Historic England

London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

Archaeological Priority Areas Appraisal

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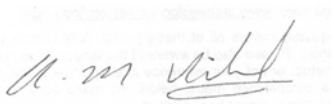
Approval: (Signature)	

This document has been produced by Isabelle Ryan, Adam Single, Sandy Kidd and Jane Sidell (all Historic England). We are grateful for the advice and support of Naomi Pomfret (London Borough of Barking and Dagenham).

Contents

Introduction

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

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

Explanation of Archaeological Priority Areas

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

therefore be seen as providing a flexible framework for informed site specific decision making but not a straitjacket.

Archaeological Priority Area Tiers

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This document comprises an appraisal of all the new APAs in Barking and Dagenham which have been allocated to one of Tiers 1-3. Each APA has an associated description which

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

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

Barking and Dagenham: Historical and Archaeological Interest

The London borough of Barking and Dagenham was created in 1965 and was previously part of Essex. The borough is located in east London and lies in the Greater Thames Estuary Natural Character Area (81) and the Inner London Natural Character Area (112). It is bounded by the Thames to the south, the River Roding to the west and the River Beam to the east. The borough runs as far north as the historical boundary of Hainault Forest. The borough is largely low lying and its geology consists of Hackney and Taplow gravels to the north, and alluvium with considerable peat deposits along the foreshore as far north as the A13.

Barking and Dagenham was a sparsely populated and agricultural borough for much of its history. The main settlements were Barking town and Dagenham village, with manorial estates spread across the borough from the medieval period onwards. It remained largely rural until the late 19th to early 20th centuries when industrialisation and urban development increased, mirrored by a growing population.

Prehistoric (500,000BC to 42 AD)

Approximately 450,000 years ago the great 'Anglian' Ice Age displaced the River Thames from its previous northerly route via Clacton towards its present course. After that, in warmer periods pre-modern humans (Neanderthals and their ancestors) migrated into southern England where they hunted and butchered animals such as antelope, bison, deer and even mammoths using wooden spears and stone tools. In all but the most exceptional situations it is only the almost indestructible flint tools and waste flakes that survive to be found within the gravel terraces laid down by the river. There are sufficient finds of hand-axes and flakes recorded from the local gravels (including a possibly undisturbed site at Rainham Road South) to indicate that further discoveries can be anticipated.

Modern humans eventually displaced their earlier cousins first reaching Britain about 40,000 years ago although only achieving permanent settlement after the end of the last Ice Age around 10,000 years ago. Rare evidence of this re-colonisation period has been found at the Beam-Wantz Confluence (APA 1.1)

Even after the end of the last Ice Age, sea levels were much lower than today. Britain was not an island, as much of the southern North Sea remained dry land. Barking would have lain on the edge of a great well-watered wooded lowland plain stretching as far as the Low Countries and Germany. This would have been a rich environment for Mesolithic people to hunter, fish and gather wild plants. Populations would have been low and small bands would have

moved around the landscape exploiting its diverse resources. Consequently, substantial structural remains such as houses are exceptionally rare and temporary camp sites are rarely well preserved. Traces of human habitation have however been recognised in Barking, most notably at the Beam-Wantz Confluence where undisturbed (in-situ) scatters of worked flints from hunting camps have been found. More speculatively, Mesolithic sites could lie deeply buried beneath the former Barking and Dagenham Marshes on what would then have been dry land.

Long before the introduction of agriculture around 4,000 BC sea levels had risen to somewhere not far short of modern levels. Thus during the later prehistoric period and up until the mid-19th century, the southern part of the borough was coastal marshland. The A13 runs approximately along the geological change between alluvium and gravel deposits that mark this transition. The marshland landscape would have would have been covered by water channels which would have flooded regularly. Areas of higher ground would have existed within the marsh, forming eyots between the braided channels of the Thames. Small settlements may have developed on some of these dry areas or alongside the edge of the marsh as people exploited the topographical advantages of the area. Significant peat deposits have developed in this marshland area, which have preserved wooden structures and palaeoenvironmental evidence of human activity dating to the prehistoric period.

Further prehistoric remains have been found along both the Beam River and the Roding River. Evidence of repeated human activity dating to the Bronze Age and Iron Age has been found in the form of platforms and trackways at Barking. A large hill fort, was constructed across the borough boundary at Uphall in Redbridge, suggesting the presence of an important focus of human activity in the area at that time.

Remains dated to the prehistoric period have also been found away from the riverine areas. Evidence indicative of continuous human use and settlement dating from the Neolithic onwards, with a concentration of remains dating to the Bronze and Iron Ages, has been uncovered on the gravel high ground at Marks Warren. Other such remains have doubtless been lost to modern development in the early and mid 20th century when such sites were rarely recognised.

Key archaeological interests would be to better understand the use of the riverine and marshland areas in the prehistoric era, and their interaction with the dry land. Although Uphall Camp lies just outside the borough any evidence relating to this important local centre would be of interest. The palaeoenvironmental potential of these areas is of particular value as it could increase our understanding considerably of the landscape in the prehistoric period and its development over time.

Roman (43 AD to 409 AD)

Barking and Dagenham lies approximately 15km east of the Roman city of *Londinium.* The London to Colchester Roman road passes through the north of the borough just south of Chadwell Heath, which may have pre-Roman origins. Evidence of Roman activity has been found across the borough in Barking, Marks Warren, along the Ripple Road and just south of Dagenham. Evidence in most of the borough tends to be of rural settlement and cremation burials, with settlements at Marks Warren, and to the south of Dagenham. Residual evidence of Roman activity has been found in Barking suggesting some human presence prior to the founding of Barking Abbey. Due to Barking's proximity to Uphall Camp, it is also possible that there might have been an important Roman site in the vicinity, as continued use or reuse of earlier settlement areas during this period has been noted in Greater London.

Key archaeological interests would be to understand the effect of *Londinium* on the area. For example, how the land was used and managed and did the main London to Colchester Roman Road passing through the area have an effect on the development of the area. Further interests could include whether there was an emphasis on specialised production for *Londinium* and if the people settled there were mainly native Britons or a more diverse group influence by the nearby city. Any remains discovered in Barking from this period would also be of considerable interest, as there is a comparative paucity of remains in Barking in comparison to the late Iron Age and Saxon periods. These could be used to understand the development of the area during this period and whether it was an important hub as in previous and subsequent eras.

Anglo-Saxon (410 AD to 1065AD)

The most significant concentration of Anglo-Saxon remains has been found at Barking, although earlier features have been encountered at Marks Warren which included a sunken featured building and a series of urned cremations dating to the 5th century. Traces of Saxon origins are also evident at Dagenham, as although no archaeological remains from this period have been found within the village, the village is first noted in documentary sources in a charter from 687 AD. Additionally, Dagenham derives its name from the *Deccanhamm* meaning 'Daecca's home'.

Barking Abbey was founded in c.666AD and the town was later built next to it. The abbey was the first female monastic centre in England and one of the richest establishments in the country. It was established as a Benedictine monastery and remained active for nearly 900

years. The abbey was initially a double house of monks and nuns. It was sacked by the Danes in 870 when the buildings were destroyed. The abbey was re-founded as a nunnery in 965AD and existed until the Dissolution in 1539. Considerable remains dating to the Saxon period of the abbey have been found along Abbey Road between the scheduled monument and the river. A Saxon settlement was built around the abbey and is one of the earliest Saxon settlements in Essex. The abbey would have had a significant economic and spiritual effect on Barking and the surrounding area, and its wealth would have supported the settlement.

Areas of archaeological interest could include the transition between the Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods and the effect on the local area of early Germanic migration. It could also include the development of Saxon settlements in the area, particularly in relation to the influence of Barking Abbey on its rural hinterland. Considerable remains associated with the abbey have been found which could shed light on the operation of early monasteries, and their engagement with industry, commerce and international relations. Evidence of the Danish invasion and its impact on Barking would also be of interest, as it is unclear as to the effect of this on the area both in the short and long term.

Medieval (1066 AD to1539 AD)

Barking is the only local settlement mentioned in the Domesday Book, although evidence of settlement has been found at Dagenham and at Marks Gate. Barking became an important market town during the medieval period and was a comparatively very large and wealthy settlement at the time of the Domesday survey. Fishing was one of the predominant economic activities within Barking, with the rest of the borough being largely agricultural. The borough was divided up into 13 manors, with many being tenement manors of Barking Abbey. Many of the manorial estates were established by at least the 12th century. Although it is not clear where all the manor houses associated with these estates were located, the majority have a well-documented history. Most of these were at least initially moated sites, and existed in some form until their eventual destruction in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Barking Abbey was mainly reconstructed in the 12th century and 13th centuries, and the majority of the abbey's remains date from this phase. Medieval remains of the abbey and the surrounding town have been found during excavations carried out from the 18th century onwards.

Areas of archaeological research and interest relating to the medieval period are likely to focus on understanding how the largely dispersed settlement pattern seen on early maps developed and how the presence of the manorial estates and Barking Abbey influenced the

local area. Barking itself was an important ecclesiastical manor and a significant market town close to London. Its fishing industry is a distinctive interest requiring consideration in archaeological sampling and scientific research strategies. Archaeological and historical research may enable us to gain a better understanding of how the town and its surrounding countryside developed and were affected by these influences.

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

As a consequence of the Dissolution of the Monasteries , the lands belonging to Barking Abbey were sold to aristocratic families, in particular the Fanshawe family. The Chapman and Andre map of Essex dating from 1777 shows the area as still largely rural with numerous country houses and farms, with Dagenham as the only village and Barking as the market town for the area. After the Dissolution, most of the Abbey was destroyed and the building materials removed and reused elsewhere, of which the only standing remains are the Fire Bell Gate or Curfew Tower. The borough remained largely rural until the mid to late 19th century with Barking town's economy still reliant on fishing, until the trade's collapse in the 1860s and the surrounding area being given over to farming.

The population of the area remained low and steady until the19th century, when it started to rise. This was in part thanks to a boom in the fishing trade, as Barking caught much of the fish that was supplied to London. The advent of the railway partially caused the collapse of this trade, as railway lines to ports nearer the fishing grounds on the east coast obviated the need for fish to be brought by boat as close as possible to London, thus removing the possibility of delays due to poor weather in the Thames. The first railway line which connected Barking to London was constructed in 1854 as part of the London, Tilbury and Southend railway. A second line was built connecting Dagenham to London in 1885.

The fishing industry was rapidly replaced by factories and malthouses, repurposing the wharves along Barking Creek and building new factories at Creekmouth and Dagenham Dock. These factories largely produced chemicals and fertilisers, and by 1906 there were at least 20 factories in Barking, of which about half were making chemicals. Industrialisation of the area continued well into the 20th century. Much of the marshland bordering the Thames was reclaimed and factories were built on it. The most notable of these was the Ford Factory which opened in 1928 on the marshland to the south of Dagenham and became the largest local employer. The industrialisation of the borough and slum clearance in the East End of London caused large scale urban development in the early 20th century to house the large increase in population. The Becontree Estate, the largest interwar estate ever built was constructed in the 1920s and 1930s in the borough. Many of those living in the Becontree

Estate were employed by the Ford Factory. Much of the urban development caused the destruction of many of the rural medieval and post-medieval farmsteads and manor houses still extant as the land was sold off and subsumed by development.

Key areas of archaeological interest relating to this period would be the development of the fishing industry during its boom years in the early to mid-19th century and the related industrial development of Barking Creek and the reuse of the wharves in the late 19th century. This could be linked with historical research to better understand the development of the area.

Archaeological Priority Areas in Barking and Dagenham

A total of 20 Archaeological Priority Areas are recommended for Barking and Dagenham of which three are Tier 1 APAs, fourteen are Tier 2 APAs and three are Tier 3 APAs. The revised APAs would cover approximately 48% of the borough, increasing from 45% previously. A number of former Archaeological Priority Areas are not included in the new list of APAs. This is because following appraisal it was decided that they did not fulfil the selection criteria and have therefore been omitted from the revised list.

Tier 1 APAs	Size (HA)
1.1 Beam Wantz Confluence	8.7
1.2 Marks Warren	4.65
1.3 Barking Abbey	13.11
	Total = 26.46

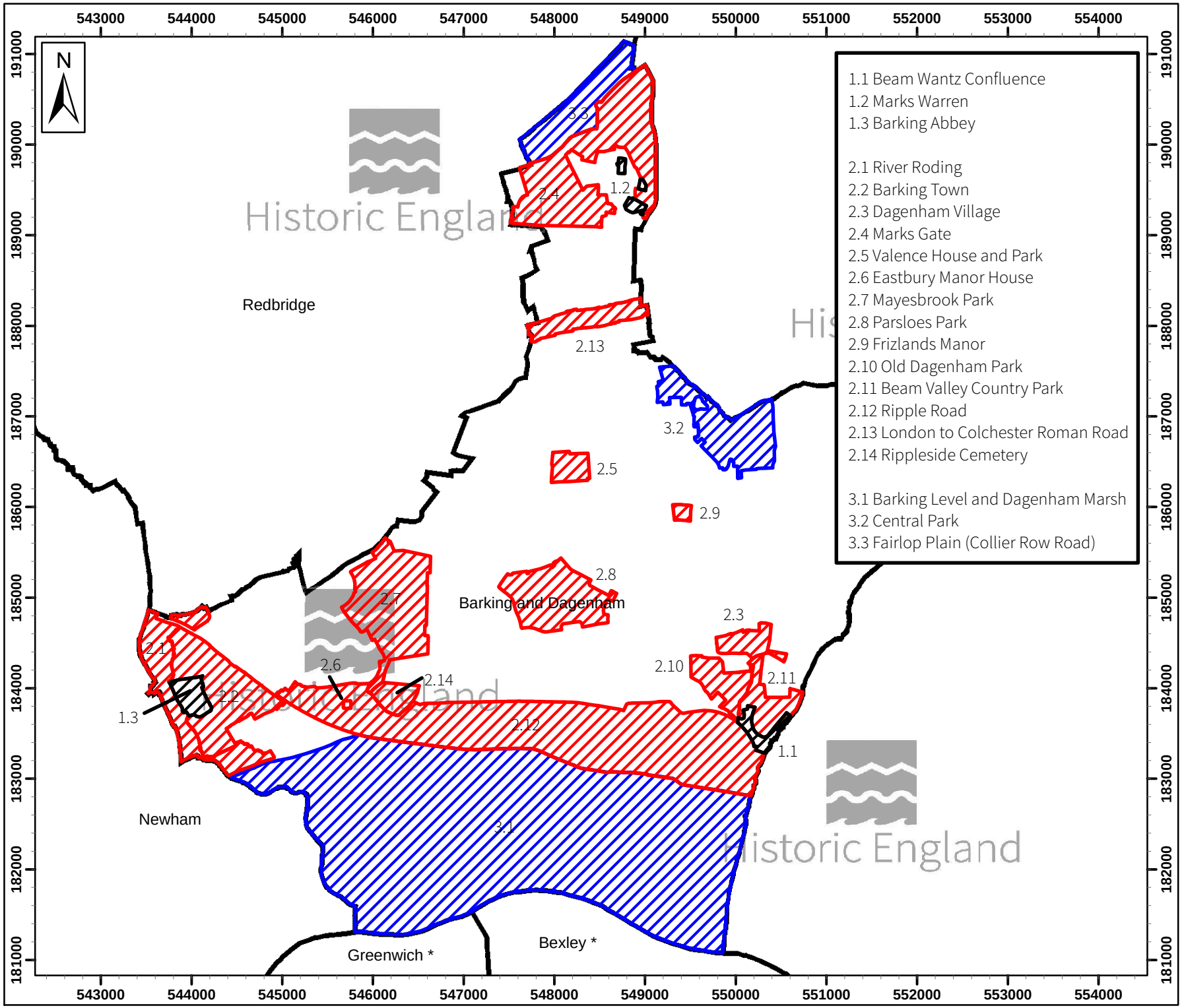
Tier 2 APAs	
2.1 River Roding	52.77
2.2 Barking Town	80.9
2.3 Dagenham Village	15.91
2.4 Marks Gate	128.85
2.5 Valence House and Park	12.73
2.6 Eastbury Manor House	0.67
2.7 Mayesbrook Park	90.78
2.8 Parsloes Park	62.87
2.9 Frizlands Manor	3.23
2.10 Old Dagenham Park	24.2
2.11 Beam Valley Country Park	24.67
2.12 Ripple Road	305.61
2.13 London to Colchester Roman Road	25.93
2.14 Rippleside Cemetery	12.84
	Total = 841.96

Tier 3 APAs	
3.1 Barking Level and Dagenham Marsh	839.08
3.2 Central Park	66.4

3.3 Fairlop Plain (Collier Row Road)	52.95

Total = 958.43

Total area of all Archaeological Priority Areas in Barking and Dagenham = 1826.85



Barking and Dagenham Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:55,000

Notes:
Any Listed Building information shown on this map extract is provided solely to indicate the location of the listed building(s) and does not attempt to indicate the curtilage or the full extent of the listing(s). Any archaeological priority area(s) shown on this map extract are those used by the Historic England archaeological advisors and there may be minor differences when compared to the relevant borough UDP or LDF.

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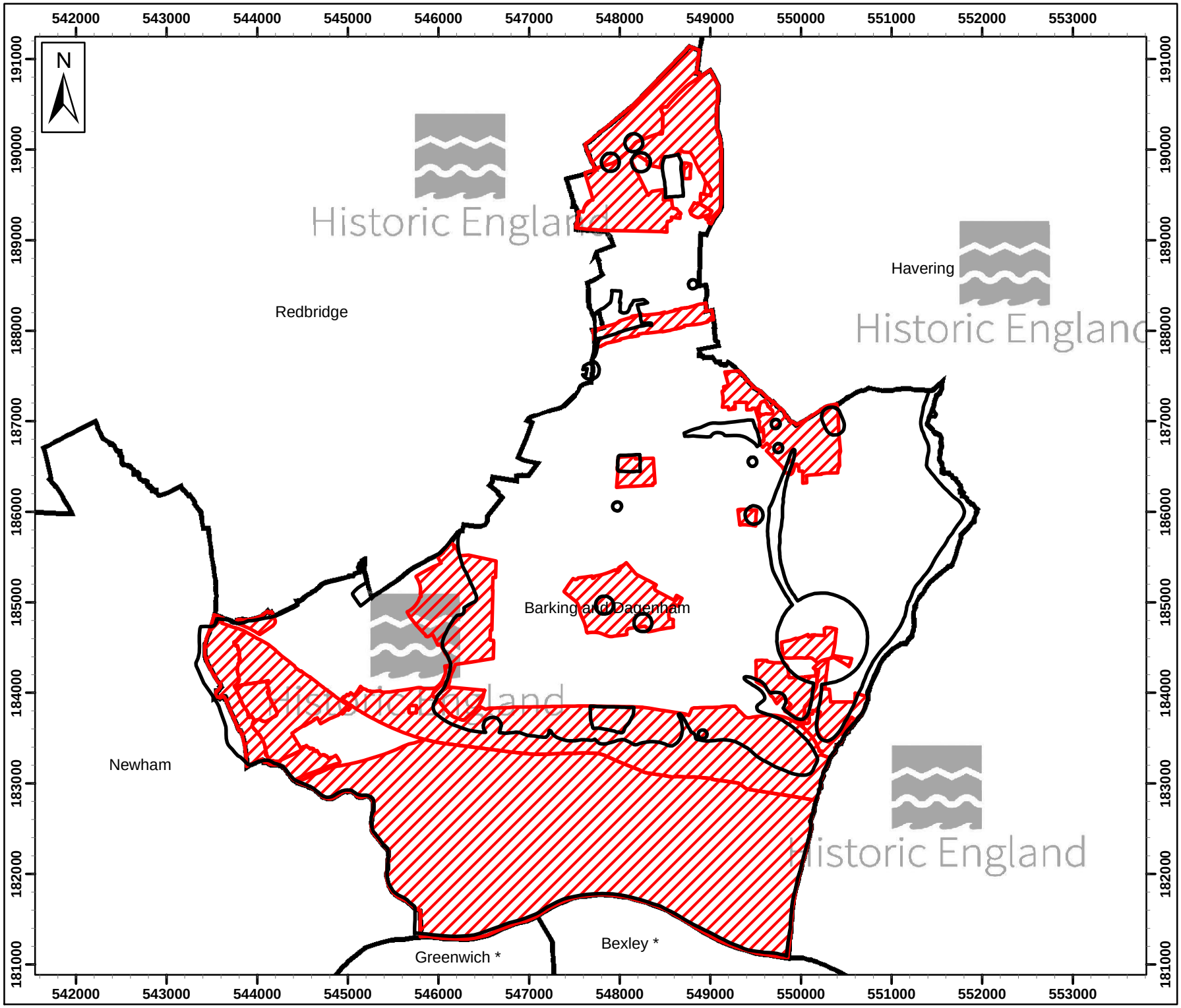

Former and Current Barking and Dagenham APAs

Barking and Dagenham APA

Former Barking and Dagenham APA

Scale (at A4): 1:55,000

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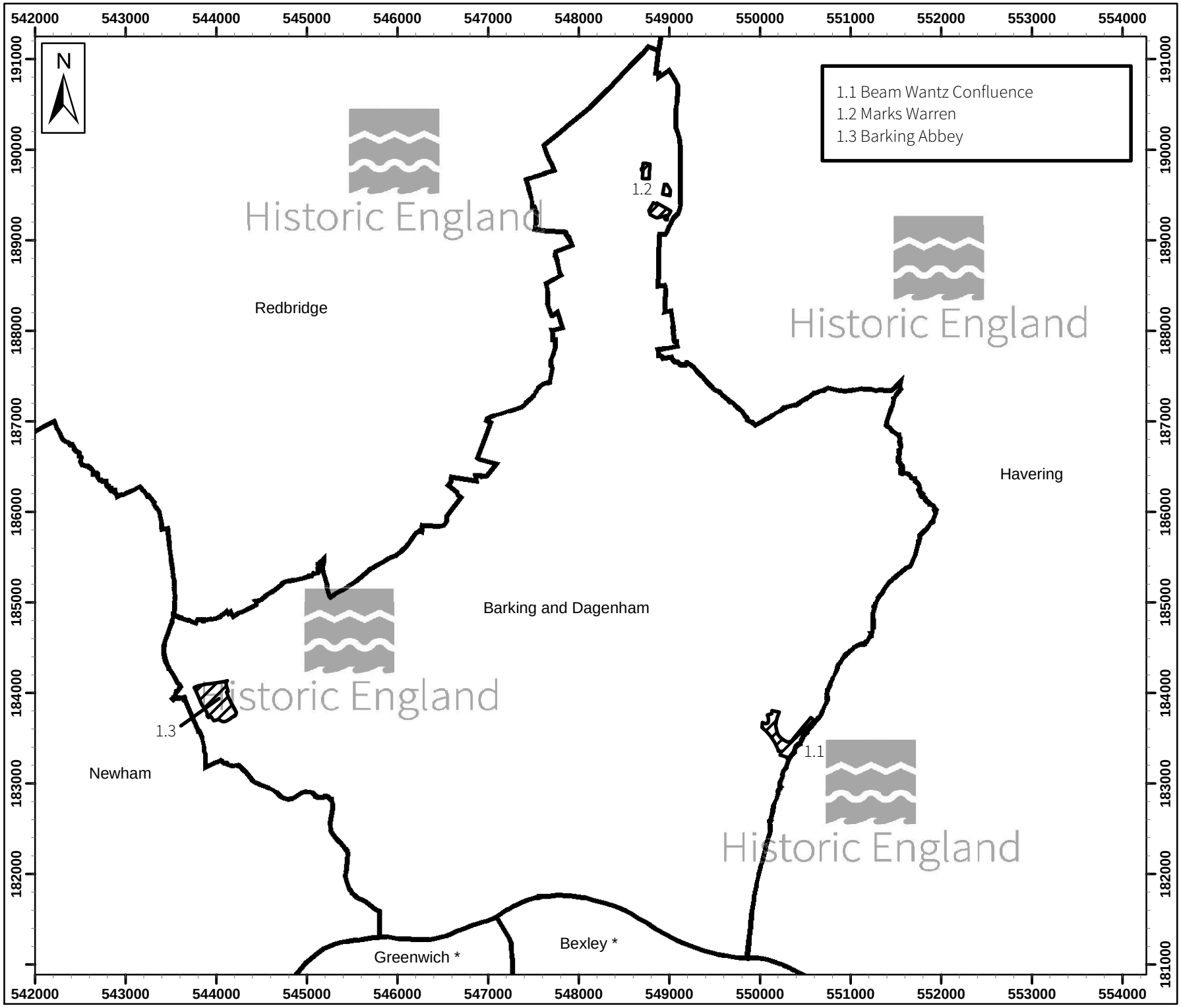

