

Appendix 1: Locally Important Views and Their Key Features

This appendix describes the views that are the subject of Policy HEY3 of this plan. They are shown on Map 9/9a in the plan, which are reproduced below.

These views are clearly evidenced in this appendix. The locations have been referenced in the HLA 2022 and/or proposed by residents in consultation early on in the process or during Reg 14 consultation, as being important to them.

A view is sight of a landscape or other feature from a place which is accessible to the public. These views are within the village; of the wider landscape from the village; of the village from the wider landscape; or of the surrounding countryside within the Parish. Some are of distinctive topographical features.

The Greater Cambridge Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) remarks that the area feels remote and has a strong sense of tranquillity with settlement comprising three historic linear villages- 'hilltop' villages which are linear and well vegetated. The enclosed character around the villages creates localised intimacy which contrasts with the wider rolling landform and vistas. Many of these views illustrate this character.

Views over the landscape to the north of Heydon Village are breathtaking: vast in both breadth and distance and loved by residents and visitors alike. They help to define the unique character of Heydon as a 'hilltop' village.

As well as vast and open views, there are glimpses of some significance, often distant. Several of the views evolve as the viewer travels, adding to the visual experience, so have been illustrated with a series of photographs. The views may vary in extent, and distinctiveness, but all help to reinforce the sense of place.

Each view (or series of views) is described below and although the photographs have been taken from specified locations there is often a wider perspective as the viewer moves. (Note that viewpoint locations on the maps have been generated from 8 figure grid references). While the image provides a general representation of the view, the key features that underlie the value of the view – aesthetic, historic, amenity and character- that are to be maintained and protected from (or by) any development are identified in the accompanying text.

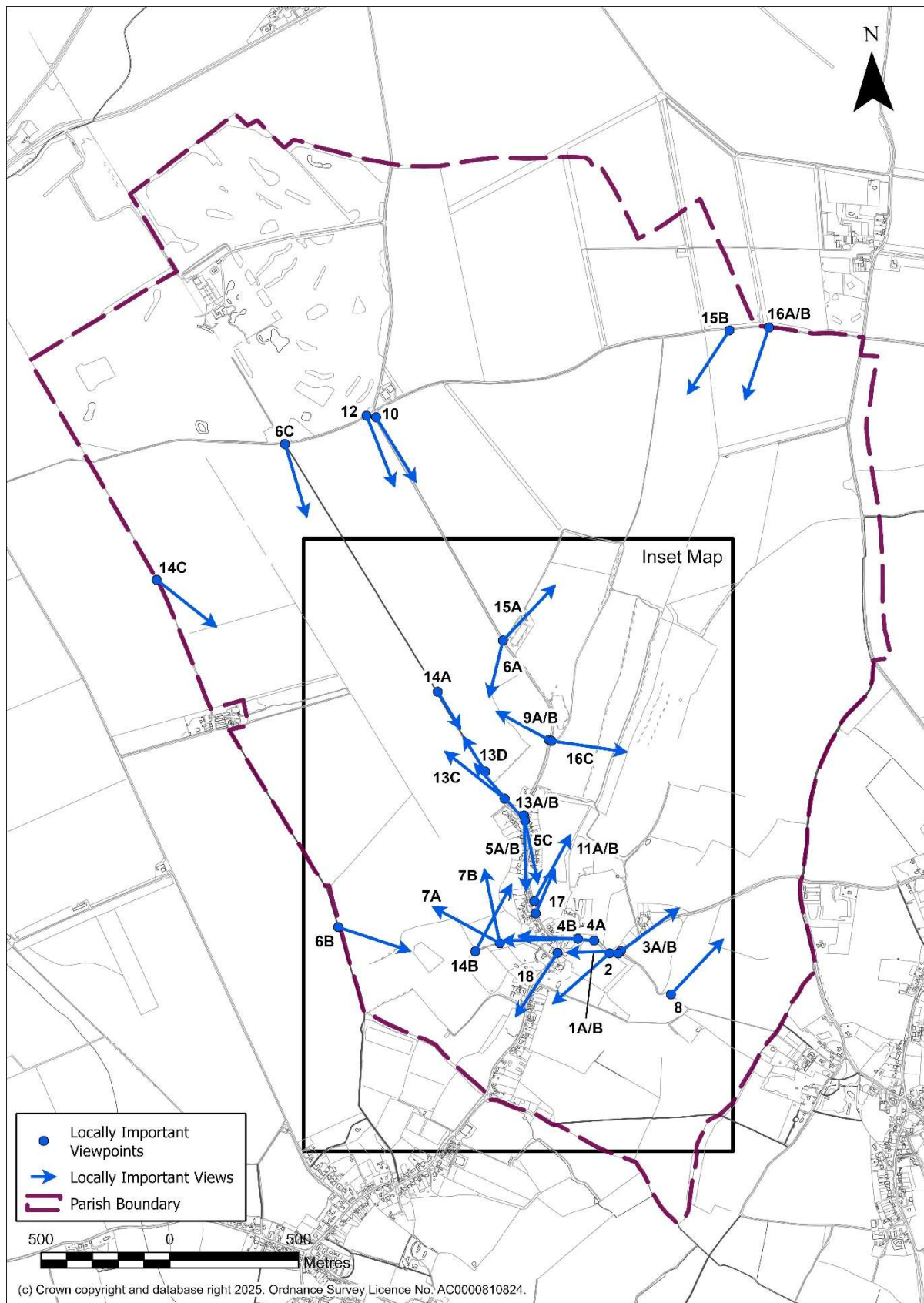
It is important that any new development proposals coming forward respect and do not significantly adversely impact locally important views, landscape character and setting that contribute towards establishing a sense of place in the Parish. Future developments which fall within the view areas shown in the Neighbourhood Plan, should in fact look to enhance the key landscape and built development features identified, with special attention given to the design and layout.

