

Report



Archaeological Technical Note: Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Cancer Centre (GOSH CCC)

Report by: Sophie Honey BA (Hons.)
Issued by: Peter Vellet BA (Hons.) ACIfA
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Submitted to:	Prepared by:
John Sisk & Son	RSK ADAS Limited 11D Park House Milton Park, Abingdon OX14 4RS
Tel. no:	Tel. no: 01235 355630



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 Sophie Honey BA (Hons.)	 Callum Allsop MCifA FSA (Scot)	 Peter Vellet ACifA



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Revision History

Revision	Date	Amendment
00	17.11.2023	First Revision

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Archaeological Technical Note has been prepared on behalf of the Applicant, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust in collaboration with John Sisk & Son Limited (hereafter 'the Client'), to support a new planning application to the London Borough of Camden for revisions to the internal link bridge connecting the Children's Cancer Centre (CCC) with the Octav Botner Wing at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH; Figure 1).
- 1.2 The proposed revisions to the internal link bridge extend beyond the redline boundary of the original planning application and therefore are not covered in an archaeological desk-based assessment previously submitted in support of the main planning application for development at Great Ormond Street Children's Cancer Centre (Planning Ref: 2022/2255/P).
- 1.3 This technical note is to be read together with the desk-based assessment previously submitted in support of the original planning application (ADAS, 2023); a separate heritage, townscape and visual impact appraisal submitted for the main planning application (Turley Heritage, 2022).; and the Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation produced to address the archaeological planning conditions attached to the main application (ADAS, 2023b). Other than any changes noted within this technical note, the original documents should be treated as current and forming part of the submission documents supporting this application.
- 1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was updated in September 2023. This technical note has taken into consideration any changes to the NPPF in relation to the treatment of the historic environment in the planning process.

2 Heritage Statement

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

- 2.1 The impact of the development on buried archaeology on the Site was originally assessed in an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment produced by ADAS (2023a) for the main planning application (Planning Ref: 2022/2255/P).
- 2.2 The Bloomsbury Conservation Area encompasses the majority of the cityscape surrounding the Site. The dominant characteristic of the area is its original street layout, which comprised formal landscaped squares and an interrelated grid of streets (London Borough of Camden Council, 2011). Elements of the Bloomsbury, Holborn and St Pancras cityscape have been omitted from the Conservation Area, including the majority of the Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Cancer Centre. The Site is situated on the boundary of the hospital complex and the Conservation Area, where the façade of the Frontage Building is within the Conservation Area (ADAS, 2023a).
- 2.3 The Greater London Historic Environment Record records a Tier II Archaeological Priority Area (APA), which encompasses the Site. The London Suburbs APA (DLO38617) is classified as a historic urban area that contains multi-period heritage assets of archaeological interest. These include prehistoric evidence, Roman roads and associated activity, Medieval settlement, Civil War defence lines and the 17th century expansion of London's suburbs located within the south of the London Borough of Camden (ADAS, 2023a).
- 2.4 The assessment identified a low potential for palaeoenvironmental or waterlogged remains to be present within the Site boundary as previous archaeological events indicated that the stratigraphy within the Site boundary consists of truncated natural gravels of limited palaeoenvironmental potential overlain by made ground deposits.
- 2.5 The northern extent of the APA, where the Site is located, is determined by the postulated routes of the London Civil War defences which cross and overlap with the limit of 17th century London suburbs as depicted on Roques Map of 1766 (ADAS, 2023b).
- 2.6 A series of fortifications and a defensive ditch were erected around London in 1642 to 1643 during the English Civil War, a section of which passed through the present Borough of Camden. A retrospective map from 1749 indicates that part of the defensive ditch and the Fort of Southampton (Fort 11) was located immediately south of Great Ormond Street. Following the end of the English Civil War, the wider landscape saw a period of growth, including market gardens and grand houses. Historic mapping shows the suburban expansion of London in the immediate wider landscape from the early 18th century (ADAS, 2023b).

