



University of  
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MANCHESTER

Greater Manchester  
Spatial Framework and  
Salford Local Plan

Archaeological  
Assessment:

H3/15 Hazelhurst

**Client:** Salford City Council

**Desk based Assessment:**

Steve Tamburello







**Site Location:** The Site is located in the Hazlehurst area to the north-east of Worsley on land to the east of the M60 and to the south of the A580 East Lancashire Road with the north-west boundary formed by the Worsley Interchange

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## *Summary*

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The Site Allocation H3/15 Hazelhurst does not contain any known archaeological remains of national importance that would merit preservation in-situ. However, there is potential for the survival of below-ground remains on the west side of the Site associated with early coal working dating to at least the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, which would merit further investigation in advance of any future development.

There is some potential for linear earthwork features to be present at the north end of the Site which may suggest earlier, possibly prehistoric, activity within the Site. Also of note are established field boundaries across the Site which would be considered historic due to their existence before 1850.

A better understanding of the below-ground archaeological resource could be achieved via a programme of trial trenching, which would aim to establish the presence or absence of any buried archaeological remains and, if present, assess their extent, condition and date. This further investigation could be undertaken in advance of submitting any future planning application, in line with the guidance provided by the National Planning Policy Framework, or as a condition attached to planning consent



# 1. Introduction

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In preparing land allocations Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and Salford Local Plan, Salford City Council commissioned Salford Archaeology to provide an understanding of the Historic Environment, specifically the potential for each site to contain buried remains of archaeological interest, to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework (July 2018). The National Planning Policy Framework stipulates:

- That the allocations have been informed by the proper assessment of the significance of the designated and non-designated heritage asset in the area including their setting where appropriate (NPPF paragraphs 189, 193-96, 199);
- There has been a proper assessment to identify the potential for finding new site of archaeological or historic interest (NPPF paragraph 189);
- There has been a proper assessment to identify land where development would be inappropriate because of historic significance (NPPF paragraphs 189).

Following an initial screening exercise, 12 of the site allocations were subject to further archaeological assessment. The following provides an interim report on the assessment carried out at Site Allocation H3/15 Hazelhurst (Fig 1), referred to herein as ‘the Site’.

## 2. *Methodology*

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A screening exercise was applied to the 21 potential land allocation sites throughout Salford to identify which of the sites had potential archaeological significance that might be impacted on by the development proposals. As a result, nine of these sites were assessed to have no or very low archaeological interest, and have therefore been screened out from further assessment.

The remaining 12 site allocations were subject to further assessment, which incorporated and built on the previous screening exercise. Further assessment comprised:

- a review of the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER) and local archives to identify and map non-designated and designated heritage assets;
- an historic map regression exercise to identify previously unrecognised heritage assets with archaeological interest;
- a review of the findings of previous archaeological investigations carried out on or near the sites along with any relevant published and secondary sources;
- analysis of historic and current aerial photography and available lidar data;
- collation of all non-designated and designated heritage assets as identified by the above research within each Site into a Gazetteer accompanied by a map showing their positions;
- site visits and walkover surveys to identify any further potential heritage assets, and assess the potential for the survival of below-ground archaeological remains as identified from the desk-based research. The sites were visited in January 2018, following a period of notification to the relevant tenants and landowners by Salford City Council.



## 3. *The Setting*

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### 3.1 *Location and Setting*

The Site Allocation H3/15 is located in the Hazlehurst area to the north-east of Worsley on land to the east of the M60 and to the south of the A580 East Lancashire Road with the north-west boundary formed by the Worsley Interchange, one of the largest motorway junctions in Britain. Housing estates surround the Site to the south-west, south and east (Plate 1).

The north-west portion of the Site forms part of Wardley Wood, which is designated as a site of biological importance for its nature conservation. The remainder of the Site to the east currently comprises recently ploughed fields, divided by established hedgerows.



*Plate 1: recent satellite imagery of the Site Allocation*

## 4. Historical Background

The following section provides a framework to the present study, working chronologically through the periods listed below. Key sites are summarised in the Gazetteer of Sites and are mapped on Figure 6 (*Appendix 1*).

Period		Date Range
Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	Pre-10,000 BC
	Mesolithic	10,000 – 3500 BC
	Neolithic	3500 – 2200 BC
	Bronze Age	2300 BC – 700 BC
	Iron Age	700 BC – AD 43
Romano-British		AD 43 – AD 410
Early Medieval		AD 410 – AD 1066
Late Medieval		AD 1066 – AD 1540
Post-medieval		AD 1540 – c 1750
Industrial Period		c AD1750 – 1914
Modern		Post-1914

*Table: Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges*

### 4.1 Prehistoric and Romano- British Period

#### 4.1.1 Archaeological Evidence

There are no known prehistoric or Romano-British sites or finds within the Site. Within the North-west the evidence for prehistoric activity is often sporadic and based on chance finds. Such a find was recorded in a garden on Lambton Road to the south-east of the Site in 1976 (GMHER1684.1.0), comprising a Neolithic (3500BC to 2200 BC) flint flake with fine secondary working. A linear earthwork feature (GMHER1858.1.0) oriented north/south at the northern end of the Site has previously been identified as a possible trackway and could provide some physical evidence of prehistoric activity.



### 4.1.2 *Archaeological Potential*

The potential for physical evidence of activity from this period mainly derives from the previously identified linear earthwork at the north of the Site. Though it has been suggested to be a trackway, its date and nature are as yet unknown, thus the potential for below-ground remains is considered to be low.

## 4.2 *Medieval Period and Post Medieval*

### 4.2.1 *Archaeological and Historical Evidence*

There is no evidence to suggest any human activity in the vicinity of the Site following the collapse of the Roman administration in the 4<sup>th</sup> century until the Norman Conquest in the 11<sup>th</sup> century.