Some views are of visually important open, undeveloped land, within or on the edge of our settlement, which contributes to the form, character or setting of our area. A number of views are behind Important Countryside Frontages that already exist: development of this land would fundamentally alter our landscape setting. This open land should be protected/retained and recognised as an important contributor to settlement character which would benefit from improved public access.

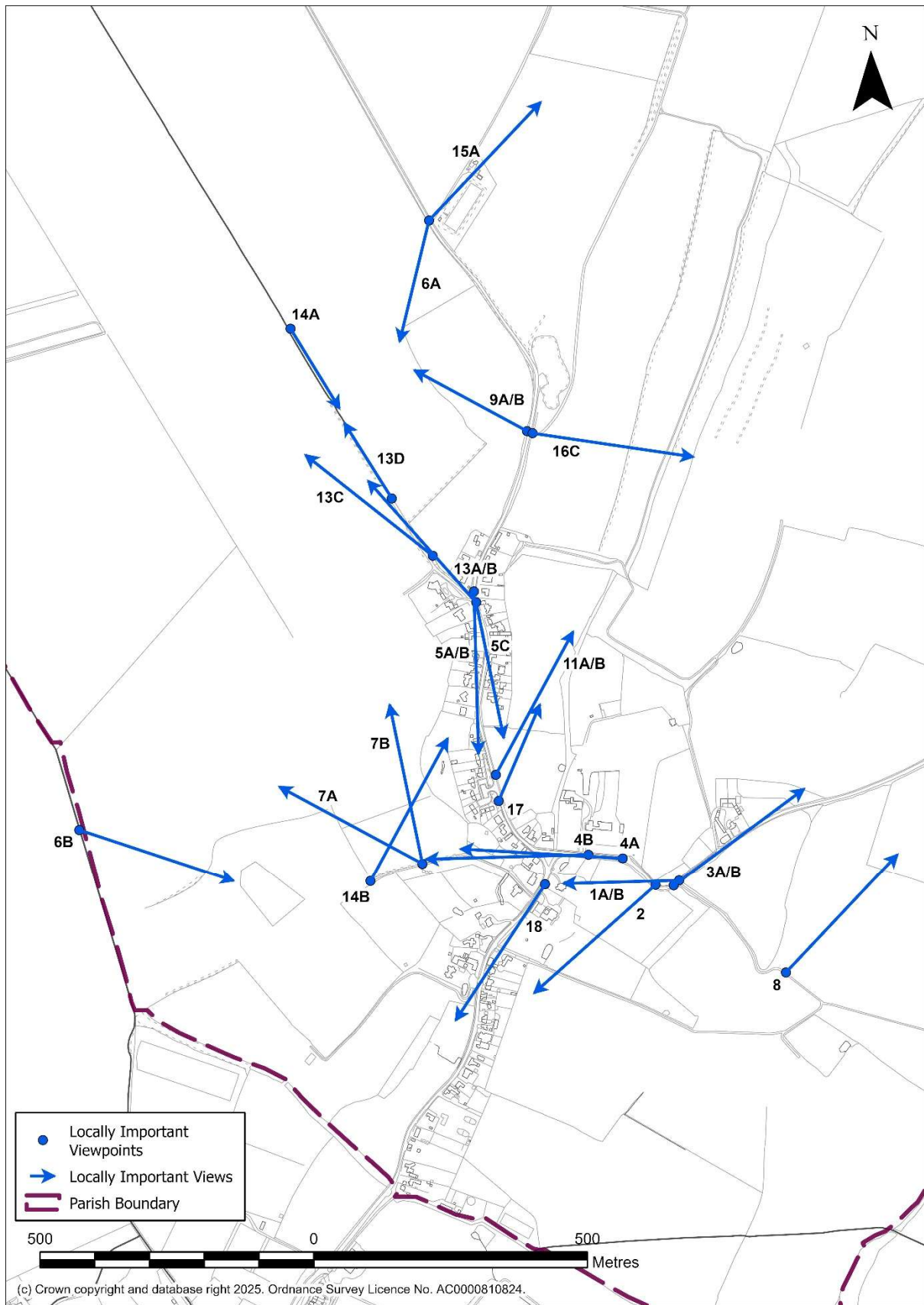
Key views in the surrounding landscape are considered important, particularly for the setting of the village and enjoyment of the surrounding countryside by residents and visitors.

