

Historic Environment Character Assessment



Final Report for Lichfield District Council February 2009



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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 This project was commissioned by the Development Plans and Implementation Section at Lichfield District Council, with funding support from English Heritage, to form part of the evidence base for their preferred housing options of their local spatial strategy.
- 1.1.2 A methodology for assessing historic environment information has emerged from work carried out in the southern counties of England in response to proposed large scale housing developments. The particular aim of these projects was to integrate the Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) information with the more site based data held by the Historic Environment Records (HERs). Historic environment assessments were pioneered by the Thames Gateway Project, which was further developed by Essex County Council for two of its districts. More recently Shropshire County Council undertook a historic environment assessment for the Shrewsbury New Growth Point area. This work was assessed using the criteria produced by Essex County Council.
- 1.1.3 It was agreed between Staffordshire County Council (SCC) Cultural Heritage Team, English Heritage and the Development Dept at Lichfield District Council (LDC) that the historic environment assessment for Lichfield would follow the methodology used by Shropshire County Council taken from the 'Shrewsbury New Growth Point Historic Environment Assessment: Project Design'.

1.2 Integrated Environment Assessment

- 1.2.1 The project is also based upon work being carried out by the SCC Cultural Heritage Team for the whole county through a process of Integrated Environment Assessment (IEA). The IEA is currently in progress and will integrate data from the historic environment, biodiversity and landscape character. The first phase of the historic environment aspect of the IEA divided the county into Historic Environment Character Areas (HECAs). These were based upon an understanding of the development of the landscape of the county from the medieval/post medieval period onwards based upon the HLC data. Across Staffordshire 77 HECAs were identified and the second phase of the work for the IEA is to integrate the HER data. It was agreed that Lichfield District would be undertaken as a pilot area for the second phase of the IEA and the results would feed into the overall Historic Environment Assessment for Lichfield District.

1.3 Historic Landscape Character

- 1.3.1 The HLC, which is a fundamental element to the assessment of the district's historic environment, is part of a national mapping project. It was carried out by SCC in partnership with English Heritage, over three years and was completed in March 2006. The aim of the HLC was to produce a broad

assessment of the historic and archaeological dimensions of the county's landscape as it exists today, which was produced upon a GIS-based digital map supported by a database.

- 1.3. The HLC is a dynamic model for the county and subsequent to its production the dataset has been assessed to produce refined maps and a map of the late medieval landscape of the county. Both of these maps have been used to understand change within the county and they were both used in the development of this project.

2. Aim

- 2.1 The aim of the project was to provide an overview of the historic environment of the district through the HECAs at a broad level. For each of the buffered areas around Lichfield, Burntwood and Tamworth a more detailed assessment of the historic environment character was undertaken. The assessment included a scoring system to evaluate the impact of medium to large scale housing development upon each of the zones. The extent of the buffered areas to be assessed was provided by the Development Plans and Implementation Section (see maps 1 and 2).

3. Project Methodology

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 The methodology was undertaken in two phases and the relationship between these phases is shown in figure 1. The first phase was to identify the Historic Environment Character Areas (HECAs) falling within the district. The HECAs provide an overview of the historic environment across the district. The second phase was to look more closely at those parts of the HECAs which fell within the areas around Lichfield, Burntwood and Tamworth which were identified by the Development Plans and Implementation Section for a more detailed assessment of the historic environment. The HECAs were subdivided into Historic Environment Character Zones (HECZs) for Lichfield, Burntwood and Tamworth. The HECZs are more geographically discrete than the HECAs which enabled a more detailed analysis of the historic environment to be carried out.

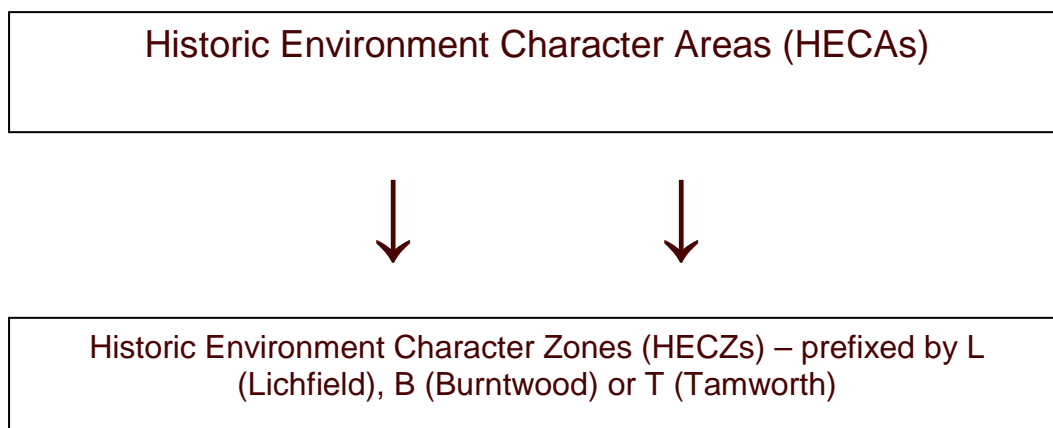


Figure 1

3.1.2 The project focussed upon specified areas around Lichfield (Appendix 3), Burntwood (Appendix 4) and Tamworth (Appendix 5).

3.2 *Phase 1 – Historic Environment Character Areas*

3.2.1 The first phase of the Lichfield Historic Environment Assessment was to develop the work being carried out for the IEA by integrating the HER data into the countywide HECAs.

3.2.2 A separate report for each HECA that lies within Lichfield District has been produced which provides an overview of the historic environment. This incorporates the HLC with the HER data and is informed by a general understanding of the topographic, land form and general drift geological influences upon human activity and agency.

3.2.3 The final section of the reports, the Historic Environment Considerations, looks at the impact of medium to large scale development within each of the character areas and addresses issues which should be addressed by any future development proposals. These considerations will be partly based upon the West Midlands Research Frameworks for archaeological work within the Region. However, these documents were not fully completed at the time of this study and this report will need to be updated once the final versions are published.

3.3 *Phase 2 – Historic Environment Character Zones*

3.3.1 The second phase was to provide a more detailed Historic Environment Assessment of three specific areas around Lichfield, Burntwood and Tamworth, within Lichfield District which was provided by LDC (see map 1).

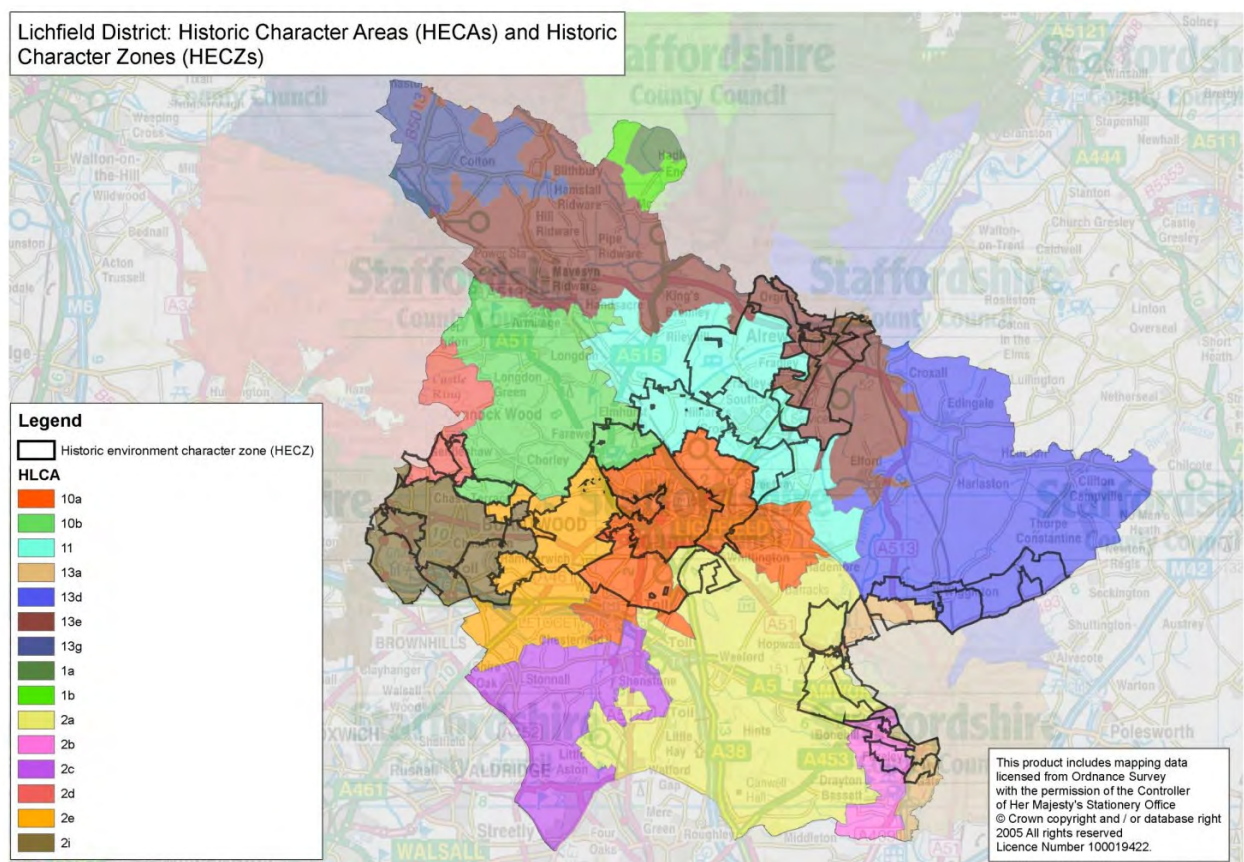
3.3.2 The methodology for this section closely followed that undertaken by Shropshire County Council for the Shrewsbury Growth Point Area and the Essex County Council model for assessing significance (see appendix 1). This produced a scoring system based upon set criteria. A GIS layer was also produced of all the zones which ranks them in terms of their significance.

3.3.3 The reports summarise the main areas of interest within each zone followed by the archaeological and historic character of each zone. This information is brought together and analysed following the model for significance detailed in Appendix 1.

3.4 *Potential uses for the document*

3.4.1 The assessment was produced specifically for the Lichfield District housing allocation areas and has identified areas where the historic environment is a consideration when considering the most appropriate location for new housing development. The summary of each report provides a short paragraph on the importance of the historic environment in each zone along with guidance or advice on the ways in which development may have an impact upon the historic environment.

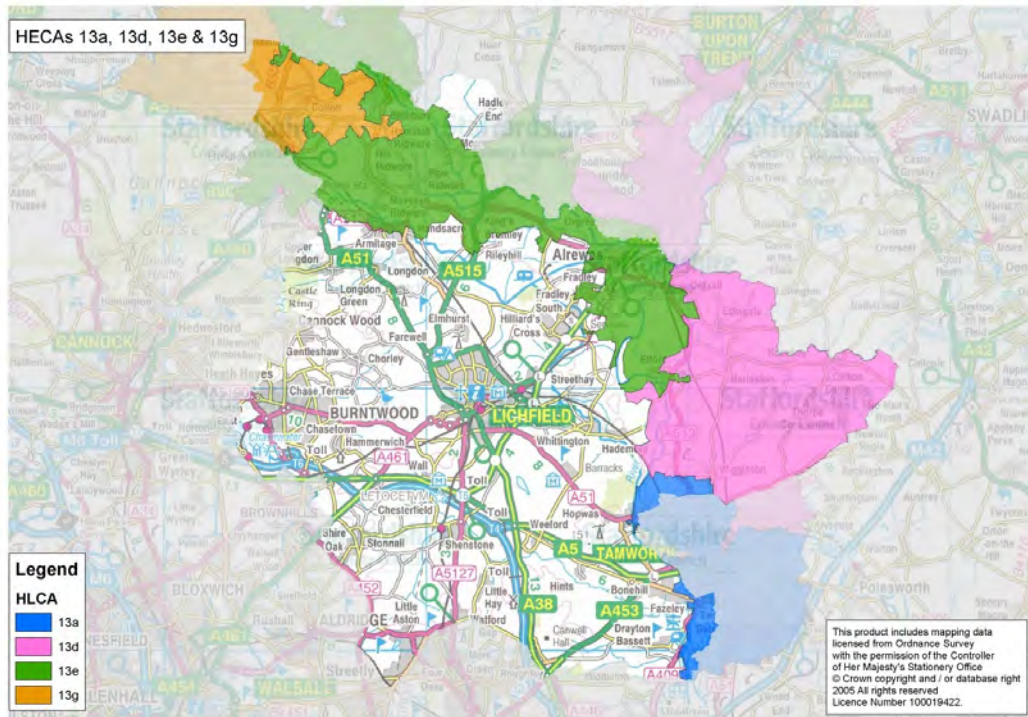
- 3.4.2 The documents can be used to identify historic environment considerations at an early stage in the planning process within each zone. The reports summarise the potential historic environment impacts and opportunities that would need to be taken into account to ensure the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment assets within the District.
- 3.4.3 The project provides an initial assessment of the potential for the historic environment within each zone. However the assessment is not intended to replace the need to consult the SCC Cultural Heritage Team at an early stage to identify potential impacts and the possible need for mitigation on individual development sites or areas.