Barking and Dagenham Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:55,000

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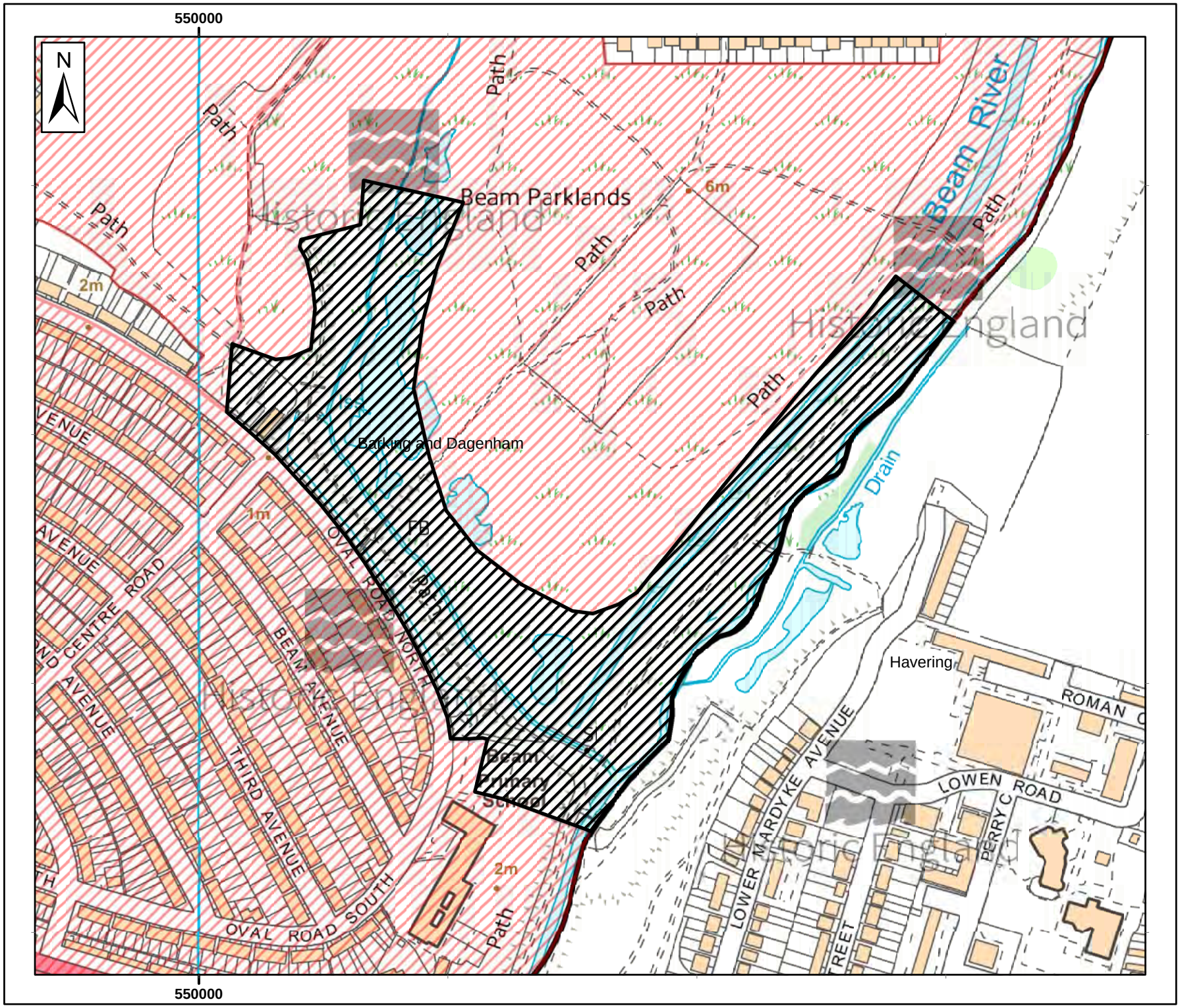
Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Areas



Barking and Dagenham
APA 1.1
Beam Wantz Confluence

Beam Wantz Confluence APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 1.1: Beam Wantz Confluence

Summary and Definition

The Beam Wantz Confluence has been designated as a Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area as it is an area which has revealed widespread prehistoric in situ flint scatters dating from the Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods which can be judged of national importance. The APA covers the alluvium and head deposits of the Wantz Stream and River Beam around the promontory of gravel which forms the Beam Valley Country Park where further discoveries can be anticipated.

Description

The earliest evidence of human activity in Beam Valley Country park was uncovered in 2010 during excavations on the floodplains of the Wantz Stream and River Beam, where five flint scatters containing material dating from the Terminal Upper Palaeolithic, early Mesolithic and late Mesolithic were uncovered on the edge of the gravel promontory between the stream and the river. One of these, dating to the late Mesolithic, was situated across the borough boundary in Havering on the edge of the River Beam. Four burnt flint spreads were also encountered, dating from the Mesolithic and possibly the Bronze Age. The Upper Palaeolithic lithics comprised largely of long blades and burins, which may indicate a kill site. The early and late Mesolithic scatters suggest continued hunter-gatherer activity at the meeting of the two rivers, which may have consisted of short-stay camps of small groups of people. The remains of later burnt flint suggest that certain areas continued to be used throughout the later periods.

Further evidence of human activity was found in the form of a leaf-shaped arrowhead, dated to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age, which was found in a peat layer during borehole sampling of the Wantz Stream embankment.

Large amounts of palaeoenvironmental data were also recovered from the floodplain during the excavations. The data covered the Late Glacial and early Holocene, which was a period of great ecological and climatic change, through to the development of tidal mudflats in the Late Iron Age. Information on the type of vegetation which was growing on and around the site during the Upper Palaeolithic was recovered. This indicated that the site would have been mainly damp grassland with pine and dwarf birch growing on higher ground and willow in wetter areas.

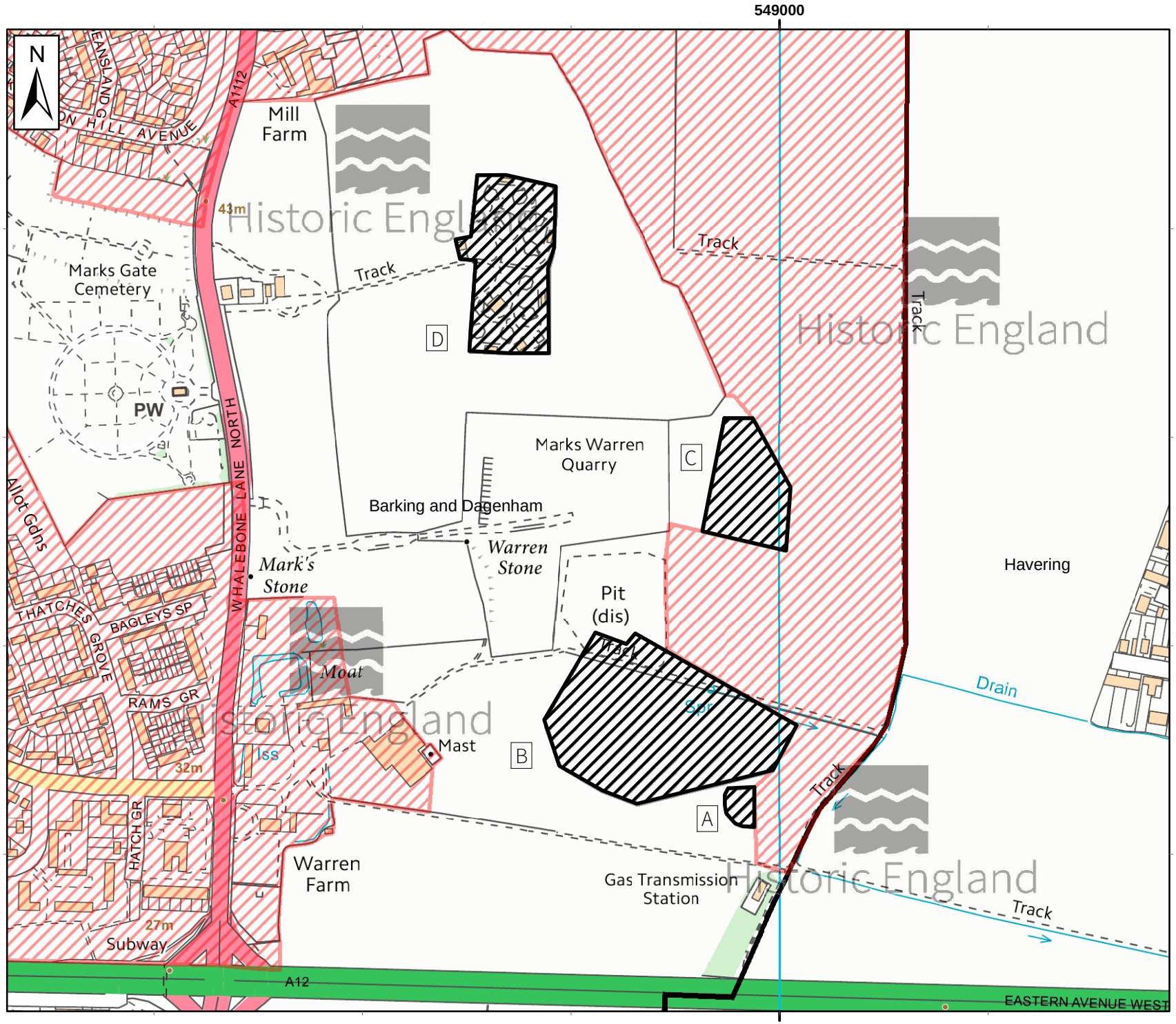
Significance

The Beam Wantz Confluence has considerable archaeological significance, as the flint scatters are evidence of Terminal Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic activity in the area. Across England Upper Palaeolithic open air sites are exceptionally rare and important in terms of what they can tell us about the environmental tolerances and adaptation of modern humans to a harsh and rapidly changing climate. The floodplain has also significant palaeoenvironmental potential, as considerable amounts of information have been gathered, and it is possible that more data is available.

The potential for further such evidence, both archaeological and palaeoenvironmental, in the area is significant and it would increase our understanding of the nature of human activity in the area and the development of the landscape. It would also add to our knowledge on the importance of tributary valleys in this period, as can be seen in other valleys nearby, such as the Lower Lea Valley.

Key References

Life at the floodplain edge: Terminal Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic flint scatters along the Beam River Valley, Dagenham, C. Champness, M. Donnelly, B. Ford, A. Haggart.



Barking and Dagenham
APA 1.2
Marks Warren

Marks Warren APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:5,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 1.2: Marks Warren

Summary and Definition

Areas at Marks Warren have been listed as a Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area due to the excavations that have occurred there and the importance of the archaeological remains that were uncovered. A multi-period site dating from the Mesolithic through to the modern period was uncovered, and has been described as 'one of the major surviving archaeological sites in north-east London'. The area also includes a Second World War gun emplacement, which is listed. The discoveries were made ahead of gravel extraction, but the areas which were particularly archaeologically significant were left undisturbed and it is these which are considered of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments and delineated as tier 1 Archaeological Priority Areas. However, the description will also discuss some of the archaeological remains recorded ahead of mineral extraction to contextualise the delineated areas and their significance.

Description

Marks Warren was first highlighted as being of archaeological interest in 1976 when aerial photographs taken during the summer drought showed that the landscape featured extensive crop marks. A series of trenches were excavated in 1998, revealing a Bronze Age or Early Iron Age landscape, including a hill fort or enclosure, as well as an Early Roman multi-ditched enclosure and associated buildings. Archaeological investigations were later carried out between 1998 and 2010 prior to gravel extraction.

The earliest evidence of human activity in the area was dated to the Mesolithic era. Flint implements and waste flakes were found close to a palaeochannel in the north of the excavated area. By the Neolithic era it has been surmised that the area was wooded and some form of clearance was being undertaken, as indicated by the number of tree throws encountered to the north and west of the site. At this point in time, it was suggested that the hill was a post-glacial wood with natural streams, which are now visible as palaeochannels.

Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age remains included ditches and pits in the north of the site, which suggested the beginnings of agrarian land management. Some of the pits seemed to be for domestic purposes, suggesting cooking and other domestic activities were taking place, perhaps in a more enclosed landscape. In the south east of the site, part of a burial mound was identified. Due to its importance, it was left unexcavated, and is covered by the smallest south-eastern APA (Area A on the map). Evidence of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age occupation included a complete ditched enclosure, which is comparatively rare in

London and Essex, and is part of the large APA to the south (Area B on the map). This may have been an early hill fort and would have been situated on a naturally defensible position on a small hill, overlooking both the Rom and Thames River valleys. The enclosure has two opposing entrances and measures approximately 100m in diameter. The enclosure was preserved in-situ and not excavated.

A second multi-ditched enclosure dating to the Late Iron Age or Early Roman period has been preserved in-situ and is covered by the APA to the north-east (Area C). It was recorded in the east of the site, with a road running from it south to the main Roman road. Further traces of Roman buildings with flint foundations were uncovered, and at least one cremation from this period was found close to the Early Bronze Age burial mound. It has been theorised that the multi-ditched enclosure is a shrine or religious centre due to its similarity with previously identified sites in Orsett, Essex and Fison Way, Norfolk.

A series of Anglo- Saxon features were encountered at Marks Warren including a sunken feature building and a series of four urned cremations, which were significant in terms of their local rarity. The burials returned a radiocarbon date of the 5th century, and so far only one possible contemporary site has been identified in the area, approximately 7 kilometres away in Hornchurch.

At least 13 windmill mounds have been recorded in the vicinity, and two mills were identified on site. These date to the medieval and post medieval periods, and would have been associated with Marks Manor. Windmills were permitted at Marks Manor as it was outside the Manor of Barking and therefore free from Barking Abbey's restrictions. A windmill called 'Newemylle' is recorded in 1396 and is indicated on a map dating to 1618. This depicts it as located on the eastern edge of the Bronze Age hill fort, and is part of the APA. It is believed that it was demolished in approximately 1760. Due to its close proximity to the hill fort it was protected.

The gun emplacement is known as the Chadwell Heath Anti-Aircraft gun battery or 'ZE1', and forms the rectangular APA to the north (Area D). The site was chosen for its strategic location, as it had a good view along the Thames Valley, which was the approach route for enemy aircraft carrying out bombing raids on London. The complex consisted of eight guns pits in two groups of four, a battery HQ, command post, Nissen huts, ammunition stores and workshops. By July 1942 it was a master gun site and had its own radar to the south of the gun emplacements, as well as fire control responsibilities over adjacent sites. At its peak it was manned by over 280 personnel and was part of some of the most intense defence actions of Second World War in Britain, including the Battle of Britain and the Blitz.

Significance

The areas which have been delineated as Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Areas are significant due to their archaeological rarity in Greater London and the diversity and state of preservation of the archaeology found in the area. Their archaeological significance is corroborated as Historic England has recommended them for scheduling. These were protected from gravel extraction and currently lie unexcavated.

The Early Bronze Age burial mound or barrow is of significance as although 1055 round barrow have been recorded by the National Mapping Programme in the Essex area, only twenty-four of these still have standing archaeology. Secondly, in the Greater London area there are only four scheduled prehistoric barrows.

The Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age enclosure or hill fort is considered of national importance as it is a rare example of potential continuity between the two periods, similar examples have been found at Taplow Court and Ivinghoe Beacon in Buckinghamshire and are considered to be of national importance.

The Late Iron Age to Early Roman ditched enclosure is similar to other enclosures of this date in Essex, but is more symmetrical than these. It is most comparable to those in Orsett, Essex and Fison Way, Norfolk. These enclosures were located in high areas with good views and seem to have developed out of Late Iron Age enclosures. Its size and similarity to other complexes suggests a religious centre and therefore its relative rarity makes it of national importance.

Whilst the medieval mill identified, dating from at least 1396, is not in itself of such great archaeological significance comparatively to the remains of other periods in the area, it is of historic interest due to its relationship with the manor of Marks. The importance and prominence of mills in medieval society is indicated by their frequent appearance in the Domesday Book. The large number of mills in the area indicates that the production of flour was a key economic factor in the area at the time. Mills tended to be seen as a privilege and source of economic power, usually only afforded by manorial lords, and therefore can be seen as evidence of the wealth of the land and especially the manor in the medieval period.

The Second World War gun emplacement is of historical and archaeological significance due to its survival. Very few elements of London's defence network has survived since the Second World War, as much of it was built in parks and municipal areas, and were therefore dismantled after the war and the areas returned to their former use. It is on the Heritage at Risk register and has been much vandalised, but the gun emplacement is nevertheless an extremely intact example of London's defences which were used during some of the fiercest aerial attacks in World War Two.

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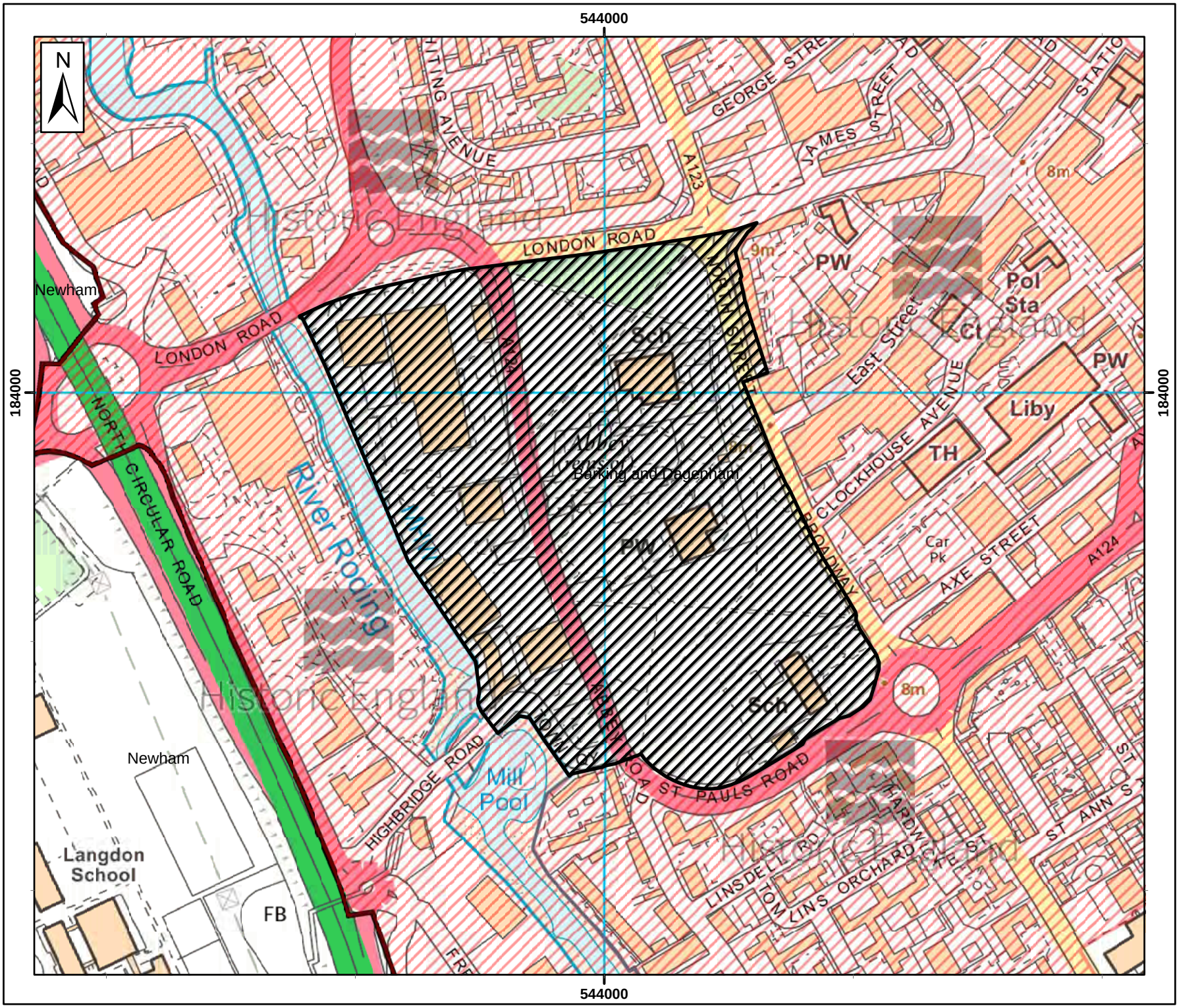

Barking and Dagenham
APA 1.3
Barking Abbey

Barking Abbey APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

Notes:
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Barking and Dagenham APA 1.3: Barking Abbey

Summary and Definition

The Barking Abbey Archaeological Priority Area covers the site of the abbey, its precinct and associated buildings. It was the first nunnery established in England and has royal associations. The abbey was in use from its foundation in c.666AD until its closure due to the Dissolution of the Monasteries. Barking Abbey is classified as a Tier 1 APA as it includes a scheduled monument, a grade I listed medieval church with known associated archaeological remains and the late medieval grade II* Bell Tower Gate. The scheduled area does not cover the full extent of the abbey, and the APA is more representative of the abbey's boundaries as understood at present.

Description

Although the majority of archaeological remains in this APA date from the Saxon period onwards, there is also some evidence of activity dating from the Bronze Age on Roman period. A Bronze Age pit with three sherds of Bronze Age pottery was found during an excavation at Abbey Road in 1998. Evidence of Roman activity includes large quantities of Roman tile, a stone column base and a fragment of a tombstone which were found in an excavation on Abbey Road in 1985 (pers. comm. Mark Watson). Several ditches and an enclosure, as well as a possible Roman timber pile driven into the side of the river have also been uncovered, all of which may suggest a Roman settlement nearby.

Barking Abbey was founded by Saint Erkenwald with his sister Saint Ethelburga in c.666AD as the first female monastic centre in England. It was established as a Benedictine monastery and remained active for nearly 900 years. The abbey was initially a double house of monks and nuns and was presided over by an abbess, the first of which was Saint Ethelburga. The abbey was sacked by the Danes in 870 and the buildings were destroyed. The abbey was then re-founded as a nunnery in 965AD. The present ruins date from the 12th century when the abbey was rebuilt with building work continuing into the mid-13th century.

By the time of the Dissolution, the abbey had become one of the most important nunneries in England, and the greatest of the Benedictine nunneries. The nunnery had close links to royalty and nobility. The abbey attracted novices from the ranks of the nobility, and William the Conqueror lived at Barking Abbey whilst the Tower of London was being constructed in 1066-1067. During this time he received submissions of many of Harold's men, including the Earl of Mercia (Edwin) and the Earl of Northumbria (Morcar).

St Margaret's Church was founded in 1215 within the abbey precinct, to the south of the abbey church (Saint Mary's). It may have been a small chapel attached to the abbey before it became the parish church in c.1300. The majority of the fabric dates to the 15th century, with the oldest dating to the 13th century. There are some elements in the north aisle and chapel which date to the 12th century, but it is likely that this is repair work undertaken after the Dissolution, using building material from the destroyed abbey buildings. The burial ground surrounding St Margaret's Church has multiperiod burials dating from at least its founding as the parish church and was in use until the early 20th century, after which it became a public park.

After the Dissolution the abbey buildings were destroyed, except for the lower part of the southern wall of Saint Mary's Abbey which formed part of the wall of the graveyard of Saint Margaret's parish church and the late 15th to early 16th century Fire Bell Gate. The building material was reused to construct new buildings, amongst which was the king's manor at Dartford.

