



Farndon Wastewater Treatment Works

Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

October 2021

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Executive summary

This historic environment desk-based assessment (DBA) has been prepared by Mott MacDonald, on behalf of Welsh Water to inform works to Farndon Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW). It provides an overview of the historic baseline for the area and specific recommendations for proposed works to Farndon WwTW ('the scheme'). Farndon WwTW is situated in Cheshire, located at National Grid Reference (NGR): SJ415538. It is situated in land between the town of Farndon to the north and the A534 road to the south. It is near to the border between England and Wales, formed by the River Dee to the west, beyond which is the Welsh town of Holt.

The scheme is required to increase the capacity of Farndon WwTW and to update ageing parts of the facility. Various options to achieve this are currently under consideration. Options include carrying out works within the existing footprint of the WwTW, or extending into the field to the south. For this report, these two areas together are referred to as 'the site'. The potential need to replace the outflow pipe, which crosses fields west of the site to the river, has been identified.

The towns of Holt and Farndon, and the crossing between, emerged in the early medieval period. However there is evidence of activity from the Bronze Age period onwards nearby. Roman industrial activity is recorded in the study area, with isolated findspots closer to the WwTW. Holt Castle was constructed in 1283 to guard the new Welsh border and was in use until the 17th century. Holt developed as a market town in the medieval period. Farndon developed as a town built on passing trade, especially following the turnpiking of nearby roads. The bridge which connects the two settlements over the River Dee was first constructed by the 13th century, but the present structure is likely later. The area immediately around the WwTW has been in agricultural use since at least the end of the medieval period.

The design of the scheme is still in development and will be informed by this DBA. This DBA has identified heritage assets mostly likely to be impacted based on the information to date. These include Holt Castle, a scheduled monument and grade II* listed, the Church of St Chad (Holt), grade I listed, and Deeside Farmhouse, grade II listed. Impact to these assets would be through changes in their setting. However, these impacts are likely to be negligible and can be further reduced through sensitive design. The scheme also has the potential to impact archaeological remains. A medieval and post-medieval field system is recorded partially within the site. There is also the potential for unknown archaeological remains, most likely to relate to medieval and post-medieval farming but also possibly Bronze Age and Roman activity.

Key recommendations for the scheme to minimise impact to these assets can be summarised as follows. Views from the scheduled monument of Holt Castle should be protected. This can be achieved by natural boundary treatments such as hedgerow strengthening and, if this is not sufficient, wooden fencing, should be used to screen the site in views from Holt Castle. Light spill should be minimised. Any tall elements of the WwTW visible above or beyond boundary treatments may require a finish which reduces visibility. To avoid impacting archaeological remains the scheme should be kept within the existing footprint of Farndon WwTW if feasible. If a new outfall is required, this should aim to use the existing route rather than disturb new ground. If this is not feasible the expansion should avoid the medieval and post-medieval field system. Additional archaeological survey and mitigation may be required on any new land take. Relevant stakeholders comprising Cadw and Cheshire West and Chester Council have been contacted regarding the scheme, and consultation should be ongoing as the scheme and any mitigation develops. Once the scheme is finalised, the assessment in this document should be revisited to determine whether an updated impact assessment is required prior to construction of the scheme.

1 Introduction

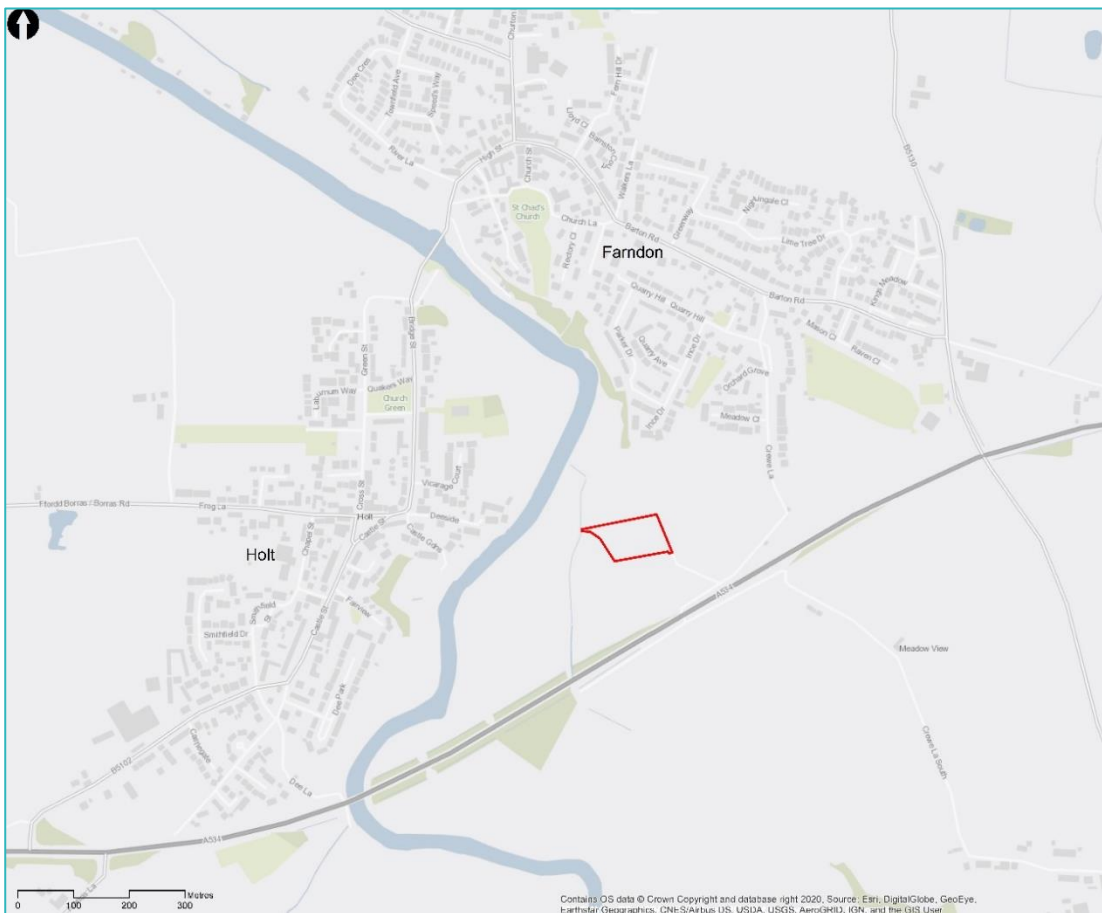
1.1 Overview

This DBA has been prepared by Mott MacDonald, on behalf of Welsh Water to inform works to Farndon Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW). The works are required to provide extra capacity and update ageing parts of the facility and options are being developed to facilitate this. This historic environment DBA provides an overview of the historic environment baseline and makes specific recommendations for consideration as options are considered.

1.2 Location of Farndon Wastewater Treatment Works

Farndon Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) is located in Cheshire, at NGR: SJ415538. It is situated in open land south of the town of Farndon and north of the A534 road. To the west is the River Dee which forms the border with Wales, beyond which is the town of Holt. Farndon and Holt are connected by a bridge spanning the river. The area surrounding Farndon WwTW is comprised of small, irregular agricultural fields divided by hedgerows in the River Dee valley. The WwTW is within the local authority of Cheshire West and Chester, England. The western bank of the River Dee including Holt is in the Wrexham (Wrecsam) County Borough Council, in Wales.

Figure 1.1: Location of Farndon WwTW outlined in red



Source: Mott MacDonald, 2021

Figure 1.2: Aerial photograph of Farndon WwTW



Source: Mott MacDonald, 2021

1.3 Scheme Overview

Additional capacity is required at Farndon WwTW due to population growth in the surrounding area. In addition, some parts of the existing WwTW are ageing and require repair or replacement. Different options to achieve these necessary works are currently under consideration ('the scheme'). A more detailed description of the scheme is given below in Section 7.

Options include carrying out work within the current footprint of the Farndon WwTW or expanding outside of this footprint. The field to the south of the works is the mostly likely to be used for any expansion, if required. Should expansion be required, the north-western corner of this field the northern-western corner is currently favoured for development. These three areas – the existing WwTW, possible expansion area and most likely expansion area - are shown below in Figure 1.3. For clarity and to best understand potential impacts of the scheme, this entire area is collectively considered as 'the site' within this document (see Figure 1.3 below).

The scheme may also see the need for a replacement outflow to the River Dee. The exact route and condition of the current outflow is not fully understood. However it is known that it crosses through the agricultural fields of the floodplain west of the site, to the River Dee.

Figure 1.3: The site



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

2 Policy, Legislation and Guidance

This section provides an overview of the legislation, planning policy and guidance relevant to the scheme with regard to the historic environment and relevant to this desk-based assessment. Both English and Welsh legislation, policy and guidance is included in this section as the study area spans both countries due to its border location. This legislation covers both authorities within the study area; Cheshire West and Chester, England and Wrexham, Wales.

2.1 Legislation

The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to ancient monuments; to make provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and (in connection therewith) for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters.

The Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to special controls in respect of buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest with amendments to give effect to recommendations of the Law Commission.

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act (2016)

This Act makes amendments to the above acts with regard to additional provisions for scheduled monuments and listed buildings in Wales. It also makes provisions for other aspects relating to the historic environment in Wales, such as the maintenance of Historic Environment Record (HER) data.

This Act is only of relevance to the Welsh side of the study area and may have only limited relevance to the scheme.

2.2 National Planning Policy

2.2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (England)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published on 27th March 2012, revised on the 24th July 2018 and again on the 20th July 2021, and replaced all previous national planning policy documents. Paragraphs 189 – 208 of the NPPF address the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment; these set out the local planning authority's responsibilities when dealing with planning proposals which have the potential to impact on heritage assets. These policies emphasise the importance of balancing the need for the conservation of heritage assets with the desirability of new development. Those of relevance are as follows:

194. In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

199. *When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.*

202. *Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.*

203. *The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset¹.*

2.2.2 Planning Policy Wales

Planning Policy Wales was published on the 5th December 2018 and updated on the 24th February 2021 forming Edition 11 and has replaced all previous editions. Chapter 6.1 of the Planning Policy addresses the conservation of the Welsh historic environment and prioritises the enhancement and protection of historic assets within Wales. Planning Policy Wales has been included within this chapter as the study area falls partially within Wales, but its relevance to the scheme may be limited. Policies of relevance are as follows:

6.1.4 *The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 provide the legislative framework for the protection and sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales. PPW provides the national planning policy framework for the consideration of the historic environment and this is supplemented by guidance contained in Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment and Cadw associated best practice guidance on the historic environment.*

6.1.7 *It is important that the planning system looks to protect, conserve and enhance the significance of historic assets. This will include consideration of the setting of an historic asset which might extend beyond its curtilage. Any change that impacts on an historic asset or its setting should be managed in a sensitive and sustainable way.*

6.1.8 *It is the responsibility of all those with an interest in the planning system, including planning authorities, applicants, developers and communities, to appropriately care for the historic environment in their area. The protection, conservation and enhancement of historic assets is most effective when it is considered at the earliest stage of plan preparation or when designing proposals new proposals.*

6.1.9 *Any decisions made through the planning system must fully consider the impact on the historic environment and on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets and their contribution to the character of place.*

6.1.23 *The planning system recognises the need to conserve archaeological remains. The conservation of archaeological remains and their settings is a material consideration in determining planning applications, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not.*

Planning Policy Wales is supported by *Technical advice note (TAN) 24: the historic environment* (see also section 2.4 below). The TAN provides guidance on how the planning system

¹ Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government (2021) *National Planning Policy Framework*. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf.

considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and Listed Building (LBC) applications.

2.3 Local Planning Policy

2.3.1 Cheshire West and Chester Council Local Plan

Cheshire West and Chester Council adopted the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan on 29th January 2015. The document sets out the vision, objectives and strategic planning policies for the borough until 2030. The followings parts of Policy EVN 5 Historic Environment are of relevance to this DBA.

ENV 5 Historic environment

The Local Plan will protect the borough's unique and significant heritage assets through the protection and identification of designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings.*

Development should safeguard or enhance both designated and non-designated heritage assets and the character and setting of areas of acknowledged significance. The degree of protection afforded to a heritage asset will reflect its position within the hierarchy of designations.

Development will be required to respect and respond positively to designated heritage assets and their settings, avoiding loss or harm to their significance.

**Heritage assets are defined as a building, monument, site, place, structure, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets include designated heritage assets and non-designated heritage assets identified in the Cheshire Historic Environment Record, including local assets².*

2.3.2 Wrexham Unitary Development Plan

The 1996-2011 Wrexham Unitary Development Plan currently in place was adopted in February 2005 as a framework for local decision making regarding development and conservation that will benefit the community. Policy EC7, Policy EC9, and Policy EC11 detail the conservation of the historic environment within the Wrexham Unitary Authority Area. These are given below.

This is due to be replaced by Wrexham Local Development Plan, which is currently under development and, according to published key preparation stages is due to be adopted imminently³. A draft of this plan is not currently available but may contain policies which would supersede the below.

Policy EC7

Within, and in close proximity to, conservation areas, the priority will be to preserve and/ or enhance those buildings, structures, streets, trees, open spaces, archaeological remains, views, and other elements which contribute to the unique character of the area. New buildings and alterations or additions to existing buildings in conservation areas, whether listed as of special architectural or historic interest or not, must reflect the design and character of the area as a whole and the form, scale, detailing and materials of existing buildings.

Policy EC9

² Cheshire West and Chester Council (2015) *Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies*. Available at: http://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/adopted_cwac_lp/lp_1_adopted?tab=files.

³ County Borough of Wrexham (2021) *Wrexham Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) 2013 to 2028*. Available at: <https://www.wrexham.gov.uk/service/development-plans-and-other-planning-policy/wrexham-local-development-plan-2-ldp2-2013-2028>.

Alterations or additions to, and development or redevelopment within the curtilage of, buildings or structures listed as of special architectural or historic interest must respect the setting and character of the listed buildings or structures.

Policy EC11

Development which would adversely affect the site or setting of a Scheduled Ancient Monument or archaeological site of national significance will not be permitted. Development that directly affects non-scheduled sites of archaeological importance will only be permitted if an archaeological investigation has been carried out to determine the nature, extent and significance of the remains, and this investigation indicates that in-situ preservation is not justified, and a programme of excavation and recording has been agreed. Development will also be carefully controlled to ensure that the setting of non-scheduled sites of archaeological importance is not harmed where appropriate⁴.

2.4 Guidance

The following guidance has been used for this assessment:

- The 2014 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* (updated 2020)⁵;
- The 2015 Historic England *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision – Taking in the Historic Environment* (GPA2)⁶;
- The 2017 Historic England *Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets* (GPA3)⁷; and
- The 2019 Historic England *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets* (TAN12)⁸.
- The 2011 Cadw *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*⁹, and
- The 2017 Cadw *Technical advice note (TAN) 24: the historic environment*.¹⁰ This advice notes supports Planning Policy Wales and should be read in conjunction with it.
- IEMA, CIfA, IHBC (2021) *Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment*¹¹.

⁴ County Borough of Wrexham (2005) *Wrexham Unitary Development Plan 1996-2011*. Available at: <https://www.wrexham.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/udp-statement.pdf>.

⁵ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) (2020) *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*. Available at: https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfA%26GDBA_4.pdf.

⁶ Historic England (2015) *Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision – Taking in the Historic Environment* (GPA2). Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa2-managing-significance-in-decision-taking/gpa2/>.

⁷ Historic England (2017) *Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets* (GPA3). Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/heaq180-gpa3-setting-heritage-assets/>.

⁸ Historic England (2019) *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets* (TAN12). Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/statements-heritage-significance-advice-note-12/heaq279-statements-heritage-significance/>.

⁹ Cadw (2011) *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*. Available at: https://cadw.gov.wales/sites/default/files/2019-05/Conservation_Principles%20for%20the%20sustainable%20managment%20fo%20the%20historic%20environment%20of%20Wales.pdf.

¹⁰ Cadw (2017). *Technical advice note (TAN) 24: the historic environment*. Available at: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-09/tan24-historic-environment.pdf>.

¹¹ IEMA, CIfA, IHBC (2021) *Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment*. Available at: www.iema.net/resources/blog/2021/07/20/launch-of-principles-of-cultural-heritage-impact-assessment.

3 Methodology

This section details the methodology used to compile this desk-based assessment.

3.1 Baseline data collection

Baseline data has been compiled using a study area of 500m for non-designated assets and 1km for designated assets. This radius has been calculated from the centre point of the existing Farnon WwTW (NGR: SJ415538).

The following sources have been consulted to compile the baseline within this document:

- The National Heritage List for England (NHLE), compiled by Historic England;
- Cof Cymru, national register of designated historic assets in Wales, compiled by Cadw;
- Cheshire Historic Environment Record (CHER), compiled by Cheshire West and Chester council;
- Historic Environment Record (HER) data held by Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT);
- Historic cartographic information, as available online;
- Holt Conservation Area – Character Assessment and Management Plan, produced by Wrexham County Borough Council¹².
- Relevant published and unpublished archaeological and historic sources e.g. journals and historic records; and
- Additional resources of relevance as available online.

3.2 Site Survey

A site survey was undertaken by Heritage professionals from Mott MacDonald on Thursday 2nd September 2021 to:

- Inform understanding of heritage assets, their settings and important views;
- Better understand intervisibility between the site and nearby heritage assets;
- Identify any additional non-designated heritage assets of relevance within the study area;
- Inform understanding of the site conditions, such as topography and vegetation cover;
- Inform the assessment contained within this report; and
- Survey the potential for archaeological remains to survive.

3.3 Assessment of Significance

Assessment of Significance within this desk-based assessment is based on the 2019 Historic England *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets TAN12* and aligns with the NPPF (2019). The significance of heritage assets is therefore described with reference to:

- **Archaeological interest**

There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.

