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London Borough of Croydon

Archaeological Priority Areas Appraisal

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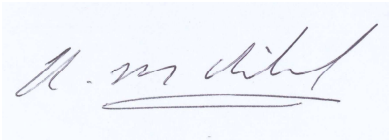
Approval: (Signature)	

This document was commissioned by the London Borough of Croydon and has been produced by Patrick Booth, Mark Stevenson, Sandy Kidd and Stuart Cakebread (all Historic England). We are grateful for the advice and support of Therese Finn, Sarah Freeman and Steve Dennington (all London Borough of Croydon).

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Introduction

This document has been produced by the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS), part of the London office of Historic England. The Croydon Archaeological Priority Area Appraisal is part of a long term commitment to review and update London's Archaeological Priority Areas (APA). The review uses evidence held in the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) in order to provide a sound evidence base for local plans that accord with the National Planning Policy Framework and its supporting Practice Guidance.

The appraisal is an opportunity to review the APA framework in Croydon and produce revised area boundaries and new descriptions. The proposals are being submitted to the London Borough of Croydon for consideration and are recommended for adoption in support of the Local Plan.

The Croydon Local Plan: Strategic Policies - Partial Review takes account of an earlier scoping document. The information within the scoping document has been consulted upon as part of the consultation of the Croydon Local Plan: Strategic Policies - Partial Review (Preferred and Alternative Options). This full review of the Archaeological Priority Areas will support the Proposed Submission publication in summer 2016.

Explanation of Archaeological Priority Areas

An Archaeological Priority Area (APA) is a defined area where, according to existing information, there is significant known archaeological interest or particular potential for new discoveries.

APAs exist in every London borough and were initially created in the 1970s and 1980s either by the boroughs or local museums. In Croydon such areas were formerly known as Archaeological Priority Zones (APZs). The present review of these areas is based on evidence held in the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER). Guidelines have been created to promote consistency in the recognition and definition of these areas across Greater London[1] and have been used in the preparation of this document.

In the context of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), archaeological interest means evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places and of the people and cultures that made them. However, heritage assets of archaeological interest can also hold other forms of heritage significance – artistic, architectural or historic interest. For many types of above ground heritage asset (e.g. historic buildings, landscapes and industrial heritage) these other interests may be more obvious or important. Sometimes heritage interests are intertwined – as is often the case with archaeological and historical interest. Whilst the APA system does not seek to duplicate protection given by other heritage designations, such as Listed Buildings or Conservation Areas, it does aim to overlap and integrate with such approaches. Understanding archaeological significance can enhance appreciation of historical, artistic or architectural interest and vice versa.

APAs[2] highlight where important archaeological interest might be located based on the history of the area and previous archaeological investigations. They help local planning authorities to manage archaeological remains that might be affected by development by providing an evidence base for Local Plans. This evidence base identifies areas of known heritage assets of historic and archaeological interest and wider zones where there is a likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets will be discovered in the future. APAs act as a trigger for consultation with the borough's archaeological adviser and are justified by a description of significance which will inform development management advice and decision making. The appraisal can also indicate how archaeology might contribute towards a positive strategy for conserving and enjoying the local historic environment, for example through recognising local distinctiveness or securing social or cultural benefits.

[1] That is the boroughs advised by GLAAS; not the City of London and Southwark which have their own archaeological advisers.

[2] Sometimes called by other names including Archaeological Priority Zones, Areas of Archaeological Significance/Importance/Interest or Areas of High Archaeological Potential.

However, archaeological research and discovery is a dynamic process so it is not possible to anticipate all eventualities, threats and opportunities. This appraisal should therefore be seen as providing a flexible framework for informed site specific decision making but not a straightjacket.

Archaeological Priority Area Tiers

Previously all parts of Croydon were either inside or outside an Archaeological Priority Zone (APZ). Under the new system all parts of the borough will fall into one of four different tiers of archaeological significance and potential. The tiers vary depending on the archaeological significance and potential of that particular area. New Archaeological Priority Areas (APAs) have been categorised into one of Tiers 1-3 while all other areas within the borough will be regarded as being in Tier 4. Tier levels indicate when there is a need to understand the potential impact of the proposed development on the heritage asset's significance. The type of planning applications and the tier level it is located in indicate the likelihood that archaeology will be a consideration in reaching a planning decision.

Consultation guidelines are set out in the GLAAS Charter. New guidelines will link the tiers to specific thresholds for triggering archaeological advice and assessment. It is expected that as a minimum all major applications[3] within Archaeological Priority Areas (Tiers 1-3) would require an archaeological desk based assessment, and if necessary a field evaluation, to accompany a planning application. In the more sensitive Tier 1 and Tier 2 areas this procedure would also apply to some smaller scale developments. Outside Archaeological Priority Areas (Tier 4) some major developments, such as those subject to Environmental Impact Assessment, may warrant similar treatment. Pre-application consultation with GLAAS is encouraged to ensure planning applications are supported by appropriate information.

Tier 1 is a defined area which is known, or strongly suspected, to contain a heritage asset of national importance (a Scheduled Monument or equivalent); or is otherwise of very high archaeological sensitivity. Thus Tier 1 covers heritage assets to which policies for designated heritage assets would apply and a few other sites which are particularly sensitive to small scale disturbance[4]. They will be clearly focused on a specific heritage asset and will normally

[3] Major applications include development involving 10 or more dwellings or an applications site of 0.5 hectares or more on outline applications. For other types of applications including commercial or industrial development a major application may be defined as being 1000m^2 floorspace or more or an application site of 1 hectare or more on an outline application

[4]However, this does not mean that the policies for assets of national importance would apply to every development in a Tier 1 APA as that will depend upon the nature of the proposals and results of site-specific assessment and evaluation.

be relatively small. Scheduled Monuments would normally be included within a Tier 1 APA[5]

Tier 2 is a local area within which the GLHER holds specific evidence indicating the presence or likely presence of heritage assets of archaeological interest. Planning decisions are expected to make a balanced judgement for non-designated assets considered of less than national importance considering the scale of any harm and the significance of the asset. Tier 2 APAs will typically cover a larger area than a Tier 1 APA and may encompass a group of heritage assets.

Tier 3 is a landscape scale zone within which the GLHER holds evidence indicating the potential for heritage assets of archaeological interest. The definition of Tier 3 APAs involves using the GLHER to predict the likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets, particularly sites of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future. Tier 3 APAs will typically be defined by geological, topographical or land use considerations in relation to known patterns of heritage asset distribution.

Tier 4 (outside APA) is any location that does not, on present evidence, merit inclusion within an Archaeological Priority Area. However, Tier 4 areas are not necessarily devoid of archaeological interest and may retain some potential unless they can be shown to have been heavily disturbed in modern times. Such potential is most likely to be identified on greenfield sites, in relation to large scale development or in association with Listed Buildings or other designated heritage assets.

New information may lead to areas moving between the four tiers set out above. For example, a positive archaeological evaluation could result in a Tier 2 area (or part of it) being upgraded to Tier 1 if the remains found were judged to be of national importance. It is important to understand that the new tiered system is intended to be dynamic and responsive to new information which either increases or decreases the significance of an area.

[5] Tier 1 APAs around Scheduled Monuments will often extend beyond the boundary of the scheduled area to reflect the full extent of the asset, including the potential for associated remains. It will not usually be practicable for an APA to define the totality of Scheduled Monument's setting. Instead they will attempt to reflect areas close to the monument that would be especially sensitive. A few Scheduled Monuments which have been designated for their historical or other non-archaeological interest will not merit the definition of a Tier 1 APA.

This document comprises an appraisal of all the new APAs in Croydon which have been allocated to one of Tiers 1-3. Each APA has an associated description which includes several different sections. A "Summary and Definition" section provides a brief overview of the key features of the APA, the justification for its selection, how its boundaries were defined and gives an explanation as to why it has been placed in a particular tier group. A "Description" section goes into more detail about the history and archaeology of the APA to describe its overall character. Finally a "Significance" section details the heritage significance of the APA with particular reference to its archaeological interest and related historical interest. Each description will also have a list of "Key References" along with a related map showing the extent of the APA boundary. A glossary of relevant terms is included at the end of the document.

Croydon: Historical and Archaeological Interest

The London Borough of Croydon was created in 1965 and was previously part of Surrey. It is located in south London and straddles the North Kent Plain (113), Thames Basin Lowlands (114) and North Downs (119) National Character Areas. It is bordered by Lambeth to the north, Bromley to the east, Merton and Sutton to the west and its southern boundary also forms the border between Surrey and Greater London. No natural features such as rivers are used to mark the borough's boundaries although a section of a Roman road in the south east of the borough and a prehistoric boundary feature in the west of the borough were followed by later parish boundaries and subsequently part of the borough boundary.

The northern part of the borough is low lying and its geology consists of clay and silt. Until the post medieval period a dense wooded area known as the North Wood is thought to have covered most of the northern part of Croydon. In contrast the land rises steeply across the south due to the North Downs running across it. The North Downs consist of chalk which contains rich seams of flint although there are pockets of clay interspersed across the chalk bedrock. The divide between the low lying north and upland south is marked by a number of chalk promontories such as Riddlesdown, Farthing Down, Croham Hurst and Addington Hills which are flanked by steep valleys. These valleys were formed by water running off the Downs. The most notable valley was formed by the River Wandle which runs between Croydon and Coulsdon and is followed by Brighton Road between Croydon and Purley and the A23 between Purley and Coulsdon. The Wandle now rises near Croydon town centre but the only place it is visible before it flows into Sutton is in Waddon Ponds where it forms a lake.

Croydon town is the most significant historic settlement within the borough which took its name. It was regarded as one of the most important towns in northern Surrey and its location, approximately ten miles south of the city of London, meant that it became a stopping point for people travelling to or from the city. There are only a few other historic settlements within the borough and until the 19th century it was a predominantly rural area with a few settlements and numerous farms. While the rapid urban spread and population growth of the 19th and 20th centuries has led to the majority of the borough being developed it still retains large open areas particularly in the south. Within these open areas are surviving historic rural landscapes of hedged fields, open commons and ancient woodlands which illustrate how land was used and managed before the spread of modern urban development. Such historic landscapes can make a significant contribution to local character, the natural environment and green infrastructure. Many of the borough's surviving historic buildings, particularly but not exclusively the few surviving medieval or 16th/17th century buildings, will also be of archaeological interest and are mostly located within historic settlements.

Prehistoric (500,000 BC to 42 AD)

Prehistoric finds such as pottery fragments, weapons and tools, have been recovered from across the borough particularly in the North Downs area and close to the borough boundary with Sutton. Collectively these finds show that human activity was taking place in Croydon throughout the prehistoric period. Prehistoric communities would have considered the upland areas of the south, particularly those where pockets of cultivatable soil were located, attractive areas for settlement due to the commanding views they could provide over the surrounding area. Preservation of any prehistoric finds and features is also more likely to be recognised in the chalk areas where earthworks can be preserved within the landscape. The fact that there are more undeveloped areas in the south compared to the north also makes the discovery of prehistoric finds and features there more likely.

While finds from the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods have been made in Croydon no major sites dating to either of these two periods have been discovered. Flint extraction took place in Croydon during the Neolithic period at sites such as Pampisford Road and Croham Hurst; better understanding of this specialised activity would be desirable. The round barrow at the summit of Croham Hurst is thought to be Bronze Age while a burial mound found on Russell Hill may also belong to the same period. Mounds formerly situated in Addington Park may have been prehistoric funerary features. Newe Ditch on Riddlesdown Common and the Mere Bank in the west of the borough are thought to have been boundary features dating to the late Bronze Age or Iron Age and might relate to nearby settlements. The Iron Age settlements found at Atwood School and Kings Wood near Sanderstead are examples of prehistoric settlements that have been identified in Croydon.

Further prehistoric finds and features should be anticipated and would enhance what is known about the nature and extent of activity within Croydon. However, the prehistory of Croydon needs to be viewed within the wider context of the Thames Basin and Southern English chalk downs. Research priorities prepared for Kent, Surrey and South-East England may therefore be as relevant as those for Greater London itself.

Roman (43 AD to 409 AD)

The most significant Roman features within Croydon are the two major roads that run through it. Both the London to Brighton Roman road and the London to Lewes Roman road ran from London to the south and connected the city to the iron producing and corn growing areas of Sussex. The London to Lewes road only passes through a small area in the south-east of the borough, although the borough boundary with Bromley is based on its route for a short distance. The London to Brighton road had a far more significant impact on the

development of Croydon particularly Croydon town itself which is thought to have been a significant settlement on the road and developed as a result of the traffic passing along it. Its location approximately 10 miles south of the Roman city of *Londinium* would have made it a convenient stopping point for people making their way to or from the city especially after descending from or in anticipation of ascending to the North Downs.

The quantity of Roman material recovered from Croydon town centre demonstrates that some form of settlement was situated there although its precise nature and location is unknown. The route of parts of the London to Brighton road is also uncertain and it may have had a number of different routes that were used according to local conditions. Smaller settlements probably developed along the major roads or lesser roads that may have been based on earlier prehistoric routes throughout the borough. The 11 burials recovered from near Deepfield Way in the 1960s may be associated with such a settlement. A Roman villa complex was located in Beddington in Sutton but its lands and influence would have extended into Croydon too.

Key archaeological interests relating to Roman Croydon would be to understand the role of the settlement at Croydon town and how land was used and managed at this distance from *Londonium*. Whether, for example, there was an emphasis on specialised production for the market or Roman administration and did this vary. It is also unclear whether the local population during the Roman period was predominantly native Britons or a more diverse group influenced by the Roman city or the traffic passing through it to or from the ports on the south coast. The extent of woodland across the borough during the Roman period would be worthy of research using environmental information and may have had an effect on the distribution and character of settlements.

Anglo-Saxon (410 AD to 1065 AD)

An impressive concentration of Anglo-Saxon burial grounds has been uncovered in Croydon. Saxon cemeteries or burials have been positively identified at Farthing Down, Lion Green Road, Hook's Hill, Riddlesdown Road and Park Lane/Edridge Road near Croydon town centre while a probable Saxon cemetery is also located at Russell Hill near Purley. The sheer number of burials identified makes Croydon remarkable and further cemeteries may be present. The grave goods found with the burials have included weapons, jewellery and other objects such as urns, buckets and plates. Some of the burials found in Croydon dated to the 5th century and would have been part of the earliest Saxon migrations into Britain. During this time Germanic mercenaries were recruited and came to Britain before their families followed and settled permanently. Other burials, sometimes in the same cemetery, dated from later in

the Saxon period so together they can provide information on the local population across a period of several centuries.

By the 7th century Croydon had become part of the *suthre ge* (southern district) which became Surrey. It is thought that Croydon town continued to be an active settlement during the Saxon period perhaps without any period of abandonment following the end of the Roman administration in Britain. Saxon settlements also existed at Sanderstead, Old Coulsdon and Watendone since they are all mentioned in documents dating to the Saxon period and another settlement may have existed at Addington too. Croydon, Sanderstead, Old Coulsdon and Watendone were all in manors owned by influential ecclesiastical institutions during the Saxon period. The manor of Croydon was owned by the Archbishops of Canterbury and a manor house belonging to the Archbishops is thought to have been established in Croydon town at some point in the Anglo-Saxon period. The presence and patronage of the Archbishops undoubtedly helped the town to flourish and cemented its position as the most important settlement within the immediate area. The manor that Old Coulsdon and Watendone were located in was controlled by Chertsey Abbey while the manor of Sanderstead was owned by Hyde Abbey near Winchester. All these religious institutions were located some distance from these manors and demonstrate the far reaching control and influence such institutions could exercise. However, relatively little structural evidence dating to the Saxon period has yet been found.

Future investigations could concentrate on the transition period between the Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods and the effect it had on the local area. Saxon migration is reflected in the burial grounds and cemeteries that have been uncovered but more needs to be learnt about tribal organisation during the same period and how it developed into organised kingdoms. Relatively little structural evidence dating to the Saxon period has yet been found but any future discoveries would enhance our knowledge of Saxon settlement considerably.

Medieval (1066 AD to 1539 AD)

Croydon, Sanderstead, Old Couldson, Addington and Watendone are all mentioned in the Domesday survey. However, during the medieval period the fortunes of these areas varied depending on a range of different circumstances. Croydon continued to flourish, a weekly market and annual fair was established, the archiepiscopal manor continued to expand while the parish church of St John the Baptist was one of the largest in the area. However, the settlement of Watendone was abandoned apparently at some point in the mid-14th century. Numerous manor houses would have been built across the borough during the medieval period. In many cases the exact location of these manor houses is not known

because they were later demolished and a new manor house was built elsewhere. One such manor house was a moated site located at Elmers End which is now a Scheduled Monument.

Croydon itself was an important ecclesiastical manor and one of a ring of medieval market towns around London. Archaeology combined with historical research may enable a better understanding of how the town and its surrounding countryside were affected by these influences.

Post medieval (1540 AD to 1900 AD) & Modern (1901 AD to present day)

After the dissolution, control of the manors that Coulsdon and Sanderstead were located in was taken away from Hyde and Chertsey Abbeys and given to aristocratic families. On the Rocque map of Surrey produced in the 1760s the area is shown as still predominantly rural and interspersed by numerous villages, hamlets, country houses and farms. At this point Croydon town was the only town and it is still the most important urban centre within the borough. By the post medieval period the archbishops' residence in Croydon town was referred to as a palace but in the late 18th century it was sold and Addington Palace became the Croydon base for the Archbishops of Canterbury during the 19th century. The palace buildings in Croydon town gradually fell into disrepair or were demolished but a few survive including the Great Hall, Chapel and State Apartments and are incorporated within Old Palace School.

It was not until the 19th century that Croydon began to lose its rural character as an increasing number of settlements developed and expanded while the population of the area also increased dramatically. This was due to the development of the steam railways which by the end of the 1840s had placed Croydon on the main line between London and Brighton. Before the development of the steam railways the horse drawn Surrey Iron Railway had been established in the early 19th century which transported goods between Croydon, Mitcham and Wandsworth. The Croydon, Merstham and Godstone Railway was built as an extension into northern Surrey and the scheduled embankment near Lion Green Road is a surviving part of it. These early railways represent an important part of Croydon's industrial heritage. Urban expansion continued into the 20th century although the borough still retains many open areas which retain their historic landscape character particularly in the upland areas of the south.

Part of Kenley Common was requisitioned by the Royal Flying Corps during the First World War and became a military airfield. It expanded in the 1930s and was an important airfield during the Second World War particularly during the Battle of Britain. It continued to be used as a military airfield until 1959 and as a non-military airfield until the 1970s. Many of

its wartime buildings survive including 11 fighter pens that are now Scheduled Monuments. Croydon airport was established in 1915 on a site to the west of Purley Way and it became London's main airfield during the inter war period. It became a military airport during the Second World War and like Kenley saw action during the Battle of Britain. It returned to a civilian role after the war but it was unable to expand as aircraft traffic increased and Heathrow gradually became London's main airport. Croydon airport closed in 1959 although a number of its buildings survive. Both Kenley and Croydon represent an important part of London's aviation heritage.

Archaeological Priority Areas in Croydon

A total of 30 Archaeological Priority Areas are recommended for Croydon of which eight are Tier 1 APAs, 21 are Tier 2 APAs and one is a Tier 3 APA. The revised APAs would cover approximately 37% of the borough, increasing from 24% previously. A number of former Archaeological Priority Areas are not included in the new list of APAs. This is because following appraisal it was decided that they did not fulfil the selection criteria and have therefore been omitted from the revised list.

Tier 1 APAs	Size (HA)
1.1 Croham Hurst Round Barrow	0.66
1.2 Riddlesdown Road	6.37
1.3 Farthing Down	85.92
1.4 Lion Green Road	3.55
1.5 Park Lane Anglo-Saxon Cemetery	1.31
1.6 Russell Hill	24.66
1.7 Elmers End	3.97
1.8 RAF Kenley	78.95
	Total = 205.39

Tier 2 APAs	
2.1 Addington and Addington Park	162.19
2.2 Central Croydon	90.25
2.3 Old Coulsdon	14.84
2.4 Sanderstead	37.13
2.5 Watendone	9.09
2.6 Ampere Way	126.69
2.7 Waddon	65.93
2.8 Mere Bank	61.83
2.9 Addington Hills	104.36
2.10 Croham Hurst	82.36
2.11 Pampisford Road	31.49
2.12 Pollards Hill	4.03
2.13 Deepfield Way	1.95
2.14 Hook Hill	14.99
2.15 Cane Hill	79.27

2.16 Ashburton Park	8.54
2.17 Haling Grove	3.97
2.18 Norwood Grove	9.99
2.19 London to Brighton Roman Road	335.35
2.20 London to Lewes Roman Road	37.54
2.21 Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries	14.35

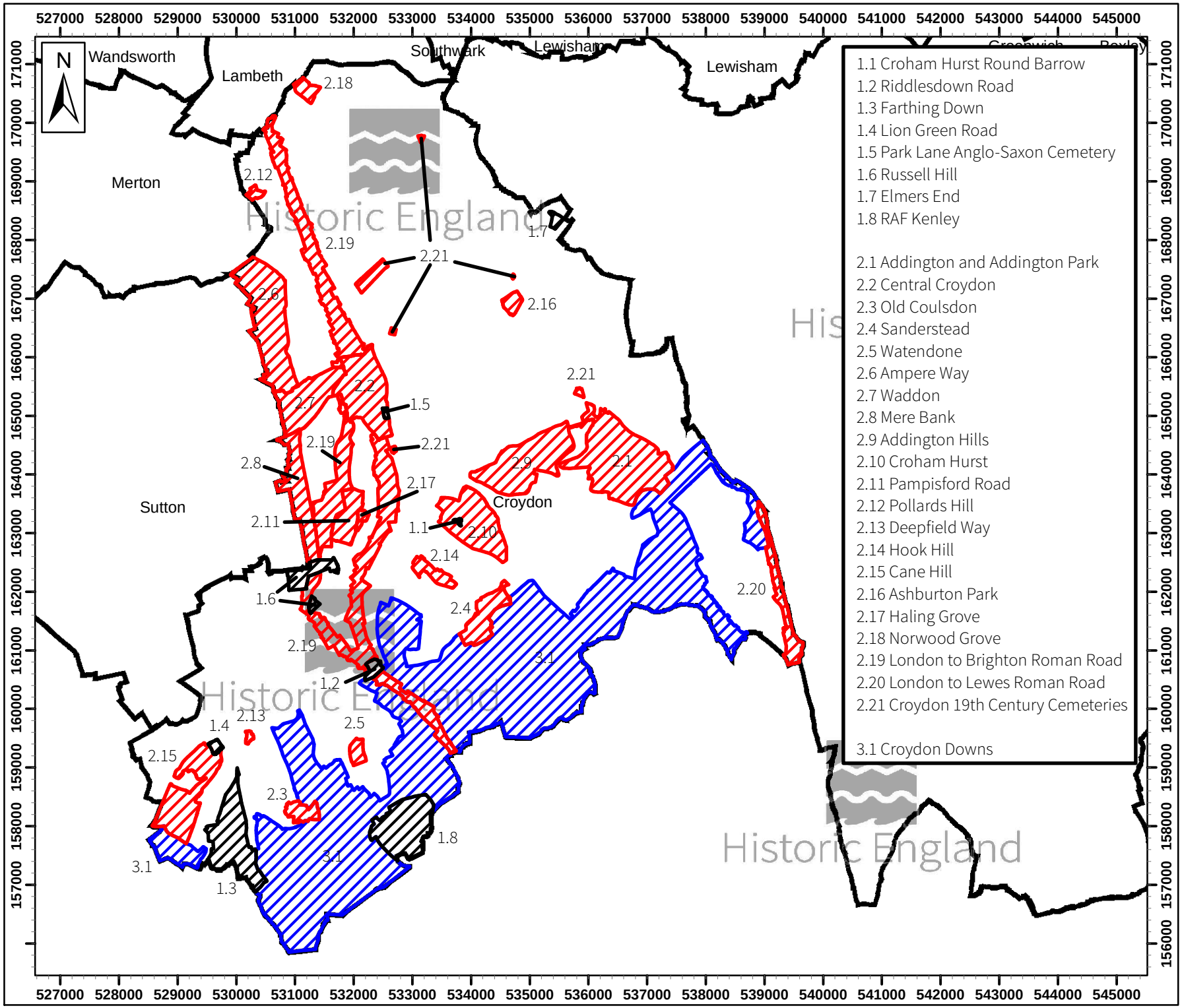
Total = 1296.14

Tier 3 APAs

3.1 Croydon Downs	1672.15

Total = 1672.15

Total area of all Archaeological Priority Areas in Croydon = 3173.68



Croydon Archaeological Priority Areas

1.1 Croham Hurst Round Barrow
1.2 Riddlesdown Road
1.3 Farthing Down
1.4 Lion Green Road
1.5 Park Lane Anglo-Saxon Cemetery
1.6 Russell Hill
1.7 Elmers End
1.8 RAF Kenley

2.1 Addington and Addington Park
2.2 Central Croydon
2.3 Old Coulsdon
2.4 Sanderstead
2.5 Watendone
2.6 Ampere Way
2.7 Waddon
2.8 Mere Bank
2.9 Addington Hills
2.10 Croham Hurst
2.11 Pampisford Road
2.12 Pollards Hill
2.13 Deepfield Way
2.14 Hook Hill
2.15 Cane Hill
2.16 Ashburton Park
2.17 Haling Grove
2.18 Norwood Grove
2.19 London to Brighton Roman Road
2.20 London to Lewes Roman Road
2.21 Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries

3.1 Croydon Downs

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:85,000

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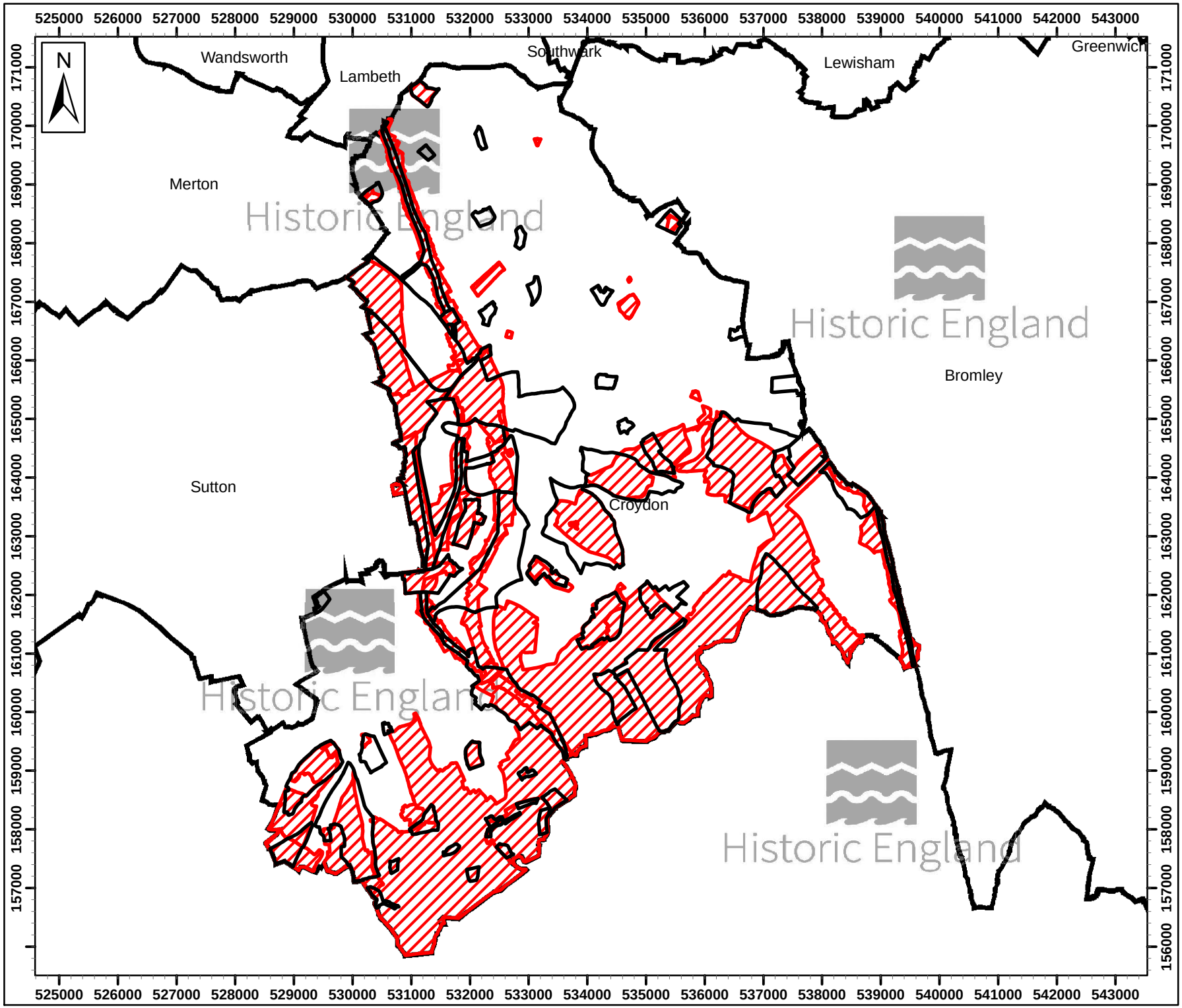

Croydon APAs and Former Croydon APZs

Croydon APA

Former Croydon APZ

Scale (at A4): 1:85,000

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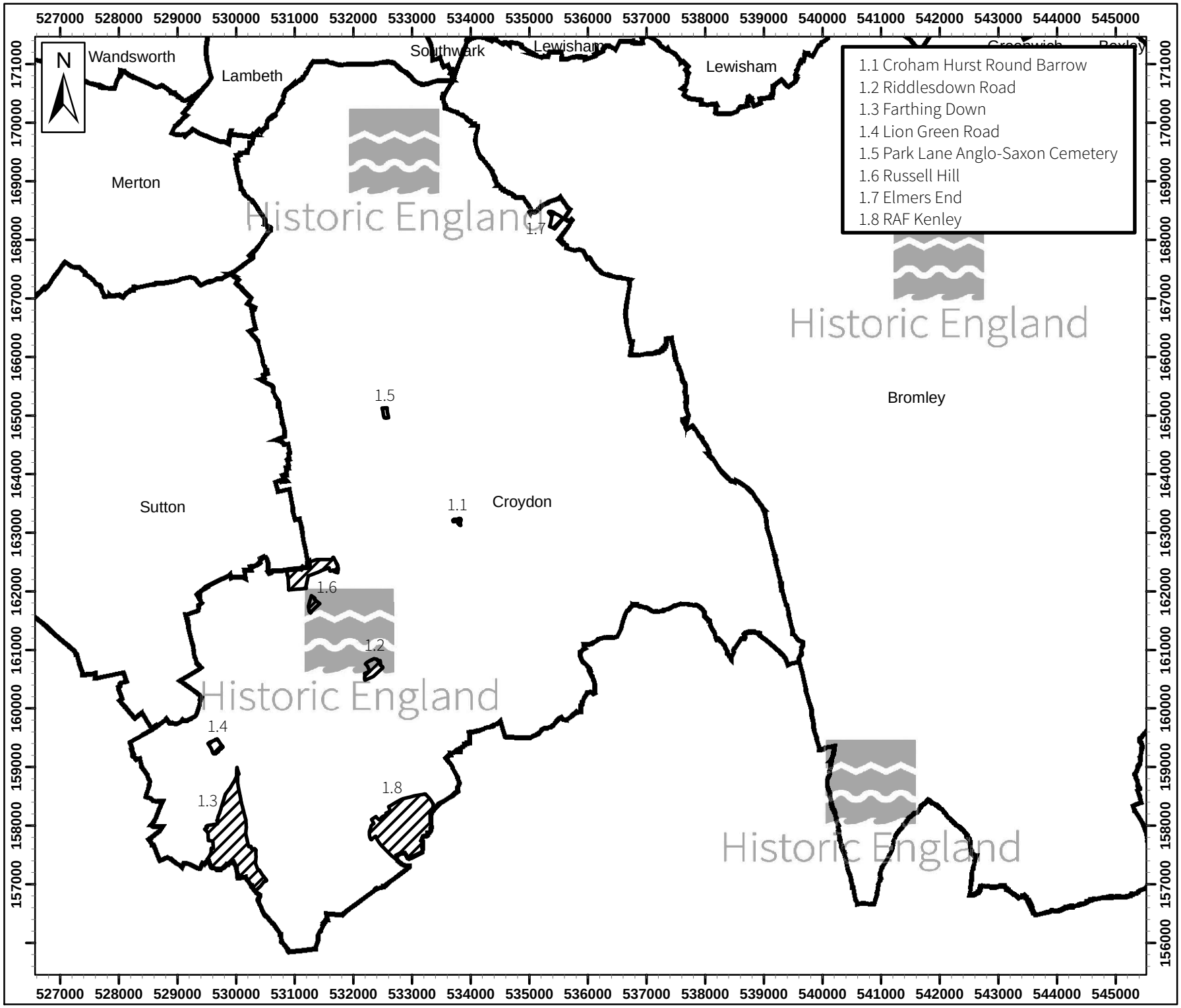

Croydon Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:85,000

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Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Areas

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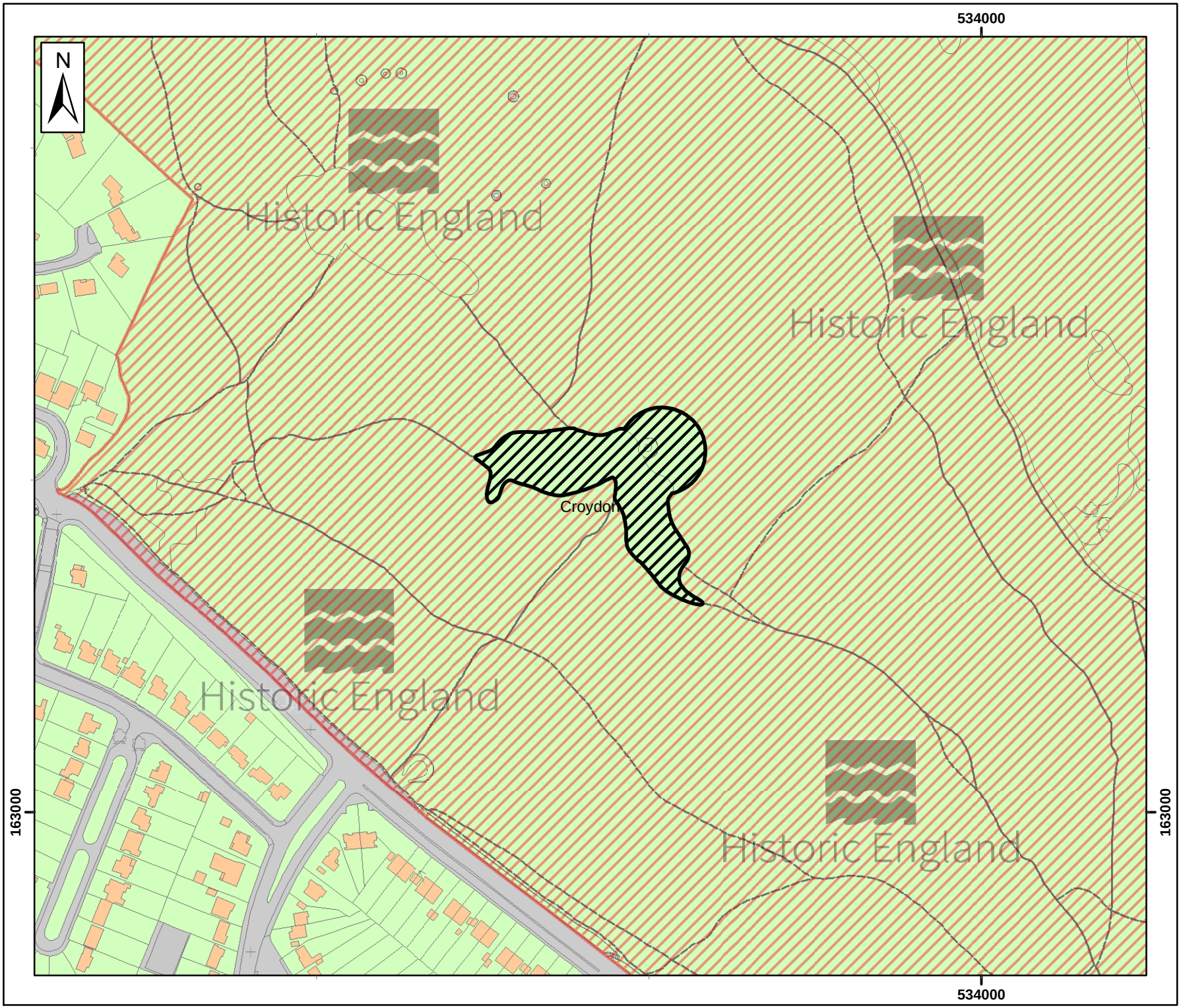
Croydon APA 1.7: Elmers End page 49

Croydon APA 1.8: RAF Kenley page 53



Croydon APA 1.1
Croham Hurst Round Barrow

Croham Hurst
Round Barrow APA

Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:3,000

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Croydon APA 1.1: Croham Hurst Round Barrow

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an area at the summit of Croham Hurst which is a ridge that projects from the North Downs. The APA covers Croham Hurst Round Barrow and five hut structures which are thought to be prehistoric, one of which was excavated in 1969. The APA is classed as Tier 1 because the barrow is a Scheduled Monument and the hut structures could be regarded as undesignated assets equivalent to a Scheduled Monument.

