Appendix 13.1 Archaeological Desk Based Assessment



HERITAGE DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

Great Wilsey Park Haverhill Suffolk

Planning • Historic Buildings • Archaeology Specialist & Independent Advisors to the Property Industry July 2013

Local Planning Authority: St Edmundbury Borough Council

Site centred at: TL 688 459

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CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction and Scope of Study
- 2.0 Planning Background and Development Plan Framework
- 3.0 Geology and Topography
- 4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background
- 5.0 Site Conditions and the Proposed Development
- 6.0 Summary and Conclusions

Sources Consulted

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Location map
- Fig. 2 Suffolk SMR Data Plot
- Fig. 3 1840 Kedington Tithe Map
- Fig. 4 1891 Ordnance Survey
- Fig. 5 1905 Ordnance Survey
- Fig. 6 1928 Ordnance Survey
- Fig. 7 1949 Ordnance Survey
- Fig. 8 1960 Ordnance Survey
- Fig. 9 1967 Ordnance Survey
- Fig. 10 1972 Ordnance Survey
- Fig. 11 1981 Ordnance Survey
- Fig. 12 1991 Ordnance Survey
- Fig. 13 Proposed Development Layout

LIST OF PLATES

- Plate 1 View eastwards from Chalkstone Hill
- Plate 2 View northward toward the Great Plantation
- Plate 3 View south of the area around Great Wilsey Farm

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF STUDY

- 1.1 This archaeological desk-based assessment has been researched by Matthew Smith of CgMs Consulting and prepared by Rob Bourn on behalf of Hallam Land Management.
- 1.2 The subject of this assessment, also referred to as the study site, is land at the northeast of the town of Haverhill. The site is approximately 170 ha and is bounded to the north and east by agricultural land and to the south and west by residential areas of the town of Haverhill itself, more specifically the areas of Chalkstone and Wilsey. The site is centred at grid reference TL 688 459 (Fig. 1).
- 1.3 In accordance with government guidance on the historic environment and planning (NPPF Section 12) this assessment draws together the available archaeological, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the archaeological potential of the site and assess nearby designated heritage assets.
- 1.4 The assessment comprises an examination of evidence in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, considers the results of nearby archaeological investigations, incorporates published and unpublished material and charts historic land-use through a map regression exercise.
- 1.5 As a result, the assessment enables relevant parties to assess the potential effects of on the historic environment and to consider the need for design, civil engineering, and/or archaeological solutions to the potential identified.

2.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 In March 2012, the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which replaces national policy relating to heritage and archaeology (Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment).
- 2.2 Section 12 of the NPPF, entitled *Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 12 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
 - Delivery of sustainable development
 - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment
 - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, and
 - Recognition of the contribution that heritage assets make to our knowledge and understanding of the past.
- 2.3 Section 12 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term.
- 2.4 Paragraph 128 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset, and that level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be no more than sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 2.5 *Heritage Assets* are defined in Annex 2 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 asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
- 2.6 Archaeological Interest is defined as a heritage asset which holds or potentially could 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.

- 2.7 **Designated Heritage Assets** comprise of: World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Park and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and Conservation Areas.
- 2.8 *Significance* is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
- 2.9 *Setting* is defined 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, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 2.10 In short, government policy provides a framework which:
 - Protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets
 - Protects the settings of such designations
 - In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions
 - Provides for the excavation and investigation of heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence publicly accessible
- 2.11 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the framework set by government policy, in this instance the NPPF, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.
- 2.12 The relevant replacement Local Plan 2016 is provided by St Edmundbury Borough Council, adopted in June 2006:

POLICY HC9: SITES AND FEATURES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

IN CONSIDERING PROPOSALS WHICH AFFECT SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE AND THEIR SETTING OR SITES OF POTENTIAL INTEREST, THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY WILL HAVE REGARD TO:

- I) THE RESULTS OF ANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REQUIRED;
- II) THE NEED TO PRESERVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS IN SITU; AND
- III) THE NEED FOR ADEQUATE RECORDING OR EXCAVATION PRIOR TO DEVELOPMENT COMMENCING.

3.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 Geology

3.1.1 The British Geological Survey shows the site lies in an area of Boulder Clay over Upper Chalk.

3.2 **Topography**

3.2.1 The site gently and moderately slopes south and east from the higher ground located near Hill Farms adjacent to the A143. Levels within the site range from *c*. 100m AOD in the north-west to *c*. 90m close to the north-east area of Haverhill. To the east of the site the land slopes more dramatically in to the valley of the River Stour.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Timescales used in this report.

