

ENGLISH HERITAGE

# Kent Historic Landscape Characterisation

**Final Report**

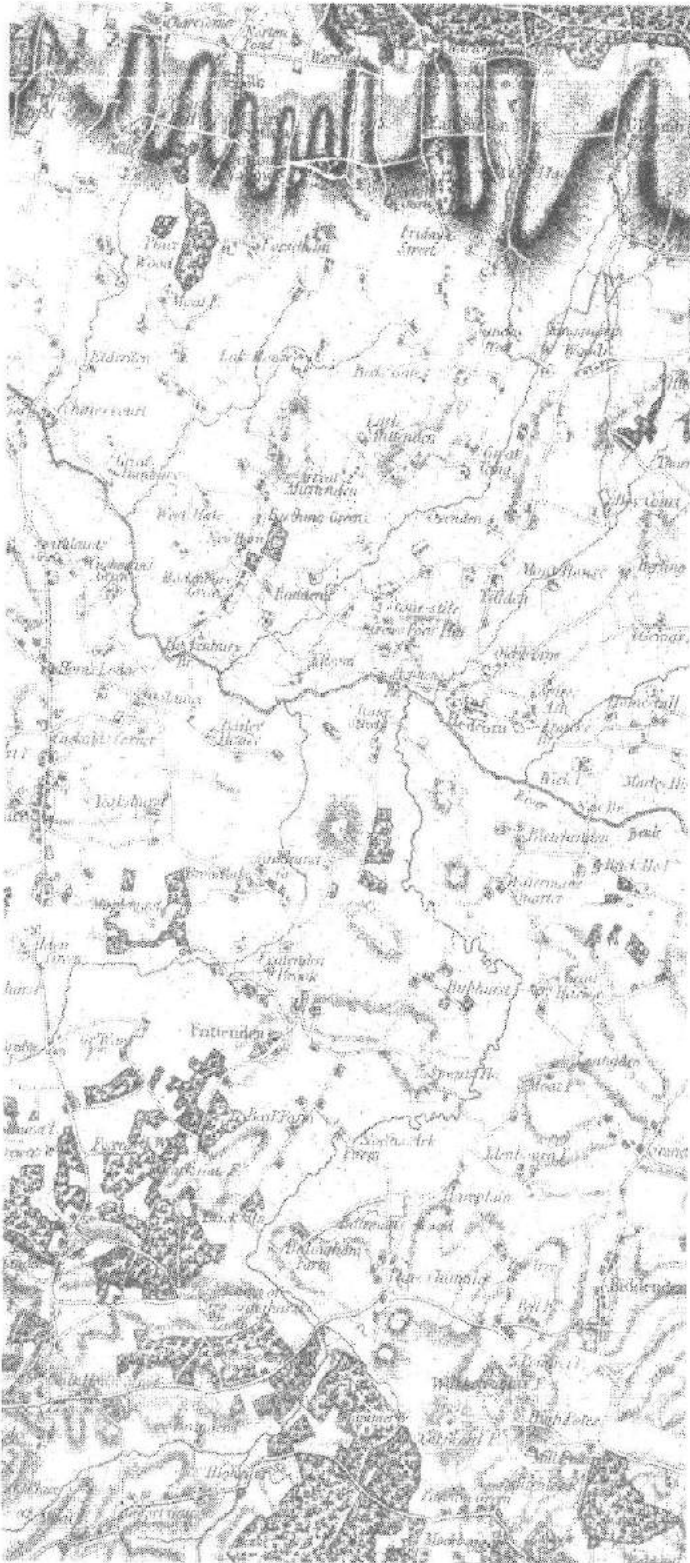
Volume 2: Historic Landscape  
Type Descriptions

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Matthew Ridley



May 2001





Kent  
Historic Landscape  
Characterisation

Final Report

Volume 2: Historic Landscape Type Descriptions

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May 2001

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## Volume 2 - Historic Landscape Type Descriptions

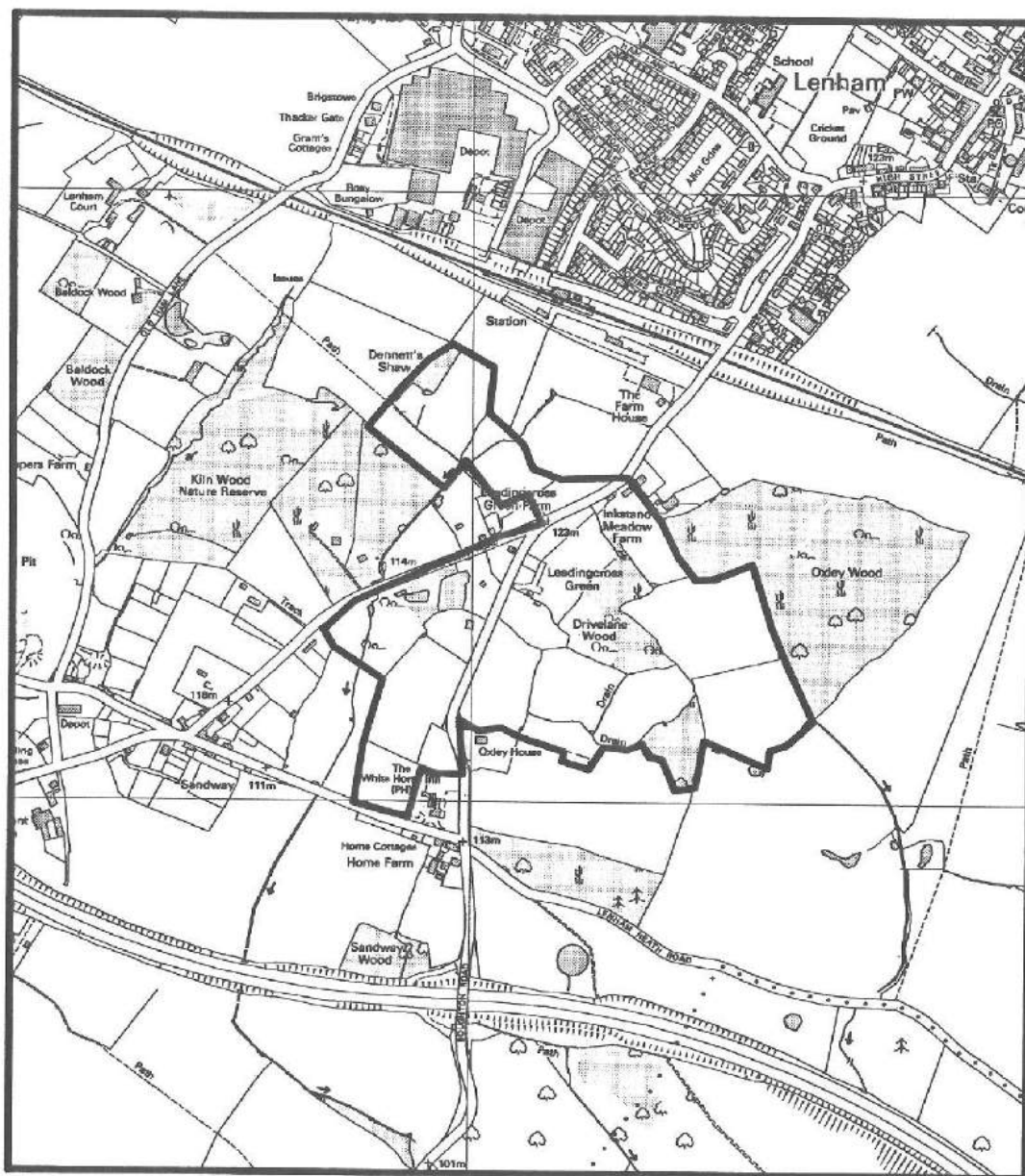
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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

1.1 Small Irregular Assarts Intermixed with Woodland



## 1.1 Small Irregular Assarts Intermixed with Woodland

### Description and Historical Rationale

Enclosures which were formed by the clearance of woodland and scrub to form agricultural land. Generally medieval to early post-medieval in age. Small assarts do not seem to occur in association with downland.

### Identifying Characteristics

Small, up to 2-3 hectares in size. Typically of irregular form with wavy boundaries (normally hedges). They generally form an irregular field pattern with no immediately discernible major common boundaries within the pattern. These assarts are normally interspersed with small woods and copses, many of which are too small to map individually.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

This type is generally restricted to wooded lowland areas, as well as the High Weald. The degree of irregularity and size of field pattern varies from one geographical area to another.

### Typical Associations with other Types

Small assarts by definition are associated with assarted broad-leaved woodland. They occur within areas of woodland as well as at woodland edges.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

Small assarts can be distinguished from medium sized assarts (HLT 1.2) by their size. They also tend to be more irregular in shape and have more wavy boundaries. They can be distinguished from HLT 1.4 by their irregular shape and lack of straight boundaries.

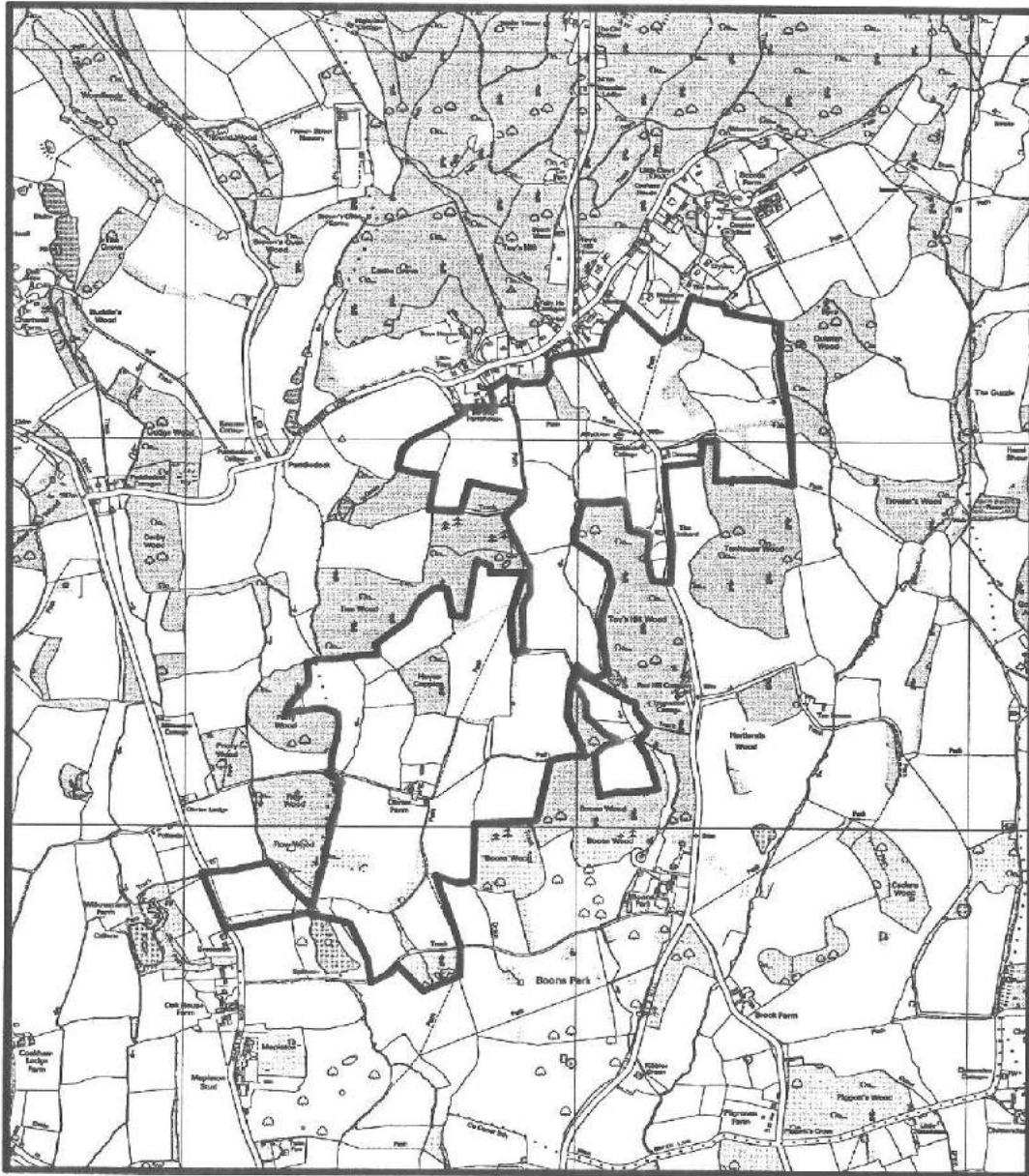
### Key Indicative Sources

OS 1:25,000  
OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"  
OS 1:10,000

Other sources which help to indicate areas where the type is likely to occur, include KCC 1:50,000 map of Ancient Woodland.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

**1.2 Medium Irregular Assarts and Copses with Wavy Boundaries**



## 1.2 Medium Irregular Assarts and Copses with Wavy Boundaries

### Description and Historical Rationale

Enclosures which were formed by the clearance of woodland and scrub to form agricultural land. Generally of medieval to early post-medieval in age. This type does not seem to occur in association with downland.

### Identifying Characteristics

Medium sized assarts can vary in size from about 3-12 hectares. The shape tends to be fairly irregular but they are often rather more rectangular than HLT 1.1. Boundaries are wavy and normally hedged. As with HLT 1.1 there are often no immediately discernible major common boundaries within the field pattern. As with HLT 1.1, these assarts are normally interspersed with small woods and copses, many of which are too small to map.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

Medium sized assarts are generally restricted to wooded lowland areas and the High Weald.

### Typical Associations with other Types

By definition this type is associated with assarted broad-leaved woodland. They occur at woodland edges as well as within larger clearings within woodlands. Often this type can be found away from woodland edges, with HLT 1.1 (small assarts) lying in between.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

This type can be distinguished from HLT 1.1 (small assarts) by their size and more regular shape. HLT 1.3 (large assarts) by definition are larger, and can be more regular in shape and may possess straighter less wavy boundaries. HLT 1.4 (assarts with straight boundaries) can be very similar but with straight rather than wavy boundaries suggesting that they are later in origin or have been modified. Types 1.15 (small regular fields with wavy boundaries) tend to be more regular and not interspersed with copses and woodland. In some areas HLT 1.15 could be explained by adjustment and rationalisation of assart types such as HLT 1.2, although it also occurs in geographical areas not normally associated with assarting.

### Key Indicative Sources

OS 1:25,000  
OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"  
OS 1:10,000

Other sources which help to indicate areas where the HLT is likely to occur, include KCC 1:50,000 map of Ancient Woodland.





## 1.3 Large Irregular Assarts with Wavy or Mixed Boundaries

### Description and Historical Rationale

As with HLTs 1.1 and 1.2, these enclosures were probably formed by the clearance of woodland and scrub to form agricultural land. Age may vary from medieval to late post-medieval. It is possible that in some areas this HLT could have originated through boundary loss of small and medium assarts to form larger enclosures.

### Identifying Characteristics

Generally 12+ hectares in size. Shape or form can vary from fairly irregular to rectangular in shape. Boundaries tend to be wavy, but one or more boundaries can be straight. Small woods and copses are often interspersed with large assarts.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

This HLT occurs mainly in wooded lowland areas.

### Typical Associations with other Types

This HLT typically occurs with other assart types such as HLTs 1.1 and 1.2, but also with open larger fields. It is also associated with all broad-leaved woodland types.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

Large assarts can be differentiated from HLTs 1.1 and 1.2 by their size and often by their more regular appearance. This HLT can seem very visually similar to 1.6 and 1.15 but can be distinguished by its greater irregularity of field shape and typical association with woodland.

### Key Indicative Sources

OS 1:25,000  
OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1”  
OS 1:10,000

Other sources which help to indicate areas where the HLT is likely to occur, include KCC 1:50,000 map of Ancient Woodland and by references to various source documents.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

**1.4 Regular Assarts with Straight Boundaries**



## 1.4 Regular Assarts with Straight Boundaries

### Description and Historical Rationale

Enclosures which were formed by the clearance of woodland and scrub to form agricultural land. Age generally tends to be of a later date than other assart types, or reflects their alteration. Typically either 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>-century clearance or enclosure of woodland, or rationalisation of pre-existing assarts. These two possible origins can give rise to a rather diverse range of forms, principally united by the straightness of boundaries or clear evidence of being late. It is the straightness of the boundaries that suggests the “regular” form.

### Identifying Characteristics

Variable in size from a few hectares up to 20+ hectares. Boundaries are predominantly straight with the frequent exception of woodland edges. Often inter-mixed with woodland. The shape of the field pattern tends not to be rectangular due to the nature of assarting, though in some cases they can be rectilinear and regular, especially where the straightness of boundaries is associated with late clearance rather than being merely the consequence of regularising existing assarts.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

This type of assart is found across the county, even on chalk uplands where the felling of post medieval plantations creates this type. Broadly size variation seems to reflect the size variation of other forms of assart.

The two key variations are those examples which are regularised versions of pre-existing assarts, which may be very similar in form to them, and those that reflect late clearance, which are often larger and more regular in field shape.

### Typical Associations with other Types

This type is associated with all woodlands types including 19<sup>th</sup>-century plantation. It is most typically found with other assart types (HLTs 1.1-1.3).

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

This type can be distinguished from other assart types by their regular straight boundaries and more rectilinear form. They can also be distinguished from rectilinear enclosures by their more irregular field shapes and association with woodland and by reference to enclosure records.

