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Croydon Tier 2  
Archaeological Priority Areas

Tier 2  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:85,000

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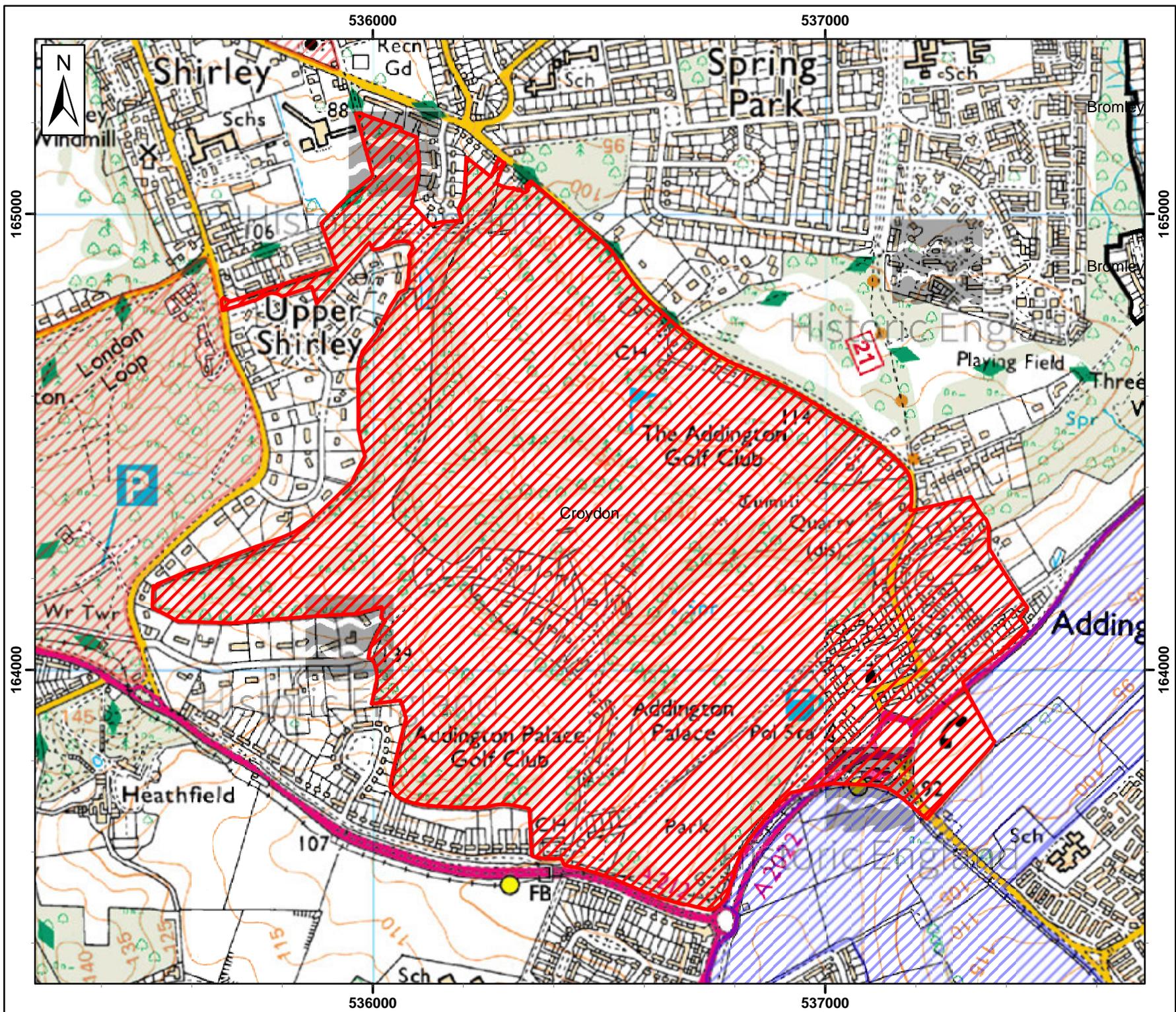
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Croydon APA 2.1  
 Addington and  
 Addington Park

 Addington and  
 Croydon Pottery Sites

**Rivers**

**Modern Boroughs**

 Tier 1  
 Archaeological  
 Priority Area

 Tier 2  
 Archaeological  
 Priority Area

 Tier 3  
 Archaeological  
 Priority Area

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## Croydon APA 2.1: Addington and Addington Park

### Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers Addington Village and an area to the north-west known as Addington Park which includes the grounds of Addington Palace, Addington Palace Golf Club and Addington Golf Club. Addington Palace is a Grade II\* Listed Building, Addington Park is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden and part of Addington Village is designated as a Conservation Area. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because Addington is a historic settlement while Addington Park has significant archaeological interest. It also covers a large area of undeveloped land with distinctive topography and evidence of prehistoric remains.

### Description

Addington Park is on a hill that slopes down towards Addington and like other high areas in Croydon it has the potential for prehistoric finds and features. It has not undergone major development so any surviving archaeological features may be present in this area although the landscaping of the golf courses may have removed visible archaeological features on the surface.

Prehistoric finds have been made across the APA and date from the Palaeolithic to Iron Age periods. These have included axes, scrapers, blades, spearheads, arrow heads and coins. A late Bronze Age hoard was found in 1914 during the creation of a bunker on Addington Golf Course. The hoard included a gouge, axe fragments, sword fragments, a spearhead, other fragments of various implements and 19 bronze or copper ingots.

A description from the 18<sup>th</sup> century mentions approximately 25 mounds across Addington Park of which the largest had a diameter of 40 feet. It was also stated that by this time most had been opened and their contents removed. Two tumuli located on Addington Golf Course are still marked on modern maps and one is located near the highest point of the park. These may have been part of a previously larger group of mounds but no others are identifiable in the area and they could be natural features. Burial mounds have been found on hilltops in other parts of Croydon such as Farthing Down and Croham Hurst so it would be logical to expect similar mounds to be present in the higher areas of Addington Park.

The earliest mention of Addington is in the Domesday Book where it is referred to as *Eddintone*. The chancel and nave of St Mary's church, a Grade I Listed Building, were built in the late 11<sup>th</sup> century and are the oldest part of the building although an earlier Saxon timber

church may have preceded it, remains of which may be present in the vicinity. The manor was held by a number of families during the medieval period but the precise location of a manor house is debatable. Castle Hill to the east of the village has been suggested as a possible site for a medieval manor house or even a castle although no conclusive evidence for such a building has ever been found. A more likely location for a medieval manor house would have been close to the village church. An excavation to the south-east of the church in 1973 found the remains of a structure that may have been the medieval manor. A number of foundation walls were uncovered and the pottery finds indicated that it had been abandoned during the 14<sup>th</sup> century. It is not known where later manor houses were located but somewhere in Addington Park seems likely, possibly close to where Addington Palace is now located.

Addington Park was used as a hunting park in the later medieval period and it is thought that Henry VIII hunted there. Addington Palace was constructed in the 1770s and became a summer residence for Archbishops of Canterbury in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It stopped being used as a residence for the Archbishops in 1897 and during the 20<sup>th</sup> century was used as a private residence, a military hospital, a school of music and it is now a country club. If a former manor house existed nearby then its remains may survive.

Addington Village is still relatively small and contains a number of buildings which date to the 18<sup>th</sup> century or earlier such as Addington House, Flint Cottage and Lion Lodge.

### **Significance**

Any future finds of prehistoric material in Addington Park would further enhance what is known about human activity in the upland areas of Croydon during the prehistoric period. If it could be proved that burial mounds were once located in Addington Park and if such mounds could be dated it would further develop an understanding of how burial sites from that particular period were distributed across Croydon. Prehistoric burial mounds are potentially of national importance.

Addington is one of the few modern settlements in Croydon that is mentioned in the Domesday Book which indicates that it existed during the Saxon period. Knowing which settlements existed in the late 11<sup>th</sup> century helps to develop an understanding of how the local population was distributed and where it was concentrated at that time. However, unlike other settlements, such as Coulsdon, Sanderstead and Croydon, Addington was not owned by an ecclesiastical organisation at the time Domesday was compiled. This means that it was administered in a different way to those other settlements and the Dissolution may have had less of an impact on the local community. Remains of any buildings dating to

the medieval period or earlier may illustrate how Addington was similar to or differed from other historic settlements in Croydon.

### **Key References**

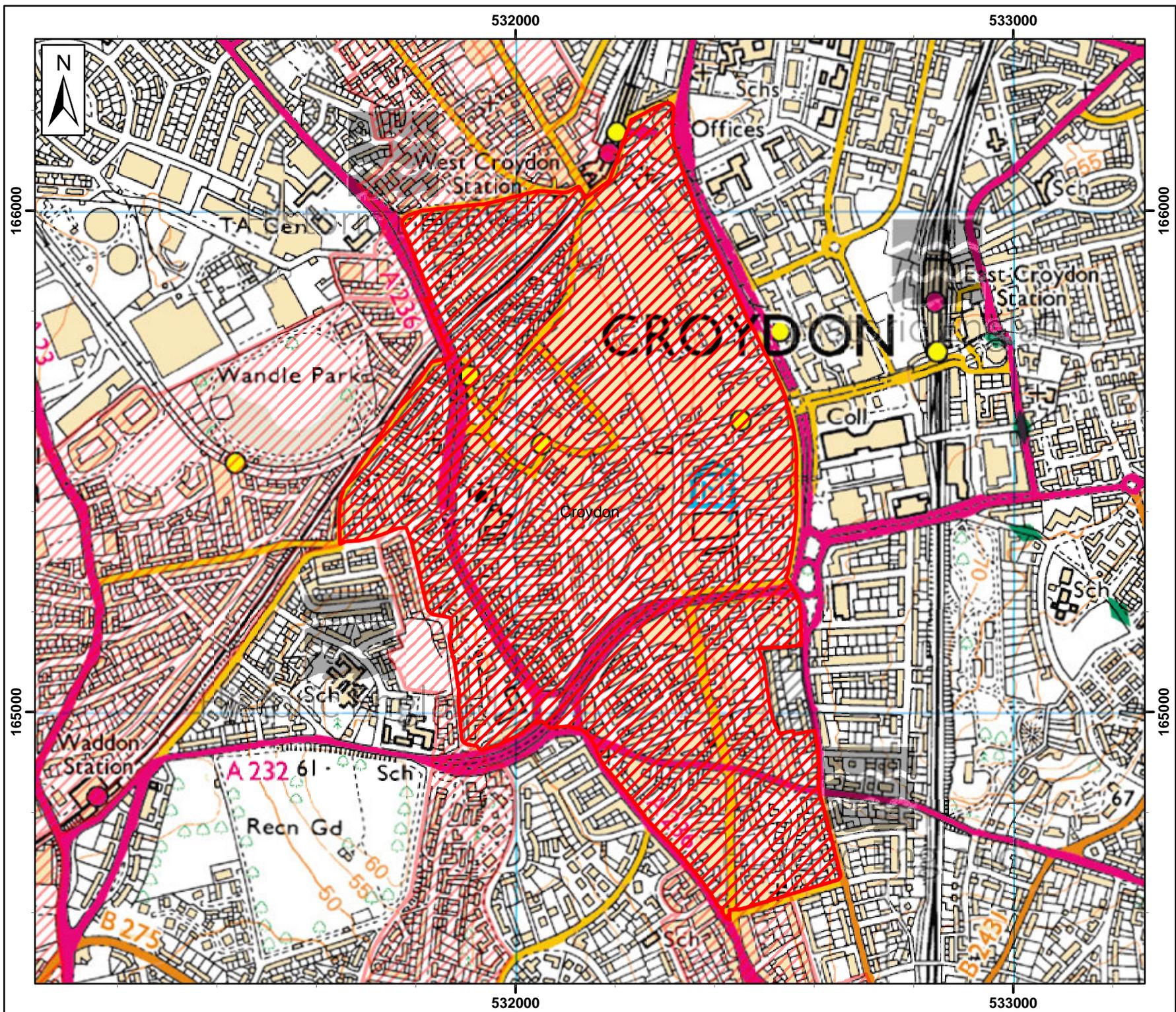
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Croydon APA 2.2  
Central Croydon

-  Central Croydon APA
-  Tier 1  
Archaeological  
Priority Area
-  Tier 2  
Archaeological  
Priority Area
-  Tier 3  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

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## Croydon APA 2.2: Central Croydon

### Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the core of the historic settlement of Croydon which is situated in an area bounded by Church Street/George Street to the north, Wellesley Road/Park Lane to the east, Lower Coombe Street to the south and Old Town/Mitcham Road to the west. Croydon has been the most important settlement in the borough since the Roman period in terms of its size and influence over the surrounding area. Prehistoric and Roman finds have been recovered from within the APA, a large Anglo-Saxon cemetery was located in the Park Lane/Edridge Road area and a palace belonging to the Archbishops of Canterbury was established here. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement.

