



ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Landscape Sensitivity to Residential and Commercial Development within Rother District

Prepared by Lizard, August 2026

Appendix A - Site Landscape Sensitivity Assessments

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Landscape Character Summary

There are six sites within this Area. Two sites (BA1 and BA2) are located southeast of the market town of Battle. Sites BA3 and BA4 lie to the south of the town's western edge, while Site BA5 is situated east of the railway line to the northeast of Battle. The sixth site, BA6, is located just outside Sedlescombe, further northeast of Battle.

East Sussex Landscape Character Assessment (2016)

Through reference to **Figure 1-BA**, Sites No. BA1, BA2 and BA3 are located along the northern edge of the Combe Haven Valley LCA, (LCA 10). Site BA4 is partially within this LCA, but primarily within the Battle LCA, (LCA 40). BA5 and BA6 are respectively located along the edge of and within the Brede Valley LCA, (LCA 11).

Combe Haven Valley (LCA 10)

Key positive landscape attributes of LCA 10 present within this Area include:

- *'Focal open, flat, winding valley floor and wetland in the Combe Haven Basin;*
- *Intricate terrain of small, winding valleys and ridges around levels, with abundant woods and gills;*
- *Extensive areas of ancient woodland;*
- *Filsham reed beds at the eastern end of the Combe Haven Valley are one of the largest areas of reedbeds in East Sussex;*
- *A sense of tranquillity away from the main settlements and roads;*
- *Indigenous characteristic tree species are oak, ash and field maple, with wild cherry and sweet chestnut coppice in woodland on the drier slopes;*
- *Scattered scrub and large white willow on the levels;*
- *Wetland birds are a feature in the wetland landscape;*
- *Scattered historic farmsteads typical of the High Weald.'*

The current condition of LCA10 is identified as including: *'a largely unspoilt and tranquil rural landscape with few intrusive features. The landscape is in generally good condition and well managed as farmland with some surviving historic structure.'*

Battle (LCA 40)

The key characteristics of LCA 40 present within this Area include:

- *'1. This ridge-top town has a skyline of historic buildings, dominated by the Abbey and the church;*
- *2. The medieval and Georgian High Street has a small scale, well massed buildings with good continuity of facades;*
- *3. There are picturesque frontages of red tile, timber-frame, render, white weatherboard and the local sandstone;*
- *4. The character of the town is enhanced by the predominance of small and traditional shops;*
- *5. The original stone from the substantially destroyed great religious buildings in Battle has been widely recycled in later historic periods, which gives the town great cohesion;*
- *6. The old town has an enclosed inward-looking character, with few views out;*
- *7. Views over the High Weald countryside from outer parts of town.'*

The vision for Battle is identified including: *'A ridge-top historic Wealden town with a central focal space and High Street dominated by pedestrians and events rather than traffic, with strong links to countryside and Wealden views.'*

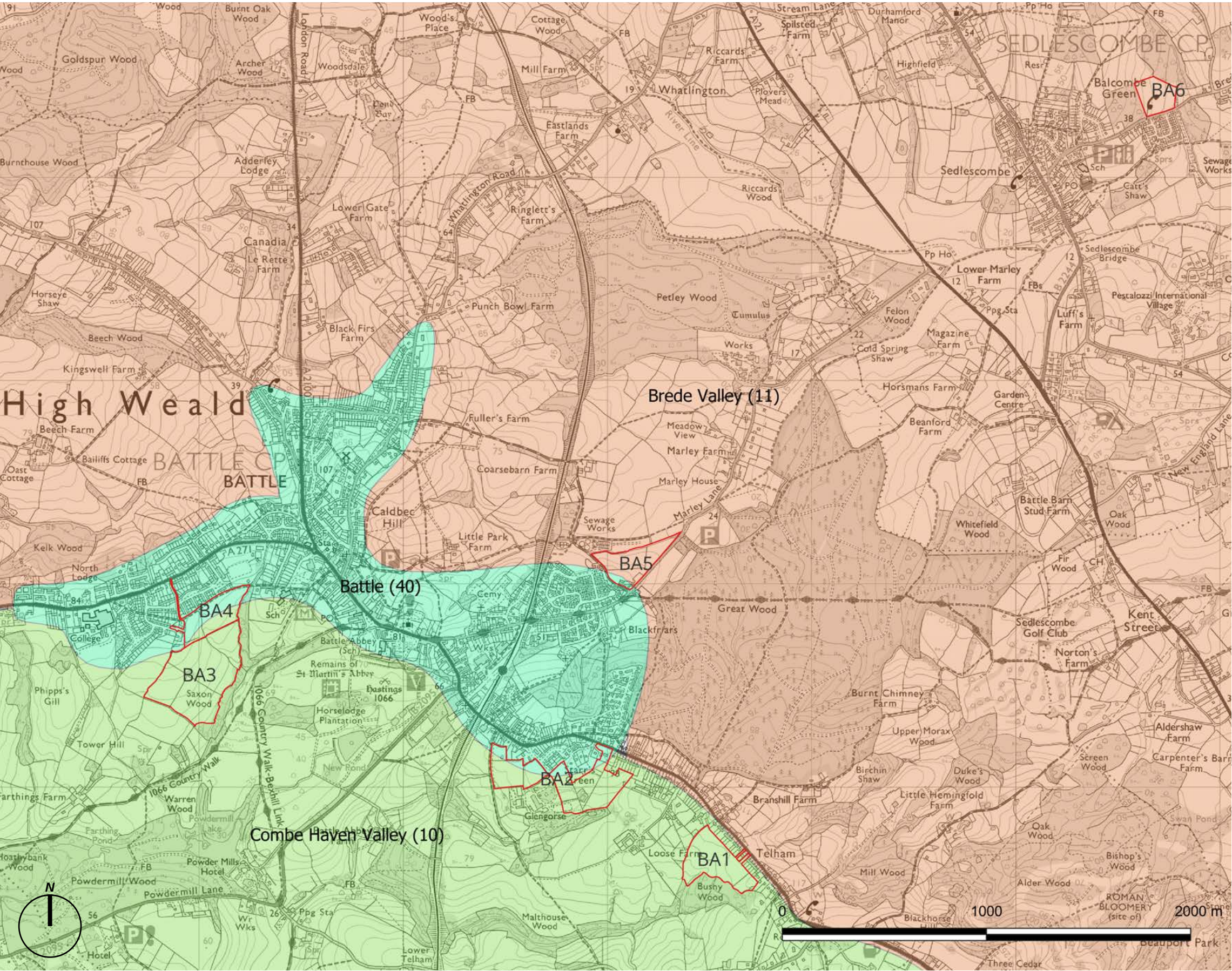
Brede Valley (LCA 11)

Key positive landscape attributes of LCA 11 present within this Area include:

- *'The broad valley of the River Brede with a flat valley floor enclosed by relatively steep slopes;*
- *A sense of tranquillity away from the main settlements and roads;*
- *Wide vistas across the unspoilt river valley floodplain from the enclosing ridges;*
- *Well wooded sides slopes with scattered farmsteads and orchards;*
- *River levels and marshes criss-crossed by reed fringed ditches or 'sewers';*
- *Extensive areas of Semi-Natural Ancient deciduous woodland around the valley head to the west of the area;*
- *Scattered areas of Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland on the valley slopes, many of which are ghyll woodlands, a key characteristic of the High Weald;*
- *To the southwest of the main valley a belt of undulating countryside extends to the Battle ridge;*
- *Oast houses are characteristic and scattered on the slopes of the valley, many now converted into houses;*
- *Powdermill Reservoir to the north of the valley is largely concealed by woodland;*
- *The historic designed landscape and important archaeological site of Beauport Park lies to the south of the area;*
- *Swans, herons and other wetland birds are very much features in the landscape.'*

The current condition of LCA 11 is identified as including: *'a largely unspoilt and tranquil rural landscape with few intrusive features. The landscape is in generally good condition and well managed as farmland with a strong historic structure. As with most of the High Weald landscape the historic field patterns of small fields and significant hedgerows remain intact.'*

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA



Legend

Assessment Sites

- BA1** Land adjoining Little Brans
- BA2** Land south of Hastings Road
- BA3** Land at Almonry Farm, (south)
- BA4** Land at Almonry Farm, (north)
- BA5** Land east of Coronation Gardens
- BA6** Land north of Brede Lane

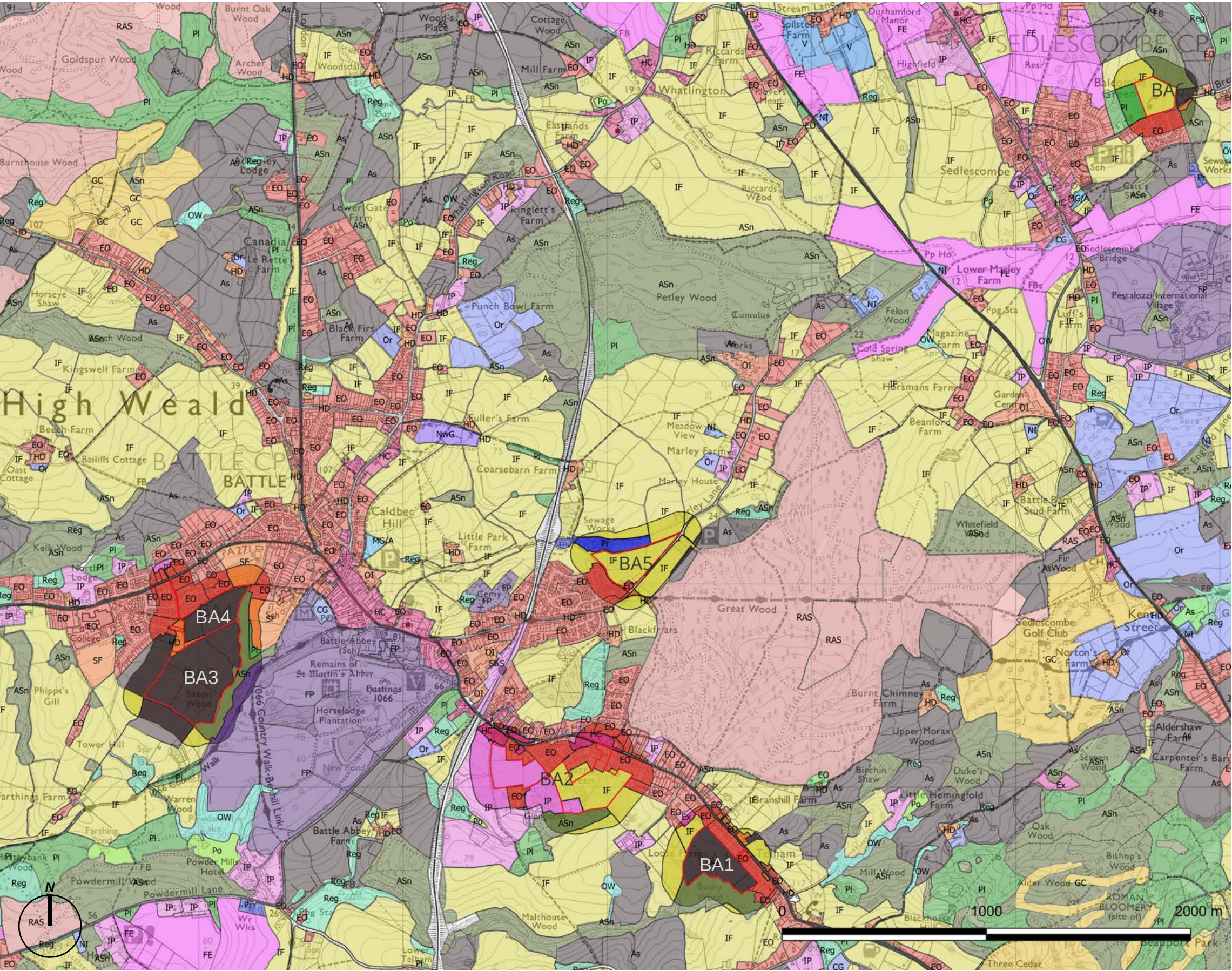
East Sussex Landscape Character Areas

- Combe Haven Valley (LCA 10)
- Brede Valley (LCA 11)
- Battle (LCA 40)