- **Architectural and artistic interest**

These are interests in the design and general aesthetics of a place. They can arise from conscious design or fortuitously from the way the heritage asset has evolved. More

¹² Available at: http://old.wrexham.gov.uk/english/planning_portal/historic_environment/holt.htm.

specifically, architectural interest is an interest in the art or science of the design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of buildings and structures of all types. Artistic interest is an interest in other human creative skills, like sculpture.

- **Historic Interest**

An interest in past lives and events (including pre-historic). Heritage assets can illustrate or be associated with them. Heritage assets with historic interest not only provide a material record of our nation's history, but can also provide meaning for communities derived from their collective experience of a place and can symbolise wider values such as faith and cultural identity.

For consistency, the significance of heritage assets within the part of the study area that falls within Wales are also described using the above terms, despite differing terminology being presented in Welsh guidance. This assessment has nonetheless considered the guidance contained within the 2011 Cadw *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*. This is consistent with the approach presented in the 2021 IEMA, ClfA, IHBC *Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment*, which provides a consistent approach for cross-border assessment. The contribution that settings make to the significance of heritage assets has also been assessed in this document.

3.4 Consultation

The archaeological advisor to Cheshire West and Chester Council, Cheshire Archaeology Planning Service, has been contacted regarding an initial comment on the proposals. Cheshire Archaeology Planning Service has not yet responded. However they should be involved in the development of any archaeological mitigation required (see also recommendations in section 8 below).

It has not been considered necessary to consult Wrexham (Wreccsam) County Borough Council at this stage of the project. This is due to the location of Farndon WwTW within the constituency of Cheshire West and Chester Council, the early stage of the project and the small scale of current proposals. Wrexham (Wreccsam) County Borough Council should be engaged as part of the consultation process, if planning is required, for the scheme.

Cadw have also been contacted for an initial comment, due to the potential for the scheme to be visible in views extending from Holt Castle (a scheduled monument and grade II* listed building; see section 4 below). A response was received by email on Wednesday 22nd September. This response noted that as any impact to Welsh historic assets would be to setting, it is unlikely that the local archaeological trust, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), would need to be contacted in relation to the scheme. The response also noted that guidance from Historic England should be used primarily in preparing this DBA, as the site is located in England.

Historic England have not been contacted for comment as it is not considered necessary to consult Historic England at this stage. This is because the scheme is considered highly unlikely to have an impact on any designated heritage asset within England (See also section 8). Therefore, consultation with the local planning authority is considered sufficient at this stage of the project. If the scheme is heavily revised the need to consult Historic England should be reassessed.

It is recommended that ongoing contact with Cadw and Cheshire West and Chester Council is maintained as the design and any mitigation plan develops. If a formal consultation period is undertaken as part of the consenting process, these bodies should be contacted and offered to be involved.

3.5 Assumptions and Limitations

Information provided by the HER can be limited because it depends on previous opportunities for research, fieldwork and discovery. Where nothing of historic interest is shown in a particular area, this can be due to lack of targeted research or investigation rather than the genuine absence of sub-surface archaeological deposits.

Documentary sources are rare before the medieval period, and many historic documents are inherently biased. Older primary sources often fail to accurately locate sites and interpretation can be subjective. Historic maps provide a glimpse of land-use at a specific moment. It is therefore possible that short-term structures or areas of land-use are not shown and therefore not recorded within this assessment.

No archive visit has been undertaken to produce this DBA. However, the information available via the sources listed in section 3.1 above, as well as the site survey undertaken, are considered sufficient to provide an understanding of the historic environment within the study area for the purposes of this DBA.

No conservation area appraisal has been produced for the Farndon Conservation Area, which covers the core of the settlement of Farndon within Cheshire West and Chester and is located within the study area (see also section 4.2.1.1). Therefore, understanding of the history, character and importance of the conservation area is based on professional judgement, site survey and the resources given in above in section 3.1.

4 Baseline

This section provides an overview of the historic environment baseline for the study area.

4.1 Topography and Geology

The existing Farndon WwTW is a small, open-air works south of the settlement of Farndon and east of the River Dee which here forms the border between England and Wales. It is low within the River Dee Valley on an area of flat floodplains, located at approximately 10m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). There is a slight rise to the east of the WwTW, at its entrance via a track. The WwTW is well enclosed by mature hedgerows with limited outward views, although the tower of the Parish Church of St Chad (Holt, see section 4.2 below) can be seen from within the site. It is surrounded on all sides by flat agricultural fields in the valley basin, with further mature hedgerows providing field boundaries. West of the River Dee the land rises into the small settlement of Holt. Similarly the land rises gradually to the north towards Farndon. The A534 crosses east-west approximately 100m south of the WwTW.

The underlying geology consists of pebbly sandstone. The sedimentary bedrock found in this area was formed approximately 247 to 250 million years ago in the Triassic Period. The underlying geology shows that this area was previously dominated by rivers. The superficial geology consists of clay, silt, sand and gravel which forms Alluvium. These superficial deposits were formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period¹³.

4.2 Heritage Assets

4.2.1 Designated Assets

There are 40 designated heritage assets located within the 1km study area, comprising 35 listed buildings, three scheduled monuments and two conservation areas. These are detailed below; they are also shown on a map in appendix A and detailed in the gazetteer in appendix B.

4.2.1.1 Conservation Areas

There are two conservation areas within the study area for designated assets; Farndon Conservation Area captures the historic core of the town in the local authority of Cheshire West and Chester, and Holt Conservation Area captures the settlement core across the Welsh border, in the authority of Wrexham County Borough Council.

Farndon Conservation Area

Farndon Conservation Area is located approximately 225m north of Farndon WwTW. No conservation area appraisal has been produced for this asset. The conservation area captures the medieval and post-medieval core of the settlement, excluding modern housing¹⁴. The boundary extends to the River Dee where it meets Holt Conservation Area (see Figure 4.1 below).

¹³ British Geology Survey. *Geology of Britain Viewer*. Available at: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>.

¹⁴ Cheshire and West Chester Council (2021) *Conservation areas and conservation area appraisals*. Available online at: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-control/total-environment/conservation-and-design/conservation-areas-and-apprais.aspx.

Figure 4.1: Farndon Conservation Area



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021).

The setting of the conservation area includes the River Dee and important bridge crossing over it (see sections 4.2.1.2 and 4.2.1.3 below), as well as the town of Holt situated west across the river. The setting also includes 20th century residential development on the fringes of the settlement and the surrounding rural and agricultural land of the River Dee Valley.

Holt Conservation Area

Holt Conservation Area is located approximately 100m west of Farndon WwTW. Holt Conservation Area was designated in 1975 and extended in 1999¹⁵. It covers most of the medieval - post-medieval settlement but excludes modern residential development on the fringes of the town. It also covers the area extending up to the River Dee, where it meets Farndon Conservation Area. The history of the conservation area is linked to the invasion of Wales by Edward I¹⁶, which resulted in the construction of Holt Castle (see section 4.2.1.2 below) and the development of an associated settlement. The area was a valuable strategic position, controlling crossing and travel on the river¹⁷. The town continued to develop into the medieval period, with the town's grade I listed church (see section 4.2.1.3 below) having origins in the 14th century¹⁸. It became a popular market town in the late medieval to early-post medieval period, before being overshadowed by nearby Wrexham¹⁹. Many buildings surrounding the village were destroyed during the Civil War. Holt gradually recovered in the 17th

¹⁵ Wrexham Country Borough Council (2001) *Holt Conservation Area Character Assessment and Management Plan*. Available online at: http://old.wrexham.gov.uk/english/planning_portal/historic_environment/holt.htm.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Cadw (2021) *1596 - Parish Church of St Chad*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=1596>.

¹⁹ Wrexham Country Borough Council (2001) *Holt Conservation Area Character Assessment and Management Plan*. Available online at: http://old.wrexham.gov.uk/english/planning_portal/historic_environment/holt.htm.

and 18th centuries and the conservation area contains many post-medieval houses, commercial and civil buildings dating to this period of expansion²⁰.

Figure 4.2: Holt Conservation Area



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

The setting of the conservation area includes modern residential development on the fringes of Holt. It also includes the River Dee, bridge to Farndon and town of Farndon itself. The countryside of the River Dee Valley contextualises the agricultural history of the market town.

4.2.1.2 Scheduled Monuments

There are three scheduled monuments within the study area. Those of greatest relevance are Holt Castle and Farndon/Holt Bridge. These are both also designated as listed buildings, see section 4.2.1.3 below.

Holt Castle

Holt Castle Scheduled Monument (Cadw: DE106) is located approximately 240m west of Farndon WwTW. The scheduled area captures the remains of the castle as well as the area surrounding it which contains associated archaeological remains. This includes a causeway to the north, raised up from the floor of a quarried area which contains traces of ditches or moats²¹. Bronze Age remains, not associated with the medieval castle, have also been recovered within the scheduled area. These have been interpreted as indicating an earlier strategic use for the site²². The scheduled area lies in fairly low ground but is at a strategic point on the River Dee,

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Cadw (2021) *DE106 - Holt Castle*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=2940>.

²² Ibid.

and the remains of the castle itself are raised on an artificial mound. West of the castle, immediately outside of the 1km study area, are a series of associated fishponds²³.

Farndon/Holt Bridge

The bridge connecting the two settlements across the Welsh/English border is located approximately 550m north-west of Farndon WwTW. It is recorded as a scheduled monument by both Cadw and Historic England (Cadw: DE024, NHLE: 1006758). The present structure was built in the 15th or 16th century²⁴. A crossing is first recorded from 1338, with a fortified gateway, which predates the current structure²⁵. The scheduled area captures the present bridge and part of Bridge Street, Holt, which leads to the crossing. Its setting includes the River Dee and the settlements to either side.

Holt Roman Settlement

Holt Roman Settlement (Cadw: DE013) is located partially within the study area, approximately 900m north-west of Farndon WwTW. The scheduled area encompasses a Roman industrial settlement on the floodplain of the River Dee, north of Holt. The site was excavated in 1907-1915, revealing evidence of pottery and tile making.²⁶ This included a n extensive bank of eight kilns. There was also evidence of habitation, including barracks, a separate house and a bathhouse²⁷. The site has been interpreted as serving the legionary fortress at Chester²⁸. Finds recovered from the site indicate it was fully operational from approximately 85AD to 135AD, with evidence of some activity extending into the 4th century²⁹. The setting of the remains has limited contribution to the significance of the asset, as no above-ground remains survive. However, the location adjacent to the River Dee is likely to have been of operational importance to the industrial settlement.

4.2.1.3 Listed Buildings

There are 33 listed buildings within the study area, of these two are grade I listed;

- Farndon/Holt Bridge (grade I listed by both Cadw: 1742, and Historic England, NHLE: 1279428, and also a scheduled monument, see section 4.2.1.2 above), approximately 550m north-west of Farndon WwTW; and
- The Parish Church of St Chad (in Holt, Cadw: 1596), approximately 300m north-west of Farndon WwTW.

There are three grade II* listed buildings in the study area;

- Holt Castle (Cadw: 1595, also recorded as a scheduled monument, see section 4.2.1.2 above), approximately 240m west of Farndon WwTW;
- Church of St Chad (in Farndon, NHLE: 1279424) approximately 570m north of Farndon WwTW; and
- Holy Bank, formerly Doctor's House (NHLE: 1228744) approximately 520m north of Farndon WwTW.

There are 28 grade II listed buildings within the study area. Of these the nearest is:

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Cadw (2021) *1742 - Holt Bridge*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=1742>.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Cadw (2021) *DE013 – Holt Roman Settlement*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=2927>.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

- Deeside Farmhouse (Cadw: 16963), approximately 185m west of Farndon WwTW.

All of the grade II listed buildings within the study area are captured within the two conservation areas (see section 4.2.1.1 above).

Of the listed buildings within the study area the following are of greatest relevance to the scheme, due to their significance (see section 5 below) and/or potential to be impacted by the proposed scheme.

Farndon/Holt Bridge

The present crossing between Farndon and Holt is a grade I listed bridge (Cadw: 1742, NHLE: 1279428) which spans the River Dee. The present bridge likely dates to the 15th or 16th century; a bridge is mentioned in the 14th century but described as having a fortified gate not present on the surviving structure³⁰. The bridge is built of local red sandstone and has eight segmental arches which span the river. A single, narrow carriageway provides the crossing. It has distinctive, prominent cutwaters at the base of every arch. A gentle ramp on Bridge Street, Holt leads to the crossing. The third arch from the Holt side differs slightly, with masonry changes and a high ring arch, and has been interpreted as the location of a former drawbridge³¹.

Figure 4.3: Farndon/Holt Bridge, looking towards Farndon



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

³⁰ Cadw (2021) 1742 - *Holt Bridge*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=1742>.

³¹ Ibid.

Figure 4.4: Farndon/Holt Bridge from above



Source: A E Yates (2018) available online via: <https://aeyates.co.uk/case-study/farndon-holt-bridge-repairs>,

The setting of the bridge includes the River Dee and settlements of Farndon and Holt either side. The bridge may also have a historic relationship with the broadly contemporary Holt Castle (see below). From the parapet there are views over a rural stretch of the Dee Valley. Due to a bend in the river these views do not extend to Farndon WwTW.

Holt Castle

The grade II* listed structure (Cadw: 1595) is the surviving remains of a castle, dating to 1282-3. The red sandstone, pentagonal structure was built by John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey³². It had a tower at each of its vertices, all round with one featuring a rectangular extension. A separate square tower served as a gatehouse providing access to the castle via a drawbridge over the surrounding moat. Within the castle were interior buildings, ranged against the pentagonal outer walls³³. The castle later served as the treasury of Richard II (1377-1399)³⁴.

By 1620 the castle had fallen into disrepair, being described by John Noren as '*nowe in great decay*'³⁵. Between 1675 and 1683 much of the remaining stone was plundered to build Eaton Hall in Cheshire^{36,37}. What survives today is part of the sandstone blockwork, with a doorway

³² Cadw (2021) 1595 - Holt Castle. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=1595>.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ Holt Castle restored to royal glory, *Current Archaeology*, July 31st 2015. Available online via: <https://archaeology.co.uk/articles/news/holt-castle-restored-to-royal-glory.htm>.

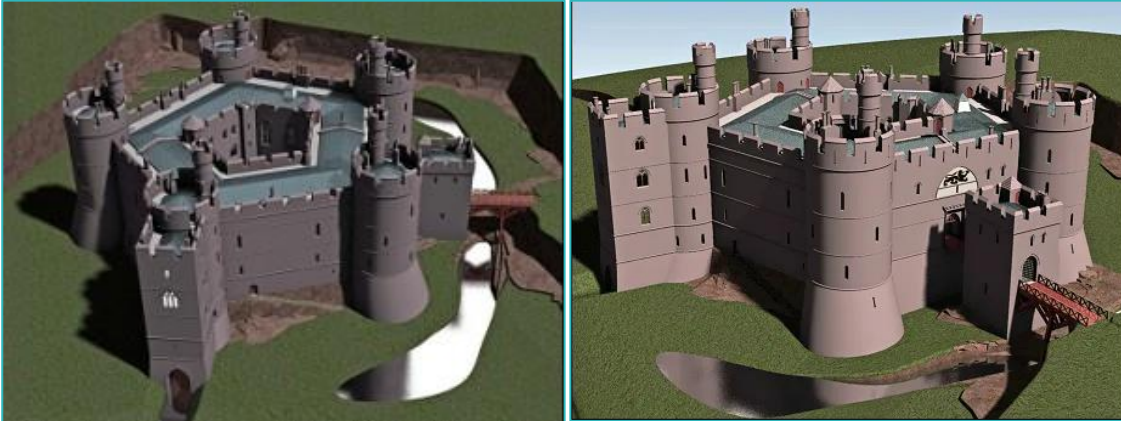
³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Holt Castle restored to royal glory, *Current Archaeology*, July 31st 2015. Available online via: <https://archaeology.co.uk/articles/news/holt-castle-restored-to-royal-glory.htm>.

and steps on the south side. It has been made a public monument, with modern access over the former moat and drawbridge and railings added for public safety.

Figure 4.5: Recreation of Holt Castle during the reign of Richard II.



Source: Jenkins, C. J., available online at <https://archaeology.co.uk/articles/news/holt-castle-restored-to-royal-glory.htm>.

Figure 4.6: Remains of Holt Castle today



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

The setting of the remains includes the River Dee to the east, the settlements of Holt and Farndon and the surrounding countryside (See figure 4.7 below). The WwTW is not visible in views from the castle remains, but from the highest point the agricultural fields surrounding the WwTW, including the preferred expansion area, may be seen (see Figure 8.1: View towards the site from Holt Castle Figure 8.1 below).

Figure 4.7: Setting of Holt Castle



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

Parish Church of St Chad (Holt) and associated gate, gatepiers, railings, churchyard and sundial

The Parish Church of St Chad is a grade I listed building (Cadw: 1596) and is one of two churches of St Chad in the study area; these being in Holt and the other in Farndon. In Holt, the present building was remodelled in the late 15th century, but the church predates this and the 14th century nave is retained³⁸. The remodelling was undertaken for Sir William Stanley, Lord of Bromfield and of Holt Castle. It is built in the same local red sandstone as other medieval buildings in the area, such as Farndon/Holt Bridge. Additions and updates were also made in the 18th and 19th centuries. A parapet was added c.1732 and restorations were undertaken in 1871-3³⁹.

³⁸ Cadw (2021) 1596 - *Parish Church of St Chad*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=1596>.

³⁹ *Ibid.*

Figure 4.8: Church of St Chad (Holt)



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

The church is set within its churchyard, on the northern edge of Holt, accessed by a long pathway which creates a private and enclosed feeling to the space. The churchyard is mostly enclosed by mature hedgerows but has some views over the Dee Valley, which do not include WwTW due to vegetation. The churchyard contains two grade II listed structures associated with the church. The first is being entrance gates, gate piers and railings to the churchyard (Cadw: 16961). These were constructed in 1816 and may have been the work of a foundry on Tuttle Street; Jones, Lacon and Jones. They replaced a former lych gate⁴⁰. The second listing relates to a sundial within the churchyard (Cadw: 16960) which dates to 1736, although the column has been claimed to be a reused Roman column from the nearby settlement⁴¹.

