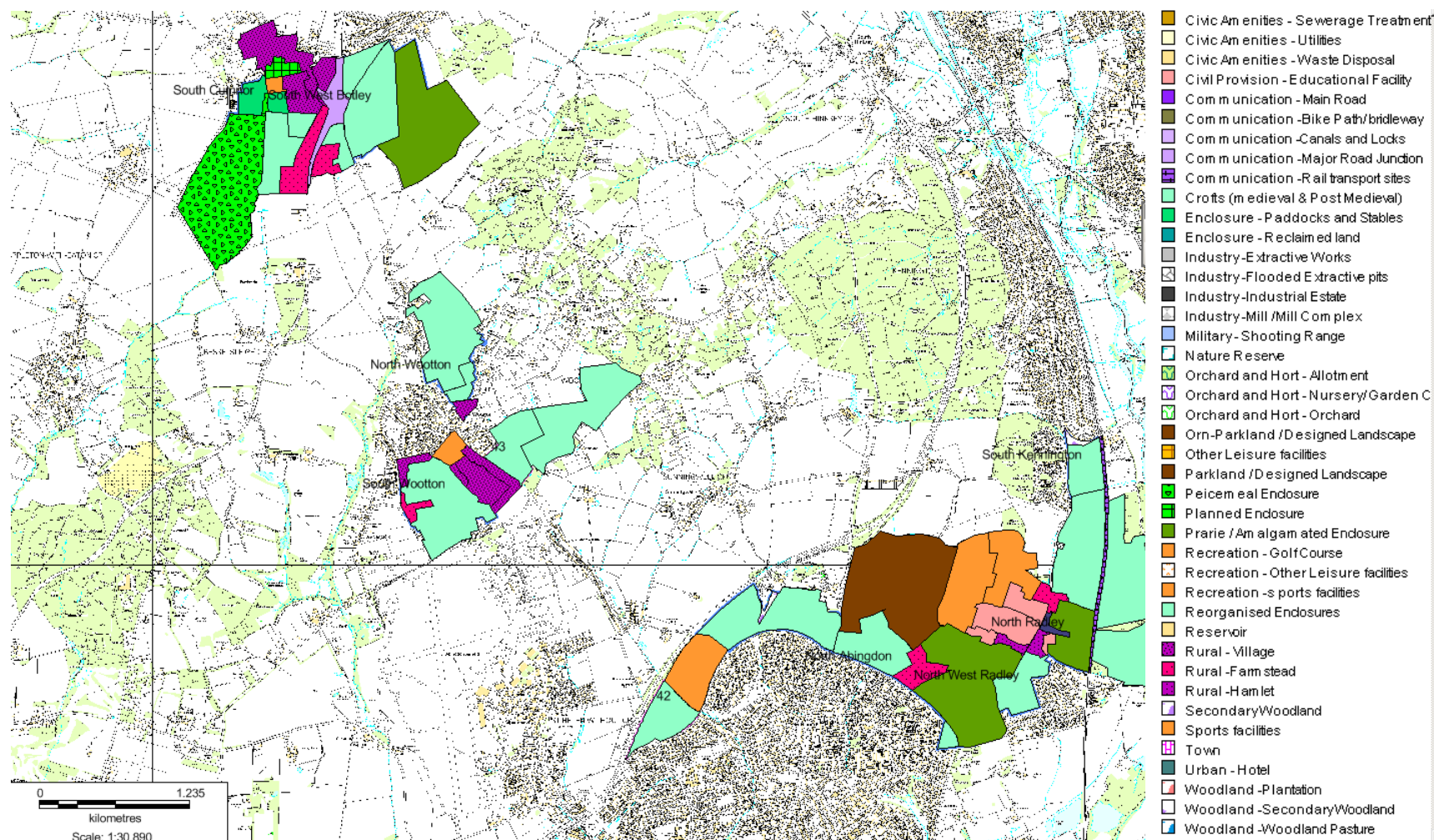


The following information is drawn from the on-going Oxfordshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project. The final project will be completed and available in 2015. The Historic Landscape Character information is under the joint ownership of Oxfordshire County Council and English Heritage and the information should not be reproduced for commercial purposes without the consent of these parties. Requests for permission to reuse this data should be sent to the County Archaeology Team archaeology@oxfordshire.gov.uk

This document shows maps of the Vale of the White Horse Target areas and the associated Historic landscape Character Types, also including a short summary of Historic Landscape character for each of the proposed sites. The full HLC records for the target areas have been provided in a separate report. Further site specific information regarding the archaeology and historic buildings within the area is not included in this consultation and can be obtained from the County Historic Environment Record.

Vale of the White Horse Target areas for HLC Assessment

South Botley, South Cumnor, North and South Wootton, North Abingdon, North Radley and South Kennington HLC



Site 1: North Abingdon;

The proposed site of North Abingdon is defined by 3 main Historic Landscape Types; Modern reorganised fields, 19th century Prairie type fields formed by the enclosure of open field and 19th Century rural farmstead. This site was farmed using the open field system until the early 19th century. Remnants of this system of farming survive as cropmarks on 1999 Aerial photographs. In the 19th century part of this area (HOX 5027) was enclosed in a piecemeal fashion, the absence of a planned regular layout suggests that this enclosure was done by local agreement as opposed to parliamentary act. The current field layout represents modern reorganisation. Post 1920 the 10 piecemeal field shown on the 1st and 3rd edition OS maps were amalgamated into 4 enclosures. The southern boundaries were also changed by the encroachment of a housing estate and the NW boundary was reorganised by the A34. The north east portion of the proposed site was also farmed by open field farming until the 19th century when it was enclosed into a large prairie type field (HOX 5026), this enclosure was associated with the creation of the 19th century farmstead (HOX5028) which also lies within the proposed North Abingdon area. A small portion of the 19th century Prairie type field (HOX5029) was split into a smaller enclosure by the modern road infrastructure of the housing estate to the south.

Site 3: South West Botley;

This enclosure in this area is modern in date, formed by the reorganisation of an older field system through the shifting of internal field boundaries and the encroachment of the A420.

Site 22: South Cumnor;

This area is dominated by the 19th century enclosure of an enclosed pasture/ waste land. It is likely that these small irregular inclosures on the periphery of Cumnor were used as paddocks. The southern most area was also enclosed in the 19th century but appears to have been used for arable farming. There has been some encroachment into the paddock areas by modern housing expanding South on the east side of Appleton road.

Site 25: South Kennington;

This area has two main Historic Landscape types 18th century Woodland and 19th century reorganised fields. The area was dominated by early 19th century enclosure of an enclosed pasture/ waste land. In the late 19th century this early field system was subdivided and reorganised by the creation of the railway in the late 19th century. A small portion of the area was allowed to revert to woodland.

Site 28: North West Radley;

The North West Radley site was an area of unenclosed common ground (Radley Field) probably used for grazing and pasture until the late 18th century. It was enclosed in a piecemeal fashion in the late 18th /early 19th century. The portion of this area defined by HOX 5030 still reflects this piecemeal enclosure with the addition of one modern internal boundary.

Site 29: North Radley;

The North West Radley site was an area of unenclosed common ground (Radley Field) probably used for grazing and pasture until the late 18th century. It was enclosed in a piecemeal fashion in the late 18th /early 19th century. The area defined by HOX 5033 has been heavily reorganised, in the first instance by the 19th century railway line and then by the amalgamation of the smaller 19th century fields in modern times. Settlement encroachment has occurred from the west and a small portion of this area was utilised as a sewage treatment works (now disused).

Site 36: South Wooton;

This area is an area of 19th century planned enclosure of open field system, subdivided by internal boundary gain and the encroachment of modern rural settlement. The eastern most boundary is defined by the parish boundary.