Figure 1-BA. East Sussex Landscape Character Areas (2016)

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BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA



Legend

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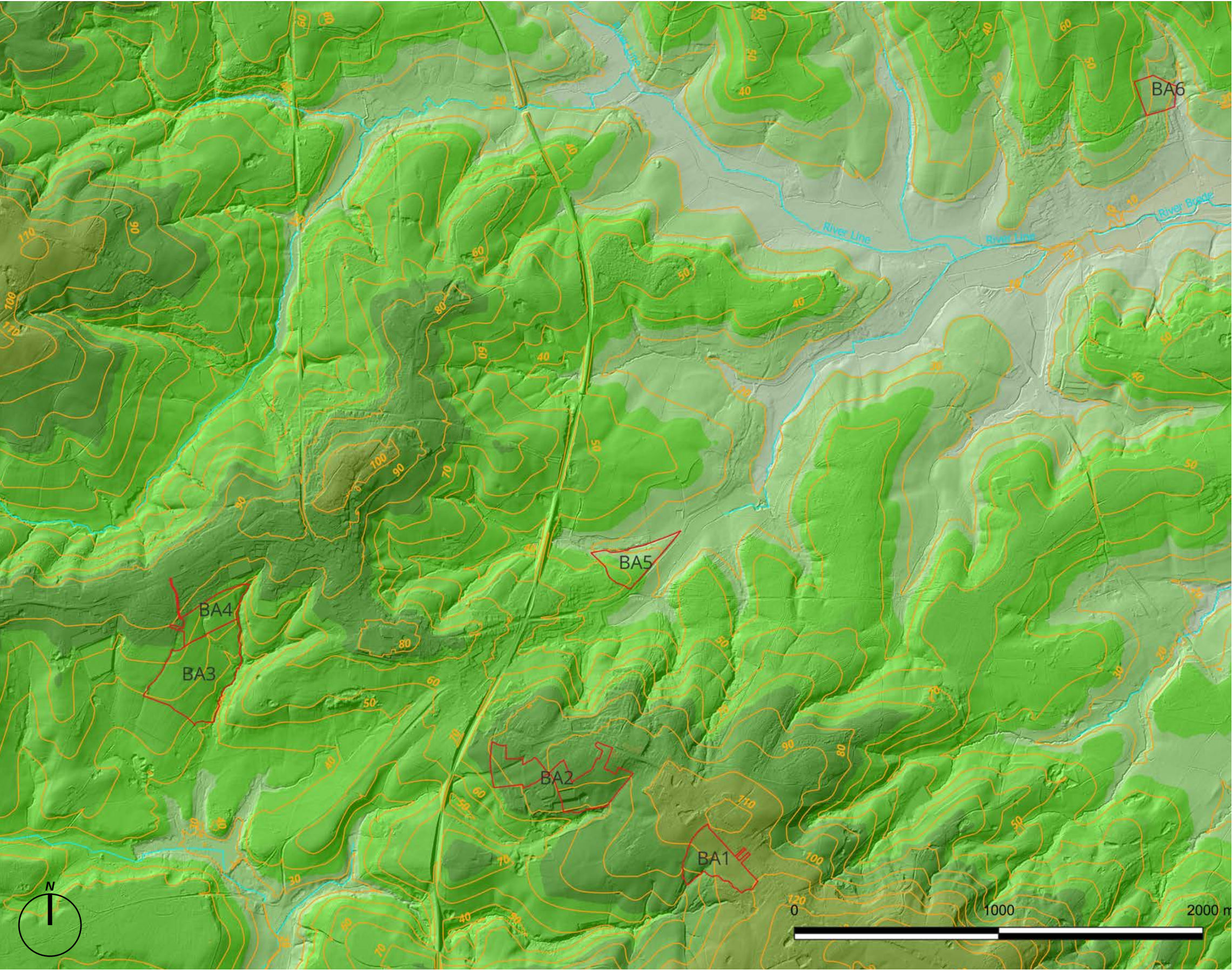
Sussex Historic Landscape Character (Broad Type / HLC Type)

- ASn Woodland / Ancient Semi-natural
- As Fields / Assarts
- EO Industry / Expansion other
- EX Industry / Extraction
- FP Designed Landscapes / Formal parkland
- HC Settlement / Historic Core
- HD Fields / Historic dispersed
- IF Fields / Informal Fields
- IP Designed Landscapes / Informal parkland
- PI Woodland / Plantations
- Pr Industry / Process
- RAS Woodland / Replanted Ancient Semi-Natural
- SF Recreation / Sports fields

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HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION GIS DATASET: DATA COPYRIGHT © EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL, HISTORIC ENGLAND

Figure 2-BA. Sussex Historic Landscape Character Types (2014)

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA



Legend

Assessment Sites

- BA1** Land adjoining Little Brans
- BA2** Land south of Hastings Road
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- BA4** Land at Almonry Farm, (north)
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- BA6** Land north of Brede Lane

Contour Lines and Watercourses

- Contour lines, (10m increment)
- Watercourse, (Source: OS Open Rivers)

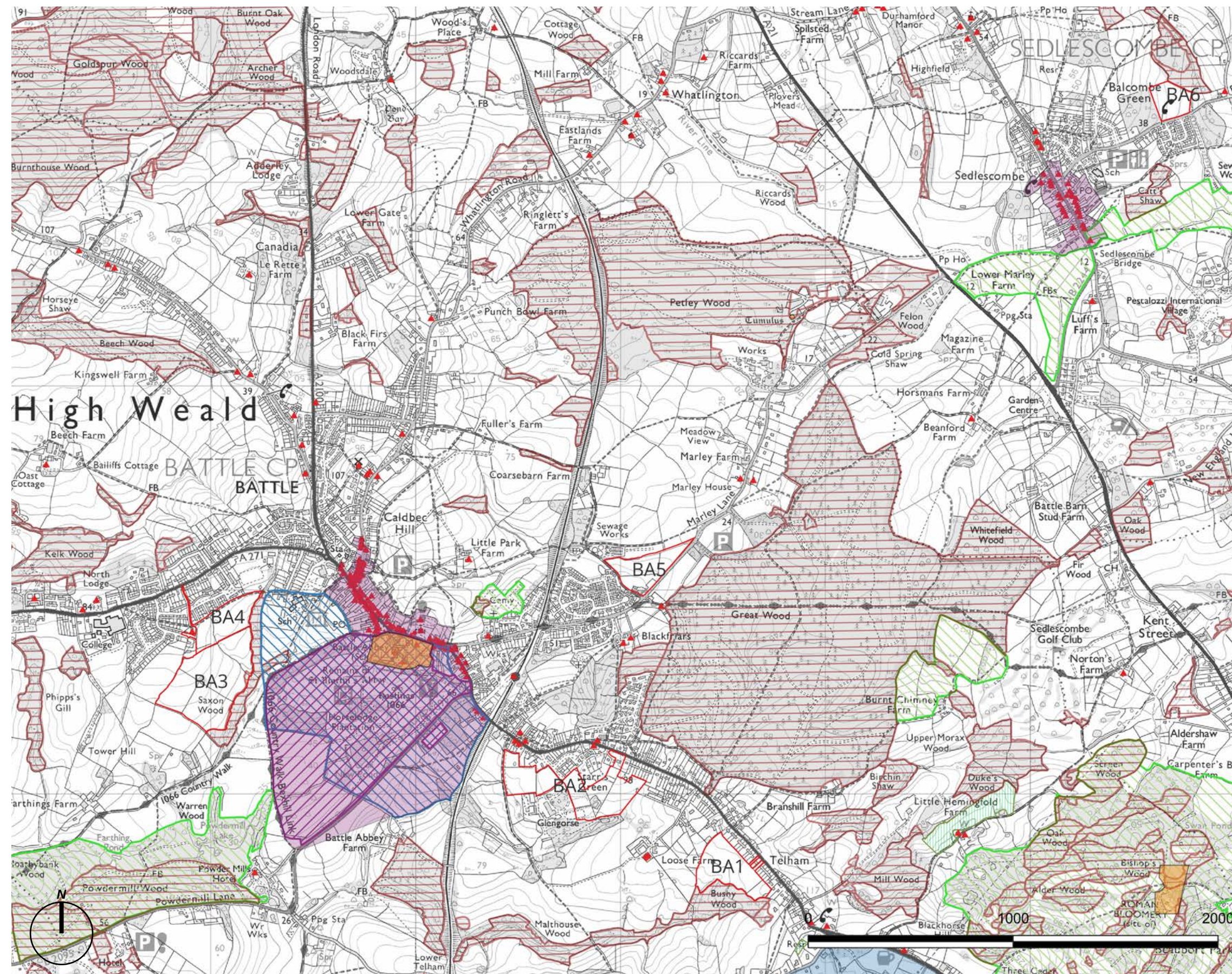
Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) is an airborne mapping technique, which uses a laser to measure the distance between the aircraft and the ground. Up to 100,000 measurements per second are made of the ground, allowing highly detailed terrain models to be generated.

The content of this LiDAR plan is sourced from the Environment Agency as digital elevation data supplied as a Digital Terrain Model to 1m, (2024) through QGIS.

Figure 3-BA. Landform

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BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA



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LOCAL WILDLIFE SITE DATA PROVIDED BY THE SUSSEX BIODIVERSITY RECORD CENTRE 2026.

