

R.F. GIDDINGS & CO. LIMITED

SOFTWOOD SAWMILLERS

Incorporating

GOLDEN LARCH FENCING

TIMBER FENCING MANUFACTURERS

RINGWOOD ROAD SAWMILLS, BARTLEY, SOUTHAMPTON, HAMPSHIRE, SO40 7LT
Telephone: Southampton (023) 8081 3157 – Facsimile: (023) 8081 2774

15 January 2008

Paula Freeland
Head of Environmental Design
New Forest National Park Authority
South Efford House
Milford Road
Lymington
SO41 0JD



Dear Madam

Proposed Conservation Area – Forest North East

Further to our meeting at St. Matthews Church Hall, Netley Marsh on 10th January.

We object to the inclusion of our modern industrial site within the proposed conservation area on a number of grounds:

1. Conservation areas are defined by you in your draft policy (paragraph 1) as “*areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character and appearance of which is desirable to preserve and enhance*”. Our site and the majority of our modern industrial buildings rebuilt, following a fire, in 2005 have no special architectural or historic interest value that requires either preservation or enhancement (see: photo's 1 & 2).
2. The overriding consideration in the design of our buildings is meeting the functional needs of bespoke technologically advanced sawlines having regard to health & safety, fire safety, functional efficiency, material movement, noise suppression and cost. These considerations must override character or appearance needs if we are to operate safely, avoid further fires and remain competitive in a world market (see: photo 3).
3. Your draft policy (paragraph 3) states that; “*Designation provides the basis for policies designed to preserve or enhance all aspects of character or appearance that defines an areas special interest. It is the quality and interest of areas, rather than individual buildings, which should be the prime consideration in defining conservation areas*”. Our 10-acre modern industrial site is a large well defined area with no special design, character or appearance interest which should therefore logically warrant it for exclusion from the proposed conservation area (see photo: 4).
4. Your draft policy (paragraph 37) recognises that whilst “*there has been little 20th Century development in the character area...where this has taken place, it has generally been unsympathetic to the local vernacular character and detailing of more historic buildings in the area*”. Presumably, as our modern industrial development constitutes one of these so-called unsympathetic developments, it makes perfect sense to exclude it from the proposed conservation area.

5. Our argument for excluding our site from the proposed conservation area is enhanced by the fact that both the Meadowmead Farm Carpet Warehouse and Netley Marsh Workshops situated about 0.5 mile to the east of us have already been excluded from the proposed conservation area (see: proposed conservation area boundary plan and aerial view 1).
6. Meadowmead Farm Carpet Warehouse is of a similar design to our industrial buildings and has presumably been excluded because it has no architectural or historic interest value (see: photo 5).
7. Our modern industrial site is located on the main A336 at the extreme eastern boundary of the proposed conservation area where it joins the new A326 Totton Bypass and abuts the modern residential development at West Totton. Excluding our site from this policy would, like the exclusion of Meadowmead Farm Carpet Warehouse and the Netley Marsh Workshops have very little impact on the policy and area as a whole.
8. The precedent of excluding areas of modern development from the proposed conservation area has already been established by the exclusion of Bartley (Area E) in your draft plan (see: proposed conservation area boundary plan and aerial view 2).
9. The precedent of excluding areas of redevelopment from the proposed conservation area has already been established by the exclusion of the Hampshire Partnership NHS Trust site at Tachbury which is part of the Netley Marsh Parish (see: proposed conservation area boundary plan and aerial view 3).
10. We would point out that including our site in the proposed conservation area fails your test (paragraph 2) in that it is clearly illogical to include a modern industrial site in a conservation area designed to preserve and enhance areas of architectural and historic interest and its inclusion may fail the test of an appeal.

For these reasons, we are seeking to exclude our site and holdings outlined on the enclosed map (item 6) from the proposed conservation area.

If you are unable to do this, please advise us of your reasons in detail and the appropriate appeal procedure within seven days of receipt of this letter.

Yours faithfully

A. R. Giddings

A. R Giddings
Director

Encl.

