

# Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment In advance of Development at Little Hall Farm, Tyler Hill, Canterbury, Kent

NGR: 1470 6030



Report for  
Mercia Crematoria Developments Ltd

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**SWAT. ARCHAEOLOGY**

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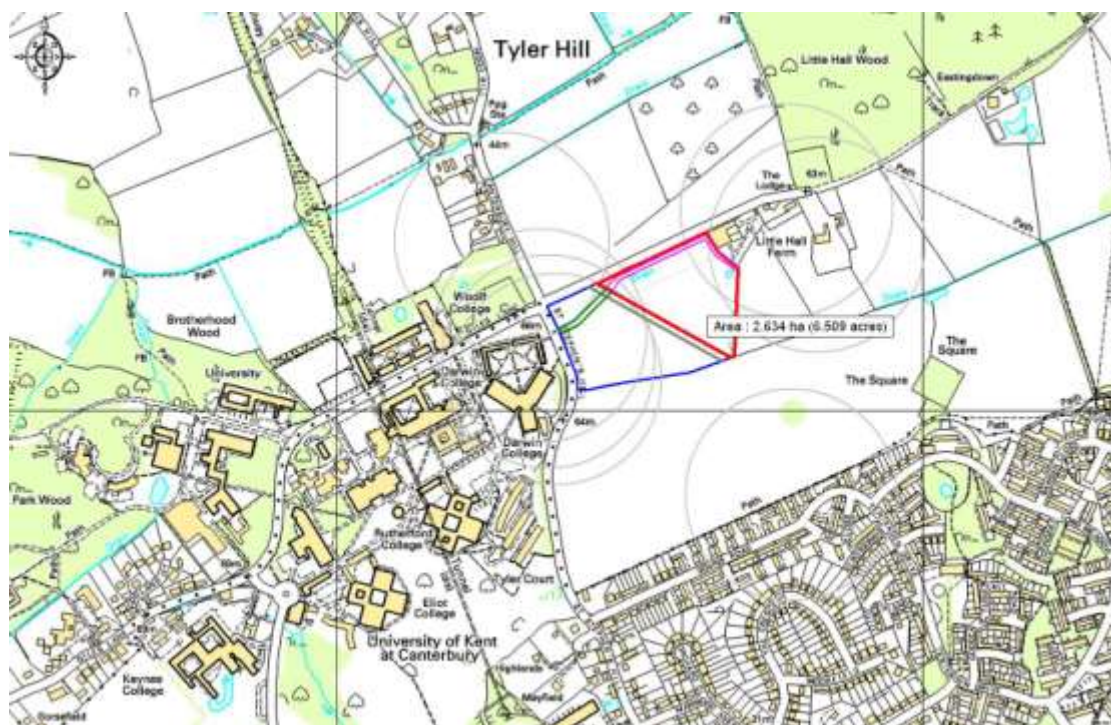


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## **1 SUMMARY**

*Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT. Archaeology) has been commissioned to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development at land (Fig. 1) adjacent to Little Hall Farm, Tyler Hill, Canterbury, Kent.*

*This Desk Based Assessment examines the wide variety of archaeological data held by Canterbury City Council, Kent County Council and other sources. This data is reviewed and it is recommended in this case that further archaeological assessment may be required, and such that an archaeological evaluation programme of works (WSI) is recommended, and undertaken to a written scheme of investigation (WSI) approved by the Archaeological Officer, Canterbury City Council. This will provide an additional assessment of the nature, depth and level of survival of any archaeological deposits which may be present within the extent of the site to be developed and used to inform further mitigation if necessary.*

*The site is located just to the west of Little Hall Farm and to the east of the road to Tyler Hill called Canterbury Hill (Fig. 1). To the west is the site of the University of Kent at Canterbury and to the north the village of Tyler Hill. To the south the land is developed as housing (Plate 1). The site is about 2.634 hectares in extent, relatively flat with a sharp decline to the south (Fig. 1) at a height of about 67mAOD (above Ordnance Datum) falling to 43mAOD.*

*In reviewing the available data it is clear that the threat of impacting on the known archaeological remains of the Tyler Hill medieval tile and pottery industry by the proposed development is negligible. Historic archaeological excavations by Brian Philp (1967) and Duncan Harrington (1971) in the vicinity of the proposed development site are not published and those sites are now lost, but they seem to concur with the known pattern of isolated kilns spread over at least four square miles of the Tyler Hill environs. More recent work by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust on the Tyler Hill Rising Main in 1993 (Fig. 15) show that in the field of the proposed development of the access road no tile or pottery kilns were revealed, and the*

