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DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
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01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

Mark Addison Esq  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1

*mb*  
24 June 1985

*Dear Mr Addison*

We spoke this morning about the announcement which the Secretary of State is making today on proposed land registers directions. I enclose a copy of the announcement together with a list of the 50 sites involved.

As I mentioned, one of the sites (261-281 Regents Park Road) is in the Prime Minister's Constituency. The land (0.5 hectares) is owned by the London Borough of Barnet and is within a conservation area. It has been held for a community hall for a considerable period and is currently occupied by a limited range of temporary uses. There is strong potential for residential or commercial use and the land is zoned for this in the Initial Development Plan. The site is at present under review by the local authority with no immediate prospect of disposal.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Paul Heron*

P J HERON  
Private Secretary

*Prime Minister. (2)*

*You will well be aware of this announcement, and the fact that one of the sites identified is a your constituency.*

*Mark Addison*

*25/6*

## Press Notice

305

25 June 1985

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FURTHER STEPS TO DIRECT OWNERS  
TO DISPOSE OF PUBLICLY-OWNED LAND

Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, today gave a number of owners of unused and underused publicly-owned land notice that he would issue directions requiring them to dispose of it unless they could give him good reason for not doing so.

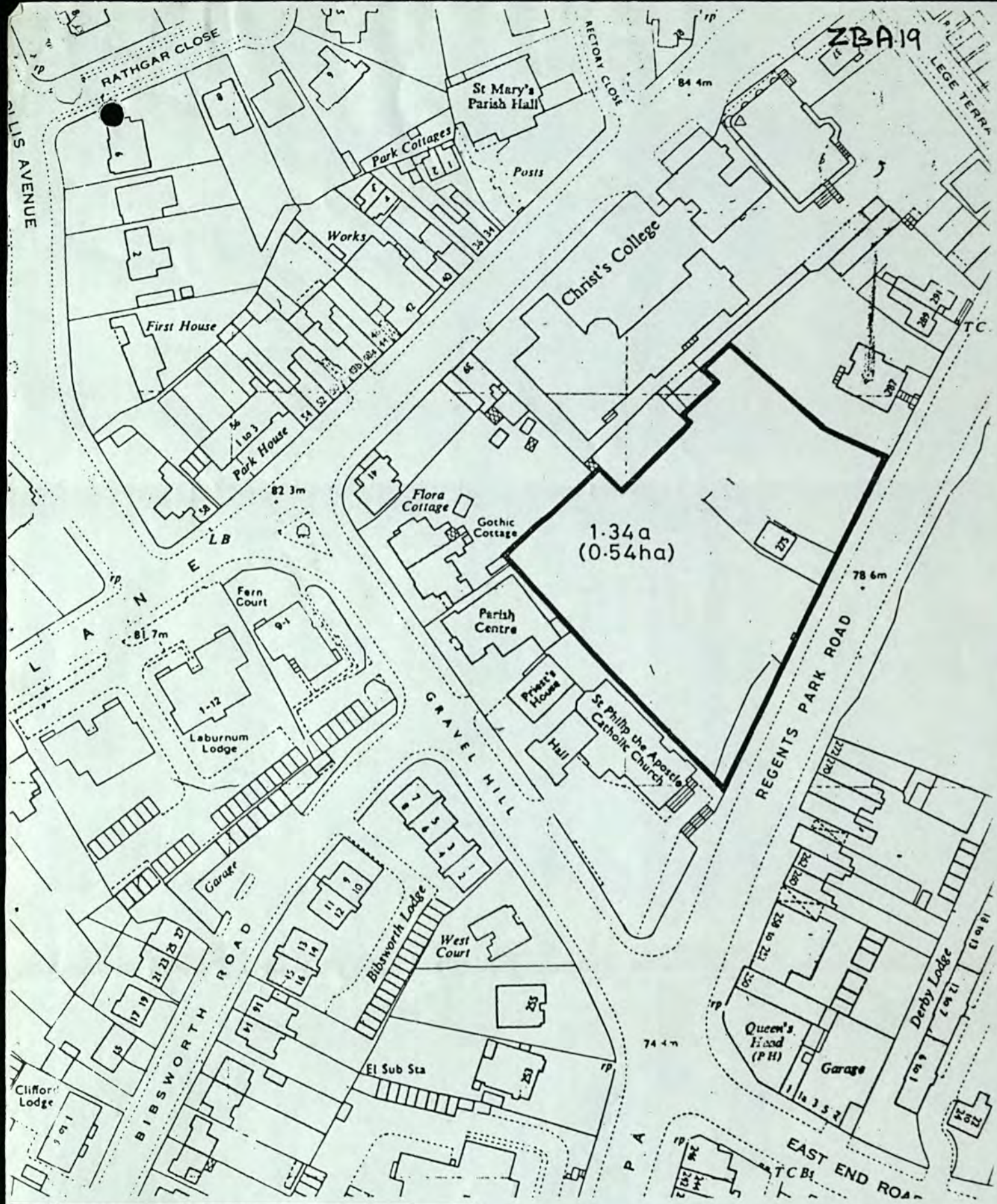
He has given notice under Section 99 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980, to the owners of 50 sites included in the land registers giving them the opportunity to make representations as to why he should not issue directions for the land's disposal.

