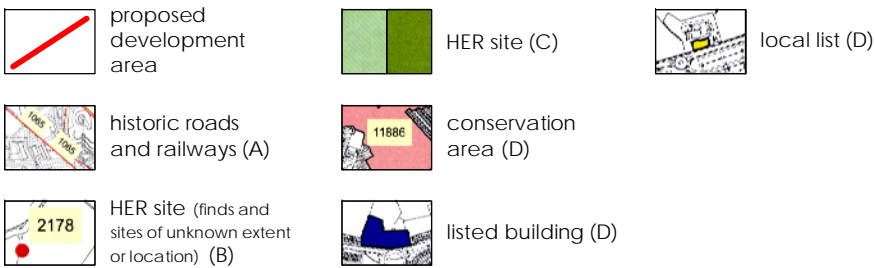
- HER 16166 stone culvert

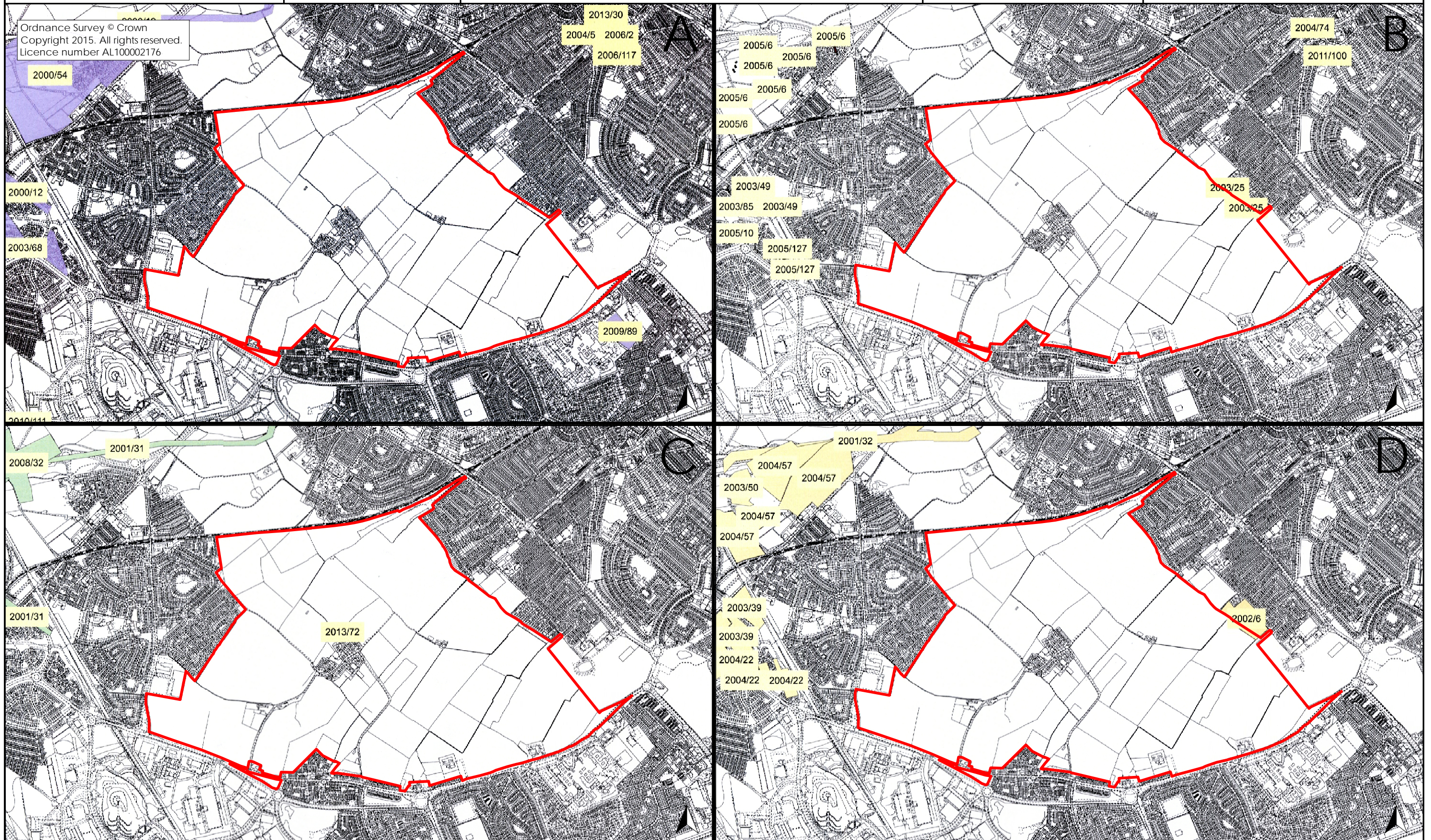
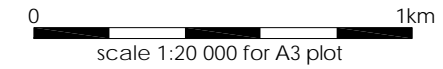
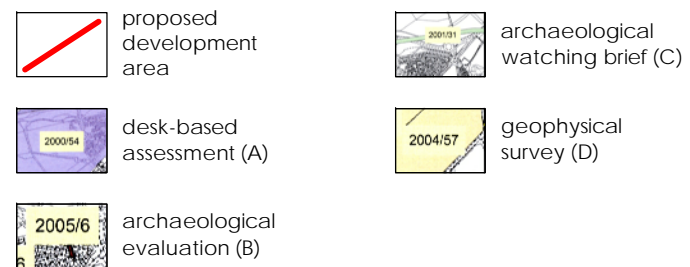
Culvert running north-east/south-west constructed from large rectangular sandstone (0.7m x 0.3 x 0.14m). The line of the culvert was continued to the north-east by the line of an open ditch. Presumably the drainage feature represented by this open ditch had been culverted at this point to enable access into the field.

