

**RSPB Higham Marshes
Habitat Enhancement Project**



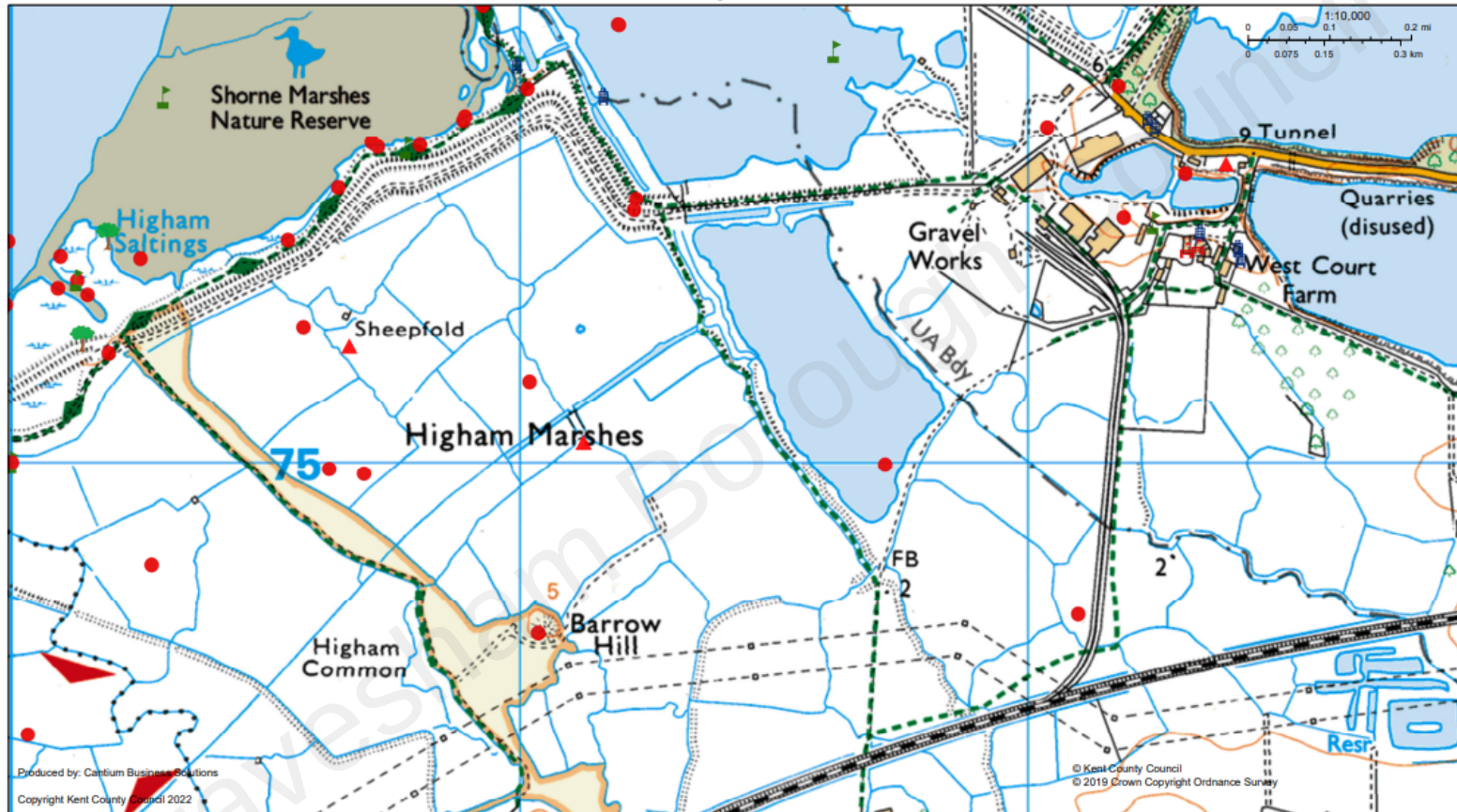
Water Vole (Rob Budgen, 2016)

