

## BOUNDARY OF CANTERBURY COUNTY BOROUGH

**NB The maps that follow can be seen on line at the website of the National Library of Scotland<sup>1</sup>. They are subject to copyright restrictions which are outlined on the website. They are reproduced here by kind permission of the Ordnance Survey.**

Canterbury became a 'county corporate' in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, and achieved 'county borough' status in 1888<sup>2</sup>. The latter was intended to cater for large urban centres that would not require a further layer of government (the county) above them. Despite being by far the smallest county borough in England, Canterbury retained this status until 1972<sup>3</sup>. In practice, Canterbury never controlled the full range of services normally associated with counties eg fire brigade and ambulance service.

Many large-scale OS (Ordnance Survey) maps printed between 1888 and 1974 show the boundaries of a host of local government and related bodies, including civil parishes, Rural Districts, county boroughs, counties and Parliamentary Boroughs. By making use of these maps it is possible to sketch the extent of Canterbury County Borough – please see the next page of this PDF.

The PDF also shows nine detailed supporting maps<sup>4</sup>, one for each segment of the County Borough boundary. These start at the northernmost segment and work clockwise around the entire boundary. In some areas, the mix of boundaries of a variety of different local units makes it difficult to plot the county boundary with certainty. In some cases dotted sketch lines indicate such uncertainties.

At a date (we presume) soon after the creation of the County Borough in 1888, the limits of the County Borough were marked by the erection of boundary stones – marked BS on the detailed maps. A number of these stones have been identified, photographed, and recorded in the 'Street Scenes' section of the CHAS website<sup>5</sup>. The example on the right can be found on Hambrook Marshes (much defaced since this photo was taken a decade ago). The current website shows eight county borough boundary posts. By referring to the nine detailed maps, and spotting the 'BS' markers, it should be possible to find others. Many, sadly, have not survived. More work is needed to shed light on why the boundary was fixed in such an odd way – close to the city in the north and distant from the city elsewhere.



*DRL 1 February 2020*

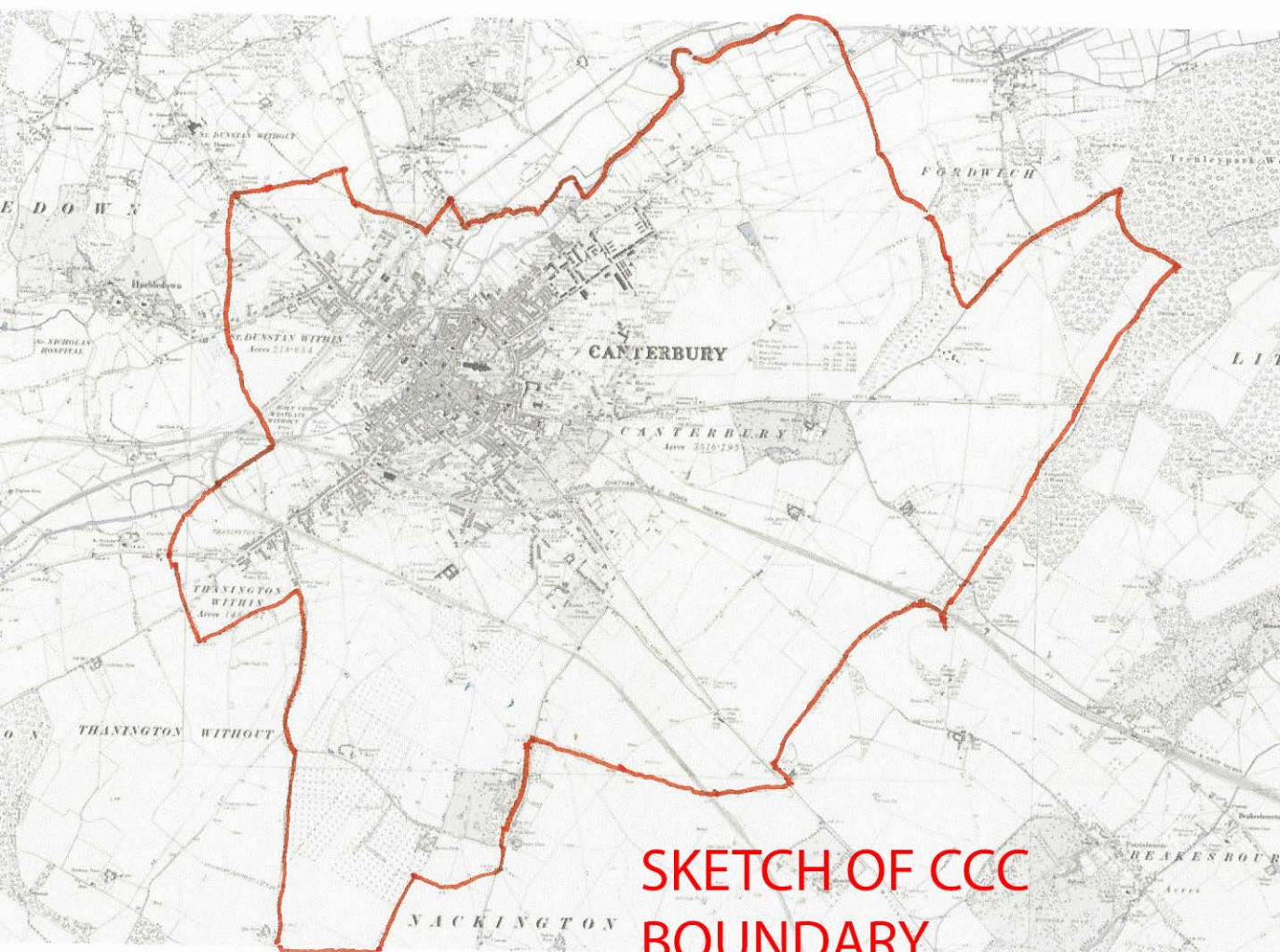
<sup>1</sup> <https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=5&lat=55.7854&lon=-3.1645&layers=1&b=1>

