



ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

**St Michael's Convent
Waterlooville
Hampshire**

July 2012

**Local Planning Authority:
Havant Borough Council**

**Site centred at:
468650 109630**

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Final**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF STUDY

- 1.1 This desk based assessment has been researched by Caroline Butler and prepared by Rob Bourn of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Linden Homes Southern Ltd.
- 1.2 The subject of this assessment, also referred to as the study site, is land at Michael's Convent, Waterlooville, Hampshire, at grid reference 468650 109630 (Figs. 1 & 2).
- 1.3 The assessment comprises an examination of evidence from the Hampshire HER, published and unpublished material and charts historic land-use through a map regression exercise.
- 1.4 The assessment therefore enables relevant parties to assess the significance of designated and undesignated heritage assets on or within a 1km radius of the site, to consider the impact of the proposed development on the significance of these assets and to consider the need for design, civil engineering, and/or archaeological solutions to the archaeological potential identified.

2.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 In March 2012, the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which replaces national policy relating to heritage and archaeology (Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment).
- 2.2 Section 12 of the NPPF, entitled *Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 12 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
- Delivery of sustainable development
 - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment
 - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, and
 - Recognition of the contribution that heritage makes to our knowledge and understanding of the past.
- 2.3 Section 12 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term.
- 2.4 Paragraph 128 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset, and that level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be no more than sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 2.5 *Heritage Assets* are defined in Annex 2 as: A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
- 2.6 *Archaeological Interest* is defined as a heritage asset which holds or potentially could hold, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them.
- 2.7 *Designated Heritage Assets* comprise of: World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Park and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and Conservation Areas.

- 2.8 *Significance* is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
- 2.9 In short, government policy provides a framework which:
- Protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets
 - Protects the settings of such designations
 - In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions
 - Provides for the excavation and investigation of to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence publicly accessible
- 2.10 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the framework set by government policy, in this instance the NPPF, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.
- 2.11 The Localism Act contains provisions which will result in the abolition of regional strategies. However, their abolition will require secondary legislation and until such time as this is introduced they will remain part of the development plan. Therefore, the South East RSS remains valid until it is scrapped by the Government. It contains the following policy relating to the historic environment:

**POLICY BE6: MANAGEMENT OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT
WHEN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING PLANS AND STRATEGIES, LOCAL
AUTHORITIES AND OTHER BODIES WILL ADOPT POLICIES AND SUPPORT PROPOSALS
WHICH PROTECT, CONSERVE AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, ENHANCE THE HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT AND THE CONTRIBUTION IT MAKES TO LOCAL AND REGIONAL
DISTINCTIVENESS AND SENSE OF PLACE. THE REGION'S INTERNATIONALLY AND
NATIONALLY DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS SHOULD RECEIVE THE HIGHEST LEVEL
OF PROTECTION. PROPOSALS THAT MAKE SENSITIVE USE OF HISTORIC ASSETS
THROUGH REGENERATION, PARTICULARLY WHERE THESE BRING REDUNDANT OR
UNDER-USED BUILDINGS AND AREAS INTO APPROPRIATE USE SHOULD BE
ENCOURAGED.**

- 2.12 The Local Development Framework is provided by the Havant Core Strategy which supercedes the saved policies in the Havant Local Plan. The Core Strategy has the following relevant historic environment policies:

**POLICY CS11 PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE SPECIAL ENVIRONMENT AND
HERITAGE OF HAVANT BOROUGH**

PLANNING PERMISSION WILL BE GRANTED FOR DEVELOPMENT THAT:

4 PROTECTS AND WHERE APPROPRIATE ENHANCES THE BOROUGH'S STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY HERITAGE DESIGNATIONS BY APPROPRIATELY MANAGING DEVELOPMENT IN OR ADJACENT TO CONSERVATION AREAS, LISTED BUILDINGS, SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS, HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS, ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES, BUILDINGS OF LOCAL HISTORIC OR ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST.

- 2.13 The designated built heritage assets within the site are subject to a separate study and report by Turley Associates.

3.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 Geology

3.1.1 The underlying geology in the majority of the site is London clay and Bognor Sand Member adjacent to Hermitage Stream.

3.2 Topography

3.2.1 The site lies on a slight east facing slope which drops toward Hermitage Stream.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Timescales used in this report.