- 2.7 Recent research published in 2023 has re-evaluated the surviving evidence and accepted locations for English Civil War Defences. In particular, the research has demonstrated that the accepted locations of the Forts and Defensive Lines interpreted from historical maps are generally wrong. This difference may be up to 200m in parts (Mills, 2023). Based on this latest research, there is the potential that Great Ormond Street Hospital could be located along, or in very close proximity to Defensive Lines between Grays Inn lane to Southampton House (ibid, 2023).
- 2.8 Furthermore, the research carried out indicates that these Civil War Defences comprised not only a single set of linked structures, but also entailed secondary archaeological features which were directly and indirectly related to the War. The construction and maintenance of the Civil War Defences entailed a wider zone of quarries, ditches, roads and other logistical support networks. All of these have potentially left traces in the archaeological record as a 'Landscape of War'. In the past, some of these features have been mistakenly attributed to the principal defences as a result of flawed analysis of Vertue's map of 1738, but these can now be recognized as forming part of a wider archaeological record of the impact of the English Civil War in this part of London (Mills, 2023). Traces of these types of associated 'Landscape of War; features may also survive in places in the area of modern Great Ormond Street Hospital.
- 2.9 Great Ormond Street Hospital (O1973/00/00), originally known as the Hospital for Sick Children, opened in 1852. It was equipped with 20 beds, in two 10 bed wards, but there were so few inpatients initially that only one ward was used for the first 2 months. The first purpose-built clinical block was opened in 1875, constructed on the back garden space of the original converted houses, with a linked block to the north containing four wards for housing infectious diseases cases opening in 1879/80. The original houses Nos. 48 and 49 Great Ormond Street were demolished in the 1880's, and the new South Wing (now Paul O'Gorman Building) constructed on their site, opening in 1893 and linked to the 1875 building on the north side. The main entrance returned to Great Ormond Street, having been from Powis Place from 1875 to 1893 (Mr Nick Baldwin, Archivist, GOSH Foundation Trust pers comm. 2022).
- 2.10 Powis Place is named after the Welsh aristocrat The Earl of Powis' who built Powis House to be his London mansion. It was to the north-west of the proposed development at the northern end of Powis Place. Powis House was built in 1696, partially rebuilt following fire damage in 1713 and demolished in 1784. A regular Georgian townhouse of similar design to many of the other local properties was built on the site and became No. 11 Powis Place. When the Hospital for Sick Children opened in 1852, the property was acquired by the Hospital, and used as accommodation by the Hospital manager, becoming known as 'The Secretary's House'. It was demolished in 1907

when GOSH built a new boiler house on the site. (Mr Nick Baldwin, Archivist, GOSH Foundation Trust 2022, personal email communication, 15.06.22).

- 2.11 The 1875 building and Infectious Diseases block were designed by Edward Middleton Barry. He died in 1880, and the South Wing (now Paul O’Gorman Building, opened 1893) was designed by his older brother Charles Barry Jnr. (They were the sons of the more celebrated Sir Charles Barry, architect of the Houses of Parliament). It is a 5-storey red brick and stone building with Mansard roof with subtle decorative features, including stone balustrades and copings in a terracotta colour, a rounded end and rectangular oriels Mr Nick Baldwin, Archivist, GOSH Foundation Trust 2022, personal email communication, 15.06.22). It is located on the site of the original ‘Hospital in a House’ and originally formed the main entrance to the hospital.
- 2.12 There were bomb strikes on Great Ormond Street adjacent to the project site during the 1940 Blitz, and although the South Wing (Paul O’Gorman Building) did not suffer a direct hit, it did suffer quite severe blast damage the shrapnel marks were still visible until in-filled in the 1990’s, and traces can still be seen on the wall behind the ground level railing Mr Nick Baldwin, Archivist, GOSH Foundation Trust 2022, personal email communication, 15.06.22).
- 2.13 Within undisturbed parts of the Site that have not been truncated by basements, modern walls and services, there is potential for groundworks to impact any surviving buried remains of mid-17th century English Civil War defences, early 18th-century terraced housing, and any subsequent extensions and alterations to these properties during the 19th-century including the expansion of the Hospital for Sick Children.
- 2.14 Based on these results, and following consultation with the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), a programme of archaeological works comprising archaeological monitoring of the main groundworks required for the proposed development has been agreed (ADAS, 2023b).

