



**EVIDENCE BASE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED
ASSESSMENT TO AD 1870**

LODGE HILL

DUNCAN HAWKINS BA MIFA

**WRITTEN FEBRUARY 2009
(REVISED JUNE 2011,
FINALISED AUGUST 2011)**

Planning • Heritage

Specialist & Independent Advisors to the Property Industry

**EVIDENCE BASE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED
ASSESSMENT TO AD 1870**

LODGE HILL

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
MEDWAY DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**SITE CENTRED AT:
TQ 75648 73457**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Land at Lodge Hill, Chattenden, Medway, Kent is proposed for redevelopment.
- As part of the masterplanning process, an archaeological Desk Based Assessment has been produced to provide an overview of the study sites archaeological potential to AD 1870.
- The study site is thought to have a low archaeological potential for the early Prehistoric periods (Palaeolithic and Mesolithic) due to geological and topographical conditions.
- The study site is thought to have a good but localised archaeological potential for the late Prehistoric periods.
- The study site is thought to have a good but localised archaeological potential for the Roman period. A Roman cremation cemetery is recorded at Lodge Hill Depot.
- The study site is thought to have a good but localised potential for the Anglo Saxon and early Medieval periods.
- The study site is thought to have a good but highly localised potential for the late Medieval and post Medieval periods to AD 1870.
- The evidence currently available indicates there are no archaeological resources of national importance pre-dating AD 1870 within the study site.
- Past post depositional impacts to the potential archaeological resource have been highly variable. Significant and widespread impacts are identified at Lodge Hill Camp, Lodge Hill Depot and the former Chattenden Barracks.
- No overarching existing or potential archaeological constraints have been identified in relation to archaeological deposits pre-dating AD1870 that would prevent the delivery of the proposed development type and quantum identified on the indicative masterplan.
- The indicative masterplan has been influenced by historic boundaries and woodlands within the Lodge Hill site which form part of the archaeological resource.

- A suite of archaeological mitigation measures will require implementation in advance of any future development. The scope and extent of these will be dictated by the development proposals. It is considered that an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy targeting archaeological deposits pre-dating AD1870 can be entirely delivered within the Core Strategy Plan period with no appreciable risk.

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF STUDY

- 1.1 The Lodge Hill site is being promoted by Land Securities as Land Sale Delivery Partner on behalf of Defence Infrastructure Organisation (the Secretary of State for Defence). This Site Specific Information - Archaeological Desk Based Assessment to AD1870 has been researched and prepared by Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting and is being submitted on behalf of Land Securities and Defence Infrastructure Organisation.
- 1.2 Land Securities Group Plc has been selected as the Land Sale Delivery Partner responsible for the delivery and sale of approximately 320 hectares of Ministry of Defence land at Lodge Hill.
- 1.3 In its role as Land Sale Delivery Partner, Land Securities Group Plc has appointed a consultant team to prepare viable and deliverable development solutions for the site, justified by robust and credible evidence, as well as sound professional judgement.
- 1.4 Pursuant to site investigation works and engagement with key stakeholders, the consultant team have prepared a comprehensive suite of site-specific information documents that have fed into the indicative masterplan for the development of the Lodge Hill site, which represents one way in which the site could be developed within the emerging Medway Core Strategy Plan Period (i.e. by 2028).
- 1.5 The purpose of the technical evidence reports, which have been prepared on behalf of Land Securities Group Plc (and Defence Infrastructure Organisation), is to support the identification of Lodge Hill as a Strategic Allocation within Medway Council's emerging Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD). The Core Strategy will form part of the Development Plan which provides the planning policy framework against which planning applications will be determined, to facilitate the delivery of the site. CgMs Consulting has contributed to the site-specific information through the production of Archaeological technical evidence.
- 1.6 This summary report sets out the key findings and conclusions from the technical evidence prepared by CgMs Consulting which are considered essential to demonstrating the deliverability of the Lodge Hill site within the Core Strategy timescales, having regard to the guidance in PPS12 and the accompanying Plan-Making Manual.
- 1.7 The assessment considers land at Lodge Hill, Chattenden, Medway, Kent. The site is approximately 320 hectares (700 acres) in extent. The study site comprises Lodge Hill

Camp, Lodge Hill Depot and the former Chattenden Barracks. The site is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 75648 73457 (Fig. 1 and Plate 1).

- 1.8 In accordance with government guidance on archaeology and planning (PPS5) this assessment draws together the available archaeological, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the archaeological potential of the study site, from 450,000BC to AD1870. The heritage potential of the study site after AD1870 is the subject of a separate site specific information report.
- 1.9 The assessment comprises an examination of evidence in the Kent County Council Historic Environment Record (HER), considers the results of nearby archaeological investigations, incorporates published and unpublished material and charts historic land-use through a map regression exercise.
- 1.10 As a result, the assessment enables relevant parties to assess the archaeological potential of the site and to consider the need for design, civil engineering, and/or archaeological solutions to the potential identified.
- 1.11 It should be noted that this Archaeological Desk Based Assessment forms only a preliminary overview of the sites archaeological potential prior to AD1870 and as such serves as a basis for further survey, assessment and analysis.

2.0 PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 In March 2010 the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) published Planning Policy Statement, PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment.
- 2.2 PPS5 sets out Government's national planning policies on the conservation of the historic environment. The policies in the PPS are a material consideration which must be taken into account in development management decisions.
- 2.3 Annex 2 of PPS5 defines as a "Heritage Asset", *'a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions'*; heritage assets are also defined as *'valued components of the historic environment'*.
- 2.4 In short, government policy provides a framework which:
- Has a presumption in favour of the conservation of designated Heritage Assets (which include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas);
 - Protects the settings of designated heritage assets
 - Takes into account the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets;
 - Requires applicants to provide proportionate information on heritage assets affected by their proposals and an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the significance of those heritage assets
 - Accepts that where the loss of whole or part of a heritage asset's significance is justified, provision must be made for the recording of assets and publication of the resulting evidence.
- 2.5 Under the new Coalition Government, Eric Pickles was appointed as Secretary of State (SoS) for Communities and Local Government (CLG) in May 2010. Pickles' letter of the same month confirmed the Government's intention to 'rapidly abolish' Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs). In July 2010, a letter was issued by CLG confirming the SoS's revocation of RSSs with immediate effect.
- 2.6 A number of legal challenges were made to the SoS's July 2010 decision to revoke RSSs, including a challenge brought by CALA Homes, who have continued to legally challenge subsequent statements issued by the Government in respect of the status of

RSSs. The most recent decision by the Courts confirmed that, at present, the Government's intention to abolish RSSs may only be worthy of being given weight in "very few" cases, at least until Parliament has accepted the principle of abolition and until Strategic Environmental Assessment has been undertaken.

- 2.7 On this basis, the policies within the South East Plan currently remain part of the adopted Development Plan that covers the Lodge Hill site, and "weight" should therefore be attributed to them.
- 2.8 The Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East of England (The South East Plan) was adopted in May 2009 and contains the following heritage policy and supporting text:

**POLICY BE6: MANAGEMENT OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT
WHEN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING PLANS AND STRATEGIES, LOCAL
AUTHORITIES AND OTHER BODIES WILL ADOPT POLICIES AND SUPPORT
PROPOSALS WHICH PROTECT, CONSERVE AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE,
ENHANCE THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AND THE CONTRIBUTION IT MAKES
TO LOCAL AND REGIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS AND SENSE OF PLACE. THE
REGION'S INTERNATIONALLY AND NATIONALLY DESIGNATED HISTORIC
ASSETS SHOULD RECEIVE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF PROTECTION. PROPOSALS
THAT MAKE SENSITIVE USE OF HISTORIC ASSETS THROUGH REGENERATION,
PARTICULARLY WHERE THESE BRING REDUNDANT OR UNDER-USED
BUILDINGS AND AREAS INTO APPROPRIATE USE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.**

12.15

THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT INCLUDES THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF PAST HUMAN ACTIVITY. IT IS ALL AROUND US AS PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE, AND IT IS THEREFORE DYNAMIC AND CONTINUALLY SUBJECT TO CHANGE. IT IS NOT LIMITED TO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES, BUT INCLUDES LANDSCAPES, BOTH URBAN AND RURAL AND AS AN EXAMPLE OF ITS GREAT DIVERSITY, MARINE HERITAGE SITES AROUND THE COAST. THESE ENVIRONMENTS ARE FRAGILE AND REQUIRE PROTECTION, BUT ALSO HAVE AN ENORMOUS POTENTIAL TO CONTRIBUTE TO A SENSE OF PLACE AND IDENTITY AND ADD TO THE QUALITY OF OUR DAILY LIVES THROUGH UNDERSTANDING AND APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT AND ACCESS.

12.16

IT IS WIDELY RECOGNISED THAT THE SOUTH EAST HAS A RICH AND DIVERSE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT. THIS IS A TREMENDOUS ASSET, A PRECIOUS AND IRREPLACEABLE EXPRESSION OF OUR HISTORY, HERITAGE AND CULTURE, VISIBLY SO, WHERE IT LIES AT THE HEART OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL CHARACTER AND SENSE OF PLACE. THE HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND LANDSCAPES THAT CHARACTERISE THE REGION ADD MUCH TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE THAT UNDERPINS THE REGION'S ECONOMY. BOTH THE RURAL LANDSCAPE AND THE HISTORIC URBAN FABRIC INFLUENCES INVESTMENT DECISIONS OF INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES. THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT IS PART OF THE WIDER ENVIRONMENT OF THE REGION THAT IS A 'DRAW' FOR THOSE INVESTING IN THE AREA.

12.17

REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC FEATURES AND SITES IN THE SOUTH EAST INCLUDE:

1. HISTORIC CITIES OF CANTERBURY, CHICHESTER, OXFORD, ROCHESTER, SOUTHAMPTON AND WINCHESTER
2. MARITIME HERITAGE RELATING TO THE THAMES ESTUARY, SOLENT, THE CHANNEL COAST INCLUDING NAVAL DOCKYARDS OF CHATHAM, PORTSMOUTH AND SHEERNESS, REGENCY BRIGHTON AND THE SEASIDE BUILT HERITAGE OF THE KENT AND SUSSEX COASTS
3. AN HISTORIC COUNTRYSIDE OF VARYING CHARACTER REFLECTING BOTH MIDLANDS ENCLOSURE ON TOP OF OPEN FIELD SYSTEMS AND MORE ORGANICALLY DEVELOPED LANDSCAPES OF KENT AND SUSSEX.
4. AN OUTSTANDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE FROM THE PALAEOLITHIC SITES OF BOXGROVE AND THE THAMES GRAVELS, THROUGH A RICH PREHISTORY REFLECTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE, THROUGH ROMAN CENTRES OF CANTERBURY, CHICHESTER AND SILCHESTER AND THE WIDER NETWORK OF SMALLER TOWNS, VILLAGES AND OTHER RURAL SETTLEMENTS, THROUGH MAJOR SAXON AND MEDIEVAL ECCLESIASTICAL AND URBAN CENTRES.
5. THE NETWORK OF HISTORIC MARKET TOWNS AND VILLAGES WITH THEIR MEDIEVAL CHURCHES AND OTHER HISTORIC BUILDINGS
6. THE STATELY HOMES AND HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS RINGING LONDON FROM OXFORDSHIRE TO KENT
7. THE DEFENCE HERITAGE OF THE REGION WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN THE FRONT LINE OF THE DEFENCE OF ENGLAND.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGNATIONS IN THE SOUTH EAST

- **MORE THAN 76,000 LISTED BUILDINGS (> 5,500 GRADE I AND GRADE II*) INCLUDING MORE THAN 200 BUILDINGS AT RISK (MORE THAN ANY OTHER REGION)**
- **ALMOST 2,000 CONSERVATION AREAS**
- **ABOUT 2,600 SCHEDULED MONUMENTS**
- **MORE THAN 350 REGISTERED HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS AND SIX REGISTERED BATTLEFIELDS**
- **TWO INSCRIBED WORLD HERITAGE SITES (AND THREE ON THE TENTATIVE LIST)**
- **FINDS RECORDED IN 22 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORDS MAINTAINED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

12.18

APART FROM THE DESIGNATIONS REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE BOX, ACCOUNT NEEDS TO BE TAKEN OF THE WIDER HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORDS THAT CURRENTLY PROVIDE INFORMATION ON SOME 130,000 FEATURES IN THE REGION.

12.19

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT THROUGH THE PLANNING SYSTEM AND OTHER PLANS AND STRATEGIES SHOULD BE BASED UPON AN UNDERSTANDING OF ITS SIGNIFICANCE AND VULNERABILITY TO CHANGE. THIS IS CRITICAL GIVEN THAT THE PACE AND SCALE OF CHANGE FACED BY THE REGION. THE STANDARDISATION OF SOME NEW DEVELOPMENT CAN LEAD TO A DILUTION OF LOCAL CHARACTER, AND SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED. LOCAL CHARACTER ASSESSMENT, FOR EXAMPLE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AND URBAN CHARACTERISATION, CAN BE A USEFUL TOOL TO INFORM POLICY DEVELOPMENT.

- 2.9 The Medway Local Plan 2003 was adopted and became operative on 14th May 2003, replacing the Medway Towns Local Plan, 1992 and the Medway Local Plan Deposit Version 1999. The Medway Council is in the process of preparing its LDF which will, once adopted, replace the Local Plan, and in the meantime, a number of the Local Plan policies have been 'saved' for development control purposes. The policies relating to Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Archaeology have been saved for development control purposes and are as follows:

"POLICY BNE20 SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS

SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS ARE DEFINED ON THE PROPOSALS MAP. DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS OR OTHER NATIONALLY IMPORTANT SITES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED IF IT WOULD:

- (I) DAMAGE OR DESTROY SUCH SITES; OR**
- (II) BE DETRIMENTAL TO THEIR SETTING.**

POLICY BNE21 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING POTENTIALLY IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED, UNLESS:

- (I) THE DEVELOPER, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL OFFICER, HAS ARRANGED FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION TO BE CARRIED OUT BY AN APPROVED ARCHAEOLOGICAL BODY BEFORE ANY DECISION ON THE PLANNING APPLICATION IS MADE; AND**
- (II) IT WOULD NOT LEAD TO THE DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS. THERE WILL BE A PREFERENCE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS IN SITU.**
- (III) WHERE DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE DAMAGING TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS, SUFFICIENT TIME AND RESOURCES ARE MADE AVAILABLE FOR AN APPROPRIATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION UNDERTAKEN BY AN APPROVED ARCHAEOLOGICAL BODY. SUCH INVESTIGATIONS SHOULD BE IN ADVANCE OF DEVELOPMENT AND IN**

ACCORDANCE WITH A SPECIFICATION AND PROGRAMME OF WORK APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL. RESOURCES SHOULD ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION.