450,000 -	12,000 BC
12,000 -	4,000 BC
4,000 -	2,200 BC
2,200 -	700 BC
700 -	AD 43
AD 43 -	410
AD 410 -	1066
AD 1066 -	1485
AD 1486 -	1799
AD 1800 -	Present
	12,000 - 4,000 - 2,200 - 700 - AD 43 - AD 410 - AD 1066 - AD 1486 -

- 4.1 Archaeological information from **a 'study area' defined by** a 1km zone around the study site boundary and held in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record has been collected and reviewed. The location of sites mentioned in the text are shown on Fig. 2.
- 4.2 A recent evaluation undertaken on 45ha of similar farm land adjacent to the west of the study site immediately north of the town of Haverhill (HVH064, HVH065, WTL008, WTL009 & SCCAS 2007). The extensive trenching revealed a defined area of medieval activity within the land abutting the western extent of the study site, and also revealed small amounts of Iron Age and Roman pits along with localised scatters of Iron Age, Roman and Saxon finds. A number of post-medieval field boundaries and undated deep features were also revealed. Another recent evaluation and excavation on Westfield Primary School Replacement site immediately to the south west of the site has revealed an Iron Age settlement along with a possible shrine/funerary monuments.

4.3 **Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic**

4.3.1 A surface find of a Palaeolithic hand axe found at Hudson Close in the east of Haverhill,*c*. 750m south of the study site, is the only find from these periods within the study area (HVH013). A second hand axe has been recorded c. 1km to the west of the site (HVH014).

- 4.3.2 Twenty one small flint blade flakes of Mesolithic date have been recorded c. 1km to the north east of the site (KDG007).
- 4.3.3 Due to the general paucity of early prehistoric remains, the study site is considered to have low potential for early prehistoric remains.

4.4 Bronze Age

- 4.4.1 A Bronze Age thin-butted flat axe has been recorded in the north western corner of the study site (WTL003) and a socketed bronze gouge has been recorded c. 1km to the north of the site (WTG007).
- 4.4.2 A scheduled bowl barrow is located within the southern extent of the study area on the southern edge of Haverhill and is thought to be Bronze Age in date (DSF14960).
- 4.4.3 An evaluation of Chalkstone Way sports field immediately to the south west of the study site recorded a small pit of Bronze Age date and two undated ditches (HVH068).
- 4.4.4 Due to the small number of finds and the lack of securely dated features for the period the archaeological potential for encountering remains of the period is considered low but the presence of Bronze Age remains cannot be entirely ruled out.

4.5 Iron Age

- 4.5.1 Archaeological investigations undertaken on the Westfield Primary School Replacement site immediately to the south west of the study site revealed an iron Age settlement and funerary monuments (HVH072). An evaluation revealed part of an enclosure of Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age date that contained a small quantity of domestic refuse suggestive of occupation; a circular enclosure of earlier to middle Iron Age date; a double-ditched enclosure was interpreted as a barrow or a temple/shrine. A subsequent excavation of the site revealed slight evidence suggestive of later Neolithic/earlier Bronze date. Intensive occupation of the site began in the middle Iron Age and was represented mainly by a probable roundhouse and two substantial ring-ditch features that were possibly ritual/funerary monuments. There was no evidence for later occupation of the site.
- 4.5.2 An evaluation excavation of land off Chalkstone Way, immediately to the south of the study site, revealed isolated pits and a system of parallel ditches dating to the late Bronze Age Early Iron Age, and six pits and a ditch of Iron Age date (HVH059).

- 4.5.3 An evaluation and excavation at Millfields Way c. 350m to the south east of the site has recorded a linear feature and a pit containing Iron Age pottery along with a further nine possible undated features (HVH019).
- 4.5.4 Further south, approximately 800m south of the study site, a scatter of Iron Age pottery was discovered as was an inhumation (MSF6037).
- 4.5.5 Within 150m south-west of the study site an Iron Age coin hoard and a possible coin mould were recovered by labourers during land draining in the 18th century (HVH001). A Greek silver Tetradrachm (coin) of the middle Iron Age was found by a footpath within 150m north-east of the study site (KDG010). A bun shaped rotary quern stone was found within a garden of Mount Road south of the study site within the east of Haverhill (HVH047).
- 4.5.6 The presence of Iron Age features located within nearby and adjacent sites indicates that there is a moderate to high potential for Iron Age remains. On the basis of the available evidence, this potential is higher toward the western end of the site but such remains could theoretically be elsewhere within the site.

