

Chesham

Buckinghamshire Historic Towns Assessment Report



Aerial view of Chesham looking north from the Church (left foreground)

The Buckinghamshire Historic Towns Project was carried out between 2008 and 2012 by Buckinghamshire County Council with the sponsorship of English Heritage and the support of Chiltern District Council

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Summary	5
I DESCRIPTION	8
1 Introduction	8
1.1 Project Background and Purpose	8
1.2 Aims	8
2 Setting	14
2.1 Location, Topography & Geology (Figure 2)	14
2.2 Wider Landscape	14
2.3 Historic Maps.....	15
2.4 Documentary Evidence	15
2.5 Built Heritage.....	15
2.6 Archaeological Evidence.....	16
2.7 Environmental Evidence	18
3 Archaeological & Historical Development	23
3.1 Prehistoric period (c.10,000 BC – AD 43).....	23
3.2 Roman period (AD 43 – 410)	25
3.3 Saxon period (AD 410 – 1066).....	27
3.4 Medieval synthesis and components (1066-1536)	30
3.5 Post medieval synthesis and components (1536-1800)	38
3.6 Modern synthesis and components (1800-Present)	45
II ASSESSMENT	56
4 Designations	56
4.1 Conservation Areas (CA)	56
4.2 Registered Parks and Gardens.....	56
4.3 Scheduled Monuments	56
4.4 Listed Buildings	56
4.5 Archaeological Notification Areas	56
5 Historic Urban Zones	58
5.1 Introduction.....	58
5.2 Historic Urban Zones	58
5.3 Archaeological Assessment	58
5.4 Heritage Values.....	60
5.5 Historic Settlement	63
5.6 Modern Settlement.....	70
6 Management Recommendations	75
6.1 Conservation Area Appraisals.....	75
6.2 Registered Parks and Gardens.....	75
6.3 Archaeological Notification Areas	75
6.4 Scheduled Monuments	75
7 Research Agenda	76
Bibliography	77
8 Addresses	79
1 Appendix: Chronology & Glossary of Terms	80
1.1 Chronology (taken from Unlocking Buckinghamshire’s Past Website).....	80
1.2 Glossary of Terms.....	80
2 Appendix: HER Records	82
2.1 Monuments HER Report.....	82
2.2 Landscapes HER Reports.....	85
2.3 Find Spots	85
2.4 Listed Buildings	88
2.5 Cruck Buildings in Chesham (Source: Vernacular Architecture Group)	92
3 Appendix: Trade Listings and Population Data	93
4 Appendix: Historical Consultancy Report	95

List of Illustrations

Figure 1: Urban Character Zones for Chesham	6
Figure 2: Topographical location	9
Figure 3: Geology of the town (BGS)	10
Figure 4: Diagram of Connections from Chesham (representational only)	11
Figure 5: 19th century Chesham in its wider historic landscape using Bucks HLC	12
Figure 6: Dispersed historic settlement pattern around Chesham	13
Figure 7: Listed Buildings by century	15
Figure 8: Historic maps.....	20
Figure 9: Listed Buildings by century.	21
Figure 10: Location and extent of archaeological investigations within the town.....	22
Figure 11: HER records in and around Chesham in the Prehistoric period	24
Figure 12: HER records for the Roman period around Chesham	26
Figure 13: Possible extent of Chesham in the late Anglo Saxon period	29
Figure 14: St Mary's Church	32
Figure 15: 61 to 73 Church Street, Chesham.....	35
Figure 16: Possible extent of the town in the medieval period.....	36
Figure 17: Distribution of mills along the Chess in the medieval and post medieval period.	37
Figure 18: Photograph of the Market hall in Chesham High Street c. 1924.....	38
Figure 19: The Bury.....	42
Figure 20: Weylands, German Street, former workhouse	43
Figure 21: The town in the post medieval period	44
Figure 22: Hayes Boot and Shoe factory at Waterside	45
Figure 23: Trinity Baptist Chapel	48
Figure 24: Thomas Harding School, former infants school	49
Figure 25: Graph showing population changes in Chesham (excluding 1941 & 1981)	50
Figure 26: Late 19 th century terraces houses in Queens Road, Chesham	51
Figure 27: Chesham in the 1880s to 1920s	52
Figure 28: Chesham in the post war to modern period	53
Figure 29: Architectural styles	54
Figure 30: Morphological and period development	55
Figure 31: Chesham conservation area	57
Figure 32: Diagram showing the processes involved in the creation of the urban character zones.....	59
Figure 33: Historic Character Zones for Chesham.....	62
Table 1: Checklist for Chesham	7
Table 2: Recorded population on Domesday holdings	28
Table 3: Summary of trade in Chesham 1830-1935 (method adapted from Broad, 1992).....	47

Summary

This report written as part of the Buckinghamshire Historic Towns Project summarises the archaeological, architectural, historical and topographic evidence relating to the development of Chesham in order to provide an informed basis for conservation, research and the management of change within the urban environment. Emphasis is placed on identifying a research agenda for the town using an 'explicit classification' method for defining local townscape character. The Historic Towns methodology complements the well-established process of conservation area appraisal by its complete coverage, greater consideration of time-depth and emphasis on research potential. Each Buckinghamshire Historic Towns Project report includes a summary of information for the town including key dates and facts (Table 1). The project forms part of an extensive historic and natural environment characterisation programme by Buckinghamshire County Council.

The market town of Chesham is located within a narrow valley in the Chilterns hills at the source of the river Chess. The restricted width of the hillsides forced the town to develop along the valley bottom, with a total built up length of 3 kilometres it was believed to be one of the longest towns in Buckinghamshire.

The earliest documentary record of Chesham is from the second half of the 10th century, although within the town there is archaeological evidence for prehistoric and Roman occupation.

In AD 957 Chesham was part of a royal manor. Not a great deal is known about the size or character of the Anglo Saxon settlement but it is suggested to have focused around the church and the area known as the Bury. It is not until the medieval period that we have more information about Chesham; it appears that the town's medieval prosperity was based on mills along the Chess (there were four at the time of Domesday) and the market granted in 1257. It is thought that around the time of the founding of Chesham's market that the High Street was laid out, along with the regular, long narrow tenement plots running at right angles. The High Street is lined by historic buildings dated to the 16th – 18th centuries, many of which probably either contain medieval fabric or lie on sites originally developed at that time. In comparison to other towns, Chesham's connections to the road network were poor, although must have been an important commercial centre for the villages surrounding it.

Despite Chesham's apparent isolation from the national communications network, it was a successful small town thanks to its mills its supply to the London market. By the 16th century the majority of Chesham's mills had converted from corn milling to other industries, workers were employed in the cloth making and leather trades, supplying goods to London, while smaller craft industries such as straw plaiting, wood working, bodging, turning and chair making were also significant.

Like the neighbouring town of Amersham, 16th century Chesham seems to have been a centre of religious dissent, which was subject to violent persecution. There was limited development to the town in the post medieval (16th-18th century); expansion was constrained by the topography of the valley, with the town expanding south along Red Lion Street Hill and north along Broad Street.

Despite being less than 40 kilometres from London, Chesham was isolated, off the main turnpikes or any notable coaching routes and was not connected to the railway network until the end of the 19th century. The lack of transport facilities hampered industrial growth and as a result many inhabitants were self employed in home based crafts, based on local raw materials, mainly wood (brush making) and leather. Industrial capabilities of Chesham were somewhat improved with the development of the ‘Newtown’ to the north of the historic core from 1888, although it was the late arrival of the Metropolitan railway in 1889 that was the real catalyst, revitalising industries by connecting them to the London markets. The railway had another delayed effect which was to attract people to settle to in the town. The early to mid twentieth century saw rapid expansion of middle-class commuter-belt housing, the town expanding and fanning out northwards towards the villages of Chartridge and Bellingdon. The historic core of the town was also revitalised with the demolition of insanitary housing in the 1930s, although this improved conditions a consequence of this clearance was the loss of many historic properties. The town centre has been progressively redeveloped since the 1960s and was pedestrianised in the 1990s. The population of Chesham grew to over 10,000 by 1951 but since 1947 it has been restricted by the designation of the Metropolitan Green Belt.

In the 21st century local employment is provided mainly by small business engaged in light industry, technology and professional services. However with improved connection to London via the Underground and road networks, Chesham’s main function is as a commuter town to London.

The findings of this study are summarised in nineteen ‘historic urban zones’ that define distinct phases and forms of urban development (Figure 1). Each zone is accompanied by a brief description of its townscape character and archaeological potential.

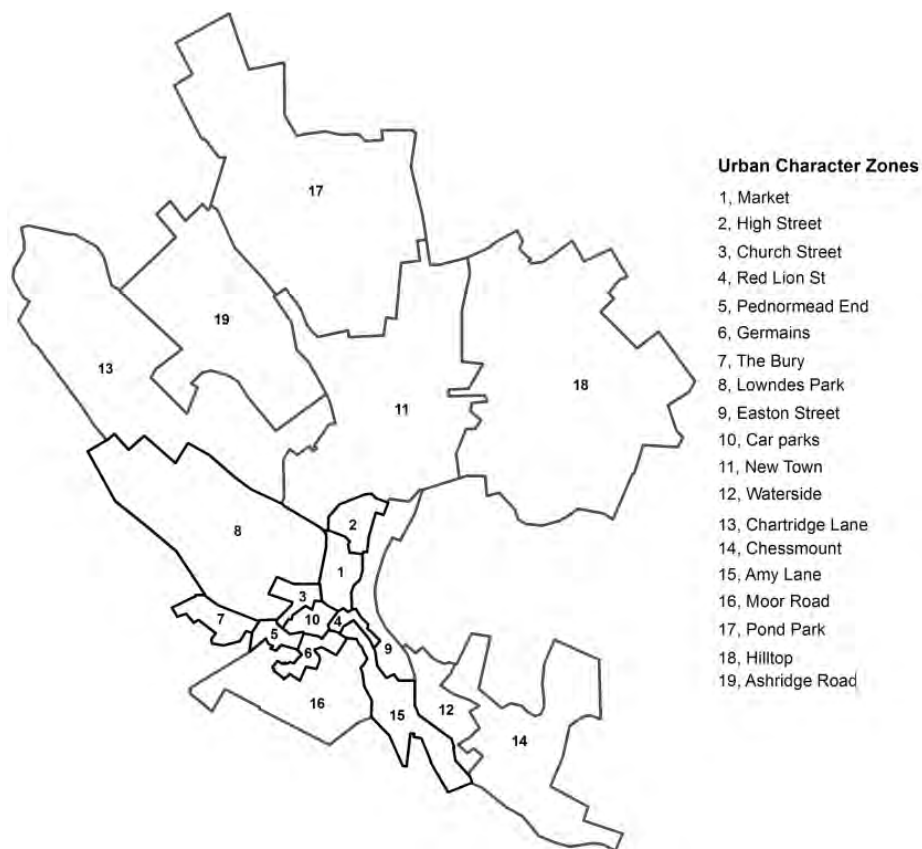


Figure 1: Urban Character Zones for Chesham

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Period	Chesham	
Saxon (410-1066)	Mint	No
	Minster	No?
	Royal Manor	Yes?
	Burh status	No
	Saxon Reference	1012 Rotuli Hundredorum as <i>Caestaeleshamme</i>
Domesday (1086)	Domesday Reference	Yes
	Number of Manors	5
	Watermills	4 (combined)
	Domesday population (recorded households)	29 villagers; 16 smallholders; 14 slaves (combined figure for all manors)
	Settlement type	Large polyfocal village?
Medieval (1066-1536)	Borough status	No
	Burgage plots	No
	Guild house/fraternity	No
	Castle	No
	Civic structures	No
	Fair Charter	1257 (Charter) Hugo de Veer
	Church	St Mary's Church
	Market Charter	1257 (Charter) Hugo de Veer
	Market House	No?
	Monastic presence	Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire St Margaret de Pre, Leicester
	Manorial records	Yes, multiple manors
	Routeway connections	Local roads only - River Chess
	Inns/taverns (presence of)	no reference
Windmills/watermills	Yes	
Settlement type	Small market town	
Post Medieval (1536-1800)	Industry	Lace making, leather making, straw plaiting
	1577 Return of Vintners	3 inn keepers; 4 alehouse keepers (<i>Chesham Magna</i>)
	Market Charter	Ongoing
	Market house	18 th century record of market house
	Fair Charter	Ongoing
	Inns	Yes
	Watermills	Yes
	Proximity to turnpike	No
	Enclosure date	Private enclosure - undated?
Population (1801)	1910	
Settlement type	Small market town	
Modern (Post 1800)	Railway station	1889 Metropolitan Railway
	Modern development	Significant modern development
	Enclosure	1807 Hyde Heath Enclosure Act
	Canal Wharf	No
	Significant local industries	Boot & shoe industry; brewing; furniture making; silk spinning; brush factories
	Population (2001)	20,357
	Settlement type	Large town
HER No.	0665800000	

Table 1: Checklist for Chesham

I DESCRIPTION

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background and Purpose

The Buckinghamshire Historic Towns Project forms part of a national programme of projects funded by English Heritage (EH) based on the archaeology, topography and historic buildings of England's historic towns and cities.

This Historic Settlement Assessment Report for Chesham has been prepared by the Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service to inform and advise the planning process. This report has been compiled using a number of sources, including the Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Record (HER), the List of Buildings of Architectural and Historical Interest and selected historical cartographic and documentary records. Site visits were also made to classify the character of the built environment. The preparation of this report has involved the addition of information to the database and the digitising of spatial data onto a Geographic Information System (GIS). In addition, the report presents a research agenda for the historic settlement's archaeological interest.

1.2 Aims

The overall aim of the project is to inform management of the historic environment within Buckinghamshire's urban areas. Specifically, it will:

- Improve the quality and environmental sensitivity of development by enhancing the consistency, efficiency and effectiveness of the application of Planning Policy Statement 5 covering the historic environment.
- Inform the preparation and review of conservation area appraisals
- Where appropriate, assist with the development of Town Schemes and urban regeneration projects
- Inform Local Development Frameworks, especially in the recognition of historic townscape character
- Act as a vehicle for engaging local communities by promoting civic pride and participation in local research and conservation projects.
- Build upon the original Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) for Buckinghamshire (completed in 2005) through the addition of more detailed characterisation of the urban environment.
- Address an agenda recognised in the Solent Thames Research Frameworks for Buckinghamshire (2006) regarding a lack of knowledge of the built environment and in particular the need for research into land use continuity and internal planning within Buckinghamshire's early towns.

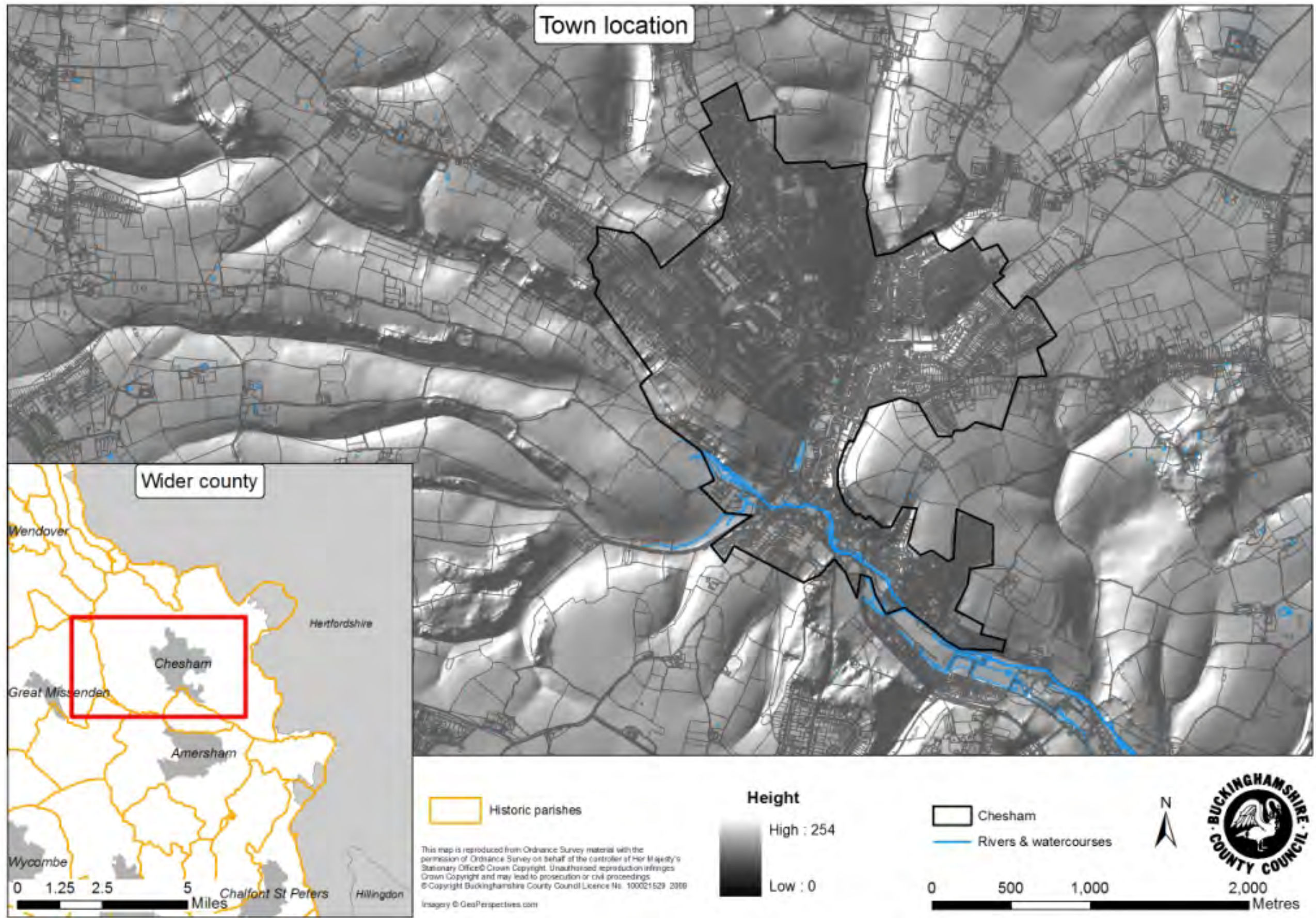


Figure 2: Topographical location

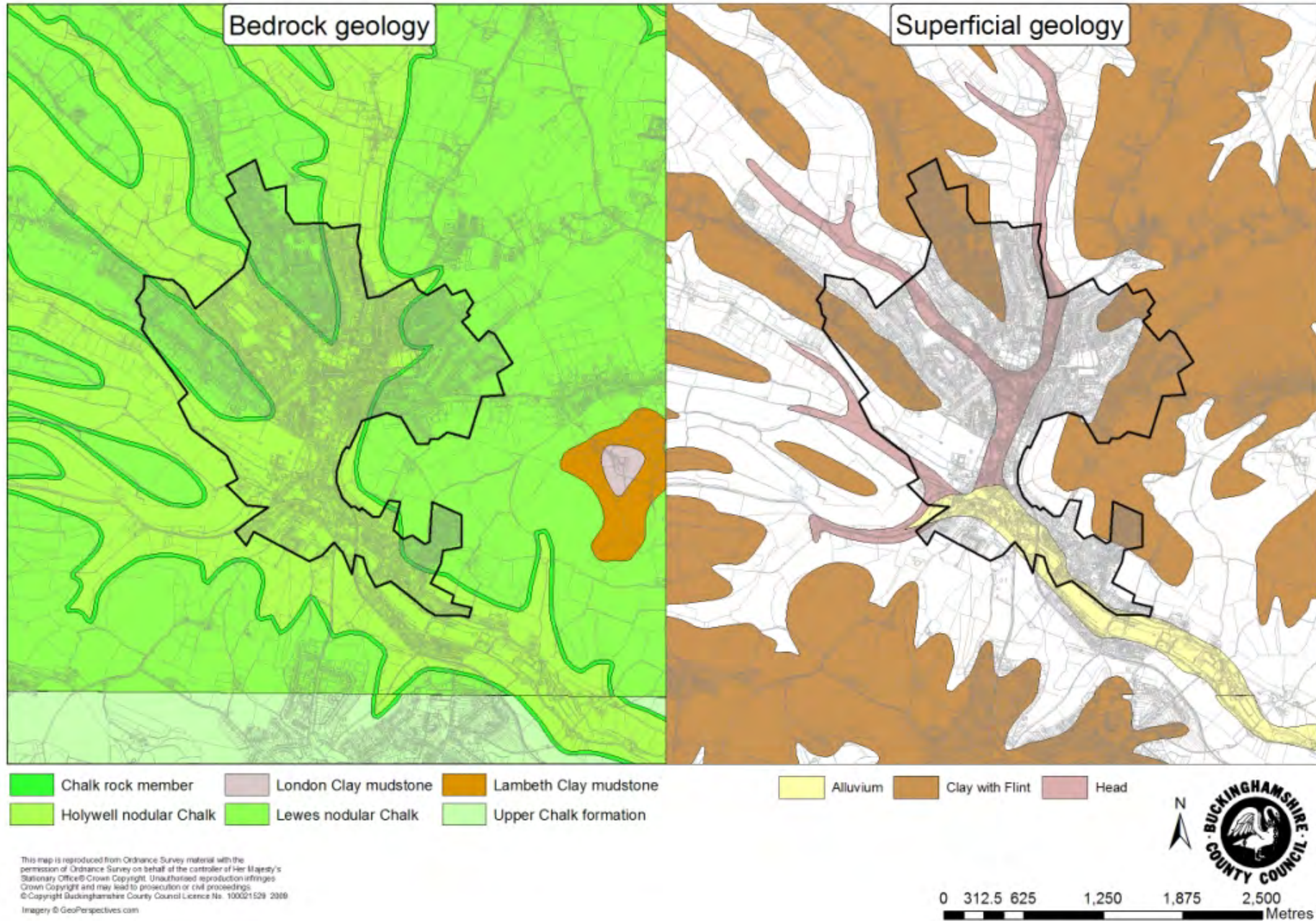


Figure 3: Geology of the town (BGS)

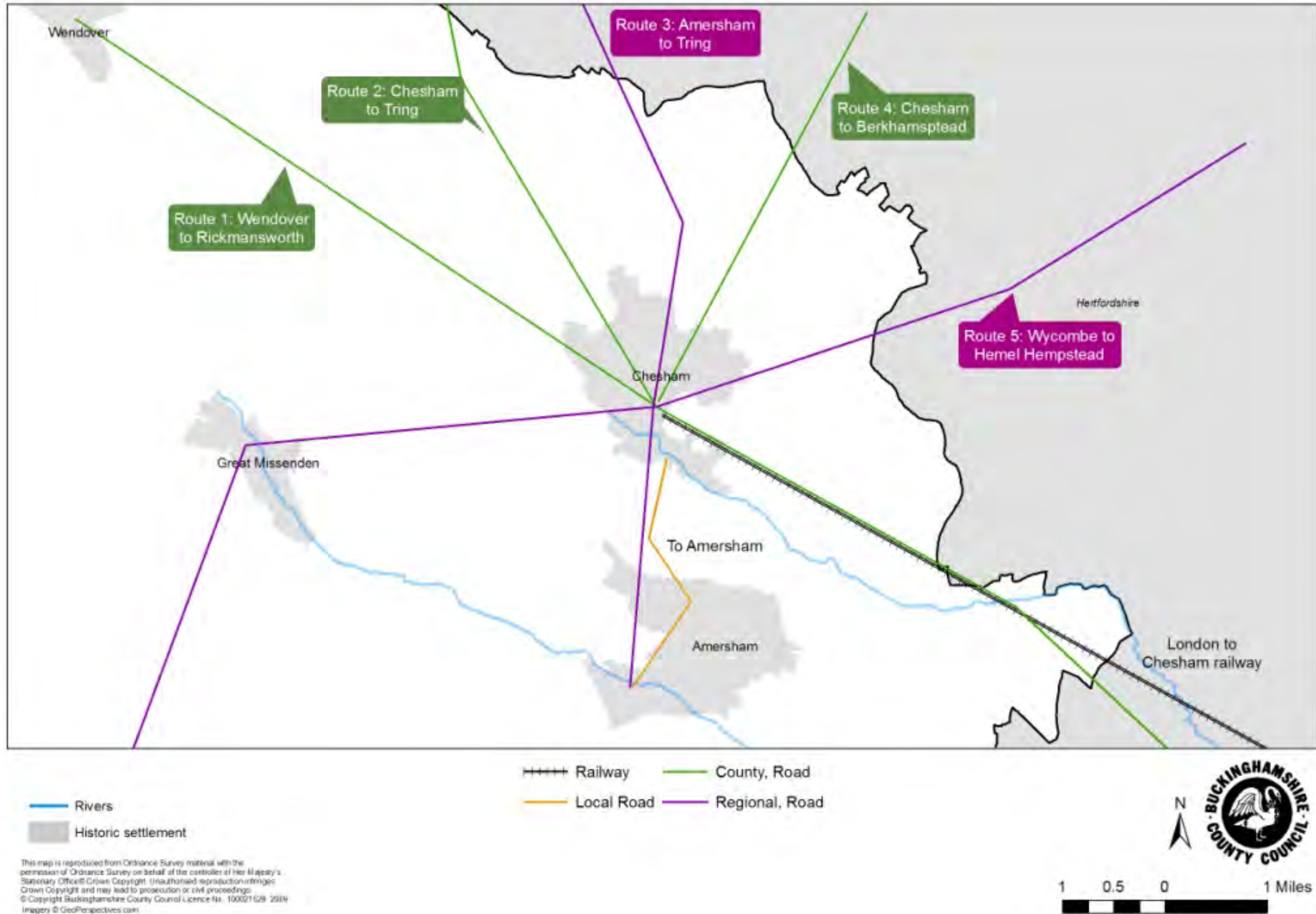


Figure 4: Diagram of Connections from Chesham (representational only)

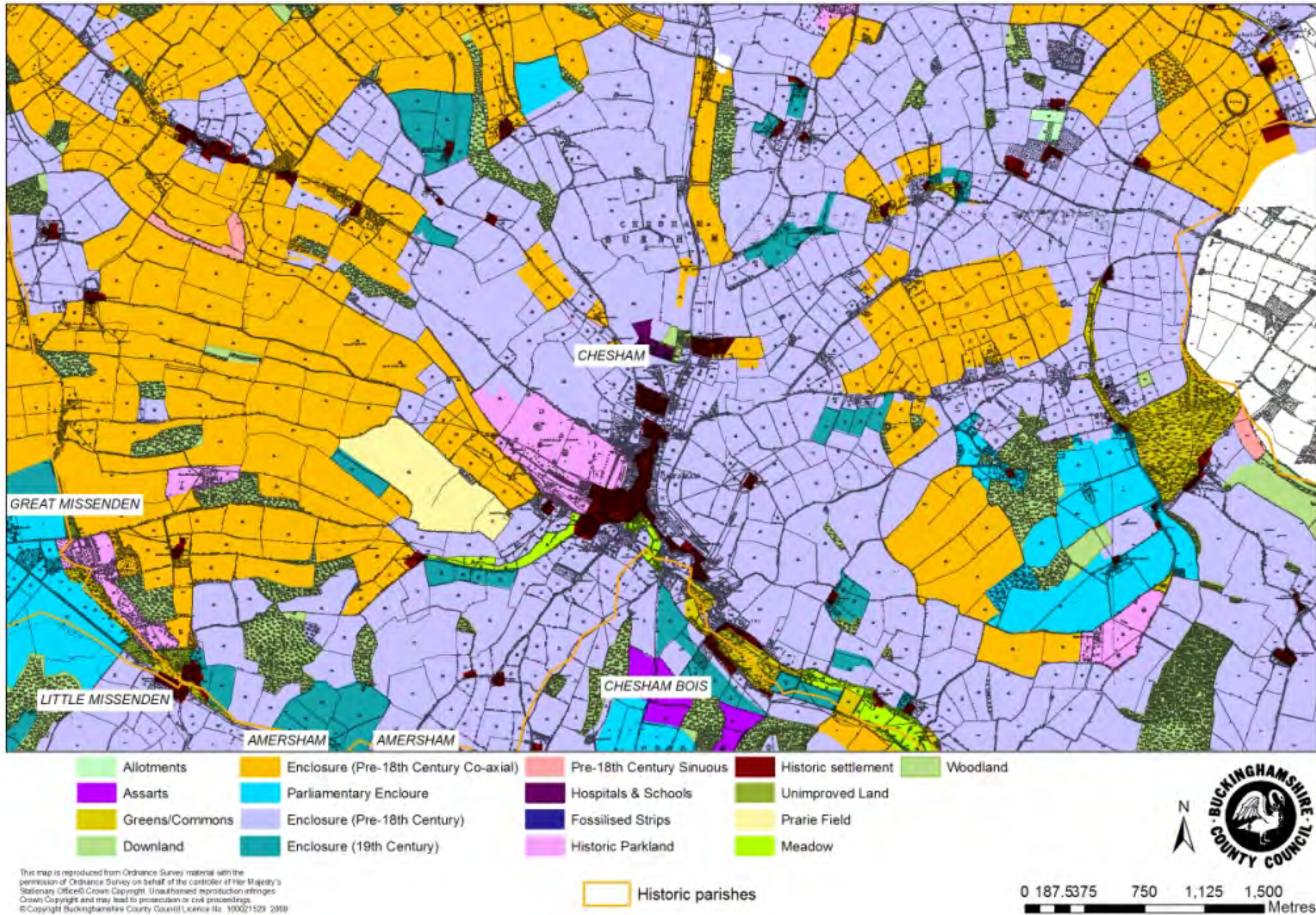


Figure 5: 19th century Chesham in its wider historic landscape using Bucks HLC

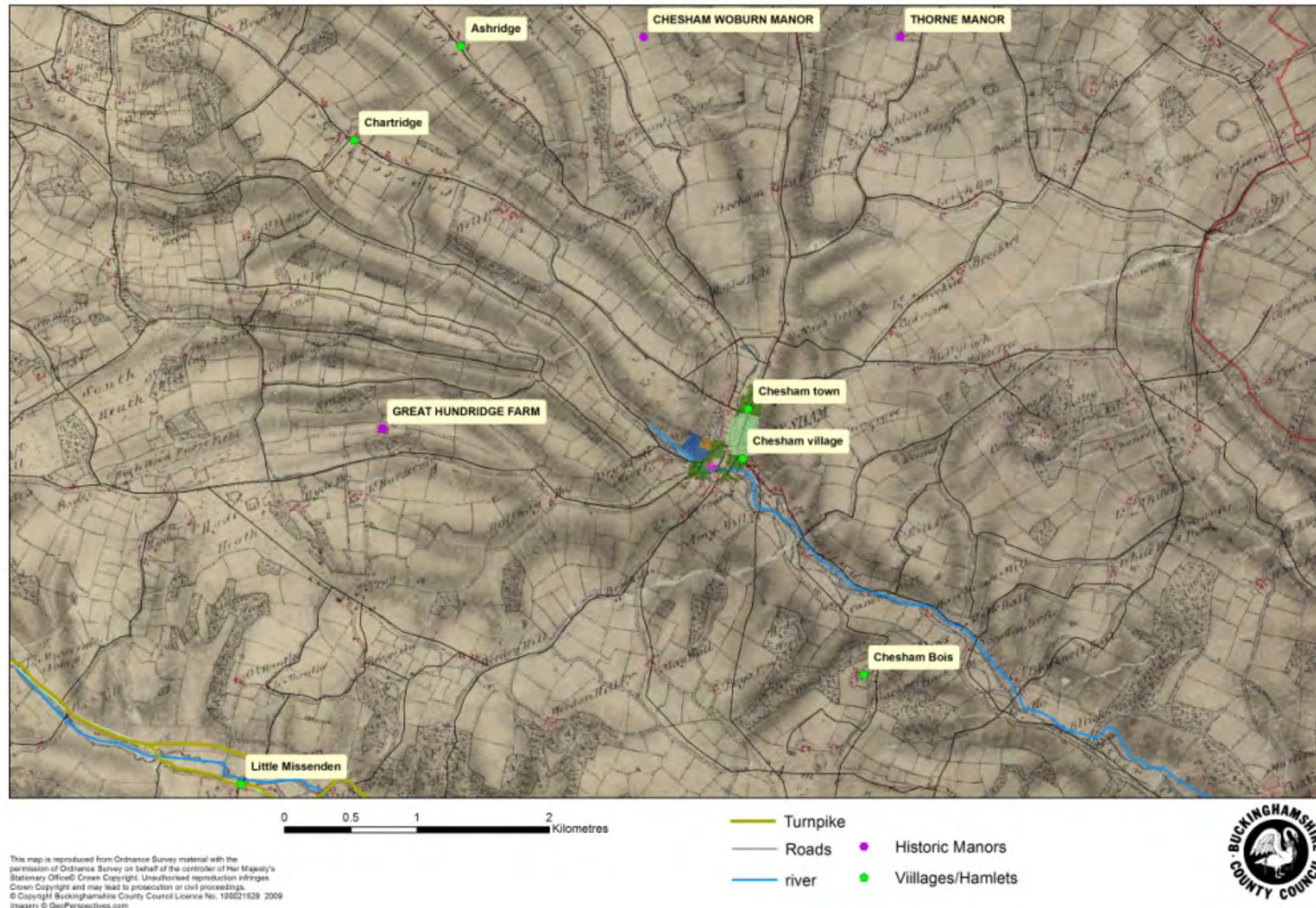


Figure 6: Dispersed historic settlement pattern around Chesham

2 Setting

2.1 Location, Topography & Geology (Figure 2)

Chesham is located in Chiltern District in the county of Buckinghamshire, some 14 miles from Aylesbury and 37 miles from London. The historic settlement is located at approximately 100m OD at the head of the Chess valley at the point where subsidiary dry-valleys meet. The High Street occupies the base of a valley at a height of 100m OD surrounded by several hills, Chartridge Lane to the west rises away from the High Street to a height of approximately 160m OD. Settlement at Newtown (165m OD) and Hilltop (160m OD) mark two hills northwest and north east of the High Street. The landscape east of the High Street also rises abruptly to a height of approximately 160m OD

The principal bedrock geology around Chesham is Holywell Chalk formation surrounded by Lewes Nodular Chalk along the valley floors (Figure 3). The overlying superficial deposits are made up of chalk with flints along the hill tops at Chartridge, Newtown and Waterside while alluvium is recorded along the course of the river Chess and undifferentiated Head deposits (mixture of clay, sand and flints) are recorded along the High Street and Ashridge Road.

The River Chess rises at Chesham within the grounds of Lowndes Park, it then passes through the town into Hertfordshire where it flows into the River Colne. Two springs arose in Highmead Meadow (doubtless Higham Manor) and on Frogmore farm, to meet at the town and there were three open wells or springs in the town one in church street called Bridewell, another at the entrance to Duck Alley near Townfield Bridge and a third now lost in Waterside near the gasworks.

2.2 Wider Landscape

Transport and Communications

There are no major historic routes through Chesham. There are no known Roman roads in or near the town, no medieval highways nor did turnpike roads serve the town. The Chess was not navigable, Chesham was not linked to the canal network and was only connected by railway in 1889 (Figure 4). Until the end of the 19th century the town was dependant on the local rural road network; a fact which marks Chesham out from other successful Buckinghamshire towns for which regional and national transport connections were generally much more important. A distinctive feature of the local road network is the way lanes fan out into the hills to the north and east of the town linking it to its rural hinterland (see below) – these lanes are likely to have originated as drove roads linking the valley settlement with the open fields and also the ‘upland’ commons and wood-pasture which lay beyond them.

Rural Landscape

Chesham lay within a large medieval and early modern parish that encompasses numerous outlying rural farms and hamlets. In the medieval period there were open fields to the north and east of the town; however Chiltern common field systems differed from those of the vale in having a large number of quite small fields as opposed to the classic three or occasionally two fields (Roden 1966). By the 19th century the landscape around Chesham had changed to a mixture of pre 18th century enclosed field systems with irregular and co-axial enclosure (Figure 5). Often found in heavily wooded areas, co-axial enclosure is a descriptive term for an extensive field system that shares the same orientation. Co-axial fields have a sinuous character and are often sub-divided into small, rectangular fields. They are thought to be medieval or older, with examples elsewhere dating from the Bronze Age.

Twentieth century development significantly altered this landscape; the modern town extended over much of the valley slopes around the historic town while the ancient field systems on the surrounding hills had been partly replaced by modern enclosure. In 1965 the Chilterns was protected as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, much of the landscape surrounding Chesham was included in that designation.

2.3 Historic Maps

Characterisation for this project was primarily undertaken using the Ordnance Survey series of maps from the OS 2" Surveyors drawing of the 1820s to the current Mastermap data. Also used were county and regional maps including Jeffrey's map of the county (1760) and Bryant's map of the county (1820). The earliest surviving maps of the Chesham area date to the early 18th century and depict the Cheyne and Hundridge estates; however few maps illustrate the town itself (Figure 8).

2.4 Documentary Evidence

The full documentary assessment report, produced by P Diplock of the University of Leicester is available in Appendix 4.

Medieval manorial records for Chesham are highly fragmented due to the division of the parish between four landowners in 1086; a few Court Rolls survive from the 15th century while taxation records survive in greater quantities. In the post medieval to modern period, records become more extensive including Chesham Bury and Higham, which were absent from the surviving medieval records. There are also court rolls, private papers and wills and deeds, although papers of prominent families such as the Lowndes are absent. These records may provide a wealth of information on the growth of Chesham.

