

SITE NAME	Weyhill
NGR	43060 14660
AREA	Total: Approx. 1.2 km sq.
PARISH	Weyhill
CURRENT LANDUSE	Site A: Small gardens, green rape in larger field, nursery garden. Site B: Arable. A couple of 20th century houses. Mature hedgerow. Site C: Industrial area in northern end of site, some open land.

TOPOGRAPHIC POSITION

General Site: Lies on an undulating high upper plateau with Fyfield Road on the crest of the ridge. The ridge forms the northern extent of the option site area where it meets the village of Weyhill. Site A: Bounded by hedgerows and Weyhill Road along the north edge and the A303 on the south. Site B: Land rising gently to the north. Bounded on the south by Fyfield Road and north by Andover Road and Dauntsey Drove to the west. Site C: Irregularly shaped site with Fyfield Road to the north and the Amesbury road to the south. It is located between the headwaters of the River Anton to the north and the Pilhill Brook to the south. The Basingstoke Railway cuts through the site.

GEOLOGY	Site A: Upper Chalk. Site B: Upper Chalk. Site C: Upper Chalk
PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE	Construction of Industrial Park at Site C and A303 on the south boundary of Site A.

PLACENAME EVIDENCE

Weyhill is derived from the Medieval period Leweo (13th century), La Woe (14th century), Wee (15th century), Way (16th century), Wey, Wayhill (17th century). Weeoh indicates the presence of a heathen temple or shrine suggesting the place was of religious significance in the early Saxon period. Fyfield = Fifhide. Thruxton = Anne possibly associated with the royal estate of Andover. East Cholderton was first recorded as Cerewartone meaning Ceolweard's Farm. The road named the Fairways adjoining the Fyfield road indicates the location of a route to the fair ground.

HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

The Norman church of Weyhill is mentioned in the Domesday book. The village of Weyhill probably developed from the 13th century as indicated by the derivation of the place name from the French Leoweo. The origins of the village are probably due to its strategic location on high ground where long distance route ways meet; one of these routes, the Harrow Way, dates to prehistoric times. It has been suggested that the area may have been religiously significant from the Saxon period. The Medieval villages surrounding the option site area; Thruxton (Anne) village, Fyfield (Fifhide) village and Cholderton (Cerewartone) are mentioned in the Domesday book of 1086. The Anne place name of Thruxton may indicate that it was originally part of

the Anglo-Saxon royal estate of Andover. In the 18th and 19th century, the annual market at Weyhill Fair was a significant trading event in the calendar both locally and nationally. It is reputed to have been one of the nation's largest and most famous annual fairs and the most important downland fair in the nation ever held until the 1950's. It may have originated in the Medieval period but no documentary evidence in the form of a founding grant or charter has survived. The rows of market booths began to appear on maps from the 17th century onwards.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE SUMMARY

