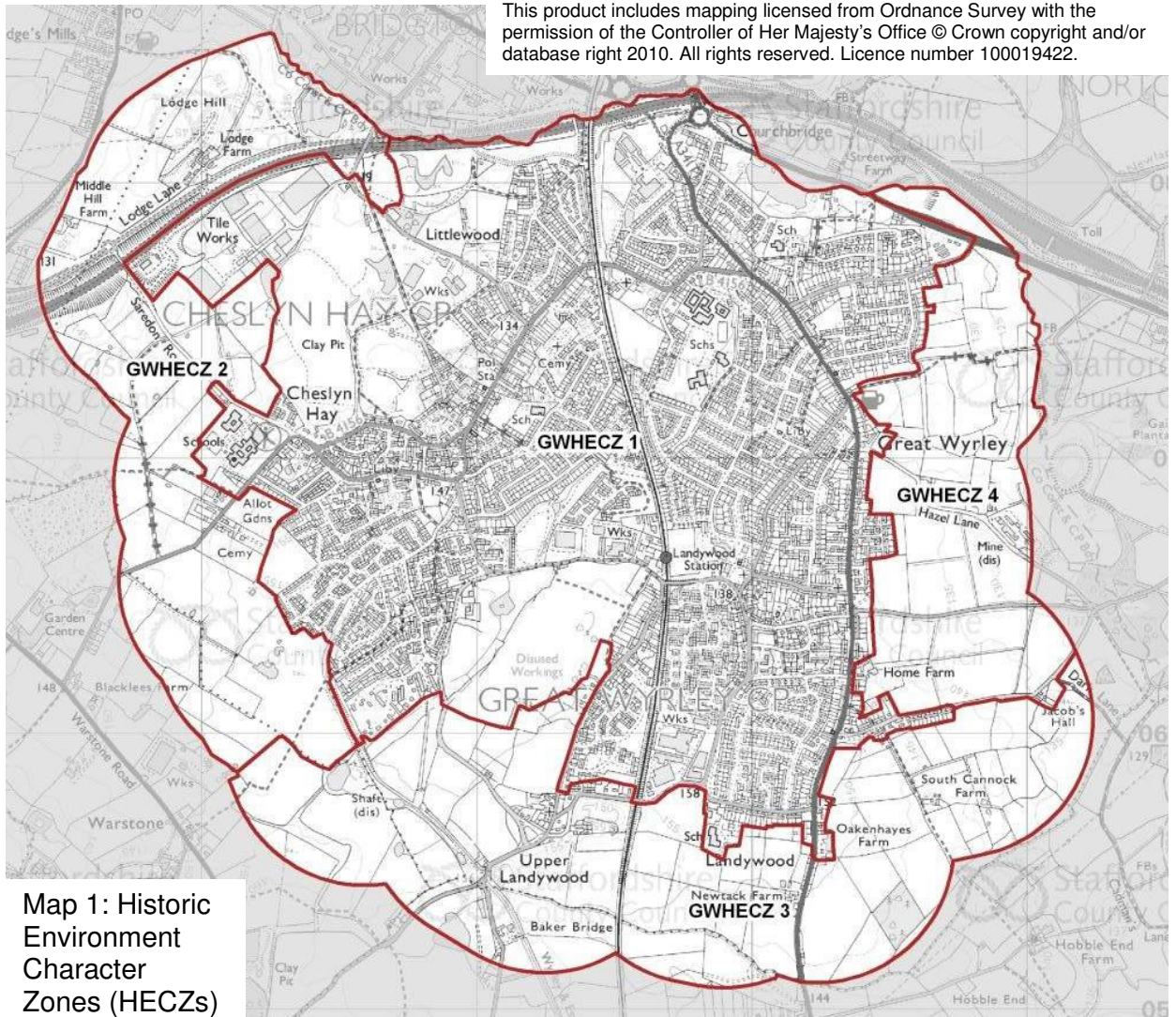


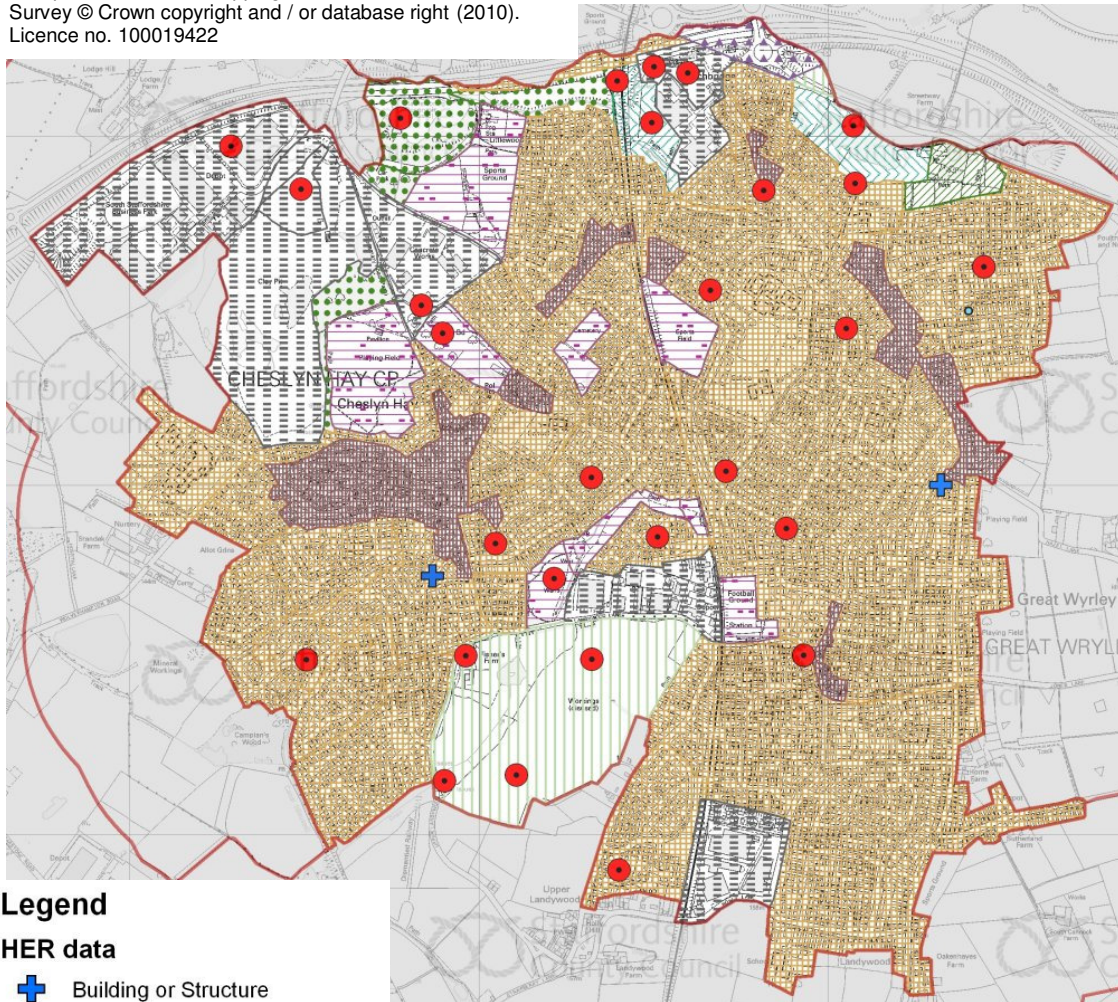
APPENDIX 3: Great Wyrley (incorporating Cheslyn Hay) and Huntington

1. Great Wyrley



1.1 GWHECZ 1 – Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay

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Legend

HER data

- + Building or Structure
- Monument

HCTs

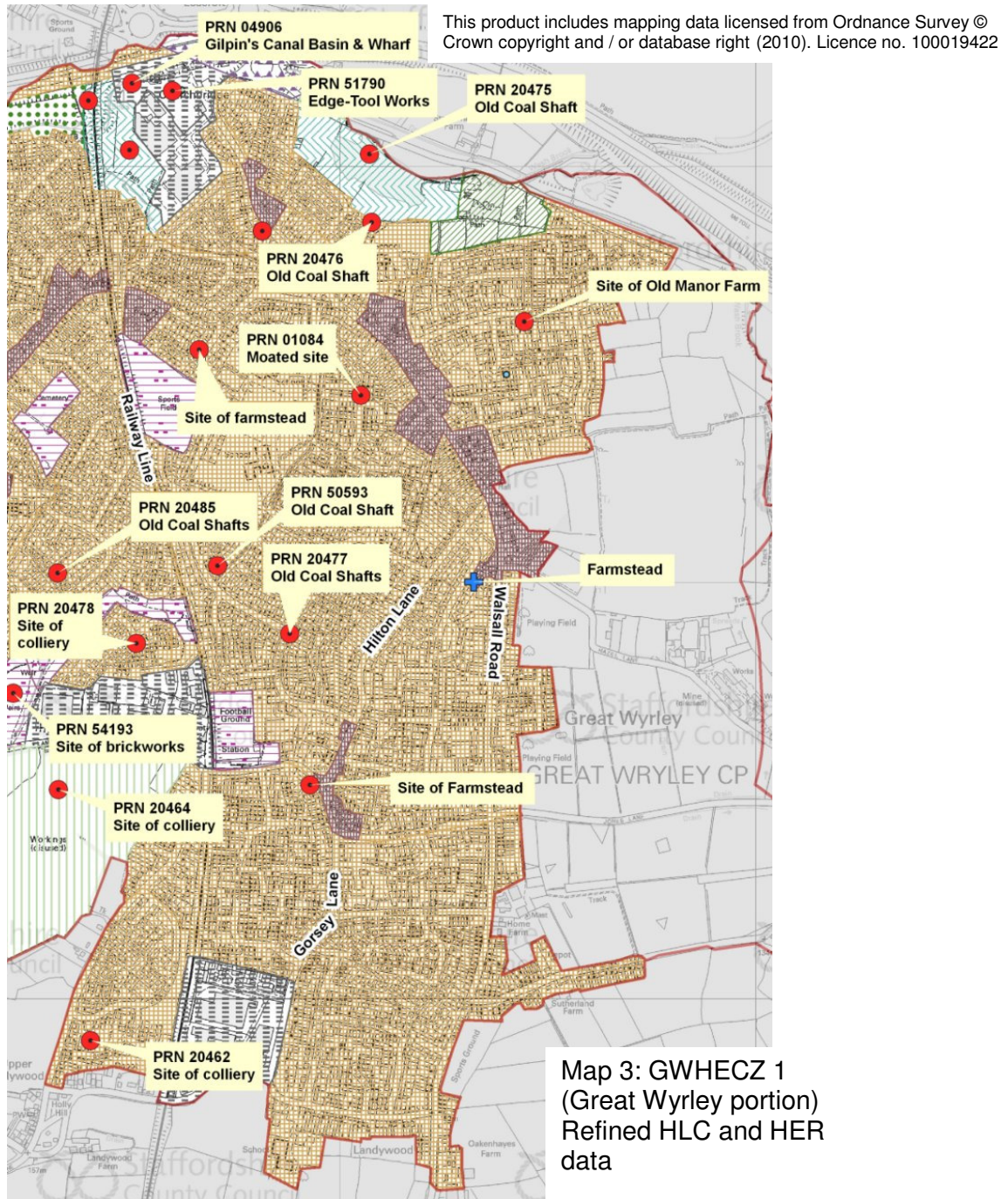
- ▲▲▲ Communications
- Industrial and Extractive
- ▨ Miscellaneous Floodplain Fields
- ▨ Other Parkland
- ▨ Piecemeal Enclosure
- Plantations
- ▨ Post 1880s Settlement
- ▨ Post War Amalgamated Fields
- ▨ Pre 1880s Settlement
- HE CZ boundary

Map 2: GWHECZ 1
Refined HLC and
HER data

1.1.1 Statement of heritage significance

The zone is dominated by 20th century housing expansion, industrial sites and parks (cf. map 2). The zone had lain within Cannock Forest by the end of the 11th century where Forest Law had been imposed by William the Conqueror.