- 2.10 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the study site or adjacent to its boundaries. The nearest scheduled monument is at Beacon Hill approximately 400m south of the study site. Policy BNE20 of the Medway Local Plan is therefore not thought to be relevant to the study site.
- 2.11 The study site does contain a known archaeological site, a Roman cremation cemetery identified in the early twentieth century, and there is a potential for other archaeological remains. Policy BNE21 is therefore relevant to the study site.

3.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Geology

- 3.1 The solid geology of the study site consists entirely of London Clay (Fig. 2). There is a small outcrop of River Terrace Gravels around the former buildings of Lodge Hill House (Figs 2, 9 and 10) and a small outcrop of Head deposits (pebbly, sandy, clay) around Chattenden Farm (Figs 2, 9 and 11).
- 3.2 Along the extreme north of the site is an area of landslip extending east to west for approximately 1km between Berry Court Wood on the west and a point just east of Lodge Hill Wood on the east. This area of landslip equates with the area of steeply falling ground toward New Barn Farm between 25m and 50m AOD. Further landslips are visible, but not mapped, at Lodge Hill Depot.
- 3.3 Deposits of 'Brickearth' are present to the south, west and north of the study site at lower altitudes.
- 3.4 On the extreme south of the site to the south of the former Chattenden Barracks, Blackheath and Oldhaven Beds are mapped between the high ground of Beacon Hill on the south and an unnamed hill north east of Islingham Farm (Fig. 2). These deposits have however been denuded in part by past extraction.
- 3.5 No alluvial deposits are mapped within the study site, and it is considered unlikely that any of the diminutive watercourses present would have generated any significant alluvial deposits.
- 3.6 Intensive archaeological investigation across Kent since the implementation of Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 in 1990 has revealed that while 'broadly' accurate there is much local variation between the drift geology as published and the actual extent of drift geology. Similar local variation can be anticipated within the study site, with highly localised outcrops of Gravel and Head deposits most likely to be present on the higher ground.
- 3.7 Due to its geology the bulk of the study site is likely to have been utilised as woodland and pasture in the past, with arable agriculture focused on the Brickearths, Blackheath and Oldhaven Beds beyond the site boundary.

Topography

- 3.8 Topographically the site can be divided into four distinct zones (Fig. 3). From north to south these comprise.
- 3.9 A dominant west-east ridge of high ground, rising from 74m AOD at the Former Lodge Hill House to a high point of 85m AOD just east of Lodge Hill Wood, on the north of the site. This ridge rises sharply from a low of 25m on the extreme north at, or around the study sites northern boundary, and then falls southwards within the study site to a low of around 50m AOD.
- 3.10 A valley 'floor' south of the ridge, extending west to east through the bulk of the study site with a narrow 'neck' on the west between Lodge Hill Camp on the north and Round Top Wood on the south. The valley floor lies between 50m AOD and 35m AOD. To the west the narrow neck of the valley extends beyond the study site down to Islingham Farm at around 20m AOD. The headwaters of a stream gather at this western end of the valley and the stream flows south westwards from the study site down towards the Medway. At the eastern end of the valley there is on the south east a wide and shallow opening to the valley which falls eastwards beyond the study site boundary towards Solomon's Farm at around 25m AOD. The headwaters of another stream form here and flows eastwards from the study site. A diminutive narrow dry opening to the valley is also located on the east, slightly to the north of the wider opening.
- 3.11 Forming part of the southern edge of the valley at its southwestern end is a small Hill at Round Top Wood rising to 70m AOD. This forms a notable local landmark particularly when viewed from the south.
- 3.12 A relatively low lying area of ground is present on the extreme south west of the site around the former Chattenden Barracks between 35 and 45m AOD.
- 3.13 It should be noted that very extensive modern landforming has taken place on the site with substantial terracing of the valley side between the ridge and the valley floor. Most notably in the area of Lodge Hill Camp. Elsewhere significant and widespread landforming is observable around Lodge Hill Depot and the site of the former Chattenden Barracks (see Section 7 below).
- 3.14 Analysis of the first edition 6" to 1 mile map of the site (Fig. 9) indicates that there were at this time (1862) no significant water courses within the study site. A number of field drains were present principally draining from north to south and then to the

west, and to the east, feeding the streams at the necks of the principal valley. Two small ponds (still extant) were present on the ridge of high ground around the site of the former Lodge Hill House. These almost certainly represent the result of localised gravel extraction of the small outcrop of Terrace Gravel. A small pond (still extant) was also present at Chattenden Farm, just beyond the study site boundary. This almost certainly served as a simple farm pond.

- 3.15 The hydrology of the site as shown in the 1862 Ordnance Survey contrasts markedly with that present today. Several ponds have been established since 1862 on the principle valley floor, together with substantial open drains, principally running west to east.
- 3.16 Walkovers of the site during December 2008 indicate that much of the lower valley floor is now poorly drained and in some parts of the Lodge Hill Depot a "marsh" type environment is evolving. The emergence of this environment appears to have resulted from the destruction of the former natural and man made field drainage pattern within the site consequent on landforming and constructional activities associated with military activity since the late nineteenth century. Elsewhere the site appears to be generally well drained and dry.
- 3.17 Prior to the late nineteenth century the study site can be characterised as comprising a mix of woodland (principally on the higher ground) and pasture on the valley slopes and floor. This division of land use is quite likely to have pre-dominated since the later Prehistoric periods (4 below). Examination of the relevant Tithe maps at the Centre for Kentish Studies (CKS) revealed these to be too degraded to identify contemporary land use within particular fields.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND TO AD1870.

4.1 Timescales used in this report.

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	450,000 -	12,000 BC
Mesolithic	12,000 -	4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 -	1,800 BC
Bronze Age	1,800 -	600 BC
Iron Age	600 -	AD 43

Historic

Roman	AD 43 -	410
Saxon/Early Medieval	AD 410 -	1066
Medieval	AD 1066 -	1485
Post Medieval	AD 1486 -	Present

4.2 Introduction

4.2.1 It should be noted that no significant modern archaeological fieldwork has been undertaken within the study site, and relatively little such fieldwork has been undertaken in the immediate environs (1km) of the site boundary. The notable exceptions to this are the recent archaeological investigations in advance of the construction of the A289 and Four Elms Roundabout (Clark et al, 2009), and at the Hoo Road, Wainscott development immediately west of the Four Elms Roundabout (Godden et al, forthcoming).

4.3 Palaeolithic (refer to Fig 4)

4.3.1 The predominant London Clay geology of the study site indicates that there is no likelihood of 'in situ' Palaeolithic deposits being encountered due to post depositional erosion and land use and little likelihood of derived residual (redeposited) Palaeolithic material being encountered across most of the study site area.

4.3.2 Residual Palaeolithic material might conceivably be represented in the small outcrop of River Terrace Gravel deposits around the Former Lodge Hill House or in the Head deposits around Chattenden Farm, though the probability of such remains actually being encountered is very low.

- 4.3.3 Fragments of a mammoth tusk were recovered in association with the alluvial deposits of an ancient stream bed close by the Five Elms roundabout, just west of the study sites south western boundary (HER Ref: TQ 77 SE 162 MKE 166). The precise context of the find is uncertain as it was recovered during civil engineering works. These alluvial deposits do not extend into the study site, all parts of which are at a higher altitude than the find which was made at around 20m AOD.
- 4.3.4 A programme of geoarchaeological and Palaeolithic test pitting at the Hoo Road, Wainscott development site (Godden et al, forthcoming) revealed a complete absence of significant Pleistocene strata and no finds of Pleistocene faunal remains or Palaeolithic material.
- 4.3.5 Overall the archaeological potential of the study site for the Palaeolithic can on the available evidence be defined as very low around Lodge Hill and Chattenden Farm and negligible elsewhere. No impact on the indicative masterplan is anticipated.

4.4 **Mesolithic (refer to Fig 4)**

- 4.4.1 Very small quantities of Mesolithic material, including struck and worked flints were recovered in association with the archaeological investigations of the A289 and the Hoo Road Wainscott development site (Clark et al, 2009).
- 4.4.2 Although the landscape of the study site would undoubtedly have been exploited by early Hunter Gatherer groups, camp sites are most likely to have been located at contemporary interfaces of the higher ground and the alluvial floodplain of the Medway and its tributaries. None of these fall within the study site and the closest potential focus is approximately 500m south west of the site boundary.
- 4.4.3 In view of the duration of the Mesolithic period it would be surprising if small quantities of Mesolithic lithic material were not encountered on the site. However, predicting the presence or absence of such material is hugely problematic, as finds deposition will be dictated by the actions of small numbers of 'hunter gatherers' with such finds subsequently being subject to significant post depositional impacts due to subsequent agricultural and development activity.
- 4.4.4 Overall the archaeological potential of the study site for this period can probably be defined as low. No impact on the indicative masterplan is anticipated.

4.5 **Neolithic and Bronze Age (refer to Fig 4)**

- 4.5.1 The archaeological investigations associated with the A289 and Hoo Road Wainscott development (Clark et al, 2009) confirm the emergence of a highly developed agrarian and ritual landscape during these periods, with evidence for field systems and land division, possibly of ritual significance, represented at both sites. Of particular note was evidence for a series of sub-rectangular fields and a number of pit alignments. At least one of the pits had been lined with wicker and may have been open for a considerable period of time (Fig. 4). This complements a pattern now seen widely across Kent (Champion, T in Williams, JH, 2007).
- 4.5.2 Although relatively few finds of Neolithic date were identified from either site, the Bronze Age was more clearly represented with Deverel Rimbury type pottery and diagnostic lithic material being recovered (HER Ref: TQ 77 SE 158, MKE 20162 late Bronze Age pit, Four Elms Roundabout TQ 75032 71424).
- 4.5.3 During 1918, practice military trench digging, just beyond the study sites south western boundary between Chattenden Barracks and Islingham Farm, revealed a large late Bronze Age barrel shaped urn, together with a second unornamented urn. The finds were accompanied by a deposit of '**black earth and wood ashes**' indicating that a cremation burial or burials were represented (HER TQ 77 SE7, MKE 2636, TQ 751 718). Considered in conjunction with the evidence for Bronze Age activity from the A289 and Hoo Road Wainscott development it would appear probable that a small 'urnfield' cemetery is represented here, rather than a purely isolated find.
- 4.5.4 The location of this find at the interface of the Woolwich Beds with the London Clay is significant. It may suggest burial was focused on the edges of the London Clay, which in this period could not be ploughed and was suitable only for pasture and woodland, at its margin with the lighter soils suitable for arable agriculture.
- 4.5.5 The Beacon (SAM 25468, HER TQ 77 SE 6 MKE 2635; TQ 7577 7146) at Beacon Hill might potentially have originated as a Bronze Age burial mound (barrow) a class of monument which is increasingly being recognised in Kent's archaeological landscape.
- 4.5.6 During these periods the study site is likely to have been divided principally between pasture and woodland. The heavy soils of the London Clay would have been unsuited for arable cultivation and the limited extent of the River Terrace Gravels and Head deposits within the study site suggest that these are unlikely to have been a focus of

such activity. The land within the study site may have been divided by pit alignments, ditched field systems and enclosures, all likely to have left significant archaeological residues.

- 4.5.7 Although the emerging pattern of settlements in Neolithic and Bronze Age Kent appears relatively dense (Champion T, in Williams, JH, 2007), settlement within the study site during these periods is unlikely to have been intensive due to the underlying geology. It can perhaps be anticipated that a very small number of pastoral farmsteads or "small holdings" might be represented, particularly close by the outcrops of gravel at Lodge Hill and Head deposits at Chattenden Farm where horticultural cultivation would have been practical, or along the margins of the lighter soil on the extreme south west of the site.
- 4.5.8 The presence of a probable cremation burial or burials between the former Chattenden Barracks and Islingham Farm is noteworthy. Further funerary remains may be represented toward the interfaces of geological deposits. The prominent ridge on the north of the study site around the Former Lodge Hill House and the hill top at Round Top Wood could potentially have been foci of ritual and particularly funerary activity. Evidence may be obscured here by the extent of landslip that has occurred at Lodge Hill and of tree cover both at Lodge Hill and at Round Top Wood.
- 4.5.9 Overall the archaeological potential of the study site for the Neolithic and Bronze Age can probably be defined as good but localised. Evidence for land, division and agricultural activity is likely to be represented, while settlement, ritual and funerary activity may be present at low densities. No impact on the indicative masterplan is anticipated. Preservation in situ of remains of these periods may be achievable within the indicative masterplan layout.

4.6 **Iron Age and Roman (refer to Fig 5)**

- 4.6.1 There is considerable continuity between the Iron Age and Roman periods in Kent. During these periods population densities within Kent approached (and possibly exceeded) those of the early Modern period (Champion, T and Millett M, in Williams, JH, 2007), though there appears to have been a very significant decline in population in the late Roman period possibly associated with several plagues which are documented on the continent. Consequently Iron Age and Roman settlement and activity is widely evidenced across Kent and the Medway Valley is no exception to this. However, the relatively low level of past archaeological fieldwork in the general area of the study site, and in particular within 1km of the study site boundaries, means that relatively few

archaeological finds of these periods are actually recorded on the Kent Historic Environment Record (HER) within the study area.

