



Middlewick Ranges Colchester Essex

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment



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Front cover View looking west across Middlewick Ranges



Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by JLL to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of land at Middlewick Ranges, Colchester, Essex, centred on National Grid Reference 600976, 222688. This study is intended to support the allocation of the Site for residential development within the Colchester Emerging Local Plan.

The aims of this study was to determine the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within the site, and to establish the likely impact of the development on the significance of the archaeological resource, or identify the need for further evaluation to do so.

No intrusive archaeological investigation has been undertaken within the Site however a number of heritage assets have been recorded within the Site comprising earthworks relating to a possible civil war redoubt or siege fort, two WWII pillboxes, WWII anti-tank ditch, two WWII spigot mortars and a post-medieval boundary stone. The potential for the earthworks, known as the redoubt, to date to the Siege of Colchester is important. This is a known event (1648) within a national conflict. The feature known as the redoubt should be considered to be of regional significance as a minimum.

A substantial number of firing ranges have been located on the Site since the mid-19th century, a number remain extant. Firing ranges have little potential for interpretation due primarily to their singular function. They also remain a common sight across the United Kingdom. Their real value in this case is as a potential protection for underlying archaeological features. They should be considered to have local significance.

A group of WWII features, comprising two pillboxes and two spigot mortar pits survive as a recent reminder of the mid-20th century fears of invasion. Singular examples of pillboxes are prevalent across the United Kingdom, utilised as they were during WWII as sentry hard-points, coastal protection (especially the East and South Coast), airfield protection and a myriad of control points at road junctions and bridge crossings.

In addition to this a number of possible cropmarks have been identified relating to a possible trackway, linear features and ring ditches within the south eastern part of the Site. Consultation with LiDAR survey data has also revealed possible archaeological features and possible former field boundaries across the Site. A small number of finds are also recorded to have been recovered from within the Site however the exact provenance and method of recovery of these finds is unknown. One such find was an imported Anglo-Saxon pot, which could be an indication of domestic activity or perhaps burial.

As such there is potential for archaeological remains to exist within the Site. The majority of the Site has been used as part of Middlewick Ranges since at least the mid-19th century and it was evident from the site visit that earthmoving has taken place to facilitate this use. Earthen bunds have been created across the site and other areas have been flattened involving some ground removal. The exact extent of the ground removal within the site is unknown but it is possible that these activities may have damaged or removed archaeological deposits within the footprint of these works. This will be dependent upon the depth of the archaeological horizon within the Site and the depth of the truncation. The identification of possible features identified through aerial photo analysis and LiDAR images suggest that preservation of archaeological remains could exist within the Site. Areas where ground build up has taken place is likely to have preserved archaeological deposits below ground in these areas.



There are currently no specific development proposals for the Site however a 'developable area' has been put forward with the remainder of the Site to be left as ecological mitigation. The developable area is within the north eastern part of the Site and avoids known heritage assets such as the redoubt, pillboxes, spigot mortars and the cropmarks identified in the southern part of the Site. There is however potential for unknown archaeological remains and features identified from LiDAR and aerial photos to exist within the developable area. The WWII anti-tank ditch lies within the developable area and as such is likely to be physically affected by development in this area. However as part of the heritage interpretation for the Site the new road through the development will follow the line of the anti-tank ditch. The details of groundworks associated with the ecological mitigation are currently unknown, and should below ground works be required this would have the potential to damage or remove archaeological remains within the footprint of these works.

Due to a lack of previous archaeological investigation, the presence, location and significance of any buried heritage assets within the site cannot currently be confirmed on the basis of the available information. As such it is likely that additional archaeological investigations will be required by the Archaeological Advisor to Colchester District Council as part of the submission for any future planning application. It is possible that a future management plan for the redoubt may be required as part of the planning permission.

The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities.

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This project was commissioned by JLL and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Tamsin Cottle in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Colchester Urban and District Council for supplying the Historic Environment Record data.



Middlewick Ranges Colchester Essex

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by JLL (the Client), to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of land at Middlewick Ranges, Colchester, Essex (hereafter 'the Site', **Fig. 1**), centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 600976, 222688.

1.1.2 This study will support the allocation of the site for residential development within the Emerging Colchester Local Plan.

1.2 Development proposals

1.2.1 This document has been prepared to support the Sites allocation for housing as part of the Emerging Colchester Local Plan. As such no specific development proposals for the Site have been prepared at this stage however a 'developable area' and areas for ecological mitigation have been put forward. The developable area occupies an area within the north eastern part of the Site. It is anticipated that the proposed development would comprise the construction of new houses and associated infrastructure such as access and parking. Details of the works required for the ecological mitigation are currently unknown.

1.3 Aims and purpose of the assessment

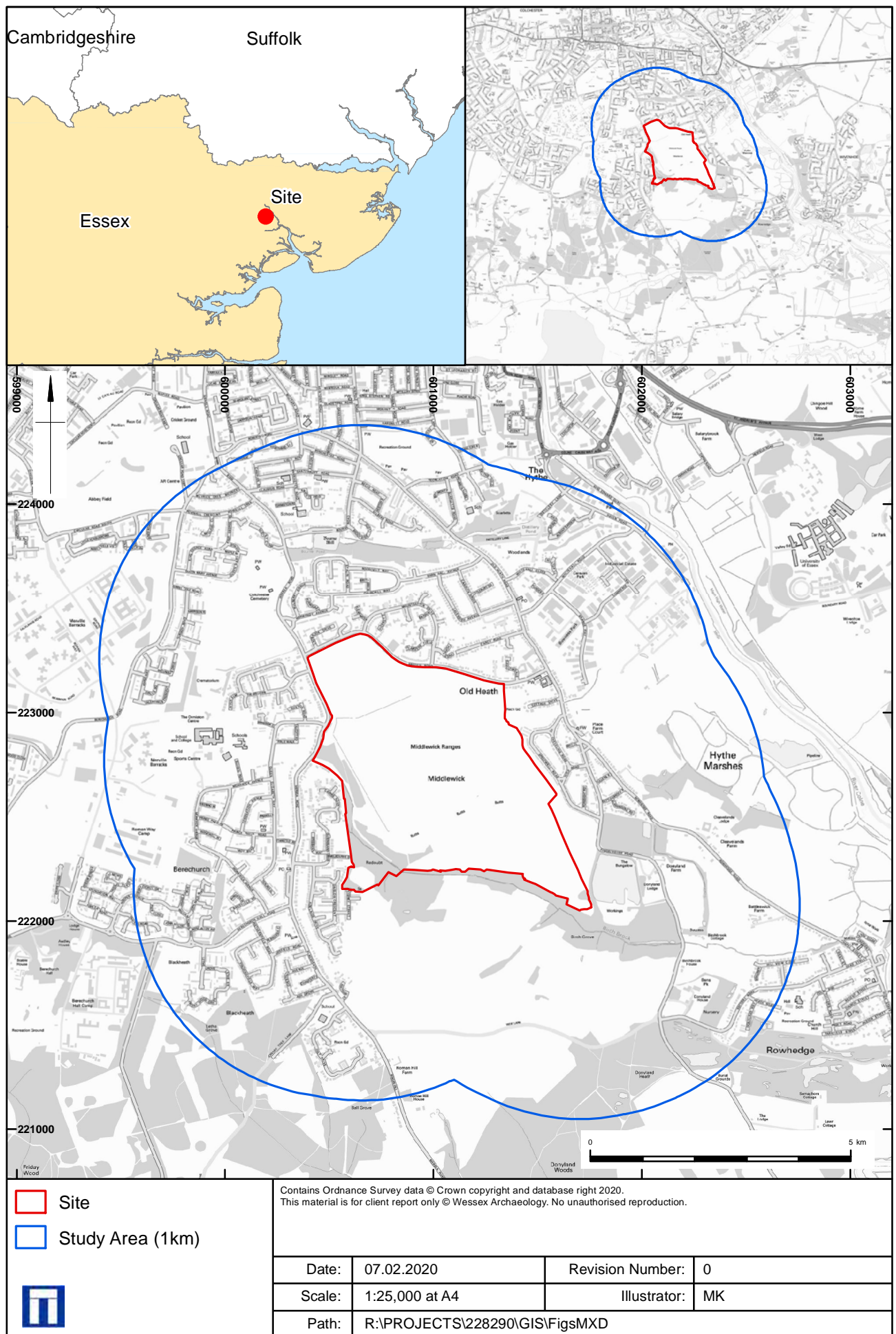
Introduction

1.3.1 The purpose of this assessment is to comply with the appropriate assessment planning guidance as outlined in paragraph 189 of the NPPF, 2019 and in line with ClfA Standards and Guidance (2017). This assessment will also identify and reference any other relevant and/or appropriate documents such as existing heritage or archaeological site management plans that may be in operation in the locality.

Aim

1.3.2 This report will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of Conduct and other relevant regulations of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

1.3.3 This report will establish the likely impact development on the significance of the historic environment, or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so, and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact.



Site Location and 1km Study Area

Figure 1

2 LEGISLATIVE AND PLANNING FRAMEWORK

2.1 Legislation

- 2.1.1 There is national legislation and guidance relating to the protection of, and proposed development on or near, important archaeological sites or historical buildings within planning regulations as defined under the provisions of the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*. In addition, local authorities are responsible for the protection of the historic environment within the planning system.
- 2.1.2 The main components of the national planning and legislative framework governing the treatment of the historic environment within the planning process are summarised in **Appendix 2**.

2.2 Designated heritage assets

- 2.2.1 A designated heritage assets is defined in NPPF Annex 2 as:
- 'A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.'*
- 2.2.2 Designation can be defined as:
- 'The recognition of particular heritage value(s) of a significant place by giving it formal status under law or policy intended to sustain those values'* (English Heritage 2008, p.71).
- 2.2.3 Statutory protection is provided to certain classes of designated heritage asset under the following legislation:
- *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990;*
 - *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; and*
 - *Protection of Wrecks Act 1973*
- 2.2.4 Further information regarding heritage designations is provided in **Appendix 2**.

2.3 National Planning Policy Framework

- 2.3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published on 27 March 2012 and revised on 24 July 2018 and updated in February 2019. It sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.
- 2.3.2 Protecting and enhancing the historic environment is an important component of the National Planning Policy Framework's drive to achieve sustainable development (as defined in Section 2 'Achieving sustainable development'). The NPPF recognises that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and that effective conservation delivers wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits.
- 2.3.3 Section 16 of the NPPF, entitled 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment', sets out the principal national guidance on the importance, management and safeguarding of heritage assets within the planning process (paragraphs 184-2)

- 2.3.4 On 6 March 2014 the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) launched the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) web-based resource. The resource provides additional guidance intended to accompany the NPPF. It includes a section entitled 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment' (ID: 18a), which expands upon the corresponding sections of the NPPF. The PPG will, where necessary, be updated in due course to reflect changes to the NPPF since the new framework was published in February 2019.

2.4 Local planning policy

- 2.4.1 The Site is situated within the administrative boundaries of Colchester Borough Council, which adopted the *Colchester Core Strategy* in December 2008, with selected policies amended in July 2014.
- 2.4.2 The Core Strategy forms the basis of the development plan for the district and sets targets for the provision of new housing and employment for a period up to 2021, as well as setting out general policies in relation to provision of facilities, transport, and protection of natural and historic features. The council is currently in the process of preparing the emerging Local Plan 2017-2033. The Site is being put forward for allocation for residential development within the new Local Plan.
- 2.4.3 Current local planning policies that relate to the historic environment and may be relevant to the proposed development are presented in **Appendix 2**.

2.5 Supplementary planning guidance

- 2.5.1 Colchester Borough Council has prepared 'Managing Archaeology in Development' supplementary Planning Document which was adopted as part of the Colchester Local Development Framework (Colchester Borough Council 2015).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The methodology employed during this assessment was based upon relevant professional guidance, including the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* (CIfA 2017).

3.2 Study Area

- 3.2.1 Baseline conditions were established through a desk-based review of publicly accessible sources of primary and synthesised information pertaining to the historic environment within a 1km radial Study Area (agreed with the archaeological advisor during the preparation of this assessment). The recorded historic environment resource within the Study Area was considered to provide a context for the discussion and interpretation of the known and potential historic environment resource (heritage assets) that could be affected by the proposed development, via the application of informed professional judgement.

3.3 Sources and Relevant Guidance

- 3.3.1 The following publicly accessible sources of primary and synthesised information were consulted:
- The National Heritage List for England (NHLE), which is the only official and up to date database of all nationally designated heritage assets;

- The Colchester Urban Archaeological Database (UAD), comprising a database of recorded archaeological sites, find spots, and archaeological events within the county;
- Relevant national, regional and thematic Research Frameworks (e.g. Research and Archaeology revisited: a revised framework for the East of England; Medleycott 2011);
- National heritage datasets including the Archaeological Data Service (ADS), Heritage Gateway, OASIS, PastScape and the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) Excavation Index;
- Historic manuscripts, surveyed maps, and Ordnance Survey maps held at the Essex Records Office; and
- Relevant primary and secondary sources held at the Essex Records Office and in Wessex Archaeology's own library. Both published and unpublished archaeological reports relating to excavations and observations in the vicinity of the Site were studied.

3.3.2 Sources consulted during the preparation of this assessment are listed in the references section of the report. Records obtained from the NHLE and Colchester UAD are listed in **Appendix 3** and illustrated in **Figures 1-8**.

3.4 Consultation

3.4.1 Consultation with the archaeological advisor to Colchester Borough Council was undertaken during the preparation of the Desk-Based Assessment (February 2020). It was agreed with the archaeological advisor that a 1km Study Area would be appropriate for the assessment and advice on a number of sources of information to be used was given.

3.5 Site visit

The Site was visited on 17 February 2020. Weather conditions were dry and clear. A fieldwork record comprising digital photography is held in the project archive. Site conditions are summarised below (see **Section 4**).

3.5.1 The aim of the Site visit was to assess the general aspect, character, condition and setting of the Site and to identify any prior impacts not evident from secondary sources. The Site visit also sought to ascertain if the Site contained any previously unidentified features of archaeological, architectural or historic interest.

3.6 Assessment of significance

3.6.1 NPPF defines significance as: the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. The interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. For World Heritage Sites, the cultural value described within each site's Statement of Outstanding Universal Value forms part of its significance.

3.6.2 Current national guidance for the assessment of the significance of heritage assets is based on criteria provided by Historic England in Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment (English Heritage 2008). Within the guidance, significance is weighed by consideration of the potential for the asset to demonstrate differing 'values'.

3.6.3 These values are broadly analogous to the 'interests' defined by NPPF, which are used within this report, as per Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets (Historic England 2019). These are:

- Archaeological Interest: there will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.
- Architectural and Artistic Interest: these are interests in the design and general aesthetics of a place. They can arise from conscious design or fortuitously from the way the heritage asset has evolved. More specifically, architectural interest is an interest in the art or science of the design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of buildings and structures of all types. Artistic interest is an interest in other human creative skill, like sculpture.
- Historic Interest: An interest in past lives and events (including pre-historic). Heritage assets can illustrate or be associated with them. Heritage assets with historic interest not only provide a material record of our nation's history but can also provide meaning for communities derived from their collective experience of a place and can symbolise wider values such as faith and cultural identity.

3.6.4 This assessment was also informed by the advice published by Historic England in the document entitled Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment: Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2 (2015b).

3.7 Assumptions and limitations

3.7.1 Data used to compile this report consists of secondary information derived from a variety of sources, only some of which have been directly examined for the purposes of this Study. The assumption is made that this data, as well as that derived from other secondary sources, is reasonably accurate.

3.7.2 The records held by the Colchester UAD are not a record of all surviving heritage assets, but a record of the discovery of a wide range of archaeological and historical components of the historic environment. The information held within it is not complete and does not preclude the subsequent discovery of further elements of the historic environment that are, at present, unknown.

3.8 Copyright

3.8.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

4 BASELINE RESOURCE

4.1 The Site

4.1.1 The Site comprises an irregular parcel of land of approximately 103ha located at the south-eastern edge of the town of Colchester, 2.5km to the west of Wivenhoe and 830m to the north west of Rowhedge.

- 4.1.2 The Site is a rifle range comprising maintained grassland with a series of firing butts (**Plates 1-18**). The main firing range is secured by high fencing but the remainder of Middlewick can be accessed by public footpaths when the area is not in use by the army (**Plates 19-22**). The south western corner of the Site is covered by a tract of woodland which contains the Birch Brook and earthworks relating to a redoubt.
- 4.1.3 The northern edge of the Site is bound by Abbots Road with residential development beyond. The eastern boundary of the Site is formed by residential development and the Hythe Marshes further east. To the south of the Site is a tract of woodland and Birch Brook with open fields beyond. To the west of the Site is residential development at Berechurch.
- 4.1.4 The Site can broadly be characterised into three distinct areas, the Firing Range, the surrounding grassland and the woodland. The Firing Range has seen some earth moving to create an area suitable for this purpose. The Site contains a number of earthen bunds and number of deliberately flattened areas, in particular adjacent to the firing butts (**Plates 1-13**). It is likely that the bunds were created by removing the earth from the adjacent areas. Smaller mounds were also identified as well as ditches. Modern trackways and buildings were also noted on the Site visit.
- 4.1.5 Beyond the Firing Range is the surrounding grass and heath land with a number of public footpaths which cross it. Many of these land parcels are bound by mature trees however closest to Abbots Road the boundary consists of a wooden fence line. The northern part of the Site (**Plates 14 & 15**), eastern part of the Site and south eastern corner of the Site all consist of maintained grassland. The area to the south of the firing range is overgrown heathland (**Plates 19-22**).
- 4.1.6 Along the western edge of the Site is a belt of woodland, some of which has public footpaths running through it towards the south of the Site.

4.2 Hydrology, Geology and Topography

- 4.2.1 The Birch Brook, a tributary of the River Colne, traverses the western part of the Site within the area of woodland. The brook flows south east towards the River Colne which is located 1.4km to the east of the Site.
- 4.2.2 The underlying bedrock geology throughout the Site is mapped as Thames Group, clay, silt and sand, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 34-56 million years ago in the Palaeogene period. The majority of the Site is overlain by superficial deposits of Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup sand and gravel formed 3 million years ago in the Quaternary period. There are no superficial deposits recorded in the western part of the Site surrounding the Birch Brook (British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer).
- 4.2.3 Within the Site the topography is lowest surrounding the Birch Brook at an elevation between 24m above Ordnance Datum dropping to 20m aOD further south east. Outside of the Site boundary the local topography falls to the south west towards the River Valley of the Colne (dropping to around 1-2m aOD). The highest point lies within the northern part of the Site, at elevations between 28-30m aOD. Whilst the firing range has been modified by earthmoving, the remainder of the Site has seen little modern usage and as such slopes naturally down to the south east. The south eastern corner of the Site lies at an elevation of 20m aOD. Topographically the river valleys were favourable for early occupation of all periods and consequently these areas have been settled from the Neolithic periods onwards (Colchester BC 2015).



4.3 Designated heritage assets (Figure 2)

Site

- 4.3.1 There are no designated heritage assets within the Site.