4.6 **Roman**

- 4.6.1 Two Roman coins were found in the very south of the study site on Chalkstone Hill (HVH002). The coins dated from AD315-26 and were of the emperors Gordian III and Licinius II. An early Roman coin of Augustus was found at the cricket ground within the east of Haverhill (HVH003)
- 4.6.2 A scatter of finds including pottery, tile, tessera, coins and a brooch were found without associated features during work at Coupals Road within the east of Haverhill to the south of the study site (HVH008). Further finds have been recovered including a **miniature 'celtic' stone head**, perhaps a portable amulet, found approximately 800m west of the study site (HVH015).
- 4.6.3 A scheduled Roman settlement lies the north west of Cotton Hall c. 1km to the east where evidence of stone buildings materials and large quantities of pottery and other contemporary artefacts have been recorded (KDG007).
- 4.6.4 Ten ditches and an amphora have been recorded c. 1km to the north east of the site (KDG004 & 019).

- 4.6.5 A number of sherds of pottery and tile fragments have been recorded c. 600m to the south of the site (HVH020).
- 4.6.5 The presence of Roman findspots would suggest that Roman activity took place within the wider area. However, the lack of features within the site or study area indicates that this probably took place further afield and that any activity up on the site would be of the nature of field systems. Therefore, the potential for encountering Roman remains upon the study site is considered to be low.

4.7 Anglo Saxon/Early Medieval and Later Medieval

- 4.7.1 Fragments of architectural Saxon stone work are contained within the Church of St Marys at Little Wratting (WTL002). The majority of the structure is medieval in date (HVH016).
- 4.7.2 A large Saxon pin with ornate gilded bronze head & bronze shaft has been recorded c.1km to the north of the study site (WTL004).
- 4.7.3 The Scheduled Monument of the rectangular moat site at Great Wilsey Farm is located to the north of the central part of the study site (WTL001/DSF15473). Within the southeast of the site, a second moat (unscheduled) is present at Little Wilsey Farm, the earthwork is recorded as being infilled in 2001 (KDG012).
- 4.7.4 Recent evaluation on land to the west of the study site (SCCAS 2007) revealed an area of medieval occupation activity on either side of the trackway leading to the area of Chapel Farm (HVH065). A chapel formerly occupied the site of the current Chapel Farm just east of the north-eastern boundary of the study site. Flint and ashlar from the former Chapel are incorporated into the current 19th century Grade II Listed cottage and farm buildings (LB 466432). This site is marked as Haverhill Chapel on **Hodgkinson's 1783** map of Suffolk. However it has been identified as possibly the Chapel of Alderton in 15th and 16th century wills (MSF19621).
- 4.7.5 Monitoring of area of stripped topsoil for Anglian Water pipeline located a large amount of medieval pottery and features to the N of road opposite Hill's Farm and Hilltop Farm c. 500m to the north of the site (WTL005).
- 4.7.5 The study site lay a good distance from the core of the Saxon and medieval settlement (HVH067), but it appears limited settlement activity was taking place around the

current area of Boyton Hall (Chapel Farm) although the features look to fade out before reaching the study site. Further settlement activity could be expected in the areas of the moated sites although this would be of the nature of more isolated fortified houses with maybe ancillary buildings. The remaining areas are most likely to be in agricultural land or woodland associated with such houses. Areas at the north-east of the site (close to Chapel Farm) and surrounding the moats of Great and Little Wilsey are considered to be of high potential for medieval archaeology, the potential for the remainder of the site is considered to be low to moderate.

