

Mace

HMP Ford Solar Farm Historic Environment opinion

Draft report

Prepared by LUC
March 2021





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Historic Environment opinion

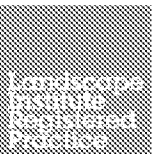
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Chapter 1

Introduction

Project background

1.1 LUC was commissioned by Mace in March 2021 to provide advice on the historic environment in relation to a proposed ground mounted solar farm on land belonging to HMP Ford, West Sussex, BN18 0BX.

1.2 The development proposal¹ is located on land in the southwest corner of the prison complex on the west of Ford Road (hereafter 'the Site'). It consists of a sub-rectangular array of ground mounted panels, each panel a maximum of c.3m high, surrounded by an access route and mesh fence enclosure. There is an existing road that facilitates access to the Site, following the prison's perimeter fence. A connection to the prison's main switch board is also necessary. It is proposed that this will follow the access route approximately 240m east along the existing access route to a building in the centre of the complex.

1.3 This report provides a high-level appraisal of the likely changes to the historic environment associated with the proposed development on the Site and its surroundings.

Purpose of the assessment

1.4 This assessment provides a proportionate understanding of potential historic environment impacts at the site. The assessment focuses on identifying the heritage assets in and around the site and drawing broad conclusions on the likely level of risk of harm to the historic environment from the development proposal.

1.5 The output consists of a short report summarising the process and findings of the assessment, and conclusions on the potential for harm to the significance of the historic environment at and around the site.

¹ Refer to Mace, Site Location Plan XXXXXX-XXXX-MAC-XX-XX-DR-A-1300-HMP Ford and Propose Ground Mounted PV Generation Layout XXXXXX-XXXX-MAC-XX-XX-DR-A-1301-HMP Ford

Method and scope

Task 1: data gathering and asset identification

1.6 This included collating readily available information on the historic environment around each proposed site from sources including the National Heritage List for England (NHLE), conservation area appraisals, the local Historic Environment Record where available online, historic mapping and Google Earth aerial imagery.

1.7 From this review we have identified designated and non-designated heritage assets falling within a reasonable search area of the site, including on the site itself, with the range influenced by site context / topography. A search area radius of 1km from the centre of the Site was used.

Task 2: asset scoping

1.1 Once a list of assets within the search area was established it was then subject to a scoping exercise. This identified the heritage assets within the search area which are likely to have their significance affected by the installation of a solar array (either physically affected or by changes in their setting).

1.2 We have also taken a broader look around the search area to identify any other assets that are likely to experience potentially harmful setting change. This part of the assessment was carried out using professional judgement, based on our understanding of asset types and their relationship with the surrounding landscape – for example, a registered park or garden 10km away may be at risk of effects from the reflectivity of an array, depending on orientation and relationship between the sites, but a single listed building at that distance would be unlikely to experience harm.

Task 3: summary of potential effects

1.3 The report highlights:

- ❖ the main historic environment issues likely to be encountered.
- ❖ where further assessment of individual assets would be recommended to fully understand the likely nature and scale of harm.
- ❖ where further scoping work is required to address gaps in the coverage (e.g. if HER data is not publicly available)
- ❖ each site is given a rating using a 'traffic light' approach to categorise the potential effects to the historic environment.

Task 4: reporting

1.4 The remainder of the report is set out as follows:

- ❖ Chapter 2 sets out the assessment of heritage assets on and around the site.
- ❖ Chapter 3 summarises the historic environment issues and potential effects.

1.5 A 'traffic light' approach has been used to categorise the likely level of effects to the historic environment in relation to the proposed development as follows:

Table 1.1: Potential level of effects to the historic environment

	Major – likely to have significant negative effects to the historic environment
	Moderate - may have some negative effects to the historic environment, but unlikely to be significant
	Minor – unlikely to have effects to the historic environment
	Uncertain – level of effect cannot be estimated without further research

1.6 A rating level is applied to each heritage asset, then a judgment is formed on the overall, cumulative level of effect across all the assets within the conclusions. There may also be instances where potential effects cannot be assessed under the remit of Stage 1 (e.g. because a site visit would be required) and these are rated 'Uncertain'.