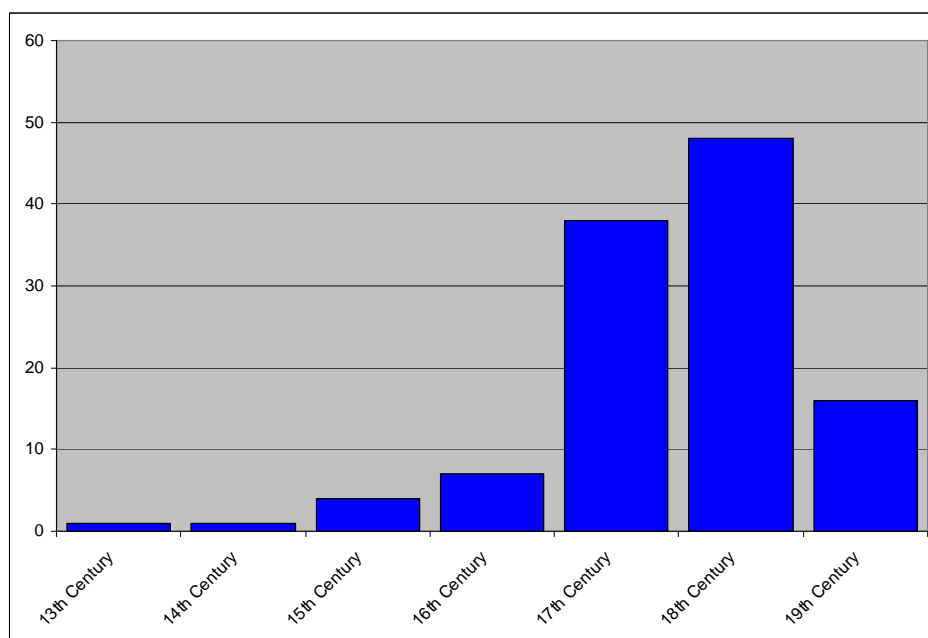
2.5 Built Heritage

There are 115 listed buildings within Chesham including one Grade I and three Grade II* listed buildings (

Figure 7). St Mary's Church is a Grade I listed building dating to the 13th century and is the earliest surviving building in Chesham while Hollybush Farm, Vale Farm and Great Germains are Grade II*, dating to the 15th century. Six buildings are dated to the medieval period (13th-15th centuries) while a further seven date to the 16th century. The majority of buildings (86) in Chesham are dated to the 17th and 18th centuries while a further 16 to the 19th century. There are two recorded cruck frame buildings in the town, dating to the 17th and 18th century respectively (Appendix 2, 2.5.).

There has been a lack of building recording in Chesham which can often revise the dates and interpretation of many historic buildings. Many of the dates and descriptions for listed buildings are generally derived from a general evaluation of building exteriors and architectural styles. Historic buildings may conceal earlier elements which are only apparent from a thorough survey.

Figure 7: Listed Buildings by century



2.6 Archaeological Evidence

There is one scheduled monument in Chesham, a mound in Lowndes Park which has been interpreted as a Bronze Age barrow (see CH6 below for recent investigations). An archaeological notification area, which highlights areas of known or suspected archaeological interest to the local planning authority, covers the historic core of Chesham. To date there have been a seven archaeological interventions within the historic town. The most significant excavations occurred at Stratford's Yard (CH1) the Chessvale Bowling Club (CH 4) and excavations at the Sainsbury supermarket (CH7 & CH8). Both the Stratford Yard and the Chessvale Bowling Club sites indicated the presence of prehistoric activity in Chesham dating from the Mesolithic period. Chessvale provided evidence dating to the late Neolithic and Bronze Age. There has been little evidence of Roman activity in excavations although the discovery of large quantities of pottery around St Germain's Street suggests some sort of settlement was present in this part of Chesham. Investigations have yet to unearth evidence of the early town. Despite its historical associations, no archaeological evidence for the Anglo Saxon period has been revealed so far. Excavations at Sainsbury's site (CH8) revealed evidence of medieval occupation, including the foundations and walls of dwellings dating from 14th and 15th centuries. There has also been some medieval material unearthed in the excavations at the Chesham hospital (CH5) and medieval deposition at Stratford's Yard (CH1).

CH1: Stratford's Yard NGR SP 9590 0150 (Stainton B, 1989)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
1969: 3632 Mesolithic flint flakes 1982: 49 flint flakes (Neolithic) 25 sherds Iron Age pottery 9 sherds Roman pottery 138 sherds medieval pottery 58 sherds post medieval pottery	1969: 1 pit 1982: 1 pit 2 possible pits	1969: None 1982: 250 fragments animal bone botanical remains Above ground structures None Positive features (above natural) 1969: Mesolithic working floor
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Report on excavations carried out in 1969 and 1982. Source: Published article in Records of Buckinghamshire Journal Archive: County Museum	The 1969 excavation was limited in its extent. It revealed an in-situ Mesolithic flint working floor at a depth of approximately one metre. The 1982 excavation was also small and located just two metres from the earlier site. Radiocarbon dating was carried out on some of the animal bones, returning a date range of 3940±100bc (un-calibrated). The results of the two excavations indicate the presence of two sites, one Mesolithic site and a later Neolithic site in close proximity.	
CH2: East Street NGR SP 9598 0147 (Collard M, 1990)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
flint debris (Mesolithic?) pottery (Neolithic/ Bronze Age)		Above ground structures None Positive features (above natural) dark soil layer (late Neolithic/Bronze Age?)
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Source: Summary report provided in South Midlands Archaeology journal Archive: County Museum	Archaeological finds were found at a depth of approximately 0.5 metres. This excavation supports the conclusion of the earlier report (CH1) that the area indicates some level of re-use in the Neolithic or Bronze Age.	
CH3: Emmanuel Church NGR SP 9621 0224 (Cauvain S & Cauvain P, 1992)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
52 brick fragments 22.25kg tile fragments 1453 sherds pottery (post medieval)		Above ground structures None Positive features (above natural) 2 pottery kilns

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Source: Published article in Records of Buckinghamshire Journal Archive: County Museum	Comparisons were drawn between the two kilns recorded here and those previously discovered at Leyhill and Potters Row (Farley & Lawson, 1990; BCMAG 1978). Evidence indicates site is post medieval in date. Two local fabric types were identified in the pottery, the most common being a hard fired fabric with quartz inclusions. A few sherds of a pale coloured type ware were also recorded, with occasional organic content.	
CH4: Chessvale Bowling Club NGR SP 96026 01580 (Halsted J, 2008)		CAS 8037
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
<u>Mesolithic</u> 9 pieces residual flint	<u>Neolithic/Bronze Age</u> 7 pits	25 charred plant remains samples
<u>Middle Neolithic</u> 1 sherd Peterborough Ware	<u>Bronze Age</u> Ring ditch (6.5m external diameter)	1 pollen sample
286 pieces struck flint (Neolithic to Bronze Age)	<u>Bronze Age/Iron Age</u> 3 pits	Charcoal sampling
<u>Early/Middle Bronze Age</u> 213 sherds pottery (including Beaker and Food Vessel Urn)		some animal bone
<u>Iron Age</u> 5 sherds pottery		Above ground structures
<u>Roman</u> 3 sherds Romano-British pottery		None
<u>Medieval</u> 3 sherds medieval pottery		Positive features (above natural)
Post medieval ceramic building material		None
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Type: Excavation Source: Published article in Records of Buckinghamshire Journal; Unpublished archaeological report Archive: County Museum	Small Early Bronze Age ring ditch with Neolithic/Bronze Age pits and artefacts. Four radiocarbon dates fall in range 2760 – 1730 cal BC. No Roman or medieval features.	
CH5: Chesham Hospital NGR SP 9624 0129 (Williamson A, Newton A & Hallybone C. 2006)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
4 flints (undated)	agricultural terracing	animal bone (post medieval)
2 sherds S Hertfordshire type grey ware (1170-1350)		1 fragment oyster shell
2 sherds late medieval sandy red ware (1350-1600)		Above ground structures
8 sherds post medieval and modern pottery (17 th -18 th Century)		None
29 sherds modern pottery		Positive features (above natural)
60 fragments of ceramic building material (post medieval to modern)		None
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Type: Trial Trenching Source: Unpublished archaeological document Archive: County Museum	The terracing in the area known as the Balks survives as evidence of medieval agricultural practices. The evaluation of the site did suggest significant alteration in the post medieval to modern periods however, particularly following the construction of a cottage hospital on the site of the third terrace in the 19 th century. The report indicates that the best survival of medieval terracing is the northern most scarp of the Balks.	
CH6a: The Mound, Lowndes Park NGR SP 9547 0178 (2009 Chess valley Archaeological Society)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
N/A	<u>Medieval</u>	N/A
	Pit	Above ground structures
		N/A
		Positive features (above natural)
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Type: Geophysical Survey Source: Unpublished archaeological document Archive: HER	Geophysical survey of the "rolling pin" mound (scheduled as a Bronze Age barrow) in Lowndes Park did not provide a definitive date for the mound but did identify a small ditch close to the base of the mound.	
CH6b: The Mound, Lowndes Park NGR SP 9547 0178 (Chess Valley Archaeological Society 2009)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
N/A	<i>Medieval</i> Pit	N/A Above ground structures N/A Positive features (above natural) N/A
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Type: Excavation Source: Unpublished archaeological document Archive: HER	Add small scale excavation of the "rolling pin" scheduled as a Bronze Age barrow in Lowndes Park) Post-Medieval finds question the interpretation of a barrow monument.	
CH7: 128 High Street, Supermarket Site, NGR SP 9547 0178 (Lindsey Archaeological Services 1998)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
N/A	<i>Medieval</i> Pit <i>Post Medieval</i> Tanning Pit	N/A Above ground structures N/A Positive features (above natural) N/A
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Type: Trial Trenching Source: Unpublished archaeological document Archive: HER	Report on an archaeological trial trenching carried out by Lindsey Archaeological Services revealed evidence of a former tanning site shown on the 1842 tithe map and evidence of earlier medieval occupation.	
CH8: 128 High Street Supermarket Site NGR SP 9547 0178 (Lindsey Archaeological Services 2001)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
<i>Medieval</i> Pottery: Local produced fabrics 2 & 5: 13 th -15 th century (164 sherds) Brill Boarstall ware (30 sherds) Small Finds: Slag Knives Horseshoe <i>Post Medieval</i> Wooden pipe and box	<i>Medieval</i> Rubbish pits <i>Post Medieval</i> Tanning Pits (14)	<i>Animal Bone</i> Cattle, sheep, chicken, duck Domestic Goose rabbit Water vole, bank vole Newt, frog Eels, freshwater fish <i>Charred plant & plant remains</i> Wheat, barley, oats Fig seeds <i>Molluscs</i> Land snails Buried peat/peaty soils Above ground structures N/A Positive features (above natural) <i>Medieval</i> Hearths Wall – medieval buildings
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Type: Excavation Source: Unpublished archaeological document Report: HER	Report on an archaeological excavation carried out by Lindsey Archaeological Services which revealed a complex of tanning pits dating to the post medieval period. The excavation also unearthed evidence of 2 phases of occupation in the medieval period.	

2.7 Environmental Evidence

In assessing the potential for environmental remains, it should be remembered that an urban environment can provide extremes in preservation. On the one hand proximity to the groundwater table within a historic core may lead to anoxic conditions and therefore good preservation potential for organic materials whereas on the other hand frequent below ground

disturbance as a result of redevelopment and construction combined with modern industrial pollution can also lead to extremely poor preservation of organic materials (French, 2003).

Archaeological interventions at Stratford Road (CH1), the Chessvale Bowling Club (CH4) and Chesham Hospital (CH5) have all yielded environmental evidence and shown good preservation of bone, shell pollen and plant remains reflecting the alkaline or neutral conditions found on chalk. Excavations of the tannery site at 128 High Street have also shown the preservation of organic remains of wood as well as plant remains. There could be potential for further waterlogged deposits in Chesham at the southern end of the town such as Missenden Road, Red Lion Street and St Mary's Way which all lie within the current flood zones for the River Chess. This coupled with the presence of industries along the river would suggest a further potential for the preservation of organic material such as leather and wood.

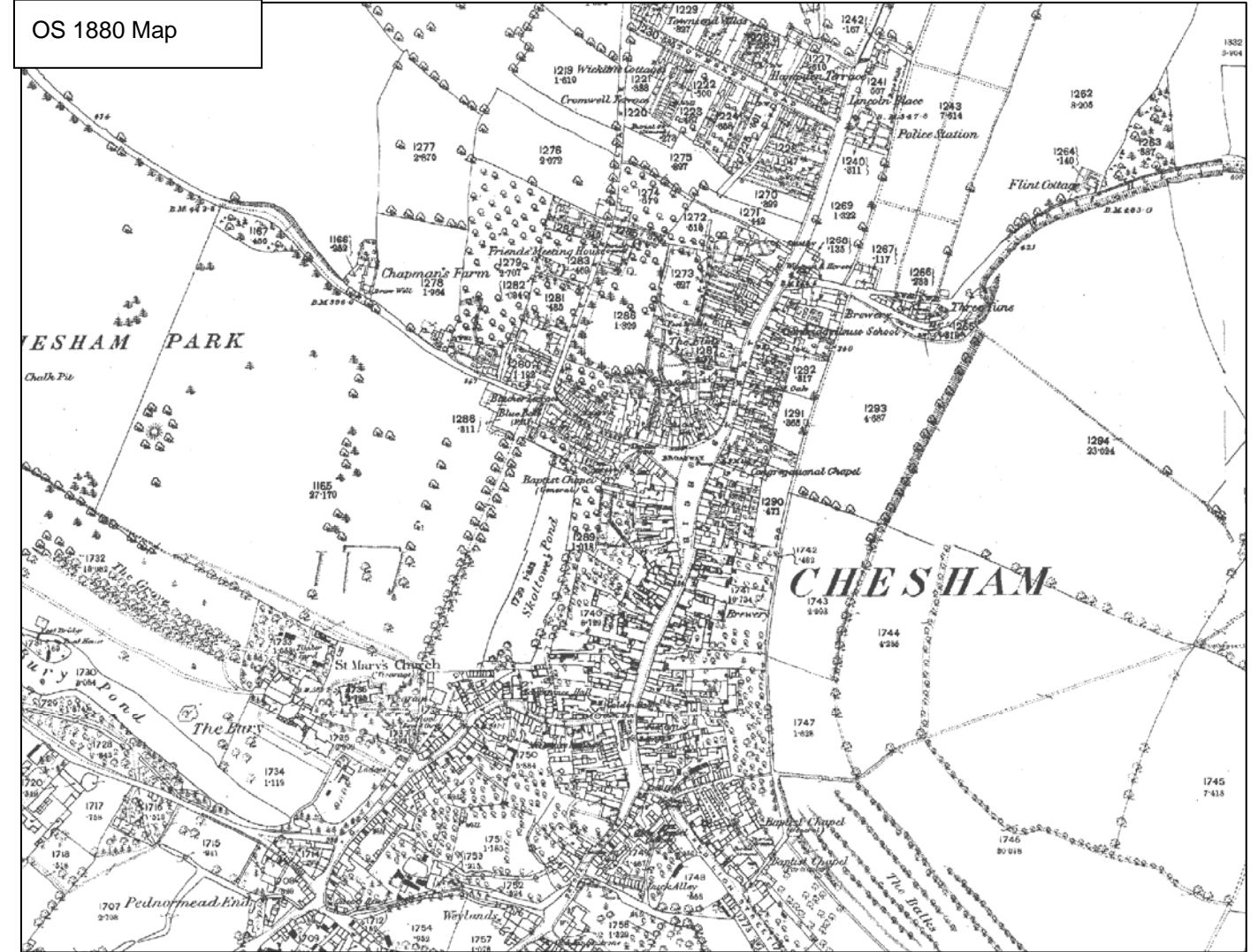
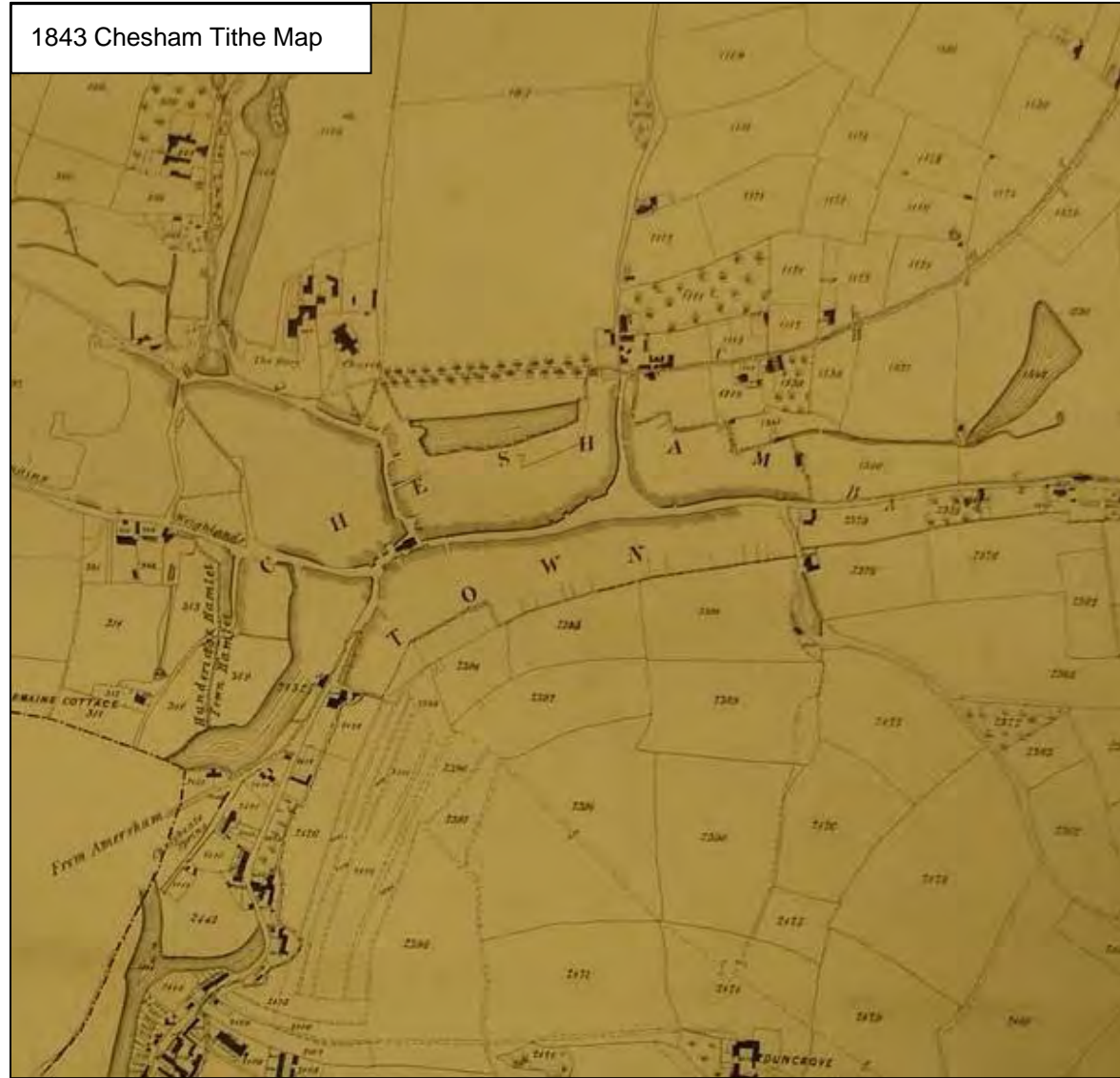
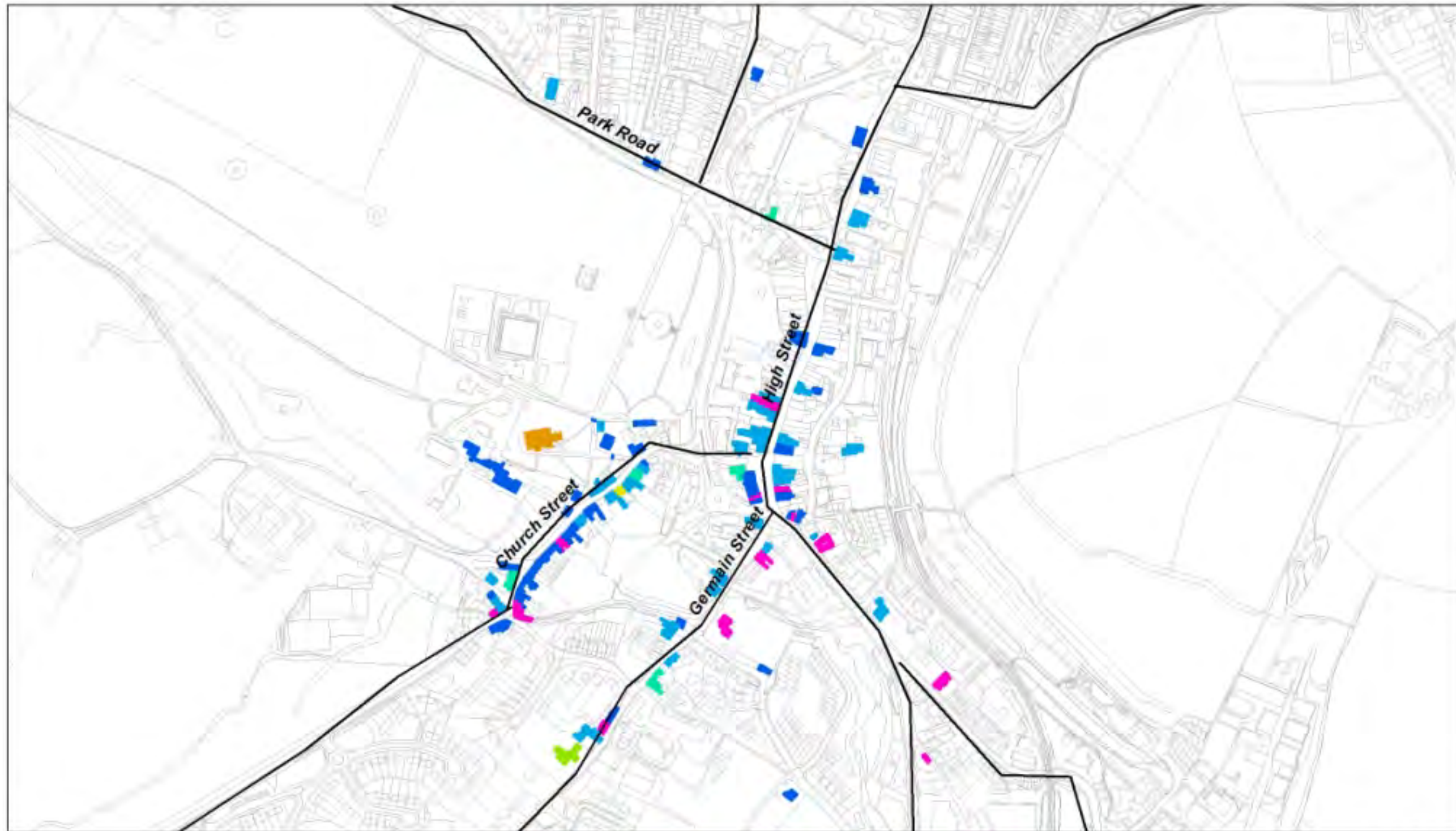
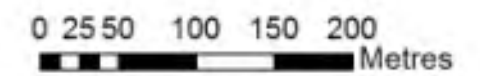


Figure 8: Historic maps

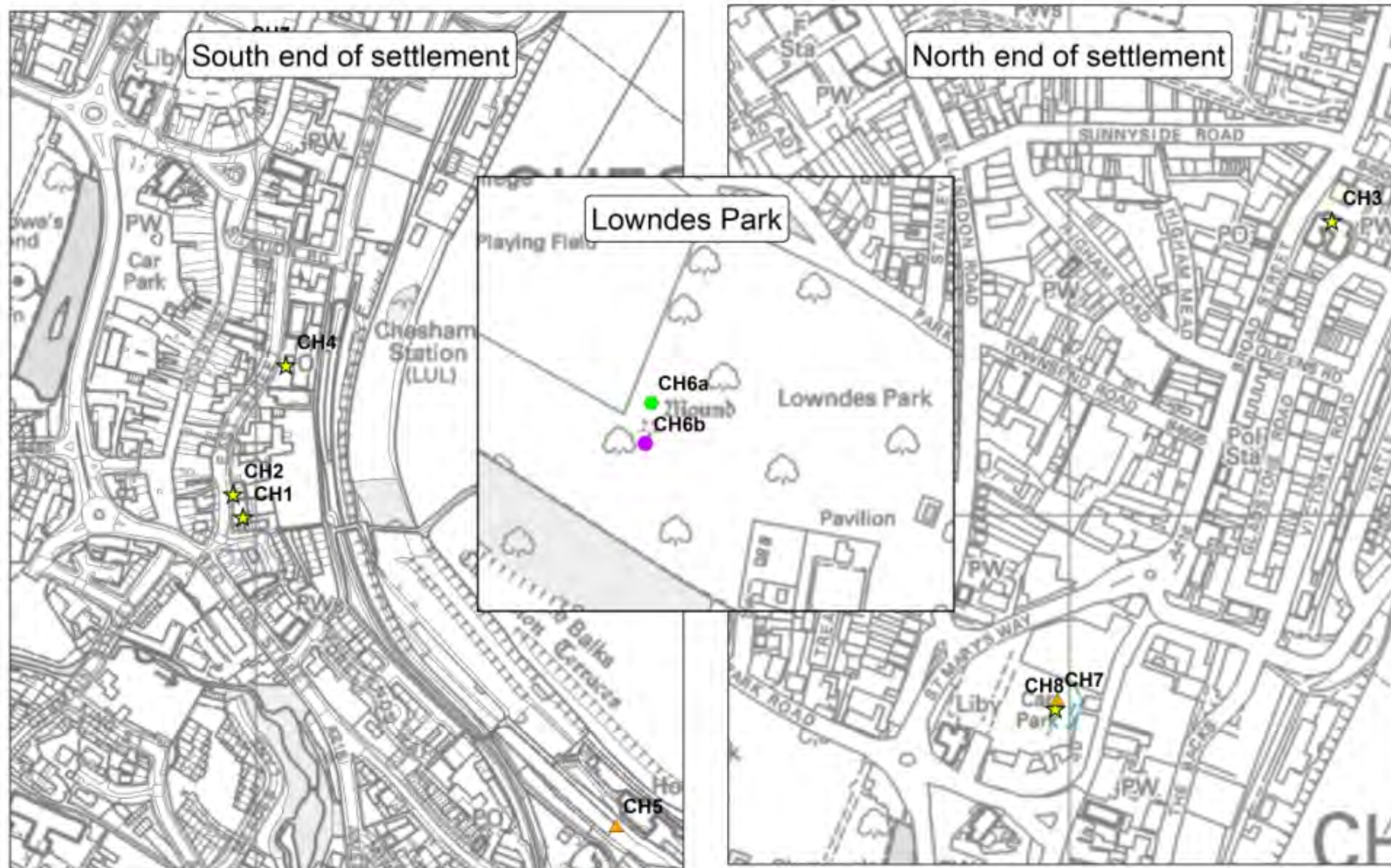


— Roads



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Figure 9: Listed Buildings by century.



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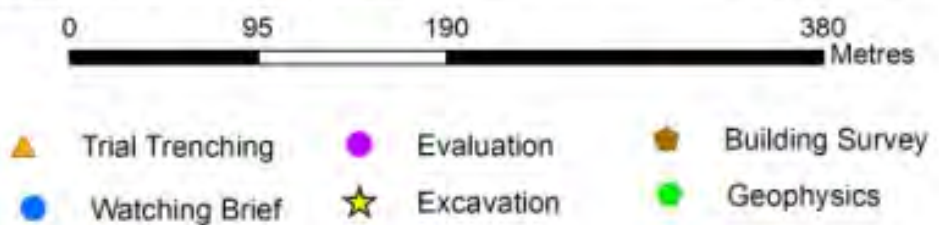


Figure 10: Location and extent of archaeological investigations within the town

3 Archaeological & Historical Development

3.1 Prehistoric period (c.10,000 BC – AD 43)

The earliest evidence for human activity in Chesham dates to the Palaeolithic with the discovery of a number of flint finds including a hand axe unearthed during construction of the library (HER 0214400000). Mesolithic (10,000 BC to 4,000 BC) The construction of East Street works in 1957-58 truncated existing old properties and demolished a 16th century building at Stratford's Yard. In 1969 the owner invited the Chess Vale Archaeological and Historical Society (CVAHS) to excavate the remaining floor area where they subsequently found a Mesolithic occupation layer of flint tools and animal bone. A further small scale investigation was carried out on the site in 1982. On the same site, there was evidence for later occupation in the Neolithic period. (Stainton B, 1994: 27)

The Stratford Yard site is interpreted as having been largely preserved by layers of hill wash that gradually covered the site. This covering has provides an explanation for the presence of Neolithic artefacts, which were found above the Mesolithic layers. A further excavation adjacent to Stratford's yard undertaken by the Buckinghamshire County museum in 1989, failed to find any Mesolithic evidence but produced Neolithic pottery, (Stainton, B. 1989)

Beyond the excavation there has been piecemeal discovery of worked flints in this part of Chesham including flakes and scrapers thought to be of Mesolithic date found on ground surface at the Thomas Harding School (HER 0018200000).

Further evidence of prehistoric occupation has been found at the Chessvale Bowling Club in advance of a proposed residential development (Halstead 2008). Evaluation trenches produced Bronze Age ceramics, animal bone and flint work from two pits. An area excavation followed on recording several pits clustered around a small (6.5m diameter) ring ditch interpreted as having encircled a burial mound. A Middle Bronze Age vessel along with animal bone of pig and deer was discovered *in situ*, also a flint work assemblage broadly dateable to the Late Neolithic and Bronze Age. Four radiocarbon dates were obtained placing activity in the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. A calibrated radiocarbon date from the lower fill of the ring ditch dated to 1900 - 1730 cal BC. Analysis of wood charcoal from the Bronze Age ring ditch has shown the presence of hazel, hawthorn and oak as well as beech.

In addition to excavations yielding prehistoric evidence, Chesham possesses a scheduled monument in Lowndes Park which is believed to be a Bronze Age round barrow (SM. 27127), its topographical location on a false ridge supports this interpretation. However the monument known locally as the 'rolling pin', has some doubt over its authenticity, as an alternative interpretation is the mound is a post-medieval garden feature or prospect mound. Investigations by CVAHS have not provided a definitive date for the mound but did identify a small ditch close to the base of the mound and post-medieval finds (see CH 6 above). The Neolithic and Bronze Age finds hint that the confluence of the streams at the valley head could have provided a focus for the local prehistoric community. It is possible that the ring ditch and barrow were part of a wider group of funerary or ceremonial monuments, although this cannot be demonstrated at present. Just north of the Chilterns at Aston Clinton, a long axial trackway such as those that funnel into Chesham has been shown to have Iron Age or earlier origins (Masfield, 2008) so it is conceivable that some features that have survived into the present day have prehistoric origins.

A few sherds of Iron Age pottery attest to occupation continuing into the Iron Age but it may be that the hillfort at Cholesbury to the north of the town indicates that the focus of settlement shifted away from the valley floor for a time.

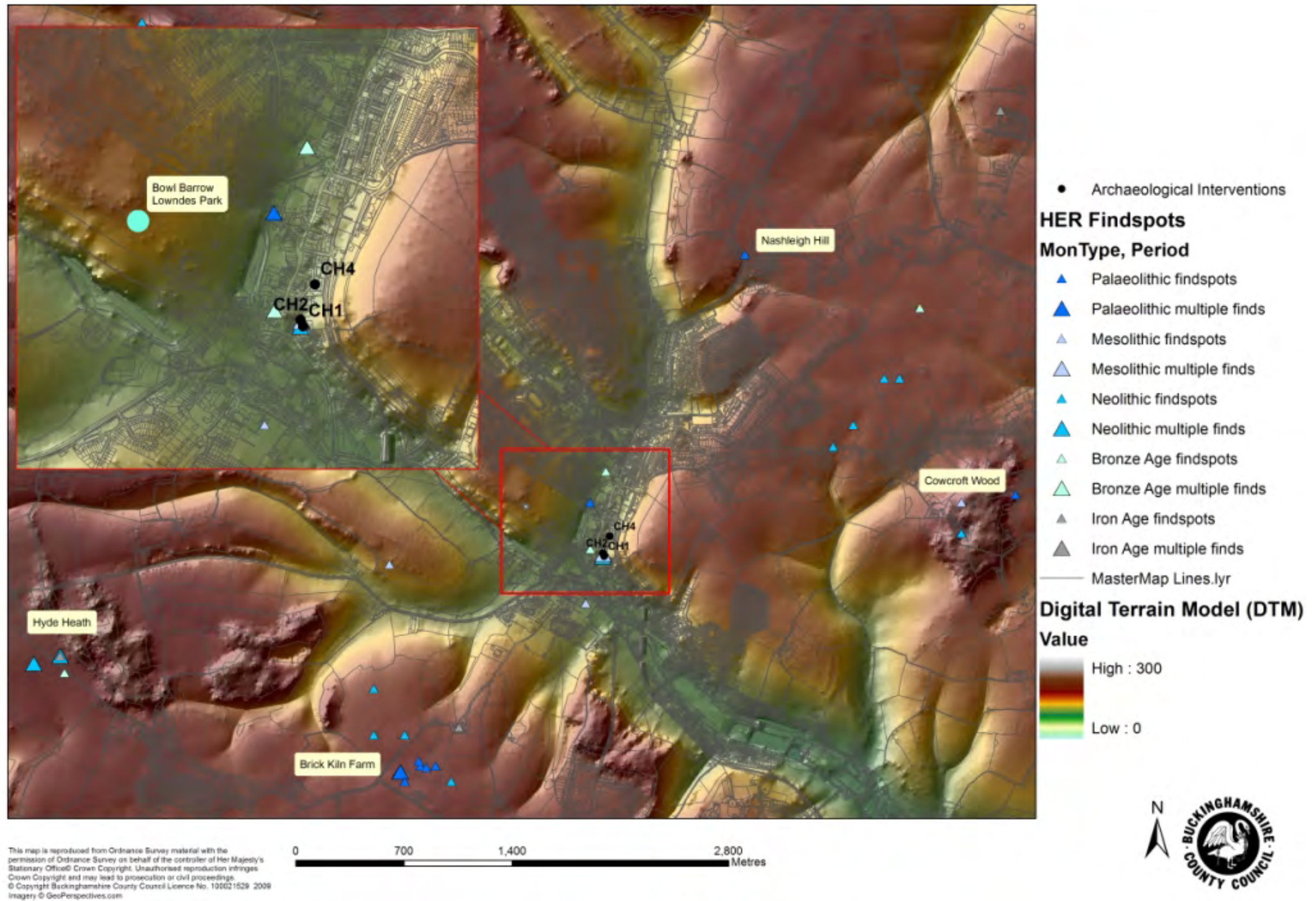


Figure 11: HER records in and around Chesham in the Prehistoric period

3.2 Roman period (AD 43 – 410)

There is evidence for a well established Romano-British farming community in the Chess and neighbouring Misbourne valley with numerous Roman villa or farmstead settlements along the paths of the two rivers, (Zeepvat & Radford, 2007). The most prominent villa site is at Latimer with evidence for possible villa sites at Shardloes and Mantles Green.

There is evidence for some sort of Roman settlement in Chesham. Substantial numbers of Roman pottery sherds have been found in back gardens and land around Wey Lane, Germain Street and Missenden Road an area of the town in close proximity to the river Chess. Until 1958 discoveries of pottery in this part of Chesham had been piecemeal. Then levelling operations for an Old People's home at Dawes Close uncovered a large concentration of pottery, over four hundred Roman pottery sherds. No structures were observed during the work, although some evidence was found of a broken up stamped clay flooring which has been interpreted that if a building existed it was not a substantial one (Branigan & Kirton 1965). Unfortunately the operation involved removing some two to three feet of soil from the ground and it is improbable that any traces of building will now be found.

Another Roman site in Germain's Close was revealed during the construction of a house where a further 166 Roman pottery sherds was recovered from a pit dating from late 1st –mid 2 century AD. The pottery from both Dawes Close and Rackleys was mainly composed of locally produced wares, cooking vessels and jars including some sherds akin to the types produced at Hedgerley near Gerrards Cross. There were also some finer imported wares such as mortaria and samian ware. The dates of pottery unearthed in Dawes Close and Rackleys are broadly contemporary with the Roman villa site at Latimer which is located 2 miles to the north of Chesham. On the same site there was also an isolated find of a coin of Lucius Verus (AD 161-169). Other substantial concentrations of Roman pottery have been found at Chesham Broadway.

