

Where known heritage assets are identified, the heritage significance of such assets is determined by reference to existing designations where available. For previously unidentified sites where no designation has been assigned, an estimate has been made of the likely historic, artistic, or archaeological importance of that resource based on professional knowledge and judgement.

Adjustments to the classification (Table 2, below) are occasionally made, where appropriate; for some types of finds or sites where there is no consistent value, and the importance may vary from local to national. Levels of importance for any such areas are generally assigned on an individual basis, based on professional judgement and advice.

**TABLE 1:** Assessing the Importance of a Heritage Assets

IMPORTANCE OF HERITAGE ASSET	
<b>HIGH</b>	Assets of high importance and rarity and those considered to be important at a national level., e.g. Scheduled Monuments (or non-designated assets of schedulable quality and importance), Grade I and II* Listed Buildings, Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Garden and Registered Battlefields. Well preserved historic landscape, whether inscribed or not, with exceptional coherence, time depth, or other critical factor(s)
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Assets of medium or high importance and rarity and those considered to be important at a regional level. Designated or non-designated assets including Grade II Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas; well preserved structures or buildings of historical significance, historic landscapes or assets of a reasonably defined extent and significance, or reasonable evidence of occupation / settlement, ritual, industrial activity etc. Examples may include burial sites, deserted medieval villages, Roman roads and dense scatter of finds.
<b>LOW</b>	Assets of low or medium importance and rarity and those considered to be important at a local level. Locally listed buildings or non-designated assets with some evidence of human activity which have the potential to contribute to local research objectives, structures or buildings of potential historical merit. Examples include assets such as historic field systems and boundaries, agricultural features such as ridge and furrow, etc.
<b>NEGLIGIBLE</b>	Assets of very low importance which are common. Heritage assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest or buildings and landscapes of no historical significance. Examples include destroyed antiquities, buildings of no architectural merit, or relatively modern landscape features such as quarries, field boundaries, drains and ponds etc.
<b>UNKNOWN</b>	Insufficient information exists to assess the importance of a feature (e.g. unidentified features on aerial photographs).

The likely magnitude of the impact of the Proposed Development works is determined by identifying the level of change from the Proposed Development upon the 'baseline' conditions of the site and the heritage resource identified in the assessment. This effect can be either adverse (negative) or beneficial (positive). The criteria for assessing the magnitude of impact are set out in Table 2 below.

**TABLE 2:** Criteria for Determining Magnitude of Impact

LEVEL OF MAGNITUDE	DEFINITION
<b>ADVERSE</b>	
<b>HIGH</b>	Considerable impacts fundamentally changing the baseline condition of the receptor, leading to total or considerable alteration of character or setting – e.g. complete or almost complete destruction of the archaeological resource; dramatic visual intrusion into a historic landscape element; adverse change to the setting or visual amenity of the feature/asset; significant increase in noise or changes in sound quality; extensive changes to use or access. Considerable impacts to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably Scheduled Monuments, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Battlefields, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, and World Heritage Sites.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Impacts changing the baseline condition of the receptor materially but not entirely, leading to partial alteration of character or setting – e.g. a large proportion of the archaeological resource damaged or destroyed; visual intrusion into key aspects of the historic landscape; and changes in noise levels or use of an asset that would result in detrimental changes to character.

<b>LOW</b>	Detectable impacts which alter the baseline condition of the receptor to a small degree – e.g. a small proportion of the surviving archaeological resource is damaged or destroyed; minor severance, change to the setting or structure or increase in noise; and limited encroachment into character of a historic landscape.
<b>NEGLIGIBLE</b>	Barely distinguishable adverse change from baseline conditions, where there would be very little appreciable impact on a known asset, possibly because of distance from the development, method of construction or landscape or ecological planting, that are thought to have no long term effect on the historic value of a resource.
<b>BENEFICIAL</b>	
<b>NEGLIGIBLE</b>	Barely distinguishable beneficial change from baseline conditions, where there would be very little appreciable effect on a known asset and little long term effect on the historic value of a resource.
<b>LOW</b>	Minimal enhancement to key historic landscape elements, parcels or components, such as limited visual improvements or reduction in severance; slight changes in noise or sound quality; minor changes to use or access; resulting in a small improvement in historic landscape character.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Changes to key historic elements resulting in welcome changes to historic landscape character. For example, a major reduction of severance or substantial reductions in noise or disturbance such that the value of known assets would be enhanced.
<b>HIGH</b>	Positive changes to most or all key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; visual changes to many key aspects of the historic landscape; significant decrease in noise or changes in sound quality; changes to use or access; resulting in considerable welcome changes to historic landscape character.

In certain cases, it is not possible to confirm the magnitude of impact upon a heritage resource, especially where anticipated buried deposits exist. In such circumstances a professional judgement as to the scale of such impacts is applied.

## Appendix 3: Glossary

## Glossary

Heritage Impact Assessment	HIA
Historic Environment Record	HER
National Planning Policy Framework	NPPF
Historic England	HE
Ordnance Survey	OS
Ceramic building materials	cbm



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