

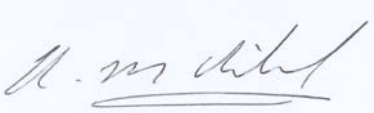


Historic England

London Borough of Wandsworth

Archaeological Priority Areas Appraisal

June 2017

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Contents

Introduction	page 4
Explanation of Archaeological Priority Areas	page 5
Archaeological Priority Area Tiers	page 7
Wandsworth: Historical and Archaeological Interest	page 10
Archaeological Priority Areas in Wandsworth	page 15
Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Areas	page 21
Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Areas	page 25
Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Areas	page 121
Glossary	page 137

Introduction

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

The appraisal is an opportunity to review the current APA framework in Tower Hamlets and produce revised areas and new descriptions. The proposals are being submitted to Tower Hamlets for consideration and are recommended for adoption in support of the Local Plan.

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. The present review of these areas is based on evidence held in the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER). Guidelines have been published to promote consistency in the recognition and definition of these areas across Greater London¹ 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. While 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 or architectural interest and vice versa.

APAs 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.

However, archaeological research and discovery is a dynamic process so it is not possible to anticipate all eventualities, threats and opportunities. This appraisal should

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

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 Tower Hamlets were either inside or outside an Archaeological Priority Area. 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 applications² 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 disturbance³. They will be clearly focused on a specific heritage asset and will normally

² Major applications include development involving 10 or more dwellings or an application 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 1000m² floorspace or more or an application site of 1 hectare or more on an outline application.

³ 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 APA⁴.

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.

⁴ 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 Tower Hamlets 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.

Wandsworth: Historical and Archaeological Interest

The London Borough of Wandsworth was created in 1965 having previously consisted of the Metropolitan Boroughs of Wandsworth and Battersea and was historically part of Surrey. It is located to the south-west of central London and is bordered by Lambeth to the east, Merton to the south, Kingston upon Thames to the south-west and Richmond upon Thames to the west while the River Thames forms its northern boundary. It lies within the Inner London National Character Area (112), an area defined by Natural England covering the urban core of London spread over the wide floodplain and valley sides of the Thames. Key characteristics of the Inner London Character Area include the Thames, its tributaries and man-made water features, urban parks, open spaces and trees, former industrial sites and a unique mix of modern and historic buildings, landscapes and features stretching back to Roman times.

While the land close to the Thames is low lying it rises quite steeply towards higher areas in the eastern and western parts of the borough. The high area in the east is where Wandsworth, Clapham and Tooting Commons are located while the plateau of the high area in the west is occupied by Putney Heath and Wimbledon Common. These two high areas are bisected by the River Wandle which flows through the borough in a south to north direction and enters the Thames north of Wandsworth Town. Like in other boroughs that the Wandle passes through a number of industries were established along it and took advantage of the power it could provide. The Falcon and Beverley Brook Rivers also pass through the borough. The Falcon River, also known as the Falconbrook, is now completely subterranean and runs through the eastern part of the borough in parts following the course of Northcote Road, St John's Road and Falcon Road before it enters the Thames to the west of York Road. Beverley Brook forms part of Wandsworth's western boundary with Richmond. Neither the Falcon nor Beverley Brook were industrialised to the same extent as the Wandle.

The Thames was displaced southwards to more-or-less its present course by the great 'Anglian' Ice Age of about four and a half million years ago. Its natural form was much wider than the modern managed river and comprised a network of meandering channels separated by low lying gravel islands (eyots). Once sea levels had risen to cut Britain off from the continent after the end of the last Ice Age the Lower Thames became tidal. However, over the intervening millennia the precise location of the tidal head has probably shifted between the City of London and its present location at Teddington Lock. We now know that the low lying area of Battersea Park was an island during the prehistoric period that was separated from the mainland to the south by a former channel known as the Battersea Channel. It gradually filled with silt and was little more than a large stream by the end of the prehistoric period but it remained a marshland area for many centuries and was not fully reclaimed until the post medieval period.

Wandsworth was a rural area until it was engulfed by the 19th and 20th century expansion of London. It has a few historic settlements which are either located on the riverside where there are local areas of high ground (Putney, Wandsworth Town, Battersea) or along the former course of the Roman road known as Stane Street (Balham, Tooting Bec, Tooting). The notable exception is Roehampton which was a rural hamlet until the post medieval period when a number of grand country houses were built there and it became an affluent and desirable place to live. The majority of Wandsworth's Thames riverside from the mouth of the Wandle to Nine Elms was industrialised from the 17th century onwards. This industry has closed and been replaced by luxury housing but the industrialisation of Wandsworth's riverside remains an important part of the borough's historic character.

Prehistoric (500,000 BC to 42 AD)

Finds dating from all prehistoric periods, including several Palaeolithic hand axes, have been recovered from Wandsworth's Thames foreshore area with particular concentrations in the Putney, Wandsworth Town and Battersea Park areas. These finds may be related to nearby settlements, they may have resulted from traffic passing across the river, when it was shallower and easier to ford or they may have been votive offerings deposited as part of religious ceremonies. The Battersea Shield, a decorated Iron Age shield thought to have been deposited in the river as a votive offering, was a particularly impressive artefact that was found during the construction of the original Chelsea Bridge in the 1850s. Regardless of how the finds were deposited they demonstrate that some form of activity was taking place in the Wandsworth area throughout the prehistoric period.

Prehistoric settlements would have favoured riverside locations due to the availability of water, the hunting and fishing opportunities and (after 4000 BC) the agricultural potential of the land. Such settlements may therefore have been located close to the Thames, Wandle, Beverley Brook and Falcon Rivers. Settlements may also have developed along the banks of the Battersea Channel.

Prehistoric communities may also have established settlements on hilltop areas such as Wimbledon Common or Wandsworth Common. These sites commanded excellent views over the surrounding area and were still relatively close to rivers. A Bronze Age barrow is situated on Wimbledon Common and other prehistoric cemeteries are thought to have been located on Wimbledon Common or Putney Heath.

Future discoveries of prehistoric material could help to determine precisely where settlements were located in different periods. The areas that were once covered by the Battersea Channel and similar riverside locations have the potential to contain remains that have been preserved in the former wetland environment. Remains such as timber trackways

and hunting platforms have been found in other riverside areas along the Thames and it is possible that similar remains, potentially of national importance, survive in Wandsworth.

Roman (43 AD to 409 AD)

Putney is known to have been a Roman settlement which may have been built on the site of an earlier prehistoric community. Putney has always been an important crossing point of the Thames either by ford, ferry or bridge and it has even been suggested that the Roman invasion army of 43 AD crossed the Thames there. The settlement's economy depended and thrived on the traffic that passed through it. It was probably located to the west of Putney High Street close to the river since that is where the majority of Roman finds and features have been discovered. A Roman settlement may also have been located in the Wandsworth Town area close to the mouth of the Wandle but while a small amount of Roman material has been found there, such a settlement has not been confirmed.

The Roman road known as Stane Street, which linked London with Chichester, passed through the south-east of the borough and parts of Tooting High Street, Upper Tooting Road and Balham High Road follow its course. Few traces of the Roman road have been found in Wandsworth but it is possible that small settlements developed along its roadside. Tooting, Tooting Bec and Balham all developed along its route in later centuries.

Wandsworth was located within the hinterland of Roman *Londinium* and future discoveries of Roman remains could determine the relationship between this area and the Roman city. It could also be clarified whether the local population was predominantly native or more diverse and how the area was influenced by traffic passing through it along Stane Street. The relationship between the riverside settlement at Putney and *Londinium* could also be further analysed and understood.

Anglo-Saxon (410 AD to 1065 AD) & Medieval (1066 AD to 1539 AD)

Relatively little Anglo-Saxon material has been found in Wandsworth. However, Balham, Battersea, Putney, Tooting and Wandsworth are all mentioned in the Domesday Book so it is probable that they all existed as settlements during the Anglo-Saxon period and continued to develop in the medieval. Water mills are known to have been operational along Wandsworth's stretch of the Wandle during the medieval period and seven, which are all thought to have been located along the Wandle, are mentioned in Domesday.

Few buildings from the medieval period survive in Wandsworth. Earlier churches that were built in Putney, Battersea, Tooting and Wandsworth were all replaced in the post medieval period. The medieval manor house at Battersea was replaced by another manor

house in the early post medieval period but all traces of this house had been demolished by the end of the 1920s. York House was another significant building that was constructed during the medieval period on the riverside to the south of Battersea. It was constructed in the 1470s and became a London residence for the Archbishops of York. In later centuries it was used for industrial purposes and was not demolished until the 19th century although remains of it were uncovered during an excavation in 2002. By the end of the medieval period, apart from a few settlements, the majority of Wandsworth remained open land.

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

While some industries had been operational during the medieval period it was in the post medieval period that Wandsworth acquired its industrial character and reputation. Water mills along the Wandle manufactured a diverse range of products such as gunpowder, snuff, dye, oil, flour and copper. The Wandle was manipulated and diverted in a number of areas so that these mills could be supplied with sufficient power.

The Thames riverside also became industrialised from the 17th century onwards and by the end of the 19th century the entire Thames riverside from Nine Elms to the mouth of the Wandle, with the exception of Battersea Park, was covered by different industrial units. Industries chose riverside locations because raw materials and manufactured products could be easily transported to and from factories by water. Industries along Wandsworth's riverside produced a wide range of products between the 17th and 20th centuries and notable factories included the Morgan Crucible Works in Battersea, Price's Candle Factory near York Road and the Watney's Distillery near Wandsworth Bridge.

Wandsworth Town became a focus for industrial activity due to its location on the Thames and at the mouth of the Wandle. During the 17th century Dutch and Huguenot immigrants settled in the Wandsworth Town area and the influx of these skilled workers enhanced local industries, particularly the hat and copper producing industries. Goods that had been produced in mills along the length of the Wandle were taken to Wandsworth so that they could be transported elsewhere via the Thames. This was made easier with the construction of the Surrey Iron Railway which ran between the Thames riverside at Wandsworth and Croydon during the first half of the 19th century. A brewery had been operational in Wandsworth Town from the 16th century and grew in subsequent centuries and became known as the Ram Brewery. Its presence near the centre of Wandsworth Town was a major element of the borough's industrial character.

It was during the second half of the 20th century that the number of industries in Wandsworth started to decrease. In many cases their facilities were moved elsewhere and the riverside factories were demolished and replaced, often with luxury housing. In some

cases, such as the Ram Brewery, these closures happened relatively recently but now there are no major industries operating on the Thames riverside or along the Wandle. However, the remains of many industrial buildings may survive and would provide a palpable link with Wandsworth's industrial past which is such a fundamental element of the borough's historic character.

Despite the industrialisation of the majority of its riverside the borough retained a predominantly rural character for most of the post medieval period. Roehampton was a settlement that became regarded as an attractive area to build a country mansion. In the medieval period it had been little more than a hamlet but after a number of mansions were built in the early 17th century it gained a reputation as an exclusive country retreat for rich city businessmen and further grand houses were constructed. The economy of the nearby village became dependent upon and was enhanced by the occupants of these houses and retains a semi-rural character. Putney was another settlement that did not become industrialised despite its riverside location. Putney Bridge was constructed in the 1720s and at the time was the only bridge across the Thames between London Bridge and Kingston Bridge. The traffic that continued to flow through the area maintained the local economy as it had during previous centuries.

Like many other boroughs in London the establishment of the railway network in the 19th century led to a rapid development of Wandsworth's urban areas and the amount of open land decreased as a consequence. However, a number of large open areas across the borough have been retained and help the area to retain a certain degree of its rural character. Battersea Park was opened in 1854 in an attempt to provide local people with an open area that could be used for recreation. Other large open areas such as Putney Heath and Wimbledon, Wandsworth, Tooting and Clapham Commons represent survivals of historic rural landscapes. In the 19th century a number of these commons were threatened by encroaching development and were saved by the efforts of local residents and several acts of Parliament. All these open areas have the potential to retain archaeological finds and features which could be found relatively close to the surface. While many visible traces of Wandsworth's industrial heritage have been lost, these commons and parks help the borough to retain a link to its past when it was a predominantly rural area.

Archaeological Priority Areas in Wandsworth

A total of 23 Archaeological Priority Areas are recommended for Wandsworth of which one is a Tier 1 APA, 18 are Tier 2 APAs and four are Tier 3 APAs. The APAs would cover approximately 46% of the borough, an increase from approximately 45% previously.

Tier 1 APAs Size (HA)

1.1 Wimbledon Common Barrow 0.08

Total = 0.08

Tier 2 APAs

2.1 Wandle Valley / Wandsworth 85.09

2.2 Balham 17.38

2.3 Battersea 80.52

2.4 Bridgecourt 26.61

2.5 Nine Elms 35.97

2.6 Putney 52.59

2.7 Roehampton 72.69

2.8 Tooting 31.45

2.9 Tooting Bec 15.75

2.10 Wandsworth Town 80.78

2.11 Battersea Park 96.64

2.12 Putney Riverside and Putney Lower Common 44.69

2.13 Putney Heath 79.83

2.14 Wandsworth Park 22.18

2.15 Wimbledon Park 12.94

2.16 Wimbledon Common 106.21

2.17 Stane Street 67.38

2.18 Wandsworth Cemeteries 42.88

Total = 971.58

Tier 3 APAs

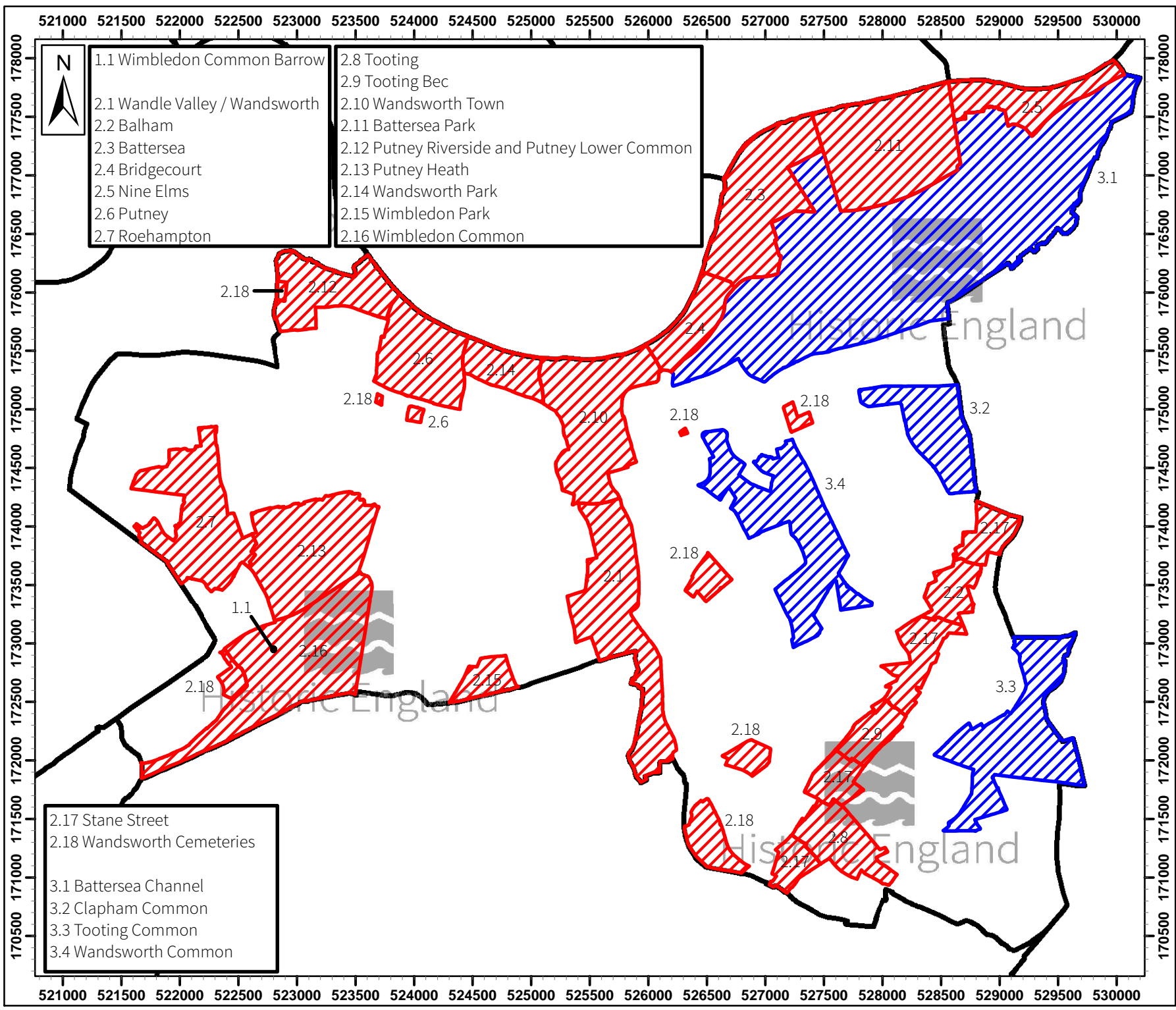
3.1 Battersea Channel 390.11

3.2 Clapham Common 44.49

3.3 Tooting Common	84.80
3.4 Wandsworth Common	88.85

Total = 608.25

Total area of all Archaeological Priority Areas in Wandsworth = 1579.91



Wandsworth
Archaeological Priority
Areas

- Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
- Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
- Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:42,500

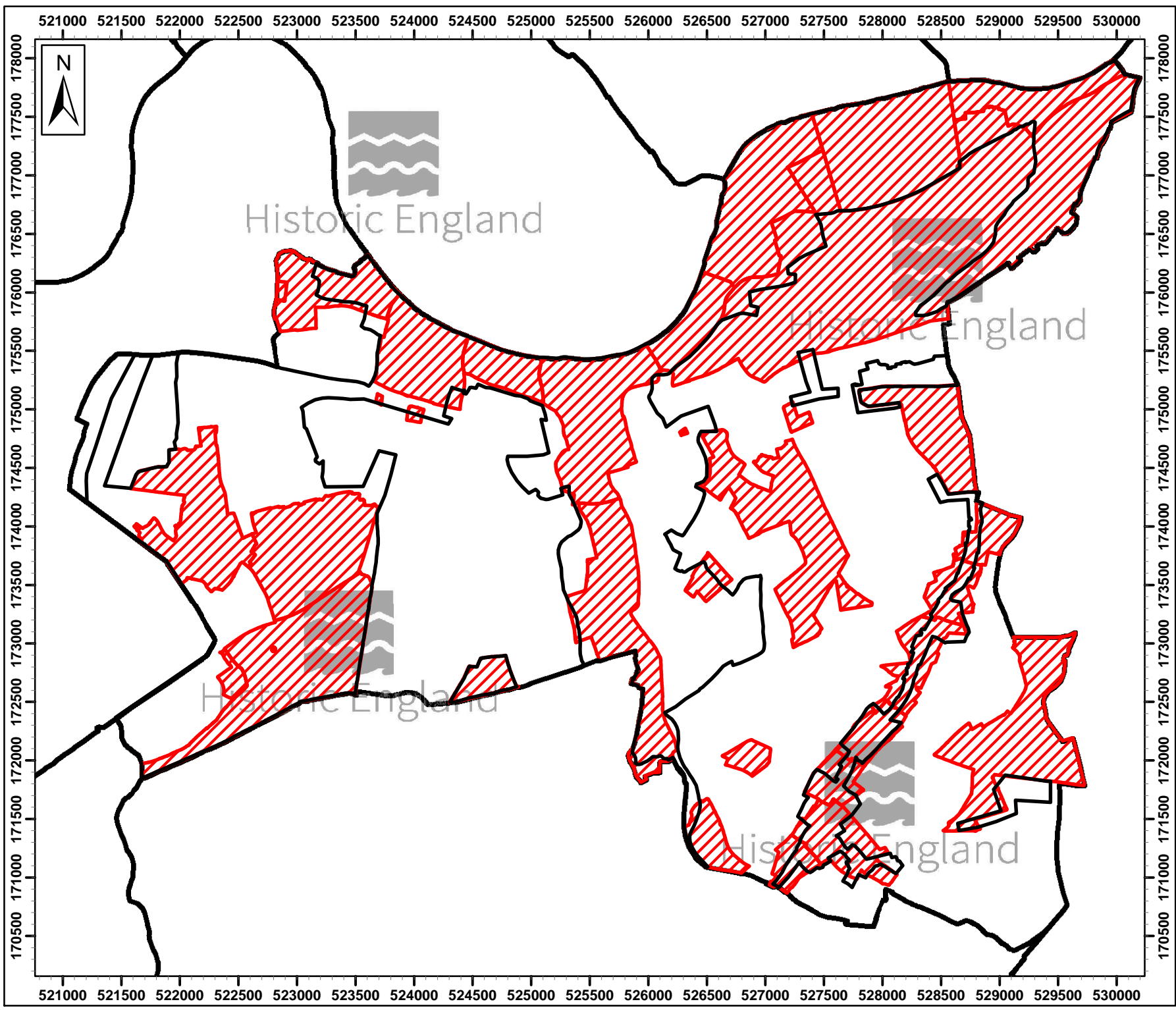
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Notes:
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Wandsworth Archaeological Priority Areas and former Archaeological Priority Areas

Wandsworth Archaeological Priority Area

Former Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:42,500

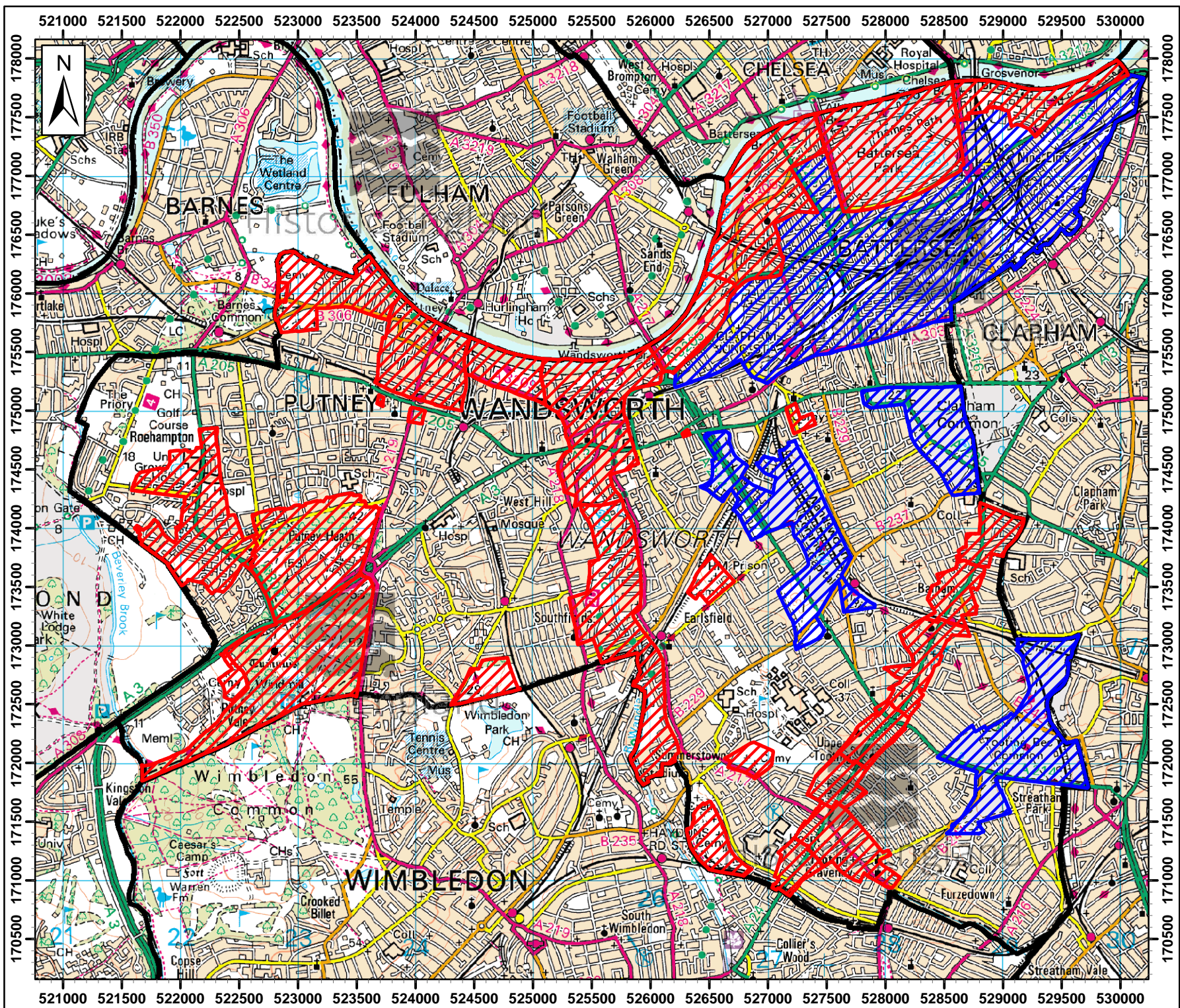
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Wandsworth Archaeological Priority Areas

- Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
- Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
- Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

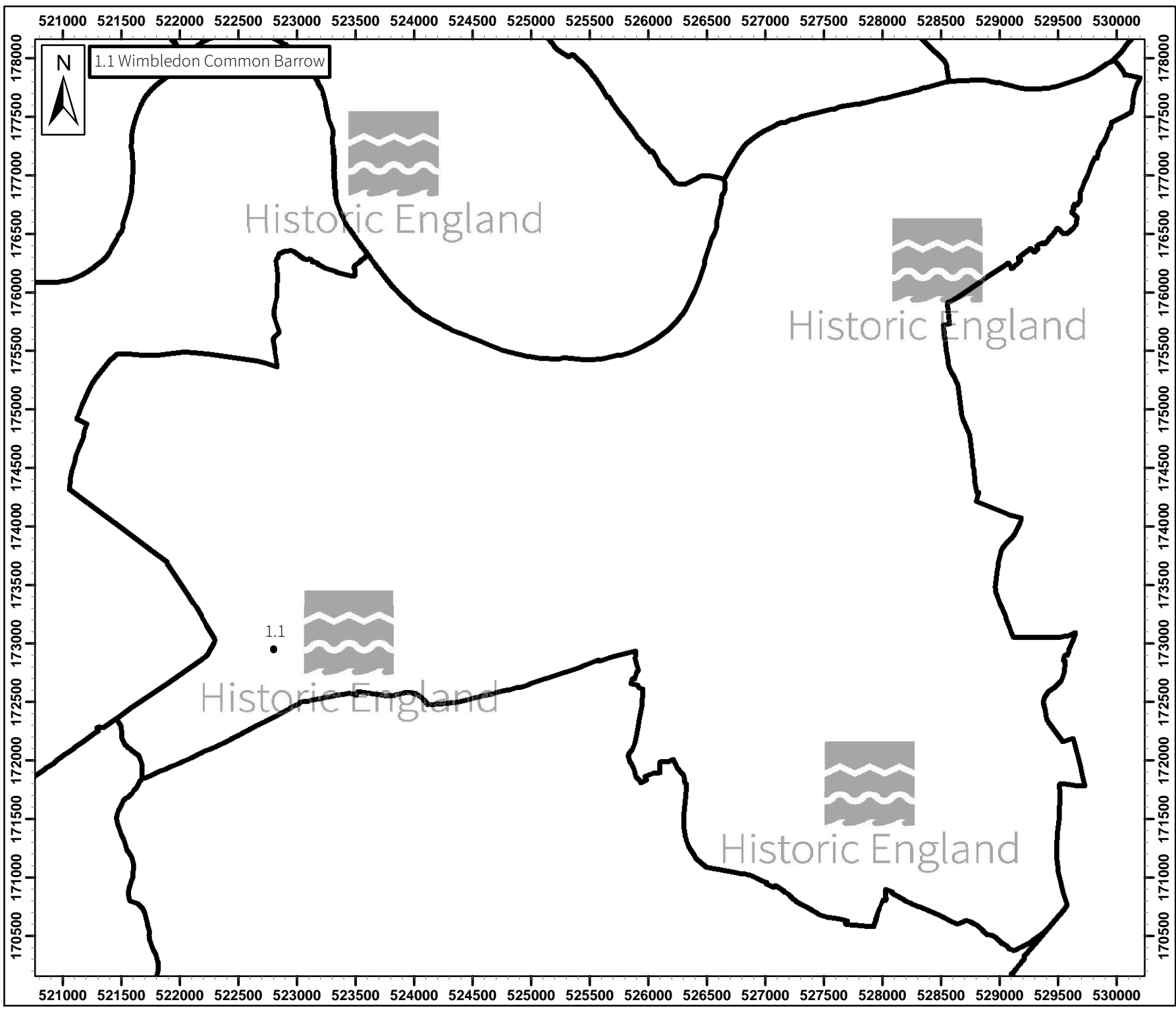
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Wandsworth
Tier 1
Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:42,500

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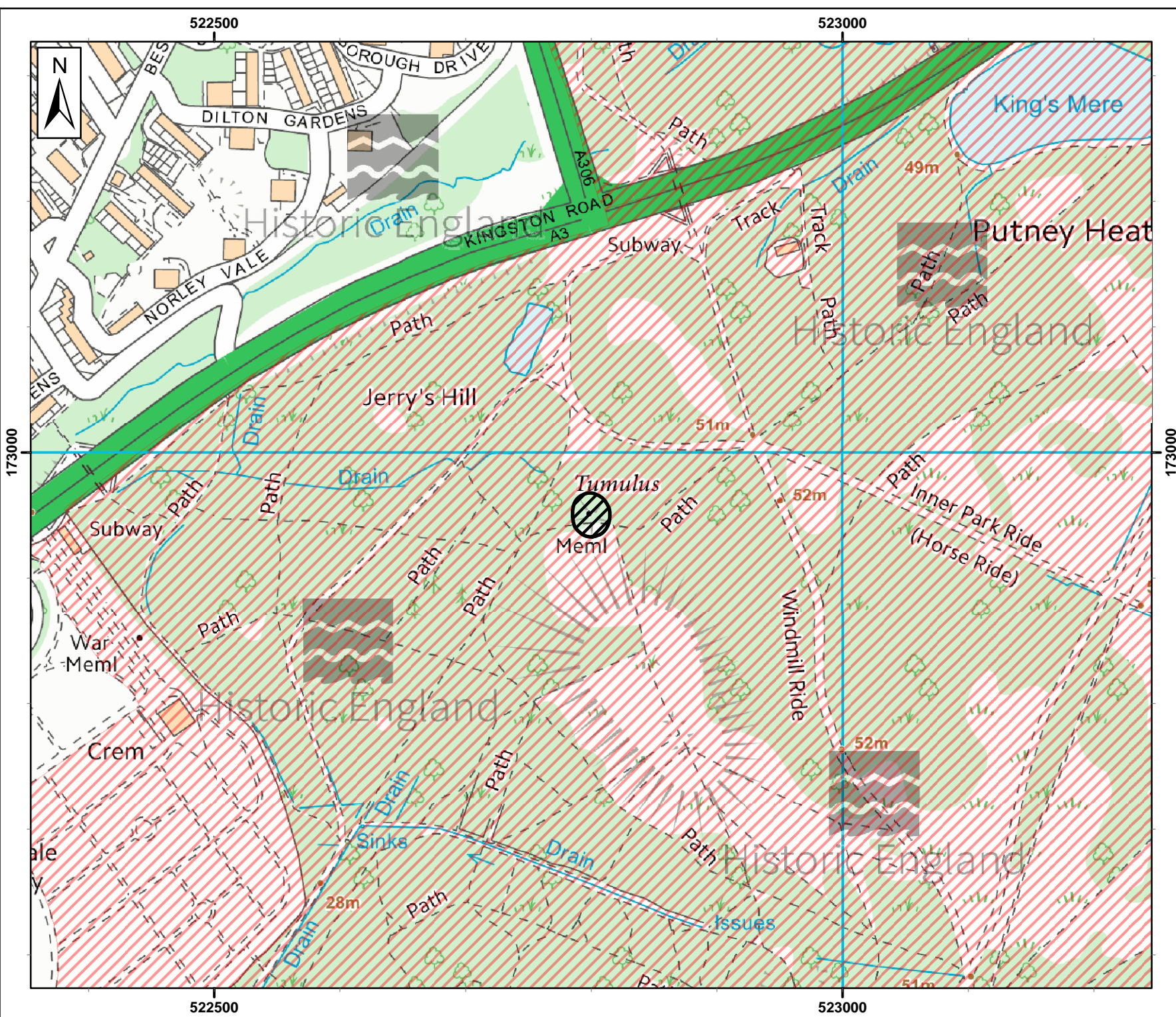
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Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Areas

Wandsworth APA 1.1: Wimbledon Common Barrow

page 23



Wandsworth APA 1.1
Wimbledon Common Barrow

-  Wimbledon Common Barrow 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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Wandsworth APA 1.1: Wimbledon Common Barrow

Summary and Definition

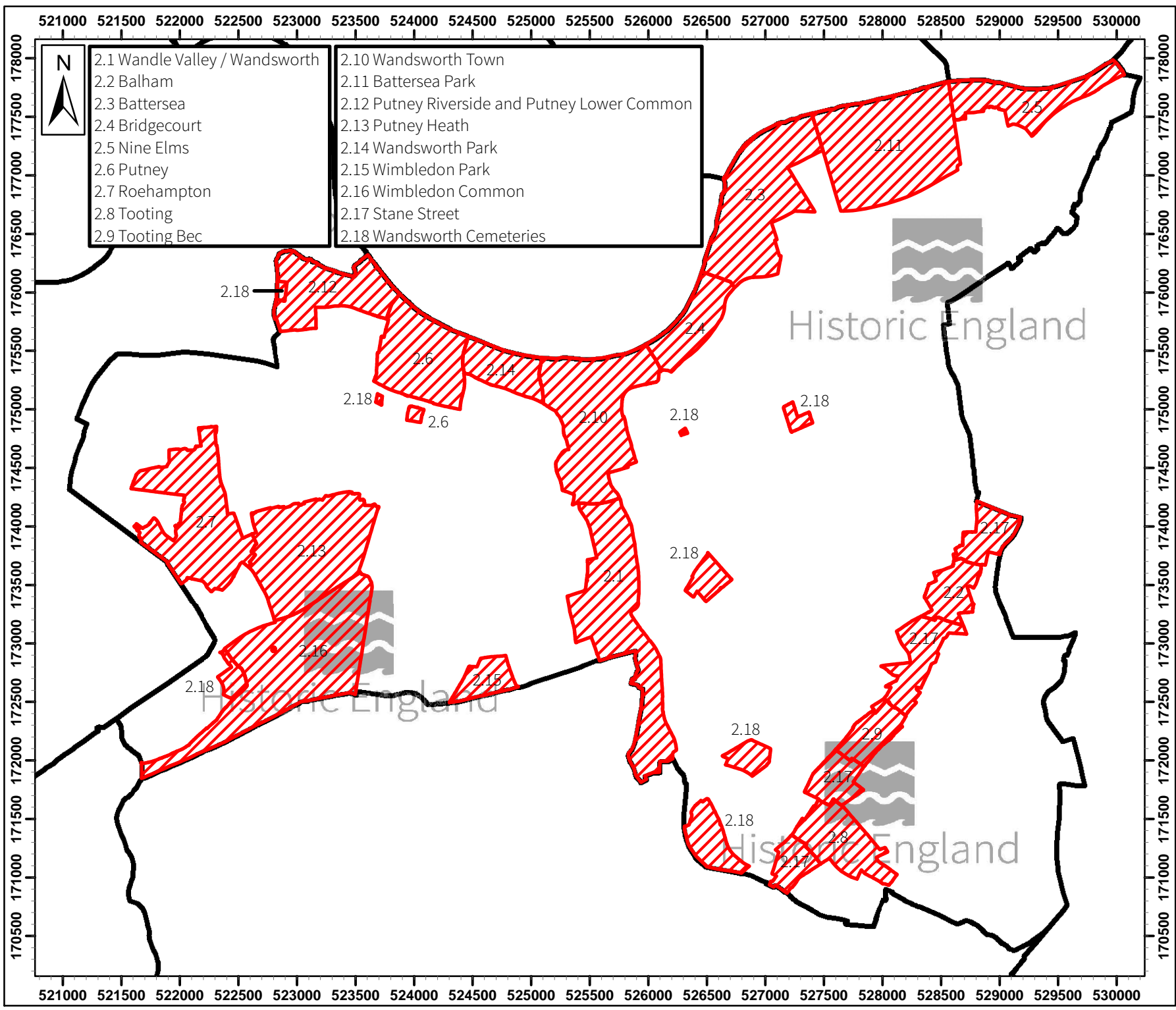
The APA covers the site of a barrow on Wimbledon Common which is thought to date from the Bronze Age. It is classified as Tier 1 because it is an undesignated asset judged equivalent to a scheduled monument.