The spread of Roman pottery around Germain Street covers an area of some 400 by 280 metres (figure 3). This includes two substantial groups by the river which may relate to activities next to the river Chess, possibly, milling. . As no structures or building material had so far been recognised Branigan suggested that this absence might be due to buildings being constructed of timber with insubstantial floors (Branigan 1967). Although there is little evidence for structures, the intensity and distribution of pottery sherds has led Branigan to conjecture that this may well indicate that there were several buildings in the area, perhaps even a small settlement. Despite putting forward this theory Branigan has acknowledged that the presence of a village in Chesham contradicts the predominance of the villa settlement pattern or 'villa system' that covers Chilterns; Romano British villages are conspicuous by their absence. The derivation of Chesham from the Latin placename element 'caester' (see below) provides further circumstantial evidence for a significant Roman presence at Chesham.

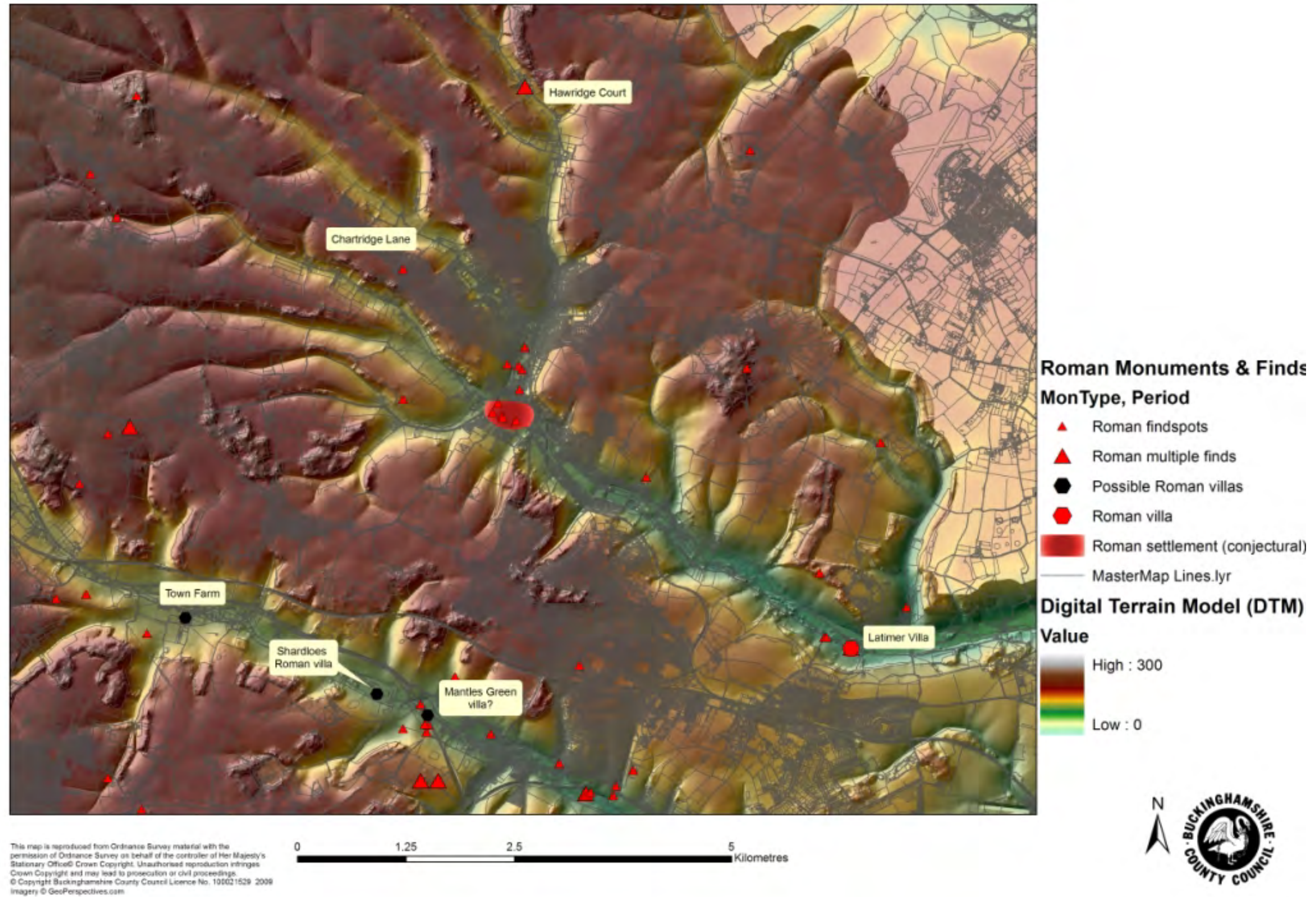


Figure 12: HER records for the Roman period around Chesham

3.3 Saxon period (AD 410 – 1066)

Evidence for Saxon Chesham is very limited. Archaeological investigations in and around the town have failed to yield any evidence, although this may simply be because none have yet taken place in the places most likely to produce such remains. At present our understanding of this period is reliant upon historical evidence and interpretation of historical topography based upon the evidence from historic and modern maps.

The whole parish of Chesham may have been a royal estate in Saxon times (Hunt 2006). It probably belonged to King Edwy, who ruled England from AD 955 to 957 however, the Mercians revolted against his rule because he had made too many gifts of land to his favourites. The realm was reunited under his brother Edgar in AD 959. Edwys' unjustly divorced wife Elgiva had received a substantial settlement including at least part of the Chesham estate. In a will of about 970 she left this land, subject to Edgar's approval, to the Abbey of Abingdon (Whitelock 1930). Following anti monastic reaction, the estate may have reverted to the crown, for in 1066 the largest estate in Chesham belonged to Brictric, a man of Queen Edith, whilst the Queen held another large estate at Chesham in her own right.

Research by Keith Bailey into medieval churches in Buckinghamshire, shows that the church at Chesham was long established and of some importance. With royal patronage it is suggested that the site of St Mary's might have dated back to the Saxon period and functioned as an early ecclesiastical centre, perhaps as a Minster church (Bailey 2003). However further research, both archaeological and historical, is needed to test this hypothesis.

Place Name Evidence

Chesham is first referenced in 1012 as *Caestaeleshamme* (Page 1927). The name is thought to translate as 'settlement of a small fort' derived from *hamme* meaning settlement or village and *Caestael* meaning 'small fort' (Mawer & Stenton, 1925). The derivation from *caester* implies the presence of a Roman camp or fort. As noted above there is no archaeological evidence for a Roman military site at Chesham, nor would one be expected tucked away in a Chiltern valley. The derivation of the name therefore remains opaque but could perhaps refer to generic Roman ruins (of a villa?), or to the earthen ramparts of Cholesbury hillfort to the north of the town.

Domesday (1086 AD)

There are five references to Chesham in the Domesday Book. Two manors are mentioned as held by the Bishop of Bayeux comprising two hides of land (c.240 acres). Half a hide was managed by Roger with land for two ploughs and woodland for 50 pigs. The remaining one and a half hides were held by the Bishop himself with land for three ploughs and meadow for a further three ploughs, two mills are also mentioned in connection with the Bishop's land. The Bishop's land was held by Saxon freemen in 1066.

A third estate was mentioned in connection with Hugh de Bolbec comprising eight and a half hides (c.1020 acres) held by Hugh himself. The estate comprised land for 16 ploughs and meadow for another 16 ploughs, one mill is mentioned as is woodland for 800 pigs. The manor was previously held by Brictric.

A half hide of land in Chesham is recorded as belonging to Thurstan Mantle and valued at just 5s. There was land for one plough but it is noted in Domesday that it was laid waste. This holding was previously held by Oepi, one of Brictric's men. Finally Alfsi is recorded as holding four hides from the king with land for nine ploughs, meadow for two ploughs, woodland for 800 pigs and a mill. This manor was granted to Alfsi by Queen Edith prior to 1066 with the grant confirmed by William after the Conquest.

Domesday ownership	Total hidage	Villager population	Smallholder population	Slave population	Value (1086)
Bishop of Bayeaux	½ hide	1	2	0	20s
Bishop of Bayeaux	1 ½ hide	2	3	2	60s
Hugh de Bolbec	8 ½ hides	16	6	6	£10
Turstan Mantle	½ hide	0	0	0	5s
Alfsi	4 hides	10	7	6	£4

Table 2: Recorded population on Domesday holdings

Settlement layout

Despite possessing some historical evidence from this period, little is known about the make up and extent of Anglo Saxon Chesham. It is known that Chesham contained a royal estate which seems to have continued up until the Norman Conquest. Unfortunately the handful of archaeological investigations in Chesham and the Historic Environment Record (HER) has shown a lack of archaeological evidence for this period. Consequently any assessment of the extent of this settlement at this time is purely conjectural.

Historically we know that Chesham was composed of a number of manors the principal manor being Chesham Higham. It is thought that the site of St Mary's church was probably long established the main focus of settlement would have been around the site of St Mary's church.

the settlement character was, in all probability smaller, more dispersed and polyfocal than its later extent; more akin to clusters of farmsteads, hamlets and villages that surround Chesham today (Figure 13). If there was a main focus of settlement this would have occurred around the church and manor complex, perhaps orientated along Church Street running to the river Chess.

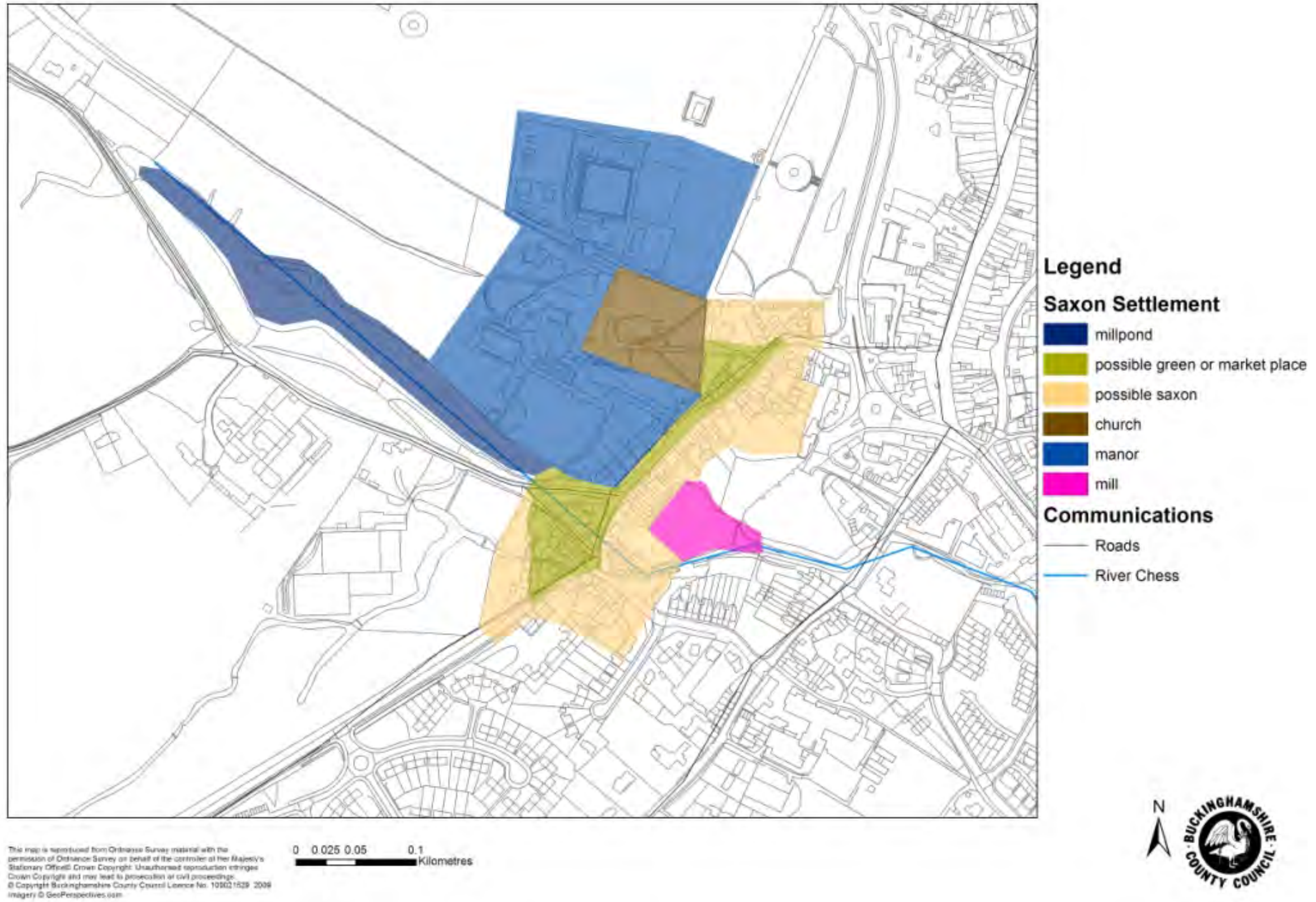


Figure 13: Possible extent of Chesham in the late Anglo Saxon period

3.4 Medieval synthesis and components (1066-1536)

Town layout

The medieval plan form of Chesham seems to have several distinct elements. As previously mentioned it has been suggested that the earliest element of the town is centred around St Mary's church with the meandering streets of Church Street and Wey Lane appearing to be the first streets to be established. At some point in the medieval period, there is a shift in the focus of the town when the High Street is laid out. Analysis of the High Street's urban morphology shows a planned linear layout, probably taking place around the time of the market charter. The High Street is rather narrow although there are wider square-like areas at either end which suggests that it was deliberately created in order to accommodate the market place (figure 17). The plan form of the plots either side of the High Street are similar in character, with the distinctive burgage type plots but no burgage tenure existed for Chesham. The plots would have been broadly symmetrical some 70 to 80 metres in length, although plots at the northern end of the High Street are smaller, ranging in length from 40 to 50 metres. The extent of the plots was largely constrained by the river and the steep hillside. Some redevelopment has occurred in these plots to the rear of the main buildings including new modern development as well as conversion of historic yards while the east side of the High Street has been truncated by the later insertion of East Street and the railway. The widths are more difficult to ascertain given the degree of sub-division that has occurred within the town although 19th century maps indicate some continuity of these plots lines from open fields suggesting the plots were a subdivision of early fields called Dungrove or Town Field (Hunt 1997).

The buildings along the west side of the High Street are built on a long culvert over a stream which rises to the north of the town at Higham Mead and joins the headwaters of the Chess just below market square. The frontages of these buildings are mixed with different styles of architecture many have been re-fronted in the Georgian, Victorian or modern periods. It is likely that these areas formed a part of the medieval development in the 13th centuries onwards.

Archaeological evidence has provided some insight into social and the medieval habitation at the northern end of the High Street. Excavations at 128 High Street showed several phases of occupation from the medieval to post medieval periods (CH8). The first phase dates to the 12th and early 13th analysis of soil and environmental evidence revealed the presence of dung beetles indicating that grazing animals were present. It appears that this part of Chesham was an open landscape during this time. Above this layer the excavation unearthed the first evidence of urbanisation - chalk and flint wall footings of a building, together with floor layers, heaths and garden deposits dating to the 14th century. Analysis of the floor plan has led to conjecture that the building might have been a hall house construction, comprising at ground level one large room fronting onto the High Street (Armour Chelu 2002). Access to the rear of the property was thought to be via a passage (screens passage). A second phase of building, occurring around the 15th century, shows that the ground floor rooms were rebuilt, a new wall built behind the original wall. A partition wall added cut through the tiled hearth. The room contained a new hearth which was far simpler than that seen in the earlier phase, this may be indicative of a slight downturn in the status of the residents at this time. Interestingly slag was found on the floor surface, it was believed to be dumped to raise the surface above the flood levels of the river Chess. Water logging was a problem on the site as evidenced by drainage ditches as well as the presence of newt, frog, bank vole and water vole bones.

A number of domestic rubbish pits dating to the 14th century were discovered to the rear of the house. The contents of these pits provide a valuable insight into the diet and status of the medieval household. A range of cereals was found including wheat, barley, oats and possibly rye. The bone assemblage also showed a varied diet: cattle, sheep, duck and domestic goose, however there was noticeable absence of pig bones. The site did reveal a couple of rare finds: a rabbit bone which is uncommon in medieval assemblages of the 14th and 15th centuries, and the presence of a mature fig seed. Figs were a fairly exotic import in the medieval period although it was possible to grow figs in England the fruits and their seeds tended to be immature. Aside from the isolated finds of fig seed, there was no evidence of game animals or species that might indicate that the occupants had a high status diet.

The assemblage of medieval pottery found on site reinforces the modest status of the occupants. Pottery was mostly locally produced wares from Chiltern and South Buckinghamshire. Identification of Chiltern pottery is problematical as no distinct fabric types available and it is hard to distinguish between different pottery types as there are no distinct tempers. The majority of pottery recovered, comprising 79% of the assemblage, was made with a clay temper with plentiful fine round quartz 0.1mm – 0.5mm. The vessels were mostly jugs, bowls and jars. It has been speculated that the pottery could originate from a local manufacturer in the Leyhill area of Hertfordshire where bricks are still manufactured. Another type of pottery fabric discovered was buff coloured pottery yielded 73 sherds was also made up of jugs, bowls apple green glaze akin to Surrey white wares. It is thought that this pottery might have been produced at Potter Row, Great Missenden or Penn (Cauvain et al 1989) Farley & Hutchens 1989) Other local sites are suspected such as Chandlers Cross and Nettleden, Hertfordshire (Farley 1998).

The most easily identifiable pottery on the site was Brill Boarstall wares which made up a small proportion of the assemblage (30 sherds). The presence of such a small proportion suggests that Chesham was on the margins of distribution, possibly in contrast to Aylesbury where Brill Boarstall wares were dominant (Farley 1998).

The short period of abandonment in the 15th century raises a number of questions as to whether this pattern was repeated in other parts of Chesham; could other buildings in the town faced similar disuse around this time? There is a general held view that for much of the 15th century England was in a period of economic downturn; the majority of towns were affected by famine and disease resulting in the contraction of town populations (Dyer 1995). A general pattern of decline or urban shrinkage cannot be inferred from one excavation, but subsequent archaeological investigations within Chesham's town centre should consider/test this model.

Markets and Fairs

A Wednesday market and fair held on the Assumption of the Virgin (15th August), was formally granted to Hugh de Vere, Earl of Oxford in 1257 (Page, 1925). Chesham was not positioned on any through route so trade was thought to have been generated by serving the surrounding villages and hamlets (Hunt J, 1997: ix).

Church

The stone and flint church of St Mary dates predominately to the 13th century with additions dating to 14th and 15th centuries. The church is a cruciform plan with a central tower. The tower has 15th century windows in its upper stage. The south windows of the chancel are in a decorated style whilst the windows to the on the south transept date to the 15th century. Much of the church's original features have been removed by the heavy 'restoration' of Gilbert Scott in the 19th century (Pevsner & Williamson 1994). Although St Mary's is 13th -15th centuries in date, it is known that a church occupied this site since at least the late Anglo Saxon period. Documentary evidence from the 11th century shows that the advowson – the rights of appointing priests had been granted to the Abbey of St Mary de Pre in Leicester. Research by Bailey into the wealth of medieval churches shows that St Mary's possessed high value in the late 13th century (Bailey 2003). St Mary's affluence is reflected to some extent in the size of the church and its cruciform design

The position of the church is of some interest. Like many churches St Mary's is located on one of the highest points in the town; the combination of the pronounced topography and the place name Bury could be an indicator of an older defensive site. However, there are higher more prominent positions that would be more suitable for a hillfort on the hills surrounding Chesham.



Figure 14: St Mary's Church

Manors

Chesham possessed one of the greatest numbers of separate manorial holdings of any Buckinghamshire town with up to 11 manors present in the medieval period. Of these manors seven were rural although possessed holdings within the town. The quantity of manors is perhaps a reflection of Chesham's large parish and its dispersed settlement pattern. The origins of Chesham's manors are obscure but it is believed that the majority were created sometime after Domesday, as gifts of land from the overlords to favoured tenants. The following summaries are taken primarily from the Victoria County History and are limited in the data they provide, the history of the manors around Chesham are complex and a more detailed study is required to fully understand them. A complete catalogue of the available documentary evidence relating to medieval manors is now available online via the National Archives Manorial Documents Registry produced in 2008 by the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies and the National Archives.

Chesham Higham (or Chesham Magna)

This manor comprised 8 and a half hides of land held by Brictric, man of Queen Edith in the early 11th century. After the conquest the overlordship remained with the Crown but the manor was subinfeudated to Hugh de Bolbec. This essentially gave Bolbec the rights and privileges of the lord of the manor. Chesham Higham remained with the barony of Bolbec held by the Earls of Oxford after 1185 until 1581. In 1257 Chesham Higham was granted a market and a fair (Page W, 1925). Court records survive from the 13th to 19th centuries.

Chesham Bury

This manor is thought to have originated from Alfsi's holding of 1086, assessed at four hides (Hunt J, 1997: x). By the 12th century the manor was held by the king but was later subinfeudated to Sifrewest's family who held it until the 15th century when it was returned to the king. The manor was first mentioned by name in 1416. In 1490 the manor was conveyed to the Earls of Oxford, thereafter descending with Chesham Higham (Page W, 1925).

Isenhampstead Cheynduit/Isenhampstead Latimer

This manor is thought to have originated from the 1086 estates of Thurstan Mantle and of Odo, both assessed at half a hide each (Hunt J, 1997: xi). The name is thought to mean 'a homestead by an iron-bearing spring or stream' (ibid). By 1194 the manor formed part of the honour of Wallingford and descended with Wallingford until 1563 (Page W, 1925). Court records survive from the 15th to 19th centuries.

Grove Manor

This manor consisted of two virgates of land first mentioned in the 13th century. The overlordship of the manor remained with the Earls of Oxford until 1535 and it doubtless originally formed part of Higham manor. The manor was held by Roger de Drayton in 1286 who conveyed it to the king in 1290 who in turn passed it onto to Walter de Langton, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. By 1362 the manor was in the ownership of Thomas Cheyne thereafter descending with Drayton Beauchamp until the 17th century (Page W, 1925). Court rolls survive from the 15th and 16th centuries.

Hundridge Manor

Hundridge Manor also appears to have been held by Hugh de Bolbec and later the Earls of Oxford, overlordship remaining with them until 1575 (Page W, 1925). Court records survive from the 17th to 19th centuries.

Blackwell Hall Manor

First mentioned in 1227 this manor was owned by the Blackwell family until 1430s when it came into the possession of Sir Thomas Cheyne with whom it descended until 1576 (Page W, 1925). Court records survive from the 14th century.

Mordaunts Fee [reputed]

This estate was first mentioned in 1355 and held by the Mordaunt family until 1434 when it was alienated to E Brudenell. The estate was later acquired by the Cheyne's of Blackwell Hall with which it has since descended (Page W, 1925).

Thorne Manor

This manor was first mentioned in 1279 as being in the ownership of Sir John Thorne, it was conveyed in 1398 to E Brudenell, descending with that family until 1611. The overlordship appears to have been with Miles Sandys in 1586 (Page W, 1925). Court records survive from the 17th to 19th centuries (Page W, 1925).

Chesham Leicester

There are few surviving references to this manor, however it is thought that it may have originated from Bishop Odo's second holding in 1086 (Hunt J, 1997: x) The manor appears to have been held by the Abbey of St Mary Pre throughout the medieval period (Page W, 1925).

Chesham Woburn

The Abbot of Woburn held some land in Chesham from the 13th century until the Dissolution (Page W, 1925).

Other Holdings

Blackwell Hall manor originated from a grant of land by the lord of the manor of Chesham Bury. At Huntridge, the Le Broc family had become freeholders by the 12th century but would still have had to attend the manorial court of Chesham Higham. They were influential enough to build their own chapel at Hundridge, served by Woburn Abbey. The building ceased to be used for worship at the time of the dissolution but has survived as a domestic building.

Trade, mills and industry

Chesham's primary industry in medieval times was the mills along the Chess. These were used for the production of flour for sale in the London markets. The Chess powered four mills at Domesday to which at least three more were added in the medieval period, some sites were used to power other processes such as fulling.

Early Mills on the Bury

A mill on Chesham Bury Manor was bestowed on Missenden Abbey in the 12th century by Richard de Sifrewest. In 1202 he was in litigation with Adam (one of the Abbots) and secured that he, Richard should have the grinding of a moiety of his demesne corn free at that mill, and the Abbot, the grinding of the other moiety. This mill, omitted from Domesday and not specifically called a water mill, is not mentioned again. The manor was combined with Higham Manor in 1490, so that its mill, if remaining, would lose its identity.

Higham Manor Mill

Betric a man of Queen Edith (Edward the Confessor's wife) held Chesham Higham Manor until the Norman, Hugh de Bolbec of Whitchurch seized it. In 1086 there was a mill there worth 10s. It was described in 1312 as a watermill leased at fee farm. Descending with the manor the property was described as two mills in 1481 both under one roof (VCH 1927). Add that 'two watermills continued to be mentioned amongst the appurtenances of the Manor in the 17th and 18th centuries and may be identified with 2 of the present 3 flour mills, Lords Cannon's and Weirhouse... the 3 mills were in the possession of the Cheynes family at the death of Francis Cheynes in 1645, with land called Cannon Mead.

Chesham Manor Mills

Two mills valued at only 3s in Domesday and received by the Bishop of Bayeux from two sokemen or vassals, seem to have been on Chesham manor but absence of future references suggests they were not water driven.

Amy Mill is first mentioned in 1616 but thought to go back to the medieval period. The water mill was replaced by a steam powered mill built on the other side of Amersham Road about 1845. The new mill was at one time called Bois Steam Mill leading to confusion with the old fulling mill called Bois Mill near Latimer. There is no evidence that Amy Mill was ever a fulling mill.

Lord's Mill is believed to date back to Saxon times; the mill pond was created in by diverting the Chess (Page 1925). The mill was valued at 10s in Domesday Book and served the tenants of Chesham Higham for centuries. Lord's Mill was the last corn mill to operate on the Chess. It was demolished in 1988 but the mill house survives.

Cannon Mill, The name was acquired when it belonged to the canons of Missenden Abbey. It was last worked in 1930 and was demolished about 1960 (Hunt J, 1997: xiii).

Weirhouse Mill partly converted to paper in the 18th century. It reverted to corn milling in the 19th century and operated until the 1940s (Hunt J, 1997: xiii).

Blackwell Hall manor had its own corn mill which was converted to a paper mill in 1774 and demolished about 1860 (Hunt J, 1997: xiii).

Bois Mill was originally the principal corn mill for Chesham Bois. By the 16th century it had been converted to a fulling mill. From 1769 to 1865 the mill was used to manufacture paper. Most of the buildings were removed c. 1900.

Inns and Taverns

As yet, there are no recorded documentary evidence of inns or taverns in Chesham during the medieval period. The earliest references occur in the 1577 Return of Vintners which show the presence of three innkeepers, so it is probable that inns were present in medieval Chesham (Pike & Birch, 1976).

Secular Buildings

Chesham's oldest known house is located in Church Street, built in the 14th century of timber wattle and daub originally as a hall house; it is a good example of vernacular building of that period (Pevsner & Williamson 1993). There are no other known medieval buildings in Chesham although, it is possible that detailed analysis of buildings in Church Street, Germain Street and the High Street could reveal that the fabric of these buildings may have origins dating to medieval period. .



Figure 15: 61 to 73 Church Street, Chesham

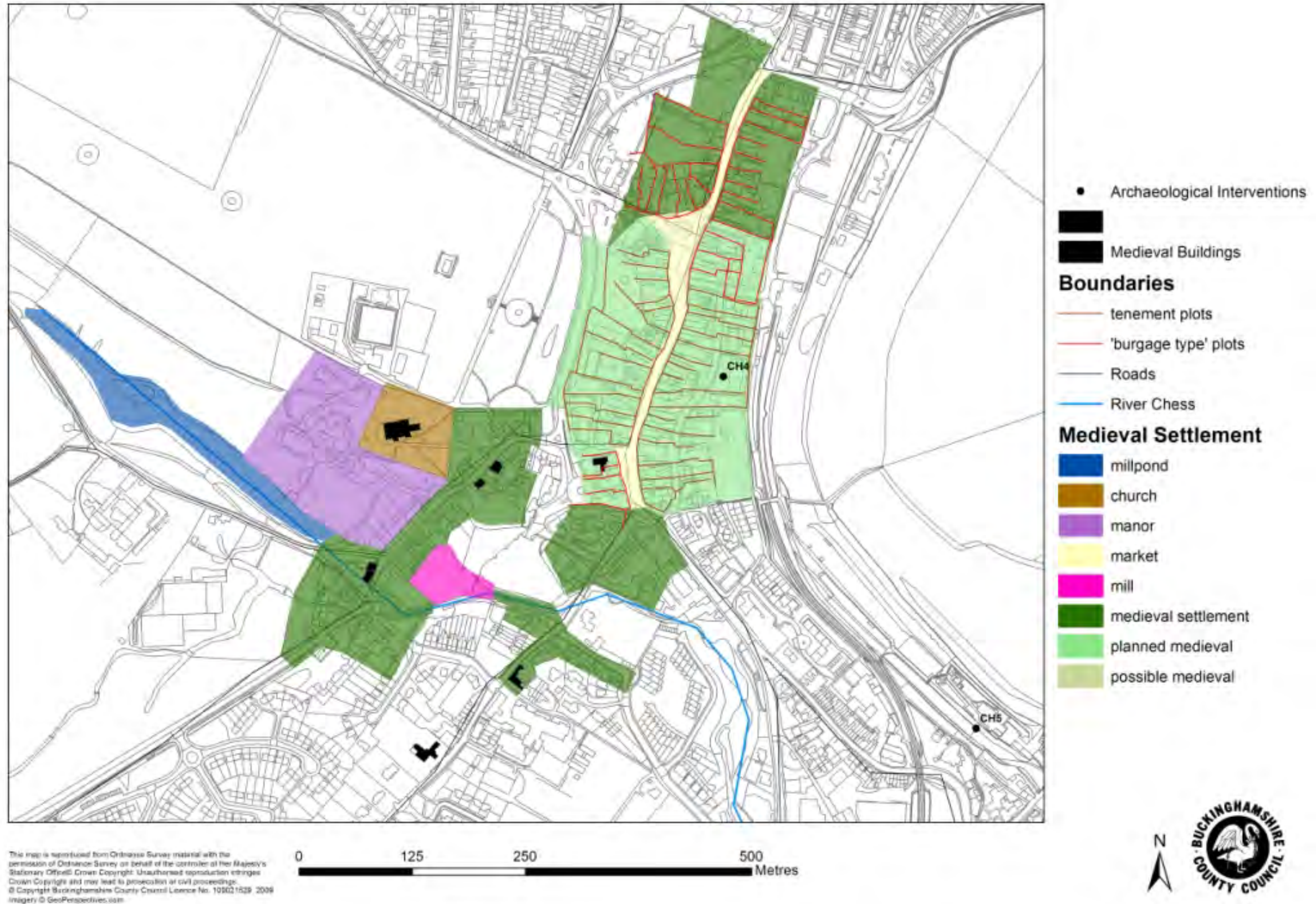


Figure 16: Possible extent of the town in the medieval period

3.5 Post medieval synthesis and components (1536-1800)

Town layout

Chesham does not seem to have grown significantly during the post medieval period, perhaps due to the limitations placed on the town by its geography and position on the road network. The built heritage of the town suggests that development occurred along Germain Street and Red Lion Street in the 17th and 18th centuries rather than north of the High Street. It is likely that Bury End remained a small hamlet separate from the town until the modern period. The town possessed a Market Hall, similar in design to the one found at Amersham, although this [which?] was built in the 18th century and modified in the 19th century. However, in the 20th century town planners deemed that the Market Hall inhibited traffic flow and so it was demolished in 1965 (Pevsner, 1993: 241)



Figure 18: Photograph of the Market hall in Chesham High Street c. 1924

Manors

Chesham Higham

By 1588 Higham and Bury manors were held by Miles Sandys, Lord of Latimer with whose family it remained.

Isenhampstead Cheynduit/Isenhampstead Latimer

Between 1567 and 1615 this manor was held by Miles Sandys with Higham manor when it was conveyed to William Lord Cavendish, later earl of Devonshire, with whom it remained (Page W, 1925).

Grove Manor

By 1692 Henry Dunn was in possession of the manor and alienated in that year to William Lowndes with whom it descended.

Blackwell Hall Manor

The manor was sold in 1576 to William Doodes, it then passed through numerous hands until 1738 when it was divided. The larger portion went to the Griffith family with whom it remained

while the lesser portion went to Richard Robbins and was last mentioned in 1774 (Page W, 1925).

Thorne Manor

The manor was sold to James Mayne in 1611 and then to John Turner in 1615. By 1671 it was held by Thomas Kentish whose family sold it to Thomas Brand in 1768 with whom it remained (Page W, 1925).

Hundridge Manor

The manor was alienated to Sir Robert Dormer in 1552 thereafter descending with the manor of Wing until 1632 when it was sold to Robert Lord Lovelace. After passing through several hands in the 18th century the manor was eventually sold to William Lowndes of Grove manor in 1830.

Chesham Leicester

The first reference by name to this manor comes from 1719 when it was then under the ownership of Sir Paul Whichcote. In 1730 it was sold to Coulson Skottowe with whom it remained. In 1802 the manorial rights were dispersed (Page W, 1925).

Chesham Woburn

In 1586 the manor passed into the hands of the Earls of Bedford with whom it remained until the late 18th century when it was sold to Reverend Hubbard. In 1862 it was sold to Mr Fuller of Hyde House (Page W, 1925).

Trade, mills and industry

From the sixteenth century there is documentary and some archaeological evidence for a range of crafts: boot and shoe-making, cloth-making, lace making, paper-making, pottery manufacture, straw plaiting, silk spinning and wooden ware manufacture.

Cloth making

A town which milled corn for the London market was likely to turn some of its water wheels over to other industries. The domestic and overseas demand for English cloth meant that most market towns had their weavers and clothworkers but Chesham had the advantage of a large scale cloth finishing mill at Chesham Bois and the town's clothiers were only one day's journey away from the cloth market at Blackwell Hall near the Guildhall in London. A fulling mill for finishing cloth was first mentioned in 1592 in the will of John Carter of Chesham Bois, fuller. Although the cloth industry in Chesham probably reached its peak in the 17th century; research by Julian Hunt into the professions in Chesham from 1637-1730 has shown that trades relating to the cloth making industry make up the largest group in Chesham (146) far exceeding other trades; these include dyers, fullers, shearman, shear grinders, stock card makers, spinning masters and weavers (Hunt 1997). Weavers cloth workers and dyers are referred to 23 times in Chesham parish registers from 1538 -1636 (Hunt 1997). From documentary evidence the cloth trade seems to have had a large impact on the town and its surrounding environment, further records of wills seem to show that a common field adjacent to Chesham known as Town Field contained a 'dyer's strip' which was used for cloth making purposes including the position of tenter hooks for drying out cloth, it is also presumed that the town would have contained further infrastructure for the cloth industry such as fulling and dyeing pits although so far none have been revealed in the archaeological record.

The Chesham woollen industry contracted in the early 18th century when the Yorkshire woollen industry expanded, dominating the manufacture of broadcloths. The wool trade all but disappeared from Chesham about a century before the advent of the mechanisation of cloth manufacture with the invention of Samuel Compton's Power looms.

Leather working

There is also some evidence of leather working. Excavations to the rear of 128 High Street, (now Sainsburys) revealed a number of clay lined tanning pits dating from the 16th century utilising the water supply from the river Chess (Lindsey Archaeological Services 2001). The pits were in a number of different forms, single and multiple pits all lined with a uniform orange clay almost certainly derived from the nearby Leyhill area where there is a traditional brickworks still operates. The difference in form can be attributed to different stages of the tanning process;

these tanning methods are still practised in some countries, the most notable example being Fez, Morocco.

A system of wooden pipes was discovered below the tanning pits, although it is believed they were part of the tanning process, their precise function has not been established. Some were carrying fresh water with at least one end of the north south aligned pipe and a wooden box structure, both appeared to be linked to underground water sources and it is likely they fed the tanning pits. These pipes only fed a limited number of tanning pits. It appears in the post medieval the Chess was culverted and realigned making the site more stable.

Paper making

In the 17th century many mills in the Buckinghamshire Chilterns were converted to paper manufacturing. This was financed by London rag merchants and stationers who were capitalising upon London's demand for paper to supply its expanding bureaucratic professions.

It was not until the middle of the 18th century that some of the mills of the Chess valley were converted. George Mowdray, paper maker, the tenant of Weirhouse Mill at Waterside, insured the buildings in 1768; George Street of Bucklesbury, London, stationer, bought Blackwell Mill in 1774. Richard Loosely leased the old fulling mill at Chesham Bois from the Duke of Bedford in 1769 raising £400 mortgage on the premises from a London rag merchant Samuel Hunter; and John Dodd, miller and paper maker insured his mill at Chenies in 1763. The Posse Comitatus of 1798 lists 14 paper makers in Waterside, 9 in Chesham Bois and 11 in Chenies but only one in Chesham itself.

A Fourdrinier machine was erected in 1807 by Richard Elliott at the old fulling mill in Chesham Bois and another was installed by John Allnutt further upstream at Weir House Mill in 1819. The Chess valley paper mills were not affected by the Swing riots which resulted in the destruction of machinery in the High Wycombe paper mills. Nonetheless Chesham's paper mills succumbed to rationalisation of the industry and virtually all were closed down in the mid 19th century, including Weirhouse mill which ceased production of paper in 1858 although it reverted back to grinding corn.

