

TYNEDALE LOCAL AREA COUNCIL

11 December 2018

REVIEW OF THE DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ALLEGED BYWAY OPEN TO ALL TRAFFIC/ RESTRICTED BYWAY NO 28 PARISH OF BAVINGTON

Report of the Executive Director of Local Services
Cabinet Member: Councillor Glen Sanderson, Environment & Local Services

Purpose of report

In this report, the Council is asked to give consideration to all the relevant evidence gathered in support and rebuttal of a proposal to add to the Definitive Map and Statement a byway open to all traffic / restricted byway from the C209 road 550 metres east of Thockrington Farm in a general north-easterly direction in part over the U5012 road to join the U5013 road south-east of Great Bavington Farm.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council agree that:

- there is sufficient evidence to indicate that public vehicular rights have been reasonably alleged to exist over the route G A H;
- ii) the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 would not appear to have extinguished the public's motorized vehicular rights over the route A H;
- iii) the route A H be included in a future Definitive Map Modification Order as a Byway Open to All Traffic;
- iv) the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 would appear to have extinguished the public's motorized vehicular rights over the route G A;

v) the route G - A be included in a future Definitive Map Modification Order as a Restricted Byway.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 By virtue of Section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, the County Council is required to keep the Definitive Map and Statement under continuous review and make modification orders upon the discovery of evidence, which shows that the map and statement need to be modified.
- 1.2 The relevant statutory provisions which apply to adding and upgrading a public right of way on the Definitive Map and Statement based on historical documentary evidence is Section 53(3)(c)(i) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, which requires the County Council (as Surveying Authority) to modify the Definitive Map and Statement following:

"the discovery by the authority of evidence which (when considered with all other relevant evidence available to them) shows:

"that a right of way which is not shown in the map and statement subsists or is reasonably alleged to subsist over land in the area to which the map relates, being a right of way such that the land over which the right subsists is a public path, a restricted byway or, subject to section 54A, a byway open to all traffic;"

1.3 All the relevant statutory provisions and competing rights and interests have been considered in making this report. The recommendation is in accordance with the law and proportionate, having regard to individuals' rights and the public interest.

2.0 PUBLIC EVIDENCE

- 2.1 In August 2017, Anne Lowrie of Longframlington submitted an application to amend the Definitive Map and Statement by adding a byway open to all traffic / restricted byway from a point marked G on the C209 road 550 metres east of Thockrington Farm in a general north-easterly direction in part over the U5012 road for a distance of 2500 metres to a point marked H on the U5013 road south-east of Great Bavington Farm.
- 2.2 The application is supported by historical evidence including Armstrong's Map of 1769, Greenwood's Map of 1828, the Tithe Award of 1841 for Great Bavington township, the Tithe Award of 1848 for Thockrington township, the 1st Edition O.S. 25" plan of 1866 with the accompanying Book of Reference, the 1st Edition O.S. 6" plan of 1866, the 2nd Edition O.S. 6" plan of 1895, the 3rd Edition O.S. 1" plan of 1897, Bartholomew's Cycling Map of 1902, the 3rd Edition O.S. 6" plan of 1924/5 and the Provisional Edition O.S. 2½" plan of 1941.

2.3 The application is also accompanied by the following submission:

The Thockrington Gap

"1. The route is in the parish of Bavington. The eastern section, the majority part of the route, is currently recorded on the List of Streets as the U5012. The western part is not recorded on either the List of Streets or the Definitive Map, even though a public footpath (FP 504/014) from the tarmac road close to Thockrington (E) meets the unrecorded historic line at a wall corner, GR NY 967 791 (D).

At this point there are waymark arrows attached to a fence post pointing to the line of the footpath, even though the public has no recorded right to get to that point!

See extract from the Definitive Map

- "2. The route begins in the village of Great Bavington at GR NY 983803 (A). It consists of a narrow unfenced tarmac road which acts as the access to Newonstead Farm. It then becomes a rough stone track. Further on, where it goes through a gateway at GR NY 971 793, it ceases to have recorded public rights (B). It then continues undefined, in a straight line across rough pasture, meeting the next public road, the C209, at GR NY 963 789 (C), not far from Thockrington village.
- "3. Where the route is defined, it is approximately 5m wide.
- "4. It can be seen on OS OL 43.

See photographs showing the character of the alleged route

Documentary evidence

1769 Armstrong's Map of northumberland

"A road linking the villages of Great Bavington and Thockrington is shown on this map. From the key, it can be seen that it is shown as a 'country road'.

See extract

1828 Greenwood's map of Northumberland

Only the eastern part of the alleged route can be seen on this map even though, from the key, it can be seen that it is shown as a 'cross road', that is one linking two roads of greater importance.

See extract

1841 Tithe Award for Great Bavington township

DT 195 S

"This plan is entitled 'Plan of Great Bavington township in the parish of Kirkwhelpington'. It shows that section of the alleged route that lies in this township. The alleged route is shown shaded brown, as are all the other

public roads leading out of the village. This section of the alleged route coincides with that part which is recorded on the List of Streets today.

See extract

1848 Tithe Award for the Township of Thockrington DT 444 S

"This shows the alleged route as a dashed line labelled 'Road to Great Bavington' linking a road from the south (now the C209) to the township boundary. It is shown in the same manner as the 'Road to Hexham' which is also labelled. The road shown, which is now the C209, links to this 'Road to Hexham'. This suggests that the alleged route provided a direct route from Great Bavington for those wishing to travel to Hexham.

See extract

1866 OS 1st edition, scale 1:2,500, the 25"Sheets LXX/16 & LXXVII/4 OS Book of Reference for Kirknewton Parish and for Thockrington Parish

"These sheets are not available at Woodhorn. Photographs of them have been taken at the British Library in London.

At this scale it can be seen that that part of the alleged route that was in Kirkwhelpington parish, Great Bavington township has the plot number 17. This is described as 'public road' in the Book of Reference for that parish. Once the alleged route passes across the parish boundary (B) into Thockrington parish and township it can be seen to have plot number 41. This is also described as 'public road' in the Book of Reference for that parish.

In addition the whole length of the alleged route is coloured brown, as are all the current public roads in this area in this OS series.

See extracts

1866 OS 1st edition, scale 1:10,560, the 6" Roll 12

"At this scale (6") the complete route can be seen. It has spot heights and bench marks at intervals along it, which is normal practice on public roads. The boundary between the two parishes/townships corresponds with the point where the current U5012 is a dead end (B), at a feature no more significant than a gate between two fields.

See extracts

1895 OS 2nd edition, scale 1:10,560, the 6" Sheets LXIX/SE & LXXVII/NE

Sheet LXIX shows the section from Gt Bavington, past New Onstead Farm and continuing to beyond the point where the U5012 is currently shown to be a dead end at the township/parish boundary.

On sheet LXXVII/NE the alleged route is shown continuing to the next road, which is the C209, which provides access from the B6342 to the hamlet of Thockrington today.

Also shown is a footpath, labelled FP, which leaves the alleged route close to Thockrington, providing a short cut for those travelling to the village on foot from Gt Bavington, a type of path frequently described in books on local history as a 'postman's path'.

This short footpath, recognised in the 19th century, is on the definitive map today as FP 504/014. However it no longer provides the direct link between the two villages as it did then. It comes to a dead end in the middle of a large rough pasture where there is now a gap in the recorded public rights where the 'old road' used to be in Thockrington township.

See extract

1897 OS 1st edition, revised, the 1"

NLS map collection

"On this scale the line of the old road connecting the two villages can be seen very clearly, along with the line of the township boundary.

See extracts

1902 Bartholomew's Cycling Map

NLS map collection

"This popular cycling map was widely used at the start of the 20th century. Although the alleged route is not shown as a recommended route for cyclists to use, the line of the route linking GT Bavington via New Onstead to the road leading to Thockrington is clearly shown to exist.

See extract

1924/25 OS 3rd edition, scale 1:10,560, the 6" sheets LXXV/NW & LXXIV/NE

"The full length of the alleged route is shown, along with the footpath which provided the short cut to Thockrington. By this time the ground crossed by the alleged route was partly in Gt Bavington parish and partly in Thockrington parish. By this time Gt Bavington was no longer a township, it had become a parish in its own right.

The handover map, produced by the Local Highway Board prior to the county council taking responsibility for highways, will have been prepared shortly after this OS edition was published. This was the map from which the List of Streets evolved. The fact that the U5012 is a dead end at the boundary between the two parishes at that time, whereas today the full length of the route is in a single parish (Bavington) can perhaps explain how this anomaly came into existence.

See extracts

1941 OS 'provisional edition', scale 1:25,000, the 2½ NLS map collection

The alleged route and the footpath mentioned above can be clearly seen. There is no distinction between that part of the road which is not recorded on the List of Streets today and that which has recorded public rights. The parish boundary is still on the same alignment as that between the townships in the 19th century.

Conclusion

The evidence above shows that there was a through route between the two small villages of Great Bavington and Thockrington in the past. Today there is a short unrecorded section preventing travel by this route. Please could you investigate the evidence for this route to see if the full route (A-C) should be recorded as part BOAT, part restricted byway, thus recognising its past status as a through road with public rights?"

3. LANDOWNER EVIDENCE

- 3.1 By letter dated 21st June 2018, Victoria Walton, Land Agent at Carter Jonas responded on behalf of their client, with the following comments.
 - i) "Further to your letter of 21st March 2018, please find enclosed a plan showing the extent of my Client's ownership as outlined in blue.
 - "We have taken time to consider this claim and at this stage, we do not believe that we have relevant evidence to submit to the County Council in connection with this investigation. Although at this point, we do wish to register our objection to the claimed right on the basis that the section across my Client's land is wholly unsuitable for vehicles.
 - "We would be pleased to be informed of the results of the County Council's investigation of the evidence and have the opportunity to review this ourselves before the County Council proceeds to make a decision on the application."

4. CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 In March 2018, the County Council carried out a consultation with the Parish Council, known owners and occupiers of the land and the local representatives of the "prescribed and local organisations" listed in the Council's "Code of Practice on Consultation for Public Path Orders".
- 4.2 By email dated 3 May 2018 the Clerk to Bavington Parish Council responded to the consultation with the following comments:
 - "Further to your correspondence dated 21/3/18, relating to Pre-order consultation: Bavington Newonstead, Bavington Parish Council wish to object to the proposals. The roads were not designed for four wheel drive vehicles, the Parish Council have no knowledge of the area being used by vehicles, and believe the ground conditions are too wet for vehicles. The area is used by horses, and the ground suitable for a bridleway only and should be retained as such."
- 4.3 By letter in March 2018 the County Access & Bridleways Officer for the British Horse Society responded to the consultation with the following comments:

"Only part of this route is currently recorded on the List of Streets so perhaps only this section should become a BOAT, with the remainder of the route (western part) which is currently unrecorded on both the LOS and the definitive map becoming a restricted byway. There is good documentary evidence to support the view that this was a through route between Great Bavington and Thockrington in the past."

5. DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

5.1 A search has been made, relating to historical evidence and the following copies are enclosed for consideration.

1769 <u>Armstrong's County Map</u>

There is evidence of a track linking Thockrington and Great Bavington.

1820 <u>Fryer's County Map</u>

There is no evidence of a track over the claimed route.

1828 <u>Greenwood's County Map</u>

There is evidence of a track over the eastern section of the route currently recorded as the U5012 road.

There is no evidence of a track over the claimed route.

1841 <u>Great Bavington Tithe Award (Applicant's Plan)</u>

There is evidence of a track over the whole of the eastern section of the route coloured brown on the tithe plan.

1848 <u>Thockrington Tithe Award (Applicant's Plan)</u>

There is evidence of a track over the whole of the western section of the route annotated as 'Road to Gt Bavington'.

1860 1st Edition O.S. Map: Scale 1:2,500 & Book of Reference (Applicant's Plan)

There is evidence of a track over the entire length of the claimed route.

This section of the claimed route within Kirkwhelpington parish is annotated in the Book of Reference with the number 17 and is identified as 'Public Road'.

