

Energy from Waste Incinerator (EFW) including Infrastructure plus that for Combined Heat and Power (CHP), Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) Processing Plant with Outside Storage Area, and Air Pollution Control Residue (APCR) Treatment and Disposal Facility, Visitor & Office Accommodation and Landscaping within the Sutton Courtenay Resource Recovery Park

Sutton Courtenay Resource Recovery Park,
Oxfordshire.

Waste Recycling Group Limited

Environmental Statement
Chapter 14
Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

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- Appendix 14.1: A Desk-Based Archaeological Assessment in Connection with Proposed Development at Sutton Courtenay, Oxfordshire RPS unpublished client report number DLE1101/Archaeology011 January 2008
- Appendix 14.2: HER Entries (supplied by Oxfordshire County Council)
- Appendix 14.3: Historic Maps (supplied by Landmark Mapping)
- Appendix 14.4: Letter from County Archaeologist dated 1st July 2008

14 Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

14.1 Introduction

- 14.1.1 This chapter assesses the impacts on archaeology and cultural heritage associated with the proposed development within the Resource Recovery Park at Sutton Courtenay Waste Management Site, Oxfordshire. Full details of the development proposed are presented in Chapter 4, which sets the basis against which this assessment has been conducted.
- 14.1.2 The proposed development area is located to the north of Didcot Power Station and south of the River Thames, to the east of Sutton Courtenay and west of Appleford, at NGR SU 5170 9290. The proposed resource recovery park site covers approximately 50.3ha.
- 14.1.3 The geology of the proposed development area comprises head deposits and alluvium overlying Gault Clay (BGS).
- 14.1.4 The main part of the proposed development area is bounded on the northern side by the Portway and the existing Waste to Energy gasification plant, on the eastern side by earthwork bunds and a lake, formerly part of the quarry, on the southern side by restored quarry areas, with some restoration ongoing and to the west by a private road. The proposed development area lies on a long, low mound formed by the quarry restoration.
- 14.1.5 A further element of the proposed development area, the hazardous waste cells, is located in the northwest of the wider quarry site and is bounded to the east by Corridor Road (main link between the River Thames and Didcot Power Station), to the north and south by restored quarry areas and to the west by a lagoon and agricultural fields.
- 14.1.6 At the time of the site visit in December 2007 the proposed development area for the EFW incinerator had been quarried and restored by backfilling with Pulverised Fuel Ash (PFA) and was largely under grass, with lakes forming most of the hazardous waste cell area.

14.2 Legislation and Planning Context

- 14.2.1 A detailed review of the development plan documents and planning context in relation to the development proposals is provided in Chapter 3.
- 14.2.2 This section summarises those policies that are directly relevant to archaeology and cultural heritage issues.

National Policy & Legislation

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

- 14.2.3 Statutory protection for archaeological remains is principally enshrined in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, as amended by the National Heritage Act 1983 and subsequent. Nationally important sites are listed in a Schedule of Monuments and are accorded statutory protection. Details of scheduling are held on the list maintained by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Works affecting a Scheduled Ancient Monument require Scheduled Monument Consent. The law provides for some activities to be subject to class consents, but these are principally

agricultural in nature. Historic Parks and Gardens, and Historical Battlefields, have received recognition under the national Heritage Act. Such sites are described on Registers maintained by English Heritage for DCMS, but such designation does not afford statutory protection.

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

- 14.2.4 For other components of the historic environment, the Planning (Listed buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 amends the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 and provides statutory protection to Listed buildings and a control to preserve the character and appearance of Conservation Areas.

Hedgerow Regulations 1997

- 14.2.5 The Hedgerow Regulations 1997 includes guidelines that aim to protect hedgerows that have been assessed as 'important' in terms of criteria that include historical elements. Developments that would require the removal of any part of an 'important' hedgerow require a consent from the Local Planning Authority.

Planning Policy guidance 16 (PPG16) – Archaeology and Planning, 1990

- 14.2.6 This PPG provides advice concerning the safeguarding of archaeological remains within the planning process. It recognises that archaeological remains are an irreplaceable and finite resource, and that nationally important archaeological remains should be preserved, along with their settings. In situation where remains are threatened by development and where preservation in situ is not justified, the developer should make provision for appropriate investigation and recording of the remains.

Planning Policy Guidance 15 (PPG 15) – Planning and the Historic Environment

- 14.2.7 PPG15 (1994) provides advice on dealing with Conservation Areas, listed Buildings, World Heritage Sites, Historic Parks and Gardens, Historic Battlefields and the wider historic landscape within the planning process.

