

Kent Historic Towns Survey

NEW ROMNEY

Archaeological Assessment Document

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KENT HISTORIC TOWNS' SURVEY

**NEW ROMNEY - KENT
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
DOCUMENT**

**Kent County Council
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

New Romney is a market town, based on a settlement of late Saxon origin, situated in the Shepway district of Kent. The settlement lies in Romney Marsh, *c.* 19km south-west of Folkestone, *c.* 19km south-east of Ashford and *c.* 5km north-east of Lydd.

This study aims to provide an evaluation of the archaeological and historical remains of the settlement as a basis for informing decision-making in the planning process where archaeological deposits may be affected by development proposals. The Kent County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) was checked for information relating to the study area (see below) and this provided 36 relevant entries: two are of iron age date, one is Romano-British, 27 are medieval, two are post-medieval and four are of uncertain date. New Romney is fairly typical of many small towns in England in that there has, as yet, been no significant archaeological research within the settlement or in the wider area of study. Thus much of this study is based on documentary evidence, secondary published sources and analysis of the settlement's topography. The majority of the buildings in the town appear to date from the seventeenth and eighteenth century and later, but many of them have post-medieval fronts concealing earlier structures.

1.2 Situation

New Romney lies in the south of the county on the borders of Romney Marsh and Walland Marsh, at NGR TR 065250, on virtually level ground which does not rise much above 5m OD, whilst the surrounding marshland is generally at 2m OD (Figure 1). The geology of the area is blown sand and storm gravel beach deposits overlying sand and clay marine/estuarine alluvial deposits, which in turn rest on a platform of Hastings beds and Weald clay (Figure 2).

1.3 Study area

The general area selected for study lies between TR 0323 and TR 0827. More in-depth study, focusing on the evolution of the settlement and its historic components, is centred on the historic core of the settlement between TR 06002450 and TR 07002550.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA

There are a number of archaeological data for New Romney town itself and a scatter within the wider area of study. The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for the area of study records the following evidence, which is also shown on Figure 3.

2.1 Iron Age

TR 02 NW 9 - A blue-glass bead with yellow spiral inlays, dated between 200 and 100 BC, was found with numerous seventeenth century objects when removing building foundations south of Beechcroft Farm, at *c.* TR 04802645. It is thought to have been a collector's piece (Teichman-Derville 1938, 152-154).

TR 02 NE 10 - An iron age bronze *stater* coin (Mack type 318) was found at New Romney, centred *c.* TR 0625. It is now in the possession of the American Numismatic Society (Haselgrove 1978, 90).

2.2 Romano-British

TR 02 SE 10 - A Roman brass coin of Maxentius was discovered in 1931, *c.* 1m below ground level, in Station Road, New Romney at TR 07312484 (OS Record Card).

2.3 Medieval

TR 02 NW 7 - The site of St Michael's church, Five Vents Lane, Old Romney, at *c.* TR 03672579. A partial clearance of a piece of raised ground at TR 03722571 disturbed some inhumation burials, all in coffins and oriented east-west with the head to the west. A limited excavation then revealed a chalk floor containing a coffin burial at a depth of *c.* 0.3m, apparently in the south-east corner of a building of unknown function. Sherds of coarse thirteenth century pottery were found (Bradshaw 1969, 234).

TR 02 NW 8 - The site of St Lawrence's church, *c.* 600m north-east of St Clement's church, Old Romney, at *c.* TR 04072544. The site has been levelled, but building debris can be seen. Recent metal detector finds include two medieval buckles, six Edward I coins and a copper-alloy Roman coin, probably of Vespasian. Some bones have been seen in the topsoil, some of which have been identified as human (J Vale, pers. comm). It is thought to relate to the deserted medieval village of St Lawrence (see SMR TR 02 NW16).

TR 02 NW 10 - The remains of the church of All Saints, Hope, at TR 04942581. A small twelfth century oratory, enlarged in the thirteenth century and in use until 1541. It had fallen into decay by 1573 and was in ruins by the mid-seventeenth century. Probably from the deserted medieval village of Hope (see SMR TR 02 NW11; Elliston-Erwood 1925, 191-194).

TR 02 NW 11 - Site of the deserted medieval village of Hope, 1.5km north-west of New Romney at TR 049258. Apart from the church, all trace of the village has disappeared (see SMR TR 02 NW10). Various finds made by metal detectorists to the north and south of the church site include eleven coins ranging in date from Edward the Confessor to Henry III, a Papal bull of Celestine III (1191-1198), a lead token, medieval buckles, strap ends and fittings. A large assemblage of medieval pottery, two medieval ampullae and a thirteenth century seal matrix have also been discovered, (Beresford and Hurst 1971, 191; Harris 1989).

TR 02NW15 - Possible site of a deserted medieval village around St Michael's church, *c.* 500m north of Old Romney (SMR TR 02 NW 7; Beresford and Hurst 1971, 191).

TR 02 NW16 - Possible site of a deserted medieval village around St Lawrence's church, *c.* 600m north-east of Old Romney, at TR 041254 (see SMR TR 02 NW8; Beresford and Hurst 1971, 191).

TR 02 NW36 - A square enclosure visible on aerial photographs suggests a probable medieval moated site north east of Yoakes Court Farm, Yoakes Lane, at TR 032268. Medieval pottery and building materials were found in 1996 (KCC Sites Record Card).

TR 02 NW37 - A quantity of early medieval and medieval pottery was found during field-walking close to the site of St Lawrence's church, Old Romney at TR 041254 (see SMR TR 02 NW8 and TR 02 NW16; KCC Sites Record Card).

TR 02 NW39 - Early medieval and medieval pottery was found during field-walking close to a possible medieval moated site, at TR 032268 (SMR Site 10; KCC Sites Record Card).

TR 02 NE7 - William Lambarde's 'Carde' of c.1570 shows a beacon on the NE side of New Romney west of the Dymchurch Road, at TR 07222565. No trace of the mound remains (White 1934, facing p. 77).

TR 02 NE15 - A large moated site and the remains of a field system have been identified at TR 06552532. A linear feature cuts across both. The area was levelled for playing fields sometime after 1946 (OS Record Card).

TR 02NE25 - The site of High Mill, at the north-east end of the town of New Romney, at TR 06802515. Late medieval records mention a windmill on this site (OS map1898).

TR 02 NE39 - A concentration of late medieval pottery was discovered in 1991 during field evaluation c. 300m east of Winford Bridge, New Romney, at TR 07422673 (SEAS 1993a).

TR 02 NE45 - A concentration of predominantly late medieval pottery and early post-medieval pottery was discovered during field evaluation north-east of Lydd Road at TR 05592500 in 1991 (SEAS 1993b).

TR 02 NE46 - A concentration of late medieval pottery was discovered during field evaluation c. 300m south-east of Winford Bridge and 600m north-west of Dymchurch Road, New Romney at TR 07432652 in 1991 (SEAS 1993b).

TR 02 NE47 - A concentration of early medieval and late medieval pottery was discovered during field evaluation 400m south-east of Winford Bridge, New Romney, at TR 07482650, in 1991 (SEAS 1993b).

TR 02 SW1 - The remains of Midley church, at TR 031232. The west wall and fragments of the north and south walls remain, indicating a fifteenth century rebuilding of an earlier church (Elliston-Erwood 1925, 194-195).

TR 02 SE 2 - The site of St Martin's church, at New Romney, at TR 06462493. The site lies in a playing field and nothing remains visible (Scott-Robertson 1880a, 238-241).

TR 02 SE 3 - The site of St Lawrence's church, New Romney, at TR 06312472. Foundations were uncovered in the 1930s, with glazed floor tiles *in situ*. The site is now under a garden and nothing is visible (pers. comm. E.J. Hartrop 1963; Parkin 1973, 119).

TR 02 SE 4 - Site of the hospital of St John the Baptist, at TR 06142472. Founded in the fourteenth century and dissolved in 1495. Foundations, bones and skeletons were found during house building in 1929. Further burials were found in 1995 (Parkin 1973, 119-120; KCC Records).

TR 02 SE 5 - The remains of an alleged Cistercian priory or grange, at TR 06432484. The ruins of a small two-storey building with a tile roof and three windows, with a wall of reused medieval stone behind (Parkin 1973,120).

TR 02 SE 7 - The hospital of SS Stephen and Thomas, at TR 05852488. Excavations in 1935 revealed fragmentary foundations and other remains of the probable hospital chapel, rebuilt c. 1363 when the hospital was re-founded. A skeleton and some pottery were found during

building work in 1955 and excavations in 1959 uncovered two thirteenth century or earlier structures (Murray 1935, 198-204; Rigold 1964, 47-69).

TR 02 SE 18 - A large mound with linear extensions, probably medieval salt workings, has been identified from aerial photographs 0.6km south of New Romney, at TR 06622384. This site and SMR TR 02 SE 19 are shown as 'Saltcoat' on Andrews, Dury and Herbert's map of 1769 and Hasted's map of 1799.

TR 02 SE 19 - A large flat mound, probably medieval salt workings, has been identified from aerial photographs 0.9km south of New Romney, at TR 06362342 (KCC Collection).

TR 02 SE 22 - Possible medieval salt workings have been identified from aerial photographs, about 100m south of New Romney, at TR 06122443, TR 06042430, TR 06322442, and TR 06332429, (KCC Collection).

TR 02 SE 67 - A possible medieval road surface sealing sand deposits containing medieval pottery dating from between 1150 and 1250/75 was discovered during a watching brief of pipe laying operations in the High Street, New Romney, at TQ 06532488 to TQ 06642496 in 1995 (Herdman and Jarman 1995, 15-17).

TR 02 SE 73 - Trial excavations in 1979 in Butt Field, 80-90m south of and parallel to Church Road, New Romney, at TR 06352460, revealed evidence for three medieval buildings and a hearth dated by pottery to *c.* 1100 to 1250. Soil deposits containing pottery of mid-thirteenth to early fourteenth century date sealed the structures. They may represent a street, now lost, forming the southern limit of the medieval street grid, beside the original quayside (Willson 1987, 198-212).

2.4 Post-medieval

TR 02 NE 27 - Site of New Romney brickworks, at TR 06252532. Demolished nineteenth century brickworks, now used as a poultry farm (KCC Record Card).

TR 02 SE 6 - The site of Southland's hospital, at TR 06242475. Founded in 1610 and replaced by the present almshouses in 1734 (Newman 1980. 435).

2.5 Undated

TR 02 NW 6 - Two oval enclosures, probably moated manor houses, have been identified through aerial photographs immediately north of Old Romney, at TR 03372548 and TR 03492550. That at TR 03372548 has a water-filled ditch with a slight inner bank and the probable original entrance causeway on the SW side. The interior is covered with broken tiles and a little stone rubble. The enclosure at TR 03492550 is slightly smaller, with a dry ditch, the remains of an outer bank and a causeway in the north-east corner. Inside the ditch is a slight horseshoe shaped mound. During ploughing in 1970 the area revealed human remains and building debris from a large building, and a trial trench uncovered an east-west wall foundation over 1m wide (Beresford and St Joseph 1958, 189; Bradshaw 1970, 179).

TR 02 NW 19 - A ridge and furrow earthwork has been identified from aerial photographs, to the east of the church at Old Romney, at TR 03582518 (KCC Collection).

TR 02 NE 16 - A field of ridge and furrow has been identified from aerial photographs at TR 05592557 (KCC Collection).

TR 02 SE 17 - A disused field boundary in the form of a curvilinear bank has been identified from aerial photographs at TR 06552434, south of New Romney (KCC Collection).

3 HISTORICAL RECORDS

3.1 Early charters

In *c.* AD 700-715, Wihtred, King of Kent, granted areas of pasture in Romney Marsh to the nunnery of St Mary's, Lyminge. A charter of Aethelberht, King of Kent, dated *c.* AD 741, granted it fishing rights in the river Limen and land around the *oratorium* of St Martin (perhaps St Martin's church at New Romney) and the fishermen's houses. The name 'Romney', which first appears in a charter of AD 895, and then in a charter of AD 914, probably refers to the river rather than the settlement (Sawyer 1968, charter nos 76 and 77)

3.2 Domesday Book

The Domesday Survey of 1086 recorded *Romenel* (Romney) in Lamport (Longport) hundred as a borough held by the archbishop. One hundred and fifty-six burgesses (dwellings) with the total value of £24.10s. are listed.

3.3 Origin of place name

The place-name of Romney first appears as *Rumanea* in the charter of 895 and *Rumenesea* in the 914 charter. It appears to be a derivation from the Old English *rum* (wide, broad, spacious) and *ea* (river), i.e: at the place where the river is at its widest. Romney was situated overlooking the river where, during the Saxon period, it formed a large inland lagoon before entering the sea. The place-name can be traced to its present form thus

895	<i>Rumanea</i>	...	914	<i>Rumenesea</i>
1086	<i>Romenel</i>	...	1338	<i>Romeneye</i>
1575	<i>Rumney/Old Rumney</i>	...	1610	Old Romney/New Romney

4 HISTORICAL DATA BY PERIOD

4.1 Pre-urban evidence

4.1.1 Prehistoric period

The shingle spur on which New Romney was founded probably began to form during the late neolithic period. Between *c.* 5000 BC and AD 500 a long shingle spit, probably caused by easterly longshore drift, was deposited between Hastings and Hythe, resulting in a barrier behind which a salt marsh developed through silting by waterways from the Weald. The waterways finally merged to form the river Limen (later called the Rother). Sometime *c.* AD 450-700 the shingle barrier was breached by the sea, creating a wide marine inlet and an outlet for the river Limen between Dymchurch and Lydd. By the mid-eighth century a shingle spur on the north-eastern side of this new inlet was occupied by a small settlement consisting of fishermen's huts and an early church, that of St Martin.

4.2 Urban evidence

4.2.1 The Saxon period

The traditional view that New Romney was a resettlement of the earlier town of Old Romney is now disputed. Recent field work and documentary study suggest that Old Romney was not the predecessor of New Romney, but a scattered village with a concentration around the

surviving church of St Clement, and that the *Romenel* of Domesday Book was situated close to the Saxon church of St Martin.

It is uncertain when settlement began at New Romney; the oratory and fishermen's houses may be referred to in the charter of AD 741 (see above). The oratory has been identified with the church of St Martin, New Romney, by the mouth of the river Limen. The settlement must then have grown in size and importance, and it may have been threatened by the Danes when, in AD 893, a fleet of 250 ships entered the estuary of the Limen and sailed up to Appledore.

By the tenth century New Romney and much of the surrounding land had passed out of the hands of the nunnery at Lyminge to the archbishop. A mint was established during the reign of Aethelred II (c. 997-1003) and a port was founded there, probably by the archbishop, c. 1000. By the reign of Edward the Confessor the town and port had become well established and was supplying the King with ship service as one of the original Cinque Ports.

4.2.2. The medieval period

In 1066 the men of New Romney repulsed William, Duke of Normandy when he and some of his soldiers attempted to land there. The invading force then went on to land at Pevensey in Sussex. As a consequence, after the Battle of Hastings, the town and port of New Romney was one of the first places to be subdued by William. Twenty years later New Romney had a population of 650 to 800, a harbour, a church and a mint. The town was laid out in a grid pattern, with twelve or more blocks of properties stretching along an east-west axis, with marshland to the north, the river Limen to the west and north-west, and the sea to the east and south-east (Figures 4 and 5).

4.2.2.1 Markets and fairs

New Romney probably had a market by the late tenth or early eleventh century, and almost certainly before AD 1200 when it is likely to have been one of the privileges of a Cinque port. The early market may have been by the harbour, but later it was probably held in the middle of the High Street where the road widens and where a market cross once stood. This was a common arrangement in undefended market towns. The market (for poultry, fish, livestock and general goods) was held weekly on a Saturday. The poultry and perhaps butchers' markets may have occupied a small triangular area of open land at the junction of Church Road with Rome Road and Lion's Road (formerly West Street), next to St Lawrence's church, for in the late fourteenth century it is called 'the Poultry' and in 1414 two stalls in the butcher's market are mentioned in the same place. The site may also have been used for the annual St Lawrence Fair, held on 19th August and the days before and after.

