

# CHESHIRE HISTORIC TOWNS SURVEY

## Malpas

### Archaeological Strategy



2003

# CHESHIRE HISTORIC TOWNS SURVEY

*Malpas*

## *Archaeological Strategy*

2003

Environmental Planning  
Cheshire County Council  
Backford Hall  
Backford  
Chester  
CH1 6PZ

*These reports are the copyright of Cheshire County Council and English Heritage. We would like to acknowledge the assistance of Cheshire and Chester Archives and Local Studies, Dr Chris Lewis, University of Liverpool and Mr Tim Strickland, Gifford and Partners in the preparation of these reports. The archive is held by the Cheshire County Sites and Monuments Record.*

*The Ordnance Survey mapping within this document is provided by Cheshire County Council under licence from the Ordnance Survey, in order to fulfil its public function to make available Council held public domain information. The mapping is intended to illustrate the spatial changes that have occurred during the historical development of Cheshire towns. Persons viewing this mapping should contact Ordnance Survey copyright for advice where they wish to licence Ordnance Survey mapping/map data for their own use. The OS web site can be found at [www.ordsvy.gov.uk](http://www.ordsvy.gov.uk)*

# Malpas: Area of Archaeological Potential

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 An Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP) has been identified at Malpas, comprising two Archaeological Character Zones (ACZs). Each Zone is identified by its defining archaeological or historical characteristics, or *Primary Characteristics*. For example, in the Historic Core (Archaeological Character Zone 1), the defining characteristics include the site of the medieval castle, the medieval church of St Oswald and the extent of medieval settlement.
- 1.2 Each Archaeological Character Zone may also include sites and features, which are not defining characteristics but are nonetheless of archaeological and historical importance, and these are identified as *Secondary Characteristics*. For example, Archaeological Character Zone 1 also contains a number of listed 17th and 18th-century buildings, which have 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 AAPs 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>	Two - Castle Hill motte (SAM 13420) and Malpas Cross (SAM 25710).
<b>Listed Buildings</b>	Grade I –St Oswald’s Church Grade II* - The Old Printing House on Church Street and the Gates at the south-west corner of the churchyard Grade II – 51
<b>Conservation Areas</b>	One - the historic core of the town is a designated Conservation Area.