Map 1: HECAs and LHECZs

4. Summary Analysis of the Lichfield District HECAs

- 4.1 There are 13 HECAs which fall wholly or partly within Lichfield District which were identified by their earliest discoverable landscapes. The overview reports for each of the HECAs can be found under Appendix 2. The reports for the Lichfield, Tamworth and Burntwood HECZs have been provided separately and form individual documents.
- 4.2 *HECAs 13a, 13d, 13e and 13g (see maps 2-10)*

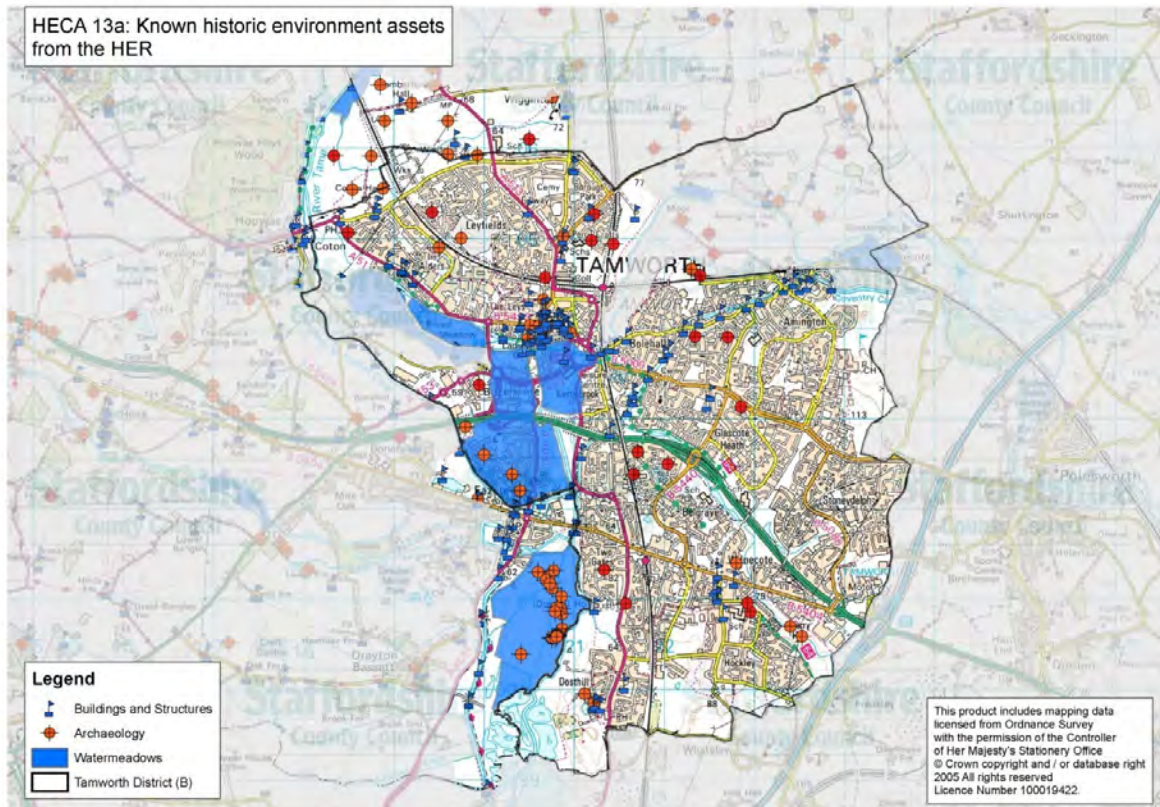


Map 2 HECAs 13a, 13d, 13e and 13g

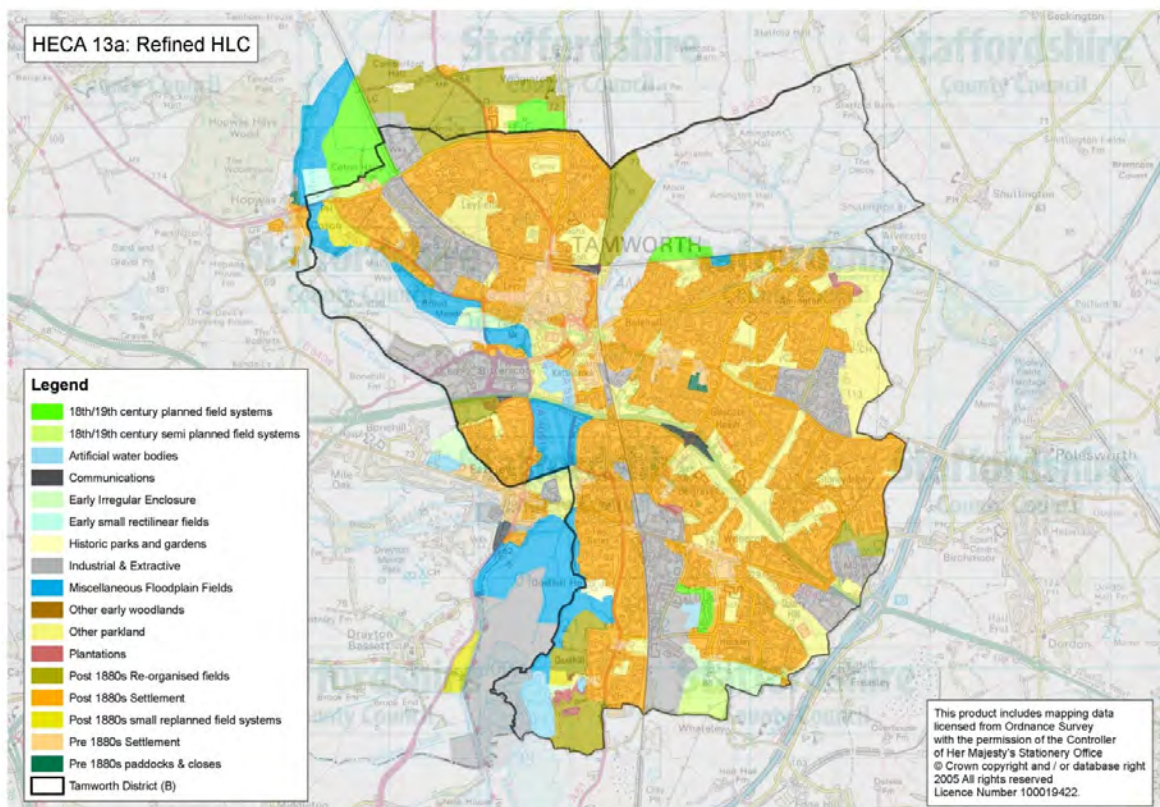
- 4.2.1 These HECAs all lie within the river valleys which dominate the eastern half of the county. It is within these character areas that some of the earliest known sites are located, with monuments dating from the Neolithic period onwards. However, there remains the potential for palaeolithic sites to survive upon the gravel terraces of the principal river valleys throughout the study area. Important evidence could include environmental material such as faunal remains, material culture such as flint tools and potentially even working sites. These will subsequently have been masked by the deposition of alluvium and colluvium. Often only the activities of extraction industries will extend deep enough to expose such material as in the case of the woolly rhinoceros found in gravel deposits at Whitemoor Haye Quarry in 2002. However, there does remain the potential for archaeologically significant remains associated with this period to be present relatively close to the surface largely as small unstratified finds. Where deeper excavations are required as part of the development process within the river valleys account must be taken of the potential to encounter Palaeolithic remains
- 4.2.2 Human activity appears to intensify from the Neolithic period onwards suggesting that the landscape was already well utilised and probably already largely cleared of trees. Our understanding of the later prehistoric through to the Roman and Anglo Saxon periods are based upon sites mostly identified as cropmarks on aerial photographs. Consequently a lot of archaeological field work has concentrated within the river valley particularly in response to gravel extraction sites.
- 4.2.3 The river valleys were the focus for arable agriculture during the medieval period and there are numerous villages and towns located here many of which are recorded in Domesday Book (1086), indicating their early origins.

Arable cultivation is again dominant within these character areas and it is this activity which has revealed the numerous cropmark sites located here.

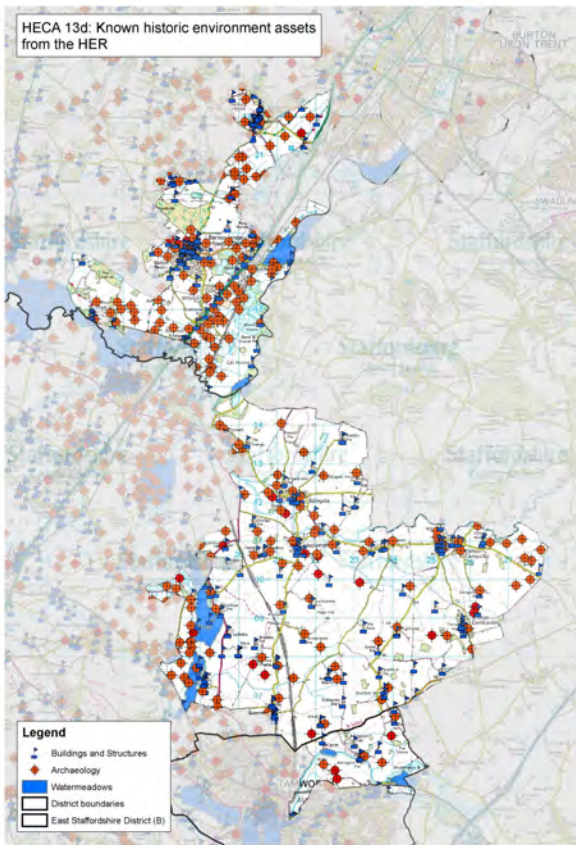
HECA	HECZ	Historic Character	Historic Environment Potential
13a	THECZ 2, 6, 7, 13, 15 & 17	Dispersed settlement pattern, impacts of 20 th century extraction industry & settlement	Archaeological potential in river valleys, both known and informed, and associated with Tamworth
13d	THECZ 8-11	Dominated by early enclosure of the formerly open fields typical of medieval arable cultivation. Also important for later watermeadows	High archaeological potential of both prehistoric and Roman remains as well as later archaeology associated with settlement. Surviving watermeadow features.
13e	LHECZ 10 – 14, 19 & 20	Mix of field systems of different dates from later medieval to modern. Watermeadows were important within the area.	High archaeological potential of both prehistoric and Roman remains as well as later archaeology associated with settlement. Surviving watermeadow features.
13g		Mix of historic field systems including formerly medieval open fields, since enclosed as well as 18 th /19 th century field systems and watermeadows. Dispersed settlement pattern.	Historic landscape character, dispersed settlement pattern and watermeadow features survive well. Archaeological potential within river valleys and associated with settlement.



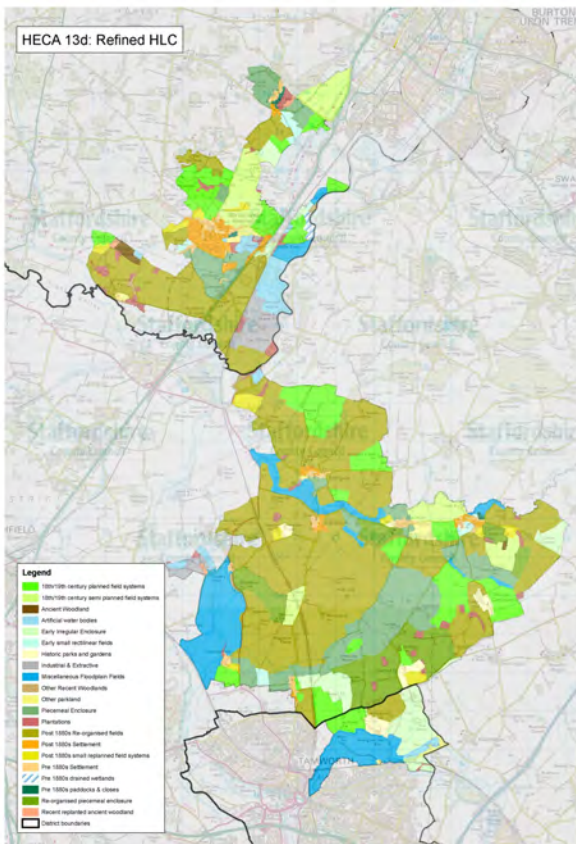
Map 3: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 13a