3 Proposed Link Bridge Revisions

- 3.1 Since the archaeological desk-based assessment was produced, revisions to the internal link bridge connecting the Children’s Cancer Centre (CCC) with the Octav Botner Wing have been proposed, which extend north of the original Site boundary and were therefore not included within the scope of the desk-based assessment report.
- 3.2 The revisions comprise the re-alignment of the link bridge so that it runs adjacent to the eastern elevation of the Premier Inn Clinical Building from the northeast corner of the GOSHCCC and turns right to connect to the Octav Botner Wing, further north. This will provide direct access to the Operating Theatre front entrance (John Sisk & Son, 2023).
- 3.3 The proposed link bridge revisions have been divided into two phases: site mobilisation, and GOSHCCC.
- 3.4 The services yard over which the proposed link bridge passes has been identified as the location to relocate existing below ground drainage services as part of the GOSHCCC site preparation and mobilisation works (John Sisk & Son, 2023).
- 3.5 Groundworks in the site mobilisation phase will involve the removal of the existing services trenches, adjacent floor finishes and floor drains within the services yard. This will be followed by the excavation and installation of new Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP) attenuation tanks, a pumping station and access chamber within the services yard (John Sisk & Son, 2023).
- 3.6 Proposed groundworks in the GOSHCCC phase include the removal of the existing crane base, attenuation tank and pumping station to the south of the Premier Inn Clinical Building. The newly installed attenuation tank and pumping station in the services yard will then be connected to the Premier Inn Clinical Building. The existing Reinforced Concrete (RC) structure to the north of the services yard will be removed and new piled foundations installed for the GOSHCCC and new supporting wall (John Sisk & Son, 2023).
- 3.7 All groundworks for the link bridge revisions will be to a maximum impact depth of 5.00 m below present level of Great Ormond Street (John Sisk & Son, 2023).

4 Results

- 4.1 There are no recorded designated heritage assets within the area of proposed link bridge revisions (Figure 2).
- 4.2 There are no recorded HER heritage assets within the area of proposed link bridge revisions (Figure 3).
- 4.3 The area of proposed link bridge revisions is located within the Archaeological priority Area (APA) (DLO38617) classified as a historic urban area that contains multi-period heritage assets of archaeological interest (Figure 3) (GLHER, 2020; ADAS, 2023).
- 4.4 An archaeological impact assessment (ELO14967) is recorded within the southwestern corner of the area of proposed link bridge revisions (Figure 4), which concluded that existing structures had removed all but the deepest archaeological deposits and that any surviving deposits may be encountered in areas on the hospital complex where no buildings currently stand (GLHER, 2020).
- 4.5 Since the desk-based assessment was produced, a revision of the route of London's Civil War defences has been published. The research predicts the lines of communication between defensive forts to have passed through the western side of the area of the proposed link bridge revisions (Figure 6). The defences would have been in the form of deep ditches, and at other locations where they have been present they have been recorded below modern basement levels (ADAS, 2023b).

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 This technical note has established that there will be no physical impact to any designated heritage assets as a result of groundworks associated with the proposed link bridge revisions.
- 5.2 There will also be no physical impact to any heritage assets recorded by the GLHER as a result of groundworks associated with the proposed link bridge revisions.
- 5.3 However, the area of proposed link bridge revisions is located within an Archaeological Priority Area classified as a historic urban area that contains multi-period heritage assets of archaeological interest. The desk-based assessment established that within the APA there is potential for buried remains relating to mid-17th century English Civil War defences, the early 18th-century terraced housing, and any subsequent extensions and alterations to these properties during the 19th-century including the expansion of the Hospital for Sick Children to be present. Also, the recently revised route of London's Civil War defences now extends through the Link Bridge Revision boundary and is known to be present underneath modern basements. Therefore, there is potential for groundworks associated with the proposed link bridge revisions to physically impact buried remains relating to London's Civil War defences (Figures 5 and 6).
- 5.4 It is therefore recommended that archaeological monitoring of the deep excavations for the proposed link bridge are carried out as part of the scope of work agreed in the ADAS Written Scheme of Investigation.
- 5.5 This technical note has been prepared as an addendum to the archaeological desk-based assessment. It is recommended that this application should be considered under paragraph 194 of the NPPF 2023. This recommendation would be in accordance with Policy HC1 outlined in the London Plan (2021), Policy D2 outlined in the Camden Local Plan (2017), paragraphs 3.4 and 3.56 outlined in the Camden Planning Guidance: Design SPD (2021), and Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2023).

References

ADAS (2023a) Archaeology Desk-Based Assessment: Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Cancer Centre (GOSH CCC). ADAS Report Number 1050736-ART69105-368.

ADAS (2023b) Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring at Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Cancer Centre (GOSHCCC). ADAS Report Number 1050736-ART69105-368-02 (04).