### Description

Croydon is situated at the northern end of a valley that cuts through the North Downs which was formed by the River Wandle; the source of the Wandle is now situated near to the town centre. Its location close to a water source and on a route leading from London into the North Downs led to it becoming an important settlement. It is unclear when a settlement was first established in Croydon. Prehistoric finds and features have been found but no conclusive evidence of a settlement.

The amount of Roman material that has been recovered from the APA indicates that a settlement was located here during this period. The London to Brighton Roman road passed through the APA and its distance approximately 10 miles south of the Roman city would have made it a convenient place for a stopping site. Another Roman road which is thought to have run in an east west direction along the northern edge of the North Downs also ran through Croydon and would have intersected with the London to Brighton road. Remains of this road have been found in Lower Coombe Street. The traffic passing along both of these roads would have stimulated the growth of the settlement and led to it becoming a significant trading centre. The Roman material that has been recovered includes coins, pottery and building material which suggests that the settlement was larger than a single farmstead or small roadside hamlet. Further Roman remains are likely to be present within the APA and any future discoveries could give an indication of the size and status of the settlement.

The settlement probably continued into the Anglo-Saxon period and one of the most significant archaeological discoveries found close to the town centre is the scheduled Anglo-Saxon cemetery which was located in the Edridge Road/Park Lane area (see APA 1.5). A

synod was held at Croydon in 809 which indicates that the town had a degree of economic and ecclesiastical importance by this time and that a minster church may have been located there. It is referred to as *Crogedene* in a document of 871 and as *Croindene* in the Domesday Book by which time the manor was owned by the Archbishops of Canterbury. The patronage of the archbishops undoubtedly boosted the town's reputation and status. The presence of a weekly market and nine day annual fair by the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century further demonstrates how it had become an important commercial centre in the north Surrey area.

Croydon's entry in the Domesday Book mentions a church which may have been in existence at the time of the synod in the early 9<sup>th</sup> century. A 15<sup>th</sup> century church was probably built on the same site or in the immediate area of the Saxon church and the modern church retains the west tower, nave walls and south porch of the medieval structure. The present church of St John the Baptist, which is a Grade I Listed Building, was built in 1870 after a fire destroyed most of the medieval building. Remains of the Saxon structure may be present beneath the current church or within its vicinity. The church stone gateway on Howley Road is a Scheduled Monument which was built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century although it was not moved to its current position until 1845.

The settlement was initially located close to where the church and palace were situated. However, the settlement gradually moved eastwards until its focus was the triangle formed by Crown Hill, Surrey Street and High Street where the market was situated. It is thought this happened because the area near the church was too close to the Wandle and flooding was a common occurrence. By the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century the area around the palace and church was being referred to as the Old Town, a name which is retained by a modern road to the west of the church.

It is not known when the Archbishops gained the manor but it may have been as early as the 8<sup>th</sup> century. Croydon was used as a stopping point for Archbishops as they travelled between Canterbury and Lambeth and a house, later known as a palace, was built to accommodate them. It is not known precisely when the house was first built but it was probably during the Saxon period although the earliest documentary evidence for a manor house belonging to the Archbishops dates from a deed of 1273. The house was also used as an administrative centre for the Archbishop's estates in Surrey, Middlesex and Hertfordshire, a hunting lodge and as a storage facility for agricultural produce from the local estates. By the 12<sup>th</sup> century the house probably consisted of a main building built of stone and several timber agricultural buildings around a large courtyard. It was added to and renovated a number of times over the following centuries and by the post medieval period it was referred to as a palace.

The surviving palace buildings are Grade I listed and consist of the Great Hall, a chapel and a guard room which date from between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries although parts of the guard room building date from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Previously, servants' quarters and stables lay to the north of the main palace buildings around a large courtyard which was entered via a 15<sup>th</sup> century gatehouse located at what is now the junction between Old Palace Road and Church Road. The palace and church were surrounded by a number of streams, fish ponds and water courses which separated the ecclesiastical complex from the rest of the town.

The palace was sold in 1780 and Addington Palace became the Croydon base for the Archbishops in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century a number of the palace buildings were demolished or sold off, the water courses were infilled and the site was used as a laundry and linen factory before being bought by the Duke of Newcastle in 1887 and converted into a school. Parts of the stable block were uncovered by archaeological excavations in 1970 and 1999.

On John Rocque's map of Surrey from the 1760s Croydon is shown as a large settlement surrounded by fields. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century the population of the town exploded from approximately 5700 in 1801 to more than 134,000 in 1901 while the development of the railways improved the links between Croydon and central London. The town expanded as a result and the surrounding area became increasingly urbanised, a process that continued into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Significance**

Central Croydon has been occupied since the Roman period and has always been the most important commercial centre within the borough. The Roman roads that passed through it, the manor's ownership by the Archbishops of Canterbury and its role as a medieval market town boosted its economy and growth and cemented its position as the most important settlement in the borough.

While the amount of Roman material indicates that a settlement was located here there has been a paucity of structural remains. Similarly the size of the Edridge Road/Park Lane cemetery provides an indication of an associated Saxon settlement but few structural remains have been found. Future discoveries of Roman or Saxon structures would assist in understanding the nature and development of the settlement in those periods. Remains of the medieval market town could also inform our understanding of its subsequent development, including commercial activities.

Croydon's association with the Archbishops of Canterbury undoubtedly assisted its development into a vibrant medieval market town but it also made it into an important ecclesiastical centre. Apart from Lambeth Palace it is the only palace in what is now Greater London that was owned by the Archbishops and was part of a chain of ecclesiastical manor houses between London and Canterbury. The parish church of St John the Baptist, a Grade I Listed Building, was larger than other parish churches in other settlements in the borough due to the patronage of the archbishops. The archiepiscopal palace was among the most important buildings that ever existed in the borough and surviving sections present an opportunity to analyse the palace's development and its relationship with the town and wider area. Substantial surviving remains of the palace or the earlier parish churches could be considered of national importance.

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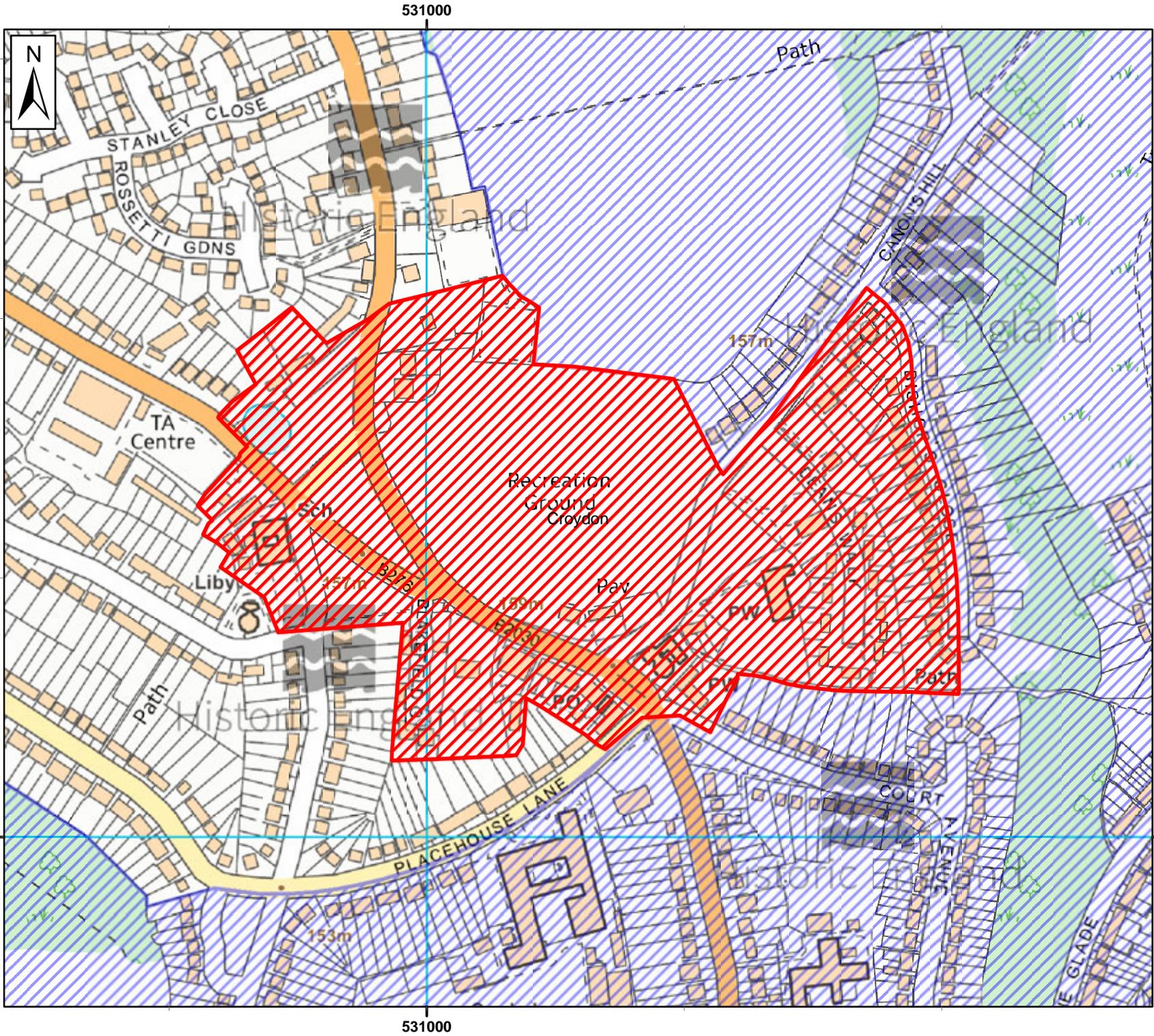
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Croydon APA 2.3  
Old Coulsdon

 Old Coulsdon APA

**Pottery Sites**

**Rivers**

**Modern Boroughs**

Tier 1  
 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2  
 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3  
 Archaeological Priority Area

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## Croydon APA 2.3: Old Coulsdon

### Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an area surrounding Bradmore Green and George Park Recreation Ground which is regarded as the focus of Old Coulsdon. A large part of the south-western part of Croydon is often referred to as Coulsdon and in previous centuries the Bradmore Green area was its focus. However, an area formerly known as Smitham Bottom is now seen as the centre of Coulsdon while the Bradmore Green area is now referred to as Old Coulsdon. The Bradmore Green Conservation Area covers a similar area to the APA. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement with Anglo-Saxon origins.

