



Historic England

London Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames Archaeological Priority Areas Appraisal

Prepared by

**ABRAMS
ARCHAEOLOGY**

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Cover photograph © Historic England

Gallows Tamkin, Coombe, 2006: conservation of a Tudor conduit house that served Hampton Court

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2 INTRODUCTION

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

The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames will henceforth be referred to as Kingston upon Thames or Kingston Council.

This appraisal provides an opportunity to review the previous APAs (Figure 3) in Kingston upon Thames and to, where appropriate, remove, revise and suggest new APAs and to update, or provide new descriptions.

3 EXPLANATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREAS

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

APAs exist in every London borough and were initially created in the 1970s and 1980s either by the boroughs or local museums. In Kingston upon Thames such areas were formerly known as Areas of Archaeological Significance/Archaeological Priority Area. The present review of these areas is based on evidence held in the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER). Guidelines¹ have been created to promote consistency in the recognition and definition of these areas across Greater London² 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. The APA system does not seek to duplicate protection given by other heritage designations, such as Listed Buildings or Conservation Areas. However, on occasion we note that an understanding of archaeological significance can enhance appreciation of historical, artistic 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 therefore be seen as providing a flexible framework for informed site-specific decision making.

¹ Historic England. 2016. Greater London Archaeological Priority Area Guidelines. HEAG098 Publication date: v1.0 July 2016

² That is the boroughs advised by GLAAS; not the City of London and Southwark which have their own archaeological advisers.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREA TIERS

Previously all parts of Kingston were either inside or outside an Area of Archaeological Significance. Under the new system all parts of the borough will fall into one of four tiers of archaeological significance and potential. The tiers vary depending on the archaeological significance and potential of that particular area. Archaeological Priority Areas (APAs) have now 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 application 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 Charter³ and link the tiers to specific thresholds for triggering archaeological advice and assessment. It is expected that as a minimum all major applications⁴ within Archaeological Priority Areas (Tiers 1-3) now 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. There are also specific Archaeological Priority Area (APA) Guidelines⁵ which explain how the APAs are designed.

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 disturbance⁶. They will be clearly focused on a specific heritage asset and will normally be relatively small. Scheduled Monuments would normally be included within a Tier 1 APA⁷.

³ Historic England. 2017. A Charter for the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS).

⁴ 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.

⁵ Historic England. 2016. Greater London Archaeological Priority Area Guidelines.

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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.

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 being re-appraised and moved from one tier to another as a result. For example, a positive archaeological evaluation could result in a Tier 2 area (or part of it) being amended 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. Proposed changes will be notified by Historic England to Kingston-upon-Thames Local Planning Authority for discussion and anticipated adoption, with the agreed mapping amendment also to appear on the Greater London Historic Environment Record.

This document comprises an appraisal of all the new APAs in Kingston upon Thames 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 boundary was 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.

5 KINGSTON UPON THAMES: HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

5.1 INTRODUCTION

There have previously been a number of local authorities responsible for the Kingston upon Thames (Kingston Council) area. The London Borough of Kingston upon Thames was created on 1 April 1965. Kingston upon Thames replaced the Municipal Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames (which was a Royal Borough), the Municipal Borough of Malden and Coombe and the Municipal Borough of Surbiton. The London Borough contains land which was formerly *Cyninges tun* (838 AD). The name means 'the king's manor or estate' from the Old English words *cyning* and *tun*. *This later became Kingestowne upon Thames (1589)*⁸. It belonged to the king in the early Medieval period and was the earliest royal borough.

The borough lies within the Thames Valley National Character Area (115) within which the “*River Thames provides a unifying feature through a very diverse landscape of urban and suburban settlements, infrastructure networks, fragmented agricultural land, historic parks, commons, woodland, reservoirs and extensive minerals workings.*”⁹ While Kingston upon Thames is a small portion of National Character Area 115, it contains many of these attributes. The north-western part has an urban feel in Kingston Town centre, while Surbiton, in popular culture, has become iconic as an example of suburbia¹⁰. Coombe Hill has leafy residential streets and some relatively large green spaces (golf courses). It lies immediately adjacent to Richmond Park and close to Wandsworth Common. The land takes on a rural, agrarian and open character towards the southern end, particularly at Telegraph Hill. There is Woodland to the east and west of this narrow end of the Borough.

5.2 TOPOGRAPHY, WATERCOURSES AND GEOLOGY

The lowest lying part of the Borough is where the Thames curves to form its north-western boundary. Kingston Hill rises to form the northern end; a notable and relatively large area of high ground this is bounded by the lower lying Beverley Brook to the east and the Latchmere stream to the west. Both are north flowing streams which drain into the Thames beyond the Borough. Parts of Richmond Park to the north of Kingston Hill and Wandsworth Common to the east lie at a similar height to the Hill. The benefits of this high ground for vantage and the proximity of it to watercourses, for freshwater and as magnets for animal life and a variety of plants make such landscapes of perennial interest to humans. Such topographic and ecological patterns are of relevance within this document.

The Hogsmill River flows north-westwards across the Borough and intersects it at a broadly central point. Land gradually rises to the south of this in an increasingly narrow stretch of land pointing into Surrey. Notably, the western boundary of the Borough is marked by a watercourse (Tolworth Brook) which rises at The Grapsome and runs north through Chessington and the Berrylands to join the Hogsmill River. Along the eastern boundary of the borough runs the Bonesgate Stream, another tributary of the Hogsmill River.

⁸ Mills, A.D. (2010). "Kingston upon Thames". A Dictionary of London Place Names (2nd ed.)

⁹ NCA Profile:115 Thames Valley (NE379)

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/3865943?category=587130> – accessed 20/10/2020.

¹⁰ Page 178. The Making of a Suburb. David Jeevendrampillai. In: Tilley, C. (ed). 2019. London's Urban Landscape. Another Way of Telling.

Also, along the same line as the eastern boundary of the borough is an ancient Fault line recorded on the British Geological Survey¹¹. The superficial geology of the Borough is dominated by the Alluvium of the Thames and its tributaries. There is also Late Devensian Shepperton/Devensian Kempton Park Gravel and Devensian Langley Silt, with some undifferentiated terrace gravel recorded in parts of the Borough (e.g. Berrylands) and Head in the upper parts of some of the valleys draining in to the Hogsmill. The Quaternary geology in this part of the Middle Thames floodplain is characterised by alluvial sediments, known as the Staines Alluvial Deposits¹² or Lower Floodplain terrace, overlying Shepperton Gravels.

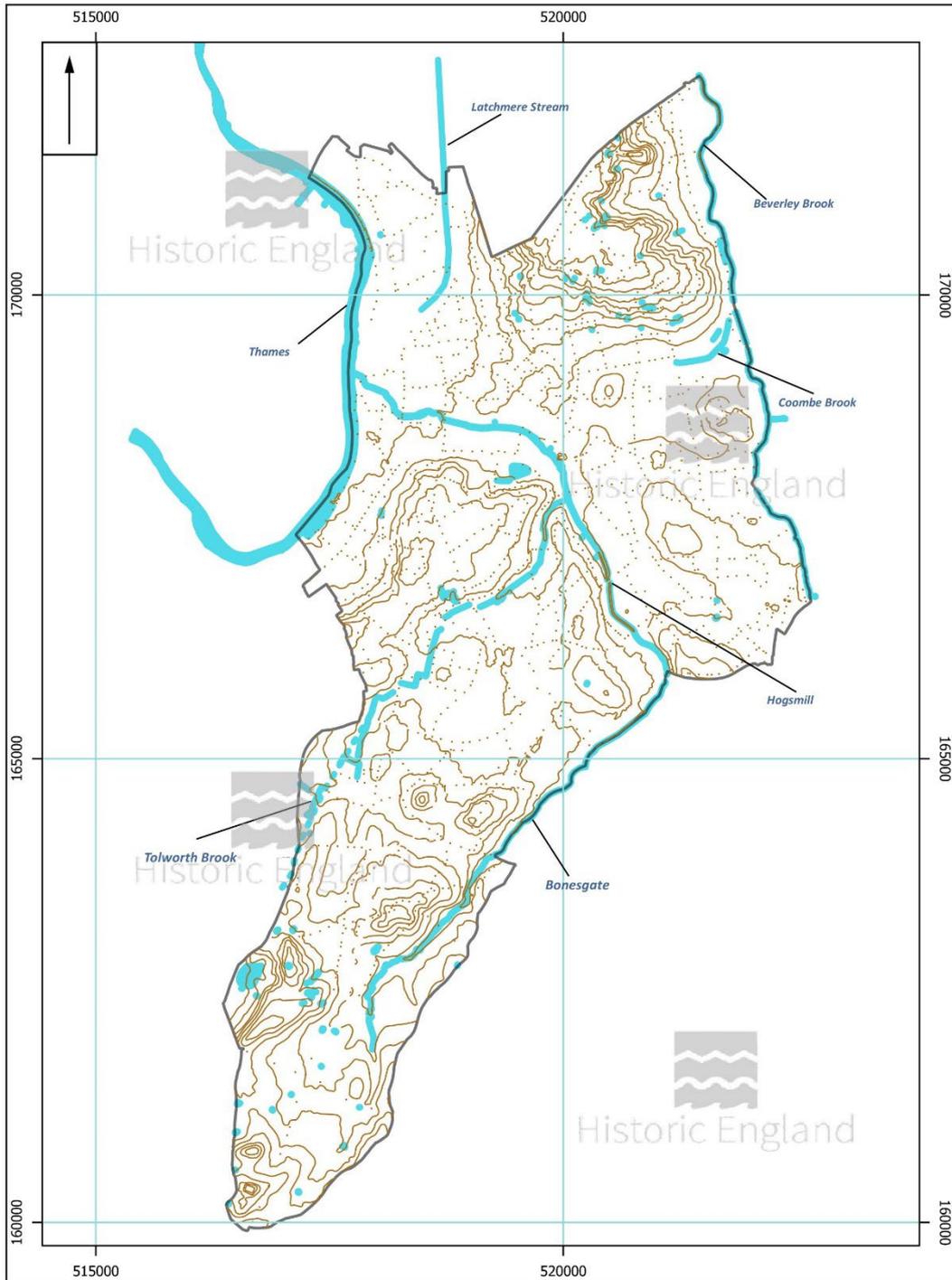
The Shepperton Gravels in the Kingston area are c.5m deep and extend from 0m to 5m OD¹⁰. These deposits sometimes form gravel islands that protrude above the present floodplain and within the present river channel¹³. London Clay lies across the southern part of the Borough in particular. There are notable similarities between the geology of Kingston, Wandsworth and Merton all of which share that mix of London Clay, riverine gravels and alluvial deposits, while Richmond Borough to the west and north of Kingston is more dominated by Gravels.

The watercourses crossing, and defining, the edges of the Borough will have affected the choices of people living in the area. This will be true from prehistory to the present day as water is so fundamental to human settlement patterns. The same is true of differences in soil types and qualities and the variations in high and low ground. Access to freshwater, movement of wild and domesticated animals across land, fertility of soil and different vantage points; geology, topography and hydrology have all shaped archaeological potential within the borough.

¹¹ British Geological Survey. <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/> - accessed 20/10/2020

¹² Gibbard, P.L. (1985) *The Pleistocene history of the Middle Thames Valley*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

¹³ Penn, J.S. and Rolls, J.D. (1981) Problems in the Quaternary Development of the Thames valley around Kingston: a framework for archaeology, *Transactions of the London Middlesex Archaeological Society*, 32: 1-12.



Kingston
Topography
and Watercourses

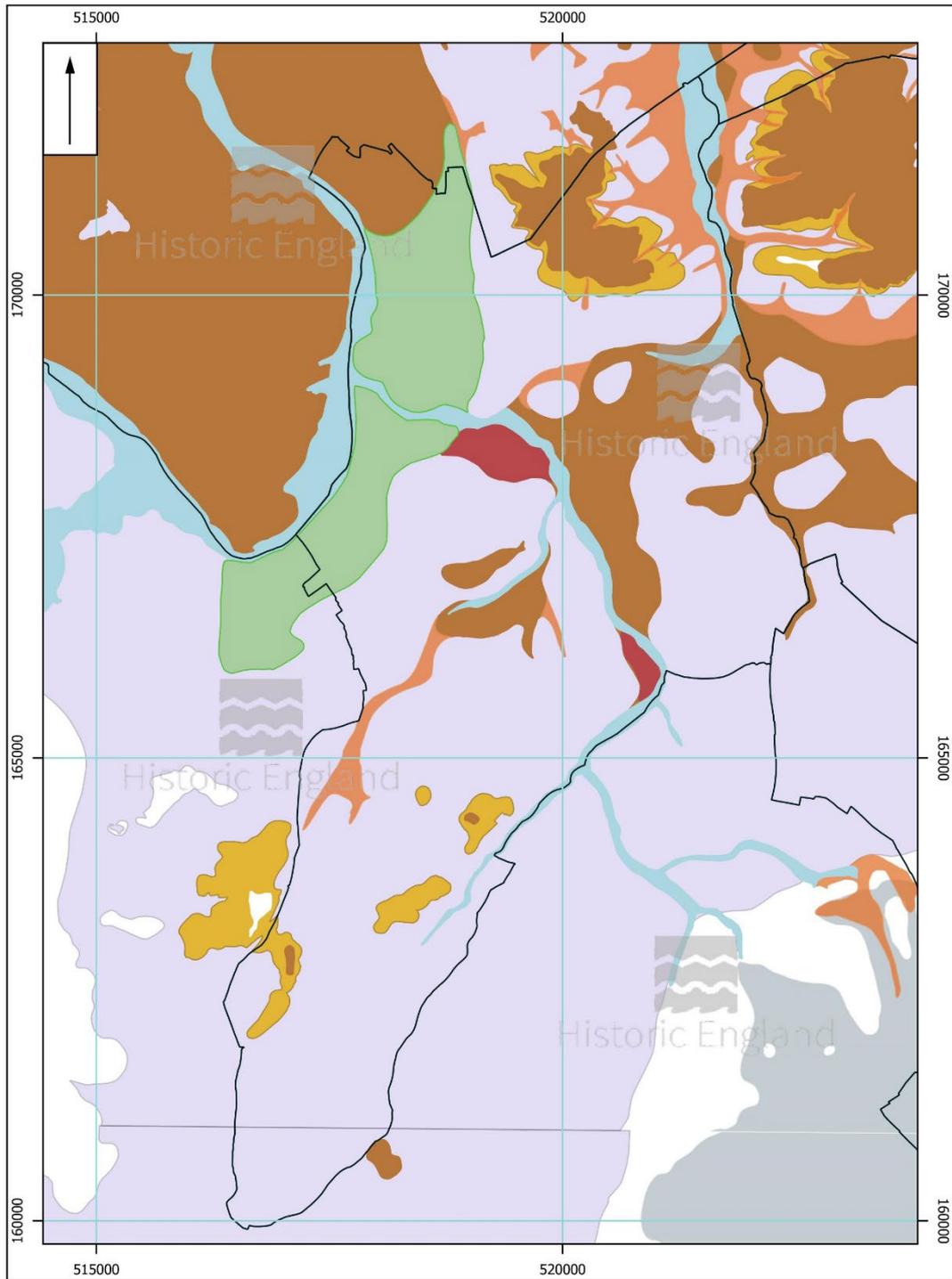
Scale (at A4): 1:55000

-  Watercourses
-  Topography Contours
-  Kingston Outline

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Drift Geology
Kingston
Upon Thames
Scale (at A4): 1:55000

	Alluvium		Langley Silt		Gravel
	Clay		Head		Sand and Gravel
	Sand		Chalk		

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5.3 PREHISTORIC (500,000BC TO 42AD)

In terms of Palaeolithic archaeological and Pleistocene geoarchaeological potential, records are very scarce. Nothing is recorded by Roe¹⁴ and only four artefacts recorded in Wymer¹⁵ a Levallois blade in the extreme south of the borough in the Hogsmill catchment, 'at least two' hand-axes dredged from the Thames. However, some of the deposits, in particular the Langley Silt and the undifferentiated gravel terrace, are worthy of further investigation from a Pleistocene/Palaeolithic point of view. This potential has been documented via a successful community archaeology project conducted by the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society (KUTAS). The geoarchaeological results¹⁶ have contributed usefully to this review of the Borough APAs.

In terms of Mesolithic activity, there are scattered finds from the Borough. This is indicative of communities exploiting the river valley of the Thames and its various tributaries in particular the Hogsmill. There is a relatively low quantity of material which is not unexpected, and more findings may come via studies of the river valleys in particular.

Neolithic and Bronze Age material has been recovered from the Thames, suggesting votive offerings which are documented in association with water for these periods. Investigations at Eden Walk within the core of Kingston (Town) revealed a channel of the Hogsmill silting up from the Neolithic period. Occupation debris was also recovered from this period. This included a compact deposit of brushwood and branches sealed by a thick layer of clay. Associated finds (pottery, a human skull, animal bones, stone axes and flint flakes) indicate Neolithic /Bronze Age occupation.

At Coombe Hill there is evidence for Late Bronze Age defended settlement enclosed by a ditch. Bronze Age settlement evidence was present in the form of timber (post) built buildings in association with artefacts typical of the period (loom weights and pottery). Urned cremations were recovered and given the topographic location on the high ground at the northern end of the Borough, these finds may be evidence of truncated Barrows having existed on the high ground overlooking the Thames. In the south of the Borough, another topographically important location is Bunkers Hill. Indeed, the GLHER records the site of a possible Bronze Age mound at this location. The shallow valley of the Bonesgate Stream and of the Hogsmill River into which it feeds are both corridors along which occupation during prehistory is likely to have occurred and to have left artefactual traces.

From the Iron Age we have settlement remains recorded at Tolworth, and in association with Tolworth Court Farm. Also, at nearby Old Malden the physical remains of settlement have been recorded. There are further sites on the higher ground at Coombe Hill and a small amount of physical material in Kingston Town (e.g. Orchard Road). There are likely to be further such sites and we should note the published examples have generally come about through development work. This is relevant as some of the most likely locations along the Hogsmill and Bonesgate watercourses have not been investigated and may yield further evidence. Other locations such as Coombe Hill have probably seen many examples of Iron Age archaeology destroyed with no record prior to the advent of modern archaeological interventions which are calibrated to recognise and record such sites.

¹⁴ Roe, D. 1968. A Gazetteer of British Lower and Middle Palaeolithic sites. Council for British Archaeology

¹⁵ Wymer, J. 1999. The Lower Palaeolithic Occupation of Britain by John Wymer. Wessex Archaeology and English Heritage

¹⁶ C.P. Green, K. Williams & C.R. Batchelor 2011; Southwood Activity Centre, Elm Close, Tolworth (Undertaken for Phase 1 of The Hogsmill Community Archaeology Project): Environmental Archaeology Fieldwork Report. Quaternary Scientific (Quest). Project Number 002/11.

5.4 ROMAN (43AD TO 409AD)

There are remains of Roman date recorded across Coombe Hill. Mainly these were disturbed in the Post-Medieval period and are referred to and recorded up to the 19th century. As a result, while some of the artefactual material and some of the written accounts are interesting and detailed, we are lacking much of the data which would have been generated by modern investigation. The same is true to the north of Kingston, though this has been supplemented by some recent investigation. This is also the case within Kingston Town.

The picture which emerges is one of settlement on the high gravels of Coombe Hill and adjacent to the River Thames north of the existing town. There is a possibility that the southwestern part of the Borough formed part of a Villa Estate associated with Ashtead Roman Villa and bathhouse c.500m to the SW of the borough in Surrey (Ashtead Common). Aside from this, there is relatively little evidence of settlement and the landscape emerging appears to be one of dispersed villas. These formed elements within an agricultural landscape.

There was settlement at Old Malden and there may be a line of legitimate research to understand the connection between that and other settlements on the Surrey/Kingston Borough borders. And further south at Ashtead Common there is a Villa and Bath house, with a nearby Tile Kiln excavated on the Kingston Borough border at Epsom Common. So far, the majority of remains are on the Surrey side of that boundary, but the topography and landscapes are shared across the modern political boundary and there may be further remains to be revealed along the Kingston side of the boundary with specific areas of interest being along the Bonesgate stream and the Hogsmill River at Tolworth Court Farm and Old Malden.

5.5 EARLY MEDIEVAL (410AD TO 1065AD To MEDIEVAL (1066AD TO 1539AD)

The Medieval Settlements at Hook, Chessington and Tolworth, Tolworth Court Farm, Old Malden, Coombe and Surbiton are known from documentary sources and their locations can be traced through these and by looking at the patterns of historic routeways, the location of historic churches (where one is present) and also through the GLHER where Medieval remains are present. Much is still to be learned about the origin and development of these villages. This includes a better understanding of their former boundaries, economic base and demographics. The relationship between Ewell (Surrey) and Old Malden and Kingston Town is worth of consideration. There is the potential for a corridor of activity, trade and cattle droving along the Hogsmill River, from prehistory through the Roman and Medieval periods.

Kingston Town dominates the Borough in terms of early Medieval archaeology and important historical events. There have been several useful articles analysing the documentary and growing archaeological evidence of the early settlement/s within what is now the town centre. The early Medieval origins shifted from an area south of the historic core (referred to as south island) into a central island north of the Hogsmill river and originally encircled by a separate, now infilled and buried, branch of the Hogsmill.

The coronation of several Saxon Kings in Kingston has added interest to the study of this town. The investigations at Charter Quay have been useful in characterising the portion of the town adjacent to the Thames and the Clattern Bridge. Several land plots were recorded and within them parts of Medieval and Post-Medieval buildings were revealed. The

Medieval and Post-Medieval riverbank was understood through detailed excavation of timber revetments.

The town is particularly significant in the Medieval period for the production of the Kingston type of Surrey Whiteware pottery. This type of pottery was widely used in London and the Thames Valley from the 13th century onwards. Several sites in the Eden Street, Union Street and London Road area have revealed important pottery production remains, including large assemblages of pottery and wasters associated with kilns.

Not all the key elements of the Medieval town have yet been recorded (and some may have been destroyed by 20th century development). Others, including a Saxon manorial complex may lie at least partially preserved below extant buildings (e.g. the church of All Saints). Much has been written on the topic of how such a complex may have looked, how big it may have been and even whether it was the location of the land and proximity to the river, which was key, as opposed to the scale of any associated buildings. Although a great deal has now been excavated as a result of modern redevelopment; there is still more to come from the historic core in terms of physical remains as some of these important buildings and elements within the town remain enigmatic.

The Norman Conquest brought change to the Borough and the organisation of land, Manors, the church and the economy. The changes in tenure continued through the 11th and 12th century and saw amongst other changes, the introduction of hunting grounds, with at least one being documented and represented physically by the Scheduled remains at Castle Hill on the south-eastern boundary of the Borough where it meets Surrey.

A 13th century timber and earth Castle of the De Clare family may have stood close to Eden (formerly Heathen) street. A distinctive curve in that road may be moving around it, or another significant building. A Treaty (1216) to end the First Barons War was signed at Ravens Ait, south of the town (a separate one was signed at Lambeth). This saw King Louis of France leave England having agreed to cease the claim to the English throne. During the Second Barons War which is mentioned in documents, mainly when it was damaged and taken by Henry III in the Second Barons War (1264–1267). Gilbert De Clare had sided with the rebels in the first part of this war, and this had resulted in his Castle at Kingston being damaged as the Kings soldiers moved through. It is understood to have passed to the Neville family after that war (even though De Clare changed to the royal cause part way through the conflict). Therefore, Kingston and its environs were the focus of activity during both of the Barons Wars.

The town of Kingston and the villages within the Borough experienced change, and new buildings appeared as a result. The remains of field systems, houses, churches and burial grounds within the Borough hold valuable information. There are large tracts of land in the south of the Borough and along its river channels which contain remains of the Medieval landscape sometimes as bridleways and hedges and, most likely, as below ground features concealed below the modern agricultural landscapes and nature reserves of the present day.

5.6 POST-MEDIEVAL (1540AD TO 1900AD)

Interesting economic changes have left their mark in the form of mills along the Hogsmill and possibly the Beverley Brook. There are the remain of brick pits, for extraction of clay in Fishponds Park (near Surbiton) and there are the now infilled remains of gravel extraction pits on the gravels at Coombe Hill.

The alterations to land close to the Hogsmill at Old Malden are probably the clearest example of archaeological remains associated with milling within the Borough and fall within

the Tolworth Court Farm APA. The spectacular scale of the Hampton Court water supply at Coombe Hills is an unusually early example of utilities within the Borough, demonstrating what was possible in water engineering terms at that time. It also reveals a novel way in which the suppression of Merton Priory led to the release of land and significant changes in this case technologically, within that land.

5.7 MODERN (1901AD TO PRESENT)

The Borough has seen great change in the modern period. Of course, the town of Kingston has grown enormously and areas such as Coombe Hill and Surbiton, Tolworth and Chessington have seen great changes. This has come in the form of infrastructure (roads and rail) and associated industries. For example, the now closed Chessington South Station and line were associated with a large Coal Store. Once so necessary, these are now large, obsolete structures. A similar case is the Motspur Park Gas Storage Facility. Gas is still needed as a source of energy, yet this method of storage is obsolete, and its large structures stand as a reminder of how fast our energy needs are shifting. The significance of such entities as the Seething Wells Water Works in Surbiton is still being recognised. These massive structures played an important role in the Victorian defeat of the deadly menace that was cholera at that time. Such structures once taken for granted are becoming valued for the important role they played.

There were important military buildings at the aptly named 'The Barracks', in Kingston Town. Several regiments had their home here, the last being the Queens Royal Surrey Regiment. This site has been closed for military use for some years now and redevelopment has taken place on parts of the former military site.

A major local company, and military industry, was The Sopwith Aviation Company later Sopwith Aviation & Engineering Company. Based in Kingston Town, it was a British aircraft company that designed and manufactured aeroplanes mainly for the British Royal Naval Air Service, Royal Flying Corps and later Royal Air Force in the First World War, most famously the Sopwith Camel. In April 1919 the company was renamed Sopwith Aviation & Engineering Company Limited. In September 1920 the company entered voluntary liquidation after a move to build motorcycles failed. The patents and assets were bought by a new company H.G. Hawker Engineering which continued to design and engineer planes from Kingston and other locations. The Kingston operation closed in 1992 and the sites associated with this have since been redeveloped.

The RAF had a base at Chessington in World War II and for a period after the war also (it closed in the 1980s). Again, much of that site has been redeveloped, although outlying defensive elements may be preserved along the western boundary of the Borough outside Chessington.

Another modern and potentially deadly threat, nuclear attack during the Cold War has also left its legacy in physical form with a Nuclear Bunker still extant on Coombe Hill Golf Course.

The Borough continues to provide opportunities for us to learn about the archaeological remains of past inhabitants of the Borough through the fascinating remains they have left across its landscape.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREAS IN KINGSTON UPON THAMES

6.1 INTRODUCTION

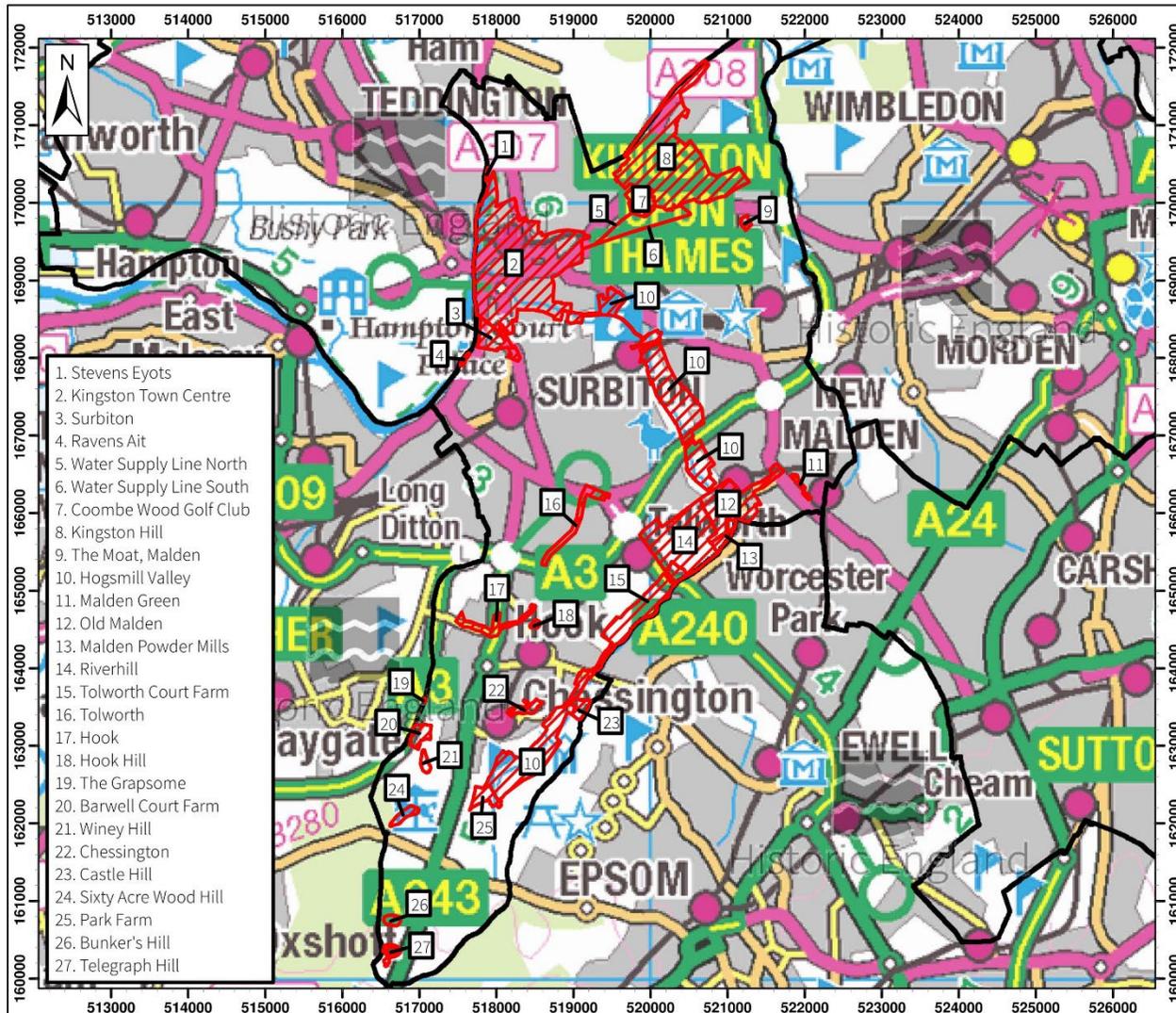
The London Borough of Kingston Upon Thames had 27 APAs prior to this Appraisal. These covered an area of 602.5ha. Which is 16% of the land within the Borough.