### Key Indicative Sources

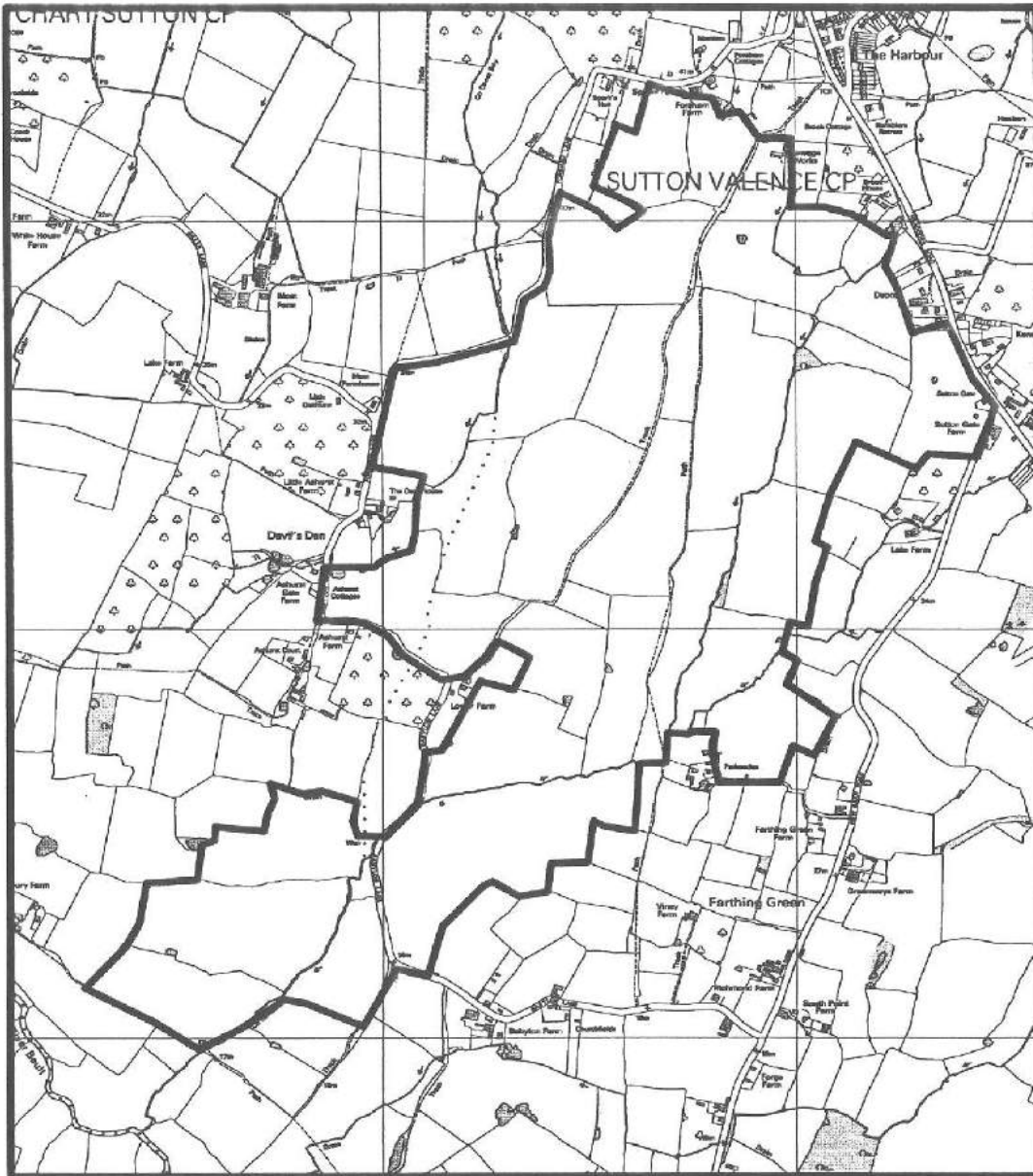
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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

1.6 Medium to Large Fields with Wavy Boundaries



## 1.6 Medium to Large Fields with Wavy Boundaries

### Description and Historical Rationale

This enclosure type is assumed to relate to the late medieval or 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>-century informal enclosure, predating the period when boundaries were carefully surveyed. There may be exceptions.

### Identifying Characteristics

Enclosures are typified by their regular shape (usually rectilinear) and wavy boundaries. Size is variable.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

This type can occur throughout the county, but is typical of relatively open areas on the chalk, coastal strip and open clay and river valleys.

### Typical Associations with other Types

Commonly occurs with medium to large regular type fields on the chalk; quite often associated with smaller version of this type, HLT 1.15.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

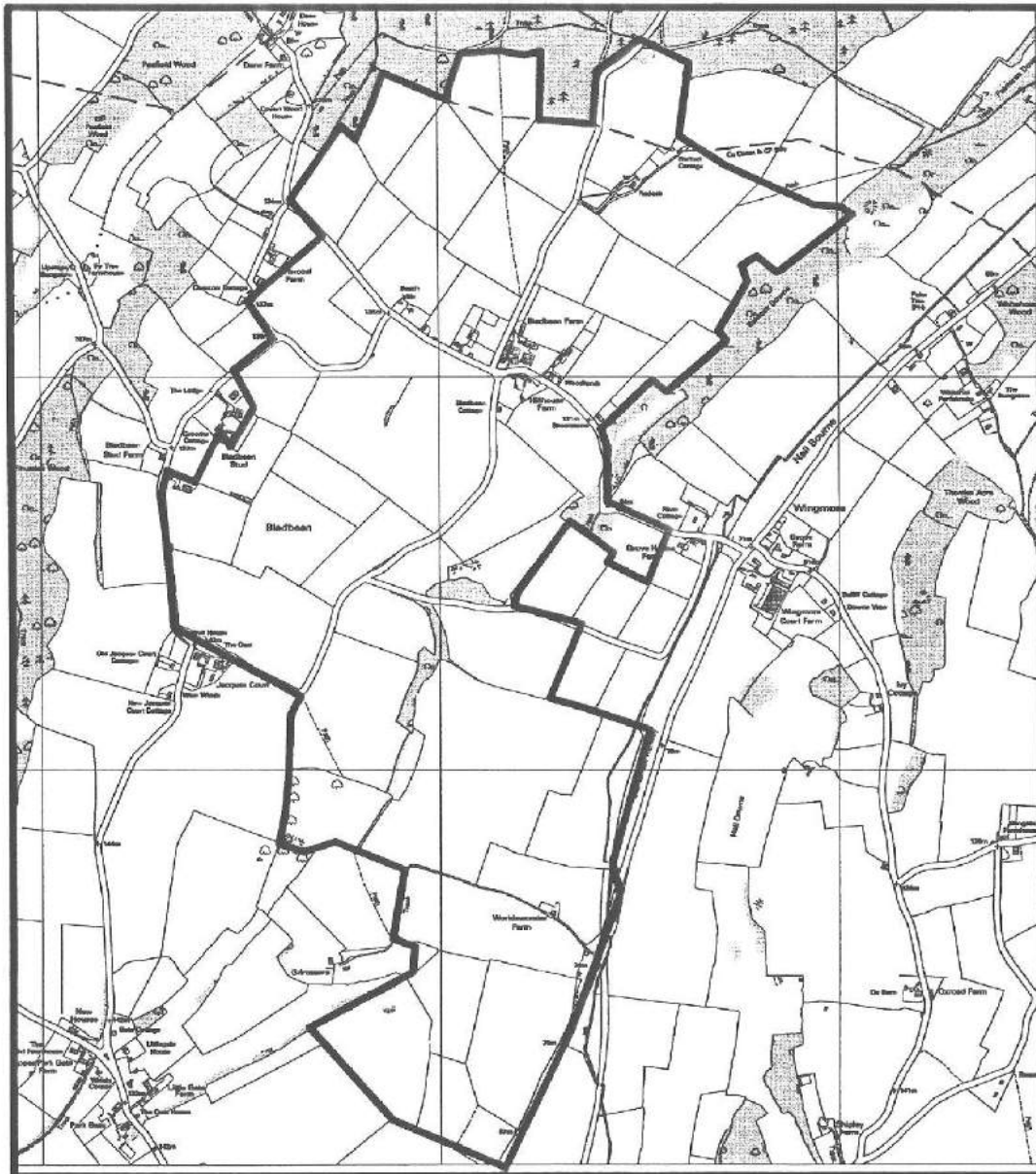
This type can be distinguished from HLT 1.3 (large assarts) which are visually similar in plan view, by general lack of association with woodland and by greater regularity of field shape.

### Key Indicative Sources

OS 1:25,000  
OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1".  
Os 1:10,000

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

**1.7 Irregular Fields with Straight Boundaries**



## 1.7 Irregular Fields with Straight Boundaries

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Small to medium fields of irregular interlocking shapes. Their origin has not been conclusively established, but they are thought most likely to be the result of boundary straightening of irregular fields with wavy boundaries, such as HLT 1.6 and 1.15.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Variable in shape with straight and/or wavy boundaries but collectively irregular in composition. Variable but generally small to medium in size.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Can be found throughout the county.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Tends to be associated with irregular type fields in the surrounding area.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Might be confused with HLTs 1.3 or 1.4, distinguished by lack of scattered woods and a more regular shape with straight boundaries. Also potentially confused with rectilinear enclosures, especially HLTs 1.9 and 1.10, from which they are distinguished by irregular patterning.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000.

OS 1:10,000



HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

1.8 Regular "Ladder" Fields



## 1.8 Regular “Ladder” Fields

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

The fields of this type are formed by cross boundaries linking long wavy parallel boundaries which are often trackways or footpaths, thus making “ladders” of long sinuous “uprights” joined by straight “rungs”. The linking boundaries, perpendicular to the long sinuous sides are generally straight and regular in nature. The small expanses of identified “Ladder” type field systems are found on the chalk uplands of the county, linking lower ground to higher downs. They probably result from informal enclosure of the downland, in post-medieval times.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Long wavy parallel boundaries, often running for several kilometres across chalk uplands, sub-divided by regular straight boundaries.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Found on chalk uplands.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Generally associated with medium to large regular types (HLTs 1.10, 1.11 and 1.15).

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Can be distinguished from other enclosures types, such as the rectilinear ones, by their long wavy parallel boundaries and straight cross rungs. Examples with wavy cross boundaries are rare and have been mapped as HLT 1.6.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

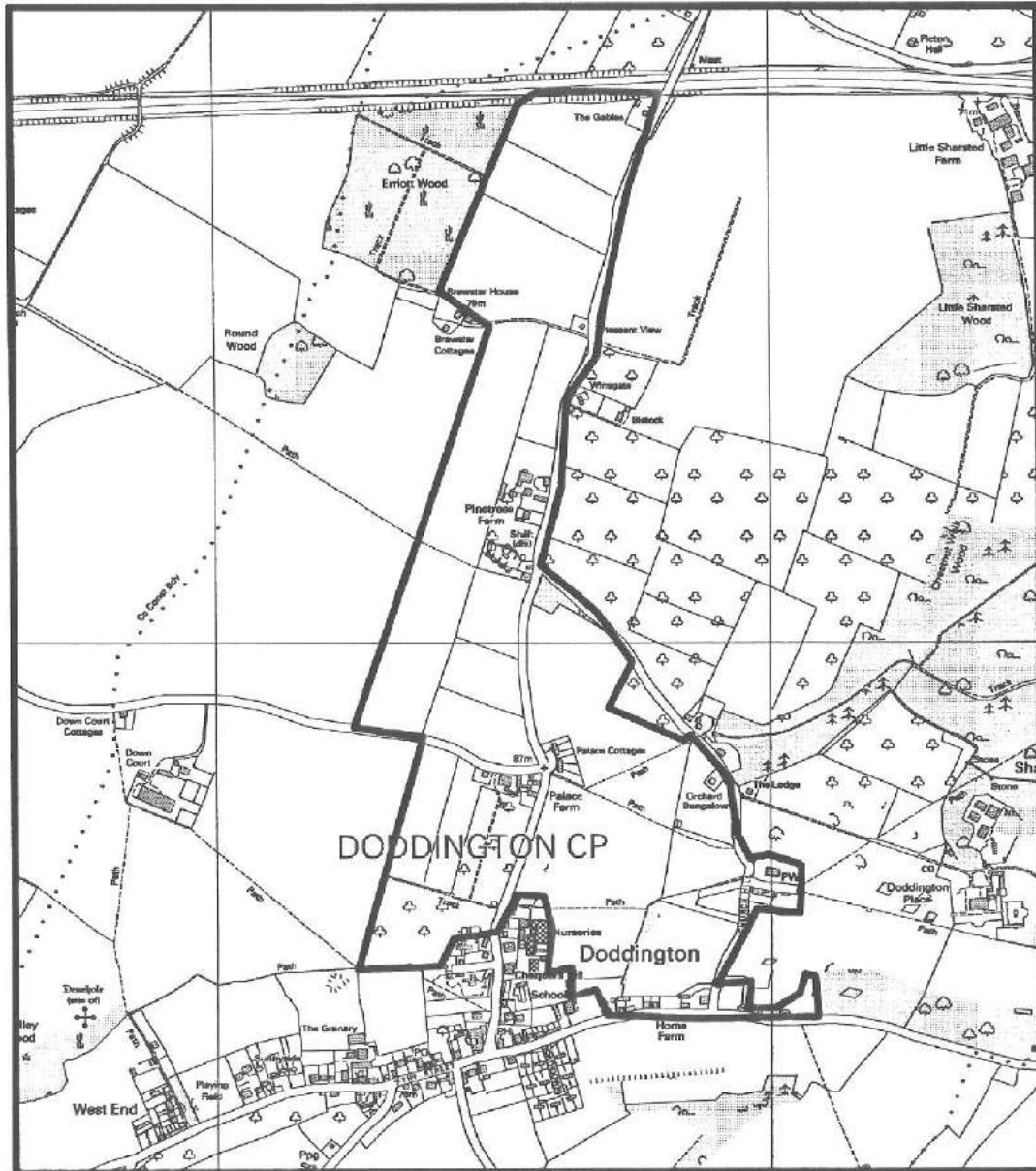
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OS 1:10,000 maps.

OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1”

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

1.9 Small Regular Fields with Straight Boundaries



## 1.9 Small Regular Fields with Straight Boundaries

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

These enclosures were typically formed by 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-century enclosure. Some enclosures of this type may have resulted from straightening of wavy bounded fields.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Small regular enclosures that are typically rectangular with straight surveyed boundaries.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

These enclosures are to be found in lowland and coastal areas generally dominated by small fields.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

This type is typically associated with other regular type enclosures, such as HLTs 1.10 and 1.11.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

This type of enclosure can be distinguished from other types by their regular form and straight surveyed boundaries and small size.

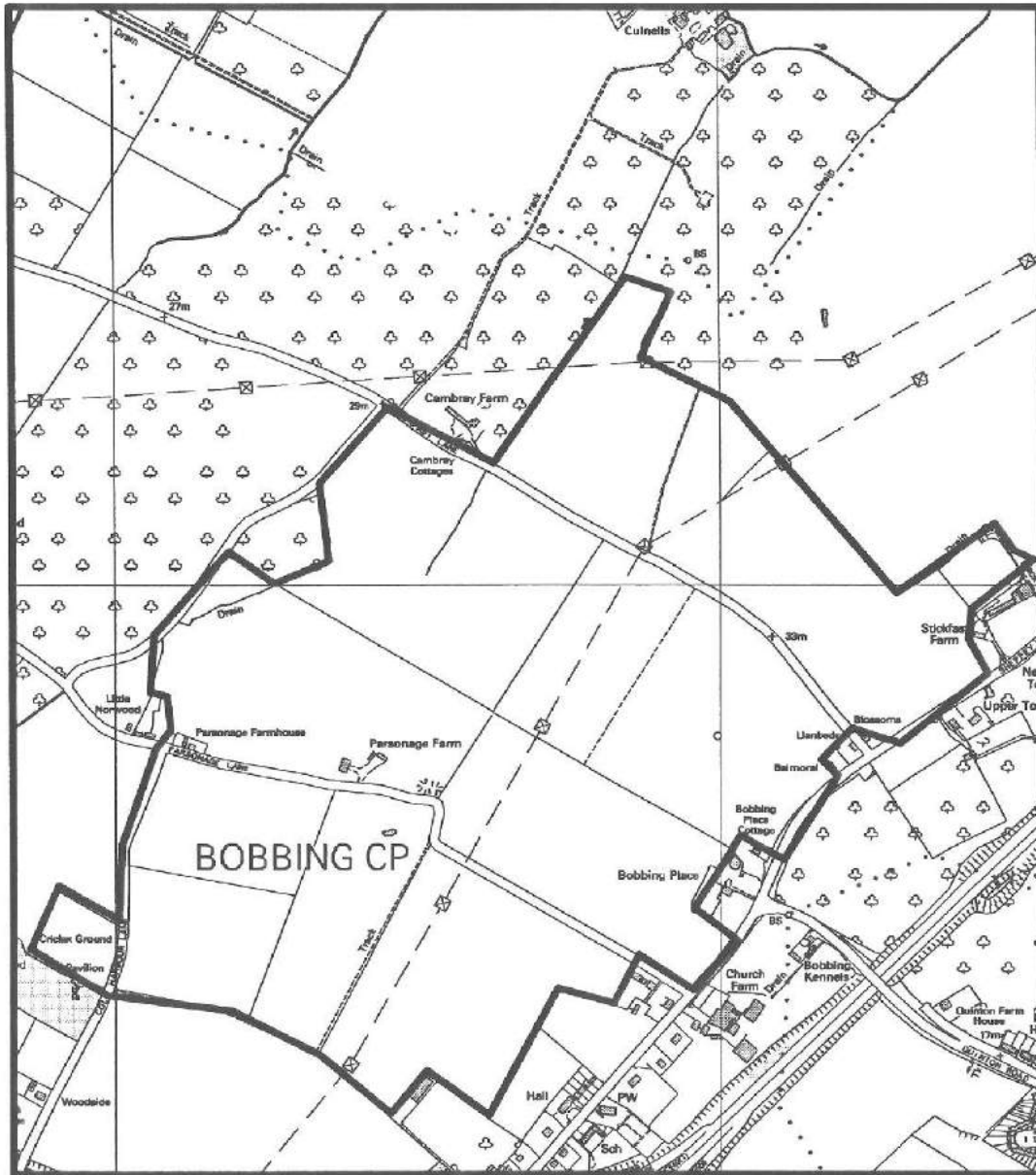
### **Key Indicative Sources**

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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

1.10 Medium Regular Fields with Straight Boundaries



## 1.10 Medium Regular Fields with Straight Boundaries

### Description and Historical Rationale

This type of field was typically created by 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-century enclosure of downland and low lying areas. This type can also include enclosures whose boundaries have been straightened.