Study Area

- 4.3.2 Designated heritage assets within the Study Area comprise:

Two Scheduled Monuments:

- Bourne Mill (1002188), located 400m to the north of the Site; and
- Berechurch Dyke: part of an Iron Age territorial oppidum and Romano-British town of Camulodunum (1019968), located 925m to the south west of the Site.

One Grade I Listed Building:

- Bourne Mill (1123673), located 400m to the north of the Site.

10 Grade II Listed Buildings:

- Comprising a variety of structures dating from the 16th–19th centuries and including farmhouses, mills, almshouses, lodge and public house.

Three Conservation Areas:

- Colchester Distillery Pond, located 600m to the north east of the Site;
- Colchester New Town, located 920m to the north of the Site; and
- Abbey Field, located 920m to the north of the Site.

- 4.3.3 There are no World Heritage Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Grade II* Listed Buildings or Registered Battlefields within the Study Area.

- 4.3.4 Designated heritage assets located within the Study Area are depicted in **Figure 2**.

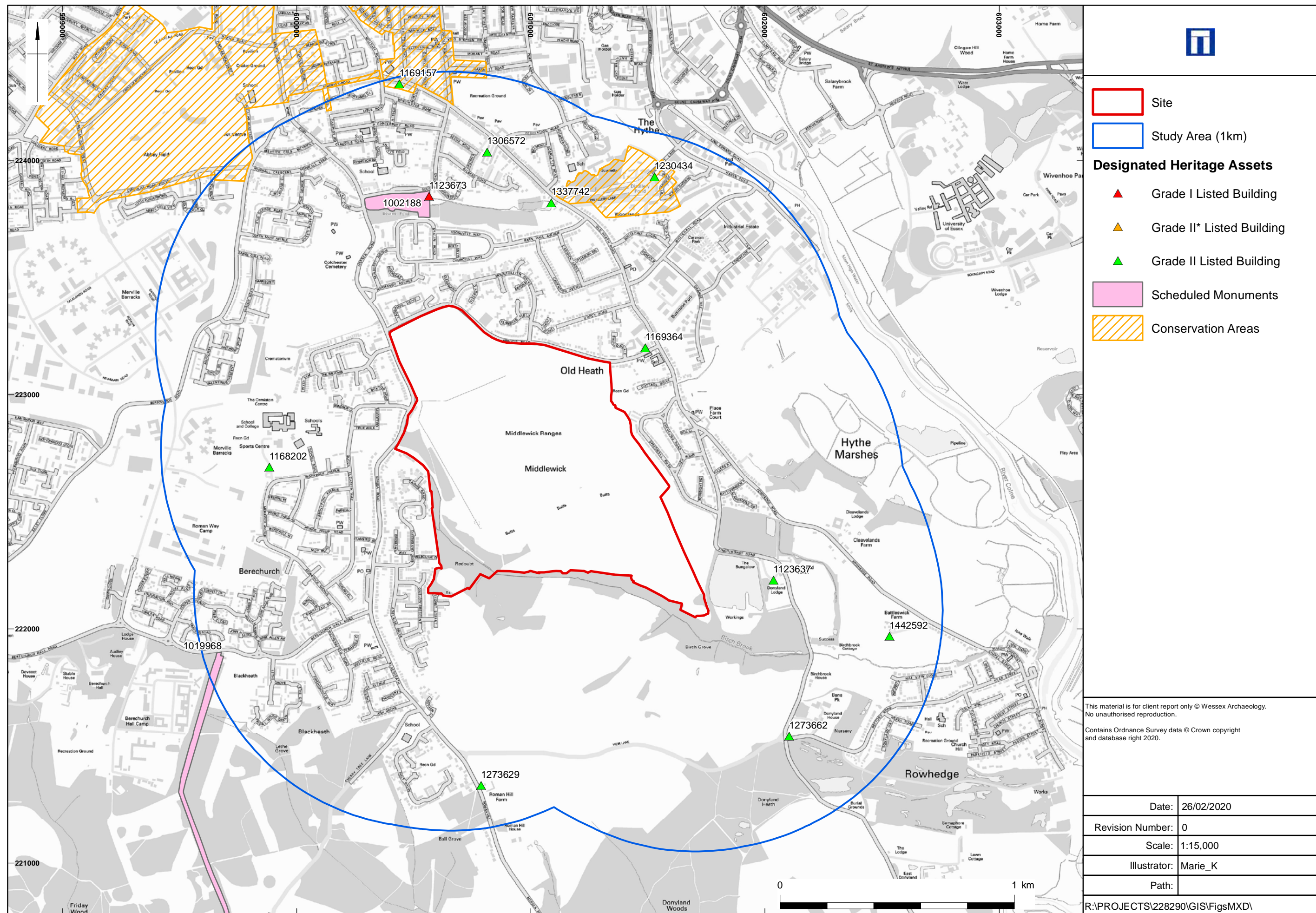


Figure 2

4.4 Historic and Archaeological Background

4.4.1 All heritage assets and archaeological events identified within the Colchester UAD are listed in **Appendix 3** and illustrated in **Figures 3–8**. Where relevant to the assessment of the Site's archaeological potential and historical development, the results of these investigations are discussed in further detail.

4.4.2 Some of the records contained within the Colchester UAD appear to have been entered twice producing duplicate records. This seems to be most prevalent with the findspots, which have the same description with points located close together but not at the exact same location. This has arisen from the merging of the Colchester UAD and the Essex HER. Where a duplicate point is suspected this has been stated below. Duplicate points may skew the data slightly recording a larger number of finds than those which have actually been found within the area.

4.4.3 Records obtained from the NHLE, Colchester UAD and other sources are listed in **Appendix 3** and illustrated in **Figures 3–8**.

Previous studies

4.4.4 No record of any previous intrusive archaeological investigation within the Site has been identified during the preparation of this assessment. An unsystematic fieldwalking survey is recorded to have taken place within the Site which recovered a Neolithic polished flint axe head (ECC435). Other findspots recorded within the Site may have been recovered through field walking or as chance finds.

4.4.5 The Colchester UAD contains a large number of entries pertaining to archaeological investigations which have been carried out within the Study Area. Where relevant, the results of these investigations are discussed in further detail below. Previous archaeological investigations carried out within the Study Area are illustrated in **Figure 3**.

Prehistoric (970,000 BC–AD 43)

4.4.6 The earliest recorded evidence dating to the prehistoric period within the Study Area dates to the Palaeolithic period. Two hand axes are recorded 360m and 170m to the east of the Site (MCC8984 & MCC7100). It is unclear whether these are two separate finds or a duplicated record. A Mesolithic tranche axe has been recorded within the Site, the nature of the discovery of this find is not recorded however it is assumed to have been a surface find (MCC5679). A duplicate record for this find exists within the HER (MCC8967). Earlier prehistoric communities lived a transient lifestyle however locations close to fresh sources of water would have been favourable for temporary settlement due to the access to fresh water and as a suitable location for fishing and hunting.

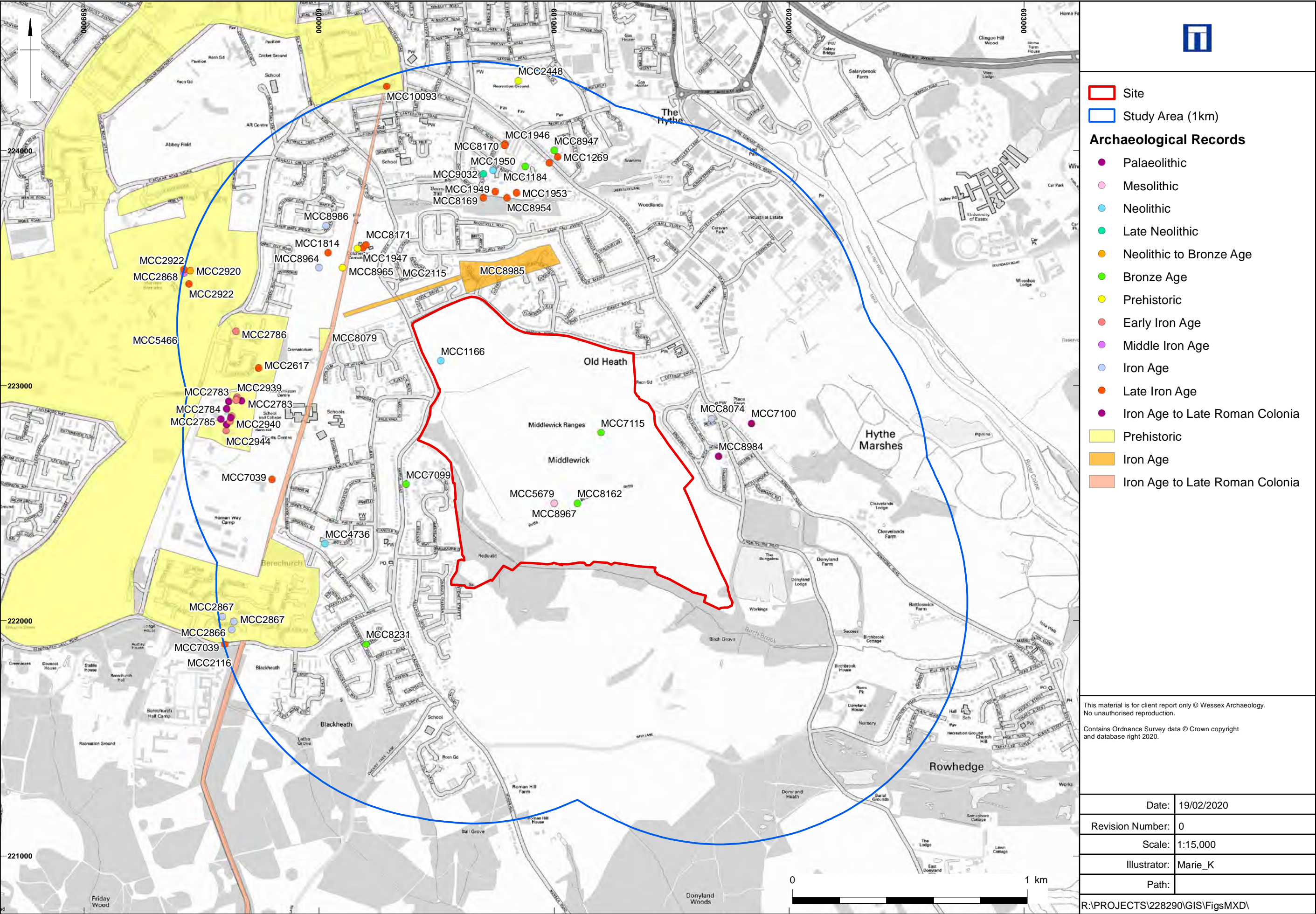
4.4.7 During the Neolithic period permanent settlement and farming communities were established and as before areas with access to fresh water would have been favourable for these early settlements. A late Neolithic knife was found during excavations for a building 530m to the north of the Site (MCC9032). It seems this record has also been duplicated (MCC1950). A late Neolithic to Middle Bronze Age tanged and barbed arrowhead has been discovered within the Site, presumably recovered as a surface find (MCC8162). Another arrowhead of Bronze Age date is recorded on the HER discovered in 1952, however this may also be a duplicated point (MCC7115). A Neolithic axe head has also been discovered within the Site (MCC1166). Another Neolithic axe head was found near Roman Way to the west of the Site (MCC4736).

- 4.4.8 Worked flints of Neolithic to Bronze Age date were found as residual finds within an Iron Age enclosure ditch (MCC2920) at the edge of the Study Area, 1km to the north west of the Site. An early Bronze Age flint knife was found within the garden of a residential property, 670m to the north of the Site (MCC1184). Fragments of two Bronze Age vessels were found at Black Heath, 190m to the west of the Site (MCC7099). A late Bronze Age socketed and looped axe was discovered 780m to the north of the Site (MCC8947). Late Bronze Age fragments and base of an urn were found at Blackheath, 440m to the south west of the Site (MCC8231).
- 4.4.9 Worked flints assigned a general prehistoric date have been recovered 420m to the north west of the Site (MCC2276), this may be duplicated by record MCC8965 which also records worked flint from Colchester Cemetery.
- 4.4.10 A possible prehistoric ring ditch was identified from aerial photos dating to 1974, 940m to the north of the Site (MCC2448). An archaeological investigation located at the western edge of the study area recovered finds and features dating between the Neolithic and Iron Age periods. Neolithic finds were found in a possible waterhole or well and Bronze Age finds were discovered within a series of small pits. Iron Age remains comprised field systems, 4-post structures, cremations, a roundhouse and an enclosure with associated features (MCC5446).

Iron Age (700 BC–AD 43)

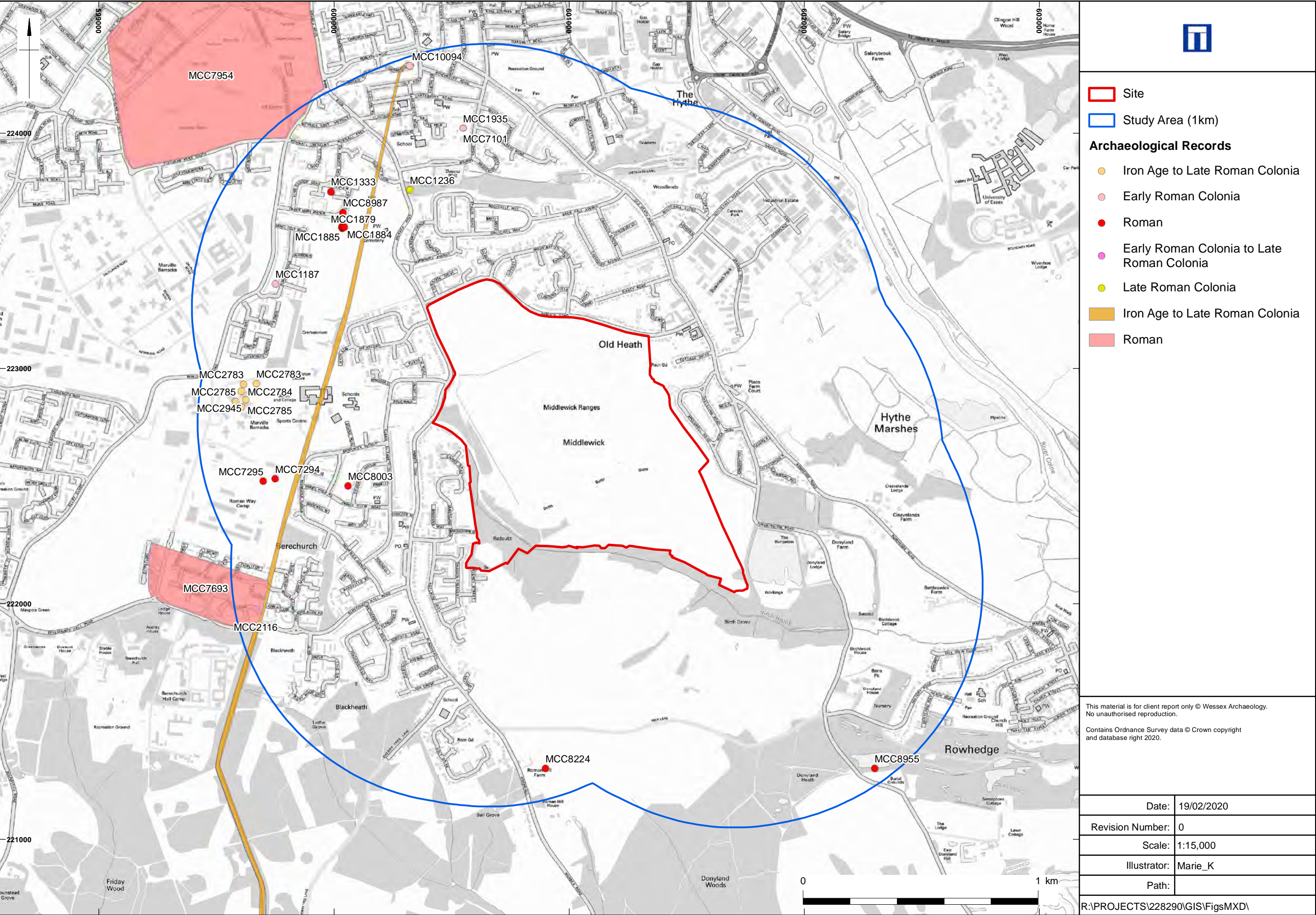
- 4.4.11 Colchester was the site of an Iron Age Oppidum, and such sites are considered to have been the tribal capitals or focal places for communities between the 1st century BC and 1st century AD, serving as centres of trade, manufacture and social prominence. The territorial oppidum surrounding Colchester covered an area of approximately 25sqkm and was located between the converging courses of the River Colne and the Roman River. The remainder of the oppidum was surrounded by a large V shaped ditch and bank to define its limits and as a form of protection. The earthworks are thought to have developed over a period of around 100 years with the banks constructed from the upcast of the ditches facing the settled area. The dykes may have been topped with timber palisades and gateways, as an expression of status, for protection, and for practical reasons such as the control of livestock. The oppidum was sited at an ideal location with natural barriers of the Colne and Roman rivers and manmade dykes enclosing the remaining sides. It was also close to the North Sea, which allowed international communication, trade and exchange (Colchester BC 2015).
- 4.4.12 The interior of the oppidum is thought to have been largely agricultural, a mixture of enclosed fields, pasture and woodland, with two main areas of activity and other smaller occupation sites. One of the larger sites is at Gosbecks located to the west, where a large farmstead has been identified, thought to be associated with Cunobelin, and interpreted as a centre of political authority and religious practice. At Sheepen, industrial processes have been identified as well as the minting of coins and continental trade. Associated burial sites have been found including Lexden Tumulus, Lexden Mound and burial enclosures at Stanway and Gosbecks which were burials for the elite. Less elaborate burials have also been discovered across the oppidum.
- 4.4.13 The Trinovantian tribe occupied modern Essex and their rivals, the Catuvellauni, were based in modern Hertfordshire. It has been suggested that the oppidum may have operated as a Catuvellaunian colony within the Trinovantian territory, maintained through political agreements, to allow the Catuvellauni access to coastal trade (Historic England; List Entry 1019968).

