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HERITAGE STATEMENT

Albion
archaeology



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HERITAGE STATEMENT

Project: TL2356

Document: 2014/38
Version 1.0

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Issue date:
12th March 2014

Produced for:
Croudace Strategic Ltd



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Preface

All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

This document was researched and written by Wiebke Starke (Archaeological Supervisor) and the figures were prepared by Joan Lightning (CAD Technician). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

Albion Archaeology is grateful to Mr. Martin Harrop of Croudace Strategic Ltd for commissioning the project. We would also like to acknowledge the assistance of the staff of the Hertfordshire County Council's Historic Environment Record and Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies.

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Version History

Version	Issue date	Reason for re-issue
1.0	12/03/2014	n/a

Structure of this Document

After the introductory Section 1, the objectives of the heritage statement are discussed against the background of national and regional policy and research frameworks in Section 2. Section 3 contains the heritage assessment. This gives a summary of the known information on all historical, archaeological and architectural heritage assets within the study area and assesses their significance. The potential impact of the development on known and potential heritage assets and likely mitigation strategies are discussed in Section 4. Section 5 is the bibliography and Section 6 contains the appendices.



Key Terms

Throughout this report the following abbreviations are used:

HALS	Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies
EH	English Heritage
HER	Hertfordshire County Council's Historic Environment Record
IFA	Institute for Archaeologists
LB	Listed Building reference
NHPP	National Heritage Protection Plan
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012)
OS	Ordnance Survey



Non-technical Summary

Croudace Strategic Ltd are gathering baseline information regarding the potential development of land off Thieves Lane to the west of Hertford. As part of this work, Albion Archaeology has been commissioned to prepare this heritage statement.

Its purpose is to characterise the nature, likely date and significance of known and potential heritage assets within the site. The assessment also considers the potential impact of the proposed development on the setting of adjacent heritage assets. It also advises on the most suitable techniques currently available to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on any affected heritage assets.

There are no recorded heritage assets within the site and only two pre-dating the medieval period within a study area of 500m from the site's boundaries. However, there is low to moderate potential for the site to contain buried archaeological remains of the prehistoric to Roman periods, given its favourable location for settlement within the valley of the Mimram (see Medlycott 2011, 7). Such remains are likely to be of low to moderate significance depending on their precise nature.

There is less potential for significant, later remains, given that the site appears to have historically been used for agriculture, away from the historic cores of Hertingfordbury to the south (where the majority of recorded heritage assets within the study area are located) and Hertford to the east.

Any direct impact of the new development on potential buried archaeological remains could be mitigated by measures to investigate and record the presence/absence, nature and significance of the potential archaeological assets. This could be achieved by a programme of archaeological works prior to or during development.

Of the heritage assets recorded outside the site, any residential development is only likely to be visible from Panshanger Registered Park and Blakemore Wood designated ancient woodland, both of which lie immediately adjacent to the site. The remainder, mainly lying within Hertingfordbury village to the south, are obscured from the site by a combination of their lower lying topographic location, modern housing and areas of woodland.

The immediate setting of this end of the registered Panshanger Park already comprises large areas of modern residential development, some of which already lies immediately adjacent to the easternmost tip of the park. The setting of this part of the park, therefore, makes a negligible contribution to its significance as a heritage asset. The potential impact of any residential development within the site upon the setting of the Park is, therefore, considered to be negligible — there would be no great change to the appearance of the built environment in the area within which this end of the park is set. The overall significance of this impact would be neutral.

Similarly, the nearby residential development to the north and east of the site already form an integral part of the setting of Blakemore Wood. Development of the site would bring built development closer to the north and east sides of the wood, thereby having a slightly adverse impact. The overall significance of this impact would be neutral / slight.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Planning Background*

Croudace Strategic Ltd are gathering baseline information regarding the potential development of land off Thieves Lane to the west of Hertford. As part of this work, Albion Archaeology has been commissioned to prepare this heritage statement.

Its purpose is to characterise the nature, likely date and significance of known and potential heritage assets within the site. The assessment also considers the potential impact of the proposed development on the setting of adjacent heritage assets. It also advises on the most suitable techniques currently available to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on any affected heritage assets.

This assessment has been drafted in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) issued in March 2012.

1.2 *Site Location and Description*

The site lies off Thieves Lane on the western periphery of Hertford within St Andrew's parish (Fig. 1). It comprises an area of *c.* 9.3ha centred on TL30734 12783, currently consisting of two arable fields separated by a public footpath leading from Welwyn Road to Blakemore Wood. The A414 lies *c.* 200m to the south and the Rivers Mimram and Beane, both tributaries of the River Lee (or Lea), lie *c.* 400m to the south and *c.* 900m to the east respectively.

Hertford lies in the valley of the River Lea with a number of tributaries joining from the north, including the River Mimram and River Beane. The underlying geology is formed of Lewes Nodular Chalk and Seaford Chalk Formations. In the river valley the superficial geology is formed by silts and clays, whilst on the higher ground of the river terrace, on which the site lies at 70–80m OD, the superficial geology comprises the Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup of sands and gravel.¹

¹ Contains British Geological Survey Materials NERC (2013)



2. OBJECTIVES OF THE HERITAGE STATEMENT

2.1 *National Policy Framework*

This assessment aims to implement the vision for the historic environment as set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework – Section 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* (NPPF) that was published on 27 March 2012 (DCLG 2012).

Annex 2 of the NPPF defines heritage assets as: “A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets include designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing)” (NPPF, Annex 2).

Designated assets comprise, amongst others, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens and Conservation Areas. Undesignated assets are any other heritage assets that may or may not be formally identified by the local planning authority as being important for the area, for example through local listing or as part of the plan-making process. These undesignated assets are still material in planning decisions and evidence of local listing and information on these heritage assets is held in the local Historic Environment Record (HER).