Site 37: North Wooton;

This area is Characterised by 2 Historic Landscape types, Modern Enclosures and Rural Settlement. In post medieval times the areas closest to the modern settlement were enclosed into Post medieval crofts (an area of enclosed land next to a dwelling). In modern times (post 1920) the southern most of these post medieval crofts (HOX5059) were completely destroyed by the construction of Modern detached housing and gardens. The post medieval crofts to the north west (HOX5060) have been reorganised in modern times with the addition of some internal field boundaries, however the external field boundaries preserve the extent of the post medieval croft enclosures. The northern most area of the proposed North Wooton Site (HOX5058) was farmed using open field strip farming until the early 19th century. At this point it was enclosed into a large irregular field. In modern times this field was subdivided into smaller enclosures with the addition of fenced internal boundaries. The sinuous 's' shaped trackway forming part of the Northern boundary of this area may be a remnant of the medieval open field system possibly marking the route of the headland.

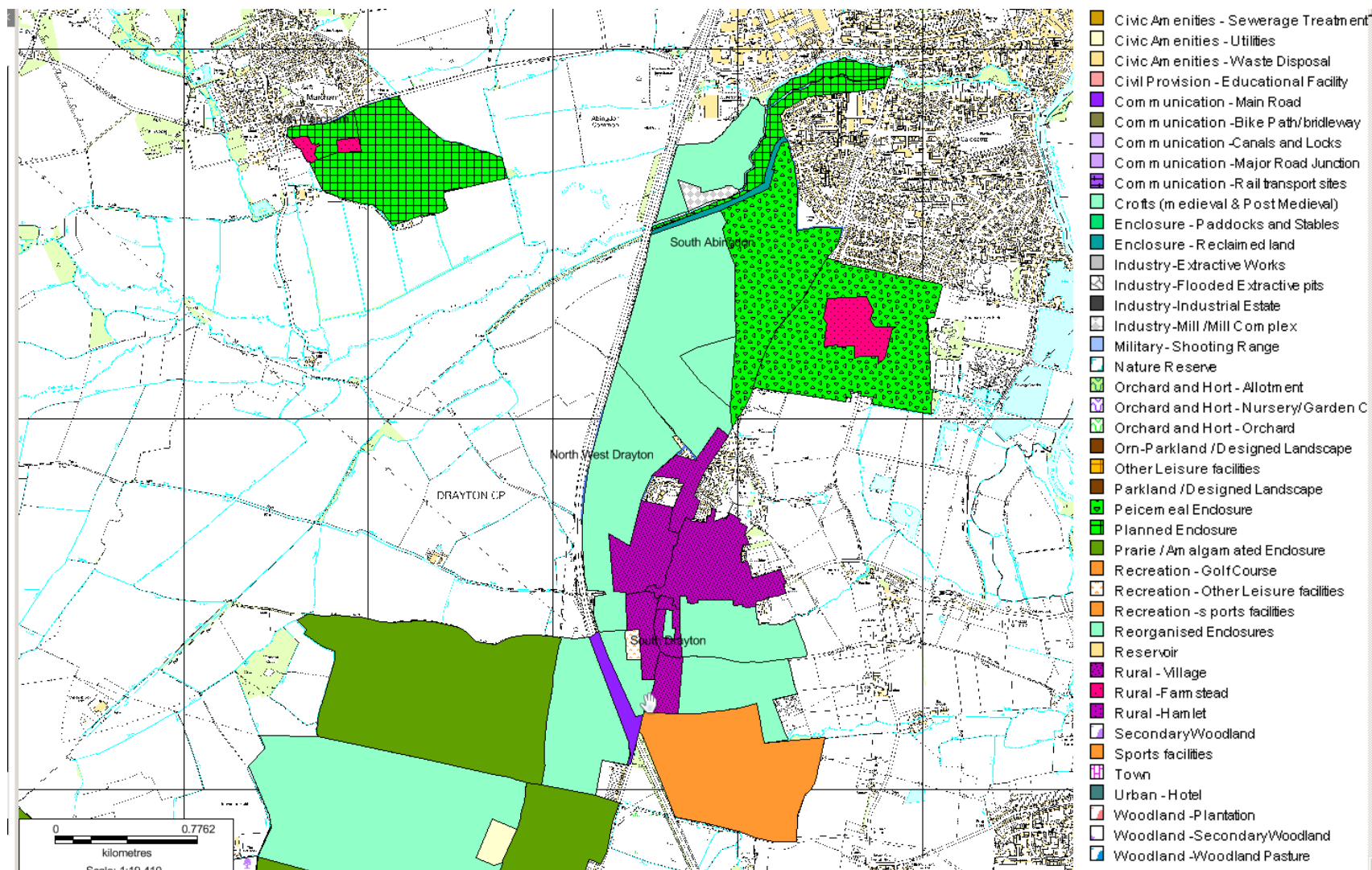
Site 42: North West Abingdon;

This site was farmed using the open field system until the early 19th century. In the 19th century this area (HOX 5048) was enclosed in a piecemeal fashion, the absence of a planned regular layout suggests that this enclosure was done by local agreement as opposed to parliamentary act. The current field layout represents modern reorganisation formed by the construction of the A34 and the housing estate to the South East.

Site 43: East Wootton;

The East Wootton site was farmed using open field strip farming until the early 19th century. At this point it was enclosed into a large irregular field. In modern times this field was subdivided into smaller enclosures with the addition of fenced internal boundaries.(HOX5056)

South Abingdon Drayton and Marcham sites



Site 2: South Abingdon;

This area is dominated by modern reorganised enclosure and the 19th century peicemeal enclosure of open field system. The whole area was farmed using the medieval open field system untill the 19th century. The area adjacent to the A34 (HOX 5014), was enclosed in the late 19th cenutry into a large prarie type field. This was reorganised in modern times by the creation of the A34. HOX5016 and HOX5018 to the east were also open field until the early 19th century when they were enclosed by peicemeal enclosure. The lack of planned formal layout suggests that enclosure was by local agreement and not partlimentary act. Southwick farm is contemporary with this enclosure and some of the small enclosures associated with the farmstead (HOX 5017) are included in the propsed area of development. Cropmark ridge and furrow is visible across the whole area on the 1999 Aerial photographs.

Site 20: North West Drayton;

This area is dominated by modern reorganised enclosure. The whole area was farmed using the medieval open field system untill the 19th century. The areas adjacent to the A34 (HOX 5010 and HOX5014), were enclosed in the late 19th cenutry into large prarie type fields, which were reorganised in modern times by the creation of the A34.