Description

The round barrow was not identified until the 1940s and was scheduled in 1951. It has an approximate diameter of 11m and is 0.4m high making it somewhat small and difficult to discern within the landscape. It is a bowl barrow which is the most common type of round barrow, most of which were constructed in the late Neolithic or Bronze Age periods (the majority date from 2200BC-1500BC). A scraper was found in an animal burrow in the side of the barrow which appeared to date from the early Bronze Age. Barrows were often located in prominent positions, such as the Croham Hurst example which is located at the highest point of the hill. Since its identification it has never been thoroughly investigated and it is unknown how many burials are in or around it. Such barrows normally had surrounding ditches created after the earth was extracted to deposit over the burials but no such ditch surrounding the Croham Hurst barrow has been positively identified. However, it is possible that such a ditch has been filled in since the barrow's creation. Later burials could be inserted into the mound or placed around it.

Five sub rectangular enclosures, which are thought to represent former huts, are present to the south-west of the round barrow and appear on the surface as a series of banks. In the late 19th century a collection of approximately 140 flints was found in this area and in 1968 and 1969 these enclosures were examined more thoroughly. One of the huts was excavated and it was found that the banks that were visible on the surface were formed of pebbles and sandy soil and were the remains of turf walls. There was an entrance at the eastern end of the hut and six post holes which would have supported a roof were also uncovered. An earlier hut was found underneath the western side of the hut which also had post holes and a pit which may have been a storage pit or a fire pit. The walls of this earlier hut contained the same material as the walls of the excavated hut and another hut that was partially excavated also had similar walls. It therefore appears that all the huts belonged to the same period.

A large amount of flint was also recovered during the excavation some of which had been worked into tools such as axes, scrapers, awls, burins and arrowheads although the majority of flint fragments appeared to be waste flakes. More than 2400 flints had been subjected to fire, possibly for cooking purposes.

Dating the settlement proved to be problematic because apart from the structures and the flints no other material that could be dated was recovered. The form of the hut structures, the types of flint tools and the absence of any pottery led to the site being tentatively dated to the late Mesolithic period. It is possible that the flints and structures were not contemporaneous and the people working the extracted flint may have lived elsewhere. It is therefore unclear if any form of settlement was present on Croham Hurst when the barrow was created.

A sample of charcoal from the fire pit found in one of the excavated huts was sent for radiocarbon dating and gave a result of the early 9th century AD during the Anglo-Saxon period. This is problematic since no other Saxon material has been found on Croham Hurst and the hut structures and flints do not appear to date from the Saxon period. It is possible that the charcoal sample had been contaminated in some way which led to an erroneous result. Nevertheless the 9th century date cannot be ignored when considering the potential age of the settlement.

Significance

The site is significant because of the barrow and potential late Mesolithic settlement. Many prehistoric finds have been made across the North Downs in Croydon but few prehistoric settlements have been positively identified. Known late Mesolithic settlement sites are extremely rare in England so if the Croham Hurst site was confirmed to belong to that period it would be a particularly important example. The Anglo-Saxon radiocarbon date is problematic because it does not corroborate with the evidence that was gained from the excavations in the 1960s and has therefore been doubted. However, if the settlement was Anglo-Saxon it is still an important example of a small Saxon settlement that could be judged equivalent to a Scheduled Monument.

Bronze Age barrows are relatively rare in London and only 20-30 examples are known so the one at Croham Hurst is important. It demonstrates the burial practices of the period and possibly the social importance of the occupants. We know little about the barrow but any invasive excavation would damage the site. It may not have had any sort of relationship with the nearby settlement, which may have been abandoned by the time the barrow was

constructed, but together they are both important examples of their types and justify the APA's Tier 1 status.

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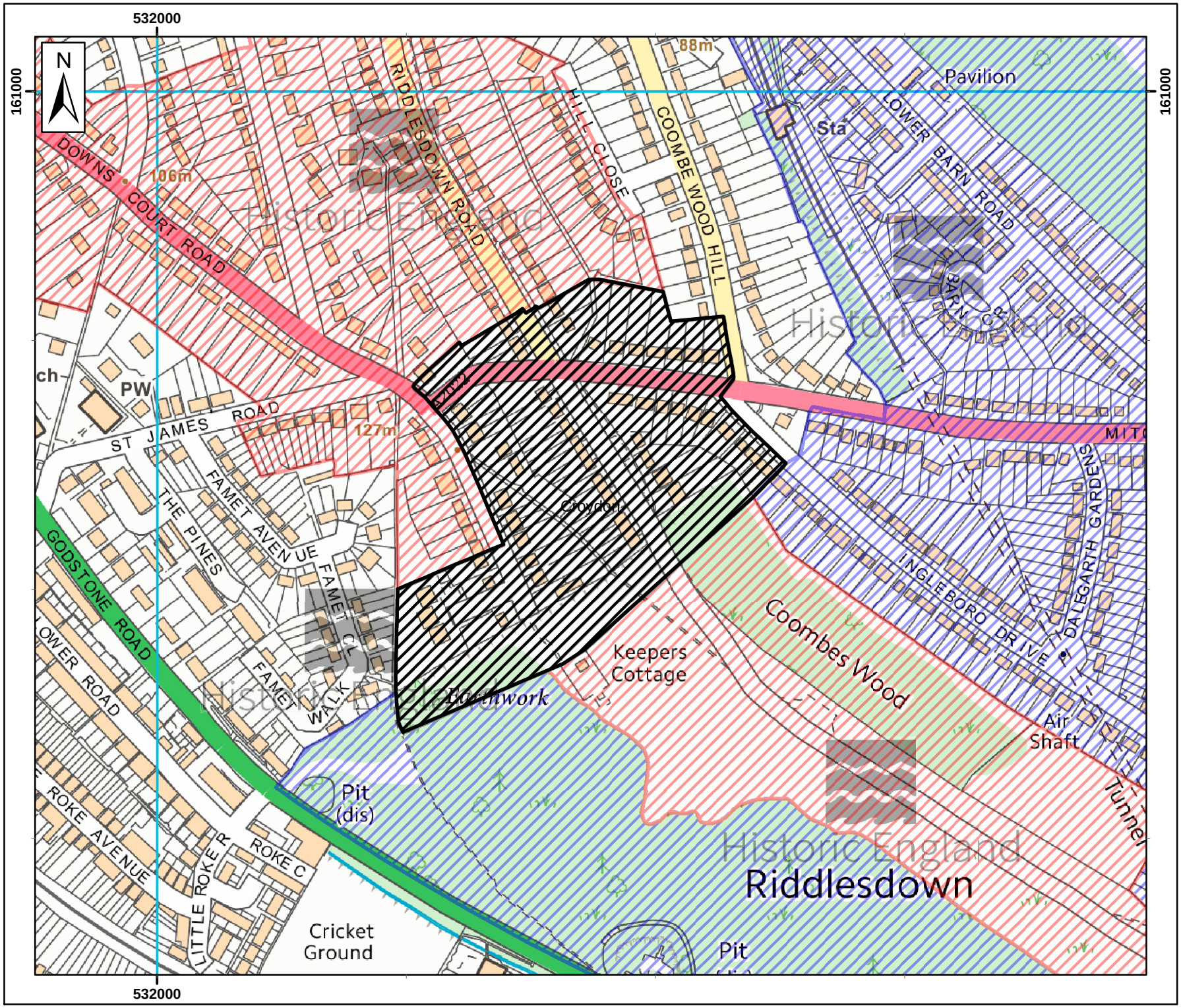

Croydon APA 1.2
Riddlesdown Road

Riddlesdown Road APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

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Croydon APA 1.2: Riddlesdown Road

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers Newe Ditch which is a Scheduled Monument and an area surrounding Riddlesdown Road and its junction with Mitchley Avenue where Anglo-Saxon burials have been found. The APA is classed as Tier 1 because it covers a Scheduled Monument while the Saxon burials are part of a cemetery that is an undesignated asset judged equivalent to a Scheduled Monument.

Description

Newe Ditch is a bank and ditch that runs in a south-west to north-east direction across the north-western edge of Riddlesdown. The scheduled area covers the bank and ditch between Riddlesdown Road and Famet Close, a length of approximately 200 metres. However, the scheduled area should not be regarded as the limit of the ditch's extent since it continues beyond Riddlesdown Road into Coombes Wood. There are a number of other linear features on Riddlesdown which are less discernible which include a ditch that runs along the north side of a footpath that emerges from Famet Close and another ditch which runs downhill from Downs Court Road. It is possible that all these were once part of a single interconnecting feature of which the Newe Ditch is the most obvious visible part.

The precise age of the ditch has never been conclusively established although it has often been referred to as a Bronze Age feature. Its purpose is also unclear. It is situated to the north-west of the highest part of Riddlesdown where a prehistoric settlement may have been located and it may have been part of an enclosure for that settlement. However, no trace of such a settlement has been found and neither has any other part of the ditch and bank although various other ditches on Riddlesdown may have been different parts of an encircling feature. Since it is not high enough to serve any meaningful defensive purpose it may have been constructed as a territorial boundary marker.

On an OS map from 1868 the ditch is marked as "Newedich or Widedich" and consists of three sets of banks and ditches but on this map the feature is not shown continuing further north-east into Coombes Wood. By the 1930s two of the three sets of banks and ditches had been removed by housing built along Riddlesdown Road and Downs Court Road although traces of the banks and ditches may still exist in the gardens of these houses.

At least eight skeletons were found when Mitchley Avenue and Riddlesdown Road were being constructed in the late 1920s. They were between what is now the junction

between the two roads and the gardens of 154, 156 and 158 Riddlesdown Road. A knife was found with one of the burials which dated them to the Saxon period although few other grave goods were recovered which could indicate that these burials were Christian. Further burials have since been discovered including three from the garden of 119 Riddlesdown Road. In April 2014 a number of human bones were recovered from underneath the front driveway of 176 Riddlesdown Road during building work and were radiocarbon dated to between 670 and 775 AD.

It therefore seems clear that an Anglo-Saxon cemetery was located in what is now Riddlesdown Road although its precise extent is unknown and would be difficult to establish. Other Anglo-Saxon cemeteries have been found in high areas of Croydon such as Farthing Down although whether the Riddlesdown Road burials had any relationship with Newe Ditch is unknown. The potential Anglo-Saxon cemetery on Russell Hill is situated close to Mere Bank which may be another prehistoric boundary feature and perhaps these Saxon burials were also placed here because of the proximity to Newe Ditch.

Significance

Newe Ditch is a significant visible feature within the landscape worthy of scheduling. Its precise purpose and age is currently unknown but understanding its relationship with other features on Riddlesdown may help to clarify its role and what sort of prehistoric activity it may have been related to. While the Newe Ditch and Anglo-Saxon cemetery may not have been contemporaneous the siting of the cemetery here may still have been linked to the ditch and its potential role as a boundary marker. Further burials close to Riddlesdown Road are possible which could provide information on the people being buried there. This information could also reflect the religious beliefs, social hierarchy and the general health of the local population during the Anglo-Saxon period. Further burials may also help to establish the limits of the cemetery and the potential burial population.

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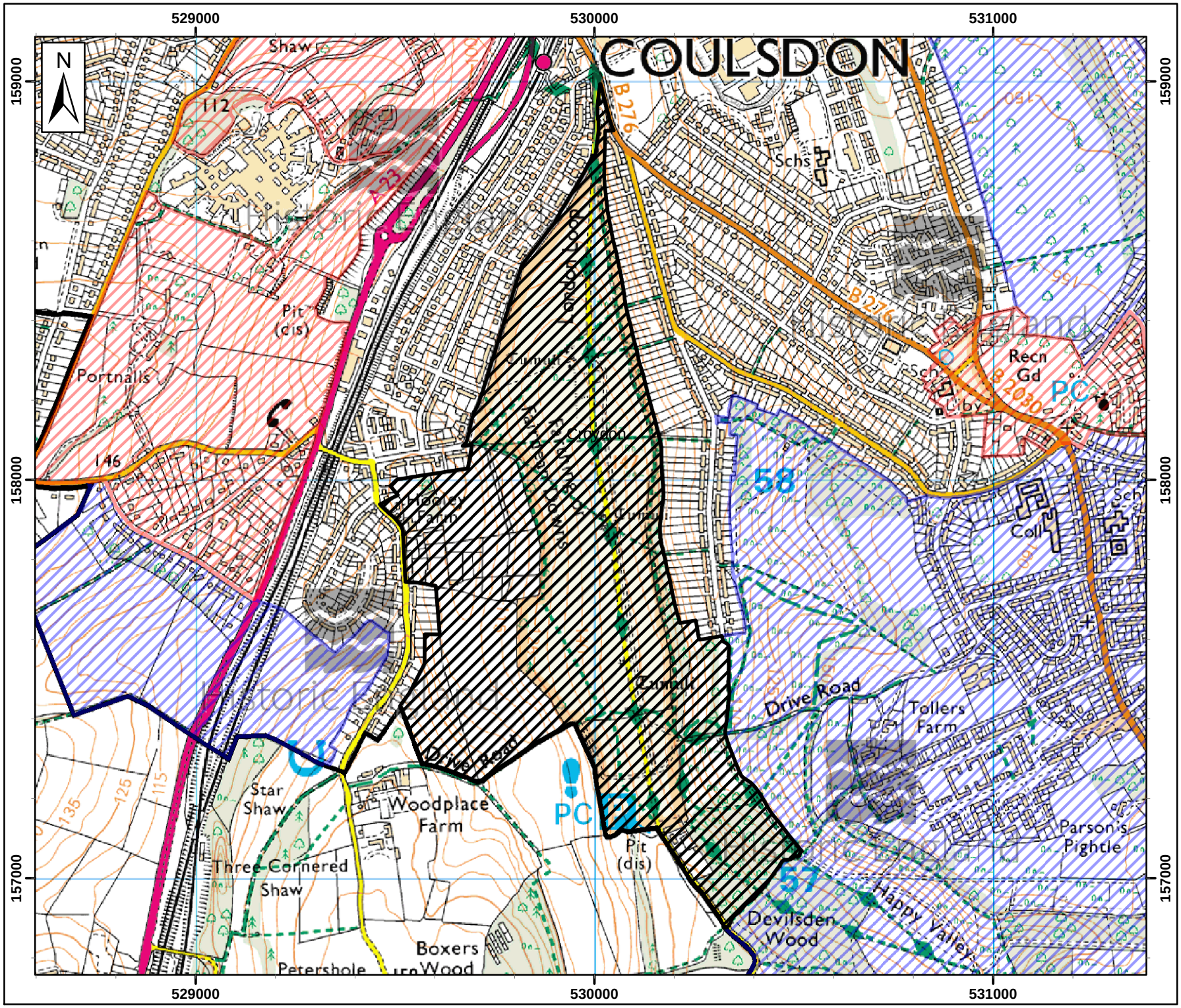

Croydon APA 1.3
Farthing Down

Farthing Down APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:12,500

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Croydon APA 1.3: Farthing Down

Summary and Definition

The Farthing Down Archaeological Priority Area covers the entirety of the Farthing Down Scheduled Monument and areas on its western and eastern sides. The North Downs have produced multiple prehistoric features and finds and was clearly an active prehistoric landscape. Farthing Down is no exception and finds dating from all prehistoric periods have been found in the APA. Farthing Down is particularly noteworthy for the Iron Age/Romano British field system and Saxon burial grounds that are located there. The APA is classified as Tier 1 because it covers the site of a Scheduled Monument and adjacent archaeological remains directly associated with it.

Description

Farthing Down is a flat topped ridge that projects from the North Downs with relatively steep slopes on its western, northern and eastern sides. Prehistoric finds include flints from the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods, pottery fragments dating from between the Bronze Age and Roman periods and a number of tools such as axes and a razor. No trace of a prehistoric settlement has been found on Farthing Down but it is possible that some sort of settlement was located nearby. A path that is thought to have originally been a prehistoric trackway running from north to south along the top of the Down is closely followed by the modern road. The finds do suggest that some form of activity was taking place but it is not clear if the activity related to settlement or other activity alongside the trackway.

The chalk on Farthing Down is overlaid by a light free draining soil which would have made the area suitable for early agriculture. A field system has been identified along the summit of Farthing Down on either side of the trackway which is typical of the Romano-British period. Earth banks projecting from either side of the trackway created enclosures that were presumably used for farming and some of these banks are still identifiable. The large amount of pottery dating from between the 1st century BC and mid-2nd century AD has led to the conclusion that this was the period when the field system was in use. No contemporary settlement associated with the field system has been identified on Farthing Down but one may have been located nearby and it is possible that the fields were farmed by more than one community.

A number of Saxon burial mounds are located on Farthing Down in three distinct clusters from north to south along the trackway which are identified on modern maps as tumuli. The northernmost group of barrows is situated near the top of the northern slope of

the Down and has the largest amount of barrows. Another smaller group of barrows is located approximately 400m to the south while two isolated barrows are located 350m further south. Excavations during the 1870s examined 16 barrows while a survey in 1931 counted 14 identifiable barrows which varied in diameter between 3.7m and 12.2m and none were more than 0.6m high. However, a survey in 2011 found there to be a total of 15 visible barrows (nine in the northern group, four in the central group and two in the southern group). It is difficult to account for this discrepancy which makes it difficult to state precisely how many barrows there once were. However, due to the relatively low height of the barrows it is possible that some were not noticed during earlier surveys or the intrusions of previous excavations may have made them less visible within the landscape.

A number of excavations have taken place since the 18th century and all the barrows appear to have been investigated at some point. Little is known about the first excavation that took place in the 18th century but it appears that one or two of the barrows were opened and the skeletal remains were removed. A far more thorough excavation took place in the 1870s. During this excavation 16 of the barrows were excavated and a number of skeletons and grave goods were found which included silver pins, a knife blade, an iron spear, a bucket, a gold medallion, a bronze buckle and a drinking cup with bronze fillets. One barrow contained the skeleton of a 6ft 5in man, an iron sword and an impressive iron shield boss which appeared to indicate that the person was someone of importance. Most of the human remains were left in the barrows while the grave goods were sent to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and helped to date the barrows to the 7th century. The impressive nature of the grave goods and relatively low number of barrows may indicate that only people of high rank within the local community were being buried on Farthing Down. The location of the nearest Saxon settlement is not known but it is possible that is was in the area now known as Old Coulsdon to the east which is mentioned in a charter dating from the late 7th or early 8th century.

Another grave, which had not been placed in a barrow, was found unexpectedly in 1939 by workmen digging a cable trench. An excavation in 1948 found that it was one of a series of six graves located approximately 60ft from the nearest barrow. Three of the graves contained young children who were approximately two years old and a small iron spear was found in one of the children's graves. Another grave was excavated in 1949 which contained the bodies of a young man, a boy who was approximately 12 years old and a middle aged woman who appeared to have been thrown into the grave after the other two burials had been laid there. Objects found from all these graves included pins, beads, a comb, shears, iron knives and a miniature spear which helped to date the graves to the mid-7th century which makes them contemporaneous with the barrows. The fact that these burials had not been placed in barrows suggests that the occupants may have been of a different social

status. The 1948/1949 excavations also re-examined four of the barrows that had been excavated in the 1870s and found the skeleton of a child that had not been found during the earlier excavations.

Little activity appears to have taken place on Farthing Down during the medieval and post medieval periods and on the Rocque map of Surrey from the 1760s it is shown as an open area presumably used for grazing. It therefore retains a historic landscape that has seen little change since at least the medieval period. During the Second World War 24 anti-glider trenches were cut across Farthing Down in order to prevent enemy aircraft from landing there. A large quantity of late Iron Age and early Roman pottery fragments were found in these trenches, which helped to date the field system, and two late Neolithic or early Bronze Age flint axes were also found. Excavations in 2005 and 2006 recovered Mesolithic or early Neolithic flint flakes and pottery fragments dating to between the late Bronze Age and early Roman periods.

Significance

Farthing Down is an area of open downland which represents a significant survival of historic rural landscape on the outskirts of London. The field system and Saxon burials justify its status as a Scheduled Monument and as a Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area. The Celtic field system demonstrates how local people were farming the land in the late prehistoric and early Roman period while the Saxon burials reflect the beliefs and burial customs of the local community during the 7th century.

The barrows and the unmarked burials show that Farthing Down had become a commemorative site in the Anglo-Saxon period and was part of a network of cemeteries along the Wandle Valley along with sites at Cane Hill, Croydon, Beddington, and Mitcham. Differences in the orientation of the burials and the presence of grave goods may reflect the pagan or Christian beliefs of the local population. The graves may mark a cross over period in beliefs where important people, such as the man buried with the iron sword and shield boss were still being buried with grave goods even if they were Christian. The 7th century was a period when Christianity was being re-introduced to the South-East of England and the Farthing Down burials may reflect a transitional period of conflicting beliefs.

The chance find of an unmarked Saxon burial in 1939 demonstrated that non barrow burials were present on Farthing Down and more may still be present. If more Saxon burials with associated grave goods were found in the future they would further enhance our knowledge of the people buried there and their associated customs and beliefs.

The Second World War remains are illustrative of anti-invasion precautions used to counter potential airborne landings that were anticipated as part of a German invasion using new blitzkrieg tactics.

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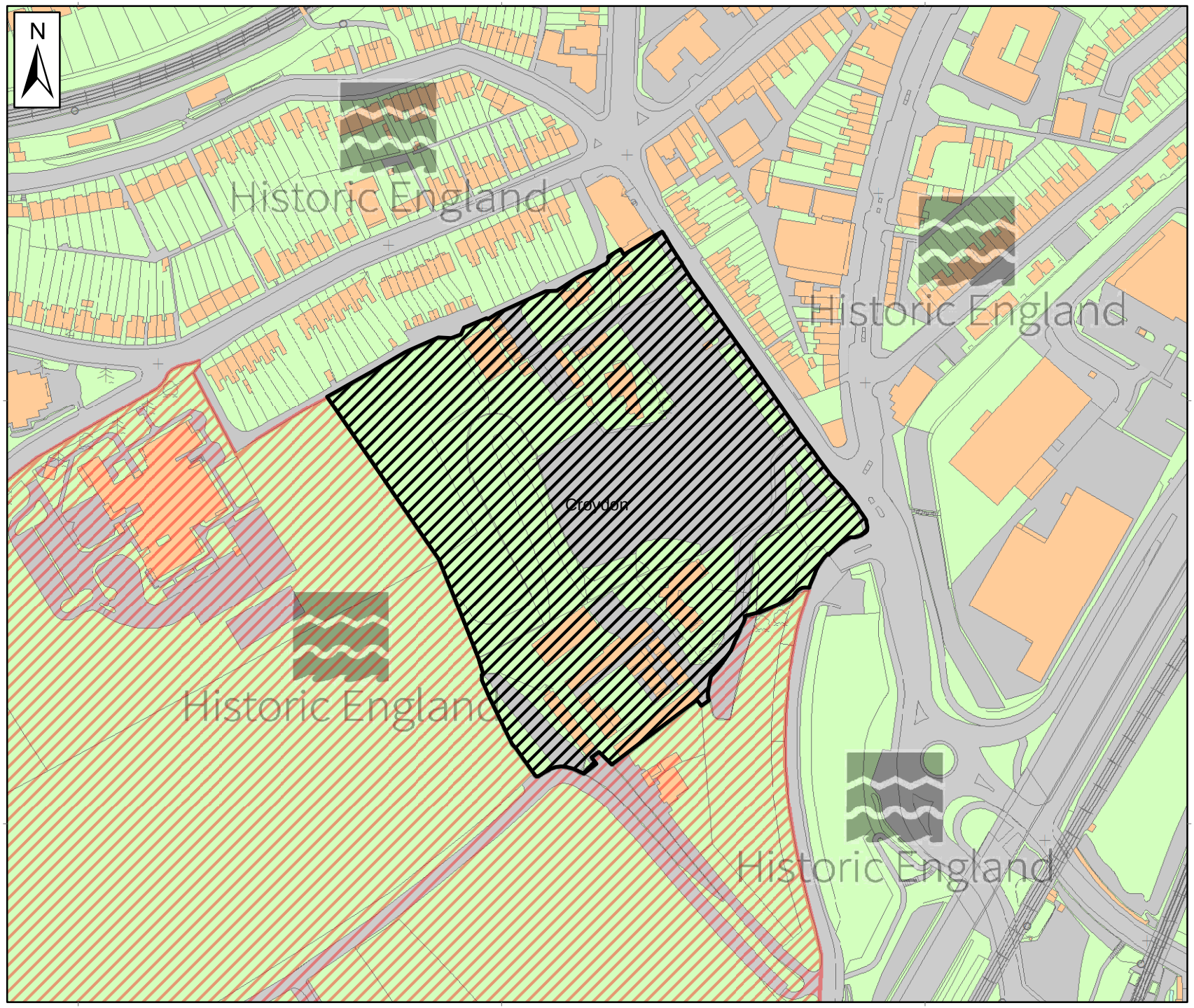

Croydon APA 1.4
Lion Green Road

Lion Green Road APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:2,500

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Croydon APA 1.4: Lion Green Road

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area is situated to the west of Lion Green Road. A large part of the APA is currently occupied by a car park next to Sovereign House where a number of Anglo-Saxon burials were found during excavations in 1912-13 and 2015. A scheduled railway embankment which was built as part of the Croydon, Merstham and Godstone Iron Railway in the early 19th century is also within the boundaries of the APA. The APA is classed as Tier 1 because the Saxon burials that have been found are part of a cemetery that could be judged equivalent to a Scheduled Monument.

Description

In 1873 a number of skeletons were found in the Cane Hill area along with grave goods which could date them to the Anglo-Saxon period. Records of the 1873 excavations have been lost along with the grave goods but for a long time it was thought that the burials had been found near Cane Hill hospital during the earliest stages of its construction. However, it is now thought that rather than being found at the Cane Hill hospital site the burials were actually found near Lion Green Road.

Up to 11 further burials were found during an excavation in 1912-13 on the site of Lion Green Road car park, some of which are thought to have been the same as those found in 1873 which had been reburied. Four iron knives were also recovered which could date the burials to the late 6th or early 7th century. An excavation that took place in August 2015 found another three burials and while no grave goods were found they are thought to be part of the same Anglo-Saxon cemetery. The 2015 excavation also found two postholes and a pit which may indicate that some form of settlement was also established there although further investigation would be needed to confirm such a theory.

The scheduled railway bank to the west of the car park was built as part of the Croydon, Merstham and Godstone Iron Railway which was an extension of the Surrey Iron Railway. The railway was built between 1803 and 1805 and the embankment at Lion Green Road is approximately 8 metres high, 102 metres long and at its base 35 metres wide. The railway closed in the late 1830s as steam railways became increasingly popular and the line had been dismantled by 1848 although sleepers and sections of the iron track may survive in parts of the embankment. The embankment was scheduled because it was built as part of the first independent railway in the world and its construction demonstrates how early railway engineers could overcome physical difficulties within the landscape.

Significance

The Anglo-Saxon cemetery found at Lion Green Road is an important example of its type along with several others that have been found in Croydon along the Wandle Valley. It is possible that a Saxon settlement may have been located close to the cemetery which, along with other Saxon burial sites, would provide an indication of where settlements were located during the Saxon period. From the burials we can gain information about the social status, health and beliefs of the people being buried there. The boundaries of the cemetery have not been established and it is possible that further burials survive within the APA which may be uncovered during future investigations. It is also possible that the cemetery extended beyond the boundaries of the APA and further inhumations may be present on Cane Hill. If burials were discovered outside of the APA its outline may have to be altered accordingly. The railway embankment is also an important example of railway engineering and remains relating to the railway itself may survive within it or in the vicinity.

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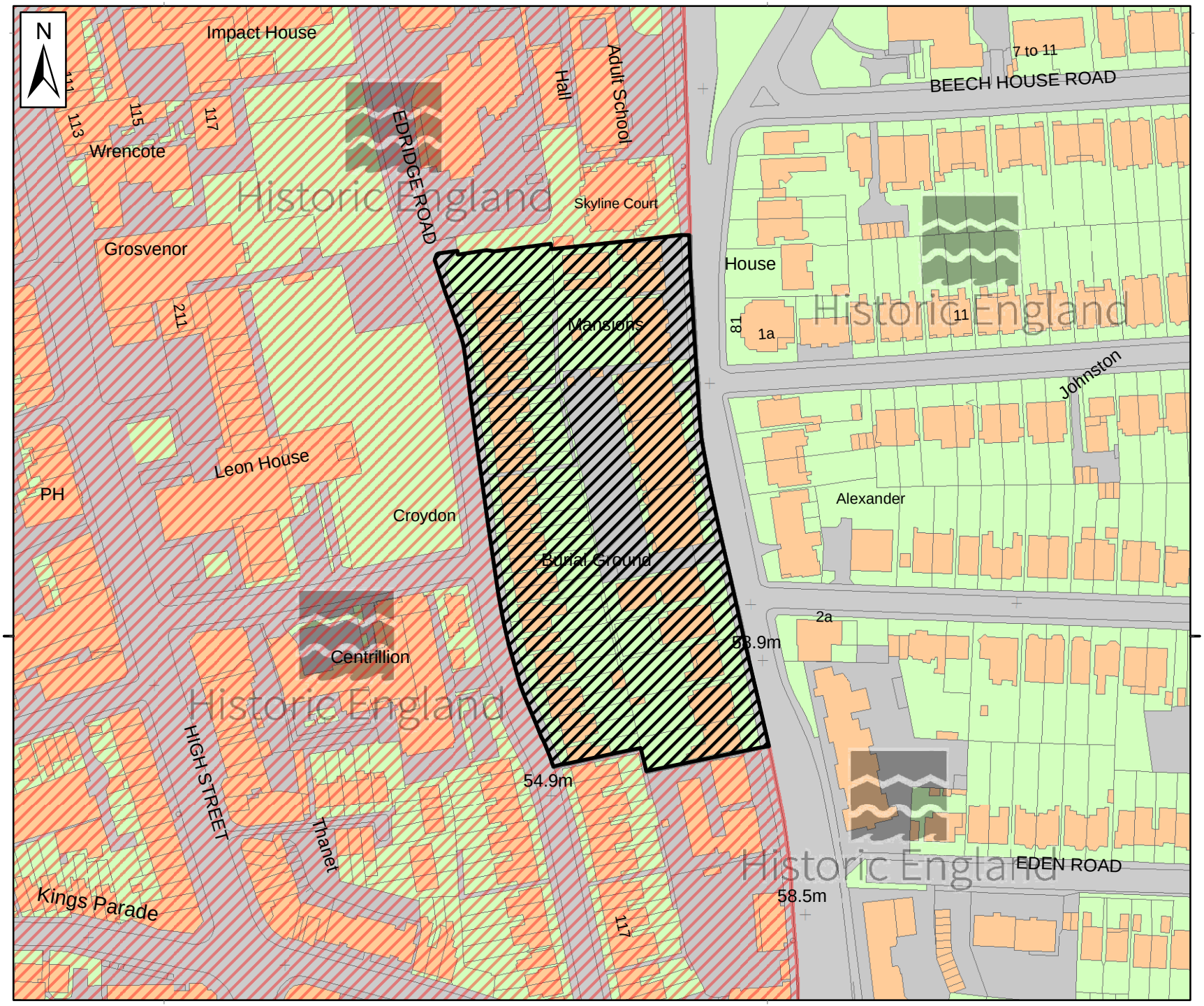

Croydon APA 1.5
Park Lane Anglo-Saxon Cemetery

Park Lane Anglo-Saxon Cemetery APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:1,750

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Croydon APA 1.5: Park Lane Anglo-Saxon Cemetery

Summary and Definition

The Park Lane Anglo-Saxon Cemetery is situated between Edridge Road and Park Lane. It was found by chance in the 1890s and subsequently excavated in 1992 and 1999/2000. A large number of burials and associated grave goods dating from the Anglo-Saxon period were recovered during these excavations. The APA is classed as Tier 1 because the cemetery is judged equivalent to a Scheduled Monument and even small scale ground works could disturb burials.

Description

While Edridge Road was being constructed in 1893 and 1894 workmen found a number of burials and associated grave goods. Approximately 100 objects were recovered including weapons, jewellery, buckets, tools and cremation urns. Unfortunately the discoveries were not adequately recorded and afterwards many of the finds and human remains were lost so it is not known exactly how many burials were found, although an estimate of between 118 and 136 has been made.

Investigations in 1992 and 1999/2000 in advance of development at 82-90 Park Lane found further burials from the same cemetery. The 1992 evaluation found seven inhumations and five cremation burials and remains of a structure that appeared to enclose one of the cremations. The significance and future management of the site was considered at a public enquiry in 1995 which decided that measures should be taken to protect and preserve in-situ the cemetery in an area to the rear of the new buildings whilst remains within the footprints of the new buildings were excavated in 1999 and 2000.

The 1999/2000 excavations found 46 inhumation burials, two cremation burials and objects which included weaponry, jewellery and several high status objects including a bronze bowl filled with hazelnuts. The date range of the burials extended from the late 5th to the early 7th centuries and the earliest burials may have been part of the first wave of Anglo-Saxon settlers who migrated to Britain in the decades following the end of Roman authority. However, a coffined burial dating to the Roman period was also found. The presence of such a burial suggests that the area may have been used as a cemetery in the late Roman period and continued to be used into the early Anglo-Saxon period. Estimates for the burial population of the whole cemetery have varied between 200 and 350 which would make it as large as the Anglo-Saxon cemetery found at Ravensbury near Mitcham where more than 200 burials were found in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

While the eastern and southern edges of the cemetery were found during the 1999/2000 excavations it is unknown how far it extended to the north and west. The area to the rear of 82-90 Park Lane was not investigated during the excavations and steps were taken to protect further burials which are known to be located there before it was covered by the current car park.

Significance

The Edridge Road/Park Lane cemetery is a large and nationally important example of its type and further burials and grave goods are likely to survive in areas that have not yet been excavated. The site could provide detailed information about the people who were buried there including whether they were part of the earliest Germanic migrations into Britain. Several Anglo-Saxon cemeteries have been found along the Wandle Valley which can be compared and contrasted with each other and any future discoveries would enrich our knowledge of the communities living in the area during that period. Mitigation strategies involving preservation in-situ need to take account of the fragility and vulnerability of this type of burial archaeology.

