

## Area 13: Hound Plain



## Description

- 4.189 This very gently-domed area falls slightly towards the coast and towards the shallow valleys that mark the boundaries with Bursledon to the east and Southampton to the west. These valleys are densely wooded, and a very shallow wooded depression lies between Butlocks Heath and Old Netley. Most of the remaining area is devoid of trees except along the roadside and the cluster of buildings at Hound. The dominant characteristic is the landscape's openness, interrupted only by a few intermittent hedges and post and wire fences, often including alien conifer planting. The land is in both pasture and arable use, but the patches of 'horsiculture' around Hound and derelict airfield near the edge of Hamble give an urban fringe character to some places. There are important long views across the coastal plain to Southampton Water at points in the area. Both 'The Bunney' and the Hound Corner Ecology Park are valued by local proposals.
- 4.190 The urban edges of Newtown, Netley, Hamble-Le-Rice and Bursledon are prominent in the open landscape, forming the boundaries to this character area. Indeed, the city town blocks in Newtown, Southampton are visible from a number of places across the area. The linear development along the main Hamble Lane can be widely seen. The northern boundary between this open landscape and the more intricate landscape of the M27 corridor is marked by the A3025.

## Historic Features

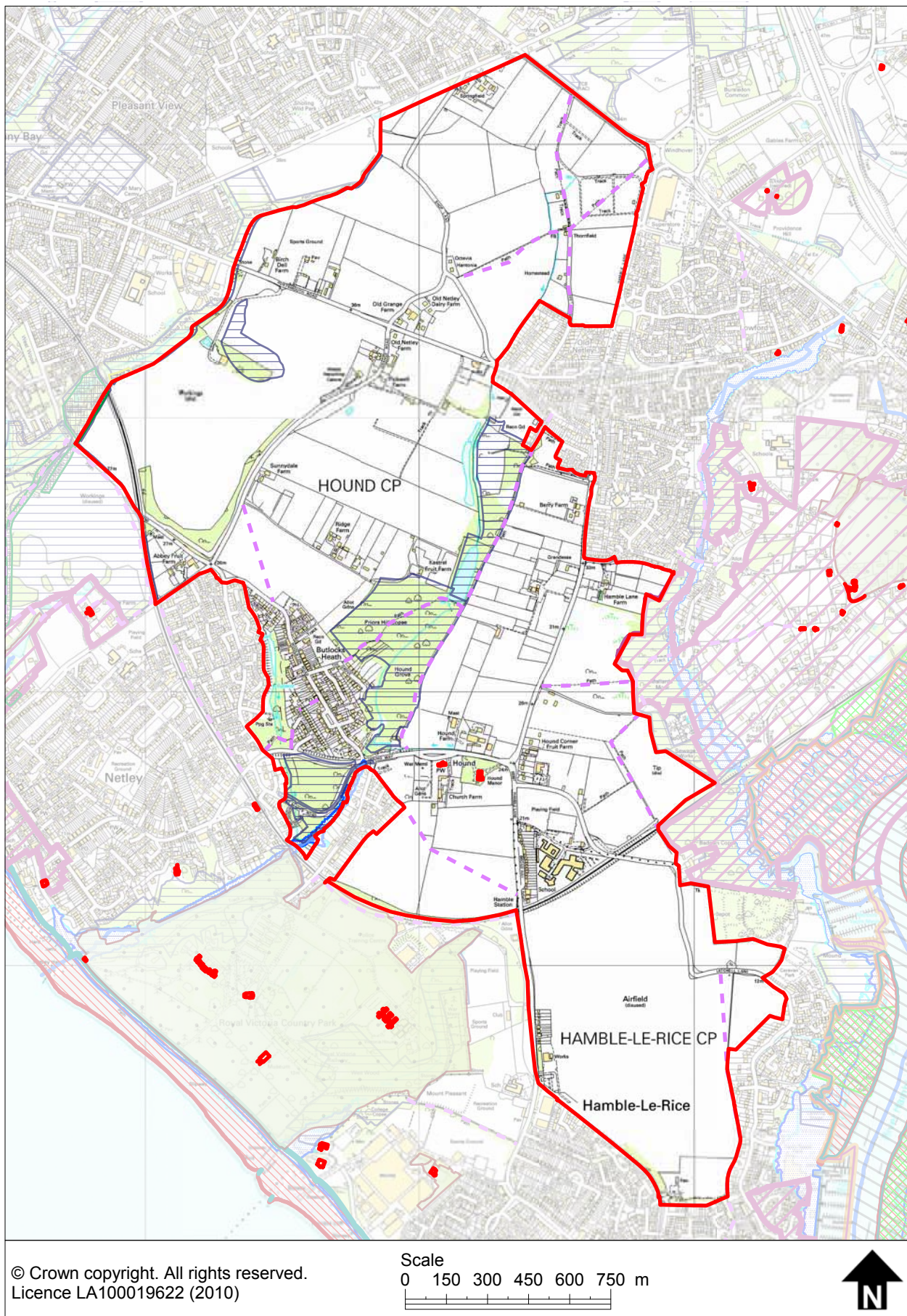
- 4.191 In 1916, A.V.Roe purchased land in Hamble to establish an aircraft factory and airfield south of Hamble Lane. Following the relocation of main production to Manchester, the site became used for experimental aircraft. In 1932 the site became the responsibility of Air Service Training Ltd (AST) and was used for their amphibians and floatplanes. The site was also used for test flying Cierva autogyros and assembly of some AVRO aircraft. Towards the end of 1933, all flying ceased from the south airfield. The disused airfield is used as informal open space by local residents.
- 4.192 A north airfield was established in 1926 and continued in use until 1984 when the field was brought by Southern Ideal Homes
- 4.193 There are two listed buildings along Hound Road; however they do not contribute significantly to the landscape character.