- 4.4.14 Berechurch Dyke is a Scheduled Monument and is one of the best surviving examples of the Iron Age linear earthwork which defined the perimeter of the Iron Age settlement and later Roman town (MCC2116; List Entry 1019968). The bank survives as a substantial earthwork and the ditch survives well as a visible and partly buried feature. Despite the work carried out on the Dyke, the monument is still little understood and is thought to be Iron Age as it respects the Iron Age enclosures. A previously unknown extension to the dyke was discovered in 2016 known as the Hyderabad Sector which is thought to have defined the north east side of Camulodunum (MCC10093). A group of pits were also discovered, some of which were dated to the late Iron Age early Romano British period, others were dated to the medieval to modern periods (MCC10095). Another section of Berechurch Dyke was found at the edge of the Study Area (MCC7039). Berechurch Dyke and Barnhall Dyke (not scheduled MCC2115) are thought to have formed the eastern boundary of the Iron Age territorial oppidum, or its Roman successor. Three sections were excavated through the Barnhall Dyke in 1945 (MCC8985).
- 4.4.15 A late Iron Age cemetery has been recorded 490m to the north east of the Site (MCC1814), described as a row of burials discovered during the excavation for graves for a modern cemetery. Iron Age pottery was found within these burials and another burial was found with more complete vessels (MCC1814). A late Iron Age trackway was discovered 670m to the west of the Site, aligned SW-NE and extending almost all the way to Gosbecks (MCC2617).
- 4.4.16 Between 2002 and 2005 a large scale archaeological evaluation and excavation were undertaken in advance of the New Garrison at Colchester (MCC5466). The site was located within the Iron Age settlement of Camulodunum and at the edge of the Roman legionary fortress and town of Colonia Claudia. Area 10 revealed Iron Age activity with traces of a field system, 4-post structures, and four cremations. Another field system was discovered at S2, and in Area 2 an Iron Age enclosure and roundhouse were found (MCC2868). A pottery vessel is thought to have been ritually buried in the centre of the roundhouse. Middle Iron Age finds were found across areas C, E, R and F. Late Iron Age to Roman parallel ditches were discovered in Area DR, thought to be part of the main curvilinear trackway (MCC2783). Another ditch formerly identified as a cropmark was dated to the Late Iron Age/Roman period (MCC2784) and a series of other ditches of a similar date were also discovered (MCC2785) as well as an early Iron Age ditch (MCC2786). A double ditched trackway was excavated in Area 2 thought to have been later than the enclosure and roundhouse mentioned above. It is thought that the trackway related to stock management and was on the same alignment as double ditched trackways in Areas 6 and 10 (MCC2922). Two early Iron Age cremation burials were also found within Area 10, 830m to the west of the Site (MCC2939, MCC2940). Three 4-post structures were found in Area 10 thought to be grain storage buildings (MCC2942, MCC2943 and MCC2944). A complex early Iron Age to Roman field system was found within Area 10 (MCC2945).
- 4.4.17 In the southern area of the Colchester Garrison site trial trenching revealed a number of prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval ditches. The Iron Age system was aligned WNW to ESE, thought to have been laid out in the early Iron Age and continued to be used in the middle Iron Age. The landscape was seen to have been reorganised in the Roman period (MCC2866).
- 4.4.18 A large number of findspots of Iron Age date have been recorded throughout the Study Area, including coins (MCC1242, MCC1269, MCC1953, MCC8954), Iron Age vessels and a ring, (MCC1946, MCC8170), pottery sherds (MCC1947) a late Iron Age pedestal urn (MCC1949, MCC8169), a complete pot (MCC8074) and a scatter of pottery sherds (MCC8171).



The Site, Study Area and Archaeological Records dating to the Prehistoric periods (based on Colchester UAD)

Figure 4



The Site, Study Area and Archaeological Records dating to the Late Iron Age to Roman periods (based on Colchester UAD)

Figure 5

Romano-British (AD 43–410)

- 4.4.19 The oppidum at Colchester was the primary target for the Roman invasion in AD43 and after the collapse of the local resistance emperor Claudius personally led his forces into the oppidum. A small Roman fort was constructed at Gosbecks and a larger legionary fortress was constructed on the hill to the east (now modern Colchester). The fortress was designated as Colonia by AD49, a chartered town for a colony of retired soldiers, after the military focus moved north and west. 'Colonia Victricensis' meaning City of Victory was the first Roman Town established in Britain, which was dominated by a huge temple to the deified Claudius. However the city was destroyed by the tribal revolt led by Boudicca in AD60-61, which burned the city to the ground. After the revolt the town was rebuilt with a protective wall based on the limits of the earlier oppida. The new town seemed to attempt to incorporate both the old and new with the native settlement and burial practices allowed to continue, perhaps to prevent further uprisings from the native Britons. The new town was enhanced by magnificent municipal buildings. A temple and theatre were constructed at the Gosbecks site and the Sheepden industrial zone was maintained, enlarged and extended.
- 4.4.20 At the edge of the Study Area evidence for Roman field boundaries and ancient tilling was found (MCC7693). A Roman cremation cemetery was found during the construction of barracks 1km to the north east of the Site. A concentration of urns was found near the artillery folly and from there a scatter of urns were found as far as the town walls. Some inhumation burials were found to the south in Abbey Field. The area adjacent to the town walls appears to have been used as a refuse tip. This cemetery is thought to have been continuous with the Butt Road cemetery located to the west (MCC7954). A series of a further five cremation burials were found to the south 490m to the north west of the Site (MCC1879, MCC1884, MCC1885, MCC1886, MCC1887, MCC8987).
- 4.4.21 An evaluation undertaken 750m to the west of the Site revealed a landscape which could be seen to have been reorganised in the Roman period. Earlier field systems were identified on a different alignment and there is other evidence for reorganisation of the landscape in the area during this period which coincides with the early years of the oppidum at Camulodunum (MCC2867).
- 4.4.22 Parts of a Roman wall were found within a cellar in 1849 located 740m to the west of the Site. It could be seen as an arch of Roman brick and was interpreted as being possibly part of a Roman sewer dating to 2nd century (MCC7294). In 1920 a tessellated pavement and foundations were recorded nearby dating to the Roman period (MCC7295). 470m to the west of the Site, a possible Roman surface was recorded in 1852 comprising of a cobbled surface and some finds of Roman date (MCC8003).
- 4.4.23 A Roman coin hoard was found to have been inserted into the fill of the late Iron Age Berechurch Dyke. The hoard contained 1247 silver coins the latest dating to AD271-274 contained within a greyware vessel. Another pot was found adjacent to this, which had been broken and could have contained another hoard (MCC10094).
- 4.4.24 A number of findspots have been recorded within the Study Area including Roman coins (MCC1187, MCC1236, MCC1935, MCC7101, MCC8224), Roman pottery (MCC1333) and a flagon (MCC8955).
- 4.4.25 In summary, the Site lies outside of the extents of Roman city at Colchester, however due to the proximity of the Site to such a large and important Roman centre there is potential for archaeological remains associated with the use of the area as part of the hinterland associated with the town. This may include field systems associated with rural farming

activities to supply such a large centre. Roman cemeteries were sited outside of the town walls and a number of burials have been found within the Study Area to date.

Saxon (AD 410–1066)

- 4.4.26 The collapse of the Roman government in the fifth century signalled the end of Colonia Victricensis and Essex became embroiled in the first phase of the Saxon conquest. From the newly acquired estates the East Saxon Kingdom was formed (from which Essex gets its name). At its largest extent in the 7th century, the East Saxon Kingdom extended to include Middlesex, Surrey and Hertfordshire and retained some kind of independence until the mid-9th century.
- 4.4.27 A single Anglo-Saxon findspot has been recorded within the Study Area, located within the Site. The date and circumstances of the discovery are unknown however the find is likely to have been found within reasonably close proximity to its position recorded on the HER (Archaeological Advisor to Colchester pers comm.) The find comprised a wheel thrown carinated pot dated to the 5th to 7th centuries with a grooved decoration on its upper part. It is thought that this vessel would have been imported from Belgium or north west France, highlighting the trade links between Britain and the continent (MCC8613). Imported pottery was commonly placed within burial contexts as grave goods but has also been found within domestic contexts. Should further associated remains be discovered this would be of archaeological interest and could be of regional significance, dependent upon the remains discovered.

Medieval (AD 1066–1500)

- 4.4.28 Medieval Colchester emerged within the walls of the former Roman town leaving the greater part of the extended settlement and oppidum to disappear beneath its rural hinterland. The area surrounding medieval Colchester comprised vast heaths and commons some of which can be recognised today to the north of Colchester and remnants of which surround the Site at Black Heath and Old Heath. The increasing population of Essex between the 11th-13th centuries led to the ploughing of wasteland which resulted in the colonisation of areas which were previously rough pasture and woodland. The growth of the cloth industry in Colchester during the medieval and post-medieval periods was a catalyst for the town becoming one of the major regional towns during this period.
- 4.4.29 Six watermills were recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086. In 1096 the foundation charter of St Johns Abbey records the donation of two fishponds and a mill (likely to have been Bourne Mill) by Eudo Dapifer. Of the four millers recorded in Colchester in 1301 one is thought to have been the tenant of Abbots Mill at Bourne Pond. Bourne Mill is thought to have been built in 1591 by the Lucas family from the 12th and 13th century materials of the destroyed St Johns Abbey and is probably on the site of an earlier mill. Its elaborate character suggests it was built for a fishing lodge. Records show that Bourne Mill remained a corn grinding mill throughout the 14th and 15th centuries. Bourne Mill passed into the hands of the Crown following the dissolution of the monasteries, after which it was granted to Richard Duke who quickly sold it on to Augustine Beriff (MCC3217, MCC323). In the 17th century it became a cloth mill following its lease by Dutch refugees (see below) and was used as such until the 19th century when it was converted into a corn mill. Bourne Mill is now a Scheduled Monument and a Grade I listed building, the fishpond and mill ponds are also recorded on the HER (MCC319 & MCC320). There is a record from 1285/86 that a gallows and a ducking stool had been established at Bourne Mill (MCC321 and MCC322).
- 4.4.30 Hull Mill was located on the stream south of the Colne. It was recorded by name in 1438 but may have been St Botolph Priory's 'new mill' recorded in 1227 which replaced an earlier mill at Hythe, demolished in the mid-12th century. It was known as 'new priory mill' between

1311 and 1386 and then as 'mill in the wood' between 1387 and 1435. It was used as a corn mill throughout the medieval period and in 1405 contained a fulling mill as well. In 1690 it is recorded as comprising one water mill, one fulling mill and one oil mill. The mill was demolished in the early 19th century (MCC2732). A possible Old Mill House is also recorded (MCC3253). Cannock Mill was also owned by St Botolph's Priory and was called 'mill near wick' or 'old mill in the wood' in 1311. The mill was rebuilt in 1600 as an overshot mill with two ponds. It was a corn mill in 1632 and included a fulling mill in 1651 and was rebuilt in 1845 (MCC2733).

- 4.4.31 A moated manor site is recorded 480m to the west of the Site at Monkwick. The manor of Colchester was granted to St Johns Abbey in 1100 and the farm is known to have supplied the Abbey. The moat is known to have been rectangular but incomplete and was filled in the 17th century. Nothing is known of the medieval buildings on the site but it is thought to have contained a 'watch tower' on the island. Sir Francis Jobson is thought to have rebuilt the house during the Elizabethan period (MCC7580).
- 4.4.32 A medieval settlement/manor is referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 at South Rowhedge, as being held by Count Eustace as a manor of 1.5 hides. The settlement became deserted before the end of the medieval period as it is not separately listed after 1428 (MCC8956).
- 4.4.33 A few areas of medieval commonland are recorded on the HER within the Study Area at Donyland, Old Heath, and Blackheath. These have been plotted from areas shown as commonland on the Chapman and Andre map of 1777 (MCC9159, MCC9164, MCC9166, MCC9165).
- 4.4.34 A historic farmstead which may have had its origins in the medieval period is recorded 840m to the east of the Site (MCC9292). Battleswick Farm is thought to occupy the site of the medieval manor of 'Battleshall alias Battleswick' which takes its name from its 13th century owner Richard Battle of Wivenhoe. The manor appears to have operated either as a grange or a tenanted farm belonging to the larger estate based at Wivenhoe Hall which overlooks the opposite bank of the River Colne (MCC9292).

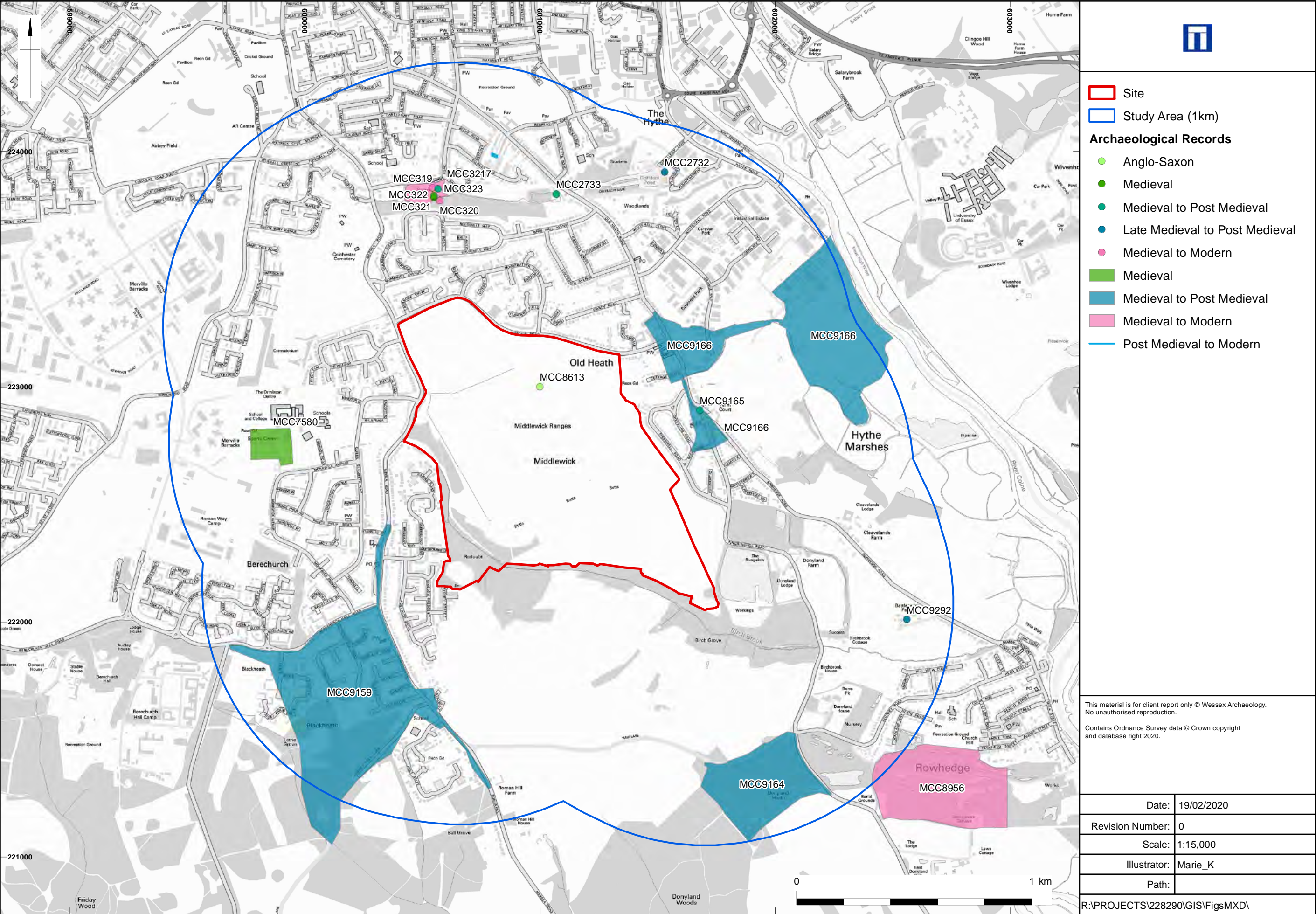
Post-medieval (AD 1500–1800)

- 4.4.35 During the first half of the 17th century Bourne Mill was leased by Dutch refugees converting it into a fulling mill for the manufacture of bays (or baize), a significant part of Colchester's early trade and wealth. It is thought that the mill continued to be used for fulling until 1830/40 when it was converted to grinding corn (MCC3217). The surviving house was built as a fishing lodge in 1591 by Thomas Lucus. The walls of the building are made of re-used materials thought to have been from St John's Abbey. By the early 19th century, the fulling mill had been attached to the south end of the lodge and in the mid-19th century the main building was converted into a corn mill necessitating the insertion of an upper floor and sack hoist (MCC148). In 1993 a watching brief was undertaken to prevent flooding within the cellar. A trench was excavated which showed relatively late repairs and alterations which may have indicated the conversion of the mill wheel from an undershot to an overshot type (MCC6925).
- 4.4.36 The manor of Monkwick was rebuilt as a farmhouse in the post-medieval period (16th century). The mansion had suffered greatly in the civil war and was reduced to the state of a farmhouse. The moat was filled in and the stream was diverted underground. During the demolition of the farmhouse, 17th century panelling and a finely carved overmantel dating to around 1650 were found (MCC7581). An Elizabethan coin was found when the pond was drained in 1920 (MCC7582).

