



# **Historic Environment Assessment Report**

**Leaford Solar Farm**

**October 2023**



Client	Mabbett & Associates Ltd	
Site name	Leaford Solar Farm, Fulford, Staffordshire	
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Prepared by	Helena Kelly, BSc, MCIfA	
	Heritage Archaeology Harborough Innovation Centre Airfield Business Park, Leicester Rd, Market Harborough LE16 7WB	
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### Summary

Heritage Archaeology Ltd has undertaken an historic environment assessment for a proposed solar farm at Fulford, Staffordshire.

This report provides an assessment of the baseline conditions for built heritage, archaeology and historic landscape character within the proposed development site and its vicinity. It provides an assessment of the value of the heritage assets in the baseline data and contribution made by setting to the that value.

There are no designated heritage assets within or adjacent to the Site. There are three designated heritage assets with settings that include, in part, the Site: Fulford Conservation Area, Fulford Hall (grade II listed) and the Church of St Nicholas at Fulford (grade II listed).

The parish boundary between Stallington and Fulford, evident on historic mapping and through the geophysical survey data and aerial images follows field boundaries and crosses part of the site. Ridge and furrow recorded by the HER was not evident in the walkover survey or geophysical survey although there is possible ridge and furrow in another part of the site, detected by the geophysical survey. A number of former field boundaries are documented within the site by historic mapping, and aerial images which were also identified by the geophysical survey. Non-designated Lower Gorsty Birch is a non-designated historic building, the site is in part within the setting of this asset.

The assessment demonstrates that the proposals would not significantly affect the value of these assets.

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# 1 Introduction

- 1.1. Heritage Archaeology has been commissioned by Mabbett on behalf of Renewable Energy Systems Ltd to provide a historic environment assessment for the proposed Leaford Solar Farm development at Fulford.
- 1.2. This assessment considers the likely effects of the proposed development described above on known and potential archaeology and built heritage (collectively known as heritage assets) and effects that could arise as a result of development within the setting of heritage assets.

## Site location

- 1.3. The proposed development site (the Site) is situated on land at Fulford. The site consists of approximately 69.21 hectares of agricultural land. The closest post code to the site centre is ST11 9SR.
- 1.4. The site centre is at NGR SJ95383906. The site is wholly within the modern parish of Fulford (historically the southern part of the site was in Fulford parish, the northern part in Stallington parish), Staffordshire, and the local planning authority is Stafford Borough Council. The relevant Historic Environment Record (HER) is held by Staffordshire County Council (SCC) who also advise Stafford Borough on archaeological matters.

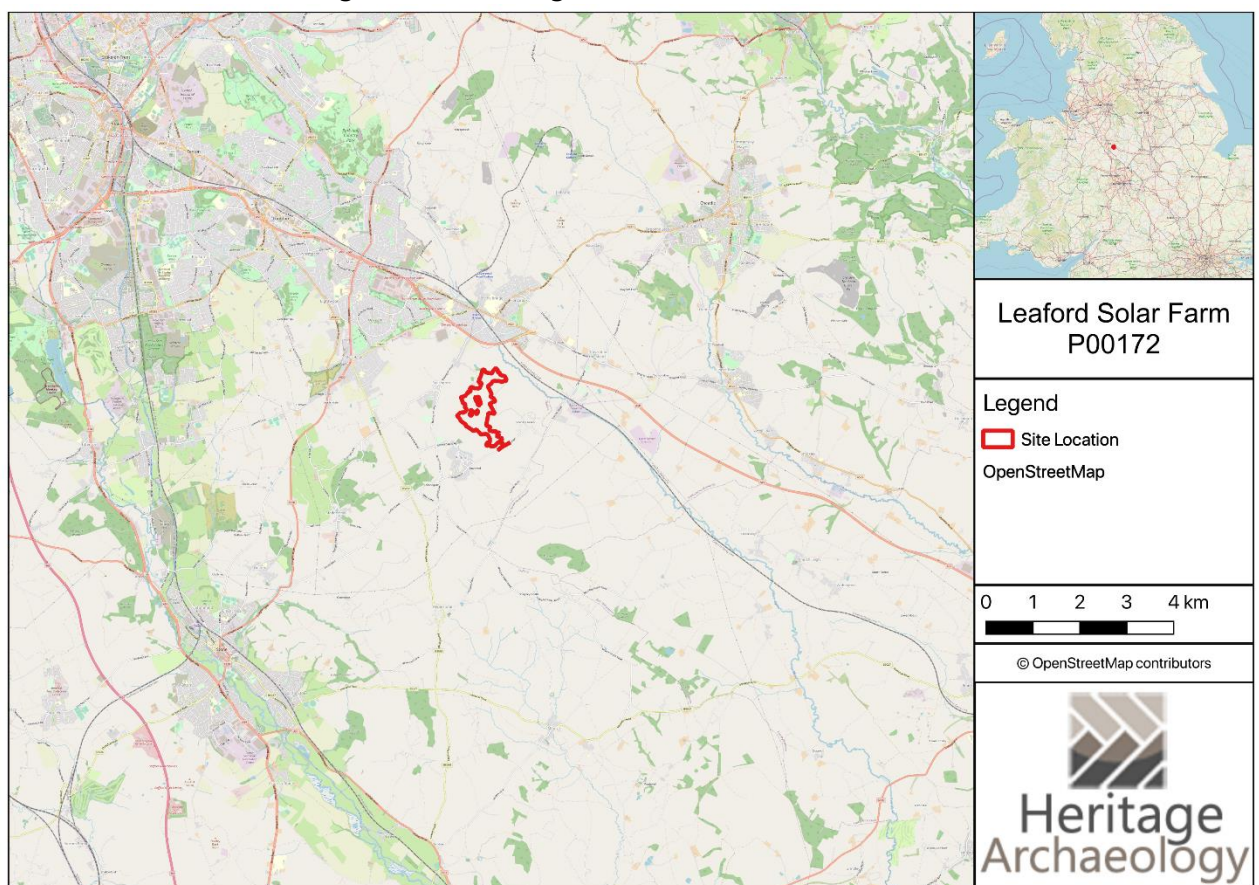


Figure 1: Site Location (site boundary in red)

## **Aims and objectives of the historic environment assessment**

- 1.5. This assessment aims to determine, as far as reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of any heritage assets that could be affected by development within the site. The assessment will also use background data to evaluate the potential for previously unrecorded heritage assets to be present within the site.
- 1.6. The specific objectives are to:
  - Collate baseline data from the sources listed below;
  - Determine the archaeological potential of the Site, as far as reasonably possible;
  - Determine the relative heritage value of the assets within the baseline data; and
  - Determine the likely impacts of the proposed development, within the context of the legislation, policy and best practice guidance listed below.

## 2 Legislation, planning policy and best practice guidance

2.1. This desk-based assessment has been undertaken within the context of the following legislative, policy and best practice provisions. Particularly, it has been undertaken in accordance with:

- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Code of Conduct (CIfA, 2020); and
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessments (CIfA, 2020).

### Legislation

#### *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990*

- 2.2. In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the decision maker shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting (section 66).
- 2.3. Section 72 of the Act provides "General duty as respects conservation areas in exercise of planning functions" part (1) states that *"In the exercise, with respect to any buildings or other land in a conservation area, ... special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area"*.

### Policy

#### *The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), 2023*

- 2.4. The National Planning Policy Framework September 2023 (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. The NPPF includes three overarching objectives for the planning system (section 2, paragraph 8), including *"c) an environmental objective – to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment..."*.
- 2.5. Paragraph 194 of the NPPF directs that applicants should be required to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the asset's importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.
- 2.6. Paragraph 201 notes that the significance of a heritage asset can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset, or development within its setting and directs that applications which would lead to substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset should be refused unless it can be demonstrated that the harm is necessary to achieve substantial public benefit. Paragraph 202 of the NPPF directs that less than substantial harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal.

- 2.7. Paragraph 203 relates to non-designated heritage assets, again directing that *"in weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset."*

#### ***Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020- 2040, Preferred Options***

- 2.8. This plan has not yet been formally adopted, but of relevance to this assessment is POLICY 41: Historic environment, which sets out the Local Planning Authority's proposed approach as:

"A. National policy and legislation will be applied in the consideration of development proposals which have potential to affect the significance of heritage assets.

B. Development proposals shall preserve and where appropriate enhance the significance of heritage assets and their settings by being based on an understanding of the heritage interest, taking opportunities for sustainable re-use and achieving high design quality.

C. All potential loss of or harm to the significance of a heritage asset, including its setting, will require clear justification...."