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	450,000 -	12,000 BC
Mesolithic	12,000 -	4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 -	2,200 BC
Bronze Age	2,200 -	700 BC
Iron Age	700 -	AD 43

Historic

Roman	AD 43 -	410
Saxon/Early Medieval	AD 410 -	1066
Medieval	AD 1066 -	1485
Post Medieval	AD 1486 -	Present

4.1 The location of sites mentioned in the text are shown in Fig. 3

4.2 Prehistoric

4.2.1 The only record of prehistoric remains within the study area is that of a Neolithic stone axe c. 450m to the north east of the site (HER26470). This is indicative of at least some limited activity in the wider area in the earlier prehistoric period. However, this find is more likely to have been a casual loss rather than indicative of associated settlement.

4.2.2 Due to the almost complete lack of prehistoric remains recorded within the study area, the site is considered to have low potential for prehistoric remains.

4.3 Roman

4.3.1 There are no Roman remains recorded within the study area. Therefore, the site is considered to have low potential for Roman remains.

4.4 Saxon

4.4.1 There are no Saxon remains recorded within the study area. Therefore, the site is considered to have low potential for Saxon remains.

4.5 **Medieval**

- 4.5.1 There only record of medieval remains within the study area is the possible site of medieval fish ponds c. 300m to the north beside Hermitage Stream (HER38755) and a late 13th century brooch c. 500m to the north of the site (HER23274). Waterlooville does not have medieval origins. The site is located away from nearby historic settlements and therefore, due to the almost complete lack of medieval remains within the study area, the site considered to have low potential for medieval remains.

4.6 **Post-Medieval & Modern**

- 4.6.1 There are a number of post-medieval/modern HER records within the study area that have no bearing on the site and consequently, the details of these will not be repeated here. In summary, these are Stakeshill Lodge (HER31442); Bull's Lodge (HER38754); WWII searchlight battery (HER41709); site of Park Wood House (HER51290); Waterlooville Recreation ground (HER52080); Park Wood (HER51291); and Park Wood (HER52077). St Michael's Convent is recorded on the Hampshire HER (52353). The convent is the subject of a separate report by Turley Associates and so the details will not be repeated here.
- 4.6.2 The earliest maps that show the site at a reasonable and reliable scale is Taylor's map of 1759, Milne's map of 1791 and Greenwood's map of 1826 at which time the site lay within the extensive former heathlands.
- 4.6.3 By 1878 the site had been brought into agricultural usage and comprised of a number of fields (Fig. 4). The convent buildings are first shown on the 1897 OS map (Fig. 5). Over the subsequent years the convent buildings were added to (e.g. 1932 Fig. 6) and took their current form by c. 1966 (Fig. 7).
- 4.6.4 On the basis of the available information, the site is considered to have low potential for post-medieval remains.

5.0 SITE CONDITIONS AND THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Site Conditions

5.1 The site comprises the convent buildings and its grounds (Fig. 2).

5.2 Proposed development & Predicted Archaeological Impacts

5.2.1 The proposed development comprises a residential development, the details of which were not available at the time of writing.

5.2.2 The assessment has established that the site has low potential for all archaeological remains. Therefore, the proposed development will have no archaeological impacts and consequently, further archaeological investigations in support of the proposed development is considered unnecessary.

6.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 A residential development is proposed at land at St Michael's Convent, off London Road, Waterlooville. This assessment considers whether there are any archaeological impacts arising from this proposed development.
- 6.2 The assessment has established that the site has low potential for all archaeological remains. Therefore, the proposed development will have no archaeological impacts and consequently, further archaeological investigations in support of the proposed development is considered unnecessary.

SOURCES CONSULTED

General

Hampshire Historic Environment Record

British Library

The National Heritage List for England

British History Online

Cartographic

1759	Taylor
1791	Milne
1826	Greenwood
1878 – 1881	OS 1:2,500 Scale Map
1897	OS 1:2,500 Scale Map
1909	OS 1:2,500 Scale Map
1932	OS 1:2,500 Scale Map
1953	OS 1:2,500 Scale Map
1961	OS 1:2,500 Scale Map
1966	OS 1:2,500 Scale Map
1972	OS 1:2,500 Scale Map
1973- 1974	OS 1:1,250 Scale Map
1987	OS 1:1,250 Scale Map
1993	OS 1:1,250 Scale Map
1977 – 1988	OS 1:1,250 Scale Map
1989 – 1990	OS 1:1,250 Scale Map