A significant cluster of Bronze Age features exists towards the centre of the option site, south of Weyhill Road. These include four ring ditches (411, 414, 485, 486) a ring ditch with a double ditch (412) and an undated linear feature (413). These Bronze Age features appear to spread southwards outside of the study area (487, 415). There is inconclusive evidence for a further ring ditch on the western edge of the area (404). Along the southern boundary the A303 appears to be aligned on a Bronze Age ditch with a possible bank (431) and other linear ditches at this extent of the area including various Bronze Age ditches and linear features along a north - south alignment (433-435). These may continue further into the study area. Medieval artefacts (416-418) have been recovered from the western edge of the area close to the location of Roman pottery (408). A cross base of reputed Medieval origin is in situ in the churchyard at Weyhill (426), but has been substantially reused. A watching brief during construction at the Mayfield Industrial Estate failed to reveal any evidence of archaeological interest (437). Within the buffer zone, the most significant feature is the grounds of the annual fair at Weyhill (428) which occurred on the north side of the Weyhill Road. An evaluation at the site revealed the remains of two rows of fairground market booths (449) and a wall interpreted as the northern boundary of the Fair House garden (450). Many artefacts mainly of Post-Medieval pottery and clay pipes were recovered during the excavation, but also coins of earlier 17th to 19th century date. These are interpreted as casual losses by visitors to the fair. This evaluation also revealed a Late Bronze Age/Iron Age ditch, which probably formed part of a larger field system on the higher ground between the headwaters of the River Anton and Pilhill Brook to the south (488). To the western end of the fair ground, evaluation of a Bronze Age barrow (429) revealed also a cruciform trench believed to be the foundation trench for a Medieval windmill, which appears on older maps of the area. This may be the same windmill mentioned as pertaining to Ramridge Manor in a 14th century inquisition. A Saxon knife (439) and a Roman coin (438) of Constantine the Great were found in the foundation trenches. A complex of Bronze Age ring ditches has been identified from AP's to the north-west (397-402). Situated between the village of Thruxton and Fyfield are a cluster of Iron Age features associated with an enclosure (396), implying a continual settlement of the area from the Iron Age. There are also several undated linear features identified from AP's to the west (405-407) which may or may not be associated with these features. Antiquarian discoveries record a Roman mosaic, now held in the British Museum, contemporary inhumations and a putative Iron Age stone building (381-383). Significant remains of a Roman villa (425) were discovered in the early 20th century: trenches revealed the floor, a detached bath house with a tessellated floor and a hypocaust system. This site is marked on OS maps as the site of a Roman villa. A house platform is recorded (379) associated with the historic rural settlement of Fyfield to the west. North-east of Weyhill and the option site a ring ditch of Bronze Age date and an interrupted Iron Age linear feature have been interpreted from AP's (420, 421). A Saxon grave marker has been incorporated into the east wall of the church vestry at Weyhill although the origin of the marker is unknown, it may relate to a Saxon burial locally or may have been imported from elsewhere (423). A Bronze Age palstave was found at Weyhill Down and is now held in the Pitt Rivers Museum (440). It is possible that the area around Weyhill, and therefore the option site, may have been a significant meeting place and religious site for several millennia as indicated by the convergence of road and administrative boundaries, the Bronze Age barrows, the location of the parish church and the fairground site.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS SUMMARY

Weyhill farmhouse(444) and barn (445)are Listed Buildings Grade II for their Group value. They are located in the top north-eastern end of the option site opposite the site of the former Weyhill Fair. Weyhill farmhouse is in a poor state of repair and is recorded on the English Heritage Register of Buildings at Risk. A group of former hop growers fair booths (442) remain, fronting the Weyhill Road from the north side on the site of the Weyhill Fairground. Another fair booth (443) is made of flint with brick dressing. These are Grade II listed buildings in a Conservation Area and are of historic importance as rare surviving examples of permanent fair booths. They appear on the Enclosure Map of 1812 but are just outside the option site area. The Norman Church of St Michael and All Angels (441) is possibly located on the site of a Saxon church, north of the Weyhill road and immediately north-east of the option site area. It is a Grade II* Listed Building and certain architectural features can also be found repeated at Smannell and Hatherdon churches, both designed by William White in 1857. Weyhill Lodge (446) is a large 19th century house on the junction of Weyhill Road and Red Post Lane. It is a Grade II Listed Building.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE FEATURES SUMMARY

Weyhill Road (306) separates the site of the Weyhill Fairground from the option site on the southern side. At the junction with Red Post Lane (631) it becomes the Devizes Turnpike Road (19th century). Medieval ridge and furrow (419) is distinct immediately south of the Weyhill Road at the junction of the Amesbury Road (629). This is also evident on the Weyhill and Appleshaw Enclosure map 1818. Monxton Lane (448) is an old trackway running north to south of the site joining the Andover Road in the north. The development of Weyhill is probably due to its location at this strategic point. The Weyhill parish boundary is defined by a hedgerow leading southwards from this junction (630) and is depicted as a footpath to Monxton on the Enclosure map of the early 19th century. A footpath, possibly a bridleway, diverges from the boundary around Weyhill stables (632). A paddock is distinctly marked on the north-east side of the stables (633). At the junction of Sarson Lane (635) and the Amesbury Road (636) a memorial stone (634) is present on the 1912 map. The present boundary around Weyhill Lodge retains the position of a hedgerow that existed in a group of land parcels known as Fairlands, depicted on the 1818 enclosure map. Weyhill Station (639) was the main station of the Midland and South Western Railway serving the region to the west of Andover in the 19th and 20th centuries. The railway line (638) cuts through the south-west of the option site area, now reduced to a military line serving Ludgershall. A siding is present on historic maps north-east of the former Weyhill station. Fyfield Road (641) extends across the crest of the ridge: travelling across this may have provided a significant view of activities on the plateau and Weyhill Fair. This road may have been treelined as it approaches Weyhill Farm on the north of the road. Dancy Drove (640) forms the western site boundary and after the junction with Fyfield Road (641) becomes Dancy Lane. Dancy Drove/Lane may have been an enclosure boundary.