- 4.6.2 The archaeological investigations associated with the A289 and Hoo Road, Wainscott development (Clark et al, 2009), revealed a small Roman Road, aligned north west to south east and probably forming a precursor to the A2108/A228 linking Watling Street to the Hoo Peninsula. The alignment of this road as excavated suggests it would have run just south of the extreme south west of the study site, to the south of the former Chattenden Barracks.
- 4.6.3 Aligned on the Roman road was an extensive field system and within the line of the A289 a large rectangular ditched enclosure some 70m by 64m, of late 1st or 2nd century date, defined by a single V shaped ditch constructed sometime in the later 1st century. The enclosure ditch had a flat base and was typically up to 2m wide and 1.5m deep, with an entrance causeway to the south west. A few postholes along the inside edge of the ditch suggest that the enclosure may also have had an internal fence (Clark et al, 2009: HER Ref: TQ 77 SE159, MKE20163).
- 4.6.4 Within the ditched enclosure the vast majority of the features were concentrated in the north west quarter. Among the main structures identified was a square masonry enclosure of chalk blockwork bonded with puddled clay. Symmetrically within these walls was a smaller, square walled structure, and in plan form this building complex is identical to a number of Romano-Celtic shrines investigated elsewhere in southern England. If the interpretation of this structure as a Romano-Celtic shrine is correct, its location within an enclosure and situated close to a watercourse is one with several parallels in Roman Britain and Northern Gaul.
- 4.6.5 This putative Romano-Celtic shrine complex lay just north of the Four Elms Roundabout close by the existing stream. This stream is in part fed from within the study site (3.7 above). At the head of the stream, close by the western neck of the main valley within the Lodge Hill Dept part of the site, a small Roman cemetery was recorded during the construction of part of the depot in the early twentieth century.
- 4.6.6 The finds were reported in Volume XXVIII of the Journal Archaeologia Cantiana (refer to Plate 2):

"Lodge Hill Powder Magazines, Chattenden - While these Magazines were in course of construction, by the courtesy of the Admiral Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard, I was enabled to watch the excavations. They covered an

extensive area, but nothing was found. In June 1907, however, I was informed, that two Roman interments had been met with about seven yards apart. The first grave was two feet beneath the surface, and contained a fine cinerary urn of brownish coloured ware partially filled with calcinated human bones. Height 13 inches, diameter of mouth 3½ inches, of bulge 10¾ inches, of base 4¼ inches. The second was more prolific, yielding the following vessels:-

	Height in inches	Diameter of neck	Bulge	Base
Cinerary urn (smashed beyond repair), with bones	-	-	-	-
Bowl of pseudo - Samian ware, richly embossed with the festoon and tassel moulding, scrolls, festoons, and hounds hunting what appear to be lionesses and cubs (2)	4¾	9½ (at rim)	-	3½
Flanged bowl of pseudo-Samian ware (3) Flange projects ¾ inch	2⅞	4⅝ (at rim)	-	2
Cup of pseudo-Samian ware (4)	1¾	3¾ (at rim)	-	1½
Patera of pseudo-Samian ware (4)	2	7 (at rim)	-	3¼
Patera of brown pottery (6)	1½	6⅝ (at rim)	-	6
Goblet with handle, of brown pottery (7)	7½	1	5½	1½

Two other urn-vases of drab ware were also found, but they were crushed to atoms.

The specimens of pseudo-Samian ware are entirely denuded of their glaze, and the elaborate design upon the fine bowl is also nearly obliterated by the chemical action of the London Clay in which they were deposited. Brick-earth has a similar effect upon this ware, but not to so great an extent. Had it not been for this misfortune the Chattenden bowl would have been almost the finest example we have seen in this county. The site of this discovery is about two hundred yards to the east of Chattenden Lane, which leads from the Frindsbury and Hoo road past the western boundary of the Magazines. A short distance from the westgate entrance the road turns, and continues as a private road to Lodge Hill, but at the bend it goes straight on as a 'right-of-way' footpath across the fields to Cliffe, which is said to have been formerly

the line of the continuation of Chattenden Lane passing east of Berry Court Wood, and which must now be regarded as having existed in Roman times. By the friendly assistance of Rear-Admiral Giffard the Chattenden pottery has been secured for the Rochester Museum. Plate 2 shows part of the finds assemblage with vessels of typical first and second century form.

4.6.7 The Victorian County History (VCH Kent Vol 3, 1932, p150) records these finds as follows:

"Chattenden – Five cremation burials were found in 1907 and subsequently, near the west entrance to Lodge Hill powder magazines, 200 yards east of Chattenden Lane with them was much Samian now in the Rochester Museum probably late first or early second century [(PLXXXii) Arch. Cant XXVIII XCV (PLII), XXXIX IXXIX]"

4.6.8 The presence of a probable 1st-2nd century Romano-Celtic shrine some 450m west of the south western boundary of the study site, and a contemporary cremation cemetery within the study site, both associated with the same stream system, indicates that the stream itself may have been regarded as 'sacred' in this period and could have been a focus of further ritual and funerary activity.

4.6.9 By the third century AD the Romano Celtic shrine at the Four Elms roundabout appears to have been converted to agricultural use, and that site as a whole evidenced an increased level of agricultural and possibly domestic use before apparently being abandoned in the fourth century AD.

4.6.10 Few other finds of Roman material are recorded within 1km of the study site boundary. A Denarius of Gordian III and the Empress Tranquillina is recorded from 'Cooling near Strood' (HER Ref: TQ 77 NE 6 MKE 2550 – TQ 75 75), though the precise findspot is unknown. An extremely doubtful 'pipe clay venus figurine' is recorded from 'Cooling' in 1958 (TQ 77 NE 14 – MKE 2558 ; TQ 75 75), though a location in Hoo is also given by the HER (TQ 77 SE1 – MKE 2631, 519 7872).

4.6.11 Because of the predominant London Clay geology, settlement within the study site during these periods is unlikely to have been intensive and it can be anticipated that a very small number of pastoral farmsteads or small holdings might be represented, again particularly by the outcrops of River Terrace Gravel around the former Lodge Hill House and the Head deposits at Chattenden Farm or along the margins of the lighter

soil on the extreme south west of the site, all areas where horticulture would have been practical.

4.6.12 The presence of a Roman cremation cemetery within the study site is noteworthy and a connection between the location of this and the 'headwaters' of a small stream flowing south west from the site appears very likely. Evidence for further burials and associated ritual activity may potentially be encountered within the site.

4.6.13 Overall the archaeological potential of the study site for these periods can be defined as good but localised. No impact on the indicative masterplan is anticipated. Preservation in situ of remains of these periods may be achievable within the indicative masterplan.

4.7 **Anglo Saxon (refer to Figure 6)**

4.7.1 The archaeological investigations associated with the A289 and Hoo Road, Wainscott development (Clark et al, 2009) revealed the existence of a substantial and extensive Middle Saxon (6th – 7th century) settlement comprising of several sub rectangular enclosures set within an extensive field system. The enclosures contained several buildings including at least one substantial timber hall, and several sunken featured buildings indicating that the site was a probable Estate Centre (HER Ref: TQ 77 SE 160, MKE 20164, TQ 75047 71417). The relatively high level of coins recovered from the Hoo Road site and their association with high status metalwork finds may even indicate that this was a Royal Estate Centre or 'Vill'. The Anglo Saxon settlement partly overlay the earlier Roman activity and it appears possible that this represents the survival of a Roman estate or agricultural land holding into the Anglo Saxon period. A summary of the finds on the line of the A2289 is given in Welch, M in Williams, JH in 2007 p.203.

"North of Wainscott, across the Medway from Rochester (Rady et al, 2004), three successive enclosure ditches were associated with at least two, and possibly three, rectangular buildings (Structure 4 (c 14m x 6m)) had various early standard features such as pairs of post holes for earth-fast upright wall planking 'weak' corners and a double-square layout separated by central opposed doorways. Although Structure 5 was less complete, a series of post holes and flint post pads demonstrate that it was less than 4.5m wide. Neither building produced direct dating evidence, but both have been attributed to the sixth to seventh century. Structure 6 was defined by an east-west beam trench on its south edge and by associated post holes, but is more typical of later Anglo Saxon buildings"

Subsequent work at Hoo Road confirmed the sixth to seventh century dating.

- 4.7.2 It has been suggested above (4.5.5) that the substantial Beacon or earth mound at Beacon Hill might potentially have originated as a late Prehistoric burial mound or barrow (SAM 25468; TQ 77 SE 6, MKE 2635, TQ 7578 7146). It is also possible that its origin lay in the early part of this period when barrows were utilised for high status burials. Similarly a late Prehistoric barrow might have become the focus of early Saxon funerary activity (Welch, M, in Williams, JH, 2007, p227-228).
- 4.7.3 In c.764 twenty 'sunlungs' of land at "Aeslingham", (now Islingham, represented by Islingham Farm, 300m north of the Hoo Road settlement and approximately 500m west of the study site boundary) was granted by King Offa of Mercia and his under King Sigere of Kent to the Bishops of Rochester. The Grant was confirmed by Eanmund King of Kent (Cambell, A, 1973).
- 4.7.4 No finds of Anglo Saxon material have been recovered within the study sites boundaries, although a coin of Knut (Canute) was found close by the study site boundary at Four Elms Hill (HER Ref: TQ 77 SE34, MKE2663; TQ 756 717). Few other finds of Anglo Saxon material are recorded within 1km of the study site. A middle Saxon coin (Sceatta) is recorded 'from Cooling' but the precise findspot is now unknown (HER Ref: TQ 77 NE13, MKE2557 TQ 756 759).
- 4.7.5 During this period the study site is likely to have been divided between woodland and pasture. Settlement within the study site during this period is unlikely to have been intensive and it can be anticipated that a very small number of pastoral farmsteads or smallholdings might be represented – particularly by the outcrops of River Terrace Gravels at the former Lodge Hill House and Head deposits at Chattenden Farm or along the margins of the lighter soil at the extreme south west of the site. No impact on the indicative masterplan is anticipated. Preservation in situ of remains of this period may be achievable within the indicative masterplan layout.

4.8 **Late Medieval and Post Medieval (refer to Figure 7)**

- 4.8.1 At the time of the Domesday Survey (1086) Chattenden formed part of the Bishop of Rochester's estates at Frindsbury:

"Before 1066 it answered for 10 sulungs; now 7. Land for 15 ploughs. In Lordship 5 ploughs. 40 villagers with 28 smallholders have 11 ploughs. A

church; 9 slaves; a mill at 12s; meadow, 40 acres; woodland, 5 pigs. Value before 1066 and later £8; now £25" (Morgan, P, 1983; 13)

4.8.2 The place name 'Chattenden' means 'forest settlement' from the elements 'Ceto' and 'Ham Dun' (Glover, J, 1976). It is recorded as 'Chetindunam' in AD1100 and 'Chatindone' in AD1281. The place name suggests that the level of local forestation was far greater than today and there are references to disputes over the ownership of 'Chetindone Woods' (Hasted, Vol 3, 1797). There was no Medieval 'village' at Chattenden and instead settlement consisted of a number of dispersed farmsteads. Chattenden Farm itself may have originated in the late Medieval period as the Manor or estate centre. Islingham continued as a major estate centre throughout this period and a chapel was constructed here in the late eleventh or early twelfth century (SMR Ref: TQ 77 SW12-MKE2676; TQ 7469 7173).

4.8.3 Beacon Hill Hoo common is the site of a warning beacon first mentioned in an Ordnance of 1377 (HER TQ 77 SE6, MKE 2635; TQ 7577 7146). The mound is some 25m in diameter and 6.5m high and located on a promontory with commanding views over the Medway. This feature might conceivably have originated as a late Prehistoric (4.5.5) and/or Anglo Saxon (4.7.2) burial mound. Beacon Hill is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (25468).

4.8.4 The earliest specific description of Chattenden appears to be from Edward Hasteds "The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent, Volume 3 (1797)".

"Chattenden is an estate in this parish (Frindsbury) which was once accounted an appendage to the Manor of Frindsbury; and was as such given with it to the Church of Rochester, in the time of the Saxon heptarchy, and remained part of the possessions of the priory (of Rochester) at its dissolution in the 32nd year of King Henry VIII. When this manor, with the rest of the possessions of the priory was surrendered into the Kings hands, who in that year granted, the Manor of Chattenden, and its appurtenances to Sir George Brocke, Lord Cobham"

4.8.5 Andrews and Drury's map of 1769 (Fig. 8) appears to be highly inaccurate for the area of the site. Indeed it would appear that much of the Hoo peninsula was simply 'sketched' in by the surveyors. However, the former Lodge Hill House on the northern ridge of the site is clearly marked, while buildings are shown in the area of Chattenden Farm.

4.8.6 The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1862 (Fig. 9) shows the study site as comprising of unremarkable agricultural land. The former Mansion House at 'Lodge Hill' and associated ancillary buildings are shown together with 'Chattenden Farm' and a house at 'Little Chattenden'. Apart from these buildings no structures are shown within the study site.

4.8.7 Several areas of woodland are shown. These include:

- Lodge Hill Wood (remains unchanged to present).
- Wybornes Wood (remains unchanged to present).
- Deangate Wood (now partly cleared from 1862).
- Sixteen Acre Wood (now wholly removed within study site boundary).
- Round Top Wood (now partly cleared on the north and south east by post 1862 development).
- Ashwood/Ash plantation (now partly cleared on the east by post 1862 development).
- Great Chattenden Wood (now partly cleared on the east by post 1862 development)
- Berry Court Wood (unchanged from 1862).

4.8.8 Chattenden Woods are described by English Nature as follows:

SSSI Entry for Chattenden Woods

[<http://english-nature.org.uk>]

"This woodland is representative of coppice with standards woodland on the London Clay, which is a scarce habitat in Kent away from the Blean Woods.

The standards are largely pendunculate oak quercus robur but ash, field maple, aspen, gean and the scare wild service also occur. Ash is the most frequent coppice species with hazel and hornbeam also present. Sweet chestnut also is locally frequent and has recently been planted in the southern part of the woods. There is also a varied shrub layer with hawthorn generally predominant but with other species such as birch and wayfaring tree also present".

4.8.9 Around the former Lodge Hill House the 1862 map shows an area of rough ground called 'rough shaw' which was probably maintained for shooting purposes. This area is described by English Nature today as:

**"Rough Shaw which is an area of neutral grassland with scattered scrub"
[<http://english-nature.org.uk>].**

- 4.8.10 The bulk of the study site in 1862 was shown as enclosed fields, and walkovers of the site indicate that these are likely to have predominantly comprised of pasture until the advent of mechanical ploughing in the twentieth century.
- 4.8.11 The Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 mile maps of 1866-67, provide details of the former Mansion House at Lodge Hill (Fig. 10), which comprised a central Mansion House with two wings (Plate 3), while Chattenden Farm just south of the study site boundary (Fig. 11) is shown as a typical multi-courtyard farm complex.
- 4.8.12 Overall the archaeological potential of the study site for these periods can be defined as limited. Chattenden Farm is likely to be of late Medieval origin, while the former Mansion House at Lodge Hill is likely to be of late Post Medieval origin.
- 4.8.13 All field boundaries within the study site as indicated in the 1862 Ordnance Survey are likely to be of late Medieval or post Medieval origin. Woods at Chattenden are documented in the late Medieval period and these probably equate in part with the extensive coppice woodland present today.
- 4.8.14 In general the vast bulk of the study site will not contain significant late Medieval or pre-1870 Post Medieval archaeological remains – though evidence for former land division and agricultural activity is likely to be represented. Historic boundaries and woodland have been utilised to inform the indicative masterplan layout.