These pre-existing APA (Figure 3) were created prior to the current Archaeological Priority Area Guidelines and are therefore not expressed in Tiers 1-3. Instead, they appear as a list (Table 1). These APA pre-dated recent discoveries in archaeological terms and were considered to be in need of revision. A scoping exercise was carried out by Abrams Archaeology in 2020 to identify which if these may need to be removed, amalgamated with other APAs and/or retained. The changes advocated as a result are detailed below (Table 1) with specific comments on the changes advocated as a result of this appraisal.

Table 1: Changes to pre-existing APAs

APA	APA Title	Hectare	Changes to APA as a result of this Appraisal
1	Stevens Eyots	0.17	Amalgamated into a new APA2.1 Stevens Eyots and Kingston Thames Riverside
2	Kingston Town Centre	163.70	Reduced in size to reflect contemporary understanding of archaeological potential in the Town Centre
3	Surbiton	12.02	Re-designed and reduced in size it now captures the Thames Riverside.
4	Ravens Ait	0.58	Amalgamated into a new APA 2.3 Surbiton and Ravens Ait
5	Water Supply Line North	0.06	Amalgamated into a new APA 2.6 Hampton Court Water Supply (Feeder Pipes). This now only shows the route where it lies in open ground (e.g. playing fields and parks)
6	Water Supply Line South	0.17	Amalgamated into a new APA 2.6 Hampton Court Water Supply (Feeder Pipes). This now only shows the route where it lies in open ground (e.g. playing fields and parks)
7	Coombe Wood Golf Club	10.54	Amalgamated into a new APA 2.5 Coombe Hill
8	Kingston Hill	119.57	Enlarged and redesigned to become a new APA 2.5 Coombe Hill
9	The Moat, Malden	1.57	Reduced in size and retained
10	Hogsmill Valley	113.51	Increased in size and retained within a new APA 3.1 Hogsmill and Berrylands
11	Malden Green	1.62	Amalgamated into APA 2.8 Old Malden
12	Old Malden	35.83	Redesigned and expanded to become APA 2.8 Old Malden
13	Malden Powder Mills	4.69	Amalgamated into APA 2.8 Old Malden
14	Riverhill	55.97	Amalgamated into APA 2.9 Tolworth Court Farm

APA	APA Title	Hectare	Changes to APA as a result of this Appraisal
15	Tolworth Court Farm	31.99	Retained and expanded as APA 2.9 Tolworth Court Farm
16	Tolworth	9.67	Considered to have a relatively low potential and removed
17	Hook	8.45	Retained and re-designed as APA 2.13 Hook
18	Hook Hill	0.89	Considered to have a relatively low potential and removed
19	The Grapsome	0.10	Retained
20	Barwell Court Farm	5.68	Considered to have a relatively low potential and removed
21	Winey Hill	2.30	Considered to have a relatively low potential and removed
22	Chessington	4.30	Retained and re-designed as APA 2.12 Chessington
23	Castle Hill	4.44	Retained and re-designed as APA 1.2 Castle Hill
24	Sixty Acre Wood Hill	3.58	Considered to have a relatively low potential and removed
25	Park Farm	6.50	Retained within APA 3.3 Bonesgate
26	Bunkers Hill	2.40	Retained as APA 2.15 Bunkers Hill
27	Telegraph Hill	2.2	Considered to have a relatively low potential and removed
	Total	602.5	



1. Stevens Eyots
2. Kingston Town Centre
3. Surbiton
4. Ravens Ait
5. Water Supply Line North
6. Water Supply Line South
7. Coombe Wood Golf Club
8. Kingston Hill
9. The Moat, Malden
10. Hogsmill Valley
11. Malden Green
12. Old Malden
13. Malden Powder Mills
14. Riverhill
15. Tolworth Court Farm
16. Tolworth
17. Hook
18. Hook Hill
19. The Grapsome
20. Barwell Court Farm
21. Winey Hill
22. Chessington
23. Castle Hill
24. Sixty Acre Wood Hill
25. Park Farm
26. Bunker's Hill
27. Telegraph Hill

Kingston Previous
Archaeological Priority
Areas

Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:65,000

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A total of 22 proposed Archaeological Priority Areas are now recommended. Four of these are Tier 1 APAs, fifteen are Tier 2 APAs and three are Tier 3 APAs.

6.2 TIER 1 APAS

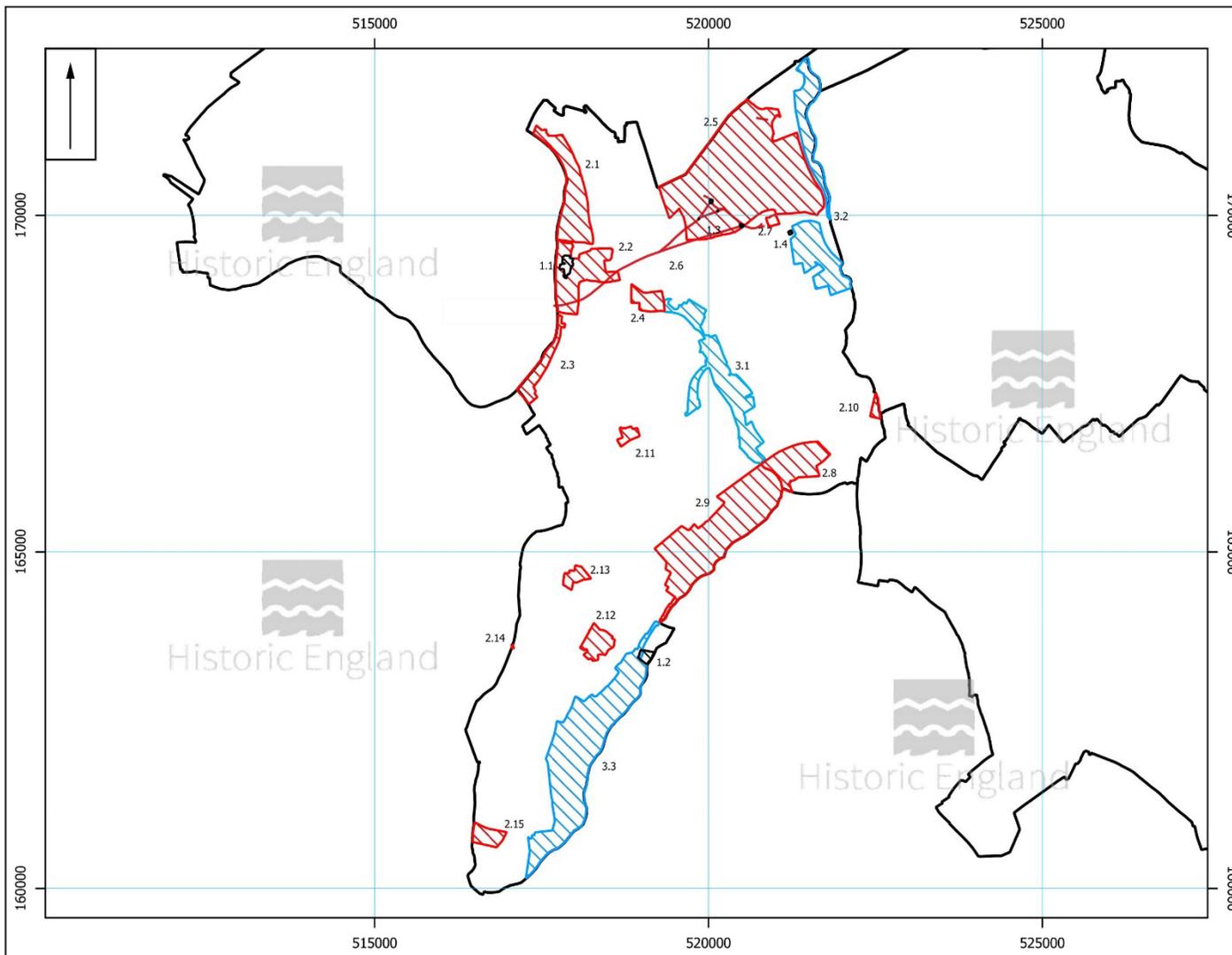
Tier 1	Size (ha)
1.1 Kingston Core	3.91
1.2 Castle Hill	3.05
1.3 Hampton Court Water Supply (Structures)	0.44
1.4 The Moat, Malden	0.23

6.3 TIER 2 APAS

Tier 2	Size (ha)
2.1 Stevens Eyots and Kingston Thames Riverside	56.34
2.2 Kingston Town	55.32
2.3 Surbiton and Ravens Ait	18.03
2.4 Kingston Cemetery	13.23
2.5 Coombe Hill	285.74
2.6 Hampton Court Water Supply (Feeder Pipes)	1.07
2.7 Coombe House	2.25
2.8 Old Malden	39.33
2.9 Tolworth Court Farm	146.43
2.10 Motspur Park Gas Holders	3.20
2.11 Fishponds Park	5.45
2.12 Chessington	16.21
2.13 Hook	7.38
2.14 The Grapsome	0.09
2.15 Bunkers Hill	11.45

6.4 TIER 3 APAS

Tier 3	Size (ha)
3.1 Hogsmill and Berrylands	78.73
3.2 Beverley Brook and Coombe Brook	87.40
3.3 Bonesgate	184.14



Kingston Revised (2021)
Archaeological Priority
Areas

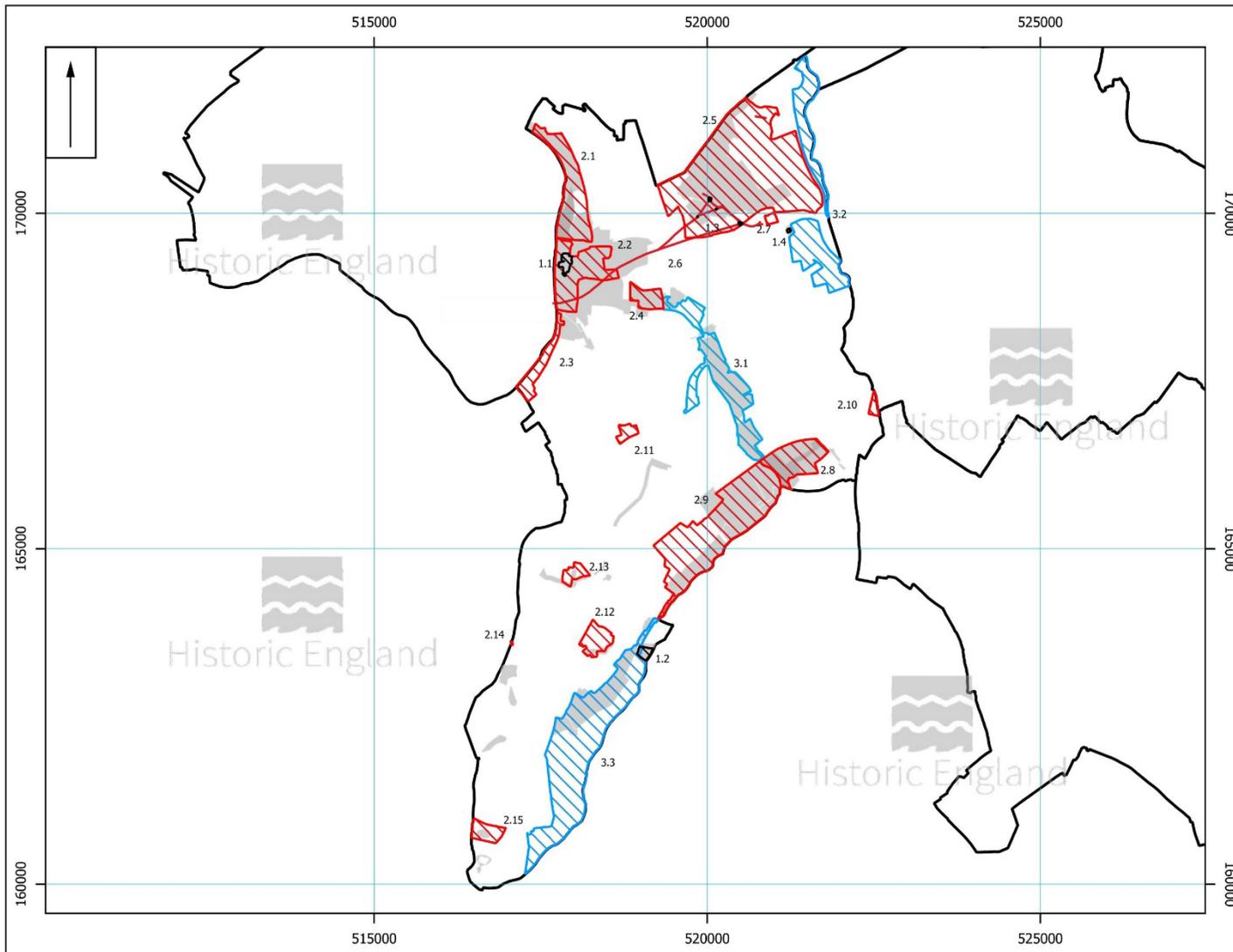
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:75000

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Kingston APAs and previous Areas of Archaeological Significance

	Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area
	Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area
	Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area
	Former Areas of Archaeological Significance

Scale (at A4): 1:75000

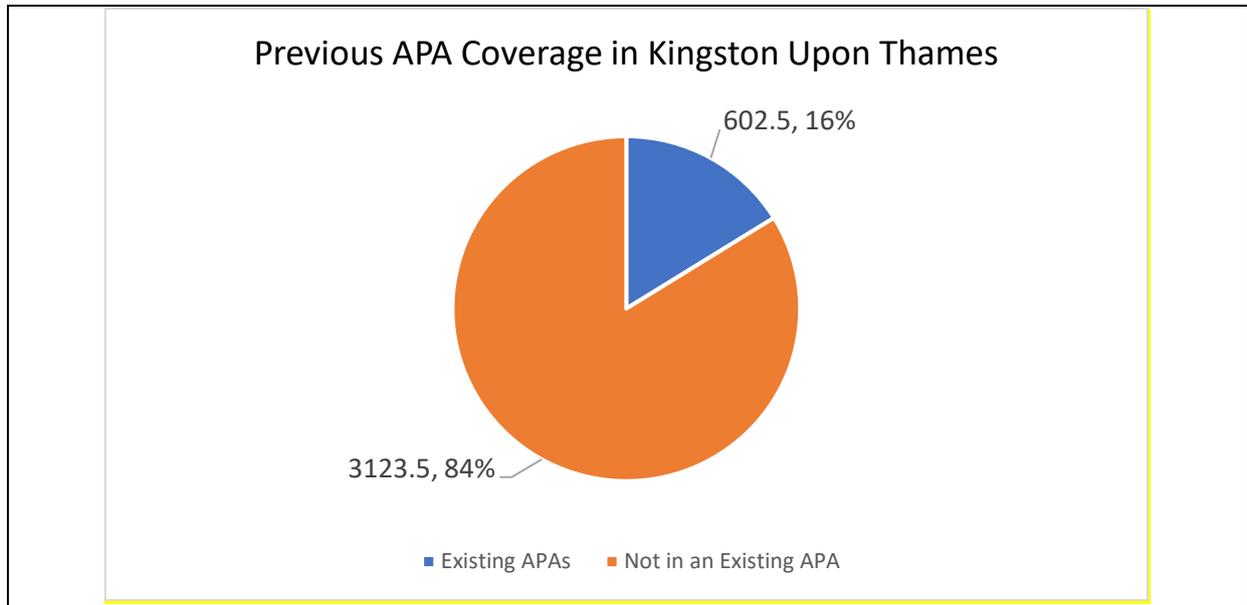
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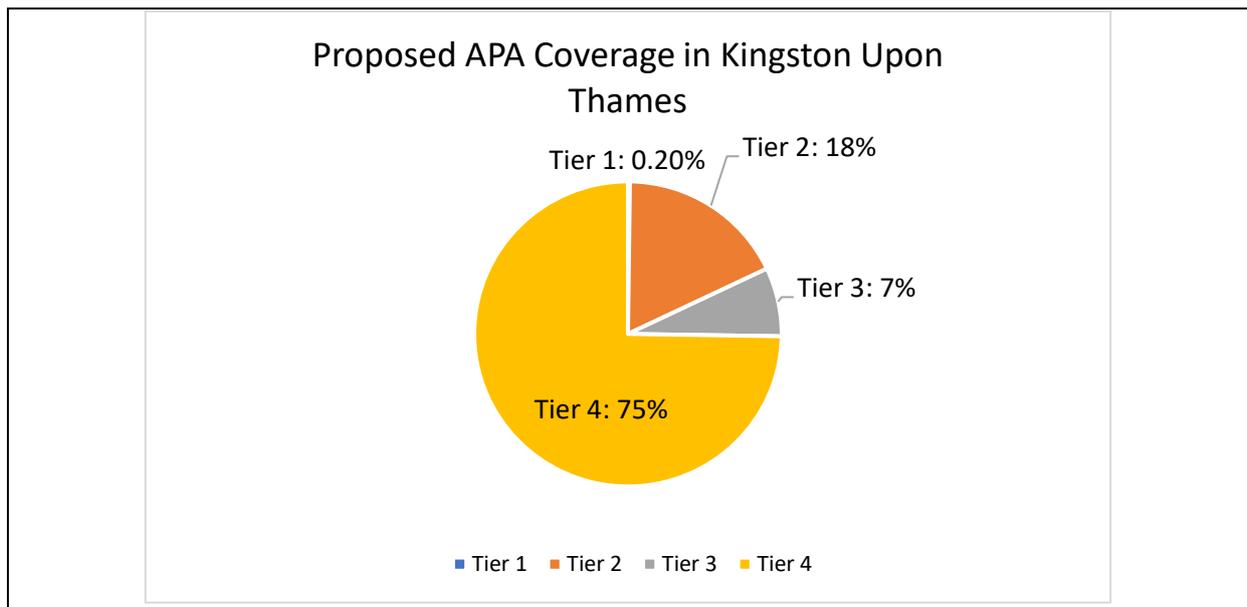
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APA Coverage in Kingston Upon Thames

The two charts (below) show the percentage APA coverage within Kingston Upon Thames before and after the review. The previous APAs cover 602.5ha and make up 16% of the borough. The proposed APAs cover 933.06ha and make up 25.20% of the borough. The main differences can be swiftly understood using the visual overlay of pre-existing/proposed APAs in Figure 5.

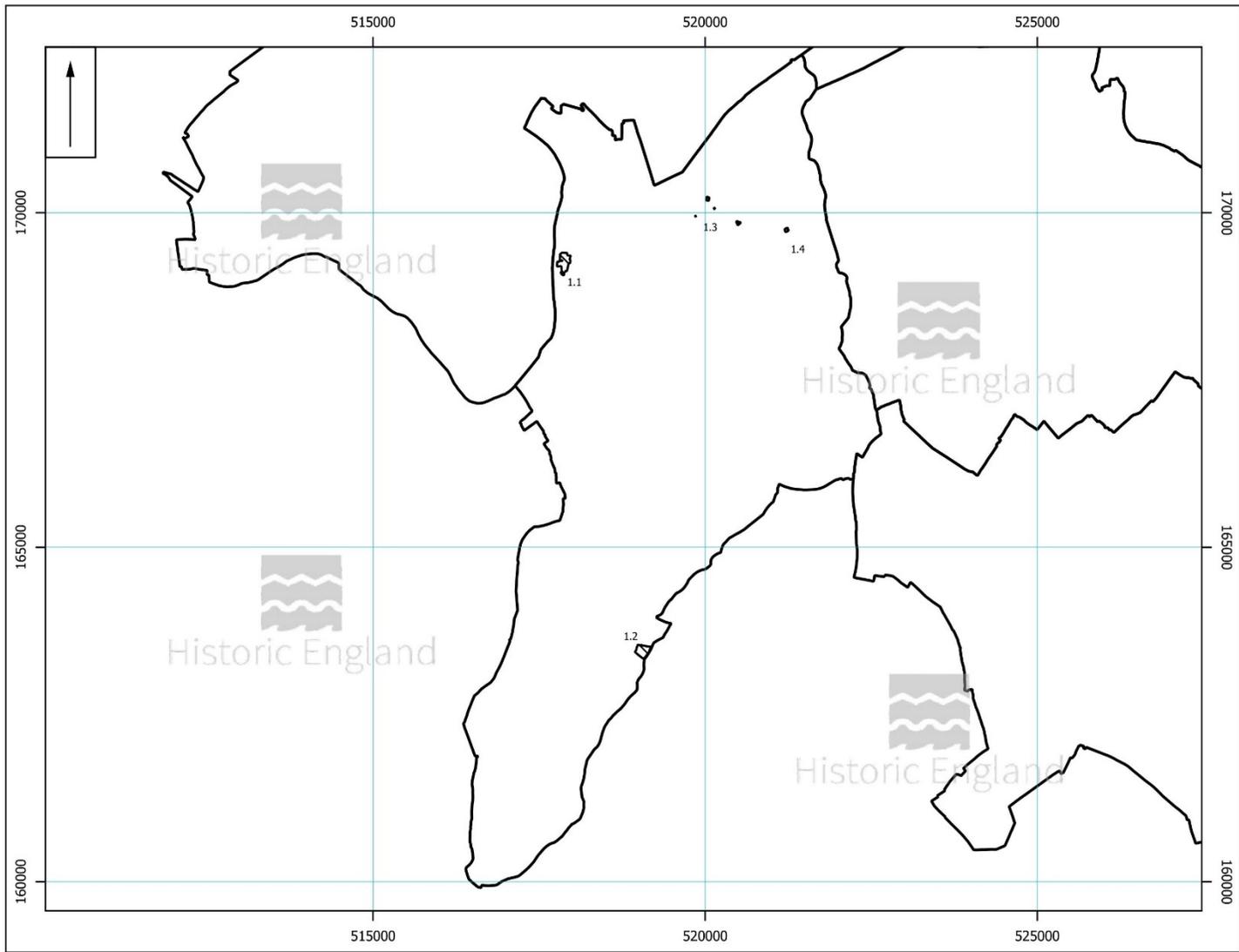


In accordance with the APA guidelines the proposed APAs have been allocated a Tier rating, 0.20% of the borough falls within a Tier 1 APA, 18% of the borough falls within a Tier 2 APA and 7% of the borough falls within a Tier 3 APA. The remainder of the borough (75%) has been classified as Tier 4 as it falls outside of an Archaeological Priority Area.



7 AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND MAP EXTRACTS FOR TIER 1 APAs

Kingston APA 1.1: Kingston Core	Page 28
Kingston APA 1.2: Castle Hill	Page 33
Kingston APA 1.3: Hampton Court Water Supply (Structures)	Page 36
Kingston APA 1.4: The Moat, Malden	Page 39



Kingston All
Tier 1 Archaeological
Priority Areas

 Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area

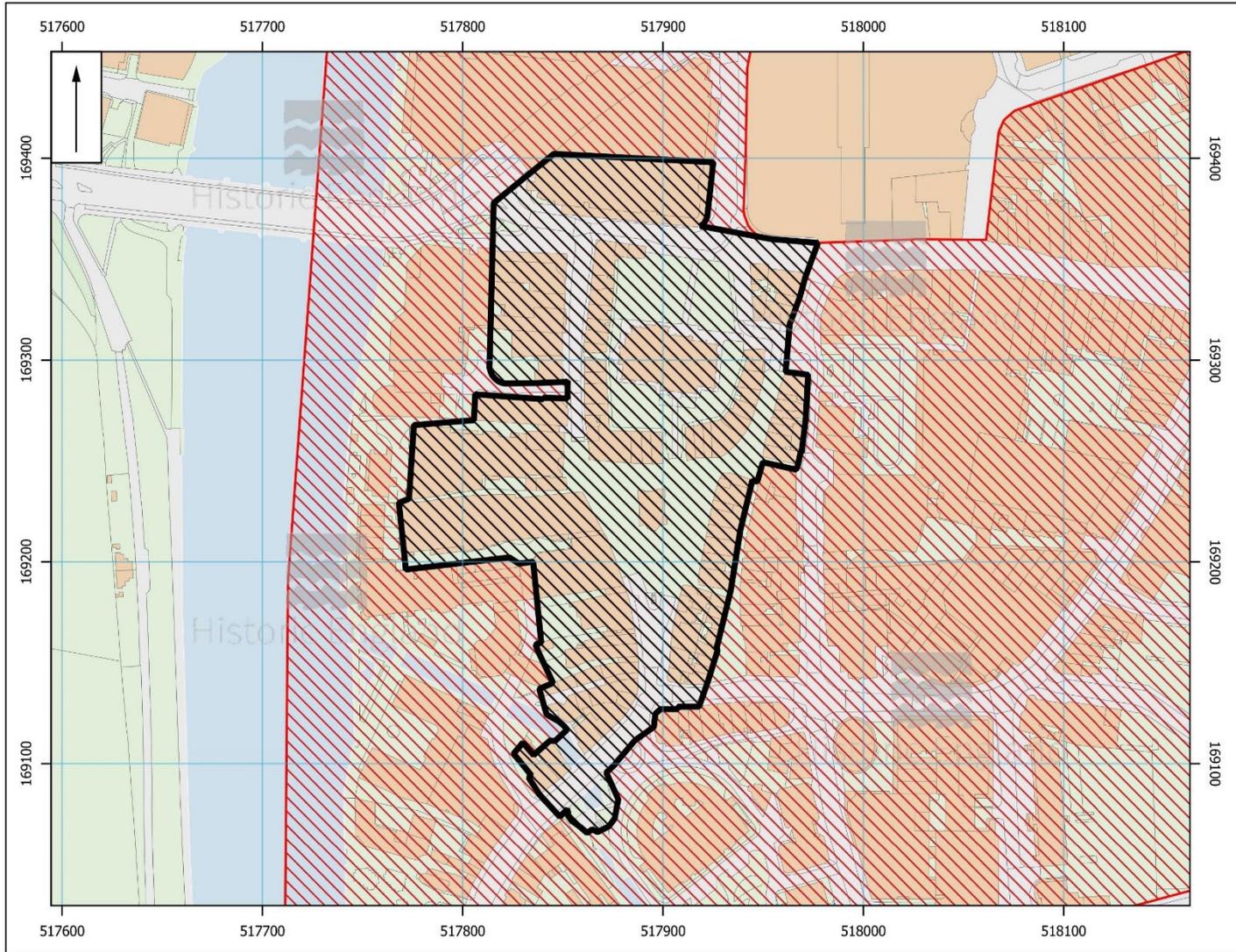
Scale (at A4): 1:75000

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**Kingston APA
1.1 Kingston Core**

-  Kingston Core
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:2500

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7.1 KINGSTON APA 1.1: KINGSTON CORE

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the historic core of Kingston, focussed on All Saints Church, the historic marketplace and the Clattern Bridge over the Hogsmill River. Therefore, this includes the church, its churchyard and selected properties and backyard plots to the north, east and west of All Saints Church. It also covers the marketplace which forms a triangular piece of land to the south of the church and it extends south to take in the Clattern Bridge, a scheduled monument. It also covers a stretch of the modern road to the north-east and south-west of the bridge. This is believed to be on the same alignment and location as the earlier, Medieval road/s. The iconic coronation stone and a small area of open land around it are also within the APA.