**Archaeology Gazetteer
Planning Application Proposal Supporting Documentation
Author: Will Tofts**

Maps

Heritage Maps

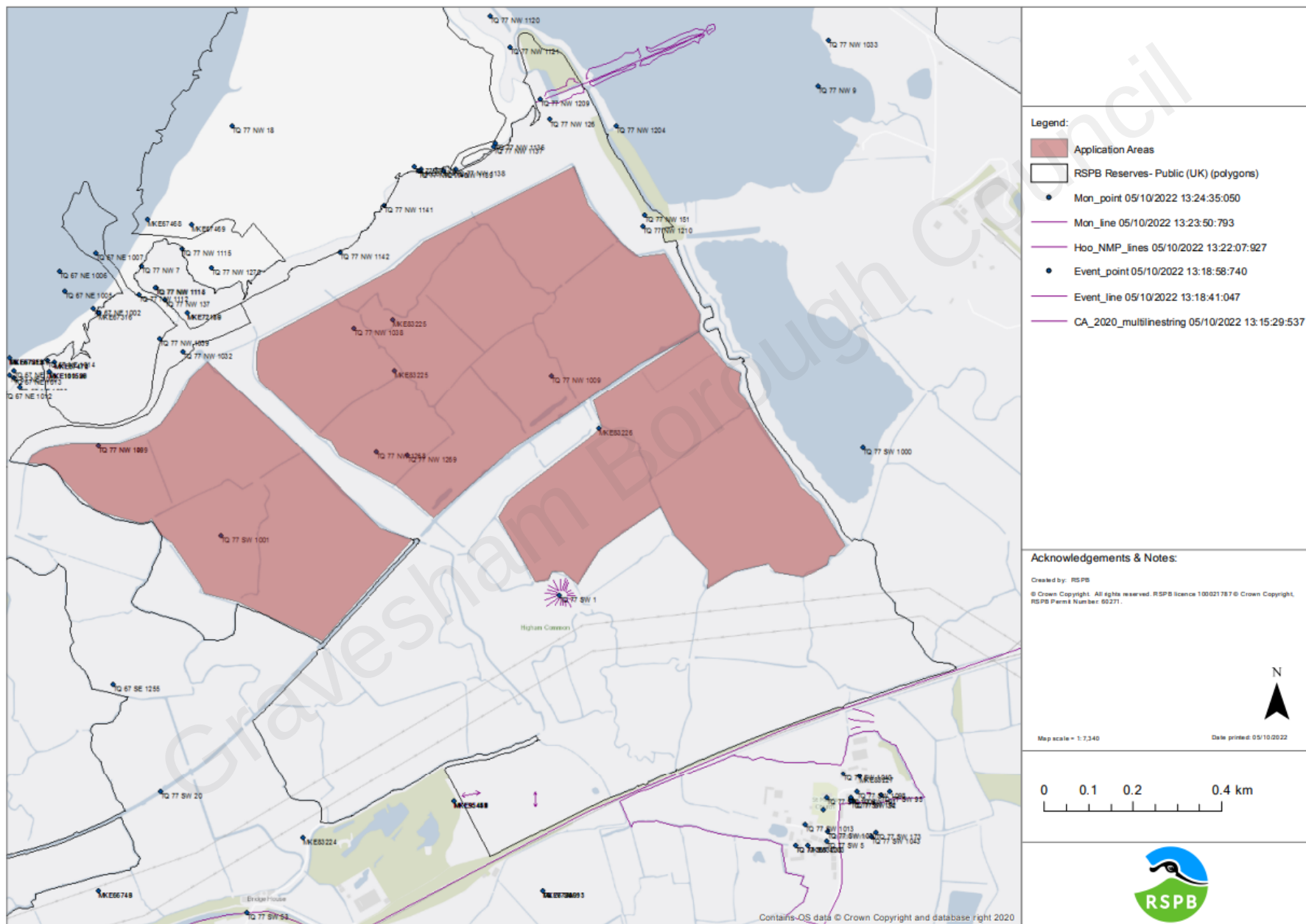
February 1, 2022



Legend

Archaeological Sites and Buildings

	Building		Hedgerow		Maritime
	Farmstead		Landscape		Monument
	Findspot		Listed Building		Place