The relationship of the village to the countryside is a defining feature of Heydon and something the community places great value on: the landscape setting of the village surrounded by open countryside (e.g. views 14, 15), the views and direct access to the countryside from within the village (e.g. views 7,

8, 13) and the presence of tall trees, hedgerows and rural planting within the built area of the village (e.g. view 18).



Map 9: Locally important views towards the settlement and out to the wider countryside



Map 9a: Larger scale inset showing Locally Important Views

View 1: Holy Trinity Church across Church Field

View 1A



View 1B



View of the church looking west across Church Field from Spring Pond in summer (1A) and winter (1B). This is referenced in the Heydon Landscape Appraisal¹ and shows the flint walls of the 13thC chancel of

¹ HLA2022 p17 Fig 6

Grade II* listed Holy Trinity church within its setting of significantly taller and veteran trees in the churchyard. The view makes a major positive contribution to the immediate setting of Holy Trinity Church which forms an important component of the Conservation Area.

Spring Pond was previously part of the grounds associated with Heydon House (now Heydonbury) and is an important feature when approaching the village² from the east, almost the first sight. Residents are particularly fond of this view which imparts a strong sense of place; it has even influenced people to move to the village.

The framing of the white railings of the pond and the brick wall of Church Field are also valued by residents. The style of the pond boundary treatment has remained the same for more than one hundred years, as shown in this postcard from the early years of the 20thC.



² HLA2022 p10

View 2: Church Field



View from Heydon Lane, south-west across a visually important brick wall and over Church Field to the boundary of Heydon Place, the original Rectory, which forms a backdrop of varied mature tree species (some of which are believed to date from its construction in 1853) and to the Church which has several notable/veteran trees along the boundary. The boundary wall to this field is for the most part 17th and 18thC³.

The tallest tree in this view, a Cypress, is a distinctive shape that can be seen from some distance and marks the centre of the village.

From the 14th–17thC the land east of the church was part of the Earlesbury estate. This field is the site of a manor located next to the churchyard opposite Heydonbury^{4 5} forming an important part of the historical evolution of the village. Although today the site is open agricultural land, the moat remains visible in aerial photographs and LIDAR and comprises a poorly defined 0.5m deep hollow associated with a scatter of flint and red brick⁶.

This open, rural space, reaching right into the centre of the village enhances the sense of space and tranquillity of the setting of the church.