Regional Policy

The Draft South East Plan – A Clear vision for the South East (March 2006)

- 14.2.8 The key policy relevant to archaeology and cultural heritage is:
- Policy BE7: Management of the Historic Environment.

Local Policy

The Oxfordshire Structure Plan, 2005

- 14.2.9 The key policies relevant to archaeology and cultural heritage include:
- Policy EN4: Historic and Cultural Heritage Status;
 - Policy EN6: Archaeology.

The Oxfordshire minerals and waste Local Plan, 1996 to 2006

- 14.2.10 The key policies relevant to archaeology and cultural heritage include:
- Policy PE8: Archaeological assessment;
 - Policy PE9: Archaeological Remains

The Vale of White Horse Local Plan

- 14.2.11 The key policy relevant to archaeology and cultural heritage is:

- Policy HE9: Archaeology
- Policy HE10: Archaeology
- Policy HE11: Archaeology

14.3 Assessment Methodology

Relevant Guidance

14.3.1 As a matter of best practice, this assessment has been undertaken based on the relevant standards and guidance, including:

- *Code of Conduct* Institute of Field Archaeologists 2006;
- *Standard And Guidance for Archaeological Desk based Assessment* Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001.
- *Design Manual for Road and Bridges (Vol 11, Section 3 Part 2 HA208/07)* Highways Agency August 2007

Consultations

14.3.2 As detailed in Chapter 1, a formal scoping exercise has been undertaken to inform the scope of the Environmental Assessment. The formal Scoping response is included at Appendix 1.2. The exercise indicated that archaeology and cultural heritage should be addressed in the Environmental Statement, although no specific comments were made by the County Archaeologist.

14.3.3 In addition to the formal Scoping exercise, the following informal consultations and discussions have informed this chapter:

- Consultation with Historic Environment Record on 22nd November 2007.
- Provision of desk based archaeological assessment (Appendix 14.1) to Hugh Coddington of Oxfordshire County Council Historic Environment Service on 3rd March 2008, with a note stating that the document concluded that no further archaeological work would be required with regard to the proposed development. In addition, a request for an indication of whether any further works would be required was made.
- Provision of revised planning application boundary was made to Hugh Coddington of Oxfordshire County Council Historic Environment Service on 12th March 2008 with a note indicating that the revision does not affect the conclusions of the report.
- A further email of 27th March 2008 asking what, if any, further work may be required with regard to archaeology
- A further email of 30th June noting that, given that no comments have been received, it is assumed that none are necessary
- A letter from the County Archaeologist dated 1st July 2008 was received on that day. This stated *I concur with your interpretation that further assessment evaluation will not be necessary. I would suggest therefore that your assessment is included as an annexe to the application with, as you suggest a reference within the main application document. I will be consulted internally once the application is lodged and I will be advising the mineral officer that there will not be an impact upon the archaeological resource.* The letter is reproduced as Appendix 14.4

- 14.3.4 No responses, other than acknowledgements of receipt have been received to date and it is assumed that the County Archaeologist agrees with the conclusions of the desk based assessment.

Methodology

- 14.3.5 The assessment has conformed to the relevant legislation and guidance, including:

- *Planning Policy Guidance: Planning And The Historic Environment* (PPG 15) Department of the Environment, DNH September 1994;
- *Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology And Planning* (PPG 16) Department of the Environment November 1990;
- *Code of Conduct* Institute of Field Archaeologists 2006 and
- *Standard And Guidance for Archaeological Desk based Assessment* Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001.

- 14.3.6 The primary study area comprises some 1800 metres around the central point of the proposed development area, although third party data was also requested on any significant sites outside this area that it would be appropriate to include.

- 14.3.7 Consideration was given to information on Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens and Registered Battlefields, Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings from a wider area so that the effect, if any, of the proposed development on their setting could be considered. An iterative approach has been taken, based on any likely impact on the setting of these cultural heritage features.

Desk Study

- 14.3.8 This considered both below ground archaeology and above ground cultural heritage receptors.

- 14.3.9 The desk assessment comprised:

- Consultation with the Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER).
- An examination of information on Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens and Registered Battlefields obtained from English Heritage.
- A review of relevant documentary and archival material held in The Oxfordshire County Record Office and the Local Studies Library.
- A site visit, undertaken to establish the presence of above ground archaeology, whether or not previously recorded. The site visit has also provided an indication of the suitability of any further survey technique.