Description

The Mound is located approximately 500 metres to the north of the Wimbledon Common windmill close to the Queens Royal Surrey Regiment memorial. It has a diameter of approximately 30 metres and is 0.6 metres high at its highest point. It is thought to date from the Bronze Age period and examples of similar barrows in Greater London are rare. A barrow cemetery is thought to have been located nearby on either Wimbledon Common or Putney Heath but its precise age and location have never been established. However, on the Rocque map of Surrey which dates from the 1740s a feature which is probably the barrow is depicted as a small raised area on the common to the south of Kingston Road. Four other larger raised areas are shown to the north-west on either side of Kingston Road which may be the different parts of the barrow cemetery which was later destroyed. It is therefore possible that the barrow was part of a funerary landscape that existed during the Bronze Age period and other as yet unidentified barrows may exist elsewhere on the common.

Significance

The Wimbledon Common barrow is a rare and important example of a Bronze Age barrow in Greater London which justifies its status as a Tier 1 APA. Such barrows can yield information on the funerary habits of the local population and possibly the social importance of its occupants. If similar barrows were identified elsewhere on the common it would help to establish whether the barrow was a single example or part of a wider landscape of barrows established during the Bronze Age period. However, any invasive excavation would irreversibly damage the barrow.



- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 2.1 Wandle Valley / Wandsworth | 2.10 Wandsworth Town |
| 2.2 Balham | 2.11 Battersea Park |
| 2.3 Battersea | 2.12 Putney Riverside and Putney Lower Common |
| 2.4 Bridgecourt | 2.13 Putney Heath |
| 2.5 Nine Elms | 2.14 Wandsworth Park |
| 2.6 Putney | 2.15 Wimbledon Park |
| 2.7 Roehampton | 2.16 Wimbledon Common |
| 2.8 Tooting | 2.17 Stane Street |
| 2.9 Tooting Bec | 2.18 Wandsworth Cemeteries |

Wandsworth
Tier 2
Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:42,500

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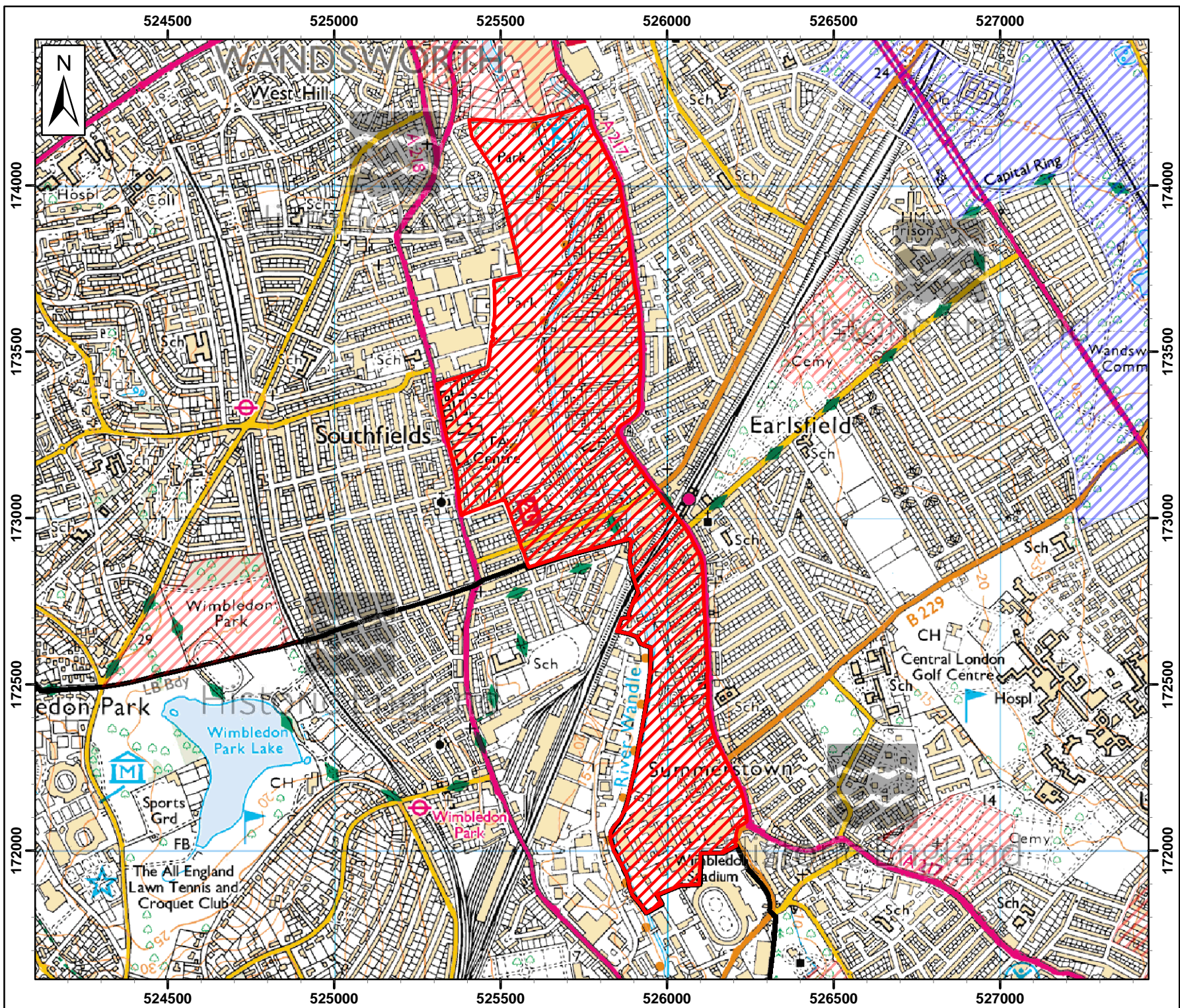
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Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Areas

Wandsworth APA 2.1: Wandle Valley / Wandsworth	page 27
Wandsworth APA 2.2: Balham	page 31
Wandsworth APA 2.3: Battersea	page 35
Wandsworth APA 2.4: Bridgecourt	page 41
Wandsworth APA 2.5: Nine Elms	page 47
Wandsworth APA 2.6: Putney	page 51
Wandsworth APA 2.7: Roehampton	page 57
Wandsworth APA 2.8: Tooting	page 63
Wandsworth APA 2.9: Tooting Bec	page 67
Wandsworth APA 2.10: Wandsworth Town	page 71
Wandsworth APA 2.11: Battersea Park	page 77
Wandsworth APA 2.12: Putney Riverside and Putney Lower Common	page 81
Wandsworth APA 2.13: Putney Heath	page 85
Wandsworth APA 2.14: Wandsworth Park	page 89
Wandsworth APA 2.15: Wimbledon Park	page 93
Wandsworth APA 2.16: Wimbledon Common	page 97
Wandsworth APA 2.17: Stane Street	page 101
Wandsworth APA 2.18: Wandsworth Cemeteries	page 109



Wandsworth APA 2.1
Wandle Valley / Wandsworth

-  Wandle Valley / Wandsworth APA
-  Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area
-  Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area
-  Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:15,000

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Wandsworth APA 2.1: Wandle Valley/ Wandsworth

Summary and Definition

The APA follows the course of the River Wandle from the borough boundary at Summerstown in the south to King George's Park in the north. Archaeological finds and features have been found along other stretches of the Wandle and similar finds should be anticipated here. A number of mills were also built along this section of the river in previous centuries and remains of these industries may survive. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it covers an area of historic industry.

Description

For most of its history the area within the APA has been uninhabited and large open areas which have never been developed still survive such as King George's Park and Garratt Park. The river would have provided prehistoric communities with fresh water and fishing potential and a number of prehistoric finds have been recovered from the APA and the wider Earlsfield area. These have included Palaeolithic tools and handaxes, a Mesolithic scraper, a Neolithic axe and a leaf shaped spearhead dating from either the Neolithic period or Bronze Age. Further evidence of prehistoric activity may have been preserved within deposits close to the river.

In the medieval period part of the manor of Dunsford covered part of this area of Wandsworth and Dunsford manor house was situated on Merton Road where the Territorial Army centre now stands. The manor was owned by Merton Priory and would have been used to host manorial courts or by a bailiff when inspecting the estate on behalf of the Priory. After the Dissolution the house was owned by a number of different families and in the 17th century the medieval building was demolished and replaced with a farm. The site is still marked as Dunsford House on the Rocque map of the 1740s but is marked as Dunsford Farm on the first few editions of the Ordnance Survey map before it was demolished at some point in the first half of the 20th century. Since some of the area to the rear of the TA Centre has not been developed it is possible that remains of the medieval house or post medieval farm may survive.

The Wandle was noted for its strong flow and in previous centuries a number of mills and factories were built along it so that they could use its power. The Domesday Book's entry for Battersea mentions seven mills which are all thought to have been located along the Wandle since the flow of the Falcon River, further to the east, was considered not strong enough to power mills. One of these water mills is thought to have been Adkins Mill which was located in the north of the APA close to where the Old Sergeant public house is now

located on Garratt Lane. It is first mentioned in the 1360s and during the 17th century it was used for corn and copper milling. In the 1770s it was pulled down and replaced with an iron works and in the 1830s it was converted into a paper mill. It was known as Royal Paper Mills from the 1850s before it was closed and demolished in the early 20th century.

Garratt Mill was another mill located at the western end of what is now Trewint Street. It was originally a gunpowder mill when it was built in 1656 which closed in 1713 and in 1727 the site was acquired by Melancton Strong who built new mills which were used for snuff and oil production. It is marked as Strong Mill on the Rocque map of the 1740s and as Mr Strong's Oil Mill on John Corris's map of 1787. It became a paper mill in the early 1860s and is marked as Garratt Paper Mills on the first Ordnance Survey map of 1868. Soon after it became a bone mill, where animal bone was crushed to create grease and fertiliser, but the main building burnt down in 1890 and all other buildings on the site were demolished in 1899. The site is now occupied by an auction house.

Garratt Print Works was another factory situated on the Wandle in the south of the APA. It had been founded by 1776 and a nearby area was used as bleaching grounds for the works. These bleaching grounds were later converted to watercress beds which can be seen on the Ordnance Survey map of 1868. The Garratt Print Works appears on later Ordnance Survey editions as both the Garratt Print Works and the Garratt Works and the site is still an industrial area.

Adkins Mill/Royal Paper Mills, Garratt Mill and Garratt Print Works were not the only industries present along this stretch of the Wandle. In addition to these factories on the Ordnance Survey map of 1868 there is a Calico Print & Dye Works and Flock Mill located on either side of the river to the west of where Duntshill Road is now situated. To the north was a Manure Factory close to where the Riverside Business Centre is now situated. On the same map a Mill Pond is marked in isolation in the western part of Garratt Park and suggests that a former mill was once located there. The presence of the Mill Pond demonstrates how the river was manipulated and diverted at numerous points so that various mills and factories could be supplied with the optimum level of water power. The traces of former courses of the Wandle may therefore be present throughout the APA. The Surrey Iron railway, which opened in 1803 and ran between Croydon and the Thames at Wandsworth, followed the route of Garratt Lane and the riverside industries would have used it to transport goods to the Thames. A branch of the railway ran to Garratt Mill and traces of it may survive along with other sections of the railway which may exist along the eastern edge of the APA.

A number of large houses were built within the APA and were sometimes occupied by the owners of nearby mills. Wandle House and Upper Wandle House were built on the western side of Garratt Lane to the south of the Royal Paper Works. Duntshill Villa was built

close to the site of the Calico Print & Dye Works and Flock Mill, Garratt House was built at the Garratt Mill site and a house called The Willows was located on the riverside to the south of Garratt Print Works. These houses slowly disappeared as the area developed and streets were laid out in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The only house which survived beyond the Second World War was Upper Wandle House which still survives although it has been greatly altered.

Significance

Like other stretches of the Wandle in Croydon, Sutton and Merton the APA has potential for prehistoric finds preserved in layers close to the river. Future significant prehistoric finds would help to clarify if, how and when the riverside area and its vicinity was settled during this period.

The utilisation of the Wandle for industrial purposes and the erection of nearby country houses by the owners is another characteristic that occurred along other stretches of the river. This area can therefore be compared and contrasted with other sections of the Wandle in terms of how it was manipulated by riverside mills, the type of industries that developed and the impact they had on the local area and population.

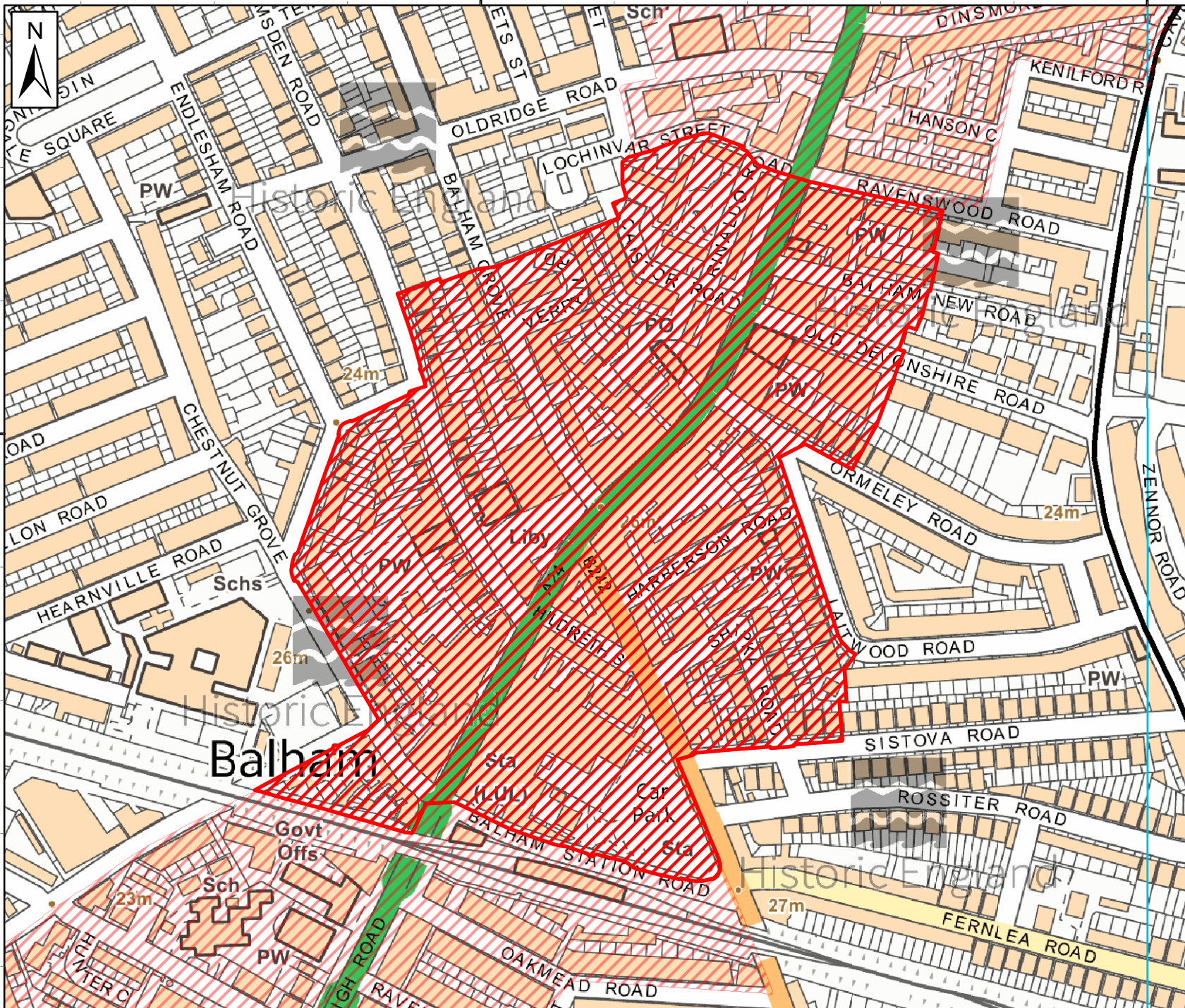
The industrial heritage of the Wandle is an important element of Wandsworth's overall historic character. The presence of Sergeant Industrial Estate in the north-east of the APA, the Merton Road Industrial Estate, the Riverside Business Centre and the Garratt Business Park within the APA demonstrates how certain areas have retained an industrial character. However, none of these modern areas utilise the Wandle in the same way that factories had in previous centuries. While little trace of these former mills survive above ground they may have left archaeological remains which could be revealed, studied and used to analyse the development of individual factories and the area as a whole.

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Wandsworth APA 2.2
Balham



 Balham 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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Wandsworth APA 2.2: Balham

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the area where the historic roadside settlement of Balham was located to the north of the railway lines on either side of Balham High Road. Some form of settlement is thought to have existed in this area since the Anglo-Saxon period. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement.

Description

Balham High Road follows the route of the Roman road known as Stane Street which connected London and Chichester. A disturbed layer of large flints with mortared gravel was observed in 1968 at a site in Balham High Road which was thought to be remains of Stane Street. However, no other Roman material has been found within the APA which suggests that no form of roadside settlement was established here during the Roman period.

Balham is mentioned in a land charter from 957 AD where it is referred to as *Baelgenham*. It is unknown precisely where the Anglo-Saxon settlement was located and it may have consisted of little more than a single farm but it has been hypothesised that it was situated on the gentle slopes to the south of the Falcon River and traces of it could be within the APA. *Belgeham* is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 at which point the estate is owned by Geoffrey Orletaile although soon after it was owned by Geoffrey of Mandeville who gave it to Bermondsey Abbey in the early 12th century. At the time of the Domesday survey, Balham had a recorded population of two peasant households and a slave which is small compared to other villages in the area at the time. It had lost most of its value at the Conquest and only just begun to recover twenty years later suggesting that a once larger settlement had been devastated during the Norman advance on London after the Battle of Hastings. By the time of the Reformation a farm known as Balaams Farm, which consisted of 200 acres, was acquired by the crown. The farm along with a few other small buildings may have been the only buildings that represented the Balham settlement at this time.

Balham House and Russell House were two country houses that were formerly located within the APA. Balham House is thought to have been built on the site of the medieval farm and is first mentioned in a manorial document of 1638. It was located on Balham High Road between Ramsden Road and Balham Grove close to where Balham Library now stands. Russell House stood slightly to the east of Balham House and is first mentioned in 1547. Both houses were demolished in the late 19th century.

The Rocque map from the 1740s marks Balham as *Ballam* which by that time consisted of a small number of buildings on either side of Balham High Road. Balham House and Russell House would have been two of the properties that can be seen on the eastern side of the road while there is also a smattering of buildings on the opposite side of the road. The small settlement is surrounded by fields which suggests that some, if not all, of the buildings were farms or related to farms.

Balham Hill started to be developed in the 1770s and the area became a desirable area in which to build country houses. The opening of a railway line through Balham in 1856 further stimulated the development of the area.

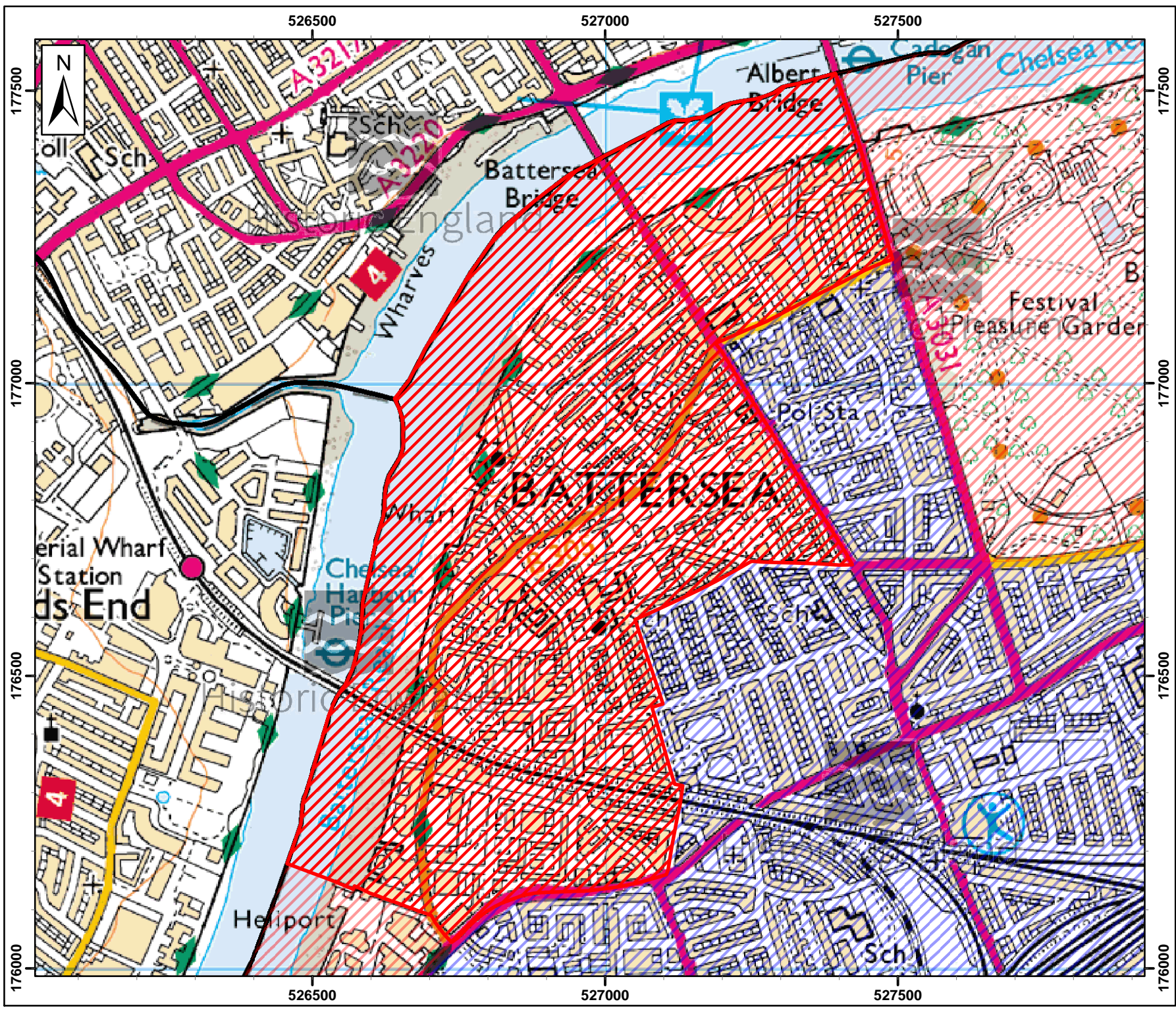
Significance

Balham is one of a number of places in Wandsworth to be named in the Domesday Book suggesting that some sort of settlement, albeit a small one, existed here since the Anglo-Saxon period. While the settlement may have consisted of little more than a farm or collection of farms it is still an example of a hamlet which has existed for potentially more than 1000 years. Any remains relating to this settlement could help to create an understanding of how it developed and its development could be compared and contrasted with other small settlements located along the former route of Stane Street. Evidence of 11th century devastation or decline might be directly linked to the events of 1066.

Key References

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Wandsworth APA 2.3
Battersea

-  Battersea APA
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

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Wandsworth APA 2.3: Battersea

Summary and Definition

The APA covers the core of the historic settlement of Battersea which was centred on Battersea Square. It also covers an area of riverside between the southern end of Lombard Road and Albert Bridge Road. A settlement is thought to have existed at Battersea since the Anglo-Saxon period and in the post medieval period numerous industries were established along the riverside within the APA. The tier is classified as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement and a location of historic industry with significant archaeological interest.

Description

Like other areas in Wandsworth that are close to the river a number of prehistoric finds have been discovered within the APA. These have included struck flints and flint blades, a Mesolithic axe, a Bronze Age sword and an Iron Age copper alloy pin. The area would have been marshland during the prehistoric period although the area within the APA may have been situated on an island of higher ground between the Thames to the north and the Battersea Channel to the south. A settlement may have existed in this area during the prehistoric period but the artefacts found may also be votive offerings that were deposited into the river.

It is thought that a settlement was established at Battersea during the Anglo-Saxon period and it is first mentioned in a charter of 693 AD where it is referred to as *Batrices ege*. An excavation that took place in Althorpe Grove in 1975 found Saxon pottery fragments and the remains of a timber building foundation which is also thought to date to the Anglo-Saxon period. Another excavation two years later, slightly to the north, found pits and pottery that also dated to the Saxon period.

The core of the settlement has always been situated in the area around Battersea Square and would have been somewhat isolated in the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods due to it being surrounded by river and marshland. A road running southwards across the marshes along the route now followed by Battersea High Street would have connected it to dryer areas to the south. The creation of flood defences in the 16th century led to the gradual reclamation of the land surrounding the settlement but it remained relatively isolated until the late 18th century when Battersea Bridge was built and created a link to Chelsea on the opposite side of the river.

It is unclear when the church at Battersea was established and it may have been during the Saxon period but it is known to have existed by 1157. This medieval church was

located on the same riverside site as the current church of St Mary's which replaced the earlier church in the 1770s. A window and several monuments from the earlier church survive in the current building. A manor house and a surrounding complex of farm buildings is known to have been located to the north-east of the church in the medieval period and was owned by Westminster Abbey who had been given the manor by William the Conqueror in 1067. A later manor house was built on roughly the same site as the original in the late 16th or early 17th century.

This manor house was a brick built, three storey building which had an H-shaped ground plan consisting of two wings linked by a cross range. It also had gardens that extended to its north and east and a driveway that extended to Westbridge Road. The house was later known as Bolingbroke House, after Viscount Bolingbroke who owned the house between 1742 and 1751, but most of it was demolished in the 1770s apart from the northern wing which survived until the 1920s. A malt house was built over the southern part of the site while flour mills were built to the north of the manor on the site of its gardens. Remains of the post medieval manor house were found during an excavation at the site of the former flourmills after they were demolished in the 1990s.

Battersea became an attractive area for wealthy city businessmen to settle in the post medieval period and a number of large houses were built within the APA in the 17th and 18th centuries. Devonshire House, St Mary's House and Old Battersea House on Vicarage Crescent along with 108 Battersea High Street are examples of large country houses built during that period. The former Raven public house at the corner of Battersea Church Road and Westbridge Road is another building that survives from the late 17th century.

However, many other houses built in the 18th and 19th centuries have since been demolished, sometimes to make way for the industries which developed in the area. Former houses built and subsequently demolished within the APA include: Althorpe House in Battersea Church Road which was later part of a Dye Works and demolished in 1965; Albion House and Oxford House, which were both in Battersea Square, were demolished by the mid-19th century; Surrey House in the High Street was demolished when Sir Walter St John's School was rebuilt in the 1850s and Lombard House, Battersea House, Grove House and Cave House which all stood on the riverside between the centre of the village and the southern end of Lombard Road. Another significant building that previously stood in the area was the house known as Southlands which was built in 1837 on a site to the north of the railway tracks on the eastern side of Battersea High Street. St John's College, one of the first teacher training colleges in the country, occupied the area now covered by the St John's estate between 1840 and 1923. While many of these former buildings have been covered by at least one development since they were demolished it is possible that remains might survive as exemplified by the remains found at the site of Battersea Manor.

Until the 19th century the area surrounding the village was predominantly used for market gardening but from the 17th century onwards industrial facilities started to be established in the area particularly along the riverside. A sugar refinery was one of the first industrial sites to appear in the area near Lombard Road which operated between the 17th and 18th centuries. By the 1830s industrial units occupied most of the riverside between St Mary's Church and Albert Bridge Road and further factories continued to develop further south along the riverside in the later part of the 19th century. The Morgan Crucible Works, which eventually occupied most of the riverside between St Mary's Church and Battersea Bridge, was a particularly large factory which operated between the mid-19th century and the 1970s.

Other industries located along the riverside included oil and grease works, chemical works, timber yards, saw mills, boat builders, white lead works, saltpetre works, an iron foundry and engineering works. Many of these factories expanded or were taken over by other types of industry but their number declined in the second half of the 20th century and have now all closed. The sites of many of these factories have been covered by luxury riverside housing developments although remains associated with the former industrial use of the riverside may survive.

Significance

Battersea is one of a handful of historic settlements in Wandsworth that are known to have existed since at least the Anglo-Saxon period. Future archaeological finds from the Anglo-Saxon period, or earlier, would further enhance our knowledge of how the settlement developed which could be compared and contrasted with the development of other similar settlements in the borough.

Like Putney and Wandsworth Town, further to the west, Battersea was a riverside community which depended on the river for trade and communication. Battersea was also relatively isolated due to the surrounding marshlands and it was this isolation which contributed to wealthy families wanting to build country houses within commuting distance of the city. However, the reclamation of the surrounding marshland coupled with improved transport links was one of the contributing factors that led to industry developing within the area. As the character of the area became predominantly industrial many of the former large houses were demolished and replaced with working class housing. Since the industry declined and moved away from the area it has been replaced by residential units which are often luxurious. Battersea therefore presents an example of a settlement that over the course of a number of centuries has had its character change from a desirable rural residential area to an industrial working class area and is now a desirable inner city residential area.

Archaeological remains associated with buildings pre dating the mid-19th century or the industries that were prevalent between the 19th and 20th centuries could contribute to our understanding of how the change in the area's character took place.

