

# CHESHIRE HISTORIC TOWNS SURVEY

## Farndon

### Archaeological Strategy



2003

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***Farndon***

## ***Archaeological Strategy***

2003

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# Farndon: Area of Archaeological Potential

## 1. Introduction

1.1 An Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP) has been identified at Farndon comprising three Archaeological Character Zones (ACZs). Each Zone is identified by its defining archaeological or historical characteristics, or *Primary Characteristics*. For example, in the Ecclesiastical Centre (Archaeological Character Zone 1), the defining characteristic is the site of a possible early medieval monastery, the layout of which is fossilised in the town's street plan.

1.2 Each Archaeological Character Zone may also include sites and features, which are not characteristic of the Zone but are nonetheless of archaeological and historical importance, and these are identified as *Secondary Characteristics*. For example, Archaeological Character Zone 1 also includes the medieval bridge over the River Dee, which has been identified as a Secondary Characteristic.

1.3 The list of characteristics is not exhaustive, and it is possible that other types of important archaeological remains and features exist within each Archaeological Character Zone. The boundaries of the AAP and the Archaeological Character Zones, and the list of Primary and Secondary Characteristics are intended as a guide for planners and developers. They are based on current knowledge, and are therefore subject to change as new information is revealed.

## 2. Existing Designations (Figure 1)

<b>Scheduled Ancient Monuments</b>	One - Farndon Holt Bridge (SAM 124)
<b>Listed Buildings</b>	Grade I – Farndon Holt Bridge Grade II* - St Chad's Church and Holly Bank, Barton Road Grade II – Fifteen
<b>Conservation Areas</b>	One – Farndon's historic core is part of a designated Conservation Area.

### 3 The Archaeological Character Zones (Figure 2)

#### Zone 1: Ecclesiastical Centre

Primary Characteristic	
<b>Early Medieval Monastic Site</b>	Nothing survives above ground. However, the circular churchyard of the parish church of St Chad and the circular enclosure surrounding this are indicative of an early monastic site.

Secondary Characteristics	
Medieval Church of St Chad	The church tower dates from the 14th century. The rest of the church was rebuilt in the 17th century following destruction during by the Civil War.
Medieval Settlement	It is not known when the outer enclosure became in-filled with settlement but it is likely that this began in the medieval period, particularly along the frontage of High Street.
Medieval Bridge	The bridge over the River Dee was built c 1345 with extensive rebuilding in the 19th century. However, it is likely that there was a much earlier crossing, possibly as early as the Roman period.
Post Medieval Settlement	A number of 18th century buildings survive in this Zone, which are Listed Grade II.

## Zone 2: Medieval Settlement

Primary Characteristics	
<b>Settlement</b>	Settlement is likely to have spread along the High Street, as well as clustering around the churchyard.
<b>Market Place</b>	The characteristic widening of the High Street north-west of St Chad's Parish Church is typical of a medieval market place. It is in this area that settlement is densest and that inns are later located.

Secondary Characteristic	
Post Medieval Settlement	A number of buildings survive from this period including Grade II Listed structures.

### 3.3 Zone 3: Post Medieval Expansion

Primary Characteristic	
<b>Post Medieval Settlement</b>	Small scale expansion spread east along Barton Road, and north along Churton Road during the post medieval period.