4.8 **Post Medieval and Modern**

- 4.8.1 Post-medieval entries contained within the HER are all focussed some distance away from the site within the more urban areas of Haverhill and Great. The detail of these will not be repeated here as they have no bearing on the study site. All HER entries within the study area are listed in Appendix 1.
- 4.8.3 The 1840 Kedington Tithe map depicts the eastern half of the site as being compised of as number of fields with Little Wisley moated site in the centre of the map site (Fig. 3). At this time the north, south and west arms of the moated site survived with the farm buildings in the eastern part of the moated site. Only a small part of the site lies within Haverhill parish and so the Haverhill Tithe map only covers a very small part of the site and so has not been reproduced here. The Little Wratting Tithe Map was not available for viewing.
- 4.8.4 The 1891 Ordnance Survey (Fig. 4) illustrates the study site comprised of numerous fields within an enclosed wider agricultural landscape. Key features such as Great Wilsey's Farm, the associated moat and the smaller property of Little Wilsey can clearly be seen.
- 4.8.5 The only significant change to the 1905 Ordnance Survey (Fig. 5) is the appearance of the Great Field Plantation in the centre of the western area of the site, west of Great Wilsey Farm. By 1928 (Fig. 6) the plantation has been extended west in to the adjacent field. By 1949 (Fig. 7) development has taken place at Great Wilsey Farm, to the north of the original site where three ancillary buildings have been constructed.
- 4.8.6 There is no further significant change on the study site or to its boundaries within the next half century (1960: Fig. 8, 1967: Fig. 9, 1972: Fig. 10, 1981: Fig. 11, 1991: Fig. 12). The maps do however show the expansion of Haverhill north and eastward until abutting the study site boundary upon its western and southern extents.

4.8.6 The archaeological potential for the post-medieval period within the study site is considered to be low as the site has been shown to have been agricultural land for some time. However, within small isolated areas such as Great and Little Wilsey Farms which have been occupied for considerable amounts of time, potential here for post-medieval remains is considered moderate.

4.9 **Historic Landscape Characterisation**

4.9.1 The site lies within an area of undulating estate farmlands as defined on the Suffolk Landscape Character mapping (which includes the results of the Suffolk HLC).

4.10 **Designated Heritage Assets**

- 4.10.1 The moated site at Great Wilsey Farm is located outside the red line area to the north of the central part of the site. The moat is thought to be the site of Wilsey Hall Manor which was owned by Gilbert de Clare in the first half of the 12th century. In the 16th century the manor was held by amongst others, Robert Cornewall, Sir Giles Alington, Henry Turner and family and John Skinner, who in 1601 sold it to William Smythe. It is thought that a house on the island was replaced in the 17th century by a house immediately to the east of the moated site and this in turn was demolished in the 1960s and replaced by the present Great Wilsey Farmhouse. The moated site includes a roughly rectangular island measuring up to 46m north east-south west by 38m north west-south east which is raised up to 1m above the surrounding ground surface. The island is enclosed by a water-filled moat which measures up to 14m wide and is more than 1.5m deep. The island is approached by a modern footbridge across the south east arm of the moat. The significance of the moated site lies primarily in its archaeological interest and to a far lesser degree, its historic interest.
- 4.10.2 The moated site is edged by tall trees, the south of which is a house, to east of which is Great Wilsey Farm which comprises of a series of modern farm buildings and the north of which are two houses and to the west of which is a grass field across which the driveway the form crosses. It is these elements that form the core of the moated site's setting and where the setting has a positive contribution the significance of the moated site. Beyond the immediate surroundings of the moated site are modern agricultural fields with the edge of the modern built area of Haverhill to the south which have a neutral contribution to the significance of the moated site.

4.10.2 There are a number of listed buildings located beyond the **study site's eastern** boundary. These are:

Woodlands Cottage (II) which is located in an enclosed in garden next to an area of open space which is in turn surrounded by trees that blocks views out from and toward the listed cottage. There is no intervisibility with the study site which lies beyond the setting of the cottage.

Well Cottage (II) is located within its garden on the junction of Coupals Close and the B1061. There are views from the house out over a golf course to the west and south west of the house and modern agricultural fields to the north west which form the eastern end of the study site. The landscape beyond the road to the west of the house has a neutral contribution to the significance of the listed building.

Eagles Farmhouse (II) is located on the eastern side of the B1061 within neat gardens with former farm buildings and relatively modern houses to the west and south west. The western side of the B1061 as it passes by the farmhouse is lined by tall trees and other vegetation which screened views of the eastern end of the study site. The fields that form the eastern end of the study site do not contribute to the significance of the farmhouse.

Calford Green Cottage (II) is located within a garden overlooking the green to the south and east and modern agricultural fields to the north. Views of the study site to the south west are blocked by tall trees and other houses that front the green.

Eastcote Cottage (II) is loceted within the Eastcote Farm complex which forms its setting. The study site lies beyond its setting and will have no effect on the cottage's significance.

5.0 SITE CONDITIONS AND THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Site Conditions

- 5.1.1 The site is currently agricultural, pasture and areas of woodland located on the northeast outskirts of Haverhill (Plates 1, 2 and 3). The area is crossed by numerous paths, trackways and drains.
- 5.1.2 The site lies within an agricultural landscape, mainly under arable cultivation, therefore any archaeological features within the site will have suffered extensive plough damage resulting in truncation and localised destruction of evidence.