Excavations of the abbey have occurred from the 18th century onwards. The abbey was rediscovered in 1724 by Smart Lethieullier who was Lord of the Manor of Barking and a Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries. These excavations established that the Saint Mary's Abbey lay to the north of Saint Margaret's church. Further excavations occurred in 1910, ahead of the construction of Abbey Road. Alfred Clapham excavated the area to the west of Saint Margaret's church and recorded Saint Mary's Abbey and several cloistral buildings, which dated to the medieval period of reconstruction.

Significant remains contemporaneous with the establishment of the abbey in the 8th century have been found to the west of Abbey Road in multiple excavations from 1985 through to 1998. Five large truncated timber piles dating to the Saxon period were found driven into the edge of the river adjacent to a shallow bank, which suggests that the area was used as a river landing stage. A series of posthole structures with some of the clay floors surviving were uncovered with coins (Sceatas) dating between 710-730AD found on the floors. Beneath the floors evidence of weaving in the form of spindle whorls and loom weights were also discovered. It is clear that the area was used to make expensive fabrics, as fragments of gold thread were discovered, which may have been used to embellish religious garments. Remains of a mill dating to the foundation years of the abbey in the 7th to 8th century were found on the western edge of site; the mill was situated within the headrace of a backfilled leat. The timbers of the leat were dated by dendrochronology to 705AD and the mill seems to have been in use for a considerable period of time, with some of the uprights showing repair dating to the late 8th century. Wells also dating to the early 8th and early 9th centuries were discovered.

A glass furnace with numerous sherds of high quality glass including examples of millefiori decorative glass was excavated to the south of the mill. The base of the furnace was

constructed out of broken Roman roof tiles and the furnace was dated to between 875 and 975AD. This date range is the only evidence so far of presumably monastic occupation dating to immediately after the sack by the Danes, with all other lack of evidence pointing towards an abandonment of the abbey before its restoration in the following centuries. A further possible well and a series of pits dated to the late Saxon period, which are believed to have been associated with the abbey, were uncovered in 2013 on the corner of the London Road and Broadway to the east of the APA. The unexcavated area between the abbey and the excavation is covered within this APA.

An excavation in 1998 to the west of Abbey Road, south-east of the scheduled monument, uncovered evidence of activity contiguous with the abbey, which comprised mainly of ditches and pottery from the 10th through to 16th century. Remains dating to the 10th to 12th centuries consisted of a boundary ditch and a number of pits. It is possible the ditches represent the redefinition of the abbey precinct during it re-founding in the 10th century. It has been suggested that the area was used for industry, as pieces of crucibles and lead waste within the pit fills were found.

Remains relating to the medieval abbey have also been found further north along Abbey Road during excavations from 1985 through to 1998. Several walls, a garderobe, the main drain, the boundary of the inner precinct, rubbish pits and postholes have been uncovered. Further remains of the abbey to the south of Saint Margaret's Church were uncovered in 2000. Walls associated with cloisters were identified, as well as pits and ditches. Medieval remains were also discovered to the east of the APA on the corner of the London Road and Broadway in 2013. This included chalk wall foundations believed to be where the town met the eastern precinct wall of the abbey. The foundations uncovered were situated on the western most edge of the excavation, and the area which was not excavated is covered within this APA.

Significance

Barking Abbey was the first nunnery founded in England after St. Augustine's mission to convert the heathen English. It was the third wealthiest nunnery at the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries and the largest and most significant of six Benedictine nunneries within what is now Greater London. Part of the site is a scheduled monument, but due to reuse of building materials after the Dissolution and development on site, much of the abbey and its outbuildings were demolished. Excavations that have taken place indicate that substantial remains relating to the abbey and associated buildings survive, as well as evidence of the area's use prior to the abbey's foundation. Alongside the river the waterlogged conditions mean that timber, other organic materials and environmental remains can be well preserved. The diversity and rarity of the early medieval remains such as the glassworking and gold thread is particularly striking and bears comparison with other Anglo-Saxon monastic sites of international significance such as Monkwearmouth and Jarrow. Overall the site has high potential to increase our understanding of early medieval

and medieval monasticism and associated high status craft production and commercial activities.

The association with Barking town is also of interest and can continue into the future through the site's potential to contribute to a local sense of place, green space, community identity and pride.

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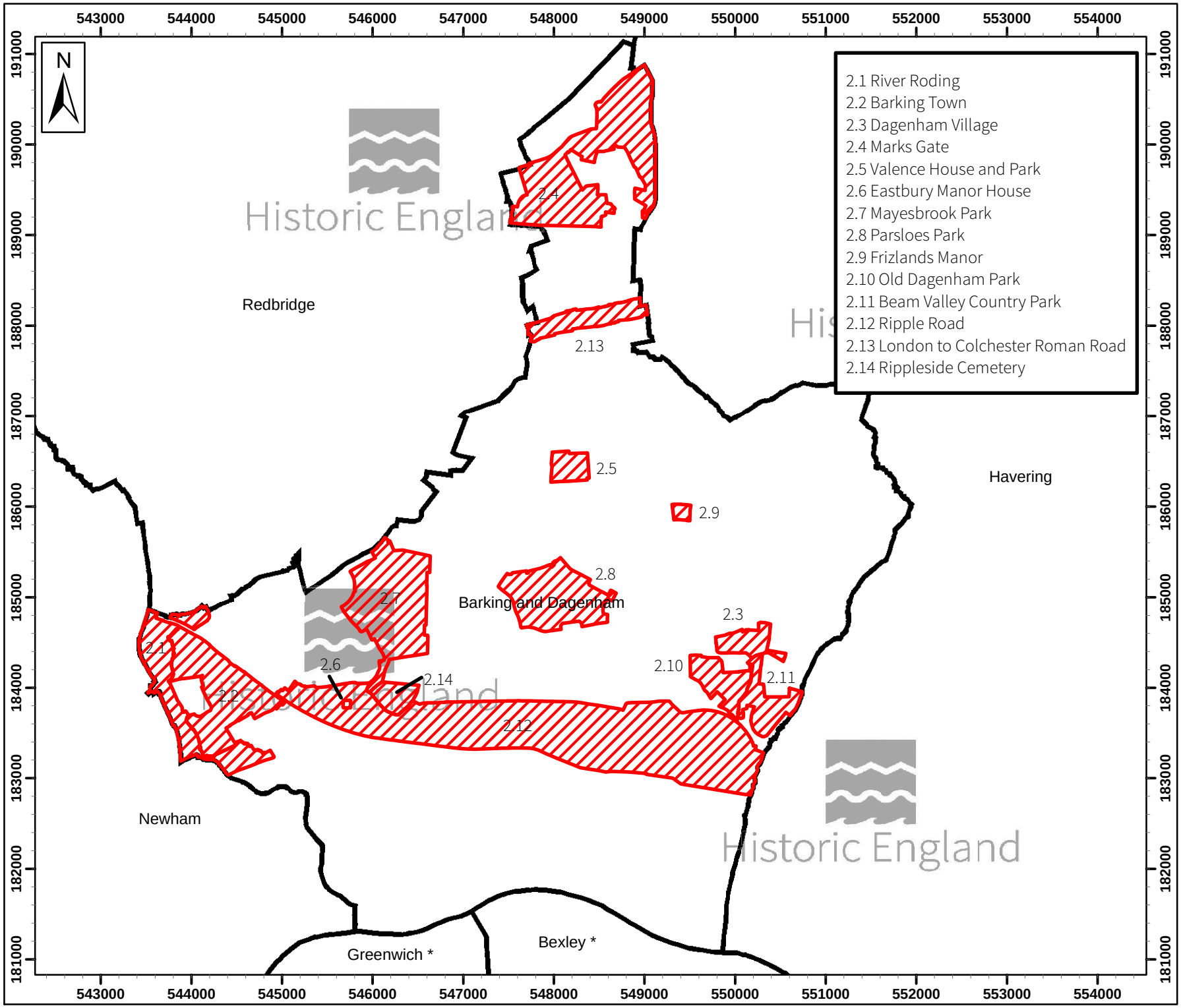

Barking and Dagenham Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:55,000

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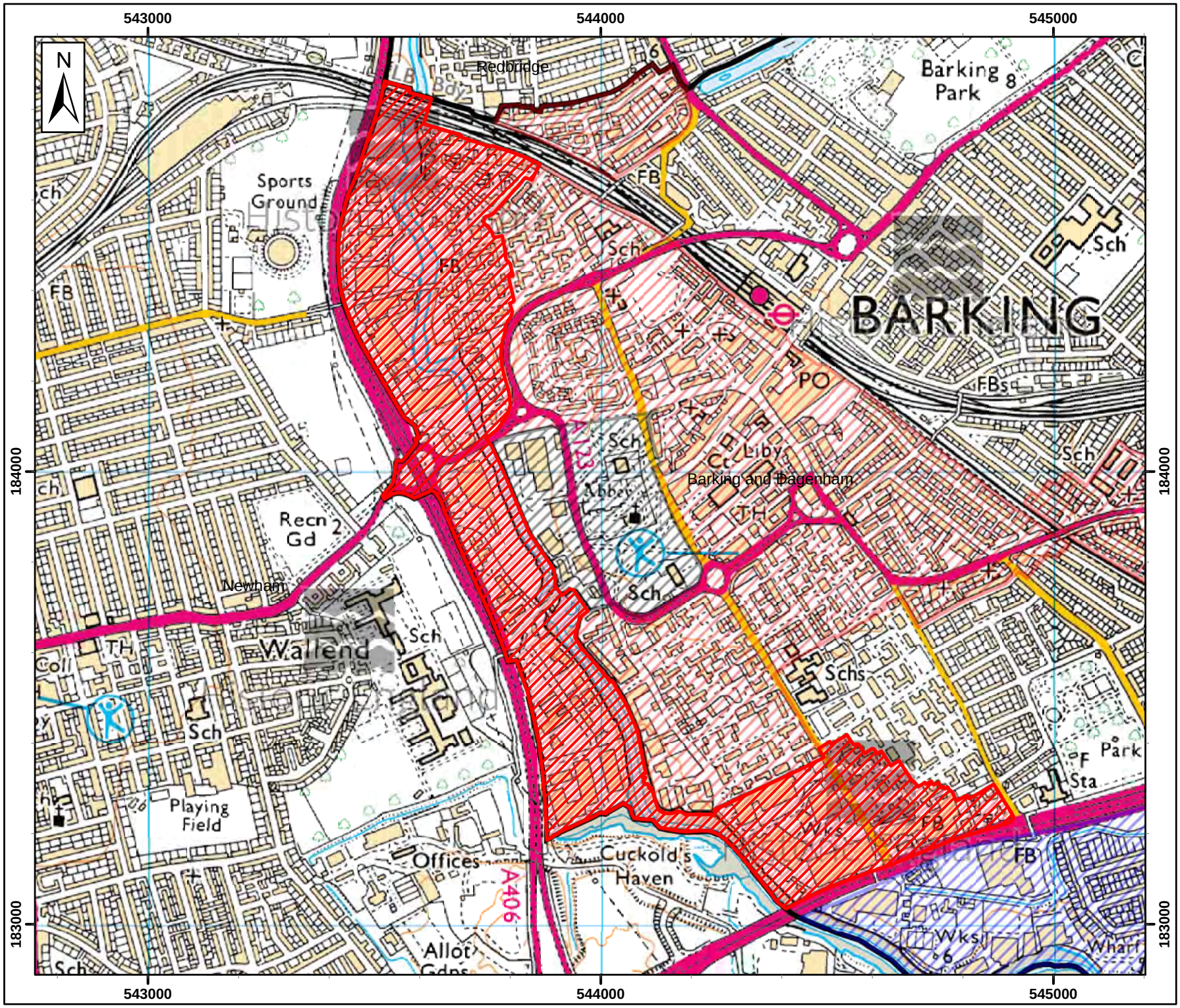
Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Areas



Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.1
River Roding

River Roding APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:11,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.1: River Roding

Summary and Definition

The River Roding Archaeological Priority Area covers the length of Barking and Dagenham's western borough boundary between the railway line at Barking to the north, to the A13 to the south. The APA covers the river as it stands today and its associated floodplain. The area has potential for archaeological deposits associated with the settlement of Barking and the surrounding area.

The APA is classified as a Tier 2 as it is an area with a high potential for the preservation of organic remains due to its wetland environment. Archaeological remains from all periods relating to the use of the river could be encountered, as the river at Barking has been in use both as a crossing point and a centre for fishing for much of its history. Prehistoric remains of trackways and platforms across the river have been found in Barking and further remains relating to the area's use prior to the founding of Barking Abbey would be of particular interest. Archaeology dating to the Iron Age may also be encountered, particularly in the northern part of the APA, which could relate to Uphall camp, a major Iron Age hillfort across the border in Redbridge.

Description

The land surrounding the River Roding would have been marshy and waterlogged for much of its history whilst the river itself probably had multiple shifting channels. Prehistoric archaeological remains indicative of the marshy nature of the area have been found in the river area close to Barking. Excavations by Newham Museum Service a Highbridge Road in 1993 uncovered a series of prehistoric timber platforms and trackways which would have allowed movement across the marshy river. One of the trackways was quite substantial, with roundwood stakes driven into the peat and a layer of roundwood and brushwood laid on top to form a walking surface. This was radiocarbon dated to 1510-1250BC. The remaining trackways were constructed in a similar manner but were less substantial, possibly indicating seasonal or temporary use. One of these was built running parallel to the river, with the other running east to west and led in the direction of the river. Two phases of platforms were also uncovered, running parallel to the river-edge. The first platform was abandoned and peat developed before a second platform was constructed. To the east of the first platform, a series of timbers forming a revetment were found. A disturbed layer of peat and alluvium was also discovered which included animal bones and four sherds of a decorated bowl dating to 700-500BC.

Further evidence of prehistoric activity along the Roding has been found at Icon Warne Works in 2004. A considerable amount of burnt flint, flint flakes and pottery sherds dating to the Neolithic were excavated. The pollen analysis and topography of the site suggest that the area was mainly grassland which sloped down towards a wetland area towards the river. A Bronze Age pit was also uncovered, which revealed considerable environmental data indicating that during the Bronze Age, the area would have been grassland with nettles, bracken, alder, brambles and other small plants.

Although the exact locations are unknown, numerous artefacts have been found in the 19th century during works in Barking Creek, which were dated to the late Neolithic and Bronze Age. These included a flint axe, two bronze axes and the remains of a bronze sword hilt. It is possible that the Bronze Age axes and sword were votive deposits in the creek, as found in similar circumstances at confluence of rivers, for example the mouth of the Wandle and the Thames.

A significant Iron Age settlement known as Uphall camp was located to the north of Barking close to the River Roding (now in Redbridge). It is one of the largest Iron Age hillforts in the Greater London area, and would have been an important centre for the local tribe in the 1st and 2nd centuries BC. It occupied an area of approximately 25 hectares which was surrounded by ramparts which were six metres high and defensive ditches eight metres wide and two meters deep. Its location near to the River Roding suggests that it was constructed to take advantage of the river and control movement along or across it. Whilst Uphall Camp is not located within this APA, its proximity would have had an effect on the surrounding landscape, as due to its importance as a tribal centre, people would have travelled to and from it and may have settled in its vicinity. Consequently, archaeological remains of this interaction may survive within the APA.

The river was integral to Barking's economy as fishing was Barking's most important industry from at least the medieval period to the mid-19th century. The river was primarily used as a harbour for fishing boats. A fishery is mentioned in the Domesday Book, which was probably on the Roding. Fisherman from Barking fished both in the rivers and out to sea, on the coasts of Germany, Holland, Denmark and as far as Iceland. Wharves, docks and associated mooring were constructed with the expansion of the fishing trade in the 18th century. This expansion was in great part due to Samuel Hewett who established a fishing fleet at Barking and devised a system of shipping fish to markets quickly enough that they remained fresh.

Significance

The River Roding APA has considerable archaeological potential for archaeological remains, particularly relating to riverine activity, and archaeological evidence along the river has been

noted from the prehistoric onwards. Waterlogged soils close to rivers provide excellent conditions for preserving timber, other organic material and environmental evidence and it is therefore likely that such remains could be found in the Roding. During prehistory, riversides would have made appealing settlement areas. Evidence of prehistoric settlement has been found in similar topographical locations in the Thames Valley, notably along the River Lea. It is therefore likely that further activity could be found here. Any additional information on the use of the river and nearby settlements in the prehistoric period may help us to understand the trackways and platforms already excavated at Barking, enabling a more detailed understanding of the landscape in the period. The influence of Uphall Camp in the Iron Age is also likely to have had an effect on the area which may have left archaeological remains.

The river (including its old abandoned channels) may also hold later archaeological remains relating to the fishing industry, such as wharves and mooring point or even the boats themselves. There is also the possibility that evidence of industrial activity may be found along the river. Both of these would enable us to better understand the importance of fishing as an economic factor in Barking's history across the medieval and post medieval periods and Barking's industrial development, particularly in the 19th century.

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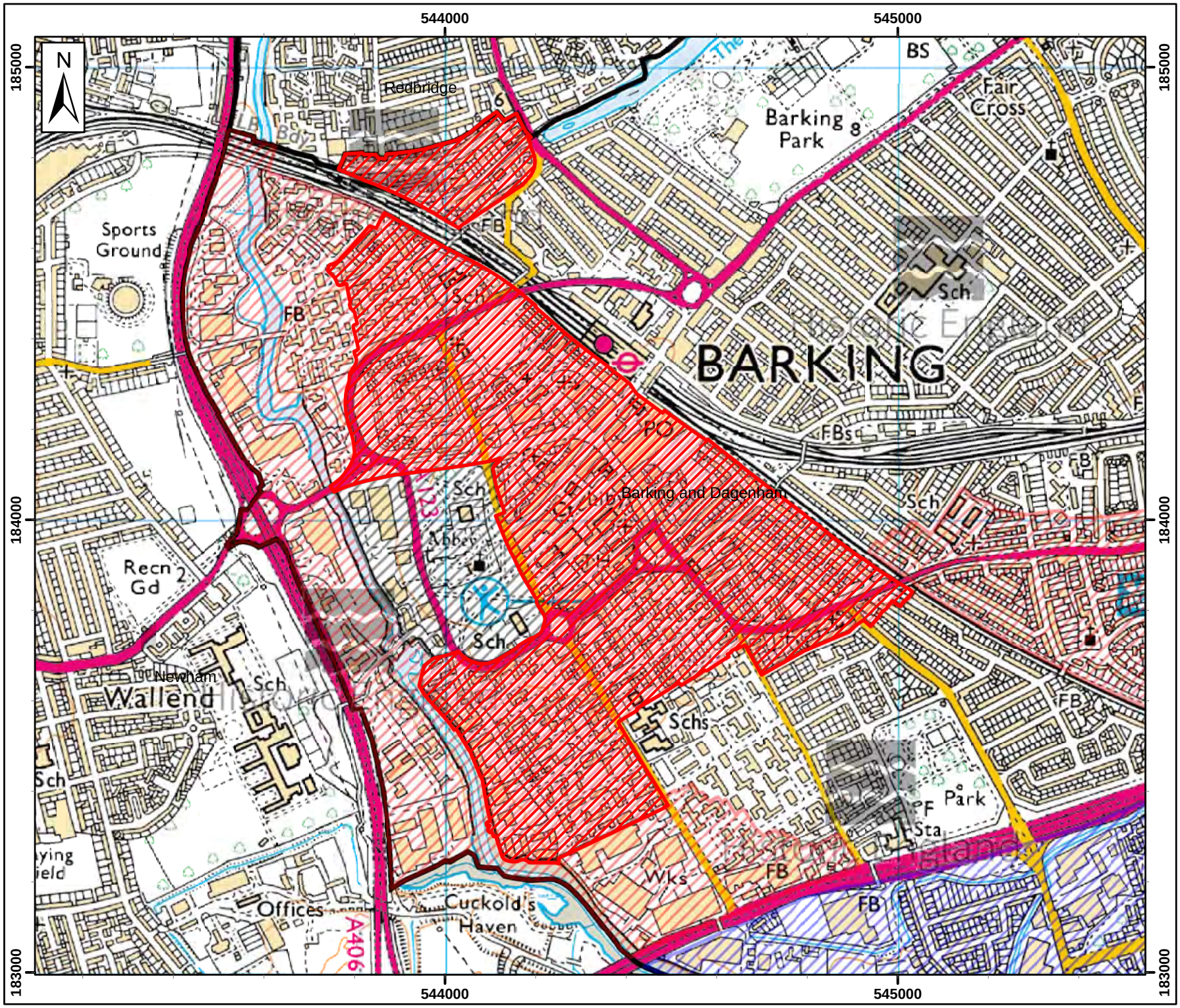

Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.2
Barking Town

Barking Town APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:11,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.2: Barking Town

Summary and Definition

The Barking Town Archaeological Priority Area covers the core of the historic settlement of Barking, as depicted on the 1777 Chapman and Andre Map of Essex and the 1799 Ordnance Survey Drawing. The APA covers from the borough boundary with Redbridge in the north to the Ripple Road and The Shaftesburys in the south. The area is bounded by the river and Barking Abbey to the west and the railway line and Ilford Road to the east. Barking has been the largest settlement in the borough since the founding of Barking Abbey in the 7th century AD. Prehistoric, Saxon and Medieval finds have been uncovered in the APA. Significant remains relating to the town's development alongside Barking Abbey have been found within the APA. The APA is classified as a Tier 2 as it is an area of historic settlement.

Description

Barking is situated on the east bank of the River Roding, on the Taplow Gravel above the marshlands bordering the Thames. Evidence of prehistoric activity in and around Barking is particularly prevalent along the River Roding (see River Roding APA), where platforms, trackways and a revetment have been found. However, some prehistoric remains have also been found away from the river. An archaeological evaluation carried out at Linton Road revealed a cremation burial, two pits and a ditch which lacked dating evidence, although struck flint suggested a prehistoric date. Evidence of a possible flint working site was uncovered at 114 Victoria Road and just to the south of Uphall Camp (an Iron Age hillfort just over the borough boundary in Redbridge) in 2005. A prehistoric flint core and several pieces of burnt flint were found.

Most of the Roman remains in Barking are discussed in the Barking Abbey APA. However some further remains have been found close to the river, south of the Abbey. Evidence of burnt flint, possible cremated bone and a nail were recorded, in a pit cut into a ditch during excavations in 2005. A further two shallow pits were uncovered, one of which contained an almost complete pot dated to the 1st century AD. Additional residual Roman pottery and building material have also been found at Axe Street in 2013, which further suggests a nearby settlement.

Substantial evidence of human activity in Barking Town itself starts in the Saxon period with the settlement of Barking alongside the founding of Barking Abbey. Barking takes its name from *Berecingum*, a Saxon word meaning 'Berica's people'. It was one of the earliest recorded Saxon settlements in Essex. Extensive evidence of Saxon occupation has been uncovered at

Barking Abbey and on Abbey Road (see Barking Abbey APA). The precise extent of the settlement is unknown although archaeological evidence indicates that it would have extended east to the River Roding and west of Barking Abbey, congregating around the abbey precincts. Evidence of occupation dating to the late Saxon period was revealed in 2013 on the corner of the London Road and Broadway. A series of pits and a possible well were dated to the late Saxon period, and may have related to the Abbey. Barking and the abbey were sacked by the Danes in 870, and it is supposed that Barking then fell under Dane Law. Whilst it is generally assumed that the abbey fell into disuse, archaeological remains dating to the late 9th century (see Barking Abbey APA) indicate that it is possible that settlement continued during this period until the English regained control in the 10th century.