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Wandsworth APA 2.4
Bridgecourt

 Bridgecourt APA

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:5,000

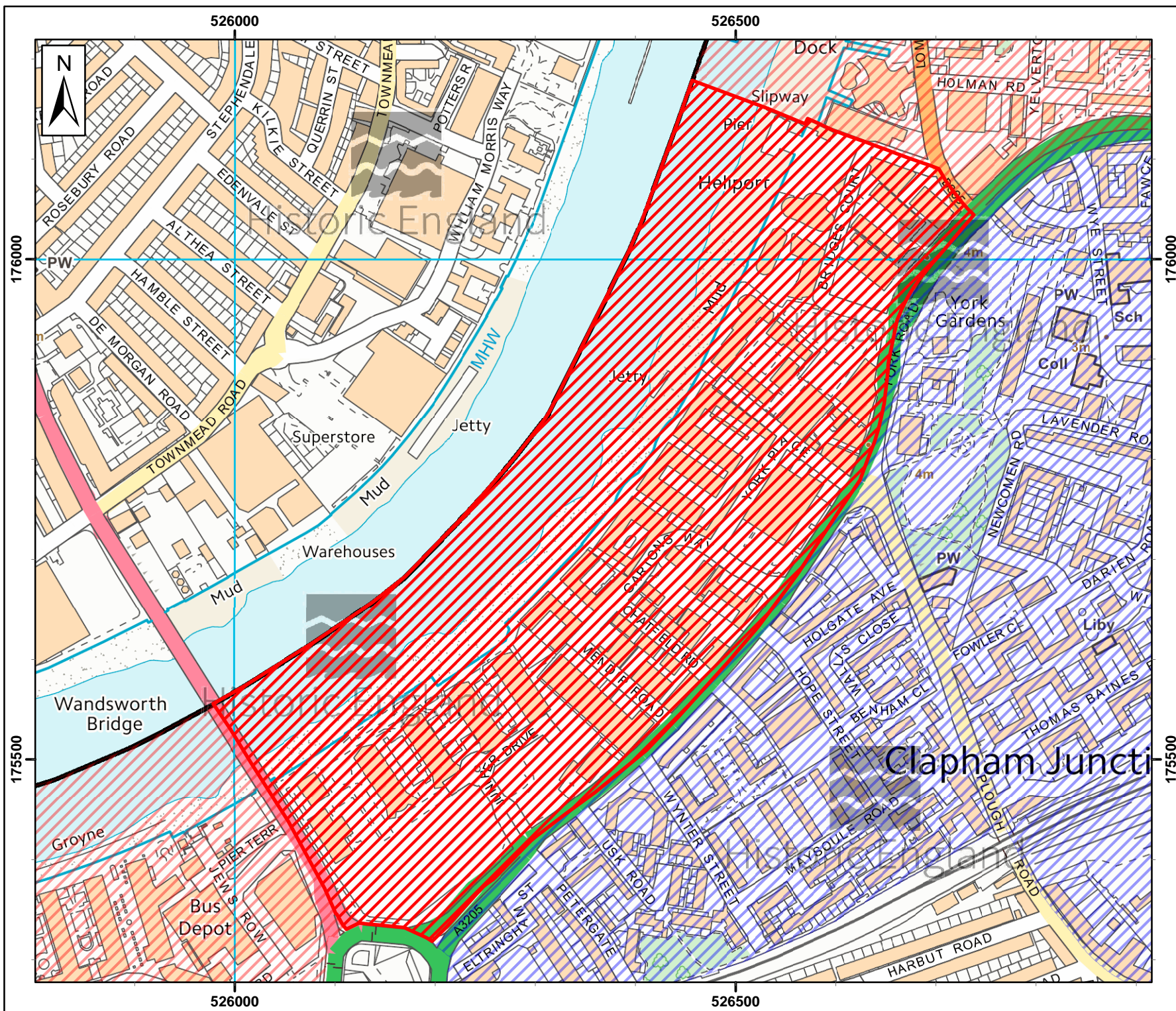
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Wandsworth APA 2.4: Bridgecourt

Summary and Definition

The Bridgecourt APA covers a riverside area between Wandsworth Bridge and Bridges Court and extends inland as far as York Road. The area was known as Bridges or Bruges in the medieval period and by the 15th century it had become a sub manor of Battersea known as Bridgecourt. A medieval mansion known as York House previously stood within the APA and from the mid-18th century onwards a number of industries were established along the riverside. One of these industries was Price's Candle Factory which at one point was the largest candle manufacturer in the world. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it covers an area of historic settlement and industry.

Description

Like other parts of the Thames riverside in Wandsworth a number of prehistoric finds have been recovered within the APA from the river's foreshore. These finds have included tools and weapons from the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. When a site at the former Watney's distillery was excavated in 1991 a number of worked and burnt flints dating from the Mesolithic period were found although a few appeared to be late Neolithic or Bronze Age. Residual Roman and possibly Bronze Age pottery was also found.

It has been speculated that the site where Wandsworth Bridge crosses the Thames was previously a ford which may explain why so many items have been found in this area. Some of the finds may have been deposited as votive offerings or they may indicate the presence of a nearby settlement. A Bronze Age ditch was identified during an excavation at the site of Price's Candle Factory in 2002 which may also be indicative of a settlement in the area during that period.

The name Bridges or Bruges was applied to the riverside area south of Battersea between the mouths of the Falcon and Wandle rivers and is thought to refer to the bridge that crossed Battersea Creek. It is unknown whether the name referred to an actual settlement or an uninhabited area during the medieval period and if any form of hamlet was established here its size and nature is currently unknown. In the early 13th century a wharf was established at Bridgecourt where Reigate stone and other building materials from Surrey were stockpiled before being transported by river to be used in high profile building projects such as Windsor Castle. The stone wharf at Bridgecourt is an early example of the Thames riverside in Wandsworth being utilised for industrial purposes.

Lawrence Booth, the Bishop of Durham, acquired the manor in 1460 and in the 1470s started building a house that would become known as York House on a site to the south of Battersea Creek. Booth became Archbishop of York in 1476 and when he died four years later the manor was given to the Archbishopric of York and the house became a London residence for the archbishops although it was not as well used as other residences closer to the city centre. Remains of the medieval house were found during an excavation in 2002 and consisted of the moat, the cellar, a number of open courtyards and a tower at the south-west corner of the building.

The building underwent a number of changes over the subsequent centuries and in the early 18th century a couple of houses were built between York House and the river while a mill known as Creek Mill was located to the east of the house next to Battersea Creek. The York House site started to be used for industrial purposes from the mid-18th century onwards and in the 1850s it was acquired by Price's Patent Candle Company. They gradually built a large factory known as the Belmont Works which led to the eventual demolition of all earlier buildings. They also acquired land on the northern side of Battersea Creek where an 18th century riverside villa known as Sherwood Lodge was located before its demolition in the 1850s. By the end of the 19th century the candle factory was the largest candle manufacturer in the UK and by the 1920s it was the largest candle manufacturer in the world. The Belmont Works diminished in size after the Second World War and candle manufacturing finally moved from the site in 1998 before the final office and factory buildings were sold in 2001. Remains of former buildings at the Belmont Works site were observed during an excavation in 2002 and consisted of walls, culverts and brick bases where steam engines were formerly located.

A malt distillery had been established on a site to the south of York House by the 1740s but by the 1820s it had been replaced by a three storey mill which was used for silk production, ribbon making and glove making until the 1880s. The site was subsequently occupied by a sugar factory until it was demolished for housing in the 1980s. A starch factory had been established to the south-west of the silk mill in 1848 and was replaced by engineering works in the early 20th century. It too was demolished in the 1980s. Wandsworth Distillery had been built on a site further to the west in the late 18th century and by the mid-19th century it was owned by John Watney & Co. It closed in 1989 and the site is now occupied by luxury housing. Despite the developments that have taken place since the closure and demolition of these factories it is possible that some remains of the buildings may survive.

Workers cottages along York Road were built as part of the silk factory development and other workers cottages, sometimes along new streets, were also built by the starch factory and distillery. While many of these cottages and streets have since been demolished,

those between 220 and 242 York Road, which were built by the Watney distillery in the 1860s, survive. The erection of these cottages demonstrates how the owners of the industries wanted their workforce to be based close to their premises and were prepared to erect housing nearby so that this would be possible.

Significance

The Bronze Age ditch found at the York Housesite and the flints found at the Watney's distillery site along with other prehistoric finds that have been made in the area could indicate that a prehistoric settlement was located in the vicinity. Future finds may clarify what sort of activity was taking place in the area during the prehistoric period and whether some form of river crossing was once located nearby.

If evidence of medieval buildings could be found in the area it would help to establish whether the area known as Bridges or Bruges was an actual settlement located between Battersea and Wandsworth. Further study of such a settlement would develop our understanding of how the population was distributed in the area during the medieval period and how settlements interacted with each other. York House was clearly a significant medieval building within the area and if there were further opportunities to excavate and study its remains it could help to establish how the building evolved and changed during the post medieval period.

Price's Candle Factory was one of the largest riverside factories in Wandsworth and an excavation of its remains could help develop an understanding of how it expanded but the remains of earlier buildings that previously stood on the site would also be of significance. Remains of the other industries that previously stood in the APA would also be of interest as individual examples of 18th-20th century factories but they could also be compared and contrasted with other industries located along Wandsworth's riverside. Remains of workers housing that was built alongside the factory developments of the 19th century would show the level of residential accommodation factory owners were prepared to provide for their workforce.

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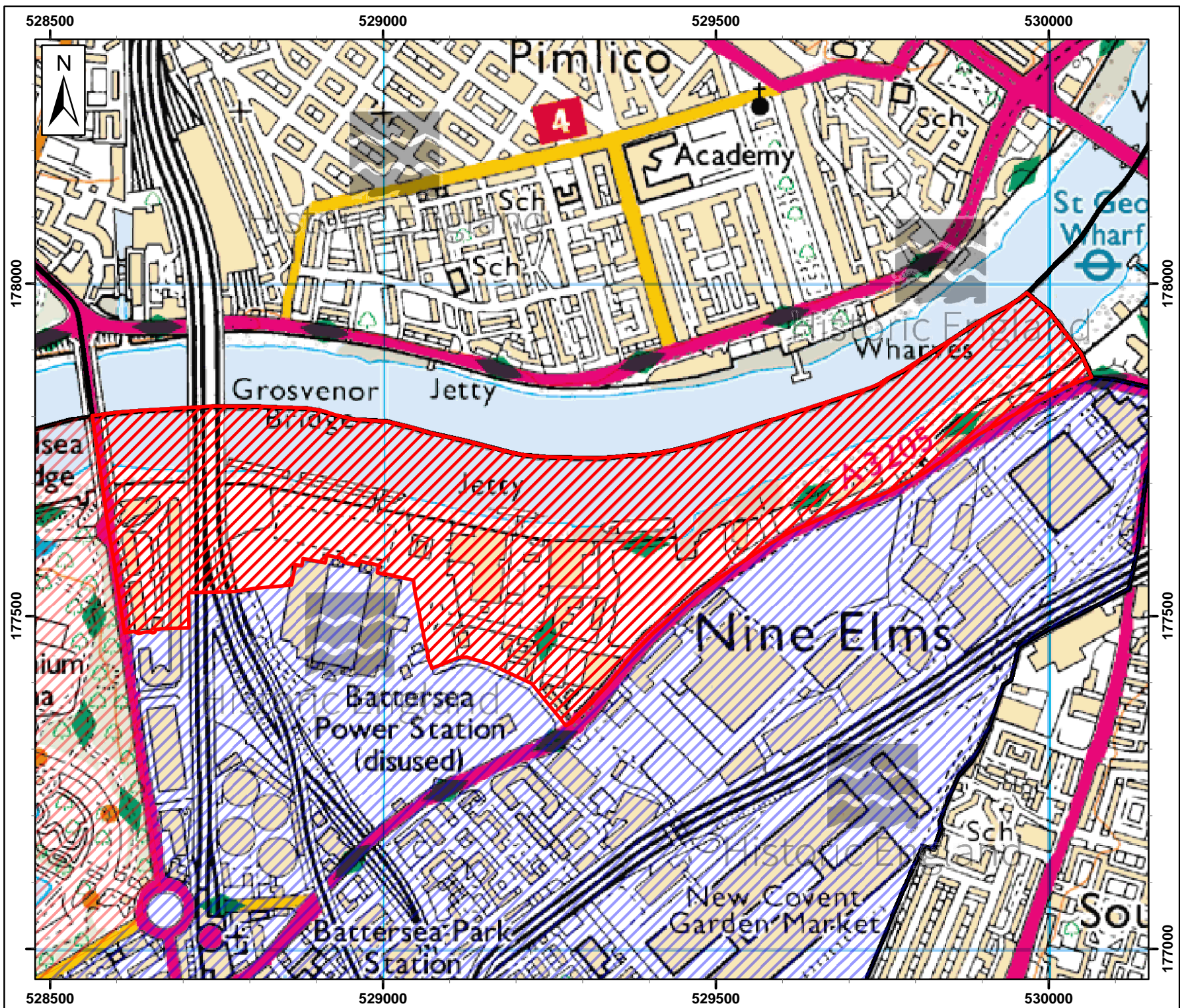
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Wandsworth APA 2.5
Nine Elms

-  Nine Elms APA
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:7,500

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Wandsworth APA 2.5: Nine Elms

Summary and Definition

The APA covers the Nine Elms riverside area between Chelsea Bridge and the borough boundary with Lambeth and goes inland as far as Nine Elms Lane and Cringle Street. From the 17th century until the 20th century this stretch of the Thames riverside was covered by a variety of different industries. The APA is classified as Tier 2 APA because it covers an area of historic industry with significant archaeological interest.

Description

Like other parts of the Thames foreshore in Wandsworth this area has potential for archaeological finds dating from all periods. The Battersea Shield, an Iron Age bronze shield, was found in this part of the Thames during the construction of the original Chelsea Bridge in the 1850s. It is thought that the shield was deposited in the river as a religious offering and similar deposits may still be present. Items that have been recovered from within the APA include axes dating from the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods, a Bronze Age spearhead, a melted collection of silver coins dating from the Iron Age or Roman periods and a silver brooch dating from either the 13th or 14th centuries. Peat dating from the Bronze Age has also been identified within the APA which has the potential to contain and preserve organic remains. The prehistoric finds may help to indicate what form of activity was taking place in the vicinity during that period and future finds may help to clarify whether any form of settlement was located nearby.

It appears that small scale industry started to develop along the riverside of the APA in the 17th century. Three riverside windmills are mentioned in 1649 and all three appear on the Rocque map of 1760 and the Crutchley map of 1829. The westernmost of the windmills was located close to a building known as the Red House which also appears on several historic maps and would have stood in the area between Chelsea Bridge and Grosvenor Bridge. Numerous sporting events, both on land and water, took place near the Red House between the early 18th century and mid-19th century. Remains of the Red House, consisting of brick walls, were found during an excavation in 2001. A brewery, a wood yard and a limekiln are also thought to have been established in the area by the end of the 17th century.

A tide mill for grinding corn was established on the riverside towards the east of the APA in the second half of the 18th century and a large mill pond was excavated to the south so that the mill would be provided with sufficient power whenever the tide went in or out. This mill pond can be clearly seen on a number of historic maps and was covered over when the Nine Elms railway depot was built. By the end of the 18th century the entire riverside between

the mill pond's outlet and the eastern edge of the APA was covered by small industrial units. The industrial expansion along the riverside continued into the 19th century and included boat building yards, an alkali and vitriol factory and a cement works while numerous wharves peppered the Nine Elms river front.

The Southwark & Vauxhall Water Company established a waterworks towards the western end of the APA in 1839 which was subsequently expanded in the 1840s and 1850s. Eventually they consisted of several filter beds and reservoirs, an engine house and a superintendent's house. The waterworks were responsible for providing water to parts of south London until they were closed in 1903. Battersea Power Station was later built over the reservoirs and filter beds although the engine house survived until the 2010s.

Significance

Any finds recovered from the foreshore could be of significance especially if they were as impressive as the Battersea Shield. Any other finds, particularly those dating from the prehistoric period, may help to shed light on what sort of activity was taking place in the vicinity.

The Nine Elms riverside area is an area that was primarily used for industrial purposes from the 17th century until the late 20th century. Any surviving remains of these units would be of interest since they would show us how individual plots along the riverside evolved over time and collectively could show how the industrial character of the area as a whole changed over the centuries. However, the remains of non-industrial buildings, such as the Red House, would also be of interest.

The Southwark & Vauxhall waterworks played an important role in the development of south London's water distribution network during the 19th century. Any remains associated with the waterworks could improve our knowledge of how they operated and how effective they were at controlling water quality. They could also be compared and contrasted with the remains of other 19th century waterworks across Greater London.

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Wandsworth APA 2.6
Putney

 Putney APA

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

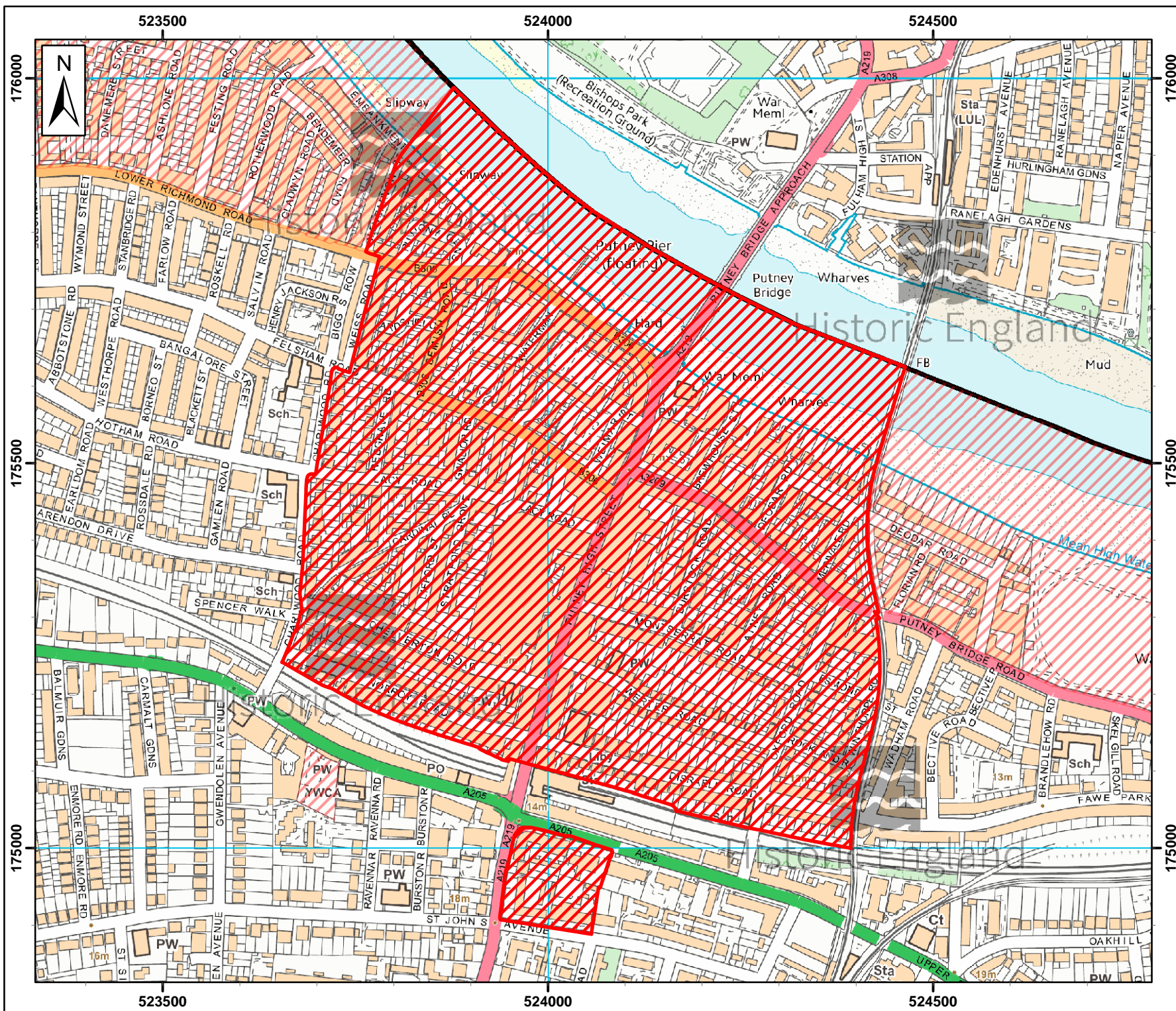
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Wandsworth APA 2.6: Putney

Summary and Definition

The Putney APA covers the historic village which grew up at an important Thames river crossing. There is evidence that the area has been occupied since prehistoric times. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is a historic settlement and a distinctive topographical location with evidence of pre-medieval occupation.

Description

From the riverside at Putney the land rises gradually upwards towards Putney Heath and Wimbledon Common. The ground on these gravel terraces would have provided good agricultural land, particularly in the area north of Upper Richmond Road, and this coupled with the riverside location would have made it an attractive area for settlement. It is also a convenient point for a river crossing since there is no flat or marshy area beside the river. In the prehistoric and Roman periods the river at Putney was not tidal and would have been narrow and shallow enough to ford. The river could also be crossed to Fulham on the opposite bank by ferry but a permanent bridge was not constructed until 1729. Traffic passing through Putney as it went to and from the river crossing helped to maintain the local economy via tolls, the need for accommodation and other support services. However, the river would have also been used for fishing and the transportation of goods along it.

Finds dating from all prehistoric periods, such as pottery and flints, have been found in the APA particularly on the Thames foreshore or in areas close to the river such as Ardshiel Close and the Abraham Dawes Almshouses in Putney Bridge Road. The spread, amount and date of prehistoric material that has been found within the APA indicate that a settlement or several smaller settlements were present along this stretch of the river either continuously or at intermittent points during the prehistoric period.

A large amount of archaeological material dating to the Roman period has been found in Putney particularly in the area to the west of Putney High Street close to the river. Burial urns and bone fragments found in Bemish Road are thought to relate to a 1st or 2nd century cremation cemetery while similar finds were also recovered from The Platt along with other features that suggested a settlement had been located there. Evidence of occupation in the form of ditches, post holes, pits and hearths have also been found in the vicinity of Felsham Road and Bemish Road. The remains of a Roman road were also found during excavations at Felsham Road in the 1970s. Collectively the finds suggest that a settlement was located close to the river crossing throughout the Roman period. However, it is unclear whether the settlement was a continuation of a prehistoric settlement or whether a new

settlement was created by the Romans. Prehistoric and Roman material has been found at the same sites such as Bemish Road, Felsham Road and Kingsmere Close but the development of the settlement between the prehistoric and Roman periods is not yet fully understood.

Little material dating from the Anglo-Saxon period has been recovered from the APA but it is probable that a river crossing and some form of associated settlement existed during that period. Putney is referred to in the Domesday Book as *Putelei* and the toll generated by the ferry crossing is mentioned. At the time Putney was part of the manor of Mortlake which was owned by the Archbishops of Canterbury.

The first mention of St Mary's Church at Putney dates from 1291 but it is unknown when it was first established. Only one church is mentioned in the Mortlake Domesday entry and this is thought to be the church in Wimbledon. Putney was in the parish of Wimbledon until the 16th century and St Mary's was originally a chapel of ease which may not have merited a mention in Domesday. Most of the current church dates from the 1830s when the bulk of the church was rebuilt although the west tower, which was built in the mid-15th century, and a chantry chapel dating from 1533 survive from the earlier church. After a severe fire in 1973 the church was restored in the early 1980s. Remains of the earlier medieval church have been observed during excavations but evidence of a church pre-dating the late-13th century has not yet been found.

The medieval settlement may have clustered close to St Mary's and the river crossing and gradually spread southwards along the route of Putney High Street. In 1497 there were 48 dwellings in Putney which were located along the High Street or near the riverside. Putney lies across the river from Fulham Palace, the Bishop of London's moated mansion. A number of grand country houses were built in Putney during the late medieval and early post medieval periods due to its rural location and the fact that it was possible to travel directly to London by boat.

Kenilworth Court stands on the site of one of these houses which existed at the end of the 15th century and was rebuilt by John Lacy, a member of the Clothmakers' Company, a century later. Elizabeth I is known to have visited Lacy in Putney up to 12 times during her reign. John Parr, an embroiderer to the queen, built another house nearby on the site of Werter Road in 1600. By the end of the 15th century a building known as Upper Place stood at the south-east corner of the junction between Upper Richmond Road and Putney Hill and in later centuries was known as Coalecroft and Lime Grove. It can be seen on Nicholas Lane's map of Putney from 1636 and is covered by a section of the APA which is separated from the main area to the north. Other notable houses constructed in Putney included Essex House, Fairfax House and Chatfield House which were all built along Putney High Street.

The first Putney Bridge was a timber structure completed in 1729 and at the time was the only bridge across the Thames between London Bridge and Kingston. It was replaced by the current bridge in 1886. The railway arrived in 1846 and the area became increasingly developed in the second half of the 19th century. By the time of the first Ordnance Survey map in 1868 a number of the grand houses such as Fairfax House and Essex House were still standing towards the southern end of Putney High Street but the northern part of Putney High Street was lined by smaller and more modern buildings. The last of the grand houses were demolished in the 1880s and the only large house from earlier centuries to still survive is Winchester House in Lower Richmond Road the earliest parts of which date from the 1730s.

While the development of Putney since the 19th century would have had an impact on any archaeological remains it is possible that remains of earlier structures may survive. An excavation to the east of St Mary's Church in 1998 found the structural remains of buildings that appeared on Lane's 1636 map and the remains of a building referred to as "Gothic Villa" on early Ordnance Survey maps were also uncovered. Similar remains may survive elsewhere within the APA.

Significance

Putney has always been an important river crossing and the settlement has always benefitted from its role as a riverside village. It can be compared and contrasted with other riverside settlements along the Thames in London but the fact that it became the first site to have a permanent bridge between London and Kingston demonstrates the importance of this particular crossing point and makes it particularly significant. The study of a settlement that developed next to and because of such an important river crossing can help to understand how settlements located at crucial points of a transport network developed in different periods. There might also be waterlogged remains of wharfs, fisheries or even boats alongside the Thames.

Future discoveries could shed light on how extensive the settlement was in the prehistoric and Roman periods and whether any form of settlement existed during the Anglo-Saxon period. The study of Roman Putney is particularly useful to understand how a settlement within the hinterland of Roman *Londinium* grew despite not being situated along the route of one of the major Roman roads which radiated from the city. It may help to create a better understanding of how the Thames was used by river traffic during the Roman period potentially providing an equivalent function to a major road.

There is clear potential for substantial structural remains of grand houses for wealthy residents built in the late medieval and early post medieval period. Such remains could be

worthy of preservation in-situ and perhaps display within new developments. How the local society and economy was influenced by the presence of these grand houses is of interest. Putney can be contrasted with other areas at a similar distance from London that saw a similar influx of wealthy residents in the same period.

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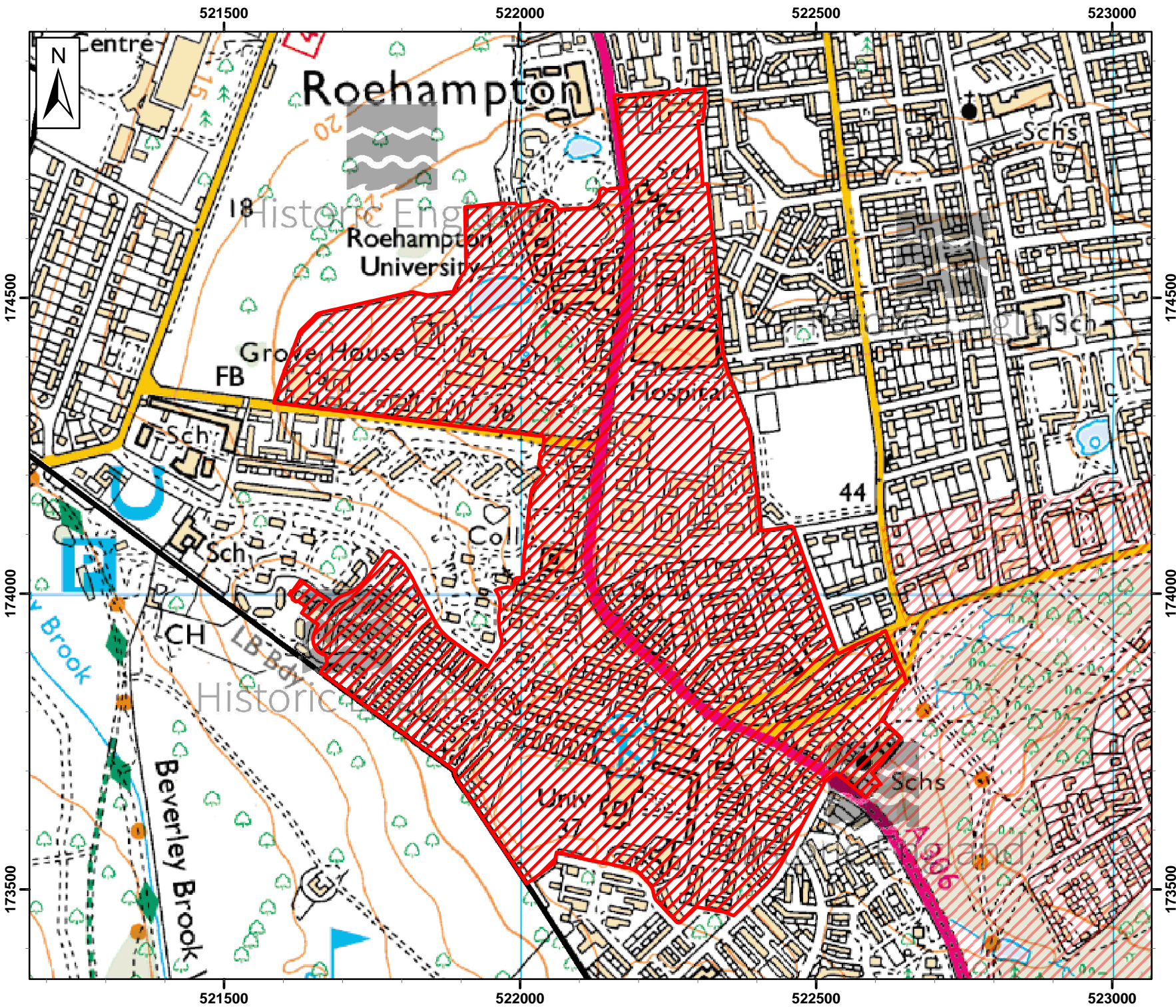
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Wandsworth APA 2.7
Roehampton

-  Roehampton APA
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

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Wandsworth APA 2.7: Roehampton

Summary and Definition

The Roehampton APA covers an area on either side of Roehampton Road stretching from Aubyn Square in the north to Alton Road and Ponsonby Road to the south. It encompasses the historic settlement of Roehampton and the sites of a number of former grand buildings that were built in the area in the 17th and 18th centuries. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it covers an area of historic settlement.

Description

The area is located on high land, close to the Beverley Brook river with commanding views over the surrounding area. Such topographic advantages would have benefitted prehistoric communities who may have settled here. A Palaeolithic axe, prehistoric flint flakes and a lithic implement have been found in the vicinity. An excavation that took place near to Queen Mary's Hospital in 2007 and 2008 found approximately 30 prehistoric pottery fragments along with a post hole that dated to the early Iron Age period. An excavation that took place to the north of Clarence Lane in 1993 found a pit, post hole and ditch that dated to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age periods. These discoveries indicate that some form of settlement might have existed at Roehampton in the late Bronze Age or early Iron Age. Future discoveries of prehistoric features and finds could clarify the extent and nature of such a settlement.

The excavation that took place close to Queen Mary's Hospital between 2007 and 2008 also found evidence for occupation in the area during the Anglo-Saxon period. Roehampton is not mentioned in the Domesday Book and it is first referred to as *Hamton* in 1273/74, then *Est Hampton* in 1332 and later in the 14th century as *Rokehampton*. The focus of the modern settlement is regarded as being along Roehampton High Street. However, in the medieval period it is thought to have been concentrated further north along Roehampton Lane somewhere in the area between Sacred Heart Primary School and Beech Close. Medieval Roehampton would have been a small agrarian settlement separated from Putney by a deer park called Putney Park. By the end of the 15th century Roehampton consisted of 14 inhabited houses.

The character of the settlement changed radically in the first half of the 17th century after a number of grand houses were constructed. David Papillon, a Huguenot, bought land in Roehampton in 1619 and over the following few years built three great houses. Elm Grove was built where Digby Stuart College is now located, a house known as Roehampton Great House was built where Grove House now stands and another house was built on the eastern

side of Roehampton Lane, possibly where the current Roehampton House now stands. None of these 17th century buildings survive but their construction led to further mansions and villas being built in the local area as people took advantage of the settlement's remoteness, its proximity to Richmond Park and fine views over the surrounding area.

Elm Grove burnt down in 1795 and was replaced by a building that was badly damaged during World War Two and subsequently demolished. The first Roehampton Great House was bought by Sir Richard Weston, Lord Treasurer to Charles I, who surrounded it with gardens and a park known as Roehampton Park. It was demolished in the 1770s and replaced with Grove House. Little is known about the house Papillon built on the opposite side of Roehampton Lane but the current Roehampton House was constructed between 1710 and 1715 by Thomas Archer for a city merchant called Thomas Cary. It became a hospital in 1915 and remains part of Queen Mary's Hospital.

Other notable houses built in the area include Downshire House, The Cedars, Parkstead House and Mount Clare. Downshire House dates from the 1770s and replaced an earlier house that had been constructed in the 1660s. Its southern range was demolished in the 1950s. The Cedars was built slightly to the north of Downshire House in the early 18th century. It was demolished in 1912 but Cedars Cottages are thought to have originally been part of The Cedars northern service wing. Parkstead House dates from the 1760s and replaced a 17th century building. It was occupied by the Jesuits from the mid-19th century until the 1960s and during that time it was known as Manresa House. An excavation of its cemetery in 2003 found 108 bodies and 82 headstones all dating between 1867 and 1962. All the bodies and headstones were reburied elsewhere on the site. Mount Clare was built in the 1770s and unlike the other surviving Georgian mansions in Roehampton it did not replace an earlier 17th century building. Remains of the Cedars and the southern range of Downshire House were found during an excavation in 2013. It is possible that remains of other former 17th and 18th century houses may survive within the APA.

