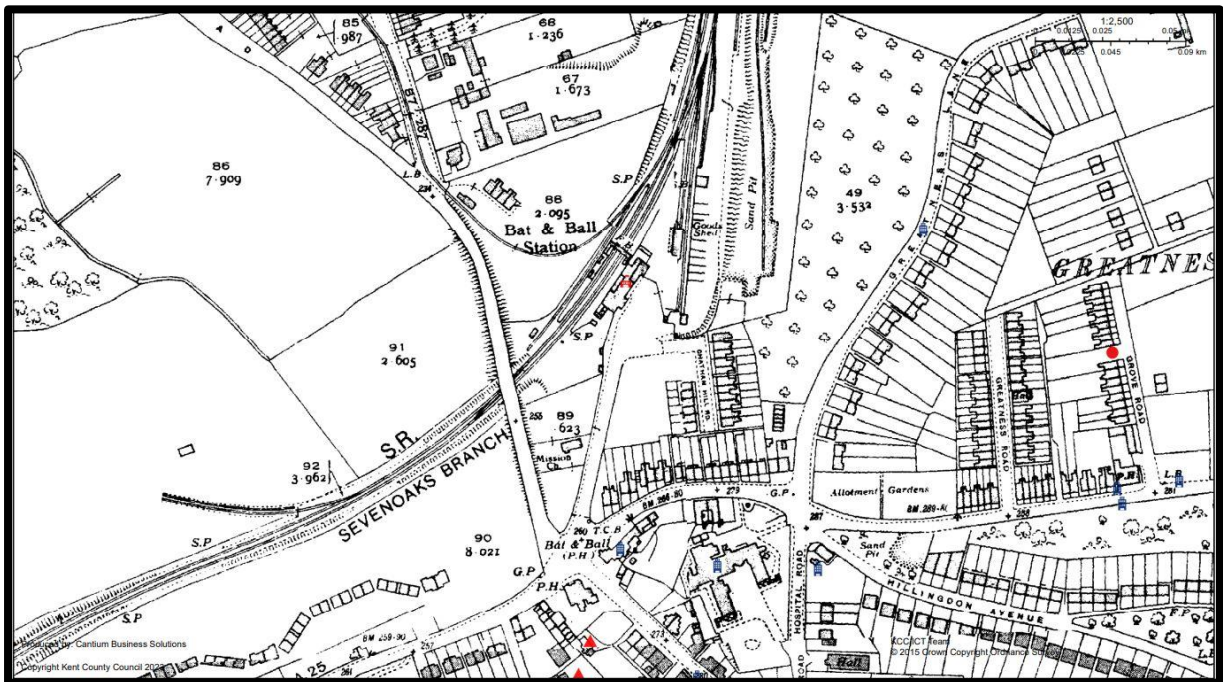


Goods Shed & Water Tower

As the Station was originally a termination point due to it being the first railway in Sevenoaks, an engine shed, signal box, a water tower and a goods shed were located at the Station. The Goods shed was actually located near the junction of Chatham Hill Road and Bat & Ball Road (this road was built later). The Goods shed was designed to store goods before, after, and during loading to and unloading from a train; it could hold anything from perishable goods to industrial products such as gravel or steel. The goods shed remained in use until around 1960's.