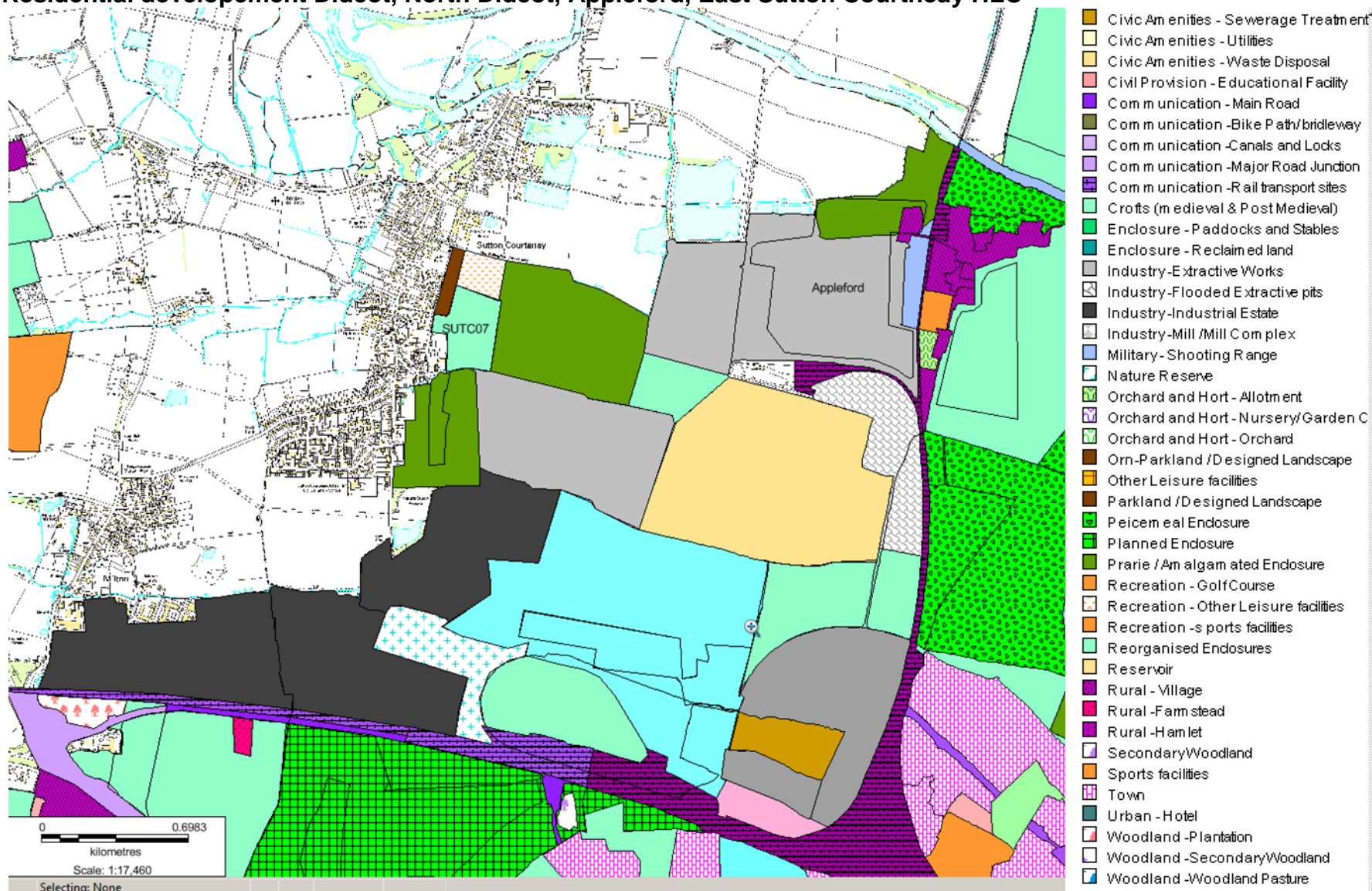
Site 21: South Drayton;

The southern part of this proposed area of development (HOX5003) is a large prarie type field created from the enclosure of open field in the late 19th century. Which has been reorganised in modern times by the addition of of one boundary marking the the edge of the golf course to the south. North of this the area (HOX5004) was unenclosed rough ground/ pasture untill the late 18th century; when it was enclosed into small crofts (areas of enclosed land next to a dwelling). These crofts survived untill at least the 1920's when some of the internal boudarys were shifted around. The perimeter boundaries still mark the extent of these post medieval enclosures.

Site 27: South Marcham ;

This main historic landscape type in this area is planned enclosure of Marcham Common in the 19th century possibly as a result of the 1836 inclosure act. Minor loss of (two) internal boundaries between 1920 and the present day. A small part of the south Marcham site is covered by part of Priory Farm, the former site of Marcham Priory

Residential development Didcot, North Didcot, Appleford, East Sutton Courtney HLC



Site 13a: Didcot A site;

This area was unenclosed common land, until the 16th century when it was enclosed for pasture. It still shows as unenclosed on Rocque's Map of Berkshire c. 1761, however documentary evidence recorded in the Victoria County History suggest enclosure occurred in the 16th century (Ditchfield and Williams 1923 :471-475). The piecemeal 16th century enclosure was reorganised in the late 19th century when the enclosures were disturbed by the creation of the railway (HOX1254 and HOX4955), the newly created enclosures appear to have been rectilinear with straight internal boundaries, giving them a planned parliamentary appearance. In modern times the creation of the powerstation (HOX4953) and associated railway lines reorganises the remaining planned enclosure into a curvilinear enclosure (HOX 5954).

Sources

P.H. Ditchfield and William (eds) 1923

Parishes: Didcot', A History of the County of Berkshire *Victoria County History Volume 3 pp. 471-475.*

URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=43248&strquery=Enclosure> Date accessed: 11 November 2013

Site 13B: North Didcot ;

The area of the North Didcot site has two main Historic Landscape Types ; Flooded extractive pits and Modern Reorganised fields. The area was a mix of unenclosed rough ground/pasture and open field system until its enclosure in the 19th century. In modern times part of the area was used for quarrying, and then the disused works were flooded. The other part was reorganised by the creation of the power station and expansion of Didcot to the south.

Site 33: East Sutton Courtenay ;

This East Sutton Courtenay Site is dominated by modern reorganised enclosure. This site was farmed using the open field system until the mid 19th century when it was enclosed into large prairie type fields. In modern times the area was subdivided into smaller enclosures and a recreation ground.

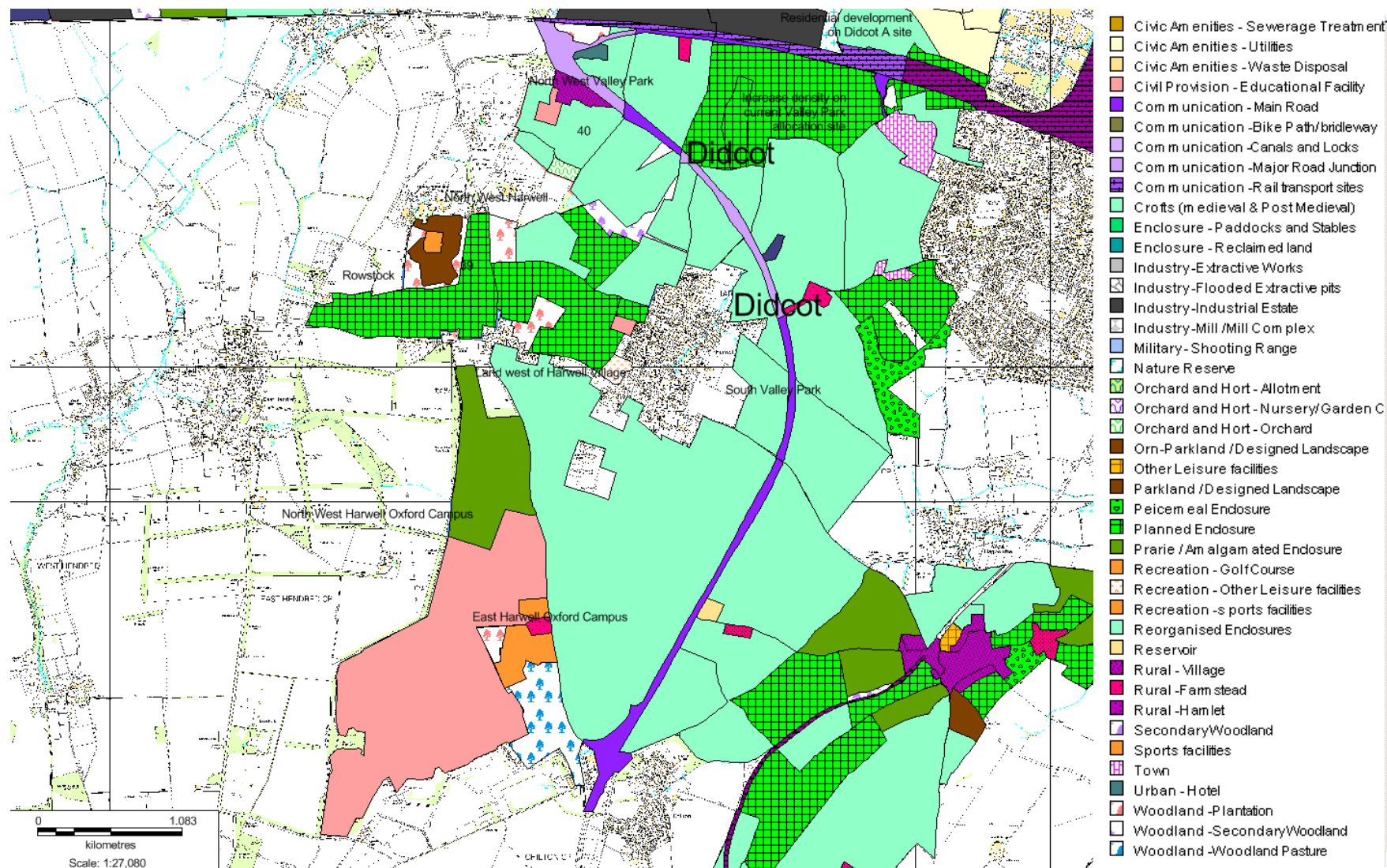
Site 46: Appleford;