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0 1km
scale 1:25 000 for A4 plot





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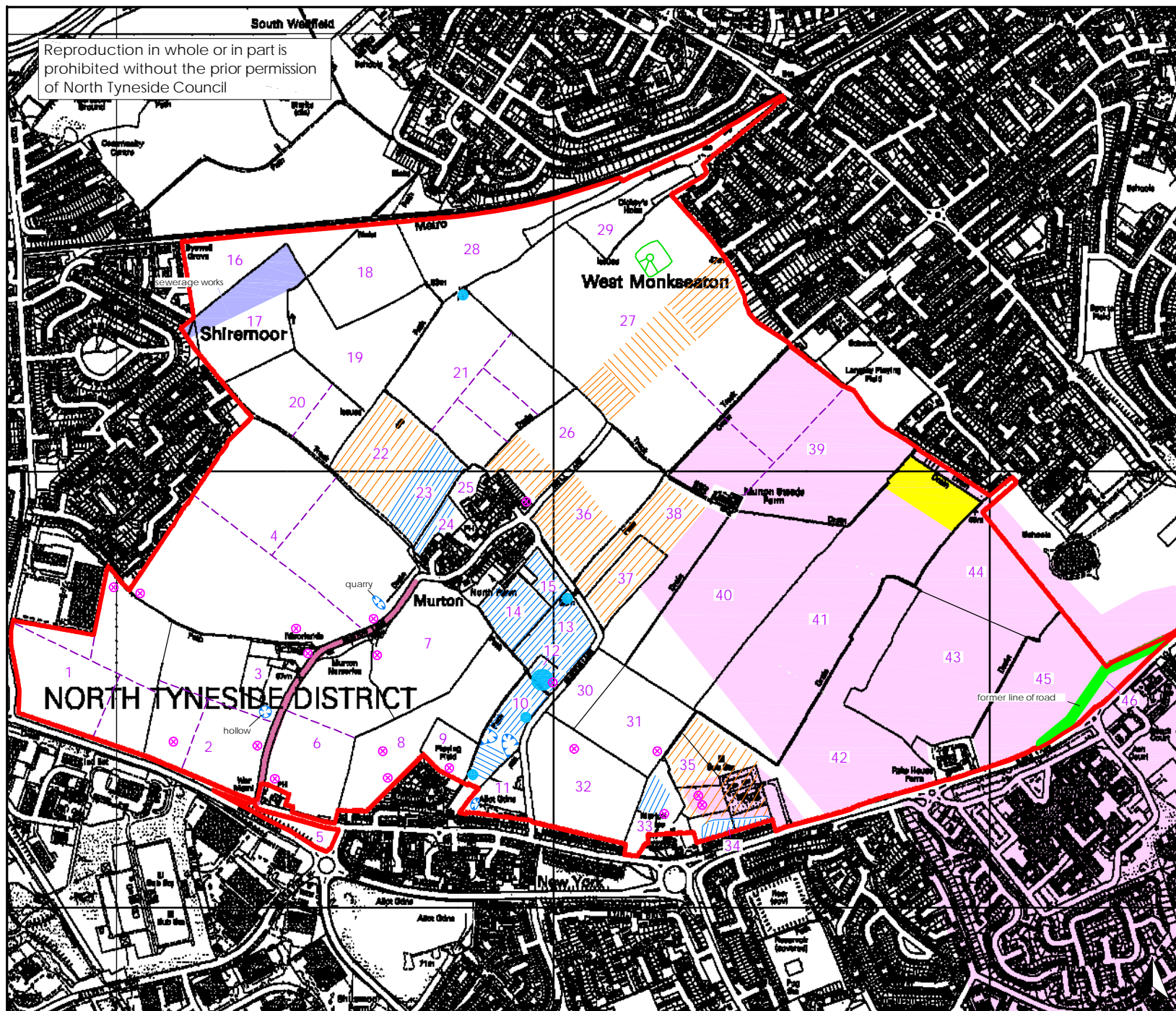
on behalf of
North Tyneside Council

Murton Gap
North Tyneside
Tyne and Wear

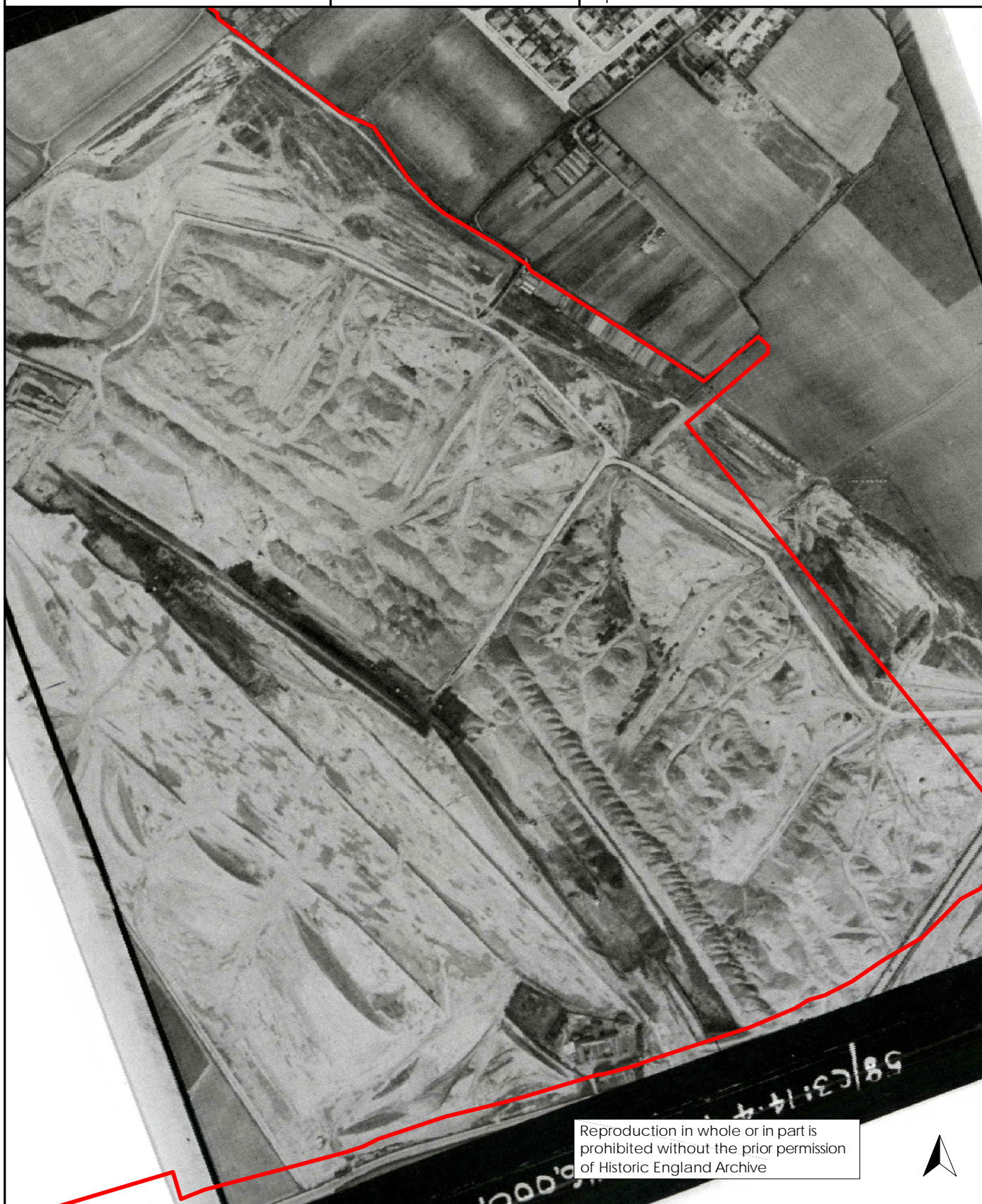
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Figure 3: Site as existing, showing
field numbers, earthworks and
cropmarks