Deeside Farmhouse

Deeside Farmhouse, a grade II listed building (Cadw: 16963), is the closest designated asset to Farndon WwTW at approximately 185m to its west. It is a 17th century farmhouse, with 18th and 19th century extensions. It is built in red brick, with some of the local red sandstone used for decorative quoins and a plinth. There is at least one timber-framed wall surviving in the farmhouse⁴².

The farmhouse is located at the end of a small road, within a private garden adjacent to the River Dee. There is limited intervisibility with the river and the Farndon side of the valley due to mature vegetation on the garden boundary. It is otherwise surrounded by other houses within Farndon and has mostly lost any visual relationship with the surrounding farmland. Farndon WwTW is not visible from the asset.

⁴⁰ Cadw (2021) 16961 - *Gates, Gate-piers and Railings at W entrance to churchyard at Parish Church of St Chad*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=16961>.

⁴¹ Cadw (2021) 16960 - *Sundial in churchyard at Parish Church of St Chad*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=16960>.

⁴² Cadw (2021) 16963 – *Deeside Farmhouse*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=16963>.

4.2.2 Non-Designated Assets

Non-designated heritage assets within the study area are shown on a map in Appendix A and detailed in the gazetteer in Appendix B.

4.2.2.1 Non-Designated assets identified in the HER

The CHER records the following assets within the English part of the study area:

- Ridge and Furrow (CHER: 15290) is recorded across much of the study area, including within the site;
- The site of a Brickfield at Farndon (CHER: 15313), approximately 115m north-east of Farndon WwTW;
- The site of a Stone Quarry at Farndon (CHER: 15314), approximately 145m north;
- A findspot relating to a coin of King Henry III (CHER: 15315), approximately 335m south-east; and
- A sunken 17th century boat within the River Dee (CHER: 1796), approximately 230m west.

The CPAT HER records the following assets within the Welsh part of the study area:

- Four post-medieval and modern residences, the nearest of which is Castle Bungalow (CPAT HER: 86803) approximately 240m west of Farndon WwTW;
- Evidence of medieval occupation of Holt, including the record of the medieval town (CPAT HER: 29375) and evidence of inhabitation at Castle Mews (CPAT HER: 17845) and at Rose Cottage (CPAT HER: 128178). The nearest of these records is at Castle Mews, approximately 280m west, however the medieval settlement may have extended to the banks of the Dee;
- Kenyon Hall, a post-medieval public hall which opened in 1892 (CPAT HER: 142019) approximately 380m west of Farndon WwTW;
- The site of the former town hall of Holt (CPAT HER: 19418), approximately 360m west of Farndon WwTW;
- Several religious buildings, including Bethesda Methodist Chapel (CPAT HER: 19411) and a Quakers' Yard Chapel (CPAT HER: 19429) as well as the churchyard for the church of St Chad (CPAT HER: 16999) which is not captured by the listings which cover its gate, walls, sundial and the church itself. The nearest of these to Farndon WwTW is the churchyard, approximately 220m north-west;
- The site of a post-medieval public toilet block (CPAT HER: 152680), approximately 340m west of Farndon WwTW;
- The Old Post Office (CPAT HER: 19406), approximately 310m west of Farndon WwTW;
- Holt Endowed School (CPAT HER: 142018), approximately 310m west of Farndon WwTW;
- A former sandstone quarry (CPAT HER: 122198), used to obtain material for the castle in the 13th century and possibly in the 15th century for the churches at Holt and Farndon, approximately 340m south-west of Farndon WwTW;
- Placenames which may indicate a former association with the medieval castle; Castle Garden, Castle Field and Castle Croft (CPAR HER: 101266), north of Holt Castle and approximately 340m west of Farndon WwTW;
- An undated ditch or large pit c.3m wide (CPAT HER: 124618), approximately 260m west of Farndon WwTW; and
- Three findspots, comprising two medieval/post-medieval rings (CPAT HER: 132378, 141472) and a Roman brooch (CPAT HER: 41805). The nearest of these to Farndon WwTW is the brooch, which was recovered on the banks of the River Dee approximately 180m north-west of Farndon WwTW.

4.2.2.2 Locally Listed Buildings

There are no locally listed buildings within the study area. No locally listed buildings are recorded by Cheshire and West Cheshire Council within the English side of the study area⁴³. There is no local list for Wrexham Borough Council⁴⁴.

4.2.2.3 Area of Archaeological Potential

Farndon Area of Archaeological Potential was identified through the Cheshire Historic Town Survey conducted between 1997 and 2002. It captures an area of Roman, medieval and post medieval inhabitation and archaeological potential around the historic core of the settlement. The area of archaeological potential is located approximately 400m north of Farndon WwTW. Although there has been limited survey in Farndon to confirm or better identify the potential for archaeological remains, the Cheshire Historic Town Survey also noted that little development also means that surviving deposits are likely to be undisturbed⁴⁵.

4.2.2.4 Events

All events within the study area are shown in Appendix A. There are two archaeological events identified in the CHER as having occurred within the study area, these are:

- Geophysical survey and trial trenching associated with the expansion of St Chad's Churchyard, Farndon (CHER: ECH6546) at the north-western edge of the study area; and
- An archaeological watching brief at Land Adjacent to Lilac Cottage, Barton Road, Farndon, (CHER: ECH5847), at the north-eastern edge of the study area.

There are 15 events identified in the CPAT HER as having occurred within the study area, these are:

- Holt Castle, geophysical survey 2005 (CPAT HER: 106368);
- Holt, Church Street, Rose Cottage, watching brief 2008 (CPAT HER: 112378);
- Holt, Church Street, Rose Cottage, evaluation 2008 (CPAT HER: 115471);
- Medieval and Post-Medieval Industry, assessment project 2011-12 (CPAT HER: 123124);
- Holt, Church Street (land off), watching brief 1988 (CPAT HER: 124617);
- Holt Castle, Scheduled monument consent 2014 (CPAT HER: 124640);
- Holt, Cross Street, The Cottage, photographic survey 2012 (CPAT HER: 129456);
- First World War Commemoration project, Scoping Study 2013 (CPAT HER: 130972);
- Holt, Whitehaven, watching brief 2017 (CPAT HER: 140162);
- Medieval and Post-Medieval Industry, desk based assessment 2011-12 (CPAT HER: 141996);
- Holt Castle Quarry, topographical survey 2010 (CPAT HER: 142227);
- Holt Castle, conservation project 2010 (CPAT HER: 142228);
- Holt Castle, excavation 2012-15 (CPAT HER: 142229);
- Holt Castle, photogrammetric survey 2010 (CPAT HER: 142230); and
- Holt, Castle Mews, excavation 1993 (CPAT HER: 38517).

⁴³ Cheshire and West Chester Council (2021) *Conservation and design information: Locally Listed Buildings*. Available online at: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-control/total-environment/conservation-and-design/conservation-and-design.aspx.

⁴⁴ Wrexham Borough Council (2021) *Planning and building control*. Available online at: www.wrexham.gov.uk/services/planning-and-building-control.

⁴⁵ Shaw M and Clark J (2000) *Farndon archaeological assessment*. English Heritage and Cheshire County Council. Available online at: http://www.cheshirearchaeology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/HTS_Arch_Assess_Farndon.pdf.

4.2.2.5 Non-designated assets of greatest relevance to the scheme

Non-designated heritage assets within the study area of greatest relevance, due to their potential to be impacted by the scheme, are described in greater detail below.

Ridge and Furrow

The ridge and furrow recorded within the study area (CHER: 15290) is the remains of a medieval or early post-medieval field system. These remains are a pattern of ridges and troughs created by the type of ploughing used in the open field systems of the early medieval to post-medieval periods. The fields in this area were likely farmed to supply Farndon, as well as possibly Holt including Holt Castle. The survival of the ridge and furrow varies; the area mapped in the HER (see Appendix A) includes areas where development has removed remains. The ridge and furrow was not readably observable in most areas viewed on the site survey undertaken for the production of this document. Although mapped within the existing WwTW, no earthworks appear to survive within the footprint of the existing WwTW, likely the result of construction and landscaping activities associated with the construction of the WwTW truncating any remains. In the possible expansion area, marks which may be the faint remains of ridge and furrow, or possibly just the result of modern ploughing and trackways, could be roughly discerned.

Figure 4.9: Possible ridge and furrow visible in the possible expansion area, looking south (away from the WwTW)



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

Post-Medieval Boat

A post-medieval boat (which has also been referred to as a shipwreck) is recorded in the River Dee (CHER: 1796). The boat is 17th century and is of carvel construction. Carvel construction is described as “a method of constructing wooden boats and tall ships by fixing planks to a frame so that the planks butt up against each other, edge to edge, gaining support from the frame and forming a smooth hull⁴⁶”. The boat is built in pine and some of the timbers inside are burnt.

⁴⁶ Cheshire Shared Services (2021) *Post Medieval boat from Farndon*. Available online at: <http://rcplive.cheshireservices.gov.uk/singleresult.aspx?user=desiq&pwd=desiq&uid=MCH1373>.

The record indicates that some of the timbers are in private possession and the record type is a find spot, which typically indicates an artefact has been recovered and not left in situ. However, this is not explicitly stated in the record and given the nature of the find some remains may still be present within the River Dee. No remains are observable from the river bank at the recorded location of the boat, 100m north-west of Farndon WwTW.

4.3 Historic Map Regression

Table 1 below provides a regression of the historic mapping available for the area.

Table 1: Historic Map Regression

| Title | Date | Description |
|--|------|--|
| Tithe Map of Farndon Township in the Parish of Farndon | 1840 | <p>This map shows the River Dee and the Cheshire side of the study area, including Farndon.</p> <p>The area of Farndon WwTW and its surroundings is shown as fields, much to the present field pattern. The field which contains Farndon WwTW today is shown as belonging to William Rowe, laid to pasture. A stone quarry is shown north of this field, nearing the banks of the River Dee. The field for possible expansion to the south is also shown as pasture on this map, labelled as belonging to Roger Harry Barnston. Several pools/ponds are shown throughout the area, but none in the field to the south. A small road runs approximately north to south along the field boundaries to the east of the location of Farndon WwTW.</p> <p>To the north Farndon is shown, the wheel-shaped street pattern of the settlement centre is displayed, with St Chad's Church (Farndon) shown at its centre surrounded by a churchyard. Development is spread out, with many fields and gardens between buildings. The most densely settled area is along what is the modern high street, leading from Farndon/Holt Bridge which is also shown on this map.</p> |
| Ordnance Survey County Series: Denbighshire, 1:2,500 | 1886 | <p>This map shows the route of the River Dee, mostly unchanged from its present route, and the Denbighshire side of the river, including Holt.</p> <p>The layout of the settlement is similar to the modern day layout. The central triangle and the village cross are shown. Church Street, Bridge Street and the Farndon/Holt Bridge are also shown. St Chad's Church and its churchyard are shown on Church Street. Opposite is a church green, a Methodist chapel and Vicarage. In the south of the settlement, on Castle Street, is shown a Presbyterian Chapel and a Baptist Chapel is shown on Chapel Street. The remains of Holt Castle are also shown. The settlement has three public houses; the Golden Lion, adjacent to St Chad's Church, and the Gredington Arms and White Lion, in the central triangle. A town hall and a post office are also shown in the centre. The houses are mostly spread far out from one another, with large rear gardens, including Deeside Farm and Holt Hill which are labelled. The exception is some terraced housing on Church Street and closer built houses in the settlement centre. To the far south there is a gas works on Dee Lane. The remainder of the study area, as far as shown, is drawn as fields with many trees in the hedgerows.</p> |
| Ordnance Survey County Series: Cheshire, 1:2,500 | 1874 | <p>This map shows the River Dee and the Cheshire side of the study area, including Farndon.</p> <p>The fields in the area of Farndon WwTW are still shown, with hedgerows are shown as interspersed with many trees, especially close to the river. A footpath runs north-south through the area (on the route of the modern footpath). The pond in the field to the south is now shown. Approximately 100m east of Farndon WwTW, under the route of the modern A534 (not shown), a brick-making site is shown. Approximately 200m north-west a house and Orchard, labelled Rose Villa, is shown.</p> <p>To the north Farndon is shown, similar to in the above tithe map. St Chad's Church (Farndon) shown surrounded by a graveyard. A vicarage is to its south-east. Farndon Hall is labelled to its south-west, in a large garden. Large houses are labelled further from the settlement core, Deebank in the south-west and the Oak Cottage and Belmont House in the north. A building labelled 'The National School (boys and girls)' is shown in the north of the settlement. To the east are shown small, dispersed cottages along Barton Road, as well as a medium-sized quarry, the previous stone quarry from the Tithe Map is no longer shown.</p> |

| Title | Date | Description |
|--|------|--|
| Ordnance Survey County Series: Denbighshire, 1:2,500 | 1899 | <p>This map shows the study area both sides of the River Dee.</p> <p>The brick making site shown on the previous map of Cheshire is no longer shown, a new brick field is shown much closer to the location of Farndon WwTW, approximately 115m north-east.</p> <p>The quarry at the eastern edge of Farndon appears largely disused. A large brewery is now shown to the far north of the settlement. Otherwise, Farndon is largely unchanged from the above map.</p> <p>In Holt, a school is now shown north of the castle ruins. There is no other notable change to the settlement from prior mapping.</p> |
| Ordnance Survey County Series: Cheshire, 1:2,500 | 1911 | <p>This map shows the study area both sides of the River Dee.</p> <p>The site of Farndon WwTW is shown as marshy in the north. The brick-making site shown in the above map is labelled as disused.</p> <p>Farndon is shown as having a new Fire Station on the High Street and a Police Station in the east.</p> <p>Holt is shown having new buildings on Castle Street; 'The Academy' on the eastern side and a Sunday school associated with the Presbyterian Church. The Methodist chapel on Chapel Street is no longer labelled.</p> <p>In the far north-west of the study area Holt Roman Settlement is now shown. It is labelled 'Roman Site [Tile and Pottery Works]' The footprints of structures are mapped out.</p> <p>Otherwise, the study area is unchanged from the above map.</p> |
| Ordnance Survey Plan, 1:10,560 | 1954 | <p>This map shows the study area both sides of the River Dee, it is not as detailed as the above maps.</p> <p>The disused brick-making site, labelled 'brick field', is still shown. The buildings have been removed and it is now represented as a quarry.</p> <p>In Farndon some additional buildings are shown in the south-east, towards Rose Villa.</p> <p>In Holt a cul-de-sac in the south is shown in development, today this is Dee Park. The gas works is no longer shown.</p> |
| Ordnance Survey Plan, 1:2,500 | 1971 | <p>This map shows the study area both sides of the River Dee.</p> <p>Farndon WwTW is now shown, much to its present layout. To its north-east the former brickmaking site is now labelled 'pit' and contained a pond.</p> <p>Farndon is shown to have substantially expanded to the east since the previous mapping, including the creation of residential development around Quarry Hill, Ince Drive, Parker Drive and Crewe Lane, near the WwTW.</p> <p>Settlement in Holt is also shown to have expanded southwards with new residential developments. Additional buildings are shown near Deeside Farm and the entrance to the castle remains.</p> |

4.4 Historical and Archaeological Development

4.4.1 Prehistoric (100,000 BC-AD 43)

There is limited evidence for activity from the prehistoric period within the study area. However, it is likely that the River Dee was used during this period as a transport route. Bronze Age remains were recorded at Holt Castle, where excavations revealed use of the strategic site which would have allowed control over this section of the river⁴⁷. However the remains were not extensive and may not indicate any permanent settlement. No other evidence relating to the prehistoric period has been recovered within the study area.

4.4.2 Roman (AD 43-410)

Evidence of Roman activity within the study area is much more substantial. A large industrial settlement (Cadw: DE013, see also section 4.2.1 above) was discovered north-west of Holt. This is on the periphery of the study area (1km north-west), in the early 20th century. It was inhabited from the 1st to 4th centuries, with industrial activity on a large scale from 85 to

⁴⁷ Cadw (2021) *DE106 - Holt Castle*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=2940>.

129AD⁴⁸. The site manufactured tile and pottery and is believed to have supplied the legionary fortress at Chester⁴⁹. The River Dee, which runs between these two sites, would have allowed for easy transport of the goods produced.

No evidence of substantial settlement dating to the Roman period has been recovered nearer to Farndon WwTW. However, there have been a number of isolated finds within Farndon and Holt, and near the banks of the Dee between the settlements. It has also been suggested that there was a crossing of the River Dee at Farndon during the Roman period. This may have been a ford at the location of the present bridge. There has also been suggestion of an early Roman Fort at Farndon connected to the industrial settlement north-east of Holt⁵⁰. This may be evidenced by Roman coins recovered from metal detecting surveys within Farndon⁵¹. An isolated brooch was also recovered on the banks of the River Dee, 180m north-west of Farndon WwTW. This is the closest evidence of Roman activity to the site.

The sundial in the churchyard of the Church of St Chad (Holt, Cadw: 16960) has also been claimed to be constructed with a re-used roman column but this is unconfirmed⁵². Collectively, these finds may indicate that the use of the study area during the Roman period was more widespread than is currently understood. However, these isolated finds do not necessarily indicate any Roman settlement in the area and could be items lost in transit to the industrial settlement 1km away.

4.4.3 Early medieval (410-1066)

Remains relating to the early medieval period is rare nationally, however there is some indication of settlement in the study area during this period. The name 'Farndon' is first recorded in AD 924 and may be derived from the Saxon words meaning 'fern' and 'hill'⁵³. The dual parish churches of St Chad at Farndon and Holt may have originated in the early medieval⁵⁴. This is especially relevant to that in Farndon, the circular churchyard of which is an indication of an early origin⁵⁵. This churchyard is surrounded by an outer ring which may indicate an important early monastic site surviving fossilised in the street pattern⁵⁶. This interpretation has not been confirmed but is evidenced by the street pattern. The crossing on the River Dee between the two settlements was also present from at least the early medieval but may date as far back as the Roman period (as discussed above)⁵⁷.