5.2 **Development Proposals and Potential Archaeological Impact**

- 5.2.1 The proposed development comprises residential scheme of up to 2400 new homes, with two primary schools, employment, access roads, landscaping and open space (Fig. 13).
- 5.2.2 The assessment has established that the site is considered to have moderate potential for Iron Age remains and localised areas (i.e. adjacent to the moated sites) of high potential for medieval/post-medieval remains. The site is considered to have low potential for remains of all other periods but the presence of Bronze Age and Roman remains cannot be ruled out.
- 5.2.3 If such remains are present, they may be impacted by earthmoving operations such as topsoil stripping, cutting foundations, and the construction of infrastructure. However, on the present evidence, it is considered unlikely that such remains, if present would be of more than local or possibly regional significance. Therefore, archaeology will not be a constraint on development. If the presence of such remains were to be established, it may be possible to accommodate preservation in-situ, depending on their importance and extent, by the use of open space allocation within the scheme. This would depend on the needs of the proposed scheme and the importance of any archaeological remains demonstrated to survive.
- 5.2.4 It is anticipated that further archaeological investigation will be required by Suffolk County Council prior to the determination of a future planning application. It is envisaged that these works would comprise a geophysical survey followed by trenching. Should these evaluation works have positive results, further archaeological investigation may be required as a condition of planning permission.

- 5.2.5 There will be no direct effects on any designated heritage assets. There will be an indirect effect on the setting of the scheduled moated site at Great Wilsey Farm as a consequence of development. The development comprises blocks of housing proposed to the south, to the east and to the west of the moated site. The proposed development has been designed so as to enable the moated site to retain its current 'rural' feel. The area to the west of the moated site will be low density housing and will be screened by a tree belt. The area of housing on the eastern side of the moated site is separated from the monument by Great Wilsey Farm which effectively screens the site from the moated site. This screening effect will be strengthened by a belt of proposed tree planting. Woodland belts will be no less than 40m in width in the vicinity of the moat and will be designed to contain a high percentage of evergreen species for all year round screening. The area immediately to the south of the moated site is to remain outside of the red line area of the site and therefore will not change, furthermore Great Wilsey farmhouse which lies in between the moated site and land to the south will be retained. Further to the south an extensive area of open space/country park is proposed in between the field to the south of the moated site and the development. The area to the north of the moated site will remained unchanged.
- 5.2.6 The changes within the setting of the moat will be within areas that have a neutral contribution to the moated site's significance. There will be no change to the area of the setting that makes a positive contribution to the monument's significance (as outlined in section 4.10.1). Therefore there will be a minor effect on the significance of the moated site. This equates to less than substantial harm as outlined in para 134 of the NPPF.
- 5.2.7 The proposed development will not affect the significance of the listed buildings located immediately to the east of the site as this will be retained as open space containing water attenuation pools and land for a potential expansion of the golf course. Therefore, there will be little or no change to the setting of the listed buildings.

6.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 In accordance with NPPF and local plan policies, a desk-based assessment has been undertaken to clarify the archaeological potential of land at Great Wilsey Farm, Haverhill.
- 6.2 The assessment has established that the site is considered to have moderate potential for Iron Age remains and localised areas (i.e. adjacent to the moated sites) of high potential for medieval remains. The site is considered to have low potential for remains of all other periods but the presence of Bronze Age and Roman remains cannot be ruled out.
- 6.3 Should archaeological remains be present, they may be impacted by earthmoving operations such as topsoil stripping, cutting foundations, and the construction of infrastructure. However, non-designated archaeological assets are not considered to be a constraint on development. It is anticipated that further archaeological investigation will be required by Suffolk County Council prior to the determination of a future planning application. It is envisaged that these works would comprise a geophysical survey followed by trenching. Should these evaluation works have positive results, further archaeological investigation may be required as a condition of planning permission.
- 6.4 There will be no direct effects on any designated heritage assets.
- 6.5 There will be an indirect effect on the setting of the scheduled moated site at Great Wilsey Farm. However, the proposed development has been designed so as to ensure that there will be no more than a minor effect on the significance of the moated and appreciation of that significance. The proposed development has been designed so as to enable the moated site to retain its current 'rural' feel. The area to the west of the moated site will be low density housing and will be screened by a tree belt. The area of housing on the eastern side of the moated site is separated from the monument by Great Wilsey Farm which effectively screens the site from the moated site. This screening effect will be strengthened by a belt of proposed tree planting. The proposed open space within the development to the south of the moated site will retain the current undeveloped link between the moated site and Haverhill. Therefore, as the built area of the development within the setting is in an area that has a neutral contribution to the significance of the monument and will be screened by existing buildings and proposed tree planting, there will be a minor effect on the significance of the moated site. This equates to less than substantial harm as outlined in para 134 of the NPPF.