### Description

The APA is located on a plateau on the North Downs and traces of prehistoric activity have been found nearby such as on Farthing Down to the west and in 1928 a hoard of Bronze Age implements was found to the south-west of the APA. Its high location close to a number of water sources such as the rivers Bourne and Wandle may have made it an attractive area of settlement during the prehistoric period. However, further discoveries would need to be made before the nature of prehistoric settlement within the APA can be ascertained.

Coulsdon is first mentioned in a document from the late 7<sup>th</sup> or early 8<sup>th</sup> century which granted the manor to Chertsey Abbey. At that point Coulsdon was known as *Cuthredesdone* and may have been named after an Anglo-Saxon chief called Cuthraed. Chertsey Abbey remained in control of the manor until the Dissolution in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

In the Domesday Survey of 1086 Coulsdon is referred to as *Colesdone* and by this time there was a church and 14 households. No traces of the Saxon church mentioned in Domesday have been found and any remains could lie beneath the modern Grade I listed church of St John the Evangelist although there is a chance that it may have been located somewhere else within the APA. The earliest parts of the current church date to the 13<sup>th</sup> century although traces of an earlier 12<sup>th</sup> century building were found during an excavation in 1975. The earlier church is thought to have been a two celled structure which was replaced by a larger church in the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century. Further additions, such as the west tower, were made in the early 15<sup>th</sup> century and a southern extension was added in 1959.

To the north-east of the church lies The Grange, a Grade II Listed Building, the earliest parts of which date to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It may have been built on the same site as an earlier

monastic grange building. Such a building may have been lived in by a representative of the abbot at Chertsey, possibly a bailiff, in order to oversee the administration of the manor. During the Second World War The Grange was used as a control centre for RAF Kenley.

Old Coulsdon remained a predominantly rural community until the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The 1868 OS map shows only a small number of buildings scattered around the green such as the Parochial School, which had opened in 1845, and a building known as the Old House located at the junction between Coulsdon Road, Canon's Hill, Placehouse Lane and Court Avenue. The discovery of any remains relating to pre mid-19th century buildings within the APA would help to create a clearer picture of how intensively the area around the village green was settled in previous centuries. By 1935 a number of other buildings had been constructed around the perimeter of the green and recreation ground and by the 1950s most of the buildings that exist today had been built.

### **Significance**

Old Coulsdon represents a settlement that was loosely clustered around a green that during the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods was owned by an important religious centre, the abbot of which was essentially the lord of the manor. It demonstrates how an abbey such as Chertsey could control an estate that stretched over an extensive area for several centuries and gives an indication as to how wealthy and powerful the abbey could be. A number of other settlements in Croydon such as Croydon itself and Sanderstead also have Saxon origins and were mentioned in Domesday. Together they provide opportunities to investigate the distribution and interrelation of settlements across the borough in the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods.

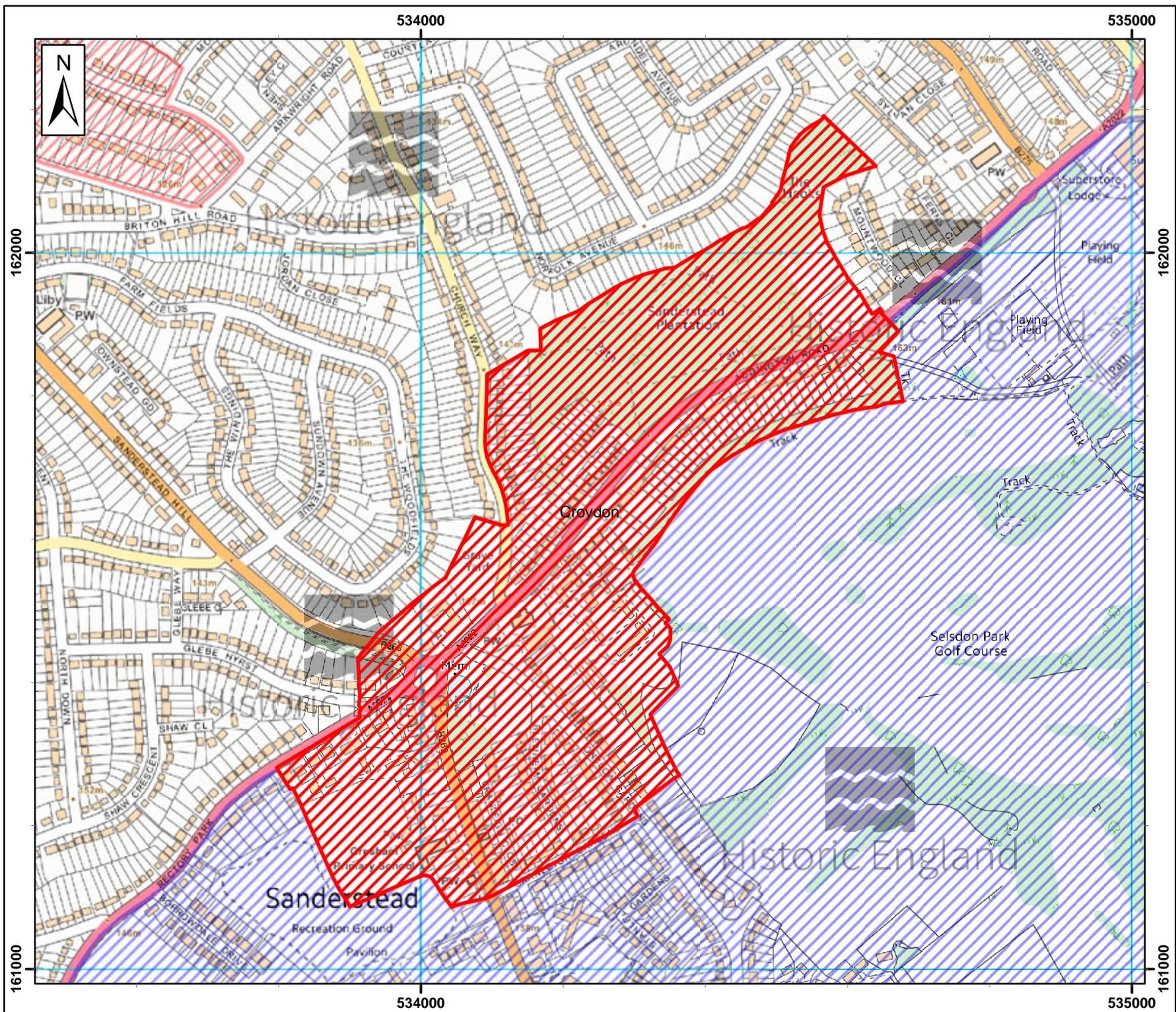
Old Coulsdon lies within the prehistoric landscape of the North Downs where numerous finds have been made. Any future finds would help to develop an idea of the nature and intensity of activity both within and outside the APA in the prehistoric period. Significant finds could potentially confirm whether any form of settlement existed within the APA prior to the Anglo-Saxon period.

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Croydon APA 2.4  
Sanderstead

 Sanderstead APA

**Pottery Sites**

**Rivers**

**Modern Boroughs**

Tier 1  
 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2  
 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3  
 Archaeological Priority Area

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## Croydon APA 2.4: Sanderstead

### Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an area surrounding the core of the historic settlement of Sanderstead which is located close to the junction of Sanderstead Hill, Addington Road, Limpsfield Road and Rectory Park. It is classified as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement.

### Description

Sanderstead lies in the prehistoric landscape of the Croydon Downs and archaeological features and finds that have been uncovered from within the APA range from the Mesolithic to the post medieval periods. Limpsfield Road and Sanderstead Hill are thought to follow the same route as a prehistoric trackway. It therefore appears that the settlement developed and was sustained because it was located next to the trackway which continued to be used as a road in the Roman and later periods.

Mesolithic finds, including tranchet axes, scappers, blades and flakes have been found at locations such as Church Way cemetery, Blenheim Way and the village green area close to Sanderstead Pond. These finds suggest that some form of settlement or activity was taking place in the vicinity of the village green during the Mesolithic period. Other finds from the prehistoric period include Neolithic worked flints and Iron Age pottery sherds that were found close to the site of Sanderstead Court. Roman finds from the APA include pot sherds that were found near Sanderstead Pond and a beaker found at Blenheim Gardens. The pot sherds and the beaker dated to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD.

An excavation on the site of Atwood School to the south of Sanderstead in 1960 identified a settlement that appeared to have been occupied between approximately 600 BC and the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. A small farmstead was also excavated in Kings Wood, to the south-east of Sanderstead, in 1959 which dated to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. These sites demonstrate that any form of settlement at Sanderstead during the Iron Age and early Roman periods was close to other small settlements which may have formed a network with other similar sites across the Croydon Downs.

It is clear that Sanderstead was situated within an area that saw widespread activity during the prehistoric period. However, it is unclear what sort of settlement was located at Sanderstead and whether such a settlement was active throughout the prehistoric period or during separate episodic intervals.

The first mention of Sanderstead appears in the will of a man called Aelderman Alfred who was a member of King Alfred the Great's court and was written at some point between 871 and 888. The manor of Sanderstead was later granted to Hyde Abbey near Winchester by Queen Ethelfleda, wife of King Edgar, in 964. It was still held by the abbey when the Domesday Survey took place in 1086 by which time it had a recorded population of 21 villagers and one cottager household plus four slaves. No mention is made of a church in Domesday and the earliest parts of the present church of All Saints were built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century with later additions including the tower which was added in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. However, traces of older building materials and axe tooling marks of unknown date on stones at the east end of the north aisle have led to the suggestion that the church may have been built on the same site as an earlier Anglo-Saxon church. A monastic grange was also located to the east of the church during the medieval period.

There are similarities between the layout of the key buildings in Sanderstead and the layout of similar buildings in Old Coulsdon. In both villages the church is located to the east of the village green and in the medieval period a grange was located to the east of the church. After the dissolution the grange was demolished and a manor house, in the case of Sanderstead, or other form of house, in the case of Old Coulsdon was built on the site. Whether this happened by accident or deliberate design on behalf of the controlling monastic foundation is debatable but it nevertheless demonstrates how different settlements under the control of different monastic establishments could develop in similar ways.

The monastic grange at Sanderstead was demolished after Hyde Abbey lost control of the manor during the Dissolution. Its building material was used to build a manor house known as Sanderstead Court. The manor was later rebuilt in the 1670s although the 16<sup>th</sup> century great hall was incorporated into the new building and further alterations were made in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Sanderstead Court was bombed in 1944 and later demolished although part of the north wing survives and is a Grade II Listed Building. A housing estate was built on the site of Sanderstead Court in the 1960s although it is possible that remains of the former manor house may survive beneath undeveloped areas of the modern housing estate.

