

Areas of High Archaeological Potential: Appraisal



Cover photographs

top left

Community Dig, Greenwich Park, 2010 'Teardrop' site, Woolwich, Archaeological Evaluation, 2008 top right

Medieval tidemill, Greenwich Wharf, 2009 bottom left

bottom right Digging Dad's Army Community Project, Eaglesfield Park, 2009



Areas of High Archaeological Potential Appraisal

Recommendation

This document is submitted for adoption by Greenwich Council.

specifically:

- Adoption of change of reference from Areas of Archaeological Potential to Areas of High Archaeological Potential.
- Adopt changes to the map areas within the borough represented by High Archaeological Potential.
- The deletion of two areas and the addition of two new Areas of High Archaeological Potential.
- The adoption of the Character Descriptions for the AHAPs.

October 2011

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Appendix A

Replacement Map 2: Areas of High Archaeological Potential

Appendix B

Character Descriptions and Map Extracts: Areas of High Archaeological Potential

Introduction

- 1) This Appraisal of Areas of High Archaeological Potential (AHAP) has been produced by English Heritage and submitted to Greenwich Council for consideration and possible adoption as part of the evidence base to support the planning policies in the Council's Core Strategy.
- 2) The AHAPs have not been subject to systematic review in detail for some period of time and never have descriptions been written identifying the particular significance of the individual areas. In the light of changes in Planning Guidance and emphasis placed upon local identity and local development framework strategies there is a clear need for the historic assets to be duly recognised and their significance and value quantified.
- 3) In the context of Planning Policy Statement 5, AHAPs should be seen as one component of the historic environment under which Conservation Areas, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, World Heritage Sites, Listed Buildings, Locally Listed Buildings would also be represented. The description therefore contains information about the historic environment as well as traditional archaeological information.

Explanation of Areas of High Archaeological Potential and the relevant Planning Policy

4) Archaeology can be anticipated across most of the borough hence being a material planning consideration.

What is an area of High Archaeological Potential?

5) A region defined within the borough where existing information indicates a perceived higher level of expectation that archaeology could be encountered over and above the background expectation elsewhere within the borough.

Where are the areas of High Archaeological Potential?

6) There are presently 30 areas of AHAPs within the borough with the proposal that two are deleted and three new areas are created representing a total of 1719.35 hectares or 34% of the borough.

		ha.
1	Deptford	32.69
2	Greenwich Town	50.73
3	Lower Creekside	16.78
4	Royal Greenwich	123.24
5	Greenwich Peninsula & Foreshore	438.89
6	Routeway Corridor	65.54
7	Shooters Hill Settlement	26.35
8	Royal Eltham	48.41
9	Eltham Park Estate	15.17
10	Eltham Lodge, Royal Blackheath Golf Course & Fairy Hill	45.37
11	Lower Belmont	2.28
12	Coldharbour Farm, Eltham	1.04
13	St Nicholas Church, Kidbrooke	1.1
14	Wricklemarsh Estate & Blackheath	20.7
15	Well Hall Pleasaunce	5.65
16	Horn Park	8.0
17	Chalton House	8.05
18	Cox's Mount & Maryon Park	15.52
19	Pott Houses Triangle	0.77
20	West Plumstead Pottery	0.56
21	Macoma Pottery	2.51
22	Civic Core	4.68
23	Woolwich Dockyard	69.8
24	Old Woolwich	28.32
25	Royal Arsenal West	41.12
26	Royal Arsenal East	527.76
27	Plumstead High Street	19.13
28	Wickham Lane	43.79
29	Barrack Field (new area)	14.67
30	Rotunda and Repository Wood (new area)	18.4
31	Shrewsbury House (new area)	29.52
Α	River Shutte (proposed deletion)	
В	Middle Park (proposed deletion)	

What restrictions are there throughout the Areas of High Archaeological Potential?

- 7) Planning applications are judged against strict criteria. Archaeology is a material planning consideration regardless of the presence or otherwise of a AHAP. Reference should be made to government Planning Policy Statement 5 that has replaced Planning Policy Guidance 15 (above ground heritage asset) and PPG16 (below ground heritage asset).
- 8) Proposed developments that fall within AHAPs or any development over 0.4 hectares in size if without should include as part of the planning application submission to the planning office a heritage statement. No application should therefore be validated if this element has not been considered. If the statement submitted indicates potential that perceived historic asset(s) may be affected then the application should be accompanied by a desk-based assessment. If it is resolved that certain fieldwork is necessary at the pre-determination stage to inform the application then the application should be considered for refusal. The planning application should only be resubmitted once the necessary site work has been completed and reported when it will be clear if historic environment condition(s) are or are not appropriate (see PPS5 and PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide, Communities and Local Government, DCMS and English Heritage, March 2010).

The Planning Policy Context

9) Planning applications must be decided in accordance with development plan policies (unless material considerations indicate otherwise). In policy terms, this Areas of High Archaeological Priority Appraisal is a supporting document, relating to, and to be read with, current national and local planning policies.

National Planning Policy

10) Given the current state of flux as Planning Policy Statements and Guidance are being re written as a new National Planning Policies Framework and any other changes that may be proposed in the Localism Bill, the following is based upon current planning considerations.

Designation of areas of High Archaeological Potential

11) Within the terminology of PPS5 on the historic environment, areas of high archaeological potential can be equated to group Setting (consultation draft, *The Setting of Heritage Assets: English Heritage guidance*, July 2010). Although specific historic assets beyond such defined areas will also have their own Setting.

Listing and Scheduling

12) English Heritage lists buildings of special architectural or historic interest on behalf of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. The Secretary of State is also responsible for the scheduling of ancient monuments and the registering of historic parks and gardens.

Local and Regional Planning Policy

The Mayor of London's London Plan

13) The Mayor undertakes to work with strategic partners to protect and enhance London's historic environment (Policy 4B.10) and expects Boroughs to ensure that the protection and enhancement of historic assets in London are based on their special character (Policy 4B.11).

Government consideration has been to re-balance the decision making between the Mayor's Office and the Borough and local neighbourhoods. A part of this process has been an understanding of the distribution of power until recently held by the Greater London Authority.

The London Plan: spatial development strategy for Greater London, July 2011, Policy 7.8, *heritage assets and archaeology*, is the key section pertinent to Areas of High Archaeological Potential.

Policy 7.8 Heritage assets and archaeology

Strategic

- A London's heritage assets and historic environment, including listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens and other natural and historic landscapes, conservation areas, World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields, scheduled monuments, archaeological remains and memorials should be identified, so that the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and of utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.
- B Development should incorporate measures that identify, record, interpret, protect and, where appropriate, present the site's archaeology.

Planning decisions

- C Development should identify, value, conserve, restore, re-use and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.
- D Development affecting heritage assets and their settings should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.
- E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources, landscapes and significant memorials. The physical assets should, where possible, be made available to the public on-site. Where the archaeological asset or memorial cannot be preserved or managed on-site, provision must be made for the

investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that asset.

Local Development Framework (LDF) preparation

- F Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and enhance the contribution of built, landscaped and buried heritage to London's environmental quality, cultural identity and economy as part of managing London's ability to accommodate change and regeneration.
- G Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organisations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying, protecting, enhancing and improving access to the historic environment and heritage assets and their settings where appropriate, and to archaeological assets, memorials and historic and natural landscape character within their area.

Greenwich Unitary Development Plan (UDP)

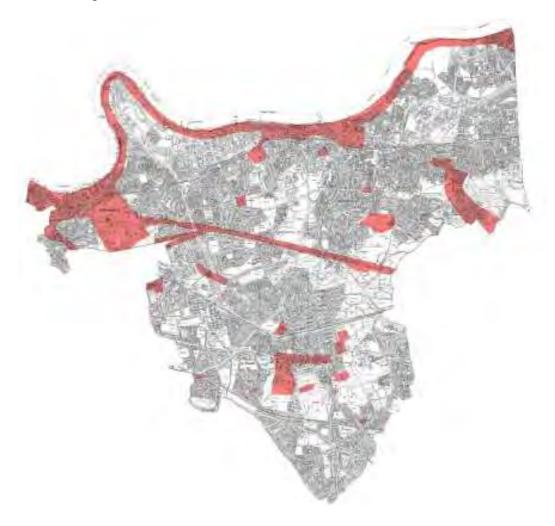
- 14) Planning applications should be determined in accordance with the local development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The development plan comprises the London Plan and the Greenwich UDP (adopted July 2006). It is supported by Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), which in time will be replaced by Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD).
- 15) Greenwich Council has also begun work on a new type of statutory plan, the Local Development Framework (LDF). This will eventually replace the current Greenwich UDP.
- 16) The relevant Core Strategy policy affecting AHAPs is:

Policy DH(I) Archaeology

The Council will expect applicants to properly assess and plan for the impact of proposed developments on archaeological remains where they fall within 'Areas of Archaeological Potential' as indicated on Map 2. In certain instances preliminary archaeological site investigations may be required before proposals are considered. The Council will seek to secure the co operation of developers in the excavation, recording and publication of archaeological finds before development takes place by use of planning conditions/legal agreements as appropriate.

At identified sites of known archaeological remains of national importance, including scheduled monuments, there will be a presumption in favour of the physical preservation of the remains in situ and to allow for public access and display and to preserve their settings. For sites of lesser importance the Council will seek to preserve the remains in situ, but where this is not feasible the remains should either be investigated, excavated and removed from the site, or investigated, excavated and recorded before destruction. Appropriate conditions/legal agreements may be used to ensure this is satisfied.

17) Reference is made to 'Map 2' below. In line with the proposed changes this map will require amending and the identification of each Area of High Archaeological Potential.



Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

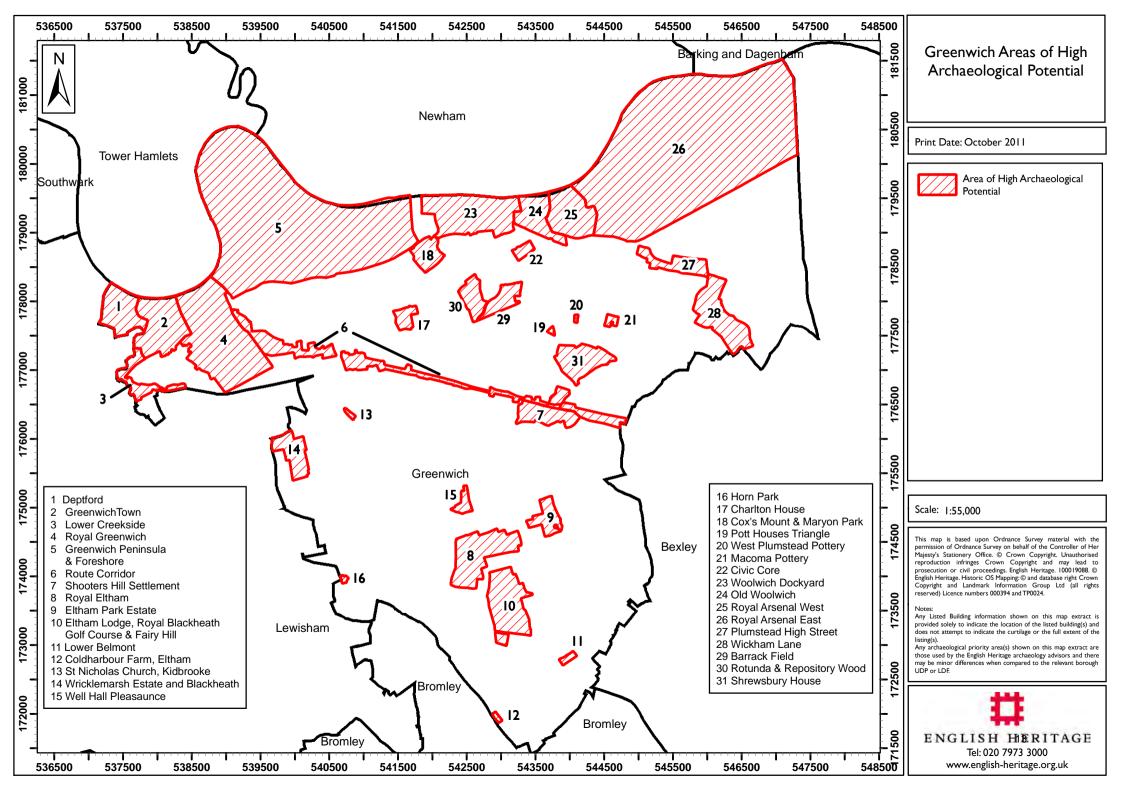
18) In addition to Development Plan policies, decisions on planning applications should take into account relevant Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) and any Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) produced under the new LDF regime of Local Development Framework Core Strategies and Local Development Frameworks.

Archaeological Priority Area Descriptions

- 19) The following descriptions based upon historic and archaeological information are not intended to detail all available information but to encapsulate the key aspects that contribute to the identity and character of the given historic landscape. The understanding of the significance of an area enables specific research topics to be identified that will help either fill in some of the gaps in our understanding or provide a focus for more detailed information relating to potentially borough or wider important evidence.
- 20) Each area entry also contains a recommendation regarding the physical dimension of the policy area; to remove, reduce, expand or add to the areas currently identified in the UDP. These comments should be considered along side data such as that held by the Greater London Historic Environment Record, English Heritage and the London Archaeological Archive Centre, Museum of London.

Appendix A

Replacement Map 2: Areas of High Archaeological Potential



Appendix B Character Descriptions and Map Extracts: Areas of High Archaeological Potential

Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 1 Deptford

The portion of Greenwich borough west of Deptford Creek.

The creek is fed by the River Ravensbourne. The area closest to the creek and River Thames consists of river silts, with Kempton River Terrace Gravel set further back. In this area the gravel was capped by Brickearth that was extensively excavated for the pottery, tile and brick-making industries.

Archaeological evidence for Roman occupation and burial occurred in the area of Deptford Broadway, south of this area however the scant finds from the northern marsh area to the west of the creek mouth suggests possible agricultural activity rather than occupation.

During the early to middle Saxon period occupation at Deptford Broadway continued as Deptford Strand developed on the banks of the River Thames north of the present day St Nicholas Church or possibly as far as Watergate Street. However this possible western location may relate to a further community known as Meretun, 'town within the marsh'. Historically, St Nicholas' Church dominated the area, sitting on relatively high ground or possible bank of terrace gravel, between the two small settlements with marsh to the north and to a lesser extent to the east. The founding of the church possibly coincided with the administrative change in the Late Saxon period with the creation of parishes.

According to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle the Vikings over wintered in Greenwich over the period 1012-14 and then again in 1016. However, no archaeological evidence for this has yet been discovered. It is possible their ships may have been beached on the bank of the River Thames but it is equally possible that they used the added protection of the creek to rest their ships.

Deptford is not named in the Domesday Book of 1086 as the land formed part of two estates, East Greenwich and West Greenwich, with this area likely to have been part of West Greenwich.

The road Stowage, south of Deptford Church, ran east towards the creek. Other forms of the name refer to Stoudge or Stoage and records suggest that by 1397 the name was associated with a particular property that the road led to on the bank of the creek. The name would suggest a business of supplying ships with stores. It is also likely that revetments began to be constructed along the river edge to enable boats to get close to be loaded and off-loaded.

It would be a further 418 years until 1815 before the bridge was built to extend the road to connect with the rest of Greenwich.

A crescent of a road ran east-west north of the church round to the creek, following the line of a drainage ditch called 'The Lynch'. The ditch marked the boundary between marsh and the area of gradual reclamation and development particularly from the fifteen century onwards. Along with grazing pasture, osier beds were established within the flooding area. The road was called Grenestret or Herthamlane. The earliest know development within this area dating from this time was the building of Trinity House almshouses. As the land was reclaimed so the tile and brick production factories developed, exploiting the locally available brickearth.

The intensification of the ship building and repair facilities to the immediate west of the area at what was to become Deptford Dockyard, now forming part of an area today called Convoys Wharf, Lewisham, began under Henry VII. Henry VIII purchased sites to establish Royal docks at both Deptford and Woolwich both in 1513. This resulted in secondary industries rapidly developing within the floodplain meadows to the east. This expansion required land drainage, raising land level and river revetting on a significant scale.

Between the Royal Dockyard and Deptford Creek in the seventeenth century the Honourable East India Company established thriving docks for trade and shipbuilding. Following their departure in 1643 the area continued to build ships for commerce through to 1820 when the General Steam Navigation Company was established in this area. It was this company that was the first steamship company to start trading.

In 1710 the churchwardens of St Nicholas Church estimated the Deptford population to be about 12,000 people with maps of the mid-eighteenth century showing rapid expansion across the open ground north of the church. An eighteenth-century satirical pamphlet called 'A Frolick to Horn Fair' describes the houses of Deptford as 'wooden dens, all of one form as if they were obliged by Act of Parliament to all build after the same model'.

Bridge Row to the south of the church was created shortly before the beginning of the nineteenth century and may represent a degree of speculative development that only slowly grew over the following 50 or more years. During this time to the south of the area, the first metropolitan railway in the world was opened in 1836 from London to Spar Road, Eventually London Bridge was to prove to be an important impetus To the development of the area with houses and commerce expanding across the market gardens down to the creek.

By the time of the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1871, the whole area had been built over by domestic and industrial buildings.

Between 1895 and 1896 a number of dwellings within the older part of Deptford were cleared so that Evelyn Street could be extended east to

connect with Creek Road and a realigned bridge to permit river transit trams to run west-east.

Barge beds, shelves of chalk rubble had been constructed along the margins of the creek so barges could rest at low tide without being put at risk by the sloping creek sides. All available water edge space was taken with the whole being a hive of industry as illustrated by early photographs of the area

The closure in 1868 of the Royal Dockyard at Deptford had an impact on Deptford. Unlike other dockyard closures where the closure was devastating this areas development continued with small industries taking the available space left by the working wharves.

Between 1887-9 the world's first large scale, Deptford Power Station, was built by Sebastian de Ferranti on the former East India Company dockyard to supply the needs of this burgeoning industry and population in the area. The Power Station produced for its time an unprecedented 10,000 volts. The station relied on coal that needed to be constantly supplied to site by barge.

In 1926 the station was expanded as the Deptford West Power Station taking in Deptford Green Dockyard. A further expansion in 1948-9 took the complex right to the creek edge. Advances in technology lead to the closure of Ferranti's building in 1957 with the whole site closed in 1983 and demolished in 1992. The site is now occupied by the 1997 housing redevelopment of Glaisher Street and Basen Street.

In 1916 the Power Station was hit during a Zeppelin raid killing one person but it was the bombing during the World War II that resulted in significant damage occurring on many sites.

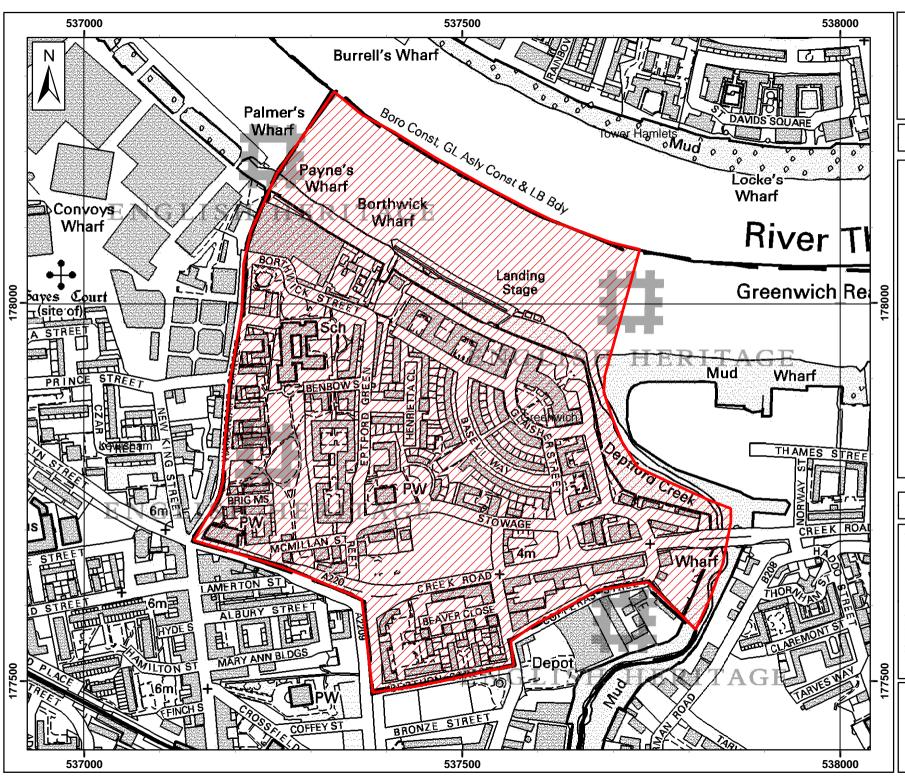
One-by-one the remaining creek side industries are being replaced predominantly by housing and apartments but also a centre for learning with the cumulative result that the character of the creek will change again.