Announcing the issue of the notices in a written answer to a Parliamentary Question from David Amess MP ( Basildon ), Neil Macfarlane, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Department of the Environment, said:

"The Government is determined that unused and underused publicly-owned land should be brought into full use as soon as possible.

"My rt hon Friend has therefore today issued notices under section 99 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 relating to 50 sites entered on the registers of unused and underused publicly owned land. The notices advise the landowners concerned that he proposes to direct them to dispose of these sites. The notices give the landowning bodies the opportunity to make representations to the Secretary of State as to why he should not direct them to dispose of their interest in the land or as to the contents of the proposed direction. A list of the 50 sites, which in total amount to 157 hectares of land, has been placed in the library of the House.

"Since the land registers were established, about 8000 hectares of land have been removed because they have been either sold or brought back into full use. We are very concerned that the momentum achieved so far should be maintained and these notices are a demonstration of our commitment.



**London Borough of Barnet**

**J.H. FOSTER, ARCS**

Borough Estates Officer  
 Gateway House,  
 Regents Park Road,  
 Finchley London, N3 2L  
 PLAN N. 1420

Site referred to in the proposed  
 London Borough of Barnet (Disposal of  
 Land at Regents Park Road, Finchley) Direction 1985

SCALE 1:1250

"We will continue to look closely at sites on the register with a view to identifying further candidates for disposal. - In addition, as my rt hon Friend has recently made clear, we are keen that companies, developers and other interested parties should draw to our attention any publicly owned land which they believe is underused and should be on the register and any registered land which they believe should be sold."

NOTES FOR EDITORS

The registers of unused and underused publicly owned land were set up under section 95 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980. Section 98 of the Act empowers the Secretary of State to direct the owner of a site or sites on the registers to take steps to dispose of their interest in the land. Before issuing such a direction, he is required by section 99 of the Act to give notice of his intention to do so, and to give the owner an opportunity to make representations as to why a direction should not be made or as to its proposed contents. If no representations are made within 42 days, the Secretary of State may give the direction as proposed. After considering any representations received from the owners in this period, the Secretary of State will reach a decision on whether or not to proceed with the making of directions on the sites, compelling the owning body to dispose of its interest in the land. If representations are made, the Secretary of State may not give the direction unless he is satisfied that the land can be disposed of without serious detriment to the functions of the owning body.

A list of the sites subject to the notices is attached.

Four directions have been issued to date; in Oldham, Sunderland, Darlington, and Nottingham (20 November 1984, Press Notice 523). Tender offers have been accepted on the first three. Discussions between the Department and the local authority on the fourth are still proceeding.

The Secretary of State announced in a speech to the Royal Town Planning Institute in Nottingham (7 June, Press Notice 275) that he has written to developers and others in the private sector asking them to identify unused or underused publicly owned land for possible registration. He has further invited them to draw to his attention registered sites which they feel should be sold.