Assets Outside of Work Area					
Gaz No.	HER no.	Name	Grid (TQ)	Period	Description
HMM1	TQ 77 SW 1001	Drainage pattern in fields, Shorne Marshes	TQ 70275 74798	Unknown	Drainage pattern in fields. Metropolitan police firing range, no access during coastal survey in 2005 <i>Considering the description, likely to be incorrectly identified</i>
HMM2		2nd century Romano-British pottery		Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD	No further details
HMM3	TQ 77 NW 1032	Remains of enclosure, Higham Marshes	TQ 70191 75214	Unknown	Remains of enclosure. An area of grazing land behind the sea wall, no discrete enclosure apparent, though area is bounded in parts by normal drainage ditches
HMM4	TQ 77 SW 1	Barrow Hill, Higham	TQ 7103 7466	Unknown	Barrow Hill. A natural weathered outlier of Thanet Sand. (see AP. 8451) A.P. 8451 shows a very clear ditch round this feature, but no trace of other mounds in Higham Marshes. The crouched burial with Porosphaera beads may have been found here, see TQ77SW11. Barrow Hill is a naturally weathered mass of Thanet Sand. It was dug into by Mr. George Payne and the scars of his excavation may still be seen. George Payne in his Archaeological Survey of the County Kent makes no mention of this site. (Archaeologia Vol.51 1889 pp 1-22 map). A natural irregular-shaped, turf covered mound, approximately 3.0m in height with a central mutilation, and other slight hollows in the

					sides. Outside the main mound and separated from it by a barn is a slight ditch with traces of an outer bank. This has been destroyed on the eastern side by the present deep drainage ditches. The ditch may have been dug for drainage purposes. Similar shallow ditches exist elsewhere on these marshes. However, as this mound is the only feature of its kind on Higham Marshes, it would have been the obvious choice of site for a burial as suggested by Authority 3. It is recognised locally as a sacred place. An antiquity model 25" survey has been made.
HMM5	TQ 77 NW 1031	Remains of enclosure	TQ 70665 75170	Unknown	Remains of enclosure
HMM6	TQ 77 NW 1038	Ring ditch, Shorne Marshes	TQ 70694 75271	Unknown	Ring ditch. Metropolitan police firing range, no access during coastal survey in 2005 <i>Considering the description, likely to be incorrectly identified</i>
HMM7	TQ 77 NW 1009	Remains of saltworks(?)	TQ 71020 75159	Unknown	Remains of saltworks(?)
HMM8	TQ 77 NW 1142	Wooden beams in the saltmarsh at Higham Saltings	TQ 70544 75437	Post medieval to Modern	Horizontal beams, squared, and planking visible in an eroding inlet in the saltmarsh, they are possibly modern. Possible attempt to make a firm platform in the marsh.
HMM9		Pillbox		Modern	No further details
HMM10	TQ 77 NW 1141	Round stakes at base of the sea wall, Higham Marshes	TQ 70643 75542	Post medieval to Modern	Two rows of rounded stakes standing up to 1.5m high and 3m long running

					perpendicular to the seawall.
HMM11	TQ 77 NW 1139	Scatter of pottery and bone on foreshore by Higham Marshes	TQ 70777 75619	Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD	A scatter of pottery including rim sherds at base of saltmarsh cliff. These finds are possibly related to occupation to the west. One piece of bone may have been butchered.
HMM12	TQ 77 NW 1138	Four round piles on foreshore by Higham Saltings	TQ 70804 75624	Post medieval to Modern	Four vertical piles in a line emerging from the collapsed sea wall facing and they appear out into the foreshore mud. The stakes are 0.25m in diameter and up to 0.5m high.
HMM13	TQ 77 NW 1137	Lines of round wooden posts parallel to the sea wall at Higham Saltings	TQ 70889 75674	Post medieval to Modern	Long rows of stakes, some running parallel to the sea wall, and extending for 40m. There are lines perpendicular to the shore at either end. The one at the west end makes a L-shape, these piles are rounded, and 0.1m in diameter. The eastern row show some evidence of horizontal cross timbers.
HMM14	TQ 77 NW 1136	Upright piles and stakes in foreshore by Higham Saltings	TQ 70893 75681	Post medieval to Modern	Two lines of wooden stakes perpendicular to sea wall. The east row comprises squared stakes and is likely to be modern, it stands up to 2m high with horizontal planks at its base- it may be marking a boundary. The second row only 3 or 4 stakes is possibly a line of mooring posts, they are squared and probably modern.
HMM15		Tank trap		Modern	No further details
HMM16	TQ 77 NW 126	Second World War Pillbox, Higham Marshes	TQ 7101 7573	Modern	A six-sided, asymmetrically shaped concrete pillbox, now buried in