Legend

Assessment Sites

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| BA1 | Land adjoining Little Brans |
| BA2 | Land south of Hastings Road |
| BA3 | Land at Almonry Farm, (south) |
| BA4 | Land at Almonry Farm, (north) |
| BA5 | Land east of Coronation Gardens |
| BA6 | Land north of Brede Lane |

Designations

The High Weald National Landscape extends across this area

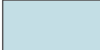
-  Strategic Gap (Policy)
-  Scheduled Monument
-  Listed Buildings
-  Conservation Area
-  Registered Battle Field
-  Registered Park and Garden
-  Ancient Woodland
-  Local Wildlife Site

Figure 4-BA. Relevant Designations

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA1 - Land adjoining Little Brans - Site Assessment	
Location and Landscape Character Summary	Site BA1 comprises of a large field located to the south-west of ribbon development along Hastings Road, (A2100) at Telham. There is some sub division to the eastern corner of the field. The southern boundary is defined by the irregular outline of Bushy Wood, which is designated as Ancient Woodland. The western boundary is defined by a tree belt. Some 300m west of the Site beyond intervening paddocks is the Grade II Listed No 4 Loose Farm Cottages, situated within surrounding farm buildings. Landform falls gently across the Site from the 110m contour about the northern and eastern edges of the Site to some 90m to the southern corner. From the north-western part of the Site, there is filtered visibility towards Telham Hill ofset some 1km to the south-west. The Site and surrounding area are located within the High Weald NL. The majority of the Site forms a part of the Draft Site Allocation Policy BT10.
Commentary against susceptibility evaluation criteria, informed by the field survey and desktop review.	
1. Landform (< >)	<i>[Undulating landform or some distinct landform features]</i> The northern part of the eastern parcel is located upon the rounded ridgetop of the sandstone Battle ridge about the 90m contour, with its southern boundary falling to the 80m contour where a deciduous woodland forms the boundary and within which ponds and watercourse extend. The western parcel falls more immediately from 90m to the east to the 80m contour along its western boundary.
2. Landscape pattern and time depth (< >)	<i>[Mixture of simple and complex landscape field patterns. Within the High Weald NL: Partial historic boundaries in place]</i> Through reference to the Sussex Historic Characterisation, (Bannister, 2014) the field within the Site is characterised as an assarted field, characterised by its carved out edge from the Ancient Woodland to the south. The field forms part of a wider dispersed pattern of assarted fields which form a pattern alongside of informal fields resulting from field amalgamation within the wider area. Further more cohesive groups of assarted fields are located offset to the north-east beyond Hastings Road and offset to the south-west beyond Bushy Wood. The field within the Site forms a discrete parcel, with an informal field resulting from modern field amalgamation to the west. Settlement expansion resulting from ribbon development is characterised to the north-east and along Hastings Road. Through reference to the AONB GIS Dataset the field is not identified as an historic or partially historic field.
3. 'Natural' character (< >)	<i>[Some occurrence of valued semi-natural habitats and features (such as trees, hedgerows, woodland)]</i> Naturalistic qualities bordering the Site include the irregular outline of Bushy Wood to the southern boundary, which is designated as Ancient Woodland and the western boundary, which is defined by a tree belt.
4. Historic features (< >)	<i>[Adjacent / presence of historic features that contribute to landscape character]</i> Some 300m west of the Site beyond intervening paddocks is the Grade II Listed No 4 Loose Farm Cottages, situated within surrounding farm buildings. The association between the discrete assarted field within the Site and the irregular boundary with Bushy Wood Ancient Woodland to the south contributes to landscape character.
5. Recreational use (<)	<i>[Publicly inaccessible]</i> There are no Public Rights of Way across the Site.
6. Perceptual aspects (< >)	<i>[Some sense of rural character but with some signs of human activity and modern development]</i> The natural character of the Site contributes to a sense of rurality and tranquillity.
7. Settlement pattern and setting (< >)	<i>[The area has some association with surrounding settlement pattern]</i> The Site is located to the south-west of ribbon development along Hastings Road, (A2100) at Telham, at a comparable level to the settlement along the ridge, particularly where viewed alongside of settlement pattern west along Hastings Road, as shown for Site BA2.
8. Visual prominence (<)	<i>[Visually enclosed landscape screened by landform or land cover]</i> The Site is visually enclosed by surrounding houses to the north-east, woodland to the south and a tree belt to the west. From the north-western part of the Site, there is filtered visibility towards Telham Hill ofset some 1km to the south-west. The existing housing on slightly more elevated ground to the north of the Site can be glimpsed from Telham Hill to form a small part of the otherwise wooded skyline.
9. Landscape Character strength of expression (< >)	<i>[Fairly frequent' landscape, perhaps with some key positive landscape attributes]</i> There is a limited contribution from the Site area to the key positive landscape attributes of the overlying Combe Haven Valley Landscape Character Area, (LCA10, 2016), with some contribution from Ancient Woodland to the south and the falling landform to an: <i>'Intricate terrain of small, winding valleys and ridges around levels, with abundant woods and gills' and 'Extensive areas of ancient woodland'</i> . These characteristics are valued within the overlying High Weald NL where core characteristics include deeply incised, ridged and faulted landform with gill streams, historic routeways, ancient woodland interconnected with hedges and shaws; small, irregular and productive fields, bound by hedgerows and woods and intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity. The further High Weald NL characteristic of ridge top settlement is also present in this location, albeit associated with the more elevated north-eastern part of the Site.
10. Coalescence (<)	<i>[The area does not play a particularly important role in settlement separation]</i> The enclosed situation of the Site and presence of built form to the north-east results in very limited perceptual contribution to separation of settlement. There is some limited physical contribution from the field.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA1 - Land adjoining Little Brans - Site Assessment		
Sensitivity Analysis		
Sensitivity Analysis Commentary	The Site area is considered to have some capacity for low scale residential development as indicated on the Analysis Figure, if sited and designed sensitively, due to the enclosed character of the Site and association with adjacent settlement along Hastings Road.	
	The strength of expression of key positive landscape attributes of the overlying Combe Haven Valley Landscape Character Area, (LCA10, 2016), from Ancient Woodland to the south and the falling landform to an: 'Intricate terrain of small, winding valleys and ridges around levels, with abundant woods and gills' and 'Extensive areas of ancient woodland' would be maintained, with these elements falling outside of the ridgetop settlement.	
	These characteristics are valued within the overlying High Weald NL where core characteristics include deeply incised, ridged and faulted landform with gill streams, historic routeways, ancient woodland interconnected with hedges and shaws; small, irregular and productive fields, bound by hedgerows and woods and intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity. The further High Weald NL characteristic of ridge top settlement is present in this location, albeit associated with the more elevated north-eastern part of the Site and would be maintained, with no change to the existing glimpsed skyline of housing within trees in the view from Telham Hill.	
Landscape Guidelines	Retain tree'd areas and hedgerows to the Site boundaries. Development should be of high quality and landscape-led, being guided by the High Weald AONB Management Plan 2024-2029, (see Generic Guidance provided within the Report).	
	The lower lying land to the south-west of the Site and the minimum 15m buffer from the Ancient Woodland boundary to the south should be avoided and maintained outside of private ownership, with suitable semi-natural habitat managed in these areas.	
	The lower lying part of the Site is anticipated for surface water attenuation and Public Open Space as indicated on the Analysis Figure and to maintain association with settlement pattern upon the ridge top and sides.	
Sensitivity Judgement		
	Development Scenario	
	Residential - Low scale	Residential - Medium scale
Landscape Sensitivity Rating	Moderate – High	High

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA1 - Land adjoining Little Brans - Landscape Analysis

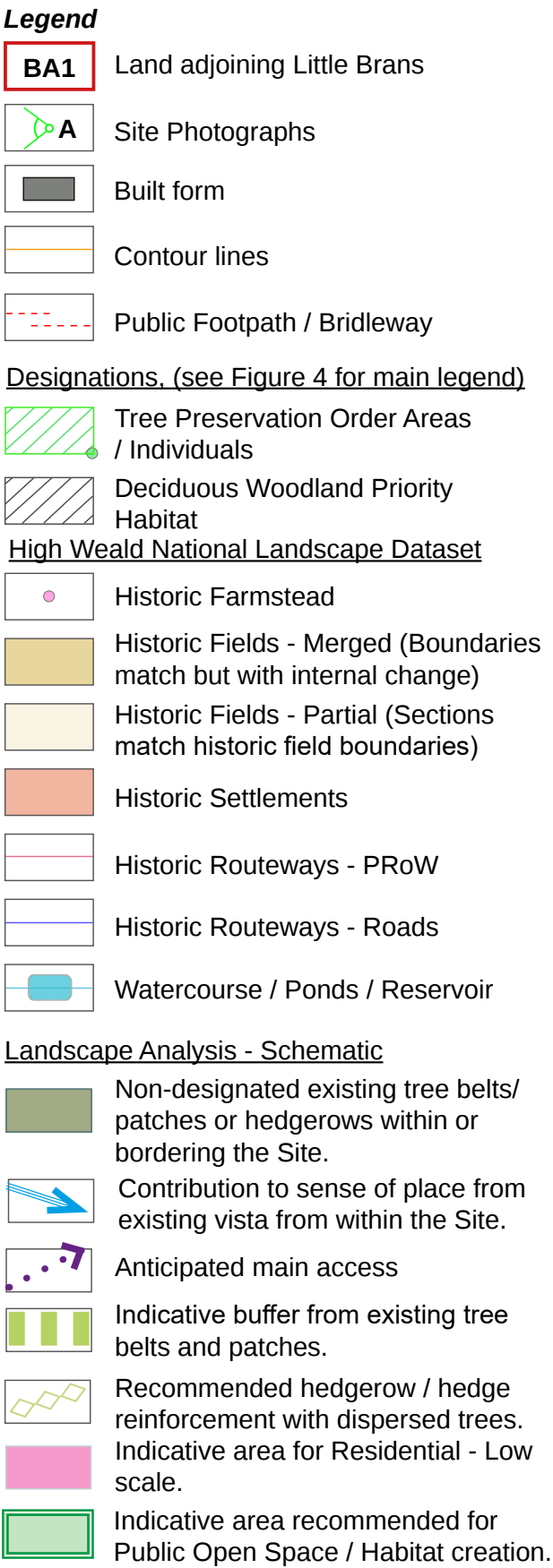
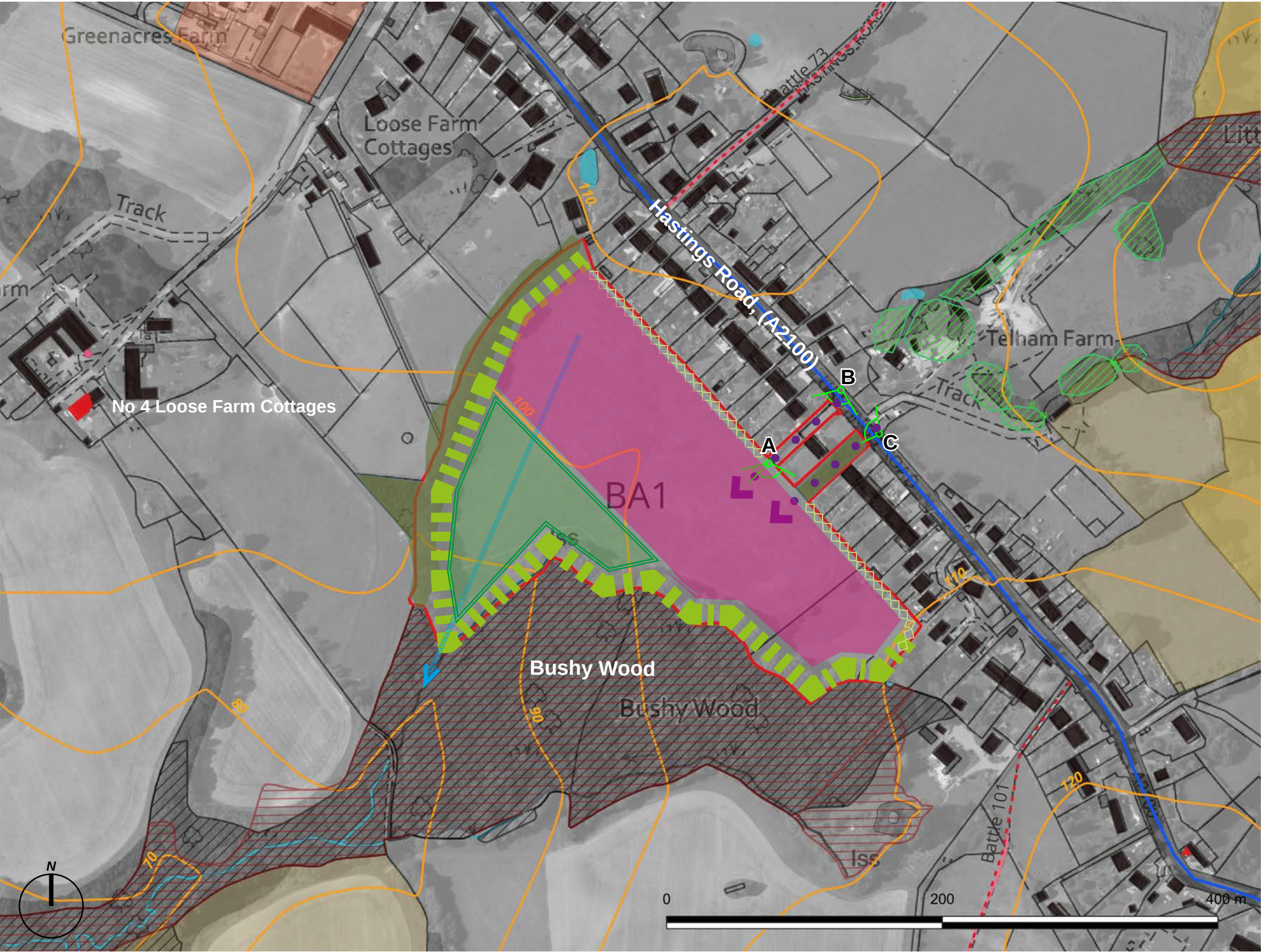


Figure BA1. Landscape Analysis for Site BA1.

