Test Valley Landscape Character Assessment 2018

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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Contents

A. Introduction

Background to the Study

1. This Landscape Character Assessment (2018) (the 2018 Assessment) for Test Valley Borough Council constitutes a review of the Landscape Character Assessment that was published in 2004 (the 2004 Assessment). The 2004 Assessment was itself an update of the original study undertaken in 1996, following the publication of new guidance on the assessment of landscape character which required the greater integration of landscape, ecological, historical and cultural aspects of the landscape, the consideration of the significance of settlements within the landscape, the inclusion of tranquillity, and public participation.

2. This Landscape Character Assessment sits within the framework of the national and county character assessments, along with assessments undertaken for the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and New Forest National Park, both of which partially cover the Borough.

3. In 1999 the Hampshire Historic Landscape Assessment was published with the Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment published in 2012.

4. The 2004 Assessment has been updated, having regard to the latest guidance, to take account of significant changes that have occurred within the Borough and to ensure that the guidance provided remains up to date.

Objectives of the 2018 Assessment

5. The 2018 Assessment will form part of the evidence base for the Local Plan and provide robust evidence to help guide and assist in spatial planning and development management within the Borough. This is intended to aid in ensuring that the distinctive character of the Borough is retained and change is accommodated in a positive way.

6. The main objectives of the 2018 Assessment are to:

- Incorporate the latest national planning policy and guidance and landscape character assessment guidance and methodology;
- Take account of the latest local landscape character assessments (Hampshire County, New Forest National Park, North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (NWD AONB)).
- Take account of significant changes to the Borough's landscape;
- Consider future potential sources of influence upon the landscape; and
- Update the guidelines and strategy for the Borough and specific character areas as appropriate.

The Content and Structure of the Study

7. The content of the Study is based largely on the 2004 Assessment, amended only where necessary or appropriate, in order to incorporate changes and updates as described above. In addition, key characteristics have been separately set out as 'key valued characteristics' and 'key detractors' in order to distinguish between positive and negative characteristics.

8. Key valued characteristics are the features that distinguish each landscape character area (LCA) and which are generally felt to be positive.

9. Key detractors identified for each LCA are characteristics which are generally felt to detract from the positive character. This is considered to include physical and perceptual features such as public access.

10. The structure of the Study has been adjusted to facilitate accessibility and readability and is now set out as one document containing introductory sections and Borough wide information, with one document for each landscape character type (LCT) 1-12 available separately. Detailed supplementary information is included in Appendices 1-4. Mapping has been updated to reflect the current situation.

11. The Borough's urban areas have been updated for the 2018 Assessment to reflect expansion since 2004. As was the case with the 2004 Assessment, the urban areas have not been assessed in detail, however we have examined the historic development of the towns and shown the underlying landscape character area within which the settlements lie.

12. The introductory sections comprise the following:

- A. Introduction;
- B. Planning Policy Regarding Landscape;
- C. Formative Influences on the Landscape;
- E. Key Changes Affecting the Landscape;
- F. Summary of Classification of Test Valley Landscape;
- G. Borough wide Strategies and Guidelines;
- H. Glossary
- I. Bibliography
- J. Borough wide Diagrams.

13. Separate sections for each landscape character type (LCT) set out the characteristics for each type identifying the landscape, ecological, and historical characteristics and requirements for each type. These are key aspects that are common to all the landscape character areas within each character type and therefore these are not repeated in the character area descriptions and guidelines. Each character type is followed by the Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) within that type with detailed assessment reflecting the distinctive characteristics of the particular area.

14. Each LCT section comprises the following, including mapping:

    - General Description
    - Location
    - Physical Influences
    - Biodiversity and Vegetation Pattern
    - Notable Habitats

- Historical Influences
- Settlement Pattern
- Communication Network
- Key Natural and Cultural Landscape Issues
- Land Management Guidelines
- Land Use and Development Guidelines

15. Each LCA section comprises the following, including mapping:

- General Description
- Location
- Local Physical Influences
- Local Biodiversity and Vegetation Pattern[1]
- Local Historical Influences
- Designations (as applicable, where they lie wholly or in part within the LCA)[2]
- Settlement Pattern
- Local Settlements
- Remoteness and Tranquillity
- Key Valued Characteristics
- Key Detractors
- Local Natural and Cultural Landscape Issues
- Landscape Strategy and Guidelines
- Land Management Guidelines
- Land Use and Development Guidelines
- Photographs

[1] This section includes a summary of Broad Habitat found within each LCA. For reference, in 2008/09 Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC) adopted the Integrated Habitat System (IHS) to reflect an integrated approach to habitat classification, using GIS technology, from which priority habitats can be extracted. The Broad Habitats identified have therefore been evaluation and mapped under the IHS and are represented as at 2017/18 data as supplied by HBIC. This habitat data is updated constantly with annual updates provided to the Council.

[2] Up to date at the time of the production of this document, please note that these may be subject to change or review.

16. The Appendices comprise:

- Appendix 1 Historic Landscape Character;
- Appendix 2 Settlement Analysis;
- Appendix 3 Time Depth;
- Appendix 4 Stakeholder Engagement;

Methodology

17. The methodology used in the 2004 Assessment to classify the landscape was in line with best practice guidance produced by the Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage[3].

18. Landscape classification is central to landscape character assessment and is concerned with dividing the landscape into areas of distinct, recognisable and consistent common character, grouping areas of similar character together. For the 2004 Assessment, the Borough was divided into Landscape Character Types (LCTs). Each LCT was sub divided into distinctive Landscape Character Areas (LCAs). These LCTs and LCAs remain the same for the 2018 Assessment, with the exception of minor boundary changes, as described below (paragraph 22).

19. LCTs are generic in nature, in that they may occur in different parts of the country, but wherever they occur they share broadly similar combinations of geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation, historical land use and settlement pattern.

20. LCAs are units of landscape, which are geographically specific and have their own individual sense of place. These are particularly useful in planning and management terms so that appropriate policies or actions can be applied at a local level.

[3] The Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage (2002) Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland (CAX 84), the Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage.

21. The methodology employed to update the 2004 Assessment was informed by the revised guidance published by Natural England in 2014[4] and as follows:

- Review of the existing 2004 Assessment and major developments planned or implemented since;
- Review of other contextual documents of relevance; identify forces for change, main areas for concern;
- Fieldwork familiarisation visit around the Borough to review recent and new developments;
- Detailed fieldwork for each LCT / LCA and review against the 2004 Assessment boundaries, key characteristics, and strategies and guidelines, noting any changes. New photographs of each LCA were taken. *Note: Due to the timing of the Study fieldwork has been undertaken in winter 2017/2018.*
- Reviewing the boundaries of the LCTs/LCAs to ensure they remain appropriate
- Account has been taken of relevant issues and guidelines within existing Village / Town Design Statements.
- Draft production of pilot report for one LCT / LCA, and mapping indicating any proposed changes to boundaries and highlighting emerging issues;
- Draft production of all LCT / LCA reports, introductory sections and appendices.
- Extensive engagement undertaken for the 2004 Assessment has been taken into account as part of this review. In addition to this, a workshop was held with Parish Councils. The scope and extent of the 2018 Assessment was presented and key landscape changes and proposed boundary revisions were summarised.
- The 2018 Assessment was finalised to include comments received at and following the workshop.

[4] Natural England (2014) An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment, Natural England.

22. As a result of the review of the boundaries, there has been a general refinement undertaken to account for updated mapping being available. In addition, two minor changes to boundaries have been made: one to include a small part of what was LCA10C in LCA5H in order to better reflect the character in Thruxton; the other is to realign the boundary between LCA8A and LCA9A to reflect the AONB boundary.

How to Use the Study

23. The Test Valley Landscape Character Assessment (2018) is designed to be used as a live document which will advise the planning process and land management within the Borough. Government guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) makes it clear that the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside should be recognised (paragraph 170). This can only realistically be achieved if those responsible for changes (including developers, landowners, farmers, government and local government bodies) have ready access to clear guidance on what makes each area distinctive and how this can be respected and enhanced. This 2018 Assessment sets out that guidance for the Borough of Test Valley.

24. The Assessment is prepared at a Borough-wide scale. When used to inform the consideration of smaller areas or sites, it will be necessary to carry out more specific and detailed assessment in order to understand the specific character of the more limited area and its relationship to the wider LCT / LCA.

25. Users of this study are advised that we have tried to avoid unnecessary repetition and therefore it is essential to read the relevant text for both the LCT and LCA within which the land which is of interest falls. The LCT sets out the characteristics and guidance common to all areas within the type. The area-specific details are set out under each LCA. This should also be read in the context of the Borough-wide strategies and guidelines.

26. Local natural and cultural landscape issues include live issues that are anticipated to influence future change in the landscape. Some are a continuation of current changes whilst others are potential issues arising from new or expanding forces of change. The issues are identified from professional sources and the perceptions of the local community and may have either a beneficial or adverse effect on the landscape.

27. Having regard to the forces of change within the Test Valley, the study identifies the issues affecting each LCT and LCA. An understanding of the characteristics and main issues in each character area provides the basis for an overall strategy and more detailed guidelines, which are designed to retain and strengthen the distinctive landscape character and valued characteristics (landscape, biodiversity, history and culture) of each character area, protect each area from inappropriate changes and identify specific improvements to detracting features of the landscape. The Guidelines are sub-divided into two categories: Land Management and Land Use and Development.

28. The overall strategies for each LCA set out a general statement regarding the overarching aim for the area.

B. Planning Policy Regarding Landscape

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2018)

29. The NPPF highlights that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment, including by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, and that great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in designated landscapes (including National Parks and AONBs).

30. The Planning Practice Guidance is also available, which includes additional information regarding landscape matters.

Test Valley Borough Revised Local Plan (2011-2029)

31. The Local Plan was adopted in January 2016. The policy most directly relevant to landscape considerations is policy E2, the wording of which is replicated below.

> Policy E2 Protect, Conserve and Enhance the Landscape Character of the Borough:
>
> To ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of the landscape of the Borough development will be permitted provided that:
> a) it does not have a detrimental impact on the appearance of the immediate area and the landscape character of the area within which it is located;
> b) it is designed and located to ensure that the health and future retention of important landscape features is not likely to be prejudiced;
> c) the existing and proposed landscaping and landscape features enable it to positively integrate into the landscape character of the area;
> d) arrangements for the long term management and maintenance of any existing and proposed landscaping have been made; and
> e) it conserves the landscape and scenic beauty of the New Forest National Park or the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty where applicable; and

f) does not result in the loss of important local features such as trees, walls, hedges or water courses.

32. The New Forest National Park (NFNP) has been designated since the publication of the 2004 Assessment and a small pocket in the south-west of the Borough (to the south of the A36) lies within the boundary.[5] This study takes account of intervisibility and the National Park Authority's own Landscape Character Assessment for LCTs and LCAs within or adjacent to the NFNP.

33. A large tract forming the northern part of the Borough is within the North Wessex Downs AONB and this study also takes account of intervisibility and the AONB's Landscape Character Assessment for LCTs and LCAs within or adjacent to the AONB boundary.

[5] For the area of Test Valley that lies within the National Park, the New Forest National Park Authority is the local planning authority, with responsibilities for developing planning policy and determining planning applications within the National Park.

C. Formative Influences on the Landscape

Introduction

34. This section sets out the main influences that have created the landscape we see today across Test Valley Borough. These include **physical influences** (geology, soils and agriculture, landform and hydrology, climate, ecology and vegetation) and the **human influences** (historic landscape character, historic settlement pattern, historical periods, cultural and community values).

35. The basic structure of any landscape is formed by its underlying geology. The actions of weathering, erosion and deposition alter the form of the landscape, drainage and soils and in turn patterns of vegetation and land use. This section identifies the most significant physical and human influences that have created the Test Valley landscape as a whole.

Physical Influences

Geology and Landform

36. A deep chalk bed laid down in the Cretaceous period forms the basic underlying geology of Test Valley. The White Chalk dominates the northern and central part of the Borough. In some locations flanking the valley sides, it contributes to the more pronounced landform found to the north which includes high chalk ridges dissected by steeply sloping predominantly dry valleys and escarpments. These distinctive dry valleys were formed as part of a river system that evolved immediately after the Ice Ages, when the chalk would have been frozen at a depth and thus impermeable leading to streams of meltwater from the ice sheets. In contrast the central area of the Borough has a gentler undulating landform, although there are a number of small chalk hills and scarps which form distinctive features, such as Quarley Hill, Isle of White Hill and Danebury Hill with scarps at Broughton Down and Ashley Down.

37. Across this chalk area are localised deposits of Clay with Flints, laid down during the interglacial period. The most extensive areas of Clay

with Flints occur near Andover, at Ashley Downs, and south of Upton to the north of Andover.

38. Towards the south of the Borough, the chalk stratum dips towards the sea and becomes buried beneath younger deposits of sands, gravels and clays. To the north, these include the deep bands of the Lambeth Group and Thames Group which due to their comparatively soft sedimentary character have formed a low-lying landform of small hills, ridges and valleys. Further to the south, the landform becomes flatter with the clays and clayer sands of the Bracklesham Group and Barton Group which form the flat plateau of the New Forest. Broad bands of alluvium and valley gravels mark the river valleys and extensive area of plateau gravel overlie the sands and clays to the east and west of the River Test Valley and Romsey. Other superficial deposits include localised pockets of Brickearth, a river terrace deposit found around Romsey.

Drainage and Hydrology

39. The River Test is the dominant river system of the Borough, starting east of Overton in the adjacent Borough of Basingstoke and Deane, flowing along a flat valley bottom as a series of braiding streams before forming the head of the Solent at Southampton. Over the central area, the River Test is joined by a number of tributary rivers and streams, principally the Dun, Dever, Anton and Wallop Brook. Winterbournes are a feature of this river system, formed when the water table is high and subsequently running above ground as small streams within the winter months. Towards the south of Michelmersh and Newtown, where the underlying geology is more permeable, a drainage pattern of surface streams, which include Tanners Brook and the River Blackwater, has evolved feeding into the River Test.

Soils and Agriculture

40. Soils on the chalk tend to be well drained and calcareous and are typically brown earths on the higher ground to the north and brown rendzinas across the more gentle chalk plain to the south. Based on the

Agricultural Land Classification[6], these soils are good quality Grade 3, with a small number of very localised pockets of Grade 2. Due to their good quality, these soils are intensively farmed, with a range of crops resulting in large open fields. However, relief and soil depth are limiting factors with the shallower soils found on the scarp slopes less suitable for cultivation and often wooded, or colonised by scrub or under permanent pasture and used for sheep grazing.

41. The more complex geology of the southern area of the Borough gives rise to a more mixed pattern of soils and agriculture land quality. This area is dominated by stagnogley soils, which comprise seasonally waterlogged fine or coarse loamy soils over clay. These soils support a mix of pasture and arable crops and are classified within this area as mainly Grade 3. However the poor drainage has created further areas which are less productive and are mostly under woodland or wet lowland heath vegetation.

42. Brown earth soils, which are better quality, are found on the deposits of gravel along the river valleys. This has created soils of agriculture land quality of Grade 2 to the south and north of Romsey within the River Test valley.

43. The river valleys are dominated by peaty calcareous mineral soils with high ground water levels. This has resulted in the valley bottoms being mainly under permanent grassland and used for rough grazing with a small amount for arable. These areas of grassland also support semi natural fen, wetland and grassland habitats. At the southern most end of the Test Valley, the valley floor is occupied by alluvial soils that are silty and peaty in character and have been drained to produce a more productive land suitable for cereals and other arable or vegetable crops.

[6] The Agricultural Land Classification grades land as 1-5 (with 3 sub-divided into 3a and 3b), with grade 1 representing excellent quality and grade 5 being very poor quality. Grades 1-3a are referred to as best and most versatile agricultural land within the NPPF.

Vegetation and Biodiversity

44. The landscapes of Test Valley Borough are an important resource for biodiversity, supporting a wide range of habitats and species. The patterns of biodiversity across the Borough today have resulted from the interaction of the natural environment and the long history of human settlement and management of the landscape. This section summarises the broad patterns of habitats across the Borough.

45. The north of the Borough is dominated by the chalk geology, giving rise to the downland landscapes of the Open Chalklands. The downland landscapes extend to the east across the Hampshire Downs and to the west into the higher and more rugged North Wessex Downs. The Chalk Downland Ridge that runs through Quarley Hill downs marks a transition to the higher North Wessex Downs and is associated with several areas of unimproved grassland.

46. Since the late 1940s the great majority of the downland grasslands have been ploughed for arable farming and improved ley grassland. The remaining resource of species-rich grasslands are largely confined to isolated sites and to the steeper slopes where ploughing is less practical, and to military training areas. Nationally important areas of grassland are found at Danebury Hill, Quarley Hill Fort, Porton Down, Stockbridge Down and Broughton Down. Remnants of the grassland flora also survive along some green lanes, verges and tracks and beside hedgerows. There are also linear elements of remnant chalk grassland along some of the steeper scarp slopes of the downlands, such as at Fullerton, Cleave Hill and Leckford, some of which are locally-designated SINCs. There are opportunities to create new areas of unimproved grassland in the downs, and to link isolated remnants along tracks, scarps and field margins.

47. Many areas of the downs are valued by the local community for open views so any creation of new woodlands or hedgerows will need careful planning. Woodland cover is sparse across much of the downs, and often limited to shelter belts. Woodlands are more common where deposits of

clay with flints cap the chalk in the Semi Enclosed Chalk and Clay Farmland and the Semi Enclosed Clay Plateau Farmland. The clay deposits are more extensive in the Enclosed Chalk and Clay Woodlands and the Enclosed Clay Plateau Farmland Landscape Character Types, giving a greater proportion of woodland cover.

48. The woodlands found on the most acidic soils over clay with flints are dominated by oak, with ash dominant in more neutral and calcareous woodlands. Many woodlands were traditionally managed as coppice, although this form of management has declined in recent years. There are still several well-managed coppice woodlands, and there remains a small market for traditional coppice products.

49. The downs are dissected by stream valleys, and by the broader floodplains of the River Test and its tributaries. Towards their upper reaches, many of the streams in Bourne Valleys flow only seasonally and are completely dry in the summer. Such winterbournes are characteristic of the downland landscapes, and are associated with neutral grasslands along the valley base. Much of the grassland has been agriculturally improved and there is great potential to restore species-rich grasslands.

50. Further downstream, the rivers and streams of the River Valley Floor are fed by water from the chalk aquifer at a constant temperature of 10°C. This constant temperature and flow has led to the development of a very diverse aquatic and riparian habitat. The River Test is a nationally important freshwater habitat with a rich assemblage of aquatic plants, and which is intimately linked with extensive areas of associated floodplain grazing marshes, wet meadows and wet woodland habitats.

51. The River Valley Floor landscapes are associated with many areas of former water meadow and much of the land adjoining the rivers remains as unimproved grassland today. Many areas of neutral floodplain grazing meadows occur such as those at Chilbolton Common and Stockbridge Common. Other areas have developed as alder and willow carr and as rush pasture following the decline of flood-meadow management. South

of Romsey, much of the permanent pasture of the floodplain has been lost to arable and improved grassland although important areas of fen and grazing marsh survive in the far south.

52. The mosaic of habitats in the south of the Borough is influenced by the complex geology of sand, gravel and clay that mask the chalk, and also by the distinctive cultural history of the New Forest. Semi-natural broadleaved woodlands are prominent in the Mixed Farmland and Woodland – Small Scale and the Mixed Farmland and Woodland – Medium Scale Landscape Character Types. There are many ancient woodlands with a continuous history of woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. Woodlands are often associated with the heavier clay soils that are more difficult to cultivate and are dominated by oak. There has been a decline in coppice management of woodlands over the last century and there is great potential to increase the biodiversity of woodlands through improved management. Species-rich hedgerows, often associated with assarting, are an important resource linking the woodlands.

53. The unenclosed Heathland landscapes of the New Forest extend into the south-western part of the Borough, on Plaitford Common and West Wellow Common. The heath vegetation, dominated by heather, dwarf gorse and cross leaved heath, occurs in mosaics of acid grassland, woodland and scrub. Valleys have wetter areas due to the deposition of clayey soils and are often associated with mire habitats. Some remnants of heath vegetation are found in the adjacent enclosed landscapes of Pasture and Woodland Associated with Heathland and there is scope for restoring and extending these habitats. A good example of a heathland remnant is at Baddesley Common; there are also further small remnants of heathland and acid grassland in other areas on the eastern side of the Test around North Baddesley such as around Great Covert, Stoneham, Calveslease Copse, and Chilworth.

54. Although Test Valley Borough is a largely rural borough, there are significant urban areas at Andover, Romsey and on the fringes of Southampton. Important habitats lie in and beside these urban areas,

including woodland, heath and unimproved grassland. The close interface between urban and rural landscapes is a significant feature of the Borough and there is great potential to improve the quality of these urban and settlement fringe habitats to provide benefits for biodiversity and the people living nearby. The gardens in villages and beside isolated houses across the Borough also provide significant habitats, and can be managed to support wildlife.

55. Test Valley Borough has many nationally significant habitats and there is great potential for increased biodiversity in the future. The Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)[7] for Test Valley provides an assessment of the opportunities for improving biodiversity in the Borough. The LBAP and emerging ecological network mapping should be used in conjunction with the Landscape Character Assessment to encourage the creation of habitats that provide benefits for biodiversity and contribute to the distinctiveness of landscapes across the Borough.

56. A landscape-scale approach to biodiversity enhancement would be particularly beneficial from the perspective of ecological networks. Measures to reinforce the ecological network through linking up or extending existing remnants of priority habitats would provide greater resilience and enable better dispersal and recolonisation by species – for example providing a greater number and extent of chalk grassland 'stepping stones' in the northern downlands would benefit butterflies, while improving the heathland areas to the south could provide more habitat for nightjar.

Human Influences

The Hunter-Gatherer Peoples of the Test Valley (750,000-6,000BC)

57. During the Palaeolithic (750,000-10,000BC), Hampshire and the rest of southern England was connected to the continent, allowing movement between the two during times of low sea level. Population numbers were small and people moved across their landscape living as hunter-

[7] Test Valley Borough Council (2008) The Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Test Valley.

gatherers.[8] River valleys, such as the Test, were highly attractive to these people during this period and evidence to support this is in the form of flint artefacts and stone tools.[9] By the end of this period temperatures began to rise leading to the development of soils and the establishment of plants. Primeval woodlands and marshes were beginning to take shape.[10]

58. The onset of the Mesolithic period (10,000-6,000BC) saw the maturation of a mixed deciduous and coniferous woodland which must have covered the entire Test Valley Borough. The population remained small in number, consisting of nomadic hunter-gatherer groups most probably based around extended family units. Human beings probably only had a minimal impact upon the landscape at this time although there is evidence of occupation remains and a possible structure at Broomfield, near Braishfield, where flint production was a primary industry. Members of the Test Valley Archaeology Unit and Southampton University have also excavated several hut like features dating to the later Mesolithic at Bowman's Farm within the Borough. Other evidence is limited to stray finds and artefact scatters.[11]

The Early Farmers of the Test Valley (6,000-1,200BC)

59. The Neolithic period (6,000-2,800BC) saw a dramatic change in the appearance of the landscape and the way people perceived, experienced and utilised the landscape. Groups became increasingly rooted to a single area or territory and increasingly relied on the new technologies of agriculture and animal husbandry for subsistence although this did not preclude the continued practice of hunting, fishing and fowling. The development of arable and pastoral farming processes required the

[8] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment. Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996.
[9] On the Palaeolithic Archaeology of Hampshire (Shackley, M.). In The Archaeology of Hampshire. Shennan and Schadla Hall. 1981.
[10] Historical Monitoring in the Test Valley ESA, 1988-1996. ADAS. 1997.
[11] The Last Hunters in Hampshire (Jacobi, R.). In The Archaeology of Hampshire. Shennan and Schadla Hall. 1981.

clearance of land to fuel the agricultural economy and so much of the surviving woodland was cleared from the chalk downland.[12]

60. In both Test Valley and Hampshire as a whole, discoveries of settlements are limited. Current evidence is dominated by scattered finds of flint and pottery attributable to the widespread occupation of the chalk, where soils would have been fertile (ibid.). The clearest indicator of occupation within the Borough is in the monuments prepared for the dead, with long barrows dominating the northern half of the Borough (such as those seen on Danebury Down). Other evidence for activity comes from flint mines (e.g. Martins Clump near Over Wallop) and pottery scatters and hearths (such as those seen near Braishfield).[13] Although it has not been conclusively proved, it is believed that occupation was generally restricted to fords across the major rivers and upon the higher chalk downland which was better drained and provided land which was easier to farm.[14]

61. The forest clearance of the Neolithic period continued throughout the Bronze Age (2,800-1,200BC) and resulted in large areas of open country on the chalk. Groups also began to colonise the lower lying, less exposed areas.[15] As with the Neolithic, evidence for actual occupation is at present scant although there are some indications of Bronze Age occupation at Danebury. Where occupation evidence has been found, it has tended to consist of small groups of buildings with no formal enclosures or defensive works. They are usually found on the chalk of the northern portion of the Borough, where remains are often ephemeral and much evidence must have been lost to the plough during the ensuing centuries. Such farmsteads were often associated with field systems and

[12] The Neolithic and Bronze Age in Hampshire (Fasham and Schadla Hall). In The Archaeology of Hampshire. Shennan and Schadla Hall. 1981.
[13] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.10). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996.
[14] Historical Monitoring in the Test Valley ESA, 1988-1996 (p.5). ADAS. 1997.
[15] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.10). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996.

near areas of pasture indicating a mixed agricultural economy[16]. Again the hypotheses rely largely upon scattered finds and the funerary monument (round barrows or tumuli) which dominate the ridgelines of the Borough.

Tensions and Territoriality in the Valley (1,200-44BC)

62. The development of iron led to widespread clearance of woodland cover on the heavier, clay soils on the lower slopes of the downs and in the river valleys. For the first time the landscape was divided into a series of fields for crops of wheat and barley[17]. Settlement evidence has been found in the Test Valley and includes a large group of hut circles at present day Andover. The majority of evidence recovered is till from the northern section of the Test Valley.

63. The most notable sites at this time are the hill forts and their surrounding landscapes, the best survivor of which is Danebury. The Danebury Environs Project identified an intensively used landscape with fields, trackways and small settlements and the hill fort dominating the surrounding area. It is probable that other forts in the valley retained such landscapes with the main defensive elements used for storage and protection only in times of threat. These defences are traditionally considered to be a development associated with the upland chalklands, however Woolbury can be found straddling the valley floor, masked by woodland.