0 500m
scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot



- proposed development area
- old field boundary
- possible waggonway
- crop mark: ridge and furrow
- cropmark enclosure
- earthwork: ridge and furrow
- mound
- Burnt House Nursery
- mine shaft (as recorded by coal authority)
- 20th century mining disturbance



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proposed development area

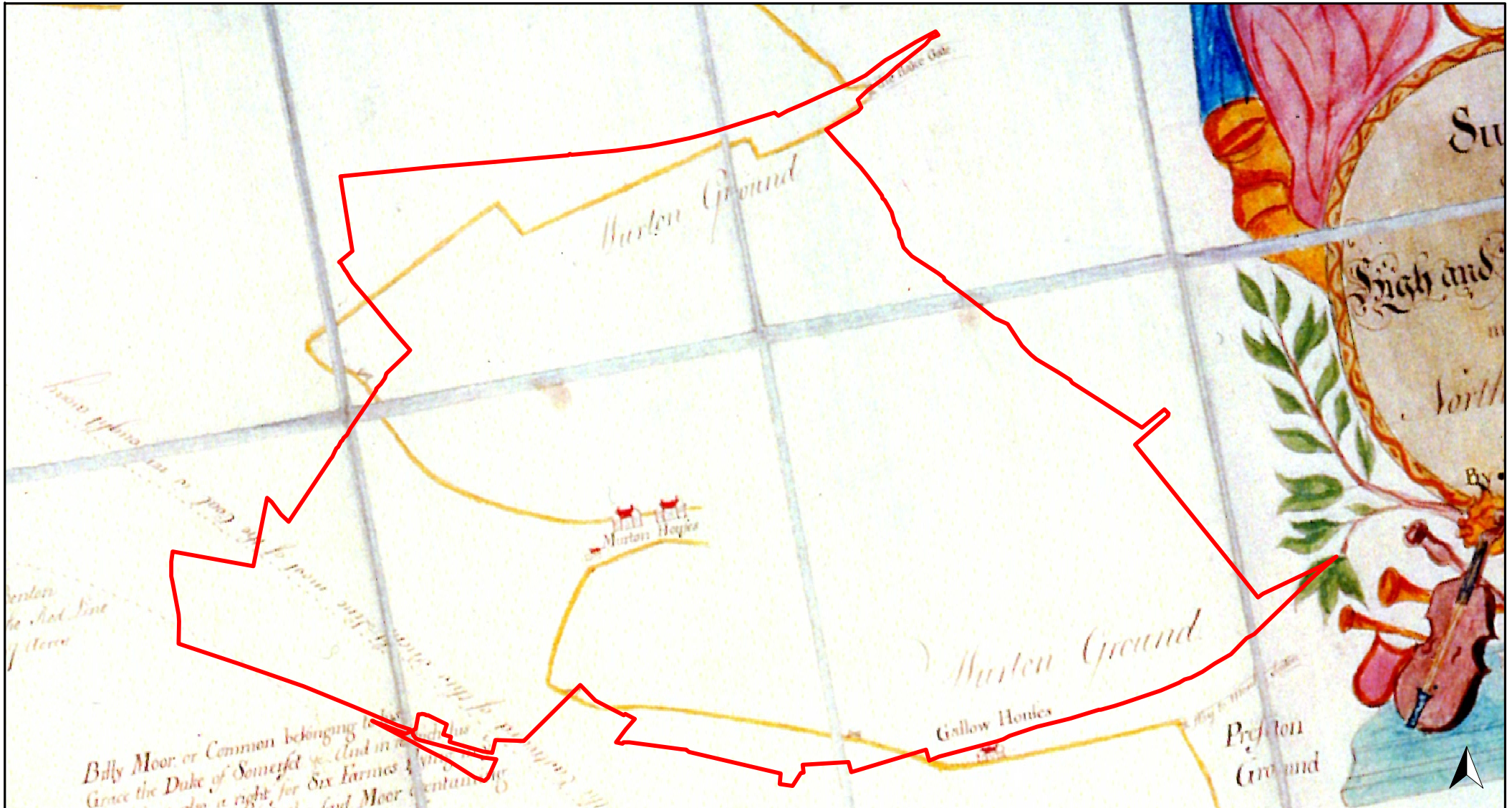
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proposed development area

0 250m
scale 1:5000 for A4 plot




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Figure 6: Extract from Cuthbertson's Map of
Tynemouth Manor, 1720

 approximate location of
the site boundary

0  500m
approximate scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot




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Figure 7: Extract from Thompson's Map of
Tynemouth Manor, 1757

 approximate location of
the site boundary

0 500m
approximate scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot



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Figure 8: Extract from Sauthier's Map
of south-east Northumberland, 1778

0 750m
approximate scale 1:15 000 for A4 plot



approximate site boundary

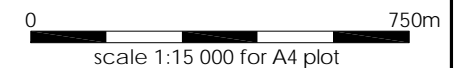


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Figure 9: Extract from Shiremoor enclosure map, 1790





