

# CHESHIRE HISTORIC TOWNS SURVEY

## Tarporley

### Archaeological Strategy



2003

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## *Tarporley*

### *Archaeological Strategy*

2003

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# Tarporley: Area of Archaeological Potential

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 An Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP) has been identified in Tarporley comprising two Archaeological Character Zones (ACZs). Each Zone is identified by its defining archaeological or historical characteristics, or *Primary Characteristics*. For example, in the Medieval Core (Archaeological Character Zone 1), the defining characteristics include the medieval church of St Helen, medieval settlement and the market place.
- 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 post medieval development, 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 – A Medieval Cross Base in St Helen's Churchyard (SAM 30371)
<b>Listed Buildings</b>	Grade I – None Grade II* - Five Grade II – 22
<b>Conservation Areas</b>	One – The majority of the town falls within a Conservation Area.
<b>Registered Parks and Gardens</b>	None

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

#### Zone 1: Medieval Core

Primary Characteristic	
<b>Church of St Helen</b>	The church can be traced back to c 1200, although the present structure was built in the 15th century and restored extensively in the 18th and 19th centuries. A 15th or 16th century cross base stands in the churchyard, which is now surmounted by a sundial.
<b>Medieval Tenements</b>	Tarporley was recorded as a borough in the 14th century and the burgages created as part of this partially survive in the long, narrow tenements that run at right angles to the High Street.
<b>Market Place</b>	A market charter was granted at Tarporley in the late 13th century. The location of the market place is unknown but it was potentially sited in the area between the church and the High Street, as well as in a widening of the High Street, which is a typical characteristic of a medieval market place.

Secondary Characteristics	
<b>Post Medieval Development</b>	There was much re-development of the medieval core during the post medieval period. Examples include the Done Recreation Room, which was built in 1636; the Market Hall, built mid/late 18th century; and the Swan Inn, built in the late 18th/early 19th century.

#### 3.2 Zone 2: Post Medieval Expansion

Primary Characteristics	
<b>Manor House</b>	The manor house was built to the south-west of the church of St Helen c 1585.
<b>Post Medieval Settlement</b>	Small scale expansion spread south along the High Street, and east along Forest Road during the post medieval period.

