

DRAFT

THE CARRS, WILMSLOW

LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT PACKAGE-LANDSCAPE REVIEW
GLD620

November 2020



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Ariel Photograph of site showing the surrounding context, Source: Google maps

1. Existing Situation



Source: Bing maps

— Site — River Bollin ——— Railway Line

- Landscape Character Type : Shropshire, Cheshire and Staffordshire Plain (61).
- Site is within the river bollin valley and was probably farmed from approximately the Saxon period.
- Site is not within any conservation areas or areas of statutory/non-statutory protection.
- No listed buildings or ancient monuments within site boundary.
- Grade I listed buildings adjacent to site, St Bartholomew's church.
- Grade II* listed building to west of site Pownell Hall.
- Nature reserve (SSSI) located south west of site - Lindow Common.
- North of the site National Trust Property - Quarry Bank.
- Former farming village. Grew significantly with advent of railway.
- There are five conservation areas close to the site: St Bartholomew's Conservation Area, Styal Conservation Area, Hawthorn Lane Conservation Area, Bollin Hill Conservation Area, and Highfield Conservation Area.
- The Carrs is part of an important 'Green Corridor' connecting Wilmslow Park to Quarry Bank

2. Site Context



Source: Bing maps

— Site
 — River Bollin
 - - - - - Railway Line
 - - - - - A34
 — Urban build up
 - - - - - Bollin Valley Way

Wilmslow Neighbourhood Plan Explains the importance of green links and sets out the intentions to strengthen these links through Wilmslow. The Carrs sit between two valuable green spaces; Wilmslow Park and Quarry Bank (National Trust). As part of this scheme we hope to identify opportunities to improve and conserve green links and where appropriate create new robust connections, for example safe crossing points to connect existing public rights of way and cycleways.

- For further information see Wilmslow Neighbourhood Plan 2019: Policy NE3; Green Links.

3. Design Brief:

Master Plan:

The aim of the proposed master plan will be to draw up a long term programme of improvement works which will sensitively enhance the site. A series of careful appraisals, site and desk top analysis, consultations with environmental specialists, key stake holders, user groups and the general public will be used to develop an informed, achievable and exciting long term plan for the site. The plan will act as an outline rather than a blue print to allow for future revisions as influences such as environmental change and user requirements develop.

Planting: A key objective will be to increase, enhance and where appropriate develop new habitats within the site. This will in turn improve biodiversity and establish the site as a strong and vibrant green corridor which is accessible to the public. To achieve this, careful and selective management will be required to the existing plant structure including tree works. This would be done alongside consultation with environmental consultants and tree officers. Any additional planting proposed for the site will be sensitively selected based on its value, appropriateness and likely hood to thrive. Some new planting will need to be protected while it becomes established and this will be allowed for in the planning.

Materiality: To further enhance the site a clear simple palette of good quality materials, equipment and furniture will be developed to give the site cohesiveness and strengthen site identity.

The sites locality will be used to inform this palette. Natural ethically sourced materials such as timber and stone will Wherever financially and ethically possible locally sourced materials and suppliers will be used.

Key objectives:

- Create greater accessibility to all user groups.
- Promote inclusivity and community engagement,
- Identify opportunities to conserve and develop existing or create new habitats.
- Flood plain management strategy.
- Embankment improvements - stabilisation and marginal planting.
- Actively increase and develop the sites green structure through new planting and management of existing shrub, marginal and tree planting.
- Support key stakeholders/user groups/Friends of the Carrs.
- Develop site access for all user groups, this would include access to the river and developed habitats within the scheme.
- Significantly improve quality of play and play opportunities within the site.
- Review of site facilities - toilets, parking, play, cafe.
- Better connect our enhanced greenspace and section of the Bollin Valley beyond the park to enhance and strengthen the green corridor that connects the park to the National Trust's Quarry Bank Estate,
- Make use of digital formats to create an information hub for the Carrs.
- Strengthen site identity.

