



At the Court at Buckingham Palace

THE 3rd DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

PRESENT,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
IN COUNCIL

Representations were duly made to His Majesty in Council by the Secretary of State for Justice that, subject to the exceptions below, burials should be discontinued forthwith in:-

- 1) St John the Baptist Churchyard, Hammerwich, Burntwood, Staffordshire (as shown hatched on the plan annexed hereto);
- 2) St Thomas Becket Church Churchyard, Bridford, Exeter, Devon (as shown hatched on the plan annexed hereto);
- 3) St Mary's Churchyard, Thundridge, Hertfordshire (as shown hatched on the plan annexed hereto).

In pursuance of the Orders in Council made on 15th October 2025 and 12th November 2025 these representations have been published and taken into consideration by a Committee of the Privy Council.

Accordingly, His Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred on Him by section 1 of the Burial Act 1853, is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to order that burials shall be discontinued forthwith in the places listed above, subject to the following exceptions:-

- (a) in the places numbered above, in any vault or walled grave in the churchyard, burial may be allowed but every coffin in such vault or grave must be separately enclosed by stonework or brick work properly cemented;
- (b) in the places numbered 2 and 3 above, in any existing earthen grave in the churchyard, the burial may be allowed of the body of any member of the family of the person or persons previously buried in that grave, but no part of the coffin containing the body

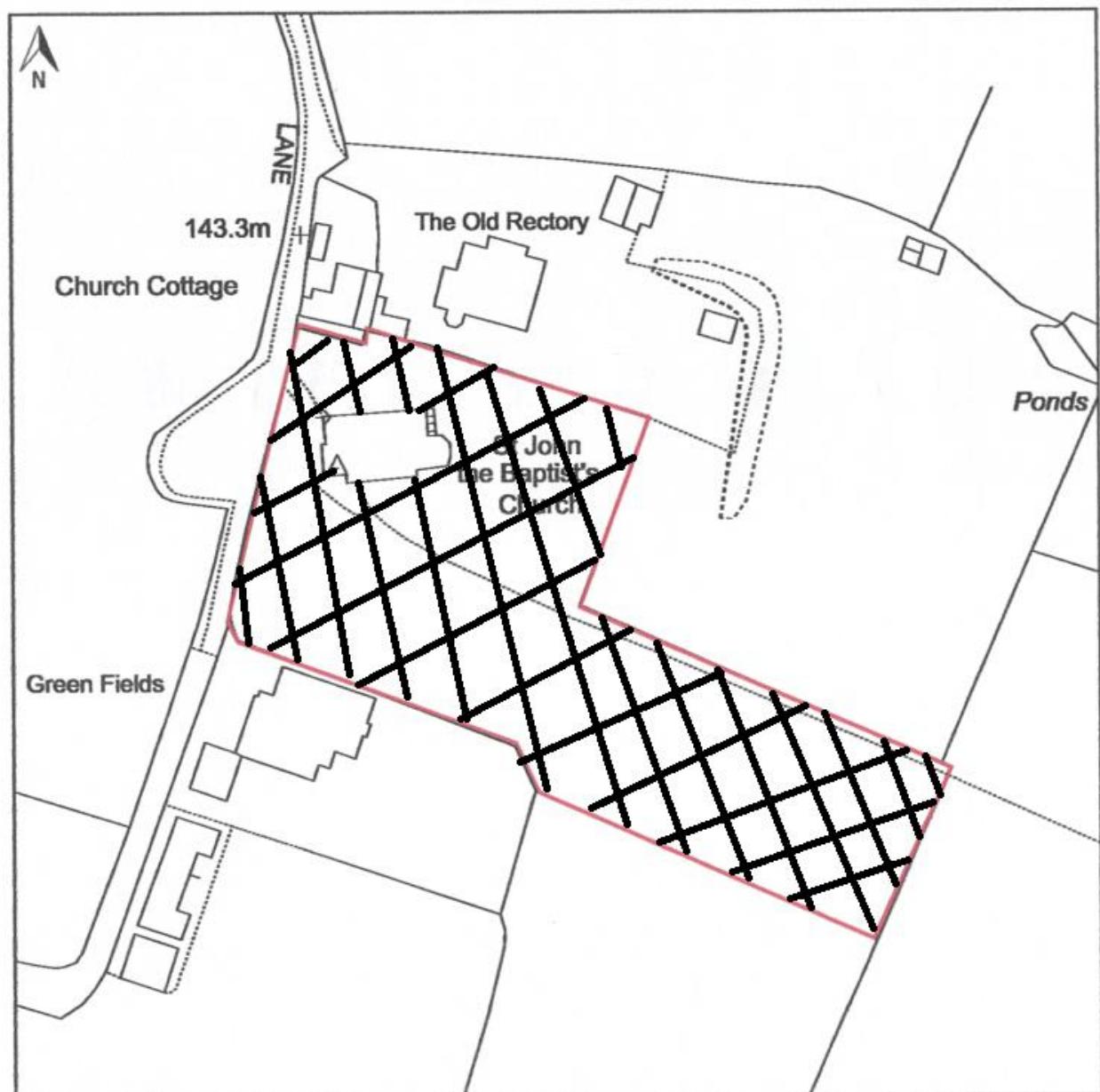
shall be less than one metre below the level of the surface of the ground adjoining the grave; and

- (c) in the places numbered above, in any grave space in which no interment has previously taken place, the burial may be allowed of any person for whom, or any member of the family for which that grave space has been reserved and appropriated, with the exclusive right of burial there, but no part of the coffin containing the body shall be less than one metre below the level of the surface of the ground adjoining the grave.

