

# Great Missenden

## Buckinghamshire Historic Towns Assessment Report



*The High Street and environs, Great Missenden, 1931 - Britain from Above © English Heritage*

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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Report produced by David Green and Ruth Beckley

Historical documentary report by Peter Diplock, Leicester University

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Copies of this report and further information can be obtained from:

Buckinghamshire County Council  
Planning Advisory and Compliance Service,  
Place Service,  
Buckinghamshire County Council  
County Hall  
Aylesbury  
Bucks HP20 1UY  
Tel: 01296 382656

Email: [archaeology@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology@buckscc.gov.uk)

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## Summary

This report written as part of the Buckinghamshire Historic Towns Project is intended to summarise the archaeological, topographical, historical and architectural evidence relating to the development of Great Missenden 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 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.

Great Missenden is a large village in the Misbourne Valley in the Chiltern Hills in Buckinghamshire between Amersham and Wendover. It closely adjoins the villages of Little Missenden and Prestwood. The narrow High Street is bypassed by the main A413 London to Aylesbury Road. The source of the Misbourne is to be found just north of the village, although the upper reach of the river runs only in winter and the perennial head is in Little Missenden.

Throughout its history it is questionable whether Great Missenden was ever a town. Although recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086, the Missenden was probably no more than a small hamlet until the foundation of Missenden Abbey in 1133. A degree of urban planning seems to have taken place after the establishment of the Abbey with the laying out of the High Street. The date of the High Street is uncertain although it may have originated around the time of the granting of a market charter and fair in the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

Not much is known about the medieval economy of Great Missenden, the documentary evidence is generally quiet about its trades and industries, from which we infer that these were relatively few. However there are references in medieval records that suggest Great Missenden had the legal status of a borough. It is also uncertain how long Great Missenden's market lasted and whether it was ever viable in the face of competition from nearby Amersham, High Wycombe and Wendover. The market and its fair appear to have become largely redundant by the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

Missenden Abbey was dissolved in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century. The abbey church and grounds were converted into a residence over the next three centuries it was in the possession of a series of powerful families including the Fleetwoods and the Carringtons. During the post medieval period Great Missenden did not grow much beyond its medieval extent. The 17<sup>th</sup> century saw the growth of trades and professions associated with towns, but Great Missenden never developed in this way as no substantive industries or trades are recorded.

Great Missenden lay on a major route between the Midlands and London and several coaching inns, particularly the Red Lion and The George provided rest and refreshment for travelers and their horses. However, Great Missenden failed to compete with other larger towns for the coaching trade, its position between Wendover and Amersham meant that it was not a preferred place for coaches to stop and ultimately it was bypassed. By the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, Great Missenden had declined in importance and

prosperity, becoming an agricultural village. Following the arrival of the Metropolitan Railway in 1892, Great Missenden became a commuter settlement for London. However, when compared to neighbouring towns the coming of the railway only resulted in modest growth. Great Missenden's attractive character and landscape setting made it a desirable location for some well-known writers and entertainers.

The findings of this study are summarised in nine historic urban zones that define distinct phases and forms of urban development (figure 1). Each zone is accompanied by a brief description of townscape character, archaeological potential, historic buildings, conservation area and historical documentation.

In terms of heritage the most significance zones are 2, 3 and 4 which encompass the historic core of Great Missenden. These zones contain a high concentration of historic buildings dating from medieval to post medieval periods. And contribute to the amenity and aesthetic value of the village. Not much archaeological investigation has been carried out here but there is the potential for the discovery of significant buried deposits. Another area of significance is Missenden Abbey (zone 1) which contains the historically and archaeologically important monastic site which was replaced in the post medieval and modern periods with a gothic house pleasure gardens and parkland landscape. It's historical and aesthetic importance is reflected in its designation as a registered park and garden.

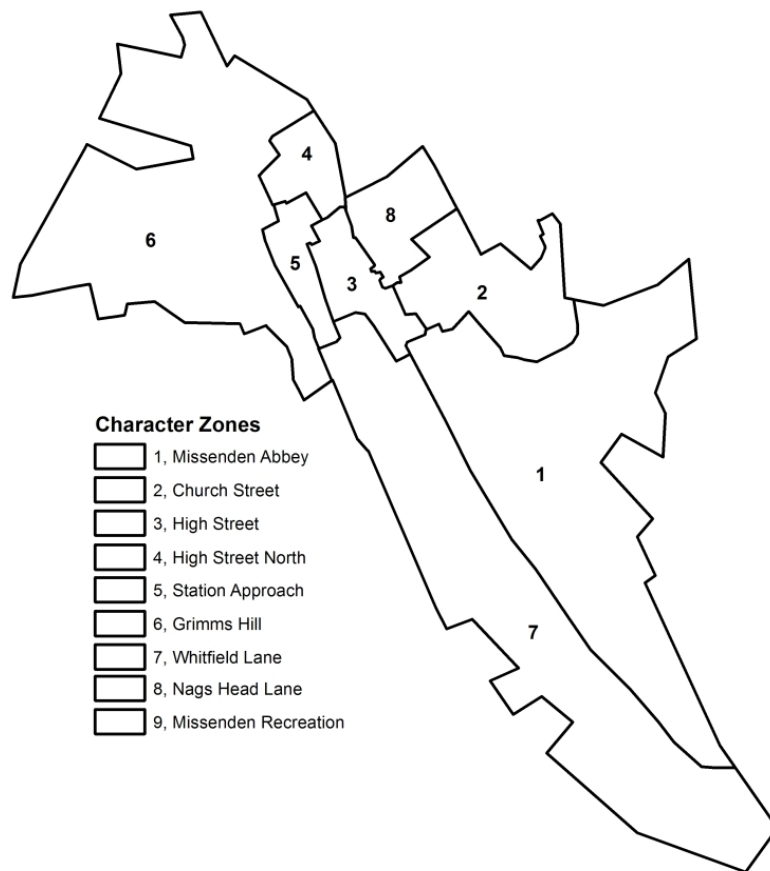


Figure 1: Urban Character Zones for Great Missenden

Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

Period	Great Missenden	
Saxon (410-1066)	Mint	No
	Minster	No
	Royal Manor	No
	Burh status	No
	ASC Reference	No
Domesday (1086)	Domesday Reference	Yes
	Number of Manors	One
	Watermills	None
	Domesday population (recorded households)	Nine villagers; one smallholder; two slaves
	Settlement type	hamlet/village
Medieval (1066-1536)	Borough status	Uncertain
	Burgage plots	No
	Guild house/fraternity	No
	Castle	No
	Civic structures	No
	1 <sup>st</sup> reference to place	Domesday
	Fair Charter	1272 (Grant) Thomas de Mussenden
	Church	St Peter & St Paul's Church
	Market Charter	1272 (Grant) Thomas de Mussenden
	Market House	No
	Monastic presence	1133 Missenden Abbey
	Manorial records	No
	Routeway connections	London to Birmingham road
	Inns/taverns (presence of)	Yes
Windmills/watermills	Deep Mill (in parish)	
Settlement type	Small market town	
Post Medieval (1536-1800)	Industry	No
	1577 Return of Vintners	Two inn holders; five alehouse keepers
	Market Charter	No
	Market house	No
	Fair Charter	No
	Inns	Red Lion, George
	Watermills	Deep Mill (in parish)
	Proximity to turnpike	1721 Wendover to Buckingham Trust
	Population (1801)	1101
Settlement type	Large Village	
Modern (Post 1800)	Railway station	1892 Railway station
	Modern development	Some
	Enclosure date	1848
	Canal Wharf	No
	Significant local industries	Tanneries
	Population (2001)	4519
	Settlement type	Large Village?
HER No.	0933600000	

Table 1: Summary table for Great Missenden

## **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 Great Missenden has been prepared by the Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service as part of the Buckinghamshire Historic Towns Project 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, this report presents proposals for the management of the historic settlement archaeological resource.

#### 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.



## **2 Setting**

### 2.1 Location, Topography & Geology

Great Missenden lies within Chiltern District and the Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the County of Buckinghamshire (Figure 2). The town is situated within the Chiltern Hills in the valley of the river Misbourne with the source of the river located a short distance to the north of the town. Great Missenden is approximately fourteen kilometres south of Aylesbury and 47 kilometres northwest of the City of London.

Missenden is a linear settlement formed along the main road from Aylesbury to London where it parallels the path of the river Misbourne. The town is located at a height of approximately 125m OD (Ordnance Datum) rising to a height of 170m OD around the modern settlement area to the west of the historic core (Figure 2).

The principal bedrock geology consists of Middle Chalk formation with some areas of Upper Chalk to the west of the town around the station and to the east around the church (Figure 3). The superficial geology along the path of the Misbourne comprises alluvium with some areas of undifferentiated Head geology (Figure 3). Clay-with-Flints is located along the ridges of the Chiltern Hills. Soils Survey Layer (Cranfield, 2007), surveyed at a county level, classifies the soil around Missenden as predominately deep silty to clay mix (Soil Series 5.71 Typical argillic brown earths) with seasonally wet loam over gravel along the path of the river (Soil Series 8.12 Calcareous alluvial gley soils) and some areas of deep loam to clay to the west of the town (Soil Series 5.82 Stagnogleyic paleo-argillic brown earths).

### 2.2 Wider Landscape

#### *Transport and Communications*

The principal historic route (now the A413) through the town ran along a north-south alignment from Aylesbury to London following the line of the river Misbourne (Figure 4: Route 1). The route and the town were recorded on Ogilby's Strip Map of 1675 (see figure 8). This was one of the main routes through the Chilterns and was turnpiked in 1751 under the Wendover and Oak Lane Trust, it continued to operate until 1878 (Edmonds et al, 1993). A secondary route crosses the town on an east-west alignment linking Chesham to Wycombe. There are several local level routes connecting Missenden with neighbouring villages.

The Metropolitan Railway Company extended their line to Aylesbury through Missenden at the close of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Missenden Station was built to the west of the High Street in 1892.

#### *Rural Landscape*

Great Missenden takes the form a planned linear settlement along the A413 with Missenden Abbey located to the east of the road. Unusually, the parish church is located some distance from the settlement and the grounds of Missenden Abbey indicating the importance it held within the medieval village.

The pre-twentieth century historic landscape surrounding great Missenden was characterised by a dispersed settlement pattern with commons, ancient woodlands and irregularly-shaped hedged fields of pre-18<sup>th</sup> century origin. A thin strip of meadow ran along the valley floor. The extent and layout of the medieval open fields pre-dating the hedged field pattern is not well understood due to the early enclosure, lack of maps and surviving field evidence [Is this true?]

The modern landscape has undergone some alteration with significant areas of modern settlement encroachment west of the town along Martinsend Lane and to the south of the town where Little Kingshill now extends as far as the A413. Missenden Abbey estate has survived and is now an Adult Education College.

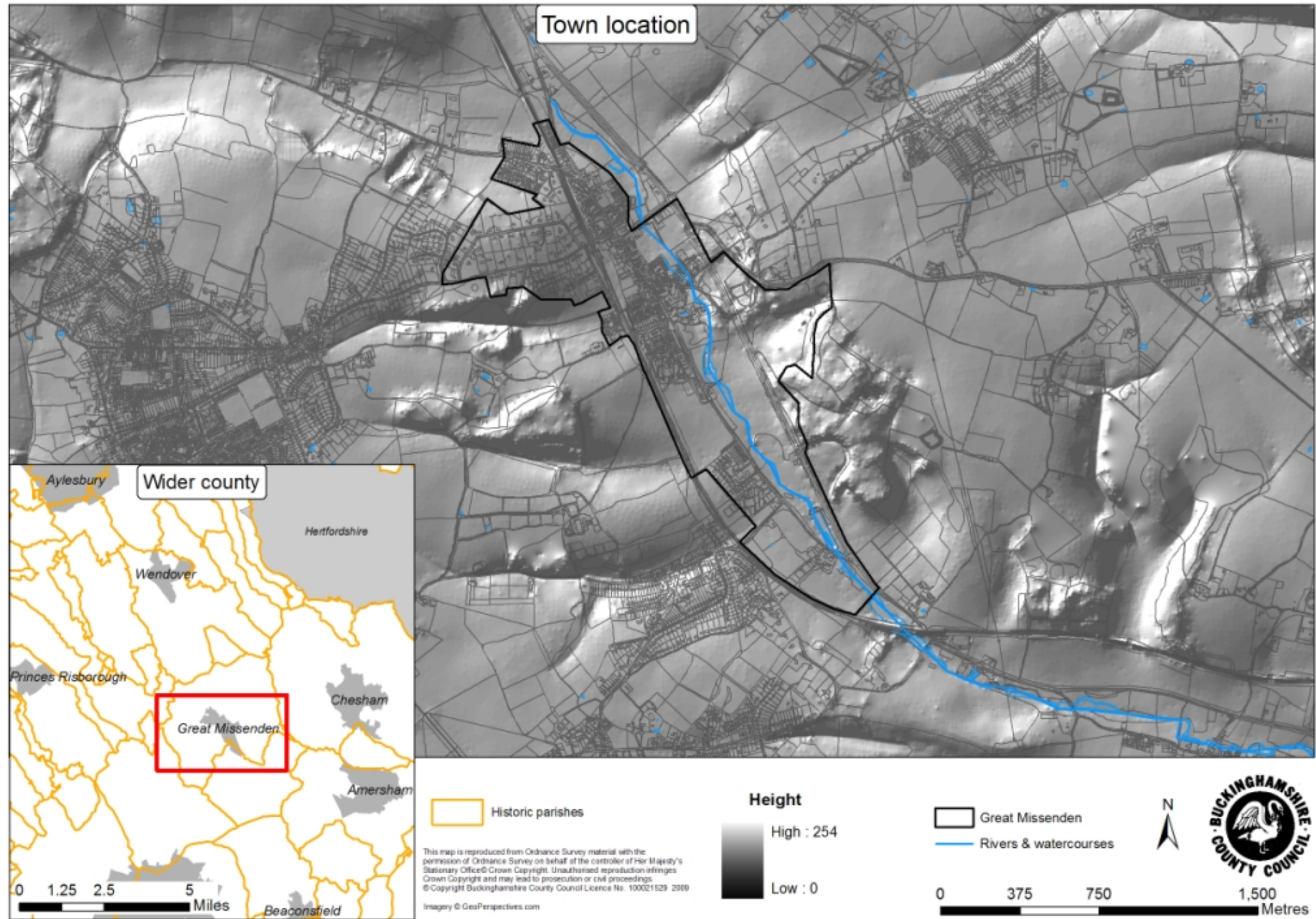


Figure 2: Great Missenden in location

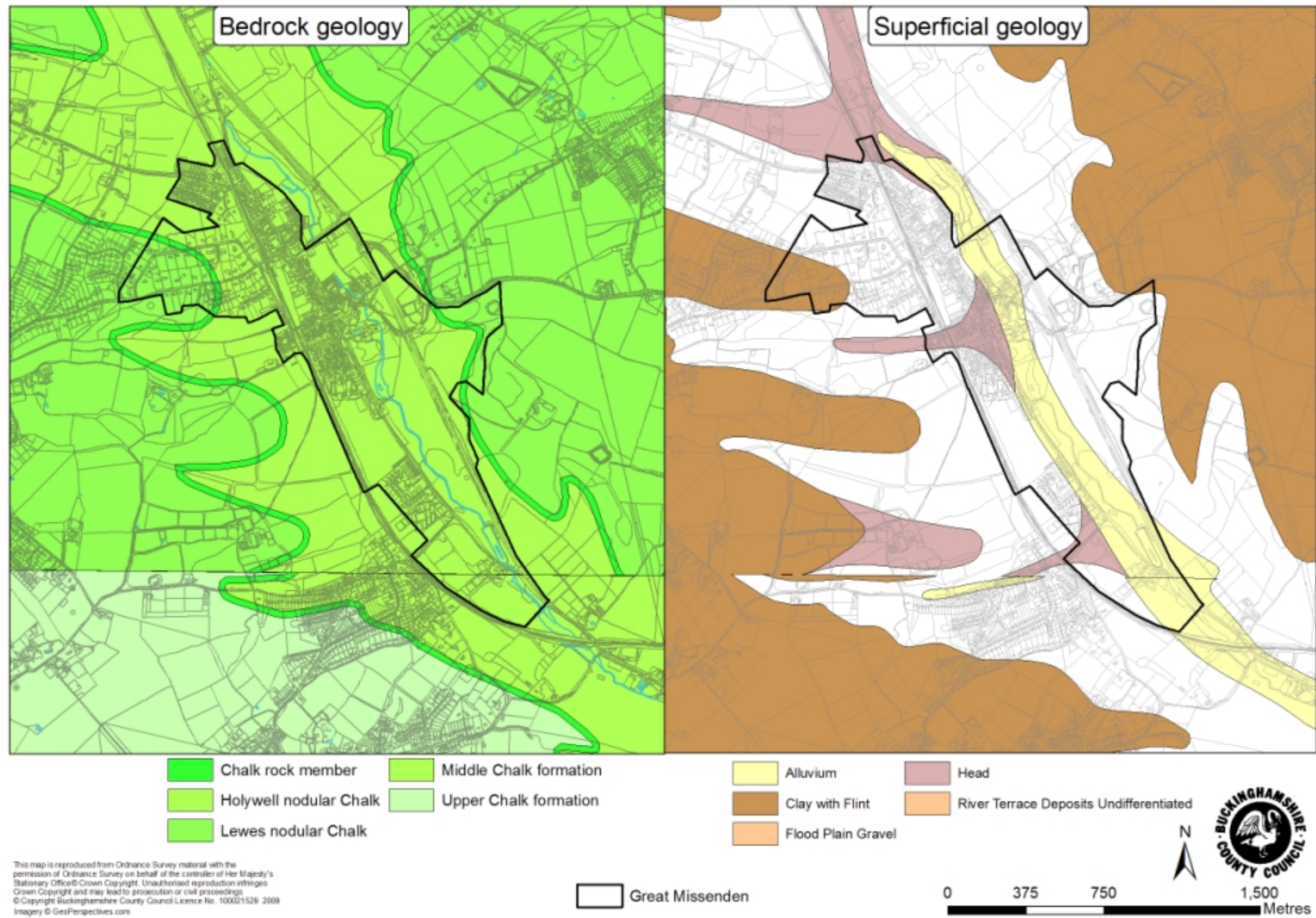


Figure 3: Geology of town (BGS)

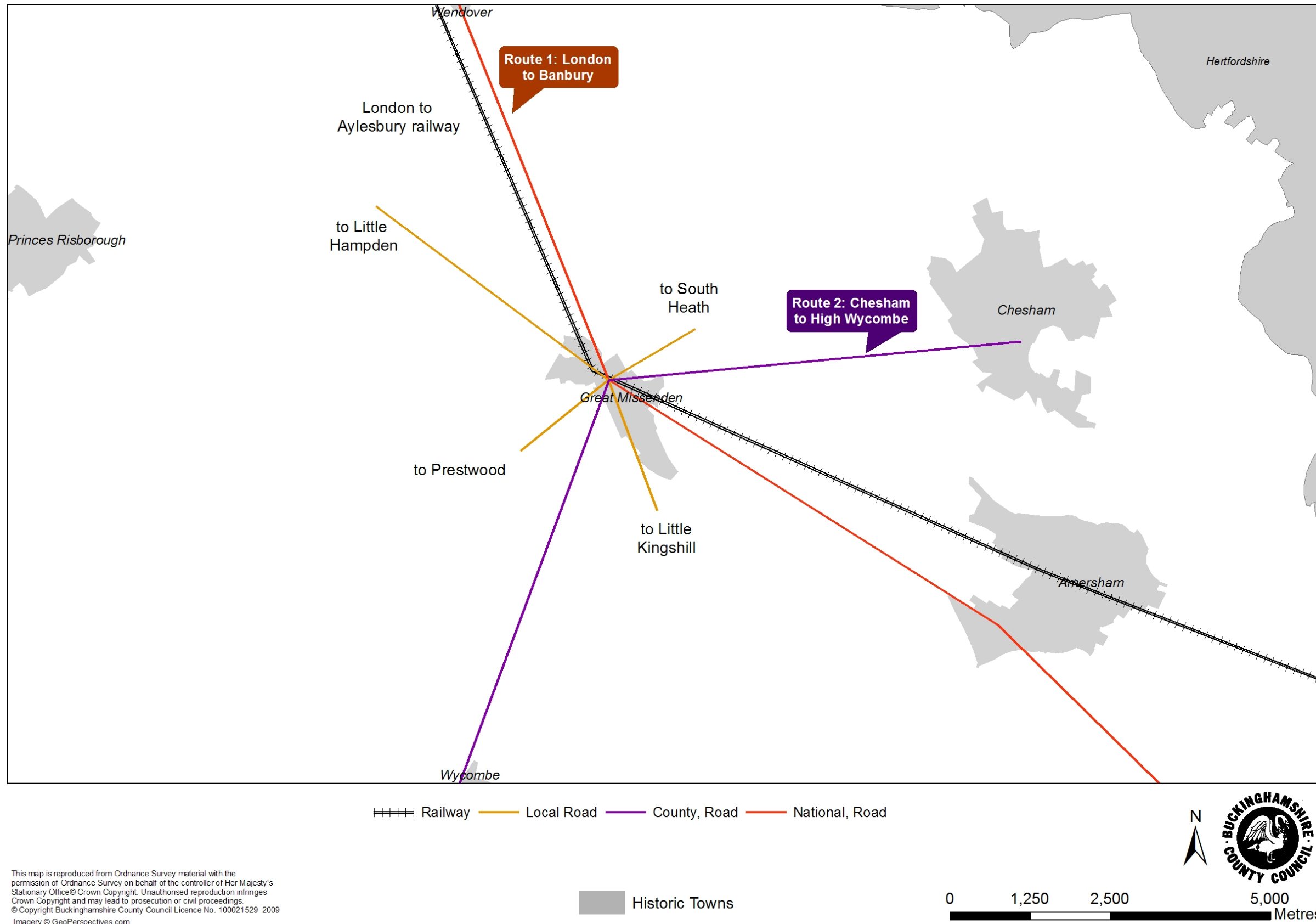


Figure 4: Diagram of Connections from Great Missenden (representational only)

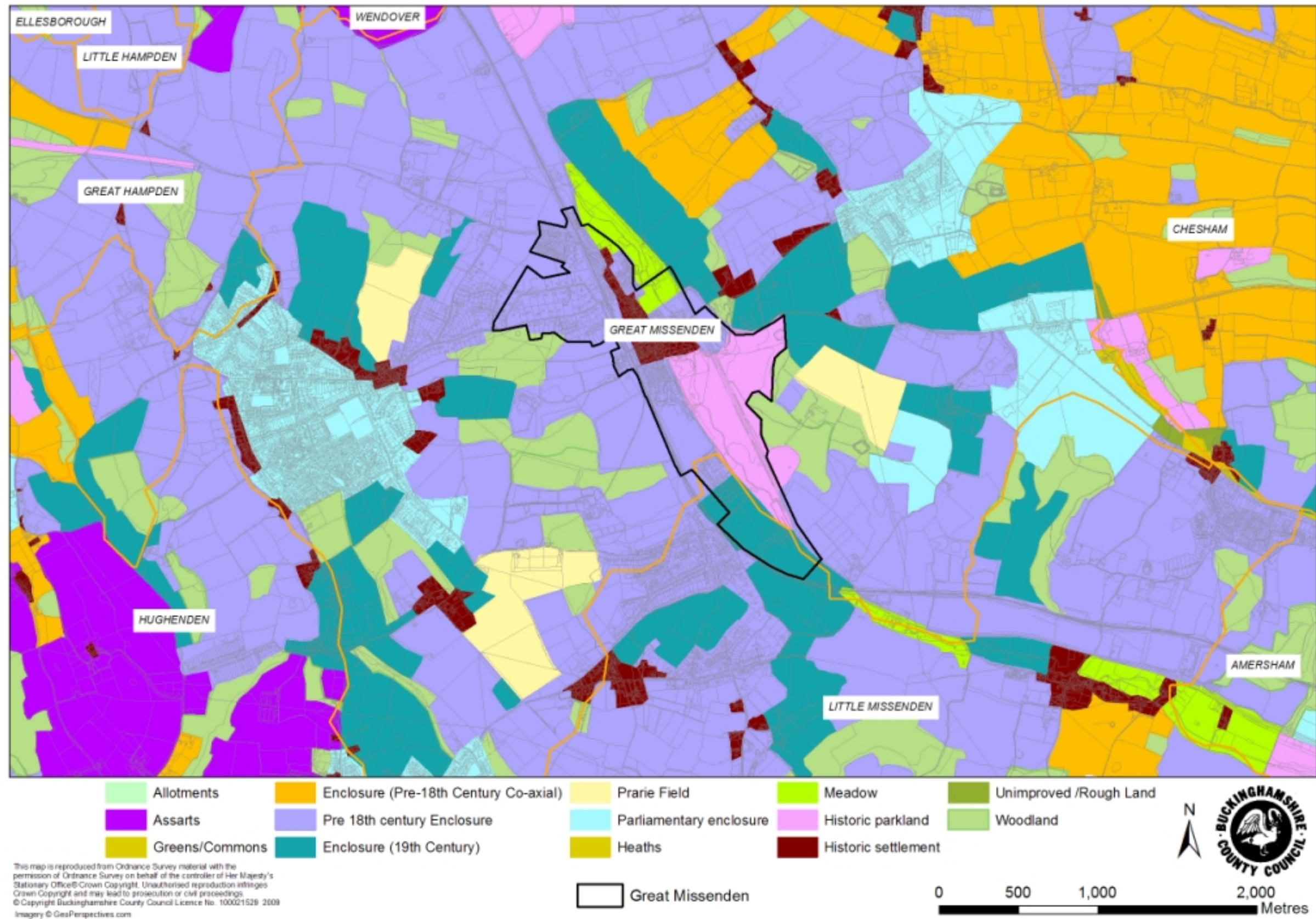
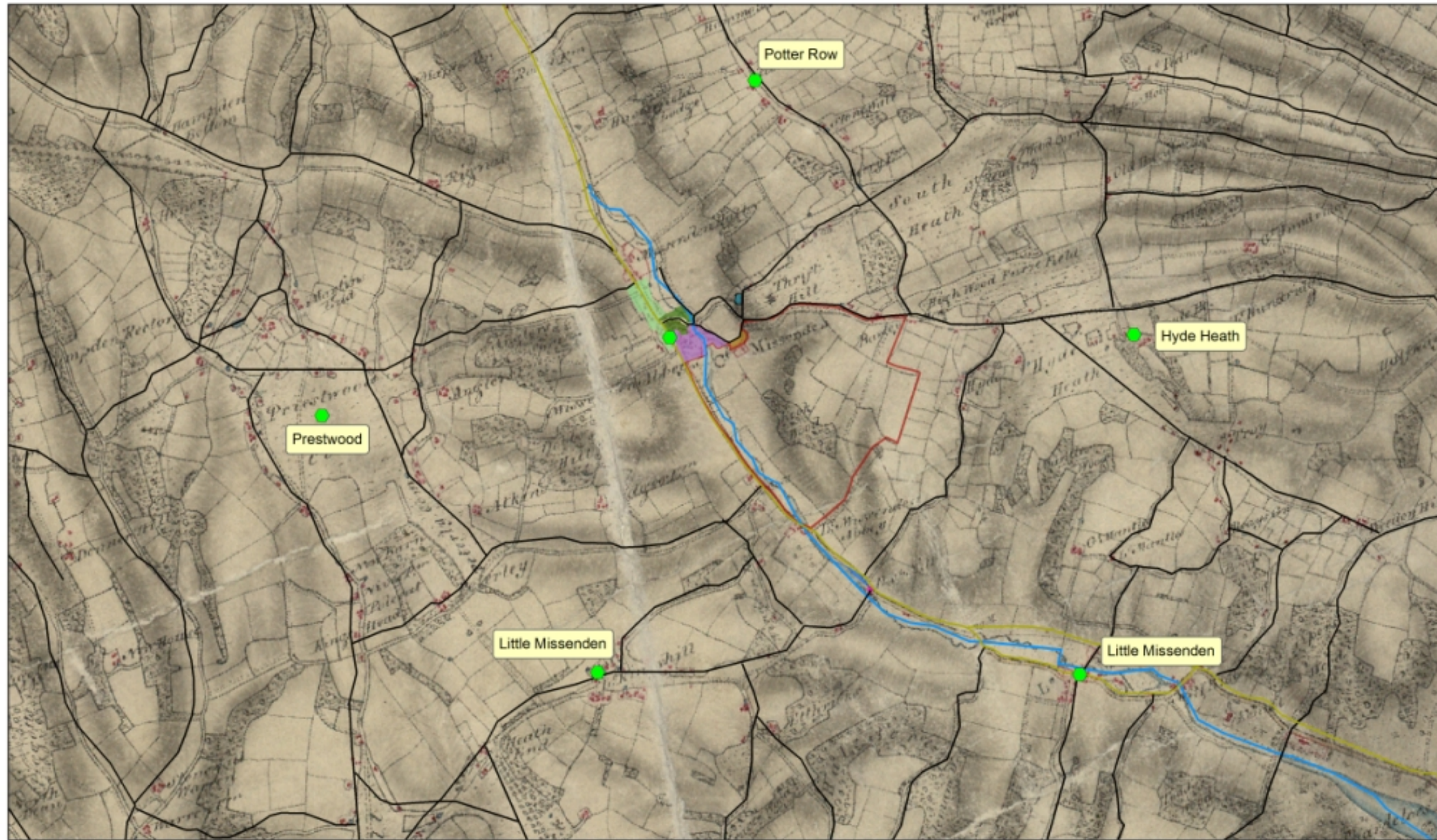


Figure 5: Town in the wider historic landscape using Bucks HLC



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- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| <span style="color: green;">●</span> Village or hamlet  | — Roads    |
| <span style="color: orange;">●</span> Shrunken village  | — Turnpike |
| <span style="color: blue;">●</span> Deserted settlement | — river    |



Figure 6: Early 19<sup>th</sup> century dispersed settlement around Great Missenden

### **3 Evidence**

#### **3.1 Historic Maps**

Characterisation 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). Historic maps at a parish level were also used in the characterisation process including the 1843 Missenden Tithe map (CBS: 274). However, few other historic maps were found for the town (Figure 8).