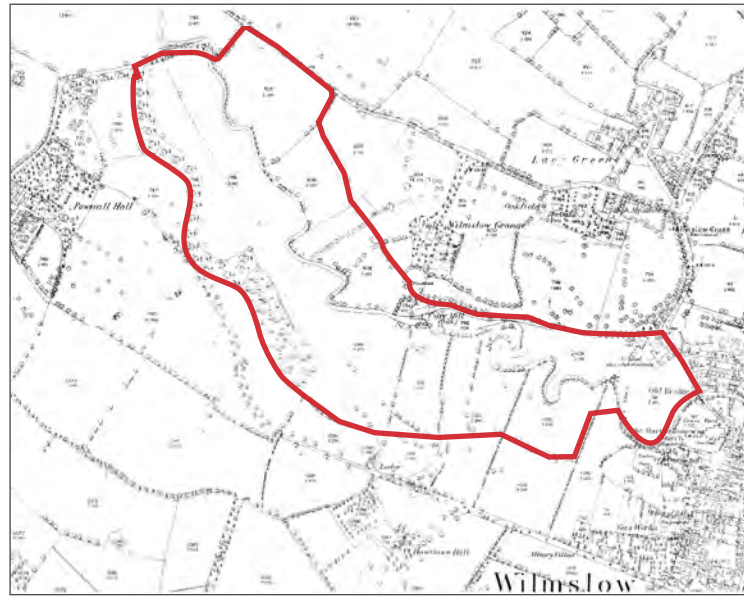


Preserve and enhance an important local asset - Image The Carrs Circa 1930



Encouraging wildlife and improved ecology on site.

4. Historic Review:



1874

Notes:

1874

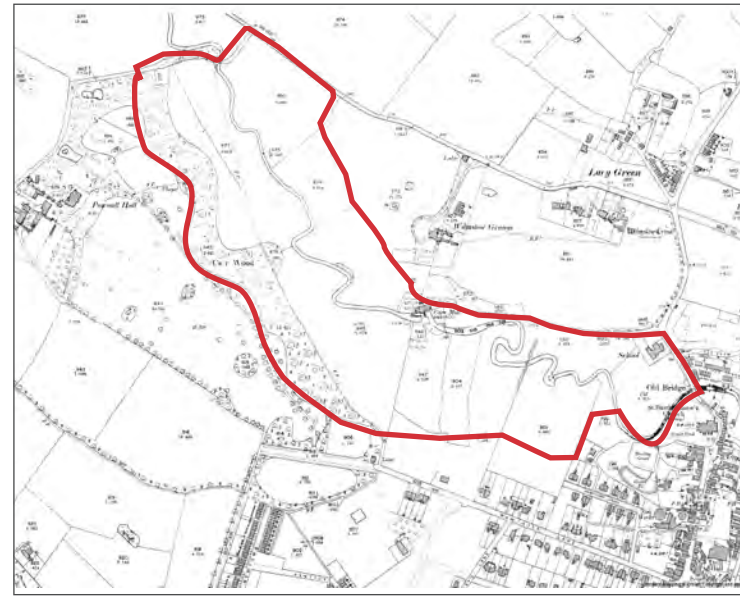
- Strong agricultural pattern to area, Wilmslow village showing its historic medieval pattern of long narrow plots along a central street.
- The Pownall Hall Estate, Wilmslow Grange (now housing) and Hawthorn Hall can be seen clearly.
- Lindow Common indicated as Green Lake.
- Carr Mill (silk manufacturing) is indicated in the River Bollin basin, now The Carrs.
- Carr Wood is clearly visible on the existing western edge of the site.
- A school is indicated on the site of the existing car park at the sites eastern entrance.

1898

- Clear urban growth to Wilmslow village spreading South of the Carrs.
- Small Chapel indicated in Carr Wood, part of the Pownall Hall Estate.
- Footpath indicated from southern end of site leading to bridge at the North of the site.
- Field pattern has changed to larger fields with less boundaries.
- Field numbers indicate the Carrs is still being farmed.