- 4.4.37 The Great Civil War lasted from 1642 to 1646 and Colchester was not involved in the fighting but on the whole favoured the Parliamentary cause. After the King fled to the Isle of Wight after trying to regain control, many uprisings were instigated across England and Wales. This was the beginning of the second Civil War which did involve Colchester. The Royalists undertook a campaign to take back control in 1648 and marched to Essex, arriving at Chelmsford on 9th June. Colchester was reached on the 12th June and after a slight skirmish with the townsmen the gates were opened and Colchester became a Royalist garrison. The Parliamentary army led by Fairfax was only a day behind and called for surrender when reaching the town. Fairfax attacked and the Royalists who met the attack outside of the town walls were driven back in. Fairfax instigated a siege which would last until the 27th August (Cockerill and Woodward 1978).
- 4.4.38 Fairfax began to build siege forts around the town and quickly had control over supplies coming in from the sea by capturing Mersea Fort. By the end of August supplies of both food and ammunition were very low and the town was surrendered on the 27th August (Cockerill and Woodward 1978). Within the southern corner of the site are the earthwork remains of a redoubt supposedly built during the siege of Colchester in 1648. The earthworks have not been securely dated and are not shown on the early editions of the OS maps. However a map from 1874-87 shows the surrounding field boundaries to respect the boundaries of the fort, so it may have been omitted from maps for defensive purposes. In addition the boundaries seem to be arranged partially in a classic Civil War star shape. It has been suggested that the fort could be associated with the Siege fort called Needham on the 1648 Siege map of Colchester (MCC8959). This would have been part of a system of small forts built by Parliamentarian troops to encircle Colchester where Royalists troops were encamped, and is a rare survival in Colchester as other siege defences have not survived above ground. The redoubt first appears on the 1923 Ordnance Survey map but is already disused by this time. This suggests that it was deliberately omitted from earlier mapping (for security reasons) rather than having been constructed and then disused between 1898 and 1923.
- 4.4.39 The site of a windmill is known to have existed 700m to the north east of the Site in the post-medieval period (MCC9000). This may be a duplicate record of the distillery mill north of hilltop close, which is shown on Chapman and Andre's map, just south of an oil mill driven by water known as Hull Mill in the 19th century (MCC2284). Another windmill known as Scarlett's Mill is recorded further north, 890m to the north of the Site. This is first known from 1706 (MCC2283, MCC5714). Another site of a windmill is recorded as being 'near Scarletts' (MCC8999).
- 4.4.40 Roman Hill Farmhouse is an 18th century building and is Grade II Listed (MCC4006). A 17th-18th century timber framed building was located 880m to the east of the Site and was formerly a listed building until it was badly damaged by fire in 1975 (MCC4037).
- 4.4.41 A mid-18th century direction pillar was erected in 1760 in High Street, which was later purchased, relocated and used as a gravestone by Charles Wire in Colchester cemetery in the 19th century (MCC5071).
- 4.4.42 A trench was excavated at Cannock Mill which revealed the remains of a timber revetment tentatively interpreted as the remains of the wall of the waterwheel pit (MCC9287).
- 4.4.43 Winsleys Farmhouse and Almshouses are located 620m to the north of the Site (MCC147). The middle block of the almshouse and the west wing of the farmhouse date to the late 16th century, when it was originally a house and courtyard. The almshouses were founded in 1726 and incorporated the main block of the house with additional wings forming an open

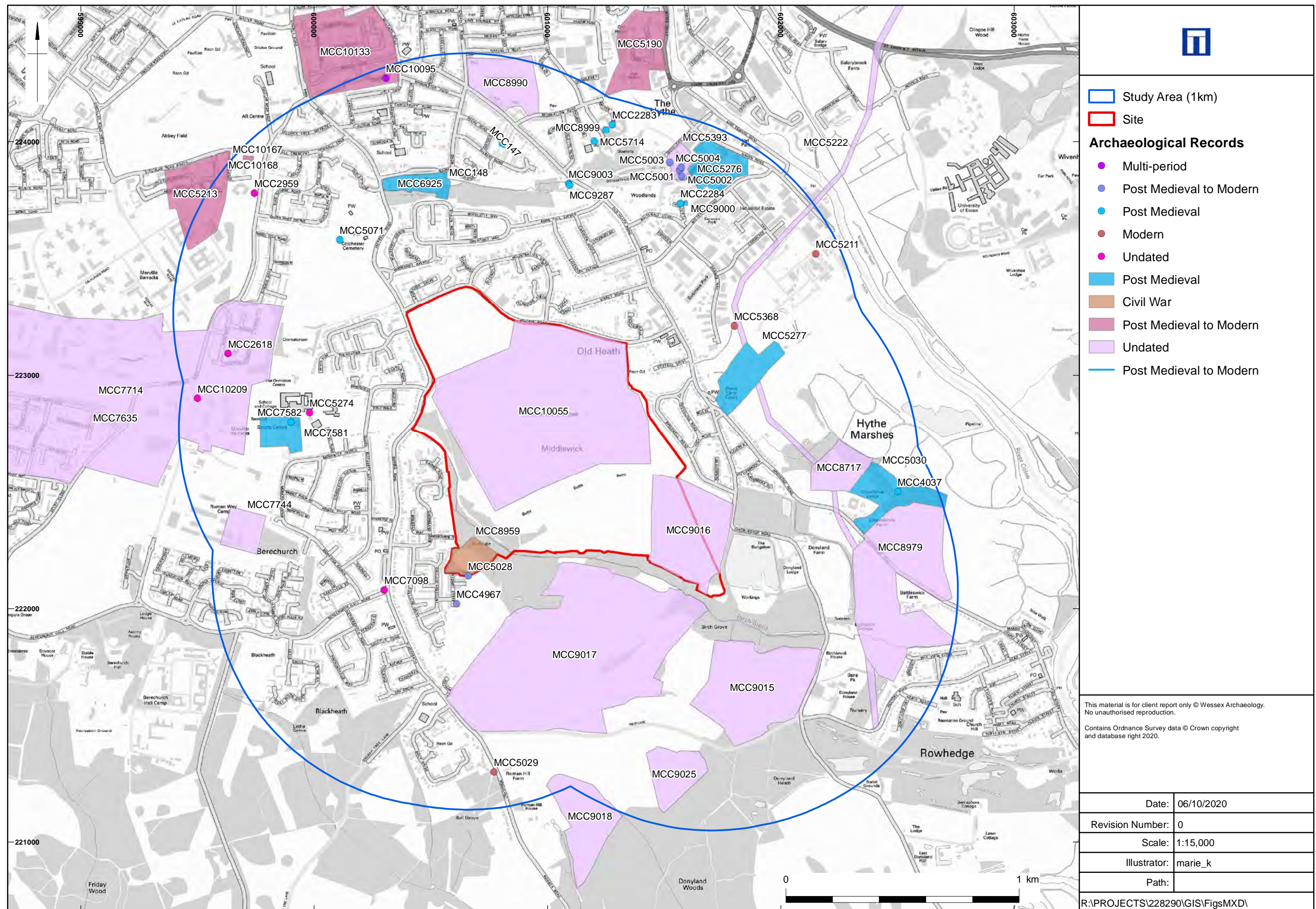
courtyard. The farmhouse was then separated from the almshouses by demolishing part of the buildings. The structure is now Grade II Listed (List Entry 1306572).

- 4.4.44 A historic map dating to 1777 by Chapman and Andre shows the Site to be largely unoccupied at this time apart from Middlewick Farm which was located towards the centre of the Site. A trackway can be seen bisecting the Site from Old Heath to the east which led to the farm (**Figure 9**). The Site can be seen to lie between Old Heath (Old Heath Common) and Black Heath with a number of rural farms within the surrounding area. To the north a small number of mills line the tributary from the Colne. It is likely that the Site was rural farmland at this time associated with Middlewick Farm. The Siege fort within the south western part of the Site thought to date to 1648 is not shown on the 1777 map, this may be for security reasons.



Site, Study Area and Archaeological Records dating to the Anglo-Saxon period to Medieval periods (based on Colchester UAD)

Figure 6



19th century (AD 1800–1900)

- 4.4.45 Much of the 19th century information relates to the development of industry within the area such as maltings (MCC5002), milling (MCC5003, MCC9003) and brickworks (MCC5030, MCC5276 and MCC5277). Other information relates to more domestic occupation of the area such as a houses (MCC3527, MCC5001 and MCC5004), villas (MCC3476), a lodge (MCC3333), a public house (MCC3993) and boundary marker stones (MCC4967, MCC5028) some of which are listed structures.
- 4.4.46 The position of Colchester between London and Harwich made it a suitable stopping place for troops going between the two. At the end of the 18th century local innkeepers raised a petition (as they were responsible for providing billets for the passing soldiers), for a barracks to be constructed after rising concerns over a long war. The first barracks were constructed at Colchester after 1802 to house 5840 men and in 1805 were extended in response to rising tensions to provide for 478 cavalry, 450 horses and 6787 infantry and a military hospital (Cockerill and Woodward 1978). In 1816 the barracks were sold and soldiers had to go back to being billeted in the town. In the mid-19th century the Crimean War highlighted the deficiencies of the barrack accommodation in the country and new barracks were built recorded within the Study Area (MCC10133). This was the first permanent Colchester camp and was established in 1855-56. This originated as timber buildings which were replaced with brick buildings in the early 20th century. A gymnasium, hospital and a police station were added in the later part of the 19th century (MCC10167, MCC5213, MCC10168).
- 4.4.47 The Site lies partially within the St Giles parish and partly within the East Donyland Parish tithe map. Much of the internal area of the Site is shown as blank which indicates that the area is likely to have been used by the military at this time and so deliberately left blank for security reasons. Interestingly the area for the redoubt is shown as irregularly shaped fields, rather than earthworks for the redoubt, even though it is suspected that the redoubt did exist at this time. Plots 215 and 216 are recorded as pasture, named Broom Hill and Meadow. Parts of the north eastern and south eastern parts of the Site are shown on the St Giles tithe map. The plots in the south eastern corner of the Site are recorded as being largely arable with one parcel of pasture. A small cottage and garden were located at the eastern edge of the Site. The area in the north eastern part of the Site which is shown on the map is recorded as being arable (**Figure 9**).
- 4.4.48 Military exercise was undertaken at Wivenhoe Park until the government purchased Middlewick Farm in 1855/56, to be used as a rifle range and a drill ground. Additional land was added in 1874 further south within St Giles Parish and East Donyland. A document dating to 1883 provides details of the construction of a rifle range at Middlewick Farm. This may relate to the expansion of the rifle range from just two butts to five butts which can be seen on the later mapping.
- 4.4.49 Ordnance Survey mapping from the 1870s and 1880s shows the presence of the rifle range within the Site aligned on the north west south east alignment with the butts to the south east (**Figure 10**). The map shows a line of flags along with two butts and an area dedicated for shooting. The ranges comprise earthen bunds, known as 'Stop Butts'. These substantial earthen structures are intended to stop fired rounds passing beyond the bounds of the range. The target stands in front of the Stop Butt, allowing the fired round to pass through it and then be neutralised by the earth in the bank behind.
- 4.4.50 The central part of the Site shown as an open area due to its use as a rifle range, however the areas in the northern part of the Site appear to continue to be used for agricultural purposes. A number of boundary stones are also shown to exist within the Site upon the

1870s mapping. Middlewick Farm is shown as still existing within the Site at this time, its access from the east seems to pass in front of the targets for the rifle range, so is unlikely to have been occupied and was probably left to fall into disrepair. The area for the redoubt is labelled on the 1876 map as a Drill Ground, as the earthworks would have been extant at this time (although not shown on the mapping), it seems unlikely that this area was used for this purpose. This labelling may have been used to try to disguise the presence of military earthworks in this area.

- 4.4.51 By the 1890s the rifle range can be seen to have expanded comprising five butts with targets. A number of small mounds can be seen within the range and a series of rectangular earthworks can be seen to the south of the butts. The redoubt in the south eastern corner is still not shown on the mapping and the area is no longer labelled as drill ground. A small area of quarrying can be seen within this area. The small cottage and yard which was formerly shown within the south eastern corner of the Site had been removed by this time. Middlewick Farm has also been removed by this time. A few small buildings associated with the rifle range can be seen within the Site at this time. The northern and eastern parts of the Site appear to continue to be used for agricultural purposes.

Modern (AD 1900–present day)

- 4.4.52 There has been a permanent military presence in Colchester since the mid-19th century. In the 1850s the War Office began buying land for the army to hold military exercises, starting with Middlewick Farm located within the Site. The land to the north of the farm was turned into a rifle range and drill ground (VCH, 9, 408-418). The current alignment of firing targets and butts at Middlewick dates from before 1924.
- 4.4.53 A military airfield was established on several acres of land at Black Heath during the First World War when between 30,000 and 40,000 men were training at Colchester (MCC4877). The concrete base of an RAF night landing ground still survives on Blackheath Common. After the war the airfield was transferred to Friday Wood (VCH, 9, 408-418).
- 4.4.54 Another military camp was used in WWII and may have originated as a military camp in WWI (MCC5386). This covers a large area to the north west of the Study Area and much of it lies beyond the 1km radius surrounding the Site. Associated heritage assets within the Study Area comprise a series of air raid shelters (MCC9251, MCC9292, MCC9253, MCC9254, MCC9255, MCC9256, MCC9258). A military camp was also set up at Roman Camp during WWII (MCC5387).
- 4.4.55 Between 1881 and 1924, the fields to the south of Birch Brook and to the north of Weir Lane in East Donyland parish were bought by the War Office to be used as a manoeuvre ground. Between 1926 and 1933 large areas of Berechurch Parish, including Berechurch Hall were bought for the army i.e. Friday Wood and the land to the west, plus further areas of Blackheath and the land west of Cherry Tree Lane. In 1939, at the outset of WWII temporary barracks were built on Blackheath and in Berechurch. The Ranges at Fingeringhoe were added to the War Office's lands between 1889 and 1899 (VCH, 9, 408-418).
- 4.4.56 The 1924 Ordnance Survey map of the Site shows the expansion of the firing range which show continuous earthworks to the rear of the butts (**Figure 10**). The firing took place at intervals of 100m and earthworks are shown to extend into the northern part of the Site which were formerly fields. At this time the majority of the Site is given over to the firing range, except for the south eastern corner which is still farmland. The redoubt is shown on this map in the south western corner of the Site and labelled as disused. By the 1940s the Ordnance Survey mapping shows the firing range to exist in largely the same format as the early map from 1920s.

- 4.4.57 During WWII Essex was heavily defended, due to its coastal position, against a potential German invasion. After the evacuation of Dunkirk, German invasion seemed imminent. A series of stop lines were hastily constructed from 1940 to create a barrier between the coast and the heartland of Britain. This comprised parallel lines of defence using, where possible, natural barriers supported by pillboxes and anti-tank obstacles. The Eastern Command Line was established, originating at the mouth of the River Colne at Mersea Island and using the river as an anti-tank barrier headed north westwards across the county to Sudbury and Suffolk. At its southern end it hinged on the Garrison Town of Colchester, the capture of which would not only have opened up a large part of Essex but would also have been a major industrial, military and communication prize for the German forces (Nash 1998). The Eastern Command Line was studded with concrete pillboxes, sited to provide overlapping fields of fire and shallow river crossings were lined with concrete and steel anti-tank obstacles and road blocks were set up to block the approaches to the town. A number of anti-tank blocks are recorded within the Study Area (MCC5336, MCC5363, MCC5364, MCC5368, MCC5370).
- 4.4.58 There are two known pillboxes within the Site and another eight within the Study Area which would have formed part of the Eastern Command Line (MCC4764, MCC4970, MCC5037, MCC5335, MCC5355, MCC5356, MCC5365, MCC5367). Within Middlewick Ranges, MCC5357, is located just east of Mersea Road (**Plate 23**) to guard the route in from the coast whilst MCC5361 is located on the eastern side of Middlewick Ranges west of Old Heath Road (**Plates 26 & 27**). Both were sited to the north of an infilled anti-tank ditch which runs from east to west across the rifle range and around the south west of Colchester (MCC8706). The pillbox adjacent to Mersea Road is a concrete hexagonal type FW3/22 pillbox with the entrance on the north east face, furthest from the road crossing. The pillbox was sited here to guard the crossing of the anti-tank ditch and Mersea Road. The pillbox within the eastern part of the Site was constructed of brick and concrete with a low entrance on its north face. This would have been sited here to guard the anti-tank ditch which was aligned across the Site.
- 4.4.59 The group of WWII features, comprising two pillboxes and two spigot mortar pits survive as a recent reminder of the mid-20th century fears of invasion. Singular examples of pillboxes are prevalent across the United Kingdom, utilised as they were during WWII as sentry hard-points, coastal protection (especially the East and South Coast), airfield protection and a myriad of control points at road junctions and bridge crossings.
- 4.4.60 Spigot Mortar pits are not as well distributed, often confined to specific points in the landscape and often utilised as part of a combination of obstacles to vehicles. They are a more fragile form of WWII local and national defensive structure and are usually filled in as a matter of course.
- 4.4.61 The probable anti-tank ditch appears as a back filled ditch on early aerial photography. Where the ditch crossed the road, the junction was heavily defended by pillboxes and spigot mortars. The ditch stretched for four and a half miles, and was up to 20 feet wide and 10 feet deep (Nash 1998). A second anti-tank ditch runs to the east of Berechurch Dyke (MCC5336). Aerial photographs taken during the 1940s show soil marks of the ditch stretching for three miles from its northernmost point where it connected with the Colchester anti-tank ditch (MCC8706), to its southernmost point at Abberton Reservoir. It bridged Berechurch Hall Road via a road barrier made of concrete and steel with anti-tank blocks at the road sides (MCC5337). On the south side of Berechurch Hall Road it is suggested (by the defences in Essex project) that the ditch ran to the east side of Berechurch Dyke's rampart; the WWII planners apparently not making use of the existing Roman ditch. In one stretch, across a field immediately to the north of Roman River, the depressed imprint of

the ditch can still be seen. Apart from this there are few surviving elements of this defence line. A small section of a ditch which is currently extant within the Site follows the route of the former anti-tank ditch. This is on a much smaller scale than the original ditch and may have just been co-incidentally located along its alignment rather than a remnant of the original anti-tank ditch. In the eastern part of the Site a linear depression could be seen which may relate to the former anti-tank ditch but could equally have been a field boundary or possible utility trench (**Plate 28**).

- 4.4.62 On the northwest edge of Middlewick Ranges, pillbox (MCC5357) is further defended by two concrete spigot mortar emplacements; concrete pedestals used to mount a spigot mortar able to destroy tanks (MCC5358 and MCC5359). Spigot Mortars were issued to the Home Guard in 1942 and each one required a concrete pit (usually octagonal) with a central mounting pedestal. These two Spigot Mortars would have been sited to cover the approach road into Colchester from the south. MCC5358 is to the north of MCC5357 and is recorded as sunken and set within a brick pit with ammunition alcoves. This spigot mortar is currently concealed by brambles so was not visible on the Site visit (**Plate 25**) but was recorded during the WWII monument survey in 2007 (Essex County Council 2007). The survey records this as a 29mm spigot mortar emplacement with four ammunition alcoves. In the centre of the pit is the mounting pedestal with a stainless steel pintle and an unusual steel collar. This indicates that either part of the gun was left attached to the pintle or a different type of gun was used which required the collar (Essex County Council 2007).
- 4.4.63 MCC5359 lies to the east of MCC5357. An aerial photograph taken in April 1946 shows the pedestal within a typical spigot mortar pit with ammunition alcoves and the pedestal in the centre. The gun emplacement could be observed above ground at the Site (**Plate 24**) and the pit and alcoves probably survive below ground level. Both were placed to guard the anti-tank ditch MCC8706 and the route in from Mersea Road. Other spigot mortar gun emplacements and infantry posts lie within the Study Area (MCC5221, MCC5360, MCC5362, MCC5366).
- 4.4.64 WWII practice trenches have been recorded within the Study Area, these are practice trenches which, although now backfilled, are distinctive because of their zigzag shape when seen from the air. These are recorded 580m to the west of the Site (MCC8694), 640m to the north east (MCC8697) and 1km to the south of the Site (MCC8716, MCC8720). The trenches at Donyland Woods appear to have been freshly dug on the 1940s aerial photos (MCC8720).
- 4.4.65 By the early 1950s the woodland within the western part of the Site is shown. Within a break in the woodland a revolver range is also shown (shown as square earthworks on 1958 map; **Figure 10**). Additional earthworks can also be seen in the area for the targets. In the 1960s the area to the south of the rifle range is labelled as manoeuvre ground. A defence post is also labelled in the western part of the Site likely to relate to the pillbox in this area (MCC5361). By the 1970s the earthworks within the northern part of the Site are shown to have been removed and this area no longer used as part of the range. By the 1990s the current drainage ditch that bisects the northern part of the site is labelled and the two pillboxes at either edge of the Site are shown but not labelled.