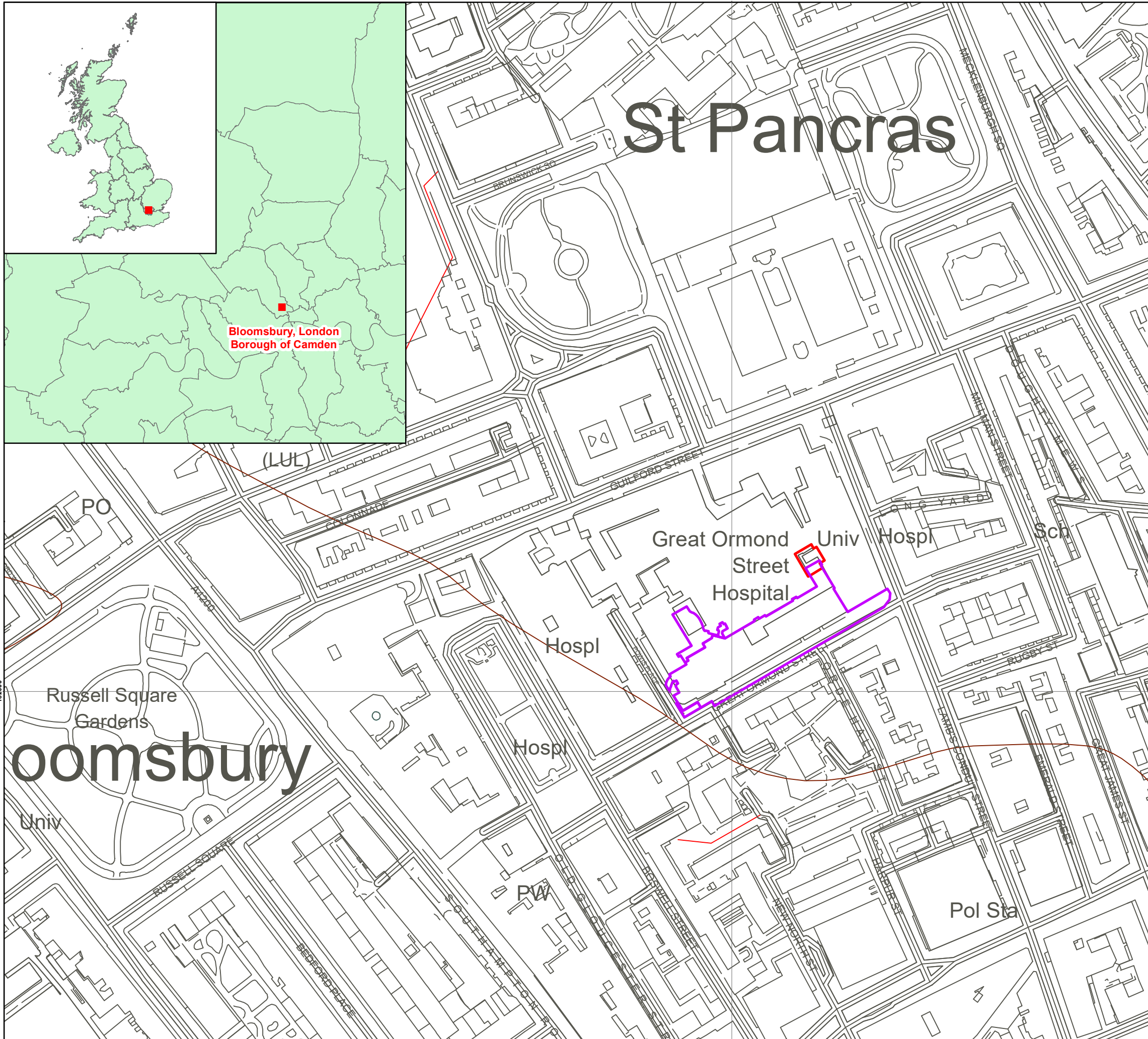
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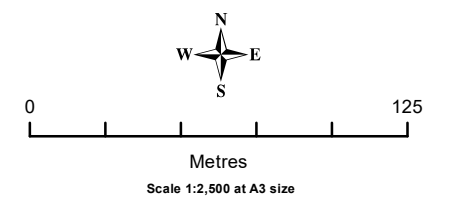


Great Ormond Street
Hospital for Children NHS
Foundation Trust
Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Cancer Centre
(GOSHCCC)

Figure 1: Location of the Link Bridge Application Site

- Link Bridge Application
- Site Boundary (Planning Ref: 2022/2255/P)