1909

- Continued urban growth to South of the site.
- Carr Mill (within the site) changed to laundry.
- Pownall Hall Chapel in Carr Wood now disused.
- Little change too map information within the site boundary.



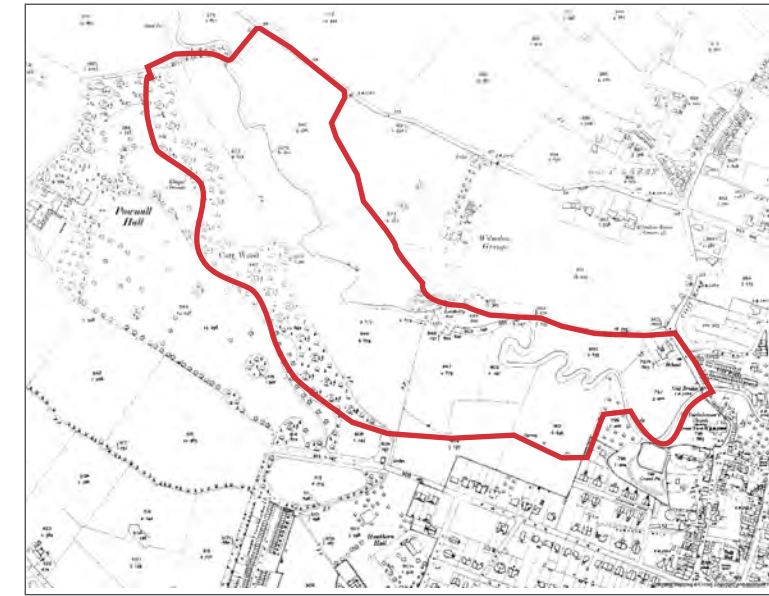
1898

1936

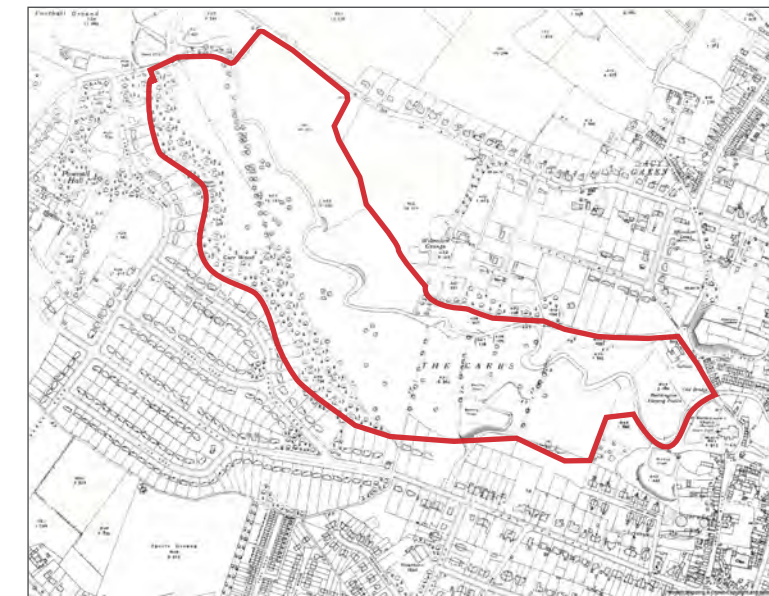
- Significant residential development to the East, South and West of the site.
- Carr Mill no longer indicated, records show it was lost to fire.
- School still operating off eastern entrance of site.
- Boddington playing fields shown at eastern end of site.
- Two bowling greens established at southern entrance of site.
- Sandpit opened at northern point of site.
- Extensive widening and establishment of Road network.