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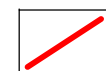
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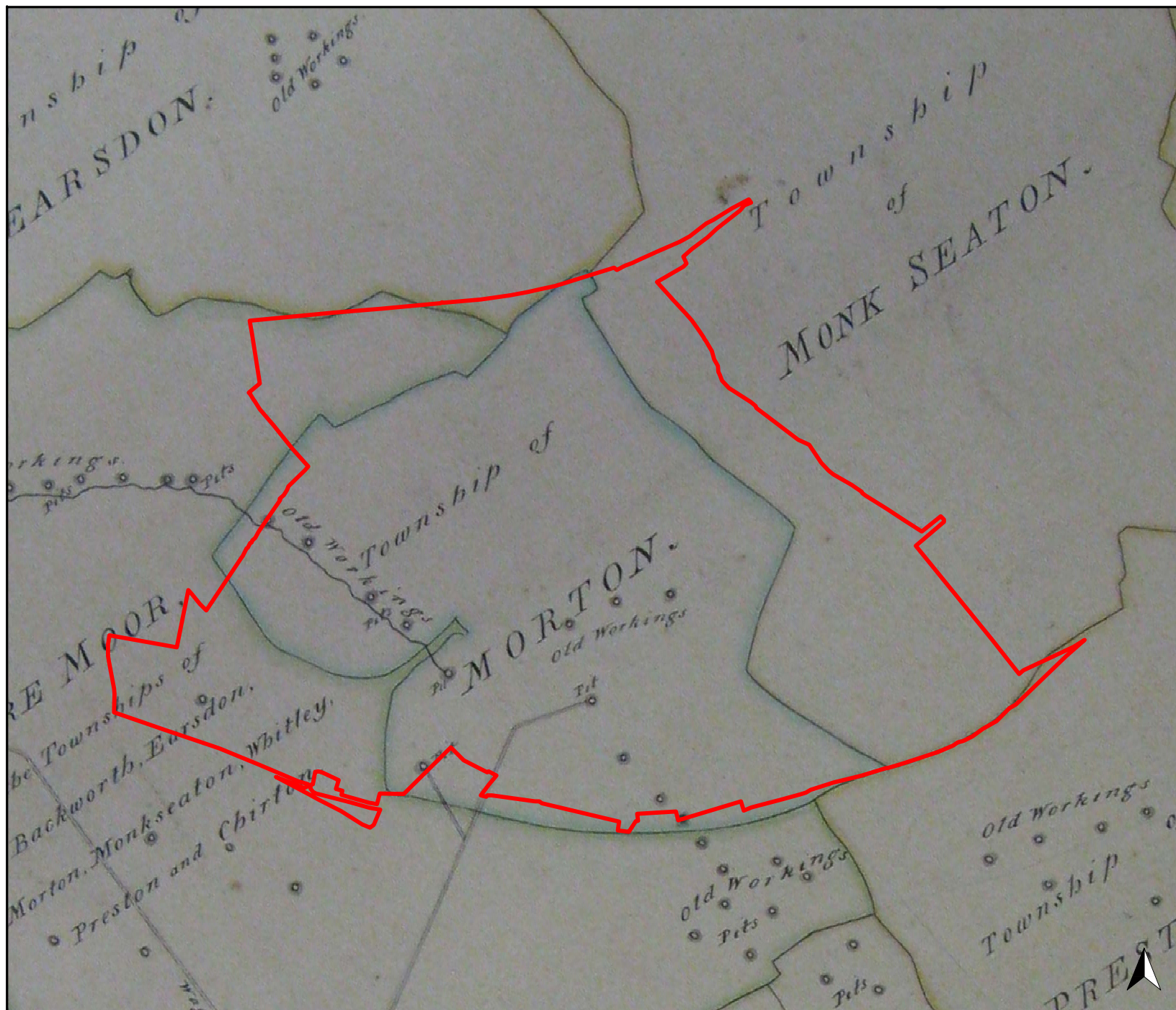
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Figure 10: Extract from Lambert's
Map of the collieries on the Tyne,
1807

0 2.5km
approximate scale 1:50 000 for A4 plot



site boundary



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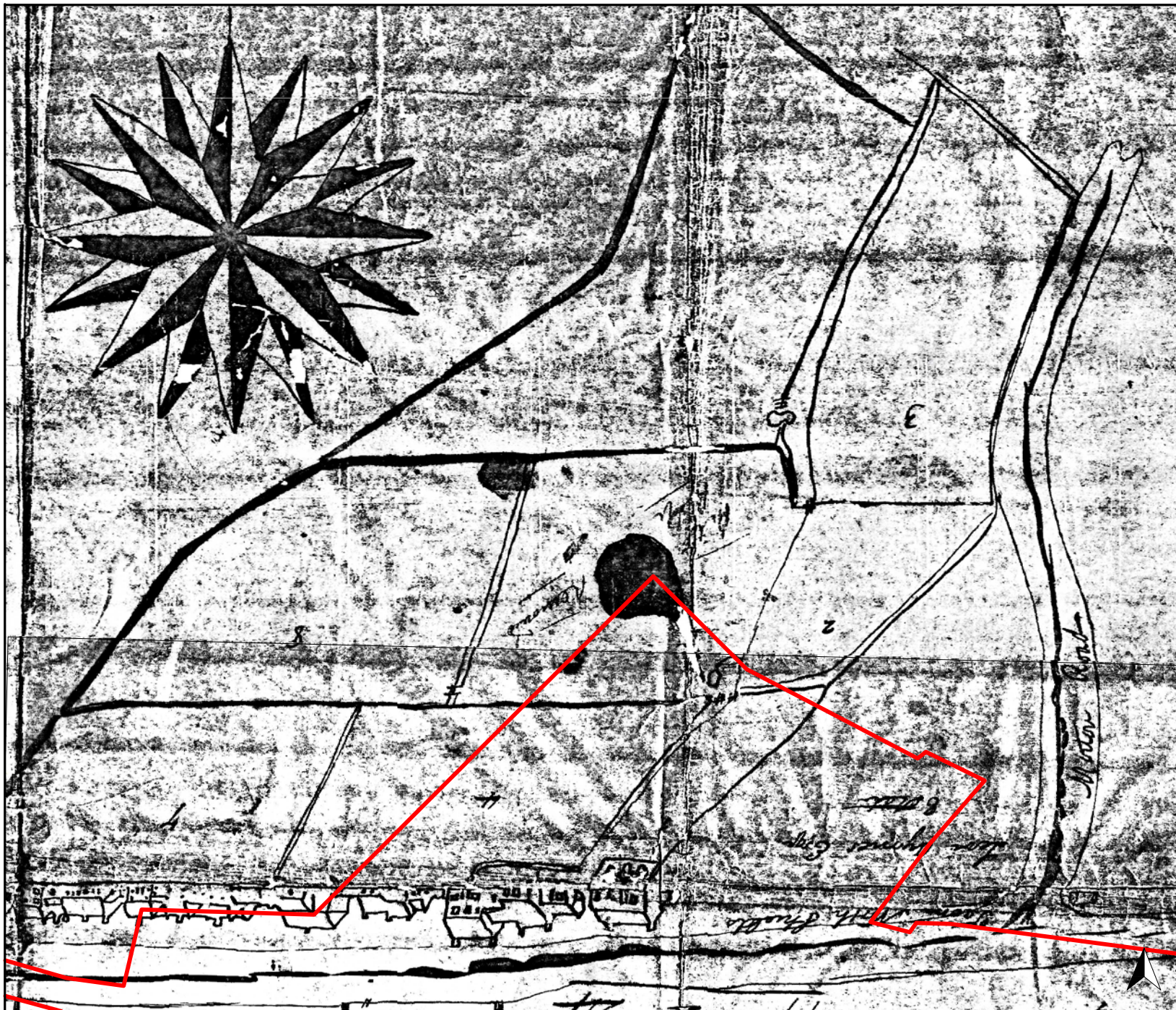
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Figure 11: Extract from an undated
plan of Tynemouthshire