<sup>2</sup> Local Government Act 1888

<sup>3</sup> Local Government Act 1972

<sup>4</sup> based on OS six-inch maps revised 1896

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.canterbury-archaeology.org.uk/boundary-county/4594305790>



**SKETCH OF CCC  
BOUNDARY**





ST. DUNSTAN WITHOUT

Hackington

St. Thomas's Hill

St Stephen's Church

Beverley Farm

Hales Place

City of Canterbury

School  
Tank Beverley Arms

Menwood's Hospital

Whitstable ... 5 1/2  
Canterbury ... 1

Co. & Parly. Boro. By.

P.O.  
Rectory

Brick Works

Ash Pollard

Gravel Pit

Boat House

Cherry Garden Farm

Nursery

Nursery

Co. Boro. By.

Union By.

Hackington Place

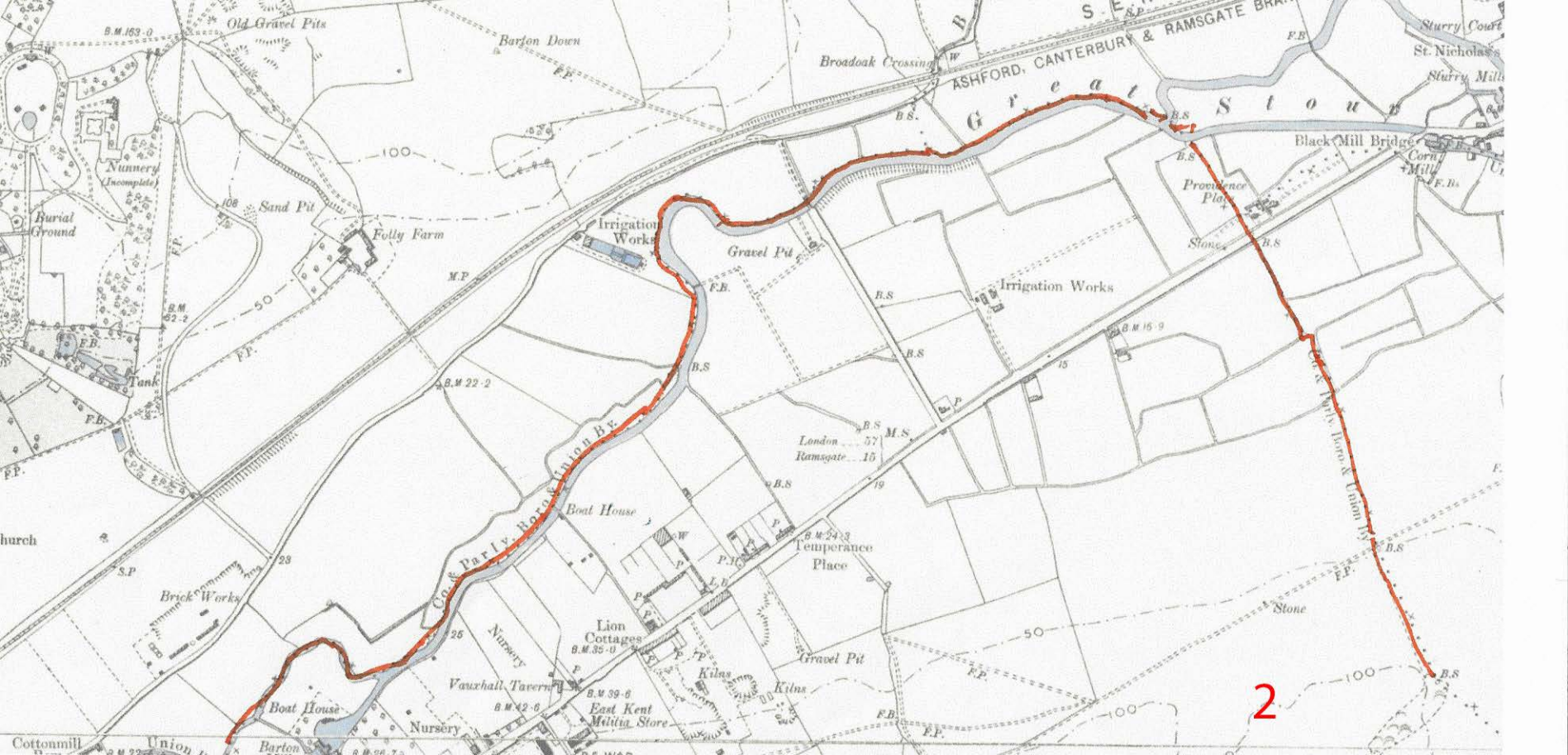
St. Stephen's Lodge

Cottonmill Row

Union By.