4.4.4 Medieval (1066 – 1485)

There is considerable evidence of medieval activity relating to settlement, agriculture and defence in particular, within the study area.

By the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086 Farndon is recorded as having 34 households, making it a town of decent size for the period. The lands are recorded under ownership of two lords; St John, Bishop of Chester, and the Bigot of Les Loges⁵⁸. Neighbouring Holt, unlike some

⁴⁸ Cadw (2021) *DE013 – Holt Roman Settlement*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=2927>.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ Shaw M and Clark J (2000) *Farndon archaeological assessment*. English Heritage and Cheshire County Council. Available online at: http://www.cheshirearchaeology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/HTS_Arch_Assess_Farndon.pdf.

⁵¹ Wessex Archaeology (2016) *Land at Churton Road, Farndon, Cheshire. Metal Detecting Survey Report*.

⁵² Cadw (2021) *16960: Sundial in churchyard at Parish Church of St Chad*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=16960>.

⁵³ Shaw M and Clark J (2000) *Farndon archaeological assessment*. English Heritage and Cheshire County Council. Available online at: http://www.cheshirearchaeology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/HTS_Arch_Assess_Farndon.pdf.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*

⁵⁸ Powell-Smith, A. (2021) *Open Domesday: Farndon*. Available online at: <https://opendomesday.org/place/SJ4154/farndon/>.

other Welsh border towns, was not recorded. It may have fallen outside of the shifting border with England or may have been considered part of the same town as Farndon. Alternatively, Holt may not have been established by 1086.

The most significant changes within the study area in this period were a result of the English invasions of North Wales in the 13th century. In 1277 King Edward I of England began a series of campaigns into Wales, with the goal of defeating Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, Prince of Wales. The series of wars, which effectively left Wales under English control, lasted until 1283⁵⁹. The crossing of the River Dee at Farndon, then a ford, had become strategically important during the Conquest of Wales (1277-83) and remained so afterwards. When Edward I instated English Marcher Lords to guard the new Welsh border⁶⁰, attention was paid to this location. In 1283 the land at Holt was granted to John de Warren, the 6th Earl of Surrey. From 1283-1311 Holt Castle was constructed by a succession of earls of Surrey⁶¹. Although not at a great height, the castle allowed views over the river plain and provided a defensive structure at the key crossing.

Holt Castle was subsequently involved in numerous notable events in the medieval period. Following the death of the 7th Earl of Surrey, also named John de Warren, Edward 'the Black Prince' briefly took possession of the castle^{62,63}. In 1397 King Richard II seized the castle for his private treasury⁶⁴. The castle also played a role during the Wars of the Roses (1455-87), when it was home to Sir William Stanley. Stanley played a key role in the wars, initially supporting Richard III but later switching sides to help Henry VII defeat him in the Battle of Bosworth⁶⁵.

⁵⁹ Schools History (2021) *Edward I's Conquest of Wales*. Available online at: <https://schoolshistory.org.uk/topics/british-history/plantagenets/edward-is-conquest-of-wales/>.

⁶⁰ Ibid

⁶¹ Wrexham County Council (2019) *Holt Castle*. Available online at: http://old.wrexham.gov.uk/english/heritage/holt_castle/index.htm.

⁶² Geni (2021) *John de Warenne, 7th Earl of Surrey & Sussex*. Available online at: www.geni.com/people/John-de-Warenne-7th-Earl-of-Surrey-Sussex/6000000002475161686.

⁶³ Wrexham County Council (2019) *Holt Castle*. Available online at: http://old.wrexham.gov.uk/english/heritage/holt_castle/index.htm.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Ibid.

Figure 4.10: Drawn reconstruction of Holt Castle around the time of its completion (c.1315)



Source: Kenning, P. (2014). Available via: http://old.wrexham.gov.uk/english/heritage/holt_castle/index.htm.

The town of Holt was granted a town charter by Edward I in 1285, following the commencement of construction of the castle⁶⁶. It may have originally, or occasionally, been known as 'Le Holt'⁶⁷. Holt became an established market town in the medieval period, with the present triangular street pattern of the centre originating as the market. No formal market is recorded at Farndon during the medieval period. But there is a noticeable widening of the High Street, a typical feature of medieval street markets which may indicate some informal trading. This is also where the town's inns were located⁶⁸.

It is likely that the land in the study area was being farmed to supply Farndon and Holt as well as the castle. An extensive field system (CHER: 15290) is recorded in the study area dating to the late medieval and/or early post-medieval periods. This includes ridge and furrow, which evidences the use of the land for agriculture in this period.

A bridge connecting the two settlements is first recorded in 1368. It is referred to as constructed by 'John, Earl of Warenne' in 1338/9⁶⁹. This likely means it was commissioned by the 7th Earl of Surrey. Therefore, the original bridge at the crossing may have been built to serve as an entrance to Holt Castle. The present structure was likely constructed to replace this early structure the 15th or 16th century, and therefore may be late medieval or early post-medieval in

⁶⁶ Lloyd, G. (2012) *Wrexham History: Holt*. Available online at: www.wrexham-history.com/category/places/holt.

⁶⁷ *Ibid*.

⁶⁸ Shaw M and Clark J (2000) *Farndon archaeological assessment*. English Heritage and Cheshire County Council. Available online at: http://www.cheshirearchaeology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/HTS_Arch_Assess_Farndon.pdf.

⁶⁹ Cadw (2021) *1742 - Holt Bridge*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=1742>.

date⁷⁰. The present structure lacks some defensive features mentioned in records of the earlier bridge, indicating that the use of the crossing had changed.

The dual parish churches of St Chad, one in Holt and one in Farndon, were both altered substantially in the 14th century. For the church in Farndon only a 14th century tower remains of this period⁷¹. For the church in Holt, a 14th century nave survives⁷². In the late 15th century the latter was remodelled by Sir William Stanley, who held the lordship of Bromfield and Holt Castle. The stone for the bridge and for these construction phases of the churches is believed to originate from a quarry near Holt Castle (CPAT: 122198).

By the end of the medieval period much of the pattern within the study area was established. The dual towns of Holt and Farndon were well-established, connected by an impressive bridge. The parish churches of St Chad were prominent features within the towns. Holt had a thriving market and Farndon may also have had a market. Holt Castle held a prominent position over the River Dee. The surrounding land was used for agriculture to support the settlements and the castle.

4.4.5 Post-medieval (1485 – 1900)

In the post-medieval period Holt Castle gradually fell into disrepair. This affected the market town of Holt, whose economy was part-built around the castle. Conversely, Farndon flourished in the early 17th century. In 1631 one of the earliest racecourses in the country was established at Farndon Hay. It is rumoured that the first horse race in England occurred at Farndon⁷³. Farndon School was constructed around 1629 on Churton Road⁷⁴. Ten inns are recorded circa 1650 which may indicate considerable passing trade⁷⁵.

The final defensive role of Holt Castle was during the English Civil War (1642-51). Holt began the war as a royalist garrison, but the castle is known to have changed control at least twice^{76,77}. In 1643 a civil war skirmish took place in the study area, known as the Battle of Farndon Bridge. The parliamentary side was victorious in the clash, winning both Farndon and Holt⁷⁸. By 1646 the castle was again held by the royalists, when it was sieged for 11 months before the garrison surrendered⁷⁹. A metal-detecting survey conducted in the north of Farndon in 2016 found a group of 17th century military finds, likely relating to one of these events⁸⁰.

The Civil War and its aftermath resulted in significant change within the study area. It caused large scale destruction for both Holt and Farndon. Many buildings had to be rebuilt, such as the Church of St Chad in Farndon⁸¹. Many of the residences in the settlements date to the late 17th and early 18th centuries, as the towns were rebuilt. This negatively affected the prosperity of the towns, for example Farndon's ten inns were reduced to five by 1780⁸². Holt Castle was also

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ Historic England (2021) 1279424 - *Church of St Chad*. Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1279424>.

⁷² Cadw (2021) 1596 - *Parish Church of St Chad*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=1596>.

⁷³ Shaw M and Clark J (2000) *Farndon archaeological assessment*. English Heritage and Cheshire County Council. Available online at: http://www.cheshirearchaeology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/HTS_Arch_Assess_Farndon.pdf.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷⁷ Wrexham County Council (2019) *Holt Castle*. Available online at: http://old.wrexham.gov.uk/english/heritage/holt_castle/index.htm.

⁷⁸ Shaw M and Clark J (2000) *Farndon archaeological assessment*. English Heritage and Cheshire County Council. Available online at: http://www.cheshirearchaeology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/HTS_Arch_Assess_Farndon.pdf.

⁷⁹ Wrexham County Council (2019) *Holt Castle*. Available online at: http://old.wrexham.gov.uk/english/heritage/holt_castle/index.htm.

⁸⁰ Wessex Archaeology (2016) *Land at Churton Road, Farndon, Cheshire. Metal Detecting Survey Report*.

⁸¹ Shaw M and Clark J (2000) *Farndon archaeological assessment*. English Heritage and Cheshire County Council. Available online at: http://www.cheshirearchaeology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/HTS_Arch_Assess_Farndon.pdf.

⁸² *Ibid.*

affected by the fallout of the Civil War. Following its surrender, the castle was gradually demolished and the supporting plinth quarried out⁸³. The sandstone was, in part, taken by Sir Thomas Grosvenor, Baronet of Eaton, and used to rebuild Eaton Hall. By 1683 only the courtyard, still apparent today, remained⁸⁴.

The towns appear to have made some recovery by the 19th century. Turnpiking of two key roads to the settlement reignited development and expansion. The road running east-west through Farndon from Barnhill to Wrexham was turnpiked in 1782 and the road running north-south from Chester to Worthenbury was also turnpiked in 1854⁸⁵. A number of the townhouses and farmhouses were constructed or updated at this time, such as Deeside Farmhouse (grade II listed, Cadw: 16963) which was updated and extended. Other new buildings were also constructed, such as the Farndon Village Lockup in 1837, now grade II listed (NHLE: 1228751).

There is also evidence of this part of the Dee Valley being used for brick-making and stone quarrying during the post-medieval period. This can be seen on historic mapping, in which numerous brick-making sites are shown (see Table 1 above). The HER also records quarries both sides of the river (CHER: 15313, CPAT: 122198). Evidence of this can also be seen in the built environment of the study area, where red brick and sandstone are common materials in the post-medieval buildings. This industrial activity remained small-scale within the study area and both settlements remained predominantly agricultural.

Notably, in the late 19th century Holt became famous for strawberry farming. Strawberries were introduced into Holt in 1860 by Charlie Bellis⁸⁶. Bellis' farm was very successful and quickly expanded to cover 200 acres. At its height 3,000 baskets of strawberries were dispatched a day to Liverpool, Birmingham and London⁸⁷. In the south-west of Holt, Bellis built workers barracks (Cadw: 16841) and a wage office (Cadw: 16965) for the strawberry pickers at the very end of the 19th century. These seasonal crop pickers were known as 'Dodgers'. The farms remained successful into the 20th century⁸⁸.

4.4.6 Modern (1901-present)

During the modern period to present day, both settlements have expanded. Farndon has expanded most significantly with new housing estates towards the WwTW and along Barton Road to the west. The WwTW itself was constructed between approximately 1966 and 1971 based on the available historic mapping (see Table 1 above). Industrial activity has mostly ceased within the study area and there has been a reduction in agricultural activity, with many former farmhouses now surrounded by modern development. The local economy instead leans towards tourism and each settlement has a commercial high street. Notably, the Bellis Brothers farm remains in operation, today as a farm shop and 'pick your own' fruit farm. Although both settlements have expanded, they remain comparably small, rural communities and much of the surrounding farmland remains.

⁸³ Wrexham County Council (2019) *Holt Castle*. Available online at: http://old.wrexham.gov.uk/english/heritage/holt_castle/index.htm.

⁸⁴ English Monarchs (2006) *The guide to Cheshire, Derbyshire, Lancashire and the Wirral: Holt Castle*. Available online at: http://www.cheshirenow.co.uk/holt_castle.html.

⁸⁵ Shaw M and Clark J (2000) *Farndon archaeological assessment*. English Heritage and Cheshire County Council. Available online at: http://www.cheshirearchaeology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/HTS_Arch_Assess_Farndon.pdf.

⁸⁶ Cadw (2021) *16841 - Strawberry Pickers' Barracks at Bellis' Farm*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=16841>.

⁸⁷ Cadw (2021) *16841 - Strawberry Pickers' Barracks at Bellis' Farm*. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=16841>.

⁸⁸ Lloyd, G. (2012) *Wrexham History: Holt*. Available online at: www.wrexham-history.com/category/places/holt.

5 Assessment of Significance

This section contains an assessment of significance for heritage assets with the potential of being impacted by the scheme. Farndon/Holt Bridge has been previously covered in detail in this report given its high significance. However due to the topography of the valley and a bend in the River Dee, the site is not visible from the parapet. Therefore no impact to this asset is anticipated. For similar reasons as well as lack of historic relationships, there is no anticipated impact to any other heritage assets not mentioned below. For further information regarding the potential impacts of the scheme on heritage assets, see section 8 below.

5.1 Holt Castle

Holt Castle is a scheduled monument including the archaeological remains of the former medieval castle and the grade II* listed upstanding remains of a small part of the castle (see section 4.2 above). It is located on the west bank of the River Dee, south of Holt in the authority of Wrexham (Wrexham) County Borough Council, Wales.

Archaeological Interest

Archaeological interest is derived from the potential of the asset to inform on the construction of defensive medieval structures. Earthworks surviving in the ground have interest associated with the defence of the structure. There may also be evidence of the channels dug for access by boat to the castle, which may inform on the role of the River Dee in relation to Holt Castle over time. There is also archaeological potential relating to other remains within the scheduled area; notably Bronze Age activity and post-medieval quarrying. These have the potential to inform on other land uses of the area. The Bronze Age activity in particular holds interest, possibly indicating an earlier strategic use of the site.

Architectural and artistic interest

Holt Castle, as it survives today, has limited architectural interest as the remains of the structure were largely removed for the reconstruction of Eaton Hall. There is some interest in what survive. The artificial boulder in red sandstone which forms the base, created by quarrying out the surroundings, is of notable interest and would have made the castle sit prominently in the landscape. There is also some interest in what survives of the pentagonal floor plan, with towers at the vertices.

Historic Interest

Holt Castle has both associative and illustrative historic interest. The remains are a rare surviving example of a medieval castle, although this illustrative interest is reduced by the condition and extent of surviving remains. More notable is the numerous historic figures and events associated with Holt Castle. These include the Conquest of Wales, Wars of the Roses and the Civil War and key individuals in each (as described in section 4.4.4 above). The association of the castle to these key historic events and figures is the primary source of historic interest for the asset.

Setting

The setting of the asset is at a strategic location which allows control over this stretch of the River Dee. This aids in understanding why the location was chosen for a castle, as well as its function and importance. The settlement of Holt, historically connected with the castle, and the surrounding agricultural land of the Dee Valley provide further historic context. Therefore the setting makes a positive contribution to its significance.

5.2 St Chad's Church (Holt)

The parish church of St Chad in Holt is grade I listed. It is set in its churchyard with associated grade II listed structures (see section 4.2 above). It is located on a slight rise in the south-east of the settlement of Holt, in the authority of Wrexham (Wreccsam) County Borough Council, Wales.

Archaeological Interest

The church derives archaeological interest associated with its ability to inform on the gradual development of church design in the area. It incorporates many elements from earlier iterations of its design. For example it retains 14th century nave arches and much of the style of its 15th century remodel. These have the potential to inform on the construction, design and use of churches in earlier periods as well as how these have been incorporated when they have been updated.

Architectural and artistic interest

The church has significant architectural interest. This is partly derived from the survival of earlier elements, which illustrate the development of architectural styles. It is also derived from details such as the staged tower which forms the primary entrance, prominent buttresses, commemorative plaques, stained glass windows and interior detailing.

Historic Interest

The church has historic interest as a well-surviving illustrative example of a medieval church remodelled in the post-medieval period. It also has interest associated with numerous historic figures including Sir William Stanley, who commissioned the 15th century remodelling, and architects Ewan Christian and John Douglas of Chester.

Setting and Group Value

The setting of the Church of St Chad within its churchyard provides historic context to the asset and contributes to its significance. The associated listed assets aid in understanding the intended design for the asset and its surroundings; Gates, Gate-piers and Railings at W entrance to churchyard at Parish Church of St Chad (grade II, Cadw: 16961) and Sundial in churchyard at Parish Church of St Chad (grade II, Cadw: 16960). This is especially relevant to the gates and walls which create a dramatic entrance from Holt and frame the tower. Visibility of the church from throughout the Dee Valley also contributes to its significance. It is a local landmark, and its tower may have also served as a way finder on the River Dee.

5.3 Deeside Farmhouse

Deeside farmhouse is a grade II listed building (see section 4.2 above). It is located on the west bank of the River Dee, in the south-east of the settlement of Holt in the authority of Wrexham (Wreccsam) County Borough Council, Wales.

Archaeological Interest

The farmhouse derives archaeological interest from its 17th century origins and the remains of this earlier farmhouse which are likely incorporated into the extant 18th century building.

Architectural and artistic interest

The asset has architectural interest provided by its late-Georgian updated frontage, including elements like painted dummy windows. Interest is also provided by elements of the earlier building such as projecting stepped gable chimneys.

Historic Interest

Historic interest is derived from it being associated with post-medieval agricultural development in the area. It is also a good example of an earlier farmhouse updated in the 18th and 19th

centuries. Its Georgian façade is a well-surviving illustrative example of renovations from this period.

Setting

Its setting includes the associated barns and yard and the rural Dee Valley which contributes to its significance. However this has been reduced by a loss of relationship with much of the surrounding farmland and former farmland.

5.4 Archaeological Remains

The archaeological potential, and significance of these remains if present, is given below in section 6. This is of relevance primarily to remains within the Cheshire West and Chester Council authority, where the site is located.