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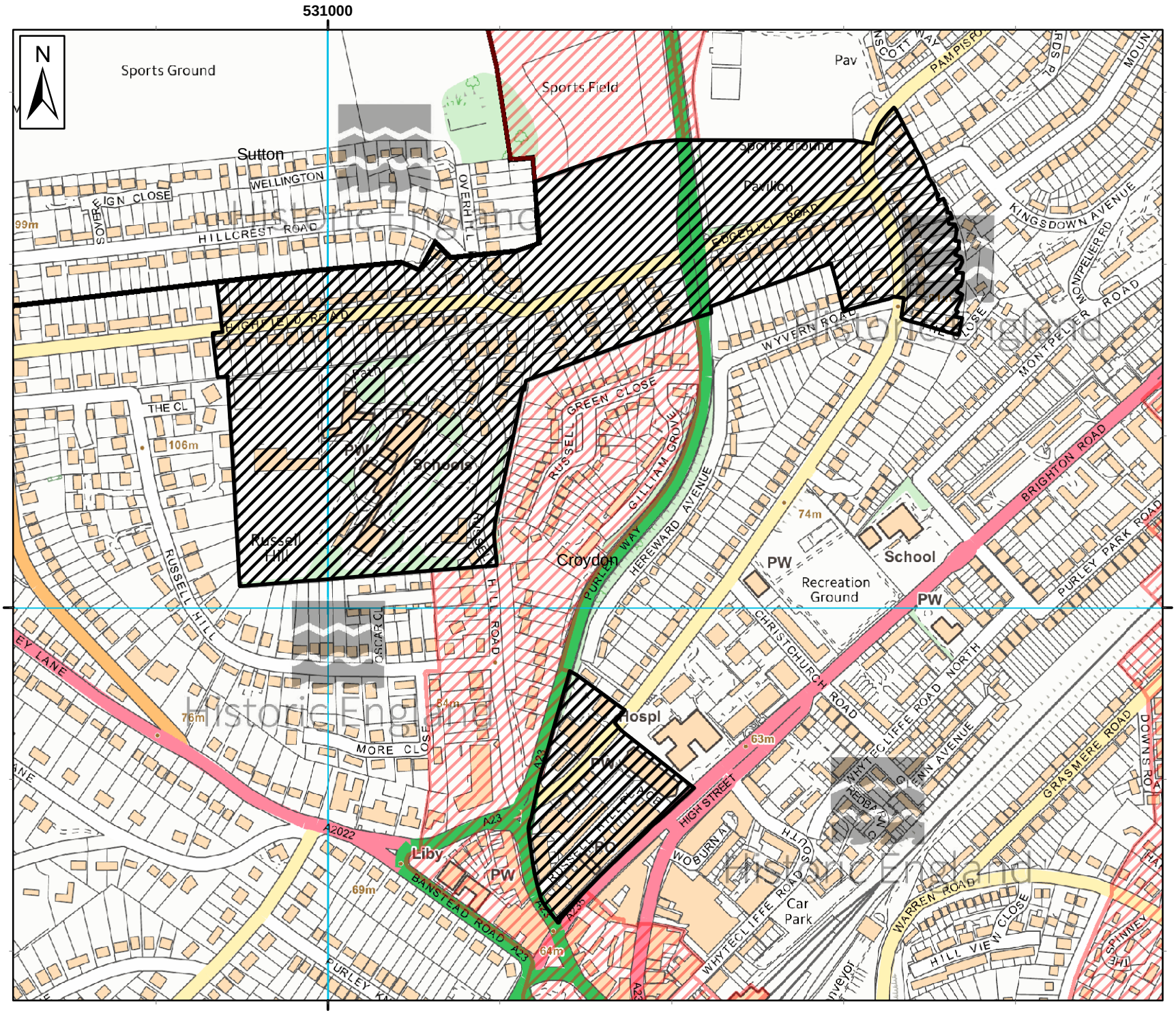

Croydon APA 1.6
Russell Hill

Russell Hill APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:6,000

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Croydon APA 1.6: Russell Hill

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers two separate areas: one is to the north-west of Purley town centre at the summit of Russell Hill while a smaller area is located at the foot of the hill. Human remains have been found at various times and at various sites within the APA since the mid-19th century indicating that the hill was once an extensive cemetery. The site is often referred to as an Anglo-Saxon cemetery even though only a few of the burials have provided dating evidence. Finds and features dating to the prehistoric period have also been recovered from within the APA. The APA is classified as Tier 1 because the cemetery could be regarded as an undesignated asset equivalent to a Scheduled Monument and the presence of human remains makes the area sensitive to even small scale ground works.

Description

The southern side of Russell Hill rises steeply from the Wandle Valley which passes through Purley. Such a hill would have been an attractive site for prehistoric settlement due to the strategic advantages that the view from its summit along the valley could provide. Like other areas along the Croydon/Sutton borough boundary a number of prehistoric finds dating from the Mesolithic to Bronze Age have been found across the APA. These finds have included pottery fragments, tools and weapons and indicate that some sort of activity was taking place here.

Until the mid-19th century the area was undeveloped but when the Royal Warehousemen's Clerk's and Draper's School was built at the top of the hill in the 1850s a number of skeletons were found. Further skeletons were found in the 1860s to the north of the school, during the construction of what is now Pampisford Road near its junction with Edgehill Road and at the junction of Edgehill Road and Purley Way in 1920. Burials were also found near the junction between Pampisford Road and Purley Way which is why the area near Purley town centre has also been included in the APA. Single skeletons have also been found just outside of the APA in Overhill Road in the 1920s and in Bridle Road in the 1970s. The burials have been found across a wide area and they might all belong to a single large cemetery or several smaller burial grounds spread out across the hill.

Unfortunately the skeletons were all discovered unexpectedly during construction or road widening works and little recording or analysis took place. It is therefore impossible to say precisely how many skeletons have been uncovered since the mid-19th century although it is estimated to be more than 100. It was rumoured that some of the burials found in the

1860s were found with weapons but this has not been confirmed. One of the graves found in 1920 near the junction of Purley Way and Edgehill Road contained a knife and a bronze buckle which were dated to the early 6th century. This is the only burial that was dated to the Anglo-Saxon period but it has led to all the burials being considered part of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery. It is possible that some of the burials were from later centuries of the Saxon period and were Christian which is why they were found without any grave goods. Like the Anglo-Saxon burial grounds at Farthing Down further to the south the Russell Hill cemetery is located on high ground overlooking the Wandle Valley. The Russell Hill burials are also situated close to the boundary feature known as the Mere Bank and other Saxon cemeteries, such as the one on Riddlesdown Road, were also established close to a territorial boundary. An Anglo-Saxon settlement may also have been established nearby.

However, some of the burials might date from an earlier prehistoric period. An excavation that took place at Thomas More School in 2001 found the remains of a ditch which was thought to be part of a ring ditch surrounding a burial mound. However, it was unclear whether the burial mound dated to the early Bronze Age or Saxon periods although its dimensions were more comparable to known Bronze Age ditches. Russell Hill's location close to the Mere Bank earthwork could also be significant and the cemetery may have been part of a prehistoric ritual landscape. However, it is possible that Saxon burials reused an earlier Bronze Age burial ground since a large amount of inhumations without any grave goods would be unusual for prehistoric burials. Further burials are likely to be present within the APA and archaeological investigations are necessary in order to confirm the age and extent of the cemetery.

Significance

The number of burials that have been found since the mid-19th century and the strong likelihood that further burials are present on Russell Hill is significant and could potentially provide a wealth of information about the site's purpose and the people being buried there in earlier periods. If the cemetery at Russell Hill is Anglo-Saxon then it is one of several that can be found along the Wandle Valley and Wandle River in Croydon, Sutton and Merton. Together they appear to show a common practice of establishing cemeteries on sites along the Wandle's route. If it is assumed that settlements were located nearby to these cemeteries then they show how the settlements were dispersed and approximately where they may be located.

The burials can provide a wealth of information about the community being buried there and can demonstrate Anglo-Saxon burial practices and changing religious beliefs. For example, those that are found with grave goods reflect the pagan beliefs of the community

while those found without goods and on an east-west alignment could represent the increasing spread of Christianity during the Saxon period. Saxon cemeteries found elsewhere in the borough have contained burials dating to the earlier centuries of the Anglo-Saxon period. If the Russell Hill burials date from the early Saxon period then they may relate to the earliest wave of Saxon migrations into England. The remains themselves can provide information such as the age, health and social status of those who were being buried.

However, the possibility that some the burials might be not date from the Saxon period should not be ignored and finds and features, such as the potential Bronze Age barrow at the top of the hill, indicate that the area saw some level of activity during the prehistoric period. If burials were found to be prehistoric then they could provide the same sort of information about the beliefs and burial practices of the local communities during that period. The area's relationship with the Mere Bank is also an element that needs to be considered.

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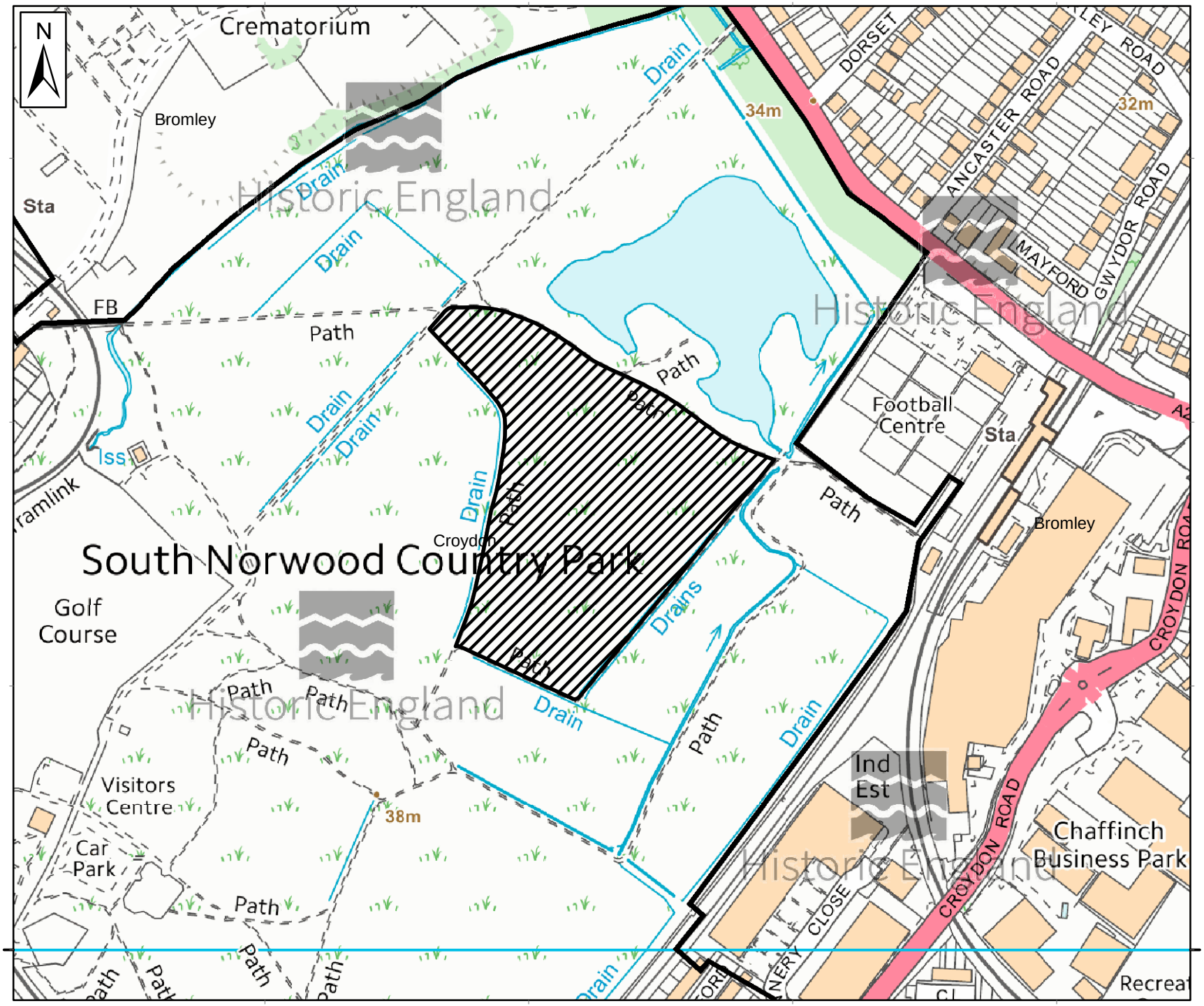

Croydon APA 1.7
Elmers End

Elmers End APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

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Croydon APA 1.7: Elmers End

Summary and Definition

The Elmers End Archaeological Priority Area covers part of South Norwood Country Park around the Elmers End moated site which is a Scheduled Monument. The APA is classified as Tier 1 because it includes a scheduled site.

Description

The moated site consisted of two concentric rectangular moats surrounding a house which was probably established in the second half of the 13th century, a period when the majority of such sites in England were built. A house was located within the inner moat on a square platform made of upcast gravel. A deed relating to the grant of a house and 20 acres of land in Beckenham to Robert de Retford is thought to relate to the site. The deed is not dated but Lord Robert de Retford was one of the king's itinerant judges who was active between 1296 and 1318. A deed from 1467 mentions the moats and gardens but not a house suggesting that it had been demolished by this time. The house may have been abandoned and then demolished because it was built in a low lying area of London Clay subsoil which hampered drainage and was prone to flooding and severe floods are known to have affected the area in the early 14th century.

The moats were re cut at some point in the 17th century and oak trees were also planted over the whole area. An estate map of 1736 refers to the site as La Motes and the site can also be seen on an Ordnance Survey map of 1872 where it is marked as The Moat. The fact that the moats were later recut and enhanced with a number of oak trees shows that whoever owned the land wanted to preserve the site as a landscape feature which survived until the 19th century. The site remained a discernible feature within the landscape until the area started to be redeveloped for use as the South Norwood Sewage Farm. The site of The Moat is shown on an OS map of 1894 but the moats had been infilled and the site levelled by this date and it does not appear on later maps.

The sewage farm also suffered from drainage problems and closed in 1967. In 1972 an excavation carried out by the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society found a number of features and artefacts associated with the moated site. The 1972 excavation found that the levelling of the area, the infilling of the moats and the sewage farm had not eradicated all trace of the moated site and enough material was recovered from the moats to help develop a better understanding of the site and the people who lived there during the medieval period. Finds included medieval pottery fragments from 33 different vessels

including cooking pots, jugs and bowls which dated between the mid-13th and early 15th centuries. The quality of the pottery suggested that a wealthy family had lived at the house. Timbers from bridges across the moats and building material such as tiles and dressed stone were also recovered during the three month excavation. The stumps of several trees that had been planted in the 17th century were also uncovered. The 1972 excavation concentrated on an area in the south-west of the moated site so it is likely that further remains will survive in other parts of the scheduled site and immediate area. The area was later converted into a country park which opened to the public in 1989.

Significance

Medieval moated sites represent a distinct type of monument which reflected the social status of the people who lived within them. The moat served a dual purpose by giving the site a certain level of prestige while also acting as a protective feature. There is no typical medieval moated site and there is great variety in terms of the shape and size of the moat and the type of buildings that were built inside them. The Elmers End moated site is one of approximately 6000 known moated sites across England most of which were built between 1250 and 1350. The scheduled status of the Elmers End demonstrates its importance and it contributes to a wider national picture concerning the distribution, purpose and residents of medieval moated sites. Although the site is no longer visible there is potential for public interpretation due to its location within the country park.

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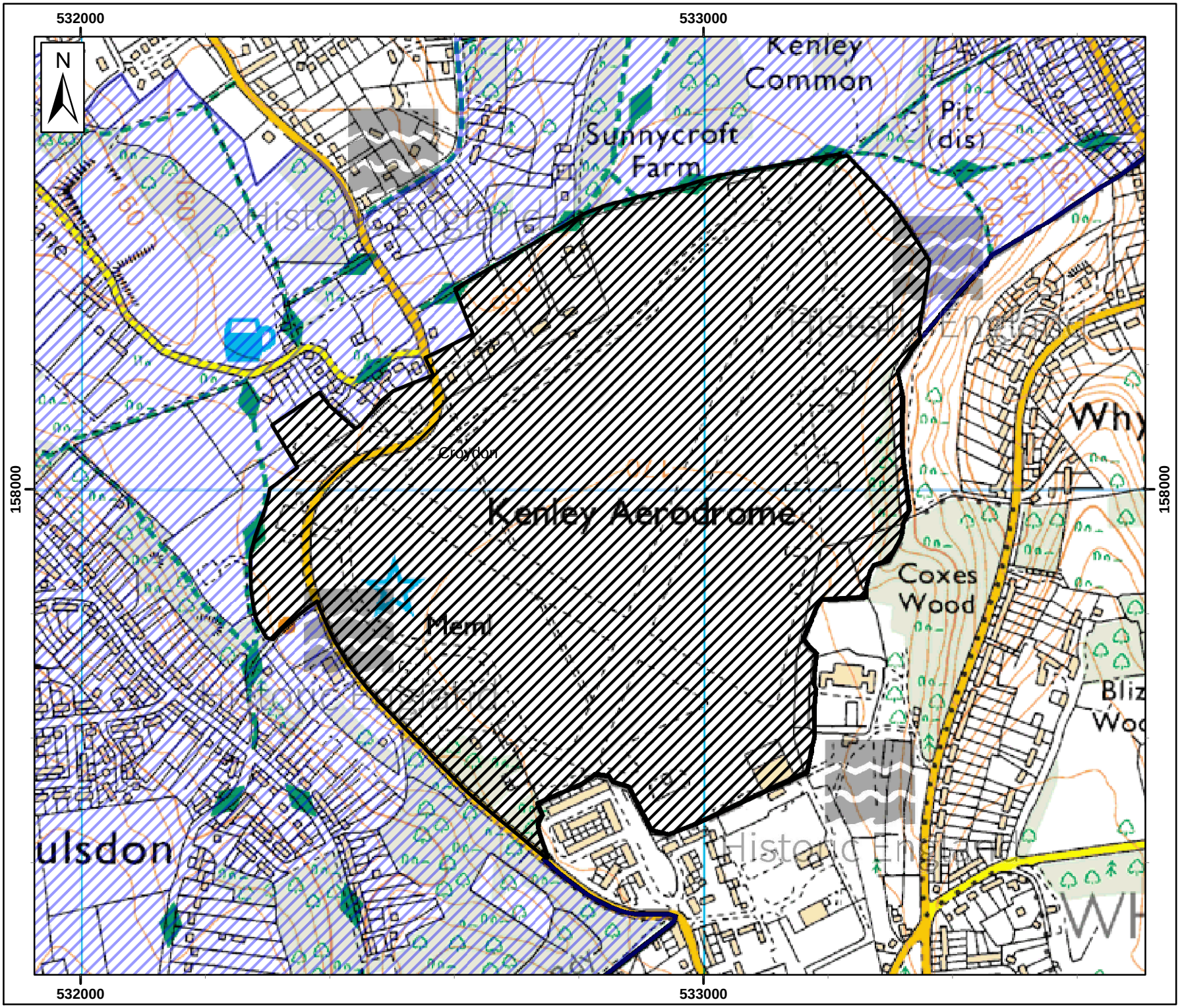

Croydon APA 1.8
RAF Kenley

RAF Kenley APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:8,000

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Croydon APA 1.8: RAF Kenley

Summary and Definition

The APA covers the site of RAF Kenley which was an aerodrome between 1917 and 1978 and is still used by gliders. It was active during the Second World War particularly during the Battle of Britain. The majority of the airfield is within the London Borough of Croydon but parts of it are in the District of Tandridge in Surrey. Those parts that are within Croydon include the runways, the perimeter track and 11 scheduled fighter pens that were built around the perimeter track in 1940. The Kenley Aerodrome Conservation Area also covers the area. The APA is classified as Tier 1 because it includes several Scheduled Monuments, their historical setting and archaeological remains associated with them.

Description

The site, which was previously part of Kenley Common, was requisitioned by the Royal Flying Corps in 1917 and converted into an aircraft acceptance park where military aircraft could be assembled and tested before entering active service. Initially the acceptance park consisted of tents and more rigid hangars made from wooden frames covered by heavy canvas but seven larger hangars, known as Belfast hangars, were built to the south of what became the runway area. Many of the buildings associated with the site's initial use as an aircraft acceptance park would have left little archaeological trace as they were temporary structures such as tents. The exception would be the seven Belfast hangars which would have left more substantial foundations that may still be present.

At the end of the First World War the airfield was retained for military use and expanded in the early 1930s. Many of the aerodrome's ancillary buildings were built in what is now Tandridge to the south of the runways. Most of these buildings have been demolished although the Officers' mess and NAAFI building, which were both built in 1932, survive and are both Grade II Listed Buildings. Parts of the former airfield in Tandridge have been redeveloped for housing but the area that lies within Croydon has never been developed and has not been greatly altered since the Second World War.

At the beginning of the Second World War in 1939 it was recognised that RAF Kenley needed to be enhanced in order to meet the threat of Luftwaffe attacks and assist in the protection of London and the South-East. During the winter of 1939 and 1940 two concrete runways, a concrete perimeter track and twelve fighter pens were completed while three of the seven Belfast hangars were demolished and Hayes Lane was diverted to the west to make way for the expansion of the airfield. The fighter pens were E-shaped structures dispersed

around the perimeter track where two fighter aircraft could be parked separated by a central blast wall. An air raid shelter which had enough room for 25 people was incorporated into the rear bank of each pen and the side arms of the pen and central blast wall would protect any parked aircraft from bomb damage during an air raid. Two of the fighter pens also had gun emplacements. Of the 12 pens that were built 11 survive and are now Scheduled Monuments although the current condition of the fighter pens varies greatly and a number are overgrown while only two retain a central blast wall.

Kenley was attacked by a major German air raid on 18 August 1940 during the Battle of Britain. Ten people were killed, a number of aircraft along with three of the four surviving Belfast hangars were destroyed while buildings such as the hospital block, the barrack block and the Officers' mess were damaged. The Officers' mess still has a number of scars sustained during the August 1940 air raid. Despite this attack Kenley continued to operate effectively and aircraft based there were involved in numerous air battles with Luftwaffe fighter and bomber aircraft during the Battle of Britain.

Kenley continued to be used as an operational airfield until 1978 but since then a number of its buildings have been lost. The last Belfast hangar was destroyed by fire in 1978 and since then the Operations Block, Control Tower and most of the perimeter pill boxes have also been removed. However, a number of structures associated with the wartime use of the site still survive within the APA. A rifle range is located at the south-west corner of the airfield, a perimeter pill box is located to the west of the airfield and the remains of machine gun emplacements known as Pickett-Hamilton forts are located at the north end of one of the runways and near the intersection of the runways. The partial remains of other buildings, such as an electricity substation, can also be discerned and the foundations of other ancillary buildings may also be present since the site has not undergone major redevelopment since their demolition.

Significance

Kenley retains key elements associated with its use as a Second World War fighter airfield such as the fighter pens, the runway and the perimeter track and it has been described as one of the most complete fighter airfields associated with the Battle of Britain. The survival of so many wartime features at Kenley provides a clear link with its wartime past. No other Battle of Britain airfield in Greater London or the South-East has retained as many Second World War features. Similar Battle of Britain airfields at Gravesend and Hornchurch have been converted into a housing estate and a country park respectively while others at Northolt and Biggin Hill are still active airfields but have been altered so more of their wartime heritage has been lost. Kenley has not been redeveloped for an alternate use and

enough wartime buildings have survived to retain a strong link with its wartime past. The link could be further enhanced by any surviving archaeological remains of buildings, or even pieces of shrapnel from air raids such as the one that occurred on 18 August 1940.

The fighter pens merited scheduled status because no other set of similar pens has survived to the same degree. The APA encompasses their historic airfield surroundings, a critical aspect of their setting. RAF Kenley's status as an exemplar Battle of Britain fighter airfield with high potential for surviving archaeological finds or remains justifies its status as a Tier 1 APA complementing the very specific protection of the Scheduled Monuments and the broader historical significance recognised by the Conservation Area.

Key References

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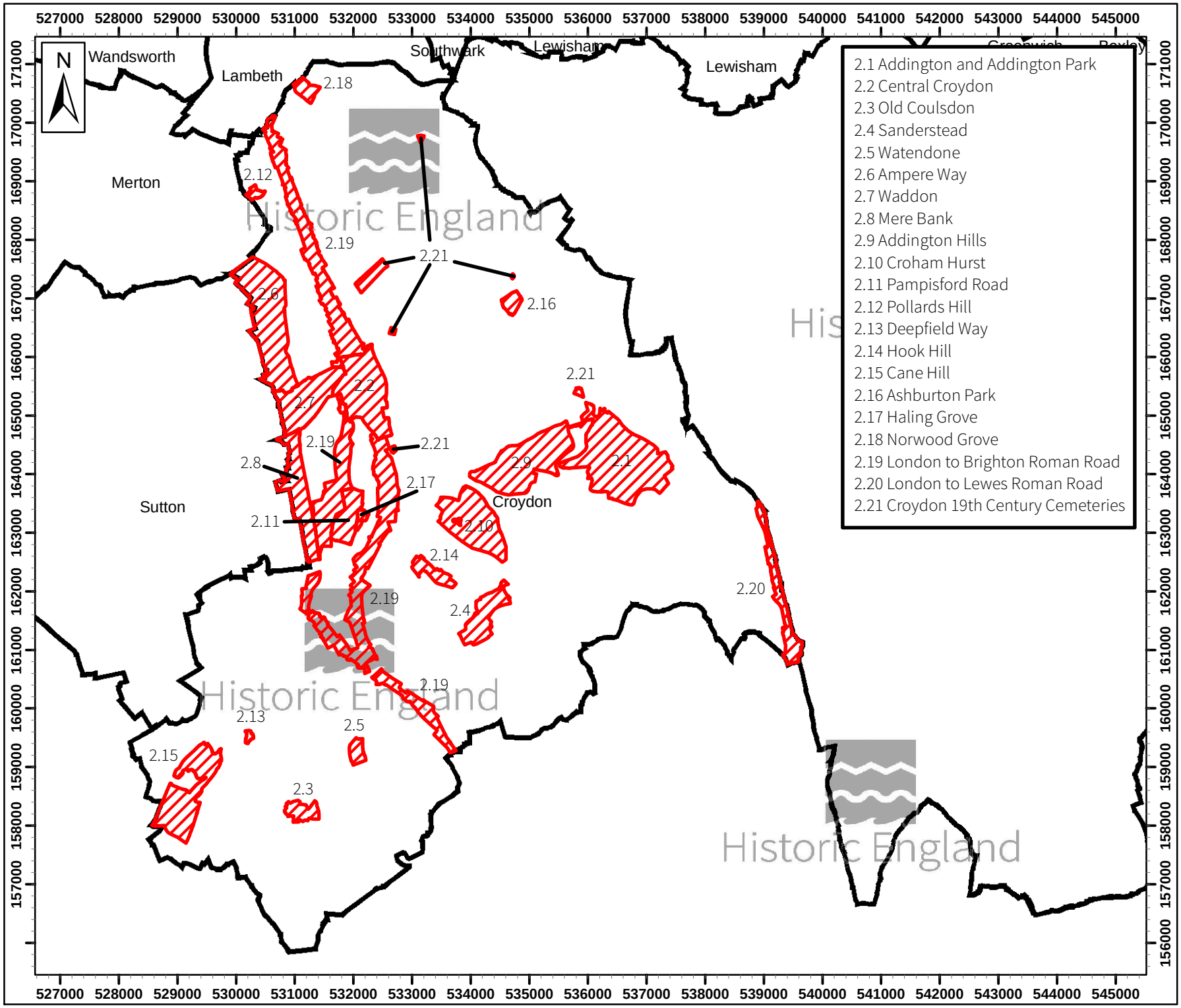

Croydon Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:85,000

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Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Areas

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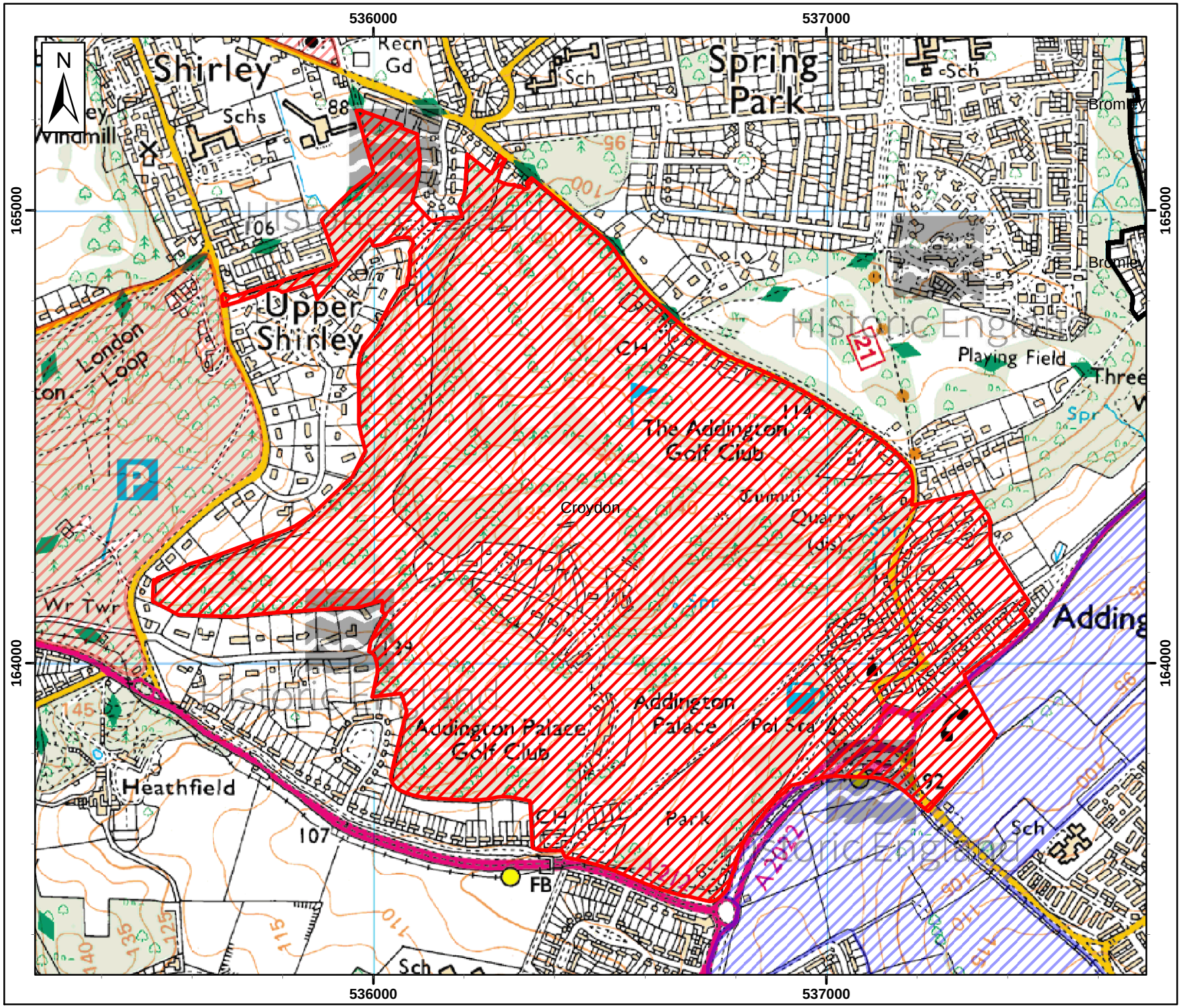

Croydon APA 2.1
Addington and
Addington Park

Addington and
Addington Park APA

Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:11,000

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Croydon APA 2.1: Addington and Addington Park

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers Addington Village and an area to the north-west known as Addington Park which includes the grounds of Addington Palace, Addington Palace Golf Club and Addington Golf Club. Addington Palace is a Grade II* Listed Building, Addington Park is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden and part of Addington Village is designated as a Conservation Area. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because Addington is a historic settlement while Addington Park has significant archaeological interest. It also covers a large area of undeveloped land with distinctive topography and evidence of prehistoric remains.

Description

Addington Park is on a hill that slopes down towards Addington and like other high areas in Croydon it has the potential for prehistoric finds and features. It has not undergone major development so any surviving archaeological features may be present in this area although the landscaping of the golf courses may have removed visible archaeological features on the surface.

Prehistoric finds have been made across the APA and date from the Palaeolithic to Iron Age periods. These have included axes, scrapers, blades, spearheads, arrow heads and coins. A late Bronze Age hoard was found in 1914 during the creation of a bunker on Addington Golf Course. The hoard included a gouge, axe fragments, sword fragments, a spearhead, other fragments of various implements and 19 bronze or copper ingots.

A description from the 18th century mentions approximately 25 mounds across Addington Park of which the largest had a diameter of 40 feet. It was also stated that by this time most had been opened and their contents removed. Two tumuli located on Addington Golf Course are still marked on modern maps and one is located near the highest point of the park. These may have been part of a previously larger group of mounds but no others are identifiable in the area and they could be natural features. Burial mounds have been found on hilltops in other parts of Croydon such as Farthing Down and Croham Hurst so it wold be logical to expect similar mounds to be present in the higher areas of Addington Park.

The earliest mention of Addington is in the Domesday Book where it is referred to as *Eddintone*. The chancel and nave of St Mary's church, a Grade I Listed Building, were built in the late 11th century and are the oldest part of the building although an earlier Saxon timber

church may have preceded it, remains of which may be present in the vicinity. The manor was held by a number of families during the medieval period but the precise location of a manor house is debatable. Castle Hill to the east of the village has been suggested as a possible site for a medieval manor house or even a castle although no conclusive evidence for such a building has ever been found. A more likely location for a medieval manor house would have been close to the village church. An excavation to the south-east of the church in 1973 found the remains of a structure that may have been the medieval manor. A number of foundation walls were uncovered and the pottery finds indicated that it had been abandoned during the 14th century. It is not known where later manor houses were located but somewhere in Addington Park seems likely, possibly close to where Addington Palace is now located.

Addington Park was used as a hunting park in the later medieval period and it is thought that Henry VIII hunted there. Addington Palace was constructed in the 1770s and became a summer residence for Archbishops of Canterbury in the early 19th century. It stopped being used as a residence for the Archbishops in 1897 and during the 20th century was used as a private residence, a military hospital, a school of music and it is now a country club. If a former manor house existed nearby then its remains may survive.

Addington Village is still relatively small and contains a number of buildings which date to the 18th century or earlier such as Addington House, Flint Cottage and Lion Lodge.

Significance

Any future finds of prehistoric material in Addington Park would further enhance what is known about human activity in the upland areas of Croydon during the prehistoric period. If it could be proved that burial mounds were once located in Addington Park and if such mounds could be dated it would further develop an understanding of how burial sites from that particular period were distributed across Croydon. Prehistoric burial mounds are potentially of national importance.

Addington is one of the few modern settlements in Croydon that is mentioned in the Domesday Book which indicates that it existed during the Saxon period. Knowing which settlements existed in the late 11th century helps to develop an understanding of how the local population was distributed and where it was concentrated at that time. However, unlike other settlements, such as Coulsdon, Sanderstead and Croydon, Addington was not owned by an ecclesiastical organisation at the time Domesday was compiled. This means that it was administered in a different way to those other settlements and the Dissolution may have had less of an impact on the local community. Remains of any buildings dating to

the medieval period or earlier may illustrate how Addington was similar to or differed from other historic settlements in Croydon.