³ CHER 05331a

⁴ A history of Heydon 1957 p13 and A history of Heydon Supplement (and corrections) 1959, G Fulton Roberts

⁵ Archaeology of Cambridgeshire Vol 1. Alison Taylor 1997

⁶ HLA2022 p4, CHER 05331 and Historic England Monument Number 1628581

View 3: Lane Farm, Heydon Lane

View 3A



View 3B



View from Spring Pond on Heydon Lane in winter (3A) and summer (3B), looking down the lane east towards the Grade II listed Lane Farm with its visually important brick and flint walls, at the eastern exit from the village. Heydon Lane is typical of the winding, narrow and sometimes sunken lanes⁷ in this area of Cambridgeshire.

From here, Heydon Lane descends quite steeply to the Parish and County Boundary, being incised deeply in places, indicating its historic nature.

⁷ Key characteristics of NCA 86 South Suffolk and North Essex Clayland

View 4: Heydonbury towards the village green

View 4A



View 4B



Views from Heydon Lane near the gates of Heydonbury (4A) and towards the village green (4B). These illustrate the visually important brick walls either side of the road that are such a distinctive feature of the village. The imposing high brick wall of the manor house varies in height and purpose on nearing the village green. This area of open grass marking the centre of the village, is historically important, at one time being named 'The Cross' as it was the junction of the three current roads plus Valley Lane, the track leading down Heydon Valley from beside the Old Post Office. The green forms a

setting to key listed buildings⁸ including Cross House and Sutton's Cottage as seen in the photograph. The 'Golden Hornet' Crab Apple tree on the green and the finger post are also valued by villagers and often photographed.

The wide grass verges and brick walls enhance perceptions of arriving somewhere important⁹ and provide a real sense of space, in comparison with the other roads in Heydon which have, at most, a narrow footway and no verge. The view is framed by the trees overhanging the walls of Heydonbury and in the churchyard, playing a significant role in establishing the character of the Conservation Area.

⁸ HLA2022 p17

⁹ HLA2022 p17

View 5: South from the head of Bran Ditch

View 5A



View 5B



View 5C



Views from the head of Bran Ditch facing south up Fowlmere Road, in winter (5A) and summer (5B). 5A shows the Grade II listed Walnut Tree Cottage and Home Farmhouse on the right. 5C is a closer view of the flint walls and buildings of the original farmyard of Bury Farm on the left, now converted to residential use. This group highlights the importance of the village's agricultural past and forms an important feature of the view south into the village.

The unfenced, open frontage of Walnut Tree Cottage and of Home Farmhouse together with the green space at the entrance to the Bran Ditch give this part of Fowlmere Road an open and spacious character (5B).

The curve in the road as it proceeds south to the village centre is particularly pleasing to the eye.

View 6: Down Plantation

View 6A



View 6B



View 6C



Views of Down Plantation from north-east (6A), north-west (6B) and west (6C).

Down Plantation is a significant landmark on a promontory of Chishill Down, close to the centre of the village. It is visible from most of the north and west of the Parish and from as far away as Wimpole Hall to the north-west and Reed to the west. The wooded and undeveloped ridgeline is visually sensitive¹⁰.

The natural promontory of Chishill Down/Down Plantation may have housed a defensive structure even before the Anglo-Saxon period; associated earthworks still evident today may reflect such a site and/or may relate to strip lynchets¹¹. LIDAR shows a roughly rectangular excavation within the plantation¹². There are also areas of strip lynchets evident north of Down Plantation¹³.

Theories have been put forward that the Bran Ditch and the distinctive Heydon Valley may have been influential in the location of a currently unlocated confrontation between Boudica and Roman forces. The natural topography of the chalk scarp, forming a sickle shaped curve between Chishill Down and Reeve/Anthony Hill and the deep cleft of the Heydon Valley, may well have been strategically important¹⁴. This unique setting may also have inspired rumours of a Roman Villa beneath Down Plantation.

Whatever its history, its distinctive outline means that Heydon can be spotted from far afield and these long-distance views of the village setting are much valued by villagers.

Although the landscape to the south and east of Down Plantation is relatively flat, its small extent and proximity to the scarp face mean it is particularly sensitive to any introduced vertical elements which may be visible on the skyline and which may interrupt or undermine the visual primacy of Down Plantation on Chishill Down¹⁵.