6.6 The proposed development will not affect the significance of the listed buildings located immediately to the east of the site.

SOURCES CONSULTED

General

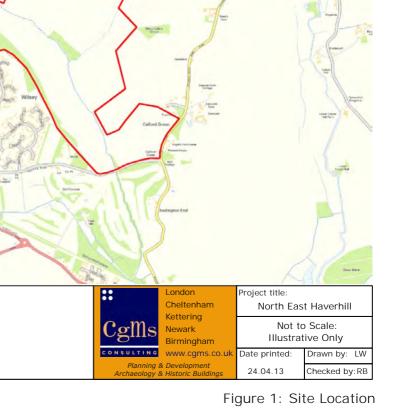
Suffolk Historic Environment Record Suffolk County Record Office British Library

Bibliographic

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Cartographic

- 1767 Map of Haverhill
- 1840 Kedington Tithe Map
- 1841 Haverhill Tithe Map
- 1853 Haverhill Inclosure Map
- 1891 Ordnance Survey
- 1905 Ordnance Survey
- 1928 Ordnance Survey
- 1949 Ordnance Survey
- 1960 Ordnance Survey
- 1967 Ordnance Survey
- 1972 Ordnance Survey
- 1981 Ordnance Survey
- 1991 Ordnance Survey



Hur

Stoke by Clare

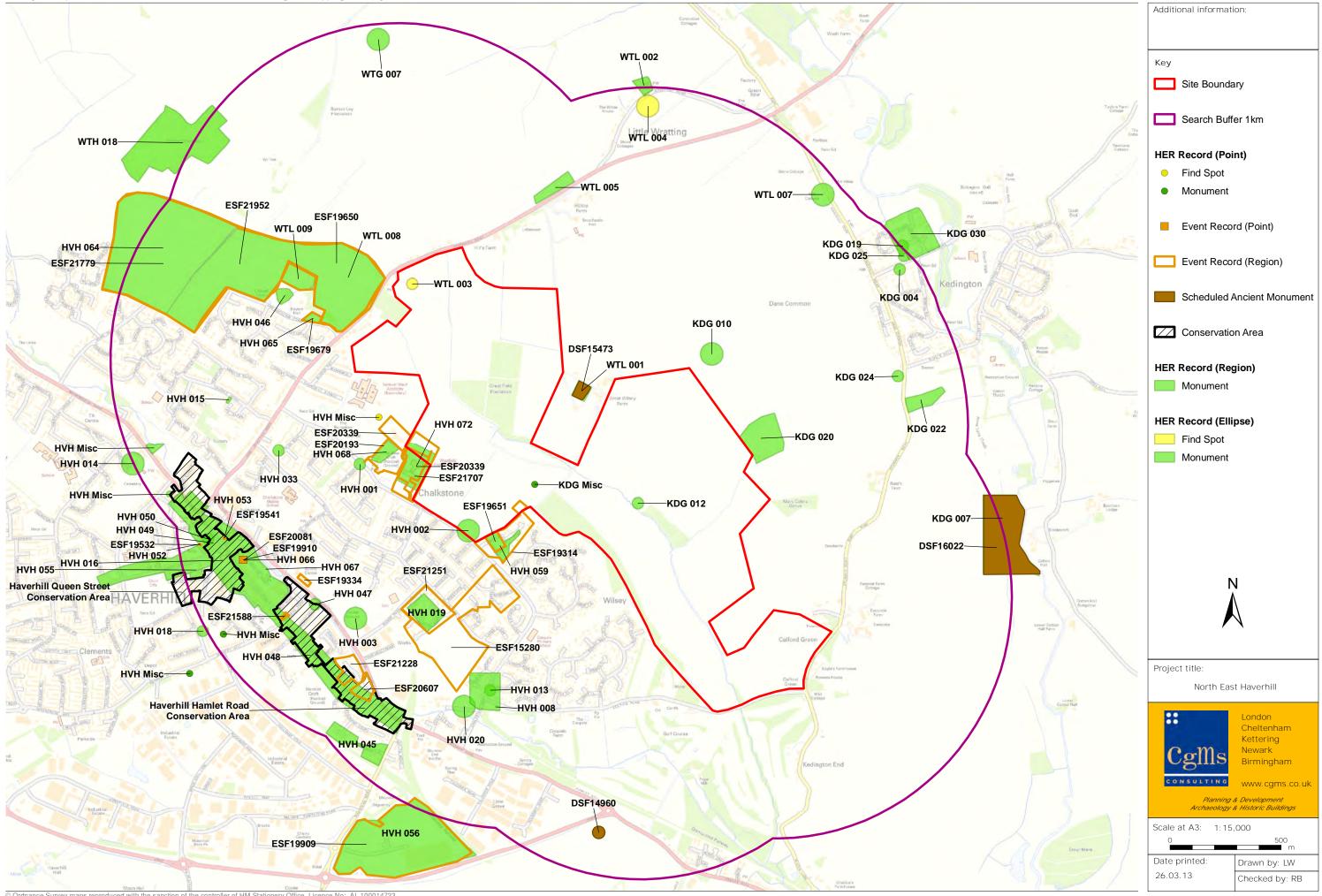
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Weston