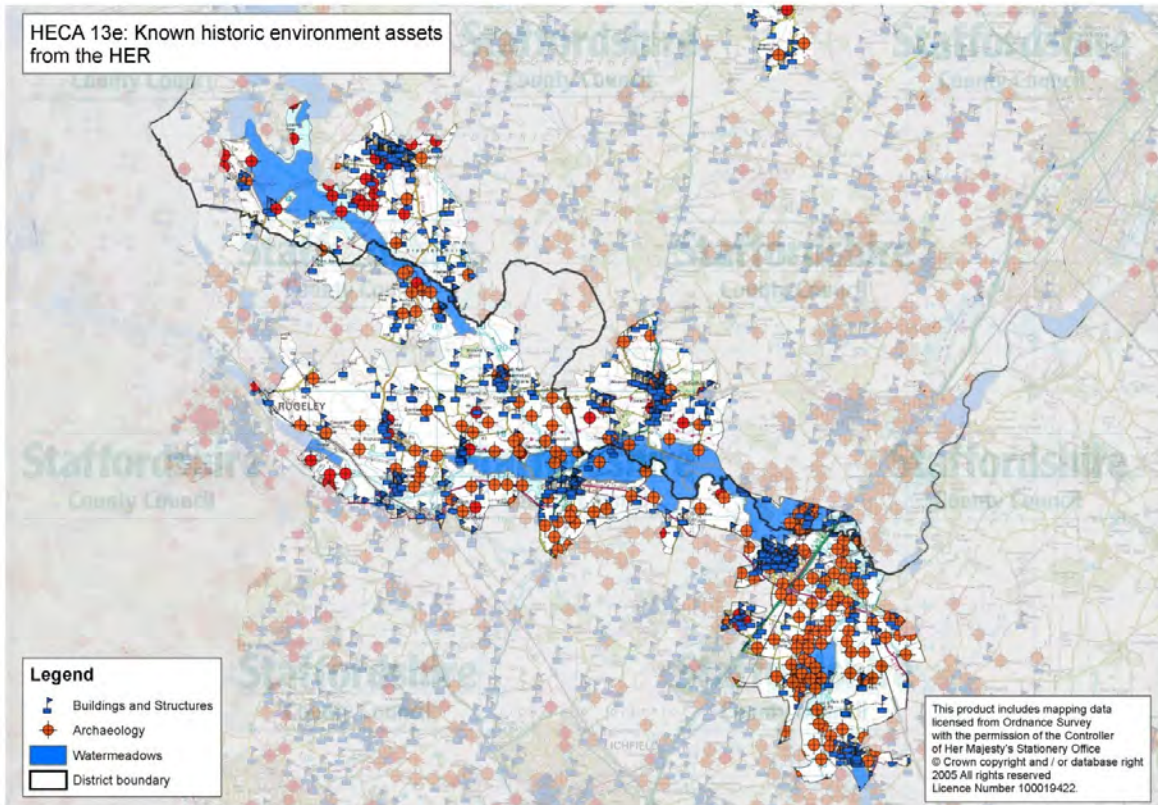
Map 4: Refined HLC map for HECA 13a



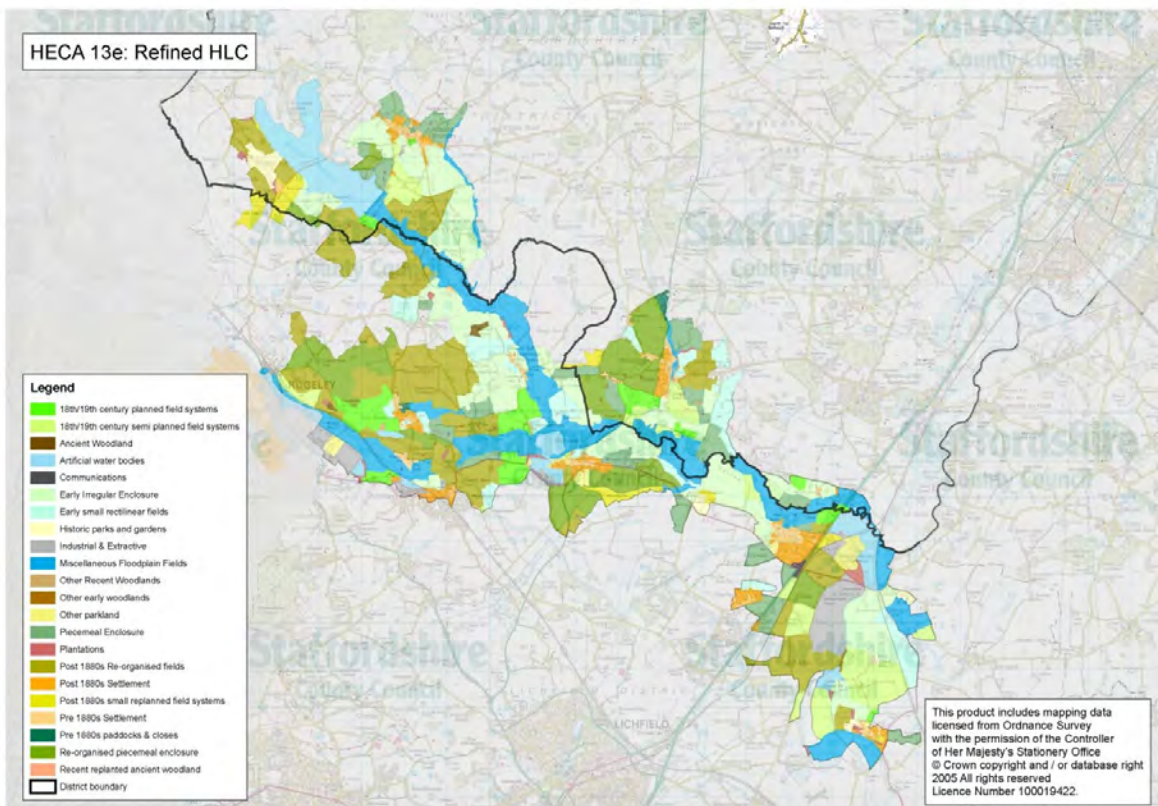
Map 5: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 13d



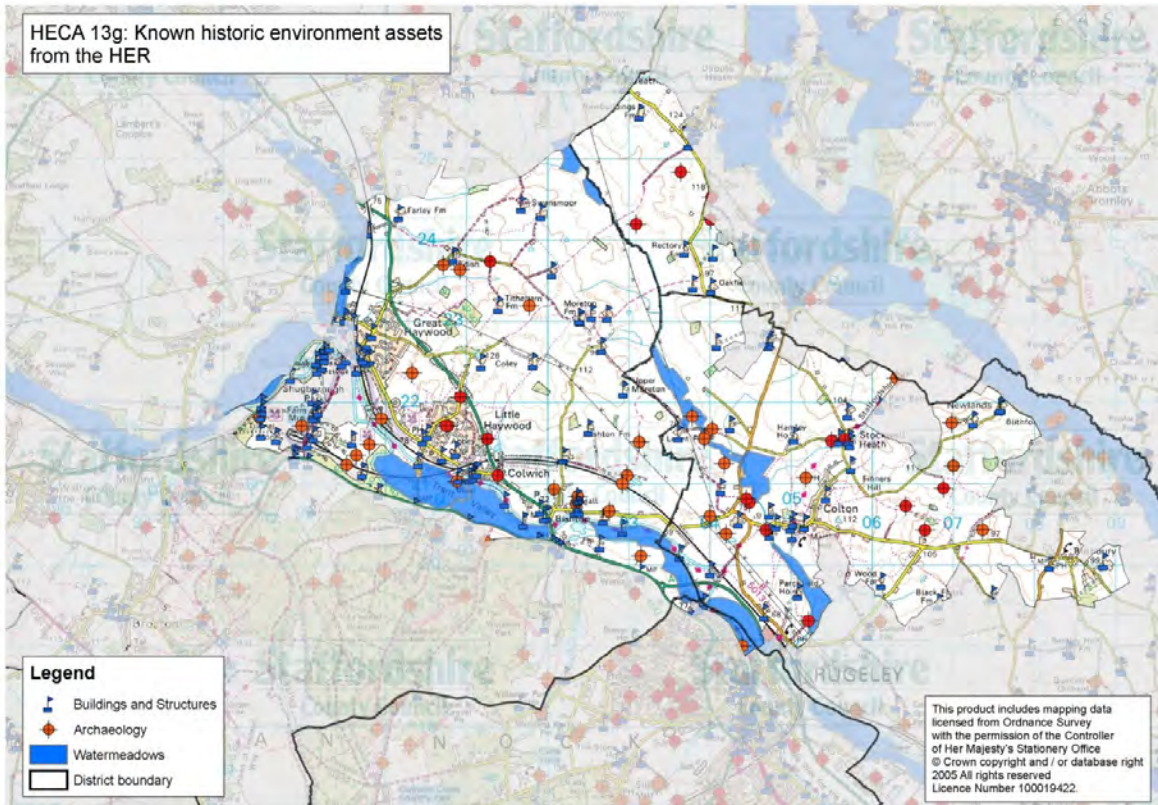
Map 6: Refined HLC map for HECA 13d



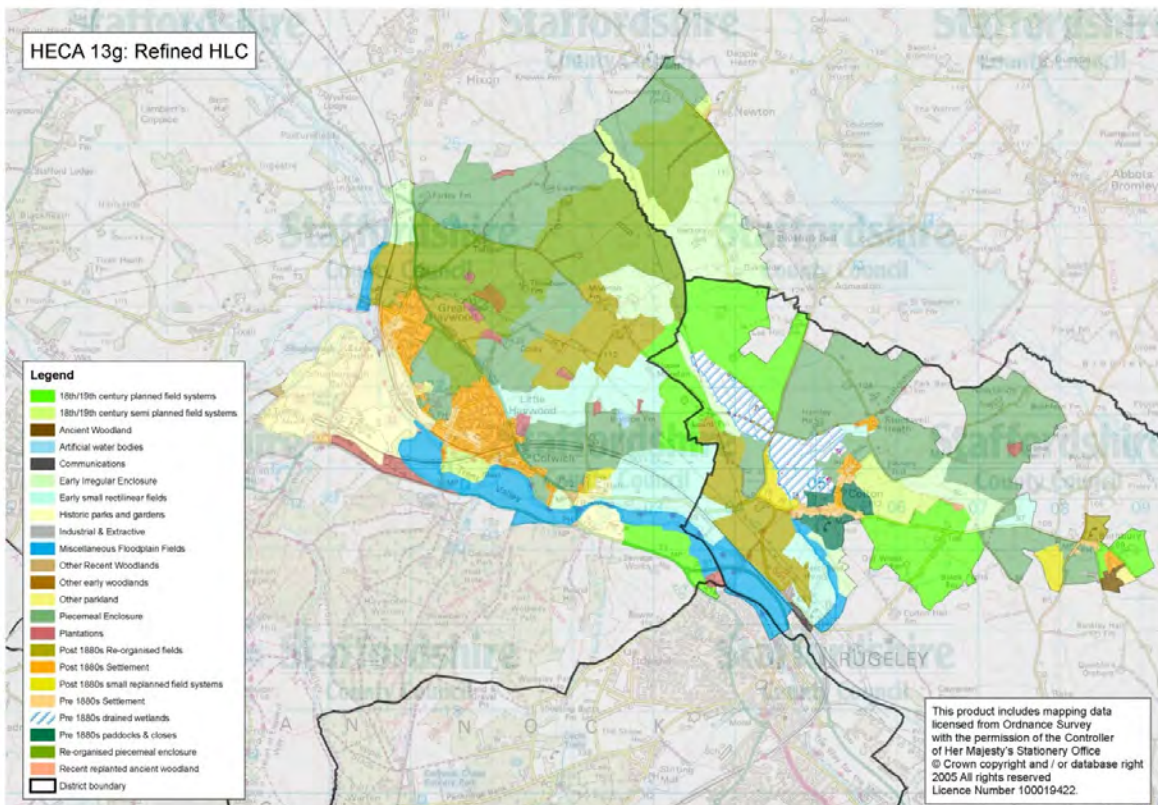
Map 7: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 13e



Map 8: Refined HLC map for HECA 13e

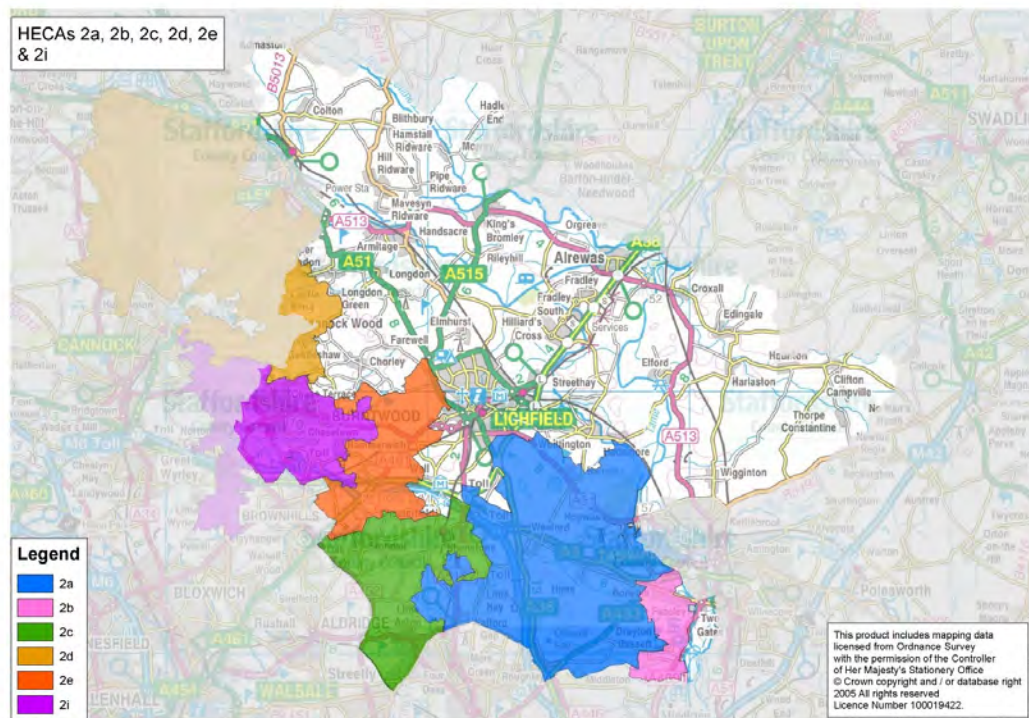


Map 9: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 13g



Map 10: Refined HLC map for HECA 13g

4.3 HECAs 2a – 2e & 2i (see maps 11-23)



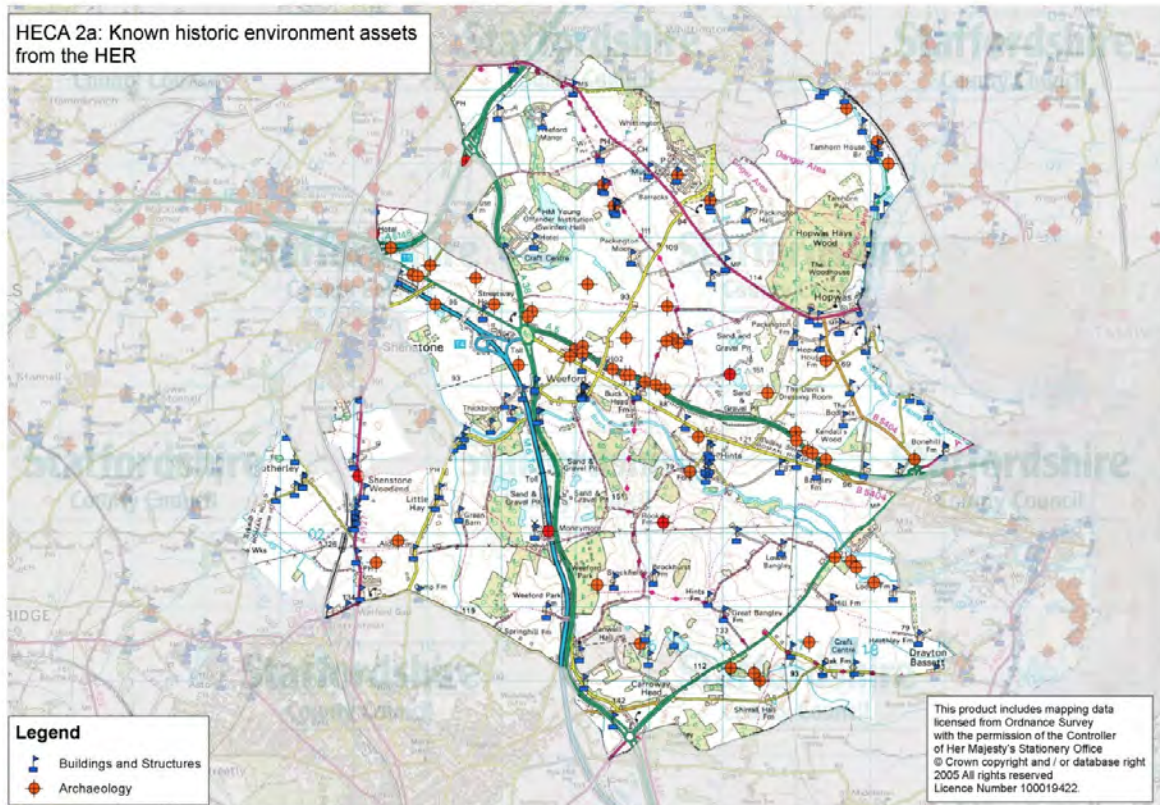
Map 11: HECAs 2a-2e & 2i

4.3.1 These HECAs all lay within the Royal Forest of Cannock by the later 11th century, a landscape likely to have been dominated by a mix of woodland, wood pasture and heath land. However, some areas may already have been cleared for either pasture or even arable cultivation during the Anglo-Saxon period and possibly even earlier. The evidence for intensive early human activity is not as strong as it is in the river valleys, this may in part be due to the fact that less archaeological field work has been carried out within these HECAs.