#### ***The Plan for Stafford Borough, 2011-2031, June 2014***

- 2.9. This is the current adopted plan. POLICY N9: Historic environment sets out the Local Planning Authority's current approach as:

"Proposals that would affect the significance of a heritage asset will not be accepted for consideration unless they provide sufficient information for that impact to be assessed. Development and advertisement proposals will be expected to sustain and, where appropriate enhance the significance of heritage assets and their setting by understanding the heritage interest, encouraging sustainable re-use and promoting high design quality. All potential loss of or harm to the significance of a heritage asset, including its setting, will require clear justification..."

### **Best practice and guidance**

- 2.10. The following guidance documents have been referenced in preparing this report.

- Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning 2, Managing significance in decision-taking in the historic environment, Historic England, 2015;
- Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning 3, 2nd Edition (GPA3): The Setting of Heritage Assets, Historic England, 2017;
- Conservation Principles; Policy for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment, Historic England, 2008;
- Historic England Advice Note 12 (HEAN 12): Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets, Historic England, 2019.



- 2.11. Historic England, in GPA2 (pages 2-8), provides advice on the assessment of significance as part of the application process. The guidance notes that it is important to understand the nature, extent and level of significance of heritage assets (the heritage value) that may be affected.
- 2.12. GPA 3 *The Setting of Heritage Assets* advises a staged approach to assessing effects on the setting of heritage assets. The key principles and method (including the '5 step' approach outlined below) were followed in completing my assessment.
- Step 1: Identifying the heritage assets potentially affected and their settings;
  - Step 2: Assessing whether, how and to what degree settings make a contribution to the significance of the heritage assets;
  - Step 3: Assessing the effect of the proposed development on the setting and therefore the significance of the assets;
  - Step 4: Maximising enhancement and minimising harm, and;
  - Step 5: Make and document the decision and monitor outcomes.
- 2.13. Historic England, at paragraph 9 (page 4) of GPA3 note that "*Setting is not itself a heritage asset, nor a heritage designation ... Its importance lies in what it contributes to the significance of the heritage asset or to the ability to appreciate that significance*".
- 2.14. Conservation Principles sets out the heritage interest (or values) that can be attached to places to help define heritage significance, these comprise:
- **Historical value** (historic interest in NPPF terminology): the way in which a heritage asset can illustrate past people, events and aspects of life and includes illustrative, associative values, as well as **communal value** (symbolic and commemorative and social values);
  - **Evidential value** (archaeological interest in NPPF terminology): a heritage asset can hold, or potentially hold, evidence of past human activity that can be revealed through investigation;
  - **Aesthetic value** (architectural or artist interest in NPPF terminology): This derives from a contemporary appreciation of the asset's aesthetics or historic design intention.



### 3 Method of assessment

#### Study area

- 3.1. Data on designated heritage assets was obtained for the development site and a buffer of 2km. This is the area in which it is anticipated historic environment effects could occur given the scale of the potential development and surrounding topography.
- 3.2. Data on non-designated heritage assets was obtained for the development site and a buffer of 1km. This study area was designed to include assets adjacent to the site but with the potential to extend into it, also to place known assets into a wider context, and to provide context when considering the archaeological potential of the development site. It also allowed consideration of effects on the settings of non-designated heritage assets. This study area was informed by a preliminary appraisal of baseline data.

#### Data sources

- 3.3. The following data sources were consulted in compiling this report:
  - the Staffordshire Historic Environment Record (HER);
  - the National Heritage List for England held by Historic England;
  - the National Record of the Historic Environment (also known as PastScape), maintained by Historic England and viewed via the Heritage Gateway website;
  - the Ordnance Survey map sequence (19th and 20th century) at 1:10000, 1:10560, 1:2500 and 1:1250 scales;
  - tithe maps (and apportionments);
  - English Place Name Society volumes or similar authoritative works covering place names of the study area;
  - geological maps of the study area;
  - previous archaeological interventions records relating to sites in and immediately adjacent to the study area;
  - other published works, grey-literature reports and other information relevant to the desk-based assessment;
  - relevant local plan data held by Staffordshire Borough Council (e.g., conservation area appraisals, Local Plans);
  - the Staffordshire Historic Environment Character Zones data (provided as part of the HER consultation); and
  - Portable Antiquities Scheme data, available from the PAS website.
- 3.4. A full bibliography is provided in section 7, below.

## Site visit

### 3.5. Site visits were undertaken to assess:

- The nature of the surroundings of heritage assets within the vicinity of the development area, to determine the contribution made by setting to the significance of those assets (including visual and functional relationships with other heritage assets, formal design, openness, integrity and change over time);
- The way the assets are appreciated, experienced and understood in terms of the contribution made by setting to significance (including views, visual prominence, associated attributes, and intentional inter-visibility with other assets).
- The extent, condition and character of known heritage assets within the site, as far as reasonably possible;
- The potential for the site to include previously unrecorded heritage assets; and
- Any health, safety or environmental considerations relevant to future field work or archaeological potential.

## Determining the level of effect

- 3.6. The level of effect on a heritage asset has been determined by assessing the heritage value of the asset, then comparing that to the predicted magnitude of change (the impact).

### *Establishing heritage value (receptor importance)*

- 3.7. An assessment of the heritage values of the assets within the baseline data, and the contribution made by setting to those values, has been undertaken. The value of the historic asset is described in terms of its heritage values (evidential, historical/communal, aesthetic). Determining heritage significance is a professional judgment made with reference to Conservation Principles (Historic England, 2008). For designated assets the importance will be recorded as 'high' or 'very high' as these assets meet the national criteria for designation under the relevant legislation.

Receptor Importance	Description
<b>Very High (International)</b>	Internationally important resources and designated assets of the highest significance: Grade I and II* listed buildings, Grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, World Heritage Sites.
<b>High (National)</b>	Nationally important resources: Grade II Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens, scheduled monuments, registered battlefields.
<b>Moderate (Regional)</b>	Regionally important resources: Non-designated historic assets and landscape features with high or moderate evidential, historical, and/ or aesthetic values.
<b>Low (Local)</b>	Locally important resources: Non-designated historic assets and landscape features with low evidential, historical, and/or aesthetic values.
<b>Negligible</b>	Assets with very low or no evidential, historical, and/ or aesthetic values, or where remains are known to have been significantly altered or destroyed.

### *Magnitude of impact*

- 3.8. The magnitude of impact in relation to the historic environment relates to harm to or loss of significance through alteration or destruction of the historic asset or development within its setting. The former relates to any direct physical harm, including total or partial loss of the asset. Where the development only affects the setting of the asset, there is no direct physical harm but loss of or change to the asset's setting can (where setting contributes to the significance of the asset) result in a reduced ability to experience and understand the asset's heritage significance.
- 3.9. Assessing the impact of the proposed development in relation to the historic environment baseline has been considered in relation to the following criteria and is a professional judgement made with reference to the relevant guidance referred to above.

Magnitude	Definition
<b>High</b>	Total loss or substantial harm to key elements of the heritage interest of the asset or features or characteristics of the baseline (pre-development) conditions such that the adverse impact seriously affects a key element of its special interest of the asset; post development character or composition or attributes of baseline will be fundamentally changed.
<b>Moderate</b>	Partial loss or harm to one or more important elements or features or characteristics of the baseline (pre-development) conditions such that post development character or composition, or attributes of baseline will be significantly changed.
<b>Low</b>	Minor loss. Change arising from the loss or alteration will be discernible but underlying character or composition or attributes of the baseline condition will be similar to pre-development circumstances or patterns.
<b>Negligible</b>	No loss or alteration. Change not distinguishable or does not result in loss of heritage significance.

### *Significance of effect*

- 3.10. Professional judgement has been applied in determining the overall significance of effect within the broad categories identified by the below matrix. The assessment takes into account the relative value (significance) of the asset, the contribution made by setting to that value, and the predicted magnitude of effect that would result from the proposed development.

Magnitude of effect	Importance of receptor				
	Very High	High	Moderate	Low	Negligible
<b>High</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Major</b> or Moderate	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Major</b> or Moderate	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
<b>Low</b>	<b>Major</b> or Moderate	Moderate or Minor	Moderate or Minor	Negligible	Negligible
<b>Negligible</b>	Moderate or Minor	Minor or Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

- 3.11. In policy terms (NPPF paragraph 201 and 202), harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset can be substantial or less than substantial. Planning practice guidance identifies that substantial harm is a high test. This is normally associated with total loss of a heritage asset's significance and will generally be equivalent to a major effect in the scale set out above. Less than substantial harm is a broader spectrum, with negligible effects at the lowest end of the scale and medium level effects at the higher end.