*archaeological spread of medieval tile debris found was at least a metre deep- well beyond any impact issues from the proposed access road. On the actual site of the crematoria an archaeological geophysical survey commissioned by the client show no substantive archaeological remains. Metal detector activity has failed to find any archaeological artifacts in the proposed development area (PDA) and a walkover of the ploughed fields of the PDA by archaeologists from SWAT Archaeology found no archaeological activity. The field down slope and south of the PDA is the location of a Time Team dig in 2000 which revealed a medieval kiln of which no report is available but again confirms the dispersed nature of such sites. John Cotter in 1991 pointed out in his excellent Canterbury Archaeological Trust report that the area covered by the medieval and post-medieval pottery and tile industry was so vast (Fig. 13) that it was impossible to preserve such an area and heritage would be better served by focusing on the immediate area of important kilns. The Scheduling Application by Richard Cross, Archaeological Advisor to Canterbury City Council (Appendix 3), is ill-advised as the site in question has already been excavated by Time Team with it seems no report, the area requested for scheduling is archaeologically unknown, and the site and its immediate environs are not visible from the proposed development site to the east and are already overshadowed by the university development to the west which completely destroys any sense of place as defined by the 2012 National Planning Policy Framework.*

### **1.1 History of the site**

The site is within the Tyler Hill Conservation Area and is also designated as an area of High Landscape Value. However, the area immediately to the west of the proposed development Area (PDA) has been recently developed with large intrusive accommodation blocks for the University of Kent at Canterbury (UKC). To the south the land has been included in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA/101) which is adjacent and to the north of the existing housing on the south slope of St Stephens Hill. An application has been made (EH 472556) for Scheduled Monument status for an area adjacent to the PDA, but as yet has not been ratified by English Heritage (Appendix 3).

### **1.2 The Tyler Hill medieval pottery industry**

The medieval and post-medieval pottery industry of Tyler Hill is of vast extent running predominantly north and south along the road that passes through the village of Tyler Hill and extends north of the village for at least three miles. There are kiln remains in Clowes Wood, Thornden Wood, Cane Wood, Brittoncourt Farm, Timber Wood, Cheescourt Gate, Honey Wood, Tyler Hill, Little Hall Wood and even where the University of Kent now stands. Some 26 sites were identified in a map

produced in 1991 by John Cotter of Canterbury Archaeological Trust (Fig. 13). Cotter itemises six tile kilns excavated, nine tile kilns unexcavated, four pot kilns unexcavated, and fourteen pot/tile scatters. The HER held by Kent County Council was consulted in January 2013 and some 59 archaeological sites-mostly tile or pottery scatter were identified in a 1km radius of the PDA (Plate 2). A more comprehensive listing of these sites is in Appendix 5.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Planning Background**

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published in March 2012 and replaced PPS. It is worth quoting from this long awaited planning document, in particular Section 12, pages 30-34.

#### **12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment**

*126. Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:*

- *the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*
- *the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;*
- *the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and*
- *opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.*

*127. When considering the designation of conservation areas, local planning authorities should ensure that an area justifies such status because of its special architectural or historic interest, and that the concept of conservation is not devalued through the designation of areas that lack special interest.*

*128. In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment*

*record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.*

*129. Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.*

*130. Where there is evidence of deliberate neglect of or damage to a heritage asset the deteriorated state of the heritage asset should not be taken into account in any decision.*

*The principles and policies set out in this section apply to the heritage-related consent regimes for which local planning authorities are responsible under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, as well as to plan-making and decision-taking.*

This desk-based assessment complies with the advocated approach.

### **Regional policy**

The South East Plan (RSS for the South East) remains in force and a material planning consideration until such time as its proposed, formal revocation. Policy BE6 of the South East Plan (The Regional Spatial Strategy for the Southeast; May 2009) on management of the historic environment states that: *'When developing and implementing plans and strategies, local authorities and other bodies will adopt policies and support proposals which protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and the contribution it makes to local and regional distinctiveness and sense of place.'* In addition, *'historic environment includes the physical evidence of past human activity. It is all around us as part of everyday life, and it is therefore dynamic and continually subject to change. It is not limited to the built environment and archaeological sites, but includes landscapes, both urban and rural ... These environments are fragile and require protection, but also have an enormous potential to contribute to a sense of place and identity ...'*



### **Local policy**

Applying the same general principles on a local scale, the relevant Canterbury District Local Plan (2001-2011: First Review; Canterbury City Council 2006a; 2006a; 2006b) policies are BE3 (World Heritage Sites), BE5–6 (Listed Buildings), BE7–8 (Conservation Areas), BE9 (buildings of local architectural or historic interest), BE10 (Historic Landscapes), BE14 (Scheduled Ancient Monuments) and BE15 and BE16 (Archaeology).