R F GIDDINGS & Co. LIMITED

PROPOSED CONSERVATION AREA – FOREST NORTH EAST



Photo 1 – Post Fire Site Entrance



Photo 2 – Post Fire Buildings

R F GIDDINGS & Co. LIMITED

PROPOSED CONSERVATION AREA – FOREST NORTH EAST

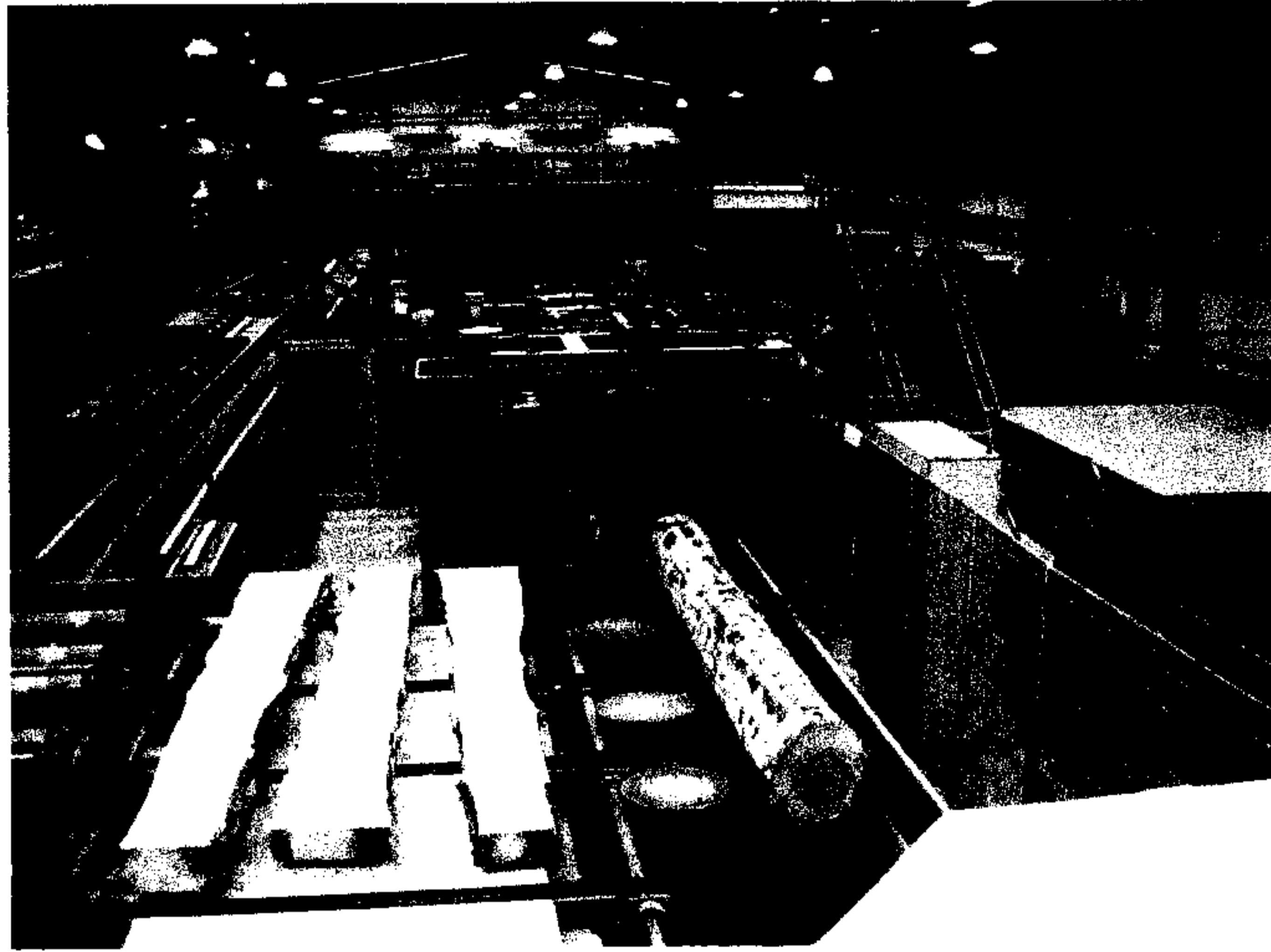


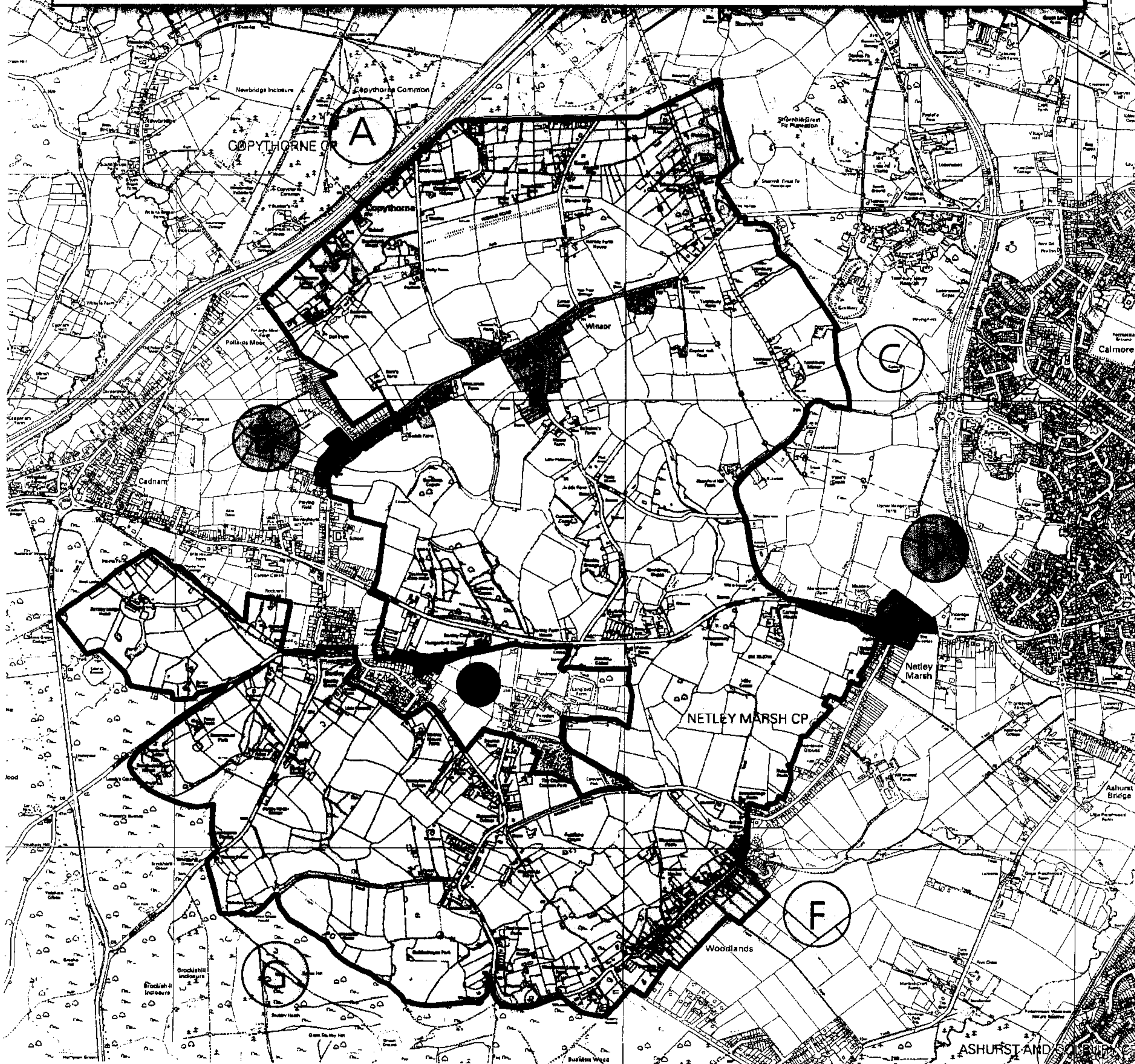
Photo 3 – Primary Sawline



Photo 4 – Pre Fire Site

Forest North East Character Areas

- | | | |
|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| A: Copythorne | B: Winsor | C: Dispersed farms and arable land |
| D: Netley Marsh | E: Bartley | F: Woodlands |
| G: Historic edge of forest encroachment | | |