#### **3.2 Documentary Evidence**

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

There are some surviving documents for the medieval manors in Missenden and more substantial records for Missenden Abbey, including the Missenden Abbey cartularies which date from the 14<sup>th</sup> century to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. There is also some insightful post graduate research by Mike Davis (Davis 2004), which explores the medieval landholdings of Missenden Abbey and discusses the Abbey's relationship with the town. Another key secondary source is the Elaine Kaye's short guide to Missenden Abbey.

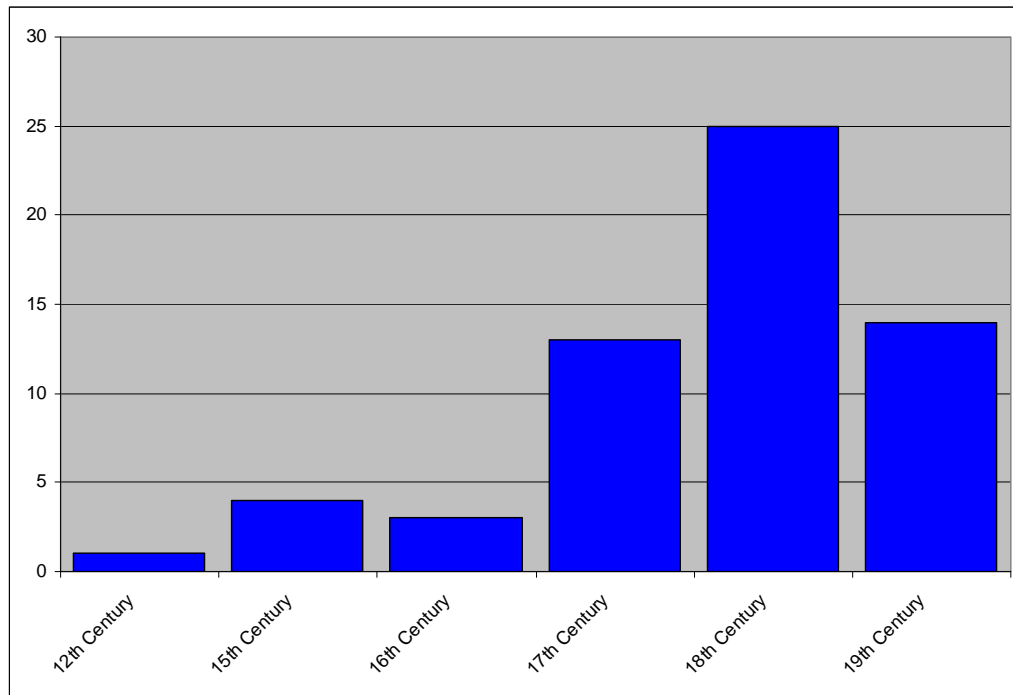
No official borough records appear to survive for Great Missenden although there are some references to burgesses along the High Street (Chevenix-Trench 1996).

#### **3.3 Built Heritage**

There are 60 listed buildings in Great Missenden including one Grade II\* listed building at Elmhurst on the High Street and two Grade II\* listed buildings at the George also on the High Street (Figure 7). While Missenden Abbey originally dates to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, it was almost entirely destroyed by fire in 1986 and subsequently largely rebuilt. The Abbey complex also includes a listed 18<sup>th</sup> century summerhouse, two 18<sup>th</sup> century and one 19<sup>th</sup> century wall and a flint bridge, summerhouse and sundial dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Abbey Farm on Church Street is also listed, currently recorded as primarily 18<sup>th</sup> century in origin although dendrochronology dating has suggested an earlier, 15<sup>th</sup> century date for some elements (Appendix 11.5). Four other buildings date to the medieval period including Elmhurst and the George (15<sup>th</sup> century), while Crown House (No. 70 High Street) and Beam House (No. 38 High Street), were originally thought to be 18<sup>th</sup> century but subsequent building survey revealed that the core of both buildings to be late medieval, constructed in a 'true cruck style, (Appendix 11.6.). Three buildings date to the 16<sup>th</sup> century while the majority of listed buildings (38), date to the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century; a further fourteen buildings date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Figure 9).

The survey at Crown House and Beam House illustrates value of building recording and the limitations of current listing system, where the age/provenance of buildings has been determined by their external appearance. The employment of building survey has the potential to revise the dates of historic buildings and also offer a new interpretation and understanding of the Great Missenden's development as a settlement.

Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment



*Figure 7: Listed Buildings by century*



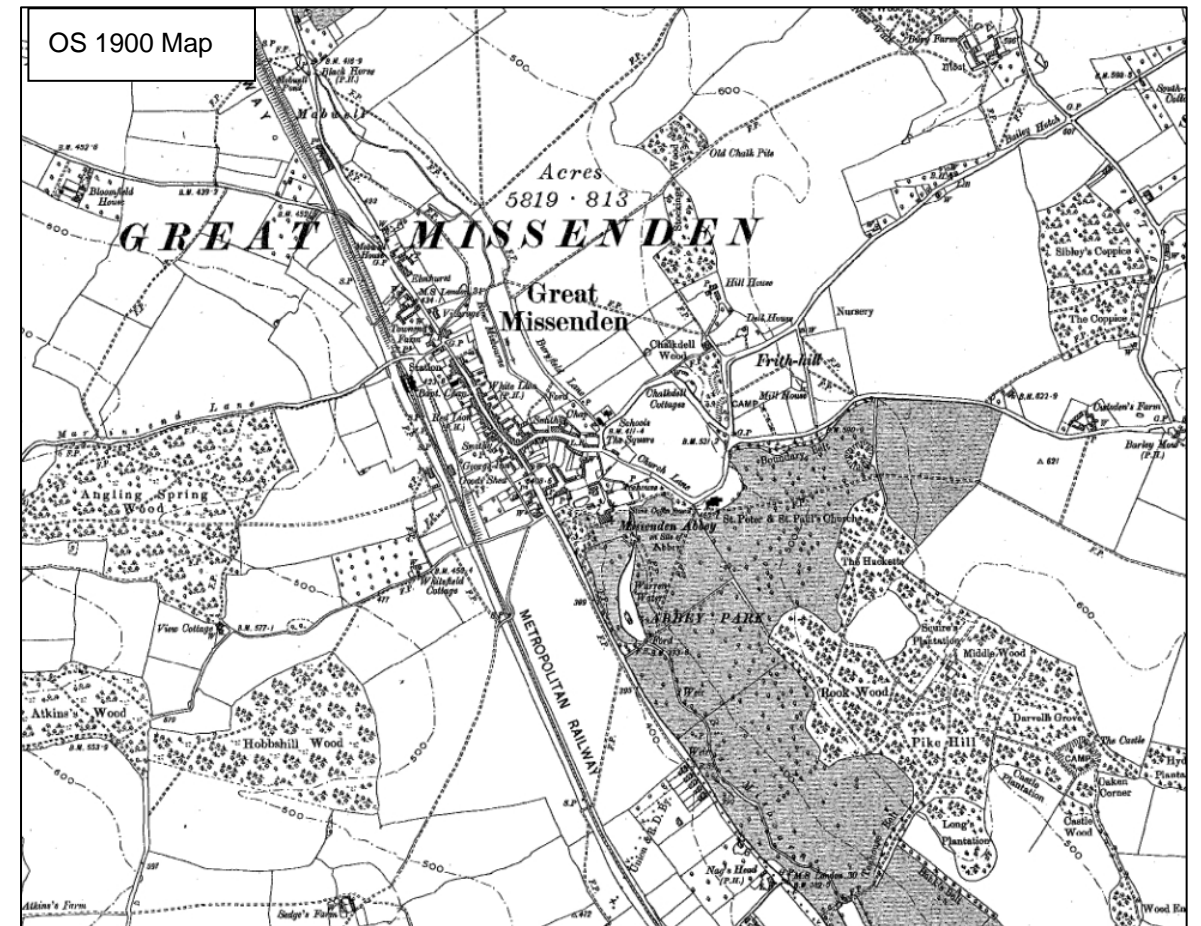
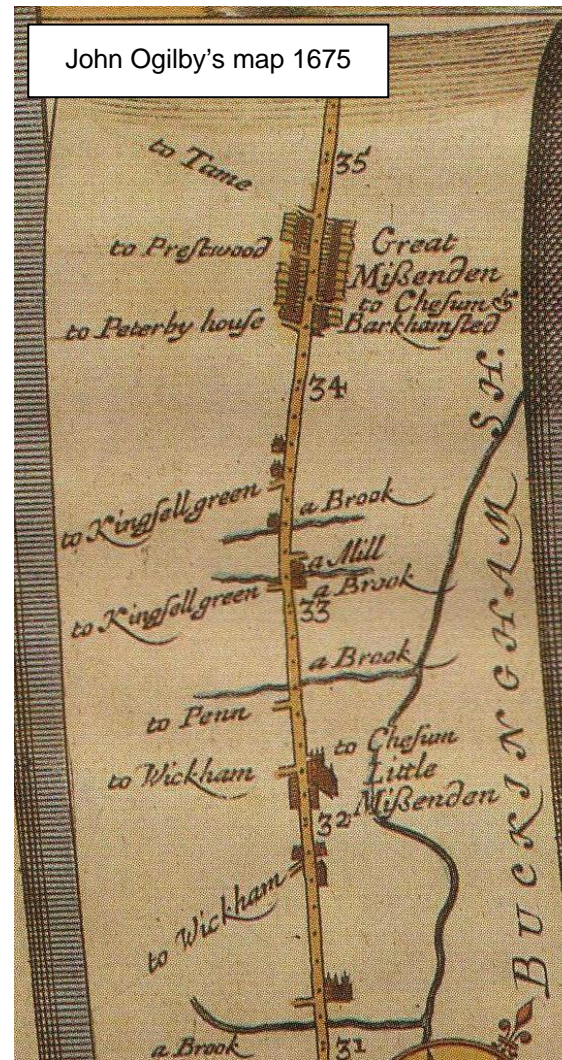
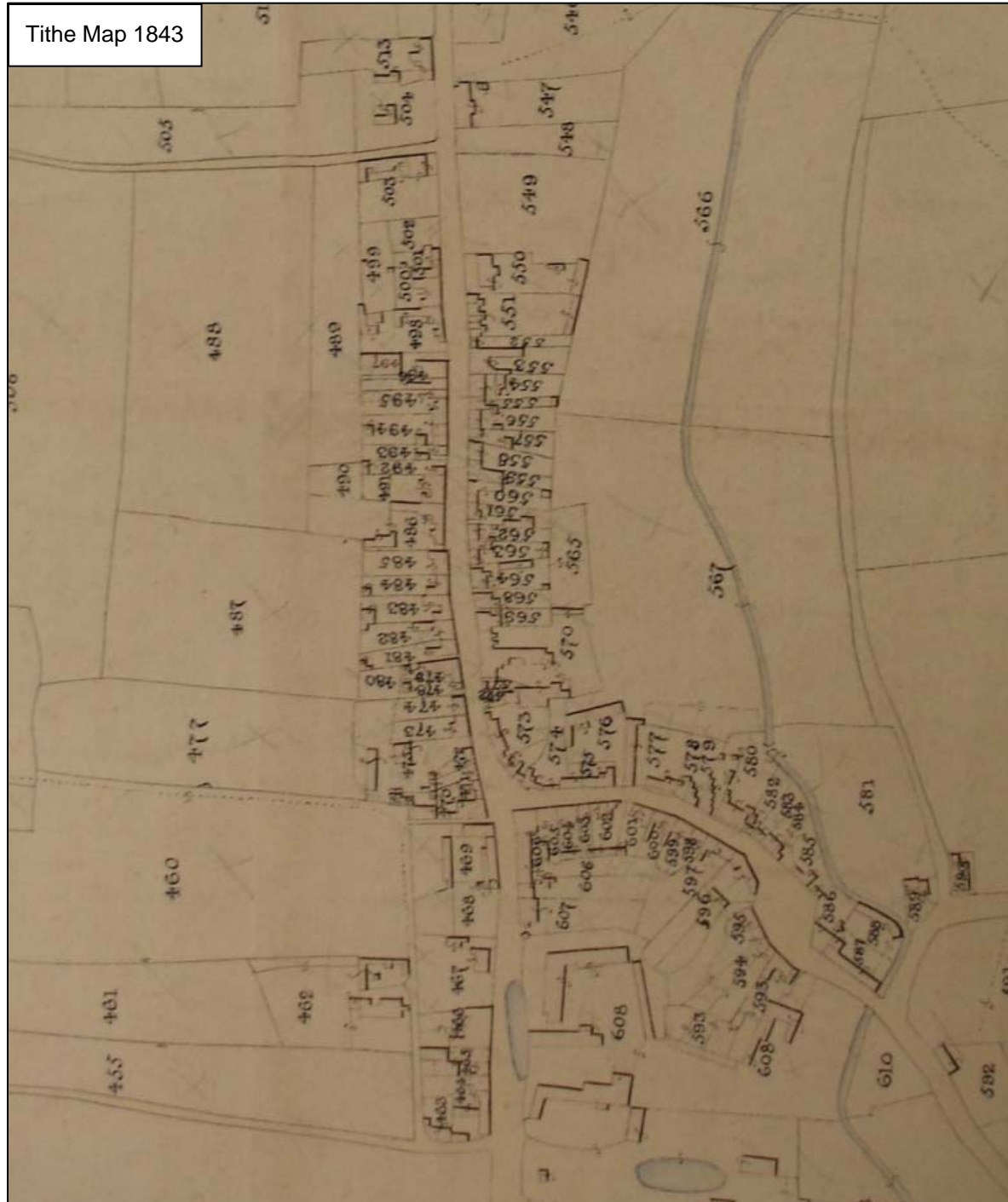


Figure 8: Historic maps

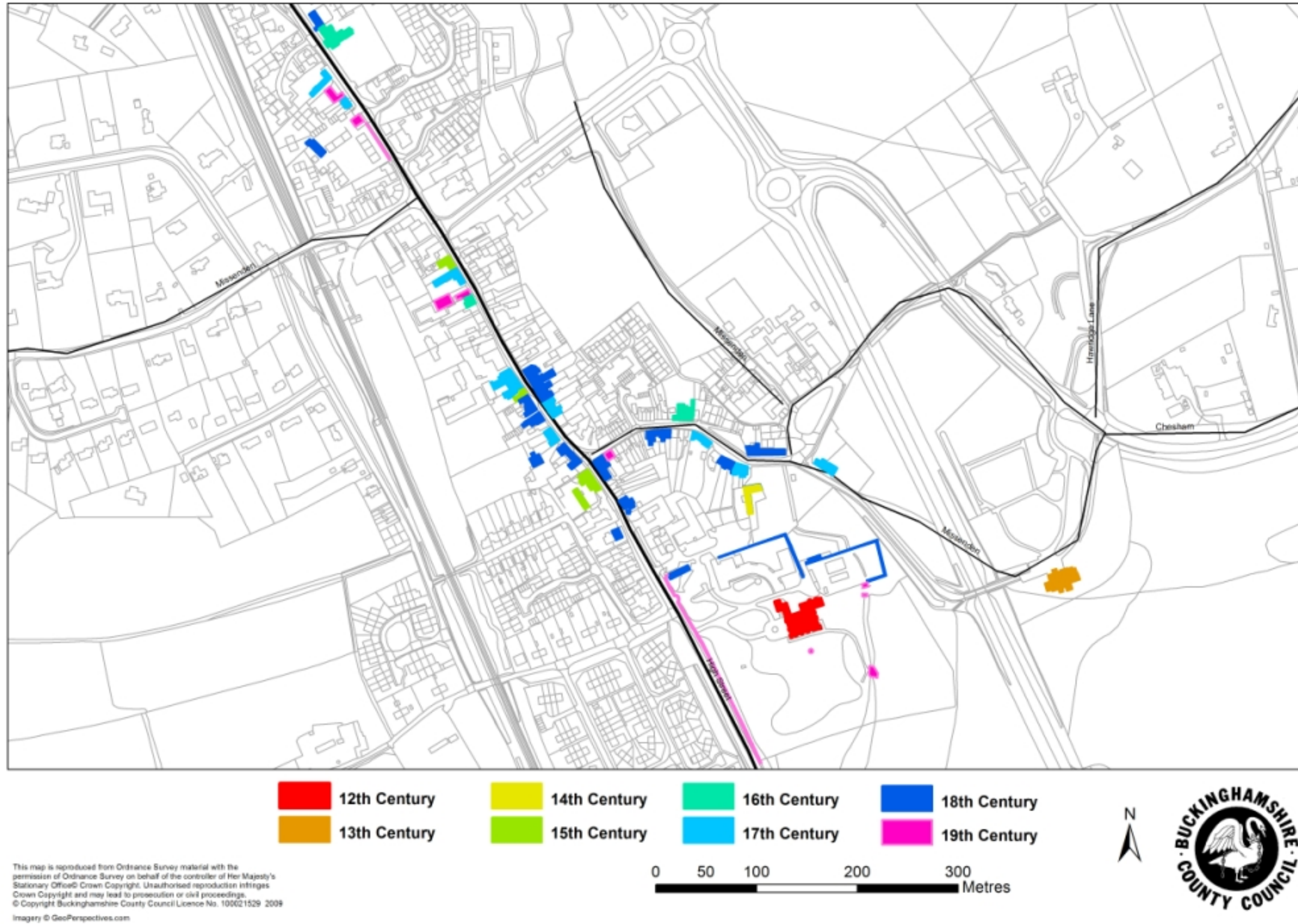


Figure 9: Listed Buildings in Great Missenden by century

3.4 Archaeological Evidence

Previous archaeological investigations in Great Missenden have been limited to just six events (**Error! Reference source not found.**). Unfortunately the most significant investigations at Missenden Abbey were never published in full (GM1; GM2; GM3). Two investigations in Missenden were also negative due to modern disturbance.

GM1: Great Missenden Abbey NGR 8973 0098 (1983)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
1983: decorated tile pavements ( medieval) lead glazing strips painted glass painted stone wall plasters stone fragments roof tiles bronze objects 2 silver pennies 1984: Penn floor tiles (14 <sup>th</sup> century) 1985: window glass (16 <sup>th</sup> century?) 50 pieces architectural stone (medieval & Tudor)	1983: 5 graves (12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> century)	None
		Above ground structures
		1985: 3 partial medieval windows
		Positive features (above natural)
		1983: foundations of timber barn (6m x 18m) (medieval) chalk and flint wall foundations (late medieval) wall foundations (17 <sup>th</sup> century) wall foundations north of church 1984: brick culvert (19 <sup>th</sup> century) wall (faced with tiles) 1985: 1 wall foundation (early medieval?) 1 wall foundation (post medieval) Floor level (16 <sup>th</sup> century)
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
A series of watching briefs and excavations were undertaken at Missenden Abbey in the 1980s, however only summary reports have been published. Source: Summary notes in South Midlands Archaeology 14 (1984); 15 (1985), 15 (1986); Records of Buckinghamshire: Archaeological Notes: Archive: County Museum	Sample rescue excavations were undertaken at the site of the conventual church at Missenden Abbey in 1983. (SP 897 010) Excavations revealed two or three phases of structural development. The primary phase seems to have consisted of a nave approximately 18m in length; a second possible phase might be identified with the addition of a chancel. The excavations also revealed the foundations of a late medieval timber barn and what may have been a guest range or servants quarters. A second unidentified building was also discovered some distance to the north of the church and may have been an infirmary or mason's workshop (Yeoman P, 1984). Watching brief undertaken during building works at the conventual church north of the house in 1984. (SP 897 010) The 14 <sup>th</sup> century floor tiles likely formed the back walls of the choir stalls and formed north and south chancel aisles 2.5m wide. Report indicates that wall foundations are well preserved up to a depth of one metre. Summary indicates there was no southern transept in the medieval period. (Yeoman P, 1985). Standing building recording undertaken in 1984/1985. (SP897 070) Original building thought to contain the claustral range of the original abbey (c1133). A number of important discoveries have been made during the course of this survey including 3 medieval windows in the east range. Also reported was a thick medieval wall footing at a depth of one metre below the current church, thought to be the east end wall of the first church on the site. A second wall footing was also discovered a short distance from the first, this was thought as a footing for the 18 <sup>th</sup> century stables. Evidence for the physical destruction of the abbey was also reported with the discovery of a hard mortar floor level within the	

	church. This floor level was found to be covered with a fine layer of smashed window glass and sealed by the collapse of the vaulted ceiling. A major fire in July 1986 destroyed most of the Abbey. A new programme of archaeological work was then begun in order to catalogue the areas of the building that needed to be completely demolished for safety reasons. The fire did, however, lead to the discovery of many more blocked openings and areas of original medieval walling (Farley M, 1986).	
GM2: Great Missenden Abbey NGR 8973 0098 (Yeoman P, Heathman P & Sharpe J, 1987)		
Finds	Negative features (cut only)	Environmental evidence
decorated stone fragments medieval decorated tile	None	None Above ground structures doorway c.1600 Positive features (above natural) None
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Source: Records of Buckinghamshire 28: Archaeological Notes: 213	Summary notes presented in Records of Buckinghamshire. Series of watching briefs carried out in 1987 during reconstruction of the Abbey. Site clearly substantially rebuilt in the Tudor period.	
GM3: Great Missenden Abbey NGR 8973 0098 (Collard M, 1988)		
Standing Buildings		
oblong building (15 <sup>th</sup> century)		
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Source: Records of Buckinghamshire 30: Archaeological Notes: 178 Archive:	Summary notes presented in Records of Buckinghamshire.	
GM6: 81-83 High Street NGR 8952 0121 (Wilcox S, 2003)		
Standing Buildings		
Timber framed 16 <sup>th</sup> century buildings 17 <sup>th</sup> century extension	18 <sup>th</sup> century extension 20 <sup>th</sup> century alteration	
Circumstances of investigation	Conclusion	
Source: Unpublished archaeological document Archive: County Museum	Earliest phase of construction dates to the 16 <sup>th</sup> century. Later expanded in the 17 <sup>th</sup> century and modern period. Previously in use as a hotel.	

Several archaeological investigations within the historic settlement did not find any significant archaeological features, most likely due to either the extent of modern redevelopment in the area or to the limited nature of the archaeological activity.

Code	Activity type	Address	NGR	Date	Summary
GM4	Watching Brief	St Peter & St Paul's Church	9000 0101	March 2001	Negative – inhumations relating to graveyard only (Taylor A)
GM5	Watching Brief	81-83 High Street	SP 4895 2011	November 2002	Negative – modern disturbance (Burton R, Holman A)

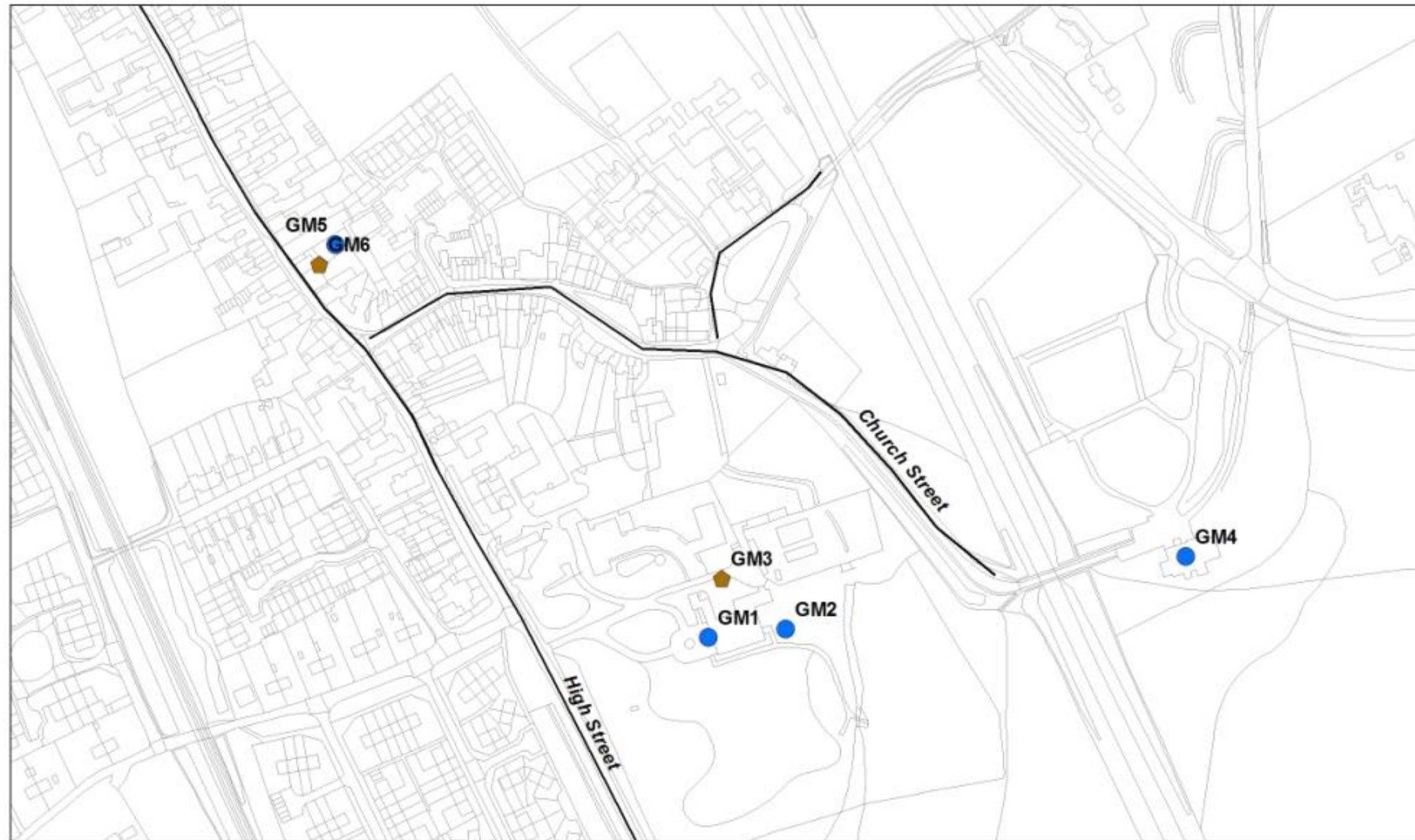
### 3.5 Environmental Evidence

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).