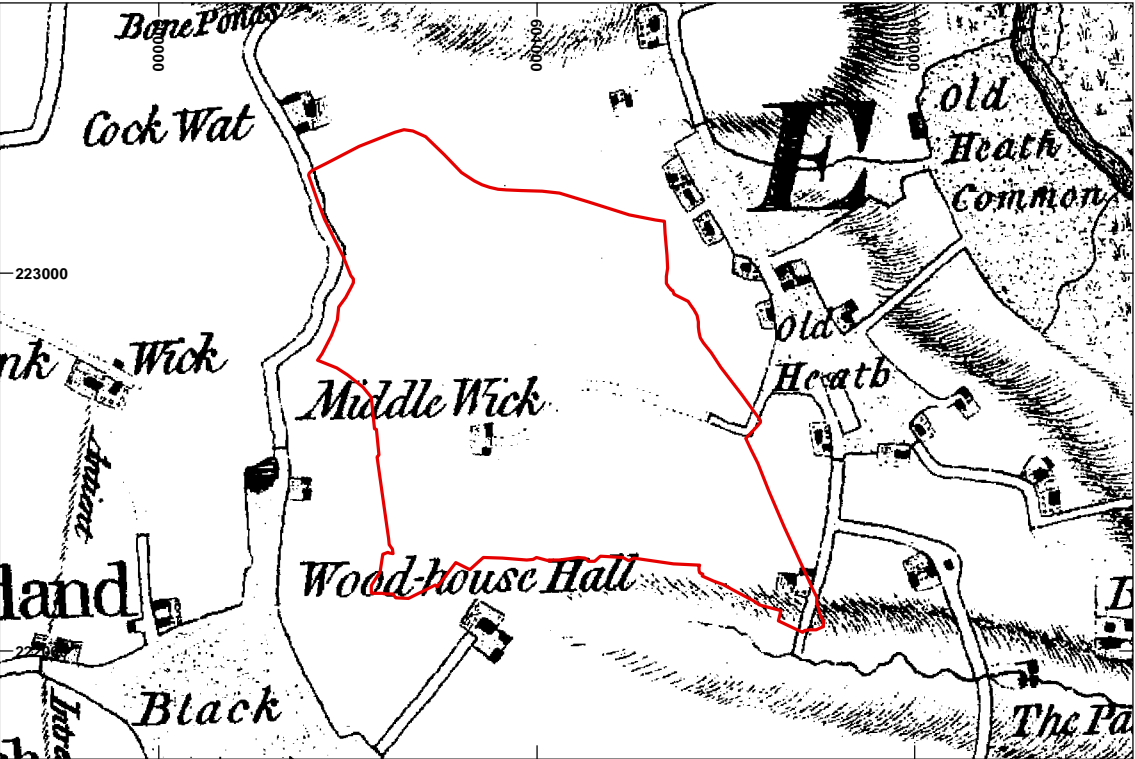
Undated

- 4.4.66 A series of undated cropmarks have been recorded within the Site, based upon aerial photographs. These are thought to relate to post-medieval field boundaries roughly aligned north-south (MCC10055). In the south eastern corner of the Site cropmarks have shown a possible double ditched trackway, three ring ditches and linear features as cropmarks (MCC9016). Another linear feature was identified from aerial photographs thought to be an



anti-tank ditch (MCC522) located to the east of the Site. Cropmarks identified at Colchester Garrison of enclosures, possible trackway, linear features and pits (MCC7635, MCC7714) were investigated, some of which proved to be Iron Age in date (MCC5466).

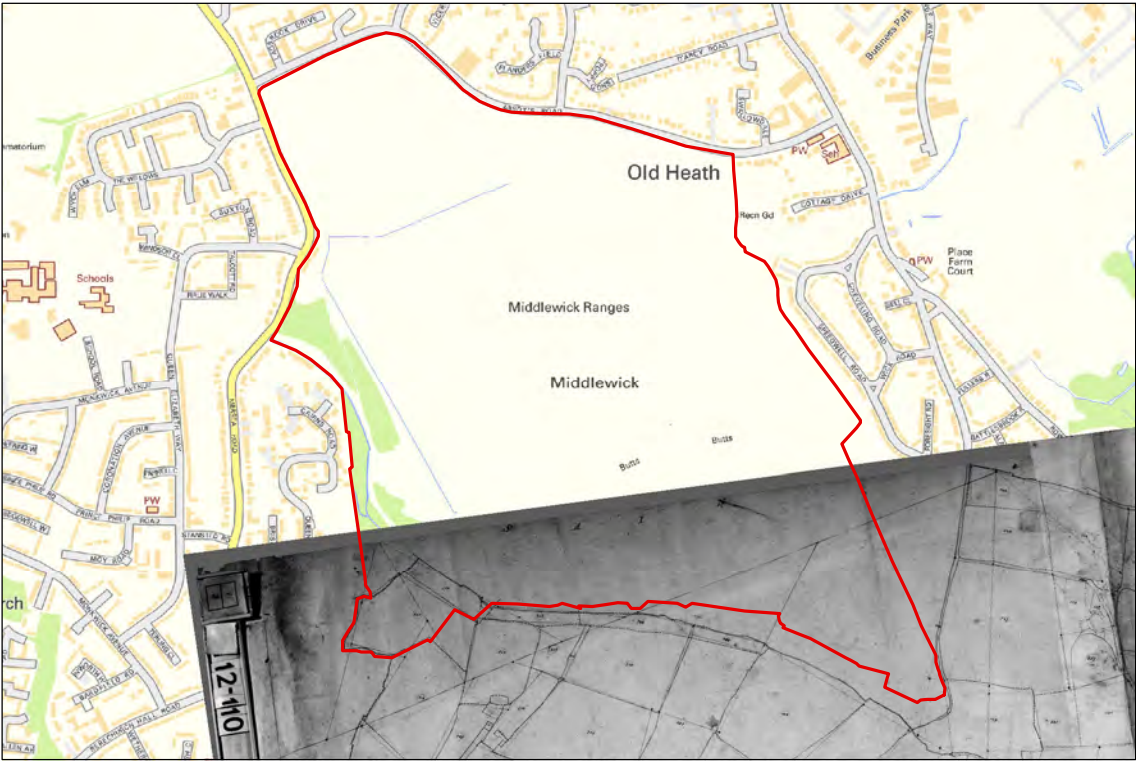
- 4.4.67 Other cropmarks recorded from aerial photographs were identified at MCC8717 MCC8979, MCC8990, MCC9015, MCC9017, MCC9018, MCC2618 and MCC9025. Features of unknown date identified during archaeological investigations are recorded at MCC10209, MCC2959, MCC5274 and a burial at MCC7098.



A) Chapman and Andre, Map of Essex 1777



B) St Giles Parish Tithe Map 1839



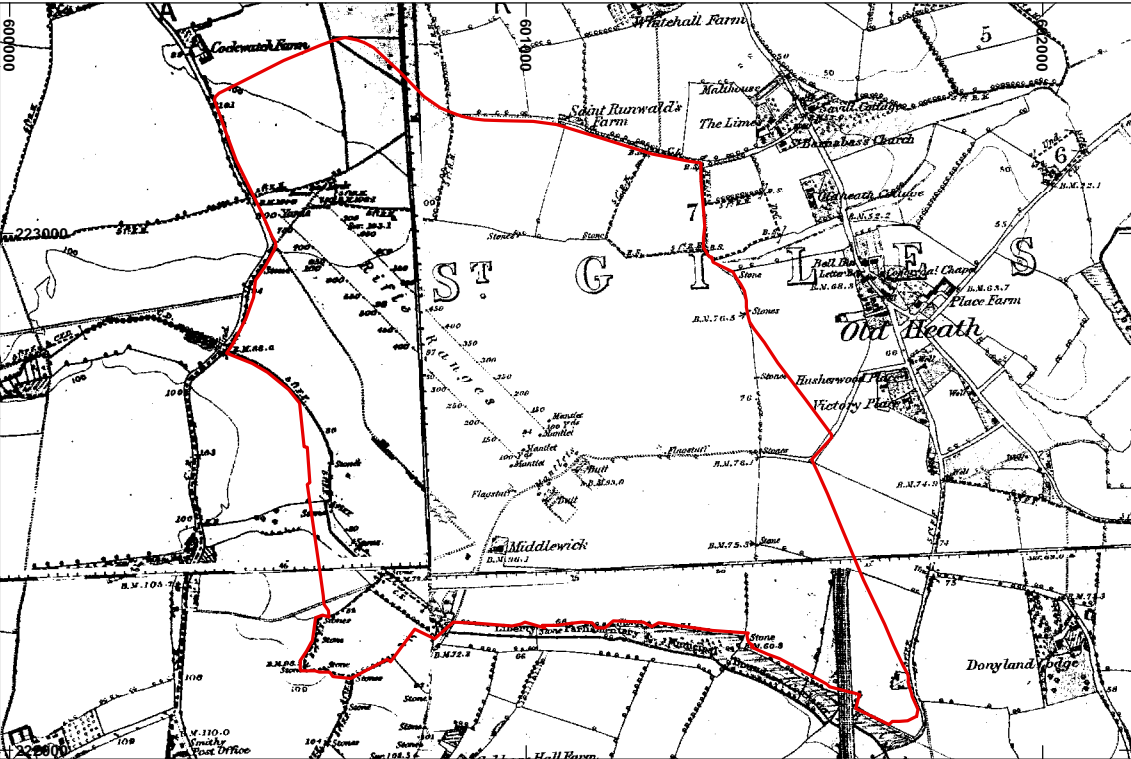
C) East Donyland Parish Tithe Map 1839



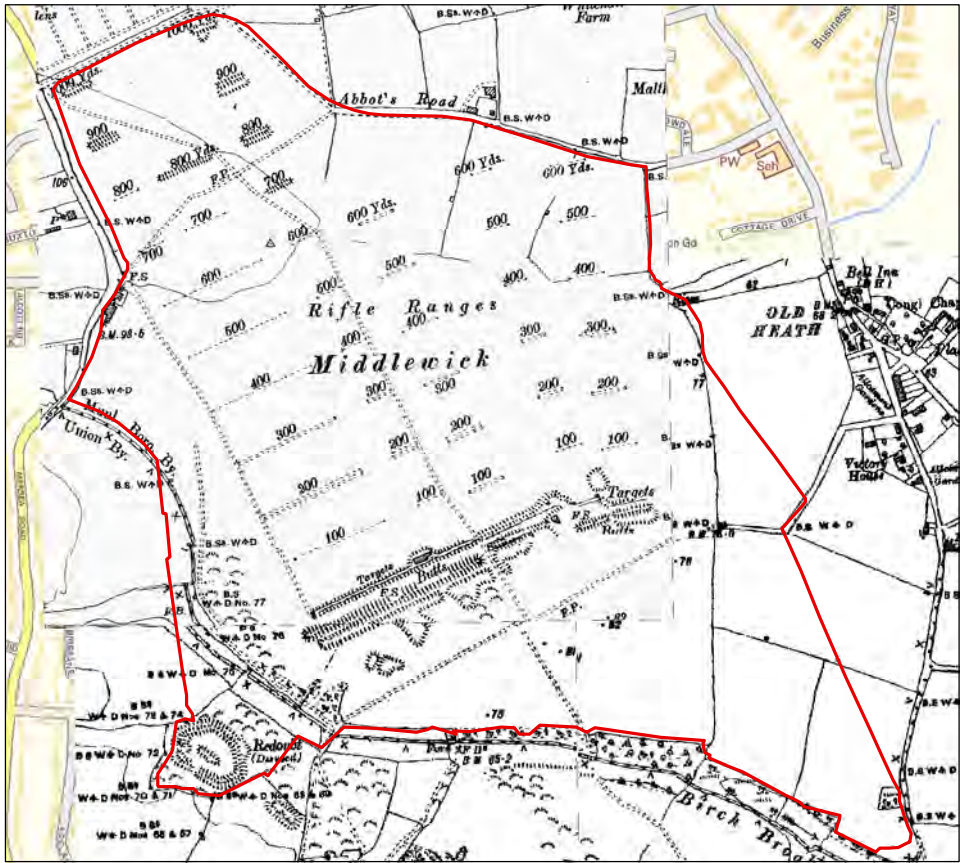
Site

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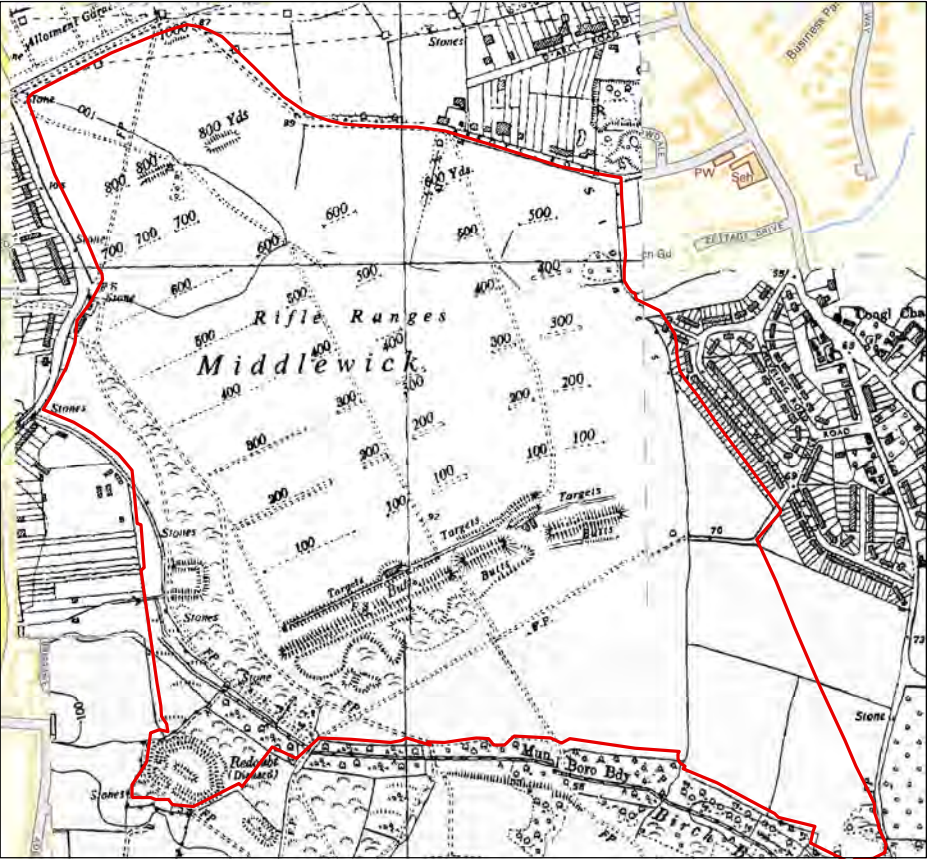
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A) 1881 Ordnance Survey Map



B) 1924 Ordnance Survey Map



C) 1958 Ordnance Survey Map



Site

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4.5 National Mapping Programme (NMP), LiDAR and Aerial Photographs

- 4.5.1 The National Mapping Programme was a study of aerial photographs to identify potential buried archaeological features visible as cropmarks on the aerial photos up to 2017. This information has been digitised and provided as part of the Historic Environment Record Data (**Figure 11**). HER entry MCC9016 mentioned above relates to cropmarks identified within the Site and the NMP is able to provide additional information on the location and nature of those potential remains. The digitised data from the NMP shows the double ditched trackway, two ring ditches and linear features within the south eastern corner of the Site. The anti-tank ditch which bisects the site was also identified as part of this project (mentioned above MCC8706). Another area of cropmarks relating to field boundaries within the Site (MCC10055), has not been mapped as part of this work.
- 4.5.2 In general the majority of the features identified through the NMP project can be seen to be within the south eastern part of the Study Area. This is due to the undeveloped nature of this part of the Study Area rather than the absence of features within other parts of the Study Area.
- 4.5.3 The NMP project reviewed Aerial Photographs up to 2017 and plotted visible cropmarks. Aerial images from 2017 and 2018 have been reviewed for the purposes of this assessment and no further possible cropmarks could be observed to add to those already plotted.
- 4.5.4 LIDAR data for the Site shows the earthmoving undertaken for the construction of the rifle range. This highlights the areas which are current extant earthwork bunds which are visible within the Site but also indicates areas which have been flattened to create a flat area for shooting but would have also provided the earth to create the bunds. Square areas of flattened ground can be seen in front of the targets. The earthworks associated with the redoubt are also clearly visible on the LIDAR image. The WWII anti-tank ditch is also easily visible on the LIDAR image (**Figure 12A**).
- 4.5.5 A small number of other features visible on the LIDAR do not appear on aerial photo images or on the Site visit and could relate to possible archaeological features, or equally could be of natural origin (**Figure 12B**). Some of these features may relate to former field boundaries and some of these do correspond with those shown on the historic maps particularly in the north eastern part of the Site. The HER records an area of post-medieval field boundaries and it is likely that some of these features are the same as those identified as cropmarks. Some of the other features may be of earlier archaeological origin of unknown date or could be natural features. Interestingly the features that were identified on through the NMP project within the southern corner of the Site are not visible on the LIDAR image.