From the late 16th century onwards buildings started to be established in the area around Roehampton High Street and this gradually became the focus of the settlement as its population increased in the following centuries. The economic vitality of the settlement was further enriched as an increasing number of grand houses were built nearby and by 1670 two inns, the Angel and the King's Head, existed at Roehampton. The medieval village appears to have disappeared during the 18th century and Roehampton High Street has been the focus of the settlement ever since. Many of the buildings along Roehampton High Street date from the 19th century but remains of earlier buildings may survive.

For many centuries the closest church was St Mary's in Putney. When Roehampton Great House was built in the 1620s a chapel was added which over time was increasingly

utilised by the local populace. When the house was demolished in the 1770s a new and more accessible chapel was built to the east of Grove House on Roehampton Lane. By the 1840s it was too small for the local population and a new chapel was consecrated in 1843 which was enlarged in 1862 and 1883. It appears on early Ordnance Survey maps as Trinity Church and was demolished at some point between 1938 and 1952. A synagogue was also built to the rear of Elm Grove when it was owned by a financier called Benjamin Goldsmid although it was demolished soon after his death in 1808. The Church of the Holy Trinity near Roehampton High Street was completed in 1898.

The opening of a railway in 1846 which ran to nearby Barnes and Putney led to an increased level of development in the surrounding area and led to a diminishing sense of remoteness and exclusivity in Roehampton. Nevertheless a number of 18th century mansions survive and in Pevsner it is stated that “There is still nothing like Roehampton anywhere in London to get an impression of the aristocratic Georgian country villa.”

Significance

The core of the settlement along Roehampton High Street and the grand houses built along Roehampton Lane represent two different elements of Roehampton’s historic character. The establishment of the houses led to the area becoming a desirable and exclusive area to live in but the construction of these houses pushed the settlement’s focus southwards. The grand houses undoubtedly had an influence on the development of Roehampton during the post medieval period even though there was a clear separation between the two. Roehampton is therefore an interesting example of a settlement where its current location is different from its medieval location. Any remains of the earlier medieval settlement further north would be of considerable interest and could clarify its extent and when it was established.

The houses built at Roehampton in the 17th and 18th centuries were clearly fine examples of their type and any surviving remains would provide interesting information on their form and construction. The surviving mansions may contain elements of the earlier buildings they replaced and analysis of these would contribute to an understanding of how they developed. Collectively the surviving mansions and the remains of former mansions and their associated buildings, such as the synagogue at Elm Grove and the Chapel near Grove House, represent an excellent example of 17th and 18th century architecture. The study of these features would help us to understand the development of such an exclusive area and its nearby settlement during the course of the post medieval period.

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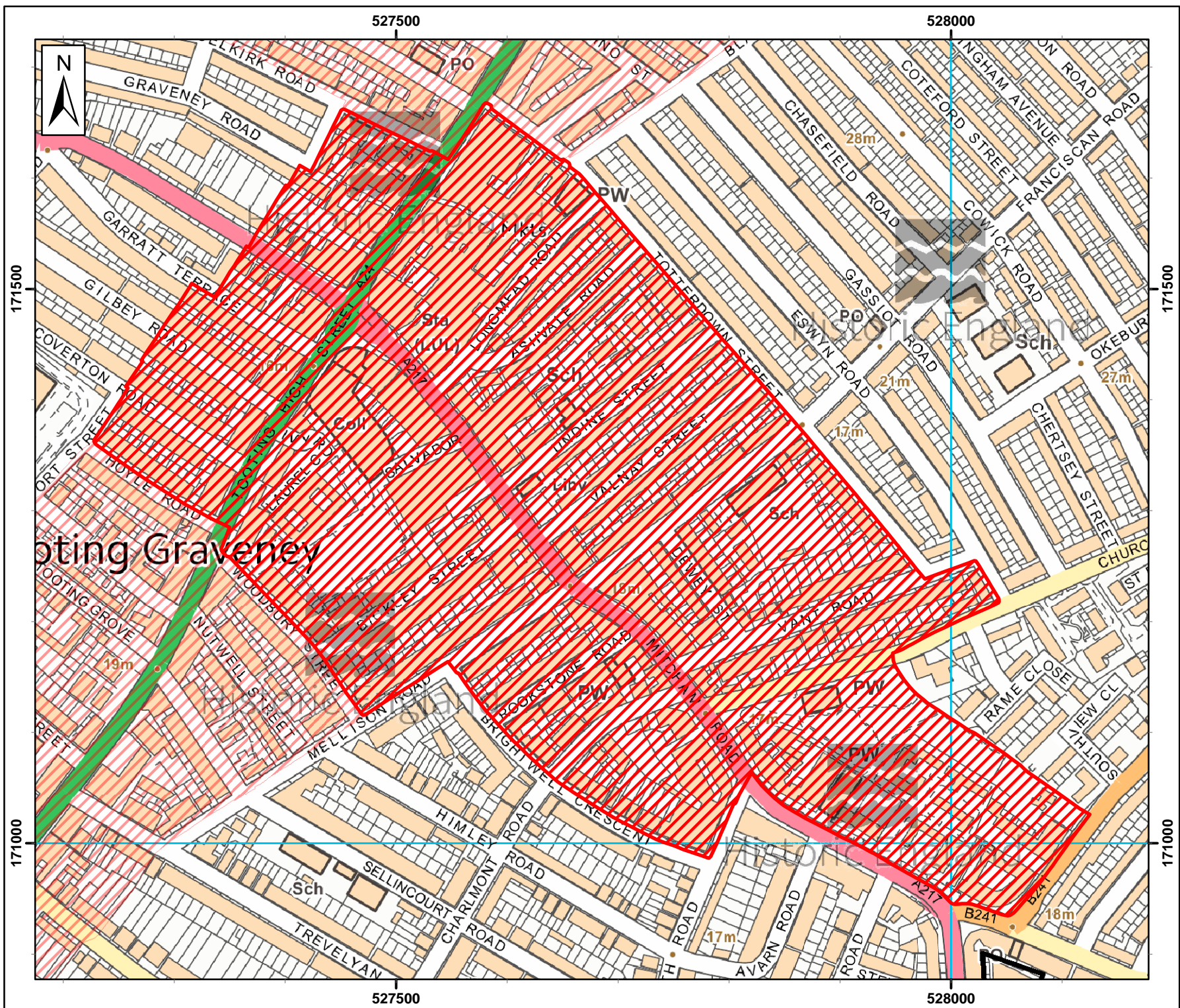
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Wandsworth APA 2.8
Tooting

-  Tooting APA
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

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Wandsworth APA 2.8: Tooting

Summary and Definition

The APA covers an area surrounding the cross roads between Tooting High Street and Garratt Lane/Mitcham Road. This is the location of the historic settlement of Tooting, sometimes known as Lower Tooting or Tooting Graveney. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it covers an area of historic settlement.

Description

Tooting High Street follows the same route as the Roman road known as Stane Street along which small settlements may have developed. There is little evidence to suggest that such a settlement existed at Tooting due to a lack of Roman finds and features that have been found in the area. Nevertheless it is possible that Roman material may be found within the APA as a result of the traffic that passed through it during the Roman period.

Tooting developed due to its location near to the cross roads where important routes running from north-east to south-west and north-west to south-east intersected. The settlement is known to have existed since the Anglo-Saxon period and it is referred to in the Domesday Book as *Totinges* when it was a small rural settlement with a church. The church lay close to the site of the current church of St Nicholas on Church Lane. It is not known when a church in Tooting was first established but it could have been as early as the 7th century when Tooting is first mentioned in a charter. The earlier church was noted for a round tower which was attached to the north side of the church. It is the only known round church tower in Surrey and may have also been used as a watch tower. Pictures of the former church have helped to date the tower to either the Anglo-Saxon or early Norman periods and it was topped with a wooden spire in the 14th century. The current church of St Nicholas was built in the 1830s on a site slightly to the west of the earlier church which was demolished soon after. Remains of the earlier church may therefore be present in the open area to the east of St Nicholas's.

A moated site is thought to have existed to the north of the church during the medieval period. It is unknown whether the site was a residence for the priest or used to accommodate visiting representatives from Westminster or Chertsey Abbeys. Fishponds are also thought to have been located close to the moated building. Traces of the moat appear intermittently on historic maps but it appears to have been filled in by the mid-19th century. Remains of the moated site might be present within undeveloped areas to the north of the church between Church Lane, Mitcham Road, Franciscan Road and Totterdown Street. Any

uncovered remains might help to determine the purpose of the moated building during the medieval period.

On the 1762 Rocque map of Surrey, the bulk of the Tooting settlement appears to spread westwards from the junction with Tooting High Street along Mitcham Road while the church appears to be isolated. This could be an indication that the village had shifted away from its original location. A number of country houses were built near Tooting in the 18th century and a number appear on the earliest Ordnance Survey map of the area from the 1860s. The houses at 93, 99 and 101 Tooting High Street are surviving examples of early 18th century housing built in the area but many others have since been demolished.

Significance

Tooting is an example of a historic roadside settlement which appears to have initially developed in the Anglo-Saxon period and may have moved over time away from an original location around the medieval church. Remains of any former buildings within the APA would help to develop a better understanding of how it developed during different historic periods. The former church and moated site are the two most noteworthy features within the APA and remains of these would be particularly significant. The church's round tower is of particular interest as it is such a rare example and analysis of its remains could clarify whether it was built for a purely ecclesiastical purpose or whether it had a secondary purpose such as a watch tower. The exact nature and purpose of the moated site within the medieval community and its relationship with the nearby church also needs to be established.

Key References

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Wandsworth APA 2.9
Tooting Bec

 Tooting Bec APA

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

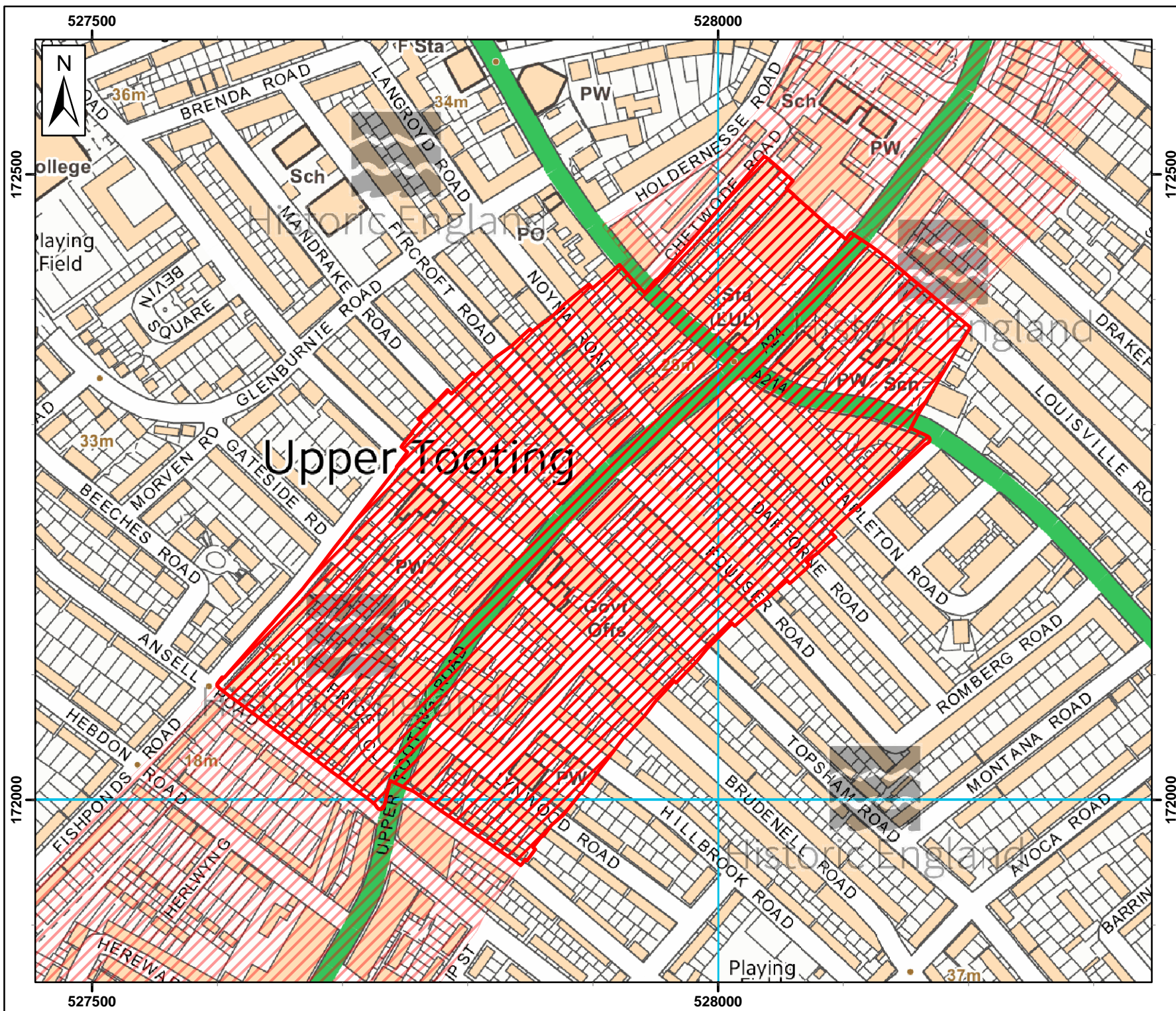
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Upper Tooting

Wandsworth APA 2.9: Tooting Bec

Summary and Description

The APA covers the historic settlement of Tooting Bec, also known as Upper Tooting which was a roadside settlement that existed since at least the medieval period. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement.

Description

The settlement was situated at the cross roads between Upper Tooting Road/Balham High Road and Trinity Road/Tooting Bec Road. Upper Tooting Road and Balham High Road follow the route of the Roman road known as Stane Street and it is possible that small roadside settlement developed along it. However, no evidence has been found to suggest that such a settlement existed within the APA.

By the time of the Domesday survey in 1086, this part of Wandsworth was owned by Bec Abbey in Le Bec-Hellouin in France which gave its name to the area. The abbey held the area until 1322 when it was leased out and held by a number of other bodies, such as Merton Priory, until it was given to Eton College in 1441. It is likely that a small roadside settlement developed close to the intersection of two roads as it did at Tooting further to the south-west. However, unlike Tooting there was no parish church or other important building located in the vicinity so the settlement was likely to be little more than a hamlet.

The settlement can be seen on the Rocque map of Surrey from the 1760s and appears to have mainly spread south-westwards from the junction although there also appears to be a concentration of buildings to the south-east of the junction. Parts of St Anselm's Convent School date from the late 18th century but few other historic buildings remain standing within the APA. Nevertheless, there is a potential for finds and remains relating to earlier buildings to be found within the APA.

Significance

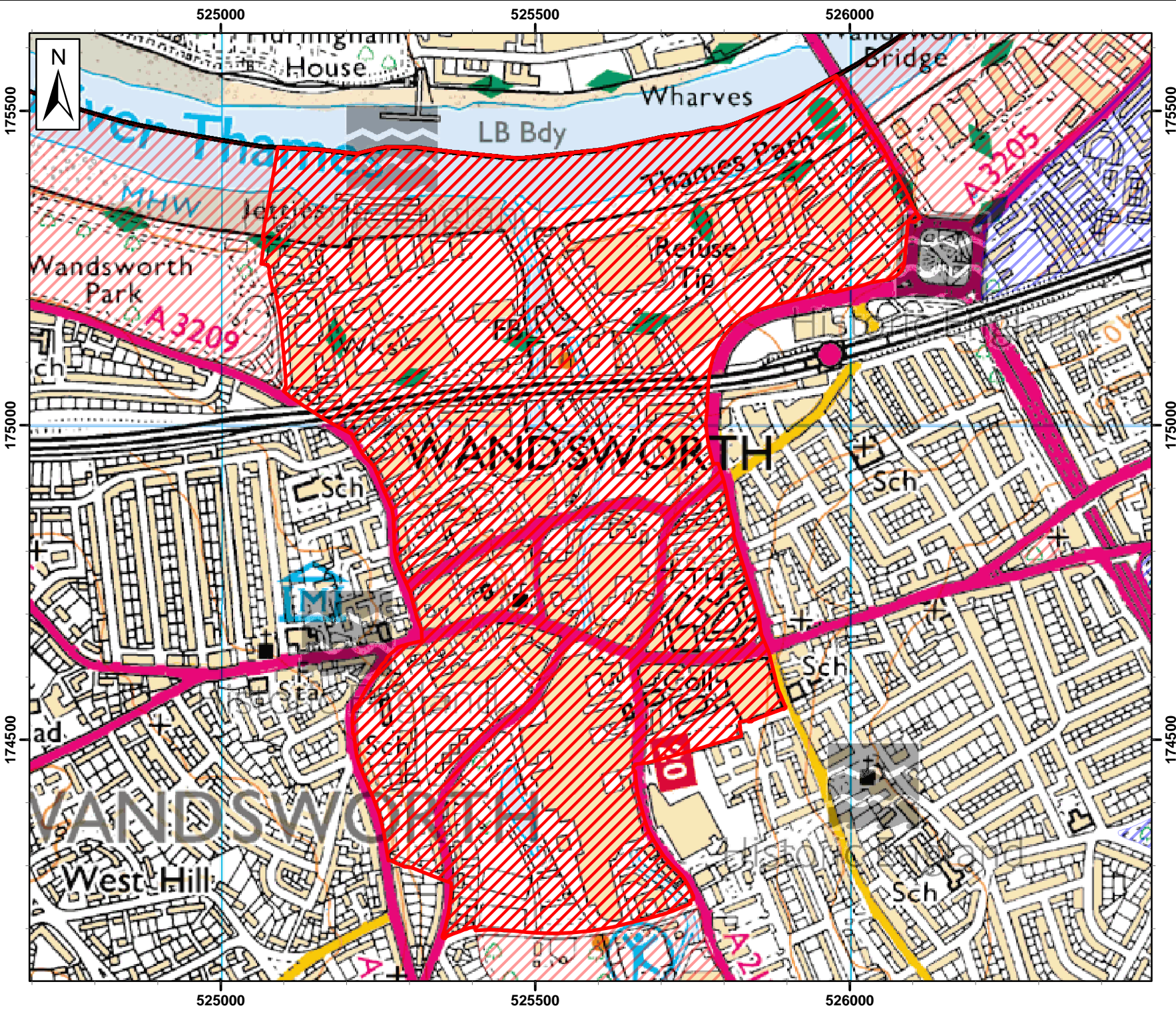
Tooting Bec is an example of a roadside settlement that developed close to an intersection, similar to Tooting. The fact that the area was owned by a foreign ecclesiastical body may have influenced the way in which parts of it could develop during the medieval period. It could therefore be compared and contrasted with other small hamlets within the local area that were controlled by domestic land owners. The settlement lacked a church or a manor house upon which the settlement could focus and the road was the feature along

which it developed. It could therefore be possible to compare its development with other small roadside hamlets.

Key References

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Wandsworth APA 2.10
Wandsworth Town

-  Wandsworth Town 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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Wandsworth APA 2.10: Wandsworth Town

Summary and Definition

The Wandsworth Town APA covers the core of the historic settlement of Wandsworth and the section of the River Wandle between King George's Park and the Thames. The large amount of prehistoric finds that have been uncovered from the APA indicate that some form of activity was taking place within it throughout the prehistoric period. A settlement, which developed in the Wandsworth High Street area near the river Wandle crossing, is thought to have been established by the end of the Anglo-Saxon period. In later centuries a number of industries developed within the area and three water mills were located along the section of the Wandle that lies within the APA. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement and historic industry.

Description

The abundant availability of fresh water would have benefitted prehistoric communities who may have settled in the area and this could explain the high level of prehistoric finds that have been recovered from the APA. Finds dating from all prehistoric periods have been found in the APA, predominantly in the area between the Thames and Wandsworth High Street. Noteworthy finds include a Palaeolithic handaxe that was found at Jews Row and a scatter of flints dating from the Mesolithic to Bronze Age that were found at Point Pleasant in 2005. A number of Bronze Age items including swords, a spearhead, an axe and a dagger have also been recovered from the area near the mouth of the Wandle. Collectively these items suggest a general focus for deposition activity within the vicinity at various points during the prehistoric period. It is likely that further finds or features may be present which could identify precisely what sort of activity was taking place.

Roman finds such as a spoon, a knife and a bottle have been found within the APA but it is unclear whether a settlement was located here during that period. The finds may have been a consequence of traffic passing through the area as people travelled by land between Roman *Londinium* and the settlement at Putney further to the west. A settlement at Wandsworth appears to have been established during the Anglo-Saxon period and is referred to as *Wendles Wurthe* in a charter of 693 and as *Wendleswurthe* in the Domesday Book. The settlement was focused along the stretch of Wandsworth High Street close to where it crosses the Wandle between East Hill and West Hill.

A church had been established by 1157 on the same site as the current church of All Saints. The church tower dates from 1630 while the majority of the rest of the church was rebuilt in 1779-80. Although no trace of the earlier medieval church survives within the

present building's fabric some of its remains may survive beneath the ground surface. An overspill graveyard for the church on the eastern side of Garratt Lane, to the south of its junction with Wandsworth High Street, was consecrated in 1808. It was in use until the 1930s and was landscaped in the 1970s but no burials were removed. Any investigation of the burial ground could provide information on the general health and social background of the local community during the period it was in use.

Three water mills were located along the section of the Wandle in the APA and were known as the Lower Mill, the Middle Mill and the Upper Mill. The Lower Mill was located close to the mouth of the Wandle to the south of The Causeway; the Middle Mill was situated on the west side of the Wandle to the south of Armoury Way while the Upper Mill site is now covered by Southside Shopping Centre. It is not known precisely when the mills were first established but one was being used as a fulling mill in the early 14th century and it is likely that the other two were also operating during the medieval period. The mills were used for a variety of uses during the post medieval period such as oil, flour, dye and copper production. Like other parts of the Wandle the river was diverted and canalised in order to supply these mills with sufficient power and traces of these former artificial channels may survive. The Lower Mill went out of use in 1893 and was demolished five years later while the Middle Mill also went out of use in 1893 and was demolished in the early 20th century. The Upper Mill was still being used as a flour mill when its main building was destroyed by fire in 1928 and the last mill buildings at the Upper Mill site were not demolished until 1962.

The mills were not the only historic industrial facilities within the APA. Hat making and dye production are thought to have taken place in Wandsworth during the medieval period. Frying pans and kettles were produced at forges in the Point Pleasant area by Dutch migrants from the mid-1630s onwards and industrial dyeing was also an important local industry until the 19th century. Huguenot refugees, many of whom were skilled craftsmen and merchants, were attracted to Wandsworth because of the industrial facilities located there and along the Wandle. The arrival of the Huguenots from France in the 1680s led to a number of new small industries developing in the area and boosted the local hat making trade. The Huguenot population formed a church in 1682 on a site in Chapel Yard opposite All Saints Church which was demolished in the 19th century and replaced by a hall. It is estimated that by the early 18th century approximately 20% of Wandsworth's population were Huguenots and their arrival had a significant influence on local industries.

Brewing was taking place at a pub called the Ram in the 16th century which was located on the corner of Ram Street and Wandsworth High Street where the Brewery Tap public house now stands. A brewery developed to the north-west of the Ram over the following centuries which was acquired by Charles Allen Young in 1831. After a fire in 1832 it was rebuilt with improved facilities and was an important site and vital component of the

local area's economy until its closure in 2006. The Union Brewery was another brewery within the APA on a site near to Point Pleasant which was operational between the 1820s and 1920s.

The Surrey Iron Railway was a horse drawn railway which opened in 1803 and ran between the riverside at Wandsworth and Croydon. Industries along its route could use it to transport goods to the Thames from where it could be transported elsewhere by river. An associated dock and wharf were also constructed at its terminus on the Thames riverside. Competition from steam railways led to its closure in 1846 but remains of the railway and its associated dock and wharf near the mouth of the Wandle may survive.

The Wandsworth & Putney Gas Works was another industrial facility built within the APA which opened in 1835 on a site to the west of Swandon Way. It closed in 1971 and a solitary gas holder is all that remains. Like the riverside further to the east at Battersea and Nine Elms the riverside at Wandsworth Town was occupied by a variety of industrial units by the end of the 19th century. These units included chemical works and a fireworks factory. Between 1912 and 1920 the small marshland area between Point Pleasant and the mouth of the Wandle was gradually reclaimed to provide more space for further industrial premises. While many of the industries that once operated within the APA have been removed it is possible that some remains may survive.

While various industries thrived within the APA during the post medieval period the local town also developed and a number of buildings from the 18th and early 19th centuries survive. Prospect House at Point Pleasant, Wentworth House in Dormay Street and several houses in Church Row are all examples of impressive 18th and early 19th century buildings. Remains of demolished buildings built at a similar time may be present within the APA.

Significance

Wandsworth Town represents a historic settlement that has seen activity since the prehistoric period and has retained an industrial character since the medieval period due to its location at the mouth of the River Wandle. Like other parts of the Thames riverside in Wandsworth a significant amount of prehistoric material has been recovered from the area close to the foreshore. Future finds could clarify whether this is due to a settlement being located in the vicinity.

The combination of the Wandle, the Thames and the influx of skilled foreign migrants in the 17th century allowed industries in Wandsworth to flourish. Wandsworth Town can be compared and contrasted with other riverside areas along the borough's Thames riverside, such as Battersea and Putney, where industrialisation occurred at differing degrees during

the post medieval period. The remains of any former industrial buildings within the APA would be of interest as they would show how their processes developed over time. The brewery site, for example, could yield the remains of numerous features which could demonstrate how beer making developed over the course of the post medieval period. Remains at other former industrial sites could also demonstrate how manufacturing processes altered and developed.

The section of the Wandle covered by the APA and the three mills that were previously located along it can be compared with other sections of the river. However, this section of the river is particularly significant because it is where it enters the Thames and many of the goods created in factories along its length were brought here to be transported elsewhere. Any remains of the three mills, the Surrey Iron Railway or any other riverside industries would be of note as they would be examples of the industrial infrastructure of the local area.

The influx of Dutch and Huguenot immigrants in the 17th century boosted the industrial output of the area and had an impact on the character of the town. Any archaeological remains associated with these migrant communities, such as the industrial facilities near Point Pleasant or the Huguenot church in Chapel Yard, would help to demonstrate how they influenced the post medieval development of Wandsworth Town.

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Wandsworth APA 2.11
Battersea Park

 Battersea Park APA

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

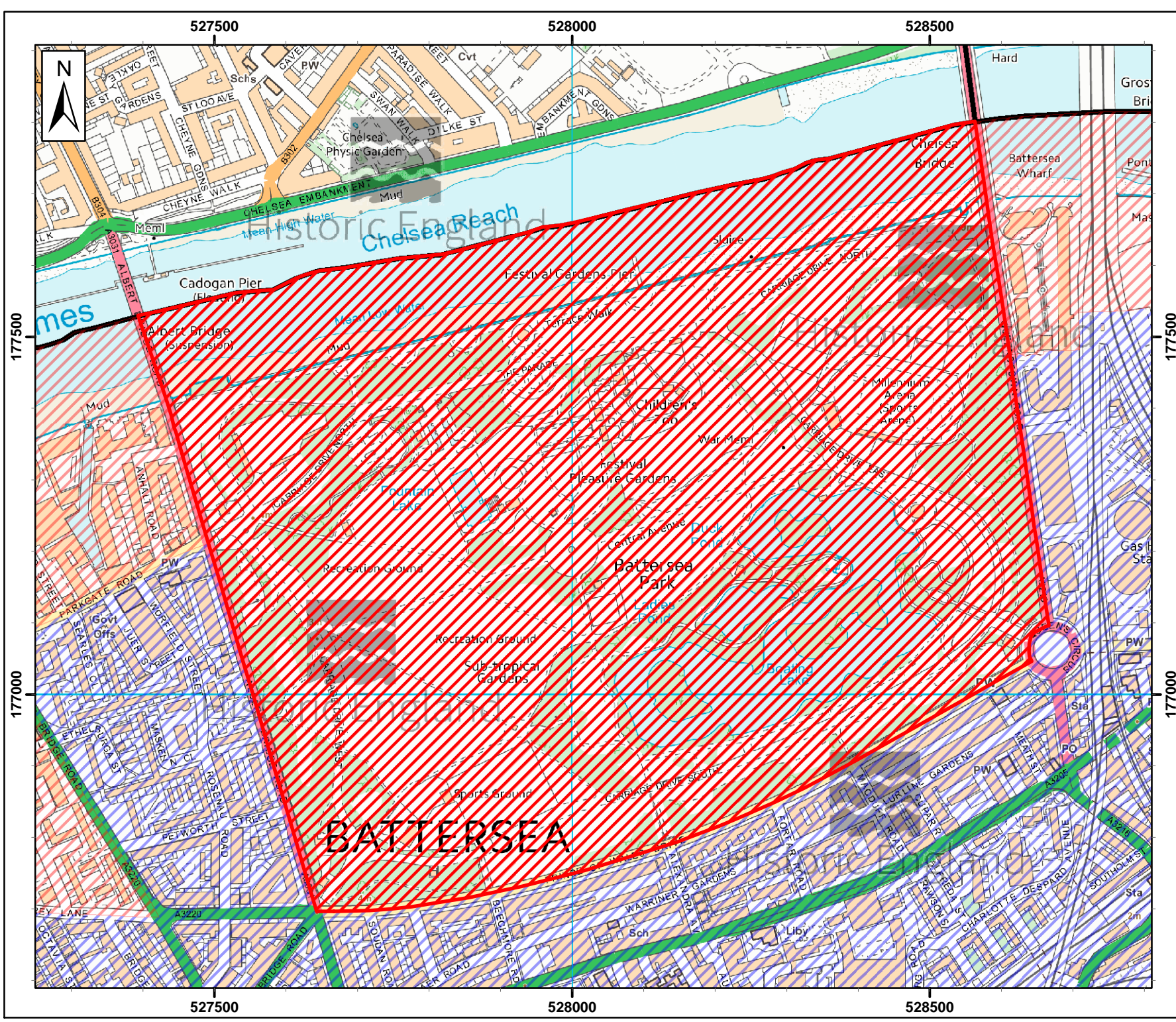
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Wandsworth APA 2.11: Battersea Park

Summary and Description

The Battersea Park APA is bounded by the River Thames to the north, Queenstown Road to the east, Prince of Wales Drive to the south and Albert Bridge Road to the west. Battersea Park is a Grade II* Registered Historic Park and Garden and numerous archaeological finds from a variety of different periods have been discovered in the foreshore area along the park's riverfront. The remains of small buildings predating the park's creation in the mid-19th century and other structures that formerly stood within the park may also be present. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is a Registered Historic Park and Garden with significant archaeological interest.

Description

During the prehistoric period the park would have been located on an island of naturally higher ground between the Thames to the north and Battersea Channel to the south. Numerous archaeological finds dating from a number of different periods have been found along the park's foreshore. These finds have included: weapons and tools dating from the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic periods; a variety of items dating to the Bronze Age including swords, a cauldron, spearheads and a dagger; Roman pottery and coins and a vessel, coin, purse, spur and pilgrim badge dating to the medieval period.

The level of prehistoric archaeological finds along the foreshore could indicate that a settlement may have been located on the former island. Such a community would have benefitted from the availability of fresh water and wildlife but would have also found it difficult to live in a marshy area which was prone to flooding. Prehistoric timber trackways and hunting platforms have been found in other former marshy areas along the Thames in Greater London and similar features may be present here too.

It has been hypothesised that a ford across the Thames previously existed at Battersea and the wealth of items found in the foreshore area is a result of traffic using that ford. However, some of the items deposited in the area may have been religious votive offerings similar to the Battersea Shield which was found nearby to the west during the construction of Chelsea Bridge in the mid-19th century. It is also possible that the area was regarded as a special place as it was surrounded by water.

Until the mid-19th century the area was predominantly open ground marked as Battersea Common, Battersea Fields or Battersea Common Fields on various historic maps. These maps also show a number of small buildings in the area and a map of 1829 shows that

two timber docks were located along the riverfront. The idea of making the area into a public park was first put forward in the 1840s as it was believed that such parks would benefit the local working class population. The park was opened in 1854 and the area surrounding it was developed for housing. However, it was in the following ten years that the park was landscaped using earth extracted during the construction of the Royal Victoria Docks, the river embankment was built, the Sub-tropical gardens were established and the lake in the south-east corner of the park was excavated.

A number of buildings that previously stood in the park have since been demolished. The current refreshment building that stands by the lake was built in 1939 and replaced an earlier refreshment building on the same site which had been built in the 1860s and extended in 1872. Two other refreshment buildings were built in the park; one of which was to the south of where the Peace Pagoda is now situated while the other was located at the centre of the park near the band stand. The current band stand was erected in 1988 to replace an earlier one that was built in 1899 but the park's first band stand was built in 1868 and originally located in an open area further to the south-west. Remains of all these structures may still survive to some degree.

Anti-aircraft installations were established in the park during both World Wars. During the First World War an anti-aircraft station was established in the south-west of the park where the croquet lawn was previously located. In the Second World War a barrage balloon installation was located in the park and an anti-aircraft rocket site was established in the north east area of the park near the current athletics track and was active between 1942 and 1943. This site would have consisted of a number of rocket emplacements, a command post, accommodation huts and ammunition stores. Remains relating to all of these wartime sites may exist relatively close to the surface.

In 1951 Battersea Park was used as the Pleasure Gardens for the Festival of Britain. While the main Festival of Britain exhibition took place on the South Bank near Waterloo the Pleasure Gardens were used as a funfair which included a number of rides, restaurants, beer gardens, a dance pavilion, a theatre and an amphitheatre. The Pleasure Gardens were located in the northern part of the park near the river and parts of the funfair did not fully close until 1974. The only elements to survive from the Pleasure Gardens are the Children's Zoo and the area around the Fountain Lake. While many structures associated with the Pleasure Gardens were temporary they may have left some form of archaeological trace.