The Appleford area is an area of medieval open field that was enclosed in a planned fashion in the 19th century. In modern times the area was used as a gravel quarry before falling into disuse.



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Valley Park Didcot, Rowstock, and Harwell Sites



Site 10: South Valley Park;

This area is predominantly reorganised enclosure formed by the creation of the A34 in modern times. The enclosures in this area are a reorganisation of the large prairie type enclosures formed in the 19th Century when the previous open field system was enclosed. The field boundaries, with the exception of those formed by the A34, are the surviving boundaries of the late 19th century enclosures.

Site 11: North West Valley Park;

This area is predominantly modern enclosures formed from the reorganisation of earlier enclosures. A small farmstead contemporary with the late 19th century enclosure is also included within the site. (HOX4964)

The modern reorganised enclosure (HOX4936) to the east of the site was formed from the piecemeal enclosure of meadow/pasture in the late 19th century. The morphology of the field remains the same today with the exception of the addition of a road dissecting the large prairie type field and one additional internal boundary. To the west was an area of medieval open field which was enclosed in the late 19th century by planned enclosure before being reorganised in modern times by the Junction of the A4130 and A34. (HOX4960).

Site 12: Increased density on current Valley Park Site ;

This current Valley Park site was unenclosed pasture/ meadow until the late 19th century. In the late 19th century the north west part of the site (HOX4937, HOX 4935, HOX 4934) was enclosed into regular rectilinear fields which suggested the enclosure was planned possibly by parliamentary act. There has been some internal boundary shift but overall the character of this area reflects the 19th century planned enclosure

The south east part of the site was also unenclosed until the late 19th century when it was enclosed into a large prairie type field. This field was reorganised in modern time by the creation of the A34 (HOX4933) and a small sewage treatment works (HOX4973).

Site 17: East Harwell Oxford Campus;

An area of medieval open field enclosed in the late 18th century, the even rectilinear pattern of the fields suggest they were enclosed in a planned fashion possible following a parliamentary act. The planned enclosure was reorganised slightly in modern times through the addition of further internal boundaries.

Site 19: North West Harwell Oxford;

Former downland still known as Horn Down. The area was farmed using open field farming until its enclosure in the 19th C (OSD c. 1810). Planned enclosures were amalgamated into a large irregular field in the late 19th century.

Strategic Site A adjacent to the North Harwell area was also created from an area of former downland, still known as Horn Down. The area was farmed using open field farming until its enclosure in the 19th C (OSD c. 1810). The Planned enclosures were amalgamated into a large irregular field in the late 19th century. In the 1940's the area was used for the creation of a Military Airfield (RAF Harwell). The airfield has subsequently been used as a research facility known as the Atomic Energy Research Establishment (1940's- 1990's), It was renamed the Harwell international Business centre in 1996

Site 39: Land between Milton Hill and Rowstock

Site 39 is predominantly an area of 19th century planned enclosure formed from open field system. The area slightly to the west 'Rowstock 3' was also formed through the early 19th century enclosure of open field. However this enclosure was completely destroyed by the creation of a small plantation and parkland in the late 19th century. 'Rowstock 2' is characterised by the planned enclosure of open field in the 19th century. In modern times a small area of this was replanted with trees to form a modern plantation.

Site 40: Milton Heights

The Milton heights area is predominantly modern reorganised enclosure with a small area of Orchard to the South. The area to the south east (HOX4951) is an area of modern enclosure formed by the reorganisation of large area of enclosed medieval open field. The medieval open field system continued in use until the early 19th century, when it was enclosed to form large prairie type fields. The area to the north west of this (HOX 4986) is shown on 18th century maps as unenclosed pasture/rough ground. Enclosure occurred in the early 19th century. By the late 19th century the smaller earlier enclosures had been amalgamated into larger enclosures, which were then reorganised in modern times.

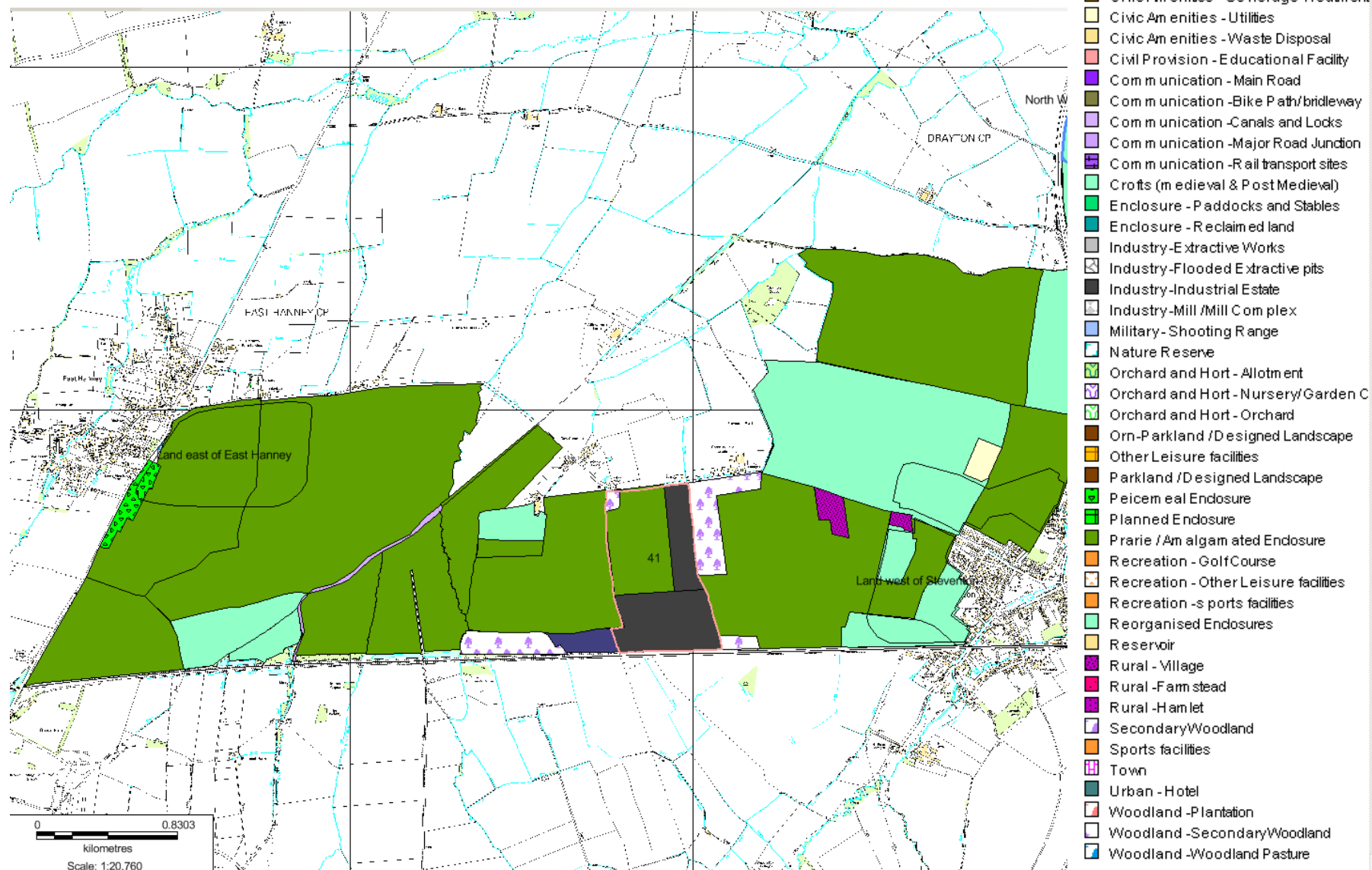
There is also a small area of Orchard within the Milton heights area (HOX 4987). The orchard was formed from medieval open field which was enclosed by the Inclosure Act of 1810 before being reorganised in the late 19th century it then became an area of orchard in modern times. Another area of modern fields lies to the west of the orchard (HOX4988) this was formed from Open field system, and like the other areas of open field it was enclosed by the Inclosure act of 1810. These planned enclosure's appear to have been reorganised by the late 19th century, before being absorbed into the surrounding orchard by 1920. In recent times this area was cleared of trees forming modern enclosures.