This section of the claimed route within Thockrington parish is annotated in the Book of Reference with the number 41 and is identified as 'Public Road'.

1866 <u>1st Edition O.S. Map: Scale 1:10,560</u>

There is evidence of a track over the entire length of the claimed route with Bench Marks and Spot Heights.

1897 <u>2nd Edition O.S. Map: Scale 1:10,560</u>

There is evidence of a track over the entire length of the claimed route with Bench Marks and Spot Heights.

1924 <u>3rd Edition O.S. Map: Scale 1:10,560</u>

There is evidence of a track over the entire length of the claimed route with Bench Marks and Spot Heights.

1932 <u>Bellingham RDC Handover Map</u>

There is clear evidence of a track over the entire length of the claimed route on the Ordnance Survey base with the length of the U5012 road identified as a publicly maintainable highway.

1951 <u>Highways Map</u>

The route of the U5012 road is coloured (in purple) so as to identify it as a publicly maintainable road.

c1950 <u>Definitive Map – original Survey Map</u>

The whole of the claimed route exists on the base map and is coloured brown. Known public roads were generally coloured brown to indicate what the extent of the road network was considered to be

Definitive Map - original Draft Map

There is evidence of a track over the entire length of the claimed route. Existing Public Footpath No 14(4) and Public Bridleway No 15(7) connect to the claimed route.

<u>Definitive Map – original Provisional Map</u>

There is evidence of a track over the entire length of the claimed route. Existing Public Footpath No 14(4) and Public Bridleway No 15(7) connect to the claimed route.

Definitive Map - original 1:10,560 Map

There is evidence of a track over the entire length of the claimed route. Existing Public Footpath No 14 and Public Bridleway No 15 connect to the claimed route

1951 Provisional Edition O.S. Map: Scale 1:10,560

There is evidence of a track over the entire length of the claimed route with Bench Marks and Spot Heights.

1964 <u>Highways Map</u>

The eastern section of the route of is coloured (in purple) so as to identify it as a publicly maintainable road. It is labelled as the U5012.

2006 The Council's 'List of Streets' (2 May 2006)

A publicly maintainable highway is clearly identified over the A - H part of the claimed route but not the A - G part.

5.2 The entry for the U5012 road, in the 1958 County Road Schedule is:

"U5012 West Harle - Great Bavington Road.

From A.696 west of Kirkharle Post Office via West Harle and Great Bavington 3/4 mile past New Ormstead."

The length of the U5012 road is identified as being 3.88 miles.

5.3 The entry for the U5012 road, in the 1964 County Road Schedule is:

"U5012 West Harle - Great Bavington Road.

From A.696 west of Kirkharle Post Office south-westwards via West Harle and Great Bavington to % of a mile past New Onstead."

The length of the U5012 road is identified as being 3.88 miles.

5.4 The entry for the U5012 road, in the 1974 County Road Schedule is:

"U5012 West Harle - Great Bavington Road

From A.696 west of Kirkharle Post Office (NZ 003838) southwestwards via West Harle and Great Bavington to $\frac{3}{8}$ of a mile past New Onstead. (NY 972794)."

The length of the U5012 road is identified as being 3.88 miles.

6. SITE INVESTIGATION

6.1 From the U5013 immediately south-east of Great Bavington Farm the path follows the metalled road currently recorded as the U5012 in a south-westerly direction crossing a cattle grid and continuing to a field gate south of Newonstead Farm. The path then continues southerly as a grass/stone surfaced track to another field gate to join Public Bridleway No 17, The path then continues over the U5012 road in a south-westerly direction crossing an electric fence to another field gate. The path then continues south-westerly as a headland path with no recorded status to link with existing Public Footpath No 14. The path then becomes less defined crossing a pasture field to a field gate onto the C209 road south of a small plantation.

7. COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT REPORT

7.1 In November 2018, a draft copy of the report was circulated to the applicant and known owners / occupiers of the land who responded to the consultation.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 Section 53(3)(c)(i) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, requires the County Council to modify the Definitive Map when evidence is discovered which, when considered with all other relevant evidence available to them shows:

that a right of way which is not shown in the map and statement subsists or is reasonably alleged to subsist over land in the area to which the map relates, being a right of way such that the land over which the right subsists is a public path, a restricted byway or, subject to section 54A, a byway open to all traffic; or

- When considering an application or proposal for a modification order, Section 32 of the Highways Act, 1980 provides for "any map, plan or history of the locality or other relevant document" to be tendered in evidence and such weight to be given to it as considered justified by the circumstances, including the antiquity of the tendered document, the status of the person by whom and the purpose for which it was made or compiled, and the custody in which it has been kept and from which it is produced.
- 8.3 The eastern section of the alleged route is is identified on the County Council's List of Streets as being the U5012 road. The route has been consistently identified on Ordnance Survey maps since 1860, and is also shown on Armstrong's Map of 1769 and Greenwood's County Map of 1828 and Tithe Map..
- 8.4 The County Council accepts that, given the way the regulations were written with regard to the way highway authorities could include publicly maintainable highways in the List of Streets, there was no impediment to public bridleways and public footpaths also being included. That is not to say that any bridleways or footpaths were so shown just that they could be. It must,

therefore, be entirely proper to consider each UCR on a case by case basis, but that does not mean that we should begin with the assumption that each UCR is no more than a public footpath unless higher rights can be proven by other means. In Northumberland there is no evidence to suggest that public footpaths and public bridleways were deliberately shown on the List of Streets (the only obvious exception to this rule relates to the short metalled footpaths within urban areas). The fact that a route is shown on the List of Streets must, therefore, be evidence of some weight that public vehicular rights exist.

- 8.5 Letters from DEFRA, dated 2003 and November 2006, and Rights of Way Circular 1/09 set out the approach Inspectors and order making authorities should take in determining the status of routes included on the List of Streets. In summary, the guidance states that the inclusion of a route on the List of Streets is not a record of what legal rights exist over that highway but may provide evidence of vehicular rights. However, this must be considered with all other relevant evidence in order to determine the nature and extent of those rights. Highway Authorities are recommended to examine the history of such routes and the rights that may exist over them on a case by case basis in order to determine their status.
- 8.6 It is not known on what basis this route was added to List of Streets. It is possible that the route is no more than a public bridleway or even a public footpath, included by virtue of long-standing, unchallenged use by these classes of user. Given that the route would appear to have been in existence for over 200 years and is recorded on the List of Streets it would seem reasonable, when applying the relatively low level test that is required at this stage, to conclude that public vehicular rights have been reasonably alleged to exist.
- 8.7 In the absence of evidence that procedures to extinguish vehicular rights were carried out, any rights which previously existed are presumed still to exist. In law, the maxim is 'once a highway, always a highway'.
- 8.8 The route of the U5012 road (points A H) is surfaced for at least half of its length and although it is used in part, as the access track to Newonstead Farm it is likely that the route is one which is used by the general public mainly for the purposes for which footpaths and bridleways are so used; thereby satisfying the criteria for being recorded as a byway open to all traffic.
- 8.9 The County Maps of Armstrong and Greenwood appear to depict a track over all or part of the claimed route. If the purpose of the maps was to depict commercial travel routes throughout the County then it is reasonable to assume that the route carried higher rights than public footpath.
- 8.10 All of the Ordnance Survey plans from the 1st Edition map c1860 to the plan in 1951 depict a track over the claimed route and it is noted that the route is annotated with bench marks and spot heights, which would normally only be found on public highways.

- 8.11 The Great Bavington and Thockrington Tithe Awards combined would suggest that there was a track over the entire length of the claimed route and the fact that the route is annotated as 'road to Great Bavington' would suggest that the whole of the route was regarded as a public carriage road.
- 8.12 The 'Book of Reference' accompanying the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey plan identifies the whole of the claimed route as a 'Public Road' suggesting that the route carried full vehicular rights.
- 8.13 Although only the eastern section of the route is recorded on the 'list of streets' the historical evidence would suggest that the whole of the route has been dedicated as a public highway. The fact that on the 'draft' and 'provisional' definitive maps Public Footpath No 14 joins the western section of the route that is not recorded on the current 'list of streets' would suggest that this section was also considered to carry full public vehicular rights. Members must be satisfied that it is reasonable that the public use of the route would have been more than just pedestrians and horses and whether byway open to all traffic/restricted byway rights have been reasonably alleged to exist over the route. At this stage members are looking at the 'low level' reasonably alleged test and do not need to be satisfied, on the balance of probability, that byway rights exist over the route.
- 8.14 In the light of the evidence submitted it appears that the historical evidence is sufficient to demonstrate that a public vehicular right of way has been reasonably alleged to exist over the route.
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act 2006) 8.15 had a major impact upon the recording of byways open to all traffic based upon historical documentary evidence. Under section 67 of the Act, any existing, but unrecorded, public rights of way for mechanically propelled vehicles were extinguished unless one of the 'saving' provisions applied. In brief, these saving provisions were: (a) if the main lawful public use between 2001 and 2006 was with motor vehicles; (b) if the route was on the List of Streets (on 2 May 2006) and not also on the Definitive Map as something less than a byway open to all traffic; (c) the route was legally created expressly for motor vehicular use; (d) the route was a road deliberately constructed for public motor vehicular use; or (e) the vehicular highway came about as a result of unchallenged motor vehicular use before December 1930. Saving provision (b) would apply to the A - H section of the claimed route. For the G - A section however, none of the above saving provisions apply therefore, if the track were to be recorded as a restricted byway, it would be an offence for any member of the public to use the route with a mechanically propelled vehicle without the landowner's permission.
- 8.16 The representation of a path or track on an Ordnance Survey map is not conclusive evidence that it is a public right of way. It is only indicative of its physical existence at the time of the survey.

8.17 Advice from the Planning Inspectorate in their 'consistency guidelines' states that it is important to have the correct width, where known, recorded in the definitive statement. It is considered appropriate therefore, to record the route with a default minimum width of 5 metres which also reflects the current physical characteristics of the path.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 In the light of the evidence submitted it appears that public vehicular rights have been reasonably alleged to exist over the route.
- 9.2 The route A H be included in a future Definitive Map Modification order as a byway open to all traffic.
- 9.3 The route G A be included in a future Definitive Map Modification order as a restricted byway.