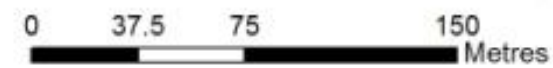
## Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

To date no environmental sampling has been carried out in Great Missenden although archaeological excavations at Missenden Abbey (GM1) have shown good preservation of human bone.

The free-draining chalk geology underlying the town implies good conditions for the preservation of bone and land molluscs but low potential for pollen survival and waterlogged deposits. The one exception to the latter point could be along the river Misbourne which was historically managed with leets and mill ponds. This area was also known to be centre of the medieval tanning industry, which could suggest a good potential for the preservation of wood and organic materials. Carbonised plant remains are also likely to survive across the town



■ Building Survey    ● Watching Brief



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Figure 10: Location and extent of events within Great Missenden

## **4 Archaeological & Historical Development**

### **4.1 Prehistoric and Roman period (c.10,000 BC – AD 410)**

At present there is no evidence for prehistoric activity within the historic settlement of Great Missenden, however a significant number of Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scatters have been recovered from field walking and chance finds immediately surrounding the town at Bury Farm and along the Great Missenden by-pass. At the parish level, Great Missenden has been fairly well covered by a long running programme of field walking carried out by the Chess Valley Archaeological and Historical Society. It has been postulated that the Misbourne Valley was used in prehistoric times as a highway through the Chilterns (Head 1955).

Archaeological evidence for Mesolithic activity in the Chilterns is at present generally concentrated on the alluvial valley floors and particularly in the south of the county (Farley, 2007a). The lower Misbourne Valley around Denham is particularly rich in Mesolithic archaeology with several important sites along the path of the M25 and at Denham. Mesolithic activity is indicated at a few sites across Great Missenden parish including at Darvell's Grove [HER 0458500000], and at Grimsdell's Lane in Amersham-on-the-Hill [HER 0296300000].

Archaeological evidence for the Neolithic to Bronze Age period takes the form of scatters of worked flint. Flint scatters were found during field walking at Hyde Farm [HER 0468100002] and at Cudsden Farm [HER 0447900000]; while field walking at Wheatley Wood [HER 0434800000] yielded a number of prehistoric finds including Bronze Age material as well as a single Celtic coin. A single granite axe-head found at the Pheasant Inn on Plantation Road and thought to have come from Cornwall, dates to the Neolithic period [HER 0637200000]. The only known prehistoric monument in the parish is Grim's Ditch, a long earthwork boundary bank which is 2km to the north of the town at its closest point.

Evidence for the Roman period in and around Great Missenden is modest. A few chance finds have been discovered in and around the town including Roman metalwork found in the garden of Rignall Road [HER 0258700000] and to the south of Road Farm [HER 0498601000]. There is a possible villa site on the summit of Cobbler's Hill, 2.5 kilometres northwest of Great Missenden [HER 0100500000], where a number of finds have been found including sherds of Iron Age pottery [HER 0100500004], fragments of Roman pottery and quernstones [HER 0100500001-3] as well as building debris and slag [HER 0100500005 and HER 0100501000]. From finds evidence the building is possibly late 1<sup>st</sup> century AD with occupation lasting into the 4<sup>th</sup> century (Head 1965). There is also very tentative evidence for a Roman settlement at Coney field c. 1 km northwest of Great Missenden when metalwork and tile was unearthed during a metal detecting survey [HER 0666400000] while Roman pottery has also been found to the south of this area [HER 0498600000].

There is evidence for a well established Romano-British farming community in the Misbourne Valley with a number of Roman villa or farmstead settlements along the path of the river (Zeepvat & Radford, 2007). Between Little Missenden and Amersham, four possible Roman villa sites have been identified, three of which lie within or near to Amersham. It is therefore likely that the more modest evidence for Roman settlement at the upper end of the Misbourne reflects a lower level of investigation rather than absence of remains.

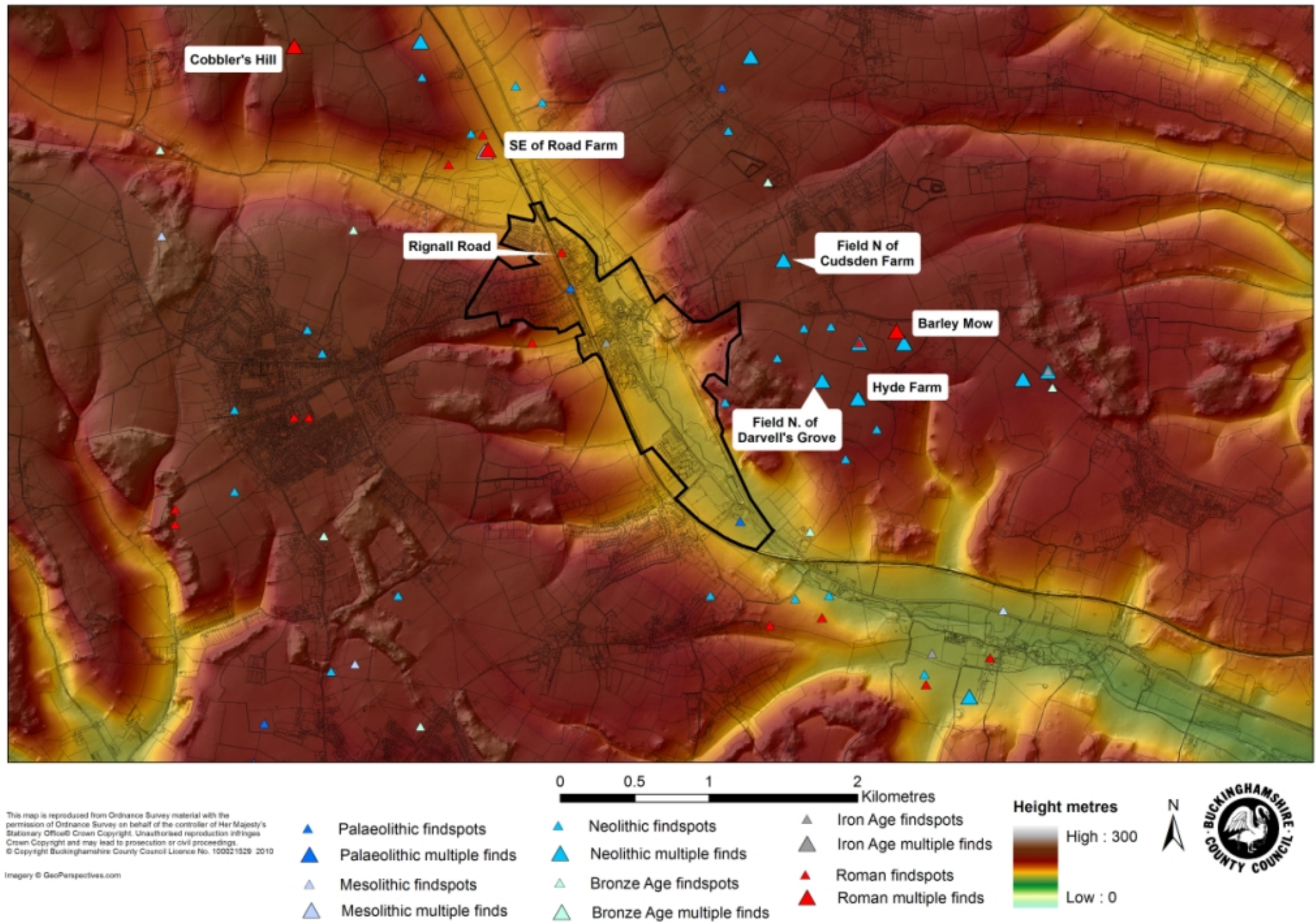


Figure 11: HER records for the Prehistoric and Roman periods



4.2 Saxon synthesis (AD 410 – 1066)

Archaeological evidence from the Saxon period is very limited. There is no archaeological evidence within the town itself. In the surrounding area evidence is restricted to some isolated finds [HER 0029200000] (Farley M, 2007b).

*Place name evidence*

The first mention of Missenden comes from Domesday where it is referred to as *Missendene*; it is thought that it derives from *dene* meaning valley or hollow and the personal name *Myrsa* (Mawer & Stenton, 1925).

*Domesday*

Prior to the Conquest, the manor was held by Sired, a thane of King Edward the Confessor's, but thereafter it was given to Walter Giffard and held from him by Thurstan son of Rolf (Morris, 1978). The manor comprised ten hides (c.1200 acres) with land for fourteen ploughs, meadow for two ploughs and woodland for 500 pigs. The total value of the manor prior to the Conquest was £7, dropping to £4 post 1066 (Morris, 1978). The total recorded population comprised the households of nine villagers, one smallholder and two slaves.

*Conjectural settlement layout – Late Anglo Saxon period*

The layout and extent of Anglo Saxon Great Missenden is uncertain although it could be conjectured that a potential location for the settlement could have focussed around the present site of SS Peter and Paul church and perhaps spread along in a linear fashion along Church Street (figure 12). However this theory has yet to be substantiated, as currently there have been no records of Anglo Saxon finds turning up in this part of the village or indeed any part of Great Missenden. There is also no record or mention of any archaeological finds during the cutting of the bypass in 1960, although the bypass was constructed in the days before archaeological recording was required for major construction projects. An alternative theory is that Great Missenden's late Anglo Saxon settlement was more dispersed, akin to the common edge settlements that are a feature of neighbouring Hyde Heath and Prestwood - made up of a series of farmsteads and manors. More research is needed to ascertain where the Saxon settlement of Great Missenden was located and what form it might have taken.



0 50 100 200 300 400 Metres

manor? possible saxon church?

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Figure 12: Conjectural extent of settlement in the Late Saxon period

#### 4.3 Medieval period (1066-1536)

##### *Manors*

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 Great Missenden 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.

##### Great Missenden Manor

The manor was held by the Giffard family after Domesday and remained within the family until 1164 when it was passed into the ownership of the Crown. It eventually returned to the Giffard's heirs in 1191 although when the Giffards died without an heir the manor passed to the Marshall family and remaining with them until 1521 when it was forfeited to the Crown. The Giffards and the Marshalls were absentee landlords and for most of the medieval period the manor was occupied by a sub-tenant, the most notable being William de Missenden who founded Missenden abbey in 1133. William's son Hugh became lord of the manor before 1141, he changed the family surname to de Noers, Huw and was still living in 1166, but was succeeded soon after by his son William de Noers, (fn. 18) who died before 1185, for in that year his son William was a minor in the custody of Henry de Pinkeni. (fn. 19)

William de Noers the younger died, however, about 1189, and his lands passed to his brother Hugh, (fn. 20). The de Noers failed to produce a male heir the de Noers daughter Joan married Hugh de Sandford and they held Missenden together. Hugh seems to have died in 1233 or 1234, and Joan about 1252. She left two daughters, Christiana, who married first William de Sideham, and secondly John de Plessy, afterwards Earl of Warwick, and Agnes, the wife of Matthew Husee. The manor of Great Missenden was divided between these two heiresses, the manors later becoming known as Overbury and Netherbury (Page W,1908).

##### Overbury

This sub manor was granted to Agnes and Matthew Husee in 1254, remaining with their descendents until 1348 when it was conveyed to Thomas de Mussenden (Page W,1908).

##### Netherbury

The second manor was granted to Christiana and John de Plessy in 1254, descending to John Cheyne of Isenhampstead by 1379. In 1381 Cheyne conveyed the land in trust to Missenden Abbey who leased it for a short while to the owners of Overbury. It remained with the Abbey until the Dissolution (Page W,1908).

##### Peterley Manor (reputed) (HER 0219100000)

Located 3 km to the west of Great Missenden, Peterley manor appears to have originated from lands held by Hugh de Noers and granted to Missenden Abbey in 1141 (Page W,1908). Later the seat of the Dormers, a medieval mansion was believed to have been demolished in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and replaced with a new building (Sheahan 1861 p. 176).

##### *Markets and Fairs*

Documentary records show that a market and fair on the eve and day of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin (14 and 15 August) was granted by Henry III to Joan de Sandford of Missenden Manor in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century and later confirmed in 1367 to Thomas de Mussenden (Page 1908). There is some mention of a second fair granted to Marmaduke Darrell of Netherbury. Later, fairs were held on Easter Tuesday and the Monday after Michaelmas, but have been abolished since 1883. However the medieval economy of Great Missenden seems to be something of a mystery, with little documentary evidence for trades etc (see Appendix 1

*Missenden Abbey*

Missenden Abbey - church & cloister (HER 0185500000)

Founded by William de Missenden in 1133, Missenden Abbey was a religious house of the Arrouaisian order – named after the Abbey of Arrouaise, France. The order of Arrouaise combined the rule of St. Augustine with the more restrained and austere approach of the Cistercians (Knowles 1963). Arrouaisian abbeys were usually established in remote areas under the patronage of a wealthy secular ruler who could provide sufficient land to establish it. Of the nine Arrouaisian abbeys established in England, two were in Buckinghamshire the other being the abbey at Notley, near Long Crendon. In general, as time passed, the distinction between the Augustinian and Arrouaisian orders was less likely to be made, so that now, as in their later years of life, Arrouaisian houses are often referred to as being houses of Augustinian Canons.

Missenden Abbey, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, was the earliest to be founded in Buckinghamshire. The abbey was built next to the village on part of the possessions of the Earl of Gloucester. The canons of Missenden Abbey were granted the manor at Great Missenden and as well as large possessions in neighbouring parishes, including land at Potter Row, Ballinger, Kingshill, Peterley, Prestwood and Moretensend (Page W,1908) as well as appropriating the churches at Little Missenden, Chalfont St Peter and Great Kynshell. The canons also enjoyed many privileges, including rights over the market at Great Missenden (Davis 2004).

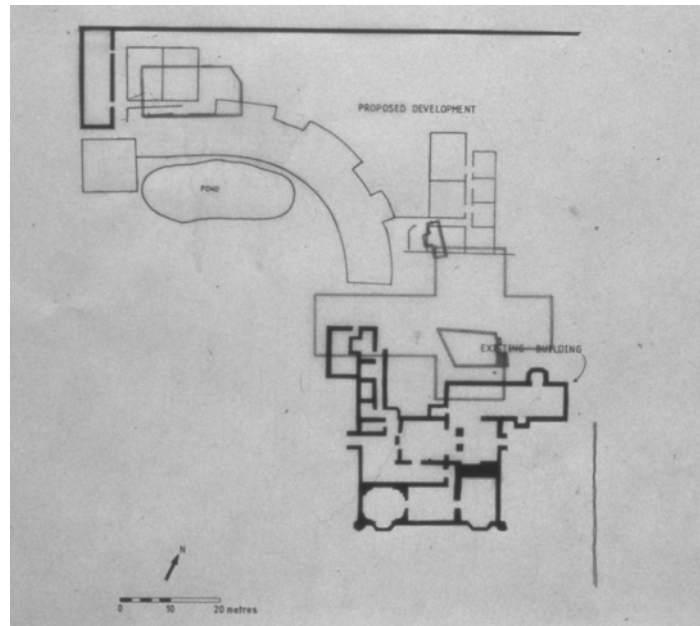
The Abbey possesses a well documented history, including the 14<sup>th</sup> century Missenden Cartulary (Jenkins 1938). The documents show Missenden was not a one of the greater abbeys of England, nor did it possess any notable abbots or produce any famous religious figures. However, it was well endowed and all the best known names in the county of Buckingham are found amongst the early benefactors: Richard de Urville the archdeacon, Walter Giffard, Walter de Bolebec, Turstin Mantel, Manasser Danmartin, Simon de Gerardmoulin, Hugh de Gurnay, Robert Mansel, the Turvilles and Cheinduits, and many others.

The historical records highlight a history of mismanagement and bad governance. One of the first episodes of notoriety occurs in 1368 when St Mary's abbot Ralph Mareschall was convicted of: "treachery and feloniously counterfeited and clipped the king's money – viz., groats and shillings' sentenced to death and to be hanged drawn and quartered" however he was later pardoned by the king (Parker 1891).

Records of later visitations by the bishop of Lincoln in the 15<sup>th</sup> and early 16<sup>th</sup> centuries gives a snapshot of the condition of the Abbey as perceived by church authorities - it depicts a pattern of gradual decline. The commentary on a visit of 1432 states that the buildings were in need of maintenance and that St Mary's had an insufficient number of canons to perform daily and nightly services - the bishop instructed the abbot to increase their numbers (Parker p. 382). A visitation almost a century later (1518) by bishop William Atwater reveals that standards of practice had slipped further with canons of the monastery frequently going into town without any special license, the buildings in need of maintenance and again the population of the abbey was too low and recruitment was encouraged. By the visitation of 1530 the list of problems had increased, it is recorded that monastery buildings were in an state of disrepair, that the canons no longer have scripture lessons read to them and the gate of church is left open so that the laity enter at will, canons do not know the bounds and limits of the lands/possessions of the monastery, nor do any of them manage them and there are no records/rental kept by the abbey to show their ownership of lands. To cap it all, the house was burdened with large debts (Parker p. 384). A special visitation by the bishop to check on progress was made in 1531, which shows that the abbey had not improved and that the canons had taken to wearing laymen's dress including one canon that frequently wore a doublet, jerkin and carried a sword. Missenden Abbey was dissolved in 1538.

In terms of physical structure most of the medieval monastery was destroyed after its dissolution (see below). A later house was built on the site of the cloister, the west range of which seems to have been demolished in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Parts of the south and east range were incorporated in the house and survived until the fire of 1985, all that remains is some walling of the east range with the opening dormitory window above a doorway. One of the Abbey's best surviving features, a 15<sup>th</sup> century dormitory roof was also destroyed in the blaze. The modern

Missenden Abbey is a small 'Gothick' mansion with medieval features retained within its structure (Pevsner and Williamson 1993).



*Figure 13: A conjectural plan of the location and extent of Missenden Abbey church in relation to extant buildings.*

There have been a number of excavations at Missenden Abbey in the 1980s (GM1) by Bucks County museum (BCM) and the County Museum Archaeology Group (CMAG). These excavations were prompted by the conversion of Missenden Abbey into an adult education establishment. However the excavations have not been fully published, information has been gleaned from short summaries published in *Records of Buckinghamshire*. An excavation in 1983 revealed the location of the abbey church to be north of the existing house (Figure 14). This revealed that the chancel vault had collapsed in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, apparently intentionally broken up and subsequently rebuilt.

The excavations also unearthed a number of medieval burials relating to the abbey; these were interred in stone coffins which were thought to be within the abbey church rather than buried in a separate cemetery. The excavations showed that skeletal material had survived in the burials and was fairly well preserved.

In 1988 work by the county architects department led to a rapid investigation by BCM and CMAG revealed a late 15<sup>th</sup> century rectangular building which overlaid and belonged to claustral buildings (Recs of Bucks Vol. 30 1988, p.178).

Archaeological summaries by the BCM and CMAG offer only a tantalising description of the findings of these excavations. There is much that could be learned from the excavation archive to provide a better understanding of this site (see research section).



Figure 14: (Above) excavations at Missenden Abbey, 1983 & below medieval burial from the Abbey excavations



#### Missenden Abbey gatehouse (HER 0185510000)

In 1991 a survey of what appeared to be an 18<sup>th</sup> century building Abbey Farm in Church Street, in fact revealed that the building incorporated the remains of a medieval structure, probably the gatehouse to Missenden Abbey. The fabric of farm building contained a Voussoir - a wedge shaped stone used in the construction of an arch. A tie beam from a Queen post roof was dated to AD 1406. A second dendrochronology date of 1534-5 for the demolition of the chimney stack corresponds to the date of dissolution for the abbey. Further to the survey, a small 'excavation by Andrew Hunn revealed traces of structures adjacent to the gatehouse, although no further information has been published (Recs of Bucks Vol. 33 1991 p. 152).

#### Missenden Abbey Fishponds (HER 0185514000)

Not much is known about the landscape inside and outside the precinct walls. However, evidence survives of at least three ponds next to River Misbourne with traces of possibly two more. Allowing for partition baulks, they measured c. 30m x 60m. Assuming that they are fishponds they lie on level ground downstream from the abbey where the Misbourne is more robust and stable than further up towards its source (Davis 2004).

*Moated sites*

It is possible that one or all of the medieval manors might be located at one of the earthwork sites found in close proximity to Great Missenden. It has been noted that Great Missenden is unusual in having a high concentration of medieval moated sites located around the town (Pike 1995). However, the function and status of these sites are not yet fully understood as they lack documentary evidence.

Frith Hill – Ringwork castle (HER 0207200000)

Situated c. 200 metres to the north of St Peter and Paul church are earthworks of a former defensive settlement. It comprises a D shaped enclosure which measures approximately 58 metres north south and 28 metres east west, the western side raised to provide a level platform projecting from the hillside. The surface of the enclosure contains a number of undulations indicating buried remains of buildings and other features. The fourth arm of the enclosure (the eastern side) is cut or abuts an unmetalled access track which runs north to Hill House.

The monument was clearly constructed to exploit the commanding position overlooking the Misbourne valley and the medieval town clustered around Missenden Abbey; although curiously the site is overlooked by higher ground to the east. On the southern side of the monument there is a hollow way (HER 0018607000) which is thought to be medieval route connecting the enclosure to St Peter and Paul's church (English Heritage 1996).

Frith Hill was originally thought to be a Roman Camp (Lipscomb 1834). However a royal commission survey identified the site as a medieval ringwork (RCHM 1 p.176). Despite the classification there has been some speculation about the monument's form and function, whether the site was the remnants of a motte and bailey castle or medieval moated site. The date of the site was later confirmed by the discovery of medieval pottery in disturbed areas of the enclosure bank (BCM 1991). A subsequent measured survey of the earthworks and investigation of tree throw holes on the site revealed more medieval pottery sherds: some shell tempered ware (late 11<sup>th</sup> century) points to an early foundation, while the presence of later fabrics shows that the site was in occupation in the later medieval period (Secker 2004).

The monument's close proximity to the St Peter and Paul church suggests that it could have been one of Missenden's manorial sites. Given Frith Hill's importance it was designated a scheduled monument in 1996 (SM No. 27151).

'The Castle', Rook Wood (HER 0017400000)

Situated 1.5 km south southeast of Great Missenden are the earthworks of another moated site. It has a roughly square enclosure 80m x 80m with a substantial external ditch and causeway across it to an entrance on the northeast side. Slag and a small quantity of medieval pottery have been found within the enclosure. The site is protected a scheduled monument (SM No. 19060)

Jenkin's Wood (HER 0054800000)

Earthworks of a medieval moat and bailey are located 1.2km north east of Great Missenden in Jenkin's Wood. There is a smaller sub-rectangular enclosure measuring 90 x 40M, uneven ground within this area may indicate a building. Beyond a field survey, there have been no archaeological interventions and no real history associated with the site. A tentative interpretation is that this might have been a manorial centre. Despite its archaeological significance the earthworks at Jenkin's Wood are not designated as a scheduled monument.

Bury Farm (HER 0038402000)

100 metres to the south of Jenkins Wood is Bury Farm where there are surviving fragments of a deep moat and bank to the east side of the house. Survey and fieldwork surrounding the farm has revealed evidence of occupation from the 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries (HER 0038404001). The earthworks are currently unscheduled.

Redding Wick Wood (HER 0010000000)

Situated 2 km to the east of Great Missenden are the substantial earthworks of a medieval moated site and homestead in Redding Wick Wood. Pottery recovered from the centre of the

site dates to the 13<sup>th</sup> century (RCHM p.173). The monument appears to be strongly defended with ramparts and outworks. There is a reference in the Missenden Cartulary dating to 1233 which refers to a chapel and chantry of Roger de Wymberville at 'La Rudinge' (possibly Redding?) (Jenkins 1938). The monument is protected as a scheduled monument (SM 27157).

*St Peter & Paul Church (HER 0423700000)*

Constructed of stone and flint, the church of St Peter and Paul church dates largely to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, although the plan indicates that it possibly originated as a 12<sup>th</sup> century cruciform plan. The chancel, nave, transept aisles, west tower were all built or rebuilt c.1340 while the clerestory was added in the second half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The church was extensively restored in 1899-1901 by J. O. Scott (Pevsner & Williamson 1994). To date there has been one archaeological intervention at the church, a watching brief during excavation of new drains, which revealed no archaeological features (Taylor 2001). However other interesting features dating to the medieval period have been noted, including architectural fragments probably from Missenden Abbey recovered from loose rubble thrown out in 1991 when a concrete ring beam was inserted for new belfry (Davis 1996) There are also medieval floor tiles north and south of the altar which are also thought to originate from the Abbey. There is some debate as how long a parish church in Great Missenden has occupied this site, whether the present site was long established before Domesday or whether a church was first built after the foundation of the Abbey. This question is crucial to understanding the development of Great Missenden. Evidence in the form of two pieces of carved stone, found in the church's boiler room seems to suggest an early foundation for the church. One is a fragment of Aylesbury font, the base of which now holds a later replacement bowl in the church, and a pillar. The piscina with a cushion capital is provisionally dated to between 1070 and 1120. The piscina's drain hole through the stem was filled with friable mortar. It has been speculated that this originated from an earlier incarnation of church, before the foundation of the abbey (Davis 2004).



*Figure 15: Church of St Peter & St Paul (Copyright Bucks Museum)*

*Trade, mills and industry*

There is little archaeological evidence for trades or industry within Great Missenden, although there some documentary references that refers to trades. In the 13<sup>th</sup> century the Missenden Cartularies refer to a message rental that mentions a barker and one of the witnesses is a tanner which implies that Missenden had some sort of tanning industry at this time.

*Deep Mill also known as Little Missenden Mill (HER 0284400000)*



Although not within the settlement area, Deep Mill, located 2km south of Great Missenden, was a watermill on the River Misbourne in the ownership of Missenden Abbey. The exact date of the mill's establishment is not known, although it is known to be in existence from the early 13<sup>th</sup> century as it is mentioned in Missenden Abbey's charter (Davis 2004). The mill seems to have remained in the possession of Missenden Abbey until the dissolution when it was granted to Richard and Robert Taverner in 1545, it changed hands again in 1610 when it was granted to David Fowles (Page 1927). Throughout its life the Deep mill operated as a corn mill, it eventually ceased working in c. 1887, ended by the construction of the new railway when the bisected the mill pond. Part of the mill still exists and is in use as a house (Farley 2006).

#### Pottery manufacturing

Although not an industry within Great Missenden, there is evidence for a pottery industry at Potter Row 1.5km northeast of the town. The name Potter Row was in existence by AD 1311, as *Le Pottererewe* (1925) although in the Missenden Abbey cartulary there is a Peter Pottarius listed in a land grant dated 1234-1257 allocating land to the north of Great Missenden which might refer to Potter Row.