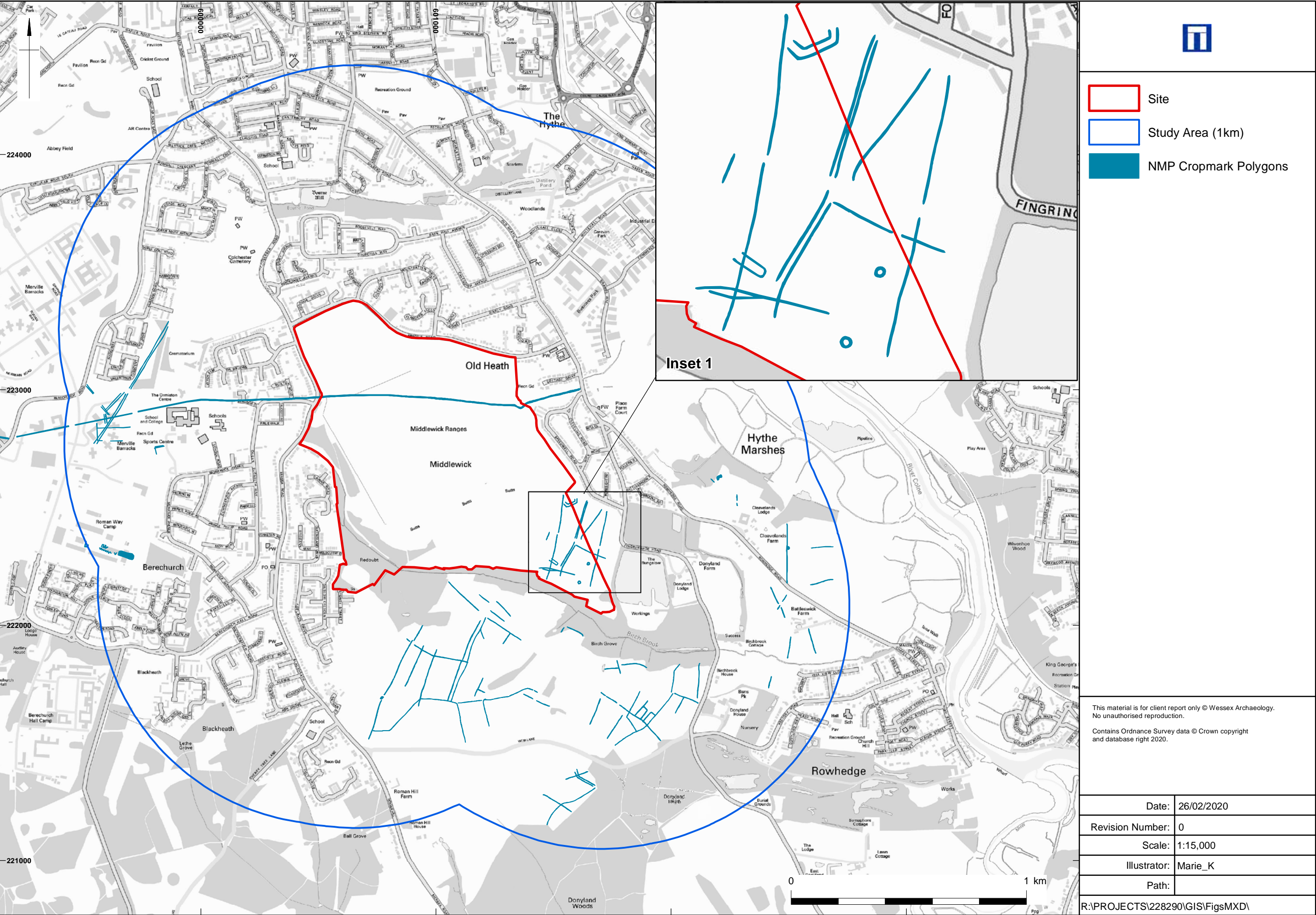
4.6 Historic Landscape Character

- 4.6.1 The Historic Landscape Character of Essex has been formally characterised. The Study Area is covered by two broad HLC zones, Colchester Urban Area which covers the northern part of the site and study Area and The Roman River Valley which covers the southern part. Generally the urban area is comprised of the Iron Age capital of Camulodunum, the Roman, medieval and post-medieval towns of Colchester as well as the historic settlements of Mile End and Lexden. The Roman River Valley is generally characterised as having been extensively quarried although there are surviving areas of meadow pasture and ancient woodland on the valley floor and where the Roman River meets the Colne estuary, and areas of reclaimed marshland.
- 4.6.2 Much of the area to the north west of the Site is characterised as modern urban development relating to the south eastern extents of modern Colchester. Covering the



majority of the Site is an area characterised as post-medieval military relating to its use as Middlewick ranges. Along the south western part of the Site, an area of woodland is identified as 19th-20th century plantation and the redoubt is classed as disused mineral extraction. To the east of the area of Middlewick Ranges is classified as 20th century enclosure and the south eastern corner of the Site is characterised as pre-18th century enclosure.

- 4.6.3 The legibility of the former character of the Site as farmland is mixed. In the south eastern corner this the legibility of this area as farmland is complete and has historical value through its continued use as farmland and little change to the historic boundaries. In the northern and central part of the Site the legibility of this as former farmland is almost invisible as so much alteration and earthmoving has taken place to create the firing range. However its more recent characterisation as military landscape is easily legible as many of the earthworks survive and some are still in use. Even beyond the extent of the enclosed area of Middlewick Ranges, earthen bunds that are now disused can still be seen within the Site.




The Site, Study Area and Cropmarks identified through the NMP project (based on Colchester UAD)

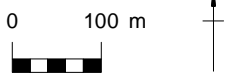


A) LiDAR data (2018 1m National LiDAR dataset) and topographic information covering the Site



B) LiDAR data (2018 1m National LiDAR dataset) and topographic information covering the Site with interpretation

- 
 - Site
 - Possible field boundaries
 - Possible features



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5 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND SIGNIFICANCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 This section provides an initial assessment of the potential effects of the proposed development in relation to elements of the archaeological resource that may be subject to physical impacts as a result of the development.

5.2 Assessment of archaeological survival and previous impacts

- 5.2.1 Much of the Site has (over the last two centuries) been utilised by the military as a live firing range while the rest has remained under agricultural management or woodland coverage.
- 5.2.2 The results of the Site visit, when considered in conjunction with the LIDAR survey data, has highlighted a substantial amount of earthmoving activities across sections of the Site. The majority of this is connected to the ground preparation required to construct the Firing Ranges, although some form of ground preparation may have occurred in connection with the construction of the redoubt.
- 5.2.3 The feature known as the redoubt survives as a standing earthwork, although currently overgrown with woodland and scrub (**Plates 29 & 30**). The outline of the earthworks are visible on the LIDAR image. Whether any ground preparation was undertaken is not known. It is likely that a substantial ditch was the origin of much of the material comprising the bank. Irrespective of age, the feature has the potential to have protected archaeological horizons below the bank's footprint.
- 5.2.4 A number of areas have been deliberately scraped flat, presumably providing the material to create the Stop Butts, while removing any visual obstructions between the firer and the target. **Plates 4, 9, 10, 11 & 12** show examples of this as observed on the Site visit.
- 5.2.5 The depth of the ground modification was not immediately apparent during the site visit and it is possible that archaeological remains do survive within the areas which have been flattened during the works. Certainly, the results of the LiDAR survey suggests that this is likely. However, this is dependent upon both the depth of the ground modification and the depth of the potential archaeological horizon within the Site. This cannot be confirmed on the basis of the information currently available.
- 5.2.6 It is also possible that ground removal and modification has taken place in other areas not immediately visible on the LIDAR survey, or during the Site visit. The extant Stop Butts have the potential to have protected archaeological horizons beneath their footprints. It is likely that pre-military ownership land use has had a negligible impact on the archaeological potential of those areas protected by later earthworks (**Plates 5 & 13**).
- 5.2.7 The south eastern part of the Site has not been previously developed; subsequently, any disturbance to buried archaeological remains would largely be restricted to truncation caused by ploughing. The installation of drainage systems may also have caused localised disturbance, although this is unlikely to have significantly diminished the archaeological potential of the Site.
- 5.2.8 The western area of the Site is currently under woodland coverage. Earthworks relating to the redoubt are known to exist within this area, visible on the LIDAR image. The density of the tree coverage and scrub (**Plates 29 & 30**) is likely to have damaged archaeological remains through rooting, however the earthworks associated with the redoubt are substantial and are likely to have survived well, as attested by the LIDAR data. It is also

possible that other archaeological remains, outside the footprint of the redoubt, may have survived within wooded areas.

- 5.2.9 Due to the variation of previous impacts across different areas of the Site, the preservation of archaeological remains is expected to be varied/ unknown across the Site, dependent as is it upon a number of the factors set out above.

5.3 Known Heritage Assets with Archaeological Significance

- 5.3.1 The following heritage assets are known to exist within the Site;

- Earthworks relating to the possible civil war redoubt (MCC8959);
- Anti-tank ditch (observed as a cropmark and visible as excavated on aerial photos) (MCC8706);
- Two Spigot Mortar's (MCC5358 & MCC5359);
- Two Pillboxes (MCC5357 & MCC5361); and
- Post-medieval to modern boundary stone (MCC5028);

- 5.3.2 The origins of the redoubt remains problematic. As previously stated, the feature remains undated. The absence of the feature from historic mapping prior to 1924 (**Figures 9 and 10**) may suggest a late 19th century date. However, this cannot be confirmed, and the fact that the first appearance of the redoubt on historic mapping shows it as disused, with a depression on its south-western bank corresponding to a feature identified as a gravel pit on earlier mapping, adds further weight to a pre-19th century origin for the earthwork.

- 5.3.3 The fact that the feature is respected by a number of field boundaries cannot be ignored. Considering the town's connection with the English Civil War, and the substantial siege effort mounted by Fairfax throughout (1648) the possibility of a mid-17th century origin for the feature should be strongly considered. In general, little above ground evidence for the Siege of Colchester has survived, as other siege defences have not survived above ground.

- 5.3.4 Until a secure date has been obtained, the feature should be considered part of the siege works connecting Colchester to wider political and military events throughout the mid-17th century. For this reason the asset has archaeological interest, due to its survival as an earthwork and potential for other associated features. The asset also has historic interest as the redoubt also presents a physical manifestation of the political upheaval during the removal of the Monarchy; along with the formation of the current process of government in the British Isles. The potential for the earthworks, known as the redoubt, to date to the Siege of Colchester is important. This is a known event (1648) within a national conflict. If the redoubt is a civil war feature then the survival and rarity of features of this date will make a greater contribution to its significance and should be considered to be of regional significance as a minimum.

- 5.3.5 A substantial number of firing ranges have been located on the Site since the mid-19th century, a number remain extant. Firing ranges have little potential for interpretation due primarily to their singular function. They also remain a common sight across the United Kingdom. Their real value in this case is as a potential protection for underlying archaeological features. They should be considered to have local significance.

- 5.3.6 Two pillboxes and one spigot mortar could be identified on the Site visit (**Plates 23, 24, 26 & 27**). A further spigot mortar is known to exist within some substantial undergrowth. (**Plate 25**). Part of the line of the accompanying anti-tank ditch appears extant within the Site, although the majority has been in-filled. These features were a key component of the anti-invasion network constructed across the south and east of the United Kingdom in the first years of WWII.
- 5.3.7 Each of the WWII defences were assigned a star rating within the survey undertaken in 2007. Both the spigot mortars and the pillboxes within the Site were given 3 stars out of 5 for their survival, condition, rarity, historical connection and group value (Nash 2007).
- 5.3.8 The survey of WWII defences states that;
- ‘spigot mortar emplacements are, in their own right, important and comparatively rare World War Two defence Types. As an integral part of Colchester’s wartime defence structure this emplacement is also part of the town’s heritage, complementing its many older monuments’* (Nash 2007).
- 5.3.9 The fact that two of these rare and fragile structures survive in close proximity suggests they should be considered to be regionally significant.
- 5.3.10 The two pillboxes are some of the remaining few from the many which originally guarded Colchester as part of the Eastern Command Stop Line. The attrition suffered by such structures close to population centres, coupled with their continued removal in advance of urban expansion, suggests these remnants of a once fortified country should be considered to be of local significance.
- 5.3.11 When considered together, it is clear that the WWII defensive features which survive within the Site form an important group of heritage assets. They are a reminder of military presence on the Site, the very real fears of a population at war and, although increasingly not so, are known to some in living memory. They present substantial educational potential, allowing the visitor the possibility to emulate life on the post, understand the threat direction and memorialise those who were involved in the Defence of Britain. When considered as a group the individual heritage assets should be considered to be regionally important.
- 5.3.12 The features here exist as a group of structures associated with the substantial network of Stop-Lines created across the United Kingdom. Their significance lies in the condition and variety of the structures present. Their positions, fields of fire, entrance locations, and proximity to one another allow for those who interact with the features to learn about the real fears that gripped the United Kingdom during the first year of WWII.
- 5.3.13 Singularly, the pillboxes would be considered to be of local significance. The two spigot mortar pits are of regional significance. As a group all four features are of regional significance.
- 5.3.14 The post-medieval boundary stone is considered to be of local significance as these are common heritage assets and of relatively recent date.
- 5.4 Potential Heritage Assets with Archaeological Interest**
- 5.4.1 As the Site has not been intrusively investigated there is potential for as yet unidentified archaeological remains to exist within the Site in addition to the known assets identified above and these may comprise;

- Potential for prehistoric activity associated with the proximity of the Site to a natural watercourse and finds of prehistoric date found within and surrounding the Site;
- Potential for Iron Age and Romano-British activity associated with the hinterland surrounding the oppida and Colonia at Colchester;
- Possible ring ditches, linear features and trackway in the south eastern corner of the Site (observed as cropmarks) (MCC9016);
- Cropmarks of linear features (possible field boundaries (MCC10055));
- Potential for additional buried WWII military features, in particular the buried remains of the WWII anti-tank ditch. Also ephemeral features including posts for barbed-wire entanglements and posts/pits as latrines and rubbish pits;
- 19th century military activity associated with the early use of the Site as Middlewick Ranges; and
- Additional Civil War remains associated with the presence of the redoubt within the south western corner of the Site.

- 5.4.2 The HER records a number of isolated finds which have been recovered from within the Site. While such finds are not strictly heritage assets, they do indicate human activity within the area. Locations within the Study Area have yielded Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Anglo-Saxon period material. Due consideration should be given to the possibility that these find spots indicate archaeological potential for one, or all of the periods indicated. In particular the findspot for an imported medieval pot (MCC8613) is quite rare and could derive from nearby *in situ* deposits relating to burial or settlement activity within the Site. Should this be the case, those remains could be of regional significance.
- 5.4.3 The National Mapping Programme identified a number of features, showing as crop marks, across the site. The existence of these features has not been ground-truthed and, subsequently, the presence, condition, date and significance of such features is currently unknown.
- 5.4.4 Some of the linear features within the northern part of the Site appear to be post-medieval field boundaries; if this is the case these should be considered to be of local significance. The features in the south eastern part of the Site have not been assigned a possible date, however, the presence of ring ditches and a possible trackway might suggest a prehistoric date, although equally these features could be later. If a prehistoric date is determined then the features should be considered to be of regional significance.
- 5.4.5 The Site has been under the constant management of the military since the mid-19th century, although, at least one extant, and a number of suspected English Civil War features are also in evidence within the location.
- 5.4.6 The HER demonstrates that the area of the firing ranges was previously the site of Middlewick Farm. It is possible that below ground archaeological features have survived the military groundworks; consequently, features associated with the former agricultural use of the location could survive. Such features should be considered of local significance.
- 5.4.7 It is possible that evidence of a WWII date survives as below ground features. Such evidence would complement the currently extant group of structures and known

archaeological features. In this case any features should be considered to be of local to regional significance.

- 5.4.8 It is possible that additional archaeological features associated with the redoubt could exist within the Site. Likely surviving only as below ground features, their potential to complement our knowledge of the Siege of Colchester means that they could be considered regionally significant.
- 5.4.9 Consultation of LiDAR data has revealed a number of potential features across the Site. The nature and date of the features is currently unknown and as such a significance value cannot be ascribed to them.

5.5 Historic Landscape Characterisation

- 5.5.1 A number of historic landscape features are known to exist within the Site. These include the brook, woodland and the historic field boundaries within the south eastern part of the Site. These represent the character types identified by the formal HLC as enclosed farmland and woodland plantation. These historic landscape character types are considered to be of local significance and are common across the county.
- 5.5.2 The features of the military landscape are extant within the Site as described above and represent the character type of post-medieval military as identified by the formal HLC. These features are described above to be of local to regional significance. These features are extant within the landscape and the former uses of the Site are easily legible in the present landscape. The military landscape is considered to be of local to regional significance.

6 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 This section presents an assessment of the potential effects of the proposed development in relation to the settings of heritage assets, carried out in accordance with the methodology detailed in **Section 3.6**.

6.2 Statement of potential impact

Archaeological remains

- 6.2.1 The construction of the proposed development may entail the following sources of ground disturbance and excavations:
- Preliminary site investigation works;
 - Setting up a secure construction compound within the Site;
 - Plant movement;
 - Topsoil stripping;
 - Piling and/or excavation of new foundation trenches;
 - Installation of services, drainage and other infrastructure;
 - Establishment of new car parking areas, estate roads and access points;

- Hard landscaping works (levelling, remodelling); and
- Soft landscaping and environmental enhancement works, including planting.

- 6.2.2 The aforementioned works have the potential to result in the damage to or loss of any buried archaeological features which may be present within their footprint. This could in turn result in a total or partial loss of significance of these heritage assets.
- 6.2.3 Any adverse impact to buried archaeological features would be permanent and irreversible in nature. This potential adverse effect could be reduced through the implementation of an appropriate scheme of archaeological mitigation.
- 6.2.4 The 'developable area' is located within the north eastern part of the Site, with the remainder of the Site to be retained for ecological mitigation. The developable area has been designed to avoid many of the known heritage assets within the Site, including the redoubt. However, part of the anti-tank ditch does pass through the developable area and as such future development in this area has the potential to damage or remove remains associated with this.
- 6.2.5 The cropmarks relating to ring ditches and trackways within the south eastern corner of the Site are within the ecological mitigation area and as such are unlikely to be affected by the future proposed development if these are left as green spaces. However, depending upon the works required for the ecological mitigation, they may have the potential to damage or remove some of these potential archaeological features.
- 6.2.6 The two pillboxes and spigot mortars will be retained as part of the allocation proposals to enhance the heritage interpretation of the Site. Similarly the redoubt and boundary stone within the south western corner of the Site is also to be retained within the ecological mitigation area. As these heritage assets are to be persevered there will be no effects to significance of these assets as a result of the development proposals, provided that the ecological mitigation avoids any below ground removal in these areas.
- 6.2.7 The line for the proposed access road has been aligned over the route of the former anti-tank ditch to reflect the history of the Site, this could be enhanced through heritage interpretation such as information boards.
- 6.2.8 Should the developable area within the Site change then the potential for adverse impacts to known and potential heritage assets would also need to be reassessed.

Historic Landscape Character

- 6.2.9 Element of the former farmland use of the Site and wooded areas of the Site will be preserved as part of the draft development proposals. The development for housing is expected to be located within the northern and north eastern parts of the Site with the remainder of the Site to be used as areas for ecological mitigation. As such these areas will be preserved and no effects to their significance is expected to occur.
- 6.2.10 The allocation of the Site for housing is expected to involve residential development within the northern and eastern parts of the Site. This will cover areas formerly used as part of the military use of the Site. This will change the historic landscape character of the Site in this area however as the rest of the Site is to be retained for ecological mitigation, much of the former military character of the Site will be retained. It is proposed that the access through the Site will follow the line of the anti-tank ditch, with the addition of some heritage

interpretation this could contribute to the reflection of the former character of the Site through the allocation proposals.

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 General

- 7.1.1 This assessment has established that there is an archaeological interest within the Site. This is defined as the potential for the presence of buried archaeological remains, in particular relating to prehistoric, Roman and civil war and WWII defences. Due to a lack of previous intrusive archaeological investigation within the Site, the potential for and significance of potential archaeological remains could not be accurately assessed on the basis of the available evidence. The significance of known, and where possible potential, heritage assets within the Site has been outlined above.
- 7.1.2 The majority of the Site has been used as part of Middlewick Ranges rifle training ground since at least the mid-19th century and as such earthmoving has taken place within the Site to facilitate this use involving the flattening of some areas and creation of earthen bunds in others. The exact level of truncation cannot be established based on the available information and the preservation of archaeological remains will depend upon the depth of previous impacts and the depth of the archaeological horizon within the Site. The preservation of archaeological remains within the Site is expected to be varied/unknown across the Site. Areas where ground build up has taken place or little ground removal has the potential to have preserved archaeological remains whereas areas which have been flattened or levelled could have the potential to have damaged or removed archaeological remains within the footprint of these works, but the exact effects of previous impacts at the Site is currently unknown.
- 7.1.3 There are currently no specific development proposals for the Site however a developable area has been put forward with the remainder of the Site to be left as ecological mitigation. The developable area is within the north eastern part of the Site and avoids known heritage assets such as the redoubt, pillboxes, spigot mortars and the cropmarks identified in the southern part of the Site. There is however potential for unknown archaeological remains and features identified from LiDAR and aerial photos to exist within the developable area. The WWII anti-tank ditch lies within the developable area and as such is likely to be physically affected by development in this area. However as part of the heritage interpretation for the Site the new road through the development will follow the line of the anti-tank ditch. The details of groundworks associated with the ecological mitigation are currently unknown, and should below ground works be required this would have the potential to damage or remove archaeological remains within the footprint of these works. These features as a group are considered to be of local to regional significance.
- 7.1.4 Any adverse impact to buried archaeological features as a result of the implementation of any future development proposals would be permanent and irreversible in nature. This potential adverse effect could be reduced through the implementation of an appropriate scheme of archaeological mitigation, in accordance with national and local planning policy.
- 7.1.5 The date of the redoubt is currently unconfirmed however it is thought to date to the civil war era as part of the defence in the Siege of Colchester. The continued preservation of this feature is recommended as the redoubt has the potential to be regionally significant, as a minimum. Current development proposals do not include this part of the Site within the developable area. However, it is likely that there will be a requirement for a future management plan for this monument.