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

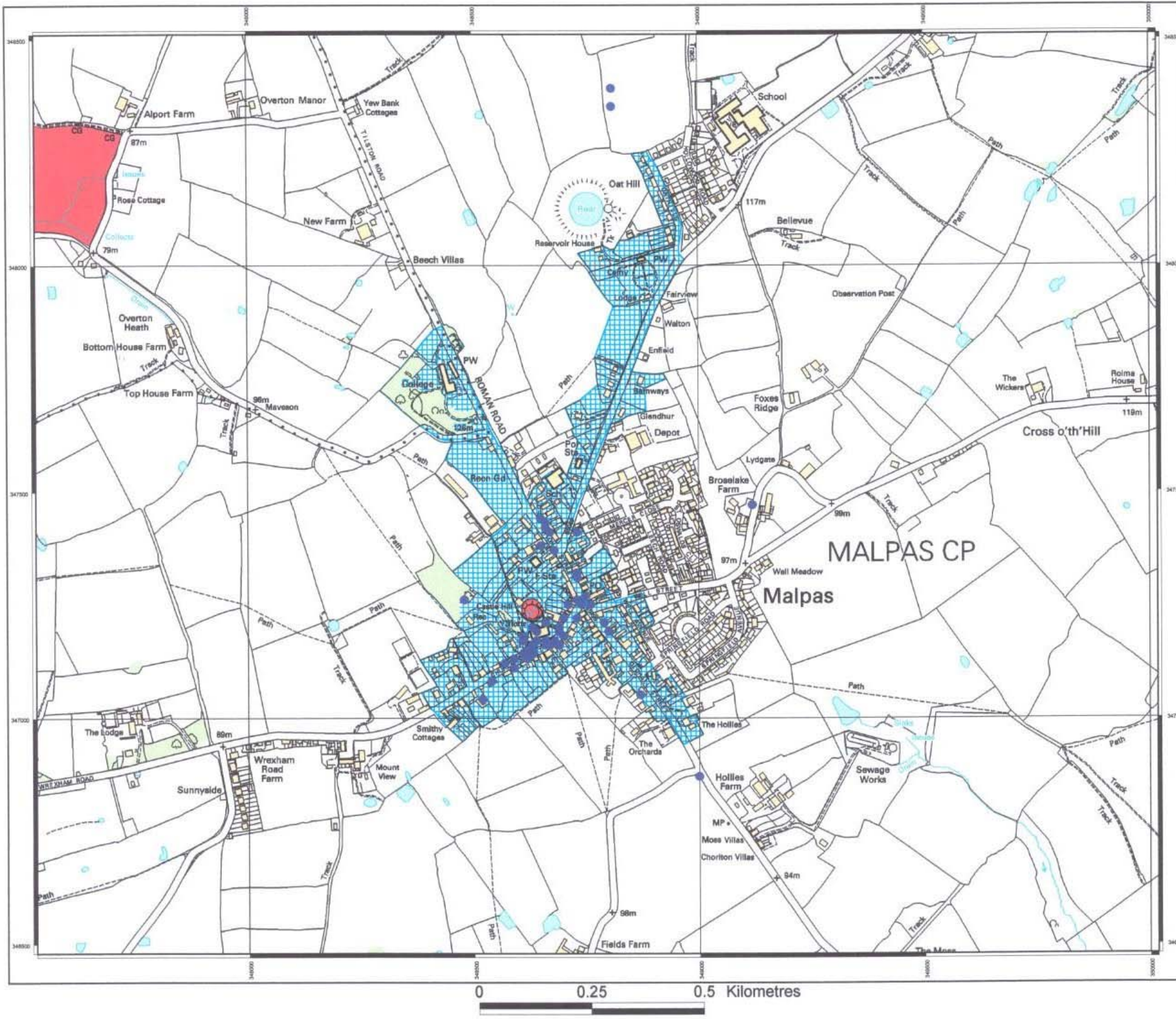
#### Zone 1: Medieval Core

Primary Characteristics	
<b>Castle</b>	Probably constructed in the 11th century after the Norman Conquest. All that survives of the castle is the motte, the location of the bailey or outer court is unknown.
<b>St Oswald's Church and Churchyard</b>	The medieval church may have originated as the castle's chapel, although it has been suggested that there was an Early Medieval predecessor.
<b>Settlement</b>	Throughout the Zone property boundaries survive that run at right angles to street frontages, a number of which appear to follow the boundaries of typical long, narrow medieval burgage plots
<b>Market Place</b>	The market was held at the junction of Church Street and High Street as identified by the market cross. However, there may have been an earlier market place, laid out at the foot of Church Street which has subsequently been built over.
<b>Manor House</b>	The site of the Old Hall on Oldhall Street, the manor house of the Brereton family which was destroyed by fire in 1767 and replaced by the current building.

Secondary Characteristics	
Early Medieval Settlement?	Zone 1 has been identified as one of two possible locations of the Early Medieval Settlement.
Post Medieval Settlement	The Zone retains a number of 17th and 18th century buildings, many of which are Listed.

### 3.1 Zone 2: Post Medieval Expansion

Primary Characteristic	
<b>Post Medieval Settlement</b>	Small scale expansion occurred along the fringes of Church Street, High Street, Old Hall Street and Well Street.