1.7 The following guidance documents have been taken into account in the preparation of this report:

- ❖ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government. 2019. *Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)*.
- ❖ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA). 2017. *Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*.
- ❖ Historic England. 2015. *Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2 (GPA 2)*.
- ❖ Historic England. 2017. *The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 (GPA 3)*.

- ❖ Historic England. 2019. *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets*.

Limitations and exclusions

1.8 The assessment is based on an indicative location and design of the solar PV panels and associated infrastructure only. Therefore, only 'in-principle' potential issues and risks can be highlighted.

1.9 There is no detailed analysis of impact on individual assets and, as a result, no recommendations on avoidance, minimisation or mitigation of harm can be made at this initial stage. This would form part of any stage 2 detailed assessments.

1.10 Heritage assets identified include those designated and non-designated assets which can be reasonably identified from publicly available sources including:

- ❖ Historic England's National Heritage List (NHLE).
- ❖ West Sussex Historic Environment Record (WSHER) data, accessed via Heritage Gateway.²
- ❖ Local council online information sources, including conservation area appraisals and local lists.

1.11 The West Sussex Historic Environment Record (WSHER) data held on the Heritage Gateway website may not be up to date.

1.12 The scope of the brief at this stage is only to identify high-level issues and risks to the historic environment. Detailed HER data has not been obtained given the high-level nature of this report. Data has not been interrogated in detail to form an in-depth understanding of asset significance. This would be required if further stages of more detailed assessment were carried out.

1.13 The work in this report is based entirely on desk review of information. No site visits have been undertaken at this stage.

Chapter 2

Historic environment assessment

The Site

2.1 Formerly a Fleet Air Arm Station, HMP Ford has operated as an open men's prison since 1960.³ Located in Arundel, West Sussex, HMP Ford lies between the villages of Ford to the north and Climping to the south. It is composed of two complexes, one either side of Ford Road, with the proposed development Site located in the southwestern complex to the west of the road.

2.2 It is a category D facility where residents have under 2 years left to serve on their sentence, therefore there is an emphasis on resettlement and learning new skills to help resident on their release.⁴ For instance, the prison built and runs its own garden centre and café called 'Serving Thyme' located on Ford Road to allow prisoners to develop skills.

2.3 The prison is located in the rural landscape to the west of Littlehampton and north of the English Channel coastline, characterised by small villages interspersed amongst agricultural land. To the south of the Site lies Rudford Industrial Estate and to its northwest, the Ford Water Treatment Works.

Baseline data

Designated assets

2.4 There are no designated heritage assets – World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, historic battlefields, or registered parks and gardens – within the Site.

2.5 The nearest designated heritage asset is the grade I Parish Church of St Mary's [NHLE ref: 1027640] which stands approximately 90m south from the boundary of the eastern section of the prison complex. A further 40m to its south lies the grade II Vicarage [NHLE ref: 1027641] which is associated with the St Mary's Church. Additionally, approximately 130m east and 80m southeast of the church lies the scheduled medieval earthwork remains of the village of Climping [NHLE ref: 1005828].

2.6 To the south of the western prison complex, approximately 380m and 490m, lies the grade II listed Barn to

the west of Nos 1 and 2 Church Farm Cottage [NHLE ref: 1027642] and Church Farmhouse East and Church Farmhouse West [NHLE ref: 1027643] respectively.

2.7 There are several listed buildings located within the village of Ford to the north of the Site. This includes the grade I listed Parish Church of St Andrew [NHLE ref: 1233989] alongside two grade II historic farmsteads, New House Farmhouse [NHLE ref: 1027630] and Atherington House/Ford Place/Southdown House/The Lodge [NHLE ref: 1233927].