The Order of Rome (44BC-AD410)

64. During this period woodland clearance gained a new momentum due to the increase in the population and demand for fuel, resulting in all but the heaviest soils having to be farmed, woodland being cleared and coppicing[18]. In most areas of the country a complex patchwork of roads, villas (and their estates), farmsteads, and townships developed across

[16] The Neolithic and Bronze Age in Hampshire (Fasham and Schadla Hall). In The Archaeology of Hampshire. Shennan and Schadla Hall. 1981.
[17] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.10). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996.
[18] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.10-11). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996.

Britain although the rural population may well have not encountered radical changes in their lives.

65. This 'Romanisation' of Test Valley appears to have largely occupied the lower slopes of the downs, the river valleys and the coastal plain.[19] Roman occupation does not appear to have significantly affected inland settlement or field systems in Test Valley other than with the introduction of villa sites such as at Thruxton and East Anton. Other settlements may have been established close to Roman roads or where two roads intersected (ibid.). From the general evidence of Test Valley, it would appear that this region remained largely an unchanged rural landscape.

66. Roman roads cross Test Valley in a number of places.[20] One road crossed the Test at Horsebridge, linking Winchester (the fifth largest Roman town and administrative capital) with Old Sarum, whilst another one crossed from Winchester to Cirencester, via Andover. A third linked Silchester to Old Sarum, crossing through Andover.[21]

The Rise of Germanic and Scandinavian Influences (AD410-1066)

67. Woodland clearance continued at such a pace during this time that legislation was imposed to protect the woodland cover. The Saxon passion for hunting led to the formation of extensive hunting parks ('haga'), which included the Forests of Chute, the principle hunting domain of the Saxon kings who made Andover their headquarters.

68. Archaeological evidence for this period is limited although it has been assumed that the majority of present day villages date to this period. In Test Valley, rural settlements seem concentrated in the upper valleys of the Test and its tributaries and on the northern chalk land around

[19] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.11). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996.
[20] Roman Roads in Britain. Margary, I. 1973.
[21] Hampshire: The Roman Period (Johnson, D.). In The Archaeology of Hampshire. Shennan and Schadla Hall. 1981.

Andover.[22] It was at this time that the parish system evolved and parish churches appeared, such as that seen at King's Somborne.

The Consolidation of the English State (1066-1650)

69. Although legislation was in place regarding forest clearance by the Middle Ages[23], it was the Normans who introduced laws relating to the management of the forest.[24] For the first time castles or fortified manors appeared in the landscape, for example John of Gaunt's palace at King's Somborne. John of Gaunt's deer park, west of the hunting lodge at King's Somborne, can still be traced and partly lies on the meadows of the River Test. Also new to the landscape was the inclusion of monastic foundations with their large complexes of stone buildings and extensive estates (e.g. Mottisont Priory).

70. The Middle Ages was a time of relative prosperity and rapid population growth.[25] The Test Valley villages continued to remain the focus for populations and outlying farms remained unusual. These villages were typically surrounded by a farming system of large open fields (such as those recorded in the Andover region), which were divided into individually owned strips which were collectively farmed.

71. By the 13th and 14th centuries farming practices changed from the open field system to enclosed fields. Instead of the previous domination of arable farming, sheep rearing increased in importance resulting in grazing becoming a feature of the chalk downland. Romsey, at this time, was to flourish and become an important wool centre.

Early Modern Period

72. By the middle of the 16th century, the prosperous wool trade led to an increase in the number of sheep required. This in turn fuelled the need

[22] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.11). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996.
[23] New Forest District Landscape Character Assessment: Supplementary Annex. Environmental Resource Management. 2000
[24] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.12). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996.
[25] The Making of the English Landscape. Hoskins, W. 1955

for more efficient grazing in the available space resulting in the enclosure of grazing land. Increase in numbers of stock led to a lack of late winter and early spring fodder. This resulted in the development of a system of water meadows which allowed water to run across valley bottoms early in the year and so produce an early grass crop. This new system was to have a profound affect upon the character of the river valleys, particular the River Test, where sluices are still evident.

73. The 18th century was a time of great change. The turn of the century saw the enclosure of fields into small, irregular shapes and the appearance of winding lanes and tracks in the landscape.[26] Enclosures defined specific parcels of land and were constructed to identify ownership and control of a valuable commodity. The early development of enclosures was designed to remove land from the more ubiquitous common land and offered a more efficient method of farming. In the south of the Borough there were still large areas of woodland and extensive tracts of heathland, while in the north there was both open and enclosed chalk downland. The second half of the 18th century witnessed the Agricultural Revolution and the disappearance of the common field system. Down pasture areas were converted to arable and commons and heaths were enclosed. The previously witnessed enclosure, with its irregular patterned fields, was replaced by the new enclosures which were square or rectangular fields surrounded by straight hedges of hawthorn. New wider roads, with grass verges either side replaced the winding lanes. Any remaining fields were enclosed by Parliamentary enclosure during the 19th century.

74. A notable change in the landscape during this period was the establishment of the 18th century country mansion situated within the landscaped park. In Test Valley, the landscaped park at Broadlands provides an excellent example of this aristocratic trend and was designed by the most prominent designer of the time, Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown, who suggested the widening of the River Test near the house. The

[26] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.13). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996

picturesque style, which was to follow and patroned by John Nash, was also witnessed in the Test Valley and an example can be seen at Houghton dating to the end of the 18th century.

75. The need to impress one's peers in the landscaping of their estate led to a demand for exotic and selectively bred plants. This led to a number of businesses appearing to meet these demands – such as the Hillier Gardens and Arboretum, near Romsey.[27]

76. The Andover to Redbridge railway line was built in the nineteenth century and operated until the Beeching cuts in the 1960s.

Modern Developments

77. The Victorian and Edwardian interest in sporting and leisure pursuits led to many belts of trees, copses and hedgerows being planted or retained as cover for game birds. Fishing was the main pursuit in the Test Valley and the River Test has become world-famous for its trout fishing.[28]

78. The most apparent change in Test Valley during this time was the change in farming practice and the enlargement of the urban areas. New farming techniques led to field size being expanded and downland pasture being converted to arable land. This process of agricultural improvement and intensification also affected parts of the river valleys, specifically the lower Test Valley. This trend later slowed down due to agricultural surplus and 'agri-environment' policies. The Borough is still experiencing development pressures leading to suburbanisation and though villages do on the whole retain strong rural character, a number of the Borough's villages have been affected by the increase in traffic and higher density infill development. This sometimes results in traditional boundary treatment (low walls, railings and hedgerows) being replaced with higher close boarded wooden fences.

[27] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.13). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996
[28] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.14). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996

79. Demand for sand and gravel extraction in the south of the Borough, which led to dramatic changes in the appearance of the landscape in the late 20th century[29], has since slowed but continues as a pressure on the landscape, as does the restoration of quarries to form fishing lakes which has resulted in some suburbanisation.

80. Passenger rail services between Andover Junction and Romsey were withdrawn in 1964, with freight services continuing until 1967. Much of the track between Chilbolton and Kimbridge is now the route of the Test Way long-distance footpath – a valuable recreation and wildlife corridor.

81. Further detail of the Borough's historical settlements is given in Appendix 2.

Historic Landscape Character Assessment

82. General trends have become apparent throughout the Borough during the course of the historic landscape character assessment. The geological zones present within the Borough appear to also determine in basic terms the historic character of the landscape with the interface between the two 'zones' defined by the chalk/clay spring line villages. To the north of this interface lies the higher ground of the chalk upland zone largely dominated by eighteenth and nineteenth century parliamentary field systems. The design and development of such field systems and the surveyed tracks and roads associated with them have removed large swathes of the earlier historic landscape. Some discrete pockets do continue to survive, most notably in a corridor to the northwest of Andover and in the north-eastern corner of the Borough. Here a patchwork of smaller, less regular fields dating to either the medieval or early post-medieval period, along with smaller assarted fields with some stands of pre-1810[30] woodland are generally located upon capping deposits of clay with flints.

[29] Test Valley Borough Landscape Assessment (p.15). Scott Wilson Resource Consultants. 1996

[30] A coarse distinction is made with the cut off point taken generally as 1810 and the production of the first reliable 1st Edition Ordnance Survey maps for the county.

83. To the south of the chalk-clay spring line interface, the clays and gravels dominate with a lower lying topography. The geology and topography have greatly influenced the development of the historic landscape character in this area, as has the close proximity of the Royal hunting grounds within the New Forest. In fact, between 1221 and 1280 part of the Borough lay within the boundaries of the Royal Forest and so fell within forest law. Today the forest lies to the southwest of the Borough although its influence upon the development of the landscape is still clearly visible. Within this portion of the Borough smaller, irregular shaped field systems dating to the early post-medieval period and smaller assarted fields cut from the previously forested environment survive to produce a patchwork of field systems cut by narrow lanes, many of which provided access to and from the ancient forest farmlands and common land within the New Forest.

84. To the east of the New Forest the landscape has been heavily impacted by rapid urbanisation during the later nineteenth and twentieth centuries associated largely with the develop of the Southampton conurbation. Areas of larger assarted fields and plantations are to be found within and between the agglomerated settlements although these features are predominantly associated with landscape change during the nineteenth century.

85. The River Test has given its name to the Borough and this major river with its associated tributaries flows through the Borough in a north south direction. Towards the south of the valley it was probably navigable from the prehistoric through to the medieval period maybe as far as Stockbridge. For almost its entire length, the River Test retains some evidence of its role in the development of water meadow systems during principally the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Other smaller rivers also permitted the design and construction of water meadow systems which provided protection to new grass from late frosts and permitted a second crop for fodder. These systems played a crucial role in the agricultural revolution during the later post-medieval period and resulted

in the considerable remodelling of much of the river valley system within the Borough. Many of these systems survive today as earthworks, drainage ditches and often isolated structures.

86. In conclusion, Test Valley retains pockets of medieval/early post-medieval landscape elements within the southern portion of the Borough and to the north-west and northeast of Andover. Elsewhere, the field systems are dominated by eighteenth and nineteenth century field systems which have by and large cleared away much of the earlier historic landscape. This development often represented a large scale redesigning of the landscape and so its impact upon earlier elements was often more far reaching than previous, piecemeal landscape change. It is for this reason that the south western, north eastern and north western portions of the Borough retain greater historic landscape diversity with a melange of landscape elements implemented often on an ad hoc basis.

87. Further detail of the Borough's historical landscape character and time-depth is given in Appendix 1 and 3 respectively.

Settlement Pattern

88. Today little evidence remains of the prehistoric, Romano-British and early medieval settlements which must have been present within Test Valley. Often these survive as archaeological deposits below the ground or as discrete earthworks and some were the precursor to the development of later medieval settlements. This was particularly the case in especially favourable locations close by springs and fertile agricultural land or at the fording points of larger rivers. Given the, often only, fragmentary survival of settlement evidence up to the fourteenth century, little has been invested within this study concerning the hypothetical development of earlier settlements across the Test Valley. The earliest standing structure within a settlement is usually the parish church, often such a building in the Borough was the only stone built structure in a settlement during the early medieval period. Given the wealth of the church much time, labour and money has been invested in these structures with rebuilding and

renovation being carried out and changing architectural styles reflected in their often eclectic nature.

89. General settlement patterns within the Borough are inevitably dominated by the principal waterways which flow through the area. Consequently the three major settlements (Andover, Romsey and Stockbridge) are all located either on or close by the River Test, or one of its tributaries. These waterways provided drinking water, often removed sewage from the vicinity of the settlement, irrigated nearby field systems and on wider rivers provided a reliable method for transporting heavy loads. Of the ten settlement types used to inform this study, the majority of settlements were classified as chalk river valley type. The early development of the majority of settlement types (nine out of the ten types listed) was strongly influenced by the physical characteristics of the landscape. In many cases the topography of the landscape and the presence of natural resources were crucial to the survival and development of settlements. Estate village settlement types are the only group to rely predominantly upon human factors for at least their development during the post-medieval period serving and servicing as they did many of the larger estates which developed throughout the Borough during this period.

90. In general the settlements within the southern portion of the Borough and particularly close to the Southampton conurbation have witnessed the greatest change during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Increasingly these settlements were either consumed within Southampton or one of its larger satellite settlements or were developed as commuter settlements during the later twentieth century. This process has resulted in widespread settlement expansion and, up until recently, the removal of historic buildings within the historic cores of many settlements. Further north the impact of settlement expansion during the later post-medieval period was substantially less with the notable exception around the principal valley floor settlements of Romsey and Andover.

91. Settlement development during the medieval period appears to have focused upon a nucleated form, often with a central open space or at the juncture of several roads. The church may or may not have been the focus as in some instances this was located some way from the settlement associated with the manorial complex. Later expansion during seventeenth to early twentieth centuries saw the redevelopment of many smaller settlement centres combined with linear development of housing along the principal roads leading into settlements. Later twentieth century settlement development tended to result in small scale linear expansion along existing roads or a return to larger nucleated 'estate' adjuncts to existing settlements. These more modern developments often included provision for further facilities to reduce pressure on existing services and were connected to the existing communication network by new roads.

D. Biodiversity – habitats and protected sites

92. A description of the biodiversity and vegetation pattern for each Landscape Character Type and Area is set out in their respective document, along with a list of notable habitats, broad habitat types and nature conservation designations.

E. Key Changes Affecting the Landscape

93. This section identifies the main forces of change to the landscape of the Borough, building on matters identified in the 2004 Assessment. It looks at the main aspects of national and local policy and guidance that will affect the future of the countryside and looks in more detail at the main social and economic forces for change found to affect the Borough.

Forces for Change: Borough-Wide

94. The Test Valley Borough landscape has changed over time in response to changing economic and social conditions and will continue to change in the future, due to a number of forces. The challenge will be to understand and then manage and direct them to the benefit of the local landscape character.

95. The main forces for change are considered under the following headings:

- Climatic
- Agriculture and Land Management
- Built Development and Urbanisation
- Traffic, Transport and Lighting
- Recreation and Tourism
- Telecommunications and Overhead Transmission Lines
- Renewable Energy, Energy Generation and Energy Storage Facilities
- Mineral Extraction and Waste Management
- Military

Climatic

96. Test Valley, as elsewhere, is undergoing climatic change to which greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. CO_2) are a contributing factor. Over the last century, average temperatures in the UK have risen by around 1°C[31]. Greater climatic changes are predicted looking forward, which are anticipated to include warmer weather all year, wetter winters, drier summers, weather extremes including storms and flooding, and sea level rise. The range of effects on the Test Valley may include the following:

- **Summer water shortages**: Lower flows in streams and rivers in summer, plus a potential demand for increased abstraction (including for public water supply, agriculture and horticultural use), which could exacerbate low flows. This may result in extension of winterbournes, affect wetland habitats, and increase the risk of fire on heaths.
- **Flooding:** Hand-in-hand with seasonal water shortages, climate changes are giving rise to sporadic but severe flooding and could lead to the requirement for local flood defences.
- **Change in crops:** Climatic change may give rise to the opportunity for different crops, and affect the economic viability of current cropping regimes.

[31] HM Government (2017) UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017.

- **Increased wind speeds/storms:** This could cause damage to woodlands, parklands and crops.
- **Sea level rise and tidal changes:** Rising sea levels are expected to effect tidal patterns, with effects on estuarine habitats and farming on low lying land.
- **Increased summer temperatures:** Particularly affecting older and younger people.

Agriculture and Land Management

97. The agricultural landscape within the Test Valley contains a mix of different farming types from the large open arable fields to the north, to the smaller contained mixed fields around to the south, the linear water meadows around the River Test and the open grazed heathland within the New Forest to the south.

98. The landscape has been significantly affected by changes in farming practice over the last few decades. These changes are still a significant force of change in the landscape, although the pace of change has decreased in some cases (for example conversion to arable farming) and increased in others (conversion of farm buildings to non agricultural uses). These forces bring about both positive and negative changes to the landscape pattern and distinctive characteristics of an area. These include:

- a reduction in rough grassland and pasture
- new shelter belt and woodland planting
- the removal, neglect and new maintenance methods for hedgerows
- intensification of arable farming and creation of larger fields
- expansion of agri-business
- increases in livestock herd sizes and machinery sizes and the resulting need for larger farm buildings
- extensification of pig farming and large scale sheep grazing
- intensive poultry farming in single storey low lying sheds
- expansion of equestrian facilities and fencing in of grazing land

- increased interest in game shooting
- expansion to fisheries
- rise in interest in organic farming and support for local produce
- introduction of new farming infrastructure such as poly tunnels, larger agricultural structures (including slurry pits and bunds), heavier machinery
- introduction of vineyards, including associated structures and boundary treatments
- conversion of land and buildings to new rural uses

99. Following World War II, there was a decline in traditional farming methods such as coppicing, use of water meadows, heathland grazing, downland sheep pasture and hedgerow management. This decline since slowed due to the uptake of grants and subsidies, but the overall picture is difficult to ascertain. English Heritage's National Heritage Protection Plan (2010-15) identifies that historic water meadows remain as priority features for improved protection. A county-wide study demonstrated that only four per cent of those in Hampshire could be classified as 'well preserved'; 40 per cent of examples recorded from aerial photographs had been destroyed and the condition of over a third had deteriorated between 1970 and 1998.

25 Year Environment Plan (2018)

100. In January 2018, the Government published 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'[32]. This Environment Plan contains a mix of confirmed policies and longer-term aims such as the Agriculture Bill, new farming rules for water, and a Tree Health Resilience Plan which are set to follow in the coming months. These may have more detailed information regarding the implications on the landscape.

[32] HM Government (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment

101. The overarching aim of the Environment Plan is:

- *'To help the natural world regain and retain good health … deliver cleaner air and water in our cities and rural landscapes, protect threatened species and provide richer wildlife habitats'*

102. More specific 25-year goals are to provide:

- Clean air
- Clean and plentiful water
- Thriving plants and wildlife (including increasing woodland in England in line with the aspiration of 12% cover by 2060: this would involve planting 180,000 hectares by end of 2042)
- A reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards such as flooding and drought
- Using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently
- Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment.

103. Of particular relevance to landscape, the Plan pledges to conserve and enhance the beauty of our natural environment, and make sure it can be enjoyed, used by and cared for by everyone and improving its environmental value while being sensitive to considerations of its heritage. This includes making sure that there are high quality, accessible, natural spaces close to where people live and work, particularly in urban areas, encouraging more people to spend time in them to benefit their health and wellbeing and focusing on increasing action to improve the environment from all sectors of society.

104. In addition, the Plan sets out a framework aimed at managing pressures on the environment by: mitigating and adapting to climate change, minimising waste, managing exposure to chemicals and enhancing biosecurity.

105. In pursuit of the broad goals, 6 chapters set out more detailed policies:

- Using and managing land sustainably, including increasing the number of homes built to 300,000 per year by 2025 – with net gain of environmental improvements, including stronger new standards for green infrastructure and ensuring new development happens in the right places.
- Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes.
- Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing.
- Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste.
- Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans.
- Protecting and improving the global environment.

106. The UK's impending exit from the European Union (EU), voted for by referendum in 2016, will mean that agriculture will be operating outside of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Currently, CAP subsidies can make up anywhere from 50-80% of a UK farmer's income[33] and farming practices will be sensitive to fluctuations in support or change of direction or priorities in this support. CAP support is set to continue until 2022, after which the Environment Plan sets out how a new environmental land management system, based on providing public money for public goods (such as habitat enhancement), is proposed to replace current direct payments to farmers in England. Proposals will be developed through the new Agriculture Bill which will set out post-Brexit support arrangements for farmers. There will be greater emphasis on paying farmers public money in return for public goods, in line with the overall environmental goals, and building on previous countryside stewardship and agri-environment schemes. The government has already started making changes to its approach with a simplified Countryside Stewardship scheme for 2018, as per the commitment in the

[33] Brexit: Future UK agriculture policy, Briefing paper 8218, 31 January 2018

Plan, and all landowners making a valid application are guaranteed funding.

Built Development and Urbanisation

107. Similar to other areas within the south of England, the Borough has experienced significant expansion of urban areas and pressure for development in many settlements. National planning policy supports sustainable economic growth, including meeting the need for housing, businesses and other development. The effective use of previously developed land is encouraged, along with a focus on development of land with lesser environmental value. However additional greenfield development is likely to remain necessary.

108. The Test Valley Borough Revised Local Plan 2011-2029 includes a requirement for at least 10,584 homes over this period, which includes allocations at Andover, Romsey and North Baddesley. In the future, further land may be needed for homes, businesses and other development (including supporting infrastructure).

109. General urbanisation is also affecting the urban fringe, rural communities and remoter rural areas. Typical forces of change include:

- Demands for higher lighting levels and security lighting having a negative impact on darker rural areas
- Homogenous development and building materials and styles negatively impacting local distinctiveness
- Visual intrusion from neighbouring urban areas
- Recent permitted development rights allowing the conversion of agricultural buildings to dwellings cumulatively urbanising rural character
- Expansion of gardens into the adjacent open countryside and introduction of ancillary garden buildings to accommodate such uses as home working and supplementary / temporary living space, cumulatively urbanising rural character

- Suburban influences of modern features such as fencing, gateways, home, garaging, signage and development related landscaping cumulatively urbanising rural character
- Large-scale commercial buildings at the urban fringe creating visual intrusion.

110. Community led initiatives such as neighbourhood development plans and village design statements, can help to support and promote good design solutions.

Traffic, Transport and Lighting

111. The Borough is crossed by two busy main transport corridors, the M27 in the south and the A303(T) in the north. Away from these two corridors traffic is heaviest around the more urban parts of the Borough at Andover and in the triangle between and including Southampton, Chandler's Ford and Romsey and on the main cross country roads, the A30, A343, A3057, A27, A36 and A3090. Elsewhere, particularly on the many small winding unclassified roads, traffic is lighter but can be perceived as intrusive, particularly in busy recreational areas such as Mottisfont, Danebury Hill and Stockbridge Down or where large vehicles are used.

112. Overall there is a perception of increase in traffic volume and size within the rural areas, potentially caused by a number of factors, including commuting from rural areas into towns; lack of local services and facilities creating a dependence on the private car; the use of rural lanes as short cuts; larger scale farms creating additional traffic with bulk deliveries and using heavier vehicles; the increase in car-borne recreation; and the increase in through traffic on the major roads in Test Valley Borough.

113. Higher traffic levels and the needs for safety and greater accessibility have resulted in:

- New road signs, lighting, and other engineering works;

- Increased requirement for the provision of parking within villages and rural locations;
- Increased traffic and congestion impacting on tranquillity.

114. However, changes in lifestyle and improved digital communications could help reduce or limit congestion.

115. Rising numbers of rail passengers could lead to some alterations along rail routes and associated infrastructure.

116. Air traffic is likely to continue to grow, affecting tranquillity in the countryside.

Recreation and Tourism

117. The landscape, ecological and historical resources of the Test Valley are a key economic asset for tourism and recreation, with Test Valley being a popular destination particularly for day and short stay visitors. Tourism is large and growing sector in Test Valley[34].

118. The government is supportive of rural tourism and leisure[35], along with improved access to the countryside and coast. Some traditional rural activities such as riding are increasing in popularity, resulting in larger, more numerous and more organised facilities. There also remains support for maintaining and improving the condition of existing public rights of way, whilst also improving the connectivity of the network across Hampshire[36].

119. The increased population of Romsey and Andover, as well as surrounding towns and villages, has intensified pressure on the countryside for recreation purposes.

[34] Test Valley Borough Council (2017) Test Valley Economic Development Strategy 2017-2019 and beyond.
[35] Support for rural tourism is one of the current priority areas identified by the Government associated with the Rural Development Programme and LEADER funding.
[36] Hampshire County Council (2015) Hampshire Countryside Access Plan 2015-2025.

120. There has also been an increase in holiday accommodation through conversions, extensions and new developments such as holiday parks, holiday lodges, shepherd's huts and caravan sites.

121. Quarry restoration and the subsequent creation of fishing lakes has caused some suburbanisation with the introduction of car parking, signage, widened entrances and cars parking on surrounding verges damaging the character of the rural lanes.

Telecommunications and Overhead Transmission Lines

122. It is difficult to predict whether the development of new telecommunication masts and associated infrastructure will continue to be a significant force for change as technology in this field is constantly being updated. Additional telecommunications infrastructure continues to be provided, with the potential of cumulative effects in certain areas. Where possible, such infrastructure can be sited in locations that are already urbanised such as major roads and industrial/commercial areas.

123. Overhead power lines are particularly intrusive in some parts of the Borough, most notably where they cross the wide open landscapes of the downs or the more secluded landscapes of the valleys. Like many rural fringe areas the landscape west and north of Nursling includes a number of overhead power lines.

124. Developments within the communication and energy industries could see the removal or placing underground of major overhead power lines and mobile towers in the future, subject to cost implications and other considerations.

Renewable Energy, Energy Generation and Energy Storage Facilities

125. Government is seeking to encourage greater use of sustainable and renewable energy resources and for each part of the country to make some contribution to the national output. Associated with this, there is also a growing need for energy storage and backup energy generation (often located close to the national transmission or local electrical distribution network).

126. Wind turbines are rare at present in Test Valley. Turbines are often single units, as at Faccombe, but may be developed as small or large groups. Turbines are becoming increasingly higher with larger blades, particularly in lowland areas of the country with lower wind speed.

127. In recent years, a number of large 'solar farms' have come forward across the Borough, including in close proximity to the A303 corridor (for example at Shipton Bellinger, Andover, Goodworth Clatford and Longparish). The potential cumulative effect will need to be considered.

Mineral Extraction and Waste Management

128. The Borough is rich in sand and gravel deposits mainly found as plateau gravel and valley gravel. The valley deposits are located across the mouth of the River Test, all way up the River Test valley and up along its tributaries. Plateau gravels form belts of deposits east and west of Romsey.

129. As minerals can only be worked where they are found, there is the potential for extensive extraction in these parts of the Borough. The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (2013)[37] identifies that sand and gravel resources will be sourced from existing permitted reserves (including at Shootash), strategic allocated sites (including at Longparish) and unallocated opportunities. Policies also seek to avoid the sterilisation of mineral resources in areas proposed for other development. Clay extraction has also been identified in the Michelmersh area.