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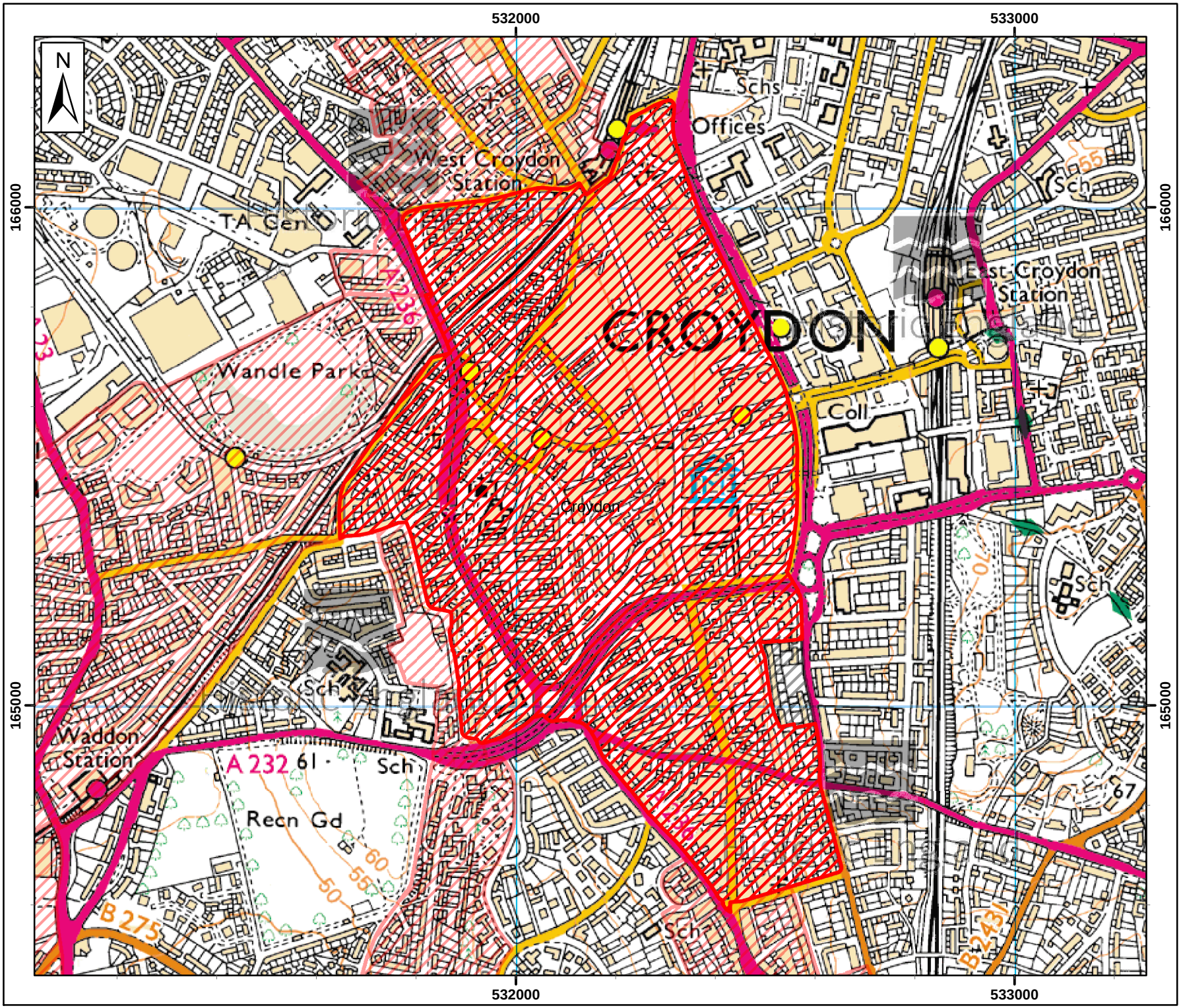

Croydon APA 2.2
Central Croydon

Central Croydon APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:10,000

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Croydon APA 2.2: Central Croydon

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the core of the historic settlement of Croydon which is situated in an area bounded by Church Street/George Street to the north, Wellesley Road/Park Lane to the east, Lower Coombe Street to the south and Old Town/Mitcham Road to the west. Croydon has been the most important settlement in the borough since the Roman period in terms of its size and influence over the surrounding area. Prehistoric and Roman finds have been recovered from within the APA, a large Anglo-Saxon cemetery was located in the Park Lane/Edridge Road area and a palace belonging to the Archbishops of Canterbury was established here. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement.

Description

Croydon is situated at the northern end of a valley that cuts through the North Downs which was formed by the River Wandle; the source of the Wandle is now situated near to the town centre. Its location close to a water source and on a route leading from London into the North Downs led to it becoming an important settlement. It is unclear when a settlement was first established in Croydon. Prehistoric finds and features have been found but no conclusive evidence of a settlement.

The amount of Roman material that has been recovered from the APA indicates that a settlement was located here during this period. The London to Brighton Roman road passed through the APA and its distance approximately 10 miles south of the Roman city would have made it a convenient place for a stopping site. Another Roman road which is thought to have run in an east west direction along the northern edge of the North Downs also ran through Croydon and would have intersected with the London to Brighton road. Remains of this road have been found in Lower Coombe Street. The traffic passing along both of these roads would have stimulated the growth of the settlement and led to it becoming a significant trading centre. The Roman material that has been recovered includes coins, pottery and building material which suggests that the settlement was larger than a single farmstead or small roadside hamlet. Further Roman remains are likely to be present within the APA and any future discoveries could give an indication of the size and status of the settlement.

The settlement probably continued into the Anglo-Saxon period and one of the most significant archaeological discoveries found close to the town centre is the scheduled Anglo-Saxon cemetery which was located in the Edridge Road/Park Lane area (see APA 1.5). A

synod was held at Croydon in 809 which indicates that the town had a degree of economic and ecclesiastical importance by this time and that a minster church may have been located there. It is referred to as *Crogedene* in a document of 871 and as *Croindene* in the Domesday Book by which time the manor was owned by the Archbishops of Canterbury. The patronage of the archbishops undoubtedly boosted the town's reputation and status. The presence of a weekly market and nine day annual fair by the end of the 13th century further demonstrates how it had become an important commercial centre in the north Surrey area.

Croydon's entry in the Domesday Book mentions a church which may have been in existence at the time of the synod in the early 9th century. A 15th century church was probably built on the same site or in the immediate area of the Saxon church and the modern church retains the west tower, nave walls and south porch of the medieval structure. The present church of St John the Baptist, which is a Grade I Listed Building, was built in 1870 after a fire destroyed most of the medieval building. Remains of the Saxon structure may be present beneath the current church or within its vicinity. The church stone gateway on Howley Road is a Scheduled Monument which was built in the 16th century although it was not moved to its current position until 1845.

The settlement was initially located close to where the church and palace were situated. However, the settlement gradually moved eastwards until its focus was the triangle formed by Crown Hill, Surrey Street and High Street where the market was situated. It is thought this happened because the area near the church was too close to the Wandle and flooding was a common occurrence. By the mid-15th century the area around the palace and church was being referred to as the Old Town, a name which is retained by a modern road to the west of the church.

It is not known when the Archbishops gained the manor but it may have been as early as the 8th century. Croydon was used as a stopping point for Archbishops as they travelled between Canterbury and Lambeth and a house, later known as a palace, was built to accommodate them. It is not known precisely when the house was first built but it was probably during the Saxon period although the earliest documentary evidence for a manor house belonging to the Archbishops dates from a deed of 1273. The house was also used as an administrative centre for the Archbishop's estates in Surrey, Middlesex and Hertfordshire, a hunting lodge and as a storage facility for agricultural produce from the local estates. By the 12th century the house probably consisted of a main building built of stone and several timber agricultural buildings around a large courtyard. It was added to and renovated a number of times over the following centuries and by the post medieval period it was referred to as a palace.

The surviving palace buildings are Grade I listed and consist of the Great Hall, a chapel and a guard room which date from between the 14th and 15th centuries although parts of the guard room building date from the 12th century. Previously, servants' quarters and stables lay to the north of the main palace buildings around a large courtyard which was entered via a 15th century gatehouse located at what is now the junction between Old Palace Road and Church Road. The palace and church were surrounded by a number of streams, fish ponds and water courses which separated the ecclesiastical complex from the rest of the town.

The palace was sold in 1780 and Addington Palace became the Croydon base for the Archbishops in the early 19th century. During the 19th century a number of the palace buildings were demolished or sold off, the water courses were infilled and the site was used as a laundry and linen factory before being bought by the Duke of Newcastle in 1887 and converted into a school. Parts of the stable block were uncovered by archaeological excavations in 1970 and 1999.

On John Rocque's map of Surrey from the 1760s Croydon is shown as a large settlement surrounded by fields. During the 19th century the population of the town exploded from approximately 5700 in 1801 to more than 134,000 in 1901 while the development of the railways improved the links between Croydon and central London. The town expanded as a result and the surrounding area became increasingly urbanised, a process that continued into the 20th century.

Significance

Central Croydon has been occupied since the Roman period and has always been the most important commercial centre within the borough. The Roman roads that passed through it, the manor's ownership by the Archbishops of Canterbury and its role as a medieval market town boosted its economy and growth and cemented its position as the most important settlement in the borough.

While the amount of Roman material indicates that a settlement was located here there has been a paucity of structural remains. Similarly the size of the Edridge Road/Park Lane cemetery provides an indication of an associated Saxon settlement but few structural remains have been found. Future discoveries of Roman or Saxon structures would assist in understanding the nature and development of the settlement in those periods. Remains of the medieval market town could also inform our understanding of its subsequent development, including commercial activities.

Croydon's association with the Archbishops of Canterbury undoubtedly assisted its development into a vibrant medieval market town but it also made it into an important ecclesiastical centre. Apart from Lambeth Palace it is the only palace in what is now Greater London that was owned by the Archbishops and was part of a chain of ecclesiastical manor houses between London and Canterbury. The parish church of St John the Baptist, a Grade I Listed Building, was larger than other parish churches in other settlements in the borough due to the patronage of the archbishops. The archiepiscopal palace was among the most important buildings that ever existed in the borough and surviving sections present an opportunity to analyse the palace's development and its relationship with the town and wider area. Substantial surviving remains of the palace or the earlier parish churches could be considered of national importance.

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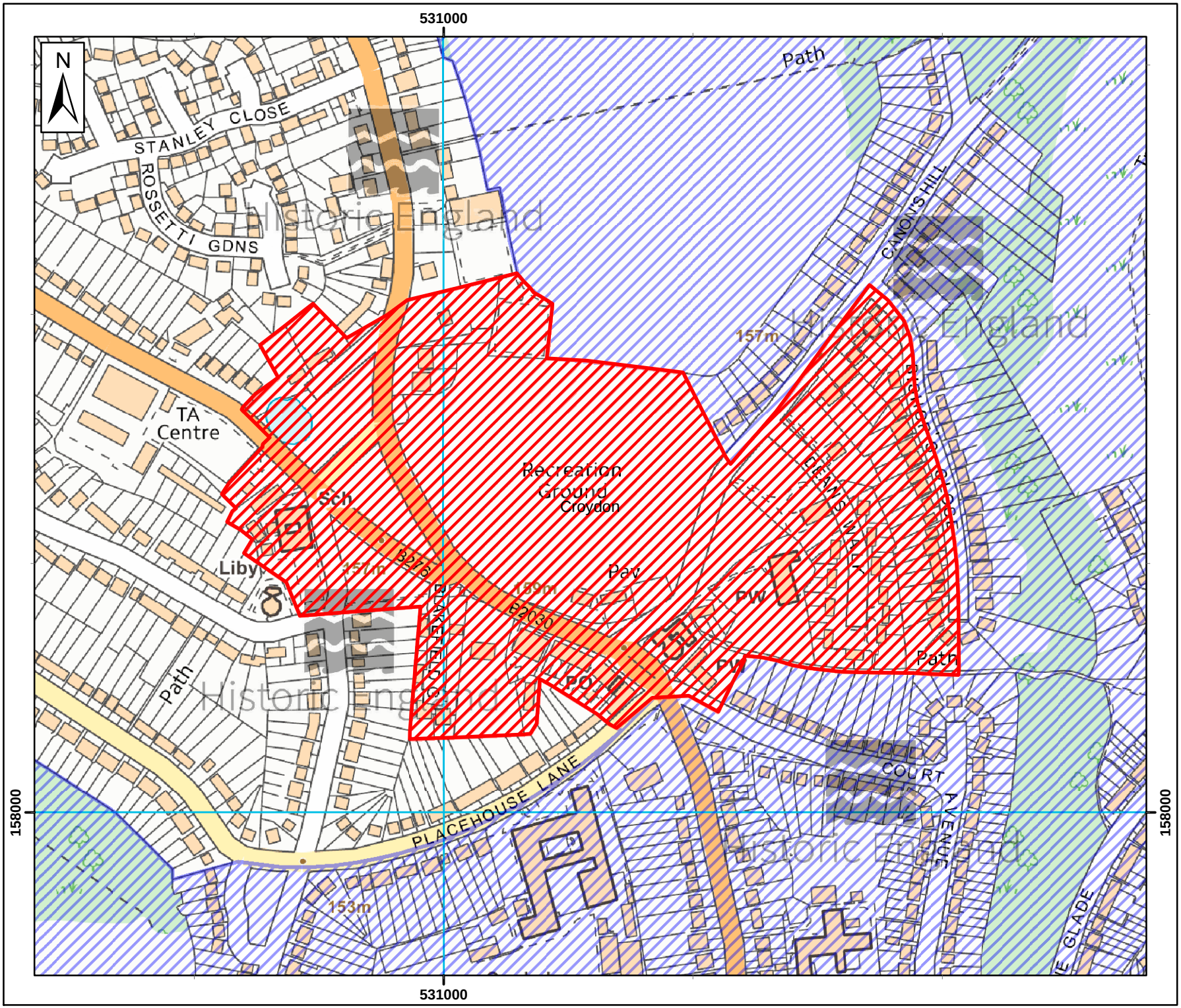

Croydon APA 2.3
Old Coulsdon

Old Coulsdon APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

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Croydon APA 2.3: Old Coulsdon

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an area surrounding Bradmore Green and George Park Recreation Ground which is regarded as the focus of Old Coulsdon. A large part of the south-western part of Croydon is often referred to as Coulsdon and in previous centuries the Bradmore Green area was its focus. However, an area formerly known as Smitham Bottom is now seen as the centre of Coulsdon while the Bradmore Green area is now referred to as Old Coulsdon. The Bradmore Green Conservation Area covers a similar area to the APA. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement with Anglo-Saxon origins.

Description

The APA is located on a plateau on the North Downs and traces of prehistoric activity have been found nearby such as on Farthing Down to the west and in 1928 a hoard of Bronze Age implements was found to the south-west of the APA. Its high location close to a number of water sources such as the rivers Bourne and Wandle may have made it an attractive area of settlement during the prehistoric period. However, further discoveries would need to be made before the nature of prehistoric settlement within the APA can be ascertained.

Coulsdon is first mentioned in a document from the late 7th or early 8th century which granted the manor to Chertsey Abbey. At that point Coulsdon was known as *Cuthredesdone* and may have been named after an Anglo-Saxon chief called Cuthraed. Chertsey Abbey remained in control of the manor until the Dissolution in the 16th century.

In the Domesday Survey of 1086 Coulsdon is referred to as *Colesdone* and by this time there was a church and 14 households. No traces of the Saxon church mentioned in Domesday have been found and any remains could lie beneath the modern Grade I listed church of St John the Evangelist although there is a chance that it may have been located somewhere else within the APA. The earliest parts of the current church date to the 13th century although traces of an earlier 12th century building were found during an excavation in 1975. The earlier church is thought to have been a two celled structure which was replaced by a larger church in the mid-13th century. Further additions, such as the west tower, were made in the early 15th century and a southern extension was added in 1959.

To the north-east of the church lies The Grange, a Grade II Listed Building, the earliest parts of which date to the 16th century. It may have been built on the same site as an earlier

monastic grange building. Such a building may have been lived in by a representative of the abbot at Chertsey, possibly a bailiff, in order to oversee the administration of the manor. During the Second World War The Grange was used as a control centre for RAF Kenley.

Old Coulsdon remained a predominantly rural community until the 20th century. The 1868 OS map shows only a small number of buildings scattered around the green such as the Parochial School, which had opened in 1845, and a building known as the Old House located at the junction between Coulsdon Road, Canon's Hill, Placehouse Lane and Court Avenue. The discovery of any remains relating to pre mid-19th century buildings within the APA would help to create a clearer picture of how intensively the area around the village green was settled in previous centuries. By 1935 a number of other buildings had been constructed around the perimeter of the green and recreation ground and by the 1950s most of the buildings that exist today had been built.

Significance

Old Coulsdon represents a settlement that was loosely clustered around a green that during the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods was owned by an important religious centre, the abbot of which was essentially the lord of the manor. It demonstrates how an abbey such as Chertsey could control an estate that stretched over an extensive area for several centuries and gives an indication as to how wealthy and powerful the abbey could be. A number of other settlements in Croydon such as Croydon itself and Sanderstead also have Saxon origins and were mentioned in Domesday. Together they provide opportunities to investigate the distribution and interrelation of settlements across the borough in the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods.

Old Coulsdon lies within the prehistoric landscape of the North Downs where numerous finds have been made. Any future finds would help to develop an idea of the nature and intensity of activity both within and outside the APA in the prehistoric period. Significant finds could potentially confirm whether any form of settlement existed within the APA prior to the Anglo-Saxon period.

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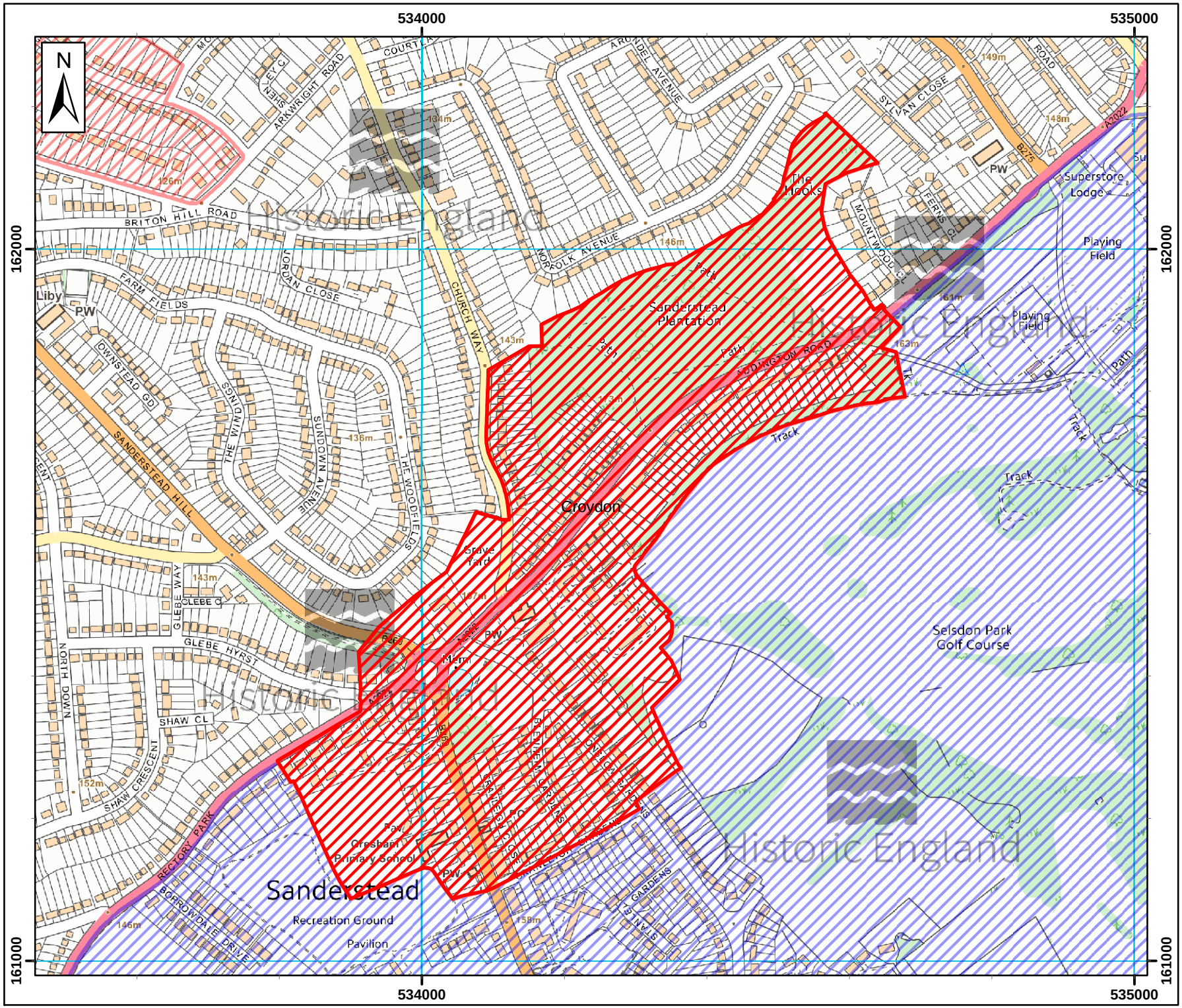

Croydon APA 2.4
Sanderstead

Sanderstead APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:7,000

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Croydon APA 2.4: Sanderstead

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an area surrounding the core of the historic settlement of Sanderstead which is located close to the junction of Sanderstead Hill, Addington Road, Limpsfield Road and Rectory Park. It is classified as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement.

Description

Sanderstead lies in the prehistoric landscape of the Croydon Downs and archaeological features and finds that have been uncovered from within the APA range from the Mesolithic to the post medieval periods. Limpsfield Road and Sanderstead Hill are thought to follow the same route as a prehistoric trackway. It therefore appears that the settlement developed and was sustained because it was located next to the trackway which continued to be used as a road in the Roman and later periods.

Mesolithic finds, including tranchet axes, scrappers, blades and flakes have been found at locations such as Church Way cemetery, Blenheim Way and the village green area close to Sanderstead Pond. These finds suggest that some form of settlement or activity was taking place in the vicinity of the village green during the Mesolithic period. Other finds from the prehistoric period include Neolithic worked flints and Iron Age pottery sherds that were found close to the site of Sanderstead Court. Roman finds from the APA include pot sherds that were found near Sanderstead Pond and a beaker found at Blenheim Gardens. The pot sherds and the beaker dated to the 1st and 2nd centuries AD.

An excavation on the site of Atwood School to the south of Sanderstead in 1960 identified a settlement that appeared to have been occupied between approximately 600 BC and the early 2nd century AD. A small farmstead was also excavated in Kings Wood, to the south-east of Sanderstead, in 1959 which dated to the 1st and 2nd century AD. These sites demonstrate that any form of settlement at Sanderstead during the Iron Age and early Roman periods was close to other small settlements which may have formed a network with other similar sites across the Croydon Downs.

It is clear that Sanderstead was situated within an area that saw widespread activity during the prehistoric period. However, it is unclear what sort of settlement was located at Sanderstead and whether such a settlement was active throughout the prehistoric period or during separate episodic intervals.

The first mention of Sanderstead appears in the will of a man called Aelderman Alfred who was a member of King Alfred the Great's court and was written at some point between 871 and 888. The manor of Sanderstead was later granted to Hyde Abbey near Winchester by Queen Ethelfleda, wife of King Edgar, in 964. It was still held by the abbey when the Domesday Survey took place in 1086 by which time it had a recorded population of 21 villagers and one cottager household plus four slaves. No mention is made of a church in Domesday and the earliest parts of the present church of All Saints were built in the 13th century with later additions including the tower which was added in the 14th century. However, traces of older building materials and axe tooling marks of unknown date on stones at the east end of the north aisle have led to the suggestion that the church may have been built on the same site as an earlier Anglo-Saxon church. A monastic grange was also located to the east of the church during the medieval period.

There are similarities between the layout of the key buildings in Sanderstead and the layout of similar buildings in Old Coulsdon. In both villages the church is located to the east of the village green and in the medieval period a grange was located to the east of the church. After the dissolution the grange was demolished and a manor house, in the case of Sanderstead, or other form of house, in the case of Old Coulsdon was built on the site. Whether this happened by accident or deliberate design on behalf of the controlling monastic foundation is debatable but it nevertheless demonstrates how different settlements under the control of different monastic establishments could develop in similar ways.

The monastic grange at Sanderstead was demolished after Hyde Abbey lost control of the manor during the Dissolution. Its building material was used to build a manor house known as Sanderstead Court. The manor was later rebuilt in the 1670s although the 16th century great hall was incorporated into the new building and further alterations were made in the 18th century. Sanderstead Court was bombed in 1944 and later demolished although part of the north wing survives and is a Grade II Listed Building. A housing estate was built on the site of Sanderstead Court in the 1960s although it is possible that remains of the former manor house may survive beneath undeveloped areas of the modern housing estate.

Significance

The prehistoric material that has been recovered from the APA and within its vicinity demonstrates that Sanderstead was situated within an active prehistoric landscape and it is possible that the area has been settled constantly since the Mesolithic period. If more could

be learnt about the nature and extent of settlement in the prehistoric period it could give us a clearer idea of how settlements developed and related to each other during that time.

Its mention in the Domesday Book demonstrates that Sanderstead is one of the few significant settlements in Croydon in 1086. Like Coulsdon, Watendone, Croydon and Addington it was one of a number of Anglo-Saxon rural settlements dotted across the southern half of the borough. With the exception of Addington they had all been granted to important monastic foundations during the Anglo-Saxon period and the control of the manor by a monastic foundation would have had similar effects on their development. Similarly the effect of the Dissolution may have had similar effects on the different settlements. Sanderstead therefore needs to be regarded as part of a network of settlements that developed across Croydon and its development should be compared and contrasted with those other settlements.

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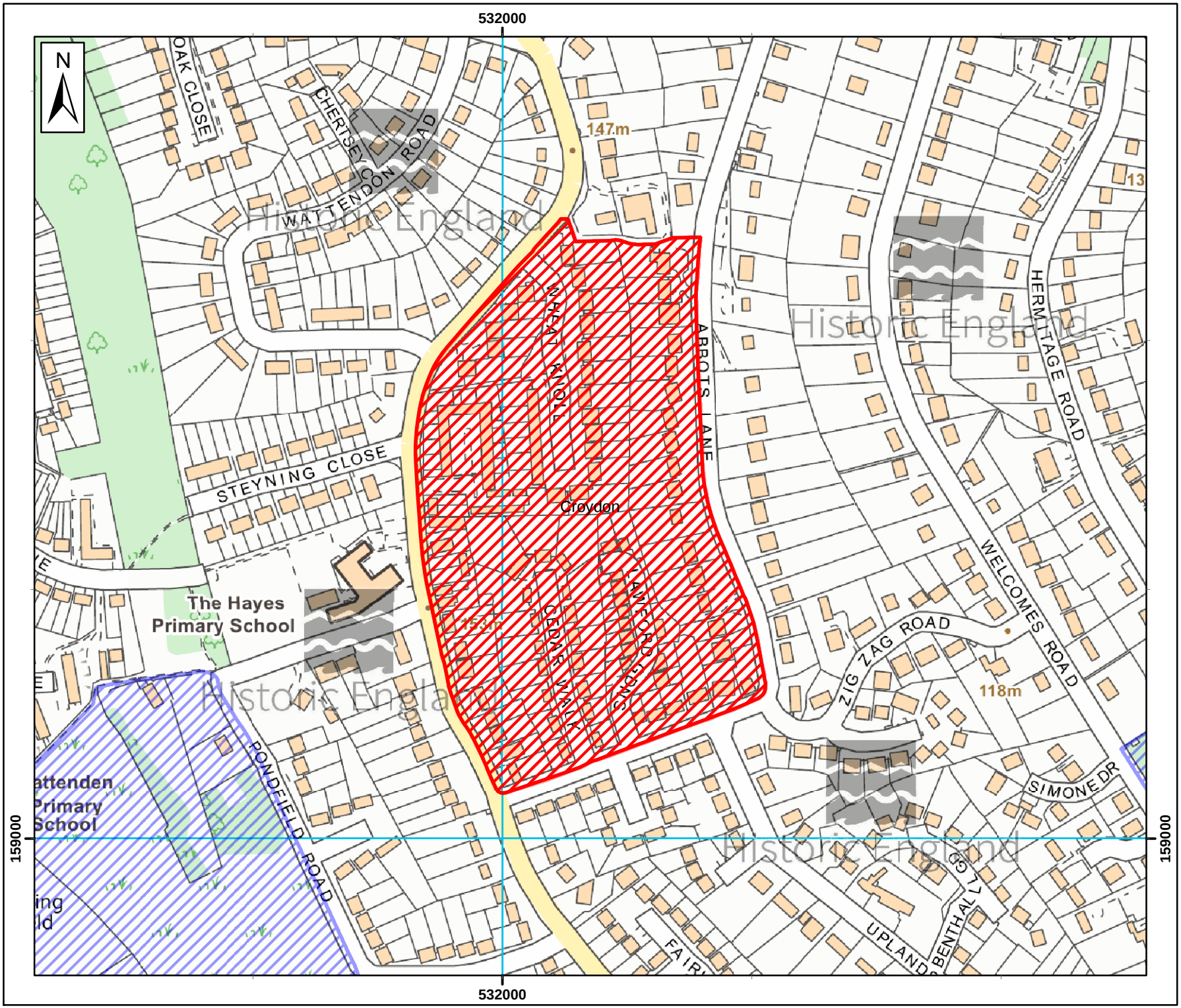

Croydon APA 2.5
Watendone

Watendone APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

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Croydon APA 2.5: Watendone

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the approximate area of the medieval settlement of Watendone. The settlement is mentioned in the Domesday Book but appears to have been abandoned at some point during the medieval period. Watendone occupied an area between Hayes Lane and Abbots Lane although its extent is currently unknown. An excavation in the 1960s found traces of buildings associated with the settlement and most of the information we have about Watendone comes from this excavation and Anglo-Saxon or medieval documents. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement with Anglo-Saxon origins. The settlement has been referred to in various sources as Whatindone, Wodinton and Whattingdon but Watendone is the name used in the Domesday Book and for the sake of convenience it is the name that will be used in this description.

Description

Watendone was part of an area that was granted to Chertsey Abbey in the 7th or 8th century by a Saxon leader called Frithwald, who was a sub king of King Wulfhere of Mercia, and Coulsdon, Banstead and Chaldon are also mentioned in the same charter. At the time of the Domesday survey in 1086 Watendone had a church and 19 peasant families were living there. Chertsey Abbey lost control of the area during the Dissolution and the manor was owned by a number of different families over the following centuries. It is unclear when or why the Watendone settlement was abandoned but the area appears to have been devoid of any form of settlement in the post medieval period apart from houses belonging to the lords of the manor. The church continued to be used as a barn until it was destroyed by fire in the late 18th century.

An excavation carried out by the Bourne Society in 1966 examined an area to the east of Hayes Lane opposite the junction with Steyning Close. A number of finds and features that related to the settlement were uncovered including a flint structure that measured approximately 60 feet by 40 feet which was found in the area now occupied by the southern end of Wheat Knoll. This structure is thought to be the church and it was presumed that the village would have been clustered around it. Remains of charcoal found around the church were thought to relate to the 18th century fire. The excavation also found the flint remains of other buildings, a large area of chalk that measured 100 feet by 50 feet which may have been the site of a Tithe Barn and a chalk floor may have been a former yard. A burial ground was identified to the north of the church and approximately 20 burials were uncovered although more are probably present in unexcavated areas. The excavation was not able to determine

the extent of Watendone and it is likely that further remains of the settlement were present beyond the limits of the excavation. The excavation took place in advance of the site being developed for housing which may have had an impact on any surviving remains but it is still possible that further remains do survive.

Pottery found during the excavation dated to between the 12th and mid-14th century and then from the 17th century onwards. The fact that no medieval pottery was found that dated from later than the mid-14th century could indicate that this was the point that the settlement was abandoned. It is therefore tempting to link the abandonment of the settlement to the Black Death or subsequent plague outbreaks which occurred from the mid-14th century. While this is a possibility there are other factors that may have led to the desertion of Watendone. Chertsey Abbey may have forcibly evicted the population so that the land could be used for sheep farming which was more profitable. Alternatively the population may have migrated due to the diminishing agricultural potential of the land. The church is mentioned in a will of 1465 but by this point it may have stood alone without a settlement surrounding it. There are a number of factors which may have led to the desertion of the medieval settlement but it is not currently possible to state with any certainty exactly what caused the abandonment.

Any future archaeological investigation would be an opportunity to establish the nature and extent of occupation within the APA in the post medieval period. After the dissolution the land was granted by Henry VIII and Edward VI to a number of different families who may have reoccupied the site and built manor houses which may account for the 17th century pottery found during the 1966 excavations. The location of such houses and any other potential post medieval structures is currently unknown. An OS map of 1868 shows only a few buildings in the area and the only building on that map which still survives is a building known as the Old Forge which dates from the early 18th century.

Significance

Watendone is an example of a settlement which was deserted during the medieval period for unknown reasons and further research is needed to establish its extent and how, why and when the population abandoned it. The possible depopulation date of the mid-14th century may be connected to the Black Death but other potential factors should not be ignored.

Improved understanding of the factors behind Watendone's desertion could clarify why it was abandoned while other nearby settlements such as Coulsdon, Sanderstead and Croydon continued to flourish during the medieval period and beyond. While the precise

number of deserted medieval villages in England is not known a figure of 5000 has been approximated. Every village will have a different reason for its abandonment and further study of places such as Watendone could develop an improved national understanding of the pattern of such desertions.

However, some form of presence did remain in the area during the post medieval period. Whether there was a distinct gap between the medieval and post medieval occupation of the site, which the pottery finds suggested, or whether some form of residual occupation remained after the mid-14th century until Chertsey Abbey lost control of the manor needs to be clarified.

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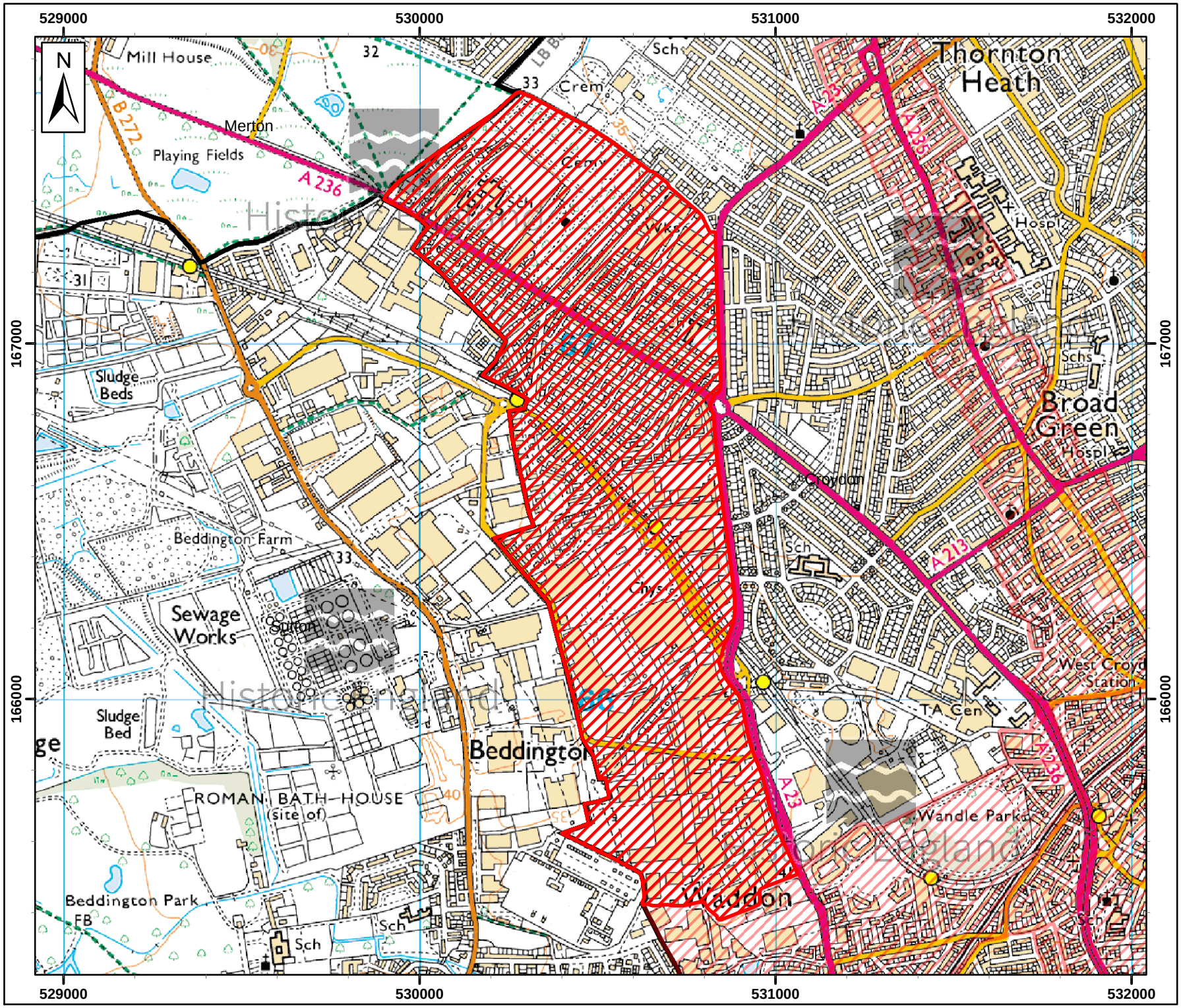

Croydon APA 2.6
Ampere Way

Ampere Way APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:14,000

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Croydon APA 2.6: Ampere Way

Summary and Definition

The Ampere Way Archaeological Priority Area covers an area between the borough boundaries with Sutton and Merton and Thornton Road/Purley Way as far south as Commerce Way. A number of finds and features dating to several prehistoric periods have been found here and on the corresponding side of the borough boundary in Sutton which demonstrate how the area was an active prehistoric landscape within the Wandle Valley. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because there is a history of positive archaeological interventions within it.