Site 44: Land west of Harwell Village

This area was formed from a mix of unenclosed pasture and open field system. The whole area was enclosed into large prairie type fields in the late 19th century. In modern times this enclosure was subdivided into areas of modern planned enclosure, and modern reorganised enclosure.



Land East of East Hanney and West Of Steventon



Site 41: Steventon Storage facility

The Steventon Storage facility site has three main historic landscape types, early 20th century Prairie Type enclosure, Modern (HOX 4992) Industrial Estates (HOX4991 and HOX4993) , and modern 'Secondary' Woodland (HOX 4005). The area was farmed using the medieval open field system until the early 19th century when it was enclosed by piecemeal enclosure. In the late 19th /early 20th century the enclosures were amalgamated to form large prairie type enclosures. A portion of this site remains as early 20th century Prairie type fields. Bu the area to the south and east has been built on forming an industrial estate and the Steventon storage facility. A small area to the north of the area has been allowed to revert to woodland.

Site 45: Land East of East Hanney

This area is predominantly formed of modern Prairie type fields. The area to the east of East Hanney consisted of medieval open fields before its enclosure under the Inclosure Act of 1803. The new enclosures were irregular and piecemeal in appearance. They appear to have been subdivided heavily in the late 19th century in modern times the enclosures were amalgamated into the large modern enclosures visible today. A small area to the west of the site appears to have been excluded from the modern amalgamation and retains its late 19th century piecemeal layout.

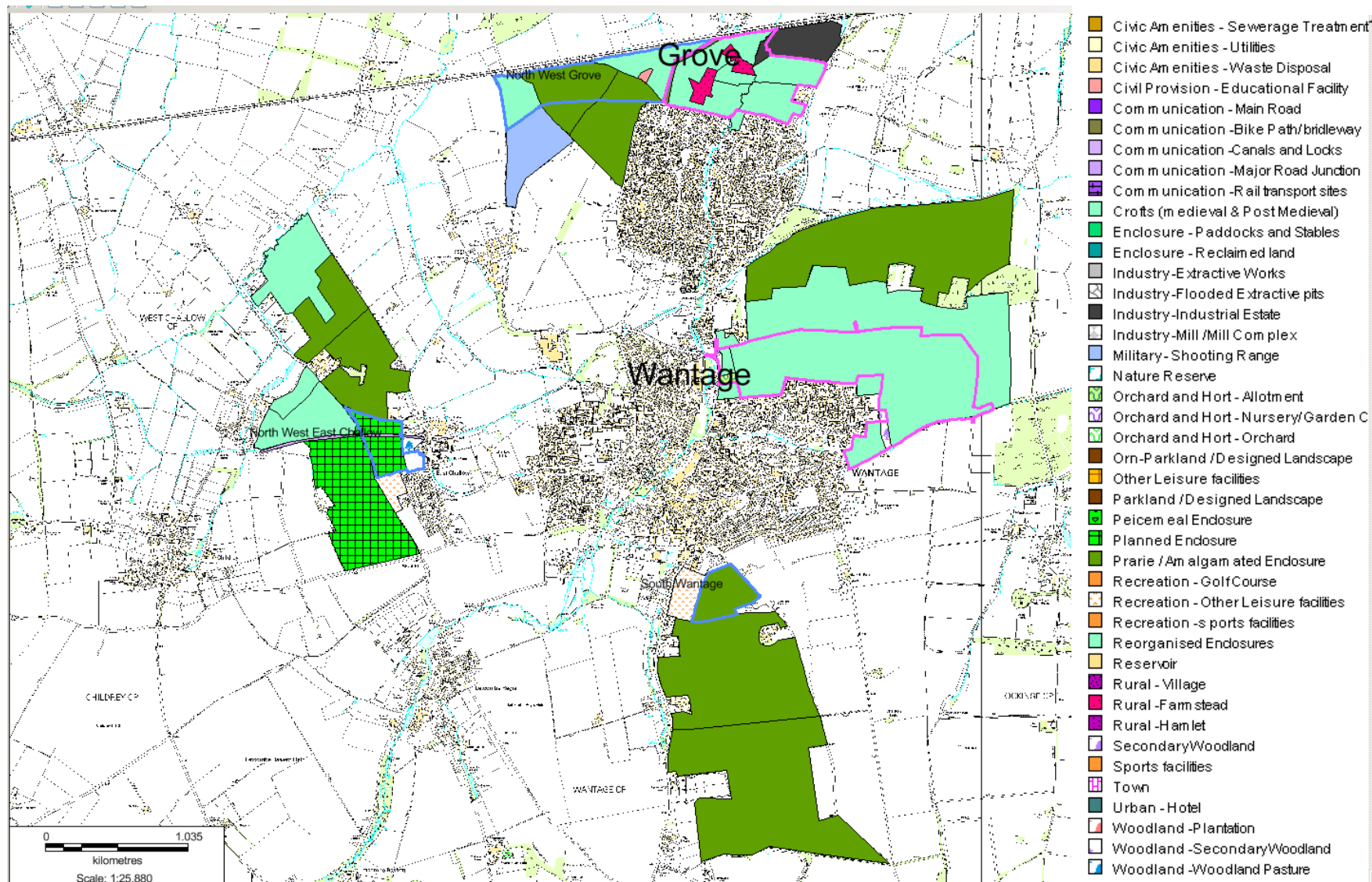
Site 47: Land West of Steventon

The North east area of this site (HOX5126) may have originally been an area of open field known as North Field. It was enclosed by the 18th century and reorganised slightly in the late 19th century. The North West area of this site (HOX5125) was also open field until the late 18th century when it was enclosed by piecemeal enclosure. In the late 19th century these enclosures were amalgamated into a large prairie type field; subdivided in modern times to form Modern reorganised enclosure.