By the time of the Norman Conquest, the Barking had become a large and valuable settlement owned by St. Mary's Abbey. It was included in the Domesday Book, and comprised more than 230 peasant households with arable land, farm animals, meadows and woodlands, mills, fisheries and even beehives. There is also mention of a church and 28 houses in London belonging to the manor. A market is documented from the 13th century but although not formally identified as urban Barking appears to have been a thriving craft and commercial settlement from the eighth century onwards. The 1653 map of Barking shows the late medieval layout of Barking. The town was built to the east of the Abbey, with the majority of houses being constructed along North Street as far north as the A124, with a further small ribbon of houses on Tanner Street (possibly the site of the tanning industry, focussed on Loxford Water). The settlement continued along East Street and to the south along Axe Street, with some further houses situated along Fisher Street, south of Axe Street. The town was centred on the Abbey (prior to its dissolution) and the market place, which was situated east of St Margaret's Church. The market place included a market hall or courthouse, which was built in 1567-8, with shops built around it. Documentary evidence for shops in Barking dates from the 14th century is indicative that Barking was a substantial market town in the medieval period. Whilst the remains of Barking Abbey are addressed under Barking Abbey APA, some buildings associated with the Abbey are located within Barking Town APA. A leper hospital, possibly connected to the abbey, was located on the corner of East Street during the medieval period. The survey of Barking in 1609 refers to the 'house of St Lawrence Spittel in East Street (alias Bar End) opposite the Bull', and names it as a 'medieval lazar house'. There is earlier documentary evidence of a 'lepers garden' in a manorial survey from 1456, which possibly refers to either a garden associated with the leper hospital or an area originally used for leper burials.

Archaeological evidence of medieval settlement of Barking has been uncovered in multiple excavations in North Street from the 1990s onwards. Pits, postholes, quarries and cess pits were uncovered on North Street. Excavations in 2007 between Ripple Road and Clockhouse Avenue uncovered a series of features dating from 11th or 12th centuries which indicated the presence of a number of structures on site aligned with the Ripple Road. Many pits, both

internal and external, associated with these structures were uncovered. Further medieval remains were discovered in 2013 on the corner of the London Road and Broadway, including a well, pits, a chalk wall and a basement, along with pottery, glass and animal bone. A second excavation to the south on the corner of Broadway and Axe Street in 2013 noted a further group of medieval pits, postholes and part of a kiln structure or furnace. Finds included a copper strap end and four fragments of painted window glass.

Barking had many manor houses in its vicinity during the medieval period. The manor of Fulkes is first attested in 1203 and documented as being located on the Ripple Road until at least 1609. According to documentary evidence, the seat of the manor had been moved to North Street by 1653 and the house was located on the intersection between the present day North Street and the London Road. It was described a timber framed late medieval house. By the 19th century several additions had been made of which the most extensive was the refronting of the house between 1800 and 1860. The house was used as a vicarage in the 18th century prior to the construction of new vicarage in 1794. The house was known as Northbury House in the 19th century and subsequently used as a club, being finally demolished in 1936.

From the mid-17th century onwards, numerous non-conformist groups set up chapels and burial grounds in the centre of Barking. The most long-lasting of which was the Quaker Meeting House on North Street, which was established in 1673, with a burial ground on the other side of North Street. It was the burial site of, amongst others, Elizabeth Fry the prison reformer. The burial ground was converted into a public garden in the 1980s and the headstones and monuments removed. The original early post-medieval building was demolished in 1908, and a new building was erected. The Plymouth Bretheren set up a meeting house at Park Hall, on the north side of Axe Street. The meeting house included a cemetery which was in use between 1848 and 1878. Excavations in 2005 indicated that while much of the cemetery had been removed in the 1970s, some disarticulated human bone and fragments of coffin furniture were remained on site.

Barking was economically reliant on both the wealth of the Abbey, prior to the Reformation, and the fishing trade from the medieval period onwards. The River Roding was integral to this, and Barking's fishing industry boomed in the 19th century prior to its collapse in the 1860s. A comparison of the 1653 and 19th century maps indicate that there may have been a reduction in the width of the river and an expansion of wharves. The buildings and yards related to the fishing industry were located along what was then called Fisher Street (now Abbey Road), to the south of the River Roding's Mill Pool. The expansion of the fishing trade was in great part due to Samuel Hewett who established a fishing fleet at Barking and built ice houses so that fish could be kept fresh before delivery to markets. Archaeological evidence of an ice house built between 1858 and 1863 was found in 2009-2011 inside a fishing yard which belonged to the Hewett family.

Nautical industries such as boat repairs and sail making existed until their decline in the mid-19th century along with the fishing trade. Some of the wharf buildings were converted initially into malthouses in the mid to late 19th century. By the early 20th century most of the buildings had been turned into factories which manufactured products such as paint and chemicals.

Barking largely remained within its early post-medieval footprint until the 19th century. There was an increase in population from 1,585 people in 1801 to 4,930 people in 1851, in part thanks to the booming fishing industry. However, the town did not expand until 1860s, by which point the first railway line through Barking, which linked it to London, had been built. The railway in part caused an increase in population which was mirrored in an expansion of urban settlement to the east and north of Barking's town centre.

Significance

Barking Town is situated at a topographically favoured location which has been occupied continuously since the Saxon period and has since been the most important commercial centre in the borough. Its proximity to the Iron Age Uphall Camp (approximately 800m to the north) is probably no coincidence and hints that a significant Roman settlement could remain to be discovered nearby. The location next to the River Roding and association with Barking Abbey enabled Barking to grow in the early medieval period into a large and wealthy market town, with much of its economy focussed on fishing. Consequently due to its size and importance, Barking has considerable archaeological potential for remains relating to the town's development and settlement, particularly for the Saxon and medieval periods. Any further remains that could be found would enable us to understand better the development of shipping, commerce and market towns around the Thames. It would also increase our understanding of the relationship between large ecclesiastical centres and the towns with which they are associated.

Barking also has some archaeological and historical potential for remains of a later date. Investigations along the River Roding could increase our knowledge of the fishing industry and the effect of Industrialisation on the fishing trade and on Barking itself. Furthermore, if a reduction of the width of the river was carried out in the post medieval period, followed by a phase of wharf construction on the reclaimed land, there is archaeological potential for remains relating particularly to riverine and industrial activity. Waterlogged soils provide excellent conditions for preserving timber, other organic material and environmental evidence and it is therefore likely that such remains could be found in or close to the Roding. Finally, there is also some historical and archaeological potential relating to the many non-conformist chapels and associated burial grounds in Barking. Any investigations relating to these would enable us to better understand the development of non-conformism in the area

and aspects such as their diet and health which could be compared and contrasted with populations from London itself and rural agricultural settlements.

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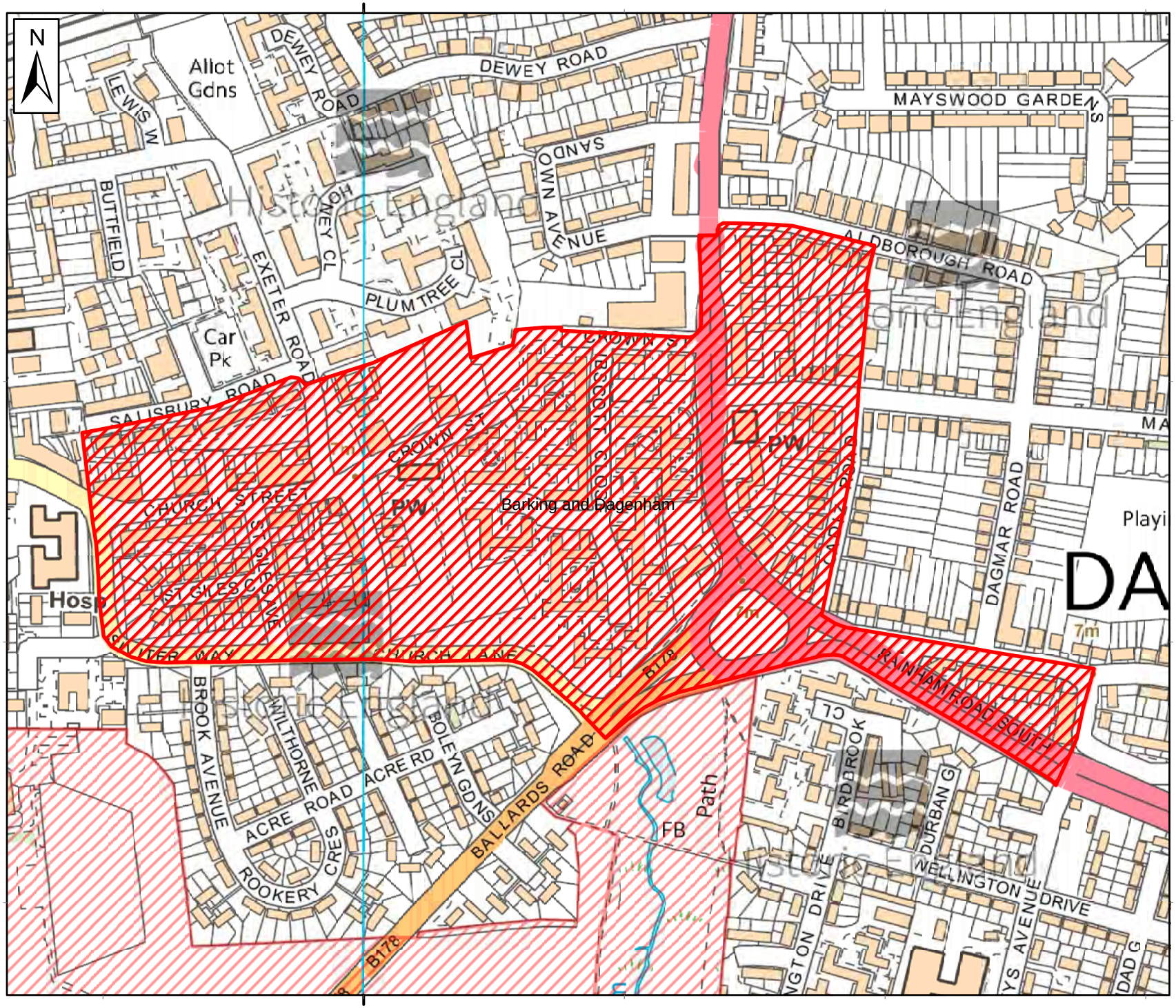

Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.3
Dagenham Village

Dagenham Village APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

Notes:
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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.3: Dagenham Village

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the historic settlement of Dagenham as shown on the 1653 map of Dagenham. It is bounded by Siviter Way to the west, Church Lane to the south, Cadiz Street to the east and Salisbury Road to the north. Along with Barking, Dagenham is one of the few historic settlements in the borough of Barking and Dagenham. It is probably one of the earliest Saxon settlements in Essex and has standing remains dating from the 13th century onwards. As such, it has been classified as a Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement.

Description

Although it is not listed in the Domesday Book, its name indicates a Saxon origin. Dagenham derives its name from *Deccanhamm* ('Daecca's home') and is first recorded in charter from 687 AD. It is one of the earliest recorded Saxon settlements in Essex. No remains have been found from this period within the historic centre of the village. The earliest remains in the area are a few Bronze and Iron Age ditches and pottery sherds found near the church and on the eastern outskirts of the historic centre. The majority of archaeological finds in the village date to the medieval and post medieval period when the village was well established.

Throughout the medieval period the manors within Dagenham parish were all free tenements of the manor of Barking, and there was no capital manor of Dagenham. The medieval village formed a linear settlement surrounded by agricultural land and common fields. The 1653 map of Dagenham indicates that the houses were concentrated along the two main roads, forming a T shape, with the majority of the houses constructed on the north side of Crown Street. The modern Church Street and Crown Street running east to west and Rainham Road South running north to south approximately follow the trajectory of these historical roads. By 1670, Dagenham consisted of 150 houses. Pottery, postholes and ditches dated to the medieval period were found along Church Street, which confirm the documentary evidence of the extent of the village in the medieval period.

Little remains of medieval Dagenham in terms of built structures. The standing remains within the old village include the church of St. Peter and St. Paul and its churchyard and the Cross Keys public house. Parts of the church date to the 13th century but much of it was destroyed in the collapse of the tower in 1800, including the nave, the south aisle and the chancel arch. The church was rebuilt, retaining the chancel and the north aisle, dating from the early 13th and late 15th centuries respectively. The church was rebuilt in the Strawberry Hill

Gothic style to designs by William Mason. The churchyard also dates to the early 13th century and was probably in use as a graveyard for over 800 years. It was estimated by Rev J P Shawcross in 1904 that over 11,000 burials had taken place in the churchyard.

The oldest secular building in Dagenham, the Cross Keys public house dates to the 15th century. It is a timber framed hall house over two stories with gabled jettied cross wings. It was built as a one storey domestic residence with a second floor was added at a later date. It was converted into a public house in the late 17th century and has remained as such until the present day.

Dagenham remained as a rural village until the early 20th century, with the population steadily increasing from 1,057 in 1801 to 4,324 in 1891. The population expanded rapidly in the early 1920s with a population of 9,127 and became increasingly urbanised with the construction of the Becontree Estate nearby.

Significance

Dagenham village is of archaeological significance as it is one of the earliest documented Saxon settlements in Essex. As Dagenham remained relatively undeveloped until the 20th century, and has consequently had relatively few phases of development, there is the potential for archaeological deposits which could enhance our knowledge of villages of Saxon origin in the Thames Valley. Its standing remains are of historical and architectural value, and they provide a visual indication of the layout of medieval Dagenham.

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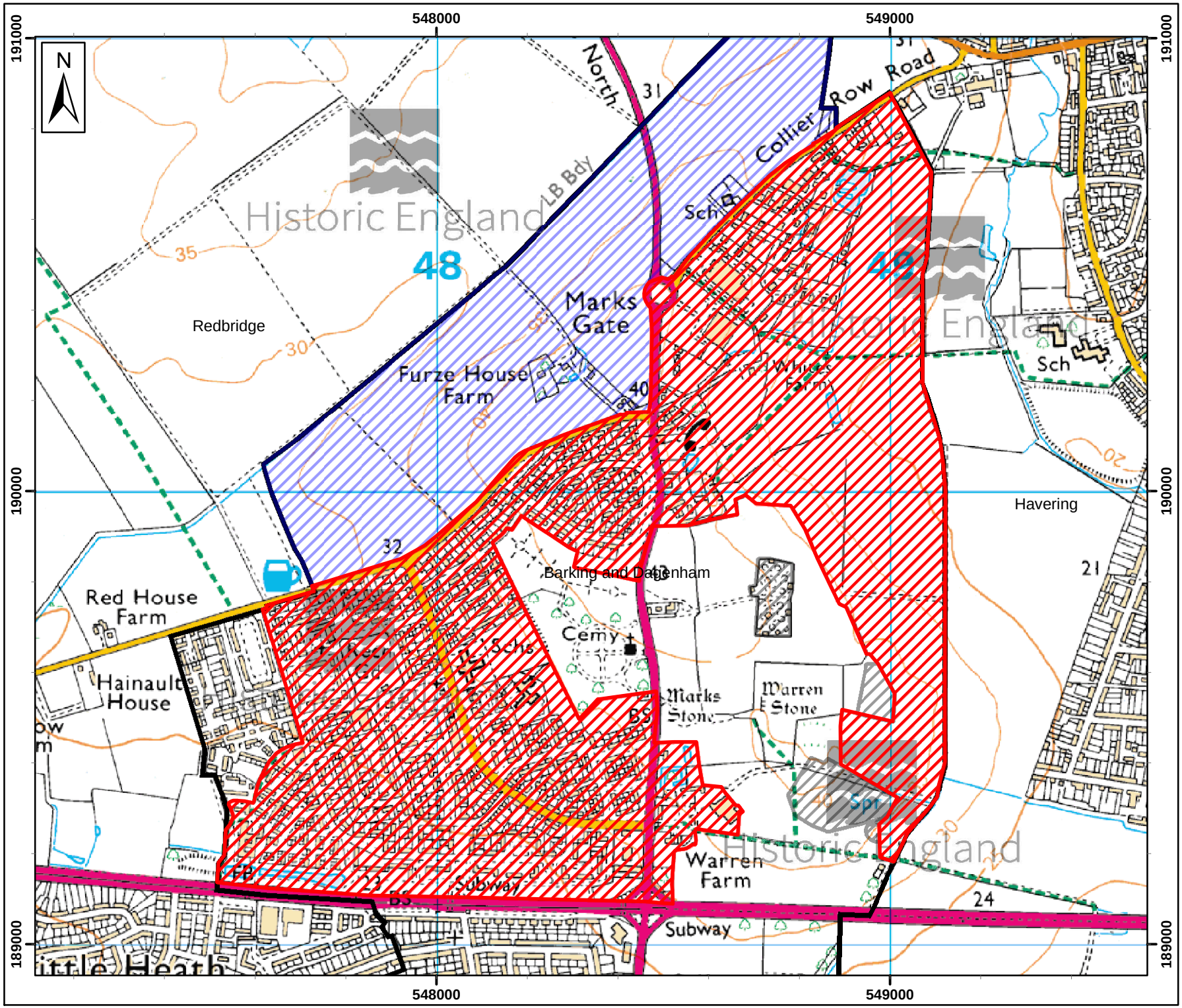

Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.4
Marks Gate

Marks Gate APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:11,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.4: Marks Gate

Summary and Definition

Marks Gate has been classified as a Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area as it is an area of historic settlement which developed on the edge of the common bordering Hainault Forest. There is archaeological evidence of human activity in the area since the prehistoric period and documentary evidence of a settlement in the area since the 14th century with particular potential for the Roman and medieval periods. The twentieth century Marks Gate Cemetery and quarried land east of Warren Farm are excluded due to extensive modern disturbance.

Description

There is limited evidence of remains dating earlier than the Roman period. Scatters of Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery were found during excavation of a gravel pit on Whalebone Lane North in 1936. Evidence of Roman activity was found to the north of Billet Road in 1988 when a series of ditches was uncovered which had been backfilled with a large quantity of Roman tile and brick (see Colliers Row Road APA). Further evidence of occupation is indicated by the Roman burial which was found during excavation of a gravel pit north of Marks Gate Cemetery in 1936. The burial, which was tentatively dated to the 2nd to 3rd century AD, consisted of a stone coffin and a large number of complete pots which were thought to be grave goods, as well as several bags of broken material include tile fragments.

The gravel pit revealed limited evidence of activity dating to the Saxon period a single sherd of pottery . Medieval pottery (dated to c.900-1600AD), largely associated with food preparation, and tiles were also recovered. It was concluded that they were probably deposited during ploughing.

The first documentary evidence of occupation at Marks Gate is in 1303 when the name of Padnalls is first recorded. Pandalls Hall, which was demolished in 1937, was a 16th century house located to the west of Rose Lane. The Manor of Marks is first mentioned in the early 14th century and was one of the oldest free tenements of the Manor of Barking. A moated manor house was situated on the east side of Whalebone Lane, which was destroyed in 1808, although the moat is still partially extant. A 17th century listed barn, sometimes known at the Tithe Barn, is the only standing building which remains that was associated with the manor and its farm. The house was believed to have been constructed for Sir Thomas Urswick, who was a lawyer and Recorder of London and MP for the City of London in the mid-15th century. In 1479 the manor house was recorded as having twenty rooms, a bakehouse, dairy and chapel. Excavations between 1998 and 2010 ahead of gravel extraction found evidence of extensive field systems as well as two sequential medieval and post medieval windmills built to the west of the moated manor house. 13 windmill mounds have been noted in the vicinity and it is clear that the area was largely agricultural and produced considerable amount of flour in the medieval period.

Further evidence of occupation is revealed in documents from 1369 when Rose Lane Farm, then called Rouseshall, is mentioned. By 1609 the farm consisted of 6 acres of arable land on the west side of Rose Lane. In 1921 the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England described the farm as a '15th century building with a cross wing at the northern end', and it is probable that this house succeeded the earlier Hall mentioned in the 14th century. The house was demolished to make space for houses in 1956.

By 1777 Marks Gate formed a small hamlet on the edge of Hainault Forest, with Rose Lane Gate forming a smaller settlement to the south east. Larger houses were situated on Rose Lane and Whalebone Road, and the majority of houses clustered along Billet Road and Collier Row Road, which was the main road around the south of Hainault Forest. The area has undergone relatively few phases of development. The landscape remained largely rural until the construction of the housing estates in at Marks Gate in the 1950s, although some gravel quarrying occurred north of Chadwell cemetery and north east of the World War Two gun emplacement.

Significance

The area around Marks Gate is of archaeological significance as it is an area which has traces of human interaction with the landscape dating back to the prehistoric period, and more notably from the Roman and medieval periods.

The potential remains of several larger houses and manors, including the remains of the moat which surrounded Marks Manor House, are of historical and archaeological significance. Medieval moated sites reflected the social status of the people who lived within them; giving the site a certain level of prestige while also functioning as a defensive feature. The medieval dispersed settlement pattern on the edge of Hainault Forest is of interest in relation to origins and development of medieval rural settlement whilst earlier (Roman and prehistoric) remains or environmental evidence could inform understanding of the extent and use of woodland, in pre-medieval periods.

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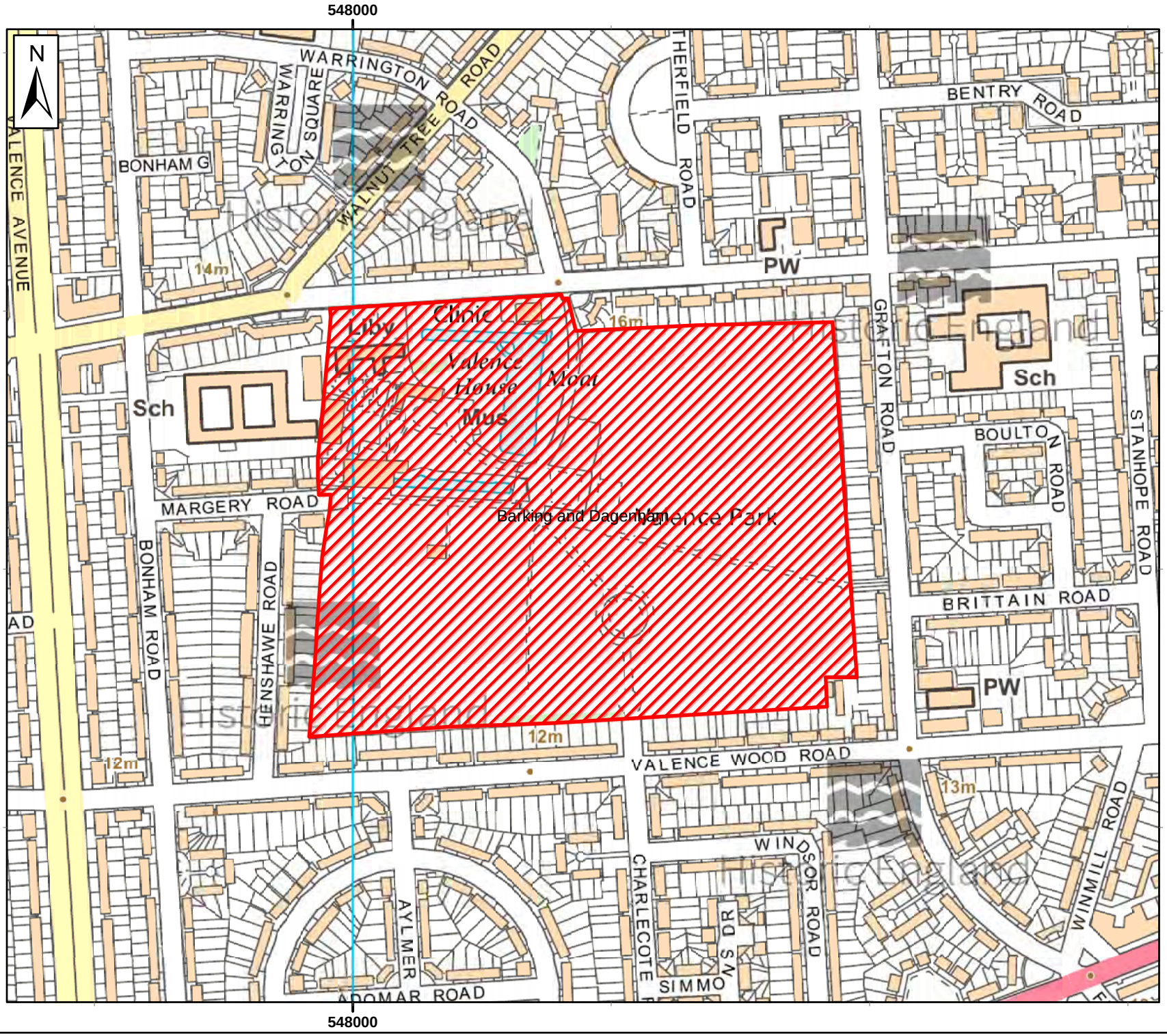

Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.5
Valence House and Park

Valence House and Park APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.5: Valence House and Park

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers Valence House, its moat and the surrounding parkland. This APA has been classified as a Tier 2 due to its importance as one of two of the remaining manor houses in Barking and Dagenham and the only remaining medieval manor house. It is a rare example of a medieval moated manor site in Greater London with a detailed documented history.

