

Strowdes Estate Landscape Visual Appraisal

Landscape Appraisal - Character

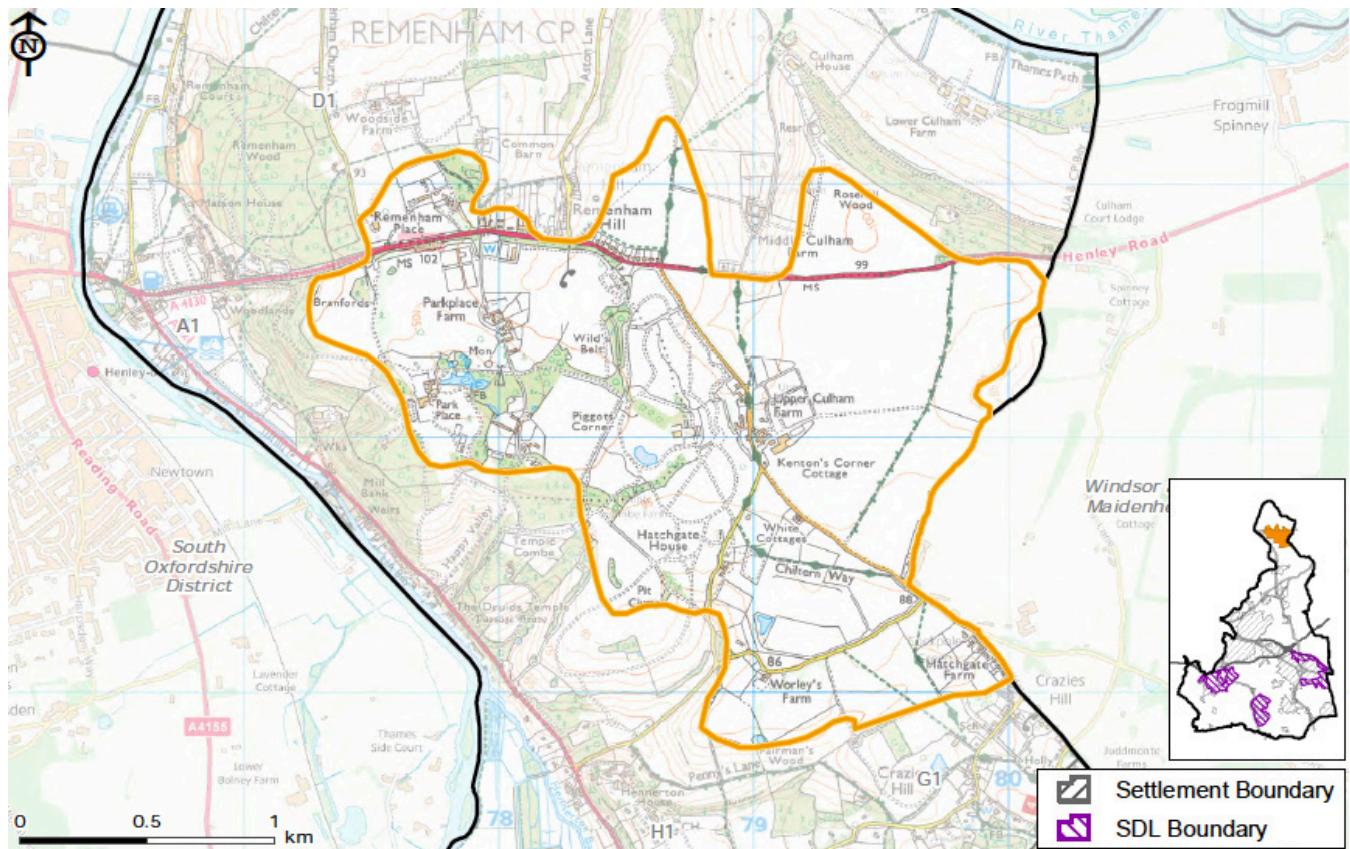


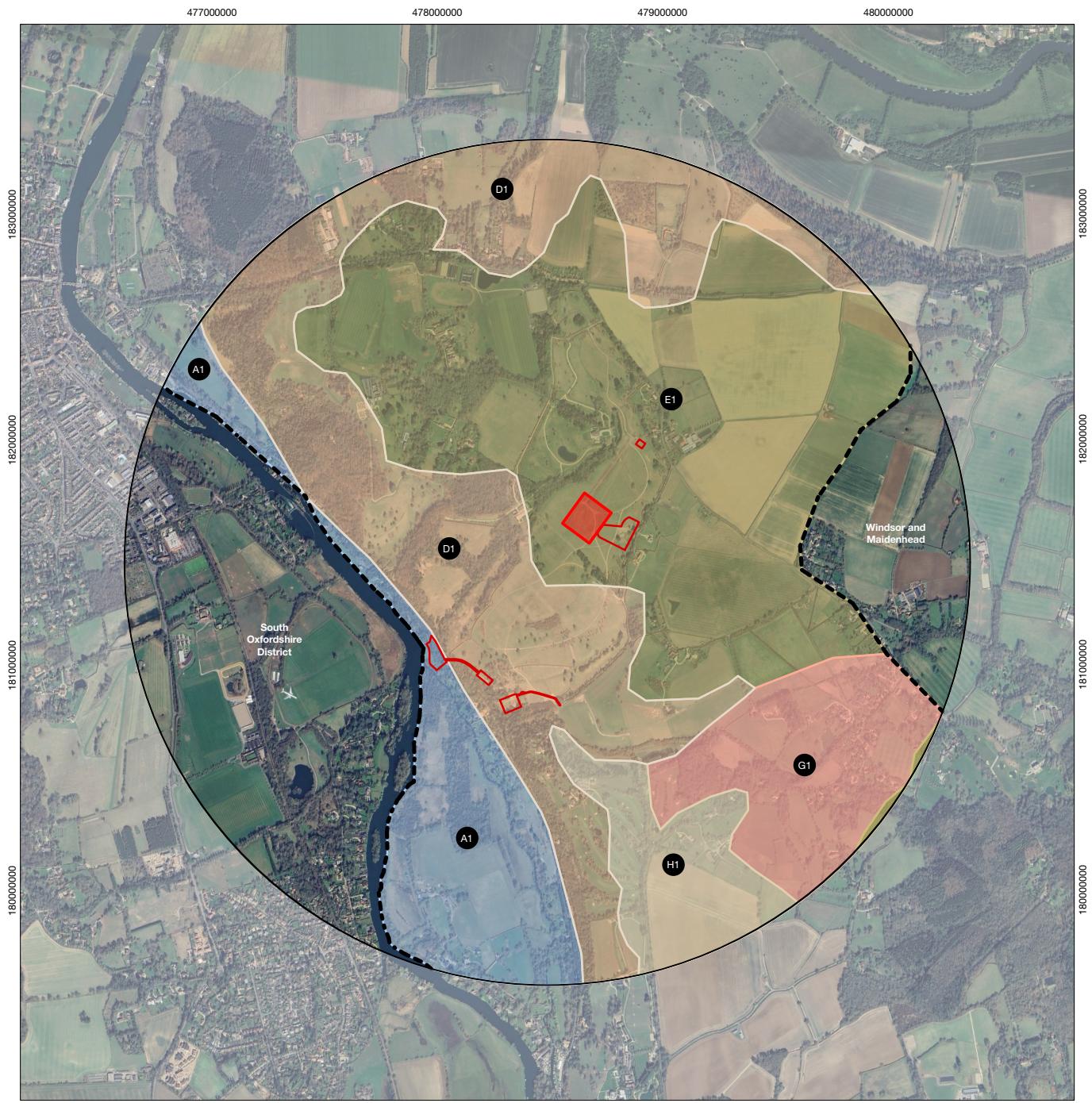
Figure 8: E1 Remenham Arable Chalk Plateau, Character Areas Map

Local character

4.4: In the surrounding landscape, scattered farmsteads, private dwellings, and small hamlets are located along rural, well-hedged lanes. The gently undulating plateau comprises mixed farmland with strong hedgerow structure, interspersed with areas of woodland and the historic parkland of Park Place Estate, featuring veteran trees and copse.

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Drawing notes

■ Application Site Boundary	■ A1 Thames River Valley	■ D1 Remenham Wooded Chalk Slopes	■ G1 Hare Hatch Farmed Chalk Slopes
■ 1km Buffer	■ Wokingham Borough boundary	■ E1 Remenham Arable Chalk Plateau	■ H1 Wargrave-Twyford Arable Chalk Lowlands

Image data sources

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Figure 10 : Local character image 1

High hedgerows of Kenton's Lane

To the north and east, well-hedged lanes border a complex of enclosed fields. The fields themselves are typically open, with few individual trees. Equestrianism dominates the local land use, with large stables and associated ancillary buildings.

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Figure 11 : Local character image 2

Local small village at Cockpole Green

Local hamlets of Upper Culham and Cockpole Green, exhibit a mixture of dwelling types, with workers terrace cottages, detached dwellings and more recent infill properties. Brick and render are the predominant building material.

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Figure 12 : Local character image 3

Open fields, locally used for equestrian grazing, crossed with hedged footpaths

The eastern edge of the town is characterised by wooded hills and a mosaic of open fields often used for equestrian grazing.

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Figure 13 : Local character image 4