Potential Research

- 1. Better understand the Roman occupation of the area.
- 2. Better understand the Saxon occupation and industry.
- 3. Better understand the significance of the location of St Nicolas' Church.
- 4. Investigate the origins of boat building and repair.
- 5. Remain vigilant for possible Saxon period Scandinavian artefacts.
- 6. Investigate ship building secondary industries.
- 7. Investigate more clearly the phases of land reclamation.

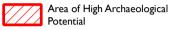
Recommendation

Boundary of present Area of High Archaeological Potential should be maintained.



Greenwich AHAP No I Deptford

Print Date: October 2011



Scale: 1:5,000

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Notes:

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 2

Greenwich Town

This area is bounded by water on the west, by Deptford Creek, and the north, by the River Thames. To the south, bounded by Greenwich High Road, as well as the area about the junction with Greenwich South Road. While the eastern boundary is defined by the site of the former royal palace, and includes part of the Greenwich World Heritage Site.

The area represents a region of well-drained ground, comprising river terrace gravel and clay that rise above the marshland silts of the two river boundaries that form the location for the development of historic Greenwich. At depth there was an ancient river that ran east-west under the present day train station and across the north end of Greenwich Park.

During prehistory the marshland would have given way to scrub and tree cover further inland. A Neolithic axe recovered from the margin of the marsh in the area of Greenwich Reach suggests a period of tree clearance and the establishment of grazing land. Bronze Age period peat has been recorded from Greenwich Reach which would have provided conditions for seasonal occupation and periodic exploitation of the vegetation and wildlife. Direct evidence for occupation in the Bronze and Iron Ages has been limited to occasional finds; an Iron Age quernstone has been recorded from Deptford Broadway.

Evidence for the Roman period mainly comes from stray finds such as coins, pottery, and from the river a bronze handle from a soldier's helmet. Pottery has now been recovered from Greenwich Church Street to suggest that significant evidence for settlement of this period could be found.

It has been suggested that the foundation of St Nicholas Church may pre-date the Norman period as there is in the Domesday Book (1086) a reference to a settlement of Meretun (a town in the marsh). The name Greenwich in old English means green harbour or port with the second element suggesting a significant if not a regionally important port. Between 1066 and 1087 the land was part of an estate held by Bishop Odo who before 1085 had granted land at West Greenwich to Guilbert Magimot. What is not known is if this settlement was west or east of Deptford Creek. It is thought possible that the Saxon period settlement of Greenwich may either be on the south and/or northeast side of St Alfege church. The possible layout of the ancient proto town is hard to discern given the distortion of the royal residence but it would appear to consist of Greenwich Church Street as the main north-south market

street between the church and the river (Samuel Traver's map, 1695). The twisting of the road may suggest an established property in the area of the present day covered market. The road gave access to the river where trading vessels and fishing boats contributed to the settlement's economy. From before 964 AD until 1414 the land represented by East Greenwich manor was owned by the Abbey of St Peter, Ghent (modern Belgium). The parish of St. Alfege did not emerge until later when administrative units were changed. The church is reputed to have been built on the site where Alfege, Archbishop of Canterbury was murdered by Vikings during a raid on 19 April 1012. It is possible the first church was more of a shrine and only became a parish church when a substantial building was constructed in 1290. Archaeological excavation in and around the covered market has produced evidence that shows that there is good potential for archaeological deposits and therefore possibly Saxon material to survive.

Pressure on the availability of building land was observed on the west side of Greenwich Church Street at its north end where successive developments built up the land pushing further into the fringes of the floodable land. The development of the royal residence in the twelfth century can be seen to have had a huge effect upon the development and prosperity of the town. There was a strong pottery and tile industry within the region and there is no reason why kilns could not have been established at the margins of the settlement given similar situations recorded elsewhere.

In 1414 Parliament was petitioned by Henry V to stop all foreign religious houses owning land in this country that was to pass to the crown. However East Greenwich manor remained in religious hands as it was given to Charterhouse and Sheen.

It was another hundred years before the land of East Greenwich manor was taken out of church control with the Reformation in the sixteenth century. Henry VIII was baptised at St Alfege Church in 1491.

Archaeological work at Wood Wharf, Horse Ferry Place identified poorly surviving remains of former phases of timber river revetment, thought to be Georgian. This evidence flagged the potential of the adjacent area to produce more information and during subsequent work at Greenwich Reach East a rare survival of river walls, docks and slips was excavated, dating from the fifteenth century. The evidence demonstrated that much of the shoreline must have been packed with such structures and therefore a hive of industry.

Historic maps begin to provide a picture of the developing town. Straightsmouth, formerly three roads, west to east: Gale's Row, Church Fields and Blue Style, is shown on Samuel Travers map of 1695 as a continuation of Turpin Street for both housing and industry. Some fifty years later the western area began to be developed as the town expanded at the same time that the Green Coat School was founded in 1672 by William Boreman for sons of seafarers.

In 1710 St Alfege church collapsed during a storm due in part to the building being weakened by so many graves being dug inside and out close to the foundations. The present church was designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor and built 1714-18, financed by the Commission for Building Fifty New Churches. The government provided the money obtained through the unpopular but highly effective tax on coal.

Greycoat School was founded in 1677 by John Roan but moved to a newly laid out road in the early nineteenth century that then bore his name. It was around this street that records show a thriving clay pipe industry was located that intensified by the 1860s. The number of makers listed suggest that associated kilns must also have been in the immediate area. The east end of RoanStreet was previously known as Skeltons Lane.

The river frontage saw the expansion of wharves from the middle of the eighteenth century beginning with the establishment of Wood Wharf, mid-way along the foreshore between the town and the creek; and expansion inland with the appearance of allied industries and services. The river bank being pushed further and further north as each phase of land regeneration occurred, in part driven by the need to accommodate bigger and more numerous vessels. A new river facility was opened 13 February 1888 with the completion of a steam ferry. The ferry was operated by steam engines consisting of wheeled platforms on rails that transported people and vehicles to the level of the ferry. A unique construction in Britain it represented a relative boom time for the towns prosperity. However competition and operational difficulties lead to its suspension in the early 1890's and closure in 1899. The ramp and tracks can still be seen today on the foreshore. During the same period the Greenwich Pier was rebuilt and the promenade developed.

Following major development of the town as a consequence of the royal palace and British Naval presence was the arrival of the railway in 1838 with the opening of the first Greenwich Terminus designed by George Smith on the north side of the tracks on 24 December. The track was built on a viaduct across the western part of the area providing an opportunity for small industries to be established within the readymade spaces of the arches. At that time, being the terminus, the station included on the north side an early turntable. It was not until the 1870s, when the line was extended eastwards to serve the needs of Woolwich Dockyard and the Royal Arsenal, that Greenwich became a through station. Much of the viaduct to the west had to be reduced or removed to lessen the gradient to enable the track to drop below the town. A consequence of this change and the need to slightly realign the line was the blocking of Staightsmouth Road.

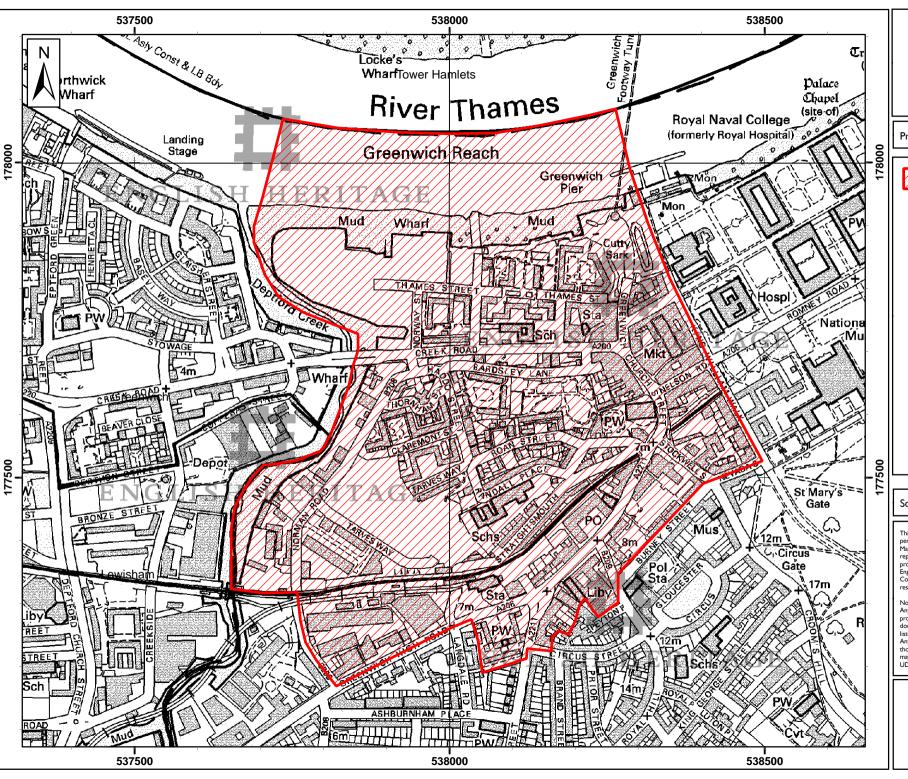
Much of west Greenwich to Deptford Creek was destroyed by bombing in World War II and in particular in 1944 by a V2 rocket strike. Post-war much of the area was re-established by various industries that only now are slowly giving way to residential and light industry. More recently the coming of the Docklands Light Railway has opened up commuting links with Lewisham to the south and the Docklands, City Airport and the City north of the river.

Potential Research

- 1. Better understand the prehistoric presence in the area.
- 2. Better understand the Roman presence in the area.
- 3. Better understand the Saxon settlement and industry.
- 4. Archaeological investigation of the early church.
- 5. Investigate relationship between town and royal palace.
- 6. Investigate the origins of river industries.
- 7. Remain vigilant for possible Scandinavian artefacts.
- 8. Investigate ship building secondary industries.
- 9. Clarify the phases of land reclamation.

Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be maintained. The only possible change would be to exclude the western and central area of Greenwich Reach that has recently been archaeologically investigated. However the foreshore and river should remain designated.



Greenwich AHAP No 2 Greenwich Town

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:6.000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 3

Lower Creekside

This 'C' shaped area has the River Ravensbourne defining its western boundary. The area could be subdivided into north and south of Deptford Bridge, with the southern area extending eastwards to include the Blackheath Road and Shooters Hill Road corridor.

Close to the creek the land consists of alluvium silts and peat deposits at depth with the underlying Kempton Park Gravels making an appearance the greater the distance from the river.

Prehistoric flintwork has been recorded thinly across the area. Iron Age pits containing quern stone fragments and further flint tools that indicate occupation in the area of Deptford Bridge.

While archaeological material relating to Roman buildings and burials in the Deptford Broadway are on the west side of the ridge, on the east side the evidence is focussed on Watling Street. This route connected Dover with London. There has been much debate over the years regarding the course of the road through Blackheath, Greenwich Park area and where it traversed Deptford Creek. It would appear that the consensus is for the road to traverse Greenwich Park, northwest-southeast before crossing Deptford Creek. Alternatively the road could have veered west close to the later southern park boundary before crossing the creek at Deptford Bridge. Even though this route would have afforded an easier crossing of the creek, the suggested road alignment across the borough would appear to support the former with a possible crossing in the vicinity of the railway bridge.

Saxon period occupation and burial evidence has also been recorded on the west side of Deptford Bridge, a pattern not apparently repeated to the east of the Creek.

The earliest recorded crossing of the River Ravensbourne is of a wooden bridge in 1345-6, not rebuilt in stone until 1570. Subsequently at its eastern end, a small hermitage was established, no doubt to take full advantage of the passing traffic to provide alms.

While on the west side of the creek there were at different times a series of mills, the east could be characterised as water meadows and marsh. It is likely that dwellings only began to appear sporadically along Greenwich High

Road on the west side as well as about its junction with Blackheath Road in the seventeenth century.

By the mid-eighteenth century north of Deptford Bridge, more of the marsh area west of Greenwich High Road was being reclaimed with more buildings being constructed.

It is after this date that industry begins to be developed north of Deptford Bridge with industries including a tannery by 1830. Other developments soon follow with coal sheds, a drainage pumping station followed by a sewage treatment works that opened in 1865. The sewage works was part of Joseph Bazalgette's scheme, raising the waste 18 feet so it could then run by gravity out to Crossness.

In the late nineteenth century mechanisation is represented by the arrival from Lambeth of Merryweather and Sons tram locomotive works. Towards the close of the nineteenth century through to the First World War, the area became a sea of industrial premises fronted by residential properties.

A small dock was created to the east of Deptford Bridge along the south side of Blackheath Road, west of the row of terrace houses; and to their east, small workshops, and later a school were built. By the First World War some plots were combined to provide better sized space to be utilised for industry. But it was the creation in the mid-nineteenth century of marine engineering works in the back area that dominated development here before becoming the site of the Thames Iron Works in the twentieth century.

During World War II significant damage was sustained along Blackheath Road and major destruction along Greenwich High Road. Significant damage was also caused by a flying bomb in June 1944.

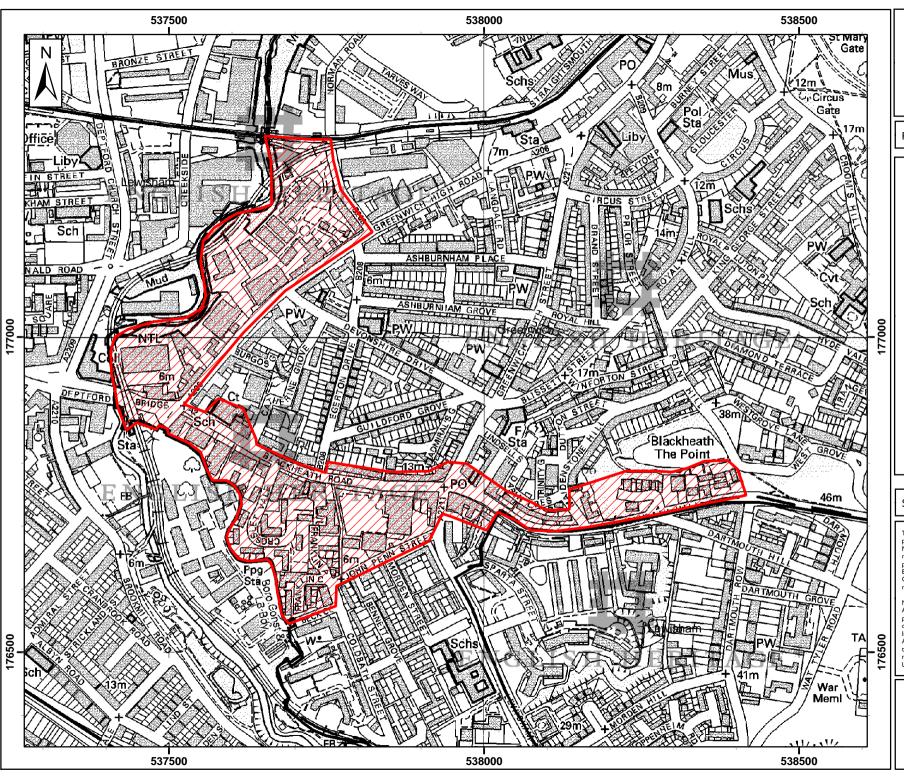
The arrival of the Docklands Light Railway is beginning to have an impact with sites being redeveloped particularly along the creekside.

Potential Research

- 1. Better understand the prehistoric presence in the area.
- 2. Better understand the Roman presence in the area.
- 3. Archaeological investigation of the origins of medieval occupation on east side of Deptford Bridge.
- 4. Archaeological Investigation of hermitage site.

Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be changed to exclude the area about Blackheath Road east of line represented by Ditch Alley.



Greenwich AHAP No 3 Lower Creekside

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological

Scale: 1:6,000

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listing(s).

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 4

Royal Greenwich

This rectangular-shaped area includes Greenwich Park and the land north to the River Thames. This is the area represented by the majority of the Maritime Greenwich, World Heritage Site.

The land drops by some 30m from a sand and pebble plateau at the southern end, across an outcrop of sand and loam with seams of clay down to sand and gravel deposits at the base of the main slope before the land drops a further 15m down to the river edge.

The recovery of flint artefacts from about the area provide the only evidence of prehistoric activity to suggest the area was a site of exploitation of the flora and fauna rather than direct occupation.

Watling Street Roman road ran across the southern side of this area from London to Dover or traversed the area diagonally passing south of the National Maritime Museum. Situated upon one of the promontories are the remains of a Romano-Celtic temple that has been the subject of excavation over the years. A partial commemorative stone recovered states that the temple was dedicated to Jupiter and the Emperors. It has been speculated that the approach from Dover may have deviated westward across the southern portion of the area with the original alignment being maintained aligned on the temple to access the sacred site that would have been visible at distance to travellers as they neared London.

A few isolated burials have been recorded including a stone coffin from the western side of the park in 1873.

A group of small Saxon burial mounds on the scarp of the hill could have been located to be clearly visible from the putative Saxon settlement at the foot of the hill [see AHAP 2]. Originally there were some 50 barrows but over the years the number of extant burial mounds has diminished. The Royal Commission for Historic Monuments of England survey of the cemetery in 1993-4 recorded 31 barrows but was unable to determine the limits of the original group.

Benedictines of St Peter's and St Paul's Abbey of Ghent came to Greenwich establishing a priory in 964 on land granted by King Edgar (959-975), that had previously been part of a royal riverside estate. Even though the park was not enclosed until 1433 by Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, the land must have

been used for the hunting of game by royalty possibly going back to middle-Saxon times. It is possible that the barrow cemetery may be connected with this estate. A couple of isolated burials in the vicinity of the Queens House may indicate a second cemetery. The park has therefore been an important feature that has shaped much of the history of Greenwich. The Duke built a substantial manor house on the riverside that then passed along with the rest of the estate to the Crown in 1447 and soon became a favourite place of Tudor royalty, known as Placentia (the pleasant place).

Future monarchs, Henry VIII, Mary I and Elizabeth I were born here and it remained an important part of their lives. Henry (baptised at St Alfege Church) built an extensive series of aristocratic residences for those attending court, Swanne House, Copt Hall and Compton House. Alas all were cleared in the nineteenth century ahead of new streets and housing being planned for the area on the east side of the Palace. Henry also had a tiltyard constructed complete with a banqueting hall and two mock towers. A further tower was built within the Park at the top of the scarp. For a period, one of his mistresses lodged at this tower.

Greenwich Palace was equal to the other palace sites in close proximity to London: Hampton Court, Oatlands, Richmond and Eltham. Greenwich was often especially busy at Christmas with tournaments, disguising and other royal diversions.

A number of properties began to appear alongside the Palace grounds, built by people wanting to have contact with the monarch, such as Lumley House and Crowley House. The former was built by Thomas Ustwayte in the late fifteenth century to the east of the Palace on the waterfront, before being purchased for the king by the Earl of Worcester in 1518.

During Queen Elizabeth I's reign, further changes were made to the Palace including the construction of a laboratory range across the southern end of the tiltyard. These buildings were investigated by the television Channel 4 programme Time Team in 2002 and identified that these buildings contained evidence of the new technology that was developing in respect of ballistics and material to be used as propellants. This 'cottage style' industry represented at Greenwich is the forerunner of much of the advances that were made and industrialisation that then developed on the new site in Woolwich at The Warren, later renamed The Royal Arsenal. These buildings are therefore part of the early industrial revolution that developed across London, before the momentum moved north. On the east side of the Archaeological Area close to the river is the site of Queen Elizabeth's stables referred to as the Hobby Stables, to the immediate west of Lumley House, where she dined on a number of occasions.

On the site of the demolished Lumley House was built Trinity Hospital for the Mercers' Company in 1614, while Crowley House survived until 1854 on the site that is now occupied by the power station.

Despite the changes being made at Greenwich at this time, the official accounts provide very little in the way of detail. Only the main periods of build are known from Chamber Treasurers who recorded the amounts being paid out for the work and materials. Ahead of landscaping in 1970-1 in the area of the former Palace, archaeological excavation revealed a significant element of the riverside buildings that should, when published, help fill some of the gaps in our knowledge. Contemporary illustrations of the Palace are again woefully lacking with the occasional notable exception, namely Wyngaerde, 1633, and later Esselen, 1660. On the west side of the rambling Palace was the Friary, beyond which was the Armoury that Henry VIII developed, to such an extent that for a time it also occupied the chapel.

The location of the Armoury made sense as the stables established by Henry VII was also in that area of the site that would have incorporated a smithy. Royalty would come and go via the river and remnants of a Tudor jetty have been identified.

To supply the site with drinking water, a series of conduits were created from the 'Heads' up on the scarp to the south from which ground water was drawn. The routes taken across the Park by these conduits are not clear.

The Friary was founded in 1485 on land adjoining the Palace granted by Henry VII for the Greyfriars or Observant Friars and until their expulsion in 1559 their church was used for royal baptisms and marriages.

Britain's first true Renaissance building and arguably the most significant house in the country, is the Queens House, designed by Inigo Jones, 1616-35. The house was built by James I of England (James VI of Scotland) for his wife, Anne of Denmark. Subsequent changes to the park and former palace area were orientated to the axis of the Queens House.