The area to the south (Land west of Steventon) was medieval open field until 1885, when it was enclosed to form large prairie type fields. Elements of the open field system are still visible on 1999 Digital Aps. A small area to the very west of the site was reorganised by subdivision in modern times. (HOX 5212). There has also been some settlement encroachment in modern times (HOX5223). The areas directly adjacent to the village and railway line were enclosed by piecemeal enclosure in the early 19th century earlier than elsewhere in the area, these areas (HOX5213 and HOX 5214) have been continuously reorganised throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries they are currently classified and early 20th century reorganised enclosures.



Wantage, East Challow, and Grove Sites



Site 9: South Wantage

The South Wantage site is an area of late 19th century prairie type enclosure formed by the enclosure of Open Field system.

Site 16: North West Grove

The Northwest grove site has two prevailing Historic Landscape Types, Modern Prairie type enclosures and 19th century reorganised enclosures. The area was farmed using the open field system from the medieval period until its enclosure in the early 19th century. The enclosure appears regular and rectilinear suggesting planned enclosures. In the late 19th century the railway line was constructed leading to the reorganisation of the enclosures in this area. Some of the late 19th century enclosures in this area were then amalgamated into larger modern fields. A small cemetery was also created in this period.

Site 23: Land North West of East Challow

An area of unenclosed rough ground enclosed by planned enclosure in the late 19th century. A disused early 19th century canal runs through the centre of the site. In modern times a small area to the east, adjacent to East Challow has reverted to modern woodland pasture

North Grove: Monks Farm

The North Grove site has 4 Historic Landscape Character types; Early 20th century reorganised enclosure, Modern reorganised enclosure; late 19th century reorganised enclosure, rural farmsteads and a Post medieval route way.

The area was farmed using the open field system from the medieval period until its enclosure in the early 19th century; the enclosure was contemporary with the creation of Grove Wick Farm. The enclosure appears regular and rectilinear suggesting planned enclosures the planned enclosure. In the late 19th century the railway line was constructed leading to the reorganisation some of the enclosures to the west of Latcombe Brook and the creation of Monk's Farm

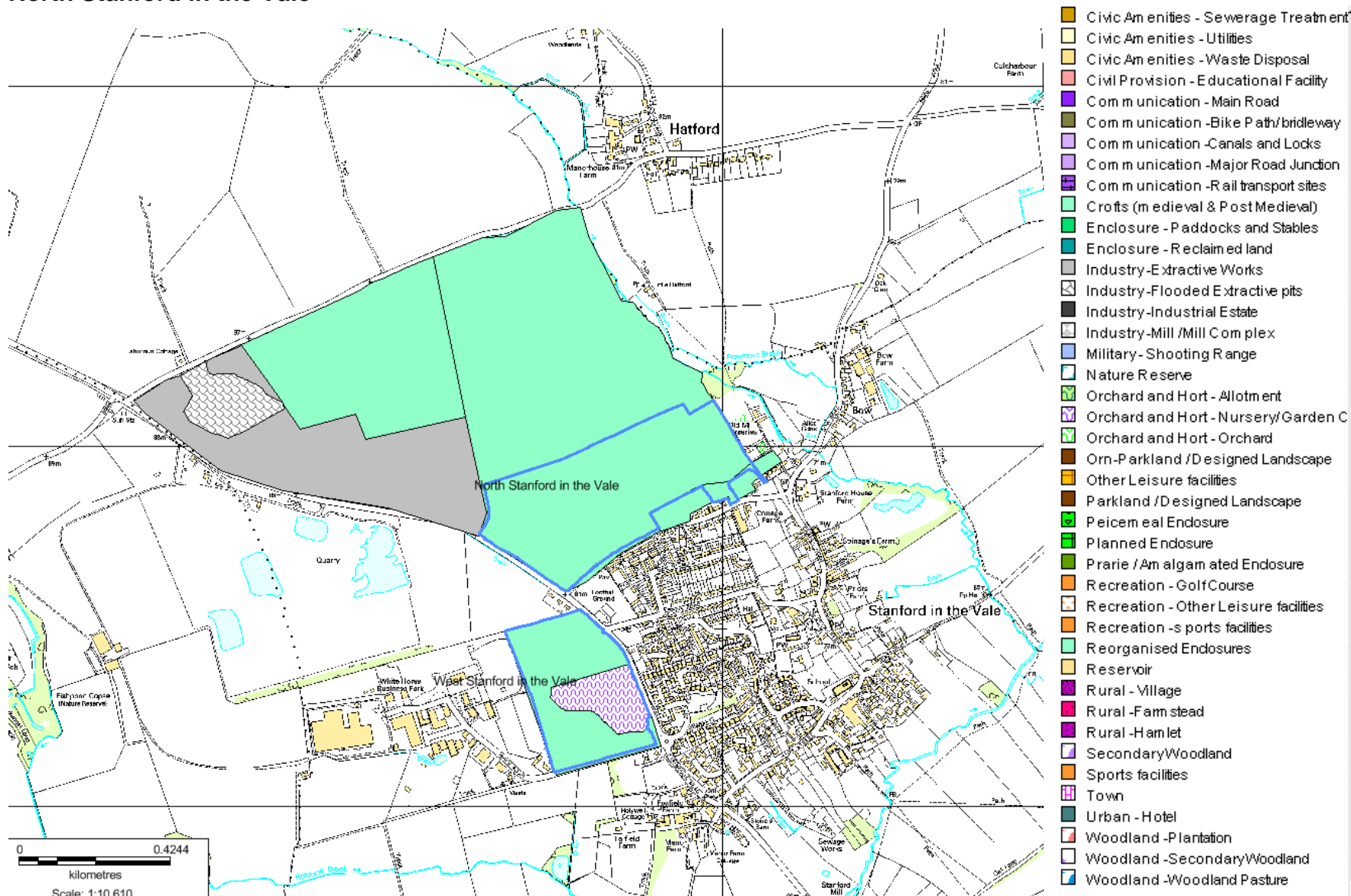
The planned enclosure in the area to the east of Latcombe Brooke was amalgamated into larger fields in the late 19th century and in the early 20th century West Grove Park was created from part of this area. In modern times West Grove Park reverted to Agricultural use forming modern reorganised enclosures.

The oldest feature in this area is the route way (Cow Lane) forming the west boundary of the site. This route is at least Post medieval in date appearing on Rocque's Map of Berkshire in 1761.

North East Wantage: Crab Hill

The Crab Hill site has five Historic Landscape Character types; Most of the area is formed by Modern reorganised enclosure; a small area adjacent to Wantage is early 20th Century reorganised enclosure and Modern Allotment Gardens. The area adjacent to Charlton is characterised by Post medieval Crofts and an area of modern 'Secondary' Woodland.

The area was farmed using the open field system from the medieval period until its enclosure in the early 19th century. The enclosure appears regular and rectilinear suggesting planned enclosures the planned enclosure. In the late 19th century the planned enclosures were amalgamated into large Prairie Type fields. In the early 20th century the area adjacent to Wantage was subdivided into smaller enclosures, some of which becoming Allotment gardens in modern times. The large area to the west of this remained as a number of Large Prairie Type enclosures until Modern times (Post 1920) when the area was subdivided and reorganised. At this time a small area to the east of the Post medieval crofts of Charlton was allowed to revert to woodland.