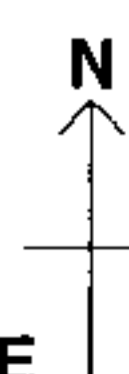
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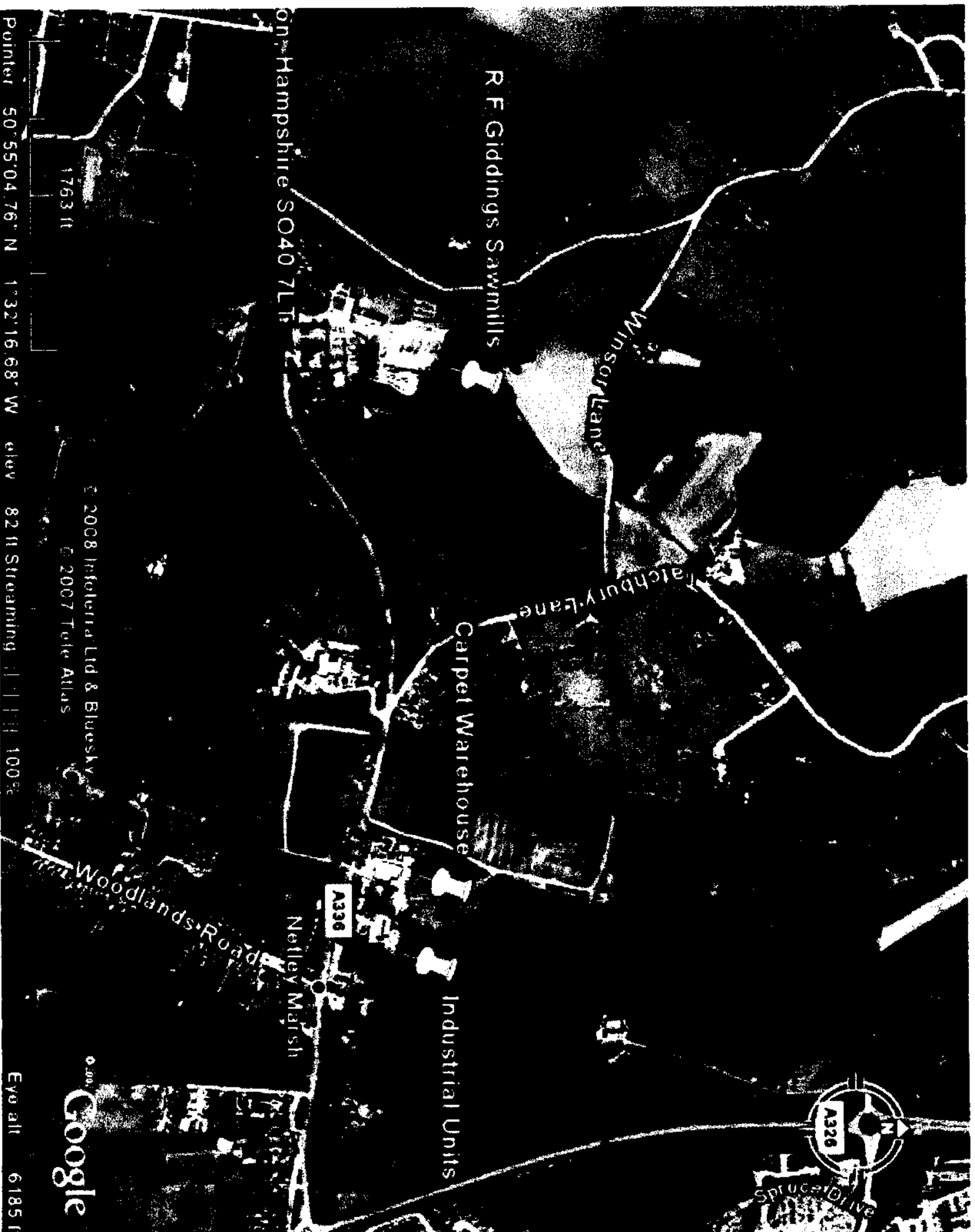
Proposed Conservation Area boundary