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BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA1 - Land adjoining Little Brans - Photographs



Photograph A1. Southerly view from the private access drive to the north, showing the gently falling landform, leading to the southern boundary with Bushey Wood Ancient Woodland.



Photograph A2. South-westerly orientation showing the falling land to the south-west of the Site.



Photograph B. South-westerly view from Hastings Road, (A2100) along the private driveway access to the Site.



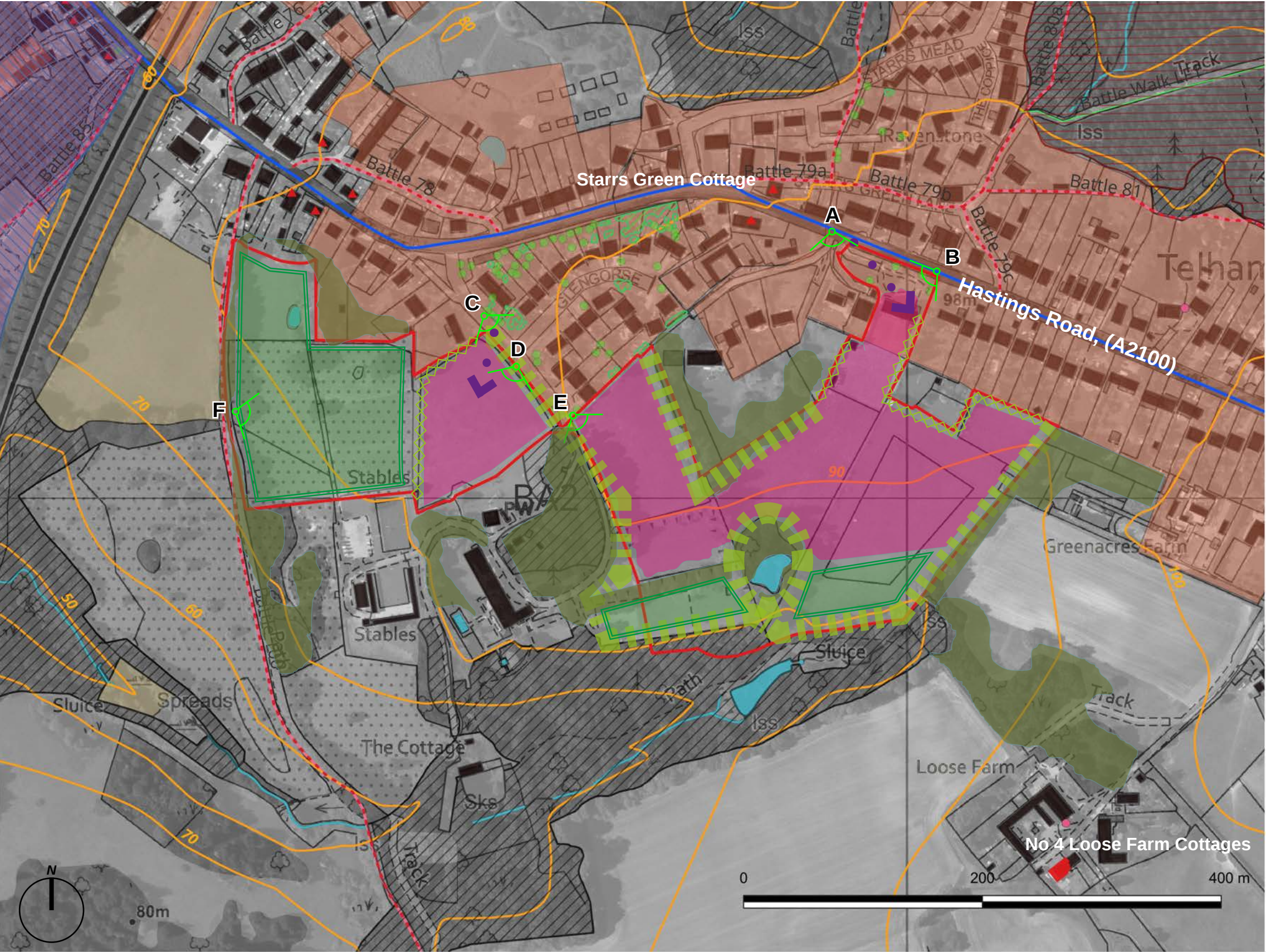
Photograph C. Westerly view along Hastings Road, (A2100) adjacent to the wooded corridor offset east of the private driveway access to the Site.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA2 - Land south of Hastings Road - Site Assessment		
Location and Landscape Character Summary	Site BA2 comprises of two parcels of pasture land in use as paddocks for horses, located about the suburban fringe of Battle, south of settlement along and about Hastings Road. The northern part of the eastern parcel is located upon the rounded ridgetop of the sandstone Battle ridge about the 90m contour, with its southern boundary falling to the 80m contour where a deciduous woodland forms the boundary and within which ponds and watercourse extend. The western parcel falls more immediately from 90m to the east to the 80m contour along its western boundary. Through reference to the High Weald NL dataset the western most field is identified as wildflower grassland, with fields outside of the south-western edge of the Site also recognised as such. A patch of deciduous woodland is located between the two parcels. The Site and surrounding area are located within the High Weald NL. The Site forms a part of the Draft Site Allocation Policy BT1.	
Commentary against susceptibility evaluation criteria, informed by the field survey and desktop review.		
1. Landform (< >)	[Undulating landform or some distinct landform features] The northern part of the eastern parcel is located upon the rounded ridgetop of the sandstone Battle ridge about the 90m contour, with its southern boundary falling to the 80m contour where a deciduous woodland forms the boundary and within which ponds and watercourse extend. The western parcel falls more immediately from 90m to the east to the 80m contour along its western boundary.	
2. Landscape pattern and time depth (< >)	[Mixture of simple and complex landscape field patterns] Through reference to the Sussex Historic Characterisation, (Bannister, 2014) the eastern parcel is characterised as part of an informal fieldscape resulting from regular piece meal enclosure with isolated tree clumps, which extends to the east and then to the south where the fields result from modern field amalgamation. The northern part of the Site is characterised as part of the ribbon development settlement along and off Hastings Road. The western parcel is characterised as a designed landscape resulting from informal parkland through post-medieval gentrification with isolated tree clumps and ponds. The same type extends between the two parcels and into the southern corner of the eastern parcel. The woodland to the south of the eastern parcel is characterised as ancient.	
3. 'Natural' character (< >)	[Some occurrence of valued semi-natural habitats and features (such as trees, hedgerows, woodland)] Through reference to the High Weald NL dataset the western most field is identified as wildflower grassland, with fields outside of the south-western edge of the Site also recognised as such. A pond is identified to the small field north of the wildflower meadow. A patch of deciduous woodland is located between the two parcels, with a larger block of deciduous woodland to the south of the eastern parcel.	
4. Historic features (<)	[Absence of historic features in or adjacent to the area that contribute to landscape character] There are clusters of Grade II Listed Buildings offset to the north of each parcel along Hastings Road, but without a direct influence on the landscape, due to the density of built form and boundary vegetation surrounding.	
5. Recreational use (<)	[Publicly inaccessible] There are no Public Rights of Way across the Site. Public Footpath 100 extends along the western edge of the western parcel with an enclosed vegetated corridor, with a glimpse into the Site from gateway points.	
6. Perceptual aspects (< >)	[Some sense of rural character but with some signs of human activity and modern development] The natural character of the Site contributes to a sense of rurality and tranquillity.	
7. Settlement pattern and setting (< >)	[The area has some association with surrounding settlement pattern] The Site is located to the south-west of ribbon development along Hastings Road, (A2100), at a comparable level to the settlement along and off the ridge to the north.	
8. Visual prominence (<)	[Visually enclosed landscape screened by landform or land cover] The Site is visually enclosed by surrounding houses to the north-east, woodland to the south or field boundary vegetation.	
9. Landscape Character strength of expression (< >)	[Fairly frequent' landscape, perhaps with some key positive landscape attributes] There is a limited contribution from the Site area to the key positive landscape attributes of the overlying Combe Haven Valley Landscape Character Area, (LCA10, 2016), with some contribution from the falling landform to: 'ridges around levels, with abundant woods and gills'. Characteristics valued within the overlying High Weald NL include intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity, which the southern parts of the Site contribute to. The further High Weald NL characteristic of ridge top settlement is also present in this location.	
10. Coalescence (<)	[The area does not play a particularly important role in settlement separation] The enclosed situation of the Site and presence of built form to the north-east results in very limited perceptual contribution to separation of settlement. There is some limited physical contribution from the field.	
Sensitivity Analysis		
Sensitivity Analysis Commentary	The Site area is considered to have some capacity for low scale residential development as indicated on the Analysis Figure, if sited and designed sensitively, due to the comparable level to the settlement along and off the ridge to the north, accessed off Hastings Road, (A2100), with the settlement to the north of the road extending to a comparable extent to that of the Site area. The western field of the western parcel is more sensitive due to its recognition by the High Weald NL as wildflower meadow, with a pond to the north. The strength of expression of key positive landscape attributes of the overlying Combe Haven Valley Landscape Character Area, (LCA10, 2016), contributed from the gently falling landform off the ridge to: 'ridges around levels, with abundant woods and gills' and characteristics valued within the overlying High Weald NL including intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity, which the southern parts of the Site contribute to would be maintained by the development area.	
Landscape Guidelines	Retain and reinforce tree'd areas and hedgerows to the Site boundaries. Development should be of high quality and landscape-led, being guided by the High Weald AONB Management Plan 2024-2029, (see Generic Guidance provided within the Report). The western field of the western parcel is more sensitive due to its recognition by the High Weald NL as wildflower meadow, with a pond to the north. This area should remain outside of the built development footprint, but may have potential for use as Public Open Space, if sensitively managed. The lower lying landform adjacent to the woodland edge to the south should also remain outside of the built development footprint to maintain settlement pattern associated with the more rounded ridgetop.	
Sensitivity Judgement		
	Development Scenario	
	Residential - Low scale	Residential - Medium scale
Landscape Sensitivity Rating	Moderate – High	High

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA2 - Land south of Hastings Road - Landscape Analysis



Legend

BA2 Land south of Hastings Road

A Site Photographs

Built form

Contour lines

Public Footpath / Bridleway

Designations. (see Figure 4 for main legend)

Tree Preservation Orders

Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat

High Weald National Landscape Dataset

Historic Farmstead

Historic Fields - Partial (Sections match historic field boundaries)

Historic Settlements

Historic Routeways - PRow

Historic Routeways - Roads

Watercourse / Ponds / Reservoir

Wildflower Grassland

Landscape Analysis - Schematic

Non-designated existing tree belts/ patches or hedgerows within or bordering the Site.