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Figure 2: Suffolk SMR Plot



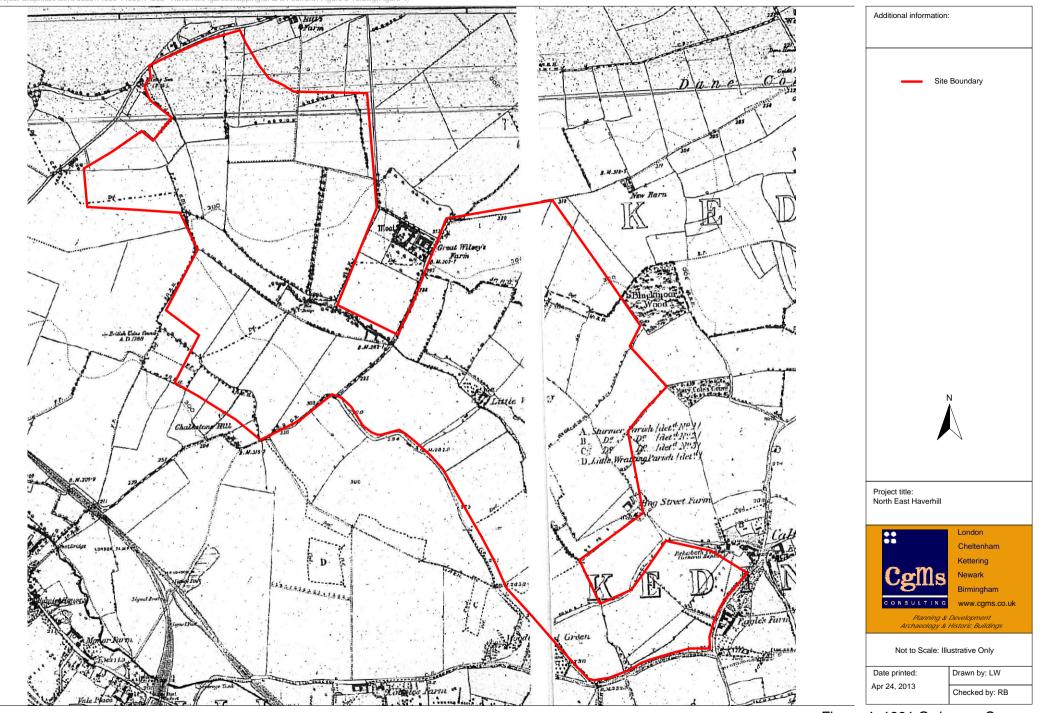


Figure 4: 1891 Ordnance Survey