Description

The Manor of Valence was the largest estate in Dagenham during the medieval period, and increased in size through the addition of three further estates in the 14th and 15th centuries: Gallance, Frizlands and East Hall.

Valence House has been the site of the manor house since the 13th century. It is a Grade II* listed medieval moated manor house, situated on Hackney Gravel. The house is first mentioned in documentary sources in 1284, when the owner Robert Dyve sold the property to Sir Thomas Weyland. The manor is named after the de Valence family who were associated with the area between 1291 and 1342. Agnes de Valence lived at Valence House from 1291 to 1309, and at her death, her brother Aylmer (Earl of Pembroke) inherited the property.

The current house is a multi-period L shaped timber framed and plastered house over two stories. There are phases of construction dating from the 15th through to the 20th centuries and early documentary evidence, in the form of a lease, indicates that the moat already existed in 1290. No substantial records exist until 1649 when a survey for the Bonham family described the house as a building consisting of nine rooms. The house would have stood in five acres of gardens and orchards, surrounded by the moat, which had probably been created for an earlier house on the site.

The building slowly decreased in size during the 18th and 19th centuries. Part of the house, probably the west side of the house, was demolished in 1863. By 1897 the moat had been regularised and by 1921 much of it had been backfilled. An extension was built onto the house by LCC in 1928-9 when the house became part of their offices. A municipal library was constructed over the backfilled moat to the north of Valence House in 1937. At present the north, east and part of the southern sides of the moat survive. The north and eastern section is a small fishing lake. A large section of the southern side was re-excavated between 2007 and 2010 and is now a decorative lake.

A watching brief was carried out at Valence House by Museum of London Archaeology in 2009 ahead of construction of the new visitor centre. A well and cess pit dating to the post medieval period were exposed in a new drainage trench. The foundation of what is thought to be a barn made of 18th century brick was also found. Remains of the backfilled moat were also encountered in the south west corner of the site, which related to the landscaping of the new moat. Renovations in the house were also carried out and revealed some unusual 16th century secular wall paintings.

Significance

Valence House is one of two sites of former manor houses in Barking and Dagenham, which still have a standing building. It is of historical and architectural significance as an example of a medieval moated manor house. Medieval moated sites reflected the social status of the people who lived within them; giving the site a certain level of prestige while also functioning as a defensive feature. Valence House is one of approximately 6000 known moated sites across England, most of which were built between 1250 and 1350.

Valence House is also significant due to its rarity. There are only three sites in Greater London which have a manor house and a moat which are still partially extant; many have had their moats backfilled or the manor houses demolished. It has local significance due to the importance of the manor in medieval and post medieval Barking and Dagenham as the largest manor in the area. In its setting of the Becontree Estate which is built around it, it provides a visual reminder of the rural and agricultural landscape that existed there prior to the 20th century. Further investigations in this area could help increase our understanding of the form and development of manor houses, particularly moated sites, as part of the London research framework. The area within the moat has archaeological potential, as there may be remains of previous buildings, or remains relating to the gardens and orchard present. The moat itself also has archaeological environmental potential, which could increase our understanding of the manor and its development. Furthermore, Valence Park to the immediate south and east has not been developed or investigated archaeologically and there is therefore the potential for remains relating to agricultural practices, particularly field systems or ditches.

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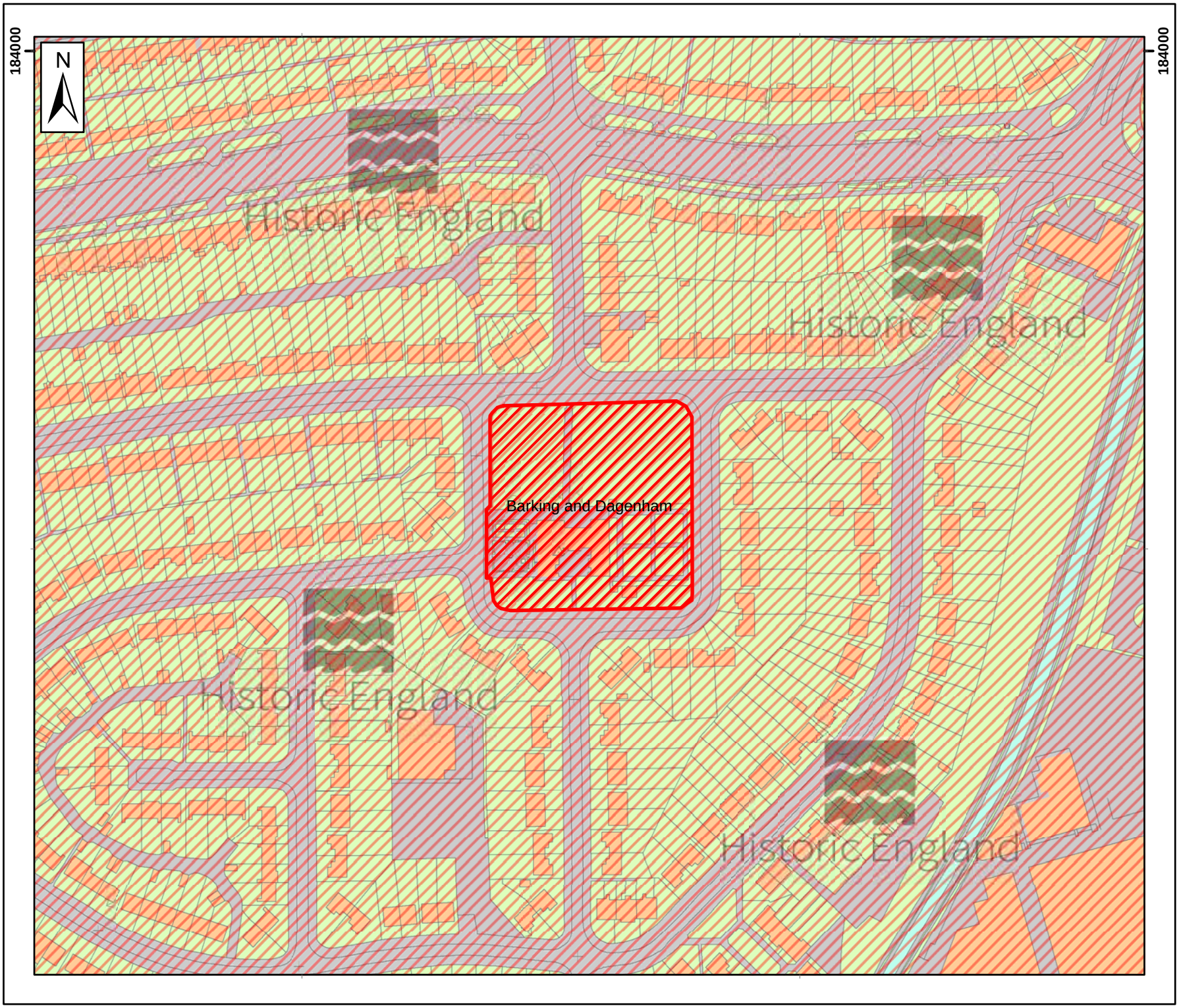

Barking and Dagenham APA 2.6 Eastbury Manor House

Eastbury Manor House APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:2,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.6: Eastbury Manor House

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers Eastbury Manor House and its gardens. This APA has been classified as a Tier 2 due to its importance as one of two of the only remaining manor houses in Barking and Dagenham, and as fine example of a 16th century manor house of moderate size.

Description

Eastbury Manor House is a 16th century Grade I listed house. Although the manor is documented from the early 14th century onwards, the manor house first appears in documents in the 16th century. The house was commissioned by Clement Sisley, a wealthy merchant, who owned the property in 1557. A dendrochronology survey carried out in 1997 concluded that the timber used to construct the roof was felled in 1566. Further indication of work in the late 16th century is indicated by the date 1572 inscribed on a rainwater head.

The house consists of three storeys constructed in red brick with some diaper work on an H shaped plan with cross wings at the east and west ends. On the southern side of the house, the wings join to form an enclosed courtyard. The architectural style hearkens to an earlier point in the century; this is particularly noticeable in the style of the stairs, which are octagonal angle turrets in the courtyard, (an unusual feature in English architecture), and the arrangement of the hall. The garden to the east of the house are enclosed by the original 16th century walls and further gardens to the west and north of the house existed by the early 18th century.

It was leased by a series of tenant farmers in the 18th and 19th centuries, with the east wing used as a stable block in the 19th century. The house fell into disrepair and by 1814 one of the two octagonal stair turrets had been demolished. The entire house was ready for demolition when the National Trust purchased it in 1918. The house also had a large associated farm to the south with what has been called a tithe barn. This was demolished when the housing estate surrounding the house was constructed.

Archaeological investigations by the Newham Museum Service in 1994 in the dining room recorded that part of the wing had been used as a stable block and outhouses in the 18th century or earlier. It was also noted that the eastern wall, which was restored in the 20th century, had been demolished in the 19th century to create a cart-way. Excavations in the north-east corner of the courtyard uncovered remains of the former octagonal stair turret. Historic building recording carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology in 2008 and 2009

found that the manor house had undergone numerous phases of repair and renovation, including the resurfacing of the courtyard after the collapse of the stair tower and the rebuilding of the chimneys some time prior to 1900.

Significance

Eastbury House is one of two of the only remaining manor houses in Barking and Dagenham. It is a good example of mid-16th century medium sized manor house with much of its original curtilage intact. It has both architectural and historical significance, providing a visual reminder of Barking and Dagenham's manorial past in an area with few buildings dating to the before the 20th century.

Its ownership and construction by Clement Sisley reflects the rising trend in the 16th and early 17th centuries of wealthy City merchants buying and creating houses close to London and their concomitant social aspirations. Unlike the landowning class, these houses would often be the merchants only country house, and were situated close enough to the City to be convenient for easy travelling, and allow a rapid retreat to a rural environment, away from the more cramped and busy conditions in London. The ability to leave London in the summer and at Christmas lent a certain cachet, enabling merchants to emulate the landowning class in their seasonal movement to and from the capital.

Any further investigations in Eastbury House would have the potential to increase our understanding of the origins and development of the house and its relationship with its surroundings, of which little is known. Any artefactual and environmental evidence which could be gathered would enable further conclusions to be drawn on the house's use and the different phases of the gardens and building itself. Investigations could also add to information on the form and development of houses in rural areas and their relationship to central London as part of the London research framework.

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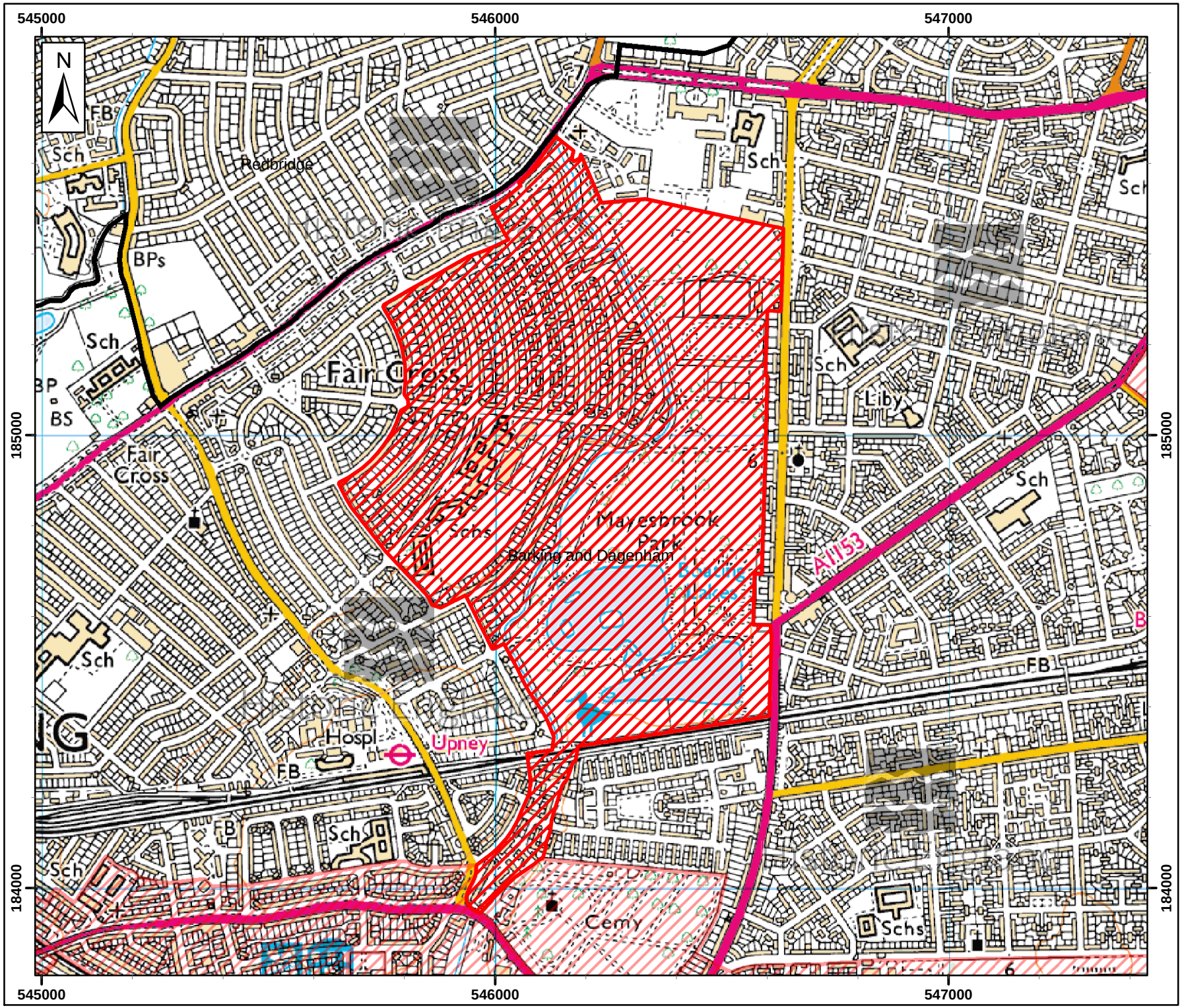

Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.7
Mayesbrook Park

Mayesbrook Park APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:11,000

Notes:
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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.7: Mayesbrook Park

Summary and Definition

Mayesbrook Park and the part of its surrounding area, including the Mayes Brook and Barking Abbey School have been designated as a Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area as it comprises areas of undeveloped land close to Jenkins Manor House and includes a stream which has the potential for prehistoric remains. The APA covers the whole of the park as well as some of the area to the west of the park which covers the site of the medieval manor house of Jenkins.

Description

Prior to the building of the Becontree Housing Estate, Mayesbrook Park was farmland, most of which had belonged to the Manor of Jenkins. The manor of Jenkins is first recorded in the 13th century, and was also known as the Manor of Dagenham, Dagenhams or Dagenham Place, although much of it stood within Barking parish. The name Jenkins manor is possibly derived from a vassal of the abbess of Barking. Its alternative name as Jenkins was in use prior to 1446 and it is possible that it is named after a tenant or owner. It has been theorised that Simon Jenkyn and Richard Jenkyn, the latter who is mentioned in 1456 as having held property near Barking Abbey, may have been tenants of Dagenhams. By 1576 it was known as 'Jenkynes alias Dagenhames'. In 1567-8 the manor was sold to the Fanshawes who held it until 1628, whereupon it descended with the capital manor.

The medieval manor was moated and passed through several iterations. By 1652 the house was described as a large gabled house with a chapel containing stained glass window. The 18th century tithe map which is probably an updated version of the 1653 Map of the Manor of Barking substantiates this description, depicting the manor house as a large gabled house with a long avenue of trees leading from the present day Faircross crossroads to the house. The house is depicted standing within grounds and gardens with a wider agricultural setting. This map also indicates that all of the land which is now Mayesbrook Park belonged to the manor. Part of a medieval ditch pertaining to a field system was encountered during excavation in the north of the park 2011. This corroborated the documentary evidence regarding the agricultural nature of the landscape at that time.

The house was purchased in 1717 by Sir William Humphreys, and rebuilt soon after. The gardens were laid out in a Dutch fashion with fishponds, terraces, vistas and avenues, remains of which were visible still visible into the 20th century. His house was demolished before 1796 and a farmhouse was built on the site. Around this time, the house's name

changed from Jenkins to Moat Farm, as seen on the Ordnance Survey Drawing of 1799, where the house is named Moat Farm. The building was finally demolished in 1937 to make way for housing.

Archaeological excavation undertaken at the (then) Polytechnic of East London in 1991 to the north of Mayesbrook Park, uncovered two Bronze Age ditches, possibly forming an enclosure. Within these ditches, Roman, Middle Iron Age and Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds were encountered. It was concluded that the later material may have been introduced into the features through ploughing or box-scraping of the site, and that the Bronze Age material was unabraded, suggesting that it had not been re-deposited. Although further trench excavations in 2007 found no evidence of any archaeology, there is the potential for further Bronze Age or prehistoric activity to the south of the college, as Mayesbrook Park and the playing fields to the south-west of the college have not been developed. Concomitantly, whilst few archaeological remains have been recovered from Mayes Brook, there is potential for prehistoric material to be uncovered, as there is evidence of human activity in the vicinity, and areas of similar topography in the borough have revealed considerable prehistoric deposits.

Further evidence of late Iron Age and Roman activity in the area was uncovered during the construction of the Longbridge Estate in the 1930s. Iron Age jars and pots were discovered at 281 Westrow Drive and pots dating to the second half of the first century AD were uncovered at the same time at 275 Westrow Lane. Further pots were also discovered on Dereham Road and Sandringham Road. Although no bones were reported, it was posited that the vessels were part of a cremation burial which formed part of an early Roman cremation cemetery.

Mayesbrook Park was created as an open space for the Becontree Housing Estate and was opened in 1934. The planned layout included sports pitches, flower gardens and the boating lakes, although not all of these were carried out. The park was used as temporary army accommodation during World War Two. During the construction of the park, the landscape was not disturbed to any great depth, apart from in the construction of the two Boating Lakes. These were created from disused gravel pits which will have removed any archaeological remains.

Significance

The APA, particularly the park and the brook, has some archaeological potential, especially for the prehistoric period. It is possible that ditches and evidence of agricultural activity, similar to the Bronze Age ditches which were found directly to the north of the park, could be encountered within the park. Any further remains would enhance our understanding of the development and use of the landscape in the prehistoric period.

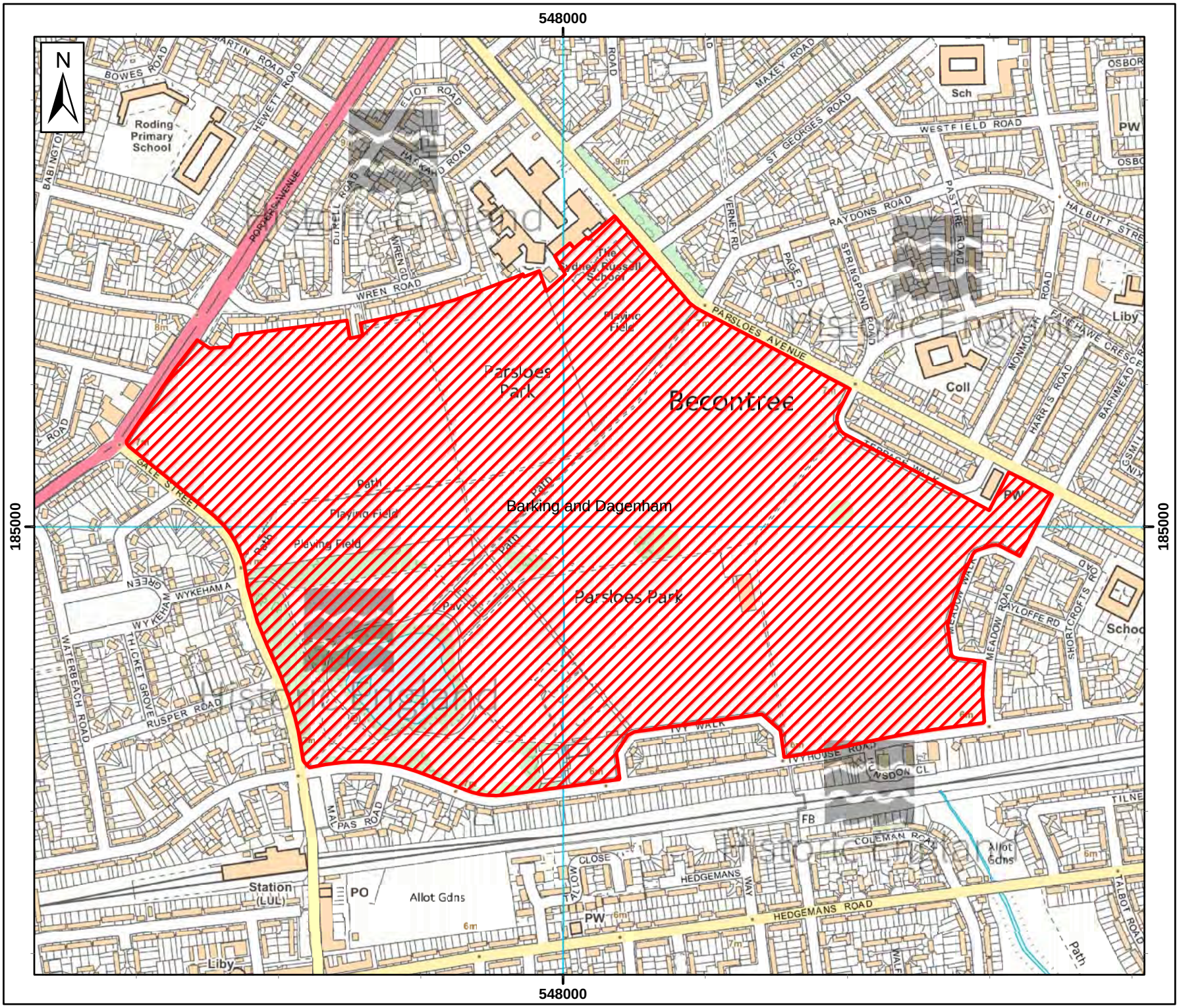
The remains of the manor house are of archaeological and historical value due to their importance as one of the manor houses in the parish and its connection with the Fanshawe family who were historically important in the area. There is documentary evidence that the area covered by the Mayesbrook Park APA has been inhabited since at least the 13th century. The area around the manor house also has the potential for remains relating to medieval agricultural practices, particularly field systems or ditches. Any evidence of the manor, its associated buildings and field systems would add to our knowledge of medieval manor houses and their development in this part of the Thames Valley.

Key References

Mayesbrook Park, *Parks & Gardens*, http://www.parksandgardens.org/places-and-people/site/7929/summary

Dagenham and Rainham Past, S. Curtis, Phillimore and Co Ltd, 2000

A History of the County of Essex: Volume 5, Victoria County History 1966. http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol5/pp267-281



Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.8
Parsloes Park

Parsloes Park APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:7,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.8: Parsloes Park

Summary and Definition

Parsloes Park archaeological priority area covers the whole of the modern park. This area includes the archaeological remains of the manor house of Parsloes and an undated linear feature as seen on aerial photographs. It has been listed as a Tier 2 archaeological priority area as it contains the archaeological remains of one of Barking and Dagenham's manor houses and an associated open, undeveloped space with pre-medieval potential.

Description

Prior to being a park, Parsloes Park formed the centre of the Parsloes manor estate. The manor house was situated there, surrounded by agricultural land. The manor of Parsloes was named after its 13th century owner, Hugh Passelewe. The original house, of which the construction date is unknown, was demolished at some point prior to the late 16th century, when it was reconstructed by the Osborne family. It was described as a 'rectangular brick building of two stories with a central hall on the ground floor' and was situated just to the north of the current lake . The manor was purchased by William Fanshawe in 1619. The Fanshawes were an important political family many of whom were remembrancers of the exchequer, (a type of officer) and members of parliament.