## **Significance**

The prehistoric material that has been recovered from the APA and within its vicinity demonstrates that Sanderstead was situated within an active prehistoric landscape and it is possible that the area has been settled constantly since the Mesolithic period. If more could

be learnt about the nature and extent of settlement in the prehistoric period it could give us a clearer idea of how settlements developed and related to each other during that time.

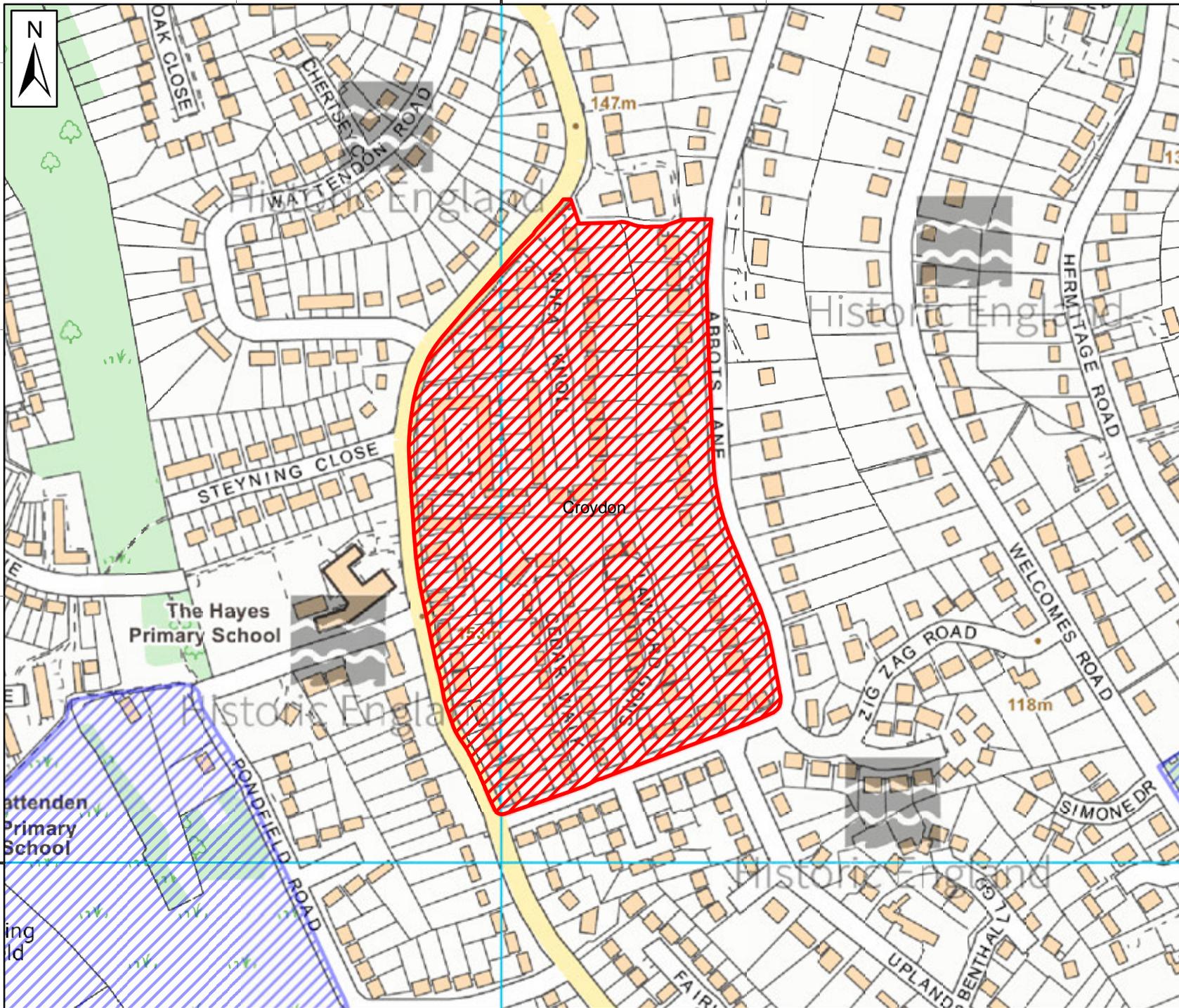
Its mention in the Domesday Book demonstrates that Sanderstead is one of the few significant settlements in Croydon in 1086. Like Coulsdon, Watendone, Croydon and Addington it was one of a number of Anglo-Saxon rural settlements dotted across the southern half of the borough. With the exception of Addington they had all been granted to important monastic foundations during the Anglo-Saxon period and the control of the manor by a monastic foundation would have had similar effects on their development. Similarly the effect of the Dissolution may have had similar effects on the different settlements. Sanderstead therefore needs to be regarded as part of a network of settlements that developed across Croydon and its development should be compared and contrasted with those other settlements.

### **Key references**

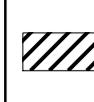
*London 2: South*, B. Cherry and N. Pevsner, Penguin Books, 1983

*Village Histories 3. Sanderstead*, J. Gadsby (ed.), The Bourne Society, 1998

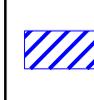
Croydon APA 2.5  
Watendone



 Watendone APA

 Tier 1  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 2  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 3  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:4,000

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## Croydon APA 2.5: Watendone

### Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the approximate area of the medieval settlement of Watendone. The settlement is mentioned in the Domesday Book but appears to have been abandoned at some point during the medieval period. Watendone occupied an area between Hayes Lane and Abbots Lane although its extent is currently unknown. An excavation in the 1960s found traces of buildings associated with the settlement and most of the information we have about Watendone comes from this excavation and Anglo-Saxon or medieval documents. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement with Anglo-Saxon origins. The settlement has been referred to in various sources as Whatindone, Wodinton and Whattingdon but Watendone is the name used in the Domesday Book and for the sake of convenience it is the name that will be used in this description.

### Description

Watendone was part of an area that was granted to Chertsey Abbey in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> century by a Saxon leader called Frithwald, who was a sub king of King Wulfhere of Mercia, and Coulsdon, Banstead and Chaldon are also mentioned in the same charter. At the time of the Domesday survey in 1086 Watendone had a church and 19 peasant families were living there. Chertsey Abbey lost control of the area during the Dissolution and the manor was owned by a number of different families over the following centuries. It is unclear when or why the Watendone settlement was abandoned but the area appears to have been devoid of any form of settlement in the post medieval period apart from houses belonging to the lords of the manor. The church continued to be used as a barn until it was destroyed by fire in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

An excavation carried out by the Bourne Society in 1966 examined an area to the east of Hayes Lane opposite the junction with Steyning Close. A number of finds and features that related to the settlement were uncovered including a flint structure that measured approximately 60 feet by 40 feet which was found in the area now occupied by the southern end of Wheat Knoll. This structure is thought to be the church and it was presumed that the village would have been clustered around it. Remains of charcoal found around the church were thought to relate to the 18<sup>th</sup> century fire. The excavation also found the flint remains of other buildings, a large area of chalk that measured 100 feet by 50 feet which may have been the site of a Tithe Barn and a chalk floor may have been a former yard. A burial ground was identified to the north of the church and approximately 20 burials were uncovered although more are probably present in unexcavated areas. The excavation was not able to determine

the extent of Watendone and it is likely that further remains of the settlement were present beyond the limits of the excavation. The excavation took place in advance of the site being developed for housing which may have had an impact on any surviving remains but it is still possible that further remains do survive.

Pottery found during the excavation dated to between the 12<sup>th</sup> and mid-14<sup>th</sup> century and then from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The fact that no medieval pottery was found that dated from later than the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century could indicate that this was the point that the settlement was abandoned. It is therefore tempting to link the abandonment of the settlement to the Black Death or subsequent plague outbreaks which occurred from the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century. While this is a possibility there are other factors that may have led to the desertion of Watendone. Chertsey Abbey may have forcibly evicted the population so that the land could be used for sheep farming which was more profitable. Alternatively the population may have migrated due to the diminishing agricultural potential of the land. The church is mentioned in a will of 1465 but by this point it may have stood alone without a settlement surrounding it. There are a number of factors which may have led to the desertion of the medieval settlement but it is not currently possible to state with any certainty exactly what caused the abandonment.

Any future archaeological investigation would be an opportunity to establish the nature and extent of occupation within the APA in the post medieval period. After the dissolution the land was granted by Henry VIII and Edward VI to a number of different families who may have reoccupied the site and built manor houses which may account for the 17<sup>th</sup> century pottery found during the 1966 excavations. The location of such houses and any other potential post medieval structures is currently unknown. An OS map of 1868 shows only a few buildings in the area and the only building on that map which still survives is a building known as the Old Forge which dates from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Significance**

Watendone is an example of a settlement which was deserted during the medieval period for unknown reasons and further research is needed to establish its extent and how, why and when the population abandoned it. The possible depopulation date of the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century may be connected to the Black Death but other potential factors should not be ignored.

Improved understanding of the factors behind Watendone's desertion could clarify why it was abandoned while other nearby settlements such as Coulsdon, Sanderstead and Croydon continued to flourish during the medieval period and beyond. While the precise

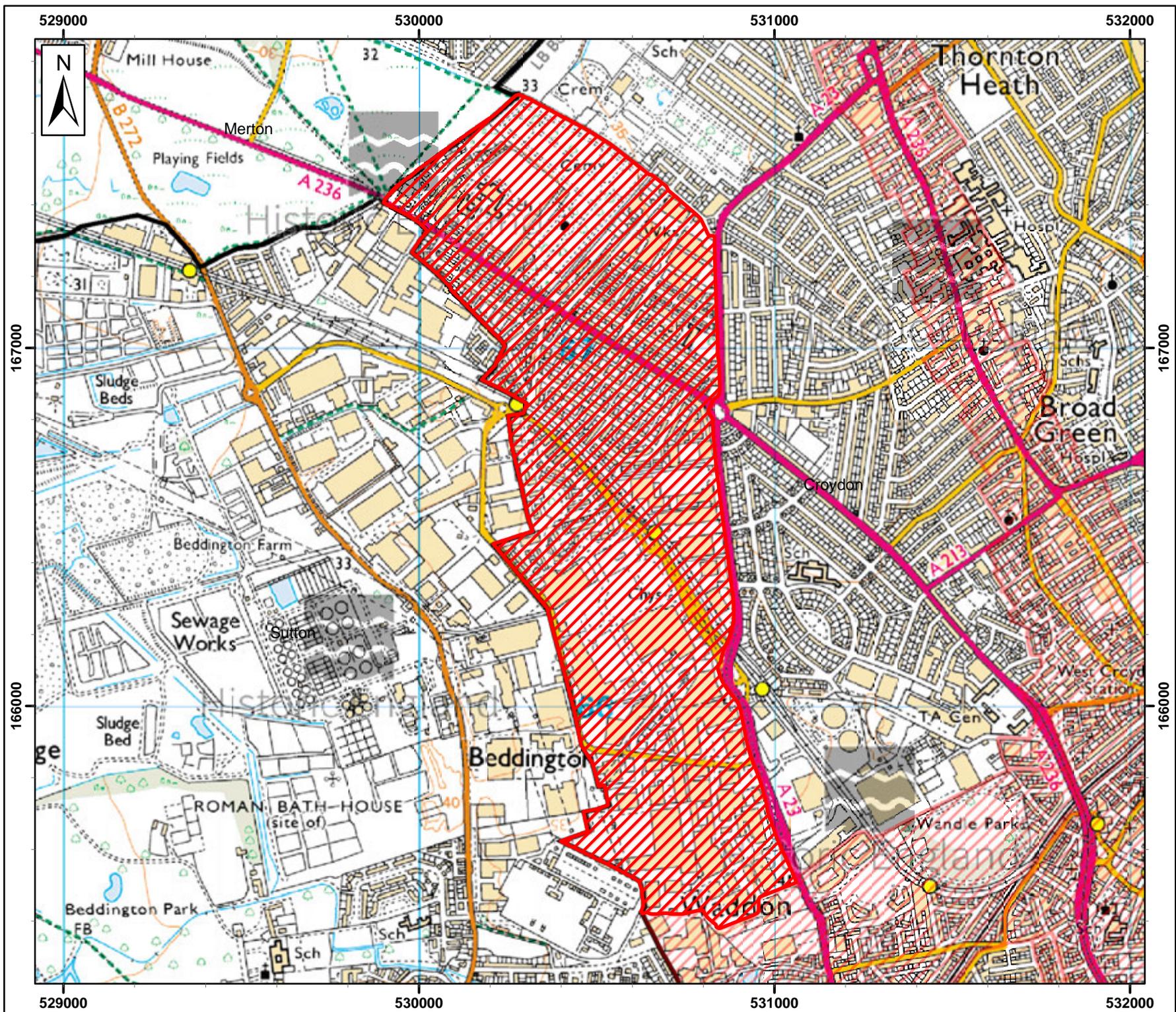
number of deserted medieval villages in England is not known a figure of 5000 has been approximated. Every village will have a different reason for its abandonment and further study of places such as Watendone could develop an improved national understanding of the pattern of such desertions.