#### *Inns and Taverns*

It is known that the George Inn, (94 High Street) is said to date from 1483, when it was built as the hospice for the Abbey (Brown 2007). Much of the medieval timber-framed building survives albeit with some sixteenth and seventeenth century extensions (Pevsner & Williamson 1993: 353). Documentation for medieval inns and taverns in Great Missenden is scant.

#### *Secular Buildings*

Great Missenden contains a number of medieval buildings. At the western end of the Church Street in the High Street is the George Inn, with a complete 15<sup>th</sup> century or early 16<sup>th</sup> century hall and parlour wing (Pevsner & Williamson 1993).

At No 38 High Street is Beam House, the frontage is Georgian but the building is of a cruck frame construction which is thought to date to the 15<sup>th</sup> or early 16<sup>th</sup> century (Pevsner & Williamson 1993).

Another building which has medieval elements is the grade II\* listed building of Elmhurst. Part of the building is believed to occupy the site of medieval/post medieval manor house of *Elmerugge* or *Elmridge*, an abode of a family of that name in Edward III's reign (Lipscomb 1847 Vol. 2 p. 388). Some parts of an older building were discovered during renovation and rebuilding work including the remains of a doorway and stone arch (Sheahan 1861: p.176).



Figure 16: Abbey Farm, believed to contain remnants of the abbey's medieval gatehouse.

*Town Layout – Discussion*

There has been some speculation that Great Missenden possessed borough status based on two documents which contain references to burgage tenure (Chenevix-Trench 1996). One from the Court of Augmentations, which administered former monastic lands while they were in the King's hands, lists rents formerly payable to Missenden Abbey and now due to the crown. (E315/405/f27). It names one holder of a burgage tenement William Wyer who in 1532 paid 2 shillings a year for it. The second document is an undated rental of crown lands of the early 17<sup>th</sup> century in which Richard Edkins is recorded as claiming to hold freely, by virtue of a free charter of William Edkins. The use of the word burgage in documentary sources goes some way to proving the former existence of a borough, although it is telling that these references date to the post medieval period and that there is no known mention of a borough in medieval sources.

The physical evidence for a borough is Great Missenden's High Street, where there is clear evidence that the plots abutting it represent a planned medieval element of the town. The burgage type plots are arranged at right angles to the east and west of the High Street. Morphologically the plots are roughly symmetrical, the plot lengths are on average c.35 to 40 metres although analysis of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Ordnance Survey maps indicates that the plots could have been longer, with some boundaries extending to c. 60 metres. However, Great Missenden's plots do not conform to the usual burgage type plots found at other Buckinghamshire planned towns as Amersham, Olney, and High Wycombe have plot boundaries averaging 80 to 100 metres in length. The plots are also devoid of a back lane, although it is possible that a lane once existed and fell out of use by the post medieval period. Despite the smaller dimensions, Chenevix Trench has estimated that the 500 yards stretch of the High Street could have accommodated up to twenty eight burgesses, each about 22 yards (one chain) wide and exactly eight chains deep (176 yards) (Chenevix Trench 1996).

Another interesting feature of the planned town is that the High Street is very narrow. It is usual for most medieval planned towns to have a wider High Street to accommodate trade and the passage of goods and livestock, (High Wycombe averages 20 metres, Olney 21 metres and Stony Stratford 18 metres) or even possessing a characteristic cigar shaped area to hold a market (Wendover). On average the width of Great Missenden's High Street is only 8-9 metres from building to building, a rather confined space to accommodate a medieval market, so it must be assumed that the market and fairs were held elsewhere. The most plausible site would have been the green at the eastern end of Church Street, (the original village) where there would have been sufficient open space. The Green would have been in close proximity to the Gate House of the Abbey which was built on the south side of the green and may have functioned as the market square. As the town's landlords, the canons of the abbey would have been ideally positioned to oversee commerce in the town. Where medieval religious houses are established in English market towns it is not an uncommon occurrence for them to be located next the market, examples can be seen at in neighbouring Oxfordshire: the Augustinian Priory at Bicester and the Benedictine Abbey of Eynsham, (Knowles 1950).

There is the unanswered question as to who might have founded the borough and when? In the foundation charter of Missenden Abbey there is no reference to a neighbouring small town which seems to suggest a later date for the establishment of a town (Davis 2004). It can be conjectured that if a borough was established it was initiated by the lord of the manor who would have created burgages and setting their rents. of the successors as Lord of the manor that the Abbey came into possession of the burgage rents; the abbot was never the lord of Great Missenden, which remained with the heirs of William Missenden (or de Noers). No such gift of burgage rents is recorded in the Missenden Cartulary (BRS 1938) which includes no benefactions connected with the foundation.

Had it been made by a later lord the chances of its being recorded in the cartulary are very good. Another lord who must theoretically be regarded as a possible borough maker is Joan de Sandford (d 1252 (VCH 2, 348)) great grand-daughter of William the founder, on the grounds that she was granted a market in Great Missenden by Henry III. The date of the grant is not known, but Joan's flourit was a hundred years after the date of the earliest charter in the cartulary.

On balance of the documentary evidence Chenevix Trench believes that William de Missenden, the founder of the Abbey, as the most likely founder of the borough. His motivation would be to maximise the value of his endowment. Although there are no court rolls for Great Missenden from which to find further clues about the medieval borough, an explanation for the dearth of

## Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

references for its borough could be that Great Missenden was one of the places that had borough status conferred on it but did not have the resources to profit by it.

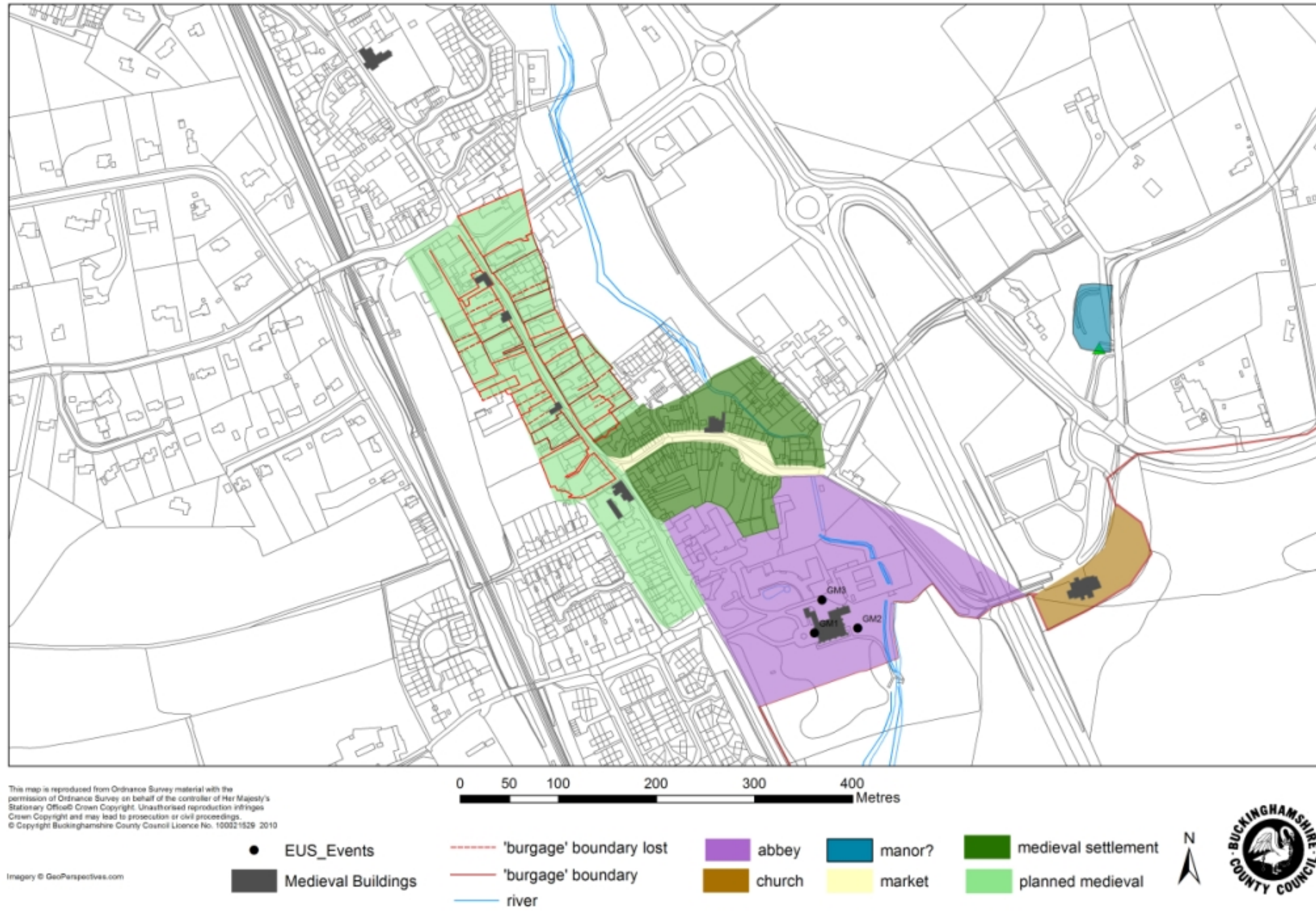


Figure 17: Possible extent of the town in the medieval period

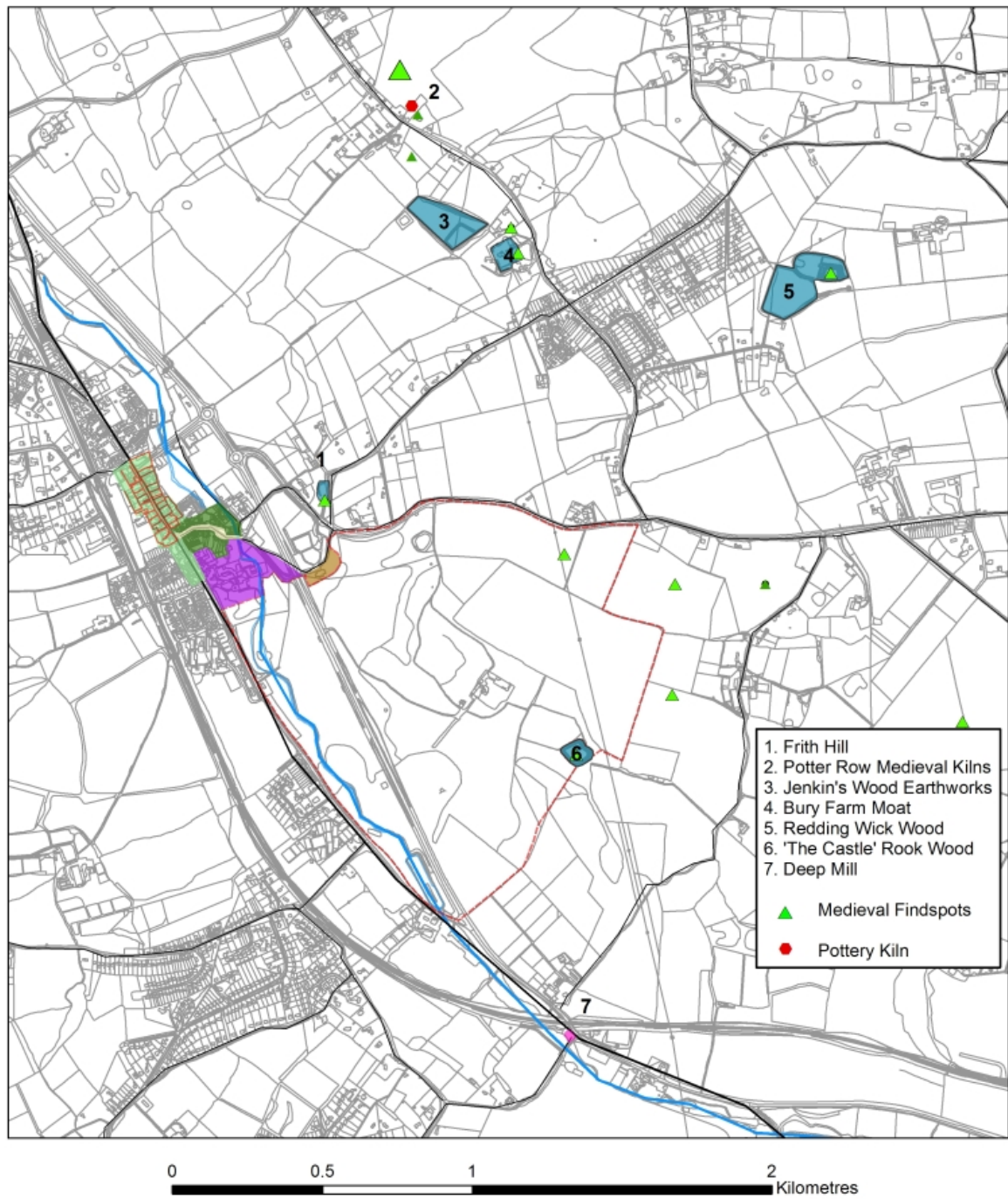


Figure 18: Medieval context map showing the relationship of moated sites and archaeological finds

#### 4.4 Post medieval period (1536-1800)

##### *Town layout – discussion*

It is believed that the physical extent of Great Missenden changed little from the medieval period. This inertia can perhaps be attributed to several reasons: the repercussions from the loss of the Missenden Abbey, the geographical position of the town, and competition from neighbouring towns of Wendover, Amersham and to some degree High Wycombe. The dissolution of the abbey and its replacement as a private estate would have brought about a profound change in the dynamics of the town.

As noted previously, although Great Missenden was granted a market charter in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, it is questionable how successful it was. Evidence seems to suggest that by the 16<sup>th</sup> century Great Missenden did not possess a market, John Leland's account during his tour through Buckinghamshire describes it as : "...a *praty thoroughfare but no market town*" (Sheahan 1861 p.172). In the documentary sources for this period there is a paucity of evidence for trades and industries, although this does not mean that none existed, but it does lend weight to the lack of economic activity for the town.

The lack of dynamism might be explained by Great Missenden's geographical position and its proximity to other market towns: Wendover is only 7km to the north while Amersham is a similar distance to the southeast. These towns were longer established and better connected than Great Missenden. Wendover had royal patronage and was on the axis of two routes the Lower Icknield Way and the London Road. Both Amersham and Wendover are on the same road but were the preferred stopping points for coaches in the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries travelling to and from London, this is evidenced by the number of taverns. By contrast Great Missenden seems to have been bypassed by the coaching trade and it is noticeable that it possessed very few inns and taverns. Great Missenden it seems was in a geographical limbo, positioned between a number of developing towns that were better appointed, resourced and had greater political backing.

##### *Trade, mills and industry*

The George is a long established inn which is thought to have medieval origins. In 1650 it is recorded that the George was in the ownership of Childs of Amersham, with occupant Richard Heyward, it was later passed to the Geary family (Brown 2007). In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century there are further details of the George in an advert for its sale, in 1796 it was advertised as being for sale with a brewhouse, the location of which is not entirely known, presumably it was positioned to the rear or in close proximity to the inn (Brown 2007).

##### *Frith Hill Windmill*

The earliest known mention of a windmill on 'Thriff Hill' dates 1753 to in the Hampden Papers Day Book (D/MH 33/13). Situated on a hilltop of the same name, Frith Hill windmill is also depicted on maps of 1788, and the Ordnance Survey 2 inch surveyor's drawings of 1825 and named on the 1873 Ordnance Survey map. The 1851 census names 3 millers at Frith Hill. The mill is later portrayed in an 1876 watercolour by artist Harriet Callow which shows it to be of the smock variety with a brick base with weatherboarding. The Mill is believed to have burnt down in 1876 (Vince 1976: p.20). There is no discernable mill mound but the mill house still survives.

##### *Roads & Turnpikes*

The Uxbridge to Wendover road (the present A413) has, historically, been one of Buckinghamshire's principal roads running the length of the county. It is first depicted on the John Ogilby map of 1675 which shows the road running through Great Missenden's High Street. It is not until the 18<sup>th</sup> century with the demand for road improvements that turnpike trusts were established. Great Missenden was part of the Uxbridge to Wendover road and that section of came under the management of the Wendover to Oak Lane Turnpike Trust, founded in 1751 (Edmonds et al 1993). The turnpike trust was responsible for maintenance and improvements, installing milestones and the toll houses. In 1827 a toll house was built at the northern end of the High Street, the building is still extant and known as Toll Bar Cottage (HER 1254100000). The Wendover to Oak Lane turnpike trust was eventually disbanded in 1869 and control of the road handed to the newly established County Council in 1889.

## Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

### *Manors*

#### Overbury

This manor remained with the descendents of Thomas de Mussenden until 1684 when it was sold to William Fleetwood and thereafter united with Netherbury manor (Page W,1908).

#### Netherbury

After the Dissolution, Netherbury remained with the Crown until 1614 when it was granted to Sir Marmaduke Darrell. In 1663 the family sold the manor to Sir William Bowyer who sold it to William Fleetwood in 1668. It remained with that family until 1787 when it was sold to James Oldham Oldham whose trustees sold it to George Carrington in 1822 with whom it has since remained (Page W,1908).

#### Missenden Abbey (

Missenden Abbey was dissolved in 1538 and the monastery lands seized by the crown. In 1540 the lands were granted to Richard Greenaway for 21 years. In 1550 King Edward VI granted to his sister Elizabeth, the precincts of the late Monastery of Missenden together with the rents & in this included several neighbouring parishes. In 1553 the manor granted the fee of the manor to John Duke of Northumberland, Marshall of England. The Duke surrendered these lands to Queen Mary and the Crown granted in lieu of them divers lands, as compensation to the Duchess for her life. In 1559 Queen Elizabeth granted to Great Missenden to Richard Hampden for thirty years. The estate was subject to a series of short term grants from the Crown before it was settled on Robert Earl of Leicester in 1574 who sold it to Sir William Fleetwood where it remained the family home for the following two centuries. Parts of the abbey church were used within the mansion built by the Fleetwoods stating in c. 1600. The Fleetwoods owned the estate until 1787 when James Oldham, an ironmonger from London, bought the estate and carried out work to the house and grounds (Kaye 1992).

### *Secular Buildings*

The majority of buildings in Great Missenden's historic town date to the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Most are vernacular in style although many older buildings have been refronted with brick and render in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The post medieval buildings along the High Street are wide fronted with a vernacular style predominating, the majority are timber framed buildings such as number 46 and nos. 81 to 83 High Street. What is noticeable about Great Missenden's historic buildings is that compared to the High Streets of other Buckinghamshire towns they are more modest in size and scale. Buildings are no more than two storeys in height, and the High Street is devoid of any of the high status Georgian building that one associates with most market towns in the county. The general absence of larger, high status buildings is perhaps an indicator of Missenden's economic decline in the late medieval and post medieval periods. The character of buildings in Church Street is slightly different, the plots are more irregular in nature and the buildings on them have a more village feel - tending to be brick built dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. However there are few distinctive buildings including No. 35 'The Old House' a 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century building but embellished (Pevsner & Williamson 1993).



Figure 19: late 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century box framed building, at No. 46 High Street Great Missenden

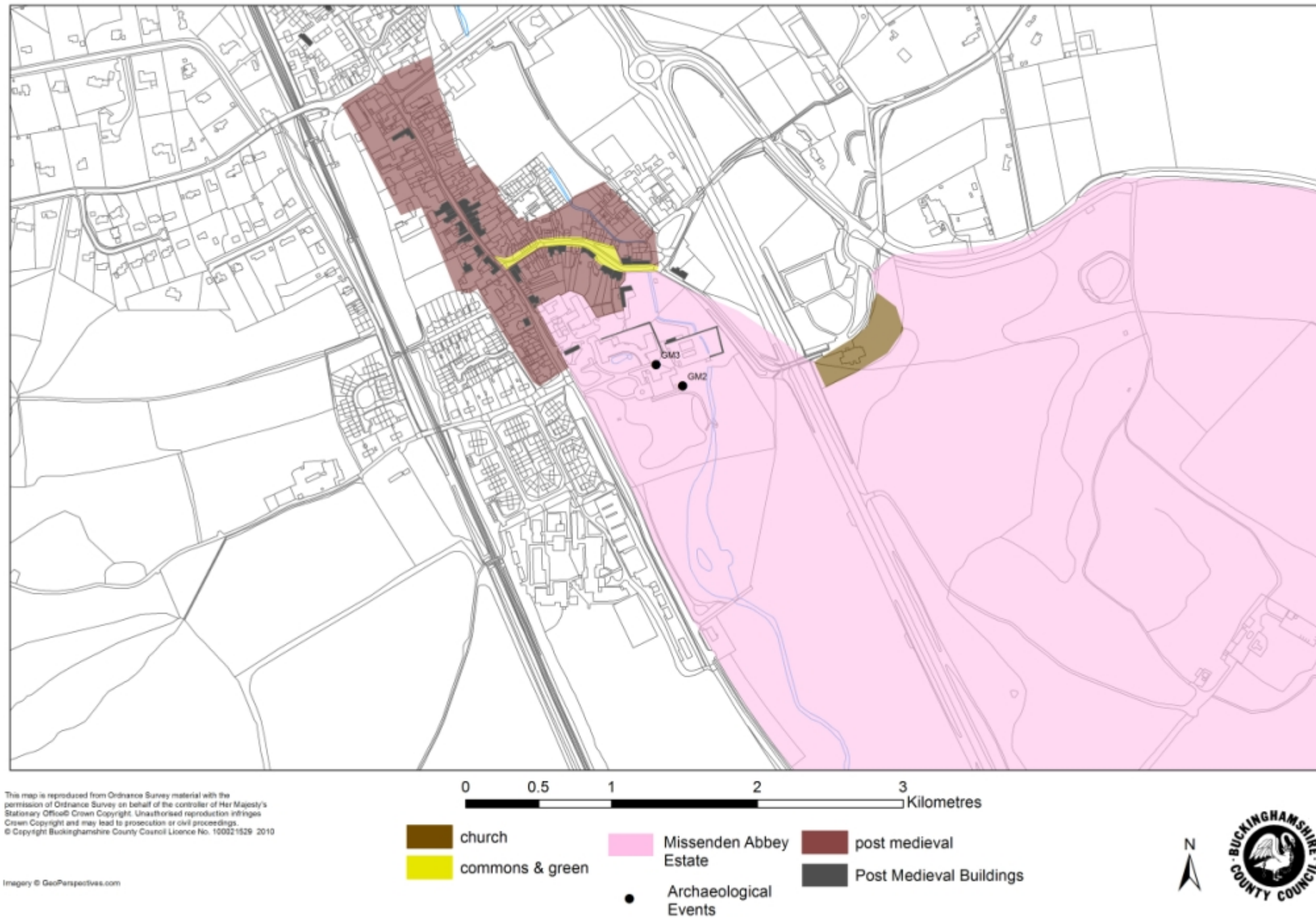


Figure 20: Great Missenden in the 18<sup>th</sup> century



4.5 Modern period (1800-Present)

*Manors & Estates*

The Carrington family were residents of Missenden Abbey throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Both the house and the landscape were renovated at considerable expense. Work commenced in 1816 by John Johnstone of London, the chimneys and façade was re-fronted and remodelled in a gothic style, while the interior fixtures and fittings were also laid out to match the exterior. Much of the Carrington family's wealth was derived from the sugar plantations in Barbados and slave trading in the West Indies (Kaye 1992). Apart from the house small additions were made to the designed landscape including the addition of an ice house. The last Carringtons to live in the Abbey did so until 1945 when Thomas Temple Carrington sold the Abbey to Buckinghamshire County Council who opened it up as an Adult Education Centre in 1947.

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

There is little information on the types of industries operating in Great Missenden in the modern period, this is an area of research that needs to be addressed to further our understanding of Great Missenden's economy during this time. However what we can glean from the analysis of census returns shows a high proportion of mercantile trades, along with people employed in agricultural work (see below), (Page 1927). More research is needed to find out the business activities being undertaken by the merchants in Great Missenden

Summary	1830	1842	1850	1864	1877	1887	1891	1903	1911	1920	1935
Professional	1	3	0	1	1	1	2	6	7	7	12
Agric/General	0	0	14	17	17	17	39	26	20	21	22
Artisans/trades	21	18	4	13	10	8	10	4	5	5	8
Service/Provision	10	12	7	13	13	9	34	25	24	18	24
Merchant/dealer	26	44	42	40	30	39	45	45	36	38	44

*Table 2: Summary of trade in Great Missenden 1830-1935 (method adapted from Broad, 1992)*

*Civic and modern religious structures*

Methodist Chapel, Church Street



*Figure 21: Methodist Chapel, Church Street*

Baptist Chapel, High Street. (HER 1256302000)

The Baptist Chapel set back behind other buildings on the west side of the High Street, was built in 1838 on the site of an earlier meeting house c. 1776 (Sheahan 1861 p.172). The front wall, rendered in stucco, has a recessed, central entrance flanked by narrow gallery staircases behind the blind end-bays. The side walls are constructed of flint rubble with red brick dressings. The chapel is a Grade II listed building.



*Figure 22: The Baptist Chapel, High Street*

*The Workhouse/poor house [demolished]*

Old Workhouse, High Street Not much is known about the history of Great Missenden's workhouse other than its location on the High Street. It was believed to be demolished after the institution of Union workhouses in the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834

## Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

### *Hospitals & Schools pre 1945*

National School, Church Street:1822 with a separate boy's school of 1871-3 built by the architect Arthur Vernon (Pevsner & Williamson 1993: 353).

### *Hospitals & Schools post 1945*

Misbourne County School was built in 1955 on land bought by the County Council from the Carrington estate. Designed by the county architect F. B. Pooley, the school was built in only six months. The most notable part is the hall, which is also used as a Community Centre, which is a steel framed construction with mahogany panels as cladding (Pevsner & Williamson 1993: p. 353).

### *Railway*

Great Missenden Station (HER: 0977700000)

Great Missenden's station first opened on 1 September 1892, by the Metropolitan Railway (MetR), when the railway was extended from Chalfont Road to Aylesbury Town. The Great Central Railway served the station from 1899, connecting to London, Leicester, Nottingham, and Sheffield.

However, when the Metropolitan Line (the successor of the Metropolitan Railway) was fully electrified in the late 1950s early 1960s, a decision was made to run only as far as Amersham; one stop short of Great Missenden. This meant that Great Missenden is now only served by Mainline services. In 1966, due to the Beeching Axe, the line north of Aylesbury was closed and the station is now only served by local commuter services. Train services were run by British Rail until the railway was privatised in 1996, when Chiltern Railways took over the franchise.



*Figure 23: Great Missenden Station*

### *Great Missenden Bypass*

The most recent addition to the road system occurred in 1960 with the completion of the Great Missenden by-pass on A413. Motorised traffic was now diverted away the narrow confines of Great Missenden's High Street. However the bypass had the effect of severing St Peter and Paul church from the town.

*Secular Buildings – the impact of modern infill*

Great Missenden became a London commuter village; its ease of access to the capital by train made it the chosen home for writers and entertainers. Despite being well connected by road and rail, suburban development is modest compared to other Buckinghamshire market towns; Amersham and Beaconsfield are two notable examples where the railway stimulated the development of new towns and growth in housing. Perhaps the signature of railway development is the promenade of shops at the Station Approach, often a hallmark of commuter settlements (figure 23)



*Figure 24: Shops on the Station Approach, Great Missenden*

The development of the shops at station approach resulted from the increase in house building in the 1940s and 1950s which saw Great Missenden's population rise to 4,000 inhabitants (Figure 23). The main housing to be built was located to the west of the village at Grimms Hill, this area has the hallmarks of the garden city movement. Characterised by low density housing, this area is predominantly made up of large detached properties constructed in a modern or mock historic style. The houses are set within large plots of up to an acre. The area has a leafy feel with its privet hedged boundaries, tree lined roads and wide grass verges. Grimms Hill was (and is) geared towards housing the families of affluent London commuters; it should be regarded as an important area architecturally and historically as it embodies Great Missenden's own metroland aspiration - a later railway suburb. The area has limited public access as Grims Hill is now a private road.