Of the known archaeological remains as recorded in the HER, that of greatest relevance to the scheme is the non-designated field system (CHER: 15290). This is recorded across much of the study area including within the site (see figure in Appendix A). This provides archaeological interest due to its potential to inform on medieval and post-medieval agricultural practices. It also derives historical interest from the information it may provide about the development of the rural, agricultural settlements of Farndon and Holt.

6 Archaeological Potential

In this section the potential for unknown archaeological remains within the site is discussed.

6.1 Survival Potential

The construction of the WwTW and associated landscaping will have removed most below-ground deposits within the footprint of the WwTW. There is also low survival potential within the route of the outfall pipe, as the excavations to initially install this will have removed or truncated any remains present. There has been less development in the surrounding area, including the field to the south which may be used for expansion. Therefore there is broadly greater survival potential for remains in these areas. However, there is the potential that ploughing and other farming practices could have damaged earlier deposits, if present. Flooding from the river may also have affected any remains if present. Archaeological potential for remains predating the post-medieval period is also low within the areas identified as former quarries and brick pits in the HER (see also figures in appendix A). The nearest of these is the site of a Stone Quarry at Farndon (CHER: 15314), approximately 145m north of the WwTW.

6.2 Archaeological potential

Table 2 below sets out the archaeological potential of the site. The below table should be read in conjunction with the above comments on survival potential.

Table 2: Archaeological potential

| Historic asset | Significance | Potential |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Paleoenvironmental remains | Medium to low depending on extent | There is moderate potential for palaeoenvironmental remains, given the semi-waterlogged conditions of the river valley in which organic material survives well. |
| Prehistoric remains | In-situ remains would be high or medium depending on nature and extent. Residual remains would be low. | There is low potential for prehistoric remains, with some evidence of Bronze Age activity nearby but no extensive evidence of occupation within the area. |
| Roman remains | In-situ remains would be high or medium depending on nature and extent. Residual remains would be low. | There is low to moderate potential for Roman remains. There is substantial activity relating to this period in the wider landscape but evidence of only isolated findspots in the immediate area. |
| Early medieval remains | In-situ remains would be high or medium depending on nature and extent. Residual remains would be low. | There is low potential for remains relating to this period. These remains are rare nationally but there is some indication of occupation of Farndon in this period. Any remains are likely to relate to agricultural activity. |
| Medieval remains | In-situ remains would be medium or low depending on nature and extent. Residual remains would be low. | There is moderate to high potential for remains relating to medieval agriculture, as this use of the site is confirmed for the period. There is low potential for other remains, such as from settlement or defence, given the nature of the area as a river flood plain. |

| Historic asset | Significance | Potential |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Post medieval remains | Low. | There is high potential for remains relating to post-medieval agriculture. There is moderate potential for remains relating to brick-making and quarrying. There is low potential for remains relating to other activity. |
| Modern remains | Low or negligible depending on nature and extent. | There is high potential for remains relating to agricultural activity and low potential for remains relating to other activity. |

7 Proposals

The need to expand Farndon WwTW is based on the projected population of Farndon, which will require increased capacity at the WwTW. The Environment Agency requires treatment and monitoring standards based on a population equivalent (PE); a PE of over 2,000 for freshwater discharge requires additional measures (secondary treatment). As the projected population of Farndon will exceed this PE the WwTW is required to add additional treatments. Additional capacity is also required due to the current WwTW being at over-capacity at peak times. In addition some elements of the WwTW are outdated and require replacing or upgrading, due to first being constructed between approximately 1966 and 1971.

Figure 7.1: Farndon WwTW



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

Options are being explored to provide these required additions and upgrades. These include works which are contained within the existing footprint of the WwTW. If this is not viable, other options include the use of surrounding land. The field south of the present WwTW has been identified as the most likely area for expansion, if required. Should this field be developed, it has been identified likely that only a small part, possibly the north-west corner, would be required. This is partly due to the rest of this field being restricted by ecological constraints. These areas are shown below on Figure 7.2.

Figure 7.2: Existing Farndon WwTW and areas of possible expansion



Source: Mott MacDonald, 2021

The potential need to replace the existing outflow has also been raised. Survey is underway to determine if this will be required. If it is required any replacement is likely to follow the existing route. The pipe crosses the agricultural fields of the Dee floodplain west of the WwTW before outputting into the river.

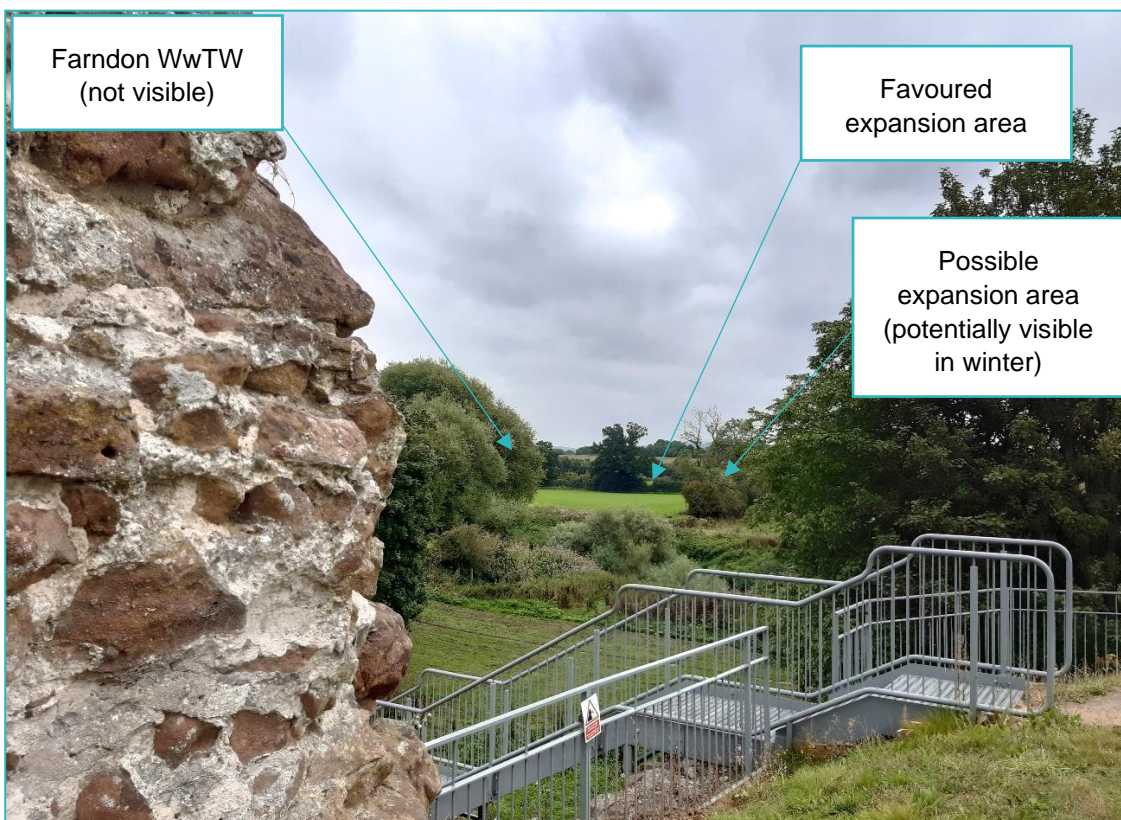
8 Potential impacts and recommendations

The key constraints of the scheme, with relation to the historic environment, is the potential to impact the significance of Holt Castle, St Chad's Church (Holt) and Deeside Farmhouse through change in their settings, as well as the potential to physically impact the known medieval to post-medieval field system and other archaeology (if present).

8.1 Holt Castle

The possible expansion site may be discerned from the top of Holt Castle, although views are filtered in summer by mature vegetation (see Figure 8.1 below). The introduction of the scheme to this view has the potential to impact Holt Castle by altering its rural setting and views over the Dee Valley which contribute to its significance.

Figure 8.1: View towards the site from Holt Castle



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

The scheme should reduce and, if possible, eliminate, any change in the setting of Holt Castle. This expansion area should only be used if it is not feasible to undertake the scheme within the existing WwTW footprint. If expansion is required, natural boundary treatments should be implemented to minimise change in views extending from Holt Castle. Hedgerow strengthening to complement the existing mature field boundaries would be most suitable. If this isn't sufficient to screen the scheme, wooden fencing may be used in conjunction. It may also be necessary to control the finish of built elements, for example using matte finishes in a suitable colour palette over shiny finishes. This would be particularly relevant for taller structures. Dark greens and browns at lower levels and lighter colours to mimic the sky on higher levels are likely to be

suitable, but this should be informed by the opinion of landscape professionals and the outcome of appropriate consultation. Consideration should also be given to minimising light spill in the rural location. Lighting columns should be kept to a minimum and at the minimum necessary height. Any lighting columns should be directional and hooded where possible. Alternatives, such as lit bollards and glowing footpaths (using e.g. ULTIGLOW) should also be considered for lighting.

8.2 Church of St Chad, Holt

The church tower of the Parish Church of Chad in Holt can be viewed from within Farndon WwTW (see Figure 8.2 below).

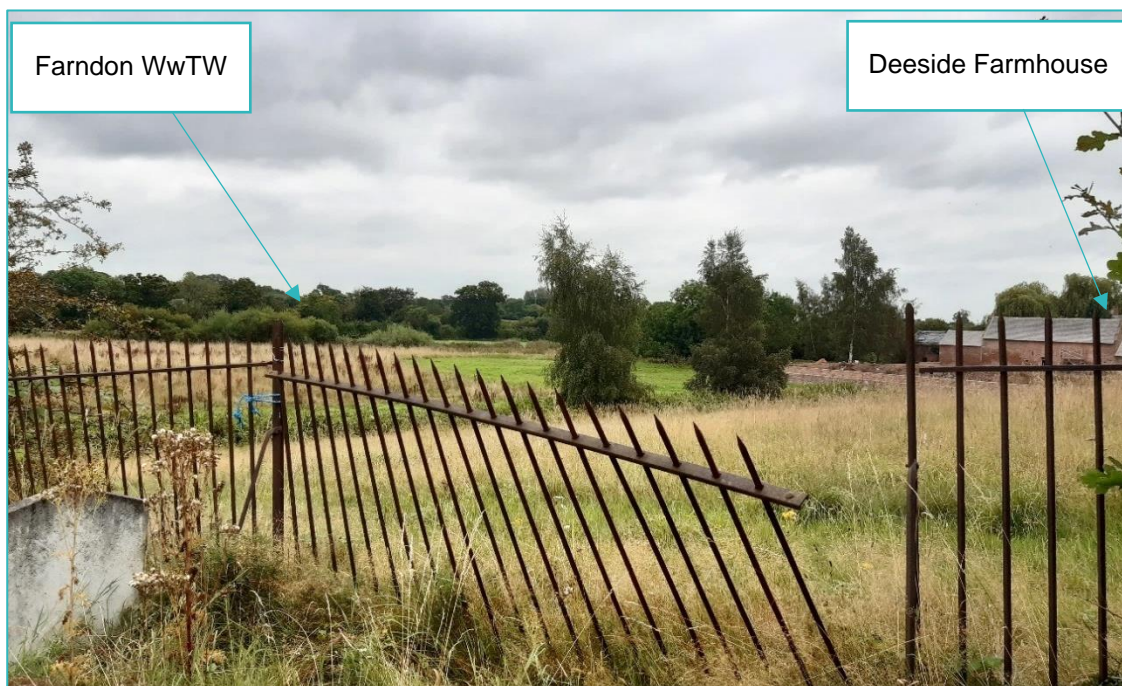
Figure 8.2: View towards Church of St Chad (Holt) from Farndon WwTW



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

However from the churchyard and ground level within the church, the WwTW and possible expansion area cannot be seen (see Figure 8.3. below). Church towers derive significance predominantly from their visibility from within their parishes, rather than views over them. The rural setting of the Dee Valley contributes to the significance of the church but is already compromised in this area by the existing WwTW. As such, this part of the setting makes less of a contribution to the significance of the church than the settlement of Holt. Therefore, as long as the church tower remains prominent and visible, the presence of additional wastewater infrastructure will likely have only negligible impact to the significance of the asset. This may be further reduced by managing light spill from the WwTW and using natural boundary treatments, as described above for Holt Castle (see section 8.1 above). An enhancement may be provided by reducing the visibility of the present WwTW, this could be achieved through painting of the tallest elements in a suitable finish and strengthening of the hedgerow on the northern boundary. The potential expansion area, including the favoured expansion area, is to the far side of the WwTW from the church. This area is not visible from the church due to existing WwTW and mature vegetation. As such, should any development take place here, this change in the setting in the asset would have no impact on the significance of the church.

Figure 8.3: View from the churchyard of Church of St Chad (Holt) towards Farndon WwTW



Source: Mott MacDonald (2021)

8.3 Deeside Farmhouse

8.4 Archaeological Remains of the Field System

An extensive medieval to post-medieval field system is recorded across much of the study area. The extent of this can be seen in the figure in Appendix A. This falls partially within the area being considered for the expansion of the WwTW and therefore may be impacted by the scheme. If expansion is required the scheme should aim to avoid this area by using the northernmost corner of the field being considered for expansion, which falls outside of the known extents of the historic field system. During construction, vehicles should access any expansion from the existing WwTW or, if this is not possible, using existing farm tracks through the field. This will minimise the damage to any surviving earthworks, for example ridge and furrow, from heavy machinery. These measures will reduce the impact to known archaeology from the scheme.

8.5 Unknown Archaeological Remains

There is potential for unknown archaeological remains to be impacted by the scheme. This potential relates mostly to medieval and post-medieval agriculture but there is some evidence of activity from earlier periods within the site. The later medieval and post-medieval field systems may mask earlier remains. There may also be evidence of settlement associated with these field systems.

If expansion is required for the scheme, it may be necessary to conduct some initial archaeological surveys of the expansion area. Consultation should be undertaken with Cheshire Archaeological Planning and Advisory Service to establish if any further archaeological surveys are required. It is likely that they will recommend a geophysical survey of the site. The results of this survey can help better understand the potential for archaeological remains and inform the

scheme design. Additional archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation in the form of trial trenching, a watching brief or archaeological excavation may be required.

If the scheme is contained entirely to the existing WwTW footprint, it is likely no archaeological mitigation would be required. If only a small expansion is required, mitigation can likely be kept to a minimum. If a replacement outfall pipe is required this should follow the existing route, as this has low potential for remains due to prior disturbance. If a new route is taken archaeological mitigation is likely to be required.

9 Conclusion

This desk-based assessment (DBA) has been produced by Mott MacDonald on behalf of Welsh Water to inform the consideration of different options to upgrade and increase the capacity of Farndon Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW).

The following assets have been identified in this report as most likely to be impacted by the scheme:

- Holt Castle, a scheduled monument and grade II* listed building;
- The Church of St Chad (Holt), a grade I listed building;
- Deeside Farmhouse, a grade II listed building;
- A medieval / post-medieval field system, a non-designated asset recoded in the HER; and
- Unknown archaeological remains, which if present are considered likely to relate to medieval and post-medieval farming but could relate to the Bronze Age and Roman periods.

Key recommendations for the scheme to minimise impact to these assets can be summarised as follows:

- The scheme should be kept within the existing footprint of Farndon WwTW if feasible;
- If this is not feasible, any new land take should be as minimal as possible and be restricted to the northern corner of the field (preferred expansion area), avoiding a recorded field system (see figure in appendix A);
- Natural boundary treatments such as hedgerows strengthening and, if this is not sufficient, wooden fencing, should be used to screen any aspects of the scheme visible in views extending from Holt Castle. There should be no significant change in the view towards the WwTW (see Figure 8.1);
- Light spill should be minimised; using minimal lighting columns which are directional and hooded, and alternatives should be considered for lighting the site if suitable;
- Any tall elements visible above boundary treatments may require a finish which reduces visibility, for example using matte finishes in dark colours (brown or green). The colour and finish should be confirmed through consultation and with input from landscape specialists; and
- If a new outfall is required, this should aim to use the route of existing pipes rather than disturb new ground.

Recommendations for next steps relating to the historic environment are as follows:

- Consultation with Cheshire Archaeology and Planning Advisory Services should be ongoing as the scheme develops, both to reduce impacts to archaeological remains and to develop a proportionate archaeological mitigation strategy once the scheme is fixed;
- Recommendations from this report should feed into the design of the scheme, alongside consultation with the Cheshire West and Chester conservation officer and Wrexham County Borough Council conservation officer to confirm the assessment with respect to designated assets including listed buildings, scheduled monuments and conservation areas; and
- Once the scheme is finalised, the assessment in this document should be revisited to confirm whether there is the potential for impact to additional assets not here mentioned, or whether these predicted impacts may differ, to determine whether an updated impact assessment is required prior to construction of the scheme.