Great Wyrley (east of railway line)



'Wyrley' and Norton Canes are recorded in Domesday Book (1086) as being one of the estates belonging to the Bishop of Lichfield's manor¹. It is described as 'waste' within Domesday which probably represents an acknowledgment of the new legal status of these estates which now fell within the forest (cf. 5.3 in main report)². It is unclear which Wyrley the entry is referencing and the estate may have covered both Great and Little Wyrley

¹ Hawkins and Rumble 1976: 2: 16

² Studd 2000: 127

(the latter lying beyond the project area boundary). There is evidence for medieval settlement associated with both villages. A moated site was located to the west of Walsall Road, which has been suggested as the site of a manor house belonging to William de la More in circa 1300³.

Further evidence of medieval occupation survives in the surrounding field systems (cf. GWHECZ 3) and those which now lie beneath the housing to the west of Walsall Road. The morphology of these fields as shown on late 19th century Ordnance Survey maps suggests that they had originated as medieval open fields. These large hedge-less fields were usually farmed on a rotational basis between arable, fallow and other crops. The fields were divided into strips which individual landholders held across the various fields. They were enclosed piecemeal during the post medieval period as the landholders sought to consolidate their holdings. The open fields were probably created as illegal assarts within Cannock Forest during the 12th and 13th centuries. Great Wyrley was one of the settlements claiming disafforestation from Cannock Forest (for the repeal of Forest Law) in 1300 suggesting settlement had occurred in this area by that date⁴. The disafforestation had probably been granted by the mid 14th century⁵.

Dispersed settlement continued to be a feature of the landscape of Great Wyrley into the early 20th century. The expansion of settlement across this area of the zone may be associated with coal and ironstone mining which was occurring in Great Wyrley by 1642⁶. There are four concentrations of 'Pre 1880s Settlement' which lie in the eastern half of the zone which can be linked to settlement indicated on Yates' map (1775). All of these settlements are referred to as Great Wyrley on 19th century maps. The nature of dispersed settlement was reinforced by the scattered farmsteads. The original core of the settlement may be that area of 'Pre 1880s Settlement' lying adjacent to the moated site. The historic buildings surviving within the areas of 'Pre 1880s Settlement' shown on map 3 are mostly of 19th or early 20th century date. Other individual historic buildings may survive within the later housing expansion.

The placename 'Churchbridge' has medieval origins and probably relates to a road bridge carrying Watling Street over the Wyrley/Wash Brook⁷.

Further research may be able to elucidate the origins of Great Wyrley more clearly.

³ Staffordshire HER: PRN 01084

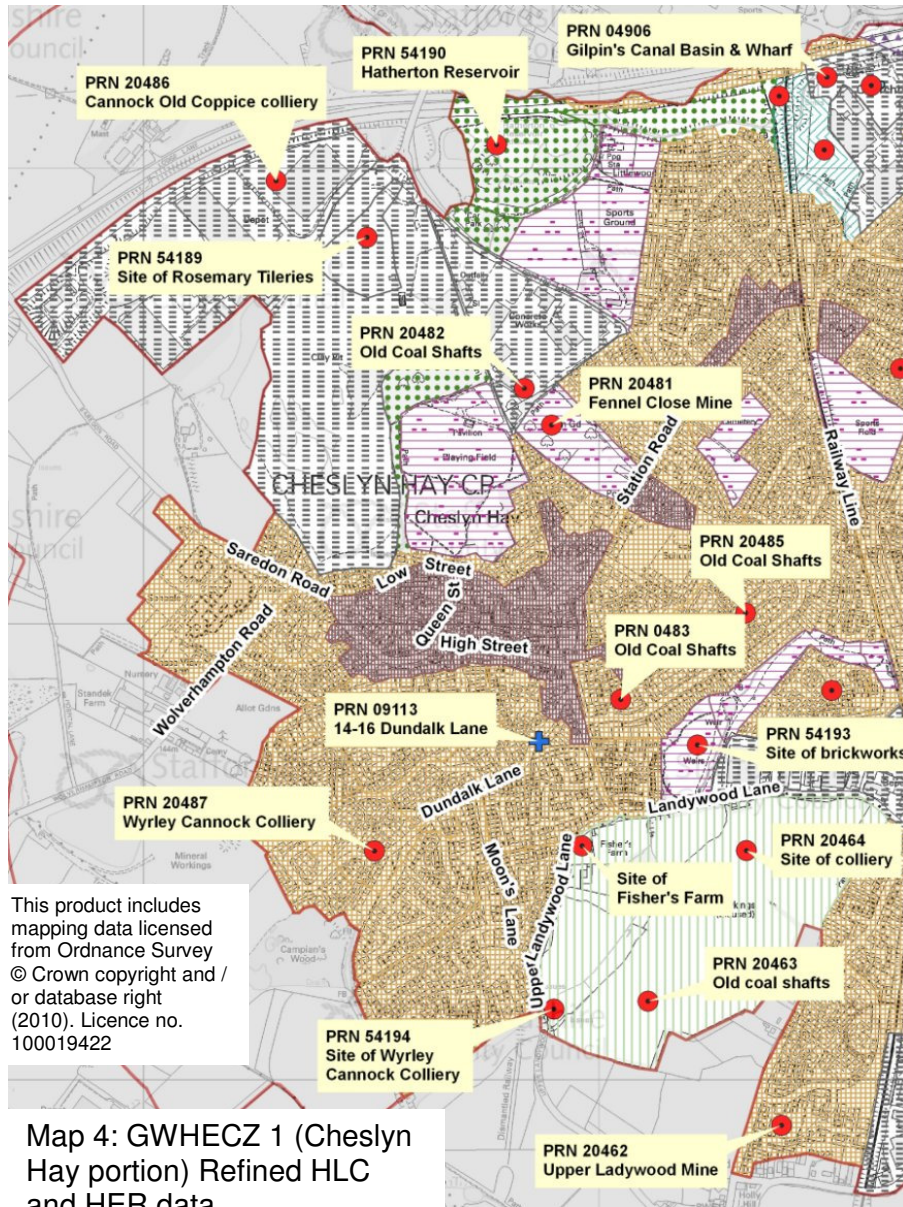
⁴ Cantor 1968: 46 and fig. 2

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Taylor 1967: 73-4

⁷ Horowitz 2005: 193; Staffordshire HER: PRN 01086

Cheslyn Hay (west of railway line)



Map 4: GWHECZ 1 (Cheslyn Hay portion) Refined HLC and HER data

The origins of Cheslyn Hay are also obscure although the landscape history provides some clues. During the medieval period the placename 'Cheslyn Hay' referred to one of the seven 'hays' which lay within Cannock Forest. The hays were districts which were managed for game, woodland and pasture by bailiffs on behalf of the King; after the 14th century it appears that the hays were the last remaining vestiges of the once much larger Cannock Forest⁸. The precise area covered by Cheslyn Hay in the later medieval period is unknown, but it seems likely that the modern settlement once lay within its bounds. The field systems within GWHECZ 2 (see below) and the landscape of 'Industrial and Extractive' and 'Post 1880s Settlement' to the north of the historic core of Cheslyn Hay suggest that they were newly created in the late 18th century following an Act of Enclosure (1797) (cf. Map 4). This landscape

⁸ Cantor 1968: 46

may have been laid out along geometric lines by surveyors out of the remains of Cheslyn Hay (cf. '18th/19th century field systems' on Map 5 in GWHECZ 2). The late 18th century 'planned enclosure' landscape continues to be legible within this zone, despite the 20th century expansion, in the straight alignment of several roads: Wolverhampton Road, Saredon Road and Station Road.

The historic core of Cheslyn Hay is focused upon an area around High Street, Low Street and Queen Street (cf. Map 4) which was known as 'Wyrley Bank' by at least the late 17th century; the settlement was called Cheslyn Hay by the late 19th century⁹. These three lanes, all of which are shown on Yates' map (1775), retain their original winding course despite the expansion of settlement across this area through infilling and the re-development of older properties during the mid to late 20th century. However, this historic core retains 19th century red brick houses, some of which have been rendered, which are probably associated with the development of industry during this period. Similar houses also survive on Cross Street whose straight course suggests a later date of origin. This settlement probably originated as squatter settlement within Cheslyn Hay and was probably associated with coal and ironstone mining which was occurring in this area by the 1630s¹⁰.

Settlement was also located on Dundalk Lane, the northern portion of Moon's Lane, Upper Landywood Lane and Landywood Lane by at least the late 18th century¹¹. That some of this settlement originated in the 17th century is confirmed by the survival of a row of Grade II Listed cottages of this date¹². Timber framing survives to the rear of these properties which have seen early 18th century and late 20th century alterations. Expansion begins in the early 20th century along Station Street where red brick semi-detached houses survive. By the early 1960s settlement housing expansion had concentrated at Littlewood. The main period of expansion occurred in the last three decades of the 20th century.

Industry

As noted above coal and ironstone mining formed part of the economy of the zone by the mid 17th century, albeit on a subsistence scale. By the late 19th century coal mining formed an important component in the local economy. Numerous coal shafts had been opened across the zone by the late 19th century, the majority of which were already disused (cf. maps 14 to 16). The site of the earliest coal mines currently identified lie either side of the railway line in the area of Tennscore Avenue and Wardles Lane (cf. maps 14 to 16)¹³. These coal mines were operating by the mid 19th century and the industry appears to have expanded from this period onwards judging from the numerous 'old coal shafts' marked on the late 19th century Ordnance Survey maps. Many of these pits were probably shallow workings operated by small companies¹⁴. ; There was an expansion of deep coal mining across the Cannock Chase coalfield during the 1870s which included the Cannock Old

⁹ Horowitz 2005: 188

¹⁰ Taylor 1967: 73-4

¹¹ Yates' 1775

¹² Staffordshire HER: PRN 09113

¹³ Staffordshire HER: PRN 20485 and PRN 20477

¹⁴ Taylor 1967: 77

Coppice colliery opened by Joseph Hawkins & Sons to the north east of Cheslyn Hay¹⁵. Two further collieries were operational within the zone during the late 19th century; Wyrley Cannock Colliery and the Great Wyrley Colliery (cf. maps 14 to 16)¹⁶. The Wyrley Cannock colliery had two pits, nos 1 and 8, within the zone in the late 19th century both of which had closed by the turn of the 20th century¹⁷. However, the No. 1 pit had re-opened as Great Wyrley Colliery Plant no. 2 by the 1920s¹⁸. The physical remains of the coal mining industry were still legible within the landscape in the early 1960s, but have since largely disappeared under housing¹⁹.

Coal mining in this area was facilitated by a communications network which included two canals. The Wyrley Bank Branch of the Wyrley & Essington Canal lay to the south of the zone and was constructed in the 1850s²⁰. To the north ran the Hatherton Branch of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal which was constructed circa 1860 and was fed by the contemporary Hatherton Reservoir²¹. Neither of the canals survives, but the reservoir, although reduced in size, is retained as a local nature reserve²². The canals were connected to various collieries and to the main line railway, which crosses the zone on a north-south alignment, via various tramways and mineral railways (cf. map 2). The tramways also connected different pits belonging to the colliery companies as was the case of the tramway linking Wyrley Cannock Colliery No. 1 to Wyrley Cannock Colliery No. 2 (cf. maps 14 to 16).