Figure 25: Greenways, Grims Hill, Great Missenden

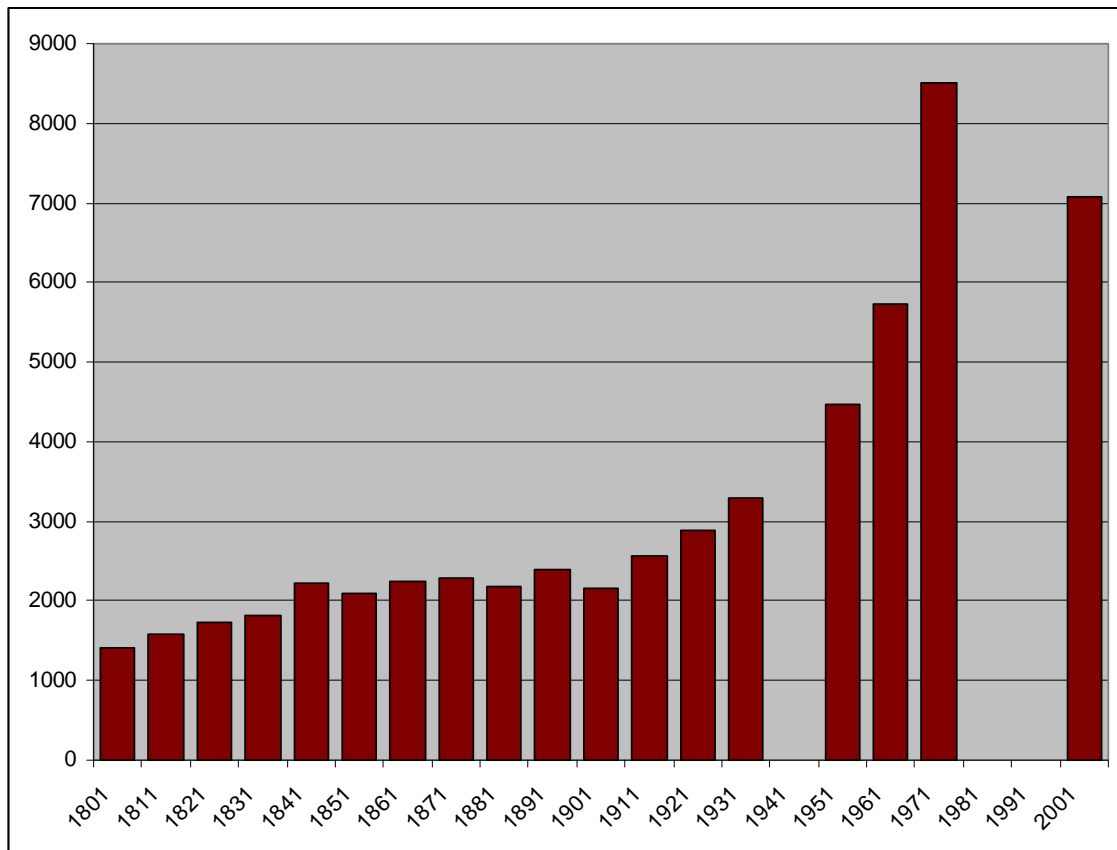


Figure 26: Graph showing population changes in Great Missenden (excluding 1941 & 1981)

After the 1950s house building continued apace although the designation of the Chilterns as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in 1967 prevented further urban sprawl. Consequently new development was focussed within the confines of the settlement and upon existing house plots within Great Missenden, available open land from schools and the subdivision of plots to accommodate new housing.

*Designed Landscapes – Missenden Abbey*

The landscape garden and woodland at Missenden Abbey was laid out in the late 18<sup>th</sup> early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Documentation of the landscaping is obscure but it is thought to have been instigated by the owner of Missenden Abbey, John Ayton who was resident from c. 1804-1814. A gardens and pleasure grounds were arranged around the house, a key feature included culverting part of the River Misbourne, Ayton commissioned the construction of a flint and brick, battlemented, three arched gothic summerhouse beneath which the river emerges. Ayton also commissioned the building of two flint arched bridges in the garden to cross the meander river; one of the bridges had a practical function, carrying the drive from the park to the south front of the house. The garden to south is lawn which includes a gothic sundial dated to 1814 with John Ayton's coat of arms. Some 50 metres south of the house is a ha-ha which marks the 19<sup>th</sup> century division between the house and the park.

The park at Missenden Abbey is also thought to be laid out in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The main feature is a sinuous ornamental lake known as Warren Water, situated close to the western boundary of the park. The river Misbourne runs along the west side of the park to enter Banks's pond. This pond may be medieval in origin possibly associated with mills or milling.

The eastern half of the park is split by the bypass, which is of similar character to the western half. It covers undulating hillside to the top of the hill, past the medieval church of St Peter and St Paul which is prominent feature on the boundary. This part of the park had good views of the house and

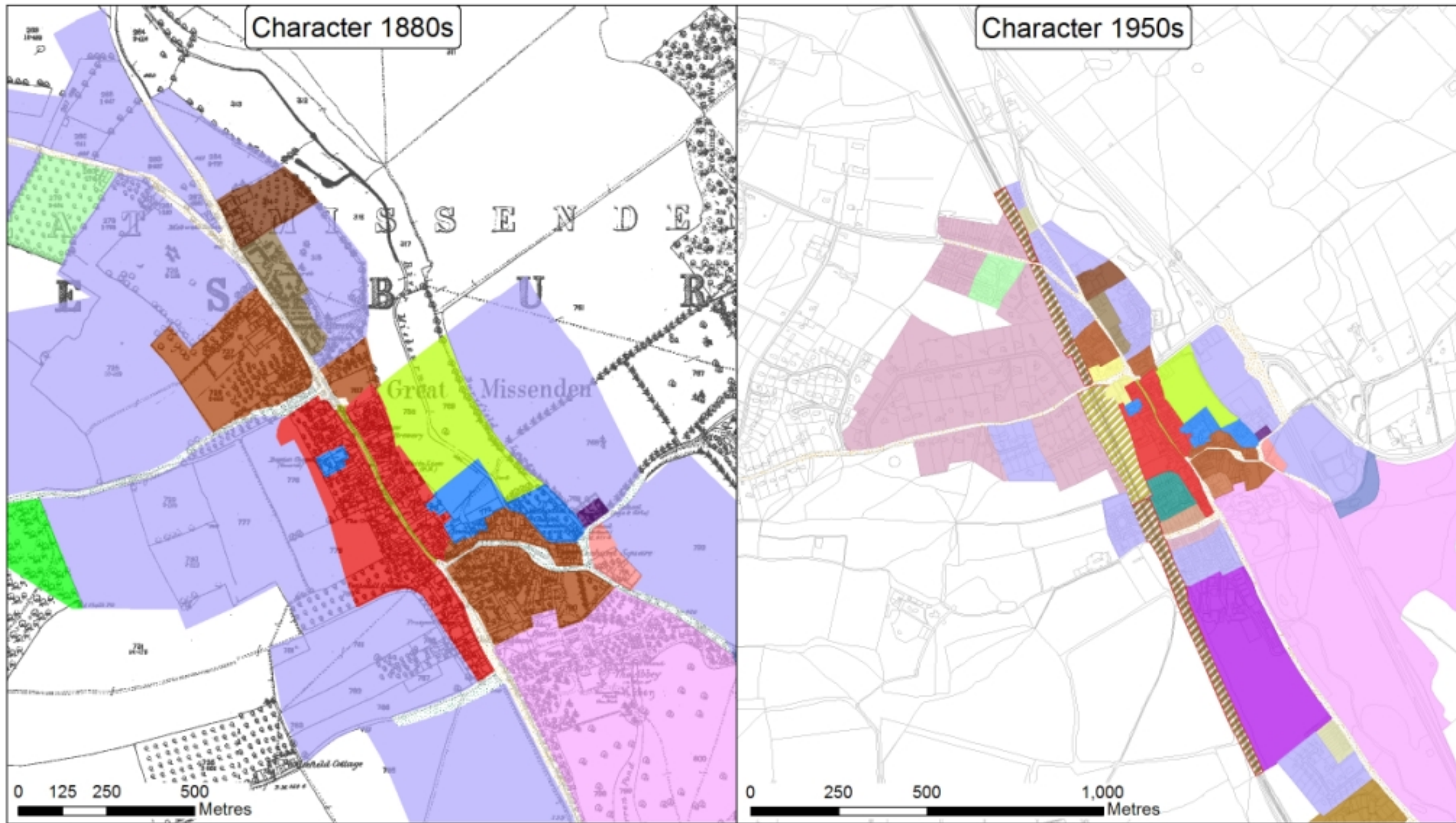
A 17<sup>th</sup> century painting of the house and grounds survives which shows an earlier 'Italianate' design of the gardens. It depicts a hunt across the Abbey grounds, east of the River Misbourne, the view is looking westwards across the Abbey house and garden towards the Chiltern Hills beyond, The Abbey has a formal entrance on the south side and a formal garden in front of this with small topiary cones and shaped trees. There are also two unmatched pavilions shown, and a bridge across the Misbourne. No visible evidence of this garden design survives today (Kaye 1992).

Linear parchmarks in grass croquet lawn south of the house and geophysical anomalies identified during continuing education course held in September 2006. Anomalies plotted in subsequent resistivity survey, carried out with students in October 2006, and identified as probable garden features and possible culvert, on broadly similar alignment to the ha-ha (B10). Drainage trenches and brick footings south of the ha-ha had been recorded in August 1969 and are almost certainly the same features. See annotated plan.

Missenden Abbey is designated by English Heritage as a Registered Park and Garden (GD1595).



Figure 27: Missenden Abbey immediately after the fire, only the façade survived



- |                      |                            |                                |                      |                     |                      |                                       |
|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Educational Historic | Narrow plots               | Victorian Villas 1850-1900     | Blocks of Flats 1945 | Pubs/Hotels         | Roads                | enclosure: pre 18th century irregular |
| education (modern)   | Mansions                   | Terraces & cottages 1900-1919  | historic parkland    | Modern Shops        | Rail/tram way        | woodland: orchard                     |
| Church               | Rural Historic             | Middle Class Housing 1919-1945 | Market Place         | Offices (Post 1945) | Rail/tramway station |                                       |
| Chapel               | Irregular Plots (historic) | Private Housing (1945-1980)    | Inns/taverns         | Factory             | enclosure: meadow    |                                       |

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Figure 28: Great Missenden in the 1880s to 1920s

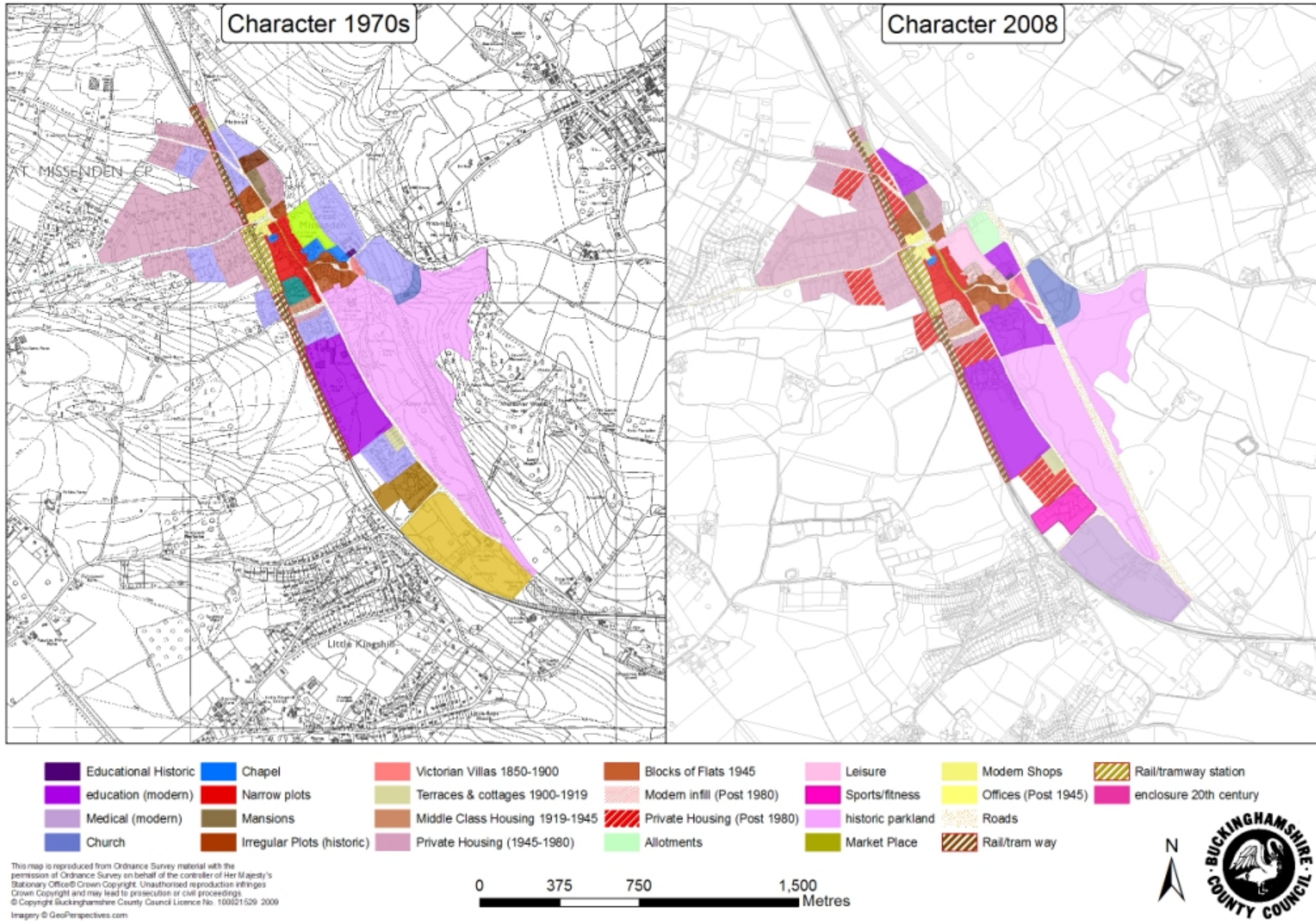


Figure 29: Great Missenden in the post war to modern period



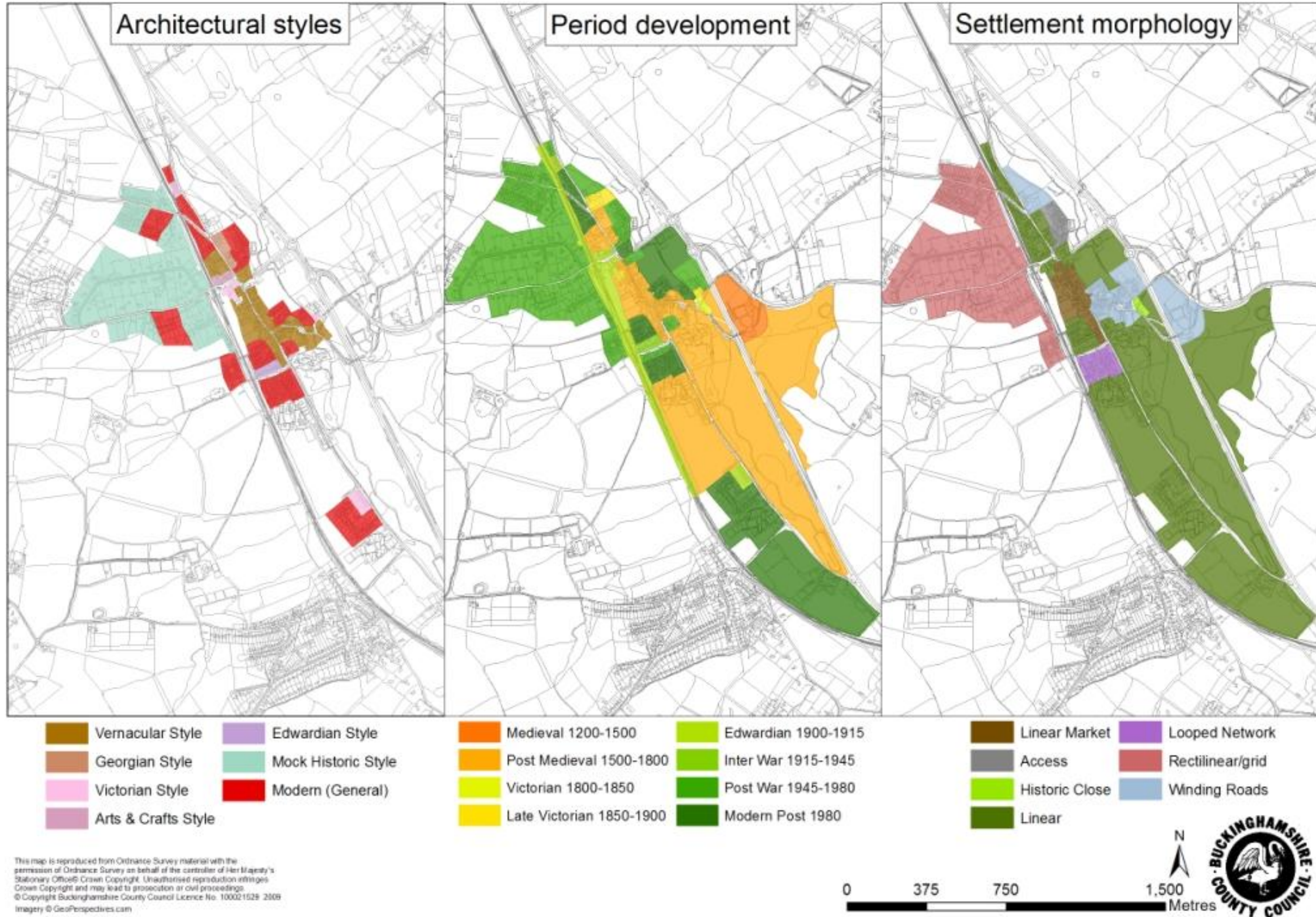


Figure 30: Architectural styles, period development and settlement morphology

## **II ASSESSMENT**

### **5 Designations**

#### **5.1 Conservation Areas (CA)**

Great Missenden conservation area was first designated in 1969 and amended in 1992 at which time the Abbey Parkland conservation area was added.

#### **5.2 Registered Parks and Gardens**

Missenden Abbey is a Grade II listed registered park, first added to the database in 1987.

#### **5.3 Scheduled Monuments**

Although there are no scheduled monuments within Great Missenden there is a scheduled monument of the medieval ring work/moated site at Frith Hill, to north of Great Missenden's church.

#### **5.4 Listed Buildings**

There are 60 listed buildings in Great Missenden including one Grade II\* listed building at Elmhurst on the High Street and two Grade II\* listed buildings at the George also on the High Street.

#### **5.5 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. Archaeological notification areas in Missenden cover the historic settlement, the abbey park as well as a ring work area to the north of the old British School on Church Street.

## **6 Historic Urban Zones**

### **6.1 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 (Figure 31). 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 20<sup>th</sup> century areas only.
- An assessment of existing built character.

### **6.2 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 (Figure 29). 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

### **6.3 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.

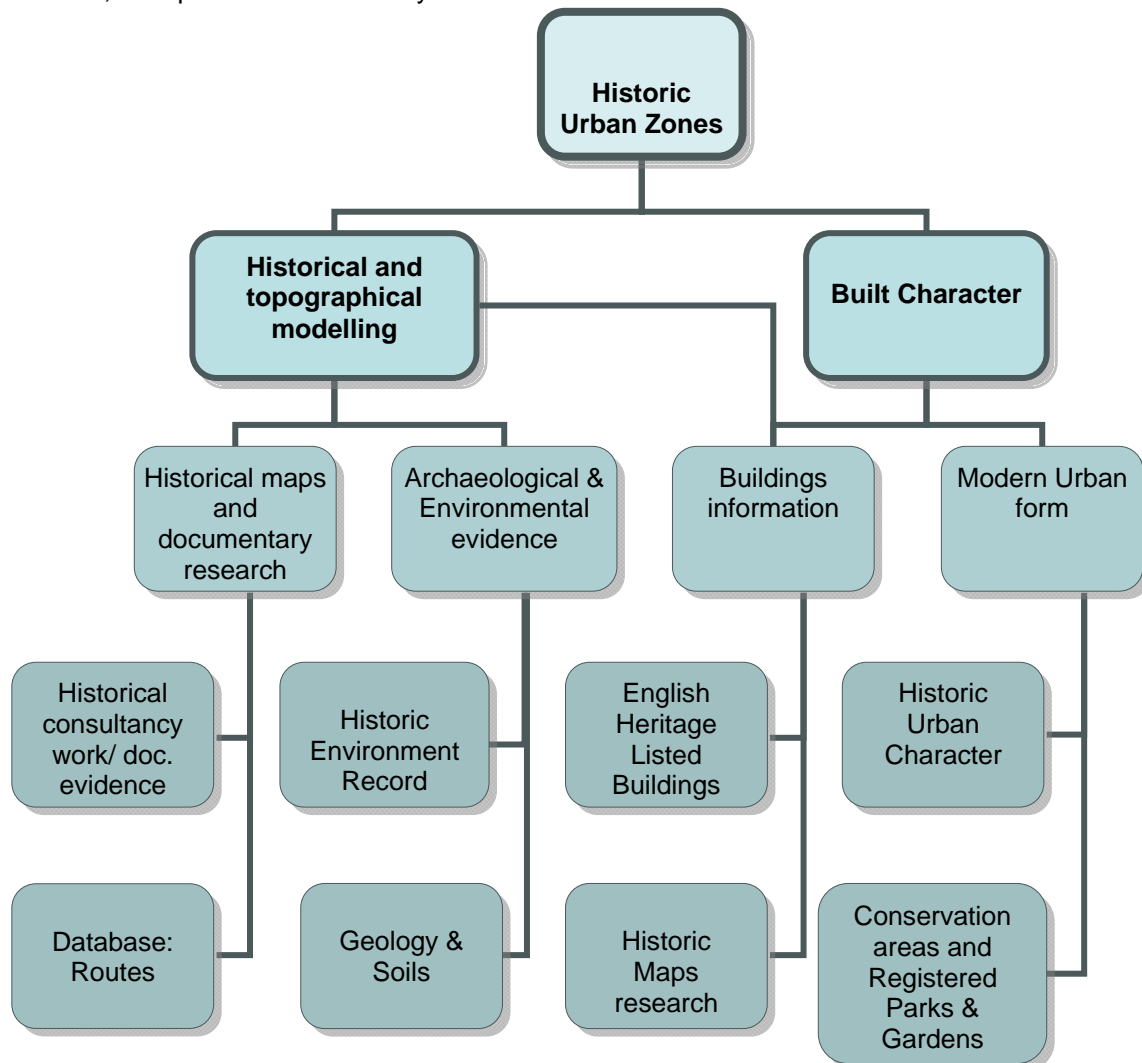


Figure 31: Diagram showing the processes involved in the creation of the urban character zones

*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

#### 6.4 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.

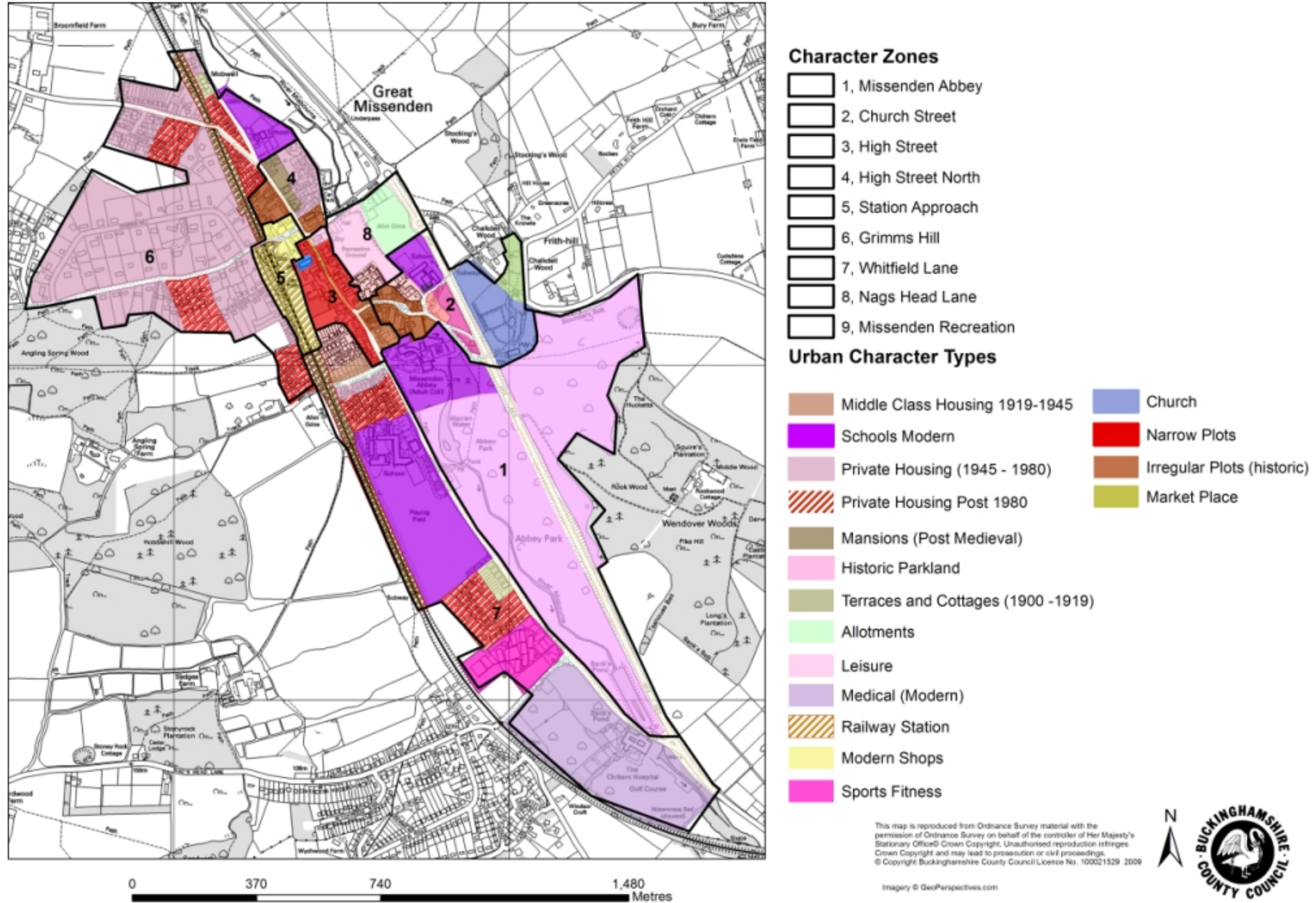


Figure 32: Historic Character Zones for Great Missenden

6.5 Historic Settlement

Zone 1: Missenden Abbey			
<p><b>Summary:</b> This zone is defined by Missenden Abbey and its parkland. The 19<sup>th</sup> century historic parkland of Missenden Abbey is designated by English Heritage as a grade II registered park and garden. There are 9 listed buildings including the grade II Missenden Abbey building which contains the fabric of the former cloister from the medieval abbey. The zone lies within the Missenden Abbey conservation area.</p>			
<p><b>Historical:</b> Missenden Abbey is Buckinghamshire's earliest known religious house founded in 1133, a rare example of an Arrousian abbey. Fragments of the medieval buildings are still visible within the standing buildings and others are known from archaeological excavation. After the Abbey's dissolution in 1536 it was converted into a private house for a series of landowners. The landscape park of Great Missenden was laid out in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Commissioned by the owner John Ayton the park was designed in a rustic and picturesque style with bridges, icehouses etc. After a succession of wealthy owners the Abbey and its park passed to the County Council who converted the house and grounds into an Adult Education centre. The main building was seriously damaged by fire in 1985 but subsequently rebuilt. Missenden Abbey has been a key element within Great Missenden and the surrounding area for almost 900 years. It is significant both as an example of a medieval monastic estate and also of the transfer of such an estate into secular hands in the post-medieval period.</p>			
<p><b>Evidential:</b> Although as yet unpublished, the series of excavations at Missenden Abbey in the 1980s show the presence of well preserved archaeological deposits. This included evidence of the abbey church and the fabric of the subsequent post medieval house, including in-situ medieval floors and fallen windows sealed beneath demolition deposits and also <i>in situ</i> medieval burials containing well-preserved human bone. Despite the modern developments within Missenden Abbey there is the potential for more archaeological remains. There is also potential for archaeology to be found in the grounds of the park including possible infrastructure relating to the medieval abbey – for example, the pond may have originated as a monastic fishpond.</p>			
<p><b>Aesthetic:</b> Missenden Abbey's rebuilt gothic-style house and its associated parkland with gothic garden structures, water features and mature trees form a coherent designed ornamental landscape. The busy A413 Great Missenden bypass which cuts through the park is a detracting feature.</p>			
<p><b>Communal:</b> Missenden Abbey provides an attractive venue for the further education and conference centre.</p>			
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)		
Period: Medieval & Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: Monastic Diversity: High Potential: High	Morphology:	Winding Road	Linear
	Character Types:	Historic Parkland	Church
	Architecture	Gothic	Modern (General)
Heritage Values	Plan Form	N/A	
Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: High Communal Value: Medium	Build Materials:	Stone	
	Roof Materials:		