Significance

The amount and variety of finds that have been recovered from Battersea Park's foreshore is noteworthy and this part of the APA has the potential for further finds from all

periods. The question of whether the finds in the riverside area are the result of a ford or religious offerings could be clarified by future significant discoveries and the discovery of prehistoric material from anywhere within the APA could indicate whether some form of riverside settlement was located here or within the vicinity. If such a settlement did exist it would help to clarify how riverside settlements were distributed along this section of the Thames during certain periods.

Battersea Park was one of the first public parks in London and was part of an effort to improve the general wellbeing of the working classes. Remains of earlier elements of park furniture such as the band stands or refreshment houses would therefore be of significance because of their connection to such an important park. The remains of wartime anti-aircraft installations would also be of significance particularly the Second World War anti-aircraft rocket site since only approximately 50 batteries of this type were built. If substantial remains of the Battersea Park rocket battery were found they could be considered of national importance.

The 1951 Festival of Britain was a significant post war national exhibition and the Pleasure Gardens at Battersea were regarded as the fun element of the festival. The structures erected at the Pleasure Gardens for the Festival of Britain were intended to be temporary but traces of their foundations might survive. These remains would have significance due to their association with an important post war national exhibition.

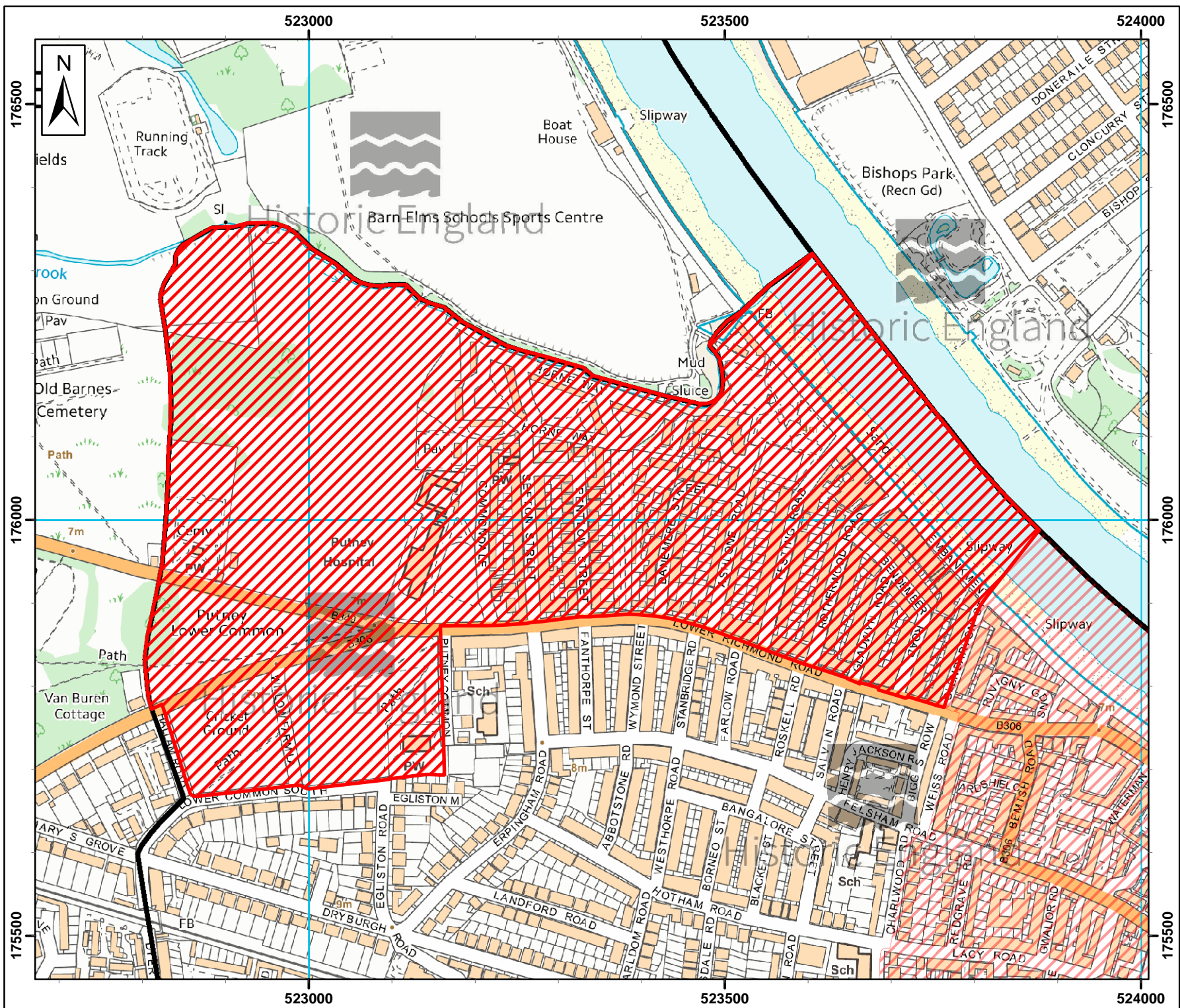
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Wandsworth APA 2.12
Putney Riverside and
Putney Lower Common

-  Putney Riverside and Putney Lower Common 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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Wandsworth APA 2.12: Putney Riverside and Putney Lower Common

Summary and Definition

The APA covers the riverside to the west of Putney to the north of Lower Richmond Road and Putney Lower Common. Prehistoric and Roman finds have been recovered from the APA and significant finds have also been discovered on the Richmond side of the borough boundary. Putney Lower Common has always been an open area with a few minor encroachments such as Putney Hospital and the Church of All Saints. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because the confluence of the Thames and Beverley Brook seems to have provided a favourable location for prehistoric activity and the area has potential for the preservation of organic remains. Putney Lower Common is also an area of undeveloped land close to areas that have clear evidence of archaeological interest.

Description

The fact that the area is close to the Thames and Beverley Brook rivers would have made it an attractive area for settlement in the prehistoric period and alluvial deposits along Beverley Brook may contain or preserve evidence of past human activity. The Thames foreshore is also a rich source of archaeological material and a Neolithic axe and a flint blade dating to the late Bronze Age or early Iron Age have been recovered from it. Other prehistoric finds have been recovered from sites in Bendemeer Road and Danemere Street while a flint Neolithic hand axe and a sherd of Romano-British pottery have been found on the common.

An excavation at 38-46 Sefton Street between 1969 and 1971 found more than 2400 flint flakes dating from the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods, Neolithic pottery fragments, postholes and two hearths. The site is thought to have been occupied during the early Neolithic period although the presence of flint flakes dating to the Mesolithic period suggested that some form of activity had taken place there in earlier periods.

Barn Elms and Barnes Common, which are located to the west and north of the APA on the other side of the borough boundary in Richmond, have also yielded important prehistoric finds. Mesolithic flint implements and an arrowhead, blade and a saw dating from the Neolithic period have been found on Barnes Common while evidence for an Iron Age settlement has been found at a site in Barn Elms. This evidence has consisted of pits, postholes, quern stones, pottery fragments and a coin which were all found relatively close to Beverley Brook. Similar finds and features should also be anticipated within the APA particularly in the Lower Common area.

Putney was a settlement during the Roman period and some form of river crossing was located there. It is not known how far west along the riverbank the settlement stretched but it is likely that it extended into the APA. Lower Richmond Road is also thought to follow the route of a Roman road between Putney and Twickenham. Roman finds have been made at sites where prehistoric material has been found such as Bendemeer Road, Danemere Street and Sefton Street. Several Roman potsherds were also found at Spring Passage in 1978. It has been theorised that Spring Passage follows the route of an approach road to a river crossing that was used during the Roman period.

During the post medieval period the area was predominantly open land although some of it was used for agricultural purposes. Putney Lower Common is marked as “Putnie Lower Heath” on Nicholas Lane’s map of 1636 and it is thought that during times of plague temporary pest houses may have been erected there. It was not until the second half of the 19th century that the streets started to be laid out between the Thames riverside and Lower Richmond Road and it had been almost totally developed by the early 20th century. Little development has taken place on the common although a building called Elm Lodge and a number of cottages called Waller’s Cottages appear on the 1868 Ordnance Survey map on a site latter occupied by Putney Hospital. By the end of the 19th century a house called West Lodge had been built next door to Elm Lodge. The Church of All Saints was built in the south-east corner of the common in 1874.

Elm Lodge, West Lodge and Waller’s Cottages were all demolished to make way for Putney Hospital which was built in 1912. Various changes and additions were made to the hospital in subsequent decades until it closed in 1999 and was demolished in 2014.

Significance

The Thames foreshore and areas close to Beverley Brook have potential for archaeological finds and it is clear that the APA has potential for prehistoric and Roman remains. The largely undeveloped nature of Putney Lower Common and the finds and features found in similar open areas nearby in Richmond suggests that the common has the potential for similar discoveries. Future finds could help to establish how extensive prehistoric settlements were along this stretch of the Thames and during which prehistoric periods they were most prevalent. Discoveries of Roman material would help to establish how far westwards the Roman settlement at Putney extended.

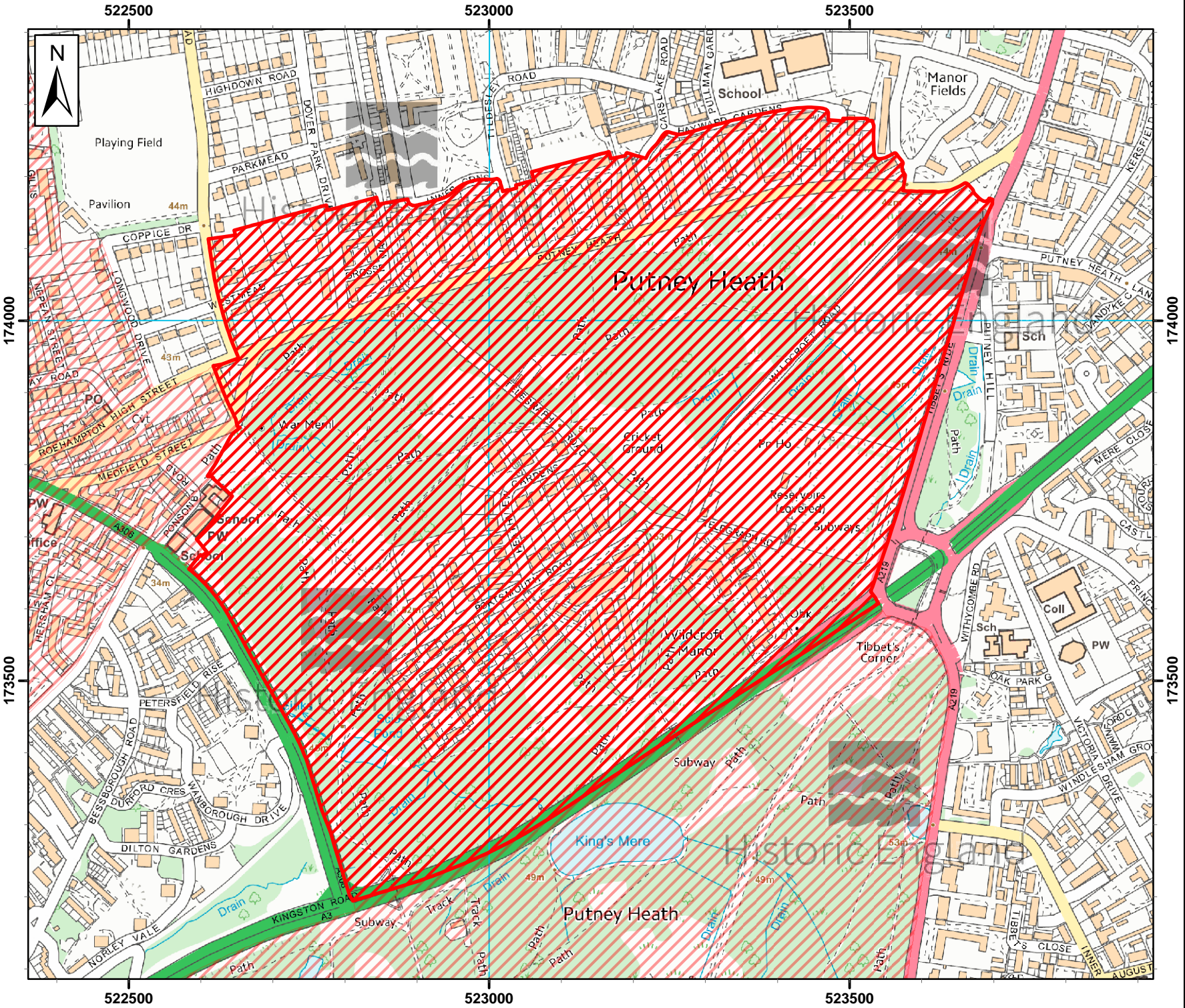
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Wandsworth APA 2.13
Putney Heath



 Putney Heath APA

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

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Wandsworth APA 2.13: Putney Heath

Summary and Definition

The APA covers the predominantly open area between Putney Heath to the north, Tibbet's Ride to the east, Kingston Road to the south and Roehampton Lane to the west. It also covers an area to the north of Putney Heath where a number of 18th century mansions previously stood since remains of these buildings may survive. Historically Putney Heath was considered part of Wimbledon Common to the south but the A3 Kingston Road provides a clear boundary between the two. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is a historic landscape with archaeological interest.

Description

Putney Heath is located at the edge of a plateau of high ground which would have commanded excellent views over the surrounding area. Its location would have been advantageous for prehistoric communities but only a small number of prehistoric finds have been recovered from the Heath which have included a Mesolithic flake and scraper tool and a Neolithic axe. A number of sources refer to a group of 23 barrows located somewhere on Wimbledon Common near to Tibbet's Corner. The precise location of these barrows is unknown but it is possible that they might be located within the APA since Putney Heath was often considered part of the Common. These barrows were excavated in the late 18th century but their exact location and age has never been established. They have been referred to as dating from the Bronze Age or Anglo-Saxon periods.

A historic map of Putney parish that dates from 1636 shows a "Bowllinge Allie" and a windmill located close together next to the road that ran across Putney Heath. The bowling green became a fashionable place for important meetings to take place and a second green was added in the early 18th century. The increasing popularity of nearby Roehampton influenced the spread of country villas into areas on or surrounding Putney Heath. Country houses started to be built in the vicinity of the bowling greens after the popularity of bowling declined in the later 18th century. Bowling Green House was constructed in the 1770s on the site of the second bowling green where Bowling Green Close is now located. 1-5 Bensbury Close are the former stables and groom's accommodation for the house. Bristol House was built at approximately the same time as Bowling Green House to the east on the site of the first bowling green. A house known as Fireproof House was built in 1776 on a site slightly to the south of the Telegraph public house. It incorporated sheets of iron or copper between its floors as a fireproof measure which was successfully demonstrated during a visit by King George III. Other houses built in the Bowling Green area in the late 18th and early 19th centuries were Scio House, which was later known as Gothic House, Highlands and Wildcroft.

Fireproof House and Bristol House had been demolished by the end of the 19th century while Highlands, Wildcroft and Bowling Green House were all demolished in the 1930s. Gothic House was the last of the grand bowling green houses to be demolished in the 1980s. While housing has been built on the sites of the former buildings it is possible that remains may survive in open areas surrounding the current buildings.

A telegraph station was located on Putney Heath near to Fireproof House and the current Telegraph public house. This station was one of 15 between London and Portsmouth which could relay messages from the admiralty to the naval yard in minutes. Between 1796 and 1816 the telegraph station at Putney consisted of a number of shutters that could be used to convey messages. The system was subsequently updated and between 1822 and 1847 a semaphore system was utilised. A surviving semaphore tower at Chatley Heath in Surrey is an example of what one of these telegraph stations could have looked like. The Putney Heath telegraph may not have been as substantial or as high as the one at Chatley Heath but any remains of either the shutter or semaphore version would be of interest.

Country villas were built along the northern edge of Putney Heath in the 1750s and 1760s. Ashburton House, Exeter House, Ripon House, Grantham House, Gifford House and Dover House were all built during those two decades and mirror the development of similar houses in Roehampton during the same period. Many were used primarily as summer houses and their popularity declined at the same time as those in Roehampton in the second half of the 19th century. None of the 18th century houses on the north side of Putney Heath survive and were all demolished between the 1920s and 1950s. Dover House's entrance lodge and Gifford House's ice house are the only structures to remain. The sites of these houses have all been built on but a large amount of open areas still exist where remains of the former houses might be found.

Significance

Putney Heath represents a large area of land which has potential for finds from all periods particularly the prehistoric. While it is frustrating that the precise site of the barrows that were excavated in the 18th century is unknown they could be located on Putney Heath and it is possible that similar finds that have yet to be identified exist within the APA. The telegraph station was part of a network that revolutionised military communications in the 18th and 19th centuries. Any remains of the telegraph could be compared and contrasted with the other stations between London and Portsmouth.

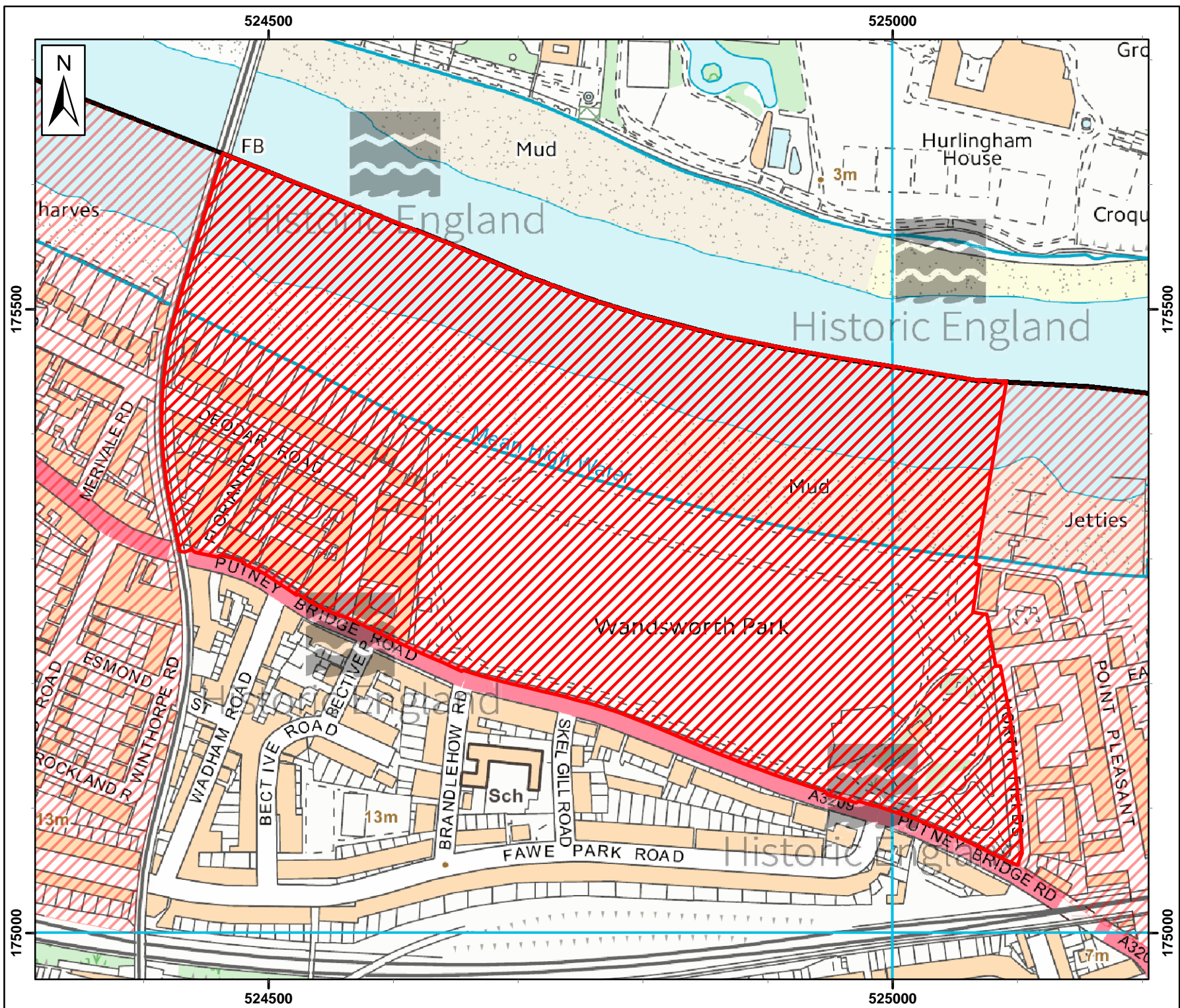
The grand houses built on or besides the Heath in the 18th century represent an overspill from Roehampton but unlike Roehampton none of the Putney Heath examples survive. This could be due to the fact that the Putney Heath area was always less exclusive

than the Roehampton area to the west and so when the desirability of the area declined it had a greater impact on Putney Heath. Nevertheless remains of any of the Putney Heath houses would represent good examples of Georgian country villas and could be compared with the surviving examples in Roehampton. Any remains of Fireproof House would be particularly interesting due to its experimental design which aimed to reduce the effects of a domestic fire.

Key References

Villas and Mansions of Roehampton and Putney Heath, D. Gerhold, Wandsworth Historical Society, 1997

Putney and Roehampton Past, D. Gerhold (ed.), Historical Publications, 2000



Wandsworth APA 2.14
Wandsworth Park

-  Wandsworth Park 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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Wandsworth APA 2.14: Wandsworth Park

Summary and Definition

The Wandsworth Park APA covers the park itself, the Thames and adjacent land. A wealth of archaeological finds have been made along this stretch of the river Thames, many of which date from the prehistoric period. The remains of a number of buildings that previously stood within the APA may survive and Wandsworth Park has potential for archaeological remains since it has never undergone significant development. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because a significant concentration of finds has been made within it.

Description

The Thames foreshore throughout Greater London has high potential for archaeological finds and features and a large number of finds have been recovered from this particular stretch. Many of these finds date from the various periods of the prehistoric such as a Mesolithic flint blade, a sherd from a Neolithic pot, a Bronze Age spearhead and a fragment from an Iron Age bowl. However, prehistoric finds have also been made away from the foreshore such as a Mesolithic blade and a Neolithic scraper tool which were both found in Wandsworth Park. Prehistoric finds have also been made near the foreshore to the east and west of the APA and it is known that prehistoric settlements existed along this stretch of the Thames. It is possible that a settlement may have been located within the APA but no firm evidence has yet been found for such a settlement.

A large amount of Roman material has also been recovered from the foreshore area. Finds have included pottery fragments, a brooch, coins, the rim of a mortarium and the handle of an amphora. A settlement existed at Putney during the Roman period and the level of Roman material found on the foreshore can be attributed to it. However, it is not known how far the settlement extended eastwards along the riverbank although future structural finds could determine whether the settlement reached as far as the Wandsworth Park area.

One of the most intriguing finds made on the foreshore is a structure that is thought to be an Anglo-Saxon fish trap. It consisted of 15 vertical timber stakes in two rows which extended for approximately 12.5 metres. The stakes were carbon dated to between the early 5th century and early 7th century. Little is known about this area and nearby Putney during the Anglo-Saxon period which makes this find significant as it demonstrates that some sort of activity was taking place in the vicinity during that time. A fishery is known to have existed in Putney in later centuries and this structure may be related to an earlier fishery.

During the English Civil War, shortly after the Battle of Turnham Green in November 1642, the Earl of Essex who was commander of the Parliamentary forces arranged for a bridge of boats to be built across the Thames at Putney. It was feared that the Royalist forces could cross the river at Kingston and approach London along the south side of the Thames and the bridge at Putney was constructed to help the Parliamentary army cross the river and block such a move. The pontoon bridge was guarded by some sort of fortification but ultimately the Royalist army retreated to Oxford. The bridge may have been dismantled soon after and it is not known precisely where it was located but it has been hypothesised that it was situated in the western area of Wandsworth Park. It is also not known what sort of fortification or fortifications were erected in order to protect the bridge but if it was located in the area of the park then remains of the defences may survive since the park has seen little development since the 17th century.

Historic maps show the area of Wandsworth Park to have been open land for most of the post medieval period. On the Rocque map of the 1740s it has been drawn in a way that suggests it was a marshy area and this could explain why it was never built upon. This former marshy area could contain preserved waterlogged remains. The area to the west of the park had undergone some development as a few buildings are shown on the Rocque map. One of these buildings was a large house called the Cedars which stood close to the river in the vicinity of what is now Deodar Road. The Cedars appears and is marked on maps dating to 1829 and 1843.

By 1853 The Cedars had been demolished and a new development, also known as The Cedars consisting of 17 five storey houses was built on the northern side of Deodar Road with communal gardens between them and the river. The construction of Putney Railway Bridge in the late 1880s destroyed three of the houses and had a negative effect on the desirability of The Cedars and the entire development was demolished soon after. By 1916 new housing had been built along Deodar Road and Merivale Road and Florian Road had also been built up. Remains of the original Cedars country house along with the later Cedars development may be present within the front and rear gardens of properties along the north side of the eastern end of Deodar Road.

Putney steam laundry was located at 118 Putney Bridge Road and was in existence from 1883 until the mid-20th century. Remains of the steam laundry were found during an excavation in 2008 and consisted of walls, floors and culverts. The presence of these features demonstrates that post medieval structural remains may survive within this part of the APA despite the developments that have taken place since their demolition.

At the end of the 19th century the area now covered by Wandsworth Park was market gardens, a rubbish tip and land that had been reclaimed from the river. The land was bought

by the London County Council in 1898 and turned into a park which opened in 1903. The aim was to provide an area of open space in an area that was rapidly developing and becoming increasingly industrialised, particularly near the mouth of the Wandle. Apart from the addition of a bowling green pavilion and two tennis courts that were added around 1920 the park is relatively unaltered.

Significance

Wandsworth Park is one of the few undeveloped spaces along Wandsworth's Thames shoreline and therefore has the potential to contain archaeological features and finds relatively close to the surface. A wealth of prehistoric and Roman features and finds has already been recovered from this stretch of the foreshore and future discoveries would enhance our knowledge of activity and settlement within the APA during those periods. The Anglo-Saxon fish trap is also an interesting find and future Anglo-Saxon finds could help to shed light on what sort of activity was taking place in the vicinity during that period.

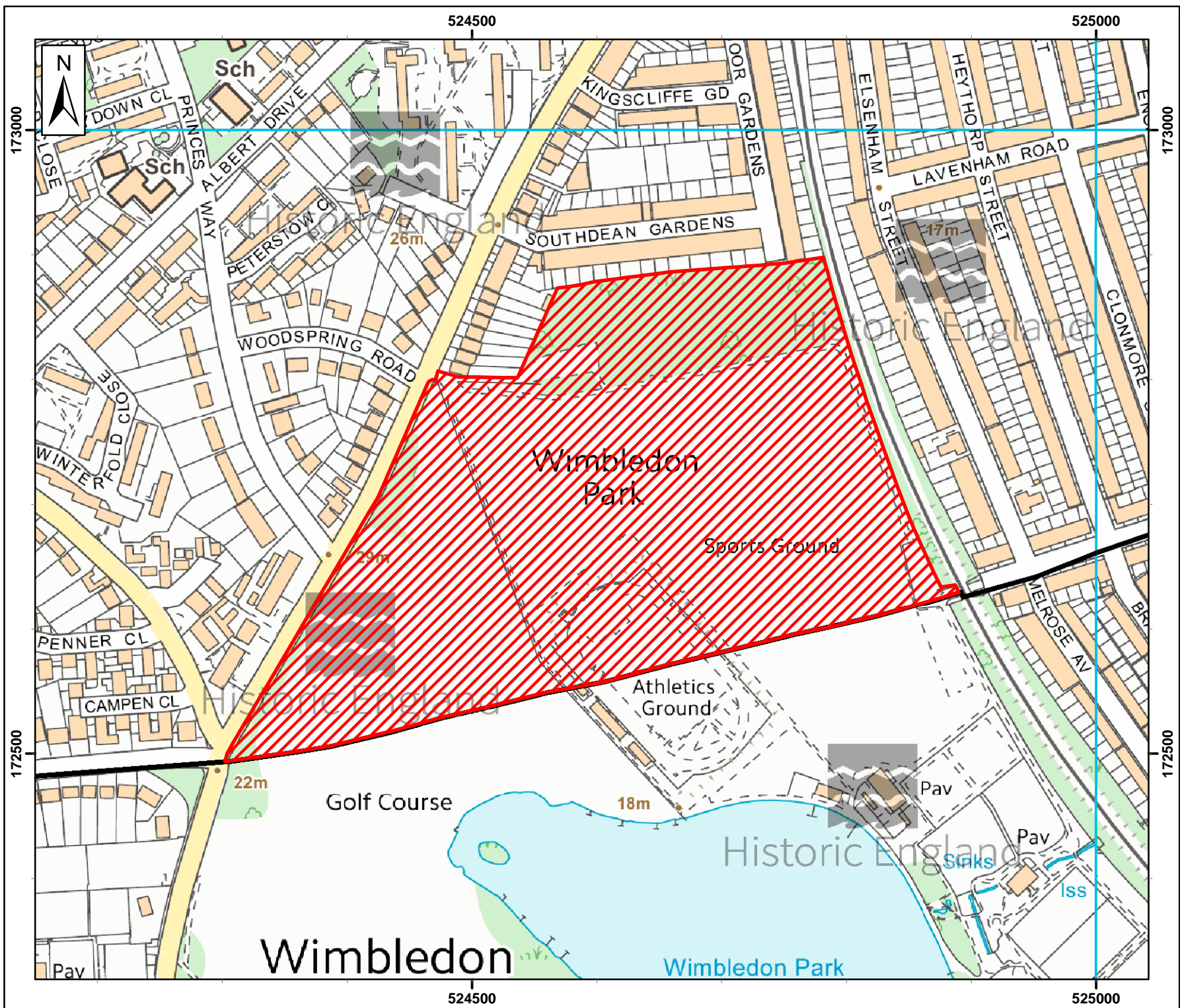
If the remains of a Civil War fortification could be positively identified it could be compared and contrasted with other Civil War fortifications throughout England. Along with those fortifications that formed the defences around the city it would be a rare example of a Civil War fortification in Greater London.


Gardens within the residential area to the west of Wandsworth Park may contain the remains of earlier post medieval structures. Remains of The Cedars riverside house would be particularly significant as it was a luxury riverside house and could be compared with other similar properties along this stretch of the river.

Key References


Wandsworth Past, D. Gerhold, Historical Publications, 1998


Putney and Roehampton Past, D. Gerhold (ed), Historical Publications, 2000



 Wimbledon Park 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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Wandsworth APA 2.15: Wimbledon Park

Summary and Definition

The APA covers the northern part of Wimbledon Park and is bounded by Wimbledon Park Road to the west, the gardens of Southdean Gardens to the north, the District railway line to the east and the borough boundary with Merton to the south. The park was previously part of the grounds of Wimbledon Park House and most of it lies within the London borough of Merton. However, the northern section of the park is within Wandsworth. The APA is classified at Tier 2 because its grounds are a Grade II* Registered Park and Garden with archaeological interest.

Description

Three manor houses were built in the area to the south of Wimbledon Park between the 16th and 19th centuries. The first Wimbledon Park House, which was built for Sir Thomas Cecil in 1588, was the first grand country house to be built in the area and led to further country houses being built nearby. As a consequence Wimbledon gained the reputation of being an affluent suburb where wealthy Londoners could build a country retreat. Wimbledon Park represents what is left of the parkland associated with the various different Wimbledon Park Houses.

The second Wimbledon Park House was built for Sarah Churchill, the Duchess of Marlborough, in the 1730s and thirty years later her great grandson, Earl Spencer, commissioned Capability Brown to landscape the park. Initially the Earl wanted a replica of the Rialto Bridge in Venice to be built in his grounds. While such a bridge was seemingly never built, other less ambitious schemes may have been constructed, the remains of which may still be present.

The grounds originally covered a much larger area than the footprint of the current park but numerous housing and road developments from the late 19th century onwards have encroached upon the former estate. Wimbledon Park opened as a public park in 1914 and a golf course, part of an athletics stadium and a number of football pitches cover the part of the park within Wandsworth.