Historically the Site lay within the township of Worlsey, situated to the north-west of the hamlet of Hazelhurst. Hazelhurst is first mentioned in the year 1218 with regards to the lands of Richard de Worlsey who had been granted the manors of Worsley and Hulton by a Hugh Putrell on behalf of the king. In a Charter of that year, Richard is noted as granting to Hugh the Clerk, otherwise known as Hugh de Monton, ‘the whole land of Hazelhurst and other land beside the brook flowing from Wardley Spring’. In 1277 the whole of Hazelhurst was reacquired by the de Worsley family from Hugh’s daughter, who at that time styled herself Ellen de Hazelhurst (Cooper, 2005)

Ordnance Survey mapping from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century onwards depicts a brook flowing from Wardley Hall to the south through Wardley Wood. The 1<sup>st</sup> Edition map of 1848 (Fig 2) depicts the watercourse pooling at the northern end of the Site in an area labelled ‘Spring Dam’, suggesting some correlation between the land purchased by Hugh de Monton and the area of the Site.

Thurstan de Tydesley, a descendent of the de Worsleys, constructed the current Wardley Hall on the high ground at the head of the wooded hollow at the north end of the woods in the around the year 1500, although it is thought that a house may have occupied the site since the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Despite undergoing considerable rebuilding in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries the building retains many of its original features and is important as an example of a quadrangular hall around an open courtyard (Plate 2). The hall was originally surrounded by a moat, which partially survives as a small lake on its west side. At the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Wardley Hall was one the largest residences in the manor of Worsley. In 1666 the hall is recorded as being taxed for 19 hearths (or families). In comparison, Worsley Hall and Booths Hall were taxed for 17 hearths each (Farrer and Brownbill, 1911).

Hazelhurst Hall, the home of the Lomax family, was also known to be located to the immediate south-east of the Site from around the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The later 18<sup>th</sup>-century part of the hall survives as a farm, but the older, lower building was demolished in around 1949 (Cooper, 2005)

### *4.2.2 Archaeological potential*

Given the location of the Site away from known medieval settlement activity, the potential for buried archaeological remains is considered to be unlikely. The possibility of medieval finds should not be ruled out completely however given the historic landscape and the Site's proximity to Wardley Hall to the north and Hazelhurst Hall to the south-east.



*Plate 2: A recent photograph of Wardley Hall, now the official residence of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Salford*

## *4.3 Industrial and Modern Period*

### *4.3.1 Archaeological and Historical Evidence*

Wardley Hall and the surrounding land at Worsley and Hazelhurst were purchased in 1760 by Francis, the third Duke of Bridgewater having begun the construction of the first section of the canal from Worsley to Castlefield, the preceding year (Plate 3). The arrival of the canal brought other substantial changes to the rural landscape around Worsley also. Prior to the building of the canal coal had been extracted on a small scale for hundreds of years around Worsley, however the canal led to a huge reduction in the cost of coal for Manchester residents and consequently a significant increase in demand (Nevell et al, 2016).





*Plate 3: An extract from Hennet's map of 1829 showing the area of Hazelhurst, south of the Wardley Hall and north of the Bridgewater Canal at Worsley, with the approximate location of the Site indicated.*

The 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1848 (Fig 2) records such a colliery on the west side of the Site, named Saunderson's Coal Pit (latterly Sanderson's). The coal mine was located to south of the Spring Dam at the southern extent of Wardley Wood within the now wooded area of the Site. It is unknown when coal working began at the site, however it is clear that they were well established by the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The map locates the coal pits to the south of Spring Dam, with the water course culverted and feeding Saunderson's Dam at Roe Green to the south-west of the Site, where Saunderson's Mill is also located. A mineral railway is depicted on the map leading directly from Saunderson's Coal Pit to the Bridgewater Canal at Worsley, adjacent to a series of coke ovens on the wharf side at Pennington Fold.

The colliery comprised two shafts which exploited the Worsley Four Foot seam at a depth of 300 yards below the surface. The Worsley Four Foot seam had been the first workable seam accessed from the nearby Worsley Delph in 1761 via underground canals or navigable levels. The Four Foot seam eventually reached a length of nearly 3km, with mine shafts often being sunk ahead of the intended line of the canal to speed operations. Sanderson's Pit was said to be connected to the main navigable underground canal level at Worsley Delph by way of the Four Foot branch (Hayes, 2004).

A rectangular building is depicted to the south of the shafts, on the east side of the railway terminus on both the Ordnance Survey maps of 1848 (Fig 2) and 1893 (Fig 3). This was the likely location for the power systems for the colliery, which would have comprised a boiler and engine. A series of ponds is also shown within the Site to the south of the main colliery site.

Sanderson's Pit ceased operation in 1886 and is shown subsequently on the Ordnance Survey map of 1893 (Fig 3) as disused, with the former industrial site already becoming consumed by the surrounding woodland. Both of Sanderson's coal shafts were filled and closed in 1910, by which point the Ordnance Survey map of the same year (Fig 4) shows the site to be wooded with no indications of the former mineral railway or engine house on the site, although the ponds are still distinguishable, as is the case currently.

The remainder of the Site to the south-east retained an agriculture nature throughout the Industrial period of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Of the established pre-Ordnance Survey field boundaries, a main east/west hedgerow survives across the centre of the Site, with a public footpath running parallel (Plate 4). Likewise a hedgerow can be seen orientated north-west/south-east running from the centre of the Site to the south-east boundary which matches the line of the field boundary on the Ordnance Survey map of 1848 (Fig 2 and Fig 7).

From the 1920's the south-east quarter of the Site, adjacent to Hazelhurst Hall was used for various recreational purposes. The Ordnance Survey map of 1929 (Fig 5) shows the south-east quarter to be divided up between a main sports ground and an area for tennis alongside a pavilion near the central field boundary. During the 1930's this area around the pavilion was repurposed as a cricket ground before returning to open fields in the post-war years.

### *4.3.3 Archaeological potential*

Following the decommissioning of the colliery in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the area was left to be reclaimed by the surrounding woodland. Therefore, it is likely that buried remains relating to Sanderson's Coal Pit have the potential to survive. These would be of at least local importance as an example of early coal working in the Worsley area.