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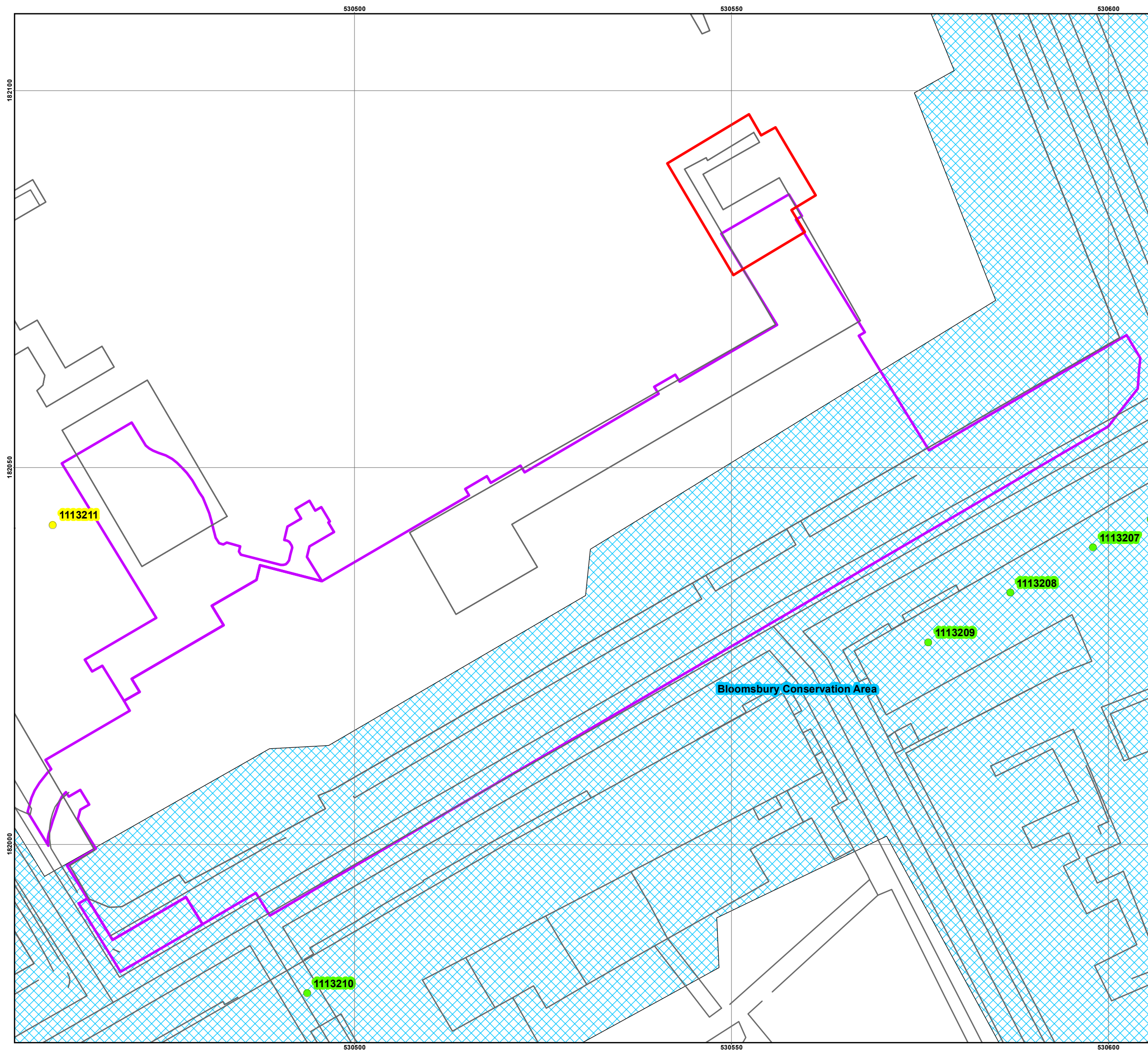


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(GOSHCCC)

**Figure 2: Designated Heritage Assets
within the Link Bridge Application Site**

-  Link Bridge Application Site
-  Site Boundary (Planning Ref: 2022/2255/P)
-  Grade II* Listed Building
-  Grade II Listed Building
-  Conservation Area