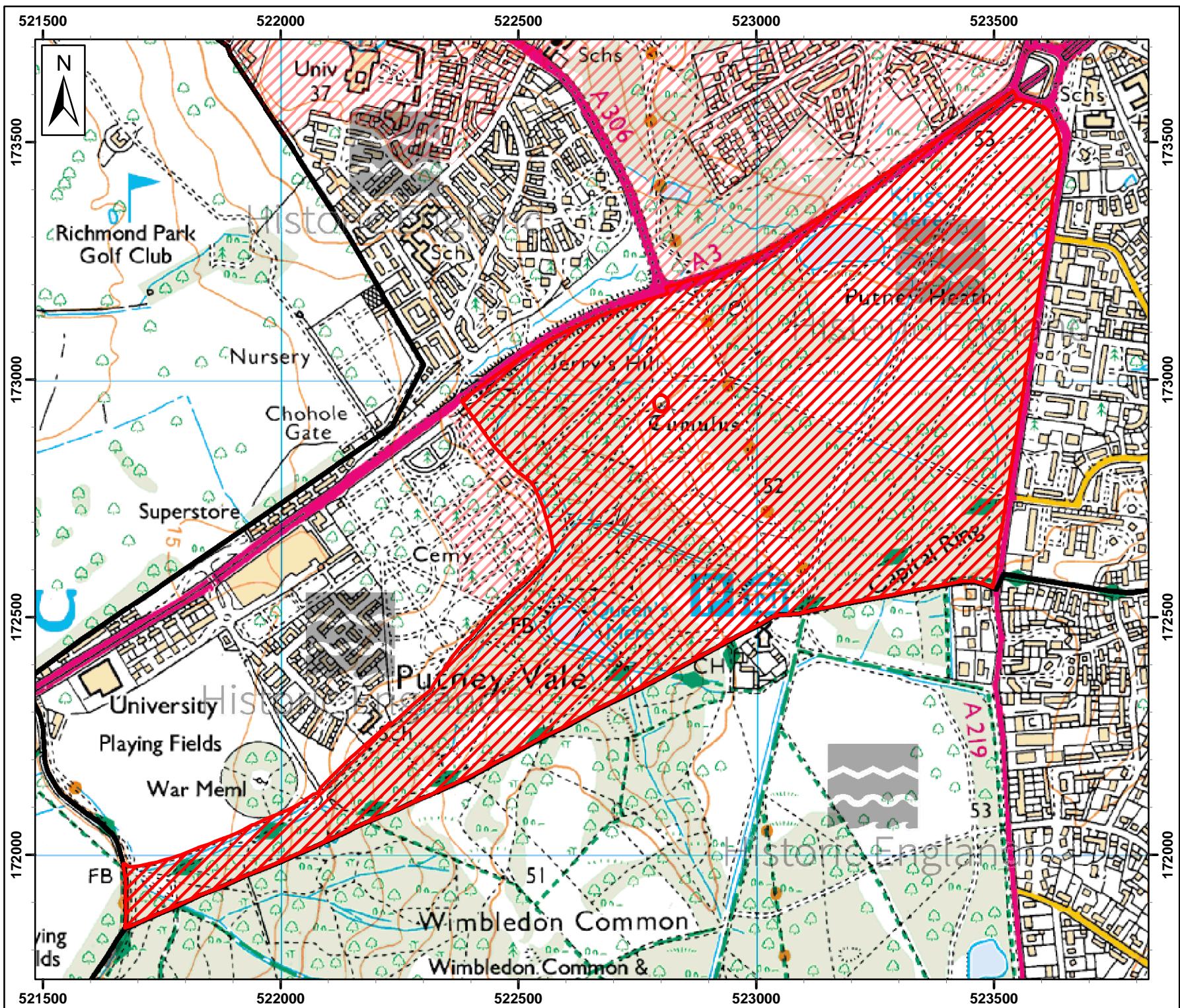
Significance

While the majority of the park and the former location of the various manor houses lie within Merton the section of the park within Wandsworth has potential for finds relating to the extensive estate of Wimbledon Park House. The estate was one of the largest in this part

of Greater London and the first Wimbledon Park House had an influence on the development of the local area. People such as Sir Thomas Cecil, the Duchess of Marlborough and her descendants had strong connections with the royal courts of the time and influential royal and political figures would have visited. Wimbledon Park retains a certain degree of the estate's character and any remains found in the APA would have an association with Wimbledon Park House and have the potential to be significant.

Key References

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



Wandsworth APA 2.16
Wimbledon Common

-  Wimbledon Common APA
-  Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area
-  Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area
-  Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:10,500

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Wandsworth APA 2.16: Wimbledon Common

Summary and Definition

The Wimbledon Common APA covers the area of the Common that is within the London Borough of Wandsworth. It is bounded by Kingston Road to the north and Wimbledon Parkside to the east. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is an area of undeveloped land closely associated with finds of archaeological interest.

Description

Wimbledon Common is located on a high plateau of land which would have provided topographic and strategic advantages for any prehistoric community who decided to settle there. Caesar's Camp, an Iron Age hillfort located further to the south, along with the level of finds recovered from the Common demonstrates that the area was inhabited during the prehistoric period. Archaeological finds dating from all prehistoric periods have been found within the Merton section of the Common and similar finds should be anticipated within the Wandsworth section too. Prehistoric finds that have been made within the APA include Mesolithic blades, Neolithic scraper tools and an early Iron Age bone knife which was found near the windmill in 1918.

A barrow cemetery of unknown date which consisted of 23 barrows and was excavated in the late 18th century is thought to have existed somewhere in the vicinity of Tibbet's Corner. However, it is unclear if the barrows were located in what is now Wimbledon Common or Putney Heath. The precise date of the barrows is also unclear and they may have dated from anywhere between the Bronze Age and Anglo-Saxon periods. A Bronze Age barrow is situated between the windmill and Kingston Road and other as yet unidentified barrows may exist within the APA.

A number of Roman coins have been discovered in the APA including a group of 15 that were discovered in 1952 and a further group of coins that were discovered by workmen near Kingston Road in 1972. The remains of a possible Roman villa were found in 2010 in Somerset Road to the east of Wimbledon Common in Merton and these coins could indicate that further activity was taking place in or within the vicinity of the Common area during the Roman period. However, further Roman features or finds would be necessary to clarify the type and extent of such activity.

The Rocque map that dates from the 1740s does not depict any features on the Common but the Corris map of Putney from 1787 shows a Brick Kiln that would have been located close to where the windmill now stands. The Common was used for National Rifle

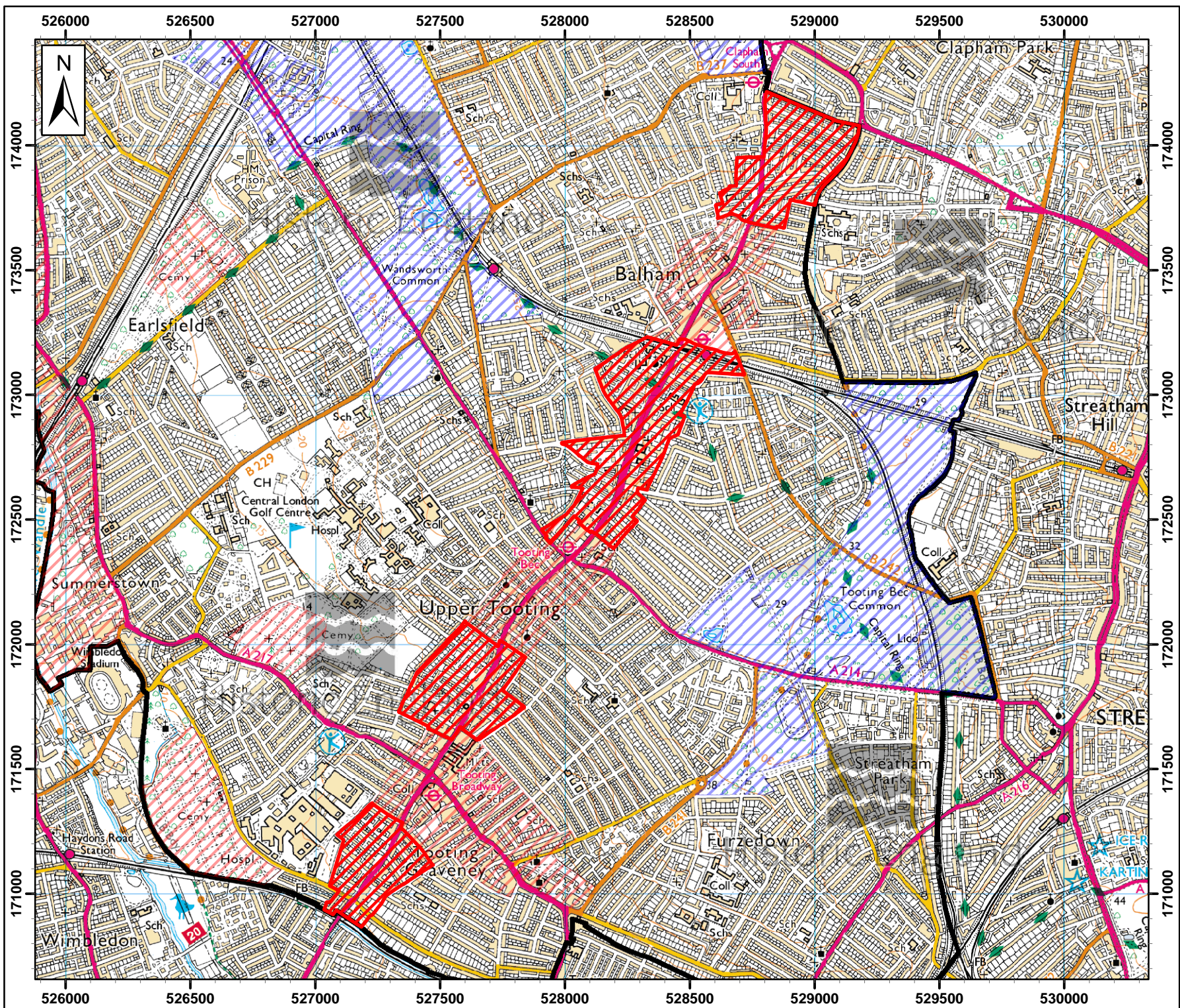
Association meetings between 1860 and 1890 and the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map from 1868 show a number of rifle ranges dotted across the area. Few structures have ever been built within the APA and the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act of 1871 protected it from ever being developed or enclosed.

Significance

Wimbledon Common represents the survival of a distinctive historic rural landscape that can be regarded as a heritage asset of historical and communal value which also possesses archaeological interest. Like the section of Wimbledon Common within Merton the APA has potential for finds of all periods, particularly the prehistoric, and future finds would help to enhance our knowledge of how the area was utilised during that time. Further earthworks, like the barrow to the south of Kingston Road, may be present elsewhere on the common. The Common has never been developed or cultivated so any archaeological features could survive in good condition close to the surface.

Key References

Putney and Roehampton Past, D. Gerhold (ed.), Historical Publications, 2000



Wandsworth APA 2.17
Stane Street

-  Stane Street APA
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

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Wandsworth APA 2.17: Stane Street

Summary and Definition

The APA covers the route of the Roman road known as Stane Street which connected London with Chichester and crossed the south-eastern part of Wandsworth in a north-east to south-west direction. Tooting High Street, Upper Tooting Road, and Balham High Road follow the route of Stane Street as it passes through the borough. However, Stane Street's route is thought to deviate to the east of the main road north of Balham High Road. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it covers a corridor along the course of a Roman road.

Description

Stane Street is thought to have been built by AD 70 and consisted of a central carriageway, known as an agger, which was bounded on either side by roadside ditches. Stane Street connected London and Chichester which were two of the most important towns in Roman Britain.

Few remains of Stane Street have been observed within Wandsworth. One exception was when a layer of large flints within mortared gravel was observed in 1968 at a site slightly to the north of Balham station on the east side of Balham High Road. It was also uncovered in 1970 at a site in Gaskarth Road close to the borough boundary with Lambeth. The section at Gaskarth Road consisted of an agger comprised of layers of small and large pebbles mixed with gravel while a shallow ditch was uncovered on its eastern side.

It is thought that the route of Stane Street veered east from that of the modern route of Balham Hill to the north of Balham and continued into Lambeth on a route to the south-east of Clapham Common. The discovery of what is thought to be a section of Stane Street at Gaskarth Road to the east of Balham Hill appears to confirm such a theory. It is unclear precisely why Stane Street ran to the east of the modern main road or why later roads deviated from the course that Stane Street had followed. It is possible that Roman road builders decided not to build a route that would have unnecessarily taken the road up the relatively steep incline to Clapham Common and preferred to bypass the higher ground.

It is possible that small settlements developed along the road that would have profited from the traffic passing along it. Balham, Tooting Bec and Tooting were all roadside settlements that developed along the route of Stane Street in later periods and it is possible that they developed from earlier small Roman settlements. Larger settlements or official stopping places known as mansios are less likely along this section of Stane Street due to its proximity to London. Nevertheless, archaeological remains relating to smaller scale roadside

activity, such as field boundaries, agricultural structures or burials, may be present within the APA.

After the Roman period, roads continued to follow the route initially established by Stane Street although it is unclear when later roads followed a different course to the north of Balham. From the 18th century this part of Wandsworth became a desirable area to build country houses and a number were built along the former Stane Street roadside. While many of these houses have been demolished and redeveloped it is possible that remains survive.

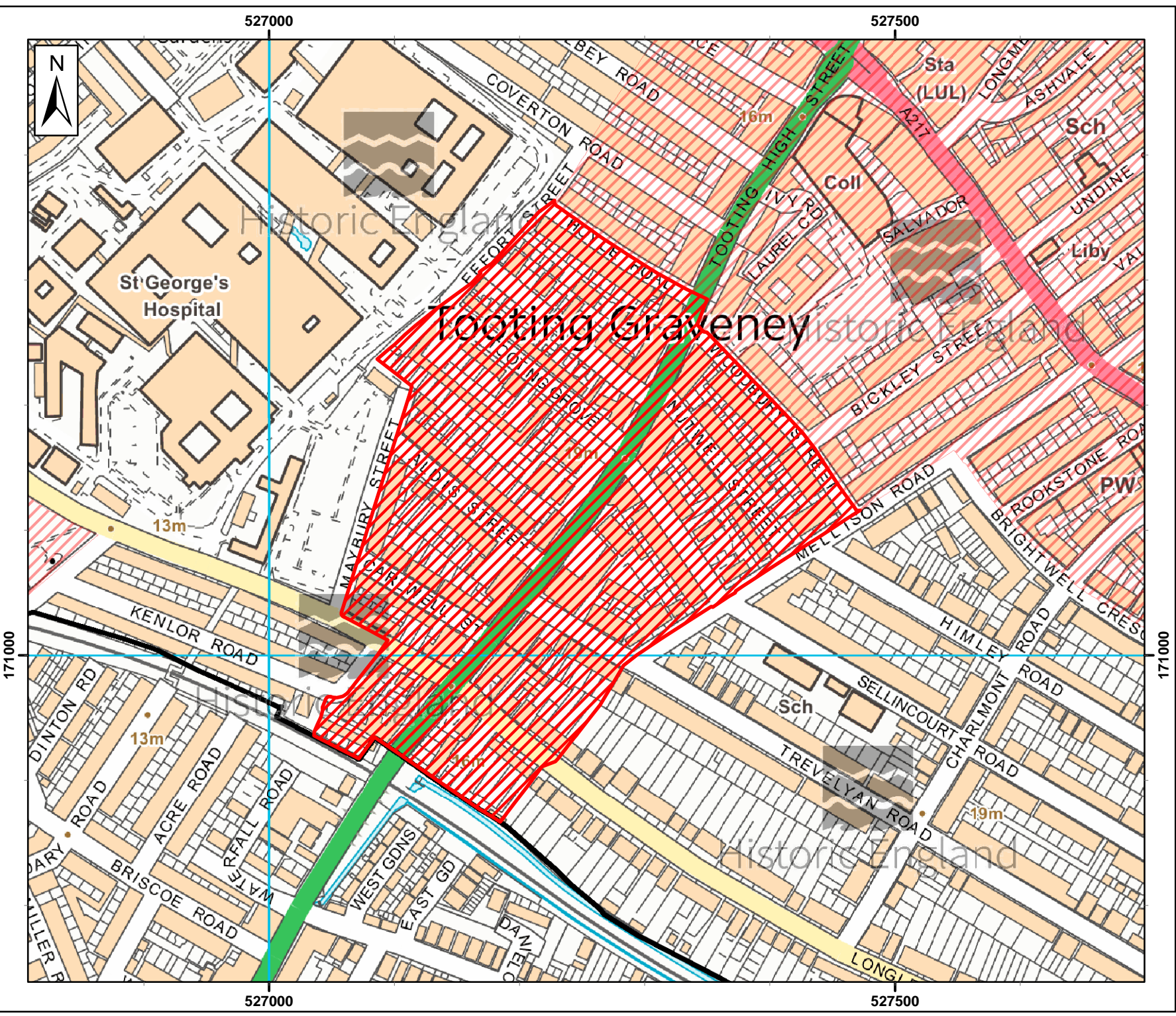
Significance

Stane Street was one of the major arterial Roman roads that linked London with other important settlements in Roman Britain. The fact that its route is still followed by major modern roads in Wandsworth and other boroughs in south and south-west London demonstrates how it influenced road layouts in later periods. Future archaeological investigations along Stane Street could help to establish the extent and nature of Roman and later settlement and land use within its vicinity. Remains of post medieval houses would be of interest since they would be able to demonstrate what type of buildings existed in the area before its rapid urbanisation in the 19th century.

Key References

Excavations for Stane Street in the Clapham Area 1966-71, D. Imber, Transactions of the London & Middlesex Archaeological Society, Vol. 25, 1974

Roman Roads in Britain (3rd ed.), I. D. Margery, John Baker, 1973



Wandsworth APA 2.17
 Stane Street
 (Merton to Tooting section)

-  Stane Street APA
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

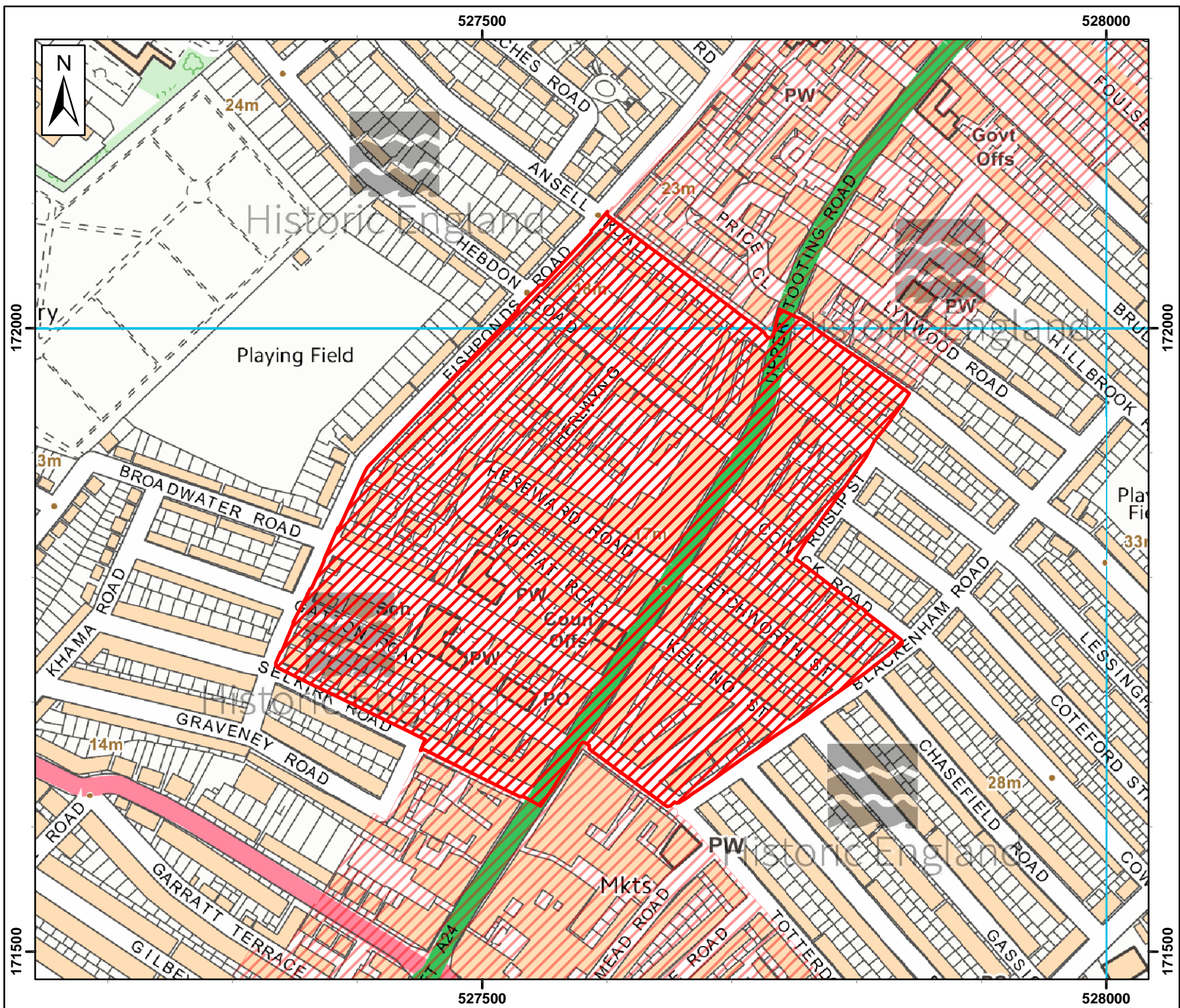
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Wandsworth APA 2.17
 Stane Street
 (Tooting to Tooting Bec section)

-  Stane Street APA
-  Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area
-  Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area
-  Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

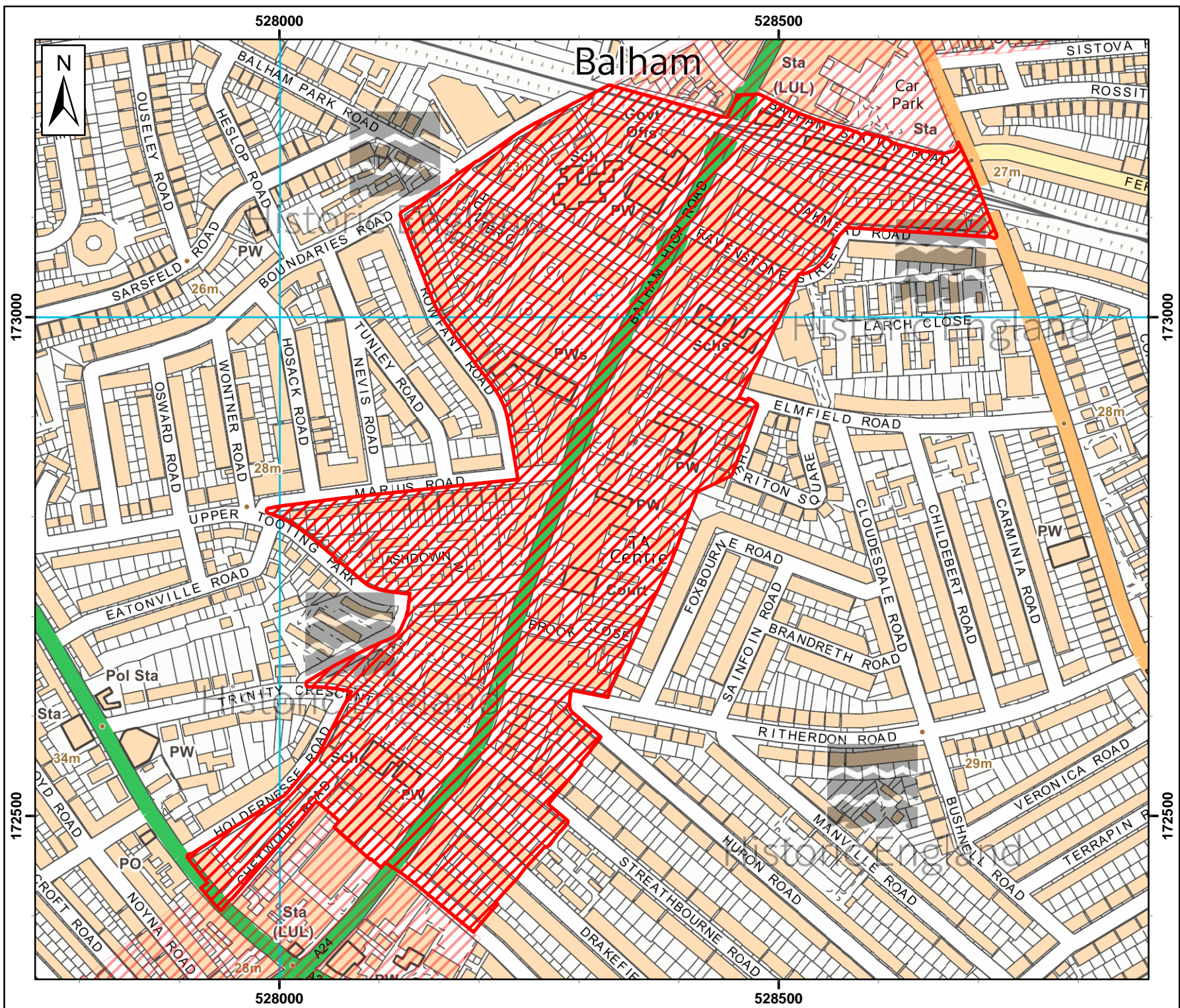
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Wandsworth APA 2.17
 Stane Street
 (Tooting Bec to Balham section)

-  Stane Street APA

-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

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Wandsworth APA 2.17
Stane Street
(Balham to Lambeth section)

-  Stane Street APA
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

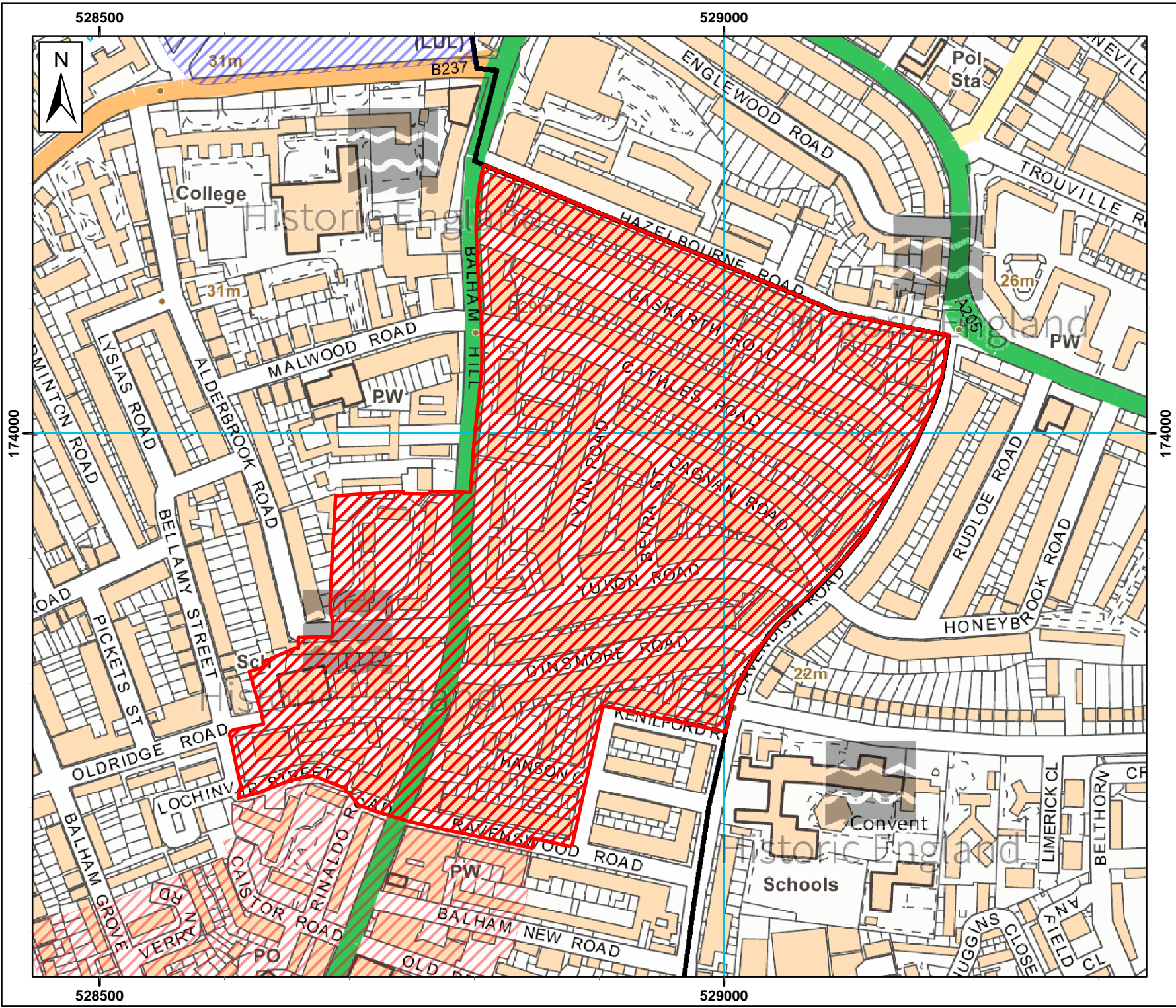
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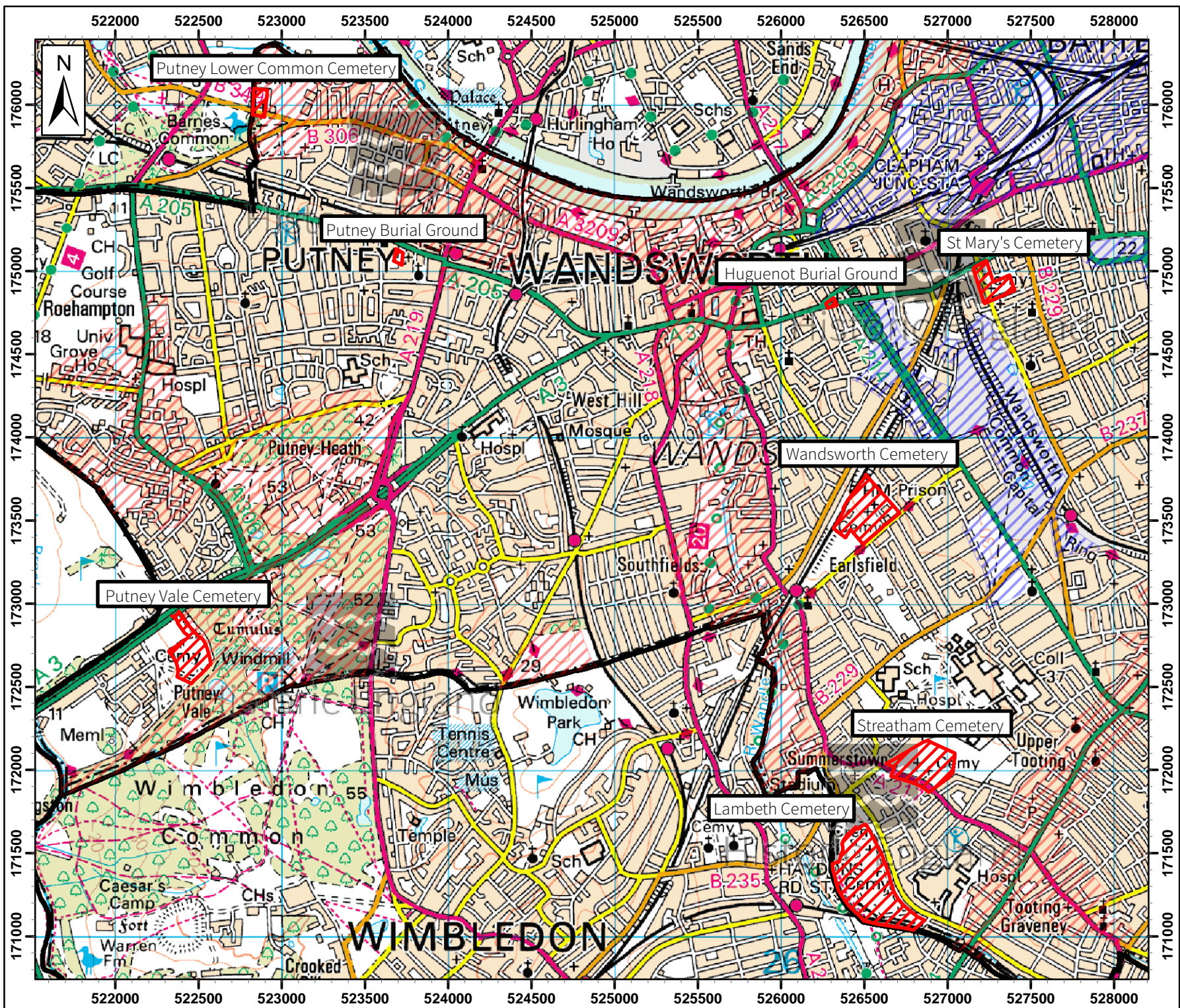
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Wandsworth APA 2.18
Wandsworth Cemeteries

-  Wandsworth 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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Wandsworth APA 2.18: Wandsworth Cemeteries

Summary and Definition

The APA covers eight cemeteries in Wandsworth which are not already covered by an Archaeological Priority Area. The Huguenot Burial Ground and Putney Burial Ground are relatively small cemeteries that were founded in the 17th and 18th centuries respectively while the other six cemeteries were founded in the 19th century. A number of the 19th century cemeteries have been expanded since they were opened and the APA only covers areas in those cemeteries that were being used for burials before 1900. Lambeth Cemetery, Wandsworth Cemetery, Putney Vale Cemetery and Streatham Cemetery still accept burials while the others have all reached their capacity. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it covers burial grounds with 19th century, or earlier, origins.

Description

Huguenot Burial Ground, East Hill/Huguenot Place: Huguenot refugees from France started to arrive in Wandsworth during the 1680s. A Huguenot church was founded in Wandsworth High Street in 1682 and part of Wandsworth Common was acquired to be used as a burial ground for members of the church. The first burial took place there in 1687, the cemetery was enlarged in 1700 and 1735 and by the mid-18th century it was being referred to as Mount Nod. It was used mainly but not exclusively for Huguenot burials and non-Huguenots burials were also accepted. It stopped being used for burials in the 1850s and was later opened as a public park. A memorial commemorating the Huguenot community and the influence they had on the local area was erected there in 1911.

Putney Burial Ground, Upper Richmond Road: Putney Burial Ground was founded in 1763 and was used for burials from the local area. It closed as a burial ground during the 19th century and was opened as a public park in 1886. A number of headstones and tombs survive including a number of table tombs.

