

Planning application PL/2025/07147- Additional supplementary evidence for consideration for supporting objection.

In the absence of the applicant providing any archaeological survey of the site and scant reference to the significance of the wider historic landscape the application should be refused. Documented records held by Wiltshire Council in it's Historic Environment Record (HER), the proximity to the Grade 1 listed priory church, the adjacency of several grade 2 listed buildings, the historical landscape widely acknowledged as the place of The Battle of Edington AD 878 all lead to questions which have not be answered. Drawn from the public domain there is evidence enough to refuse this application.

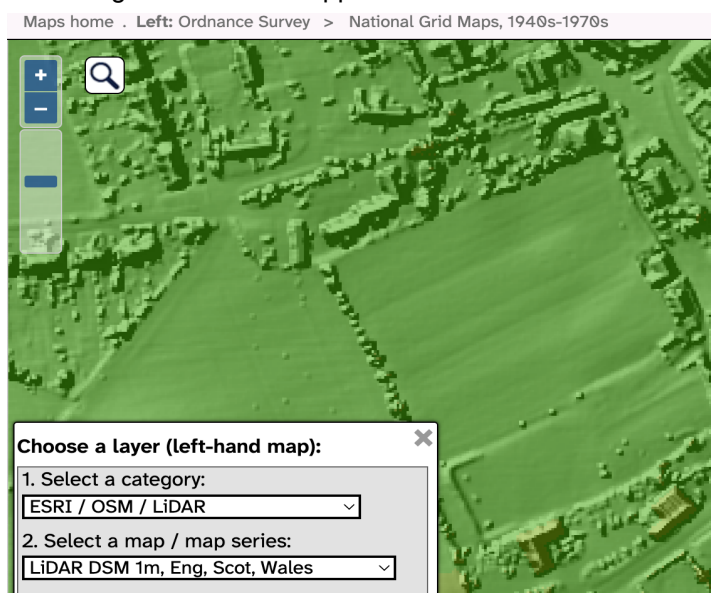


Image 1. LiDAR DSM 1m.

A LiDAR image of the area defines the site with the Three Daggers pub and farm shop at the bottom of the image to right of the screenshot's drop down box. The playing field, then the agricultural field both subject of this application extend north.

Observers of this imaging will initially be drawn to the wide long straight parallel ditches, in my opinion too substantial to be from ploughing and they are too far apart and out of context. Without manipulating the image, simply changing the contrast and brightness the features within the field can be seen more clearly, provided in Image 2.

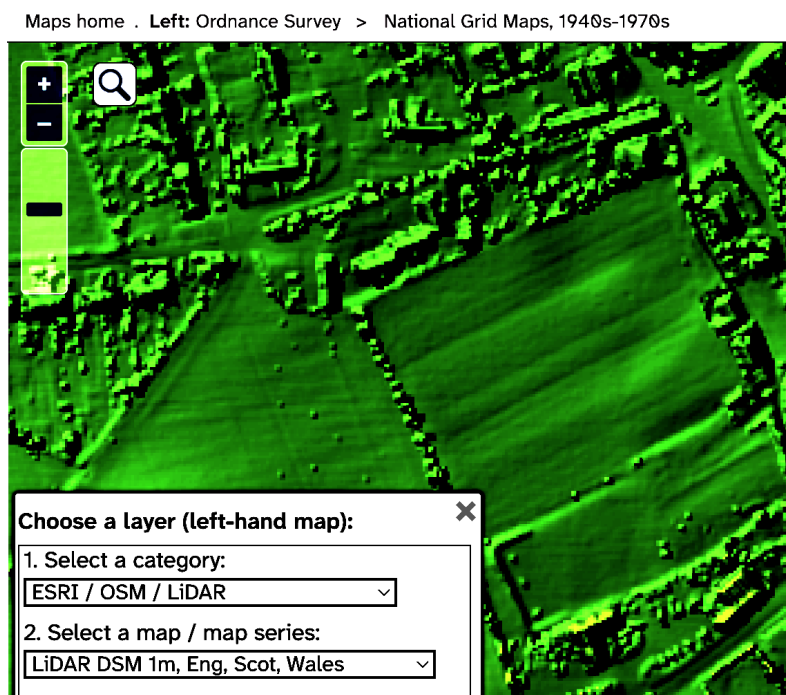


Image 2. LiDAR landscape.

This brings a view to the landscape that shows the depths of the ditch features. It also highlights a large circular feature covering a quarter of the field emanating from the top right. Image 3 identifies this area with a red circle.



Image 3. LiDAR feature.

Evidence is also seen in aerial photographs to support this circular feature with dark features in the grass combined with the deeper horizontal ditch. This provides evidence enough of a substantial feature, possibly a medieval pond or earlier round house. In my opinion the feature is too accurately circular to be natural. It would not be inconceivable considering the wider landscape and historical context with nearby monastic ponds and Edington's numerous natural springs. The three visible indentation at the centre of the circular feature shown in the LiDAR image surely cannot be coincidental, or inconceivable of structural use.

Aerial photo taken by the RAF in October 1947 [Image 6] raises more archaeological questions about the site showing a distinct earthwork which appears to raise the lower northern part of the field, which logically would have made sense if this were a medieval pond or such like as the land naturally slopes away from southern hill chalk hill side. Despite the poor quality of the photo there is still evidence of the circular feature particularly of left curvature where it is darker.



Image 4 and 5. Aerial photography with crop markings.

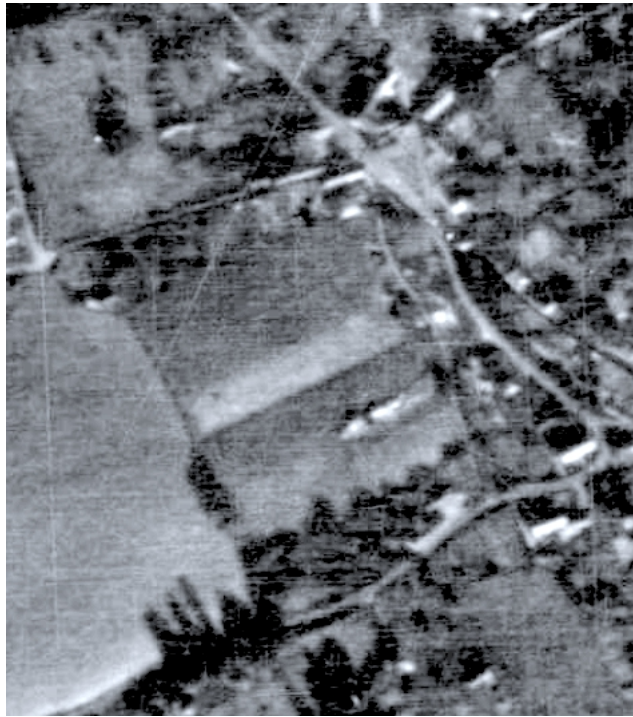


Image 6. RAF aerial photograph October 1947.
<https://maps.nls.uk/view/238922584>

I will conclude, not to repeat, but to remind. Once this landscape is erased without thorough investigation and subsequent decisions it will be lost.