Zone 2: Church Street			
<p><b>Summary:</b> Church Street zone encompasses the buildings that along the Church Street, the parish church and nearby ringwork. The area contains eleven listed buildings including the grade I listed building of St Peter and St Pauls church. The zone lies within two conservation areas; Church Street is within Great Missenden's conservation area while the St Peter and Paul's church is inside the conservation area of Missenden Abbey's. Only the earthworks of Frith Hill are outside Great Missenden's conservation areas.</p>			
<p><b>Historical:</b> Church Street is likely to be the earliest part of Great Missenden as it appears to pre-date the High Street, and perhaps the foundation of the monastery. The presence of both the 13<sup>th</sup> century medieval parish church and ringwork castle suggest the medieval village took the typical form of a church-manor core, perhaps set around a green or market, with an attached street of peasant tenements. The majority of the buildings in Church Street date to 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries including Nos. 55-63 and Close Cottage. Overall Church Street illustrates aspects of the diversity of medieval life – religious (monastic and parochial), secular lordship and peasantry</p>			
<p><b>Evidential:</b> To date there has been no archaeological interventions in this zone; however the area has the potential to yield important archaeology relating to the medieval, post medieval and possibly Anglo Saxon periods. Investigation could help understand the origins of Missenden, the function of the open space in front of the church and clarify the nature of the ringwork at Frith Hill which is designated as a scheduled monument. Study of the standing buildings could reveal further evidence for medieval structures as seen from the investigations at Abbey Farm.</p>			
<p><b>Aesthetic:</b> This part of Great Missenden has a quiet tranquil feel with a concentration of historic buildings set along a winding road. The main architectural style is vernacular, the majority of buildings constructed in handmade brick. This area contains some of the most attractive historic buildings in Great Missenden such as the 16<sup>th</sup> century building known as 'The Old House'.</p>			
<p><b>Communal:</b> Although largely residential, Church Street contains the Methodist church and parish church which apart from acting as spiritual centres are also popular venues for community events including, fetes and festivals.</p>			
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)		
<p>Period: Medieval, Post Medieval Survival: High Group Value: N/A Diversity: High Potential: High</p>	<b>Morphology:</b>	Winding Roads	<b>Density:</b> High
	<b>Character Types:</b>	Irregular Plots (Historic) Victorian Villas (1850 -1900)	Modern infill (Post 1980)
	<b>Architecture</b>	Vernacular	Modern (general)
<b>Heritage Values</b>	<b>Plan Form</b>	Post Medieval Narrow Frontage Post Medieval Cottage (rural)	Modern (semi detached)
<p>Evidential Value: High Historical Value: High Aesthetic Value: High Communal Value: High</p>	<b>Build Materials:</b>	Brick: Handmade (Red) Brick: Machine (Red)	Brick: Painted
	<b>Roof Materials:</b>	Tile: Handmade Clay	Tile; Machine Clay

Zone 3: High Street & London Road			
<p><b>Summary:</b> The High Street encompasses the core of the medieval borough defined by narrow plots fronting on to the street. The zone is within Great Missenden's conservation area and contains over 50 listed buildings including the George a 15<sup>th</sup> century grade II* public house.</p>			
<p><b>Historical:</b> The origins of Great Missenden's High Street are uncertain but it is thought to have been established some time after 1133 following the foundation of the Missenden Abbey. The High Street is laid out in typical fashion with plots at right angles to the High Street; however unlike other Buckinghamshire market towns, the dimensions of Great Missenden's plots and road width are considerably smaller. The vernacular buildings that front the High Street and London Road are also comparatively modest in size the majority are post medieval in date (17<sup>th</sup>- 18<sup>th</sup> centuries). Great Missenden has a famous association with the writer Roald Dahl, who was resident in the village for 36 years where he wrote all of his well-loved children's books and many of his adult short stories. Dahl drew inspiration from people and places in Great Missenden to create many of his characters and places in his stories including the timber-framed building at Crown House (70 High Street), which was the inspiration for Sophie's 'norphange' in the book <i>The BFG</i>.</p>			
<p><b>Evidential:</b> There have been two small-scale archaeological investigations both at 81-83 High Street, now the Roald Dahl Museum.. There is great potential for the discovery of archaeological remains and early building fabric relating to the medieval and post medieval periods.</p>			
<p><b>Aesthetic:</b> The High Street contains a concentration of attractive historic buildings which are predominantly vernacular in style including the timber framed building of the George and Beam House (No. 34 High Street). The High Street also benefits from having a relatively low volume of traffic travelling through the town; this can be chiefly attributed to the building of the bypass in 1960.</p>			
<p><b>Communal:</b> Great Missenden's High Street is modest in size and lacks a commercial feel. It contains a couple of pubs, cafes, bank and a handful of independent shops but many former businesses have closed. The buildings have been converted from shops into dwellings. In spite of the lack of amenities Great Missenden's High Street possesses the Roald Dahl museum. Opened in 2005 the museum is dedicated to the author's writing and is a popular tourist attraction, it has also help forge an association with its most famous resident which Great Missenden is now synonymous.</p>			
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)		
Period: Medieval, Post Medieval	Morphology:	Linear Market	Density: High
Survival: High (Buildings)	Character Types:	Narrow Plots Irregular plots (historic)	Recreation Chapel
Group Value: Commercial Cluster	Architecture	Vernacular style	
Diversity: Medium			
Potential: Medium/High (Buildings)			
Heritage Values	Plan Form	Post medieval (narrow frontage)	
Evidential Value: Medium/High	Build Materials:	Brick: Handmade (Red) Brick: Painted	Brick: Machine (Red)
Historical Value: High	Roof Materials:	Tile: Handmade Clay	
Aesthetic Value: High			
Communal Value: Medium/High			

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Zone 4: High Street North				
<p><b>Summary:</b> This zone encompasses the northern end of Great Missenden's High Street beyond Link Road and Station Approach. The zone has an historic feel as evidenced by the nine listed buildings that are found here including one grade II* of Elmhurst manor. Unlike the neighbouring High Street the buildings are individually spaced possessing a more rural character. With the exception of the houses along Elmtree Green, High Street North lies within the village's conservation area.</p>				
<p><b>Historical:</b> This part of Great Missenden is depicted on the earliest historical maps and contains a number of historical buildings. Although it is not believed to be part of the medieval planned 'borough' this part of the High Street probably has antecedents dating back to the medieval period.</p>				
<p><b>Evidential:</b> To date there have been no archaeological interventions, although there is the potential for the existence of medieval and post medieval archaeology especially around the former manor house at Elmhurst or Elmtrees, where medieval deposits were found during ad hoc digging. There are 9 listed buildings in this area, this includes the grade II* listed building of Elmhurst -</p>				
<p><b>Aesthetic:</b> High Street North contains a number of fine historic buildings which range from the attractive Georgian building at of to small 16<sup>th</sup> century vernacular workers cottage. The high volume of traffic along the High Street is a detracting feature.</p>				
<p><b>Communal:</b> This part of great Missenden is largely residential, and has a low communal value.</p>				
Archaeological Assessment	Built Character (general characteristics)			
<p>Period: Medieval, Post Medieval Survival: High (Buildings) Group Value: N/A Diversity: Medium Potential: Medium/High (Buildings)</p>	Morphology:	Access	Linear	Density: Medium
	Character Types:	Private Housing 1945-1980 Mansions: Post Medieval		Irregular plots (historic)
Heritage Values	Architecture	Modern (General)	Georgian	Vernacular
<p>Evidential Value: Medium Historical Value: Medium Aesthetic Value: Medium Communal Value: Low</p>	Plan Form styles:	Modern (semi detached)		Post medieval (wide frontage)
	Build Materials:	Brick: Machine (Red) Stone		Brick: Handmade (Red)
	Roof Materials:	Tile: Cement Tile: Slate		Tile: Handmade clay

6.6 Modern Settlement

Zone 5: Station Approach				
<b>Summary:</b> Station Approach is located immediately west of the High Street. It is defined by the station, railway line and promenade of shops on the station approach. There are no listed buildings although most of the zone is within the village's conservation area.				
<b>Historical:</b> In the 19 <sup>th</sup> century this part of Great Missenden was covered by of pre 18 <sup>th</sup> century enclosed fields. The advent of the railway in 1892 connected Great Missenden to London and the Midlands. The construction of a shopping parade and offices on station approach c. 1920 was a typical development associated with the railways around this time to cater for the needs of an increasing number of commuters and residents. The shopping promenade is of architectural and historical interest, representing an episode in the development of the town after the arrival of the railway.				
<b>Evidential:</b> There have been no archaeological interventions in this zone and the scale of modern development indicates a generally low potential. However, there is the potential for some archaeology relating to the medieval town at the eastern end of Station Approach.				
<b>Aesthetic:</b> The historic character is predominantly comprised of the late 19 <sup>th</sup> century brown brick railway station, which has some aesthetic value. However the majority of the area is composed of the infrastructure of the railway line and station car park.				
<b>Communal:</b> Railway station and the shops are active part of Great Missenden although are not of any great heritage significance.				
Heritage Values		Built Character (general characteristics)		
<b>Evidential Value:</b> Medium/Low  <b>Historical Value:</b> Medium  <b>Aesthetic Value:</b> Low/Medium  <b>Communal Value:</b> Medium	<b>Morphology:</b>	Linear		<b>Density:</b> Low
	<b>Character Types:</b>	Railway/tram station	Modern shops	
	<b>Architecture</b>	Victorian style	Modern	
	<b>Plan Form styles:</b>	Modern house/shop		
	<b>Build Materials:</b>	Brick: Machine (Red)		
	<b>Roof Materials:</b>	Tile; Machine clay		

Zone 6: Grimms Hill				
<b>Summary:</b> Grimms Hill is located to the west of High Street. It is entirely residential and outside Great Missenden's conservation area.				
<b>Historical:</b> Before the development of Grimms Hill, this was a rural landscape of pre 18 <sup>th</sup> century irregular enclosed fields. Development began in the 1940s when large modern detached houses with large gardens were built along Grimms Hill, Bernards Close and Winslow Field. These houses epitomise low-density 'Metroland' suburban development from the 1940s to the 1960s. There has been some later infilling with housing in the later 20 <sup>th</sup> century				
<b>Evidential:</b> No previous archaeological work has been carried out in this zone and the archaeological potential of this area is low. There are no listed buildings or historical buildings of significance in this area.				
<b>Aesthetic:</b> Architectural styles vary across the zone and include Arts and Crafts, mock historic and modern municipal styles. There small areas of later development whose style is not as good qualitatively as the earlier housing				
<b>Communal:</b> This zone is primarily residential in nature and possesses a low communal value.				
Heritage Values		Built Character (general characteristics)		
<b>Evidential Value:</b> Low  <b>Historical Value:</b> Medium <b>Aesthetic Value:</b> Medium/High <b>Communal Value:</b> Low	<b>Morphology:</b>	Rectilinear/grid	Linear	<b>Density:</b> Low
	<b>Character Types:</b>	Private Housing 1945-1980	Rail/tram way	
	<b>Architecture</b>	Mock Historic	Modern (general)	
	<b>Plan Form styles:</b>	Modern: Detached	Modern: semi detached	
	<b>Build Materials:</b>	Brick: Machine (Red)		
	<b>Roof Materials:</b>	Tile: Machine clay		

**Zone 7: Whitfield Lane**

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<b>Summary:</b> This long zone is located to the southeast of the High Street It is bounded to the west by the railway line and the London Road to the east. The historic built environment is a mixture of residential at its northern half, comprising modern middle class housing of the 1920s and 1930s along the Whitefield Lane and later twentieth century residential development. The southern half of the zone is made up of the building and grounds of Misbourne school. There is only one listed building, the 18 <sup>th</sup> century Nags Head pub on the London Road. The zone is outside of Great Missenden's conservation area.						
<b>Historical:</b> This area is of low historical significance. Much of the area was a rural landscape in the 19 <sup>th</sup> century, comprising a mixture of pre-18 <sup>th</sup> century enclosure fields, meadowland, watercress beds and several farms including Abbey Farm, located at the zone's southern end. By the 1920s the first development occurred with the construction of houses along Whitfield Lane while Misbourne school was constructed in the 1950s. Abbey Farm was converted to The Little Abbey hotel and the surrounding landscape was transformed into a golf course, the hotel eventually became the Chiltern hospital in the 1990s. More housing was added in the 1980s with infilling of land to the rear of the High Street to create Wrights Yard and the Back Lane; while the land north of the Nag's Head pub became a tennis club..						
<b>Evidential:</b> There have been no archaeological interventions in this zone and the scale of modern development indicates that there is a generally low archaeological potential. However, there is the potential for archaeology to be found along the course of the river Misbourne where there might be evidence for the management of the water course by the canons of Misbourne Abbey. There is also some potential for the archaeology relating to the Prehistoric and Roman periods. There is also the possibility of archaeological discovery on the zone's eastern boundary which abuts the London Road/ the precinct of the former medieval Abbey. There are no listed buildings or buildings of historical significance in this area.						
<b>Aesthetic:</b> The hospital is set in its designed gardens and grounds, with the landscape as an attractive backdrop, although the same cannot be said of the urban areas to the north of the zone which is predominantly comprised of modern housing and the functional architecture of the school.						
<b>Communal:</b> The communal value for the zone is low despite the presence of the school, the Chiltern hospital, tennis and golf club these areas are limited to private access and not for the benefit of the general public.						
<b>Heritage Values</b>		<b>Built Character (general characteristics)</b>				
<b>Evidential Value:</b> Low/Medium <b>Historical Value:</b> Low <b>Aesthetic Value:</b> Low <b>Communal Value:</b> Low	<b>Morphology:</b>	Linear	Looped network	<b>Density:</b>	Low	
	<b>Character Types:</b>	Education Modern Private Housing: (post 1980) Medical (Modern) Sports/fitness	Modern infill (post 1980) Middle Class Housing (1919-1945)			
	<b>Architecture</b>	Modern (general)	Edwardian			
	<b>Plan Form styles:</b>	Modern (semi detached)	Modern: Terrace			
	<b>Build Materials:</b>	Brick: Machine (Red)				
	<b>Roof Materials:</b>	Tile: Machine clay				

<b>Zone 8: Missenden Recreation</b>						
<b>Summary:</b> Situated to the east of the High Street, Missenden Recreation includes the recreation ground and allotments. There are no listed buildings although the recreation ground is part of the conservation area.						
<b>Historical:</b> This area was formerly meadow land next to the Misbourne, it was not until the 1970s that this area was converted into a public space, with the creation of allotments the recreation ground and club house.						
<b>Evidential:</b> No previous archaeological work has been carried out in this zone and there are no buildings of historic interest. However there is some potential for archaeological remains (prehistoric/Roman) focussed along the Misbourne as seen elsewhere along the valley.						
<b>Aesthetic:</b> The recreation ground and allotments and its proximity to the Misbourne river are of local aesthetic value, providing a pleasant open space. It part of the settling of the town.						
<b>Communal:</b> This area has a high communal value for the residents, being the principal open space in the village. The recreation ground is popular with families as well has hosting sporting events for the clubs in the village.						
<b>Heritage Values</b>		<b>Built Character (general characteristics)</b>				
<b>Evidential Value:</b> Low/Medium (potential) <b>Historical Value:</b> Low <b>Aesthetic Value:</b> Medium <b>Communal Value:</b> High	<b>Morphology:</b>	Linear		<b>Density:</b>	Low	
	<b>Character Types:</b>	Leisure Allotments	Modern infill post 1980			
	<b>Architecture</b>	Modern: (general)				
	<b>Plan Form styles:</b>	Modern: (semi detached)				
	<b>Build Materials:</b>	Brick: Machine (Red)				
	<b>Roof Materials:</b>	Tile: Machine clay				

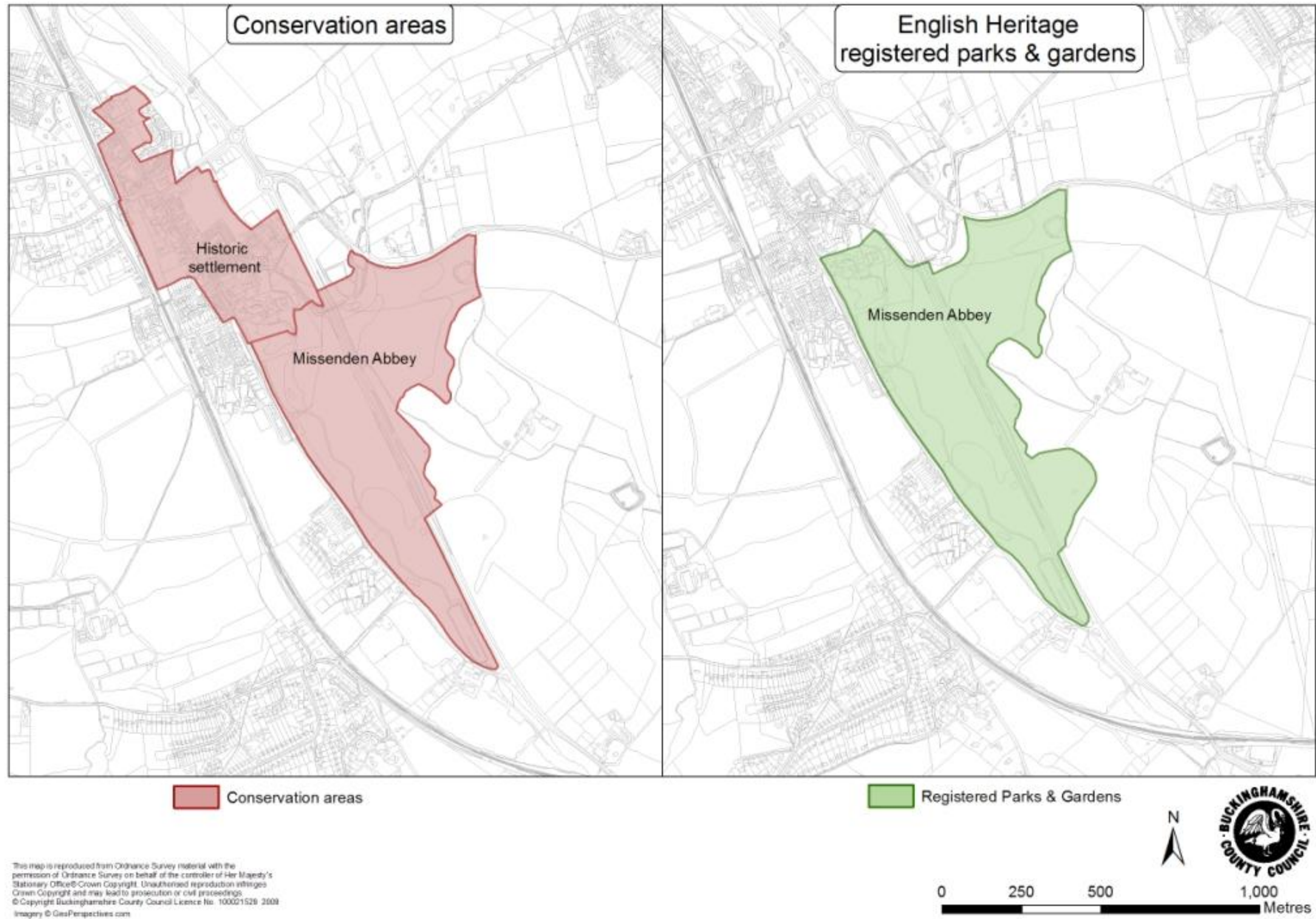


Figure 33: Conservation areas and registered parks and gardens in Great Missenden

### **III RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **7 Management Recommendations**

##### 7.1 Conservation Area Appraisals

- It is suggested that the conservation area could be extended to include the scheduled monument of Frith Hill – a ringwork castle probably associated with the medieval church of St Peter and Paul's church.
- It is recommended that allotments on the link road are reinstated into the conservation area plan after they were removed in the last review in 1992. Allotments form an integral part of the modern suburban landscape although they are vulnerable to redevelopment. The recent Historic Landscape Characterisation of Buckinghamshire identified allotments as being one of the landscape types experiencing the greatest decline in the last century and recommends measures to conserve or protect them (Green Kidd 2006).
- The Urban Character Zone of Grimms Lane embodies Great Missenden's metroland development and should also be considered for inclusion in any future conservation area review.

##### 7.2 Registered Parks and Gardens

- Beyond the registered park of Missenden Abbey there are no parklands and gardens that merit registration.

##### 7.3 Archaeological Notification Areas

- There are no recommendations to amend the archaeological notification areas.

##### 7.4 Scheduled Monuments

- There are no recommendations to add to the schedule of monuments.

##### 7.5 Listed Buildings

- There are no recommendations to add to the schedule of monuments

#### **8 Research Agenda**

##### 8.1 Prehistoric and Roman

- The presence of prehistoric and Roman settlement is attested along the Misbourne and neighbouring valleys of the Chess and Wye indicating significant potential within less intensively developed areas and especially along the Misbourne floodplain which has the highest potential to preserve deposits from earlier periods. Specific research objectives for such sites should be defined by reference to wider local, regional and national period research agenda - no direct connection is currently suspected between pre-medieval and medieval settlement patterns.

##### 8.2 Saxon

- What was the original extent of Anglo Saxon Great Missenden? Its location is uncertain. The primary objective must be to locate and characterise this settlement. Is there evidence for settlement along Church Lane and around St Peter and Paul's church? When was the church founded?

8.3 Medieval

- Can any archaeological evidence be found to support or refute Great Missenden's status as a medieval borough? Specifically, can the date and regularity of the so-called 'burgage' plots be established as evidence for deliberate town-planning at the requisite time? What structures and activities are present within the plots – are they indicative of urban or rural character? Can evidence of market stalls etc be found on the green?
- Did the foundation of the Abbey lead to the re-planning of Great Missenden?
- What was the role of Missenden Abbey in the growth of the town?
- What was the plan and layout of the medieval abbey and its estate? How did it utilise the surrounding Chiltern landscape?
- Investigation of the relationship with the medieval monument at Frith Hill is there any evidence to suggest that this was a former manorial site?
- How long was Great Missenden's market in operation for?
- Do more buildings within the town preserve as yet unrecognised medieval fabric within their standing structure?

8.4 Post Medieval

- What evidence can we find for commercial, craft or industrial activities in the fabric of buildings, archaeological remains and the documentary record? Does this bear out the impression of post-medieval decline?
- What are the true dates of the historic buildings in Great Missenden? Do some retain earlier fabric? Are there identifiable patterns of redevelopment/renovation across the town?
- Can archaeological research help understand the development of the park and garden?



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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

## 10 Addresses

Name	Address	Contact Details
Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service.	Countryside and Heritage, Buckinghamshire County Council, Annexe A, County Hall, Bucks, HP22 1UY	Tel. 01296-382927
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: <a href="http://www.bucksas.org.uk">www.bucksas.org.uk</a>
Chiltern District Council	Chiltern District Council, King George V Road, Amersham, Buckinghamshire, HP6 5AW	Tel. 01494 729000

## Appendix: Chronology & Glossary of Terms

### 10.1 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 <sup>st</sup> Century	Post 1980

### 10.2 Glossary of Terms

Terms	Definition
Borough	Medieval. Town that was granted some level of self government during the medieval period.
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)
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.
Field Survey	Non-intrusive survey of the landscape through topographical analysis including methodical field walking surveys & metal detecting, geophysical or magnetometry (assessing the likely presence of below ground features) and building recordings.
Find spot	Location where a specific artefact was found
Hyde/caracute	Measurement of land. Exact modern equivalent varies between counties, but is considered to be approximately 120 acres.
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.
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.

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Minster	Saxon period church. Minsters were large churches with daughter chapelries in outlying subordinate settlements.
Ringwork	A defensive bank and ditch, circular or oval in plan, surrounding one or more buildings.
Slave (DB)	A person who owed service to another, usually the lord of the manor. Slaves were un-free meaning they were tied to their master, unable to move home or to buy and sell without permission
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
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.