### **Limitations and appraisal of the assessment method**

- 3.12. Archaeological evidence is often buried and invisible from the ground surface. In common with any desk-based assessment, it is therefore possible that the extent, character and significance of an asset could be poorly understood or vary from that described in the consulted data sources. A reasonable worst case has been taken in the assessment that follows, and professional judgement used to determine the likely significance (or value) of heritage assets where the precise nature of the asset is not known.
- 3.13. Data from the Portable Antiquaries Scheme has been searched, but the locational information is restricted and the data is referenced in terms of the archaeological context of the site but has not been included in the gazetteer of known heritage assets.
- 3.14. Evidence from aerial photographs is limited by ground conditions, weather and seasonal variations. The visibility of cropmark features will depend on these factors and on the nature of the archaeology and it is understood that cropmark evidence is only one factor in determining the potential for archaeology within a study area.
- 3.15. Geophysical survey data has also been compiled for this site (referenced below and reported separately). The following limitations are generic to any geophysical survey: Geophysical survey can only detect features that have properties that can be measured by the implemented survey technique, and for those properties to have sufficient contrast with the background geology and soil to be detected. This survey technique can also be limited by the depth of buried archaeology, the presence of highly magnetic debris on the site, masking from ferrous material, or the features being too small to detect. More detail on the survey method and limitations is provided in Section 3 of the geophysical survey report.
- 3.16. Nonetheless, the combined data sources, aerial photograph assessment and walk over survey have been drawn from sources generally considered to be reliable and therefore to provide an accurate description of baseline conditions for the historic environment that is suitable for the purpose of assessment.

## 4 Archaeological and historic context

- 4.1. The geology of the Site is mapped by the British Geological Society (BGS) as siltstone, mudstone and sandstone of the Tarporley Siltstone Formation. This is overlain by Diamicton, sedimentary superficial deposit.
- 4.2. The site slopes upwards from the north at approximately 170m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) to a maximum height of approximately 206m AOD in the south-west, before falling to 188m AOD at its southern boundary. A small water course crosses the northern part of the site on an east – west alignment, this runs to the River Blithe which is to the east of the site.

### *Prehistoric*

- 4.3. There is very little evidence for early prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site, and none is recorded within the 1km study area. Similarly, while nationally, the Neolithic period saw the establishment of more settled communities, the construction of ritual and burial monuments, and land clearance for farming making evidence for this period more apparent in the archaeological record, no sites from this period are recorded in the study area. Finds of Neolithic flint tools have been reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme from within the wider area.
- 4.4. The Bronze Age saw the emergence of metal working and changes in ritual monuments and settlement sites. Long barrows gave way to round barrows (burial mounds) which appear as 'ring ditches' in cropmarks on aerial photographs. Ring ditches can also refer to the gullies surrounding round houses and it can be difficult to distinguish which is which from cropmark evidence. A copper alloy chisel of Middle Bronze Age date was found within the 1km study area, indicating that there may have been activity in the area during this period.
- 4.5. During the Iron Age there were further technological developments in metal working, and the emergence of apparently more organised social groupings. Tribal groupings, documented by the Romans, become evident through material culture during the Iron Age. Bury Bank Hillfort lies to the east of Fulford, north of Stone. Further Iron Age settlement enclosures are known from the lower lying land of the Trent valley. However no finds or features of this period are recorded within the 1km study area.

### *Roman (Romano-British)*

- 4.6. The Roman period began in Britain with the Roman invasion of AD43. The Romans established a military presence in the south of England and pushed north, founding roads and fortresses and later civilian settlements. Roman towns developed at Littlechester, Rocester and Chesterton and the probable route of a Roman road from Littlechester to Chesterton has been postulated to the north of the A50. Again, no finds or features from this period are recorded within the 1km study area.

### *Early medieval*

- 4.7. Fulford is recorded in the Domesday Book, 1086, which notes that before the Norman Conquest it was held by Almer, indicating that this was the site of an early medieval settlement. However no population is noted in the Domesday entry suggesting it was an abandoned settlement at that time. Some manors recorded as waste or abandoned in the Domesday Book were as a result of the 'harrying of the north', a campaign by William I to suppress rebellion to his rule in the northern counties of England. No finds or features of early medieval date are recorded within the 1km study area.

### *Medieval*

- 4.8. The settlement pattern that is evident within the vicinity of the proposed development site was established in the medieval period. 'Fulston Chappel' is shown as a settlement on Speed's map of Staffordshire, 1610, indicating a small village with a chapel, the Church of St Nicolas dates to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. However a 19<sup>th</sup> century record of Fulford indicates that this may have been the site of an earlier church:

*FULFORD, a chapelry, in the parish and union of Stone, S. division of the hundred of Pirehill, N. division of the county of Stafford, 4¾ miles (N. E.) from Stone; containing 363 inhabitants. It lies in the Hilderstone quarter of the parish. Quarries of excellent freestone are wrought in the vicinity. The living is a perpetual curacy; net income, £129; patron and impropriator, Thomas Allen, Esq. The chapel is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and is of very ancient foundation, but was rebuilt in 1824; it stands on an eminence north of the village. A school-house was built pursuant to the will of George Hiatt, who in 1735 bequeathed £300 for its support. (A topographical Dictionary of England, 1848)*

- 4.9. The medieval village is described in the Fulford Conservation Area Appraisal as a manorial dependency of Robert de Stafford in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. In the early 14<sup>th</sup> century, Adam de Fulford was recorded as the Lord of the Manor. The manor house is no longer extant but may have been on the site of Fulford Hall Farm. The appraisal references that a 13<sup>th</sup> century chapel was demolished and replaced by St Nicolas's Church.
- 4.10. The medieval village appears to have developed with a focus around Fulford Hall and the church (potentially a manor/ church grouping) which then developed out towards Townend. The fields beyond, including the proposed development site, were likely to have been farmed as open fields during the medieval period. Records of a ridge and furrow within the 1km study area attest to medieval farming in the area.
- 4.11. Stallington Hall may have been the site of a grange of the Augustinian priory of Stone. The current Stallington Hall was an 18<sup>th</sup> century country house with parkland, it was converted to use as a hospital.



### *Post medieval*

- 4.12. The 19<sup>th</sup> century censuses for Fulford record agricultural as the most common employment for residents within the village and Fulford appears to have been a farming community throughout this period, with a number of small farms and farmworkers cottages. Buildings within the village date from the 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 4.13. The field pattern within the Site was established through enclosure of the open fields in the post medieval period and was complete by the time of the tithe map and apportionment, 1848-9. The field pattern shown on the tithe map is largely unaltered between that mapping and the first edition Ordnance Survey. A number of plantation woodlands and pools are shown on this historic mapping, indicating that some of the land was not particularly productive for arable production and also potentially some localised quarrying activity.

### **Site visit**

- 4.14. The site was visited in May and September 2023, weather conditions and visibility was good. The proposed development site comprised a series of pasture and arable fields with generally mature and outgrown hedgerows and mature trees. Ponds were noted within the site, that may have resulted from localised quarrying. No assets were identified within the site to add to the baseline data. The one recorded asset within the site is an area of ridge and furrow that was not evident as earthworks during the survey.
- 4.15. The fields within the site have been numbered for reference as follows:

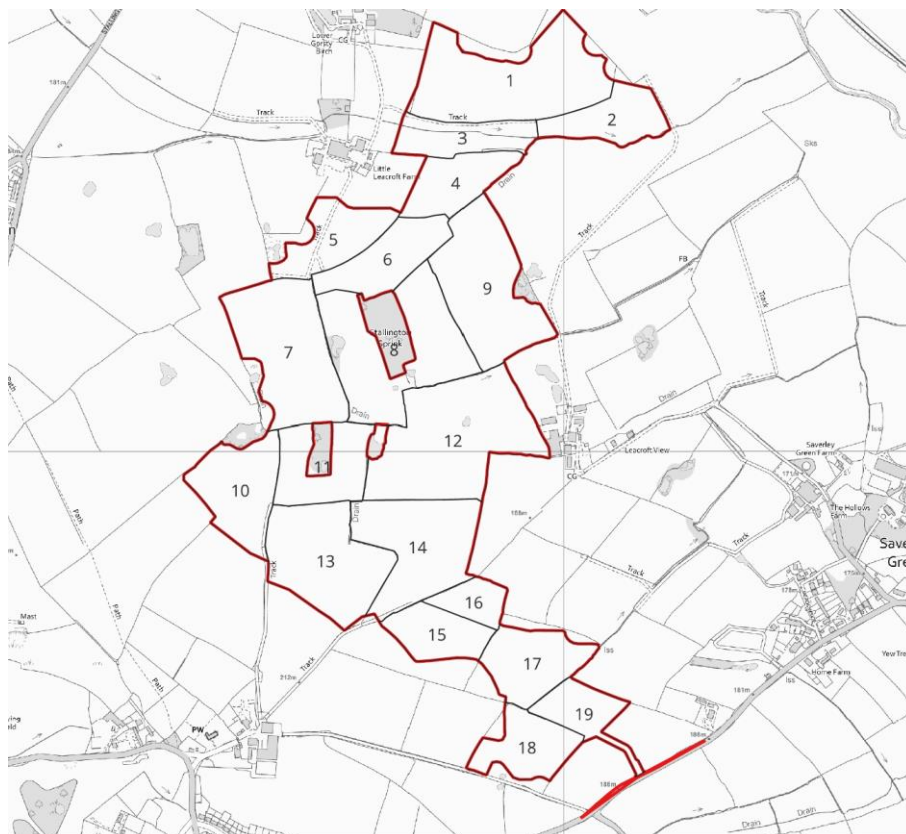


Figure 2: Field numbers



4.16. Site visit notes, by field, are as follows:

Field no.	Site visit note
1	Field slopes gently from north to south (southern part lowest, near to stream). Hedges are hawthorn. Open views to Lower Gorstybirch. No land use or field name recorded on Tithe Apportionment (Stallington parcel 12).
2	Lower lying land with water course along southern boundary. Hawthorn hedges. No land use or field name recorded on Tithe Apportionment (Stallington parcel 15).
3	Lower lying land with water course through field. Hawthorn hedges. No finds or features noted. No land use or field name recorded on Tithe Apportionment (Stallington parcel 15).
4	Lower lying land with mature mixed species hedges. No land use or field name recorded on Tithe Apportionment (part of Stallington parcel 14). Field access from Little Leacroft Farm shown on historic mapping, marked on site by mature trees in hedgerow.
5	Lower lying land with mature mixed species hedges. No land use or field name recorded on Tithe Apportionment (part of Stallington parcel 14).
6	Lower lying land with mature mixed species hedges. No land use or field name recorded on Tithe Apportionment for northern part of the site (Stallington parcel 14). Southern part of site is within Tithe Apportionment Fulford parcel 66, Sprink meadow. The former boundary shown on historic mapping was not evident on site but can be seen in aerial images.
7	Field rises from north to south (southern part highest). Mature mixed species hedges. On the Tithe Map this field is shown as two land parcels 505 and 506 Galley Flats – orchard. East – west former field boundary not evident on site but can be seen in aerial images. Not shown as orchard on historic mapping, no evidence for this on site. Two ponds on historic mapping just beyond Site boundary. Ridge and furrow is recorded in the northern part of this field by the HER, it was not evident as earthworks.
8	On rising land as Field 7. Mature mixed species hedge and woodland block. Shown as five different plots on the tithe map – Fulford plots 67 & 69 (Plantation), 64 (Piece between Sprinks, pasture) and 68 & 70 (White Piece, Pasture).
9	On rising land as Field 7. Mature mixed species hedge. Shown as two different plots on the tithe map – Fulford plots 62 Chapel leasow, pasture and 63, plantation.
10	On higher lying level land. Mature mixed species hedges. Shown as two different plots on the tithe map – Fulford plots 500 Over black flat, pasture and 502, Lower ash broom. Former field boundary not evident on site but can be seen in aerial images.
11	On higher lying level land. Mature mixed species hedge and woodland block. Shown as two different plots on the tithe map – Fulford plots 503 Lower black flat, arable and 504, Plantation. Former quarrying evident in woodland.
12	On slightly rising land. Mature mixed species hedges. Shown as two different plots on the tithe map – Fulford plots 72 Chapel leasow, arable and 76, Middle chapel leasow, pasture. Former quarrying evident in woodland between fields 11 & 12. Former field boundary not evident on site but can be seen in aerial images. Pond in middle of field, shown on historic mapping.
13	On slightly rising land. Mature mixed species hedges. Shown as part of four different plots on tithe map – Fulford plots 499, Over black flat, arable, 498, Cow pasture, arable, 159, Lower horse pasture, arable, 158, Plantation. Former field boundary not evident on site but can be seen in aerial images. Former field boundary marked by remnant trees.
14	On slightly rising land. Mature mixed species hedges. Shown as two different plots on the tithe map – Fulford plots 73 Chapel leasow, arable and 157, lower horse pasture, arable. Former field boundary not evident.
15 & 16	On higher lying level land. Mature mixed species hedges. Plot 156 on Fulford tithe map, Far rough leasow, pasture. Footpath to north of field shown as field access track on historic maps.

Field no.	Site visit note
17	On higher lying level land. Mature mixed species hedges. Shown as part of three different plots on tithe map – Fulford plots 155, 154, & 146 – all 'Salt Ground' pasture.
18	On slightly sloping (north to south, south lower) land. Mature mixed species hedges with hedge banks. Plot 164 on Fulford tithe map, New leasow, arable.
19	On slightly sloping (north to south, south lower) land. Mature mixed species hedges with hedge banks. Plot 153 on Fulford tithe map, New park, meadow.

## Historic map regression

4.17. The proposed development site is shown on the tithe map for the parish of Fulford, dated 1849 and parish or township of Stallington, dated 1848. It is within a field pattern of irregular and regularly shaped enclosed fields, with the following fields within or partially including the site. The field pattern alters very little between this mapping and the first edition Ordnance Survey. However during the 20<sup>th</sup> century a degree of field boundary loss and reorganisation is documented by the historic map sequence.

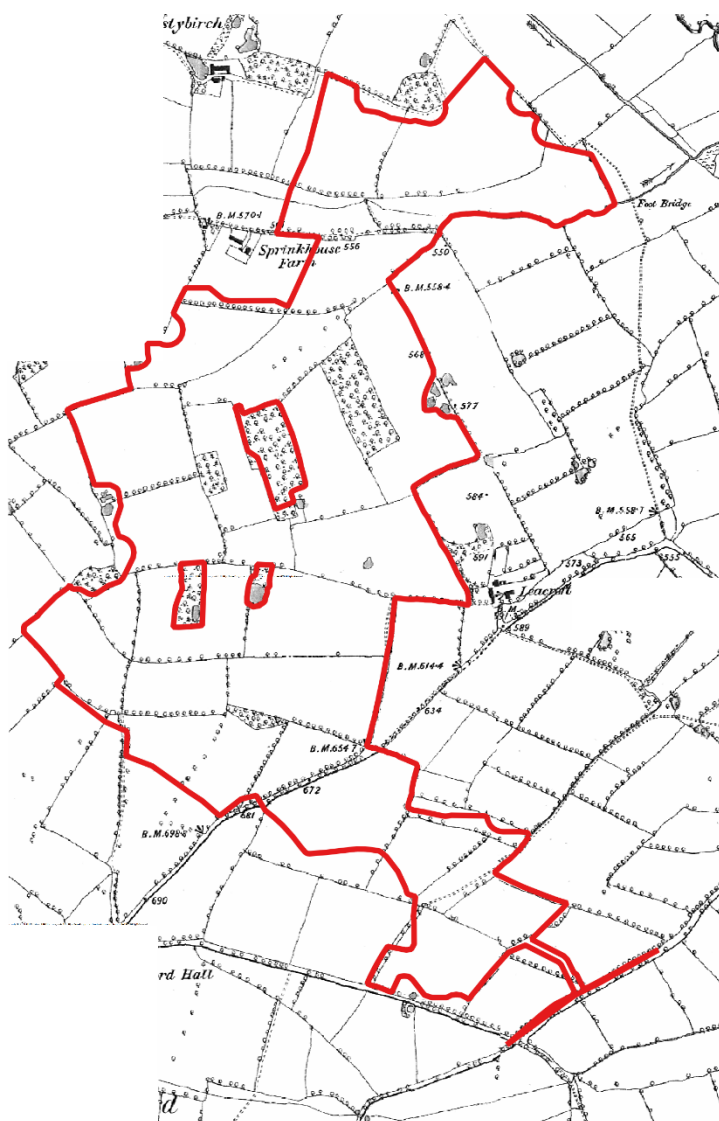


Figure 3: Ordnance Survey County Series, 1888, 1:10,560 (Landmark Group)