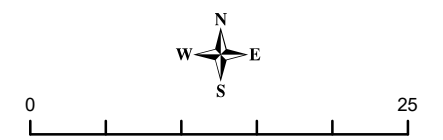


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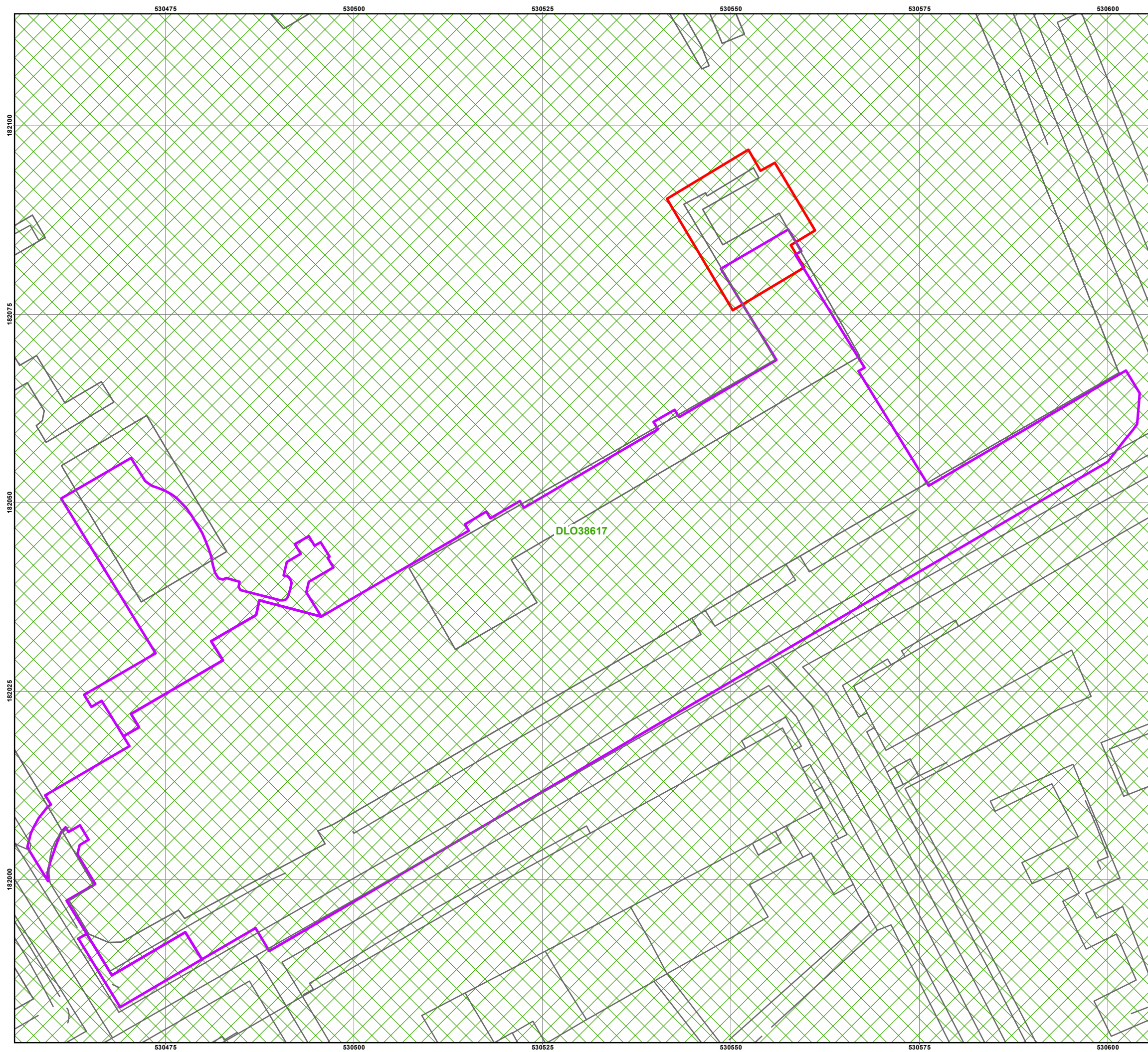


Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Cancer Centre
(GOSHCCC)

**Figure 3: HER Heritage Assets
within the Link Bridge Application Site**

-  Link Bridge Application Site
-  Site Boundary (Planning Ref: 2022/2255/P)
-  Archaeological Priority Area