**Figure 1: Malpas Existing Designations**

- Listed Building
- Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Conservation Area

1:8000

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationer © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Cheshire County Council. Environmental Planning. LA076503. 2002

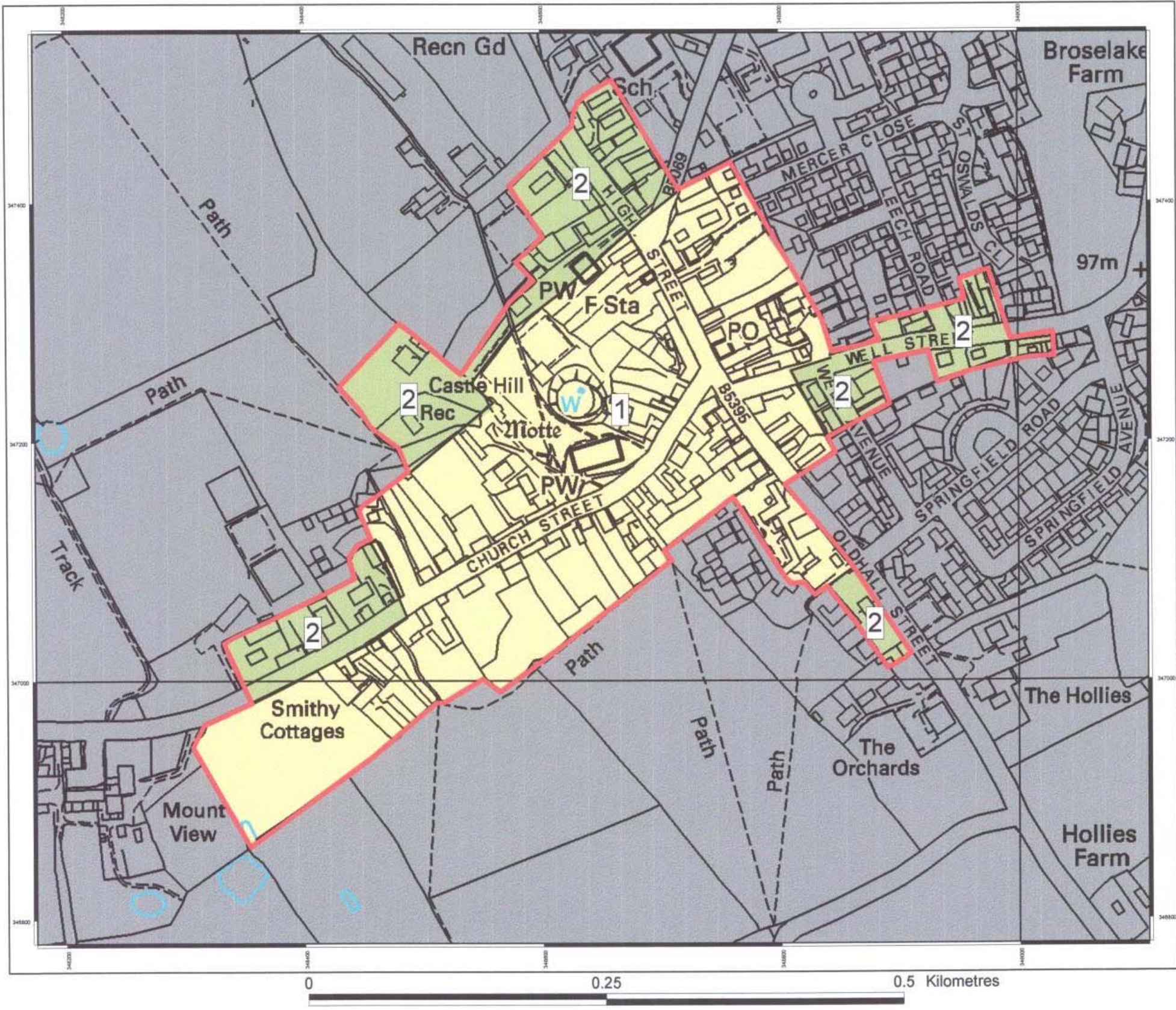


Figure 2: Malpas Area of Archaeological Potential and Archaeological Character Zones

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

1:3000

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationer © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Cheshire County Council, Environmental Planning. LA076503. 2002