130. Landfilling has traditionally been the principal means of the restoration of mineral workings, and still remains in the Mineral and Waste Plan as a means of waste disposal, with a landfilling site at Squabb Wood near Romsey. However waste recycling, composting and energy recovery are increasing. The Minerals and Waste Plan seeks to concentrate such facilities in urban areas, areas along the strategic road network corridors

[37] Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, New Forest National Park Authority and South Downs National Park Authority (2013) Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton, New Forest National Park, South Downs National Park Minerals and Waste Plan.

and in areas of new major development. Further changes in waste management may see new forms of development, such as larger recycling facilities and multi-purpose sites, which may affect the countryside.

Military

131. There are a number of military sites within the Test Valley Borough, some of these are active, as at Middle Wallop, whilst others are redundant. There are also a number of shooting ranges. Many of these sites are situated within the Open Chalklands Landscape Type around and to the south of Andover. In the past, areas within these sites have included some visually intrusive development, uncharacteristic woodland planting, and damage to areas of downland grassland but the restricted access has also enabled a wider biodiversity to establish.

132. Any future decommissioning of sites may result in change of use and this should be managed carefully to minimise impact on landscape and biodiversity, and maximise opportunities for enhancements in line with character guidelines.

F. Summary of Classification of Test Valley Landscape

Hampshire County Landscape Types	Test Valley Landscape Character Types	Test Valley Landscape Character Areas
Woodland Plantation Heath	LCT 1 Heathland	LCA 1A West Wellow Heaths
Lowland Mosaic Heath Associated	LCT 2 Pasture and Woodland Associated with Heathland	LCA 2A Embley Wood and Heathland LCA 2B North Baddesley to Chilworth Woodland Mosaic
Lowland Mosaic Medium Scale (primary association); Lowland Mosaic Open	LCT 3 Mixed Farmland and Woodland – Medium Scale	LCA 3A Baddesley Mixed Farm and Woodland LCA 3B Melchet and Awbridge Wooded Farmland LCA 3C Tytherley and Mottisfont Wooded Farmland
Lowland Mosaic Medium Scale (secondary association); Lowland Mosaic Small Scale	LCT 4 Mixed Farmland and Woodland – Small Scale	LCA 4A Sherfield English LCA4B Michelmersh to Ampfield Wooded Farmland
River Valley Floor	LCT 5 River Valley Floor	LCA 5A Lower Test Floodplain LCA 5B Middle Test Valley Floor LCA 5C Upper Test Valley Floor LCA 5D Dun River Valley Floor LCA 5E King's Somborne River Valley Floor LCA 5F Wallop Brook Valley Floor LCA 5G River Dever Valley Floor LCA 5H Pillhill Brook Valley Floor LCA 5I Upper River Anton Valley Floor LCA 5J Lower River Anton Valley Floor
Downland Mosaic Large Scale	LCT 6 Enclosed Chalk and Clay	LCA 6A Norman Court Wooded Downs

Hampshire County Landscape Types	Test Valley Landscape Character Types	Test Valley Landscape Character Areas
(where woodlands are large and extensive); Downland Mosaic Small Scale (where woodlands are small and fragmented)	Woodland	LCA 6B Compton with Parnholt and Michelmersh Woods LCA 6C Little Somborne Wooded Downs LCA 6D Harewood Forest Wooded Downs LCA 6E Amport Wooded Downs LCA 6F Rushmore Wooded Down LCA 6G Faccombe Wooded Downs
	LCT 7 Semi Enclosed Chalk and Clay Farmland	LCA 7A Ashley Downs LCA 7B Broughton Downs LCA 7C Linkenholt Downs
	LCT 8 Enclosed Clay Plateau Farmland	LCA 8A Tangley and Doles Wood
Downland Mosaic Small Scale	LCT 9 Semi Enclosed Clay Plateau Farmland	LCA 9A North Andover Plateau
Open Downs	LCT 10 Open Chalklands	LCA 10A East Dean Chalk Downland LCA 10B King's Somborne Chalk Downland LCA 10C Thruxton and Danebury Chalk Downland LCA 10D Leckford and Chilbolton Downs LCA 10E Drayton Chalk Downland LCA 10F Andover Chalk Downland LCA 10G Cholderton Downs
	LCT 11 Chalk Downland Ridges	LCA 11A Quarley Hill Downs
River Valleys	LCT 12 Bourne Valleys	LCA 12A River Swift Valley LCA 12B River Bourne Valley

G. Borough-Wide Strategies and Guidelines

133. This section sets out landscape guidelines for the Test Valley Borough. The overall strategy and guidelines for each LCT and LCA are set out within each report. The overall strategy for each LCA is a summary of the over-arching approach to be adopted for each landscape character area based on the condition of the landscape, historic and ecological elements and the role of the area within the Borough landscape, and the value attached by the local community to those characteristics.

134. The LCT and LCA guidelines are divided into two sections covering Land Management and Land Use and Development. These seek to achieve the strategy statement set out for each LCA but also reflect the fact that certain elements of the landscape may require a different approach. For example, whilst the overall strategy may be to conserve the pattern and form of existing landscape characteristics, there may be elements (such as a former minerals sites) that need restoring, or elements that introduce a new asset to the landscape (such as new roadside planting). Some guidelines were found to be common across the Borough and were not specific to a particular area. These have been included in the Borough-wide Guidelines below. Borough-wide, LCT and LCA guidelines should therefore be read together and should be used to provide direction to those proposing to implement change in the Test Valley Borough landscape.

Borough-Wide Guidelines

135. In many cases the Guidelines will be specific to a particular landscape character type or area, but general Guidelines are common across the Borough. These general guidelines are set out below.

136. In all cases it is important that the Key Characteristics of each landscape character area are taken into consideration, with locally valued features maintained and enhanced and deteriorating features enhanced and restored where possible.

137. In addition, consideration should be given to the guidelines set out for the character areas within Test Valley Borough in the national character area profiles prepared by Natural England and the Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (2012) and where relevant the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Integrated Landscape Character Assessment (2003) and the New Forest National Park Landscape Character Assessment (2015).

Land Management

138. The following land management guidelines apply to all Character Types and Areas. More specific management guidelines are set out in detailed sections for each Character Type and Area.

Landscape Distinctiveness

- Areas noted for their sense of remoteness, tranquillity and seclusion to be protected from intrusive and inappropriate human activity
- Maintain significant open vistas from visual intrusion
- Reference to be made to the Borough's historic landscape character when considering change in the landscape
- Maintain the contrast between open downland, where earth meets sky, the sense of enclosure within the wooded farmland, and the intimate pastoral riverine landscape of the River Test and its tributaries
- Maintain the characteristic seasonal winterbourne pattern
- As far as possible changes to the landscape should seek to complement and reflect the landscape character and not rely on mitigation measures to disguise intrusive or uncharacteristic features
- Conserve views to valued landscape features

Agriculture

- Local landscape patterns should be respected in the management of agricultural land and when introducing new forms of crops (such as energy crops), and new land uses such as equestrian usage

- Large agricultural buildings are to be carefully sited and designed to avoid visual intrusion, especially in areas with mainly unspoilt open views
- Encourage greater use of organic and sustainable farming practices to increase landscape diversity and reduce diffuse pollution
- Encourage best practice farming methods including buffer zones, margin strips and cutting regimes
- New structures associated with farming and horticulture (such as polytunnels) to be carefully sited and of a scale and design appropriate to the landscape character area
- Encourage take up of agri-environmental schemes particularly in areas of unimproved chalk downland and river valleys

Hedgerows

- Encourage cyclical hedgerow management to maintain or restore the diversity and quality
- Density of the hedgerows and hedge laying to be in keeping with best local practice
- Where appropriate ensure native tree standards grow up to form hedgerow trees
- Use appropriate native species that are local to the character area in any new planting

Woodland and Trees

- Use appropriate native tree and shrub species, local to the character area in any new planting adjoining or within open countryside
- Seek opportunities to encourage active management of woodlands including coppicing and replanting
- Encourage good woodland management as part of the rural economy

Biodiversity

- Areas that have been designated for their ecological significance, internationally, nationally and locally, are to be conserved and

enhanced not only for their primary reason for designation but also for their contribution to landscape character and local distinctiveness

- Conservation and enhancement of biodiversity must fully consider ecological networks; this should include the extent and linkages of the broader Borough-wide network as well as network elements and 'stepping stones' that have more species- or habitat-specific functionality
- New landscapes and the management of existing landscapes should seek to provide opportunities to increase the abundance, diversity and resilience of species that are particularly notable for a given area
- Seek opportunities to improve the quality, extent and wider linkages of Priority Habitats
- Restoration projects should be based on a sound understanding of current ecological and species requirements for each area
- Seek opportunities to remove invasive, non-native species

Historic Landscapes

- Protect the landscape setting of historic features
- Protect, enhance and, where practical, restore historic landscape patterns created by field boundaries, woodlands, roads and tracks
- Manage archaeological features in accordance with best practice to prevent loss or damage to the feature or its immediate setting
- Protect and restore parkland and parkland features and encourage replanting with appropriate tree species to ensure succession
- Recognise the multifunctionlity of historic landscapes for their contribution to biodiversity

Land Use and Development

139. The following land use and development guidelines apply to all Character Types and Areas. More specific guidelines are set out in detailed sections for each Character Type and Area.

Built Development

- New development should be sensitively integrated into the landscape with careful siting, design, selection of materials and consideration of scale and massing, and the protection and enhancement of historic landscape character and settlement pattern, protecting sensitive views and enhancing the sense of place and local distinctiveness.
- New hard and soft landscape proposals should reflect locally distinctive landscape patterns and materials and be appropriate to their location in the landscape
- The conversion of farm buildings should retain local landscape and built form features and respect the historic relationship between the farm and its landscape setting
- Where appropriate ensure that a connection is retained between historic farmsteads and farming
- Consideration to be given to the visual impact of isolated and cumulative development on skylines
- Opportunities to be sought for creating new landscape features, habitats and green corridors within new development to reflect and enhance the key characteristics of each area
- Ensure that any development in the settlement fringe landscape is designed so that it has a positive impact on the landscape and incorporates meaningful green infrastructure
- Avoid loss of separate identity of well-defined settlements through coalescence and homogeneous design
- Avoid introducing over-sized houses into rural locations where they will not respect the historic hierarchy of built-form and pattern of settlement
- Proposals for new solar developments (including associated infrastructure e.g. highways improvements, roads, fencing, CCTV etc.) should consider cumulative impacts, minimise impacts on the countryside and ensure characteristic landscape features such as hedgerows, trees and copses are protected and landscape and biodiversity enhancements are incorporated

- Light pollution to be minimised in accordance with the Institute of Lighting Engineers guidance on Light Pollution
- Avoid inappropriate types and quantity of developments that will cumulatively change the character of the area from rural to urban / suburban

Infrastructure

- Seek to minimise the visual intrusion and suburbanising effect on the rural network arising from new highway infrastructure and increasing traffic
- Lighting in the countryside and in towns to be designed to minimise light pollution and sky glow. Areas noted for their dark skies to be protected from further erosion from unnecessary light sources
- Opportunities to be sought to reduce the visual impact of overhead power lines
- Establish a sensitive approach to the management of soft landscapes associated with infrastructure development in order to increase landscape diversity and minimise diffuse air pollution
- New infrastructure projects to be carefully sited to minimise impact on the landscape and views
- New planting, in keeping with local characteristics, to be included to integrate and screen development proposals

Recreation, Tourism and Access

- Seek opportunities for additional and improved access to the countryside for the public.
- The new wave of holiday lodges, shepherd's huts and yurts etc. Careful siting will be required to avoid visual intrusion, loss of rural character with urbanising features including highway improvements (i.e. installation of kerbs, loss of hedgerow for sight lines, hard surfacing of tracks etc). Additionally, sensitive siting of facilities to avoid visual intrusion within areas of a predominantly undeveloped landscape. The use of planting should be rural in character which

should also be used to help to assist the integration of the development into the surrounding landscape local vegetation pattern.

H. Glossary

Acid grassland	Vegetation dominated by grasses and herbs on lime-deficient soils derived from acidic bedrock or from sands and gravels.
Ancient woodland	Areas that have had continuous woodland cover since at least AD1600 and have only been cleared sporadically for scrub and timber production.
Anglo-Saxon period	The period traditionally dated to AD410-1066 when, following the decline of Roman power, England was settled by several Germanic peoples.
Annual	A plant that grows, flowers, produces seed and then dies within one year or growing season.
Aquatic plants	Plants that grow whilst being entirely covered by water. Some plants can be both aquatic and emergent.
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	A statutory national landscape designation.
Ard	An ard is a primitive form of plough utilised throughout prehistoric Europe. Livestock usually pulled the ard with a single blade used to break the surface of the soil ready for sowing.
Assart	An enclosure or field formed by the clearance of woodland.
Barrow	An earthen mound erected over one or more burials predominantly constructed during the Bronze Age although sometimes barrows were constructed during the Anglo-Saxon period. Often referred to on Ordnance Survey maps as a tumulus.
Bedwork	A bedwork water meadow is a series of earthworks designed to irrigate a meadow using a system of drains and channels to transport water to and from a river channel or other water course. Usually found in 'U' shaped valleys.
Berm	Shelf at the base of a river or stream bank.
Braided	A network of small, shallow, interlaced streams derived from a single river; formed after the original stream had deposited sediment, dividing and forming new channels.
Broadleaved woodland	Woodland that is dominated by deciduous trees with broad flat leaves, such as oak, ash or beech.
Bourne	An intermittent stream that mainly flows during the winter months.
Bronze Age	A period characterised by the first use of copper and bronze. Generally speaking this period dates in England from 2,300BC – 700BC.
Brown earths	Brown or greyish brown naturally fertile soils of well mixed organic and mineral material developed under deciduous forest.

Brown rendzinas	Thin upper black or dark brown granular soil over limestone with fragments of limestone, often very fertile but dry.
Calcareous grassland	Vegetation dominated by grasses and herbs on shallow, well-drained soils which are rich in lime formed by weathering of chalk.
Carr	Woodland dominated by tree species tolerant of high water tables such as alder, willow and birch, often associated with wetland shrubs, ferns, mosses and liverworts.
Catchwork	Similar to bedwork water meadow but with a series of earthworks designed to irrigate a meadow using gravity fed supply of water. Usually found in smaller and narrower valleys.
Clay with flints	Laid down during the Quaternary period, this is reddish brown clay with unbraided flints; it rests on the chalk.
Colonisation	The successful occupation of a new habitat by a species not previously found in that area.
Combe	Valley on the flank of a hill.
Communities	Groups of plants or animals living together under characteristic, recognisable conditions.
Conservation Area	An area designated for its special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance; Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
Coppice	An area of woodland, often hazel or sweet chestnut, which has been or is managed for wood production by cutting stems close to the base on a regular cycle, generally 5 – 10 years.
Common	Piece of land on which certain individuals have communing rights such as grazing cattle and ponies, foraging for pigs. Often open to the general public for quiet rural activities.
Covert	Woodland and understorey shelter for game birds.
Cropmark	An archaeological site no longer visible on the ground due to the removal of upstanding remains by ploughing. The sites are recorded by differential crop growth over buried features such as pits and ditches which stand out in sharp contrast, especially under drought conditions. Often best visible by aerial photography.
Dark skies	Night time skies which are largely undisturbed by artificial manmade lighting.
Deer park	First recorded during the medieval period these were areas where settlement was restricted as were grazing rights and the ability to clear ground for fuel. These areas were principally managed for their hunting and were surrounded by a bank and ditch surmounted by a fence (known as a park pale).

Detractor	Key detractors identified for each LCA are characteristics which are generally felt to detract from the positive character. This is considered to include physical and perceptual features as well as abstract concepts such as public access.
Dip slope	Chalk escarpments have a gentle slope (or dip) on one side and a steeper slope (or scarp) on the other.
Downland	Upland area, mainly found in the south of England, found on chalk soils, usually with wide open views. Traditional vegetation cover is unimproved calcareous grassland but arable farming is a common modern land use.
Diffuse pollution	Pollution caused to water bodies caused by fertiliser, silt and pollutant run off from field, roads and hard surfacing.
Earthwork	One or more archaeological features, such as a bank, wall, mound or setting of some kind, that appears in topographical relief in the ground surface, usually as a rise, projection or series of 'humps and bumps'. An earthwork is not necessarily made of soil; it may comprise stones and other materials too.
Extensification	The term is used here to describe a change in farming practice to lower livestock densities, or to an outdoor farming method such as for pig rearing.
Floodplain	The low relief area of a valley floor adjacent to a river that could be periodically inundated by flood waters.
Heath / Heathland	A mosaic of mire, acid grassland and area dominated by heathers.
Henge	A ritual enclosure, usually circular or nearly so consisting of a bank and internal ditch. The henge retained one or more entrances and is thought to be the site of some form of prehistoric ritual activity.
Hill Fort	Defensive construction associated with the Iron Age. Usually, although not exclusively, located upon hill tops or upland areas, the hill fort was usually enclosed by one or more circuits of bank and ditch. These defensive sites can have one or more entrances and are generally thought to function as places of storage for agricultural produce and livestock. They would also have functioned as a defensive enclosure when the local population were threatened.
Historic landscape	The physical manifestation in the landscape of the people's interaction with their natural and cultural environment, through time.
Historic Landscape Characterisation	The process by which historic components of the present day landscape are identified, described, categorised and evaluated both temporally and spatially in order to determine historic landscape character.
Horsiculture	The development of the countryside for pasturing or exercising horses.
Inlier	A mass of older stratified rocks forming an island showing through the surrounding new strata.

Intimate	A sense of enclosure combined with a varied landscape of small-scale features such as narrow valleys, small fields and copses, narrow winding watercourses and tracks or paths.
Iron Age	The Iron Age in England dates from 700BC to AD43. It is characterised by the use of iron and the construction of large hill forts.
Landscape character	A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.
Landscape Character Area	Geographically identifiable areas of landscape that have their own individual sense of place.
Landscape Character Type	Landscapes sharing broadly similar combinations of geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation, historical land use and settlement pattern, which may have been found in different parts of the country.
Landscape elements	Individual components that make up the landscape such as walls, trees, hedges.
Landscape features	A particular prominent or eye catching element such as a hillock, church tower, line of pylons.
Ladder field	Fields formed by short cross boundaries with long, parallel wavy boundaries which extend across the landscape.
Linear settlement	Settlement in a linear pattern, usually along a linear feature such as a road or watercourse.
Listed Building	A building or structure is listed when it is of special architectural or historic interest. They are placed on and protected by the statutory list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest (also referred to as the 'National Heritage List for England').
Long Barrow	An elongated mound raised over one or more burials with flanking quarry ditches. Predominantly occurred during the Neolithic period and housed numerous individuals.
Masking Deposit	This material represents a build up of deposits through often natural processes which covers earlier evidence of human activity. Most commonly this occurs in valley floors where there is alluvium (from deposition during flooding episodes) and colluvium (from soil creep down hill)
Medieval period	This period usually dates from AD1066 up to AD1650.
Medium-scale landscape	Refers to areas with large fields where hedgerows are still a significant feature of the landscape. Woodlands will be larger but less numerous.
Mesotropic grasslands	Neutral grasslands (neither acid nor calcareous) generally found on a loam soil and used for grazing or hay.
Middle Chalk	This is the oldest solid formation within the Borough, formed during the Cretaceous period; it is a hard white chalk with few flints.
Mire	Area of wet peatland; includes bog (acid) and fen (alkine).
Natural	Neither the work of, nor shaped by people.

NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework. This sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced.
Nucleated pattern	Settlement arranged in a clustered pattern, particularly around a focal feature such as a village green, square or church.
Osier bed	An area of willow planting (*Salix viminalis*) traditionally grown for basket weaving but often referred to any wet willow shrub planting.
Parliamentary fields	Fields created following an act of parliament. Often occurring during the later 18th and 19th centuries they are characteristically larger, more regular and have clearly surveyed, straight edges.
Pollard	A tree managed by cutting the trunk at head height to produce a rounded crown of new growth.
Post medieval period	Dating from AD1650 up until the present day.
Prairie field	The enclosures have been formed by loss of 19th century field boundaries by the expansion of field sizes during the 20th century.
Rank species	Plant species grow vigorously and profusely, out competing other species.
Ramsar site	Land identified as a wetland of international importance in relation to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (the Ramsar Convention) 1973.
Registered Historic Park and Garden	A site included on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in England. Registered parks and gardens are designated heritage assets and subject to the planning policies within the NPPF.
Regular Fields	A group of fields within the landscape which retain similar dimensions and form.
Roman Road	Constructed largely by the army to aid in resupply, communication and to allow for the rapid redeployment of armed forces to trouble spots the Roman road is often one of the defining landscape elements of Roman rule in a country. These features are typically well surveyed and often cross the landscape in a roughly straight line although topographical features and earlier landscape elements may deflect them from this path. They sometimes survive as earthworks in wooded or more marginal land. In a more developed agricultural landscape, the course of a Roman road often survives fossilised within later tracks, lanes, hedge lines and field boundaries. It must be remembered that the large highways are not the only roads to date from this period although they are often the only communication routes which survive within today's landscape.

Round Barrow	Circular mound or other form of earthwork features raised over one or more burials. Predominantly occurred during the Bronze Age period although the Anglo-Saxons erected some examples. It was also the case that some Saxon burials were inserted into Bronze Age barrows.
Remoteness	A sense of removal well away from urban and other developed areas into a rural landscape of little habitation.
River terraces	Deposits of often gravely sediment between a river floodplain and the valley sides.
Riparian	Relating to the bank of a river or stream.
Roman-British period	The period from AD43, when Britain was invaded by the armies of Rome. Extended up to the early 5th century AD when direct links with the continental Roman empire were severed.
Scheduled Monument (SM)	Formerly Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). Historic and archaeological sites, such as castle, hillforts or burial mounds, of national and international importance which are protected under the 1979 Ancient Monuments and Areas Act.
S.M.R.	Sites and Monuments Record. A collection of known archaeological data held by local authorities for planning purposes.
Scrub	Woody vegetation usually less than 5 metres high consisting mainly of shrubs, with some trees.
Seclusion	A sense of separation from but not necessarily far from urban and other developed areas, protected by screening such as topography or woodland.
Set aside	Agricultural land taken out of production, usually for a fixed period of time, in return for subsidies on the main crop, as defined by Council Regulation (EC) 1251/99.
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)	A Site of Importance for Nature Conservation is land which is considered to be of particular importance for nature conservation within Hampshire.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is the land notified as an SSSI under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981), as amended.
Skyline	Visible horizon
Small-scale landscape	Refers to areas with smaller size of fields, more numerous hedgerows and small copses.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	A Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is the land designated under Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora.
Special Protection Area (SPA)	A Special Protection Area (SPA) is the land classified under Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds.

Stagnogley soils	Slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged soils (usually clay).
Street furniture	Man made structures such as seats, signs, cycle racks etc designed to serve users of the road or street.
Time depth	The visible evidence in the landscape for change and continuity over periods.
Tranquillity	A sense of a lack of disturbance from either visual or noise intrusion.
Type 1 and Type 3 Water Meadows	These water meadows represent the simple and more complex forms of catchwork water meadow. This was a system whereby gravity was used to distribute water across the meadow. At its highest point the water was carried to the site in a leet before being channelled out across the raised beds of the meadow and from there into the drains. These forms of water meadow tended to be constructed in smaller river valleys where space was at a premium and often the valley sides were watered as well as the valley floor.
Type 2 and Type 4 Water Meadows	These water meadow types represent the simple and more complex forms of bedwork meadows to be found generally upon the floors of the wider river valleys. Upon these sites a series of earthworks were often laid out in a rectilinear pattern with water abstracted from the river and raised to the level of the meadow using a system of leets and sluices. Once at the correct level the water was moved across the meadow before entering the drains and flowing back into the river channel.
Upper Chalk	Formed during the Cretaceous period; this is a soft white chalk with many flint nodules.
Vernacular	Local domestic architecture and building materials.
Water meadow	A meadow or piece of low-lying land which has been irrigated to improve fertility via a series of earthworks which transport water to the field, across the surface of the field and back to the river.
Wavy field	Boundary to a field which displays a wavy as opposed to a straight alignment suggesting an un-surveyed nature.
Wetland	Areas of bog, fen, peatland or water whether natural or artificial.
Winterbourne	An intermittent stream that mainly flows during the winter months.