1974

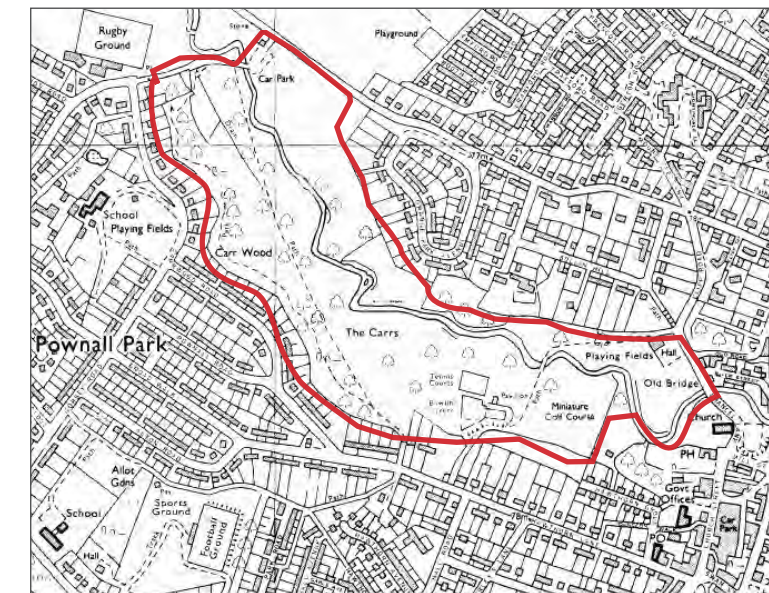
- School at eastern entrance now a hall and car park.
- Miniature golf course and tennis courts shown on southern boundary.
- Continued urban growth around the site, forming clear boundaries to the Carrs.
- Pownall Hall now shown as a school.
- Wilmslow Grange demolished for housing estate.
- Car park established at North entrance to site.
- Footpath through Carr Wood indicated.