- 14.3.10 Within this document, archaeological periods are defined as follows:

- Prehistoric [comprising Lower Palaeolithic (pre 30,000 BC), Upper Palaeolithic (30,000 - 10,000BC), Mesolithic (10,000 - 3,500BC), Neolithic (3,500 - 2,000BC), Bronze Age (2,000 - 700BC) and Iron Age (700BC - AD43)].
- Roman (AD43 - AD450).
- Medieval (AD450 - AD1540).
- Post Medieval (AD1540 onwards).

Fieldwork

- 14.3.10 No field work other than the site visit was undertaken.

Assessment of Significance

14.3.11 PPG 16 provides guidance on the distinction between remains of national importance and those of lesser importance, at paragraphs 8 and 27. A basis for establishing the relative order of importance of archaeological sites is given in Annex 4 of PPG 16. In addition, the *Design Manual for Road and Bridges (Vol 11, Section 3 Part 2 HA208/07)* Highways Agency August 2007 details categories of relative importance:

- Sites of Very High Value – usually world Heritage sites or sites of acknowledged **International Importance**
- Sites of High Value or **National Importance** – usually Scheduled Ancient Monuments, or monuments in the process of being scheduled.
- Sites of Medium Value, these being of **Regional or County importance**;
- Sites of Low Value, these being of district or **Local importance**;
- Sites of **Negligible** Value - with very little of no surviving archaeological interest.
- Sites of **Unknown** Value

14.3.12 Designations of relative importance in this report are based on the above designation.

14.3.13 The significance of effect is assessed through a consideration of the importance of the receptor and the magnitude of impact.

14.3.14 In this chapter definitions of significance are as follows:

Major (or substantial) significance - Effects of the development of greater than local scale

Moderate significance - Effects of the development that may be judged to be important at a local scale

Minor (or slight) significance - Effects of low importance in the decision-making process

Negligible (or not significant) - Effects that are of such low importance that they are not considered material in the planning process.

14.3.15 Transport Analysis Guidance (DoT June 2003) Unit 3.3.9 The Heritage of Historic Resources Sub Objective Table 1: Heritage of Historic Resources Table of Overall assessment Scores provides an indication of how significance of impact may be measured as follows:

Table 1

Score	Comment
Large (Major) Beneficial (positive) effect	<p>The proposals would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ provide potential, through removal, relocation or substantial mitigation of very damaging or discordant existing impacts (direct or indirect) on the heritage, for very significant or extensive restoration or enhancement of characteristic features or their setting ▪ make a major contribution to government policies for the protection or enhancement of the heritage ▪ remove or successfully mitigate existing visual intrusion, such that the integrity, understanding and sense of place of a highly valued area, a group of sites or features of national or regional significance is re-established
Moderate	<p>The proposals would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ provide potential, through removal, relocation or mitigation of damaging or discordant existing impacts on the heritage, for

<p>beneficial (positive) effect</p>	<p>significant restoration of characteristic features or their setting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ contribute to Regional or Local policies for the protection or enhancement of the heritage ▪ enhance existing historic landscape/townscape character through beneficial landscaping/mitigation and good design
<p>Slight (Minor) Beneficial (positive) effect</p>	<p>The proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ are not in conflict with national, regional or local policies for the protection of the heritage. ▪ restore or enhance the form, scale, pattern or sense of place of the heritage resource through good design and mitigation ▪ remove or mitigate visual intrusion (or other indirect impacts) into the context of locally or regionally significant heritage features, such that appreciation and understanding of them is improved
<p>Neutral (negligible) effect</p>	<p>The proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ are not in conflict with, and do not contribute to policies for the protection or enhancement of the heritage ▪ maintain existing historic character in a landscape/townscape ▪ have no appreciable impacts, either positive or negative, on any known or potential heritage assets ▪ are a combination of slight positive and negative impacts, on locally significant aspects of the heritage ▪ do not result in severance or loss of integrity, context or understanding within a Historic landscape
<p>Slight (Minor) Adverse (negative) effect</p>	<p>The proposals would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ be in conflict with local policies for the protection of the local character of the heritage ▪ have a detrimental impact on the context of regionally or locally significant assets, such that their integrity is compromised and appreciation and understanding of them is diminished ▪ damage locally significant heritage features for which adequate mitigation can be specified ▪ not fit well with the form, scale, pattern and character of a historic landscape/townscape/area
<p>Moderate Adverse (negative) effect</p>	<p>The proposals would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ be out of scale with, or at odds with the scale, pattern or form of the heritage resource ▪ be intrusive in the setting (context), and will adversely affect the appreciation and understanding of the characteristic heritage resource ▪ be in conflict with local or regional policies for the protection of the heritage ▪ be damaging to nationally significant heritage assets, resulting in loss of features such that their integrity is compromised, but not destroyed, and adequate mitigation has been specified ▪ be a major direct impact on regionally or locally significant heritage, resulting in loss of features such that their integrity is substantially compromised, but adequate mitigation can be specified
<p>Large (Major) adverse (negative) effect</p>	<p>The proposals would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ have a major direct impact on nationally significant heritage assets such that they are lost or their integrity is severely damaged ▪ have a moderate direct impact on or compromise the wider setting of multiple nationally or regionally significant heritage assets, such that the cumulative impact would seriously compromise the integrity of a related group or historic