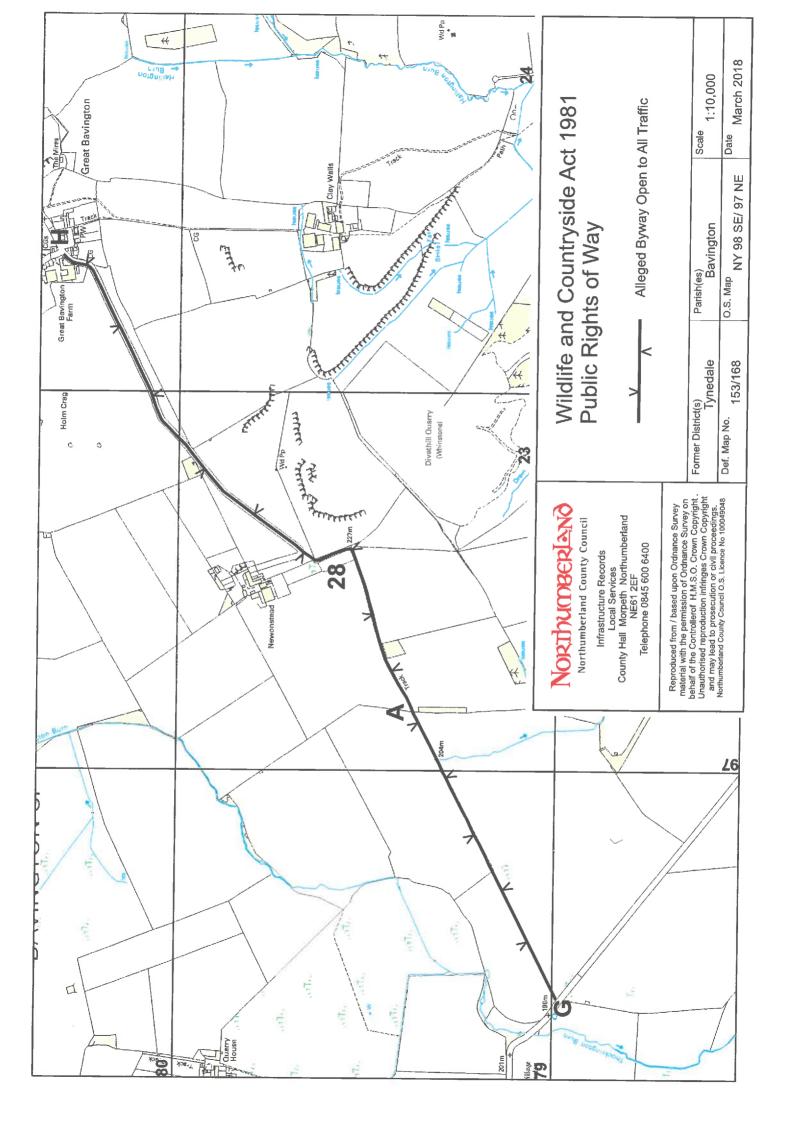
BACKGROUND PAPERS

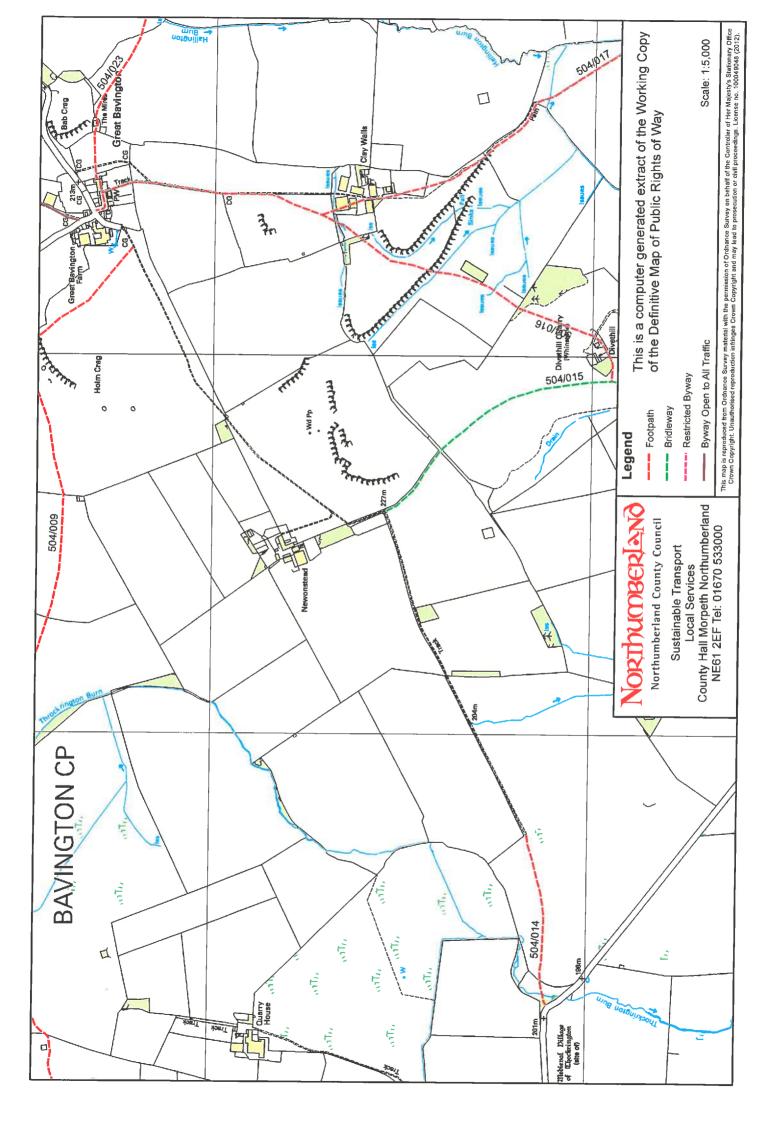
Local Services Group File E/4/28z

Report Author John McErlane – Definitive Map Officer

(01670) 624136

John.McErlane@northumberland.gov.uk





PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981, PART III DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND

APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION ORDER

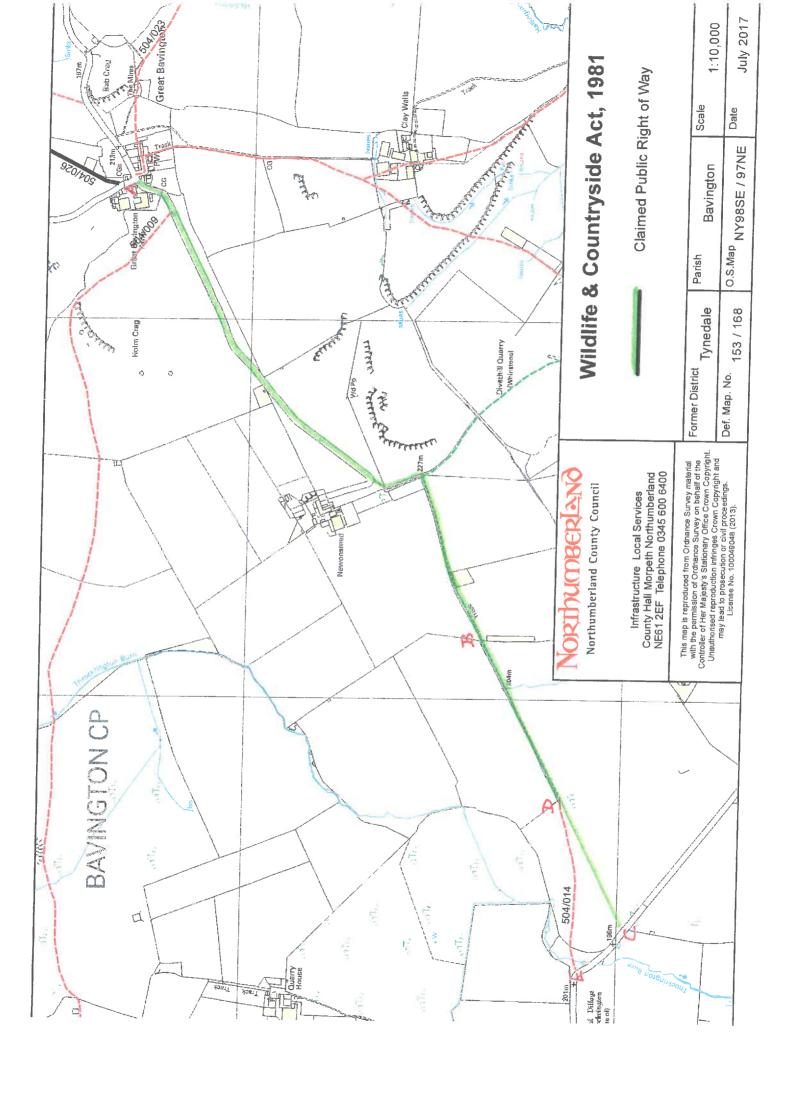
For	mer Borough/District	TYNED	ALE		***************************************
Pari	ish BAVIN	Q TON		Rights of Way No	••••••
То:	Asset & Infrastructure Northumberland Cour County Hall Morpeth Northumberland NE61 2EF			(on Definitive Map)	
I/We	ANNE	Lowr	ıE		(Name)
of	THE O	LD VICAR	AGE, LONG	GRAMLINGTON,	(Address)
hereb and S		nder Section 53 (2	2) of the Wildlife and Co	ountryside Act 1981, modifying the De	
1.	Adding the (footpa	th) (bridleway) (re	estricted byway) (byway	open to all traffic) (Delete whichever	is inapplicable)
from				2082	
to				3.789	
2.	(Upgrading) (down	grading) to a (foot		cted byway) (byway open to all traffic) (Delete whichever is in	the (footpath)
from	***************************************				************
to		•••••••••••			***************************************
3.	Deleting the (footpa	th) (bridleway) (re	estricted byway) (byway	open to all traffic) (Delete whichever	is inapplicable)
from	••••••				***************************************
to		/*************************************	•		***************************************
4.	(Varying) (adding to all traffic)) the particulars re	elating to the (footpath) (bridleway)) (restricted byway) (byway (Delete whichever is ina	open to pplicable)
from	••••••	***************************************			*****************
to		14			*******
by prov as show		***************************************			
I/We at this app	tach copies of the follo	wing documentary	evidence (including sta	tements of witness) set out overleaf in	support of
Dated	14/8/17		Signed U	a Larry	***********
NOTE:	This application must	t be accompanied be han 2½" to 1 mile,	by a map showing the rig	ght(s) of way applied for. Legally such the scale at which the Definitive Map is	

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981, PART III DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION ORDER

Forme	Borough/District TYME	DALE	
Parish	& BAVING TO	Н	*********
То:	Asset & Infrastructure Manager Local Services Group Northumberland County Council County Hall Morpeth NE61 2EF		
I/We	ANNE LOWR	I E	(Name)
of	THE OLD VICARA	GE, LONGFRAMLINGTON,	(Address)
	MORPETH, NE	65 8AQ	
hereby	certify that the requirements of Para d with, and each of the following lan	graph 2 of Schedule 14 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and occupiers affected by the claim have been notified.	have been
Name		Address	
MT	R. Hayward	Newsonstead Farm, C+ Baving	Dan
Mr.	P. Walton	MesocastleupenTyre, NE19 Thockrugton Farm, Colu	QBT ell
**********		Hexham, NEHS HDH	*************

************			•••••
***************************************			••••••
		×	
Dated!	4/8/17	Signed L. a. Loruni	



The Thockrington gap

The application route

- 1. The route is in the parish of Bavington. The eastern section, the major part of the route, is currently recorded on the List of Streets as the U 5012. The western part is not recorded on either the List of Streets or the Definitive Map, even though a public footpath (FP 504/014) from the tarmac road close to Thockrington (E) meets the unrecorded historic line at a wall corner, GR NY 967 791 (D). At this point there are waymark arrows attached to a fence post pointing to the line of the footpath, even though the public has no recorded right to get to that point! See extract from the definitive map
- 2. The route begins in the village of Great Bavington at GR NY 983 803 (A). It consists of a narrow unfenced tarmac road which acts as the access to Newonstead Farm. It then becomes a rough stone track. Further on, where it goes through a gateway at GR NY971 793, it ceases to have recorded public rights (B). It then continues undefined, in a straight line across rough pasture, meeting the next public road, the C 209, at GR NY 963 789 (C), not far from Thockrington village.
- 3. Where the route is defined, it is approximately 5m wide.
- 4. It can be seen on OS OL 43.

 See photographs showing the character of the alleged route

Documentary evidence

1. 1769 Armstrong's Map of Northumberland

A road linking the villages of Great Bavington and Thockrington is shown on this map. From the key it can be seen that it is shown as a 'country road'.

See extract

2. 1828 Greenwood's Map of Northumberland

Only the eastern part of the alleged route can be seen on this map even though, from the key, it can be seen that it is shown as a 'cross road', that is one linking two roads of greater importance.

See extract

3. 1841 Tithe award for Great Bavington township

DT 195 S

This plan is entitled 'Plan of Great Bavington township in the parish of Kirkwhelpington'. It shows that section of the alleged route that lies in this township. The alleged route is shown shaded in brown, as are all the other public roads leading

out of the village. This section of the alleged route coincides with that part which is recorded on the List of Streets today.

See extract

4. 1848 Tithe award for the Township of Thockrington

DT 444 S

This shows the alleged route as a dashed line labelled 'Road to Gt Bavington' linking a road from the south (now the C 209) to the township boundary. It is shown in the same manner as the 'Road to Hexham' which is also labelled. The road shown, which is now the C 209, links to this 'Road to Hexham'. This suggests that the alleged route provided a direct route from Great Bavington for those wishing to travel to Hexham. See extract

5. 1866 OS 1st edition, scale 1:2,500, the 25" Sheets LXX/16 & LXXVII/4 OS Book of Reference for Kirkwhelpington Parish and for Thockrington Parish

These sheets are not available at Woodhorn. Photographs of them have been taken at the British Library in London.