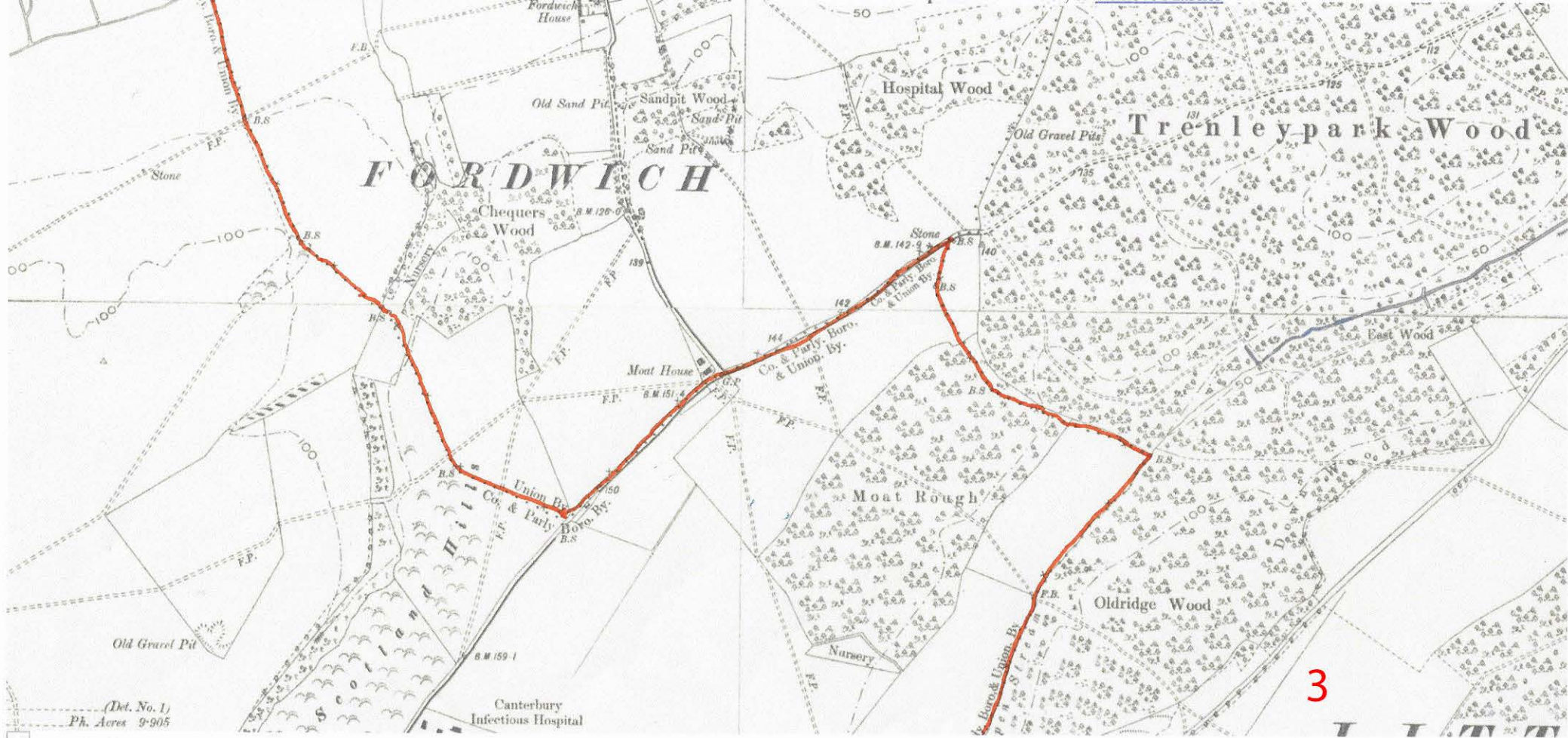
Barton Mills

1



2





# FORDWICH

# Trenleypark Wood

Canterbury Infectious Hospital