	<p>landscape/townscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ have a major direct impact on regional heritage assets, such that their integrity is lost and no adequate mitigation can be specified ▪ be highly intrusive and would seriously damage the setting of the heritage resource, such that its context is seriously compromised and can no longer be appreciated or understood ▪ be in serious conflict with government policy for the protection of the heritage, as set out in PPG 15 and PPG 16 ▪ be strongly at variance with the form, scale and pattern of a historic landscape/townscape
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Cumulative Impacts

14.3.16 A review of proposed or possible future third party projects that may have a cumulative impact with the development proposals has been undertaken and used to inform this Environmental Statement. Projects identified are summarised in section 1.7.6 of Chapter 1.

14.3.17 In relation to archaeology and cultural heritage impacts, the following developments have been identified as having the potential to impact cumulatively with the proposal and have therefore been examined as part of the assessment.

- Great Western Park
- Asda Distribution Centre
- Proposed decommissioning of Didcot A Power Station

14.4 Baseline Conditions

14.4.1 The baseline data has been included as an appendix (Appendix 14.2), which can be cross-referenced to the Historic Environment Record Entries Plan (Figure 14.1).

Prehistoric

14.4.2 The wider area has seen activity from early times, with remains recorded from the Palaeolithic onwards. Finds of animal remains of Palaeolithic date have been made from within the quarry itself (HER numbers 7664, 7665, 7666).

14.4.3 There seems to be relatively little evidence for Mesolithic material in the area, but the Neolithic is well represented. A Neolithic Causewayed enclosure has been excavated to the east of Abingdon at NGR SU 511 983, approximately 5 kilometres north of the proposed development area (Case & Whittle: 10). Closer to the proposed development area, the remains of two Neolithic cursus monuments (linear features of considerable length, probably used in rituals) are known to the west of Sutton Courtenay (Fletcher: 8). A Neolithic polished stone axe has been found within the quarry (HER number 7669).

14.4.4 A Bronze Age funerary site, followed by Iron Age occupation, was revealed during excavations in Abingdon at NGR SU 483 973 (Parrington 1978).

14.4.5 Several finds of Bronze Age material have been made in the area around the proposed development area, including that of a plastave (HER number 1893), found immediately south of the northern part of the proposed development area and a beaker burial (HER number 1885). A number of late Bronze Age pits were revealed during excavations in advance of quarrying within the quarry itself during the 1970s (Hincliffe and Thomas: 9).

- 14.4.6 At Great Western Park, a proposed development located to the west of Didcot, south of the A4130 road and south of Didcot Power Station, field evaluation has revealed settlement remains dating from the early to middle Iron Age and late Iron Age to early Roman date.
- 14.4.7 A hoard of Iron Age currency bars were found within the quarry to the north of the proposed development area (HER number 3251) and Iron Age enclosures were revealed during excavations in advance of quarrying within the quarry itself during the 1970s (Hinchliffe and Thomas: 9 & HER number D8481). Iron Age pottery has been found immediately northwest of the proposed development area (HER number 2839).

Roman

- 14.4.8 The Thames Valley was relatively densely settled during the Roman period. There was a major Roman settlement at Abingdon, some 5 kilometres northwest of the proposed development area. Miles (1984:3) notes that *The size of this settlement, the numbers of Roman coins, especially early ones, found in and around it, and the concentration of Romano-British rural sites suggest that Abingdon functioned as some sort of market centre* [during the Roman period]
- 14.4.9 At Sutton Courtenay, a Roman villa comprising a range, perhaps with wings, facing a central courtyard has been revealed to the west of the village (Scott 1993).
- 14.4.10 At Great Western Park field evaluation has revealed late Roman settlement enclosure, a small 'cottage type' villa and associated plot or field divisions, located to the north of the B4493 Wantage Road. Further north within the Great Western Park application area, further Roman remains have been found (RPS 2004).
- 14.4.11 A Roman coin hoard was found within the quarry, to the north of the proposed development area (HER number 2859), while an urn and skeletons of Roman date were found within the quarry approximately 250 metres south east of the coin hoard (HER number 2853) and a Roman coin has been found immediately northwest of the proposed development area (HER number 2855).
- 14.4.12 A Roman period trackway and a small cemetery were revealed during excavations in advance of quarrying during the 1970s. These were noted in the excavation report as being within Appleford Field, close to the proposed development area. In addition, a hoard of Roman pewter was found (Hinchliffe and Thomas: 9).