The APA is classified as Tier 1 because this land forms the core of the historic town and contains the remains of an important Medieval church associated with known below ground remains of at least one earlier church. It also contains a scheduled Monument and remains closely associated with it. The remains within APA 1.1 Kingston Core clearly have links with those in Kingston Town APA 2.2.

Description

While there are dispersed finds of prehistoric and Roman date from within what is now the town, its origins as a town, are in the early Medieval period. Several Saxon kings were coronated here. These include Edward the Elder (902), Athelstan (925) and Edward the Martyr (975). The precise location of these coronations is not known. However, the most popular narrative is that the land upon which All Saints Church now sits was that spot.

The royal connections of Kingston give the borough its longer title (Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames) and are central to the identity of the town and the borough. The early Medieval period is important then; and the central part of this APA focussed on All Saints Church and the land immediately around it is the geographical centre of that narrative.

Based on comparisons with other Anglo-Saxon palaces and manorial sites, it can be postulated that Kingston's royal complex, strategically located on the higher ground of Kingston's central 'island', remained unenclosed and would have been relatively small in size, consisting of a modest main timber hall, no more than 15 to 18m in length and 7m or so in width, and five or six subsidiary buildings for accommodation and ancillary purposes.

The scale of the physical remains aside, Kingston was an important royal vill (manor) dating to the early Medieval period. "*Kingston was first recorded in royal records in the year 838. By the tenth century, Kingston had become a coronation centre where Saxon kings were crowned*"¹⁷. The core of that Manor is generally agreed to be located on what was the central island defined by the Hogsmill (south and east), the Downhall/Latchmere channel (north) and the Thames to the west. The Clattern bridge connected this central island with land-based traffic moving from the south and east making it a vital link to what would become the majority of Kingston Borough.

¹⁷ A Brief History.

https://www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200174/about_kingston_upon_thames/116/visiting_kingston_upon_thames/2

All Saints Church is described by Pevsner as a large town church, nicely hidden behind the marketplace. The land around All Saints Church and market Place, with its recognisably Medieval street pattern, is *“the best preserved of its type in outer London”*¹⁸. Predominantly late Medieval, parts of the fabric of the church go back to the 12th Century. The church is Listed (Grade I 1358437) as are several buildings around it (also within the APA) and the gates to the churchyard from its south and east.

Prior to the All Saints Church, an earlier, stone church stood here. That was called St Mary’s chapel and was built in the 11th century. It survived as an annex to the All Saints Church until 1730. The location of the chapel was excavated in the early 20th century and is located to the south of the existing church. Its location is marked by plaques at its four corners were laid in 1936. Earlier than this stone chapel, a timber church is thought to have stood on the site.

The iconic *coronation stone* is now located outside the Guildhall, close to the Clattern Bridge, but it was previously located within St Marys Chapel. It was moved when the chapel collapsed in 1730 (grave digging undermined its foundations). This association between what is thought to have been the stone used during the coronation of Saxon kings and the chapel is one of several reasons this APA stands at the centre of the historic core of the town. The religious and political origins of the town are associated with it. The early Medieval bridge over the Thames was located a short distance to its west, the Medieval marketplace is adjacent, the Hogsmill River and Clattern bridge to its south. Various important pottery industries of Medieval date were located to its east (within APA 2.2).

The mention of a church in Kingston in the Domesday Survey has been associated with St Marys Chapel, or with a separate church very close to it. Hawkins draws the evidence together and describes how: *“In 1100, therefore, the central Kingston island comprised a relatively narrow north-south aligned rectangle of land surrounded on all sides by watercourses and marsh. At the centre of this island may have lain an estate centre enclosure now represented by All Saints churchyard”*¹⁹.

The Clattern Bridge (1002021) is one of six scheduled sites within the Borough of Kingston upon Thames. It is located a short distance from where the borough meets the River Thames. The bridge was an important crossing point over the River Hogsmill into what was the central island of early Medieval Kingston.

The lower part of the present day structure comprises a Medieval multi-span bridge situated over the Hogsmill River. There are three semi-circular arches, dating to the 12th century, each comprising two rings of ashlar dressing above which is rubble and flint filling. The upper part is an 18th century addition and is of red brick with stone capping. On the south side the bridge has been extended in the 18th and 19th centuries. The south face of the bridge has 19th century stone columns with cubic capitals, surmounted by three columns with scallop capitals. There are no breakwaters on either side.

There are various documentary references made to the bridge and these chart some of the changes it has experienced. Although this is the earliest extant bridge in London, the earliest parts of the structure we now see date to the late 12th century, the earlier ‘Clatrung Bridge’ was replaced by a new bridge crossing the Hogsmill River. There are various

¹⁸ Pevsner and Cherry, London: South, 1983 p. 307

¹⁹ Hawkins, H. 2003. “From Norman estate centre to Angevin Town”: Kingston upon Thames urban origins. London Archaeologist

versions of the name including *Clateringebrugende* (1293AD)²⁰; these are all thought to relate to the sound of clattering hooves travelling over the bridge.

Notable change happened in the Post-Medieval and modern periods. In 1758 the brick parapet was taken down to road level, and the bridge was extended southwards by three red brick arches 7m wide. These were built beside the existing stone arches, and bonded into them, a brick parapet was raised on the southern side of the bridge, and one footpath was constructed. In 1852, the bridge was still further widened on the southern side by the addition of three more arches of stock brick. At the same time an ornamental railing was set up in place of the brick parapet, and this further enlarged bridge became known as Clattern Bridge.

The road leading north-east and south-west to either side of the bridge is on the same alignment as the Medieval roads that passed over the bridge. An investigation to the immediate West (Charter Quay) enabled an understanding of building plots very close to the bridge on either side of the Hogsmill.

Significance

The land below and immediately around All Saints Church contains the remains of more than one Medieval church. Burials are associated. In addition, there may be the remains associated with other Medieval buildings. These may include the remains of important buildings at the heart of the early town, and they may also include more prosaic domestic buildings or the remains of commercial areas. This is all potentially highly significant archaeological evidence. Pieces of a complex and still unfolding story in which ideas may still shift as new evidence comes to light. The land with this APA certainly has the potential to confirm or challenge our current understanding of the origins of the town.

There is much to learn about the changes, and which were prompted following the Norman Conquest. The 12th and 13th century saw changes on a national scale in terms of political control, land tenure, landscape use and the economy. These affected settlement patterns. There were also huge changes in the religious life of the country, these affected its buildings. We may find further evidence of how these changes played out locally, to be held in the physical remains within this APA.

The Clattern Bridge is the oldest extant bridge in London and marks the location of a Saxon bridge into the Royal vill (manor) that would become Kingston Town. It is located a short distance southwest of All Saints Church and the historic marketplace of that Town. The fabric of the bridge and the land immediately surrounding it contain information on the development of this crossing point, the routeways in and out of the town and on the various bridges which have stood here.

Our understanding of precisely where, when and how settlement at what is now Kingston Town centre started is still developing. The meeting point of the Hogsmill and the Thames and this crossing point over it are important to that growing understanding. The small section of the bank of the Hogsmill contained within the APA may contain useful information on how the banks adjacent to the bridge were supported and whether any timber or other structural remains survive on that eastern side of the Bridge. Although this contains the coronation stone and associated railings, it is well established that the stone is out of context and once stood much closer to the extant All Saints Church.

²⁰ English Place Name Society. <http://epns.nottingham.ac.uk/browse/id/53287104b47fc40c230005ff> - accessed 18/11/2020

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Listing Description for Scheduled Monument 1002021
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1002021>



Kingston APA
1.2 Castle Hill

- Castle Hill
- Tier 1
- Tier 2
- Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:2500

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7.2 KINGSTON APA 1.2: CASTLE HILL

Summary and Definition

This APA covers both the scheduled site of Castle Hill (1002018) and an area of land around that Scheduled Monument. Castle Hill is located east of Chessington on the border with Surrey. It has been classified as Tier 1 as it contains a scheduled monument and the land within its immediate setting may have high potential to contain remains of equal archaeological importance.

Description

Castle Hill (1002018) is one of two Scheduled Monuments within the borough of Kingston upon Thames. It is considered to be the remains of an enclosed hunting lodge within the bounds of Chessington Park, a Medieval deer park.

Hunting of deer took place prior to the Norman Conquest and hunting grounds and structures associated with them existed also. However, most deer parks date from the period after the Norman conquest, with the peak period of this emparking being the 13th century. The Castle Hill lodge is associated with a park which was probably fenced in the 13th century, when Merton College, Oxford claimed a park on their land at Chessington by charter of Henry III.

Creating a park was an elite privilege, for which a royal licence was needed. Enclosing a park was a costly, time-consuming and disruptive process. Designed to keep intruders out and animals in, park boundaries usually comprised inner ditches and outer banks surmounted by a palisade or wall. The hunting lodge was a core part of such a park and had various functions including accommodation and entertaining. As is the case at Castle Hill, the hunting lodge too may have been enclosed and surrounded by ditches and a bank.

The monument at Castle Hill includes an earthwork enclosure situated on the southern spur of a low knoll just to the east of Bonesgate Stream which runs along this part of the western boundary of the Borough where it borders Surrey. The enclosure is marked by a ditch with an internal bank and the monument is sub-rectangular in plan. It is orientated NNE to SSW and the northern part of the enclosure is slightly wider than that to the south. It is about 115m long by 74m. The remains of the monument enclose an area of c 2.7ha. The interior includes a slight depression parallel to the eastern bank and an L-shaped feature in the south-west corner. These may correspond to the former sites of buildings within the enclosure.

Significance

The physical remains, such as foundations of buildings, associated with a hunting lodge are likely to survive within the enclosure at Castle Hill. These may contain datable artefactual material which would increase knowledge on the monument, its use and on the Medieval period more generally. The proximity to the Bonesgate and the likelihood of localised waterlogging in at least parts of the land may have enhanced the preservation of ecofactual material. This can include plants, insects and organic finds (e.g. leather) and further raises the value of the site.

Beyond the scheduled area (and within the APA), further archaeological remains, including a pond bay or dam associated with the Bonesgate, are noted in the Listing

Description for this monument. They were not included in the Scheduled Area because they have yet to be formally investigated and their provenance is not proven. However, they are likely to have been contemporary and associated with its use and, therefore, may have an equivalent significance in archaeological terms.

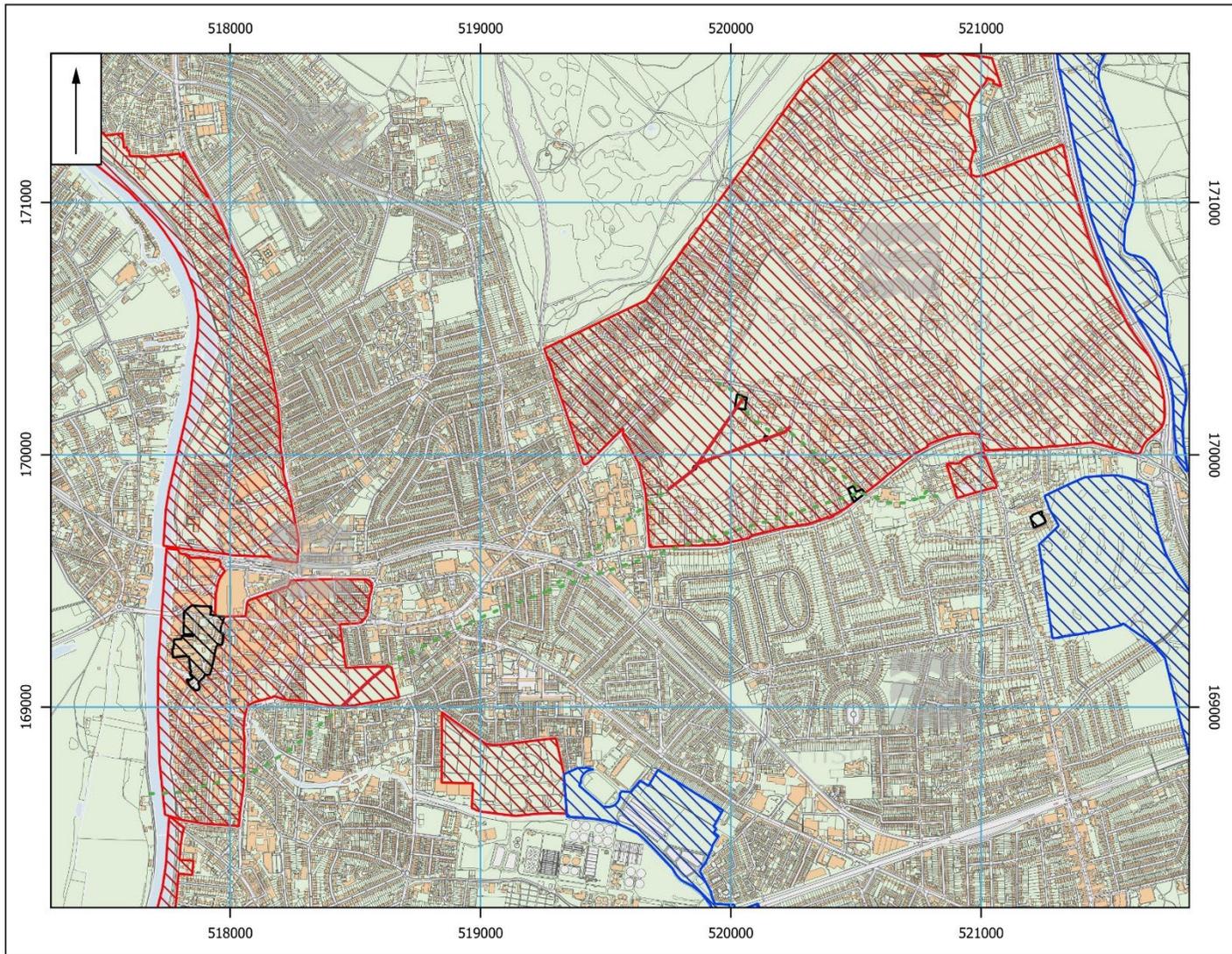
The creation of deer parks has been an important influencing factor on how landscape developed. These lands were not *common land* in either arable or pastoral use. They were *exclusive land* protected for use by a wealthy elite. This special use lasted through many societal changes and meant that certain tracts of land did not experience agriculture, settlement and industrial use in the same ways as other land. That the physical remains of Castle Hill remain in the way they do at this time reflects this special status as does the existence of the green space around it and along this part of the Bonesgate Stream.

Given the early royal connections with Kingston borough, this deer park may be of special interest. It may have a very early date (as some hunting grounds pre-date the conquest). It may have been used by individuals with important historical roles in the area and more widely.

Key References

Field, D, 'A Survey of earthworks at Castle Hill and Chessington Park' in Surrey Archaeological Society Vol 80, Vol. 80, (1990), 195-200

Listing Description for Scheduled Monument 1002018
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1002018>



**Kingston APA
1.3 Hampton Court
Water Supply
(Structures)**

- Hampton Court Water Supply
- Tier 1
- Tier 2
- Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:20000

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7.3 KINGSTON APA 1.3: HAMPTON COURT WATER SUPPLY (STRUCTURES)

Summary and Definition

This APA covers four structures which were key to the Hampton Court Water Supply. These are located in the northern part of the Borough. The APA is classified as Tier 1 as these four elements are also Scheduled Monuments. They hold valuable archaeological remains of late Medieval/Post-Medieval date and are an example of utilities engineering within the Borough. A small area of land around each building and slightly outside each Scheduled Monument is also within the APA. This reflects their immediate setting and means that works within very close proximity would fall within the APA 1.3.

Description

The Hampton Court Water Supply was constructed in 1538-40 as part of a new conduit to provide Hampton Court Palace with water from springs at Coombe Hill. This is a distance of c.5km. Following the acquisition of Hampton Court by King Henry VIII, there was need for a greater supply of water, maintained at a higher pressure than was previously available. After the suppression of Merton Priory in 1538, land was set aside in upper Kingston for this new water supply system.

A summary account covering the period 1538-45, mentions '*charges of the condyte from Combhill*' and also a sum of £100 spent on the construction. The water was collected at the head of springs in Coombe, in water tanks covered by secure brick buildings known as conduit houses. There were three conduit houses known as Coombe Conduit House, Gallows Conduit House, and Ivy Conduit House, all of which survive, and form separate Scheduled Monuments. The water flowed under gravity in underground lead feeder pipes to the Palace. The route of the pipes passed under the rivers Hogsmill and Thames via several tamkin houses. These were small brick buildings with stopcocks and expansion tanks that allowed part of the pipe to be isolated so leaks could be identified and repaired.

This APA covers Scheduled Monuments 1002041 (Gallows Tamkin), 1002016 (Gallows Conduit), 1005554 (Ivy Conduit), 1002015 Coombe Conduit. Between these elements runs a series of lead pipes. The feeder pipes are within a Tier 2 APA (2.6 Hampton Court Water Supply (Feeder Pipes)).

Significance

The system represents a relatively early example of water engineering. There were earlier examples in Britain, notably Roman engineers brought a detailed understanding of how to work with and move water. Even so, for the 16th century this represents an unusual and ambitious undertaking.

The origins of the water supply lie in the ambitions of Henry VIII and his plans for Hampton Court Palace. They reflect the contemporary understanding of water engineering and in so doing are an important record of engineering ability at that time. They also show how lands were used following suppression of Merton Priory. This reflects another important shift in approach at that time and shows how land use within the Borough was affected by changes brought about by the English Reformation.

Key References

English Heritage Website. <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/coombe-conduit/history/> - accessed 14/11/2020

Forge, JL. 1959. 'Coombe Hill Conduit Houses and the water supply of Hampton Court Palace', *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, 56, 3–14



7.4 KINGSTON APA 1.4: THE MOAT, MALDEN

Summary and Definition

This APA covers The Moat, Malden. This is a rectangular moated site located within a modern residential street. The APA is classified as Tier 1 because its four arms are intact, and its central island appears to be undisturbed. Such sites hold valuable archaeological remains of Medieval date.

Description

There are several thousand moated sites known in England. They vary enormously with some having been entirely backfilled while others have one or more sides open. Some examples are managed so as to contain water. The Moat at New Malden is well preserved in the sense that all four arms of the Moat can be easily recognised. As with many such monuments, now absorbed into residential areas, the Moat no longer sits in isolation. Residential gardens and properties are located close to its edges. The internal 'island' of the Moat is not developed and measures c.30m on its NE-SW axis and c.20m on its NW-SE axis.

Moated sites tend to consist of wide ditches, often or seasonally water-filled, partly or completely enclosing one or more islands of dry ground on which stood domestic or religious buildings. The majority of moated sites served as prestigious aristocratic and seigneurial residences with the provision of a moat intended as a status symbol rather than a practical military defence. However, there are various benefits to the Moat including fish storage, water management and the creation of small areas of land suitable for specific horticultural activities. The peak period during which moated sites were built was between the mid 13th century to the mid 14th century. However, moated sites were built throughout the Medieval period, are widely scattered throughout England and exhibit a high level of diversity in their forms and sizes. They form a significant class of Medieval monument and are important for the understanding of the distribution of wealth and status in the countryside. Many examples provide conditions favourable to the survival of organic remains due to the potential for waterlogging at the base of the ditched parts of the Moat.

The Moat at New Malden has not been investigated using modern techniques. It is well preserved in the sense that all four arms of the Moat can be easily discerned. Water is visible on aerial photographs over several decades and this suggests any in-situ deposits should be relatively stable, wet condition.

Significance

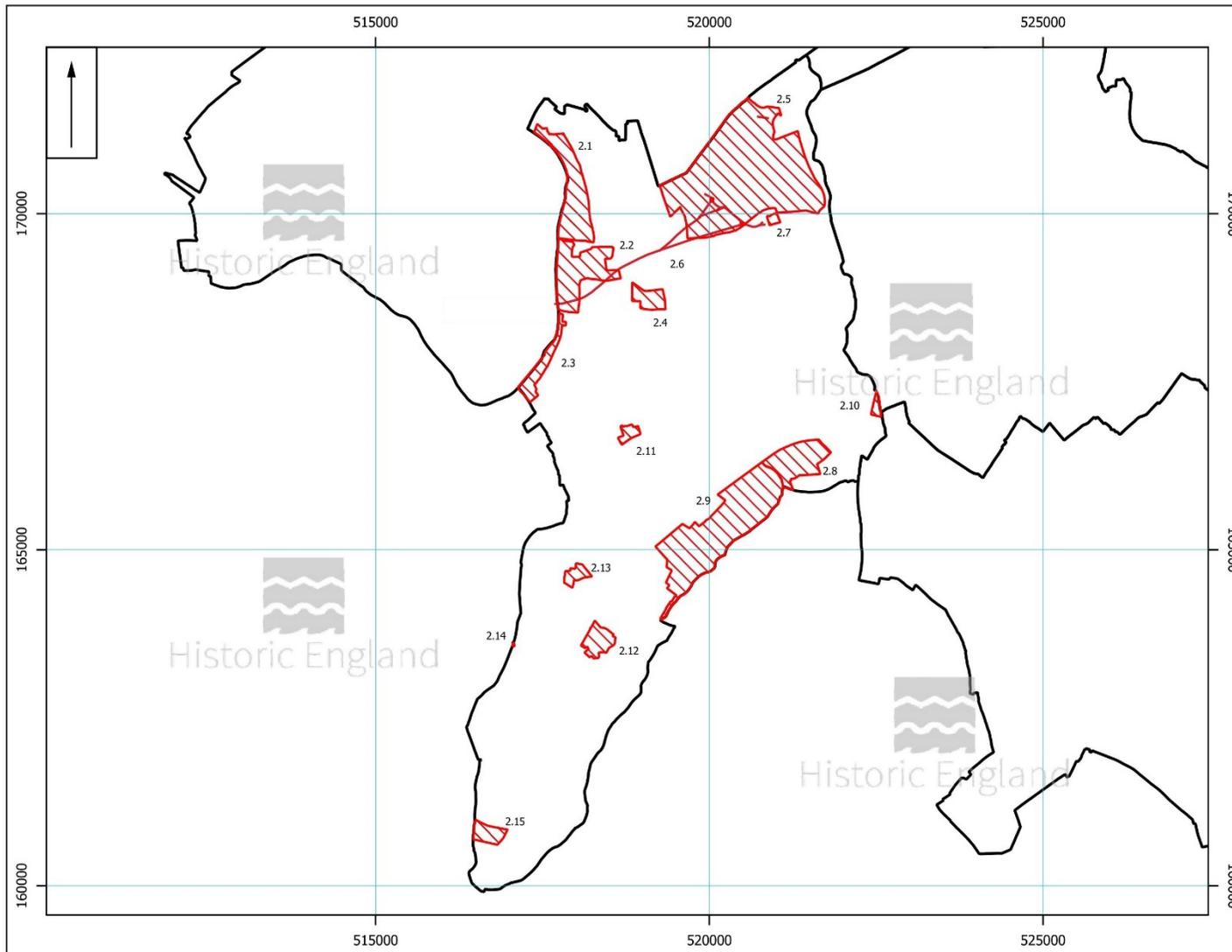
The Moat has the potential to contain archaeological remains within its central island. These may be connected with its previous functions and this is likely to include a Medieval domestic use. The ditches (Moat) surrounding the moated site may contain artefactual and ecofactual material of a Medieval date. This may increase our understanding of the use of this site during the Medieval period and may include information on diet and the functionality of this site. Also, this Moat is a rare survival of a visible, medieval field monument in this part of Greater London.

Key References

GLHER Record MLO2322 - The Moat

8 AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND MAP EXTRACTS FOR TIER 2 APAs

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Kingston APA 2.2 Kingston Town	Page 46
Kingston APA 2.3 Surbiton and Ravens Ait	Page 50
Kingston APA 2.4 Kingston Cemetery	Page 53
Kingston APA 2.5 Coombe Hill	Page 56
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Kingston APA 2.7 Coombe House	Page 62
Kingston APA 2.8 Old Malden	Page 65
Kingston APA 2.9 Tolworth Court Farm	Page 69
Kingston APA 2.10 Motspur Park Gas Holders	Page 72
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Kingston APA 2.12 Chessington	Page 78
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Kingston APA 2.14 The Grapsome	Page 83
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Kingston All Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Areas

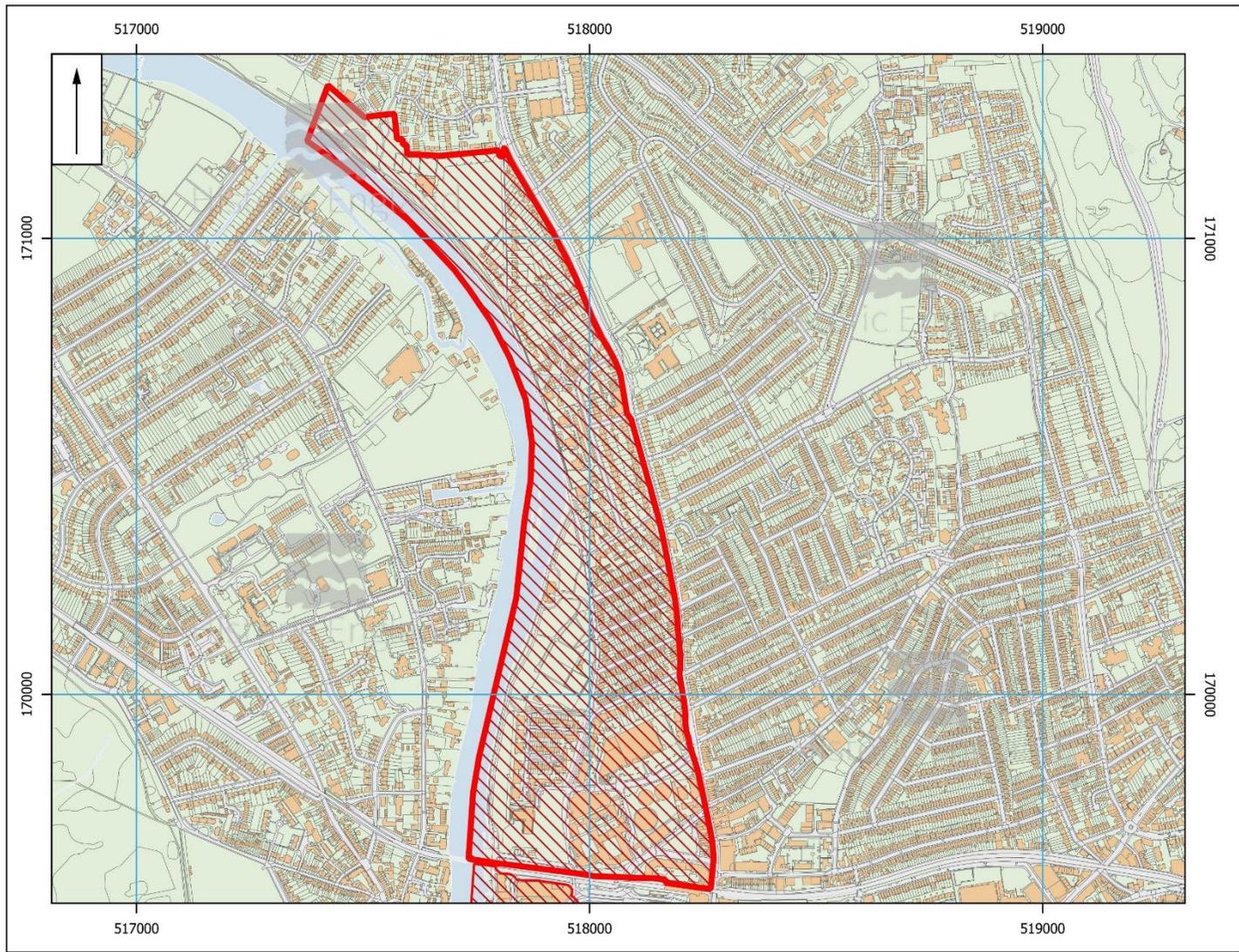
 Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:75000

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Kingston APA
2.1 Stevens
Eyots

-  Stevens Eyots
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:11000

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8.1 KINGSTON APA 2.1: STEVENS EYOTS AND KINGSTON THAMES RIVERSIDE

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the Thames riverside in the northern part of the Borough. This from its meeting point with Ham (Richmond upon Thames) in the north down to the Railway line immediately north of Kingston Town centre and its historic core (APA 1.1 and APA 2.2). This APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is known to preserve geoarchaeological and/or archaeological evidence of past human activity within the Thames, its banks and lands close to its course. The APA includes Stevens Eyots within the Thames which has its own archaeological potential and falls within Kingston upon Thames.