Pottery production

Excavations at Emmanuel Church in advance of development revealed the remains of two pottery kilns and an associated yard. One kiln had been dismantled and reused while the brick floor, walls and flue of the second kiln was recognisable despite being disturbed by a footing trench. The excavation revealed a number of pottery sherds associated with the kilns, the produced were cooking/pots, jars, bowls and dishes the forms roughly date to the 17th to 18th centuries (Cauvain & Cauvain 1992). It seems that the kilns and their products were contemporary with material found at the kiln at Joiner's Close, Leyhill in Chesham. The deaths of nine potters are recorded in the Chesham parish registers between 1663 and 1728. Although there is no way of connecting these potters with the Emmanuel church kilns it does show significant ceramic production in the area corresponding to the date range suggested for the pottery kilns and their wares.

Lace making

Lace making is believed to have been introduced to Buckinghamshire in the 16th century, often as a means of employing the poor. Chesham had a presence of bone lace making. The lace buyers attended the Monday lace market at the Bull and Mouth in St Martin's by Aldersgate, or the Tuesday market in Aldersgate Street. The Chesham and Amersham lace buyers were known to specialise in black lace.

Shoemaking (Cordwainers)

A directory 1792 claimed that Chesham's second most important industry was the manufacture of boots. 1,000 pairs were made each week and sold to London wholesalers. The principal firm was Patrick Hepburn, whose imposing red brick building house still stands on the west side of the High Street. Tanneries require a good supply of water to wash skins and the tanyard was bounded to the west by the branch of the Chess which runs down from William Mead. The other vital resource is the tannin obtained from the bark of trees. William Mead, another Chesham tanner, ran

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Wood ware manufacture

Chesham's proximity to the Chilterns woodlands meant there was an abundant supply of wood and timber for manufacturing. However, in the medieval and post medieval period Chilterns woodland was viewed commercially by London merchants mainly as a source of firewood. However there were a variety of woodland trades practiced in and around the town, although not much tangible evidence survives for this industry beyond the information gleaned from documentary records. Between 1538 and 1730 there are records of 27 turners, 17 sawyers, 16 shovel makers, 5 broom makers, 5 chair makers, four spoon makers and two trencher makers. The 1792 directory places woodenware third behind lace and shoemaking in the table of Chesham's industry.

17th century Trade Tokens

A number of trade tokens were issued by Chesham traders in lieu of money. The issuing of tokens can provide an insight into the trade and business of the town in the 17th century. It is known that thirteen traders issued tokens. If the number of traders issuing tokens was taken as an indication of commercial importance then Chesham would be ranked as the 4th most important town in Buckinghamshire in the 1660s. Only High Wycombe (22), Aylesbury (16) and Stony Stratford (14) issued a greater number of tokens (Berry 1970). However unlike other towns, Chesham is unusual in that no tokens have been found for Inn keeping. This might be attributable to the fact that Chesham was not on a major coach or trade route such as High Wycombe or Stony Stratford.

Occupation	Name	Issued
Mercer/Draper	Thomas Hall	1681
	Samuel Treacher	1653
	John Tyler	1665
Clothworker	Richard Amond	1664
	William Grome	1671
Brewer	William Childe	c. 1654-1676
Tobacconist	Abraham Garraway	1671
Cordwainer	Thomas Slaughter	1669
Tailor	John Grover	1655
Occupation Not Known	Rise Davis	1671
	James Joyce	1658
	Samuel Ware	1658
	Richard Ware	1653

George Berry's research has shown that at least four were part of the Baptist community (William Childe, Samuel Treacher, Richard Ware and Samuel Ware) while John Grover and Thomas Hall were part of the established church both were churchwardens in 1676 and 1681 (Berry 1970).



Figure 19: The Bury

Dissent and Non conformity Churches & Chapels

Like neighbouring Amersham Chesham is noted for the religious unrest which dominated the town from the 16th century and for the migration of the prosperous and respectable few to Lincolnshire to escape social stigma in the middle of the century. In 1532 Thomas Harding was burnt at the stake in the town for being a Lollard and heretic. Harding became an unofficial martyr and the supposed site of his burning is reputedly the White Hill School. A monument was erected at the school in the twentieth century. From the 17th century Chesham was a focus for those dissenting from mainstream religion. Quakers met in Chesham in the late 17th century and in 1798 they built the current meeting house.

The first Baptists meeting dates back to about 1640 and a place was registered for services in 1706 known as Broadway Baptist Chapel (Page, 1925). Another chapel was opened in Hinton Baptist Chapel 1701, rebuilt 1898. (Page, 1925) one of many to be built for the various Baptist groups during the 18th and 19th centuries. John Wesley preached in Chesham in the 1760s .

The Methodist society used to meet at the Congregational Church, The Broadway opened 1724 and rebuilt 1886 (Page, 1925). In the late 19th century a Wesleyan Methodist chapel was opened in 1897. The Christian Brethren which date back in Chesham to 1876, opened their Gospel Hall in 1895. It closed in December 2008.



Figure 20: Weylands, German Street, former workhouse

The Workhouse/poor house

A Chesham workhouse for 90 paupers was operating in 74/76 Germain Street as early as 1777. New legislation transferred the control of the Chesham institution to the Amersham Poor Law Union in 1835. However there were long-standing rivalries between the locals of both towns and in July that year violence broke out when an order was given to remove the paupers to Amersham. The Riot Act was read out to an angry crowd of 500 and arrests followed (Hunt J, 1997).

Secular Buildings

The Bury & Lowndes Park - (HER 0184602000)

The House was built in 1712 for William Lowndes, secretary to the treasury in the reign of Queen Anne. Known as the The Bury, it was bought in 1792 by the Lowndes family with adjoining parkland. The first edition 6" OS map shows terracing, possible formal gardens, a large lake and lots of parkland, called Chesham Park. Lowndes Park was eventually gifted to the town council in 1953 and became a municipal park. Modern APs show that most of the smaller features survive but the park itself has been encroached on by modern development and there are now playing fields in the west part of the park (Smith 1998).

The other notable buildings in the parish date from the sixteenth century Ivy House Farm, , Little Germains and the White House in Lye Green to the nineteenth century houses like The Meades, and the. In between there are buildings such as Weedon's Almshouse, which dates to the seventeenth century, and other eighteenth century religious buildings such as the Friend's Meeting House, the Particular Baptist Chapel and the Baptist Chapel on Red Lion Street

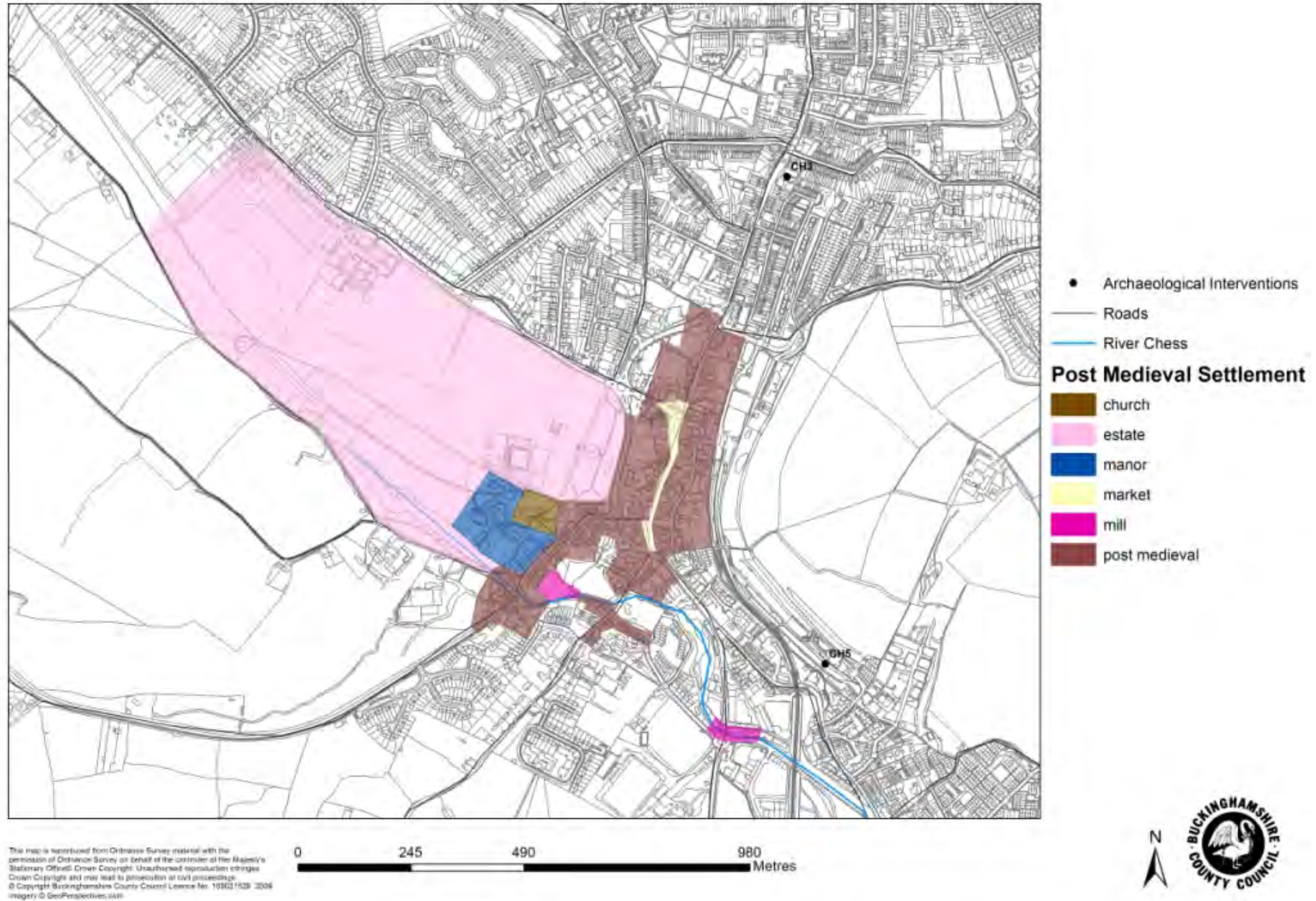


Figure 21: The town in the post medieval period

3.6 Modern synthesis and components (1800-Present)

Industry in the 19th Century (see Appendix 4 for details)

Boot and Shoe making

A directory of 1792 claimed that Chesham's second most important industry was the manufacture of boots. 1000 pairs were made each week and sold to London wholesalers. The raw material came from Chesham's two tanneries. The principal firm was that of Patrick Hepburn, whose imposing red brick house stands on the west side of the High Street.

Tanneries require a good supply of water to wash the skins and the tanyard was bounded on the west by the branch of the Chess which runs down from Higham Mead, another Chesham tanner, ran a small water mill in Water Lane grinding bark for a tanyard. His house, now called the Meades, still stands in Germain Street beside Town Bridge.

Most shoemakers worked from home and employed few journeymen. By 1851 there were 291 male shoemakers and 85 female shoe binders in Chesham parish. Joseph Barnes whose premises were on the High Street was unusual in employing 30 men, women and boys. In the late 19th century, however, several Chesham manufacturers built small factories and installed modern machinery. Instead of the boot being made by one craftman, the work was divided among several workers such as the clickers (men who cut out the uppers), the closers (usually women who machine sewed the uppers) and the riveters (men who secured the upper to the sole).

Two boot manufacturers feature in a survey of Chesham industry in the *Examiner* in 1889. James and Edwin Reynolds were producing 2,000 pairs of boots per week at the their works in Blucher Street and Charles Long was building a new showroom and offices to impress visitors at his factory on the High Street which produced 1,000 pairs a week. The paper remarked that the boot trade in Chesham could employ 600 to 800 more hands if they could be found somewhere to live. However, the trade declined in the 20th century because Chesham continued to specialise in heavy working boots when the fashion was for lighter shoes. Giffard Newton & Sons began in Church Street in 1854 and moved to Townsend Road in 1909 .

Tannery, The Meades, Germain Street.

Operated 18th century tanner's house is all that remains (Hunt J, 1997)

Tannery, at 128 High Street (see above) and 132 High Street closed 1850 (Hunt J, 1997)

Reynolds Boot Factory, Blucher Street

Hayes Factory, Waterside

James Hayes started a business in the 1850s followed by his brother John who built a factory at the Waterside in 1890 (Figure 20). His sons continued the business until the 1930s when a slump in demand for their speciality heavy boot necessitated its closure. The building still survives.

Figure 22: Hayes Boot and Shoe factory at Waterside



Brewing – The Nash Brothers Chesham Brewery

Nash's Brewery, High Street was established in 1840 at the end of High Street on the corner of White Hill/Hempstead Road. The Brewery made use of water from a deep well on the site. The brewery later amalgamated as the Chesham Brewery Ltd in 1895 but still run by the Nash family. The brewery was commercially successful and possessed a portfolio of pubs in and out of Buckinghamshire and breweries outside of Chesham as well as ownership of other breweries and inns. In 1899 took over Church Street Brewery. The brewery was taken over by the larger brewery Ind Coope and closed in 1957. The Brewery buildings were finally demolished in the 1960s (Brown 2007).

Silk-spinning – Waterside silk mill

The spinning and weaving of silk was another trade introduced into several Buckinghamshire towns as a means of generating employment for those who would otherwise claim poor rates. The principal silk mills areas were at Aylesbury and Tring, although a steam powered silk mill was established by 1838 at Waterside. It was run by Thomas Rock Shute. By 1851 the mill was employing 38 men and 86 women (Hunt 1997). However after 1860 silk spinning in England declined as a new trade treaty with France enabled the import of superior French silks, consequently small silk mills closed. The last mention of the Chesham mill is in an 1864 trade directory (Hunt 1997).

Wooden Ware industry

It was in the 19th century that manufacturers like Nathaniel Reynolds began to employ large numbers of turners and other specialists and to operate saw mills and workshops such as his prospect works at Waterside (now demolished). William Wright & Sons former mill in Water Lane was established 1842 and occupied the site of a small water mill which once ground bark from the nearby tannery. The factory building was destroyed by fire 1968. Other wooden ware manufacturers include:

Bois Steam Mill, Amersham Road. Later Canada Works. Wooden ware manufacturer

James East & Sons, Broad Street, Newtown. Operated 1860-1980. Wooden ware manufacturer

Thomas Wright, originally in Waterside moved to Berkhamstead Road, Newtown 1910. Operated 1856-1963.

After the Second World War, these firms failed to compete with cheap imports of wooden ware from countries with abundant timber and cheap labour and most went out of business in the 1960s.

Brush making

The production of large wooden tools like malt shovels resulted in huge quantities of offcuts which could be fashioned into other useful products. In 1829 a manufacturer named Robert Webb is credited with setting up the first factory in Chesham to make brush backs using locally grown beech with bristles imported mainly from across Asia. His example was followed by others and machinery was evolved to turn the manufacture of brushes by hand into a mass production business. At its height there were around 12 factories in Chesham specialising in all types of brushes. Webb's moved their factory from Broadway to new premises in Townsend Road. Many other brush manufacturers such as George Hawes also built factories in New Town, providing employment for large numbers of men and women. George Hawes works in Higham Road became Beechwoods Ltd, one of the best known names in brush manufacturing nationally. Despite Webbs and Beechwoods adopting more modern methods of production including the use of synthetic materials, they were forced to merge with other brush manufacturers, whose holding companies had moved factories to more favourable locations in the late 1980s.

H G Stone Toy factory, Waterside

H G Stone first established his Toy works in 1908. The toy works occupied the Waterside premises from 1920 until the factory was diverted into war work 20 years later. The factory produced a variety of soft toys but their main product was a range of teddy bears of varies sizes and quality.

Chesham Gas Company gasworks (HER 0944300000)

Chesham Gas Company gasworks were erected in 1847 (Sheahan 1862) shown on 1st Edition 25-inch OS map and on subsequent 25-inch and 6-inch OS maps. Works expanded to north by 1898-1900, gas holders removed after 1963 and most of buildings on original site apparently demolished after 1976. The northern part of the site is still in use as a gas distribution centre.

	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Artisans/trades	30	17	104	63	25	51	84	76	80	0	54
Merchant/dealer	41	48	75	61	22	60	105	95	132	0	141
Agric/General	0	0	7	21	25	33	35	20	17	0	20
Professional	8	11	11	4	2	11	16	20	25	0	44
Service/Provision	78	96	136	118	55	124	135	123	121	0	127

Table 3: Summary of trade in Chesham 1830-1935 (method adapted from Broad, 1992)

Civic and modern religious structures

Town Hall (demolished)

Chesham Town Hall was rebuilt and enlarged in 1856 by Lord Chesham. The upper storey was used for manor courts, petty sessions, public meetings and later utilised by the Urban District Council. The town hall was eventually demolished in 1966 before pedestrianising this part of the town centre. A new town hall was built in 1998

Gasworks (HER 0944300000)

A Gasworks was first established in 1847 at Hospital Hill, Chesham by the Chesham Gas Company (Sheahan 1861) The gasworks are depicted on 1st Edition 25-inch OS map and on subsequent 25-inch and 6-inch OS maps. Works expanded to north by 1898-1900, gas holders removed after 1963 and most of buildings on original site apparently demolished after 1976. The northern part of site is still in use as a gas distribution centre.

Baptist Cemetery (HER 0651700000)

The Baptist cemetery was opened in 1858 and, according to Sheahan, the grounds are 'tastefully laid out' (Sheahan, 1862: 838). A later survey of the cemetery was conducted by the County Museum showed that the cemetery grounds still retains its original layout despite modern extensions; however only one of the two chapels survives (Smith 1998). Later development and expansion of Chesham have encroached around the cemetery, so there is no chance for further extension.

Townfield Baptist Chapel. 1820 (Page, 1925)

Zion Baptist Chapel, Red Lion Street. 1868 (HER 0557000000)

A general Baptist Chapel was built in Chesham in 1712, originally known as the 'Star meeting house'. The building was enlarged in 1735 and 1835. The building fell of use and a replacement built in the Broadway by J Wallis Chapman in 1901-2 in a free perpendicular style of red brick and cream stone with a big domed turret, (Stell 1986) & (Pevsner, 1993: 239).

St Joseph's RC Church, Eskdale Avenue. Built 1909 (Page, 1925)

Friends Meeting House, Bellingdon Road (HER 0556800000)

1746 Place of Meeting in 18th century unknown although burial ground on the site by 1796 When agreed to build a new place adjacent, completed by 1800. The porch has been rebuilt and there have been subsequent additions with minor rooms added to the south of the chapel c. 1964 (Stell 1986). The meeting-house has brick walls and a hipped tiled roof, segmental arched windows with hung sashes and a brick dentil eaves cornice (more detail & floor plan) (Pevsner, 1993: 238). The Chapel is designated as a Grade II listed building

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Christ Church, Waterside (HER 1245690000)

Built in 1862 by Raphael Brandon the church nave, chancel, south aisle and porch is built in flint rubble and stone dressing. The design and architectural style imitates the vernacular of medieval Chilterns parish churches. The building was restored and altered in 1913. The building is significant to be designated a grade II listed building (Pevsner & Williamson 1993: 238).

Emmanuel Church, Broad Street

An octagonal church built in 1989-90 by architects Aldington, Craig & Collinge. Constructed in a modern design of glass and brick, the church is not designated as a listed building. (Pevsner & Williamson, 1993: 238)

St George's Church, Tylers Hill Road

Small red brick church built in 1871 by Morton M Glover. The chancel was rebuilt in 1930 and a western extension in 1991. The building is currently unlisted, (Pevsner & Williamson 1993: 238)

United Reformed Church, Broadway

A brick built chapel was built in 1885-6 by W G Haberson & Fawkner. The United Reformed Church with distinctive 'tourelles' or turret corbelled out from the wall gables. Although an interesting building it is not designated as a listed, (Pevsner & Williamson 1993: 239).

Trinity Baptist Chapel, Red Lion Street

Constructed in red brick by John Wills in 1897, the Trinity Baptist Chapel replaced an earlier chapel on this site (Figure 24). The only relicts of the previous meeting house are some bricks and the 1797 date stone (Pevsner & Williamson, 1993: 239).



Figure 23: Trinity Baptist Chapel

Hospitals & Schools pre 1945

Cottage Hospital (HER 0937000000)

The Cottage hospital was built in 1869 on the balks 100 ft above the valley floor. Before the advent of the NHS the hospital was financed by 'penny a week' collections from the town's workforce, payments and donations from wealthier residents as well as the proceeds from an annual fete at the Bury (Page, 1925).

National School, Church Street. 1845. Street. (Pevsner, 1993: 239)

Publicly-funded education started with the opening of a British School (boys) 1828 British School (girls) 1852 (Sheahan, 1862: 840) This was followed by a National School in 1845 and the first Elementary School for girls in 1864. Chesham Building Society, opened for business in 1845 and continued to operate until June 2010 when it was taken over by the Skipton Building Society

Infant School, Waterside 1851

Located on Waterside beside the footpath, the Church of England infant school was built in 1851. Under the Education Act of 1901 it was taken over by the County Council. In 1911 it was rebuilt to accommodate 200 infants and 250 boys, (Sheahan, 1862: 838).



Figure 24: Thomas Harding School, former infants school

Hospitals & Schools post 1945

Chessmount School, Waterside

Chesham High School

Heritage House School

Brushwood School

Newtown Infant & Nursery School

Railway

The railway was built to Chesham for goods traffic as much for passengers and a large goods yard was cut into the side of the hill with access from White Hill. Most of the incoming traffic was coal for the town's gas and electricity works, while manufactured goods from the factories was exported.

Secular Buildings and Suburban character

With the growth of cottage industries and subsequent employment in factories, Chesham's population more than doubled in the 19th century, from 3969 in 1801 to 9,005 in 1901. The cramped yards leading off from the main streets became overcrowded and their inhabitants susceptible to disease. The worst epidemic was in 1871 when Dr Faithorn and Rev. AF Aylward died. In the 20th century efforts were made by the urban council to improve sanitation and the living environment of the town, a programme of slum clearance was undertaken in the 1930s. One of the more notorious areas was Townfield Yard which was demolished in 1935 to be replaced by a model 'village' of residences for old people which was simply called Townfield. Star Yard a cluster of dwellings behind Blucher Street were also cleared in 1938, making way for the town's first car park. (Seabright 2000). Other poorer areas such as Stratford Yard escaped clearance orders although it slowly decayed over the next 20 years before it was completely pulled down.

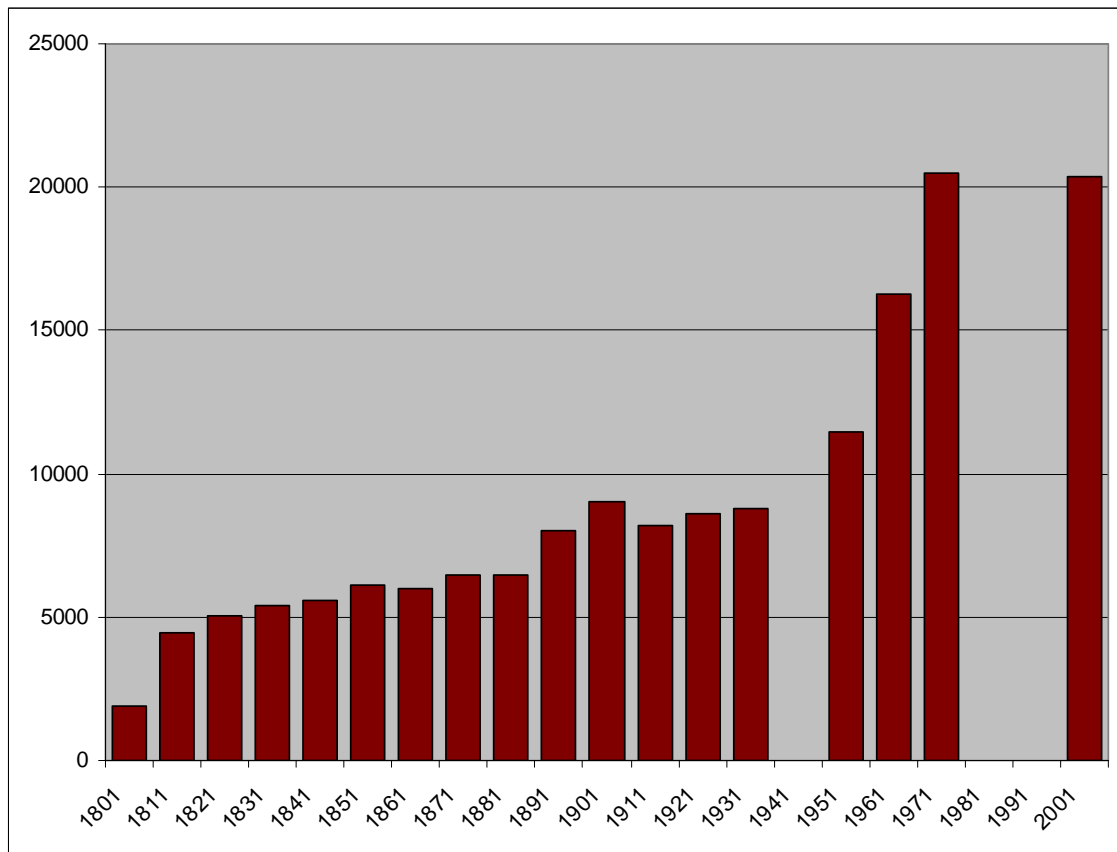


Figure 25: Graph showing population changes in Chesham (excluding 1941 & 1981)

Expansion in housing has occurred in several phases mainly to the east of the old town where artisan's housing sprung up along Berkhamsted Road and subsequently along the many steep valley sides. Initially this development was as a consequence of the extension of the railway to the town in the 1880s, subsequently the promotion of Metroland during the 1920s and the electrification of the Metropolitan Line in the 1960s. The Pond Park estate was built in the 1930s. The population grew fast after the Second World War as workers followed employers who moved out from London.

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

The population in 1951 was 11,500 leading to the building of the Chessmount and Hilltop estates by speculative developers in the 1950s and 60s. By 1971 the population had reached 20,000 since when it has only increased slightly. The growing popularity of the Chilterns as a place to live from the latter part of the 20th century onwards led to restrictions on housing and industrial development in the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and has placed constraints on the expansion of the town. Today an high proportion of those in employment find work outside the town, commuting by car or train. An increasing number are home or office-based using new technology to make a living (Hunt 1997).

Built Character

The incremental suburban growth from the 19th century onwards is reflected in Chesham's built character.



Figure 26 Late 19th century terraces houses in Queens Road, Chesham

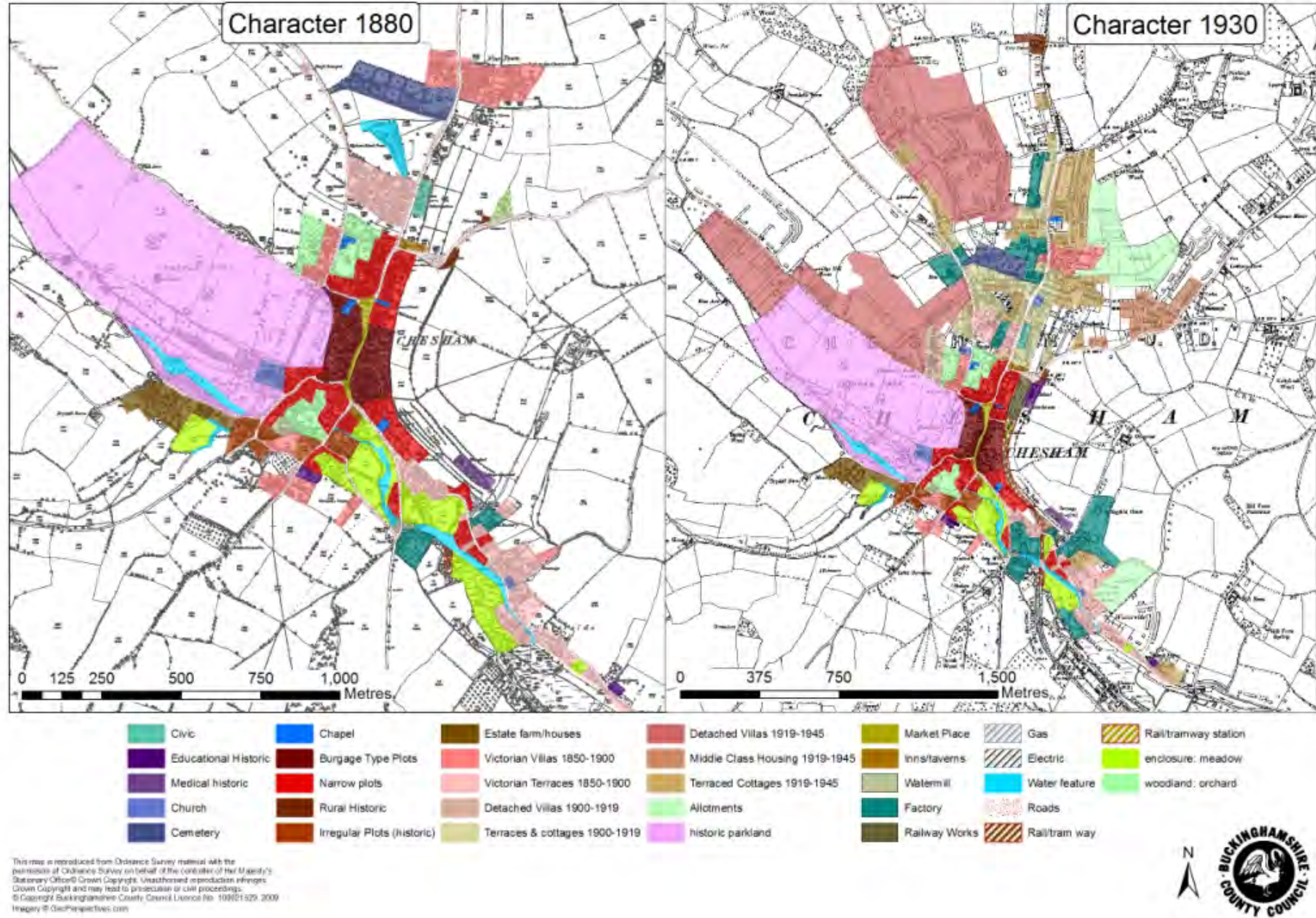


Figure 27: Chesham in the 1880s to 1920s

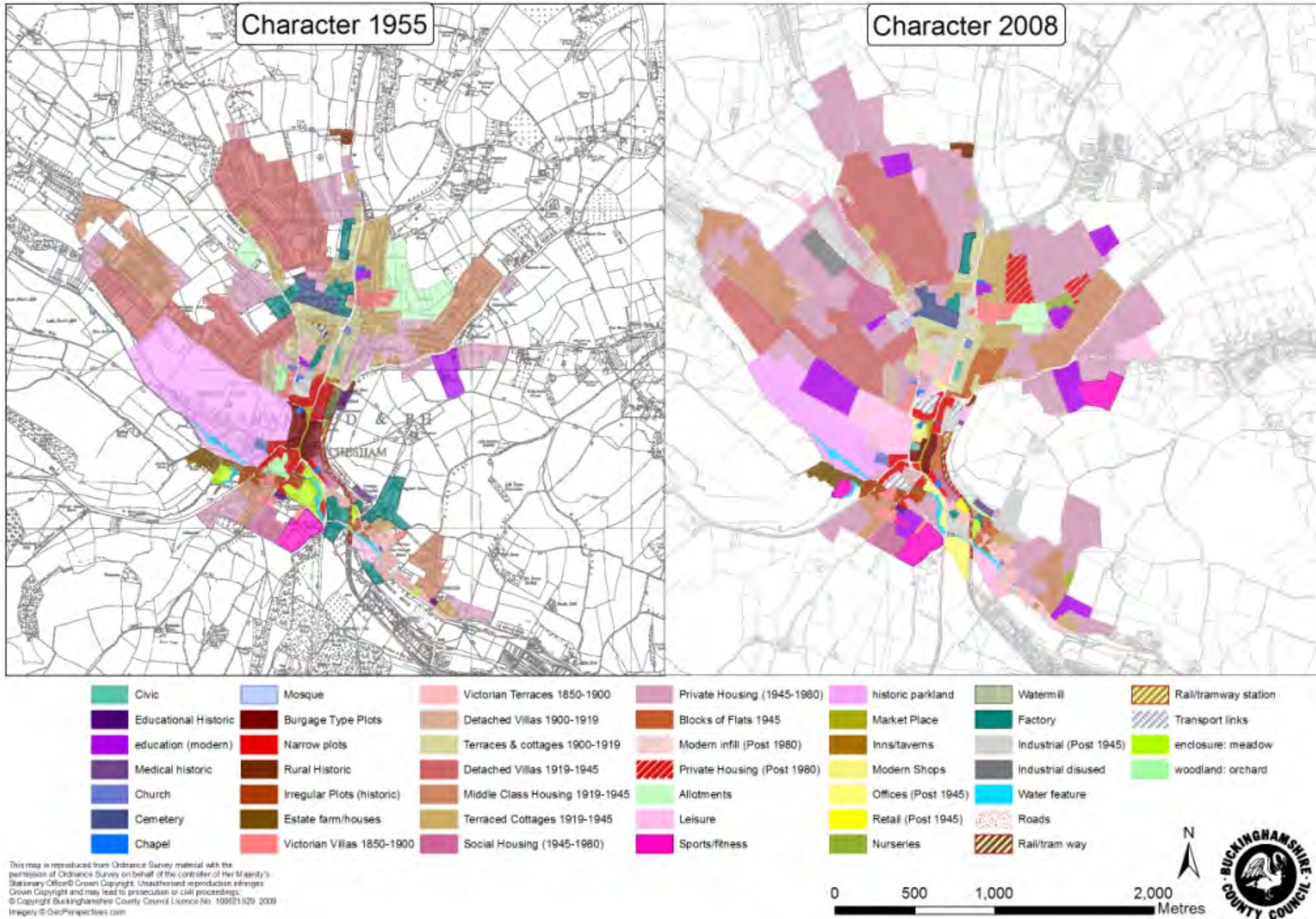


Figure 28: Chesham in the post war to modern period

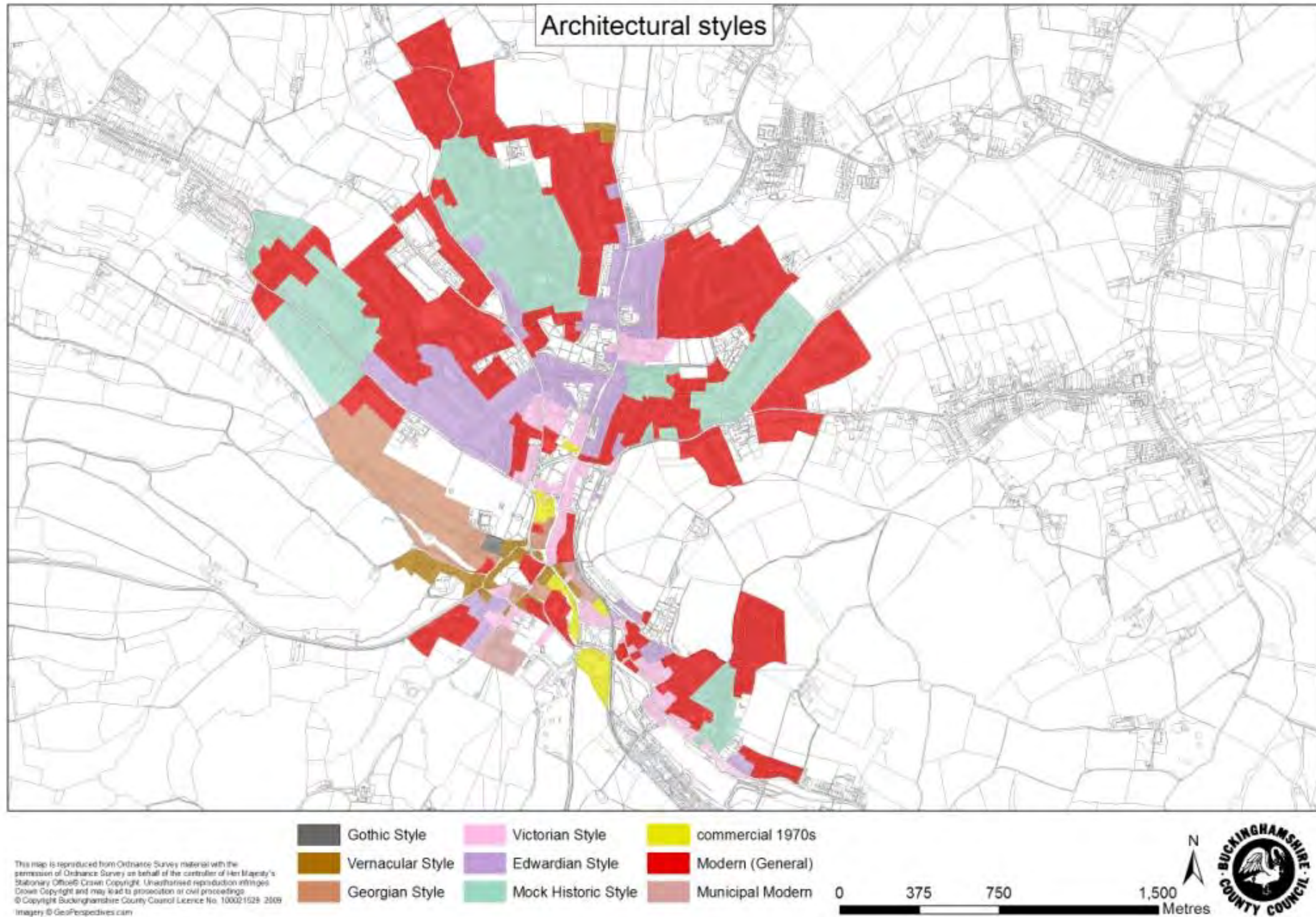


Figure 29: Architectural styles

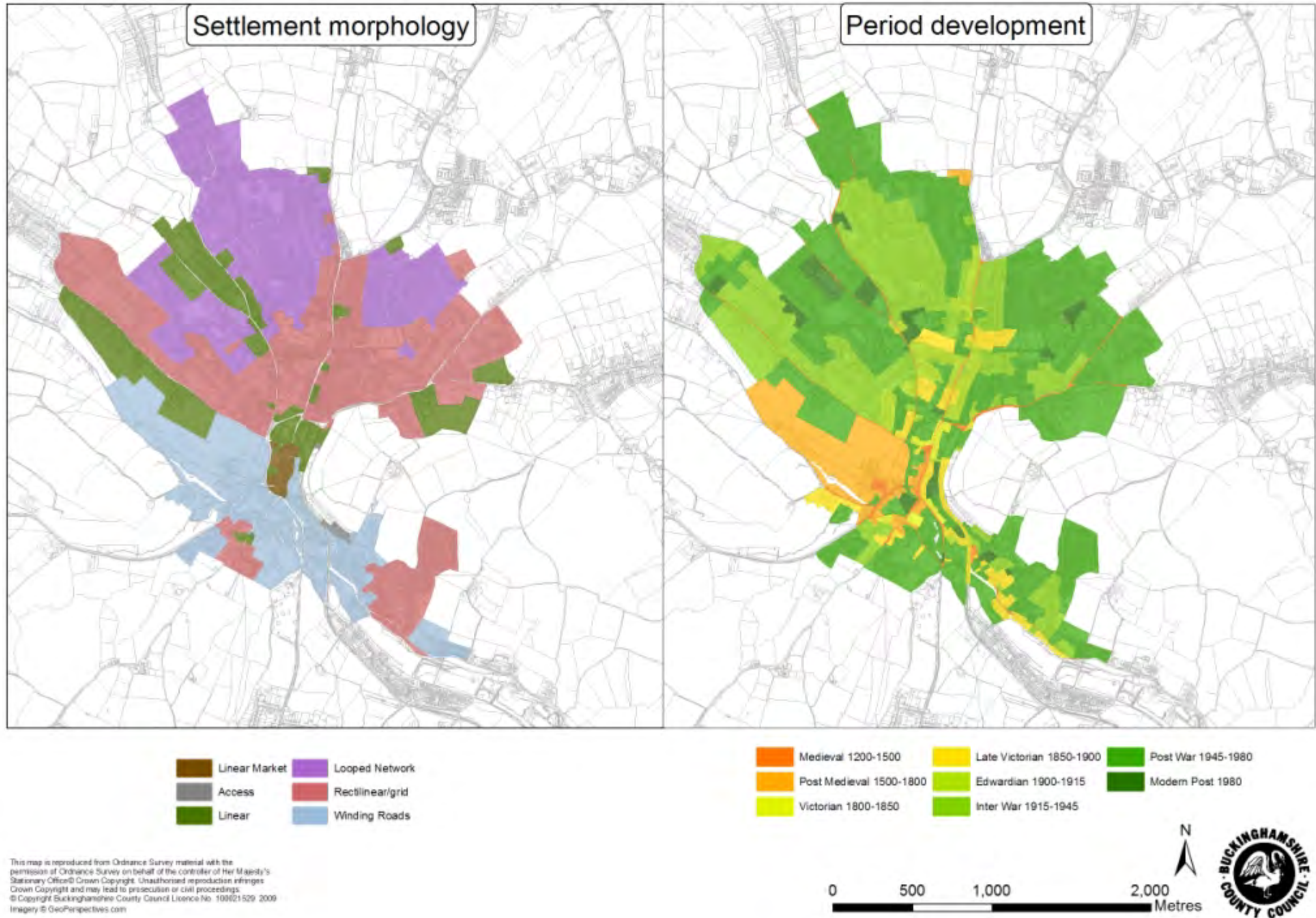


Figure 30: Morphological and period development

II ASSESSMENT

4 Designations

4.1 Conservation Areas (CA)

Chesham Old Town and Town Centre conservation area was first designated in 1970 and revised in 1987 following significant alteration to the road network within the modern town (Chiltern DC: Chesham Conservation Area Appraisal). The Conservation Area was considered by English Heritage to be 'at Risk' in 2010.