According to the NPPF the significance of heritage assets is demonstrated by their value to this and future generations because of their archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic interest and their setting.

National and regional planning policy and research frameworks provide the setting within which the heritage assets affected by proposed development can be characterised and their significance assessed. The potential impact of the proposals on them can then be evaluated and, as necessary, appropriate mitigation measures proposed. This will include potential impacts on the setting of heritage assets both within and close to the site.

2.2 *Heritage Strategies and Research Frameworks*

National heritage strategy for the period up to March 2015 is embodied in the National Heritage Protection Plan Framework (English Heritage 2013).

The NHPP seeks to ensure that England’s historic environment:

- is not needlessly at risk of damage, erosion or loss;
- is experienced, understood and enjoyed by local communities;
- contributes to sustainable and distinctive places to live and work;
- helps deliver positive and sustainable economic growth.

English Heritage recognises the importance of cooperation between all heritage sector bodies and those with an interest in heritage. It is hoped that the NHPP will provide these interested parties with a common framework that they can adopt and, over time, adapt in order to:

- develop and express agreed priorities in terms of protecting our heritage;



- promote sector-wide collaboration and the coordination of scarce resources to address those priorities.

English Heritage has also produced an extensive library of national guides covering a wide range of topics, and most of these are available for free download from the HELM website².

Regional research frameworks that have been devised are *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties – 2 Research Agenda and Strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000), *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).

Hertfordshire is included in the regional research framework for the East of England, first devised in 2000 (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and extensively revised in 2011 (Medlycott 2011). The perceived significance of any potential archaeological remains within the site is based on research topics identified within this framework.

These documents provide a chronological review of the historic environment as investigated so far within Hertfordshire and the eastern counties as well as establishing a research agenda and strategy for future investigations and for consolidating and integrating current knowledge. They are therefore vital tools for the assessment of any heritage asset within its local, regional and national historic environment setting.

2.3 Method Statement

This desk-based heritage statement was carried out according to the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* (IfA 2012).

It reviews known and potential heritage assets both within the site and within a 500m area around its boundaries, henceforth referred to as the study area (Figure 2).

During the preparation of this document, the sources of information listed below were consulted.

2.3.1 Hertfordshire Council's Historic Environment Record (HER)

The HER is maintained by the Historic Environment Unit (HEU) at County Hall in Hertford and contains a database of archaeological information specific to Hertfordshire. It contains written and pictorial records of known archaeological monuments, previous archaeological investigations, find spots and buildings of historical and archaeological significance. Relevant records are tabulated in Sections 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 (HER enquiry reference no. 284/13).

2.3.2 Heritage Gateway database

The Heritage Gateway is an online database that provides integrated access to local and national heritage information resources and collates entries of all Historic Environment Records throughout England. However, results provided by the

² Historic Environment Local Management (HELM) <http://www.helm.org.uk>



Heritage Gateway do not provide as thorough a coverage of a given area as a search of the relevant Historic Environment Record itself and can therefore only ever provide a general background to a specific study area³.

2.3.3 Cartographic data and historical records

Early maps and other illustrations of an area can be a very productive form of research. Often, they indicate dramatic changes in land-use during the post-medieval and modern periods. This can be very helpful in appreciating how the archaeological resource may have been affected by the expansion of settlements and/or industrial sites during, in particular, the 19th and 20th centuries.

The principal source consulted in this case was the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS), located at County Hall, Hertford (see Section 3.2).

2.3.4 Portable Antiquities Scheme data

The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) is a DCMS-funded project for the voluntary recording of objects found by the members of the public in England and Wales. The majority of these are objects found by metal detector. They usually represent stray finds which are not in a secure archaeological context but can give a useful indication of the potential presence of archaeological or historical sites or assets nearby. PAS data is held and distributed by the relevant HER.

2.3.5 Walk-over survey

As part of this heritage statement, a preliminary walk-over survey of the site was undertaken on 26th February 2014, with the following aims:

- to examine any areas of archaeological potential identified during research for the assessment, in particular with a view to gauging the possible survival or condition of any remains present;
- to consider the significance of any above-ground structures, historic buildings or historic landscape features present;
- to assess the present ground conditions, with a view to the appropriate deployment of evaluative fieldwork techniques, if required.

³ <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/>



3. HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

3.1 *Archaeological and Historical Assets*

3.1.1 Introduction

This section describes by chronological period the known heritage assets recorded by the HER within 500m of the site. Appendices 1, 2 and 3 collate the information held by the HER, including lists of all designated and undesignated assets within the study area. All assets are shown on Figure 2, which should be viewed in conjunction with this text.

3.1.2 Prehistoric to Roman (Palaeolithic to c. AD 410)

Evidence for prehistoric to Roman activity is scarce within the study area. The only recorded heritage assets lie at least 500m away from the site, comprising findspots of a flint handaxe (HER613) and a scraper (HER1160).

A few other prehistoric objects have been found slightly further afield, including another Palaeolithic handaxe from near a tributary of the River Mimram (HER1149653) and a Neolithic axe found in 1975 together with a small worked flint assemblage (HER367825).

No features or finds dating to the later prehistoric or Roman periods are recorded within or close to the study area.

3.1.3 Saxon – medieval (c. AD 410–1550)

Though lying within the historic parish of Hertford St Andrew, the site lies closest to the historic core of Hertingfordbury (HER2682) c. 250m to the south, rather than the historic core of Hertford further to the east. The manorial estates of Hertingfordbury and Epcombs, also located in this vicinity, are mentioned in Domesday Book, indicating pre-conquest settlement origins. However, no Saxon features or finds are recorded within the study area and only one dating to the medieval period — a findspot of a jetton (HER4734) found 450m to the south-east of the site.