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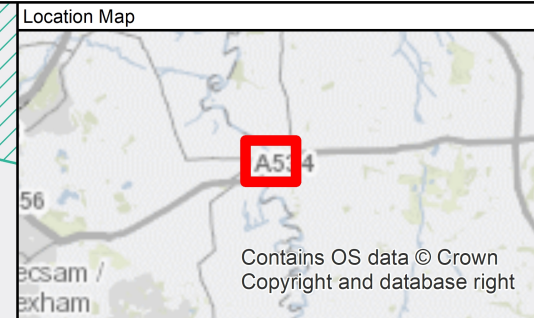
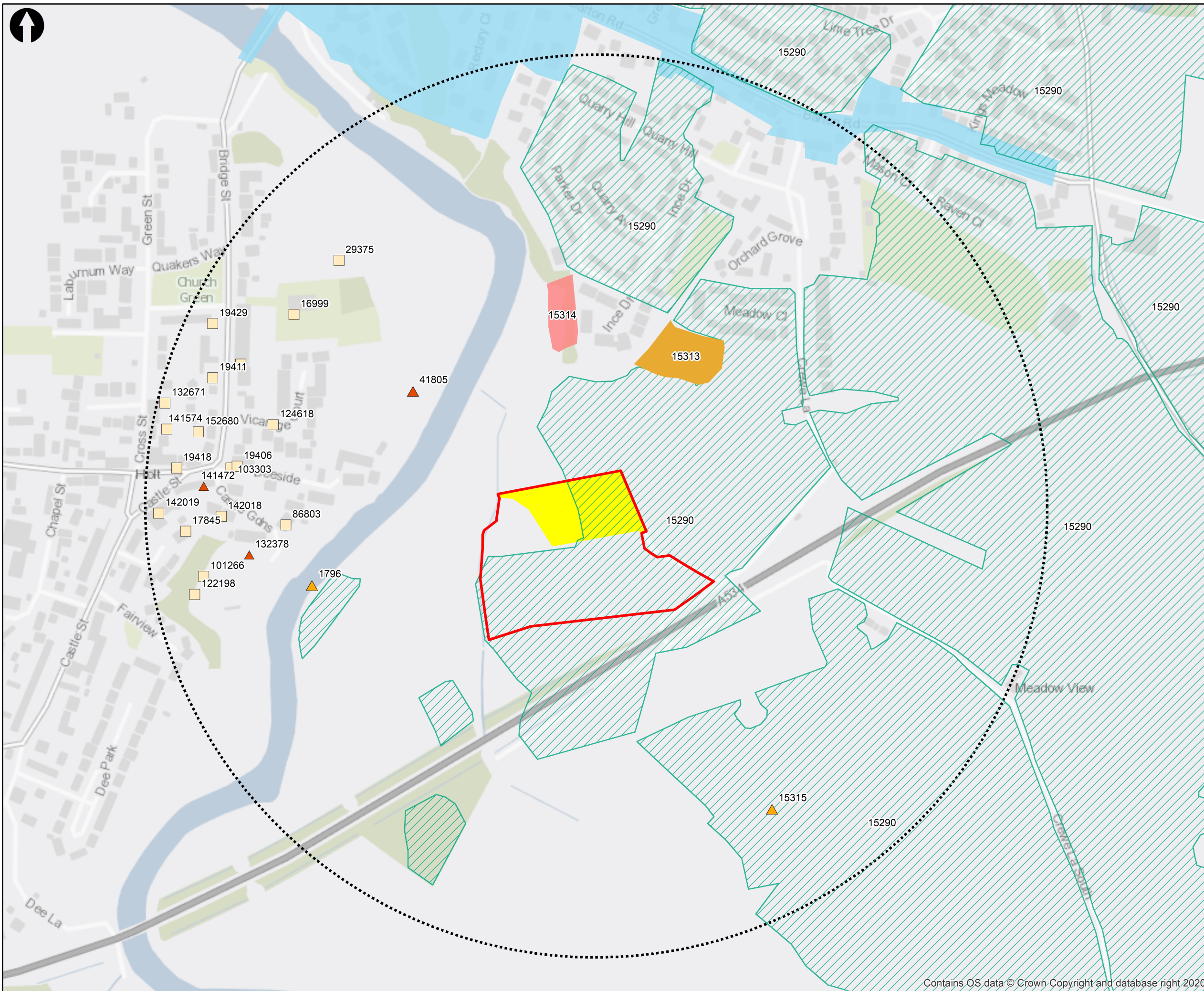
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Appendices

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A. Figures



Key to Symbols

- Existing WwTW
- 500m study area
- Area Of Archaeological Potential
- The site
- CPAT HER Monument
- CPAT HER Findspot
- CHER Findspot

CHER Monument

- 15290
- 15313
- 15314

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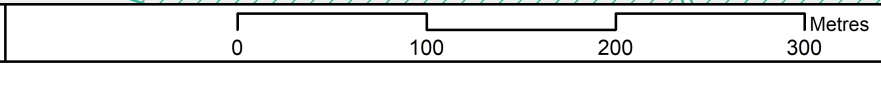
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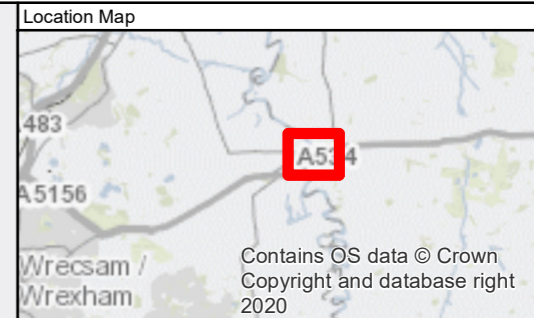
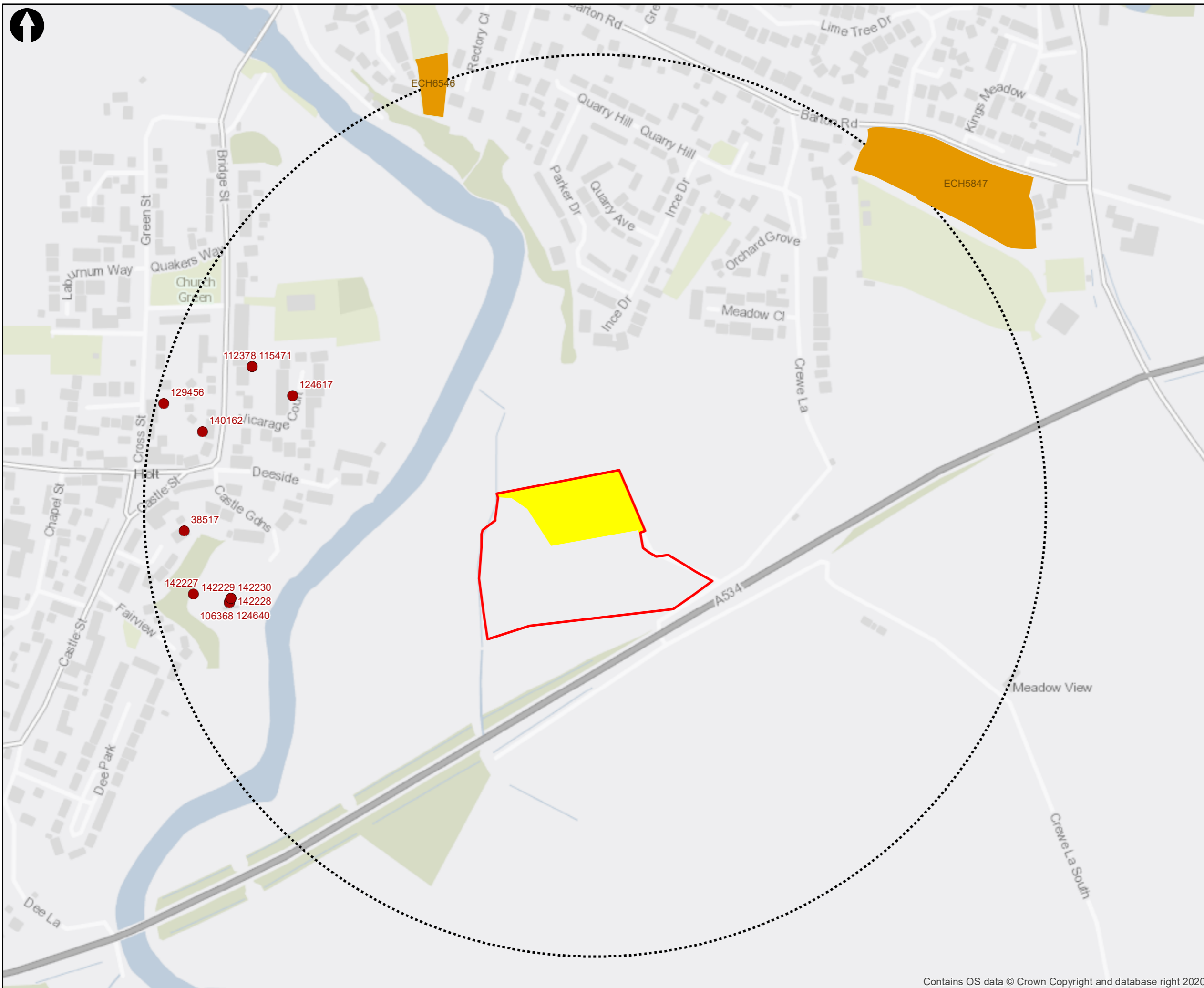
Non-Designated Heritage Assets near to Farndon WwTW

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|-------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
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| Drawn | Gray-Davies | Coordination | K Morris |
| GIS Check | XXX | Approved | J Timothy |
| Scale at A3 | Status | Rev | Security |
| 1:4,000 | PRE | P1 | STD |

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Key to Symbols

- Existing WwTW
- 500m study area
- The Site
- CPAT HER Event
- CHER Event

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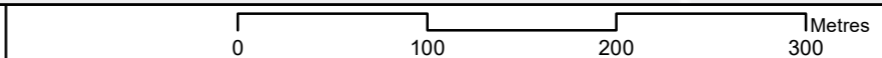
Events (Non-Designated) near to Farndon WwTW

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| Drawn | I Gray-Davies | Coordination | K Morris |
| GIS Check | XXX | Approved | J Timothy |

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B. Gazetteer of Heritage Assets