(Det. No. 1)  
Ph. Acres 9-905

3

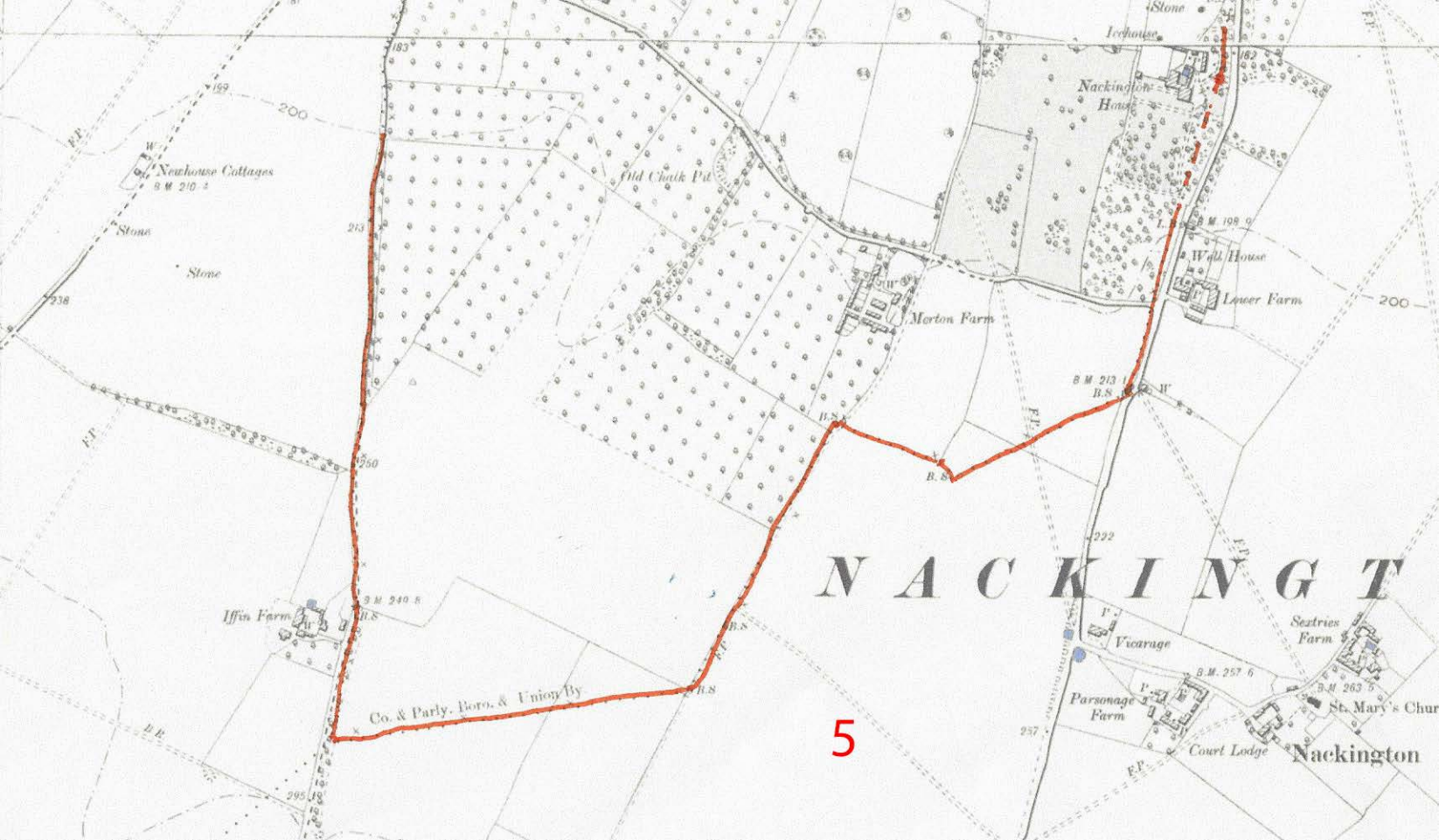


# LITTLEBOURNE

PINE WOOD



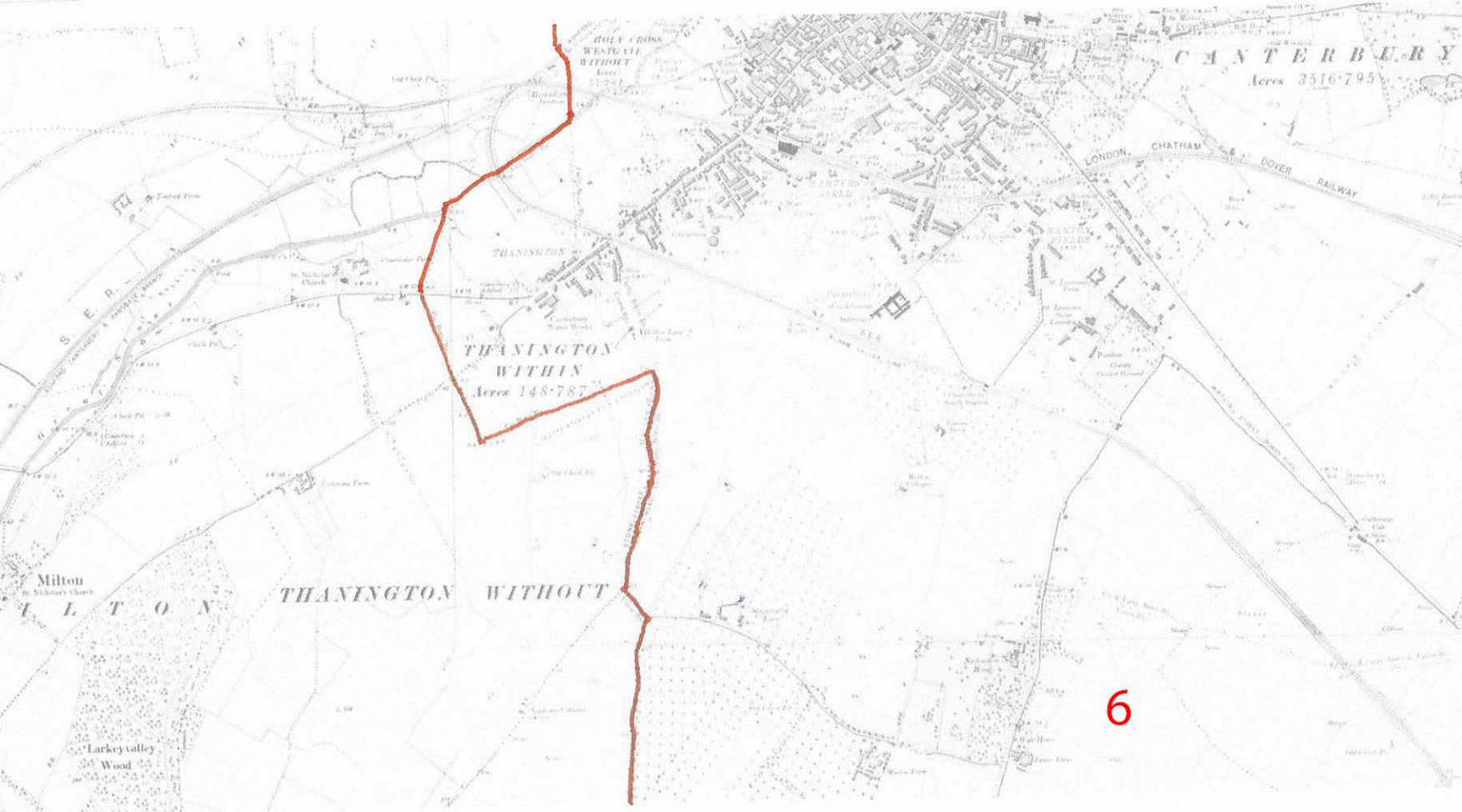