2.8 No other designated heritage assets have been identified within the study area.

Non-designated assets

2.9 There are no non-designated assets recorded with the Site, but WSHER records several non-designated heritage assets within 1km of the prison.

2.10 Prehistoric activity is represented within the range of non-designated assets with the earliest dating to the late Mesolithic to early Neolithic period. Finds including worked flints, a sandstone rubber and a broken polished flint axe have been identified in archaeological excavations prior to the construction of new developments [e.g. WSHER refs: MWS6999 and MWS6777] alongside surface finds brought up through ploughing [e.g. WSHER ref: MWS7089].

2.11 Historic agricultural use of the landscape in the 18th and 19th centuries is demonstrated by a range of non-designated assets. This includes shrunken medieval villages such as at Ford [WSHER ref: MWS6291] alongside former outfarms like those at Fordground and Lower Farm [WSHER refs: MWS10605 and MWS12220].

2.12 A series of non-designated assets are associated with the former Ford Airfield [WSHER ref: MWS21412] which the prison is built upon. This includes records relating to archaeological investigations in the area [e.g. WSHER refs: MWS9678 and MWS6921], a blister hanger [WSHER ref: MWS8137] and anti-aircraft artillery [WSHER ref: MWS7129].

Aerial imagery and historic mapping

2.13 Google Earth current aerial imagery and a selection of historic OS maps were reviewed. Historic mapping shows the subtle development of the agricultural landscape with the disappearance of historic farmsteads and outfarms, modern residential expansions to the west of Climping and larger industrial expansion, including extensions to farms, industrial estates and the appearance of the eastern side of the prison complex by 1962.

2.14 The maps show that the location of the western portion of the prison complex was once occupied by farm barns and an old gravel pit. These were lost with the construction of the Ford Airfield by the 1930s,⁵ whose layout remains undocumented on historic mapping but tarmac areas are still visible on aerial photography, before the eastern portion of the prison appears in 1962.⁶

Site development and context

Prehistoric and Roman

2.15 There is a wealth of archaeological evidence relating to the prehistoric occupation of the landscape within the study area. Past communities would have taken advantage of the River Arun floodplain and nearby coastline for natural resources. The coastal plain was one of the first areas of Sussex to be settled and has been in use for arable farming since at least the Roman period.

2.16 The earliest evidence of human activity in the vicinity of the Site dates to the residual Mesolithic and early Neolithic, in the form of worked flints and hard hammer flakes. Further Neolithic remains of a broken polished flint axe and sandstone rubber were discovered near St Andrew's Parish Church in Ford. There is a range of evidence of agricultural activity and settlements dating to the Late Bronze Age alongside Iron Age activity, documented from a recovered copper alloy harness fitting.

2.17 Archaeological surveys prior to development on the land at the former Ford Airfield and the land now occupied by residential development to the west of Climping has revealed archaeological remains detailing the prehistoric and Roman history of the landscape. This has included Late Bronze Age urn cremations, enclosures, postholes, ditches, gullies and pits which contained finds such as pottery, worked flint and burnt clay. Roman activity in the form of pits, ditches, field boundaries, pottery fragments and a possible shelter for metalworking has also been discovered. It is likely that these belonged to a larger agricultural settlement and associated field systems in the area which has not fully been discovered.

Medieval period

2.18 There is evidence of two shrunken or abandoned medieval villages within the study area; the first to the east and southeast of St Mary's Church in Climping and the second located around St Andrew's Church in Ford. Taking the form of earthworks, they represent rural settlements of predominately agricultural communities which were created by the grouping of farmsteads to form nucleated villages.⁷

2.19 Villages were formed from a series of houses, gardens, yards, streets and paddocks. As seen at Climping and Ford, villages also often had a green, a manor and/or a church with the settlements providing some services to the local community and acting as the main focal point of ecclesiastical, and often of manorial, administration within each parish. The village at Ford had an associated manor site from at least the 12th century, defended by a moat with a large park attached, with both forming around parish churches.