4.2 Registered Parks and Gardens

There are no registered parks and gardens in Chesham.

4.3 Scheduled Monuments

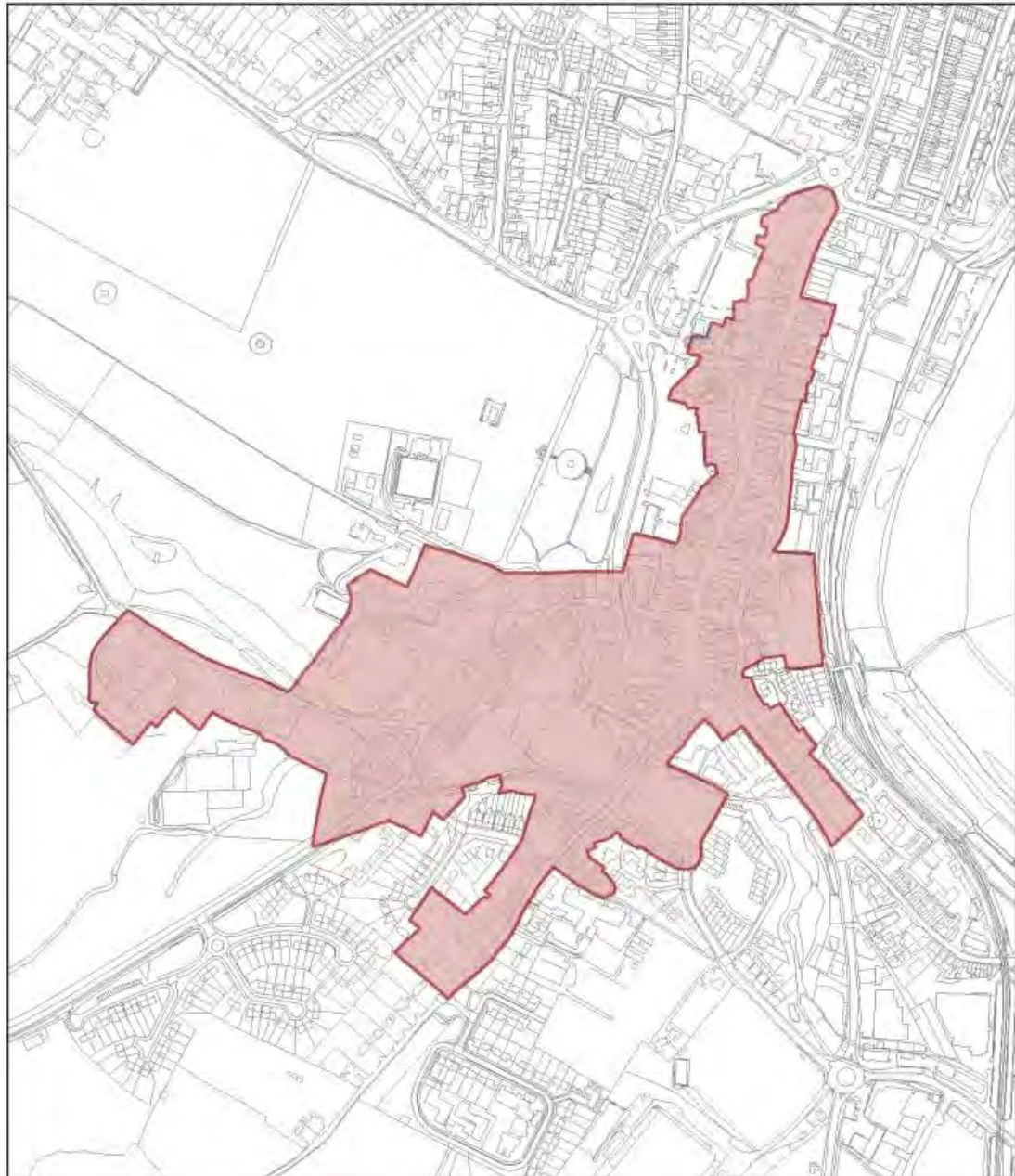
There is one scheduled monument in Chesham, a bowl barrow in Lowndes Park known as 'the rolling pin' (SM No. 27127).


4.4 Listed Buildings

There are 115 listed buildings within Chesham including one Grade I and three Grade II* listed buildings. St Mary's Church is a Grade I listed building dating to the 13th century and is the earliest surviving building in Chesham while Hollybush Farm, Vale Farm and Great Germaines are Grade II*, dating to the 15th century. Six buildings are dated to the medieval period (13th-15th centuries) while a further seven date to the 16th century. The majority of buildings (86) in Chesham are dated to the 17th and 18th centuries while a further 16 to the 19th century. There are two recorded cruck frame buildings in the town, dating to the 17th and 18th century respectively (Appendix 2, 2.5.).

4.5 Archaeological Notification Areas

Although not offering statutory protection, archaeological notification areas are a helpful tool for planning control as they highlight areas that are of known or suspected archaeological potential to planning control officers at a district and county council level. The archaeological notification area for Chesham covers the historic core of the town this includes the High Street, East Street, Church Street, Germain Street, Wey Lane and Red Lion Street an approximation of the extent of the original medieval settlement.



 Conservation area



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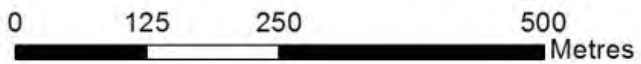


Figure 31: Chesham conservation area

5 Historic Urban Zones

5.1 Introduction

The process of characterising and analysing Buckinghamshire towns produces a large quantity of information at a 'fine-grained scale' e.g. the character of particular buildings, town plan forms and location of archaeological data. This multitude of information can be hard to assimilate. In order to distil this information into an understandable form, the project will define larger areas or Historic Urban Zones (HUZs) for each town; these zones provide a framework for summarising information in a spatially and written form. Each zone contains several sections including:

- A summary of the zone including reasons for the demarcation of the zone.
- An assessment of the known and potential archaeological interest for pre 20th century areas only.
- An assessment of existing built character.

5.2 Historic Urban Zones

The creation of these zones begins with several discrete data sets including historical cartography and documentary sources; known archaeological work; buildings evidence (whether listed or not) and the modern urban character. From this, a picture can be drawn of the changes that have occurred to the built character within a given area over a given period. Discrete areas of the town that then show broad similarities can be grouped as one zone.

After the survey results have been mapped into GIS the resulting data is analysed to discern any larger, distinctive patterns; principally build periods, urban types, styles or other distinctive attributes of buildings. Zone boundaries are defined based around areas of homogenous townscape, although occasionally there may be more diversity as a result of piecemeal change. Other considerations for defining these zones can be made from the other attribute data, including time depth and degree of preservation.

Several different datasets will feed into the creation process for urban zones under two broad headings; Historical and topographical modelling and built character.

Historical and topographical modelling covers a variety of sources including;

- Historical maps and documentary research – historical consultancy work, an analysis of historic routes and an analysis of manorial holdings where available
- Archaeological and environmental evidence – data stored in the HER, geological and soils databases provided by the BGS and Cranfield University and an analysis of the distribution of pottery fabrics for the Saxon and medieval periods

The Built Character heading incorporates the following sources;

- Built environment – English Heritage listed buildings and historic map research
- An analysis of the modern urban form – The historic urban character database produced for this project and designations such as Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

5.3 Archaeological Assessment

The second part of the analysis examines the significance and potential of towns from an archaeological perspective, this assessment is undertaken by the analysis of archaeological and historical sources. Unlike the built environment, the focus of investigation is limited to the historic cores of settlements, where most archaeological evidence exists and the likelihood of archaeological discovery is at its greatest. The assessment includes consideration of the archaeological interest of above-ground buildings and structures, which may contain hidden elements, which are earlier than their nominal date based on visible architectural details.

The method for evaluating archaeological significance is an adaptation of English Heritage’s Monuments Protection Plan for urban areas (English Heritage 1992). For the character zones within the historic core an evaluation is made of particular attributes, these are: Period; Survival; Potential; Group Value and Diversity.

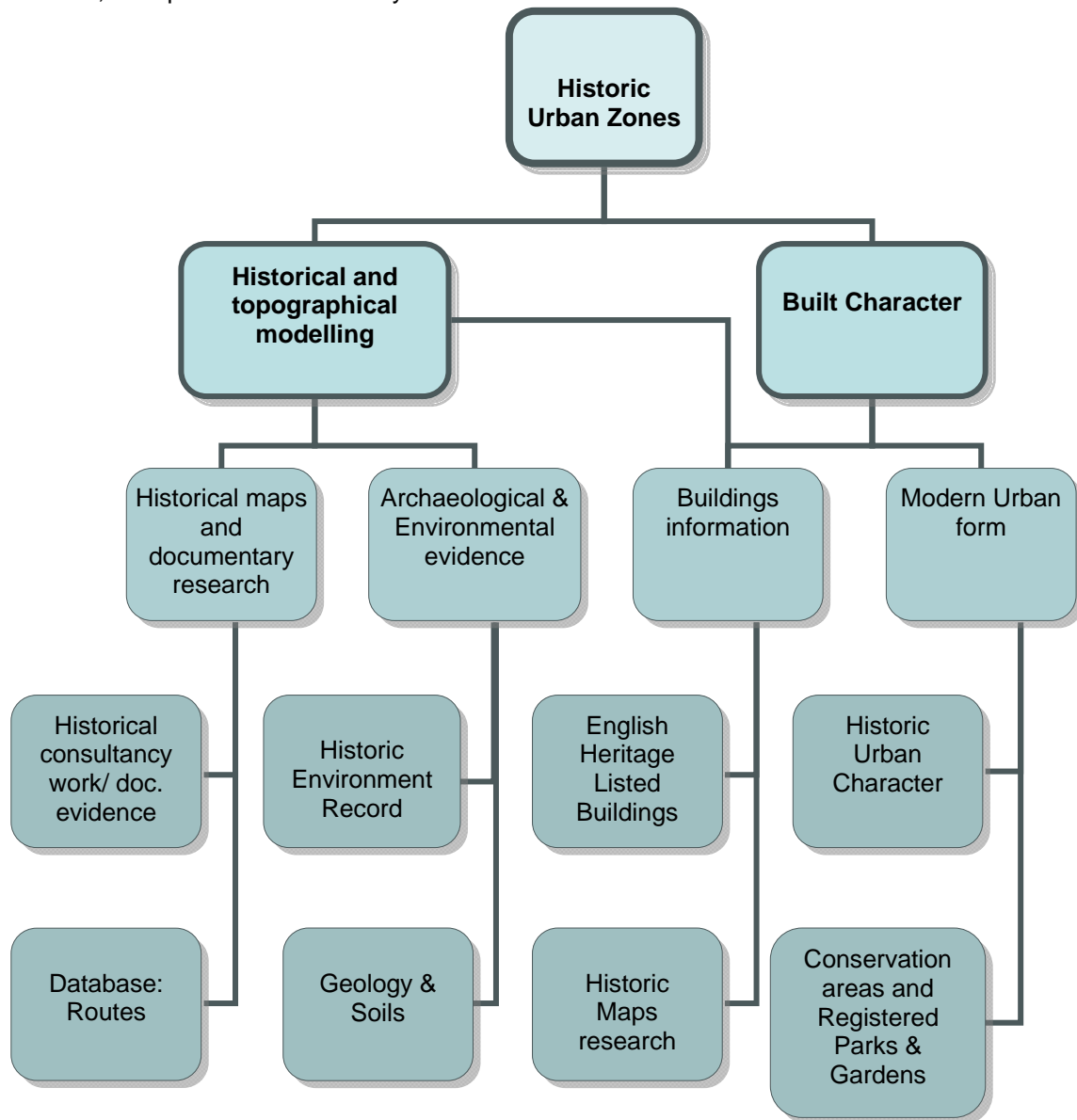


Figure 32: Diagram showing the processes involved in the creation of the urban character zones

Period

Assessment of the time-depth of archaeological remains likely to be present. As a general rule urban deposits with greater time-depth will tend to be of more archaeological interest.

- Early Medieval foundations 1000 -1100 and/or with possible proto or pre urban antecedents. Potential for remains with a very wide date range of a thousand years or more.
- Medieval Foundations of 1100 -1536 with remains relating to Medieval and Post Medieval establishment and change
- Post 1536 - establishment and change occurring after 1536. Post-medieval remains only
- Post 1800 – modern development

Survival

This section focuses on the visible or documented survival of historical elements. For example buildings will have a bias towards post medieval although some medieval forms (churches) will exist. In terms of deposits assessment will often be based upon documented investigations and it should be recognised that some parts of towns cannot be assessed until further data becomes available.

- High = Documented survival of extensive significant remains
- Medium = Documented survival of significant remains
- Low = Documented extensive destruction/loss/absence of remains
- Uncertain = Insufficient information for reliable judgment

Potential

This section relates to the likelihood of preservation of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence and will be a summary based in part on known archaeological and environmental evidence and in part on predictive preservation and therefore should be treated with caution. Potential preservation is based upon ground conditions whether wet or dry, the topography and the quality of archaeological evidence. The relationship between subsurface deposits and standing buildings is also of relevance. Evidence for buildings potential lies in determining the preservation of older building structures or fabrics hidden behind later builds and facades. The principal nature of remains predicted will be indicated. This will also refer to the potential for environmental finds, although this can only be a general statement.

- High - Areas predicted to contain stratified or waterlogged buried deposits or early structural elements within standing buildings. High potential for environmental finds such as anoxic environments with pH of over 7. (peats, waterlogged deposits)
- Medium - Areas predicted to contain significant buried deposits and/or potential for hidden structural elements. Potential for environmental finds can be varied, covers a wide range of soil types.
- Low Areas predicted to have limited survival of archaeological deposits e.g. due to destruction of subsurface deposits by modern development. Low potential for environmental finds such as oxic environments with a neutral pH. (brown earths)
- Uncertain - Areas with insufficient data to make any meaningful prediction

Group Value

The identification of adjacent buildings where concentrations of types occur forming a distinct character. For the majority the group value will be not applicable but can include Commercial clusters, Ecclesiastical clusters or Industrial clusters.

Diversity

This criterion seeks to measure the phases of change to a given area through time. The diversity reflects the range of features, components and monuments that can be recorded within the zone or across a wider range of zones. Equally this could also apply to the diversity of the built environment. This will also examine the survival of buildings within the historic core using English Heritage listed buildings data to assess the range and diversity of dates and architectural style within the zone.

- High – 3 or more phases
- Medium – 2 major phases
- Low – Single phase
- Unknown

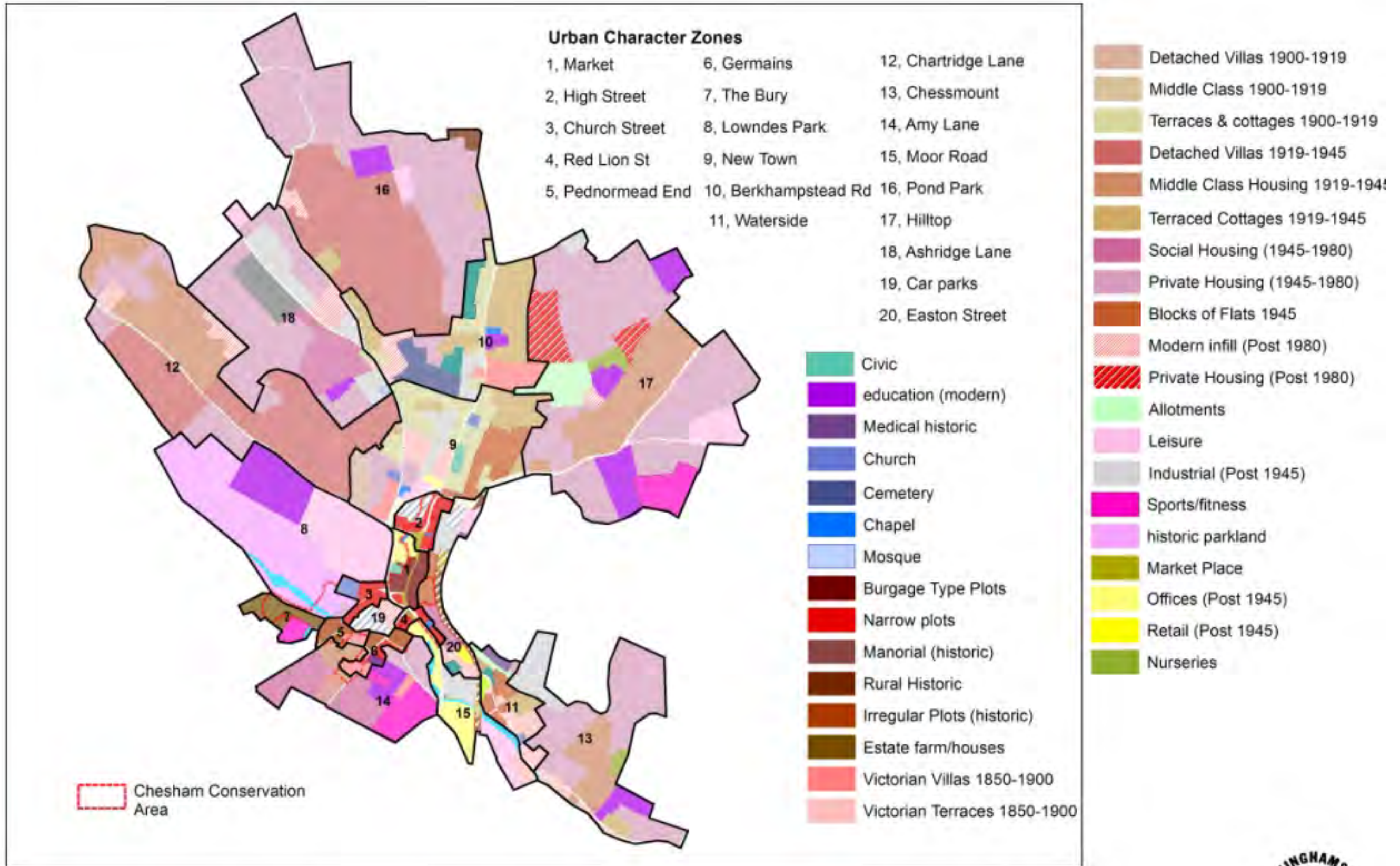
5.4 Heritage Values

The assessment has also adopted the methodology outlined in the English Heritage document *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance (2007)*. This is intended to help ensure

consistency when carrying out assessments on the historic environment by proposing an integrated approach to making decisions, based on a common process.

Although acknowledging the importance of existing heritage designations, the Conservation Principles promotes an holistic approach to the various inter-related heritage values that might be attached to a place. The high level values range from evidential, which is dependent on the inherited fabric of the place, through historical and aesthetic, to communal values, which derive from people's identification with the place.

- *Evidential*: The potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity e.g. through study of buried archaeological remains or historic buildings
- *Historical*: Derives from the ways in which past people and events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present. It tends to be either illustrative of particular activities or process or associative with famous people or events.
- *Aesthetic*: Derives the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place. It can reflect deliberate design (e.g. architecture) or the fortuitous coming together of features to create a 'patina' of age.
- *Communal Value*: derive from the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory. Communal values can be closely bound up with historical (particularly associative) and aesthetic values, but tend to have additional and specific aspects manifesting as symbolic, commemorative, social or spiritual values.



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0 600 1,200 2,400 Metres



Figure 33: Historic Character Zones for Chesham

5.5 Historic Settlement

Zone 1: High Street			
<p>Summary: As its name suggests the High Street zone is defined by Chesham's High Street and the buildings that about it. The area extends to East Street in the East and Park Road to the West although it ends at Station Road to the north. The High Street zone lies entirely within Chesham's conservation area which is reflected by the number of listed buildings found in this area.</p>			
<p>Historical: Believed to be established some time in the 13th century possibly after the granting of the market charter by Henry III in 1247. The plot boundaries of the medieval town are a significant feature, surviving to the present day. It has been conjectured that the curvilinear nature of the boundaries planned upon the earlier landscape of medieval open fields. It is thought that plot boundaries contained a number of Chesham's early industries including malting and leather working trades. Substantial improvements to the town centre in the 20th century resulted in the demolition of properties including the Star Inn on Blucher Street. Much of the historic pattern of the High Street has been erased by the construction of East Street and the construction of car park on Park Road.</p>			
<p>Evidential: No previous archaeological work has been carried out; however the potential for archaeological evidence should remain high for this zone. While existing archaeological evidence is limited the alluvial geology and proximity to the River Chess couple with the known existence of tanning, malting and milling within the town suggests a good potential for waterlogged deposits of leather and wood. There are 37 listed buildings ranging in date from 16th to 19th century, one of the more significant buildings is the 18th century Chesham Congregational Baptist Chapel. The majority of buildings are built of brick although in a mixture of styles from the vernacular to modern. This reflects the constant changes that have occurred to development of Chesham's High Street.</p>			
<p>Aesthetic: The high street reduced somewhat by extensive rebuilding in the Victorian period, consequently the High Street doesn't possess the same attraction of some other historic towns in Buckinghamshire. The High Street has been improved by its pedestrianisation. However the High Street also contains the mundane municipal features of a car park on Park Street</p>			
<p>Communal Value: The zone is the commercial centre of Chesham there are good quantity of shops, pubs and restaurants on the High Street, while the weekly market no longer represents the commercial heart of the modern town, it continues to be a key factor in the character of Chesham.</p>			
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)		
<p>Period: Medieval/Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: Commercial Cluster Diversity: Medium Potential: High</p>	Morphology:	Linear Market Linear	Density: High
	Character Types:	Burgage Type Plots Market Place	Modern Shops Civic
	Architecture	Victorian	Modern (General)
Heritage Values	Plan Form	Post Medieval: Terraces Post Medieval: Wide Frontage	Post Medieval: Narrow Frontage
<p>Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: Medium Communal Value: High</p>	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Brick: Painted	Brick: Machine (Coloured) Pebbled/Shingled
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Hand made clay Tile: Slate Natural	Tile: Machine Clay Tile; Slate Artificial

Zone 2: High Street North			
Summary: High Street north is an area of Chesham to the north of the square known as the Broadway. It is defined Most of the area lies within Chesham's conservation area although this excludes areas to the rear of the High Street which makes up Chesham's library and car park.			
Historical: This area of Chesham is believed to be part of the medieval planned town, possibly dating to the 13 th century. Unlike the High Street to the south the layout of this area is somewhat different, the plot boundaries and frontages of buildings comparatively smaller. It is believed that this area might have been a planned extension to the medieval High Street. It is known that at the backs of the properties in this part of the High Street was a centre of industry in the medieval and post medieval periods a number of tanning pits unearthed on the site of the car park.			
Evidential: Evaluating the significance of surviving archaeological deposits in this area is hard to assess as there have been no archaeological investigations in this area. However the potential for archaeological evidence should remain high, however, given the status and location of the zone along the medieval High Street and market area of Chesham as well as the potential for significant deposits relating to Chesham's industrial heritage. There are thirteen listed buildings including a medieval great hall which survives in later brickwork of 1 Blucher Street and two 16 th century houses on the same street.			
Aesthetic: Apart from a number of fine historic buildings this area is generally mixed architecturally with both vernacular and modern styles lining the High Street. The pedestrianisation of the Broadway has improved the attraction of this part of the town.			
Communal Value: The zone is on the periphery of the commercial centre of Chesham with a number of small shops, pubs and restaurants on the High Street, while the market no longer represents the commercial heart of the modern town, it continues to be a key factor in the character of Chesham.			
Archaeological Assessment		Built Character (general characteristics)	
Period: Medieval/Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: N/A Diversity: Medium Potential: High	Morphology:	Linear	Density: High
	Character Types:	Narrow Plots Market Place	Transport Links
	Architecture	Victorian	Modern (General)
	Heritage Values	Plan Form	Post Medieval: Terraces Post Medieval: Wide frontage
Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: Medium Communal Value: High	Build Materials:	Brick: Painted Brick: Machine (Red)	Brick: Machine (Coloured)
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Machine (Clay) Tile: Slate (Natural)	Tile: Handmade (Clay)

Zone 3: Church Street			
Summary: This character area This zone is defined by the area around St Mary's church including the cemetery, and the buildings that abut Church Lane. The area sits entirely within Chesham's conservation area.			
Historical: One of the earliest parts of Chesham Church Street and possibly has antecedents dating to the Anglo Saxon period. It is thought that this area was part of the early manorial centre of the Bury and Chesham Higham. It thought that the townscape here remained relatively unchanged since the post medieval period.			
Evidential: No archaeological investigations in this area making the evaluation however potential for archaeological discovery should remain high, however, given the status and location in this area contains a high concentration of listed buildings (30 buildings) including the grade 1 listed building of the 13 th century St Mary's Church and the 14 th century . Although no archaeological investigations have been undertaken here this area is of high significance by virtue of its position in the oldest part of the town.			
Aesthetic: This has to be one of the more pretty parts of Chesham containing a number of fine historic buildings in including vernacular timber framed cottages and Georgian architecture in the form of the gate house to the Lowndes House. The setting of the buildings, fronting an enclosed and winding road of Church Street adds to the area's attractiveness as does its position, away from the hustle and bustle of the ring road, the zone is largely a tranquil place.			
Communal Value: This area has few services beyond the spiritual centre of St Mary's church. In heritage terms, this area often attracts walkers and visitors to Chesham who are attracted to the areas historic buildings and sense of timelessness.			
Archaeological Assessment		Built Character (general characteristics)	
Period: Saxon/Medieval/Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: N/A Diversity: High Potential: High	Morphology:	Winding Roads	Density: High
	Character Types:	Narrow Plots	Tran
	Architecture	Vernacular Style	Modern (General)
	Plan Form	Post Medieval: Cottage rural Post Medieval: Wide frontage	Modern: Terrace
Heritage Values	Build Materials:	Brick: Handmade (Red) Brick: Machine (Red)	Box frame and rendered

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: High Communal Value: High	Roof Materials:	Tile: Handmade (Clay) Tile: Machine (Clay)	Tile: Slate (Artificial)
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Zone 4: Red Lion Street			
Summary: This small character to the south of Chesham's High Street encompasses northern end of Red Lion and the eastern end of Germain Street. The zone is largely defined by its historic built environment with is made up of post medieval buildings in a vernacular buildings style. The area sits entirely within Chesham's conservation area.			
Historical: This area is believed to be an extension of the medieval settlement in the 13 th century, the river Chess runs through this area, although the river has long since been culverted beneath the buildings. Red Lion Street is thought to be a focus for some of Chesham's leather working industry.			
Evidential: There have been no archaeological investigations in this zone, although in and around Germain Street significant quantities of Roman pottery sherds have been found during groundwork in the construction of buildings while a number of chance finds have also yielded pottery. Given the zones proximity to the river Chess there is significant potential to yield archaeology dating from the prehistoric to post medieval periods. The zone contains 8 listed buildings including the notable 18 th century Particular Baptist chapel on Red Lion Street, a pair of seventeenth century timber-framed houses with nineteenth century front on Germain Street and the 19 th century Queens head pub			
Aesthetic: The area contains a number of attractive buildings which gives this part of Chesham its distinctive character.			
Communal Value: The zone contains Baptist Chapel providing a spiritual role for church services and a centre for social and community activities centre for the neighbourhood.			
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)		
Period: Anglo Saxon/Medieval/Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: N/A Diversity: High Potential: High	Morphology:	Winding Roads	Density: High
	Character Types:	Narrow Plots	Chapel (non conf)
	Architecture	Vernacular Style	Modern (General)
Heritage Values	Plan Form	Post Medieval: Narrow frontage Post Medieval: Wide frontage	Modern: Terrace
Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: Medium Communal Value: Medium	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Box frame and brick infill	Brick: Painted
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Slate (natural) Tile: Handmade (Clay)	Tile: Cement

Zone 5: Pednormead End			
Summary: The character zone of Pednormead End is position to the west of Chesham's High Street and is centred upon the meeting point of Church Street, Pednor Road, Missenden Road and Wey Lane. With the exception of a row of Victorian villas in Wey Street the zone is within Chesham's conservation area.			
Historical: Given its proximity to the church and manor of the Bury, Pednormead is thought to be one of the earliest parts of Chesham, although there is little evidence to substantiate this. Despite this area's vernacular appearance a number of cottages were demolished in the 19 th century and rebuilding in local traditional manner of early cottages.			
Evidential: To date there have been no archaeological investigations making this area hard to assess. However, given its proximity to the church and the river Chess, Pednormead End has the potential to yield significant archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric, to post medieval periods. The zone contains a wealth of listing buildings, 24 in total all grade II listed, the majority dating to the 17 th and 19 th centuries although collectively they are significant.			
Aesthetic: The aesthetic value of this zone is high. Pednormead End has a combination of attractive historical attributes including: fine vernacular buildings such as the 16 th century timber framed buildings in Pednor Street and their setting near the shallow but fast running river Chess makes for a picturesque area. The character is almost village like rather than that of a market town.			
Communal Value: Pednormead contains the Queens Head and is an attractive area for walkers by waterside of the river Chess.			
Archaeological Assessment		Built Character (general characteristics)	
Period: Anglo Saxon/Medieval/Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: N/A Diversity: High Potential: High	Morphology:	Winding Roads	Density: High
	Character Types:	Irregular Plots (Historic)	Victorian Villas (1850-1900)
	Architecture	Vernacular Style	Victorian
	Plan Form	Post Medieval: Narrow frontage Post Medieval: Cottage rural	Post medieval: rear addition terrace
Heritage Values	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Box frame and brick infill	Brick: Painted
Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: High Communal Value: High	Roof Materials:	Tile: Handmade (Clay) Tile: Slate (Natural)	Tile: Cement

Zone 6: Germaines			
Summary: As its name suggests the character zone known as Germaines comprises the building and properties along the street of the same name. Most of this character area is within Chesham's conservation area.			
Historical: This area is believed to be an extension to the town which is thought to date to at least the medieval period. Also the north end of St Germaines Street area is the roughly the location of Chesham Woburn manor which was in operation from the thirteenth to sixteenth century. There are also references to industrial activity taking place along the Chess including tanning and leather working.			
Evidential: There have been no archaeological investigations in this zone although there have been a number of finds which hint at the zone's significant archaeological potential. Mesolithic flints and Roman pottery has been extensively found in this area, while Germaines Street's proximity to the Chess was the centre of industrial activities in the medieval and post medieval periods. There are 15 listed buildings in this area the majority of which date from the 18 th and 19 th centuries although there are a row of timber framed buildings on the eastern side (15 Germain Street) which date to the 16 th century buildings at. There are one or two earlier buildings of significance, including the 15 th century Grade II* building of Great Germaines on Fullers Hill.			
Aesthetic: The area contains a number of fine timber framed buildings which contributes to the attractiveness of this area.			
Communal Value: The communal value is medium; the zone contains the Robert Harding School, although the area is largely residential.			
Archaeological Assessment		Built Character (general characteristics)	
Period: Roman Anglo Saxon/Medieval/Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: N/A Diversity: Medium Potential: High	Morphology:	Winding Roads Linear	Density: High
	Character Types:	Irregular Plots (Historic) Victorian Villas (1850-1900)	Narrow plots
	Architecture	Vernacular Georgian	Victorian
	Plan Form	Post Medieval: Wide frontage Post Medieval: Cottage rural	Modern: Semi Detached Modern: Bungalows
Heritage Values	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Brick: Machine (Coloured)	Brick: Painted
Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: Medium Communal Value: Low	Roof Materials:	Tile: Slate (Natural) Tile: Handmade (Clay)	Tile: Cement

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Zone 7: The Bury			
Summary: This zone encompasses the extent of Bury Farm, an estate farm associated with the Lowndes estate. The farmhouse and farm buildings falls within Chesham's conservation area.			
Historical: Not much is known about the history of Bury Farm, but was certainly in existence as a farm in the 18 th but there is no evidence probably as farmstead for the Lowndes estates. century			
Evidential: There are no archaeological interventions or excavations in this zone although given its proximity to the manor of Bury and Higham this area has the potential to yield important archaeology relating to Chesham's medieval and post medieval past listed buildings or historic buildings of note in this area.			
Aesthetic: This area has a medium aesthetic value, containing some attractive vernacular buildings as well as more modern functional agricultural ones.			
Communal Value: The communal area of this part of Chesham is low as the area is largely an estate farm with limited access to the public.			
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)		
Period: Anglo Saxon/Medieval/Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: N/A Diversity: Medium Potential: High	Morphology:	Winding Roads	Density: Low
	Character Types:	Estate/farm houses	Sports/fitness
	Architecture	Vernacular	
Heritage Values	Plan Form	Post Medieval: Farmhouse	
Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: Medium Communal Value: Low	Build Materials:	Brick: Handmade (Red)	
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Handmade (Clay)	