However, some form of presence did remain in the area during the post medieval period. Whether there was a distinct gap between the medieval and post medieval occupation of the site, which the pottery finds suggested, or whether some form of residual occupation remained after the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century until Chertsey Abbey lost control of the manor needs to be clarified.

### **Key References**

*Village Histories 5. Coulsdon*, I. Scales (ed.), The Bourne Society, 2000

*Local History Records*, Vol. 6, The Bourne Society, 1967



Croydon APA 2.6  
Ampere Way

-  Ampere Way APA
-  Tier 1  
Archaeological  
Priority Area
-  Tier 2  
Archaeological  
Priority Area
-  Tier 3  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:14,000

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## Croydon APA 2.6: Ampere Way

### Summary and Definition

The Ampere Way Archaeological Priority Area covers an area between the borough boundaries with Sutton and Merton and Thornton Road/Purley Way as far south as Commerce Way. A number of finds and features dating to several prehistoric periods have been found here and on the corresponding side of the borough boundary in Sutton which demonstrate how the area was an active prehistoric landscape within the Wandle Valley. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because there is a history of positive archaeological interventions within it.

### Description

The area is located in a flat area of the Wandle Valley and former courses or tributaries of the Wandle may have passed through or close to it which could have encouraged settlement during the prehistoric period. Excavations that have taken place at Mitcham Road, the area that is now the Valley Park leisure complex on Hesterman Way, Purley Way/Beddington Lane, 14 Progress Way/222 Purley Way, 226 Purley Way, Beddington Farm Road and Commerce Way have found a number of prehistoric features and finds. These have included ditches, enclosures, pits, post holes, pottery fragments and flint flakes that date from the Mesolithic to the late Iron Age. Notable finds include human remains found at 226 Purley Way in 2010 and what appeared to be a cooking pit at 14 Progress Way/222 Purley Way in 1993. The human bones were recovered from a ditch and were dated to the late Bronze Age. The cooking pit appeared to have been lined with clay so that it could hold water into which heated stones would be placed. The pit was dated to the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age and demonstrates that domestic activity was taking place within the APA.

The area has good agricultural potential since it lies on London clay covered by deposits of gravel and it is probable that the numerous ditches that have been uncovered relate to field boundaries dating from the Bronze Age, Iron Age and possibly the early Roman periods. Together these prehistoric finds indicate that the APA was part of an extensive agricultural area that was in use at various times between the Mesolithic and Iron Age periods and further remains may be present within it.

Prehistoric features and finds such as ditches, pits and struck flints have also been found to the west of the APA in Sutton. A Roman villa was built in the late 2<sup>nd</sup> century on a site now occupied by the Beddington sewage works to the south-west of the APA. The Roman

villa would have had a strong influence on the local area and the APA may have fallen within its estates.

In later periods the area remained predominantly rural. An excavation that took place in 2003 near Franklin Way uncovered the remains of a rectangular structure which is thought to be the remains of a medieval farm building. On a 1760s map part of the area is covered by a southern extension of Mitcham Common and is marked as being a marsh. Such marshy conditions would have helped to preserve any earlier features or finds if present. On an OS map of 1885 the area is shown as being covered by fields with a few cottages. The Croydon Borough Hospital for Infectious Diseases was opened in 1896 and the isolated and inaccessible nature of the local area was presumably one of the factors which led to it being located here. It consisted of a number of pavilion buildings and was used exclusively for infectious disease patients until 1976 before it closed in 1984. The site is now occupied by Ampere Way, Kelvin Gardens and Franklin Way. An excavation that took place at Franklin Way in 2003 found the remains of garden features and shrub planting related to the hospital's gardens.

By the late 1930s sections of the northern part of the APA had been developed for housing and Croydon Cemetery, originally known as Mitcham Road Cemetery when it opened in 1897, was extended in 1935 and 1937. However, a large part of the southern area of the APA was still open land. By the 1950s a number of industrial facilities including a power station and part of the Beddington sewage works had been built there. During the 1990s a large part of the area became the Valley Park leisure and retail centre although the area to the south of this is still occupied by industrial units.

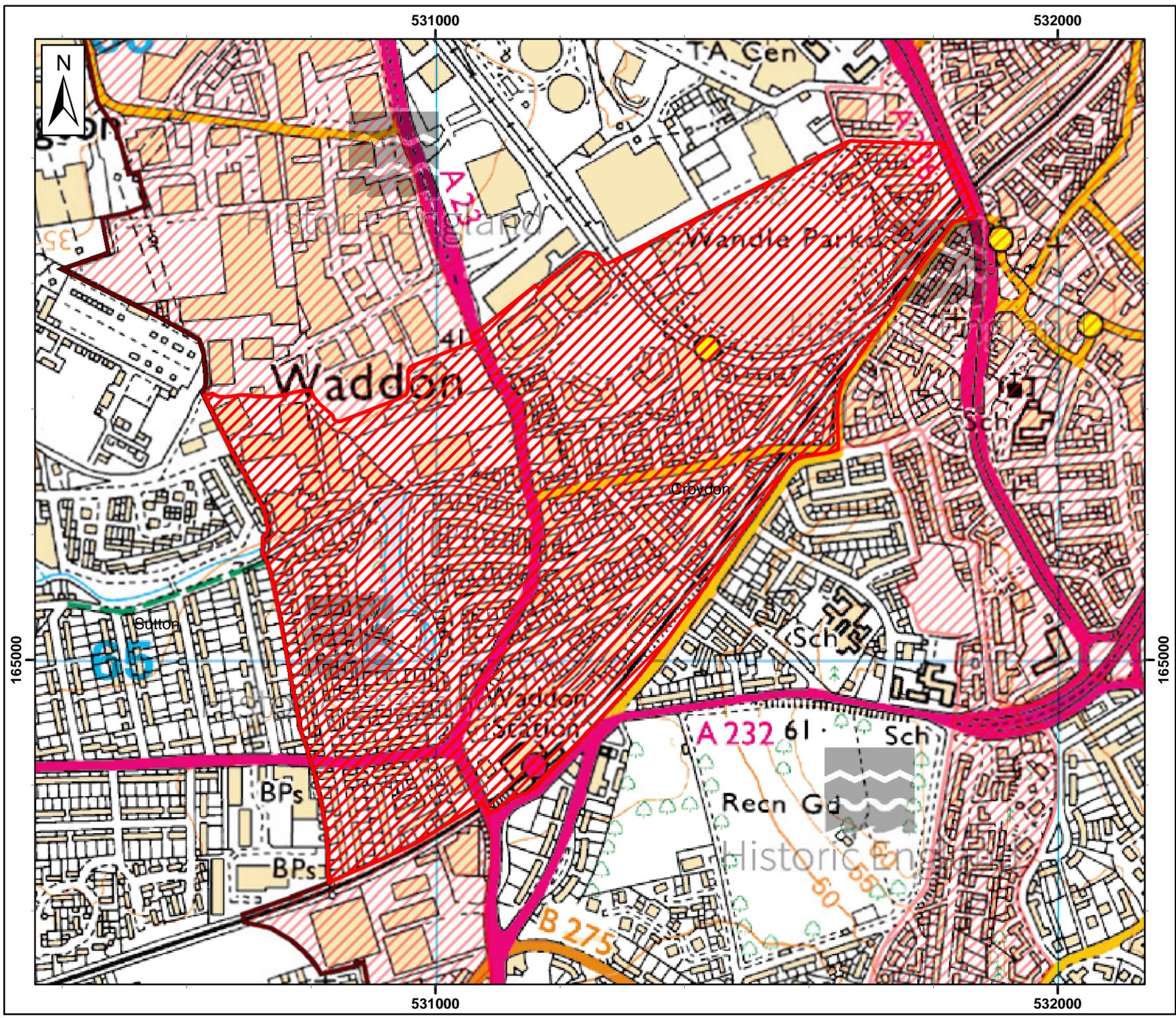
### **Significance**

The prehistoric remains that have been found within the APA have enhanced our knowledge of how prehistoric communities exploited the land and similar remains have been found throughout the Wandle Valley. These finds and any further discoveries help to develop an understanding of the overall relationship between the area's topography, how it was farmed and how it was settled during the prehistoric period. While the numerous ditches found during excavation have shown how the area was farmed, less is known about how it was settled and this is an element that could be clarified by future interventions. If any Roman material was recovered from the APA it may help to develop an understanding of how the area related to the nearby villa in Beddington.

Croydon Borough Hospital was an example of how health authorities dealt with infectious diseases from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century until the later 20<sup>th</sup> century. The nature of the

illnesses that patients were suffering from influenced the layout of the hospital's buildings which made it different from other hospitals where concern over the communicability of diseases was less of a priority. Any remains of the hospital could therefore enhance our understanding of this type of specialised health centre.

Mitcham Road cemetery is also noteworthy because burials which are more than 100 years old are potentially of archaeological interest. This interest relates to differences in burial practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors and also to the study of human populations including life expectancy, health and disease.



Croydon APA 2.7  
Waddon

 Waddon APA

 Pottery Sites

**Rivers**

**Modern Boroughs**

Tier 1  
 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 2  
 Archaeological Priority Area

Tier 3  
 Archaeological Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:8,000

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## Croydon APA 2.7: Waddon

### Summary and Definition

The Waddon Archaeological Priority Area covers an area between the borough boundary with Sutton and Roman Way. It covers the location of the historic settlement of Waddon which was a relatively minor settlement on the road between the larger settlements of Croydon and Beddington although a manor house and a water mill were located there. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because it is an area of historic settlement and includes a site of historic industry.