¹⁰ Greater Cambridge LCA

¹¹ HLA2022 p4

¹² Historic England Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer accessed 110925

¹³ Historic England Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer accessed 110925

¹⁴ British Archaeology Magazine issue 165 Mar/Apr 2019 – “AD60, Boudica: Unlocated Battle” William Foot

¹⁵ HLA2022 p13

View 7: Chishill Down

View 7A



View 7B



View north-west towards Melbourn (7A) and north towards Fowlmere (7B), from a farm track leading off Chishill Road close to the core of Heydon. This track has been regularly used by residents, informally, over many years and the Parish Council is currently in discussion with the landowner with the intent of making the track a formal permissive footpath.

Chishill Down is a small area of flatter elevated land between the chalk scarp and the edge of the village and reflects the junction between the chalk and the clay plateau. From the northern and southern margins of this area there are elevated open views to the wider landscape and along to the distinctive tree clump of Down Plantation¹⁶.

The extensive view is highly valued by residents; a distinctive, elevated landscape forming locally prominent hills and ridges, contrasting with the surrounding, low-lying landscape, characteristic of Greater Cambridge¹⁷. The hedgerows of the Bran Ditch and Icknield way are clearly visible.

These wide-ranging views across the fields increase our appreciation of the rural village setting.

¹⁶ HLA2022 p13 and Fig 7 p19

¹⁷ Greater Cambridge LCA

View 8: from the Ickniel Way Path/Harcamlow Way East of the Parish



View north-east from The Ickniel Way Path/Harcamlow Way between Heydon Lane and Broad Green (Essex). It shows the extensive view to the north over Duxford. The Wadlow Windfarm beyond Balsham can be seen on the horizon. The public right of way is a well-used route for walkers locally, (being part of a small number of circular routes in Heydon Parish) and forms part of a long-distance national trail.

The panoramic view seen across the fields furthers appreciation of the rural village setting together with the feeling of being on top of the world, with Cambridgeshire laid out below. This view was one that villagers particularly valued.

View 9: North-west across the chalk scarp

View 9A



View of the chalk scarp below Heydon to the north-west from a field opening on the Fowlmere Road close to the north end of the village (9A). An annotated image showing detail of visible landmarks is shown in view 9B.

These chalk slopes have a distinct rolling character with 'downland' characteristics, forming strong sinuous lines, the open slopes afford long distance views north-west from the edge of the settlement and public rights of way¹⁸. There are open, long distance, panoramic views across Greater Cambridge and beyond from this upland landscape and a network of historic routes and earthworks that contribute to the area's sense of place¹⁹- most notably the historic Icknield Way and the Bran Ditch scheduled ancient monument with its associated strip lynchets.

Land use is mainly arable in medium to large scale fields, reflecting the 19thC enclosure²⁰. Hedgerows are typically without hedgerow trees – any notable trees within the farmed landscape tend to comprise linear shelterbelts²¹, such as that at New Buildings Farm which is planted with conifer species reflecting a pocket of more acidic soil.

On the steeper slopes around Reeve Hill the land is left unploughed as rough grassland²².

This scenic view with natural heritage interest associated with chalk grassland and the historical cultural heritage interest associated with the Bran Ditch, strip lynchets and numerous archaeological sites²³ make it an especially valued landscape²⁴.

This wide-ranging view across the fields furthers appreciation of the rural village setting.

The view makes a major positive contribution to the ability to experience and appreciate the rural agricultural character of the wider countryside setting of the Bran Ditch.

¹⁸ HLA2022 p12

¹⁹ Greater Cambridge LCA

²⁰ HLA2022 p12

²¹ HLA2022 p12

²² HLA2022 p12

²³ Historic England Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer accessed 110925

²⁴ HLA2022 p12

View 9B



View 10: Avenue of Field Maples



View from Fowlmere Road travelling south from Three Corner Plantation. Anthonyhill Plantation and Down Plantation frame the approach to the village glimpsed here between the Field Maples forming the avenue that lines the route – the woodlands form notable clumps on an otherwise featureless and open skyline²⁵

The length of the avenue and the regularly spaced trees give a heightened sense of perspective and sense of arrival. Many residents cherish this as one of their favourite views of the village- one that signifies homecoming.