At this scale it can be seen that that part of the alleged route that was in Kirkwhelpington parish, Great Bavington township has the plot number 17. This is described as 'public road' in the Book of Reference for that parish.

Once the alleged route passes across the parish boundary (B) into Thockrington parish and township it can be seen to have plot number 41. This is also described as 'public road' in the Book of Reference for that parish.

In addition the whole length of the alleged route is coloured brown, as are all the current public roads in this area in this OS series.

See extracts

6. 1866 OS 1st edition, scale 1:10,560, the 6"

Roll 12

At this scale (6") the complete route can be seen. It has spot heights and bench marks at intervals along it, which is normal practice on public roads.

The boundary between the two parishes/townships corresponds with the point where the current U 5012 is a dead end (B), at a feature no more significant than a gate between two fields.

See extract

7. **1895** OS 2nd edition, scale 1:10,560, the 6"

Sheets LXIX/SE & LXXVII/NE

Sheet LXIX/SE shows the section from Gt Bavington, past New Onstead Farm and continuing to beyond the point where the U5012 is currently shown to be a dead end at the township/parish boundary.

On sheet LXXVII/NE the alleged route is shown continuing to the next road, which is the C 209, which provides access from the B6342 to the hamlet of Thockrington today.

Also shown is a footpath, labelled FP, which leaves the alleged route close to Thockrington, providing a short cut for those travelling to the village on foot from Gt Bavington, a type of path frequently described in books on local history as a 'postman's path'.

This short footpath, recognised in the 19th century, is on the definitive map today as FP 504/014. However it no longer provides the direct link between the two villages as it did then. It comes to a dead end in the middle of a large rough pasture where there is now a gap in the recorded public rights where the 'old road' used to be in Thockrington township.

See extracts

8. 1897 OS 1st edition revised, the 1"

NLS map collection

On this scale the line of the old road connecting the two villages can be seen very clearly, along with the line of the township boundary.

See extract

9. 1902 Bartholomew's Cycling Map

NLS map collection

This popular cycling map was widely used at the start of the 20th century. Although the alleged route is not shown as a recommended route for cyclists to use, the line of the route linking Gt Bavington via New Onstead to the road leading to Throckrington is clearly shown to exist.

See extract

10. 1924/25 OS 3rd edition, scale 1:10,560, the 6"

sheets LXXV/NW & LXXIV/NE

The full length of the alleged route is shown, along with the footpath which provided the short cut to Thockrington. By this time the ground crossed by the alleged route was partly in Gt Bavington parish and partly in Thockrington parish. By this time Gt Bavington was no longer a township, it had become a parish in its own right

The handover map, produced by the Local Highway Board prior to the county council taking responsibility for highways, will have been prepared shortly after this OS edition was published. This was the map from which the List of Streets evolved. The fact that the U5012 is a dead end at the boundary between the two parishes at that time, whereas today the full length of the route is in a single parish (Bavington) can perhaps explain how this anomaly came into existence.

See extract

11. 1941 OS 'provisional edition', scale 1:25,000, the 2 ½" NLS map collection

The alleged route and the footpath mentioned above can be clearly seen. There is no distinction between that part of the road which is not recorded on the List of Streets today and that which has recorded public rights. The parish boundary is still on the same alignment as that between the townships in the 19th century.

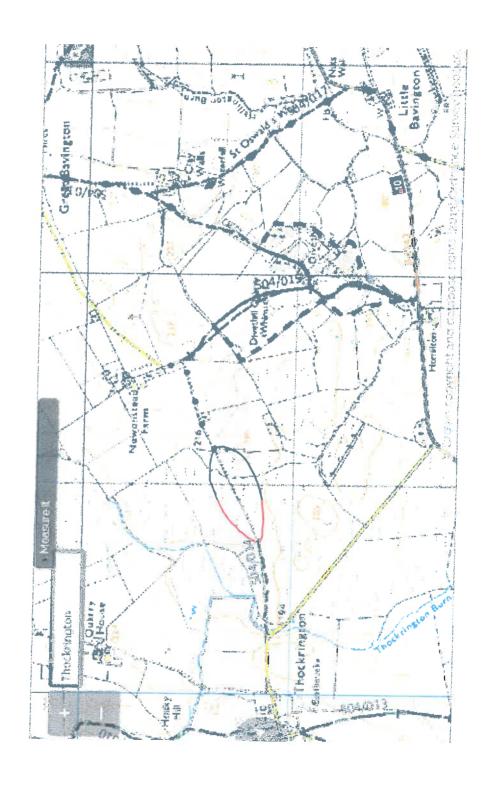
Conclusion

The evidence above shows that there was a through route between the two small villages of Great Bavington and Thockrington in the past. Today there is a short unrecorded section preventing travel by this route. Please could you investigate the evidence for this route to see if the full route (A-C) should be recorded as part BOAT, part restricted byway, thus recognising its past status as a through road with public rights?

Sent in to NCC August 2017

Extract from the Definitive Map for Northumberland

This illustrates the gap in public rights which exists today, whose origin has been explained by the documentary evidence presented in the application.





The point at which the U 5012 is a dead end

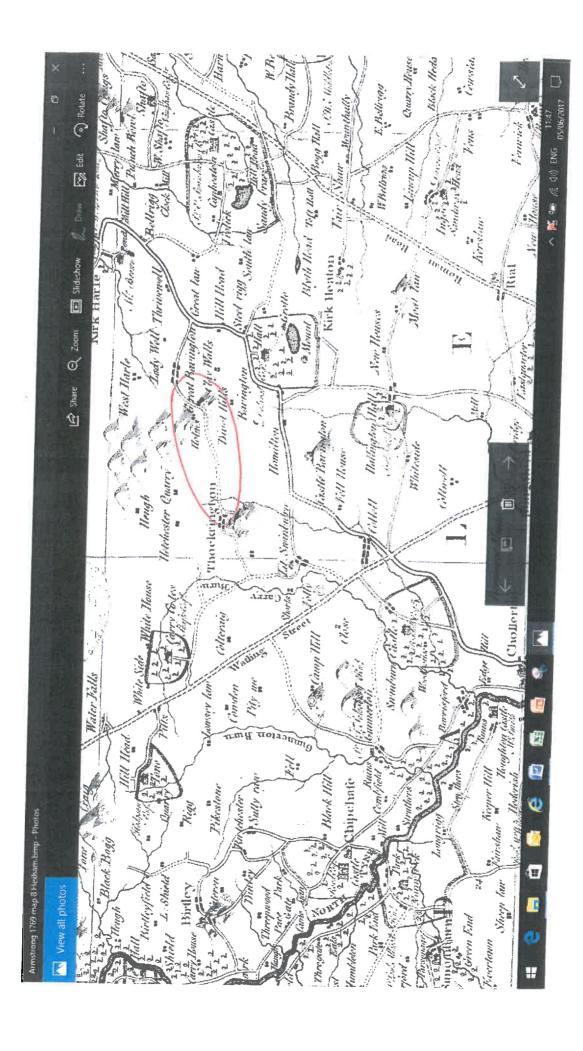


The unrecorded section



The point at which the footpath leaves the unrecorded section

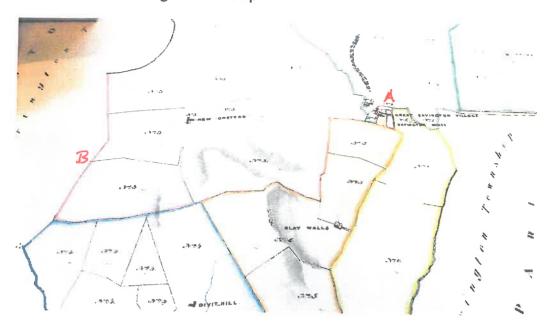




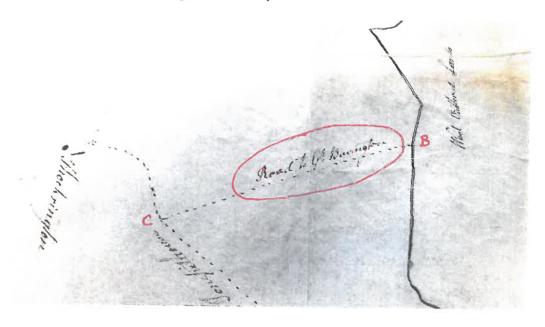
1769 Armstrong's map of Northumberland

1828 Greenwood's map of Northumberland

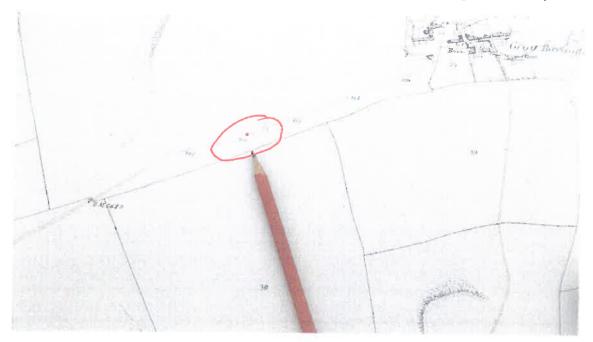
1841 Tithe award for Bavington township

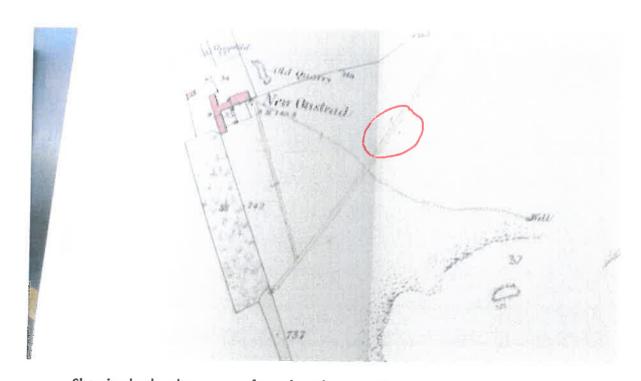


1848 Tithe award for Thockrington township



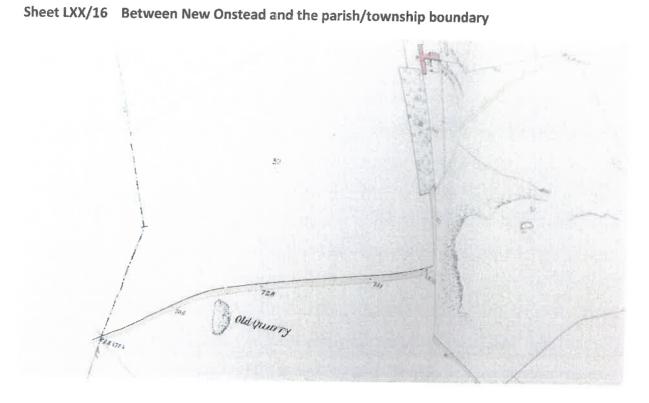
Sheet LXX/16 Showing plot 17 in Kirkwhelpington parish, Great Bavington township



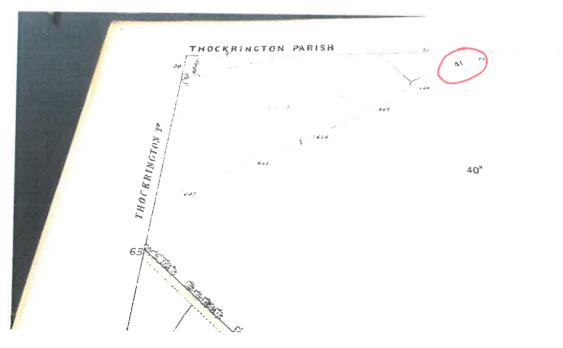


Showing broken brace on unfenced section near New Onstead (still plot 17)

OS 1st ed 25" continued



Sheet LXXVII/4 Showing the continuation of the alleged route as plot 41 in Thockrington parish/township



PARISH OF THOCKRINGTON.

