

CHESHIRE HISTORIC TOWNS SURVEY

Lymm

Archaeological Strategy



2003

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Front cover :

John Speed's Map of Lancashire 1610

Lancashire County Council <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/oldmap/index.asp>

Lymm: Area of Archaeological Potential

1. Introduction

- 1.1 An Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP) has been identified in Lymm comprising one Archaeological Character Zone (ACZ). This Zone (Medieval Settlement), is identified by its defining archaeological or historical characteristics, or *Primary Characteristics*, which includes The Cross, the likely location of a medieval market, and possible medieval tenements.
- 1.2 The Archaeological Character Zone also include sites and features which are not characteristic of it but are nonetheless of archaeological and historical importance, and these are identified as *Secondary Characteristics*. For example, Archaeological Character Zone 1 potentially includes the archaeological remains of a post medieval slitting mill and corn mill, both of which have been identified as Secondary Characteristics.
- 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)

Scheduled Ancient Monuments	Two – Lymm Hall, moated site and adjoining ice house (SAM 23639); Two cockpits west of Lymm Hall (SAM 30377)
Listed Buildings	Grade I – Lymm Cross Grade II* – Lymm Hall Grade II - 23
Conservation Areas	One – Lymm village, including the Slitten Brook to the north and Lymm Dam to the south
Registered Parks and Gardens	None

3. The Archaeological Character Zone (Figure 2)

Zone 1: Medieval Settlement

Primary Characteristics	
Settlement	The crossing of the Slitten Brook is likely to have influenced the development of settlement in this Zone. This may have been the focus of one of the two estate centres recorded at Domesday.
The Cross	The Cross has steps carved from the bedrock and mainly dates from the mid-17th century although it may have much earlier origins. The original cross may have been a preaching cross, a village assembly point or more likely a market cross.

Secondary Characteristics	
Early Medieval Settlement	This is a potential site of early medieval settlement.
Post Medieval Settlement	This Zone underwent redevelopment during the post medieval period although few buildings survive that predate the 18th century. Of note is a series of structures related to the Bridgewater Canal, including a covered canal dock of c 1770 and an aqueduct carrying the canal over Bridgewater Street.
Lymm Slitting Mill	Lymm Slitting Mill, which was used to cut iron into rods for nail making, lies to the north of the village on the Slitten Brook. There is thought to have been a mill on this site since the mid-17th century.
Corn Mill	A post medieval corn mill was sited on the north side of the Lower Dam. It was demolished in 1935 but the pond and sluice survive.