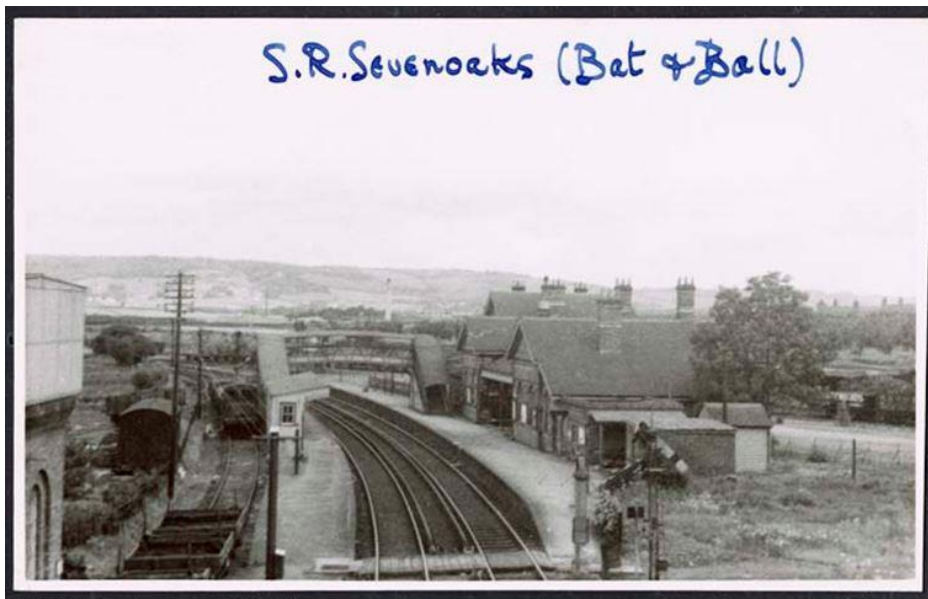


(Image from Kent County Council 1929-1952 historical map. You can see the goods shed and coal depot to the right with separate track)

Next to the goods shed was a coal depot, a storage point for coal before the 'coal man' would make his deliveries around the town. It's important to remember that coal was one of the few power sources to heat anything including steam trains from your own house to a hot stove therefore having a coal depot was very important for the town of Sevenoaks! To access the goods shed and coal depot was a separate single railway track.

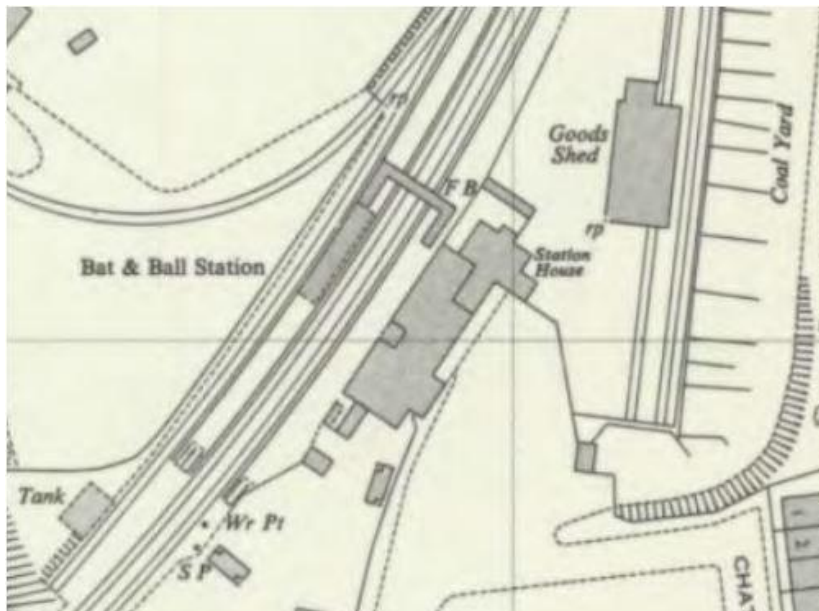
Where you are standing is where the water tower was located. This is where steam trains stop to replenish water, as holding large amounts of water was essential for power. During the early days of steam locomotives, water stops were necessary every 7 -10miles and consumed large quantities whilst traveling.

We're unsure exactly when the water tower was demolished from the station, during the Station's rail electrification in the 1930's, steam trains were still in use as other parts of rail in Kent weren't electrified.



Historic England Archive: ro_06962_001

(Image from Historic England. You can see a snippet of the water tower in the photo to the left)



(Image: Heritage Collective 1959 OS Map)