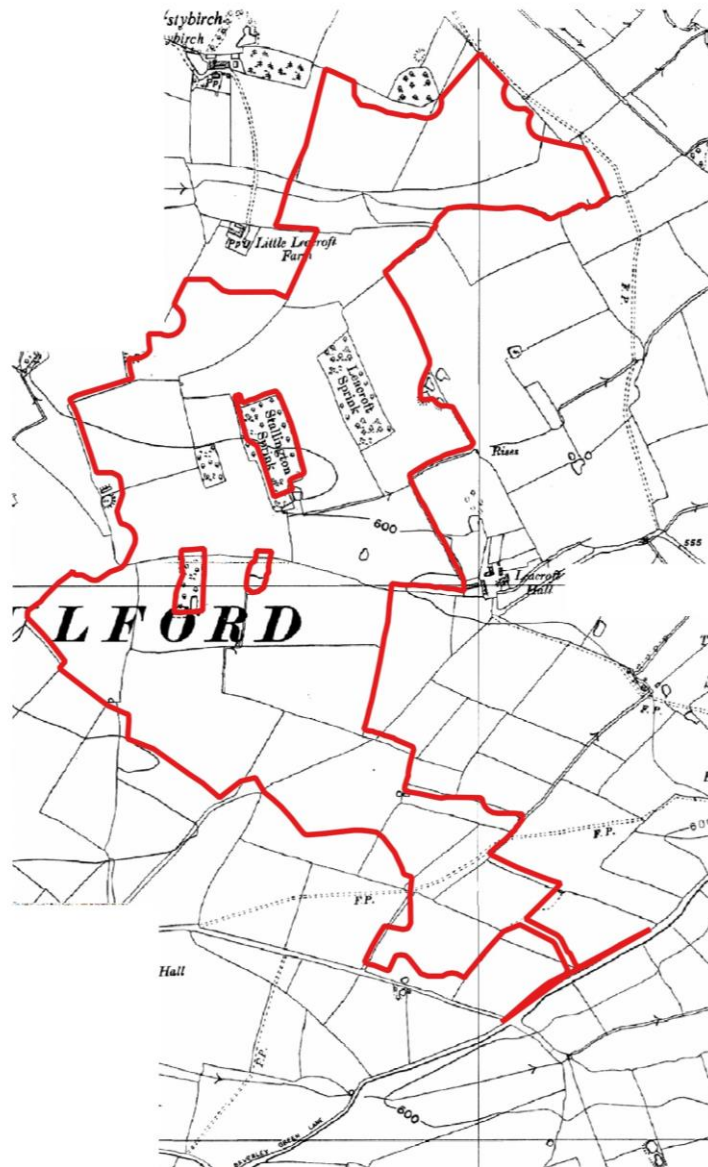


Figure 4: Ordnance Survey County Series, 1954, 1:10,560 (Landmark Group)

### *Historic landscape character*

4.18. The Historic Landscape Characterisation project for Staffordshire records the historic landscape character types within the proposed development site as follows:

- The southern part of the Site is within HLC ID HST28753, piecemeal enclosure, informal enclosure of former medieval strip fields;
- The central part of the Site is within HLC ID HST28745, piecemeal enclosure;
- The western part of the Site is within HLC ID HST28750, re-organised piecemeal enclosure;
- The northern part of the Site is within HLC ID HST28744, miscellaneous flood plain fields (previously flood plain / valley floor fields) and HLC ID HST1756, small irregular fields.

- 4.19. Historic mapping indicates that the field pattern shown on the tithe maps is largely preserved, although a degree of reorganisation and boundary loss is evident. The hedgerows within and bounding the site are therefore considered to be part of a field system that existed before 1845, and are therefore 'important' in terms of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.
- 4.20. Fulford and Stallington are now within Fulford Parish, but the tithe map and apportionment show the township or parish boundary between these settlements following the hedgerow to the north of Field 7 and then crossing through Field 6, and then following the hedgerow between Fields 4 and 9. The former boundary is not evident in the field but can be seen on aerial photographs. It was also identified in the geophysical survey and recorded as a FB4 (interpreted as a field boundary). It is also evident in Lidar data.



Figure 5 Bing Images, 2023

Figure 6 Environment Agency Open Data Lidar, DTM 50cm-1m

- 4.21. As shown above, the ridge and furrow recorded by the HER within the site is not evident on the ground or in aerial images or on Lidar.

### *Previous archaeological events*

- 4.22. No previous archaeological events are recorded by the HER within the site.
- 4.23. A geophysical survey has been undertaken as part of the assessment for the current application. That survey is included as a separate report: Bishop, R and Berry, M. 2023. Leaford Solar Farm, Stoke on Trent Geophysical Survey Report. Headland Archaeology. That report concluded that "By far the most common anomalies identified within the dataset are due to geological, agricultural or modern causes. Anomalies locating twelve former field boundaries have been identified as well as field drains and service pipes. Two discrete, magnetically enhanced anomalies of uncertain origin have been recorded close to the boundary of the survey area. No anomalies of archaeological potential have been recorded. Overall, it is determined that the survey results provide a reliable indication of the archaeological potential of the geophysical survey area (GSA). The archaeological potential is consequently assessed as very low."

## 5 Known heritage assets within the study area

### Designated heritage assets

5.1. There are 18 designated heritage assets within the 2km study area. These are shown on Figure 7 and included in the gazetteer, both in Appendix A. The designated assets comprise one grade II\* listed buildings, 16 grade II listed buildings and one conservation area:

- Asset ID CA1 Fulford conservation area summaries the special interest of Fulford as including a variety of 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings with a wealth of farmhouses and outbuildings. The asset has very high historic, communal and aesthetic value. Tall native hedgerows are noted, as are two historic green spaces, The Green and The Dale. The farmland that surrounds and is interspersed with the historic buildings of the village is noted as the setting of the conservation area. Important views noted in the Conservation Area Appraisal include views to the south west across the field to the south of Fulford Hall. No views towards or including the Site are depicted. The Site is within the setting of the conservation area.
- Asset ID LB1 is grade II listed Church of St Nicholas at Fulford. The church is by C H Winks and dates to 1825, it is in the gothic style. The asset has high historic, communal and aesthetic value. The church and churchyard are slightly elevated but mature trees provide a sense of enclosure and limit views of the wider surrounding area. The church is not particularly visually prominent and its setting is its surrounding church yard, and the immediately adjacent fields in which it is experienced. The Site is within the setting of the church.
- Asset ID LB2 is grade II listed Fulford Hall. Fulford Hall is an 18<sup>th</sup> century house with later alterations. The asset has high historic and aesthetic value. Fulford Hall sits within the farmyard to the associated farm and this includes modern farm buildings, with some surviving older buildings. The tithe apportionment for Fulford (1849) records the owner of Fulford Hall as Richard Hill Clarke and the occupier as Benjamin Finney. The 1851 census records a Benjamin Finney in Fulford, with his occupation listed as 'farmer of 210 acres employing 1 labourer'. Some of the land within the Site was in the same ownership at that time. There is intervisibility between Fulford Hall and St Nicholas's Church and the building is experienced within a working farm surrounded by fields and therefore has a clearly agricultural context. The Site is within the setting of Fulford Hall.
- Asset ID LB3 is grade II listed Garden House at Fulford Hall. It is an 18<sup>th</sup> century building and has high historic and aesthetic value. It is set behind mature trees and has very limited intervisibility with Church Lane and its surroundings. The Site is completely screened from this building by the topography, the mature trees along Church Lane and the large modern farm buildings at Fulford Hall Farm. The Site is not within the setting of this asset.



- Asset ID LB4 is grade II listed Grindley Cottage, a 17<sup>th</sup> century cottage which has high historic and aesthetic value. It is separated from the Site by the A50, the Site is not within the setting of this asset.
- Asset IDs LB5 and LB6 are grade II listed Rocklands, an 18<sup>th</sup> century former farmhouse and Old House Farmhouse, a 17<sup>th</sup> century building. Both have high historic and aesthetic value. They are both in Fulford Townend and separated from the Site by modern built form within Fulford. The Site is not within the setting of these assets.
- Asset IDs LB7 is grade II\* listed Church of St Margaret, LB8 and LB9 are two grade II listed memorials within the graveyard. LB10 and LB11 are grade II listed Manor Farmhouse and Stonehouse Cottage. The assets have high aesthetic and historic value. All are within Draycott in the Moors and to the north of the A50. The Site is not within the settings of these assets.
- Asset ID LB12 and LB13 are grade II listed Stallington Hall Hospital and attached stables and Stallington Hill Farmhouse (also named as Stallington Hall Farmhouse in its list description). The assets have high aesthetic and historic value. The former is an 18<sup>th</sup> century country house. It was set within its park and garden but that has been developed for housing. The latter is a 17<sup>th</sup> century former farmhouse. There is some farmland surrounding Stallington Hall Farmhouse, which conveys its former agricultural association. However, modern housing between these assets and the Site prevents intervisibility, as does the local topography and distance of separation. The Site is not within the settings of these assets.
- Asset ID LB14, LB15 and LB16 are the grade II Roman Catholic Church of St Mary, the churchyard cross and St Mary's House. These are the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century church and cross and presbytery, originally a 17<sup>th</sup> century house with 19<sup>th</sup> century alterations. They form a group of assets with high aesthetic and communal heritage value. Their setting comprises their group value and buildings at Cresswell. The intervening buildings and railway as well as the distance of separation and topography prevents any intervisibility with the Site, which is not within the settings of these assets.
- Asset ID LB17 is Wastegate Farmhouse, a 17<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse. The asset has aesthetic and historic value. The asset is set within a farm and farmland that provides context to its agricultural heritage. The distance of separation and intervening mature trees and topography prevent any intervisibility with the Site, which is not within the setting of this asset.

### **Non-designated heritage assets**

- 5.2. There is one asset recorded within the site Asset ID 6, an area of ridge and furrow. This was not evident on site as an earthwork and was not recorded by the geophysics survey of the site.