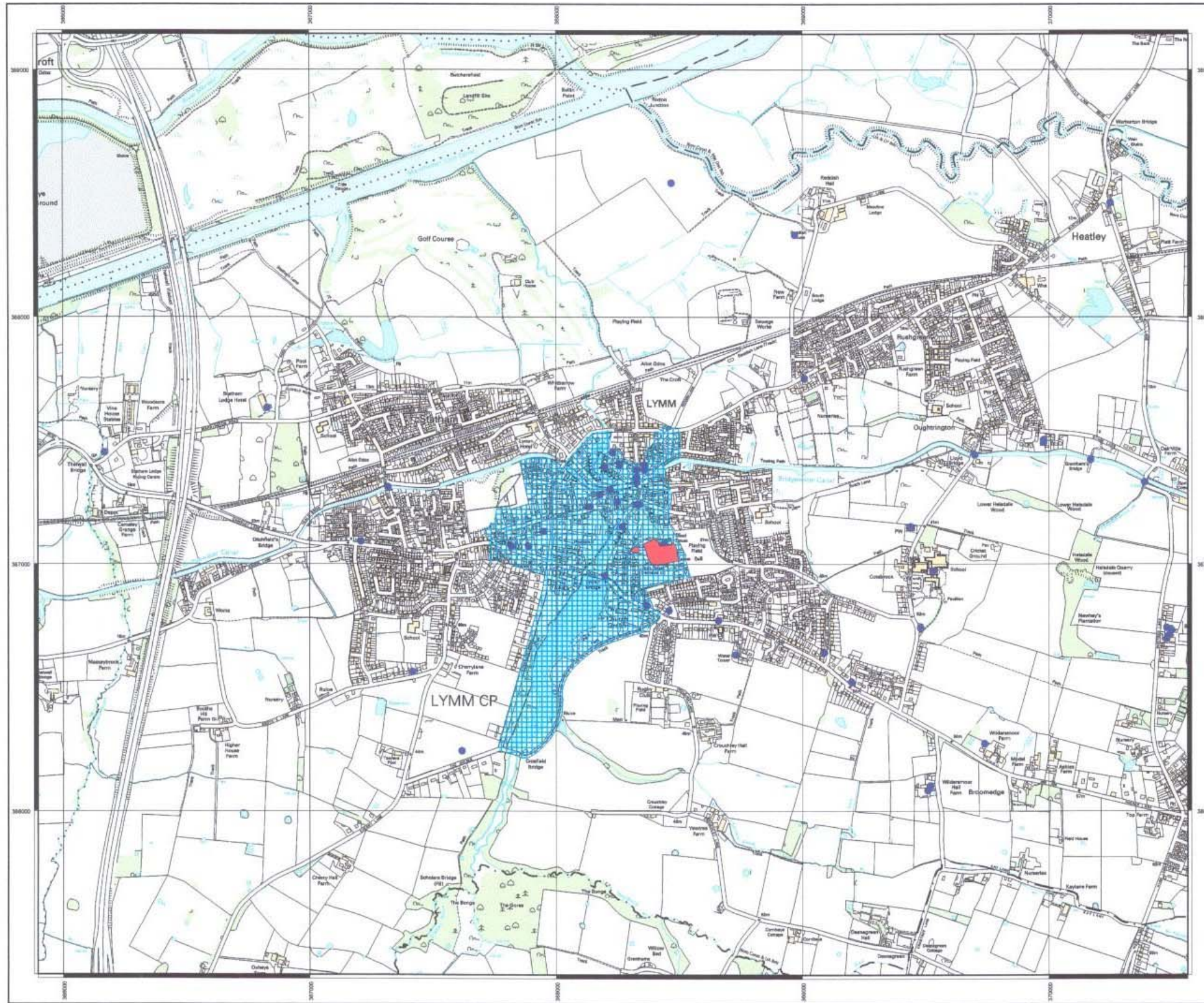




Figure 1: Lymm Existing Designations

-  Scheduled Ancient Monument
-  Listed Building
-  Conservation Area

1:15000

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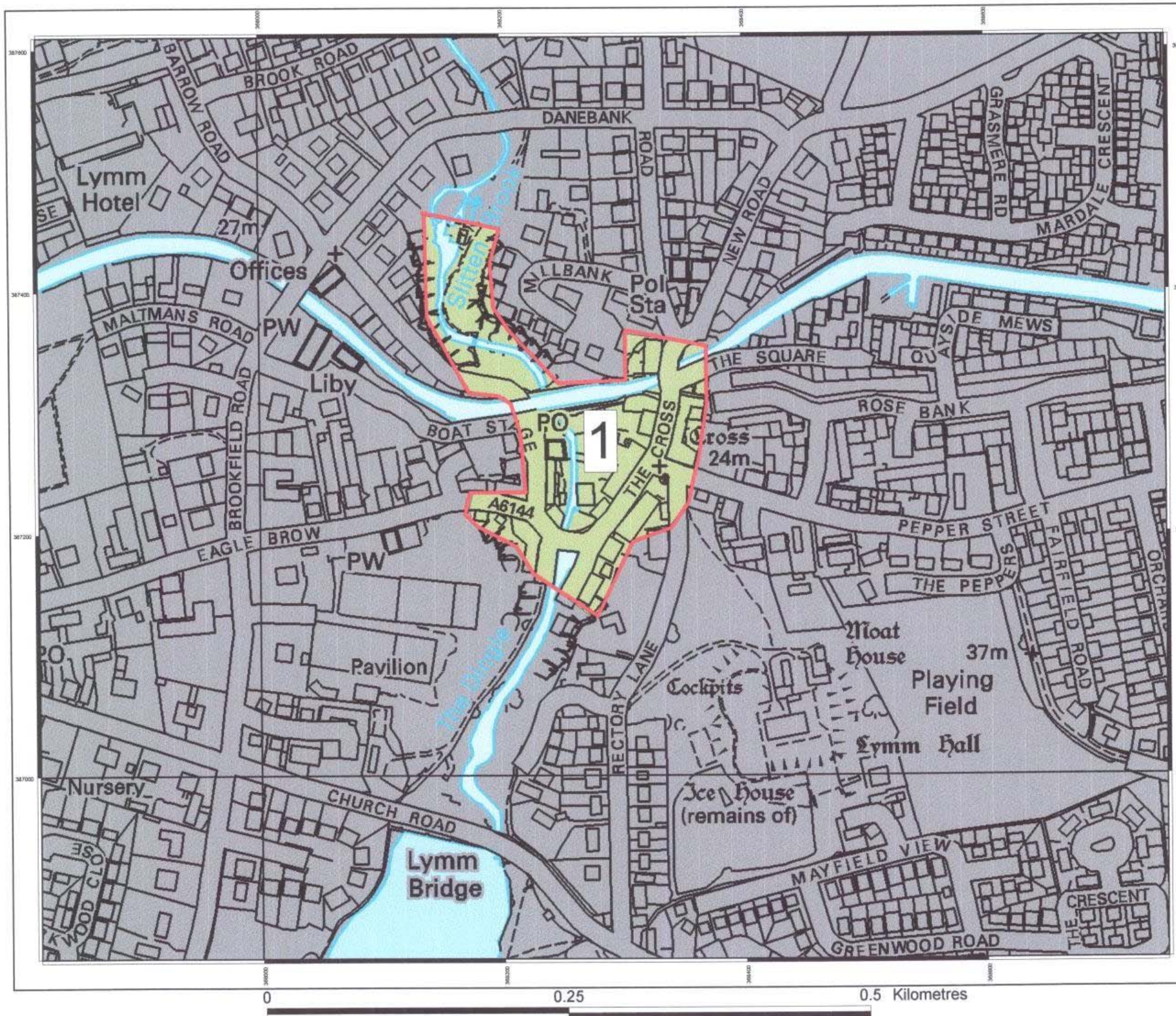





Figure 2: Lymm Area of Archaeological Potential and One Archaeological Character Zone

 Area of Archaeological Potential
 ACZ 1: Medieval Settlement
 Area Outside the Historic Core

1:3000

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