Medieval

- 14.4.13 There is considerable evidence for Anglo Saxon activity in the area. An Anglo Saxon settlement site was excavated approximately 3 kilometres west of the proposed development area at NGR SU 4890 9400 (Leeds 1947).
- 14.4.14 A middle Saxon inhumation cemetery was found during excavations within the quarry (HER number D10523) and an Anglo Saxon bead has been found immediately northwest of the proposed development area (HER number 2854).
- 14.4.15 The place-name 'Sutton Courtenay' first appears in documents in 870. It is derived from the Old English, meaning 'South Farm', which itself probably refers to its relationship with Abingdon to the north. The Abingdon Chronicle notes that the Abbey of Abingdon gave 100 hides of land to King Ceunwulf of Mercia in the early ninth century (Gelling : 424). Appleford is first mentioned in documents in 895. The place-name is derived from the Old English meaning 'Apple Ford'. There is a ford referred to in the bounds of Culham, on the north bank of the Thames north of Appleford and it is likely that the village was sited to take advantage of the river crossing (Gelling 400).

- 14.4.16 The river clearly formed an important part of the medieval economy in the area. The Domesday Book of 1086 notes that there were three water mills in at Sutton Courtenay, with a further two mills at Appleford. The King and the Abbot of Abingdon controlled these and the manors of Sutton Courtenay and Appleford, respectively (Page and Ditchfield 1924: 369).
- 14.4.17 Sutton Courtenay may have been a single manor during the medieval period, but by 1593, if not before, it had been subdivided in the manors of Sutton and Brunces Court. Abingdon Abbey held the manor of Appleford until the dissolution of the monasteries (Page and Ditchfield 1924: 369).
- 14.4.18 A considerable amount of medieval building fabric, dating from the 12th century onwards, survives in the village of Sutton Courtenay.
- 14.4.19 The Norman Hall, the manor house on Church Street, has 12th century origins, although most of the fabric is of the 16th century, with 17th century alterations. The main range has raised base-cruck trusses. The building is listed a Grade II*
- 14.4.20 The Church of All Saints, Sutton Courtenay has a mid to late 12th century west tower and nave. The chancel dates from the 13th century and most of the rest of the building is later (Page & Ditchfield). The building is listed at Grade I.
- 14.4.21 The Abbey is a former Rectory house. The building comprises a hall and solar range of c.1320, with a rear range probably dating from the 16th century and a south range probably of the early 17th century; with later alterations. The building is listed at Grade I.
- 14.4.22 Manor Cottage, on Church Street in Sutton Courtenay, is a house dating from the mid 14th century. The building is listed at Grade II.
- 14.4.23 A barn dating from the 15th century, with 20th century alterations, is located approximately 45m WNW of Uptown Farmhouse on Sutton Courtenay High Street The building is listed at Grade II.
- 14.4.24 Southfield Farmhouse is a farmhouse, now a house with a 15th century jettied bay to the street and 16th and 17th century fabric in other parts of the building. The building is listed at Grade II.
- 14.4.25 At Appleford, the church of St. Peter and St. Paul on Church Street has 12th century origins, with a 13th century chancel (Page & Ditchfield 1924). The remainder of the fabric is predominantly 19th century. The building is listed at Grade II. There seems to be little other surviving medieval building fabric in the village.
- 14.4.26 The available evidence seems to indicate that during the medieval period the proposed development area was used as farmland and that it formed part of one of several open fields in the wider area.

Post-medieval

- 14.4.27 The evidence indicates that the proposed development area was being used as agricultural land at the end of the medieval period and beyond.
- 14.4.28 On Appleford Main road, there is a 17th century cottage, Elm Hayes. The building comprises a single storey and attic, with a 3-window range at right-angles to the road. The building is timber framed and has an uncoursed stone rubble plinth. There is some brick infilling, and a thatched roof. The structure is listed at Grade II (HER number 22947). There is no intervisibility with the proposed development area and there will be no effect on the setting of the listed building.
- 14.4.29 The earliest map of the area is John Rocque's Map of Berkshire of 1761. This shows that the area between Appleford and Sutton Courtenay had been enclosed by that time. The

proposed development area was in Sutton Courtenay parish and was part of an area of agricultural fields.