### Identifying Characteristics

These enclosures are generally rectangular with straight surveyed boundaries and can form a regular grid like field pattern.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

Located throughout the county.

### Typical Associations with other Types

This type is usually associated with other regular field types.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

These enclosures can be distinguished from other enclosure types by their general size and regularity.

### Key Indicative Sources

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000



## 1.11 Large Regular Fields with Straight Boundaries

### Description and Historical Rationale

This type of enclosure was typically created in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>-centuries. This type can also include later enclosure, as the appearance is often identical.

### Identifying Characteristics

These enclosures are generally rectangular with straight surveyed boundaries and can form a regular grid like field pattern.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

Generally located on the chalk.

### Typical Associations with other Types

This type is usually associated with other regular field types.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

These enclosures can be distinguished from other enclosure types by their general size and regularity.

### Key Indicative Sources

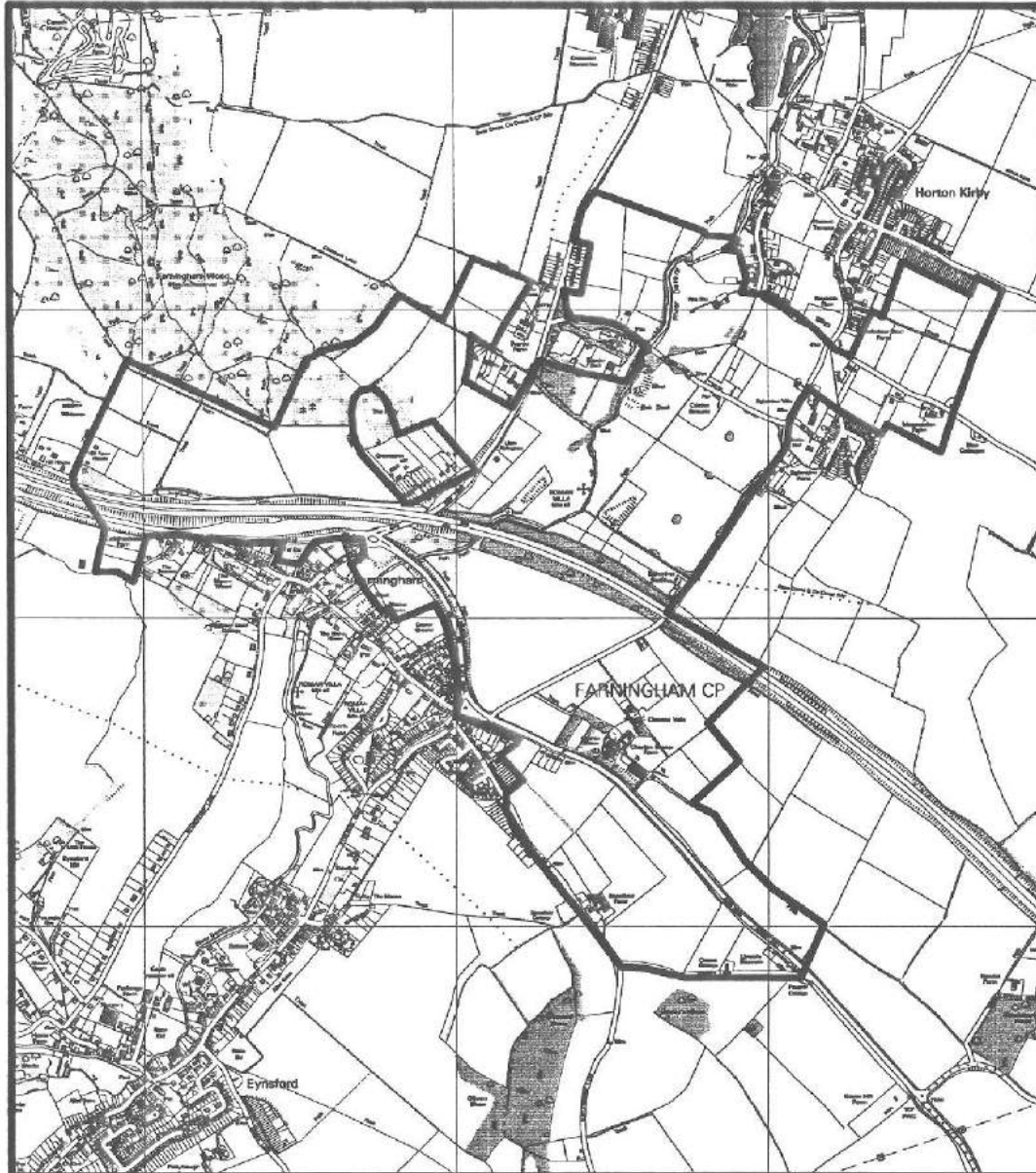
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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

**1.12 Graded Regular Fields with Straight Boundaries**



## **1.12 Graded Regular Fields with Straight Boundaries**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

This type of enclosure was typically created in the late-18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>-centuries. This type can also include later enclosure in areas such as downland.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

This type is typically regular and rectangular in shape with straight boundaries. The enclosures generally form a pattern around a settlement (i.e. downland village) with smaller enclosures nearest the settlement with size increasing away and normally upslope from the settlement.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Predominant locations are mainly the uplands of the county.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typical associations is generally with other regular type enclosures (HLTs 1.9, 1.10, 1.11).

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Variable size enclosures can be distinguished from other regular types by the pattern it forms around settlements with enclosures increasing in size away and upslope from these settlements.

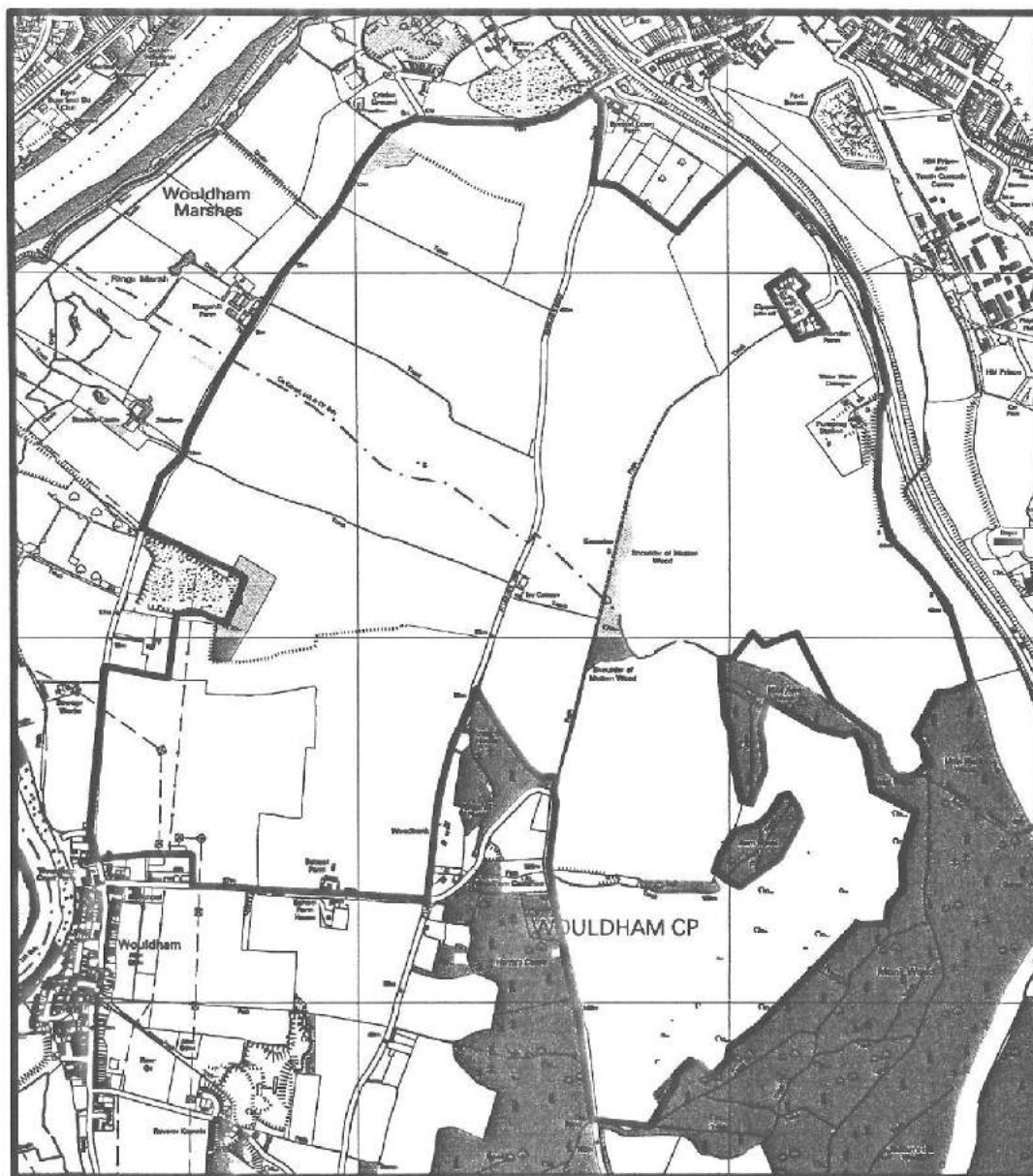
### **Key Indicative Sources**

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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

1.13 "Prairie" Fields



## **1.13 “Prairie” Fields**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

These enclosures have generally been created by 20<sup>th</sup>-century boundary loss of 19<sup>th</sup>-century or earlier enclosures.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

These enclosures are very large with edge lengths often well over 1000m.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

This type is found across the northern half of the county with isolated areas in the southern areas.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typical associations are generally confined to regular field types (HLTs 1.9, 1.10, 1.11).

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

“Prairie” field enclosures can be distinguished from other types by their size and regularity.

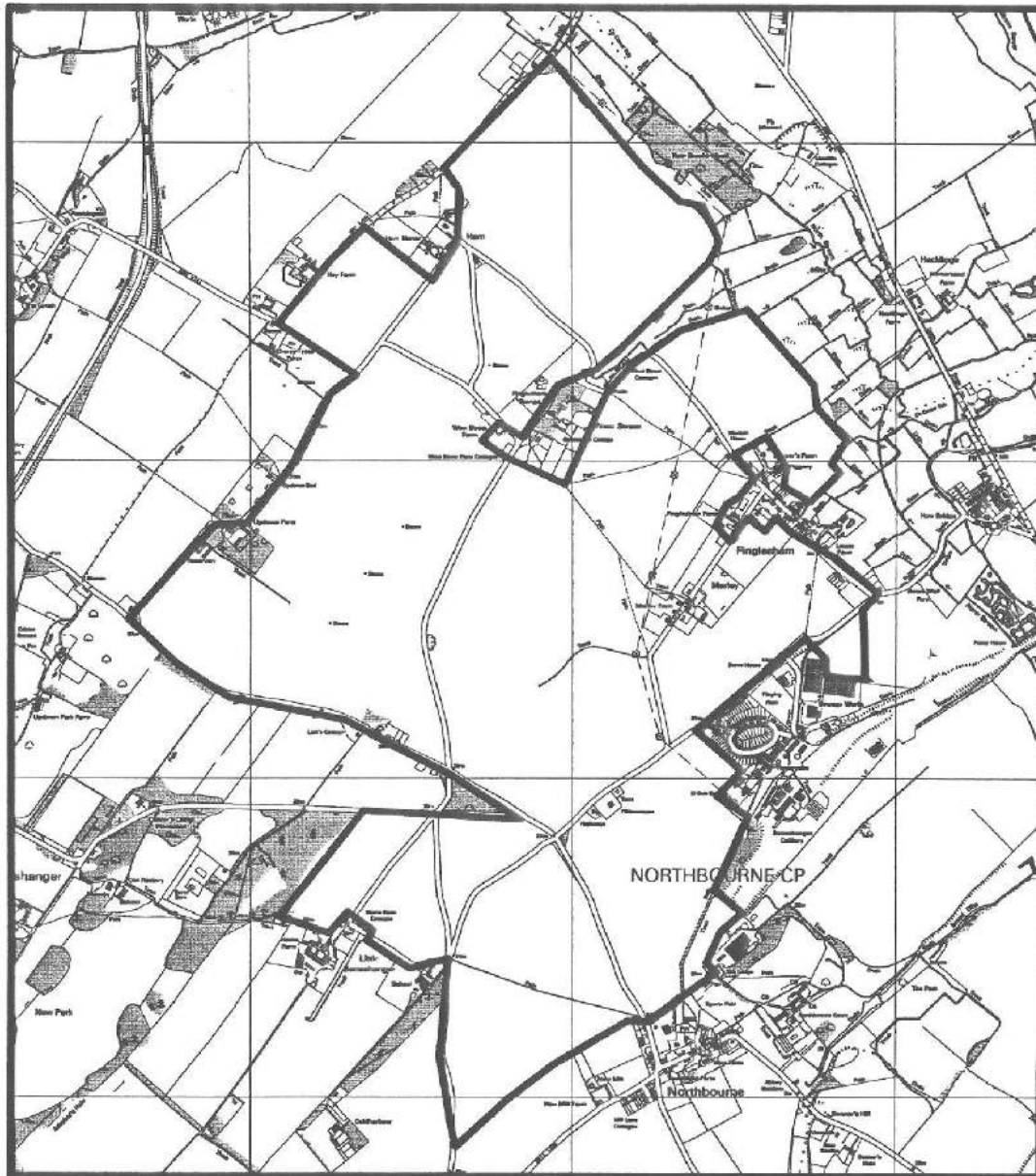
### **Key Indicative Sources**

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OS 1:10,000

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

**1.14 Irregular Fields Bounded by Roads, Tracks and Paths**



## 1.14 Irregular Fields Bounded by Roads, Tracks and Paths

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

This type generally occurs on chalk uplands - especially the dip slopes and has resulted from post-medieval informal enclosures. The roads and tracks are possibly old drove roads to and from the downlands. Other examples include extensive areas of 20<sup>th</sup>-century market gardening. This does weaken the historic rationale for this HLT. (see Chapter 6, Volume 1)

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Typically large enclosures bounded by wavy roads, tracks and other public rights of way.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Generally occur in the north of the county, with strong outcrops on the Hoo Peninsula and in the Dartford Hinterlands.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Mainly occurs with medium to large regular type fields (HLTs 1.10, 1.11).

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

HLT 1.14 is similar to HLT 1.6 but can be distinguished by roads, tracks and paths forming the majority of the boundaries.

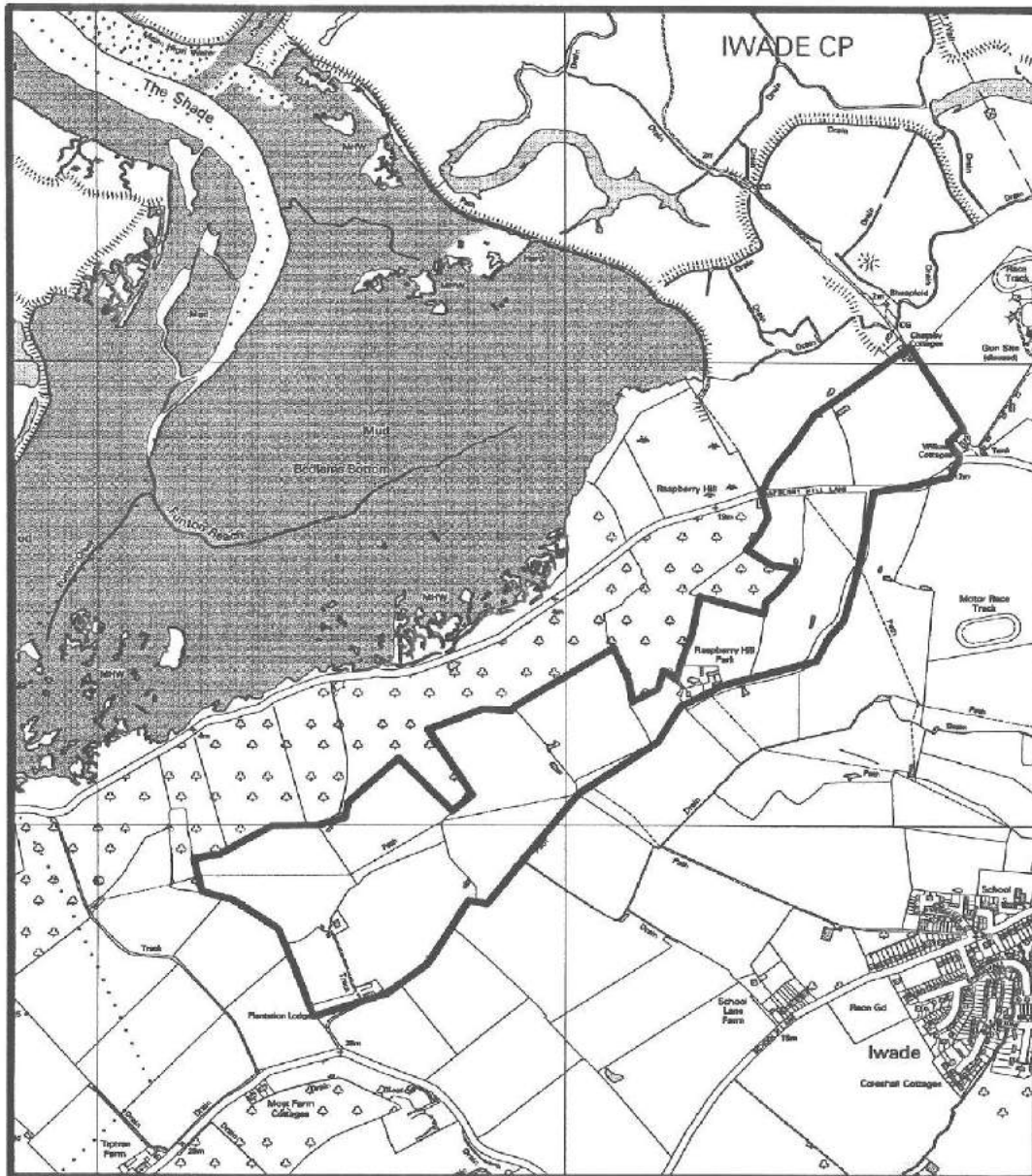
### **Key Indicative Sources**

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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

1.15 Small Fields with Wavy Boundaries



## 1.15 Small Fields with Wavy Boundaries

### Description and Historical Rationale

These enclosures probably date to the late medieval or 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>-centuries and reflect a process of informal enclosure.