1909



1936



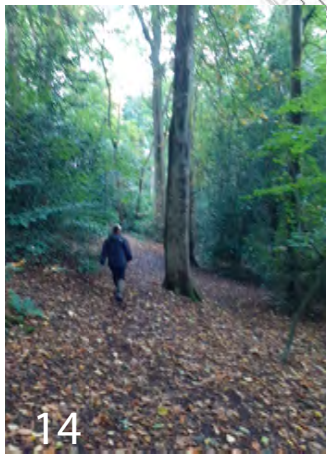
1971-89

5. Historic Images

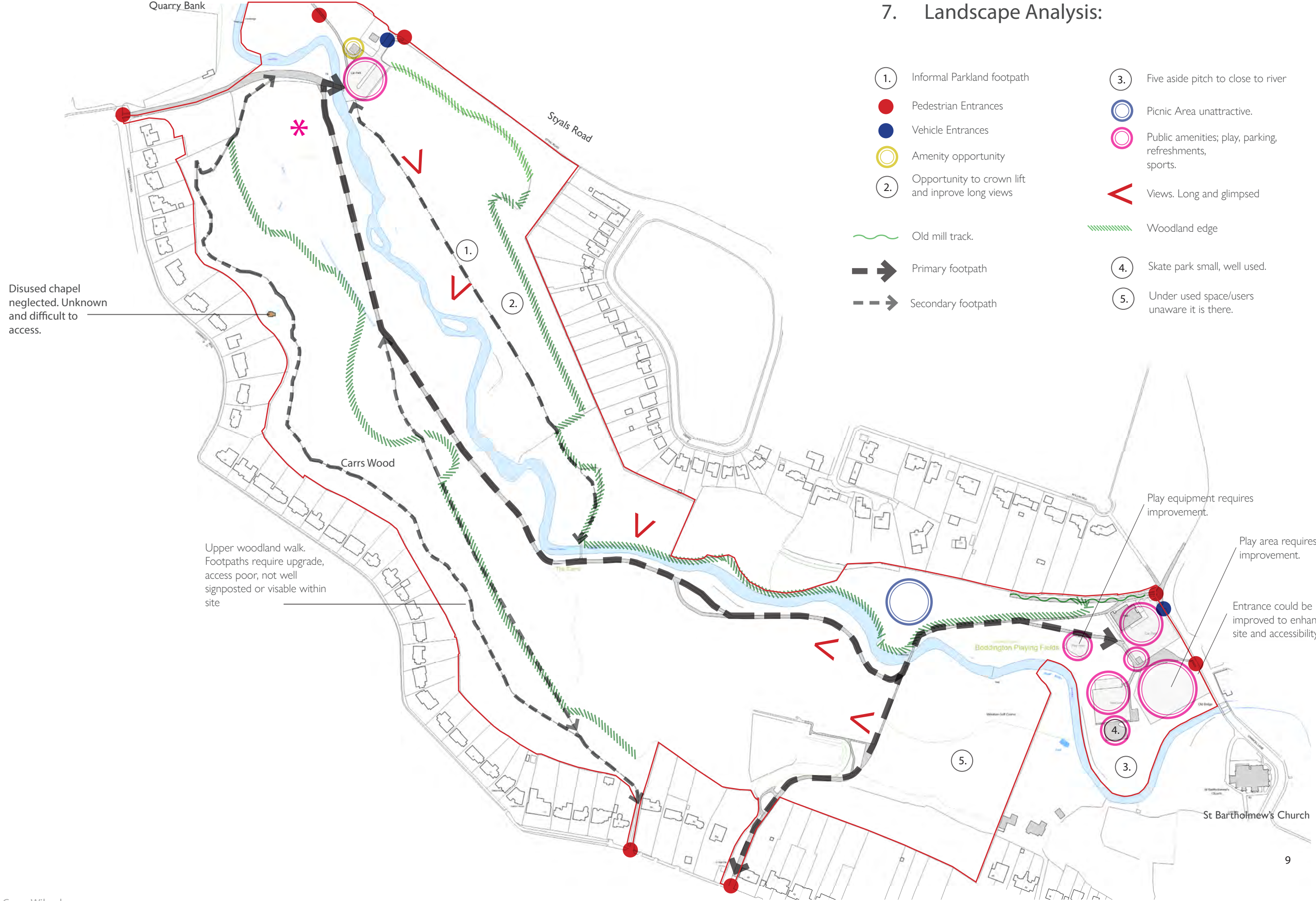


6. Site Images