With the Commonwealth, the Greenwich estate and buildings deteriorated while elements such as the tiltyard were actively dismantled, the materials reused to prop up the more important buildings. Parts of the Palace were used as a biscuit factory and prison for Dutch prisoners between 1652-3. Most of the remaining Palace and Friary buildings were demolished after 1660 and the Restoration.

Redevelopment on the site during the Restoration period was at the start not properly funded. The building known as the King's House and designed by John Webb begun by King Charles II in 1664 was roofed but not completed until 1669. At this time additions to the Queens House were made and work started in the Park to design a landscaped garden, with parterre and steps between, at the foot of the scarp. It is possible these steps were part of an initial idea to create a cascade as a centre piece of a grand scheme echoing what he would have seen at Versailles, France.

In the 1660's designs for major re-landscaping in the Park were being produced by Andre Le Notre. However, like the building works, much of the scheme he devised was never carried through. What was achieved at this

date created a landscape of fundamental importance in the history of the development of the English garden.

Following the accession of William and Mary in 1688 the site ceased to be used as a royal residence, with Queen Mary ordering the completion of the Charles II building and the founding of the hospital for retired seamen. The new building plans were then drawn up by Sir Christopher Wren assisted by Nicholas Hawksmoor.

It was in 1675 during this period of 'enlightenment' that the Royal Observatory was built central to the Park on the top of the scarp with commanding views of the Royal buildings, river and the landscape beyond. The importance of the Observatory and the Royal Navy to the site culminated in 1884 with the Greenwich Meridian and Mean Time being adopted internationally as the reference point for measuring time and space.

In 1694 the whole of the old palace site was taken up for the building of a Seaman's Hospital along the lines of the hospital in Chelsea. At this time the new Romney Road was laid out, which cut the built area of the site into two. The Greenwich Hospital was completed between 1696 and 1751 with the exception of the eastern portion of King Charles Quarter that had been started in 1664. Any surviving old palace buildings were finally cleared in the 1730s as a prelude to the landscaping of the site and the spaces between the new buildings. In 1749 the Royal Hospital Burial Ground was established. With time the burial area expanded and the numbers buried ran into many thousands. The Dreadnought Library was constructed in the 1760s.

Further major change occurred in the 1830s with pressure from the expanding Hospital westwards, a large part of the medieval town was cleared, realigned and largely rebuilt using plans drawn up by Joseph Kay. The medieval Palace stables were cleared and replaced by a brewery and a mews, and also by a police section house, among other additions.

In 1869 the Old Royal Naval College ceased to be used by the pensioners and assigned to the Royal Navy who took possession in 1873. The Navy finally departed the site in 1998.

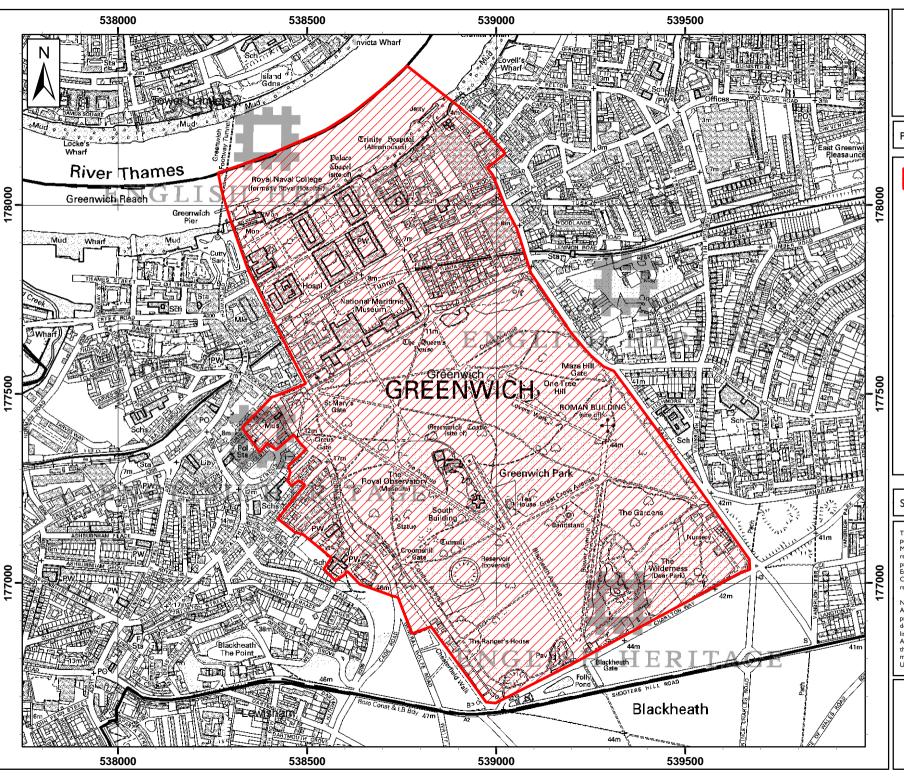
Potential Research

- 1. Better understand the prehistoric presence in the area.
- 2. Better understand the Roman presence in the area.
- 3. Investigate the possible Royal Saxon connection with the barrow cemetery.
- 4. Investigate the Saxon Royal estate.
- 5. Remain vigilant for possible Scandinavian artefacts.
- 6. Archaeological investigation pre-Tudor use of the site.
- 7. Write-up 1970-1 excavations conducted upon site of the medieval palace.
- 8. Archaeological investigation of the monastic history of the site

- 9. Investigate relationship between town and royal palace.
- 10. Investigate the conduit alignments across the Park.
- 11. Investigate area of medieval town that was transformed in the 1830s.

Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be maintained and the foreshore and river should remain designated.



Greenwich AHAP No 4 Royal Greenwich

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:10,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 5

Greenwich Peninsula and Foreshore

This linear shaped area includes land nearest to the River Thames, the foreshore, and the river itself as far as the mid channel borough boundary. The area extends from the power station in the west to the Thames Barrier Centre to the east.

The land is at, or only slightly above high tide level. As a consequence it almost exclusively consists of river silts with the exception of the very western end of the area where sand occurs.

Historically the area would have been characterised as a series of working wharves and slips for any type of industry for which access to the river was key. However, in prehistory the landscape would have been guite different.

The river edge would have varied widely as the sea level rose and fell over the millennia. The last cycle eroding away much of the earlier sand deposits that had formed the original earlier bank. This line approximates to the line of Woolwich Road.

Research elsewhere along the Thames foreshore has demonstrated that prehistoric material previously recovered is likely to have come from eroded *in situ* archaeological contexts and not discarded away from occupation or working areas further afield.

Neolithic activity has been shown to occur on the river margins. As water levels began to rise, initially fairly slowly, peat began to form on top of the silts, followed by woodland and then later by reeds. Bronze Age people constructed trackways and platforms so they could access this rich environment. To generalise, peat continued to form through the Roman and early medieval periods before extensive drainage created summer pasture.

The earliest medieval evidence for this area comes from Greenwich Wharf with the discovery in 2008 of a late twelfth century tidal mill located to take advantage of a large pond area that occurred naturally against the rising ground of sand. The superstructure had been dismantled for recycling or to form part of a new tide-mill in the thirteenth century rather than being destroyed by river erosion and so the entire floor plan of the building survived. The lack of evidence for the sluice may be the result of medieval peat cutting in this area.

A comprehensive flood defensive bank was constructed along the edge of the peninsula, known as Greenwich Marsh, along which windmills are documented to have stood at intervals to drain the marshes, although these have yet to be observed archaeologically.

The colonisation of the foreshore along the peninsula by industry consisting of general lighterage plus coal, tar and cement, was relatively late compared with the area east of the World Heritage Site and westward as far as a short distance west of Bugsby's Point.

An Elizabethan watchtower stood out on the marsh, this was altered in 1694 for use as the Government Powder Magazine. Due to public pressure the function was eventually moved in the 1790s to Purfleet.

A large tidal mill was built on the east side of the peninsula in 1800 for grinding corn on an industrial scale. In the 1840s the site passed into new ownership, and was developed and expanded as a chemical works. Subsequently the site saw the building of two phases of power station. This site and the rest of the former marsh were serviced by the Angerstein Railway built in the 1850s by private enterprise.

On the site of the old watchtower, Enderby Wharf and Enderby House were developed for the whaling industry in the 1830s. The Enderby family was famous in the whaling industry in the nineteenth century and was in fact mentioned in 'Moby Dick' by Herman Melville. The site was sold in the 1850s to a new company developing cable-making technology. It was this company that produced the first trans-Atlantic cable. In the twentieth century the site was used by STC Submarine Systems Ltd.

Along with the earlier chemical works, Hays Chemicals was established together with sugar refineries and a dog food factory. Ordnance Wharf became home to the Gas Company tar works on the back of the South Metropolitan's East Greenwich Gas Works with two gas holders, one of which was the largest ever built in Europe.

The Blackwall Tunnel River Thames crossing was designed by Sir Alexander Binnie and built by Pearson & Sons between 1892 and 1897, commissioned by the Metropolitan Board of Works. When built it was the longest underwater tunnel in the world at 1,344m. Some 600 dwellings were reported to have been demolished to make way for its construction. The second tunnel was opened in 1967. The ventilation towers designed in 1961-2 at the southern end have been incorporated into the Dome, later to be the O2 Arena.

Between the tunnel entrances and the northern point of the peninsula, the old power station was cleared and the site developed for the Millennium Dome designed by Sir Richard Rogers. The building is 365 m wide, and has twelve 100 m high yellow supporting metal girder towers and remains a focus for entertainment.

Subsequently the area about the Dome/O2 Arena and the east side of the peninsula has begun the long process of concerted regeneration with the remaining western areas beginning to follow suit.

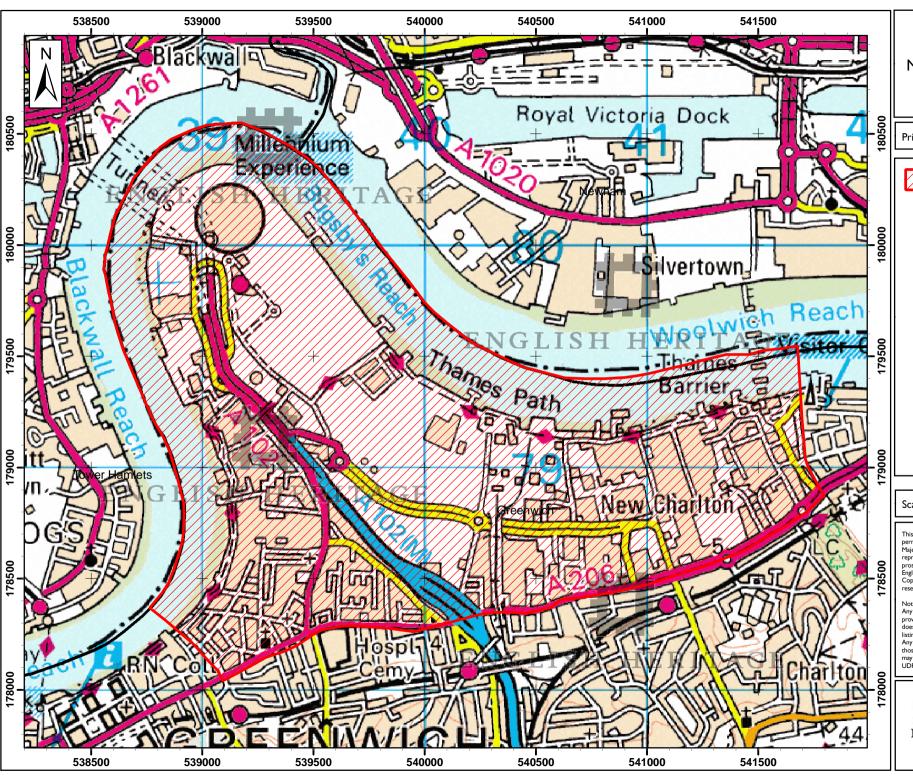
Over the past 100-120 years most of the area has been successively raised with an accumulation of 3 m or more. The surviving heritage of the area is therefore preserved where present but at depth.

Potential Research

- 1. Better modelling of the buried prehistoric landscape of the area.
- 2. Investigate the Saxon Royal estate.
- 3. Archaeological investigation pre-Tudor use of the riverside trades.
- 4. Research the monastic history of the area.
- 5. Archaeologically investigate the key industrial sites of the area.
- 6. Investigate the foreshore for all periods.

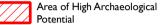
Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be changed to include land to the south as far as the Woolwich Road.



Greenwich AHAP No 5 Greenwich Peninsula and Foreshore

Print Date: October 2011



Scale: 1:17,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 6

Routeway Corridor

This linear archaeological area takes in the anticipated line of the former Roman road, Watling Street that connected London with Rochester and Dover.

Heading east away from London the gradient of the road steadily increases from 40 to 125 m Above Ordinance Datum (AOD) at Shooters Hill where there is a Roman occupation site on the south side of the road in the vicinity of the Woolwich and District War Memorial Hospital. The road then falls away back to 65 m AOD at the borough border with Bexley. The hill consists of Stanmore Gravel overlying Claygate Member, an area of fine grained silt and clay with in an area of widespread London Clay with more sand and gravel occurring from Weyman Road to Greenwich Park. It is often considered that clay soils represent marginal land that would only be occupied by relatively poor communities.

Surprisingly little archaeological material has been recovered west of the War Memorial Hospital site but the recording of the Roman road on the eastern fringe of Greenwich Park appears to support the hypothesis that the road ran further north than the modern A2 before crossing Deptford Creek rather than crossing Blackheath to reach the River Ravensbourne.

It is not clear if elements of this route had pre-Roman origins or if there were localised variations in its path possibly reflecting seasonal conditions. The ancient line of a route can often be seen as a ghost in the land contour lines reflecting the troughs or ramping effect along its way. In this regard, it could be suggested that a northern 'bowing' alignment of the road may have occurred between Stane Way and Red Lion Lane.

Even today, a significant length of the route corridor passes by or through open land including Woolwich Common, Eltham Common, Oxleas Wood and Shooters Hill.

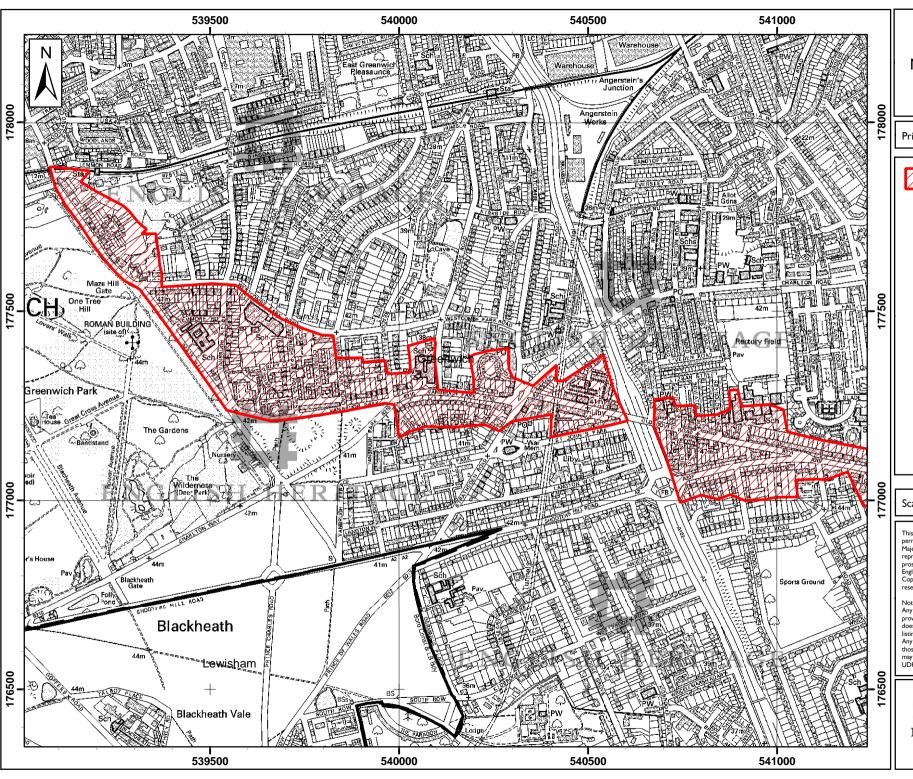
World War II evidence along the line of the road identifies the areas either side of Shooters Hill as being part of one of the 'Stop Lines' that ringed London, to be used in the event of a land invasion.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the pre-Roman origin of the road.
- 2. Archaeologically investigate possible variations to line of road.
- 3. Archaeological investigation Roman period roadside activity.

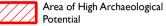
Recommendation

Add at west end, north of Charlton Way and east of Greenwich Park and widen the corridor where necessary to a minimum of 20 m from each side of the roadside curb.



Greenwich AHAP No 6 Routeway Corridor Map I

Print Date: October 2011



Scale: 1:10,000

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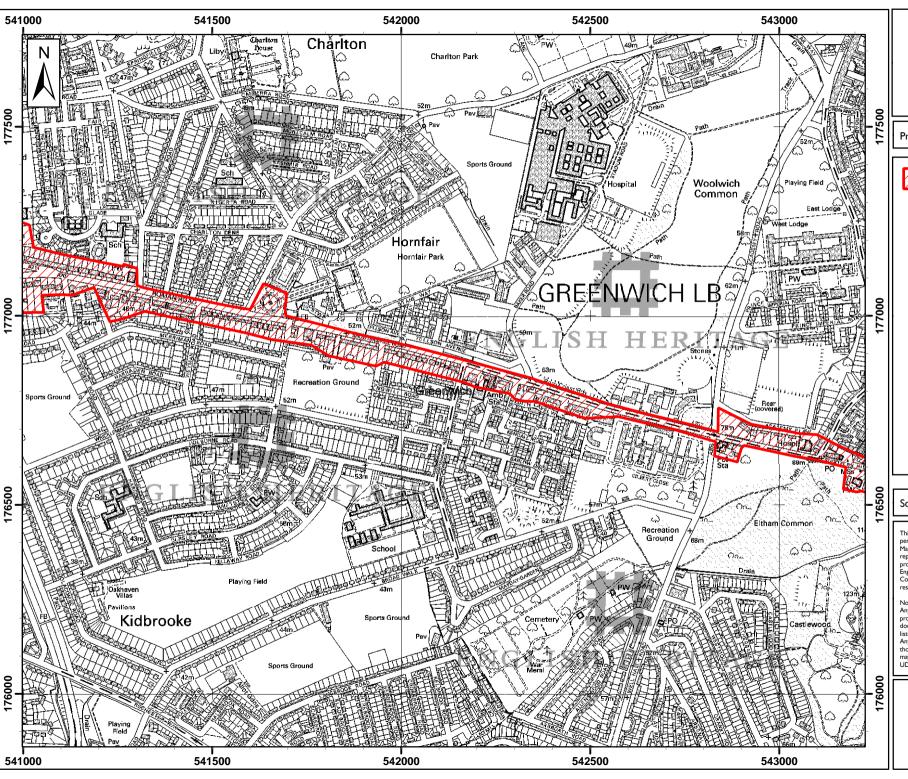
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Greenwich AHAP No 6 Routeway Corridor Map 2

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological

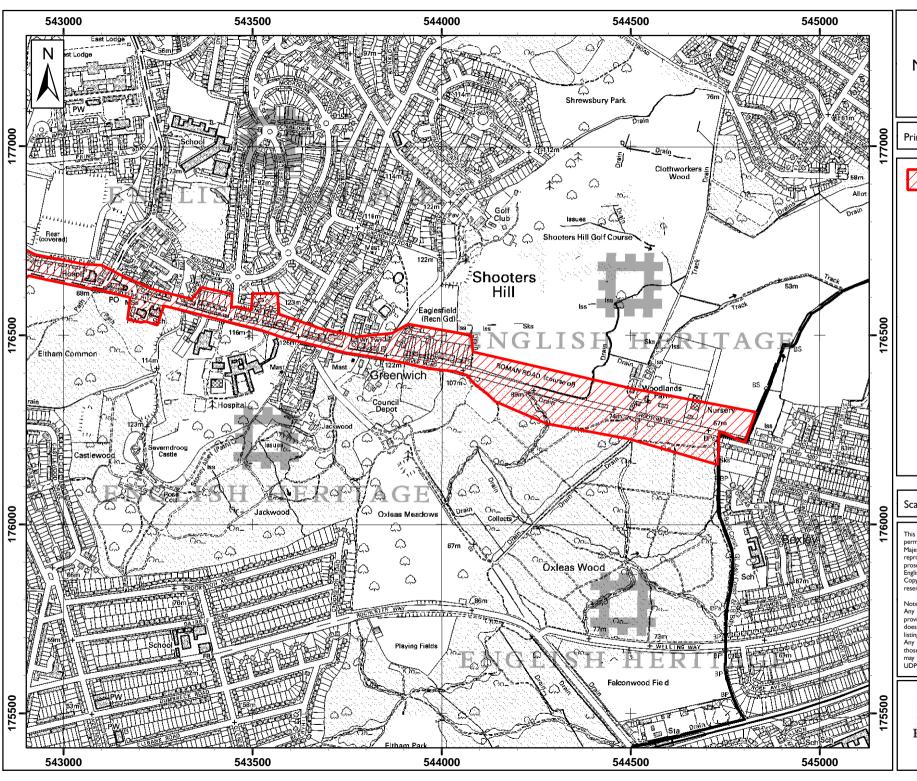
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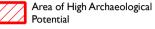
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Greenwich AHAP No 6 Routeway Corridor Map 3

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 7

Shooters Hill Settlement

The Roman Watling Street connecting London with Rochester and Dover crosses Shooters Hill upon which multi-period activity has been recorded.