View from Bolney Meadow towards the river Thames

Looking north east from the Bolney Meadow, near the public footpath to the wooded escarpment.

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Figure 14 : Local character image 5

View from The Marsh Lock

The workings of the river, beside The Lock. Private dwellings are nestled into the hillside.

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Site Character Analysis



Figure 15 : Aerial of site area

4.5: The northern part of the Estate is situated on the edge of the chalk plateau, while the southern section occupies one of the chalk slope folds typical of this part of the Thames Valley corridor. The grounds of Strowdes Estate form a linear strip of parkland that broadens toward the south.

The Estate rises to approximately 103m AOD in the north, sloping southward to around 55m AOD near the A321, with the proposed development located on the plateau at roughly 93m AOD. The grounds are largely enclosed by mature boundary hedgerows and the rising terrain to the west. The upper section near the Culham Lane entrance is more open to the west and subdivided by estate railings adjoining the Hamilton Estate. The central section, where the development site is situated, is defined by recent plantations. The lower southern grounds are well-treed, featuring mature parkland specimens such as cedar, lime, and oak. A circular surfaced track gently descends to the south before looping back to the generally flatter middle section of the park.

A tall, well-maintained beech hedge defines the entire eastern boundary. The southern boundary comprises a heavily wooded belt running parallel to the A321, while the western edge is formed by the rising terrain of Temple Combe, planted with ash, oak, and lime. The elevated topography limits views into the Temple Combe valley, and there is no intervisibility with the western extent of the Registered Park. The estate is generally well managed, with neatly maintained grass and grounds.

The Estate is traversed by a meandering, unmetalled driveway with a series of loops.