*Plate 4: An established hedgerow orientated east/west across the centre of the Site, following the pre-1850 field boundary*



## 5. *Gazetteer of Sites*

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The following gazetteer entries summarise the sites of potential archaeological interest within the Site Allocation. These include previously identified designated heritage assets gathered from the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record and non-designated heritage assets drawn from the map regression analysis, aerial photography and site visits. The locations of these entries are shown in *Figure 6 (Appendix 1)*.

**Site Number** GMHER 1794.1.0

**Site Name** Sanderson's Coal Pit

**Site Type** Colliery

**Period** Mid-19<sup>th</sup> century

**NGR** SD 75591 401474

**Source** Ordnance Survey 1848-1893, Monograph: Hayes, G. Collieries in the Manchester Coalfields.

**Description** In operation prior to 1840. Comprised of two shafts, which went down to the Worsley Four Foot Mine, 300 yards below the surface. Connected to the underground water level which branched eastwards from the main underground canal at Worsley Delph and also via a mineral railway which connected the mine with the Bridgewater Canal at Worsley. A rectangular building, presumed to be the boiler/engine house is depicted on the Ordnance Survey maps of 1848 (Fig 2) and 1893 (Fig 3), alongside a series of ponds. The mine was closed in 1886, with the shafts filled in 1910. The engine house and railway are presumed to have been dismantled at this point also. The site is still marked by mounds which reveal pit dirt if disturbed.

**Assessment** Following the decommissioning of the colliery in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the area was left to be reclaimed by the surrounding woodland (Plate 5). Therefore, it is likely that buried remains relating to Sanderson Coal Pit have the potential to survive. These would be of at least local importance as an example of early coal working in the Worsley area.





*Plate 5: The approximate location of the former Sanderson's Coal Pit within Wardley Wood within the Site*



**Site Number** GMHER1858.1.0

**Site Name** Linear Feature

**Site Type** Earthwork

**Period** Undated

**NGR** Centred SD 7580 0170 (10m by 10m)

**Source** Aerial Photograph: T. Burke. 1989. A.P. Run No. 39 89 165/166.

**Description** Slightly curving linear feature, possibly an old trackway. To the east of M60 visible north and south of East Lancashire Road.

**Assessment** A visit to the site in January 2018 proved inconclusive in confirming the presence of a linear feature as previously identified from aerial photography, although a slightly raised area was noted at the location (Plate 6). Consequently, there is some potential for possible earthwork features at the north of the Site, to the west of the wooded area that could merit further investigation.



*Plate 6: Possible raised linear earthwork feature GMHER 1858.1.0 at the north of the site, looking south*



## 6. Conclusion

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The Site Allocation H3/15 Hazelhurst does not contain any known archaeological remains of national importance that would merit preservation *in-situ*. However, there is potential for the survival of archaeological remains in the west of the site associated with early coal working dating at least to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance map of 1848 shows the already well-established site of Sanderson's Coal Pits on the western side of the Site, now located within Wardley Wood. The colliery comprised two shafts which descended to the rich Worsley Four Foot Seam and also linked to the underground canal system, accessed at Worsley Delph to the south-east. Sanderson's Pit was also linked to the Bridgewater Canal by a mineral railway which entered the Site from the south. Associated with the colliery within the Site were also a series of ponds, and a boiler and engine house to provide power for the colliery. The shafts were infilled and the colliery apparatus dismantled in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century following the closure of the pit in 1886, leaving the area to be reclaimed by the woodland during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Wardley Wood is now considered a site of biological importance for nature conservation, although should the area be developed there is the potential for the survival of below-ground remains relating to the coal-working activity that would be considered of at least local importance.

Whilst the industrial activity appears to be confined to the wooded western area of the Site, there is some potential for linear earthwork features to be present at the north end of the Site as previously identified from aerial photography. Also of note are established field boundaries across the Site that would be considered historic due to their presence on pre-1850 mapping (Fig 7).

A better understanding of the below-ground archaeological resource of the site could be achieved via a programme of trial trenching, which would aim to establish the presence or absence of any buried archaeological remains and, if present, assess their extent, condition and date. This further investigation could be undertaken in advance of submitting any future planning application, in line with the guidance provided by the National Planning Policy Framework, or as a condition attached to planning consent.

If significant remains are found which will be impacted on by development ground works then these should be either preserved through sympathetic planning or, where deemed acceptable, fully excavated and recorded (preservation by record). Consideration should also be given to commemorating and disseminating the information on the Site's heritage. Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) would be able to advise further on this.



## 7. Sources

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### *Online Sources*

The Hedgerows Regulations 1997 - <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1997/1160/contents>



## *Appendix 1: Figures*

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Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Site boundary superimposed on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey of 1848

Figure 3: Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1893

Figure 4: Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1910

Figure 5: Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1929

Figure 6: Identified heritage assets within the Site boundary

Figure 7: Site boundary superimposed on modern mapping, showing areas of archaeological potential