4.9 **Undated**

- 4.9.1 A single group of crop or soil mark features are recorded within 1km of the study site boundary (HER Ref: TQ 77 SE 32, MKE 2662 - TQ 787 734). A review of available air photographs for the site held by Kent County Council and the National Monuments Record, Swindon revealed no features within the study site that might be assigned a pre-modern date.

5.0 WALKOVER SURVEY

- 5.1 A walkover of the study site was undertaken during December 2008. It was rapidly established that within those parts of the study site, and the adjacent study area, under woodland the density of coppice tree and scrub growth was such that pre-modern archaeology, including any earthworks, were unlikely to be in any way intelligible. Tree and scrub growth had previously precluded detailed survey of the woodland parts of the site (PCA Surveys pers comm) and it is for these reasons that these areas are shown blank in the topographical survey (contrast figure 3 with Plate 1). The density of woodland at the study site can be appreciated from views of Chattenden Wood (Plate 4) and Lodge Hill Wood (Plate 5).
- 5.2 Tree and scrub growth within the site were additionally found to extend well beyond the extent of woodland as defined in the 1862 6" to 1 mile Ordnance Survey (Fig. 9), due principally to self seeding growth during the second half of the twentieth century. This is best appreciated through a comparison of the extent of tree cover as shown in 1862 (Fig. 9) with the extent recorded today (Plate 1). From the north of the site working south, the following observations can be made.
- 5.3 On the ridge of high ground at the former Lodge Hill House, traces of the former eighteenth and nineteenth century buildings are clearly visible. The area of Rough Shaw (Plate 6) was found to match English Natures description (4.8.9 above). No indication of pre-eighteenth century activity was visible here. The curiously 'flat' topography at the top of the ridge is clearly the product of the extensive land slip recorded in the geological survey.
- 5.4 Below the top of the ridge is an extensive belt of relatively level pasture (approximately 1.75km east west by 200 to 250m north south), between the ridge and valley sides (Plates 7, 8 and 9). The grassland here has clearly been improved by past ploughing and no pre-modern earthwork features are visible.
- 5.5 South of and below the belt of pasture the valley sides fall sharply to the valley floor which is principally occupied by the Lodge Hill Depot. The northern valley side has in places been very extensively terraced and in some areas actually declines in a series of uneven steps down to the valley floor (Plates 10 and 11).
- 5.6 The floor of the valley at Lodge Hill Depot appears to have been artificially levelled and it is assessed that this was probably done progressively, during the course of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Material excavated from the valley sides and

arisings from the construction of subterranean structures was probably used to fill the valley base. Consequently the original subtleties of the land form of the valley floor have now been obscured, and former field boundaries are visible only in the form of stands, or partial alignments of mature trees (Plates 12, 13 and 14).

- 5.7 Toward the southern edge of the valley floor a 'marsh' type environment is developing. This appears to be the result of the neglect, blocking or cutting of former drainage patterns within the site (Plate 15).
- 5.8 At the southern edge of the valley floor ground level rises gently again toward Deangate Wood and Chattenden Farm (Plate 16). A relatively small strip of improved pasture approximately 800m east-west by 100m north-south is present here, though some recent self-seeding tree growth is apparent.
- 5.9 As part of the walkover survey a site visit was made to Lodge Hill Camp. Photography was not however permitted within the camp itself, though photographs were allowed from the camp exterior (Plates 17, 18 and 19).
- 5.10 Observation at Lodge Hill Camp revealed clear and widespread evidence for terracing into the natural valley side. The camp occupies two large principal terraces, clearly created though massive cut and fill operations. Subsidiary terraces are present throughout the site, with evidence for individual buildings additionally being cut into the natural slope (Plate 19). As a consequence no features of any kind were observed within this part of the study site which could be attributed a pre-twentieth century date.
- 5.11 Within the Ammunition Store at Lodge Hill Depot it was evident that nineteenth century landforming had completely removed or obscured the pre-late nineteenth century landform. Consequently no features of any kind could be identified within this part of the site which could be attributed a pre-late nineteenth century date.
- 5.12 On the south of the study site at the former Chattenden Barracks evidence was observed for the terracing of the natural contours (Plate 20). This terracing was probably cumulative, resulting from the original nineteenth century development of the Barracks and its subsequent redevelopment during the late twentieth century. As at Lodge Hill Camp the terracing appears to have resulted from cut and fill operations. Consequently, no features of any kind could be identified within this part of the site which could be attributed a pre-late nineteenth century date.

- 5.13 Overall because of the extent of existing woodland and scrub and in particular because of nineteenth and twentieth century landforming and development, the pre-late nineteenth century landscape and micro-topography of the study site is with a few noteworthy exceptions such as the Ridge at Lodge Hill, now largely obscured.

6.0 FOCI WITH HEIGHTENED POTENTIAL FOR EARLY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ACTIVITY

6.1 Although the archaeological evidence from the study site and the immediate environs, within 1km of the study site boundary, is extremely limited a number of foci within the study site can be identified which have a heightened potential for early archaeological activity. These foci are not however definitive and will require revision and modification in the light of subsequent survey, assessment and analysis. It must be stressed that additional foci will inevitably be identified.

6.2 Ridge Line North of Site from Berry Court Wood to Lodge Hill Wood

6.2.1 Although this part of the study site has as yet produced no evidence for pre-eighteenth century archaeological activity, the conjunction of an area of River Terrace gravels with a high ridge line between 74 and 85m AOD indicates that this area is likely to have been a focus for early archaeological activity. The dominant ridge provides extensive views of the Hoo peninsula to the north and east, and across the Medway valley to the south and west (though the valley floor is obscured in these directions). Perhaps more importantly the ridge forms a dominant landmark on the skyline from the lower lying alluvial plain to the north and east.

6.2.2 The dominant ridge line could have been a focus for late Prehistoric and Anglo Saxon funerary activity. Such ridges are frequently the preferred locations for late Prehistoric and Anglo Saxon burial mounds or barrows and associated grave fields due to their dominant position on the skyline. Barrows and associated cemeteries often serve as a visual statement proclaiming a communities 'ownership' of a landscape (Champion, T in Williams, JH, p87-92).

6.2.3 Recent archaeological investigations in north Kent, have surprisingly shown dominant ridges overlooking alluvial plains and watercourses to be preferred locations for later Prehistoric settlement, often situated to exploit both upland and lowland environments (Champion, T, 2007). In many instances where, as on the study site, geology suggests a livestock economy predominated, binary settlements with a "summer settlement" on the marsh pasture and "winter settlement" on the higher downland pasture can be postulated.

6.3 Principal Valley - Lodge Hill Depot

- 6.3.1 The conjunction of a well documented Roman cemetery (some 200m east of the western entrance to Lodge Hill Depot) close by the narrow western neck of the principle valley, and the headwaters of a stream known to be associated with a Romano-Celtic shrine is potentially significant. This is an area in which it should be anticipated that further ritual and funerary activity may be encountered.
- 6.3.2 At the eastern end of the valley occupied by Lodge Hill Depot the valley terminates in two narrow necks, the most southerly of which is associated with an eastward flowing stream. Topographically the similarity of these locations to that of the Roman cemetery at the western end of the valley suggests that further Roman activity - possibly further burials might be present.
- 6.3.3 At the south western edge of the valley occupied by Lodge Hill Depot the spur of higher ground now occupied by Chattenden Farm would have formed an obvious foci for settlement from the earliest times.
- 6.4 **Round Top Wood**
- 6.4.1 The significant hilltop at Round Top Wood which rises to 70m AOD, could potentially have formed an obvious focus for early populations with funerary or ritual activity perhaps most likely to be represented from the late Prehistoric, Roman and Anglo Saxon periods.
- 6.5 **Extreme South of site, Former Chattenden Barracks**
- 6.5.1 The late Prehistoric, Roman and Anglo Saxon archaeological landscape recorded in the archaeological investigations on the line of the A289 and at the Hoo Road Wainscott development is most likely to be represented on the extreme south of the site at the edge of a stream valley, at the interface of the London Clay with the Woolwich Beds. Immediately adjacent to this part of the site a late Bronze Age burial and Anglo Saxon coin have been recorded.

7.0 CHARACTERISATION OF PAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACTS (REFER TO FIGURE 13)

7.1 Woodland (Great Chattenden Wood, Berry Court Wood, Lodge Hill Wood, Round Top Wood, Deangate Wood)

- 7.1.1 Within the wooded parts of the site past archaeological impacts from perhaps 1000 years or more of tree planting, growth, tree felling and falling may have been significant.
- 7.1.2 Planting could potentially have had a direct archaeological impact through excavation particularly from the early twentieth century when mechanised planting methodologies begun to be adopted and occurred more significantly after the Second World War. In this context modern plantation woodland can be identified as likely to have had the most significant archaeological impact, with tree planting in machine cut furrows.
- 7.1.3 Root systems can have a significant impact on archaeological deposits, particularly on stratigraphic sequences and structural remains. However, this impact depends very much on the species and dimensions of tree. Within coppice woodland which predominates in the area of the study site impacts are likely to be relatively minimal.
- 7.1.4 Tree felling or falling and the grubbing out or burning of root systems can have a severe localised archaeological impact. In such circumstances tree bowls punctuate, but do not entirely remove the underlying archaeology.
- 7.1.5 Mechanised woodland clearance in the late nineteenth and twentieth century is likely to have had a very severe and very widespread archaeological impact.
- 7.1.6 A number of areas within the study site can be identified where mechanised woodland clearance may have occurred. These include:
- Parts of Deangate Wood, late nineteenth and twentieth century clearance at Lodge Hill Depot.
 - Sixteen Acre Wood (now cleared) late nineteenth and twentieth century clearance at Lodge Hill Depot.
 - Parts of Round Top Wood Ordnance Store late nineteenth and twentieth century, Lodge Hill Depot
 - Parts of Berry Court Wood and Great Chattenden Wood, twentieth century, Lodge Hill Camp.

- Parts of Round Top Wood - nineteenth and twentieth century Chattenden Barracks.

7.2 **Built Zones, Lodge Hill Camp, Lodge Hill Depot, Chattenden Barracks**

7.2.1 Within the built zones of the study site past archaeological impacts can be characterised as potentially having been severe and widespread. The principal mechanisms of impact can be identified as follows.

7.2.2 **Landforming and Terracing.** Mass landforming and terracing is documented and evident across the whole of Lodge Hill Camp, extensive areas of Lodge Hill Depot (most notably along the northern valley side, but also across the valley floor), and across the site of the former Chattenden Barracks. In all cases cut and fill operations appear to have been undertaken prior to building construction to form level 'platforms' out of the naturally sloping contours of the study site. Multiple periods of landforming are known to have occurred as the military facilities developed during the course of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The impact of this landforming and terracing can currently be characterised as severe and widespread.

7.2.3 **Construction of subterranean or semi subterranean structures.** Across Lodge Hill Depot numerous subterranean structures are documented, principally the large Ordnance bunkers, but also numerous shelters and other facilities (including reservoirs and storage tanks). These will have had a severe localised archaeological impact. Indeed it is the construction of one such structure at Lodge Hill Depot in 1906-1907 which revealed the documented Roman cemetery. Cumulative impacts can be anticipated from programmes of rebuilding and alteration. Impacts at Lodge Hill Depot from such structures has clearly been greater than at Lodge Hill Camp and the former Chattenden Barracks.

7.2.4 **Construction of buildings and associated cutting of footings and services.** In all built parts of the site the cutting of footings and services will have had a severe but localised archaeological impact. However, the scale of a number of structures, the principal buildings of Lodge Hill Camp the Ordnance bunkers at Lodge Hill Depot and the former (nineteenth and twentieth century) buildings of Chattenden Barracks suggest it is unlikely that any archaeological remains will now survive beneath the existing and former building footprints.

7.2.5 **Extensive areas of roadways, surface parking and hardstanding.** Extensive roadways, surface parking and hardstanding are present at Lodge Hill Camp, Lodge Hill Depot and the former Chattenden Barracks. The construction of these is likely to

have had a severe and widespread archaeological impact, through machine clearance and information.

- 7.2.6 **Landscaping.** At Lodge Hill Camp and Lodge Hill Depot a number of artificial landscape features are present principally ponds, but including earthworks, a short length of railway, bridge structures and a practice airstrip. As with buildings the construction of these will have had a severe but generally localised archaeological impact. In the case of ponds all archaeological remains in the footprint of the ponds will have been removed.

7.3 **Agricultural Activity and Land Management**

7.3.1 In general agricultural activity and land management is unlikely to have had any significant archaeological impact. Ploughing within the improved pasture on the north and south of the principal valley at Lodge Hill Depot will have had a widespread but moderate archaeological impact. This is also true of the small area of agricultural land on the extreme south west of the site to the west and north of the former Chattenden Barracks.

7.4 **Demolitions**

7.4.1 Lodge Hill Camp, and in particular Lodge Hill Depot and the former Chattenden Barracks have undergone several phases of past development. It can be anticipated that past episodes of demolition and site clearance will have had a severe and widespread archaeological impact. Particular areas identified are:

- Former Lodge Hill House
- Former structures - including bunkers within Lodge Hill Depot. Several phases of demolitions are apparent here (J. Lowe, forthcoming).
- Former Victorian and modern Barrack complex at former Chattenden Barracks

7.4.2 The footings and services of the post Second World War Barrack complex at Chattenden appear to have been left in situ.

7.5 **Conclusions**

7.5.1 Overall while it is clear that past archaeological impacts can be characterised in part as severe and widespread, particularly on the built parts of the site, there are extensive areas of the site in which archaeological survival may occur.

8.0 CHARACTERISATION OF POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACTS ARISING FROM FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

8.1 It is proposed to redevelop the study site to create a new cohesive community with associated residential, retail and community development, infrastructure and landscaping. The process of masterplanning the development is currently underway, and continues to evolve.