5.3. There are a further 15 recorded non-designated heritage assets within the 1km study area. These are shown on Figure 7 and included in the gazetteer, both in Appendix A. In summary they comprise:

- Asset ID 1 – find of a Middle Bronze Age copper alloy chisel. The exact find spot is not recorded, These assets have a degree of evidential value and are of low value as an indicator for Bronze Age activity in the area;
- Asset ID 2 – Documentary references to Fulford medieval village. Asset ID 3 – Findspot of a medieval silver buckle. These assets have a degree of evidential value and are of low value as indicators of medieval activity in the area;
- Asset IDs 4 – 7 – earthwork evidence for rabbit warrens, a water meadow and ridge and furrow indicative of medieval or later farming practice. These assets have a degree of evidential and historic value and are of low value;
- Asset IDs 8 and 9 – the farmsteads associated with the grade II listed buildings at Stallington Hall Farm and Rocklands. These assets have a degree of aesthetic and historic value and are of potentially high value as curtilage structures;
- Asset ID 10 is a mill pond and race associated with Cresswell Mill. The asset has evidential and historic value and is of low value;
- Asset IDs 11 and 12 are Lower and Higher Gorsty Birch Farmsteads, these are historic farms shown on the tithe and first edition Ordnance Survey mapping. The tithe apportionment for Stallington (1848) records the owner of Lower Gorsty Birch as Charles Harway and the occupier as James Farrall. The 1851 census records a James Farrall at Stallington Farm, a farmer of 84 acres. James Farrall is also listed as the occupier for some of the land within the northern part of the Site. These assets have a degree of aesthetic and historic value, but have been extended and altered since the 19<sup>th</sup> century and they are of low value;
- Asset IDs 13 and 14 are the landscape parks at Stallington Hall and Saverley House. Both have a degree of aesthetic and historic value, although the former is largely no longer extant. They are of low value; and
- Asset IDs 15 and 16 relate to the Sandon, Hugbridge, Hilderstone and Draycott-in-the-Moors Turnpike Road and The Uttoxeter branch of the North Staffordshire Railway, which opened in 1848. The assets have historic value and are of low value.

5.4. There are two Historic Environment Character Zones within the 1km study area, neither is within or overlaps with the Site, both being to the north of the Site:

- Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook; Forsbrook, Blythe Marsh and Blythe Bridge (ID DST6439)
- Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook, south east of Blythe Bridge (ID DST6439)

5.5. Lower Gorsty Birch is adjacent to the Site, which is, in part, within the setting of this asset.



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## **The archaeological potential of the Site**

- 5.6. There is very little evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity within or close to the Site and no anomalies indicative of prehistoric activity were identified during the geophysical survey. The potential for these periods is considered to be low.
- 5.7. There is documentary evidence for early medieval and medieval settlement at Stallington and Fulford, within the vicinity of the site. Settlement is likely to have been focused around the areas of the church at Fulford and Stallington Hall. There is no evidence for settlement activity from this period within the Site and the geophysical survey did not identify any anomalies indicative of medieval settlement.
- 5.8. There is potential for evidence of medieval farming practice within the site, particularly ridge and furrow and field boundaries from this period. Ridge and furrow recorded by the HER in Field 7 was not identified during the walkover survey or by the geophysical survey, however the geophysical survey did identify possible ridge and furrow (not evident as earthworks) in Field 18 (Field 23 in that survey). The boundary between the parishes of Stallington and Fulford is evident in aerial photographs and on Lidar and was picked up by the geophysical survey in Field 6. There is then a high potential for archaeology within the site associated with medieval farming practice and land management.
- 5.9. Post medieval farming practice is also evident within the site; former field boundaries are documented within the site by historic mapping, and evident on aerial images. They were also identified by the geophysical survey. There is a high potential for archaeology within the site associated with post medieval farming practice.

## **Statement of significance**

- 5.10. Known archaeology within the site comprises:
- 5.10.1. The parish boundary between Stallington and Fulford, evident on historic mapping and through the geophysical survey data and aerial images. It follows field boundaries but also crosses Field 6. It is an asset that holds evidential and historic value at a local level and is of low heritage value.
- 5.10.2. Asset ID 6, Ridge and furrow recorded by the HER in Field 7 was not evident in the walkover survey or geophysical survey and is an asset of negligible value. There is possible ridge and furrow in Field 18, detected by the geophysical survey. This is an asset that holds evidential and historic value at a local level and is of low heritage value.
- 5.10.3. A number of former field boundaries are documented within the site by historic mapping, and aerial images which were also identified by the geophysical survey. These are assets that have evidential and historic value at a local level at most and low heritage value.

- 5.11. The historic landscape character of the Site comprises piecemeal enclosure, likely to have been the result of informal enclosure of open fields during the post medieval period. There is some modification of the 1840s field pattern through boundary loss and reorganisation. However, the extant hedgerow boundaries within the site follow the historic field pattern and are considered to meet the criteria for 'important' hedgerows in terms of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.
- 5.12. The Site forms, in part, the setting of three designated and one non-designated heritage asset:
- 5.12.1. Fulford Conservation Area is approximately 200m to the south west of the Site. Its historic and aesthetic value includes its association with the agricultural surroundings in which it is experienced and the Site is part of this setting, which makes a positive contribution to the asset's heritage value.
  - 5.12.2. Grade II listed Church of St Nicholas at Fulford is approximately 400m to the south west of the Site. Its historic, aesthetic and communal value includes its association with the rural community it serves and the rural surroundings in which it is experienced make a positive contribution to appreciating its heritage value. The Site is at the periphery of this setting.
  - 5.12.3. Grade II listed Fulford Hall is approximately 400m to the south west of the Site. Its historic and aesthetic value includes its association with the land farmed by its inhabitants and the rural surroundings in which it is experienced. The surrounding agricultural fields that can be viewed from or with the listed building therefore make a positive contribution to appreciating its heritage value. The Site is in part of this setting.
  - 5.12.4. Non-designated Lower Gorsty Birch is approximately 250m to the north west of the Site. Its historic and aesthetic value includes its association with the land farmed by its inhabitants and the rural surroundings in which it is experienced. The surrounding agricultural fields that can be viewed from or with the historic building therefore make a positive contribution to appreciating its heritage value. The Site is in part of this setting.

## 6 Assessment and conclusions

### Impacts assessment

- 6.1. A solar farm and associated infrastructure is proposed on land at Fulford, Staffordshire. The solar array, battery, cabling, and accesses have the potential to impact any buried archaeology within the development footprint. It also has the potential to affect the value of a heritage asset through changes to the asset's setting.
- 6.2. Design iterations have taken account of the settings of the nearest listed buildings and the layout has allowed for a significant buffer between the solar array and these assets (Fulford Conservation Area, Fulford Hall Farmhouse and St Nicolas's Church).

### *Designated heritage assets*

- 6.3. There are no designated heritage assets within or adjacent to the Site. There are three designated heritage assets with settings that include, in part, the Site.

### *Fulford Conservation Area*

- 6.4. The heritage value of Fulford Conservation Area rests in its historic and aesthetic value as a rural village with a medieval street pattern and buildings of 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century date. The rural surroundings of the conservation area and surrounding fields contribute to its heritage value providing context to its strong agricultural links. The Site forms part of this setting, however, not all of the asset's setting includes the Site, and not all of the Site is within the asset's setting. Most of the Site lacks any intervisibility with the conservation area, as a result of the intervening mature vegetation and topography. Where views between the conservation area and Site are available, they are filtered by trees and hedgerows and buffered by the intervening fields. The ability to appreciate the rural context of the conservation area will be largely preserved and the contribution made by setting to its heritage values largely unaltered. The predicted effect is of negligible magnitude and significance. This is equivalent to less than substantial harm at the lowest end of that scale of effects.

### *Grade II listed Church of St Nicholas, Fulford*

- 6.5. The heritage value of the church rests in its historic fabric and form and the surrounding churchyard. Beyond that, views of the church from Church Lane and its immediately adjacent rural surroundings, including intervisibility with Fulford Hall, contribute to its heritage value providing context to its links to the agricultural community it served. The Site forms part of this setting, however, not all of the asset's setting includes the Site, and not all of the Site is within the asset's setting, also the more immediate setting of the adjacent churchyard and fields most strongly contribute to the asset's heritage values, the Site is at the periphery of this setting. Most of the Site lacks any intervisibility with the church, as a result of the intervening mature vegetation and topography. Where views between the church and Site are available, they are filtered by trees and hedgerows (including the mature trees that surround the churchyard) and buffered by the intervening fields. The ability to appreciate the

rural context of the church will be preserved and the contribution made by setting to its heritage values unaltered. Given the lack of intervisibility, and that the key aspects of setting that contribute to the heritage values of the asset are unaltered, the effect is none.