### Identifying Characteristics

Enclosures are typified by their fairly regular shape and wavy boundaries. They are a smaller version of HLT 1.6, fields being up to c.8.0 ha.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

This type can occur throughout the county but can result from rationalisation and adjustment of small and medium sized assarts, HLTs 1.1 and 1.2 respectively.

### Typical Associations with other Types

Generally associated with pre-1801 small settlements (HLT 9.7) and pre-1810 scattered settlements (HLT 9.1).

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

Fields of HLT 1.15 can be distinguished from small to medium assarts (HLT 1.1 & 1.2) by their more regular shape, and from HLT 1.9 by their wavy boundaries. They are distinguished from HLT 1.6 by being smaller.

### Key Indicative Sources

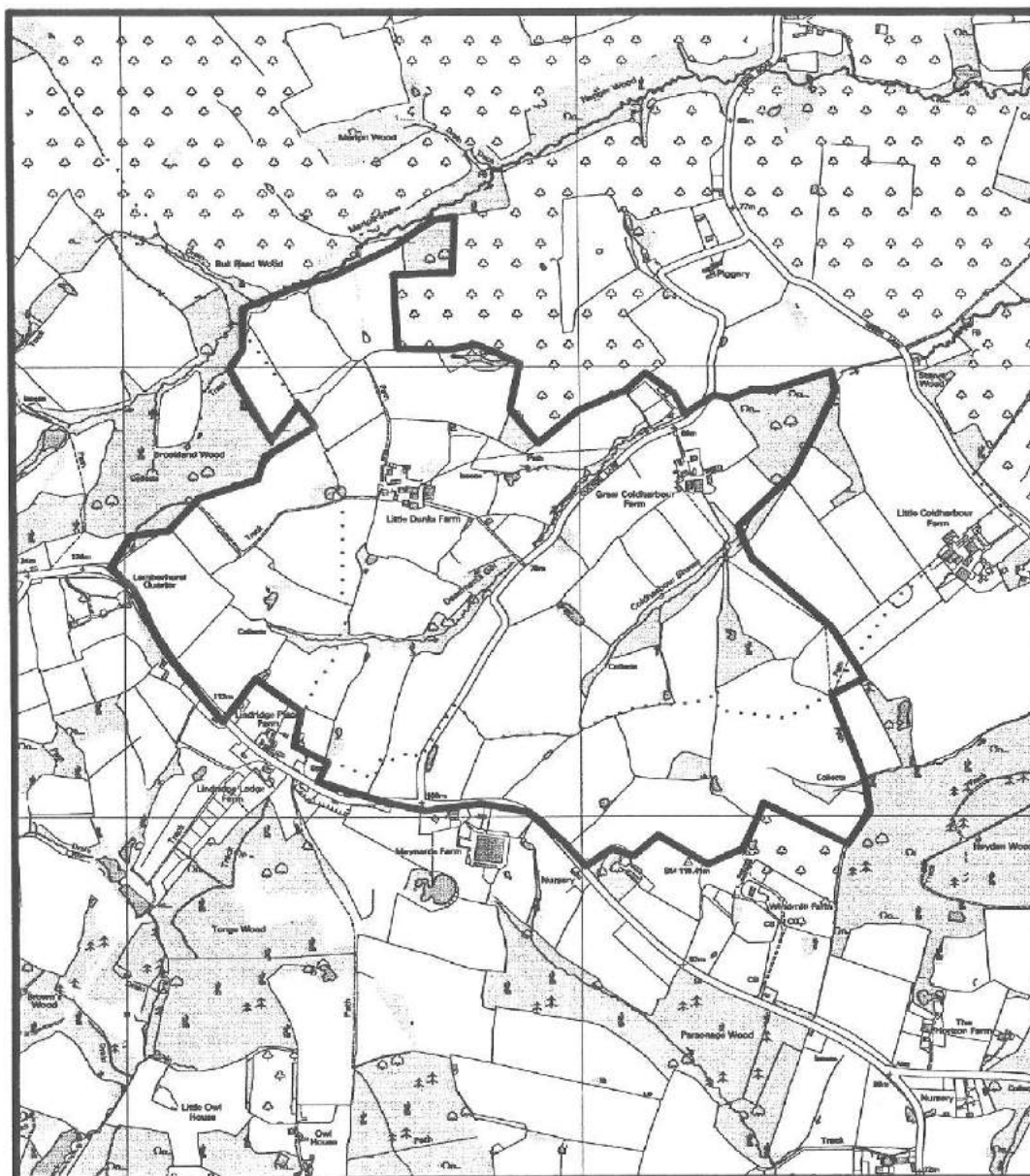
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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

1.16 Small Wavy Bounded Fields with Ponds



## 1.16 Small Wavy Bounded Fields with Ponds

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

This type of enclosure is of uncertain age but is probably early post-medieval in origin. The ponds most likely occurred through the result of 'marling' pits being dug. The marl being used for soil improvement.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Enclosures can be fairly irregular in shape with boundaries being wavy and hedged. They can be identified on OS maps by the presence of ponds.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

This type is predominantly confined to the Weald and is situated upon clay soils.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Generally associated with the larger version HLT 1.17 and various river valley types such as HLT 7.1.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

This type can be distinguished from HLT 1.17 by it's smaller size, from HLT 1.15 and HLT 1.6 by the presence of ponds and from the various assart types by the general lack of woods and copses.

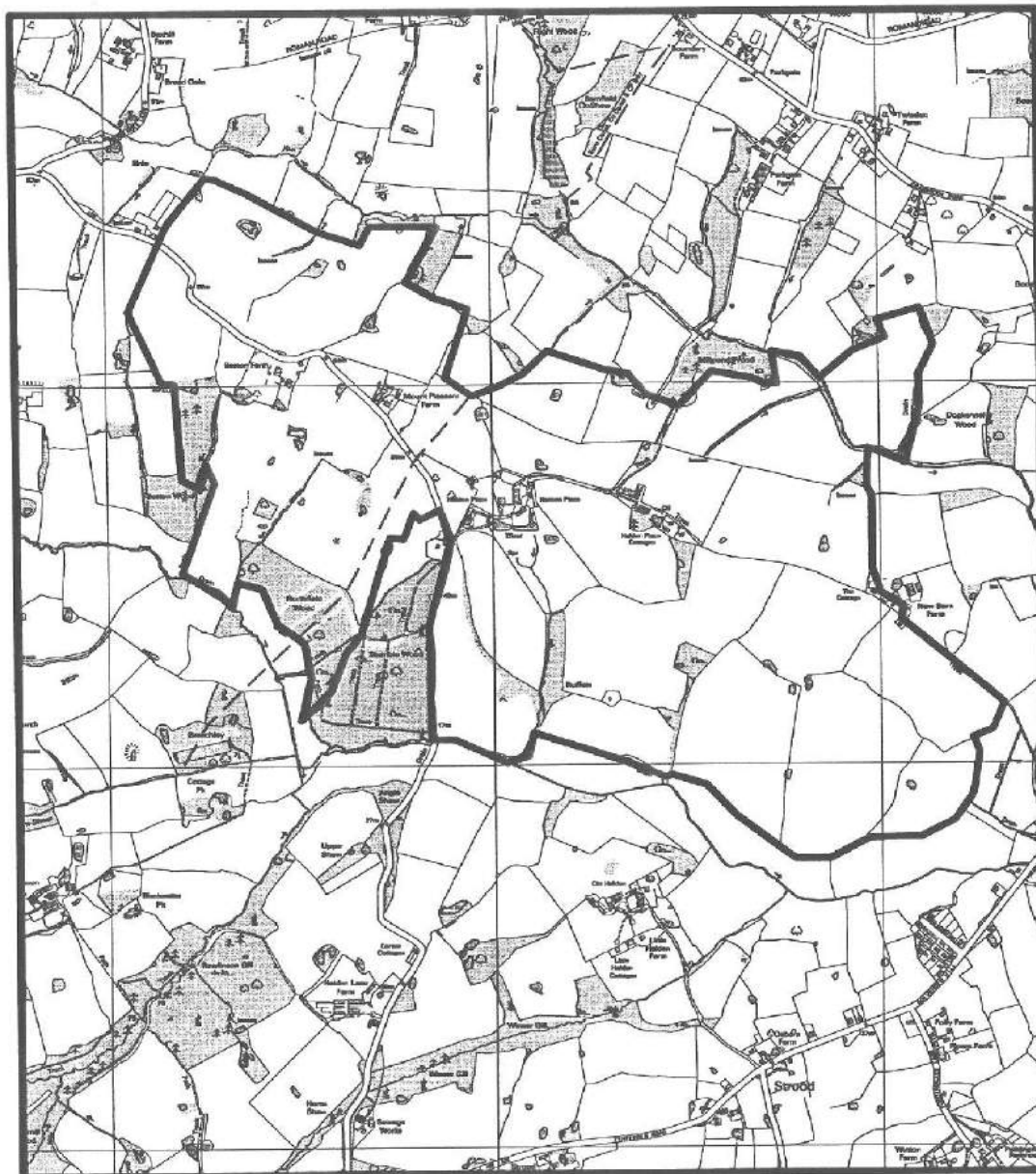
### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

**1.17 Large Wavy Bounded Fields with Ponds**



## 1.17 Large Wavy Bounded Fields with Ponds

### Description and Historical Rational

This type of enclosure has probably resulted from the loss of boundaries of HLT 1.16, thereby making them larger. Evidence to support this is that fields often contain more than one pond which tends to be located in the middle of the field. The ponds are the result of 'marling' for soil improvement. A practice that has its roots in at least the medieval period and possibly prior to that.

### Identifying Characteristics

Enclosures can be fairly irregular in shape and can be identified from OS maps by the presence of ponds.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

This type is predominantly confined to the Weald areas and is situated upon the clay soils.

### Typical Associations with other Types

Generally associated with smaller version HLT 1.16 and various river valley types such as HLT 7.1.

### Similar types and Distinguishing Criteria

This type can be distinguished from HLT 1.16 by its larger size and from HLTs 1.6 and 1.15 by the presence of ponds.

### Key Indicative Sources

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OS 1:10,000

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

**2.1 Common Heathland**



## **2.1 Common Heathland**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Unenclosed land subject to commoners' rights. Often unimproved grazing land.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Commons are often criss-crossed by many paths and other public rights of way. Also names such as heath and moor are associated with heathland commons.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Heathland commons are predominantly found on sandy soils.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typical associations include other heathlands and settlements, especially common edge settlements.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Heathland commons can be distinguished from other heathlands by reference to indicative sources.

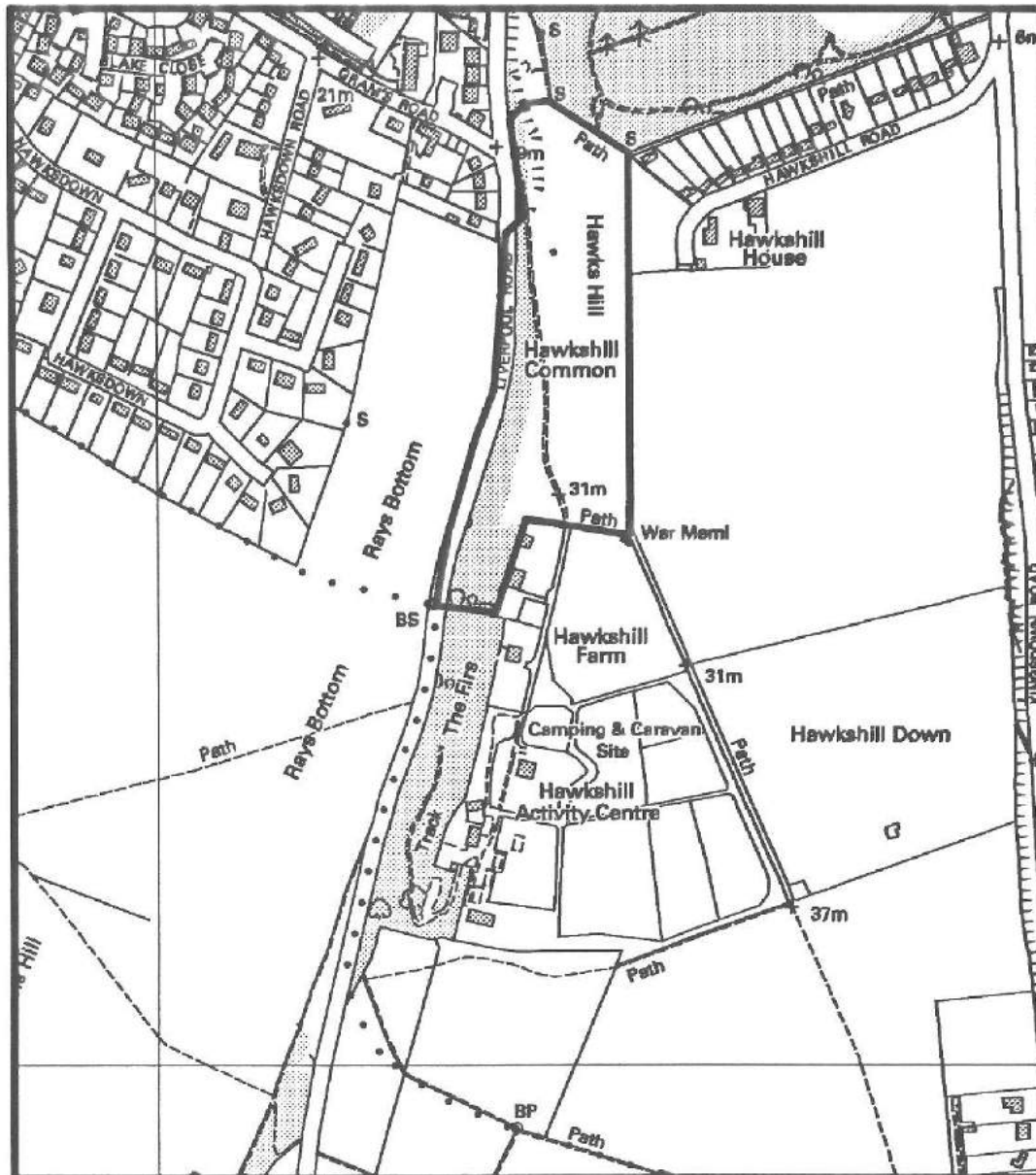
### **Key Indicative Sources**

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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

2.2 Downland Commons



## **2.2 Downland Commons**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Unenclosed land subject to common rights. Typically unimproved grazing land.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Often crossed by many paths. Often named as commons on OS maps.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Downland commons are generally confined to the chalk areas of the county.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Due to their geographical location, downland commons are associated with various types of downland enclosure.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

These commons can be distinguished from other downland category types by reference to source documents.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

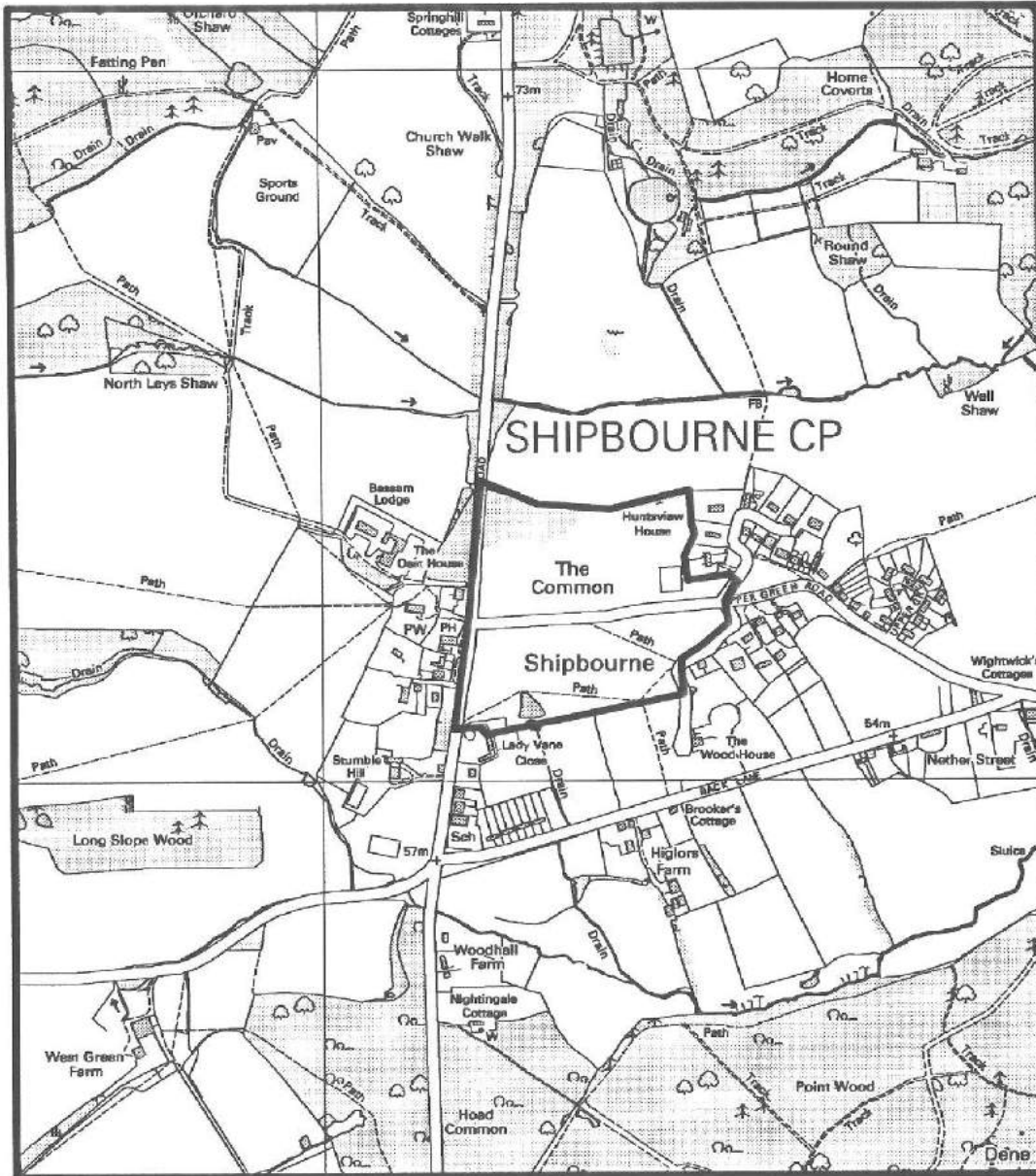
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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

2.3 Other Commons and Greens



## **2.3 Other Commons and Greens**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Unenclosed land subject to common rights. Includes marsh commons and village greens. Generally medieval in date.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Often named as commons on OS maps. Often criss-crossed by paths and other public rights of way. Greens are situated within settlement areas and are named on OS 1:25,000.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Greens are found primarily within settlement categories. Marsh commons found largely in association with lower river valley and estuarine categories.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Distinguished from heathland commons (HLT 2.1) and downland commons (HLT 2.2) by location outside heathland / downland areas and by association with settlements.