8.2 At this stage only a provisional assessment can be given of the potential archaeological impacts on deposits pre dating AD 1850 arising from the redevelopment of the site. These are summarised as follows.

8.3 Demolition and Site Clearance

8.3.1 The demolition and removal of existing buildings, roadways, surface parking and hard standing could - without mitigation - potentially have a very severe and very widespread archaeological impact principally through:

- Heavy plant and vehicle movement
- Breaking up of walls, services, substructures and surfaces
- Machine removal (grubbing out) of walls, services, substructures and surfaces.

8.3.2 It should be noted that the impact of demolition ground works inevitably extends well beyond the physical extent of the feature being removed - particularly in the case of mass foundations.

8.4 Remediation

8.4.1 The bulk excavation and removal of contaminated deposits could - without mitigation - potentially cause very severe and very widespread archaeological impacts. Principally through:

- Heavy plant and vehicle movement.
- Bulk excavation and contaminated soils
- Remediation and landforming

8.4.2 While contamination in itself will seldom cause any archaeological impact (with occasional exceptions in the case of organic remains) the removal of contaminated

soils will usually cause the complete destruction of the archaeological resource in the area being remediated.

8.5 **Landforming**

8.5.1 In order to prepare a site for modern development, extensive landforming is often undertaken. This is particularly the case in large scale developments where the existing topography is uneven as at the study site. In general large scale 'cut and fill' operations are executed in order to create level 'platforms' for development. Particular causes for impact are:

- Heavy plant and vehicle movement
- Vegetation strip, removal of grass, scrub and trees
- Topsoil stripping and stockpiling.
- Mass excavation and subsoil movement to reduce or raise ground level.

8.5.2 It should be noted that these operations are usually implemented prior to any infrastructure or building specific groundworks, such as road construction or the cutting of individual foundation or service runs. It is the initial landforming stage of groundworks on large scale developments which tends to have the greatest archaeological impact and has the potential - without mitigation - to remove the bulk of any archaeological remains.

8.6 **Construction**

8.6.1 Machine excavation to form road lines and cut service runs could potentially - without mitigation - have a severe but localised archaeological impact. On large scale developments the impacts can be cumulative, without mitigation these effectively mutilate the archaeological resource to such an extent that coherence is lost and the potential archaeological resource is effectively destroyed. Particular impacts are:

- Heavy plant and vehicle movement.
- Subsoil excavation to form road sub base.
- Excavation of service and footing runs

8.6.2 In general on completion of the construction process, any given sites archaeological potential will have been removed.

8.7 **Landscaping**

8.7.1 Although landscaping is usually associated with positive environmental benefits, associated ground works can have a significant impact on the buried environment through:

- Heavy plant and vehicle movement.
- Landforming (see 8.5 above).
- Bulk excavation for water features
- Excavation for tree planting
- Installation of sports and play equipment.

8.7.2 Consequently without careful design measures to mitigate impacts on the archaeological resource, landscaping can have as negative an archaeological impact as construction.

9.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1 Land at Lodge Hill Chattenden Medway centred at TQ 75648 73457 is proposed for redevelopment.
- 9.2 As part of the masterplanning process an archaeological desk based assessment has been produced to provide an overview of the study sites archaeological potential to AD1850.
- 9.3 The study site is thought to have a low archaeological potential for the early prehistoric periods (Palaeolithic and Mesolithic) due to geological and topographical conditions. No impact on the indicative masterplan is anticipated.
- 9.4 The study site is thought to have a good but localised archaeological potential for the later prehistoric periods (Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age). No impact on the indicative masterplan is anticipated. Preservation in situ of remains of these periods may be achievable within the indicative masterplan layout.
- 9.5 The study site is thought to have a good but localised archaeological potential for the Roman period. A small Roman cremation cemetery was recorded at Lodge Hill Depot in c. 1906-7. No impact on the indicative masterplan is anticipated. Preservation in situ of remains of these periods may be achievable within the indicative masterplan layout.
- 9.6 The study site is likely to have good but localised archaeological potential for the Anglo-Saxon and early Medieval periods. Historic boundaries and woodland have been utilised to inform the indicative masterplan layout.
- 9.7 The study site has a good but highly localised archaeological potential for the late medieval and post-medieval periods to AD 1870. The principal remains of this period will be associated with the former Mansion House at Lodge Hill.
- 9.8 There is currently no evidence to indicate the presence of archaeological remains of National Importance pre dating AD 1870 within the study site boundaries.
- 9.9 Past post depositional impacts to the potential archaeological resource have been highly variable. Significant and widespread archaeological impacts associated with past land forming and development are identified in relation to Lodge Hill Camp, Lodge Hill Depot and the former Chattenden Barracks. Moderate but widespread archaeological impacts

can be predicted in areas of existing and former woodland and arable and improved pasture agricultural land.

- 9.10 The extent of past post depositional impacts is not such that all archaeological remains will have been removed from the site.
- 9.11 Future development - without mitigation - could potentially have a severe and widespread archaeological impact on archaeological deposits pre dating AD 1870.
- 9.12 No overarching existing or potential archaeological constraints have been identified in relation to archaeological deposits pre-dating AD 1870 that would prevent the delivery of the proposed development on the indicative masterplan.
- 9.13 The indicative masterplan has been influenced by historic boundaries and woodlands within the Lodge Hill site which form part of the archaeological resource.
- 9.14 It is considered that an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy targeting archaeological deposits pre-dating AD 1870 can be entirely delivered within the Core Strategy Plan period with no appreciable risk.

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 A suite of archaeological mitigation measures targeted at the pre AD 1870 archaeological resource is likely to require implementation in advance of future development. The scope and extent of the mitigation will be dictated by the future development proposals.
- 10.2 At this provisional stage a requirement for the following elements of work is identified:
- Archaeological Impact Assessment and deposit model
 - Targeted survey/Lidar survey as appropriate
 - Targeted non intrusive and intrusive archaeological evaluation.
- 10.3 Depending on the results of this work further mitigation measures (additional evaluation, preservation in situ and/or excavation) may be required. Again the scope and extent of these will be dictated by the future development proposals.

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Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 Mile 1862

Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 Mile 1866-7



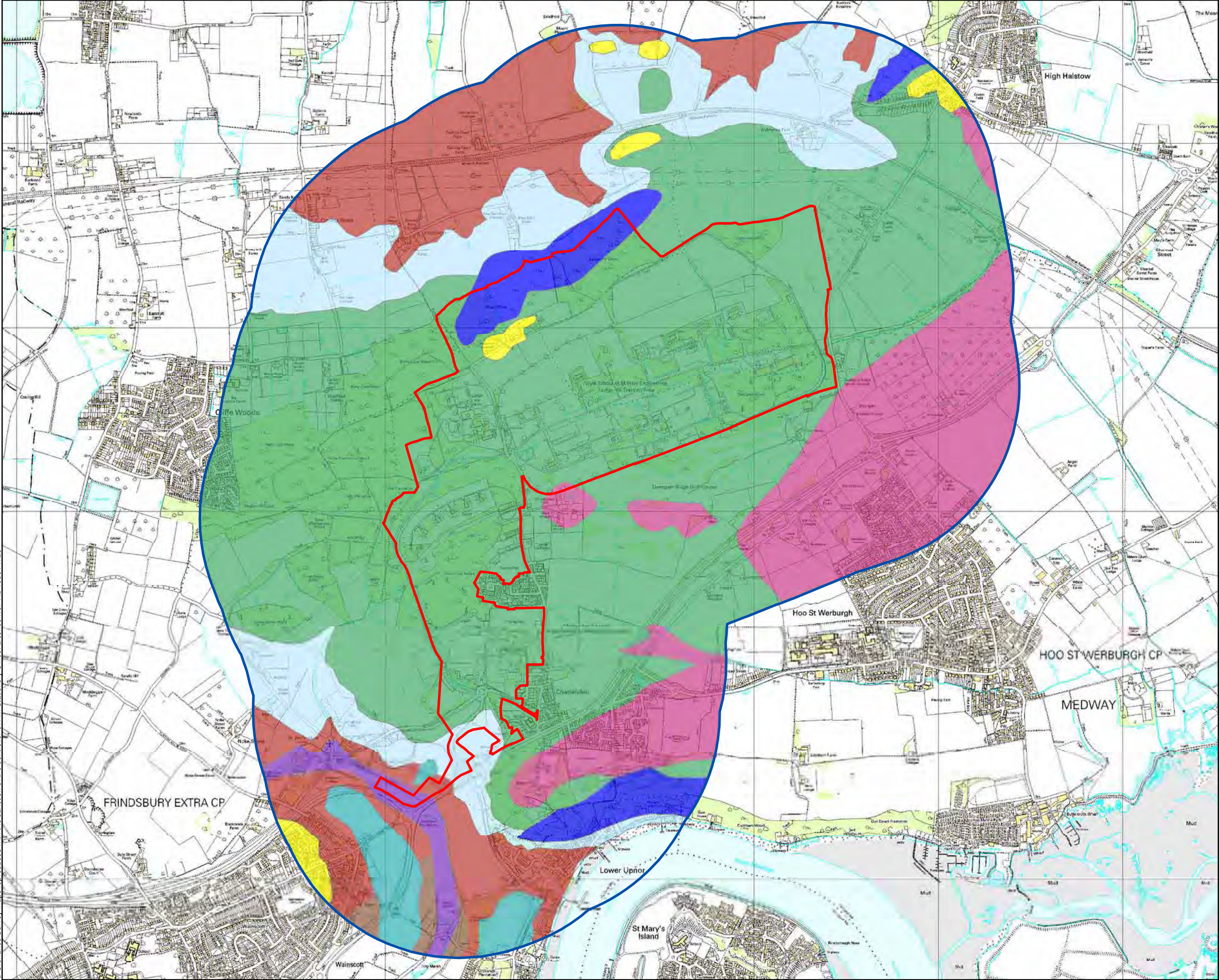
○ Site location

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Figure 1: Site location



- Key
- Site boundary
 - 1km from the site boundary
- Geology
- London Clay
 - Alluvium
 - Thanet Beds
 - Woolwich Beds
 - River Terrace Gravels
 - Head
 - Landslip
 - Head Brickearth
 - Upper Chalk



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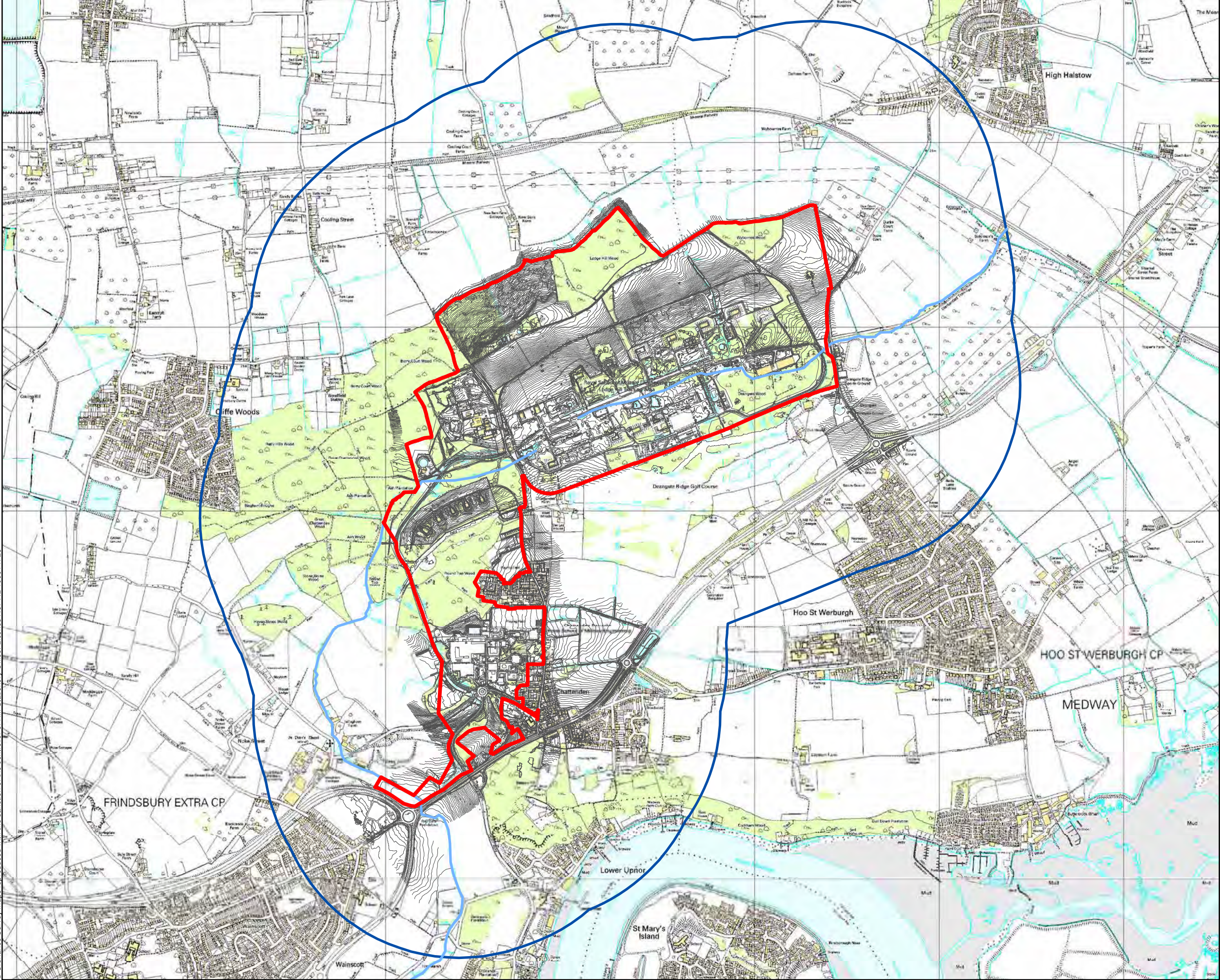
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Figure 2: Geology



- Key
- Site boundary
 - Projected course of stream
 - 1km from the site boundary