- 14.4.30 The First Edition One Inch to the Mile Ordnance Survey Map of 1830, with some revision to the 1860s, indicates that at that time the land to the south of the proposed development area formed a hill on which was located Durnell Farm. The hill sloped down to the north almost as far as the Portway. The railways (constructed during the 1840s) had been added by the mid 1860s.
- 14.4.31 The first map to show the proposed development area in detail is the Sutton Courtenay Tithe map of 1840. This shows that there had apparently been some reorganisation of field boundaries since John Rocque's map of nearly 80 years previously. The proposed development area is located in parcel numbers 97 and 98. These, as with most of the parcels described on both the Sutton Courtenay Tithe Map and the Appleford Tithe Map of 1839, are both named as 'allotment' and were both under arable cultivation at the time of the tithe survey.
- 14.4.32 The railway was constructed in c. 1840 and at around the same time the road bridge over the railway at Appleford was constructed, probably to a design by IK Brunel. The structure, located some 850 metres north-east of the proposed development area, is listed at Grade II (HER number 22939). There is no intervisibility with the proposed development area and there will be no effect on the setting of the listed building.
- 14.4.33 The first edition six inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1883 shows the railway. An area of water shown west of Appleford and south of Bridge Farm (now marked on OS maps as 'fishpond') is not shown on the tithe map. It seems likely that gravel extraction was taking place on a limited scale by this time. Within the proposed development area, immediately south of the Portway, are two buildings with an enclosure to their south, but open to the road. The OS 25-inch edition of 1899 shows that there were three buildings by that time, with a pump (for drawing water). The OS 25-inch edition of 1912 shows the site marked as 'Radcot Farm'.
- 14.4.34 Following the first World War, modern formal and wild gardens, covering c.2ha, were laid out during the 1920s by the garden designer Norah Lindsay, whose home it was. The gardens are recorded on the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens (Grade II).
- 14.4.35 Permission for gravel extraction was granted in the area in December 1936, with further permissions granted in September 1937 and March 1943 (information from planning file, and see Chapter 3, section 3.2).
- 14.4.36 Radcot Farm is shown on the OS edition of 1960, but had been removed by quarrying by the edition of 1975. This edition shows most of the proposed development area as having been quarried away.
- 14.4.37 Gravel extraction appears to have taken place over virtually the whole of the area between Didcot Power Station to the south and the river to the north, between Sutton Courtenay to the west and Appleford to the east. The OS edition of 1999 indicates that the entire proposed development area had been quarried and backfilled. In addition, aerial photographs held by the client indicate that the main EfW part of the proposed development area, with the exception of the lake at its eastern end, had been backfilled by 2006. The proposed hazardous waste cells currently comprise lakes and a restored area.
- 14.4.38 The whole of the proposed development area is recorded as a landfill site by the Local Authority.

Limitations

- 14.4.39 There are no limitations arising from the baseline surveys carried out in connection with cultural heritage.

14.5 Incorporated Enhancement and Mitigation

- 14.5.1 Given the negligible potential for the proposed development area to contain surviving below ground archaeological remains, no mitigation is proposed or necessary.
- 14.5.2 Mitigation in the form of planting is proposed. This will help break up the visual impact of the larger structures associated with the proposed development, although this is not strictly necessary in terms of cultural heritage.

14.6 Identification and Evaluation of Key Impacts

- 14.6.1 Effects likely to be caused by construction are particularly likely to arise from operations including:
- ground remediation
 - excavation for foundations, drainage and other services, roads and car parking,
 - piling,
 - landscaping operations including planting
- 14.6.2 There may also be effects on the setting of cultural heritage features caused by the execution of the development proposal
- 14.6.3 The above effects tend to be permanent and non-reversible. In addition, further immediate impacts may arise from the above operations, and others, causing cause effects that are normally temporary and reversible. These include:
- noise
 - dust
- 14.6.4 Operational impacts, remaining when the proposed development is complete, may include:
- views
 - noise
 - air quality
 - lighting

Construction Phase

- 14.6.5 Most of the proposed development area is located on what was until quarrying a very shallow north-facing slope, suitable for occupation in antiquity. There is considerable recorded evidence for the proposed development area to have contained archaeological remains until quarrying. However, given that the proposed development area has been quarried, the potential for such remains is negligible.
- 14.6.6 There is no evidence, recorded or otherwise, for the proposed development area to contain any archaeological remains. It is highly unlikely that the proposed development area contains remains of national importance, or of sufficient importance to warrant preservation *in situ*.
- 14.6.7 The cumulative impacts identified in the bullet points following paragraph 14.3.17, above will have no cumulative impact on the construction phase of the proposed development.