*Grade II Listed Fulford Hall*

- 6.6. The heritage value of Fulford Hall rests in its historic and aesthetic value as a farmhouse within what is still a working farm. The rural surroundings of the listed building and surrounding fields contribute to its heritage value providing context to its strong agricultural links, and the association with the land farmed from it. The Site forms part of this setting, however, not all of the asset's setting includes the Site, and not all of the Site is within the asset's setting. Most of the Site lacks any intervisibility with Fulford Hall, as a result of the intervening mature vegetation and topography, and also the large modern farm buildings situated between the listed building and the Site. The ability to appreciate the rural context of Fulford Hall and its relationship with the working farm in which it is experienced will be largely preserved and the contribution made by setting to its heritage values largely unaltered. The predicted effect is of negligible magnitude and significance. This is equivalent to less than substantial harm at the lowest end of that scale of effects.

*Non-designated heritage assets*

- 6.7. The parish boundary between Stallington and Fulford, evident on historic mapping and through the geophysical survey data and aerial images follows field boundaries and crosses Field 6. It is an asset of low heritage value. The impact on this asset would be low, given the scale of ground works necessary for the proposed Development. A negligible impact is therefore predicted, before mitigation.
- 6.8. Asset ID 6, Ridge and furrow recorded by the HER in Field 7 was not evident in the walkover survey or geophysical survey and is an asset of negligible value. The impact on that asset is none.
- 6.9. There is possible ridge and furrow in Field 18, detected by the geophysical survey. This is an asset of low heritage value. The impact on this asset would be low, given the scale of ground works necessary for the proposed Development. A negligible impact is therefore predicted, before mitigation.
- 6.10. A number of former field boundaries are documented within the site by historic mapping, and aerial images which were also identified by the geophysical survey. These are assets of at most low heritage value. The impact on these assets would be negligible, given the scale of ground works necessary for the proposed Development. A negligible impact is therefore predicted, before mitigation.
- 6.11. Non-designated Lower Gorsty Birch is approximately 250m to the north west of the Site. The northern fields of the Site forms part of this setting, however, not all of the asset's setting includes the Site. Most of the Site lacks any intervisibility with Lower Gorsty Birch, as a result of the intervening mature vegetation and topography, and also the modern farm buildings

situated between the historic building and the Site. The ability to appreciate the rural context of Lower Gorsty Birch would be largely preserved and the contribution made by setting to its heritage values largely unaltered. The predicted effect is of negligible magnitude and significance.

- 6.12. The historic landscape character of the site is retained within the layout of the proposed development, with hedgerows retained throughout the Site. The ponds which may be evidence for former quarrying activity are either outside of the Site boundary or retained within the layout.

### **Mitigation**

- 6.13. The results of the desk-based assessment and field surveys undertaken to date indicate a low potential for archaeology within the site and the proposed development will have relatively limited below ground impacts.
- 6.14. However, if necessary, a further programme of archaeological field survey and recording could be implemented to allow for the characterisation of the archaeology within those parts of the site affected by below ground works. A record of the known archaeology within the site (field boundaries, parish boundary and potential ridge and furrow) could be undertaken during the course of below ground works in those areas, through archaeological observation and investigation.
- 6.15. The programme of archaeological work could be set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) that has been agreed with the local planning authority and Staffordshire County Council's Archaeology Service and could be secured as a condition of any forthcoming planning consent. Following the implementation of a suitable programme of archaeological work, the proposed development would result in a negligible effect on the historic environment.

### **Consultation**

- 6.16. The above recommendation is subject to consultation with the Staffordshire County Council's Archaeology Service, archaeological advisors to Stafford Borough Council.

## 7 References, glossary and abbreviations

*Time periods used are as follows:*

- Prehistoric: 500,000 BP - AD 43
  - Mesolithic: 10,000 – 4,000 BC
  - Neolithic: 4,000 – 2,200 BC
  - Bronze Age: 2,600 - 700 BC
  - Iron Age: 800 BC – AD 43
- Roman: 43 – 410
- Early medieval: 410 - 1066
- Medieval: 1066 – 1540
- Post Medieval: 1540 - 1901
- Modern: 1901 - present

*Abbreviations used are as follows:*

- CA – Conservation area
- HER – Historic Environment Record
- LB – Listed Building (LB GII = Grade II listed; LB GII\* = Grade II\* listed)
- NDHA – Non-designated heritage asset

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## Appendix A Gazetteer and location of recorded heritage assets