		5.6		-			200	~				7						EVI		10%		12		TO S	-	•							E
	er.			ban]			dens	989		ສຳ						-5			den.							'TO	gu	ckri	Сро	,			
Description,	Brought forward. Houses, yards,	Garden.	Pasture, &c.	Pasture, Longbank		Fasture.	Houses, yards, gardens,	Pasture, &c.	Pasture, &c.	Rough pasture, &c. Pasture, &c.	Pasture, &c.	Fasture, &c.	Fasture, &c. Arable.	Public road	Pasture, &c. Public road.	Rough pasture, &c.	Rough pasture, &c.	Wood,	Rough pastare & garden.	O.	Pond. Church (ner. cm.	ravey	Pasture, &c. Honse	House,	House, &c.	Houses, yards, &c.	Houses, yard, and	garden.		Houses, yard, and	Grass, &c.	Pond. House, gardens,	&c. Carried forward.
Ares in Acres.	977-800	120.542	27.571	67-667	36.576	1.852	119	16.231	86.078	180.770	57.806	12-115	15.726	1.339	79-696 -948	78.627	90.235	2.870	86-514	4.782	-695		3.676	-009	710	887	288	.568		171.		.102	1935-498
No on Plan	2]	61 6	3 64	Se .	26	3 29	657	30	88	8 %	8 %	25.00	8 8	9 5	40g 41	4 3	44	44.55 65.65	47	48	50		25	00	45 4	56	57	90	69	99	60a	60b 61	-
Description	Brought forward. Water (Drakes Pool). Pasture, &c.	Pasture, &c. Public road.	Rough pasture.			RECAPITULATION.	Land.	Public roads.		Total Area of the Tp.					THOCKRINGTON.	Rough pasture, &c.		Rough pasture, &c.	Public road.	Pasture, &c. (old lead	Pasture.	Houses, yards, & gar-	Pasture, &c.	Pasture.	&c. (North Hong)	Houses, garden, &c.	(Cragend).		House & garden.	Rough pasture, &c.		Pasture.	Carried forward.
Атев т	669·022 -340 43·519	22-672 1-813	287.170	1024-536		RECAPI	959-915	4.271	1004.200	000.7701					TOWNSHIP OF	_	1.968		_	1.222		17.1		119		102	670.	-	122.		111-707 H		977-800
No. on Plan	22	82 82 44	25		_					\				WOTON.	TOMP	c	9 01	4	-Co (4	0	r- 0	•	a.	1	1	12	18	4.1	16	17	8 61	20	

•

PARISH OF THOCKRINGTON.

	ا مِنْ ا	en, len,		;	l e		a (a) (a)	
Desarption.	Brought forward. Pasture. Pasture, &c. Wood. Wood. Pasture, &c. Houses, yards, wood,	—part of). Houses, gardens, &c. (Liftle Bayington—part of). Public road. Houses, yard, garden, &c. (Liftle Ravington)	——part of). Ornsmental ground. Wood. Pond. Garden, &c. Pasture. Honses. wards.	agton Hall to.	Wood, &c. Pasture, &c. Pasture. Wood, &c. Pasture. Wood, &c. Pasture, &c. Rasture, &c.	fagg). Pasture. Pasture. Pasture. Wood. Wood. Pasture. Wood. Pasture.	Houses, yards, gardens, Gec. (Cocklaw Walls) Pasture. Wood. Pasture, &c. Pasture, &c. Pasture, &c. Pasture, d. Pasture, d. Pasture, Pasture, Pasture, O.).	Carried forward.
Ares in Aores.	544.424 223.852 37.629 149 633 10.789	744 13·862 474	9.749 .095 .878 .871 .239 1.092	1.299 1.299	2.210 11.465 117 805 19.045	4.166 84.310 2.211 1.021 19.751 1.178 8.371 2.70	604 -604 -239 -23-910 -69-365 1-798 27-462	892.013
No. on Plan.	17 18 19 20 21 22	22 23	28 28 28 31 31	82 82 82 62 62 64	35 37 38 39 40	41 42 44 45 46 46 47 48	50 52 53 54 56 56	<u> </u>
Description.	Brought forward. Pasture & tree. Pasture, &c. Pasture, &c. Pratic road. Public road. Pasture, &c. Pasture, &c. Rasture, &c. Rasture, &c. Milestone Plantation	(part of). Pashire, &c. Arable, &c. Pashure, &c. Pathir road.	RECAPITULATION. 182-896 Land. 17.707 Public roads. 7649 Water.	Total Area of the Tp. of Thockrington.	LITTLE BAVINGTON.	Public road. Pasture, well, &c. Pasture, &c. Pasture, &c. Pasture. Pasture. Pasture. Pasture.	Houses, yards, garden, &c. (Hillhead). Wood. Pashure, &c. Pashure, &c. Pasture, &c. Pasture, &c. Pasture, &c. Pusture, &c. Pusture, &c.	Carried forward.
Arsa in Acres,	1935-498 1-692 39-600 24-927 5-214 162-569 37-878 191	99-526 46-321 95-070 2-666 2451-152	RECAPT 2482.896 17.707	2451-152	OF	1.657 108.830 31.058 63.982 23.775 16.481 84.365 94.365	1.268 44.679 38.261 34.272 6.241 58.163 26.995	544.424
No. on Plan	66 66 67 67 68 68 68 68 68 68 68 68 68 68 68 68 68	69 71 72			TP.	100 4 50 50 50 00	112 113 114 115 116	