0 750m
approximate scale 1:15 000 for A4 plot



approximate site boundary



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Figure 12: Extract from Hay's plan of
Thomas Dryden's estate, 1826

not to scale



approximate site boundary

Murton tithe map



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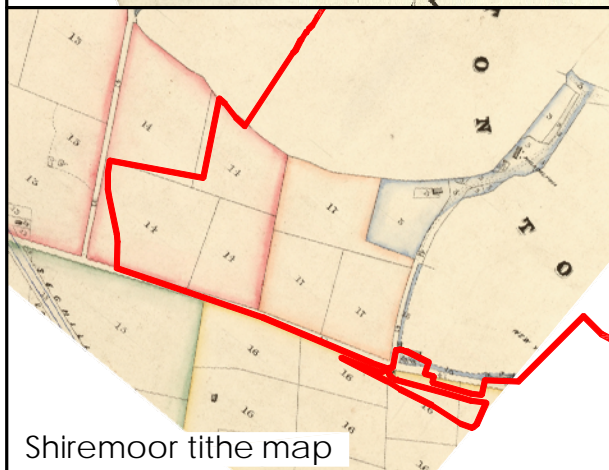
Figure 13: Extracts from tithe plans of
Murton (1842), Monkseaton (1845)
and Shiremoor (1845)