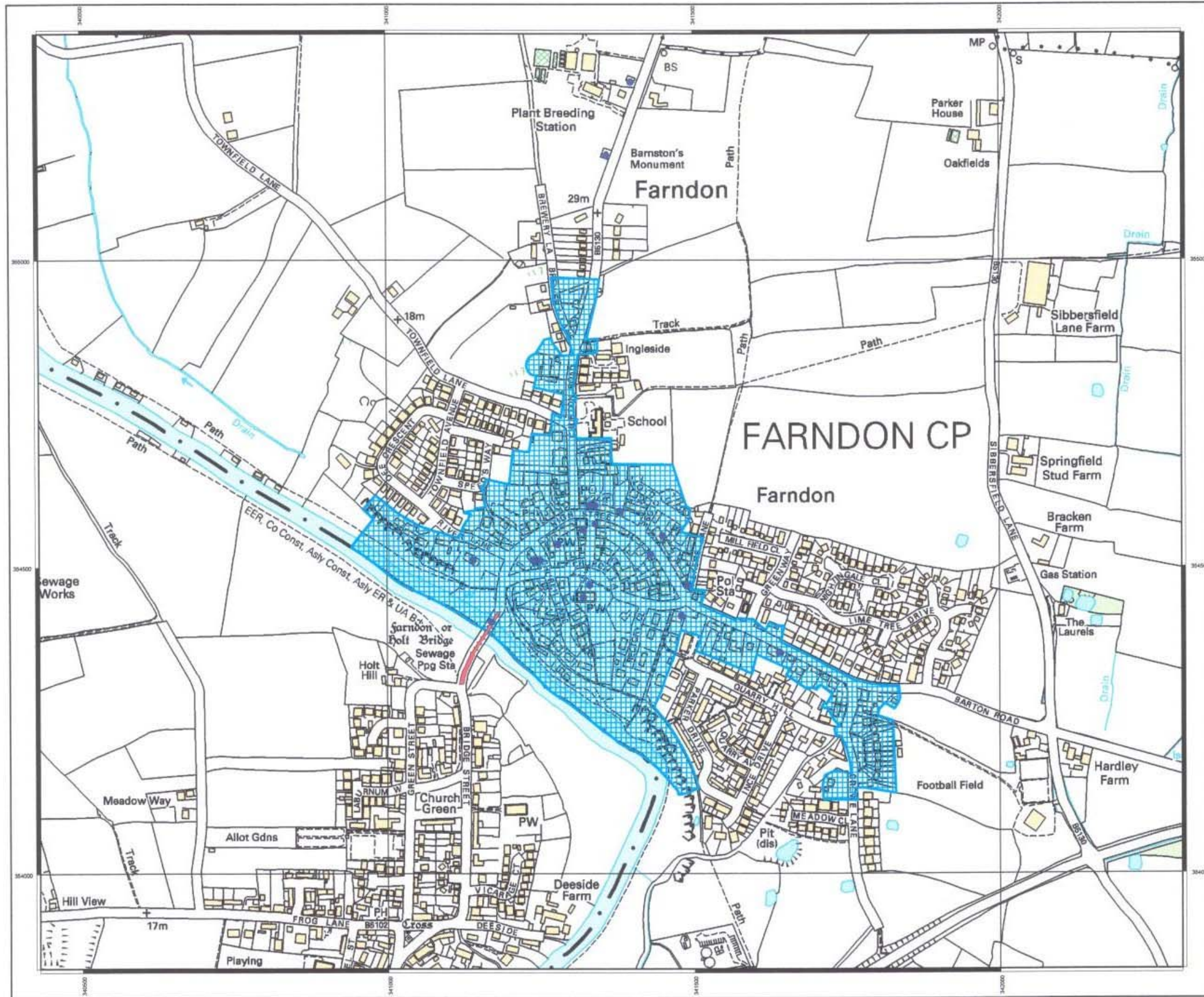





Figure 1: Farndon Existing Designations

-  Listed Building
-  Scheduled Ancient Monument
-  Conservation Area

1:6000

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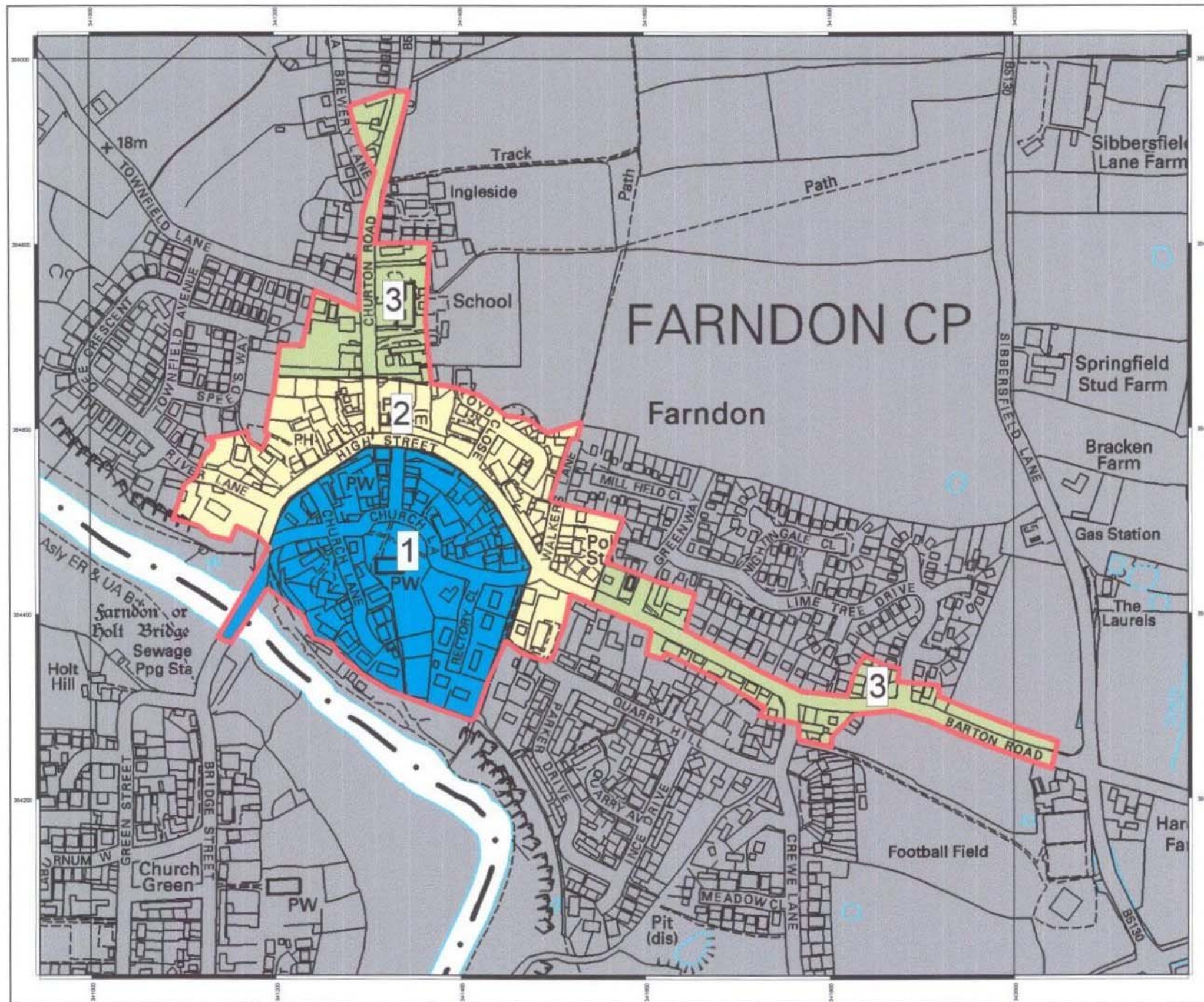







Figure 2: Farndon Area of Archaeological Potential and Archaeological Character Zones

-  Area of Archaeological Potential
-  ACZ 1: Ecclesiastical Centre
-  ACZ 2: Medieval Settlement
-  ACZ 3: Post Medieval Expansion
-  Area Outside the Historic Core

1:4000

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