Operational Phase

- 14.6.8 The nearest listed building is the road bridge over the railway at Appleford. The structure, located some 850 metres northeast of the proposed development area, is listed at Grade II. There is no intervisibility with the proposed development area and there will be no effect on the setting of the listed building. At a similar distance from the proposed

development area is Elm Hayes, a building dating from the 17th century. This structure is similarly listed at Grade II. There is no intervisibility with the proposed development area and there will be no effect on the setting of the listed buildings. No other listed building, or its setting, will be affected by the proposed development.

- 14.6.9 The nearest Scheduled Ancient Monument is a prehistoric cropmarked complex, (SAM Ox 243) located approximately 800 metres east of the proposed development area. The site is not visible above ground and therefore is not capable of having a setting. There will therefore be no effect on the setting of the Scheduled Ancient Monument.
- 14.6.10 The nearest Registered Battlefield is the site of the Battle of Chalgrove, some 12.5 kilometres north east of the proposed development area. There is no intervisibility with the proposed development area and there will be no effect on the setting of the Registered Battlefield. The nearest Registered Park and Garden is Sutton Courtenay Manor, located at approximately NGR SU 501 942, some 1.6 kilometres north west of the proposed development area. There is no intervisibility with the proposed development area and there will be no effect on the setting of the Registered Park and Garden.
- 14.6.11 The nearest Conservation Area is at Appleford, some 600 metres north of the proposed development area, on the east side of the railway. There is no intervisibility with the proposed development area and there will be no effect on the setting of the Conservation Area. There is a further Conservation Area at Sutton Courtenay; the nearest point of the Conservation Area to the proposed development area is some 650 metres east of it. There is little or no intervisibility with the proposed development area and there will be little or no effect on the setting of the Conservation Area.
- 14.6.12 The proposed development will have no effect on any statutorily protected or registered cultural heritage receptor, or setting.
- 14.6.13 The cumulative impacts identified in the bullet points following paragraph 14.3.17, above will have no cumulative impact on the operational phase of the proposed development.

14.7 Mitigation

- 14.7.1 Given the negligible potential for the proposed development area to contain surviving below ground archaeological remains, no mitigation is proposed or necessary.
- 14.7.2 The former quarry site is characterised by a sense of enclosure. The existing boundaries and planting reduce or nullify the impact of the proposed development on the settings of cultural heritage features. Within the hazardous waste cell, ground reduction will ensure that operations and structures are virtually invisible from outside the former quarry.
- 14.7.3 Mitigation in the form of planting is proposed. This will help break up the visual impact of the larger structures associated with the proposed development, although this is not strictly necessary in terms of cultural heritage.

14.8 Residual Impact

- 14.8.1 There will be no residual impacts with regard to archaeology and cultural heritage.

14.9 Conclusions

- 14.9.1 This study has indicated that the area has seen considerable activity since early times. There are a number of well-known sites and monuments in the wider area, a number of which have been significant in the study of their periods and site types.
- 14.9.2 No statutorily designated sites (e.g. Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings) are present within the application site. The closest designated site is the road bridge over the railway at Appleford. The structure, located some 850 metres north-east of the proposed development area, is listed at Grade II. There is no intervisibility with the proposed development area and there will be no effect on the setting of the listed building.
- 14.9.3 There will be no effect on any other listed building, or setting. No registered parks and gardens, historic battlefields or conservation areas, or their settings, will be affected by the proposed development. No Scheduled Ancient Monument or other statutorily protected or registered feature, or their setting, will be affected by the proposed development.
- 14.9.4 There is no evidence for the proposed development area to contain remains of national importance, or of sufficient importance to warrant preservation in situ of archaeological remains.
- 14.9.5 It is concluded that, although the proposed development area is located on what was an area suitable for occupation in antiquity, following the quarrying of the entire area, the potential for such remains is negligible.
- 14.9.6 It is recommended that no further action need be taken with regard to below ground archaeology. Given that there will be no effect on the setting of any protected cultural heritage feature, there is no requirement for any specific mitigation.