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J. Borough-wide Diagrams

Figure 1: Study Area

Figure 2: Landscape Character Types and Areas

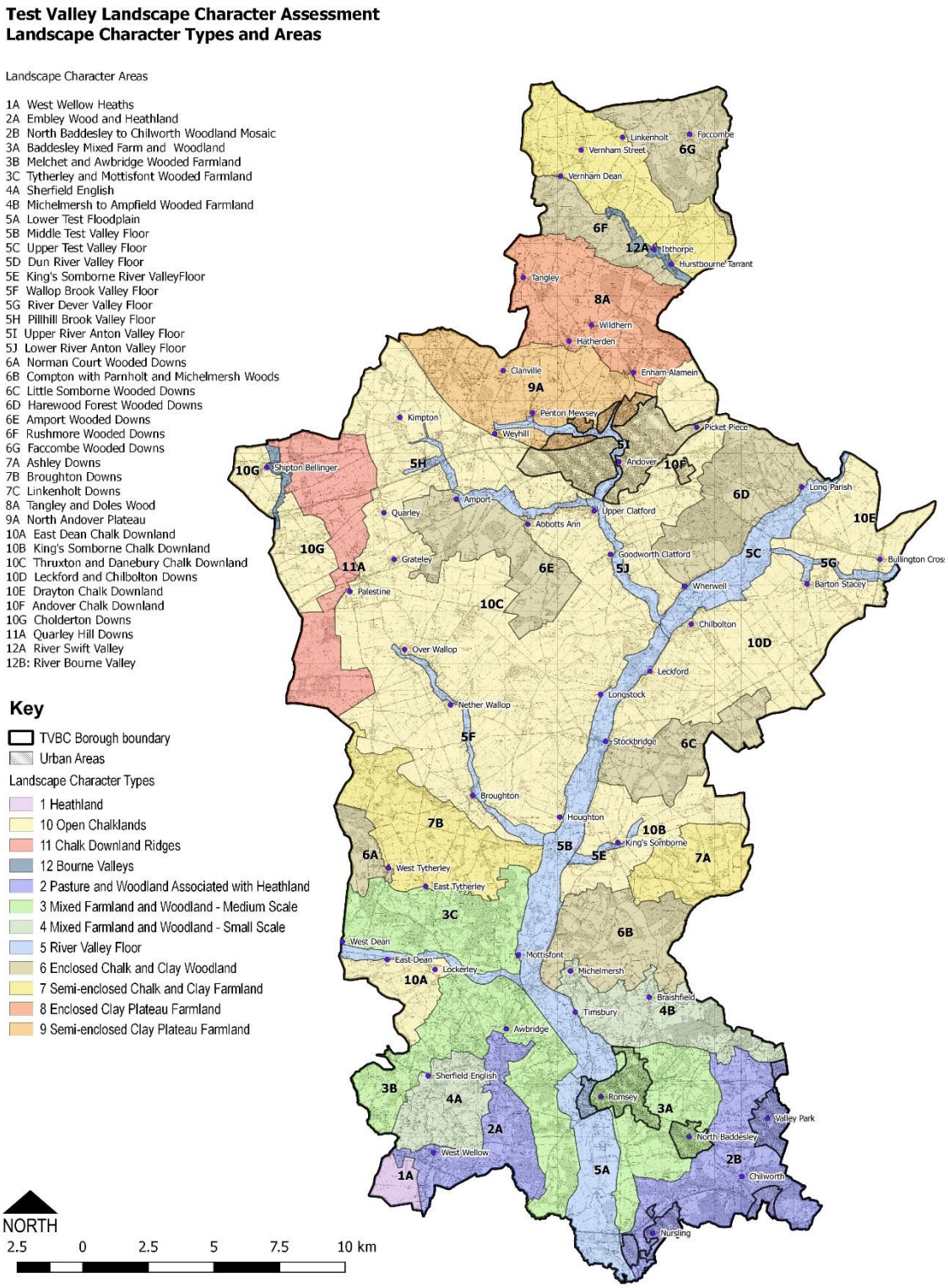


Figure 3: Landform

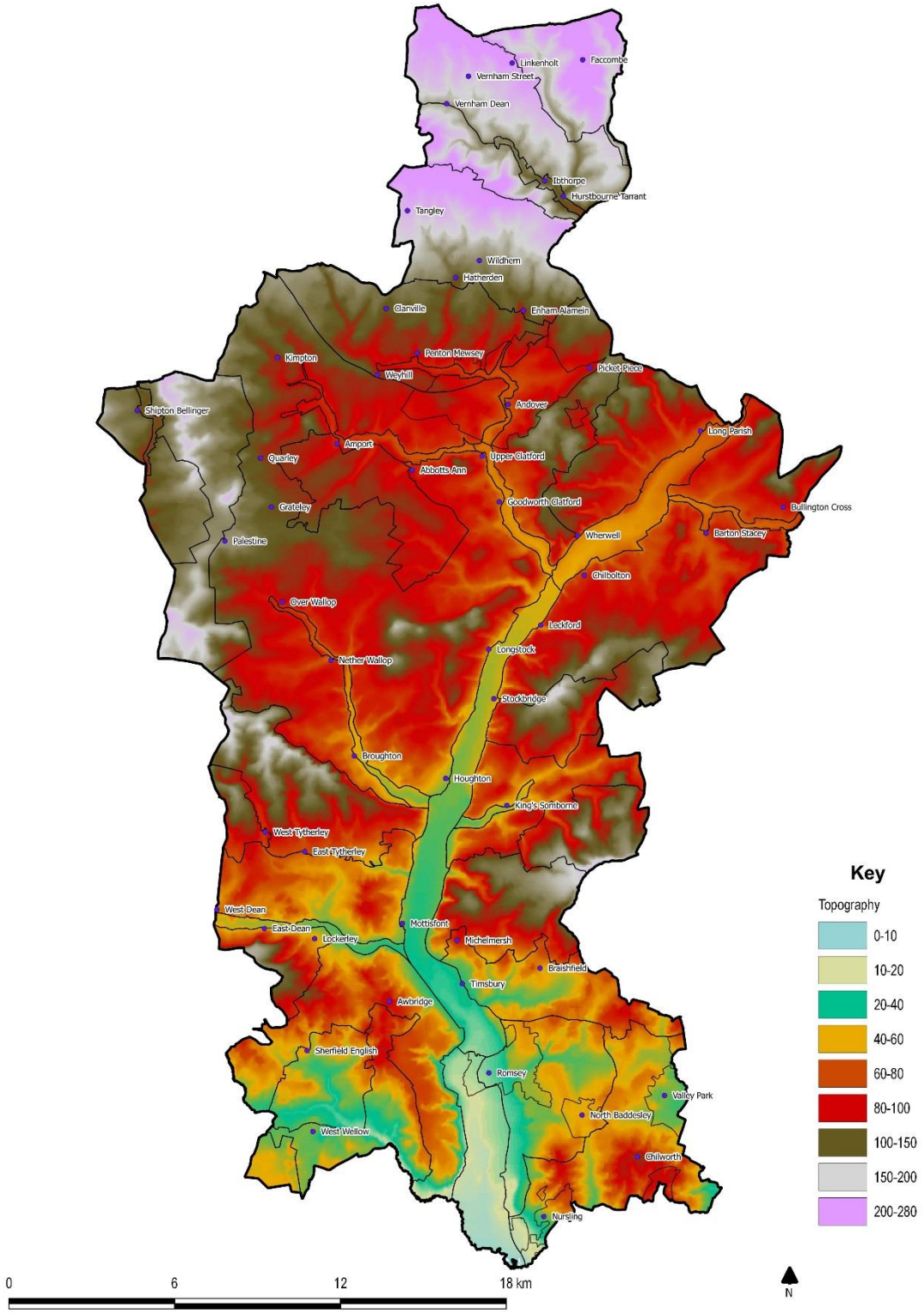


Figure 4: Nature Designations

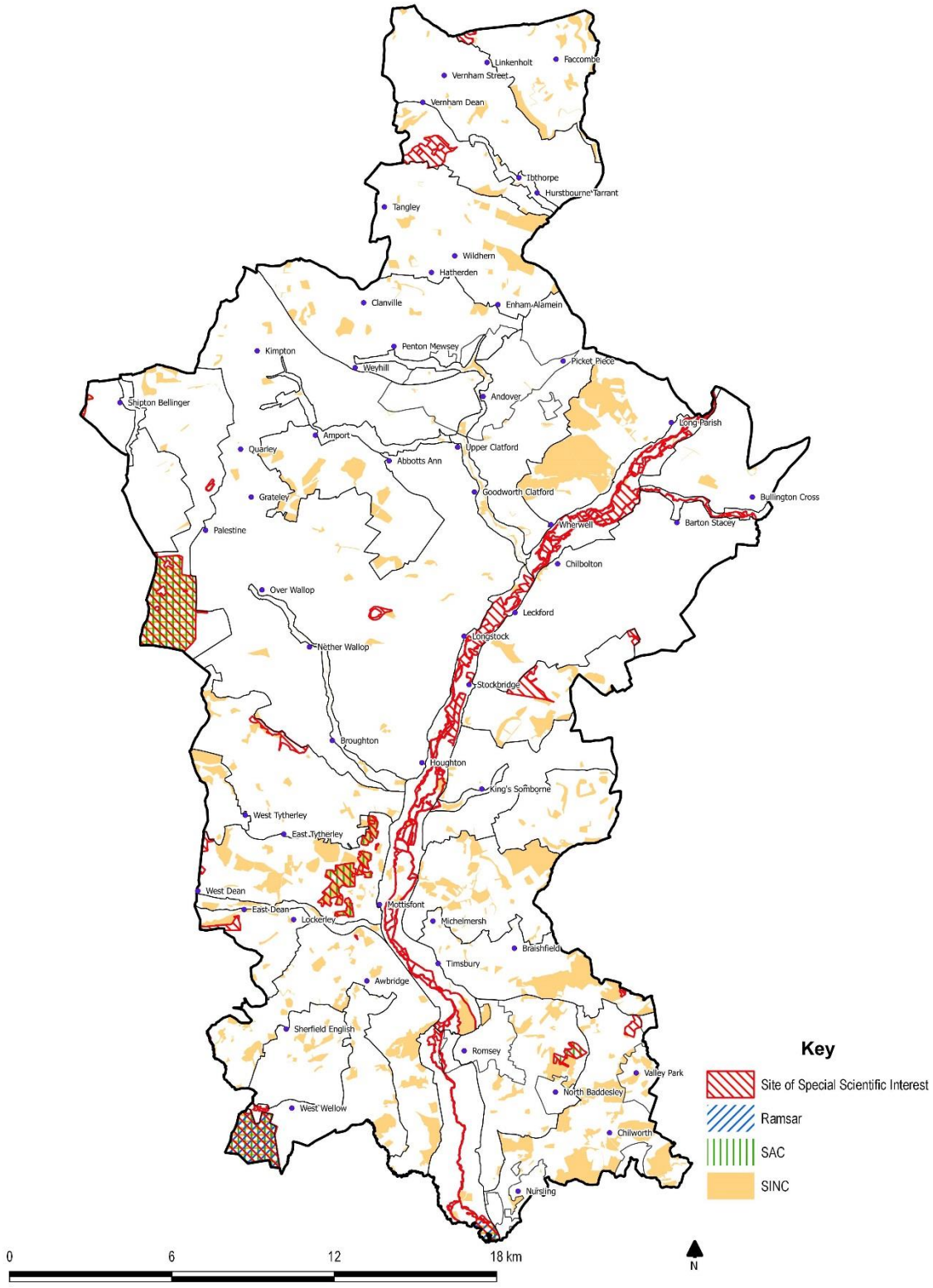
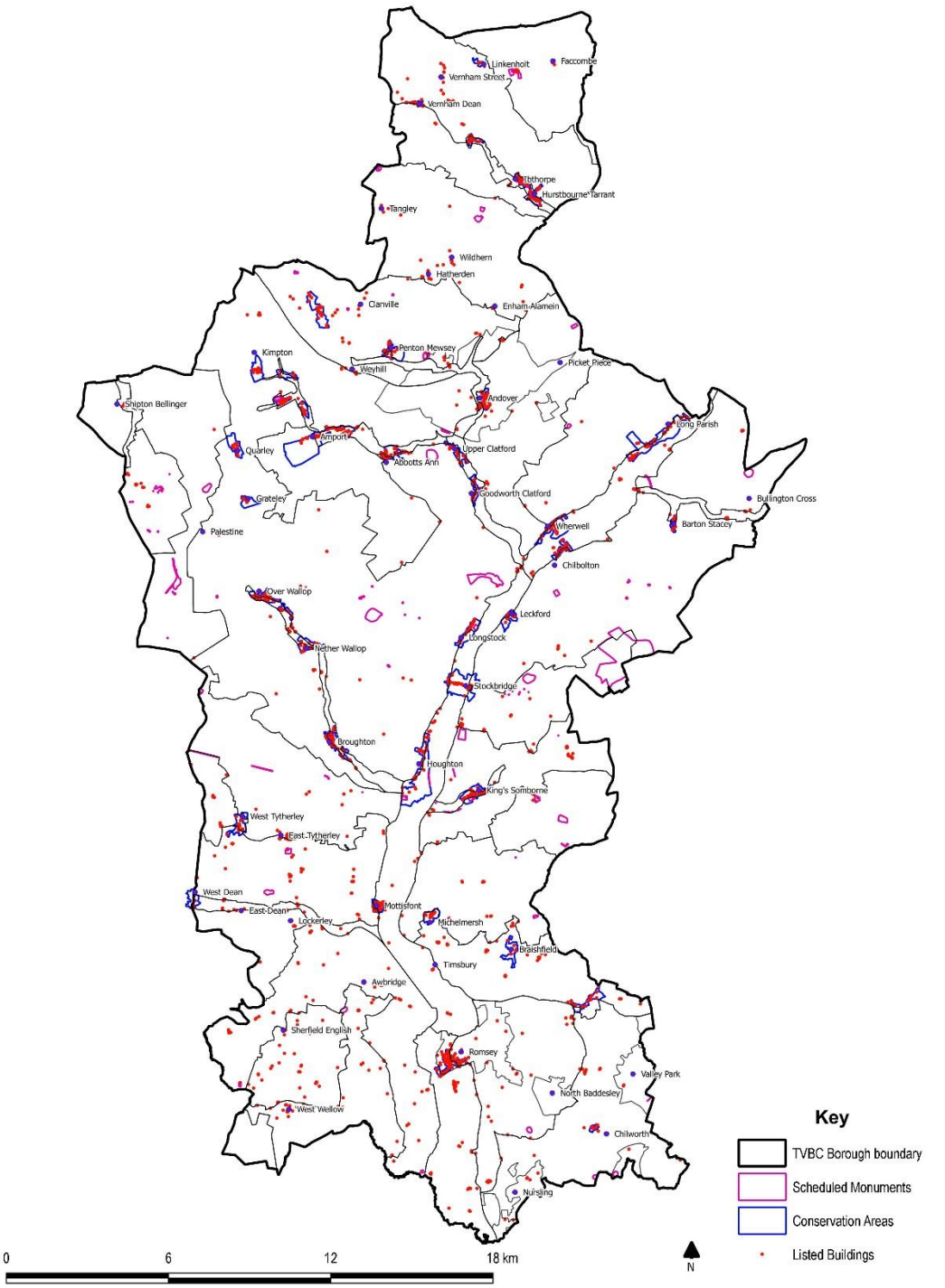


Figure 5: Historic designations



Appendix 1: Historic Landscape Character

Introduction

1. Sections relating to historic landscape, settlement development and time depth analysis from the 2004 Assessment, formerly included within Volume 4, are now provided as Appendices 1-3 in this 2018 Assessment[1].

2. The historic data sources included Hampshire Historic Landscape Assessment (HHLA) (1999)[2]; Hampshire Historic Towns Survey (no date available); Hampshire Village Survey (1994); Hampshire Sites and Monuments Record; printed and manuscript maps; historic records; published and unpublished documentary sources; aerial photographs; Local Record Offices and Local Studies Libraries.

3. Figures 6 and 7 at the foot of this Appendix show historical landscape character areas and settlements.

Background

4. Great Britain has been an island, physically separate from continental Europe, since around 10,000BC. From this period onward, the island has developed a rich and varied landscape through a combination of natural and man-made processes. Much evidence for, particularly man-made processes, survives as visible remains and are recognised in planning policy guidance and European law. These guidance documents and directives recognise that archaeological remains are a 'finite and non-renewable resource' deserving consideration and protection for its own inherent properties and linked to the concept of sustainable development[3].

Agricultural Development in Test Valley

5. The historic landscape character assessment identified two general but distinct areas within the Test Valley dominated by different general types of historic landscape. Throughout the northern and central portions of the Borough, large

[1] The bibliography for all 3 appendices is provided within Appendix 3.
[2] Lambrick, G. and Bramhill, P. (1999). *Hampshire historic landscape assessment.* Final Report.
[3] Glasson, J., Therival, R, & Chadwick, A. (1994). *Introduction to environmental impact assessment*. P.8

areas of parliamentary fields systems have been laid out during primarily the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This process of formal enclosure by act of parliament often involved the detailed surveying of field systems and the roads and tracks which ran through them. Within this area some discrete pockets of the earlier historic landscape continue to survive, most notably in a corridor to the northwest of Andover and in the north-eastern corner of the Borough. Here a patchwork of smaller, less regular fields dating to either the medieval or early post-medieval period, along with smaller assarted fields with some stands of pre-1810 woodland generally located upon capping deposits of clay with flints.

6. One result of such formal enclosure was often the substantial or total removal of earlier historic landscapes. However, within these newly laid out agricultural landscapes historic and prehistoric elements do survive. They are almost exclusively clearly visible and well defined earthworks such as barrows, long barrows, and hill forts may have survived because of the relative difficulty of removing them with simple tools and manual labour. The only linear monuments which survive to any degree across the valley are Roman roads although these generally survive within track, road and field boundaries. Few upstanding earthworks related to the road system from this period survive within the Test Valley although, particularly within the north of the Borough, their alignments are clearly visible in the historic landscape.

7. The southern boundary to the expanse of parliamentary field systems approximates the line where the chalk upland (to the north) meets the lowland alluvial clays and gravels at the southern end of the valley. To the south of this, in the zone of clays and gravels, the landscape is dominated by the remnants of historic woodland with large areas of assarting surviving and some more significant stands of copse and woodland. Assarting is the process of informal field development formed by the process of deforestation and is known to have been carried out throughout the medieval and post-medieval period. Assarting carried out during the medieval period is generally characterised by the relatively small sized and irregular field systems it results in. Post-medieval assarting often resulted in the creation of larger individual fields which, grouped

together, display a much more regular pattern with intersecting roads and tracks.

8. Throughout the Borough there remain discrete survivals of informal enclosure activity. The Hampshire Historic Landscape Assessment undertaken by the Oxford Archaeological Unit in 1999 found that this enclosure dated to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and resulted in a more organic form of field system which tended to retain old track ways and in certain circumstances general field boundary alignments. This is contrary to the parliamentary enclosure which was planned (or formal) and often altered whole areas of landscape. The informal enclosure of this period is often to be found within relatively smaller portions of land and probably represents the actions of individual farmers looking to rationalise their farming processes in the face of growing agricultural change. The largest area of such activity in the Borough can be found to the north and north west of Andover around the villages of Penton Mewsey, Charlton, Hatherden and throughout the parish of Tangley. Here a mixture of regular fields with wavy boundaries and regular ladder fields dominate the landscape and represent an unusual survival of an informally enclosed agricultural landscape within later parliamentary field systems. To the south, survivals are considerably more discrete possibly following the general pattern of smaller field systems and assarting upon the heavier clays and gravels. The best example from this area is a group of surviving regular fields with wavy boundaries to the east of Romsey close by Whitenap.

9. In conclusion, geological variations then would appear to have a significant impact upon the development of the historic landscape with the chalk upland in the north favouring the development of open arable farming through parliamentary field enclosure during the eighteenth and nineteenth century. In the south of the Borough, on the clays and gravels, smaller and more discrete field systems and wooded areas survive. The deeper, richer soils would appear to favour woodland development and this gave way during the later medieval

and early post-medieval period largely to assarting and limited parliamentary field enclosure.

The Influence of Woodland on the Borough

10. This process of woodland retention and the development of an assarted landscape dominates the southern end of the Test Valley. Assarting and woodland stretch across the width of the valley and as far south as the heathland commons of Canada and Plaitford Green. This historic environment produces a more secluded and enclosed landscape with smaller tree and hedge-lined lanes which wind through medieval and early postmedieval irregular field systems. The southern portion of the Borough then retains numerous drove roads connecting the more forested regions with the upland areas and with the river valleys. The New Forest itself retains numerous such roads and trackways throughout its extent linking the outer tracts of ancient forest farmland with the woodland heart and the areas where (throughout the medieval, post-medieval and into the modern period) rights of common can to this day still be invoked.

11. Within the south western portion of Test Valley, the influence of the New Forest must be borne in mind when considering the development of the historic landscape. The New Forest was created as a royal hunting forest for the sport of deer and wild pig hunting by William I (also known as William the Conqueror) in 1079 when it was given the title *'Nova Foresta',* literally the 'New Forest'. The process of forest law protected the environment for the ruler's pleasure with a formal court of law developed to oversee the management of the forest and to punish transgressors of the Royal Law. The area covered by Royal Law and so part of the forest reached its greatest extent between 1220 and 1281 during the reigns of Henry III and Edward I. At this time the River Blackwater in Test Valley demarcated the northern most boundary of the 'Large Bounds' perambulatory. Concessions by later rulers resulted in the granting of what are now referred to under the blanket term as 'the rights of common'. This grants certain rights and privileges to plots of land both within and in the area surrounding the forest and relate to the gathering of fuel, digging of clay and the grazing of animals on the

common land. The combined pressures of rising agricultural land requirements and the growth of the logging industry for shipbuilding resulted in a gradual but distinct alteration in the forest heartland and on its periphery.

12. The remains of the deforestation process are still visible in the historic landscape of the southern area of Test Valley. Assarting and isolated woodland survivals are indicators of the gradual denudation of the New Forest and its periphery which occurred towards the end of the medieval period and throughout the post-medieval period. This process also affected what is known as the 'Ancient Forest Farmland', agricultural land which extended outside the formal boundaries of the forest but which retained links, either direct or indirect, to the management of the forest. The eighteenth and nineteenth century predilection for opening out farmland and formalising the agricultural landscape appears largely to have bypassed the southern area of Test Valley. Areas of parliamentary field enclosure do exist within this area although these do not cover significant areas of land. Parliamentary field systems in the southern area of Test Valley do generally appear to be located close to the main river courses and this may have influenced field development during the later post-medieval period.

13. Work within Zion Hill Copse[4] in the south of the Borough has recovered significant evidence of the survival of previously unknown earthworks and other archaeological sites within a wooded environment. Work within the copse recovered a pottery indicating Bronze Age activity and the remains of a small ditched enclosure with settlement evidence dating to the middle to late Iron Age. The study at Zion Hill Copse indicates the potential for below ground archaeology and earthworks to survive within a forested environment. As such care must be taken not only when working in forested environments but also when planting new forests. A recent study in the Republic of Ireland has demonstrated the considerable impact that new plantations can have upon archaeological deposits[5]. It must also be borne in mind the potentially dramatic

[4] Test Valley Borough Council (2003). Valley Park. From Prehistory to the Present Day. Romsey, TVBC

[5] Johnson, G. (1998). Archaeology and Forestry in Ireland. Kilkenny, The Heritage Council.

impact that many nineteenth century plantations may have already had upon archaeological deposits within them.

The Later Post-Medieval Impact upon Agriculture in the Borough

14. The later post-medieval period and particularly the later eighteenth century up to the middle of the nineteenth century witnessed rapid advances in agricultural technology and is commonly identified in text books as the 'Agrarian Revolution'. The laying out of parliamentary field systems identified in the previous paragraphs was accompanied by the substantial redevelopment of the floodplains and meadows of river valleys throughout the counties of England. This redevelopment of the floodplains resulted in the construction of systems of water meadows to provide fresh water to the formal fields which flanked the river courses. These meadows provided two crops of grass a year and allowed the storing of fodder for the over wintering of stock. Prior to this an annual slaughter of livestock had taken place during November with only breeding stock retained for the following year. The water meadow then provided a valuable source of food early in the year and a good supply of fodder through the winter months. It was also essential for pastoral farming which appears to have been particularly prevalent within the southern portion of Test Valley.

15. Water meadows also provided a good method of controlling water levels within the river basin and could often prevent flooding downstream by channelling water off into the flanking fields, holding it there for a day then reintroducing it into the river. This process could reduce a flood spike and save settlements downstream and is a method which has been used recently to protect the village of Downton on the river Avon in Wiltshire[6]. The potential of the water meadow was soon recognised by Test Valley farmers and their banks, ditches and sluice gates have been charted along the River Test and many of its tributary rivers. The main river valleys were furnished with large systems of bedwork meadows where water was directed to each field via a complex system of sluices and raised banks. Catchwork meadows were constructed along smaller rivers such as the Wallop Brook where gravity, not sluices, supplied the

[6] Cook, H. *pers comm.* June 2003.

water to the fields. The dominant form of water meadow within the Test Valley is the bedwork system and this is to be found along almost the entire length of the River Test and upon many of the smaller tributary rivers. The location of water meadows within the Borough does not appear to be influenced by the underlying geology but is clearly dependent upon the topography of the river valley.

16. By the middle of the nineteenth century most of the river valleys within the Borough contained some form of water meadow system. However, during the latter part of the nineteenth century agricultural depressions, the development of improved farming techniques, new crops, insecticides and fertilisers resulted in their steady decline. Many were either left untended or their earthworks were levelled and their ditches backfilled. A desk-based study by the Oxford Archaeological Unit has identified many new and previously unknown water meadows within the Test Valley and field testing may find that many areas of currently identified 'miscellaneous valley floor enclosures'. These may in truth be the remains of relict water meadow systems. The water meadow system, like the New Forest, had an indirect effect upon the surrounding agricultural landscape. Many small tracks and roads were constructed to provide a direct link between upland pastures and the water meadows upon the valley floor. They survive today in part because their main drains and leets have become field boundaries and the banks and drainage channels have weathered. They represent a form of enclosure and the further expense of opening out and modifying these low lying and often marshy areas was not an option for many smaller farmers; it would have required groups to club together to provide the capital and labour for their construction.

17. Several areas of river valley common survive throughout the Borough. These areas of land provided common grazing rights for the settlements close by and formed an important resource for the farming communities of the river valleys. Examples survive along the principal river valleys although good example survive at Common Marsh south of Stockbridge, Bransbury Common (west of Bransbury village) and Tidbury Common to the northeast of Barton Stacey.

These valley floor commons often survive as marshy and considerably overgrown areas of marginal land and it is likely that these areas represented marginal land throughout the medieval and post-medieval period. Their continued survival attests to the relatively poor nature of the conditions they provide and today they provide a valuable natural and historical resource within the Borough.

18. The process of formal planting and reforestation appears to be present largely within the southern area of Test Valley. In the southwest this is associated with the development of inclosures of formal plantations in the New Forest during the nineteenth century. In the southeast many of the existing forested areas were augmented by the laying out of plantations in the nineteenth century. These may have been laid out in an attempt to restock the nations rapidly dwindling stocks of timber. Evidence of this shortage may come from the increased importation of large supplies of pine from many of the Baltic countries. The replanting of areas of forest predominantly in the south of the Borough fits well with our understanding of the underlying geology and the impact this may have had upon the development of a forested environment within this area during historic and prehistoric times. The presence of clay deposits would not have favoured medieval and early postmedieval farming techniques associated with arable agriculture. Consequently, the growth of forested areas and favouring of pastoral agriculture developed within this area of Test Valley. During the nineteenth century, in particular, the laying out of new plantations and reforestation of previously assarted land resulted in a general increase in the total forested area of Test Valley.

19. The impact of eighteenth and nineteenth century land management on the historic landscape of Test Valley has been identified above in both the setting out of large tracts of parliamentary field systems, the development of the water meadow system and the creation of larger assarted fields. These agricultural land management techniques indicate a rapidly developing industrialised farming landscape. Such developments inevitably impacted upon the historic landscape in a relatively short period of time. Prior to this period farming

techniques and field layout had changed and developed only gradually, the size and scale of developments during particularly the nineteenth century resulted in often dramatic alterations to the landscape. Such far-reaching developments required substantial capital investment and so behind these changes was an increasingly wealthy landed elite.

20. Throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries rising costs incurred through parliamentary enclosure, water meadow construction (where required) and the employment of new and expensive techniques and processes caused extreme hardship among many farming families. This coupled with a series of catastrophic agricultural depressions resulted in many farmers selling their land and moving into the rapidly developing towns and cities or falling upon the mercy of the local workhouse. During this period, substantial parcels of land were available at a relatively low cost and this permitted some wealthy individuals to purchase large tracts of agricultural land. The move towards parliamentary enclosure resulted in the opening up of field systems and a general increase in their average size while more modern farming techniques permitted greater efficiency in the farming of large farms. Consequently the number of individual farms declined while the average size of farms increased dramatically.

21. In conclusion, the Test Valley Borough retains pockets of medieval/early post-medieval landscape elements within the southern portion of the Borough and to the northwest and northeast of Andover. Elsewhere, the field systems are dominated by the formal parliamentary enclosure of the eighteenth and nineteenth century. Here, large well planned field systems have, by and large, cleared away much of the earlier historic landscape. This development often represented a large scale planned redesigning of the landscape and so, its impact upon earlier elements was often more far reaching than previous, piecemeal landscape changes. It is for this reason that the southwestern, northeastern and northwestern portions of the Borough retain greater historic landscape diversity with a melange of landscape elements implemented often on an ad hoc basis.

The Influence of the Landed Classes and Large Estates upon the Development of the Borough

22. Many of the larger estates and country houses within the Test Valley were constructed during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and owe much of their prosperity to the rich farmland in which they sit. The HHLA undertaken by the Oxford Archaeological Unit and this assessment identified pre and post-1810 estates and parkland based upon cartographic evidence. One consequence of this is that little direct analysis can be undertaken concerning the growth and development of sixteenth and seventeenth century estates. Historic parkland, the 'Big House' and any associated farm complexes are generally evenly scattered throughout the Borough. In the southern portion of the Borough, where the underlying geology is clay and gravels, the parkland estates do appear to be more closely spaced and this may indicate a reduced sphere of influence. In these areas the impact of agricultural industrialisation is markedly smaller than in the north of the county and so it is possible that greater numbers of small holders managed to retain ownership of land during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

23. It must be noted that the estate or parkland as it stands today often represents the formal gardens of the main house and possibly a home farm complex. This does not take into account its sphere of influence particularly upon any settlements which served the main house or upon the surrounding agricultural landscape it controlled and often rented out to tenant farmers. The tenant farmer, their family and hired labourers, probably undertook the day-to-day management of the farm. It is difficult to estimate the level of overall control that the landowner exercised upon their farmland and this would vary from landlord to landlord. The overarching strategy and financing of major projects almost certainly rested with the landlord and their appointed representatives and so reclamation, water meadow construction and the amalgamation of fields to increase their size was probably a strategic decision by the landlord.

24. This process of strategic control exercised by landlords may provide an explanation for several discrete anomalies within the overall pattern of the

historic landscape. For example, the post-1810 parkland of Stanbridge Earls is located within a landscape dominated largely by parliamentary field systems. This runs contrary to the general historic landscape pattern which is one of small and medium sized assarted fields and some pre-1810 woodland. This anomaly may then represent the effect of a major landlord (based at Hursley and who owned both the Stanbridge Earls and Awbridge Danes estates) upon surrounding farmland. Other examples can be found in the north of the Borough at Hatherden House where regular fields with wavy boundaries (an informal enclosure process undertaken largely during eighteenth century) dominate the landscape surrounding the main house and its immediate grounds.

25. Large houses affected the surrounding landscape in ways other than the indirect management of their farm estates. Throughout the later eighteenth century and into the nineteenth century the development of formal landscaped grounds and gardens close by the house expanded out into the landscape. Sight lines and routes for promenading either on foot, on horse or by coach required that more of the landscape be set aside for the creation of 'gardens' with which to impress family, friends and visitors. Increasingly the informal garden landscape became fashionable with the creation of vistas and viewing points created at various points within the estate both to view the landscape and to admire the house within its landscape. With this in mind stands of trees were positioned upon ridgelines and throughout the landscaped gardens to provide interesting views and offer changes of scenery along with privacy and a change of experience for the visitor. This legacy has largely survived today with the landscapes surrounding many of the large houses retaining elements of their landscaped grounds.

26. The large house and estate often required a substantial labour force to ensure day-to-day maintenance of the house, its grounds and estate farms in the immediate vicinity. In Test Valley, many of the houses do not appear to have settlements directly associated with them. Such villages only appear to exist at Hatherden, Penton Mewsey and Penton Grafton. In these cases, the neighbouring estate is seen to influence the growth and development of the

village, however this will be introduced in greater detail within the settlement analysis section (Appendix 2).

The Influence of Rapid Settlement Development during the Nineteenth and Twentieth Century

27. The influence of nineteenth and twentieth century settlement development appears not to have impacted substantially upon the majority of the Test Valley Borough. The major impact upon the historic landscape character appears to occur in the southeastern portion of the Borough. Here, the rapid growth of the Southampton conurbation and its commuter settlements of Chandler's Ford and Nursling, step hand-in-hand with noticeable housing developments in many of the smaller villages. Areas of larger assarted fields and plantations are found within and between the agglomerated settlements although these features are predominantly associated with landscape change during the nineteenth century. Further north, Romsey and Andover have also developed considerably from their medieval and early post-medieval cores. Elsewhere, the smaller villages have experienced substantially less impact from recent settlement development and the further north from Southampton, the lower the relative level of recent housing.

28. The development of ancillary services such as sewage treatment stations and discrete areas for industrial development, has been associated with the growth of settlements within the Borough. The planning and construction of industrial estates is largely associated with the major settlement centres at Andover, Romsey and the Southampton conurbation. These developments would appear to contain light to medium industrial processes unlikely to substantially affect the surrounding historic environment. Gravel extraction, located primarily within the southern portion of the valley of the River Test, has destroyed further evidence of historic landscapes and specific archaeological sites upon the valley floor. The growth of settlement and increase in free time during the latter part of the twentieth century, coupled with a move to increase levels of fitness particularly in schoolchildren has given rise to the setting aside of land for playing fields and the construction of numerous golf courses around settlement centres. The creation of such sporting areas may have dramatically affected the historic

landscapes particularly around major areas of settlement and will have extended that impact out from the settlement focus into the surrounding countryside.

29. The communication network throughout the Borough remains stable with relatively little new road development throughout the later twentieth century. The old central road along the first river terrace of the valley between Romsey and Andover remains the principal route from north to south in the valley. The road network within Test Valley may provide an explanation as to the location and subsequent development of settlements within the Borough and in particular those away from the valley of the River Test. The low intensity nature of the road network throughout much of the Borough and particularly away from the valley floors may explain why only small amounts of new building within Test Valley's villages have been carried out. Similarly it may point to why the majority of housing developments have been close to the two major towns and the major arterial routes through the Borough.

Figure 6: Historic Landscape Character Areas and Settlement Development

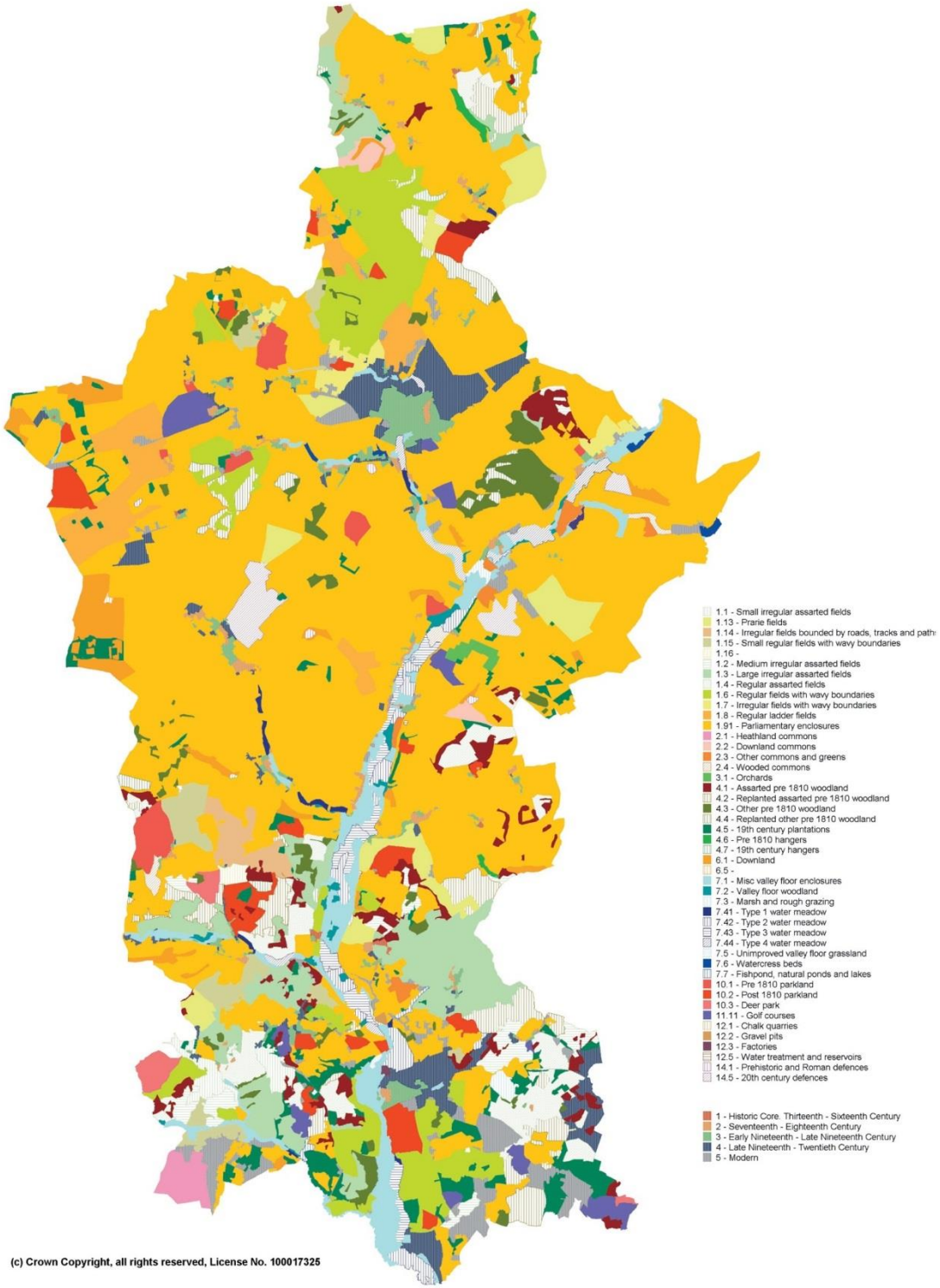
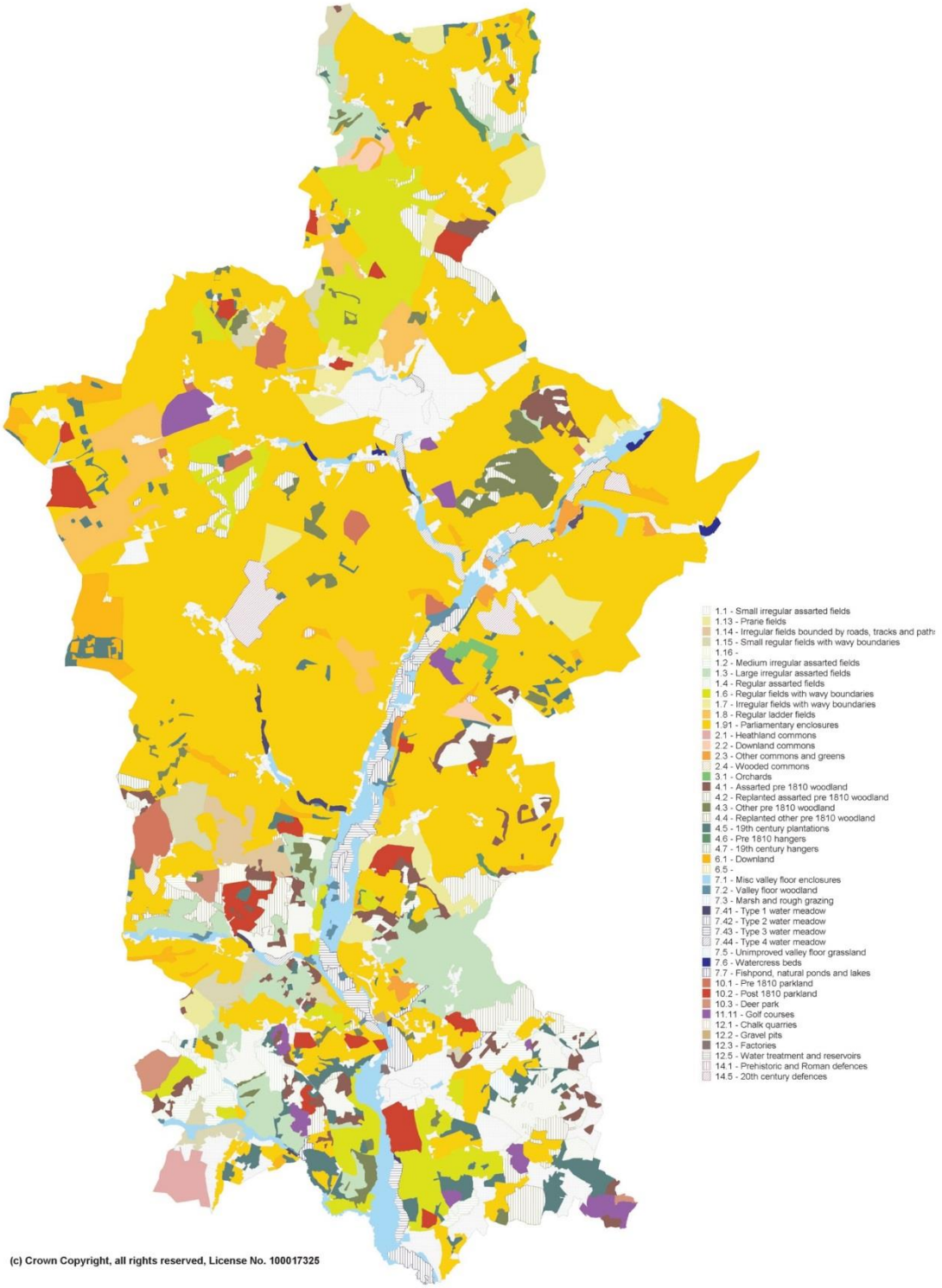


Figure 7: Historic Landscape Character Areas



Appendix 2: Settlement Analysis

Introduction

1. Sections relating to historic landscape, settlement development and time depth analysis from the 2004 Assessment, formerly included within Volume 4, are now provided as Appendices 1-3 in this 2018 Assessment[1].

2. Settlement analysis focused upon the identification of types of settlement and their relationship to the surrounding landscape. In doing this it was recognised that a key determinant of most forms of settlement is the topography and, to a lesser extent the geology, of the surrounding landscape. The approach in this analysis followed that outlined in the 'Winchester District Landscape Assessment'. These types were generally readily transferable to the context of the Test Valley and provided a stable backdrop on which to hang the historic analysis of each settlement.

3. Within each settlement existing historic information retained within the Sites and Monuments Record, Listed Buildings information and charted in the '*Hampshire Historic Villages Survey*' was used to assess the historic growth of each settlement in Test Valley. Four main periods were identified for this historic assessment: historic core (medieval development); early post-medieval (AD1650-1810); later post-medieval (AD1811-1920) and modern (AD 1921- present day) (see Figure 8 below). This approach allowed the assessment of historic growth between settlements within Test Valley and at key periods in the historic development of the Borough.

4. The settlement types mentioned are briefly discussed below with their characteristics and historic development identified in general terms. Following this, there is a table including the main settlements present within the study. These have been grouped and alphabetised according to settlement type for ease of reference.

[1] The bibliography for all 3 appendices is provided within Appendix 3.

Chalk-Clay Spring Line Settlement Type

5. This settlement type is located along the geological line of change which runs through Test Valley. They tend to have one or more surviving historic cores and appear to have been well developed by the later medieval period. Springs and/or reservoirs can be identified within the area surrounding this settlement type. Examples of this settlement type identified during the study include Michelmersh and Braishfield.

6. The settlement pattern can either be dispersed nucleated, or linear development along a single road. They appear not have a specific form or pattern of growth and post-medieval development extends along several minor roads running away from the settlement. To the north of this line the landscape is dominated by the higher chalk uplands with extensive parliamentary field enclosure. To the south, we see a predominance of smaller field patterns, a more wooded landscape and the presence of assarting (particularly at the southern end of the Borough).

7. One or more well developed historic cores can be identified within such a settlement type which may or may not retain a manorial complex. Such settlements also often retain a church which contains surviving medieval fabric and this often represents the earliest datable standing remains within the settlement. The settlement appears to form around a nodal point within the landscape, often the juncture of several roads and initial growth develops around this point forming the nucleus of future settlement growth. This generally occurs during the earlier medieval period and is followed by a more linear progression along principle roads leading into the settlement during the later medieval period.

8. By the post-medieval period, settlement continues to extend along the more minor roads but does not appear to occur around the historic medieval core areas. More modern settlement fills in the gaps and may well have resulted in demolition of some portions of the historic core leading to the survival of one or more such features within a single settlement. The presence of springs or wells was often the prime reason for the development of such settlements, as

well as access to a varied and rich agricultural landscape (with chalk to the north and clays to the south). However, water is not such an issue by the later post-medieval period and reservoirs may now surround such settlements.

Chalk Downland: Dry Valley Settlement Type

9. The Dry Valley settlements of the chalk downland tend to conform to the shape of the valley they occupy and are often small, undeveloped linear settlements which conform to the contours of the valley in which they reside, as at King's Somborne and Vernham Dean. Ridgeway tracks and drove roads are often associated with this settlement type and they may in fact be located upon such communication routes. This settlement type is often located some distance away from available sources of water and may rely upon wells sunk into the chalk aquifer and the presence of 'winterbourne' streams.

10. There is little evidence to suggest Anglo-Saxon precursors to this current settlement type and most examples appear to have developed during the population expansions following the Norman Conquest, as suggested by place name evidence. Where Chalk Downland: Dry Valley settlements have an associated manorial complex, they tend to be located a distance away from the main historic core of the settlement. However, at King's Somborne, the manor site was located at John of Gaunt's Palace located within the centre of the historic settlement core. The priest of the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul at King's Somborne (a thirteenth century structure surviving within the later church)[2] administered to other communities (for example through the chapel at Stockbridge) and this may represent the presence of a classic minster church at King's Somborne[3].

Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type

11. These settlements can either be nucleated or linear in form although the linear form clustering along the downland tracks and roads represents a dominant type in the Borough. Not surprisingly this group of settlements is restricted to the northern portion of the Borough and is often located on prominent

[2] Pevsner, N & Lloyd, D. 2000. The Buildings of England. Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (p.312).
[3] Green, F. *pers.comm.* July 2004.

positions within the landscape. They regularly occupy hilltops (as at Charlton north of Andover) or the upper slopes of the downland (as at Shipton Bellinger in the west of the Borough) and are connected by ridgeway tracks and drove roads down to lower lying fields. Often located away from a ready source of fresh water, these hill top settlements often historically relied upon wells sunk into the chalk aquifer and upon the presence of 'winterbourne' streams. These settlements are often located within an open environment with few substantial stands of trees, copses and woods. Those stands of trees present are often located upon ridgelines and are referred to locally as 'hangers'.

12. It has been suggested that, during the Anglo-Saxon period, these upland areas remained largely uninhabited and that it wasn't until after AD1066 that large scale land management in these upland areas was undertaken. The presence of clay deposits would not have favoured medieval and early post-medieval farming techniques associated with arable agriculture. Consequently, the growth of forested areas and favouring of pastoral agriculture developed within this area of the Test Valley.

13. Within the small to medium sized examples, post-medieval settlement may extend a considerable distance away from the historic core generally along the main routes into and out of the settlement.

Chalk River Valley Settlement Type

14. This settlement type is located within the principal river valleys running through the cretaceous chalk geology of the Test Valley and represent the largest single group settlement type for the Borough. They are generally located upon the valley floor and can occupy one or both banks of the associated river. The Anna Valley provides excellent evidence of this with Upper Clatford and Abbott's Ann occupying a single bank of the Pilhill Brook while Goodworth Clatford straddles the watercourse. The river is often crossed by means of a ford or bridge as at Stockbridge and these settlements are generally located at points which allow the river to be crossed. Chalk River Valley settlements often stretch along the line of river creating a 'linear' type of settlement.

15. Historically the river valley settlements are probably occupied from the Anglo-Saxon period onward although the earliest physical evidence to date tends to point to a largely Norman occupation of the lower lying areas of the Test Valley. The church is often the oldest surviving building and is either located within the settlement or close-by, associated with a manor house. Where a bridge exists it is generally of later medieval or post-medieval date although may be located close by its predecessor.

Clay River Valley Settlement Type

16. The smaller examples of this settlement type tend to have a historic core which displays a well-dispersed linear pattern, often focused upon a main road running along the valley floor. The larger Clay River Valley settlements are often the focus of a network of roads and can straddle the main river channel or channels lying as they do on the floodplain. Such low lying settlements, operating as communications nodes, often develop in a more nucleated form over time although the settlement will tend to develop along the main arterial routes at a faster rate. This form of development is visible in the settlement plans at both East Dean and Awbridge. These settlements are often located within an open arable farmland landscape with water meadows and valley floor enclosures dominating the landscape close to the river. Further away, parliamentary field systems dominate the landscape both upon the floodplain and successive river terraces.

17. Historically, these settlements tend to be focused upon a small manorial complex which controlled the landscape. The manorial complex appears to be closely associated with the historic core of this settlement type and it may be that the ‘village’ settlement has developed around the manor after its foundation. The church is generally located within this settlement type and this almost always contains the earliest datable architectural fabric within the settlement. Within these settlements the church is often closely associated with the manorial complex.

18. Romsey is the largest example of a Clay River Valley settlement having developed from a small nucleus during the Anglo-Saxon and medieval

periods. This settlement was focused traditionally around the Romsey Abbey complex which, archaeological evidence to date suggests, was a centre for significant industrial activity during the late Anglo-Saxon period (c.10th Century AD).

Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type

19. Settlements within this area of Test Valley tend to be nucleated and located at the juncture of two or more roads. They also tend to be reasonably well developed with a discernible historic core. Later post-medieval development extends away from the main settlement core a considerable distance and can form several subnuclei away from the main settlement as can be seen at Tangley and Appleshaw in the north of the Borough.

20. The historic core is generally medieval in date and often retains an early medieval church and manorial farm. The settlement pattern across the areas of Clay Upland and Plateau is one of extended settlements located relatively close together as opposed to the more open pattern on the chalk geology. This landscape offered a well-mixed and diverse environment suitable for both arable and small-scale pastoral farming and as such may have been well-populated from an early date.

Common Edge Settlement Type

21. Settlements belonging to the Common Edge type tend to have a relatively well-developed and nucleated historic core with often a single road extending through the settlement. Later post-medieval and modern development appears to extend along roadways and do not appear to surround the historic core of the settlement.

22. This settlement type appears generally to have a well defined historic core which may relate to an increase in squatting on common land which is documented during the later sixteenth and seventeenth centuries as populations rose. Late post-medieval and modern growth has extended along the main roads through these settlements. A ‘green’ area and nucleus can often be identified within the historic core of these settlements. Where a medieval church survives, it generally retains the earliest datable architectural

fabric within the settlement and is often closely associated with the manorial complex.

Estate Village Settlement Type

23. Such settlements may either have developed over hundreds of years but have subsequently come to service a nearby estate, or may have been specifically located and constructed for this purpose as at Hatherden and the Pentons northwest of Andover. These settlement types tended to develop or experience significant growth during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and this often saw the construction of a new church or chapel and possibly a small schoolhouse.

24. Their plan form can be either simple or relatively well-developed depending upon the later history of the settlement but in all cases these settlements are located close to the formal boundary of the estate complex. Settlement development during the eighteenth and nineteenth century generally occurs at or along this boundary and often the main road to the estate extends through the village. The settlement was often the principal source of labour for the nearby estate providing staff for the house, and gardens and farm labourers to work the home farm fields. The estate became the defining influence in the development of the settlement and may have resulted in the re-siting of village buildings or the extension of the village. Such villages were often well-maintained (or at least appeared to be so) forming part of the overall impression a visitor to the estate may develop.

Heath Associated Settlement Type

25. This settlement type tends to be a post-medieval/ modern development focused upon the main roads running through the area. Where a historic core does exist it is as one or more farmsteads with the more modern settlements developing around these farms in one or more directions. The presence of roads are the principal driving factor behind the development of this more modern settlement. These settlements although generally located close by a main road are nucleated in nature and represent what may be a single phase of wholesale modern development rather than the gradual, more organic

growth of either the late medieval or early post-medieval period. Examples of this settlement type include West Wellow and Ampfield, both in the south of the Borough.

26. The pattern of more ‘modern’ wholesale design and settlement construction has often resulted in relatively complex, rectilinear street patterns associated away from the main arterial routes.

27. Increasing cultivation of marginal land has seen the landscape surrounding many common land settlements change radically particularly since the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. During this time much of the Borough’s common land was enclosed by act of Parliament creating a settlement largely surrounded by parliamentary field enclosures.

Scattered Clay Lowland Settlement Type

28. Much like the Clay River Valley Settlement Type, the smaller examples of this settlement type tend to have a historic core which displays a dispersed linear pattern, often focused upon a principal road. These settlements are associated with a much more wooded environment and a mixture of wood, copse and assarted field systems dominate particularly the southwestern portion of the Test Valley Borough.

29. Where the Scattered Clay Lowland settlement has a historic core extensive post-medieval development does not appear to have occurred. However, some examples do appear to be wholly post-medieval in date (such as Buckholt). The relatively close proximity of Romsey and Southampton may have influenced the development of such new settlements. However, it may equally be the case that, ownership by a single landowner, coupled with areas of small enclosures in private holdings made the development of land for agricultural purposes untenable. Instead, such areas would be better suited to later postmedieval housing development and hence the growth in settlement activity during this period.