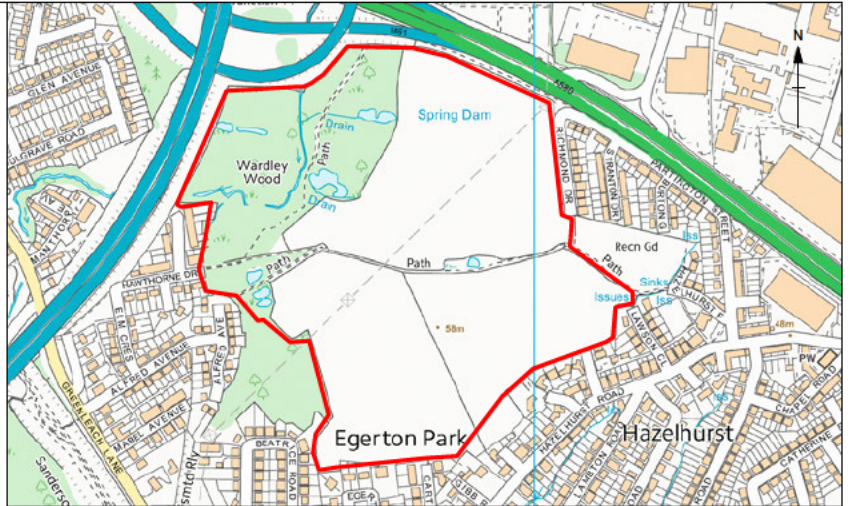
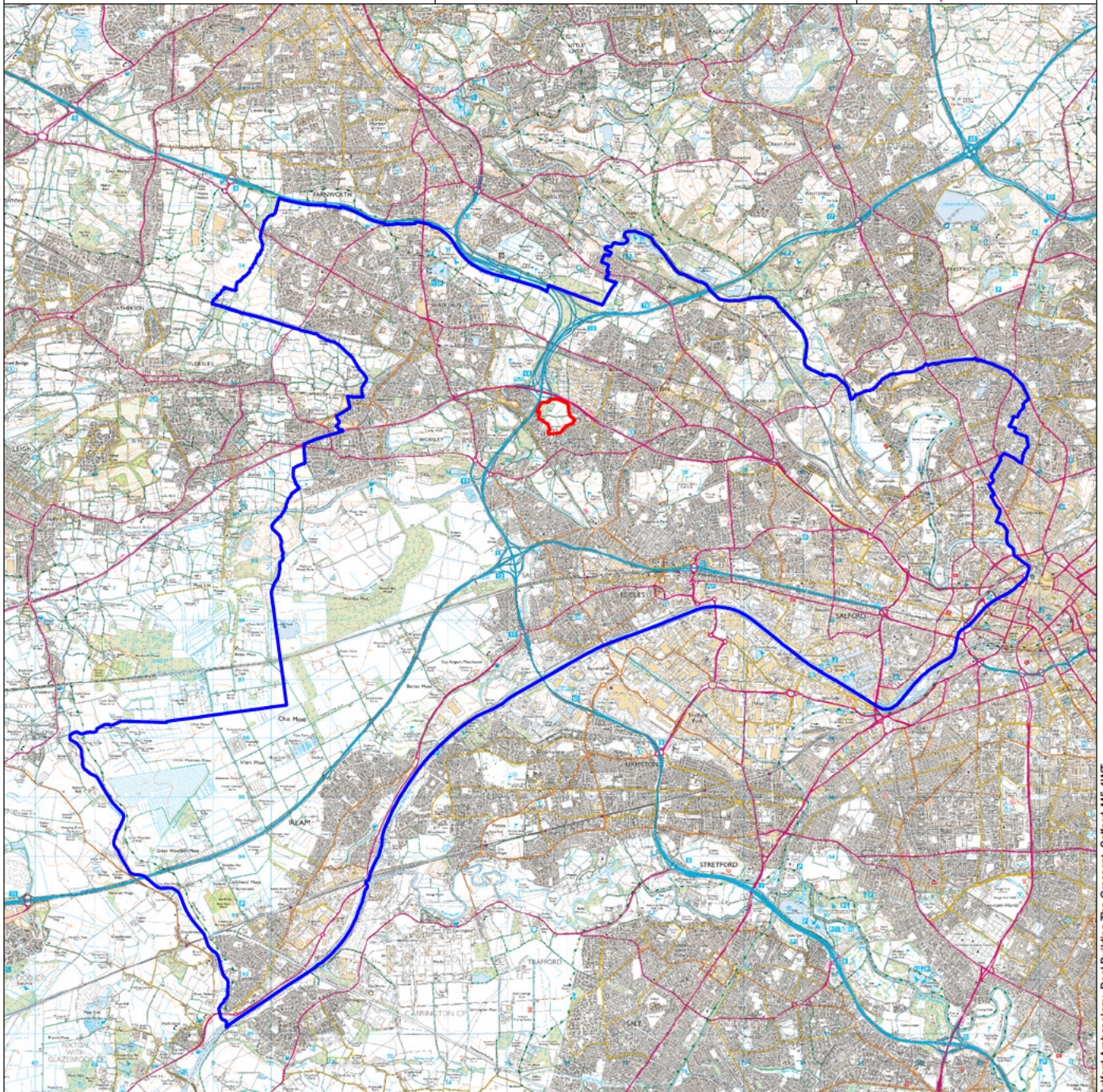