3.1.4 Post-medieval (AD 1550–1900)

The vast majority of recorded heritage assets within the study area date to the post-medieval period. Most of these are listed buildings located within Hertingfordbury's historic core, the oldest being The White Horse Public House (LB461350; HER16957) and Newman Cottage (LB461357; HER18705) dating back to the 16th century. Also included are garden gates (LB461362) and a 17th-century house (LB461361; HER13048) associated with the Epcombs estate. Only one of the listed buildings lies outside Hertingfordbury village — an 18th-century cottage named The Dell (HER18707) located between the site and Hertingfordbury village within the area of a post-medieval quarry pit (HER6864).

The closest heritage assets to the site are Panshanger Park, a designated heritage asset within the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens (English Heritage ref. 1000916), and Blakemore Wood, a designated ancient woodland. Panshanger Park borders the southernmost side of the site and is linked to the neighbouring Cole Green estate, both



owned by Earl Cowper during the 18th century; he also owned the land within which the site lies. The Registered Park features the remains of an 18th- and 19th-century landscape park, containing woodland, agricultural land and areas recently used for sand and gravel extraction.

Blakemore Wood, immediately to the west of the site, has been designated as ancient woodland by Natural England (formerly the Nature Conservancy Council), being likely to have been in existence since at least AD 1600. During this time it is likely to have been managed or at least exploited to some extent, and as such it should be considered as a heritage asset of some significance.

3.1.5 Modern (1900–present)

No modern heritage assets are recorded within the 500m study area.

3.2 Cartographic Evidence and Historic Landscape Character

3.2.1 Introduction

Historical map evidence is available in the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS) at Hertfordshire County Hall, Hertford. This section discusses the maps most suitable to illustrate the history and development of the site.

3.2.2 Tithe Map, parish of St Andrew, Hertfordshire, 1838 (Figure 3)

The area of the site is already being used for agriculture or pasture by this time and with the exception of the site's western boundary within the smaller field (plot 20) the boundaries of the site correspond with boundaries already in existence at the time of the tithe map. The outline of Blakemore Wood is shown to the western side of the site and Thieves Lane to the east and Welwyn Road to the north are already well established.

The only buildings depicted within the vicinity of the site at this time are those to the north of the historic core of Hertingfordbury, one being The Dell (LB461365; HER18707).

3.2.3 1st edition OS map, 1880 (Figure 4), and 2nd and 3rd edition OS maps

Several field boundaries in the vicinity of the site have either been lost or altered by the time of the 1st edition OS map. The small field (plot 20) within which the north-west arm of the site lay is by now part of the much larger narrow field that exists today. The field previously to the east of Thieves Lane by now also forms part of a larger field, within which a gravel pit is depicted to the north of The Dell. The plantation to the south of the site (Lady Hughe's Wood) appears to have been extended westwards.

Little change to the vicinity of the site is recorded in the 2nd and 3rd edition OS maps, though the gravel pit to the north of The Dell appears to have been enlarged.

3.2.4 Later maps and aerial photographs

The area in the vicinity of the site largely remained unchanged until the 1960s, when the extensive areas of housing now existing to the north and east of the site began to be developed. By the late 1970s, the A414 had been built to the south of the site



3.3 **Setting of Heritage Assets**

The NPPF defines setting as: *'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, and may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral'* (NPPF 2012, Annex. 2).

The site lies on the periphery of Hertford, sandwiched between late 20th-century suburban development to the east and north, and fields and woodland areas to the west and south (see Figs 5–12)

The closest existing heritage assets to the site are the registered Panshanger Park, Blakemore Wood and The Dell listed building (LB461365, HER18707). Only Panshanger Park and Blakemore Wood are visible from the site, lying immediately to the south and west respectively.

The site is not visible from the The Dell listed building (LB46135, HER18707), or the other designated and undesignated assets within Hertingfordbury village further to the south, due to their lower lying location within the valley of the River Mimram. Various areas of woodland, the A414 and some modern housing also lie between Hertingfordbury and the site.

3.4 **Assessment of Potential and Significance**

3.4.1 **Introduction**

This section assesses the potential for the survival of archaeological heritage assets within the site in the light of the evidence discussed above. The criteria for assessing significance are listed in Appendix 5.

3.4.2 **Prehistoric to Roman (Palaeolithic to c. AD 410)**

Little prehistoric activity and no Roman remains are recorded within the study area, though this may in part be due to a general lack of archaeological investigation having been undertaken within the area. The higher ground within the area of the river valley is likely to have been an attractive location for settlement activities, as highlighted in the Research Agenda for the East of England (Medlycott 2011, 7), suggesting there is a low to moderate potential for remains of these periods within the site. If any were identified, they would probably be of low to moderate significance depending on their precise nature.

3.4.3 **Anglo-Saxon to medieval (c. AD 410–1550)**

The only feature or find from the Saxon or medieval periods recorded within the study area is a jetton (HER4734) found at some distance away from the site. This lack of apparent activity is testimony to the fact that the site lies within an area historically used for agriculture. Already in existence at the time the early 19th-century title map was drawn up, it is possible that Thieves Lane and Welwyn Road have medieval origins. Overall, there is low potential for remains of these periods within the site.

Any potential remains of these periods within the site are most likely to be either related to the agricultural use and division of the landscape or stray finds lost or



discarded by users of the nearby routeways, all of which are likely to be of low significance depending on their precise nature. The need for greater understanding of the relationship between medieval towns and their hinterlands is identified within the Research Agenda for the East of England (Medlycott 2011, 71).

3.4.4 Post-medieval (AD 1550–1900)

Though the site lies within Earl Cowper's landholding, Panshanger Park does not appear to have ever extended into the area of the site. With little significant change to the area from that of the medieval period, any post-medieval remains present within the site are also most likely to either be associated with agricultural use and division of the landscape or stray finds lost or discarded by users of the nearby routeways. The potential of finding post-medieval remains is low; their significance would be negligible to low.