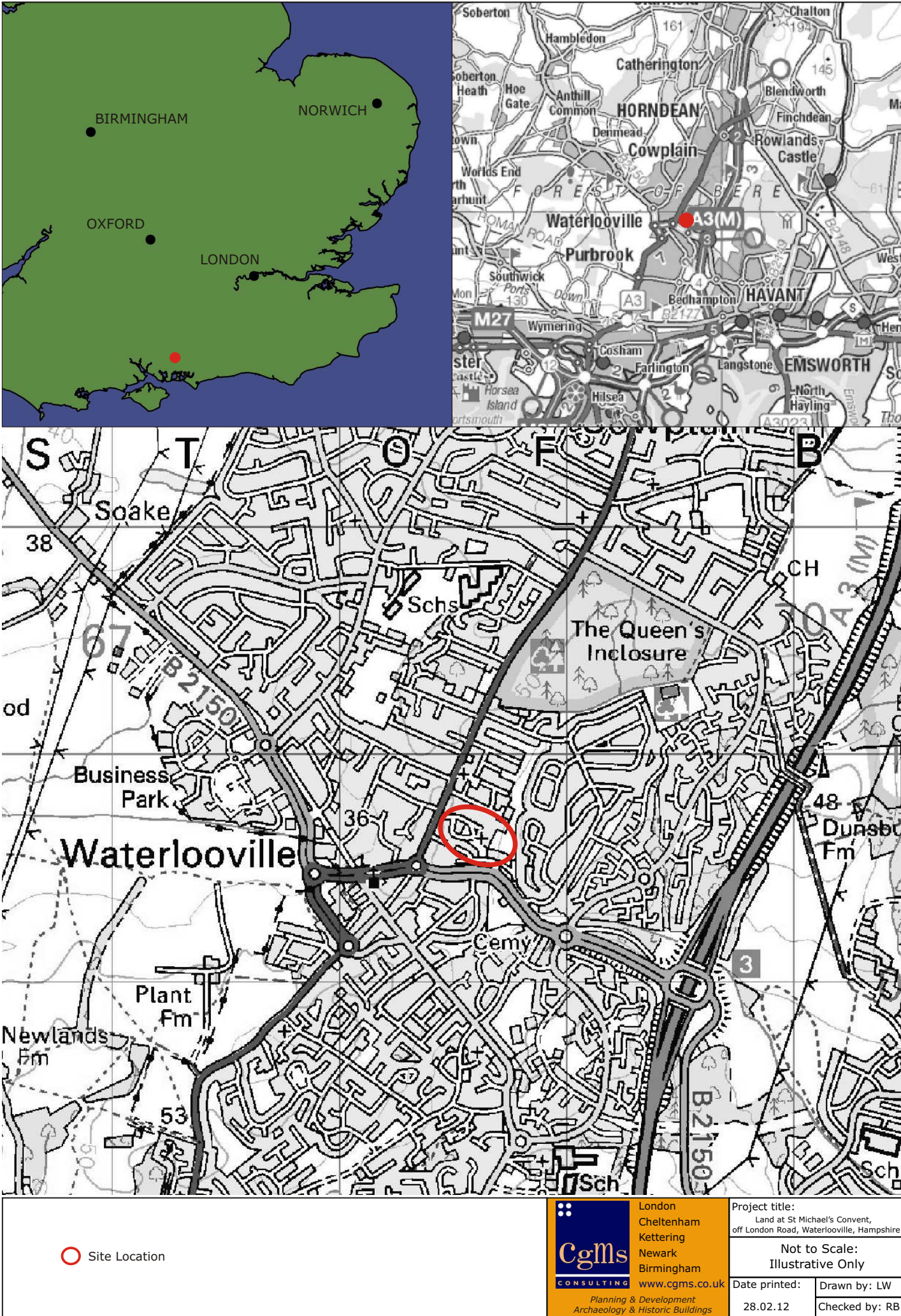
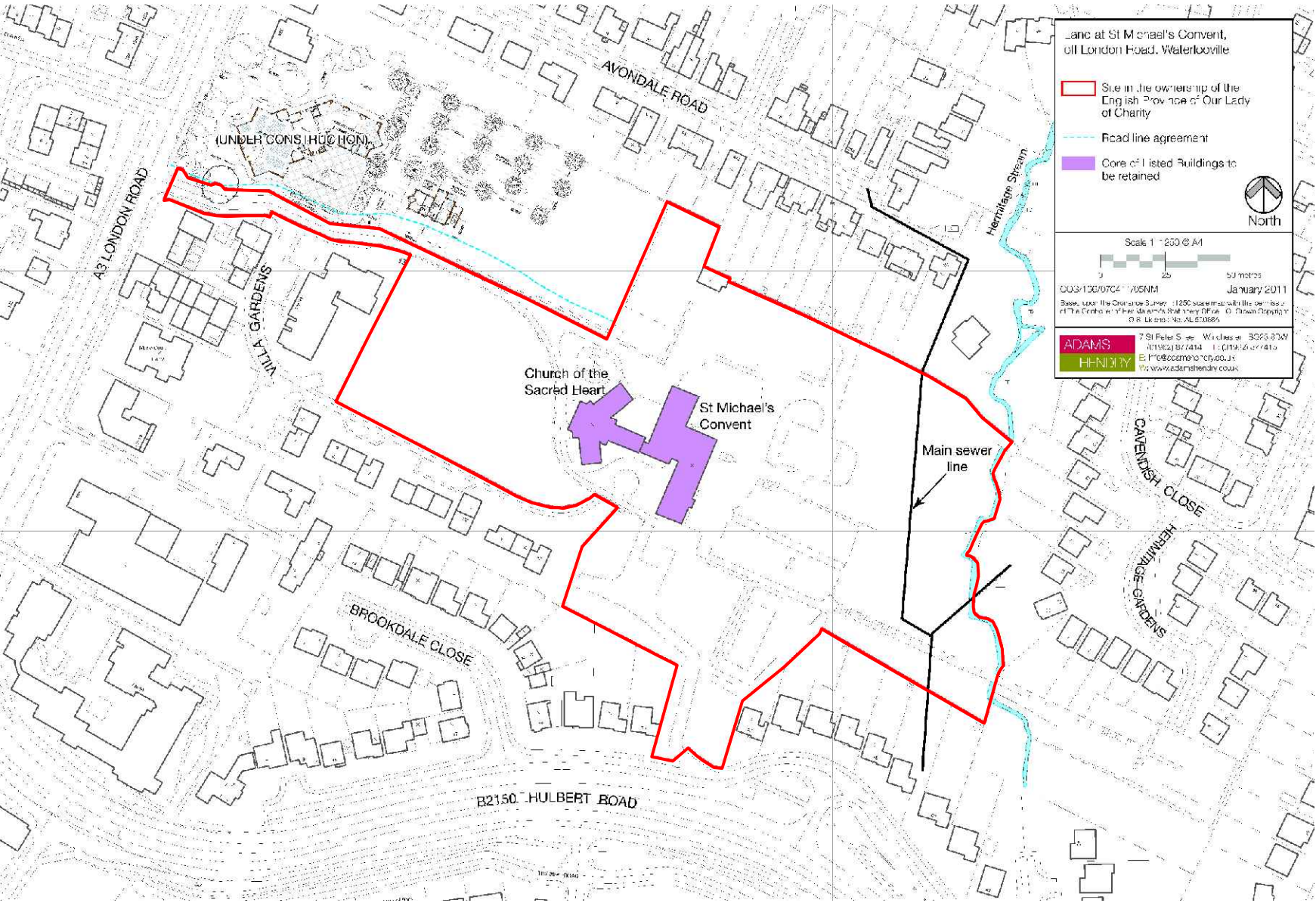