4.2.2.2 The manor

After 1066, the archbishop of Canterbury, who provided a bailiff for the town, held the manor. As New Romney was a Cinque port the townsfolk enjoyed a state of virtual autonomy and the barons and jurats (the ruling body of the town) frequently disputed the archbishops' alleged encroachments on New Romney's privileges. By the end of the fourteenth century the influence of the church had diminished and the town was generally successful.

4.2.2.3 The churches

New Romney was within the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the diocese of Canterbury and the deanery of Lymgne. The town was divided into twelve wards spread among three parishes

each with its own church, St Nicholas, St Martin and St Lawrence. By 1282 St Nicholas had become the prime church and St Martin and St Lawrence dependent chapels.

The church of St Martin

St Martin's was the first church recorded at Romney, probably being the *oratorium* of St Martin mentioned in AD 741. No details of this church are known, but it was probably built of wood. It was later rebuilt in stone, perhaps in the tenth or early eleventh century when the town of New Romney seems to have been laid out.

The church of St Martin, mentioned in the Domesday Monachorum of c.1089 as subordinate to the minster church at Lympne, stood on the green at the corner of Ashford Road and Fairfield Road, a little north of St Nicholas church to which it was subservient by the mid-thirteenth century. In 1511 Archbishop Warham reported that the chancel, not having been repaired, was so decayed that it might fall down, and by 1549 the whole church was in a state of decay. Eventually the municipal authorities petitioned the archbishop to allow either St Martin's or St Nicholas's to be demolished because the town was too small to support both. St Martin's was demolished in 1549 and its materials and plate were sold.

Very little is known of its structure, but the first stone church may have had a late Saxon cruciform plan. That church was replaced or enlarged in the twelfth or thirteenth century, after which it may have consisted of a chancel, nave, tower, transepts, side chancels, aisles, a vestry and a porch. The tower contained a peal of five bells, transferred to St Nicholas church when St Martin's was demolished. After the demolition the site of the church and its surrounding churchyard became part of the glebe of vicar of St Nicholas's, and is now an open space.

The church of St Lawrence

The church of St Lawrence stood on a small site, with no room for a churchyard, between the High Street and Church Road. The date of its foundation is not known but it is listed in the Domesday Monachorum of c. 1089, where it is shown as being subordinate to the minster church of Lympne. By the thirteenth century it had become subservient to St Nicholas, New Romney. From 1477 to 1500 the jurats attended the church on the feast of the Annunciation of the Virgin to elect their bailiff. By 1511 the chancel was in need of repair, but nothing was done and the church was demolished sometime before 1539, and its building materials sold.

Nothing is known of the plan of the church, but documentary references indicate that it had a chancel, a nave, a high tower containing the town clock, and at least four altars, dedicated to St Katherine, The Holy Trinity, St John the Baptist and St Thomas of Dancaestre. It appears to have been built of courses of flint and stone with a tiled floor. As it had no burial ground; some parishioners were buried within the church itself and others were interred in the cemetery of the hospital of St John the Baptist.

The church of St Nicholas

St Nicholas, dedicated to the patron saint of mariners, is listed in the Domesday Monachorum of c. 1089, but the present church was built c. 1160-1170. In 1264 St Nicholas became a cell of the abbey of Pontigny in France, and it remained so until the suppression of the alien houses in 1414, when it passed to the Crown. In 1438 Henry VI gave it to the College of All Souls, Oxford.

In 1282 it had become the parish church of New Romney with the churches of St Martin and St Lawrence demoted to dependent chapels. In the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas IV of 1291 it was valued at £20. For most of the Middle Ages, the church was used for town functions, particularly the regular sessions of the jurats and annual Cinque port meetings).

The lowest three stages of the great west tower and most of the nave and aisle date from c. 1160-1170. The two upper stages of the tower with four unequal stone pinnacles and a central octagonal stone structure, probably the base for a spire, were added c.1200. The tower was then c. 9m square and c. 30m high, with a peal of eight bells. In the early fourteenth century the church was extended by the addition of a bay at the eastern end in the nave and a new chancel with side aisle. The great storm and flood of 1287, which deposited up to 1m of sand and shingle across the area and damaged or destroyed much of the medieval town, raised the ground level so much that the new aisles and chancel were built at a higher level than the nave.

4.2.2.4 Other religious organisations

The hospital of SS Stephen and Thomas

The hospital of SS Stephen and Thomas was situated beyond the western limits of the town near present day Spitalfield Road and Priory Close. Adam de Cherryng founded it as a leper hospital between 1184 and 1190; Robert, a leper, was recorded as one of the inmates in 1255. Although provision for thirteen or fifteen men and women was proposed in 1322, the hospital was empty and almost derelict by the middle of the fourteenth century. In 1363 it was refounded to include a chantry chapel with two priests, one of whom should be the resident master or warden, and accommodation for the poor of the town. It was dissolved in 1481, when it was ruinous, and annexed to Magdalene College, Oxford, which still possesses a map from 1614 showing the hospital standing on the west side of New Romney. Excavations near Spitalfield Road in 1935 revealed fragmentary foundations and other remains of the hospital's c. 1363 chapel, and a skeleton was discovered during building works in Priory Close in 1955. Further excavations in 1959 uncovered two thirteenth century or earlier structures, one of which is thought to have been the chapel; the other may have been possibly a hall for the master and clerks. Burials were also found adjacent to the chapel, but there was no trace of the wooden cells customarily used for housing lepers.

The hospital of St John the Baptist

The medieval hospital of St John the Baptist stood on a large site at the west end of the town. Nothing is known about the foundation of the house, which was under the authority of the town jurats. It appears to have been a hospital for both sexes, under the governance of two or three officers, one of whom was referred to as the master or prior, and another as seneschal or steward. The earliest recorded reference to the hospital dates from 1399. In 1401 the house is recorded as lending £10 to the Corporation; this was repaid in 1408. Another mention in 1434 concerns the leasing out of land in Lydd. From 1495 onwards the Corporation received rent for 'the house of St John the Baptist', so by then the foundation had probably ceased to be a hospital.

In 1929 foundations, bones and skeletons were found on the north side of St John's Road and further burials were found near St John's Road and Sussex Road during the late 1970s and in 1995 during construction work.

The Franciscan friary

A house of Franciscan friars was founded in New Romney sometime before 1241, and there were fourteen friars in 1243. It was no longer in existence by c.1287, perhaps being abandoned following the great storm of that year.

The Cistercian priory

A Cistercian priory may have stood on the west side of present day Ashford Road. In 1222 Archbishop Langton granted 50 marks annually from the church of Romney to the Cistercian abbey of Pontigny, France, and in 1238 the grant was raised to 60 marks. It is doubtful, however, whether there was ever a regular settlement of monks in New Romney, and the building behind the modern St John's Priory House in the High Street may be the remains of a grange belonging to Pontigny, rather than a priory. When the possessions of the alien houses were confiscated in 1414, Romney was acquired by the Crown and given to the warden and college of All Souls, Oxford in 1439.

4.2.2.5 Industry and trade

Although medieval coins minted in New Romney and found in continental ports indicate early trading links with Europe, the earliest surviving record of New Romney's trade is Daniel Rough's *Memoranda Book* (begun 1352), which contains a list of dues levied on tradesmen and market transactions. Seafaring activities are suggested by the presence of a 'master carpenter of ships' (a designation supported by the clenched nails found in 2001 on the Southlands School site) and 'master fishermen' and by the produce sold in the market, such as coal and fish. Fourteenth century trading licences illustrate the imports into and exports from New Romney; for example, corn, cheese, butter, beans and oats were sent to Flanders and Gascony, and wine was imported in return. Tradesmen such as barbers, carpenters, cobblers, fishermen, goldsmiths, merchants and vintners are listed in the Poll Tax of 1380, which also mentions a town mill and three other windmills. Romney Warren, a common over 400 acres in extent on the east side of town, was used for breeding rabbits for food and a keeper was employed to guard the Corporation's rabbits.

The Cinque ports connection

The Confederation of the Cinque Ports was a group of five towns (Hastings, Romney, Hythe, Dover and Sandwich) which were deemed capable of providing the king with ships and men to protect the coastal waters around south-east England, and to transport soldiers to the Continent (ship service). It was active from the eleventh century until the sixteenth century. All the towns had harbours and fishing fleets, and in return for their ship service they received a degree of autonomy and urban privileges.

After the Norman Conquest, William I appears to have continued the ship-service arrangements that had evolved during Edward the Confessor's reign. In 1111 Henry II granted charters to the original Cinque Ports and the two 'Antient Ports' of Winchelsea and Rye, giving them rights and privileges in return for supplying up to 57 fully-manned ships for the king's use. Lydd was made a corporate member (limb) of New Romney in 1155; it also had four non-corporate members, including Old Romney. Edward I's Great Charter of 1278, demanded that New Romney and Old Romney should provide four ships and Lydd one ship, and in 1364 Edward III confirmed the details and privileges of the 1111 charter.

The Cinque Ports Confederation saw much action during the thirteenth century wars with France and against rising levels of piracy. The great storm of 1287, however, virtually

destroyed the town of New Romney and blocked its harbour, so that by 1351 it was unable to find its quota for ship service, and for a while lost its privileges as a Cinque Port.

The port and the storm of 1287

The site of Romney's medieval harbour has not yet to be identified but it probably lay to the south of St Nicholas church, where the slope in the ground level may reflect the old shore line (Figures 4 and 5). The harbour was no longer viable *c.* 1540 although ships had anchored 'in [St Nicholas] churchyard' within living memory. In *c.* 1950, a workman digging new foundations for a bridge to carry Church Lane across the Main Sewer discovered the remains of timber beams of a wharf, which had once stood near St Nicholas's churchyard. In 2001 excavations on the site of Southlands School in Fairfield Road provided more information about the position of the harbour. The earliest archaeological remains were foreshore deposits sealed by a layer of sand dated to after 1250, above which there was a level indicating domestic occupation and finally a waterfront structure with associated industrial activity. The discovery of clenched nails indicates that shipbuilding or ship repairing took place there.

By the twelfth century the course of the river Limen (or the Newenden river as it was also called) had begun to silt up, and when, in the early twelfth century, the shingle bank near Winchelsea was breached, that gap became the river's outlet to the sea. New Romney thus lost its riverine connection with the Weald. In response to this, a canal (the Rhee Channel) was dug to connect New Romney with the river Limen south of Appledore. Its exact date of construction is unknown, but in the 1250s it became blocked and documents of the mid-thirteenth century mention attempts to remedy the situation by constructing sluices to encourage a greater flow of water downstream to New Romney.

The thirteenth century was also a period of great storms, particularly severe ones occurring in 1250, 1252 and 1287. The Southlands School excavations revealed several layers of flood-deposited sand, one of which may have derived from the flood of 1252. A second similar deposit lay above the waterfront mentioned above, and may represent the flood of 1287. The 1287 storm was devastating for New Romney; it breached most of the sea defences, partially destroyed areas of the town, deposited large quantities of sand and shingle *c.* 1m deep across a large part of the settlement, and completely blocked the end of the Rhee Channel and the harbour. After the storms the sea defences were repaired and the Rhee Channel opened up again, but serious silting occurred during the second half of the fourteenth century and there are numerous records of attempted clearance in the 1380s, 1406, 1409 and 1413. Despite this, the Rhee Channel dried up. By 1427 it was let out for pasture and by 1545 dwellings were even being erected along its course. The sea also retreated from New Romney, and in the reign of Henry VIII it was *c.* 1.5 km from the town. This was the end of New Romney as a port (Figures 6 and 7).

The mint

'Long Cross' pennies (*c.* 997-1003), 'Helmet' pennies (1003-1009) and 'Small Cross' pennies (1009-1017) attest the continuous presence of a mint in New Romney from the end of the tenth century until 1067. It resumed in 1077 and continued until 1100. After another break, the mint struck coins intermittently until 1134, when it ceased permanently.

Fishing

Fishing formed a major part of the local economy, with at least eight fishing vessels mentioned in the fourteenth century. Herrings, sprats, turbot, mullet and even porpoises were

caught, and the catches must have been quite high, for in 1413 John Payne was prosecuted for profiteering from the sale of 7,000 herrings. Once the harbour fell out of use the fishing boats were beached on the Warren Salts, east of the town.

Inns

By the early fourteenth century New Romney had some taverns, although none survives. In 1427 two 'ale conners' were appointed to strain and taste the beer manufactured in the town.

4.2.3 The post-medieval period

By the beginning of the post-medieval period New Romney, although still a member of the Cinque Ports Confederation, had neither port nor coast (Figure 6) and its economy had become dependent on agriculture rather than fishing and international maritime trade. It could no longer provide ship service for its Cinque Port obligations, its market had declined, its population had dwindled, and its three parish churches had been reduced to one.

4.2.3.1 Markets and fairs

The weekly Saturday market continued to be held in the High Street but on a much smaller scale than before, and the fair also persisted until the nineteenth century when both were discontinued. In 1702 a town hall was built on the south-east side of the High Street, with an open arcade at ground level to accommodate market stalls, but by the late nineteenth century the arcade had been filled in and turned into offices.

4.2.3.2 The church of St Nicholas

In 1588 the church was valued at £90 and had 351 communicants. By 1640 its value had increased to £105, with the same number of communicants. The jurats and, after 1575, the mayor and council continued to hold their meetings in the church, and All Souls' College kept the advowson.

Restoration of the church began in 1880, but as this would have entailed demolishing some of twelfth century north aisle there was a local outcry and protests from the newly formed Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. The work was stopped and no thoroughgoing restoration has since been undertaken, although there has been piecemeal work since the storms of the 1980s.

4.2.3.3 Southland's hospital

In 1610, John Southland, a town magistrate from a wealthy New Romney family, bequeathed property in the town and elsewhere in Kent to found and maintain a hospital or almshouse for the poor. Four houses in West Street were named after the founder. In 1728 they were further endowed, and in 1734 were rebuilt as two-storey brick structures. The houses survive as Southland's Almshouses.

Southland also provided for a schoolmaster to administer the hospital's property and 'from time to time to teach two poor children to read and write English and Latin and to learn arithmetic until they were fourteen years of age'. The modern school commemorates this in its name.

4.2.3.4 The charter of incorporation and the town council

When the town acquired its Charter of Incorporation in 1562, a mayor and council of five jurats and 26 free men replaced the archbishop's bailiff. The mayor was to be elected

annually in the parish church. Election in the church continued until 1835 although a town hall for the council's administrative functions was built in the High Street in 1702. The Local Government Act of 1972 caused New Romney to be absorbed into the new Shepway District Council.

4.2.3.5 Industry and trade

By the seventeenth century, New Romney's economy was based mainly on mixed farming, with a little fishing. Craftsmen and tradesmen such as carpenters, blacksmiths, cobblers, millers, weavers and shopkeepers helped to keep the town largely self-supporting, and there were many farms providing employment in the area.

The Cinque Ports connection

When New Romney and Lydd were required to provide a ship of 50 tons to join the fleet against the Spanish Armada in 1588, they had to hire the *John of Chichester* at a cost of £300. This was the last offensive operation carried out by the Cinque Ports Confederation, although the Confederation is still maintained, and New Romney is still a member.

Agriculture

Considerable areas of salt marsh were drained to provide grazing, and by the seventeenth century Romney Marsh was the chief sheep-grazing area of the country. Between 1600 and 1620 the average flock was more than treble the size of those in other regions, and by 1700 they were more than five times larger than flocks elsewhere. Cattle were also reared. Most of the sheep and cattle were driven to local and London markets, and 'Kentish wool' was also in great demand. This type of farming continued to flourish throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth century; even today sheep are bred and cattle raised on small farms, particularly around New Romney, although arable farming on a larger scale is becoming more common.

Mills

There were at least five windmills in the vicinity of New and Old Romney in the fourteenth century, one of them (Town Mill or High Mill) being reported as in a dilapidated condition c. 1500. It must have been rebuilt, however, for it appears on maps of 1596, 1769, 1799 and 1898. It was rebuilt again in 1794 and was still working in 1894 but it was demolished during World War I because it was a potential landmark if the enemy invaded. The other mills shown on the maps (Figures 7 to 13) have all been demolished without record.