- 7.1.6 The presence, location and significance of any buried archaeological remains within the Site cannot currently be confirmed on the basis of the available information. As such it is likely that additional investigations will be required by the Archaeological Advisor for Colchester Borough Council as part of the submission for any future planning applications.

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Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/9/contents>

Protection of Wrecks Act 1973. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1973/33>

Historic Environment Records

Colchester Urban Archaeological Database (Colchester UAD)

Cartographic and documentary sources

1777 Chapman and Andre Map of Essex

1839 Colchester St Giles Parish Tithe Map

1839 East Donyland Parish Tithe Map

1881 Ordnance Survey 6 inch map (1:10,560)

1898 Ordnance Survey 6 inch map (1:10,560)

1924 Ordnance Survey 6 inch map (1:10,560)

1938 Ordnance Survey 6 inch map (1:10,560)

1958 Ordnance Survey 6 inch map (1:10,560)

1967-68 Ordnance Survey 6 inch map (1:10,560)

1977 Ordnance Survey map (1:10,000)

1983-1991 Ordnance Survey map (1:10,000)

Online resources

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>

<http://www.biab.ac.uk/>

<http://opendomesday.org/>

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

<http://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>

<http://www.magic.gov.uk>

<http://www.old-maps.co.uk/index.html>

<http://www.pastscape.org.uk/>



<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>

<http://oasis.ac.uk/england/>

<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Terminology

Glossary

The terminology used in this assessment follows definitions contained within Annex 2 of NPPF:

Archaeological interest	There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.
Conservation (for heritage policy)	The process of maintaining and managing change to a heritage asset in a way that sustains and, where appropriate, enhances its significance.
Designated heritage asset	A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.
Heritage asset	A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
Historic environment	All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.
Historic environment record	Information services that seek to provide access to comprehensive and dynamic resources relating to the historic environment of a defined geographic area for public benefit and use.
Setting of a heritage asset	The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
Significance (for heritage policy)	The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. The interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. For World Heritage Sites, the cultural value described within each site's Statement of Outstanding Universal Value forms part of its significance.

Chronology

Where referred to in the text, the main archaeological periods are broadly defined by the following date ranges:

Prehistoric		Historic	
Palaeolithic	970,000–9500 BC	Romano-British	AD 43–410
Early Post-glacial	9500–8500 BC	Saxon	AD 410–1066
Mesolithic	8500–4000 BC	Medieval	AD 1066–1500
Neolithic	4000–2400 BC	Post-medieval	AD 1500–1800
Bronze Age	2400–700 BC	19th century	AD 1800–1899
Iron Age	700 BC–AD 43	Modern	1900–present day

Appendix 2: Legislative and planning framework

There is national legislation and guidance relating to the protection of important archaeological sites or historic buildings within planning regulations as defined under the provisions of the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*. In addition, local authorities are responsible for the protection of the historic environment within the planning system. This section summarises the main components of the national and local planning and legislative framework governing the treatment of the historic environment within the planning process.

Legislation

Legislation	
Title	Summary
<i>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979</i>	<p>The main legislation pertaining to archaeological sites is the <i>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979</i>, which builds on previous Acts in confirming legal protection for nationally important archaeological remains through their addition to a centrally maintained 'schedule' (Scheduled Monuments).</p> <p>The consent of the Secretary of State (Department of Culture, Media and Sport), as advised by Historic England, is required for certain works within a scheduled area (Scheduled Monument Consent).</p> <p>For archaeological sites that are not covered by the Act, protection is afforded through the overall framework of national and local planning policy.</p>
<i>Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990</i>	<p>The <i>Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990</i> provides specific protection for buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest. Any decisions relating to Listed Buildings and their settings, and Conservation Areas must address the statutory considerations of the Act (in particular, Sections 16, 66 and 72), as well as satisfying relevant national and local planning policies.</p> <p>Section 66 of the Act states that:</p> <p><i>'In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.'</i></p> <p>Section 69 enables Local Planning Authorities to designate conservation areas. Conservation areas are those 'areas of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'.</p> <p>Section 72 requires that in the exercise of planning duties 'special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance' of conservation areas.</p>

Legislation	
Title	Summary
	Under the provisions of the Act, Listed Building Consent is normally required for works of demolition, alteration or extension to a Listed Building that affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest.
<i>Hedgerows Regulations 1997 (as amended in 2002)</i>	Hedgerows that fulfil certain criteria are afforded protection under <i>The Hedgerows Regulations 1997</i> (as amended in 2002). The administration of the regulations is the responsibility of the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published on 27 March 2012 and revised on 24 July 2018 and updated in February 2019. It sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.

Protecting and enhancing the historic environment is an important component of the National Planning Policy Framework's drive to achieve sustainable development (as defined in Section 2 'Achieving sustainable development'). The NPPF recognises that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and that effective conservation delivers wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits.

Section 16 of the NPPF, entitled 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment', sets out the principal national guidance on the importance, management and safeguarding of heritage assets within the planning process (paragraphs 184-2)

On 6 March 2014 the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) launched the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) web-based resource. The resource provides additional guidance intended to accompany the NPPF. It includes a section entitled 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment' (ID: 18a), which expands upon the corresponding sections of the NPPF. The PPG will, where necessary, be updated in due course to reflect changes to the NPPF since the new framework was published in February 2019.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	
Reference	Quote
Para. 189	In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	
Reference	Quote
	understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.
Para. 190	Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise any conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.
Para. 192	In determining applications, local planning authorities should take account of: a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation; b) the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and c) the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.
Para. 193	When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.
Para. 194	Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of: a) grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional; b) assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional ⁶³ . ⁶³ Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest, which are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	
Reference	Quote
Para. 195	<p>Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to (or total loss of significance of) a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or total loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and b) no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and c) conservation by grant-funding or some form of not for profit, charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and d) the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.
Para. 196	Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.
Para. 197	The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.
Para. 199	<p>Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible⁶⁴. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.</p> <p>⁶⁴Copies of evidence should be deposited with the relevant historic environment record, and any archives with a local museum or other public depository.</p>
Para. 200	Local planning authorities should look for opportunities for new development within Conservation Areas and World Heritage Sites, and within the setting of heritage assets, to enhance or better reveal their significance. Proposals that preserve those elements of the setting that make a positive contribution to the asset (or which better reveal its significance) should be treated favourably.
Para. 201	Not all elements of a Conservation Area or World Heritage Site will necessarily contribute to its significance. Loss of a building (or other element) which makes a positive contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area or World Heritage Site should be treated either as substantial harm under paragraph 195 or less than substantial harm under paragraph 196, as



National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	
Reference	Quote
	appropriate, taking into account the relative significance of the element affected and its contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area or World Heritage Site as a whole.
Para. 202	Local planning authorities should assess whether the benefits of a proposal for enabling development, which would otherwise conflict with planning policies but which would secure the future conservation of a heritage asset, outweigh the disbenefits of departing from those policies.

Local Planning Policy

Colchester Borough Council Core Strategy (Adopted December 2008; amended 2014)		
Policy ref.	Title	Scope
ENV1	Environment	<p>The Borough Council will conserve and enhance Colchester's natural and historic environment, countryside and coastline. The Council will safeguard the Borough's biodiversity, geology, history and archaeology through the protection and enhancement of sites of international, national, regional and local importance. In particular, developments that have an adverse impact on Natura 2000 sites or the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty will not be supported.</p> <p>Within the Coastal Protection Belt development will not be permitted that would adversely affect the open and rural character of the undeveloped coastline, and its historic features, sites of nature conservation importance and wildlife habitats. The network of strategic green links between the rural hinterland, river corridors, and key green spaces and areas of accessible open space that contribute to the green infrastructure across the Borough will be protected and enhanced.</p> <p>Development will be supported at appropriate locations to improve public access, visual amenity and rehabilitate the natural environment. Development will need to minimise and mitigate adverse impacts on river, coastal and ground water quality.</p> <p>The Council will seek to direct development away from land at risk of fluvial or coastal flooding in accordance with PPS25, including areas where the risk of flooding is likely to increase as a result of climate change. Unallocated greenfield land outside of settlement boundaries (to be defined/reviewed in the Site Allocations DPD) will be protected and where possible enhanced, in accordance with the Landscape Character Assessment. Within such areas development will be strictly controlled to conserve the environmental assets and open character of the Borough. Where new development needs, or is compatible with, a rural location, it should demonstrably:</p>



Colchester Borough Council Core Strategy (Adopted December 2008; amended 2014)		
Policy ref.	Title	Scope
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. be in accord with national, regional and local policies for development within rural areas, including those for European and nationally designated areas; andii. be appropriate in terms of its scale, siting, and design; andiii. protect, conserve or enhance landscape and townscape character, including maintaining settlement separation; andiv. protect, conserve or enhance the interests of natural and historic assets; andv. apply a sequential approach to land at risk of fluvial or coastal flooding in line with the guidance of PPS25; andvi. protect habitats and species and conserve and enhance the biodiversity of the Borough; andvii. provide for any necessary mitigating or compensatory measures.

Colchester Borough Council Local Development Framework; Development Policies (Adopted October 2010; amended 2014)		
Policy ref.	Title	Scope
DP14	Historic Environment Assets	<p>Development will not be permitted that will adversely affect a listed building, a conservation area, historic park or garden or important archaeological remains. Development affecting the historic environment should seek to preserve or enhance the heritage asset and any features of specific historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest. In all cases there will be an expectation that any new development will enhance the historic environment in the first instance, unless there are no identifiable opportunities available. In instances where existing features have a negative impact on the historic environment, as identified through character appraisals, the Local Planning Authority will request the removal of the features that undermine the historic environment as part of any proposed development. Support will be given to the provision of creative and accessible interpretations of heritage assets.</p> <p>Conservation of the historic environment will also be ensured by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Identifying, characterising, protecting and enhancing Conservation Areas;(ii) Protection and enhancement of existing buildings and built areas which do not have Listed Building or Conservation Area status but have a particular local importance or character which it is desirable to keep. Such buildings or groups of buildings will be identified through a Local List which will be adopted by the Council;(iii) Preserving or enhancing Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Parks and Gardens, including their respective settings, and other features which contribute to the heritage of the Borough; and(iv) Known sites of archaeological importance will be clearly identified and protected, and sites that become known, whether through formal evaluation as part of a Planning Application or otherwise, will similarly be protected according to their importance. <p>Heritage Statements and/or Archaeological Evaluations will be required for proposals related to or impacting on the setting of heritage assets and/or known or possible archaeological sites, so that sufficient information is provided to assess the impacts of development on historic environment assets together with any proposed mitigation measures.</p>



Appendix 3: Gazetteer

Mon ID	Mon type	Name	Period	Easting	Northing
MCC10055	DITCH; LINEAR FEATURE	Undated cropmarks, Middlewick Ranges, Colchester	Undated	600973	222825
MCC10133	ARMY CAMP; INFANTRY BARRACKS	Meanee and Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester Garrison, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 2 to Edwardian	600136	224381
MCC10167	GYMNASIUM	Gymnasium, Colchester Garrison	Post Medieval Colchester 2 to Unknown	599718	223928
MCC10168	MILITARY POLICE SECTION HOUSE	Police Station, Colchester Garrison	Post Medieval Colchester 2 to Unknown	599615	223868
MCC148	FISHING LODGE; WATERMILL; CORN MILL	Bourne Mill, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	600563	223843
MCC2115	EARTHWORK; CROSS DYKE; CROSS DYKE	Barnhall Dyke, Colchester	Iron Age	600496	223427
MCC2116	CROSS DYKE; EARTHWORK	Berechurch Dyke, Colchester	Early Iron Age to Late Roman Colonia	599919	222274
MCC3217	CORN MILL; FISHING LODGE?; FULLING MILL; CORN MILL; HOUSE	Bourne Mill	Medieval Colchester I. to Modern	600516	223831
MCC4877	MILITARY AIRFIELD	WWI landing ground at Blackheath Common	World War 1 to Early 20th Century	600483	221275
MCC5001	HOUSE	Glen Cottage, Distillery Lane, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 2 to Modern	601567	223875
MCC5002	MALTINGS	Maltings, Distillery Lane, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 2	601584	223859
MCC5003	CORN MILL; DISTILLERY; CORN MILL; LAUNDRY	Hull Mill, Distillery Lane, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Late 20th Century	601540	223910



MCC5004	HOUSE?	The Glen (Hull House), Distillery Lane, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 2 to Late 20th Century	601578	223898
MCC5029	BOUNDARY STONE	Boundary Stone Mersea Road (Roman Hill), Fingringhoe	Early 20th Century to Late 20th Century	600731	221287
MCC5030	BRICKWORKS	The Brick Works at Cleavelands Farm or 'Dobson's Brickfield'	Post Medieval Colchester 2	602499	222474
MCC5190	GAS WORKS	Gas Works, Hythe Quay, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 2 to Late 20th Century	601375	224378
MCC5211	SEWAGE WORKS	Haven Road Sewage Works, Haven Road, Colchester	Early 20th Century to World War 2	602152	223521
MCC5213	MILITARY HOSPITAL	Colchester Military Hospital, Circular Road South, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 2	599500	223749
MCC5222	DITCH; LINEAR FEATURE; ANTI TANK DITCH?	Anti-tank ditch?, Rowhedge through Hythe Marshes northwards	Undated	602252	223245
MCC5276	BRICKWORKS	Site of New Quay Brick Field	Post Medieval Colchester 2	601729	223899
MCC5277	BRICKWORKS	Site of Burnhouse Farm Brickworks	Post Medieval Colchester 2	601934	223063
MCC5386	MILITARY CAMP; MILITARY CAMP	Abbey Field World War II military camp, Colchester	World War 1 to World War 2	599242	223942
MCC5393		Distillery Lane, The Hythe, Colchester	Undated	601562	223915
MCC5466	PIT; PIT; DITCH; CREMATION; FIELD SYSTEM; ROUND HOUSE (DOMESTIC)?; ROUND HOUSE (DOMESTIC); PIT; RITUAL PIT	Prehistoric evidence from the Colchester Garrison Project, Colchester	prehistoric	599306	223357
MCC6925	WATERMILL; WATERCOURSE; GATE LODGE; POND; POND	Bourne Mill	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	600438	223813



MCC7580	MOAT; MANOR; FISHPOND	Monkwick	Medieval	599857	222745
MCC7581	HOUSE; CARVING	Monkwick	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	599857	222745
MCC7635	RECTILINEAR ENCLOSURE; TRACKWAY; PIT; LINEAR FEATURE	Cropmarks, Garrison area, Colchester	Undated	599159	222921
MCC7693	FIELD BOUNDARY	North East of St Michaels Church, West Donyland	Roman	599466	222081
MCC7714	LINEAR FEATURE	Cropmarks, Garrison Site, Colchester	Undated	599159	222921
MCC7744	RING DITCH	Area of Roman Barracks	Undated	599695	222334
MCC7954	CEMETERY; CREMATION; INHUMATION; INHUMATION; TOMB; MIDDEN; COFFIN; COFFIN	Colchester - Abbey Fields	Roman	599496	224360
MCC8079	FINDSPOT	Junction of Berechurch Dyke and Barnhall Dyke, Colchester Cemetery, Colchester	Prehistoric	600025	223195
MCC8694	SLIT TRENCH	Site to South of Roman Way Camp	World War 2	599539	222415
MCC8697	SLIT TRENCH	Site south of Sobraon barracks	World War 2	599452	223604
MCC8706	ANTI TANK DITCH	WWII Anti-tank Ditch and Defence Line, Lexden Bridge to Hythe marshes, West and South Colchester	World War 2	599837	224167
MCC8716	SLIT TRENCH	Slit trenches N of Rock Farm House	World War 2	600251	220880
MCC8717	LINEAR FEATURE; SITE	Features on Hythe Marshes	Undated	602261	222613
MCC8720	SLIT TRENCH	Slit trenches at Donyland woods	World War 2	601870	220815
MCC8956	DESERTED SETTLEMENT; MANOR; VILLAGE	South Rowhedge	Medieval Colchester I. to Modern	602700	221298
MCC8959	BASTION OUTWORK	The Fort, East of Mersea Road, Colchester	Civil War Colchester	600672	222223



MCC8979	PIT; TRACKWAY; LINEAR FEATURE; DITCH	Undated cropmarks, Vicinity of Battleswick Farm, Rowhedge	Undated	602535	222072
MCC8985	BANK (EARTHWORK); DITCH	Sections across Barnhall Dyke, north of Old Heath, Colchester	Iron Age	600811	223498
MCC8990	RING DITCH	Recreation Ground 'The Hythe'	Undated	600806	224238
MCC9000	WINDMILL; TOWER MILL	The Distillery Windmill, North of Whitehall Road, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601591	223739
MCC9003	WATERMILL	Cannock Mill	Post Medieval Colchester 2	601090	223792
MCC9015	RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE	West of Donyland House	Undated	601893	221637
MCC9016	RING DITCH; DITCH; LINEAR FEATURE; SITE	Cropmarks, south-east of Middlewick Ranges, Colchester	Undated	601614	222315
MCC9017	LINEAR FEATURE; FIELD BOUNDARY; FIELD SYSTEM; LINEAR FEATURE; SITE	Undated cropmarks, South of Middlewick Ranges, East Donyland	Undated	601127	221830
MCC9018	ENCLOSURES; DITCH; SQUARE LINEAR FEATURE; SITE	East of Roman Hill House	Undated	601157	221047
MCC9025	DITCH; LINEAR FEATURE; SITE	West of Donyland Heath	Undated	601554	221204
MCC9159	COMMON LAND	Black Heath, West Donyland	Medieval Colchester I. to Post Medieval Colchester 2	600235	221734