### Description

The APA is located in an area of the Wandle Valley which has proved to be rich in prehistoric archaeological finds. A number of significant prehistoric features and finds have been made in the Ampere Way area to the north of the APA and also to the west within Sutton. It is therefore logical to assume that similar surviving features may also be present within this APA. A number of prehistoric finds have been made within the APA including fragments of worked flint, a late Neolithic arrow head and a Bronze Age spear head. An excavation that took place in Commerce Way in 1999 found a ditch that was similar to those found at 14 Progress Way to the north.

Excavations that took place at 57 Croydon Road in Sutton in 2007 and 2008 found a number of Saxon burials. These burials were found to the immediate west of the borough boundary with Croydon and further burials could be present within the Waddon APA in the vicinity of Cherry Hill Gardens. If the burials were part of a graveyard then it is possible that a Saxon settlement was located nearby.

Waddon is not mentioned in the Domesday Book but it is thought to have been a sub manor of Croydon. In 1127 the manor of Waddon was given by Henry I to Bermondsey Abbey and in the late 14<sup>th</sup> century it came into the possession of the Archbishop of Canterbury by which time a small settlement is thought to have been established there. A mill mentioned in the Croydon entry of the Domesday Book is thought to refer to the mill that was situated on the Wandle to the north of Waddon Park on Mill Lane. It was mentioned again in 1202 and in a survey of the manor in 1646. It was used as a flour mill and two mill ponds were created to the north and south of Mill Lane to supply it with an adequate level of water power. The mill was in operation until 1928. The 1646 survey of the manor also mentioned a timber built manor house which had associated barns, stables and gardens. This manor house was replaced in the late 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century by another manor house which was demolished

in 1902. The manor house was located near the junction of Waddon Court Road and Purley Way and remains of its barrel vaulted cellar were uncovered by the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in 1972.

The Rocque map of Surrey from the 1760s shows the settlement to the south of the cross roads between Marsh Lane and Mill Lane, which is now the cross roads between Purley Way and Mill Lane/Waddon Road. The line of the Wandle can be seen running to the north of the settlement while the mill ponds can be discerned to the north and south of Mill Lane. Both mill ponds were created by manipulating the Wandle and while the northern mill pond has been filled in the southern mill pond is now the lake in Waddon Park. On an OS map of 1876 the mill and manor house, which is called Waddon House, can both be seen along with a number of other roadside buildings and farms.

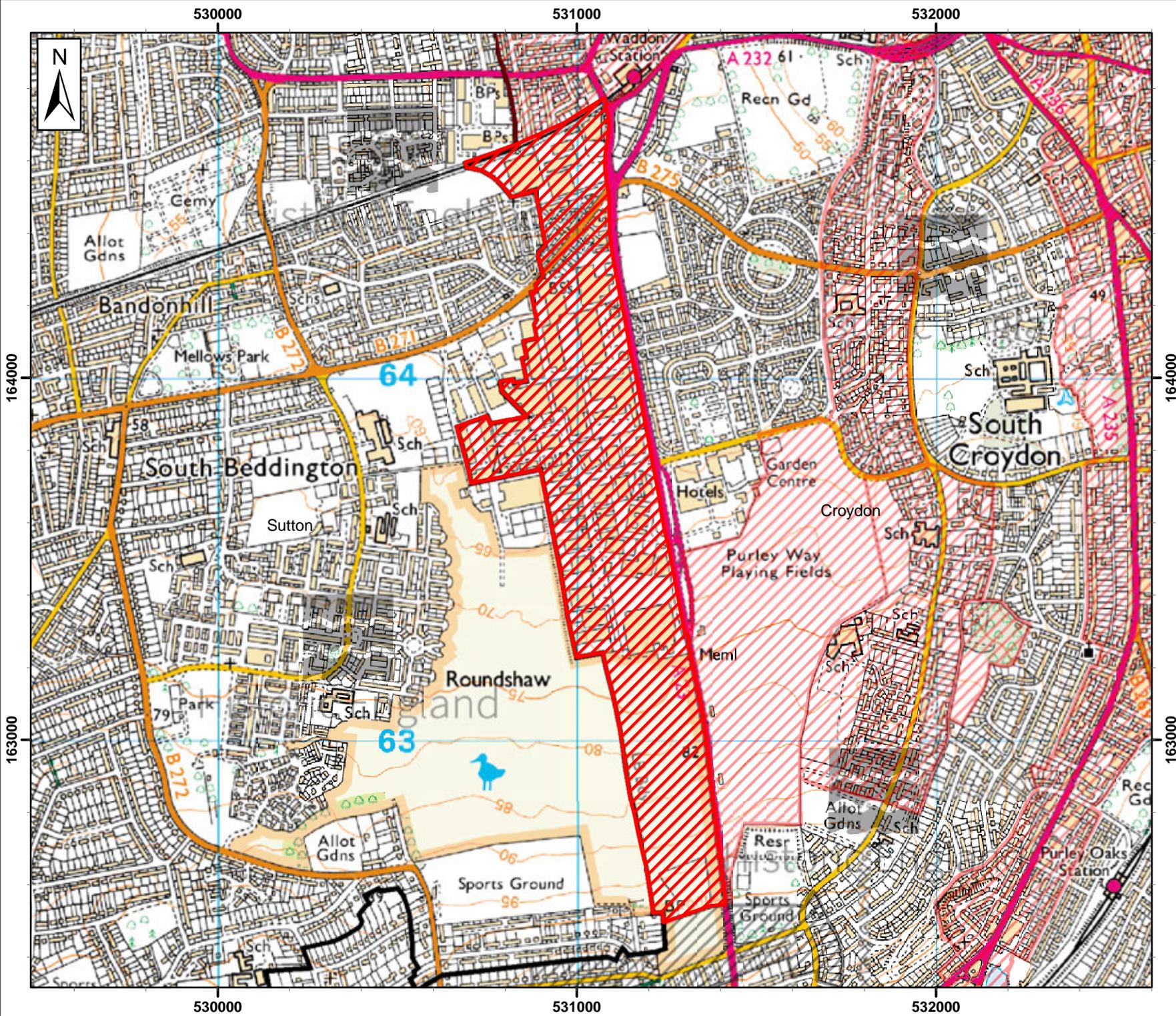
Wandle Park was opened in 1890 in an area that had previously been open fields. A lake at the centre of the park was fed by the Wandle but the lake was filled in during the 1950s due to falling water levels and the Wandle was covered in the late 1960s. Waddon Ponds, to the south of Mill Lane, is another open park surrounding a lake which was previously Waddon Mill's southern mill pond. The lake in Waddon Ponds is now the only place in Croydon where the Wandle can be seen in the open. Wandle Park and Waddon Ponds are the two most open areas within the APA that have not been developed. It is therefore possible that any surviving archaeological finds or features might be found there.

### **Significance**

The border area between Croydon and Sutton has proved to be rich in archaeological finds and features from the prehistoric period. Such finds have been made to the north and west of the APA and similar discoveries should be anticipated in Waddon. Any future finds would enhance our knowledge of how the Wandle Valley area was used and settled during the prehistoric period.

Although Waddon is not mentioned in the Domesday Book it was still a manor that in the medieval period was owned by an ecclesiastical establishment located many miles away. It therefore bears similarities to other settlements in the borough such as Croydon itself, Old Coulsdon and Sanderstead. Even though the settlement may not have been as important as these other villages it still helps us to understand how the borough was settled and developed throughout the medieval and post medieval periods. Remains of any buildings associated with these periods, such as the manor houses, would enhance this understanding further.

The former water mill in Waddon represents one of the few industrial facilities established along the Wandle in Croydon. While in former centuries the river passed through the borough as it flowed from the North Downs, by the post medieval period it only flowed from Croydon town centre towards Beddington as seen on the Rocque map of the 1760s. It was therefore not possible for it to be industrialised to the same extent as other parts of the river in Sutton, Merton and Wandsworth. Nevertheless the flour mill in Waddon was part of the river's extensive industrial character and appears to have been in operation for almost 1000 years. Such prolonged use means that any surviving remains of the mill's buildings or associated facilities would contribute to the river's industrial heritage.



Croydon APA 2.8  
Mere Bank

-  Mere Bank APA
-  Tier 1  
Archaeological  
Priority Area
-  Tier 2  
Archaeological  
Priority Area
-  Tier 3  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:14,000

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## Croydon APA 2.8: Mere Bank

### Summary and Definition

The Mere Bank Archaeological Priority Area covers an area between Purley Way and the borough boundary with Sutton. The Mere Bank was a raised earthwork or dyke which ran in a north south direction between Waddon and Purley and possibly extended further north to Mitcham Common. However, its age and purpose are unknown and many parts of it have been lost beneath later developments. Like other areas along the Croydon/Sutton borough boundary the APA has potential for prehistoric finds and a number of buildings associated with Croydon Airport were also located within the APA's footprint. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because the Mere Bank is a heritage asset of archaeological interest and there is a history of positive archaeological interventions in the area.

### Description

Much of the Mere Bank has been covered by later developments and it is difficult to discern surviving sections within the landscape. Estimates of its width and height vary but some have put its width as 30 feet while it may have been up to 4 feet high. Parish boundaries and the current borough boundary follow its approximate route in this area and Purley Way runs to the east of its course.

If it was created in the prehistoric period then it may have acted as a boundary marker between two territories. It has also been suggested that the Mere Bank was a Roman road, possibly due to its straightness between Purley and Waddon and its proximity to the Roman villa in Beddington. A section of the bank that passed through Croydon Aerodrome was excavated in 1925. It had already been levelled when the airfield had been laid out but the exposed section consisted of rammed chalk over a 14 feet wide layer of flints which was 6 to 8 inches deep. At the time it was interpreted as being the central section of a Roman road. The foundation of chalk and flint does hint towards a Roman road but it would have been a minor road compared to the London to Brighton Roman road which ran to the east. However, this road may have followed the route of the bank and may not have been part of it. The Mere Bank passes the possible Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Russell Hill near Purley and this could also be significant since Saxon cemeteries were often located close to boundary features.

Certain field boundaries drawn on the Rocque map of Surrey in the 1760s have been interpreted as following the line of the Mere Bank. On an OS map from 1872 the word Mere Bank has been written next to a linear feature running north to south in this area. However, it is not clear whether the linear feature is a raised dyke, trackway or road although towards the

north of the APA where it nears the railway tracks it is marked as Merebank Lane. The same linear feature marked with the word Mere Bank appears in later OS editions in 1896 and 1914 but while it appears in the 1938 edition the only surviving section is in the area of the aerodrome. In post war OS maps the borough boundary follows the line of the Mere Bank but by this point it seems that the bank was no longer a discernible feature within the landscape.

Finds of prehistoric material have also been made within the APA. An excavation at 542-546 Purley Way in 1993 recovered approximately 1400 struck flints and 900 burnt flints which dated to between the late Neolithic and late Bronze Age periods. Fragments of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery were also recovered during the same excavation. Another investigation at Pegasus Way/Imperial Way found a hearth and nine pieces of worked flint which were dated to between the late Neolithic to mid Bronze Age periods. Collectively these finds demonstrate that some form of activity was taking place here during the prehistoric period. The large quantity of flint flakes could indicate that they were being extracted and worked here but it could also indicate that the area was settled for prolonged parts of the prehistoric period.