Inns

In 1686 New Romney had inns with a total of 19 guest beds and stabling for 41 horses. Some of the inns may have been medieval in origin. For example, The New Inn in the High Street is a possibly fourteenth century timber-framed structure with an eighteenth century façade. Others, including The Dolphin and The Rose and Crown, both in the High Street, seem to have been founded in the seventeenth century or even earlier. The Dolphin Inn is first recorded in 1735 with stables being mentioned in 1746. The Rose and Crown is first mentioned in 1742, and in 1743 its stables were said to be full of smugglers' horses. The Cinque Port Arms at the west end and the Ship Hotel at the east end of the High Street were inns in the eighteenth century, although both occupy medieval buildings. The Plough Inn east of the town is dated 1776, whilst the Prince of Wales, once in Fairfield Road, was of early nineteenth century date.

Coaching services

New Romney was not on a main coaching route but some coaches between Hythe and Hastings passed through the town during the early nineteenth century. The road from New Romney to Lydd was turnpiked between 1750 and 1780, but was little used because the inhabitants on Romney Marsh were so sparse and poor.

4.2.3.6 The railway

In 1851, the South Eastern Railway Company opened a line between Ashford and Hastings with a station at Appledore about 9km west of New Romney. A branch line from Appledore to Lydd was built in 1881-82, and the line was extended to New Romney in 1884 when a station and The Railway Hotel were built. The line was closed to passenger traffic in March 1967, and the track dismantled. Today, the only rail connection to New Romney is the narrow gauge Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Light Railway, built 1927 - 1929.

4.2.4 The modern town

New Romney today is relatively small, more a large village than a town, not having experienced the growth of some other small market towns such as Ashford, Sevenoaks and Tonbridge. The High Street is the commercial centre, with shops, banks, pubs and other local services, and also a number of historic buildings, mostly dating from the seventeenth century and later although some are earlier.

The core of the town changed somewhat during the nineteenth and early twentieth century, when many old buildings were replaced and some gaps infilled. Nineteenth century building also took place to the west of the town and there was ribbon development along Fairfield Road to the east. The twentieth century saw rebuildings and replacements in the High Street and the construction of several large housing estates to the west, the south-east and the north-east. The Warren site east of St Mary's Road is now occupied by new housing. Nevertheless, the early grid-plan of the town has been preserved relatively intact (Figures 9 to 13).

There is no large-scale industry in New Romney and local employment is mainly confined to small service industries, supplemented by Lydd Airport, Lydd Camp, Dungeness Power Station and various gravel quarries. Commuting to other employment centres such as Ashford and Folkestone is becoming more common although there is no longer a main line railway in the town. A few people work on the farms in the neighbourhood.

4.2.5 Population

There were probably 625-800 inhabitants in New Romney in 1086. This figure may have increased during the twelfth and thirteenth century as the port flourished, but the severe storms of the second half of the thirteenth century had dramatic effects on the population as many people who depended on the river and the sea lost their livelihoods. By the late sixteenth century Romney Marsh was one the most sparsely populated areas of Kent, reputedly as it was 'Evill in Winter, grievous in Sommer, and never good'.

In 1588 New Romney probably had *c.* 450 inhabitants and there were 412 in 1676. The first official census in 1801 listed 755 people; this number rose to 983 in 1831 and 1,053 in 1851 but stagnated for the next 30 years, reaching only 1,026 in 1881. Between 1881 and 1921 there was a gradual rise in the population, to 1,659. Growth continued to be slow until 1966 when there were *c.* 2,600 people in New Romney, but since then new housing estates in New

Romney and neighbouring Greatstone and Littlestone (within the present parish of New Romney) had encouraged the population to rise to 6,208 in 1991.

5 URBAN CHARACTERISTICS

The following summary of the principal urban features in New Romney has been divided into those of the medieval and post-medieval periods (ie. pre - and post - *c.* 1540). The list is not comprehensive; little is known about the medieval period before the great storm of 1287 and only the principal post-medieval features are listed. William Webb's map of 1614 and the Ordnance Surveyors' field drawing of 1800 have been taken as the basis for the historic town plan. They have been chosen because they reflect the town in its pre-industrial and pre-railway phase, that is, the period before nineteenth and twentieth century development changed the medieval or post-medieval urban layout.

5.1 Medieval Plan Components and medieval Urban Features (Figures 15 and 16):

The settlement at New Romney may have developed as early as *c.* AD 700 when a small group of fishermen's houses and a church were established on a shingle spur. A new planned town was laid out sometime between AD 960 and 1000, probably with a grid pattern of streets and tenements around an early road from Ashford to the seacoast (PC1) and on the line of an early road between Hythe and Old Romney (PC2). The High Street (PC3) eventually developed along this route. A market place in the High Street (PC11), the harbour (PC4) and probably eighteen groups of tenement plots (PC13 – PC30) formed the secular settlement. There were also three parish churches, St Martin (PC5), St Lawrence (PC6) and St Nicholas (PC7), two hospitals (PC8 and PC9), a Cistercian priory or grange (PC10) and a Franciscan friary (site unknown).

Storms during the thirteenth century, culminating in the great storm of 1287, deposited at least 1m of sand and shingle over much of the late Saxon and early medieval town, blocked the harbour and badly damaged the church of St Nicholas. The friary was abandoned, as were some of the tenement plots. Most of the town was rebuilt on the grid system that largely remains today and which may reflect a pre-1287 precursor. The plan form of medieval New Romney seems relatively simple, comprising the elements of churches, hospitals, priory or grange, markets, tenement plots, harbour and roads. The chronology of its development is, however, less clear.

PC 1. The early road route from Ashford.

PC2. The early road route from Hythe to Old Romney.

PC3. The High Street.

PC4. The probable site of the harbour.

PC5. Site of St Martin's church and churchyard. Founded before 741, demolished in 1549.

PC6. Site of St Lawrence's church. Founded during the late Saxon period and demolished *c.*1530-1535.

PC7. St Nicholas's Church and churchyard.

- a) (MUF1) The parish church of St Nicholas and its churchyard. Twelfth century building with early fourteenth century additions (DoE 1973, 3).
- PC8.** Site of the hospital of SS Stephen and Thomas. Founded *c.*1184-1190, dissolved 1481 and the site annexed to Magdalene College, Oxford.
- PC9.** Site of the hospital of St John the Baptist. Believed to have been founded in the fourteenth century, dissolved 1495, later demolished (Scott-Robertson 1880, 245-247).
- PC10.** Site of the Cistercian priory or grange on the west side of Ashford Road.
- a) (MUF2) Cistercian priory or grange. To the rear of 44 High Street (now called St John's Priory House). Ruins of a small medieval building of rubble stone, with a tiled roof, behind which is a wall of reused medieval masonry with a large archway, window and corbel bracket behind. (DoE 1973, 15; VCH II, 239).
- PC11.** The Market Place, site of the medieval general and possibly fish market.
- PC12.** Site of the St Lawrence Market Place held on a triangular area south of the church. Probably a poultry and meat market.
- PC13.** Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of the High Street and the north side of Church Road.
- a) (MUF3) Buckhurst House, High Street. A large timber-framed house completely covered in eighteenth century brickwork. May originally have been an unusually large thirteenth or fourteenth century Wealden house (Parkin 1973, 123).
- b) (MUF4) Part of The Ship Hotel, High Street. The north-east side of this otherwise eighteenth century building may incorporate part of a thirteenth or fourteenth century Wealden house (Parkin 1973, 123).
- c) (MUF6) Mittell House, Church Road. The house contains the remains of a late fifteenth or early sixteenth century hall-house, consisting of the service end and the rear wall of the hall. The ceiling in the hall, extension, staircase and cellar were added in the seventeenth century. The structure was refronted in brick during the nineteenth century and a coach-house added on the east (DoE 1973, insert between 2 and 3).
- PC14.** Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of the High Street, either side of Church Close and the north side of Church Road.
- a) (MUF5) To the rear of the Assembly Rooms, Church Approach. Ruinous gable end of a medieval town house, containing a blocked thirteenth century window and doorway. The window appears to be that of a former hall. The doorway has its sill *c.*0.3m above present ground level and was probably

originally approached by a flight of external steps, a common Norman practice. Below the sill there is a small window of an undercroft (Parkin 1973, 123-124).

PC15. Groups of tenement plots fronting the south side of the High Street, the west side of Church Approach and the north side of Church Road.

- a) (MUF7) 43 High Street. A fifteenth century timber-framed hall-house, refronted with brick in the eighteenth century, then rendered and modern shop fronts added. Traces of jettied on the front, and a crown-post roof inside (DoE 1973, 10; Parkin 1973, 120-123).
- b) (MUF8) The New Inn, 37 High Street. A timber-framed building possibly of fourteenth century or earlier date, refronted in brick in the eighteenth century and painted. Perhaps a medieval tavern (DoE 1973, 9; Parkin 1973, 123).
- c) (MUF9) 27-31 High Street. A row of timber-framed buildings on stone sills. medieval in date, with jettied fronts and brackets hidden by eighteenth century brick and partially rendered façade. Modern shop fronts added (DoE 1973, 7-8; Parkin 1973, 120 and 123.)

PC16. Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of the High Street and the west side of Victoria Street.

- a) (MUF10) The Cinque Port Arms, High Street. A thirteenth or fourteenth century timber-framed hall-house, refronted in brick in the eighteenth century and later painted. Remains of oak framing inside. Not jettied at the front, though it may have been at the side of the building (Parkin 1973, 123-124).

PC17. Group of tenement plots fronting the west side of West Street.

- a) (MUF11) 3-4 West Street. A thirteenth century stone hall-house, altered *c.* 1500 and in the eighteenth century, when it was made into two cottages (Parkin 1973, 124-127).

PC18. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street and the south side of North Street.

PC19. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street.

- a) (MUF12) 16 High Street. A timber-framed building probably of thirteenth or fourteenth century date, refronted in the early nineteenth century and shop windows added in the later nineteenth century (DoE 1973, 12; Parkin 1973, 123).
- b) (MUF13) 18-22 High Street. A row of timber-framed buildings under one roof, probably of thirteenth or fourteenth century date, refronted in brick in the eighteenth century, then stuccoed. No. 18 has a modern curved shop window (DoE 1973, 12-13; Parkin 1973, 121-123).

- c) (MUF14) 28-30 High Street. Two timber-framed houses under one roof retaining traces of a forward jetty. Probably thirteenth or fourteenth century. Refronted in brick and stucco in the eighteenth century. Modern shop windows added (DoE 1973 14; Parkin 1973, 121-123).

PC20. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street.

- a) (MUF15) 46-48 High Street. A timber-framed building, possibly a thirteenth or fourteenth century Wealden house, refronted in brick in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, now rendered. Now a shop. (DoE 1973, 16).
- b) (MUF16) 78-80 High Street. A possibly fourteenth century Wealden house refronted in brick in the eighteenth century, now stuccoed and used as Romney Grill (DoE 1973,16; Parkin 1973, 123).
- c) (MUF17) 86-88 High Street. A medieval timber-framed building, once two cottages. Refronted in red brick with grey headers in the seventeenth or eighteenth century. Single-storey weatherboarded extensions added at each end (DoE 1973,17).

PC21. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street. The medieval Windmill (High Mill) was located in this group of plots.

PC22. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street/Dymchurch Road.

- a) (MUF18) Stone House, Dymchurch Road. Part of a stone dwelling house, probably fourteenth century. Rubble walls with remains of segmental dressed stone windows and doorways. The front of the building was truncated *c.*1830 when a new front wing was added. The rear northern half of the original building was demolished *c.*1960 (DoE 1973, facing page 3).

PC23. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of North Street - shown on 1614 map.

PC24. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of North Street - shown on 1614 map.

PC25. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of Fairfield Road - shown on 1614 map.

PC26. Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of Church Road - shown on 1614 map.

PC27. Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of Church Road - shown on 1614 map

PC28-PC29. Possible groups of tenement plots fronting both sides of a lost street south of Church Road.

- (a-e) (MUF 19) Excavations, field-walking and reports of local observations have located at least five probable early medieval buildings. They may have stood on each side of a street lost in the great storm of 1287 (Willson 1987, 198-212).

PC30. Group of tenement plots fronting west side of West Street and north side of Church Road

5.2 Post-medieval Plan Components and post-medieval Urban features (Figures 17 and 18)

New Romney's town plan changed in some main features between the seventeenth and nineteenth century. The churches of St Martin and St Lawrence and the medieval hospitals were demolished. The poultry market by St Lawrence church, out of use by the end of the medieval period, remained an open space for some time. The town hall, built in the High Street in 1702, housed the weekly market.

Although New Romney was no longer a port after the end of the fifteenth century and was reduced to only a small market town, many of the town's buildings were refronted in fashionable brick during the eighteenth century and the streets were paved. At that time the town may have benefited from more productive farming in its surroundings. There was some rebuilding during the nineteenth and early twentieth century, but it was not until the second half of the twentieth century that new estates were constructed around the edges of the historic core. Figure 17 shows the extent of the town's Plan Components by *c.*1800, based on the Ordnance Surveyor's field drawing of *c.* 1800-1805 (Figure 12).

PC1. The Ashford Road.

PC2. The Hastings to Hythe and Folkestone Road, now the A259.

PC3. The High Street.

PC4. The Church and Churchyard.

- a) (PMUF1) The parish church of St Nicholas and the surrounding churchyard (DoE 1973, 3)

PC5. The Market Place in the High Street. This remained the site of the weekly general market until 1702, when a Town Hall was built with space for market stalls

PC6. Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of the High Street.

- a) (PMUF2) The Ship Hotel, High Street. The main western part of the building is of eighteenth century date and is built of brick with a later stucco finish to the front, with a nineteenth century public house front to the west of doorway. The eastern section is medieval (DoE 1973, 11).

PC7. Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of the High Street, the east side of Church Approach and the north side of Church Road.

- a) (PMUF3) Former Rating Office, now private house, Church Approach. A seventeenth century or earlier house with an eighteenth century front of red brick with grey headers (DoE 1973, 2).

- b) (PMUF4) The Assembly Rooms and Schoolroom adjoining Church Approach. Said to have been erected as the Hall of the Ports, the meeting place for the representatives of the Cinque Ports. It then became the Assembly Rooms, dated 1676. A single-storey extension was added to the south-east in the nineteenth century (DoE 1973, 2-3).

PC8. Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of the High Street.

- a) (PMUF5) Oak Hall Surgery, 41 High Street. A seventeenth century or earlier building, refronted with stucco in the eighteenth century (DoE 1973, 10).
- b) (PMUF6) Town Hall House, 35 High Street. Dated 1750 and built in brick as the town gaol. It later became the caretaker's residence when a new gaol was built next door. A cartouche above the door carries the arms of the town and the name Robert Langdon, 1750, the mayor at the time of building. A late eighteenth or early nineteenth century cast-iron naval cannon is embedded in the wall (DoE 1973, 9).
- c) (PMUF7) Town Hall, 33 High Street. Erected in 1702 with an open ground-floor arcade. Refaced in the early nineteenth century and the ground floor built in 1884. A late eighteenth or early nineteenth century cast iron naval cannon is embedded in the wall on the right hand side (DoE 1973, 8).
- d) (PMUF8) 17-21 High Street. A probable seventeenth century range of buildings, with later shop fronts (DoE 1973, 7).

PC9. Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of the High Street.

- a) (PMUF9) Victoria House, High Street. An L-shaped group of seventeenth century or earlier buildings, probably timber-framed. Refronted in brick in the nineteenth century and then stuccoed. An eighteenth century extension to the west (DoE 1973, 7.)

PC10. Group of tenement plots fronting the west side of West Street.

- a) (PMUF10) 5 West Street. An eighteenth century cottage built in brown brick (DoE 1973, 22).
- b) (PMUF11) Southland's Hospital, 1-4 West Street. A group of almshouses founded by John Southland in 1610, rebuilt in 1734 and further endowed in 1908. Renovated 1975 (DoE 1973, 22).

PC11. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street.

- a) (PMUF 12) Formerly Rome House, High Street, now Gandhi Tandoori. An early nineteenth century house in brown brick, replacing an earlier building. A late nineteenth century porch with iron columns. Late eighteenth to early nineteenth century stable to the rear (DoE 1973, 11-12).

PC12. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street.