Figure 1: Site Location

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Additional information:

Site Boundary

Project title:
Land at St Michael's Convent,
off London Road, Waterlooville, Hampshire

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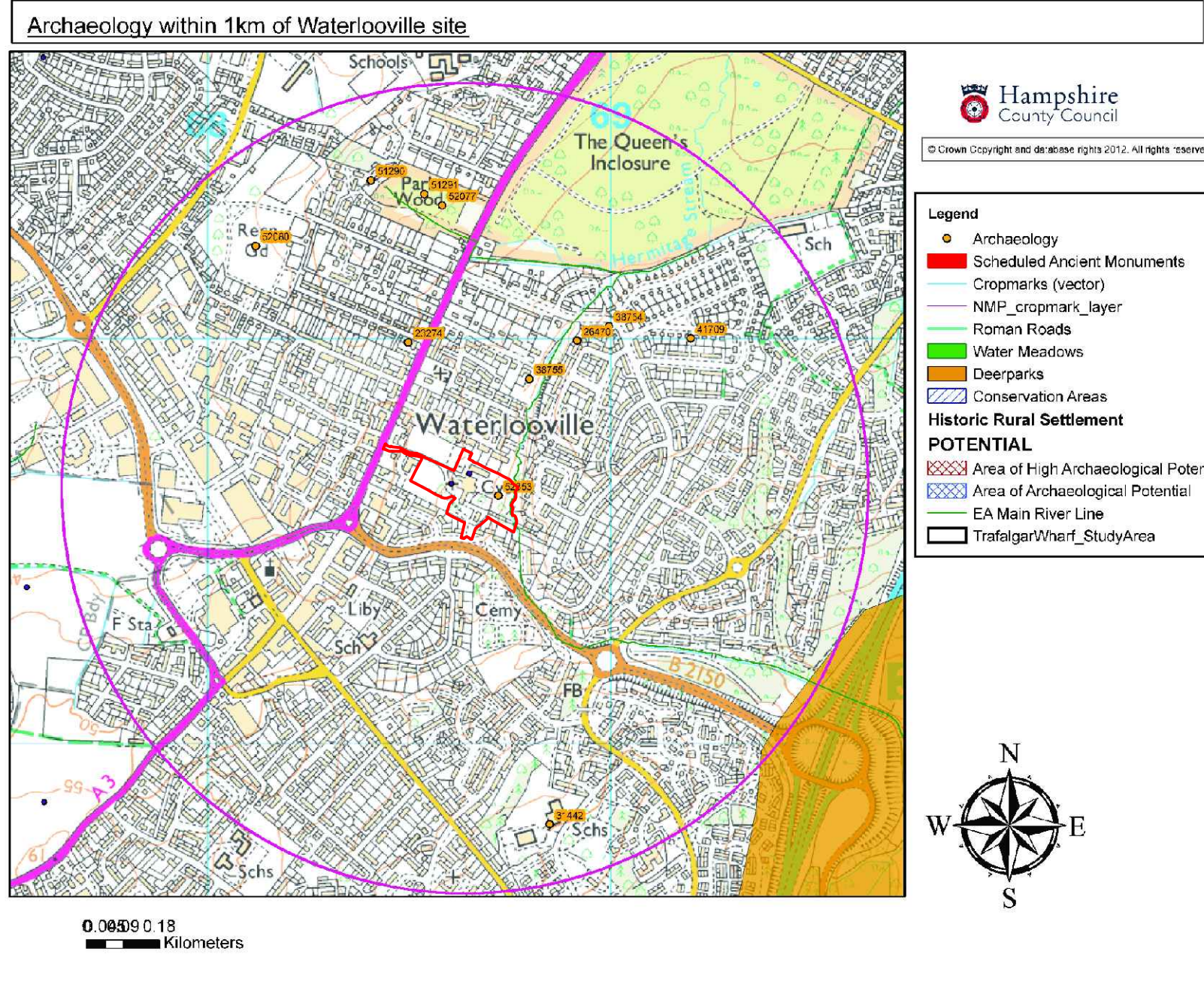
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Figure 2: Site Details



Additional information:

Site Boundary

Project title:
Land at St Michael's Convent,
off London Road, Waterlooville, Hampshire