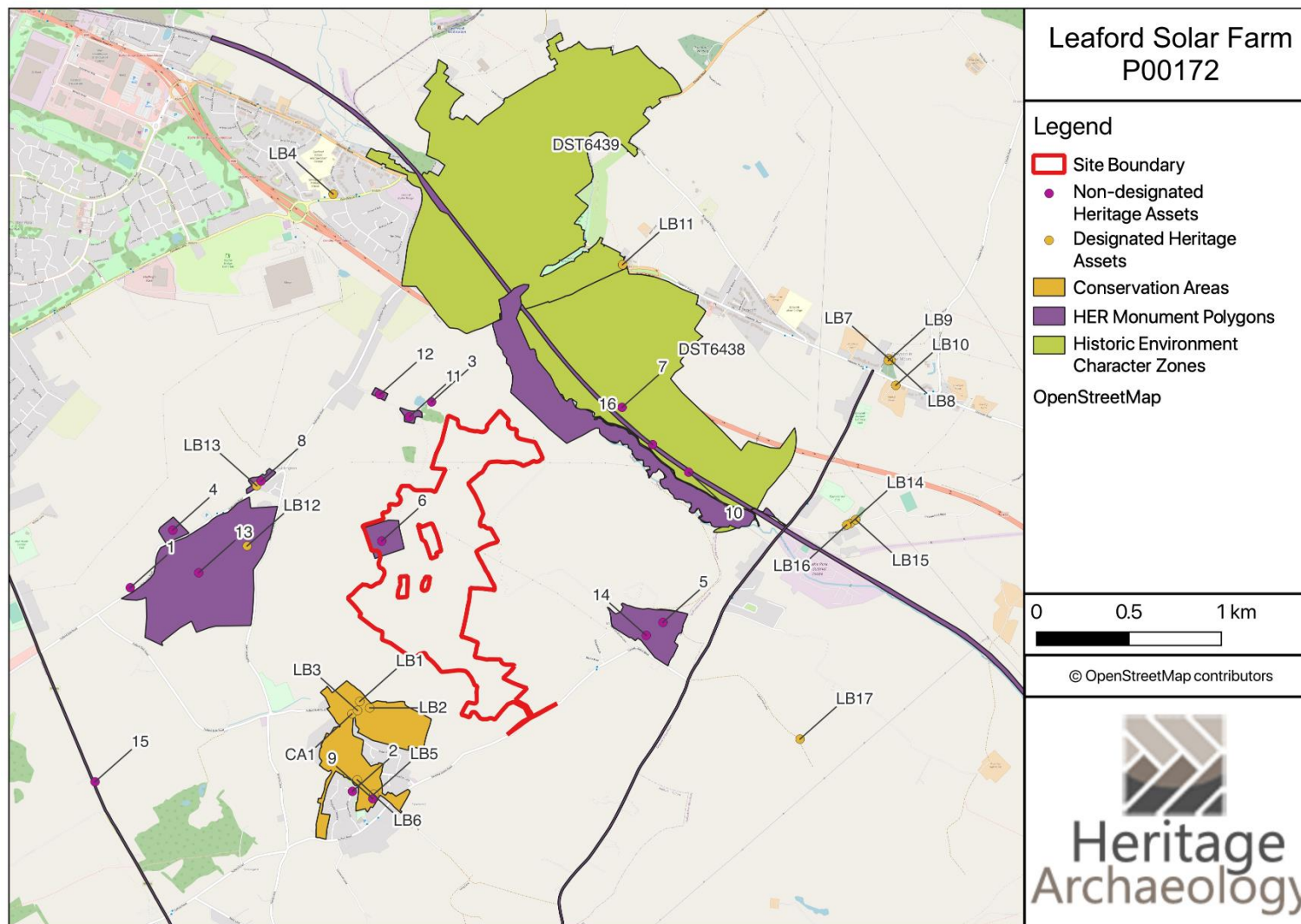


Figure 10: Known heritage assets within 500m search area

Asset ID	Source ID	Status	Name	Description	Period	Heritage Value	Easting	Northing
CA1	N/a	CA	Fulford Conservation Area	Medieval and post medieval village, a variety of 16th – 19th century buildings with a wealth of farmhouses and outbuildings.	Post medieval	High	395198	338318
LB1	1374180/ MST7748	II	CHURCH OF ST NICHOLAS, Fulford	1825. Architect: C H Winks. Gothic style. Brick with stone dressings. Nave, chancel and embattled west tower.	Post medieval	High	395240	338385
LB2	1039018/ MST7749	II	FULFORD HALL	C18 with later alterations. Red brick with stone base; 2 storeys plus attic. Two parallel ranges with continuous front to south having 5 windows (3 blocked and one altered) with projecting keyblocks; sashes and casements; flat stone stringcourse. Ground storey has 3 sash windows and one blocked, and plain altered doorcase with fanlight and semi-circular steps up; coped gables on north side; plain eaves; tiles.	Post medieval	High	395294	338350
LB3	1039019/ MST7750	II	GARDEN HOUSE AT FULFORD HALL	C18. Square on plan. Red brick with stone base and stone dressings; coved stone eaves; tiled pyramidal roof.	Post medieval	High	395228	338336
LB4	1039020	II	GRINDLEY COTTAGE	Probably late C16. Later alterations. Plastered brick; 2 storeys plus attic; 3 stone mullioned casement windows; stone-coped gabled ends; plain eaves; tiles.	Post medieval	High	395099	341121
LB5	1039021/ MST7755	II	ROCKLANDS	Late C18. Former farmhouse. Red brick: 2 storeys: 3 casement windows with cambered heads; early C19 moulded wood doorcase with pointed arched head and ledged door; toothed eaves; tiles. Ground storey rooms have exposed ceiling beams. Early C19 wing at rear.	Post medieval	High	395316	337884
LB6	1374181/ MST7751	II	OLD HOUSE FARMHOUSE	C17. Timber frame with cement rendered brick infilling; 2 storeys, the upper slightly overhanging on plain bressummer; wood casement windows (generally renewed with modern leaded lights; 3 window front which has good exposed timber framing with decorative motifs of balusters and barbed lozenges; plain doorway with modern ledged door; plain eaves; tiles. Interior has some exposed ceiling beams and panelling (not in situ).	Post medieval	High	395226	337962
LB7	1037947	II*	CHURCH OF ST MARGARET	Parish church. Late C13 altered possibly C16 and largely refaced circa 1848, possibly, it is said, by Pugin.	Post medieval	High	398103	340231
LB8	1037907	II	HANCOCK MEMORIAL APPROXIMATELY 3 METRES	Chest tomb. Probably mid-late C18. Jane Hancock died 1699 (but probably postdated). Stone. Moulded plinth, inset waisted balusters	Post medieval	High	398114	340222

Asset ID	Source ID	Status	Name	Description	Period	Heritage Value	Easting	Northing
			SOUTH OF CHANCEL OF CHURCH OF ST MARGARET	at angles, moulded top slab and inscribed sides. The tomb is more likely of the late C18 than C17.				
LB9	1037908	II	HYATT MEMORIAL APPROXIMATELY 5 METRES SOUTH OF NAVE OF CHURCH OF ST MARGARET	Chest tomb. Anna Hyatt died 1827. Stone. Moulded plinth and top slab, inscribed sides and angles.	Post medieval	High	398100	340221
LB10	1205390	II	MANOR FARMHOUSE	Farmhouse. Late C17 refaced mid-C19 and altered C20.	Post medieval	High	398140	340088
LB11	1280719	II	STONEHOUSE COTTAGE	House. Dated 1670 but extensively remodelled 1891.	Post medieval	High	396663	340739
LB12	1072612/ MST11058/ MST22012	II	STALLINGTON HALL HOSPITAL AND ATTACHED STABLES	FULFORD STALLINGTON Stallington Hall Hospital and attached stables II Former country house and attached stable block. Late C18, extended and remodelled c1900 possibly for Sir Hill Child. Red brick with stone quoins and dressings. Shallow, hipped slated roofs.	Post medieval	High	394632	339224
LB13	1189448/ MST7754	II	STALLINGTON HILL FARMHOUSE	C17 and later. L-shaped on plan; 2 storeys.	Post medieval	High	394684	339549
LB14	1430413	II	Roman Catholic Church of St Mary	Roman Catholic church of 1815-16 in a Gothic style, within alterations of the mid-C19 and mid-C20.	Post medieval	High	397895	339344
LB15	1431556	II	Churchyard Cross	Churchyard cross, mid-C19, attributed to A W N Pugin.	Post medieval	High	397923	339363
LB16	1205381	II	ST MARYS HOUSE	House, now presbytery. C17, altered and extended mid-C19.	Post medieval	High	397874	339335
LB17	1374667	II	WASTEGATE FARMHOUSE	Farmhouse. Early C18 with C20 alterations. Roughcast over brick; tiled roof; end stacks. L-shaped plan. Two storeys and gable lit attic; three-window front; C20 casements with aprons below and keystone heads; central entrance with C20 glazed door and overlight. Side elevation to right has further entrance and small pane cross-casements.	Post medieval	High	397621	338180
1	MST19920	NDHA	Chisel Findspot, Fulford	A copper-alloy chisel of Middle Bronze Age date, recovered during metal detecting in Fulford parish in October 2009.	Middle Bronze Age	Low	394000	339000
2	MST2455	NDHA	Fulford / Fuleford (Settlement)	A settlement referred to as 'Fulford'. The place is recorded in the Domesday survey as 'waste', possibly suggesting that the settlement may have developed here after 1086. Land held by the King included Fulford, one of 32 manors described as being 'waste'. At Fulford one virgate of land was recorded. Alemer held it. Land for two ploughs.	Medieval	Low	395200	337900

Asset ID	Source ID	Status	Name	Description	Period	Heritage Value	Easting	Northing
3	MST23424	NDHA	Buckle Findspot, Fulford	A silver buckle of medieval date recovered during metal detecting in the Fulford area in August 2019.	Medieval	Low	395630	340000
4	MST5318	NDHA	Possible Rabbit Warren, Stallington	A low earthwork mound marked as a rabbit warren on Ordnance Survey mapping.	Medieval/post medieval	Low	394230	339310
5	MST5689	NDHA	Ridge and Furrow, East of Saverley House, Saverley Green, Fulford	The earthwork remains of ridge and furrow, evidence of medieval and later ploughing, identified on aerial photography to the east of Saverley House, Saverley Green, Fulford.	Medieval/post medieval	Low	396880	338810
6	MST5690	NDHA	Ridge and Furrow, Fulford	Ridge and furrow, evidence of medieval and later ploughing, is visible on aerial photography.	Medieval/post medieval	Low	395360	339250
7	MST14684	NDHA	Water Meadow, South-East of Blythe Bridge	A post-medieval water meadow system fed by the river Blithe and crossing three parish boundaries, identified from historic mapping and aerial photography to the south-east of Blythe Bridge. The system appears to have degraded substantially since the 1960	Medieval/post medieval	Low	396660	339970
8	MST14134	NDHA	Stallington Hall Farm, Fulford	A farmstead laid out around a series of regular courtyards. Of possible 17th century origin.	Post medieval	Low-High	394708	339574
9	MST14289	NDHA	Rocklands Farm, Townend, Fulford	Late 18th century farmstead with a dispersed cluster plan with significant loss. Listed farmhouse extant.	Post medieval	Low-High	395310	337860
10	MST17770	NDHA	Mill Pond and Mill Race, Cresswell Mill, Cresswell	A mill race and mill pond associated with Cresswell Mill, depicted on late 19th century maps. The mill race largely survives and is shown on the modern map as 'Old Mill Race'.	Post medieval	Low	397020	339620
11	MST21539	NDHA	Lower Gorsty Birch Farm, Fulford	An isolated farmstead laid out around a regular, U-plan courtyard with detached farmhouse and additional detached outbuildings. The farmstead appears to have been established in the later 18th or early 19th century and is still extant.	Post medieval	Low	395510	339920
12	MST21540	NDHA	Higher Gorsty Birch, Fulford	A farmstead with a regular plan that existed by the late 19th Century.	Post medieval	Low	395350	340040
13	MST6194	NDHA	Stallington Hall Park and Gardens	A landscaped area around Stallington Hall, which includes parkland and formal gardens including an Italianate Garden (the remains of which were still extant in 1996). Much of the north-eastern part of the former parkland has now been redeveloped. LARGE HOSPITAL, RESERVOIR AND SPORTS GROUND BUILT OVER	Post medieval	Low	394370	339080

Asset ID	Source ID	Status	Name	Description	Period	Heritage Value	Easting	Northing
14	MST6419	NDHA	Landscape Park, Saverley House, Fulford	A landscaped area around Saverley House, the extent of which is defined on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey mapping. Possibly established in the early 19th century.	Post medieval	Low	396790	338740
15	MST22379	NDHA	Sandon, Hugbridge, Hilderstone and Draycott-in-the-Moors Turnpike Road	A probable late 18th or early 19th century turnpike road which linked the towns of Sandon, Hugbridge, Hilderstone and Draycott-in-the-Moors.	Post medieval	Low	393808	337953
16	MST13688	NDHA	North Staffordshire Railway (Uttoxeter Branch)	The Uttoxeter branch of the North Staffordshire Railway, which opened in 1848.	Post medieval	Low	396825	339769

End of Report