²⁵ HLA2022 p15

View 11: Across Swan Close

View 11A



View 11B



View across Swan Close at the head of Heydon Valley, at this point a horse pasture, viewed north from the field gate on Fowlmere Road, in winter (11A) and summer (11B). Heydon Valley itself lies to the north and east of the village and forms a steep sided cleft within the chalk scarp²⁶.

The area, behind an Important Countryside Frontage allows the countryside to come right up to the Fowlmere Road and into the core of the village. This countryside break emphasises the separate character of Heydonbury from the central core of the village. Due to the steep valley topography and vegetation, the landscape has an enclosed and intimate character²⁷.

²⁶ HLA2022 p11

²⁷ HLA2022 p11

There is currently no public access into this area though there is evidence of the former Valley Lane track, leading from the village green. There are two lines of trees at the far side of the field- planted randomly either side of Valley Lane. This corresponds with the Enclosure and Tithe map of 1831/1839, suggesting that some trees may be 200 years old or more. Beyond these can be seen the mature trees of High Park, the woodland of Heydonbury, the manor house.

View 12: Reeve Hill



View of Reeve Hill looking south from the Icknield Way. Reeve Hill is located to the west of Fowlmere Road and immediately north of the village, which appears here on the ridge, with the scheduled ancient monument of Bran Ditch and the strip lynchet below the village.

As the land gently rolls up to the chalk ridge, this provides the key setting for the village, giving a strong sense of place. This sense of place is emphasised by the knowledge that people will have approached the village via the historic Icknield Way and Bran Ditch for many hundreds, if not thousands of years. Heydon was already a substantial settlement at the time of the Little Domesday Book in 1086²⁸. There are several Grade II Listed buildings visible on the ridge – The End Cottage, Cane's Cottage, Walnut Tree Cottage- as they must have appeared to people arriving in the village from this direction, for centuries.

On the steeper slopes around Reeve Hill the land is left unploughed as rough grassland²⁹ being too steep to cultivate. The area has been left fallow for many years and is beginning to develop an interesting flora with orchids and other chalk grassland species³⁰.

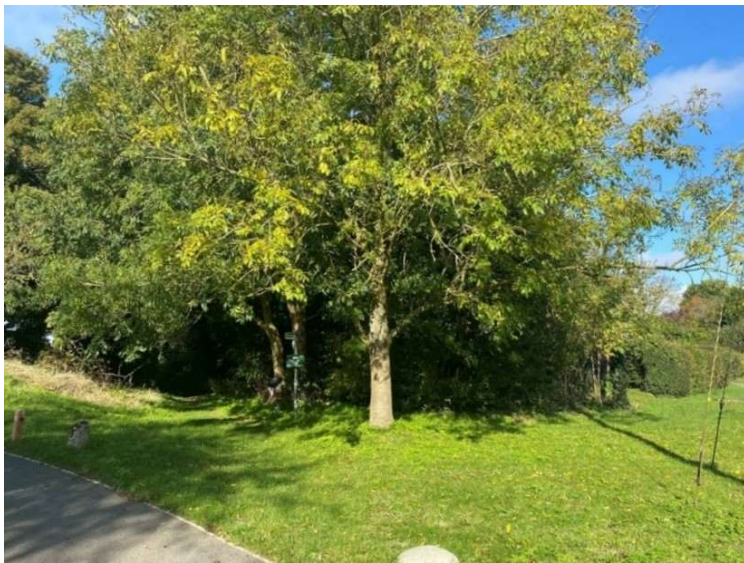
²⁸ <https://opendomesday.org/place/TL4339/heydon/>