2.20 Although the sites of many medieval villages have been continuously occupied to the present day, many either declined in size or were abandoned through the medieval and post-medieval periods, particularly during the 14th and 15th centuries. The reasons for desertion varied from declining economic viability, changes in land use or population fluctuations from widespread epidemics. The medieval villages at Ford and Climping are classic examples of this, with their subsequent shrinking or abandonment occurring before being revived in the post medieval period.

2.21 Due to their abandonment, the villages are frequently undisturbed by later occupation and contain well-preserved archaeological deposits. For instance, archaeological investigations around the earthworks at Climping have revealed brick and stone walling of buildings, pottery sherds and an area of flint metallurgy.

Post-medieval period

2.22 The 18th and 19th centuries were important periods for farm development with several factors providing a major role in boosting agricultural productivity, including widespread adoption of improved grasses and winter feed accompanied by the production of good manure by the practice of livestock increasingly wintering in yards or buildings. Open field land had been largely enclosed by the 17th century, creating large hedged and ditched fields with the location of farmsteads responsible for the varying settlement patterns.

2.23 Within the vicinity of the Site, evidence of post-medieval agricultural activity has been recovered through archaeological investigations which have revealed pottery, animal remains, peg tile fragments, ditches relating to field boundaries (relating to those appearing on historic mapping) and sites of former farm buildings.

2.24 Built evidence of post-medieval activity in the vicinity of the Site appears in the form of historic farmsteads with their surviving farmhouses such as the listed New House

Farmhouse, Church Farmhouse (east and west) and Atherington House.

2.25 In addition, there are also a number of historic outfarms identified on historic mapping but no longer present within the landscape. Outfarms were building complexes that saved on labour, reducing the need to transport materials between the fields and main farmyard. They used to be common across West Sussex, isolated from main farmsteads and usually created on larger farms or in areas where farmsteads remained within villages⁸. An example within the vicinity of the Site is New Barn which was located in the area of the former airfield and subsequent water treatment works [WSHER ref: MWS12473]. Agricultural decline from the late 19th century resulted in a lack of investment in farm buildings, resulting in a high degree of loss of outfarms making them a rare feature within the landscape.

2.26 To the north of the Site lies a section of the 12.7 mile Portsmouth and Arundel Canal, built in 1823 and abandoned by 1855.⁹ It connected to the River Arun at Ford and was part of a larger scheme to secure an inland canal route from London to Portsmouth. However, the scheme was not a success due to greater economic impact, as the coastal route between the two cities was cheaper.¹⁰ The OS 2nd edition 25 inch map published 1897 depicts the route of the abandoned canal; the land has now been filled in and the ground is under pasture with no visible remains.

World Wars

2.27 The western portion of HMP Ford is built on the remains of the former Ford Airfield. Opening in 1918, it was in use through both the First World War and the Second World War until it was closed in 1958. By World War II, the airfield was part of 11 Group Fighter Command.

2.28 The site was equipped with two tarmac runways, anti-aircraft artillery and a variety of aircraft hangars including Bellman and blister types. A blister hanger still survives, constructed on the site post-World War II as it is not visible in 1947 aerial photographs. Geophysical surveys at the airfield have identified further below ground remains and associated debris of buildings, tie-down areas and runways.

Archaeological potential

2.29 Based on the known archaeology of the area and the site's historical development, there is good potential for remains associated with the previous use of the Site as an

⁸ <https://www.veteran.org.uk/veteran/discover-the-landscapes-of-the-past>

airfield. For earlier periods, archaeological evaluations within the vicinity of the Site have demonstrated the potential for remains to survive from the prehistoric to post-medieval period, despite the later occupation of the site as an airfield.

2.30 Any hitherto undiscovered remains within the Site are likely to survive well given its undeveloped agricultural character, although ploughing may have resulted in some vertical truncation.