Press Enquiries: 01 212 4685/2/3/90, 5113  
(out of hours: 01 212 7132)  
Public Enquiries: 01 212 3434  
(ask for Public Enquiries Unit)

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LAND REGISTER SITES SUBJECT TO NOTICES UNDER SECTION 99 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING AND LAND ACT 1980

25 JUNE 1985

Land Register District	Land Register Reference Number	Site Address	Size Hectares	Owner
Crawley	CBC3	Crawley Avenue, Crawley	1.5	Crawley BC
Sevenoaks	KCC2	College Rd, Hextable	2.5	Kent CC
Wansdyke	DC/4	St John's Rd, Tinsbury	0.4	Wansdyke DC
East Devon	DC/8	Gribblemead, Colyton	0.5	East Devon DC
Wimborne	DC/9	Potterne, Verwood	6.4	Wimborne DC
Forest of Dean	DC/2	Colchester Close, Westbury-on-Severn	1.2	Forest of Dean DC
Barking and Dagenham	ZBD/14	Raydons Rd, Dagenham	0.7	Barking and Dagenham LB
	ZBD/36	Connor Rd, Barking	0.5	Barking and Dagenham LB
Barnet	ZDA/08	Meadway/Potters Lane, Barnet	2.1	Barnet LB
	ZBA/19	261-281 Regents Park Rd	0.5	Barnet LB
Enfield	ZEN6	The Grange, Southgate Circus	0.5	Enfield LB
Richmond	ZRT3	Oak Avenue, Hampton	1.3	Richmond LB
Suffolk Coastal	DC4	Grange Farm, Felixstowe	12.1	Suffolk Coastal DC
Charnwood	CC/3	Land at rear of Burleigh College, Loughborough	4.2	Leicestershire CC
Walsall	DC/49	Hills Farm, Bloxwich	34.7	Walsall MBC
Leeds	L68	Colton Common, Colton	25.5	Leeds MBC
	L75	Austhorpe Drive, Leeds	0.6	Leeds MBC
	L115	Richmond Rd/Dawsons Corner, Pudsey	1.5	Leeds MBC
	L120	Holt Lane, Leeds	9.3	Leeds MBC
	L141	Stone Brig Lane, Rothwell	0.5	Leeds MBC
	L152	Denison St/Silver Lane, Yeadon	0.8	Leeds MBC
	L158	Old Farm Close, Leeds	1.5	Leeds MBC
	L160	Kirkfield Lane, Thorner	0.6	Leeds MBC

Land Register District	Land Register Reference Number	Site Address	Size Hectares	Owner
Leeds	L163	Freely Lane, Bramham	0.8	Leeds MBC
	L164	Lyndon Rd, Bramham	2.8	Leeds MBC
	L165	Willow Avenue, Clifford	0.5	Leeds MBC
	L166	Primrose Lane, Boston Spa	1.5	Leeds MBC
	L168	Shaw Barn, Wetherby	0.8	Leeds MBC
	L170	Whitley Croft, Otley	0.6	Leeds MBC
	L219	Keswick Lane, Bardsey	0.6	Leeds MBC
Bolton	LA/116	Stocks Park Drive, Horwich	4.4	Bolton MBC
Manchester	LA/15	Bethnall Drive, Fallowfield	1.2	Manchester City Council
	LA/28	Wythenshawe Rd	9.7	Manchester City Council
	LA/49	Boothroyden 'A' site, Blackley	6.7	Manchester City Council
	LA/51	Maple Rd West, Brooklands	0.8	Manchester City Council
	LA/57	South St/Parkhouse St/Wood St, Openshaw	1.5	Manchester City Council
	LA/60	Old Market St/Lion St/Lawson St/Dommett St, Blackley	1.0	Manchester City Council
	LA/117	Lime Bank St/Ashton Old Rd, Ancoats	0.7	Manchester City Council
	LA/180	Alfred St/Oak Bank, Hurpurhey	1.0	Manchester City Council
	LA/192	Old Market St/Grant St, Blackley	0.8	Manchester City Council
	LA/199	Boyle St/Smedley Lane, Cheetham	1.1	Manchester City Council
Tameside	LA/1	Richmond St, Ashton-under-Lyne	0.9	Tameside MBC
	LA/10	Newmarket Rd, Ashton-under-Lyne	2.0	Tameside MBC
	LA/13	St Annes Rd, Audenshaw	0.5	Tameside MBC
	LA/54	Hawthorne Rd, Denton	0.8	Tameside MBC
	GMC5	St Annes Rd/Guide Lane, Audenshaw	0.4	Greater Manchester MCC
Macclesfield	LA/3	Knowsley Rd, Macclesfield	0.5	Macclesfield DC
	LA/12	Beck Lane/Lanark Walk, Upton Priory	1.8	Macclesfield DC
	LA/19	Roewood Lane, Higher Hurdsfield	2.3	Macclesfield
Chester-le-Street	CST/1	Whitchill Park, Chester-le-Street	2.1	Chester-le-Street DC