²⁹ HLA2022 p12

³⁰ Local botanist records 2020-2025

View 13: Bran Ditch from Fowlmere Rd and the route of the footpath

View 13A



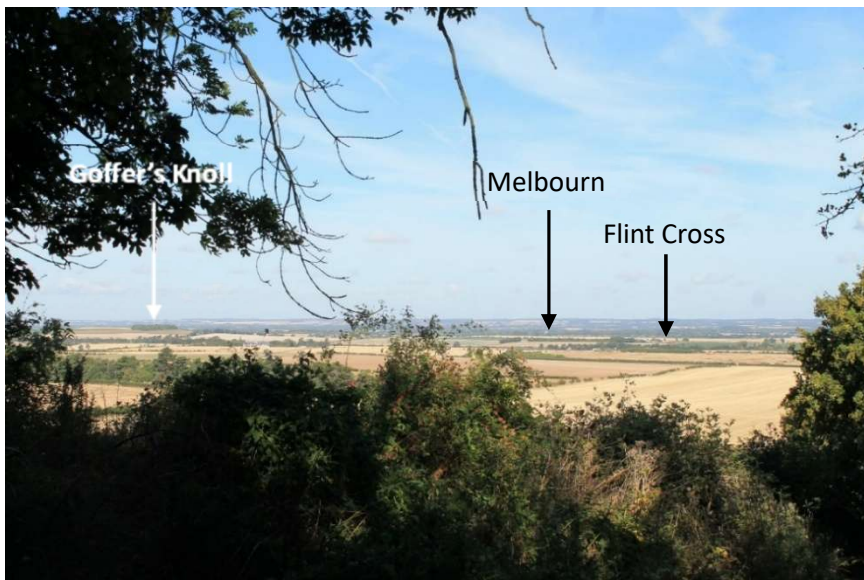
View 13B



View (13A Summer and 13B Winter) of the small triangular green at the junction between Bran Ditch and Fowlmere Road showing the entrance to the Bran Ditch footpath. This area marks the top end of the scheduled ancient monument and as such is significant for its role in linking the historic settlement of Heydon to the wider countryside.

It forms the junction between two important historic routes³¹ and there is archaeological evidence of a possible Roman trackway running parallel to the site³² giving added historical significance. Winter allows a view down the hollow-way formed by millennia of travellers. At one point, further down, there is a glimpse from a higher elevation out to the distant landscape (13C), while still surrounded by trees and hedgerows.

View 13C



The extensive, but glimpsed view takes in Goffers Knoll a tumulus near Melbourn, Melbourn Village and Flint Cross.

³¹ HLA2022 p15

³² Cambridgeshire HER MCB26744

View 13D



Walking further down Bran Ditch towards the historic Icknield Way, a panorama opens up at the end of the hollow-way when emerging from the trees, giving views of features further east, such as Gravel Pit Plantation on the historic Icknield Way, Fowlmere airfield and Barrington.

The historic significance of the Bran Ditch itself has been recognised by its scheduled monument status, including a buffer strip of 20m each side of the footpath to protect the earthworks from further ploughing. However, the importance of this ancient route lies also in its setting; a vast open vista across agricultural fields, hedgerows, shelterbelts, the historic Icknield Way and out to the wider and more distant Cambridgeshire countryside – the flatlands in contrast with the hills of Heydon. This open countryside is also the location of a number of archaeological sites³³ and findings³⁴, all of which emphasise the historical importance of the area.

³³ Historic England Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer accessed 110925

³⁴ Portable Antiquities Scheme <https://finds.org.uk/database/search/results/q/Heydon/county/Cambridgeshire> accessed 061025

View 14: Village on the ridgeline

View 14A



View 14B



View 14C



Views of the village (Fowlmere Road) on the ridgeline from the historic Icknield Way looking north-west (14A), from Chishill Down looking north (14B) and from the footpath towards Great Chishill looking south-east (14C).

Around the immediate fringes of the village the enclosure pattern is pre-18thC, evident in its small-scale sinuous boundaries and the prevalence of mature hedgerow trees³⁵. This suggests that the sinuous boundary to the west of the village is of considerable antiquity³⁶ and is valued for this historic link.

The setting of Heydon on the ridgeline gives it a strong sense of place and emphasises its rarity in the context of Cambridgeshire. This also means that the break in slope at the rear of Fowlmere Road houses is particularly sensitive to development.

³⁵ HLA2022, p4

³⁶ HLA2022, P5 & 6

View 15: Anthony Hill

View 15A



View 15B



View of Anthony Hill from the Fowlmere Road looking north-east (15A) and from the historic Icknield Way east of the Fowlmere Road (15B). It forms an important landmark on approaching the village from the north and north-west³⁷ and can be clearly seen when travelling along the A505.

