

# CHESHIRE HISTORIC TOWNS SURVEY

## Wybunbury

### Archaeological Strategy



2003

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## *Wybunbury*

### *Archaeological Strategy*

2003

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

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# Wybunbury: Area of Archaeological Potential

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 An Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP) has been identified at Wybunbury, comprising four Archaeological Character Zones (ACZs). Each Zone is identified by its defining archaeological or historical characteristics, or *Primary Characteristics*. For example, in St Chad's Church and Churchyard (Archaeological Character Zone 1), the defining archaeological characteristics include the medieval church of St Chad and the potential site of the Hospital of the Holy Cross and St George.
- 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 includes the potential remains of a Saxon Minster, and this has therefore 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> | Three – The site of the Church of St Chad (SAM 32564), Hall Bank moated site (SAM 13438) and the Moated site 300m south east of St Chad's Church (SAM 13439). |
| <b>Listed Buildings</b>            | Grade II* - The tower of St Chad's church.<br>Grade II – Three.   |
| <b>Conservation Areas</b>          | One - The extent of the historic settlement, including the site of the church and the two moated sites.   |

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

#### Zone 1: St Chad's Church and Churchyard

| Primary Characteristics                         |  |
|---|--|
| <b>St Chad's Church and Churchyard</b>          | All that survives of the church is the 15th-century tower.                             |
| <b>Hospital of the Holy Cross and St George</b> | The potential site of the Hospital has been identified in the churchyard of St Chad's. |

| Secondary Characteristics               |   |
|---|---|
| Early Medieval Church                   | Potentially a Minster or Mother Church stood on the site of St Chad's Church.   |
| Early Medieval Settlement               | Any settlement associated with the early church is likely to have been located in this area upon an area of elevated ground.                      |
| Medieval and Post Medieval Market Place | The site of an unofficial market place has been identified at the gate to St Chad's, which may have been used in conjunction with the churchyard. |
| Post Medieval Settlement                | The Swan Inn which dates to the 17th century and is a Grade II listed building, stands to the west of the church.                                 |

#### Zone 2: Main Road Medieval Settlement

| Primary Characteristic     |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Medieval Settlement</b> | There are a number of long, narrow property boundaries that run at right angles to the street frontages, which appear to follow the boundaries of medieval tenement plots. To the rear of these tenements runs a back lane, which could have formed an earlier routeway and is a typical characteristic of medieval settlement. |

| Secondary Characteristic |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Post Medieval Settlement | This Zone continued to be settled during the post medieval period. |

### Zone 3: Wybunbury Mere Moated Sites

| Primary Characteristics   |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Moated Manor House</b> | This site lies east of St Chad's church and is identified as Hall Bank.                    |
| <b>Moated Rectory</b>     | This site is located to the south of Hall Bank and is the smaller of the two moated sites. |

### Zone 4: Main Road Possible Shrunken Settlement

| Primary Characteristic     |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Medieval Settlement</b> | An area of potential medieval settlement has been identified from existing boundaries. To the rear of these potential tenements runs a back lane, which could have formed an earlier routeway and is a typical characteristic of medieval settlement. |

| Secondary Characteristic    |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 2. Post Medieval Settlement | This Zone was partially settled during the post medieval period. |