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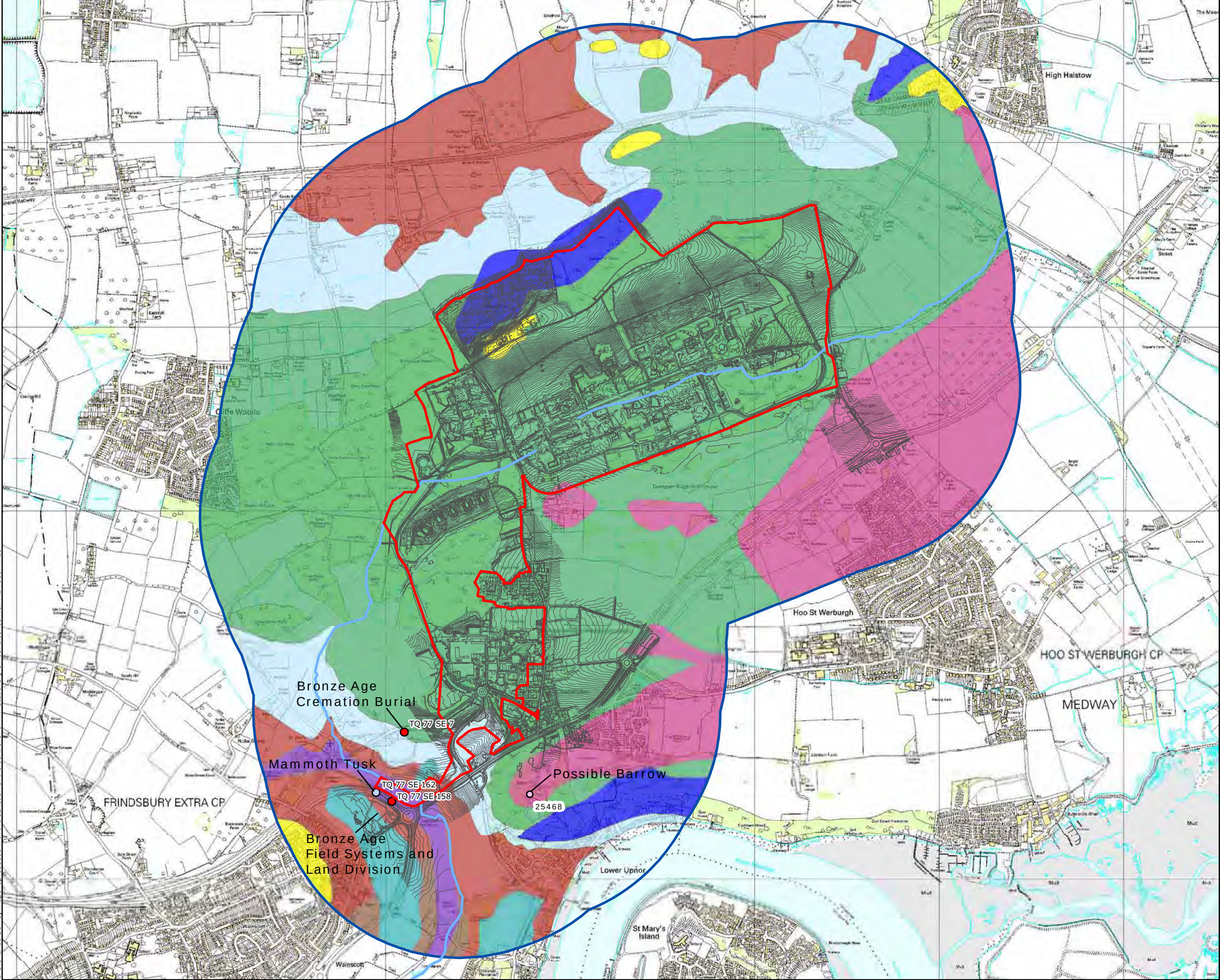


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Figure 3: Topography and Hydrology



- Key
- Site boundary
 - HER data within 1km of the site boundary
 - Period
 - Palaeolithic
 - Bronze Age
 - Projected course of stream
 - SAM
 - 1km from the site boundary
 - Geology
 - London Clay
 - Alluvium
 - Thanet Beds
 - Woolwich Beds
 - River Terrace Gravels
 - Head
 - Landslip
 - Head Brickearth
 - Upper Chalk



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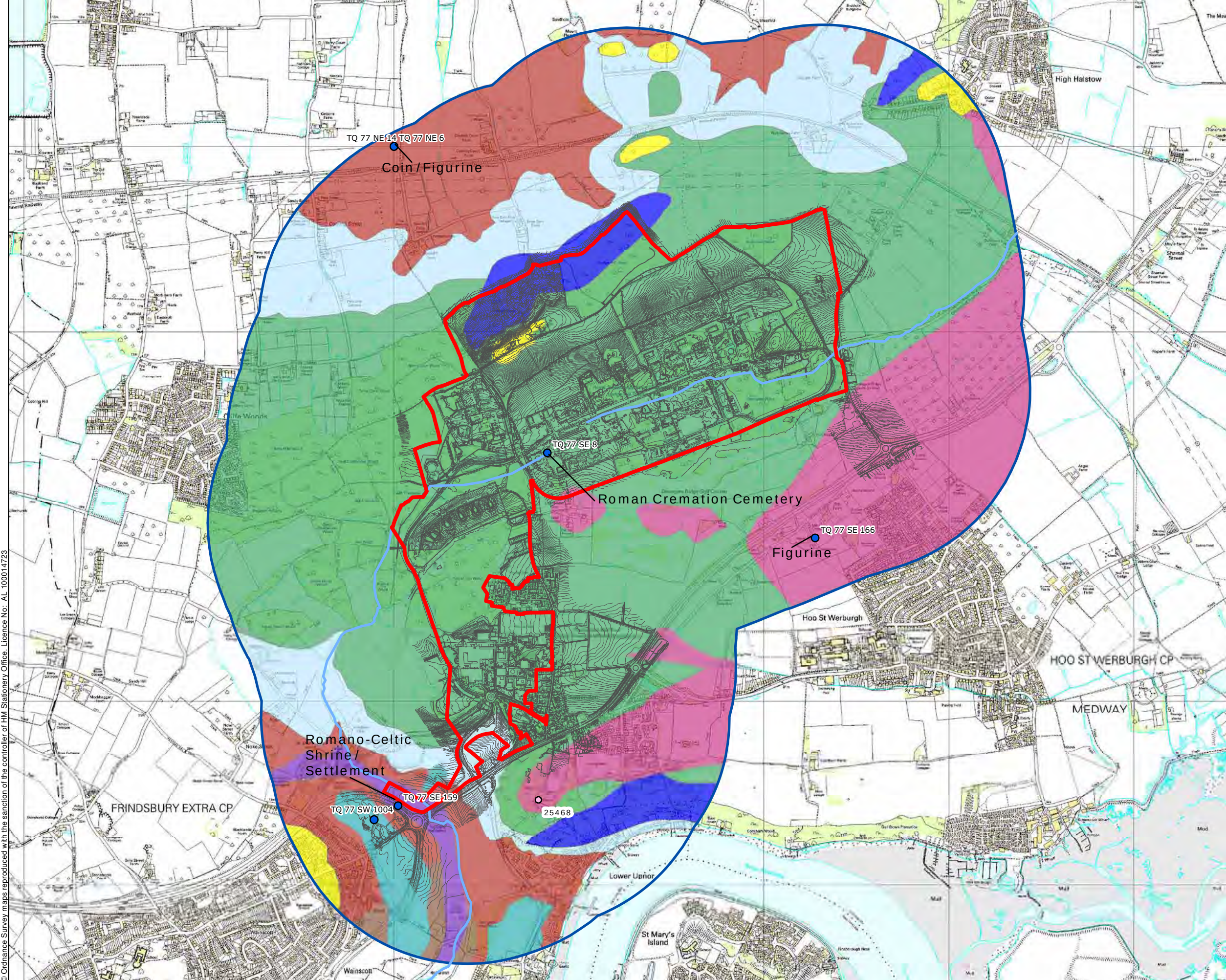
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Figure 4: HER data plot showing the location of Prehistoric archaeology identified



Key

- Site boundary
- HER data within 1km of the site boundary

Period

- Roman
- Projected course of stream
- SAM
- 1km from the site boundary

Geology

- London Clay
- Alluvium
- Thanet Beds
- Woolwich Beds
- River Terrace Gravels
- Head
- Landslip
- Head Brickearth
- Upper Chalk

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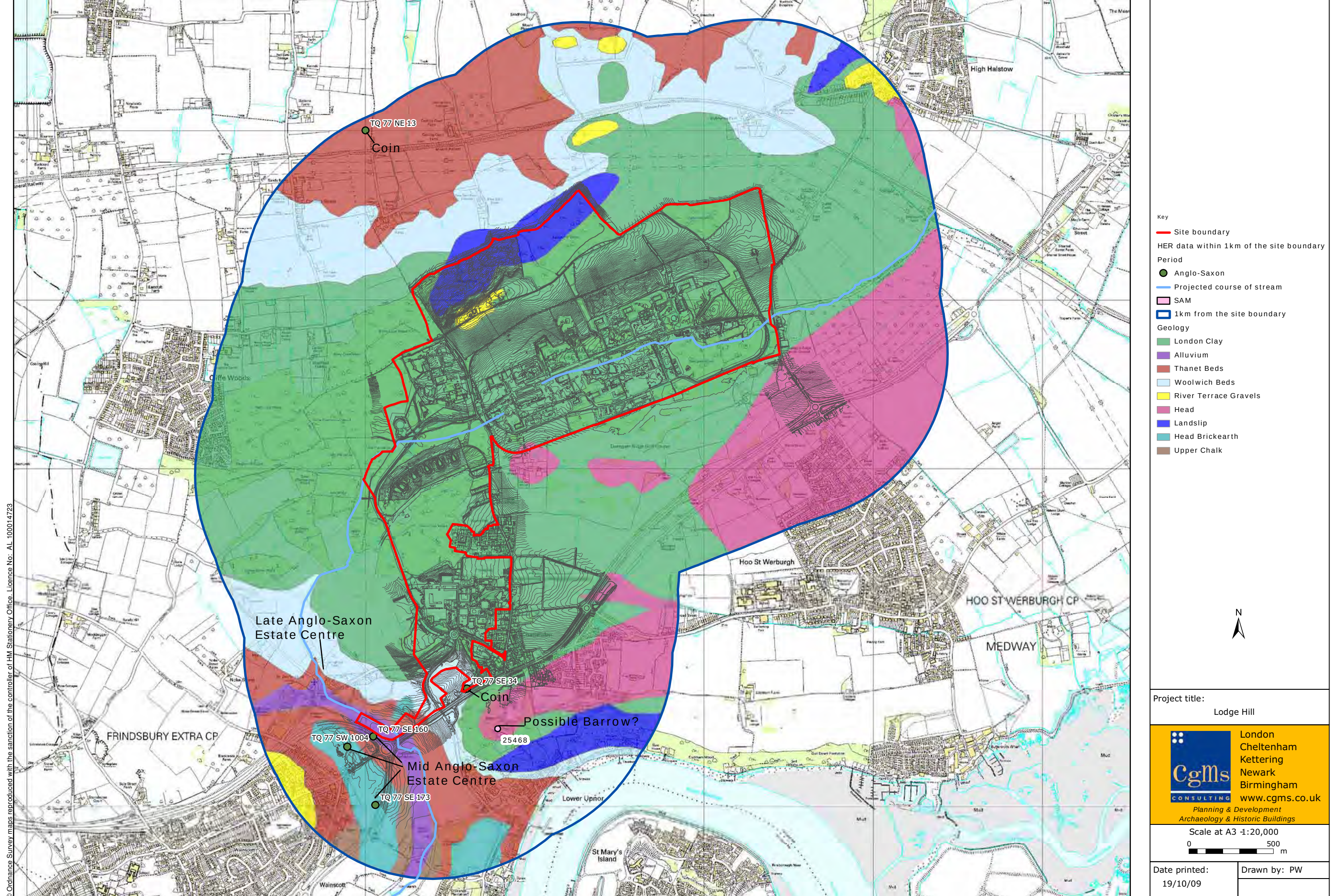
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Figure 5: HER data plot showing the location of Roman archaeology identified



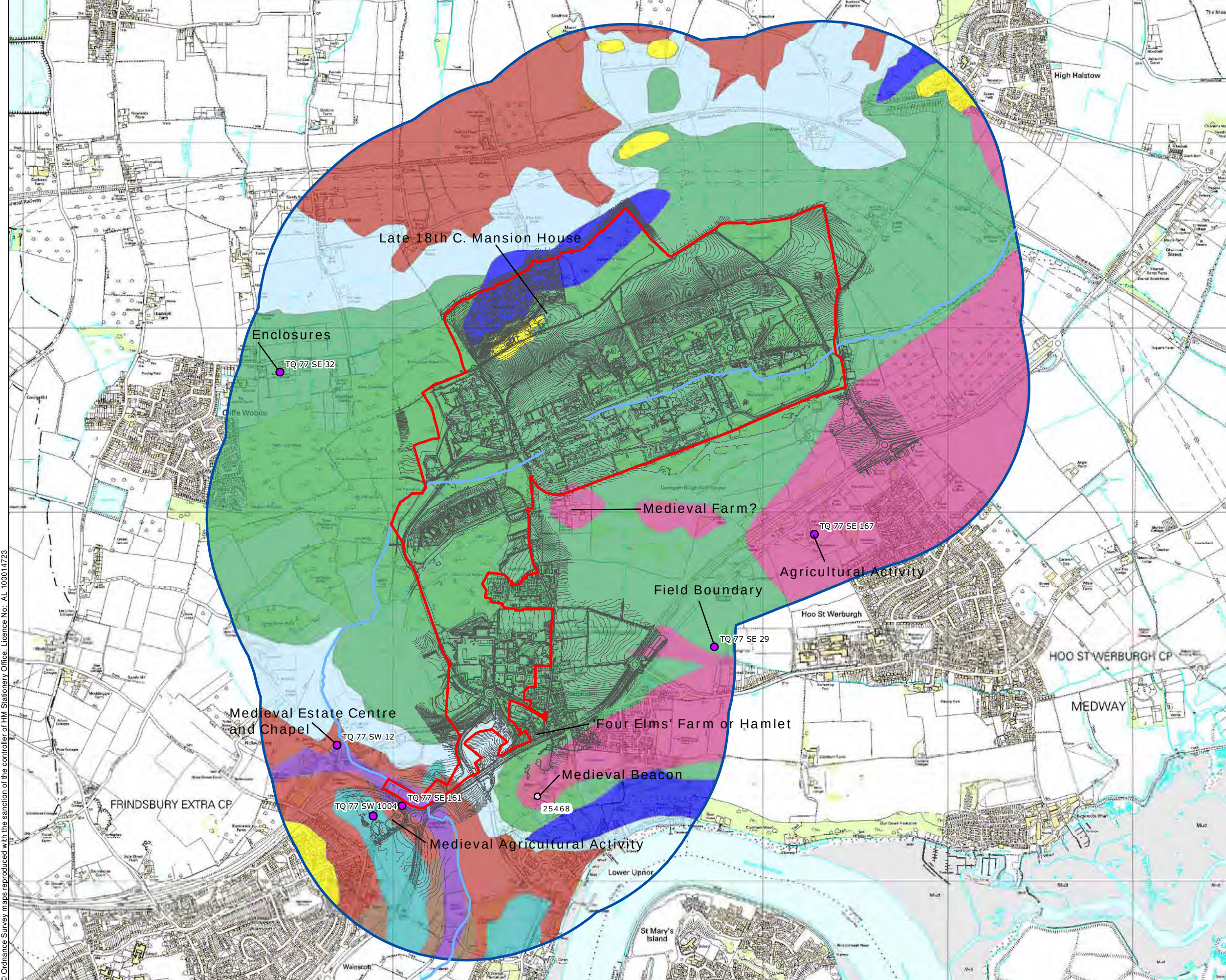


Figure 7: HER data plot showing the location of Medieval and Post-medieval archaeology identified