B.1 Designated Assets

Table 3: Gazetteer of Designated Heritage Assets within the study area

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 1279428, 1006758 1742, DE024 | Historic England Cadw | Farndon/Holt Bridge | Grade I listed, Scheduled Monument. | <p>Bridge circa 1345, of red sandstone. 5 arches over river, 1 flood arch on east (Farndon) side and 2 on west (Holt) side in Clwyd. Abutments rebuilt and widened probably early C19. Cutwaters. Deep segmental arches have 2 rings of voussoirs, the inner ring recessed, the outer one chamfered. Projecting cyma-moulded band at road level. The western-most river arch (in Clwyd) has a single ring of voussoirs rising into the parapet above a flatter (C20?) lower arch. According to tradition, the bridge was fortified and this altered arch may replace a draw-span. The western (Clwyd) abutment, at an angle to the bridge, has a rebuilt eastern flood-arch. Moulded band removed from abutments/flood arches. Late C20 mild steel rail of 1 bar on each plain, flush-coped parapet. Between the flood-arches and abutments the medieval bridge is unwidened and little altered.</p> |
| 1596 | Cadw | Parish Church of St Chad (Holt) | Grade I listed | <p>Church was remodelled by Sir William Stanley, who held the lordship of Bromfield and Holt Castle, in the late fifteenth century. The rebuilding retained the C14 nave arches and a piscina of similar date was reset in a chapel. A truncated arch and partial pier at the SE end of the chancel arcade suggests that the C15 remodelling was not completed according to plan. Parapet added c1732. Restored in 1871-3 by Ewan Christian and John Douglas of Chester at a cost of £4,000. Christian built the present sanctuary and Douglas was responsible for most of the furnishings and a complete or very substantial rebuilding of the camberbeam roof.</p> <p>Perpendicular aisled church. Red sandstone blocks laid in courses, rectangular plan with W tower said to be 1679, N and S doors, unbroken aisled nave and chancel. N and S aisle windows perpendicular in style, later C18 parapet. S door, four centred arch with enriched drip mould surround. Carved stone panel above S door contains a much weathered scene of the Annunciation. Tablet in parapet above with inscription `JOHN ROWE, JOFHUA POWELL, CHURCH WARDENS 1732'. E end elevation perpendicular panel tracery windows to chancel and aisles. Beneath chancel window an ogee headed marble memorial slab is inserted to commemorate Jasper Peck of Cornish Hall d 1688. Apex of gable parapet contains tablet with inscription `THE REVEREND JOHN ADAMS MINISTER 1732',</p> |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-------------|------|-------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| | | | | <p>iron cross on apex. Chancel and north aisle buttresses finished with decorative finials. The later W tower contains a peal of 6 bells by Rudhall of Gloucester which were installed in 1714 and rehung in an iron bell frame in 1896. The clock on the W tower was installed in 1902 to commemorate the coronation of King Edward VII.</p> <p>The nave has 5-bay arcades with tall acutely pointed arches on octagonal piers. There is no structural division between nave and chancel which continues for a further two bays with wide 4-centred arches on octagonal piers with exaggerated concave faces. Steps up to the sanctuary which has a floor with plain and encaustic tiles and is separated from N and S chapels by low walls. There is a continuous camberbeam roof with panels which are decorated with foliated bosses in the chancel. Aisles have similar roofs. In the S wall of the S chapel is a reset piscina with an ogee head flanked by abraded crocketed pinnacles. At the W end is a tall narrow tower arch. The exposed stone walls have a number of mason's marks and graffito, some of C18 date. At the SW end is a font with octagonal bowl which is boldly carved with faces and stems with heraldic motifs including the fleur-de-lis of Henry VII and the stag head caboched of the Stanleys; the heraldry is said to suggest a date of 1483. C19 furnishings are generally of oak; the chancel screen has open ogee arcading, an octagonal pulpit on stone base is richly carved; the pews have poppyheads. Organ by Norman & Beard 1910, rebuilt 1976. Monuments include a copper plate on the N wall of the N chapel by Silvanus Crue of Wrexham to Thomas Crue d 1666 whose name is commemorated in an acrostic. Well-executed design which includes skulls, hourglasses, sundials and a recumbent skeleton. Brass on N aisle wall with angel blowing the last trump, Mary Dutton, d 1767. Above the N door is a Neoclassical monument with festooned urn and winged putto; Christiana Smith d 1811. W side of tower arch a brass with angel, skull and winged hourglass; John Lloyd d 1784. Above S door is a cartouche with drapery and winged putto, partially legible. Plain glass with the exception of a S aisle windows with SS David, Asaph, Chad and Swithun in memory of G T Kenyon dated 1912 and signed PGG.</p> |
| 1595, DE106 | Cadw | Holt Castle | Grade II* listed, Scheduled Monument | <p>The monument consists of the remains of a castle, dating to the medieval period. A castle is a defended residence or stronghold, built mainly of stone, in which the principal or sole defence comprises the walls and towers bounding the site. Some form of keep may have stood within the enclosure but these were not significant in defensive terms and served mainly to provide accommodation. Holt Castle was built between 1282-1311 and demolished between 1675-83. The surviving remains include an irregular pentagon of walls, about 20-24m across set upon and against a boss of natural rock. The castle is reached by a causeway from the north, and is raised about 10m proud the expansive floor of a quarry that has subsumed any traces of ditches, moats or out-works. Old prints and plans show that the present remains represent a courtyard around which were ranges of apartments within a towered curtain. There are associated fishponds about 600m to west.</p> |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------------------|---|------------------|---|
| | | | | <p>The remains of the present structure date back to the second Edwardian campaign of 1282-3, however it is probable that the site had been of strategic importance for many centuries before. Bronze Age remains have been found on the site. The Edwardian lordship castle was built by the Earl of Surrey, John de Warenne. When John Noren visited the site in 1620 he described it as 'nowe in great decay'. It is however clear from his drawings that it was a single ward castle, planned as a regular pentagon, with buildings ranged against each curtain wall and a tower at each angle. Four towers were round, with watch turrets and battered plinths while at opposing ends there were square towers, one of which was a gatehouse barbican. The castle changed hands at least twice during the Civil War. The castle was demolished between 1675 and 1683 to provide building material for Sir Thomas Grosvenor's Eaton Hall.</p> <p>The remains stand upon an artificially-shaped boss of red sandstone upon and around which the castle was originally constructed. Sandstone blockwork survives, the S side being the best preserved with a doorway and steps leading into the interior.</p> |
| 1279424 | Historic England | Church of St Cad (Farndon) | Grade II* listed | <p>Church: C14 west tower; aisled 5-bay nave of 1660; chancel of 1660; north porch early C18; south transept C19. Coursed red sandstone with grey slate roofs. 3-stage tower has diagonal west buttresses, square east buttresses, square south-east turret; west door, inserted panel-traceried west window, 2-light reticulated bell-openings with a lancet above and a plain crenellated parapet. The aisles have square-headed windows with 4 round-headed lights; clerestorey has 5-light mullioned windows; east window has a curious arrangement of panel tracery; north porch has rusticated front with round-arched classical entrance, probably C18. Interior: Arcades of slim circular columns with plain caps carrying chamfered arches. Aisles under lean-to roofs. South transept is the Barnston chapel, with many C19 memorials and containing C17 glass in east window (Dutch influence) reset in 1894, depicting Richard Grosvenor, Sir William Mainwaring, William Barnston, Sir Francis Gamul, all royalists, and pikemen and trophies of war. Recumbent effigy of knight in north aisle. Late C19 and C20 memorial glass. Tables of benefactors dated 1679 in north aisle and dated 1786 in tower.</p> |
| 1228744 | Historic England | Holly Bank, Formerly the Doctor's House | Grade II* listed | <p>House, late C17 altered probably mainly mid C18, but by degrees. Stone-dressed brown brick with grey slate roofs. The entrance front (C18) of 3 storeys and 3 windows is symmetrical in form but with varied detailing: slightly projecting stone bands 1st and 2nd floors; rusticated stone quoins; cyma stone cornice, probably with upper parapet removed. Stone plinth with moulded cap has 2 former window openings to cellar left of probably late C19 gabled brick porch. Lower 2 storeys are of irregular bond; upper storey is in imperfect Flemish bond. Window to each side of porch is of 3 flush sashes: 4-pane: 12-pane: 4-pane, with stone cills; left window has gauged brick flat arch, right window a rougher camber arch. 2nd storey has 12-pane flush sashes; that at centre under repaired gauged brick flat</p> |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---|
| | | | | arch, those to sides under camber arches. 3rd storey has low 6-pane flush sashes under camber arches, the central opening blocked. Stone cills. The right corner of probably C17 roof shows, offset, behind the facade. Rear elevation (rendered) has band and 2 gables with kneelers. Interior: 2 and 3 panel oak doors. Cellar has stone and bedrock walls, and a reused slotted chamfered beam. Front parlour, left has altered inglenook and roughly chamfered oak main beam; rear left room has stop-chamfered beam system and oak panelling inscribed John Leech 1729, RMRB Esq 1741, IW 1756 (repositioned), RB Esq 1724, TH 1771 (repositioned), WBAP 174; diagonal fireplace with hollow corbel for hearth above. Rear right room has roughly chamfered beams. Kitchen (rear wing, right) has ceiling frame with 2 roughly chamfered beams and 1 C17 moulded beam with housings or open mortices on rear side. Moulded oak bressumer across corner of outhouse behind kitchen, C17 or earlier. Stair of 6 flights and 2 landings has dropped square newels and 2 barleysugar balusters per step. Bar-stopped chamfered oak beam in front bedroom, left. Oak purlins. |
| 1228877 | Historic England | Holly Cottage | Grade II listed | Cottage, early C19, of English garden wall bond brown brick with grey slate roof on dentil band at eaves and with plain flush verges. Almost symmetrical, of 2 storeys and 4 windows. Door has 2 fielded upper panels and 2 reeded flush lower panels; panelled doorcase with unmoulded pediment of wood. The inner windows to both storeys are 12-pane flush sashes, the outer windows are smaller replaced casements; all have wedge lintels and projecting cills of painted stone. 2 ridge chimneys of brick. A late C20 triangular oriel has been inserted in the left gable wall. Interior: not inspected. |
| 1279427 | Historic England | Black and White Cottages | Grade II listed | Row of 3 cottages, probably late C17, altered. Brick-nogged small-framing of small-section timbers. Gabled thatched roof with 3 eyebrow dormers. 1 storey with attic bedrooms. 2 rooms per cottage. Small-pane casements. Boarded doors of late C19 type. 4 brick chimneys on ridge. Parts of frame replaced in brick. Interiors not inspected. |
| 1228751 | Historic England | Village Lockup | Grade II listed | Former Lockup, now lockup garage, 1837, of Flemish bond brickwork with pale headers; pyramidal roof of graded grey slate. Projecting garage doors replace the former doorway. 2 semicircular barred, stone-cased openings above a plain stone band, 2 metres above floor-level. Between the openings is inscribed LOCKUP 1837. |
| 1229034 | Historic England | Top Farm | Grade II listed | Farmhouse, now converted to shop and offices, mid C17 altered, of local brown brick on projecting sandstone plinth with grey slate roofs. Recessed 2-storey central portion between 2 cross-wings, that to the left of 3 storeys and that to the right of 2 storeys, altered. The wings are of small bricks of C17 type in irregular bond with plain projecting bands at 1st floor. The left cross-wing has shaped gables to front and rear with plain projecting cornices of brick. The central portion is recased in larger brick, Flemish bond. Doors and windows altered, but some in unaltered openings: the left crosswing has a 2- |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| | | | | light window of 4-pane flush sashes to lower storey and 1 C20 casement to each storey above; the central portion has a recessed porch in each corner with a 3-light and 8-pane sash between and a 4-pane sash to upper storey; the right wing has similar sashes on lower and upper storeys. Shaped lateral chimney of brick, probably C17, on left cross-wing. Interior: Altered inglenook with hoodbeam behind left porch; shaped oak handrail and splat balusters at stair head in left wing; framed partition has wattle and daub panels in upper storey of right wing; all else is altered. |
| 1228746 | Historic England | Pair of Adjacent Table Tombs in Churchyard (South of St Chad's Church, East of Path to Church Porch) | Grade II listed | Pair of adjacent table tombs, early C18, of yellow sandstone. The inscriptions are badly weathered; that on north tomb includes 1726 as a date of death. West ends of tombs have recessed round-headed panels; that to north contains an hourglass, that to south a skull and crossbones above an inscription Mors S... Omnium. North side of north tomb has a square central panel containing an encircled quatrefoil in a lozenge with a vertical panel right and a decayed panel left. The east end of each tomb has a fielded panel; south side of south tomb has 3 fielded panels in bolection moulded borders. |
| 1438604 | Historic England | Farndon War Memorial | Grade II listed | <p>The aftermath of the First World War saw the biggest single wave of public commemoration ever with tens of thousands of memorials erected across England, both as a result of the huge impact the loss of three quarters of a million British lives had on communities and the official policy of not repatriating the dead, which meant that the memorials provided the main focus of the grief felt at this great loss.</p> <p>One such memorial was raised at Farndon as a permanent testament to the sacrifice made by the members of the local community who lost their lives in the First World War.</p> <p>£2,000 was raised by public subscription to fund the memorial cross and a commemorative public hall, £1,300 of which had been promised within eight weeks of the initial public meeting, held on 31 January 1919. The memorial was unveiled on 2 November 1919 by Major Barnston MP and dedicated by the Rev Alfred Bailey. It was reported that 'every seat in the church was full and the great congregation followed a simple service with devout attention'. Whilst the sculptor of the memorial is at present unknown, the design of Farndon War Memorial is almost identical to that of the Bickerton memorial, executed by Haswell and Sons of Kaleyards, Chester.</p> <p>Following the Second World War, the names of five men who served in that conflict were added to the south facing side of the plinth, with the inscription 1939 + 1945 added to the second step directly beneath. Messrs Clegg of Chester carried out the later work, quoting £4 for the cutting of the inscription, and £4 10s 0d for the washing of the memorial in June 1947.</p> <p>MATERIALS: limestone.</p> |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------------------|---|-----------------|--|
| | | | | <p>DESCRIPTION: the memorial comprises a circa 5m tall Celtic-style wheel-head cross with interlace detailing in relief, which is set upon a tapering chamfered shaft. The shaft stands upon a rectangular plinth with a chamfered base on the east facing side of which the names of 18 men who served in the First World War are incised into the stone.</p> <p>The plinth is set upon a three-stepped rectangular base.</p> <p>The inscription is centrally inscribed on the riser of the top step and reads IN PERPETUAL MEMORY OF THESE / MEN WHO DIED FOR THEIR COUNTRY. Inscribed upon the second step below this is the date, separated by a cross, 1914 + 1919.</p> <p>The names of five men who served in the Second World War were later added to the south facing side of the plinth, with the inscription 1939 + 1945 added to the riser of the second step directly beneath.</p> |
| 1229008 | Historic England | Sunnyside | Grade II listed | House, early C19, altered, of Flemish bond brown brick with grey slate roof on moulded plaster cornice. 3 storeys, 1½ bays. Open timber porch, probably early C20. 6-panel door has flush reeded-margin lower panels and upper panels replaced in glass. Unaltered opening contains early C20 casement in lower storey. 2nd storey has 12-pane sash to main bedroom and 8-pane sash above door; 3rd storey has 6-pane sash and a small mid C20 casement. The sashes are flush, with wedge lintels and stone cills. Ridge chimney. |
| 1229046 | Historic England | Academy House | Grade II listed | House, late C18 with earlier internal features. Local brown brick in Flemish bond with grey slate roof. Rusticated quoins terminate in swept-out copings to gables. Of 3 storeys and 3 windows, symmetrical, with slightly projecting central bay. Replaced door of 6 fielded panels; 16-pane sashes to lower storey; 12-pane sash flanked by 16-pane sashes to 2nd storey; 6-pane sash flanked by 8-pane sashes to 3rd storey; all sashes flush. The interior has some oak beams and, in the left bay, an altered inglenook; 1 door of 3 oak boards. Up to the late C19 the house was more elaborate in expression; eaves cornice, finials and a Roman Doric porch have been removed (engraving in owner's hands). The house used to contain a school. |
| 1228750 | Historic England | Poplar House, with former Cartshed and Stable | Grade II listed | House, cartshed and stable, early C19, of brown brick (the house in Flemish bond) with grey slate roofs. 2 storeys, 3 windows. Oak door of 6 raised panels, the top 2 replaced in glass, under open gabled porch, altered, on consoles. The lower right sash is of 12 square panes; the other windows are replaced by 4-pane sashes, all under rusticated keystone lintels and with stone cills. Stone-capped gable copings on footstones; gable chimneys of brick. Attached to right side of house is a former cartshed and stable of irregularly bonded brickwork with camber arch to cart entrance and loading door to hayloft above. The interior of the house is altered. |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 1228749 | Historic England | Church View | Grade II listed | House, early C19, of Flemish bond brown brick with grey slate roof. 3 storeys, 2 windows, part of a row. Replaced door and doorcase. The lower storey main room has 12-pane sash, the 2nd storey a 16-pane sash and the 3rd storey a 12-pane window with 8 panes to lower sash and 4 to upper sash. The sashes are flush with wedge lintels and stone cills. Gable chimney. Interior: Doors of 5 fielded panels; stair has moulded newel and stick balusters. |
| 1228747 | Historic England | Chapel House | Grade II listed | House and former chapel, mid C17, altered, of brown brick in irregular bond on 1 metre plinth of large red sandstone blocks; grey slate roof. 2 storeys plus attic; a rectangular building, end to street, with a shaped gable. Semicircular arched doorway of stone with moulded square caps and moulded base to keystone. Dentil band of brick at 1st floor. Replaced small-pane windows, probably C19, to 1st and 2nd storey. Small circular window in gable contains old glass. Interior: Chamfered beams of oak; cupboards with oak doors on H hinges, probably C17. The former chapel room is at rear. |
| 1229211 | Historic England | Laurel Bank and Workshop | Grade II listed | House and workshop, mid C18 perhaps reusing earlier features. Flemish bond brown brick; grey slate roof. 3 storeys; 3 windows; asymmetrical. Rusticated quoins. 6-panel oak door left of centre under shallow-gabled porch roof on scroll-shaped brackets. Flush 12-pane sashes to lower 2 storeys under wedge lintels with false voussoir blocks and double keystones; flush 6-pane sashes to 3rd storey; stone cills. 2-storey wing left with cartway under storeroom with wood-latticed opening and winch-arm to rear; workshop range returns left of rear yard. Interior: Rock-cut cellar. Altered inglenook and 2 nick-stopped oak beams with lozenges and roses carved on soffits and coved panels between, in left room; oak joists and some old plasterwork in other rooms; oak boarded inner back door and door to rear room. Oak stair of 1 flight per storey has winders at foot and head; oak rear stair with winders turns through 180° between each floor. Left room of 2nd storey has chamfered oak beams and inglenook with bevelled bressummer; broad oak board floors in left and central room; pine floor in right room, oak doors of 2 and 3 panels; stop-chamfered oak beams. 3rd storey has oak purlins, the front one squint bridled and pine rafters. |
| 1228883 | Historic England | The Chimes | Grade II listed | Cottage (attached to Tudor q.v.) C17, altered. Brick-nogged small-framing with grey slate roof. 1½ storeys, of 2 rooms with central (replaced) door. C20 4-pane wood casements, in keeping. 2 gabled dormers, probably C19; brick chimney on south gable and at north end of ridge. Interior: not inspected, but oak beams are discernible. |
| 1228745 | Historic England | Tudor | Grade II listed | Cottage, C17, altered. Brick-nogged small-framing to front, north end and back. Attached to The Chimes (q.v.) at south end. Small lean-to extension of brick against part of front. 1½ storeys. Door replaced; windows replaced by 4-pane casements, in keeping. Rebuilt axial chimney of brick. 3 gabled dormers to front, probably C19. Interior: not inspected. |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| 1279426 | Historic England | Deebanks | Grade II listed | House, now divided, probably 1830's, pebbledashed with hipped grey slate roof. 2 storeys with 3 rooms to front plus north wing of 1 room. The main block is symmetrical to front. Projecting Roman Doric porch carries semi-circular bow window with 16-pane sash to front and 8-pane sash to each side. To each side of porch is a canted bay window to lower storey (16-pane sash to front and 8-pane to each side) and a shuttered 16-pane sash to upper storey. 3 prominent pebble-dashed ridge chimneys. The left wing has a Gothic window to each storey. Features of the right end of main block are similar to those of its front: lower storey has arched entrance with fanlight and canted bay window to right; upper storey has 4 16-pane sashes. Interior: not inspected. |
| 1540 | Cadw | Holt Hill | Grade II listed | <p>C17 house, refronted and enlarged in the C18. The steep pitch of the roof and depth of the gable ridge coping suggest that this section may have originally been thatched. The house was for many years the residence of the Crew family who owned a large acreage of land lying to the west. Norden mentions a house on this site in his survey of 1620.</p> <p>Front elevation: Early-mid C18, red brick 2 storeys with high parapet, partially obscured by ivy. Sandstone string courses to first floor and below parapet. 4x 12-pane sash windows to ground floor, 4 similar windows to first floor. Left hand return gable shows C18 refronting is one room deep throughout the main facade. 1x12-pane sash window to first floor, C20 door to ground floor. To rear doubled gabled range marks part of the C17 house. Brick with C20 metal windows, renewed slate roof.</p> |
| 16961 | Cadw | Gates, Gate-piers and Railings at W entrance to churchyard at Parish Church of St Chad | Grade II listed | <p>Gates and railings to Parish Church bear the stamp 'WREXHAM 1816'. At that time there was a foundry in Tuttle Street, Wrexham worked by Jones, Lacon and Jones and they may well have been responsible for these gates and railings. The gates stand on the site of the old lych gate.</p> <p>Gothic style, squared gate piers contain quatrefoils with floral centre detailing. The piers are surmounted by later lamps. 2 end piers of similar style, that to right is finished with a cast iron urn. Railings contain friezes containing quatrefoil detailing with decorative baluster heads. Similar detail to gates including quatrefoil lock and dog bars.</p> |
| 16960 | Cadw | Sundial in churchyard at Parish Church of St Chad | Grade II listed | Probably erected in 1736 although the column is sometimes claimed to be a re-used Roman column on the basis of its entasis. Sandstone shaft, clearly shaped as a column mounted on 2 concentric stone steps. The initials and date 'RCW 1736 TP?W' are carved onto the shaft. The upper face no longer retains its dial and gnomon. |
| 16963 | Cadw | Deeside Farmhouse | Grade II listed | Originally rectangular single-pile C17 farmhouse, possibly timber framed on sandstone plinth. Refronted in the late C18 with various C18 and C19 extensions to rear. Appears on Tithe Map 1843. |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| | | | | <p>Main range: red brick, 2 storeys with attics, renewed slate roof, gable end stacks on projecting stepped chimney-breasts. Symmetrical late-Georgian garden elevation refronted in the mid-late C18 with larger red bricks. Later wooden and glazed porch. Small-paned sash windows with voussoirs, camber-headed and 16-pane to ground-floor including painted, 'dummy', windows. Alternately placed on 1st floor are three 12-pane sash windows and two painted, 'dummy', windows. Left hand return gable elevation has 2 blocked windows with timber surrounds, and 8-pane casement window to attics. Red sandstone quoins to left of this elevation and stepped two course sandstone plinth marking line of original timber-framed building. Rear elevation: C18 extension, probably kitchen and various later C19 additions, including domestic, former dairy and office accommodation.</p> <p>Original farmhouse still contains at least 1 timber framed wall with sandstone plinth visible. Sitting room contains large original fireplace opening, and exposed stopped and chamfered beam. Kitchen contains exposed chamfered beam.</p> |
| 16964 | Cadw | 2 Frog Lane | Grade II listed | <p>Originally late C17, later altered. Probably part of the former residence of the Powell family. This once sizeable house was divided into three smaller cottages and No. 2 is the middle remaining property. The cottages were then bought in the late C19 by the Bellis family and used as workers housing.</p> <p>Late C17 red brick, left hand bay, with gable facing the street, of 2 storeys with attics. Decorative brick banding at eaves level with later slate roof and rear brick stack. One 2-light casement window with small leaded panes and rough brick cambered headers to each floor. Door placed to side of gable section, later wooden moulded canopy with decorative cast-iron strap supports. 2 storey extension to right, (see vertical joint) similar red brickwork with smaller 2-light casement windows with small leaded panes to each floor.</p> <p>Main room on ground floor has corner chimney-breast and exposed chamfered and stopped beam. Similar beam in staircase hall.</p> |
| 1542 | Cadw | Village Cross | Grade II listed | <p>Market Cross, probably of later medieval date. It was re-erected in its present position in 1896.</p> <p>Late medieval. Chamfered red sandstone shaft set on a graduated octagonal stepped base. The base consists of six sandstone steps. Shaft plinth has carved inscription 'THIS PINNACLE RE-FIXED 1896'.</p> |
| 16962 | Cadw | War Memorial (including railings) | Grade II listed | <p>War Memorial by Mansley of Chester, commemorating the Great War (1914-18) it was unveiled on August 1st, 1920. It cost over £600 and the money was raised by public subscription. Two additional tablets commemorating the fallen of World War Two were added in 1947.</p> |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------|---|-----------------|--|
| | | | | Sandstone obelisk set on square plinth set in turn on a stepped base. The obelisk has carved sword with the words 'PRO PATRIA' and inscription 'IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR JUSTICE AND RIGHT IN THE GREAT WAR'. Stone plinth has carved lion surmounted by crown with inlaid marble slabs containing the names of the fallen with additional inserts commemorating the fallen of the Second World War. |
| 16967 | Cadw | 2 Holt Hall (including the Peking Garden) | Grade II listed | <p>Early C18 town house, the building appears to have been extended at a later date and is now subdivided into two houses. Palmer mentions it as having C17 origins and it is also claimed that the original family which built the house were migrants from Chester called Dodd. Palmer also states that a wooden carved mitred head which formed a bench end at the Parish Church of St. Chad was removed to Holt Hall in 1872 to form part of a staircase.</p> <p>Early C18, 2 storeys with central pediment, rendered and painted white, slate roof. Later? projecting flat roofed porch, lintel with stone voussoirs. 2 symmetrically placed wooden bay windows. To left C20 door but with original lintel with stone voussoirs and raised keystone. String course to first floor. First floor four windows, three placed centrally fourth to the right, all with original lintels with stone voussoirs and raised keystones. Two small oeil-de-boeuf windows and one blocked oeil-de-boeuf window in the centre of the pediment.</p> |
| 1538 | Cadw | 1 Holt Hall (including the Peking Garden) | Grade II listed | <p>Early C18 town house, the building appears to have been extended at a later date and is now subdivided into two houses. Palmer mentions it as having C17 origins and it is also claimed that the original family which built the house were migrants from Chester called Dodd. Palmer also states that a wooden carved mitred head which formed a bench end at the Parish Church of St. Chad was removed to Holt Hall in 1872 to form part of a staircase.</p> <p>Early C18, 2 storeys with central pediment, rendered and painted white, slate roof. Later? projecting flat roofed porch, lintel with stone voussoirs. 2 symmetrically placed wooden bay windows. To left C20 door but with original lintel with stone voussoirs and raised keystone. String course to first floor. First floor four windows, three placed centrally fourth to the right, all with original lintels with stone voussoirs and raised keystones. Two small oeil-de-boeuf windows and one blocked oeil-de-boeuf window in the centre of the pediment.</p> |
| 16959 | Cadw | Former Baptist Chapel (including forecourt walls, gates and railings) | Grade II listed | <p>Former Baptist Chapel of 1827, now used as a furniture store house.</p> <p>Simple classical 2 storey, red brick in Flemish bond, slate roof. Centrally placed doorway with open pedimented hood. Moulded wooden architrave surround with console details. 2 symmetrically placed windows with stone lintels. Stone string course. 3 windows to first floor all with stone lintels. Under apex of gable is a stone plaque with heavily eroded inscription and date 1827. Later brick walls with sandstone coping blocks surmounted by decorative railings.</p> |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------|--|-----------------|--|
| 16957 | Cadw | Presbyterian Church (including forecourt walls and railings) | Grade II listed | <p>Designed by T.M. Lockwood, architect of Chester, and built in 1865. The building was instigated by the Rev. Ebenezer Powell who opened the Academy School.</p> <p>Gothic Revival style with bar tracery. Sandstone blocks of irregular sizes laid in courses with slate roof. Gable end facing street has central gabled entrance porch, ordered stone door surround with carved foliated capitals, wooden door. Stone belfry to left with decorated stone buttresses. Windows throughout of Early English, 'First Pointed' style with quatrefoil and cinquefoil detail. To rear adjoining school room, sandstone block construction with simple lancet windows. Late C20 single storey flat roofed extension to rear.</p> <p>There is a fairly complete contemporary scheme. Arch-braced roof timbers rise from painted stone corbels; there is a decorative timber frieze. 4 and 5 pointed star shapes are motifs which are carried through from the glass in the tracery to pierced designs in the roof joinery and incised shapes on the pew ends. Where the windows are paired they are separated by stone shafts with foliated capitals. At the liturgical W end there is a pitch pine lobby with blind cusped arcading. At the liturgical E end is a central pulpit of similar character with steps up on each side with arcaded balustrading. A door on each side leads off to a schoolroom. Windows have coloured and painted glass in the tracery but are otherwise plain with coloured glass margins. Pews are of pitch pine with painted numbers. On the liturgical E wall are 3 later C19 monuments in Neoclassical style commemorating former ministers and elders of the church; two of them are by Mossford of Overton. The schoolroom has exposed timbers in the roof.</p> |
| 16958 | Cadw | Puddleducks (including forecourt walls and railings) | Grade II listed | <p>The Former Manse to the adjacent Presbyterian Church. Possibly also designed by T.M. Lockwood, c1865.</p> <p>c1865, 2 storeys, red brick symmetrical front with end brick chimneys. Double-pile plan. Central gabled porch, with brick dentilled eaves cornice, painted black; modern door. To either side large canted bay windows to ground floor. Two 12-pane sashes under dormers at first floor. To rear roughcast painted white, C20 door and porch with a number of sash windows.</p> |
| 1539 | Cadw | Smithfield House | Grade II listed | <p>Former farmhouse. Smithfield House appears on the 1843 Tithe map.</p> <p>Main house mid-late C17 with later alterations. Main house: 3 storeys, handmade red brick with red sandstone quoins and sandstone facing to base of street facade and one gable end. Stone shaped kneelers and gable coping. Later slate roof with terracotta ridge tiles, rebuilt brick stack. Painted stone porch with moulded pediment on consoles, later door. Ground and first floors each contain 3 later three-light casement windows with brick flat arches. Upper storey has 3 two-light casements. To right, red brick extension with slate roof</p> |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|------|--|-----------------|--|
| | | | | with terracotta ridge tiles. Two-light casement window to ground floor. Left return gable wall sandstone facing to eaves level, single C20 uPVC window. To rear 2 storey brick extension, slate roof. |
| 16841 | Cadw | Strawberry Pickers' Barracks at Bellis' Farm | Grade II listed | <p>U-shaped range of Strawberry Pickers' Barracks, probably dating to the turn of the twentieth century. The Barracks were occupied by seasonal crop pickers who were called Dodgers. Strawberries were introduced into the Holt area in 1860 by Charles Bellis who quickly expanded the crop so that at its height over 200 acres were turned over to strawberry production. The crop was exported to Liverpool, Birmingham and London by rail and over 3,000 baskets of fruit were despatched every day.</p> <p>U-shaped range of barracks buildings. Wooden construction with sheet iron roof, with continuous raised ventilation vent running along the ridge. Two long ranges contain thirty-five large single cells for accommodation. Each section is entered by an individual door with moulded wooden architrave and surmounted by timber swan-neck pediments. Oval blue and white enamel number plates to the left of each doorway. Wooden string course runs full length of these ranges. Between each doorway is an eight-paned fixed window, again surmounted by a swan-neck pediment. The southerly gable ends of both long ranges are topped by decorative cast iron finials. The short range to the north contains central raised open section for machinery storage. This section is pedimented and originally contained a bellcote. To either side more single cell accommodation.</p> <p>Each large cell contains an open wall-mounted cupboard comprising ten individual pigeon holes with coat hooks beneath. Pasted on the courtyard end of each cupboard is a list of rules and regulations. The end blocks of the longer ranges comprises toilets.</p> |
| 16965 | Cadw | Former Wages Office at Bellis' Farm | Grade II listed | <p>The former wages office for the fruit pickers employed at Bellis Farm. Probably dating to the early C20 the office was originally sited closer to the Strawberry Pickers' Barracks to the rear of the farm. Strawberries were introduced into the Holt area in 1860 by Charles Bellis who quickly expanded the crop so that at its height over 200 acres were turned over to strawberry production. The crop was exported to Liverpool, Birmingham and London by rail and over 3,000 baskets of fruit were despatched every day.</p> <p>Decorative wooden single storey pavilion probably dating to the early C20. Main elevation has full height canted bay containing canted wooden 3-light window, with some original small leaded panes. To right decorative wooden pay counter with shaped wooden pediment. Deep eaves cornice supported by 3 decorative wooden brackets. 2 miniature dormers with decorative barge board eaves, topped with pinnacles. Gable ends with decorative barge board eaves topped with pinnacles. Each contains single window finished with wooden shaped pediment. Glazing retains some small leaded panes.</p> |