Description

The APA extends to the mid point of the River Thames and also encompasses Stevens Eyots. The APA is immediately north of what is referred to as the Downhall Channel, a now infilled watercourse though to have once been a branch of the Hogsmill, where it looped around the historic core of the town to create a 'central island'.

The stretch of the river Thames which this APA borders has been associated with artefacts which indicate ritual practice. The evidence for this stretches through most of modern London and comes to an end a little beyond the edge of Kingston close to the point where the River Mole enters the Thames²¹. The distribution of Mesolithic-Neolithic axeheads is interpreted as being indicative of votive offerings associated with water. Physical remains of activity during these periods is less obvious than in later periods in which we are more likely to encounter structures and higher quantities/variety of artefactual material. However, flint tools are durable and when found in association with geoarchaeological deposits can reveal a huge amount about the periods from which they derive. The riverside APAs within the Borough are those most likely to yield such information and this includes Stevens Eyots. There is a scattering of prehistoric flints (Mesolithic and Neolithic) recorded on the GLHER.

Roman period remains are less associated with the Kingston area than those dating to the early Medieval period. However, the APA contains two well established and published sites of this date. At Skerne Road²², a modern excavation identified the presence of three phases of Roman occupation. Features included pits and postholes indicative of settlement activity while high concentrations of both roof and box-flue tiles dating to the mid-1st to 2nd centuries AD were recovered. These were deposited with pottery dating to the 3rd century and may indicate the presence of a 1st/2nd century building in the vicinity of the site possibly demolished or altered in the 3rd century. Antiquarian investigations (1828) at Canbury Field revealed an inhumation cemetery of Roman date²³.

While the settlement focus from the early Medieval period to the modern period was to the south of the APA, land within it will certainly have been used and the Thames may

²¹ *Figure 14.36 Distribution of River Finds*. In: Tony Morigi; Danielle Schreve; Mark White; Gill Hey. 2011. *The Archaeology of the Gravel Terraces of the Upper and Middle Thames: Early Prehistory to 1500 BC*. Oxford University School of Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph, Volume: 1.

²² Bradley, T. (2005). Roman occupation at Skerne Road, Kingston upon Thames. *Surrey Archaeological Collections* 92. Vol 92, pp. 171-185.

²³ Hinton, M, 1984 Ancient burial ground in Canbury Field, Kingston upon Thames, *SyAC*, 75, 285–7

have had several fording points prior to, and following, construction of a bridge at Kingston. These will have left remains dating to the Medieval-modern periods within this land.

Historic maps show the APA as sub-divided into plots with their boundaries running perpendicular from the Thames. At the southern end of the APA, a higher density of buildings, can be seen. On the Rocque map (1768) these are south of the APA and the trend for industrial buildings and housing to move northwards can be tracked through the 19th and 20th century maps. These buildings are also of interest in certain cases and their remains will survive in parts of the APA also. There are certainly some elements of these buildings extant, for example the locally listed retaining walls of Brunswick House on Lower Ham Road clearly pre-date their surroundings. Their will be similar truncated remains, surviving below modern gardens in the vicinity.

Also, towards the northern end of the APA, parkland exists next to the towpath. These have the potential to contain relatively undisturbed archaeological remains.

Stevens Eyots has undergone changes since the late 19th century when it is shown on mapping as five discrete islands. It is now in two main pieces. No doubt parts of the Eyots have disappeared and others have been much altered. Even so, as with all eyots in the Thames there is archaeological interest and also geoarchaeological potential.

Significance

There is the potential to increase understanding of Roman settlement patterns in the area as while two significant sites have been recorded, these were relatively small investigations and suggest there was wider land use than that which has been recorded thus far. This in turn may increase understanding of why land to the south later became the focus of settlement, especially in the early Medieval period.

The growth of Kingston encroached upon land within the APA over the course of the 20th century in particular. Even so, pockets of relatively undisturbed land will survive in parks and gardens within the APA and these may hold archaeological remains datable to the post Medieval period and earlier.

The banks of the Thames and the foreshore have their own potential and may hold both artefacts, structures and geoarchaeological information.

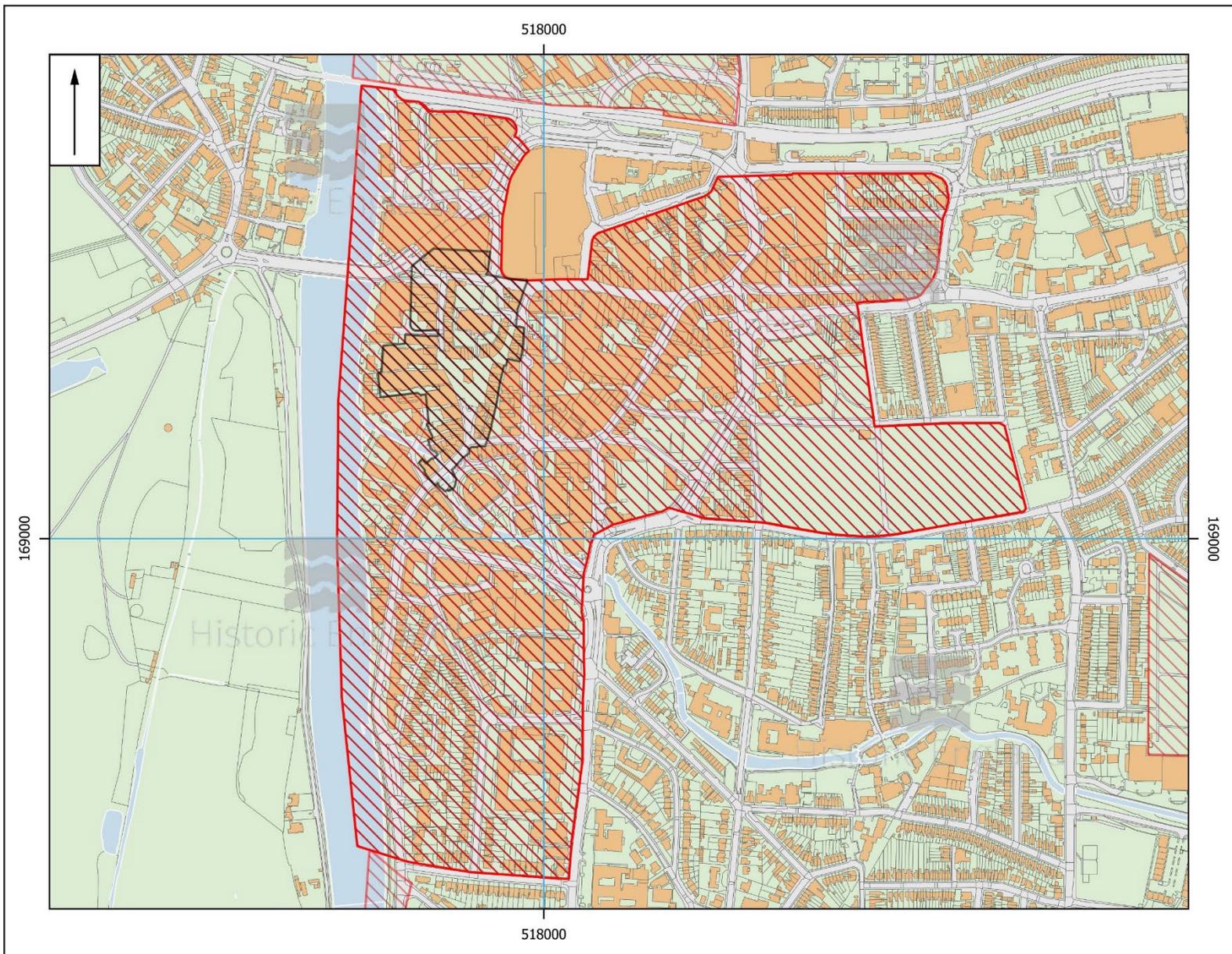
Key References

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Bradley, T. 2005. "Roman occupation at Skerne Road, Kingston upon Thames" (PDF). Surrey Archaeological Collections (92): 171–185

Hawkins, D. 2007 (Spring). A product of its environment: revising Roman Kingston. London Archaeologist. 199-203

Morigi, T. Schreve, D. White, M; Hey, G. 2011. The Archaeology of the Gravel Terraces of the Upper and Middle Thames: Early Prehistory to 1500 BC. Oxford University School of Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph, Volume: 1



Kingston APA
2.2 Kingston
Town

-  Kingston Town
-  Tier 1
Archaeological
Priority Area
-  Tier 2
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4):1:7000

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8.2 KINGSTON APA 2.2: KINGSTON TOWN

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the Thames riverside where that meets with the Historic core of Kingston Town. At its northern end, the modern railway line, at its south the Hogsmill flows into the Thames. Its eastern edge is irregular in shape, encompassing the important pottery production areas east of the marketplace and All Saints Church. This APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is known to preserve geoarchaeological and/or archaeological evidence of past human activity within the Thames, its banks and related to the historic core of Kingston Town. The remains within APA 2.2 Kingston Town clearly have links with those in Kingston Core APA 1.1.

Description

Topography and proximity to the Thames are key to understanding the origins and location of Kingston. There was, previously, a central island upon which the majority of the APA sat. The southern part of the island was marked by the branch of the Hogsmill we see today. A second branch, now infilled, wrapped around the eastern and northern limits of the island and this looping arm created the 'central island' by the Thames. Lying at an important junction with the Hogsmill and at an ancient fording point on the Thames.

This stretch of the river Thames, its foreshore and banks also have archaeological potential, heightened by its meeting point with two branches of the Hogsmill River (in prehistory). The river is associated with artefacts which indicate ritual or votive offerings. The evidence for this practice stretches through most of modern London and its distribution comes to an end a little beyond the edge of Kingston close to the point where the River Mole enters the Thames²⁴. The distribution of Mesolithic-Neolithic axeheads is interpreted as being indicative of votive offerings associated with water. Flint tools are durable and when found in association with geoarchaeological deposits can reveal a huge amount about the periods from which they derive. There are various records from the Thames foreshore, from within the APA which record findspots of special items (sword, axe) dating to the Bronze Age.

There are scattered remains from the Roman period in the vicinity of the APA. However, the most notable finds are from Coombe Hill (APA 2.5) and from land to the north of the historic core (within APA 2.1). There may be more remains within the town centre, though given the volume of investigations in recent years, the most notable learning is the lack of Roman period remains. The way in which the landscape was used during that period may become clearer through investigations in the Borough more widely.

It is in the post-Roman period that the town was founded. There are extensive documentary sources and archaeological data supporting ideas around its development²⁵ and these suggest a layout comprising a central island upon which most of the APA is located. To the south of that central island was another foci of settlement activity. Evidence for this came from excavations at South Lane (within the APA) which revealed the remains of post-built structures found in association with relatively large quantities of pottery. The

²⁴ *Figure 14.36 Distribution of River Finds*. In: Tony Morigi; Danielle Schreve; Mark White; Gill Hey. 2011. *The Archaeology of the Gravel Terraces of the Upper and Middle Thames: Early Prehistory to 1500 BC*. Oxford University School of Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph, Volume: 1.

²⁵ Hawkins, D. 2007 (Spring). A product of its environment: revising Roman Kingston
Duncan Hawkins. *London Archaeologist*. 199-203

period of occupation was, importantly, 400-700AD. This post-Roman, early Saxon settlement pre-dates the remains further north within the central island (north of the Hogsmill). It is suggested²⁶ that the Saxon settlement in Kingston shifted from South Lane (south island) to the central island after 700AD, although occupation on what has been termed South Island continued also as excavations at The Bittoms demonstrated.

We should note that the 12th century structure at the base of the extant Clattern Bridge (APA 1.1) replaced an earlier bridge linking the south island with the central island. Clearly, there was a long-lived and continuing need to connect these two pieces of land even after the centre of the town moved to the central island. The vill (Manor), church and market associated with a 'royal complex' is thought to have been on this central island.

The Norman period brought further change to the town, a lost timber (probably motte and bailey castle) of the 12th century was located, perhaps east of All Saints Church and on the curve of Eden Street. Associated with the De Clare family, the Castle would have provided protection to the town's Jewish population, who arrived with the Normans. Typically Jews lived within a short distance of a Castle and close to the commercial centre of a town. Eden Street (formerly Heathen Street) has been associated with Jews partly on the basis of the name which was a description frequently assigned in the Medieval period. Their presence is recorded including an attack on them in the 2nd Barons War.

The De Clare Castle was destroyed (or at least damaged) in the 2nd Barons War in which the Gilbert De Clare initially sided with the Rebel Barons against the King (and leading attacks against Jews, notably at Canterbury), itself an indirect attack on the King. The location of the De Clare castle is of significant archaeological interest and such castles, with their large defensive ditches can survive remarkably well, even in built up areas.

The town is particularly significant in the Medieval period for the production of the Kingston type of Surrey Whiteware pottery. This was used in London and the Thames Valley from the 13th century onwards. Several sites in the Eden Street, Union Street and London Road area have revealed important pottery remains, including large assemblages of pottery and wasters associated with kilns.

The town continued to grow and diversify in the types of industries present throughout the post-Medieval and modern periods. Trades and industries included malting and brewing, tanning, salmon fishing and timber exporting. Also, boatbuilding, tanning, and pottery production. Kingston grew into a thriving inland port as it provided fast access into the City of London. These industries and the trades associated with the port were therefore concentrated in two spines through the town, east-west along the Hogsmill river and north-south along the High Street and the Thames itself between Horsefair and the Bittoms. Kingston was also an agricultural and market town until the 19th century. All of these industries drew in people and the houses and leisure pursuits of them meant the town grew. The buildings associated have all left traces in the archaeological record of the town.

A Quaker cemetery was excavated (as a result of modern development) at London Rd within the APA. This densely utilised cemetery yielded a huge amount of information about this distinct group of the town's inhabitants²⁷.

There were military locations within the town. A significant Militia barracks at Fairfield Road within the APA. This is not to be confused with 'The Barracks' which was in Kings

²⁶ Hawkins, D. 1998. Anglo-Saxon Kingston. A shifting pattern of settlement. *London Archaeologist* 8, 271-278

²⁷ Kirk, L. 1998. The excavation of a Quaker burial ground, 84 London Road, Kingston upon Thames *London Archaeologist* Vol 8.11

Road to the north of the APA and has been redeveloped with certain parts deliberately retained. The Militia barracks has also been redeveloped. One of the most significant industries during the modern period was the Sopwith's Factory in Canbury Park Road, Kingston. This is to the north of the APA and is not included as the site, spread across several locations, has been redeveloped.

Significance

The Kingston Core (APA 1.1) and Kingston Town APA 2.2 contain by far the highest number of GLHER records in the Borough. This APA has the potential to contain prehistoric to modern remains. The results of work within it are of interest to our understanding of the rest of the Borough. Specifically, the magnetic affect of this part of the Thames from inland, along the Hogsmill, and from elsewhere along the river are of interest.

Historic England published Kingston Town Centre Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames Historic Area Study (Susie Barson) in 2016. This selected the following primary archaeological research themes for Kingston, these remain valid at this time:

- Contribute to the regional model for prehistoric and later activity from analysis of the topography, hydrology, landscape and environment studies.
- Identify the chronology and character of prehistoric and later landscape, river and road transport systems, settlement and land management.
- Examine the role and diversity of religion and belief in Roman and post-Roman society.
- Understand water and river management systems and their utilisation.
- Understand the development of the town, regional context, royal connections, social status, etc.
- Contribute to research objectives on the historic economy, production, distribution, and material culture, e.g. the Surrey Whiteware industry.
- Identify the people and society of Kingston, demography, religion, burial practice.

Key References

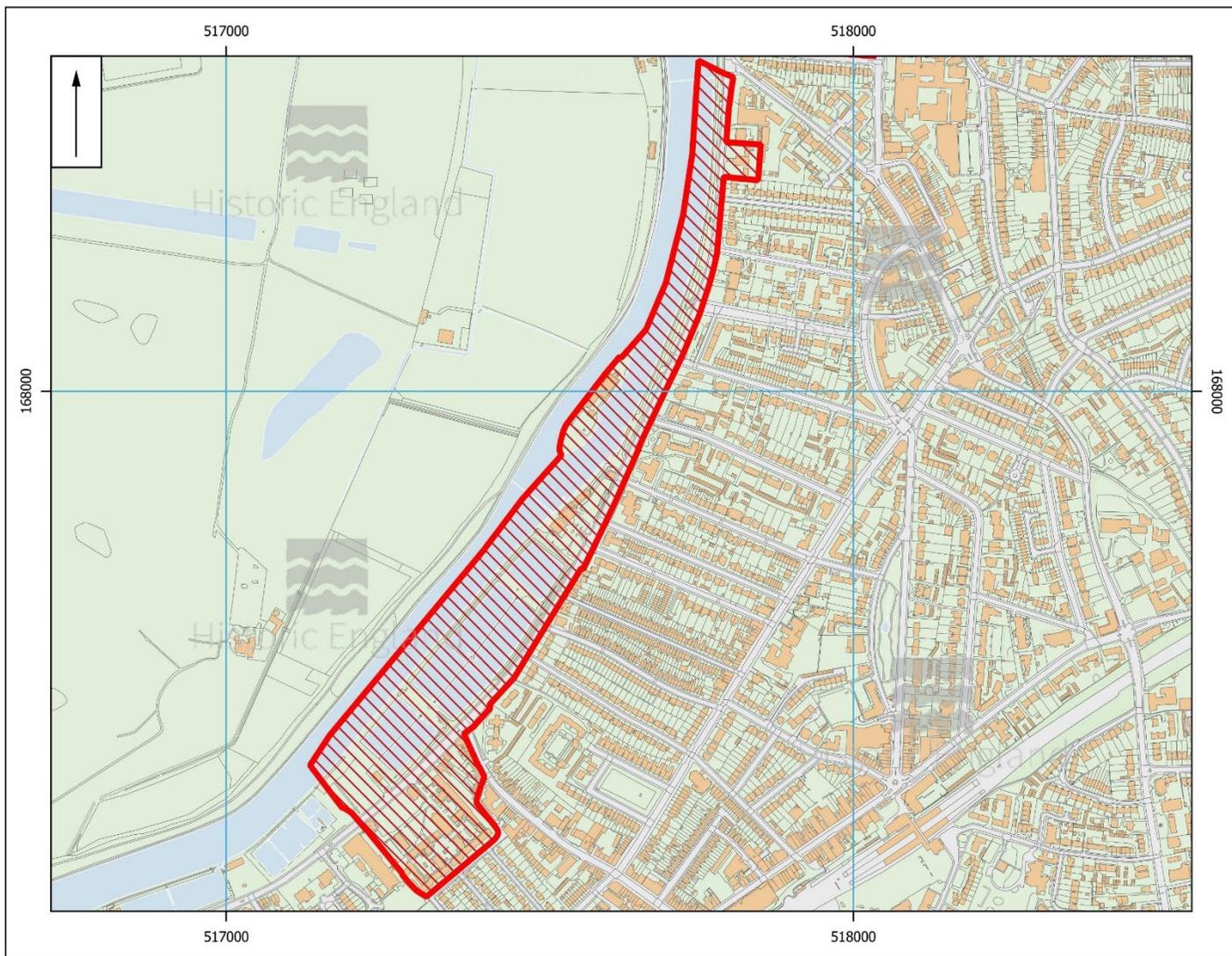
Andrews, P. 2004. Page 171. *Kingston - Saxon Royal Estate Centre to Post-Medieval Market Town: The Contribution of Archaeology to Understanding Towns In Surrey. In. Aspects of Archaeology and History in Surrey. Towards A Research Framework for the County.* 169-186

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Kingston APA
2.3 Surbiton and
Ravens Ait

-  Surbiton and Ravens Ait
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:8000

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8.3 KINGSTON APA 2.3 SURBITON AND RAVENS AIT

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the Thames riverside from the southern part of Kingston Town in the north down to the border with Surrey (Long Ditton). The boundaries of the APA have been designed to encompass the Ravens Ait, the banks and foreshore of the Thames and also the Roman Catholic (St Raphael's Church) and the Seething Wells water treatment site. This APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is known to preserve geoarchaeological and/or archaeological evidence of past human activity within the Thames, its banks and lands close to its course.

Description

This part of the Thames has been associated with artefacts which indicate ritual practice. The evidence for this stretches through most of modern London and comes to an end a little beyond the edge of Kingston close to the point where the River Mole enters the Thames²⁸. The distribution of Mesolithic-Neolithic axeheads is interpreted as being indicative of votive offerings associated with water. Physical remains of activity during these periods is less obvious than in later periods in which we are more likely to encounter structures and higher quantities/variety of artefactual material. However, flint tools are durable and when found in association with geoarchaeological deposits can reveal a huge amount about the periods from which they derive.

The Ravens Ait (island) lies within the APA and has several findspots associated with it. These include a sword and a socketed spearhead both dated to the Neolithic/Bronze Age. Such Islands in the Thames can be associated with votive offerings and ritual due to their association with water. The Island also had a brief, but prominent role, as the island to host the signing of the Treaty of Kingston (1217). This treaty signed by Prince Louis of France ended the campaign known as the First Barons' War and King Louis dropped his claim to the throne of England. While the signing of the Treaty was a fleeting but significant historic event, its location on Ravens Ait suggests the Island was in use at that time. It may have been selected partly due to the presence of a Castle in Kingston belonging to the powerful De Clare family who fought in the Barons War.

On the Surbiton side of the APA, the GLHER has noticeably less records for this area than Kingston Town to the north. There is a small hamlet/settlement shown on the Rocque map of 1768. It would have been located towards the northern end of the APA and is mainly outside it due to the level of residential development which has taken place. The towpath and banks of the Thames are within the APA, so is the Seething Wells water treatment work and associated buildings. These are towards the southern end of the APA and the water treatment works had a very important role in the 19th century when they helped to rid the more built up parts of central London of Cholera, which was so prevalent at times.

There is a Roman Catholic church (St Raphael's Church) at the northern end of the APA, and this is within the APA. This was constructed in the mid 19th century and contains burials. It is a Listed Building and has historic and architectural value as well as archaeological interest.

²⁸ *Figure 14.36 Distribution of River Finds*. In: Tony Morigi; Danielle Schreve; Mark White; Gill Hey. 2011. *The Archaeology of the Gravel Terraces of the Upper and Middle Thames: Early Prehistory to 1500 BC*. Oxford University School of Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph, Volume: 1.

Significance

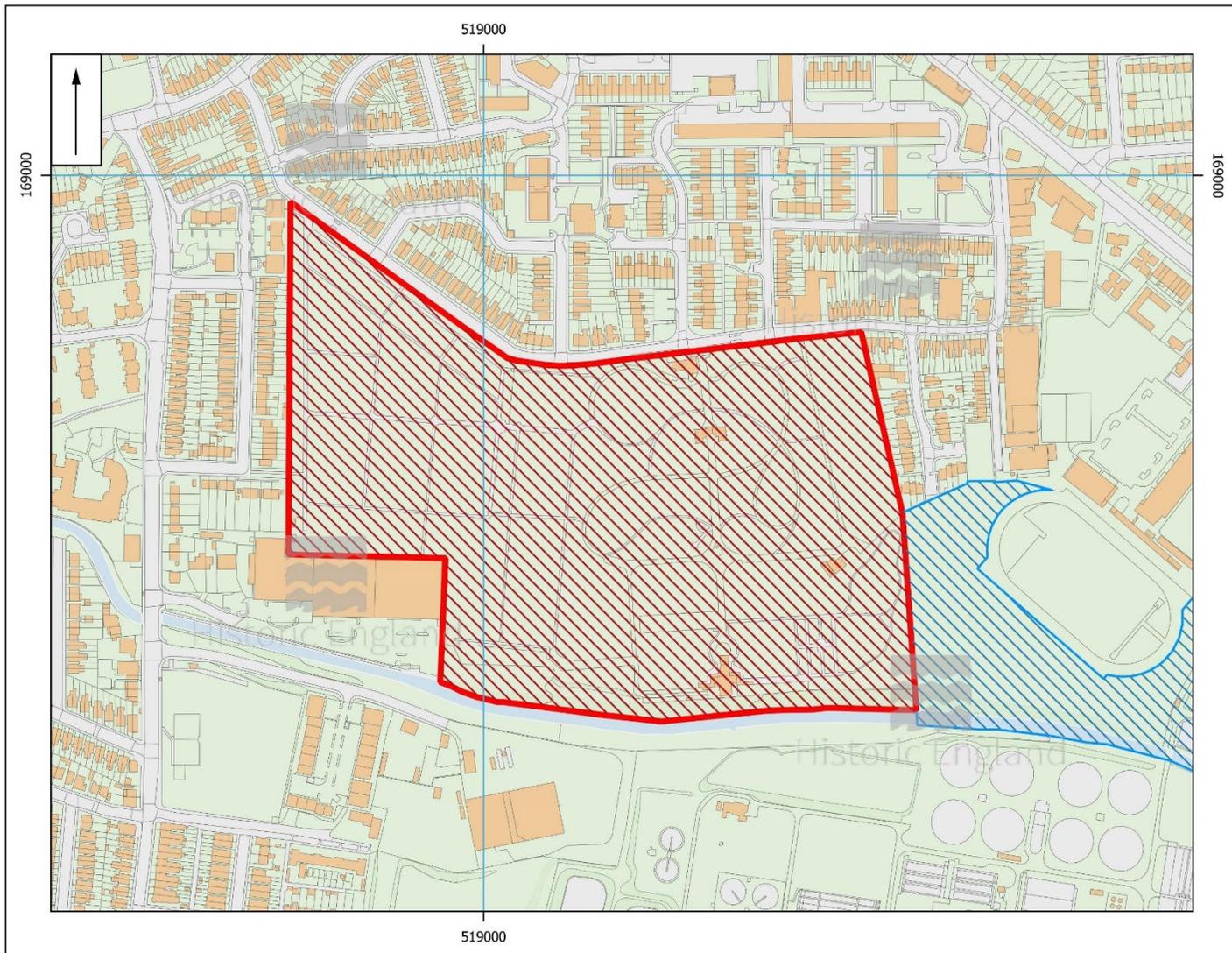
The relative lack of archaeological records in Surbiton contrasts with Kingston. This difference is very informative and as the character of remains in the APA continues to emerge it will help us to better understand the Kingston Town APA to its north. It is also notable that routeways into the town come through the APA from the west east and south, while traffic on the river passed to the west.

The Ravens Ait holds considerable archaeological and geoarchaeological potential as do the foreshore and banks of the Thames. The Seething Wells complex is an interesting example of 19th century engineering being used to improve public health and rid the population of London of a repeating disease.

St Raphaels Catholic Church is an interesting building which contains burials over 100 years old. Burials which are over 100 years old are potentially of archaeological interest, hence its inclusion within the APA.

Key References

Jeevendrampillai, D. 2019. The making of a suburb. In: Tilley, C. 2019. London's Urban Landscape: Another Way of Telling. UCL Press: London, UK



Kingston APA
2.4 Kingston
Cemetery

-  Kingston Cemetery
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:3987

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8.4 KINGSTON APA 2.4: KINGSTON CEMETERY

Summary and Definition

This APA covers Kingston Cemetery. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it covers a burial ground with 19th century origins. The cemetery is open to the public and accepts new burials.

Description

Kingston Cemetery was set up by Kingston Municipal Burial Board in 1855, prior to which all burials had been in Kingston's parish churchyard of All Saints and its overflow burial ground at Union Street. The cemetery site is bordered to the south by the Hogsmill River. It was simply laid out on formal lines and has two gothic chapels linked by a portecochère supporting a hexagonal belfry and spire. The architects were Messrs Aickin and Capes.

A War Memorial Commemorating World War I. This is a CWGC Cross of Sacrifice located on a teardrop-shaped paved island in front of the crematorium. There are 165 soldiers WWI buried in the cemetery.

Memorials include one commemorating Arthur Ranyard in 1894 topped by a female figure. Also, the Diana Burton bronze angel of 1908. This was designed by sculptor Richard Goulden and cast by her father, a metal founder in Thames Ditton. A sculpted bronze relief commemorating Ernest Von Bransthausen (1900) and a baldacchino on barley sugar columns shelters a pair of angelic figures on the Macrae Memorial (1901).

The cemetery has been extended in the south and in 1952 a brick Crematorium was built, with landscaping around the building completed in 1958. This was designed by Borough Surveyor G.L Paling.