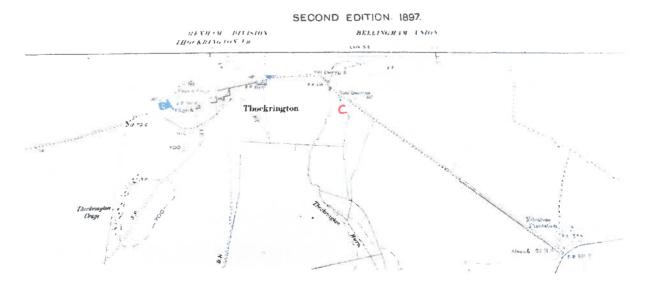
3

1866 OS $1^{\rm st}$ edition, scale 1:10,560 (the 6")

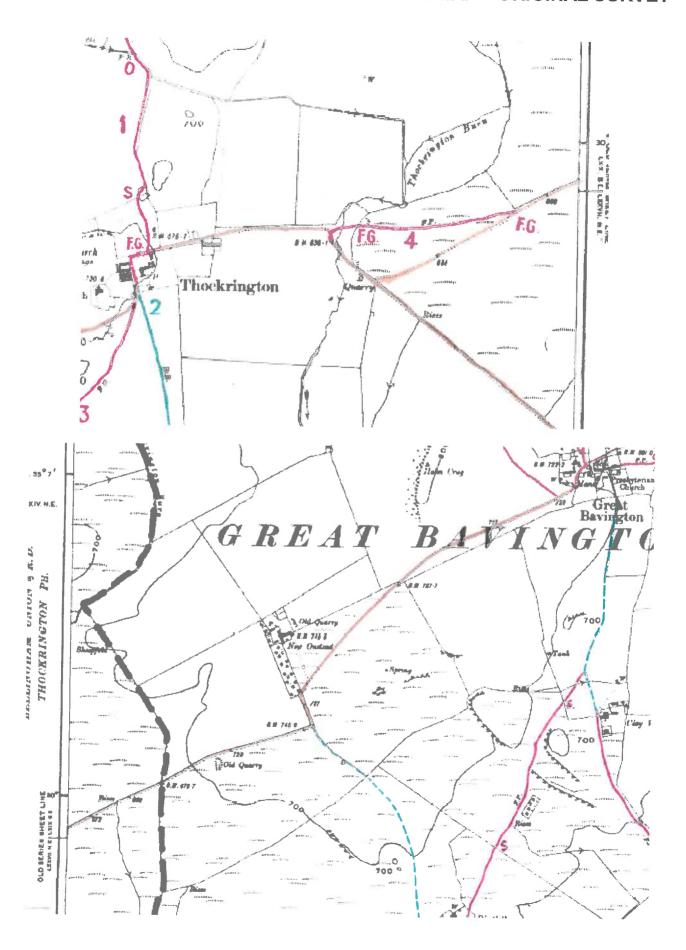
1897 OS 2nd ed. scale 1:10,560

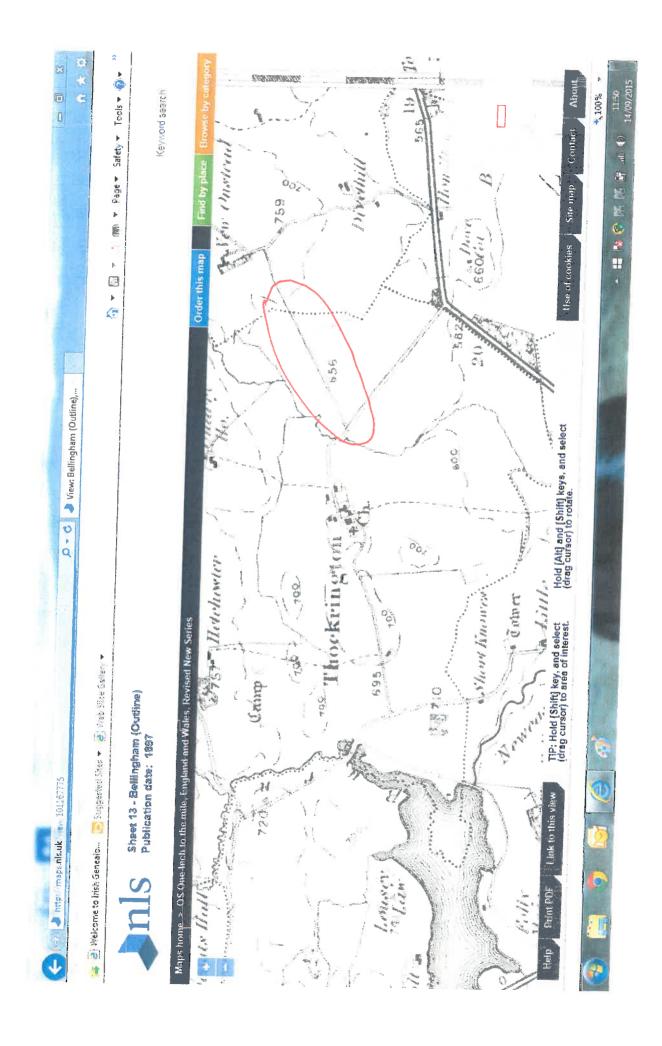


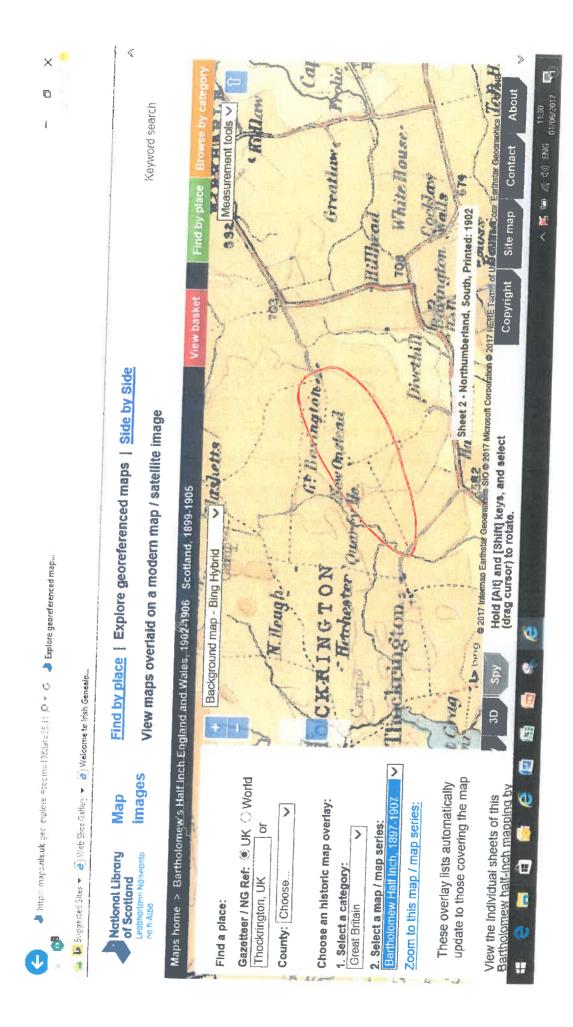


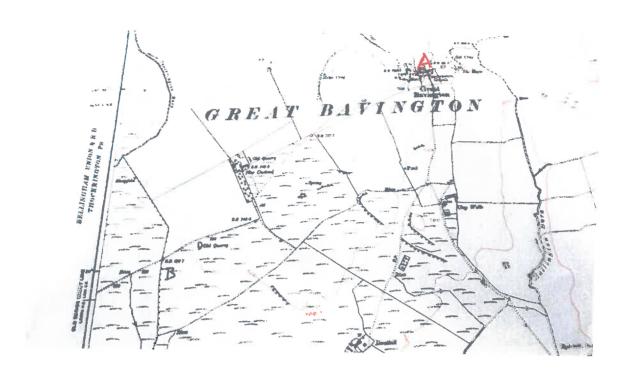


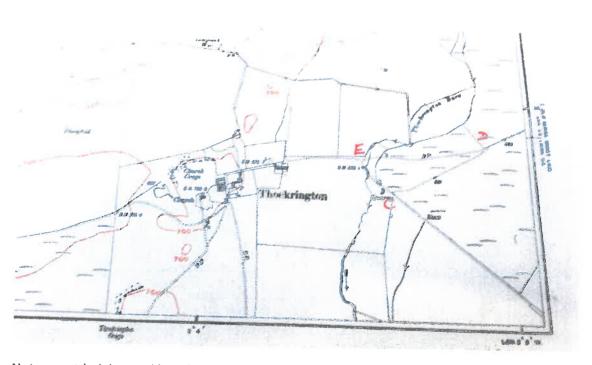
DEFINITIVE MAP – ORIGINAL SURVEY







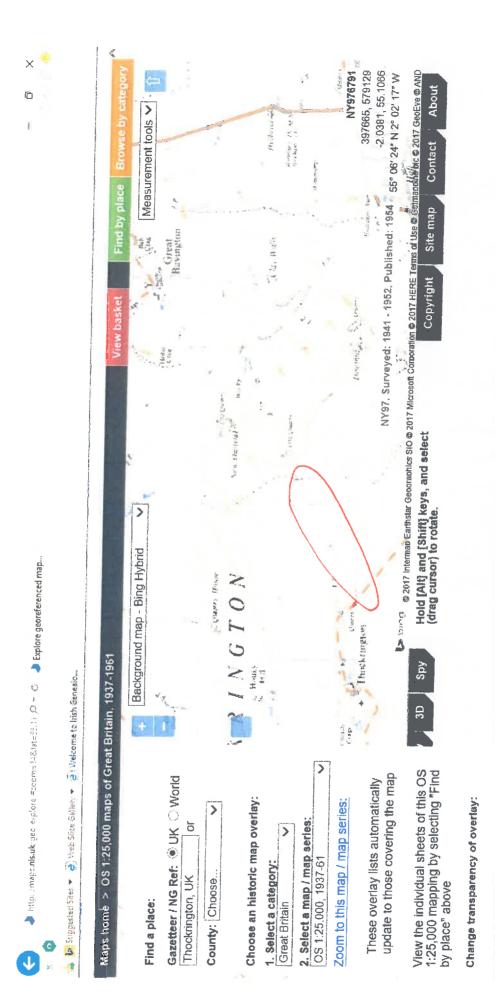




Note: spot heights and bench marks are shown along the alleged route (old road) but not along the footpath which creates a short cut for walkers (postmen).

1941 OS 'provisional edition'scale 1:25,000 (2 % ")

[Source: National Library of Scotland map collection]



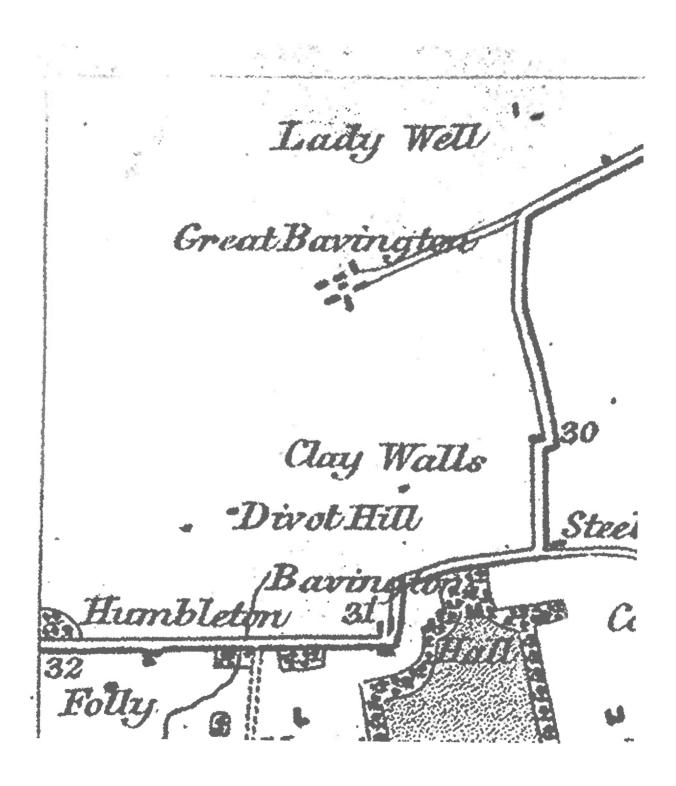
U

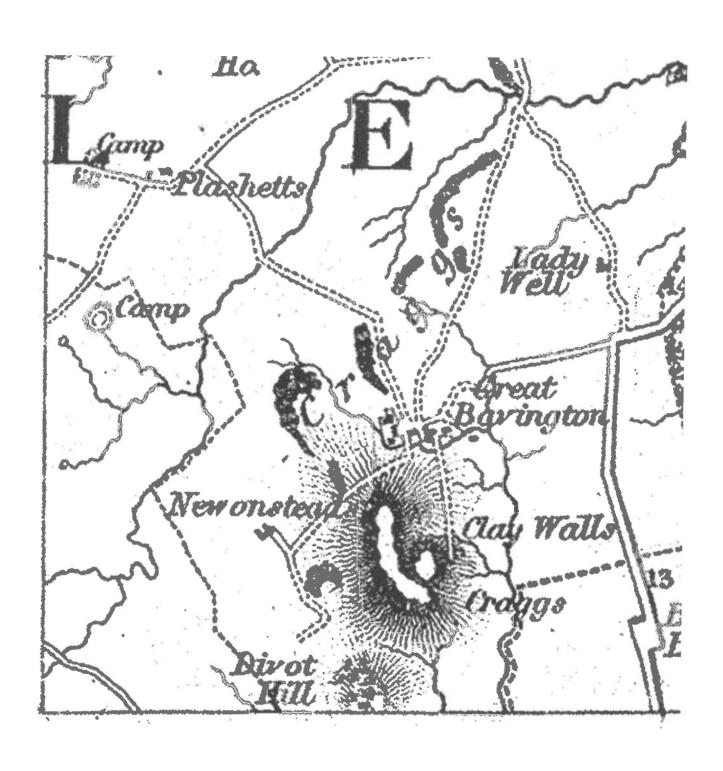
Q

T.