Zone 8: Lowndes Park			
Summary: Comprises the parkland landscape of Lowndes Park. With the exception of the house known as the Bury most of this character zone is outside Chesham's conservation area.			
Historical: This area was formerly known as the Bury, a manorial centre in Chesham from the 11 th century onwards. In the medieval period the area that now forms the park was believed to be a deer park, first mention in 1264. By the post medieval period the manor passed through a succession of owners including the Earls of Oxford, the Seymour family and the Earls of Devonshire. In the eighteenth century the manor came into the ownership of the Lowndes family, William Lowndes secretary to the treasury, who is responsible for the building of the 18 th century house known as the Bury. Not much is known about the design of the accompanying park, formal garden, which had modifications in the nineteenth century. park Lowndes Park, became a municipal park in the 20 th century			
Evidential: There has been no archaeological investigation in this zone, although given its historical significance this area has the potential to yield important archaeology relating to Chesham's history going back to at least the Anglo Saxon period. The parkland landscape also contains the scheduled monument known as the rolling pin, supposedly Bronze Age round borrow. There are four listed buildings in this zone including the Bury house and its associated lodge buildings.			
Aesthetic: Although not designated on the register of parks and gardens Lowndes park is an important designed landscape and has a high aesthetic value			
Communal Value: The parkland landscape including the Bury Pond are an important green space in Chesham			
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)		
Period: Roman Anglo Saxon/Medieval/Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: Parkland Diversity: Medium Potential: High	Morphology:	Winding Roads Linear	Density: Low
	Character Types:	Historic Parkland Leisure	Education (Modern) Private Housing (1945-1980)
	Architecture	Georgian	Modern (General)
Heritage Values	Plan Form	Post Medieval: Wide frontage	Modern: (Detached)
Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: High Communal Value: High	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red)	Brick: Painted
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Handmade (Clay) Tile: Slate (Natural)	Tile: Cement

Zone 9: Easton Street				
Summary: Easton Street is a crescent shaped zone, located immediately east of Chesham's High Street. The area is demarcated by the natural topography of Dungle Hill to the east and the East Street and Waterside on its western side. This area is largely outside of Chesham's conservation area although a small proportion of the East Street falls within it.				
Historical: In the 19 th century much of this area of Chesham was on the edge of the town and formed a suburb or extension of the High Street. While the southern end of the zone accommodated industrial activities within the town. It was not until the late 19 th century with the arrival of the Metropolitan railway that changed the character of the area, the railway line carving a path along the western side of the zone and the installation of a depot and works. The advent of the railway also heralded the building of new housing including Victorian and Edwardian terraces at the upper end of Waterside; these were built at the expense of a number of vernacular buildings. In the 1950s East Street was created and the former medieval plots of the High Street properties were redeveloped to accommodate houses and flats.				
Evidential: There have been three archaeological interventions in this zone. Excavations at Stratford Yard (CH1) which revealed evidence of prehistoric site dating to the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods. A later watching brief at East Street (CH2) unearthed more evidence of prehistoric activity, this time dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age. & (CH4). This zone has shown it has the potential to yield significant archaeological deposits dating from Prehistoric to the Post medieval periods although around the Waterside area there is also the chance of discovering archaeology relating to Chesham's industrial past. There are two listed buildings in this zone Weedons, Waterside and Botley House in Francis Yard.				
Aesthetic: This area is a mixed area of residential, industrial and commercial uses and has a generally low aesthetic value although it is set within the surrounding hills of the Chilterns.				
Communal: This heritage communal value is generally low, although contains the Metropolitan line and leisure centre.				
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)			
Period: Prehistoric Medieval, Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: N/A Diversity: Medium Potential: High	Morphology:	Winding Roads	Linear	Density: Medium
	Character Types:	Social Housing (1945-1980) Block of flats Victorian Terraces (1850-1900) Post 1945 Industrial		Transport Links Retail (Post 1945) Railway Station & railway Factory
	Architecture	Municipal Modern (General) Modern (General)		Victorian Commercial 1970s
Heritage Values	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Detached Modern: Terrace		Modern; Semi detached Modern: Bungalows
Evidential Value: High Historical Value: Medium Aesthetic Value: Low/Medium Communal Value: Low	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Brick: Machine (Coloured) Pebbled Shingled		Brick: Rendered Brick: Handmade (Red) Box frame & brick infill
	Roof Materials:	Tile; Machine (Clay) Tile: Cement		Tile: Slate (Natural)

Zone 10: Car Parks			
Summary: This zone is situated within Chesham's historic core, and is defined by modern the car parks and buildings to the rear of Wey Lane Germain Street and Church Street. The zone is located within Chesham's conservation area.			
Historical: The earliest historic maps for this part of Chesham show that the zone was a mixture of urban housing, orchards and open land. The character of this area remained unchanged until the later 20 th century when the increase in use of the motor car in had put pressure on the town. As a consequence town planners responded by making changes to accommodate the growth in traffic, a new bypass and road linking Red Lion Street, was built, consequently some buildings fronting Germain Street were demolished and any vacated areas had been redeveloped with new houses and buildings. The orchards and open space were replaced with the concrete and tarmac surface of car parks.			
Evidential: There have been no modern archaeological interventions in this area, although part of the zone was excavated in 1960s when Wright's mill was the subject of an archaeological investigation. The dig revealed significance archaeology relating to the medieval mill and more significantly evidence of a Roman settlement in Chesham. Although the area excavated is now destroyed, the remaining area has the potential to yield further deposits relating to Roman and medieval periods. There are no listed buildings or any historic buildings of significance in this zone.			
Aesthetic: This area is largely a functional urban space and possesses few attractive features.			
Communal: Despite its practical usage this zone has a low communal value.			
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)		
Period: Roman, Medieval Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: N/A Diversity: Medium Potential: Medium/High	Morphology:	Winding Roads	
	Character Types:	Modern infill post 1980	
	Architecture:	Modern (General)	
		Density:	Medium
		Transport Links	
		Vernacular	
Heritage Values	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Flats	Post medieval: Wide frontage
Evidential Value: Medium/High Historical Value: Medium Aesthetic Value: Low Communal Value: Low	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red)	Brick: Handmade (Red)
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Slate (Artificial)	Tile: Handmade (Clay)

5.6 Modern Settlement

Zone 11: New Town			
Summary: This character zone encompasses a large area immediately to the north of Chesham's High Street a mixed area of residential housing, industry and commerce that branches from Broad Street and Berkhamstead Road.			
Historical: As its name suggests New Town represents the first major expansion of Chesham in the late 18 th and 19 th centuries and continued to expand and infill in the 20 th century. This area accommodated much of the industry and manufacturing that emerged in the 19 th century as well as accommodating the housing for the people who worked in the factories.			
Evidential: Archaeological evidence in this area is sparse. There has been one intervention (CH3) which revealed seventeenth to eighteenth century pottery kilns in allotment next to Emmanuel church. The potential for the discovery of significant archaeology is medium, archaeological deposits are likely to relate to industry of the post medieval and modern periods. This zone contains no listed buildings, or no known historical buildings of note.			
Aesthetic: New Town contains a number of attractive Victorian and Edwardian villas and terraced houses particularly along Sunnyside Road, although of majority of buildings are unexceptional.			
Communal: Although largely residential, New Town contains the infrastructure for a 19 th century community including two chapels, and a cemetery.			
Heritage Values		Built Character (general characteristics)	
Evidential Value: Medium Historical Value: Medium Aesthetic Value: Low Communal Value: Medium	Morphology:	Rectilinear/grid	Density: High
	Character Types:	Terrace/Cottages 1900-1919 Block of Flats (1945-1980) Terrace Cottages (1919 -1945) Victorian Terraces (1850-1900) Post 1945 Industrial Private Housing (1945-1980) Factory Cemetery	Victorian Villas (1850-1900) Leisure Offices (Post 1945) Church Civic Chapel (non conf) Education (Modern)
	Architecture:	Edwardian Victorian	Mock Historic Modern (General)
	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Terrace Modern: Flats	Modern: Semi detached Modern: Detached
	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Brick: Rendered	Brick: Machine (Coloured)
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Slate (Natural) Tile: Cement	Tile: Pantile (Machine)

Zone 12: Waterside			
Summary: This area is comprises an area to the south east of the Chesham's historic core near the river Chess. The zone lies outside of Chesham's Conservation area.			
Historical: Prior to its urbanisation this area was a mixture of meadowland and early enclosure. Although the on the slope of the adjacent hill, above Chesham station, contains the surviving earthworks of medieval or post-medieval cultivation terraces called 'The Balks' an relict of former open field farming. The area known as Waterside was an area that expanded in the late 18 th and 19 th century for industrial purposes as well as accommodating the town's former gasworks. Apart from industry the zone contains Victorian and Edwardian terraced housing for the factory workers. The area also contains Chesham Cottage hospital, built 1869 and still in use as a hospital. In the 20 th century a new industrial estate was built on Springfield Road.			
Evidential: There has been one archaeological intervention in this area, trial trenching at Chesham Hospital (CH5) revealed evidence of medieval land terraces, adjacent to the preserved terraces known as the Balks. There is also some potential for archaeology to be found along the course of the river Chess. Although survival will be dependent upon the development of the land surrounding land. The excavation revealed medieval pottery. There are no listed buildings in this area although it contains several significant buildings in Chesham's history including Christ Church a 19 th century church.			
Aesthetic: This area contains some attractive Edwardian housing although the majority of buildings are industrial or of an unremarkable design.			
Communal: Apart from the church the zone contains allotments and meadow land by the Chess which is accessible by right of way.			
Heritage Values		Built Character (general characteristics)	
Evidential Value: Medium Historical Value: Medium/High Aesthetic Value: Medium Communal Value: Low	Morphology:	Winding Roads	Rectilinear/grid
	Character Types:	Victorian Terraces (1850-1900) Terraced Cottages (1919-1945) Block of Flats Middle Class Housing (1919-1945) Factory	Medical Historic Allotments Meadow Modern infill (post 1980) Church
	Architecture:	Victorian	Modern (General) Edwardian
	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Terrace Modern: Flats	Modern: Detached

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red)	Brick: Painted
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Machine (Clay)	Tile: Slate (Natural)

Zone 13: Chartridge Lane					
Summary: This character zone is located to the south west of Chesham's historic core and lies along Ashridge Lane. The zone outside Chesham's conservation area.					
Historical: This area represents suburban expansion of Chesham in the interwar period and epitomises the development of Metroland commuter development.					
Evidential: No listed buildings or archaeological interventions. The archaeological potential of this area is low.					
Aesthetic: Low: The residential areas are primarily well maintained, brick built, Edwardian and modern style detached/semi detached housing, with generous gardens and leafy lanes.					
Communal: The area is largely residential and has a low communal value.					
Heritage Values	Built Character (general characteristics)				
Evidential Value: Low Historical Value: Low Aesthetic Value: Low Communal Value: Low	Morphology:	Rectilinear/grid	Linear	Density:	Medium
	Character Types:	Detached Villas (1919-1945) Middle Class Housing (1850-1945)	Private Housing (1945-1980) Modern infill (post 1980)		
	Architecture	Edwardian	Mock Historic		
	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Detached Modern: Terrace	Modern: Semi detached		
	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red)			
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Machine (Clay)	Tile: Slate (Artificial)		

Zone 14: Chessmount						
Summary: The urban character zone known as Chessmount, is located to the south east of Chesham's historic core and north of the river Chess.						
Historical: Prior its development Chessmount was a mixture of meadowland and pre 18 th century irregularly enclosed fields. By the 1920s and 1930s there was a greater demand for housing in Chesham and this area represents one of the last areas to be developed along the Chess valley before the focus of expansion focussed on the areas to the north of Chesham.						
Evidential: No previous archaeological work has been carried out in this zone and there has been very little in the way of archaeological finds. There is some possibility for archaeology to be discovered along the areas adjacent to the Chess, otherwise the potential for archaeological discovery is low. There are no listed buildings, or buildings of architectural merit in this area.						
Aesthetic: Low: The overall character of the area is residential housing built in a modern style.						
Communal: Low: With the exception of schools and some industrial areas the character of this zone is largely residential						
Heritage Values	Built Character (general characteristics)					
Evidential Value: Low Historical Value: Low Aesthetic Value: Low Communal Value: Low	Morphology:	Rectilinear/grid	Winding Roads	Density:	Medium	
	Character Types:	Private Housing (1945-1980) Middle Class Housing (1850-1945) Post 1945 Industrial	Education (Modern) Terraced Cottages (1919-1945) Nurseries			
	Architecture	Modern (General)	Mock Historic	Edwardian		
	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Terrace Modern: Bungalow	Modern: Semi detached	Modern: detached		
	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Coloured)				
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Machine (Clay)	Tile: Cement			

Zone 15: Amy Lane			
Summary: Amy Lane is located immediately to the south of Chesham's historic core. It is defined largely by the modern housing and recreational facilities for the town. The zone is demarcated by the river Chess to the north east and the Missenden Road to the west. The northern fringe of the Amy Lane falls within Chesham's conservation area although the majority of the zone lies outside of the designated area.			
Historical: This part of Chesham was thought to be in the domain of Chesham Woburn manor, although the exact location is not known. Up until the early 20 th century much of the landscape was a rural, composed of Pre 18 th century irregular fields. It was not until mid to late 20 th century that housing was incrementally built across this area.			
Evidential: There have been no archaeological interventions and one listed building in this area. Despite the lack of archaeological investigation there have been a number of chance finds and to show that this area has the potential to yield archaeology, dating from the prehistoric to post medieval periods. Of particular note are the Roman finds discovered at Germain's Court and the school ground at Amy Lane which has hinted at the presence of a more significant site. However given the amount of modern development in this area has reduced the potential is reduced.			
Aesthetic: Low: The overall character of the area is residential housing built in a modern style.			
Communal: Amy Lane is predominantly residential with little provision for public open space. However, the zone does contain the recreation ground, cricket club and Chesham United's football ground.			
Heritage Values	Built Character (general characteristics)		
Evidential Value: Medium Historical Value: Low Aesthetic Value: Low Communal Value: Medium	Morphology:	Rectilinear/grid	Density: Medium
	Character Types:	Social Housing (1945-1980) Middle Class Housing (1850-1945) Sports/fitness	Education (Modern) Victorian villas (1850-1900)
	Architecture	Municipal Modern Modern (General)	Edwardian Victorian
	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Semi detached Modern: Flats Modern: Terrace	Modern: Bungalow Modern: Detached
	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red)	Brick: Machine (Coloured)
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Machine (Clay)	

Zone 16: Moor Road			
Summary: This character zone is a sinuous shaped area to the south of Chesham's historic core. It follows the bottom of the valley floor and is a mixed area characterised by leisure and industry. The north most extend is on the perimeter of Chesham's conservation area. However, Moor Road character zone is undesignated and outside the conservation area.			
Historical: Prior to its develop the landscape was predominantly meadowland of the Chess, although it contained a number of important mills including the medieval and post medieval watermills of Canada or Bois Mill, and Amy watermill near Amersham Road. Much of the watercourses were managed and manipulated to accommodate the working of the mills. By the 19 th century the development of this area intensified with the building of factories and industries as well as the railway line of the metropolitan railway.			
Evidential: To date there have been no archaeological investigations in this zone, although the area adjacent to the Chess is archaeological rich and there is potential for archaeological deposits ranging in date from the prehistoric to the post medieval. There is only one listed building in this area. There are no known buildings of historical significance or architectural merit.			
Aesthetic: This area contains some attractive Edwardian housing although the majority of buildings are of an unremarkable modern design			
Communal: The area is largely residential and has little communal value.			
Heritage Values	Built Character (general characteristics)		
Evidential Value: Low Historical Value: Low Aesthetic Value: Low Communal Value: Low	Morphology:	Winding Roads	Density: Low
	Character Types:	Leisure Offices (Post 1945) Post 1945 Industrial	Railway Watermill River Chess
	Architecture	Modern (General)	Commercial 1970s
	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red)	
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Cement	

Zone 17: Pond Park				
Summary: This zone is a wedge of suburban housing to the north of New Town and Chesham's historic core. It is demarcated by the Hiving's Hill Road to the west, Berkhamsted Road to the East and Pond Park Road to the south. Pond Park lies outside of Chesham's conservation area.				
Historical: Prior to its urbanisation, Pond Park was formerly a rural landscape composed largely of pre 18 th century coaxial fields. The only historic settlement in the zone is Vale Farm; a medieval post medieval farm which is still survives and is located on the western fringe of the character area. Apart from its former use as agricultural land there is evidence that mineral extraction took place in the 19 th century; the 1 st edition maps depict a gravel works at Little Spring School, although there is no evidence for further sites. It is not until the beginning of the twentieth century that this part of Chesham is developed, with late 19 th century terraced cottages built intermittently along Hivings Hill and Berkhamsted Road. By the 1920s developers had created a new area of Chesham, large detached houses in a mock historic style built along a looped network of roads including Milton Road, Ridgeland Road and Pond Park. It is not until the 1960s and 1970s that the next substantive development takes place to the north west of the zone with semi detached housing along Greenway and Little Hivings Road,				
Evidential: There have been no archaeological interventions in this zone, although based on the historical evidence of past land use, the potential for archaeological discovery in this area is low. The only area of significance is Vale Farm which contains a several listed buildings, including the timber framed farmstead which possibly dates back to the 15 th century.				
Aesthetic: Pond Park is made up of 20 th century housing which is of little aesthetic value or significance.				
Communal: With the exception of Little Spring School, this zone is predominantly a residential area of Chesham heritage contributes very little to communal value of this area.				
Heritage Values	Built Character (general characteristics)			
Evidential Value: Low Historical Value: Low Aesthetic Value: Low Communal Value: Low	Morphology:	Looped Network	Linear	Density: Medium
	Character Types:	Private Housing (1945-1980) Detached villas (1919-1945) Education (Modern)	Terraced Cottages (1919-1945) Leisure	
	Architecture	Modern (General) Mock Historic	Edwardian Vernacular	
	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Semi detached Modern: Terrace	Post Medieval: farmhouse	
	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Pebbled Shingled Brick: machine (Coloured)	Brick: Rendered Brick: Handmade (Red) Box frame & brick infill	
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Cement	Tile: Slate (Natural)	

Zone 18: Hilltop				
Summary: Hilltop is a suburban area of Chesham located to the north west of the town's historic core, The zone's character is largely defined by it 20 th century housing which has developed to the north and south of White Hill Road. The area is outside of Chesham's conservation area.				
Historical: In the 19 th century Hilltop was a rural landscape made up of Pre 18 th century irregular enclosures and occasional patches of woodland. The only historic settlement is the isolated farmstead of Codmoore Farm, positioned on White Hill Road which still survives. However by the beginning of the 20 th century the first houses were built at Manor Way. Bty the latter half of the 20 th century the demand for housing grew and new estates of detached houses and bungalows were built on the surround land at Molders Road and Codmore Crescent.				
Evidential: To date there have been no archaeological interventions, the potential for the presence of archaeological deposits is low and is of minor significance. There are three listed buildings in this area - Codmore farm and its associated outbuildings which range in date from the 15 th to 18 th centuries.				
Aesthetic: Hilltop is made up of 20 th century housing which is of little aesthetic value or significance.				
Communal: This zone is a residential part of Chesham; heritage contributes very little to communal value of this area.				
Heritage Values	Built Character (general characteristics)			
Evidential Value: Low Historical Value: Low Aesthetic Value: Low Communal Value: Low	Morphology:	Looped Network	Rectilinear/grid	Density: Medium
	Character Types:	Private Housing (1945-1980) Middle Class Housing (1919-1945) Private Housing (Post 1980) Education (Modern)	Allotments Nurseries Leisure Modern infill post 1980	
	Architecture	Modern (General) Mock Historic	Edwardian	
	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Bungalows Modern: Terrace	Modern: Detached	
	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Pebbled Shingled Brick: machine (Coloured)	Brick: Rendered Brick: Handmade (Red) Box frame & brick infill	
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Machine (Clay) Tile: Cement	Tile: Slate (Natural)	

Zone 19: Asheridge Road				
Summary: This zone is defined by residential and industrial development that grew up around the Asheridge Road. The zone is outside of Chesham's conservation area.				
Historical: In the 19 th century this area was a rural landscape composed of coaxial enclosure fields. It was not until the second half of the 20 th century when the landscape was developed for housing and industry.				
Evidential: There have been no archaeological interventions or listed buildings in this zone. The lack of known sites and likely damage from modern development suggests a low potential and significance for archaeological discovery.				
Aesthetic: Most of the residential housing is built in a modern or municipal style. Despite the bland nature of the architecture the estates are designed around some attractive greens and green spaces.				
Communal: This zone has a low communal value although there are one or two examples where housing has been designed around public open space of greens or playing fields, for example at Benham Close and Dellafield.				
Heritage Values	Built Character (general characteristics)			
Evidential Value: Low Historical Value: Low Aesthetic Value: Low Communal Value: Low	Morphology:	Looped Network	Linear	Density: Medium
	Character Types:	Private Housing (1945-1980) Social Housing (1945-1980) Post 1945 Industrial Modern infill post 1980	Education (Modern) Industrial (Disused) Mosque	
	Architecture	Modern (General) Mock Historic	Edwardian	
	Plan Form styles:	Modern: Detached Modern: Terrace	Modern; Semi detached Modern: Bungalows	
	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Brick: machine (Coloured) Pebbled Shingled	Brick: Rendered Brick: Handmade (Red) Box frame & brick infill	
	Roof Materials:	Tile; Machine (Clay) Tile: Cement	Tile: Slate (Natural)	

6 Management Recommendations

6.1 Conservation Area Appraisals

It is recommended that the conservation area is extended to incorporate the 18th /19th century designed landscape of Lowndes Park.

6.2 Registered Parks and Gardens

Although there are no Registered Parks and Gardens, Chesham does possess a significant parkland landscape in the form of Lowndes Park. Now in the custodianship of the town council as a municipal park, this 18th/19th parkland landscape has the potential to be restored/enhanced and possibly designated as a landscape.

6.3 Archaeological Notification Areas

It is recommended that Chesham's archaeological notification area should be extended in a number of directions to take account of the archaeological discoveries and the historical associations in the town. The notification area could be extended south to cover the Roman site which includes Germain's Court. It is also suggested that the notification area is increased to the north of the church to encompass part of Lowndes Park; this area may contain evidence of a former manor or settlement dating to the Anglo Saxon and medieval periods. There might be merit in creating new archaeological notification areas to cover the sites of the former medieval/post medieval mill along the 'Waterside' area of the Chess. These include: Cannon Mill and Amy Mill in historic urban character areas 13 and 14 respectively

6.4 Scheduled Monuments

There is one scheduled monument of the Bowl barrow known as 'the rolling pin' which has been the subject of a geophysical survey and evaluation by CVHAS. Further research is needed to ascertain whether the monument is a prehistoric tumuli or a post medieval prospect mound for the Lowndes Park. There are presently no recommendations for designating other sites or monuments in Chesham as scheduled monuments.

7 Research Agenda

Prehistoric

- To investigate the potential for early prehistoric settlement (Mesolithic to Bronze Age) in and around the town as indicated by Chesham Bowls Club and Stratford Yard. Consideration of possible preservation beneath alluvium or colluvium on the valley floor or sides.
- To ascertain whether the 'rolling pin' is an authentic tumuli. Was this part of a wider Bronze Age cemetery?
- Does the network of trackways fanning out from Chesham have pre-medieval origins?

Roman

- A reappraisal of the Romano British finds in the St Germain's area. What was the nature of this site and is there any further surviving evidence? How does this possible settlement fit in with the Roman landscape of the Chiltern valleys? Does the 'caester' placename indicate a more important Roman settlement than has hitherto been appreciated?

Anglo Saxon

- Chesham was a late Saxon royal manor yet its location is uncertain. The primary objective must be to locate and characterise this settlement. Is there evidence for an Anglo Saxon settlement at along Church Lane and St Mary's Church?
- Is there evidence for an early medieval church at the site of St Mary's?

Medieval

- Establish the date at which properties fronting on to the High Street were laid out? Is the pattern different on the east and west sides? Are there differences in function and/or status between the north and south sides?
- Can archaeological evidence be found of medieval crafts, trades and industries pre-dating the 16th century documentary evidence?
- Do Chesham's post-medieval buildings retain as yet unrecognised medieval elements?
- Is there any evidence for a second church at Chesham?
- Chesham has a long history of milling and water management. Further work could be undertaken to determine the origins and development of the mills, the extent of mill ponds and location of mill leets along the Chess. There is also the possibility of identifying the location of ancillary industrial sites for the fulling industry as well as industrial or water management features elsewhere in the town.

Post Medieval

- A more in depth study/investigation into the history of Chesham's industries in the post medieval period in particular the leather, cloth and paper making industries in from 17th to 19th centuries.
- Can we identify an archaeology related to the 16th/17th century non-conformity in Chesham?
- Is there any archaeological evidence of Chesham's post medieval industries?

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Abbreviations

BGS	British Geological Survey
CBS	Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HLC	Historic Landscape Characterisation
OD	Ordnance Datum
OS	Ordnance Survey

8 Addresses

Name	Address	Contact Details
Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service.	Buckinghamshire County Council, County Hall, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP22 1UY	Tel. 01296-382072
English Heritage South East Region	English Heritage, Eastgate Court, 195-205 High Street, GUILDFORD, Surrey GU1 3EH	Tel. 01483 252000
Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society	Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society County Museum, Church Street Aylesbury, HP20 2QP	Website: www.bucksas.org.uk
South Bucks District Council	Conservation & Design South Bucks District Council, Capswood, Oxford Road, Denham. Bucks, UB9 4LH	Tel. 01895 837 200

1 Appendix: Chronology & Glossary of Terms

1.1 Chronology (taken from Unlocking Buckinghamshire's Past Website)

For the purposes of this study the period divisions correspond to those used by the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Historic Environment Records.

Broad Period	Chronology	Specific periods	
Prehistoric	10,000 BC – AD 43	Palaeolithic Mesolithic Neolithic Bronze Age Iron Age	Pre 10,000 BC 10,000 – 4000 BC 4000 – 2350 BC 2350 – 700 BC 700 BC – AD 43
Roman	AD 43 – AD 410	Roman Expedition by Julius Caesar	55 BC
Saxon	AD 410 – 1066	First recorded Viking raids	AD 789
Medieval	1066 – 1536	Battle of Hastings – Norman Conquest	1066
		Wars of the Roses – Start of Tudor period	1485
		Built Environment: Medieval	Pre 1536
Post Medieval	1536 – 1800	Dissolution of the Monasteries	1536 and 1539
		Civil War	1642-1651
		Built Environment: Post Medieval	1536-1850
		Built Environment: Later Post Medieval	1700-1850
		Victorian Period	1837-1901
Modern	1800 - Present	World War I	1914-1918
		World War II	1939-1945
		Cold War	1946-1989
		Built Environment: Early Modern	1850-1945
		Built Environment: Post War period	1945-1980
		Built Environment: Late modern-21 st Century	Post 1980

1.2 Glossary of Terms

Terms	Definition
Assemblage	A set of objects such as pottery or bone, found in association with one another.
Charter (market)	Official charter granted by the sovereign to legitimise a corporate body such as a borough or to grant rights to a percentage of the revenue from a market or fair to a private individual
Conservation Area	An area of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance (Planning Act 1990)
Domesday	Rapid survey of the agricultural estates and manorial holdings for England. Produced in 1086 for William the Conqueror following the Norman Conquest.
Enclosure Award	Acts of Parliament were introduced to enclose (erect fencing) open fields and commons. Main period of enclosure by Act was 1750-1860, carried out on a parish basis.
Evaluation	Archaeological evaluation is made up of a number of different techniques that are tailored to assess the archaeological potential of a site, often before planning permission is given. Evaluation usually involves one or more processes from the following: desk based assessment, test-pitting, fieldwalking, geophysical survey, topographical survey or trial trenching,
Excavation	Archaeological investigation whereby below ground deposits are uncovered, recorded and either removed or preserved in situ. Ultimately destructive.
Find spot	Location where a specific artefact was found
Local Development Framework	Spatial Planning Strategy organised by local government
Lollardy	Political and religious movement in the 14 th century opposed to the Catholic church,

	in particular it refers to those that followed the teaching of John Wycliffe of Oxford in the mid 14 th century. Also referred to as heretics
Manor	An official manor is based around a unit of jurisdiction rather than a geographical area and can include small sections of land spread across a parish, or several parishes. Typically a manor requires a lordship in possession of a coat of arms and who must hold a court for the manor. Can date from I to modern period.
Manor [Reputed]	Unofficial manor held as freehold by someone not in possession of a coat of arms (i.e. does not have a title) and who does not have the authority to hold a manorial court. Usually date to medieval period or later.
'Metroland'	Term used for new towns and suburbs around London that were built in the early 20 th century and originally served by the Metropolitan Railway line – this term is applicable to much of Buckinghamshire, particularly in the south
Non conformism	Religious movement from the later 16 th century onwards opposed to the Anglican Church installed by Henry VIII. Includes Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Baptists and Quakers
Ridge-and-furrow	Ridge and furrow is the term used to describe the earthen banks and troughs that are created through the action of prolonged ploughing. The action of the plough caused earth to build up in regularly spaced banks along the length of the field
St Neots Pottery	Fabric or type of pottery dating to early medieval period, named after St Neots, Cambs. where it originates from (11 th -13 th centuries)
Trial Trenching	Trial-trenching refers to the archaeological sampling of a site before planning permission is given to determine the presence, date, geographical spread and condition of any buried archaeological remains in order to decide whether further archaeological investigation needs to happen after planning permission is given and what form this will take
Manor	An official manor is based around a unit of jurisdiction rather than a geographical area and can include small sections of land spread across a parish, or several parishes. Typically a manor requires a lordship in possession of a coat of arms and who must hold a court for the manor. Can date from Saxon to modern period.
Turnpike Trust	Essentially the privatisation of stretches of roads by Act of Parliament whereby the Trust was charged with the proper maintenance and repair of their allotted road and in return they constructed toll gates and houses along the route to charge travellers.
Watching Brief	A watching brief is the term applied to the task of monitoring non-archaeological work (construction/demolition/quarrying) in order to record and/or preserve any archaeological remains that may be disturbed

2 Appendix: HER Records

2.1 Monuments HER Report

HER No.	Name	NGR	Period	Summary
0007600000	Emmanuel church	SP 96210 02240	1600-1799	pottery kilns in allotment next to Emmanuel church
0007601000	Emmanuel church	SP 96210 02240	1600-1699	pottery kiln suggested by finds of pottery sherds found in trench
0007602000	Emmanuel church	SP 96210 02240	1600-1799	pottery kiln suggested by ceramics found in trench in allotment
0007602001	Emmanuel church	SP 96210 02240	1600-1699	Seventeenth century pottery wasters found in trench in allotment
0007602002	Emmanuel church	SP 96210 02240	1600-1699	Seventeenth century pit found in trench in allotment
0007604000	Emmanuel church	SP 96210 02240	1500-1699	Two sixteenth to seventeenth century pottery kilns found in trenches
0007605000	Emmanuel church	SP 96210 02240	Post Medieval	Post-medieval yard and possible post-hole seen in trenches
0175900000	107 Latimer Rd	SP 97400 00500	Roman	Possible Roman cemetery disturbed in building works on Latimer Road
0175900001	Weirhouse Mill	SP 97500 00500	Roman	Possible Roman villa at Weirhouse Mill
0176600000	Chesham Higham Manor	SP 97390 00260	Medieval-Post medieval	Documentary records of medieval and post-medieval mill.
0176601001	Weirhouse Mill	SP 97390 00260	1700-1799	Historic records of mill being used as a papermill and a cornmill
0183100000	Cannon Mill	SP 96950 00390	Medieval-Modern	Historical records of medieval to twentieth century Cannon Mill
0183200001	Lord's Mill	SP 96460 00720	Medieval-Modern	Medieval to twentieth century records of Lord's Mill
0183400000	Weedons Almshouses	SP 96110 01250	1600-1699	Seventeenth century Weedon's Almshouses
0183700000	The Balks	SP 9624 0129	Medieval	Surviving earthworks of cultivation terraces
0183800000	The Broadway	SP 95970 01740	Post Medieval	Site of pound, stocks and pillory, demolished 19th century
0184200001	Amy Mill	SP 96070 01030	1500-1599	Sixteenth century records that Amy Mill was a fulling mill
0184200002	Canada or Bois Mill	SP 96105 01050	1800-1899	Nineteenth century records of Canada or Bois watermill
0184300000	4 Blucher St	SP 95912 01758	1600-1899	Site of house on Blucher Street with extension, now demolished
0184301000	Star Inn, Blucher St	SP 95918 01756	1600-1899	Site of Star Inn on Blucher Street, now demolished.
0184400000	Eliot or Bois Mill	SU 98400 99370	Medieval-Modern	Medieval to nineteenth century records of Elliot or Bios watermill
0184401000	Eliot or Bois Mill	SU 98400 99370	1700-1799	Eliot or Bois mill used as papermill in the eighteenth century
0184402000	Bois Mill	SU 98400 99370	1500-1599	Sixteenth century records that Bois Mill used as a fulling mill
0184500000	Lowndes Park	SP 9547 0178	Late Prehistoric	possibly a prehistoric round barrow or a post-medieval garden feature
0184600000	Chesham Leicester	SP 95660 01610	Medieval-Modern	Historical records of Chesham Leicester manor
0184601000	Chesham Leicester	SP 95660 01610	1500-1899	Historical records of vicarage at Chesham Leicester
0184602000	Lowndes Park	SP 95660 01610	13th Century-Post medieval	Possible site of medieval and post-medieval park in Lowndes Park
0184700000	Chesham Woburn	SP 95806 01201	1200-1599	Thirteenth to sixteenth century records of Chesham Woburn manor

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

0184701000	Chesham Woburn	SP 9580 0120	1400-1499	Fifteenth century records of church in Chesham Woburn manor
0184702000	Chesham Woburn	SP 9580 0120	1066-1799	Possibly two vicarages in Chesham Woburn Manor
0184802000	Market Square	SP 95924 01475	Medieval	possibly the site of market known from historic records.
0187500000	Stratford's Yard	SP 95980 01450	Mesolithic-Late Neolithic	artefacts found in excavation at Stratford's Yard
0187501000	Stratford's Yard	SP 95981 01465	1500-1599	Sixteenth century house at Stratford's Yard, now demolished
0187504000	Stratford's Yard	SP 95982 01458	Late Mesolithic	Possible Late Mesolithic settlement found in excavation
0190400000	Wright's Mill	SP 95690 01350	Roman	Roman settlement and medieval building found in excavation
0190402000	Wright's Mill	SP 95690 01350	13th-14th Century	Thirteenth to fourteenth century house found in excavation
0191402000	The Bury	SP 9562 0148	1100-1199	Twelfth century records of a watermill at The Bury
0191403000	The Bury	SP 9562 0148	Undated	Possible cemetery of unknown date
0191500000	Rackleys	SP 95620 12000	Roman	Roman rubbish pit found digging at Rackleys
0191600000	Dawes Close	SP 95690 01370	Undated	400 Roman pottery sherds found in building works at Dawes Close
0191600001	Dawes Close	SP 95600 01300	Roman	Possible villa or settlement site suggested by finds of pottery
0220200000	Blackwell Mill	SU 98000 99680	1200-1899	records of watermill, making paper by the nineteenth century
0263701000	Parish	SP 96000 02000	1066-1798	Medieval to post-medieval records of two watermills in Chesham manor
0415900000	Thorne Manor	SP 9715 0460	Post Medieval	History of post-medieval manor of The Thorne, later Thorne Barton.
0419000000	Blackwell Hall	SU 9815 9966	Medieval-Post medieval	Medieval to post-medieval records of Blackwell Manor
0419002000	Blackwell Hall, gardens	SU 9815 9966	Undated	Possible cemetery or burial of unknown date known from human bones
0420300000	White Hill school	SP 96200 01800	16th Century	Site of stake where Thomas Harding was burned as a heretic in 1532
0420401000	Codmore Farm	SP 97100 02380	1600-1699	Seventeenth century timber-framed barn at Codmore Farm
0420402000	Codmore Farm	SP 97100 02380	1600-1699	Seventeenth century stable at Codmore Farm
0443300000	Windmill, Lacey Green	SP 960 020	1600-1699	Unlocated original site of windmill, moved to Lacey Green in 1821.
0465700000	1 Blucher Street	SP 95926 01775	Medieval	Medieval great hall survives in later brickwork of 1 Blucher Street
0465701000	1 Blucher Street	SP 95926 01775	1500-1599	gatehouse hidden behind nineteenth century façade
0515700000	Paynes Mill	SP 96000 02000	1200-1399	records of a corn and fulling mill called Paynes Mill
0516400000	Brockhurst Brickworks	SP 9752 0299	1900-1999	Twentieth century records of Brockhurst brickworks
0556801000	Friends Meeting House	SP 95915 01944	1700-1799	Eighteenth century record of cemetery at Friend's Meeting House
0556900000	Particular Baptist Chapel	SP 96040 01370	1700-1945	Eighteenth to nineteenth century Particular Baptist Chapel
0556901000	Particular Baptist Chapel	SP 96040 01370	1700-1945	cemetery attached to the Particular Baptist Chapel
0557000000	Chapel, Red Lion St	SP 96045 01380	1700-1899	site of the Baptist Chapel on Red Lion Street
0557001000	Baptist Chapel (general)	SP 96045 01380	1700-1899	site of Baptist Chapel cemetery on Red Lion Street
0568201000	East Street	SP 95983 01468	Mesolithic-Late Neolithic	Three natural features created in the Mesolithic or Neolithic period
0575300000	Brockhurst Farm	SP 97580 02810	1700-1799	Eighteenth century rubbish dump found after topsoil stripping for water

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

				main
0802500000	Nalders Road allotments	SP 96676 02400	1600-1699	Possible site of a pottery and tile kiln, indicated by finds
0803700000	Chessvale Bowling Club	SP 96030 01596	Early Bronze Age	Prehistoric flint and Middle Bronze Age pottery and pits
0818400000	Pednor Bottom	SP 95038 01886	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown on maps at Pednor Bottom
0818500000	N Broadview Farm	SP 95795 04014	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown north of Broadview Farm
0818600000	Francis Wood	SP 96516 03895	pre 19th Century	Two chalk pits shown on nineteenth century maps in Francis Wood
0818700000	Francis Wood	SP 96428 03575	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown on nineteenth century maps Francis Wood
0818800000	Francis Wood	SP 96486 03657	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown on nineteenth century maps in Francis Wood
0819000000	E Long Grove	SP 94384 02764	1800-1899	Chalk pit shown on nineteenth century maps east of Long Grove
0819100000	Lowndes Park	SP 95323 01827	1800-1899	Chalk pit shown on maps in Lowndes Park
0819200000	Hivings Hill	SP 95568 02896	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown on nineteenth century maps on Hiving's Hill
0819300000	Little Spring School	SP 95751 03360	pre 19th Century	Gravel pit shown on nineteenth century maps at Little Spring School
0819400000	SW Dungle Farm	SP 96533 01380	pre 19th Century	Extractive pit shown on maps south-west of Dungle Farm
0819500000	S The Denes	SP 96903 02507	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown on maps south of The Denes
0819600000	Lycrome Wood	SP 97010 03156	pre 19th Century	Extractive pit shown on maps in Lycrome Wood
0819700000	N Hill Farm Plantation	SP 97112 01417	pre 19th Century	Extractive pit shown on maps north of Hill Farm Plantation
0819800000	Manor Way	SP 96959 02439	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown on nineteenth century maps on Manor Way
0819900000	Chalk Dell	SP 97489 00518	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown on nineteenth and twentieth century maps at Chalk Dell
0820000000	Hollybush Wood	SP 97495 01945	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown on nineteenth century maps Hollybush Wood
0820100000	Chalk Quarry S Bois Mill	SU 98401 99241	pre 19th Century	Chalk pit shown on maps south of Bois Mill
0929800000	opposite brideside house	SP 96330 04027	1900-1999	Site of former extractive pit on maps opposite Bridleside House
0944300000	Chesham Gas Works	SP 96342 01109	1847-1976	Site of gasworks, demolished in 1960s and 1970s.
0968100000	Pednor Rd	SP 95181 01675	Undated	Watercress Beds, W of Pednor Road, Bury, approx. 100m x 30m
0968200000	Lake at The Bury	SP 95459 01500	Undated	Landscaped lake, probably former mill pond.
0968300000	Bury Mill	SP 95654 01432	Undated	Approximate location of Bury Mill
0968400000	Watercress Beds	SP 95512 01307	Undated	Watercress Beds adjacent to tennis courts
0968600000	Disused watercress beds	SP 96785 00439	Undated	Disused watercress beds S of Rover Chess
0968700000	Watercress beds	SP 97128 00313	Undated	Watercress beds S of RiverChess
0977300000	Chesham Station	SP 96070 01630	Undated	Chesham Railway Station

2.2 Landscapes HER Reports

HER No.	Name	NGR	Period	Summary
0651500000	Great Germaines	SP 9570 0116	19th Century to 21st Century	The first edition 6" OS map shows unclear land boundaries. Possible parkland to the west of the house. Possible formal garden. Modern AP's show hardly any detail: it would seem that a lot of the parkland has been developed but there may still be some form
0651600000	Lowndes Park (formerly the Bury)	SP 9559 0152	18th Century to 21st Century	Started life in 1712 as The Bury, in 179 it was bought by the Lowndes family with adjoining parkland. The first edition 6" OS map shows terracing, possible formal gardens, a large lake and lots of parkland, called Chesham Park. Now a municipal park. Modern
0651700000	Cemetery, New Town	SP 9604 0243	19th Century to 21st Century	Mentioned by Sheahan, opened in 1858 he says the grounds are tastefully laid out. Only one of the two chapels survive. 1:10000 map shows that the grounds have been extended, buildings have encroached all around the cemetery now so there is no chance for finds.
0419004000	Blackwell Hall	SU 98067 99761	19th Century	The first edition 6" OS map shows gardens and a small area of parkland adjacent to the river Chess. Recent AP's show no major change to the layout but very little detail (B5).