30. Where a historic settlement core is present, it tends to be nucleated and closely associated with a manor house and medieval church. Generally

several separate roads serve each settlement and these largely delineate the extent of medieval development within the settlement nucleus. Where a medieval church survives, it generally retains the earliest datable architectural fabric within the settlement and is often closely associated with the manorial complex.

Table 1: Settlements and Settlement Type

Settlement Name	Settlement Type
Braishfield	Chalk-Clay Spring Line Settlement Type
East Tytherley	Chalk-Clay Spring Line Settlement Type
Michelmersh	Chalk-Clay Spring Line Settlement Type
West Tytherley	Chalk-Clay Spring Line Settlement Type
Barton Stacey	Chalk Downland: Dry Valley Settlement Type
King's Somborne	Chalk Downland: Dry Valley Settlement Type
Netherton	Chalk Downland: Dry Valley Settlement Type
Vernham Dean	Chalk Downland: Dry Valley Settlement Type
Andover (post-medieval)	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Ashley	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Charlton	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Faccombe	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Grateley	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Kimpton	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Linkenholt	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Little Somborne	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Quarley	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Shipton Bellinger	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Up Somborne	Chalk Downland: Hill Top Settlement Type
Abbotts Ann	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Amport	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Andover (historic core)	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Bossington	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Bransbury	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Broughton	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Chilbolton	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Fyfield	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Goodworth Clatford	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Horsebridge	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Houghton	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Hurstbourne Tarrant	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Ibthorpe	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Leckford	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type

Settlement Name	Settlement Type
Little Ann	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Longparish	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Longstock	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Lower Bullington	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Middle Wallop	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Monxton	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Newton Stacey	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Nether Wallop	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Over Wallop	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Sarson	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Stockbridge	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Upper Bullington	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Upper Clatford	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Upton	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Wherwell	Chalk River Valley Settlement Type
Awbridge	Clay River Valley Settlement Type
East Dean	Clay River Valley Settlement Type
Romsey (historic core)	Clay River Valley Settlement Type
Romsey (post-medieval)	Clay River Valley Settlement Type
Appleshaw	Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
Clanville	Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
Enham Alamein	Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
Smannell	Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
Tangley	Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
Thruxton	Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
Weyhill	Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
Wildhern	Clay Upland and Plateau Settlement Type
Canada	Common Edge Settlement Type
East Wellow	Common Edge Settlement Type
Plaitford	Common Edge Settlement Type
Hatherden	Estate Village Settlement Type
Mottisfont	Estate Village Settlement Type
Penton Grafton	Estate Village Settlement Type
Penton Mewsey	Estate Village Settlement Type
Ampfield	Heath Associated Settlement Type
Chilworth	Heath Associated Settlement Type
North Baddesley	Heath Associated Settlement Type
Nursling	Heath Associated Settlement Type
West Wellow	Heath Associated Settlement Type

Settlement Name	Settlement Type
Buckholt	Scattered Clay Lowland Settlement Type
Lockerley	Scattered Clay Lowland Settlement Type
Melchet Park	Scattered Clay Lowland Settlement Type
Sherfield English	Scattered Clay Lowland Settlement Type

The Development of Test Valley's Principal Settlements

Andover

31. The name Andover may derive from two separate Celtic words 'An' or spring and 'Dwr' meaning water or more likely derives from the British word 'Onnudubri' meaning 'ash water'[4]. Settlement at Andover would appear to have its roots in the Anglo-Saxon period following the withdrawal of the legions from the British Isles in AD410. Archaeological investigations around Andover have identified settlement evidence at Old Down Farm (interpreted as a medium-sized Iron Age and Romano-British farmstead). To the north at Charlton, work to the north of the Portway during the 1960s recovered considerable evidence of Iron Age, Roman and Saxon activity including pottery, animal bone and metal working evidence. This material would suggest the presence of settlement and industrial activities close by Andover probably associated with the two Roman roads. Two Roman roads intersect close by and recent excavations have recovered evidence of Roman burials in the southeastern area of Andover. The first historical reference to Andover comes in the 10th Century when the will of King Eadred bequests 'Andeferas' to the new Minster at Winchester however, by Domesday the manor appears to remain in Royal hands.

32. The Domesday Book indicates the presence of a substantial settlement with around 500 inhabitants and six watermills. The presence of so many mills at Andover supports the location of the historic core on the valley floor and its excellent location caused the settlement to thrive with the woollen industry the principal reason for its success. It is estimated that, by the fourteenth century, the population may have swelled to 1,200 people. In 1175, Andover was awarded a charter giving the guild of merchants similar rights to those in Winchester and in 1256 a court was provided for the small market town. The

[4] Coates, R. (1993). The Place Names of Hampshire.

main High Street is recorded for the first time in 1298[5] and the area around this early thoroughfare appears to have been the focus of the medieval settlement. Two areas of medieval suburban growth are indicated by the archaeological and historical record; to the northeast of the medieval church and at the southern end of the town. However, some limited settlement shrinkage does appear to have occurred towards the end of the medieval period.

33. The later medieval and early post-medieval period saw a dramatic diversification in the range of trades present within Andover with leather workers, weavers, drapers and the beginnings of a thriving silk industry in the town. The growing prosperity of the town was recognised when, in 1599, a new charter was awarded turning the merchants guild into a corporation run by a bailiff and increasing the number of annual fairs from one to three. By the end of the sixteenth century the population may have reached 2,000 inhabitants and many more temporary residents although the town does not appear to have expanded considerably away from the lower lying valley floor regions.

34. Plague and fire were ever-present fears within the medieval and early post-medieval town. Andover itself suffered from three serious fires (in 1141, 1435 and again in 1647) while the plague struck in 1603-05, 1625-26 and finally in 1636 and these occurrences must have had a dramatic effect upon the development of Andover. Consequently, the seventeenth century was a period of relatively minor growth for the town although by the end of the century archaeological evidence suggests limited settlement development (with chalk cob walls identified at London Street) upon the slopes of the river valley. The Hearth Tax Assessment for Andover taken in 1665 identified a total of 425 households in the town[6] and by this time the town appears to have been overcoming the deprivations of the medieval period.

[5] Hughes, M. (1976). The Small Towns of Hampshire. The Archaeological and Historical Implications of Development.
[6] Hughes, E. & White, P. (1992). The Hampshire Hearth Tax Assessment, 1665.

35. The eighteenth and nineteenth centuries saw Andover's gradual development on the stagecoach route and throughout this period the town centre was substantially redeveloped and the first recreational parks and walks were laid out. While traditional industry such as fulling and silk weaving declined, newer industries developed such as the iron foundry, which was opened to ensure the continued economic prosperity of the town. However, the 1850 Tithe Apportionment map indicates relatively little substantial settlement growth. A rise in the growth of Andover only really occurred during the second half of the nineteenth century and particularly towards its end. By 1861 the population had risen to 5,221 with the main settlement spreading along Weyhill Road, Millway Road and Salisbury Road.

36. The records show that as late as 1960, Andover was still a relatively small country town with a population of around 17,000. Subsequently the decision was taken that it should be designated an overspill settlement for London and plans were drawn up to expand the housing allocation for the town. New council houses were constructed along with schools and other ancillary services and by 1981 the population had risen to 51,000.

Romsey

37. Coates[7] interprets the name Romsey as a corruption of 'Rum's' meaning an area of dry land surrounded by marsh. According to tradition, the Benedictine monastery was founded in 907AD and quickly became the focus of a thriving market and settlement[8]. Local tradition suggests that Romsey was burned by the Danes in 993AD the monastic buildings were rebuilt and continued to develop through to the Dissolution in 1539. Archaeological evidence suggests that the abbey site and surrounding area may have been the focus of a substantial iron smelting operation during the middle-late Saxon period and was possibly operating under Royal direction. The settlement appears to have thrived making full use of its location close by the River Test and the rapidly developing port of *Hamwih* and subsequently Southampton. Recent work,

[7] Coates, R. (1989) The Place Names of Hampshire.
[8] Pevsner, N & Lloyd, D. (2000). The Buildings of England. Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (p.477-86).

supported by archaeological investigations has allowed for the modelling of the historic development of Romsey. Properties were located away from the main street frontages within the settlement and were generally centrally placed within their respective properties. This suggests that during the Saxon and early medieval periods Romsey was essentially a rural settlement located close to a substantial ecclesiastical centre.

38. By the early 12th Century, Romsey was granted a charter confirming the right to hold markets on a Sunday and a fair in May. This was augmented during the thirteenth century when the town was permitted a second fair in October. It is possible that, during this period, Romsey had a population as large as 1,000 inhabitants although this figure is far from certain. With the market in place by 1300 and the majority of property boundaries and routes through the settlement core well-defined and the plan form by this time would be similar to the one we are familiar with today. The town thrived on the fulling industry, wool production and tanning with goods shipped south to Southampton for transit along the coast.

39. During the medieval and early post-medieval period Romsey was struck by two distinct episodes of plague, the first coming in 1348-49[9] with a second outbreak in 1526. These episodes undoubtedly affected the Abbey and surrounding town and it took many years for the towns population to recover while it was a blow from which the Abbey could not recover. Following the Dissolution, the inhabitants purchased the Abbey church from the King for £100 to use as a place of worship. As has been previously stated, the largely rectilinear plan was probably in place by the fourteenth century, centred around the triangular market place. The plague struck again in 1526 but Romsey appears to have recovered from this epidemic relatively quickly and may have had a population of almost 1,500 inhabitants by the mid sixteenth century.

40. Romsey became a borough by Royal decree in 1607 and suffered greatly at the hands of Royalists and Parliamentarians during the Civil War with both

[9] Burbridge, B. (ed) (2000) The History of Romsey (p.44).

sides plundering the town. Following the unrest rising competition from the woollen industry in the north of England saw the steady decline of Romsey as a centre for fulling and production of garments. By the eighteenth century wool production had effectively ceased in the town. The decline of the woollen industry was counter-balanced to some degree by the growth of brewing, paper and sack making within the town and it continued to be an important centre of population. Broadlands was constructed in 1767 to the south of Romsey.

41. The 1801 census registered the population of Romsey at 4,274 equating to a fair sized market town. However, throughout the nineteenth century the population grew slowly. By 1851 the population had risen to 5,654 but by 1901 it had fallen slightly to 5,597. The population of Romsey remained relatively stable throughout the early twentieth century and by 1960 the town had around 8,000 inhabitants. As at Andover during this period, Romsey experienced a process of substantial and planned development. Whitenap housing estate was constructed during the early 1960s and this was followed in 1964 with a further planned expansion of the housing stock of the town. In support of this further schools and amenities were built away from the historic core of the settlement and new industrial estates were planned (most notably at Budds Lane).

Stockbridge

42. Stockbridge today lies within a complex landscape which has been partially identified through the mapping and field investigation of the Danebury Environs Project[10]. The mapping of aerial photographic evidence indicates a rich and varied landscape, particularly to the north and northeast of Stockbridge, including widespread cropmark evidence of prehistoric field systems, Bronze Age barrows, hill forts (at Danebury and Woolbury) and several other smaller enclosures thought to be farmsteads.

[10] Palmer, R. (1984). Danebury. An Iron Age Hillfort in Hampshire. An Aerial Photographic Interpretation of its Environs. Supplementary Series: 6.

43. There is no physical evidence to suggest the presence of an Anglo-Saxon settlement at Stockbridge and the Domesday survey of 1086 does not refer directly to the settlement. However, there are two settlements within the Somborne hundred which may be the settlement; one called ‘Stoche’ and the second called ‘Somborne’. A small cemetery on Meon Hill to the west of the modern town suggests some activity in the area although no settlement evidence of an equivalent date is known and it has been suggested that such a cemetery housed execution victims rather than members of the general populous. If this is the case they may have functioned more as boundary or territory markers.

44. There are three buildings in the Sites and Monuments Record (S.M.R.) recorded as being of medieval date although the form and style of numerous others suggests that earlier material may hide behind their eighteenth and nineteenth century facades. The first documentary evidence comes in 1141, refers to the town as ‘Stret’ and relates to the capture of Robert, Earl of Gloucester during the first English Civil War between Stephen and Mathilda. In 1200, a charter confirmed the grant of market at Stockbridge followed in 1221 with the granting of an annual fair. In 1264, some sixty-four burgage plots were recorded and this figure had risen to ninety-seven indicating the steady growth of the town in a prosperous position upon the valley floor of the River Test. The town increased in importance until an outbreak of the plague may have devastated the settlement during the mid-fifteenth century.

45. Archaeological and architectural evidence[11] suggests that the chapel at Stockbridge is late twelfth century in date and appears to have always been a chapelry to King’s Somborne. The town continued to be referred to as ‘Strete’ into the early sixteenth century. Elizabeth I re-granted the market in 1592/3 and by the hearth tax records of 1665 a total of fifty-five households are recorded[12].

[11] Pevsner, N & Lloyd, D. (2000). The Buildings of England. Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (p.612).
[12] Hughes, E. & White, P. (1992). The Hampshire Hearth Tax Assessment, 1665.

46. During the post-medieval period Stockbridge appears to have stagnated with relatively little further development other than rebuilding and reconstruction within the historic core. The town continued to be dominated by the single main street which crossed the River Test via what is thought to be a manmade causeway and a series of small stone bridges. The main area of new development dates to the seventeenth or eighteenth century and lies to the east of the main settlement centre with roughly square land plots as opposed to the long rectangular medieval burgage plots present within the centre of the settlement.

47. Stockbridge then appears to have developed little from its medieval form with a single road crossing the River Test and a series of closely spaced burgage plots extending back from the main street on both sides. This plan form is unusual as the majority of valley floor are aligned north south along the course of the river and so not straddle the watercourse to such a significant degree. Stockbridge has not been the focus of large-scale development during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries although some recent residential development has impacted upon the burgage plots at the eastern end of the southern area of High Street.

General Conclusions of the Settlement Study

48. Within the settlements of the Test Valley it is almost universally the case that the oldest buildings or structural elements within buildings are associated with ecclesiastical architecture. The church at this time was often the only landowner able to build in stone and who owned buildings for a significant period of time. Similarly the church had the funds to repair and undertake renovations as and where necessary and the desire to update their structures when fashions and architectural styles changed. Almost all of the chalk river valley settlements retained medieval churches at their heart and while other settlement types were also furnished with churches this was not exclusively the case. In this case they either shared a church with other settlements or had a smaller ‘daughter chapel’ which a priest from a larger parish church would visit to perform services on prearranged occasions. Often, but not exclusively associated with the parish church is the medieval manorial

complex. Here the local landowner or their representatives resided and controlled the manorial landscape. Evidence of this can often be found in street or property names with ‘Manor Farm’ or Manor House’ to be found throughout the Borough. This relationship between church and manor is visible at Houghton and West Tytherley.

49. Hughes[13] suggests that by the twelfth and thirteenth centuries the majority of fertile, low-lying land had already been occupied and was under cultivation. The rising population forced groups within Test Valley to settle on previously marginal land such as the chalk downs in the north and west (as at Shipton Bellinger) and onto the common and heathland associated with the New Forest (Plaitford). However, there is little evidence to indicate that the common edge and heath land associated settlements within Test Valley date from this period of settlement expansion. Hughes uses this analysis to suggest that the Test Valley area was in fact one of the more prosperous and well populated areas of Hampshire during the medieval period.

50. The majority of settlements within the Test Valley are located within the chalk river valleys. These villages take advantage of the low lying conditions and are situated within fertile farmland. They are often to be found associated with the remains of extensive water meadow systems which dominated the lower lying environs of the river valleys during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Most of the historic chalk river valley settlements lie above the line of the first river terrace and so are not located upon the flood plains of the principal rivers. However, one or two settlements do exist at bridging or fording points across the wider rivers where the benefits of ensuring cross water communication, land borne and some water borne trade often outweighed the potential threats from flooding. These medieval bridging or fording points were highly valued as they controlled river crossing and connected the eastern and western portions of the Test Valley, focusing traffic and trade through a bottleneck and encouraging the growth of thriving

[13] Hughes, M. (1981). Settlement and landscape in medieval Hampshire (pp 66-77). In: Shennan, S. J. and Schadla-Hall, R. T. (1981). *The archaeology of Hampshire. From the Palaeolithic to the industrial revolution*

settlement centres as at Stockbridge on the River Test. The main road often extends along the line of the river valley and predominantly favours a single bank as at Broughton and the Wallops. Here, the main road crosses intermittently via spur roads to provide access to residences on the opposite bank. In the case of the Wallops (Nether, Middle and Upper Wallop) three separate settlements have extended along the river valley so that from some perspectives they appear as a single, elongated settlement, although their individual identities are largely intact and should be protected. A similar occurrence can be observed at Longparish.

51. Most of the development within the historic core of these Chalk River Valley settlements appears to date to between the fifteenth and seventeenth centuries. This fact may be explained by the episode known as the 'Great Rebuilding' where increasing population pressure, new building techniques, a rise in the desire for privacy and the rising wealth of the yeoman farmer combined to increase house building during the later medieval period. This in turn resulted in the dramatic expansion of settlements during the later medieval and early post-medieval period. An alternative argument may be that earlier medieval buildings simply do not survive episodes of fire, flood and the process of gradual decay and so there are few early medieval buildings surviving save for the well tended and built parish churches within the historic settlement cores. We know from Andover that settlements can and have suffered from a series of catastrophic fires which, in the context of the time, could potentially destroy entire settlements. Edward Roberts[14] in his volume on Hampshire houses has sought to address these issues within the context of the county, for fuller discussions concerning the Great Rebuilding the reader is advised to consult the Hoskins[15] paper entitled 'The Rebuilding of Rural England 1570-1640', Machin's[16] response entitled 'The Great

[14] Roberts, E. (2003). Hampshire Houses. 1250 – 1700. Their Dating & Development.
[15] Hoskins, W.G. (1953). The Rebuilding of Rural England, 1570-1640. In Past and Present, vol 4.
[16] Machin, R. (1977). The Great Rebuilding: A Reassessment. In Past and Present, number 77.

Rebuilding: A Reassessment' and finally Matthew Johnson's[17] book 'Housing Culture'.

52. A line crosses the Borough roughly from east to west where the chalk and clay geologies meet. This meeting of the chalk and clay has resulted in the formation of a series of springs which extend along the boundary between the two geologies. A number of settlements have been located close to this line to take advantage of the presence of springs during the medieval period and in each case have a distinct and quite extensive medieval and early post-medieval nucleated core. In the case of Michelmersh and possibly Braishfield there may have in fact been more than one historic core which became subsumed within later settlement development. Later settlement development generally extends away from the historic core in a linear pattern running along the main roads to and from the settlement.

53. During the later seventeenth and eighteenth centuries many buildings within these settlements and particularly those fronting onto major thoroughfares had their timber framing either in-filled with more fashionable brickwork or were partially or wholly encased in brick. It is possible therefore that the historic cores of many settlements may be more extensive and earlier in date than is currently thought with evidence remaining hidden within later private buildings. Eighteenth century settlement development generally occurred either upon the thoroughfares within the settlement centres (as previously stated) or further away from these centres. However, communications within the Borough were sufficiently poor to result in relatively little movement between settlement centres except for the purposes of trade or business and the general populous often resided close to where they were employed.

54. This settlement landscape and relatively immobile population continued into the nineteenth century when rising rural populations servicing the burgeoning agricultural revolution resulted in the extensive development of nineteenth century housing close by pre-existing settlements. The collapse of English

[17] Johnson, M. (1993). Housing Culture. Traditional Architecture in an English Landscape. London, London University Press.

agriculture and the subsequent depressions in the farming industry led to an exodus away from the countryside and to the growing towns in many parts of the country. In Test Valley there were few of the major urban and industrial centres for the dispossessed of the countryside to move to. During this period, many of the major settlement centres and parishes formed workhouse unions to provide relief for the poor. Andover, Hursley and Romsey each formed a union in 1835 although Hursley had maintained a workhouse since 1828 while Romsey is reputed to have retained two eighteenth century examples. One is thought to have been located in 80, The Hundred (to house women) while a second dated to 1774 was constructed on Winchester Road to the northeast of the town. The workhouse was the principal vehicle for the care of the needy following the 1834 Poor Law Reform act and each union retained their own institution. The most famous or infamous of the Test Valley workhouses was at Andover. This house opened in 1837 and was subsequently the focus of a scandal concerning the inmates and the atrocious conditions they were kept in.

55. Throughout the nineteenth century, population movement in the Borough most probably focused upon the coastal towns such as Southampton. Here the Harbour Commissioners were concentrating on developing the quay and dockyard facilities with the Watergate area developed in 1804 with new pier, harbour and basin developments in place by the mid nineteenth century. During the mid-late nineteenth century the coastal towns witnessed therefore a rapid growth in population numbers. The rapidly developing railway network particularly along the south coast but also through the Test Valley saw the development of a new phenomena during the twentieth century, namely the commuter or dormitory settlement. This development saw the widening of the hinterland for the major commercial centres of the Borough and the increasing influence of Southampton upon the settlement and population patterns of particularly the southern portion of the Test Valley.

56. The Heath Associated and Common Edge settlement types appear to be significantly affected by these nineteenth and early twentieth century developments in the patterns of settlement growth and transportation

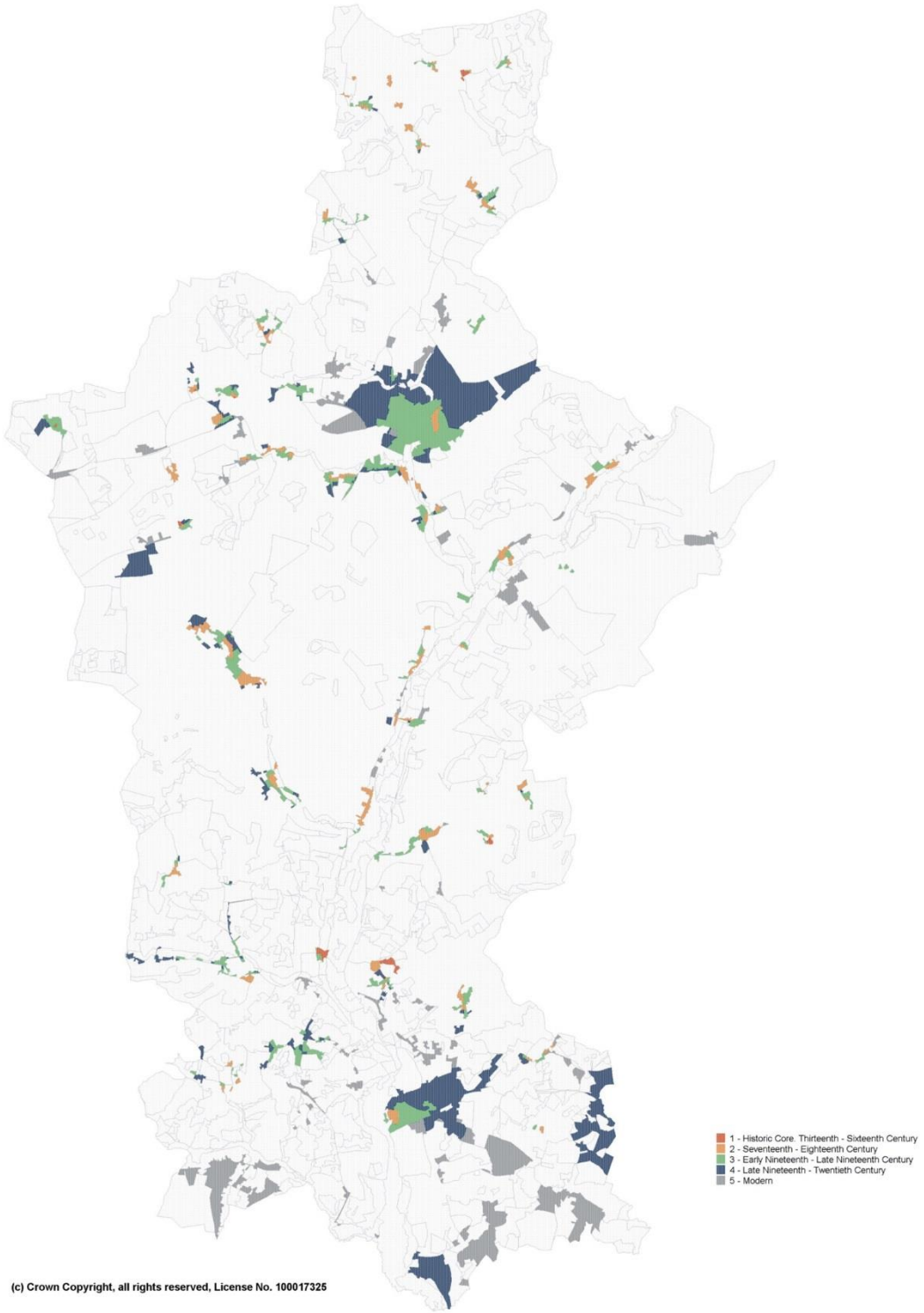
developments. Many of the previously enclosed heathland enclosures, given their location and relatively small size, would not have been suitable for efficient farming and may have been retained by families rather than being sold on. Consequently, during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries previously undeveloped land became available for settlement expansion. This was particularly the case for settlements such as North Baddesley and Nursling where they are almost exclusively made up of later nineteenth and twentieth century housing and associated amenities. This also occurred at settlements close to the northern borders of the New Forest with Canada, Plaitford and East Wellow as sites of extensive nineteenth and twentieth century housing development.

57. From the middle of the twentieth century, a further transportation breakthrough allowing affordable motor cars, combined with sufficiently well metalled roads meant that commuters could now live at distances from their place of work but were not dependant upon proximity to a functioning railway station. This process of transportation improvements saw a reverse in the trend of population movement from the rural countryside to the urban centres. Instead, families were moving away from the major urban population centres out into the countryside. This process resulted in the rapid development of numerous settlements particularly within the southern area of Test Valley although Andover had a similar although somewhat lower key effect upon the settlements in the north of the Borough.

58. The chalk downland and dry valley settlements particularly in the north of the Borough do appear to reflect Mike Hughes'[18] suggestion that the more marginal downlands were occupied slightly later during the medieval period. Within these settlements the medieval development appears to have been less substantial than in the chalk river valleys of the Borough.

[18] Hughes, M. (1981). Settlement and landscape in medieval Hampshire (pp 66-77). In: Shennan, S. J. and Schadla-Hall, R. T. (1981). *The archaeology of Hampshire. From the Palaeolithic to the industrial revolution.*

Figure 8: Settlement Period



Appendix 3: Time Depth in Test Valley

Introduction and Methodology

1. Sections relating to historic landscape, settlement development and time depth analysis from the 2004 Assessment, formerly included within Volume 4, are now provided as Appendices 1-3 of this 2018 Assessment[1].