4



# NACKINGTON

5





THANINGTON  
WITHIN  
Acres 148,787

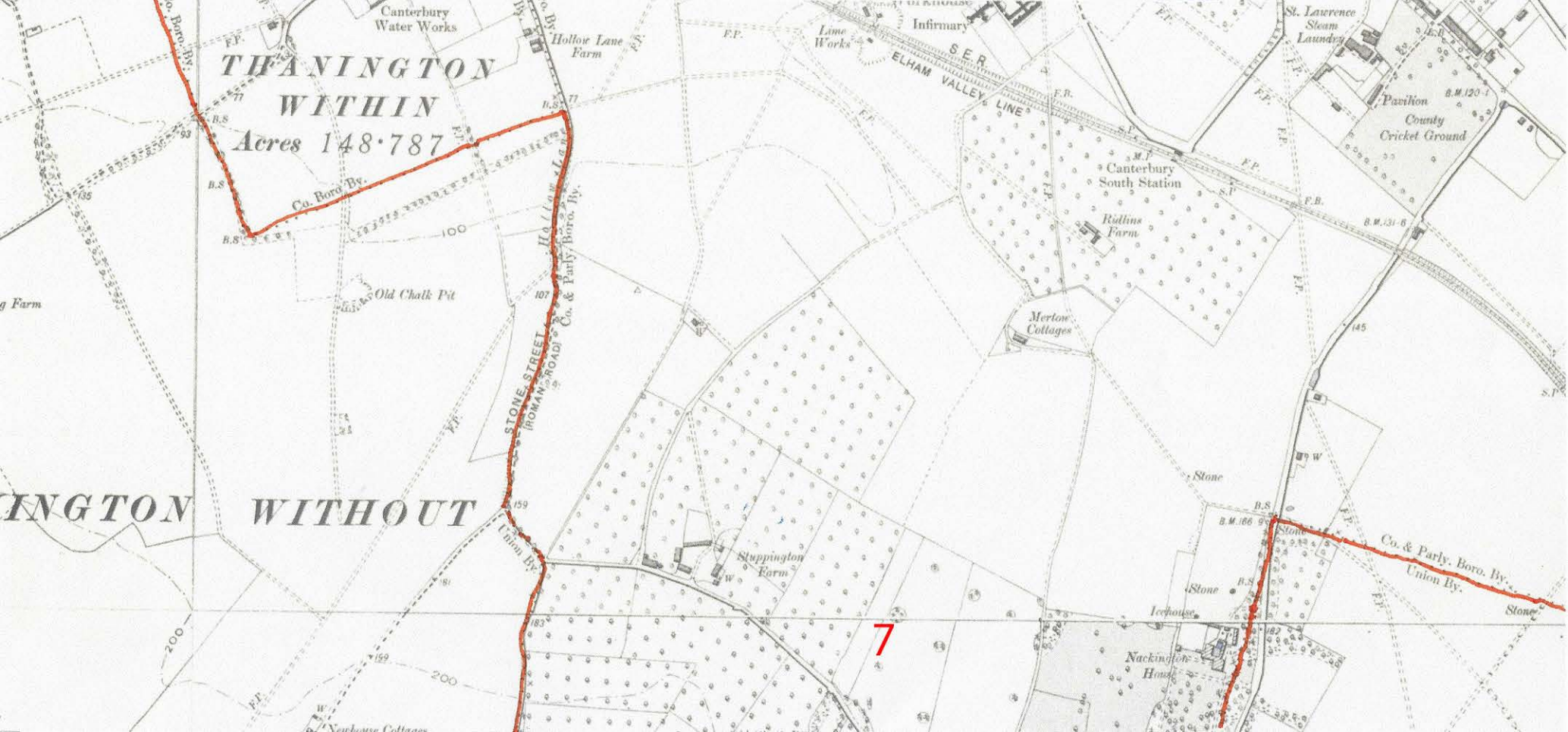
THANINGTON WITHOUT