A tramway linked Gilpin's Basin on the Hatherton Branch canal to Gilpin's Edge Tool Works at Churchbridge in the north of the zone²³. The edge tool works was opened prior to the construction of the canal in the early 19th century. The Gilpin family also had an interest in the coal mining industry, which in part fuelled the works²⁴. Edge tool works were a specialised industry within this part of Staffordshire; further edge tool works were established within Bridgtown to the north of the project area (in Cannock Chase District)²⁵. Archaeological investigations in advance of the M6 toll road and housing revealed the remains of both a canal basin with associated railway interchange and the early to mid 19th century edge tool works (comprising brick walls, yard areas and forging hearth flues)²⁶. Railway tracks were revealed leading from the canal basin to the edge tool works. The canal and railway were constructed in the mid 19th century and are testimony to the influence of the Gilpin family who presumably championed its construction to serve their mines and factory as well as identifying their physical relationships²⁷.

¹⁵ Taylor 1967: 82; Powell 2008b: 23; Staffordshire HER: PRN 20486

¹⁶ Staffordshire HER: PRN 20487, PRN 54194 and PRN 20478

¹⁷ Staffordshire HER: PRN 20487 and PRN 54194

¹⁸ Staffordshire HER: PRN 20487

¹⁹ Hunting Surveys Ltd 1963: Run 15: 6000

²⁰ Clark 1967: 313-314; Staffordshire HER: PRN 02226

²¹ Powell 2008b: 23; Powell 2008c: 29-30; Staffordshire HER: PRN 02210 and PRN 54190

²² Powell 2008c: 30

²³ Staffordshire HER: PRN 04906 and PRN 51790

²⁴ Powell 2008a: 35

²⁵ Staffordshire County Council and English Heritage forthcoming: 39 and HUCA 13

²⁶ Powell 2008a: 31 to 35; Birmingham Archaeology 2007

²⁷ Ibid;

Other industries which grew during the 19th century include brick and tiles works. A brickworks existed to the south west of Cheslyn Hay by the late 19th century, although it was disused by the turn of the 20th century²⁸. It is likely that the brickworks operated to supply building material to the growing villages of the coalfield and its wares may survive within the extant historic buildings of both Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley. A tile works known as the Rosemary Tileries had been established to the north of Cheslyn Hay in the late 19th century. The tile works themselves have been demolished but an area of open clay pit survived in 2000 ('Industrial and Extractive' on Map 4).

The industrial expansion of the 19th and early 20th centuries (approximately 3,750 miners were employed within the collieries lying in Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley parishes, undoubtedly encouraged the expansion of the two settlements²⁹.

Watling Street

The line of the Roman Road, Watling Street, crosses the very northern portion of the zone³⁰. There is therefore the potential for archaeological sites to survive which may relate to activity relating to this Roman road.

1.1.2 Heritage values:

<p>Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive associated with the historic settlement within the zone as well as with the medieval moated site. There is also the potential for archaeological deposits to survive associated with the Roman road. Such evidence would contribute significantly to an understanding of the social and economic history of both Great Wyrley and the later settlement at Cheslyn Hay. The potential for survival may be reduced by subsequent development. Further research into the industrial heritage of the zone, although much of this has disappeared beneath housing, would also contribute to complete the understanding of the social and economic history of the two settlements.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<p>Historical value: The legible heritage assets comprise the historic buildings, including the Grade II Listed 17th century cottages, as well as the undesignated red brick 19th and early 20th century properties identified above. There are clear links between the development of the settlement and the industry upon which the local economy relied particularly during the 19th and 20th centuries. The winding lanes of the original settlement at Cheslyn Hay have also been retained within the later development. These aspects of the historic environment all contribute to the local character and allow the two settlements development to be read within the built environment despite subsequent change.</p>	<p>Medium</p>

²⁸ Staffordshire HER: PRN 54193

²⁹ Taylor 1967: figure facing page 79

³⁰ Staffordshire HER: PRN 05153

Aesthetic value: The overall historic character has been impacted by 20 th and 21 st century changes, but the historic buildings and the lanes particularly within Cheslyn Hay continue to contribute to a sense of place within the project area. The row of 17 th century cottages has been identified as being of national importance (Listed).	Medium
Communal value: Further research would enhance our understanding of the development of settlement within Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay and elucidate their historic social and economic role with Staffordshire.	Low

1.1.3 Recommendations

The scores reflect the fact that although both these settlements have expanded considerably during the mid to late 20th century heritage assets still contribute to the local character, in the form of historic buildings and the road network (the latter being particularly true of Cheslyn Hay). The heritage assets of the zone, both legible and intangible, also make a significant contribution to understanding the social and economic history of not only the local area, but of Staffordshire as a whole. This includes the potential for surviving below ground archaeological deposits, which could contribute to this history. However, further research would strengthen this understanding and enable the role of these two settlements in the history of Staffordshire to be fully appreciated and valued.

- The protection and enhancement of the Listed building and its setting is covered under para. 132 of NPPF³¹. Where development may impact upon designated assets or their settings a Heritage Statement would be required as part of the planning application (para. 128 of NPPF)³², and South Staffordshire's Conservation Section should be approached for their considerations in any pre-application discussions.
- The incorporation of distinctive and well preserved historic buildings onto a local list could assist in the long term conservation of the local distinctiveness of the zone and to the sense of place.
- The promotion of the re-use of historic buildings to contribute to sustainable development. High quality design which is sympathetic to the historic built fabric is the key to retaining the local character of the area and reference should be made to South Staffordshire's Village Design Guide for guidance on the local vernacular and building materials³³.
- The retention of the character of the lanes within the historic core of Cheslyn Hay is also desirable.

³¹ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012. Web: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

³² Ibid.

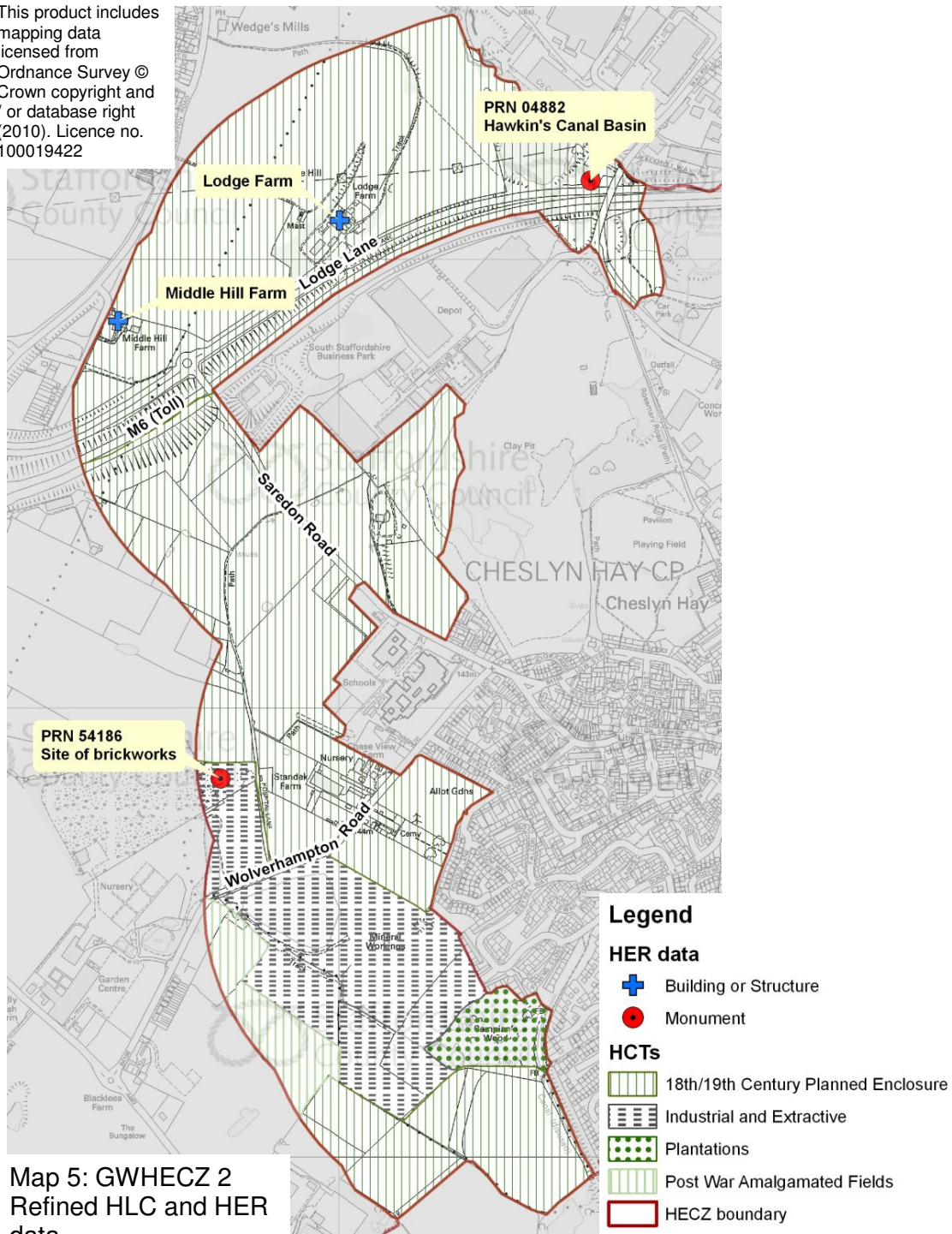
³³ South Staffordshire Council 2009: 66-67 and Section 6 94-130

- There is a low to moderate potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. Mitigation works may be required to fulfil para. 141 of NPPF³⁴.

³⁴ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012. Web:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

1.2 GWHECZ 2 – West of Cheslyn Hay

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Map 5: GWHECZ 2
Refined HLC and HER
data

1.2.1 Statement of heritage significance

The historic landscape character of the zone is dominated by a regular field pattern with straight boundaries associated with straight roads: Wolverhampton and Saredon Roads (cf. '18th/19th century Planned Enclosure' on 17). The regular morphology of these fields strongly suggests that they

were created by surveyors in the late 18th or 19th century. Indeed the fields lying between Middle Hill Farm and the Wolverhampton Road are associated with an Act of Enclosure (1797)³⁵. Prior to the creation of the planned enclosure this area had formed part of Cheslyn Common.

The integrity of the historic landscape has been disrupted by the construction of the M6 Toll which lies on a roughly north east to south west alignment across the zone. Field boundaries have been removed across the zone since the late 19th century, but the overall regular character endures. The greatest area of field boundary loss lies to the north of the M6 Toll in the area of Lodge Hill. However, two historic farmsteads survive within this area: Middle Hill Farm and Lodge Farm, which retain their historic plan form. Middle Hill Farm exhibits a regular courtyard plan form which relates to the industrialisation of farming in the late 18th and 19th century and is consequently probably closely associated with the creation of this field pattern³⁶. Lodge Farm on the other hand exhibits a loose courtyard plan form, which has a long history in England³⁷. It is likely that this site pre-dates the enclosure of this landscape; a lodge is marked in this area on Yates map (1775). A warren is recorded within Cheslyn Hay (in its original form as an area of unenclosed land) in the late 16th century and it is possible that Lodge Farm represents the site of the warrener's lodge³⁸.

Evidence of the 19th century industrial expansion, which was evident in GWHECZ 1 (above), survives to the south of the M6. On the western edge of the zone there lies the site of 19th century brickworks, which had ceased operating by circa 1920s³⁹. The site lies within a large area of late 20th century quarrying (cf. 'Industrial and Extractive' on Map 5). The ponds which lie within Campin's Wood ('Plantation' on Map 5) are probably associated with the Great Wyrley colliery No. 2 plant which lay to the north (cf. GWHECZ 1)⁴⁰. The 'Plantation' was established in the late 20th century⁴¹.

A canal basin and tramway which connected the Cannock Old Coppice Colliery to the Hatherton Branch canal was excavated in advance of the construction of the M6 Toll⁴². The canal basin was known as Hawkins' Basin and was operated by the owners of the colliery, Joseph Hawkins & Son, on a 35 year lease⁴³.

The zone lies approximately 400m to the south of the line of Watling Street Roman road⁴⁴.