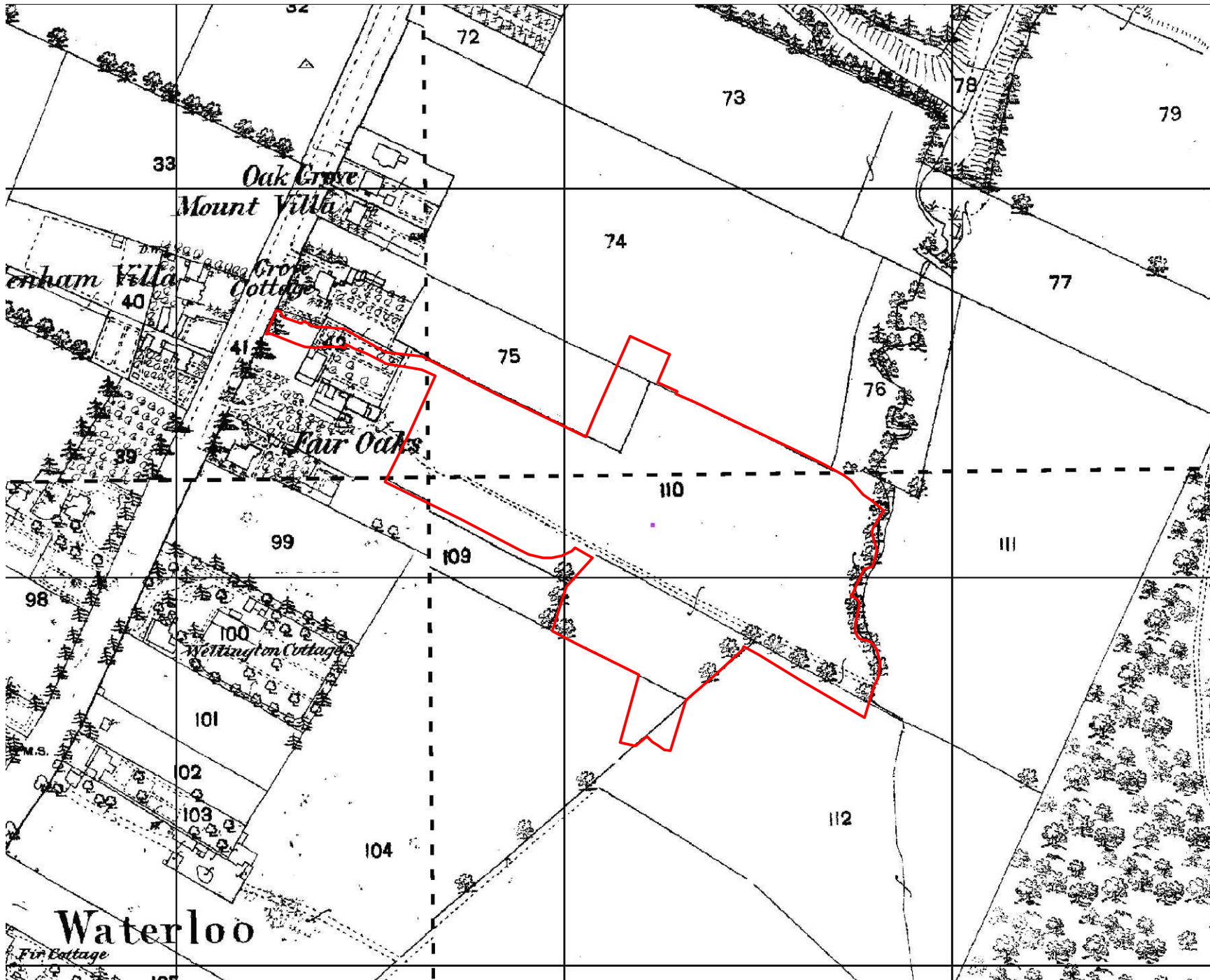
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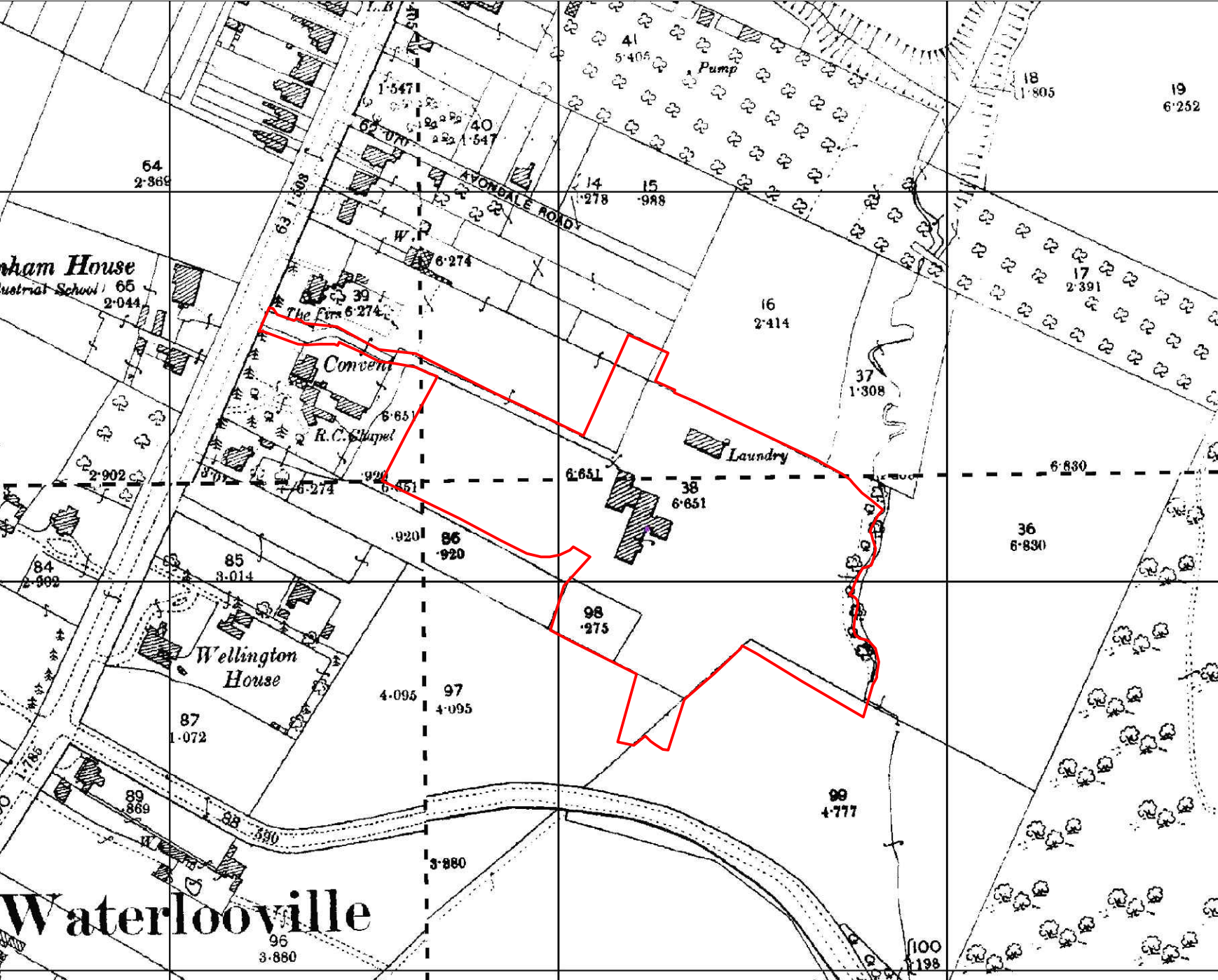
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Figure 3: Location of Sites Mentioned in the Text