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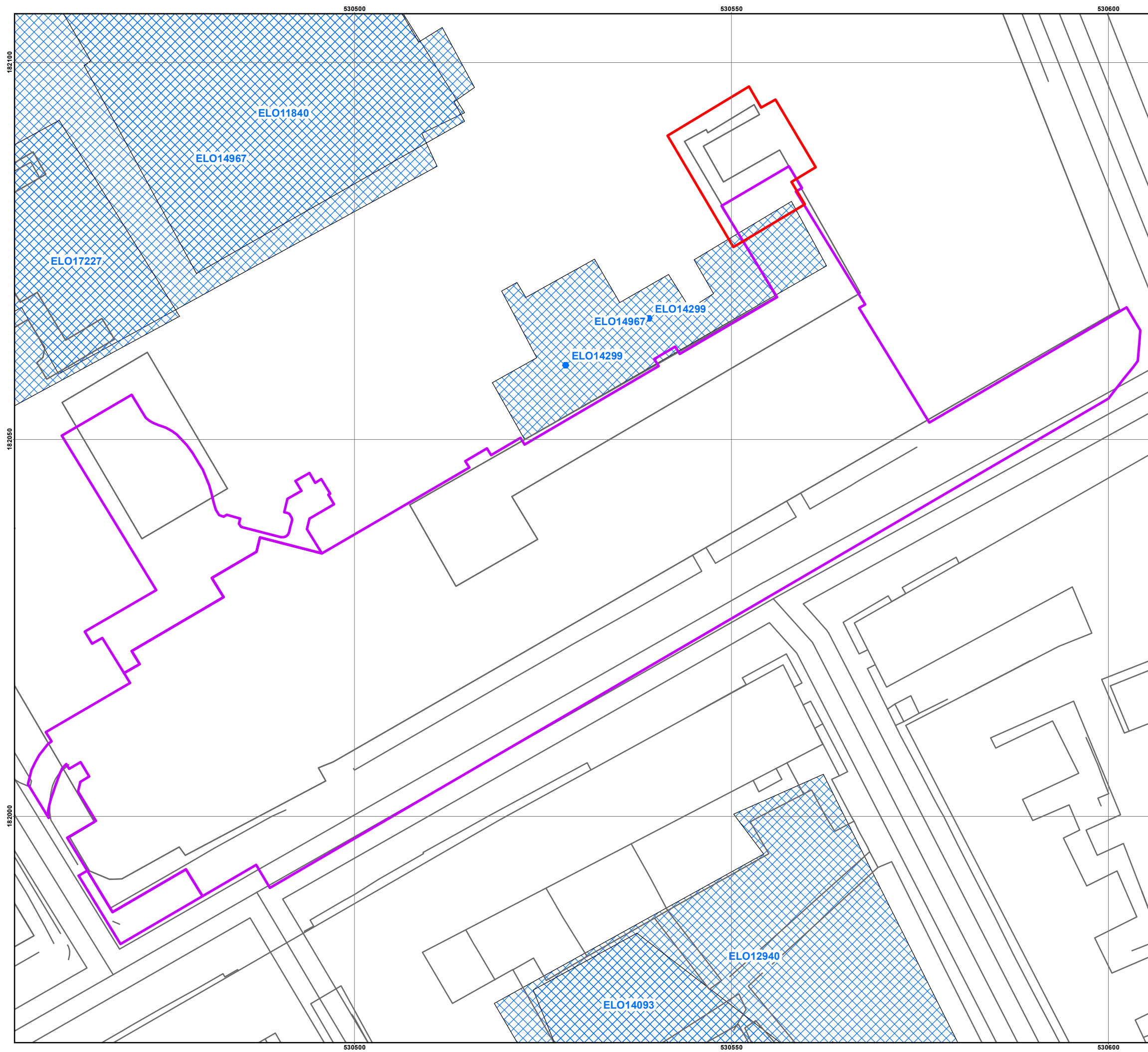


Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Cancer Centre
(GOSHCCC)

**Figure 4: HER Heritage Events
within the Link Bridge Application Site**

-  Link Bridge Application Site
-  Site Boundary (Planning Ref: 2022/2255/P)
-  HER Heritage Event Point
-  HER Heritage Event Polygon

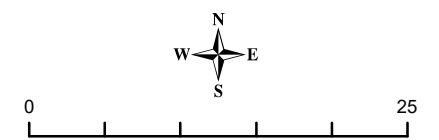


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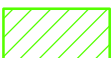
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Figure 5: Archaeological Survival Plan

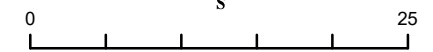
-  Site Boundary (Planning Ref: 2022/2255/P)
-  Link Bridge Application
-  Low to No Archaeological Potential (WB)
-  No Archaeological Potential (Basemented)