The archaeological area of potential encompasses the high ground from 115 m to 125 m with the plateau lying to the north of the road at 130 m OD.

The hill consists of Stanmore Gravel overlying Claygate Member, a sand of fine grained silt and clay in an expanse of London Clay. It is often considered that clay soils represent marginal land that would only be occupied by relatively poor communities.

The earliest evidence of prehistoric activity on the hill is represented by a Bronze Age ditch and associated bronze working slag from the area east of Cleanthus Road, north of Shooters Hill road and on the plateau of the hill.

Recent fieldwork to investigate twentieth-century war time defence works in the area of Shooters Hill by Videotext Communications Ltd for Time Team Channel 4 TV happened across a ditch with Early Iron Age pottery sherds and 63 kg of iron slag. Prehistoric/Roman pits and 'huts' have been recorded from the Woolwich and District War Memorial Hospital site to suggest a long period of occupation on the hill.

Clearly the routeway through this area continued in use as evidenced by stray finds such as the remains of a Saxon musical instrument from the roadside area of Shooters Hill Hospital. But it is the World War II evidence along the line of the road through the hill that identifies the area as being part of one of the 'Stop Lines' that ringed London to be used in the event of a land invasion to buy some time to permit a possible counter attack that could only work if the German supply line was interrupted.

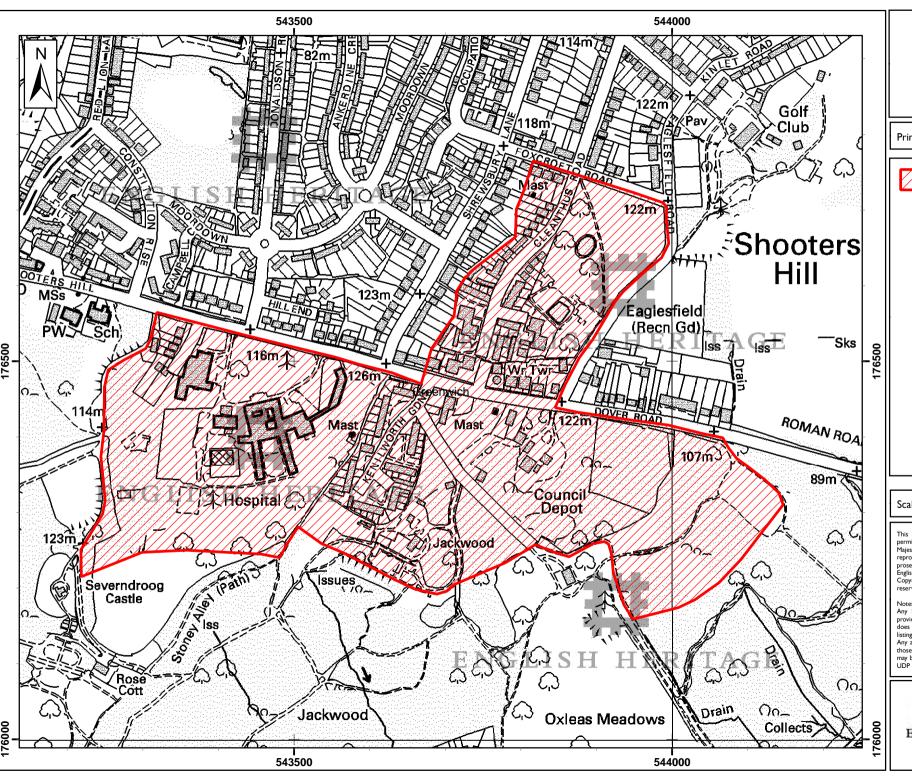
Potential Research

- 1. Reassess the 'Bronze Age' material is it Bronze Age or Iron Age?
- 2. Analyse total collection of the recently recovered slag not the 50% currently assessed.
- 3. Archaeological investigation of the Bronze Age/Iron Age industrial activity.

- 4. Archaeologically investigate of line of road through the settlement.
- 5. Archaeological investigation medieval use and occupation of hill.

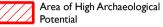
Recommendation

Add area north of Shooters Hill road about Cleanthus Road to reflect potential Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity site on what is the plateau of Shooters Hill.



Greenwich AHAP No 7 Shooters Hill Settlement

Print Date: October 2011



Scale: 1:5.000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 8 Royal Eltham

The area is centred upon Eltham High Street and Eltham Yard plus Palace.

The area occupies a high plateau c.60m Above Ordinance Datum (AOD) consisting of sand and pebble known as Harwich Formation with a slope down to the north and west towards the River Thames in addition to views to the south.

The archaeology in this part of the borough is predominantly medieval and post-medieval in date. However, a single Roman coin has been found, while a 'hut floor' was recorded during excavations in 1916 in the area of Archery Road, recent fieldwork in the same area has not been able to corroborate the possible occupation site.

Despite the interpretation of the name Eltham as 'Elta's Homestead', no Saxon archaeology has so far been identified, except for a suggestion that elements within the fabric of the parish church of St John are Saxon. The first record of the Palace is in the Domesday Book when it was owned by Bishop Odo, the Bishop of Bayeux.

The medieval estate extended from Shooters Hill in the north to Chislehurst in the south and east to west from Blackfen to Lee. By 1263 the manor was divided into two. One half of the old estate was held by the Gloucester family and the other by the Mandevilles.

In c.1296 the Duke of Gloucester handed the running of the estate over to the Bishop of Durham until his son Edward became of age.

Edward II received the site from the bishop as a royal residence in 1305 with the two royal hunting parks then being enclosed within the estate; The Great Park, 1315 and Horn Park, 1465. The Great Hall with its impressive hammer-beam roof was built 1479-82 (third largest in England). Henry VII spent much time at Eltham but it was Henry VIII who repaired the bakery and lodgings and built a new bridge over the moat. A new chapel was then built in 1520. The Palace was used extensively by Elizabeth I, but following the Civil War the site began to fall into ruin with the Great Hall being used as an agricultural barn.

The settlement of Eltham, during the eighteenth century became a centre for 'people of means'. Daniel Defoe wrote in 1726 of Eltham that "it is now a

pleasant town, very handsomely built, full of good houses and many families of rich citizens inhabit here. So it is here they bring great, full deal of good company with them. Also, an abundance of ladies of very good fortune dwell here".

The population grew in the fifty years from 1801 by some 50% with the finer houses appearing along the High Street with lesser housing about the neighbouring villages and farms. Eltham was ideally located on the London to Maidstone stagecoach route. However, the coming of the railway to Eltham in 1866 with the opening of a station, today called Mottingham Station, had a profound impact. Then in 1885 the Bexleyheath Railway Company built the Bexleyheath line with a station at Well Hall. The effect as elsewhere was an exponential increase in new housing to cater for the commuting populace.

The present day house at Eltham Palace was built in the Art Deco style in the 1930s by Stephen Courtauld, this included the restoration of the Great Hall. In September 1940 the roof of the Great Hall was badly bomb damaged.

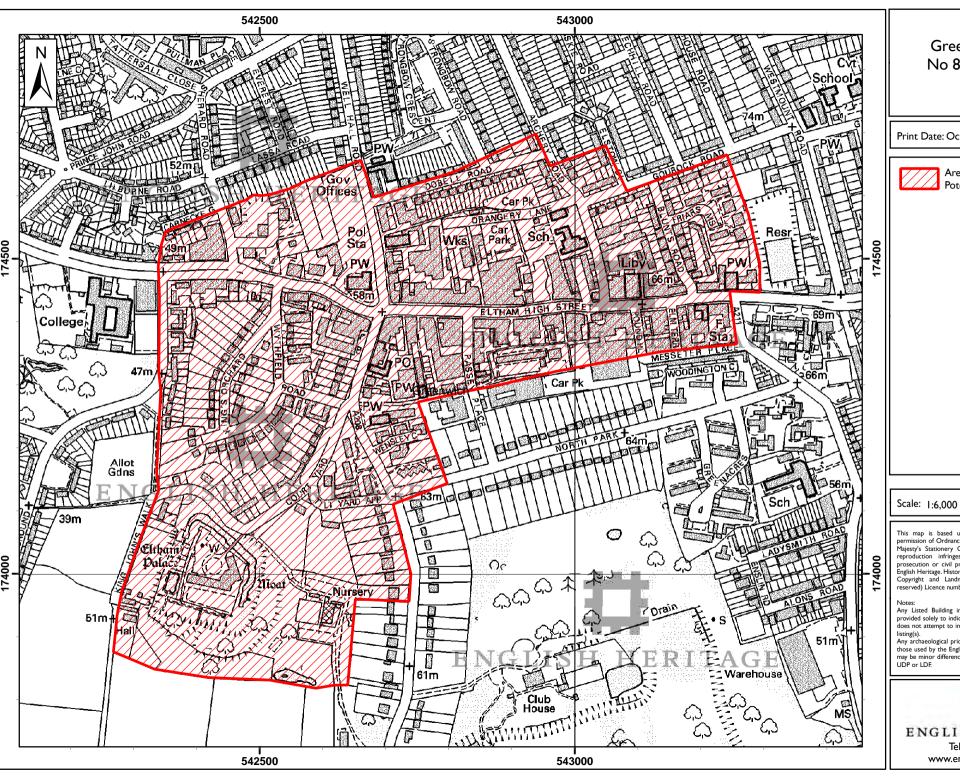
English Heritage assumed management of the palace in 1995 and completed major repairs and restorations of the interiors and gardens in 1999.

Potential Research

- 1. Investigate Saxon settlement.
- 2. Better understand the origins and development of the Royal palace.
- 3. Investigate the medieval dwellings in close proximity to palace.
- 4. Investigate the eighteenth century major houses around High Street area.

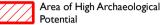
Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be altered. Remove area of reservoir and land to its east and north



Greenwich AHAP No 8 Royal Eltham

Print Date: October 2011



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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 9

Eltham Park Estate

The main elements of Eltham Park Estate located south of the railway line between Eltham and Mottingham stations and north of Bexley Road form this area.

The central area of Park Farm Place, the house and approach is on a localised plateau of 75m. The land consisted of sand and pebble known as Harwich Formation with a slope down to the north and west towards the River Thames.

The property consisted of a group of significant buildings set within a fenced park land. Two main buildings were set c.35m apart with the northern property having a plan of a reversed C with the road access from the north passing it to the west. Set at the end of the drive was the second building consisting of a main block with east and west wings. The eastern was extended to link with additional later building to its immediate west. A walled elongated D-shaped area was created to the east within the fenced compound that contained an extensive kitchen garden complete with fruit trees and greenhouses. The area between the two enclosures was occupied by a grass and tree landscape. Beyond was the downland of the wider estate.

The buildings could be seen as part of the wider network of royal or associated properties about the Eltham area. Captain William James purchased the estate in 1774 having made his name and fortune in the East India Company and becoming its Director in 1759. Following his death, during the festivities following his daughter's marriage to Thomas Booth Parkyns, his wife, Lady James, erected Sevendroog Castle with a memorial listing her husband's victories and achievements. Park Farm Place was inherited by her daughter's nephew. The estate was sold to Benjamin Currey in 1810 through an act of parliament that also changed the name of the property to Eltham Park.

The coming of the railway meant that the northern access to the Estate changed with a south western route linking the house with the east end of the High Street.

The land about Eltham Park remained rural until Archibald Cameron Corbett, first Lord Rowallan, purchased the Eltham Park Estate and developed it with suburban housing between 1900 and 1914. By 1912, not only had the land

been built over but the northern building range had also gone. However, the southern house has been preserved with its hipped-roof replaced by a flat roof within the school complex that now occupies the site of the two houses and walled kitchen garden.

The eastern portion of the Archaeological Area includes an open recreation area administered by Greenwich Borough Council and part of the Eltham Warren Golf Club that had been founded in 1890 on land leased from the Crown by a Mr Edwards.

A Roman period cremation was discovered when housing was developed along the southern end of Glenesk Road that is likely to be part of a wider burial group and associated with a local settlement. The boundaries about this area reflect this consideration.

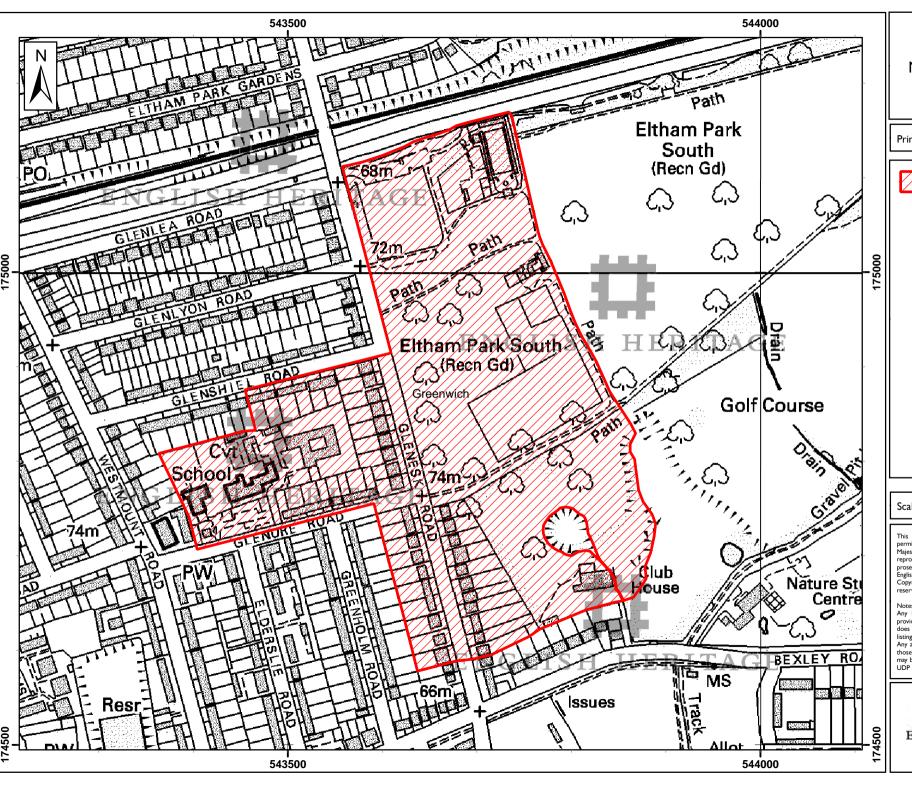
Set to the east of Glenesk Road area a series of four rectangular framed ground features seen on aerial photographs that do not appear on any Ordnance Survey map editions, possibly relate to war-time activity.

Potential Research

- 1. Investigate Roman settlement.
- 2. Investigate Roman cemetery.
- 3. Better understand the origins and development of Eltham Park.
- 4. Conduct building recording of remains of former Eltham Park House.
- 5. Investigate possible war-time features and their context.

Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be altered. Remove southern area represented by properties facing Bexley Road plus properties facing Greenholm Road while including the portion of the Eltham Warren Golf Club from rear of properties facing Bexley Road to west-east path south of tennis courts to include the clubhouse but excluding the quarry.



Greenwich AHAP No 9 Eltham Park Estate

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological

Scale: 1:4.000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 10

Eltham Lodge, Royal Blackheath Golf Course & Fairy Hill Eltham Lodge sits at the north end of what is now the Royal Blackheath Golf Club, Eltham.

The area of the Lodge occupies a position along the 50m contour consisting of sand and pebble known as Harwich Formation.

Eltham Lodge was part of the royal palace of Eltham but following the survey of the estate that occurred after Charles 1 death in 1649, parcels of the estate including the ruins of the old manor were sold off by Parliament. Come the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 the land was returned to the Crown upon the death of the incumbent.

The Grade I Listed Eltham Lodge was designed by Hugh May in 1663 and built 1664-5 for John Shaw, banker to King Charles on the site of the ruined former medieval Eltham Manor.

Eltham Lodge is a highly significant example of mid seventeenth century Restoration architecture. The building design with a central pavilion supported by pilasters is the earliest example in England. Today the building still contains its elegant staircase and much of the original ceilings, fireplaces and pictures.

The access road to the Lodge was from Footscray Road to the west but took a circuitous route through a 'courtyard' building that may have been kennels or stables. Lengths of associated walls have been dated to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The courtyard building has gone but part lies within the grounds, and the rest under gardens of adjacent houses.

Family descendants held the property until 1820. Following a series of tenants it became the club house for Eltham Golf Club before becoming the Royal Blackheath Golf Club.

The golf club was instituted in 1608 and therefore claims today to be the oldest golf club in the world. In early days it is likely that not much of the landscape would have been significantly altered but by the mid nineteenth century it had developed into a full course effectively on the same scale and layout of today. Due to the early development of the site for golf, the changes to the land was by hand with the effect that beyond the strips of the fairways, bunkers and greens, much of the remaining land has remained unaltered.

The result is that the golf course has preserved evidence of the former landscape of ridge-and-furrow fields, drove ways, and other earthworks as a relic of the medieval landscape.

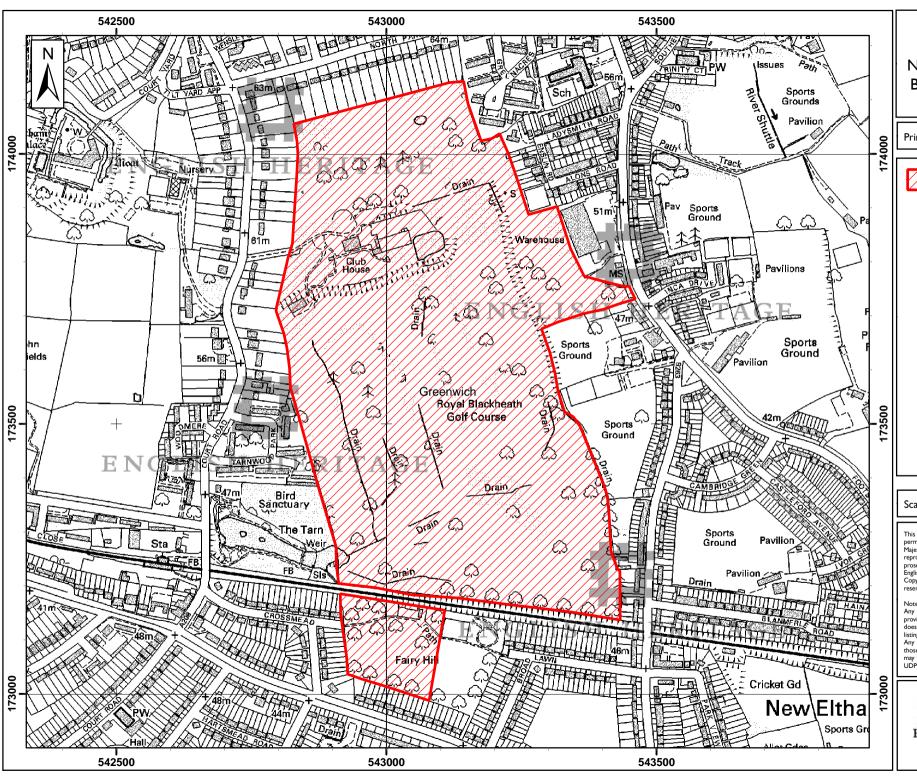
An extension to this pattern of ridge-and-furrow and drove way can be seen west of the pavilion on Fairy Hill sports ground south of the railway line between Mottingham and New Eltham stations.

Potential Research

- 1. Investigate the pre-1664 history of the site.
- 2. Investigate the 'courtyard' building.

Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be enlarged to include the golf course plus part of the sports ground south of the railway line but without including the railway line.



Greenwich AHAP No 10 Eltham Lodge, Royal Blackheath Golf Course & Fairy Hill

Print Date: October 2011

Area of High Archaeological

Scale: 1:7.000

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London Borough of Greenwich Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 11

Lower Belmont

The area of Greenwich borough on the south side of Southwood Road between Bercta Road to the north and Larchwood Road to the south for c.100m, New Eltham.

The area occupies a position between the 45 and 50m contours consisting of sand and pebble known as Harwich Formation.

The area denotes the site of the former post-medieval farm that was located on the southeastern side of Cross Lane now called Southwood Road.

The farm buildings presented an enclosed rectangular courtyard arrangement consisting of two main buildings at opposite ends of the yard with an array of smaller buildings along the back and lane frontage. The farmhouse was attached at the north end of this group and against the lane. The plan and position of the farm buildings suggest a late medieval foundation.