Lambeth Cemetery, Blackshaw Road: The cemetery was opened in 1853 as an additional burial ground for the parish of St Mary in Lambeth. Two Gothic entrance lodges were built at the entrance on Blackshaw Road and two mortuary chapels were situated at the centre of the cemetery. Like many other cemeteries established in the 19th century one of the chapels was for Anglican ceremonies while the other was for Nonconformist. An additional 11 acres were acquired in 1874 and by the end of the 1880s more than 100,000 burials had taken place.

Putney Lower Common Cemetery, Lower Richmond Road: The cemetery is located on the edge of Putney Lower Common and is one of the smallest cemeteries in Wandsworth. It was

opened in 1855 and has two mortuary chapels for Church of England and Nonconformist services. It had reached its capacity by the end of the 1880s.

St Mary's Cemetery, Bolingbroke Grove: The cemetery is an extension cemetery for the parish of St Mary's in Battersea. It was opened in 1860 but the local population was increasing so rapidly that another extension cemetery for St Mary's was opened in Morden in 1891. Nevertheless the cemetery in Bolingbroke Grove continued to be used until the 1960s. Two mortuary chapels connected by an archway are located within the cemetery for Church of England and Nonconformist services.

Wandsworth Cemetery, Magdalen Road: The cemetery was founded in 1878 and is considered the borough's main cemetery. Initially it only covered the north-eastern part of the current site but it was enlarged in the late 1890s and the APA covers the area occupied by the cemetery by the end of the 19th century. It was extended to the south-west between 1916 and 1939 to cover the area formerly occupied by Summerstown Football ground. Two mortuary chapels are located in the original area of the cemetery but only the Nonconformist chapel is still in use. The cemetery also includes eight separate war memorials and the remains of two air raid shelters.

Putney Vale Cemetery, Kingston Road: Putney Vale Cemetery was opened in 1891 after Putney Lower Common cemetery reached its capacity in the late 1880s. It was further extended in 1909 and 1912 but the APA covers the cemetery's 19th century extent. Twin mortuary chapels, for Anglican and non-Anglican services, were built when the cemetery was founded and one of them was converted into a crematorium in 1938. A new crematorium was opened ten years later which incorporated parts from both of the original chapels.

Streatham Cemetery, Garratt Lane: The cemetery was opened in 1892 by the Streatham Borough Burial Board and is now owned by the London Borough of Lambeth. It initially covered the western part of the cemetery but was later extended eastwards in various stages between 1904 and 1939. The APA covers the original part of the cemetery which existed by the end of the 19th century. The cemetery includes a pair of chapels which were erected when the cemetery was opened and were used for Church of England and Nonconformist services.

Significance

The Huguenot Burial Ground is a particularly interesting cemetery since it contains the remains of a migrant community who had a significant impact on the local area both culturally and economically from the late 17th century onwards. Putney Burial Ground is also noteworthy since a number of surviving tombs date from the 18th century. By the 19th century, many parish churchyards in settlements close to London no longer had space to

accommodate new burials. As a consequence new cemeteries needed to be established elsewhere in semi-rural areas such as Wandsworth. The six 19th century cemeteries covered by the APA are all examples of burial grounds that were opened to alleviate the pressure faced elsewhere. They share a number of features such as entrance lodges and twin mortuary chapels and several had to be extended after their initial foundation. This reflects how the development of Wandsworth's urban areas during the late 19th century and the subsequent increase in the local population necessitated larger cemeteries.

Burials which are more than 100 years old are potentially of archaeological interest. The interest in 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 investigations 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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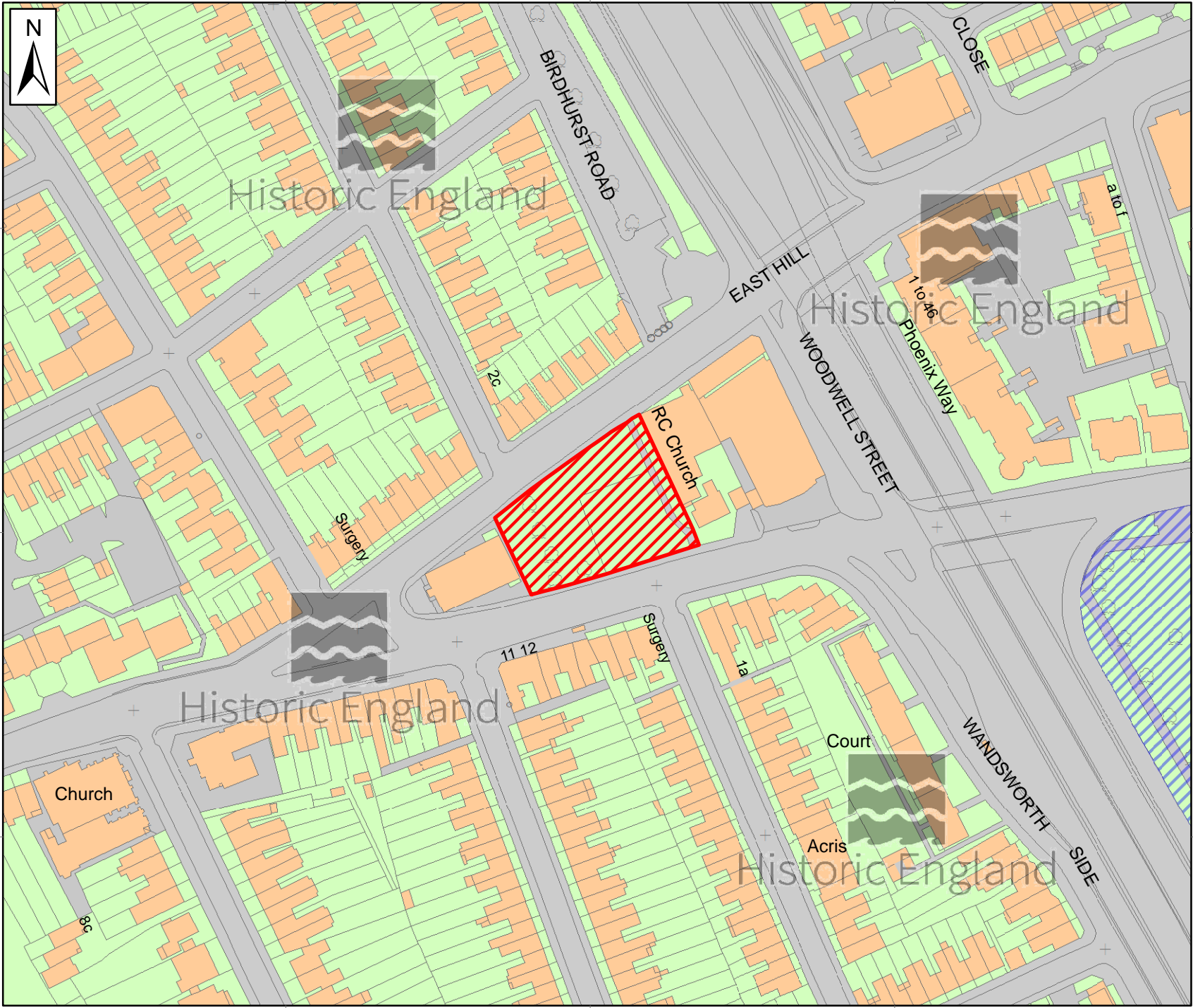
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Wandsworth APA 2.18
 Wandsworth Cemeteries
 (Huguenot Burial Ground)

 Huguenot Burial Ground

 Tier 1
 Archaeological
 Priority Area

 Tier 2
 Archaeological
 Priority Area

 Tier 3
 Archaeological
 Priority Area

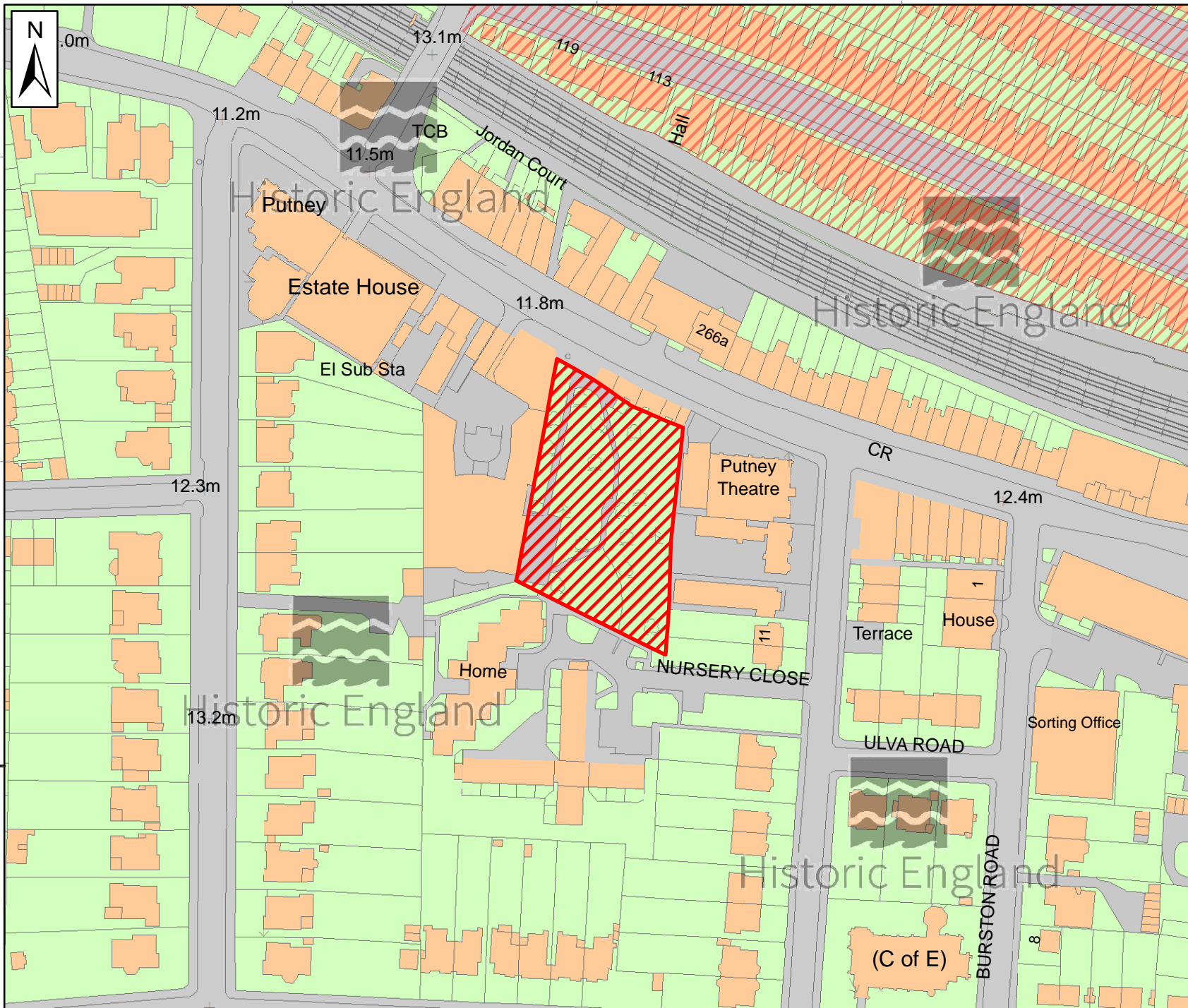
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Wandsworth APA 2.18
Wandsworth Cemeteries
(Putney Burial Ground)

 Putney Burial Ground

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:1,750

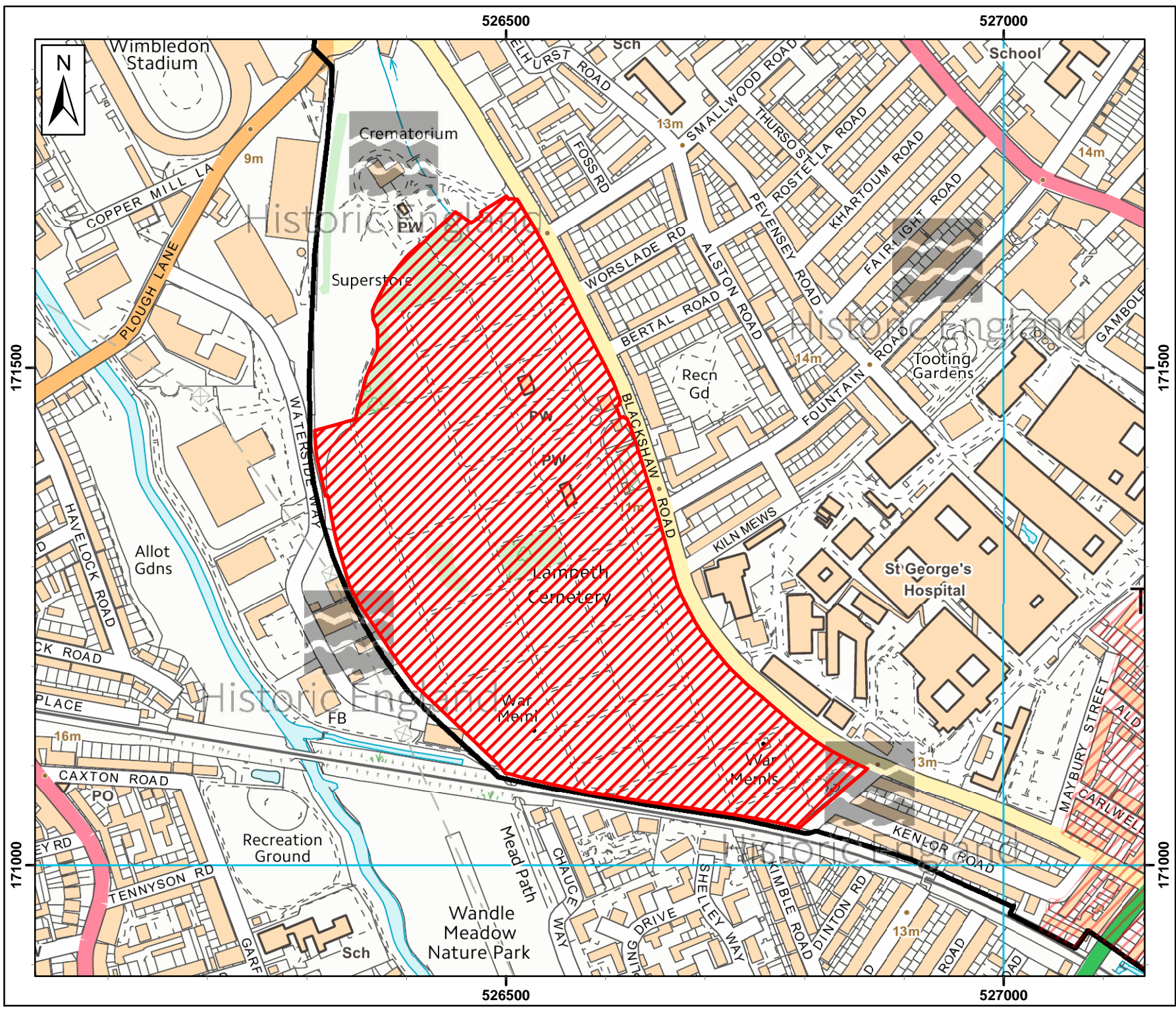
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Wandsworth APA 2.18
Wandsworth Cemeteries
(Lambeth Cemetery)

-  Lambeth Cemetery
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:5,000

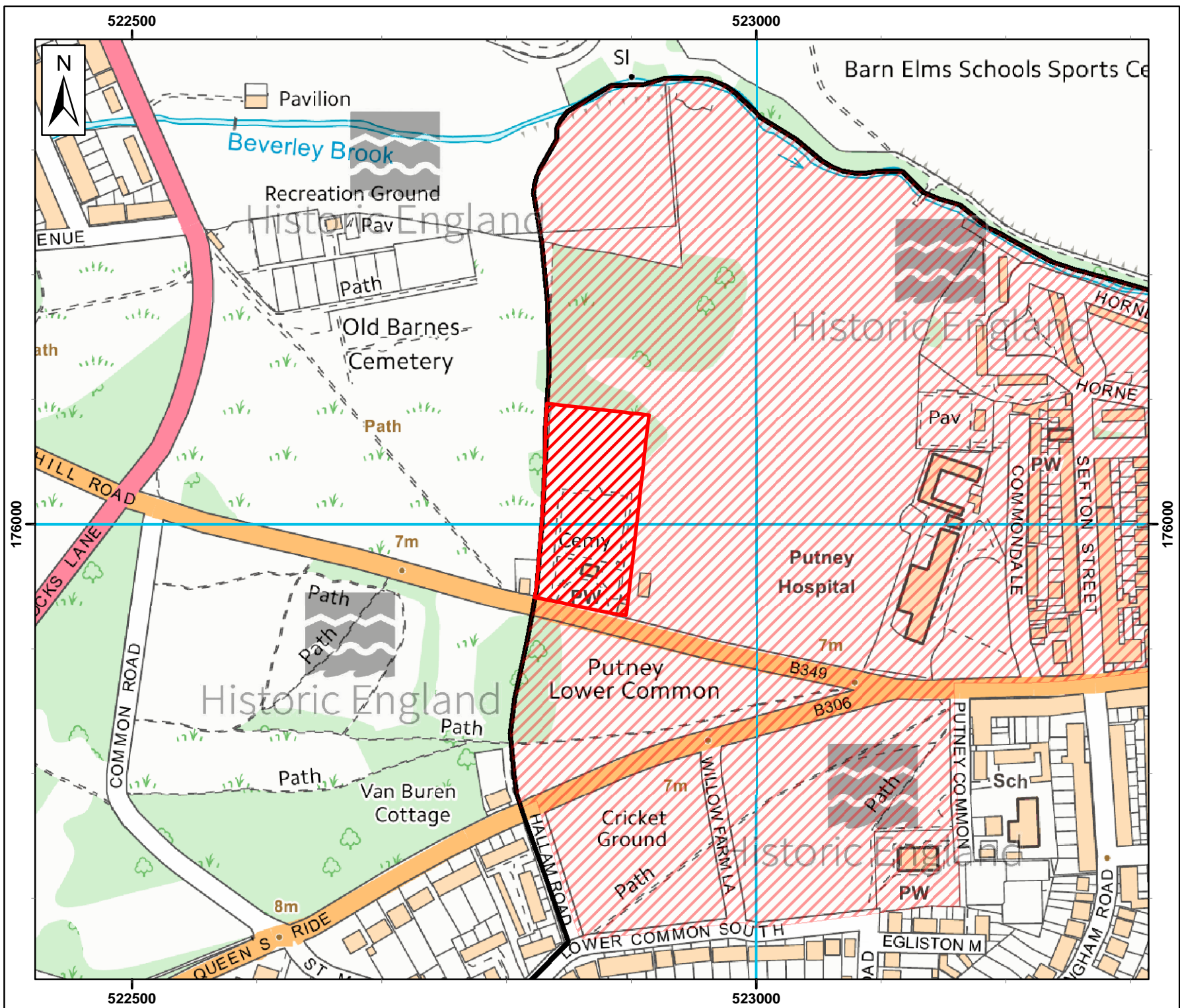
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Wandsworth APA 2.18
 Wandsworth Cemeteries
 (Putney Lower Common Cemetery)

-  Putney Lower Common Cemetery
-  Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area
-  Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area
-  Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

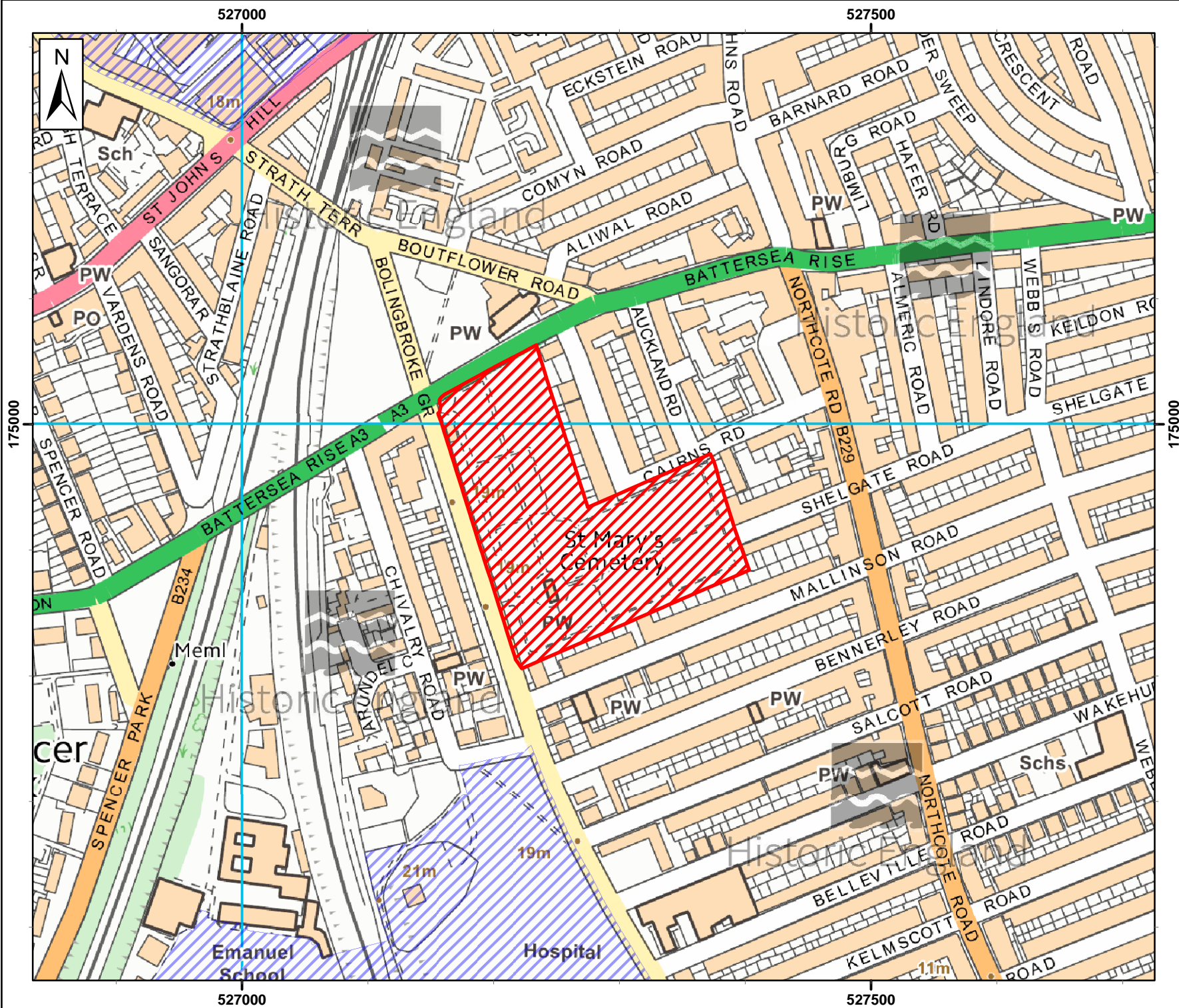
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 St Mary's Cemetery

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

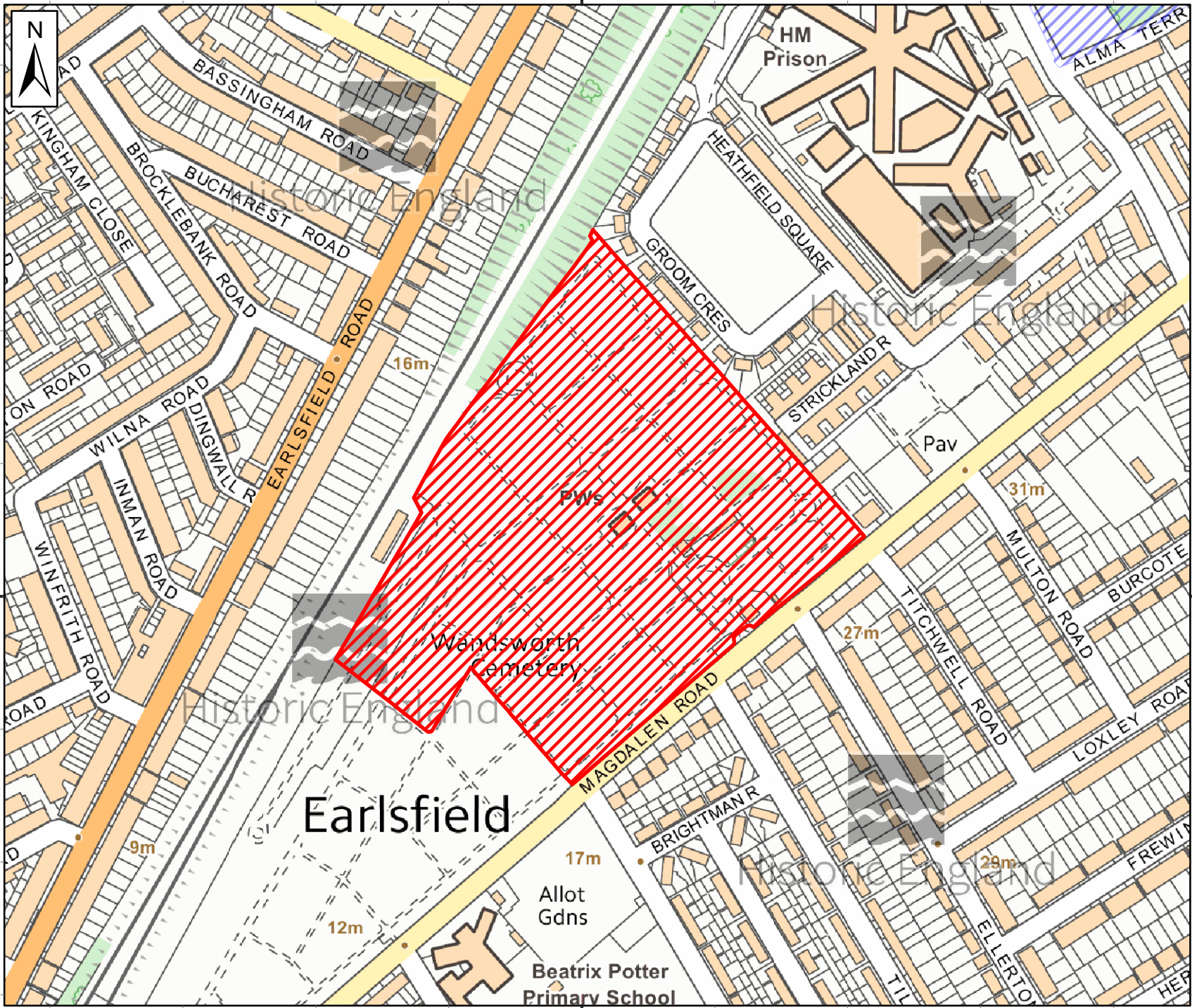
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Wandsworth APA 2.18
Wandsworth Cemeteries
(Wandsworth Cemetery)

 Wandsworth Cemetery

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

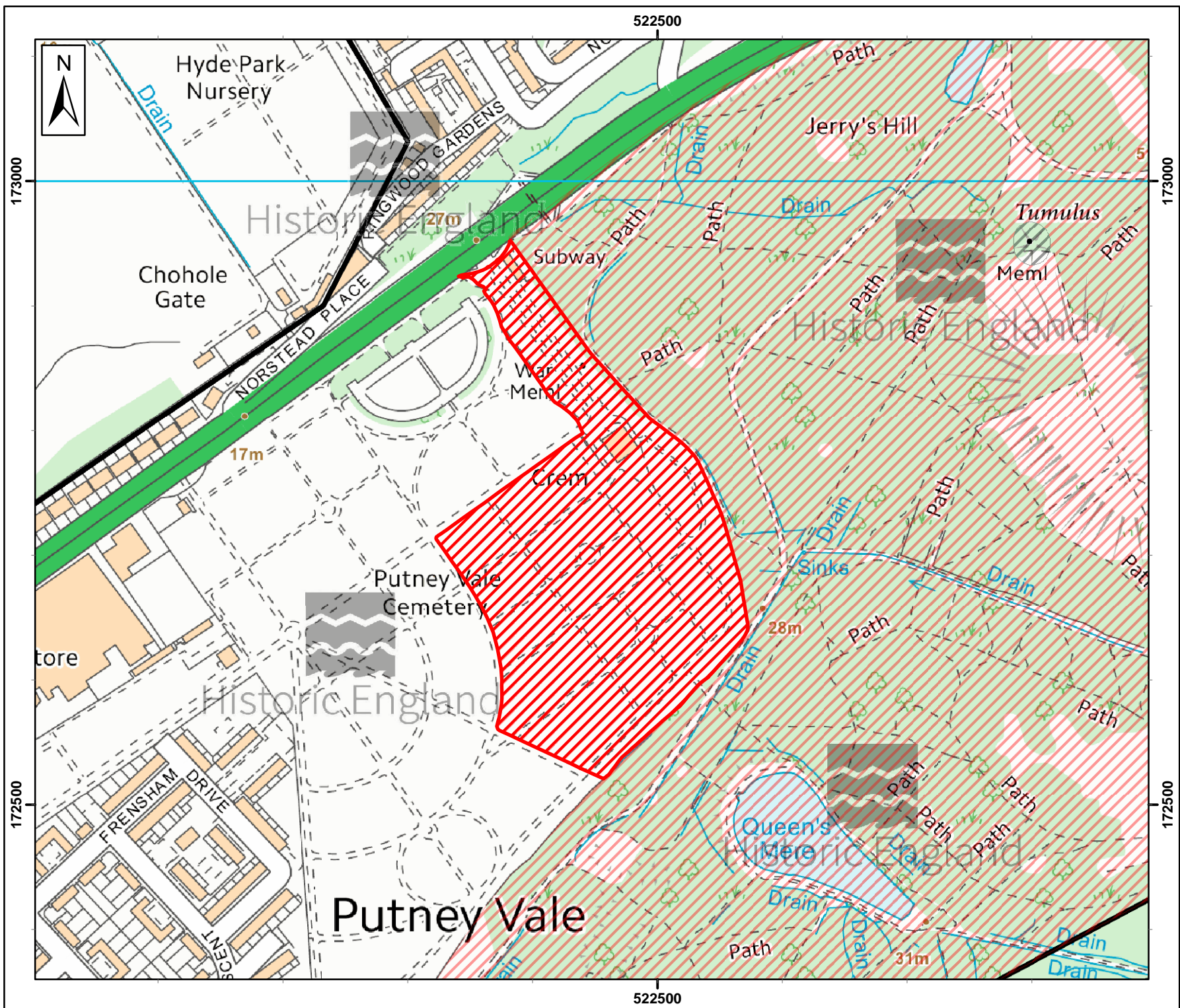
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Wandsworth APA 2.18
Wandsworth Cemeteries
(Putney Vale Cemetery)

-  Putney Vale Cemetery
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

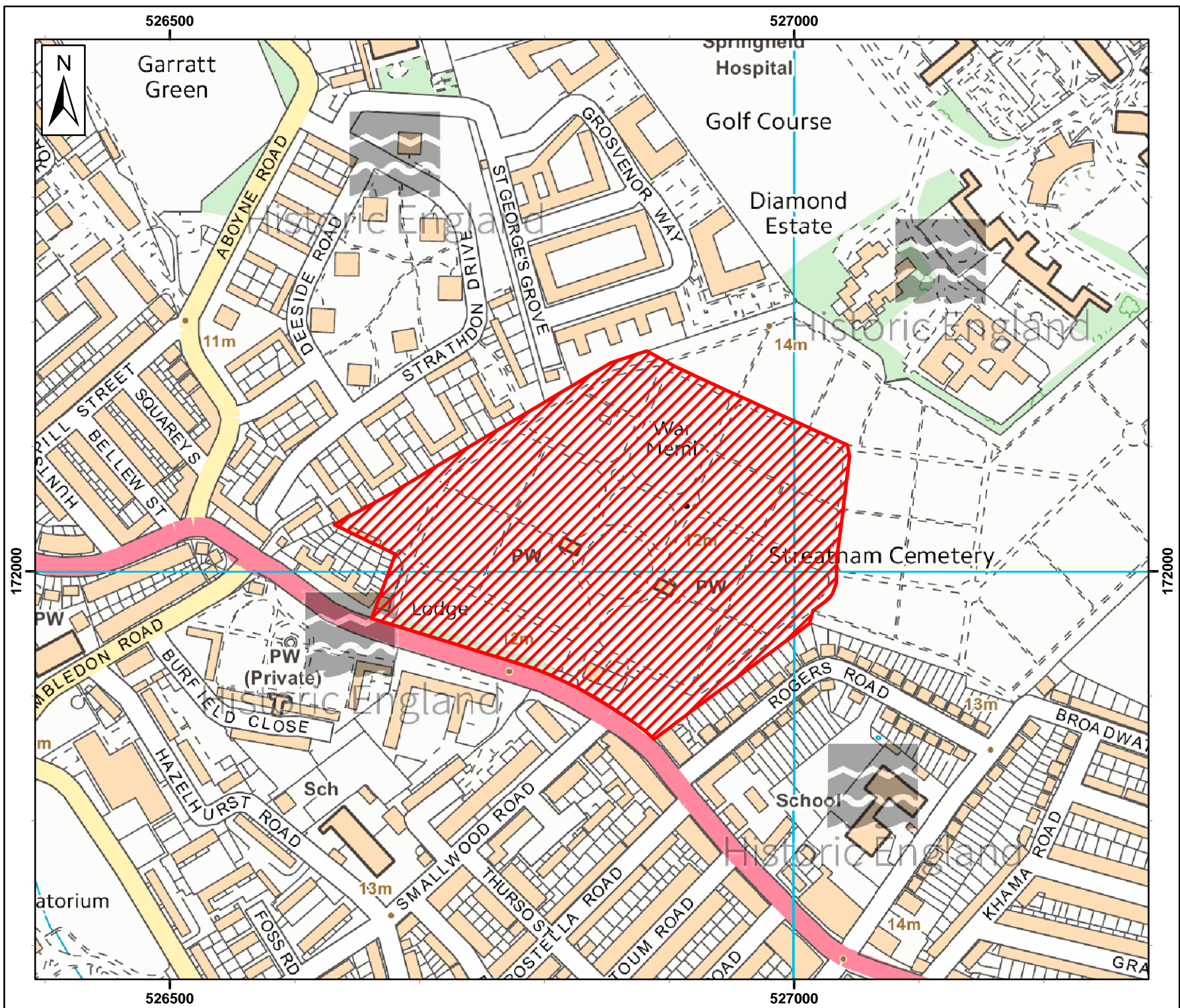
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Wandsworth APA 2.18
 Wandsworth Cemeteries
 (Streatham Cemetery)