- a) (PMUF13) Kings House, 26 High Street. An early eighteenth century building of red brick with grey headers, modern plate glass shop windows added (DoE 1973, 13).
- b) (PMUF14) Walter House, 38-40 High Street. Adjoining eighteenth century red brick houses (DoE 1973, 14).
- c) (PMUF15) 44 High Street, formerly St John's Priory, now Romney Marsh Osteopaths. A large L-shaped seventeenth century or earlier house, refronted in brick in the eighteenth century. Remains of possible Cistercian priory or grange to the rear (DoE 1973, 15).

PC13. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street.

- a) (PMUF16) High House, High Street. An early nineteenth century house in brown and red brick (DoE 1973, 17).

PC14. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street.

PC15. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street. A windmill stood there until the early twentieth century.

PC16. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of the High Street, the south side of Fairfield Road and the north side of Cannon Street.

PC17. Group of tenement plots fronting the south side of Fairfield Road and the north side of Cannon Street.

PC18. Group of tenement plots fronting the north side of North Street.

- a) (PMUF17) North Street. A late eighteenth or early nineteenth century house, red brick with grey headers (DoE 1973, 10).

PC19. Group of tenement plots fronting the west side of West Street.

- a) (PMUF18) The Limes, 1 -2 West Street. A late eighteenth to early nineteenth century house, with weatherboarding above a stuccoed base (DoE 1973, facing page 22).

PC20. Group of tenement plots fronting the west side of Lion's Road and the south side of Lydd Road.

- a) (PMUF19) West Lawn, Lydd Road. The date of 1715 has been roughly scratched on the brick of the house, which is of red brick with alternating grey headers. The north-east wing was added in the early nineteenth century (DoE 1973, 19).

PC21. Site of the former hospital of SS Stephen and Thomas. Its chapel survived for some time (1614 map).

6 THE POTENTIAL OF NEW ROMNEY

6.1 Archaeological resource overview

Only a few limited archaeological investigations have been undertaken within the town and its immediate surroundings. Thus little is known about the extent of surviving sub-surface archaeological deposits within the town. However, various service trenches along the streets have revealed up to 1m of sand and shingle over large areas of the town, the residue of the great storm of 1287 which buried and, it is hoped, protected remains of the pre-1287 town. Many later structures appear to have been built above the storm deposits, and St Nicholas church and several domestic buildings illustrate the difference in level. The small amount of urban building after the rapid decline of the town after c.1500 suggests that there has been only marginal destruction of archaeological deposits.

Small-scale excavations and commercial construction work have located surviving evidence of both pre-and post-1287 structures and occupation refuse. Waterlogged deposits have survived in New Romney on the south side of Church Road, the presumed site of the harbour. The potential survival of a stratigraphy of a considerable depth is good, and the archaeological potential of the town should be rated as high.

New Romney appears in Saxon charters and was probably deliberately founded as a planned town with a grid-pattern street system in the tenth century. As one of the Cinque Ports, it had an important harbour, and also served as a market centre for a large area of Romney Marsh. There is a wealth of surviving medieval documentation for the town's governance, trade and economy and also its institutions (churches, hospitals, Cistercian priory or grange), and topographically it has remained virtually unchanged since the sixteenth century. New Romney, therefore, is of national importance both archaeologically and historically, and it is vital that surviving medieval and earlier stratigraphy of this important town be located and disturbance through cellars and modern development assessed .

6.2 Research questions

The purpose of this document is to develop policy for New Romney's urban archaeological deposits, particularly those in the historic core. Little if any of the late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval components of the town have been archaeologically investigated, and there is virtually no archaeological evidence for the economic base of the late Saxon and medieval town. The situation and character of the harbour and quayside are also unknown.

6.3 Key areas for research

6.3.1. The origins of New Romney

The following need to be investigated

- The nature, date and extent of the earliest settlement remains at New Romney
- The earliest remains which could be classed as urban or proto-urban
- The origins, location and development of the Saxon settlement
- The origins, location and development of an early Saxon church
- The origins and development of St Martin's Church and churchyard
- The origins, location and development of a Saxon harbour
- The form and character of the Saxon settlement
- The origins, location and development of the market and fairs

- The development of the late Saxon planned town
- The origins, location and development of the mint
- The economic base of the Saxon settlement and associated industries
- The origins and development of the churches of St Lawrence and St Nicholas
- The form and character of individual properties
- The origins, location and development of the manor of New Romney

6.3.2 New Romney in the medieval period

- The impact of the Norman Conquest on the development of the town
- The form and character of individual properties
- The location and development of the harbour
- The location and development of the markets and fairs
- The development of the churches of St Nicholas and St Martins and their churchyards
- The development of the church of St Lawrence
- The origins, location and development of the hospitals of St. Stephen, St. Thomas and St. John the Baptist
- The origins, location and development of the Franciscan friary and the Cistercian priory or grange
- The development of the town as a Cinque Port
- The impact of the 13th century storms on the development of the town, settlement pattern and harbour
- The construction of the Rhee Wall (Channel) and its impact on the development of the town
- The economic basis of the medieval town and its industries
- The impact of coastal changes on the development of the town and port

6.3.3 New Romney in the post medieval period

The following need investigation

- The development of St Nicholas' church and the decline of St Lawrence and St Martin's churches
- The location, development and decline of the markets
- The location, development and decline of the harbour
- The pattern of settlement and the relationship of individual plots to the settlement framework
- The form and character of individual properties
- The economic basis of the town and its industries

6.3.4 General questions

- The evidence of artefactual remains in interpreting New Romney's pre-urban and urban role
- The palaeo-environmental history of the town

The discovery and study of both structures and artefacts would illuminate these topics. Small-scale archaeological sampling in individual properties in New Romney could provide answers to specific questions. Consideration should be given, however, to large-scale excavation over a number of adjacent properties, which would provide a wider picture, if desk-top assessment and field evaluation demonstrate the case. The position and importance of New Romney in

the hierarchy of Kent towns can be solved only through excavation, field survey and consultation of historical documentation.

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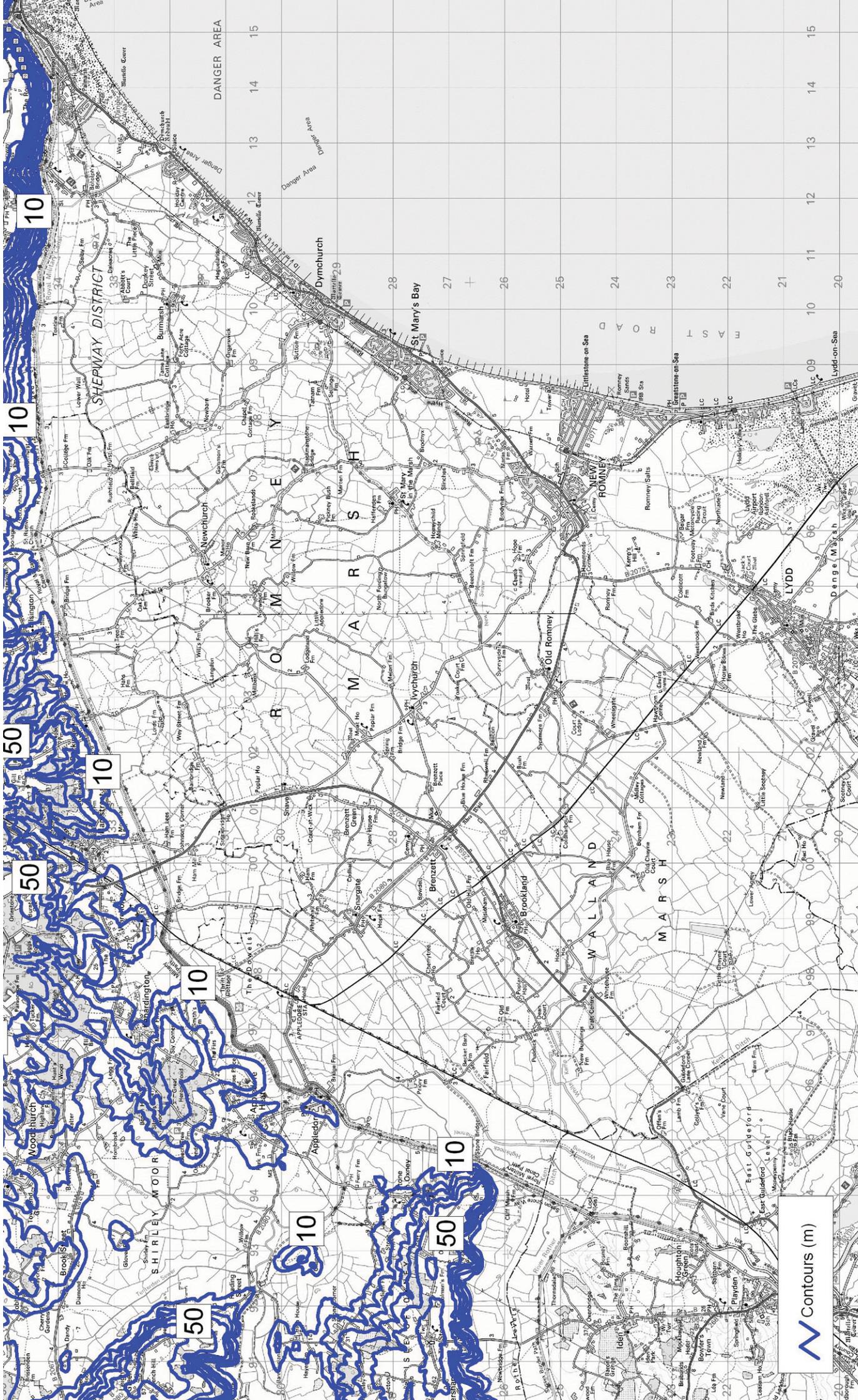
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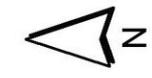
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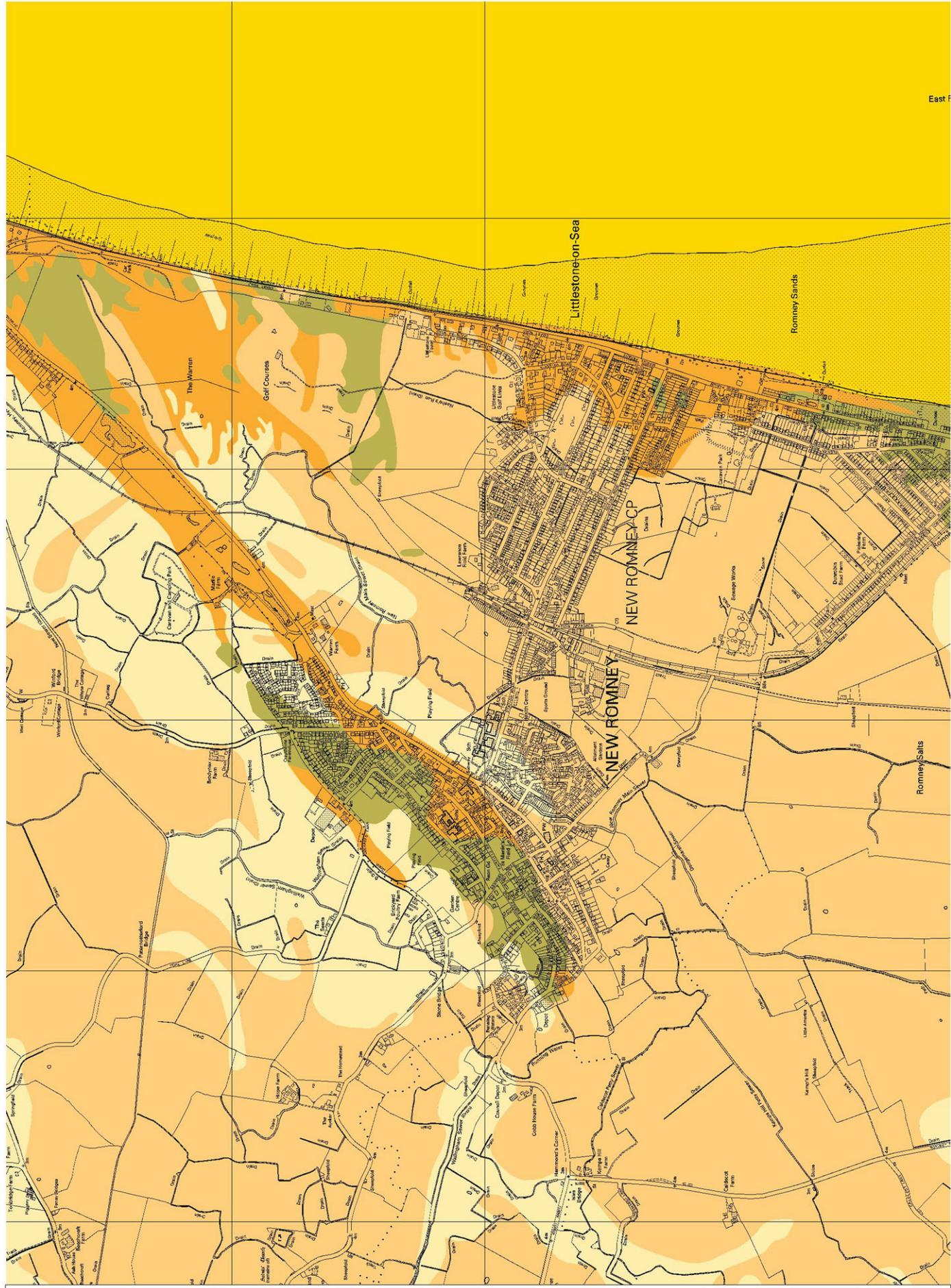


1:69282

Figure 1. Map of New Romney showing contours

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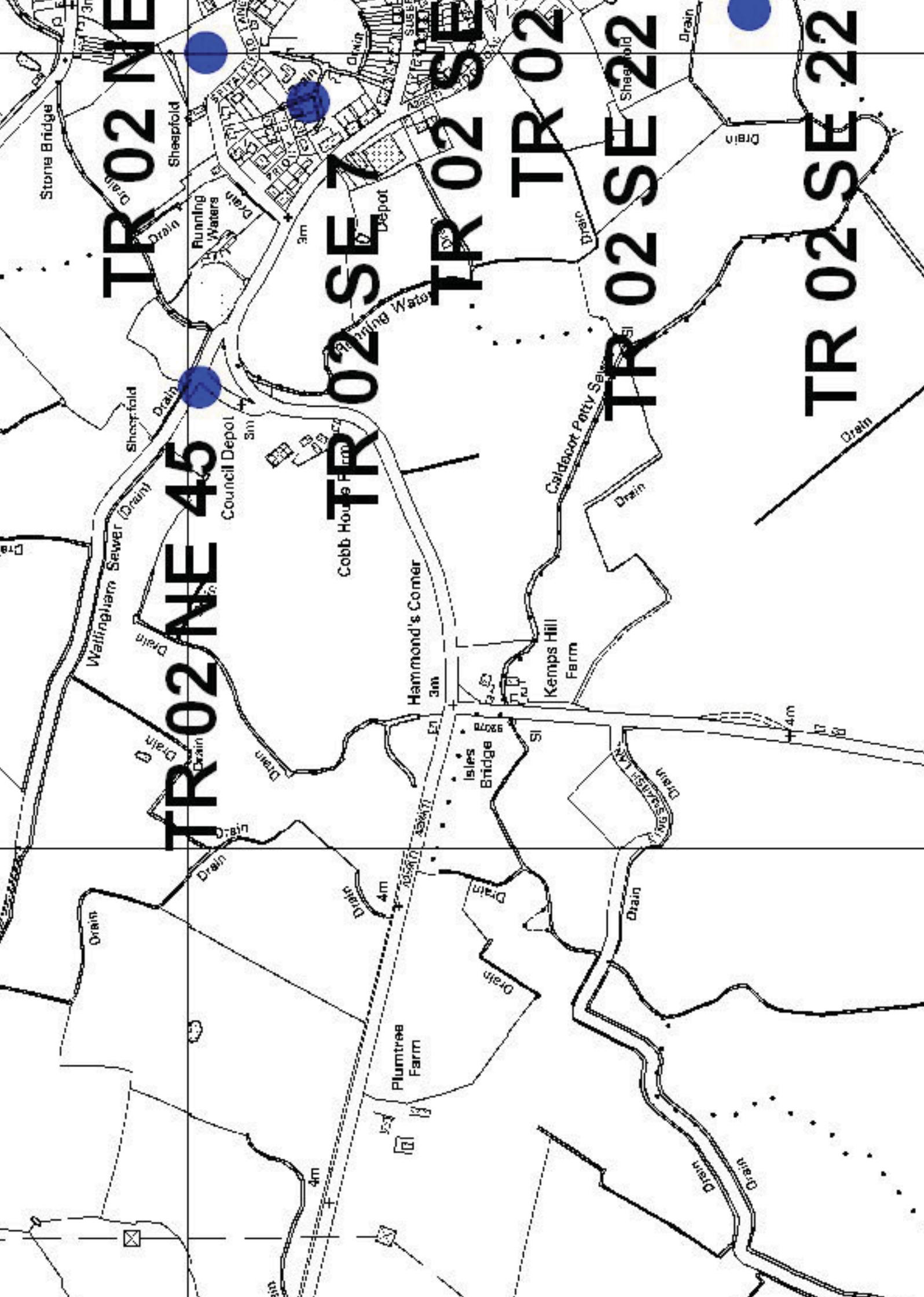