By the start of World War I most of the farmyard buildings had been demolished to leave the house and two small buildings. Suburban housing was built across the farm in the inter-war period but the farmhouse appears to have survived possibly until the 1950s.

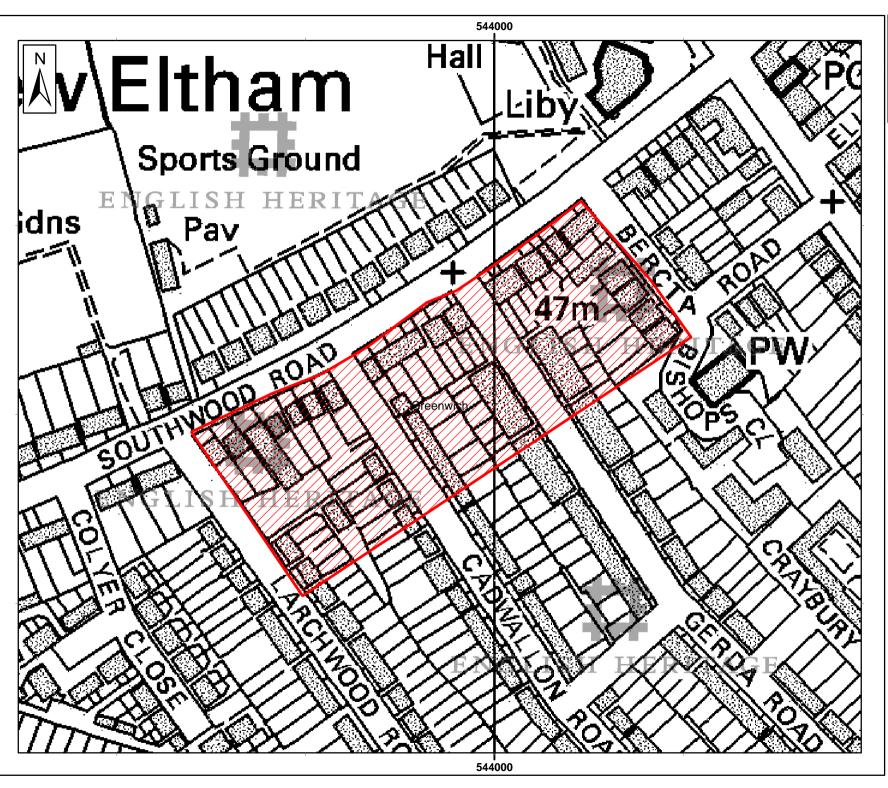
No archaeological features or finds have been noted from or adjacent to the area.

Potential Research

1. Investigate origins of farm.

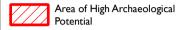
Recommendation

Recommend no boundary changes.



Greenwich AHAP No 11 Lower Belmont

Print Date: October 2011



Scale: 1:2.000

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London Borough of Greenwich Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 12

Coldharbour Farm, Eltham

The area of Greenwich borough on the east side of Mottingham Road in the angle created with William Barefoot Drive and as far as Spekehill.

The area is situated between the 70 and 75m contours consisting of sand and pebble known as Harwich Formation.

No archaeological features or finds have been noted from or adjacent to the area. However, the site was occupied by Coldharbour Farm that disappeared before World War II but was not replaced by the expanding Coldharbour Estate until 1947 under the Borough Council.

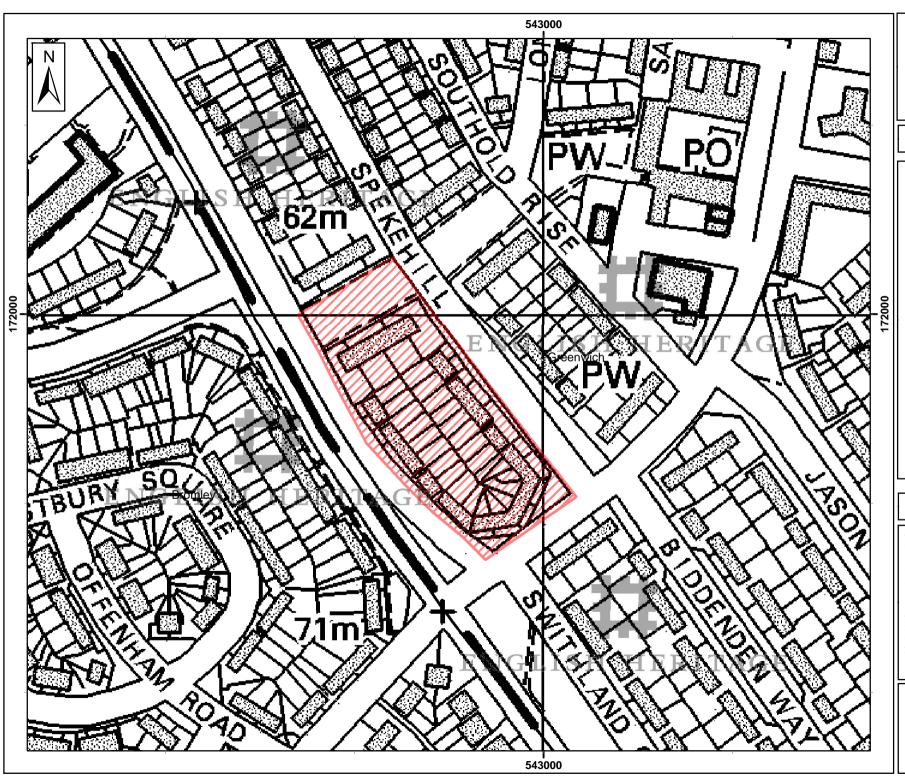
The arrangement of the former farm buildings formed a loose courtyard to indicate a process of development with buildings not arrayed exactly on a 90 degree grid. The farmhouse would appear to have been at the north end of this arrangement, now partly under Spekehill and partly within properties 30 and 32 Spekehill. Longitudinal axis was northeast-southwest and faced southeast and the farmyard. On the southwest side of the complex was a possible orchard around which was a drive-in and drive-out arrangement of tracks or one to service the farm and the other the house. The tracks connected with the ancient lane of Mottingham Lane now called Mottingham Road.

Potential Research

- 1. Investigate farmhouse history.
- 2. Investigate pond.
- 3. Investigate former farmyard area for earlier structures.

Recommendation

Extend the defined area to include 29 and 31 Spekehill to capture former area of pond associated with farmhouse.



Greenwich AHAP No 12 Coldharbour Farm, Eltham

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:2,000

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London Borough of Greenwich Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 13

St Nicholas Church, Kidbrooke

The area of Greenwich borough situated between Brook Lane and rear of properties on the south side of Delme Crescent.

The area occupies a position about the 73m contour consisting of sand and pebble known as Harwich Formation.

The site is that of the medieval church of St Nicholas. The ruins of the church were incorporated within a farm complex to the northwest of Manor Farm that comprised a courtyard farm and associated building to the northwest on the same alignment. To the north was a pond that had possibly been infilled by the end of the nineteenth century. If any of the courtyard buildings could be suggested to be the earliest in the group it would be the west end of the northwest range.

The surviving walls of the church were demolished it is thought about 1867 when the parish church of St James was built. A new church was consecrated in 1953 on the Evelyn Estate to the east assuming the St Nicholas name.

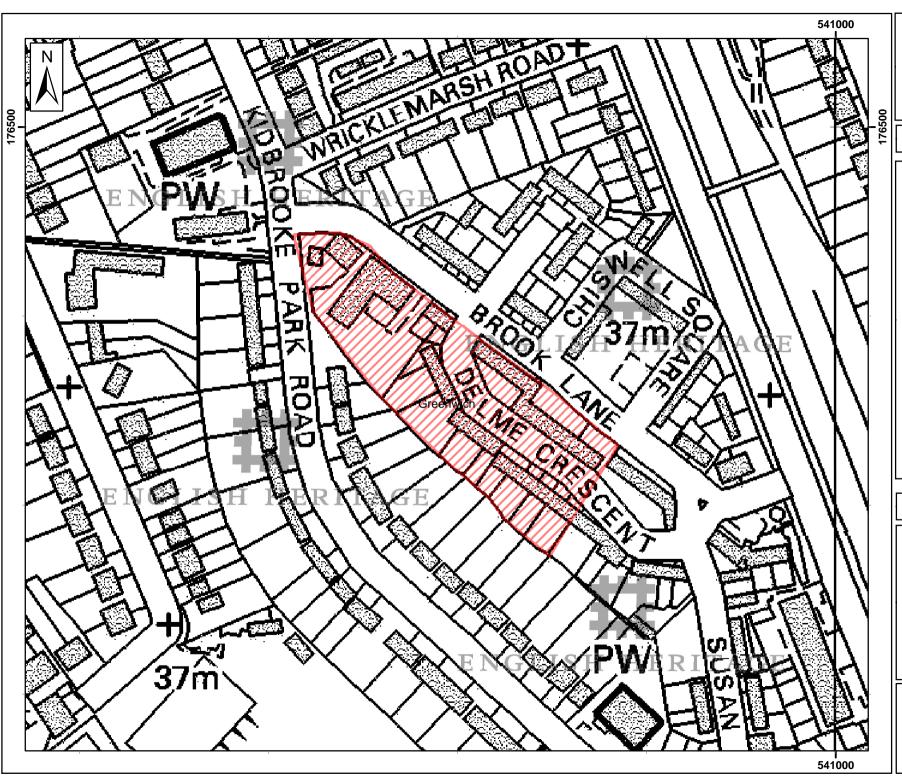
The farm gave way to housing following the Second World War.

Potential Research

- 1. Investigate the church
- 2. Investigate potential for a churchyard
- 3. Investigate farm history.
- 4. Investigate pond.

Recommendation

The area should be contracted to area described in the above text.



Greenwich AHAP No 13 St Nicholas Church, Kidbrooke

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:2,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 14

Wricklemarsh Estate and Blackheath

This archaeological area takes in the former area of Blackheath south of the present day railway line.

At the east end of the main street, Blackheath Park, is the site of St Michael & All Angels church, 1829-30, situated on a relative level area that projected westward across an area of steady gradient. Both this site and a property to the west have produced sherds of Saxon pottery to indicate the possible location of early settlement.

The east end of the area about the position of the church is at the 35m contour level. The geology consists of Stanmore Gravel overlying Claygate Member, a sand of fine grained silt and clay in an expanse of London Clay with more sand and gravel occurring from Weyman Road to Greenwich Park.

The church is also the site of a property called Wricklemarsh (Domesday Book refers to Witenemers). The estate of Wricklemarsh was passed down through the Blount family till the estate was purchased by Sir John Morden (1623-1708) who purchased the estate from the Blount family.

The estate continued to decline before being purchased by Sir George Page who had made his fortune in brewing, land and South Seas stock. Page built a new house in 1723 on the site of the earlier manor house. Accounts from the time suggested that the new house was one of the finest in the country. The house was set within an extensive estate with tree lined wide avenues both north and south covering a distance greater than the length of Greenwich Park. The southern avenue appears to have been extended following only partial completion of this phase of landscaping that included total alteration of the lands use and with the creation of ornamental rectangular enclosures flanking the avenue. Clearly the laying out of the estate resulted in displacing people and removing their livelihoods. The west-east axis is now occupied by the road Blackheath Park.

Landscaping may also have included limited water features.

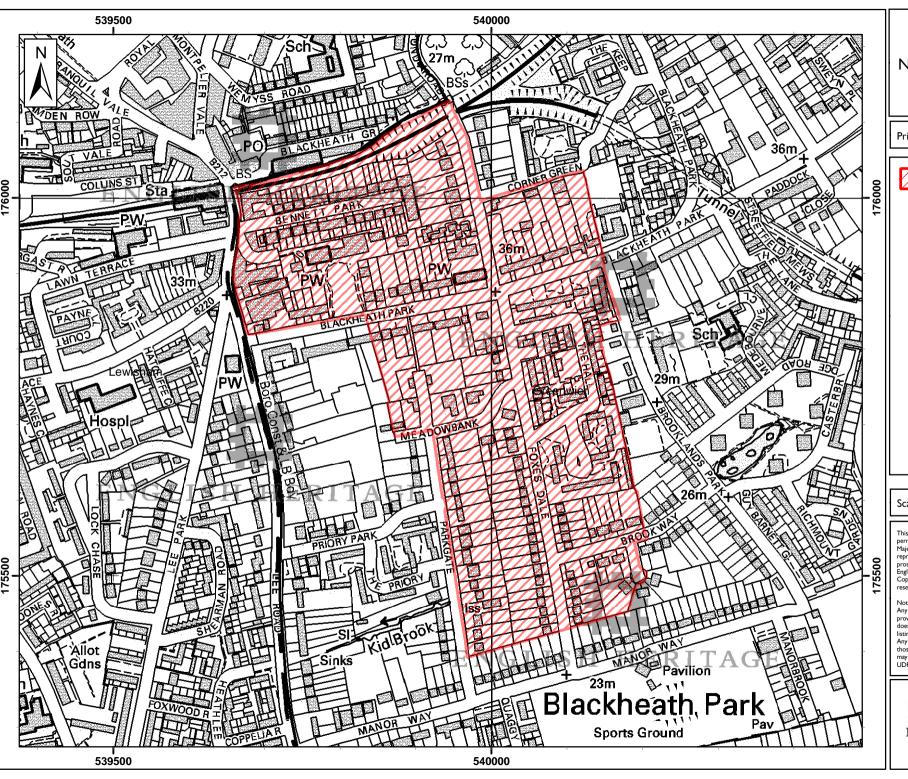
The house and grounds were eventually sold by John Cator, his greatnephew, selling the building materials and leasing land to developers. The result was the building of what were termed 'Paragon houses' to wealthy city merchants. Leases prohibited the 'art, mystery or trade', of occupations such as school master to fishmonger. The development became known as Castor Estate. The eastern boundary of the archaeological area was also the limit of the eastern extent of the cross-axis avenue that had the house at its heart.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the manor house.
- 2. Archaeologically investigate eighteenth-century house.
- 3. Archaeological investigation of water features/management.
- 4. Historical research of estate.

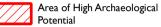
Recommendation

Southern area needs to be extended to include, if not all of the southern avenue, at least the 'monument/lake' two thirds of the way along the avenue from the house.



Greenwich AHAP No 14 Wricklemarsh Estate and Blackheath

Print Date: October 2011



Scale: 1:5.000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 15 Well Hall Pleasaunce

This archaeological area takes in the 1930's Pleasaunce plus an area to the north as far as Prince Rupert Road.

The site is at the 35m contour level and the geological boundary between London Clay and Harwich Formation of sand and gravel.

Ownership of the site can possibly be traced back to 1100 AD when the manors of Easthorne and Wellhall were owned by Jordan de Briset before exchanging Wellhall with land lent by the Nunnery at Clerkenwell.

The earliest recorded detailed map of the site, 1748, shows the east-west orientated Tudor barn against the outside edge of the north side of the moated enclosure and a series of fish ponds or stews to the west starting from near the southwest corner of the moat.

Eventually the site was sold to Sir Gregory Page in 1733 who promptly demolished the house that stood within the moated area, replacing it with a new dwelling to the immediate east. It is likely that it was at this time that the line of Well Hall Road was deflected to a more easterly line leaving behind evidence of the former hollow-way that can still be seen today.

The first edition O.S. shows three fish ponds but the earlier maps show six. The fish ponds would have been so located to take full advantage of the topography to act as a cascade down the slope towards the west. Lengths of perimeter wall that survive appear to be contemporary with the barn. The plan also shows an extension to the moat projecting north from the northwest corner.

Buildings called Wale Hall are recorded in 1741-5 north of the moat in the area through which Kidbrooke Lane now passes. In 1778 Hasted's map depicts a single large house on the north side of the lane called Well Hall. Recorded on the 1839 Tithe Map for Eltham, the area south of the lane is called Well Hall Farm. Between 1880-90 the house was a preparatory school before becoming the home of Edith Bland, nee Nesbit author E Nesbit of 'The Railway Children'.

In 1930 the site was purchased by Woolwich Borough council when many of the old buildings were demolished and formal gardens landscaped as a public space where people could take the air. It was also at this time that the extension to the moat was fore-shortened, the moat cleaned and concrete-lined and the fish ponds filled in.

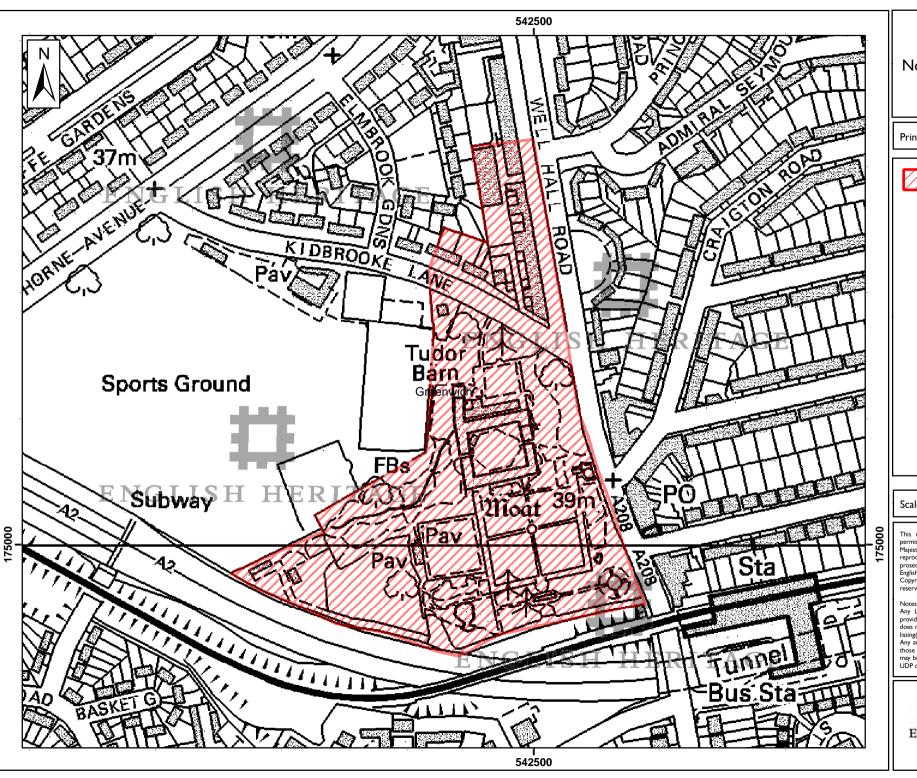
Limited archaeological monitoring undertaken in 2001 confirmed the degree of moat cleaning that had occurred. The fieldwork also revealed that several of the bridge piers had been heavily rebuilt in the 1930's

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the manor house.
- 2. Archaeologically investigate fish ponds and water management.
- 3. Archaeological investigation of the eighteen century 'new' house.
- 4. Archaeological/historical investigation of Well Hall.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the boundary remains unaltered.



Greenwich AHAP No 15 Well Hall Pleasaunce

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological

Scale: 1:3,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 16 Horn Park

The site is between the 35 and 40m contour level with geology of London Clay.

Three parks lay within the Eltham Palace estate, of which Horn Park was one. Horn Park was an area of woodland for the rearing of deer. The events of the Civil War led to its destruction. From that time until 1936 the area was farmland when the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich began to develop Horn Park Estate.

The lane heading to the farm was from the north and appears to post-date the Enclosure of this area of Greenwich. However the pond to the west that appears sub-rectangular and on a slightly different alignment may be a relic of an earlier landscape.

No archaeological evidence has been recorded to date from within or about this archaeological area as no development site has yet been investigated.

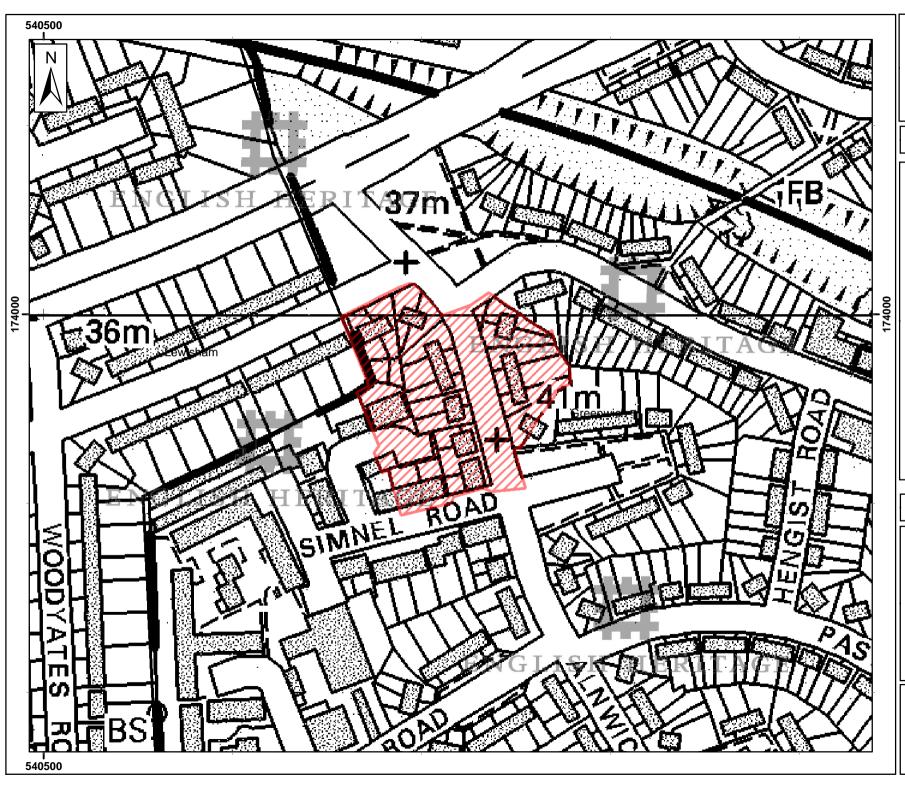
It is not clear if the range of farm buildings includes an earlier structure from the days of it being a woodland estate.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the pre-farmhouse.
- 2. Archaeological investigation of the area of the farm and yard.
- 3. Archaeological investigation of the pond to the north of the farm.
- 4. Historical investigation of the site.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the boundary changes. Delete the northern and eastern portions of the defined area, but add to the south and an area east of Alnwick Road.