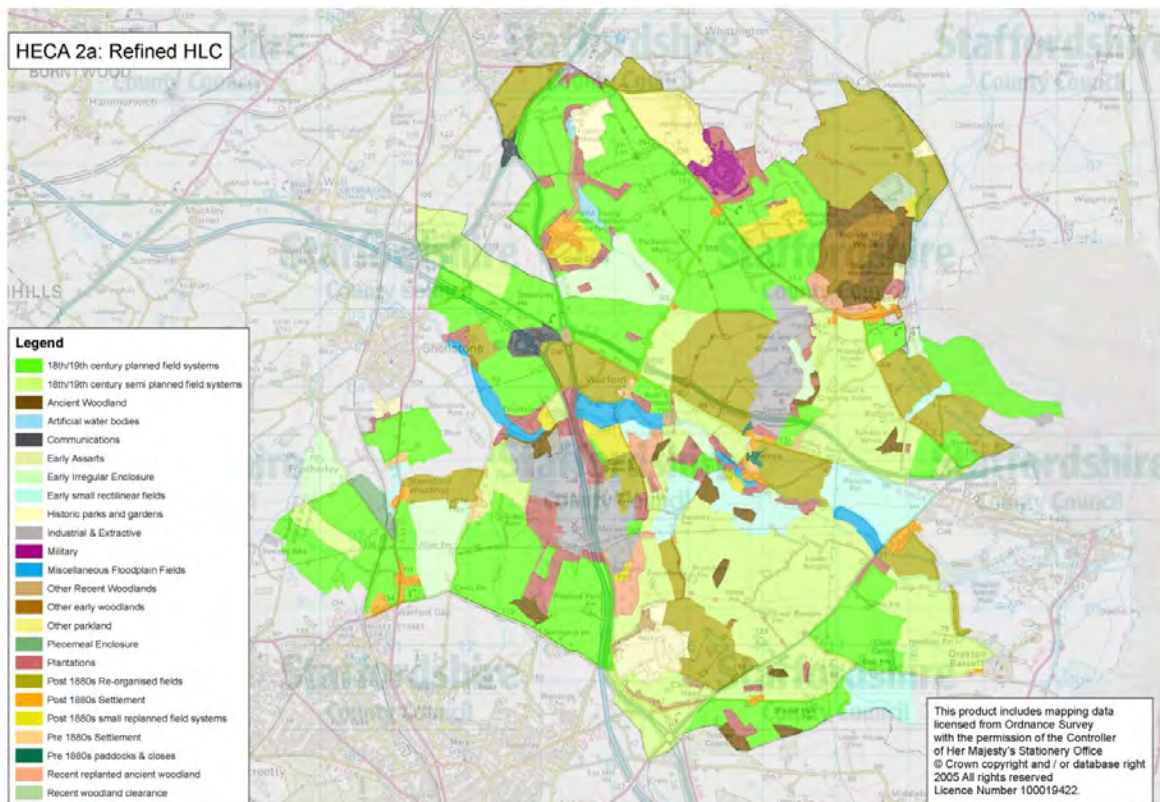
4.3.2 The majority of the known activity of prehistoric date comes from findspots including some of the earliest evidence such as the Lower Palaeolithic flints discovered near Drayton Bassett and Mesolithic flints found in HECA 2a. The findspots will mostly represent casual loss from highly mobile hunting and forging groups and are not usually representative of intensive occupation. Other monuments have been discovered including Roman sites located in the wider landscape around the settlement of Wall and along Watling Street.

4.3.3 Some field systems in the area may prove to pre-date the Norman Conquest (1066), but most probably date from the 11th to 12th centuries when we know that assarting (the clearance of woodland for farmland) was intensifying particularly under the name of the Bishop of Lichfield. The landscape became one which was increasingly intensively farmed and the settlement pattern is one of dispersed villages, hamlets and farmsteads. Within HECA 2i the landscape was not enclosed until the second half of the 19th century and within HECA 2d little of the landscape has ever been farmed and is currently dominated by plantation woodlands.

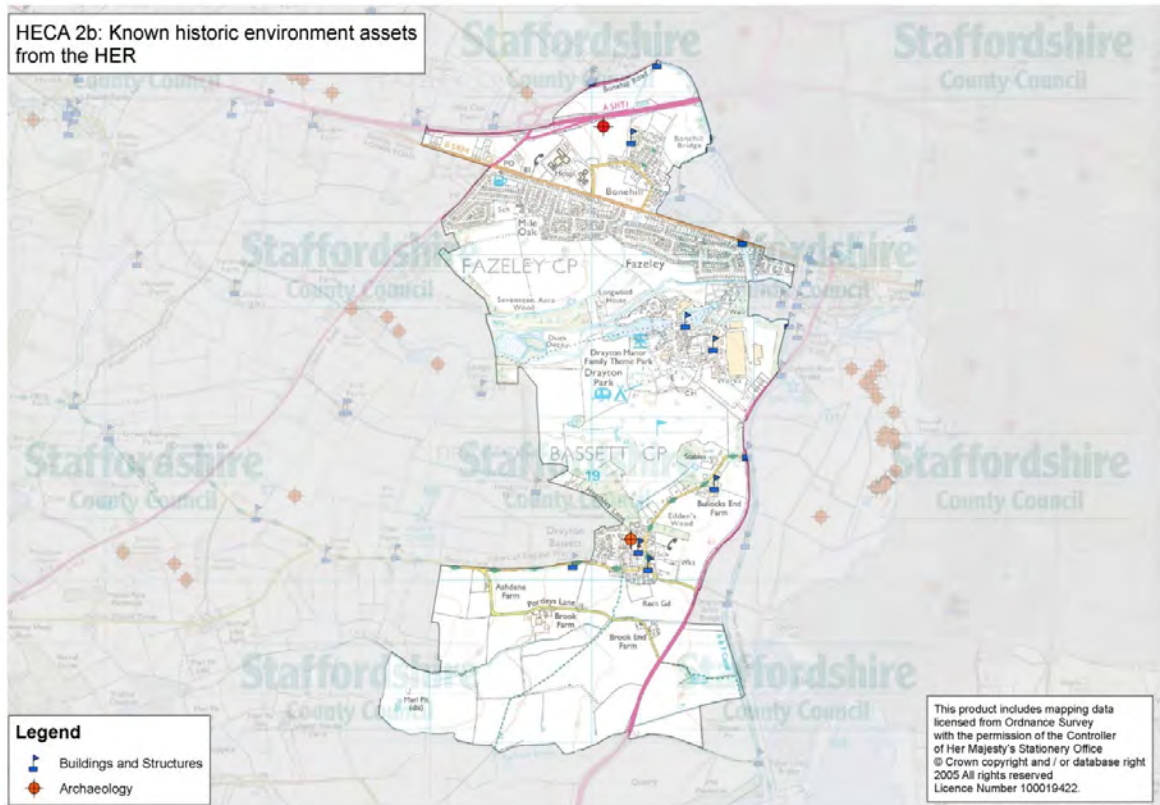
HECA	HECZ	Historic Character	Historic Environment Potential
2a	LHECZ 21; THECZ 1, 4, 5 & 12	Dispersed settlement pattern; predominantly 18 th /19 th century field systems, formerly heath and woodland	Potential for prehistoric & Roman sites. Well surviving historic landscape; potential within historic settlement cores (surviving & deserted) & farmsteads
2b	THECZ 3, 14, 16 & 18	Predominantly modern character both field systems and settlement. Historically heath and woodland.	Potential within the historic settlement cores.
2c		Historic dispersed settlement pattern, some survival of historic field patterns. Most of the field patterns have been impacted by 20 th century alterations.	Archaeological potential relating to all periods; including within the historic settlement cores
2d	BHECZ 1-3	Dominated by plantation woodland on Cannock Chase. Heathland had predominated and survives at Gentleshaw Common.	Survival of dispersed settlement pattern. Potential for below ground archaeology some of which may be associated with the hillfort at Castle Ring.
2e	BHECZ 8, 10 & 12; LHECZ 5	Formerly heath and woodland; some early assarting (clearing woodland for farm land), but much of landscape dominated by 19 th century field patterns.	Dispersed settlement pattern and historic landscape character survive well. Potential for prehistoric and Roman archaeology & associated with early settlement.
2i	BHECZ 4-7 & 11	Dominated by 20 th century settlements of Burntwood and Chasetown.	Archaeological features survive where field systems remain. Some interest in historic cores. Potential in other areas.



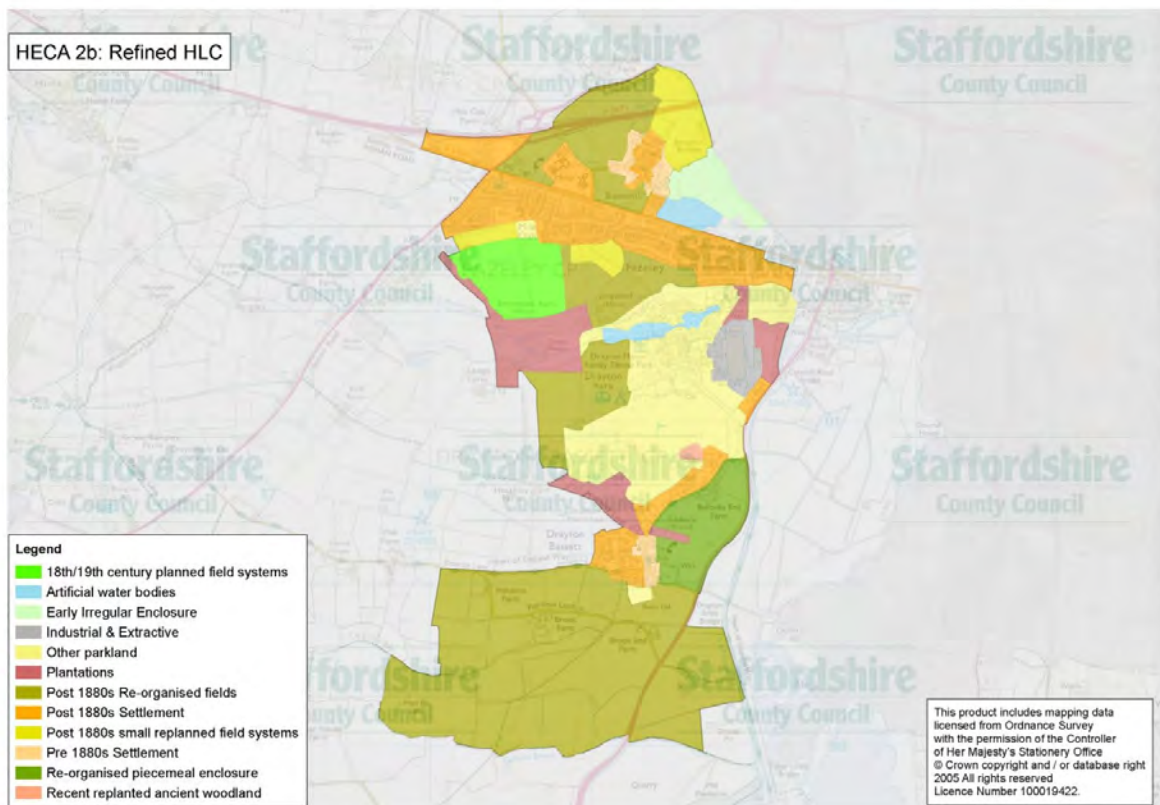
Map 12: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 2a