Approximate site location



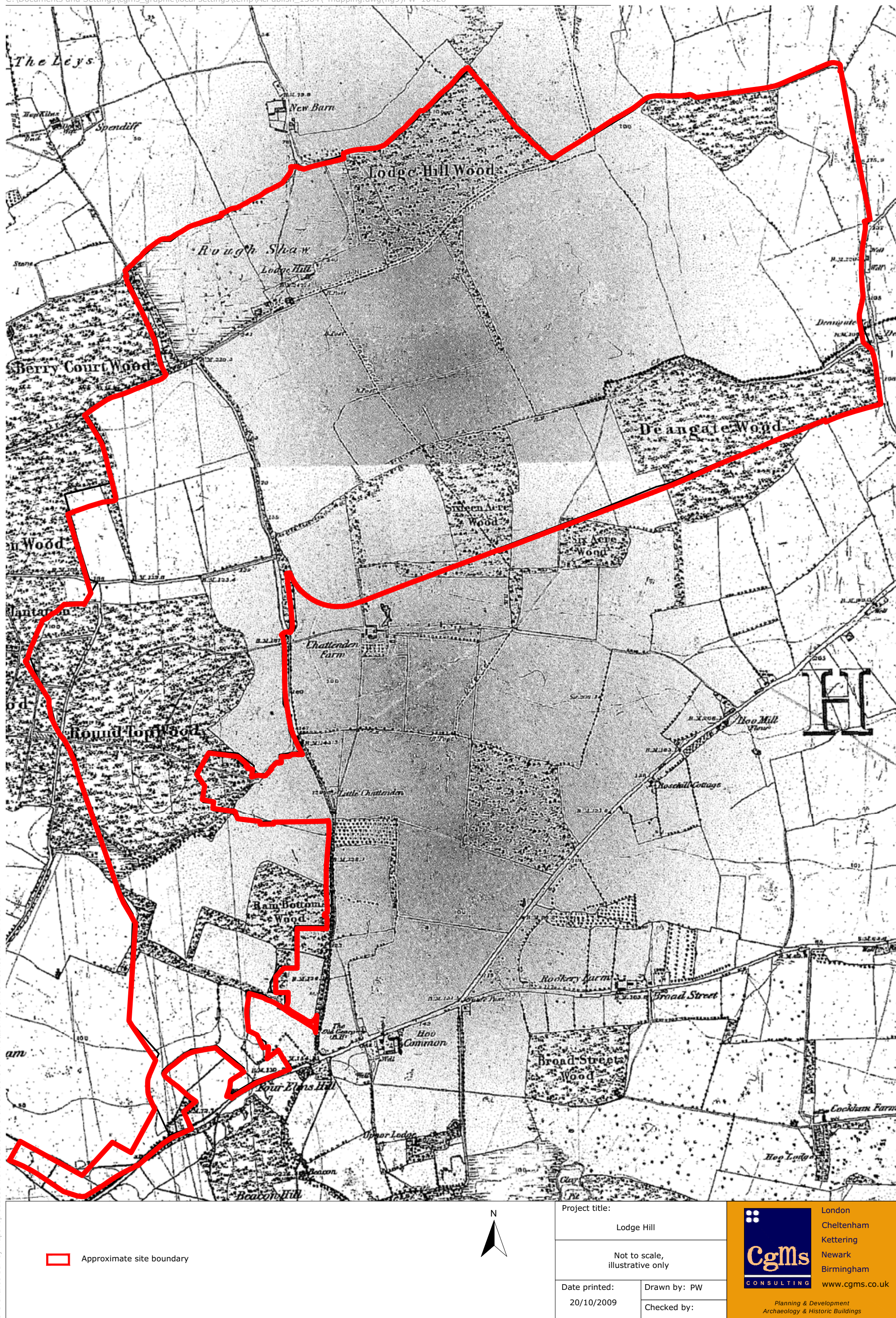
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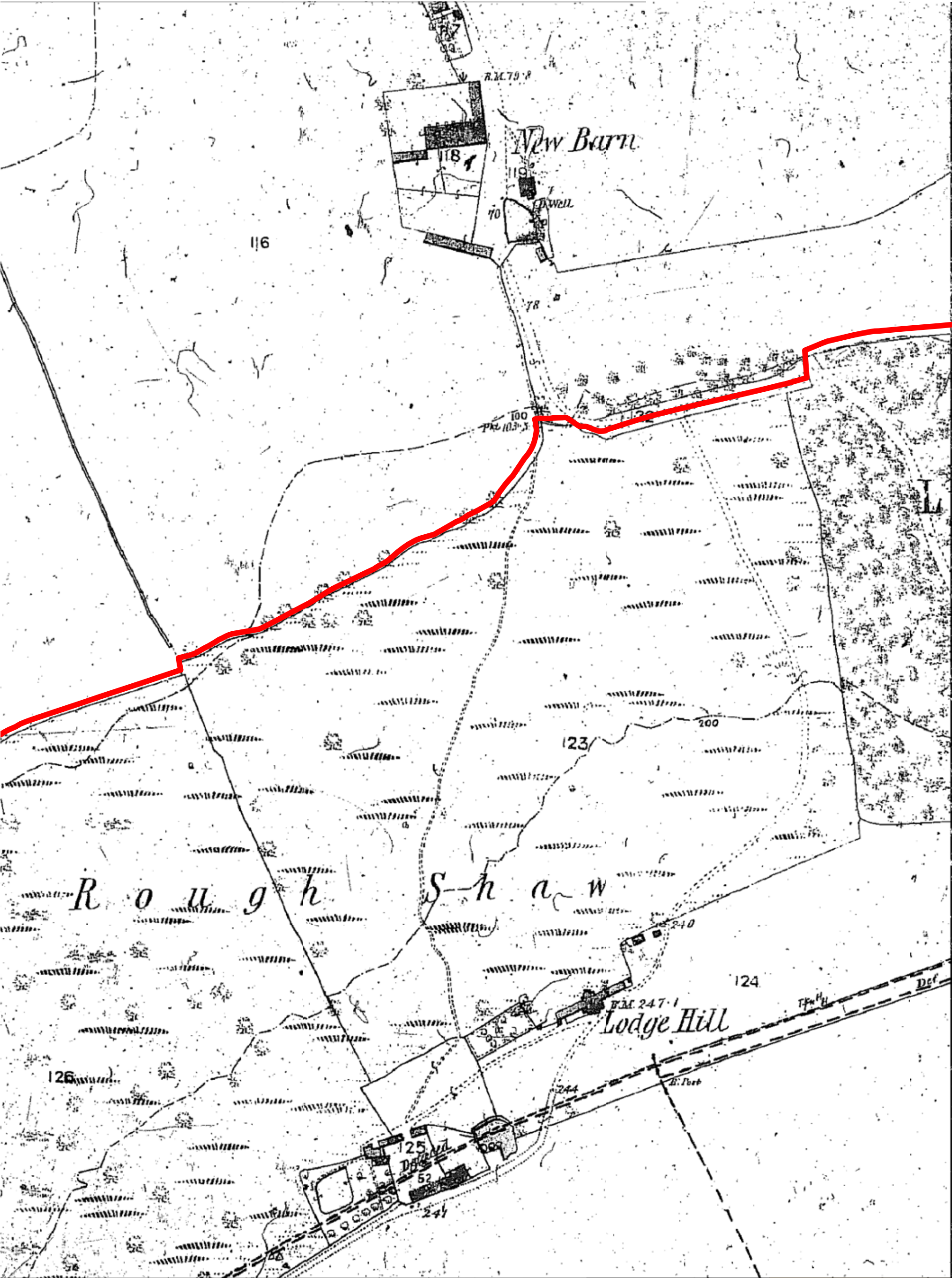


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Figure 8: Andrews and Dury Map of 1769

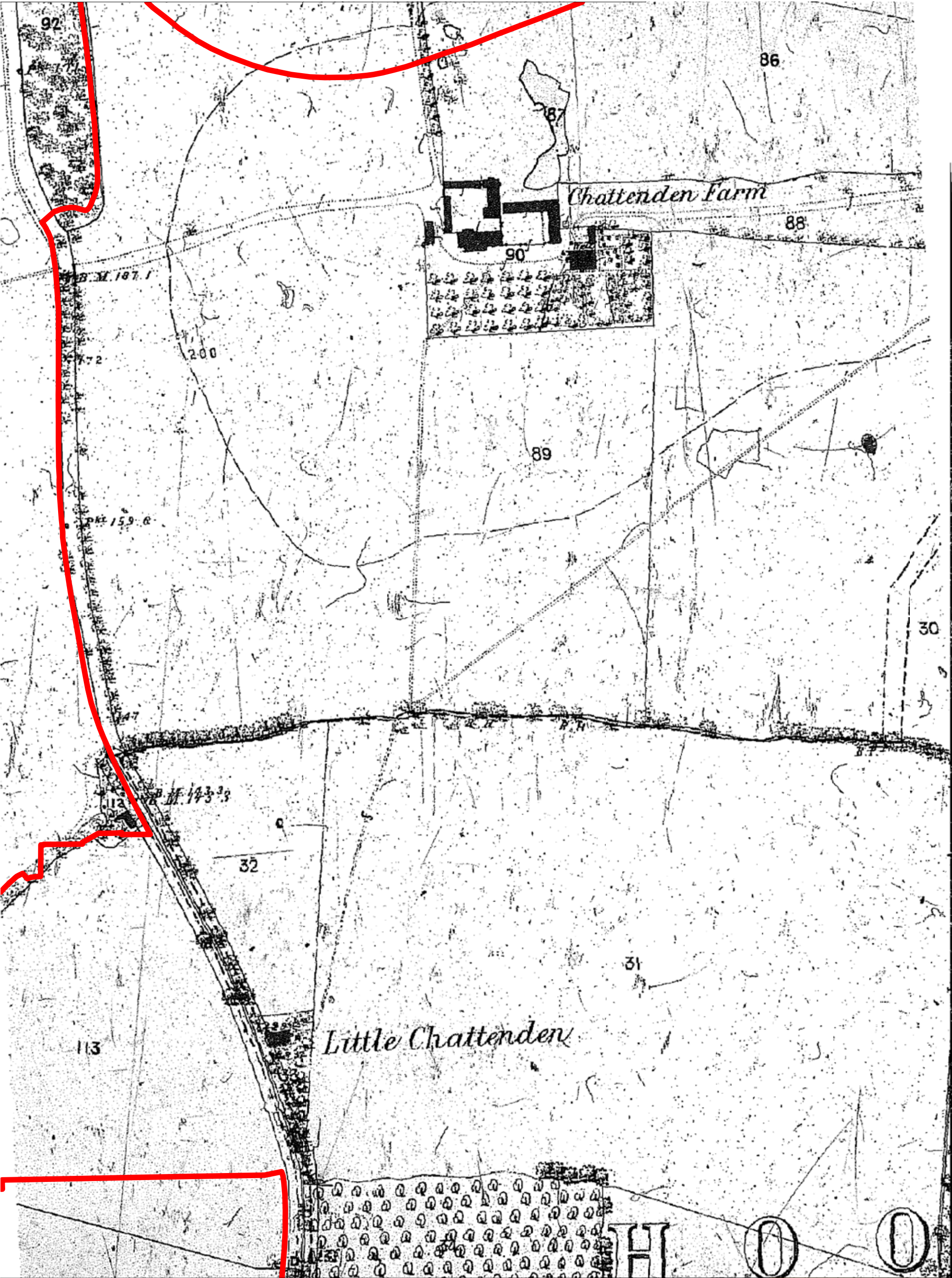




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Figure 10: Lodge Hill and New Barn Farm, Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 mile, 1866-67