3.4.5 Modern (1900–present)

With no known modern heritage assets in the vicinity and with no significant change to the site's use from that of the post-medieval period, there is negligible potential for modern heritage assets within the site.



4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND SUMMARY

4.1 *The Proposed Development*

The proposed development details are unknown at this stage, but may include residential housing together with associated access roads and car parking.

4.2 *Potential Impacts upon Known and Potential Heritage Assets*

There are no recorded heritage assets within the site, therefore only potential below-ground archaeological assets within the site and the known heritage assets within the study area outside the site are discussed below. The classification used in assessing the magnitude of impact on heritage assets is contained in Appendix 5.

4.2.1 *Potential below-ground archaeological assets within the site*

Few prehistoric remains and no Roman remains are known either within or close to the study area. However, the site's location within the area of the valley of the Mimram is likely to have been attractive for settlement activities (see Medlycott 2011, 7), suggesting there is low to moderate potential for their presence within the site. Such remains are likely to be of low to moderate to high significance depending on their precise nature.

There is less potential for later, significant remains given that the site appears to have historically been used for agriculture, away from the historic cores of Hertingfordbury to the south and Hertford to the east.

Groundworks or landscaping associated with any proposed development have the potential to have a direct negative impact on any heritage assets which still survive in the form of sub-surface archaeological remains. Residential development of the site would likely have a moderately to highly adverse impact on any such remains.

The significance of this impact upon the identified potential heritage assets is, therefore, classed as slight to high for the prehistoric and Roman periods; slight to moderate for the Saxon and medieval periods; and neutral to slight for the post-medieval and modern periods (see Table 1 below).

Any direct impact of the new development on potential buried archaeological remains could be mitigated by measures to investigate and record the presence/absence, nature and significance of the potential archaeological assets. This could be achieved by a programme of archaeological works prior to or during development.

Period	Potential of finding asset	Likely significance of asset	Impact upon asset	Likely significance of this impact
Prehistoric to Roman (before 43 BC – AD 450)	Low to moderate	Low to moderate	Moderately to highly adverse	Slight to high
Anglo-Saxon to medieval (450–1550)	Low	Low	Moderately to highly adverse	Slight to moderate



Period	Potential of finding asset	Likely significance of asset	Impact upon asset	Likely significance of this impact
Post-medieval (1550–1900)	Low	Negligible to low	Moderately to highly adverse	Neutral to slight
Modern (1900–present)	Negligible	Negligible	Moderately to highly adverse	Neutral to slight

Table 1: Buried archaeological assets - summary of potential, significance and impact

4.2.2 Known heritage assets within the wider study area

No known heritage assets lie within the site, though several lie within 500m of the site's boundaries. Of these, any residential development of the site is only likely to be visible from the registered Panshanger Park and Blakemore Wood designated ancient woodland, both of which lie immediately adjacent to the site and are of moderate significance. The remaining heritage assets, mainly lying within Hertingfordbury village to the south, are obscured from the site by a combination of their lower lying topographic location, modern housing and areas of woodland.

The immediate setting of this end of Panshanger Park already comprises large areas of modern residential development, some of which already lie immediately adjacent to the eastern-most tip of the park. The setting of this part of the park, therefore, makes a negligible contribution to its significance as a heritage asset. The potential impact of any residential development within the site upon the setting of the park is, therefore, considered to be negligible — there would be no great change to the appearance of the built environment in the area within which this end of the park is set. The overall significance of this impact would be neutral.

Similarly, the nearby residential development to the north and east of the site already form an integral part of the setting of Blakemore Wood. Development of the site would bring built development closer to the north and east sides of the wood, thereby having a slightly adverse impact. The overall significance of this impact would be neutral / slight.



5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J., 2000, *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties – 2 Research Agenda and Strategy* (East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8)

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6. APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1: HER data - Designated Heritage Assets within 500m Study Area

6.1.1 Listed Buildings

Listed Building ID	HER no.	Description	Grade
461348	16956	Moat House, Hertingfordbury Road, Hertingfordbury. Early 19th-century two-storey yellow brick building intended for the miller opposite the mill with 20th-century alterations.	II
461349	-	229-235 Hertingfordbury Road. Terrace of four 18th-century houses.	II
461350	16957	The White Horse, 234 Hertingfordbury Road, Hertingfordbury. 16th-century timber-framed public house, re-fronted with brick in the 18th century and large 20th-century extension.	II
461352	-	239, 241 and 243 Hertingfordbury Road. House dating from the 17th-18th centuries. Altered in the 20th century.	II
461354	-	249 Hertingfordbury Road. House built in 1876.	II
461355	-	251 and 253 Hertingfordbury Road. 18th-century house.	II
461356	-	Old forge house, 255 and 257, Hertingfordbury Road. Built in 18th century; altered in 19th and 20th centuries.	II
461357	18705	Newman Cottage, 261 Hertingfordbury Road, Hertingfordbury. 16th century and later timber-framed house with 19th- and 20th-century alterations and additions. Used as infant school in 19th century.	II
461360	11124	Mill Farm, Hertingfordbury Road, Hertingfordbury. Mill Farm shown on 1880s OS map, to the west of the bridge and watermill (HER5791). Ranges of barns arranged around rectangular farm yard. The house was rebuilt in 1898. In the yard is a 17th- early 18th-century timber – framed barn and a 19th-century two-storey brick stable	II
461361	13048	Epcombs, Hertingfordbury. Small 17th-century house with Jane Austen association. Origins in pre-conquest farm with grounds on both sides of the Mimram. The pink brick house incorporates a timber-framed hall house. 18th- and 19th-century additions and alterations.	II
461362	-	Garden gates to Epcombs. Date to c. 1901	II
461364	5791	Hertingfordbury Mill. Early 19th-century watermill, two-storey building in yellow grey Cambridge gault brick. Plan L-shaped with millrace through the middle	II
461365	18707	The Dell, Thieves Lane/Hertingfordbury Road, Hertford. Early 18th-century house/cottage within an area of post-medieval quarrying. 19th-century alterations and additions.	II
461528	13752	The Old Rectory, Hertingfordbury. 18th-century rectory with 17th-century origins. Embellished in the 1930s by Robert Addis. Stands in its own landscaped park.	II

6.1.2 Registered Parks and Gardens

Ref.	Description	Grade
1000916	Panshanger Park. A landscape park laid out from 1799, with advice from Humphry Repton, around a country house begun in 1806-7 and demolished 1953-4. The park incorporated the site of an earlier house and park, improved in 1756 with advice from Lancelot Brown.	II*



6.1.3 Designated Ancient Woodland

Description
Blakemore Wood. Recorded within the Ancient Woodland Inventory by Natural England (formerly the Nature Conservancy Council) in the 1980s.