6



**THANINGTON  
WITHIN**  
Acres 148.787

**THANINGTON  
WITHOUT**

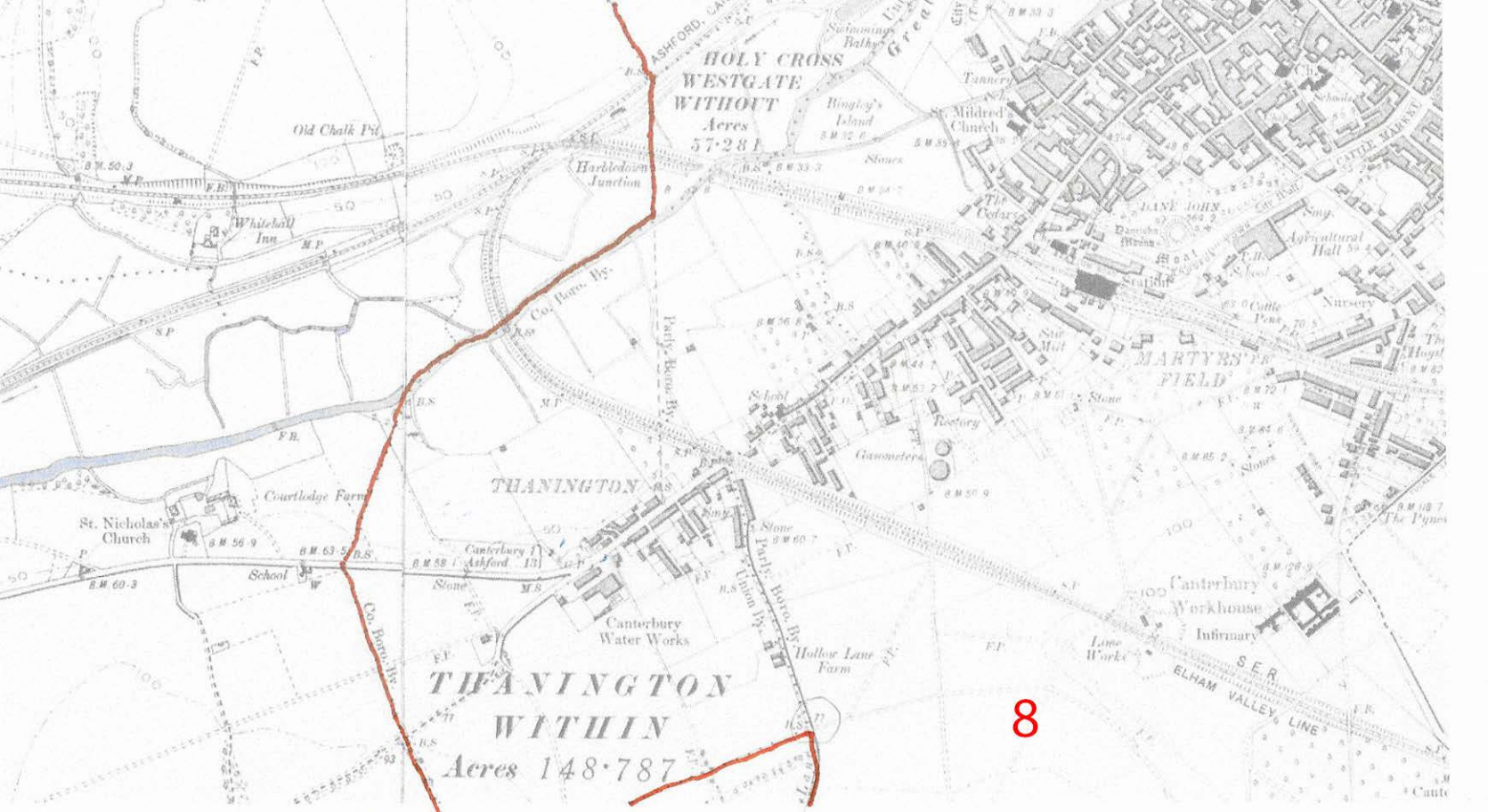


7