Forest North East



NOT TO SCALE

R F GIDDINGS, MEADOWMEAD FARM CARPET WAREHOUSE & NETLEY MARSH WORKSHOPS LOCATION



Aerial View 1

R F GIDDINGS & Co. LIMITED

PROPOSED CONSERVATION AREA – FOREST NORTH EAST

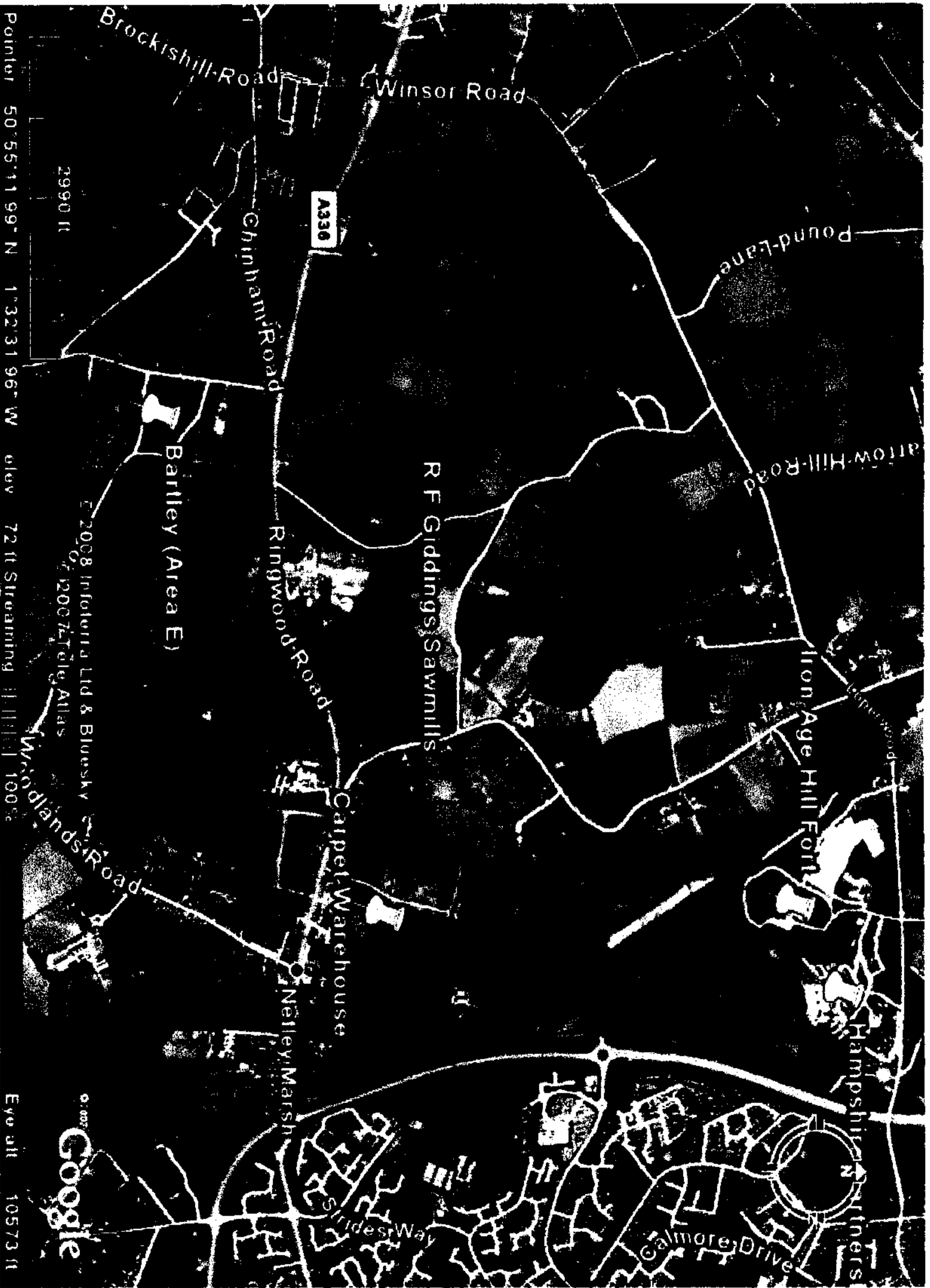


Photo 5 – Meadowmead Farm Carpet Warehouse



Photo 6 – Netley Marsh Workshops

R F GIDDINGS & BARTLEY (AREA E)