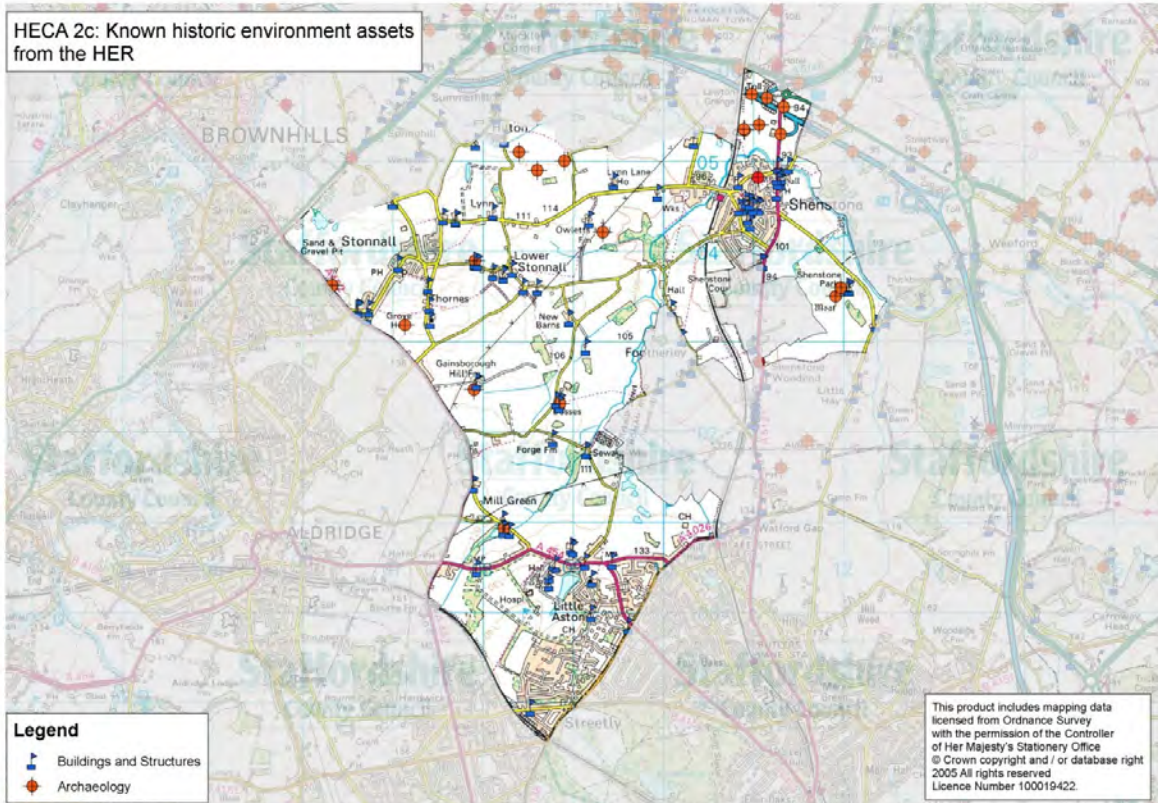
Map 13: Refined HLC map for HECA 2a



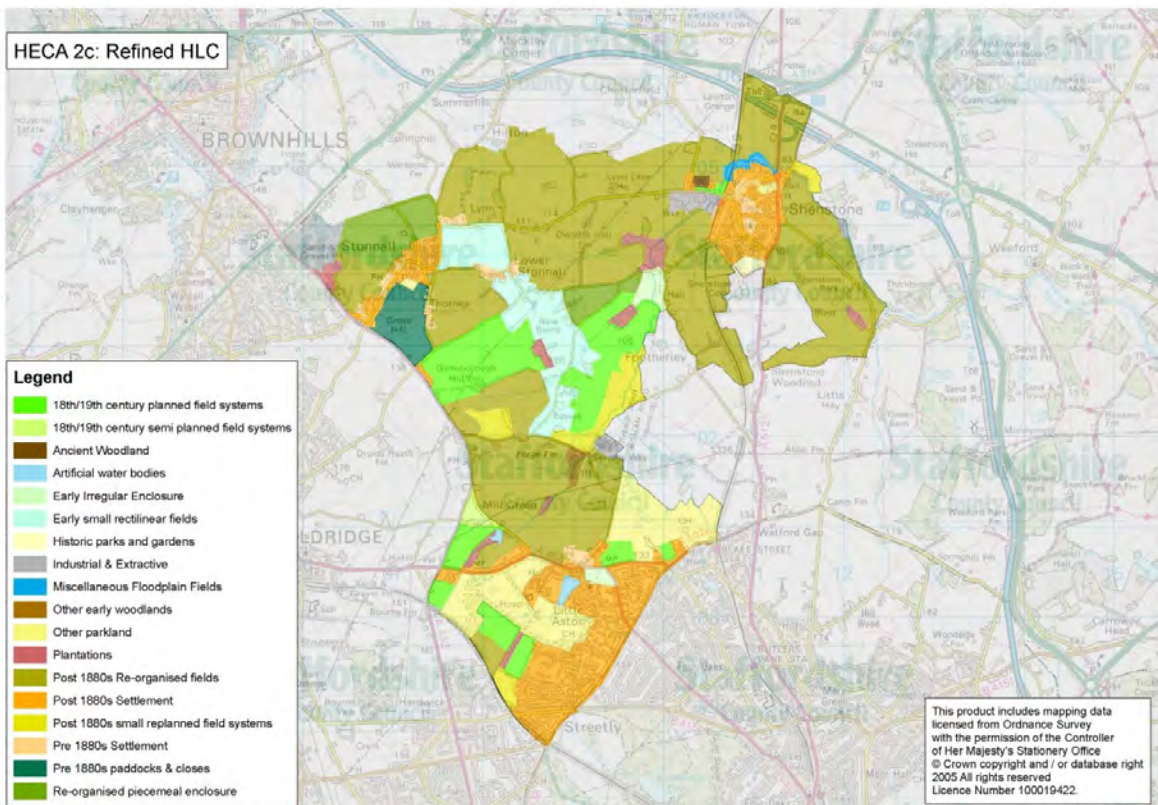
Map 14: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 13b



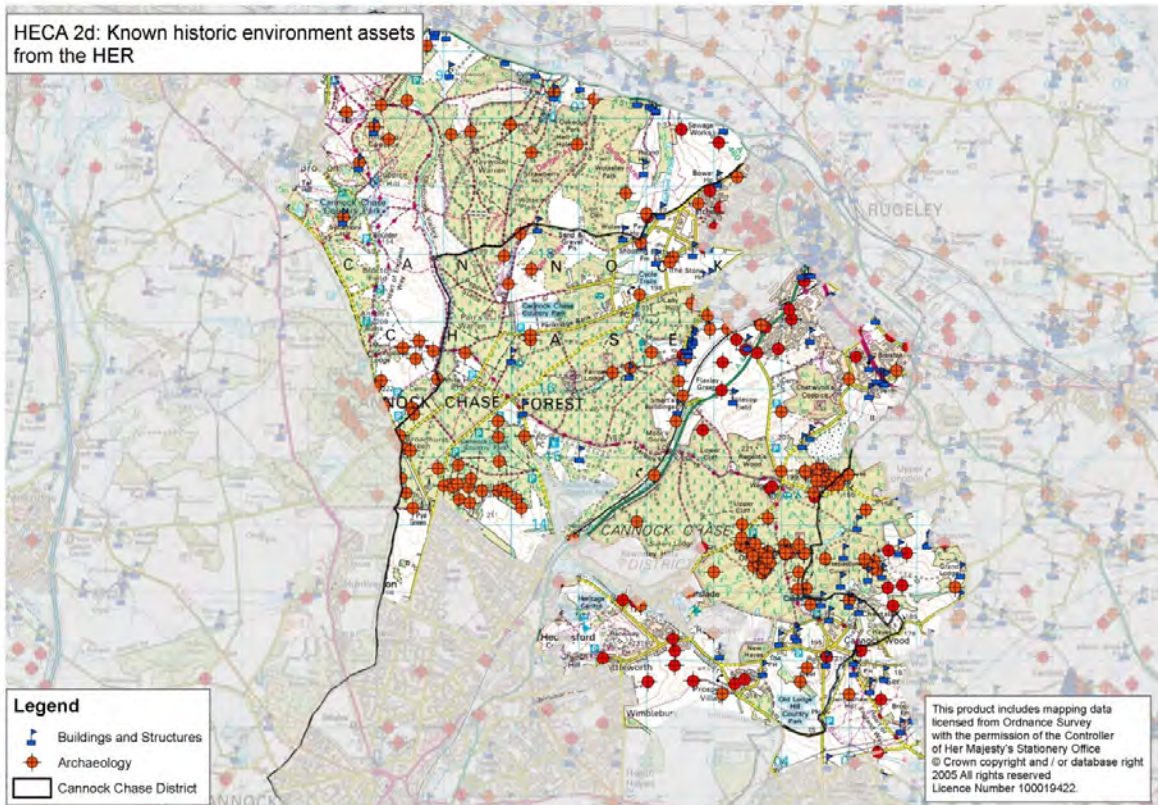
Map 15: Refined HLC map for HECA 2b



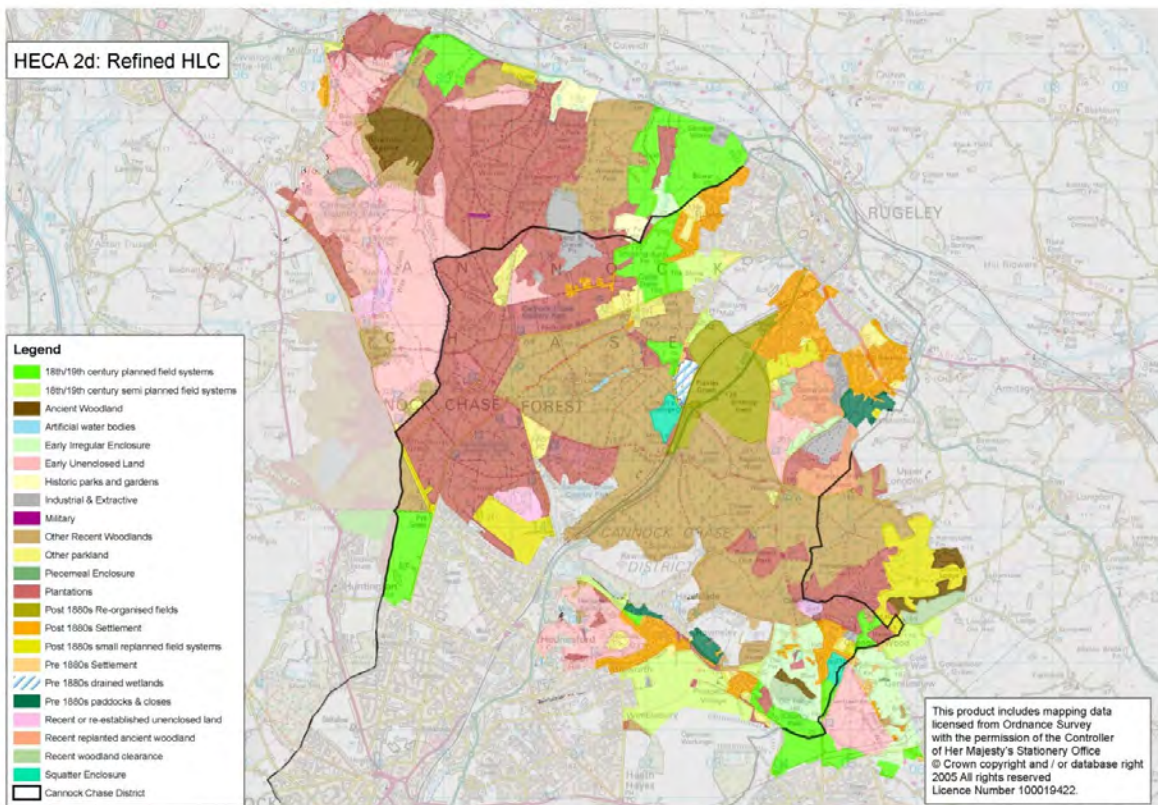
Map 16: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 2c



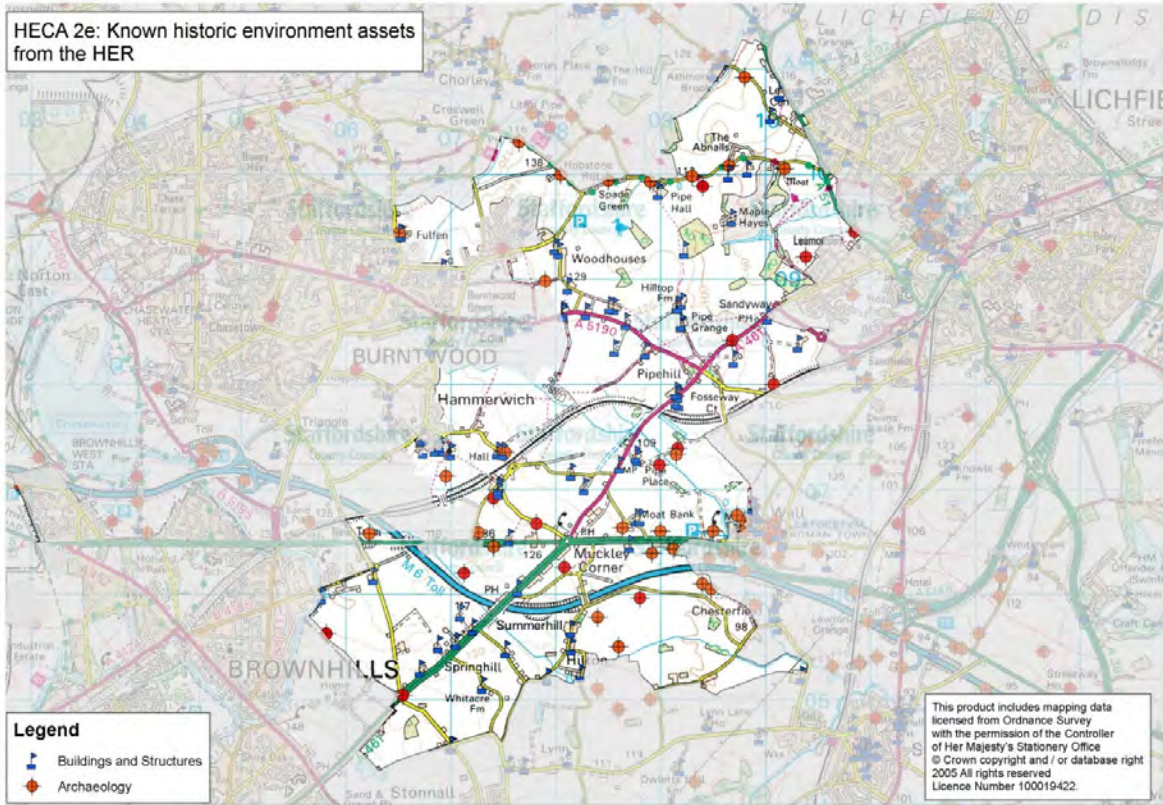
Map 17: Refined HLC map for HECA 2c



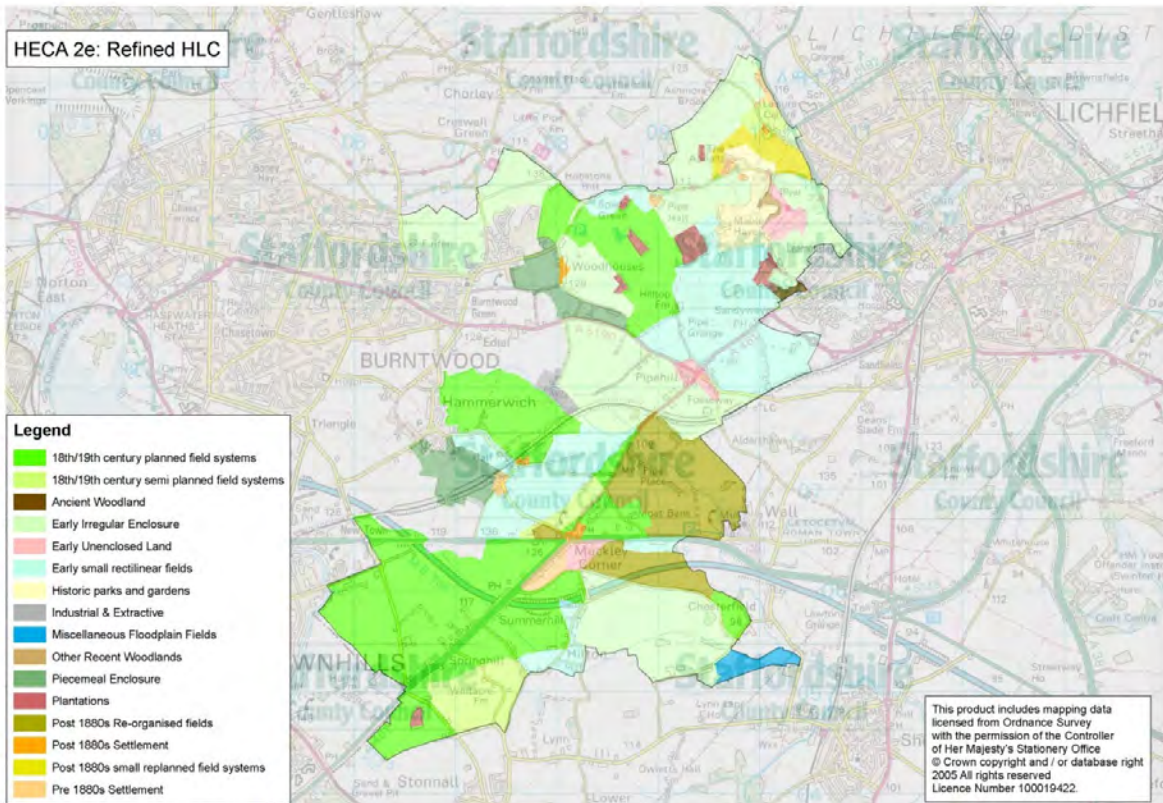
Map 18: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 2d