					the seawall. Second World War Type 24 pillbox in the counterwall, forming the extremity of Higham Marshes. It may have been a backstopper for the GHQ Line 45m to the north (PUID 10141). The top of the pillbox only is visible, the remainder being buried within the counterwall. It probably originated in 1940, to be decommissioned by late 1943, when invasion was no longer considered a possibility.
HMM17	TQ 77 NW 1209	Higham Creek Second World War anti-invasion obstruction, Higham Creek	TQ 7099 7578	Modern	Second World War anti-invasion obstacle consisting of six concrete blocks oriented W-E, on the beach and straddling the sea wall at the side of Higham Creek, with a short length of connected anti-tank ditch running E. The blocks are 1.5 m square, 1.6m high, with fluted sides from the use of corrugated iron shuttering. The top of one of the blocks is inscribed with the names FC GOMAR S BARNARD and R LUCAS. The 100m length of anti-tank ditch is about 2.5 m wide and water-filled. Together, these formed the northern end of that part of the GHQ Line which ran across the Hoo Peninsula from Hoo St. Werburgh. It would have been established in 1940 and decommissioned by

					the end of 1943. The pillbox (HMM15) about 45m to the SE may be connected
HMM18	TQ 77 NW 151	Second World War pillbox, Higham Marshes	TQ 7123 7552	Modern	Concrete pillbox, type 24, facing N. Buried in old counter wall. Nothing visible, but probing detected a structure approx. 20cm below present surface. Situated on grassland. Not visible during the 2005 coastal survey must be still buried in the sea wall
HMM19	TQ 77 NW 1210	Higham Marshes Second World War pillbox	TQ 7122 7549	Modern	Second World War Type 24 pillbox within the counterwall at the northern extremity of Higham Marshes. It may have been a backstopper to the GHQ Line to the north (PUID 10141). It was probably built in 1940 and decommissioned by the end of 1943, when invasion no longer seemed a possibility. It was buried within the counterwall in about 1980.
HMM20	TQ 77 NW 1009	Mesolithic antler pick found	TQ 70 75	Mesolithic - 10000 BC to 4001 BC	Mesolithic antler pick found in Higham Marshes
HMM21		Concrete sheepwash		Unknown	No further details
HMM22		Roman 2nd Century pottery find		Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD	No further details
HMM23	MKE83225	Sheepfold on Higham Marshes	TQ 7066 7528	Post medieval	An outfarm with a loose courtyard plan with a building to one side of the yard. Farmstead completely demolished
HMM24		Remains of saltworks(?)		Unknown	No further details
HMM25		Pillbox		Modern	No further details
HMM26		Remains of enclosure, Higham Marshes		Unknown	No further details
HMM27	TQ 77 NW 149	Higham Tudor	TQ 70 75	Post Medieval	A bulwark or

		Thames Defence		- 1540 AD to 1900 AD	blockhouse at Higham, mentioned in 1540, was one of five authorised for the Thames defences in 1539. It is now shown on Robert Adam's Map of the Thames Defences 1588. No further information; there is nothing to be seen on the Higham parish foreshore. Possible location of blockhouse, referred to by Spurrell (1885) who describes a quantity of stone and rubble in layers. Mentioned in context with other Thames defences.
HMM28	MKE83226	Sheepfold on Higham Marshes	TQ 7112 7503	Post medieval	A field barn with no associated yard. Farmstead completely demolished.

Schedule of Proposed Works

Impact Statement

No impact as work is away from assets

Statement of Preservation

All works will be carried out away from Assets.

Gravesham Borough Council