Description

The area is located in a flat area of the Wandle Valley and former courses or tributaries of the Wandle may have passed through or close to it which could have encouraged settlement during the prehistoric period. Excavations that have taken place at Mitcham Road, the area that is now the Valley Park leisure complex on Hesterman Way, Purley Way/Beddington Lane, 14 Progress Way/222 Purley Way, 226 Purley Way, Beddington Farm Road and Commerce Way have found a number of prehistoric features and finds. These have included ditches, enclosures, pits, post holes, pottery fragments and flint flakes that date from the Mesolithic to the late Iron Age. Notable finds include human remains found at 226 Purley Way in 2010 and what appeared to be a cooking pit at 14 Progress Way/222 Purley Way in 1993. The human bones were recovered from a ditch and were dated to the late Bronze Age. The cooking pit appeared to have been lined with clay so that it could hold water into which heated stones would be placed. The pit was dated to the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age and demonstrates that domestic activity was taking place within the APA.

The area has good agricultural potential since it lies on London clay covered by deposits of gravel and it is probable that the numerous ditches that have been uncovered relate to field boundaries dating from the Bronze Age, Iron Age and possibly the early Roman periods. Together these prehistoric finds indicate that the APA was part of an extensive agricultural area that was in use at various times between the Mesolithic and Iron Age periods and further remains may be present within it.

Prehistoric features and finds such as ditches, pits and struck flints have also been found to the west of the APA in Sutton. A Roman villa was built in the late 2nd century on a site now occupied by the Beddington sewage works to the south-west of the APA. The Roman

villa would have had a strong influence on the local area and the APA may have fallen within its estates.

In later periods the area remained predominantly rural. An excavation that took place in 2003 near Franklin Way uncovered the remains of a rectangular structure which is thought to be the remains of a medieval farm building. On a 1760s map part of the area is covered by a southern extension of Mitcham Common and is marked as being a marsh. Such marshy conditions would have helped to preserve any earlier features or finds if present. On an OS map of 1885 the area is shown as being covered by fields with a few cottages. The Croydon Borough Hospital for Infectious Diseases was opened in 1896 and the isolated and inaccessible nature of the local area was presumably one of the factors which led to it being located here. It consisted of a number of pavilion buildings and was used exclusively for infectious disease patients until 1976 before it closed in 1984. The site is now occupied by Ampere Way, Kelvin Gardens and Franklin Way. An excavation that took place at Franklin Way in 2003 found the remains of garden features and shrub planting related to the hospital's gardens.

By the late 1930s sections of the northern part of the APA had been developed for housing and Croydon Cemetery, originally known as Mitcham Road Cemetery when it opened in 1897, was extended in 1935 and 1937. However, a large part of the southern area of the APA was still open land. By the 1950s a number of industrial facilities including a power station and part of the Beddington sewage works had been built there. During the 1990s a large part of the area became the Valley Park leisure and retail centre although the area to the south of this is still occupied by industrial units.

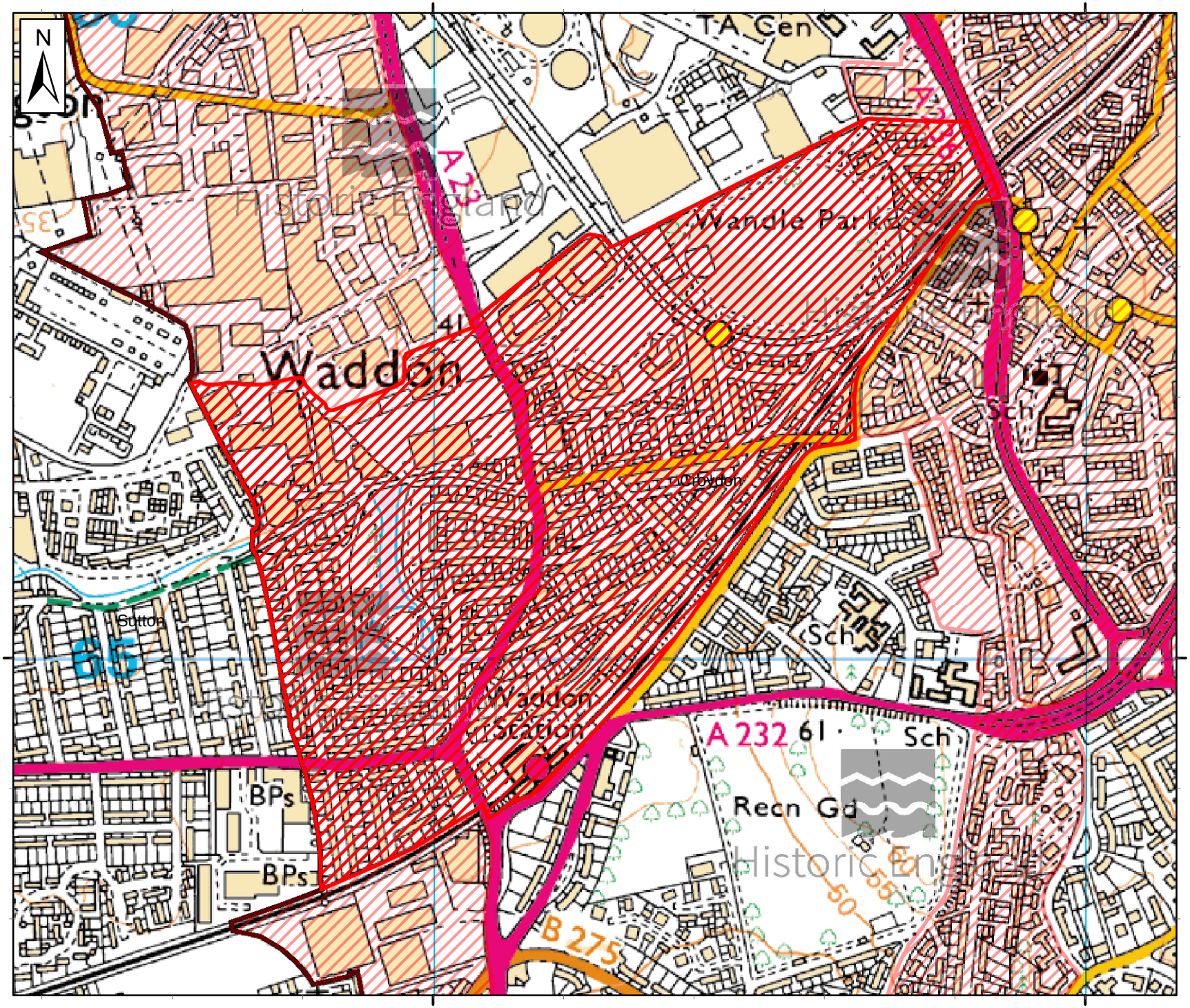
Significance

The prehistoric remains that have been found within the APA have enhanced our knowledge of how prehistoric communities exploited the land and similar remains have been found throughout the Wandle Valley. These finds and any further discoveries help to develop an understanding of the overall relationship between the area's topography, how it was farmed and how it was settled during the prehistoric period. While the numerous ditches found during excavation have shown how the area was farmed, less is known about how it was settled and this is an element that could be clarified by future interventions. If any Roman material was recovered from the APA it may help to develop an understanding of how the area related to the nearby villa in Beddington.

Croydon Borough Hospital was an example of how health authorities dealt with infectious diseases from the late 19th century until the later 20th century. The nature of the

illnesses that patients were suffering from influenced the layout of the hospital's buildings which made it different from other hospitals where concern over the communicability of diseases was less of a priority. Any remains of the hospital could therefore enhance our understanding of this type of specialised health centre.

Mitcham Road cemetery is also noteworthy because burials which are more than 100 years old are potentially of archaeological interest. This interest relates to differences in burial practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors and also to the study of human populations including life expectancy, health and disease.



Croydon APA 2.7
Waddon

Waddon APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:8,000

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Croydon APA 2.7: Waddon

Summary and Definition

The Waddon Archaeological Priority Area covers an area between the borough boundary with Sutton and Roman Way. It covers the location of the historic settlement of Waddon which was a relatively minor settlement on the road between the larger settlements of Croydon and Beddington although a manor house and a water mill were located there. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement and includes a site of historic industry.

Description

The APA is located in an area of the Wandle Valley which has proved to be rich in prehistoric archaeological finds. A number of significant prehistoric features and finds have been made in the Ampere Way area to the north of the APA and also to the west within Sutton. It is therefore logical to assume that similar surviving features may also be present within this APA. A number of prehistoric finds have been made within the APA including fragments of worked flint, a late Neolithic arrow head and a Bronze Age spear head. An excavation that took place in Commerce Way in 1999 found a ditch that was similar to those found at 14 Progress Way to the north.

Excavations that took place at 57 Croydon Road in Sutton in 2007 and 2008 found a number of Saxon burials. These burials were found to the immediate west of the borough boundary with Croydon and further burials could be present within the Waddon APA in the vicinity of Cherry Hill Gardens. If the burials were part of a graveyard then it is possible that a Saxon settlement was located nearby.

Waddon is not mentioned in the Domesday Book but it is thought to have been a sub manor of Croydon. In 1127 the manor of Waddon was given by Henry I to Bermondsey Abbey and in the late 14th century it came into the possession of the Archbishop of Canterbury by which time a small settlement is thought to have been established there. A mill mentioned in the Croydon entry of the Domesday Book is thought to refer to the mill that was situated on the Wandle to the north of Waddon Park on Mill Lane. It was mentioned again in 1202 and in a survey of the manor in 1646. It was used as a flour mill and two mill ponds were created to the north and south of Mill Lane to supply it with an adequate level of water power. The mill was in operation until 1928. The 1646 survey of the manor also mentioned a timber built manor house which had associated barns, stables and gardens. This manor house was replaced in the late 17th or early 18th century by another manor house which was demolished

in 1902. The manor house was located near the junction of Waddon Court Road and Purley Way and remains of its barrel vaulted cellar were uncovered by the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in 1972.

The Rocque map of Surrey from the 1760s shows the settlement to the south of the cross roads between Marsh Lane and Mill Lane, which is now the cross roads between Purley Way and Mill Lane/Waddon Road. The line of the Wandle can be seen running to the north of the settlement while the mill ponds can be discerned to the north and south of Mill Lane. Both mill ponds were created by manipulating the Wandle and while the northern mill pond has been filled in the southern mill pond is now the lake in Waddon Park. On an OS map of 1876 the mill and manor house, which is called Waddon House, can both be seen along with a number of other roadside buildings and farms.

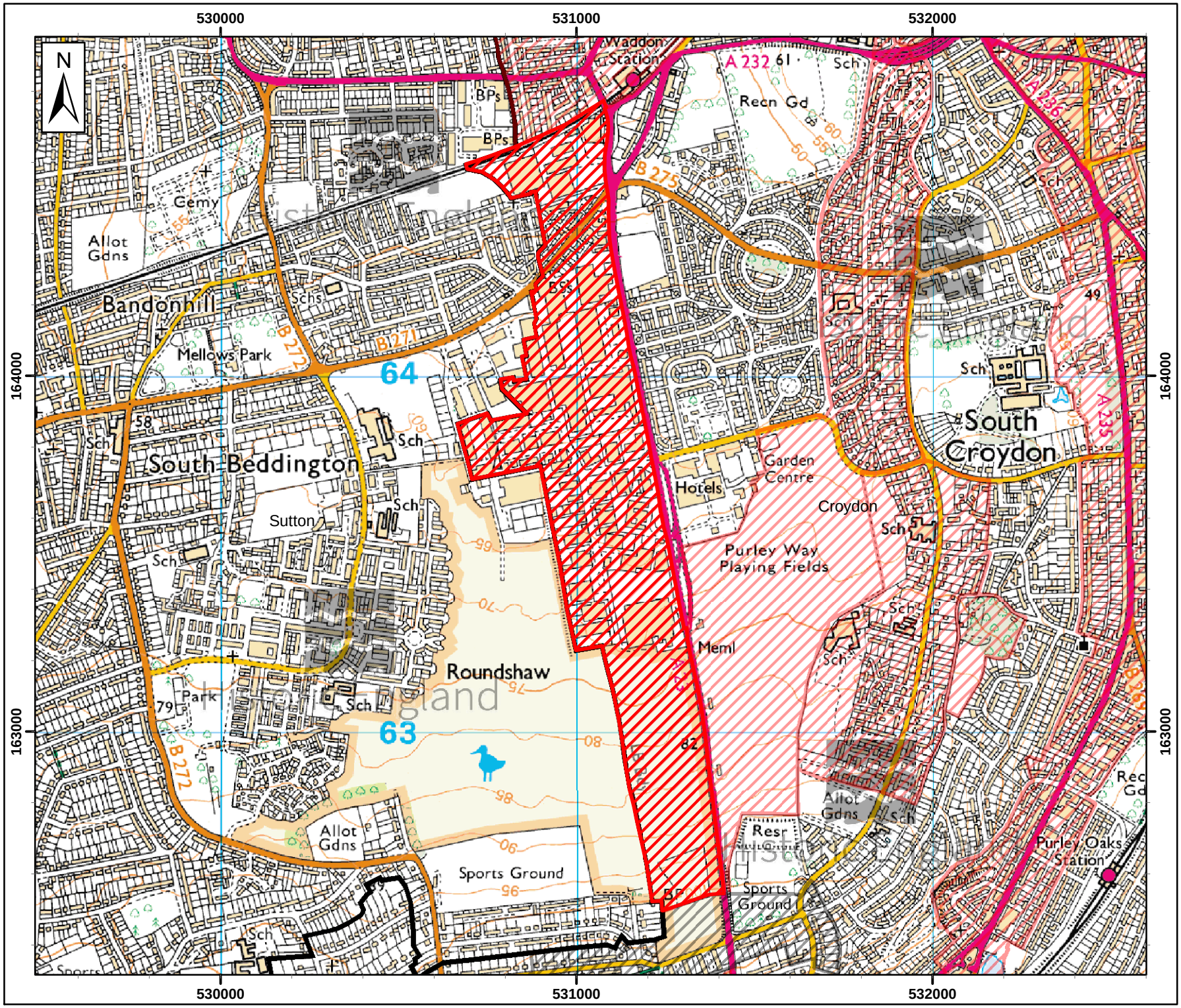
Wandle Park was opened in 1890 in an area that had previously been open fields. A lake at the centre of the park was fed by the Wandle but the lake was filled in during the 1950s due to falling water levels and the Wandle was covered in the late 1960s. Waddon Ponds, to the south of Mill Lane, is another open park surrounding a lake which was previously Waddon Mill's southern mill pond. The lake in Waddon Ponds is now the only place in Croydon where the Wandle can be seen in the open. Wandle Park and Waddon Ponds are the two most open areas within the APA that have not been developed. It is therefore possible that any surviving archaeological finds or features might be found there.

Significance

The border area between Croydon and Sutton has proved to be rich in archaeological finds and features from the prehistoric period. Such finds have been made to the north and west of the APA and similar discoveries should be anticipated in Waddon. Any future finds would enhance our knowledge of how the Wandle Valley area was used and settled during the prehistoric period.

Although Waddon is not mentioned in the Domesday Book it was still a manor that in the medieval period was owned by an ecclesiastical establishment located many miles away. It therefore bears similarities to other settlements in the borough such as Croydon itself, Old Coulsdon and Sanderstead. Even though the settlement may not have been as important as these other villages it still helps us to understand how the borough was settled and developed throughout the medieval and post medieval periods. Remains of any buildings associated with these periods, such as the manor houses, would enhance this understanding further.

The former water mill in Waddon represents one of the few industrial facilities established along the Wandle in Croydon. While in former centuries the river passed through the borough as it flowed from the North Downs, by the post medieval period it only flowed from Croydon town centre towards Beddington as seen on the Rocque map of the 1760s. It was therefore not possible for it to be industrialised to the same extent as other parts of the river in Sutton, Merton and Wandsworth. Nevertheless the flour mill in Waddon was part of the river's extensive industrial character and appears to have been in operation for almost 1000 years. Such prolonged use means that any surviving remains of the mill's buildings or associated facilities would contribute to the river's industrial heritage.



Croydon APA 2.8
Mere Bank

Mere Bank APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:14,000

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Croydon APA 2.8: Mere Bank

Summary and Definition

The Mere Bank Archaeological Priority Area covers an area between Purley Way and the borough boundary with Sutton. The Mere Bank was a raised earthwork or dyke which ran in a north south direction between Waddon and Purley and possibly extended further north to Mitcham Common. However, its age and purpose are unknown and many parts of it have been lost beneath later developments. Like other areas along the Croydon/Sutton borough boundary the APA has potential for prehistoric finds and a number of buildings associated with Croydon Airport were also located within the APA's footprint. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because the Mere Bank is a heritage asset of archaeological interest and there is a history of positive archaeological interventions in the area.

Description

Much of the Mere Bank has been covered by later developments and it is difficult to discern surviving sections within the landscape. Estimates of its width and height vary but some have put its width as 30 feet while it may have been up to 4 feet high. Parish boundaries and the current borough boundary follow its approximate route in this area and Purley Way runs to the east of its course.

If it was created in the prehistoric period then it may have acted as a boundary marker between two territories. It has also been suggested that the Mere Bank was a Roman road, possibly due to its straightness between Purley and Waddon and its proximity to the Roman villa in Beddington. A section of the bank that passed through Croydon Aerodrome was excavated in 1925. It had already been levelled when the airfield had been laid out but the exposed section consisted of rammed chalk over a 14 feet wide layer of flints which was 6 to 8 inches deep. At the time it was interpreted as being the central section of a Roman road. The foundation of chalk and flint does hint towards a Roman road but it would have been a minor road compared to the London to Brighton Roman road which ran to the east. However, this road may have followed the route of the bank and may not have been part of it. The Mere Bank passes the possible Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Russell Hill near Purley and this could also be significant since Saxon cemeteries were often located close to boundary features.

Certain field boundaries drawn on the Rocque map of Surrey in the 1760s have been interpreted as following the line of the Mere Bank. On an OS map from 1872 the word Mere Bank has been written next to a linear feature running north to south in this area. However, it is not clear whether the linear feature is a raised dyke, trackway or road although towards the

north of the APA where it nears the railway tracks it is marked as Merebank Lane. The same linear feature marked with the word Mere Bank appears in later OS editions in 1896 and 1914 but while it appears in the 1938 edition the only surviving section is in the area of the aerodrome. In post war OS maps the borough boundary follows the line of the Mere Bank but by this point it seems that the bank was no longer a discernible feature within the landscape.

Finds of prehistoric material have also been made within the APA. An excavation at 542-546 Purley Way in 1993 recovered approximately 1400 struck flints and 900 burnt flints which dated to between the late Neolithic and late Bronze Age periods. Fragments of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery were also recovered during the same excavation. Another investigation at Pegasus Way/Imperial Way found a hearth and nine pieces of worked flint which were dated to between the late Neolithic to mid Bronze Age periods. Collectively these finds demonstrate that some form of activity was taking place here during the prehistoric period. The large quantity of flint flakes could indicate that they were being extracted and worked here but it could also indicate that the area was settled for prolonged parts of the prehistoric period.

Croydon Aerodrome was established as a military aerodrome in 1915 and became London's main airport in the 1920s and 1930s. It was converted for military use at the start or the Second World War in 1939 and became a satellite airfield for RAF Kenley. It was bombed in August 1940 during the Battle of Britain by German aircraft which mistook it for RAF Kenley. After the war Heathrow gradually became London's main airport and Croydon airport closed in 1959. Most of the airfield, including the grass runways, was situated in Sutton but the terminal buildings and hangars were in Croydon on the western side of Purley Way. Airport House (the former terminal building) and a lodge of the terminal still survive and are Grade II Listed Buildings. The remains of other former airport buildings may survive in undeveloped areas of the site along with shrapnel from the August 1940 raid.

Significance

Much needs to be learnt about the Mere Bank's age and purpose before its significance can be fully appreciated. Regardless of whether it was a prehistoric dyke or Roman road it was clearly an important feature within the landscape which was later used as a boundary marker for manors and parishes and the current Sutton/Croydon boundary still follows its approximate route. Establishing its origin will help to understand how it was used when compared to other similar features both locally and nationally.

The prehistoric activity that took place within the APA is also of significance and contributes to our overall understanding of how the land was settled and utilised during the prehistoric period. Further discoveries of prehistoric material would enhance this knowledge further.

Elements associated with Croydon Aerodrome's civil and military past such as the hangars and the actual airfield have not survived to the same extent as those at RAF Kenley. Nevertheless Croydon is regarded as a Battle of Britain airfield and has an association with that conflict and the former airfield site is an important element of London's aviation heritage.

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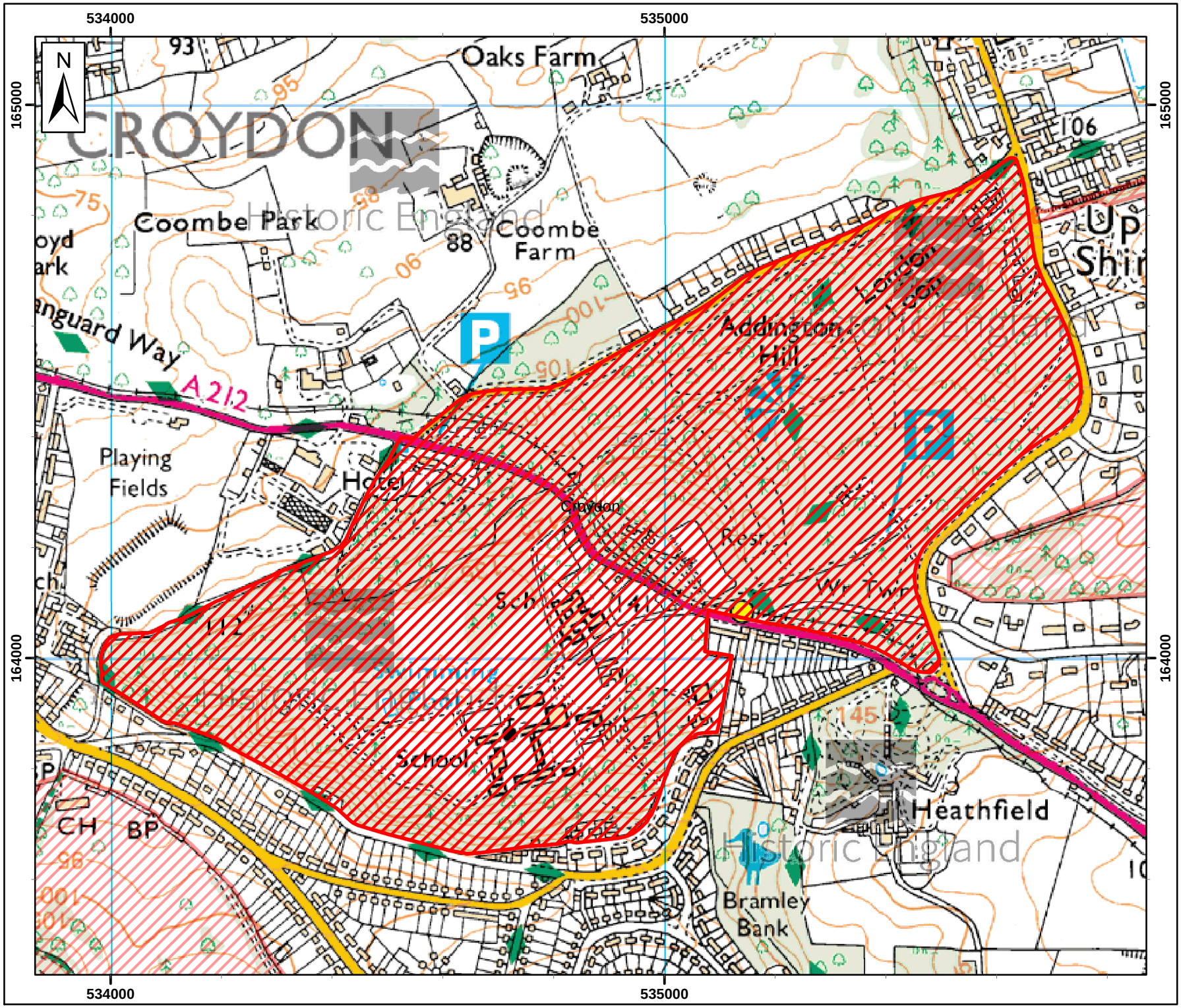

Croydon APA 2.9
Addington Hills

Addington Hills APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:9,000

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Croydon APA 2.9: Addington Hills

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an area on either side of Coombe Lane and includes Addington Hills Park and the grounds of Royal Russell School. Addington Hills is on a plateau at the edge of the North Downs and like other undeveloped parts of the Downs it has the potential for prehistoric finds and features. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because Addington Hills is an area of undeveloped land with evidence of archaeological interest.

Description

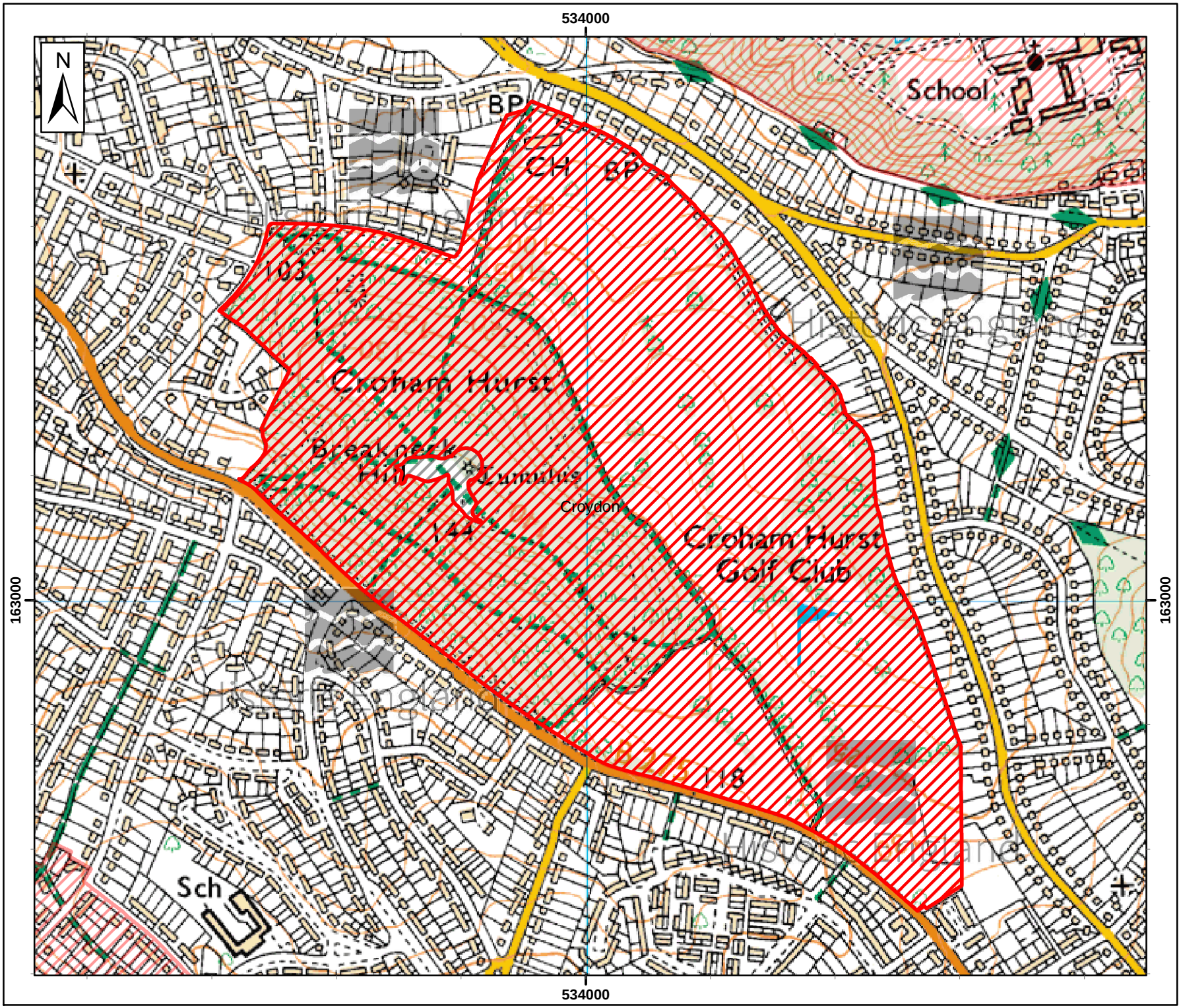
The APA is situated on a plateau on the edge of the North Downs with slopes on its northern and western sides. In the late 19th century a series of circular features were identified as possible Neolithic pits. These features and a potential barrow were excavated in 1913 but apart from a few worked flints little else was found and the barrow and circular features are now considered to be natural features within the landscape. Numerous prehistoric flint fragments have been recovered from the APA although not to levels which make it remarkable compared to anywhere else in the upland areas of Croydon.

The APA has never seen large scale development and is still predominantly rural. The small hamlet of Coombe, which is known to have existed during the medieval period, is located slightly to the north of the APA but few other buildings were present before the 20th century. On early editions of OS maps from the 19th century it can be seen that the area to the west of Coombe Road is a wooded area called Ballards Plantation while the area to the east is more open and referred to as Addington Hills. Ballards Farm was located at the south of Ballards Plantation where Hollingsworth Road is now situated and is present on a map of 1760. Old Ballards Cottage is a surviving part of the farm buildings and is a Grade II Listed Building. On an OS map of 1868 a building slightly to the north of the farm buildings is marked as Ballards and could be a country house associated with the farm. By the end of the 19th century this building had been demolished and another larger building, also called Ballards, had been built further to the north. The area is now occupied by the Royal Russell School.

Addington Hills is an open area to the east of Coombe Lane which includes one of the largest heathland areas in London. The open nature of this area and the fact that it has not been previously cultivated means that any surviving archaeological deposits would be included within the subsoil.

Significance

Like other upland areas across the south of Croydon Addington Hills has potential for prehistoric finds and features. The numerous prehistoric flint artefacts that have been found demonstrate that some form of activity was taking place here in the prehistoric period. However, whether these are directly associated with a nearby settlement or some other form of activity such as flint mining is currently unknown. The survival of heathland indicates that there has probably been little or no historic cultivation meaning that earlier remains could survive in a good state of preservation close to the surface. There is potential for survey work to enhance understanding.



Croydon APA 2.10
Croham Hurst

Croham Hurst APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:8,000

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Croydon APA 2.10: Croham Hurst

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the wooded area of Croham Hurst and the neighbouring Croham Hurst Golf Club. The only area it does not include is the hill's summit where a barrow and potential prehistoric settlement are located which is covered by a separate Tier 1 APA (see APA 1.1). However, there is potential for further prehistoric features and finds being found in all other areas of Croham Hurst. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is an area of undeveloped land closely associated with known heritage assets, in this case the features at the summit.

Description

In the late 19th century 15 surface features located in an area to the north-east of the barrow were identified as hut circles relating to a prehistoric settlement. Four of the huts were excavated and while little evidence was found it was concluded that they were the remains of Neolithic dwellings. However, two of the circles were partially excavated in 1968 and no evidence for human habitation or excavation was found and the features are now regarded as natural depressions caused by subsidence. Nevertheless the barrow and potential prehistoric settlement at the top of Croham Hurst indicate that further prehistoric settlement sites may be present within the APA.

The chalk bedrock at Croham Hurst is abundant with seams of flint and numerous flint fragments have been found across the APA. When the supposed hut circles were identified in the 1890s an assemblage of approximately 140 flint fragments was also found near the site of the round barrow. A survey of Croham Hurst carried out in 1969 identified 36 separate flint working sites across the wooded area. While a lot of the recovered flint was waste fragments a number of flint tools were also found such as scrapers, awls and a curved blade. These flints are thought to date to between the Mesolithic and Bronze Age periods and demonstrate that flint was being extracted and worked in the Croham Hurst area for prolonged periods. It is possible that further sites might be present within heavily overgrown areas which were not examined by the survey. The scheduled barrow was not identified until the 1940s so it is possible that further important features have not been identified in heavily wooded areas.

Settlements may have developed close to where the flint was being extracted. One potential prehistoric settlement at the summit of Croham Hurst has been identified and investigated but others might exist. However, there are doubts about the age of the

settlement at the summit and it is possible that it did not exist when flint was being widely extracted. Areas of prehistoric flint extraction are rarely associated with settlements and it appears that workers often travelled from elsewhere but if any contemporary settlements were identified they would be of particular significance.

Fewer finds have been made on the golf course although a Neolithic/Bronze Age axe was found on the edge of it and flint fragments have also been found. The golf course was opened in 1913 and landscaping of the golf course may have levelled any archaeological features that were discernible on the surface. However, the fact that the golf course has never been developed means that any surviving features or finds might be present close to the surface.

Significance

The entirety of the North Downs in Croydon has potential for archaeology dating from the prehistoric period and Croham Hurst is no exception. The features at the summit of the hill covered by the Tier 1 APA may indicate that similar important features might be located elsewhere within the APA. Even if no further cemeteries or prehistoric burial sites are present it was clearly an important site for flint extraction and flint working during the prehistoric period. Such sites are important for understanding how prehistoric communities utilised and exploited available natural resources.

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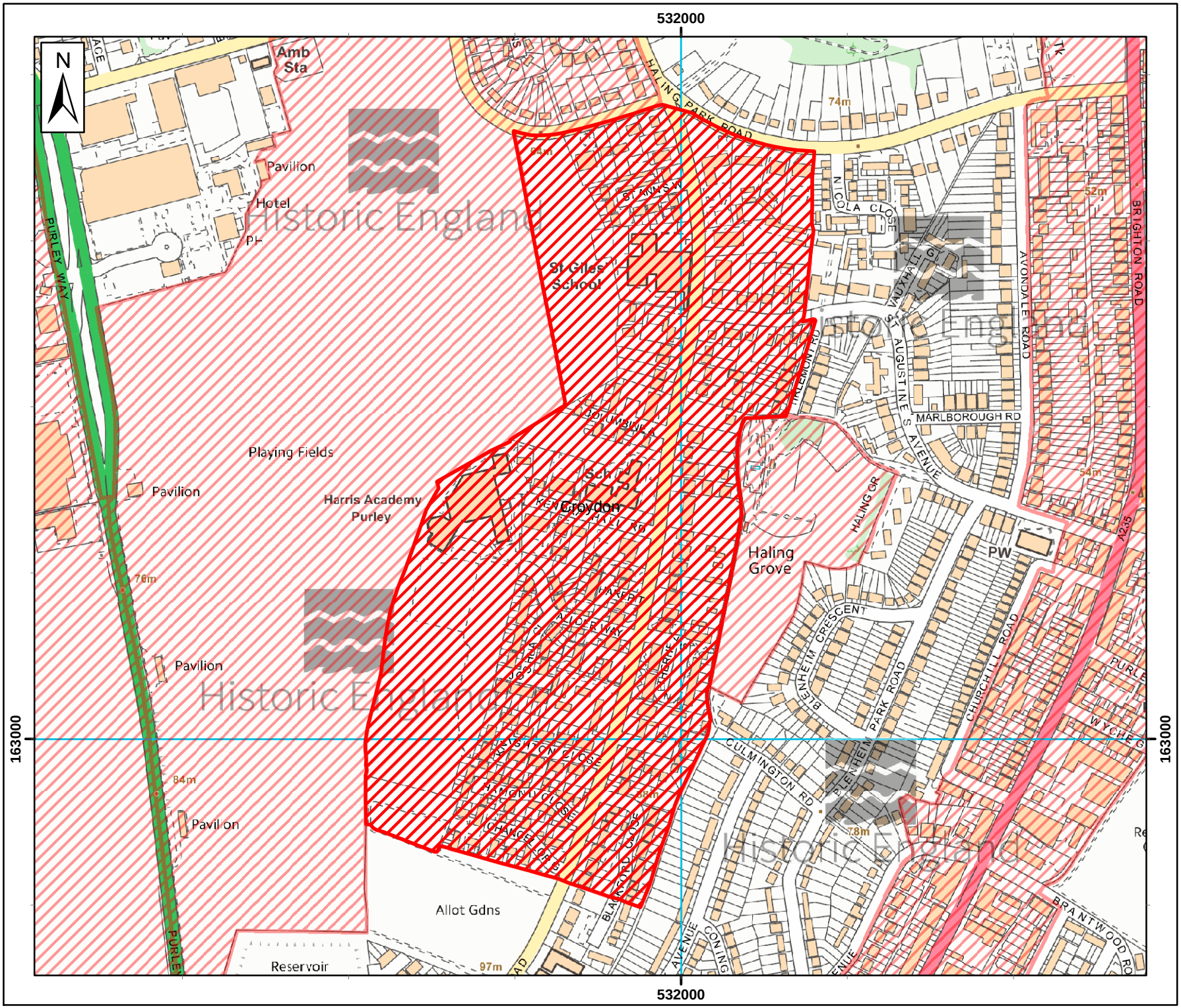

Croydon APA 2.11
Pampisford Road

Pampisford Road APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:6,000

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Croydon APA 2.11: Pampisford Road

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an area on either side of Pampisford Road between its junctions with Chancellor Gardens and Waddon Way/Haling Park Road. Previous excavations have found evidence for flint extraction and flint working in the area during the prehistoric period. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because there have been several positive archaeological interventions in the area which have indicated that prehistoric flint quarrying was taking place there.