Significance

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

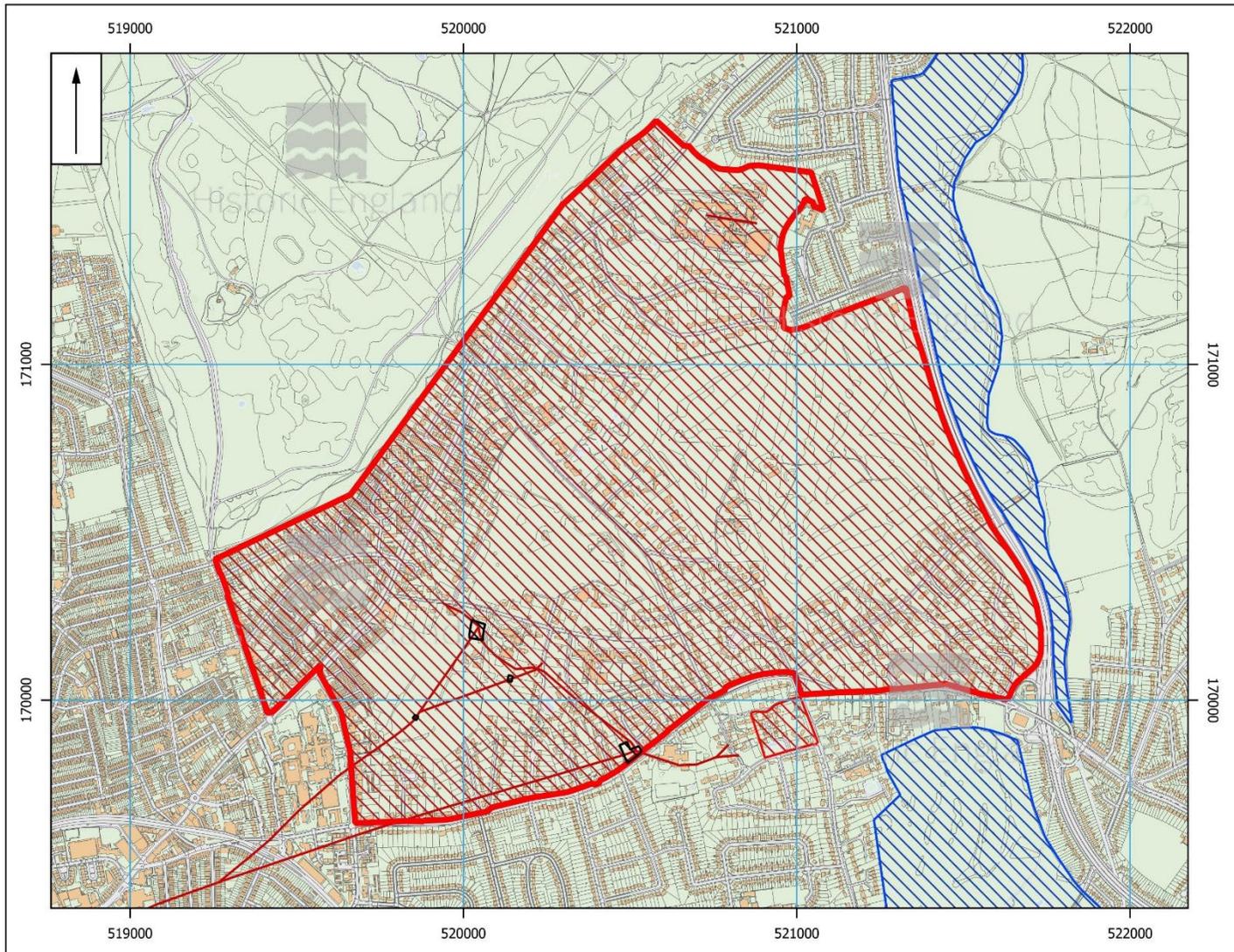
Burial grounds have their own specific legal protections. In accordance with national guidelines, archaeological investigation in 19th century burial grounds would normally only occur when burials more than 100 years old have to be disturbed for other reasons. Such disturbance could be for development purposes other than routine small-scale cemetery operations. The views and feelings of relatives and associated faith communities, when known, would be considered.

Key References

Bridget Cherry & Nikolaus Pevsner, *The Buildings of England: London 2: South* (Penguin) 1999

Commonwealth War Graves Commission
<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/search-results/?CemeteryExact=true&Cemetery=KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES%20CEMETERY>

Hugh Meller & Brian Parsons, 'London Cemeteries, An Illustrated Guide and Gazetteer', 4th edition (The History Press, 2008)



Kingston APA
2.5 Coombe Hill

-  Coombe Hill
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:15000

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8.5 KINGSTON APA 2.5: COOMBE HILL

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the northeastern part of the Borough. From Kingston Hospital on its western boundary across to the Beverley Brook on its east, the APA rises and then drops to form Coombe Hill. It is topographically high for the Borough and shares more in common with Richmond Park to its north and Wandsworth Common to its east than it does with Kingston Borough to its south and west. The APA contains a high density of GLHER records relative to other parts of the Borough and these come from prehistory to the modern period.

Description

A large proportion of Coombe Hill was wooded until the 20th century. The remainder being open land with a small number of larger properties across it. It had more in common with Richmond Park and Wandsworth Common to its immediate north and east. This was true in landscape and ecology terms (up to the 19th century) and still is the case topographically (high) and in geological (gravels) terms. These are important to notice as while Coombe Hill is now more built up than Richmond Park and Wandsworth Common, it retained a similar archaeological potential. This is now somewhat denuded due to various types of development activity since the 19th century.

It has become relatively built up now, with Kingston Hospital to its immediate west, Kingston University on its northern edge. There are two golf courses (Coombe Hill and Coombe Wood) and residential streets, houses and gardens filling much of the remainder.

Prehistoric remains have been identified within the APA. It is unfortunate that much of the material was recovered prior to modern archaeological investigation as this has affected the quality of the record. Nevertheless, through analysis of antiquarian records and material recovered it is possible to say *“A miscellany of pre-Late Bronze Age finds, stone and flint axes, a bronze palstave and collared urns, are perhaps representative of intermittent activity during the Neolithic, Early and Middle Bronze Age. The collared urns may well have been originally covered by round barrows set on the false crest of Kingston Hill and visible from the valley below, a situation frequently encountered.... It is not until the Late Bronze Age however that a convincing case can be made for settlement on Kingston Hill based on a good quantity and range of diagnostic artefacts”*²⁹. This interpretation relies upon evidence gathered mainly by antiquarians and through comparison with finds from other sites in a similar topographic position. It gives a glimpse of the types of remains which may still lie within parts of the APA.

A modern investigation at Warren Cutting (Coombe Hill Golf Course) revealed widespread truncation of the underlying natural gravels. A prehistoric enclosure ditch was also revealed. This is informative also as it suggests that even in relatively open areas (such as the golf course) significant groundworks and terracing are likely to have truncated underlying archaeological remains. Such a situation is not uncommon in Greater London and modern archaeological techniques are accustomed to identifying both destruction and preservation potential.

²⁹ Field, D. and Needham, S. 1986. Evidence for Bronze Age settlement on Coombe Warren, Kingston Hill. Surrey Archaeological Collections 77, 127-51

Historic maps of the 19th century record signs of its past which are also revealing in terms of archaeological potential in the area. Towards its southern edge and immediately south of Coombe Wood Golf course lies a street named Coombe Neville, this refers to an area of land within which finds of Roman material were made over the course of several hundred years. Coins, cremation urns and other material are referred to. These antiquarian findings are not recorded in the way a modern investigation would be, nevertheless, they indicate the presence of settlement activity close by. The Ordnance Survey map of 1919 and other maps of the period carry a label across this portion of the APA which reads “*numerous roman coins and remains found*”, itself an indicator of the volume of material. This is one of several antiquarian records relating to land within the APA. These are fully discussed in Hawkins summary of Roman remains in the area³⁰. This refers to Gallows Hill where Roman cremation urns were (very likely) recorded adjacent to the Gallows.

Other remains likely to be revealed include those related to Medieval land use. A small settlement at *Combe* is recorded in Domesday and this settlement continued throughout the Medieval period. Following the suppression of Merton Priory, who came to own the lands, we know that the land and its spring water were utilised to provide Hampton Court Palace with an adequate water supply (APA 2.6). The APA will also contain the below ground remains of various Post-Medieval and modern houses, some impressive houses and associated buildings and land were spread across the APA. We can expect remains in the form of structural remains (Walls and foundations) and also pieces of landscape (ponds, ditches and other features used to enclose and landscape the grounds). The GLHER and 18th and 19th century mapping records the location of several examples. These include Kenry House and Coombe Hurst towards the northern edge of the APA, Warren House on the West and Coombe End in the south.

Significance

It is likely that prehistoric and later communities utilised the high ground of Coombe Hill. We should expect further prehistoric and Roman remains to be revealed. These are important to understanding the Borough and they are also important for what they reveal about adjacent land in Merton, Wandsworth and Richmond Borough all of which share land of a similar topographic and landscape type. Some of the understanding of land use in these Boroughs lies in increasing knowledge within this APA.

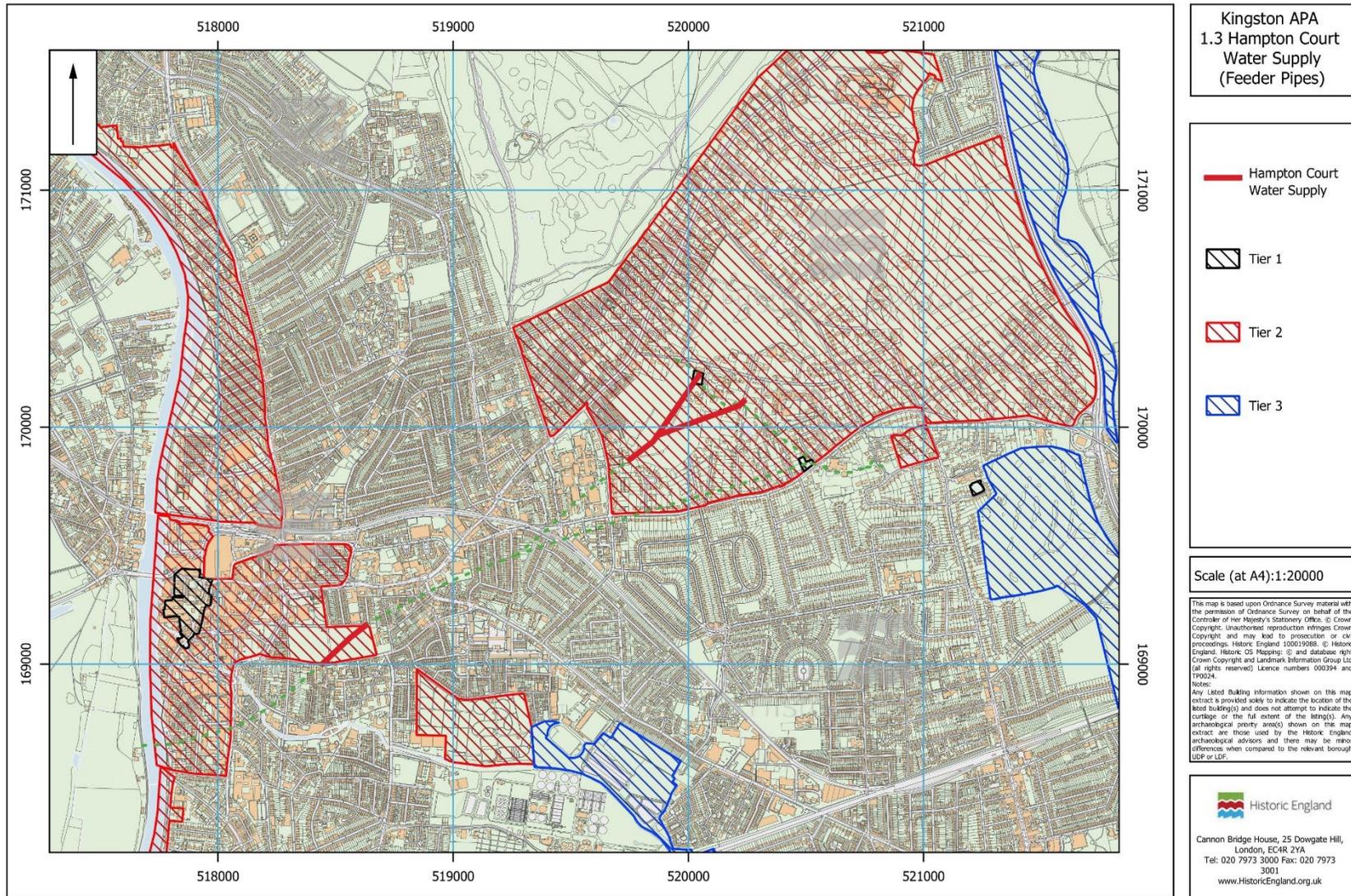
The Coombe Hill area stands out within the Borough, overlooking the Thames and the lower, shallow valleys of the rest of the Borough, it presents an interesting piece of high ground and the stories it tells of land use are of great value to understanding the remainder of the Borough. Coombe also has a role in providing freshwater, notably the Hampton Court Water Supply is routed from here (APA 2.6). We should note that those same springs will have been well known to earlier populations. The focus of Roman remains appears to have been located close to these springlines.

The Roman settlement pattern appears to have been of a rural, dispersed character at this time. It seems to have lain outside what became the early Medieval town of Kingston. Learning more about the settlement pattern during the Roman period would be very useful in understanding the shifting patterns in land use during and after that Roman period. This appears to have been one of the most significant shifts in land use within the Borough and part of the answer to learning more lies in this APA.

³⁰ Hawkins, D. 1996. Roman Kingston-upon-Thames: a landscape of rural settlements. London Archaeologist - Volume 08:02 p.46-50

Key References

Hawkins, D. 1996. Roman Kingston-upon-Thames: a landscape of rural settlements.
London Archaeologist - Volume 8, 2 p.46-50



8.6 KINGSTON APA 2.6: HAMPTON COURT WATER SUPPLY (FEEDER PIPES)

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the below ground feeder pipes running between several above ground structures. Only those sections of feeder pipe which are mapped crossing currently open ground (e.g. playing fields) fall within the APA. Other sections of the course of these pipes are shown as a dashed line and are not within the APA. The feeder pipes and structures were key to the Hampton Court Water Supply. These feeder pipes are located in the northern part of the Borough. The APA is classified as Tier 2 as these feeder pipes are archaeological remains of late Medieval/Post-Medieval date and are an example of utilities engineering within the Borough. The four extant structures associated with the water supply (APA 1.4) are Tier 1 as they are Scheduled Monuments.

Description

The Hampton Court Water Supply was constructed in 1538-40 as part of a new conduit to provide Hampton Court Palace with water from springs at Coombe Hill. This is a distance of c.5km. Following the acquisition of Hampton Court by King Henry VIII, there was need for a greater supply of water, maintained at a higher pressure than was previously available. After the suppression of Merton Priory in 1538, land was set aside in upper Kingston for this new water supply system.

A summary account covering the period 1538-45, mentions 'charges of the condyte from Combill' and also a sum of £100 spent on the construction. The water was collected at the head of springs in Coombe, in water tanks covered by secure brick buildings known as conduit houses. There were three conduit houses known as Coombe Conduit House, Gallows Conduit House, and Ivy Conduit House, all of which survive, and form separate Scheduled Monuments. The water flowed under gravity in underground lead feeder pipes to the Palace. The route of the pipes passed under the rivers Hogsmill and Thames via several tamkin houses. These were small brick buildings with stopcocks and expansion tanks that allowed part of the pipe to be isolated so leaks could be identified and repaired.

Significance

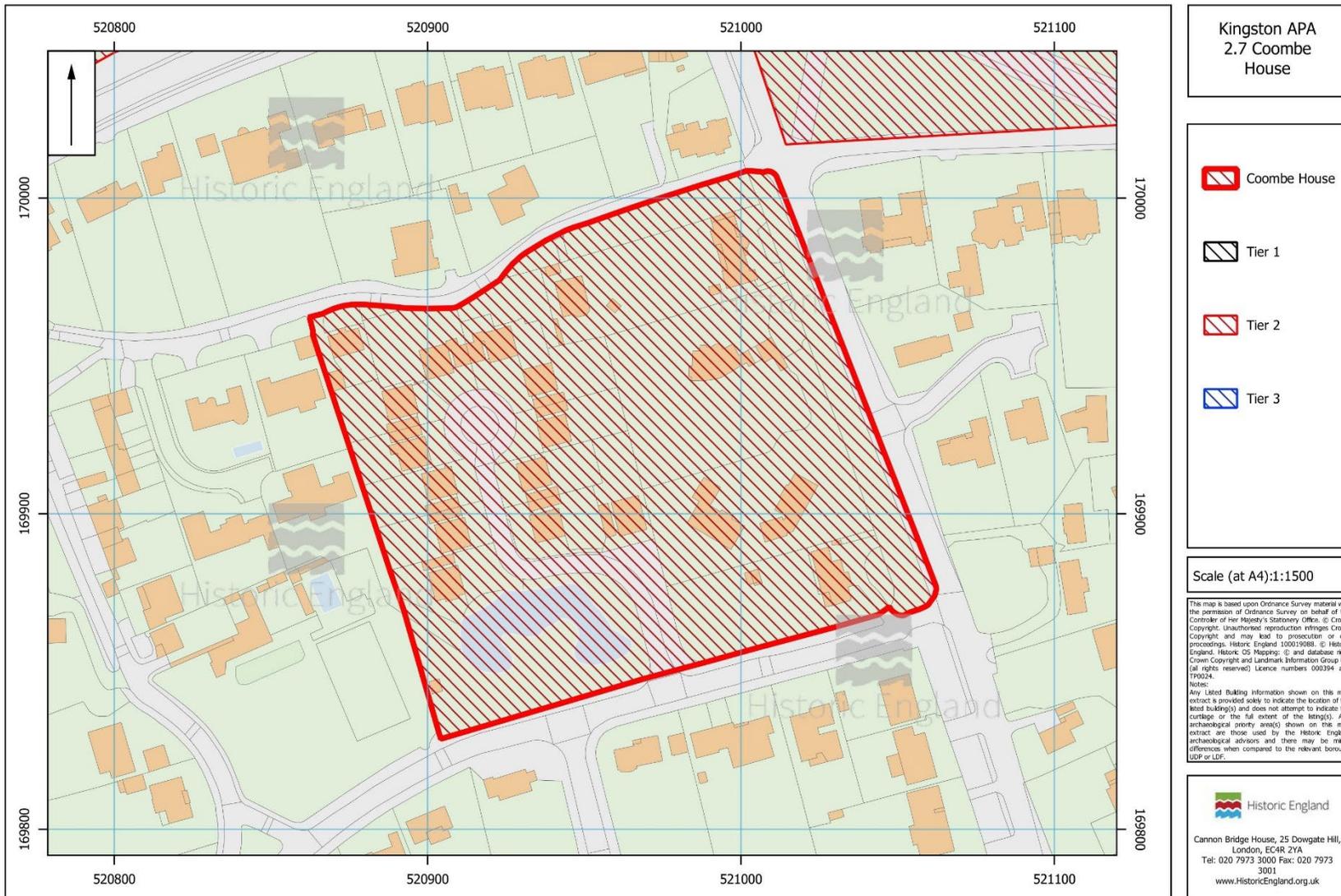
The system represents a relatively early example of water engineering. There were earlier examples in Britain, notably Roman engineers brought a detailed understanding of how to work with and move water. Even so, for the 16th century this represents an unusual and ambitious undertaking.

The origins of the water supply lie in the ambitions of Henry VIII and his plans for Hampton Court Palace. They reflect the contemporary understanding of water engineering and in so doing are an important record of engineering ability at that time. They also show how lands were used following suppression of Merton Priory. This reflects another important shift in approach at that time and shows how landuse within the Borough was affected by changes brought about by the English Reformation.

Key References

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Forge, JL. 1959. 'Coombe Hill Conduit Houses and the water supply of Hampton Court Palace', *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, 56, 3–14



8.7 KINGSTON APA 2.7 COOMBE HOUSE

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the location of Coombe House. It corresponds with the central and eastern part of a Conservation Area which shares the same name. The APA is classified as Tier 2 as it is likely to contain the sub-surface remains of Coombe House and buildings associated with it. These have archaeological significance for the Post-Medieval period-Modern period.

Description

Coombe House was a large estate built in the 1750s. The house now demolished is shown on 18th century and 19th century mapping as being in the central part of the APA, to the west of Traps Lane and south of Fitzgeorge Avenue. Indeed, red brick boundary walls can still be seen on the west side of Traps Lane, immediately south of Fitzgeorge Avenue. These are associated with Coombe House.

Amongst its owners was Robert Jenkinson, Lord Liverpool (Prime Minister, 1812–27), and later by Prince Adolphus, Duke of Cambridge, great-great-grandfather of Queen Elizabeth II. The Designation Report for the Conservation Area describes how the remains of the 16th century mansion include all stretches of *“the high brick walls on Warren Rise, and Fitzgeorge Avenue; the listed stretch of wall on Traps Lane; and the two storey cottage incorporated into Vane House on Warren Rise.*

The remaining structures from the mid 18th century estate include:

- *the lodge at the junctions of Warren Rise and Coombe Lane West.*
- *a second lodge at the junction of Traps Lane and Fitzgeorge Avenue both dated between 1867-1888.*
- *the stables dated between 1840-1867, now Coombe Neville and Neville Cottage in Warren Rise.*
- *the 18th century cottage which now forms Coombe Vane and Vane House in Warren Rise.”*

The pond and surrounding landscaping in Neville Avenue (to its north) is also of historic landscape interest. Records from 17th century indicate several fishponds existed within the estate gardens. The landscape then underwent several changes up to the 20th century.

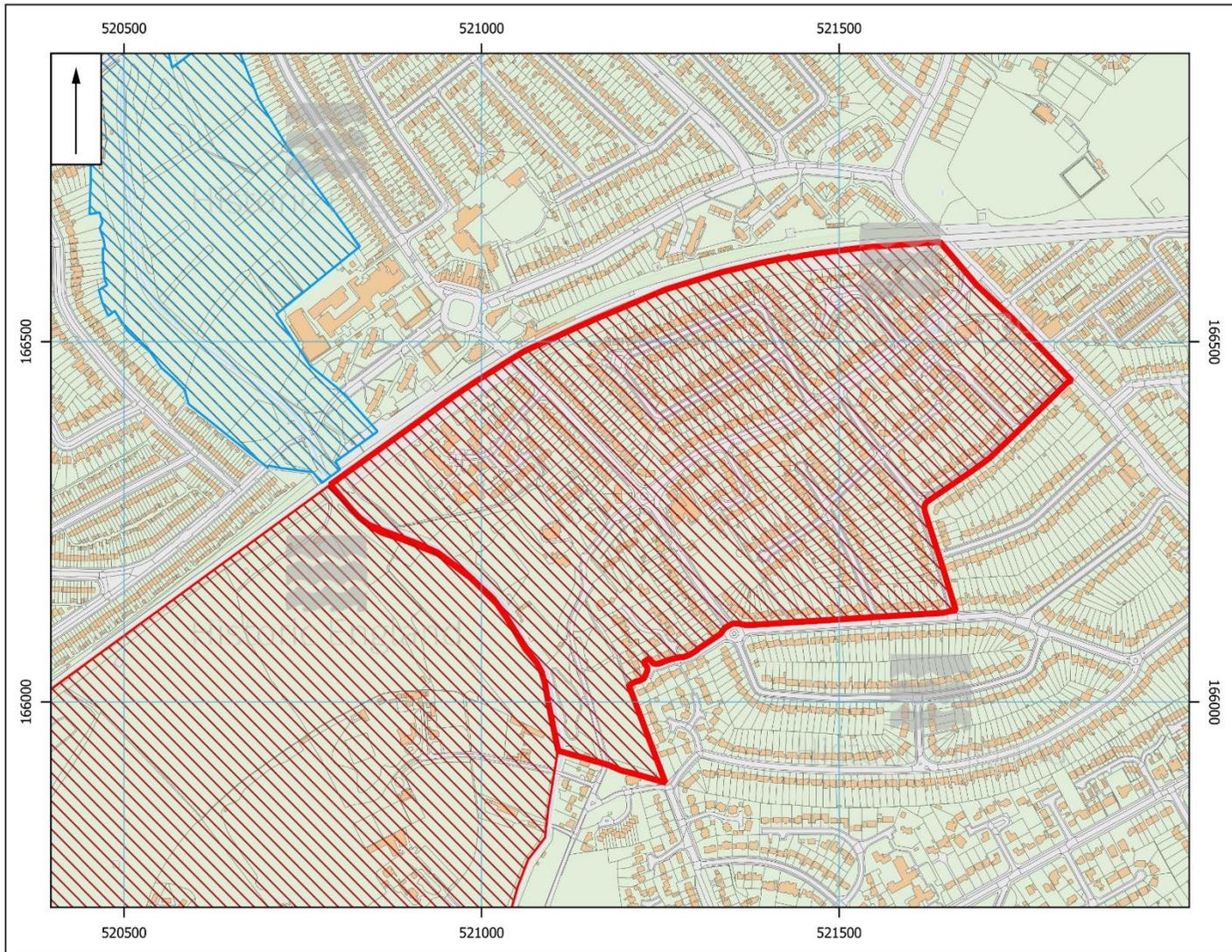
Significance

The APA has the potential to reveal information related to Post-Medieval to modern land use in this part of Coombe. The presence of fishponds in a landscape which became landscaped gardens may be indicative of extraction (for clay) in the Post-Medieval period. Such extraction was often related to brick making and this is recorded elsewhere in the Borough (e.g. APA 2.11 Fishponds Park).

The subsequent landscaping has value in terms of what it may reveal about garden design during the 18th – 19th century. The remains of the house are likely to survive below ground as they clearly do above ground in parts of the Conservation Area. Such remains will hold information about the materials used and layout of structures in the 18th – 19th century.

Key References

New Malden Neighbourhood Committee Report. 1997. Coombe House
Conservation Area Designation Report.
https://www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200216/heritage_and_conservation/747/list_of_conservation_areas/23 - accessed 16/11/2020



Kingston APA
2.8 Old Malden

- Old Malden
- Tier 1
- Tier 2
- Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:7000

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8.8 KINGSTON APA 2.8: OLD MALDEN

Summary and Definition

This APA covers Old Malden. It runs from the Hogsmill in the west, to take in the Medieval church of St John the Baptist, along with an associated Manor and the land within which the Medieval village core was located. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it has the potential to contain important multi period settlement remains from prehistory until the modern period.

Description

Old Malden lies within the Borough of Kingston upon Thames at the meeting point of several modern administrative areas. The London Boroughs of Sutton and Merton and the County of Surrey all meet here. It lies within the Parish of Malden, which borders that parish of Cuddington to the south and Tolworth to the west. Old Malden sits on the eastern bank of the Hogsmill River as that river turns, at a right angle, towards Kingston Town and the Thames. The existence of topographical changes, like bends in a river found in association with parish and political boundaries is noteworthy when considering archaeological remains and their distribution. That is the case at Old Malden which has one of the densest clusters of GLHER records in the Borough.

The distribution of GLHER data is indicative of ancient settlement on either side of these boundaries. Old Malden is only exceeded by Kingston Town in its density and range of records. We should also note the Tolworth Court Farm settlement (APA 2.11) to its immediate southwest and Worcester Park within Surrey are also areas with a relatively high density of archaeological remains. These are recorded on the GLHER and Surrey HER respectively. Therefore, Old Malden lies in a landscape rich in archaeological remains and should be considered in this way.

There appears to have been continuous settlement within the APA since the Iron Age, and the western half of the APA (closest to the Hogsmill) has produced most of the physical remains associated with that occupation. There are two sites with the physical remains of Iron Age settlement within the APA. These comprise excavations at Percy Gardens and Church Road. The latter also had artefacts and remains dated to the Roman period. These excavations were located in the western half of the APA, one to the north of the Manor House and associated Medieval Church of St John the Baptist and one to its south.

The Medieval village is likely to have stretched along Church Road as it heads northeast through the centre of the APA. Rocques map of Surrey (1768) shows Church Road on its present alignment with the church, Manor House and a series of houses along Church Road.

The Church of St John the Baptist original church was built by Walter de Merton, founder of Merton College, Oxford. It comprised a nave, chancel and west tower. The flint south and east walls of the chancel survive. In 1610, the nave and tower were re-built in red brick, laid in English bond. Stone dressed three light Perpendicular windows to nave. The church was restored in the 19th century and it is Grade II Listed (1184102).

The changes in land tenure in the 12th century are well understood. Walter de Merton purchased the Manor at Chessington (APA 2.12) and Old Malden from the royal escheators

who held them during the minority of Richard de Clare³¹. On 28 April 1240 in partnership with Peter Cuddington, Walter paid £100 to Aaron fil Abraham of London. This relieved William Watevill (who held the manor previously) of debts he had secured on this land.³² Walter de Merton was a Chancery Clerk and the founder of Merton College in Oxford. His links to church and state made for important and long-lasting land tenure changes that link to the church of St John the Baptist:

*“In 1265 the priory made over the advowson of the church of Malden to Walter de Merton, who assigned it as part of the endowment of Merton College, which has held the advowson both of Malden and of the annexed chapelry of Chessington ever since. In 1279 a vicarage for Malden and Chessington was ordained by Nicholas of Ely, Bishop of Winchester.”*³³

The church lies northwest of the Manor House of Malden Manor. Both lie west of the Hogsmill and close to the village of Old Malden. The arrangement is typical of a Medieval settlement. What is perhaps less common in Greater London is for this arrangement to be so readily recognisable. This is due to the relatively undeveloped nature of the land in the immediate vicinity of the church, especially to its west. This is notable from an archaeological perspective as the conditions for the preservation of archaeological remains are relatively good. The entire plot may hold earlier Medieval remains, including burials as it is not uncommon for Medieval churchyards and burials to occur outside what have become modern graveyards.