STATUS DESIGNATIONS

Weyhill farmhouse (444) and barn (445) are Listed Buildings Grade II. Weyhill farmhouse is registered as a Building At Risk. The hop growers fair booths (442) and an additional fair booth (443) are Listed as Grade II buildings for their group value and are within a Conservation Area. The Church of St Michael and All Angels is just outside the option site area and is listed as Grade II* (441). Weyhill Lodge is a Grade II Listed Building (446). The two historic rural settlements to the west of the option site are Thruxton and Fyfield.

STAGE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

- o Desk Based Assessment
- o Historic Landscape Survey
- o Geophysics/Fieldwalking-Phase 1
- o Geophysics/Fieldwalking-Phase 2
- o Evaluation
- o Mitigation Strategy

SOURCES Wessex Archaeology 1997a, 1999b, 1999c, 2000e, 2000f, 2001d; Hampshire Archaeology 1995; Borthwick 1998; Hampshire County Council 2000. VCH 1912; Weyhill with Penton Grafton (394-399); Edwards 1999.

Documentary

WSA No	Period	Feature	NGR	Form	Condition	Status	1KM	HBAR No
387	Medieval	Village	429800 145300			HRS	x	SU34NE38
388	Medieval	Village	429500 146500			HRS	x	SU34NE40
389	Medieval	Settlement	429800 145400	Farm			x	SU34NE41

Archaeology Features

WSA No	Period	Feature	NGR	Form	Condition	Status	1KM	HBAR No
434	Bronze Age	Linear	430610 146050	Aligned N-S`				SU34NW66A
420	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	432170 146860	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NW120
401	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	429410 147220	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE94
402	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	429810 147690	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE95
404	Bronze Age	Barrow	430200 146400	Buried remains				SU34NW10
440	Bronze Age	Palstave	431500 146800	Find			x	SU34NW41
410	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	430040 146510	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NW111
411	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	431160 146390	Crop mark AP	Complete			SU34NW112
399	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	429530 147190	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE92
435	Bronze Age	Linear ditch	430560 146040	Aligned NW-SE				SU34NW67A
398	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	429560 147180	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE91
433	Bronze Age	Linear ditch	430680 146060	Aligned NW-SE				SU34NW65A
414	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	431340 146530	Crop mark AP				SU34NW117

WSA No	Period	Feature	NGR	Form	Condition	Status	1KM	HBAR No
431	Bronze Age	Linear ditch	431500 146200	Aligned NE-SW				SU34NW63A
429	Bronze Age	Barrow	431150 146990	Evaluated	Plough reduced		x	SU34NW6A
415	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	431580 145970	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NW118
412	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	431230 146490	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NW113
400	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	429450 147250	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE93
397	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	429500 147170	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE90
485	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	431310 146510	Crop mark AP				SU34NW114
487	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	431580 145970	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NW119
486	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	431350 146480	Crop mark AP				SU34NW115
451	Bronze Age/Iron Age	Ditch	43150 14680	Evaluation	Excavated		x	
488	Bronze Age/Iron Age	Ditch	431500 146800	Watching Brief	Excavated		x	SU34NW172
395	Iron Age	Linear	429150 146100	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE88D
421	Iron Age	Linear	432500 146790	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NW121
382	Iron Age	Stone building	429760 146140	Record			x	SU34NE25B
392	Iron Age	Enclosure	429150 146100	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE88A
394	Iron Age	Pit	429150 146100	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE88C
396	Iron Age	Enclosure	429700 146300	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE89
403	Iron Age	Linear	429500 147300	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE96B
393	Iron Age	Maculae	429150 146100	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NE88B
430	Medieval	Windmill	431150 146990	Foundations of	Evaluated		x	SU34NW7A
418	Medieval	Bone fragments	430200 146400	Finds				SU34NW12C
417	Medieval	Glass	430200 146400	Finds				SU34NW12B
416	Medieval	Pottery	430200 146400	Finds				SU34NW12A
426	Medieval	Cross base	431670 146620	Reworked and adapted	Reworked			SU34NW4
391	Medieval	Penny	429790 145090	Finds			x	SU34NE46B
390	Medieval	Pottery	429790 145090	Finds			x	SU34NE46A
428	Medieval	Fairground	431590 146800	Market place			x	SU34NW54
427	Mesolithic	Axe	432000 146500	Find			x	SU34NW47