14.10 References

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Maps

British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Sheet 253, Abingdon (solid and drift)
1:50,000 Sheet 254, Henley on Thames (solid and drift)

Ordnance Survey one-inch to the mile Old Series 1801
six-inch to the mile County & National Grid Series mapping supplied
by Landmark
twenty five-inch to the mile County & National Grid Series mapping
supplied by Landmark

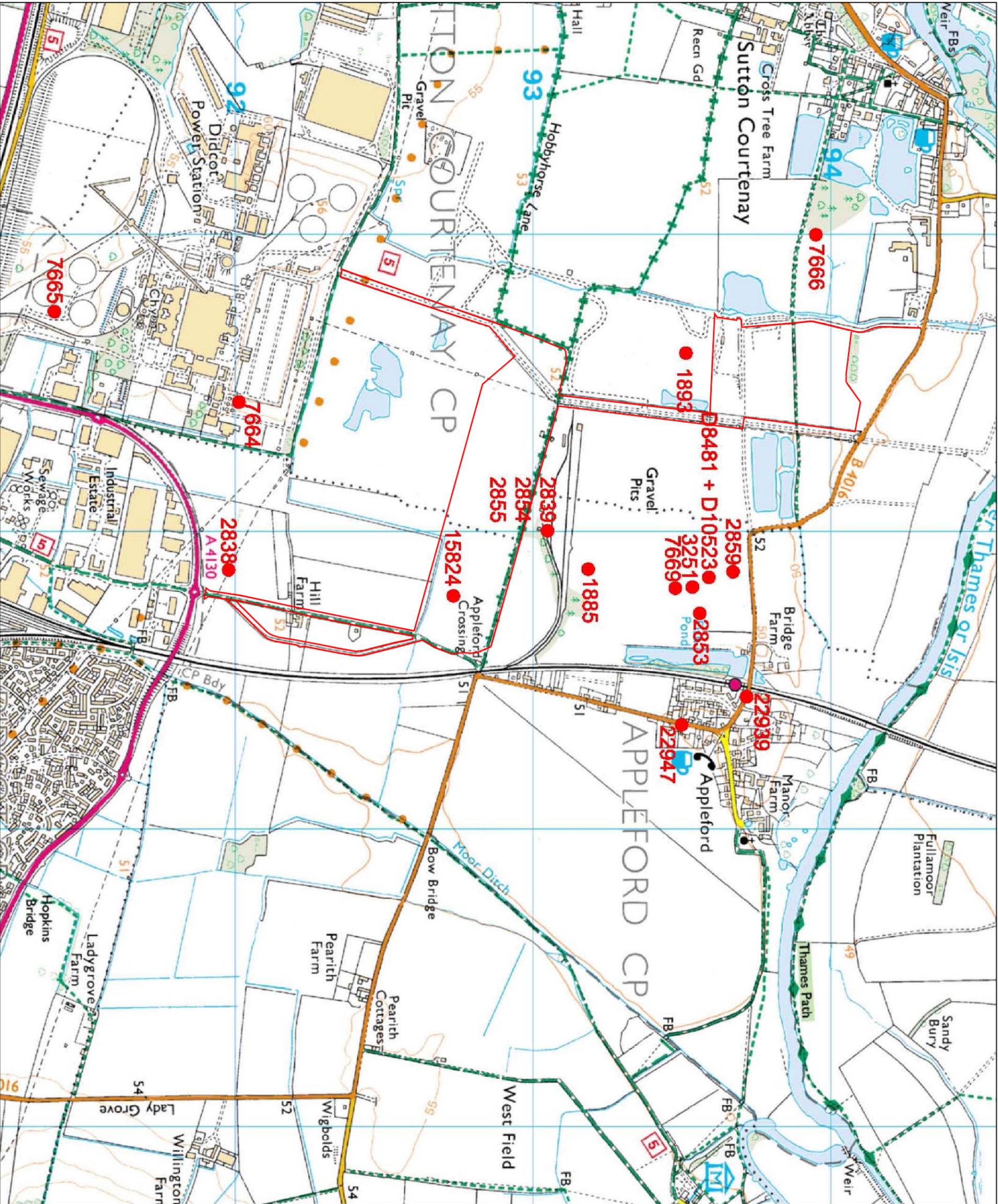
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Sutton Courtenay
 Proposal Boundary



3RD FLOOR
 34, LISBON ST.
 LEEDS
 LS1 4JX
 TEL: 0113 223 8100
 FAX: 0113 263 8101

THE DRAWING IS NOT TO BE SCALED. ALL DIMENSIONS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE. DIMENSIONS GIVEN ELSEWHERE MUST BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY TO THIS OFFICE FOR CLARIFICATION BEFORE PROCEEDING.

PROJECT
 Sutton Courtenay RRP

TITLE
 SMR Entries

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