Croydon Aerodrome was established as a military aerodrome in 1915 and became London's main airport in the 1920s and 1930s. It was converted for military use at the start of the Second World War in 1939 and became a satellite airfield for RAF Kenley. It was bombed in August 1940 during the Battle of Britain by German aircraft which mistook it for RAF Kenley. After the war Heathrow gradually became London's main airport and Croydon airport closed in 1959. Most of the airfield, including the grass runways, was situated in Sutton but the terminal buildings and hangars were in Croydon on the western side of Purley Way. Airport House (the former terminal building) and a lodge of the terminal still survive and are Grade II Listed Buildings. The remains of other former airport buildings may survive in undeveloped areas of the site along with shrapnel from the August 1940 raid.

### **Significance**

Much needs to be learnt about the Mere Bank's age and purpose before its significance can be fully appreciated. Regardless of whether it was a prehistoric dyke or Roman road it was clearly an important feature within the landscape which was later used as a boundary marker for manors and parishes and the current Sutton/Croydon boundary still follows its approximate route. Establishing its origin will help to understand how it was used when compared to other similar features both locally and nationally.

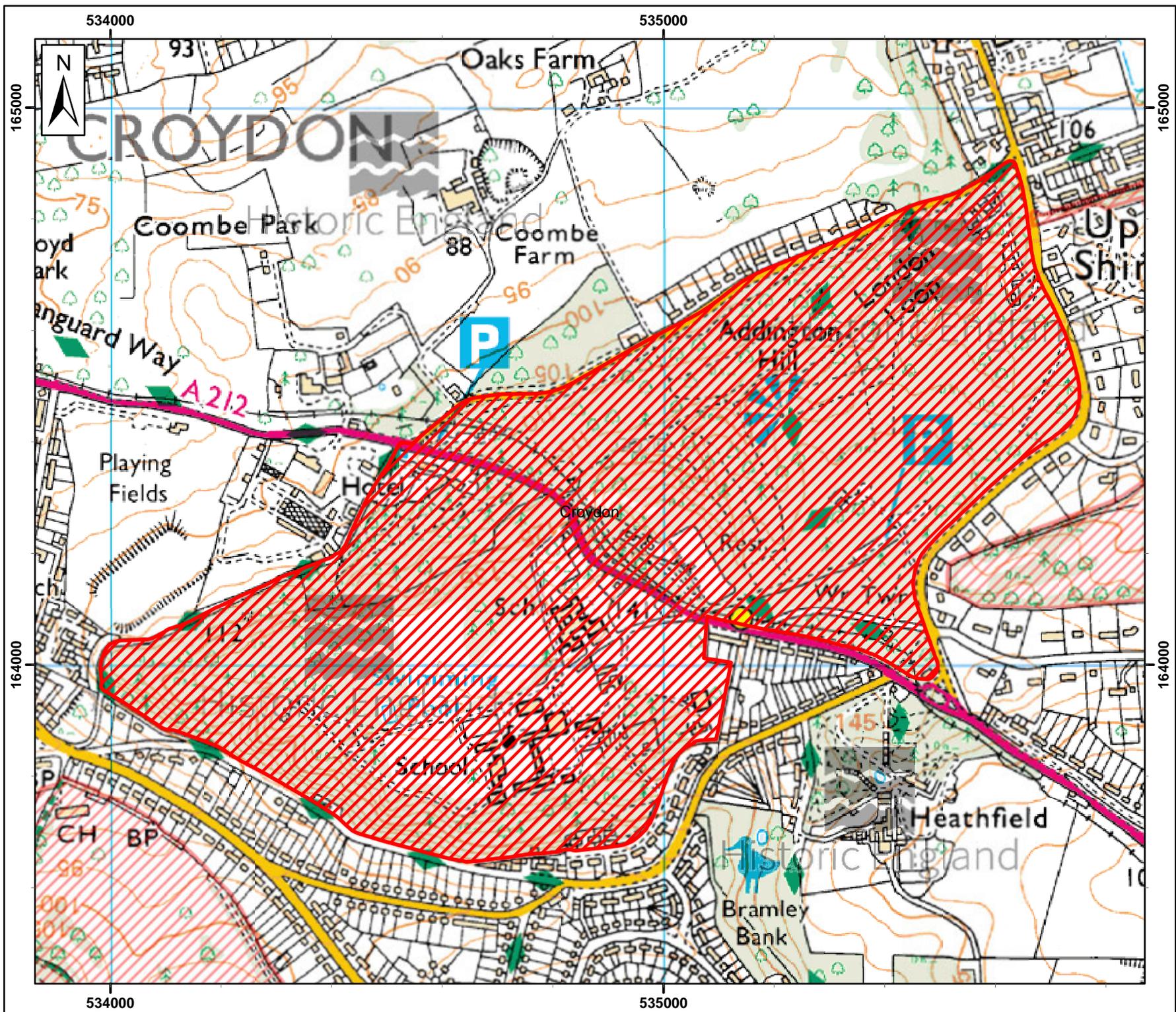
The prehistoric activity that took place within the APA is also of significance and contributes to our overall understanding of how the land was settled and utilised during the prehistoric period. Further discoveries of prehistoric material would enhance this knowledge further.

Elements associated with Croydon Aerodrome's civil and military past such as the hangars and the actual airfield have not survived to the same extent as those at RAF Kenley. Nevertheless Croydon is regarded as a Battle of Britain airfield and has an association with that conflict and the former airfield site is an important element of London's aviation heritage.

### **Key References**

*Croydon Airport*, M. Hooks, The Chalford Publishing Company, 1997

*The London-Croydon-Portslade Roman Road*, I. D. Margary, Surrey Archaeological Collections, vol. 45, 1937



Croydon APA 2.9  
Addington Hills

 Addington Hills APA

 Pottery Sites

**Rivers**

**Modern Boroughs**

 Tier 1  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 2  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 3  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:9,000

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1 Waterhouse Square, 138-142 Holborn,  
London EC1N 2ST  
Tel: 020 7973 3000 Fax: 020 7973 3001  
[www.HistoricEngland.org.uk](http://www.HistoricEngland.org.uk)

## Croydon APA 2.9: Addington Hills

### Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an area on either side of Coombe Lane and includes Addington Hills Park and the grounds of Royal Russell School. Addington Hills is on a plateau at the edge of the North Downs and like other undeveloped parts of the Downs it has the potential for prehistoric finds and features. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because Addington Hills is an area of undeveloped land with evidence of archaeological interest.

### Description

The APA is situated on a plateau on the edge of the North Downs with slopes on its northern and western sides. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century a series of circular features were identified as possible Neolithic pits. These features and a potential barrow were excavated in 1913 but apart from a few worked flints little else was found and the barrow and circular features are now considered to be natural features within the landscape. Numerous prehistoric flint fragments have been recovered from the APA although not to levels which make it remarkable compared to anywhere else in the upland areas of Croydon.

The APA has never seen large scale development and is still predominantly rural. The small hamlet of Coombe, which is known to have existed during the medieval period, is located slightly to the north of the APA but few other buildings were present before the 20<sup>th</sup> century. On early editions of OS maps from the 19<sup>th</sup> century it can be seen that the area to the west of Coombe Road is a wooded area called Ballards Plantation while the area to the east is more open and referred to as Addington Hills. Ballards Farm was located at the south of Ballards Plantation where Hollingsworth Road is now situated and is present on a map of 1760. Old Ballards Cottage is a surviving part of the farm buildings and is a Grade II Listed Building. On an OS map of 1868 a building slightly to the north of the farm buildings is marked as Ballards and could be a country house associated with the farm. By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century this building had been demolished and another larger building, also called Ballards, had been built further to the north. The area is now occupied by the Royal Russell School.

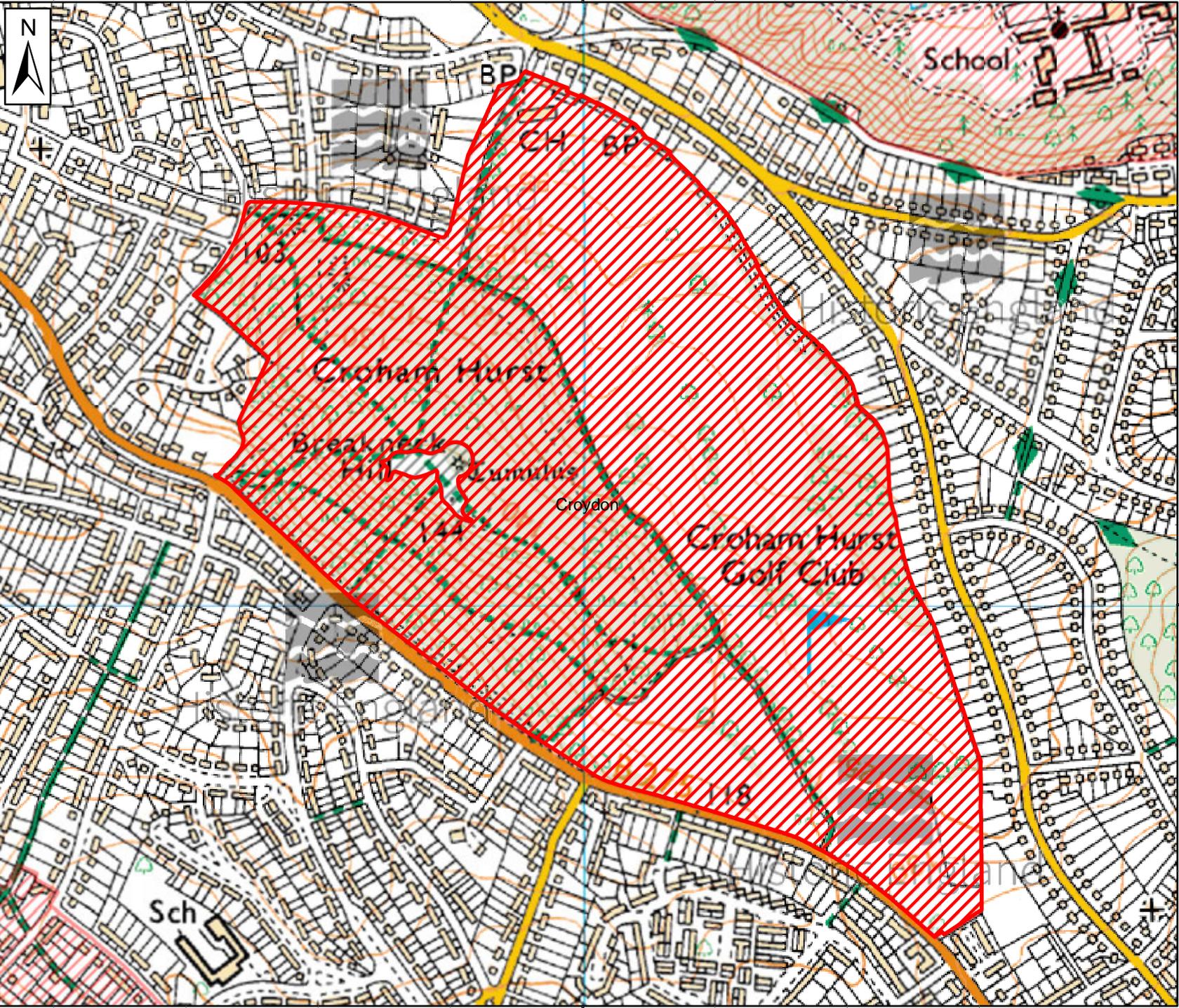
Addington Hills is an open area to the east of Coombe Lane which includes one of the largest heathland areas in London. The open nature of this area and the fact that it has not been previously cultivated means that any surviving archaeological deposits would be included within the subsoil.