Greenwich AHAP No 16 Horn Park

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological
Potential

Scale: 1:2,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 17 Charlton House

This archaeological area is centred on the remains of Charlton House at the west end of Charlton Park.

The site is between the 45 and 50m contour level with geology of Sandstone and Mudstone.

Charlton House is arguably the finest Jacobean mansion in London. The house was built by John Thorpe for Sir Adam Newton, Dean of Durham, between 1607-12.

The house orientated north-south faces west with an attached chapel at its north end. On the line of the western axis is recorded the associated gateway, and to its north, the seventeen century garden house c.1630 attributed to Inigo Jones.

The property passed through various hands resulting in changes or additions. Between 1767 and 1923 the Maryon-Wilson family owned the estate. It was during this time additional land was enclosed west of the house by taking in the village green to provide a more acceptable space in front of the house.

To the south of the house, and on the same orientation, was a three-sided stable yard, east of which was a formal square garden with central round pond. During the nineteenth century it is possible the area between the house and formal garden was occupied by a kitchen garden. To the east of the gardens and beyond the southern end of the house was an area of woodland. The present day pathways do not relate in any part to the former planned woodland walks.

Parallel to but a little further east of the farthest north-south modern day path was a possible ha-ha with central gateway. Eastward beyond the possible ha-ha was situated the remnants of a tree-lined avenue that aligned with the north end of the current building range to suggest that this feature may have been associated with an earlier phase of house. The avenue extended as far east as Cemetery Lane.

During World War I the house was used as a hospital for officers with the estate and buildings being purchased in 1925 by Metropolitan Borough of Greenwich. The north end of the house was badly damaged during bombing in World War II. A southern extension to the house was added in 1877 that

became home to a public library which was moved in 1991 to the north end and the restored chapel.

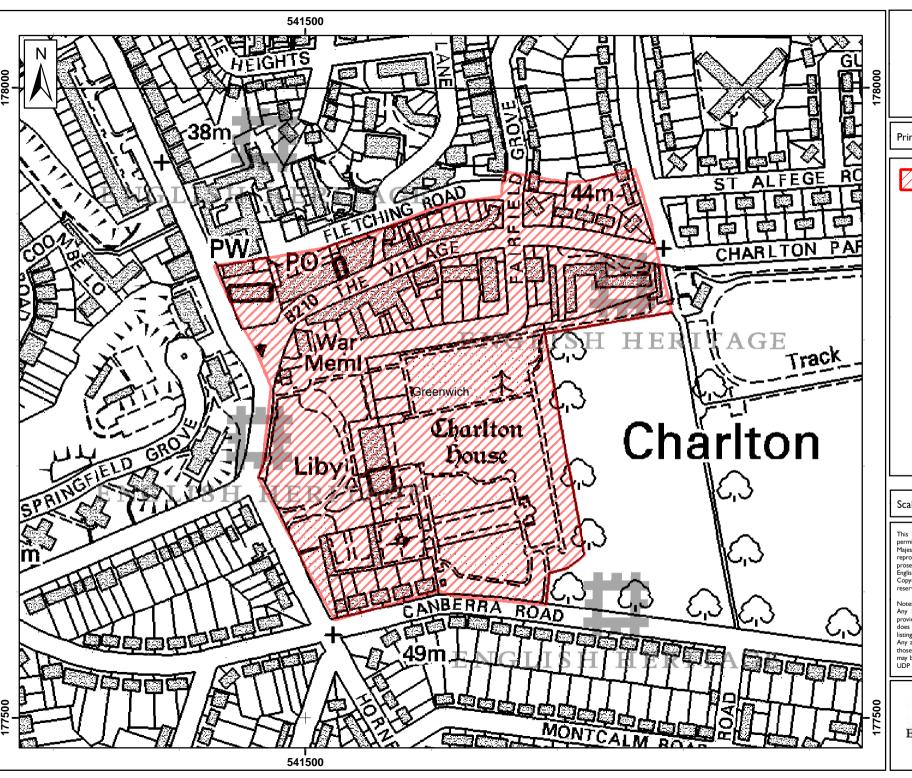
The garden house was converted in 1938 to a public convenience.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the pre-1607 house.
- 2. Research origins of tree-lined avenue.
- 3. Research grounds for possible snow conserves or ice-houses.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the designated area is extended eastward to include ha-ha and southern boundary aligned with roadside property boundaries along Canberra Road. Boundary along north side should also be aligned with roadside property boundaries on Fletching Road



Greenwich AHAP No 17 Charlton House

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological

Scale: 1:3.000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 18

Cox's Mount & Maryon Park

This archaeological area is centred upon Maryon Park but extends to Woodland Terrace in the south and Pound Park Road to the west.

The site is between the 15 and 30m contour level with geology of Sandstone and Sandstone with Mudstone.

The land was part of Hanging Wood until 1891 when the land was handed to the London County Council by the Maryon-Wilson Family. Part of the area included a disused sand quarry. On the adjacent hill in 1915 was discovered during excavations, remains of a Roman settlement interpreted as a hillfort, Cox's Mount.

Remains of buildings and a hearth may indicate occupation in the Roman period, and may have been a continuation of an extensive Iron Age settlement, the majority of which has been lost to quarrying.

The Edwardian excavators plan also shows the location of two possible barrows to suggest activity on the hill back to the Bronze Age.

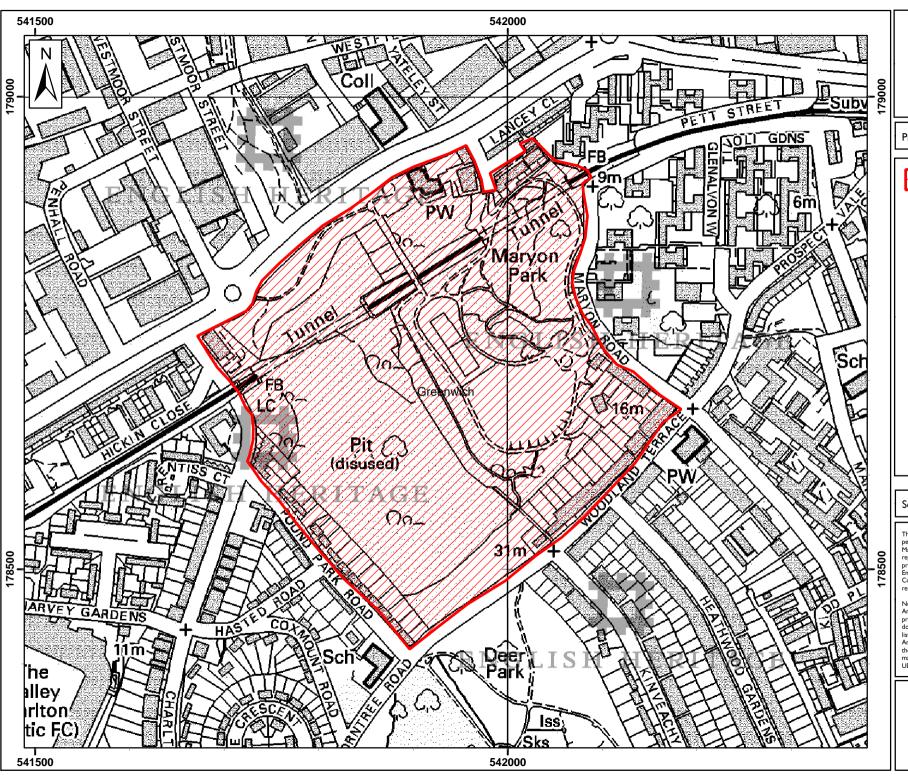
Due to the presence of the quarry the remaining archaeological interest is with Cox's Mount and the area beyond the pit.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological survey of the perimeter of the sand quarry.
- 2. Research the 1915 excavation archive.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the boundary remains unaltered.



Greenwich AHAP No 18 Cox's Mount & Maryon Park

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:4,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 19 Pott Houses Triangle

This archaeological area is prescribed by Herbert, Ripon and Eglinton Roads.

The site is situated on a northwest facing slope at the 60 and 65m contour level and just within the London Clay geology above Harwich Formation of sand and gravel.

The land was the site of a range of buildings known as 'Pott Houses'. The southern portion of the site contained a large rectangular 'tank' with earth banking on three sides. No doubt as a response to the slope of the site.

To the west of the area is the site of late medieval pottery production and therefore this banked site is likely to be a part of this industry.

A modern double unit has been built across a significant portion of the site, the archaeological implications of which appear not to have been considered. The result is that no direct archaeological information is known.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the function and management of the industrial use of the site.
- 2. Research the historic archives to understand the development of the site and of its function and ownership.

Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be maintained.



Greenwich AHAP No 19 Pott Houses Triangle

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:1,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 20

West Plumstead Pottery

This archaeological area occupies the space between Wrottesley Road and Vernham Road and towards the northern end of these parallel roads.

The site is situated on the 55m contour level and just within the Harwich Formation of sand and gravel below the London Clay.

The land was the site of a range of buildings known as 'West Plumstead Pottery'. A short distance south of the site was a possible rectangular tank next to which was a clay mill to prepare the clay for use.

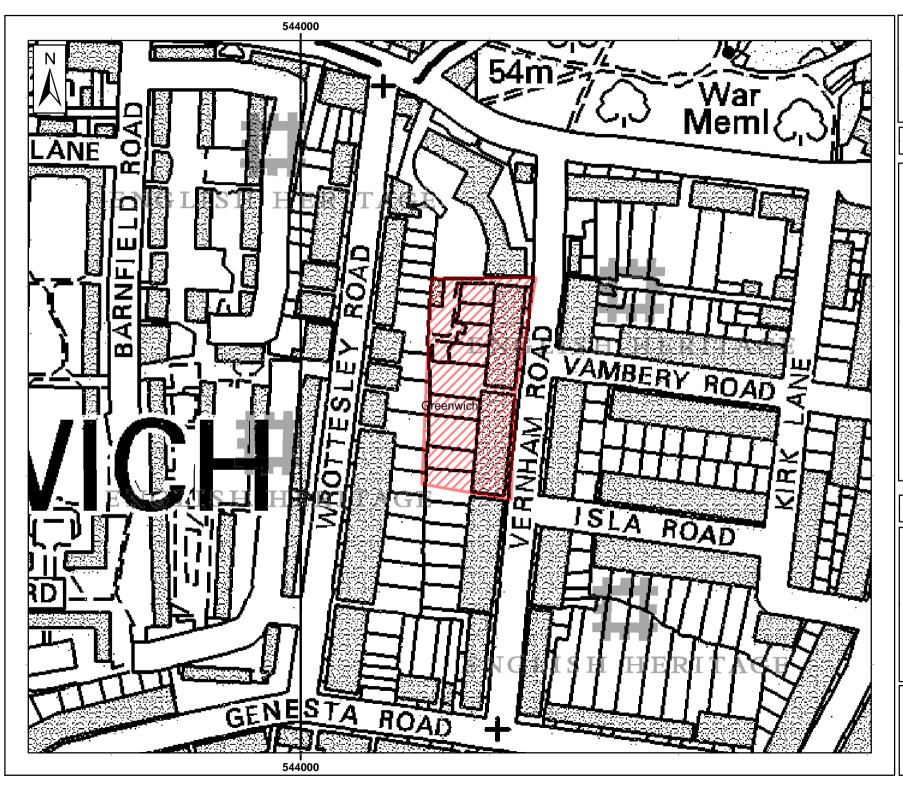
By the Edwardian period, the pottery works had been replaced by a row of terraced houses with to the immediate north, Plumstead House.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the function and management of the industrial use of the site.
- 2. Research the historic archives to understand the development of the site and of its function and ownership.

Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be altered. Remove the western area beyond private garden back boundary. Add area south of remaining area to include site of clay mill and pond/tank, south to line with Isla Road.



Greenwich AHAP No 20 West Plumstead Pottery

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:2.000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 21

Macoma Pottery

This archaeological area is south of Plumstead Common Road and east of Clay Farm on Plum Lane.

The site is situated on the 55m OD contour level within an area of London Clay.

The land before being redeveloped for late nineteenth century suburban terraced housing was the site of a pottery manufacturer from at least the fifteenth century.

The clay was excavated from a site to the immediate west with preparation tanks between it and the building complex. Maps of the later nineteenth century show that the works had diversified to produce tiles. At this time terrace housing started to appear to the east.

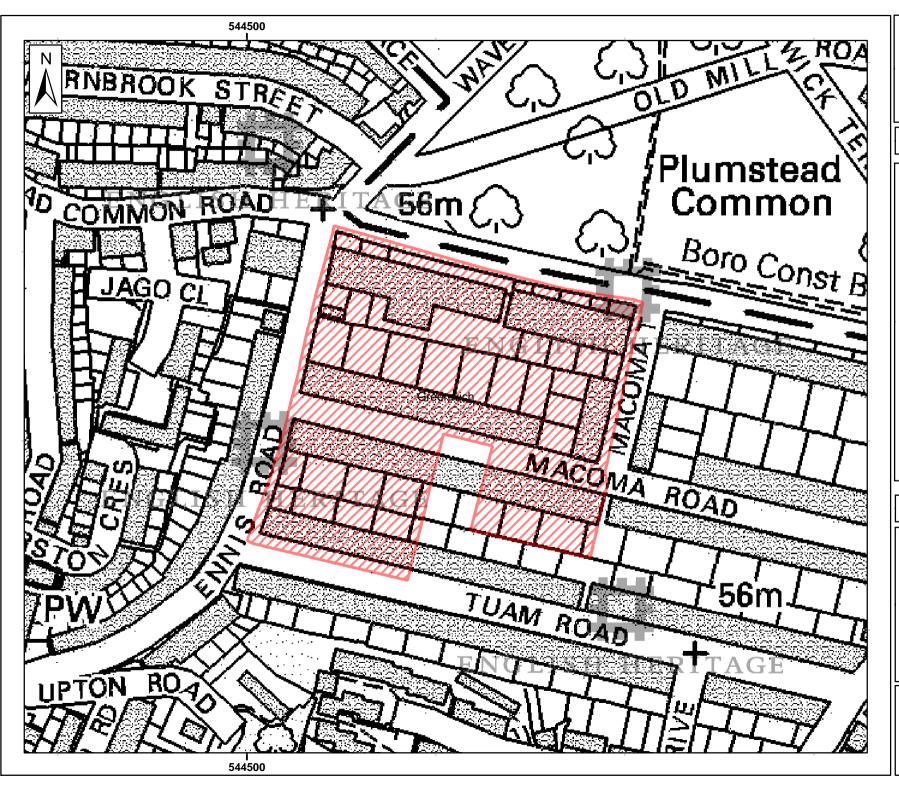
By the Edwardian period, the pottery works had gone to be replaced by a row of terraced houses with none of the new roads following former property lines apart from the consistent route of the Plumstead Common Road.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the function and management of the industrial use of the site.
- 2. Research the historic archives to understand the development of the site and of its function and ownership.

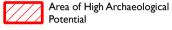
Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be altered. Remove the south-eastern beyond the rear gardens of properties fronting Macoma Road. Add area south of western end of area to include properties fronting Tuam Road.



Greenwich AHAP No 21 Macoma Pottery

Print Date: October 2011



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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 22 Civic Core

This archaeological area is north of Wellington Street and east of John Wilson Street, Woolwich.

The site is situated on a northeast facing slope from 30m to 15m level within an area of sand and clay.

Close to the junction of John Wilson Street with Wellington Street is the location of the excavation of a lone Roman pottery vessel that if substantially intact, may have come from a burial. The location of possible Roman roads in this area is poorly understood. It was common for cemeteries to be located adjacent to road or the intersection of road. The occurrence of a Roman cemetery at the west end of the historic Royal Arsenal and the settlement north of the 'Teardrop' site has led to discussion about the possible projected line of associated road. If the find spot of this pottery vessel represents a burial then it may suggest the location of a possible second road.

In the medieval period it is possible that clusters of industrial activity, including pottery production, lay around the periphery of the town such as that illustrated about the 'Teardrop'.

By the mid nineteenth century the area had been developed into a block work of streets and it was not until this time that that the area began to be transformed with the creation of a number of civic buildings. The Old Town Hall and Police Court were built in 1842 with William Street (now Calderwood Street) to the north and new Market Street to the rear.

The area was redeveloped in the nineteenth century. John Wilson Street, which connected Charles Street and Brewer Street, was renamed after the early twentieth century Baptist minister. The road was later altered in the 1960s to incorporate Parsons Hill to ease passage to the ferry. To the east on the south side of Market Street the public baths were built in 1894 by Woolwich Borough Council. That led to the road being renamed Bathway and Upper Market Street taking the name Market Street. The public library was built in 1901.

The Grand Theatre and Opera House, opened on 30 October 1900, renamed Woolwich Hippodrome Theatre in 1908. The theatre was converted November 1924 into the Regal Cinema. It was taken over by United Picture Theatres Ltd in 1928 and from July 1935 by Associated British Cinemas. This

building was demolished to make way for a new ABC Regal cinema. Work halted with the start of World War II and was not completed until 1955.

The Town Hall, 1906, contains stained glass windows by Geoffrey Webb and memorials of the borough's famous citizens.

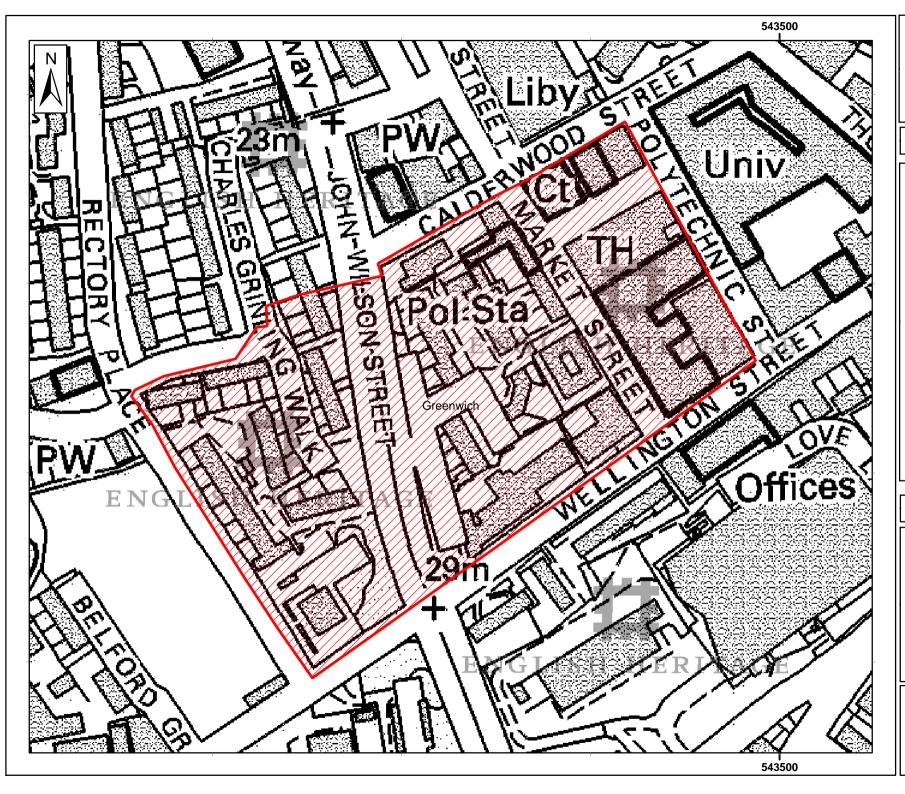
The Magistrates Court was built on the site of the Police Court in 1912. To the immediate northeast, the Woolwich Polytechnic was built in 1891, before becoming part of Greenwich University.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the Roman road and settlement potential of the site.
- 2. Archaeological investigation of possible medieval industrial activity in an area traditionally beyond settlement

Recommendation

Boundary of present Archaeological Priority Area should be maintained.