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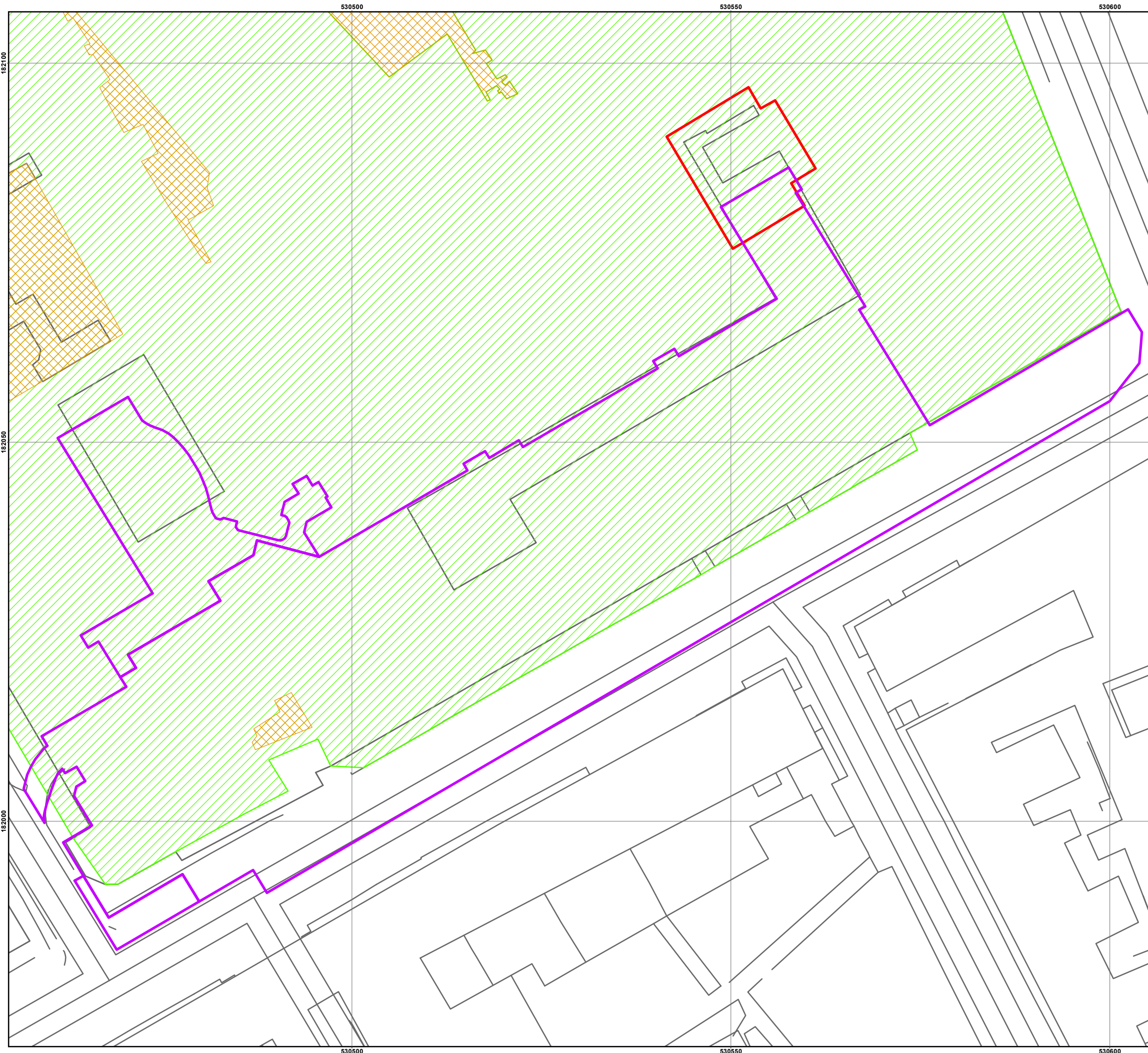
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**Figure 6: Revised Location of the
Southampton Estate and English Civil War
Defences in Relation to the Link Bridge
Application Site**

- Link Bridge Application Site
- Site Boundary (Planning Ref: 2022/2255/P)
- Lines of Communication
- Southampton Estate

n.b., revised location of the Southampton Estate and English Civil War defences informed by Figures 14 and 15 in the journal article produced by Peter Mills.

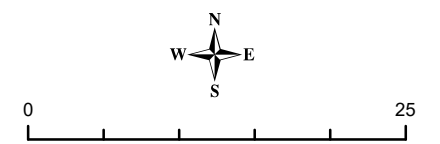
(London Archaeologist, Vol. 16 (11) Winter 2023: Civil War Defences of North London reviewed: Hoxton to Bloombury)

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