Legend	
	Drift Geology
	Landfill
	No Drift
	Blown Sand
	Marine Beach / Tidal Flats
	Stem Gravel Beach Deposits
	Marine (E Blaines) Alluvium
	Clay (Sand, Sand & Gravel)
	Calcareous Tufa
	Alluvium
	Dry Valley & Nalbourne Deposits
	Peat
	Boulder
	Unsorted / Poorly Sorted Gravel
	1st Terrace River Gravel
	2nd Terrace River Gravel
	3rd Terrace River Gravel
	4th Terrace River Gravel
	5th Terrace River Gravel
	6th Terrace River Gravel
	7th Terrace River Gravel
	8th Terrace River Gravel
	9th Terrace River Gravel
	10th Terrace River Gravel
	Tadlow Gravel
	Ridge Hill Gravel
	Head
	Coarse Deposits
	Head Bricksouth
	Head Bricksouth (Older)
	Head Gravel
	Pileas Gravel
	Clay-with-Fints
	Sand in Clay-with-Fints
	Disturbed Bricksouth Beds
	Solid Geology
	Cretaceous Weald Clay
	Ardingly Sandstone
	Ashdown Beds
	Atherfield Clay
	Bagshot Beds
	Bricksouth Beds
	Dulwich Beds
	Clay & Lint in Weald Clay
	Clay in front of Weald Clay
	Clay in Tun Wells Sand
	Chyatte Bees
	Cuckfield Stone
	Folkestone Beds
	Gault
	Gonistead Clay
	Hastings Beds
	Hole Beds
	Intrusive Head of Clay
	Large Full Lane Weald clay
	Lombard Clay
	Lower Chalk (Oolitic) m.s.l
	Lower Gonistead Clay
	Lower Tun Wells Sand
	Melbourn rock
	Middle Chalk
	No dirt or silt
	Sand in Weald Clay
	Sand in head clay
	Singapore Beds
	Small Full Lane Weald clay
	Theriot Beds Bricksouth beds
	Tunbridge Wells Sand
	Upper Chalk
	Upper Greensand
	Upper Gonistead Clay
	Upper Tun Wells Sand
	Weald Clay
	Woodhead beds

Scale 1:15000 Figure 2 Map of New Romney showing geology

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TR 02 NE

TR 02 NE 45

TR 02 SE 7

TR 02 SE

TR 02

TR 02 SE 22

TR 02 SE 22

Watlington Sewer (Drain)

Council Depot

Cobb House Farm

Hammond's Corner

Kemps Hill Farm

Plumtree Farm

Isles Bridge

Sheepfold

Running Waters

Depot

Caldicot Potty Sewer

Drain



Figure 3a. Map of New Romney showing Scheduled Monuments



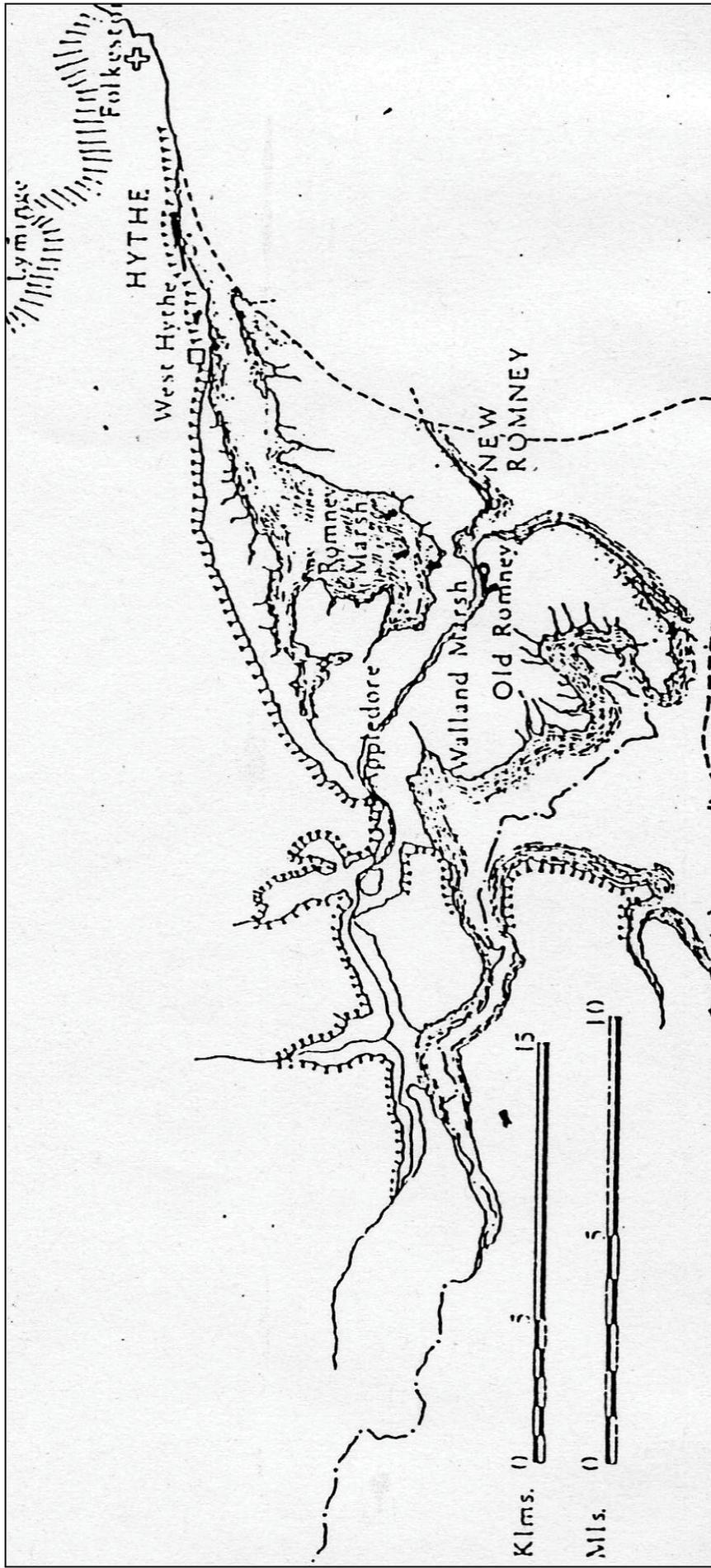


Figure 4. Map of the Romney Marsh area during the Late Saxon period showing the probable land mass and estuaries at that time

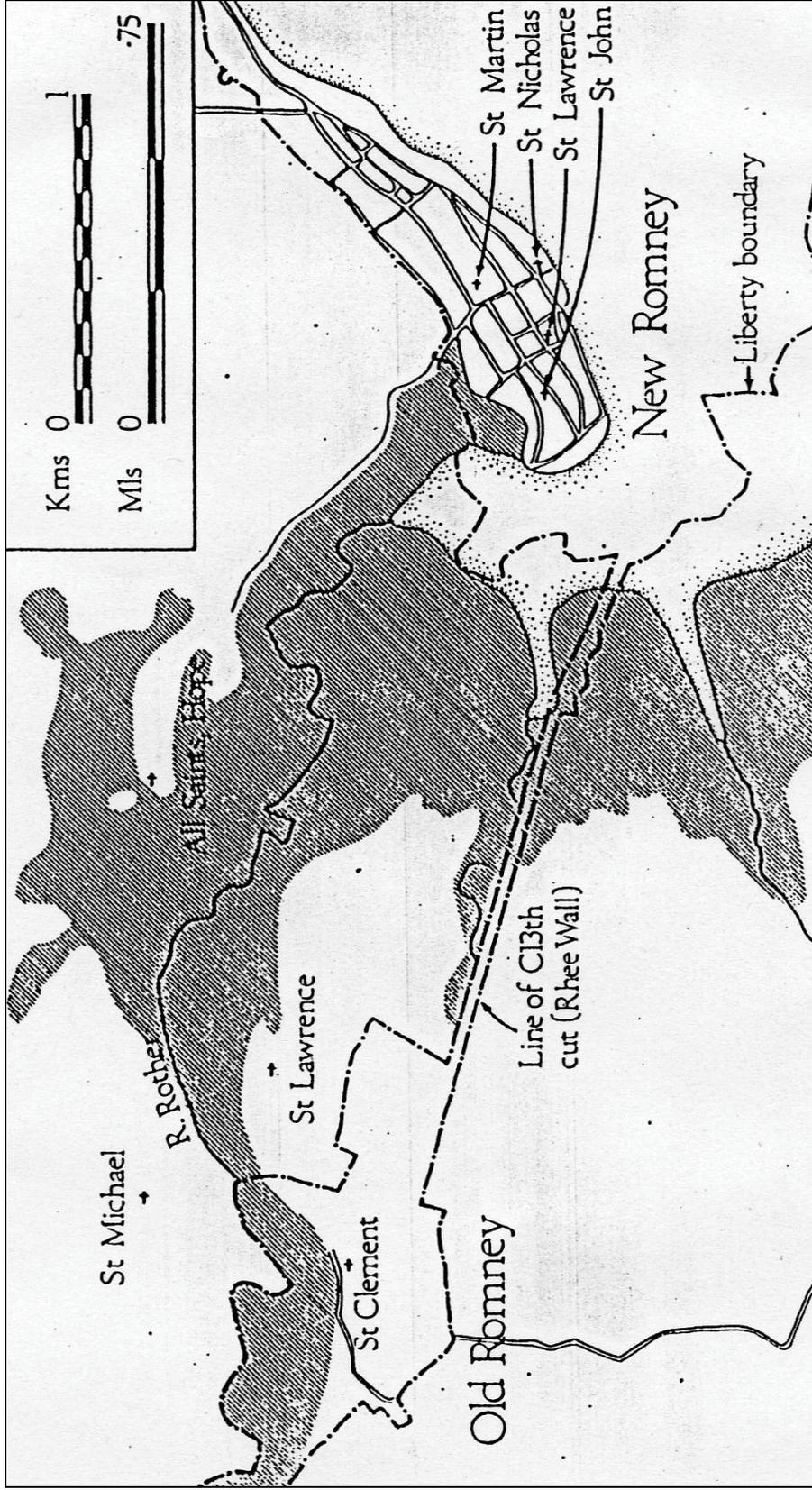


Figure 5. Map of the New Romney area showing the probable estuary and town during the Late Saxon period

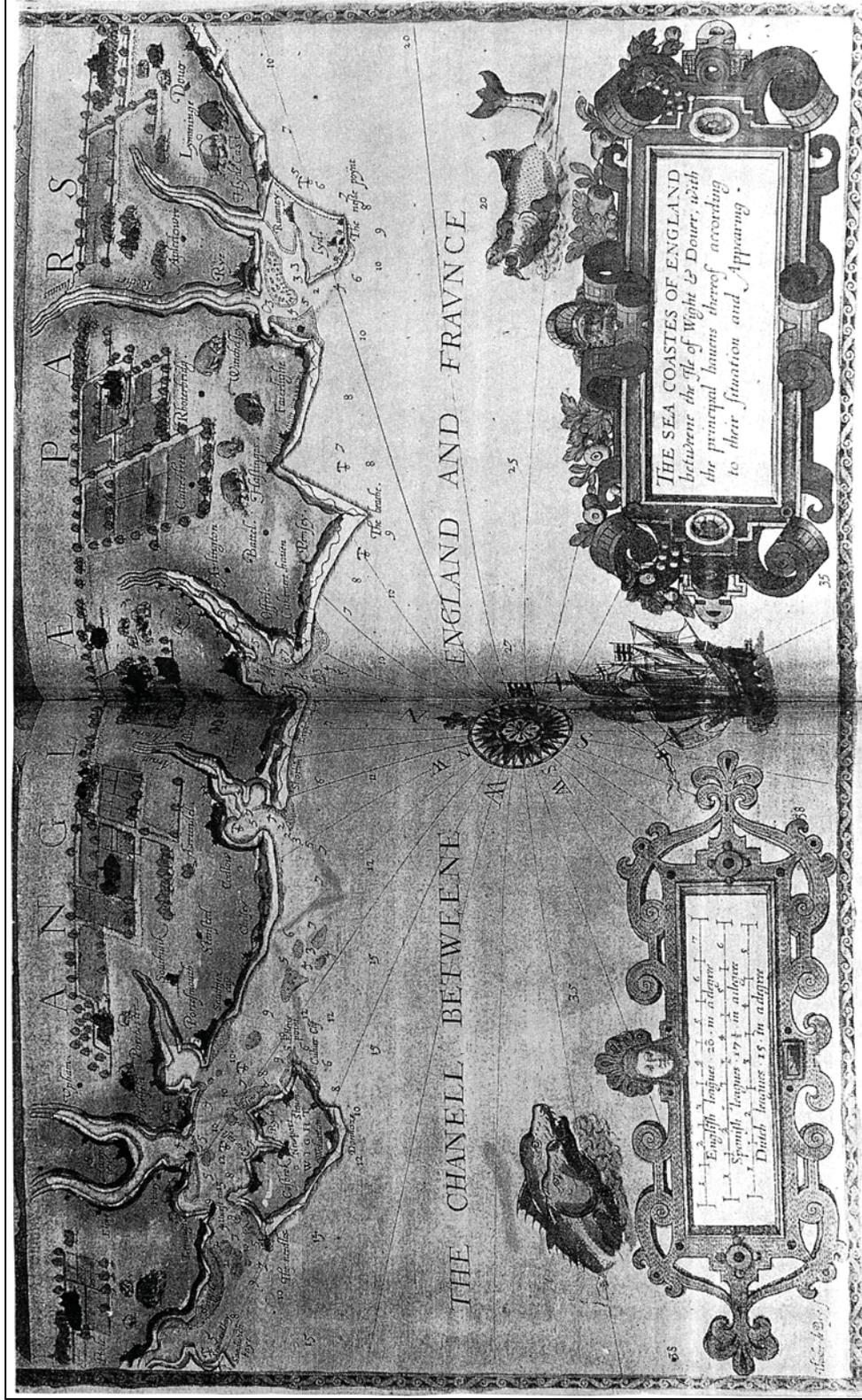


Figure 6. A sixteenth century Sea Chart of the English Channel by the Dutch cartographer 'Waghenaer', showing the location of New Romney and receding coastline, 1586



Figure 7. Extract of Philip Symonson's Map of Kent, showing the bay of New Romney, 1596