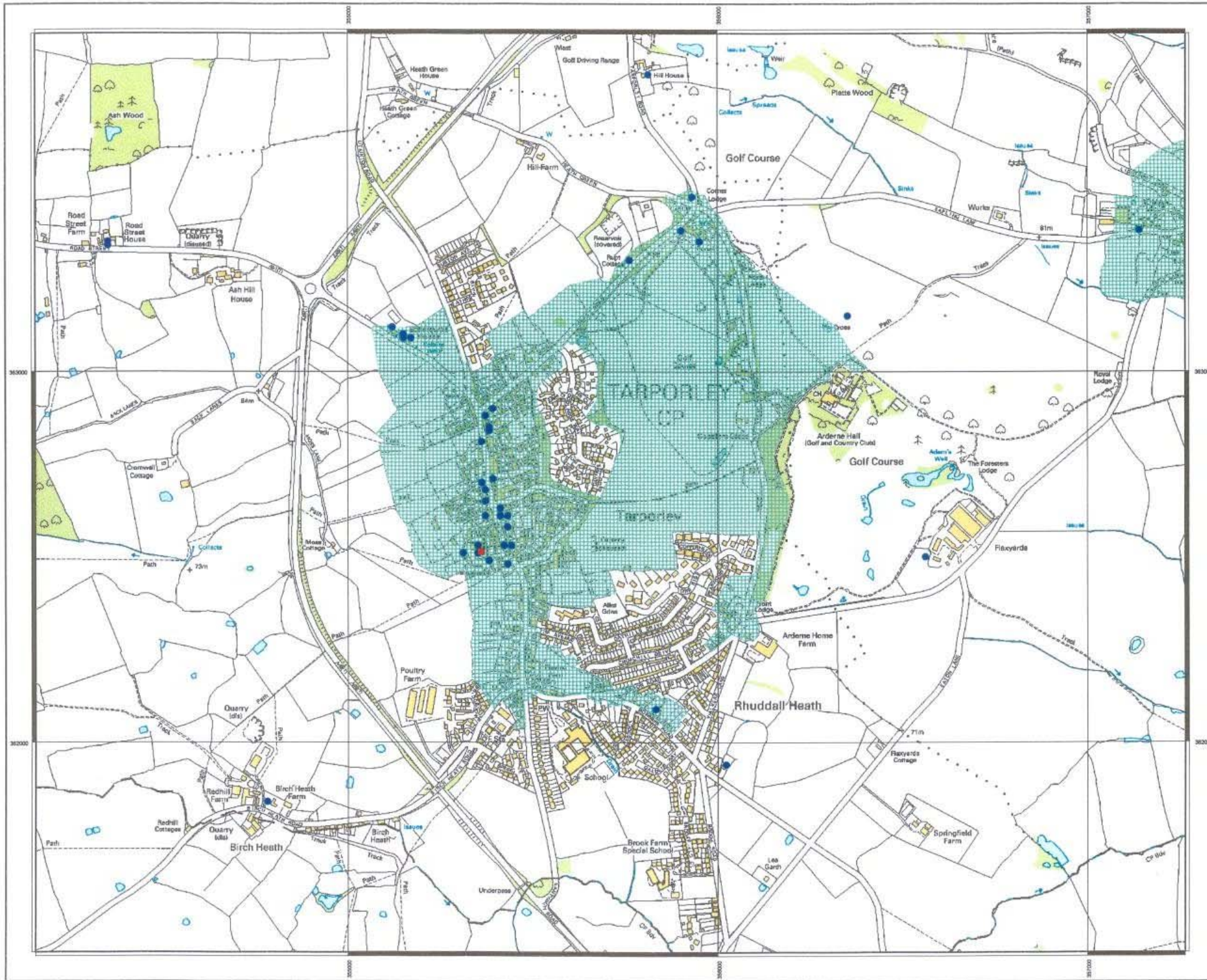


Figure 1: Tarporley Existing Designations

-  Scheduled Ancient Monument
-  Listed Building
-  Conservation Area

1:10000



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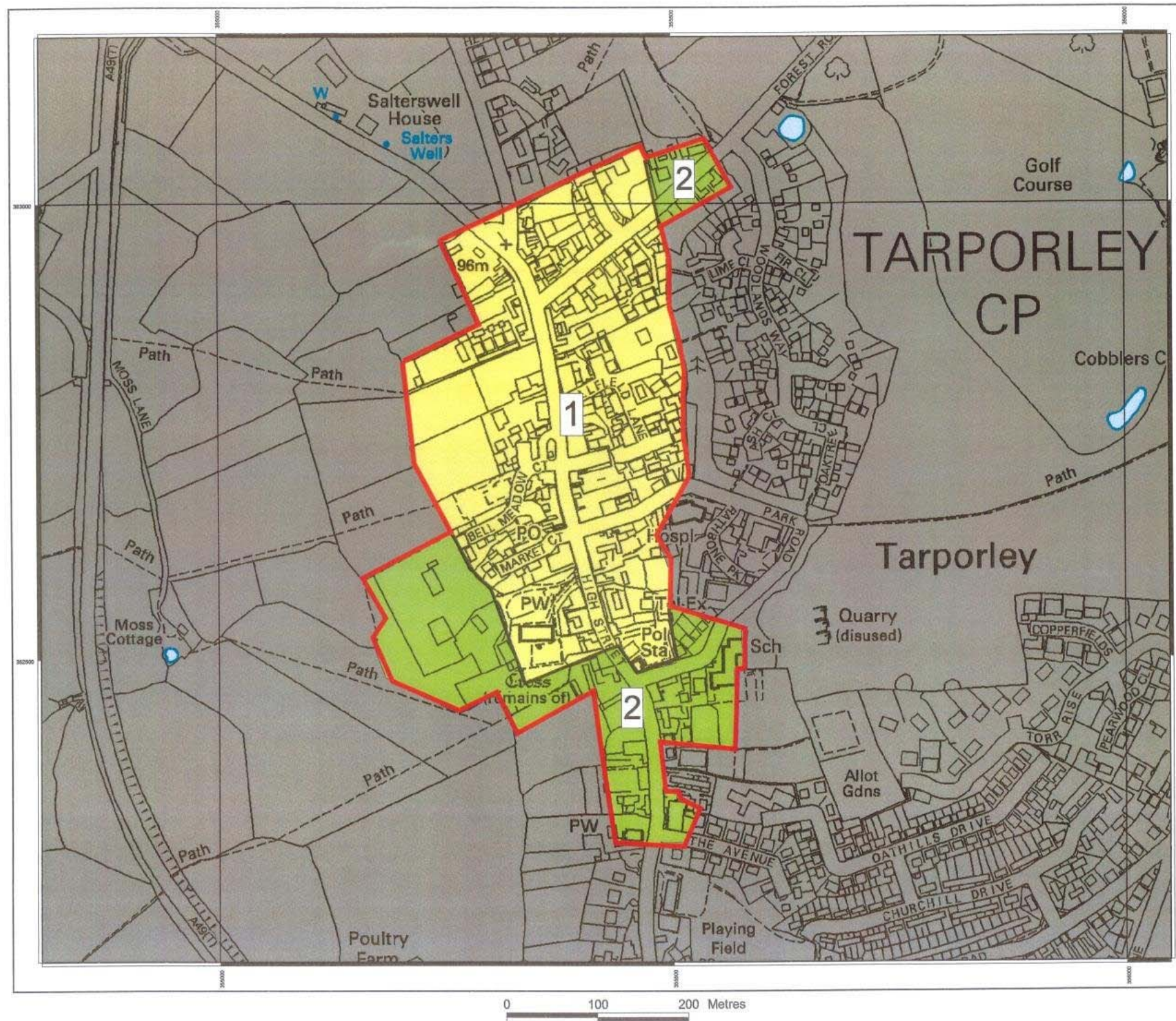


Figure 2: Tarporley Area Of Archaeological Potential and Archaeological Character Zones

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

1:4000

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