2. The concept of time depth is defined in the ground breaking study '*Cornwall's historic landscape*' as 'the visible evidence in the landscape for change and continuity over time'. Therefore an area with considerable time depth will retain visible evidence attesting to human activity over large periods of time while one with little depth may have expanses of nineteenth century field systems but little else.

3. Time depth is not concerned with archaeological or historical material 'hidden from view' either through its intangibility or because it survives as sub-surface archaeological deposits only. This means that the majority of material held on County and Borough Sites and Monuments Records (S.M.R.s) will not be relevant to a study of time depth, charting as they do developments and change through the 'hidden' archaeological record.

4. This definition of time depth allows for a range of evidence types to be included in the assessment of any given area. Such evidence may include; visible earthworks, field boundaries, hedgerows, communication networks and settlement evidence. This information can be gained from a variety of sources but is principally derived from the consultation of historic maps, aerial photographic evidence and from visual identification in the field.

5. Time depth is recognised as a useful tool in determining development strategies for the wider landscape but is not necessarily restricted to the archaeological and historical arena. Recent work on historic hedgerows has helped to develop an understanding of the processes of change involved, their development through time and the classification and identification of the

[1] The bibliography for all 3 appendices is provided within Appendix 3.

historic hedge in the landscape. For example, the older surviving hedgerows appear to have a significantly greater variety of component plants, shrubs and trees. As such they represent an important document identifying historic boundaries but also harbouring groups of important plant and animal species.

6. A landscape is decipherable at numerous levels. Access to these is largely reliant upon the interpreter's level of understanding, the quality of the source information available and in certain cases the conditions (season and weather) during which either the photography was undertaken or the field investigation carried out. So, for example, the evidence for human activity during the medieval period may rely upon the presence of faint ridge and furrow earthworks within later field systems which are only visible at a specific time of day or when covered by a light dusting of snow. Such ephemeral forms of evidence may not be readily observable by members of the public. During this study then we have worked with clearly identifiable field monuments and field systems and avoided the more ephemeral forms of evidence which archaeological specialists work with. It is recognised that this process will result in a broader understanding of time depth within the Borough. However, this is balanced by opening up the concept to all who wish to interact with the historic landscape.

7. Time depth then is a broad-brush approach to understanding areas in the landscape where it is indicated that evidence of progressively younger characteristics (of change and continuity) can be identified within the spatial and morphological features of the landscape[2].

8. This approach, when used at the county level does not attempt to identify detailed information (pertaining to individual houses in settlements or trees in a wood), rather to paint a general picture of time depth across the wider landscape. A coarse distinction is made with the cut off point taken generally as 1810 and the production of the first reliable 1st Edition Ordnance Survey maps for the county.

[2] Lambrick & Branhill (1999). *Hampshire historic landscape assessment.* Final Report, Volume 1. Section 6-1.

Identifying Levels of Time Depth in Test Valley

9. Time depth in the context of the Test Valley Landscape Characterisation project was identified as the visible and clearly defined product of man's interaction with the landscape. This is best displayed through the remains of visible monuments, defences, settlements and systems of agriculture that remain fossilised in the landscape of the present. This assessment of time depth has deliberately not entered into the debate of personal perceptions and so has sought to avoid the questions of personal knowledge and experience which we bring to the assessment of an historic landscape.

10. Similarly this study has not assessed levels of survival and the conditions under which surviving historic landscapes can be appreciated. For example, the earthworks associated with Iron Age 'Celtic' field systems may only be observable under the low 'slanting' light conditions present in the early morning or evening or after a light snowfall.

11. Instead, we have sought to assess 'clearly visible' field monuments and systems which can be observed, identified and appreciated by members of the general public. We have attempted to correlate evidence from all periods to develop a broad picture of time depth for the Borough and so open with a discussion on the general trends identifiable from surviving prehistoric through to early medieval monuments. This information has been recovered from the County Sites and Monuments Record and so relies on the accuracy and up to date nature of this repository. This information, identified broadly by period has been cross-referenced with the evidence of historic landscape development to produce a broad understanding of time depth for the Borough.

12. The key sub-divided periods are identified below:

- Prehistoric Period: Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Age surviving monuments
- Roman and Post-Roman Period: Roman and Anglo- Saxon surviving monuments
- Medieval Period: Field monuments and field enclosures (see Figure 9).

- Early post-Medieval Period: Field monuments and field enclosures (see Figure 10).
- Late post-Medieval Period: Field monuments and field enclosures (see Figure 11).
- Modern Period: Field monuments and field enclosures (see Figure 12).

13. Time depth should not relate to the survival of a single historic or archaeological feature. For example, the survival of a single Neolithic long barrow does not point to an extensive and complex time depth for a specific area of land. When assessing time depth the broader picture must always be at the fore to fully appreciate the historical and archaeological complexity of the ever-changing landscape. Therefore sole or exceptional survivors are treated in this study as anomalies and do not add significantly to the time depth of an area.

General Assessment of Time Depth During the Prehistoric Period

14. Time depth would appear to be at its greatest within the upland chalk downland areas of Test Valley. This area away from the principal river valleys retains numerous prehistoric burial monuments dating back to the Neolithic and Bronze Age. Traditionally these have thought to have been located upon prominent ridgelines to maximise visibility while functioning as possible territorial boundary markers. Also important is the traditional concept of intervisibility, a factor which would be improved by the monuments presence within upland areas where they were visible both from within the upland areas but also from the valley floor. Recent proposals point out that the reason monuments do not survive within river valleys is the potential erosive action of the river channels coupled with the build up of silts over time laid down during flood episodes. A second natural process also acts to mask earlier archaeological deposits; colluviation or hill wash can move material from upslope into the valley floor. Finally the action of man may also mask earlier archaeological features. For example the construction of water meadows frequently resulted in the movement of large amounts of material across the valley floors to improve fertility while inadvertently obscuring early landscape

features. Consequently barrows are known particularly in the upper reaches of the River Test valley.

15. The presence of numerous burial monuments on marginal land may also have improved their chances of survival with a lower chance of destruction from intensive agricultural activities. Several areas within the north of the Borough retain groups of particularly Bronze Age barrows which are to be found within later medieval and early post-medieval farming landscapes. This is particularly the case around Isle of Wight Hill to the west of Over and Nether Wallop in the west of the Borough.

16. The survival of prehistoric monuments throughout the Test Valley would appear to be related, not only to the underlying geology and topography of the landscape, but also to past and present human interventions. Monument location may also relate to the relative fertility of the soil when farmed used relevant prehistoric farming techniques. It has also been suggested that visibility and intervisibility of particularly funerary monuments played an important role in their location with long barrows and smaller barrows sited as territory markers. These upland areas may also have functioned largely as open pasture although in there have been several instances where Neolithic ard (a crude form of plough) marks have been found beneath Bronze Age barrows. It is possible that the upland areas with their relatively thin soils may have initially been cultivated leading to a relatively rapid decline in fertility. Following this, crop yields would reduce and it may have been more efficient for it to function as pastoral land. This would have permitted the survival of greater concentrations of Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments. Similarly, the marginal heath land associated with the northern boundaries of the New Forest, which extends into the southern portion of the Test Valley also retains several groups of Bronze Age barrows. It should however be stressed that deposits of alluvium and colluvium within valley floor contexts may be masking prehistoric monuments such as barrows from our current methods of detection. Only further research and fieldwork in these low-lying contexts will illuminate such concerns.

17. Monuments relating to the later prehistoric period generally known as the Iron Age are more usually defensive in nature and include large enclosures such as hill forts and smaller earthworks like banjo enclosures. Quite often the larger earthworks like hill forts survive in part of whole, as they would represent a considerable investment in time and labour to level. Hill forts are predominantly to be found in the north of the Borough occupying high spots within the chalk landscape. They do not exclusively occupy downland environments but can be found within the more rolling chalk arable landscape as at Danebury hill fort. Relatively extensive field systems also survive from this period as evidenced through the Danebury Environs Project. Similar field systems survive elsewhere in isolation throughout Test Valley at Faccombe Wood. Iron Age sites do survive within the lower Test Valley as at Toot Hill, Dunwood Camp, Lockerley Camp and Zionshill Copse although they are not obvious landscape features as monuments in the north of the Borough.

18. The current study has indicated the relatively high survival rate of earthworks within the northern areas of the Test Valley Borough when compared to earthwork survival in the south. This higher rate of earthwork survival and visibility in the chalk uplands places a number of fragile and historically significant monuments within areas of traditionally intensive agricultural exploitation. Post-medieval agricultural exploitation from informal enclosure through to the construction of parliamentary field systems and more recently the development of large prairie fields must have impacted heavily upon earthworks in the northern uplands of Test Valley. What survives today is a small proportion of what must have existed previously within the landscape. Where previously the size and scale of earthworks must have acted to some extent as a barrier to their own destruction, in more recent times mechanisation has permitted their removal with relative ease. These earthworks are the remnants of man's cultural heritage and beliefs made manifest in the landscape and, as such, every effort should be made to protect them. Many of the surviving earthworks are protected by law as Scheduled Ancient Monuments and further legal protection (1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act) would seem unwarranted. The

development of sympathetic management and conservation plans should be promoted with the inclusion and cooperation of landowners and farmers of paramount importance in this process.

General Assessment of Time Depth During the Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon Periods

19. Very little above-ground evidence survives from these periods as most Romano-British structures have since been almost wholly destroyed in their above ground form and often only survive as below-ground archaeological deposits. The most prominent and clearly recognisable form of upstanding earthwork is the road network which criss-cross the countryside. These extend across Test Valley often running between or close by significant settlements and can survive either as clearly visible earthworks or fossilised within field and property boundaries and beneath later roads. These roads are generally known to have extended through the central and northern portions of the Borough with a crossroads located close to the modern settlement of Andover.

20. Where elements of the Roman road survive either as earthworks or as fossilised remnants within a later landscape, the have been taken to add to our understanding of time depth for the area. In this way, the influence of the earlier Romano-British structure can be identified within later field boundary and transportation layouts. Consequently the majority of Romano-British elements of time depth are to be found as linear features crossing the central and northern areas of the Borough. These linear features which extend across the landscape have tended to be considered as elements of the larger Landscape Character Types. Within these landscape types it is maintained that every effort be made to preserve the landscape features which have fossilised the line of the Roman road. This process may include the retention of tracks, roads, hedges and field boundaries to ensure that, in the future these Romano-British linear features are visible both on the ground and as plan data during future national mapping exercises.

21. The Anglo-Saxon period is characterised by a distinct lack of survival of either earthworks or stone built structures. Some churches and other forms of ecclesiastical architecture survive from this period as at Romsey Abbey with its Anglo-Saxon roods and surviving foundations below the later Norman Abbey. Very little is thought to survive of domestic forms of architecture. Similarly, no defensive structures (such as King Alfred's system of defended settlements or burhs) are thought to have been located in Test Valley with the nearest example to be found at Winchester to the east. Another problem arises with their penchant for the reuse of Bronze Age burial mounds and their method of constructing fresh mounds over their dead. The only way to verify the authenticity of Bronze Age barrows is through excavation and so, a proportion of the burial mounds located particularly in the north of the Borough may in fact be Anglo-Saxon constructions.

22. In general, the Sites and Monuments Record (S.M.R.) indicates only a relatively rare survival rate of earthworks or architectural elements within Test Valley Borough area and these have been treated as anomalous survivals for the purposes of time depth as no general picture can be developed from these unusual survivals. An assessment of the settlements identified within the Domesday survey of AD 1086 points to several clusters of Anglo-Saxon settlement throughout Test Valley. In general, the settlements appear to favour either the higher land in the north of the Borough or else locations away from the valley floors. Along the River Test the settlements are reasonably well spaced although they do appear to be clustered closer together in the upper reaches of the river and within the area of chalk geology[3]. This information points to a general focus of settlement activity within the more upland areas of the Borough associated with the underlying chalk geology.

[3] Hughes, M. (1981). Settlement and landscape in medieval Hampshire (pp 66-77). In: Shennan, S. J. and Schadla-Hall, R. T. (1981). *The archaeology of Hampshire. From the Palaeolithic to the industrial revolution.* P.67.

Assessment of Time Depth During the Medieval Period

23. The time depth map for the medieval period indicates the survival of greater quantities of medieval landscape elements in the southern portion of the Test Valley and particularly to the south of the Roman road which crosses the River Test at Horsebridge. A large quantity of these medieval field parcels and landscape features appear to be associated with the New Forest to the southwest and indeed the River Blackwater was once the northern most boundary of the New Forest Greater Perambulation between AD 1221 and 1280. The increased survival of medieval landscape features appears to be associated not only with the geological aspects of Test Valley, but also with the survival of elements of medieval forest in the south of the Borough. This focus upon the farming of agricultural land and particularly land for the cultivation of arable crops may have resulted in the removal of earlier earthworks. This may provide a pointer as to why there are so relatively few prehistoric earthworks in the south of the Borough. However, the field systems were still relatively small in size, not intensively farmed and as such the impact upon earthworks from earlier periods would probably have been quite low level.

24. Surviving deer parks from the medieval period are generally to be found in the south of the Borough close to or within the borders of the New Forest[4]. The most northerly park within the Borough identified during the desk-based study by Mr. Anderson for his MA was identified at Houghton Park near King's Somborne. It, however, remains a possibility that other deer parks survive within areas of ancient woodland in the north of the Borough although further fieldwork investigations would be required to clarify this issue. Parks such as Red Rice and Tangley do not appear to be based upon earlier deer park enclosures as their boundaries are extremely regular suggesting an eighteenth or nineteenth century date for their foundation. During the medieval period the New Forest appears to be undergoing a gradual process of

[4] C. Anderson *pers comm.* July 2004. MA Dissertation with King Alfred's College, Winchester. Unpublished.

assarting and the development of early field patterns. These medieval landscape features survive well within the New Forest.

25. To the north of the Horsebridge Roman Road and the chalk clay spring line there is relatively little evidence of surviving medieval landscape features. Some features do survive, such as Harewood Forest, or to the north of Andover in the northeastern corner of the Borough. The medieval landscape in the central portion of the Borough appear to have been removed by the later development of the open system of parliamentary field systems implemented predominantly during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

26. The time depth map also indicates a fairly random survival of medieval landscape features within the river valley bottoms of the Borough. These elements are predominantly survivals of rough grazing pasture and wooded valley floor enclosures, however, the majority of valley bottom medieval features do appear to have been cleared away during the post-medieval period. This saw the industrialisation of agriculture and the large scale construction of water meadow system which removed the earlier medieval landscape. The emphasis that medieval settlement and land use placed on lower lying areas is exemplified in the distribution of moated sites throughout the Borough. These sites were often the manorial complexes of relatively wealthy landowners and were typified by a terraced central area upon which the main residence and its ancillary buildings were located. Demarcating this central area was a clearly defined moat which may have functioned either as a fishpond or water filled midden. Such sites are to be found throughout the lower reaches of the River Test although several are to be found on the upper reaches of the Test and other the rivers in the north of the Borough.

27. There is relatively little settlement surviving from particularly the early and mid medieval period with possible explanations ranging from the relatively poor build and average life expectancy of a timber framed house to the concept of a ‘Great Rebuilding’ towards the end of the period during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Evidence for settlement growth then comes largely from the evidence of church locations and manorial sites. From this,

settlement growth appears to have been a phenomenon predominantly to be found within the southern portion of the Borough of Test Valley. This may be coupled with the favourable agricultural conditions to be found particularly within the valley floors and more clayey, brick earth soils in the south. Rapid settlement expansion during the medieval period was followed by settlement contraction and often desertion particularly during the periods when plague swept across the country. Hughes'[5] map of deserted settlements indicates that the majority of the examples to be found within the Borough are located on land below 200 feet and within the area of chalk with clay geology. This may point to the overexploitation of the more fertile southern Test Valley during this period. This increase in exploitation probably initiated a considerable programme of assarting. It is possible that some areas of assarting and particularly those which resulted in smaller field sizes may represent this process of medieval woodland clearance for agricultural or settlement development purposes during this period.

28. Taking into account the surviving archaeological monuments, the northern area with its underlying chalk geology appears to be largely unaffected by the changing agricultural environment present within the southern portion of the Test Valley during the medieval period. These upland areas may well have continued to be dominated by pastoral or mixed agricultural farming. Consequently there was probably only relatively low-level impact upon the open downland fields and the extant monuments and earthworks within them. The Roman roads which cross the Borough do appear to have provided some form of physical boundary in either the developments or survival of medieval landscape features as at Harewood Forest and along the eastern section of the road which crosses through Horsebridge.

29. In conclusion, evidence for time depth within Test Valley indicates the presence of medieval land parcels concentrated within the southern portion of the Borough and particularly associated with the New Forest. Medieval

[5] Hughes, M. (1981). Settlement and landscape in medieval Hampshire (pp 66-77). In: Shennan, S. J. and Schadla-Hall, R. T. (1981). *The archaeology of Hampshire. From the Palaeolithic to the industrial revolution.* P.67.

historic character therefore survives 'best' within the southern portion of the valley and particularly where associated with the New Forest. Further north, within the chalk region of the Borough time depth is considerably shallower with pockets of medieval landscape surviving, for example, to the north west of Andover and in the northeastern corner of the Borough. Within the central portion, parliamentary enclosure has removed much of the medieval and earlier landscape although once again, small pockets survive with the largest of these being Harewood Forest.

Assessment of Time Depth During the Early Post Medieval Period

30. Early post-medieval (sixteenth and seventh century) activity saw a rise in the agricultural development of field systems and population centres particularly in the southern clay and gravel geology of Test Valley. There is also a rise in activity along most of the river valleys throughout the Borough primarily associated with the development of formal valley floor enclosures and some early water meadows of Type 1 and Type 3 (refer to Glossary for further details) style as identified by the Oxford Archaeology Unit in the 'Hampshire Water Meadow Survey'[6].

31. Within the southern portion of the Borough during the early post medieval period several areas of assarting and large parcels of regular fields with wavy boundaries survive. This was associated with the increased opening up of the New Forest environs and the development of more intensive farming methods within the area associated with the forest.

32. Up on the chalk geology to the north of the chalk/clay spring line little from this period of activity survives, having being removed in later episodes of parliamentary enclosure. Areas of regular ladder fields also dating to the sixteenth and seventeenth century are only found north of the chalk/clay spring line.

[6] Chandler & Ridley (2000). *Hampshire water meadows survey. Archaeological desk-based study.* Volumes 1, 2, and 3. Oxford, The Oxford Archaeological Unit. P.10.

33. Within Test Valley, late medieval/ early post-medieval periods provide us with the first substantial evidence of upstanding settlement development. Prior to this interest focused upon extant remains within stone churches and manorial complexes, earthwork features and evidence recovered from archaeological investigations. Only relatively rarely do small vernacular buildings from this period survive. By the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries agricultural, economic and social conditions were changing rapidly producing more stable settlements. Individual families within these settlements were now better able to invest in more permanent dwellings and, more importantly, were willing to invest in their upkeep and maintenance. Settlement development through this period tends to be along the main valley of the River Test and its tributaries and is particularly prevalent in the south of the Borough.

Assessment of Time Depth During the Later Post Medieval Period

34. The post-medieval period represents the period of greatest change to date within the Test Valley. Within the rural landscape the widespread development of parliamentary field systems during this period were to dominate the landscape, particularly of the north and central Test Valley region. The imposition of this field system included the surveying and realignment of many smaller roads and resulted in the removal of much of the medieval and early post-medieval rural landscape from within this area of the Borough.

35. This process heralded an intensification of agricultural practises which greatly impacted upon many of the more ephemeral earthworks in the countryside. It also resulted in a dramatic decrease in the number of farms where parliamentary enclosure occurred and a concomitant rise in the farm size and importantly in field size and boundary organisation. This process has resulted in the removal of many medieval field systems and these now only survive within very specific areas of the Borough. It is interesting to note that in several instances these survivals are closely associated with large country house estates and may represent large landowners with the will and the funds to be resistant to calls for change.

36. In the south of the Borough there is considerably less evidence of the large scale remodelling of the agricultural landscape visible in the northern area of Test Valley. The impact of later medieval and early post-medieval assarting is still evident particularly in the areas bordering the boundaries of the New Forest. The patchwork quilt effect evidence is a clear testimony to the survival of smaller enclosures across this area of the Borough, an effect which extends across the whole south of the valley occupying both sides of the Test. As has been previously stated, this landscape has resulted from medieval and early post-medieval assarting and does not appear to have been substantially altered following this period of activity. The exceptions to this are to be found in the river valleys in the south of the Borough with parliamentary field systems present on the valley slopes. This may have something to do with the more widespread development of water meadows within the river valleys and general move towards agricultural intensification within the river valleys of the Borough. Away from the river valleys in the south of the Borough a number of factors may have contributed to the survival of the historic landscape. The presence of heavier brick earth soils, large degrees of compartmentalisation and possibly large numbers of small holdings and small holders may have meant the development of large scale parliamentary field systems was simply not an economically viable option, even for large landowners.

37. The process of parliamentary field enclosure was often accompanied by the formal surveying in of straight field boundaries and this was often accompanied by the straightening of roads and tracks which extended between fields. This work has had a significant impact upon the landscape particularly within the chalk geology of the central and northern portions of Test Valley.

38. The agricultural revolution also witnessed the rapid growth of water meadow systems throughout the river valleys of Test Valley. These systems maximised grass crop yields while protecting young shoots from late frosts and improved the farmers' ability to maintain their herds and flocks through the winter months. These features can be found within both the wider open main river

valleys and in the narrower valleys where land use was maximised to the fullest.

39. There appears to have been less impact upon the southern portion of Test Valley where medieval and early post-medieval agricultural landscapes survive relatively intact principally to the north and northeast of the New Forest. There is also an area of land unaffected by later parliamentary enclosure at the northern end of the Borough in a corridor to the northwest of Andover. This corridor stretches northwest to the very boundary of the Borough and is dominated by regular fields with wavy boundaries and pre-1810 woodland.

40. During the later post-medieval period there was a marked increase in the size and number of large estates throughout the Borough. There appears to be a cluster of smaller estates around Romsey in the south of the Borough. Further north and particularly within the chalk geology, the estates increase in size but also become more spaced out. Within the scope of this study the formal boundaries of each estate have been identified as they survive in the current and historic cartographic record. This study has not included within these estates their outlying estate owned farmsteads and field systems. It therefore does not take into account the role that the large estates played in shaping the landscape not just within their immediate vicinity but further abroad through determining farming practices and regimes of client farms.

41. The later post-medieval period also saw the rapid development of large urban centres coupled with a general move away from the countryside, followed by the development of transportation routes and the associated growth of the purpose-built dormitory settlement and a general move back out into the rural areas of the Borough. In the countryside dramatic changes in farming and land management techniques were implemented which have greatly affected the time depth of the Borough. These factors will be discussed in greater detail below.

General Assessment of Time Depth During the Modern Period

42. Within the rural areas of the Borough, the major change has been the process of industrialisation within the farming process. This has resulted in the creation of large 'prairie' fields where two or more parliamentary or other field types have their boundaries removed and they are amalgamated into a single open field. This process is associated with the mechanisation of farming and the growing need for large open fields to allow larger farm machinery greater freedom to operate. It has resulted in the loss of areas of older field systems and importantly their field boundaries in exchange for, often simpler to maintain, wire fencing where once hedgerows abounded.

43. Within Test Valley the large scale prairie field systems have not to date been developed across the Borough. Instead the parliamentary field systems of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries continue to dominate the landscape particularly in the north of the Borough.

44. The greatest development within the Borough during this period has been the rapid expansion of settlement during the twentieth century. This has particularly been the case at the southern end of the Borough with Southampton expanding north and westwards creating a conurbation which includes North Baddesley, Chandler's Ford and Nursling. Settlement expansion and the redevelopment of numerous historic village cores have particularly impacted settlements in the south of the Borough. However, this expansion has not substantially affected the rich surrounding historic environment present close by to the New Forest. The tapestry of pre-1810 woodland, smaller assarted fields and late medieval/early post-medieval informal enclosure fields survive in good order along with the roads and trackways which interconnect these historic elements.

Conclusions

45. This study has demonstrated the presence of greater time depth within the predominantly southern portion of the Test Valley and in particular the area to the west of the River Test. Other discrete areas of earlier historic landscape character survive in a corridor to the north west of Andover, potentially within

Harewood Forest to the southeast of Andover and in the northeastern corner of the Borough in the parish of Faccombe. In these areas, it would appear that elements of earlier post-medieval and some medieval field systems survive within the historic landscape and add a special character to the surrounding environment. These historic elements have largely escaped destruction during the construction of parliamentary field systems which occurred throughout the Borough, largely during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. As such, where areas of an earlier historic landscape survive, an effort should be made to ensure that this historic landscape elements survives and that all development permitted within its confines is designed and undertaken in a manner sympathetic to the historic environment. On a larger scale, the belt of later medieval and early post-medieval assarting which extends across the southern portion of the Test Valley is an important distinct element of the historic landscape. Within this area earlier landscape elements survive and should be considered as important landscape elements when considering proposals which could have a negative impact upon the historic environment of Test Valley.

46. The previous paragraph does not disregard the survival of individual historic and prehistoric earthworks and other forms of site. These discrete landscape elements contribute to the overall landscape character of the Borough and do indeed survive within extensive areas of parliamentary field systems as at Danebury hill fort. However, these landscape features sit within the wider historic environment, an environment of open commons, field systems and river meadows which provide the underlying and unique historic character of Test Valley. Where this survives in greater (time) depth, strategies should be developed to safeguard its continued existence. Probably the best example of this (as has been stated previously in this paragraph) is to be found in the area surrounding Danebury hill fort. This landscape contains significant historic and archaeological elements including Bronze Age barrows, the Iron Age hill fort and associated field systems coupled with later evidence of Anglo-Saxon cemetery and medieval settlement development. This area displays the greatest time depth within Test Valley although the landscape

elements do not necessarily indicate this with much of the fragile and often below-ground archaeological evidence surviving within a landscape dominated by later parliamentary field systems. Clearly such fragile landscapes require special consideration given their location within an active and intensively farmed agricultural landscape and measures must be taken to ensure that sympathetic land management is in place to ensure their continued survival.