The Manor was closely associated with the church. Notably, Walter de Merton, who founded Merton College in Oxford, also used this Manor House as a place of learning.

*Among the Malden title deeds in the Merton muniment room is a document assigning that manor, together with Chessington and Farley, for the sustentation of John de la Clythe and seven other nepotes, who are termed scholares in scolis degentes, and are stated to be living under an ordinance approved by the king, by the feudal lord, by the Bishop of Winchester, and by the Chapter of Winchester. This charter bears no date, but Bishop Hobhouse, with much ingenuity, has shown that it is of the year 1263, and probably of the month of September. From this document we learn that Walter de Merton placed eight of his nephews in his manor house of Malden, under a warden and chaplains, binding them down to a life of study and rule.*³⁴

Within the post-Medieval period Old Malden saw change and increased growth as a settlement. Closely associated for a time with the nearby Mills which sat close by on the Hogsmill. Historic maps show a steady increase in buildings and decrease in open land throughout the 19th century and into the modern period.

Significance

Old Malden has a relatively dense number of GLHER records. These represent the remains of activity dating between late prehistory and the modern period. There are some earlier finds also. It is clearly one of the most long-lived villages of Kingston upon Thames. It

³¹ Harding, A. 1993. England in the thirteenth century. P. 242.

³² Mundill. R. 2010. The Kings Jews. P. 108.

³³ 'Parishes: Malden', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 523-525. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/pp523-525> [accessed 13 November 2020].

³⁴ 'Colleges: College of Malden', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 2*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1967), pp. 128-129. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol2/pp128-129> [accessed 14 November 2020].

sits on the Hogsmill River, so important to the Borough as a source of freshwater and as magnet for settlement and industrial activities in the Post-Medieval and modern periods.

There is potential to reveal more remains and there is much to learn specifically about the extent of Iron Age settlement within the APA. The parts of it which have been revealed so far were within land parcels being developed. How those disparate elements are joined (or not) would reveal much about the phasing and size of the settlement at Old Malden. How that settlement became used during the Roman period and early Medieval period is also in need of better understanding.

The fabric of the church and the ground around it hold significant archaeological value with the potential to increase knowledge on the area and its inhabitants since the early Medieval period. This includes burials of the local population. It may have served as the focal point for a community based around the church in the Medieval period.

There is an interesting line of research into the effect of Walter de Merton purchasing the land and Manor. His construction of a church (presumably replacing an earlier building) and the effect of his investment in the area which appears to have included at least temporarily, a place of learning (not to be confused with the larger one in Oxford). What affect did his various investments locally have on the village at Old Malden?

Physical archaeological remains are very likely to exist within the APA and they would provide useful information on the development of this important settlement.

Key References

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

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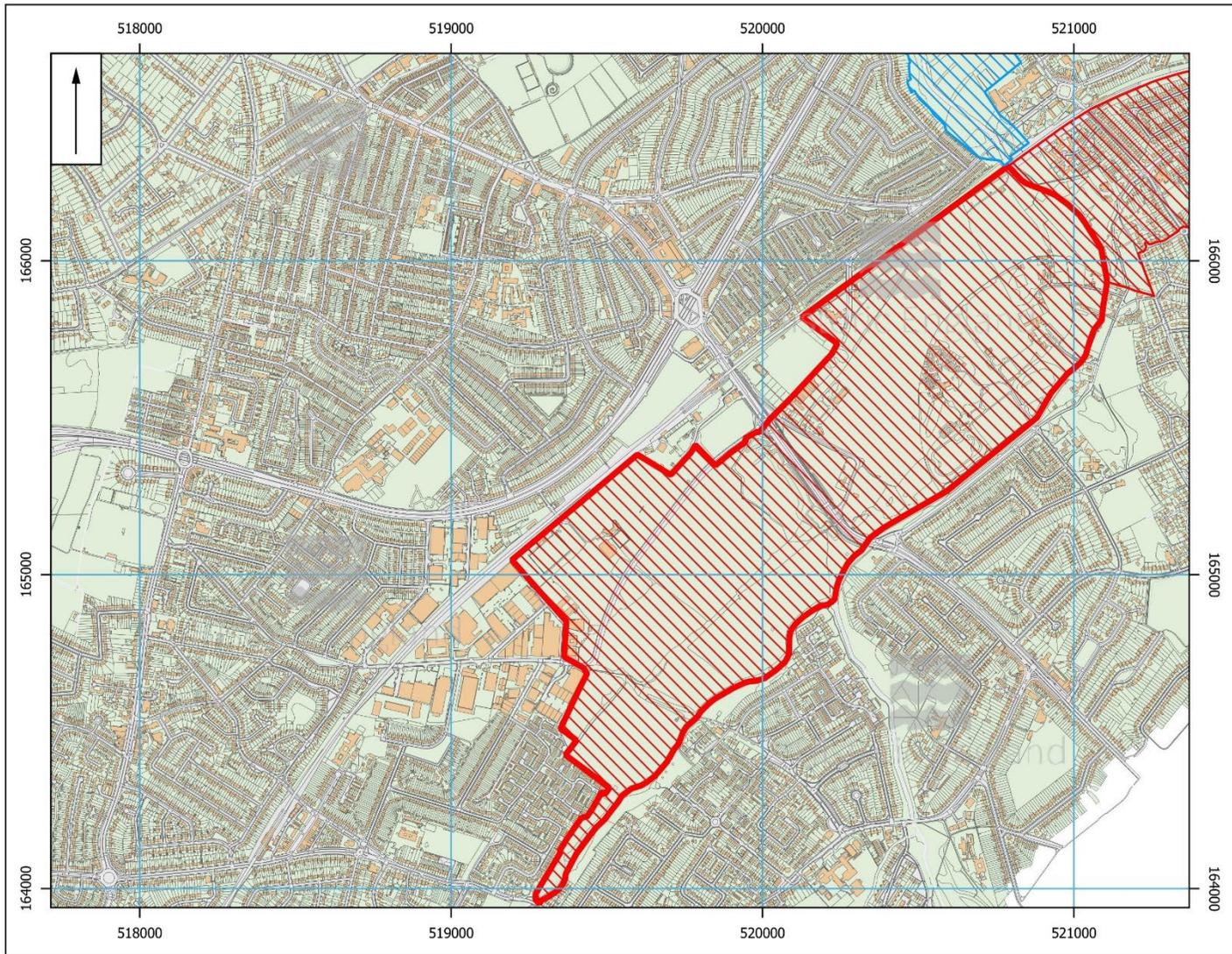
Mundill. R. 2010. The Kings Jews. P. 108

'Parishes: Malden', in A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 523-525.

'Colleges: College of Malden', in A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 2, ed. H E Malden (London, 1967), pp. 128-129. British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol2/pp128-129> [accessed 14 November 2020].

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Kingston APA
2.9 Tolworth
Court Farm

-  Tolworth Court Farm
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:16075

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8.9 KINGSTON APA 2.9: TOLWORTH COURT FARM

Summary and Definition

This APA covers Tolworth Court Farm and land to its northeast and southwest. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it has the potential to contain important Medieval and Post-Medieval archaeological remains.

Description

The below text describes some of the structures at Tolworth Court, and their functionality. This was in the 14th century. An important Moated Manor House, an industrial Mill, a chapel. A section of land within the APA was thought to be that described above due to the presence of earthworks and has since been investigated over several seasons by Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society (KuTAS) sometimes in co-operation with other organisations³⁵. The excavations provided evidence for the moated manor and suggested that the Medieval settlement associated with it also has phases of earlier Iron Age and Romano-British features. The focus of these investigations lies in the central part of the APA. North of the Hogsmill River, east of the modern A240 Road and south of Old Kingston Road.

“After the death and forfeiture of Hugh le Despenser an extent of the manor of Talworth with its members Wyke and Turberville was taken in 1327, whereby it appears that at Talworth there was a moated mansion-house with a gateway and drawbridge, which contained two halls (aule), six chambers, kitchen and scullery, bake-house and brew-house and a chapel. Beyond the moat were the lands pertaining, and two granges, two ox-houses with stable and pig-sty, a garden and a watermill. Suit was rendered to this manor by tenants holding thirty-two and a half knights' fees, and the quarter of a fee. At Wyke there was a messuage, various lands and tenants. To the messuage at Turberville a chapel was attached. The mill which was known as 'Brayest Mulne' was held of the lord of Long Ditton.”³⁶

While the most significant remains are those associated with the Tolworth Court Farm. There was clearly prehistoric settlement activity within the vicinity also. Iron Age settlement, including the remains of two roundhouses was also excavated to the immediate north of the APA at Alpine House (now re-developed). Other investigations, for example at Decker's Sports Club (immediately north of the APA) have not been so productive.

The southwestern end of the APA is included as little development work has taken place and because this land was likely associated with Tolworth Court Farm. The modern separation (by the A240) does not reflect pre-modern tenure or land use patterns.

The northeastern end of the APA has a potential more closely linked to its proximity to a well documented complex of Mills. These were drawing power from the Hogsmill and were used for Flour and then Gunpowder. This was a Post-Medieval Mill and the majority of buildings associated with it were on the Surrey side of the border. However, some buildings, plots of land and alterations to the banks of the Hogsmill are within Kingston Borough. There is a distinctive semi-circle of land, within the Borough of Kingston upon Thames which is

³⁵ Forrester, H. 2011. Excavations at Tolworth Court Farm. London Archaeologist. P. 334-337

³⁶ 'Parishes: Long Ditton', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 516-522. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/pp516-522> [accessed 18 November 2020].

associated with the Milling area. This now contains Surbiton Sports Club, Riverhill Sports Ground and Rokeby Sports Ground.

Directly opposite Old Malden and more specifically opposite the Medieval Manor and St John the Baptist Church lies Six Acre Field. This is the spot where in the mid 19th century John Millais spent several weeks painting and planning one of the most enduringly popular pre-Raphaelite paintings Ophelia. The painting was part of the original Henry Tate Gift in 1894. Millais's image of the tragic death of Ophelia, as she falls into the stream and drowns. It is one of the best-known illustrations from Shakespeare's play *Hamlet*³⁷. Millais and Holman Hunt had written in detail of the six months they spent in the area from July to December 1851. In a piece of brilliant research and detective work Barbara Webb³⁸ also found papers in the Surrey Record Office, written by Henry Stapylton, the vicar of Malden in 1851, which included two references to the work. Alongside this artistic connection, Six Acre Field will retain significant archaeological and geoarchaeological potential due to its fronting directly onto the Hogsmill.

Significance

There are known remains datable to the Iron Age within and close to the APA. There are also significant Medieval remains associated with Tolworth Court. These include a Moated Manor site. There are significant Post-Medieval remains associated with Milling along the Hogsmill and there are geoarchaeological deposits within and close to the Hogsmill.

These multi-period archaeological remains have already increased knowledge on ways in which the Borough of Kingston was inhabited and utilised in the past. They have the potential to yield more information if investigation takes place within the APA. Given the relatively small areas which have been investigated thus far, it is anticipated that the quantity and variety of remains within the APA is considerable.

Key References

Forrester, H. 2011. Excavations at Tolworth Court Farm. *London Archaeologist*. P. 334-337

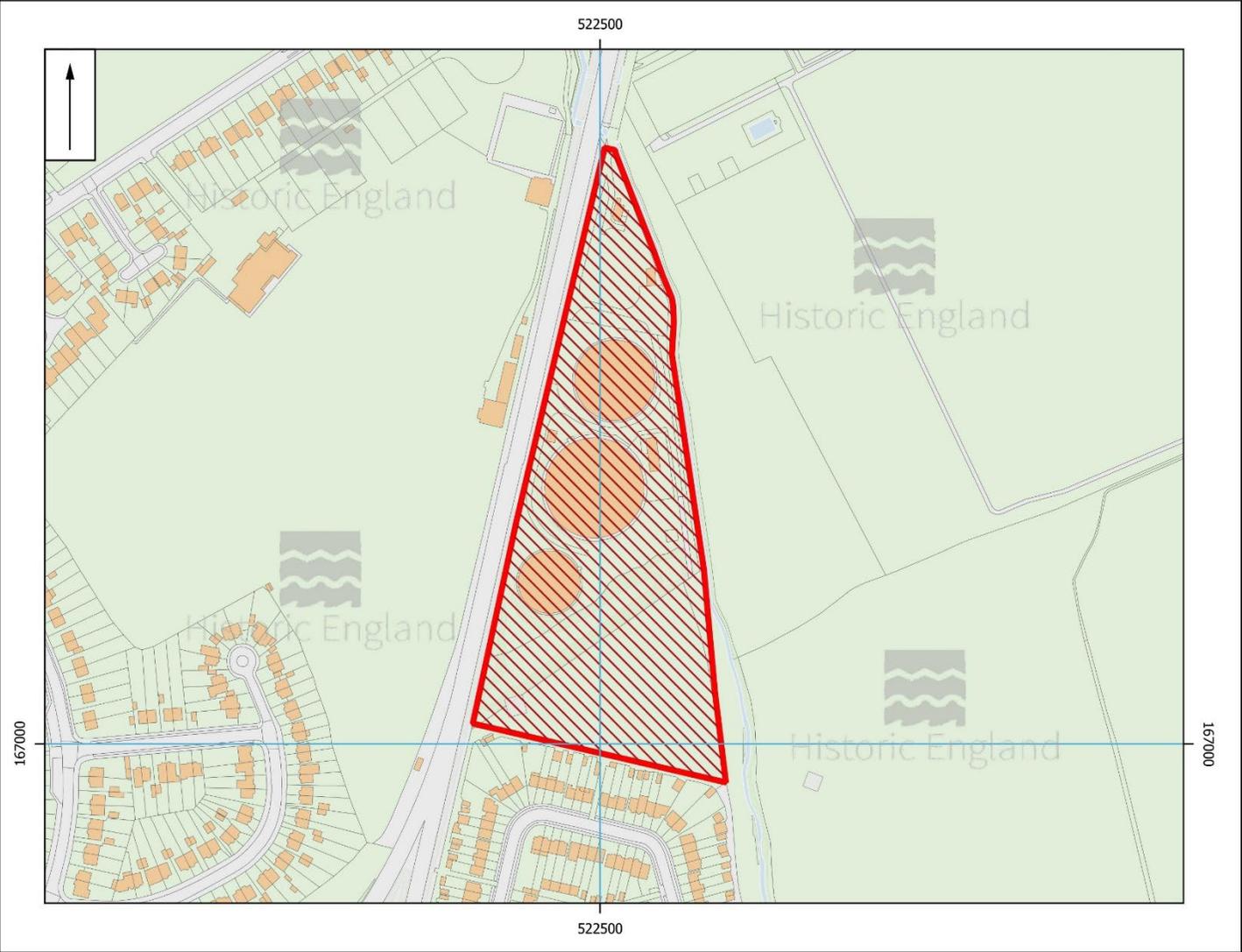
Hawkins, D. and Leaver, S. (1999). An Iron Age settlement at Alpine Avenue, Tolworth. *Surrey Archaeological Collections* 86. Vol 86, pp. 141-149.
<https://doi.org/10.5284/1069251>

Webb, B. 1997. Millais and the Hogsmill River: The Story of a Search to Find Where Sir John Millais Painted the Background of Ophelia, Complete with a Walk Retracing His Footsteps.

'Parishes: Long Ditton', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 516-522. British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/pp516-522> [accessed 18 November 2020].

³⁷ Hawkins, D. and Leaver, S. (1999). An Iron Age settlement at Alpine Avenue, Tolworth. *Surrey Archaeological Collections* 86. Vol 86, pp. 141-149. <https://doi.org/10.5284/1069251>

³⁸ Webb, B. 1997. Millais and the Hogsmill River: The Story of a Search to Find Where Sir John Millais Painted the Background of Ophelia, Complete with a Walk Retracing His Footsteps.



Kingston APA
2.10 Motspur Park

- Motspur Park
- Tier 1
- Tier 2
- Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:3000

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8.10 KINGSTON APA 2.10: MOTSPUR PARK GASHOLDERS

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the Motspur Park Gasholders, a triangular plot of land on the boundary between Kingston upon Thames and Surrey. This area represents land within which the Motspur Park Gasholders are still located. It is classified as Tier 2 because it covers the site of a heritage asset of archaeological, built heritage and historic interest.

Description

The land on which the Motspur Park Spiral Gasholders⁴⁵ (also known as the Worcester Park gasholder station) are located was acquired in 1924. This for the construction of a gasholder station for the Wandsworth Gas Company. No gas was made here. The Gasholders still stand (decommissioned). The site was only ever a gasholder station with a series of supporting governor buildings.

These Gasholders were an important part of supplying energy to during the 19th and 20th century. As populations grew and the style of housing adapted to changing standards and expectations of heat and energy supply, gas became an integral part of the energy supply. The First and Second World Wars affected the energy industry, and this included gas supply. When the Second World War was over, it was obvious that major work would be required to reconstruct the industry. *"In 1944, the Ministry of Fuel and Power set up a Committee of Enquiry under the Chairmanship of Geoffrey Heyworth 'To review the structure and organisation of the Gas Industry, to advise what changes have now become necessary in order to develop and cheapen gas supplies to all types of consumers and to make recommendations'. The Heyworth Report was published in December 1945. While it did not itself recommend nationalisation, the report formed the basis of the Gas Act 1948 which nationalised the gas industry in England, Scotland and Wales"*.

At that time, the management of Motspur Park shifted from the Wandsworth Gas Company. The Clean Air Act of 1956 accelerated the need for 'clean' energy. In that context, a steer away from coal which in the mid 20th century meant Gas supply was even more important.

Significance

Our society is now moving again in terms of energy supply. An increasing emphasis being placed in renewable sources of energy are being encouraged and new infrastructure is arriving to supply this. Gas supply continues and the ways this achieved has also moved on.

*"Historic England recognises the important role town gasworks and sites of small-scale gas manufacturing played in meeting the nation's energy needs during the 19th and 20th centuries, their high technological interest and wider landscape impact."*³⁹

Large structures such as those at Motspur Park may see change through development. This will lead to demolition and removal in many cases. As this process of change takes place, Historic England has issued guidance on how and why they should be recorded. If and when they are it will be done to recognisable archaeological standards and

³⁹ Historic England. 2019. Gasworks and Redundant Gasholders. <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gasworks-and-redundant-gasholders/heag281-gasworks-redundant-gasholders/> - accessed 14/11/2020

the structures will become part of the archaeological record. This APA, therefore, has the potential to hold valuable information about our energy supply infrastructure during the 20th century.

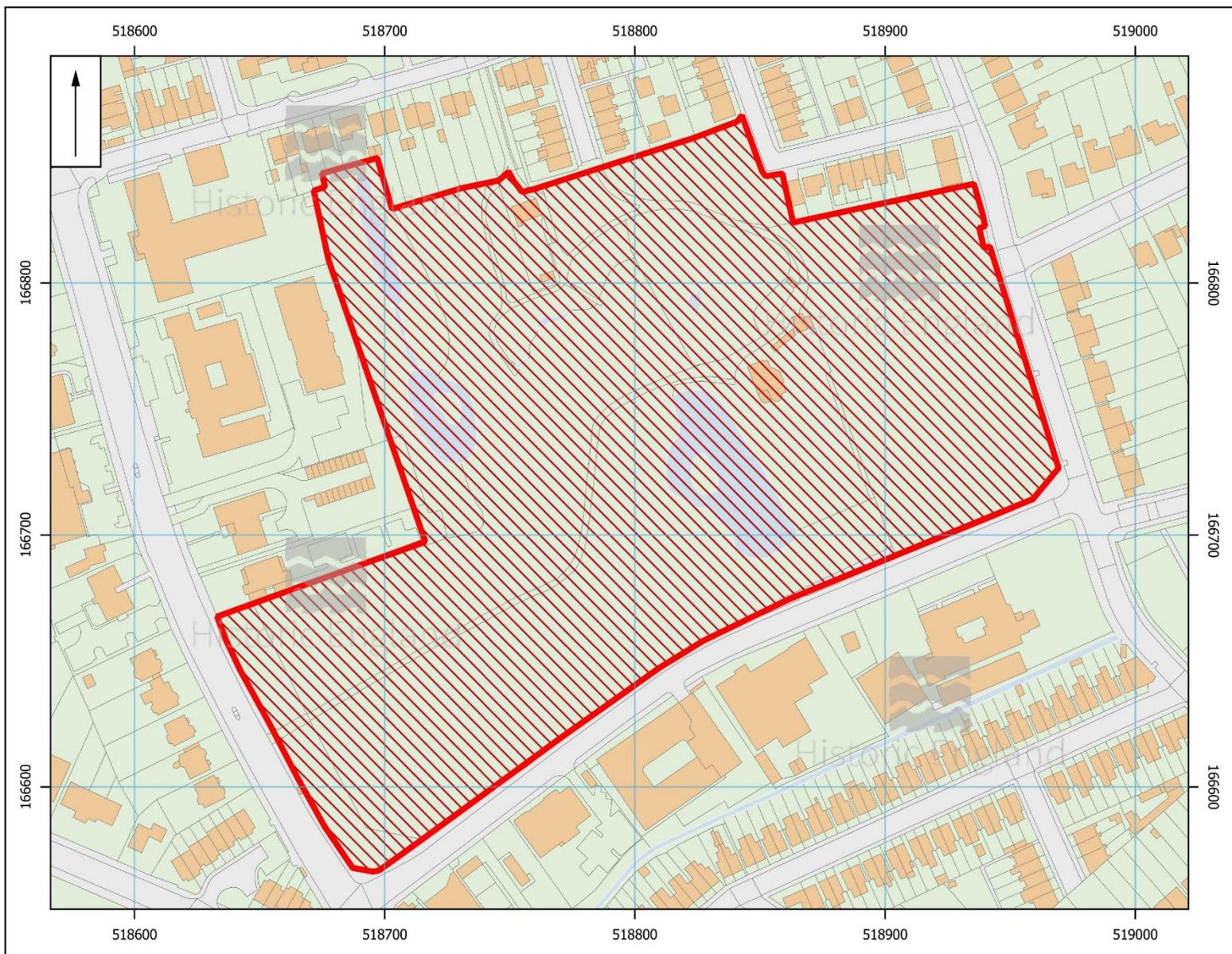
Key References

Historic England. 2019. Gasworks and Redundant Gasholders Guidelines for their Evaluation and Recording. HEAG281

National Grid Gas Archive. <https://extranet.nationalgrid.com/GasArchive/FirstWW.htm>

Thomas, R.A.P. The Manufactured Gas Industry, Research Report Series no. 182-2020, Historic England, 2020. Volume 3 Gazetteer. There is also an extensive bibliography in Volume 5.

ABRAMS ARCHAEOLOGY



Kingston APA
2.11 Fishpond
Park

-  Fishpond Park
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:2000

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8.11 KINGSTON APA 2.11 FISHPONDS PARK

Summary and Definition

This APA covers Fishponds Park to the south of Surbiton. This is a public park surrounded by residential streets. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it holds the known remains of 18th – 19th century industrial activity. It also holds Fishpond House and the remains of its landscaped gardens which are also of archaeological interest value.

Description

Kingston Common extended between the settlements of Hook, Tolworth and Surbiton. During the Post Medieval period, the common had been used for clay extraction to make bricks. The APA lies within what was the common and contains the most recognisable traces of that brick extraction at this time. The activity extended over a wider area and can be seen on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map extending over land to the immediate north of the APA. Housing development in the late 19th century, along King Charles Crescent, Alpha Road and to the south of Britannia Road has levelled and removed obvious traces of this activity and so is not included within the APA.

John Rocque's map of 1762 shows a brick kiln in what is now Fishponds Park and traces of this may still lie within the land. Excavations for brick clay led to the creation of pits. A total of seven can be recognised via maps from the 18th and 19th century. The majority of these have been levelled and three former pits now remain. They were used creatively to landscape the gardens associated with Fishponds House.

Fishponds was a Georgian house built between 1740-1742, part of the estate of Sir Frederick Butler, of the tobacco family (associated with the company Lambert and Butler). The house was later altered in the 19th century and this included a curved extension on the southern elevation. In May 1935 Surbiton Urban District Council purchased the estate from Miss Mabel Butler and Mr Frederick Butler. Situated on high ground on the slopes of Surbiton Hill, the topography of the park shows clear signs of alteration due to both industrial brick clay extraction and subsequent landscaping for the gardens of Fishponds house. Both have archaeological value for separate reasons.

The land also lies within a conservation area, though the limits of that are different to this APA as the reasoning behind both is different and the conservation area includes several surround streets due to the character of housing within them.

Significance

Industrial archaeological remains, such as the location of brick kilns and clay extraction pits is of archaeological significance. The remains of both may lie within the APA as shown on maps of the 18th and 19th century.

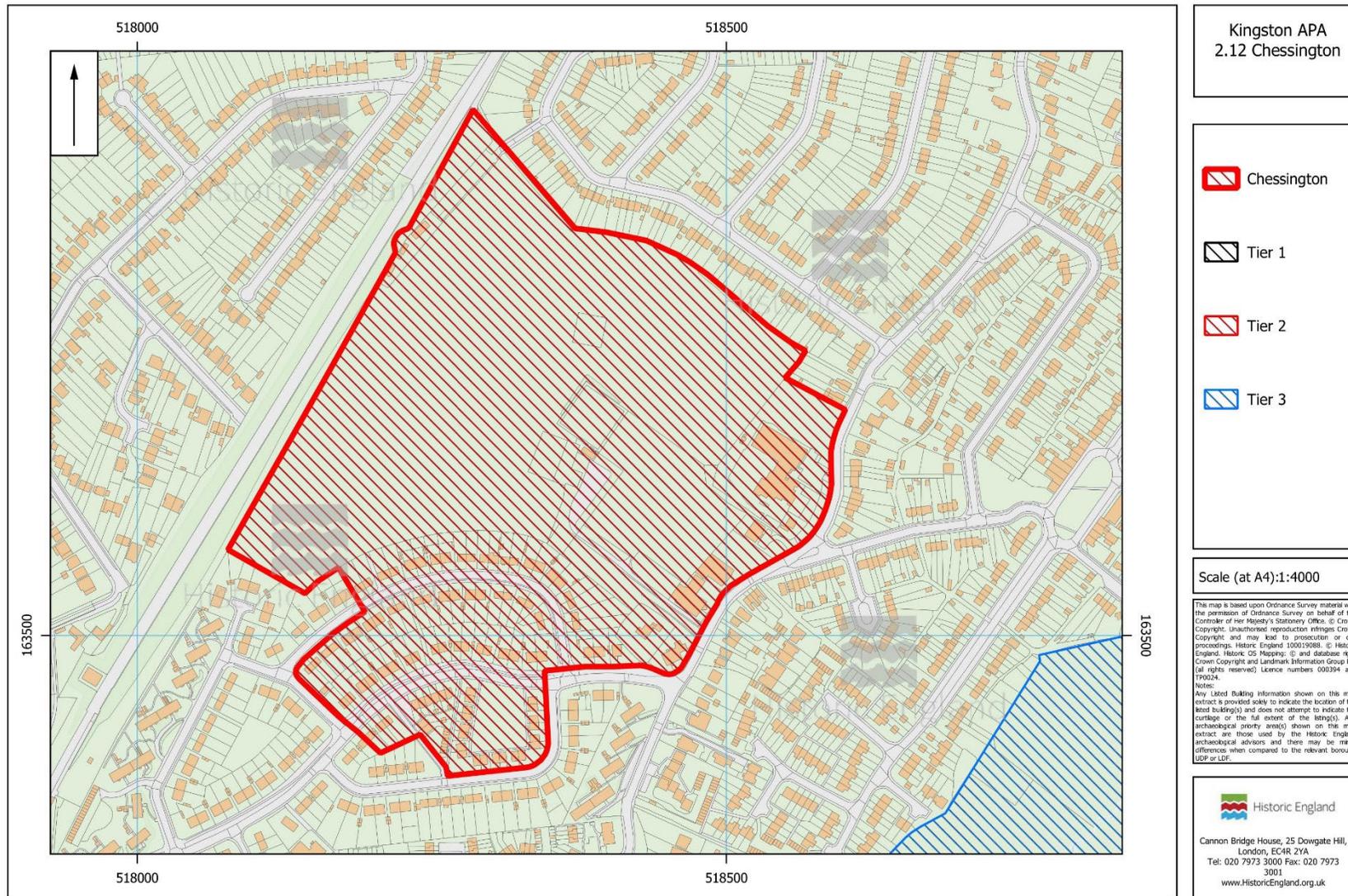
The creative way in which that industrial landscape was transformed into a prestigious house and garden for a wealthy family is also of interest. So thorough the transformation that the name Fishponds lives on in what is now an attractive and mature parkland.