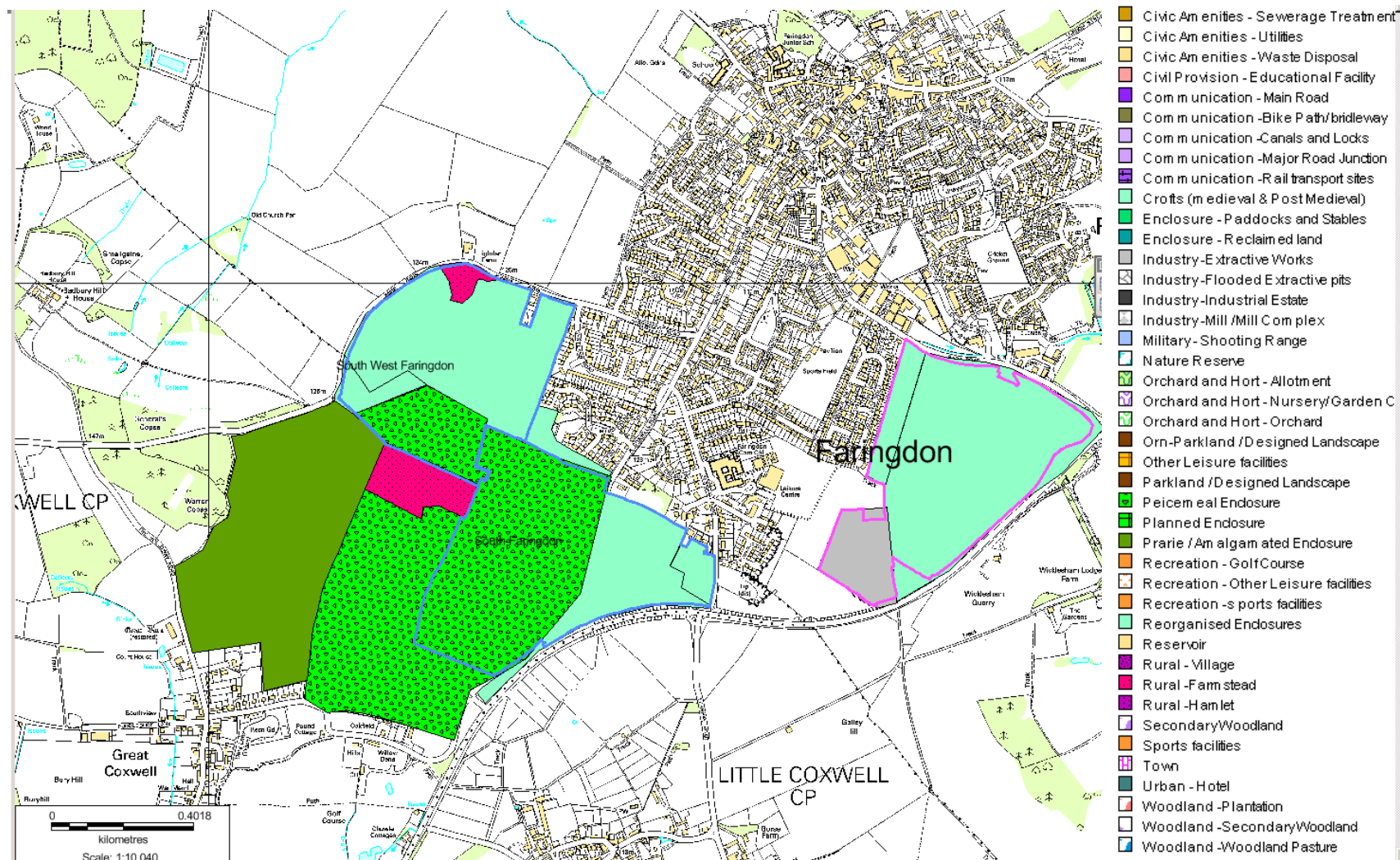
Site 32: North Stanford in the Vale

This site is made up of Modern Reorganised Enclosures. The West boundary running approximately North South marks the route of a road on the 18th and early 19th century map. The area has been formed from the late 18th Century enclosure of medieval Open field system. The Late 18th century enclosures were amalgamated into larger enclosures in the late 19th century before being subdivided into the current modern layout.

Site 38: West Stanford in the Vale

The West Stanford in the Vale site has two Historic Landscape Character Types; Modern reorganised enclosure and Modern Garden Centre/ Nursery.

The area has been formed from the late 18th Century enclosure of medieval Open field system. A small portion of the area was quarried in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In modern times the Quarry site has been filled in and it is now a Garden centre. The late 18th century piecemeal enclosure surrounding the quarry has been altered in modern times by the encroachment of the adjacent business park.



Site 5: South West Faringdon

South West Faringdon has 4 Historic Landscape types; Rural Farmstead; Modern reorganised Enclosure and Post medieval reorganised enclosure and late 18th century Piecemeal Enclosure. The area was formed from an area of Medieval Open field possibly 'North Field'. This was enclosed in the 18th Century. The piecemeal appearance of the enclosure suggests that the area was enclosed by local agreement. The area to the north was reorganised slightly in the late post medieval period with the creation of Highden Farm. In modern times a small area to the west of the site was reorganised into small enclosures with the creation of the buildings known as Oldfield.

Site 6: South Faringdon

South Faringdon has two Historic Landscape types; Modern reorganised Enclosure and late 18th century Piecemeal Enclosure. The area was formed from an area of Medieval Open field possibly 'North Field' was enclosed by the 18th Century. The piecemeal appearance of the enclosure suggests that the area was enclosed by local. The piecemeal enclosure in the area to the east was amalgamated into larger enclosures in the late 19th century before being reorganised in modern times.