Table 2.1: Heritage assets

Heritage Asset	Designation NHLE/WHER ref	Summary/Key facts	Impact type (physical or setting)	Potential for impact from development
New House Farmhouse	Grade II Listed 1027630 (Also HER ref MWS12588)	An 18 th century, two storey farmhouse located within the village of Ford with numerous architectural detailing's. The main entrance doorway has pilasters, a pediment-shaped hood and a door of six fielded panels. The windows are casement with glazing bars still intact and there are two curved bay windows on the ground floor. Newhouse Farm has been identified as a Historic Farmstead dating to the 18 th century.	Setting	Minor – This asset is not intervisible with the site, separated by intervening tree lines and the prison site itself. The site makes no contribution to its historical or aesthetic value and its significance would not be affected by the development.
The Parish Church of St Mary	Grade I Listed 1027640 (Also HER MWS3103)	A cruciform building with a tower and transept on its south elevation. The tower and its western doorway dates to the late 12 th century with the remainder of the building to the early 13 th century. It could possibly be the " <i>Clepinges: Almenesches Abbey and St. Martin's of Sees from Earl Roger in alms</i> " coastal church mentioned in the Domesday Book.	Setting	Minor – This asset is not intervisible with the site, separated by intervening tree lines and the prison site itself. The site makes no contribution to its historical or aesthetic value and its significance would not be affected by the development.
The Vicarage	Grade II Listed 1027641	A rudimentary two storey, Gothic style building constructed in 1833 to a design by architect W F Pocock. Casement windows with obtusely-pointed windows of Gothic type. The centre window-bay projects with a crow-stepped gable over it and a projecting porch on ground floor of red brick and grey headers with obtusely-pointed archway.	Setting	Minor – This asset is not intervisible with the site, separated by intervening tree lines and the prison site itself. Its significance, linked with the Parish Church of St Mary, would not be affected by development of the site.
The Parish Church of St Andrew	Grade I Listed 1233989 (Also HER ref MWS3101 & MWS3102)	A very attractive, small early medieval church with several phases of development, partly caused by a fire, which is little restored. Its detailing is mainly Norman with later windows. It has a chancel and nave with a western bell-turret faced with white weather-boarding. A south porch in red brick was added in 1637 which has a shaped gable. There is	Setting	Minor – This asset is not intervisible with the site, separated by intervening tree lines and the prison site itself. The site makes no contribution to its historical or aesthetic value and its significance would not be affected by the development.

Heritage Asset	Designation NHLE/WHER ref.	Summary key facts	Impact type (physical or setting)	Potential for impact from development
		a piece of Anglo-Saxon interlace sculpture built into the vestry wall above the church door.		
Barn to the West of Nos 1 and 2 Church Farm Cottage	Grade II Listed 1027642 (Also HER ref MWS9757)	An 18 th century barn to the west of Nos 1 and 2 Church Farm Cottages. It has a hipped roof of corrugated iron, painted green, with a central wagon entrance on the south side. There are ventilation holes edged with red brick. Church Farm at Climping has been identified as a Historic Farmstead dating to the 18 th century.	Setting	Minor – This asset is not intervisible with the site, separated by intervening tree lines and the prison site itself. The site makes no contribution to its historical or aesthetic value and its significance would not be affected by the development.
Church Farmhouse East and Church Farmhouse West	Grade II Listed 1027643	An 18 th century L-shaped, two storey house now converted into two dwellings. It retains historical features including eaves cornice with modillions and brackets, glazing bars intact and tiled roof. Church Farm at Climping has been identified as a Historic Farmstead dating to the 18 th century.	Setting	Minor – This asset is not intervisible with the site, separated by intervening tree lines and the prison site itself. Its significance would not be affected by development of the site, with the relationship with the Church Farm complex not interrupted.
Atherington House/Ford Place/Southdown House/The Lodge	Grade II Listed 1233927 (Also HER ref MWS13333)	Large L-shaped two storey house with attic, now subdivided, with an 18 th century red brick exterior (the interior may contain some early 17 th century features). There are four windows facing west and north respectively, with their glazing bars intact, and modern dormers. It has a brick stringcourse with the eaves corniced with heavy brackets. There is a porch located in the angle of the 'L' shape of the building. It was associated with Place Farm, Ford, which has been identified as a Historic Farmstead dating to the 18 th century.	Setting	Minor – This asset is not intervisible with the site, separated by intervening tree lines and the prison site itself. The site makes no contribution to its historical or aesthetic value and its significance would not be affected by the development.
Medieval earthworks E and SE of St Mary's Church	Scheduled 1005828 (Also HER ref MWS3371)	The remains of a deserted medieval village located on the flood plain of the River Arun at Church Farm, west of Littlehampton. It comprises of two separate areas and surviving as earthworks and below ground remains, including rectangular house platforms, trackways, banks and depressions. It has	Setting	Minor – Development on the site would not affect the asset's primary archaeological (evidential) or historical values. The relationship with the parish church of St Mary's will not be interrupted. In its wider context, the settlements relationship to evidence of medieval activity in the vicinity may be at risk of harm but this will be