³⁵ Staffordshire County Council 2003b

³⁶ Staffordshire HER: PRN 54175

³⁷ Google Maps UK 2010; Lake 2009: 19

³⁸ Greenslade 1959a: 101

³⁹ Staffordshire HER: PRN 54186

⁴⁰ Staffordshire HER: PRN 20487

⁴¹ Hunting Surveys Ltd 1963: Run 15: 6001 (it is not shown on this aerial photograph).

⁴² Powell 2008b: 23-28; Staffordshire HER: PRN 04882 and PRN 54187

⁴³ Ibid: 23

⁴⁴ Staffordshire HER: PRN 05153

1.2.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: Little is currently understood about the prehistoric and Roman periods within the wider area. However, the location of the zone adjacent to the Roman road suggests there is the potential for unknown sites to survive relating to these feature. There is also the potential for both below ground archaeological remains to survive associated with the historic farmsteads. These complexes may also retain information within their built fabric which would indicate their period of origin and function.	Medium
Historical value: The overall regularity of the historic field pattern is still legible within the landscape despite the removal of some of the internal hedgerows since the late 19 th century and the construction of the M6 Toll. The historic farmsteads are also legible. Middle Hill Farm is at least likely to be associated with the surrounding field system.	Medium
Aesthetic value: The overall integrity of the field pattern and roads survives, although this has seen varying impacts across the zone. The M6 Toll road has had a considerable impact upon the integrity to the north of the zone.	Medium
Communal value: Further research would enhance our understanding of the development of settlement within Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay and elucidate their historic social and economic role with Staffordshire. A number of Rights of Way exist which provide access into the historic landscape.	Low

1.2.3 Recommendations

The heritage values, as with GWHECZ 1 above, reflect the fact that although there has been change within this landscape from the mid 20th to the early 21st century the overall integrity of the historic character of planned enclosure survives to be read within the landscape. The surviving historic farmsteads also form an important part of the history of the zone and of the original carnation of Cheslyn Hay as the remains of Cannock Forest which survived until the late 18th century. Lodge Farm in particular may represent the last vestiges of this former landscape within the area of Great Wyrley. The industrial sites, whether tangible or intangible, make a significant contribution to the social and economic history of the local area and Staffordshire more widely.

- The incorporation of distinctive and well preserved historic buildings onto a local list could assist in the long term conservation of the local distinctiveness of the zone and to the sense of place.
- The promotion of the re-use of historic buildings to contribute to sustainable development. High quality design which is sympathetic to the historic built fabric is the key to retaining the local character of the area and reference should be made to South Staffordshire's Village Design Guide for guidance on the local vernacular and building materials⁴⁵.

⁴⁵ South Staffordshire Council 2009: 66-67 and Section 6 94-130

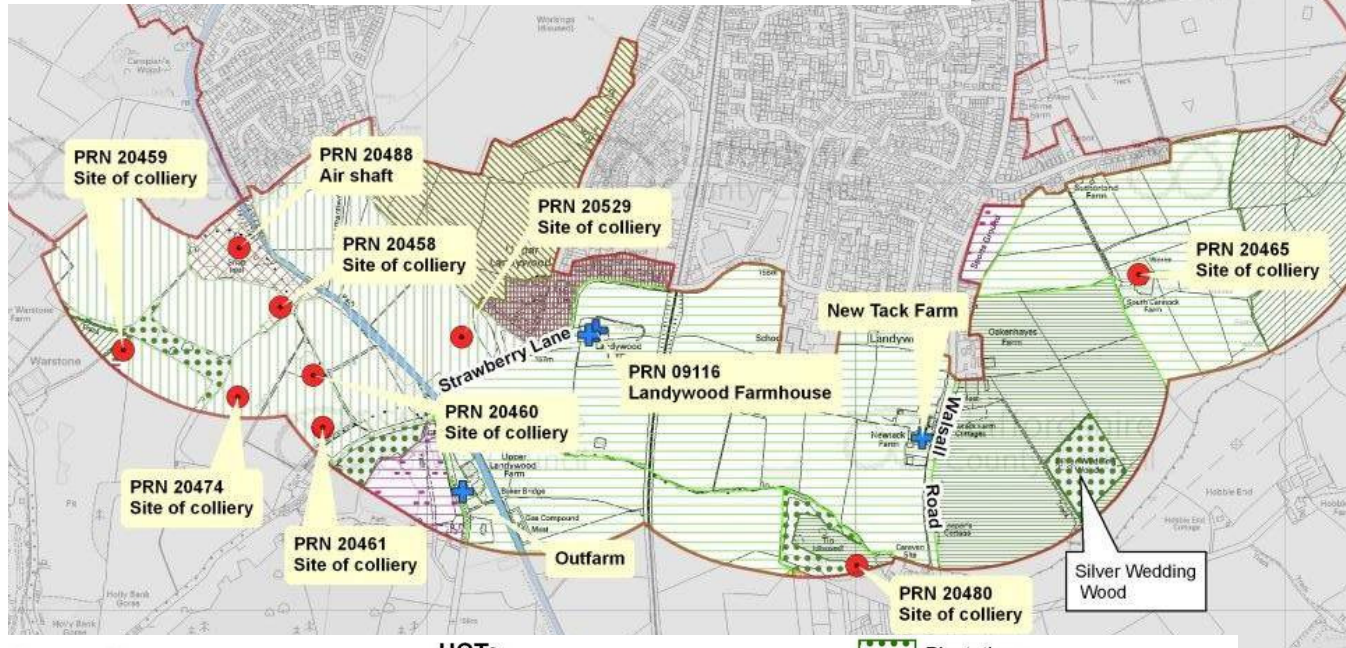
- The planned character of the late 18th/19th century field patterns could be conserved and enhanced through the re-planting of the historic hedge lines to strengthen the historic landscape character of the zone.
- There is a low to moderate potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. Mitigation works may be required to fulfil para. 141 of NPPF⁴⁶.

⁴⁶ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012. Web:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

1.3 GWHECZ 3 - Upper Landywood

Map 6: GWHECZ 3
Refined HLC and
HER data

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Legend

HER data

- Building or Structure
- Monument
- PRN 02226 Wyrley Bank Branch Canal

HCTs

- 18th/19th Century Planned Enclosure
- Early Irregular Enclosure
- Early Small Rectilinear Fields
- Industrial and Extractive
- Other Parkland
- Piecemeal Enclosure

- Plantations
- Post 1880s Settlement
- Post 1880s Small Replanned Enclosure
- Post War Amalgamated Fields
- Pre 1880s Settlement
- Recent Regenerated Unenclosed Land
- HECZ boundary

1.3.1 Statement of heritage significance

The historic landscape character of the zone is dominated by small fields the majority of which are likely to have their origins in at least the post medieval period (HCTs 'Early Irregular Enclosure' and 'Early Small Rectilinear Fields' on map 6). The origins of these fields are currently unclear, but may be associated with assarting within Cannock Forest (SEE MAIN REPORT) during the 11th or 12th century or similar processes during the 16th or 17th century and therefore possibly associated with coal mining (cf. also Landywood Farm below). Further research may be able to elucidate these origins more clearly. However, two historic farmsteads (and an outfarm) have been identified lying within the 'Early Small Rectilinear Fields'. The farmstead, 'New Tack Farm' on map 6 has been identified having been constructed with an 'U' shaped regular courtyard plan form. These plan forms are strongly associated with the industrialisation of farming during the late 18th and 19th century⁴⁷. There has been some alteration to the plan-form, but the 'U' of the historic farmstead survives within a larger complex. The relationship of this farmstead and the

⁴⁷ Staffordshire HER: PRN 54175

historic landscape is currently unclear, but may represent a period of reorganisation of the land ownership during the late 18th and 19th century.

Landywood Farm (cf. map 6) forms part of the small settlement of Upper Landywood. The placename Landywood is first recorded in the mid 17th century⁴⁸. However, the Grade II Listed farmhouse at Landywood Farm has been dated to the early 16th century suggesting that settlement of this area is earlier than the known documentary evidence⁴⁹. The farmstead has been identified as having a regular courtyard plan form. Whilst these plan forms usually suggest a single development of late 18th or 19th century date it is clear that this farmstead developed incrementally as one of the outbuildings was also identified as having timber framing suggesting an early origin⁵⁰. It is likely in this instance that the associated 'Early Small Rectilinear Fields' are associated with the origins of this settlement possibly from the late medieval or early post medieval period.

The extant historic properties of Upper Landywood probably largely date to the 19th century; with a number dating to the early 20th century. They are generally constructed from red brick as is the Methodist Chapel which is also of early 20th century date⁵¹.

To the far east of the zone there is an area of 'Piecemeal Enclosure' which is specifically associated with medieval land use and which forms part of a larger area the majority of which lies beyond the project area. In the medieval period this area had formed part of the medieval open fields probably associated with settlement in Great Wyrley. The open fields were usually farmed on a rotational basis between arable, fallow and other crops. The fields were divided into strips which individual landholders held across the various fields. The 'Piecemeal Enclosure' was created as a result of the landholders agreeing to enclose their strips to form distinct holdings possibly throughout the 16th and 17th centuries. The subsequent field pattern is typified by a distinctive enclosure pattern comprising dog-leg or reverse 'S' field boundaries.

In two areas the field systems have been altered during the mid to late 20th century. To the west the 'Post War Amalgamated Fields' have seen the removal of the majority of the historic field boundaries. This area had also formed part of the part of the Wyrley Cannock Colliery (No. 5); the sites shown on map 6 relate to the individual pit and air shafts⁵². Shafts may survive in the area of the 'Recent Regenerated Unenclosed Land' on map 6. It is currently unclear what the relationship is between the two ponds in this area and the earlier colliery works. The line of a disused tramway, also lying within this field system, is marked on modern maps, although it is not clear to what extent this feature may still be legible on the ground⁵³. The tramway appears to have linked a colliery in GWHECZ 1 to the Wyrley Bank Branch of the Wyrley & Essington Canal. The branch canal was constructed in the 1850s

⁴⁸ Horowitz 2005: 353

⁴⁹ Staffordshire HER: PRN 09116

⁵⁰ Greenslade 1959a: 78

⁵¹ Greenslade 1959a: 81

⁵² Staffordshire HER: PRN 20458, PRN 20459, PRN 20460, PRN 20461 and PRN 20488

⁵³ Staffordshire HER: PRN 54192

and only the section to the south east of Strawberry Lane is still water-filled⁵⁴. Its line ran on a roughly north west to south east alignment through the zone.

Silver Wedding Wood and the surrounding field system ('Plantation' and 'Post 1880s Small Replanned Field Systems' on map 6) were all created in the mid to late 20th century. Prior to this period there were only two field boundaries within the field and these had been established circa 1900.

South Cannock Farm, to the east of the zone was established upon the site of the South Cannock Colliery⁵⁵. This colliery opened in the inter war period.

