LONDON URBAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATABASE PHASE 3a:

WESTMINSTER AND WHITEHALL

Project 7912

LONDON SURVIVAL LAYER USER GUIDE

Historic England

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Author(s):	Maria Medlycott and Helen Saunders Historic Environment Consultants Place Services Essex County Council County Hall Chelmsford CM1 1QH e-mail: maria.medlycott@essex.gov.uk Tel: 03330 136853
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For further information
Please contact:

Adrian Gascoyne
Head of Place Services
Place Services
Essex County Council
County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH
www.placeservices.co.uk
adrian.gascoyne@essex.gov.uk
07557 167892

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVIVAL LAYER USER GUIDE

This User Guide is intended for the Greater London HER and archaeologists intending to amend or expand the Survival layer. It is intended that the Guide will explain what each of the attribute layers comprises and enable the continued application of the methodology in order to ensure a consistency of approach to the mapping of surviving archaeology across London.

The archaeological survival layer maps the estimated areas of surviving archaeology beneath the modern cityscape. It identifies those areas where the archaeology is still upstanding (e.g. Westminster Abbey, the Jewel Tower), those areas where there are known to be surviving archaeological deposits as demonstrated by excavation, and those areas where the archaeological deposits have been truncated by deep basements or other disturbance. We are grateful to Heathrow Airports Ltd and Wood PLC for permission to use and adapt their system devised for the Heathrow Expansion Project.

In addition, it maps the anticipated depth beneath the surface of the archaeological deposits, based on information from previous excavations. It also maps the likelihood of waterlogged deposits being present, based on the underlying topography and evidence from previous excavations.

The information is presented as a.mdb file, that is a relational database programme created by Microsoft Access and linking to ArcGIS .shpfiles.

The evidence for the categorisations within the database is based on a range of different sources. Firstly, the study area was walked, and all observable signs of basements, underground car-parks and underpasses were recorded on large-scale maps. This was then checked against the cartographic and documentary data for the area. The excavation and historic building reports for the area were also consulted and this information also fed into the database.

A second .shpfile layer depicting the extent and severity of Second World War bomb damage was also created, based on The London County Council Bomb Damage maps.

Archaeological Survival Model GIS attributes:

Attribute Name	Attribute	Comments
FID	Automatic number sequence	A unique individual number will be automatically be assigned by ArcGIS
Shape	Polygons	
Land Parcel	Number	This attribute applies to areas of open fields (eg the Heathrow Landscape Project)

GlobalID	Number		This attribute to be used for specific landscape projects if required, e.g. the Heathrow Landscape Project
ArchCode/Arch Surviv These attributes are in two separate columns and use drop-down lists to ensure consistency	0	No Entry	Only to be used when it is not possible to ascertain survival
	1	Known Archaeology	These areas contain known archaeology which remains *in situ.*
	2	Greenfield land with potential for archaeology	These are undeveloped areas that may contain archaeology.
	3	Archaeology Removed by Planned Event	These areas had archaeological remains present, but this has been removed through known archaeological intervention
	4	Land Destroyed	These areas have been removed/destroyed (for example through extraction) with no known archaeological intervention
	5	Built on	These are brownfield areas have been built on predominantly during the 20th-21st centuries and archaeology may or may not survive beneath building footprints
	6	Historic Core	These areas are within historic settlements that have a high potential for archaeology.
	7	Historic burial ground	Areas that contain burials including those attached to religious buildings. May be medieval, post-medieval or modern date
	8	Land evaluated	These areas contain a mixture of evaluated area that have not been fully excavated (and therefore may contain further archaeology) or sites that contain smaller areas of excavation within their boundary
SHAPE_Length			Automatically calculated by ArcGIS
SHAPE_Area			Automatically calculated by ArcGIS
Arch Survival Sub-Category	1.1 Upstanding remains (ruins and earthworks) 1.2 Subsurface masonry 1.3 Waterlogged structure 1.4 Sub-surface occupation deposits 1.5 Palaeo-environmental deposits		These areas contain known archaeology which remains *in situ.* This category overlaps with Category 8. It covers discrete known heritage assets.
	2.1 Cultivated land 2.2 Parkland (inc recreation) 2.3 Wetland (inc. foreshore/coastal) 2.4 Woodland		These are undeveloped areas that may contain archaeology. The sub-categories cover modern land use which is relevant to survival and condition.