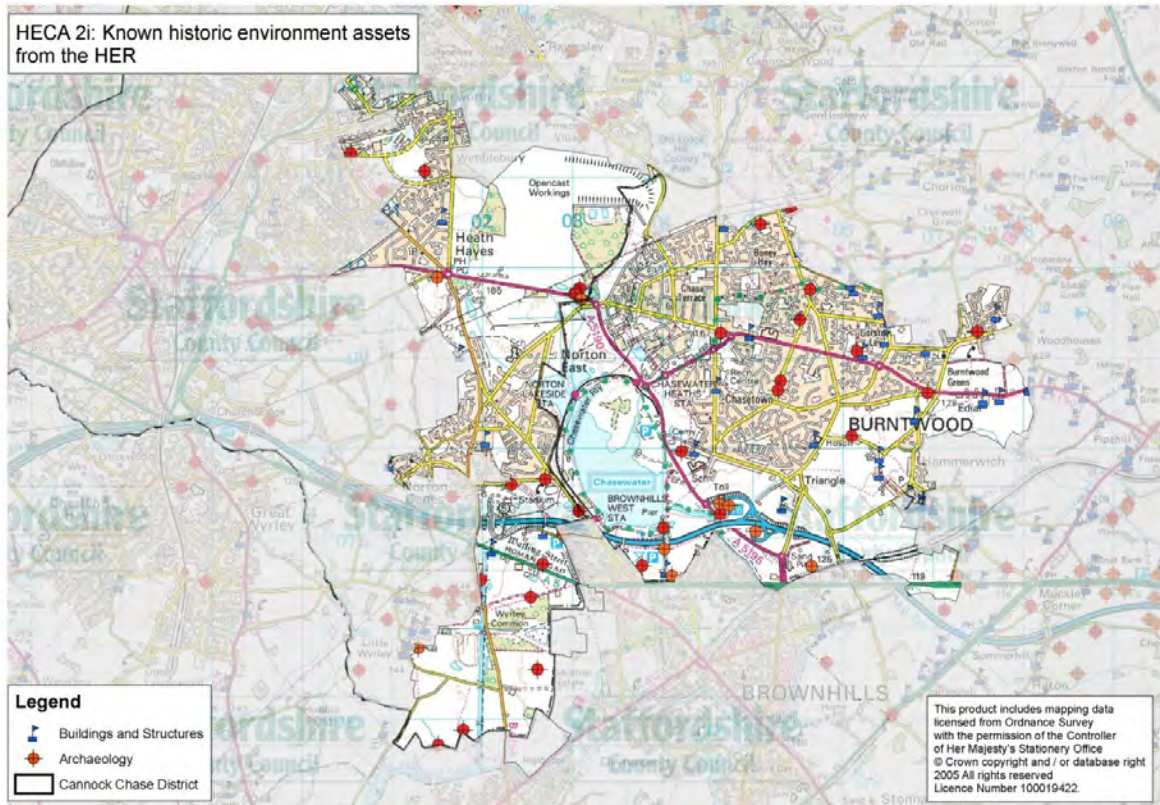
Map 19: Refined HLC map for HECA 2d



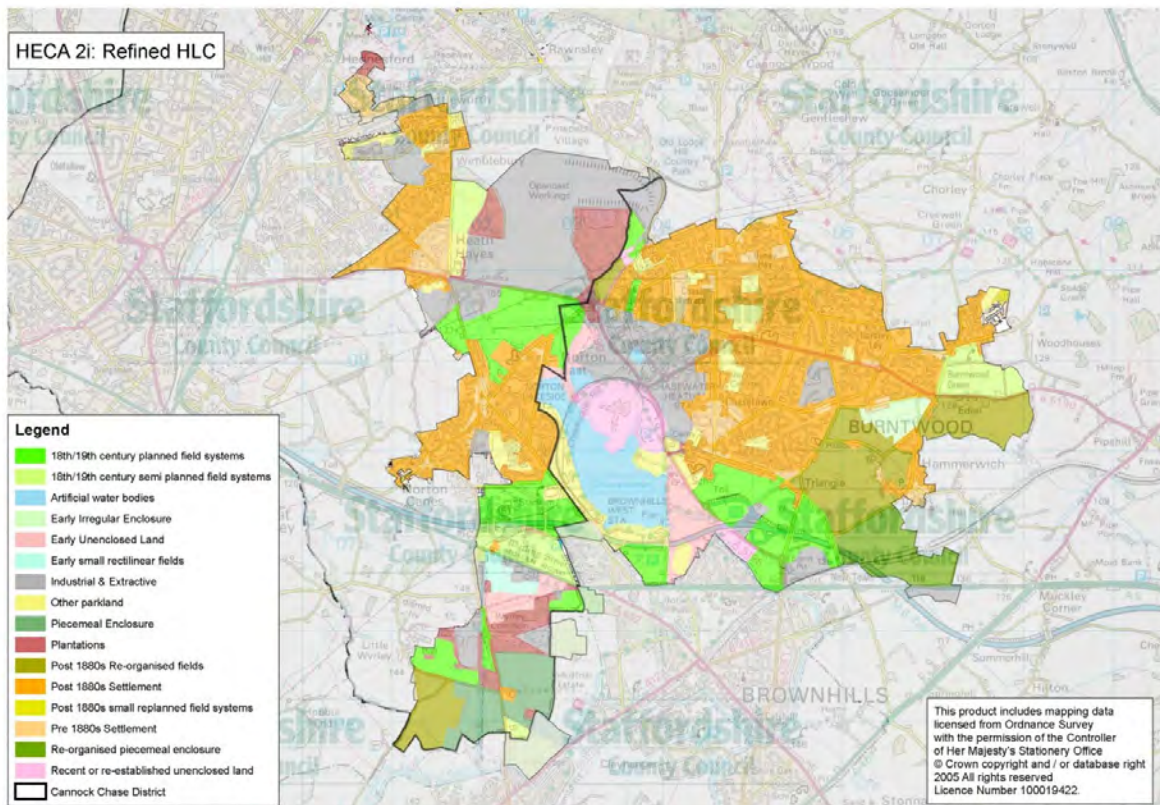
Map 20: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 2e



Map 21: Refined HLC map for HECA 2e

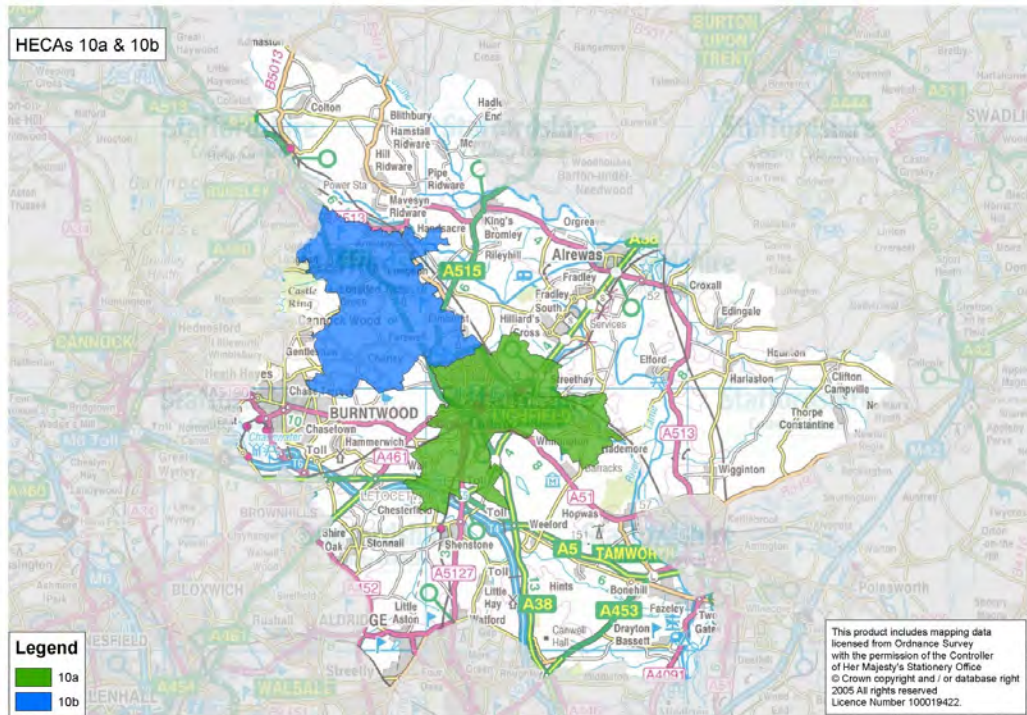


Map 22: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 2i



Map 23: Refined HLC map for HECA 2i

4.4 HECAs 10a and 10b (see maps 24-28)



Map 24: HECAs 10a & 10b

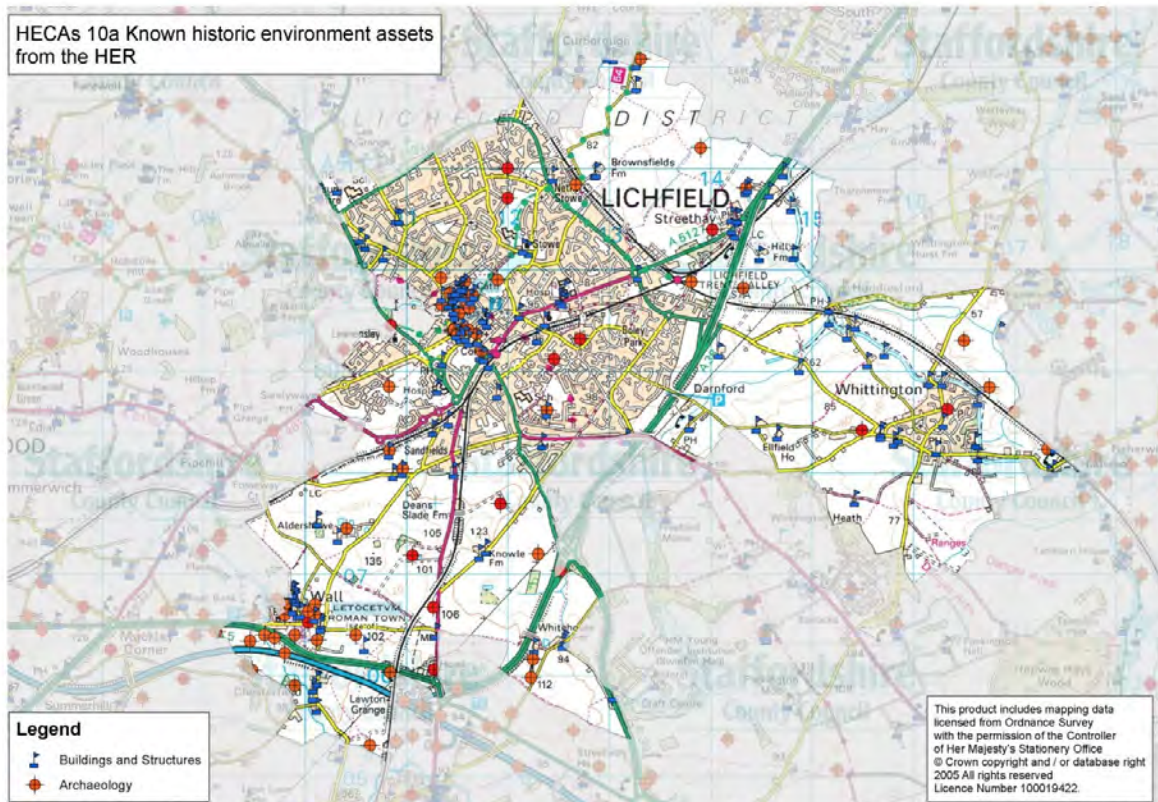
4.4.1 The earlier landscape of these two HECAs was probably very similar to those of HECAs 2a-I being dominated by woodland until at least the Bronze Age. The core of HECA 10a is the historic city of Lichfield, which has been a focus for human activity since at least the early Anglo-Saxon period when St Chad founded an ecclesiastic centre here and became Bishop of Lichfield. However, recent work in the centre of Lichfield does suggest the presence of Roman stone built structures in the area.

4.4.2 The wider landscape may have been utilised for a small scale pastoral economy from at least the Bronze Age. There is certainly evidence for human activity from the Neolithic period onwards and parts of HECA 10b were probably included in the hinterland to the focal point of Castle Ring hillfort from at least the Iron Age.

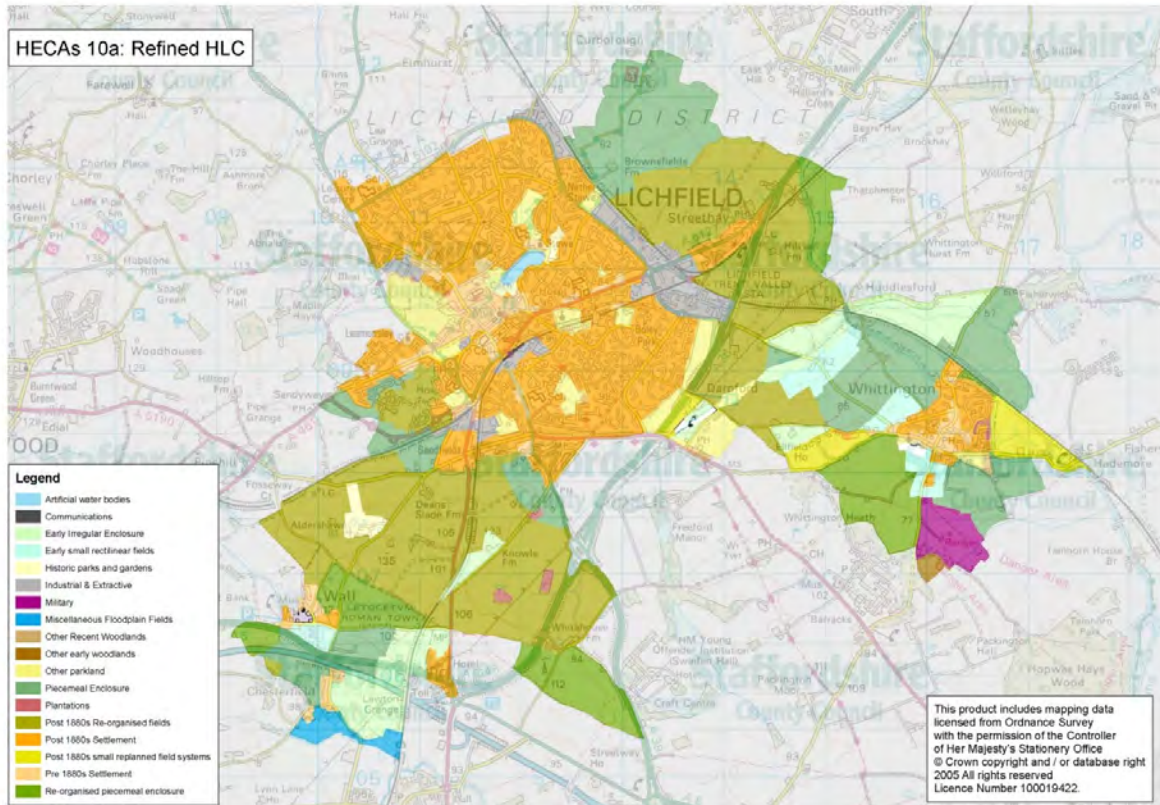
4.4.3 The landscape began to be completely altered during the medieval period when again it appears that much of the land was assarted and converted to arable open fields associated with villages and hamlets which are scattered. This settlement pattern, along with numerous historic farmsteads, survives across these two HECAs beyond Lichfield's suburbs.