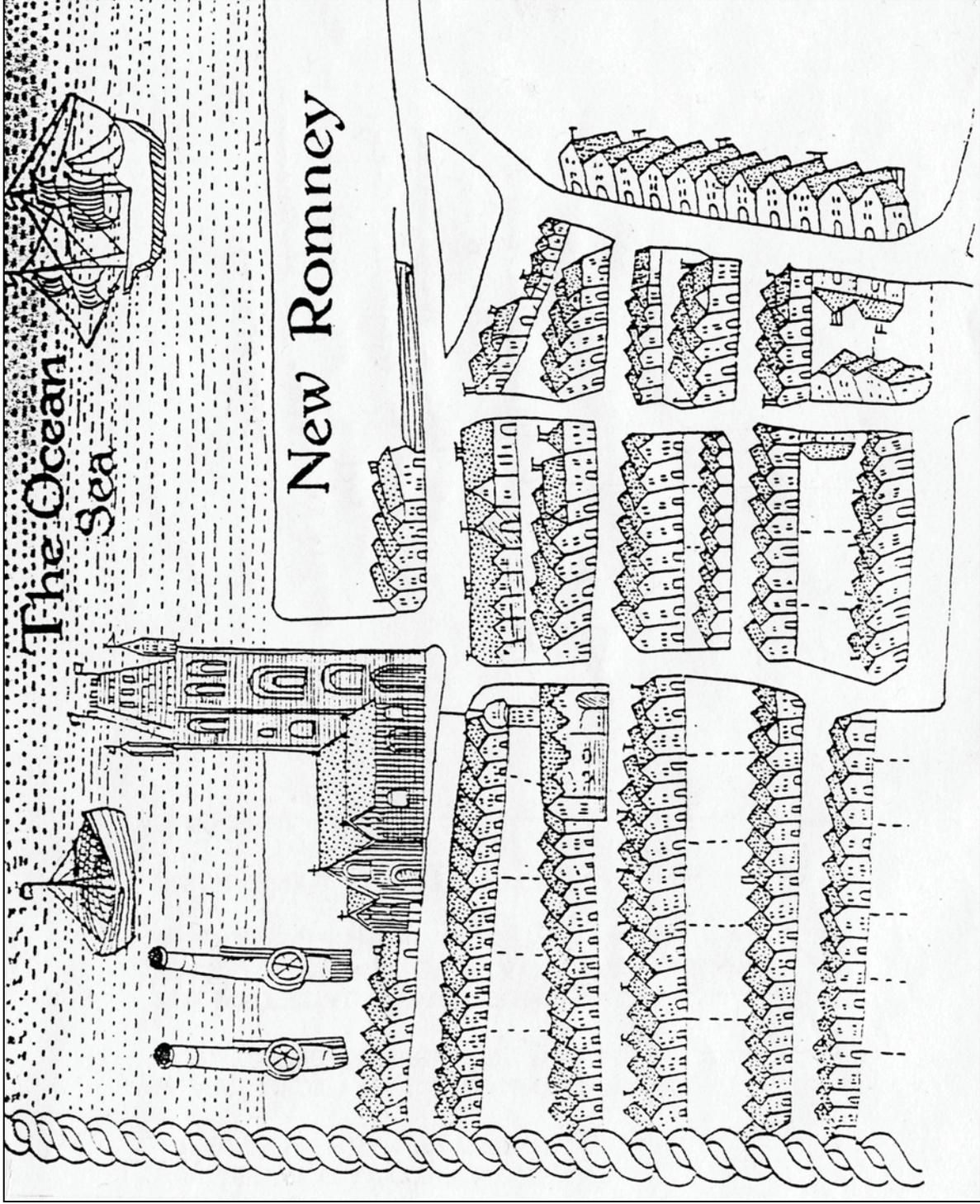


Figure 9. William Webb's map of 1614 –part of a map of lands in Romney Marsh held by Magdalene College, Oxford (Once held by the Chapel of St Stephen and St Thomas)

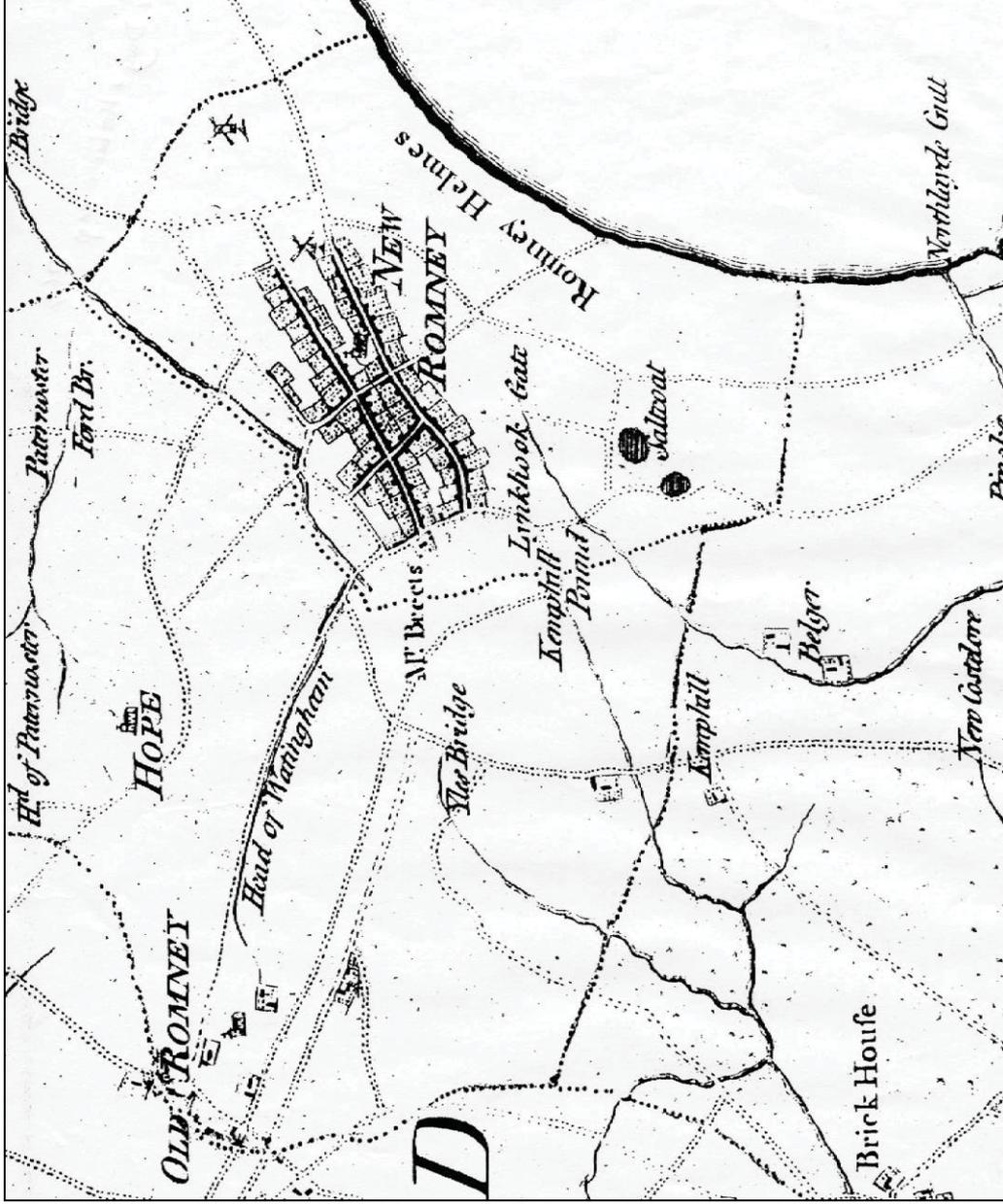


Figure 10. Andrews, Dury and Herbert's map of New Romney, 1769

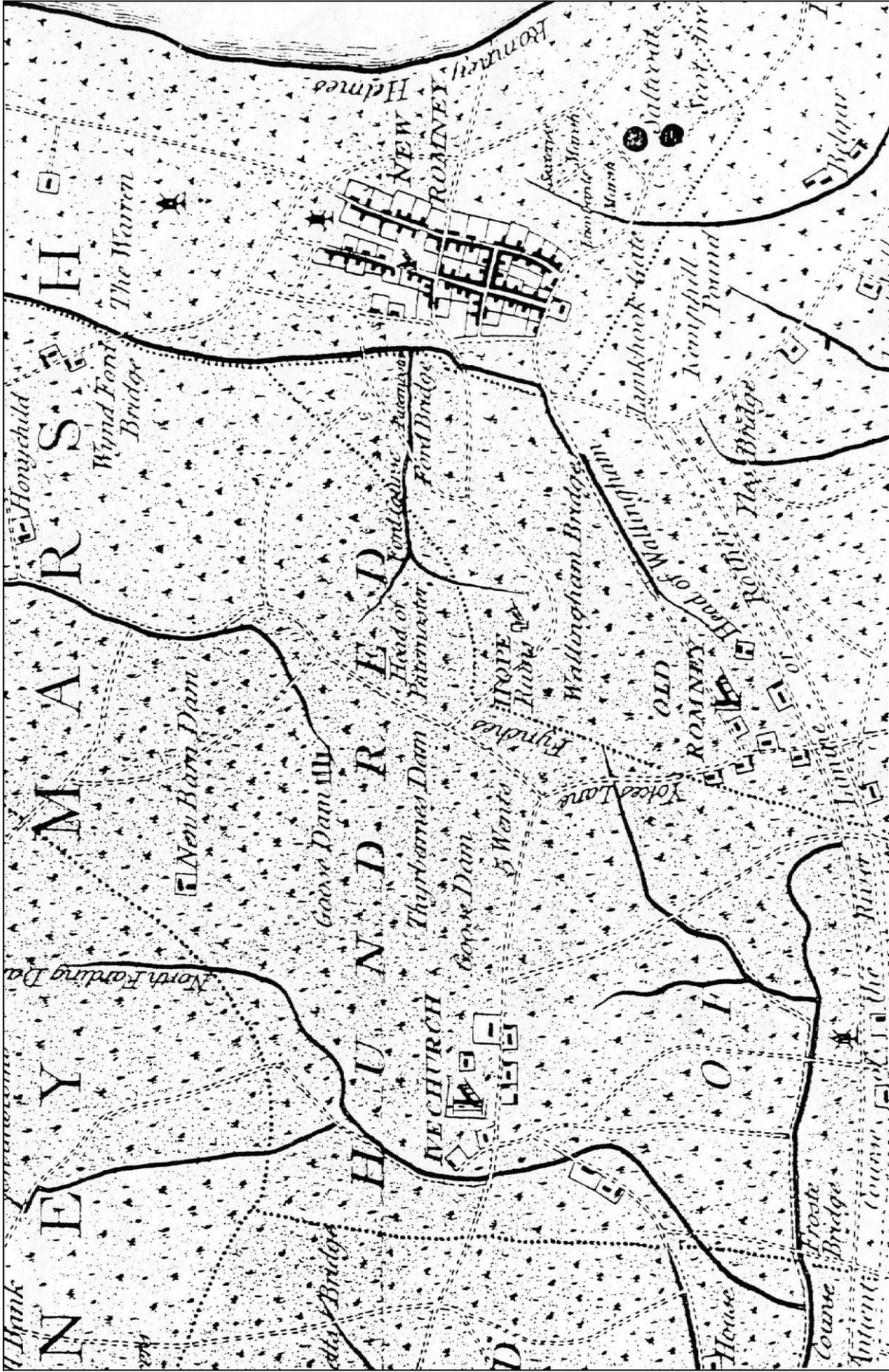


Figure 11. Hasted's map of New Romney, c.1790



Figure 12. The Ordnance Surveyor's field drawing for the 1st Edition OS map, c. 1805

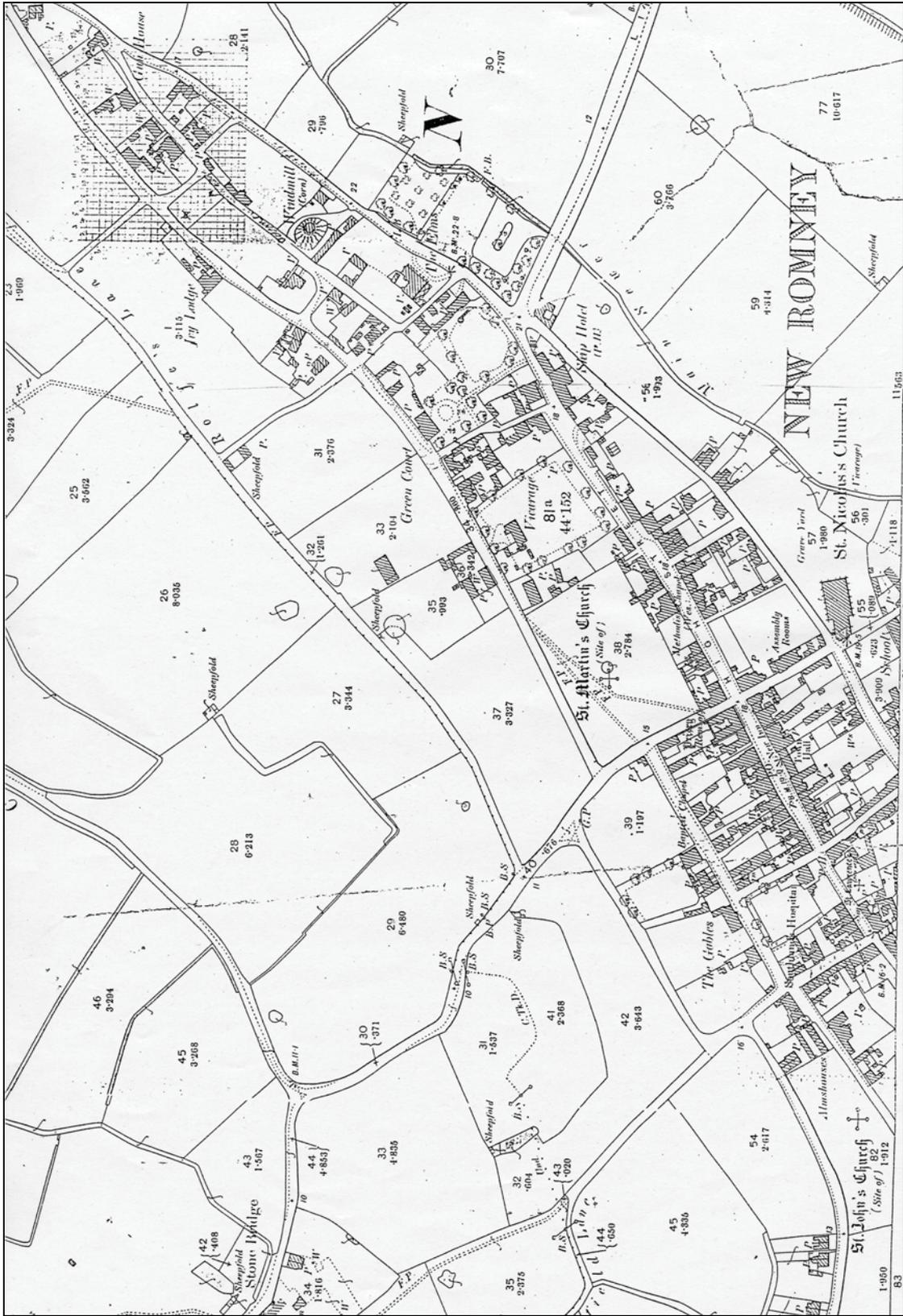
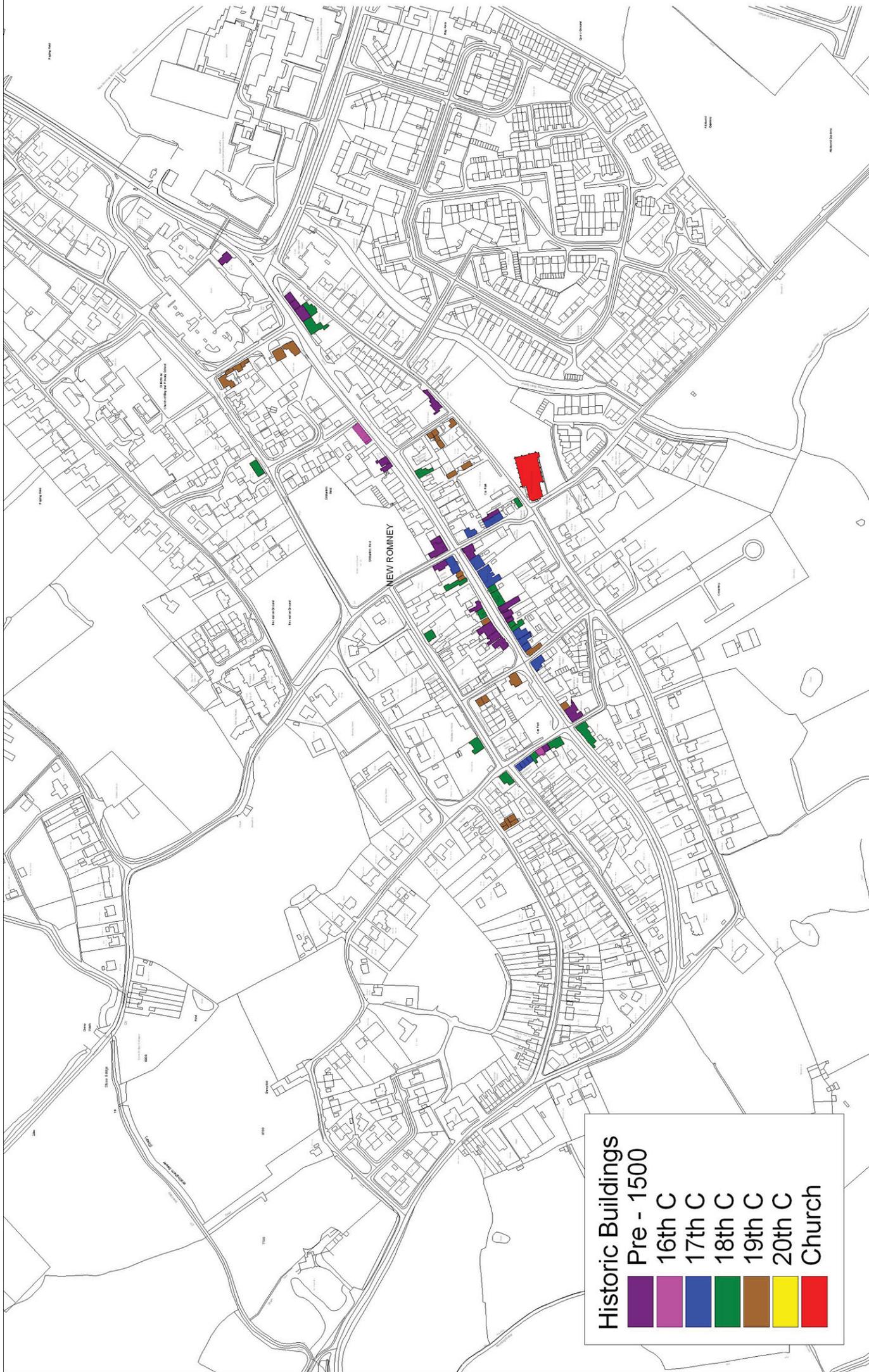