2.3 Find Spots

HER	Grid Ref	Location	Period	Details
0007601001	SP 96210 02240	Emmanuel church	17th-19th Century	pottery found in trench in allotment
0007602003	SP 96210 02240	Emmanuel church	17th-18th Century	kiln furniture found in trench in allotment
0007602005	SP 96210 02240	Emmanuel church	17th Century	pottery wasters found in trench in allotment
0007603000	SP 96210 02240	Emmanuel church	Post Medieval/Modern	pottery fragments found in trench in allotment
0007604001	SP 96210 02240	Emmanuel church	16th-17th Century	pottery wasters found in trenches
0018201000	SP 95870 01150	Thomas Harding School	Mesolithic	flint scraper found on ground surface
0018202000	SP 95870 01150	Thomas Harding School	Mesolithic	Two flint flakes and four blades found on ground surface
0124000001	SP 94600 01400	Lower Hundridge Farm	Early Iron Age	pottery sherd found on the surface of a field
0124000002	SP 94600 01400	Lower Hundridge Farm	13th-14th Century	pottery sherds found on the surface of a field
0124000003	SP 94600 01400	Lower Hundridge Farm	17th-18th Century	pottery found on the surface of a field
0124001001	SP 94600 01400	Lower Hundridge Farm	Undated	Slag of unknown date found on the surface of a field
0124001002	SP 94600 01400	Lower Hundridge Farm	Mesolithic	Five flint flakes found on the surface of a field
0124001003	SP 94600 01400	Lower Hundridge Farm	Medieval	pottery sherds found on the surface of a field
0124001004	SP 94600 01400	Lower Hundridge Farm	Roman	pottery sherd found on the surface of a field
0124002000	SP 94600 01400	Lower Hundridge Farm	13th-14th Century	pottery sherds found on the surface of a field
0175600000	SP 96900 03400	Nashleigh Hill	Palaeolithic	Palaeolithic handaxe found in excavations on Nashleigh Hill

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

0175801000	SP 98300 01800	Cowcroft Wood	Mesolithic	Mesolithic tranchet axehead found at the edge of Cowcroft Wood
0175802000	SP 98300 01800	Cowcroft Wood	Mesolithic	Mesolithic flint core found at the edge of Cowcroft Wood
0175803000	SP 98300 01800	Cowcroft Wood	Mesolithic	Four Mesolithic flint flakes found at the edge of Cowcroft Wood
0175901000	SP 87400 00500	107 Latimer Rd	Roman	Human remains of found disturbed in building works on Latimer Road
0175902000	SP 97400 00500	107 Latimer Rd	Roman	pottery fragment found disturbed in building works on Latimer Road
0175903000	SP 97400 00500	107 Latimer Rd	Roman	Three Roman pottery sherds found in garden on Latimer Road
0183300000	SP 96000 02000	Parish	Late Iron Age	Late Iron Age metalwork found in Chesham
0183500000	SP 96000 02000	Parish	Roman	Roman and Greek metalwork found in Chesham
0183501000	SP 96000 02000	Parish	Roman	Roman metalwork found in Chesham
0183502000	SP 96000 02000	Parish	Roman	Roman period metalwork found in Chesham
0183600000	SP 95970 01740	1 The Broadway	Roman	Roman metalwork found in Chesham
0184900000	SP 95740 01210	75 Fullers Hill	Roman	Roman metalwork found in garden on Fullers Hill
0185000000	SP 95900 01150	Cermains Cottages	Roman	Roman pottery sherds found opposite Germain Cottages
0185100000	SP 95940 01510	1 High St	Roman	Roman pottery sherds found on the High Street
0185200000	SP 95800 01800	Blucher St	Roman	Roman pottery sherds found on Blucher Street
0185300000	SP 95930 01785	1 Blucher St	Roman	Roman metalwork found on Blucher Street
0187501001	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	16th Century	Sixteenth century staircase from house
0187502000	SP 95980 01450	Stratford's Yard	Neolithic-Bronze Age	pottery beaker found digging foundations in the nineteenth century
0187502001	SP 95900 01500	Parish	Bronze Age	Early Bronze Age barbed and tanged arrowhead found in Chesham
0187502002	SP 95900 01500	Parish	Bronze Age	Bronze Age bone pin found in Chesham
0187503001	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Twenty-three Mesolithic to Neolithic flint microliths found in excavation
0187503002	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Five Mesolithic to Neolithic flint scrapers found in excavation
0187503003	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Two Mesolithic to Neolithic flint blades found in excavation
0187503004	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Two Mesolithic to Neolithic flint knives found in excavation
0187503005	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Mesolithic or Neolithic flint axehead found during excavation.
0187503006	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Three Mesolithic to Neolithic axe trimming flakes found in excavation
0187503007	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	1227 Mesolithic to Neolithic flint blades found in excavation
0187503008	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	2405 Mesolithic to Neolithic flint flakes found in excavation
0187503009	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Sixteen notched flint blades and flakes found in excavation
0187503010	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Fifteen Mesolithic to Neolithic flint microburins found in excavation
0187503011	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Twenty-five Mesolithic to Neolithic flint cores found in excavation
0187503012	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Six Mesolithic to Neolithic flakes of core debitage found in excavation
0187503013 -	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Mesolithic to Neolithic trimming flakes found in excavation

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

0187503014	SP 95981 01465	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Mesolithic to Neolithic animal remains found in excavation
0187503015	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Neolithic	Neolithic pottery sherds found in excavation
0187504001	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Twenty-eight Late Mesolithic flint microliths found in excavation
0187504002	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Late Mesolithic flint awl found in excavation
0187504003	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Four Late Mesolithic axe trimming flint flakes found in excavation
0187504004	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	966 Late Mesolithic flint blades and flakes found in excavation
0187504005	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Nine Late Mesolithic notched flint blades and flakes found in excavation
0187504006	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Eleven Late Mesolithic flint microburins found in excavation
0187504007	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Twenty-three Late Mesolithic flint cores found in excavation
0187504008	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Late Mesolithic flint trimming flakes found in excavation
0187504009	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Late Mesolithic burnt flints found in excavation
0187504010	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Late Mesolithic animal remains found in excavation
0187504011	SP 95982 01458	Stratford's Yard	Mesolithic	Late Mesolithic plant remains found in excavation
0190401001	SP 95690 01350	Wright's Mill	Roman	107 sherds of Roman pottery found in excavation at Wright's Mill
0190402001	SP 95690 01350	Wright's Mill	13th-14th Century	Thirteenth to fourteenth century pottery found in excavation
0190601000	SP 95750 01190	Bilson's Yard	2nd Century	Second century pottery found in watching brief at Bilson's Yard
0190602000	SP 95700 01190	Bilson's Yard	Medieval	Medieval pottery sherds found in watching brief at Bilson's Yard
0190800000	SP 946 029	Chartridge Lane	Roman	Roman metalwork found on Chartridge Lane
0191301001	SP 95630 01247	14 Germain's Close	Roman	Roman pottery found in back gardens
0191301002	SP 95630 01247	14 Germain's Close	Medieval	Medieval pottery found in back gardens
0191301003	SP 95630 01247	14 Germain's Close	Post Medieval	Post-medieval pottery found in back gardens
0191302001	SP 9563 0124	15 Germain's Close	Roman	Roman pottery found in back gardens
0191302002	SP 95630 01247	15 Germain's Close	Roman	Roman tile found in back gardens
0191302003	SP 95630 01247	15 Germain's Close	Medieval	Twenty-one sherds of medieval pottery found in back gardens
0191302004	SP 9563 0124	15 Germain's Close	Post Medieval	Post-medieval clay pipe fragment found in back gardens
0191500001	SP 95620 12000	Rackleys	Roman	Roman pottery sherds found
0191500002	SP 95620 12000	Rackleys	Roman	Roman pottery sherds found
0191500003	SP 95620 12000	Rackleys	Roman	Roman Samian ware pottery sherds found
0191500004	SP 95620 12000	Rackleys	Roman	Roman pottery sherds found
0191500005	SP 95620 12000	Rackleys	Undated	Animal bones of unknown date found
0191500006	SP 95620 12000	Rackleys	Undated	Metalwork of unknown date found.
0191500007	SP 95620 12000	Rackleys	Medieval	Medieval pottery sherds found
0191500008	SP 95620 12000	Rackleys	Medieval/Post Medieval	Medieval to post-medieval metalwork found

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

0214400000	SP 95898 01799	Library	Palaeolithic	Palaeolithic flint handaxe found in spoil from building of new library
0293000000	SP 96000 02000	Parish	Bronze Age	Bronze Age metalwork possibly found in Chesham
0419002001	SU 9815 9966	Blackwell Hall, Garden	Undated	Metalwork of unknown date dug up in the nineteenth century
0467600000	SP 98100 02300	Botley House	Medieval	Medieval metalwork found at Botley House
0495400000	SP 97800 02600	Crabtree Farm	Neolithic	Five Neolithic flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey
0495500000	SP 97900 02600	Crabtree Farm	Neolithic	Seven Neolithic flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey
0495600000	SP 97600 02300	Crabtree Farm	Neolithic	Neolithic artefacts scatter found in fieldwalking survey
0495601000	SP 97600 02300	Crabtree Farm	Neolithic	Neolithic flint scraper found in fieldwalking survey
0495602000	SP 9761 0232	Crabtree Farm	Neolithic	Twenty-one Neolithic flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey
0495603000	SP 9761 0232	Crabtree Farm	Neolithic	Retouched Neolithic flint flake found in fieldwalking survey
0545200001	SP 98120 01790	Tyler's Hill	17th Century	Seventeenth century pottery vessel found in the nineteenth century
0545200002	SP 98120 01790	Tyler's Hill	16th-17th Century	metalwork found in the nineteenth century
0545200003	SP 98120 01790	Tyler's Hill	Medieval/Post Medieval	Medieval to post-medieval pottery found in the eighteenth century
0568201001	SP 95983 01468	East Street	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Mesolithic or Neolithic flint flakes found in excavation
0568201002	SP 95983 01468	East Street	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Mesolithic or Neolithic burnt flint found in excavation
0568201003	SP 95983 01468	East Street	Mesolithic/Neolithic	Mesolithic or Neolithic animal bone found in excavation
0568201004	SP 95983 01468	East Street	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age pottery sherds found in excavation
0575400000	SP 97630 03370	Lycrome Road, Lye Green	Medieval	pottery found after topsoil stripping for watermain
0590900000	SP 96000 02000	Parish	Palaeolithic	Palaeolithic flint handaxe found in Chesham

2.4 Listed Buildings

EH	Grade	NGR	Address	Period	Grid Ref
-394459	II	SP 95624 01478	The Bury	1716	Country House & summerhouse
-394457	II	SP 95892 01484	4, 4A Church St	1567-1599	Timber Framed Building
-394456	II	SP 95778 01481	44 Church St	1600-1699	Timber Framed House
-394455	II	SP 95775 01476	46 & 48 Church St	1500-1599	Timber Framed House
-394454	II	SP 95772 01471	50 & 52 Church St	1600-1699	Brick House
-394453	II*	SP 95757 01462	54 & 56 Church St	1300-1399	Timber Framed House
-394452	II	SP 95762 01447	Lindley House	1733-1766	Brick House
-394450	II	SP 95732 01438	66 , 68 Church St	1600-1699	Brick House
-394448	II	SP 95715 01430	70-74 Church St	1550-1699	Brick House
-394447	II	SP 95703 01418	76 & 78 Church St	1732	Brick House
-394446	II	SP 95695 01409	80 Church St	1732	Brick House

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

-394445	II	SP 95689 01401	84 & 86 Church St	1800-1832	Brick House
-394444	II	SP 95667 01382	88-102 Church St	1700-1799	Brick House
-394443	II	SP 95664 01376	104-108 Church St	1700-1799	Brick House
-394442	II	SP 95657 01366	110 Church St	1700-1799	Brick House
-394441	II	SP 95651 01344	114 & 116 Church St	1767-1799	Timber Framed House
-394440	II	SP 95643 01333	Queens Head	1800-1866	Brick public house
-394439	II	SP 95627 01310	1a Wey Lane	1700-1732	Rendered House
-394434	II	SP 95745 01478	63 Church St	1600-1699	Brick House
-394433	II	SP 95622 01377	109 Church St	1733-1766	Timber Framed House
-394432	II	SP 95633 01371	111 Church St	1500-1599	Timber Framed Building
-394431	II	SP 95619 01330	2-6 Pednormead End	1600-1632	Timber Framed House
-394430	II	SP 95613 01327	3 & 5 Missenden Rd	1800-1899	Flint & rubble house
-394429	I	SP 95665 01522	St Mary's Church	1066-1540	Parish Church
-394427	II	SP 95743 01519	The Vicarage	1767	Brick vicarage
-394407	II	SP 95892 01512	9 Church St	1550-1699	Timber Framed Building
820, 1, 10001	II	SP 95944 01120	The Cottage	1750-1790	Flint police station
820, 1, 204	II	SP 95785 01492	42 Church St	1767-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 229	II	SP 95738 01472	65-69 Church St	1600-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 230	II	SP 95731 01466	71 & 73 Church St	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 231	II	SP 95629 01357	113, 115 Church St	1500-1599	Timber Framed Building
820, 1, 233	II	SP 95707 01186	Germain's Lodge	1600-1699	Timber Framed Building
820, 1, 234	II	SP 95872 01363	21 Germain St	1600-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 235	II	SP 95822 01316	33 Germain St	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 236	II	SP 95752 01218	73-77 Fullers Hill	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 237	II	SP 95737 01202	79, 81 Fullers Hill	1833-1866	Brick House
820, 1, 238	II	SP 95915 01390	16 & 18 Germain St	1800-1832	Brick House
820, 1, 264	II	SP 95992 01408	1-3 Hyatts Yard	1530-1570	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 265	II	SP 95918 01264	Anne's Cottage	1650-1799	Flint & rubble house
820, 1, 275	II	SP 95947 01462	9 Market Square	1800-1899	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 276	II	SP 95935 01479	13 Market Square	1600-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 277	II	SP 95943 01484	15 Market Square	1550-1699	Stucco house
820, 1, 283	II	SP 95622 01310	1, 4 & 6 Missenden Rd	1767-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 294	II	SP 95613 01338	10 Pednormead End	1600-1632	Timber Framed House

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

820, 1, 295	II	SP 95609 01345	12 & 14 Pednormead End	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 297	II	SP 95952 01438	6 Red Lion St	1800-1866	Brick House
820, 1, 298	II	SP 95959 01440	8 & 10 Red Lion St	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 2B	II	SP 95705 01456	South Lodge, The Bury	1700-1799	Brick gate lodge
820, 1, 300	II	SP 95978 01413	18 Red Lion St	1550-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 301	II	SP 95982 01410	22 & 24 Red Lion St	1800-1866	Stucco house
820, 1, 350	II	SP 95910 01458	10 Market Square	1800-1899	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 351	II	SP 95903 01464	12-16 Market Square	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 352	II	SP 95895 01480	18 & 20 Market Square	1700-1799	Timber Framed Building
820, 1, 353	II	SP 95610 01364	113 Church St, barn	1600-1699	Timber Framed Barn
820, 1, 77	II	SP 95948 01459	7 Market Square	1700-1799	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 78A	II	SP 95944 01476	11 Market Square	1900-1973	Timber Framed Building
820, 1, 78B	II	SP 95936 01488	17 Market Square	1550-1699	Stucco house
820, 1, 78C	II	SP 95904 01452	8 Market Square	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 80	II	SP 95952 01438	4 Red Lion St	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 1, 84	II	SP 95901 01430	1 Germain St	1700-1799	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 85	II	SP 95856 01353	25 & 27 Germain St	1600-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 86	II	SP 95901 01430	35 & 37 Germain St	1600-1699	Timber Framed Building, workhouse & school
820, 1, 87	II	SP 95922 01395	10-14 Germain St	1600-1699	Brick House
820, 1, 88	II	SP 95878 01299	The Meades	1800-1832	Brick House
820, 1, 89	II	SP 95812 01269	58 Germain St	1550-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 90	II	SP 95792 01247	66, 70-76 Germain St	1500-1599	Timber Framed House
820, 1, 94	II*	SP 95696 01163	Great Germaines	1066-1540	Timber Framed House
820, 2, 218	II	SP 95929 01769	1 Blucher St	1500-1599	Timber Framed Building
820, 2, 220	II	SP 95773 01540	4-9 Bury Lane	1767-1799	Brick House
820, 2, 269	II	SP 95911 01505	2 Lacey's Yard	1600-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 2, 290	II	SP 95798 01833	1 & 2 Park Rd	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 2, 292	II	SP 95790 01834	3 & 4 Park Rd	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 2, 315	II	SP 95778 01510	53-57 Church St	1700-1799	Timber Framed House
820, 2, 321	II	SP 95589 01511	Stables, The Bury	1700-1799	Brick stable & outbuilding
820, 2, 325	II	SP 95726 01543	Lowndes Park, gate piers	1700-1732	Brick gate pier
820, 2, 328	II	SP 95910 01937	Quaker Meeting House	1700-1799	Friends Meeting House
820, 2, 332	II	SP 95680 01919	1 Little Chartridge Court	1600-1699	Timber Framed Barn
820, 2, 353	II	SP 95960 01522	1 Francis Yard	1600-1699	Timber Framed Building

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

820, 2, 3A	II	SP 95747 01501	The Vicarage, gate piers	1700-1732	Brick gate piers
820, 2, 3B	II	SP 95734 01536	The Vicarage, annexe house	1667-1699	Brick outbuilding
820, 2, 45	II	SP 95982 01620	33, 33A & 33B High St	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 2, 49	II	SP 95962 01577	23 & 23A High St	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 2, 50	II	SP 95956 01576	21 High St	1550-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 2, 52	II	SP 95942 01524	7 High St	1550-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 2, 53	II	SP 95944 01511	3 & 5 High St	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 2, 63	II	SP 95959 01630	42 & 44 High St	1700-185	Timber Framed House
820, 2, 67	II	SP 95923 01570	18 High St	1667-1699	Brick House
820, 2, 68	II	SP 95913 01564	16 High St	1834	Brick House
820, 2, 69	II	SP 95909 01540	14A High St	1700-1732	Brick inn
820, 2, 72	II	SP 95914 01516	8 & 10 High St	1667-1699	Brick House
820, 2, 73	II	SP 95914 01511	4 & 6 High St	1667-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 2, 96	II	SP 95678 01914	Chapman's Farm	1700-1799	Brick farmhouse
820, 3, 256	II	SP 96000 01727	69, 71 , 73 Broadway	1550-1699	Timber Framed Building
820, 3, 258	II	SP 96034 01801	83, 85 & 87 High St	1700-1799	Timber Framed House
820, 3, 41	II	SP 96038 01772	Post Office	1600-1699	Stucco building
820, 3, 54	II	SP 96016 01519	Botley House	1600-1699	Stucco house
820, 3, 58	II	SP 96026 01869	132 High St	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 3, 59	II	SP 96026 01859	130 High St	1700-1799	Stone house
820, 4, 279	II	SP 96101 01161	The Minerals	1800-1832	Brick House
820, 4, 305	II	SP 96118 01250	Wedon Almshouses	1867-1899	Almshouse with pump & well
820, 4, 83	II	SP 96050 01338	The Forelands	1667-1699	Brick House
820, 5, 10000	II	SP 97323 02117	The Hen & Chicken PH	1500-1532	Open Hall House, now pub
820, 5, 111	II	SP 96442 00701	Lord's Mill Barn	1550-1699	Timber Framed Barn
820, 5, 113	II	SP 97399 00282	Weirhouse Mill	1700-1732	Brick Mill
820, 5, 114	II	SP 97421 00254	Mill house, Weirhouse Mill	1700-1799	Brick House
820, 5, 284	II	SP 96459 00716	Lord's Mill House	1567-1599	Brick House
820, 5, 286	II	SP 96436 00569	21 & 23 Moor Road	1800-1899	Flint & rubble house
820, 5, 95	II*	SP 95537 00976	Little Germaines	1520-1560	Brick House
820, 5, 95A	II	SP 95519 00969	Little Germaines, stable	1700-1799	Brick Stables
820, 5, 95B	II	SP 95549 00971	Little Germaines, railing	1700-1799	Iron railings
820, 6, 216	II	SP 94690 03350	274 & 276 Asheridge Road	1600-1699	Timber Framed House
820, 6, 217	II	SP 94617 03423	Wrens Nest	1700-1799	Brick House

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

2.5 Cruck Buildings in Chesham (Source: Vernacular Architecture Group

Address	Cruck type	Source
44 Church St	True cruck	R W Evans (BCC)
78-80 Church St	True cruck	R W Evans (BCC)

3 Appendix: Trade Listings and Population Data

Trade Directories

Artisan/trades	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Basket maker	2	2	2	1			1				1
Brush maker	1		3	1	2		4	6	10		4
Currier	2		4								
Furniture maker	3	3	9	13			18	16	18		11
Gunsmith			2					1			
Iron founder								1	2		
Jeweller			3								1
Lacemaker	2							1	1		
Mat maker									1		1
Milliner/peroke	7		11	1		2	3	4	3		2
Paper maker			1								
Patten maker	1										
Photographer							1	1	2		2
Rope/sack maker			1								
Shoe/boot maker	7	12	27	22	16	30	34	29	28		25
Silk manufacturer			2	1							
Straw hat maker			18	3		3	4	1			
Tailor			12	8	7	10	14	12	12		6
Tallow Chandler	2		1								
Tanner			4	10							
Turner			3	2		4	2	2			
Umbrella maker	3					1	2	2	1		1
Upholsterer							1		1		
Weaver									1		
Whitesmith				1		1					
TOTAL	30	17	104	63	25	51	84	76	80	0	54
Merchant/Dealer	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Bookseller	2	3	3								
Brewery	2	5	3	3		2	6		1		1
Chemist		2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3		4
Confectioner	1		3			2	6	5	11		14
Dealer	14	23	17	14		13	28	27	45		45
Dealer (animals)			2	1							
Dealer (china)			1	2		1	1	1			
Dealer (Corn/coal)	8	4	2	4	3	2	9	8	10		9
Dealer (cycle/car)								4	5		3
Dealer (timber)			2	2		1					3
Draper	6	5	6	8	6	10	17	13	20		17
Fellmonger			1	2							2
Fishmonger			2	1		1	3	2	4		3
Florist											1
Fruiter						1	1	2	2		5
Furniture dealer			7	3		4	2	1	5		1
Grocer	5	9	20	13	7	14	22	18	19		22
Ironmonger	2		3	3	2	2	2	3	4		3
Marine Store				1				1	1		1
Newspaper/printer						1		3			1
Nurserymen	3						2				1
Pawn broker			2	1		1	1	1			
Printers				1	2	2	2	2	1		4
Wharfingers								1			
Wine Merchant			2			1	1		1		1
TOTAL	41	48	75	61	22	60	105	95	132	0	141
Agric/General	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Agric Engineer									1		1
Farmer			6	21	25	33	35	20	16		18
Millwright			1								
Vet											1

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

TOTAL	0	0	7	21	25	33	35	20	17	0	20
Professional	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Accountant											2
Architect							4	2			
Auctioneer		3	2	2		2	3	3	2		3
Banker		2	1	1	1	1		2			7
Dentist							1		4		11
Solicitor	2	3	2			4	6	7	11		8
Surgeon/physician	2	3	3	1	1	4	2	4	4		11
Surveyor	4		2						1		1
Teacher			1					2	3		1
TOTAL	8	11	11	4	2	11	16	20	25	0	44
Service/Provisions	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Baker	13	16	19	11	9	14	10	9	11		5
Beer Retailer		16	20	23	10	24	25	21	18		13
Bell hanger			2			1					
Blacksmith	5	5	6	4	3	1	3	4	2		2
Brazier		3									
Bricklayer/builder	2	3	13	3	10	8	15	7	13		14
Brick/tile maker	2	2	3			2	2				
Butcher	9	13	12	8	3	6	10	7	12		9
Café				1			2	3			6
Carpenter	7	9	13	5	4	2	2	3	1		
Carrier			2	11	4	8	2	11	3		2
Chimney sweep							1	2	2		3
Coach Builder			1	1		1		1	2		1
Cooper	2		2	1							
Engineer						1	3	1			14
Gardener											2
Hairdresser	2	2	2	1		1	4	4	6		11
Hotel/Inn						2	5	4	4		2
Ind-generic						2	3	2	6		7
Ins Agent	5	4	7	12		5	2		6		7
Laundry							1		2		4
Mason				1		2	4	2	2		1
Miller	2	2	1	3	3	3	2	2	2		2
Plumber/electrician			6			3	3	4	4		3
Pub	18	17	14	20	2	23	19	21	14		14
Saddler	2	2	3	3	1	2	3	1	2		2
School	4	2	6	5	3	7	8	7	3		
Watchmaker	2			2	1	4	5	4	4		3
Wheelwright	3		4	3	2	2	1	3	2		
TOTAL	78	96	136	118	55	124	135	123	121	0	127

Population Figures

Date	P.C.†	1801	1811	1821	1831	1841	1851	1861
Population	385	1910	4441	5032	5388	5593	6098	5985
Date	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941
Population	6488	6502	8018	9005	8204	8584	8812	NA
Date	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001		
Population	11,433	16,297	20,466	NA	NA	20,357		

Population Figures taken from the following sources:

<http://www.genuki.org.uk/> for 1801-1901

Pevsner for 1921; 1951

<http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk> for 1911; 1931; 1961; 1971

buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/ for 2001

4 Appendix: Historical Consultancy Report

Background

The parish of Chesham was the largest in Buckinghamshire before its subdivision at the end of the 19th Century. The parish comprised the township of Chesham and a number of small hamlets. Chesham was not on a main highway, as was the case of neighbouring towns, but had links to these towns and its development was influenced by its proximity to London.

The ownership and descent of the manors is described in VCH.

Chesham had a number of mills, and one of its primary industries was the production of flour. The mills were also used in cloth making and paper making. A second industry was the manufacture of boots and shoes. The raw material came from the two tanneries. The town also supported lace making, straw plaiting, silk spinning and manufacturing of wooden items. These trades were common in many other Buckinghamshire towns.

The proximity of Chesham to London, and its place at the end of the Metropolitan railway contributed to its growth in the 20th century. The town grew out from the original settlement, rather than having a new focus of housing.

Medieval Records (to 1500)

Manorial records

Blackwell Hall and Mordaunts with Ashley Green

Court roll, Ashley Green only, 1355-1362 (non-consec)	CBS D/BASM 18A/1
Court rolls, Ashley Green only (3), 1368-1381 (non-consec)	CBS D/BASM 18A/2-4
Court rolls (2) (draft) (mutilated), 1400-1500 (undated)	CBS D/BASM 18A/21-22
Rental of Blackwell Hall only 1400-1500 (undated)	CBS D/BASM 18A/31
Court roll, Blackwell Hall only, 1403	CBS D/BASM 18A/5
Court roll, Blackwell Hall only, 1410-1412 (non-consec)	CBS D/BASM 18A/5
Court roll, Blackwell Hall only, 1422-1425	CBS D/BASM 18A/6
Court roll, Ashley Green only, 1425	CBS D/BASM 18A/7
Court roll, Ashley Green only, 1436	CBS D/BASM 18A/8
Court rolls, Ashley Green only (3), 1452-1459	CBS D/BASM 18A/9-11
Court roll (draft), Ashley Green only, 1459	CBS D/BASM 18A/17
Court roll (draft), Blackwell Hall only, 1460	CBS D/BASM 18A/18
Rental of Blackwell Hall and Mordaunts, 1470 (circa)	CBS D/BASM 18A/30
Court rolls, Ashley Green only (2), 1471-1474	CBS D/BASM 18A/11-12
Court roll (draft), Blackwell Hall and Ashley Green only, 1478	CBS D/BASM 18A/19
Extract of court roll of Ashley Green and Blackwell Hall, 1478	CBS D/BASM 18A/42.43
Court roll (draft), Blackwell hall and Ashley Green only, 1488	CBS D/BASM 18A/20

Chesham Bois

Rental (mutilated) attached to pannage roll of Weedon Hill, 1366-1367	CBS D/DRD/MP 42
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Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury

Accounts (fragments) (fragile), 1300-1400 (undated)	CBS D/BASM 18/359
Court rolls (11) Chesham Higham (some mutilated), 1308-1317	CBS D/BASM 18/1-11
Court rolls (83) Chesham Higham (some mutilated), 1325-1390	CBS D/BASM 18/12-94
Account roll (mutilated) (fragile), 1359 (circa)	CBS D/BASM 18/358

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Court rolls (24) Chesham Higham (some mutilated), 1400-1412	CBS D/BASM 18/95-118
Court rolls (15) Chesham Higham (some mutilated), 1418-1430	CBS D/BASM 18/119-133
Rental, with Isenhampstead Latimer, 1422	CBS D/BASM 18/360
Court rolls (15) Chesham Higham (some mutilated), 1441-1455	CBS D/BASM 18/134-148
Court book (fragile), 1461-1552	CBS D/BASM 18/356
Court rolls (11) Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1462-1469	CBS D/BASM 18/149-155
Court rolls (4) Chesham Bury (mutilated), 1470-1475	CBS D/BASM 18/156-159
Court roll Chesham, 1477	CBS D/BASM 18/160
Court rolls (2) Chesham Bury, 1482-1484	CBS D/BASM 18/161,163
Court rolls (6) Chesham, 1483-1484	CBS D/BASM 18/162, 164-165
Rental, Chesham (very fragile), 1485-1509	CBS D/DH/E/8
Court rolls (10) Chesham (some mutilated, 1490-1506	CBS D/BASM 18/166-175
<i>Chesham Woburn</i>	
None	
<i>Grove</i>	
Court rolls (6), 1400-1421	CBS D/BASM 18B/1-6
Court roll, 1436	CBS D/BASM 18B/7
Court roll, 1468	CBS D/BASM 18B/8
<i>Hundridge</i>	
None	
<i>Isenhampstead Latimer</i>	
Court roll (draft), temp Henry VI, 1422-1471	CBS D/BASM 18D/11
Rental, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1422	CBS D/BASM 18/360
Rental, copy made 1620, 1487	CBS D/CH/E/7
Rental, 1488	CBS D/BASM 18D/20
<i>Thorne</i>	
None	

Tax Records for Chesham

Containing the names of individuals

1332 Sept 9 x 12 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/362/19 Part 2
1332 Sept 9 x 12 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/378/14
1340 April 3 two ninths and fifteenths and tax on wool	TNA:PRO E179/77/9
[14th cent] - 4 stray	TNA:PRO E179/80/346 Part 6
1497 Jan 16 x March 13 subsidy of £62,000	TNA:PRO E179/78/157

Containing communal assessments only

1220 Aug 9 or earlier carucage of 2s.	TNA:PRO E179/239/241
[?1216 x 1272] - 4 stray	TNA:PRO E179/239/243
[13th cent] - 3 unknown/unidentified	TNA:PRO E179/242/109
1332 Sept 9 x 12 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/77/23

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

1334 Sept 19 x 23 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/378/24
1336 March 11 x 20 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/38/27
1336 Sept 23 x 27 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/77/4
1337 Sept 26 x Oct 4 three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/6
1337 Sept 26 x Oct 4 three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/7
1340 April 3 two ninths and fifteenths and tax on wool	TNA:PRO E179/77/8
1340 April 3 two ninths and fifteenths and tax on wool	TNA:PRO E179/77/10
1340 April 3 two ninths and fifteenths and tax on wool	TNA:PRO E179/77/11
1344 June 26 two fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/13
1346 Sept 14 two fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/14
1346 Sept 14 two fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/15
1348 March 31 x April 13 three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/16
1348 March 31 x April 13 three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/17
1352 Jan 21 x 22 three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/18
1352 Jan 21 x 22 three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/19
1352 Jan 21 x 22 three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/20
1352 Jan 21 x 22 three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/21
c. 1377 Feb 16 x 19 poll tax	TNA:PRO E179/77/22
1380 Jan 17 x March 3 one and a half fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/25
1388 March 10 half a fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/77/27
1393 Jan 22 x Feb 10 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/77/28
1393 Jan 22 x Feb 10 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/77/29
1395 Jan 29 x Feb 15 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/77/30
1398 Jan 31 one and a half fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/31
1431 March 20 one and one third fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/52
1446 April 9 one and a half fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/77/65
1449 Feb 12 x April 1 half a fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/77/66

(The assessments for 1217, 1332, 1334, 1337 and 1446 are included in: A.C. Chibnall, *Early Taxation Returns. Taxation of Personal Property in 1332 and later*, BRS, 14 (1966), pp. 91, 100, 113)

Parish Records

None

Other Ecclesiastical records

Records of the archdeaconry of Buckingham

Miscellaneous registers 1483-1523: CBS, D-A/We/1 (relate to the whole county).