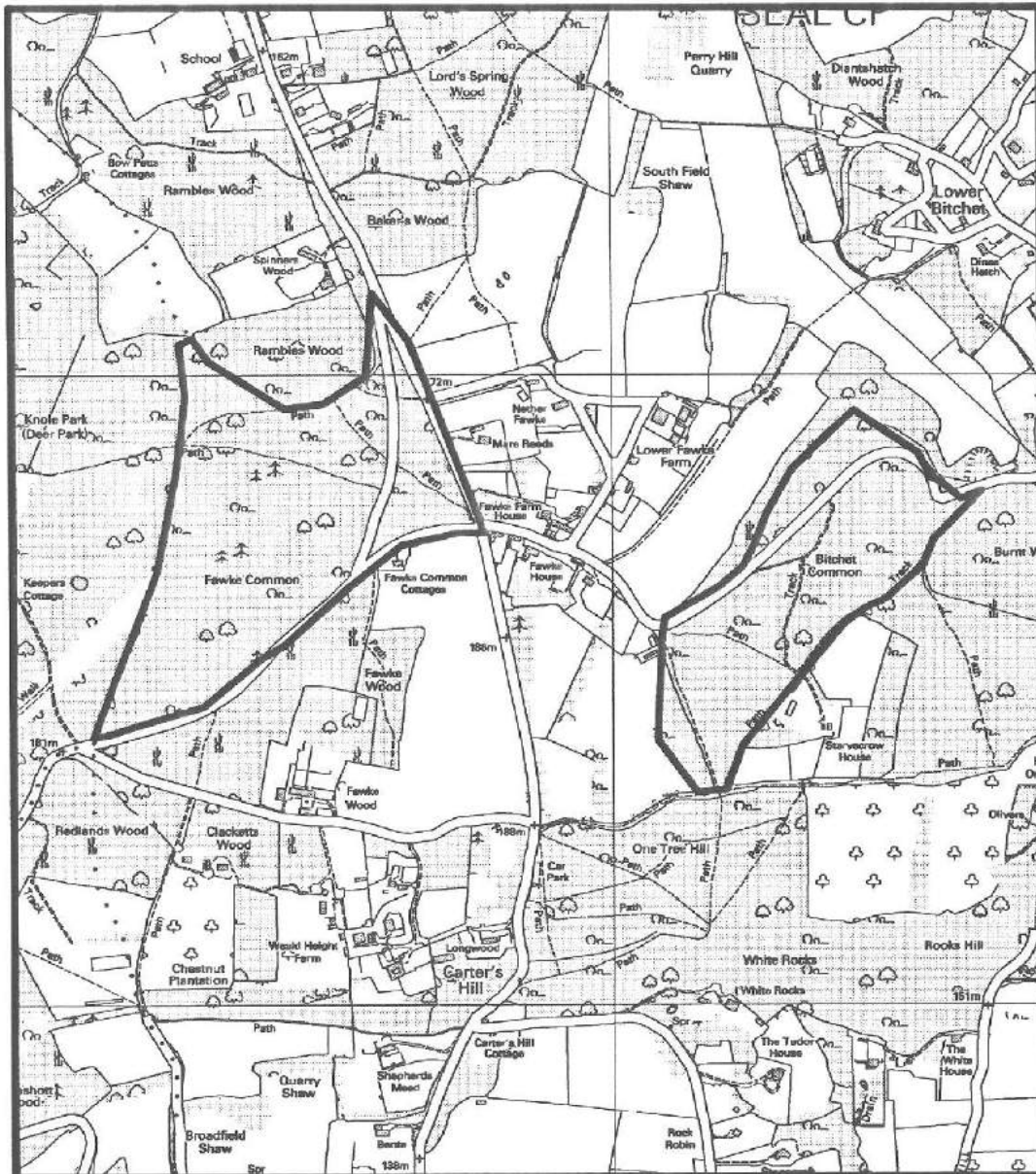
### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25000

OS 1:10,000

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

2.4 Wooded Over Commons



## **2.4 Wooded Over Commons**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Common land which, in a few cases was always wooded, or more usually has become wooded over in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-centuries.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Commons which are denoted as woodland and scrub on OS maps.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

This type seems to occur predominantly in woodland areas in the west of the county.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typically associated with other woodland types.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Can be distinguished from other woodland types by their names and comparison with earlier maps, such as the first edition 1 inch series OS maps.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

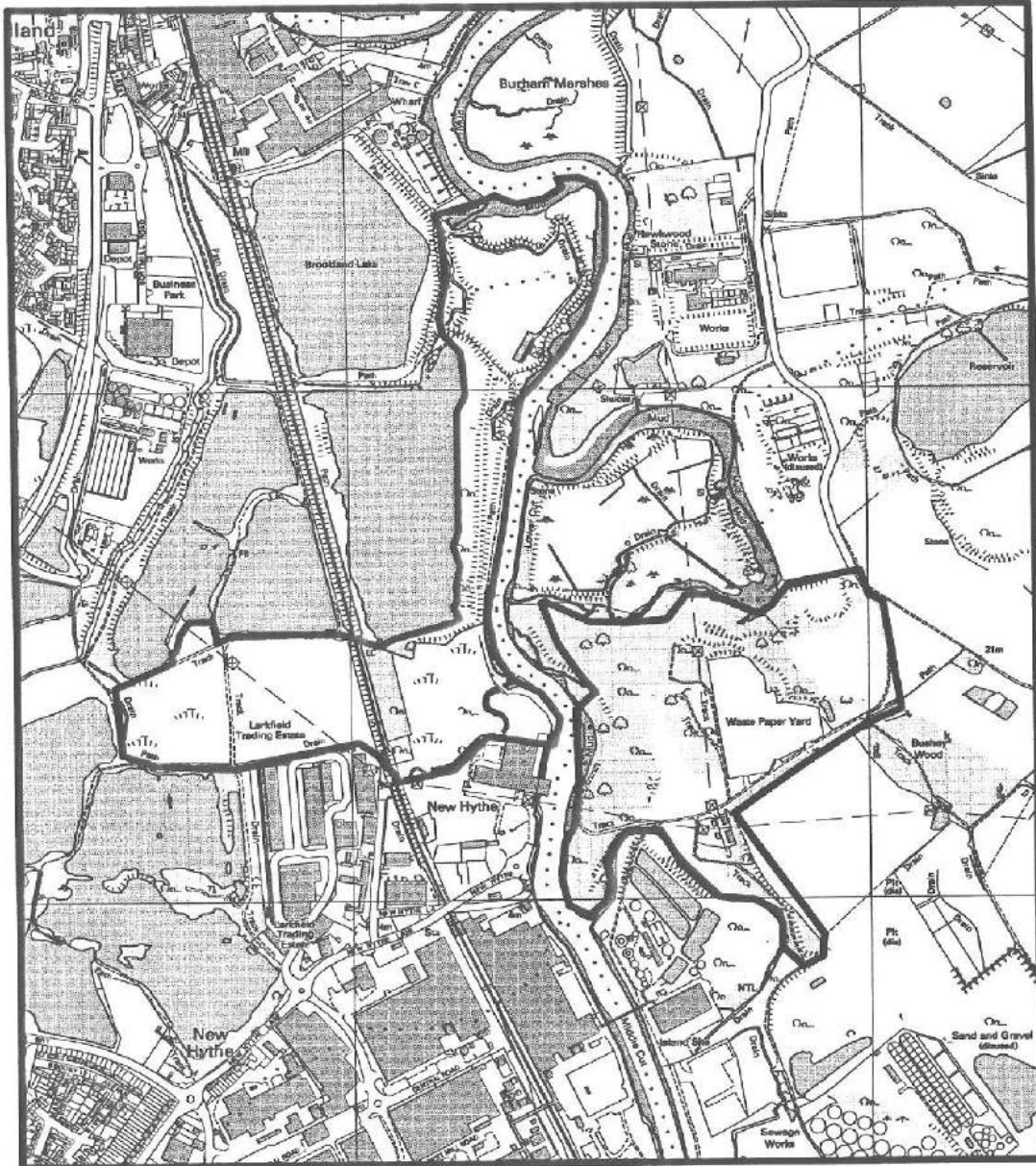
OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

2.5 Rough Ground



## **2.5 Rough Ground**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Land, such as landslips, which does not easily fall into any other HLT.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

This type can be identified with reference to annotations on OS maps, such as the rough ground symbol on 1:25000 and 1:10000 maps and in the case of landslips, by the hachure symbol and the presence of very close contours on 1:25000 maps.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Rough ground and landslips are predominantly located around the coast such as the north coast of the Isle of Sheppey.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

No apparent associations

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

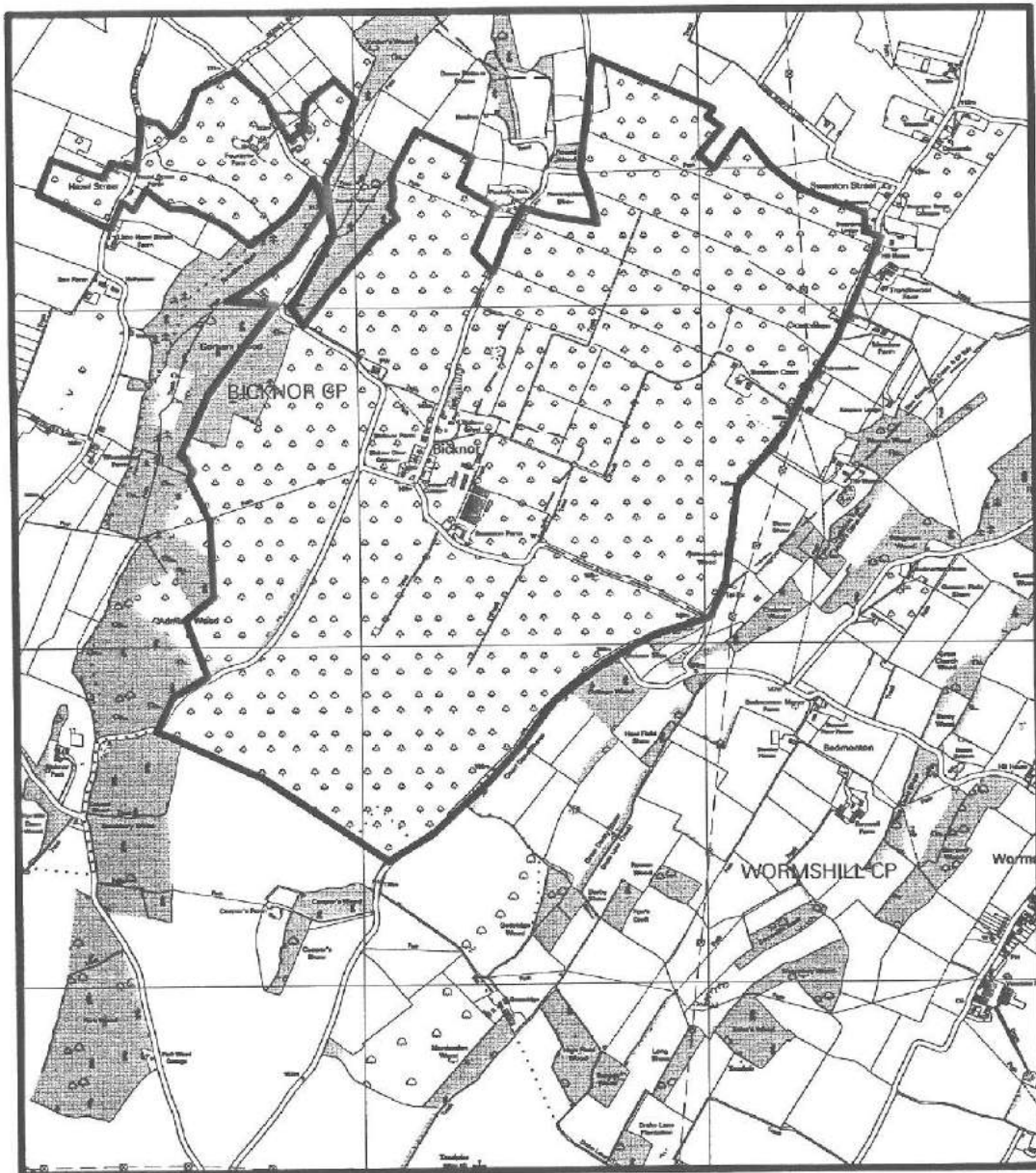
### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25000

OS 1:10000

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

3.1 Orchards



## 3.1 Orchards

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Areas of commercially grown fruit trees.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Orchards can be identified by uniformity of tree size and spacing.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

This type tends to occur mainly on the north coastal plain, the High Weald and to the East and South of Maidstone.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typically associated with other horticulture types such as HLT 3.3 (nurseries).

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Can be distinguished from woodland types such as 19<sup>th</sup>-century plantation by tree species, and by the orchard symbol on OS 1:10,000 and 1:25,000 maps.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000



HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

3.3 Nurseries with Glasshouses



### **3.3 Nurseries with Glasshouses**

#### **Description and Historical Rationale**

This type is invariably of 20<sup>th</sup>-century origin and is involved with the cultivation of salad vegetables and soft fruit.

#### **Identifying Characteristics**

This type can be recognised on OS maps by the presence of glass house annotations and by name.

#### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Located predominantly on the coastal plain, the Low Weald and in the east of the county around Sandwich.

#### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typically associated with various settlement types.

#### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

#### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

3.5 Vineyards



## 3.5 Vineyards

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Fields given over to the cultivation of vines, generally 20<sup>th</sup> century in origin.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Identified with reference to KCC map of Plantation, Broadleaved Woodland.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Typically situated on south facing slopes throughout the county.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

No apparent associations.

### **Similar types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Can be distinguished from other types by reference to source documents.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

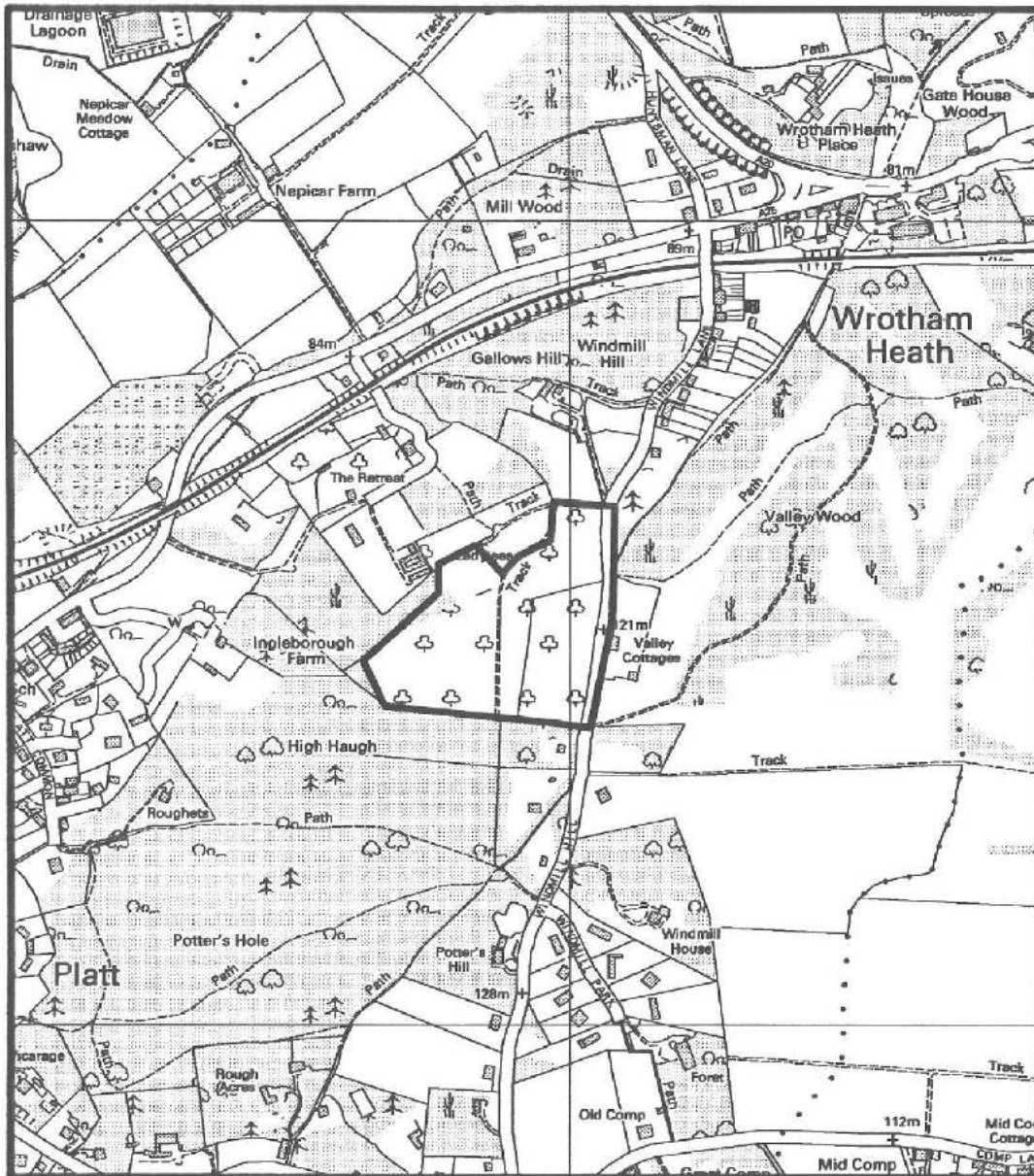
OS 1:25,000

OS1:10,000

KCC map of Plantation, Broadleaved Woodland

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

3.6 Platt



### **3.6 Platt**

#### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Cob nut plantations.