Figure 1: H3/15 Hazelhurst

Site location



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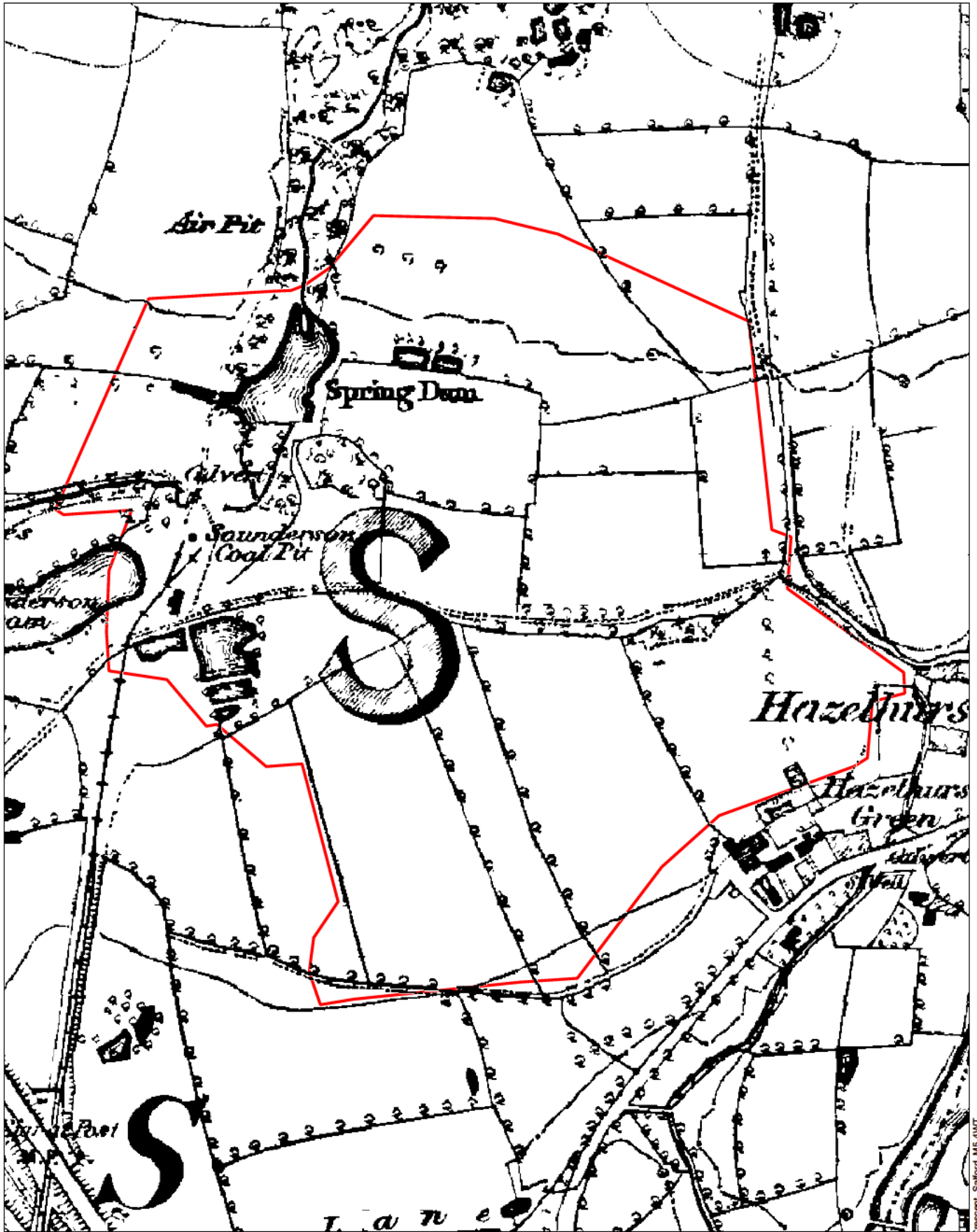


Figure 2: H3/15 Hazelhurst

Site boundary superimposed on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey of 1848



Key:

Site boundary



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0 200 m



Scale at A4 1:4000



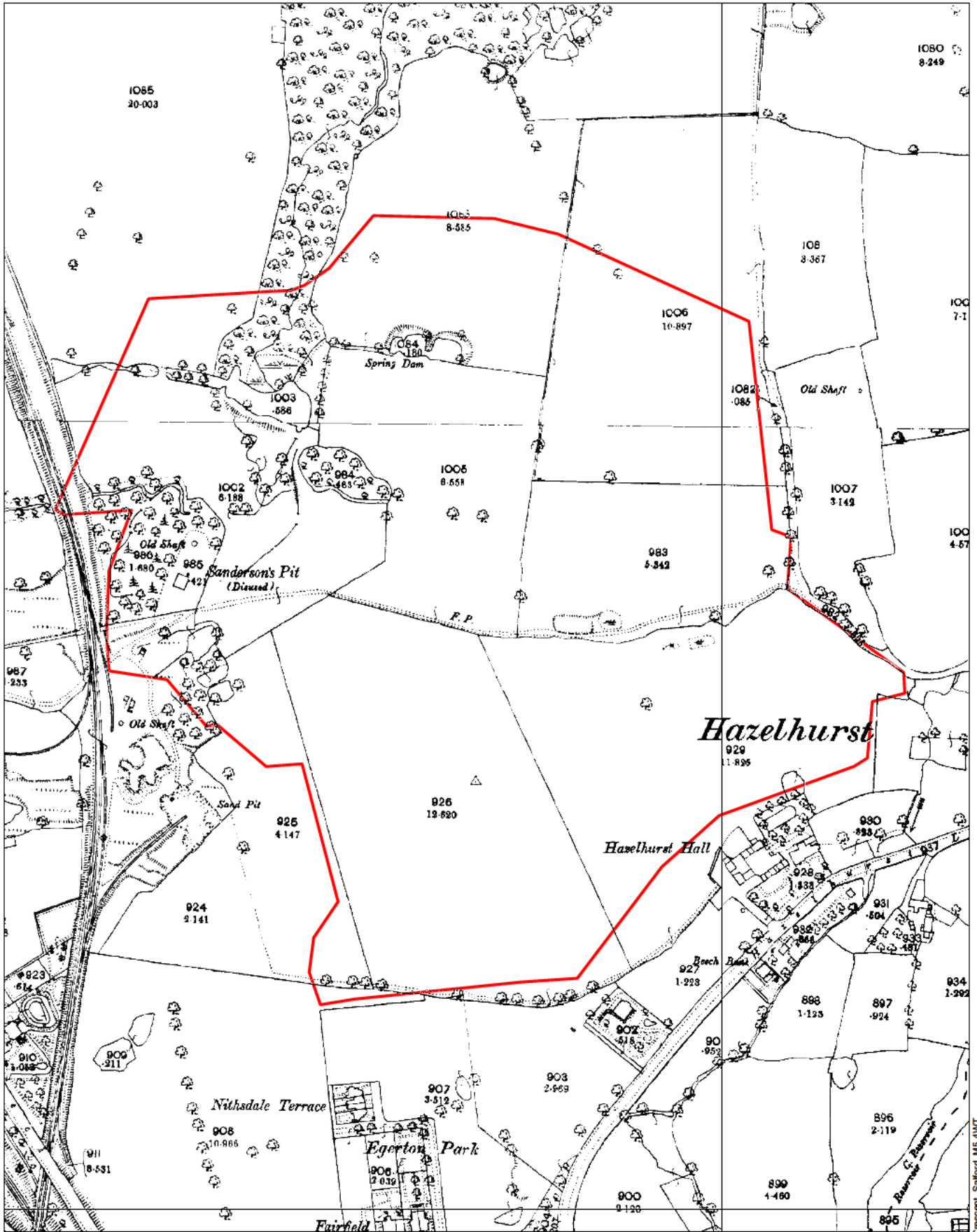
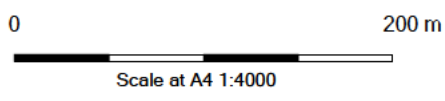