MCC9164	COMMON LAND	Donyland Heath, East Donyland	Medieval Colchester I. to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601961	221298
MCC9166	COMMON LAND	Old Heath Common, Colchester	Medieval Colchester I. to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601973	223182
MCC9165	COMMON LAND	Old Heath, Colchester	Medieval Colchester I. to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601679	222900
MCC9251	AIR RAID SHELTER	Air-raid shelter F1, Area P1, Colchester Garrison, Colchester	World War 2	599654	223796
MCC9252	AIR RAID SHELTER	Air-raid shelter F2, Area P1, Colchester Garrison, Colchester	World War 2	599639	223794
MCC9253	AIR RAID SHELTER	Air-raid shelter F3, Area P1, Colchester Garrison, Colchester	World War 2	599651	223772
MCC9254	AIR RAID SHELTER	Air-raid shelter F4, Area P1, Colchester Garrison, Colchester	World War 2	599682	223798
MCC9255	AIR RAID SHELTER	Air-raid shelter F5, Area P1, Colchester Garrison, Colchester	World War 2	599668	223797
MCC9256	AIR RAID SHELTER	Air-raid shelter F6, Area P1, Colchester Garrison, Colchester	World War 2	599668	223774
MCC9258	AIR RAID SHELTER	Air-raid shelter F7, Area P1, Colchester Garrison, Colchester	World War 2	599685	223767
MCC9292	HUNTING LODGE?; FARMHOUSE; FARMSTEAD; THRESHING BARN	Battleswick Farm, Rowhedge	Medieval Colchester II. to Post Medieval Colchester 2	602538	221993
MCC10093	CROSS DYKE; DITCH	Hyderabad Sector, Berechurch Dyke, former Meeanee & Hyderabad Barracks (Site J), Colchester	Late Iron Age	600304	224279
MCC10094	FINDSPOT	Roman coin hoard, Hyderabad Sector, Berechurch Dyke, former Meeanee & Hyderabad Barracks (Site J), Colchester	Early Roman Colonia	600321	224284
MCC10095	PIT; PIT; PIT; PIT	Group of pits south of Berechurch Dyke, former Meeanee & Hyderabad Barracks (Site J), Colchester	Multi-period	600307	224272
MCC10107	AIR RAID SHELTER	Air-raid shelter, 83 Mersea Road, Colchester	World War 2	600162	224044
MCC10209	PIT; DITCH	Undated archaeological features, Former Coalyard, North of Roman Camp Way, Colchester	Undated	599500	222900



MCC1166	FINDSPOT	Neolithic flint axe, Middlewick Ranges, Colchester	Neolithic	600518	223105
MCC1184	FINDSPOT	Flint Knife, 54 Gilbert Court	Early Bronze Age	600877	223932
MCC1187	FINDSPOT	Coin of Domitian, 58 Gurdon Road, Colchester	Early Roman Colonia	599752	223359
MCC1236	FINDSPOT	Roman coin of Constantine, Mersea Road, Colchester	Late Roman Colonia	600323	223758
MCC1242	FINDSPOT	Late Iron Age coin of Cunobelin, 61 Old Heath Road, Colchester	Late Iron Age	600980	223948
MCC1269	FINDSPOT	Roman coin of Tiberius, 98 Old Heath Road, Colchester	Late Iron Age	601015	223972
MCC1333	FINDSPOT	Roman pottery, near King George Road	Roman	599988	223750
MCC1814	CEMETERY	Late Iron Age cremation cemetery, Mersea Road, Colchester	Late Iron Age	600038	223566
MCC1879	CREMATION	Roman cremation burial, Colchester Cemetery, Mersea Road, Colchester	Roman	600035	223594
MCC1884	CREMATION	Roman cremation burial, Colchester Cemetery, Colchester	Roman	600033	223597
MCC1885	CREMATION	Roman cremation burial, Colchester Cemetery, Colchester	Roman	600034	223601
MCC1886	CREMATION	Roman cremation burial, Colchester Cemetery, Colchester	Roman	600040	223601
MCC1887	CREMATION	Roman cremation burial, Colchester Cemetery, Colchester	Roman	600044	223598
MCC1935	FINDSPOT	Roman coin of Tetricus senior, west of Bourne Road, Colchester	Early Roman Colonia to Late Roman Colonia	600549	224020
MCC1946	FINDSPOT	Iron Age pottery, near Winsley's Almshouses, Colchester	Late Iron Age	600791	224025
MCC1947	FINDSPOT	Iron Age pottery, near Mersea Road, Colchester	Late Iron Age	600186	223586
MCC1949	FINDSPOT	Late Iron Age vessel, Bourne Road, Colchester	Late Iron Age	600750	223825
MCC1950	FINDSPOT	Late Neolithic flint knife, near Gilberd Road, Colchester	Neolithic	600740	223915
MCC1953	FINDSPOT	Roman coin of Agrippa, Bourne Valley, Colchester	Late Iron Age	600840	223820



MCC2276	FINDSPOT	Prehistoric worked flints, Colchester Cemetery, Colchester	Prehistoric	600162	223583
MCC2283	WINDMILL	Scarlett's Mill, north west of Distillery Pond, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601277	224073
MCC5714	POST MILL	Windmill (site of), 'Scarlett's Mill', Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601199	223999
MCC2284	WINDMILL	The Distillery Mill, Windmill north of Hilltop Close, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601569	223736
MCC2448	RING DITCH	Ring ditch, Recreation Field, Colchester	Prehistoric	600848	224297
MCC2617	TRACKWAY	Track way, west of Colchester Cemetery	Late Iron Age	599742	223075
MCC2618	FIELD BOUNDARY	Field Boundary	Undated	599631	223092
MCC2732	WATERMILL	Hull Mill	Medieval Colchester II. to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601530	223913
MCC2733	WATERMILL	Cannock Mill (now demolished)	Medieval Colchester I. to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601069	223819
MCC2783	DITCH	Late Iron Age/Roman ditches, Colchester Garrison PFI site (Area DR), Colchester	Late Iron Age to Late Roman Colonia	599643	222934
MCC2784	DITCH	Late Iron Age/Roman ditch, Colchester Garrison PFI site (Area DR), Colchester	Late Iron Age to Late Roman Colonia	599607	222899
MCC2785	DITCH	Late Iron Age/Roman ditches, Colchester Garrison PFI site (Area DR 4), Colchester	Late Iron Age to Late Roman Colonia	599595	222848
MCC2786	DITCH	Prehistoric ditch, Colchester Garrison PFI site (Area Q), Colchester	Early Iron Age	599645	223231
MCC2866	FIELD BOUNDARY	Iron Age field system, Colchester Garrison Area S2 (south), Colchester	Middle Iron Age to Late Iron Age	599469	222014
MCC2867	FIELD BOUNDARY	Roman field system, Colchester Garrison Area S2 (south), Colchester	Middle Iron Age to Late Iron Age	599460	222040



MCC2868	ROUND HOUSE (DOMESTIC); DITCHED ENCLOSURE; PIT; GULLY;	Middle Iron Age enclosure with an internal round-house, South of Ypres Road, Colchester	Middle Iron Age	599425	223477
MCC2920	FINDSPOT	Group of Neolithic/Bronze Age worked flints	Neolithic to Bronze Age	599451	223488
MCC2922	TRACKWAY	Late Iron Age double-ditched trackway	Late Iron Age	599440	223464
MCC2939	CREMATION	Early Iron Age cremation	Early Iron Age	599651	222950
MCC2940	CREMATION	Early Iron Age cremation	Early Iron Age	599621	222850
MCC2941	FIELD SYSTEM	Ghost evidence of Early Iron Age field system	Early Iron Age	599628	222871
MCC2942	GRANARY?	Early Iron Age 4-post structure	Early Iron Age	599650	222942
MCC2943	GRANARY?	Early Iron Age 4-post structure	Early Iron Age	599649	222937
MCC2944	GRANARY?	Iron Age 4-post structure	Early Iron Age	599605	222806
MCC2945	FIELD SYSTEM?	Early Iron Age/Roman field system	Early Iron Age to Late Roman Colonia	599625	222865
MCC2959	DITCH	Possible prehistoric / Roman ditch	Undated	599743	223779
MCC319	MILL POND	Bourne Mill Pond, Bourne Road, Colchester	Medieval Colchester I. to Modern	600541	223845
MCC320	FISHPOND	Bourne Mill Fish Pond, Bourne Road, Colchester	Medieval Colchester I. to Modern	600573	223793
MCC321	GALLOWS	Gallows at Bourne Ponds in 1286, Bourne Road, Colchester	Medieval Colchester I.	600548	223807
MCC322	DUCKING STOOL	Ducking stool at Bourne Ponds, Bourne Road, Colchester	Medieval Colchester I.	600548	223812
MCC323	WATERMILL	Bourne Mill (Historic mill now demolished), Bourne Road, Colchester	Medieval Colchester I. to Post Medieval Colchester 1	600566	223841
MCC4006	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	Roman Hill Farmhouse, Mersea Road, East Donyland	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	600787	221331
MCC4037	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	Fingringhoe Hall, Abberton Road, Fingringhoe	Post Medieval Colchester 1	602500	222499
MCC4736	FINDSPOT	Flint axehead near Roman Way Camp, Colchester	Neolithic	600025	222327



MCC4764	PILLBOX (TYPE FW3/22)	Pillbox (site of), Stansted Road, Berechurch, Colchester	World War 2	600340	222369
MCC4967	BOUNDARY STONE	19th century boundary stone, Sydney Street, Colchester (formerly East Donyland)	Post Medieval Colchester 2	600609	222019
MCC4970	PILLBOX	Pillbox, N of Roman Way Camp, Berechurch, Colchester	World War 2	599449	222859
MCC5028	BOUNDARY STONE	Boundary stone, Launceston Close, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 2 to Late 20th Century	600660	222140
MCC5037	PILLBOX (TYPE FW3/22)	Pillbox, Stansted Road, Berechurch, Colchester	World War 2	600299	222390
MCC5071	DIRECTION STONE; OBELISK; GRAVESTONE	Obelisk, Colchester Cemetery	Post Medieval Colchester 2	600109	223580
MCC5221	SPIGOT MORTAR EMPLACEMENT	Spigot Mortar Emplacement, N of Roman Way Camp, Berechurch, Colchester	World War 2	599499	222980
MCC5274	PIT	Thomas Lord Audley School, Monkwick, Colchester	Undated	599979	222840
MCC5335	PILLBOX	Pillbox (destroyed), between Berechurch Road and Mersea Road, Colchester	World War 2	599969	222980
MCC5336	ANTI TANK BLOCK	WWII Anti-Tank Ditch, Berechurch Ramparts, Colchester	World War 2	598350	219785
MCC5336	ANTI TANK BLOCK	WWII Anti-Tank Ditch, Berechurch Ramparts, Colchester	World War 2	598350	219785
MCC5337	ROAD BARRIER	Road Barrier (destroyed), Berechurch Hall Road, Berechurch, Colchester	World War 2	599690	221900
MCC5355	PILLBOX (TYPE FW3/24)	WWII Pillbox (destroyed), East of Berechurch Road, Colchester	World War 2	599579	223250
MCC5356	PILLBOX	WWII Pillbox (destroyed), West of Mersea Road, Colchester	World War 2	600419	222980
MCC5357	PILLBOX (TYPE FW3/22)	WWII Pillbox, Middlewich Ranges, East of Mersea Road, Colchester	World War 2	600510	222980
MCC5358	SPIGOT MORTAR EMPLACEMENT	WWII Spigot Mortar Emplacement, Middlewich Ranges, Colchester	World War 2	600510	223010
MCC5359	SPIGOT MORTAR EMPLACEMENT	WWII Spigot Mortar Emplacement, Middlewich Ranges, Colchester	World War 2	600549	222980



MCC5360	SPIGOT MORTAR EMPLACEMENT	WWII Spigot Mortar Emplacement (destroyed), North of Cemetery, Mersea Rd, Colchester	World War 2	600250	223869
MCC5361	PILLBOX	WWII Pillbox, Middlewick Ranges, West of Old Heath Road, Colchester	World War 2	601359	222929
MCC5362	INFANTRY POST	WWII Concrete Firing Post (destroyed), Old Heath Road, Colchester	World War 2	601520	223069
MCC5363	ANTI TANK OBSTACLE	WWII Anti-Tank Obstacles (destroyed), 287 Old Heath Road, Colchester	World War 2	601619	222970
MCC5364	ANTI TANK CUBE	WWII Anti-Tank Cubes, 370 Old Heath Road, Colchester	World War 2	601630	223010
MCC5365	PILLBOX	WWII Pillbox (destroyed), West of Old Heath Road, Colchester	World War 2	601609	223029
MCC5366	SPIGOT MORTAR EMPLACEMENT	WWII Spigot Mortar Emplacement (destroyed), Old Heath Road, Colchester	World War 2	601640	223069
MCC5367	PILLBOX	WWII Pillbox (destroyed), East of Old Heath Road, Colchester	World War 2	601619	223080
MCC5368	ANTI TANK OBSTACLE	WWII Two Anti-Tank Cubes (destroyed), Sewage Works, Old Heath, Colchester	Modern	601799	223209
MCC5369	AMMUNITION SHELTER	Ammunition Shelter (destroyed), Place Farm, Old Heath, Colchester	World War 2	601820	223190
MCC5370	ANTI TANK BLOCK	WWII Anti-Tank Cubes (destroyed), Sewage Works, Old Heath, Colchester	World War 2	602059	223239
MCC5387	MILITARY CAMP	Roman Camp World War II military camp	World War 2	599550	222550
MCC5679	FINDSPOT	Mesolithic axe/adze, Middlewick Ranges, Colchester	Mesolithic	600999	222499
MCC7039	BANK (EARTHWORK); DITCH	Berechurch Dyke, Colchester	Late Iron Age	599700	222250
MCC7098	BURIAL	Undated burial, near Middlewick School, Colchester	Undated	600299	222079
MCC7099	FINDSPOT	Fragments of two Bronze Age vessels from Blackheath Estate, Colchester	Early Bronze Age to Middle Bronze Age	600369	222579
MCC7100	FINDSPOT	Palaeolithic findspot, Old Heath, Colchester	Palaeolithic	601840	222840
MCC7101	FINDSPOT	Roman findspot, north of Bourne Mill, Colchester	Early Roman Colonia	600549	224020



MCC7115	FINDSPOT	Early Bronze Age to Late Bronze Age arrowhead, near Middlewick Ranges, Colchester	Bronze Age	601199	222800
MCC8162	FINDSPOT	Late Neolithic to Middle Bronze Age arrowhead, Middlewick Ranges, Colchester	Bronze Age	601100	222499
MCC7294	WALL	Colchester - Maidenburgh Street, 39?	Roman	599750	222530
MCC7295	WALL	Colchester - Northgate Street, S side	Roman	599699	222520
MCC7582	FINDSPOT	Monkwick	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	599899	222800
MCC8003	FLOOR; COBBLED SURFACE	Colchester - Castle Road	Roman	600060	222499
MCC8074	FINDSPOT	Iron Age vessel, 29 Fingringhoe Road, Colchester	Early Iron Age to Late Iron Age	601669	222859
MCC8169	FINDSPOT	Colchester-Bourne Road sand pit	Late Iron Age	600699	223799
MCC8170	FINDSPOT	Colchester-Winsley's almshouses	Late Iron Age	600790	224020
MCC8171	FINDSPOT	Colchester-near Mersea Road	Late Iron Age	600200	223600
MCC8224	FINDSPOT	Colchester-Roman Hill Farm	Roman	600899	221300
MCC8231	FINDSPOT	Blackheath	Bronze Age	600200	221900
MCC8613	FINDSPOT	Imported Merovingian vessel, Old Heath, Colchester	Anglo-Saxon	600999	222999
MCC8947	FINDSPOT	Late Bronze Age findspot, The Hythe, Colchester	Late Bronze Age	600999	223999
MCC8954	FINDSPOT	East of Bourne Mill	Late Iron Age	600800	223799
MCC8955	FINDSPOT	Donyland Heath	Roman	602300	221300
MCC8964	CEMETERY	Colchester Cemetery	Early Iron Age to Late Iron Age	600000	223500
MCC8965	FINDSPOT	Colchester Cemetery	Prehistoric	600099	223500
MCC8967	FINDSPOT	Colchester-Middlewick ranges	Mesolithic	600999	222499
MCC8984	FINDSPOT	Palaeolithic hand-axe, near 'Old Heath', Colchester	Palaeolithic	601700	222700
MCC8986	BURIAL	North of Colchester Cemetery	Early Iron Age to Late Iron Age	600029	223680
MCC8987	BURIAL	North of Colchester Cemetery	Roman	600039	223662
MCC8999	WINDMILL	Near 'Scarletts' The Hythe	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601250	224049



MCC9032	FINDSPOT	North East of 'Bourne Mill'	Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age	600699	223899
MCC9287	MILL; LEAT?; REVETMENT	Timber revetment at Cannock Mill, Old Heath Road, Colchester, 2016	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Post Medieval Colchester 2	601093	223813
MCC147	HOUSE	Winsley's Almshouses, Old Heath Road, Colchester	Post Medieval Colchester 1 to Modern	600806	223984
MCC5336	ANTI TANK BLOCK	WWII Anti-Tank Ditch, Berechurch Ramparts, Colchester	World War 2	598350	219785
MCC8706	ANTI TANK DITCH	WWII Anti-tank Ditch and Defence Line, Lexden Bridge to Hythe marshes, West and South Colchester	World War 2	599837	224167



Plate 1) View looking north west across the Site towards Middlewick Ranges tower



Plate 2) View looking north east along enclosed part of Middlewick Ranges


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Plate 3) View looking south across Middlewick Ranges



Plate 4) View looking south east across Middlewick Ranges, showing undulations in the grass


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Plate 5) View looking west across Middlewick Ranges towards the woodland at the western edge of the Site



Plate 6) View of possible remaining section of anti-tank ditch looking east


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Plate 7) View within eastern part of enclosed Middlewick Ranges showing area



Plate 8) View looking south towards rifle training butts


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Plate 9) View of flattened area in front of shooting butts



Plate 10) View of disused western training butt, demonstrating earth movement


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Plate 11) View of western rifle range showing earth movement



Plate 12) Disused rifle butt towards the centre of the Site


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Plate 13) Earthwork associated with the rifle range



Plate 14) Northern part of the Site, looking north towards Abbots Road


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Plate 15) Northern part of the Site, looking north east towards Abbots Road



Plate 16) Looking south east along the eastern part of the Site


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Plate 17) Looking south west across the Site from the east



Plate 18) Looking south within the southern part of the Site


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Plate 19) Area to the south of the enclosed part of Middlewick Ranges



Plate 20) Sand bund to the south of the rifle butts


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Plate 21) Area to the south of the rifle butts



Plate 22) Rear of disused rifle butts, looking west


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Plate 23) Pillbox (MCC5357) at western boundary of the Site



Plate 24) Spigot Mortar (MCC5359) located within the Site


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Plate 25) Brambles concealing Spigot Mortar (MCC5358) within the Site



Plate 26) Pillbox (MCC5361) close to the eastern boundary of the Site


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Plate 27) Pillbox (MCC5361) close to the eastern boundary of the Site



Plate 28) Depression at approximate route of anti-tank ditch (MCC8706) looking west from the eastern part of the Site



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Plate 29) The Redoubt within the south western part of the Site looking north east across the monument



Plate 30) The Redoubt within the south western corner of the Site, looking west across the monument

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