The below ground and earthwork remain of significant industrial and garden archaeology lie within this APA. Both types of remains can inform on the development of the local area in the Post Medieval and modern periods.

Key References

GLHER Record MLO104415 - King Charles Road/Hollyfield Road/Ewell Road, Surbiton, Fishponds Park, Kingston upon Thames.

Fishponds Park Conservation Area Designation Report. Surbiton Neighbourhood Committee 3 November 2004 Proposed Designation of Fishponds Park Conservation Area Report by the Director of Environmental Services.
https://www.kingston.gov.uk/downloads/file/2166/fishponds_park_conservation_area_designation_report - accessed 15/11/2020



Kingston APA
2.12 Chessington

-  Chessington
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:4000

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8.12 KINGSTON APA 2.12: CHESSINGTON

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the historic core of Chessington village. It has early Medieval origins. This small network of streets lies on what was the Medieval and Post-Medieval village of Chessington. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it may hold the remains of the Medieval to Post-Medieval village of Chessington.

Description

The western part covers modern housing which lies over what was Chessington Hall. The Hall and its associated grounds are visible on 19th century maps of the area. A mention is made to a settlement here in the Domesday Survey. It had a recorded population of 10 households in at that time, putting it in the smallest 40% of settlements recorded by the survey. It is possible, though unproven, that the Manor House lay close to what became Chessington Hall, which in turn was linked by a path to the parish church.

The eastern end of the APA takes in the Royal British legion site where, in the latter half of the 20th century some Iron Age pottery was recovered during building works. Such ephemeral remains can indicate nearby settlement, though this remains a possibility rather than a certainty in this instance.

The central part of the APA lies around that parish church. It is named the Church of St Mary the Virgin, a structure with origins in the 12th century. It now sits within a built-up area. Historic Maps show that as recently as the mid 20th century it was on the bend of a relatively rural road leading to Chessington Hall (to its south-west).

The south aisle of the church is 19th century, and the north vestry is also modern. The remainder of the building is Medieval in date. Parts of it are 13th century. The walls are of flint rubble. There are internal structural elements of Medieval date also. It is expected that burials and potentially other structural remains of Medieval date lie in close proximity to the church. The church building is Grade II Listed (1080093).

The 12th century changes in land tenure for this Manor are well understood and connect closely to the church:

*In 1265 the priory made over the advowson of the church of Malden to Walter de Merton, who assigned it as part of the endowment of Merton College, which has held the advowson both of Malden and of the annexed chapelry of Chessington ever since. In 1279 a vicarage for Malden and Chessington was ordained by Nicholas of Ely, Bishop of Winchester.*⁴⁰

Walter de Merton purchased the Manor at Chessington and Old Malden (APA 2.8) from the royal escheators who held them during the minority of Richard de Clare⁴¹. On 28 April 1240 in partnership with Peter Cuddington, Walter paid £100 to Aaron fil Abraham of London. This relieved William Watevill (who held the manor previously) of debts he had secured on this land.

⁴⁰ 'Parishes: Chessington', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 263-266. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/pp263-266> [accessed 13 November 2020].

⁴¹ Harding, A. 1993. *England in the thirteenth century*. P. 242.

The church sits within a rectangular plot of land which includes the Vicarage. The entire plot may hold earlier Medieval remains, including burials as it is not uncommon for Medieval churchyards and burials to occur outside what have become modern graveyards.

The church may also be at the core of what became a deserted Medieval village. There was certainly a Manor, as de Merton purchased this (above), although the physical location of a Manor House is not clearly understood. Stone churches of this date of origin can outlast the timber houses which once radiated around it, in the early Medieval period. The absence of structures on modern mapping around what is a well-established parish church can be an indicator of a deserted Medieval village. Other examples exist within the borough, for example at Tolworth Court Farm (APA 2.9).

Evidently, the village was small. A manor was mentioned in the Domesday Survey, suggesting an early Medieval origin for the village. The church was not mentioned and is thought to post-date the Manor and be of 12th century date.

Significance

The archaeological evidence for the origins of the village is slight at present. That it existed from the early Medieval period is clear from documents. The changes which flowed from a change of tenure in the 12th century, seem to have led to the building of a church and to a modest growth in the village. Any archaeological evidence which adds to our understanding would be useful in terms of deepening knowledge of this settlement.

The church of St Mary the Virgin has the potential to increase understanding of the area during the Medieval period in particular. Regardless of the possibility of associated domestic structures of Medieval date, the fabric of the church and the ground around it hold significant archaeological value with the potential to increase knowledge on the area and its inhabitants since the early Medieval period. This will include burials of the local population. It may have served as the focal point for a community based around the church in the Medieval period.

The church building has its origins in the 12th century. This period is also associated with significant and long-lasting changes in land tenure locally. Other changes may have been prompted at this time (settlement, demographics, economy) and such changes may be picked up in the archaeological record. The pivotal role of the church and its connection to tenure of the manor in the early Medieval period makes this APA a focus for such remains.

Key References

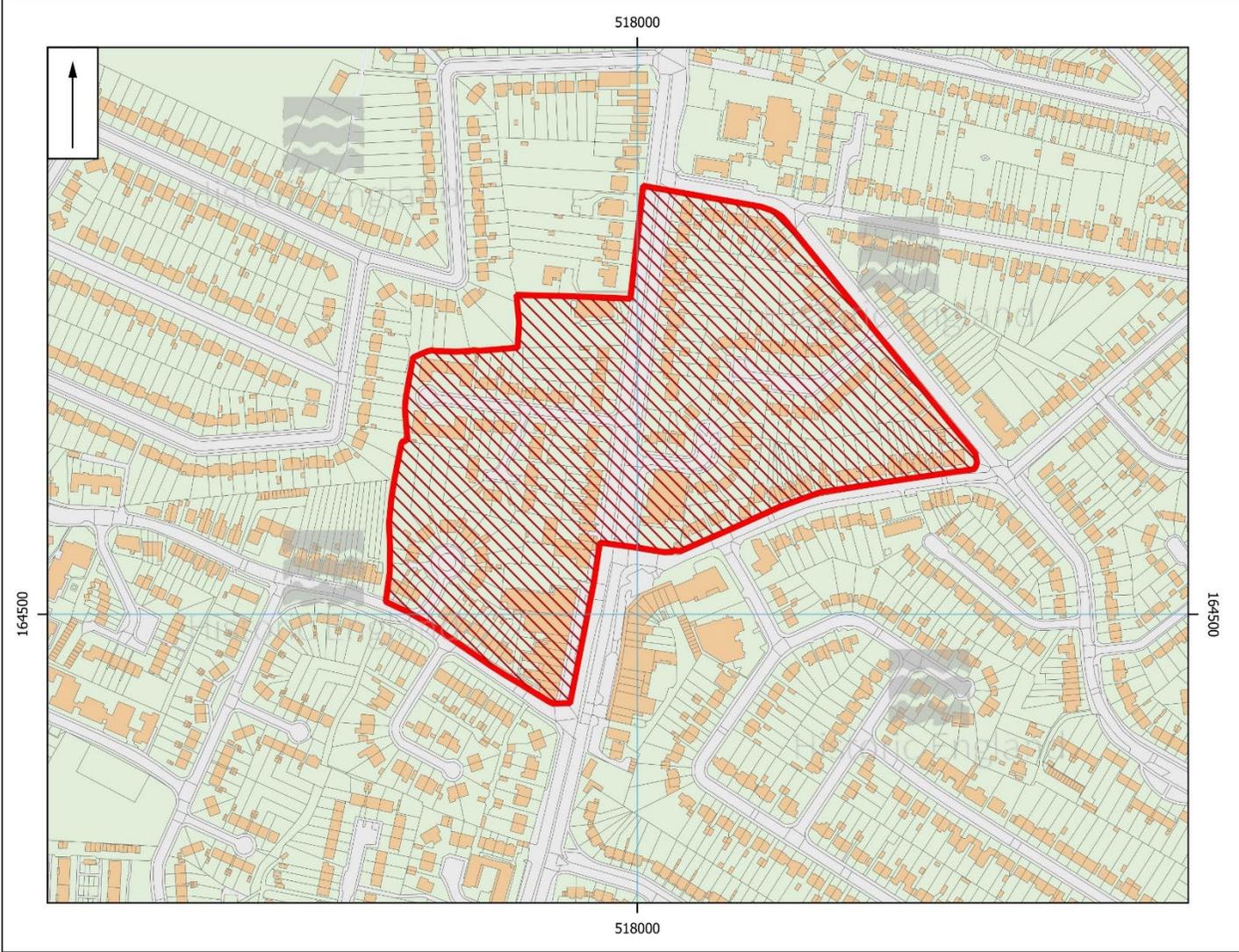
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Kingston APA
2.13 Hook

-  Hook
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:3500

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8.13 KINGSTON APA 2.13: HOOK

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the historic core of Hook village. It is thought to have Medieval origins. This small network of streets lies on what was the Medieval and Post-Medieval village of Hook. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it covers land within which the Post-Medieval village of Hook lay. The Church of St Paul (1883) and its associated churchyard lie within the APA. The Medieval settlement of Hook is likely to have been within this land also.

Description

An 16th century reference is made to quit rents paid by the Manor of Hook, which is understood to have even earlier, Medieval origins. The Rocque Map of Surrey of 1768 records a settlement spread over a series of minor roads all of which fall within the APA. Houses are shown lining these streets in a dispersed pattern with fields lying around the village.

There is very little archaeological evidence recorded on the HER. That which is present refers to Post-Medieval to modern finds. The Church of St Paul was built in 1883, replacing an earlier (19th century) church of the same name. There is a churchyard associated and burials within this are over 100 years old in certain cases.

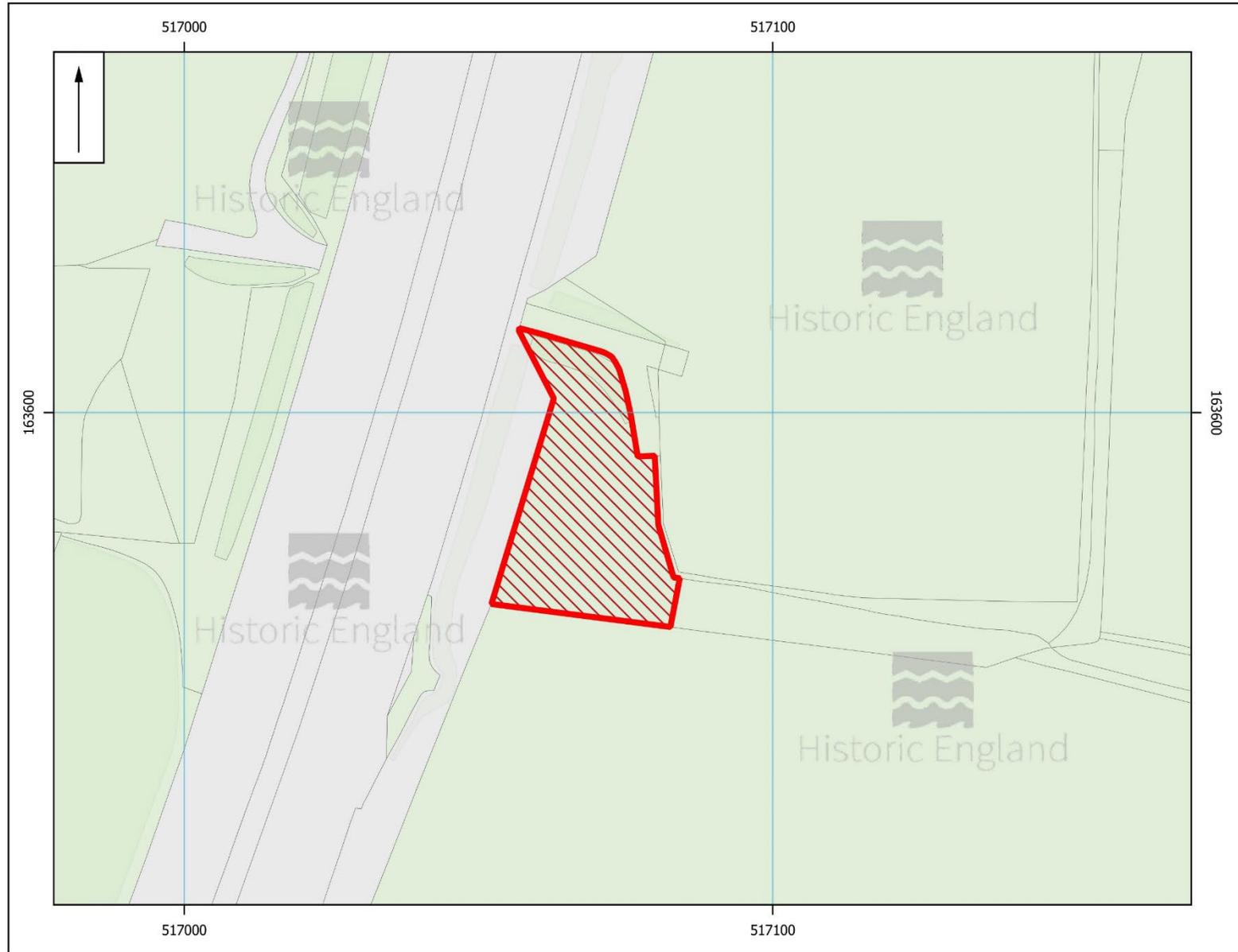
Significance

The archaeological evidence for the origins of the village is slight at present. That it existed from the early Medieval period is clear from documents. The changes which flowed from a change of tenure in the 12th century, seem to have led to the building of a church and to a modest growth in the village.

Any archaeological evidence which adds to and alters this picture would be useful in terms of deepening understanding of this, one of the Boroughs Medieval villages. The burials within the churchyard are of archaeological interest in certain cases. These would only be investigated and analysed in the event of disturbance as a result of development work.

Key References

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Kingston APA
2.14 The Grapsome

-  The Grapsome
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4): 1:850

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8.14 KINGSTON APA 2.14 THE GRAPSOME

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the Grapsome. The APA is on western boundary of the Borough, between Kingston upon Thames and Surrey. It is classified as Tier 2 because the land contains sites of known archaeological interest and land which is considered likely to preserve archaeological evidence of past human activity.

Description

The APA is a small area of land, a part of the Grapsome which continues into Surrey (to the west).

The source of the Tolworth Brook lies immediately west of, and partly within, the APA. The Grapsome is recorded on the GLHER and is cut through by the A3 Esher bypass. A moat-like feature was partially excavated here in the 20th century. This took place ahead of road construction. Described as Medieval in date, the Grapsome is a natural feature (water source and woodland) which has also been the focus of human attention, probably in many periods.

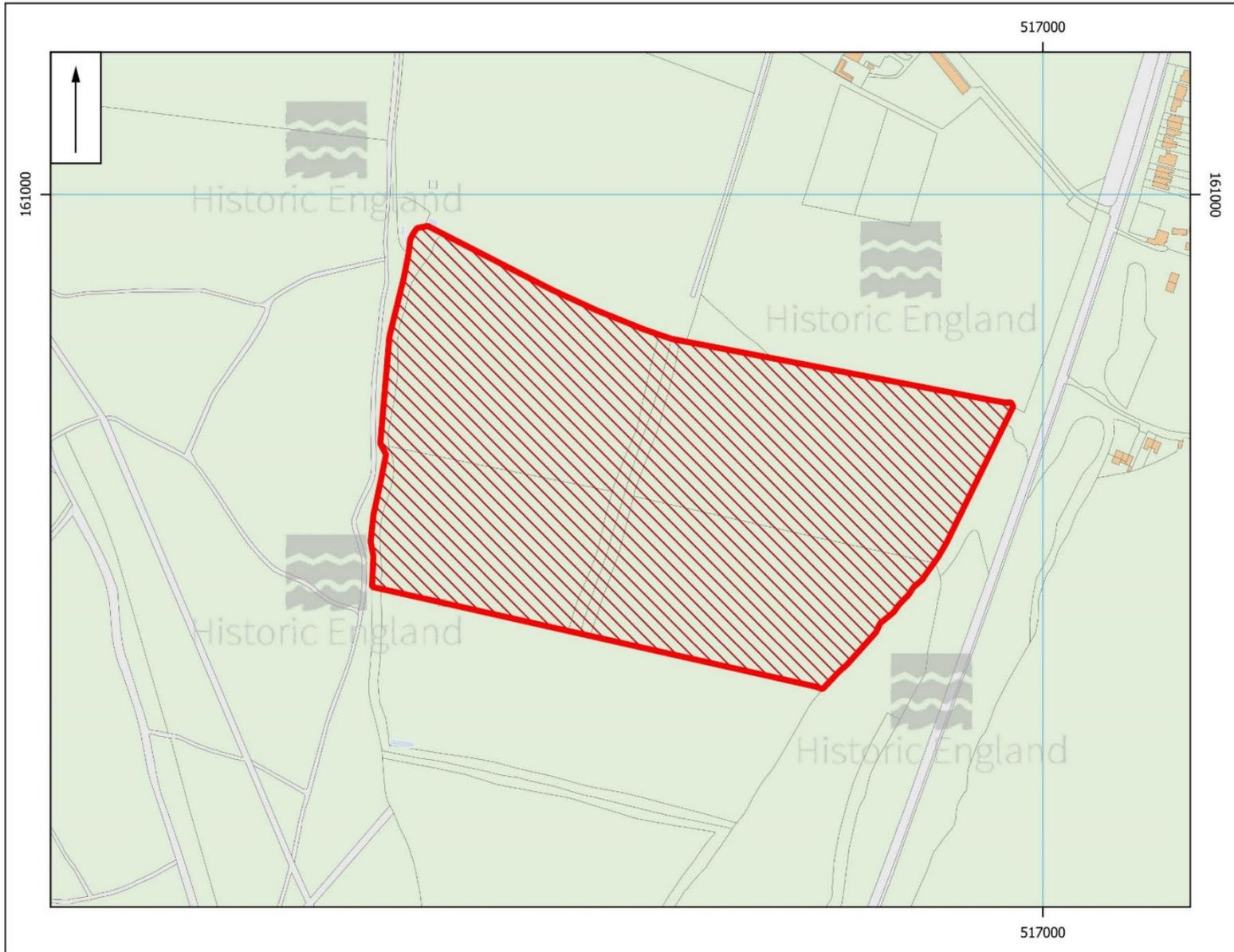
The route of the Tolworth Brook is northwards beyond the APA towards the Hogsmill which it joins in Berrylands (APA 3.1). As with the Bonesgate on the southeastern side of the Borough, the Tolworth Brook lies close to a parish boundary. In this instance between Claygate (Surrey) and Chessington (Kingston upon Thames), this may be incidental, but such topographical features are frequently notable when looking at the way past populations thought about and used their landscape. The sources of such streams can also be important and the Grapsome is such a location.

Significance

The Grapsome may have the potential to reveal more information about its use in the Medieval period. The remains of a moated feature have already been partially investigated there. Such remains have the potential to increase understanding about land use in the Medieval and Post-Medieval periods.

Key References

GLHER Record DLO35730



Kingston APA
2.15 Bunkers Hill

-  Bunkers Hill
-  Tier 1
-  Tier 2
-  Tier 3

Scale (at A4):1:4000

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8.15 KINGSTON APA 2.15 BUNKER'S HILL

Summary and Definition

This APA covers Bunker's Hill to the southwest of Malden Rushett in the southern part of the Borough. This is located on farmland. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it may hold archaeological remains of prehistoric date. If that is the case, these remains would be of archaeological value.

Description

At the centre of this APA the GLHER records that an artificial mound is present on the top of a natural hill. That hill is called Bunkers Hill and the GLHER record explains that this may be a Bronze Age burial mound. It also explains that the date and function of the earthwork is not known. It is described as being of c. 15m in diameter and 1m high and being a possible bowl barrow⁴². Dating from around 3,000BC, these earthen funerary mounds can vary in size from five to six metres in diameter to over fifty. Such monuments are often found on high ground and can be associated with river systems and other important topographical elements. Vantage over the landscape seems to have been important. They can be found in isolation, or as part of a barrow cemetery.

The mound has not been investigated and it may not be a bowl barrow. It is certainly located on what was, and is, an important topographic location in the southern part of the Borough. Lying at c. 80mOD, this APA has clear vantage points over the surrounding land in all directions. High ground elsewhere in the Borough (Coombe Hill APA 2.5) has revealed settlement activity from various periods. Land within this APA largely undeveloped and, therefore, any surviving archaeological remains may be relatively well preserved.

Significance

If this mound were a bowl barrow then it may hold information on the funerary and religious life of prehistoric inhabitants of the area. There are over 10,000 surviving bowl barrows recorded nationally (many more have already been destroyed), occurring across most of lowland Britain. Often occupying prominent locations, such as this, they are a major historic element in the modern landscape and their considerable variation of form and longevity as a monument type provide important information on the diversity of beliefs and social organisations amongst early prehistoric communities. They are particularly representative of their period and a substantial proportion of surviving examples are considered worthy of protection.

Key References

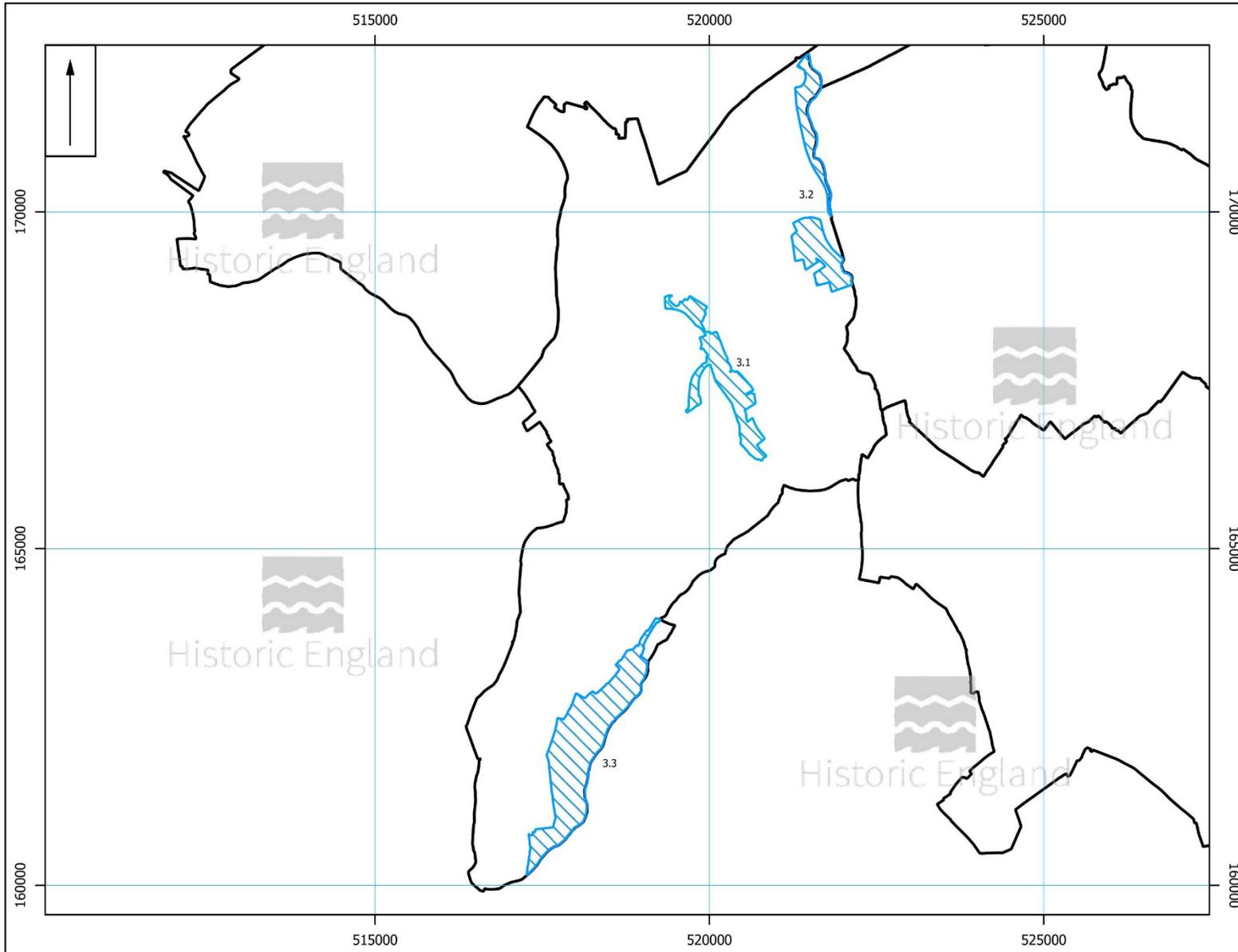
GLHER Record MLO214 – Bunker's Hill, Chessington South, Kingston upon Thames

Surrey Archaeological Society. 1966. Castle Arch, Guildford. Number 19. Bulletin. July 1966. <https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/sites/default/files/SAS19.pdf> - accessed 16/11/2020

⁴² Surrey. Archaeological Society. Castle Arch, Guildford. Number 19. Bulletin. July 1966. <https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/sites/default/files/SAS19.pdf> - accessed 16/11/2020

9 AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND MAP EXTRACTS FOR TIER 3 APAs

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Kingston APA 3.3 Bonesgate	Page 98



Kingston Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Areas

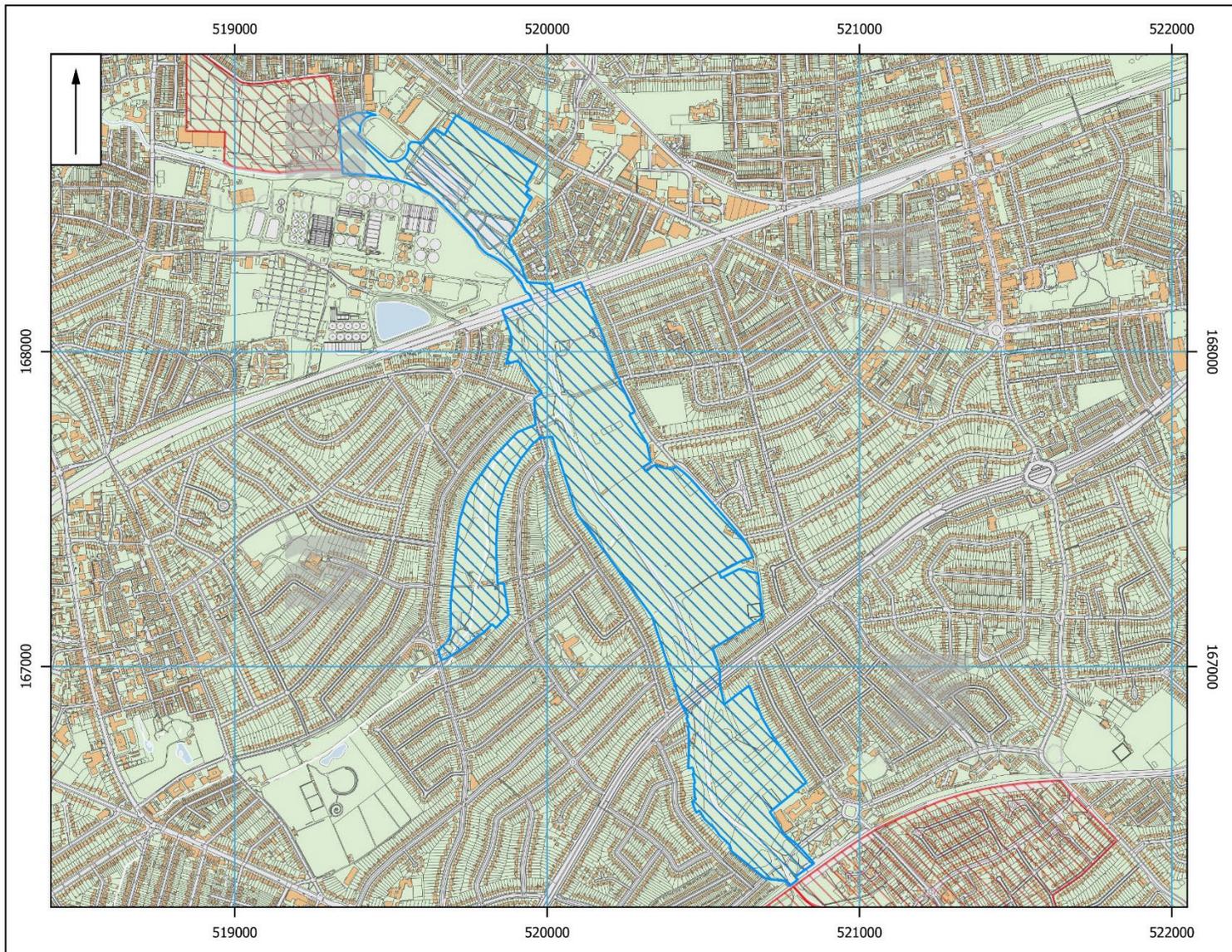
 Tier 3
Archaeological
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:75000

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Kingston APA
3.1 Hogsmill and
Berrylands

-  Hogsmill and Berrylands
-  Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area
-  Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4):1:16000

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9.1 KINGSTON APA 3.1: HOGSMILL AND BERRYLANDS

Summary and Definition

This APA covers a Section of the Hogsmill River and a portion of its tributary the Tolworth Brook at Berrylands. The Hogsmill River runs across the central part of the Borough. This APA occupies an equally central place in terms of its influence on human land use and settlement patterns in the past. It is classified as Tier 2 because it is known to preserve geoarchaeological and/or archaeological evidence of past human activity within its channel and to either side of that channel.