1.3.2 Heritage values:

<p>Evidential value: There is the potential for both below ground archaeological remains to survive associated with historic settlement within the zone including Upper Landywood and the farmsteads. There is also the potential for the historic buildings to retain information within their built fabric which would indicate their period of origin and function. There is also the potential for above and below ground archaeological remains to survive associated with the various industrial sites and their infrastructure, including the branch canal. The information which could be gained from these sites would significantly contribute to an understanding of the economic and social history of Great Wyrley and Upper Landywood.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<p>Historical value: The legible heritage assets include the line of the branch canal and, potentially, the line of the tramway. Both of these features are associated with the former industrial landscape of the wider area around Great Wyrley, although at least one colliery was located in the zone by the late 19th century, with a further one being established in the inter-war period. The surviving historic field patterns make a significant contribution to the zone some of which are associated with the settlement of Upper Landywood, which includes the Grade II Listed early 16th century Landywood Farmhouse. The relationship between the historic field pattern and Newtack Farm is currently unclear. There are small areas where the field pattern has been impacted by more recent change, but this does not necessarily detract from the contribution of the historic landscape to the sense of place.</p>	<p>High</p>

⁵⁴ Clark 1967: 313-314; Staffordshire HER: PRN 02226

⁵⁵ Staffordshire HER: PRN 20465

Aesthetic value: The integrity of the historic landscape largely survives in the form of the field and settlement pattern. This is enhanced by the presence of the Grade II Listed farmhouse and other surviving historic properties which all have the potential to contribute significantly to the sense of place.	High
Communal value: Further research would enhance our understanding of the development of settlement within Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay and elucidate their historic social and economic role with Staffordshire. Only two Rights of Way exist provide access into the historic landscape.	Low

1.3.3 Recommendations

The assessment of the historic values identifies the survival of the historic field patterns, with their mature hedgerows, as contributing significantly to the sense of place which has its origins in the post medieval period. This includes the Grade II Listed early 16th century Landywood Farm, which strengthens the association between the settlement and the associated historic fields. The well preserved 'Piecemeal Enclosure' is similarly closely associated with the history of Great Wyrley. Historic industrial processes also form part of the history of the zone as they do across the whole of the project area. However, further research would further enhance the understanding and contribution of the historic landscape and built environment to the social and economic history of the local area and Staffordshire more widely.

- The protection and enhancement of the Listed building and its setting is covered under para. 132 of NPPF⁵⁶. Where development may impact upon designated assets or their settings a Heritage Statement would be required as part of the planning application (para. 128 of NPPF) and South Staffordshire's Conservation Section should be approached for their considerations in any pre-application discussions⁵⁷.
- The incorporation of distinctive and well preserved historic buildings onto a local list could assist in the long term conservation of the local distinctiveness of the zone and to the sense of place.
- The promotion of the re-use of historic buildings to contribute to sustainable development. High quality design which is sympathetic to the historic built fabric is the key to retaining the local character of the area and reference should be made to South Staffordshire's Village Design Guide for guidance on the local vernacular and building materials⁵⁸.
- The conservation and enhancement of the historic landscape character, possibly through the re-establishment of historic field boundaries, is desirable.

⁵⁶ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012. Web: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

⁵⁷ Ibid.

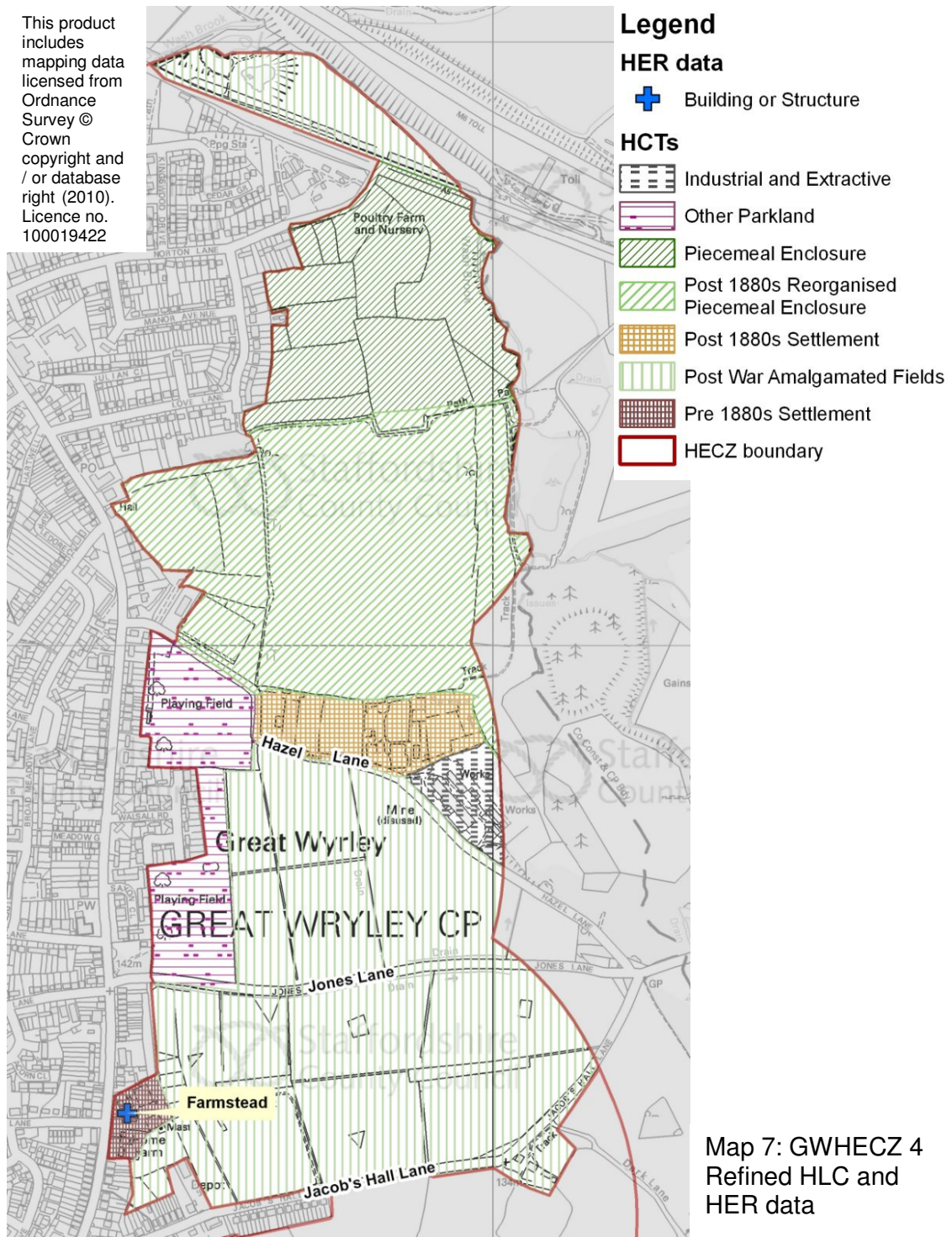
⁵⁸ South Staffordshire Council 2009: 66-67 and Section 6 94-130

- The retention of the lines of the canal and tramway within the landscape are also desirable to enable their contribution to the economic history of Great Wyrley to be appreciated by the community and future generations.
- There is a low to moderate potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. Mitigation works may be required to fulfil para. 141 of NPPF⁵⁹.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

1.4 GWHECZ 4 – East of Great Wyrley

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1.4.1 Statement of heritage significance

The integrity of the historic landscape character is greater to the north where the HCT 'Piecemeal Enclosure' dominates on map 7. This field pattern was probably created in the 16th or 17th century. It is typified by a distinctive enclosure pattern comprising dog-leg field boundaries, which remains

particularly legible within this landscape being associated with mature hedgerows. The agricultural origins of this landscape lie in at least the medieval period as part of an open field arable system associated with Great Wyrley to the west. The fields were divided into strips which individual landholders held across the various fields. These open fields were an essential part of the economy of Great Wyrley during the medieval period.

The remainder of the field systems within the zone (HCTs 'Post War Amalgamated' and 'Post 1880s Reorganised Piecemeal Enclosure') are the result of the removal of the historic field boundaries to create large fields. In the area of 'Post War Amalgamated Fields' in particular there are no surviving hedgerows; they have all been removed since the late 19th century. The modern maps suggest that an extensive drainage system was required to increase productivity across this field system in the mid to late 20th century.

One historic farmstead lies within the zone although it forms as much a part of the landscape of Great Wyrley village (GWHECZ 1) as it does this zone. The farmstead plan has been identified as being a small loose courtyard, which suggests that it developed incrementally. The extant historic farm buildings, including the farmhouse, are built of red brick. It was presumably associated with the probable post medieval irregular field system which had existed to the east prior to the mid to late 20th century.

The line of the Watling Street Roman Road crosses the very northern portion of the zone (cf. map 7)⁶⁰. There is therefore the potential for archaeological sites to survive which may relate to activity relating to this Roman road.

1.4.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive associated with the line of the Roman road and potential settlement and/or other contemporary sites within the zone.	Medium
Historical value: The historic field pattern 'Piecemeal Enclosure' and the historic farmstead are the sole legible heritage assets within the zone. However, the field pattern in particular has a close association within the social and economic history of Great Wyrley and its legibility contributes to the understanding of this history for the community and future generations.	Medium
Aesthetic value: The integrity of the historic landscape has been largely impacted by the removal of hedgerows, with the exception of the area of Piecemeal Enclosure (see recommendations below).	Low
Communal value: Further research would enhance our understanding of the development of settlement within Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay and elucidate their historic social and economic role with Staffordshire. Only one Rights of Way exist provide access into the historic landscape.	Low

⁶⁰ Staffordshire HER: PRN 05153

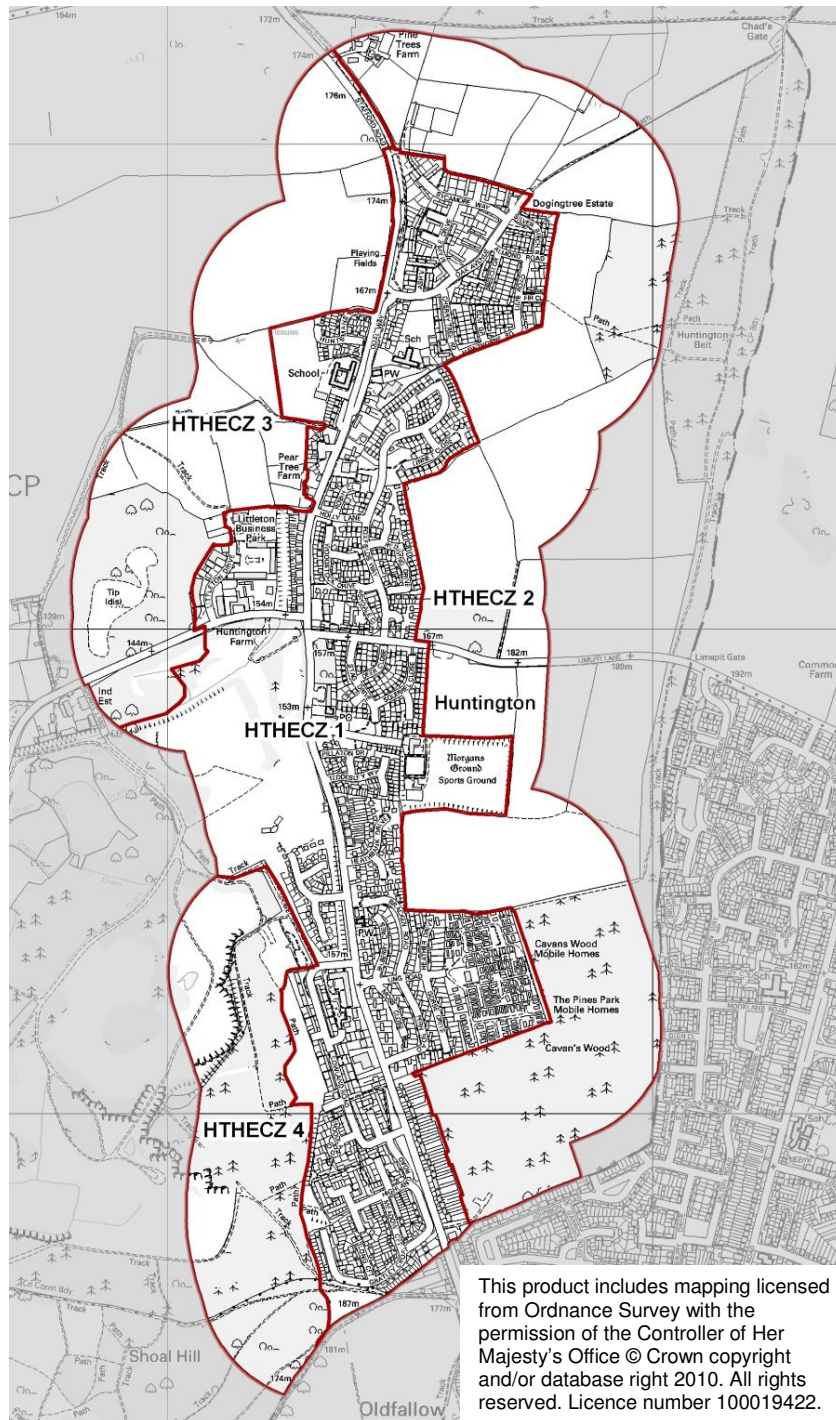
1.4.3 Recommendations

The majority of the zone has been impacted by the removal of historic field boundaries to create a new landscape character which is reflected in the Aesthetic Value above. However, the Evidential and Historic Values reflect the important contribution of the surviving 'Piecemeal Enclosure' to the north of the zone where the integrity of the historic landscape survives in the form of mature hedgerows exhibiting the distinctive reverse 'S' morphology. This field system makes an important contribution to understanding and presenting the history of Great Wyrley.