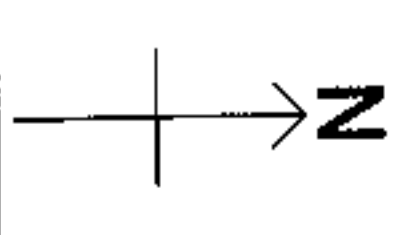
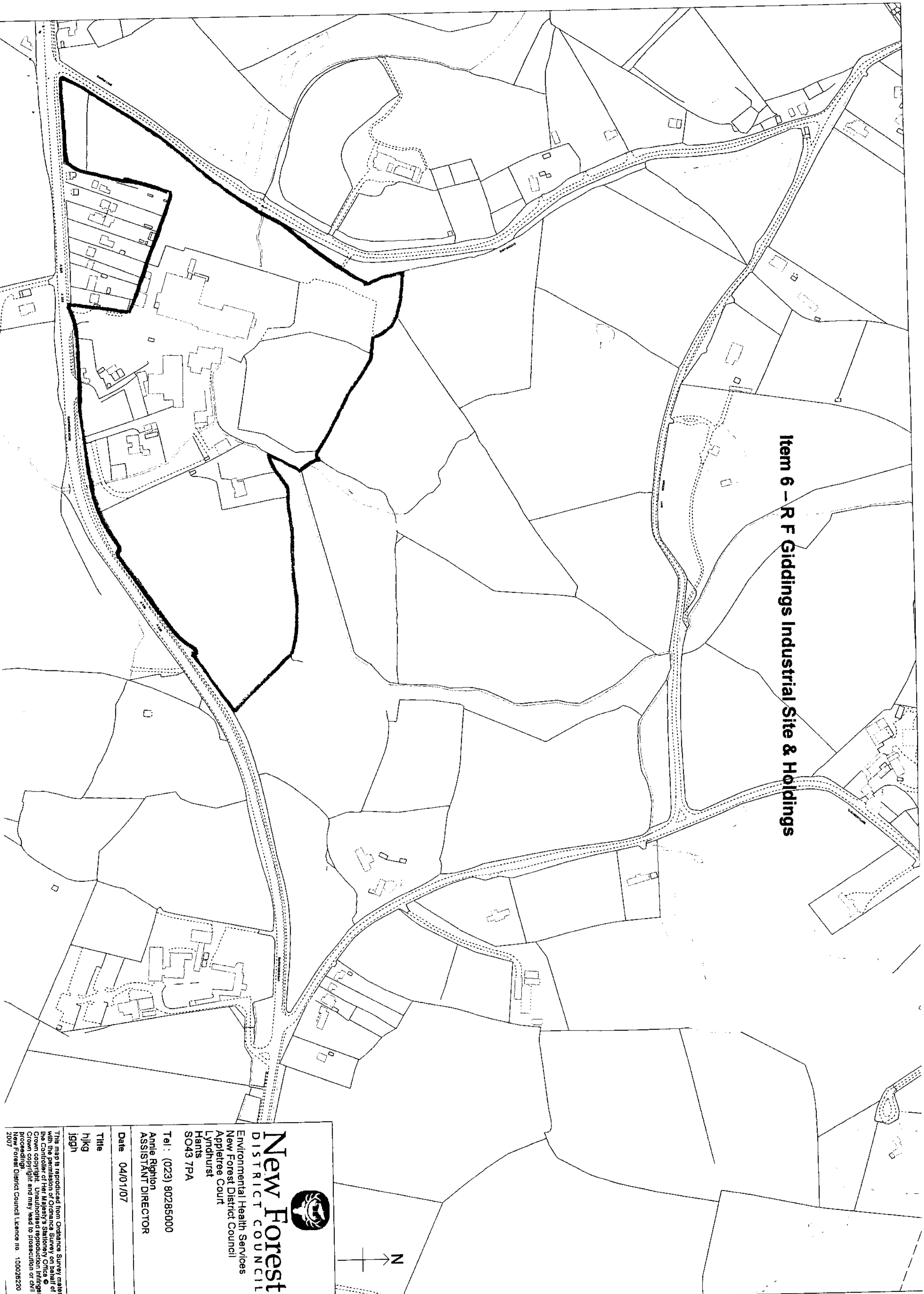
Aerial View 2

R F GIDDINGS, IRON AGE HILL FORT & TATCHBURY HAMPSHIRE PARTNERSHIP NHS TRUST LOCATION



Aerial View 3

Item 6 – R F Giddings Industrial Site & Holdings



New Forest
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Environmental Health Services
New Forest District Council
Apletree Court
Lyndhurst
Hants
SO43 7PA
Tel: (023) 80285000
Annie Riplion
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Date 04/01/07

Title
h/jkg
jggh
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2007

Paula Freeland

From: Paula Freeland
Sent: 20 December 2007 10:37
To: 'Cllr Leslie Puttock'
Subject: RE: proposed conservation area - New Forest North East.

Dear Cllr Puttock

Sorry for the delay in replying. The land of Tatchbury Mount has not been excluded because of possible development. The consultant is basing the boundary on the historic settlement pattern. I have been asked by others too about the inclusion of the ancient monument however and this is something I will be discussing with the consultant.

Regards

Paula

Paula Freeland
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The New Forest National Park Authority's Purposes

Email disclaimer

From: Cllr Leslie Puttock [mailto:Leslie.Puttock@NFDC.gov.uk]
Sent: 14 December 2007 11:58
To: Paula Freeland
Subject: proposed conservation area - New Forest North East.

Paula. Thank you for your letter and outline plan for the above. It will be interesting to learn more from the proposed presentations in January 2008. Meanwhile I am concerned that the area of the Tatchbury Mount Hospital site and considerable former farm land seem to be outside the scope of this area and would ask with tongue in cheek if this is because considerable residential development is planned in the future? or is this not part of your remit.

Regards
Cllr. Les. Puttock.

IMPORTANT - PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

20/12/2007