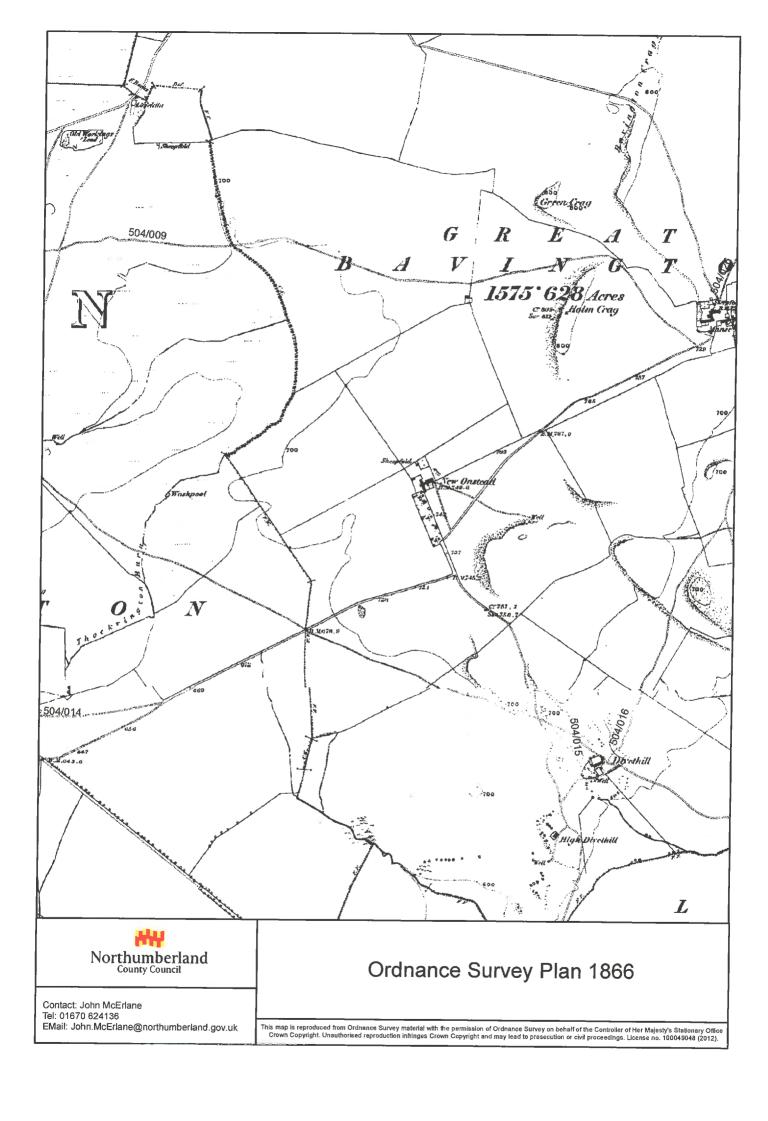
I

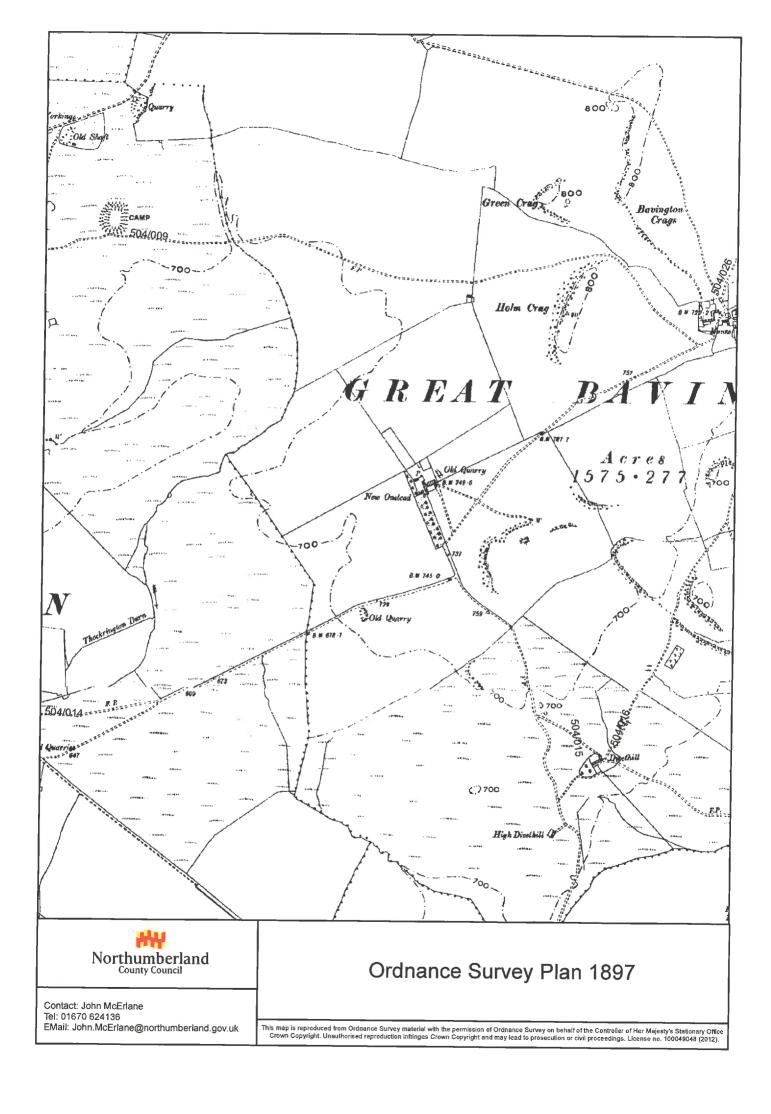


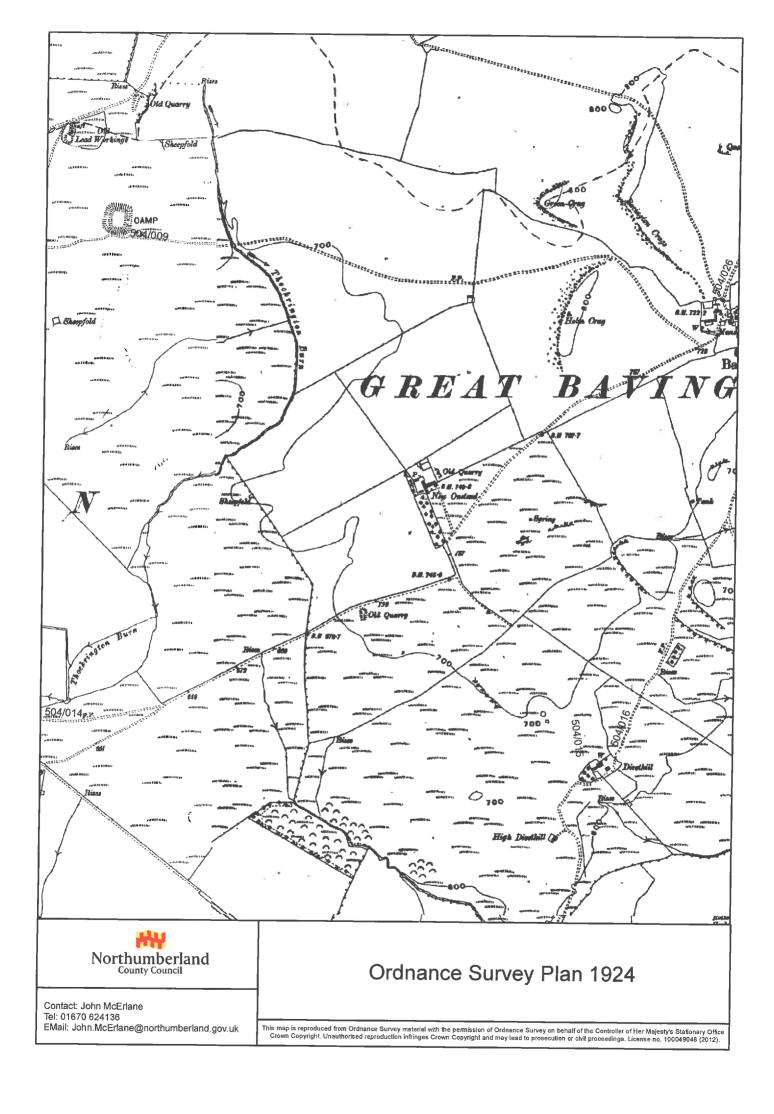




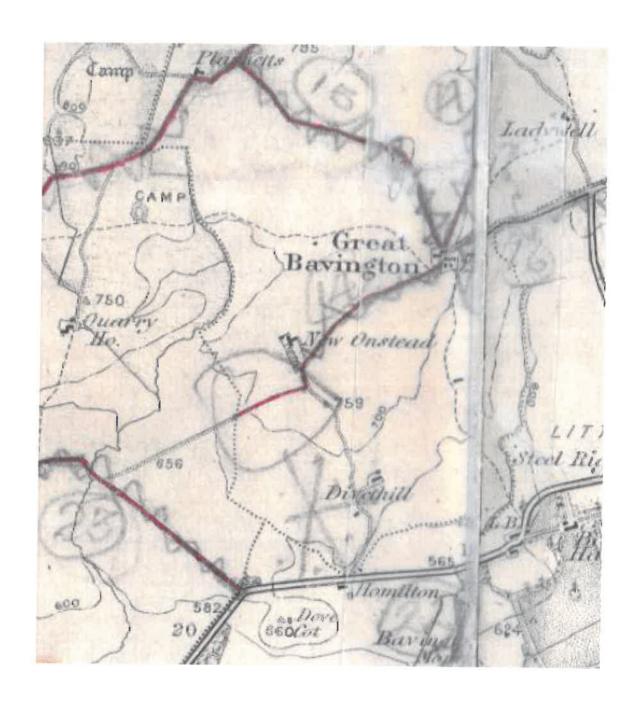


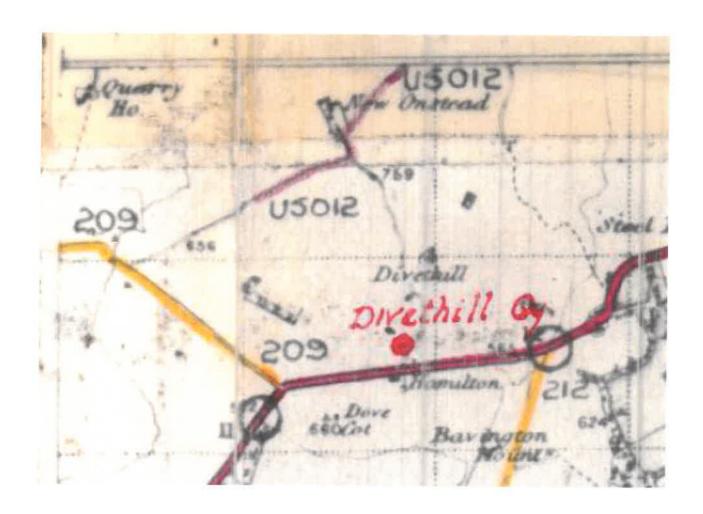




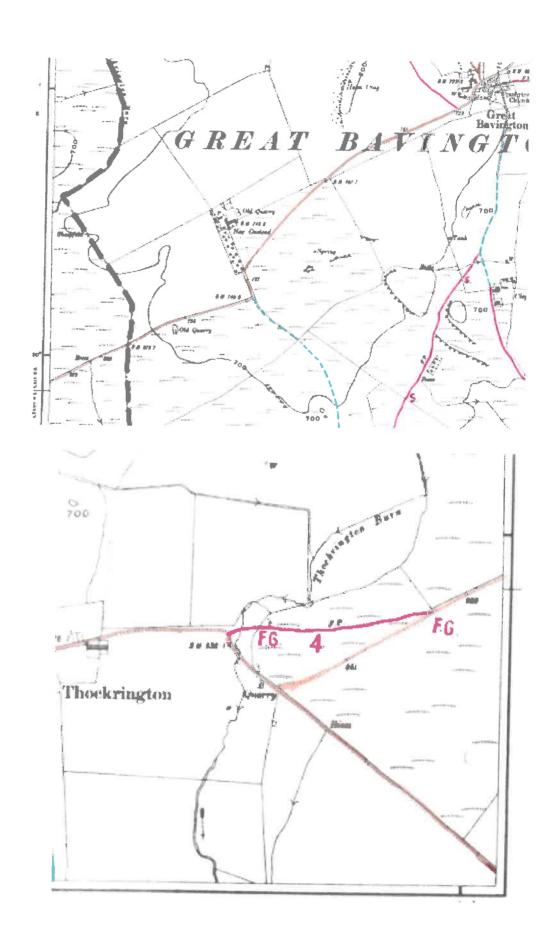


HANDOVER MAP FOR BELLINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT 1932