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Figure 4: 1878 OS 1:2,500 Scale Map



Additional information:

Site Boundary



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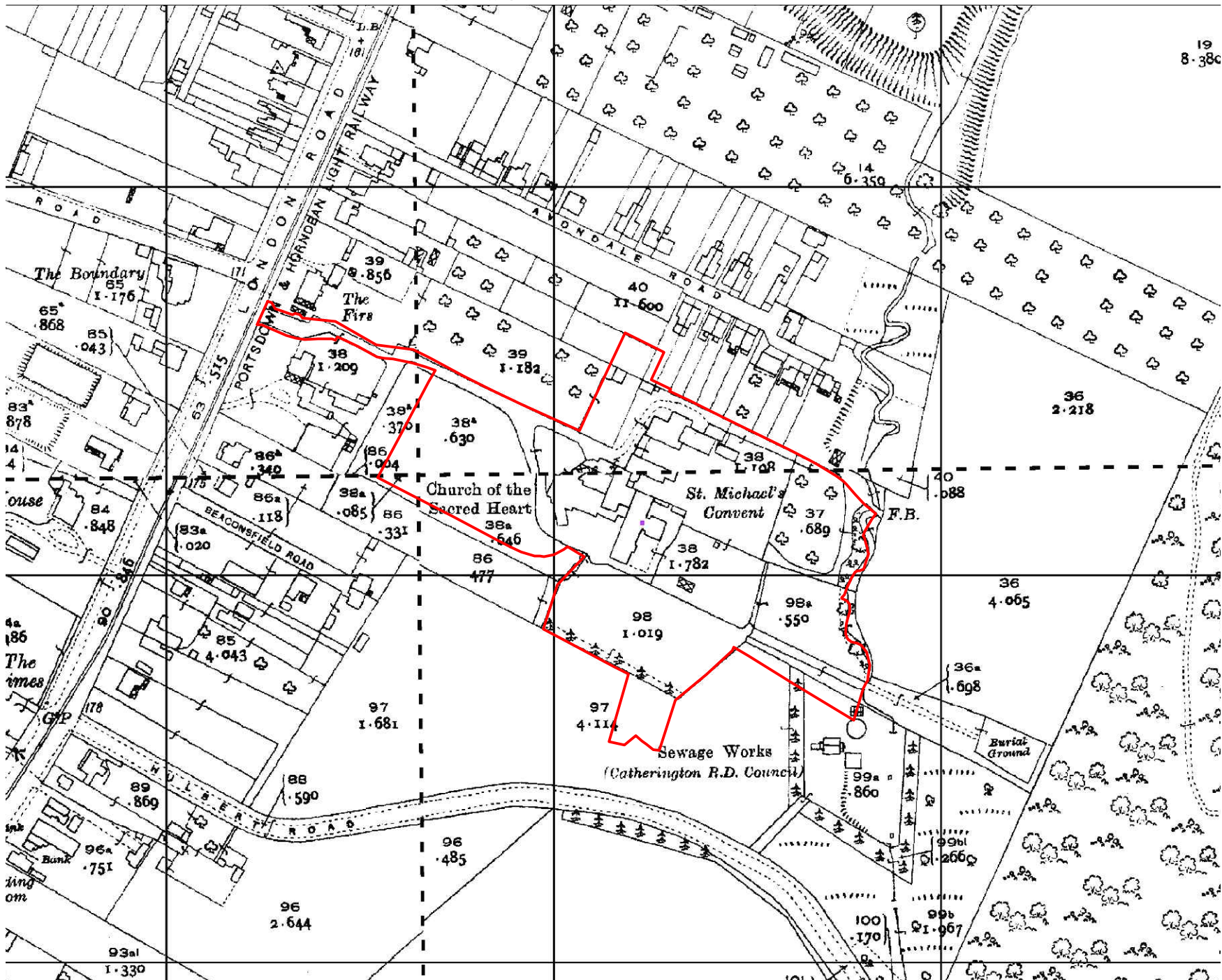
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Figure 5: 1897 OS 1:2,500 Scale Map