The Fanshawes continued to live there for over three hundred years and undertook numerous alterations of the building over the centuries. They added a north wing between 1619 and 1634 and further alterations were made during the 18th century. Finally, between 1814 and 1834 the Reverend Fanshawe added a south wing and encased the building in brick, adding battlements and gothic windows. The house was approached from Gale Street, which separated Parsloes manor from the Manor of Jenkins. The entrance to the estate was indicated by a lodge and a long carriage drive through an avenue of trees. The lodge was situated on the south-east side of the current cross roads between Gale Street, Wykeham Avenue and the park entrance. By the late 19th century the building was derelict and Evelyn Fanshawe sold part of the estate in 1913 to Essex County Council, and the house and remaining estate to William Buckley in 1917. The whole estate was acquired by London County Council and the house was demolished in 1925 to make space for the Becontree Estate and a public park, which was opened in 1935. An anti-air craft battery was constructed in the north of the park during the Second World War and was subsequently demolished.

Further potential archaeological remains in the form of an undated and unidentified linear feature in the southern part of the park to the east of the lake have been identified through

aerial photographs taken by the RAF in 1944. This suggests that there may be further archaeological features other than Parsloes manor house within Parsloes Park.

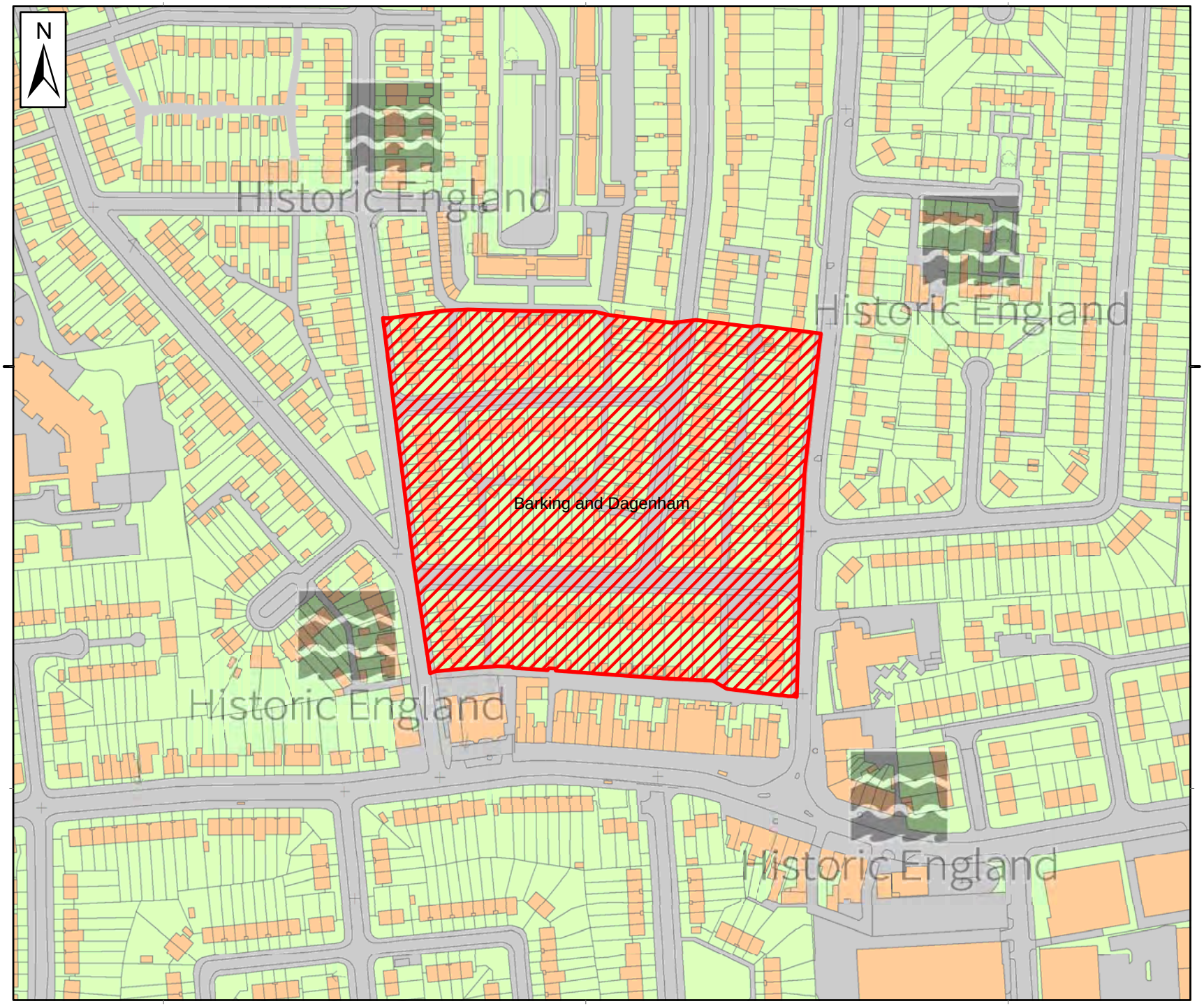
Significance

There is documentary evidence that the area covered by the Parsloes Park APA has been inhabited since at least the 13th century. The remains of the manor house, which was one of the large manor houses in the parish, are of archaeological and historical value due to their importance and due to its long standing connection with the Fanshawe family who had lived there for more than 300 years. The park may hold further archaeological value in the form of the linear feature that has been identified on aerial photographs which have not yet been investigated and also the possible remains of Second World War defences.

Key References

Dagenham and Rainham Past, S. Curtis, Phillimore and Co Ltd, 2000

A History of the County of Essex: Volume 5, Victoria County History 1966. http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol5/pp267-281



Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.9
Frizlands Manor

Frizlands Manor APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:2,500

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.9: Frizlands Manor

Summary and Definition

This APA covers the area to the west of Frizlands Lane as far west as Naseby Road, north of Glencoe Drive and south of Sedgemoor Drive. This area covers the site of the medieval manor house of Frizlands and its subsequent iterations, which is documented from the late 13th century onwards. It is classed as a Tier 2 due to the potential for remains of the medieval and post medieval manor houses.

Description

The manor of Frizlands was first noted in documentary sources in 1279, when Godfrey de Firstling and Alice his wife conveyed to Alice de Merton, the Abbess of Barking, 47 acres of land and 2 shillings rent in Barking. The family, whose name came from Fristling in Margaretting, Essex, gave their name to the manor and manor house, which was situated on the west side of modern day Frizlands Lane. From the early 15th century to 1870, the manor descended with Valence manor, and the house was leased separately after 1536. The Dean and Canons of Windsor owned Frizlands manor from 1475 to 1870, after which it was owned by the Parrish family until 1934. The manor house and its 90 acre estate were sold and the house demolished for the house building in approximately 1932.

The original manor house had several phases of construction through the centuries. Thomas Cowper who leased the house was bound to rebuild the manor house in 1583 using timber from the estate. In 1814, the house was in very poor repair, and collapsed during reconstruction work. A new house was built on the moated site between 1814 and 1828.

The first edition Ordnance Survey map indicates the remains of the possible moat, with the south side and the south-east corner surviving. An entrance across the moat is shown half way through the south side of the moat. The corner of the moat was described as being 35 metres long to the south and 25 metres to the east with the width varying from 8 to 10 metres.

Significance

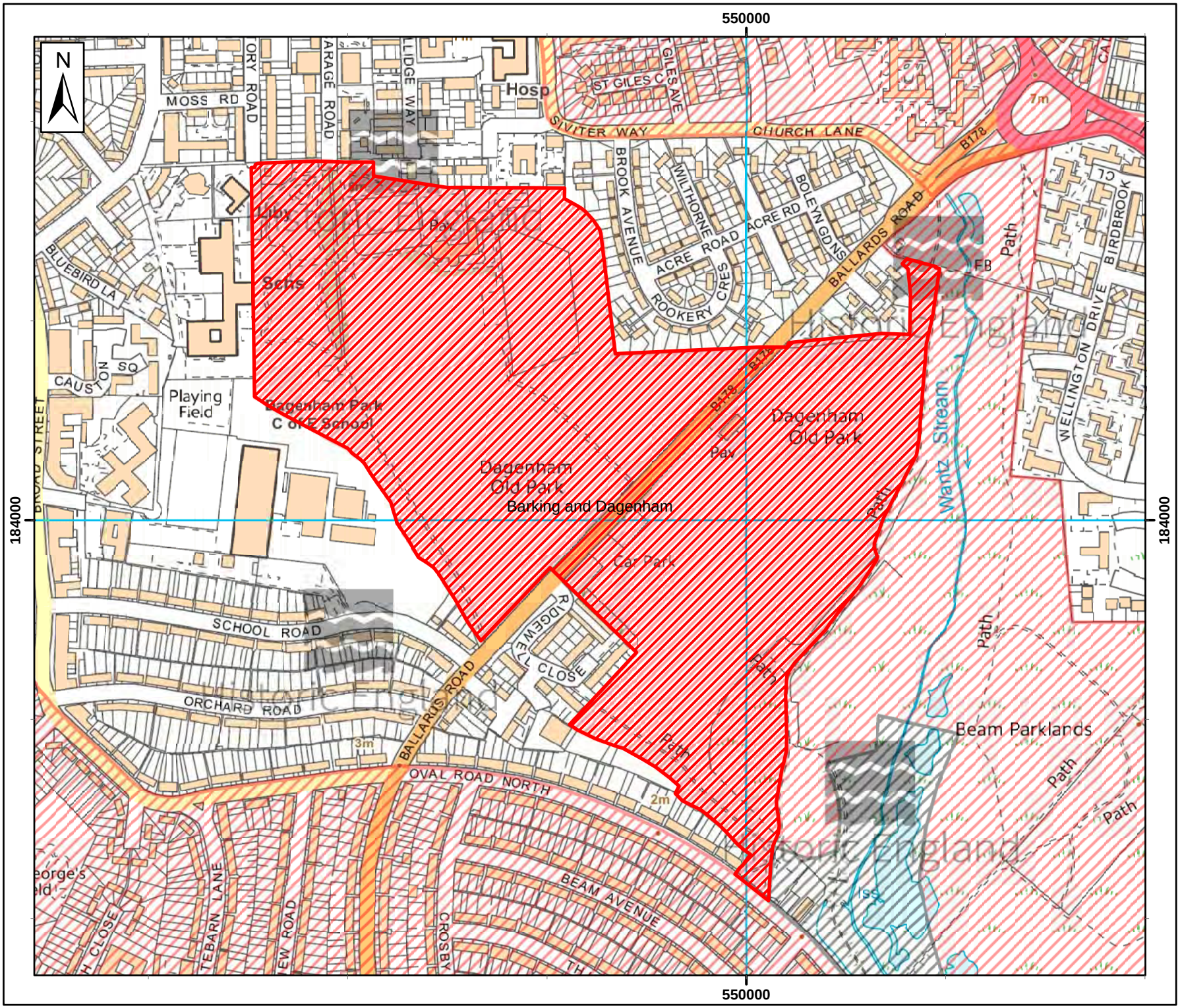
There is documentary evidence that the area covered by the Frizlands Manor APA has been inhabited since the 13th century. The remains of the manor house are of archaeological and historical value due to their importance as one of the manor houses in the parish.

Medieval moated sites reflected the social status of the people who lived within them; giving the site a certain level of prestige while also functioning as a defensive feature. Frizlands is one of approximately 6000 known moated sites across England, most of which were built between 1250 and 1350.

Key References

A History of the County of Essex: Volume 5, Victoria County History 1966. http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol5/pp267-281

Dagenham and Rainham Past, S. Curtis, Phillimore and Co Ltd, 2000



Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.10
Old Dagenham Park

Old Dagenham Park APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:5,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.10: Old Dagenham Park

Summary and Definition

Old Dagenham Park has been identified as a Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area as it is a large area of land that has not been developed and includes parchmarks of archaeological interest.

Description

The park once formed part of the Manor of East Hall, which dated to at least the 14th century. It remained agricultural land until it was sold to Dagenham Urban District Council in 1928. The park opened in 1931 and included a bandstand, bowling green, sports stadium and pavilion, flower beds, and tennis courts. A swimming pool was constructed in The Leys, opening in 1939 and was in use until at least the 1960s. Further amenities were added to the park including a new stadium stand and playground in 1950 and 1961 respectively.

Aerial photographs taken in 1976 identified parchmarks which may be of archaeological interest. These were identified as an undated rectangular enclosure in the sports stadium (now a skate park). A second parchmark of a double ditched trackway was noted in the sports stadium, running across the centre of it. A further undated ring ditch was noted on the path running south-west to north-east across the park.

Evidence of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age activity has been found to the west of the park at Dagenham Park Church of England School during excavations in 2005 and 2011. A palaeochannel was excavated and a number of features including ditches and pits, as well as evidence of flood deposits were found. To the south of the palaeochannel, large quantities of sherds dating to the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age were found. Two parallel north-south ditches, forming a contemporaneous enclosure were discovered on the western edge of the site. Large quantities of ceramic bars, or briquetage, were found, which was seen as evidence for a possible nearby late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pottery kiln or salt production site.

Post medieval ditches were also encountered, possibly forming a crude drainage system. The 2011 excavations indicated that the 2005 excavations expanded further to the west, and could extend further still into Old Dagenham Park.

Significance

Old Dagenham Park has been largely undeveloped and aerial photographs show features of archaeological interest. Furthermore, excavation works carried out to the west of the park at Dagenham Priory Comprehensive revealed a considerable amount of features dating from the late prehistoric through to the post medieval period. It is therefore possible that similar archaeological remains could exist in the park.

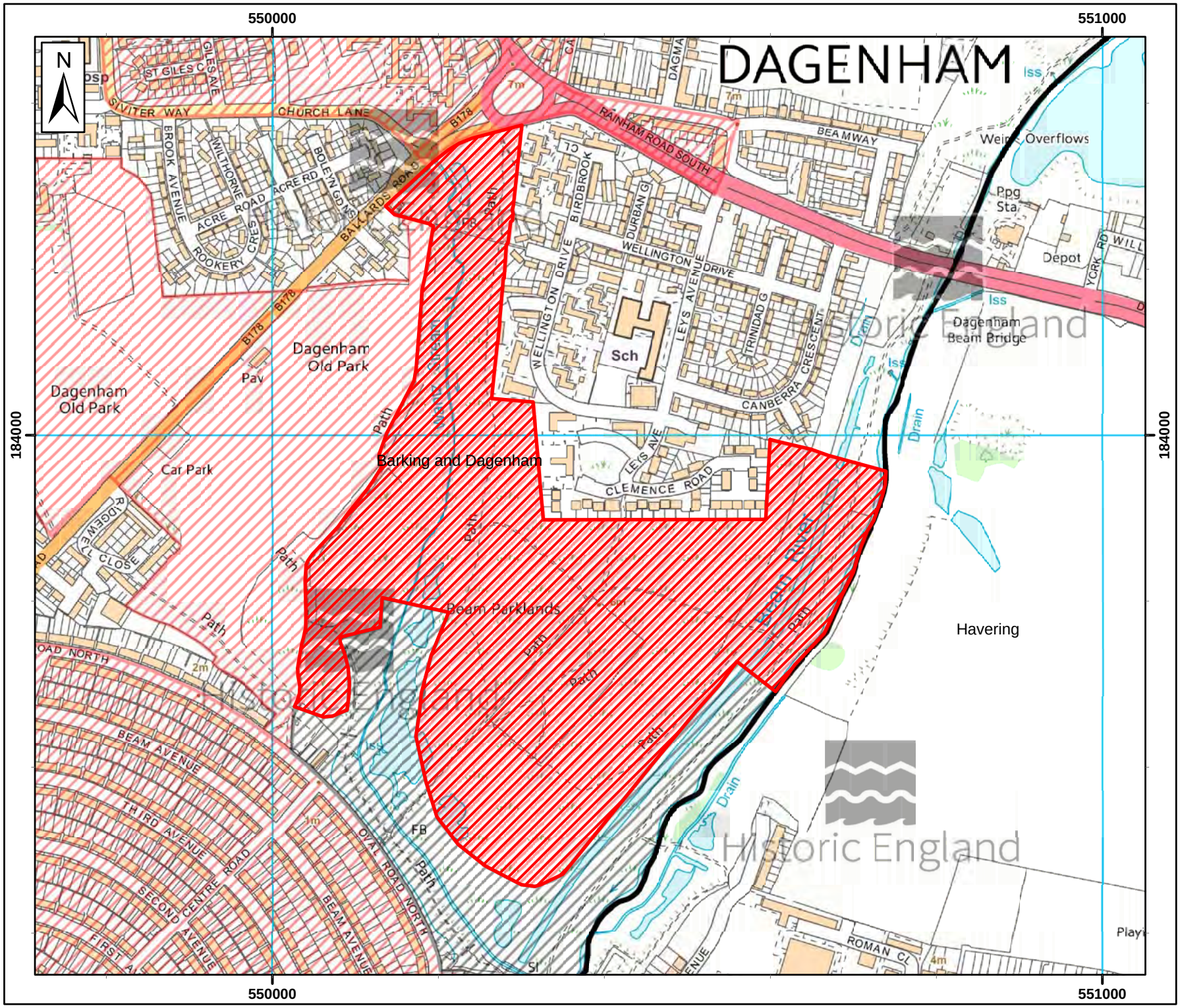
Key References

A History of the County of Essex: Volume 5, Victoria County History 1966. http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol5/pp267-281

Old Dagenham Park, Parks and Gardens UK, http://www.parksandgardens.org/places-and-people/site/7967

Dagenham Park Community School. Report on Archaeological Investigations, Wessex Archaeology, 2011.

Dagenham Priory Comprehensive School, School Road. Archaeological Evaluation Report, Wessex Archaeology, 2005.



Barking and Dagenham
APA 2.11
Beam Valley Country Park

Beam Valley Country Park APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:6,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.11: Beam Valley Country Park

Summary and Definition

Beam Valley Country Park has been designated as a Tier 2 archaeological priority area as it is an area of largely undeveloped land which has revealed widespread archaeological remains dating mainly to the Iron Age and Roman period, including a settlement, remains of an agricultural landscape and cremation burials. The remains of a late 19th century hospital are also within the park. The park's close proximity to Dagenham village and to the Beam River, coupled with the archaeological remains already found, means that the area has the potential for further archaeological remains of interest. The APA covers the whole of the park from the edge of Old Dagenham Park to the east, to the geological change to head deposits in the River Beam to the west.

Description

Evidence of continuous settlement was noted by Oxford Archaeology who excavated part of the Beam Valley Country Park ahead of a flood alleviation scheme in 2005 to 2006 in the south of the park. A three phase Iron Age to Roman settlement was uncovered. The first phase was dated to approximately 100BC to 130AD, where the site was divided into three main areas: the site had a domestic and economic focus in the north-west, the site was used for agricultural purposes in the south-east and the eastern part of the site was used as a cremation cemetery.

A large enclosure in the northern part of the site was constructed in the 1st century AD. This consisted of a 60 metre long ditch with a terminal at the south end which formed a four metre entrance. The enclosure was subdivided, with the eastern area containing 58 postholes thought to be the remains of fences and buildings. A ditch acting as a division was excavated in the northern part of the enclosure, which was identified as a division to delineate a working area.

To the east of the enclosure ditch, two more ditches were encountered which are thought to have been part of a further enclosure. Within this third enclosure were pits and a possible circular structure which contained Iron Age pottery. Further ditches indicated that the enclosure complex extended to the east, outside the area of excavation. A ditch to the south of the enclosure was seen to represent a boundary between the enclosed space to the north and the open landscape to the south. This ditch had been re-cut numerous times over the first to third centuries AD. Around 50 metres to the south of the enclosure were two parallel ditches aligned east-west, which probably formed a trackway.

The southern part of the site was used for agricultural purposes and comprised pits, postholes, ditches and an enclosure. Within this enclosed area were the remains of a compacted clay floor, which was thought to be part of a small stock holding pen or similar structure. Near to this feature was a ditch and a large pit or waterhole which are thought to be associated with the stock pen structure.

In the central area of the south-eastern part of the site a cremation cemetery comprising 16 graves was found, with a possible pyre site to the south-west of the cemetery. Of these 16 cremations three were dated to the Middle Iron Age and eight to the Late Iron Age to early Roman period. The cemetery was defined by two ditches to the north-east and south-east of the cremations with one entrance.

During the second phase of activity, dating to 125-240 AD, activity remained in the north-west of the site. The main enclosure was extended to the north, and a pottery production site, including kilns, was constructed. The vessel types from both kilns indicated that they were used in the 2nd to 3rd centuries. Activity in the open landscape to the south was sparse compared with the first phase, suggesting no major changes to the function of the landscape. There was some division of the landscape with an enclosure created to the east of the area and another in the south-west area, near the promontory.

The third phase of activity, dated to 200-409 AD, saw activity shift south of the main enclosure constructed in the first phase. The latest ditch in a series of re-cuts along the edge of the promontory the upper fill contained a vessel.

Evidence of Saxon activity was also encountered. A curving ditch oriented south-west to north-east was identified in the west of the site and two sherds of pottery dated to between the early 5th century and late 6th century were recovered from the ditch fill. The pit had a charcoal rich fill and was dated to 530-609 AD. A further possibly early medieval gully and pit were found.

In the middle of the park to the north of the excavated area are the remains of a late 19th century infectious diseases hospital. The Dagenham Hospital was built as a smallpox hospital by West Ham County Borough Council and was opened on the 25th March 1899. It consisted of single storey brick buildings surrounded by a quadrangle. In 1912 the Dagenham Smallpox Hospital was converted into a tuberculosis sanatorium and renamed the Dagenham Sanatorium. During the First World War the Sanatorium was extended with the addition of wooden huts and in 1939 it joined the Emergency Medical Survey. By 1980 it had become a geriatric hospital; it closed in 1989 and was demolished shortly afterwards.