## 11 Appendix: HER Records

### 11.1 Monuments HER Report

HER No.	Name	NGR	Period	Summary
0010000000	Redding Wick Moated Site	SP 9166 0206	13th Century	Thirteenth century moat recorded in field survey at Redding Wick
0010001000	Redding Wick Moated Site	SP 91720 02040	13th Century	Thirteenth century inner moat recorded in field survey at Redding Wick
0010002000	Redding Wick Moated Site	SP 91680 02050	13th Century	13th century bank recorded in field survey at the moated site of Redding Wick
0010003000	Redding Wick Moated Site	SP 91620 02000	13th Century	Outer 13th century bank recorded in field survey at the moated site at Redding Wick
0010004000	Redding Wick Moated Site	SP 91650 02000	Medieval	Probable woodland boundary recorded in field survey at Redding Wick
0014000001	Grim's Ditch	SP 8718 0329	Iron Age	Iron Age or Saxon linear earthwork
0014010000	Grim's Ditch	SP 8899 0338	Iron Age	Known length of dyke system extended through geophysical survey
0014010001	Prestwood Common	SP 87200 00500	Iron Age	Historic records and field-name evidence that Grim's Ditch, an Iron Age linear earthwork, probably extended onto Prestwood Common
0014800000	Bank's Pond	SP 9036 0000	19th Century	Possible fishpond called Bank's Pond marked on nineteenth century map
0017400000	The Castle, Rook Wood	SP 90870 00430	Medieval	Probable medieval moat recorded in field survey at Rock Wood
0017401000	The Castle, Rook Wood	SP 90910 00460	Medieval	Probable causeway in the moated site in Rock Wood recorded in field survey
0019500000	Near Hyde Heath	SP 9201 0132	19th Century	Nineteenth to twentieth century records of brickworks at Hyde Heath
0019501000	Near Hyde Heath	SP 92000 01300	19th Century	Nineteenth century record of a chalk mine at brickworks near Hyde Heath
0019502000	E Middle Grove farm	SP 92018 01264	19th Century	Ten clay pits shown on 19th century maps east of Middle Grove farm cottages
0038400000	Bury Farm	SP 90640 02050	Medieval	farmstead recorded in field survey and building study
0038402000	Bury Farm	SP 9065 0207	Medieval	Medieval moat recorded in field survey at Bury Farm
0038403000	Bury Farm	SP 90640 02050	Medieval	Medieval fishpond recorded in field survey at Bury Farm
0038600000	Moat Farm	SP 87200 01370	Medieval	Medieval moat recorded in field survey at Moat Farm, Prestwood
0054800000	Jenkins Wood	SP 9042 0221	Medieval	Medieval moat and bailey recorded in field survey at Jenkin's Wood
0054801000	Jenkins Wood	SP 90430 02200	Medieval	Medieval enclosure in Jenkin's Wood recorded in site visit
0100500000	King's Lane	SP 87400 03000	Roman	Site of possible Roman villa on King's Lane, Cobbler's Hill
0100501000	King's Lane	SP 87400 03000	Undated	Roman smelting slag found in garden on King's Lane, Cobbler's Hill
0185500000	Missenden Abbey	SP 89750 01000	12th-15th Century	used until the Dissolution, converted into a house later
0185514000	Missenden Abbey	SP 89896 00601	Medieval	Possible medieval fishponds identified in topographical survey
0185600000	Missenden Abbey	SP 89870 01080	19th Century	Historical records of nineteenth century icehouse on Church Lane
0207200000	Frith Hill	SP 9003 0128	Medieval	Medieval ringwork recorded in field survey on Frith Hill
0207201000	Frith Hill	SP 90030 01280	Medieval	hollow-way from ringwork to Great Missenden church recorded in field survey

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0219100000	Peterley Manor	SU 88140 99520	Medieval	Medieval to post-medieval records of Peterley Manor
0219101000	Peterley House	SU 88140 99520	17th-19th Century	Historical records of seventeenth century, lost in the nineteenth century
0219300000	Kiln Lane	SP 8691 0125	1800-1945	Nineteenth to twentieth century records of brickworks at Kiln Lane, Prestwood
0220300000	The Mill House	SP 87100 00300	18th-19th Century	Site of 18th-19th century smock mill at The Mill House, Prestwood.
0220301000	The Mill House	SP 87100 00300	1900-1945	Twentieth century house, The Mill House
0220400000	Frith Hill windmill	SP 90210 01340	18th-19th Century	Eighteenth to nineteenth century records of Frith Hill windmill.
0220401000	Mill House, Frith Hill	SP 90210 01340	18th-19th Century	Eighteenth to nineteenth century mill house in Frith Hill
0234100000	Potter Row	SP 90320 02430	17th Century	Possible 17th century pottery kiln site suggested by finds of pottery sherds
0234100006	Potter Row	SP 90320 02430	Undated	Sixteen fragments of 17th century kiln furniture found in gardens in Potter Row
0257700000	Potter Row	SP 90280 02720	13th-15th Century	Site of pottery kiln suggested by place-name evidence and finds of pottery
0257701002	Potter Row	SP 90280 02720	Undated	13th century cooking pot sherds found in fieldwalking survey at Potter Row
0267801000	Great Missenden	SP 89000 02000	14th-18th Century	Fourteenth to eighteenth century records of windmill in Great Missenden parish
0284400000	Deep Mill	SU 9085 9950	13th-19th Century	Site of 13th-19th century Deep Mill watermill known from historic records.
0448100000	S of Cudsdens Farm	SP 9080 0111	Neolithic-Medieval	Neolithic to medieval artefacts found in fieldwalking survey at Cudsdens Farm
0448101000	S of Cudsdens Farm	SP 90830 01100	13th-14th Century	Possible 13th-14th century farmstead suggested by finds of medieval pottery
0468100000	W of Hyde Farm	SP 9117 0063	Neolithic-Medieval	Neolithic to medieval artefacts found in fieldwalking survey at Hyde Farm
0498600000	NW of Black Horse PH	SP 8868 0230	Neolithic-Roman	artefacts found in fieldwalking survey north of the Black Horse pub
0505600000	Honor End Lane	SP 8594 0133	19th Century	19th-20th century records of brickworks at Honor End Lane, Prestwood
0523800000	N of Bury Farm	SP 9069 0237	Medieval	Possible enclosure recorded in field survey north of Bury Farm, South Heath
0529800000	Lee Common	SP 91000 04000	18th Century	18th century record of brickworks, with clay pits marked on 19th century maps
0538900000	Kiln Road	SP 87090 01280	19th Century	Nineteenth century well or cistern found at Ladyboys on Kiln Road
0550400000	S of Waggon & Horses PH	SP 89580 01110	Post Medieval	Possible post-medieval lock-up near the Wagon and Horses pub
0828900000	SW Cottage farm	SP 89290 03201	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th-20th century maps south-west of Cottage farm
0829000000	Spinfield	SP 86949 01429	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps at Spinfield
0829100000	Nanfans Farm	SP 86418 01115	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps on Nanfan's Farm
0829200000	SW nanfan's farm	SP 86165 00975	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps south-west of Nanfan's Farm
0829300000	sw nanfan's Farm	SP 86144 00873	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps south-west of Nanfan's farm
0829400000	NE Boar's Coppice	SP 85966 00663	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps north-east of Boar's Coppice
0829500000	W Idaho Farm	SP 86314 00609	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps west of Idaho Farm
0829600000	SE Boar's Coppice	SP 86200 00411	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps south-east of Boar's Coppice
0829700000	SE Boar's Coppice	SP 86049 00406	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps south-east of Boar's Coppice
0829800000	SW Mill End Close	SP 86799 00256	19th Century	Extractive pit shown on 19th century maps south-west of Mill End Close
0829900000	SW Mill End Close	SP 86758 00171	19th Century	Extractive pit shown on 19th century maps south-west of Mill End Close

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083000000	S thimble Farm	SP 88051 00305	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps south of Thimble Farm
083010000	Prestwood Lodge School	SP 87775 00059	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps south-west of Prestwood Lodge School
083020000	Manor Close	SP 88056 00005	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps on Manor Close
083030000	E hyde farm	SP 91632 00617	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th-20th century maps east of Hyde Farm
083040000	E Hyde farm	SP 91792 00664	19th Century	Gravel pit shown on 19th-20th century maps east of Hyde Farm
083050000	NE Stony Green Hall	SU 86524 99811	19th Century	Extractive pit shown on 19th-20th century maps
083060000	SW Collings Hanger farm	SU 86983 99903	19th Century	Extractive pit shown on 19th century maps south-west of Collings Hanger Farm
083070000	W Stonyrock	SU 88724 99833	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th-20th century maps west of Stonyrock
083080000	NE Boar's Coppice	SP 86043 00636	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps NE Boar's Coppice
083090000	Stonygreen Wood	SP 86502 00005	19th Century	Extractive pit shown on 19th century maps at Stonygreen Wood
083100000	SW nanfan's Grange	SP 86714 00824	19th Century	Extractive pit shown on 19th century maps south-west of Nanfan's Grange
083110000	N Collings hanger farm	SP 87152 00170	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps north of Collings Hanger Farm
083120000	N Collings hanger farm	SP 87206 00241	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps north of Collings Hanger Farm
083130000	W Holy Trinity Church	SU 87242 99718	19th Century	Extractive pit shown on 19th and twentieth century maps
083140000	NE Mellow Cottage	SU 88010 98388	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps north-east of Mellow Cottage
083150000	NW Mellow Cottage	SU 87857 98521	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th-20th century maps
083160000	Prestwood Lodge School	SP 87934 00130	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps at Prestwood Lodge School
083170000	S manor farm Cottages	SU 88087 99143	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps south of Manor Farm Cottages
083180000	Peterley manor Farm	SU 88275 99475	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps at Peterley Manor Farm
083190000	at Little Marsham	SP 88287 01075	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps at Little Marsham
083200000	Coneybank Wood	SP 88328 02337	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps in Coneybank Wood
083210000	Chiltern Manor Park	SP 88993 01101	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps south of Chiltern Manor Park.
083220000	Havenfield Wood	SP 89445 02543	19th Century	Three chalk pits shown on 19th-20th century maps in Havenfield Wood
083230000	W Three Bears	SP 89041 03433	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps west of the Three Bears
083240000	N Havenfield Wood	SP 89397 02787	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th-20th century maps north of Havenfield Wood
083250000	Stocking's Wood	SP 89958 01885	19th Century	Three chalk pits shown on 19th century maps om Stocking's Wood
083260000	Chalk Dell Cottages	SP 89980 01300	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps Chalk Dell Cottages
083270000	S Firth Hill House	SP 90140 01184	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps south of Firth Hill House
083280000	Abbey park	SP 90358 01143	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th and twentieth century maps in Abbey Park
083290000	Abbey park	SP 90383 01262	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps in Abbey Park
083300000	W hyde End	SP 91614 01282	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps west of Hyde End
083310000	Hyde Heath Common	SP 92885 00459	19th Century	Chalk pit shown on 19th century maps at hyde Heath Common
093360000	Great Missenden village.	SP 895 010	Medieval-Modern	Medieval and post-medieval settlement of Great Missenden



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0961100000	Little Kingshill	SU 89302 99602	13th Century	A medieval marl pit recorded in documentary evidence and in a site visit
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### 11.2 Landscapes HER Reports

HER No.	Name	NGR	Period	Summary
0185511000	Missenden Abbey	SP 9029 0068	1700-1899	Eighteenth to nineteenth century landscape park at Missenden Abbey.
0217705000	Elmhurst	SP 8929 0158	1800-2099	Nineteenth century garden recorded in historic documents and maps
0652200000	The Parsonage House	SU 8744 9961	1849-2099	Nineteenth century records of formal garden, lawn and orchard
1255501000	Overstroud Cottage, The Dell	SP 8995 0134	1900-2099	Record of twentieth century garden and lily pond at Overstroud Cottage
1256801000	Rignalls, Mapridge Green Lane	SP 8810 0234	1909-2050	Early twentieth century gardens at Rignall's

### 11.3 Find Spots

HER	Grid Ref	Period	Details
0010001001	SP 9172 0204		Medieval pottery found on surface of Redding Wick moat
0017400001	SP 90870 00430	Roman	Possible Roman pottery found in Rock Wood in the nineteenth century
0017400002	SP 90870 00430	Medieval	Medieval pottery sherds found in Rock Wood
0017400003	SP 90870 00430	Medieval	Possible medieval slag found in Rock Wood
0036100000	SU 88100 99300	Neolithic	Neolithic polished flint axe found at Prestwood Lodge School during ground levelling.
0038400001	SP 90586 02082	Bronze Age-Iron Age	A test pit at Bury Farm uncovered a Late Bronze Age to early iron Age post-hole with pottery inside
0038404001	SP 90652 02192	11th-14th Century	A test pit uncovered eleventh to fourteenth century pottery in a large barn at Bury Farm
0038405001	SP 90676 02106	Bronze Age	A test pit at the smaller barn, Bury Farm, uncovered an undated beam slot or gully
0099500000	SP 89260 01370	Palaeolithic	Palaeolithic handaxe possibly found in gravel north of station in the nineteenth century
0099900000	SP 87000 00000	Neolithic	Neolithic flint axe found in Prestwood
0100200000	SP 87500 00500	Roman	Roman metalwork found in Prestwood
0100400000	SU 87600 99700	Bronze Age	Early Bronze Age stone axe-hammer in Prestwood
0100500001	SP 87400 03000	Roman	Fragments of Roman pottery found on King's Lane, Cobbler's Hill
0100500002	SP 87400 03000	Roman	Sherd of Roman samian pottery found on King's Lane, Cobbler's Hill
0100500003	SP 87400 03000	Roman	Roman quernstone fragment found on King's Lane, Cobbler's Hill
0100500004	SP 87400 03000	Iron Age	Sherds of Iron Age pottery found in garden found on King's Lane, Cobbler's Hill
0100500005	SP 87400 03000	Roman	Fragments of Roman flue and roof tile found in garden Kings Lane, Cobblers Hill
0100500006	SP 87400 03000	Roman	Fragment of Roman metalwork found in garden Kings Lane, Cobblers Hill
0100600000	SP 89500 01000	Mesolithic	Unlocated findspots of Mesolithic and Iron Age artefacts found
0100601000	SP 89500 01000	Mesolithic	Mesolithic tranchet axehead found in Great Missenden parish
0100602000	SP 89500 01000	Iron Age	Iron Age metalwork found in Great Missenden parish

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0104300000	SP 90300 00600	Neolithic	Neolithic polished flint handaxe found near Castle Hill, Rookwood
0124200000	SP 92500 00700	Bronze Age	Bronze Age metalwork found at Hyde Heath found in the early twentieth century
0144700000	SU 90870 99730	Bronze Age	Bronze Age metalwork found at Deep Mill Farm in the early twentieth century
0185400000	SP 89 01	Greek & Roman	Unlocated findspot of Greek and Roman metalwork found in Great Missenden parish.
0207200001	SP 90030 01280	Roman & Medieval	Medieval and Roman pottery found on surface of earthworks at Frith Hill
0228400000	SP 79980 22260	Medieval	Medieval pottery sherds found fieldwalking in Great Missenden parish
0234100001	SP 90320 02430	17th Century	112 sherds of seventeenth century pottery bowls found in gardens at Pottery Row
0234100002	SP 90320 02430	17th Century	29 sherds of seventeenth century pottery pipkin found in gardens at Pottery Row
0234100003	SP 90320 02430	17th Century	62 sherds of seventeenth century pottery dishes and plates found in gardens at Pottery Row
0234100004	SP 90320 02430	17th Century	18 sherds of seventeenth century pottery jars found in gardens at Pottery Row
0234100005	SP 90320 02430	17th Century	Two sherds of seventeenth century pottery chafing dishes found in gardens at Pottery Row
0234101000	SP 9034 0257	17th Century	Seventeenth century pottery found at The Warren, Potter Row
0257701000	SP 90280 02720	13th Century	Thirteenth century pottery sherds found in fieldwalking survey at Pottery Row
0257701001	SP 90280 02720	13th Century	Thirteenth century jug sherds found in fieldwalking survey at Pottery Row
0257701003	SP 90280 02720	13th Century	Thirteenth century jar and bowl sherds found in fieldwalking survey at Pottery Row
0257702000	SP 90280 02720	14th-15th Century	Fourteenth to fifteenth century pottery sherds found in fieldwalking survey at Pottery Row
0257702001	SP 90280 02720	14th-15th Century	Fourteenth to fifteenth century jug sherds found in fieldwalking survey at Pottery Row
0257702002	SP 90280 02720	14th-15th Century	bowl, jar and lid fragments found in fieldwalking survey at Pottery Row
0257703000	SP 90280 02720	Post Medieval	Post-medieval pottery sherds found in fieldwalking survey at Pottery Row
0257704000	SP 90280 02720	Prehistoric	Late prehistoric flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey at Pottery Row
0258700000	SP 89200 01610	Roman	Roman metalwork found in a garden on Rignall Road
0299000000	SP 87590 00930	Neolithic	Neolithic flint axe found in garden.
0441800000	SP 9091 0059	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Three Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes found fieldwalking near Hyde Farm
0447800000	SP 9152 0102	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to medieval artefacts found in fieldwalking survey near Barley Mow
0447800001	SP 91500 01000	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flake found in fieldwalking survey near Barley Mow
0447800002	SP 91500 01000	Roman	Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery found in fieldwalking survey near Barley Mow
0447800003	SP 91500 01000	Undated	Fragment of slag of unknown date found in fieldwalking survey near Barley Mow
0447801000	SP 91450 01080	Mesolithic	Mesolithic to medieval artefacts found in fieldwalking survey near Barley Mow
0447801001	SP 91450 01080	Mesolithic	Mesolithic blade found in fieldwalking survey near Barley Mow
0447801002	SP 91450 01080	Roman & Medieval	Roman and medieval pottery found in fieldwalking survey near Barley Mow
0447900000	SP 9066 0157	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age artefacts found in fieldwalking survey near Cudsden's Farm
0447900001	SP 90690 01560	Neolithic-Bronze Age	90 Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey near Cudsden's Farm
0447900002	SP 90690 01560	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Four Neolithic to Bronze Age flint blades found in fieldwalking survey near Cudsden's Farm

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0447900003	SP 90690 01560	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Six Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scrapers found in fieldwalking survey near Cudsden's Farm
0447900004	SP 90670 01540	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint arrowhead found in fieldwalking survey near Cudsden's Farm
0447900005	SP 90650 01620	Neolithic	Fragment of Neolithic flint axe found in fieldwalking survey near Cudsden's Farm
0448100001	SP 90830 01100	Mesolithic	Mesolithic to Neolithic flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey at Cudsden's Farm
0448100002	SP 90830 01100	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scrapers found in fieldwalking survey at Cudsden's Farm
0448100003	SP 91010 01110	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint arrowhead found in fieldwalking survey at Cudsden's Farm
0448101001	SP 90830 01100	13th-14th Century	227 thirteenth to fourteenth century pottery sherds found in fieldwalking survey at Cudsden's Farm
0448200000	SP 9249 0080	Mesolithic	Palaeolithic to Bronze Age artefacts found in fieldwalking survey near Hyde House
0448200001	SP 92470 00810	Neolithic-Bronze Age	64 neolithic to bronze Age flakes found in fieldwalking survey near Hyde House
0448200002	SP 92470 00810	Mesolithic	Two Mesolithic to Neolithic flint cores found in fieldwalking survey near Hyde House
0448200003	SP 92470 00810	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Two Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scrapers found in fieldwalking survey near Hyde House
0448200004	SP 92540 00750	Palaeolithic	Palaeolithic flint axe found in fieldwalking survey near Hyde House
0448200005	SP 92470 00810	Iron Age	Possible Iron Age slag found in fieldwalking survey near Hyde House
0458300000	SP 9117 0098	Neolithic-Medieval	Neolithic to medieval artefacts found in fieldwalking survey near the Barley Mow
0458300001	SP 91200 01000	Mesolithic	Possible Mesolithic flint blade found in fieldwalking survey near the Barley Mow
0458300002	SP 91200 01000	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Four Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey near the Barley Mow
0458300003	SP 91200 01000	Neolithic	Neolithic arrowhead found in fieldwalking survey near the Barley Mow
0458300004	SP 91200 01000	Roman	Three sherds of Roman pottery found in fieldwalking survey near the Barley Mow
0458300005	SP 91200 01000	Medieval	68 sherds of medieval pottery found in fieldwalking survey near the Barley Mow
0458400000	SP 9066 0091	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes and scraper found in fieldwalking survey near Cudsden's Farm
0458500000	SP 9094 0074	Mesolithic-Bronze Age	Mesolithic to Bronze Age flints found in fieldwalking survey near Darvell's Grove
0458500001	SP 90950 00750	Mesolithic	Two Mesolithic to Bronze Age flint blades found in fieldwalking survey near Darvell's Grove
0458500002	SP 90950 00750	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Nine neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey near Darvell's Grove
0458500003	SP 90950 00750	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scraper found in fieldwalking survey near Darvell's Grove
0468000000	SP 9233 0072	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age artefact scatter found in fieldwalking survey S side Hyde Heath Lane
0468000001	SP 9231 0074	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint hammerstone found in fieldwalking survey S side Hyde Heath Lane
0468000002	SP 92200 00850	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint core found in fieldwalking survey S side Hyde Heath Lane
0468000003	SP 92300 00760	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Four Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scrapers found in fieldwalking survey S side Hyde Heath Lane
0468000004	SP 92200 00850	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint arrowhead found in fieldwalking survey S side Hyde Heath Lane
0468000005	SP 92300 00760	Neolithic-Bronze Age	110 Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey S side Hyde Heath Lane
0468000006	SP 92300 00760	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Fifteen Neolithic to Bronze Age flint blades found in fieldwalking survey S side Hyde Heath Lane
0468100001	SP 91190 00630	Neolithic-Bronze Age	24 Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey at Hyde Farm
0468100002	SP 91190 00630	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Five Neolithic to Bronze Age flint blades found in fieldwalking survey at Hyde Farm

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0468100003	SP 91190 00630	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scraper found in fieldwalking survey at Hyde Farm
0468100004	SP 91190 00630	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint core found in fieldwalking survey at Hyde Farm
0468100005	SP 91190 00630	Medieval	134 medieval pottery sherds found in fieldwalking survey at Hyde Farm
0468300000	SP 9131 0043	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Fifteen Age flint flakes, scraper and blade found in fieldwalking survey SW of Hyde Farm
0468800000	SP 9113 0020	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flakes and scraper found in fieldwalking survey near Hyde Plantation
0468900000	SP 9219 0070	Medieval	31 sherds of medieval pottery found in fieldwalking survey near Friendly Lodge Farm
0469000000	SP 9152 0040	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint cores, flakes and scrapers and a medieval handle SSE of Hyde Farm
0471200000	SP 87000 00550	Neolithic	Neolithic flint scraper found in garden of Uplands, Prestwood
0478900000	SP 87490 01090	Neolithic	Neolithic flint arrowhead found in garden of Farthing's End, Prestwood
0487300000	SP 9039 0284	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age artefacts found in fieldwalking survey, Springfield Farm
0487300001	SP 90470 02930	Neolithic-Bronze Age	31 Neolithic to Bronze Age flakes found in fieldwalking survey, Springfield Farm
0487300002	SP 90470 02930	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Three Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey, Springfield Farm
0497700000	SP 8828 0281	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes, one a possible scraper, found in fieldwalking survey
0497800000	SP 8858 0255	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes, one a possible knife, found in fieldwalking survey
0497900000	SP 8901 0283	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Fourteen Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes found south of Woodlands Park
0498400000	SP 8824 0303	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scatter found in fieldwalking survey at Road Farm
0498400001	SP 88250 03030	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Twelve Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes found in fieldwalking survey at Road Farm
0498400002	SP 88250 03030	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Two Neolithic to Bronze Age flint cores found in fieldwalking survey at Road Farm
0498400003	SP 88250 03030	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scraper found in fieldwalking survey at Road Farm
0498500000	SP 8890 0271	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flakes and scrapers found in fieldwalking survey at Havenfields
0498600001	SP 88680 02290	Neolithic-Bronze Age	28 flint flakes with one Palaeolithic flake found in fieldwalking survey NW of Black Horse PH
0498600002	SP 88680 02290	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Two Neolithic to Bronze Age flint cores found in fieldwalking survey north of the Black Horse pub
0498600003	SP 88680 02290	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Three Neolithic to Bronze Age flint blades found in fieldwalking survey north of the Black Horse pub
0498600004	SP 88680 02290	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Neolithic to Bronze Age flint scraper found in fieldwalking survey north of the Black Horse pub
0498600005	SP 88680 02290	Roman	Thirteen sherds of Roman pottery found in fieldwalking survey north of the Black Horse pub
0498600006	SP 8868 0230	Roman	Roman tile fragments found in fieldwalking survey north of the Black Horse pub
0498600007	SP 8868 0230	Mesolithic	Mesolithic flint core found near the Black Horse pub
0498600008	SP 8868 0230	Mesolithic	Two flakes of Mesolithic to Neolithic flint flakes found near the Black Horse Pub
0498601000	SP 8867 0240	Roman	Roman metalwork found in near Road Farm
0498610000	SP 88630 02270	Medieval	Medieval metalwork found at Road Farm
0517400000	SU 88250 98420	Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age metalwork found in ploughed field at Heath End
0560200000	SP 89 01	Greek	Unlocated findspot of Greek metalwork found in Great Missenden.
0617000000	SP 87800 01760	Bronze Age	Early Bronze Age metalwork found on edge of old chalk pit in Rignall Wood

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0628400000	SU 87650 98790	Neolithic-Bronze Age	Three Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age flint flakes found after topsoil stripping at The Limes
0628500000	SU 87810 98840	Mesolithic	Two Mesolithic and one Neolithic to Early Bronze Age flint flake found at The Limes
0665900000	SP 87628 00756	Medieval	Medieval metalwork found in back garden in Honor Rd Prestwood
0666400000	SP 8845 0221	Roman	Site of possible Roman villa suggested by finds of Roman metalwork and tile adjacent to Coney Hill
0666500000	SU 8660 9988	Roman	Roman metalwork found during metal detecting rally at Collings Hanger farm
0666600000	SU 8660 9978	Roman	Roman metalwork found during metal detecting rally at Collings Hanger farm

### 11.4 Listed Buildings

EH	Grade	NGR	Address	Period	Description
-617948	II	SP 90714 01291	Briarwood	1600-1699	Timber framed house
-617898	II	SP 89215 01658	Toll Bar Cottage	1800-1832	Brick House
-617886	II	SP 89785 01147	Close Cottage	1600-1699	Brick House
-617885	I	SP 90014 01038	St Peter & St Paul's Church	1300-1399	Church
-617883	II	SP 89641 01205	Old House	1500-1699	Timber framed house
-617882	II	SP 89712 01168	53 & 55 Church Street	1649-1699	Brick House
-617881	II	SP 89719 01165	57-63 Church Street	1700-1799	Brick House
-617880	II	SP 89562 01154	2 Church Street	1800-1832	Brick house, now shop
-617879	II	SP 89568 01161	4 Church Street	1800-1832	Brick House
-617878	II	SP 89618 01183	24 & 26 Church Street	1700-1799	Brick House
-617877	II	SP 89631 01182	28 & 32 Church Street	1700-1832	Brick House
-617876	II	SP 89648 01180	40 Church Street	1600-1699	Brick House
-617875	II	SP 89661 01176	Swan Cottage	1600-1699	Timber framed house
-617874	II	SP 89677 01159	50-54 Church Street	1700-1799	Brick House
-617873	II	SP 89699 01148	56-60 Church Street	1580-1620	Timber framed house
-617872	II	SP 89707 01131	Abbey Farmhouse	1649-1699	Brick Farmhouse
-617871	II	SP 89948 01337	Overstroud Cottage	1800-1832	Rendered house
208, 1, 10003	II	SP 87985 00371	Clayton House	1965-1966	Timber framed house
208, 1, 10B	II	SP 87051 01002	Old Chequers Cottage	1700-1799	Brick House
208, 1, 34	II	SP 88060 00495	Timble Farm cottages	1825	Flint & brick house
208, 1, 35	II	SP 87948 00348	Cherry Cottage	1849-1899	Brick House
208, 1, 49	II	SP 89595 01112	Missenden Abbey	1113-1153	Augustinian Monastery
208, 1, 4B	II	SP 88884 03369	Woodlands Park	1800-1866	Villa
208, 1, 50	II	SP 89766 00968	Sundial, Missenden Abbey	1814	Sundial

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208, 1, 52	II	SP 89827 00946	2 bridges, Missenden Abbey	1780-1820	Rubble bridge
208, 1, 58	II	SP 89691 00906	Wall, Missenden Abbey	1800-1899	Flint boundary wall
208, 1, 9B	II	SP 87137 01031	Flint Cottage	1833-1866	Clergy house
208, 2, 6B	II	SP 91274 02792	Mortimer House	1800-1832	Flint house
208, 2, 7B	II	SP 91307 02805	Bull Cottage	1649-1699	Rendered house
208, 3, 106	II	SU 87439 99718	Church School	1849	Church school
208, 3, 107	II	SU 87460 99685	Church Cottage	1849	House with bell tower
208, 3, 109	II	SU 87582 99407	Polecat PH	1600-1699	Brick public house
208, 3, 110	II	SU 87568 99279	Rose Cottage	1800-1832	Brick House
208, 4, 40	II	SP 89257 01619	Rose Cottage, railings	1800-1832	Brick House
208, 4, 41	II*	SP 89284 01582	Elmhurst	1567-1599	Brick house, now flats
208, 4, 42	II	SP 89275 01593	Elmhurst gable end	1700-1799	Brick House
208, 4, 43	II	SP 89494 01238	73-75 High Street	1700-1799	Brick house, now shop
208, 4, 44	II	SP 89497 01229	77 High Street	1700-1799	Rendered house
208, 4, 45	II	SP 89502 01222	79 High Street	1649-1699	Brick house, now shop
208, 4, 46	II	SP 89512 01205	81 & 83 High Street	1600-1699	Timber framed building, inn
208, 4, 48	II	SP 89582 01117	Waggon & Horses PH	1700-1799	Public house with lock up
208, 4, 51	II	SP 89819 01024	Summerhouse, Missenden Abbey	1780-1820	Summerhouse
208, 4, 54	II	SP 89836 01060	Walls, Missenden Abbey	1649-1699	Flint & brick walls
208, 4, 55	II	SP 89747 01070	Walls, Missenden Abbey	1700-1799	Flint & brick walls
208, 4, 56	II	SP 89768 01059	Laundry, Missenden Abbey	1780-1820	Brick laundry
208, 4, 57	II	SP 89635 01046	Cottage, Missenden Abbey	1700-1799	Flint & brick house
208, 4, 59	II	SP 89282 01533	Elm Cottage	1600-1699	Timber framed house
208, 4, 60	II	SP 89286 01522	Flint Hall	1780-1820	Rendered house
208, 4, 61	II	SP 89303 01508	8-12 High Street	1600-1699	Flint & brick house
208, 4, 62	II	SP 89316 01489	Townend Farm	1800-1832	Brick Farmhouse
208, 4, 63	II	SP 89337 01471	Wall, Townend Farm	1800-1832	Flint wall
208, 4, 64	II	SP 89276 01466	Barn, Townend Farm	1700-1799	Timber framed barn
208, 4, 65	II	SP 89406 01354	Beam House	1400-1599	Timber framed house
208, 4, 66	II	SP 89413 01342	Cross Keys PH	1549-1699	Public house
208, 4, 67	II	SP 89398 01314	Baptist Church	1838	Flint chapel
208, 4, 68B	II	SP 89421 01321	44 High Street	1800-1832	House
208, 4, 69B	II	SP 89425 01314	46 High Street	1500-1599	Timber framed house

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208, 4, 70B	II	SP 89466 01233	64-66 High Street	1549-1699	Timber framed house
208, 4, 71B	II	SP 89468 01230	68-68a High Street	1549-1699	Timber framed house
208, 4, 72B	II	SP 89479 01224	Crown House	1066-1540	Timber framed house
208, 4, 73B	II	SP 89480 01215	72 High Street	1649-1699	House
208, 4, 74B	II	SP 89487 01205	74 High Street	1649-1699	Brick house, now shop
208, 4, 75B	II	SP 89494 01198	76 High Street	1649-1699	Timber framed building, now shop
208, 4, 76B	II	SP 89509 01174	80, 80a High Street	1600-1699	Brick house, now shop
208, 4, 77D	II	SP 89493 01155	The Little Close	1700-1799	Brick House
208, 4, 78	II	SP 89532 01157	84-90 High Street	1766	Brick house, now shop
208, 4, 79	II*	SP 89545 01136	George PH	1467-1532	Medieval hall house
208, 4, 80	II*	SP 89538 01120	Barn, George PH	1400-1532	Timber framed building

11.5 Dendro-chronology for buildings in Great Missenden (Vernacular Architecture Group, 2002)

Address	Dendro-Chronology/tree felling date range	Type of structure	Laboratory
Abbey Farm	1406	tie beam	Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory.