#### **Identifying Characteristics**

Identified with reference to KCC map of Plantation, Broadleaved Woodland.

#### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Generally located in the Weald.

#### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typically associated with woodland types.

#### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Can be distinguished from wood land types with reference to KCC map of Plantation, Broadleaved Woodland.

#### **Key Indicative Sources**

KCC map of Plantation, Broadleaved Woodland.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

4.1 Assorted Pre-1801 Woodland



## **4.1 Assarted Pre-1801 Woodland**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Woods which have been in existence since before 1801 which have not been subsequently replanted, and have been subject to assarting where part or parts of the wood have been removed to create open land or enclosed fields. The assarting may have taken place at any time from recent times (less than 100years) to the early medieval period. The surrounding field patterns may no longer reflect this process where they has been replaced by more regular types.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Generally irregular in shape with mixed boundaries, variable in size and consisting primarily of broad-leaved species. Characterised by parts of the wood being 'bitten' out resulting in an indented boundary to the wood because of the encroachment of the surrounding fields. Having adjacent assart field patterns is a very useful identifying characteristic, but not essential.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Found throughout the county but may vary in form according to location.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typically found with assart field systems.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Replanted assarted pre-1801 woodland (HLT 4.2) distinguished using KCC 'Inventory of Ancient Woodland' and by degree of conifer annotations on OS 1:25,000. Other pre-1801 woodland (HLT 4.3) distinguished by presence or absence of the indented assarted boundary form and presence/degree of surrounding assart field systems.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

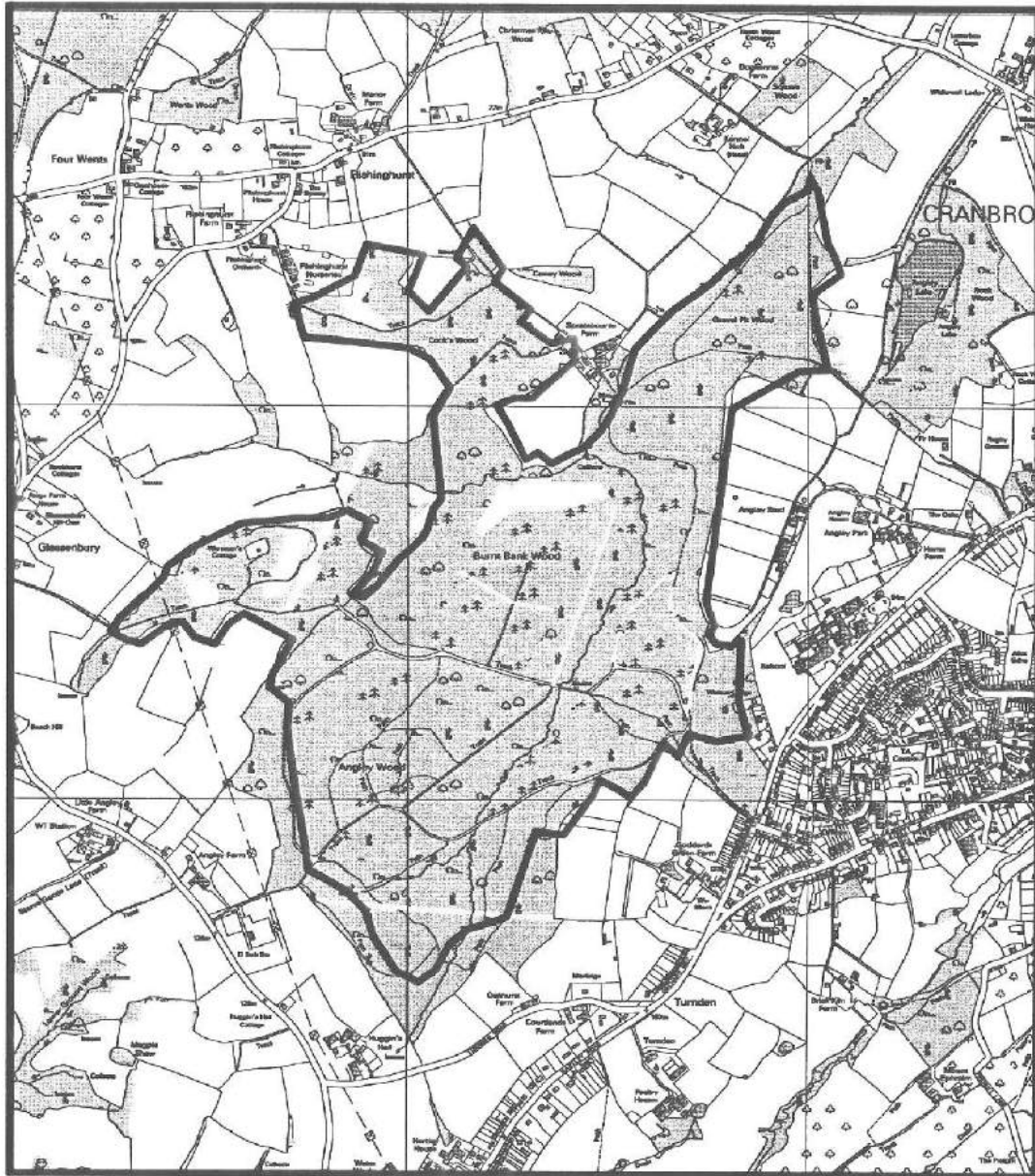
OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"

KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.



HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

4.2 Replanted Assarted Pre-1801 Woodland



## 4.2 Replanted Assarted Pre-1801 Woodland

### Description and Historical Rationale

Woodland which has existed since before 1801, but has since been replanted and which also shows evidence of assarting.

### Identifying Characteristics

Variable in size, irregular in shape with generally wavy boundaries. Irregular shape formed by characteristic assarted areas resembling 'bites' into which the surrounding field system has encroached. Generally include, but do not wholly consist of replanted conifer species. Replanting denoted by KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland and by OS 1:2500 Conifer Annotations. Pre-1801 origin determined by OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" Map and by KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

### Typical Associations with other Types

Typically related to assart field systems and other woodland categories.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

Distinguished from assarted pre-1801 woodland (HLT 4.1) by evidence of replanting, otherwise distinguishing criteria as for assarted woodland (HLT 4.1). Key indicators are presence on an OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Map and on KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland and by presence/extent of conifer annotations on OS 1:25,000.

### Key Indicative Sources

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"

KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

4.3 Other Pre-1801 Woodland



### 4.3 Other Pre-1801 Woodland

#### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Woodland which has been in existence since before 1801 and has not been subject to replanting, and is not obviously assarted. Such areas suggest a long history of woodland cover, probably of relatively stable extent, and generally would be ancient woodlands

#### **Identifying Characteristics**

Variable in size, generally rather irregular in shape and predominantly composed of broad-leaved species. Present on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" Map. Further substantiated by their presence on KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland. Often associated with particular names.

#### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

#### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Does not appear to relate to any other particular landscape types or features, except that it occurs in similar locations to other woodland types.

#### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Assarted pre-1801 Woodland (HLT 4.1) is distinguished by absence of assarted boundary shape and absence/extent of surrounding assart field systems. 19<sup>th</sup>-Century plantation (HLT 4.5) is distinguished by presence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" Map and on KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

#### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

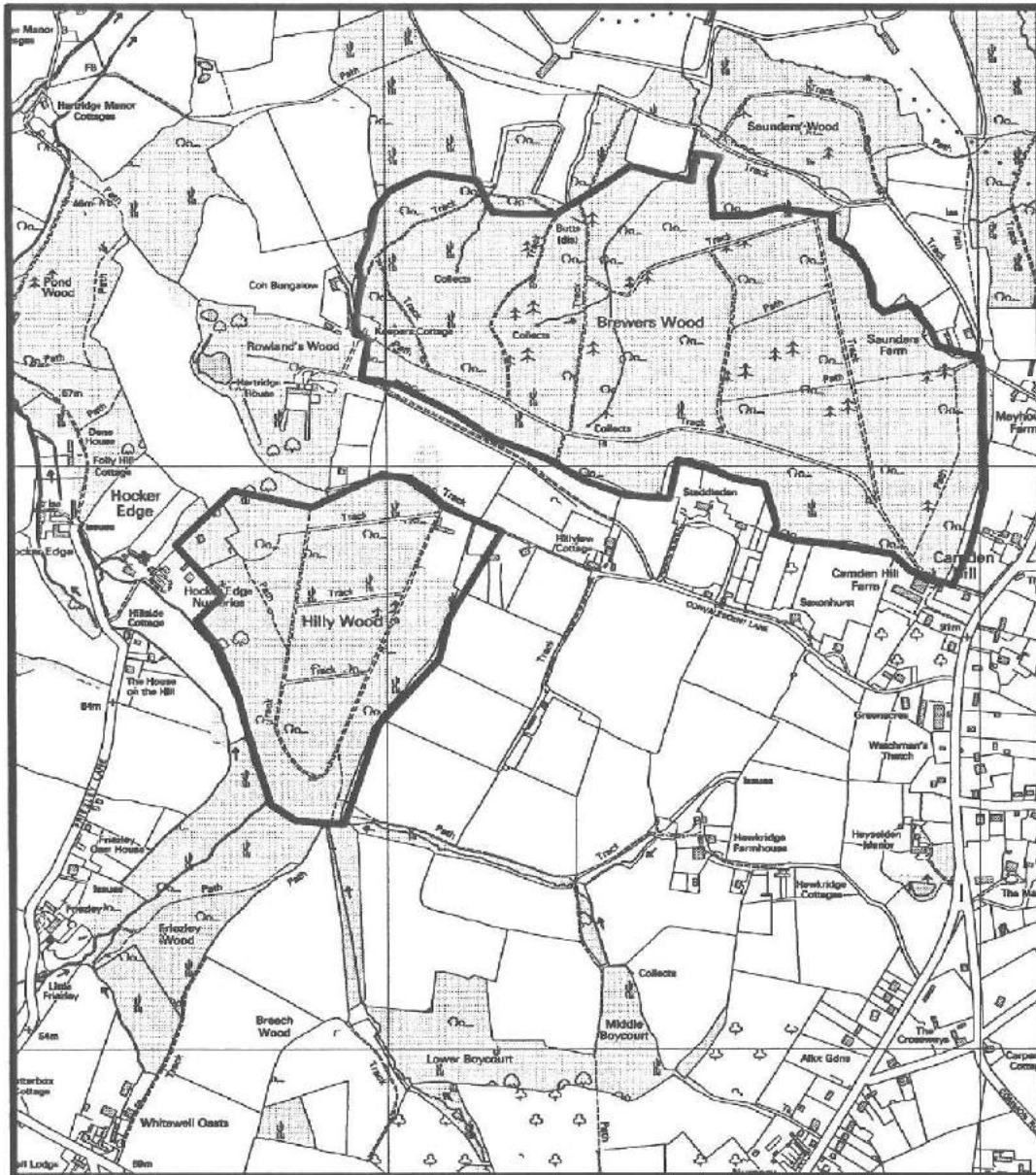
OS 1:10,000

OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"

KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

4.4 Replanted Other Pre-1801 Woodland



## 4.4 Replanted Other Pre-1810 Woodland

### Description and Historical Rationale

Woodlands not showing obvious signs of having been assarted, existing prior to 1801 but have since been replanted.

### Identifying Characteristics

Outline and shape as per HLT 4.3. Variable in size and generally irregular in shape. Generally composed of conifer species. Do not appear to have been assarted. Defined as pre-1801 from OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Map and identified as replanted from OS 1:25,000 and from KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

### Typical Associations with other Types

No apparent associations except with other woodland types.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

Other pre-1801 Woodland (HLT 4.3) is distinguished using KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland and OS1:2500 denoting conifer species. Replanted Assarted pre-1801 Woodland (HLT 4.2) is distinguished by absence of assarted outline and absence/extent of surrounding assart field systems.

### Key Indicative Sources

OS 1:25,000

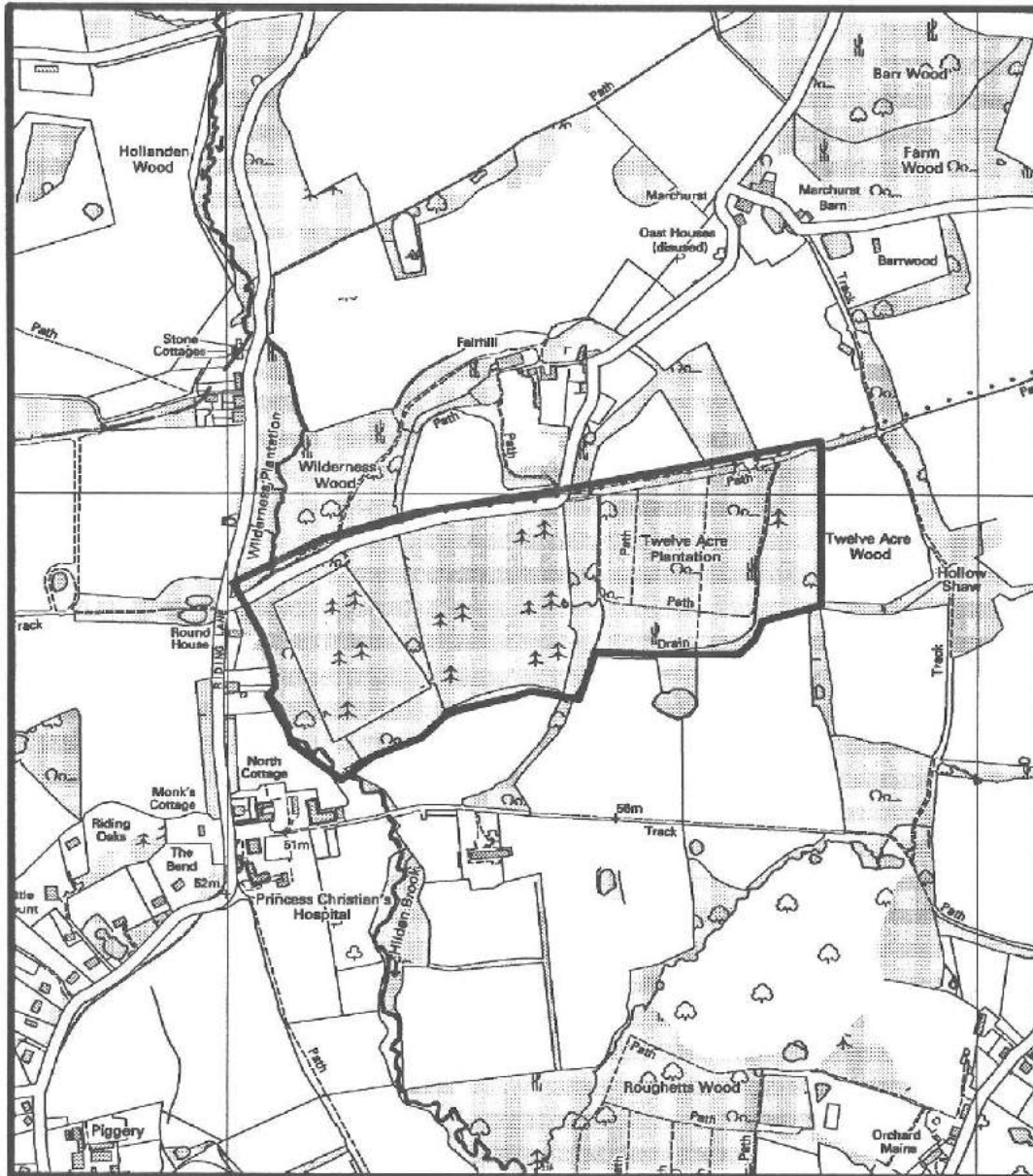
OS 1:10,000.

OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1<sup>st</sup>

KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

4.5 19<sup>th</sup> Century and Later Plantations



## **4.5 19<sup>th</sup> Century and Later Plantations**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Woodland that has only come into existence after 1801. It will have been superimposed over older landscape types.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Variable in size and shape but generally consisting of straight boundaries. Not present on 1801 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" Map or as ancient woodland on KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland. Usually but not always largely comprised of conifer species.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Found in areas covered as mainly small areas of forestation in both lowland and downland areas.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Found in conjunction with other woodland types.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Replanted pre-1801 Woodland (HLT 4.4) is distinguished by absence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" Map and KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

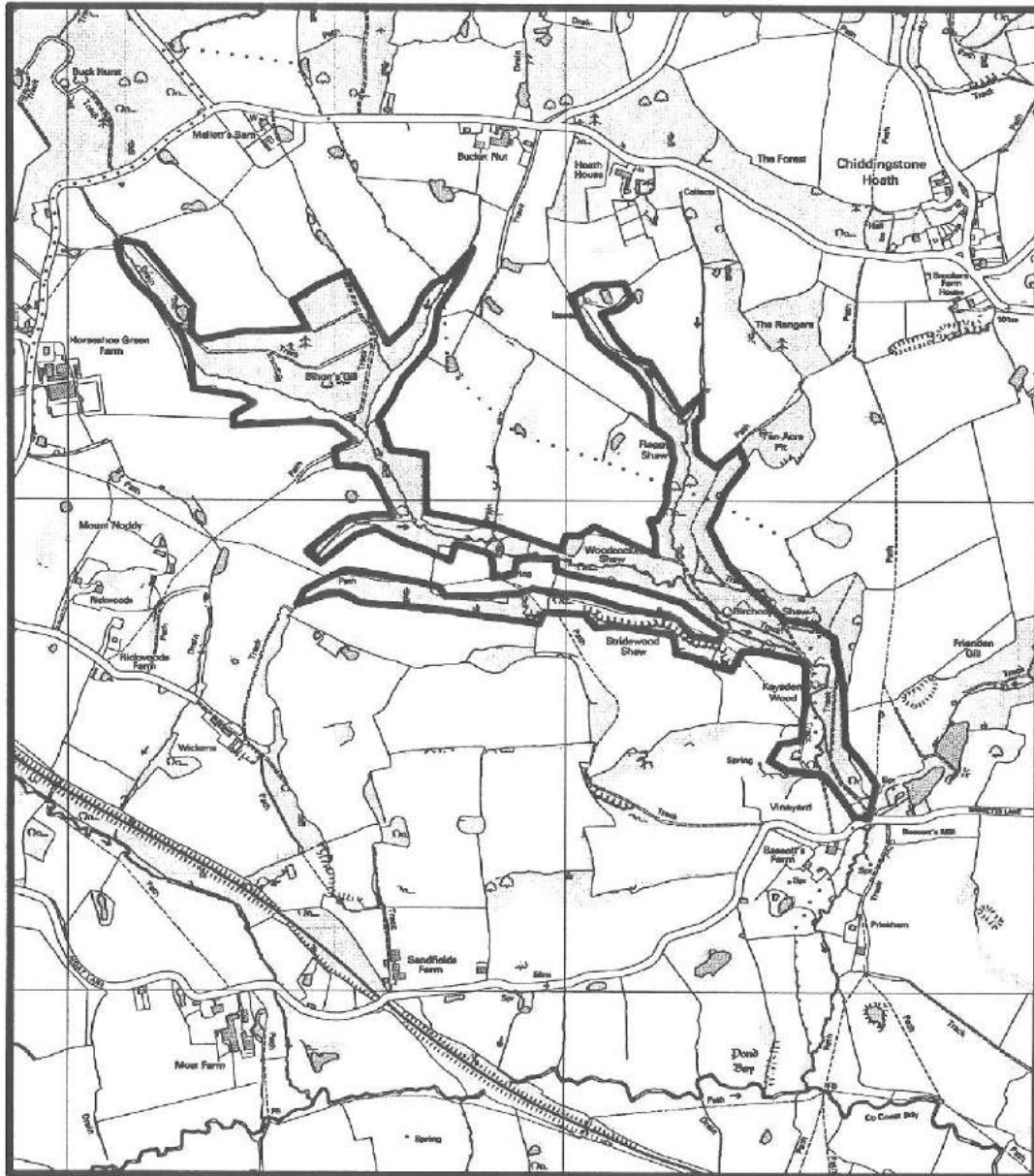
OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"

KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.



HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

4.6 Pre-1801 Scarp and Steep Valley-Side Woodland



## 4.6 Pre-1801 Scarp and Steep Valley Sided Woodland

### Description and Historical Rationale

Scarp and steep valley side woodlands which have been in existence since before 1801. Such locations would have probably always been marginal land which suggests a long history of woodland cover. These may include some replanting.

### Identifying Characteristics

Generally linear features, often irregular in shape with irregular boundaries. Located on 1:25,000 map on steep land with close contours. Identified as pre-1801 woods by their presence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" Map and from KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

### Typical Associations with other Types

Associated with most enclosure types apart from reclaimed marsh.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

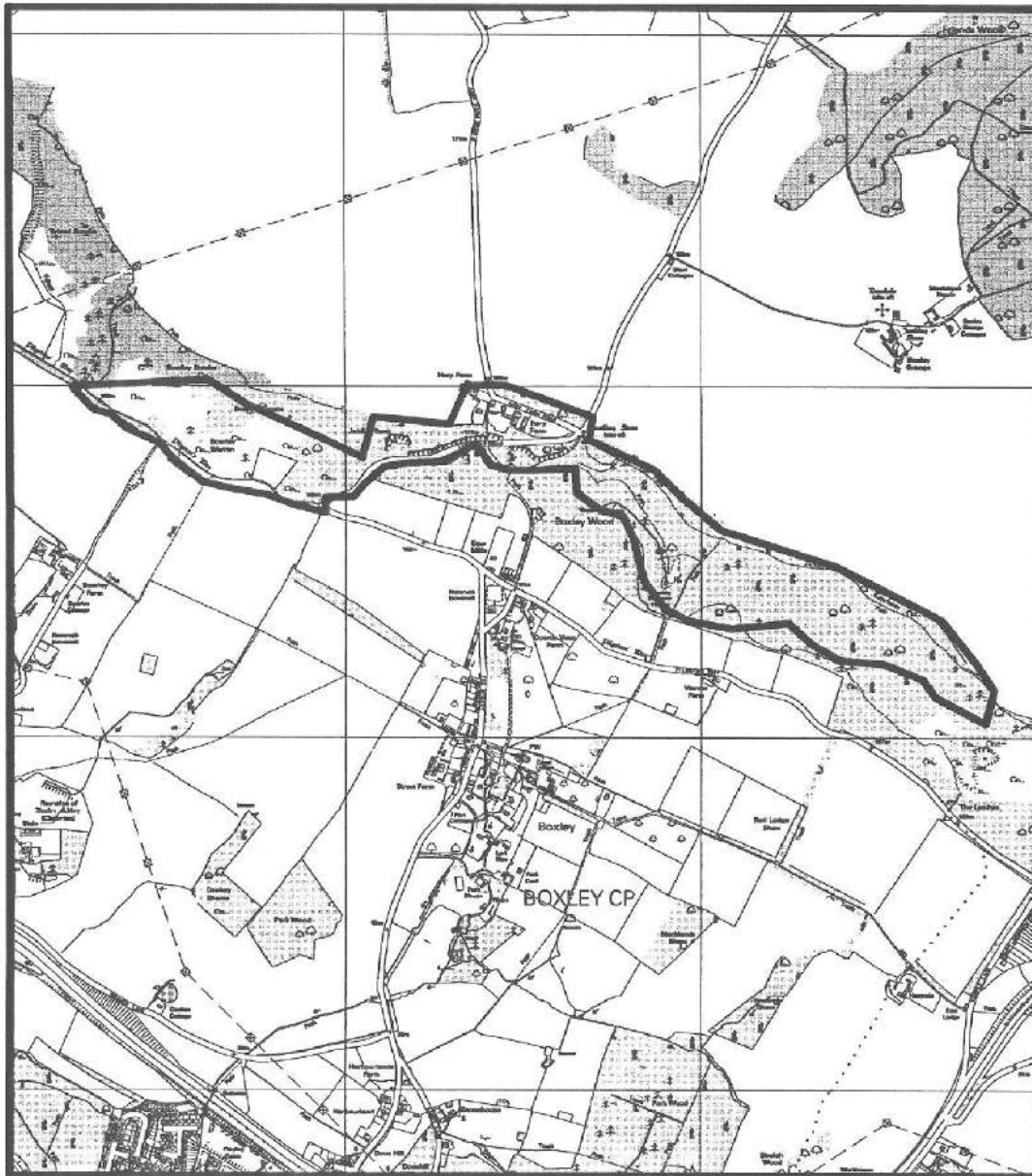
Similar to other woods on hillsides/slopes. Distinguished by closeness of contours on 1:25,000 and by name of wood. Distinguished from post-1801 scarp and steep sided valley woodland (HLT 4.7) by presence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" Map and by KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

### Key Indicative Sources

OS 1:25,000  
OS 1:10,000  
OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"  
KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

**4.7 Post 1801 Scarp and Steep sided Valley Woodland**



## 4.7 Post 1801 Scarp and Steep sided Valley Woodland

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Woodland situated on scarp and steep hillsides, which has probably only existed from after 1801. May possibly be plantation or due to 'scrubbing over' of downland.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Generally linear features, often irregular in shape with irregular boundaries. Located on 1:25,000 map on steep land with close contours. Identified as post-1801 by their absence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" Map and on KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Predominantly located in the High Weald and on chalk scarp slopes.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Most typically found in association with HLT 4.6.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Distinguished from pre-1801 scarp and steep sided woodland (HLT 4.6) by absence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" Map and KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland. Distinguished from 19<sup>th</sup>-century plantation (HLT 4.5) by closeness of contours on OS 1:25,000 and often by name of wood.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

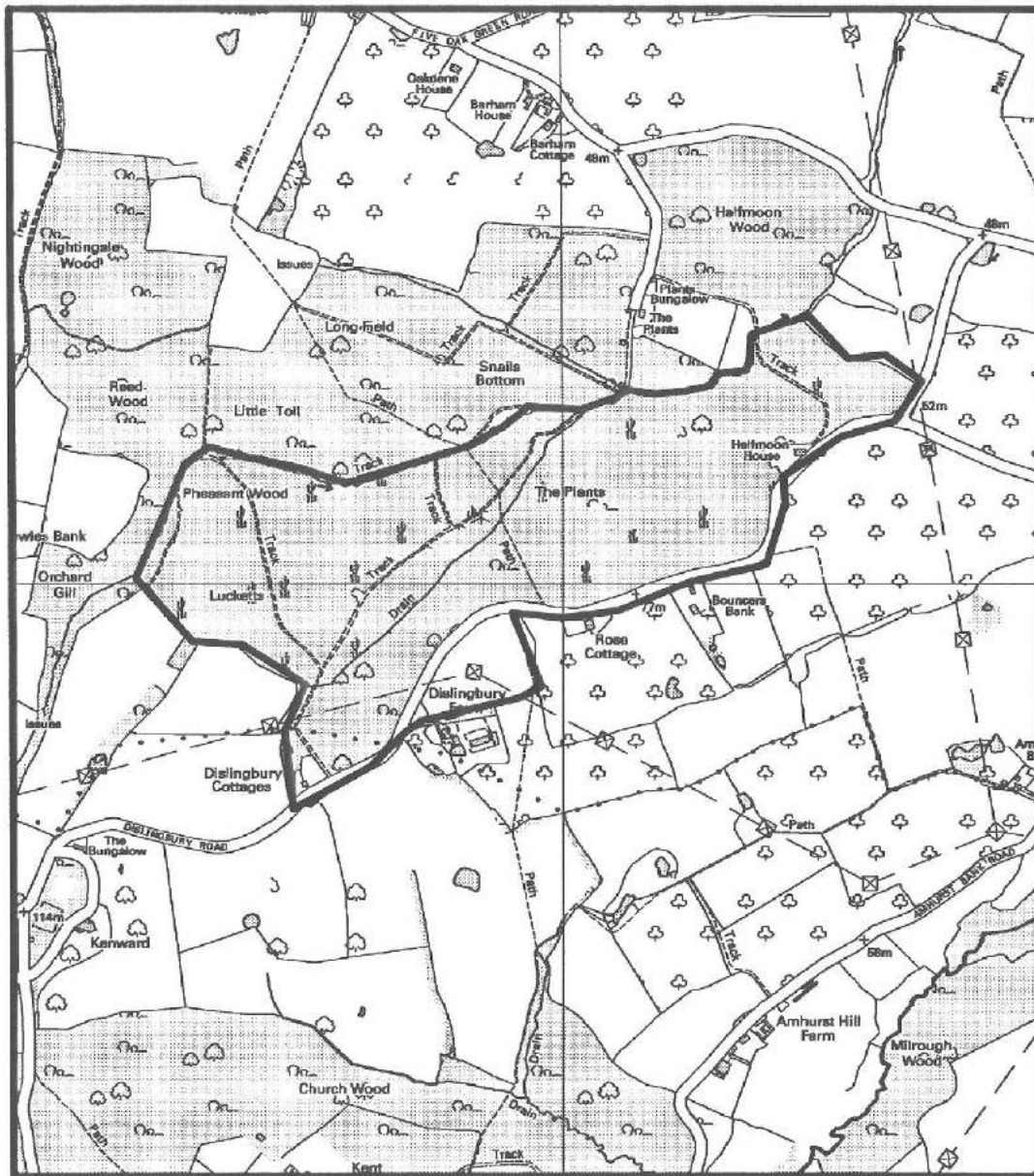
OS 1:10,000

OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"

KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

4.8 Post 1801 Coppices



## **4.8 Post 1801 Coppices**

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Coppice woodland planted after 1801. The dominant species is sweet chestnut.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Variable in size and shape with straight or wavy boundaries.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Can be found throughout the county.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

To be found with woodland categories.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Distinguished from Pre-1801 Coppice (HLT 4.9) by absence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" map and KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

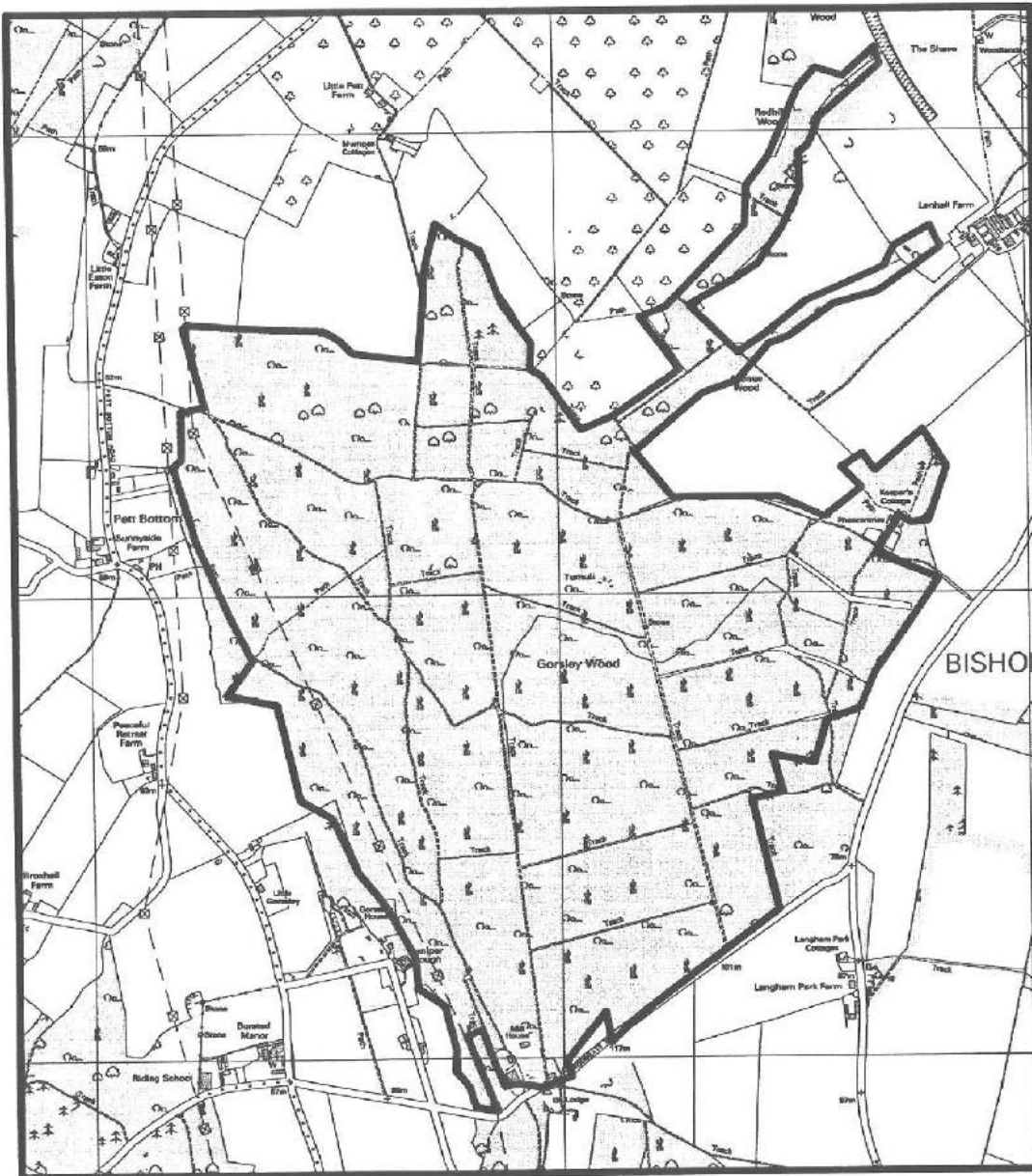
OS 1:10,000

OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"

KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

4.9 Pre 1801 Coppices



## 4.9 Pre-1801 Coppices

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Woodland which has been coppiced since before 1801. Coppices are predominantly of one species, especially sweet chestnut but coppices of ash, hazel and oak also exist.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Variable in size and shape.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Can be found throughout the county.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typically associated with woodland categories.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Distinguished from Post-1801 coppices (HLT 4.8) by presence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" map and KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