- It is desirable that the distinctive character of the 'Piecemeal Enclosure' be retained and enhanced to enable the community and future generations to appreciate the contribution of this landscape to the history of Great Wyrley.
- The landscape of the 'Post 1880s Reorganised Piecemeal Enclosure' could be enhanced through the re-planting of the historic hedge lines to strengthen the historic landscape character of the Piecemeal Enclosure to the north and to the zone more generally.
- There is a low to moderate potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. Mitigation works may be required to fulfil para. 141 of NPPF⁶¹..

⁶¹ Ibid.

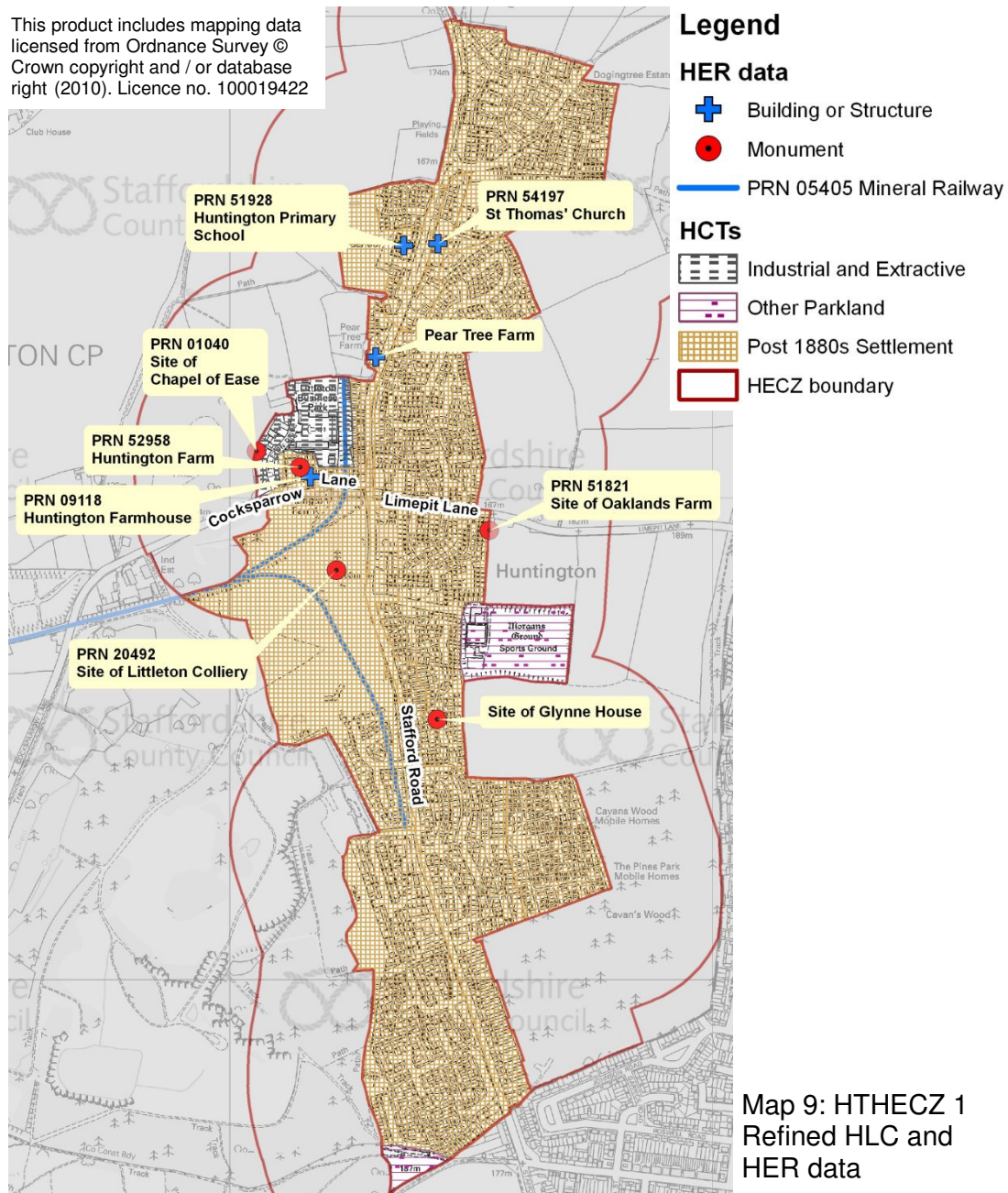
2. Huntington



Map 8: Historic Environment Character Zones (HECZs)

2.1 HTHECZ 1 – Huntington

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2.1.1 Statement of heritage significance

The zone is dominated by housing development which post-dates 1880, although earlier properties survive along both Stafford Road and Cocksparrow Lane including the Grade II Listed Huntington farmhouse (cf. map 9)⁶².

Huntington has been identified as one of the Domesday (1086) manors recorded as 'Estendone'⁶³. The manor belonged to Richard the Forester and

⁶² Staffordshire HER: PRN 09118

⁶³ Hawkins and Rumble 1976: 13: 10; Horowitz 2005: 332

was described as being 'waste'⁶⁴. This description along with the occupation of the lord of the manor suggests that it lay within the limits of Cannock Forest as they were being defined in the mid to late 12th century (cf. 5.3 in main report)⁶⁵. By the late 13th century the manor lay within Teddesley Hay one of the seven 'hays' within Cannock Forest (cf. 5.3 in main report)⁶⁶. The hays were districts which were managed for game, woodland and pasture by bailiffs on behalf of the King; after the 14th century it appears that the hays were the last remaining vestiges of the once much larger Cannock Forest⁶⁷. Those men recorded as either holding land within Huntington or holding the manor itself were involved in some way with the administration of Cannock Forest and later within Teddesley Hay⁶⁸. Settlement is suggested within the documentary sources by 1272 when Huntington is described as a 'vill' and several tenants are recorded as having created illegal assarts in a document of 1300; although it is possible that a settlement existed prior to the Norman Conquest (1066) (cf. 5.3 in main report)⁶⁹. The administrators' of the Hay held a messuage (house and attached land) within Huntington by the 14th century, but which appears to have been abandoned by 1502⁷⁰. By the late 18th century Huntington was a dispersed settlement mostly strung out along the Stafford Road, with some settlement to the west⁷¹. The precise location of the medieval settlement is currently unknown, but Yates' map suggests that the core by the late 18th century was concentrated to the north of the zone where a number of later cottages survive.

The earliest dated property within the zone is the Grade II Listed Huntington farmhouse on Cocksparrow Lane which dates to circa 1700⁷². This forms part of four historic farmsteads which lay within the zone by the mid 19th century of which only two survive; Huntington Farm and Pear Tree Farm both with surviving red brick farm buildings. Three of the four complexes displayed regular courtyard plan forms; Huntington Farm and Oaklands had multi-yards and Pear Tree Farm had a 'U' plan (one barn at the latter has been demolished). These plan forms are strongly associated with the industrialisation of farming during the late 18th and 19th century, although the early date of Huntington farmhouse may suggest some re-planning or re-building of the farm buildings at a later date⁷³. Further archaeological and historic research may determine the origins and function of these farmsteads and their contribution to the social and economic history of Huntington. However, it is likely that to some degree the plan form is associated with the need to increase efficiency following the creation of new farmland around Huntington following an Act of Parliament (1827) to enclose Huntington Common and Huntington Heath⁷⁴.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Studd 2000: 127

⁶⁶ Cantor 1968: 45 fig. 2

⁶⁷ Ibid: 46

⁶⁸ Greenslade 1959b: 75-6

⁶⁹ Ibid: 76

⁷⁰ Ibid

⁷¹ Yates 1775

⁷² Staffordshire HER: PRN 09118

⁷³ Staffordshire HER: PRN 54175

⁷⁴ Greenslade 1959b: 76

The surviving cottages along Stafford Road are currently undated, but are likely to be 19th century in origin⁷⁵. The expansion of the settlement occurred from the late 19th and early 20th centuries following the opening of the colliery to the west of Stafford Road. It was originally opened in the 1870s as the Cannock and Huntington Colliery, but this venture had failed by the 1890s⁷⁶. The colliery was re-opened as the Littleton Colliery in 1897 by Lord Hatherton of Teddesley Hall who owned the land⁷⁷. The colliery finally closed in 1993 and during the first decade of the 21st century the site was in the process of being developed for housing. However, features associated with the colliery continue to make a significant contribution to the local landscape (cf. HTHECZ 3).

Huntington developed as a mining village from the late 19th century and a number of colliers' houses were probably built during this period, although many of these earliest cottages located immediately adjacent to the colliery have since been re-developed. St Thomas' Church was constructed in the 1870s probably to serve the anticipated expanded community⁷⁸. The original Huntington school was constructed in the 1870s under the patronage of Lord Hatherton and he had a new school constructed on the west side of the Stafford Road in 1898⁷⁹. A new school 'Littleton Green Community School' was built in the early 21st century to serve the expanded community and to meet the needs of the children of the new century.

Later colliers' cottages survive within Huntington which contributes to the local distinctiveness of the settlement. Numbers 27a to 66 on the west side of Stafford Road just north of the junction with Cocksparrow Lane were constructed as short terraces of four and pairs of red brick cottages during the first two decades of the 20th century. The properties open onto the street and are brick built with a single band of blue brick embellishment⁸⁰. However, several have been painted or rendered. Further south on the eastern side of Stafford Road numbers 67 to 88 are contemporary and arranged as short terraces of four houses. These properties have small front gardens and two bands of blue brick embellishment to the frontages which have been preserved⁸¹. Ling Road and the six roads leading off it also form a distinct estate which had been constructed during the inter-war period. Only the Dogingtree estate to the north of Huntington had been added to the settlement by the early 1960s; the remaining expansion therefore occurred during the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

The area of 'Industrial and Extractive' within the zone relates to the Littleton Business Park which was developed circa 2000 (map 9).

Huntington lies approximately 4km to the north of the line of the Watling Street Roman road⁸². At present the only evidence for activity of this date from

⁷⁵ Google UK 2010; Stephen Dean pers. comm.

⁷⁶ Staffordshire County Council 2003; Staffordshire HER: PRN 20492

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ Staffordshire HER: PRN 54197

⁷⁹ Greenslade 1959b: 77; Staffordshire HER: PRN 51928

⁸⁰ Google UK 2010

⁸¹ Ibid.

⁸² Staffordshire HER: PRN 05153

within the project area relates to a Roman coin and pottery found during ploughing in the 1950s (within HTHECZ 2)⁸³. Whilst this does not constitute evidence of settlement further finds of Roman date from within 4km of the village, to the north west and south east, means there is the potential for unknown sites to survive. Aerial photographs have also indicated the site of a possible Iron Age farmstead lying approximately 3km to the north of Huntington, which if correct raises the possibility for sites of an earlier period to also survive within the project area⁸⁴.