WSA No	Period	Feature	NGR	Form	Condition	Status	1KM	HBAR No
452	Post Medieval	Clay pipes	43150 14680	Evaluation	Excavated		x	
450	Post Medieval	Garden wall	43150 14680	Boundary	Excavated		x	
449	Post Medieval	Fairground booths	43150 14680	Plan	Excavated		x	
454	Post Medieval	Coins	43150 14680	Evaluation	Excavated		x	
453	Post Medieval	Pottery	43150 14680	Evaluation	Excavated		x	
424	Prehistoric	Flint deposits	431360 146850	Shallow hollow	Excavated		x	SU34NW184
381	Roman	Mosaic	429760 146140	Antiquarian record	Excavated		x	SU34NE25A
408	Roman	Pottery	430200 146400	Finds				SU34NW11
383	Roman	Burials	429760 146140	Antiquarian record	Excavated		x	SU34NE25E
425	Roman	Villa	430170 147600	Floor plan and associated building plans	Evaluated		x	SU34NW2A
436	Roman	Pot sherd	430270 145970	Finds				SU34NW68
438	Roman	Coin	431150 146990	Find			x	SU34NW8
439	Saxon	Knife	431150 146990	Find			x	SU34NW9
423	Saxon	Tombstone	431770 146640		Not in situ		x	SU34NW15
456	Undated		43150 14680	Watching Brief			x	
386	Undated	Flint	429800 145300	Finds			x	SU34NE29D
385	Undated	Pottery	429800 145300	Finds			x	SU34NE29A
384	Undated	Skeleton	429800 145300	Inhumation			x	SU34NE29B
380	Undated	Earthworks	429380 146430	Observation			x	SU34NE104
405	Undated	Linear	431050 147070				x	SU34NW107
406	Undated	Linear	431050 147450				x	SU34NW108
409	Undated	Rectilinear	430080 146580	Crop mark AP			x	SU34NW110
455	Undated		43150 14680	Watching Brief			x	
437	Undated	Negative	430450 146600	Watching Brief				SU34NW72
413	Undated	Linear	431280 146400	Crop mark AP				SU34NW116
432	Undated	Linear ditch	430920 146110	Aligned N-S				SU34NW64A

WSA No	Period	Feature	NGR	Form	Condition	Status	1KM	HBAR No
379	Undated	House platform	429370 146540	Earthwork		HRS	x	SU34NE103
357	Undated	Hollow way	43255 14622	Surface	Levelled by ploughing		x	SU34NW61
422	Undated		431700 146750	Watching Brief			x	SU34NW144
407	Undated	Curvilinear	430080 146770				x	SU34NW109