6.2 Appendix 2: HER data - Undesignated Heritage Assets within 500m Study Area

6.2.1 Archaeological and historical sites, buildings and findspots

HER no.	Name	Description	Period
613	Findspot: flint hand axe	Flint hand axe found above glacial gravel at 4 Fordwich Rise, Hertford	Palaeolithic
1160	Findspot: scraper	Flint scraper found in front garden of 41 Fordwich Rise, Hertford, in 1950	Prehistoric
2682	Hertingfordbury village	Medieval village associated with a manorial estate recorded in Domesday Book	Medieval to post-medieval
4734	Findspot: medieval jetton	Medieval jetton found in Chelmsford Wood, Hertford	Medieval
5188	Mill Bridge	Road bridge over the river Mimram in Hertingfordbury. Brick buttressed and wharfed on the north side, string course and single arch protected by an iron grid.	Post-medieval
6079	Findspot: gunflint	Worked flint from a firearm, probably a sporting gun of the 17th century or later, found in the garden of The Old Rectory, Hertingfordbury	Post-medieval
6864	Gravel Pit, Thieves Lane, Hertford	Site of post-medieval gravel pit on Thieves Lane, Hertford. No longer visible but shown on 1880s OS map.	Post-medieval
12106	Grounds at Epcombs, Hertingfordbury	Earthworks and Gardens at Epcombs House. Place name derives from Old English for 'open space of Eoppa' and is recorded in Domesday Book.	Post-medieval
30289	Brickfield, Valeside, Hertford	Site of former brickworks that were out of use by 1880, in the field east of Chelmsford Wood, now occupied by residential street. Shown on Tithe map as two smaller fields.	Post-medieval

6.3 Appendix 3: HER data – Events within 500m Study Area

Event no.	Name	Description	Period
EHT1198	Epcombs, Hertingfordbury	Building appraisal, field survey and building recording of the building's interior following and during renovations. Some of the walls had been removed.	Post-medieval
EHT1202	Old Rectory, Hertingfordbury	Building appraisal comprising field survey and building recording	Post medieval



Event no.	Name	Description	Period
EHT1226	Epcombs, Hertingfordbury	Archaeological field evaluation comprising four trenches west, east and south-east of the house. Watching brief on groundworks for new garage and pool. No archaeological remains pre-dating the house were found; area of trenching consisted of made ground.	Post-medieval
EHT1320	Epcombs, Hertingfordbury	Watching brief on groundworks for pool house and services in the grounds; no archaeological remains were observed.	-

6.4 Appendix 4: Documentary Sources

Year	Map/document	Source
1838	Tithe Map, St Andrew's Parish	HALS ref. DSA4/50/2
1882	First edition 25 inch OS map	Map sheet 29.10 and 29.14
1899	Second edition 25 inch OS map	Map sheet 29.10 and 29.14
1923	Third edition 25 inch OS map	Map sheet 29.10 and 29.14
1960	1:10,560 OS map	http://www.old-maps.co.uk/maps.html
1973	1:2,500 OS map	HALS reading room
1980	Aerial Photograph	TL3012/3112 sheet 570, HALS reading room
1990	Aerial Photograph	TL3012/3112 sheet 570, HALS reading room

6.5 Appendix 5 – Significance and Impact Criteria

Significance	Definition
<i>Very high (International)</i>	A designated World Heritage Site or place of equivalent 'outstanding universal value' and international significance
<i>High (Regional to national)</i>	Designated heritage assets (scheduled monuments, Grade I or Grade II* listed buildings, registered Park or Gardens or battlefields) of national significance. Or: Undesignated heritage assets and archaeological remains of potentially equivalent value. This includes assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rare in the heritage environment record or • are a good example of a type site or • have a high potential to add to regional and national research criteria
<i>Moderate (Local to district and/or regional)</i>	Designated heritage assets of regional significance (Grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Park or Garden or battlefield <u>not</u> associated with events of national significance). Or: Undesignated heritage assets and archaeological remains of potentially equivalent value. This includes assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more commonly found in the heritage environment record or • have particular regional associations or may have important associations on a local or parish level (e.g. they have meaning to local population or embody something of the special identity of a locality) • have moderate potential to add to local and regional research criteria
<i>Low (Local)</i>	Assets which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are relatively poorly preserved or • have limited significance on a local level • have a low potential to add to local and regional research criteria
<i>Uncertain</i>	Sites where there is evidence that a heritage asset may exist, but where there is insufficient information to determine its nature, extent and degree of survival given current knowledge (e.g. cropmarks untested by fieldwork or random finds spots).



Significance	Definition
<i>Negligible</i>	Where there is very authoritative evidence – usually backed up field evaluation – that there is no possibility that anything of archaeological or historical significance exists or where any potential surviving remains have no value within the context of the current study.