Significance

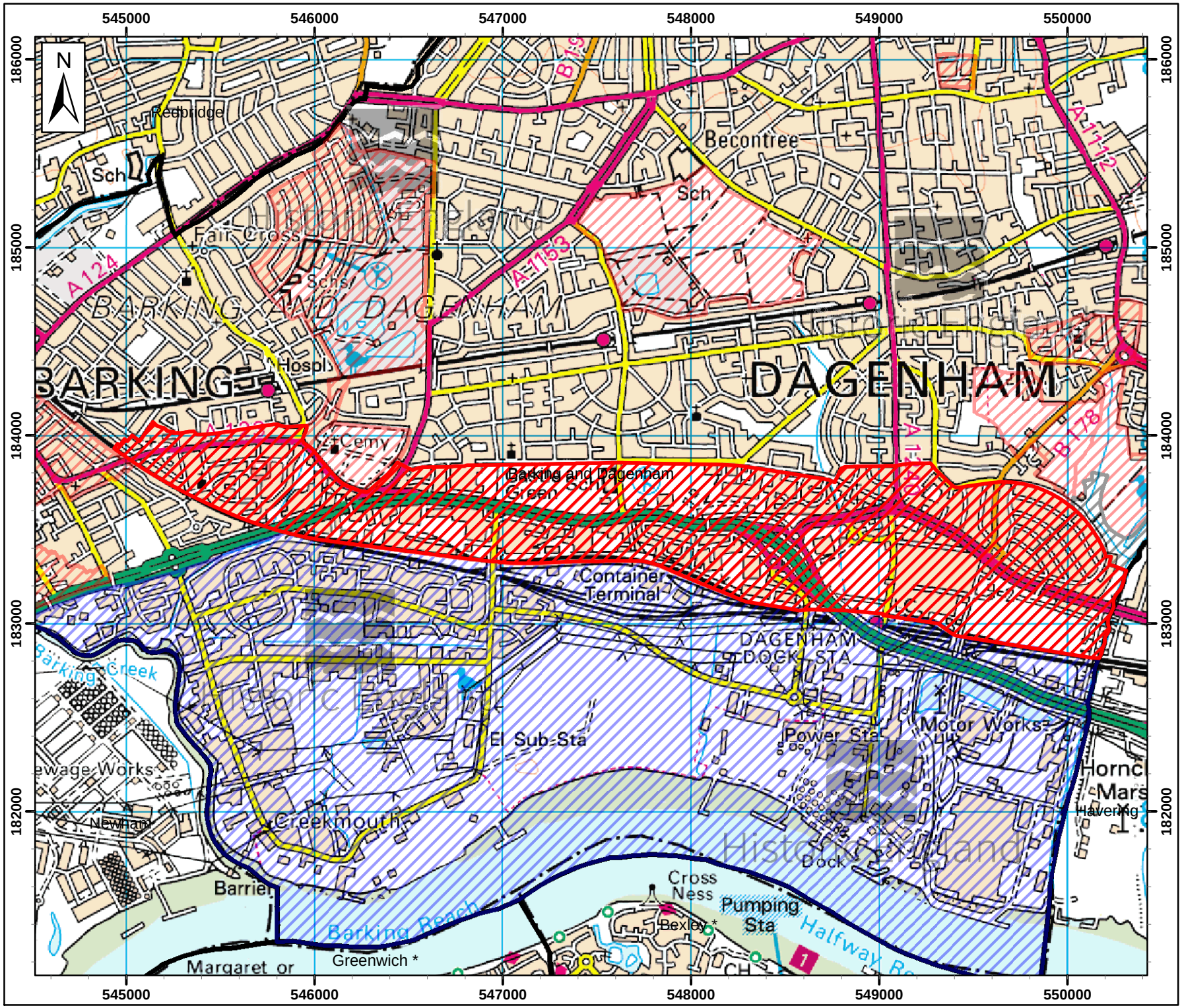
Beam Valley Country Park has archaeological significance as considerable late Iron Age and Roman remains have been found there. The reports for the excavated areas noted that the remains extended beyond the edge of the site, indicating that further remains are still extant. Additional information that would be uncovered during further works would enhance our understanding of settlement in the area from the Iron Age onwards.

Key References

Beam Washlands Dagenham Greater London Post Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design, *Oxford Archaeology*, 2007

Dagenham Hospital, *Lost Hospitals of London*, http://ezitis.myzen.co.uk/dagenham.html

Roman Settlement, pottery production and a cemetery in the Beam Valley, Dagenham Publication Report, *Oxford Archaeology*, 2010



Barking and Dagenham APA 2.12 Ripple Road

Ripple Road APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:26,500

Notes:
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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.12: Ripple Road

Summary and Definition

This Archaeological Priority Area covers a corridor of archaeological potential along the Ripple Road, covering the geological change from peat deposits along the foreshore and the gravel to the north. This area has been designated as a Tier 2 APA as significant finds and features have been found close to the road, particularly dating to the prehistoric era. These include the late Neolithic to early Bronze Age Dagenham Idol, and a nearby Bronze Age trackway. Evidence of Roman activity in the form of burials and cremations has also been found in this APA. There is a potential for further archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period onwards within this area, particularly dating to the prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods.

Description

The Ripple Road follows the approximate line of where the marshlands to the south, which border the Thames, would have met the drier land to the north. This is evident in the geological change between alluvial deposits to the south and Taplow gravel to the north. This is part of the Thames terrace edge which runs from the City of London into Essex. It is an archaeologically rich area, particularly for prehistoric remains.

Numerous finds dating to the prehistoric period have been found in the area. The Dagenham Idol, a late Neolithic or early Bronze Age wooden figure, was found in 1922 during the installation of sewer pipes on the edge of the marshes south of the Ripple Road near to Gores Brook. A possible deer skeleton was also found approximately 30 yards south of it, but was subsequently lost. These were probably contained within a peat layer and are described in a contemporaneous article as having been found 'in soil of a peaty nature'. The figure, which is armless and naked, is made from a complete roundwood stem of Scots pine wood, which would have been at least 30 years old at the time of its creation. It has been carbon dated to 2459-2110 BC, placing it in the late Neolithic to early Bronze Age. It is an early example of an anthropomorphic wooden figure and one of few examples in Britain.

Wooden figures are often found in wetland areas, such as on the edges of bogs or estuarine areas. They are more often found in mainland Europe, particularly in Germany and Scandinavia. Only seven have been found in the Britain and Ireland, most notably the Balluchulish figure and the figures at Roos Carr. It is posited that they were used as cult objects or effigies, and are often found in liminal spaces. The chronology of wooden anthropomorphic figures in Europe spans from the Mesolithic to the thirteenth century AD,

with the majority occurring between approximately 500BC to 300AD, whilst that of Britain and Ireland is smaller, ranging from the Neolithic to the Iron Age-Roman era.

An evaluation was carried out by the Passmore Edwards Museum in 1993 to the immediate west of where the Dagenham Idol was found. This uncovered a causeway constructed of gravel, burnt flint and sand. It was dated to the middle Bronze Age by samples taken for radiocarbon analysis from the peat deposit immediately over it and underneath it. This indicated that it would have been in use for approximately 100 years. The causeway was approximately four metres wide and was traced for 23 metres using boreholes. It was hypothesised that such a large trackway would have been used for the movement of cattle. Environmental analysis noted a change from a wooded environment to one where grass was dominant. Cattle would have been herded down to richer summer pastures from drier ground to the north. Smaller trackways dating to the same period have been found along the foreshore in Newham and Havering, and working platforms and a possible revetment have been found in Barking.

Aerial photographs of Goresbrook Sports Centre show cropmarks which formed a junction of three double ditched marsh lanes. A ground radar survey carried out by the Passmore Edwards Museum in 1990 showed that stone had been extensively used in the construction of the roads. A further resistivity survey also carried out in 1990 revealed evidence of double ditches and a possible trackway. It was suggested that the roads may be part of a prehistoric or Roman road. Further work by Newham Museum Service in 1995 uncovered two pits, two ditches and a post hole dating to the prehistoric period, which were overlain by a sandy silty subsoil of possible later prehistoric date.

A palaeochannel was discovered through geoarchaeological monitoring by Museum of London Archaeology Service in 2007 at the Renwick Road Junction on the A13, just to the south of Castle Green. Although no archaeological remains were uncovered during the monitoring, it is possible that the channel and the area around it may have provided a focus for activity for prehistoric people living nearby, and it is possible that archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains could be uncovered in and around the channel.

Human remains dating to the Roman period have been found along the Ripple Road in several places, indicating that the road was probably in use during this period. Four cremation burials were found at Goresbrook Sports Centre by Newham Museum Service in 1995. The cremation burials were located within an enclosure and a further corner of a ditched enclosure and two groups of linear ditches were uncovered. The cremations contained ceramic grave goods and abraded pottery shreds, from which it was possible to date the burials to the 1st or 2nd century AD. A stone coffin containing several skeletons were found during building works at 496 Ripple Road and was excavated by Professor C F Hawkes at some point during the 20th century. The burials were dated to the 3rd century AD by a pot at

the foot of the burials. Several further pots were also found with the coffin, of which one apparently contained cremated bone.

There is documentary and cartographic evidence of settlement along the Ripple Road from the medieval period onwards. The first documentary evidence of the Manor of Cockermouth dates to 1250. The manor consisted at this time of a rectangular piece of land of approximately 600 acres , of which two thirds was marshland. By the time of the Dissolution, the manor consisted of 200 acres. The first description of the manor house is in 1563, in which it was described as being 60 foot long north to south, and 15ft wide east to west. It fronted onto the Ripple Road and was enclosed on three sides by a moat. In 1594 it was described as a 'fayre house bylte of brick near Barkyng'. The house was demolished in the 19th century, and its replacement, Pound House, was demolished in 1922.

Further houses were built along the edge of the marsh, fronting onto Ripple Road, forming a ribbon development. Willishaws and Osbornes farms are first referred to in the mid 15th and mid 16th centuries respectively. In 1921 the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England described Osbournes Farm as a16th century building 'with a cross wing at the eastern end with a projecting upper storey at the north end of the cross wing'. There is also documentary and cartographic evidence of Cockermouth farmhouse, which was demolished in 1700 and replaced by Merrielands (later known as American Farm). All of these were demolished during the industrialisation of the area and the construction of the Becontree Estate in the early part of the 20th century.

Significance

Ripple Road APA is an area with considerable archaeological potential. Any further remains which could be uncovered through archaeological investigations of the Ripple Road and the area immediately adjacent would add to our knowledge of the use and development of the road. Remains which could be uncovered could include prehistoric features such as trackways, ditches and remains of settlement. There is also a potential for Roman remains, particularly burials, which are often located along or near to roadways on the outside of settlements. Remains of medieval houses and farmsteads could also be present.

The wider area also has archaeological potential and significance, particularly for the prehistoric period. The Dagenham Idol is one of the earliest examples of an anthropomorphic wooden figure in the British Isles and the only example in the Greater London area. Consequently, as a late Neolithic or early Bronze Age wooden effigy with potential votive or ritual implications it is of significant archaeological value. Any future archaeological works in the area have the potential to further our understanding of the landscape in which the Idol would have been situated and its relationship with it.

Remains such as further trackways or ditches, providing evidence of human use of the landscape during the prehistoric could also be encountered. This would enable us to fulfil part of the research framework criteria for the prehistoric period, as it would increase our understanding of the relationship between trackways in the floodplain and the settlements to which they were linked. There is also the potential for the recovery of palaeoenvironmental archaeological remains in and around palaeochannels and in peat deposits. This could increase our understanding of the nature of this part of the Thames Valley, and its influence on human interaction with and settlement within the landscape, particularly in the prehistoric period.

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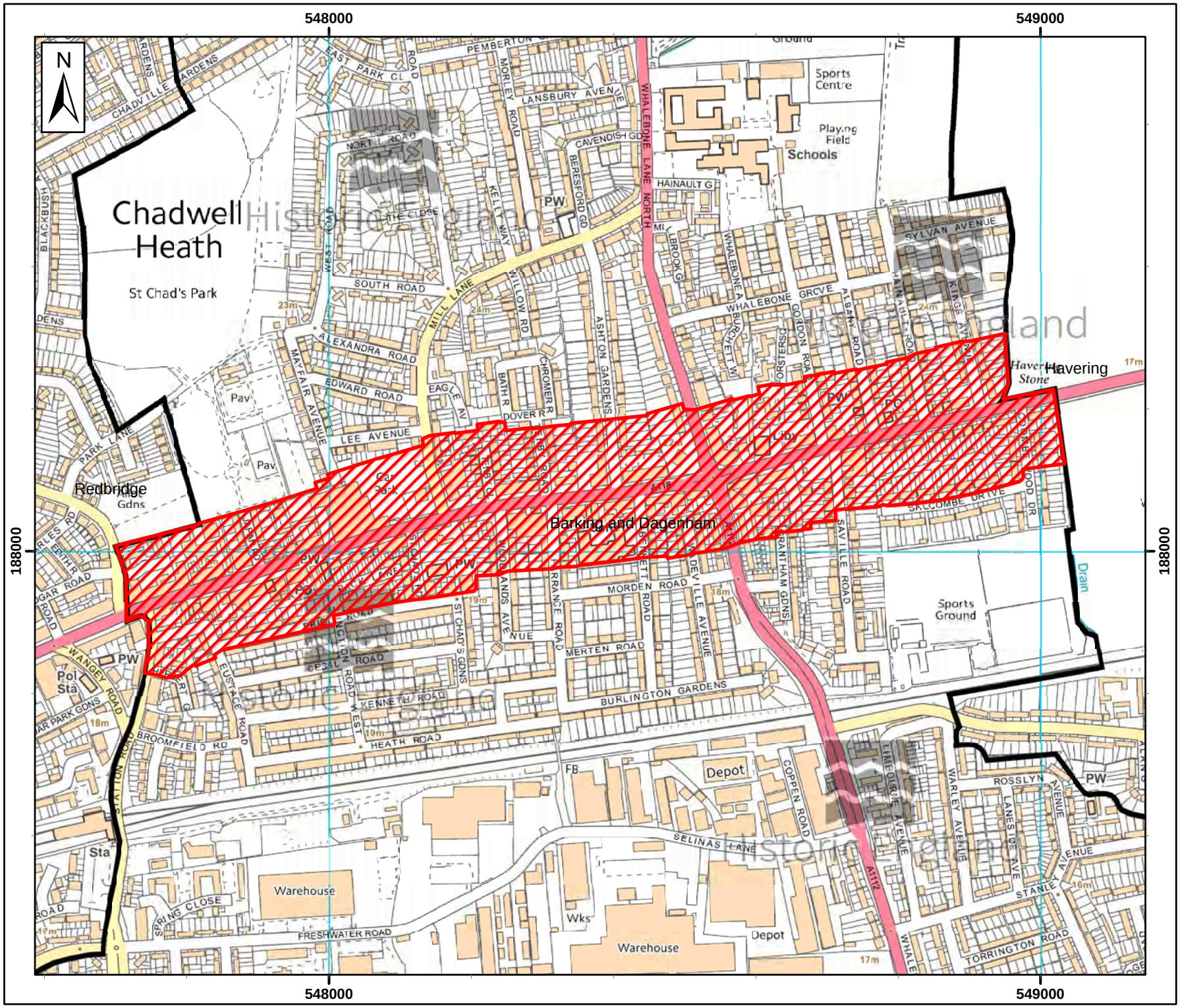

Barking and Dagenham APA 2.13 London to Colchester Roman Road

- London to Colchester Roman Road APA
- Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area
- Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area
- Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:7,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.13: London to Colchester Roman Road

Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the projected route of the London to Colchester Roman road through Barking and Dagenham. The APA has been classified as Tier 2 as it is a corridor along a Roman road.

Description

The Roman road that connected London with Colchester ran through the northern part of Barking and Dagenham. The route of Romford Road running south of Chadwell Heath is thought to run on a similar trajectory as the Roman Road. Whilst no section of the Roman road has been uncovered in Barking and Dagenham, parts of it have been found during excavations in Newham, and Roman era remains have been found along the trajectory of the road across the borough boundary in Romford.

The road and its surrounding area has been in use since at least the Roman period, and evidence of past human activity have been found both along the round and in the general area. Most this is dates to the medieval and post medieval period, although Palaeolithic hand axes and flakes have been found during gravel extraction in the area. Chadwell Heath, as a settlement is first mentioned in 1254, and can be seen as a ribbon development in the post medieval period. Most recently, the road was used as part of World War Two defences. The cross roads with Whalebone Lane were the site of several anti-tank blocks and pillboxes which served as part of the London Stop: Outer (Line A), which was constructed in June 1940 to defend against a possible German invasion.

Significance

The road is important as it linked London and Colchester which were two of the most significant towns in Roman Britain. It is likely that the road was an early contributor to subsequent road layouts in following centuries, and would have been of particular importance in the mid first century when it linked the tribal capital and Roman colony of *Camulodunum* with the newly founded Roman town of *Londinium.* The development of the road would have led to roadside settlements being established along it. Since sections of the road, as well as other Roman remains, have been uncovered in previous excavations in adjoining boroughs, it is likely that further remains are present along its route. The road and

its surrounding area are of further historical interest due to its use for the defence of London in World War Two.

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A History of the County of Essex: Volume 5, Victoria County History 1966. http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol5/pp267-281

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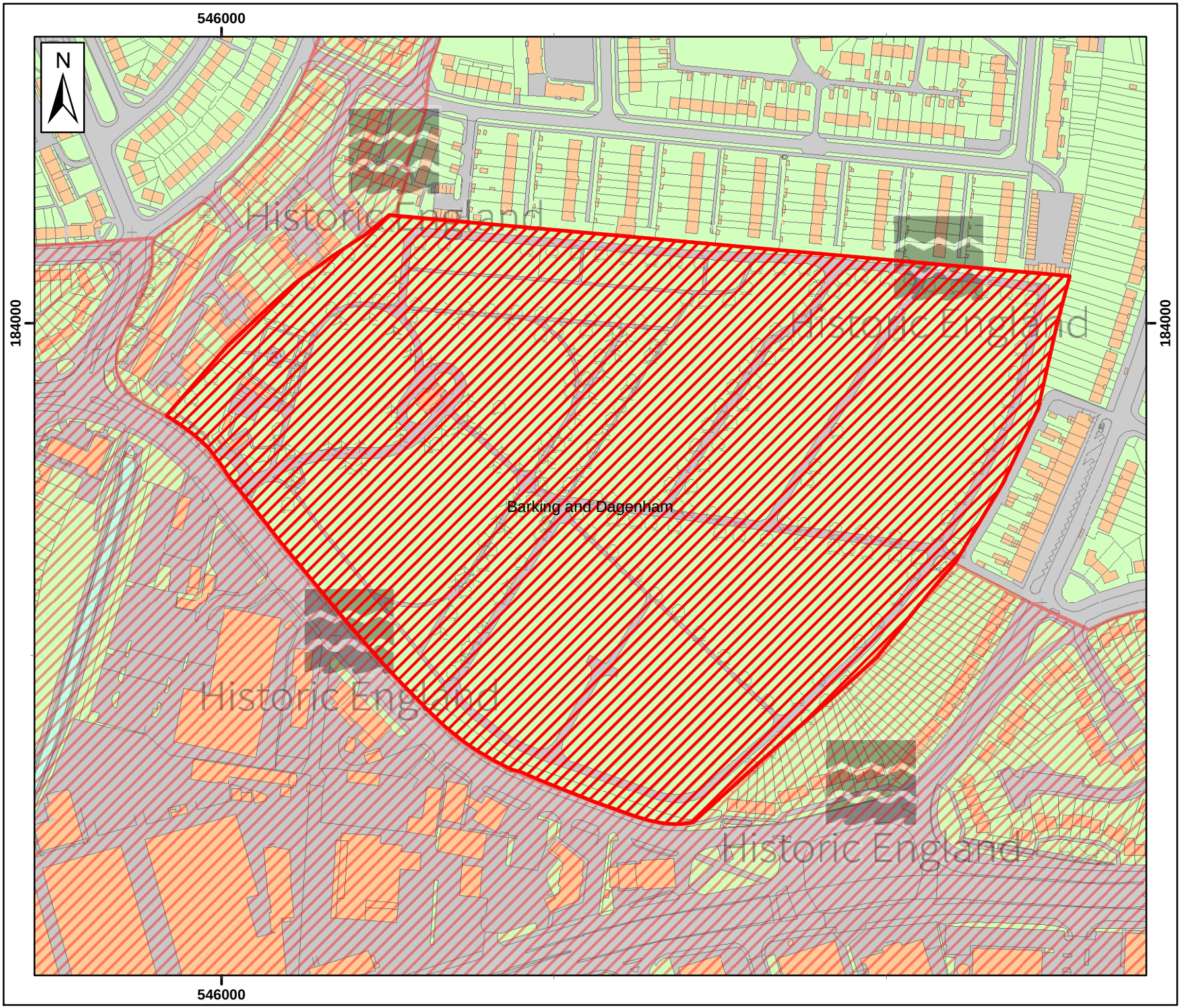

Barking and Dagenham APA 2.14 Rippleside Cemetery

Rippleside Cemetery APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:3,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 2.14: Rippleside Cemetery

Summary and Definition

This Archaeological Priority Area covers the post medieval Rippleside cemetery. The cemetery was founded in the 19th century and reflects the need for extra burial space to deal with Barking's growing population. The APA is classified as Tier 2 as it covers a burial ground with 19th century origins.

Description

Plans for Rippleside Cemetery were proposed in 1884 for the parish of St Margaret's Barking, so as to provide further burial space outside of central Barking. The site was purchased by the Barking Parish Burial Board and the Vestry provided £6000 for the construction of a chapel and the preparing of the burial ground. The chapel, which is Grade II listed was designed by Charles James Dawson, a local architect, and is stylistically reminiscent of St Margaret's Church. It is an example of perpendicular Gothic style and was built in ragstone with Portland stone dressings. The cemetery was opened in 1886, extended in 1903 and again in the 1950s.

Significance

Prior to the 19th century most cemeteries in Barking and Dagenham were associated with churches that had existed since at least the medieval period. However, the rapid growth of Barking's population and the expansion of its urban areas during the late 19th and early to mid-20th centuries called for further burial space. This APA reflects the rapid development of Barking and the surrounding areas during this period.

Burials which are over 100 years old may be 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 occur when burials over 100 years old have to be disturbed. Such disturbance could be for development or purposes other than routine small scale cemetery operations. The views and feelings of relatives and associated faith communities, when known, would be considered.

Key References

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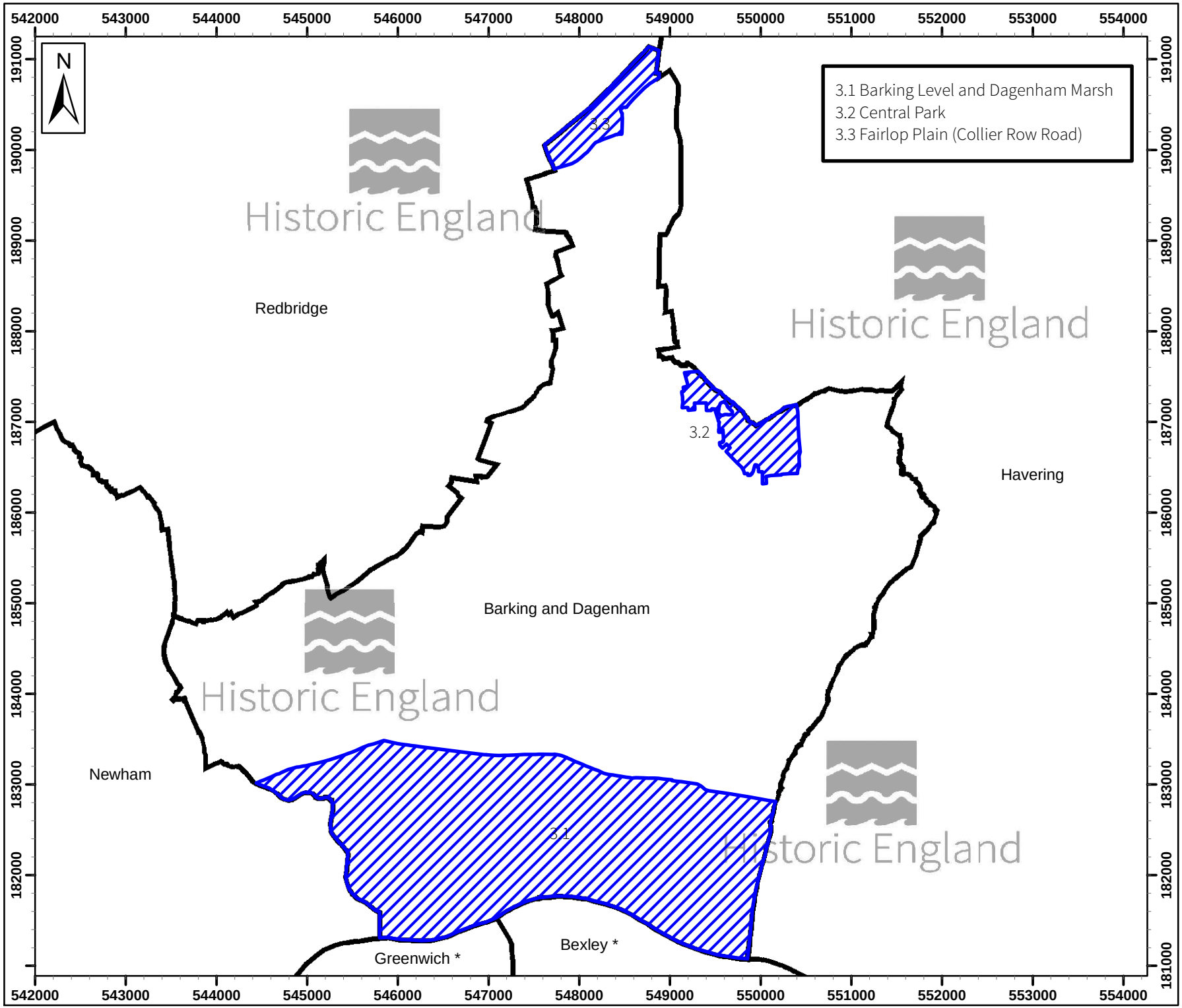