0 750m
approximate scale 1:15 000 for A4 plot

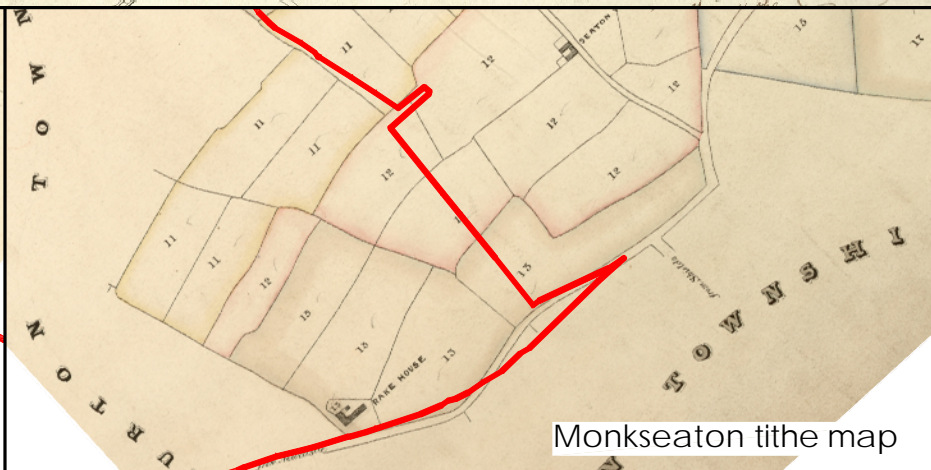


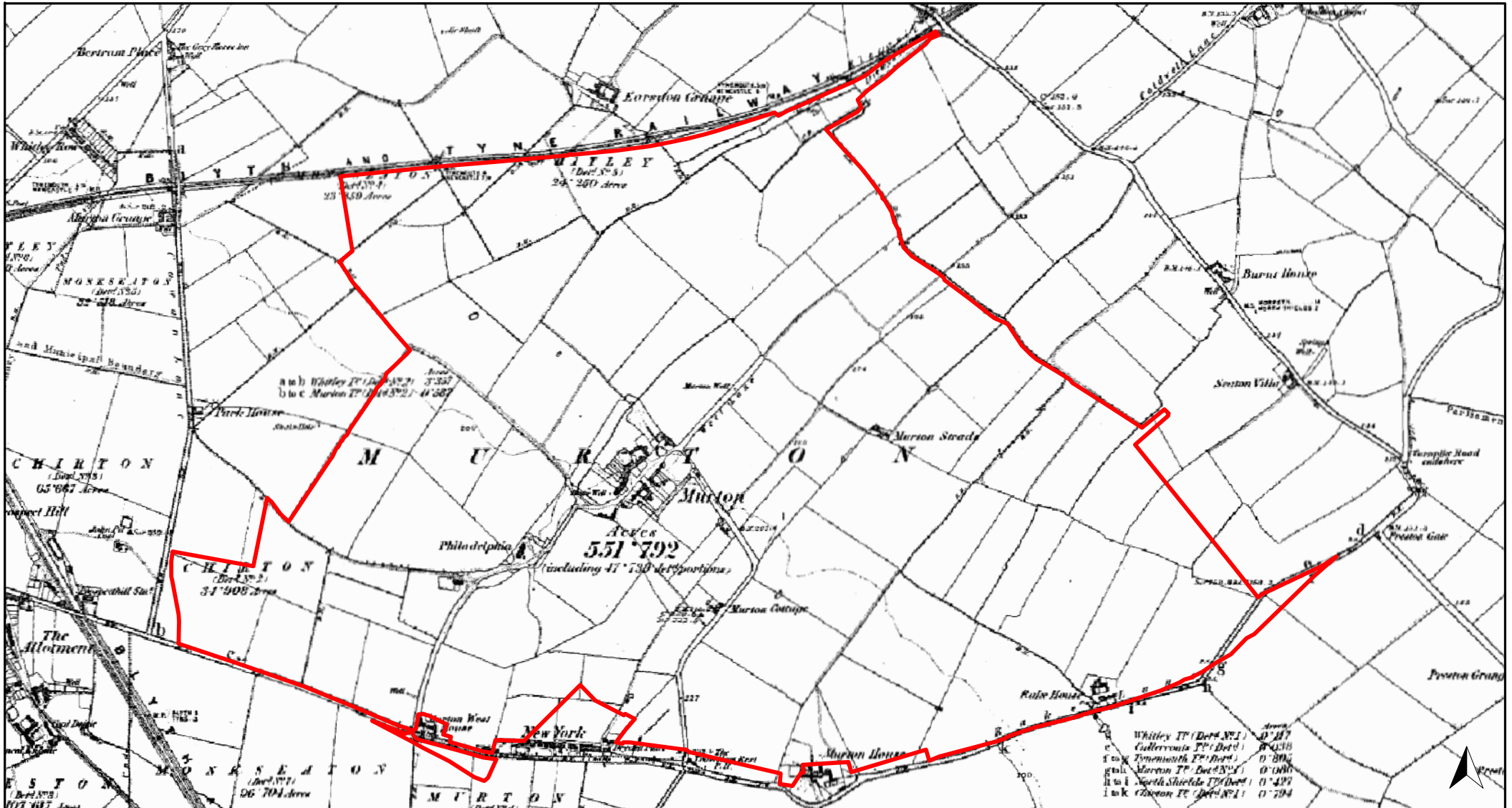
approximate site boundary

Shiremoor tithe map



Monkseaton tithe map





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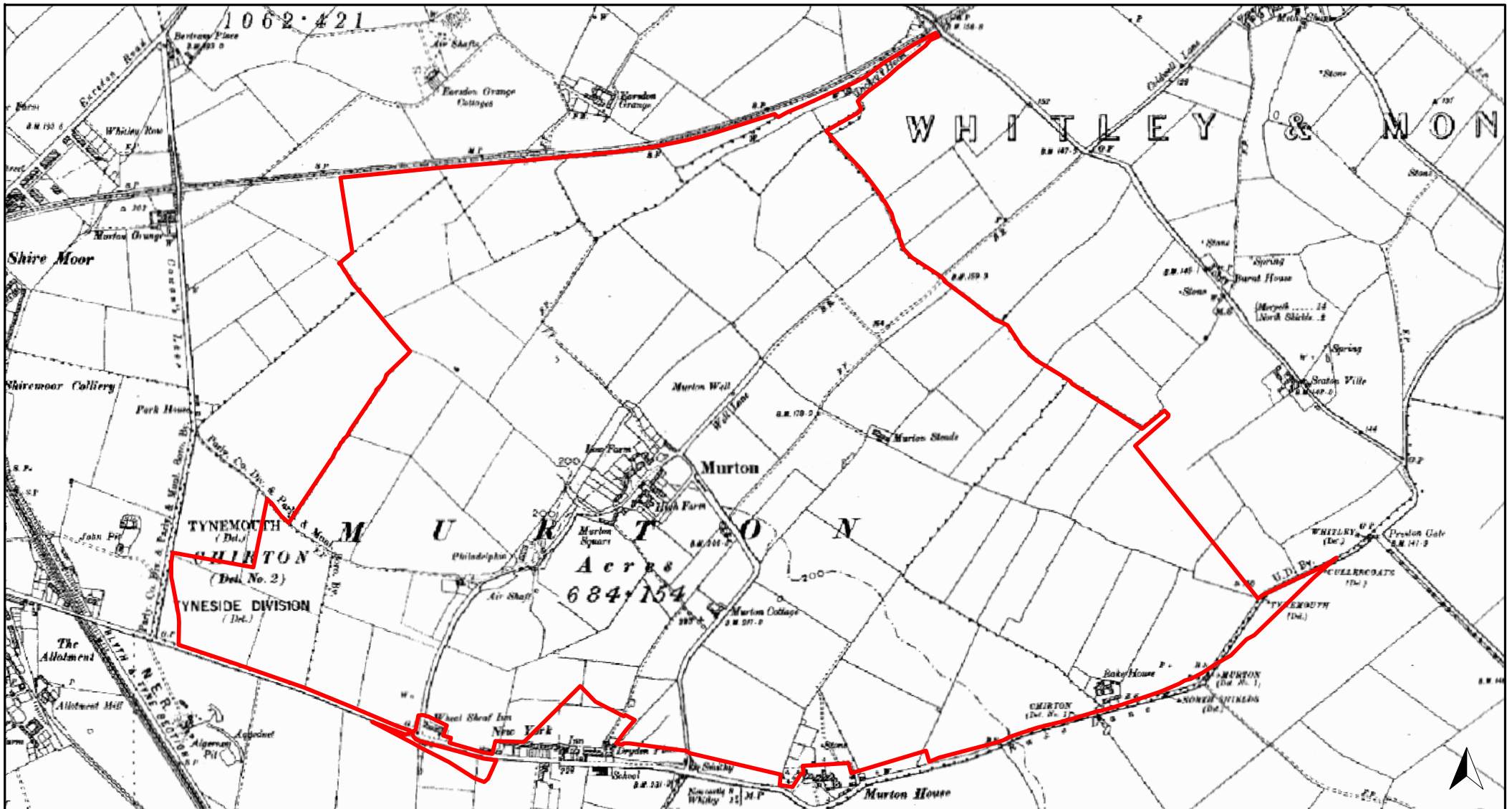
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Figure 14: Extract from the 1st edition
Ordnance Survey map, 1865