Richard Tilbrook, CVO

CC/MAR25/0009 St John the Baptist Churchyard, Hammerwich

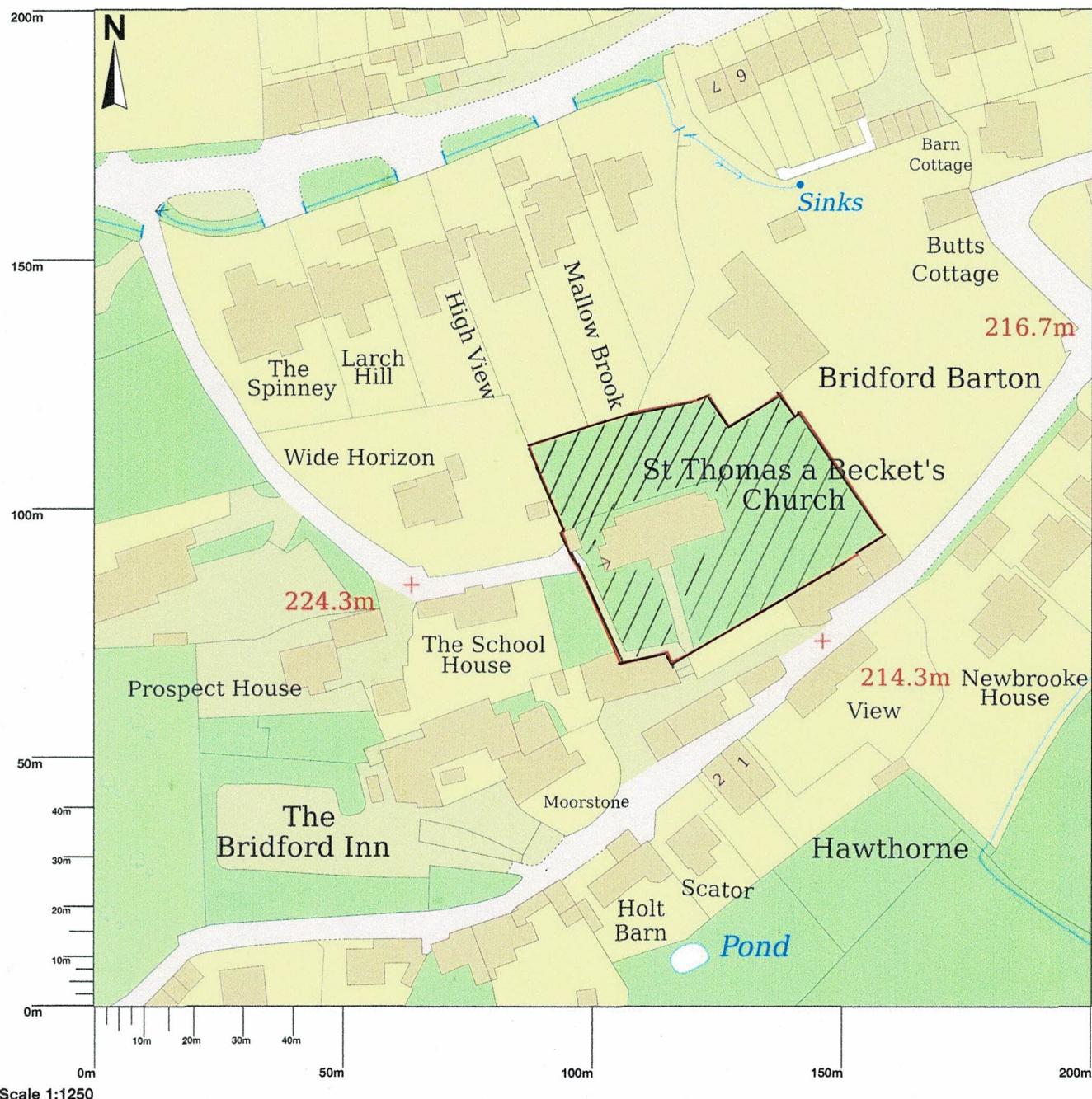
St John the Baptist Church, Hammerwich, CHURCH LANE, BURNTWOOD, WS7 0JS



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St Thomas Becket Church, Bridford, Exeter, EX6 7HS



CC/JUL25/016 Thundridge Map