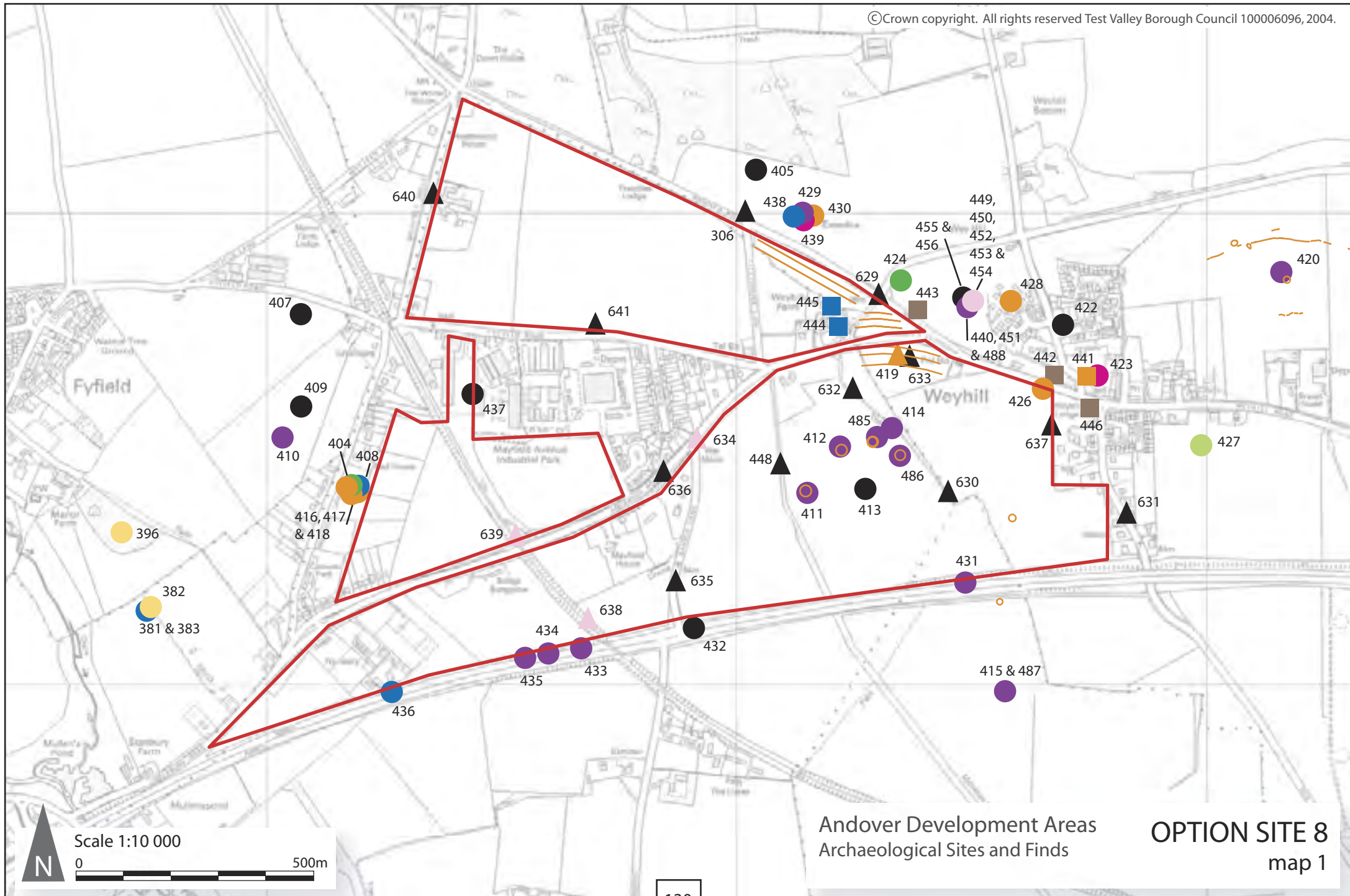
Historic Buildings

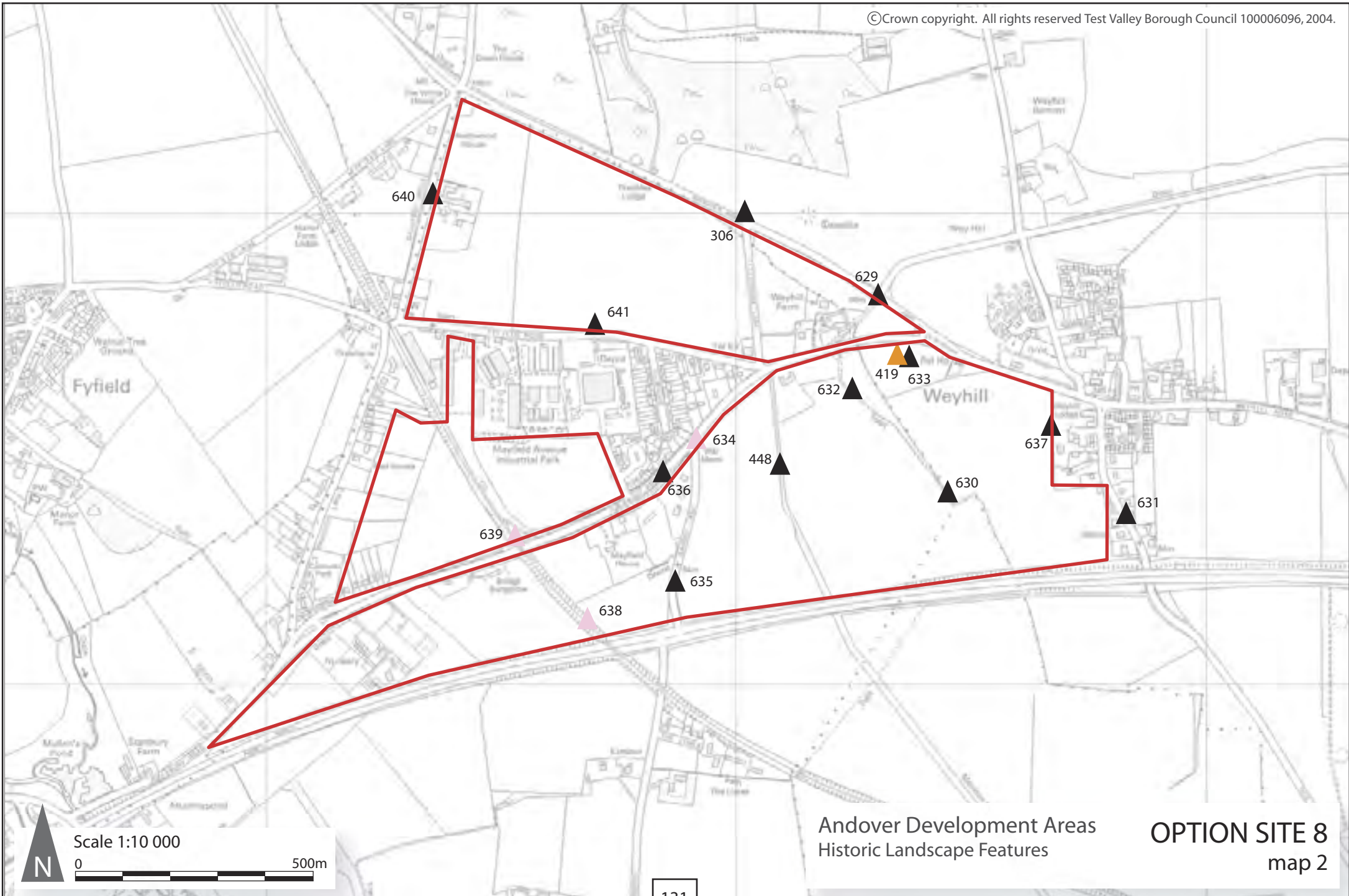
WSA No	Period	Feature	NGR	Form	Condition	Status	1KM	HBAR No
444	18th century	Farmhouse	431225 146752			LB Grade II		4892
445	18th century	Barn	431211 146786			LB Grade II		4893
443	19th century	Fair booth	431395 146776			LB Grade II Conservation Area	x	14224
442	19th century	Fair booths	431686 146637			LB Grade II Conservation Area	x	14223
446	19th century	House	431764 146575			LB Grade II	x	5338
441	Medieval	Church	431758 146639			LB Grade II*	x	1070