	2.5 Uncultivated land (semi-natural)	
	3.1 Full excavation	These areas had archaeological remains present, but this has been removed through known archaeological intervention
	4.1 Mineral extraction 4.2 Infrastructure (deep cuttings etc) 4.3 Basements (large + deep) 4.4 Other	These areas have been removed/destroyed (for example through extraction) with no known archaeological intervention
	5.1 High impact (extensive basements or earthmoving for large estates) 5.2 Medium impact (e.g. strip footing buildings with small basements and gardens) 5.3 Low impact (e.g. mainly light or piled buildings without basements, car parks and yards)	These are brownfield areas have been built on predominantly during the 20th-21st centuries and archaeology may or may not survive beneath building footprints. The sub-categories estimate the probable degree of disturbance impacting on the archaeological potential of the area
	6.1 High impact (extensive basements or earthmoving for large estates) 6.2 Medium impact (e.g. strip footing buildings with small basements and gardens) 6.3 Low impact (e.g. mainly light or piled buildings without basements, car parks and yards, gardens)	These areas are within historic settlements that may have a high potential for archaeology. The sub-categories estimate the probable degree of disturbance impacting on the archaeological potential of the area
	7.1 Extant (active or disused) 7.2 Former (now built over)	Areas that contain burials including those attached to religious buildings. May be medieval, post-medieval or modern date
	8.1	Areas that have been evaluated with negative results. If it has been evaluated and archaeology identified log as 1 – Known archaeology
Evidence Description	Observed Cartographic Documentary Excavated	Free text box – Summary description of the basis on which the archaeological category or sub-category is based
Scale	Drop-down list	Scale at which digitisation was undertaken 1:1250 preferred

ArchDepth	Visible or upstanding archaeology	Depth of Archaeology below modern ground surface where known or can be inferred from adjoining archaeological deposits, land use or topography NB: the data field records survival of intact structural, occupational or environmental deposits not ploughzone or other reworked artefacts. In urban areas overburden will typically be 19th/20th century 'made ground'.
	<1m (most agricultural soils)	
	1-2m	
	2-5m	
	c. 5m +	
	Unknown depth	
Waterlogged	High (waterlogged remains known to be present or can be expected due to ground conditions)	This field captures the potential for waterlogged structural and environmental remains. If the site is destroyed it is presumed that there is no potential left.
	Medium (ground conditions probably suitable in deeper layers or features)	
	Low (ground conditions not suitable except occasionally in deeper layers/features	
	Negligible (ground conditions unlikely or site known to have been drained)	
	Unknown	
Protection - Physical	Good evidence, classifications very likely to be correct	This field captures whether any form of physical protection, such as a geotextile cover or preserved within a basement, has been put in place to protect the monument from further disturbance.
	Fair evidence, with some uncertainties, classifications probably correct	
	Poor evidence, classifications doubtful	
Confidence	High	Records the degree of confidence in the assessment of survival potential
	Medium	
	Low	
Originator		Name of creator of record