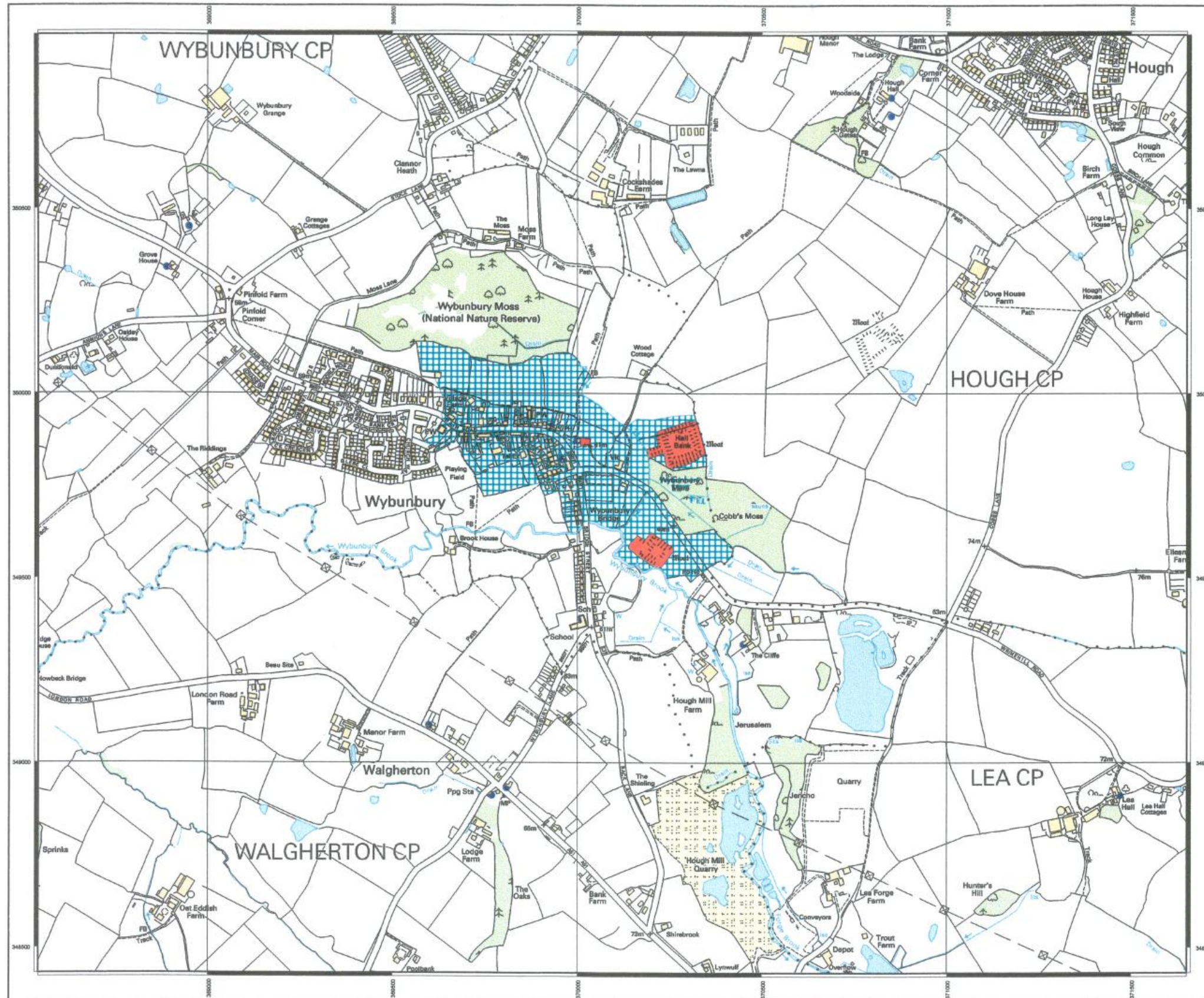


Figure 1: Wybunbury Existing Designations

- Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Listed Building
- Conservation Area

1:10000

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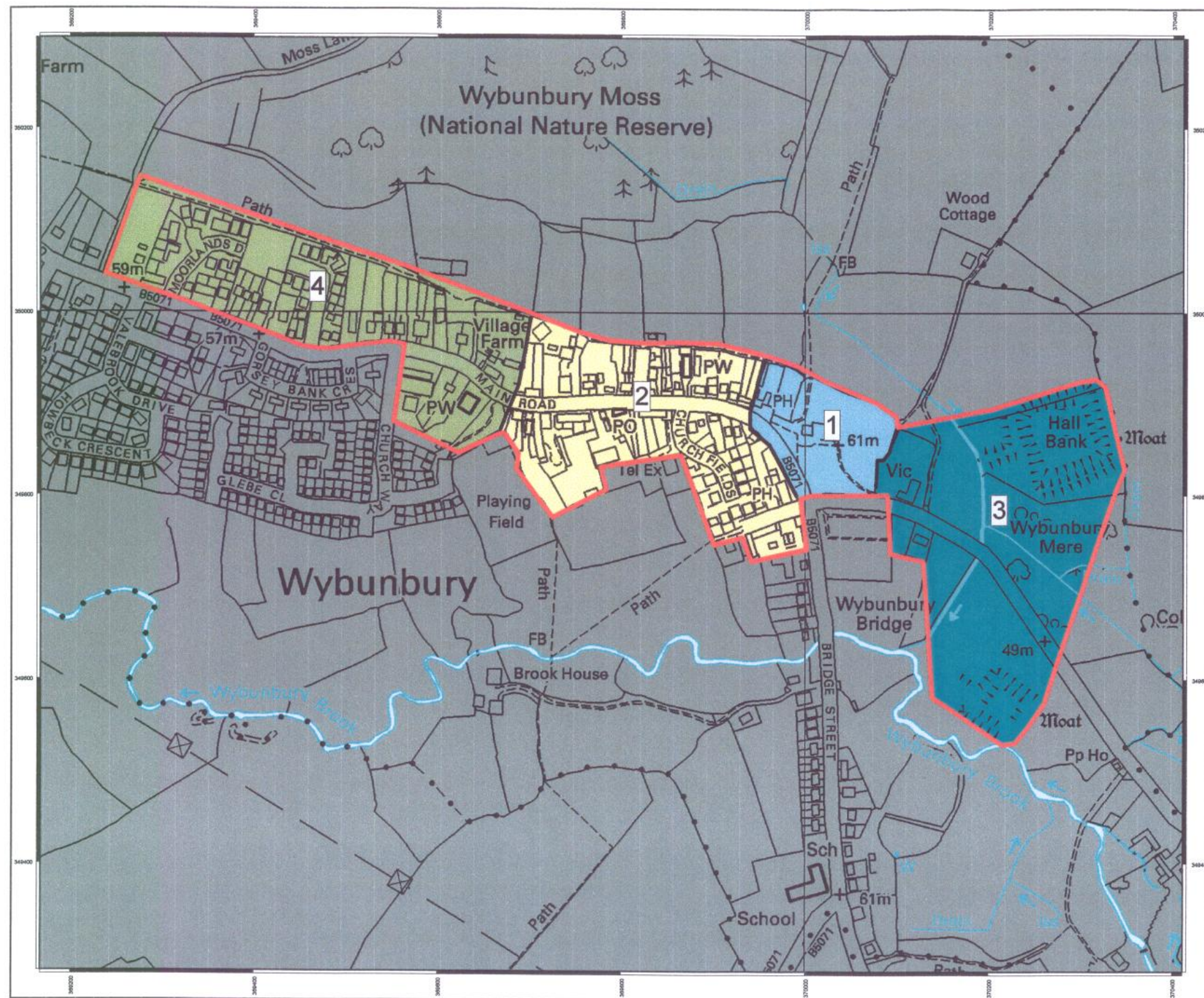


Figure 2: Wybunbury Area of Archaeological Potential and Archaeological Character Zones

- Area of Archaeological Potential
- ACZ 1: St Chad's Church and Churchyard
- ACZ 2: Main Road Medieval Settlement
- ACZ 3: Wybunbury Mere Moated Sites
- ACZ 4: Main Road Possible Shrunken Settlement
- Area Outside the Historic Core

1:4000

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