Description

Since 1994 excavations that have taken place at Joshua Close, Columbine Avenue and along Pampisford Road have recovered more than 250 pieces of struck and burnt flint which date from the Neolithic to Iron Age periods. A further 55 pieces of worked flint which may date to the Bronze Age were found during the construction of a pipe line along the eastern side of Purley Way Playing Fields. Seams of flint are present approximately 1 metre below the surface and it appears that flint nodules were being extracted from the underlying chalk during the prehistoric period. After being extracted the nodules would have been worked on which would have produced the flakes that have been found. However, with the exception of an Iron Age clay spindle whorl found at Columbine Avenue, no tools have been found within the APA. This suggests that the flint nodules were either being worked into tools then taken away or were worked on briefly before being taken elsewhere for further refinement.

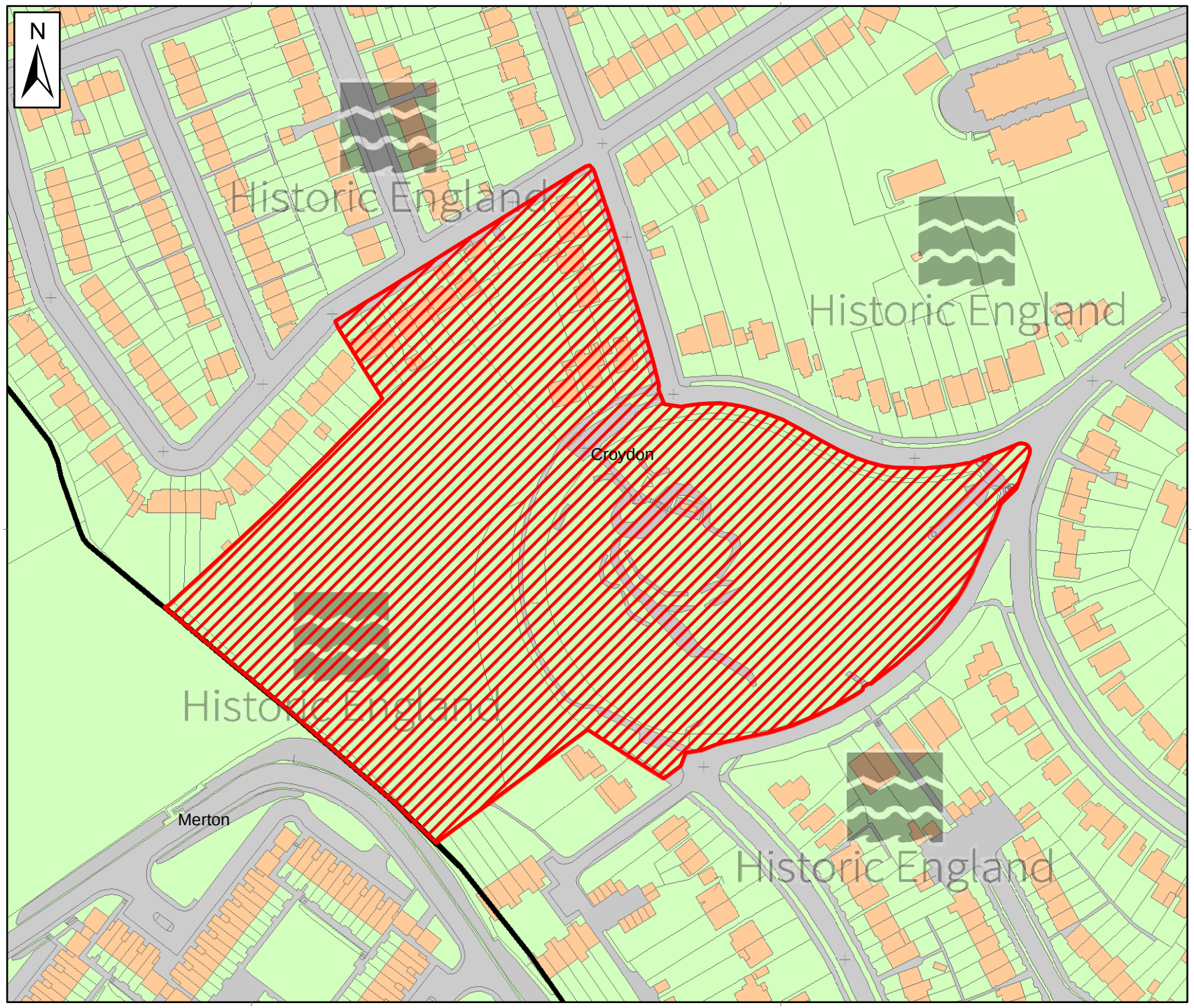
It is possible that an associated settlement developed within the APA during the prehistoric period. The site is situated on an area of high ground to the west of where the ground descends steeply to where the Wandle River would have previously flowed and is therefore a potentially attractive location for a prehistoric settlement. Such a settlement may have been relatively small and used solely by the flint extraction workers or it may have been more substantial and lived in by the workers and their families. However, no evidence for a settlement has been found apart from undated post holes that were found during excavations at 238 Pampisford Road and 3-5 Waddon Way.

Few other significant finds have been made within the APA. Flint extraction appeared to stop during the Roman period and the area was predominantly rural until the 20th century.

Significance

The specialised flint quarrying activity that took place within the APA for a period of some 4000 years shows that it was a long lived centre for flint extraction. The finds in Pampisford Road show how these prehistoric communities were using the flint extracted from within the chalk to create tools over a prolonged period of time. Flint mining is one of the earliest industries to have left an archaeological trace. Grimes Graves in Norfolk is a well-known example of a prehistoric flint mine and while the flint found at Pampisford was close enough to the surface to not necessitate deep mining it is nevertheless a rare example of the prehistoric flint extraction industry.

Prehistoric flint mines are rarely associated with settlement and are thought to have been special places to which the miners travelled from a distance. The discovery of actual quarry pits or in-situ working areas or associated structures would therefore be of particular interest as it could help us to understand how the extraction activity was carried out and organised. Such a discovery could be considered of national importance.



Croydon APA 2.12
Pollards Hill

Pollards Hill APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

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Croydon APA 2.12: Pollards Hill

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the summit of Pollards Hill where a possible earthwork is located and includes the site of a recreation ground and a number of houses in Ena Road and Pollards Wood Road. It is classified as a Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area because it is a distinctive topographical feature with evidence of archaeological interest.

Description

A series of low banks have fuelled the belief that a prehistoric earthwork is located here and a low bank between 0.5m and 1.3m high surrounds a circular area of flat ground but the age and extent of the earthwork are currently unknown. Excavations that have taken place at the site found little of significance and prehistoric finds have not been made in the area. The Norwood Archaeological Society excavated the site in 1962 but the results were inconclusive. In 1996 a watching brief was carried out by the Museum of London Archaeology Service which did not find any significant archaeological remains but none of the test pits were located in the area of the potential earthwork.

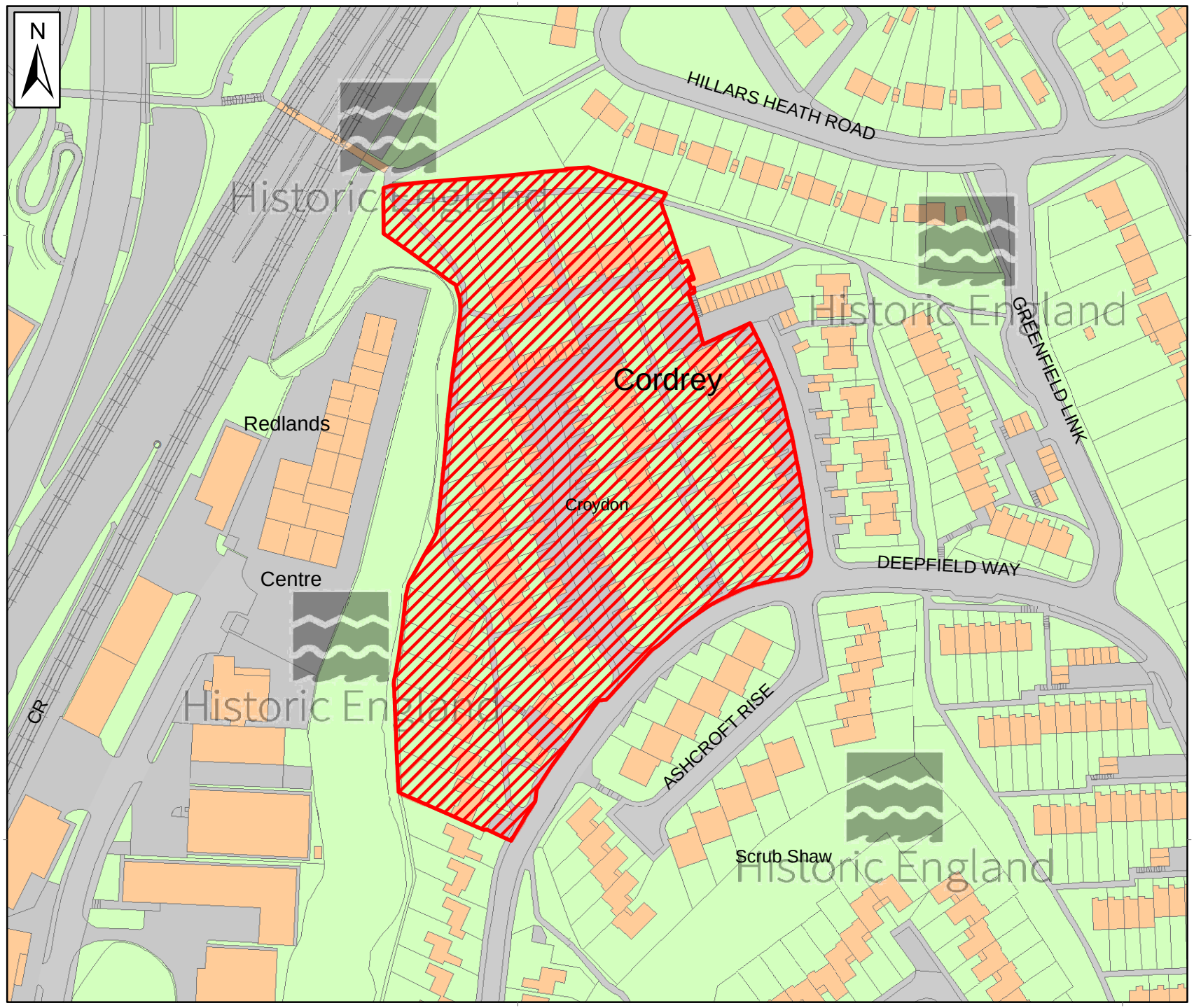
The APA is located on the highest point of the local area on a hill comprised of London Clay so it is logical for a prehistoric hillfort to be situated here due to the commanding views across wide stretches of the surrounding area. It is also a possibility that some form of signalling station was located here in the Roman period due to its proximity to the London to Brighton Roman road.

The site was farmland until the area around it started to be developed in the early 20th century. An OS map of 1882 shows nothing on the site apart from a flagstaff while an Old Clay Pit is marked on the site on an OS map from 1894. The clay extraction may have had an impact on any surviving archaeological remains. The open area was made into a recreation ground in 1913 and by 1934 most of the houses that surround it had been erected.

Significance

Further investigations are necessary to confirm the purpose and age of the earthwork. If it was confirmed that the site was a prehistoric hillfort, for example, it would be of regional or national importance and enhance our knowledge of how hillforts were distributed across this area of south London. The undeveloped nature of the earthwork also allows its topographical location to be appreciated. Further finds could be located in the area

surrounding the earthwork and could relate to an associated settlement. There is clearly a need to learn more about the site before the purpose and significance of the earthwork can be fully appreciated.



Croydon APA 2.13
Deepfield Way

Deepfield Way APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:1,750

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Croydon APA 2.13: Deepfield Way

Summary and Definition

The APA covers an area to the north of Deepfield Way where Roman burials and Iron Age ditches were discovered in the late 1960s. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because the features uncovered in the 1960s represent heritage assets of archaeological interest which are recorded on the GLHER.

Description

The area was unoccupied and rural until it was developed in the 1960s. Building work to the north of Deepfield Way in the late 1960s found three v-shaped ditches that were approximately 14 feet wide and 5 feet deep. Pottery fragments that were recovered from the ditches could be dated to the Romano-British period indicating that the features may have been some type of boundary or defensive feature. During the same works 11 burials were found between two of the ditches. The coffins the burials had been interred in had disintegrated but the nails survived and could be dated to the second half of the 4th century. A bronze coin depicting the emperor Constantius II was also found with the burials which could be dated to around 346 AD. In 1923 a large pit had been found nearby which contained Roman pottery.

It is possible that the ditches were associated with an Iron Age settlement that continued to be used in the Roman period or there may have been a period when the site was not occupied until a cemetery was established in the second half of the 4th century. The settlement may have been a roadside settlement although no major Roman road is thought to have passed near here although lesser roads that may have been based on earlier prehistoric trackways may have passed along the valley to the west of the site. No further archaeological investigations have taken place since the 1960s but it is possible that further features and finds might be present although building developments since then would have had an impact on any surviving remains.

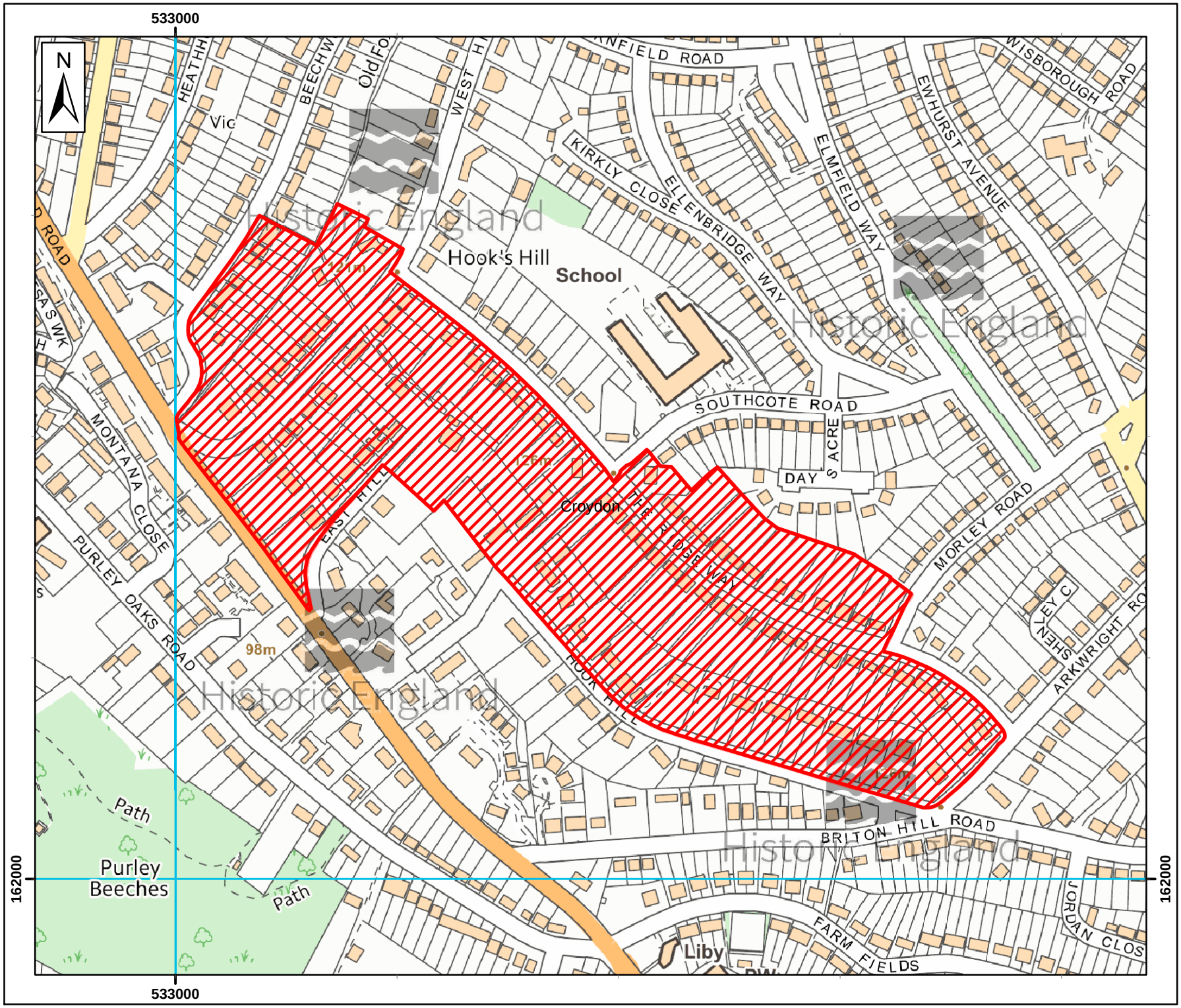
Significance

The ditches, burials and pottery fragments indicate that some form of activity was taking place in the vicinity during the Romano-British period. However, the precise nature of that activity and the length of time it took place is unclear. The ditches may relate to a nearby settlement or they may be an isolated feature but only further research would clarify their purpose and significance. The Roman burials are of significance due to their number

and the fact that they can be dated to such a precise part of the Roman period. A number of Anglo-Saxon cemeteries have been found on hillsides in Croydon but this is an example of a Roman cemetery in a similar location. Its existence might indicate that hillside Saxon cemeteries may have had a precedent in the Roman period and could be used to compare and contrast burial practices in both periods. The discovery of further archaeological features or burials would help to establish the exact nature, purpose and context of the activity that took place here and may lead to the boundaries of the APA being extended.

Key References

Guide to Local Antiquities, M. Farley, The Bourne Society, 1973



Croydon APA 2.14
Hook Hill

Hook Hill APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,500

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Croydon APA 2.14: Hook Hill

Summary and Definition

The Hook Hill Archaeological Priority Area covers an area to the north-west of Sanderstead. What is thought to be part of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery was found within the APA in 1884. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because the Saxon burials represent a heritage asset of archaeological interest but the cemetery is insufficiently well defined to merit Tier 1 status.

Description

Hook Hill projects from the North Downs with slopes on its northern and western sides. The area was rural and undeveloped until the late 19th century when Sanderstead station was opened and housing started to be built. During construction of a residential estate in 1884 a number of skeletons were found to the south of the station on the eastern side of Croydon Road, now Sanderstead Road. The location of the burials is thought to be in the vicinity of the southern end of West Hill. Approximately 12 skeletons were found in two groups and a small pot or urn found near the head of one of the burials and two knives found in other graves dated the burials to the Anglo-Saxon period. Two further skeletons were found during construction of The Ridge Way in the 1920s although it was not possible to date these burials.

Other Anglo-Saxon cemeteries have been found along the Wandle Valley at Farthing Down, Cane Hill, Croydon, Beddington and Mitcham. Those found at Hook Hill are thought to be part of a larger cemetery although its extent is unknown. It is also unknown whether the cemetery was located here because of its proximity to a particular feature such as a settlement, the summit of the hill or a boundary marker such as a dyke or ditch. The skeletons found in 1924 were located some distance to the east of those found in 1884 and if they were also Saxon and part of the same cemetery it would give an indication of the size and possible burial population of the cemetery. It is therefore possible that the remains of further burials might be present within the APA or elsewhere on Hook Hill.

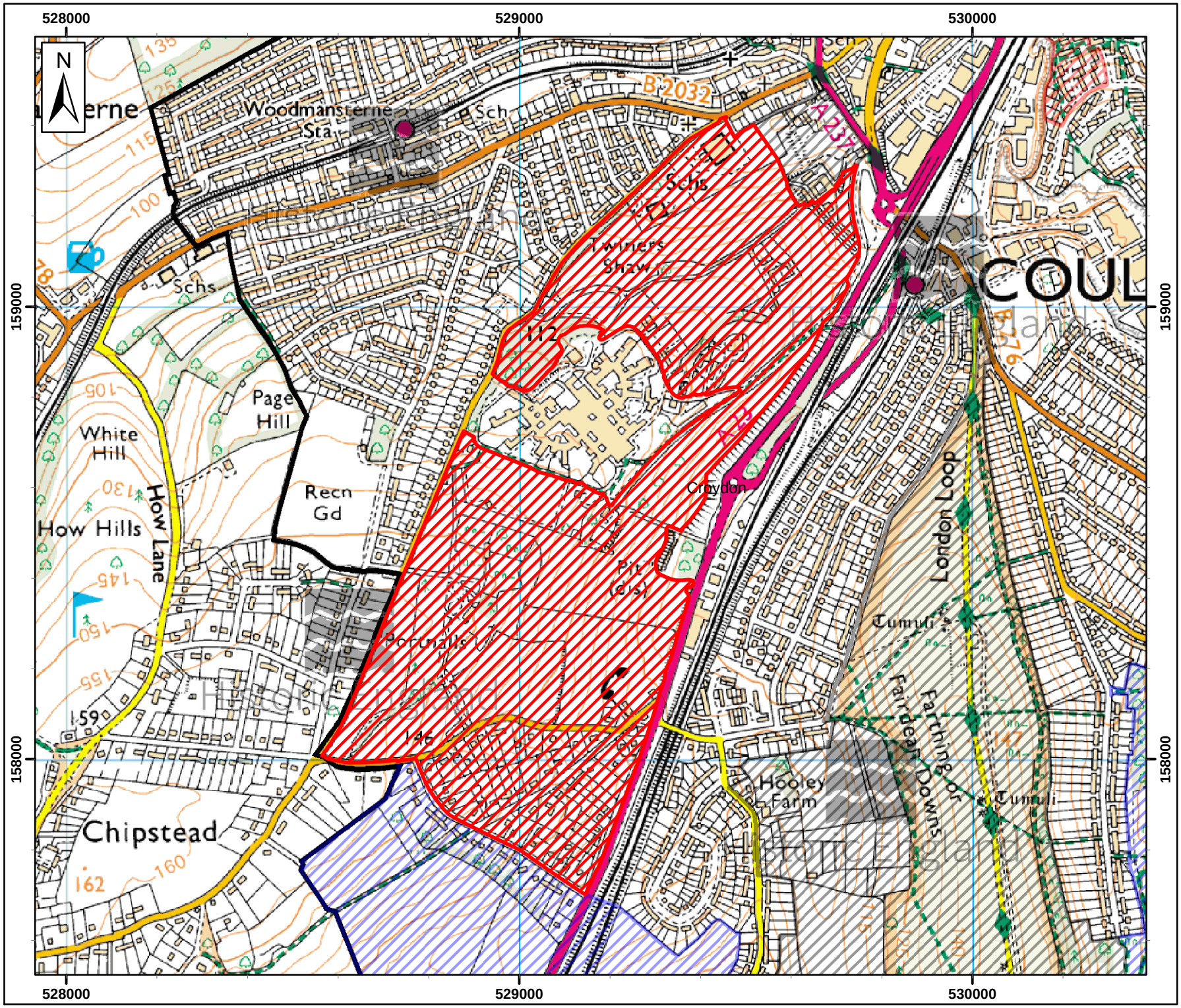
Significance

Along with other Saxon cemeteries that have been found in Croydon the burials at Hook Hill demonstrate that areas overlooking the Wandle Valley were selected as burial sites during the Anglo-Saxon period. Together they form a network along the Wandle Valley which could indicate whether settlements were located nearby. The discovery of more burials

might provide information relating to the social status, health and general background of the people being buried in the cemetery. If further investigations enable the cemetery to be better defined it might be judged of national importance and upgraded to Tier 1.

Key References

A Gazetteer of Early Anglo-Saxon Burial Sites, A. Meaney, George Allen & Unwin Ltd, 1964



Croydon APA 2.15
Cane Hill

Cane Hill APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:11,000

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Croydon APA 2.15: Cane Hill

Summary and Definition

The Cane Hill Archaeological Priority Area occupies the side of a valley in the south-west of Croydon. Like other parts of the North Downs in Croydon this is a relatively undeveloped area with potential for finds and features from the prehistoric period and finds from later periods have also been recovered. Collectively these finds indicate that areas near the summit of the hill were occupied to varying extents across a prolonged period of time. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because there have been positive archaeological interventions in a topographically distinctive and relatively undeveloped area. The site of the former Cane Hill Hospital has been excluded because construction of the hospital and its basements has completely removed any archaeology. However, the developed area around Starrock Road has been included because there is still potential for archaeology in the gardens of the properties.

Description

With the exception of the residential area near Starrock Road much of the APA has never been developed. It is therefore likely that archaeological remains would survive within it. A number of prehistoric finds such as flint flakes and an axe have been recovered from the APA. In this respect it is similar to other chalk upland areas of Croydon where numerous prehistoric finds and features have been discovered.

An extensive archaeological evaluation that took place in 2014 between Portnalls Farm and Lion Green Road found prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval material and features. The amount of prehistoric pits and postholes that were found to the south of the former hospital site suggested that one or more settlements had been located there.

Roman features and finds such as post holes, cut features, building material and pottery which were observed during the evaluation in the same area as the prehistoric finds indicated that the site continued to be occupied into the Roman period. Collectively they may indicate that a Roman farmstead was located there. Saxon finds recovered from the same area indicated that the farmstead continued to be used into the Saxon period too. Further material such as pottery and peg tiles dating from the medieval and early post medieval periods suggest that another building or buildings were present in the area during those later periods. Portnalls Farms appears on a map dating to the 1760s but it is unclear when it was initially established.

A number of Anglo-Saxon burials have been found on Farthing Down to the east of the APA on the opposite side of the valley. Saxon burials have also been found in other high areas in southern Croydon such as Riddlesdown and Hook Hill and it is logical to expect Cane Hill to have similar Saxon burials. It was thought that Saxon burials had been found near the site of Cane Hill hospital in 1873 but it is now believed that these burials were found near Lion Green Road and are part of that cemetery. In 1910 one or possibly two skeletons were found near Starrock Road but it is not known if they were Anglo-Saxon. The Anglo-Saxon cemetery on Lion Green Road is located to the north of the APA and it is possible that it extended into the area around Smitham Primary School.

Cane Hill hospital previously occupied a large site at the hill's summit. It was a psychiatric hospital which was built in the 1880s and remained in use until 2008. Most of its buildings, with the exception of the chapel, water tower, administration block and a few others, have since been demolished.

Significance

The higher chalk land areas of southern Croydon have potential to contain evidence of prehistoric finds and the Cane Hill area has the same potential. The evidence found during the 2014 evaluation demonstrated that the hilltop had been settled for a prolonged period of time across a range of different periods. Further surveys and investigations may clarify the nature and extent of the settlement at different times and would assist in the significance of the site being fully appreciated. If Cane Hill was the location for an important prehistoric hill top settlement it would be an important example of potentially national significance. The APA also has potential for Anglo-Saxon burials and if such burials were to be found it would lead to the boundaries and Tier level of parts of the APA being altered accordingly. Further archaeological fieldwork has taken place at Cane Hill since the 2014 evaluation and the results of this work could also lead to the boundaries and Tier level of the APA being changed.

Key References

Former Cane Hill Hospital, Brighton Road, Coulsdon CR5 3YL, An Archaeological Evaluation, Pre-Construct Archaeology, 2015

Croydon APA 2.16
Ashburton Park

Ashburton Park APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:3,000

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Croydon APA 2.16: Ashburton Park

Summary and Definition

The APA covers Ashburton Park which was formerly the grounds of an 18th century manor house known as Stroud Green House which was demolished in the 1920s. The convent building (the former Ashburton Library) and a collection of small buildings, one of which is known as the Lodge, which are located in the western part of the park, were part of the manor house. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because Stroud Green House was a post medieval manor house and any remains are likely to be well preserved.

Definition

Stroud Green House was built in 1788, slightly to the north-east of where the convent building is located, and its grounds occupied the same area as the current park. It was known by a number of names before it came to be known as Stroud Green House from the 1860s onwards. The house can be seen on an OS map of 1880 with gardens to its rear and two drives leading from the front to Lower Addiscombe Road. A number of small buildings that can be seen on the map to the north-west of the house still survive and were built in the mid-19th century. The convent was constructed in 1882 by Father Tooth and became the base for an order of Anglican nuns who established an orphanage and a women's refuge in the building. An OS map from 1896 shows that a block had been added to the south-west of the house which had connecting walkways to the Lodge buildings and the Convent.

The house was demolished in 1927 and its grounds became a public park. The convent building was converted into Ashburton Library which closed in 2006. Remains of Stroud Green House may survive because the site where it was located has never been developed and traces of its gardens and associated garden features may also survive.

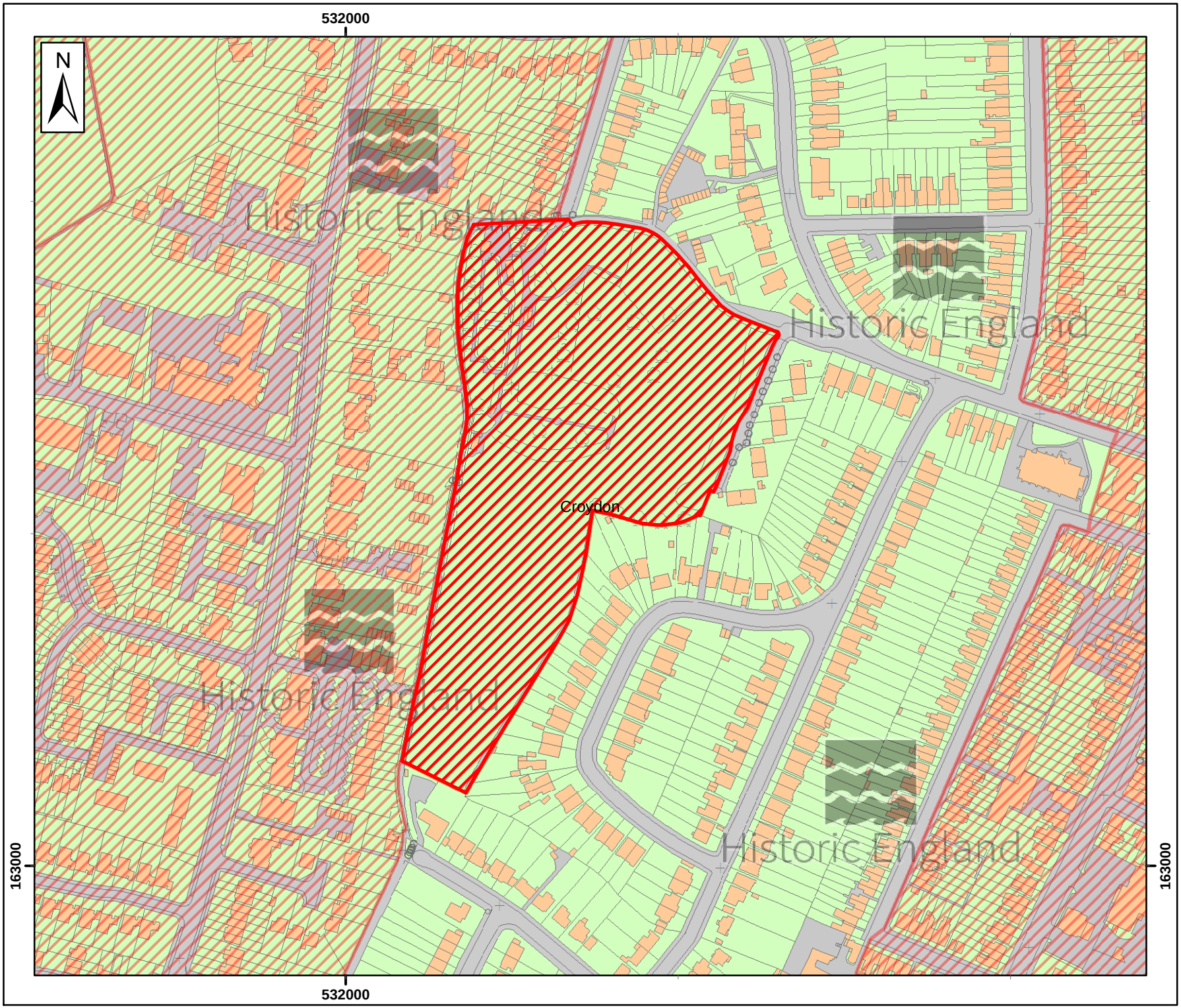
Significance

Post medieval country houses and their gardens are important for garden history and social history. The construction of Stroud Green House reflects how Croydon had become a desirable area for a certain strata of society by the 18th century. The house and estate could be compared and contrasted with similar estates within the borough and across London during the same period.

Key References

London 2: South, B. Cherry and N. Pevsner, Penguin Books, 1983

Woodside, Lilian Thornhill, North Downs Press, 1986



Croydon APA 2.17
Haling Grove

Haling Grove APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:3,000

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Croydon APA 2.17: Haling Grove

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers Haling Grove Park which lies to the east of Pampisford Road. The grounds of Haling Grove House, which was previously located in the north-west of the park, were converted into a public park after the house was demolished in the 1930s. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because the remains of Haling Grove House are likely to be well preserved.

Description

The grounds of Haling Grove were formerly part of the Haling Park estate which was once owned by Lord Howard of Effingham. Haling Park House was located to the north-east of Haling Grove on land now occupied by the Whitgift School. Haling Grove House was built at some point in the early Victorian period and most of the rest of the Haling Park estate was sold off in the second half of the 19th century. An OS map of 1882 shows the house, its grounds, an open meadow to the south and a number of associated buildings close to the house. A farm called Haling Farm was located to the west of Haling Grove.

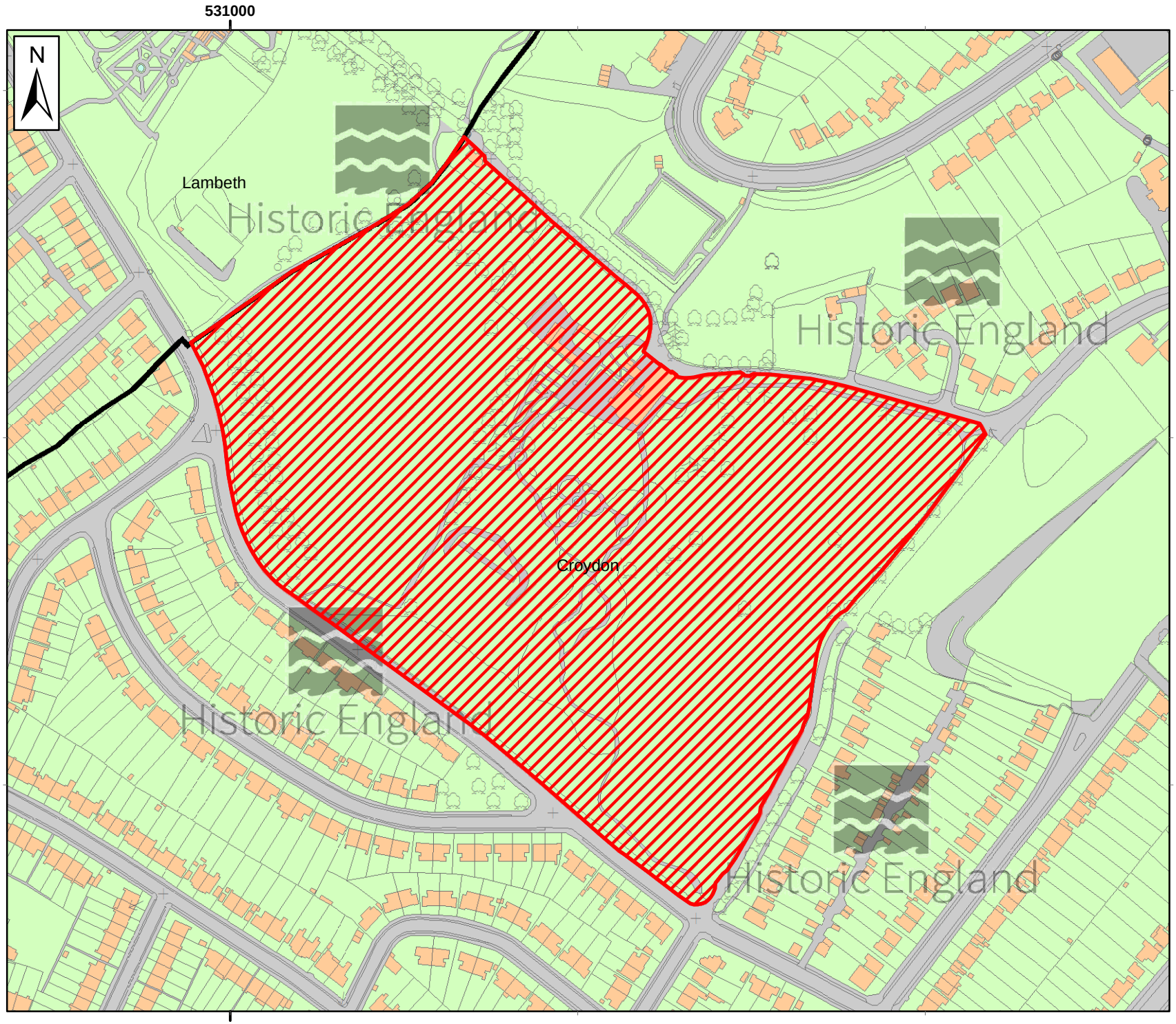
The last owner of Haling Grove House was Sydney Shorter who died in 1929. After his death his wife donated Haling Grove to the Playing Fields Association in 1933 who subsequently gave it to the local authority and it became a public park. The house was demolished in 1936 but since the park has not been developed it is likely the foundations of the house survive beneath the surface. Other features related to the house and its grounds which still survive in the park are a walled garden, parts of a coach house and the remains of a ha-ha.