### **Research frameworks**

The national and regional policy outlined above should also be considered in light of the non statutory heritage frameworks that inform them. While the South East Research Framework for the historic environment (SERF) is still in preparation, initial outputs are available on-line and have been considered in preparing this report.

*This Desk-Based Assessment therefore forms the initial stage of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist in decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.*

## **2.2 The Proposed Development**

The proposed development will comprise the following key elements:

- Crematorium
- Chapel
- Wildflower meadow and screen of native trees
- Car parking and access road
- Memorial Garden

## **2.3 Project Constraints**

Project constraints were encountered during the data collection for this assessment.

## **2.4 Geology and Topography**

The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the geology of the site and its surrounds consists of underlying geology of London Clay (British Geological Survey South Sheet, Fifth Edition Solid, 2007). The drift geology is Head, consisting of gravel, sands, silt and clay (British Geological Survey South Sheet, First Edition Quaternary, 1977).

The overlying soils are known as Park Gate which are typical argillic gley soils. These consist of deep stoneless silty soils variable affected by groundwater (Soil Survey of England and Wales, Sheet 6 South East England).

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Mercia Crematoria Developments Ltd in order to supplement a planning application for the development of the site at land adjacent to Little Hall Farm, Tyler Hill, Canterbury, Kent (Fig. 1).

Canterbury City Council will require an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment Report to clarify the extent of known archaeology on the development site and its environs.

#### **3.2 Desktop Study – Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2011)**

This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2011). A desktop, or desk-based assessment, is defined as being:

*“a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate”. (2011)*

The purpose of a desk-based assessment is to gain an understanding of the historic environment resource in order to formulate as required:

- 1. an assessment of the potential for heritage assets to survive within the area of study*
- 2. an assessment of the significance of the known or predicted heritage assets considering, in England, their archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interests*
- 3. strategies for further evaluation whether or not intrusive, where the nature, extent or significance of the resource is not sufficiently well defined*
- 4. an assessment of the impact of proposed development or other land use changes on the significance of the heritage assets and their settings*

*5. strategies to conserve the significance of heritage assets, and their settings*

*6. design strategies to ensure new development makes a positive contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of the historic environment and local place-shaping*

*7. proposals for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research, whether undertaken in response to a threat or not.*

IFA (2011)

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Desk-Based Assessment**

#### *4.1.1 Archaeological databases*

The local Historic Environment Record (HER) held at Canterbury City Council, the Urban Archaeology Data Base, the Archaeology Data Service Portal (ADSP), and Kent County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) provides an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding environs of the proposed development.

The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) and was also used. The search was carried out within a 1km radius of the proposed development site (19/01/13).

The Portable Antiquities Scheme Database (PAS) was also used as an additional source as the information contained within is not always transferred to the local HER data base.

#### *4.1.2 Historical documents*

Historical documents, such as early excavation records, and historical mapping were consulted for this assessment and form part of the archaeological narrative.

#### *4.1.3 Cartographic and pictorial documents*

A full map regression exercise was undertaken during this assessment (Figs. 4-12). Research was carried out using resources offered by Kent County Council, the local library service, and the Internet plus Ordnance Survey Historical mapping (Appendix 6).

#### 4.1.4 Aerial photographs

The study of aerial photograph's held at the Kent Archive Centre, Maidstone has not added a great deal to this study as the area around the proposed development site has been subject to intensive development to the west and unchanging farmland to the east.

#### 4.1.5 Geotechnical information

No geotechnical information was available for this study. However, a geophysical survey was commissioned by Mercia Crematoria Developments Ltd and undertaken by Stratascan Ltd in June 2011 (Appendix 2).