47. Taking the last paragraph into account however, it must be borne in mind that this study is concerned with landscape change and development over time. To have fossilised the historic landscape at any point in the past would have significantly affected the historic environment we are familiar with today. The historic environment we have inherited from past generations is the result of continued land management over thousands of years and the impact of human management on the landscape cannot be underestimated. The landscape, then, represents a dynamic system and our decisions regarding how we manage that system will determine the type and quality of landscape that we pass onto future generations.

48. The strategic decision-making process must take into account the fragility of the historic environment while considering the forms, quantity and quality of change it is willing to permit within those areas where significant elements of the historic landscape survive. This task is an important one as it seeks to ensure the continued survival of an important historic landscape which has moulded the development of the Test Valley and will continue to do so in the future.

Table 1: Period Details

Term	Description
Palaeolithic period 750,000-10,000BC	Sub-divided into three phases (Lower, middle and upper) the Palaeolithic encapsulates much of the early development of hominids on earth. This period extends from around 750,000BC up until the end of the last Ice Age at c.10,000BC. Modern humans have occupied Europe since around 36,000BC and their remains are limited largely to

Term	Description
	fossil and stone tool evidence. Prior to this other hominids existed including most famously Homo Neanderthalensis although these appear to have died out shortly after modern humans entered Europe.
Mesolithic period 10,000-5,000BC	The Mesolithic equates with the final period of true hunter-gatherer society in the British Isles. The period extends from around 10,000BC and the end of the last ice age up until the beginnings of agriculture in the Neolithic at c.5,000BC. The Mesolithic was characterised by small, highly mobile family groups living in seasonal camps and using stone tools to capture game, gather plant foods and manage the forest environment.
Neolithic period 5,000-2, 300BC	A period characterised by the growth of settled societies, the development of pastoral and arable agriculture and the construction of large scale funerary and religious monuments such as long barrows, henges, ditched enclosures and stone circles. This period of activity occurred at around 5,000BC and continued until c.2,300BC.
Bronze Age 2,300-700BC	A period characterised by the first use of copper and bronze. Generally speaking this period dates in England from 2,300BC – 700BC. The monuments which survive from this period are most notably the barrows and ranch boundaries. Barrows survive in numerous forms and tend to survive best in upland locations while the larger linear ranch boundaries can run for many miles and are thought to represent territorial boundary markers. Elsewhere, small settlements (as Grimspound on Dartmoor) survive from this period where roundhouses dominate enclosures with field systems close by.
Iron Age 700BC-AD43	The Iron Age in England dates from 700BC to AD43. It is characterised by the use of iron and the construction of large hill forts. It is now thought that hill forts were only occupied at specific times of the year or when the local population were threatened. The evidence varies from site to site but the large sites appear to have acted as store houses and gathering places for fairs with kraals for housing large numbers of livestock. One of the better examples of a hillfort surviving in its landscape is to be found at Danebury in Test Valley. Here, a long running project has identified and mapped the field systems and settlements surrounding the hill.
Romano-British period AD43-410	The period from AD43, when the armies of Imperial Rome invaded Britain. The process of Romanisation had been underway during the Iron Age with high quality goods being purchased by local nobility. Following the invasion a network of roads, forts and settlements were constructed within the landscape. While a large proportion of the population

Term	Description
	continued to live and farm in the traditional way, many villa estates were developed to more efficiently farm the landscape and supply the burgeoning towns and the requirements of the occupying army. This period extended up until the early 5th century AD when rising barbarian incursions throughout Europe forced the Roman army to withdraw in AD410 to protect the heartland of the empire.
Anglo-Saxon period AD410-1066	The period traditionally dated to AD410-1066 when, following the decline of Roman power, England was settled by several Germanic peoples. Much of their material culture has disappeared with only elements of their stone constructions surviving in churches. Such examples can be seen in the foundations of Romsey Abbey.
Medieval period AD1066-1650	This period usually dates from AD1066 up to AD1650. This period saw the development of the feudal system of rule and the rise of mercantilism/capitalism. During this period many settlements developed and much more of the landscape was brought into agriculture. Deer parks were developed across the country as nucleus estates developed for private use by the landed nobility. The period was marred by several epidemics of bubonic plague and this resulted in a dramatic reduction in population figures and the shrinking or reduction in size of many medieval towns and villages.
Post Medieval period AD1650- Present Day	Dating from AD1650 up until the present day. This period was dominated by the introduction of intensive agricultural techniques and the development of industrial processes. Coupled with these developments was the improvement of transportation networks linking town and country including turnpike roads, canals and navigations and the railway. This period also witnessed the significant growth of settlements throughout the country and particularly of the town and city.

Figure 9: Medieval Period: Field Monuments and Field Enclosures

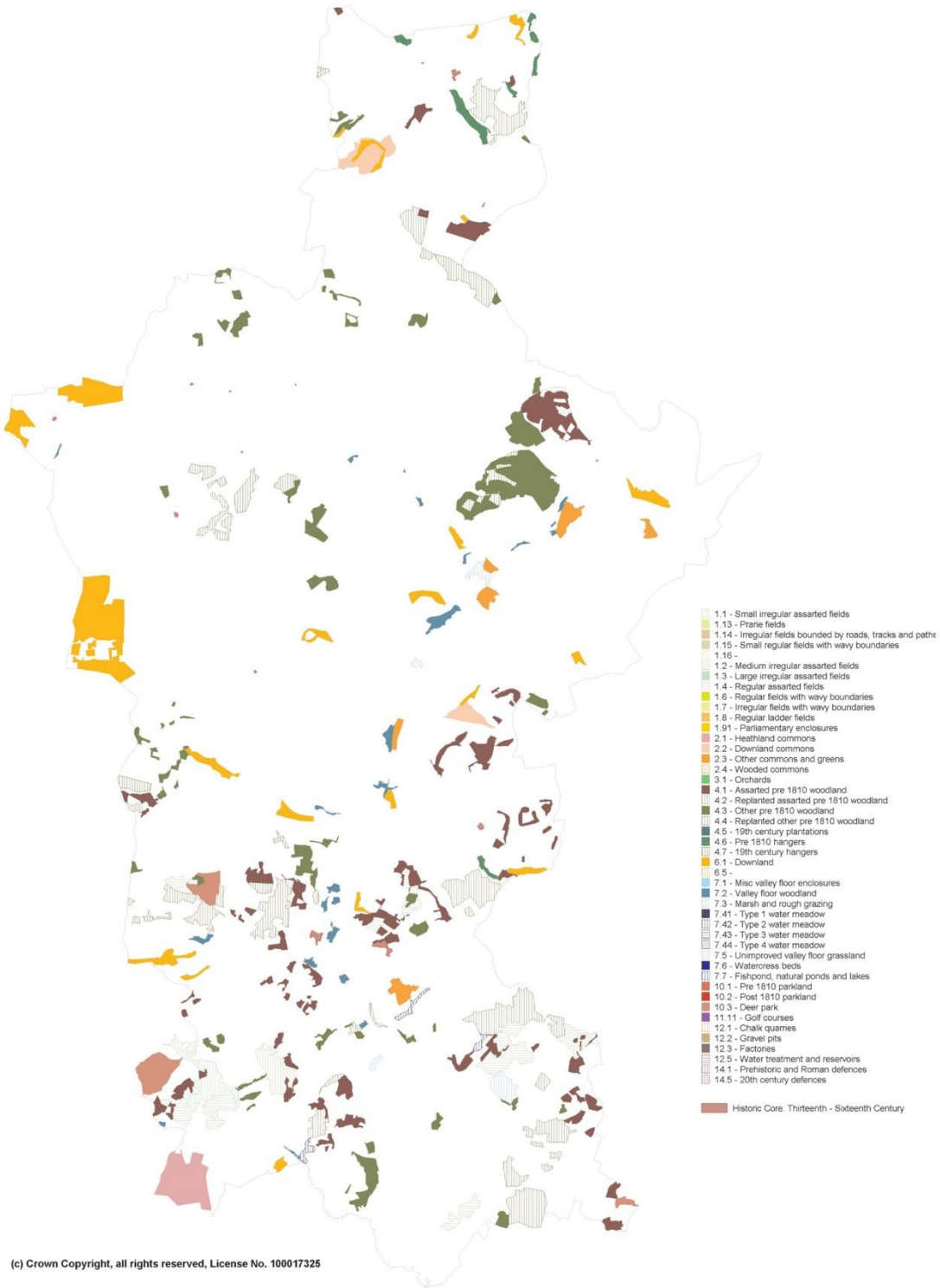


Figure 10: Early Post-Medieval Period: Field Monuments and Field Enclosures

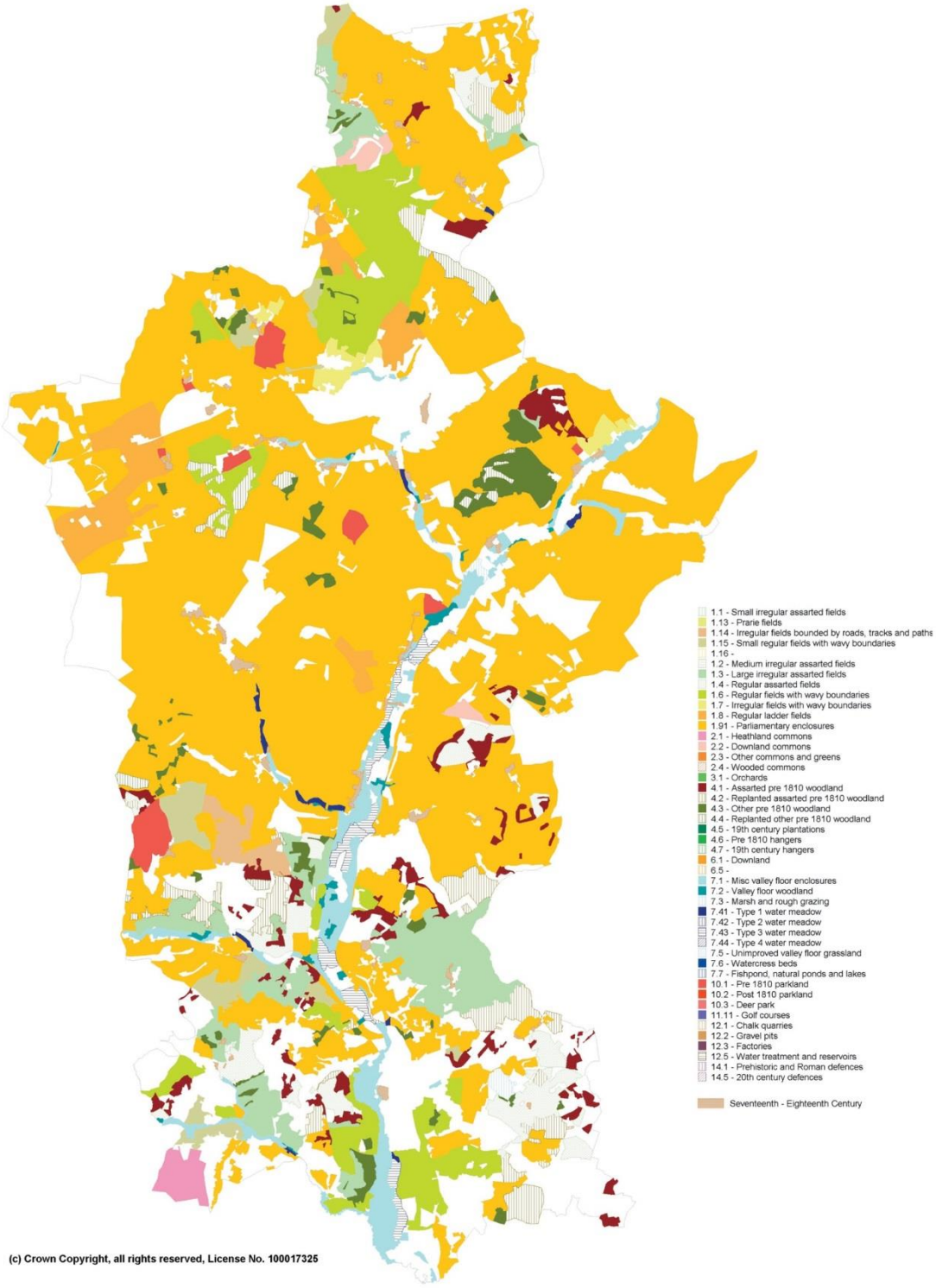


Figure 11: Late Post-Medieval Period: Field Monuments and Field Enclosures

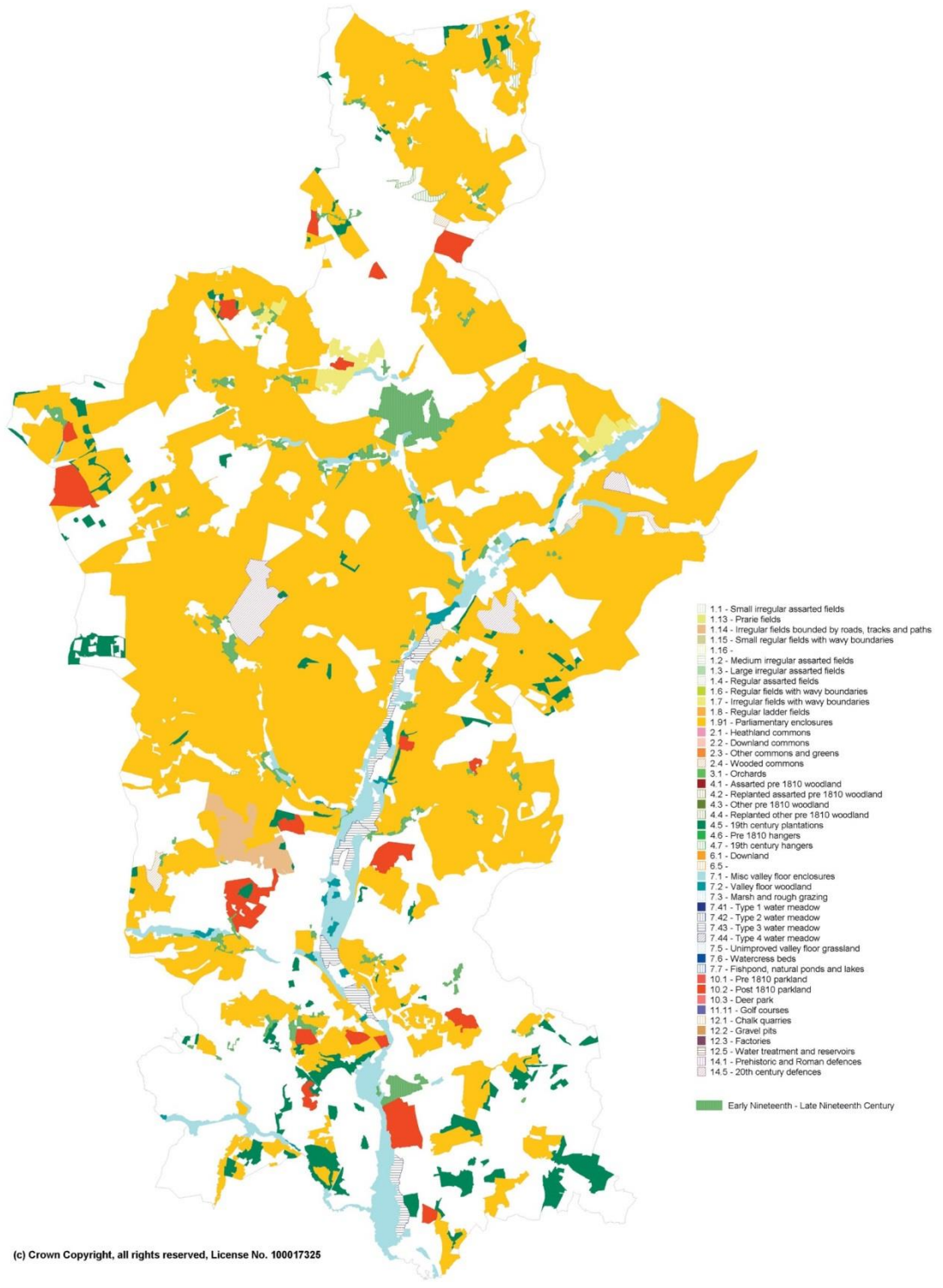
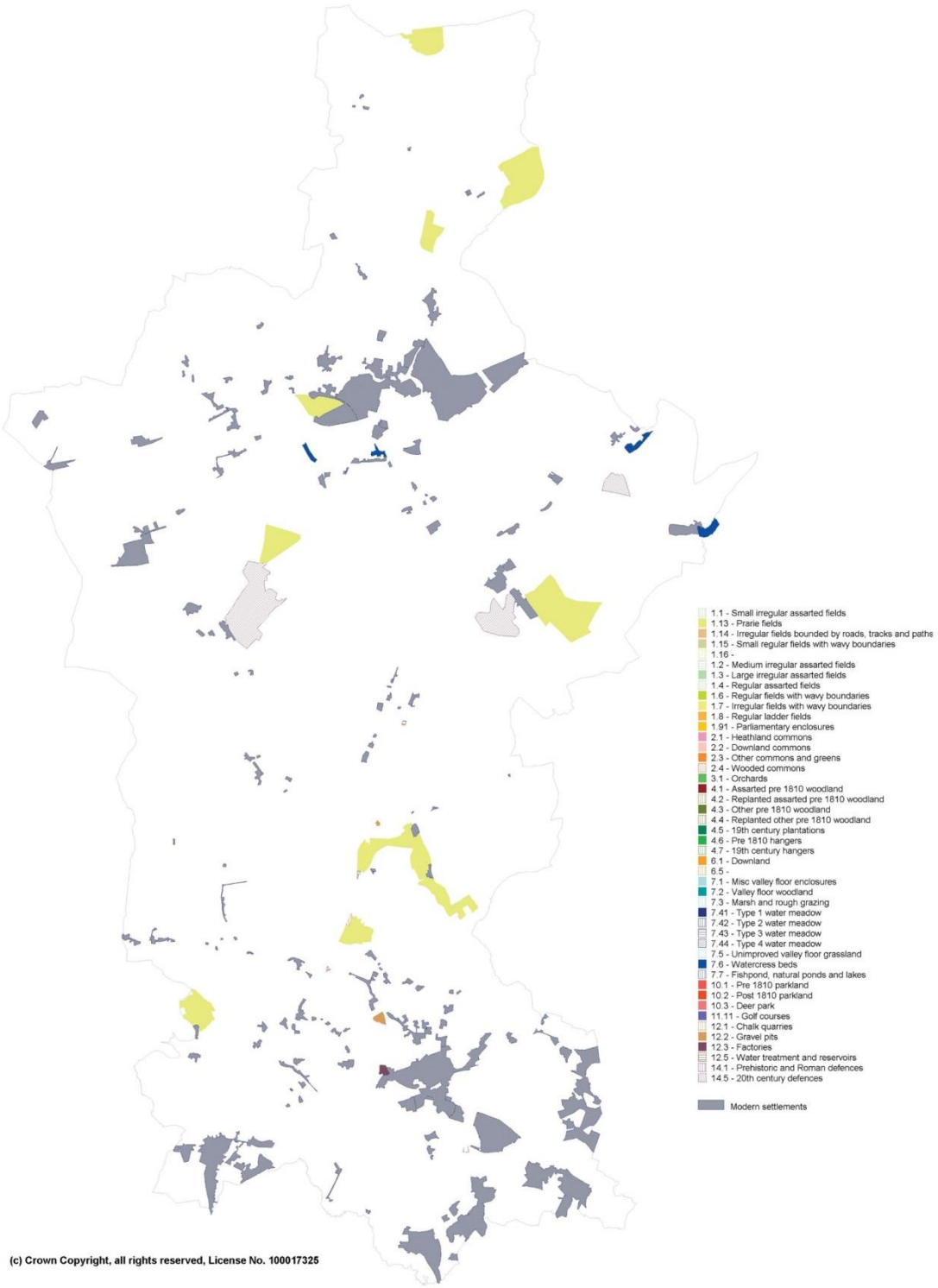


Figure 12: Modern Period: Field Monuments and Field Enclosures



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Appendix 4: Summary of Stakeholder Engagement for the 2004 Test Valley Community Landscape Project (TVCLP)

Introduction

1. Extensive public consultation was undertaken to inform the 2004 Assessment by building a better understanding of the attitudes and values of the local communities towards the landscape. The consultation trialled a particular methodology which could be applied without the commitment of large resources, and also to inform the national debate on how to best engage the public in landscape issues and in influencing change. Key outcomes of this stakeholder engagement are set out below.

2. Consultation undertaken for the 2018 assessment is described in the introduction.

Objectives of the TVCLP

3. The aim of the project was to provide a clear framework to guide the future development and management of the Borough landscape in order to ensure that the distinctive character of the Borough was retained and change accommodated in a positive way to the benefit of the people who live and work in the borough, the ecological and historical value of the borough and the overall condition of the landscape.

Community Perceptions of the Test Valley Landscape (from the TVCLP)

4. Above all, the greatest overall impression was that the local communities found the countryside within which they lived unspoilt, rich and tranquil, even ‘superb’, with ‘lovely places to go’. The variety of the landscape is notable with particular importance attached to the ‘New Forest’ part of the Borough, the open aspects of the downs, the lush farmland and river of the Test Valley and the tributaries within wooded valleys. Few unattractive elements were mentioned except for the quarries along the river valley sides.

5. The River Test was generally considered the Borough’s greatest asset. It was valued by residents as one of the finest trout streams in the world, with good

water quality, and as the defining feature of the Borough. Residents valued it as an example of the natural beauty of the area.

6. Beyond the River Test, the Test Valley Borough landscape was not considered to have a strong identity, although many recognised that the north was differed from the south and that the River Test Valley defined and linked the Borough. It was recognised that parts of the south lay within, or were similar to, the New Forest. Otherwise the landscape was considered to have little in common with its neighbours such as the Wiltshire Downs. Local people seemed generally unaware of the special wildlife habitats of the Borough but valued what they could see. The decline in some species, mostly birds, and the rise in others such as deer and pheasants (perhaps from a decline in hunting) was however noticed.

7. Access to the Test Valley countryside was a particular issue, with many people commenting on lack of footpaths, car parks serving accessible areas, information about the area and areas where the public are welcomed. Many considered woodland more attractive to walk in, compared to the openness of the downs. The north was considered better served than the south, except for within the New Forest. Generally, people valued more highly the landscapes to which they have access, and their perceptions of the different types of landscape were closely related to their accessibility.

8. It was not thought that the landscape had a strong historical tradition, with the notable exception of Romsey, the River Test trout fisheries, Danebury Hill Fort, historic houses in the south and the typical thatch, flint and red brick buildings. Andover was perceived as all new and unrelated to the history of the rest of the Borough.

9. The greatest sources of change were seen to be:

- Alterations in farming practice, in particular loss of pasture and farm buildings, poor maintenance of hedgerows (hedge cutting was a big issue) and ditches, the creation of larger fields and introduction of large areas of single crops

- Changes in farming management were blamed for increased flooding, loss of wildlife, increased polluted watercourses
- The over expansion of urban areas (in particular Andover) and loss of traditional local ways of looking after the landscape
- The increase in golf courses and equestrian activity
- Changing social structure resulting in alterations to the built form of the villages and heavier traffic.

10. The expansion of Andover was a key concern to the north Test Valley residents. The spread of development into rural areas was likened by one resident to a spider growing at the expense of the farming communities. In contrast the small ‘sleepy’ villages around Andover with their traditional thatched dwellings were much valued.

11. There was no particular perception that any one area was more in need of protection than another: all green rural areas and their villages were considered worth protecting. Many saw farmers as the guardians of the countryside and the character of the landscape and therefore both the credit and criticisms were accredited to the farming community. Little mention was made of the role of the local authorities or environmental groups. There was more interest in the conservation of the existing landscape than in creating new landscapes, and in fact there was some criticism of ‘excessive and artificial landscaping’ as a part of new developments.

12. There was concern about the purpose of the study and whether the participants were wasting their time. Residents felt that they should have been made more aware of the purpose of the meetings and some were suspicious of the motives behind the study. A general suspicion about planning and scepticism about whether their views would be taken on board were strongly expressed. This was, however, balanced by recognition that if views were taken on board, and the finished study was used in the planning process, then their participation would be worthwhile.

13. Many people were well informed of the causes of change and saw the process as long term. People had an understanding of humankind's role in the evolution of the landscape and recognised that it was impractical to halt progress. The realities of the farming economy, leading to a different type of land management, perhaps with a stronger recreational and tourism focus, was understood.

14. Whilst the need for change was appreciated, some of its impacts caused concern, for example in terms of water resources, especially when coupled with climate change.

15. Additional views on specific topics are summarised in the below bullets:

- **Hedgerows**: views varied on the main causes of damage. Some residents believed that hedgerow removal to enable larger-scale mechanisation of farming was still taking place, whilst others thought that the practice had more-or-less ceased. Others were critical of the standards of maintenance of roadside hedges. The skill involved in managing hedgerows properly was valued, as well as the contribution that good hedge management makes to the landscape.
- **Woodland:** when asked about the priority for woodlands residents saw the replacement of conifers with broadleaves, the creation of a more diverse woodland habitat and the opening up of woodland for public access as important objectives.
- **Fields:** importance was attached to local history. The tradition of naming fields, and the way that farmers still use those field names today, was specifically mentioned. The fragmentation of traditional field patterns through hedgerow removal, or in the case of the downs, putting up fencing, were a cause for concern.
- **Heathland:** perceptions varied as to what constituted heathland, particularly where it is dominated by gorse and pine. There was a perception that overgrazing has resulted in the destruction of the heathland.

- **Ministry Of Defence (MoD) land:** The subject raised a number of concerns amongst residents about potential development of disused sites, light and noise pollution and the visual impact on the landscape of the structures and landforms (e.g. the rifle butts) associated with them.
- **Minerals and Waste:** People felt that Test Valley had provided more than its fair share of minerals and did not want to see any more extraction. The quality of restoration was seen to be an important issue.
- **Natural beauty:** the report was criticised for the lack of adequate reference to the beauty of the area and for being overly negative.
- **Terminology:** this was generally a problem. For example, terms such as ‘intrusion’, ‘enrichment’ and ‘remoteness’ have particular meaning for landscape professionals that are not shared by the wider community. A plea was made to use language that everyone would use, and to avoid the misuse of terms such as ‘intimate’.