Anticipated main access

Indicative buffer from existing tree belts and patches.

Recommended hedgerow / hedge reinforcement with dispersed trees.

Indicative area for Residential - Low scale.

Indicative area recommended for Public Open Space / Habitat creation.

Figure BA2. Landscape Analysis for Site BA2.

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BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

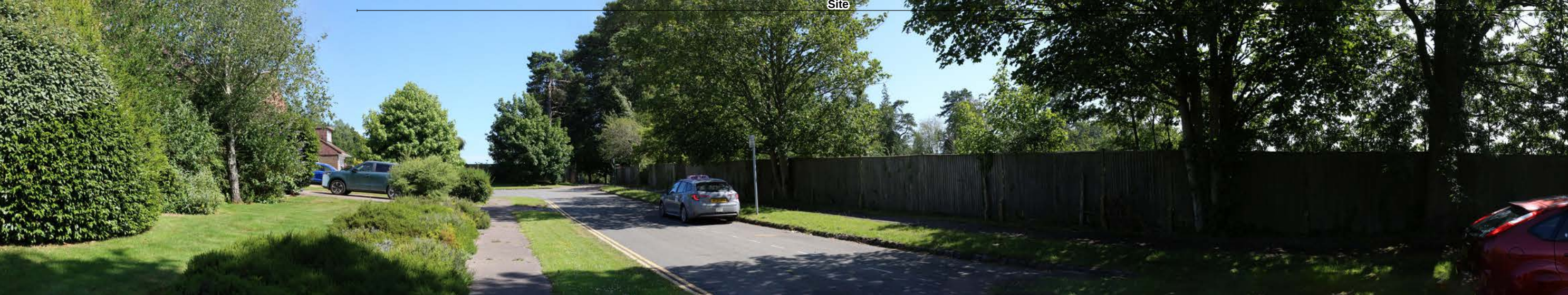
Site BA2 - Land south of Hastings Road - Photographs



Photograph A. Southerly view of the northern edge of the Site from Hastings Road.



Photograph B. South-westerly view of the northern edge of the Site from Hastings Road.



Photograph C. South-easterly view of the north-western edge of the western parcel from Glencorse.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA2 - Land south of Hastings Road - Photographs



Photograph D. South-westerly view over the fenceline along the north-western edge of the western parcel from Glencorse.



Photograph E. South-easterly view into the north-western field of the eastern parcel from the southern end of Glencorse.



Photograph F. Easterly view into the western parcel from a field gap along the Site's western edge along Public Footpath 100.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA3 - Land at Almonry Farm, (south) - Site Assessment	
Location and Landscape Character Summary	Site BA3 comprises of four fields, defined with tree belts with understorey scrub, enclosed within settlement to the west and woodland to the east. Further fields of the same historic character type of assarted, (or cut out from woodland) extend outside of the Site to north and south. The three southern fields are in arable use, with the northern field in pasture use. The fields are located about the eastern facing slopes to the head of an undulating landform, offset south of the Battle sandstone ridge, which fall east to a gill stream within the Manser Shaw / Saxon Wood Ancient Woodland. East of the woodland landform rises to opposing western and then southern facing slopes of the post medieval designed landscape which forms part of the Registered Battlefield of the Battle of Hastings, and Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Battle Abbey. The Promoted Footpath, the 1066 Country Walk extends along the south-westerly aligned ridge here, whilst there is public access within Manser Shaw to the east. The Site and surrounding area are located within the High Weald NL.
Commentary against susceptibility evaluation criteria, informed by the field survey and desktop review.	
1. Landform (< >)	<i>[Undulating landform or some distinct landform features]</i> The fields are located about the eastern facing slopes to the head of an undulating landform, offset south of the Battle sandstone ridge. The fields fall east to a gill stream within the Manser Shaw / Saxon Wood Ancient Woodland. There is an incised gill type feature which extends across the northern part of the Site, forming the southern boundary to the northern field, Whilst a deep pond like impression can be seen through reference to the Landform Context Figure to the boundary between the central and southern fields.
2. Landscape pattern and time depth (>)	<i>[Complex landscape field patterns such as small irregularly shaped fields bounded by hedgerows and woodlands / Assarted field patterns / presence of Ancient Woodland. Within the High Weald NL: Fields that still retain the medieval pattern]</i> Through reference to the Sussex Historic Characterisation, (Bannister, 2014) the fields form part of a system of assarted fields associated with the Ancient Woodland to the east, with the same type extending to north and south beyond the Site. Through reference to the High Weald NL Dataset the northern two fields are identified as historic with no boundary loss, with the same classification extending beyond the Site to the north and south. The southern two fields within the Site are identified as historic, albeit with some sections only matching the historic field boundaries. However, through reference to historic maps from 1888, the boundaries which are new are natural vegetated ones, being the intervening field between these parcels and a southern boundary to the western field, (see < https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=16.4&lat=50.91393&lon=0.47725&layers=6&b=ESRIWorld&o=54 >).
3. 'Natural' character (< >)	<i>[Some occurrence of valued semi-natural habitats and features (such as trees, hedgerows, woodland)]</i> The four fields are defined with mature tree belts with understorey scrub, with the Manser Shaw / Saxon Wood Ancient Woodland defining the eastern boundary. There is a pond like feature to one boundary and an incised drainage feature to another. The western tree belt is subject to a Tree Preservation Order.
4. Historic features (< >)	<i>[Adjacent / presence of historic features that contribute to landscape character]</i> The Battlefield of the Battle of Hastings, which also forms part of the Grade II* registered Park and Garden of Battle Abbey is located some 50 - 200 metres to the east of the Site, beyond Mansers Shaw Ancient Woodland. The C18 or earlier Grade II listed Lower Almonry Farmhouse is located some 100m north of the Site, described as three parallel ranges, faced with weatherboarding with a tiled roof. Through reference to the High Weald NL Dataset, the eastern field is identified as a historic field with no change. This categorisation does not extend to the central fields. However as identified above under Landscape pattern, the modification is as a result of internal vegetated field boundaries. The Battlefield of the Battle of Hastings, which also forms part of the Grade II* registered Park and Garden of Battle Abbey is located some 50 metres to the east of the Site, beyond Mansers Shaw Ancient Woodland.
5. Recreational use (<)	<i>[Publicly inaccessible]</i> There are no Public Rights of Way across the Site. However, there are glimpses from within the Manser Shaw / Saxon Wood to the east.
6. Perceptual aspects (< >)	<i>[Some sense of rural character but with some signs of human activity and modern development]</i> The natural character of the Site contributes to a sense of rurality and tranquillity.
7. Settlement pattern and setting (< >)	<i>[The area has some association with surrounding settlement pattern]</i> Settlement in the local area results from C20th Settlement expansion of planned estates south of the sandstone ridge along the A271. More recently this has included an eastern extension of settlement to the western boundary of the Site off Field Way into a former assarted field.
8. Visual prominence (<)	<i>[Semi-enclosed or has some enclosed and some open areas]</i> The Site is visually enclosed, other than in glimpses from along the north-western edge and from glimpses within the Manser Shaw / Saxon Wood to the east.
9. Landscape Character strength of expression (< >)	<i>[Fairly frequent' landscape, perhaps with some key positive landscape attributes]</i> There is a contribution from the Site area to the key positive landscape attributes of the overlying Combe Haven Valley Landscape Character Area, (LCA10, 2016), with some contribution from the falling landform to: ' <i>ridges around levels, with abundant woods and gills</i> '. There is a contribution from the Manser Shaw / Saxon Wood Ancient Woodland to the east of extensive areas of ancient woodland. There is also a sense of tranquillity away from the main settlements and roads associated with the falling landform visually associated with the countryside to the east. Characteristics valued within the overlying High Weald NL where core characteristics include deeply incised, ridged and faulted landform with gill streams, ancient woodland interconnected with hedges and shaws; small, irregular and productive fields, bound by hedgerows and woods and intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity.
10. Coalescence (< >)	<i>[The area plays some role in separation of settlements]</i> The physical and visual association of the Site with the countryside and landform to the east, results in a contribution to the function of the landscape in separation of settlement.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA3 - Land at Almonry Farm, (south) - Site Assessment		
Sensitivity Analysis		
Sensitivity Analysis Commentary	Landscape and visual characteristics of the Site are very susceptible to change, and it is unable to accommodate the relevant type of development without potential for substantially damaging a sensitive landscape. Thresholds for significant change are very low, due to the fields forming part of a system of assarted fields associated with the Ancient Woodland to the east, with the same type extending to north and south beyond the Site and recognised as such within the High Weald NL dataset. There is a strength of expression of key positive landscape attributes of the overlying Combe Haven Valley Landscape Character Area, (LCA10, 2016), which are valued within the overlying High Weald NL where core characteristics include deeply incised, ridged and faulted landform with gill streams, ancient woodland interconnected with hedges and shaws; small, irregular and productive fields, bound by hedgerows and woods and intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity. The Registered Battlefield of the Battle of Hastings, and Grade II* Registered Park and Garden of Battle Abbey, are located upon the opposing valleyside and top offset to the east.	
Landscape Guidelines	N/A	
Sensitivity Judgement		
	Development Scenario	
	Residential - Low scale	Residential - Medium scale
Landscape Sensitivity Rating	High	High

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA3 - Land at Almonry Farm, (south) - Landscape Analysis



Legend

BA3 Land at Almonry Farm, (south)

A Site Photographs

Built form

Contour lines

Public Footpath / Bridleway

Designations, (see Figure 4 for main legend)

Listed Buildings

Tree Preservation Orders

Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat

Conservation Area

Registered Battle Field

Registered Park and Garden

High Weald National Landscape Dataset

Historic Farmstead

Historic Fields - Original (No change)

Historic Fields - Partial (Sections match historic field boundaries)

Historic Settlements

Historic Routeways - PRoW

Historic Routeways - Roads

Watercourse / Ponds / Reservoir

Figure BA3. Landscape Analysis for Site BA3.

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BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA3 - Land at Almonry Farm, (south) - Photographs



Photograph A. Southerly view from Meadow Drive outside of the western edge of the Site.



Photograph B1. South-easterly view from Meadow Drive into the south-western field within the Site, showing visibility to the offset ridgeline some 1-1.5km to the south east.