Evidence of ploughing on the steeper chalk slopes can be seen in strip lynchets on Anthony Hill³⁸.

³⁷ HLA2022 p12

³⁸ Historic England Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer accessed 110925

Evidence of a small Roman temple has been found on Anthony Hill. This area of higher land forms a distinct knoll or promontory and is an understandable location for a building which would form a landmark from the surrounding landscape³⁹. The site was excavated by Hon. R C Neville, later 4th Baron Braybrooke, the family that owned Heydon estate. This makes the view important from both a visual and historical perspective.

³⁹ HLA2022 p3

View 16: Heydon Valley

View 16A



View 16B



Many residents of Heydon have a view down or across Heydon Valley into the distance, from houses to the east of Fowlmere Road and some to the west. However, publicly accessible views of the valley are limited (such as 16C) until reaching the bottom of the valley on the historic Ickniel Way where the full extent can be seen looking south from close to the Parish Boundary with Chrishall (16A). The detail (16B) shows how the valley penetrates right into the core of the village.

The valley forms a steep sided cleft within the chalk scarp. Land use comprises pasture at the head of the valley; set-aside in the mid slopes; and agriculture as the valley flattens towards the historic Icknield Way. The eastern slopes are defined by the linear woodland of Valley Plantation, while to the west the valley is defined by the vegetated rear gardens of houses along Fowlmere Road and by the promontory of higher land at Anthony Hill⁴⁰. Few houses in Fowlmere Road are visible due to the vegetation.

In the detailed view, at the head of the valley can be seen properties in the core of the village, together with the distinctive landmark formed by four Lombardy Poplars to the west of Fowlmere Road near the junction with Chishill Road. This view is particularly valued for placing Heydon firmly in its landscape context at the head of the valley.

Due to the steep valley topography and vegetation, the landscape has an enclosed and intimate character. This distinctive character is unique in the context of Cambridgeshire and is especially valued⁴¹.

[View 16C](#)



View 16C looking across the valley from a field gate between the village and the Chalk Pit. Heydon Valley has rural, pastoral and tranquil qualities⁴² and is noted as the only undeveloped wooded valley in Cambridgeshire⁴³. Valley plantation is seen here across the field, which has lain fallow for many years and is developing an interesting flora of chalk grassland species with an increasingly large population of Pyramidal Orchids⁴⁴.

⁴⁰ HLA2022 p11

⁴¹ HLA2022 p11

⁴² HLA2022 p21

⁴³ HLA2022 p10

⁴⁴ Local botanist records 2020-2025

There are also areas of strip lynchets evident in the Heydon Valley⁴⁵ at this point, attesting to the historic use of the area for agriculture.

Theories have been put forward that the Bran Ditch and the distinctive Heydon Valley may have been influential in the location of a currently unlocated confrontation between Boudica and Roman forces. The natural topography of the chalk scarp, forming a sickle shaped curve between Chishill Down and Reeve/Anthony Hill and the deep cleft of the Heydon Valley, may well have been strategically important⁴⁶.

⁴⁵ Historic England Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer accessed 110925

⁴⁶ British Archaeology Magazine issue 165 Mar/Apr 2019 – “AD60, Boudica: Unlocated Battle” William Foot

View 17: From High Close over Heydon Valley



View above the hedgerow in Fowlmere Road from the raised ground of High Close. This shows the wooded areas of Heydon Valley surrounding a glimpse in the distance of IWM Duxford.

This area of the valley, reaching right into the village behind an Important Countryside Frontage has a strong tranquillity and affords a glimpse of long-distance views to the north⁴⁷, with the contrast of the modern and historic buildings at Duxford Airfield increasing appreciation of the rural village setting.

Despite being only a glimpse, this view provides a strong landscape setting reference, linking countryside and village, and establishes a visual relationship deep within the fabric of the built area.

⁴⁷ HLA2022 p11

View 18: A village set among trees



View from outside the church, looking south-west. The tall trees form a tunnel of greenery along Chishill Road contrasting with the visually important brick and flint walls found here.

This important/vegetated gap in the built frontage, as referenced in the HLA 2022, comprising the mature trees, park railings and hedgerows provides a key view within the village.

Heydon is characterised as a village set among trees, where tree crowns and foliage dominate over many buildings, particularly in the core of the village.