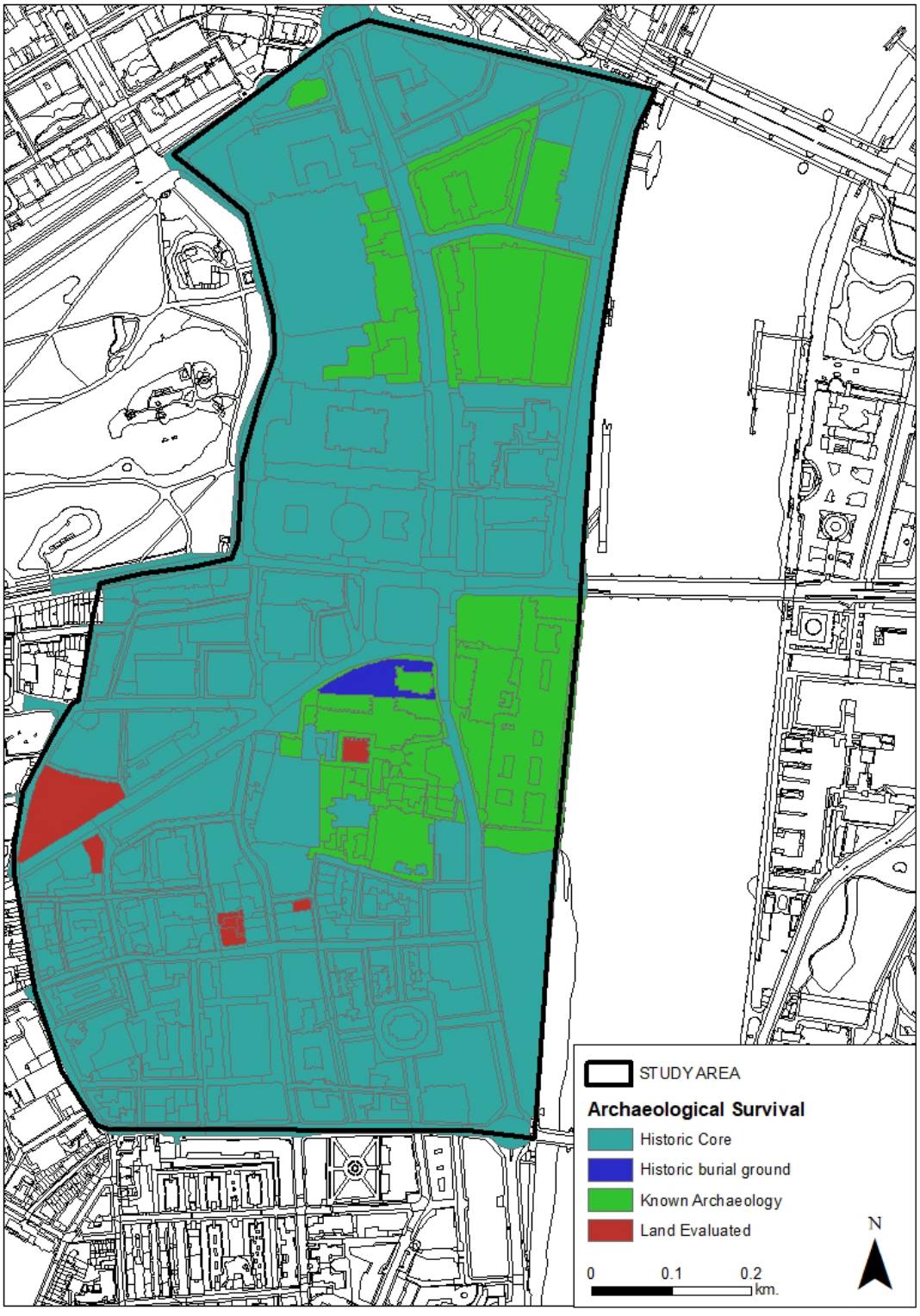

Figure 1 – Archaeological survival layers

Fig. 2 Archaeological survival layers by sub-category

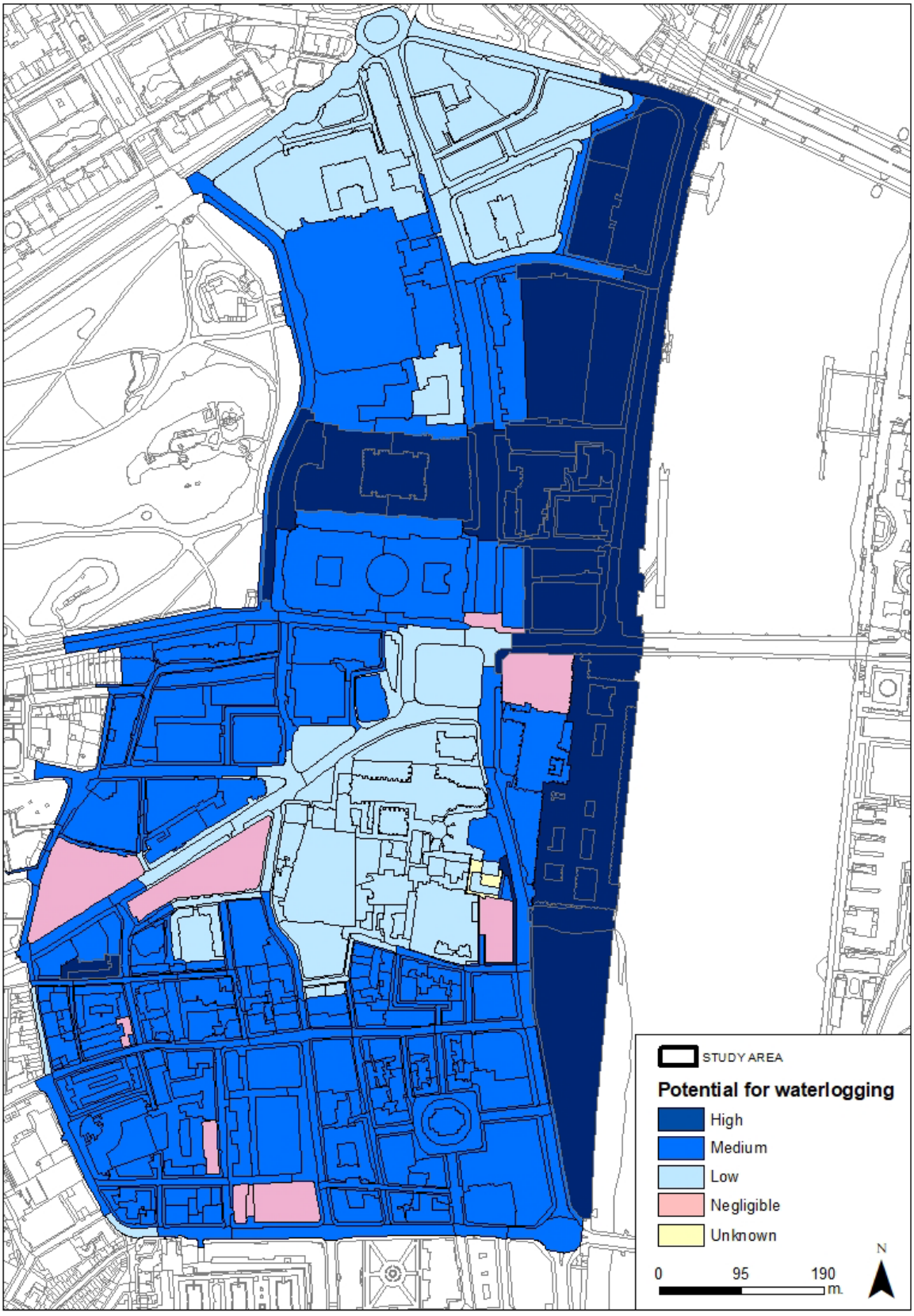

Fig. 3 Archaeological layers with potential for waterlogging