Photograph B2. Easterly view from Meadow Drive towards the boundary tree line between the south-western field and north-western fields within the Site.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA4 - Land at Almonry Farm, (north) - Site Assessment	
Location and Landscape Character Summary	Site BA4 comprises of two fields in pasture use, defined with tree belts with understorey scrub other than to the western edge, where enclosed within settlement and to the east with Ancient Woodland. Further fields of the same historic character type of assarted, (or cut out from woodland) extend outside of the Site to south. The fields are located upon the eastern facing slopes to the head of an undulating landform, offset south of the Battle sandstone ridge, which fall east to a gill stream within the Manser Shaw / Saxon Wood Ancient Woodland. The Site and surrounding landscape are located within the High Weald NL. The Site forms a part of Draft Site Allocation Policy BT7.
Commentary against susceptibility evaluation criteria, informed by the field survey and desktop review.	
1. Landform (< >)	[Undulating landform or some distinct landform features] The fields are located about the eastern facing slopes to the head of an undulating landform offset south of the Battle sandstone ridge. The fields fall east to a gill stream within the Manser Shaw Ancient Woodland. There is an incised gill type feature which extends between the two field parcels, which continues across Site BA4 to join with the watercourse with the offset Ancient Woodland. A deep pond like impression can be seen through reference to the Landform Context Figure to the northern end of this within the boundary between the two fields.
2. Landscape pattern and time depth (< >)	[Complex landscape field patterns such as small irregularly shaped fields bounded by hedgerows and woodlands / Assarted field patterns / presence of Ancient Woodland. Within the High Weald NL: Fields that still retain the medieval pattern] Through reference to the Sussex Historic Characterisation, (Bannister, 2014) the fields form part of a system of assarted fields associated with the Ancient Woodland to the east, with the same type extending to south beyond the Site. Through reference to the High Weald NL Dataset the larger eastern field is identified as historic with no boundary loss, with the same classification extending to the fields outside of the southern boundary of the Site. The western field is identified as historic, albeit with some sections only matching the historic field boundaries.
3. 'Natural' character (< >)	[Some occurrence of valued semi-natural habitats and features (such as trees, hedgerows, woodland)] The two fields are defined with mature tree belts with understorey scrub, with the Manser Shaw / Saxon Wood Ancient Woodland defining the eastern boundary. There is a pond like feature to the intervening boundary to the north of an incised drainage feature.
4. Historic features (< >)	[Adjacent / presence of historic features that contribute to landscape character] The C18 or earlier Grade II listed Lower Almonry Farmhouse offset from the north-west of the Site, is described as three parallel ranges, faced with weatherboarding with a tiled roof. Through reference to the High Weald NL Dataset there is an historic farmstead shown named Lower Almonry Farm, located to the south of the Farmhouse, with the dataset identifying significant loss. Through reference to the High Weald NL Dataset, the eastern field is identified as a historic field with no change. This categorisation does not extend to the western field, which has been subject to modification, likely from surrounding C20 settlement expansion to the west. The Battlefield of the Battle of Hastings, which also forms part of the Grade II* registered Park and Garden of Battle Abbey is located some 50 metres to the east of the Site, beyond Mansers Shaw Ancient Woodland. The Public Footpath along the northern edge of the Site is identified within the High Weald Dataset as a historic route.
5. Recreational use (<)	[Publicly inaccessible] There are no Public Rights of Way across the Site. Public footpath 82 passes along the northern edge of the Site. A recently constructed footpath passes through the Ancient Woodland belt some 30m to the east of the site within the woodland.
6. Perceptual aspects (< >)	[Some sense of rural character but with some signs of human activity and modern development] The natural character of the Site contributes to a sense of rurality and tranquillity, albeit the western field has some association with the settlement edge.
7. Settlement pattern and setting (< >)	[The area has some association with surrounding settlement pattern] Settlement in the local area results from C20th Settlement expansion of planned estates south of the sandstone ridge along the A271. This includes towards the western boundary of the Site and offset beyond the tree belt to north.
8. Visual prominence (< >)	[Semi-enclosed or has some enclosed and some open areas] The Site is visually enclosed, other than from along the northern boundary where the Public Footpath extends, (see Viewpoint's No. A and B). There is a vista across the eastern part of the Site from within the elevated ground to the north, within the Battle Recreation Ground, (see Viewpoint No. C)
9. Landscape Character strength of expression (< >)	[Fairly frequent' landscape, perhaps with some key positive landscape attributes] Whilst the landscape scale boundary shows the Site partially located within the Battle LCA, (LCA 40, 2016) the rural character of the Site is best characterised through reference to the Combe Haven Valley Landscape Character Area, (LCA10, 2016). There is some contribution from the falling landform to the: 'ridges around levels, with abundant woods and gills'. There is a contribution from the Manser Shaw / Saxon Wood Ancient Woodland to the east of extensive areas of ancient woodland. There is also a sense of tranquillity away from the main settlements and roads associated with the falling landform of fields enclosed within woodland. Core characteristics valued within the overlying High Weald NL include deeply incised, ridged and faulted landform with gill streams, ancient woodland interconnected with hedges and shaws; small, irregular and productive fields, bound by hedgerows and woods and intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity. All of which are contributed to by the Site as part of a complex of fields to the south.
10. Coalescence (< >)	[The area plays some role in separation of settlements] The physical and visual association of the Site with the countryside and landform to the south and east, results in a contribution to the function of the landscape in separation of settlement. The view from along the northern boundary where the Public Footpath extends, contributes to perceptual separation.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA4 - Land at Almonry Farm, (north) - Site Assessment		
Sensitivity Analysis		
Sensitivity Analysis Commentary	The fields and intervening shaws and woodland edges contribute to the core characteristics of the High Weald NL including deeply incised, ridged and faulted landform with gill streams, ancient woodland interconnected with hedges and shaws; small, irregular and productive fields, bound by hedgerows and woods and intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity. The fields form part of a system of assarted fields associated with the Ancient Woodland to the east, with the same type extending to the south beyond the Site and recognised as such within the High Weald NL dataset.	
	The Site's western field adjacent to the settlement edge may be able to accommodate the low scale residential scenario without adverse change or significant effects as indicated on the Analysis Figure, beyond a limited impact on the field system, which would substantially remain. This is due to the association with settlement pattern to the west, which has defined the western boundary, coupled with the strong natural boundary from the shaw with pond to the eastern boundary in particular. The sense of rural character for users of Public Footpath 82 would remain to the east, across the eastern field. The strength of expression of key positive landscape attributes of the overlying.	
Landscape Guidelines	Retain tree'd areas and hedgerows to the Site boundaries, with a buffer outside of private ownership. The setting of the C18 or earlier Grade II listed Lower Almonry Farmhouse offset from the north-west of the Site should be sympathetically responded to. The presence of the replaced historic farmstead should be referenced in considering layout options to result in an enhanced settled edge in this location, which would reference a farmstead type layout in its layout, design and materiality. Development should be of high quality and landscape-led, being guided by the High Weald AONB Management Plan 2024-2029, (see Generic Guidance provided within the Report).	
Sensitivity Judgement		
	Development Scenario	
	Residential - Low scale	Residential - Medium scale
Landscape Sensitivity Rating	Moderate – High	High

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA4 - Land at Almonry Farm, (north) - Landscape Analysis

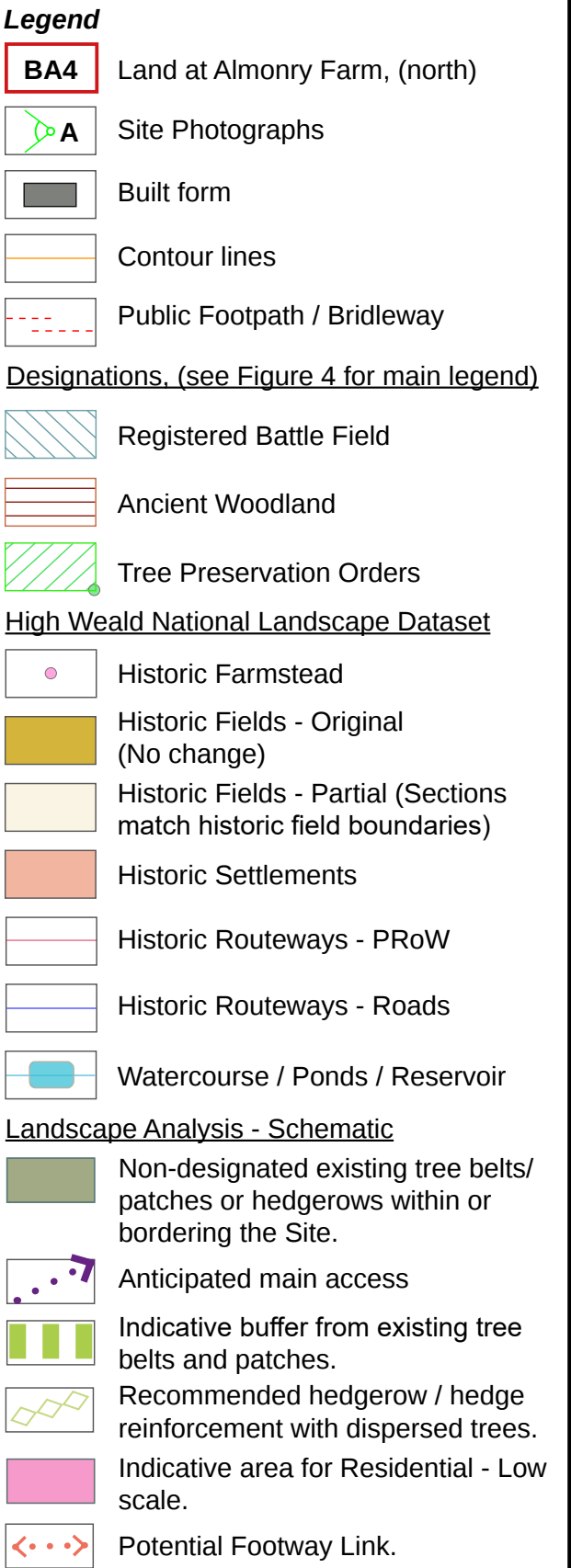
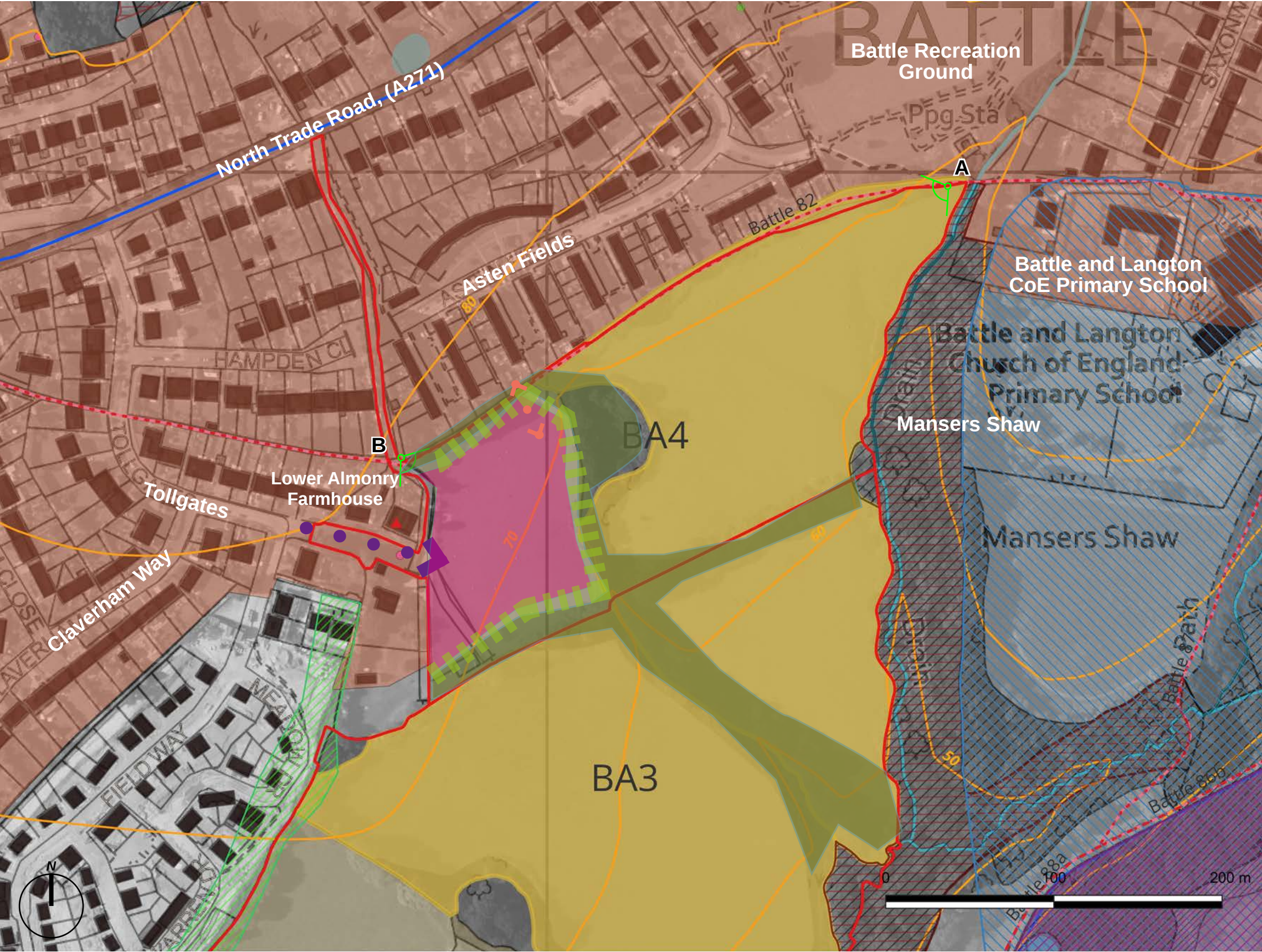