Table 2: Significance criteria

Magnitude of Impact	Effect of Impact
Highly adverse	Causes total destruction of or permanent change to most key elements of the asset that results in major loss of integrity and reduction in significance. Substantial change to the setting of the asset. Any such change would almost certainly considerably reduce the significance of the asset and would not normally be reversible.
Moderately adverse	Either: causes permanent change to or loss of many key elements of the asset that lead to a moderate loss of its overall integrity and reduction in significance. Moderate change to the setting of the asset. Or: temporarily causes major loss of integrity and significance, e.g. through restricting accessibility and visibility, or by altering its setting.
Slightly adverse	Either: causes permanent change to some key or peripheral elements of the asset, or changes to the setting of the asset, that lead to a slight loss of its overall integrity or significance. Or: temporarily causes moderate loss of integrity and significance, e.g. through restricting accessibility and visibility, or by altering its setting.
Negligible	Minor permanent or temporary changes to the asset that have no appreciable direct or indirect effect on the asset or its setting and do not affect its significance.
No change	No change to the asset or its setting.
Slightly Beneficial	Either: delivers some improvement to the asset that does not increase its overall integrity or significance. Or: arrests an existing process of adverse change.
Moderately Beneficial	Either: causes long-term improvement of the asset, involving some increase in its integrity or significance. Or: reverses an existing process of adverse change.
Highly Beneficial	Causes major benefit to the asset that increases its integrity and significance. Such change would almost certainly increase the significance of the asset.

Table 3: Magnitude of impact criteria

Significance of impact matrix						
Value/Sensitivity	Very high	Neutral	Slight	Moderate /high	High or Very High	Very High
	High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate	Moderate /high	High or Very High
	Moderate	Neutral	Neutral / slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate / high
	Low	Neutral	Neutral / slight	Neutral / slight	Slight	Slight / moderate
	Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral / slight	Neutral / slight	Slight
		No change	Negligible	Slightly adverse	Moderately adverse	Highly adverse
		Magnitude of impact				