site boundary

0 500m
scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot



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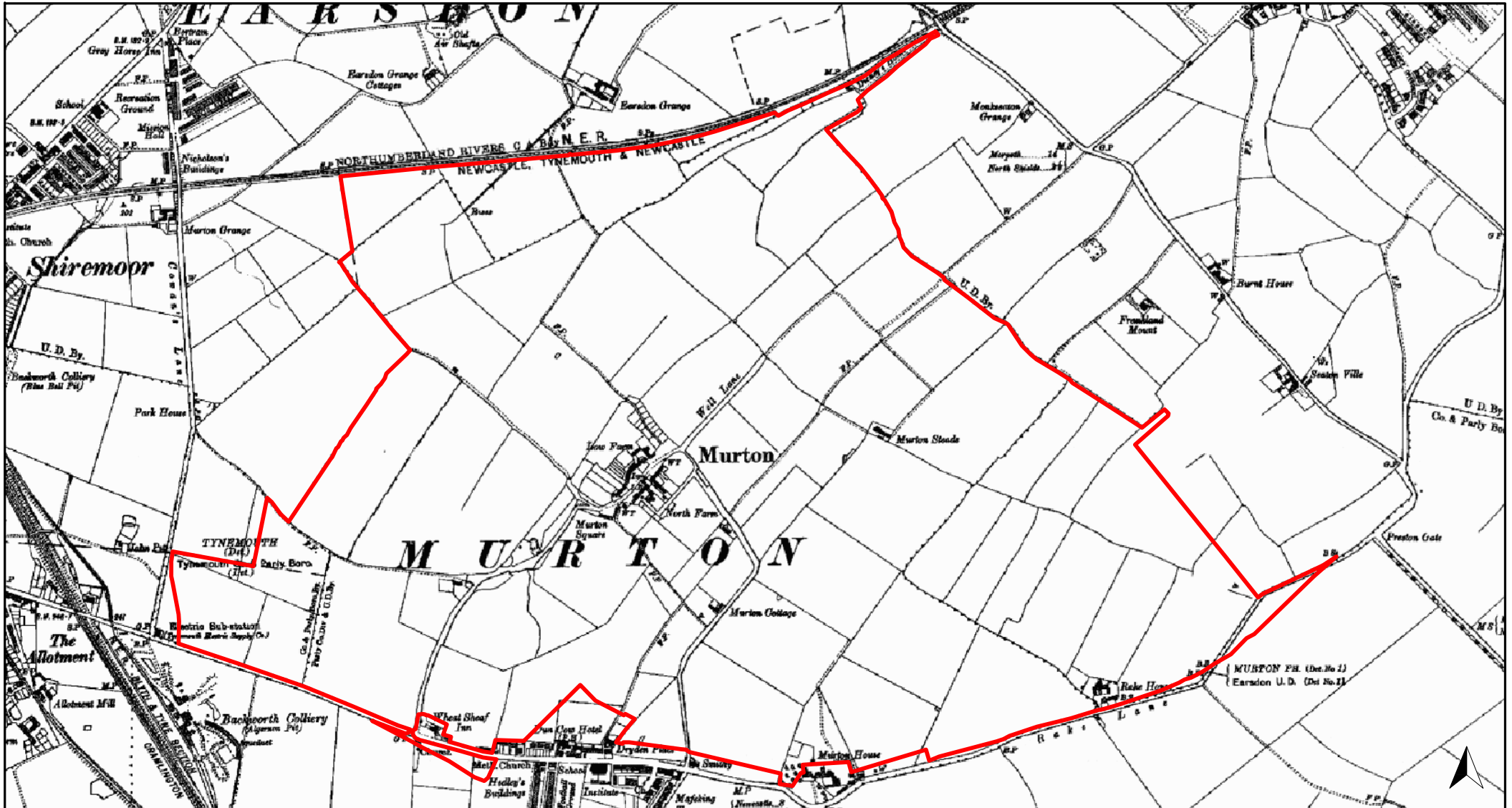
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Figure 15: Extract from the 2nd edition
Ordnance Survey map, 1898



0 500m
scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot



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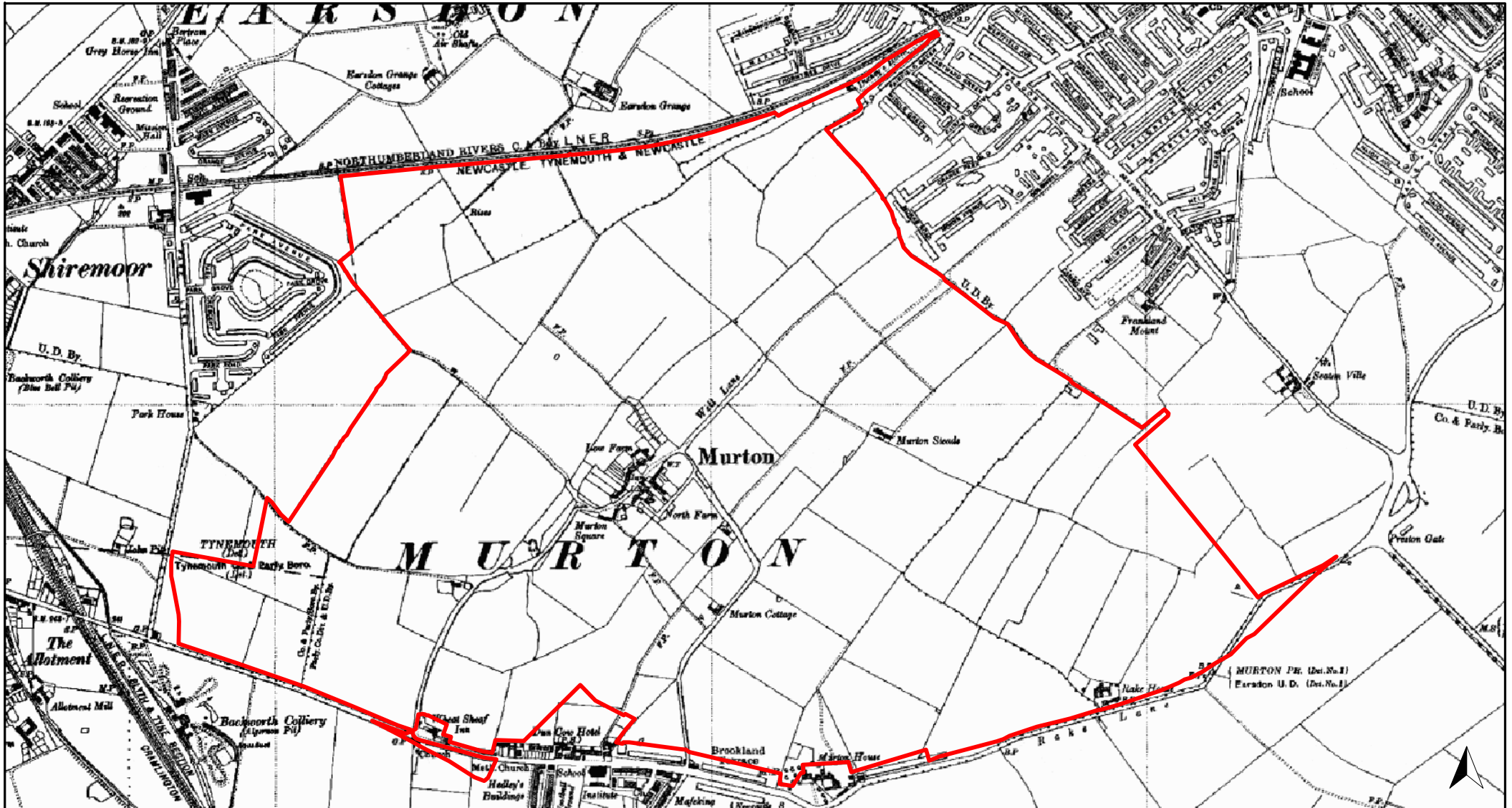
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Figure 16: Extract from the 3rd edition
Ordnance Survey map, 1920