Figure BA4. Landscape Analysis for Site BA4.

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BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA4 - Land at Almonry Farm, (north) - Photographs



Photograph A. South-westerly view into the larger eastern field from Public Footpath 82 to the north-eastern corner of the Site.



Photograph B. South-easterly view of the smaller western field from Public Footpath 82 to the north-western corner of the Site.



Photograph C. Southerly view from the Battle recreation ground upon the ridge offset some 200m north of the Site, with a glimpse into the eastern field to the centre of view.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

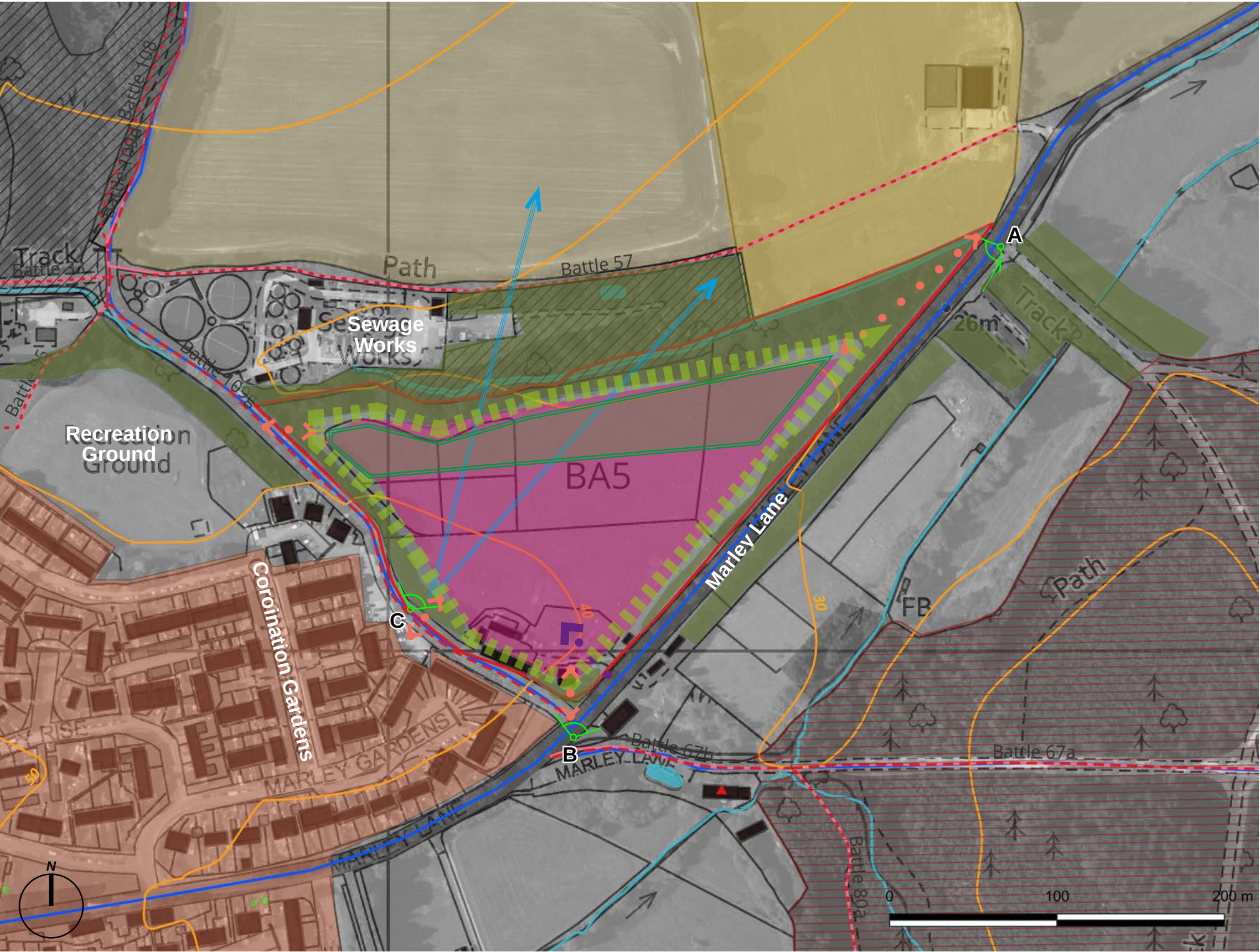
Site BA5 - Land east of Coronation Gardens - Site Assessment	
Location and Landscape Character Summary	Site BA5 comprises of a pasture field to the north-east of a residential area to the north-east of Battle. The Site is enclosed by a dense tree belt along Marley Lane to the south-east and a tree line with understorey scrub to the south-west. The centre of the western edge forms the north eastern edge of a minor ridge to the undulating wider countryside, west of which adjacent settlement extends to the east of Battle. Landform then falls away towards the 30m contour along the northern edge of the Site towards the north-eastern corner. A dense tree belt extends along and off the lower lying land to the north, to the west of which outside of the Site is a large sewage works. From the higher elevation of the land to the centre of the south western edge of the Site there is visibility to distant wooded skylines over intervening trees to the north east. The Site and surrounding landscape are located within the High Weald NL. The Site forms a part of the Draft Site Allocation Policy BT9.
Commentary against susceptibility evaluation criteria, informed by the field survey and desktop review.	
1. Landform (< >)	<i>[Undulating landform]</i> The Site is located to the east of a minor ridge about the 40m contour within the undulating wider countryside between the River Brede valley and the Battle ridge. The minor ridge falls across the Site from the south-western edge about the 40m contour towards the 30m contour along the northern edge of the Site, towards the north-eastern corner.
2. Landscape pattern and time depth (< >)	<i>[Mixture of simple and complex landscape field patterns]</i> Through reference to the Sussex Historic Characterisation, (Bannister, 2014) the field is characterised as an informal fieldscape resulting from regular piece meal enclosure, which extends about to the opposing side of Marley Lane to south-east and across the fields to the north, beyond the intervening water treatment processing facility. Off the south-west of the Site is an area of settlement expansion resulting from a planned estate. Offset to the south-east beyond informal fieldscape off Marley Lane is an extensive area of replanted ancient semi-natural woodland, bordered with assarted fields. Through reference to the High Weald NL Dataset, off the northern boundary of the Site a field parcel is identified as a historic field with no change, with the field west of this identified as subject to modification.
3. 'Natural' character (< >)	<i>[Some occurrence of valued semi-natural habitats and features (such as trees, hedgerows, woodland)]</i> The Site is enclosed by the sunken form of Marley Lane to the south-east atop the bankside of which is an overgrown coppiced hazel hedgerow, now resembling a scrubby tree line, with some dispersed mature oak trees to the western half. A mature oak tree line extends along the trackway to the south-west, with understorey scrub and a tree line with understorey scrub to the south-west. A dwelling is located inside of the southern corner of the Site with its curtilage along Marley Lane part defined with a Leyland cypress hedgerow which detracts from natural character.
4. Historic features (< >)	<i>[Adjacent historic features that contribute to landscape character]</i> There is a Grade II Listed Building located some 100m offset east of the southern corner of the Site. Through reference to the High Weald NL Dataset, the sunken Marley Lane and the track to the western boundary are recognised as historic routes. Off the northern boundary of the Site a field parcel is identified as a historic field with no change, with the field west of this identified as subject to modification.
5. Recreational use (<)	<i>[Publicly inaccessible]</i> There are no Public Rights of Way across the Site. Public Footpath 109g extends outside of the south-western edge of the Site along the track, with the mature oak tree line and glimpse through this at the field gate to centre of the boundary contributing to rural character.
6. Perceptual aspects (< >)	<i>[Some sense of rural character but with some signs of human activity and modern development. Relative tranquillity associated with rural character / some scenic value]</i> The natural character of the Site contributes to a sense of rurality and tranquillity. The overgrown coppiced hazel hedgerow, now resembling a scrubby tree line, with some dispersed mature oak trees to the western half along the south-eastern edge of the Site along Marley Lane forms an overarching green tunnel type effect with the same sunken profile and bordering vegetation to the opposing roadside. There is a north-easterly glimpsed view from a field gate to the centre of the south-western Site boundary along which Public Footpath 109g extends, providing a vistas to offset tree'd skylines, (see Photograph C).
7. Settlement pattern and setting (< >)	<i>[The area has some association with surrounding settlement pattern]</i> The Site comprises of a pasture field to the north-east of a residential area, north-east of Battle. The centre of the western edge forms the north eastern edge of a minor ridge about the 40m contour along which the adjacent settlement, resulting from C20th settlement expansion of planned estates extends to west.
8. Visual prominence (< >)	<i>[Semi-enclosed or has some enclosed and some open areas]</i> The Site is visually enclosed due to the undulating landform and enclosure from tree belts and mature hedgerows. There is likely to be heavily filtered visibility from along Marley Lane when vegetation is out of leaf and there is a glimpse across the Site from a gap in the vegetation to the south-western boundary. The more elevated centre of the south-western part of the Site is more open to the landscape offset to the north than the remainder of the Site, but without return visibility from any ProW.
9. Landscape Character strength of expression (< >)	<i>[Fairly frequent' landscape, perhaps with some key positive landscape attributes]</i> Regarding strength of expression associated with the Brede Valley, (LCA 11, 2016) there is a limited contribution from the Site area to the key positive landscape attributes, comprising of the belt of undulating countryside which extends to the Battle ridge to the southwest of the main valley and a sense of tranquillity away from the main settlements and roads. Characteristics valued within the overlying High Weald NL include rurality and tranquillity, which the Site has a limited contribution to away from the Marley Lane and the sewage works. The further High Weald NL characteristic of ridge top settlement is also present in this location to the south-west of the Site as indicated in the High Weald NL Dataset.
10. Coalescence (< >)	<i>[The area plays some role in separation of settlements although development could be designed so as to retain separation between settlements]</i> The enclosed situation of the Site and presence of built form to the west results in very limited perceptual contribution to separation of settlement. There is some limited physical contribution from the field.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA5 - Land east of Coronation Gardens - Site Assessment		
Sensitivity Analysis		
Sensitivity Analysis Commentary	The Site area is considered to have some capacity for low scale residential development as indicated on the Analysis Figure, if sited and designed sensitively due to the enclosed character of the Site and association with adjacent settlement on comparable landform to the south-west. The strength of expression of key positive landscape attributes of the overlying strength of expression associated with the Brede Valley, (LCA 11, 2016) there is a limited contribution from the Site area to the key positive landscape attributes, comprising of the belt of undulating countryside which extends to the Battle ridge to the southwest of the main valley and a sense of tranquillity away from the main settlements and roads. Characteristics valued within the overlying High Weald NL include rurality and tranquillity, which the Site has a limited contribution to away from the Marley Lane and the sewage works which would substantially be maintained. The further High Weald NL characteristic of ridge top settlement is also present in this location to the south-west of the Site as indicated in the High Weald NL Dataset and would be maintained.	
Landscape Guidelines	Retain tree'd areas and hedgerows to the Site boundaries, with an adjacent buffer to development. Development should be of high quality and landscape-led, being guided by the High Weald AONB Management Plan 2024-2029, (see Generic Guidance provided within the Report). Replace the Leyland cypress to the southern boundary with a hazel hedgerow. Establish a tree belt of dispersed oak and field maple to the south-eastern boundary inside of the hazel hedgerow, with an understorey of hazel to reinforce wooded character along the roadside. Maintain vistas through the development as identified within the Analysis Figure. The lower lying part of the Site to the north is anticipated for surface water attenuation and Public Open Space as indicated on the Analysis Figure and to maintain association with settlement pattern upon the ridge top and sides. The strong boundary to north and east would enclose and retain association of the settlement with that situated to a more elevated position outside of the Site to west. The anticipated access would occur in place of an existing curtilage boundary defined by Leyland cypress trees, with a limited impact on the more in keeping native boundary of hazel, which would otherwise be reinforced.	
Sensitivity Judgement		
	Development Scenario	
	Residential - Low scale	Residential - Medium scale
Landscape Sensitivity Rating	Moderate	High