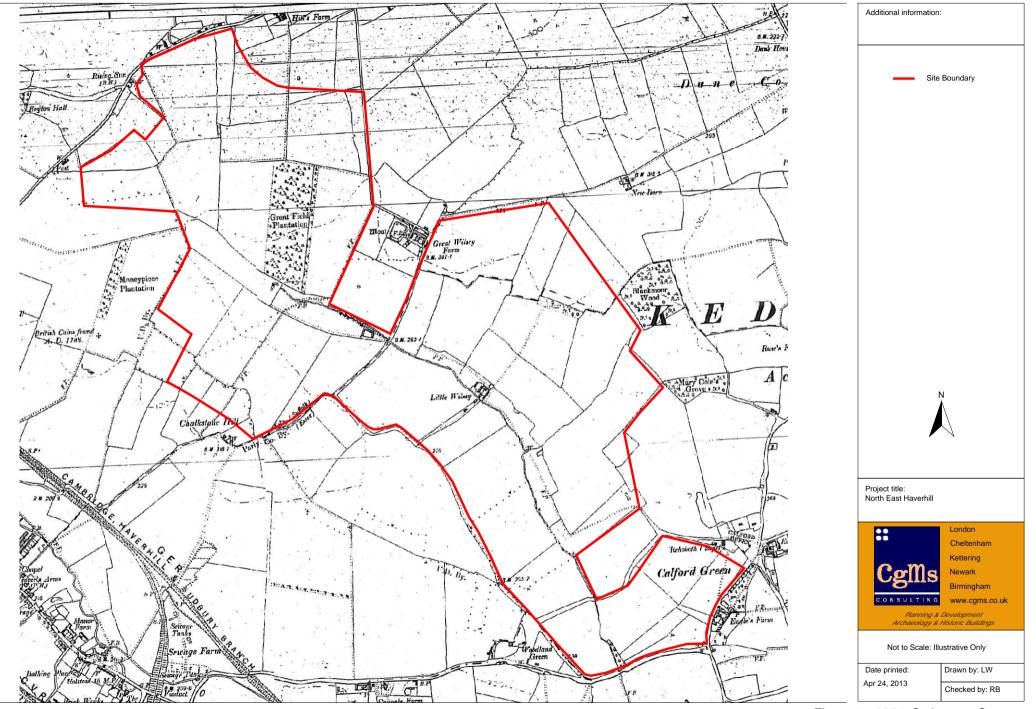


Figure 5: 1905 Ordnance Survey

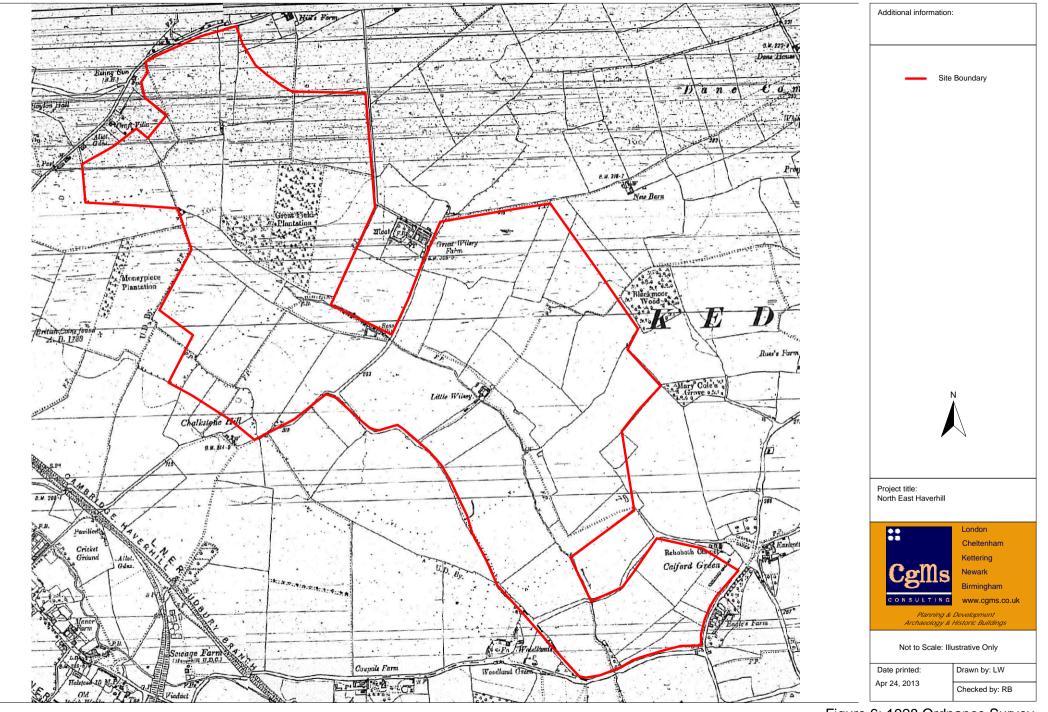


Figure 6: 1928 Ordnance Survey