## Significance

Like other upland areas across the south of Croydon Addington Hills has potential for prehistoric finds and features. The numerous prehistoric flint artefacts that have been found demonstrate that some form of activity was taking place here in the prehistoric period. However, whether these are directly associated with a nearby settlement or some other form of activity such as flint mining is currently unknown. The survival of heathland indicates that there has probably been little or no historic cultivation meaning that earlier remains could survive in a good state of preservation close to the surface. There is potential for survey work to enhance understanding.



534000



Croydon APA 2.10  
Croham Hurst

 Croham Hurst APA  
**Pottery Sites**

**Rivers**

**Modern Boroughs**

 Tier 1  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 2  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 3  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:8,000

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163000

163000

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## Croydon APA 2.10: Croham Hurst

### Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers the wooded area of Croham Hurst and the neighbouring Croham Hurst Golf Club. The only area it does not include is the hill's summit where a barrow and potential prehistoric settlement are located which is covered by a separate Tier 1 APA (see APA 1.1). However, there is potential for further prehistoric features and finds being found in all other areas of Croham Hurst. The APA is classed as Tier 2 because it is an area of undeveloped land closely associated with known heritage assets, in this case the features at the summit.

### Description

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century 15 surface features located in an area to the north-east of the barrow were identified as hut circles relating to a prehistoric settlement. Four of the huts were excavated and while little evidence was found it was concluded that they were the remains of Neolithic dwellings. However, two of the circles were partially excavated in 1968 and no evidence for human habitation or excavation was found and the features are now regarded as natural depressions caused by subsidence. Nevertheless the barrow and potential prehistoric settlement at the top of Croham Hurst indicate that further prehistoric settlement sites may be present within the APA.

The chalk bedrock at Croham Hurst is abundant with seams of flint and numerous flint fragments have been found across the APA. When the supposed hut circles were identified in the 1890s an assemblage of approximately 140 flint fragments was also found near the site of the round barrow. A survey of Croham Hurst carried out in 1969 identified 36 separate flint working sites across the wooded area. While a lot of the recovered flint was waste fragments a number of flint tools were also found such as scrapers, awls and a curved blade. These flints are thought to date to between the Mesolithic and Bronze Age periods and demonstrate that flint was being extracted and worked in the Croham Hurst area for prolonged periods. It is possible that further sites might be present within heavily overgrown areas which were not examined by the survey. The scheduled barrow was not identified until the 1940s so it is possible that further important features have not been identified in heavily wooded areas.

Settlements may have developed close to where the flint was being extracted. One potential prehistoric settlement at the summit of Croham Hurst has been identified and investigated but others might exist. However, there are doubts about the age of the

settlement at the summit and it is possible that it did not exist when flint was being widely extracted. Areas of prehistoric flint extraction are rarely associated with settlements and it appears that workers often travelled from elsewhere but if any contemporary settlements were identified they would be of particular significance.

Fewer finds have been made on the golf course although a Neolithic/Bronze Age axe was found on the edge of it and flint fragments have also been found. The golf course was opened in 1913 and landscaping of the golf course may have levelled any archaeological features that were discernible on the surface. However, the fact that the golf course has never been developed means that any surviving features or finds might be present close to the surface.

### **Significance**

The entirety of the North Downs in Croydon has potential for archaeology dating from the prehistoric period and Croham Hurst is no exception. The features at the summit of the hill covered by the Tier 1 APA may indicate that similar important features might be located elsewhere within the APA. Even if no further cemeteries or prehistoric burial sites are present it was clearly an important site for flint extraction and flint working during the prehistoric period. Such sites are important for understanding how prehistoric communities utilised and exploited available natural resources.

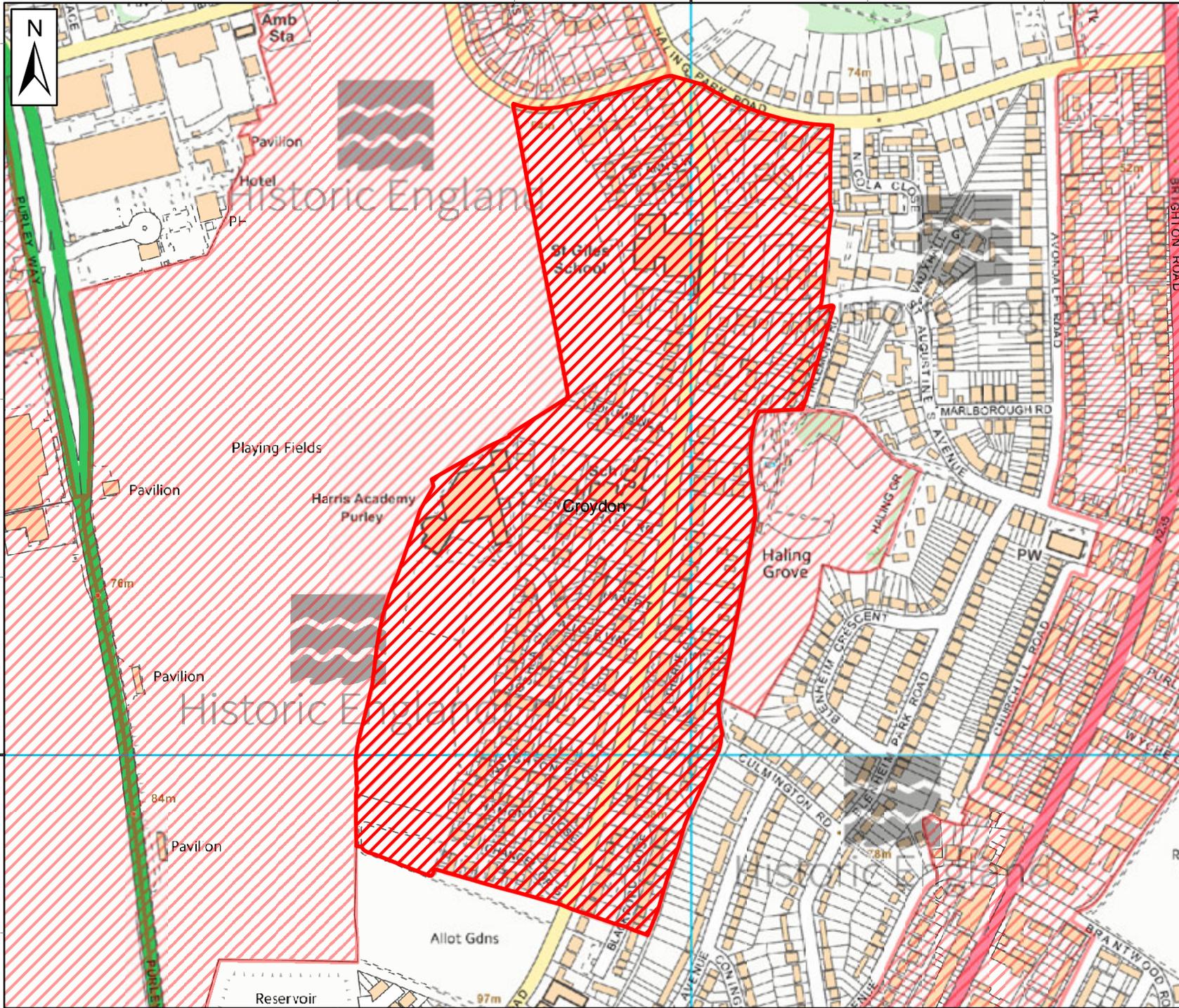
### **Key References**

*The excavation of a prehistoric settlement site and other field work on Croham Hurst Croydon 1968-69*, P.L. Drewett in Proceedings of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, 14, 1969

*Recent Work on Croham Hurst*, P.L. Drewett in London Archaeologist, Vol. 1, No. 6, 1970

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Croydon APA 2.11  
Pampisford Road

 Pampisford Road APA

 Tier 1  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 2  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 3  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

Scale (at A4): 1:6,000

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## Croydon APA 2.11: Pampisford Road

### Summary and Definition

The Archaeological Priority Area covers an area on either side of Pampisford Road between its junctions with Chancellor Gardens and Waddon Way/Haling Park Road. Previous excavations have found evidence for flint extraction and flint working in the area during the prehistoric period. The APA is classified as Tier 2 because there have been several positive archaeological interventions in the area which have indicated that prehistoric flint quarrying was taking place there.

### Description

Since 1994 excavations that have taken place at Joshua Close, Columbine Avenue and along Pampisford Road have recovered more than 250 pieces of struck and burnt flint which date from the Neolithic to Iron Age periods. A further 55 pieces of worked flint which may date to the Bronze Age were found during the construction of a pipe line along the eastern side of Purley Way Playing Fields. Seams of flint are present approximately 1 metre below the surface and it appears that flint nodules were being extracted from the underlying chalk during the prehistoric period. After being extracted the nodules would have been worked on which would have produced the flakes that have been found. However, with the exception of an Iron Age clay spindle whorl found at Columbine Avenue, no tools have been found within the APA. This suggests that the flint nodules were either being worked into tools then taken away or were worked on briefly before being taken elsewhere for further refinement.

It is possible that an associated settlement developed within the APA during the prehistoric period. The site is situated on an area of high ground to the west of where the ground descends steeply to where the Wandle River would have previously flowed and is therefore a potentially attractive location for a prehistoric settlement. Such a settlement may have been relatively small and used solely by the flint extraction workers or it may have been more substantial and lived in by the workers and their families. However, no evidence for a settlement has been found apart from undated post holes that were found during excavations at 238 Pampisford Road and 3-5 Waddon Way.

Few other significant finds have been made within the APA. Flint extraction appeared to stop during the Roman period and the area was predominantly rural until the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## Significance

The specialised flint quarrying activity that took place within the APA for a period of some 4000 years shows that it was a long lived centre for flint extraction. The finds in Pampisford Road show how these prehistoric communities were using the flint extracted from within the chalk to create tools over a prolonged period of time. Flint mining is one of the earliest industries to have left an archaeological trace. Grimes Graves in Norfolk is a well-known example of a prehistoric flint mine and while the flint found at Pampisford was close enough to the surface to not necessitate deep mining it is nevertheless a rare example of the prehistoric flint extraction industry.

Prehistoric flint mines are rarely associated with settlement and are thought to have been special places to which the miners travelled from a distance. The discovery of actual quarry pits or in-situ working areas or associated structures would therefore be of particular interest as it could help us to understand how the extraction activity was carried out and organised. Such a discovery could be considered of national importance.





Croydon APA 2.12  
Pollards Hill

 Pollards Hill APA  
**Pottery Sites**

**Rivers**

**Modern Boroughs**

 Tier 1  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 2  
Archaeological  
Priority Area

 Tier 3  
Archaeological  
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