Heritage Asset	Designation NHLE/WHER ref.	Summary key facts	Impact type (physical or setting)	Potential for impact from development
		been largely undisturbed and archaeological investigation has revealed brick and stone walling of buildings alongside medieval pottery sherds. An area of flint metalling is considered to be a trackway associated with the village. It is in close proximity to the parish church of St Mary's and is associated with the reduced village of Climping.		negligible in relation to harm already caused by subsequent development.
HMP Ford, (Ford Airfield (Disused)), Ford	Non-designated MWS2412	Opening in 1918, Ford Airfield was in military use until its closure in 1958. During the Second World War it was in use by 11 Group Fighter Command. By 1944 it was equipped with two tarmac runways and a variety of aircraft hangars including Bellman and blister types. It is now in use as HMP Ford.	Physical/setting	Moderate – The current prison complex is constructed on part of the former Ford Airfield. Its eastern and southern extents have been extensively modernised since its use during the World Wars by conversion to the prison, residential development, industrial estate and water treatment works. During archaeological investigations prior to their constructions, evidence dating as far back as the Bronze Age have been recovered indicating that subsequent development of the landscape has not disturbed earlier deposits. The addition of the proposed development may therefore physically affect 20th century or earlier remains. Any archaeology relating to these features would be at risk of physical change, depending on the depth and extent of ground works required by the development. The proposed ground-mounted method of installation would reduce impacts by avoiding the need for excavation to install the array, although associated fencing and connection routes would potentially affect below-ground remains in limited areas where they cross previously undeveloped parts of the prison complex. Any harm would be less than substantial owing to its limited extent. In terms of setting, the development would result in a very minor change to the legibility of the remains of the former airfield with its surrounding associated infrastructure. In the context of the existing change

Heritage Asset	Designation NHL/WHER ref.	Summary key facts	Impact type (physical or setting)	Potential for impact from development
				wrought by the widespread development of the prison, as well as the water treatment works to the north and industrial estate to the south, the proposed development would not cause any significant additional harm.
Blister hanger – Ford	Non-designated MWS8137	One of three surviving blister hangers that still remain on or around the now disused Ford airfield. They are not visible in 1947 aerial photographs so were constructed or moved from another location post-Second World War.	Setting	Minor – The remains of the blister hanger lie to the southwest of the prison, associated with the former airfield. It is not intervisible with the site, separated by intervening tree lines and buildings from the industrial estate. The other remaining wartime features of the airfield are the main aspects of its setting contributing to its significance – its significance would therefore not be affected by development of the site.
Ford Shrunken Medieval Village	Non-designated MWS6291	Earthworks around St Andrew's Church represent the remains of a shrunken medieval village alongside the site of a fortified manor house and the former Portsmouth to Arundel Canal.	Setting	Minor – Development on the site would not affect the asset's primary archaeological (evidential) or historical values. The relationship with the Parish Church of St Andrew will not be interrupted. In its wider context, the settlement's relationship to evidence of medieval activity in the vicinity may be at risk of harm but this will be negligible in relation to harm already caused by subsequent development.
Castle or Moated House – Ford	Non-designated MWS3222	Irregularities of the surface of the ground near Ford Church mark the site of a fortified mansion or castle defended by a moat filled by the incoming tide from the River Arun. It was probably built by Savaric Fitz Cana after the transfer to him of the manor of Ford about the year 1102. It had a large park attached which was valued in 1575 at ten pounds per annum. The now disused Chichester and Arundel Canal was constructed through the site which revealed some of the former dwellings foundations. The canal has now been filled in and its grounds under pasture, with no foundation remains visible.	Setting	Minor - Development on the site would not affect the asset's primary archaeological (evidential) or historical values. The relationship with the parish church and former medieval settlement will not be interrupted, nor will its parkland which was located to the east. In its wider context, the asset's relationship to evidence of medieval activity in the vicinity may be at risk of harm but this will be negligible in relation to harm already caused by subsequent development.