#### 4.1.6 Secondary and statutory resources

Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological studies, landscape studies; dissertations, research frameworks and websites are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment where necessary.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	c. 500,000 BC – c.10,000 BC
	Mesolithic	c.10,000 BC – c. 4,300 BC
	Neolithic	c. 4.300 BC – c. 2,300 BC
	Bronze Age	c. 2,300 BC – c. 600 BC
	Iron Age	c. 600 BC – c. AD 43
Romano-British		AD 43 – c. AD 410
Anglo-Saxon		AD 410 – AD 1066
Medieval		AD 1066 – AD 1485
Post-medieval		AD 1485 – AD 1900
Modern		AD 1901 – present day

**Table 1 Classification of Archaeological Periods**

### 5.1 Introduction

The Archaeological record within the area around Tyler Hill is diverse and comprises activity dating from one of the earliest human period in Britain (the Stone Age) through to the post-medieval and modern periods. The proposed development area is situated to the east of the road running from Canterbury to the coast. The geographic and topographic location of PDA is within a landscape that has been the focus of trade, travel and communication since the Neolithic, if not before.

This section of the assessment will focus on the archaeological and historical development of this area, placing it within a local context. Each period classification will provide a brief introduction to the wider landscape, followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed on the previous page in **Table 1**.

Further details of the KCC HER data used are shown in Plate 2 and Appendix 5.

## **5.2 Archaeological investigations carried out within the surrounding area**

An extensive archaeological narrative for the surrounding area is provided within the Sites and Monuments record (HER) held at Kent County Council and other sources. Within a 1km radii of the proposed development site some 59 archaeological sites are recorded on the Kent HER ranging from Prehistoric to 20<sup>th</sup> century military sites. Indeed in consulting the HER map (Plate 2) provided by KCC the proposed development site is framed on the west by archaeological activity. However, it seems this archaeological activity is confined to the immediate area of the road (Canterbury Hill) and does not continue eastwards into the arable landscape, or indeed the site of the proposed crematoria (Fig. 1).

The PDA has been subject over the years to intense metal detector activity and it is of some interest that in the immediate vicinity only two items- Roman copper coins have been logged under the Portable Antiquities Scheme, and these were outside the area of proposed development. A walkover during the winter of 2008 by a team of SWAT archaeologists on the ploughed soil of the proposed development site failed to retrieve any items of archaeological interest.

## **5.3 Archaeological investigations carried out to date, within the Proposed Development Area (PDA).**

A geophysical survey was carried out on the PDA in June 2011 by Stratascan Ltd. A detailed gradiometry survey was conducted over approximately 2.9 hectares of the proposed development area (Appendix 2). The data collected has indicated the presence of positive magnetic anomalies alongside the road called Canterbury Hill which are probably associated with in-filled cut features such as pits or ditches of archaeological origin. As the site is located within the Tyler Hill area, known for medieval pottery and tile kilns, a number of responses have been identified as possibly relating to former kilns. These anomalies include strong and moderate strength thermoremanent responses which may indicate scattered magnetic debris

which may be associated with wasters or kiln related debris. Stratascan's report concludes:

*'The gradiometer survey carried out over land adjacent to Little Hall Farm, Canterbury has identified a number of positive linear and area anomalies which are indicative of former cut features such as pits or ditches. Also identified are a number of magnetic anomalies which may relate to modern ferrous material but could also be thermoremanent responses associated with former kilns. Scattered magnetic debris is also present on site which may be attributed to kiln related detritus. Many of the strong magnetic anomalies noted on this site may be modern in origin, however the location of the site within the heart of the Tyler Hill Pottery Industry would open up the possibility for these anomalies to be of possible archaeological origin'.*

The strong magnetic anomalies are clustered in a ribbon development along the east verge of the road known as Canterbury Hill and reinforce the known pattern of medieval and post-medieval tile and pottery scatter identified by Canterbury Archaeological Trust in 1993, and buried 1m deep adjacent to the road. The geophysical survey did not highlight any archaeological features on the proposed development site.

However, the access road to the proposed development will cross this ribbon of tile scatter and it is the intention of the developer, if necessary, to lay a buffer zone of material over the possible archaeology before laying the tarmac access track thus preserving in situ any archaeology that may be at risk.

#### **5.4 Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas**

No scheduled monuments are recorded within the confines of the proposed development site. There are no Historic Parks and Gardens in the near vicinity and the PDA is in a Conservation Area. There are buildings in the vicinity which are listed, but none in the PDA.

#### **5.5 Prehistoric (Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age)**

The Palaeolithic represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. Palaeolithic dated material occurs in north and east Kent, especially along the Medway and Stour Valleys. The Palaeolithic presence within the assessment area has not been identified.