2.1.2 Heritage values:

<p>Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive associated with the medieval settlement of Huntington, although its precise location has yet to be confirmed through archaeological intervention. There is also the potential for sites of prehistoric or Roman date to survive within the project area. However, the opportunities for survival may have been reduced due by the levels of 20th and 21st century development across the zone. There is good potential for the surviving historic buildings of the zone to contribute to an understanding of the social and economic history of Huntington. The development of the farmsteads and their historic ownership could also particularly contribute to this history.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<p>Historical value: A number of historic properties survive which make a positive contribution to the local distinctiveness of Huntington as both a rural and a former mining settlement (the extant farmsteads and early 20th century houses on Stafford Road). The conservation and enhancement of these assets would benefit a heritage led sustainable economic regeneration within the settlement when such opportunities arise. The zone is predominantly comprised of late 20th and early 21st century housing.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<p>Aesthetic value: The integrity of the historic settlement has been impacted by significant growth during the late 20th and early 21st centuries. A number of historic buildings survive which contribute to the sense this settlement as a former rural and mining village.</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Communal value: The historic buildings contribute to the history of Huntington, but their role in its social and economic history could be better understood through further research. This enhanced understanding would enable the history to be disseminated for the benefit of the community and wider public.</p>	<p>Low</p>

2.1.3 Recommendations:

The zone is largely comprised of late 20th and early 21st century housing and a business park. However, this evaluation of the heritage assets of the zone reveals that there are surviving historic buildings which contribute to the history of the settlement as both a rural and a mining village. Their legibility within Huntington allows the history to be read within the streets, although this could be improved through further research. There is also the potential for below ground archaeological to survive relating to earlier settlement.

⁸³ Staffordshire HER: PRN 02188

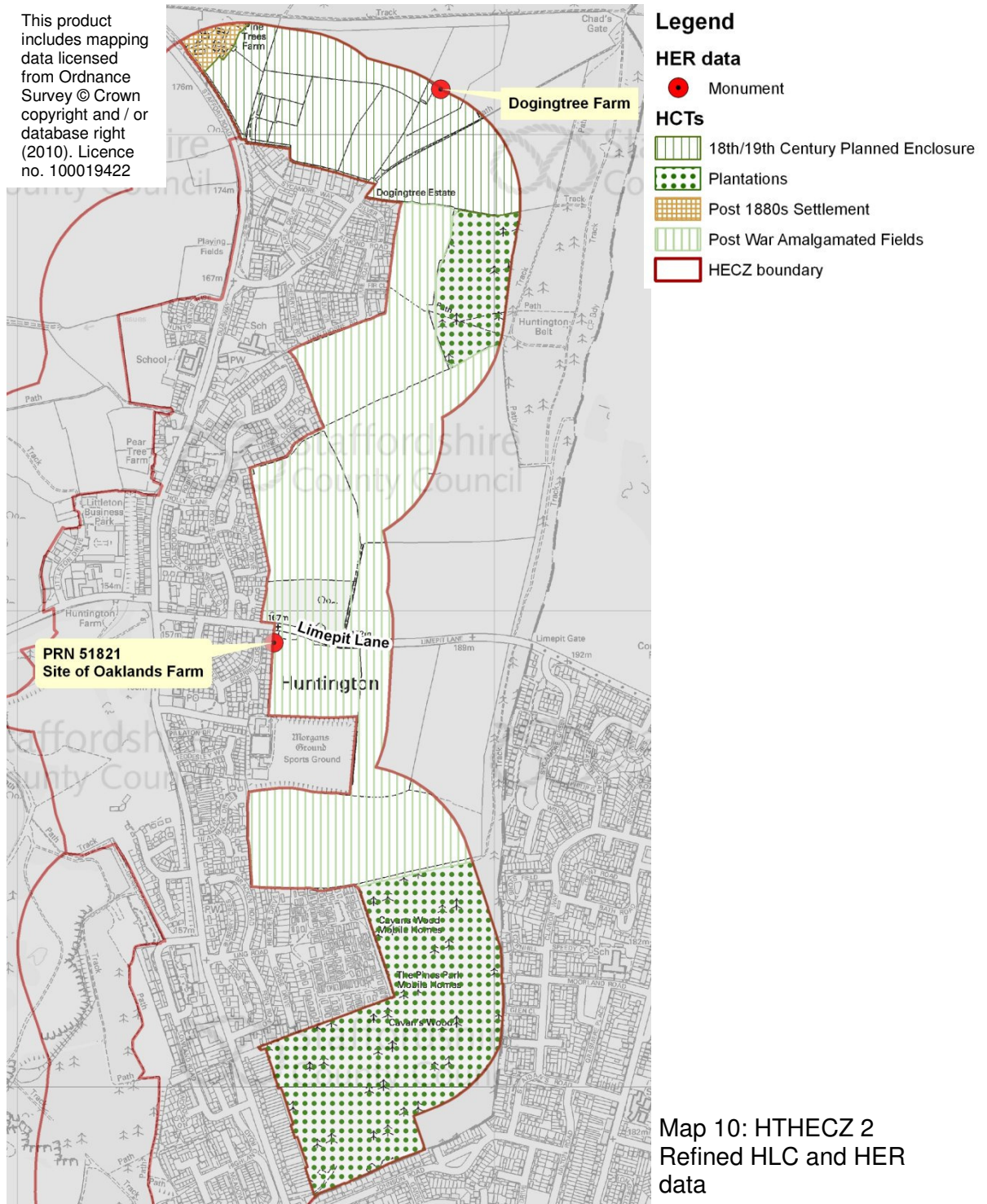
⁸⁴ Staffordshire HER: PRN 04015

- The incorporation of distinctive and well preserved historic buildings onto a local list could assist in the long term conservation of the local distinctiveness of the zone and to the sense of place.
- The promotion of the re-use of historic buildings to contribute to sustainable development. High quality design which is sympathetic to the historic built fabric is the key to retaining the local character of the area and reference should be made to South Staffordshire's Village Design Guide for guidance on the local vernacular and building materials⁸⁵.
- There is a moderate potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. There may also be the requirement for building recording on historic buildings dependent upon the nature of any planning applications. Consequently, archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to fulfil paras. 128 and 141 of NPPF⁸⁶.

⁸⁵ South Staffordshire Council 2009: 50-51 and Section 6 94-130

⁸⁶ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012. Web: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

2.2 HTHECZ 2 – East of Huntington



2.2.1 Statement of heritage significance

The legibility of the historic field patterns of the zone have largely been compromised by the removal of the hedgerows in the period since the late 19th century. Within the area identified as ‘Post War Amalgamated Fields’ on map 10 there are a few surviving mature hedgerows along with in-hedge and

in-field trees which still contribute to the historic landscape character of the zone. The origins of this field system pre-dated the early 19th century; Yates' map (1775) suggests that this landscape was not part of the heathland associated with either Huntington Heath or Cannock Chase to the east. It is possible that the area had formed one of two, possibly three, medieval open fields which are recorded in 17th century documentary sources⁸⁷. Further research may be able to determine their origins more clearly, but if they had formed part of the arable lands belonging to Huntington then the subsequent enclosure probably occurred incrementally in the period between the mid 17th and the mid 18th centuries⁸⁸. The site of Oaklands Farm is located partly within this zone and partly within HTHECZ 1 and at least partly associated with this landscape. The farm was a classic example of a late 18th century model farm, exhibiting a double 'U' regular courtyard plan form. The farm formed part of Lord Littleton's estate who owned land around Huntington (cf. HTHECZ 1 above). The farm was demolished to make way for housing in the late 20th century⁸⁹.

The integrity of the historic landscape character is better preserved to the south and north of this central area; the origins of both of these two areas lies in the early 19th century (HCTs '18th/19th century Planned Enclosure' and 'Plantations' on map 10). Both of these historic landscape types were incorporated into the lands which were the subject of an Act of Enclosure (1827), which licensed the enclosure of both Huntington Heath and Huntington Common⁹⁰. The straight field boundaries of the field system to the north are typical of the planned enclosure created by surveyors during this period. The alignment of the field boundaries in this area has seen little change since the late 19th century. This field system was associated with the site of Dogingtree Farm which stood within this landscape until the late 20th century⁹¹. It was a small farmstead exhibiting a loose courtyard plan form.

Cavan's Wood, in the southern half of the zone, existed by the mid 19th century and still forms part of the Huntington Belt, a portion of which lies within the zone to the north. The outline of the woodland has little changed since the mid and late 19th century.

A Roman coin and Roman pottery were found within the zone during the 1950s and whilst this does not constitute evidence of settlement the location of the line of Watling Street Roman road, approximately 4km to the south, and numerous other finds of Roman date to the north west and south east suggests there is the potential for unknown sites to survive. Prehistoric activity in the wider area is evidence by the possible site of an Iron Age farmstead approximately 3km to the north suggests the potential for prehistoric sites to survive within the project area⁹².

⁸⁷ Greenslade 1959b:

⁸⁸ Ibid.

⁸⁹ Hunting Survey Ltd: Run 19: 6328 (farm still present on this aerial photograph)

⁹⁰ Greenslade 1959b: 76

⁹¹ Ibid. (farm still present on this aerial photograph)

⁹² Staffordshire HER: PRN 04015

2.2.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological deposits to survive associated with the two historic farmsteads within the zone. There is also the potential for unknown prehistoric or Roman sites to exist within the area of the zone based upon the evidence of the wider area.	Low
Historical value: There are few legible heritage assets within the zone beyond the historic field boundaries and Cavan Wood. These features do, however, contribute to the development of the zone and the contrast in character between the fields of post medieval origin (those mature hedgerows within the HCT 'Post War Amalgamated Fields') and the straight boundaries of both the '18 th /19 th century Planned Enclosure', but also the 'Plantations'.	Medium
Aesthetic value: The components of the historic landscape are still integral to the local character particularly of Cavan's Wood, which forms part an important landscape feature of Huntington's Belt.	Medium
Communal value: Further research would enhance our understanding of the relationship of the zone to Huntington and its wider social and economic role with South Staffordshire. Only one Right of Way exists to provide access into the historic landscape.	Low