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA5 - Land east of Coronation Gardens - Landscape Analysis



Legend

BE5 Land east of Coronation Gardens

A Site Photographs

Built form

Contour lines

Public Footpath / Bridleway

Designations. (see Figure 4 for main legend)

Tree Preservation Orders

Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat

High Weald National Landscape Dataset

Historic Farmstead

Historic Fields - Original (No change)

Historic Fields - Partial (Sections match historic field boundaries)

Historic Settlements

Historic Routeways - PRoW

Historic Routeways - Roads

Watercourse / Ponds / Reservoir

Landscape Analysis - Schematic

Non-designated existing tree belts/ patches or hedgerows within or bordering the Site.

Contribution to sense of place from existing vista from within the Site.

Anticipated main access

Indicative buffer from existing tree belts and patches.

Indicative area for Residential - Low scale.

Potential Footway Link.

Indicative area recommended for Public Open Space / Habitat creation.

Figure BA5. Landscape Analysis for Site BA5.

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BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA5 - Land east of Coronation Gardens - Photographs



Photograph A. South-westerly view along Marley Lane from adjacent to the north-eastern corner of the Site, where there is a small parking area, showing the dense hedgerow with dispersed trees to the south-eastern Site boundary.



Photograph B. Northerly view along Marley Lane from adjacent to the southern corner of the Site, with the access track along the south-western Site boundary to left, showing the mature hedgerow with dispersed trees to the Site boundary.



Photograph C. North-easterly glimpsed view from a field gate to the centre of the south-western Site boundary along which Public Footpath 109g extends, showing the glimpsed vistas to offset tree'd skylines.

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA6 - Land north of Brede Lane - Site Assessment		
Location and Landscape Character Summary	Site BA6 comprises of the south eastern part of an irregularly shaped field to the northern valleyside of the River Brede. Landform falls from below the 40m contour towards the 20m contour beyond the eastern edge of the Site where a watercourse drains. The Site is enclosed by Park Shaw Ancient Woodland to the north-east, a deciduous woodland belt to the south east and a block of Deciduous woodland block to the west. The hedgerow lined Brede Lane extends along the southern boundary of the Site, beyond which a 1970/80s planned estate is located. The relatively narrow north western edge of the Site is open, where there is continuity to the north western part of the field outside of the Site, which continues to rise towards the 60m contour. The Site and surrounding landscape are located within the High Weald NL.	
Commentary against susceptibility evaluation criteria, informed by the field survey and desktop review.		
1. Landform (< >)	[Undulating landform or some distinct landform features] The Site is located upon an eastern face of an undulating landform to the northern valleyside of the River Brede valley. Landform falls from below the 40m contour towards the 20m contour beyond the eastern edge of the Site where a watercourse drains.	
2. Landscape pattern and time depth (>)	[Complex landscape field patterns such as small irregularly shaped fields bounded by hedgerows and woodlands / presence of Ancient Woodland] Through reference to the Sussex Historic Characterisation, (Bannister, 2014) the field forms part of an informal fieldscape resulting from regular piece meal enclosure, with continuity to a field to the north-west, both of which are enclosed with ancient semi natural woodland to the east and a plantation woodland to the west / south-west. A planned housing estate resulting from settlement expansion is located to the southern side of Brede Lane, adjacent to the Site, where this extends to the west. Along Brede Lane to the east are pockets of historic dispersed settlement to either side of the lane.	
3. ‘Natural’ character (< >)	[Some occurrence of valued semi-natural habitats and features (such as trees, hedgerows, woodland)] The Site is enclosed by Park Shaw Ancient Woodland to the north-east, a deciduous woodland belt to the south east and a block of Deciduous woodland block to the west. The hedgerow lined Brede Lane extends along the southern boundary of the Site.	
4. Historic features (< >)	[Adjacent historic features that contribute to landscape character] Brede Lane is recognised within the High Weald NL Dataset as a historic road.	
5. Recreational use (<)	[Publicly inaccessible] There are no Public Rights of Way across the Site.	
6. Perceptual aspects (< >)	[Some sense of rural character but with some signs of human activity and modern development. Relative tranquillity associated with rural character] The natural character of the Site contributes to a sense of rurality and tranquillity, including the Park Shaw Ancient Woodland to the north-east, a deciduous woodland belt to the south east, a block of Deciduous woodland block to the west and the hedgerow lined Brede Lane extends along the southern boundary of the Site.	
7. Settlement pattern and setting (< >)	[The area has some association with surrounding settlement pattern] A1970/80s planned estate is located to the south of Brede Lane on falling ground, with some continuity of context with Ancient Woodland to the east and across south easterly aligned landform.	
8. Visual prominence (< >)	[Semi-enclosed or has some enclosed and some open areas] The Site is visually enclosed due to the undulating landform with landform facing south-east and enclosure within woodland to east and west, and with a mature hedgerow along Brede Lane. The higher ground to the north-west of the Site is glimpsed through the field gate within the roadside hedgerow to the south-east.	
9. Landscape Character strength of expression (< >)	[‘Fairly frequent’ landscape, perhaps with some key positive landscape attributes] Regarding strength of expression associated with the Brede Valley, (LCA 11, 2016) there is a limited contribution from the Site area and ancient woodland to its eastern boundary to the key positive landscape attributes, comprising of the relatively steep slopes to the River Brede; a sense of tranquillity away from the main settlements and roads; well wooded sides slopes, and scattered areas of Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland on the valley slopes, many of which are ghyll woodlands, a key characteristic of the High Weald. Characteristics valued within the overlying High Weald NL include gill streams, historic routeways, ancient woodland interconnected with hedges and shaws; small, irregular and productive fields, bound by hedgerows and woods and intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity.	
10. Coalescence (< >)	[The area plays some role in separation of settlements although development could be designed so as to retain separation between settlements] The enclosed situation of the Site and presence of built form to the south results in very limited perceptual contribution to separation of settlement, with glimpsed visibility only from the adjacent extent of Brede Lane. There is some limited physical contribution from the field.	
Sensitivity Analysis		
Sensitivity Analysis Commentary	The Site area is considered to have some capacity for low scale residential development as indicated on the Analysis Figure if sited and designed sensitively, due to the enclosed character of the Site and association with adjacent settlement along Brede Lane to the south, with which it would share a comparable aspect upon the valleyside and enclosure from woodland to the east. The elevation of the proposed area would coincide with that of existing settlement offset to the west within Sedlescombe, beyond the intervening woodland. The strength of expression of key positive landscape attributes of the overlying Brede Valley, (LCA 11, 2016) there is a limited contribution from the Site area and ancient woodland to its eastern boundary to the key positive landscape attributes, comprising of the relatively steep slopes to the River Brede; a sense of tranquillity away from the main settlements and roads; well wooded sides slopes, and scattered areas of Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland on the valley slopes. Characteristics valued within the overlying High Weald NL include gill streams, historic routeways, ancient woodland interconnected with hedges and shaws; small, irregular and productive fields, bound by hedgerows and woods and intimacy of scale, rurality and tranquillity which would be maintained, albeit with some loss of an irregular field.	
Landscape Guidelines	Retain tree'd areas and hedgerows to the Site boundaries, with an adjacent buffer to development, with a minimum of 15m of semi natural habitat outside of private ownership adjacent to the Park Shaw Ancient Woodland. Development should be of high quality and landscape-led, being guided by the High Weald AONB Management Plan 2024-2029, (see Generic Guidance provided within the Report). A tree belt of oak and field maple with understorey scrub should be extended along the north-western edge of the Site and part eastern to improve connectivity between adjacent woodland blocks and reinforce the deciduous belt to the east along the streamside.	
Sensitivity Judgement		
	Development Scenario	
	Residential - Low scale	Residential - Medium scale
Landscape Sensitivity Rating	Moderate	High

BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA6 - Land north of Brede Lane - Landscape Analysis



Legend

BE6

Land north of Brede Lane

A

Site Photographs

Built form

Contour lines

Public Footpath / Bridleway

Designations

Ancient Woodland

Tree Preservation Orders

Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat

High Weald National Landscape Dataset

Historic Routeways - Roads

Watercourse / Ponds / Reservoir

Landscape Analysis - Schematic

Non-designated existing tree belts/ patches or hedgerows within or bordering the Site.

Anticipated main access

Indicative buffer from existing tree belts and patches.

Recommended tree belt with boundary scrub

Indicative area for Residential - Low scale.

Potential Footway Link.

Figure BA6. Landscape Analysis for Site BA6.

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BATTLE - CONTEXT AREA

Site BA6 - Land north of Brede Lane - Photographs



Photograph A. North-eastern view from the pavement along the south side of Brede Lane showing the mature hedgerow along the Site's southern boundary with roof lines glimpsed about.



Photograph B. North-westerly view from Brede Lane adjacent to a field gate to the south-eastern corner of the Site, showing the mature hedgerow along the Site's southern boundary and rising ground within the Site, enclosed with woodland.



Photograph C. North-westerly view from the field gate to the south-eastern corner of the Site, showing the rising ground within the Site, enclosed with woodland.