Figure 3: H3/15 Hazelhurst

Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1893

Key:  
 Site boundary



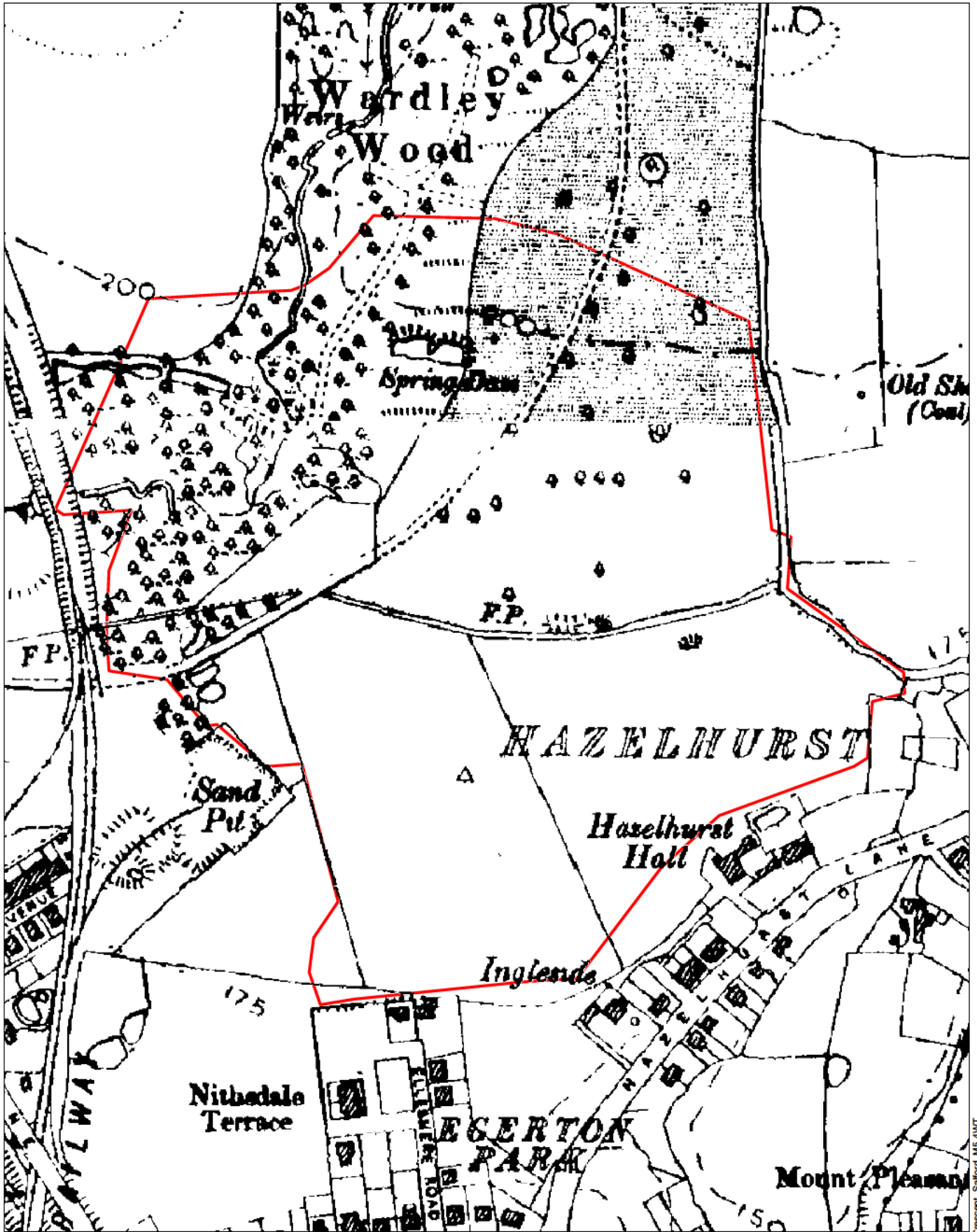


Figure 4: H3/15 Hazelhurst

Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1910

Key:  
 Site boundary



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0  200 m