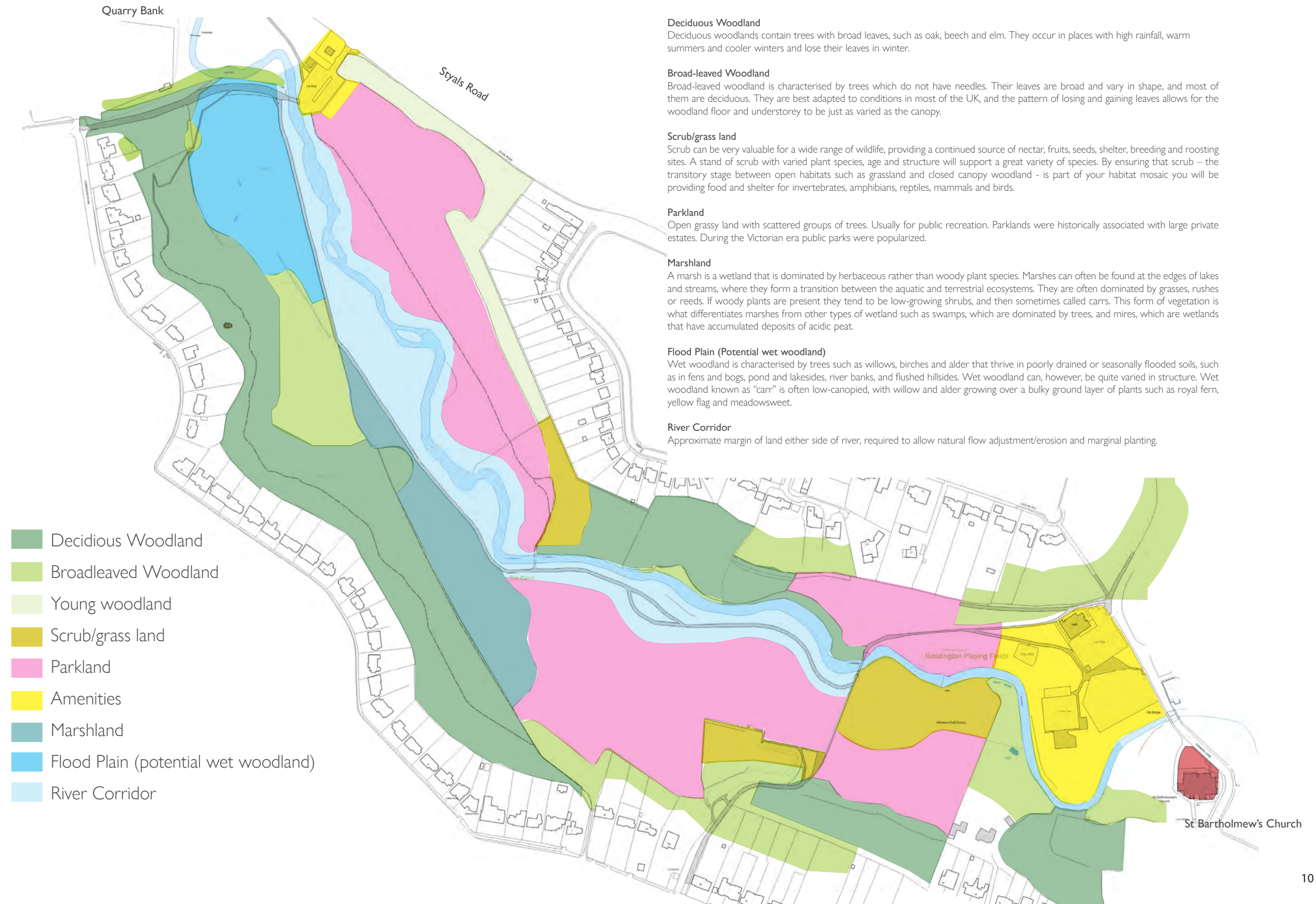
1975 Jubilee Celebrations - The Carrs



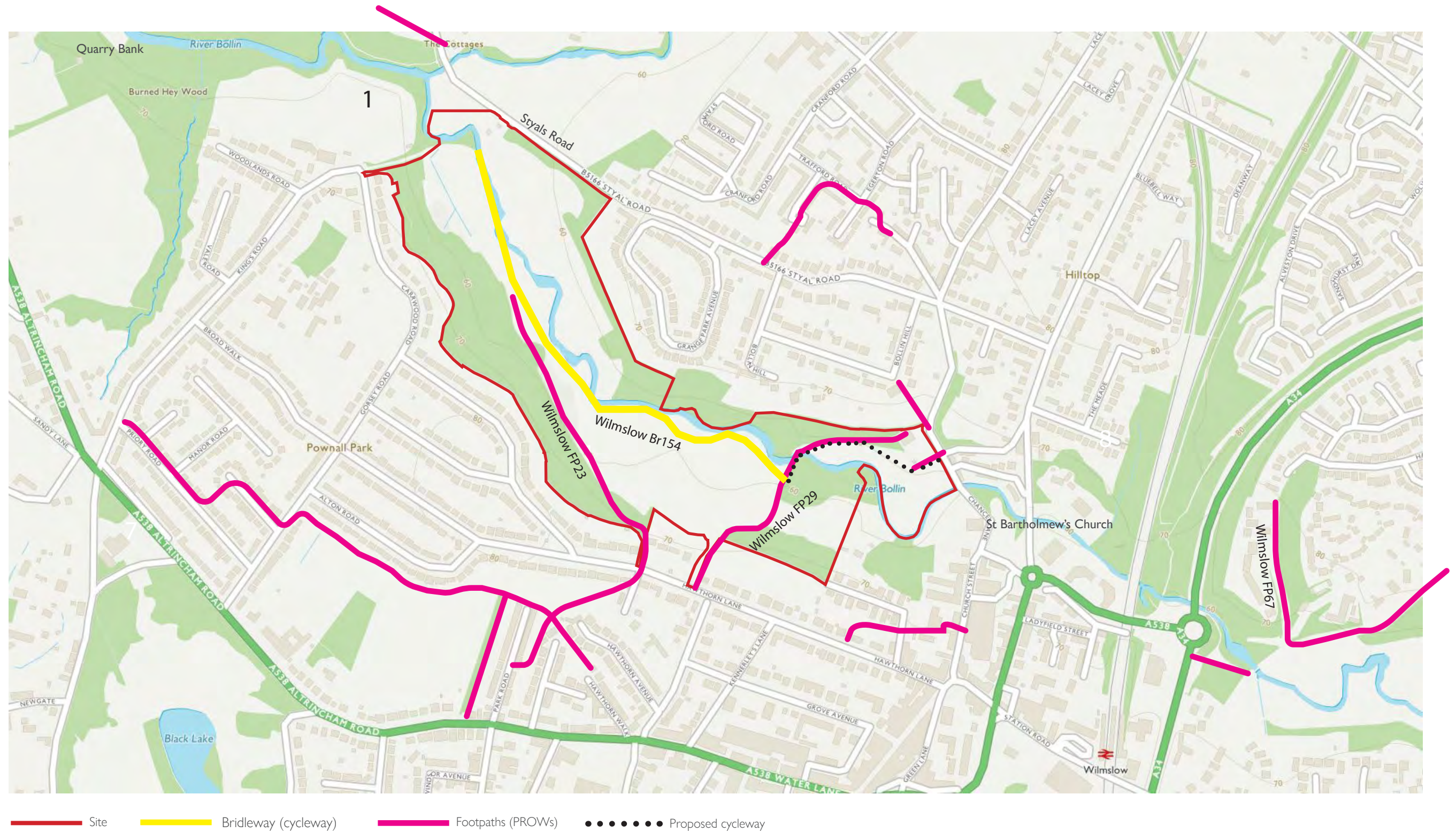
7. Landscape Analysis:



8. Site Analysis: Landscape Character Areas



9. Transport And Wider Links



For further information on cycling strategy refer to Wilmslow Neighbourhood Plan 2019 : page 137.

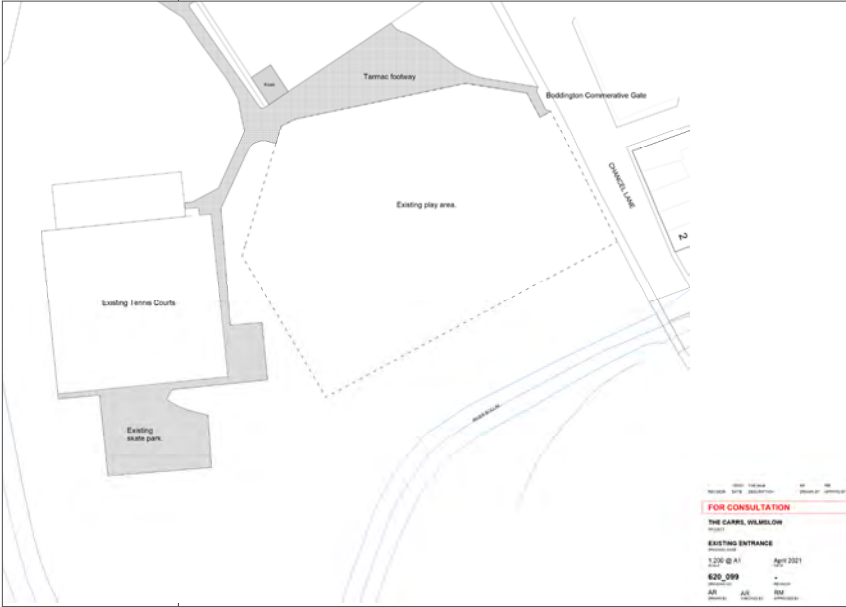
10. Landscape Masterplan (sketch):



11. Entrance sketch proposal:



Proposed layout : draw at 1:200 @ A1.



Existing layout



Boddington commorative gate