Figure 13. Part of the 2nd Edition OS map of New Romney, 1898

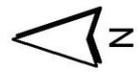


Historic Buildings

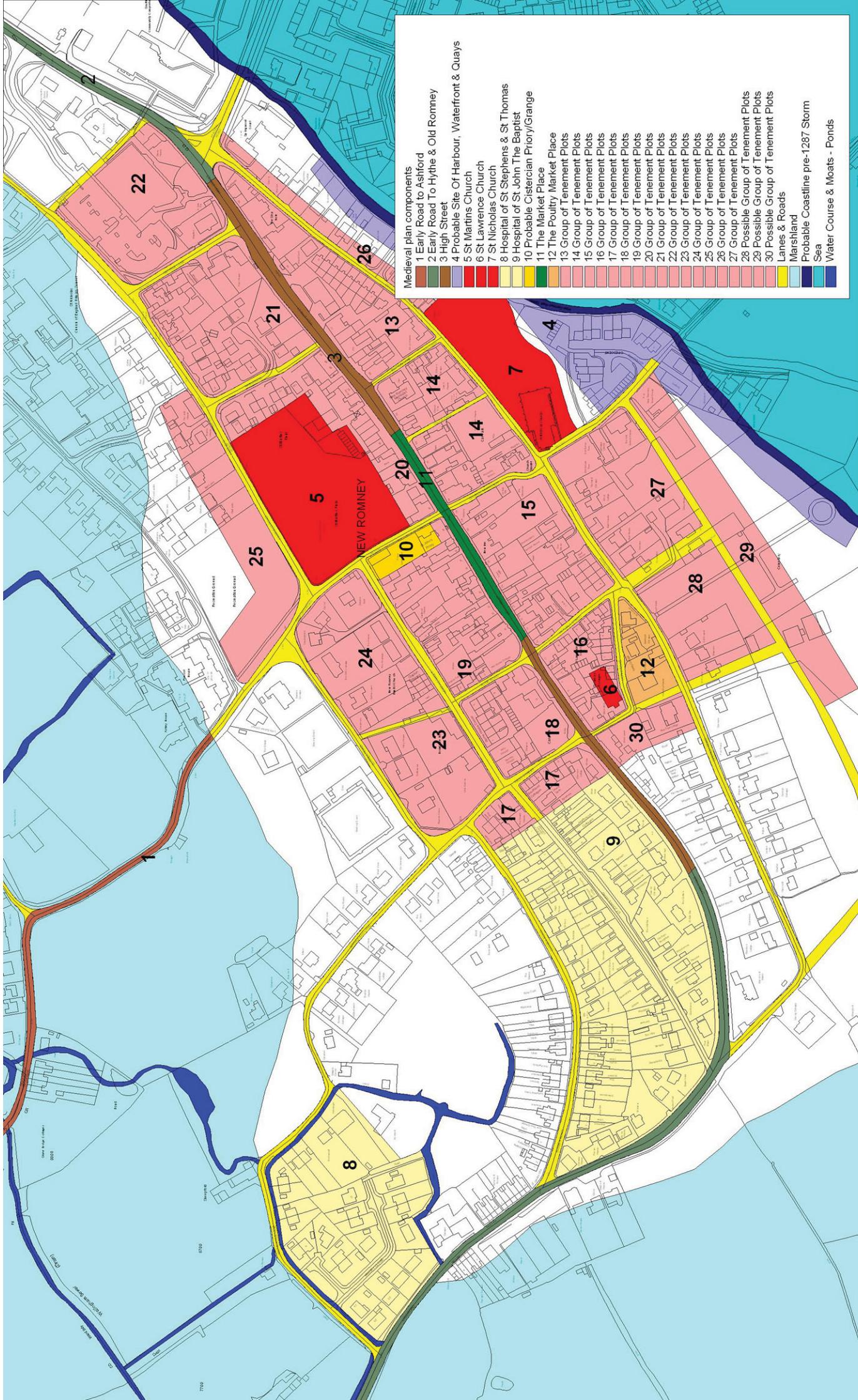
	Pre - 1500
	16th C
	17th C
	18th C
	19th C
	20th C
	Church

1:3892

Figure 14. Map of New Romney showing historic buildings



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- Medieval plan components**
- 1 Early Road to Ashford
 - 2 Early Road To Hythe & Old Romney
 - 3 High Street
 - 4 Probable Site Of Harbour, Waterfront & Quays
 - 5 St Martins Church
 - 6 St Lawrence Church
 - 7 St Nicholas Church
 - 8 Hospital of St Stephens & St Thomas
 - 9 Hospital of St John The Baptist
 - 10 Probable Cistercian Priory/Grange
 - 11 The Market Place
 - 12 The Poultry Market Place
 - 13 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 14 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 15 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 16 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 17 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 18 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 19 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 20 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 21 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 22 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 23 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 24 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 25 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 26 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 27 Group of Tenement Plots
 - 28 Possible Group of Tenement Plots
 - 29 Possible Group of Tenement Plots
 - 30 Possible Group of Tenement Plots
- Other features:**
- Lanes & Roads
 - Marshland
 - Probable Coastline pre-1287 Storm
 - Sea
 - Water Course & Moats - Ponds

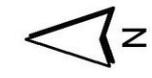


Figure 15. Map of New Romney showing medieval plan components

1:3031

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Figure 16. Map of New Romney showing medieval urban features

Medieval urban features



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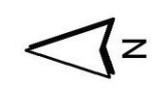
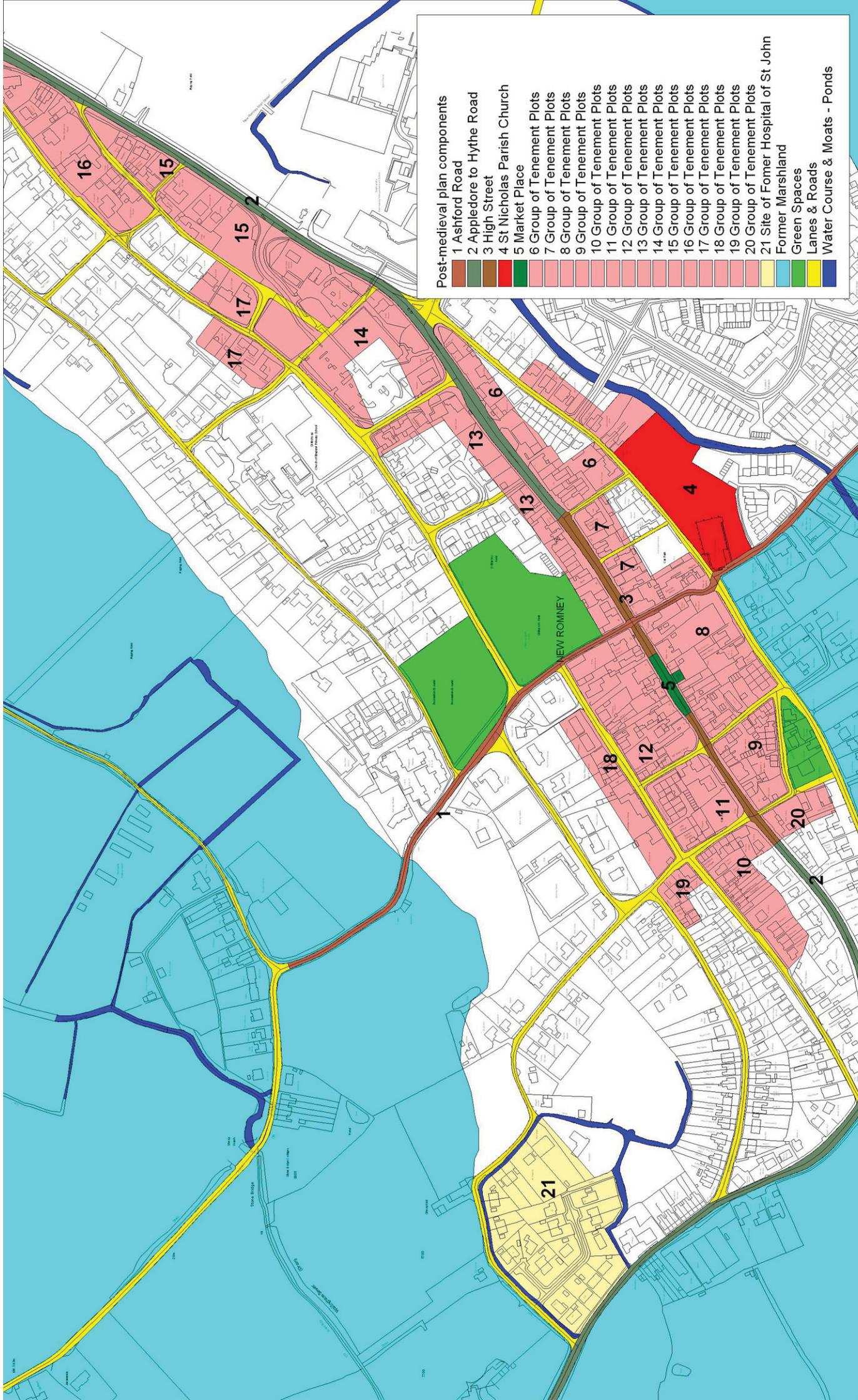
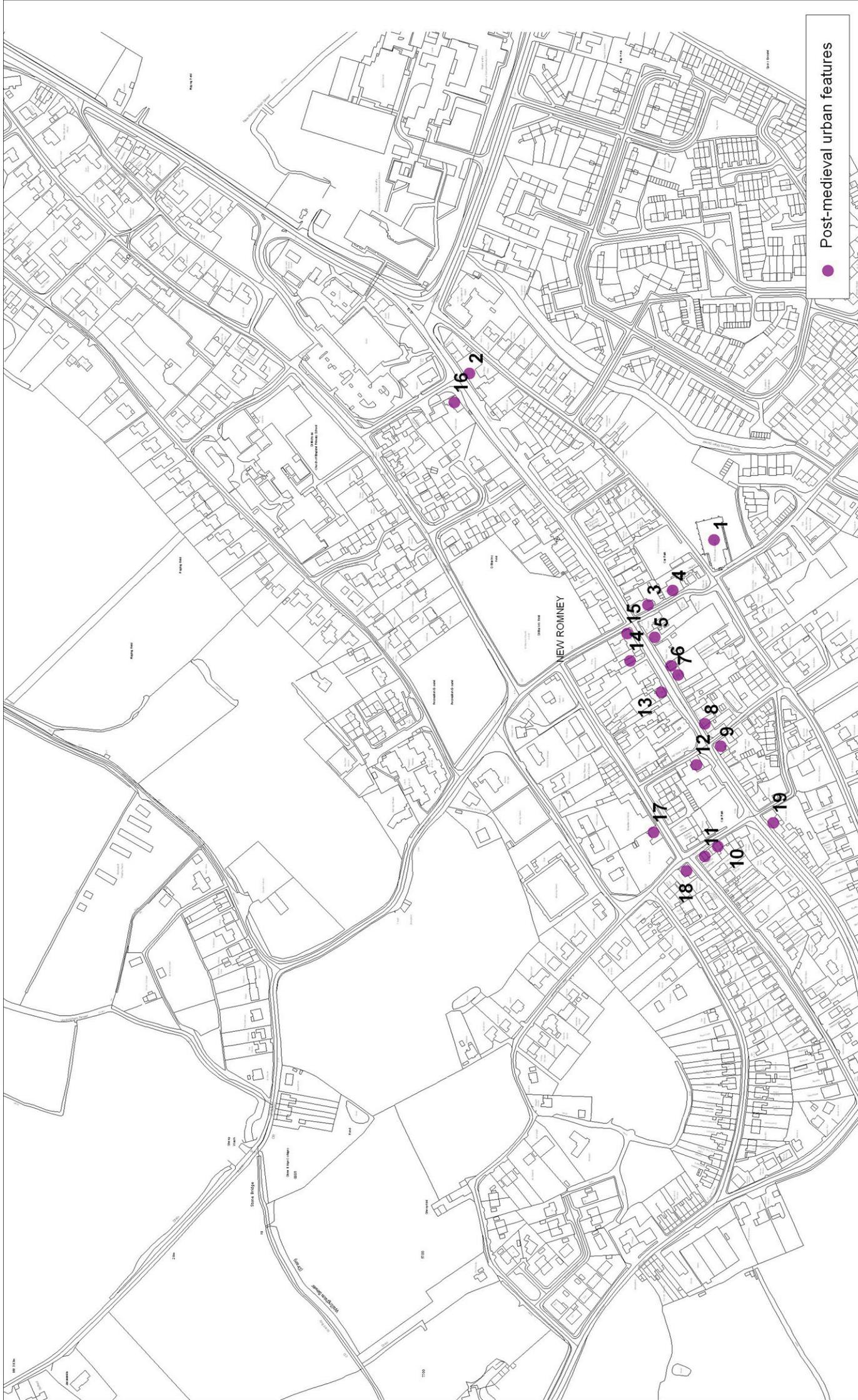


Figure 17. Map of New Romney showing post-medieval plan components

1:3536

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Figure 18. Map of New Romney showing post-medieval urban features



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APPENDIX I: KENT AND MEDWAY STRUCTURE PLAN – MAPPING OUT THE FUTURE: *DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE (SPG 3) ON ARCHAEOLOGY IN HISTORIC TOWNS*

1. Introduction

1.1 The Extensive Urban Archaeological Survey, undertaken by Kent County Council, assesses the archaeological potential of the historic towns in Kent and Medway, particularly in relation to potential impacts from development. It constitutes draft supplementary planning guidance (as revised following consultation). Following adoption of the Kent and Medway Structure Plan (KMSP) (anticipated in late 2005) this draft guidance will be taken forward as Supplementary Planning Guidance to KMSP Policy QL8 [Archaeological Sites] which sets out the requirements for the conservation and management of archaeological sites and finds. The draft KMSP and the draft supplementary guidance on archaeology (SPG3) were subject to full public consultation in late 2003. The draft supplementary planning guidance has been revised in the light of the responses received to that consultation. Policy QL8 is also the subject of a Proposed Change put forward in 2004 prior to the Structure Plan Examination in Public.