A possible prehistoric arrowhead has been recovered from the park and it is possible that the prehistoric finds that have been found in the vicinity of Pampisford Road extend into this area too. Any surviving prehistoric finds and features would have survived due to the lack of development within the Haling Grove parkland area.

Significance

While the focus of the APA is the former house its parkland has potential for archaeological remains from a variety of periods since it is a relatively large open area of ground. The house represents an example of a Victorian country house built at a time when the area was still predominantly rural and demolished after the surrounding area had been

built on by housing. It demonstrates how the area was an attractive location for people to build their country houses at a time when the larger estate the land originally belonged to was being broken up.



Croydon APA 2.18
Norwood Grove

Norwood Grove APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:3,000

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Croydon APA 2.18: Norwood Grove

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an open parkland area on the slope of a ridge which was previously the grounds of Norwood Grove. Norwood Grove is a Grade II Listed Building and the surrounding park is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden. It is classified as Tier 2 because it is a Registered Park and Garden with significant archaeological interest.

Description

The name Norwood comes from the North Wood, a heavily wooded area that covered northern Croydon and southern Lambeth in the medieval period. In the Domesday Book the area that Norwood Grove was located in is recorded as Lime Common but the area was also known as the Great Streatham Common. A manmade earthwork within the park has been recorded although it is unclear whether it relates to a hillfort, a field boundary or a lynchet. Its position on a ridge with a commanding view within walking distance of a river would make it an attractive location for a prehistoric hillfort although little evidence has been found to support such as hypothesis and the field boundary explanation appears more likely. The undeveloped nature of the park means that any activity that has taken place here is likely to have left an archaeological trace.

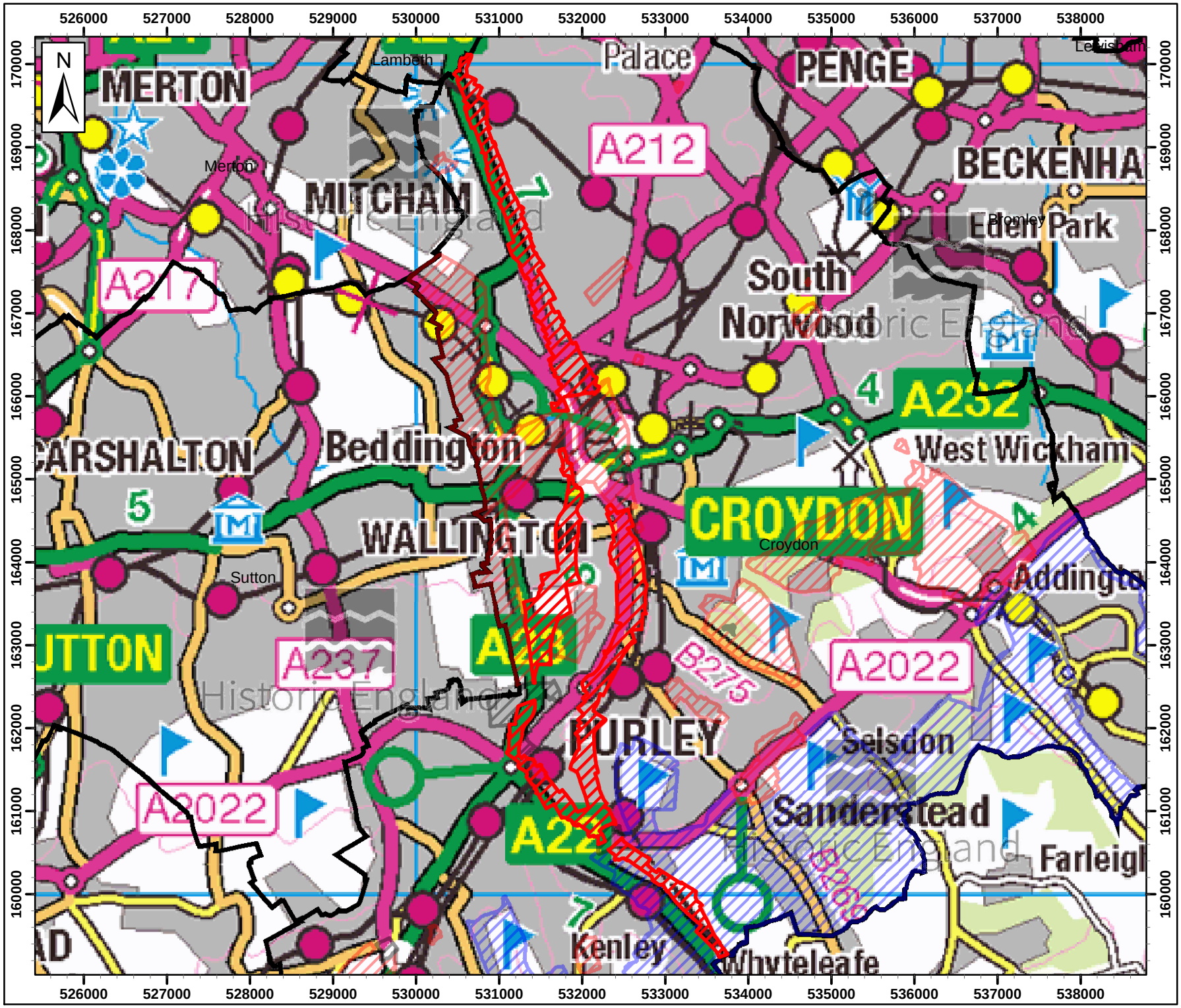
In the 17th century part of the Common was enclosed by the Duke of Portland to create a shooting estate and a manor house was presumably built at the same time in the vicinity of the modern building. The present building was constructed in the early 19th century and it is likely that the current building occupies the same site as previous houses and may have incorporated sections of an earlier building in its fabric. However, if former houses were built away from Norwood Grove then any remains are likely to survive since the park has not undergone major development.

The house has been known as Norbury Grove, Streatham Grove and Norwood Grove and is also referred to as the White House. In the mid-19th century it was owned by Arthur Anderson, the co-founder of the P&O Shipping Company but in 1913 the houses and its estate were sold to the Croydon Corporation. Local residents objected to plans for the redevelopment of the land in 1924 and managed to buy the site and opened it as a public park in 1926. Part of the house was damaged by bombing during the Second World War.

Significance

The park and house represent an example of a post medieval country estate, several other examples of which can be found in this and other parts of south London. Such estates illustrate how the area became a desirable place to build a country house in the post medieval period. Archaeological investigation and public interpretation could better reveal its historic interest.

The earthwork within the park appears to be a manmade structure but further study would be necessary in order to confirm its date and purpose. If it is a hillfort then it would be a rare survival for London and possibly of national importance.



Croydon APA 2.19
London to Brighton
Roman Road

London to Brighton
Roman Road APA

Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:60,000

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Croydon APA 2.19: London to Brighton Roman Road

Summary and Definition

The London to Brighton Roman road runs across the borough from Norbury in the north to Riddlesdown in the south. Between the borough boundary with Lambeth and Broad Green the road followed approximately the same route as London Road. South of this there are two possible routes which converge at Riddlesdown. The settlement of Croydon developed during the Roman period because it was situated on the road at a convenient stopping distance from *Londinium*. Other smaller settlements, hamlets or farmsteads may also have developed close to the Roman road. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is a corridor of land centred along a Roman road.

Description

The London to Brighton Roman road, sometimes referred to as the London to Portslade Roman road, is one of three major routes that led south from London along with the London to Lewes road and Stane Street. Together they linked London with the south coast and the iron producing and corn growing areas of Sussex. The London to Brighton road branched from Stane Street near Kennington Park and then followed a route marked by several modern roads including Brixton Road, Brixton Hill, Streatham Hill and Streatham High Road. London Road follows the route of the road between Norbury and Broad Green.

A section of the road was uncovered in 1961 during road works near Hermitage Bridge close to the borough boundary with Lambeth. The Norbury Archaeological Society was able to carry out an investigation and a complete section of the road was exposed. It was 32 feet wide with a ditch that was 15 inches deep on its western side and it also had a kerb that was four inches high and six inches wide. The road was made of flint and surfaced with cobble stones and iron slag. Another section of the road was exposed in 1962 near the junction of London Road and St Helen's Road. The road had a similar composition to the section found in 1961 but it was supported by a layer of mortar beneath which was a three inch layer of hazel wood. The hazel wood is thought to have been laid down because the area was particularly boggy. The road is thought to have crossed Norbury Brook by a ford which was found during works to widen a culvert at Hermitage Bridge and consisted of a layer of packed flint and gravel that was more than four feet thick.

There is debate over which route the road followed south of Broad Green. On the one hand it may have branched to the west along Handcroft Road and then passed to the west of Croydon town centre along the route of Roman Way/Old Town and Southbridge Road.

Alternatively after Broad Green it may have continued along London Road and then passed through what is now the centre of Croydon along the route of North End and the High Street before it continued south along the same path now followed by Brighton Road.

Croydon developed due to the Roman road and its convenient location approximately ten miles south of central London. It is not known precisely where the centre of the Roman settlement was situated but if its location was established it could help to clarify how the road passed through it. If the road passed to the west of Croydon town centre it may have encountered boggy conditions close to the Wandle which would have been liable to flooding. In later centuries it was these wet conditions that influenced the focus of the medieval settlement to move eastwards towards the market area. The eastern route through the centre of Croydon may have therefore been the more likely route that the road followed. It is also possible that the route split into two different routes at Broad Green and converged at a point to the south of Croydon town centre possibly where Southbridge Road meets South End. It was also at Croydon that the London to Brighton road crossed a lesser Roman road which ran from east to west along the foot of the North Downs. Remains of this road were encountered in Lower Coombe Street. Few other Roman settlements or sites along the road have been identified but should nevertheless be anticipated within the boundaries of the APA.

The route of the Roman road between Croydon and Riddlesdown is not known although there are two theories. It may have followed the route of Brighton Road along the base of the Wandle Valley before rising onto the higher ground of the North Downs, possibly along the route of Riddlesdown Road. The second theory is that if the road had passed to the west of Croydon town centre it may have continued southwards along Duppas Hill and Violet Hill before it turned in a south-west direction towards Russell Hill. Even though such a route across Purley Way Playing Fields is no longer followed by any modern path or road, a track can be seen on the Rocque Map from the 1760s and in OS maps until the 1930s. It then descended into Purley, crossed the Wandle Valley and then ascended to Riddlesdown possibly via Downs Court Road.

The Brighton Road route may have become muddy or flooded during wet conditions since it passed along a river valley floor with steep slopes on either side. The Russell Hill route would not have been prone to such wet conditions since it went along higher ground above the western side of the valley. However, the Russell Hill route would have needed to ascend/descend a steep slope at Russell Hill and another as it climbed onto Riddlesdown while the gradient of the slope the Brighton Road route would have followed up to Riddlesdown was comparatively gentle. It is also possible that both routes were used at different times depending on seasonal conditions. Remains of the road have not been found

on either projected route between Croydon and Riddlesdown and it is not yet possible to say which route the London to Brighton Road followed.

Riddlesdown Road becomes a track once it comes to the open area of Riddlesdown and the track is thought to follow the route of the road as it descends towards Godstone Road and the county boundary. Alternatively the road may have continued along the highest part of Riddlesdown instead of descending to the valley floor. Once again the road may have followed two different routes which were used depending on seasonal circumstances which would have had an impact on the condition of the road.

Significance

The London to Brighton Roman road was one of the more important routes that radiated from London. While there is conjecture over the precise route it is clear that several major and minor roads in Croydon still mirror its alignment thus demonstrating its continued importance and usage following the Roman period. Future archaeological investigations may uncover further sections of the road which would clarify its exact route and lead to the boundaries of the APA being altered accordingly. It is possible that the road did not follow a single route and may have converged and diverged a number of times as it passed through Croydon and finding a section of the road in one area will not necessarily mean that it is absent in another. The road would have stimulated the development of various roadside settlements, the most noteworthy of which is Croydon itself. The remains of any other smaller settlements within the APA would enrich our knowledge of what types of settlement and land use developed alongside or close to the Roman road.

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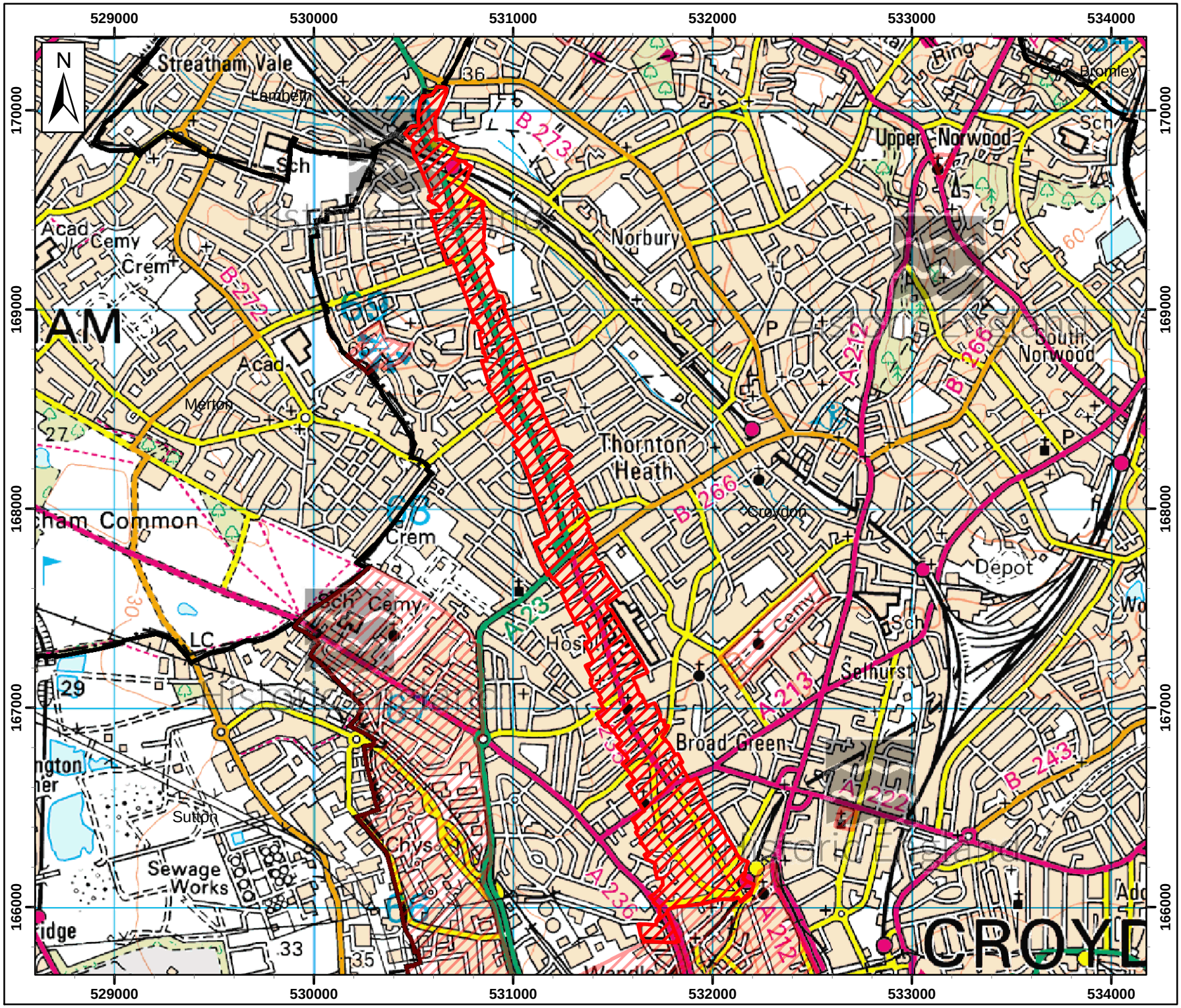

Croydon APA 2.19
London to Brighton
Roman Road
(Northern Section)

London to Brighton Roman Road APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:25,000

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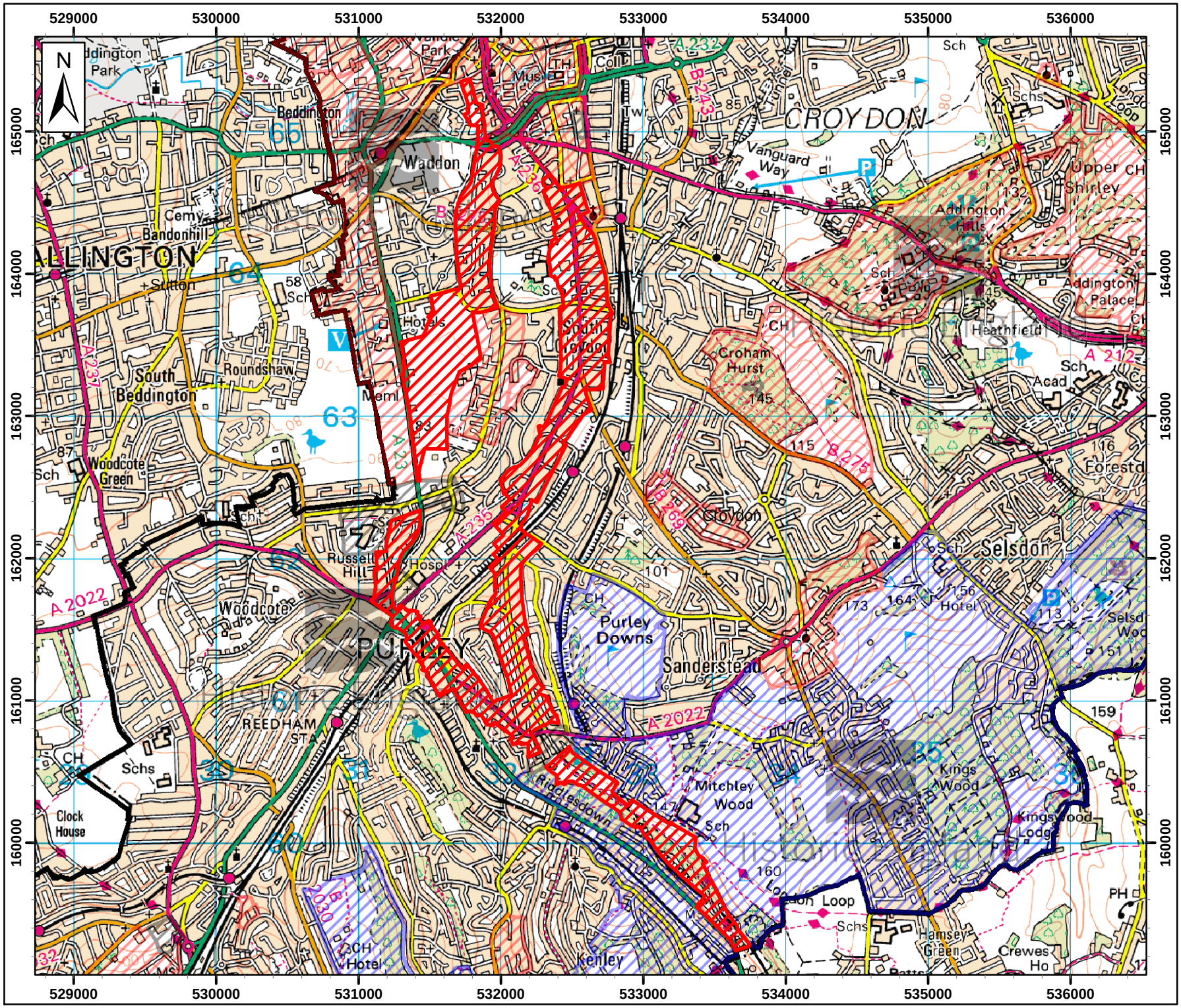

Croydon APA 2.19
London to Brighton
Roman Road
(Southern Section)

London to Brighton Roman Road APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:35,000

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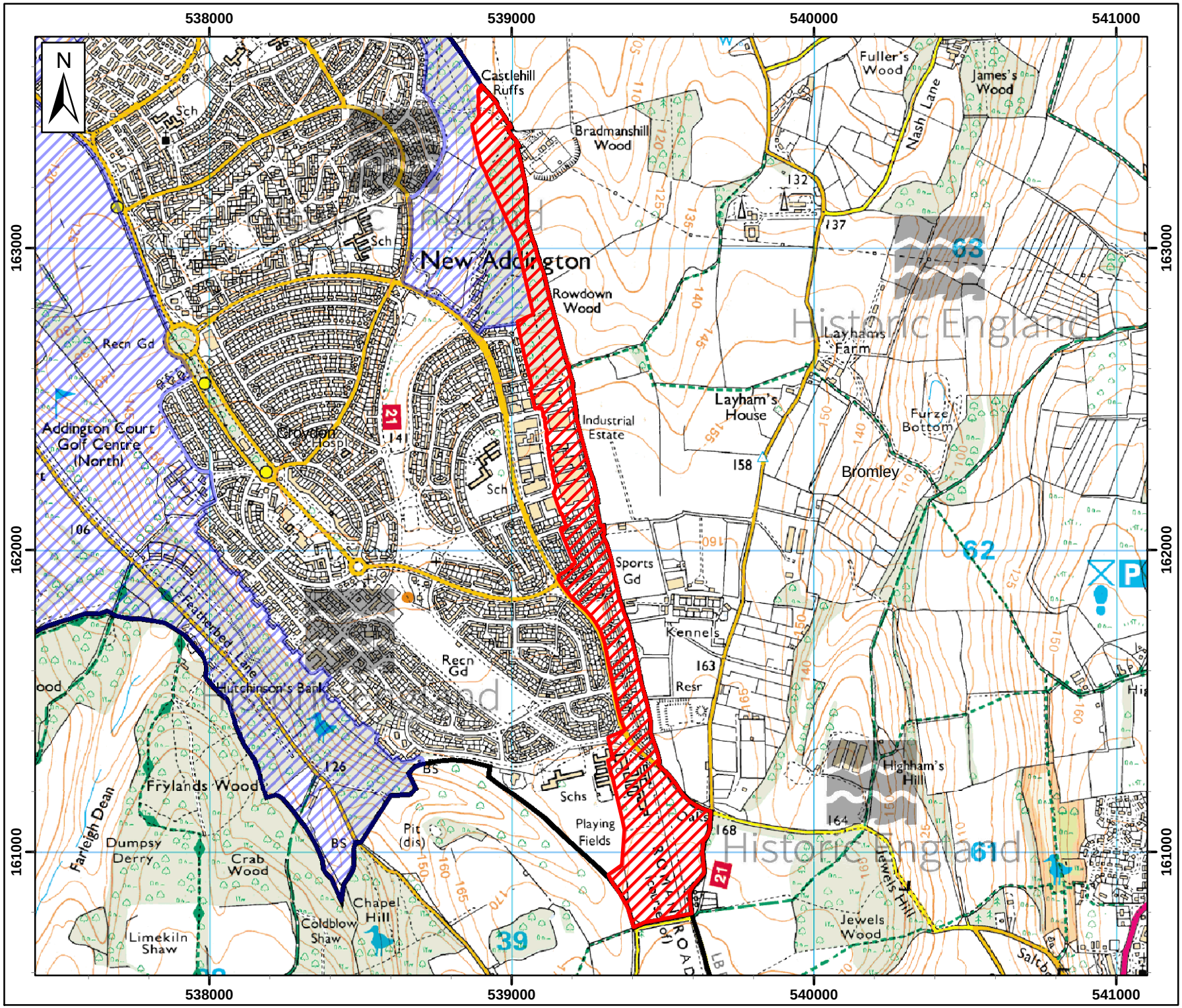

Croydon APA 2.20
London to Lewes
Roman Road

London to Lewes Roman Road APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:16,500

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Croydon APA 2.20: London to Lewes Roman Road

Summary and Definition

The APA covers an area in the south-east of Croydon along the borough boundary with Bromley. The borough boundary which runs along the eastern side of Rowdown Wood and continues southwards until it reaches the county boundary with Surrey follows the course of the London to Lewes Roman road. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is a corridor of land alongside a Roman road.

Description

The London to Lewes Roman road was constructed in the late 1st or early 2nd century and was one of three major routes that led south from London along with Stane Street and the London to Brighton Roman road. They linked London with the south coast and the iron producing and corn growing areas of Sussex. The road branched off from Watling Street in Peckham and then ran south towards Lewes passing through the modern boroughs of Lewisham and Bromley. Unlike other important Roman routes that radiated from London few modern roads follow the course of the London to Lewes Roman road. However, its route dictates part of the borough boundary between Croydon and Bromley for approximately 2.7km from Rowdown Wood until it reaches the county boundary with Surrey. On historic maps the road's route was marked by a number of field boundaries and hedgerows.

Two sections of the road were uncovered to the north of Rowdown Wood in Bromley at some point prior to 1935. The road was approximately 17 feet wide and consisted of a layer of loose flints beneath rammed chalk which was covered by loose gravel with ditches on either side. Another section of the road was uncovered near Wickham Court Farm in the 1960s which had similar dimensions and composition.

Roadside settlements would have developed along the route and Roman material has been found in the vicinity of the road in both Bromley and Croydon. The scheduled site to the north of Wickham Court Farm in Bromley is a Roman settlement situated on either side of the road where excavations in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s recovered more than 5000 pottery fragments and 100 Roman coins. The remains of a potential Roman farmstead were also found in the 1960s on Fox Hill in Bromley slightly to the west of the road which was dated to between 80 and 140 AD. Other important Roman finds found close to the APA include an iron hoop, thought to come from a Roman wheel which was found near Layhams Farm in 1976, a Roman brooch that was found in Addington Woods and Roman coins that were found in New Addington. While fewer Roman features associated with the road have been found on

the Croydon side of the borough boundary they should nevertheless be anticipated within the APA along with sections of the road itself.

Significance

The London to Lewes Roman road was one of the most important routes that radiated from *Londinium* and linked the city to important industrial and farming centres in Sussex. It is somewhat unusual that modern roads do not follow the route either in Croydon or along much of its route between Peckham and Surrey. However, the fact that parish, borough and county boundaries still follow its route demonstrates its continued importance after the Roman period. The road would have stimulated the development of various roadside settlements such as the one near Wickham Court Farm in Bromley. The discovery of such a settlement within the APA would enrich our knowledge of what type of settlements developed alongside or close to the Roman road.

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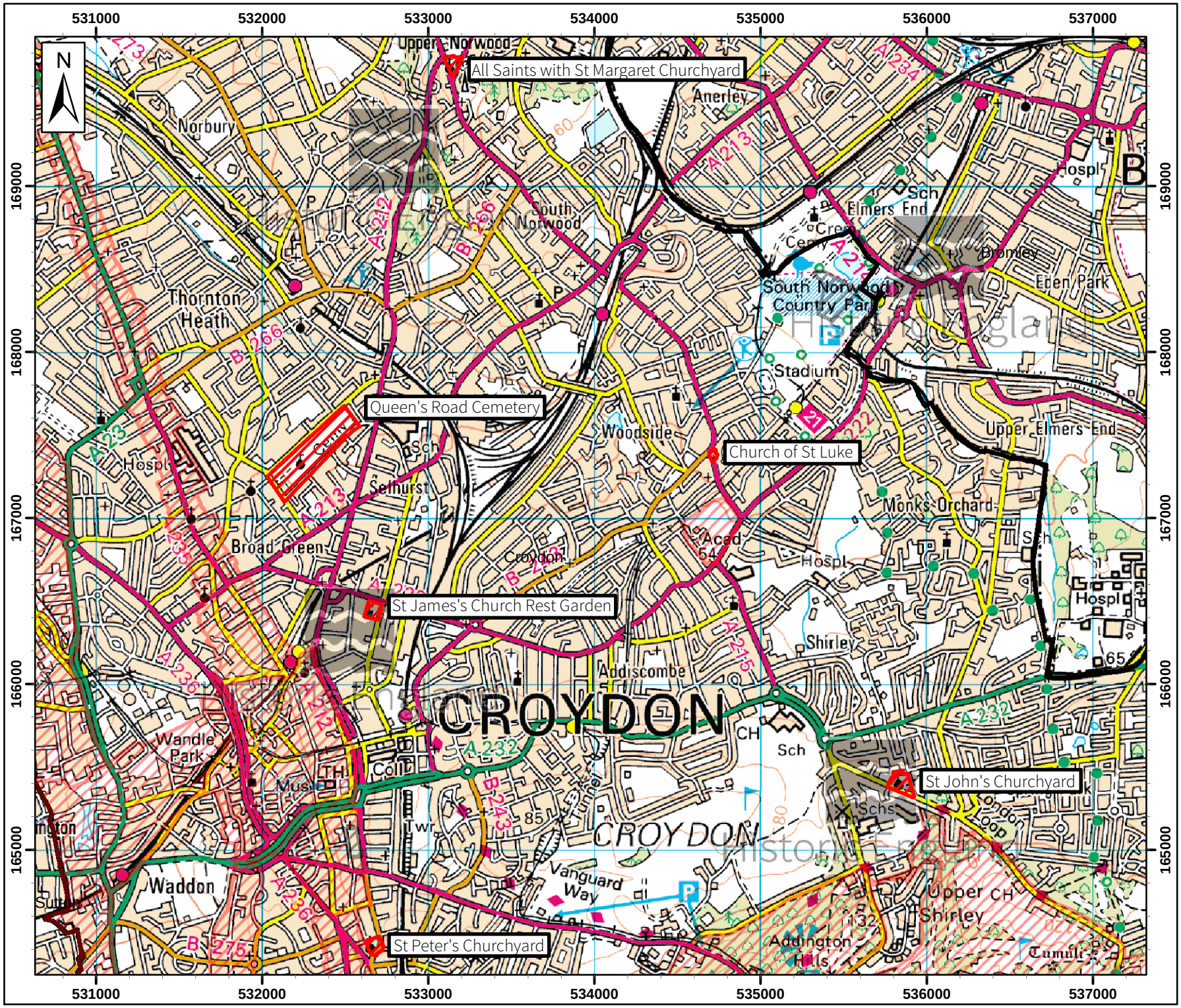

Croydon APA 2.21
Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries

Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:30,000

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Croydon APA 2.21: Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries

Summary and Definition

This APA covers one municipal cemetery and five 19th century churchyard cemeteries which are not already covered by an Archaeological Priority Area. Queen's Road Cemetery and Mitcham Road Cemetery are the only municipal cemeteries in Croydon and they have now reached capacity. Queen's Road Cemetery is covered by this APA while Mitcham Road Cemetery is covered by the Ampere Way APA. None of the church yards included in the APA accept new burials. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it covers burial grounds with 19th century origins.

Description

Queen's Road Cemetery, Queen's Road: Queen's Road cemetery was opened in 1861 in response to cemeteries closer to London reaching capacity and the growing local population which by the 1860s had exceeded 30,000. It is one of two municipal cemeteries in Croydon, the other being Mitcham Road Cemetery, which were established in the 19th century and parts of the cemetery were allocated for different Christian denominations. Two linked chapels at the centre of the cemetery were built around 1880 for Non-Conformist and Anglican ceremonies. Initially the cemetery extended slightly to the east of the chapels but by 1896 it had been extended to its current limit. A substantial air raid shelter built in the Second World War is situated in the south-east corner of the cemetery. There are an estimated 37,000 burials within the cemetery and it has now reached capacity although certain graves are being reused.

All Saints with St Margaret Churchyard, Beulah Hill: The church is a Grade II Listed Building that was built between 1827 and 1829 as a chapel of ease for St John the Baptist in Croydon. The churchyard is no longer in use but headstones and memorials are still visible and the memorial to Vice Admiral Robert Fitzroy is a Grade II listed structure that was erected in 1865.

Church of St Luke, Woodside Green: The Grade II listed church was constructed in 1870 to the east of the small settlement of Woodside. An OS map from 1896 shows a grave yard located between the church and its vicarage to the east. However, the grave yard is not shown on later OS maps and its site is now covered by the current vicarage building and the eastern side of the church which was extended to its current size in the early 20th century. However, it is possible that burials from the late 19th century grave yard are still present.

St James's Church Rest Garden, St James's Road: St James's Church was consecrated in 1829 and is a Grade II* Listed Building. The surrounding area is marked as a graveyard on 19th century OS maps but was converted into a memorial garden in the late 1960s which entailed using gravestones to pave an area next to the church. The church was later closed and has been converted into a residential care home.

St John's Churchyard, Shirley Church Road: St John's Church was completed in 1836 and is a Grade II Listed Building. The memorial to members of the Preston family which was erected in the mid-19th century and the memorial dedicated to the parents of John Ruskin which was built around 1870 are both Grade II listed. Initially the churchyard occupied a smaller area surrounding the church but had reached its current extent by the 1930s.

St Peter's Churchyard, St Peter's Road: St Peter's Church is a Grade II Listed Building that was built between 1849 and 1851. The churchyard is surrounded by a flint wall and burials took place there between 1852 and 1986.

Significance

Prior to the 19th century most cemeteries in Croydon were associated with churches that had existed since at least the medieval period. However, the rapid growth of Croydon's population and the expansion of its urban areas during the 19th century necessitated new churches and burial grounds. This is why the cemeteries covered by this APA were all established during that time and collectively they reflect the rapid development of Croydon. Other burials might survive at other sites although further research would be necessary to establish where such burials may be located. If the opportunity to study any of the burials within these cemeteries ever occurred they could provide information on the life expectancy, general health and social background of the local community and the diseases that they were suffering from.

Burials which are more than 100 years old are potentially of archaeological interest. The interest in burials and burial grounds relate to differences in burial practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors and also to the study of human populations including life expectancy, health and disease.

Burial grounds have their own specific legal protections. In accordance with national guidelines, archaeological investigation in post medieval burial grounds would normally only occur when burials more than 100 years old have to be disturbed for other reasons. Such disturbance could be for development or purposes other than routine small scale cemetery

operations. The views and feelings of relatives and associated faith communities, when known, would be considered.