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 Site Boundary



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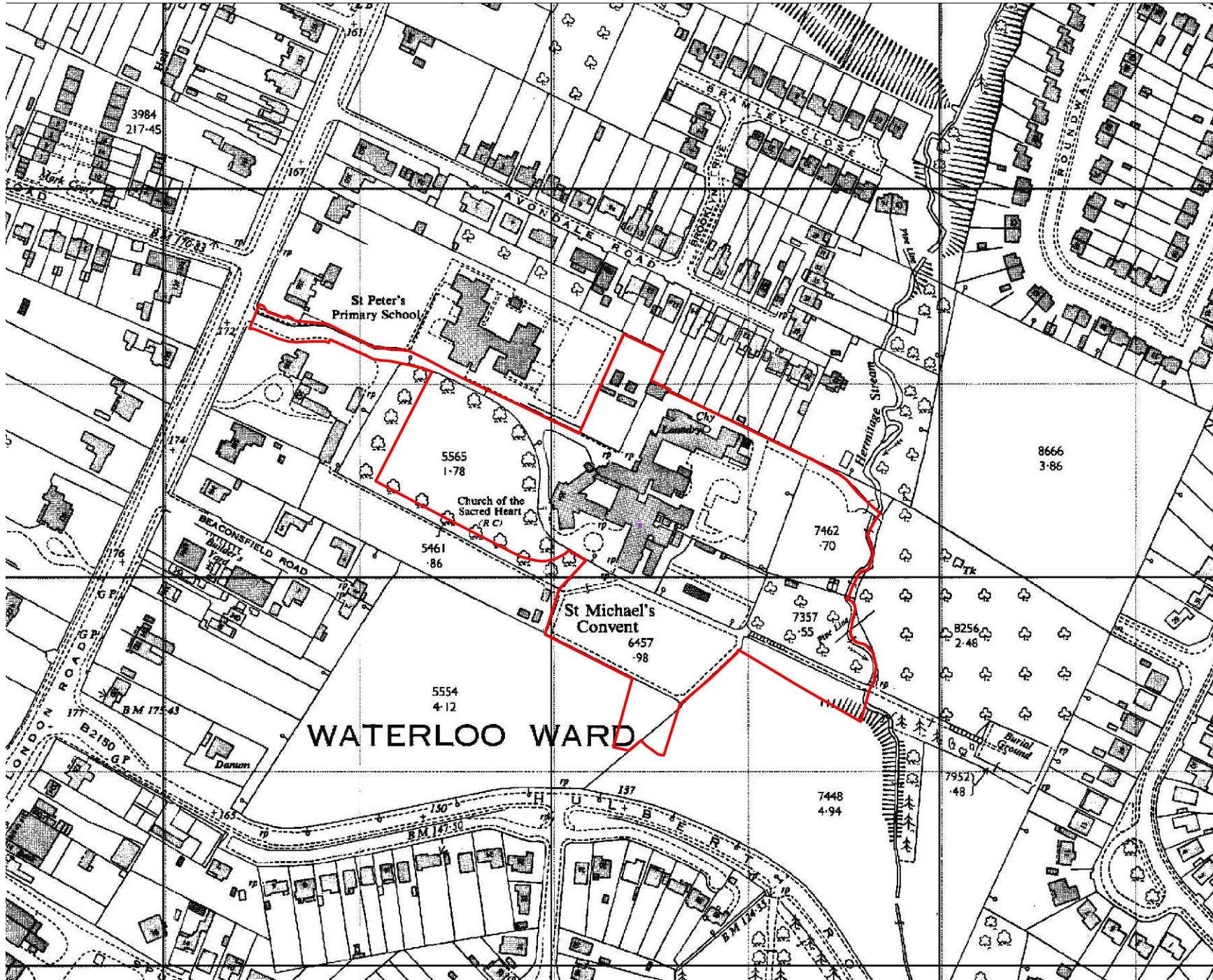
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Figure 6: 1932 OS 1:2,500 Scale Map



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Site Boundary

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Figure 7: 1966 OS 1:2,500 Scale Map

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