Description

The Hogsmill's source is a chalk spring in Ewell in Surrey. It flows in a northwest direction through Old Malden, New Malden and Berrylands to turn west and meet the River Thames close to the centre of Kingston Town. It is understood, as a result of archaeological investigations, that it originally had another arm. That looped around the historic core of Kingston and entered the Thames north of that core. The watercourse is c. 7 miles in length and within the Borough it has had a magnetic affect on human land use. This is now reflected by the proliferation of GLHER records associated with it. This is particularly the case where it meets the Thames (western end) and where it enters the Borough from Surrey (eastern end). The banks of the Hogsmill are, like the banks of the Thames, key to understanding human land use within the Borough.

As an important natural entry point into the Borough, from Surrey, the Hogsmill at Old Malden is an archaeologically interesting stretch of river and land. It is covered by APA 2.8 Old Malden and APA 2.9 Tolworth Court Farm respectively. This APA starts immediately north of those. It stretches along the Hogsmill Open Space and the Hogsmill Nature Reserve as the river curves towards the Town Centre. It also takes in several Sports Grounds/playing fields along the eastern banks of the river. The northern end of the APA is where it meets the Hogsmill Sewage Treatment Works and the Kingston Football Club and AFC. Beyond that the River passes through APA 2.4 Kingston Cemetery and APA 2.2 Kingston Town.

The course of the brook is largely natural, and we can expect the land to the immediate north and south of the Brook, to contain deposits of alluvium. These deposits have been shown to have significant geoarchaeological value, providing interesting insights into the behaviour of minor tributaries of the River Thames, draining London Clay catchments during the Late Devensian-Holocene period. Land within the APA was subject to detailed geoarchaeological study on land at the Southwood Activity Centre. The boreholes drilled as part of this project were analysed and published⁴³. This work was completed as Phase 1 of the Hogsmill Community Archaeology Project. Follow up works (archaeology and geoarchaeology) will increase knowledge about this river corridor further and be fed into the GLHER in due course.

Alluvial Deposits (which are labelled Staines Alluvial Deposits) are fine-grained sediment comprising sand, silt and clay and, at certain sites, peat, tufa and marl. Sub-fossil biological remains have been extracted and identified from these deposits including

⁴³ C.P. Green, K. Williams & C.R. Batchelor 2011; Southwood Activity Centre, Elm Close, Tolworth (Undertaken for Phase 1 of The Hogsmill Community Archaeology Project): Environmental Archaeology Fieldwork Report. Quaternary Scientific (Quest). Project Number 002/11.

vertebrates⁴⁴, terrestrial and freshwater Mollusca⁴⁵. A range of biological remains have been extracted from within the valley of the Hogsmill at Southwood Activity Centre, Elm Close. Organic and tufaceous silts, sands and gravels were radiocarbon dated to the early Mesolithic cultural period.

The Tolworth Brook joins the Hogsmill within this APA. It rises from springs on the western boundary of the Borough where it meets Surrey. The source is on the edge of Claygate from springs at Grapesome Wood on the west side of the A3. This is on the boundary between the borough of Kingston and the County of Surrey and is located within APA 2.14 – The Grapsome.

The section of the Tolworth Brook within the APA is within green space (Berrylands Park and Berrylands Nature Reserve). The land shows up on geological maps as containing alluvial deposits and during an archaeological trial trenching evaluation towards its southern end *ancient river channels emerged*⁴⁶.

The APA also contains land which was formerly used as a Lido. This is now Berrylands Park. No traces of the Lido, formerly known as Surbiton Lagoon, now remain. It is possible sub-surface remains related to the Lido and associated 20th century leisure activities are preserved at the park. These have archaeological value for what they record about the lives of local people during that period.

The Hogsmill was exploited for industrial purposes and its name derives from one of the Mills along its course, the known Mills are at the Kingston and Old Malden sections of the river. No mills are known within this APA.

Significance

It is likely that prehistoric and later communities utilised the corridor of land adjacent to the River. This may have left traces in the form of settlement, fording points and ritual deposition of objects.

Land to either side of the Hogsmill and its tributaries may preserve currently unknown archaeological remains. These may be derived from various chronological periods from prehistory to the modern period. There is a heightened possibility of organic survival due to the waterlogged conditions close to a river such as this. The river also has the potential to provide geoarchaeological data to compliment that already gathered along the Hogsmill. This is due to the presence of alluvial deposits associated with the River.

Key References

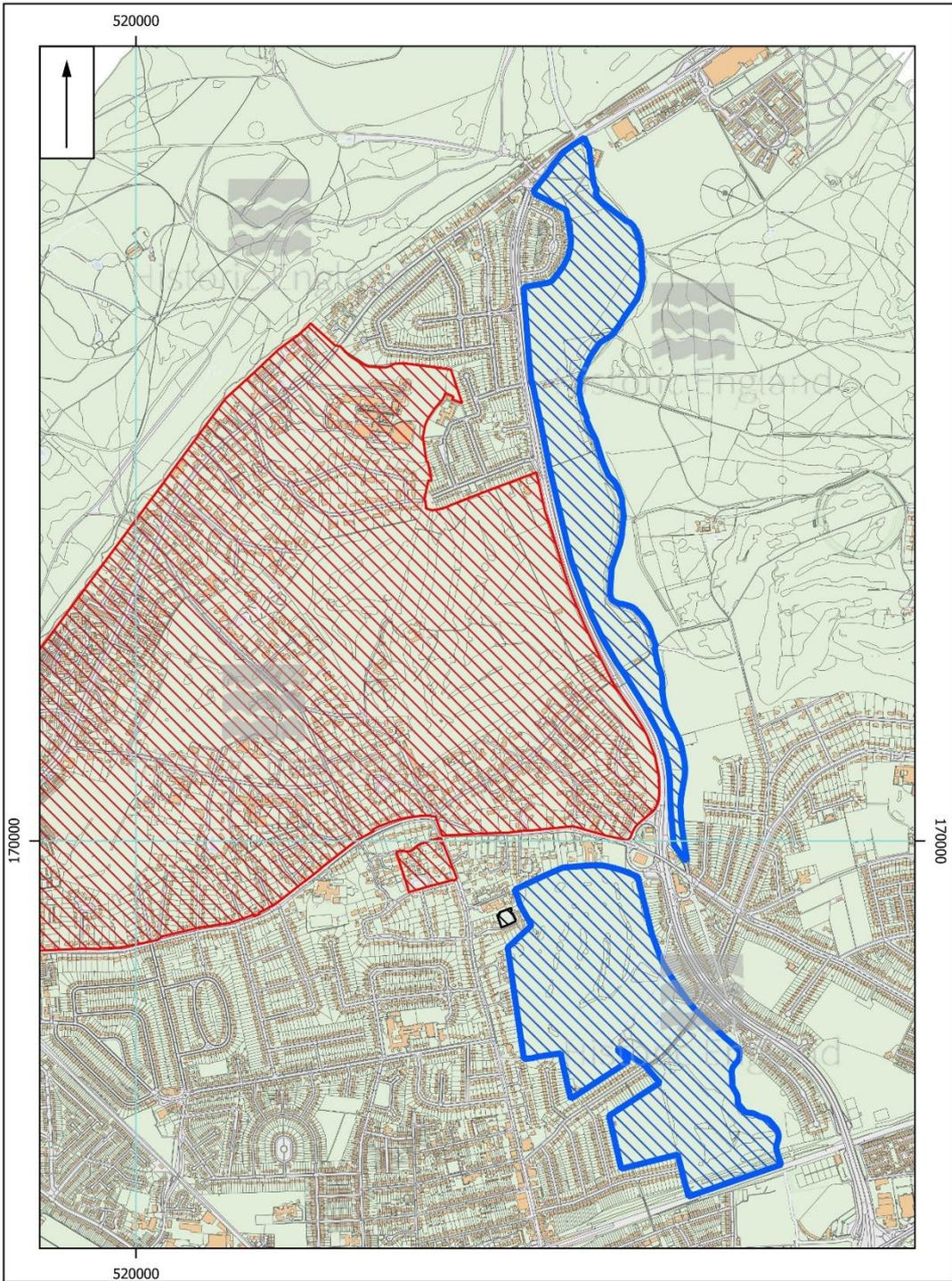
C.P. Green, K. Williams & C.R. Batchelor 2011; Southwood Activity Centre, Elm Close, Tolworth (Undertaken for Phase 1 Of the Hogsmill Community Archaeology Project): Environmental Archaeology Fieldwork Report. Quaternary Scientific (Quest). Project Number 002/11.

⁴⁴ Dewey, H. and Bromehead, C.E.N. 1921. The Geology of South London. Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain.

⁴⁵ Gibbard, P.L. 1985. The Pleistocene history of the Middle Thames Valley. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

⁴⁶ Shea, M. (1993). Surbiton Lagoon, Raeburn Avenue, Surbiton, Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames. An Archaeological Evaluation. MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology)

Shea, M. (1993). Surbiton Lagoon, Raeburn Avenue, Surbiton, Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames. An Archaeological Evaluation. MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology)



Kingston APA
3.2 Beverley Brook
and Coombe
Brooke
Scale (at A4): 1:17000

	Beverley Brook and Coombe Brooke		Tier 2
	Tier 1		Tier 3

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9.2 KINGSTON APA 3.2 BEVERLEY BROOK AND COOMBE BROOK

Summary and Definition

The APA covers an area on the western side of Beverley Brook which marks part of the borough boundary between Kingston upon Thames and Merton. It also covers the Malden Golf Club (course). It is classified as Tier 3 because alluvial deposits along this stretch of Beverley Brook and Coombe Brook may preserve geoarchaeological and/or archaeological evidence of past human activity. This APA matches APA 3.2 in the London Borough of Merton which covers similar land on the eastern side of the Beverley Brook.

Description

The Beverley Brook rises at the top of a hill (in Cuddington Recreation Ground) in Worcester Park, to the south of the Kingston Borough boundary. It flows north through Motspur Park (APA 2.10) and provides a natural boundary for the Borough on its eastern side where it meets Merton and a small portion of Wandsworth. It joins the River Thames at Barn Elms, Barnes.

The Coombe Brook is a spur of the Beverley Brook. It drains a piece of land which is entirely within the Borough of Kingston and is now in use as the course for the Malden Golf Club. The Brook shows as a curved area of alluvium on geological map of the area (Figure 2).

The winding course of these brooks on the edge of the Borough are largely natural in origin, where changes have been made, they may indicate industrial activity (below). We can expect the land adjacent to each of them to contain deposits of alluvium. Elsewhere in the borough, these deposits have been shown to have significant geoarchaeological value, providing interesting insights into the behaviour of minor tributaries of the River Thames, draining London Clay catchments during the Late Devensian-Holocene period⁴⁷. Works to date have focussed on the Hogsmill River. The Beverley Brook and the Coombe Brook and land to either side of them route may hold similar information.

The topographic advantages of the riverside areas may have led prehistoric communities to settle within the area. Prehistoric settlement sites have been recorded to the west on Coombe Hill and in association with the Hogsmill River (APA 3.1). Within the adjacent borough of Merton, an Iron Age hillfort known as Caesar's Camp is located to the east of the Beverley Brook and the river would have provided a nearby source of freshwater. Further prehistoric activity is recorded along another nearby watercourse (the Wandle) in Merton.

The plants and animal life alongside river systems differ to those in other topographical locations. Prehistoric and later communities were acutely aware of the locations of freshwater and food sources. The quality of soils for arable use and as pasture were important considerations. The corridor of land to either side of this brook has distinct qualities which would have drawn the attention, and associated land use, from people in various periods from prehistory to the modern period. In certain periods the importance of freshwater streams was marked in ritual ways by the deposition of objects and the creation of monuments close by.

⁴⁷ C.P. Green, K. Williams & C.R. Batchelor 2011; Southwood Activity Centre, Elm Close, Tolworth (Undertaken for Phase 1 Of the Hogsmill Community Archaeology Project): Environmental Archaeology Fieldwork Report. Quaternary Scientific (Quest). Project Number 002/11.

The Beverley Brook was not exploited for industrial purposes to the same extent as the Hogsmill. However, notable bend in Beverley Brook to the east of Coombe Hill Golf Club and course is known as Mill Corner. A fulling mill is thought to have existed on this site and is mentioned in records from the late 15th century and early 17th century. However, it is not mentioned in a survey of 1649 and by 1763 the site was described as wasteland. The slight curve in the course of Beverley Brook in this area may be the result of water management and manipulation for the mill. If remains associated with this lie within Kingston Borough, then it would be on the strip of land east of the A3 and west of the Beverley Brook.

There is a separate distinctive curve in the Beverley Brook in the southern field of the APA. The brook runs broadly N-S across the southern part of the golf course at this point. It turns west, then south, then east. In so doing an area of c.200m long and c.40m wide is enclosed by water (on three sides). There were Mills along the Beverley Brook and the Hogsmill in the Medieval and Post-Medieval period. Often, they occur next to such distinctive curves/alterations in the course of a brook. There are no documentary sources or GLHER records related to one on this plot and it is not known if this represents the site of mill. A separate Mill site is known c.1.5km north, on the Beverley Brook and just within Merton Borough, it is in a very similar topographic position and within a similar, distinctive curve in the brook. In that case, a fulling mill is thought to have existed on this site and is mentioned in records from the late 15th century and early 17th century.

The APA also holds a Cold War structure, the New Malden Nuclear Shelter, a concrete structure the majority of which lies underground. This is located in the NW corner of the golf course. Such structures are of interest⁴⁸ in archaeological terms as they record the efforts made locally and nationally to prepare for nuclear war.

Significance

It is likely that prehistoric and later communities utilised the corridor of land adjacent to the Beverley brook and the Coombe brook. This may have left traces in the form of settlement, fording points and ritual deposition of objects.

Land to either side of these watercourses is largely undeveloped and, therefore, any surviving archaeological remains may be relatively well preserved. There is a heightened possibility of organic survival due to the waterlogged conditions close to a stream such as this. They also have the potential to provide geoarchaeological data to compliment that already gathered along the Hogsmill. This is due to the presence of alluvial deposits associated with them.

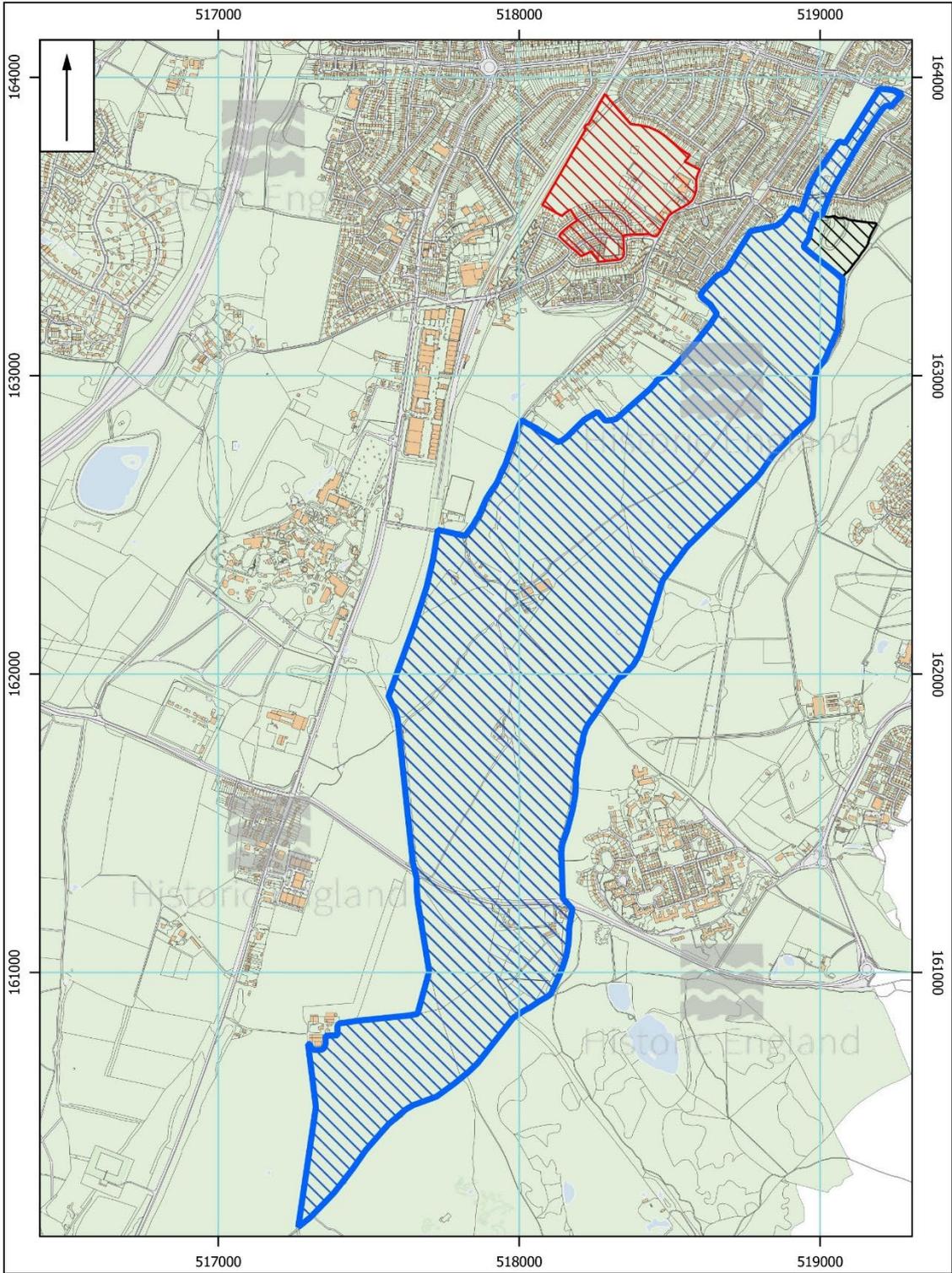
While water power from Beverley Brook was never utilised to the same degree as water power from the Hogsmill, the likely mill on the Merton side of the brook opposite Coombe Hill Golf club demonstrates that it was still being exploited albeit on a smaller scale. Associated remains related to the manipulation of the brook at this point may be present within the Borough, and within this APA.

The remains of a Nuclear Shelter are of interest in terms of recording how the Borough prepared for a potential nuclear war.

⁴⁸ Wayne D Cocroft, Roger C Thomas, P S Barnwell. 2005. Cold War: Building for nuclear confrontation 1946-1989. English Heritage

Key References

C.P. Green, K. Williams & C.R. Batchelor 2011; Southwood Activity Centre, Elm Close, Tolworth (Undertaken for Phase 1 Of the Hogsmill Community Archaeology Project): Environmental Archaeology Fieldwork Report. Quaternary Scientific (Quest). Project Number 002/11.



Kingston APA
3.3 Bonesgate

Scale (at A4): 1:17000

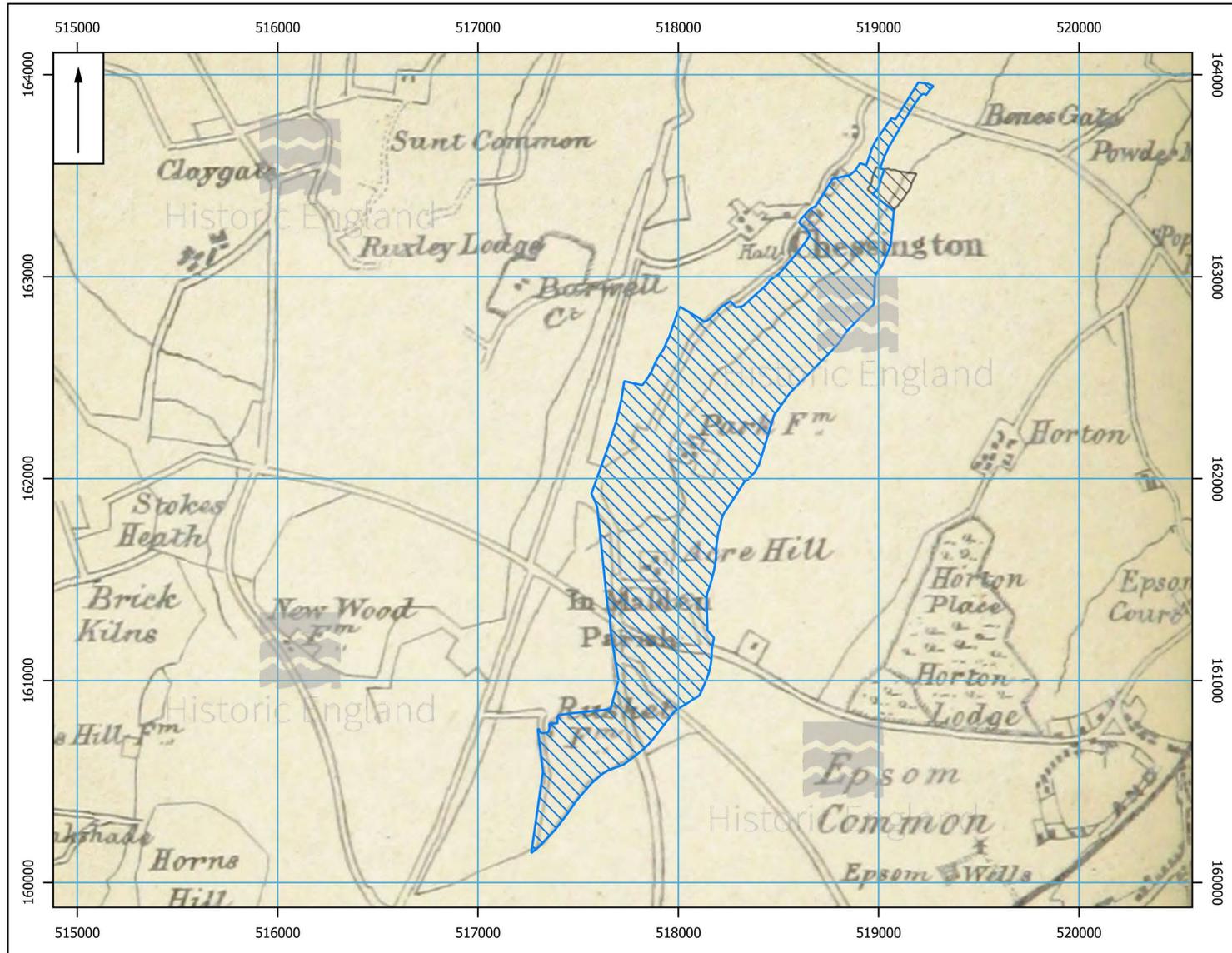
	Bonesgate		Tier 2
	Tier 1		Tier 3

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APA 3.3 overlain on map entitled 1861, SWETE, C. J. A Handbook of Epsom, with illustrations on wood and steel

-  Bonesgate
-  Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4):1:25000

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9.3 KINGSTON APA 3.3 BONESGATE

Summary and Definition

The APA covers land on either side of the Bonesgate Stream where it lies close to the boundary of the borough. This stretch of land lies between West Ewell (Surrey) and Chessington (Kingston upon Thames) at its northern end and passes east of Malden Rushett to reach one of the springs which feeds the Bonesgate at its southern end. It is classified as Tier 3 because the proximity of the land to sites of known archaeological interest (in Surrey) combined with cropmark data and topographic features within the APA suggest it may preserve archaeological evidence of past human activity.

Description

The Bonesgate Stream rises from two sources, one within the Borough (Rushett Farm, within the APA) and the other in Surrey (Horton Country Park, Ewell) to the immediate west of this APA. This means that the APA has two branches of the stream meeting within it. Land within the APA is a nature reserve towards its northern end and open farmland in the central and southern parts. The topography slopes downwards on either side of the Bonesgate; this forms a shallow valley.

The course of the brook on the edge of the Borough is largely natural in origin, and we can expect it to contain deposits of alluvium within and to either side of the stream. Elsewhere in the borough, these deposits have been shown to have significant geoarchaeological value, providing interesting insights into the behaviour of minor tributaries of the River Thames, draining London Clay catchments during the Late Devensian-Holocene period⁴⁹. Works to date have focussed on the Hogsmill River. The Bonesgate is a tributary of the Hogsmill and may hold similar information.

The topographic advantages of the riverside areas close to the Bonesgate may have led prehistoric and later communities to settle in the area. The plants and animal life alongside river systems differ to those in other topographical locations. Prehistoric and later communities were acutely aware of the locations of freshwater and food sources. The quality of soils for arable use and as pasture were important considerations. The corridor of land to either side of this brook has distinct qualities which would have drawn the attention, and associated land use, from people in various periods from prehistory to the modern period. In certain periods the importance of freshwater streams was marked in ritual ways by the deposition of objects and the creation of monuments close by.

Within Ashtead Common, c. 500m from the APA is the site of Ashtead Roman Villa and bathhouse. The Bonesgate is closer to the bath house than the Rye (in Surrey) and whether it was in anyway connected to the bath house or not, a natural freshwater spring as close to the Villa as this will not have gone un-noticed. Frequently the focus of religious activity in prehistory and the Roman period, the source of the Bonesgate may have been important in both a functional and religious way to past inhabitants of the area.

⁴⁹ C.P. Green, K. Williams & C.R. Batchelor 2011; Southwood Activity Centre, Elm Close, Tolworth (Undertaken for Phase 1 Of the Hogsmill Community Archaeology Project): Environmental Archaeology Fieldwork Report. Quaternary Scientific (Quest). Project Number 002/11.

There is a Roman tile kiln recorded to the immediate east of the APA, within Surrey. This site was called West Park Hospital, after the psychiatric hospital which was built here after WWI. The landscape was clearly settled in the Roman period and buildings, transportation routes, food production and so on were happening in very close proximity to the APA. In relatively un-developed areas such as this, land boundaries can remain unchanged over long periods of time. It may be notable that on Mapping of the area from the 19th century a trackway is visible running past Ashtead Roman Villa (which had not been excavated at that time) and making its way through the APA to the east of Malden Rushett and onwards towards Chessington. This trackway crosses APA 3.3 in a NW-SE alignment⁵⁰. It is referred to on modern mapping as Bridleway 33. The age of this routeway is not certain, that it links an important archaeological site, including a bath house of Roman date, with a natural stream and spring is clear enough.

Such connections are notable when considering archaeological potential, especially in the absence of modern investigations. If land in the APA were to be investigated, as a result of development, it is considered reasonable to expect archaeological remains of Roman date to occur. The land in this part of the Borough is mainly farmland and, as such, is likely to preserve remains where they are present.

There are also numerous (undated) cropmarks visible on aerial photographs of the area. These may be Medieval and Post Medieval field boundaries associated with Rushett Farm.

Significance

It is likely that prehistoric and later communities, especially during the Roman period, utilised land within the APA. This may have left traces in the form of settlement, fording points and ritual deposition of objects. Indeed, land within the APA may have been part of the wider setting of the Ashtead Roman Villa c. 500m SE of the APA. This was a Villa and bathhouse and it would have controlled a wide area of land around it, potentially that could have included the APA and the source of the Bonesgate within it.

The antiquity of a routeway across the APA and various cropmarks visible on aerial photographs is not well understood. The absence of modern archaeological investigation may explain the dearth of records on the GLHER for this land parcel. Land within this APA largely undeveloped and, therefore, any surviving archaeological remains may be relatively well preserved. There is a heightened possibility of organic survival due to the waterlogged conditions close to a stream such as this.

The Brook has the potential to provide geoarchaeological data to compliment that already gathered along the Hogsmill.

Key References

1861, SWETE, C. J. A Handbook of Epsom, with illustrations on wood and steel. <http://britishlibrary.georeferencer.com/compare>

⁵⁰ 1861, SWETE, C. J. A Handbook of Epsom, with illustrations on wood and steel. <http://britishlibrary.georeferencer.com/compare> - accessed 16/11/2020

9.4 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).

Non-designated heritage asset: Non-designated heritage assets are buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions because of their heritage interest but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets (as defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF). (Planning Aid England)

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).



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