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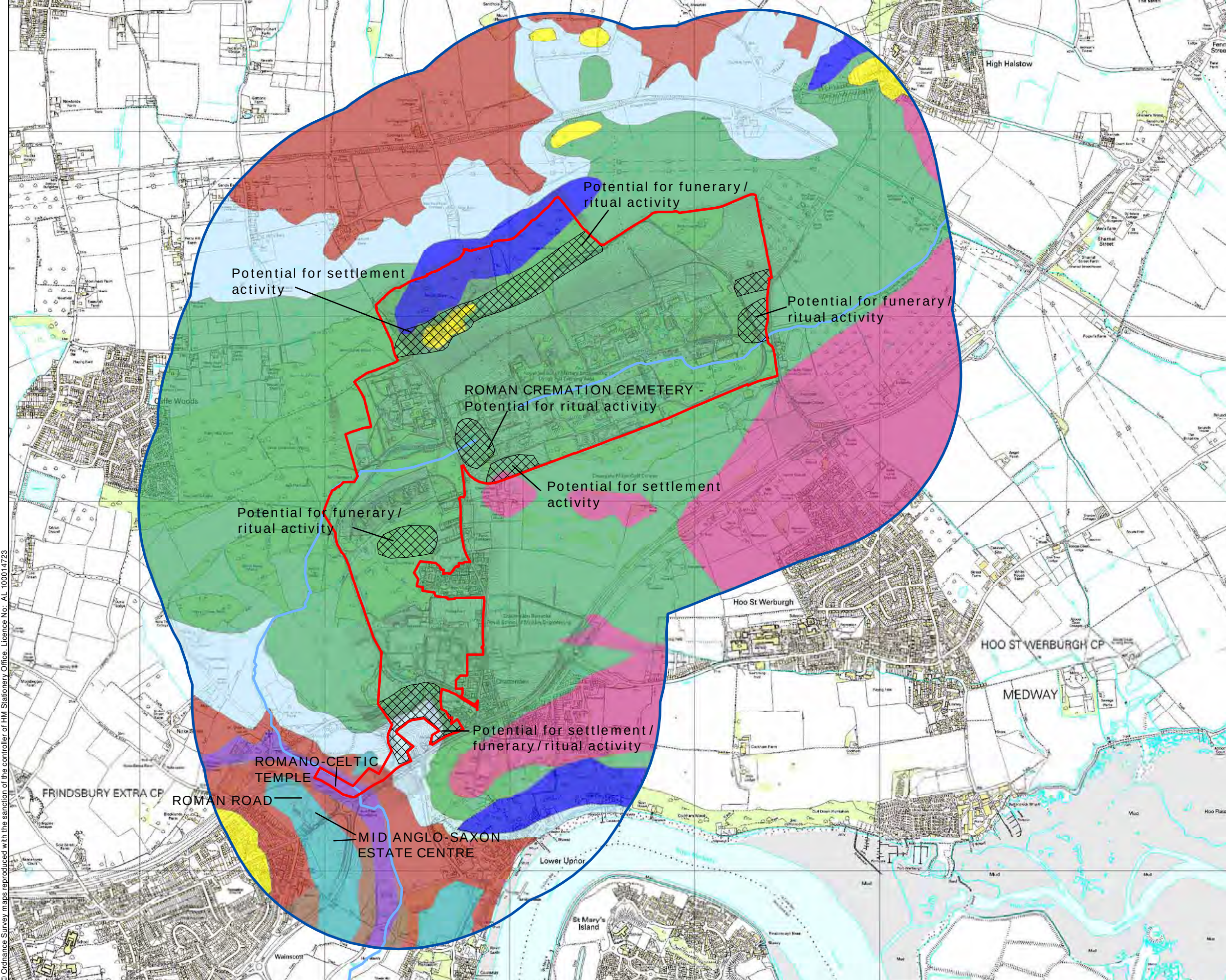
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Figure 11: Chattenden Farm and Little Chattenden, Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 mile, 1866-67



- Key
- Site boundary
 - ▨ Heightened Potential for Settlement or Activity
 - 1km from the site boundary
 - Projected course of stream
- Geology
- London Clay
 - Alluvium
 - Thanet Beds
 - Woolwich Beds
 - River Terrace Gravels
 - Head
 - Landslip
 - Head Brickearth
 - Upper Chalk

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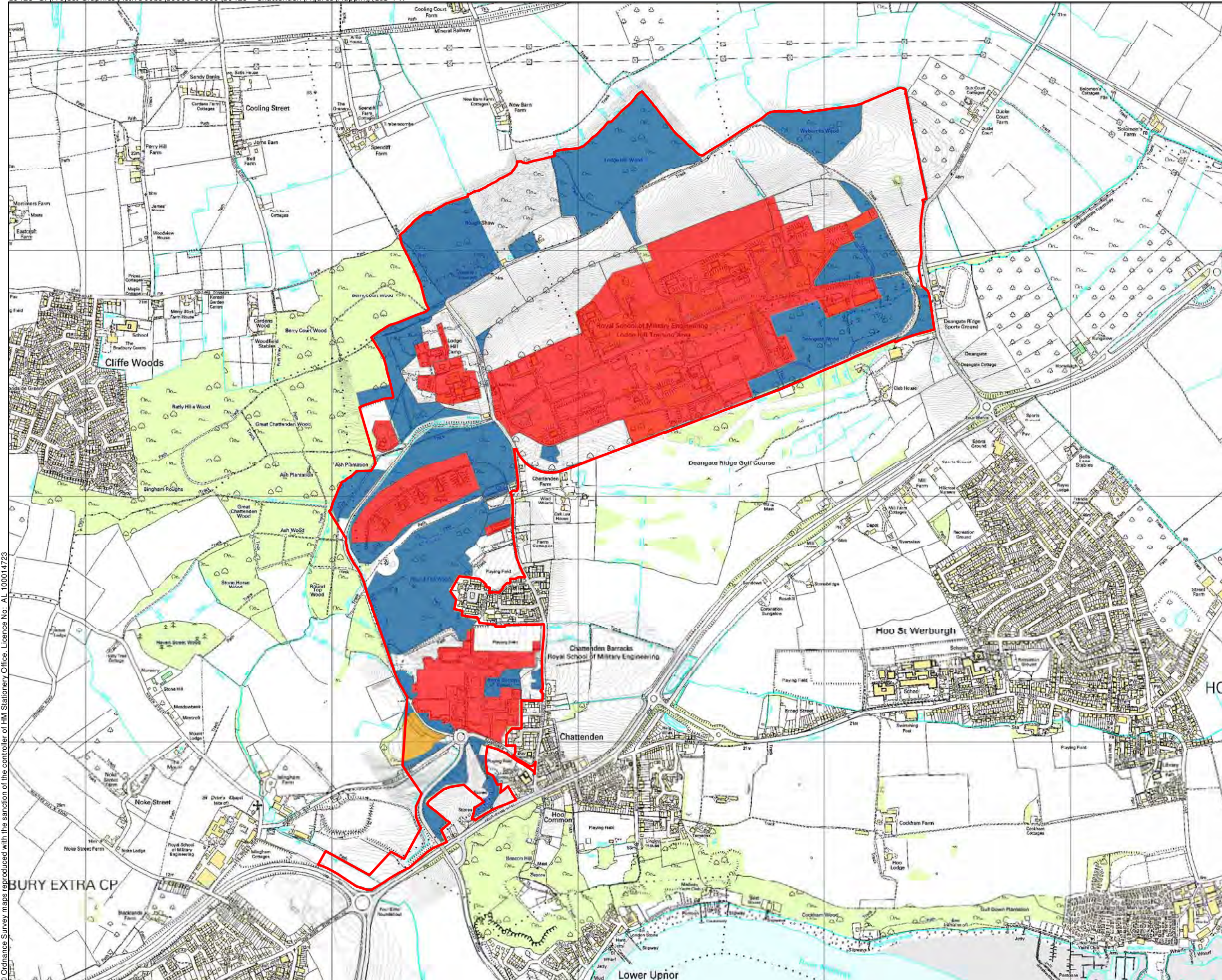
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Figure 12: Plan showing areas of heightened potential for Prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon settlement or activity



- Key
- Site boundary
 - Archaeological Impact
 - Severe areas of impact
 - Severe and widespread impact from earth moving
 - Widespread areas of moderate impact



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Figure 13: Areas of archaeological impact arising from land use, land forming and developments 1850-2009



Plate 1: Air Photograph, 2008

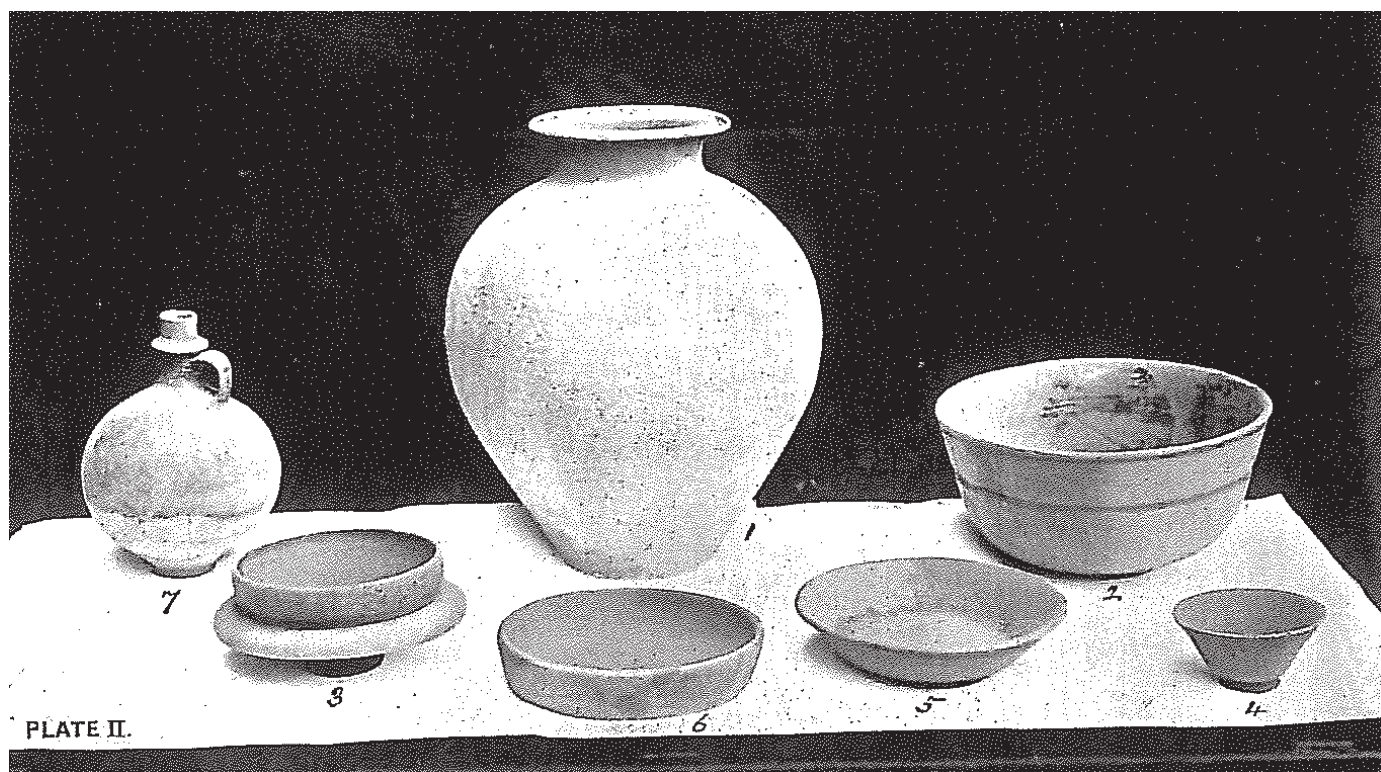


Plate 2: Roman finds from within the Lodge Hill Depot



Plate 3 Photograph of the former Lodge Hill House, 1925-1949



Plate 4: Great Chattenden Wood



Plate 5: Lodge Hill Wood



Plate 6: Rough Shaw



Plate 7: Pasture below ridge, Lodge Hill



Plate 8: Pasture below ridge, Lodge Hill



Plate 9: Pasture below ridge, Lodge Hill



Plate 10: Terracing of valley side



Plate 11: Base of terracing at junction with valley floor



Plate 12: Levelling of valley floor



Plate 13: Levelling of valley floor



Plate 14: Levelling of valley floor



Plate 15: Ground conditions southern edge of valley floor



Plate 16: Higher ground toward Chattenden Farm



Plate 17: Lodge Hill Camp upper terrace



Plate 18: Lodge Hill Camp, main camp from west



Plate 19: Lodge Hill Camp, detail of terracing

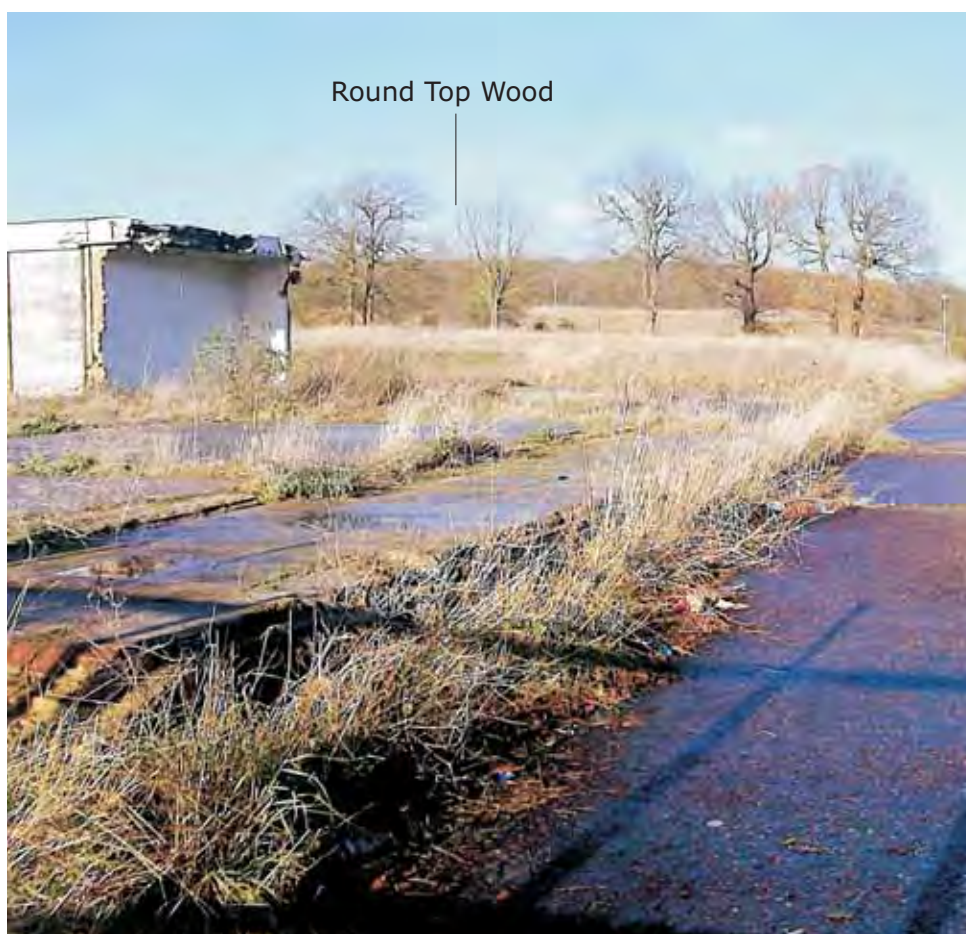


Plate 20: Former Chattenden Barracks showing terracing

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