Barking and Dagenham Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:55,000

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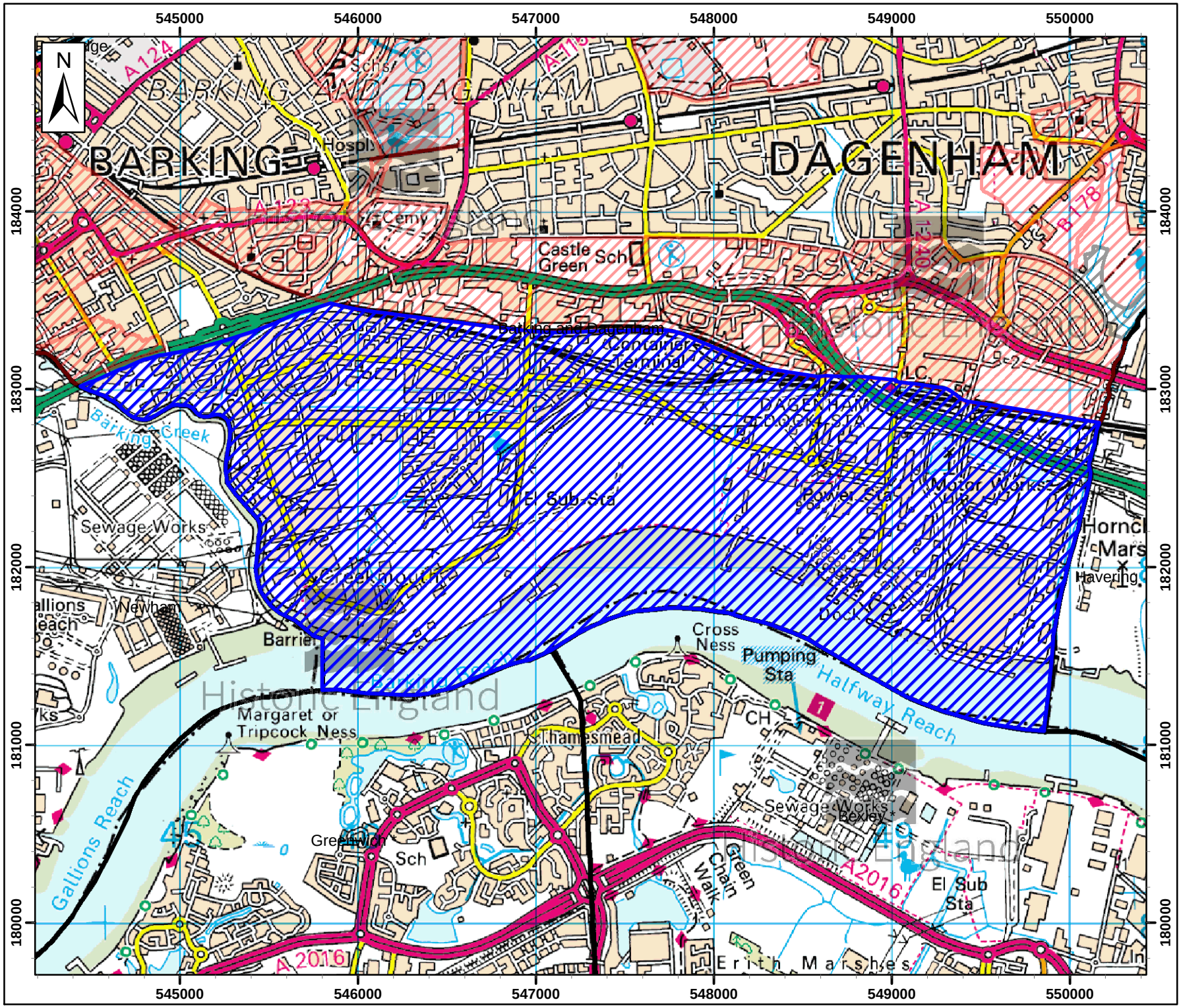
Area descriptions and map extracts for Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Areas



Barking and Dagenham
APA 3.1
Barking Level and Dagenham Marsh

Barking Level and Dagenham Marsh APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:28,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 3.1: Barking Level and Dagenham Marsh

Summary and Definition

The Barking Level and Dagenham Marsh Archaeological Priority Area covers the area from the Thames foreshore, to the London, Tilbury and Southend railway line to the north. The area was largely undeveloped prior to the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The APA is classified as a Tier 3 because it is an extensive area with evidence for surviving archaeological landscapes. It is also a landscape with a high potential for the preservation of organic remains associated with a wetland environment.

Description

From the beginning of the Holocene period, relative sea-level started rising rapidly, as a result of glacial retreat. River levels in the Thames rose rapidly through the Mesolithic and the valley sides became inundated, initially with terrestrial soils and then with a wooded environment. Towards the end of the Mesolithic, relative sea-level rise slowed, with the Thames at a position where the floodplain permitted rapid expansion of wetlands in this area, initially wooded wetlands, but as the marshy environment took hold, this progressed by stages to an alder carr and then salt marsh into the Bronze and earlier Iron Ages before the rate of relative sea-level rise again increased, and the wetlands were overtopped by estuarine waters depositing muds over the earlier marshland. These wetlands would have been extremely rich in natural resources at times within their history, and there is strong evidence supporting human exploitation of the wider wetlands.

In the early Holocene (Mesolithic) areas of higher ground would have existed within the landscape, forming eyots between the braided channels of the Thames. A recent study of borehole data for the Barking Level area has identified an eyot to the south of Barking, which has been named the Barking Eyot. This eyot was approximately 500m wide and over a kilometre in length and would have been surrounded by channels, with some cutting through the eyot, creating smaller ones. In later prehistory the eyot and the braided channels would have slowly been subsumed by the deposition of alluvium across the foreshore. Peat would have developed in the marshy conditions in the Neolithic and Bronze Age, and this has been found across the APA.

Finds dating to the prehistoric era, particularly the Bronze Age, have been found nearby, especially within peat deposits, for example the Dagenham Idol and a large Bronze Age trackway (see Ripple Road APA). Further finds have been found within the marshes, including

a polished basalt hand axe, dating to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age, which was uncovered during unspecified works in the 'marshes near Barking' prior to 1916.

The marshlands remained undeveloped and used for seasonal rough grazing until the late 19th century. The area was prone to flooding and difficulties with river defences have been noted since the medieval period. River and sea walls, which were the landowners' responsibility, were constructed in a piecemeal fashion to prevent the flooding of land, but these often fell into disrepair and were badly maintained. There is considerable documentary evidence of the effect of the flooding on Barking Abbey. Much of their land was flooded in the late medieval period, and whilst they attempted to drain and reclaim the marshland, the flooding nevertheless caused a large loss of income. The area to the south of Eastbury Manor was severely flooded in 1377 and remained so for much of the late medieval and early post medieval period. The flooded area was called the 'Rant' and spread over 40 acres and was 24 feet deep in the late 16th century. In 1582 Thomas Fanshawe who owned nearly a quarter of the land under water attempted to drain the Rant, but met with local opposition, as the local farmers had become accustomed to using the Rant for watering the adjoining land and cattle. However, the land was eventually reclaimed and a drainage channel was constructed. This formed a curve from the River Roding, running south of Eastbury Manor House and parallel to Ripple Road, as indicated on the 1740s tithe map. A sluice gate was built to the south-west end between the Rant and Fleets Mouth, which fed into the River Roding. The channel was deep enough for shallow bottomed boats to pass along it, and it is thought that smugglers may have used it.

A further example of flooding is noted on 18th century maps at Horseshoe Corner. This may have been caused by floods in the 14th and 15th centuries, when the breach in the wall west of Highams Wall, which ran vertically from the Thames to Ripple Road, was consolidated by constructing a horseshoe shaped wall defence. In 1707 a breach in the sea wall caused peat and clay to wash from the marshlands into the Thames forming a mudbank in the Thames, which was a danger to boats navigating the river. Dagenham Gulf (also known as Dagenham Breach on the Ordnance Survey maps) was created as a result of the subsequent repairs and clearing of the mudbank, which was completed by 1729. On the east bank of the Gulf by the sea wall, the engineer, John Perry, built a house named Breach House. This became the commissioners of sewers' meeting place. In the late 18th century, Dagenham Breach became a local resort for the upper classes, with an angling club established there from 1792 to 1812. Breach House was demolished in 1812. Elizabeth Fry, the Quaker reformer, spent her summer holidays there between 1824 and 1833. The lake subsequently became open to the public for fishing until the area became industrialised in the late 19th century.

Barking Level and Dagenham Marsh remained largely undeveloped until the mid to late 19th century. Industrialisation was heralded by the construction of the railway between Barking and Rainham in the 1850s, across the north of the marshes. Industrial development started

along Barking Reach and at Creekmouth, where chemical and powder works were established. Dagenham dock industrial estate was established on the edge of Dagenham Breach in the late 19th century and the marshland was reclaimed to create wharves. It became one of the largest coal wharves on the Thames and handled large amounts of manufactured goods for export. The area was extensively built on during the late 1920s and 1930s. This involved raising of ground levels on a large scale, therefore burying earlier marsh deposits which hold archaeological potential. Industrial development continued in Barking and Dagenham along the Thames, notably to the east, south of Dagenham. Of particular note was the Ford factory, which opened in December 1928, reclaiming large amounts of marshland and becoming the largest local employer.

Significance

The APA covers an area which was once an extensive estuarine/marshland landscape, the remains of which can be expected to be found beneath modern made ground (itself of no archaeological interest), with many instances of peat being recorded. The Barking Eyot area has both archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential, as due to its topographical nature the area may have been used during the Neolithic and Bronze Age. Both the eyot and the surrounding channels may have archaeological remains pertaining to these periods, which would increase our understanding of the development of the area. Evidence of deeply buried remains such as eyots and peat can be collected through borehole data which can indicate archaeological potential. Important prehistoric features have been found within the Tier 2 APA that borders this area. Any well preserved prehistoric features found within this area would be of archaeological interest and significance. Potential discoveries could include boats, fish-traps and trackways, as well as artefacts and environmental evidence. There may also be evidence of land reclamation and inundation dating from the medieval period onwards which could be of interest and use in managing the future changes to the Thames Estuary.

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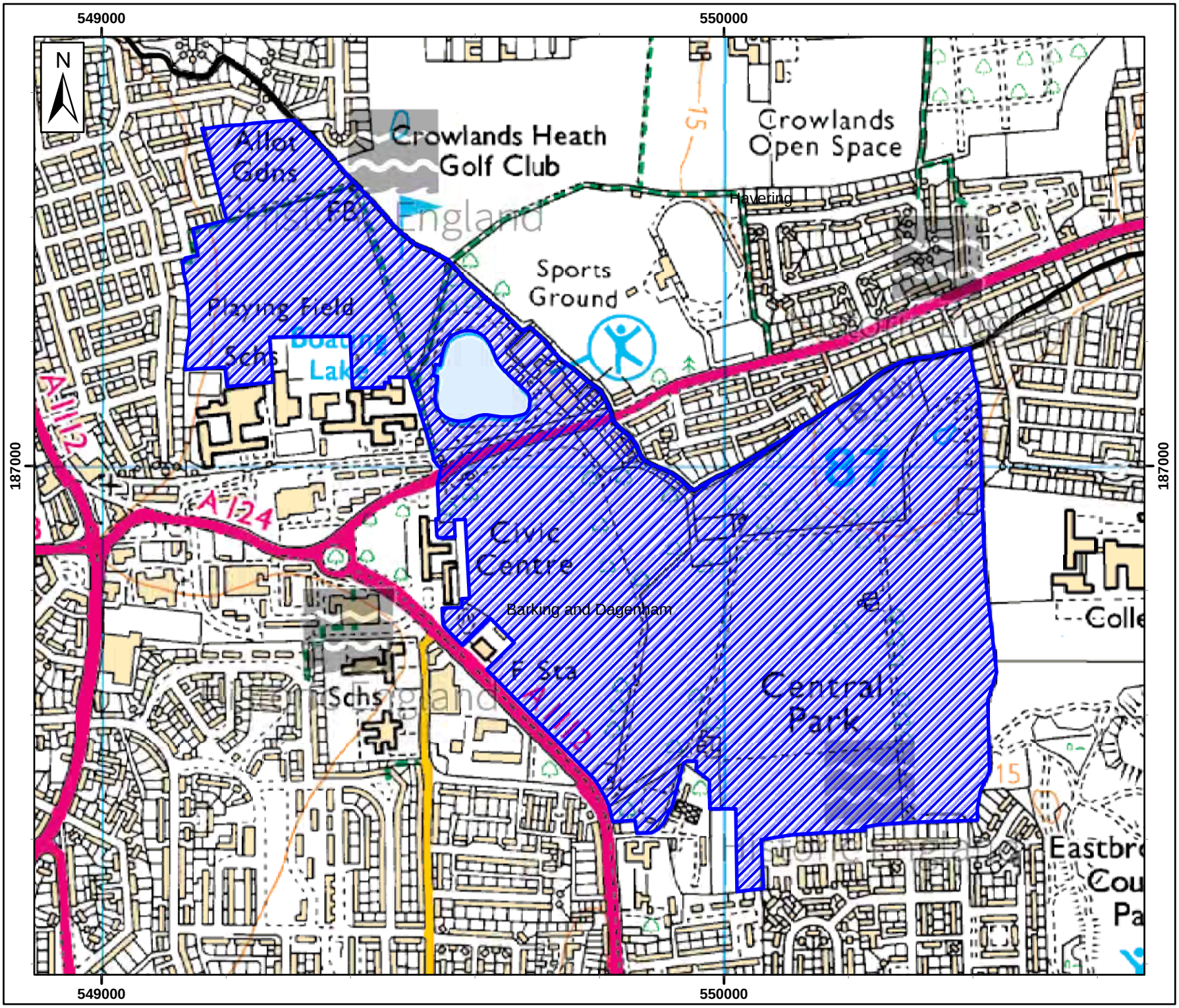

Barking and Dagenham
APA 3.2
Central Park

Central Park APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:8,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 3.2: Central Park

Summary and Definition

Central Park and the land to the north of Wood Lane, including the playing fields in Robert Clack School, have been denoted as a Tier 3 archaeological priority area as it is a large area of land that has not been developed and crop marks of possible archaeological interest have been identified on aerial photographs.

Description

The land for Central Park was bought by Dagenham Borough Council in 1928, and the park opened in 1932. The park included a putting green, miniature golf course, pavilion and tennis grounds. The Second World War disrupted further plans for the park and it remains much as it was prior to this date.

It is to be noted that in order to construct the Wantz Boating Lake, using the Wantz Stream as a water source, the area was excavated, and therefore has had any archaeological potential removed. This land was largely used for allotments during the 20th century before being turned into a park and Wantz Boating Lake.

The park is geologically situated on Hackney Gravels, which are notable for their archaeological potential. There have been numerous excavations on similar geology to the east in Havering, such as at Hunts Hill Farm in Upminster and Moor Hall Farm in Rainham, which have revealed occupation sites dating from the prehistoric through to Saxon period, with the majority falling within the Bronze Age to Roman period. These settlements take the form of small defended settlements or farmsteads with remains of enclosures, buildings and field systems discovered. In the Roman period in particular, this area was composed of multiple farmsteads and ditched fields, in part thanks to its proximity with the Roman road from London to Colchester. Aerial photographs taken in 1976 to the north of the area identified crop marks which may be of archaeological interest. They were identified as a group of undated parallel ditches. Further crop marks were also noted across the borough boundary in Havering in 1971, where three ring ditches which have been assigned to the prehistoric were identified.

South of Wood Lane, in Central Park, aerial photographs taken by the RAF in 1947 noted a rectangular enclosure orientated north-west, south-east, which was incomplete in the north-east corner. Within this, a smaller rectangular enclosure was identified on the eastern edge. These crop marks could not be dated.

Further crop marks were noted to the north-east of Central Park on aerial photographs bearing no date. These were identified as a possible sub rectangular enclosure, (approximately 41 meters in in length and 39 metres wide), a ring ditch, which has been tentatively dated to the Bronze or Iron Age, and an incomplete circular enclosure (diameter approximately 43 meters), with an attached ring ditch.

Aerial photographs taken in 1960 showed an area of ridge and furrow which could have been part of a medieval field system in the west of Central Park. A resistivity survey undertaken in 1996 revealed a probably rectilinear structure of unknown date as well as a possible ditch feature. Subsequent evaluation on site in 1997 revealed a linear ditch cut into the natural, but failed to reveal any evidence of the rectilinear structure.

Significance

Central Park APA has archaeological potential as the area to the north of Wood Lane have been largely undeveloped, and aerial photographs indicate that there are possible features that could be of archaeological interest. Areas of similar geology in the vicinity have revealed settlement sites dating mainly to the Bronze Age to Roman period, and consequently there is the potential for similar remains relating to field systems or settlements to be found here. Although the main potential would be for Bronze Age to Roman remains, there is also the possibility that early or later remains could also be present. This area has therefore been classified as a Tier 3 due to its archaeological potential.

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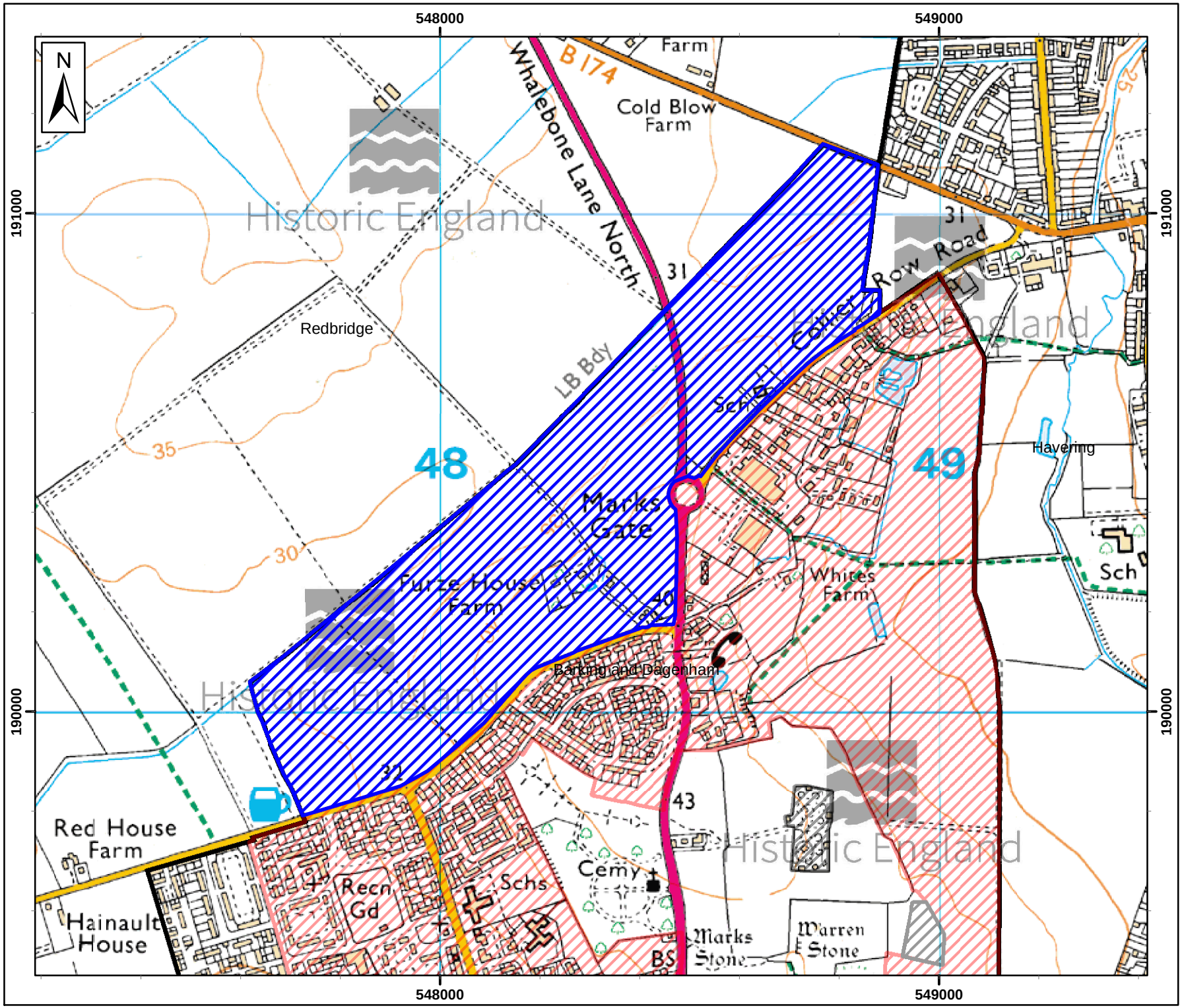

Barking and Dagenham
APA 3.3
Fairlop Plain (Collier Row Road)

Fairlop Plain (Collier Row Road) APA

Tier 1 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:10,000

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Barking and Dagenham APA 3.3: Fairlop Plain (Collier Row Road)

Summary and Definition

Fairlop Plain (Collier Row Road) Archaeological Priority Area covers an area of undeveloped land north of Billet Road and Collier Row Road to the borough boundary with Redbridge. The APA has been categorised as a Tier 3 APA as this is a large area of undeveloped land on a favoured gravel geology with archaeological potential for remains dating to the prehistoric, particularly the Bronze Age and Iron Age, and Roman periods indicated by discoveries in the vicinity including across the boundary in Redbridge. It effectively forms the southern edge of the much larger Tier 3 Fairlop Plain APA in the London Borough of Redbridge

Description

The APA covers an area which has superficial geological deposits of gravel across the majority of the area, with bedrock geology of London clay. The APA encompasses the gentle hill rising from Fairlop Plain towards Marks Gate.

Although remains dating to the Bronze Age and Iron Age are relatively rare in the Marks Gate area, scatters of Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery were found during excavation of a gravel pit on Whalebone Lane North in 1936 (see Marks Gate APA). Considerable Bronze Age and Iron Age remains have been identified and excavated across the borough boundary in Redbridge, which is on the same geology (gravel) to the area defined by the APA. An aerial photograph survey in 1996 identified several features including two prehistoric ring ditches. Excavations at Fairlop Quarry in 1996 to 1999 found a Middle Bronze Age cremation cemetery with two ring ditches, a small Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age structure and several roundhouses dating to the Middle Iron Age to Late Iron Age/early Roman period. Additional evidence of Roman field system included ditches, enclosures and a timber structure used possibly for crop processing. Several late Roman cremation burials were also uncovered.

Little archaeological evidence has been found within the APA. Evidence of Roman activity was found to the north of Billet Road in 1988 when a series of ditches was uncovered which had been backfilled with a large quantity of Roman tile and brick. It was noted that the condition and quantity of wasters indicated a possible Roman kiln in the vicinity.

The area appears to have remained undeveloped during the medieval and post-medieval periods, with a linear settlement forming on the south side of Billet and Collier Row roads. On the Chapman and Andre map of 1777, the area is shown as being a common bordering onto Hainault Forest to the north, with a large house, which is still extant, called Furze House situated on the north side of the road. An independent chapel was constructed to the north

of the road close to the intersection of Billet Road and Whalebone Lane North at some point between 1777 and the first edition of the Ordnance Survey.

Significance

Whilst there is as yet little recorded archaeology within the area, considerable remains have been found dating to the Bronze Age through to Roman period across the borough boundary in Redbridge. As the remains were found in an area with similar geology, it can be concluded that the area defined by the APA would be expected to have a similar potential for remains dating to the Bronze Age through to Roman periods. Finally, as the area comprises a large amount of undeveloped land, this increases the potential for landscape-scale archaeological studies in conjunction with the undeveloped areas across the borough boundary in Redbridge.

Glossary

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Research framework: A suite of documents which describe the current state of knowledge of a topic or geographical area (the 'resource assessment'), identifies

major gaps in knowledge and key research questions (the 'agenda') and set out a strategy for addressing them. A resource assessment and agenda for London archaeology has been published and a strategy is in preparation.

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

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

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