HECA	HECZ	Historic Character	Historic Environment Potential
10a	LHECZ 1, 2, 4 & 6	Dominated by 20 th century changes to the field patterns and to the expansion of settlement, particularly relating	High archaeological potential within the core of Lichfield and Wall. Potential in areas in between including associated

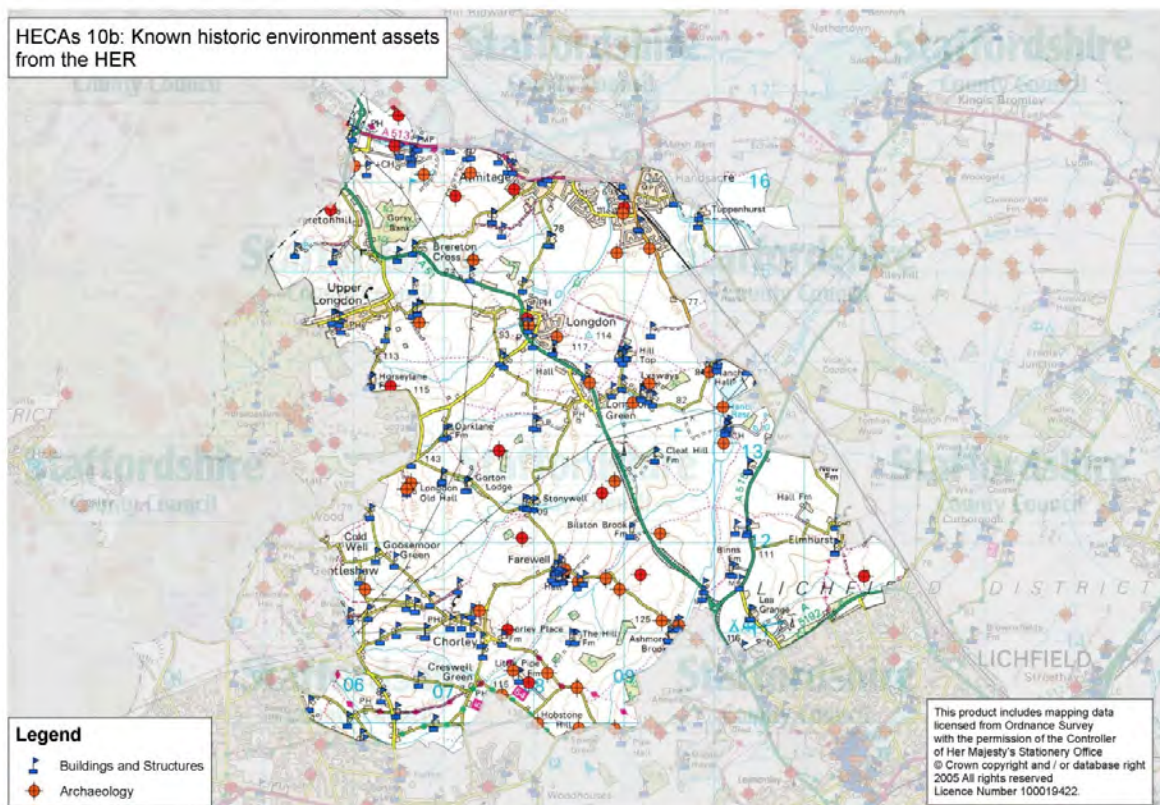
		to Lichfield. Some surviving earlier field patterns particularly around Whittington.	with earlier settlement.
10b	BHECZ 9; LHECZ 3	Early enclosure of heath land, probably by the 12 th century. Now dominated by early field systems created out of the formerly open fields typical of medieval arable agriculture. Typified by dispersed settlement pattern.	Dispersed settlement pattern and historic landscape character survive well. Archaeological potential relating to earlier settlement sites.



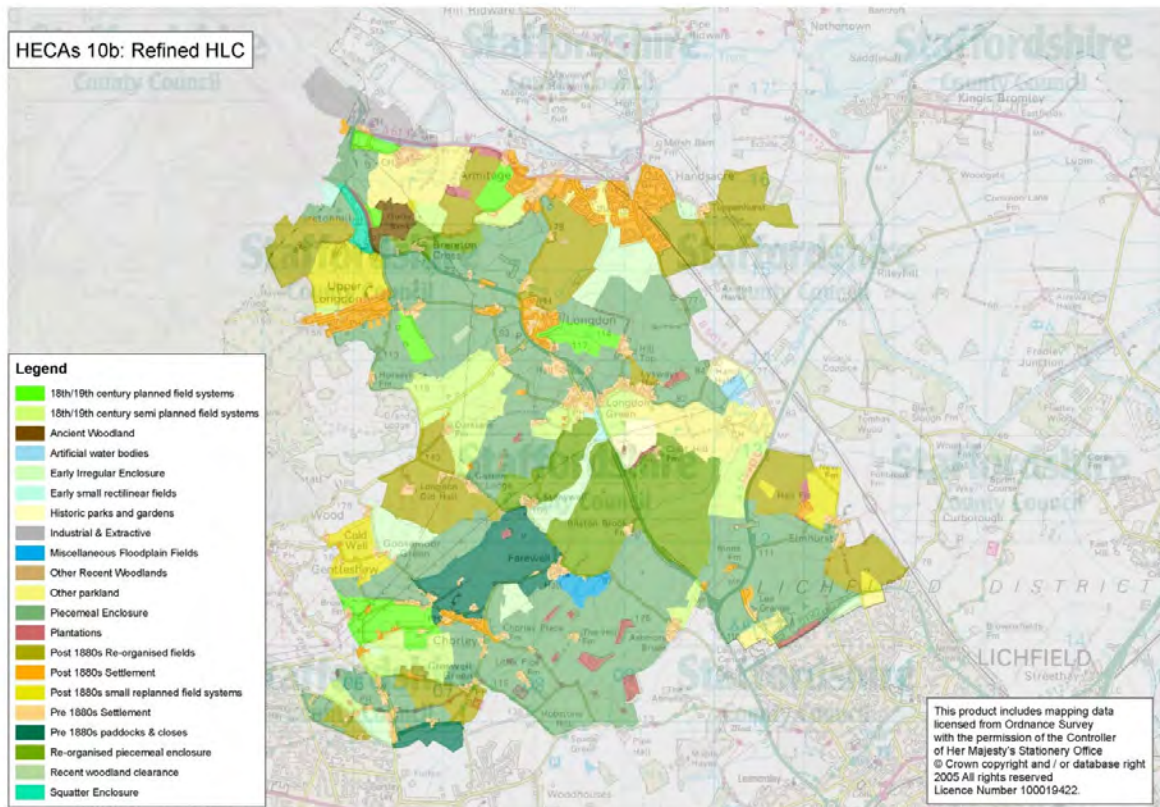
Map 25: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 10a



Map 26: Refined HLC map for HECA 10a

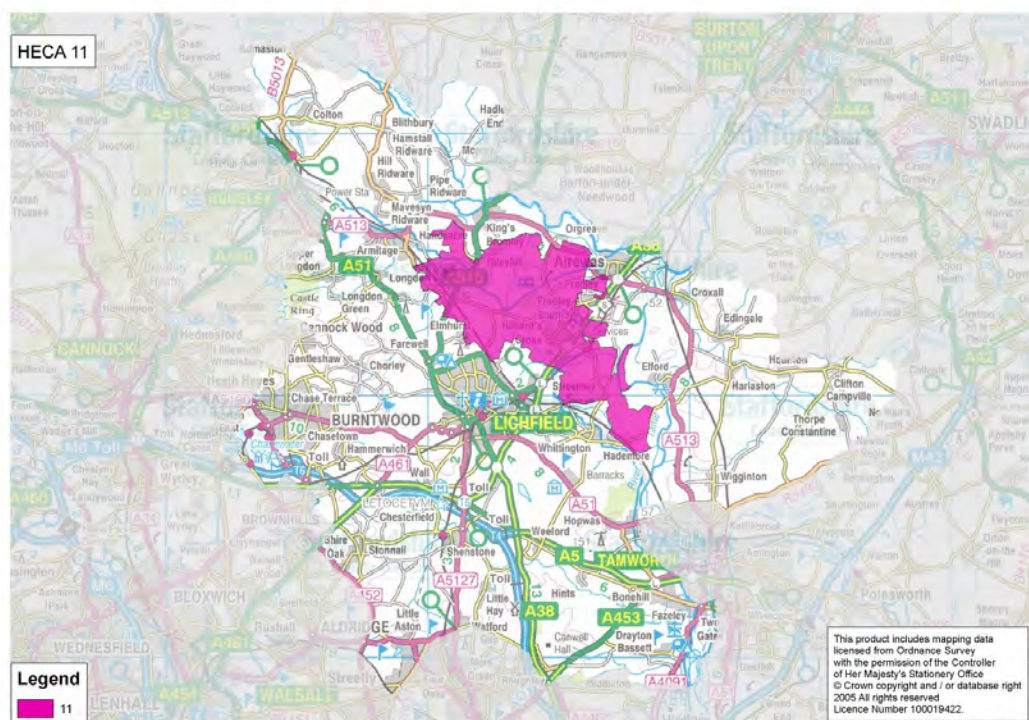


Map 27: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 10b



Map 28: Refined HLC map for HECA 10b

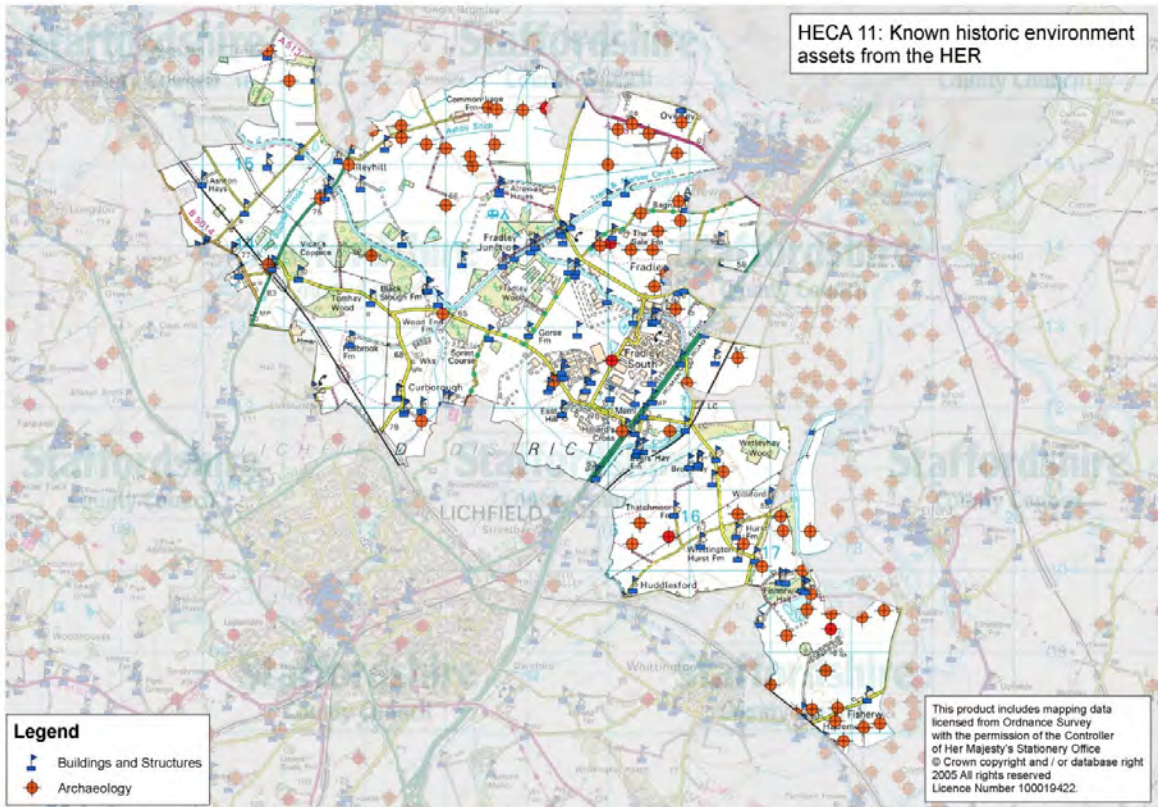
4.5 HECA 11 (see map 29 &31)



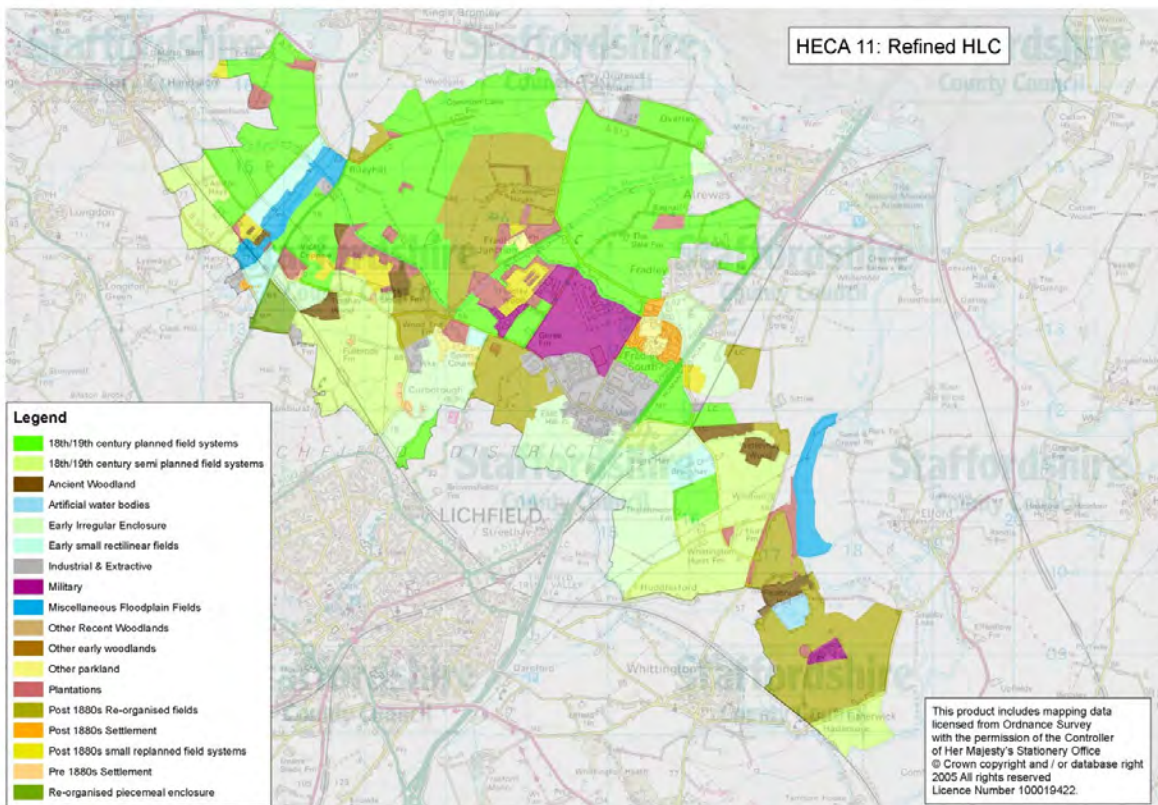
Map 29: HECA 11

- 4.5.1 This character area straddles two landscapes. To the north it lies within the river valleys and to the south the land rises up towards the heart of the former Cannock Forest. There is plenty of evidence for later prehistoric activity towards the river valleys becoming less intensive towards the south although less archaeological work has been carried out here to test this.
- 4.5.2 Heath land had dominated much of this character area, which was known as Fradley or Alrewas heath by the 18th century, until it was enclosed in the late 18th and early 19th century.
- 4.5.3 More recent developments within this HECA have included the former RAF Fradley and the modern housing and industrial estates at Fradley South.