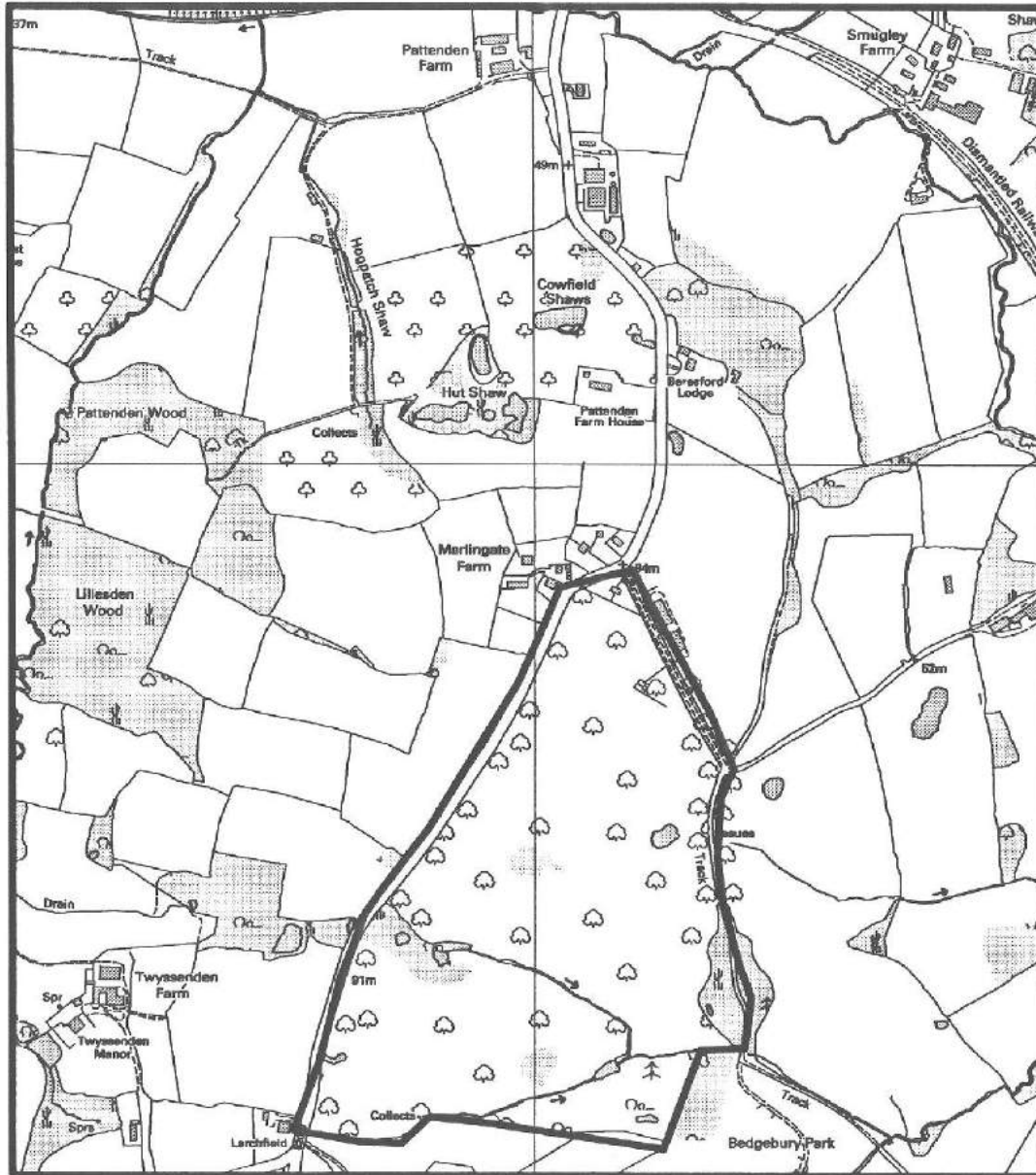
OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"

KCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland.



HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

4.11 Post 1801 Wood Pasture



## 4.11 Post 1801 Wood Pasture

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Unenclosed woodland which has come into existence since 1801. Often the result of 'scrubbing over' of areas during periods of reduced animal grazing.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Variable in size, irregular in shape. Not enclosed on OS 1:25,000 and 1:10,000 maps. Designated as post-1801 in origin by absence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" map and KCC 'Inventory of Ancient Woodland'.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Obvious associations are with mainly with woodland categories.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Distinguished from pre-1801 wood pasture by absence on OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1" map and KCC 'Inventory of Ancient Woodland'.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

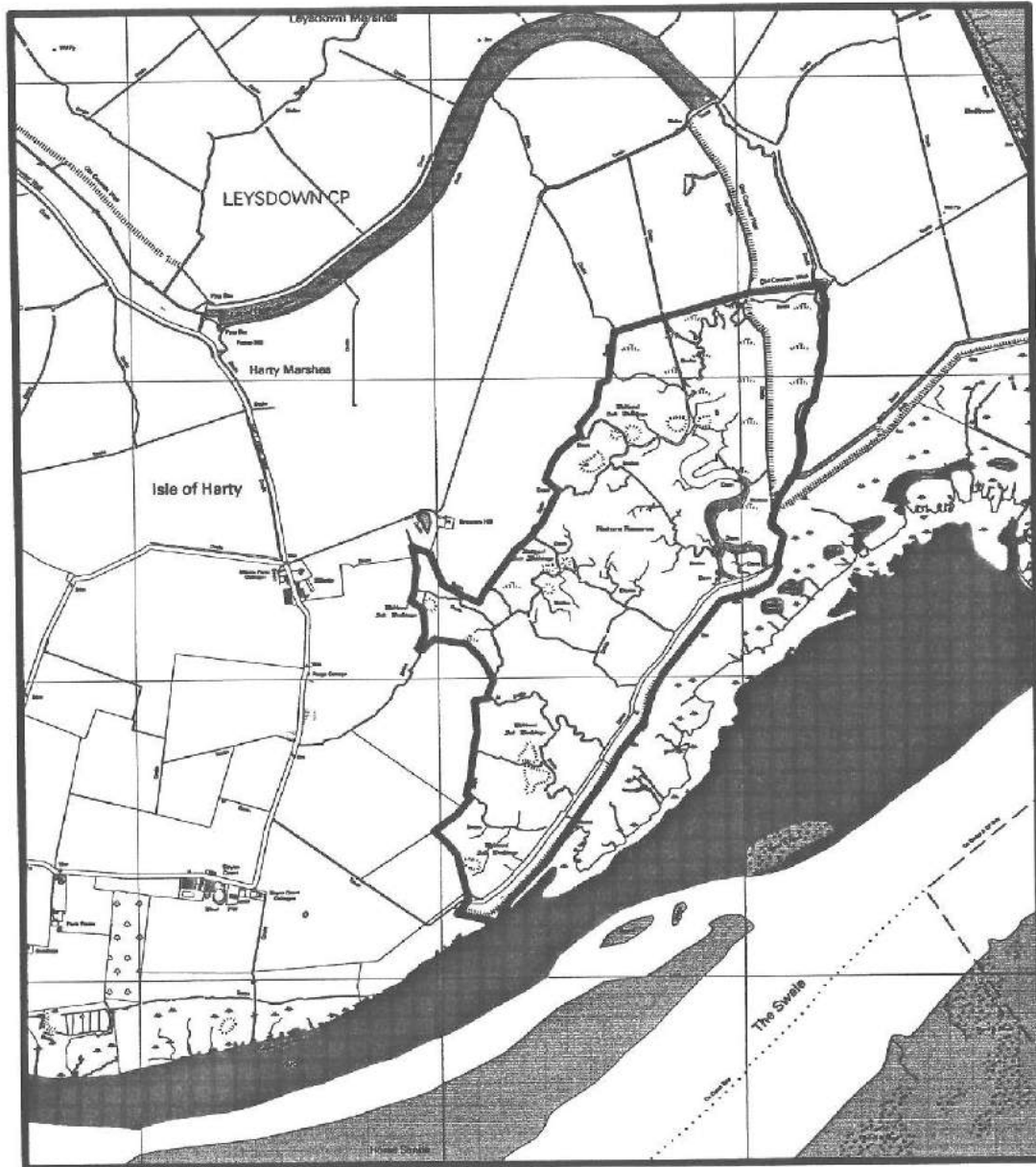
OS 1:10,000

OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1"

KCC 'Inventory of Ancient Woodland.'

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

**5.1 Reclaimed Marsh - Small Irregular Enclosures**



## 5.1 Reclaimed Marsh - Small Irregular Enclosures

### Description and Historical Rationale

Reclaimed marshland enclosures, with often highly irregular shapes and very wavy irregular boundaries. Boundaries typically consist of natural drainage channels with larger straighter built drainage channels also being present. Age is often indeterminate, from medieval to modern. Age of reclaimed marshland enclosures can also varies across Kent.

### Identifying Characteristics

This type generally covers quite extensive areas. Boundaries are typically shown as drainage channels on OS maps.

### Predominant Locations and Variations

Generally found in Romney Marsh, the Hoo peninsular and the Isle of Sheppey.

### Typical Associations with other Types

Typical associations include other reclaimed marshland types.

### Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria

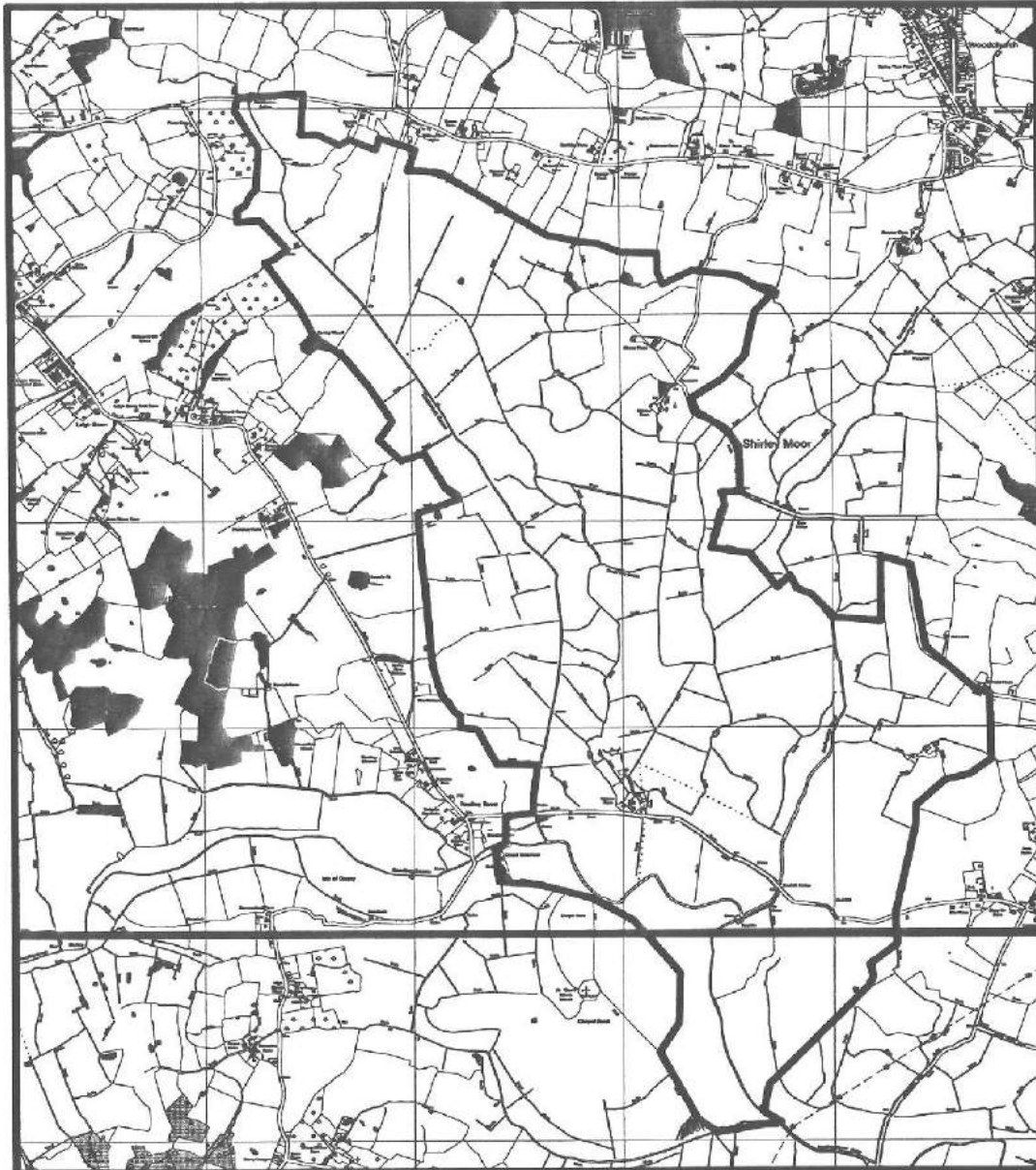
This type can be distinguished from similar types such as HLT 5.2 by it's smaller size and from HLTs 5.3 and 5.4 by highly irregular boundaries.

### Key Indicative Sources

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

## 5.2 Reclaimed Marsh - Irregular Enclosures



## 5.2 Reclaimed Marsh - Irregular Enclosures

### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Areas of marshland that have been drained and enclosed. Marshland enclosures which utilise irregular natural drainage channels as boundaries.

### **Identifying Characteristics**

Boundaries are typically shown as drainage channels on OS maps.

### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Generally found in Romney Marsh, the Hoo peninsular and the Isle of Sheppey.

### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Associated with other reclaimed marshland types.

### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

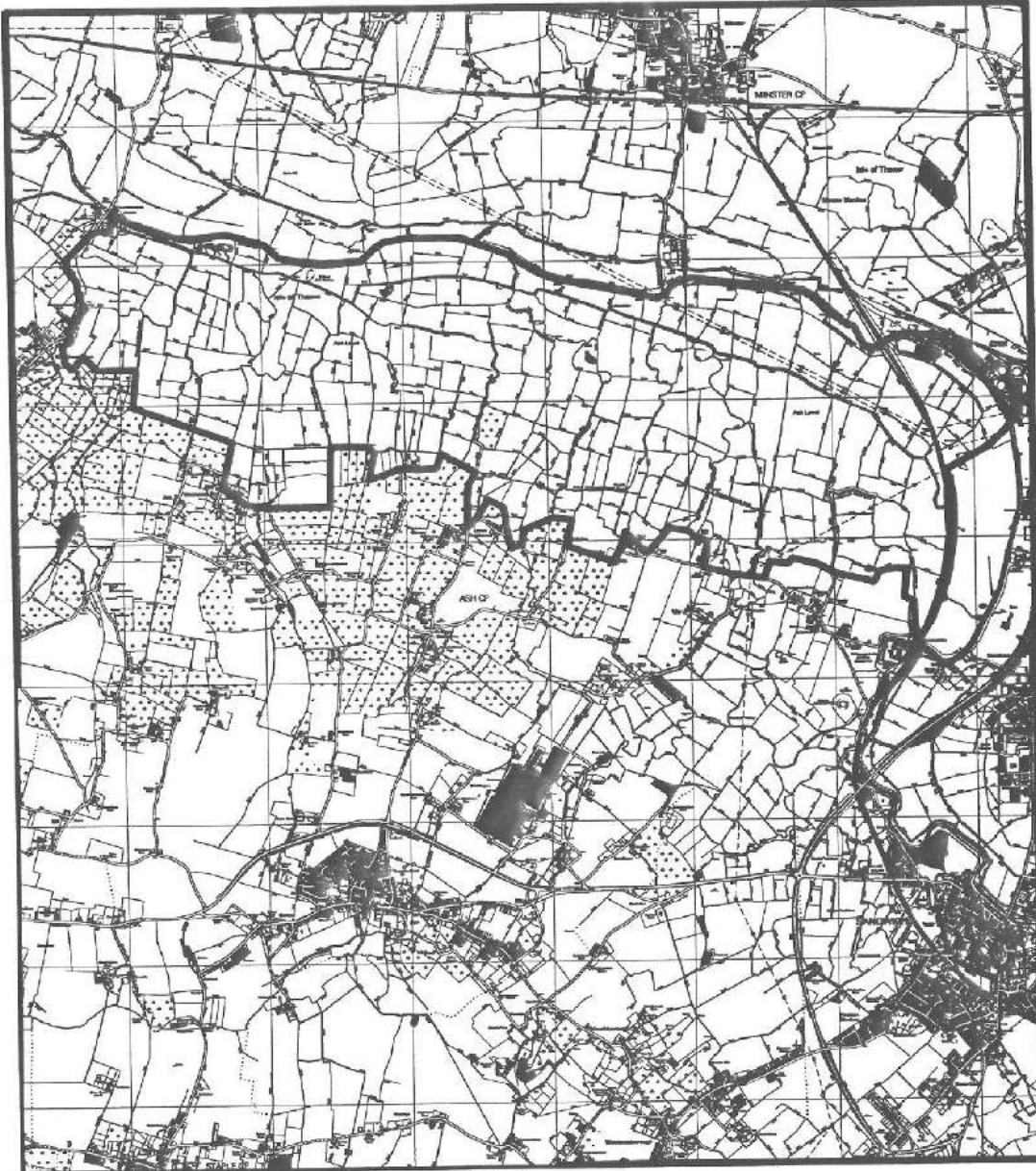
Distinguished from HLT 5.1 by larger size and from HLTs 5.3 and 5.4 by irregular boundaries.

### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

### 5.3 Reclaimed Marsh - Small Regular Enclosures



### **5.3 Reclaimed Marsh - Small Regular Enclosures**

#### **Description and Historical Rationale**

Originally land which was enclosed from a marsh. Boundaries are typically drainage channels. This type is probably the oldest of all the types in this category, often being medieval in age.

#### **Identifying Characteristics**

Typified by straight boundaries and general rectilinear form. Can also form grid-like patterns.

#### **Predominant Locations and Variations**

Predominantly found to the south and west of the Isle of Thanet.

#### **Typical Associations with other Types**

Typically associated with other types within this category.

#### **Similar Types and Distinguishing Criteria**

Can be distinguished from other enclosure types by their fairly regular forms and generally fairly small enclosure patterns. May also be distinguished by name. Distinguished from HLTs 5.2 and 5.1 by straight regular boundaries and from HLT 5.4 by their smaller size.

#### **Key Indicative Sources**

OS 1:25,000

OS 1:10,000

OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1".