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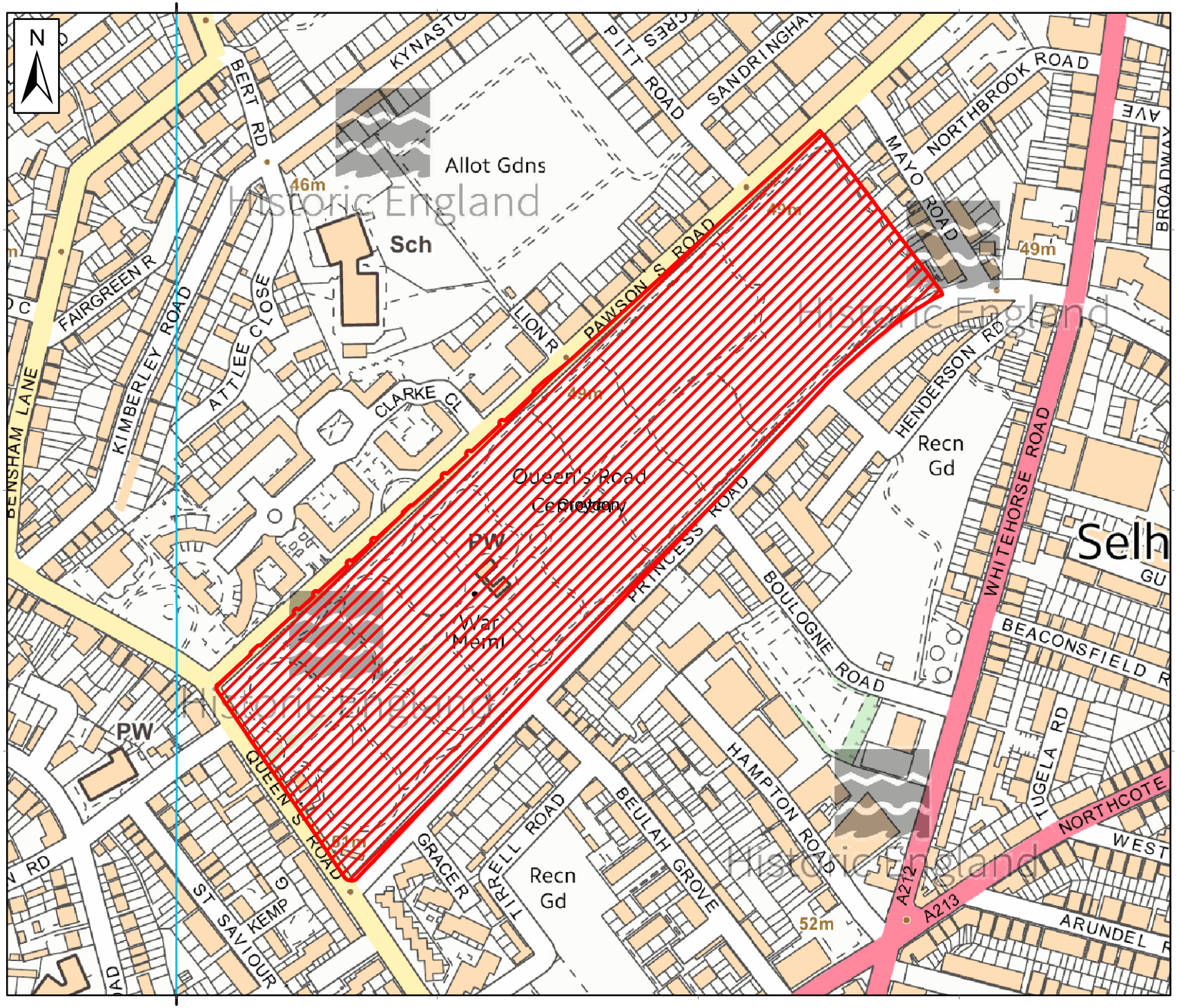

Croydon APA 2.20
Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries
(Queen's Road Cemetery)

Queen's Road Cemetery

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

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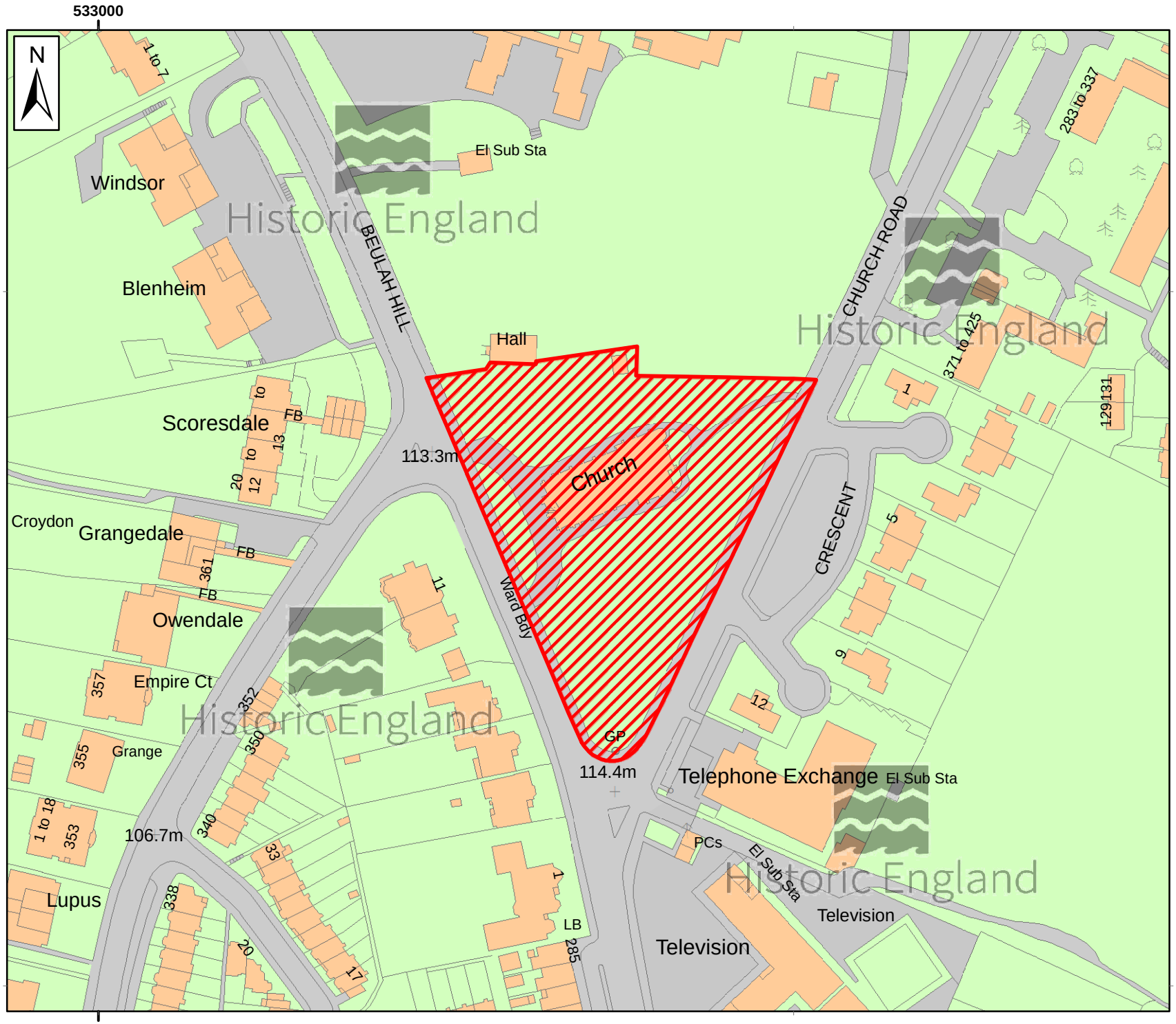

Croydon APA 2.20
Croydon 19th
Century Cemeteries
(All Saints & St Margaret)

All Saints with
St Margaret Churcyard

Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:1,500

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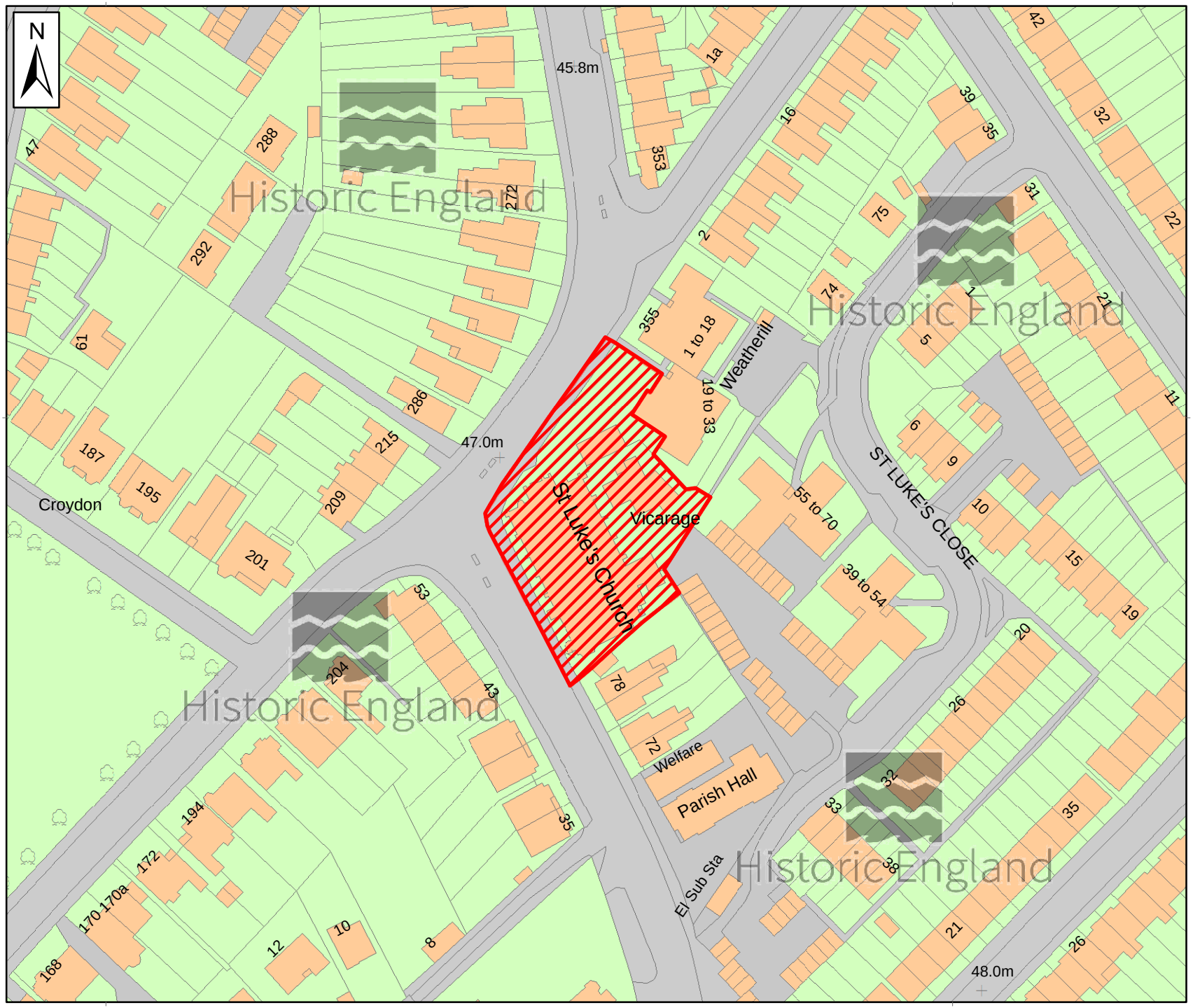

Croydon APA 2.20 Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries (Church of St Luke)

Church of St Luke

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:1,250

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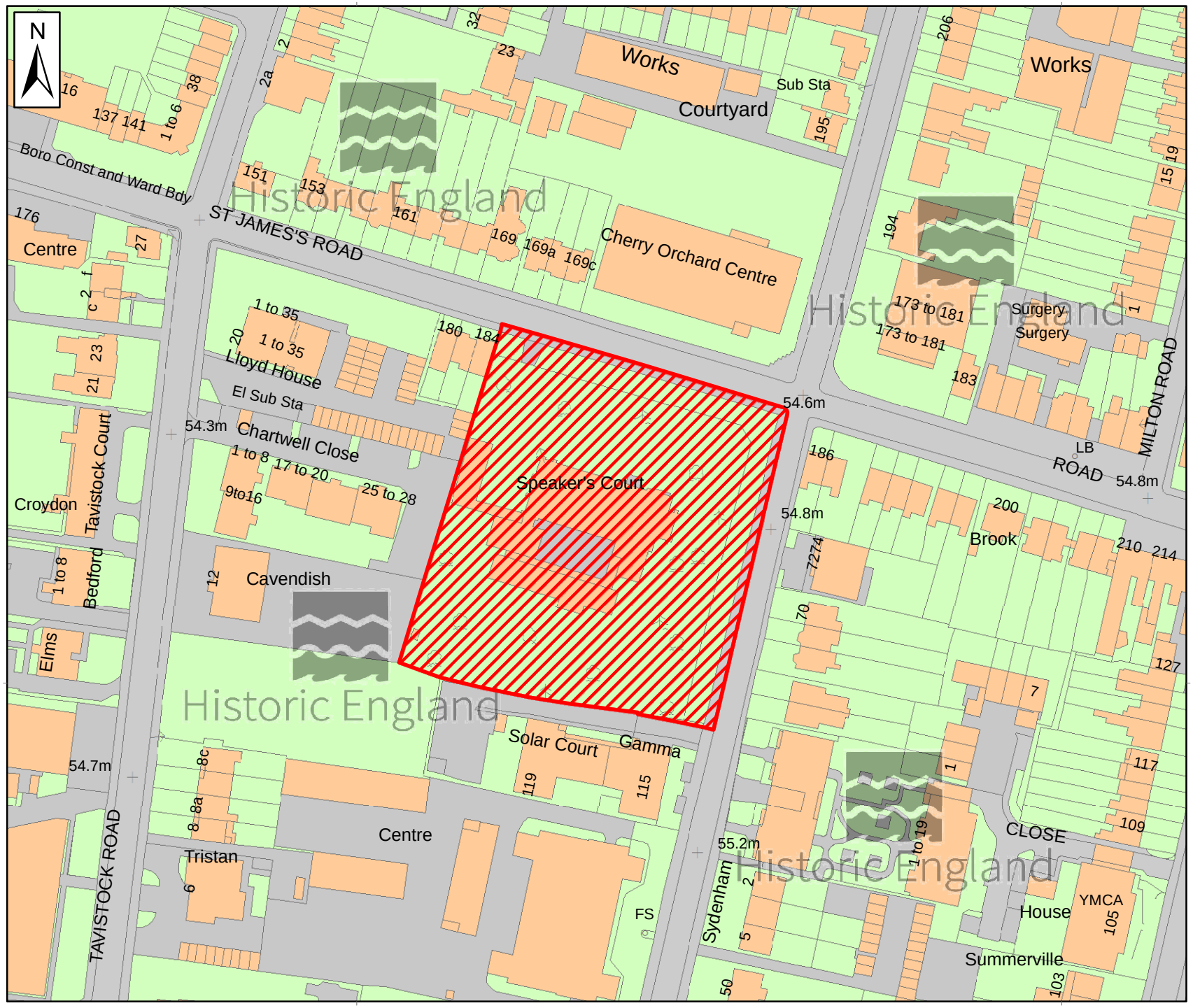

Croydon APA 2.20
Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries (St James's Church)

St James's Church Rest Garden

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:1,500

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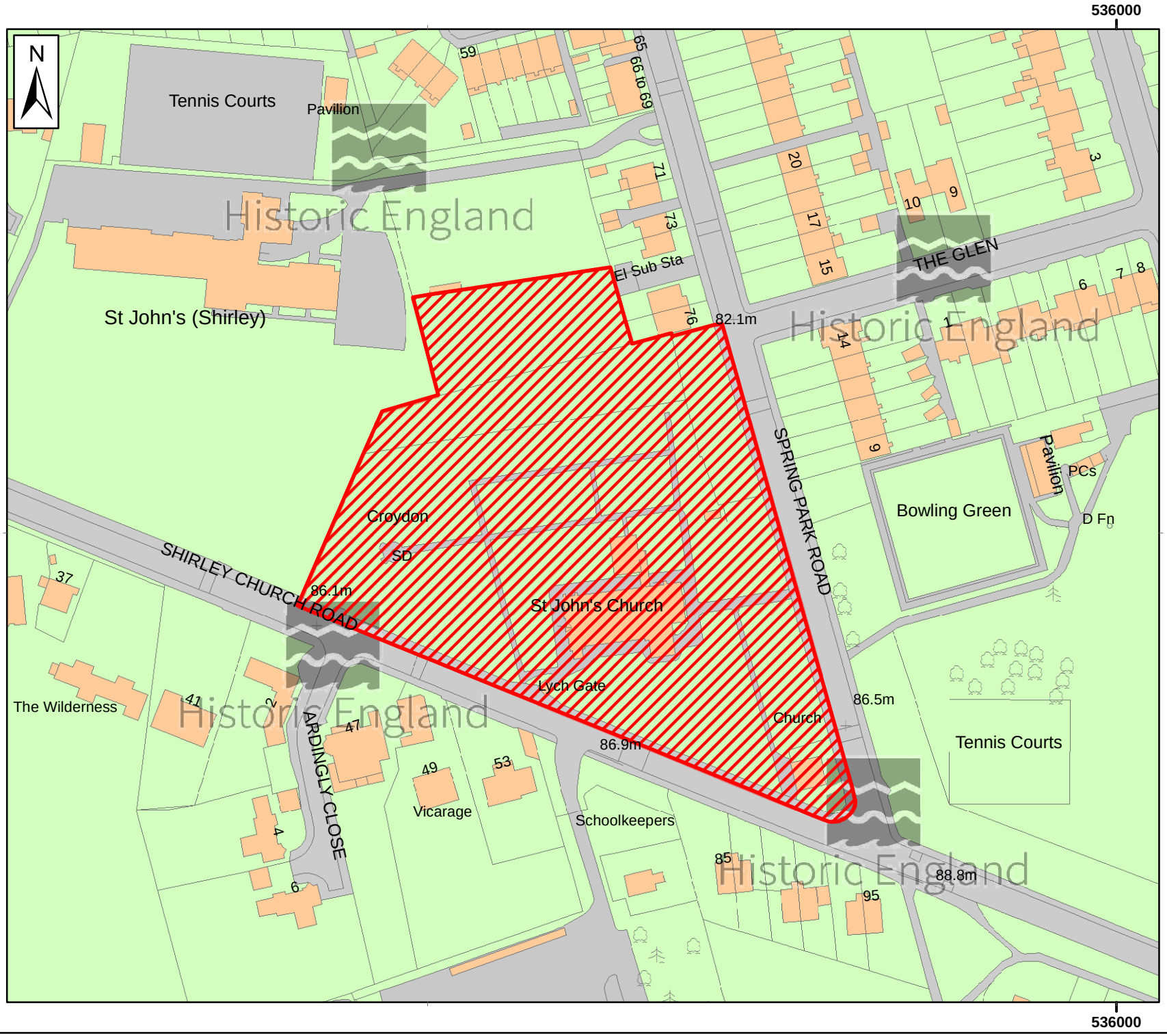

Croydon APA 2.20
Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries (St John's Churchyard)

- St John's Churchyard
- Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area
- Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area
- Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:1,500

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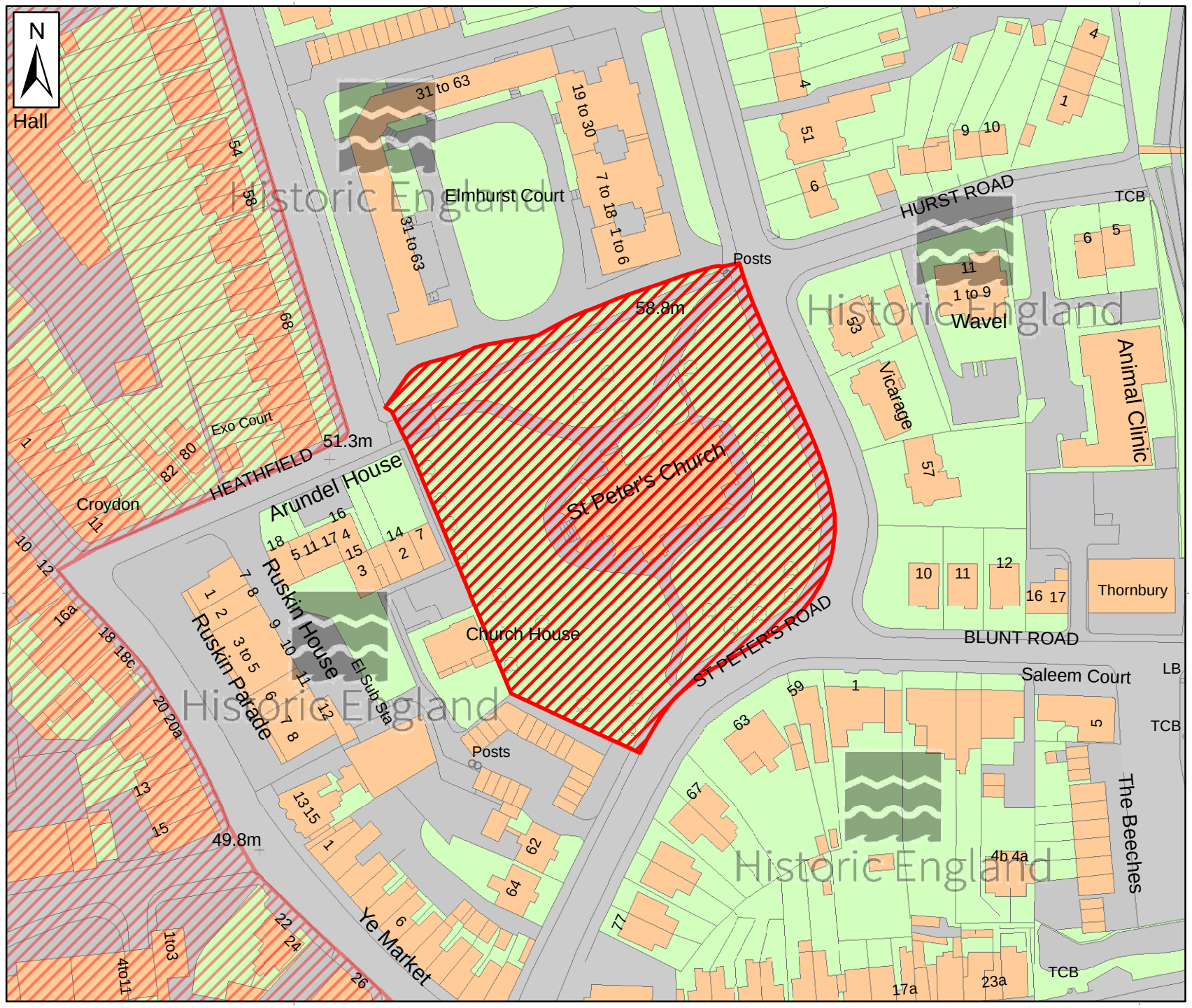

Historic England

Croydon APA 2.20
Croydon 19th Century Cemeteries
(St Peter's Churchyard)

St Peter's Churchyard

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:1,250

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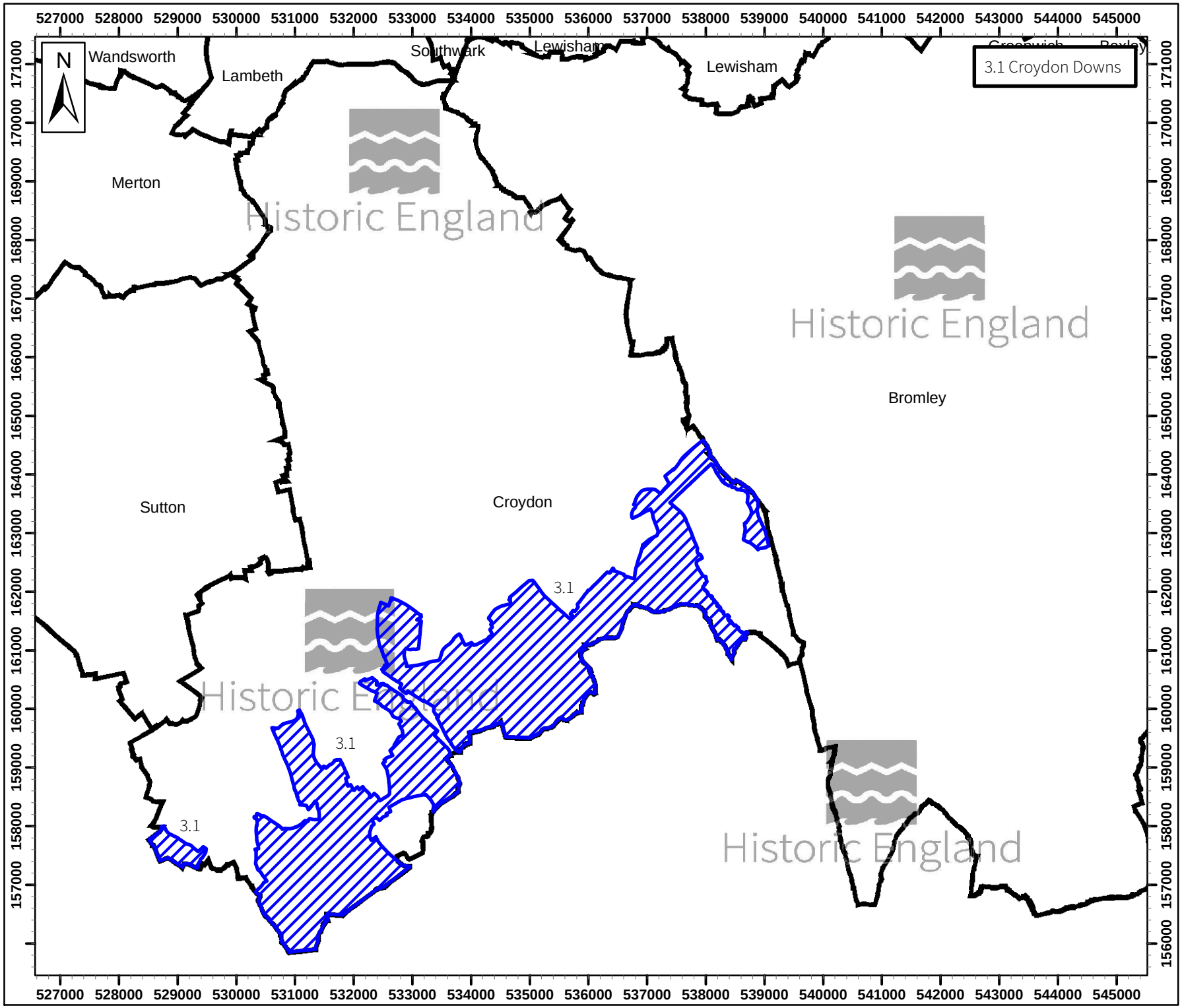

Croydon Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

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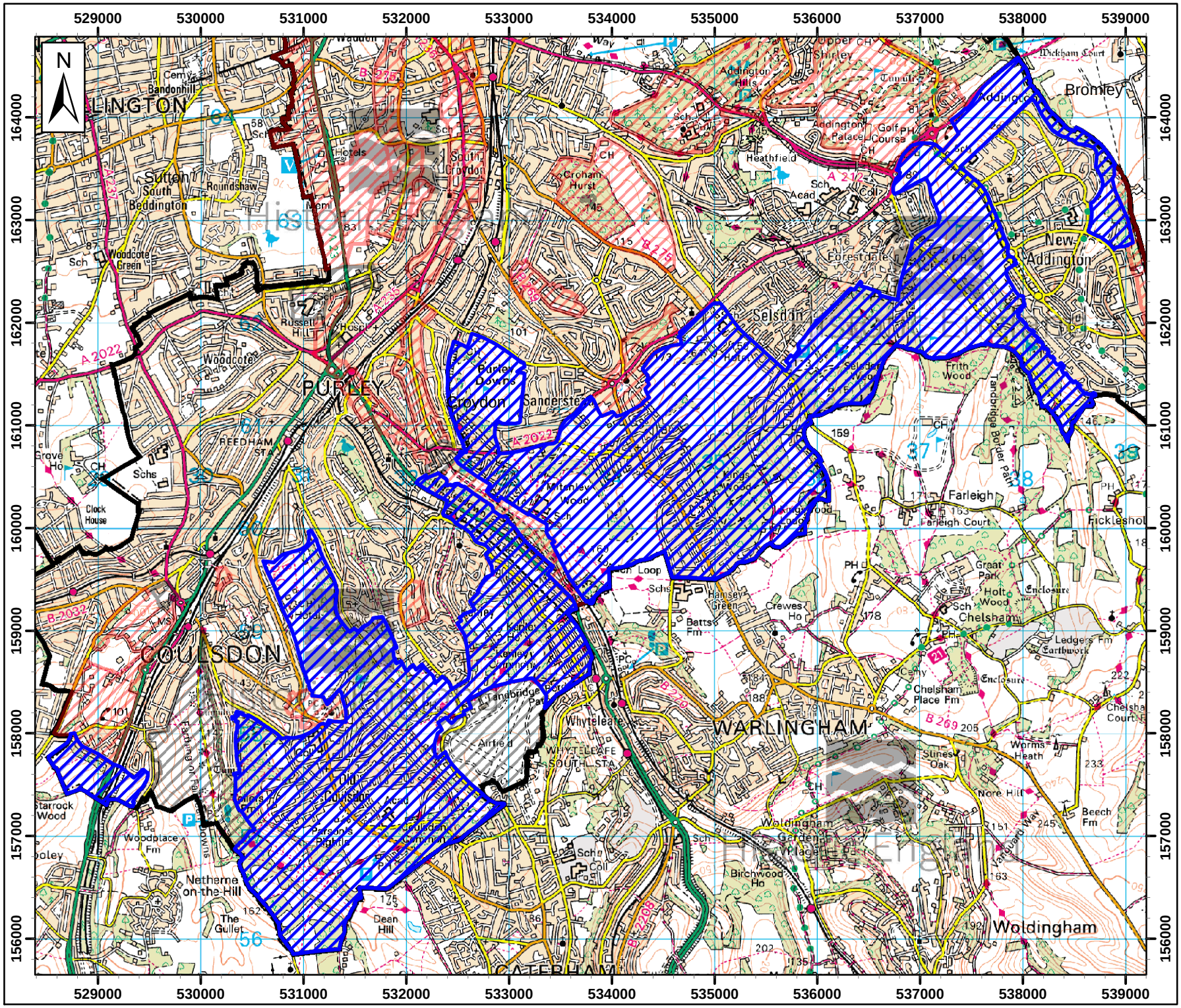

Croydon APA 3.1
Croydon Downs

Croydon Downs APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:48,500

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Croydon APA 3.1: Croydon Downs

Summary and Definition

The Croydon Downs Archaeological Priority Area covers a large area in the southern part of Croydon between Old Coulsdon and New Addington and includes a smaller section on the southern part of Cane Hill. This part of the borough is on higher ground compared to the northern part of the borough and the geology consists primarily of chalk. While parts of it have been developed it still retains large open areas which have never been built on. These open areas include Coulsdon Common, Kenley Common, Riddlesdown, Purley Downs, Mitchley Wood, Kings Wood and Selsdon Wood. The APA has potential for finds and features dating from all periods particularly in open areas. The APA is classed as Tier 3 because it is an extensive topographical area which includes distinctive historic rural landscapes such as commons and woodland.

Description

The southern part of Croydon is located on the higher ground of the North Downs where the geology is primarily comprised of chalk bedrock. The area is thought to have been densely wooded for much of its documented history although in some areas of the flat plateau there are pockets of clay which would have provided potentially good agricultural land. Iron Age fields were identified on Coulsdon Golf Course and Riddlesdown but those on Riddlesdown are now thought to be medieval fields and those at Coulsdon might also date from the medieval period.

Prehistoric material, particularly tools made of flint, has been found across the APA which indicates that some level of human activity was taking place throughout the period. Flint seams within the chalk may have been exploited by the local population which has led to the abundance of flint finds. However, evidence for prehistoric settlement within the APA has been less prevalent. One area where a settlement may have been located is Riddlesdown where a scheduled bank and ditch known as Newe Ditch is located which may have been associated with a nearby settlement. Other ditches, banks and pits identified on Riddlesdown might also relate to a settlement although some of the pits may be Second World War bomb craters and some of the banks could be associated with woodland management.

Settlements were undoubtedly established across the APA but few have so far been positively identified. An exception is the site found during the construction of Atwood School near Sanderstead in the early 1960s. Numerous huts and pits were found and the pottery

dated the site to between the early Iron Age and the 2nd century AD. Another site was found nearby in Kings Wood in 1955 which consisted of a number of huts, an enclosure bank and a cremation cemetery. The Kings Wood site is thought to have been a small farmstead dating to the late Iron Age and early Roman periods. Similar small settlements or farmsteads would have existed across the area during the same period. Such settlements were linked by a network of prehistoric roads and trackways that ran across the North Downs. Limpsfield Road, which runs south from Sanderstead, is one such road which is thought to follow the route of a prehistoric trackway.

Sanderstead, Coulsdon and Addington are historic settlements located in the North Downs area which are all mentioned in the Domesday Book but smaller farms and hamlets would have existed at the same time. A small medieval settlement is thought to have been located near Featherbed Lane near Addington on what is now the Addington Court Golf Course. Field systems have been identified in the area and the excavation of a well in the 1970s led to the conclusion that it had been associated with a small settlement. The well appears to have been filled in during the 13th or 14th centuries indicating that the settlement was abandoned at the same time. There are a number of reasons why the settlement was abandoned which could be related to economic factors or natural catastrophes. The remains of other small settlements may survive in other undeveloped parts of the APA.

The Rocque map of Surrey from the 1760s shows the area to be covered by woods, fields, roads and intermittent farms and the area had changed little by the end of the 19th century. It was during the 20th century that housing started to be built within the APA although large parts of it are still undeveloped.

Significance

The topography and geology of the APA indicates that it has potential for features and finds dating from all historic periods and its Tier 3 status is based on this potential. While numerous finds such as flint tools and coins have been made and former field patterns have been identified there have been fewer discoveries of other significant features such as settlements or major cemeteries. If features such as these were found it is possible that sections of the APA could be raised to Tier 1 or 2. Any discoveries of settlements, such as those found at Atwood School and Kings Wood in the 1950s and 1960s, would enhance our knowledge of how the settled population was distributed across the area during any given historical period. Future aerial or ground based surveys of this historic landscape would present an opportunity to shed light on its past use. It is also possible that prehistoric sites in the dry valleys and lower slopes have become buried (and protected) beneath colluvium (hillwash). Ancient woodlands, commons and field patterns are of historical and

archaeological interest in themselves and may preserve traces of historic land use such as boundary banks, managed trees and hedgerows (coppices and pollards) or small quarries.

Key References

The Excavation of a Romano-British Settlement in Kings Wood, R. I. Little, Surrey Archaeological Collections, Vol. 58, 1961

The Atwood Iron Age and Romano-British Site, Sanderstead, 1961, R. I. Little, Surrey Archaeological Collections, Vol. 61, 1964

Coulsdon Common, Heritage Conservation Plan, Wessex Archaeology, 2011

Riddlesdown, Purley, Heritage Conservation Plan, Wessex Archaeology, 2011

Glossary

Archaeological Priority Area: Generic term used for a defined area where, according to existing information, there is significant known archaeological interest or particular potential for new discoveries. They are sometimes called other names including Archaeological Priority Zones, Areas of Archaeological Significance/Importance/Interest or Areas of High Archaeological Potential.

Archaeological interest: There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially may hold, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places and of the people and cultures that made them (NPPF definition). There can be an archaeological interest in buildings and landscapes as well as earthworks and buried remains.

Conservation: The process of maintaining and managing change to a heritage asset in a way that sustains and, where appropriate, enhances its significance (NPPF definition).

Designated heritage asset: A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation (NPPF definition).

Heritage asset: A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing) (NPPF definition).

Historic environment: All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged and landscaped and planted of managed flora (NPPF definition).

Historic environment record: Information services that seek to provide access to comprehensive and dynamic resources relating to the historic environment of a defined geographic area for public benefit and use (NPPF definition). Historic England maintains the Historic Environment Record for Greater London.

Potential: In some places, the nature of the archaeological interest cannot be specified precisely, but it may still be possible to document reasons for anticipating the existence and importance of such evidence. Circumstantial evidence such as geology, topography, landscape history, nearby major monuments and patterns of previous discoveries can be used to predict areas with a higher likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future.

Research framework: A suite of documents which describe the current state of knowledge of a topic or geographical area (the 'resource assessment'), identifies major gaps in knowledge and key research questions (the 'agenda') and set out a strategy for addressing them. A resource assessment and agenda for London archaeology has been published and a strategy is in preparation.

Setting of a heritage asset: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral (NPPF definition).

Sensitivity: The likelihood of typical development impacts causing significant harm to a heritage asset of archaeological interest. Sensitivity is closely allied to significance and potential but also takes account of an asset's vulnerability and fragility.

Significance: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence but also from its setting (NPPF definition).