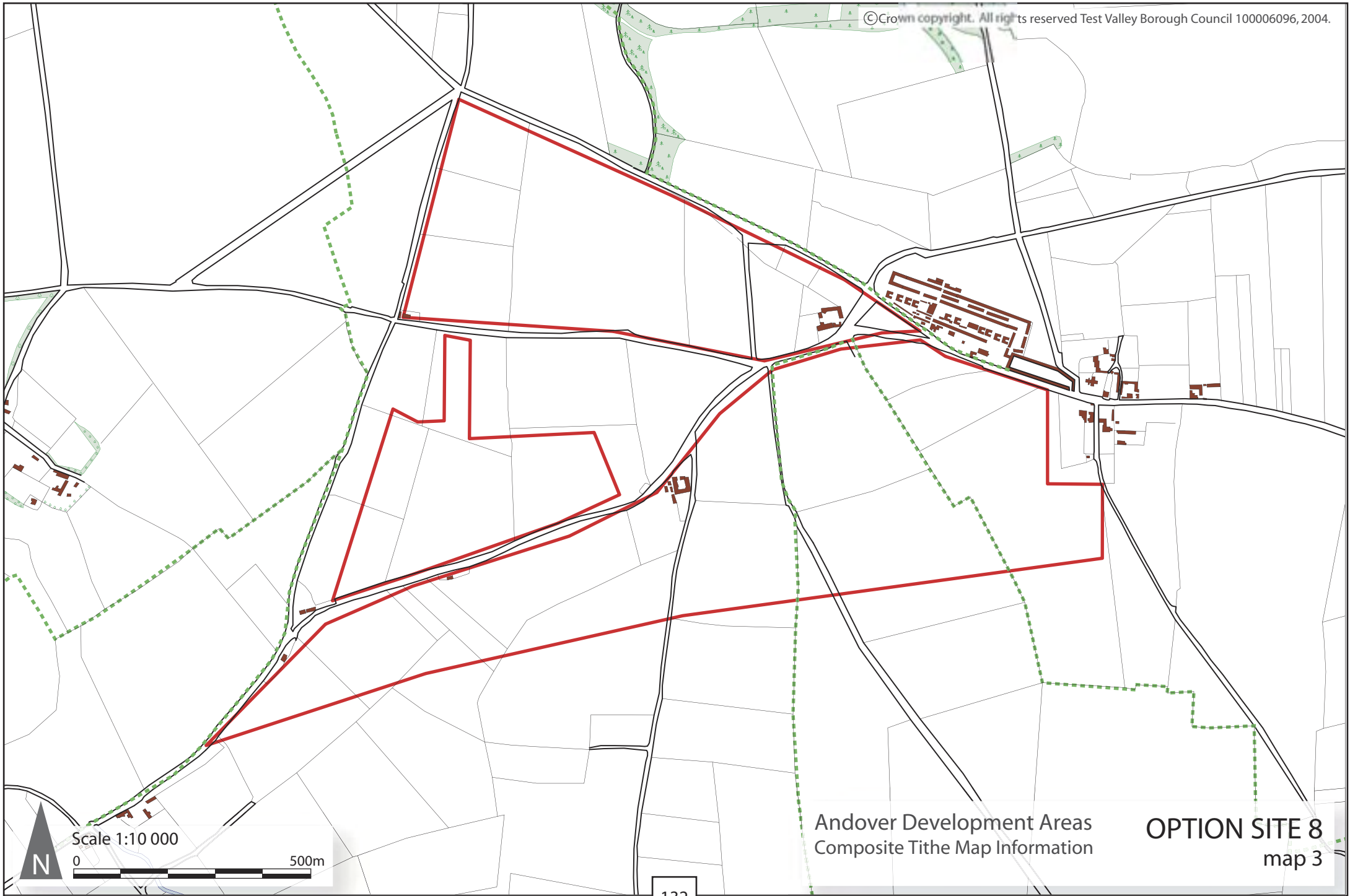
Historic Landscape Feature

WSA No	Period	Feature	NGR	Form	Condition	Status	1KM	HBAR No
419	Medieval	Ridge and furrow	431350 146670		Field visit			SU34NW164
634	Post Medieval	Stone		Memorial stone				
638	Post Medieval	Railway						
639	Post Medieval	Railway station						
633	Undated	Paddock						
635	Undated	Lane						
636	Undated	Road		Main route				

WSA No	Period	Feature	NGR	Form	Condition	Status	1KM	HBAR No
632	Undated	Footpath		Possibly a bridleway				
631	Undated	Lane		Road or trackway				
448	Undated	Lane						
630	Undated	Boundary		Footway				
640	Undated	Drove/lane						
629	Undated	Crossroads		Junction				
641	Undated	Road						
306	Undated	Road		Main route				
637	Undated	Boundary		Enclosure boundary				