Scale at A4 1:4000

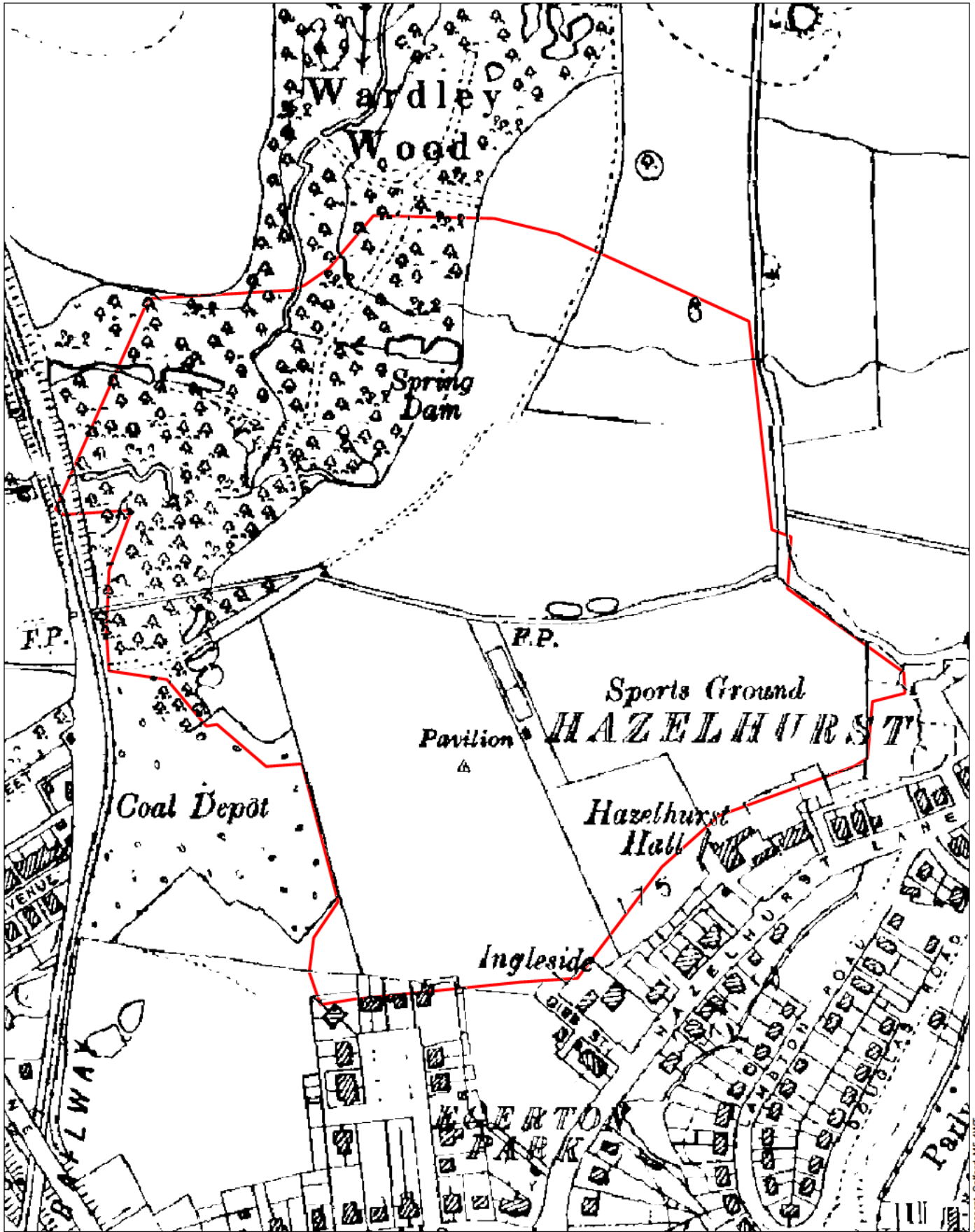


Figure 5: H3/15 Hazelhurst

Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1929

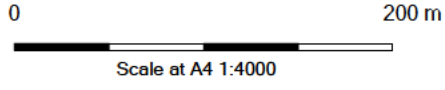


Key:  
 Site boundary



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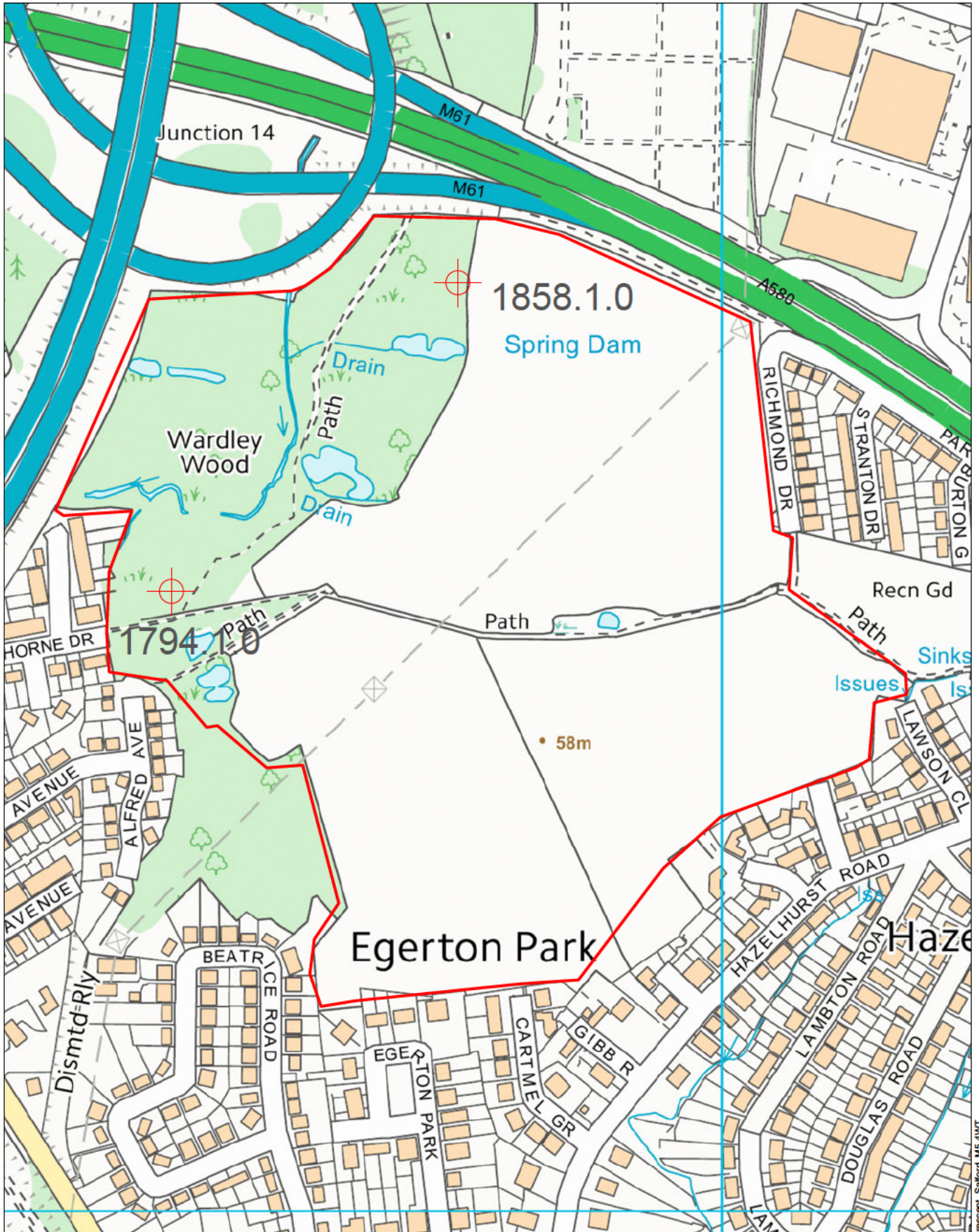