11.6 Cruck buildings in Great Missenden (Source: Vernacular Architecture Group)

Address	Cruck type	Source
38 High Street	True cruck	R W Evans (BCC)
70 High Street	True cruck	R W Evans (BCC)

**12 Appendix: Trade Listings and Population Data***Trade Directories*

Artisan/trades	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Furniture maker	1			1							
Lacemaker	1	1									
Milliner/peroke	4	3		1						1	1
Patten maker		1									
Photographer											1
Shoe/boot maker	7	5	2	7	6	6	6	3	4	3	2
Straw hat maker	4	3	1	2							
Tailor	4	5	1	1	4	2	1	1	1	1	4
Turner							3				
Whitesmith				1							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>
Merchant/Dealer	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Brewery	1	2		1	1				1		
Chemist				1			1	1	1	1	1
Confectioner				1				1	3	1	2
Dealer	2			5	3	4	10	9	1	4	5
Dealer (animals)							7	4	5		2
Dealer (Corn/coal)		4	1	2			2	2	3	2	4
Dealer (cycle/car)									1	1	
Dealer (timber)							2				
Draper			1	2	3	2	5	4	2	2	1
Fishmonger									2	2	2
Grocer	5	6	5	1	4	3	4	3	4	4	4
Ironmonger	2				1		2	1	1	1	2
Marine Store					1						
Wine Merchant							1				1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>
Agric/General	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Farmer			14	17	17	17	39	26	20	21	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
Professional	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Auctioneer							1	2	2	3	1
Banker											2
Dentist											4
Solicitor								2	1	1	1
Surgeon/physician	1	3		1	1	1	1	2	4	3	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>
Service/Provisions	1830	1844	1853	1864	1877	1883	1895	1903	1911	1920	1935
Baker	4	5	3	5	4	3	3	2	2	2	2
Beer Retailer		5	9	8	8	7	9	10	7	6	6
Blacksmith	1	3	3	3	3	4	5	3	1	3	1
Bricklayer/builder		2	1	1	2	2	2	4	3	3	5
Brick/tile maker			1				1				
Butcher	4	4	1	2	2	3	4	4	3	3	3
Café							1		1	2	4
Carpenter	3	4	3	1	1	1	1			1	1
Carrier		2	2	4		4	1	1			2
Chimney sweep										1	2
Engineer											1
Gardener								1			



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Hairdresser		1								1	3
Hotel/Inn	2	2					1	2	1	1	
Ins Agent	1	2		2							1
Laundry							1	1	1	1	
Miller		1	1	1							
Plumber/electrician			1		1	1	1	1			
Pub	4	5	11	9	7	8	9	8	10	7	9
Saddler	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	3		2	1
School	4	4	3	1		3	1	3	3	2	2
Watchmaker	1	1	1	1			1	1	2	1	1
Wheelwright	1	1	1		1	1	2	1	2	2	
TOTAL	26	44	42	40	30	39	45	45	36	38	44

† Posse Comitatus, 1798.

### Population Figures

Date	P.C.†	1801	1811	1821	1831	1841	1851	1861
Population		1411	1576	1735	1827	2225	2097	2250
Date	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941
Population	2278	2170	2385	2166	2555	2882	3289	**
Date	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001		
Population	4464	5735	8508	**	**	7070		

\*\* No Data recorded

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/](http://buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/) for 2001

## 13 Appendix: Historical Consultancy Report

Report compiled by P Diplock of the University of Leicester

### Background

The manor of Great Missenden was held, during the time of Edward the Confessor, by a thane of Edward the Confessor, Sired, son of Alveva. In 1086 it was held by Walter Giffard and assessed at ten hides. In the 13th Century the manor of Great Missenden was split between two heiresses. The moieties were known as Netherbury and Overbury. At a later date the two manors again united and descended together as the single manor of Great Missenden. The transfer of ownership is described in VCH.

Missenden Abbey was founded in 1133 as a religious house for Augustine canons. It was a fairly small house and would have needed some support from the local settlement of Great Missenden, but would not have supported a very great increase in population. The reputed manor of Peterley or Peterleystone belonged at an early date to Missenden Abbey. A cartulary was compiled in the early 14th Century. This provides a considerable amount of information about the Abbey and its properties (see references below).

The coming of the railway at the end of the 19th Century helped to increase the population of Great Missenden. However the effect upon the settlement was not as significant as with other local towns.

### **Manorial records**

The manor of Great Missenden was divided into two parts called Netherbury and Overbury from the thirteenth century until 1684. There are pre 1684 records for both Netherbury and Overbury and then further records, after 1684, for the composite manor of Great Missenden. The manor of Peterley descended separately and although the VCH calls it a reputed manor, there are sufficient records to justify a separate entry. Accordingly this report (in the medieval and early modern sections) will include records of the three manors of Netherbury, Overbury and Great Missenden, and the fourth manor of Peterley.

#### *Netherbury*

Estreats, 1380	CBS D/BASM 54/3
Court roll, 1463-1482	DRO 1038 M/M1
Fines for non-appearance at court, 1479	CBS D/BASM 54/4

#### *Overbury*

Value of manor, with other manors, arrears on reverse, 1421 CBS D/P 159

### **Tax Records for Great Missenden**

#### *Containing the names of individuals*

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
[1403 x c. 1413] - 4 stray	TNA:PRO E179/77/41

#### *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
1334 Sept 19 x 23 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/378/24
1336 March 11 x 20 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/378/27
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

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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 E179/77/11
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
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 Great Missenden Records (not an exhaustive list)**

*Chancery*

TNS:PRO C 143/401/10, C 241/131/151, C 241/138/88, C 241/244/17, C 1/4/125, C 1/273/18, C 1/273/43, C 1/690/32, C 1/1102/53-55, C 1/1193/80, C 1/1333/1-2, C 1/1395/80-82, C 2/Eliz/B24/32, C 2/Eliz/B28/49, C 2/Eliz/D7/6, C 103/163, C 103/174, C 104/266, C 110/143.

*Missenden Abbey charters have been published by the Buckinghamshire Record Society:*

The Cartulary of Missenden Abbey, Part One (1938) – Volume 2

The Cartulary of Missenden Abbey Part Two (1955) – Volume 10

The Cartulary of Missenden Abbey Part Three (1962) – Volume 12

All three volumes may be downloaded as PDF files from

[bucksinfo.net/brs/online-volumes](http://bucksinfo.net/brs/online-volumes)

## Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

### Early Modern Records (1500-1800)

#### **Manorial Records**

The manor of Great Missenden was divided into two parts called Netherbury and Overbury from the thirteenth century until 1684. There are pre 1684 records for both Netherbury and Overbury and then further records, after 1684, for the composite manor of Great Missenden. The manor of Peterley descended separately and although the VCH calls it a reputed manor, there are sufficient records to justify a separate entry. Accordingly this report (in the medieval and early modern sections) will include records of the three manors of Netherbury, Overbury and Great Missenden, and the fourth manor of Peterley.

#### *Netherbury*

Rents of the late Missenden Abbey, 1539-1546	WAM 3469-3470
Account of lands and possessions of former monastery of Missenden, with later additions, 1540-1541	CBS D/BASM 54/5
Survey, with other manors, 1547-c1553	TNA:PRO LR2/188 (f.138)
Extracts from surveys, with other manors, 1604-1605	TNA:PRO LR2/196 (ff72-74), LR2/198 (ff49-50)
Survey, 1604-1605	TNA:PRO LR2/210 (ff 242-287)
Court roll, 1608	CBS D/BASM 54/1
Court roll, 1614	CBS D/BASM 54/2

#### *Great Missenden*

Rent book, with other manors, with memoranda (vol), 1797-1806	CBS D/TC
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#### *Peterley/Peterleystone*

Court roll, 1543	WAM 3484
Court rolls (draft) and related court papers (1 bundle), 1547-1649	CBS D 93/18
Court rolls, 1617-1721	WCRO CR 895/25
Court rolls (draft) and related court papers (1 bundle), 1657-1660	CBS D 93/19
Particular, with quit rents, c1661	CBS D 93/26-27
Survey of bounds of manor, with Ravensmere (2 copies), 1678	CBS D 93/40
Court rolls (draft) and related court papers (1 bundle), 1704-1784	CBS D 93/20
Survey of bounds of manor, with Ravensmere, 1721	CBS D 93/41
Surrenders and admissions, with deeds of enfranchisement (4 bundles), 1728-1892	CBS D 93/22-25
Survey of bounds of manor, with Ravensmere (2 copies), 1733	CBS D 93/42
Court roll, 1752	WCRO CR 895/25
Plan of the manor boundaries, with reference sheet, 1767	CBS D 93/44-45
Court books (2), 1769-1903	CBS D 93/15-16
Quit rents, with Ravensmere, 1778-1781	CBS D 93/28
Rent book, with other manors, with memoranda (vol), 1797-1806	CBS D/TC
Quit rent roll, with Ravensmere, c1800	CBS D 93/39

#### **Tax Records for Wendover**

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### *Containing the names of individuals*

1523 May 21 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/161
1540 May 8 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/119
1542 March or earlier forced loan	TNA:PRO E179/78/124
1543 Jan 22 x May 12 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/129
1545 Jan benevolence from the laity and clergy	TNA:PRO E179/78/140
1545 Nov 23 x Dec 24 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/152
1545 Nov 23 x Dec 24 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/78/160 Part 1
1549 March 12 subsidy ('relief')	TNA:PRO E179/79/163
1549 March 12 subsidy ('relief')	TNA:PRO E179/79/164
1549 March 12 subsidy ('relief')	TNA:PRO E179/79/165
1559 Feb 20 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/79/188
1593 March 24 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/219
1597 Dec 16 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/228
1597 Dec 16 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/231
1597 Dec 16 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/236
1606 May 17 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/256
1610 Feb 9 x July 23 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/79/265
1624 May 13 or later three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/79/276
[mid 17th cent] - 2 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/79/284
1628 June 16 x 29 five subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/80/287
1628 June 16 x 29 five subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/80/291
1635 Aug 4 ship money	TNA:PRO E179/244/1A
1635 Aug 4 ship money	TNA:PRO E179/244/2
1635 Aug 4 ship money	TNA:PRO E179/273/5
1635 Aug 4 ship money	TNA:PRO E179/275/2
1640 Dec 10 - 23 four subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/80/302
1641 May 13 two subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/80/308
1663 July 27 four subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/80/336

### *Containing communal assessments only*

1540 May 8 four fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/78/108
1540 May 8 four fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/78/110
1540 May 8 four fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/78/113
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 E179/79/175
1558 Feb 19 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/79/182
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

## Great Missenden 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 E179/79/213
1593 March 24 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/214
1593 March 24 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/388/10 Part 12
1597 Dec 16 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/223
1597 Dec 16 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/226
Eliz I - 1 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/79/250
[16th cent] - 1 fifteenth and tenth	TNA:PRO E179/80/361
1601 Dec 15 four subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/388/10 Part 28
1606 May 17 three subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/388/12 Part 9
1606 May 17 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/388/16
1606 May 17 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/255A
1606 May 17 six fifteenths and tenths	TNA:PRO E179/79/261A
[early x mid 17th cent] - 2 subsidy	TNA:PRO E179/79/267 Part 2
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
1640 Dec 10 - 23 four subsidies	TNA:PRO E179/388/13 Part 18
1657 June 26 assessment for the armies and navies of the Commonwealth	TNA:PRO E179/80/316
1657 June 26 assessment for the armies and navies of the Commonwealth	TNA:PRO E179/80/320
1657 June 26 assessment for the armies and navies of the Commonwealth	TNA:PRO E179/80/323
1657 June 26 assessment for the armies and navies of the Commonwealth	TNA:PRO E179/80/330
1660 Jan 26 assessment to defend the Commonwealth	TNA:PRO E179/311/53
1667 Jan 18 act for raising money by a poll	TNA:PRO E179/80/343
1671 March 6 subsidy for the king's extraordinary occasions	TNA:PRO E179/299/8 Part 1

### **Parish Records: CBS PR 148/1-29**

#### *Registers CBS*

Baptisms, 1694-1949	CBS 148/1/1-7
Marriages, 1694-1966	CBS PR 148/1/8-19
Burials, 1687-1881	CBS PR 148/20-22

#### *Probate*

Apart from wills proved in the PCC, which are not considered here, Great Missenden 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.

## Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

The Great Missenden wills indicate the development of the town by showing occupations – smith (1559), wheeler (1563), cordwainer (1587), innholder (1588), fuller (1602), miller (1616), butcher (1621), weaver (1624), tailor (1637).

### *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**

Estate and family papers relating to Great Missenden may be found in the following sources (not exhaustive):

Archives of the Hobart family, Earls of Buckinghamshire, CBS D-MH/1-42 & addn

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

Collection includes papers relating to properties in Great Missenden

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

Collection includes papers relating to properties in Great Missenden

Dashwood family of West Wycombe, 1547-1922 CBS D-D/1-19 & D-D/A/1-173

Collection includes papers relating to properties in Great Missenden

Bulstrode Estate, 1517 – 1950 CBS D-RA

Collection includes papers relating to properties in Great Missenden

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

Collection includes papers relating to properties in Great Missenden

There are many deeds and papers relating to Great Missenden 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 Great Missenden, 17-19C: CBS, BAS Coll.

## **County Records with Great Missenden 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 Great Missenden 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

## **Other Great Missenden Records (not an exhaustive list)**

*Exchequer*

## Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

TNA:PRO E 40/662, E 44/336, E 44/422, E 44/90, E 101/149/2, E 134/27Eliz/Trin10, E 134/43Eliz/East20, E 134/7Jas1/Mich7, E 134/18Chas2/Mich13, E 178/840, E 214/202, E 214/1099, E 315/405/3.

### *Trade Directory*

No entry for Great Missenden

### *Local Newspapers*

No newspapers were printed in Buckinghamshire until the nineteenth century.

### *Maps*

Great Missenden, 1763

CBS Ma/4/2.T

Wingfield Estate.

The road shown on the Great Missenden portion of this map appears to run approximately from the tithe map plot number 137 to number 110 on the Great Missenden tithe map.

Great Missenden – Hughenden, Little Missenden, 1767

CBS D 93/44 – (A.R. 84/70)

A plan of the Bounds of the Manor of Peterley in the County of Bucks.



## Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

### **Modern Records (Post 1800)**

#### **Manorial Records**

##### *Great Missenden*

Rent book, with other manors, with memoranda (vol), 1797-1806	CBS D/TC
Quit rents (2 small vols), 1814-1816	CBS D/TC
One year accounts (summary), with other manors, 1817-1823	CBS D/SB/V/2-4
Quit rents and memoranda (limp vol), 1821-1837	CBS D/TC

##### *Peterley/Peterleystone*

Rent book, with other manors, with memoranda (vol), 1797-1806	CBS D/TC
Quit rent roll, with Ravensmere, c1800	CBS D 93/39
Account book of fines, heriots and rents received, 1845-1855	CBS D 93/54
Quit rent rolls, with Ravensmere (2), 1854	CBS D 93/29
Quit rent rolls, with Ravensmere, 1865	CBS D 93/30
Tenant roll with details of copyhold properties, 1865	CBS D 93/43
Deeds and awards of enfranchisement of copyhold land, 1866-1870	TNA:PRO MAF 9/13
Court book comprising 3 courts: Ravensmere 1769, Peterley Stone and Ravensmere 1800; Peterley Stone 1886, 1905-1936, 1769-1936	CBS D 93/17
Appointments of steward, with Ravensmere (2), 1874-1880	CBS D 93/51
Quit rent rolls, with Ravensmere, 1880-1883	CBS D 93/31-33
Deeds and awards of enfranchisement of copyhold land, 1881	TNA:PRO MAF 9/13
Correspondence and queries rel to quit rents, 1894	CBS D 93/34
Deeds and awards of enfranchisement of copyhold land, 1895-1902	TNA:PRO MAF 9/13
Quit rent roll, with Ravensmere, 1895	CBS D 93/35
Quit rent roll, with Ravensmere, 1903	CBS D 93/36
Deeds and awards of enfranchisement of copyhold land, 1908-1924	TNA:PRO MAF 9/13
Copy correspondence rel to customs and fines (1 bundle), 1911-1925	CBS D 93/52
Quit rent roll, with Ravensmere (2), 1917	CBS D 93/37
Appointment of steward with Ravensmere, 1919	CBS D 93/51

#### **Parish Records CBS 148/1-29**

##### *Churchwardens*

Churchwardens account books, 1877-1905	CBS PR 148/5/1
Churchwardens account books, 1905-1920	CBS PR 148/5/2

##### *Vestry*

Vestry Minute Book, 1862-1923	CBS PR 148/8/1
Minute book of Select Vestry, 1828-1833	CBS PR 148/8/2

##### *Overseers*

Poor Rate, 1737-1738	CBS PR 148/11/1
Settlements, 1771 & 1791	CBS PR 148/13/1-2
Apprenticeship Indentures, 1667, 1701 & 1745	CBS PR 148/14/1-3

## Great Missenden Historic Town Assessment

Miscellaneous items, 1762-1790

CBS PR 148/16/1-4

*Charity and Schools* CBS PR 148/25

Deeds relating to various properties in Great Missenden, including Prestwood Farmhouse [Lady Boy's Charity], 1656-1774  
CBS PR 148/25/1

### **Amersham Rural District Council, which included Great Missenden: CBS DC9/1-38**

Clerk – Minutes and Reports, n.d.	CBS DC 9/1
Clerk – Deeds and Deed Register, 1899-1956	CBS DC 9/3
Clerk - Registers, n.d.	CBS DC 9/6
Treasurer – Final Accounts, 1873-1971	CBS DC 9/11
Treasurer – Rating, n.d.	CBS DC 9/14
Treasurer – Valuation, n.d.	CBS DC 9/15
Treasurer – Housing, 1920-1937	CBS DC 9/18
Surveyor – Plans and Planning Registers, n.d.	CBS DC 9/22
Adopted Records – Joint Bodies, n.d.	CBS DC 9/38

### *Great Missenden Parish Council*

A brief history of Great Missenden Parish Council can be found on the Council website at:

[www.greatmissendenpc.co.uk](http://www.greatmissendenpc.co.uk) - this history provides much information about Great Missenden from 1895.

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 Great Missenden are:

1841	HO 107/42
1851	HO 107/1717
1861	RG 9/844
1871	RG 10/1392
1881	RG 11/1450
1891	RG 12/1128
1901	RG 13/1332

**Buckinghamshire Trade Directories**

Trade Directories for Buckinghamshire on [www.historicaldirectories.org](http://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 20th century
- Slater            1850
- Musson & Craven     1853
- Mercer & Crocker     1871
- Harrods            1876

## Great Missenden Historic Town Report

### **Maps**

Great Missenden, Quarter Session – Michaelmas 1805 <i>Situation of highway involved – Missenden Abbey.</i>	CBS Q/H/21
Great Missenden, post 1805 <i>Hammond’s Hall. Gives field names and acreages.</i>	CBS D/BMT/89.T
Great Missenden, post 1805 <i>Hammond’s Hall (similar to D/BMT/89, but differing in some details). Gives field names and acreages.</i>	CBS D/BMT/90.T
Great Missenden, post 1805 <i>Property ‘late Francis Kins’. Fields giving acreages.</i>	CBS D/BMT/91.T
Great Missenden, 1811 <i>Woodlands belonging to John Ayton, Esq.</i>	CBS D/BMT/92.T
Great and Little Missenden, 1811 <i>Estate of John Stewart at Hyde Heath; estate at Bemont End (1 plan). Gives references to fields and acreages.</i>	CBS D/BMT/97.T
Great Missenden, 1817 <i>Plan of Meeting House Farm, property of the trustees of the Meeting House at Chesham, in the possession of William Graveney.</i>	CBS BAS maps 52
Great and Little Missenden, 1817 <i>Plan of Hyde Farm, property of Lord George Henry Cavendish in the possession of John Jeskins.</i>	CBS BAS maps 53
Great Missenden, 1818 <i>Land in Betty Fields allotted to Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake from the estate of James Oldham Oldham Esq., under an agreement of exchange.</i>	CBS D/BMT/93.T
A location guide has been placed with this map, following a study of the Great Missenden tithe map. ELJ 26.8.1998.	
For deeds relating to this exchange, 1819, see CBS D/DRD1/143. A release of 2nd February 1819 includes a complete version of this plan.	
Great Missenden, Quarter Sessions – Midsummer 1819 <i>Section of highway involved – Missenden Abbey.</i>	CBS Q/H/52
Great Missenden, 1839 <i>Estate map. Some field acreages given. Enclosure Commissioners working map?</i>	CBS D/BMT/94.R
Great and Little Missenden, c.1840 <i>Plan of a farm ... property of Mrs Wells.</i>	CBS MA/148/1.T
Great Missenden, 1839 map, 1843 apportionment <i>Tithe Map (Diocesan copy).</i>	CBS ref 274 - Acc. No. AR130/81
Great Missenden, 19th Century <i>Tracing drawn from the Tithe map, showing South Heath area. Lowndes state papers.</i>	CBS D/LO/5/11

## Great Missenden Historic Town Report

Great Missenden, Award 5th July 1855 <i>Inclosure Map.</i>	CBS IR/83 a-BR, C-D
Great Missenden, 1st edition O.S. <i>Missenden Abbey Estate. Estate coloured red.</i>	CBS Ma/148/2.R
Great Missenden, 2nd edition O.S. 1900 <i>Whole parish.</i>	CBS Ma/148/3.R
Great Missenden, The Lee, Wendover, Chartridge, Aston Clinton, 1909 <i>The Lee Manor Estate, part of estate of A Losenby Liberty.</i>	CBS BAS 527/41 - BAS maps 47
Great Missenden, no date <i>A plan of an estate at Hursts Green in the parish of Great Missenden. Gives field names, state of cultivation and acreages.</i>	CBS Ma/148/4.T
Great Missenden, no date <i>Town and surrounding area.</i>	CBS D/BMT/88.R
Great Missenden, no date <i>'Tomkins, Ballinger Common'. Fields numbered, giving description and acreages.</i>	CBS D/BMT/95.T
Great Missenden, no date <i>Missenden Bury Farm belonging to T. T. Drake Esq. and lands belonging to J. O. Oldham, Esq., and K. Jenkins, Esq. Gives numbered descriptions of premises and acreages.</i>	CBS D/BMT/06.R

A description of the town is given in a publication produced in 1957: Description of the area, Growth and Functions, Planning Problems and reasons for the problems: County Development Plan Great Missenden, Prestwood and Little Kingshill - Town Map, Report and Analysis of Survey, Aylesbury 1957.

Great Missenden is now, 2008, part of Chiltern District Council, their website [www.chiltern.gov.uk](http://www.chiltern.gov.uk) will provide current information about planning, etc.

### **Photographs**

Many sources of photographs are available for Great Missenden:

Francis Frith collection:

[francisfrith.com/search/England/Buckinghamshire/Wendover/Wendover.htm](http://francisfrith.com/search/England/Buckinghamshire/Wendover/Wendover.htm)

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

Kelly's Directory of 1939 stated that Gas and electricity are available in Great Missenden and that water is supplied by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company. Before this date there is no mention of utilities in the entry for Great Missenden.

*Telephone*

## Great Missenden Historic Town Report

The first telephone exchange opened in Great Missenden on 16th July 1902 (Post Office Circular 1902, p246). 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)

### *Railway*

Great Missenden station opened on 1st September 1892, and was served by both the London Underground Metropolitan Railway and the Great Central Railway.

### **Listed Buildings and Descriptions**

English Heritage

National Monuments Record – Images of England [www.imagesofengland.org.uk/](http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk/)

### **Useful secondary sources**

W. Page (ed.), VCH Buckinghamshire, 2 (1908), p. 347-353 -  
[british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=62786](http://british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=62786)

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. Chenevix Trench, 'Great Missenden: A Failed Borough?', *Records of Buckinghamshire*, 38, 1996, 251-252.

### **Key issues and recommendations for further study**

Great Missenden is thought of as more of a large village than a town. The 17th Century saw the growth of trades and professions associated with towns, but it never developed in the same way as other settlements. Even with the coming of the railway, its growth was not as great as other local place.

Further study of Great Missenden may be undertaken to show why it did not develop in the same way as, say, Amersham and Beaconsfield, both in the Medieval period, and also more recently, following the coming of the railway at the end of the 19th Century.