Greenwich AHAP No 22 Civic Core

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:2,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 23

Woolwich Dockyard

This archaeological area is north of the railway line between Woolwich Arsenal and Charlton stations.

Adjacent to the River Thames the site rises from river level to 10m along the line of Woolwich Church Street with much of the area being built upon Head material with the exception of the west end of the area that consisted of alluvium.

Along this stretch of the river, three prehistoric stone axes and a Bronze Age sword have been recovered which have been interpreted as possible votive offerings. The area would probably have consisted of a mix of gravel beaches and marsh with back channels. This environment was slowly reclaimed from the twelfth century as a series of embankments.

Woolwich developed as a fishing port catching fish from the river rather than from the open sea. At the east end of the area is the modern day Woolwich Ferry. The ferry is recorded as early as 1308 and is likely to have been a favoured crossing point from earlier times if not prehistory. This location is the first point after Erith for travellers from the southeast to possibly cross the river by accessing the river edge without the obstacle of a marsh or mud flat acting as a barrier.

A look at the Ordnance Survey maps from first edition in 1843 through to World War II show the dockyard as a blank (as was also the case for the Royal Arsenal to the east). The dockyard was not shown as it was a government site.

The Royal Dockyard at Woolwich was founded in 1513 by Henry VIII, the same year as the founding of the Royal Dockyard at Deptford. Both sites would have developed and expanded existing facilities on site. Prior to this date warships were built on commission from the Crown, the purchase of these two sites was a radical departure from previous practice. The need to make such changes was a reflection of the development of the British Navy and empire building.

Apart from the expected range of industries to be found in a dockyard, there was also, at least between 1550 and 1640, a tile manufacturing kiln probably to produce material for the many roofs of buildings within the yard and their repair.

In the early seventeenth-century the first double dock was built to enable one ship to be positioned behind another to increase the operational capacity of the site.

The docks were originally defined by a fence and drainage ditch constructed in 1607. The gates were erected the following year by Phineas Pett. This boundary is_today traced by Woolwich Church Street with the boundary extending along what is now Warspite Road down to Trinity Wharf in the nineteenth century. To the west land was not reclaimed for the development of allied industries until after 1800.

In the early eighteenth century the facilities were reworked and enlarged to take the new larger first-rate ships. The reworking continued through the century.

The medieval church of St Mary to the immediate south of the dockyard was perched on a cliff overlooking the river but by the 1730s erosion was so bad that burials from the churchyard were tumbling down onto the road below. The church was demolished in 1740 following the completion of the building of a new church to its immediate south in 1732-9.

With the advent of the Napoleonic Wars expansion and increased reworking of established areas of the yard continued apace. A steam-powered smithy built in 1818 marked the introduction of a more mechanised way of working. The dockyard was extended westward in 1833 and again in 1842-6, using convict labour housed in hulks moored in the river, to construct basins and slips plus the construction of a mast house.

The Admiralty built a chapel within the dockyard in 1857 but the dockyard was then closed in October 1869, at the same time as the Deptford yard. The buildings that could be dismantled were moved by the War Department to Chatham. The site then became a storage area for the ever expanding Royal Arsenal. Eastern areas of the yard were sold to private enterprise in three lots in 1871.

Substantial areas of the dockyard have since been developed or redeveloped but significant archaeology will still remain across the area including evidence along the foreshore.

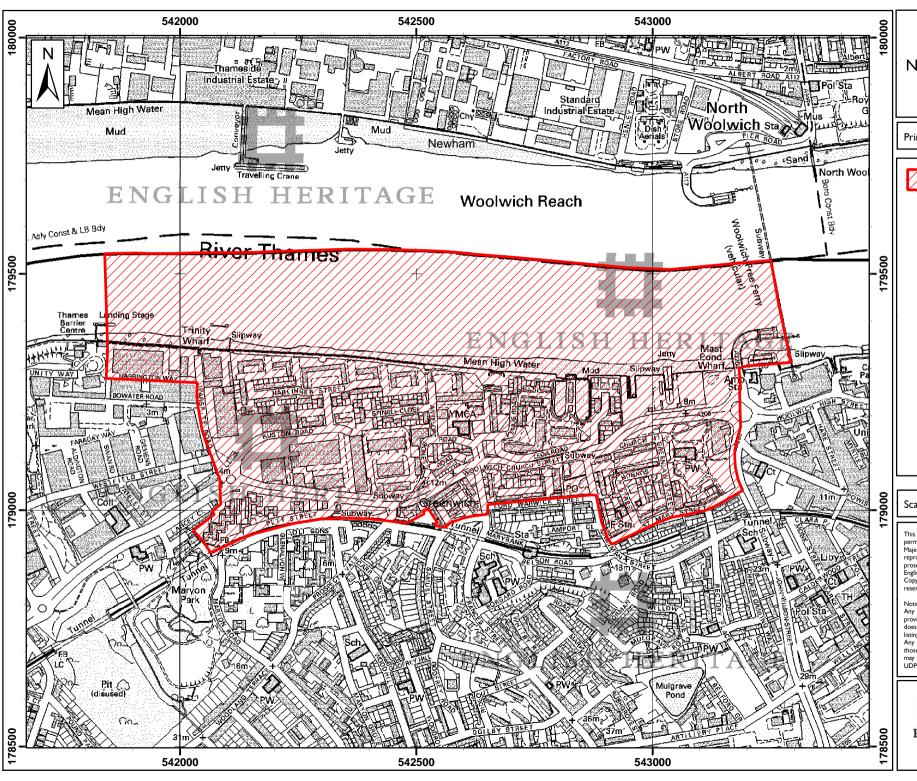
Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the prehistoric potential of the site.
- 2. Research the historic archives to understand the development of the site and of its function and ownership as part of the early expansion of Woolwich town pre 1513.
- 3. Archaeological investigation of the dockyard and the technological changes that occurred.

- 4. Archaeological investigation of the settlement that developed to the east and south of the yard.
- 5. Archaeological investigation of the demolished church of St Mary to investigate its origins.

Recommendation

To remove the south western area on the south side of Woolwich Church Street and west of Prospect Vale. Area east of Prospect Vale should be retained as this includes the expansion of the settlement along the boundary of the dockyard. However, the area south of St Mary's Church could be contracted to the boundary of the Church Yard before following north on the line of Greenlaw Street and then west along Sunbury Street.



Greenwich AHAP No 23 Woolwich Dockyard

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological
Potential

Scale: 1:8.000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 24 Old Woolwich

This archaeological area is east of Woolwich Ferry, north of Powis Street to the river and inland between Plumstead Road and Spray Street as far as Burrage Road.

Being adjacent to the River Thames the site is less than 15m above the river and consisting of Head material.

Old Woolwich was shaped and given character by its association with some four centuries or more of ship building, naval and ordnance activity. Each element required a labour force and therefore the town needed to cater for this as well as passing trade and ship crews.

It has been suggested that Gun Wharf located between Bell Water Gate and Globe Lane was a wharf purchased by Henry VIII. But this area between the ferry and the Royal Arsenal was the only waterfront available for the town to develop through the later medieval period. The area north of Woolwich High Street to the river developed as a series of lanes and paths with tightly packed houses and numerous inns. The area developed a reputation of being very rough and acquired the name 'Dusthole'.

Aligned northwest-southeast from the edge of this distinct area ran the Elizabethan ropeyard that was at that time the longest in the world at 1080 foot in length. Initially open to the elements, it developed into a roofed structure, and eventually was fenced to prevent people removing rope without authority.

The relative high ground that denotes the teardrop-shaped area between the Plumstead Road and the Royal Arsenal was an area that in the medieval period was a centre for the local pottery industry. Excavation has revealed examples of the kilns used for the period 1250 to 1550. Also within this area, and the public space to the north, has been identified a massive late Iron Age ditch c.8m deep and 12-14m wide aligned roughly parallel to the western boundary of the much later Royal Arsenal. To the immediate west was an area of Iron Age and Roman occupation which suggests that this strategic location had been important for a very long time and may relate to the ancient origins of the ferry river crossing. A single Saxon coin from the former power station site, now a public park, may suggest a possible continuous use of this stretch of river front.

In addition to the local pottery industry there was, in the seventeen-century, an active glassworks at Glasshouse Yard near the ferry; and a clay-pipe kiln in the area of the power station.

The site of the thirteenth century manor of Southall is understood to have lain in the area towards the northwest end of Powis Street. It was later called the manor of Woolwich. Later the Salem Chapel was built on the site, around which a post-medieval burial ground was established. The site then became a school and playground. The development about Hare Street and Powis Street was an end of eighteenth century creation, rebuilt and widened in the nineteenth.

The south side of the Plumstead Road between Beresford Square and Burrage Road saw the cultivation land give way to ribbon development to provide much in demand accommodation for Royal Arsenal higher status employees. These houses faced the high wall of the Arsenal rather than the open expanse across a busy dual-carriageway as is the case today.

Within the area of the modern Plumstead Road to the immediate northwest of Beresford Square was Trinity Church built in 1833 in a classical Greek style; the smaller Royal Arsenal Chapel lay in close proximity to the covered market.

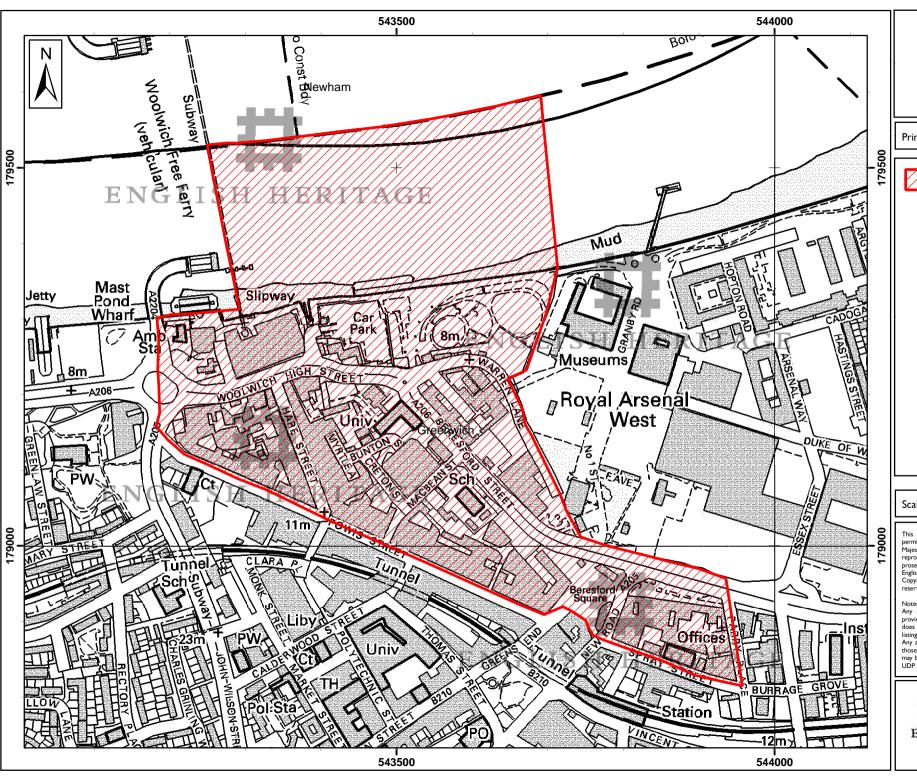
The power station was built next to the river in 1891 as the Woolwich District Electric Lighting Company. During its construction the remains of a ship were discovered that may have been the *Resolution* while the popular suggestion is that it may have been the remains of Henry VIII flag ship, *Henri grace a dieu*. The power station stopped work in the 1970s and was demolished within the following ten years.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the prehistoric potential of the site.
- 2. Research the historic archives to understand the development of the site and of its function and ownership as part of the early expansion of Woolwich town.
- 3. Archaeological investigation of the settlement and industry that developed.
- 4. Archaeological investigation of the Manor of Southall and demolished Salem church and churchyard.

Recommendation

Add triangle of land at junction of Powis Street and John Wilson Street to take in land including the car park adjacent to the County Court.



Greenwich AHAP No 24 Old Woolwich

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological

Scale: 1:5,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 25

Royal Arsenal West

The former Royal Arsenal in Woolwich (known as the Warren until 1805) is a historic site of national significance.

The historic western core of the former Royal Arsenal is situated straddling the margins between what would have been low-lying river flooding silts and sandy clays to the southwest with all this above sandstone. As the site developed so more of this marginal land was reclaimed and ground level increased.

However, prior to this period of use and development, the area north of Beresford Gate and Plumstead Road was the site of a Roman period mixed-rite cemetery. No definite enclosing boundary ditch has been recorded or the presence of adjacent buildings, compounds or roads. The identification of Iron Age and Roman occupation to the immediate west within the northern area of the 'teardrop' area and on the site of the former power station is leading to an appreciation of the significance of this area during these earlier times.

Following the establishment of the Royal Dockyard in 1513 other facilities quickly became established including a gun yard, a yard for storing ordnance removed from laid-up ships. In 1665 a triangular earthwork known as Prince Rupert Fort was quickly constructed to house 60 cannon as a response to the threat of the Dutch sailing up the Thames following the decimation of the English fleet off the south coast. In 1668 guns, carriages and stores at Deptford were moved to this site and land to its south, with an order that in future all such material would be laid down at Woolwich.

The area known as the 'Warren' was purchased by the Crown in 1671 and soon shot and gunpowder were produced and stored on site. Shooting butts and proofing ranges were laid out to the east on the fringes of the expanse of marsh.

In 1694 the Royal Laboratories were also transferred to this site, from which moment it began to grow almost exponentially in line with the times of greatest need of the British Empire. Significant expansion of the site came at the time of the Napoleonic Wars with extra manufacturing capability being added along with a major range of stores along the river edge from which supplies could be drawn in anticipation of ships' arrival for rearmament and taking supplies on board.

By 1907 the greater Arsenal covered 520ha and stretched for 4.8km with a peak of direct employment during World War I of some 80,000 people.

The site was less of a strategic site during World War II, and the announcement that the site would begin the process of closing was made in 1964.

The extensive ranges became Thamesmead with this Archaeological Priority Area representing the historic western core of the complex.

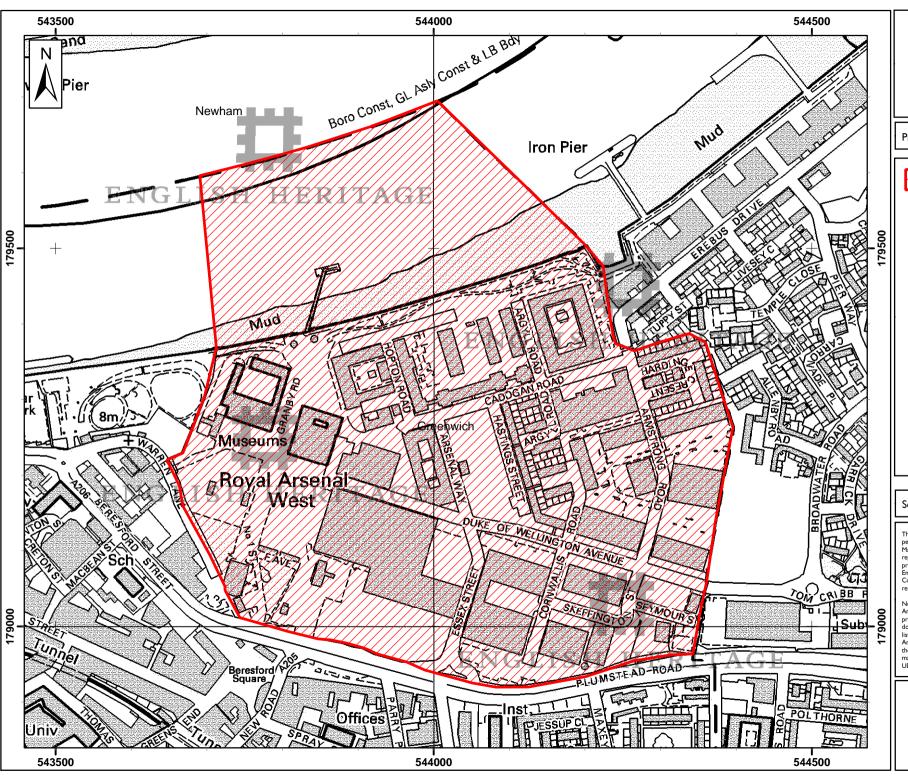
An extensive programme of archaeological and building recording and research was triggered in 1998 with the commencement of remediation works ahead of its regeneration. This work continues.

Potential Research

- 1. Research the historic archives to understand the development of the site.
- 2. Archaeological investigation of the remaining areas to be developed.
- 3. Investigate parish boundary between Woolwich and Plumstead that passes through the site.

Recommendation

There will be the potential to review extent of area once all key archaeological investigations have been completed within the boundary of the historic Royal Arsenal area.



Greenwich AHAP No 25 Royal Arsenal West

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:5,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 26

Royal Arsenal East

Royal Arsenal East was the area now developed as the new juvenile detention centre west of Belmarsh Prison. The name of this site has been applied to this archaeological area representing as it does the extensive areas to the east of the historic core of the historic Arsenal.

Prehistoric artefacts have been recovered from the peat that lies across much of the area to indicate the way this marshland habitat was utilised. Archaeological work undertaken to the immediate west of Belmarsh Prison has produced evidence of two phases of wooden platform with the earliest dating to 3900BC which places it close to the beginning of peat formation at Thamesmead and the rapid changes in sea level that occurred at that time.

There is also limited evidence to indicate that the area or parts of it were utilised by people in the Iron Age and Roman period. Attempts to control flooding had varying success despite major breaches in the seventeenth century known as the 'Great Inundation'.

Following the 1850s and the creation of ever larger guns the Arsenal expanded further and further eastwards. The isolation of the land meant it could also be used for handling explosives and the whole was linked by a network of broad and narrow gauge railway.

The extensive ranges became Thamesmead in 1967 following the sale of the land to the Greater London Council with the current site representing the historic western core of the complex.

Two World War II pillboxes survive on the coast at Tripcock Point but it is anticipated that other defensive elements possibly still remain within the Thamesmead area.

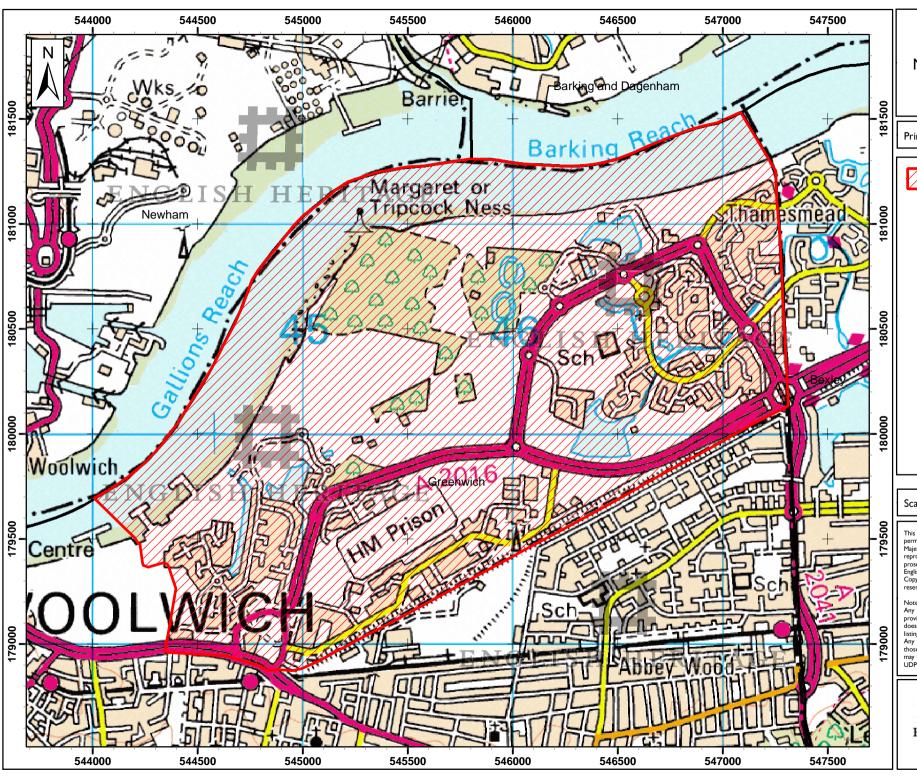
Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the buried topography of the area to produce an area wide deposit model.
- 2. Archaeological investigation of the changing environment.
- 3. Archaeological investigation of the prehistoric structures and artefacts associated with activity peculiar to this marshland environment.

- 4. Archaeological investigation of the Royal Arsenal structures and artefacts associated with activity peculiar to the extended Royal Arsenal.
- 5. Archaeological investigation of medieval and post-medieval flood defensive works.

Recommendation

Area should be expanded south to the former railway line to take in an area of buried peat and back channels.



Greenwich AHAP No 26 Royal Arsenal East

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 27

Plumstead High Street

This archaeological area takes in various areas north and south of the eastwest line of Plumstead High Street, the historic heart of the settlement.