HECA	HECZ	Historic Character	Historic Environment Potential
11	LHECZ 7 – 9, 15 -17	Formerly heath and woodland now dominated by field systems created in the 18 th and 19 th century. Dispersed settlement pattern.	Dispersed settlement pattern and historic landscape character survive well. High archaeological potential within the river valleys and around Curborough.



Map 30: HER data (excluding findspots and documentary evidence) for HECA 11



Map 31: Refined HLC map for HECA 11

5. Summary Results of the Lichfield District HECAS

- 5.1 The project was scored on various categories and a total score was calculated (see Appendix 1). The results of the assessment (the total score) for each HECZ can be seen in map 3, where red represents the highest score and dark green the lowest.
- 5.2 The areas to the west of Lichfield and to the north and west of Alrewas have scored quite highly and any development in these zones would need to consider the historic environment as discussed in the individual LHECZ reports. The scores for each of the LHECZ are set out in table 1.

LHECZ		Overall Score
1	Lichfield Historic Core	20
2	Lichfield Suburbs	8
3	North West of Lichfield	13
4	South West of Lichfield	10
5	South of Abnalls Lane to Pipehill	15
6	Land around Streethay	10
7	Brookhay to West Hill	11
8	Curborough	12
9	Fradley Airfield & Fradley South	8
10	Alrewas Historic Core	17
11	Alrewas 20 th Century Suburbs	7
12	Trent Valley floodplain north of Alrewas	19
13	Field Systems West of Alrewas	13
14	Trent Valley	10
15	Field Systems East of Fradley South	15
16	Field Systems West of Fradley & Alrewas Hayes	18
17	Field Systems South of Fradley	11
18	Fradley	13
19	Tame Valley	13
20	North east of Alrewas	10
21	Freeford	11

Table 1: LHECZ scores

- 5.3 The highest scores for around Burntwood were largely concentrated to the north of the settlement and to the east, particularly around the Edial/Woodhouses area and including Gentleshaw Common and the squatter enclosures on its eastern side. Any development within these zones would need to consider the historic environment as discussed in the individual BHECZ reports. The scores for each of the Burntwood zones (BHECZs) are shown in table 2.

BHECZ		Overall Score
1	Gentleshaw Common	13
2	East of Gentleshaw Common	15

3	South West of Gentleshaw Common	11
4	Chasewater	12
5	South of Burntwood	8
6	Chasetown Industrial Zone	8
7	Hammerwich	12
8	North East of Burntwood	12
9	North of Burntwood	16
10	Edial and Woodhouses	17
11	Burntwood	10
12	East of Hammerwich	11

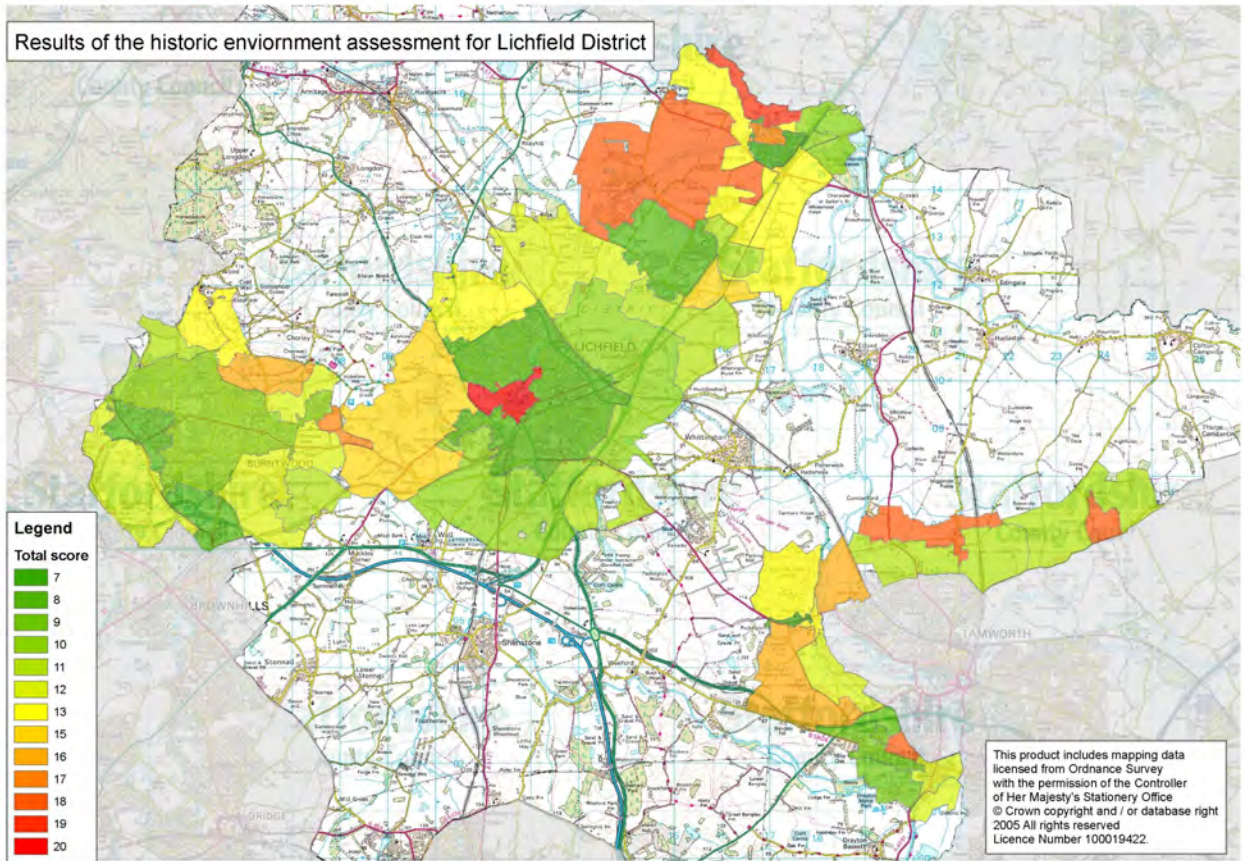
Table 2: BHECZ scores

5.4 At Tamworth the higher scores were located to the west and north of the town, particularly associated with the small settlements of Statfold and Wigginton. Within Fazeley the area around the Bonehill Mill complex also scored highly, whilst the areas to the west of Fazeley and Bonehill have a relatively low scoring. Any development within these zones would need to consider the historic environment as discussed in the individual THECZ reports; however the Bonehill Mill complex may offer opportunities for Green Infrastructure planning as an area of particular historic interest. The scores for each of the Tamworth zones (THECZs) are shown in table 3.

THECZ		Overall Score
1	Hopwas Hayes Wood	15
2	Coleshill Road Wetlands	12
3	North of Bonehill	9
4	North West of Fazeley	16
5	South of Hopwas	12
6	Tame Valley East of Hopwas	16
7	North of Coton Green, Tamworth	11
8	Wigginton	18
9	East of Wigginton	11
10	Fields around Statfold and South of Syerscote	11
11	Statfold	18
12	West of Hopwas	7
13	Hopwas	13
14	Bonehill	9
15	Fazeley	12
16	Drayton Manor Park	9
17	Bonehill Mill Complex	18
18	West of Fazeley	9

Table 3: THECZ scores

Please see the individual HECZ for each project area for more detail.



Map 32: The total scores for the HEA

6. Glossary

Anglo-Saxon	Period dating between 410 AD and 1065 AD
Assart	A piece of forest land converted into arable *
Bronze Age	Period dating between 2350 BC to 701 BC
Cropmark	Monument visible as a mark in standing crops, parchmarks or soilmarks, but where no subsurface deposits have been proven eg by excavation or other ground disturbance *
Earthwork	Monument existing as an upstanding earthwork, ditch or artificial watercourse, or as a low stone built feature *
Iron Age	Period dating between 800 BC to 42 AD
Staffordshire HER	Staffordshire Historic Environment Record (held by Staffordshire County Council)
Lodge	A small building, often inhabited by a gatekeeper, gamekeeper or similar *
Mansio	A type of Roman lodging house, frequently sited near the town gate *
Mesolithic	Period dating between 10,000 BC to 4,001 BC
Moat	A wide ditch surrounding a building, usually filled with water *
Neolithic	Period dating between 4,000 BC to 2,351 BC
Open Field	An area of arable land with common rights after harvest or while fallow. Usually without internal divisions (hedges, walls or fences).*
Palaeolithic	Period dating between 500,000 BC to 10,001 BC
Roman	Period dating between 43 AD to 409 AD
VCH	Victoria County History for Staffordshire – copies located within the Staffordshire HER
Warren	An area used for the breeding and rearing of rabbits *
Warrener	The keeper of the Warren

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Appendix 1: The scoring of Historic Environment Character Zones (adapted from Essex County Council)

Essex County Council based scoring upon the system used by the English Heritage Monuments Protection Programme (MPP). The system was adapted to consider broader landscapes.

They used the following seven criteria:

- Diversity of historic environment assets
- Survival
- Documentation
- Group Value Association
- Potential
- Sensitivity to change
- Amenity Value

Each of the criteria has been scored for each of the zones with a rating of 1, 2 and 3, with 1 being the lowest.

Survival

This relates to the state of completeness of the range of HEAs within the character zone. The zone may be relatively well preserved or it may have been disturbed by particular land-use/development and/or erosion. Even where such factors have adversely affected assets within a zone there may be potential for well preserved but deeply buried deposits.

1 = Zone extensively disturbed by for instance quarrying or development. The likelihood is that whilst many of the assets have been disturbed or destroyed there is the potential for survival in some areas or of some types of asset.

2 = Zone has moderate disturbance, but there are few known assets, or where there are many known assets but there has been some adverse effects from, for instance, development, quarrying or ploughing.

3 = Zone contains little disturbance and known assets which are well preserved.

Potential

The potential is assessed with reference to the expected average circumstances within the zone. The score considers the nature of the HEAs based on current evidence and indicates the likelihood of further assets being present.

1 = The potential for surviving HEAs within the zone has been significantly reduced e.g. by quarrying or development

2 = There are limited known HEAs however the landscape has not been significantly disturbed and current lack of knowledge is probably the result of lack of investigation rather than poor preservation

3 = Current evidence and little disturbance indicates that a range of high quality assets probably survive within the zone or there is a high potential for deeply stratified deposits to survive.

Documentation

The level of documentation for a zone reflects the extent of investigations that have taken place. HER data includes grey literature, find spots, the Domesday survey and broad brush county wide surveys, such as that on the Historic Farmsteads. Other surveys are separated out as having only been undertaken in certain parts of the county or within certain landscape types.

1 = Little or no documentation

2 = A range of documentation including field work, historical documentation, aerial photography

3 = A wide range of documentation

Diversity of historic environment assets

This indicates the range of HEAs within the zone, which may be chronologically diverse. A zone with many would score highly.

1 = Very few known assets or many assets of a limited range of categories

2 = Contains a range of assets of different date and character

3 = Contains a wide range of assets both in character and date.

Group Value Association

Two forms of association are considered either HEAs of a similar nature or HEAs of a similar date.

1 = Contains few HEAs of a similar date or nature

2 = Contains a limited range of HEAs which are related or of a similar date

3 = Contains a range of HEAs which are related such as settlements with well preserved field systems.

Amenity Value

Relates to the actual and/or potential amenity value of the historic environment of the zone and this is indicated in the description box. If there are specific elements which would warrant enhancement these are also indicated in the description box. The score may relate to uniqueness, historical associations, key landmarks, good access, and interest for visitors and educational value etc.

1 = The historic environment does not lend itself to display or visitor attraction. Current knowledge gives limited potential for the historic environment to play a significant role in creating a definable and promotable identity to the area.

2 = The historic environment could or does help to define a sense of place for the area. There may be specific elements which are, or could be, promoted such as woodlands, castles etc.

3 = The historic environment plays or could play a key role in the zones sense of place for the local people and visitors. Contains assets which, are or could be, promoted for the benefit of local people and visitors.

Sensitivity to Change

Each HEZ is assessed with regard to the sensitivity of the area to medium to large scale development; specifically housing expansion. The score is an indication of the vulnerability of the HEAs within the zone to this type of change. A lack of sensitivity should not be taken as an indication that no historic environment mitigation would be required to accommodate development.

1 = The historic environment of the zone could accommodate medium to large scale development; however, specific HEAs may suffer adverse effects.

2 = Medium to large scale development is likely to have a moderate impact on the historic environment character of the zone.

3 = The zones historic environment is highly sensitive to medium to large scale development.