Printed in E.M. Elvey (ed.), *The Courts of the Archdeaconry of Buckingham 1483-1523*, BRS, 19 (1975).

Visitation books, 1492-1788: CBS, D-A/V (relate to the whole county).

Other Chesham Records (not an exhaustive list)

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Chancery

TNA:PRO C 131/225/19; C 132/31/1; C 143/205/3; C 143/240/10; C 143/362/7; C 143/411/19; C 146/400; C 241/100/16; C 241/109/247; C 241/113/37; C 241/128/306; C 241/182/67; C 241/232/6; C 1/4/24; C 1/11/107; C 1/17/82; C 1/28/78; C 1/32/103; C 1/33/328; C 1/34/14; C 1/36/62; C 1/40/271; C 1/46/431; C 1/59/277; C 1/61/178; C 1/62/417; C 1/108/106; C 1/171/33; C 1/179/13; C 1/199/4.

Exchequer

TNA:PRO E 40/5684; E 142/64; E 179/378/14; E 199/1/9; E 199/1/33; E 210/11117; E 326/910; E 329/230.

Special Collections

TNA:PRO SC 6/760/1; SC 6/760/2; SC 6/1089/25; SC 6/1095/3; SC 6/1120/10-13; SC 8/47/2308; SC 8/50/2493; SC 8/71/3536; SC 8/95/4739D; SC 8/187/9313; SC 8/240/11956; SC 8/255/12738.

Star Chamber

TNA:PRO STAC 2/12

Early Modern Records (1500-1800)

Manorial Records

Blackwell Hall and Mordaunts with Ashley Green

Court roll (draft), Blackwell Hall only, 1534	CBS D/BASM 18A/23
Court roll (draft), Ashley Green only, 1536	CBS D/BASM 18A/24
Court roll, Blackwell Hall only, 1582	CBS D/BASM 18A/13
Presentments (1 item), 1600-1700 (undated)	CBS D/BASM 18A/44
Quit rents (2 items), 1600-1700 (undated)	CBS D/BASM 18A/35-36
Rentals (3) and extract of rents, 1600-1700 (undated)	CBS D/BASM 18A/37-40
Schedule of yearly rents, Blackwell Hall only (1 item), 1635 (undated)	CBS D/BASM 18A/32
Court roll, 1636	CBS D/BASM 18A/14
Court roll (draft) with related papers, 1636	CBS D/BASM 18A/25
Court roll (draft) with related papers, 1646	CBS D/BASM 18A/26
Rental, 1646	CBS D/BASM 18A/33
Quit rents, 1649	CBS D/BASM 18A/34
Court roll (draft) with related papers, 1654	CBS D/BASM 18A/27
Court roll, 1655	CBS D/BASM 18A/15
Court roll (draft) with related papers, 1675	CBS D/BASM 18A/28
Court roll, 1675	CBS D/BASM 18A/16
Court roll (draft) with related papers, 1690	CBS D/BASM 18A/29
Rental, 1743	CBS D/BASM 18A/41
Presentments (5 items), 1754	CBS D/BASM 18A/45

Chesham Bois

Court roll (view of frankpledge only), with other manors, 1698	CBS D/BASM 58/1
Court roll (view of frankpledge only), with other manors, 1715	CBS D/BASM 58/2

Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury

Court rolls (3) Chesham Bury (mutilated), 1506-1507	CBS D/BASM 18/176-178
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Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Court roll, Chesham Higham, 1507	CBS D/BASM 18/179
Court rolls (3) Chesham (mutilated), 1508-1510	CBS D/BASM 18/180-182
Court roll Chesham Bury (mutilated), 1509-1510	CBS D/BASM 18/183
Court roll Chesham Higham, 1510	CBS D/BASM 18/184
Court rolls (4) Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1510-1514	CBS D/BASM 18/185-188
Court rolls (2) Chesham Higham, 1515-1518	CBS D/BASM 18/189-190
Court rolls (19) Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1519-1537	CBS D/BASM 18/191-209
Rentals (mutilated) (1 bundle) (some undated) 1535-1536	CBS D/BASM 18/361-366
Court rolls (draft) (fragile), 1544-1626	CBS D/BASM 18/246-249
Court roll Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1552	CBS D/BASM 18/210
Court rolls (5) Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1565-1570	CBS D/BASM 18/211-215
Court roll Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1578-1579	CBS D/BASM 18/216
Court papers (very fragile), 1600-1800	CBS D/CH/E/1-5
Rentals, Chesham (4) (very fragile and mutilated), 1600-1700	CBS D/CH/E/8
Court roll with related papers (draft) (very fragile), 1631-1639	CBS D/BASM 18/250-260
Presentments, surrenders and admissions, Chesham Higham, 1639	CBS D/BASM 18/421/1
Surrenders and admissions and related papers (13 bundles), 1640-1766	CBS D/BASM 18/414-425
Abstract of surrenders, indexed by name, 1644-1685	CBS D/BASM 18/413
Index to court rolls, c.1700 1644-1688	CBS D/BASM 18/410
Court book comprising alphabetical indexes and extracts from court rolls, 17 th cent (1 vol) 1644-1687	CBS D/BASM 18/357
Court rolls, Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1647-1656	CBS D/BASM 18/217-229
Quit rent rental, Chesham (very fragile), 1649	CBS D/CH/E/8
Rental, Chesham (very fragile), 1650	CBS D/CH/E/8
Court papers including rentals, admissions etc., with Isenhampstead Latimer (very fragile), 1650-1750 (circa)	CBS D/CH/E/7
Rentals, 1650	CBS D/BASM 18/367
Rentals, with court memoranda (vol) (fragile), 1652-1671	CBS D/BASM 18/369
Rental, with Latimer (roll), 1660	CBS D/CH/E/6
Rentals, 1668-1669	CBS D/BASM 18/368
Court rolls (draft) with related papers (2 rolls) (fragile), 1668-1690	CBS D/BASM 18/262-322
Court rolls (2), Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1669-1671	CBS D/BASM 18/230-231
Rental, with Isenhampstead Latimer (fragile), 1678-1679	CBS D/BASM 18/370
Rental, 1680-1686	CBS D/BASM 18/371
Court roll (draft) with related papers (very fragile), 1684	CBS D/BASM 18/261
Court roll (draft), 1690-1695	CBS D/BASM 18/324
Court roll (draft), 1692-1695	CBS D/BASM 18/325-343
Index to admissions and surrenders in court rolls c 1702, 1685-1702	CBS D/BASM 18/411
Court roll, Chesham Bury, 1697	CBS D/BASM 18/232
Rentals, with Isenhampstead Latimer (some fragile), 1698-1705	CBS D/BASM 18/376-380

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Bundle of papers comprising extracts from records and memoranda mainly relating to manors of Isenhampstead Latimer and Leicester Abbey (fragile), 1700-1750	CBS D/BASM 18/428
List of tenants, with Isenhampstead Latimer and other estates in Lincolnshire (fragile), 1700-1750	CBS D/BASM 18/391
Charges to the courts, 1700-1800	CBS D/BASM 18/426
Alphabetical list of tenants (fragile), 1700-1800 (undated)	CBS D/BASM 18/372-373
Court rolls (6) Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1701-1706	CBS D/BASM 18/233-238
Stewards accounts, with Latimer (mutilated), 1701-1702	CBS D/CH/E/6
Rental and account of collection, with Isenhampstead Latimer, 1702-1704	CBS D/BASM 18/374-375
Court books (2) (fragile), 1704-1718	CBS D/BASM 18/345-346
Rentals with associated papers, with Isenhampstead Latimer, 1707-1720	CBS D/BASM 18/381/388
Court rolls (7) Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1716-1719	CBS D/BASM 18/239/245
Rental, with Isenhampstead Latimer, 1721-1722	CBS D/BASM 18/392
Rent receipt book, with list of admissions at end 1746, with Latimer, 1721-1722	CBS D/CH/E/6
Rental, with Latimers, 1722	CBS D/CH/E/6
Court book, mainly Chesham Higham (fragile), 1722-1767	CBS AR 118/1985/1
Court books, Chesham Bury (4) (mutilated), 1722-1918	CBS AR 23/1987/1-4
Minutes and extracts from court rolls, Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury (12 items), 1722	CBS D/BASM 18/348-354
Particular of Thomas Saunders' estate at Ashley Green (fragile), 1728	CBS D/BASM 18/390
Court roll (draft), Chesham Bury, 1729	CBS D/BASM 18/355
Presentments, surrenders and admissions, 1730-1770	CBS D/BASM 18/412/2-37
Rentals (3) with Isenhampstead Latimer, 1732	CBS D/BASM 18/393-395
Rentals, 1736	CBS D/BASM 18/396-398
Court roll (draft) with related papers (unfit for production), 1738	CBS D/BASM 18/323
Rental (6 papers), 1740 (circa)	CBS D/BASM 18/399
Rentals, 1740-1746	CBS D/BASM 18/400-407
Rental, 1744	CBS D/CH/E/6
Rental, with Isenhampstead Latimer, 1745	CBS D/BASM 18/408
Schedule of surrenders, with Isenhampstead Latimer, 1833	CBS D/BASM 18/430
Warrants and deputations, with Isenhampstead Latimer (fragile), 1751-1832	CBS D/BASM 18/431
List of officers appointed, 1754-1769	CBS D/BASM 18/427
Court book, Chesham Bury (indexed), 1768-1800	CBS AR 85/1987
Account book, with Isenhampstead Latimer, 1784-1796	CBS D/BASM 18/409
<i>Chesham Woburn</i>	
Rental, with Chenies and Widmer, Middx, 1571-1572	BLA R Box 262
Court papers (very fragile), 1600-1800	CBS D/CH/E/1-5
Court papers including rental, presentments and surrenders, 1650-1657	NRO SS 3437
Rental, with Chenies, 1652	BLA R Box 262
Court roll (draft) with homage, presentments and admissions, 1680-1684	NRO SS 3433,3441
Court papers including suit rolls, presentments, draft court rolls, notices of court and surrenders, 1705-1722	NRO SS 3436

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Quit rental, 1711	BLA R Box 272
Court book, indexed, 1716-1768	CBS AR 99/1987
Rental, with other manors, 1731	BLA R5/64
Court book, 1734	BLA R Box 267
Court book, indexed, 1769-1843	CBS AR 104/1987
Surrenders and admissions (2 bundles), 1790-1864	CBS AR 55/1987/2
<i>Grove</i>	
Rental, 1501	CBS D/BASM 18B/9
<i>Hundridge</i>	
Court roll (copy), 1629	CBS D/BASM 18C/6
Court roll (draft), 1629	CBS D/BASM 18C/3
Court roll (draft), 1638	CBS D/BASM 18C/3
Court roll, 1638	CBS D/BASM 18C/1
Court roll (copy), 1638	CBS D/BASM 18C/7
Court roll (copy), 1655	CBS D/BASM 18C/8
Court roll (draft), 1655	CBS D/BASM 18C/4
Rent roll, 1660	CBS D/LO 4/35
Court roll (copy), 1661	CBS D/BASM 18C/9
Court roll (draft), 1661	CBS D/BASM 18C/3
Court roll (draft), 1669	CBS D/BASM 18C/3
Court roll (copy), 1669	CBS D/BASM 18C/10
Court roll (draft), 1684	CBS D/BASM 18C/5
Court roll (copy), 1684	CBS D/BASM 18C/11
Court roll, 1684	CBS D/BASM 18C/2
Quit rents 3 items), 1700-1725 (undated)	CBS D/LO 4/36-8
<i>Isehampstead Latimer</i>	
Papers relating to distinction between manors in Chesham inc petition to Queen Elizabeth I and particulars of manor of Latimer (fragile), 1500-1771	CBS D/BASM 18D/59
Court roll (fragile), 1504-1572	CBS D/BASM 18D/1
Extracts from court rolls, 1512-1572	CBS D/BASM 18D/45
Court roll (draft), 1560	CBS D/BASM 18D/12
Suit roll, 1561	CBS D/BASM 18D/46
Court roll, 1583-1588	CBS D/BASM 18D/2
Court roll (draft), 1583-1598	CBS D/BASM 18D/13
Court roll, 1598	CBS D/BASM 18D/2
Court roll (draft), 1605	CBS D/BASM 18D/14
Court roll, 1605-1608	CBS D/BASM 18D/3-4
Court roll (draft) with court papers, 1609-1622	CBS D/BASM 18D/15
Court roll, 1616-1620	CBS D/BASM 18D/2
Court papers (including presentments, surrenders, estreats, memoranda)	

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

(6 bundles), 1622-1760	CBS D/BASM 18D/48-53
Court roll (drat), 1623-1624	CBS D/BASM 18D/16
Suit rolls, 1627-1717	CBS D/BASM 18D/47
Surrenders and admissions (6 items) (some fragile), 1638-1761	CBS D/BASM 18D/54-57
Court papers, including surrenders, suit roll and memoranda, 1638-1756	CBS D/BASM 18D/58
Court roll, 1646	CBS D/BASM 18D/15
Court papers including rentals, admissions, etc., with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury (very fragile), 1650-1750	CBS D/CH/E/7
Court roll, 1653	CBS D/BASM 18D/6
Rental, with Chesham (roll), 1660	CBS D/CH/E/6
Memorandum concerning rental, 1661	CBS D/BASM 18D/21
Court papers (very fragile), 1666-1717	CBS D/CH/E/8
Court roll (draft), 1676-1679	CBS D/BASM 18D/17-18
Rental, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1678-1679	CBS D/BASM 18/370
Court roll (draft), 1687	CBS D/BASM 18D/19
Rentals, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1698-1705	CBS D/BASM 18/376-380
List of tenants, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury and other estates in Lincolnshire (fragile), 1700-1750	CBS D/BASM 18/391
Bundle of papers comprising extracts from records and memoranda mainly related to manors of Isehampstead Latimer and Leicester Abbey (fragile), 1700-1750	CBS D/BASM 18/428
Stewards accounts, with Chesham (mutilated), 1701-1702	CBS D/CH/E/6
Rental and account of collection, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury (fragile), 1702-1704	CBS D/BASM 18/374-375
Court roll, 1702-1704	CBS D/BASM 18D/7
Court book, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1705	CBS D/BASM 18/347
Rentals with associated papers, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury (some fragile), 1707-1720	CBS D/BASM 18/381-389
Court roll, 1717-1718	CBS D/BASM 18D/8-9
Rental with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1721-1722	CBS D/BASM 18/392
Rent receipt book, with list of admissions at end 1746, with Chesham, 1721-1722	CBS D/CH/E/6
Rental, with Chesham, 1722	CBS D/CH/E/6
Rentals (3) with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1732	CBS D/BASM 18/393-395
Court roll, 1744	CBS D/BASM 18D/10
Court book, indexed, 1745-1829	CBS AR 75/1987
Rental, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1745	CBS D/BASM 18/408
Schedule of surrenders, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1833 1751-1832	CBS D/BASM 18/430
Warrants and deputations, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury (fragile), 1751-1832	CBS D/BASM 18/431
Account book, with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1784-1796	CBS D/BASM 18/409
Court minutes, 1796	CBS D/CH/A/650
<i>Thorne</i>	
Quit rentals and arrears, 1684-1836	HALS DE/LS/M329

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Quit rental, 1756

HALS DE/LS/M330

Particulars, 1797

HALS DE/Sa/197

Tax Records for Chesham

Containing the names of individuals

1523 May 21 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/91
1523 May 21 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/93
1523 May 21 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/139
1540 May 8 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/121
1542 March or earlier forced loan	TNA:PRO E179/78/124
1543 Jan 22 x May 12 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/125
1543 Jan 22 x May 12 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/132
1545 Jan benevolence from the laity and clergy	TNA:PRO E179/78/140
1545 Nov 23 x Dec 24 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/145
1545 Nov 23 x Dec 24 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/152
1549 March 12 subsidy ('relief')	TNA:PRO E179/79/163
1549 March 12 subsidy ('relief')	TNA:PRO E179/79/166
1559 Feb 20 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/79/187
1593 March 24 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/216
1597 Dec 16 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/227
1597 Dec 16 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/237
1610 Feb 9 x July 23 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/80/346 Part 2
1624 May 13 or later three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/279
1628 June 16 x 29 five subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/244/1
1640 Dec 10 - 23 four subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/273/19
1640 Dec 10 - 23 four subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/80/298
1641 May 13 two subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/80/338
1662 May 19 hearth tax	TNA:PRO E179/244/11
1662 May 19 hearth tax	TNA:PRO E179/80/350
1662 May 19 hearth tax	TNA:PRO E179/80/351

Containing communal assessments only

1540 May 8 four fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/78/116
1545 Nov 23 two fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/78/143
1545 Nov 23 two fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/78/144
1553 March 17 two fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/169
1553 March 17 two fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/177
1558 Feb 19 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/79/182
1571 May 15 two fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/194
1587 March 7 two fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/205
1589 March 17 four fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/208 Part 2

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

1589 March 17 four fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/209
1593 March 24 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/210
1593 March 24 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/212
1593 March 24 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/21
1593 March 24 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/214
1597 Dec 16 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/223
1597 Dec 16 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/226
[16th cent] - 1 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/80/360
Eliz I - 1 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/79/250
1606 May 17 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/255A
1606 May 17 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/261A
1606 May 17 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/388/16
1624 May 13 or later three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/272
1624 May 13 or later three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/274
1624 May 13 or later three fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/281A
1625 June 30 or later two subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/311/60
1640 Dec 10 - 23 four subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/388/13 Part 16
1657 June 26 assessment for the armies and navies of the Commonwealth	TNA:PRO E179/80/316
1660 Dec 29 act for granting £420,000 to the king	TNA:PRO E179/299/6
1660 Sept 13 assessment of £70,000 for the present supply of the king	TNA:PRO E179/299/7
1660 Jan 26 assessment to defend the Commonwealth	TNA:PRO E179/80/356
1667 Jan 18 act for raising money by a poll	TNA:PRO E179/80/341
1671 March 6 subsidy for the king's extraordinary occasions	TNA:PRO E179/288/8 Part 1

Other Chesham Records (not an exhaustive list)

Chancery

TNA:PRO C 93/11/8; C 93/16/13; C 1/171/33; C 1/179/13; C 1/199/4; C 1/340/17; C 1/340/59; C 1/490/37; C 1/567/95; C 1/590/71; C 1/612/35; C 1/614/1; C 1/614/5; C 1/639/8; C 1/657/47; C 1/702/10; C 1/739/20; C 1/792/23-26; C 1/847/7; C 1/881/32; C 1/888/5; C 1/888/15-18; C 1/1057/38-39; C 1/1199/72-73; C 1/1327/49; C 1/1413/6-8; C 2/Eliz/A2/11; C 2/Eliz/A5/34; C 2/Eliz/A6/36; C 2/Eliz/A6/39; C 2/Eliz/B6/41; C 2/Eliz/B9/48; C 2/Eliz/B14/2; C 2/Eliz/B26/43; C 2/Eliz/B32/25; C 2/Eliz/C12/57; C 2/Eliz/D9/30; C 3/41/84; C 103/185; C 107/155.

Exchequer

TNA:PRO E 367/669; E 367/1506; E 367/1922; E 367/4716; E 367/1842; E 117/1/35; E 134/41Eliz/Hil10; E 134/43&44Eliz/Mich16; E 134/1650/Mich22; E 134/13&14Chas2/Hil23; E 134/8&9Wm3/Hil18; E 134/13Wm3/East35; E 134/2Geo1/Mich23; E 134/4Geo2/Mich11; E 179/311/60; E 214/273; E 214/658; E 214/736; E 214/897; E 214/1099; E 328/345; E 328/403.

Parish Records: CBS PR

Chesham CBS PR 44/1-28

Registers CBS

Baptisms, 1538-1963

CBS PR 44/1/1,2,4-15

Marriages, 1538-1986

CBS PR 44/1/1,2,4-6,16-32

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Burials, 1538-1995	CBS PR 44/1/1-7,33-35
<i>Incumbent</i>	
Property and Miscellaneous, 1762-1970	CBS PR 44/3/1-10
<i>Churchwardens Rates</i>	
Gas lighting rate for Chesham Town only, 1856	CBS PR 44/4/1
<i>Churchwardens Accounts, 1733-1858</i>	CBS PR 44/5/1-5
<i>Vestry</i>	
Vestry Minutes, 1705-1883	CBS PR 44/8/1-4
Orders of the Select Vestry, 1822-1834	CBS PR 44/8/6-12
<i>Overseers of the Poor - Rates</i>	
Overseers rate books (Chesham), 1705-1748	CBS PR 44/11/1-3
Poor rate for Bellingdon and Ashley Green, 1800	CBS PR 44/11/4
Poor Rates, 1770-1883	CBS PR 44/11/7-18
<i>Overseers of the Poor – Accounts</i>	
Overseers account books, 1710-1801	CBS PR 44/12/1-3,5
Volume listing those receiving relief, 1799-1827	CBS PR 44/12/4
Weekly payment books, 1813-1815	CBS PR 44/12/6-10
Various other account books, 1745-1834	CBS PR 44/12/11-28
<i>Overseers of the Poor – Settlement</i>	
Settlement certificates, 1698-1792	CBS PR 44/13/1-199
Settlement examinations, 1702-1823	CBS PR 44/13/200-356
Removal orders, with some examinations, 1691-1815	CBS PR 44/13/357-530
<i>Overseers of the Poor – Apprenticeship</i>	
Apprenticeship indentures of poor children of the parish, 1680-1811	CBS PR 44/14/1-127
Apprenticeship indentures, non-parochial, 1689-1815	CBS PR 44/14/128-145
Apprenticeship indentures – to Chesham, 1771	CBS PR 44/14/146-147
<i>Overseers of the Poor – Bastardy</i>	
Bastardy papers, 1697-1818	CBS PR 44/15/1-101

Ecclesiastical records and returns of religion

Probate

Apart from wills proved in the PCC, which are not considered here, Chesham wills would have been proved in the court of the archdeaconry of Buckingham or, very occasionally, in the Consistory Court of Lincoln. No Buckingham archdeaconry wills survive from before the last decades of the fifteenth century, however. All pre-1660 wills are indexed in:

J. Hunt, R. Bettridge & A. Toplis, *Index to Probate Records of the Archdeaconry Court of Buckingham 1483-1660 and of the Buckinghamshire Peculiars 1420-1660*, BRS 32 (2001).

For later periods indexes to probate records of the archdeaconry court of Buckingham are available at the CBS.

The Chesham wills indicate the development of the town by showing occupations –

tailor (1554), shoemaker (1558), weaver (1558), bricklayer (1559), glover (1563), tanner (1573), tile maker (1586), maltster (1591), collar-maker (1593).

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Other records of the archdeaconry of Buckingham

Miscellaneous registers 1483-1523: CBS, D-A/We/1 (relate to the whole county).

Printed in E.M. Elvey (ed.), *The Courts of the Archdeaconry of Buckingham 1483-1523*, BRS, 19 (1975).

Visitation books, 1492-1788: CBS, D-A/V (relate to the whole county).

Estate and Family Records

The principal source of estate and family papers relating to Chesham are listed below, but others may be found in the records of other local estates and families – the references below are the major sources.

Lowndes family of Chesham, 1498 – 1898 CBS D-LO/1-11

Collection includes many papers relating to people and properties in Chesham

Cavendish family of Latimer, Chesham, 1440 – 1924 CBS D-CH

Collection includes many papers relating to people and properties in Chesham

Lee Family of Hartwell, 1434-1870 CBS D-LE/1-17

Collection includes papers relating to properties in Chesham

There are many deeds and papers relating to Chesham in the lists of small accessions at the CBS that can be searched, CBS D-X 1-1179

The BAS Collection at CBS contains title deeds to properties in Chesham, 17-19C: CBS, BAS Coll.

County Records with Chesham entries

Return of vintners, innholders and alehousekeepers in Bucks (transcript), 1577: CBS, D-X423/1. (The full list of names can be found on-line, in the A2A catalogue).

Registers of licensed victuallers, 1753-1828: CBS, Q/RLV

Land Tax Assessments, c1780-1832: CBS, Q/RPL

1522 Military Survey: A.C. Chibnall (ed.), *The Certificate of Musters for Buckinghamshire in 1522*, Buckinghamshire Record Society 17 (1973), pp. 322-4.

1535 muster roll: TNA:PRO E 101/58/16, and see R.T. Baldwin, *The Certificate of Musters for Buckinghamshire, 1535* (unpub. transcript, PRO Library, 1989)

Buckinghamshire Posse Comitatus 1798: CBS L/P/15&16 (printed in I.F.W. Beckett, *The Buckinghamshire Posse Comitatus 1798*, BRS, 22 (1985))

Quarter Sessions - for Chesham references in these, see: W. le Hardy and G.L. Reckitt (eds), *County of Buckingham Calendar to the Sessions Records, 1678-1733*, 8 vols (Aylesbury, 1933-87).

Indexes for later periods are available at CBS

Trade Directory

The Universal British Directory of Trade and Commerce Vol 2(London, 1792)

Local Newspapers

No newspapers were printed in Buckinghamshire until the nineteenth century.

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Modern Records (Post 1800)

Manorial Records

Blackwell Hall and Mordaunts with Ashley Green

Map of manor of Blackwell Hall, 1837 CBS Ma 149/1

Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury

Court book, mainly Chesham Higham, 1800-1817 CBS AR 118/1985/2

Quit rentals, (2) with Isenhampstead Latimer, 1800-1900 CBS AR 118/1985/10-11

Court book, indexed, mainly Chesham Higham, 1818-1834 CBS AR 13/2006

Summary of admissions, 1831-1870 CBS AR 118/1985/7

Court books, mainly Chesham Higham (4), 1835-1923 CBS AR 118/1985/3-6

Valuation books relating to enfranchisement of copyholds, 1866-1935 CBS D/X 1280/6/1-2

Court minutes and presentments (2 vols), 1867-1906 CBS AR 118/1985/8-9

Deeds and awards of enfranchisement of copyhold land, 1869 TNA:PRO MAF 9/10

Deeds and awards of enfranchisement of copyhold land, 1888-1907 TNA:PRO MAF 9/10

Chesham Woburn

Court book, indexed, 1769-1843 CBS AR 104/1987

Surrenders and admissions (2 bundles), 1790-1864 CBS AR 55/1987/2

Court rolls (draft), 1805-1830 CBS AR 55/1987/2

Court roll, indexed, 1845-1925 CBS AR 7/1988

Isenhampstead Latimer

Quit rentals (2) with Chesham Higham and Chesham Bury, 1800-1900 CBS AR 118/1985/10-11

"Sundry accounts", 1816 CBS D/BASM 18D/22

Timber accounts, 1817-1833 CBS D/BASM 18D/23-44

Court book (indexed), 1830-1899 CBS AR 118/1985/12

Thorne

Index and memoranda books of courts, with other manors, 1805-1923 HALS DE/LS/M3-5

Correspondence relating to quit rents and dispute over waste land, 1811-1828 HALS DE/LS/M331

Court rolls (draft), 1811-1836 HALS DE/LS/M332

Court minutes, 1811-1836 HALS DE/LS/M333

Parish Records:

Chesham CBS PR 44/1-28

Tithe

Certificates of redemption of tithe rent charges, 1920-1934 CBS PR 44/27/1-12

Printed copy of Chesham Tithe Apportionment, 1843 CBS PR 44/27/13

Altered Tithe Apportionments, c1900 CBS PR 44/27/15

Altered Tithe Apportionments, 1904 CBS PR 44/27/18

Chesham Waterside CBS PR 43/1-28

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Registers CBS

Baptisms, 1864-1966	CBS PR 43/1/3-5
Marriages, 1866-1991	CBS PR 43/1/6-10

Incumbent

Account books of church expenses and other funds, 1937-57	CBS PR 43/3/10-2
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Churchwardens Accounts

Account book, 1904-1907	CBS PR 43/5/2
Annual statements of accounts, 1904-1969	CBS PR 43/5/3-5

Chesham Urban District Council CBS DC 16

Clerk – Minutes and Reports, 1884-1974	CBS DC 16/1/1-135
Clerk – Agreements, Leases, Mortgages, 1901-1945	CBS DC 16/2/1-6
Clerk – Legal papers,	CBS DC 16/4/1-3
Clerk – Registers, 1926-1971	CBS DC 16/6/1-14
Clerk – Correspondence, 1914-1917; 1941-1942	CBS DC 16/10/1-2
Treasurer – Final Accounts, 1911-1971	CBS DC 16/11/1-34
Treasurer – Second stage accounts, 1942-1949	CBS DC 16/12/1-7
Treasurer – Wages, Salaries, Superannuation, 1929-1947	CBS DC 16/13/1-9
Treasurer – Rating, 1873-1959	CBS DC 16/14/1-46
Treasurer – Valuation, 1881; 1929	CBS DC 16/15/1-2
Treasurer – Rechargeable Works, 1952-199	CBS DC 16/16/1
Treasurer – Housing,	CBS DC 16/18/1-14
Surveyor – Plans	
Building estates	CBS DC 16/22/1-5
Sewage Plans, 1965	CBS DC 16/22/6
Swimming Baths, 1960	CBS DC 16/22/7
Surveyor – Contracts and Specifications, 1927-1973	
Includes Car Park, Fences, Highways, Housing, Private Street Works, Recreation Ground, Sewage and Sewage Disposal, Waterworks, Street Lighting	CBS DC 16/23/1-29

Miscellaneous

Includes – Development Plan: Chesham Town Map	CBS DC 16/37/1
Land availability for Housing plans, c.1972	CBS DC 16/37/2
Area of Special Control, 1957	CBS DC 16/37/3
Chiltern Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, 1964, 1965	CBS DC 16/37/6
Adopted Records – Joint Bodies	CBS DC 16/38/1-9
Adopted Records – Miscellaneous	
Chesham parish records: Overseers' receipts and payments account book, 1868-1912	
CBS DC 16/39/1	
Chesham parish records: Vestry, signed minute book, 1883-1926	CBS DC 16/39/2
Chesham parish records: Vestry, copy notices issued, 1878-1919	CBS DC 16/39/3
A plan for the Chilterns by the Chilterns Standing Conference, n.d.	CBS DC 16/39/6

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Chesham is now, 2008, part of Chiltern District Council, their website www.chiltern.gov.uk will provide current information about planning, etc.

There is also a Town Council – www.chesham.gov.uk .

The occupational structure of the parish in the 19th century can most fully be analysed using the census enumerators' books held at the National Archives. Those for Chesham are:

1841 HO 107/47
1851 HO 107/1717
1861 RG 9/845, 846
1871 RG 10/1393
1881 RG 11/1452
1891 RG 12/1129
1901 RG 13/1333

Chesham Historic Town Assessment

Buckinghamshire Trade Directories

Trade Directories for Buckinghamshire on www.historicaldirectories.org

Title	Location	Decade	Key Name
Pigot's Directory of Buckinghamshire, 1830-31	Buckinghamshire	1750-1849	Pigot
Robson's Commercial Directory of Beds, Bucks, etc, 1839	Norfolk, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Suffolk, Oxfordshire	1750-1849	Robson
Pigot & Co.'s Directory of Berkshire, Bucks, etc, 1844. [Part 1: Berks to Glos]	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire	1750-1849	Pigot
Slater's Directory of Berkshire, 1852	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire	1850s	Slater
Musson & Craven's Commercial Directory of Buckinghamshire & Windsor, 1853	Buckinghamshire	1850s	Musson
Post Office Directory of Berks, Northants, etc, 1854	Berkshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Huntingdonshire	1850s	Post Office
Post Office Directory of Buckinghamshire, 1864	Buckinghamshire	1860s	Post Office
Harrod & Co.'s Directory of Beds, Bucks, etc, 1876	Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Northamptonshire	1870s	Harrod, J.G.
Kelly's Directory of Buckinghamshire, 1883	Buckinghamshire	1880s	Kelly
Kelly's Directory of Buckinghamshire, 1899	Buckinghamshire	1890s	Kelly
Kelly's Directory of Buckinghamshire, 1903	Buckinghamshire	1900s	Kelly
Kelly's Directory of Buckinghamshire, 1907	Buckinghamshire	1900s	Kelly
Kelly's Directory of Buckinghamshire, 1911	Buckinghamshire	1910s	Kelly
Kelly's Directory of Buckinghamshire, 1915	Buckinghamshire	1910s	Kelly

Trade Directories for Buckinghamshire in Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies

Universal British Directory 1790-1798

Volume 2	1792	Amersham, Aylesbury, Buckingham, Chesham, Colnbrook
Volume 3	1794	High Wycombe, Ivinghoe, Marlow
Volume 5	1798	Beaconsfield, Wendover, Monks Risborough
Pigot	1823-24, 1830, 1831-32, 1842	
Kelly	1847, 1854, 1869, 1883, 1887, 1891, 1895 then many for 20 th century	
Slater	1850	
Musson & Craven	1853	
Mercer & Crocker	1871	
Harrods	1876	

Chesham Historic Town Report

Maps

Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire. Thirteen maps of towns and villages showing military operations: (1) Gerrards Cross; (2) Penn; (3) Holmer Green; (4) covering the area between High Wycombe and Twyford (Berkshire) showing an army retreating southward across the River Thames; (5) South Weston; (6) Holtspur Heath, near Wooburn and Beaconsfield; (7) Park Hill, to the south of High Wycombe and West Wycombe, with a detailed reference table in French; (8) the environs of High Wycombe, Great Missenden and Great Marlow; (9) Wichmore Cross, Easthampstead; (10) Great Kingshill; (11) Prestwood Common; (12) Chesham Bois and its environs; (13) outline copy of item (11), lacking shading and many details, c. 1799-1806.

TNA:PRO WO 78/1021

Ordnance Survey

TNA:PRO OS 35/449; OS 35/452; OS 35/453; OS 35/439; OS 35/440; OS 35/428; OS 35/436; OS 35/429; OS 35/438; OS 35/441; OS 35/442; OS 57/55/4; OS 26/448; OS 26/476; OS 26/459; OS 26/5084; OS 26/5064; OS 26/455; OS 26/517; OS 26/5031; OS 26/465; OS 26/4985; OS 26/487; OS 26/5055; OS 27/204; OS 29/14; OS 31/40; OS 33/1611; OS 38/511; OS 38/1194/5.

Photographs

Many sources of photographs are available for Chesham

Francis Frith collection:

francisfrith.com/search/England/Buckinghamshire/Chesham/Chesham.htm

Buckinghamshire County Council have searchable online collection of photographs at apps.buckscc.gov.uk/eforms/photolibrary/webform1.aspx

Utilities

The introduction of gas and electricity supply started with small, local companies that tended to become taken over by larger businesses until nationalisation. The records of some of these smaller companies seem to have been either lost or destroyed. The trade directories make passing references to the different utilities. A gasworks was constructed in 1847

Some business records, including some for utilities, may be found in The National Archives:

Chesham Gas and Coke Company Ltd.,	TNA:PRO BT 31/2659/14155
	TNA:PRO BT 41/139/804
Chesham Electric Light and Power Company Limited Vols 1 and 2.	TNA:PRO BT 31/34838/90833
Rickmansworth Amersham and Chesham Railway Company,	TNA:PRO BT 285/307
Chesham Saw Mills Ltd.,	TNS:PRO BT 31/26659/175389
Chesham Boot Manufacturers Syndicate Ltd.,	TNA:PRO BT 31/22857/140522
Chesham & District Bus Company Ltd.,	TNA:PRO BT 31/33169/247272

Kelly's Directory of

Telephone

The first telephone exchange opened in Chesham on 10th August 1909 (Post Office Circular 1909, p356). Copies of telephone directories can be found at the BT Archives (Third Floor, Holborn Telephone Exchange, 268-270 High Holborn, London WC1V 7EE; 0207 440 4220, archives@bt.com)

Chesham Historic Town Report

Railway

The Metropolitan railway reached Chesham in 1889. The line was not electrified until the 1960s.

References (not exhaustive): TNA:PRO RAIL 280; 410/984; 410/1566/7; 971/104; 1066/65,66,68; 1066/1621; 1071/51.

Listed Buildings and Descriptions

English Heritage

National Monuments Record – Images of England www.imagesofengland.org.uk/

Useful secondary sources

W. Page (ed.), VCH Buckinghamshire, 3 (1925), p. 203-218 -
british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=42547

J. J. Sheahan, The History and topography of Buckinghamshire, (London, 1862)

M. Reed, 'Decline and recovery in a provincial urban network: Buckinghamshire towns, 1350-1800', in M. Reed (ed.), English Towns in Decline 1350 to 1800 (1986)

J. Hunt, Chesham: a pictorial history, (Chichester, 1997)

G. Lipscomb, History and Antiquities of the County of Buckingham, (London, 1847)

C. Birch, The Book of Chesham, (Buckingham, 1984)

Key issues and recommendations for further study

Chesham is one of a number of small towns in South Buckinghamshire that has been the subject of a book or books that focus on the town and immediate surroundings. In order to consider the history of the place and understand more, its relationship with other local places and with London should also be considered.

The manorial documents for the Chesham manors should be studied in more detail. A second study should review the interaction of Chesham with the neighbouring towns and with London, during each historical period. This should enable a more complete history of the development of several Buckinghamshire towns and their interaction, rather than just one town in isolation.