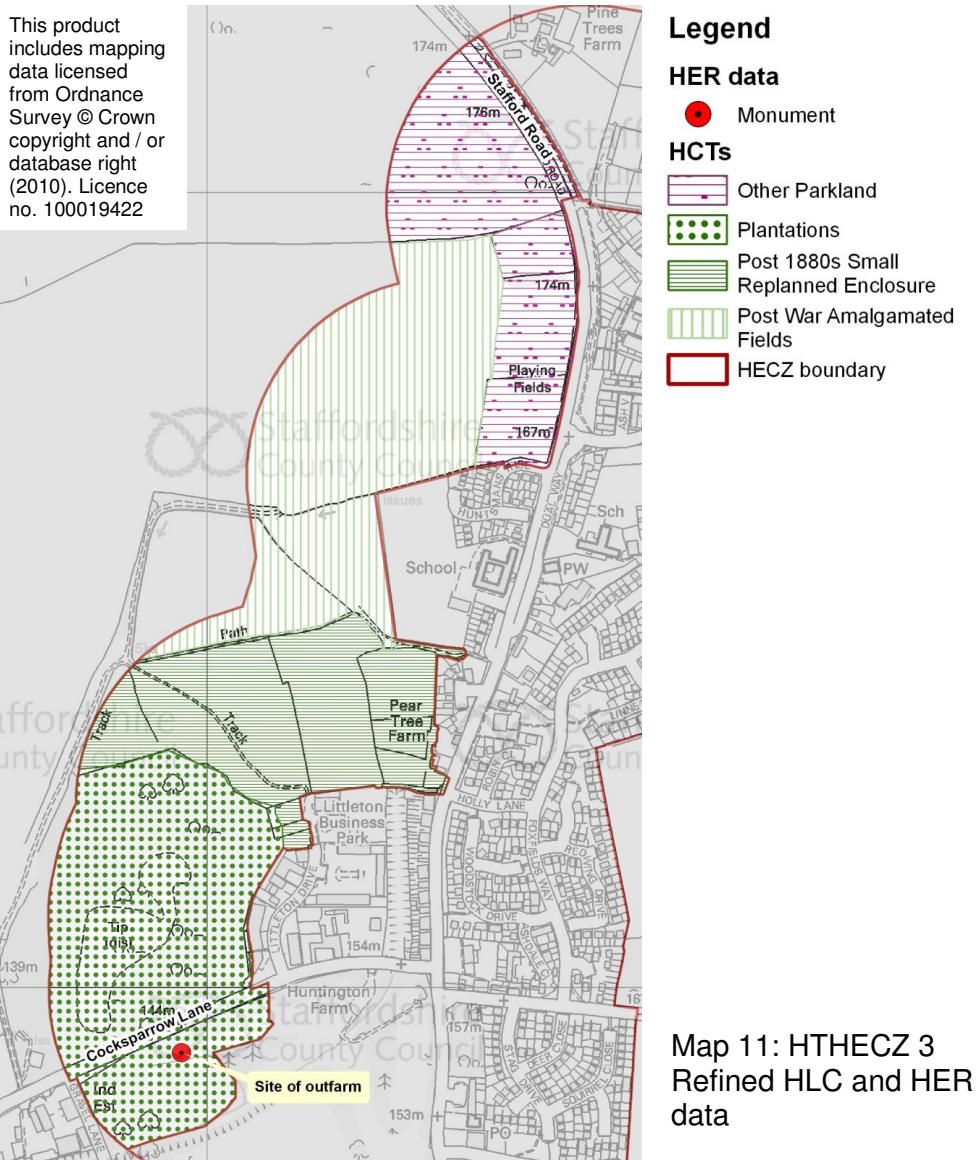
2.2.3 Recommendations

Despite the removal of field boundaries within a large portion of the zone several historic hedgerows survive, which contribute to the historical and aesthetic values of the zone. Furthermore, the historic landscape character of both the planned enclosure to the north and the plantations, which form part of Huntington Belt are also important to a sense of place within the local area.

- The planned character of the late 18th/19th century field patterns could be conserved and enhanced through the re-planting of the historic hedge lines to strengthen the historic landscape character of the zone.
- The maintenance and conservation of the outlines of both areas of plantation within the zone.
- There is a low to moderate potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. However, archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to fulfil paras. 128 and 141 of NPPF⁹³.

⁹³ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012. Web: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

2.3 HTHECZ 3 – West of Huntington



2.3.1 Statement of heritage significance

The historic landscape character of the zone is dominated by the former spoil heaps associated with the Littleton Colliery which operated between the late 19th century and 1993 (cf. HTHECZ 1)⁹⁴. The spoil heaps, which began to form in the early to mid 20th century, lie to the north of Cocksparrow Lane and woodland has become established upon them (HCT ‘Plantations’ on map 11). The plantation to the south of the zone has similarly become established upon part of the former workings associated with the colliery as well as the site of an outfarm. The spoil heaps are important reminders of the significance of the colliery to the social and economic history of Huntington.

⁹⁴ Staffordshire HER: PRN 20492

The remainder of the zone comprises field systems and a late 20th century playing field and a small portion of a golf course (the latter two areas are defined as ‘Other Parkland’ on map 11. The HCTs ‘Post 1880s Small Replanned Fields’ and the ‘Post War Amalgamated Fields’ indicate a change to the historic field pattern the result of boundary creation in the former and loss in the latter. A number of historic hedgerows survive as a testimony to the earlier field patterns.

The zone lies approximately 4km to the north of the line of the Watling Street Roman road⁹⁵. At present the only evidence for activity of this date from within the project area relates to a Roman coin and pottery found during ploughing in the 1950s (within HTHECZ 2)⁹⁶. Whilst this does not constitute evidence of settlement further finds of Roman date from within 4km of the village, to the north west and south east, means there is the potential for unknown sites to survive. Aerial photographs have also indicated the site of a possible Iron Age farmstead lying approximately 3km to the north, which if correct raises the possibility for sites of an earlier period to also survive within the project area⁹⁷.

2.3.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological deposits to survive relating to unknown prehistoric or Roman sites within the area of the zone based upon the evidence of the wider area. Such evidence would contribute significantly to our understanding of these societies within Staffordshire as a whole.	Low
Historical value: There a few historic hedgerows surviving, but the majority of the zone has been impacted by change occurring during the mid to late 20 th century. However, of particular interest is the colliery spoil heap, now covered in woodland, which is a monument to the importance of this industry to Huntington and the local area.	Medium
Aesthetic value: The integrity of the historic landscape character has been impacted by mid to late 20 th century change. The woodland on the spoil heap does make a contribution to the historic landscape character.	Low
Communal value: The playing field provides a public amenity, but otherwise the heritage assets of the zone are limited to the spoil heap. An improved understanding of the contribution of the zone to the social and economic history of Huntington and South Staffordshire more widely would enable the presentation of its heritage to be presented to the community and wider public.	Low.

2.3.3 Recommendations

The heritage values table reflects the pre-dominant mid to late 20th century character of the zone. The wooded spoil heap makes a particular contribution to the local historic landscape character of the project area as a whole.

⁹⁵ Staffordshire HER: PRN 05153

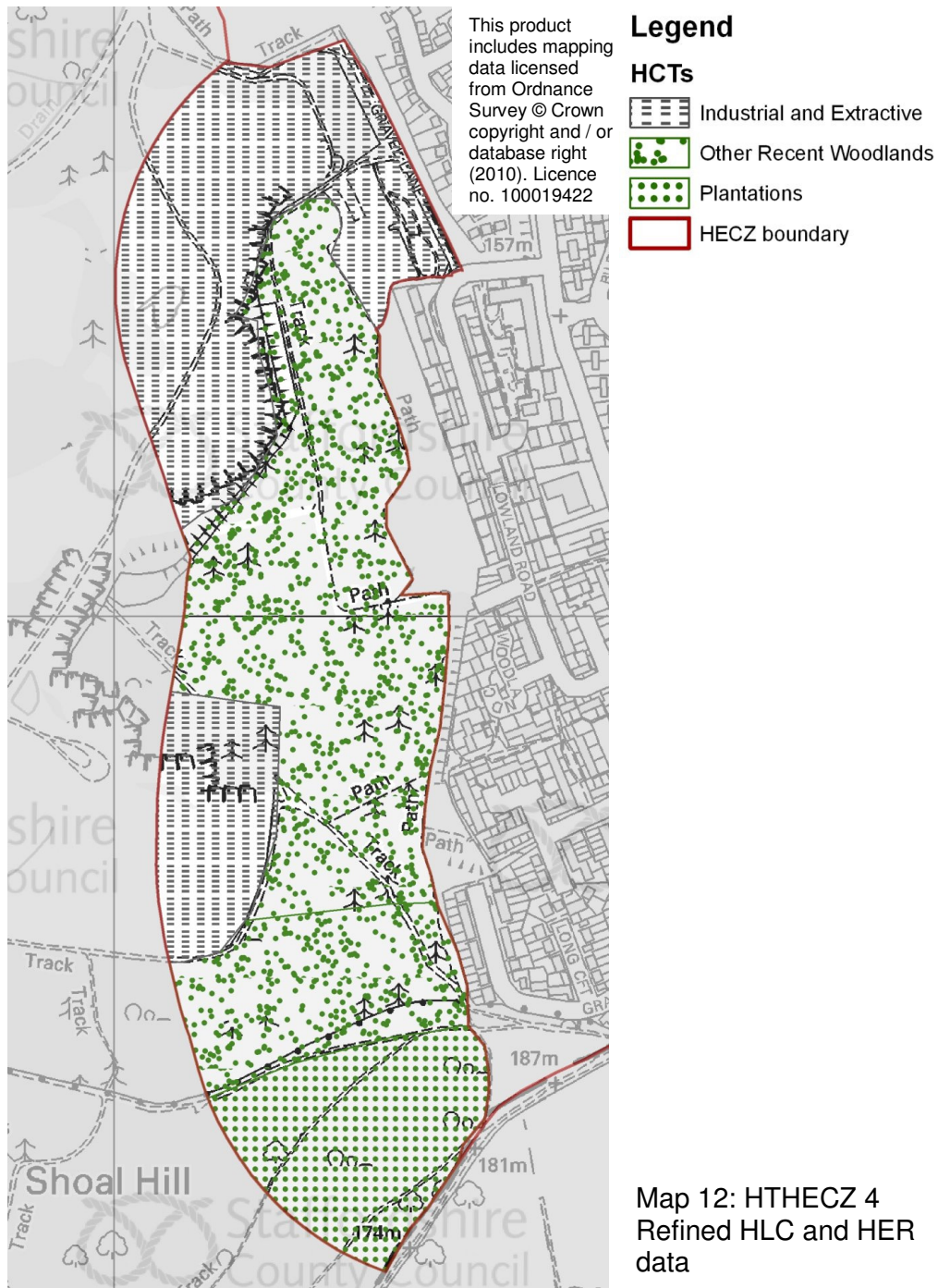
⁹⁶ Staffordshire HER: PRN 02188

⁹⁷ Staffordshire HER: PRN 04015

- There is a low potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. However, archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to fulfil paras. 128 and 141 of NPPF⁹⁸.
- The conservation of the spoil heap as monument to the importance of coal mining in the local area is desirable.

⁹⁸ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012. Web:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

2.4 HTHECZ 4 – Shoal Hill



2.4.1 Statement of heritage significance

The historic landscape character of the zone is dominated by a mid to late 20th century character which incorporates a disused gravel quarry (HCT 'Industrial and Extractive') and woodland (HCTs 'Other Recent Woodland' and 'Plantations'). This landscape had an area of heathland on Shoal Hill, which has survived into the early 21st century. This area had formed part of those lands subject to an Act of Enclosure (1827), which licensed the enclosure of

both Huntington Heath and Huntington Common⁹⁹. However, the topography of Shoal Hill, standing at a high point of 201m AOD within the zone, probably meant that enclosure for farming was not a viable option.

The zone lies approximately 3km to the north of the line of the Watling Street Roman road¹⁰⁰. At present the only evidence for activity of this date from within the project area relates to a Roman coin and pottery found during ploughing in the 1950s (within HTHECZ 2)¹⁰¹. Whilst this does not constitute evidence of settlement further finds of Roman date within 5km of the zone suggest that there is the potential for unknown sites to survive. Aerial photographs have also indicated the site of a possible Iron Age farmstead lying approximately 4km to the north, which if correct raises the possibility for sites of an earlier period to also survive within the project area¹⁰².

2.4.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological deposits to survive relating to unknown prehistoric or Roman sites within the area of the zone based upon the evidence of the wider area. Such evidence would contribute significantly to our understanding of these societies within Staffordshire as a whole.	Low
Historical value: There are no known legible heritage assets lying within the zone.	Low
Aesthetic value: The woodland contributes to the overall historic landscape character of the project area which includes the woodland within HTHECZ 2 and HTHECZ 3.	Medium
Communal value: There is public access onto Shoal Hill via the Rights of Way network. However, the potential contribution of heritage to the zone is comprised by the current lack of understanding.	Low

2.4.3 Recommendations

The heritage values partially reflect a lack of understanding of the potential for heritage assets to survive across the zone.

- There is a low potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. However, archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to fulfil paras. 128 and 141 of NPPF¹⁰³.

⁹⁹ Greenslade 1959b: 76

¹⁰⁰ Staffordshire HER: PRN 05153

¹⁰¹ Staffordshire HER: PRN 02188

¹⁰² Staffordshire HER: PRN 04015

¹⁰³ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012. Web: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

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