The site is situated on a northwest facing slope between 5 and 15m OD contour level with Head or silts across the west end above an extensive area of sandstone.

The road is orientated with the 10m contour and running approximately parallel to the Roman Watling Street which is likely to have Iron Age origins, the road when projected west would connect with the cemetery and riverside settlement in the area north of the 'Teardrop', the area between Plumstead Road and Beresford Street.

No Roman settlement evidence has to date been recovered from the High Street area to suggest its origins but a significant scatter of Roman coins would suggest that the evidence may yet be found.

To the east of the settlement was the medieval church of St Nicholas. The church was established close to a manor. In fact at the east end of the present church traces of the manor fabric can be seen. A lesser manor was established at the west end of the settlement.

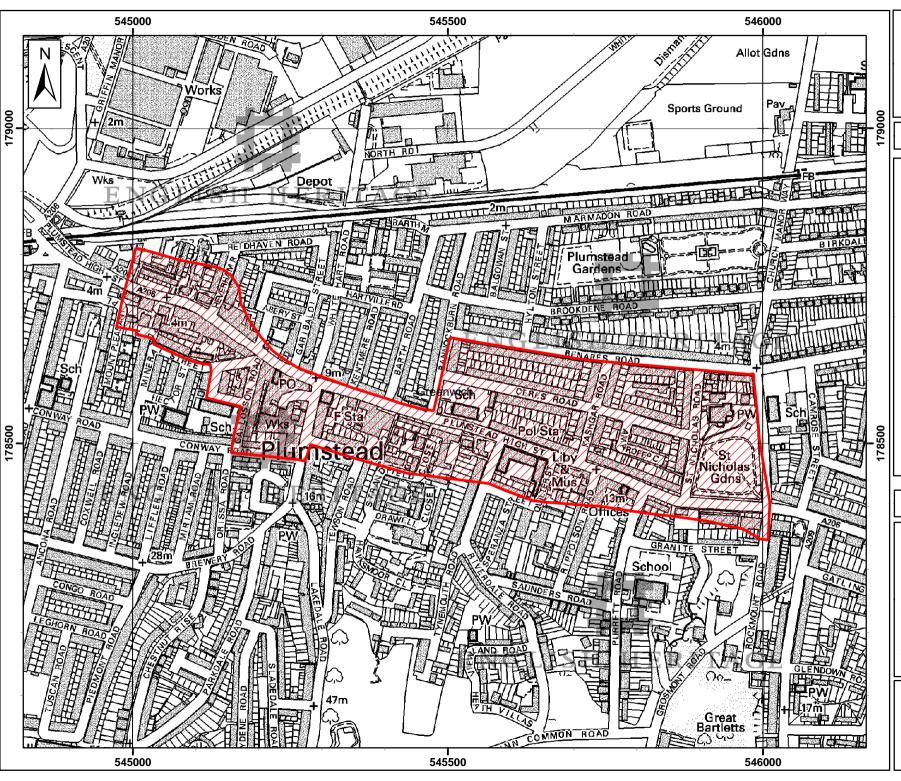
The expansion of Woolwich that began to gain momentum between the Napoleonic and Crimean Wars resulted in Plumstead becoming surrounded by development but its local character is still present. Despite encroachment, the two southern areas of Plumstead Common remain.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of the origins of the settlement.
- 2. Archaeological investigation of the historic road.
- 3. Archaeological investigation of the two manors and original church.
- 4. Historic research to investigate church and manors.
- 5. Historic research to investigate possible antiquarian activity.

Recommendation

The area should be expanded north of the High Street between Bannockburn Road as far as Abbey Street and north to a projected line taken on Abbey Street.



Greenwich AHAP No 27 Plumstead High Street

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:6,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 28

Wickham Lane

This archaeological area takes in various areas north and south of the eastwest line of Plumstead High Street, the historic heart of the settlement.

The area is approximately central to the winding route of Wickham Lane in between Bostall Woods to the east and Plumstead Common to the west.

The commons lie on higher ground at over 50m above OD while the archaeological area follows the northerly descending valley from 30m at the higher southern end and 10m at the northern. The actual base of the valley runs parallel with and to the east of Wickham Road. It would not have been practical to have a road along the bottom of the valley due to the depth of hillwash soil and likely wet conditions for at least part of the year.

The bulk of the area is on sandstone with the eastern edge and slope of Plumstead Common consisting of sand and gravel.

A Roman cremation has been recorded south of and a coin to the west of Waterdale Road but no direct evidence of occupation. The only medieval occupation of note was a manor at the north end of the area referred as the Old Manor House located at the foot of the slope leading on to the western area of Plumstead Common.

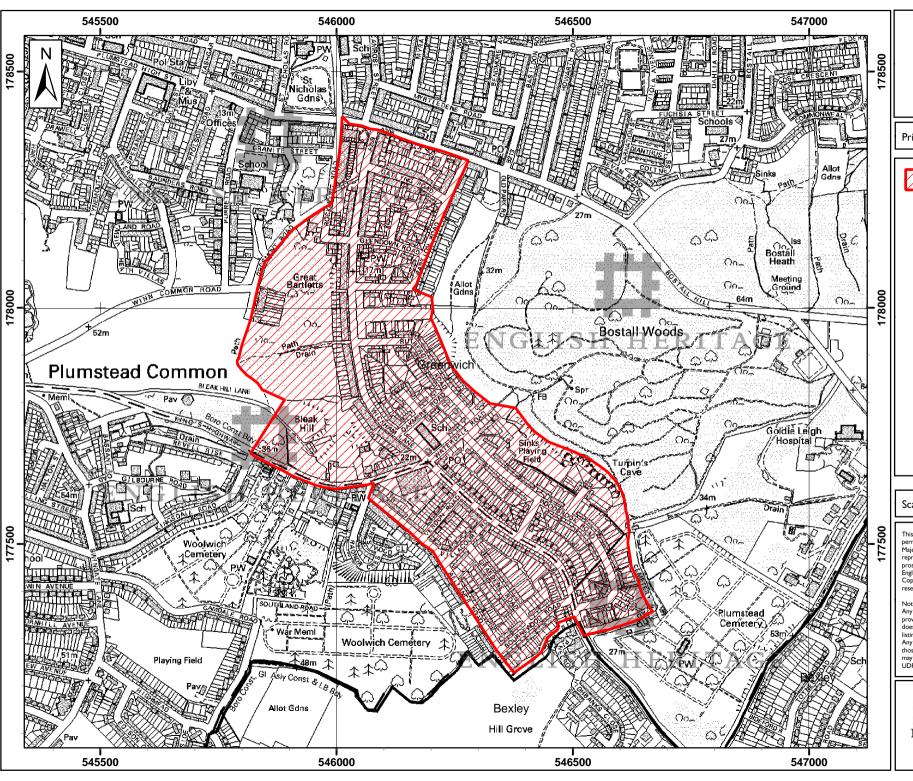
Historically the valley contained no village or hamlet but by the mid nineteenth century there were several chalk quarries along the eastern edge of the area. To the west of Wickham Lane at the southern end of the area was a brick works. The river has now been canalised to run along the west side of the road.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation to ascertain if the Roman cremation is part of a cemetery.
- 2. Historic research to investigate the Old Manor House.
- 3. Archaeological investigation to ascertain if the medieval manor house.
- 4. Historic research to investigate the brick works.
- 5. Archaeological investigation of the brick works.

Recommendation

The area prescribes a geographical rather than archaeological or historic area. Further study of this area may lead to a greater revision of the boundary than any other Archaeological Priority Area within the borough.



Greenwich AHAP No 28 Wickham Lane

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological Potential

Scale: 1:8.000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 29

Barrack Field

This archaeological area is bordered by Grand Depot Road to the east, Ha Ha Road to the south, Repository Road to the west and the barracks and parade ground to the north.

The area is relatively flat but on a gentle north facing slope, 45m above OD to the south and 40m OD to the north and is entirely upon geology of sand and gravel.

The area is dominated by the Royal Artillery Barracks dating from 1716. The façade is nearly 1000 ft long and was built in two phases, 1776-81 and 1802 making it the longest Georgian façade in Britain.

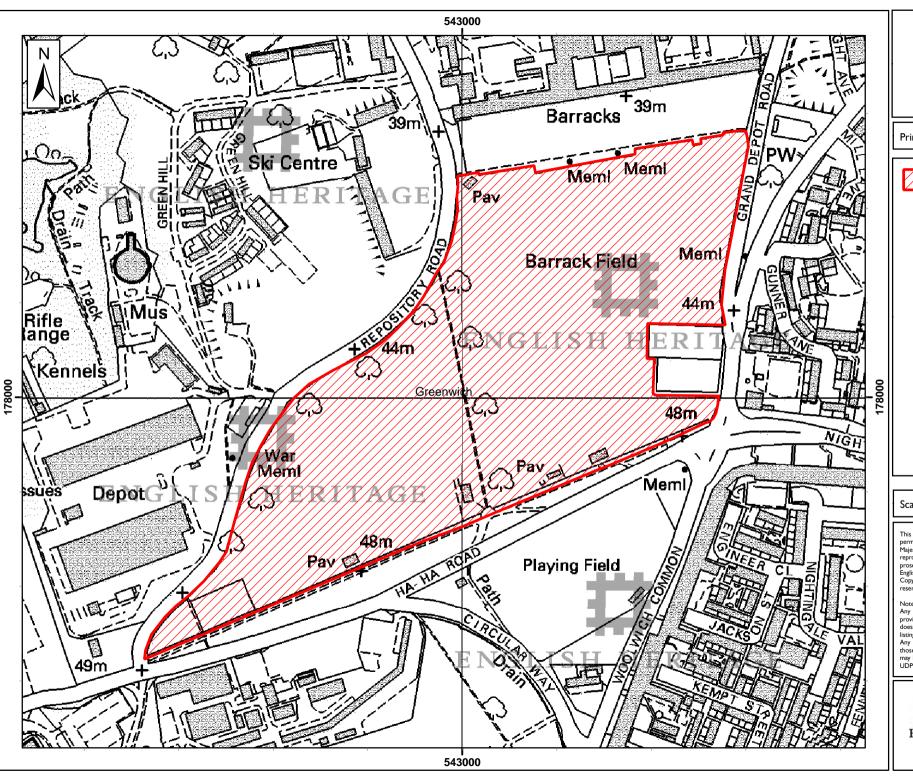
In addition to this use, Barrack Field was used for trench digging practice in its northwest corner. Three groups of zig-zag or crenellated trenches towards the northeast corner and along the north boundary of the grass tennis courts may not be practice works but air-raid shelters. A final group of practice trenches are set close to the western boundary of the area near to the gated entrance at the southwest corner that includes a sea mine.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of practice works and air-raid shelters.
- 2. Historic research of area may lead to heightened significance of certain features.

Recommendation

This is a new area to be considered for adoption containing as it does examples of the military use of this open area of Woolwich.



Greenwich AHAP No 29 Barrack Field

Print Date: October 2011



Area of High Archaeological **Potential**

Scale: 1:4.000

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www.english-heritage.org.uk

Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 30 Rotunda & Repository Wood

This archaeological area boarded by Hillreach to the north, Repository Road to the east, Ha Ha Road to the south and the cemetery and domestic gardens to the west.

The topography of the area is quite dramatic consisting as it does of a series of coombes from 30m OD at the north, rising to 45m OD and a relative level area towards the south of the site on which currently stand a number of modern military depot metal frame and skinned buildings. The whole site is on geology of sand and gravel. Across the area of the coombes there are a number of springs that are active all year round.

The site is a unique landscape representing as it does the changing military training needs from possibly as early as 1808. This area eventually included a series of lakes. The main feature is the practice fortification that originally extended from the north boundary of the area to cross the southern edge. The southern portion has subsequently been levelled in advance of the present military buildings.

Research suggests the earthwork may have been started 1805 with reconstruction commencing c.1819. Over time it included defensive revetments and embrasures of different form to provide a varied training landscape.

The name 'Napier Lines' was introduced in the 1990s for the depot at the southeast end of Repository Wood and has therefore been used incorrectly in recent times as the name of the earlier military earthwork.

Within this evolving space was placed in 1818 the re-erected Rotunda Grade II* Listed building designed by Nash for Carlton House where it had been originally designed as a temporary structure used as a vast ballroom before being utilised to entertain the heads of state during the visit of the 'Allied Sovereigns' in June 1814 and then the Wellington fete in July of the same year. The building was used at Woolwich to house the Royal Artillery cadet and officer training collection that quickly overflowed into the surrounding area. Part of the collection is now on display at Firepower Museum, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich.

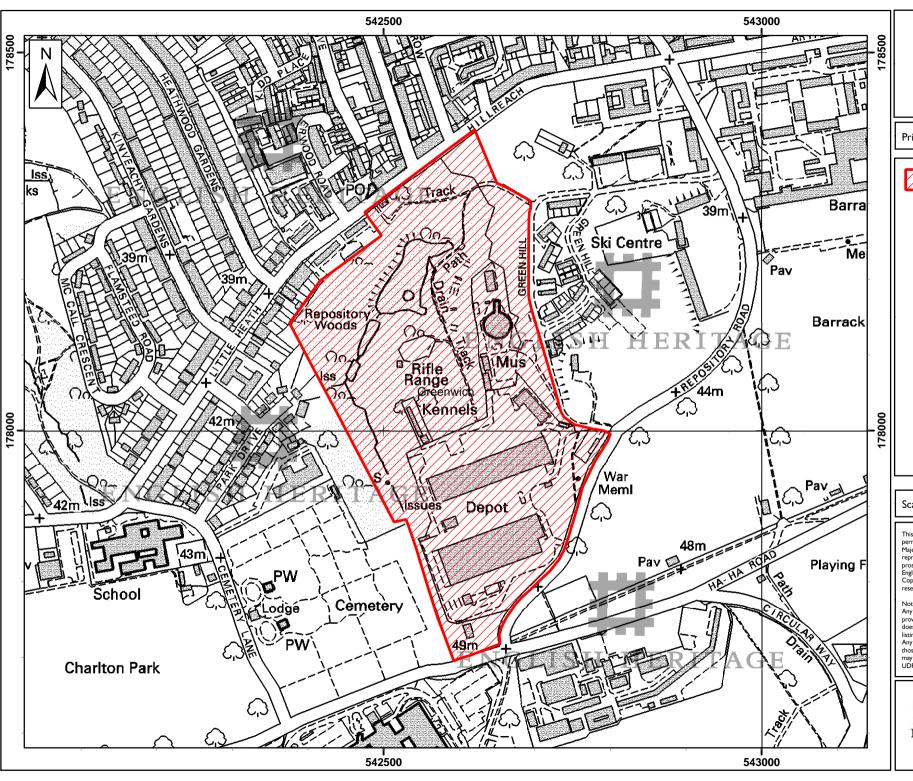
This site is of national importance with the landscape being significant in the study of the British military approach to warfare.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of key aspects of the structure of the military features.
- 2. Further historic research to complement existing studies.

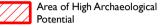
Recommendation

This is a new area to be considered for adoption containing as it does a unique military training landscape that is all but complete and representing a long period of use. It also pre-dates any comparable example to be found elsewhere in the country.



Greenwich AHAP No 30 Rotunda & Repository Wood

Print Date: October 2011



Scale: 1:5,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area 31

Shrewsbury House

The main area is centred on Ashridge Crescent with Dallin Road and Dothill Road forming the northern boundary with Eglinton Hill and Eaglesfield Road to the south and the boundary with the golf course to the east.

The area occupies an area of rising ground from 105m in the north to 115m in the south. The projection of high ground from the southwest into the central area of the Archaeological Priority Area consists of sand and gravel with London Clay off the promontory.

Five Bronze Age barrows have been identified on the north facing slope, below the high point between 105m to 115m AOD. Three of the burial mounds would appear to have formed a linear group with the remaining two possibly forming or contributing to a second group. The barrows are classically located at the 'false horizon' position where they can be seen silhouetted against the sky from the foot of the hill i.e. from the north.

Currently there is no evidence to suggest the archaeology may extend as far as Area 7 on Shooters Hill.

It is anticipated that there may have been other barrows within the group, and that these are likely to have been situated within the same contour band.

The area also includes the estate of Shrewsbury House. A number of fine eighteenth century houses were built about the former Royal Eltham estate including Shrewsbury House. Princess Charlotte, daughter of George IV, stayed at the house in 1799. The current Shrewsbury House was built in 1926 adjacent to the site of the original dwelling.

The house was located in the area to the immediate north of Nereworth Drive and consisted of a single northeast-southwest oriented property that appears to have faced west and was set at the south end of an elongated D-shaped enclosed area. To the immediate north of the house was a sun dial and at the boundary (to the rear of properties on the north side of Ashridge Crescent) was a lean-to greenhouse set behind a semi-circular enclosure. To the immediate east of this was a pump.

Adjacent to the east of the house enclosure was a regular shaped pond with a path and shrubs about its edge to indicate an extension to the main formal grounds of the house.

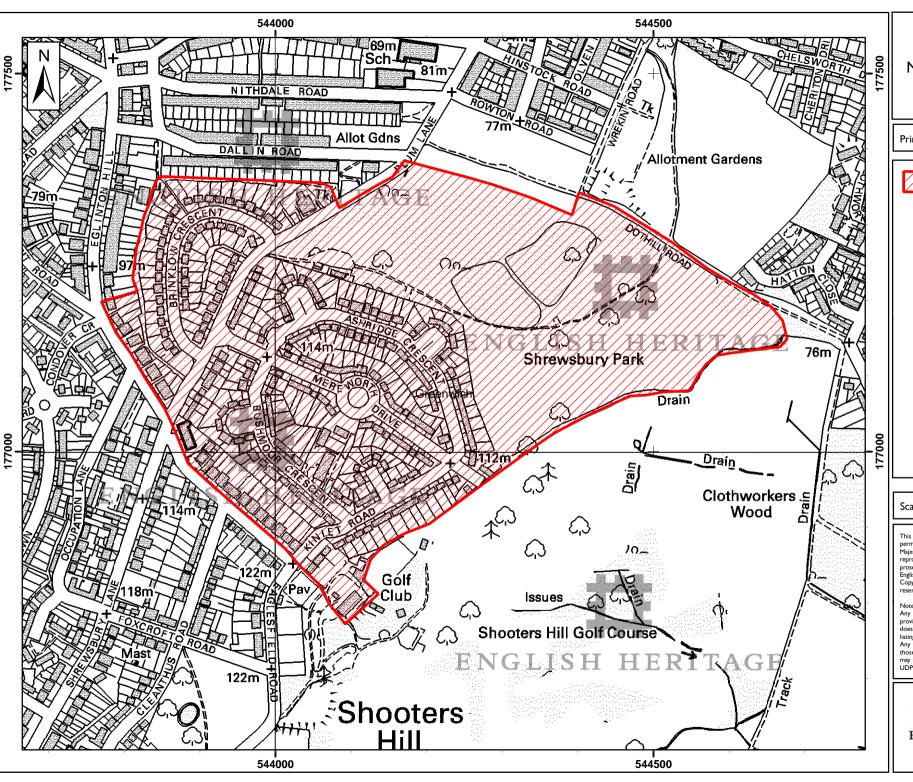
The house became a convalescent home for children before 1843 and appears to have remained so until its demolition when the area was developed for housing between the two wars.

Potential Research

- 1. Archaeological investigation of Bronze Age barrow cemetery.
- 2. Archaeologically investigate of possible Bronze Age settlement evidence.
- 3. Historical investigation of the former house and estate.

Recommendation

Part of the northern area could be removed as this is too low down for any Bronze Age evidence. Equally part of the western area could be refined to follow Plum Lane as far as Brinklow Crescent and then to follow the inner line of the crescent as far as the western extension to which the revised boundary can connect.



Greenwich AHAP No 31 Shrewsbury House

Print Date: October 2011

Area of High Archaeological

Scale: 1:5,000

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Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area A River Shuttle

The area is centred on the River Shuttle plus an annex to the northeast.

The area occupies a part of the borough centred on the 55m contour consisting of sand and pebble known as the Harwich Formation.

A medieval conduit head, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, is at the north boundary of the area, a Roman coin has been recorded adjacent to the track near to the northeastern pavilion, and on the far side of this was a war time anti aircraft battery emplacement.

The whole area is now extensively used for recreation with a number of marked out sport pitches.

Potential Research

N/A

Recommendation

The whole area should be deleted. The area appears to have been prescribed about the Scheduled Ancient Monument of the conduit head. The monument is a discrete feature, albeit connected to the conduit. No available information suggests a wider area of interest.

Area of High Archaeological Potential: character description

Area B Middle Park

This archaeological area is centred upon the open space at the junction of Kingsground with Middle Park Avenue.

The site is between the 40 and 45m contour level with geology of Sandstone and Mudstone.

Middle Park was park of the Eltham Manor estate being one of several parks in the area that were originally wooded and used for hunting. No archaeological evidence has been recorded to date from within or about this archaeological area and the historic maps show the area to be an open field with no apparent hunting lodge, farmhouse or estate buildings.

Potential Research

N/A

Recommendation

It is recommended that the designated area is deleted.