Policy QL8: Archaeological Sites

The archaeological and historic integrity of scheduled ancient monuments and other important archaeological sites, together with their settings, will be protected and, where possible, enhanced. Development which would adversely affect them will not normally be permitted.

Where important or potentially important archaeological remains may exist, developers will be required to arrange for archaeological assessment and/or field evaluation to be carried out in advance of the determination of planning applications.

Where the case for development affecting an archaeological site is accepted, the archaeological remains should be preserved in situ. Where preservation in situ is not possible or justified, appropriate provision for preservation by record will be required.

Source : Kent and Medway Structure Plan:Deposit Plan September 2003 as amended by Proposed Pre – Examination in Public Changes: June 2004

1.2 Precisely defining what is a town is not straightforward; for the purposes of this study, places that can be seen historically to have fulfilled roles as central places socially and economically, and perhaps with a market, have been included. Inevitably the distinction between village and town is not always clear. The Extensive Urban Archaeological Survey includes some medieval towns that are no longer of urban character and extends to towns which developed in the eighteenth century. Roman towns that now only survive as buried remains in a rural context are not included. The Guidance is concerned with the impact of

development on archaeological remains within towns rather than sites in the surrounding countryside. In particular it seeks to raise awareness of areas of archaeological importance within a town, provide more accurate information on the extent of these areas and establish a consistent approach towards dealing with the impact of development proposals across Kent and Medway¹. Canterbury and Dover have not been included in the Extensive Urban Archaeological Survey, as a more detailed Urban Archaeological Database is being developed for Canterbury and one is proposed for Dover.

1.3 The Guidance is aimed at local planning authorities, developers and their advisers. It may also be of interest to landowners, householders and local historical groups. Pending adoption of the Kent and Medway Structure Plan, this Guidance amplifies Policy ENV18 of the adopted Kent Structure Plan 1996. Local Planning Authorities are encouraged to take the guidance into account in the preparation of their Local Plans/ Development Plan Documents and site specific Supplementary Planning Documents. The Guidance does not apply outside the identified urban areas and should be read alongside existing Local Plan policies on archaeology. The Guidance has been issued both as a Kent and Medway edition containing maps for all the settlements to which it applies and a district edition containing maps only for those settlements falling in the respective district area. There is no difference in the wording or application of the Guidance in either edition.

2. SPG Background

2.1 Kent's historic towns, some of which have been occupied since Roman times or even earlier, contain a wealth of evidence of past ways of life. This may take the form of buried archaeological deposits, standing buildings or structures, such as castles or town walls, or the present street patterns which may reflect past urban forms. At the same time, our towns need to develop as thriving communities. The Guidance aims to reduce conflict between the need for development and the need to preserve important archaeological remains, through the preparation of an ongoing and integrated strategy for conserving the urban archaeological resource.

2.2 The Government's policy on archaeological remains is set out in PPG16: Archaeology and Planning. It states (para. 6) that:

'Archaeological remains should be seen as a finite and non-renewable resource, in many cases highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction. Appropriate management is therefore essential to ensure they survive in good condition. In particular, care must be taken to ensure that archaeological remains are not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed. They can contain irreplaceable information about our past and the potential for an increase in future knowledge. They are part of our sense of national identity and are valuable both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and tourism.'

2.3 Archaeological remains are not always buried below ground and in many cases historic buildings within a town will contain important archaeological information, irrespective of whether they are Listed Buildings or not. Indeed, as noted in PPG15 (para. 2.15):

¹ Please note that Kent County Council provides an archaeological service for the Medway area on behalf of Medway Council.

'Some historic buildings are scheduled ancient monuments, and many which are not scheduled are of intrinsic archaeological interest or stand on ground which contains' archaeological remains.'

2.4 The means by which provision for archaeological preservation or recording is secured is also discussed in PPG16. In the event that archaeological work may be required prior to a planning decision being taken (para 21):

'it is reasonable for the planning authority to request the prospective developer to arrange for an archaeological field evaluation to be carried out before any decision on the planning application is taken.'

If the planning authority is willing to grant planning permission but requires that preservation in-situ or archaeological recording take place (para 30):

'it is open to them to do so by the use of a negative condition i.e. a condition prohibiting the carrying out of development until such time as works or other action, e.g. an excavation, have been carried out by a third party. '

3. Urban Archaeological Zones and Guidance

3.1 The Guidance relates to 46 towns in Kent and Medway as listed in Section 9. A plan has been produced for each town (for New Romney here Figure 19) providing archaeological response zones based on the known importance of archaeological deposits in that town, which again derives from the Extensive Urban Archaeological Survey. The boundaries of these zones are related to the possible extent of archaeological deposits rather than modern boundaries. Key documents in assessing the archaeological potential of Kent's towns are the Ordnance Surveyors' Field Drawings of c. 1800 (held by the British Library). These provide consistent, fairly detailed cartography of the various towns before the population explosion of the 19th century. While they do not map the extent and layout of the towns in the medieval period, they nonetheless provide a useful baseline for assessing the extent and layout of the towns in the Middle Ages. In the case of applications for Listed Building Consent or where the building is historic in character, and where the proposal impacts on the historic fabric, then the Local Planning Authority will need to consider whether or not to consult the County Archaeologist in respect of considerations of archaeology or industrial archaeology. Similarly, developers considering proposals in these areas are encouraged to consult the County Archaeologist at an early stage in the design process. Four types of Urban Archaeological Zone have been identified although they will not necessarily be present in all the towns. The zones indicate:

Zone 1 – Areas of known national importance;

Zone 2 – Areas of known archaeological potential where clarification of the nature of this potential is required;

Zone 3 – Areas where archaeological potential is thought to be lower; and

Zone 4 – Areas in which archaeological remains have been completely removed.

Further information detailing the state of knowledge of the archaeology of each of these towns including analysis of their topography and historical development is available in the form of an

Assessment Report. These reports can be purchased from the County Archaeologist (see section 7 for contact details).

3.2 **Zone 1** identifies, as suggested in PPG16 (para 16), archaeological remains of known national importance, and comprises both Scheduled Monuments and unscheduled remains. PPG16 (para 8) states that:

'Where nationally important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not, and their settings, are affected by proposed development there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation.'

3.3 Scheduled Monuments (formerly known as Scheduled Ancient Monuments) are protected under Part 1 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, and prior consent from the Secretary of State is required for all works affecting such monuments, whether or not those works require planning permission. Local planning authorities should secure, through the development control process, the protection of nationally important remains that are not scheduled.

3.4 Development proposals within Zone 1 that are likely to affect nationally important archaeological remains whether scheduled or not, should include a detailed archaeological assessment of the remains and a mitigation strategy setting out how the remains will be protected. Buildings and foundations may need to be designed and/or located to allow preservation of archaeological remains. Such considerations should be addressed at an early stage in the design process, if possible before a planning application is actually submitted, in order to avoid unnecessary costs.

3.5 The archaeological and historic integrity of sites within Zone 1, together with their settings, should be protected and where possible enhanced. Where development would adversely affect them permission will normally be refused.

3.6 Where permission is granted, conditions will normally be applied, or agreements entered into, to ensure that any necessary mitigation strategy is implemented. Applications for planning permission and other consents that affect the fabric of historic buildings, or other historic structures or earthworks, and/or that disturb the ground, should be accompanied by the following:

- i.) a detailed report on the character and extent of any archaeological remains likely to be affected; and
- ii.) a mitigation strategy detailing how any possible archaeological impacts would be avoided.

3.7 **Zone 2** contains archaeological remains, some of which may be of national importance but whose precise extent, quality or level of importance is currently not clear, and where clarification of potential is required. Early consultation with the local planning authority, preferably prior to the submission of a planning application, will enable the implications of the proposals to be assessed, the appropriate course of action identified, and expensive redesign costs avoided.

3.8 The archaeological and historic integrity of sites within Zone 2, together with their settings, should be protected and where possible enhanced. Further information will be needed in this respect before informed decisions can be made. Therefore development proposals within Zone 2 that affect the historic fabric of buildings, or other historic structures or earthworks, and/or that disturb the ground, should be accompanied by a detailed report on the character and extent of any archaeological remains likely to be affected. Field evaluation may need to be carried out and the results made available prior to the determination of a planning application.

3.9 If significant archaeological remains are found to be affected by the proposals, preservation *in situ* of the remains will normally be sought. In some cases the need to preserve important archaeological remains may result in planning permission having to be refused. If permission is granted, a mitigation strategy detailing how preservation *in situ* is to be achieved should be submitted to and agreed with the local planning authority. Where preservation *in situ* is not justified appropriate provision for archaeological investigation, recording, analysis, publication and archiving will be required, in accordance with a written specification and timetable to be agreed with the local planning authority. Conditions will normally be applied to permissions or agreements sought to implement the mitigation strategy or programme of archaeological work.

3.10 **Zone 3** contains archaeological remains which on current evidence are of lesser importance. Development proposals within Zone 3 that affect the historic fabric of buildings, or other historic structures or earthworks, and/or that will disturb the ground should include provision for archaeological investigation, generally in the form of monitoring and/or borehole investigation, and the recording of finds and information of archaeological interest. If extensive or particularly important archaeological remains are unexpectedly encountered during the development process, there may be a need to arrange for their physical preservation and/or a more detailed programme of archaeological investigation and recording. Where permission is granted, conditions will normally be applied or agreements sought to implement the archaeological work.

3.11 **Zone 4** comprises areas where archaeological remains are known already to have been entirely removed by previous development, or other activity, including archaeological excavation. This Zone is only defined on the plan where it lies within the study area.

4. Outside the Urban Archaeological Zoned Area

4.1 Archaeological remains may be known or thought likely to exist outside the areas covered by the Extensive Urban Archaeological Survey and the Urban Archaeological Zones. Developers considering proposals in these areas are encouraged to consult the County Archaeologist at an early stage in the design process.

5. Updating of the Urban Archaeological Zones

5.1 As new archaeological and historical information concerning the historic towns becomes available, it may be necessary for the County Archaeologist in conjunction with the Local Planning Authority to revise the boundaries of the Urban Archaeological Zones.

6. Glossary of Terms

Scheduled Monument

Under the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 the Secretary of State has a duty to compile and maintain a schedule of monuments, such monuments having statutory protection. Monuments on the schedule are by definition of national importance and the appropriateness of addition to the list is assessed against a set of criteria as set out in PPG16 Annex 4.

PPG15

Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (Department of the Environment and the Department of National Heritage 1994)

PPG16

Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning (Department of the Environment 1990)

NB PPG15 and PPG16 are currently being revised and consolidated into a new Planning Policy Statement for the Historic Environment – PPS15

Assessment

This is normally a desk based activity bringing together all known evidence relating to the importance or potential of a given site or area.

Evaluation

This is normally supplementary work undertaken in the field (either non-intrusive such as fieldwalking or geophysical survey, or intrusive such as boreholing or trial trenching) to obtain further information on the character, extent, date and potential of a given site or area.

Mitigation

Archaeological mitigation aims to minimise the effects of proposed development and normally consists of either preservation *in situ* of the archaeological remains, and/or archaeological investigation, recording, publication and archiving, where preservation is not justified or possible.

7. Useful Addresses and Contacts

County Archaeologist
Heritage Conservation Group
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX
Tel: 01622-221541

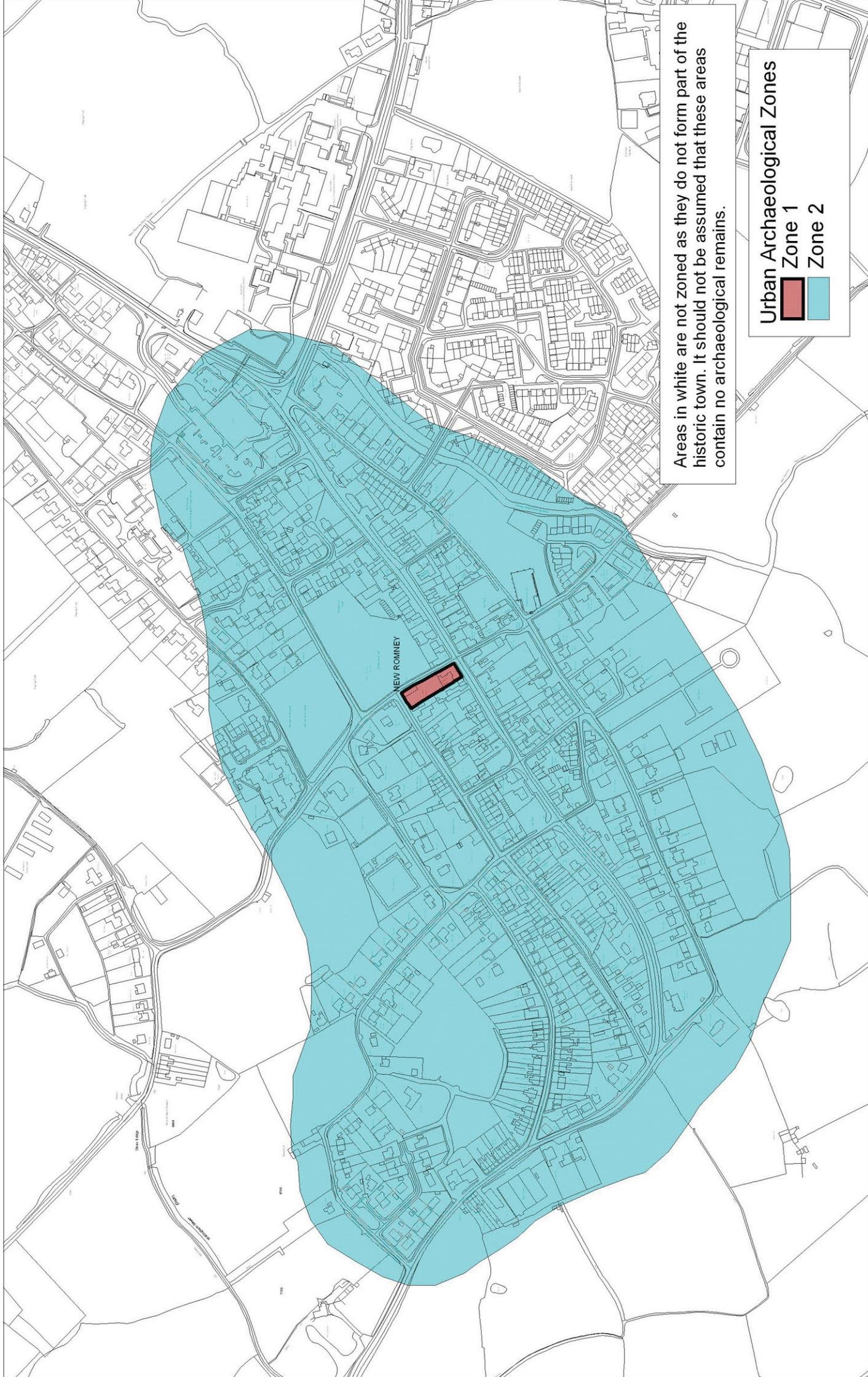
English Heritage
Eastgate Court
195-205 High Street

Guildford
GU1 3EH
Tel: 01483 252038

8. List of Settlements to which draft SPG3 Applies

Appledore
Ashford
Charing
Chatham
Chilham
Cranbrook
Dartford
Deal
Edenbridge
Elham
Faversham
Folkestone
Fordwich
Gillingham
Goudhurst
Gravesend
Headcorn
Hythe
Ightham
Lenham
Lydd
Maidstone
Marden
Margate
Milton Regis
Minster in Thanet
New Romney
Northfleet
Queenborough
Ramsgate
Rochester
Sandwich
Sevenoaks
Sheerness
Sittingbourne
Smarden
Tenterden
Tonbridge
Tonbridge Wells
West Malling
Westerham
Whitstable
Wingham

Wrotham
Wye
Yalding



Areas in white are not zoned as they do not form part of the historic town. It should not be assumed that these areas contain no archaeological remains.

Urban Archaeological Zones

- Zone 1
- Zone 2

Figure 19. Map of New Romney showing Urban Archaeological Zones

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