Figure 6: H3/15 Hazelhurst

Identified heritage assets within the Site boundary



Key:

□ Site boundary



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0 200 m



Scale at A4 1:4000



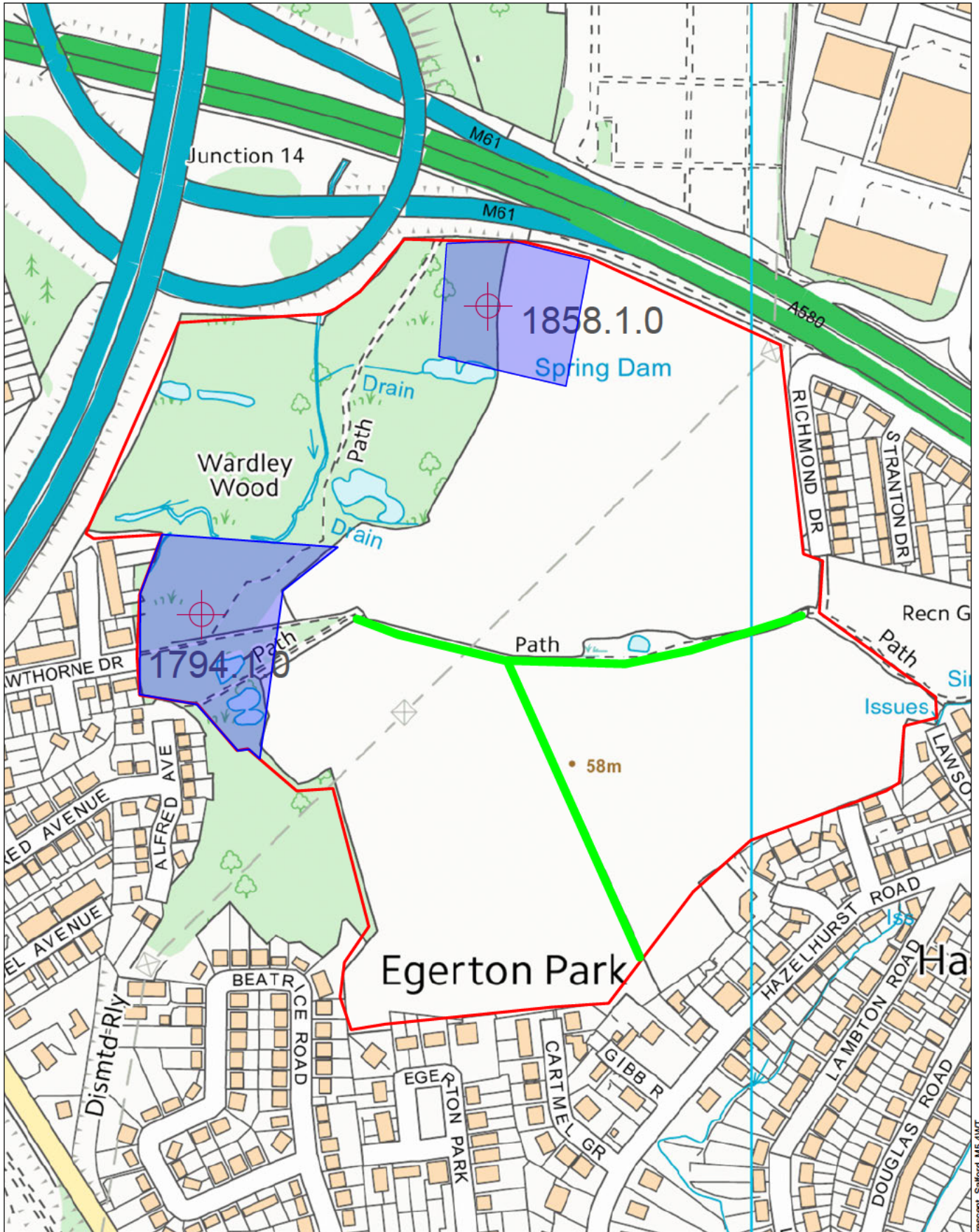


Figure 7: H3/15 Hazelhurst

Site boundary superimposed on modern mapping, showing areas of archaeological potential and the lines of surviving historic hedgerow lines

Key:

- Site boundary
- Area of archaeological potential
- Surviving historic hedgerows



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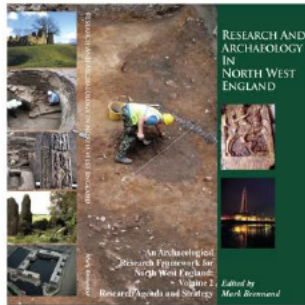
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Scale at A4 1:4000



**CONSULTANCY**



**DESK BASED ASSESMENTS**



**WATCHING BRIEF & EVALUATION**



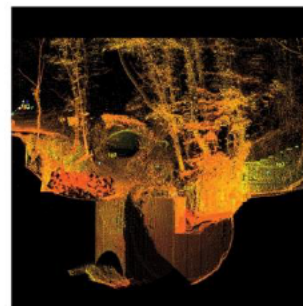
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**BUILDING SURVEY**



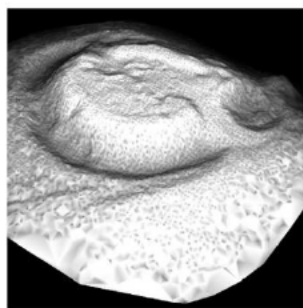
**3D LASER SCANNING**



**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**



**LANDSCAPE SURVEYS**



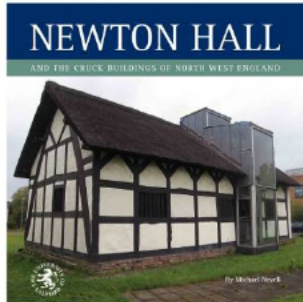
**GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS**



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