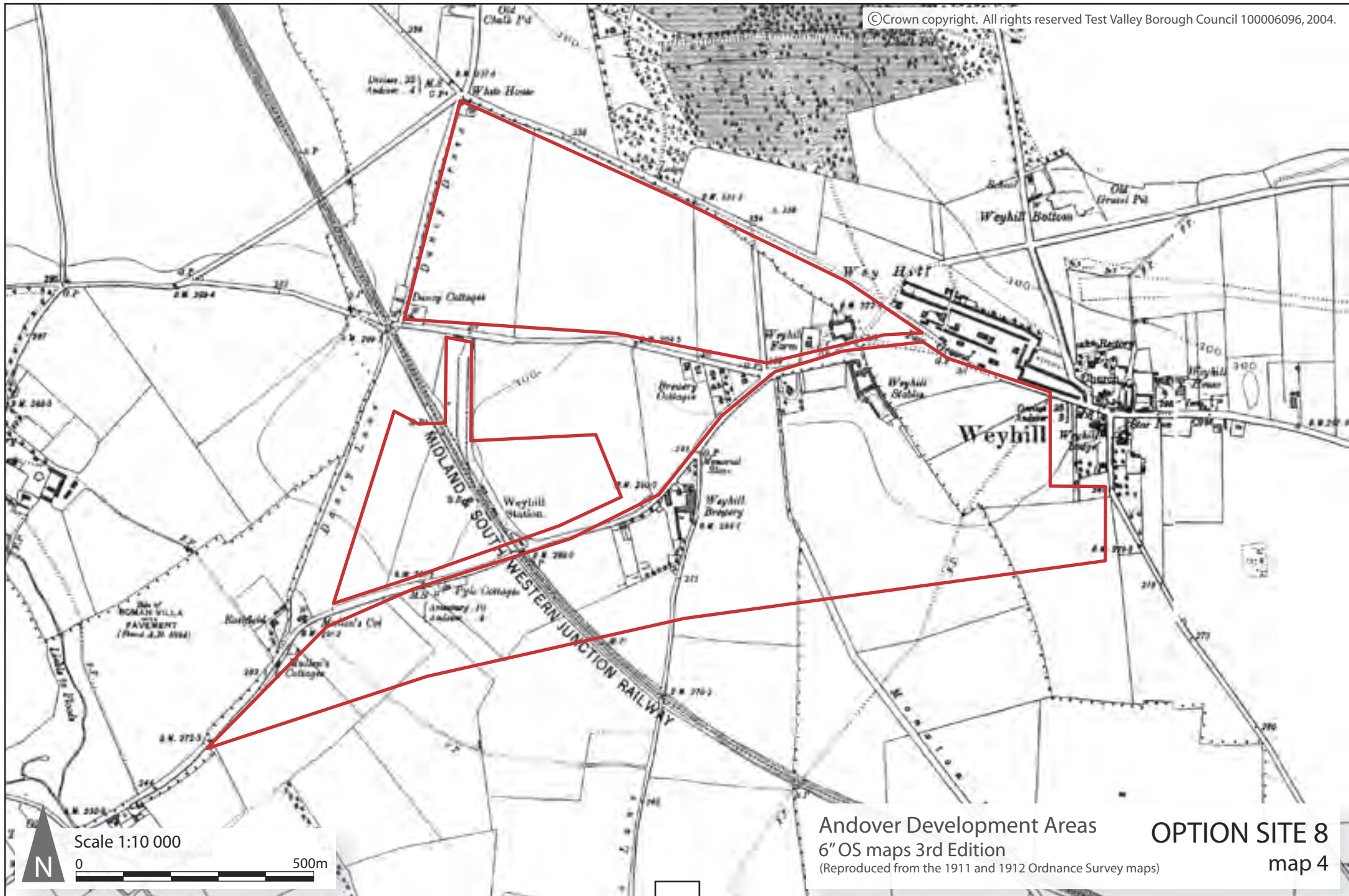






Andover Development Areas
Composite Tithe Map Information

OPTION SITE 8
map 3



Andover Development Areas

6" OS maps 3rd Edition

(Reproduced from the 1911 and 1912 Ordnance Survey maps)

OPTION SITE 8

map 4



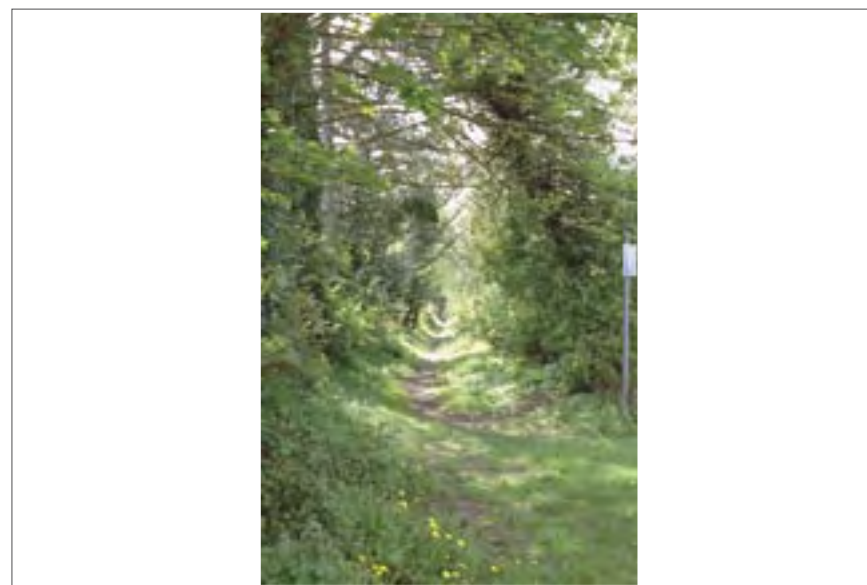
Option Site 8, areas A - C.



Central landscape of area A from the junction of Fyfield Road.



View of embankments of the Midland and South Western Railway (638) along bottom edge of area.



Monxton Lane (448) from Fyfield Road (641).



Area B, arable land east of Dancy Drove (640).



Area B, towards the Industrial Estate to the south.



The Industrial Estate between areas B and C.