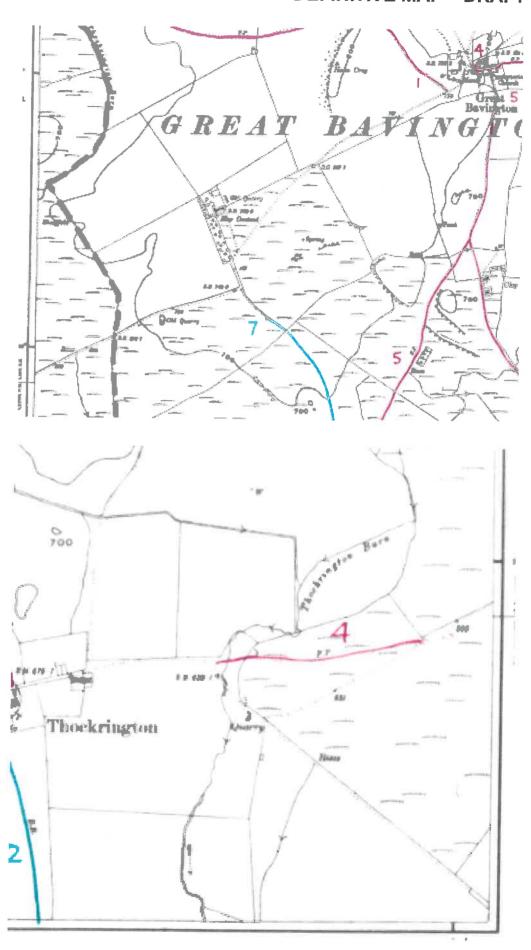




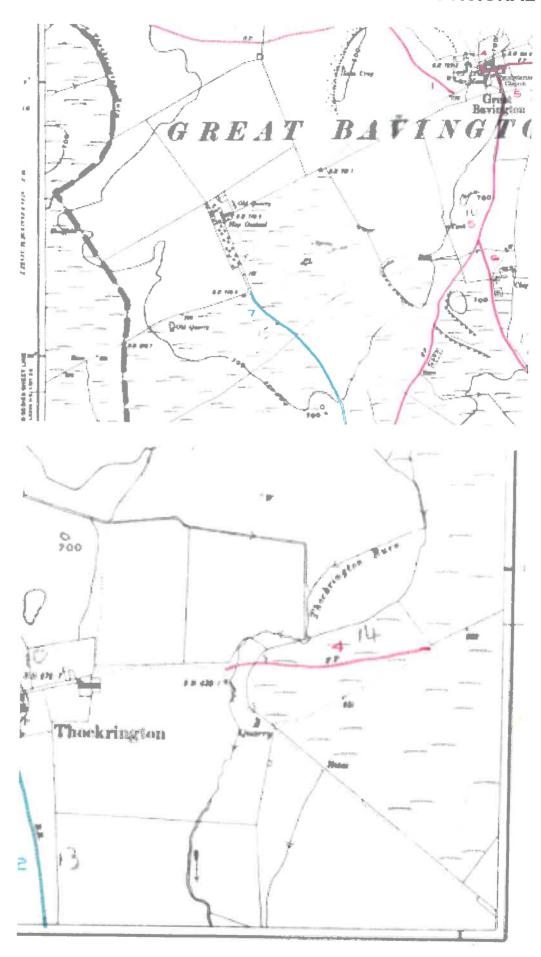
DEFINITIVE MAP – ORIGINAL SURVEY



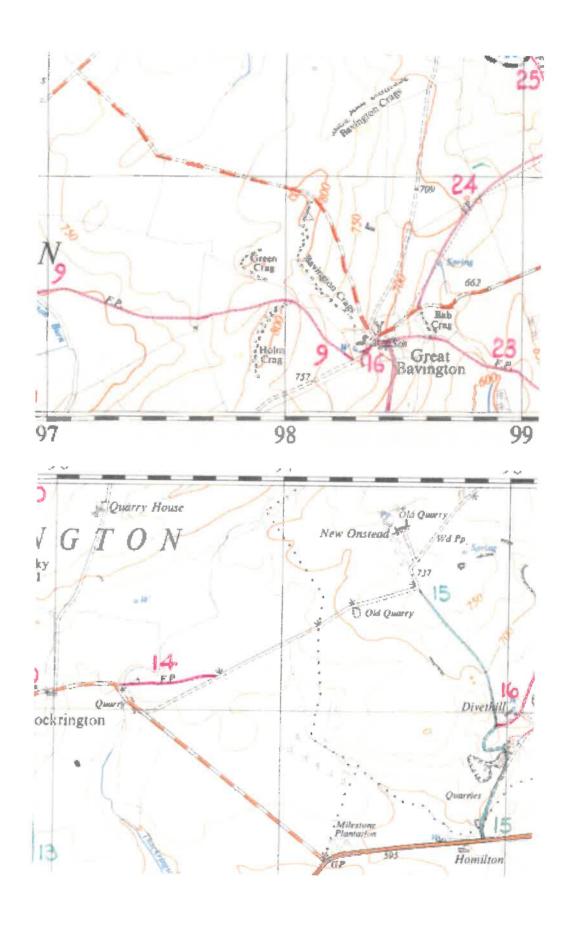
DEFINITIVE MAP – DRAFT

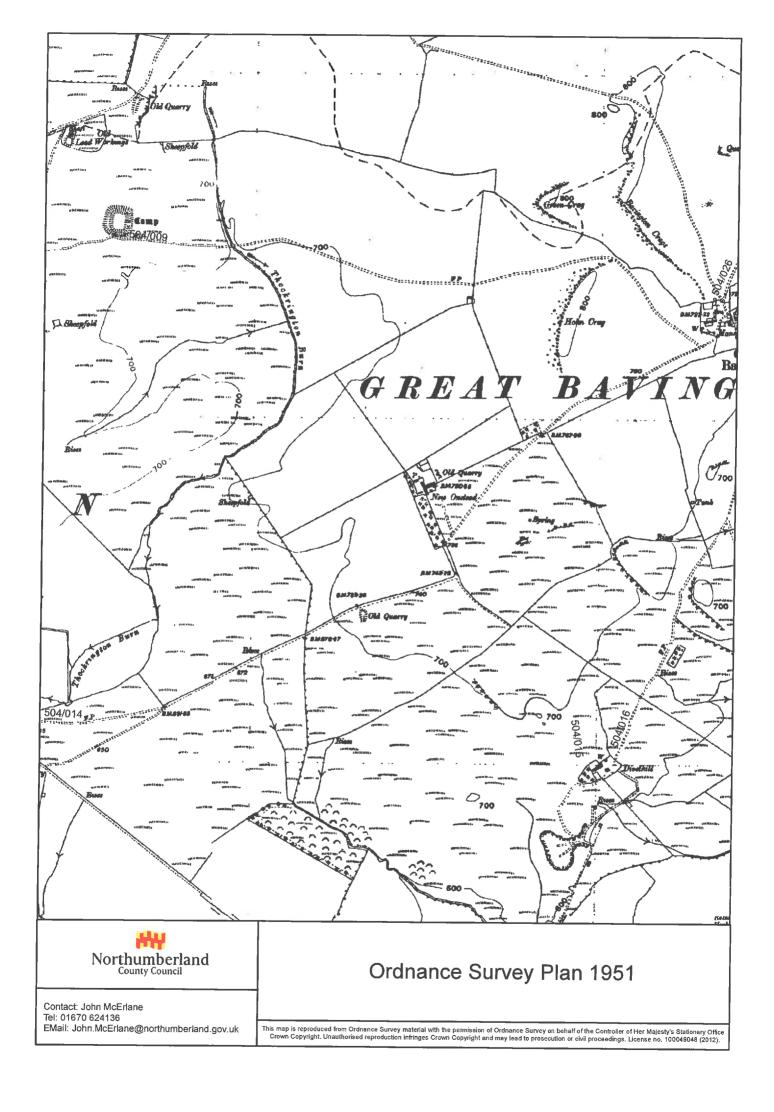


DEFINITIVE MAP - PROVISIONAL



DEFINITIVE MAP – ORIGINAL 1:10,560





CORBRIDGE DIVISION

Unclassified Roads in Bellingham Rural District

From C.210 near Carrycoats Hall via Plashetts and Three Farms to A.696 south of Kirkwehlpington Bridge, including 187 yards from Plashetts, towards Sweethope.	
From C.210 near Carrycoats Hall via Plashetts and Tr Farms to A.696 south of Kirkwehlpington Bridge, 187 yards from Plashetts, towards Sweethone.	

Carrycoats -Kirkwhelpington Road

.5011

		at
	4	5
	f	and Gr
	Long	arerre
7	Most	
	41.2	3
	Office	Tustead
	Post	New (
17 17 17 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.	er nirknarie	Devile on 8 mile past New Ormstead
From A.696 n	Rent net	Day Till (O)

7.906

3.88

1.72

99.0

1.38

U.5012 at Great Bavington
ie Jy
a to
From U.5011 near Plashetts crossing U.5012 to A.6079 southwest of Merry Shiels.

Wilfred's
Ω Ω
Via
st Office v
Post
Kirkharle, 6079
to A
From A.696 Church

Kirkharle Village Road

5014

Greetlew Road.

5015

Mirlaw House and Clock Will Roads

5016

Plashetts - Bavington Merry Shiels Road

5013

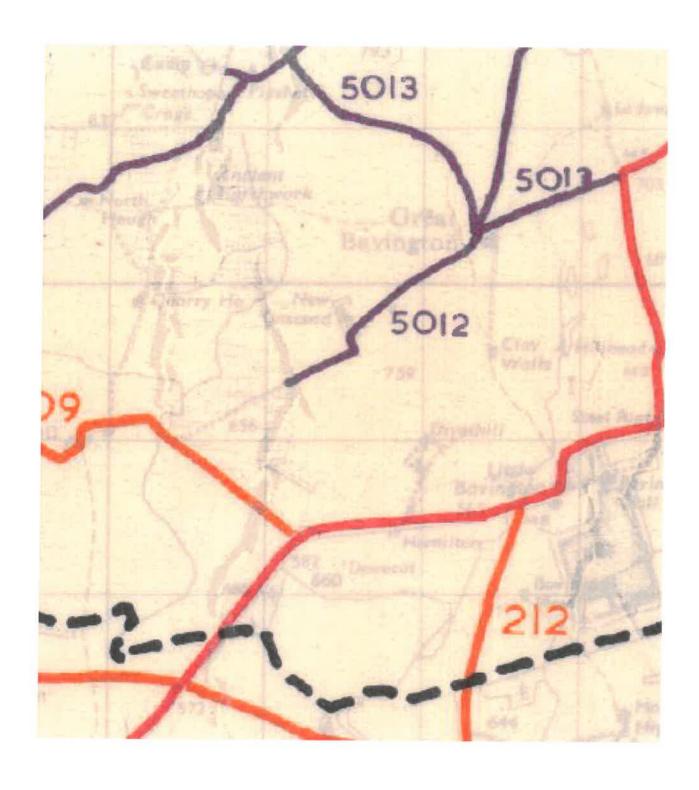
West Harle - Great Bavington Road

\$5012

From U.5015 north of Grestlaw via Mirlaw House to A.696 south-east of Kirkharle crossroads, including length from Mirlaw House to R.D. boundery at Clock Will Bridge.
From U.5015 north of Grestlaw vis Mirlaw House of Kirkharle crossroads, including length to R.D. boundery at Clock Mill Bridge.

TOTAL 13.616 miles

January. 1958



Total Mileage.		1800	2,50	0.40	1.50	87.0		4/4	1400	, e	[6-7	*
Mileage			. x									
Responsible Division or Authority.	Morpeth.	Morpeth.	Morpeth.	Morpeth.	Morpeth.	Morpeth.	Morrow C.	More by all	Morneth	Hexham.	Corbridge.)
Description.	From A.68 at Rochester Manse northwards for approx. 280 yards.	From A.68 at Rochester via High Rochester towards Hi	From A.68 at Bennetsfield to Toft House.	From A.696 west of Otterburn School via Greenchesters and Blakeman's Law to Potts Durtrees.	From A.696 Otterburn via Townhead and Otterburn Hall towards Denehead.	From A.696 west of junction with B.6341 southwards to Heather-wick.	From A.696 at Raechester via Catcherside to Rural District boundary at the south-west corner of Chesters Plantation. (continues in Rothbury Rural District as U.4055).	From A.696 north of Kirkwhelpington Bridge via Village and eastwards to Rural District boundary near Broom House, including roads from Village to A.696 south of Kirkwhelpington Bridge and to field gate at the Methodist Church.	From A.696 west of Kirkharle Post Office to U.5008 at Dean House.	From A.68 south of Fourlaws eastwards via Green Rigg to C.195 near Cornhills.	From C.210 near Carrycoats Hall via Plashetts and Three Farms to A.696 south of Kirkwhelpington Bridge, including 187 yards from Plashetts, towards Sweethope.	From A.696 west of Kirkharle Post Office south-westwards via West
Name of Road.	Rochester Manse Road.	Dyke Head and Hillock Road.	Toft House Road.	Potts Durtrees Road.	Otterburn Hall Road.	Heatherwick Road.	Raechester-Chesters Road.	Kirkwhelpington Village Roads and Road towards Cambo.	Kirkharle-Dean House Road,	Greenrigg-Cornhills Road.	Carrycoats-Kirkwhelpington Road.	West Harle-Great Bavington
nte	5001	5002	5003	5004	5005	5006	5007	5008	6005	5010	5011	5012

And the state of t	The second secon	THE COLUMN THE PROPERTY OF THE			
oute No.	Name of Road	Description	Responsible Division or Authority	Mileage	Total Mileage
7,5009	Kirkharle-Dean House Road.	From A.696 west of Kirkharle Post Office (NZ 003838) to U.5008 at Dean House. (NZ 009843).	Morpeth Division.		0.63
J.5010	Greenrigg-Cornhills Road.	From A.68 at Buteland Crossroads (NY 908819) eastwards via Sweethope Loughs, to C.195 near Cornhills.(NY698837).	Hexham Division.		3.32
J.5011	Carrycoats-Kirkwhelpington Road.	From C.210 near Carrycoats Hall (NY 938797) via Plashetts and Three Farms to A.696 south of Kirkwhelpington Bridge (NY 994843) including 187 yards from Plashetts, towards Sweethope.	Corbridge Division.		4.91
J. 5012	West Harle-Great Bavington Road.	From A.696 west of Kirkharle Post Office (NZ 003838) southwestwards via West Harle and Great Bayington to 3/8 of a mile past New Onstead. (NY 972794).	Corbridge Division.		3,88
J.5013	Plashetts-Bavington-Merry Shiels.	From U.5011 near Plashetts (NY 973814) crossing U.5012 at Great Bavington to B.6342 south-west of Merry Shiels. (NY 992808).	Corbridge Division.		1.72
J,5014	Kirkharle Village Road.	From A.696 near Kirkharle Post Office (NZ 009831) via St. Wilfrid's Church to B.6342 (NZ 014822).	Corbridge Division.		0,66
U.5015	Greatlaw Road.	From B.6342 north-east of Merry Shiels (NZ 014818) southwards via Greatlaw to the District boundary near entrance to White House (NZ 018797). (Continues in Castle Morpeth District as U.9005).	Corbridge Division.	ere e gill har endiamenten en	1.38
910	Mirlaw House and Clock Mill Roads.	From U.5015 north of Greatlaw (NZ 016815) via Mirlaw House to A.696 south-east of Kirkharle Crossroads, (NZ 029719) including length from Mirlaw House to District boundary at Clock Mill Bridge. (NZ 028815) (Continues in Castle Morpeth District as U.9003).	Corbridge Division.		1.07