Heritage Asset	Designation NHLE/WHER ref.	Summary key facts	Impact type (physical or setting)	Potential for impact from development
War Memorial within the grounds of St. Mary's Church, Climping	Non-designated MWS9245	A war memorial within the grounds of St Mary's Church, Climping.	Setting	Minor – This asset is of historical and communal value, with the proposed development having no effect on its significance.
Royal Observer Corps Monitoring Post (Cold War) - Littlehampton (Ford)	Non-designated MWS7518	Royal Observer Corps Monitoring Post (Cold War) in northern corner of now sewage works. Dating 1962 to 1991.	Setting	Minor – This asset is not intervisible with the site, separated by intervening tree lines and the prison site itself. Its significance would not be affected by development of the Site.
Yard East of the Church, Climping	Non-designated MWS14084	Yard East of the Church, Climping, has been identified as a Historic Farmstead dating to the 19 th century. It has continued in agricultural use as part of the modern farm.	Setting	Minor – The asset has continued in agricultural use but its agricultural setting as part of a wider post-medieval landscape has been impacted by subsequent development in the vicinity. Due to intervening vegetation and modern development, there will be no intervisibility between the asset and the site.
Yard West of Newhouse Farm, Ford	Non-designated MWS14154	Yard West of Newhouse Farm, Ford, has been identified as a Historic Farmstead dating to the 19 th century. It has continued in agricultural use to the modern day.	Setting	Minor – The asset has continued in agricultural use but its agricultural setting as part of a wider post-medieval landscape has been impacted by subsequent development in the vicinity. Due to intervening vegetation and modern development, there will be no intervisibility between the asset and the site.

Chapter 3

Conclusions

Likelihood of effect to the historic environment

3.1 This high-level assessment has identified no known assets of archaeological interest within the Site, with the exception of the prison itself. The site was constructed on the former Ford airfield which in turn was located on former agricultural land. Despite being in use as an airfield, archaeological investigations have shown that there are still prehistoric and Roman deposits present indicating that use during the medieval and post medieval periods have not erased earlier periods of activity. Therefore, it is possible that the Site may contain buried non-designated archaeological assets relating to the former airfield and earlier activity.

3.2 If these remains are present, they could be affected by the proposals. Although the array itself may not cause damage as it is ground-mounted, excavations required for the fencing, access and connection route may affect evidence which may survive in previously undeveloped areas. Given the relatively small-scale nature of the proposals, their location and the level of change already experienced as a result of later 20th century development, the asset is unlikely to experience significant additional change to its significance. Therefore, any harm would be less than substantial (NPPF paragraph 196) owing to its limited extent.

3.3 The remaining designated and non-designated assets within the study area are not likely to have their significance affected by development of the site.

3.4 Taking an overall view of the likelihood of harm to the significance of the historic environment, a **Moderate** overall level of effect has been identified.