The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has only one record of archaeological evidence from this period

within the assessment area. Evidence of Mesolithic activity (TR 16 SW 55) in the form of a flint tool has been retrieved by Canterbury Archaeological Trust in an Archaeological Watching Brief on the Tyler Hill rising main at TR 14378 60150

The Neolithic period, the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry is not represented within the assessment area.

The Bronze Age, a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level is also represented in the assessment area by metal detector finds (TR 16 SW4) of a bronze palstave and a Bronze Age socketed axehead (MKE 57 248) at TR 614400 160300. An Archaeological Evaluation by Canterbury Archaeological Trust (TR 16 SW 134) in 1992 retrieved over 50 sherds of Bronze Age/Iron Age pottery at TR 1464 6068.

## **5.6 Iron Age**

The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres (the Iron Age 'Tribal capital' or *civitas* of the Cantiaci, the tribe occupying the area that is now Kent, was Canterbury). The Kent HER records show only one site within the assessment area (TR 16 SW 134), which has been discussed above.

## **5.7 Romano-British**

The Romano-British period is the term given to the Romanised culture of Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire, following the Claudian invasion in AD 43, Britain then formed part of the Roman Empire for nearly 400 years.

The predominant feature of the Roman infrastructure within Kent is arguably the extensive network of Roman roads connecting administrative centres: the towns to military posts and rural settlements. Only two find spots and no sites are recorded in the Kent HER and they are metal detector finds of two Roman coins in 2003 (MKE 57254 & MKE 57255) and a single sherd of Roman pottery (TR 16 SW 137).

## **5.8 Anglo-Saxon**

The Anglo-Saxon period may be represented by a schist hone found in the north bank of the stream at Tyler Hill (TR 16 SW 51). Although it may date from the 10<sup>th</sup> century it is more likely to be from the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## **5.9 Medieval**

The medieval period is well represented within the assessment area and there are seven archaeological sites (Appendix 5) close to the periphery of the PDA. These

include gravel pits (TR 16 SE 41 & TR 16 SW 36), two medieval pits (TR 16 SW 59), a pit with medieval tile (TR 16 SW 57), a rectangular medieval kiln (TR 16 SW 15) and a tiler (TR 16 SW 7) see Figures 13, 15.

John Cotter of Canterbury Archaeological Trust recognised in 1991 that although a considerable amount of archaeological investigation had taken place around Tyler Hill and the Forest of Blean ‘remarkably little of this has been published.....’ This tradition has continued to the present day with the TV show ‘Time Team’ who in August 2000 excavated a medieval kiln on the southern periphery of the PDA in association with Canterbury Archaeological Trust, and seemingly failed to produce a report. Extensive enquiries at the offices of ‘Time Team’, Canterbury Archaeological Trust and the City of Canterbury Archaeological Advisor have failed to locate any report, or indeed any field notes or photographs.

John Cotter’s paper clarifies the reason why Tyler Hill was the location of a medieval ceramics industry. Cotter cites the natural resources of outcropping London Clay, plentiful water from the Sarre Penn stream, the abundant supply of wood for fuel from the nearby woods and the road leading downhill to the burgeoning city of Canterbury. To the north the road leads to the coast and the medieval port of Faversham from where Tyler Hill pottery could be exported to London and round the coast to Romney Marsh.

The name of Tyler Hill is an obvious indicator of the location of the industry but the earliest recording of it as a place-name is in 1304 (Cotter 1991). However, Cotter suggests that petrological analysis of the fabric of Late Saxon pottery in Canterbury is ‘very similar to that of medieval Tyler Hill ware which may show that pottery production could have begun there as early as the 9<sup>th</sup> century AD’. In 1991 Cotter’s earliest evidence of pottery production was at Brittoncourt Farm situated about a mile north of the PDA. Pottery retrieved in an earlier excavation has been dated to the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Cotter recognises that in 1991 ‘*although several tile kilns have been excavated in the area and we know the site of one 12<sup>th</sup> century kiln [Brittoncourt Farm] no definite example of a medieval pottery kiln has yet been excavated at Tyler Hill*’ (Cotter J 1991: 50).

Canterbury Archaeological Trust conducted an Archaeological Watching Brief on the Tyler Hill Rising Main in July and August 1993 (Fig. 15). No archaeological features were identified in Field A. Medieval pottery and a Scandinavian schist hone were retrieved from the north bank of the Sarre Penn stream. In Field B a tile kiln had been excavated by Brian Philp in 1967 (Philp 1974: 175-81) and fragments of medieval pottery, roof tile and decorated floor tiles were retrieved from this area.