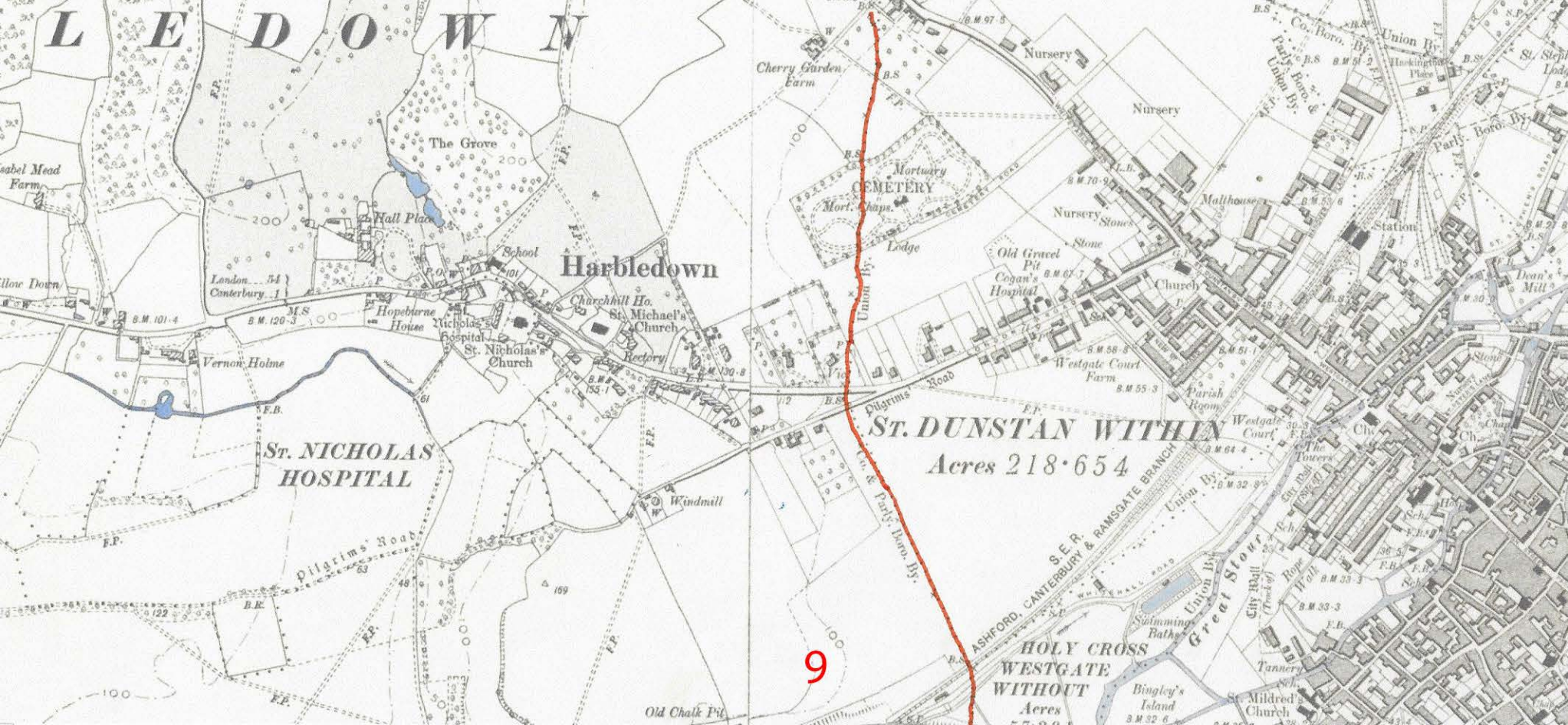
HOLY CROSS  
WESTGATE  
WITHOUT  
Acres 57.281

THANINGTON  
WITHIN  
Acres 148.787

8







L E D O W N

**Harbledown**

**ST. DUNSTAN WITHIN**

Acres 218.654

**ST. NICHOLAS HOSPITAL**

9

**HOLY CROSS WESTGATE WITHOUT**

Acres 57.000