Table 4: Significance of impact matrix

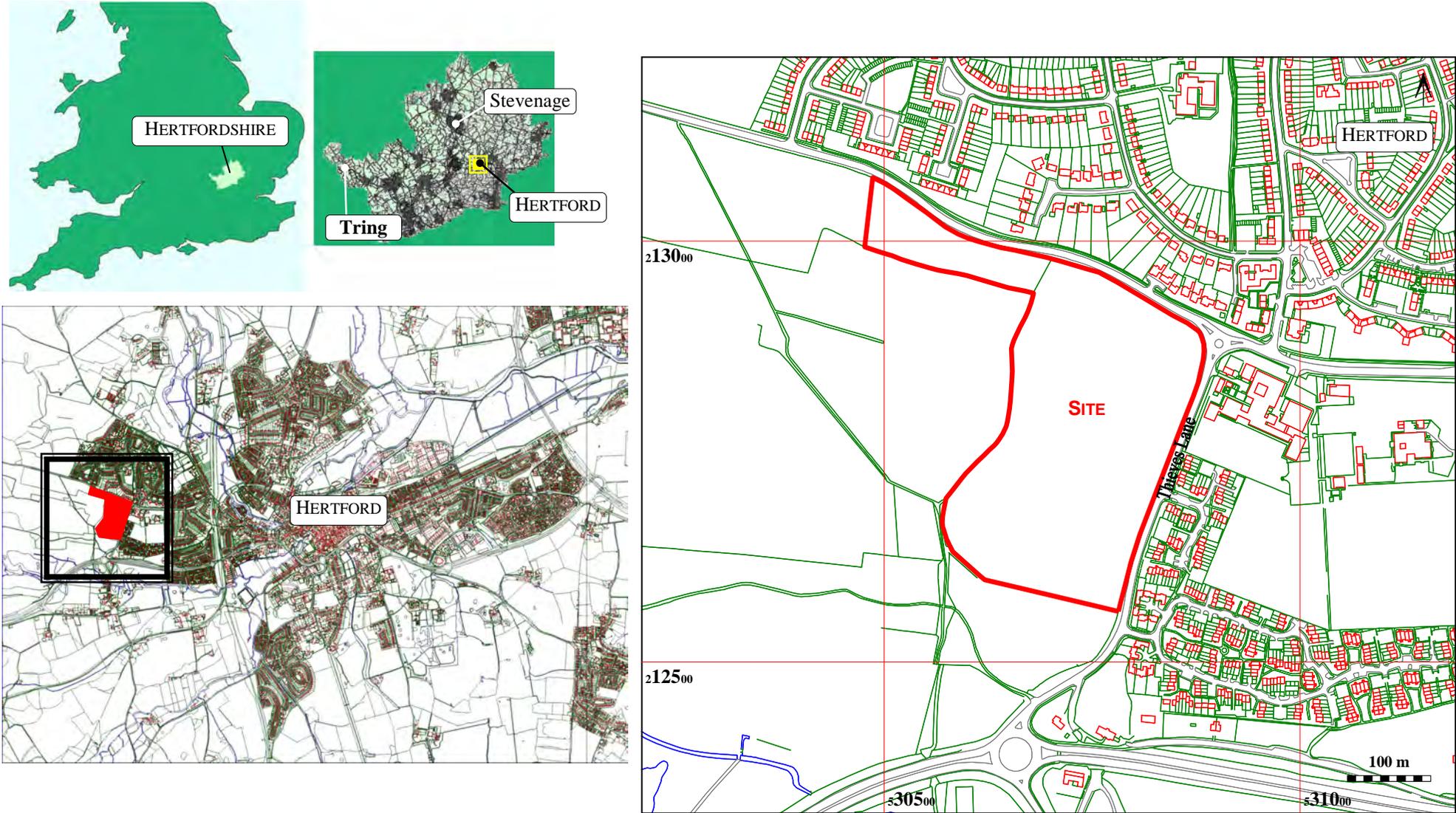


Figure 1: Site location

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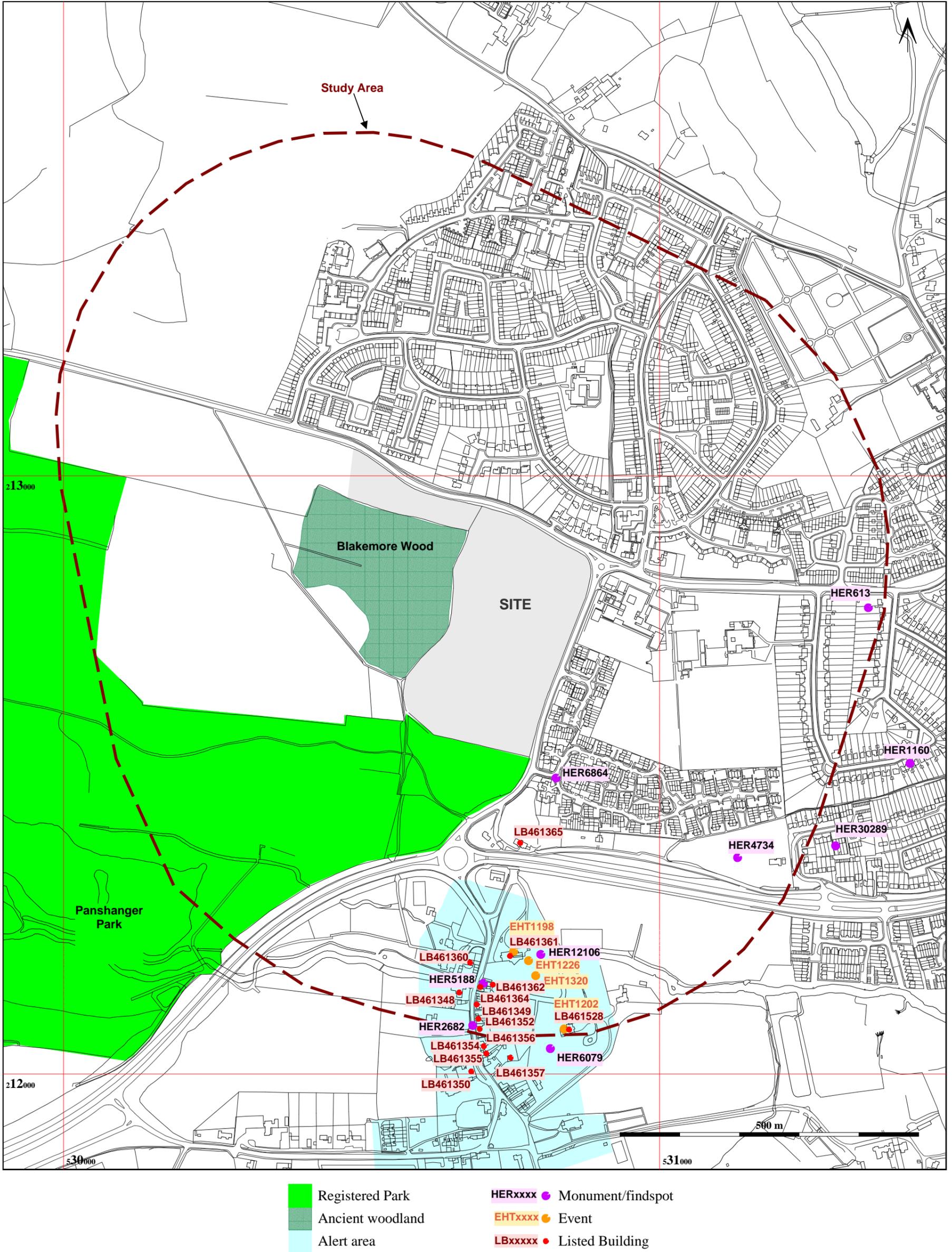


Figure 2: Heritage assets within 500m of the site's limits

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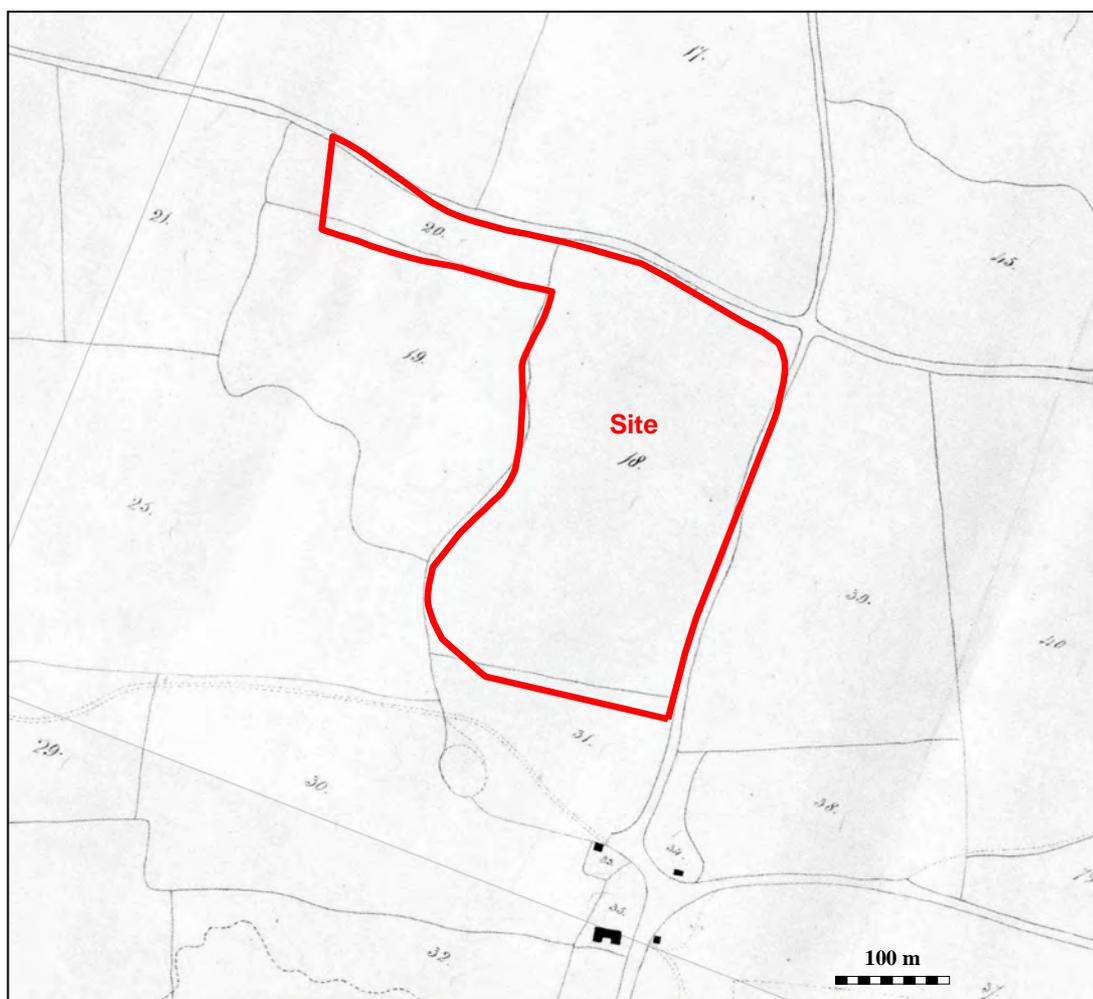