| Reference | Body | Name | Designation | Description |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| DE013 | Cadw | Holt Roman Settlement | Scheduled Monument | The monument consists of an extensive Roman industrial settlement occupying the slopes above the river Dee floodplain to the north-east of the present town of Holt. Excavations were undertaken from 1907-1915. Much pottery and many coins have since been recovered from the site. The excavations revealed a range of buildings including a massive bank of eight tile and pottery kilns, a further tile or pottery kiln with an adjacent 'workshop', a walled compound enclosing long barracks type buildings and a luxurious house and a separate bathhouse. The site appears to be an industrial works serving the legionary fortress at Chester. The house would be for the supervisor, possibly a centurion, whilst the barracks accommodated soldiers seconded from their units. Examination of the pottery and coins indicates that it was working between about 85AD and 135AD. Later material indicates some form of activity up to the later fourth century, although there is little indication that manufacturing continued beyond the mid second century. The site may have remained legionary or imperial territory, possibly as an estate centre. No surface features survive and the site is manifest mainly in a scatter of tile and pot, with indications of some excavated structures apparent from the air. |
| N/A | Wrexham Borough Council | Holt Conservation Area | Conservation area | Conservation Area for Holt in the Wrexham Unitary Authority. Designated 29-08-1975. |
| N/A | Chester and West Cheshire Council | Farndon Conservation Area | Conservation area | Conservation area for Farndon designated by Chester and West Cheshire Council. |

Source: Cadw, *Cof Cymru* and Historic England, *NHLE*

B.2 Non-Designated Assets

Table 4: Non-designated heritage assets within the study area

| Reference | Body | Type | Name | Summary Description |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|----------|--|--|
| 15290 | Chester and West Cheshire Council | Monument | Ridge and furrow earthworks and in Farndon | Medieval or early post medieval field system |
| 15313 | Chester and West Cheshire Council | Monument | Site of a Brickfield at Farndon | 19th century Brickfield |
| 15314 | Chester and West Cheshire Council | Monument | Site of a Stone Quarry at Farndon | 19 th century (?) Stone quarry |

| Reference | Body | Type | Name | Summary Description |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|---|
| 1796 | Chester and West Cheshire Council | Find Spot | Post Medieval boat from Farndon | C17th sunken boat |
| 15315 | Chester and West Cheshire Council | Find Spot | Henry III coin from Farndon | Silver short cross penny of Henry III |
| 103303 | National Monuments Record for Wales (via CPAT) | Monument | Ivy House, Church Street, Holt | Post Medieval House |
| 19429 | National Monuments Record for Wales (via CPAT) | Monument | Quakers' Yard, Church Street, Holt | Post Medieval Chapel |
| 19418 | National Monuments Record for Wales (via CPAT) | Monument | Town Hall, Site of, Holt | Post Medieval Town Hall |
| 19411 | National Monuments Record for Wales (via CPAT) | Monument | Bethesda Methodist Chapel;New Connexion, Church Street, Holt | Post Medieval Chapel |
| 19406 | National Monuments Record for Wales (via CPAT) | Monument | Old Post Office, Holt | Post Medieval Post Office |
| 86803 | National Monuments Record for Wales (via CPAT) | Monument | Castle Bungalow, Castle Gardens | Modern House |
| 122198 | CPAT | Monument | Holt Castle, quarry | Red-coloured Bunter sandstone was quarried from around the site of the castle for use in its walls in the 13th century. The same material was used in the 15th century for the churches at Holt and Farndon. (Hankinson, Britnell & Silvester 2012) |
| 16999 | CPAT | Monument | Holt Church (St Chad), yard | The original rectangular churchyard was extended to the south in 1881 as a result of an 1880 enquiry into its crowded condition. Though there was plenty of space on the north-west side further ground was also enclosed on west where there had been a back |
| 29375 | CPAT | Monument | Holt Medieval Town | |
| 101266 | CPAT | Monument | Holt, Castle Garden/Field/Croft | 3 PLACENAMES CASTLE GARDEN CASTLE FIELD AND CASTLE CROFT. IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO HOLT CASTLE. |

| Reference | Body | Type | Name | Summary Description |
|-----------|------|----------|--|---|
| 17845 | CPAT | Monument | Holt, Castle Mews, medieval occupation | Excavation 1993 adjacent to Castle Mews identified probable medieval or post-medieval levels including stone-packed posthole, rubble foundation, possible pit. Little dating evidence beyond Roman residual material was located. The main find was a silver r |
| 124618 | CPAT | Monument | Holt, Church Street (land off), boundary | In a large E-W trench dug for drainage along the access road off Church Street. two features were observed: a ditch or large pit c. 3 m wide and) 1.1 m deep, filled with dark grey-brown sand, cut through the bedrock. Seen in both sections of the trench, |
| 132671 | CPAT | Monument | Holt, Cross Street, The Cottage | Outbuilding subject of photographic survey in 2012. (Andy Evans, 2015) |
| 142018 | CPAT | Monument | Holt, Endowed School | Holt Endowed School, commissioned 1873 waiting for approval 1877. (Holt Local History Society, 1999). Appears on 2nd Edition 25 inch to the mile map of 1899. |
| 132378 | CPAT | Findspot | Holt, finger ring | A gold finger ring of the late 15th or early 16th century (Redknapp, M, 2015). |
| 141472 | CPAT | Findspot | Holt, finger ring | Gold decorative ring with central spine of very fine raised pellets, between two raised plain borders. The inside of the hoop is plain. Internal hoop diameter 17.6mm; band width 3.8mm; band thickness 0.6mm; weight 1.76g. The ring has not undergone any cleaning. |
| 142019 | CPAT | Monument | Holt, Kenyon Hall | Kenyon Hall, opened April 1892. (Holt Local History Society, 1999). Appears on 2nd Edition 25 inch to the mile map of 1899. |
| 128178 | CPAT | Monument | Holt, Rose Cottage, medieval activity | Medieval activity comprising a track or pathway, a late medieval ditch - possibly an earlier property boundary and a clay floor and hearth. Also a number of Medieval finds were uncovered, primarily Ewloe and pink/white wears dating to the 15th-16th century. |
| 128179 | CPAT | Monument | Holt, Rose Cottage, post medieval activity | Post medieval activity revealed during an archaeological evaluation by Earthworks Archaeological Services in 2008. |

| Reference | Body | Type | Name | Summary Description |
|-----------|--|----------|-----------------------|---|
| | | | | Excavation revealed post medieval activity in the way of a reused trackway of 16th-18th century date. A considerable assemblage of pottery. |
| 152680 | CPAT | Monument | Holt, Wrexham, Toilet | Remains of former outside toilet. Post medieval and shown on 1872 25" OS map. |
| 41805 | Portable Antiquities database (via CPAT) | Findspot | Roman Brooch | A copper alloy dolphin brooch with a Polden hill claw type pin mechanism dating AD75-175. The wings are tubular and semi-circular in cross-section with a stop-ridge at either end. The head of the brooch rises up from the wings and tapers downwards formi |

Source: CPAT and Chester and West Cheshire Council

B.3 Events (non-designated)

Table 5: Gazetteer of Events within the study area

| Reference | Body | Name | Description |
|-----------|------|---|--|
| 106368 | CPAT | Holt Castle, geophysical survey 2005 | Geophysical survey carried out by Stratascan in 2005. Though it was considered doubtful that the survey had identified any structural remains relating to the castle, anomalies that were identified may represent rubble deposits, robber trenches, pits and |
| 112378 | CPAT | Holt, Church Street, Rose Cottage, watching brief 2008 | Watching brief carried out by Earthworks Archaeology in 2008. The watching brief confirmed that the archaeology recorded during the evaluation (PRN 115471) will be protected beneath the new building. Although no archaeology was recorded during the excav |
| 115471 | CPAT | Holt, Church Street, Rose Cottage, evaluation 2008 | Evaluation carried out by Earthworks Archaeology in 2008 revealing deposits relating to the medieval and post medieval periods in the form of a trackway/metalled surface, boundary ditch, clay floor and hearth. |
| 123124 | CPAT | Medieval and Post-Medieval Industry, assessment project 2011-12 | Assessment project carried out for Cadw by Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust in 2011-12. Consisted of desk-based assessment and limited fieldwork of medieval and early post-medieval industrial sites in east and north-east Wales. |
| 124617 | CPAT | Holt, Church Street (land off), watching brief 1988 | A watching brief was carried out during the building of a new housing estate in June/ July 1988. It had been hoped to pick up some of the medieval street frontage of Church Street, as well as verifying the existence of a back lane running N-S from the Ch |

| Reference | Body | Name | Description |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 124640 | CPAT | Holt Castle, Scheduled monument consent 2014 | Various conditions attached to the consent relating to how the permitted excavations are to be carried out |
| 129456 | CPAT | Holt, Cross Street, The Cottage, photographic survey 2012 | Photographic survey undertaken in 2010 ahead of development. (Andy Evans, 2014) |
| 130972 | CPAT | First World War Commemoration project, Scoping Study 2013 | Scoping study (desk based assessment) forming the first part of the Cadw-funded First World War Commemoration project (PRN130971). The aim of the scoping study was to identify the physical traces of the First World War period in mid and north-east Wales |
| 140162 | CPAT | Holt, Whitehaven, watching brief 2017 | In January-February 2017, on behalf of the owner/developer, the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust carried out a watching brief during earthmoving and excavation for an extension to a property in Holt. The watching brief was recommended due to the potential |
| 141996 | CPAT | Medieval and Post-Medieval Industry, desk based assessment 2011-12 | Desk-based assessment of medieval and early post-medieval industrial sites in east and north-east Wales. |
| 142227 | CPAT | Holt Castle Quarry, topographical survey 2010 | Topographical survey of the quarry and pinnacle of rock on which the standing fabric of Holt Castle survives. Undertaken as part of planned conservation work undertaken on behalf of Wrexham County Borough Council (Turner & Jones-Jenkins 2016). |
| 142228 | CPAT | Holt Castle, conservation project 2010ff | An extended programme of consolidation, archaeological evaluation and geophysical survey led by Steve Greener of Wrexham County Borough Council, in partnership with members of the Holt Local History Society (Turner & Jones-Jenkins 2016). |
| 142229 | CPAT | Holt Castle, excavation 2012-15 | Three seasons of excavation undertaken between 2012 and 2014. Trenches were dug across the internal courtyard, across the site of tower 1 (T1) and the base of the Chequer Tower, across tower 5 (T5), and cross the channel and rectangular projection from to |
| 142230 | CPAT | Holt Castle, photogrammetric survey 2010 | A survey of each face of the pinnacle of rock on which the remains of Holt Castle stand. The results of which can be pieced together to form a record of the standing fabric of the castle. Undertaken as part of planned conservation work undertaken on behalf of |
| 38517 | CPAT | Holt, Castle Mews, excavation 1993 | Excavation 1993 adjacent to Castle Mews identified probable medieval or post-medieval levels including stone-packed posthole, rubble foundation, possible pit. Little dating evidence beyond Roman residual material was located. The main find was a silver r |
| ECH5847 | Chester and West Cheshire Council | Land Adjacent to Lilac Cottage, Barton Road, Farndon, Cheshire. Archaeological Watching Brief | None given. |

| Reference | Body | Name | Description |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|
| ECH6546 | Chester and West Cheshire Council | St Chad's Church, Farndon, Churchyard Extension: Geophysical Survey and Trial Excavation | None given. |

Source: CPAT and Chester and West Cheshire Council