-  Streatham Cemetery
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

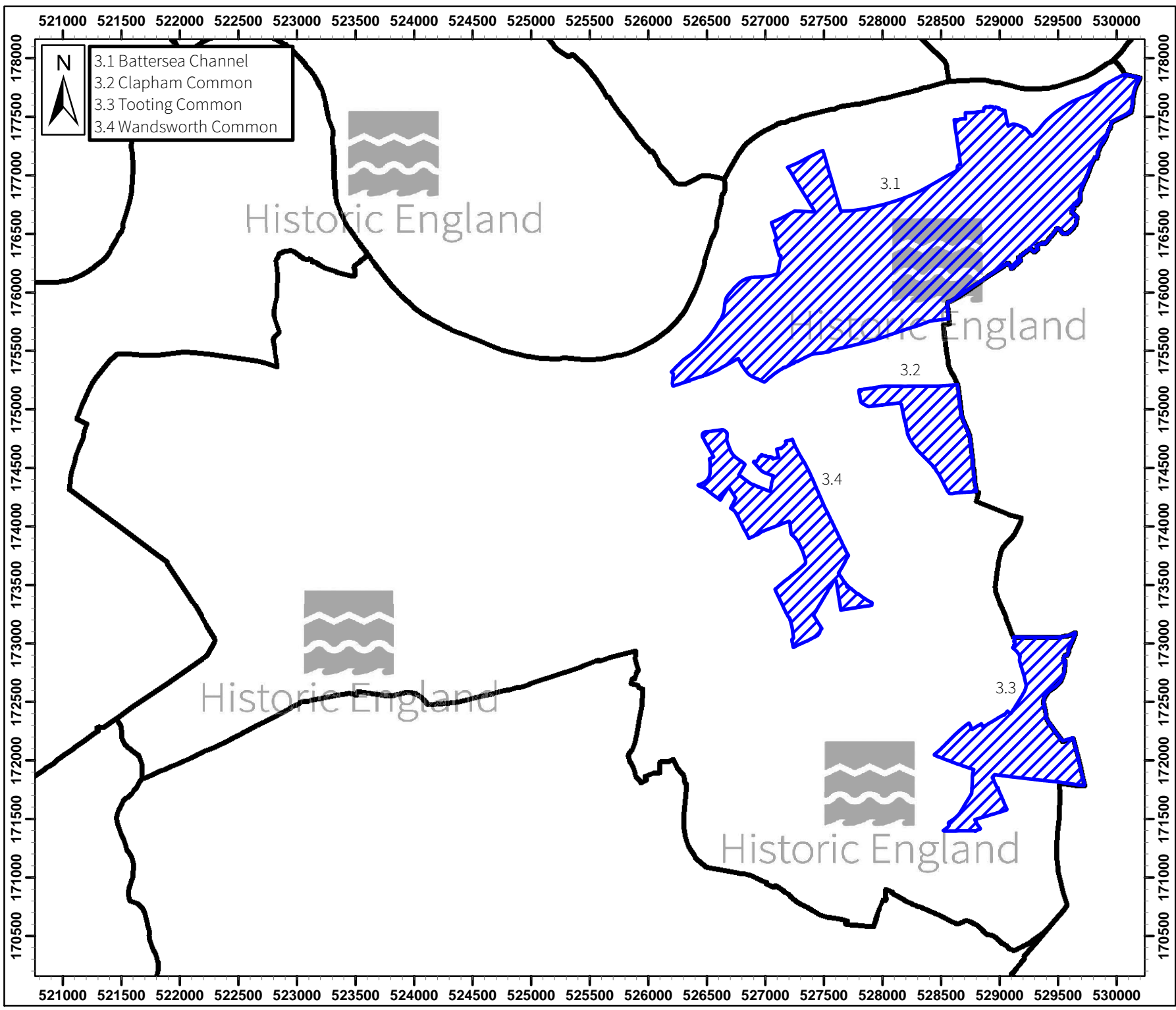
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Wandsworth
Tier 3
Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area



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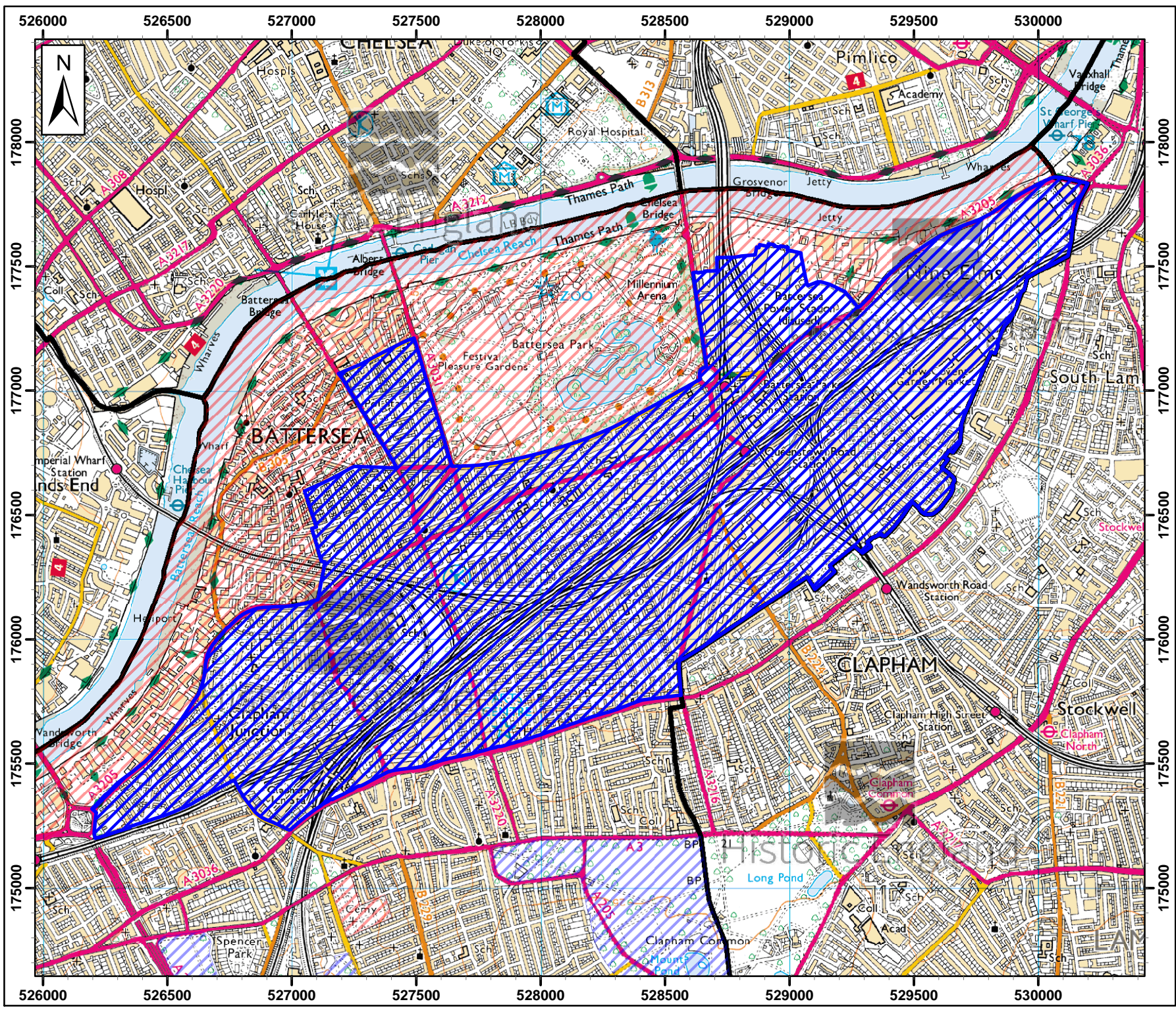
Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Areas

Wandsworth APA 3.1: Battersea Channel page 123

Wandsworth APA 3.2: Clapham Common page 127

Wandsworth APA 3.3: Tooting Common page 131

Wandsworth APA 3.4: Wandsworth Common page 135



Wandsworth APA 3.1
Battersea Channel

-  Battersea Channel APA
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

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Wandsworth APA 3.1: Battersea Channel

Summary and Definition

The Battersea Channel was a prehistoric braided channel of the Thames that ran to the south of an island which separated it from the main course of the river. It is thought to have run from Nine Elms to the area of Battersea Creek while the island is thought to have been located in the approximate area of Battersea Park or to its south. The APA covers a large area between the borough boundary with Lambeth, Lavender Hill, St John's Hill and the railway lines to the south and Battersea Park and the riverside areas of Nine Elms and Battersea to the north. It is classified as a Tier 3 APA because it is a topographical zone with high potential for preservation of organic remains.

Description

During the prehistoric period a number of channels branched from the River Thames and followed alternative routes separated by the main route by eyots or islands. The Battersea Channel was one of these braided channels and is thought to have existed by at least 10,000 BC. However, during the Mesolithic period, as the current route of the Thames became its dominant course, the Battersea Channel began to fill with silt. Even though the Battersea Channel would have started to silt up during the Mesolithic period it would have still been an important water route for much of the prehistoric period. It is estimated that it was almost completely filled by the Roman period although a small channel may have still flowed along the original route. The Falcon River, which now flows underground and enters the Thames at Battersea Creek, would have previously flowed into the channel and its route between Clapham Junction and Battersea Creek follows the western course of the channel. It has been theorised that an eastern branch of the Falcon followed the eastern course of the channel and a former mill pond at Nine Elms, which was built over in the 19th century, was the remnant of where it entered the Thames.

Excavations within the area have the potential to establish the precise route of the channel and the island or islands that separated it from the Thames. An excavation that took place in Stewarts Road in 2006 found a site that appeared to have been located within the channel. Examination of peat deposits that were recovered during the excavation revealed when the channel started to fill with silt and showed what types of trees had been in the area during the peat's formation. An excavation at another site in Stewarts Road found a Bronze Age flint scatter from a site that is thought to have been located on the edge of the channel possibly on an island. The Stewart Road excavations demonstrate what sort of environmental information about the channel and the surrounding area can be gained and

how our knowledge of the area during the prehistoric period could be enhanced by any subsequent discoveries within the APA.

The precise location of the island that separated the Battersea Channel from the Thames is not known although it is thought to have been located in the area of Battersea Park or to its south. There may have been several islands within the APA and it is possible that they were inhabited by prehistoric communities. Prehistoric material that has been found in the APA, such as the flint scatter at Stewarts Road, and in surrounding areas such as the Thames riverside could be related to such communities who may have deposited certain items as votive offerings. It is also possible that these communities may have built structures in the surrounding marshland such as walkways or hunting platforms. These features may have been preserved within the former wetland environment as they have been in other former marshland areas along the Thames.

Roman finds have been recovered from the area including a decorated lead coffin and a number of skeletons which were found in Battersea Fields in the 1790s. The precise location where the coffin was found is not known and it was subsequently melted down and the skeletons were lost. Nevertheless finds such as this could indicate that a Roman settlement may have been located somewhere within or near to the APA.

The area remained marshy and prone to flooding until the post medieval period and it was not developed until the 19th century. In the late 18th century housing started to be built in the Nine Elms area to the south of Nine Elms Lane which became known as Battersea New Town. The housing was intended for workers of the industries located along the nearby riverside. The London & Southampton Railway was built across the area in the 1830s and its terminus station was originally located at Nine Elms. The line was extended to Waterloo in 1848 but a large goods yard and engine workshops remained at Nine Elms. These facilities remained in use until the 1960s before they were demolished to make way for the New Covent Garden market. The London Gas Light Co. built a gasworks at Nine Elms in the 1850s which closed in the early 1970s and were demolished soon after. Remains of these large industrial facilities may survive in the Nine Elms area of the APA.

Significance

The APA covers a former expanse of wetland where organic remains may have been preserved. These remains have the potential to reveal what sort of activity was taking place during the prehistoric period. Environmental remains such as peat also have the potential to reveal what type of trees were growing in the area during particular periods and the rate at which the channel filled with silt. Future excavations might also establish precisely where the island which separated the channel from the Thames was located, its extent and whether

other smaller islands were situated in the APA. All this information can be used to study how the course of the Thames has evolved and its relationship with former braided channels both here and throughout the Thames Valley. Finds and features associated with human activity might also clarify whether settlements were located on islands within the channel or on its banks. Such evidence could be used to establish how settlements were distributed along the Thames and its channels during different prehistoric periods.

The area remained marshy and low lying until the late 18th and 19th centuries. Remains of housing and industries built during those centuries could be compared and contrasted with housing and industrial units built in other parts of Wandsworth during similar periods.


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Wandsworth APA 3.2
Clapham Common

 Clapham Common APA

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:6,000

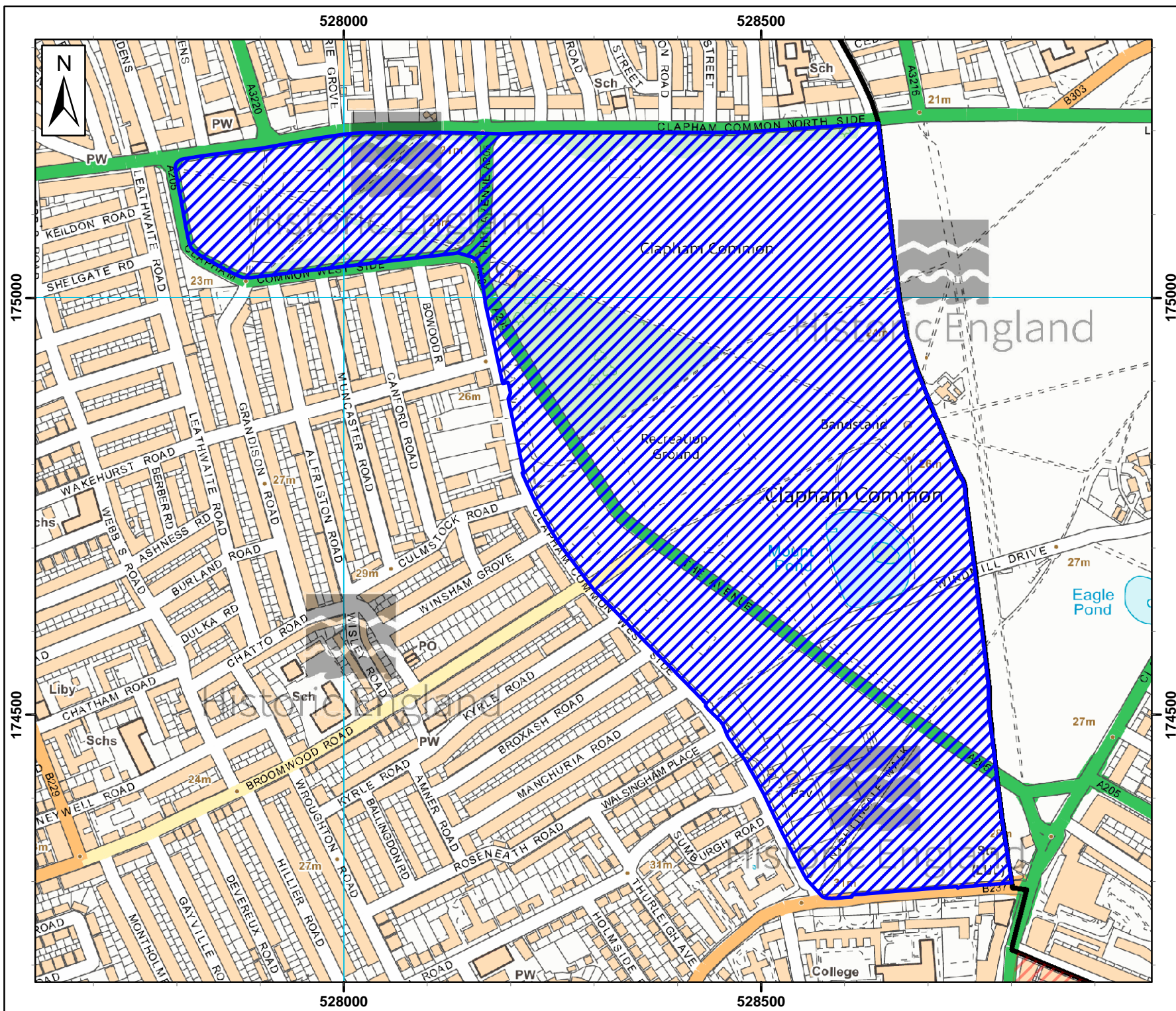
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Wandsworth APA 3.2: Clapham Common

Summary and Definition

The Clapham Common APA covers the area of Clapham Common that lies within Wandsworth. The APA is classified as Tier 3 because it is an area that represents a good survival of a distinctive historic rural landscape.

Description

Clapham Common is located on an area of high ground to the east of the Falcon River. Such a location would have been advantageous for communities who may have settled in the area during the prehistoric period. A number of Palaeolithic handaxes have been found in both the Wandsworth and Lambeth areas of the common and a discoidal knife dating to either the Neolithic or early Bronze Age was also found on the common in 1935. These finds could indicate that some form of activity was taking place in this area during various stages of the prehistoric period although the precise nature and extent of such activity is currently unknown.

The boundary between the parishes of Battersea and Clapham passed through Clapham Common and the borough boundary between Wandsworth and Lambeth follows the same route. In the early 18th century a ditch was excavated to mark the boundary between the two parishes although it was filled in soon afterwards. From the mid-18th century onwards grand country mansions started to be built around the perimeter of the common. Historic maps from the 18th century show the common as a somewhat wild and possibly marshy area. A number of pits or ponds are also depicted on these maps, the largest of which was the Mount Pond which is the only surviving pond in the Wandsworth section of the common. Mr Heaton Brown, a city banker who lived in a house on the south side of the common, built a pagoda style summer house on the island within Mount Pond in the 18th century.

In the second half of the 18th century the common was drained and a variety of tree species were planted. However, on the first Ordnance Survey map from 1874 the common still appears to be generally unkempt with the only notable features being the Mount Pond and a pump well to the south of Clapham Common North Side. After the Metropolitan Board of Works took over the common in 1877 it was drained further, it became far less wild, paths were laid out and a bandstand was installed in 1890.

The common was converted into allotments during both World Wars of the 20th century and holes or trenches were dug on the common during the Second World War to

prevent enemy aircraft from potentially landing there. Barrage balloons were also installed close to Clapham South Station.

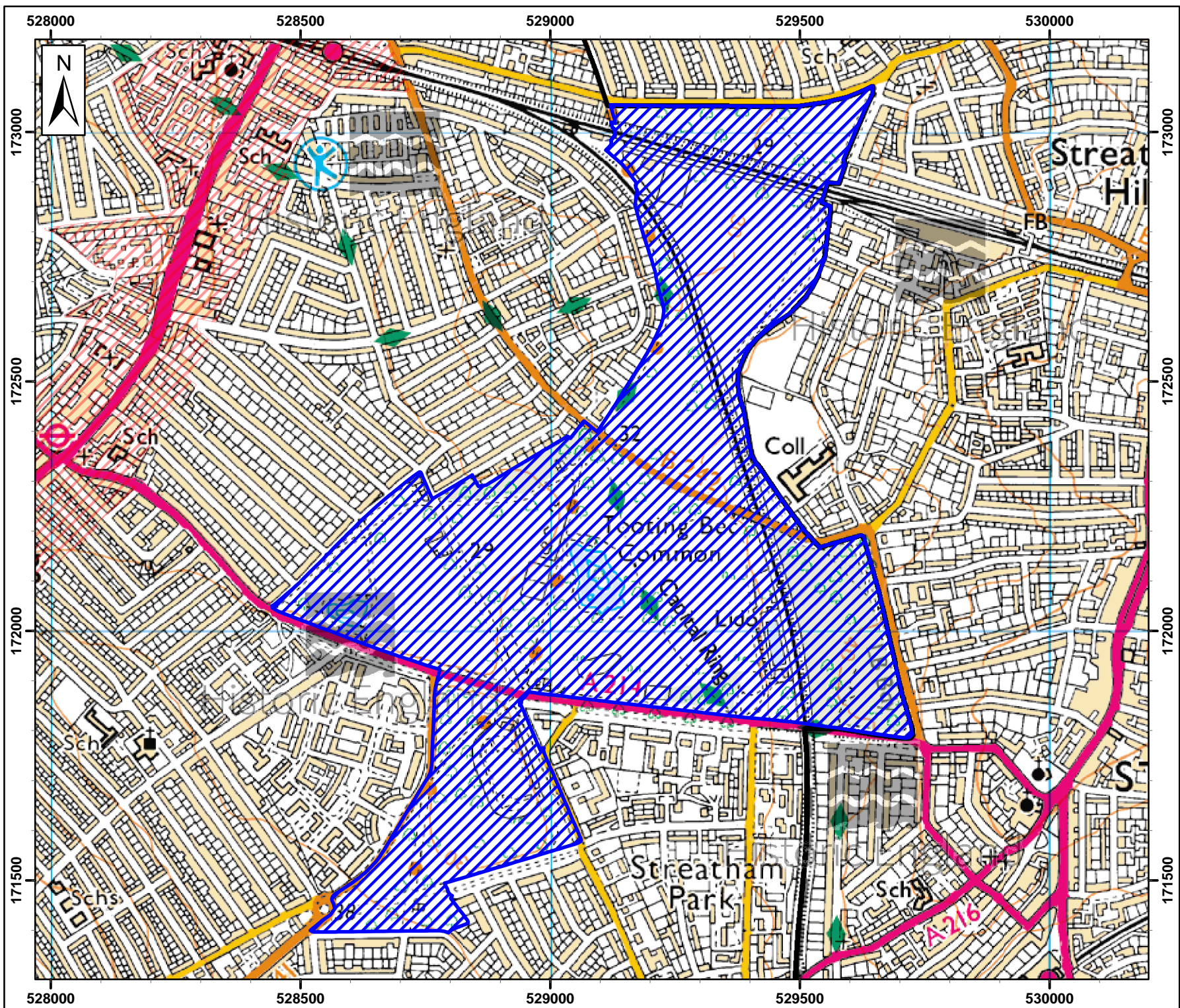
Significance

Clapham Common has never been built on and therefore has the potential for finds or features relatively close to the surface. These finds might relate to prehistoric activity that took place in the area or the nearby historic settlement of Clapham. Former known structures that were built on the common that may have left an archaeological trace include the parish boundary ditch, the pump well, the pagoda on Mount Pond island and any features associated with the common's use during both World Wars. Any remains found on Clapham Common would enhance our knowledge of how such a large area of open land has been utilised during various periods.

Key References

Clapham Past, G. Clegg, Historical Publications, 1998

The Story of Clapham Common, The Clapham Society, 1995



Wandsworth APA 3.3
Tooting Common

-  Tooting Common 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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Wandsworth APA 3.3: Tooting Common

Summary and Definition

The APA covers Tooting Bec Common and Tooting Graveney Common which are known collectively as Tooting Common. Dr Johnson Avenue acts as a boundary between the two commons with Tooting Bec Common occupying a larger area between Tooting Bec Road in the south and Emmanuel Road in the north. Tooting Graveney Common lies to the west of Dr Johnson Avenue and also includes an area to the south of Tooting Bec Road where Tooting Bec Stadium is located. The APA is classified as Tier 3 because it is an area that represents a good survival of a distinctive historic rural landscape.

Description

Tooting Common was originally part of common land which stretched as far south as Mitcham. It has gradually been encroached upon until its current boundaries were established in the late 19th century. There is potential for archaeological finds and features across Tooting Common because it has never been developed although it may have been farmed. As a consequence, any surviving archaeological deposits, if present, would be relatively close to the surface.

An avenue of oak trees was planted along the route of Dr Johnson Avenue in the late 16th century to mark a visit to the area by Elizabeth I while another avenue of oaks was laid along the route of Garrad's Road in the late 17th century. Both these avenues, along with another avenue of trees that runs along the route of Tooting Bec Road east of Dr Johnson Avenue, can be seen on a map of the Manor of Tooting Bec which dates from 1729. On the same map Tooting Bec Common and Tooting Graveney Commons are marked as Upper Tooting Common and Lower Tooting Common respectively. The tree avenues along Tooting Bec Road and Dr Johnson Avenue can also be discerned on later historic maps such as the Rocque maps of the 1740s and 1760s and a map of Wandsworth from 1786.

Little appears to have been built on the common until the 19th century. The West End and Crystal Palace line was built across the common and opened in 1855 while the London, Brighton and South Coast line opened in 1861. A lodge located to the south of Furzedown Road was built at the northern end of the drive leading to Furzedown House in the 1860s. At the time of the first Ordnance Survey map in 1869 the area surrounding the common was still predominantly rural although a few large houses such as Tooting Lodge and the Priory had been built around its perimeter.

The Metropolitan Commons Act of 1866 led to common land throughout London being protected and maintained. At Tooting this led to the common becoming less wild, the laying out of footpaths, the erection of a band enclosure and the conversion of a gravel pit into an ornamental lake at the centre of the common. By the end of the 19th century more housing had been built along the western side of the common but it did not become fully enclosed until the early 20th century. A yachting pond was later built near the junction of Tooting Bec Road and Elmbourne Road and Tooting Bec Lido, the first purpose built open air pool in London, was opened in 1906.

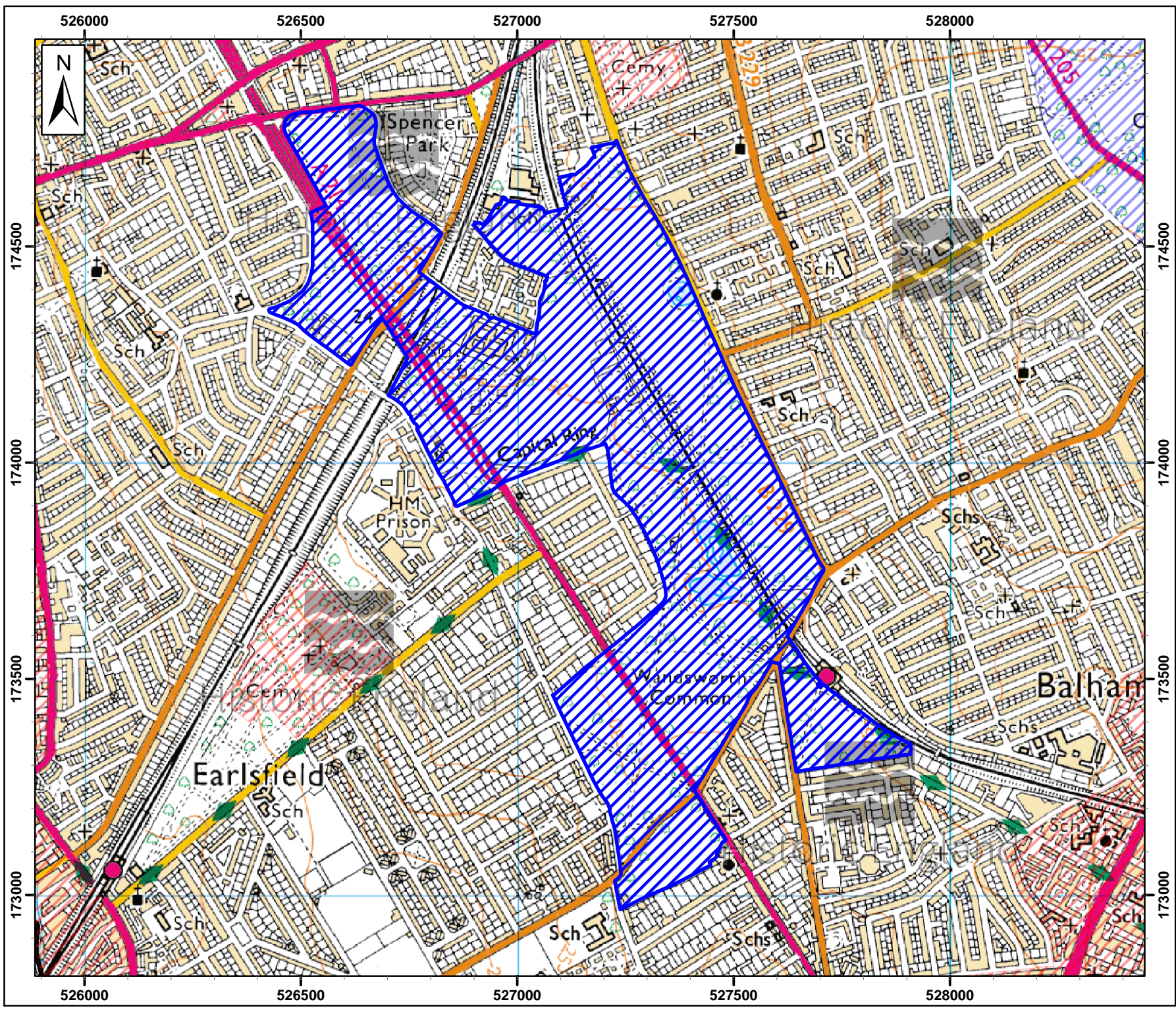
During the Second World War an anti-aircraft battery was located on Tooting Common slightly to the north of Bedford Hill as it crosses the common. The type of anti-aircraft battery was a ZAA site which fired rockets towards enemy aircraft rather than using heavy artillery. The battery at Tooting appears to have been active between 1942 and 1943 and would probably have consisted of a number of rocket emplacements, ammunition stores, accommodation huts and a command post. While little trace of the battery is visible it is possible that more substantial remains survive relatively close to the surface.

Significance

Few major structures are thought to have been constructed on the common although the Second World War anti-aircraft battery is an exception. More than 50 ZAA batteries were built during the Second World War but only a small number have surviving remains. If remains of the Tooting Common battery were found they could be considered of national importance and the area immediately surrounding it could be upgraded to a higher APA tier level. Any other finds or features found within the APA could relate to activity that previously took place on the common or within the vicinity.

Key References

The London Inventory, Historic Green Spaces, Wandsworth, London Parks & Gardens Trust, 2003



Wandsworth APA 3.4
Wandsworth Common

-  Wandsworth Common APA
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:11,500

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Wandsworth APA 3.4: Wandsworth Common

Summary and Definition

The APA covers the remaining undeveloped and open areas of Wandsworth Common. Originally the common covered a much larger area but several developments and enclosures during the 19th century greatly reduced its size. The areas around the Royal Victoria Patriotic Building and Fitzhugh Grove have been included because although they have been partially developed a large part of these areas is still open and has potential for finds. The APA is classified as a Tier 3 APA because the undeveloped parts of the common represent a good survival of a distinctive historic rural landscape.

Description

Wandsworth Common is situated on a plateau of high ground between the Wandle river valley to the west, the Falcon river valley to the east and the Thames to the north. This plateau may have benefitted prehistoric communities because of the views it commanded over the surrounding area and the availability of nearby water sources. Prehistoric finds that have been made in the APA include flakes and a lithic implement dating to the Palaeolithic, a Neolithic axe and further features and finds may also be present.

For much of its history Wandsworth Common was an open area that straddled the manors of Wandsworth and Battersea. It was not until the 19th century that parts of it started to be developed or enclosed for housing or other projects such as the Royal Victoria Patriotic Building which was built in the 1850s. The London and Southampton Railway was built across the common in the 1830s and the West London and Crystal Palace Railway was also established across the common in the 1850s. These developments led to the northern part of the common being split from the larger part of the common to the south-east. This split was further emphasized by the creation of Windmill Road and the housing built along Fitzhugh Grove.

By 1868 it was estimated that 150 acres of the common's original 400 acres were still open land and action was taken by local campaigners to preserve the remaining open areas. This led to the Wandsworth Common Act of 1871 which protected the undeveloped parts of the common from being built upon. By this point the general state of the common had deteriorated. It was being used less for grazing and had become pock marked by numerous pits where gravel extraction had taken place. From 1887 onwards steps were taken to improve it by laying out paths and creating ornamental lakes to the east of Baskerville Road and a pond know as Three Island Pond alongside Bolingbroke Grove.

Significance

All surviving open areas within the APA retain the potential for archaeological finds and features. Such finds and features may be present relatively close to the surface due to the undeveloped character of the common. If any prehistoric communities took advantage of the common's topographic benefits then evidence for such a settlement would help to clarify how communities were distributed across the borough at various points of the prehistoric period. Even if the common was never settled at any point any archaeological discoveries might relate to settlements within the vicinity.

Key References

Wandsworth Past, D. Gerhold, Historical Publications, 1998

The London Inventory, Historic Green Spaces, Wandsworth, London Parks & Gardens Trust, 2003

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 or 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).