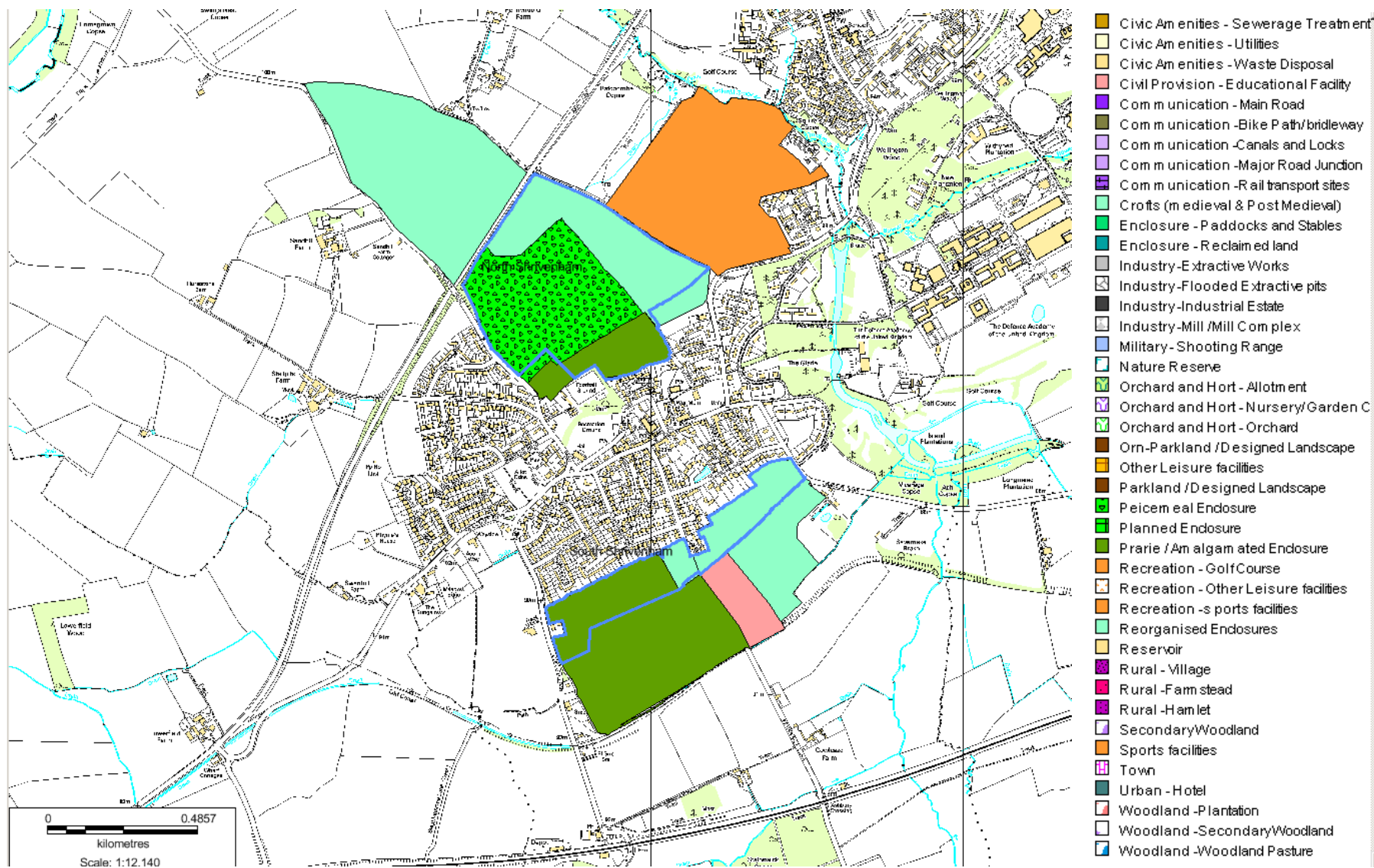
Land South of Park Road Faringdon

The land to the south of Park road has two Historic Landscape Types, 19th Century Extractive Works and Modern Reorganised enclosure. The area was formed from the enclosure of Open field System in the late 18th century. These early enclosures were reorganised through planned enclosure contemporary with Great Weston Railway in the late 19th century. Part of the area was quarried for gravel at this time. The remaining 19th century enclosure survived until modern times when it was subdivided and reorganised by the road to the south east.



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North and South Shrivenham Areas



Site 30: South Shrivenham

The area to the east of the South Shrivenham site is Modern Amalgamated Enclosure. This was formed from a small patch of enclosed arable land near Shrivenham which was reorganised in the 19th century by the creation of the canal. These fields were then amalgamated into a large area of partially enclosed pasture.

The area to the west of the site is 19th century Reorganised Enclosure. This area was shown as enclosed arable land on Rocque's Map of Berkshire c. 1761. This earlier enclosure was reorganised throughout the 19th century as a result of boundary shift and the creation of the canal (now disused) to the south.

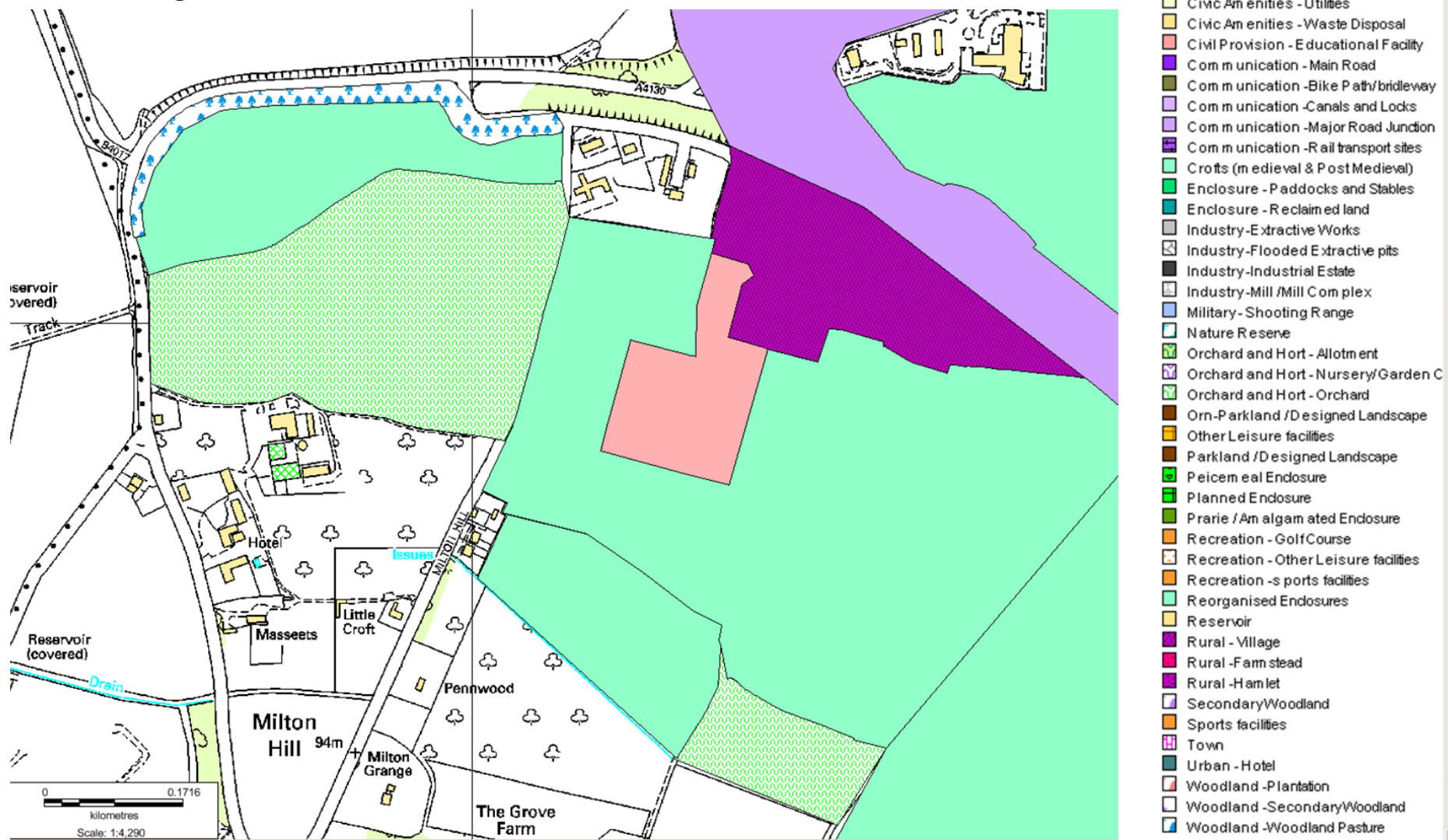
Site 31 North Shrivenham

This site has 3 Historic Landscape types; Modern Amalgamated Enclosures, 19th century Reorganised Enclosures and 18th century Piecemeal Enclosure.

An area of unenclosed rough ground/pasture was enclosed in the late 18th century. The south west part of the North Shrivenham site was reorganised into smaller enclosures in the late 19th century, however in modern times the late 18th century layout was restored. A small portion of these enclosures adjacent to the village of Shrivenham were amalgamated into larger enclosures in modern times.

The area to the west of the North Shrivenham site was enclosed from early times, in the late 18th and 19th century this area was extensively reorganised forming the current Late 19th century Reorganised Enclosures.

40: Milton Heights Extension



40: Milton Heights Extension

This area has 3 different Historic Landscapes types Modern Orchard, Modern Woodland Pasture and Modern Reorganised enclosures

This area was open rough ground/ pasture until the early 19th century when it was enclosed by parliamentary enclosure. In the 20th Century the creation of the A4130 (to the North of the Milton Heights extension area), reorganised the 19th century enclosure pattern. A small patch of land adjacent to the road was allowed to revert to woodland pasture after the creation of the road and the area to the south was used to create a modern orchard.