## HCC Historic Landscape Types:















- 4.194 Historic landscapes types in this area are:

- 1.9 Small regular fields with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure)
- 1.10 Medium regular fields with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure)
- 4.1 Assarted pre-1810 woodland

### Designations and Constraints



## Key for Designation &amp; Constraints:

|  |  |  |              |
|--|--|--|--------------|
|   | Character Area Boundary                      |  | Main River   |
|   | Area designated Ramsar, SPA* & SSSI Area     |  | Floodzone 2  |
|   | SAC - Special Area of Conservation           |  | Floodzone 3  |
|   | SSSI - Site of Special Scientific Interest   |  | Right of Way |
|   | SINC - Site of Important Nature Conservation |  |              |
|   | LNR - Local Nature Reserve                   |  |              |
|   | Historic Parks and Gardens                   |  |              |
|   | Conservation Area                            |  |              |
|   | Scheduled Ancient Monument                   |  |              |
|  | Listed Building                              |  |              |

\*SPA - Special Protection Area

4.5 19th century plantations (general)

9.6 Post 1810 settlement (general).

9.7 Village or hamlet 1810 extent

12.2 Active and disused gravel workings

13.3 Airfield

## Ecological Features

4.195 The SINCS found within the character area are comprised of wet woodland, heathland or grassland habitats.

## Key Characteristics

4.196 The key characteristics for this area are:

- Gently-domed landform
- Open character interrupted only by intermittent hedges and fences
- Mixed farming land use
- Woodland defining boundaries

- Roads and roadside vegetation prominent
- 'Horsiculture' and derelict airfield give an urban fringe character
- Prominent urban edges and ribbon development

### Landscape Types

4.197 Landscape types as set out in the Hampshire County Council Integrated Character Assessment 2011 for this area are:

- Coastal Plain Open
- Coastal Plain Enclosed

### Landscape Character Sensitivity

4.198 The character is defined mainly by its relative flatness and the feeling of an open landscape. Development within this open area is could reduce the distinctiveness of the character area.



Figure 33. View looking north from Shop Lane

## Visual Sensitivity

4.199 The area is open, largely flat or gently domed with extensive views.

## Key Issues

4.200 The key issues for this area are:

- The degraded landscape character due to the fairly intensive use of land for horsiculture; small scale agriculture and horticulture and disused land
- The detrimental impact of small industrial development on the open landscape
- Inconsistent management practices of farmland, small holdings, paddocks and boundary treatments
- Development pressure to diversify land uses from agriculture
- The contribution of the open character to the visual separation between the settlements of Bursledon, Southampton, Netley and Hamble
- Pressure for some development to the north of Netley Abbey off Grange Road as identified in the draft Local Plan proposals.



Figure 34. Former airfield from Satchell Lane