0 500m
scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot



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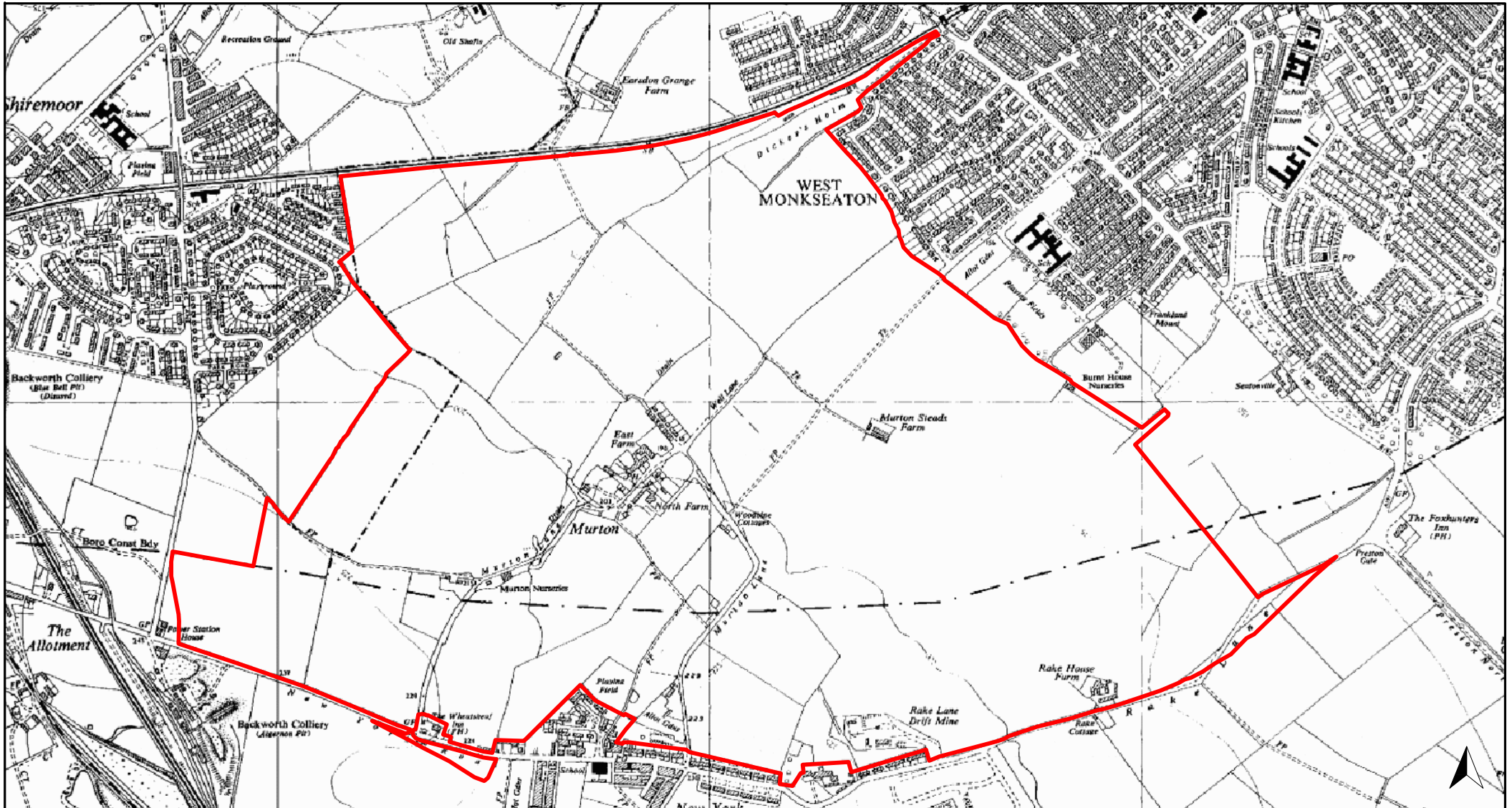
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Figure 17: Extract from the 4th edition
Ordnance Survey map, 1938



0 500m
scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot



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Figure 18: Extract from Ordnance Survey
map, 1957



site boundary

0 500m
scale 1:12 500 for A4 plot



Figure 19: Field 4, looking north-east



Figure 20: Paddocks behind Moorlands, looking south



Figure 21: Embanked section of Murton Lane, looking south



Figure 22: Boundary between Fields 7 (R) and 8 (L), looking south



Figure 23: South end of Field 10, looking south



Figure 24: North end of Field 10, looking east



Figure 25: Remains of Murton Cottage, looking west



Figure 26: Mound at north end of Field 13, looking south



Figure 27: Ridge and furrow in Field 14, looking north



Figure 28: Ridge and furrow in Field 23, looking north-west



Figure 29: Track along boundary to Field 23, looking north-east



Figure 30: Mound in corner of Field 21, looking north



Figure 31: Fence post next to mound in Field 21, looking east



Figure 32: Area of cropmark in Field 27, looking east



Figure 33: Track in Field 33, looking south



Figure 34: Field 39, looking west