Figure 3: 1838 Tithe map overlaid with the site.
Scale approximate.

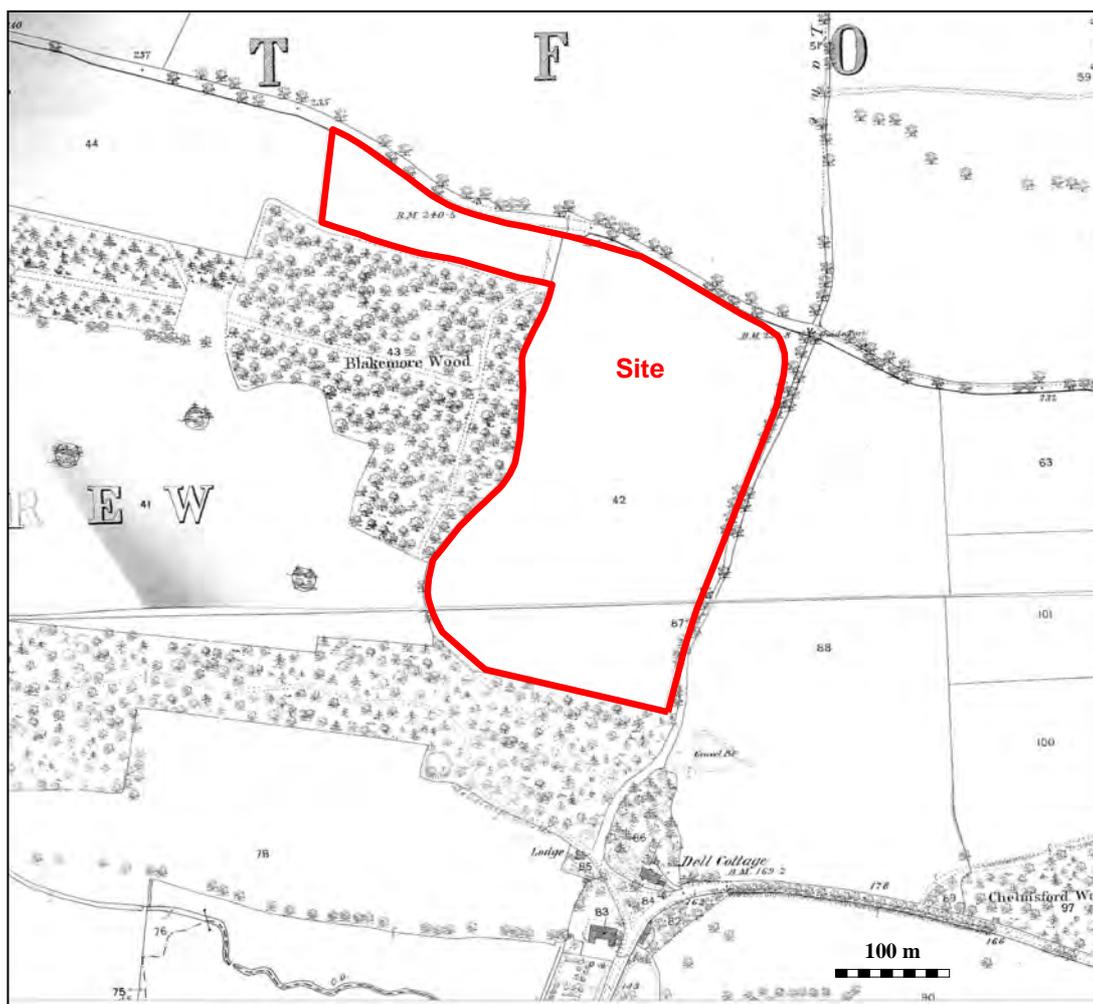


Figure 4: 1880 1st edition OS map overlaid with the site.
Scale approximate



Figure 5: View of south-eastern corner of the site



Figure 6: View of southern boundary of the site, looking south-west



Figure 7: View of the site, looking west, with Blakemore Wood in the background



Figure 8: View of the site, looking north, with Thieves Lane on the right



Figure 9: View of northern part of the site, showing footpath from Welwyn Road to Blakemore Wood, looking south



Figure 10: View of the site from northern edge of Blakemore Wood, looking north-west



Figure 11: View of the field within which the western smaller arm of the site lies



Figure 12: View of the footpath from Blakemore Wood to Welwyn Road, looking north

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