Field C had little archaeology even though a medieval tile kiln had been excavated in 1971 by Duncan Harrington (Harrington D. 1971: 149-51). In Field D about a third of the way along a thick layer of medieval tile and pottery was exposed usually around 1m below the present ground level. From Field D the layer seemed to continue into Field E where the Time Team excavation took place in 2000.

In 2012 the Canterbury City Council Archaeological Advisor submitted an application to English Heritage for scheduling of an area south of the proposed development site. In this document it states: *'This application seeks to protect and preserve a section of the Tyler Hill medieval pottery & tile industry between the south bank of the Sarre Penn and the upper slopes of St Stephe's Hill, Canterbury. The remains consist of tile built kilns, with quarry/waster pits and presumably workshops and yards. Associated waster pits indicate that the kilns were producing encaustic floor tiles, roof tiles as well as pottery. A number of kilns have been investigated, the most recently examined in 2000 being dated (archaeomagnetic) to 1238-1286, and being described as one of the best preserved medieval kilns in England'* (Application EH 472556 & Appendix 4).

Presumably the kiln described 'as one of the best preserved in England' is the 2000 excavation by Time Team and Canterbury Archaeological Trust of which no report is available. However, there is a geophysical survey organised by Canterbury Archaeological Trust for Time Team of the site to be found on the ADS web (Appendix 3) which indicates the site is down slope from the PDA and adjacent to the road (Canterbury Hill) leading to Canterbury and two fields removed from the proposed development site.

By the 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery manufacture at Tyler Hill was declining and by the 16<sup>th</sup> century had ceased altogether (Cotter J 1991: 55), but the manufacture of decorated floor tiles, roof tiles and bricks had expanded. The best known kiln site is at Clowes Wood some two miles north of the PDA (Fig. 13). The peak time of production was c.1285-1350 and at least five medieval tile kilns have been excavated at Tyler Hill, three of them in the grounds of the University of Kent prior to development (Cramp G 1970: 27-8). One of the university kilns had an archeo-magnetic date of AD 1300+-25 (Cramp G 1970: 79).

### **5.10 Post-Medieval**

The Post Medieval period within the assessment area is represented by the Tyler Hill pottery industry continuing on from the medieval period into the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Sir John Hales is said to have had a tile kiln on the south bank of the Sarre Bank stream at Tyler Hill just north of the PDA. Other documents suggest activity continued as late as the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Cotter J. 1991: 56).

### **5.11 Modern**

Modern development within the assessment area has been limited to domestic housing, and farming – the latter being responsible for the present landscape.

### **5.12 Undated**

There is no Kent HER undated records that fall within the assessment area.

### **5.13 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression**

A series of maps from 1769 to 2007 were consulted to obtain any topographic data on the landscape around the proposed development site and in particular any mapped survivals of the pottery and tile industry focused on Tyler Hill. A map regressive exercise by OS Historic Mapping was also carried out which can be viewed in Appendix 6.

The 1769 Andrews & Drury map shows quite clearly the Sarre Penn stream. To the west Hothe Court Farm is called 'Herd Court' or 'Hede Court'. The area where Little Hall Farm should be situated has no buildings but below this area there are two garden features, a circular garden feature and just to the south a rectangular formal garden. Tyler Hill is denoted as 'Tile Kiln Hill' but shows no obvious features connected to the pottery and tile industry (Fig. 4).

The 1797 Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawing drawn to a scale of 6" to the mile shows the southern end of Canterbury Hill Road but unfortunately the area of the proposed development (red circle) has been lost (Fig. 5).

The 1799 Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawing drawn to a scale of 6" to the mile (detail) again shows the southern end of Canterbury Hill Road but a little more of the map has survived and does show the area of proposed development (red circle). The access road to Little Hall Farm can be identified as can the Beverly Park estate delineated by the red boundary line south of the PDA (Fig. 6).

The 1805 OS map drawn to a scale of 6" to the mile shows a road layout which has not changed. Tyler Hill is called 'Tile Kiln Hill'. The Sarre Penn stream is shown but Little Hall Farm is not (Fig. 7).

The 1871 OS map drawn to a scale of 6" to the mile shows the route of the Whitstable to Canterbury railway to the east of the PDA. Tyler Hill is still called 'Tile Kiln Hill'. The Sarre Penn stream is shown, but the site of Little Hall Farm is not and Beverly Park has been remodelled and has been renamed 'Hales Place' (Fig. 8).

The 1874 OS map (Fig. 9) drawn to a scale of 25" to the mile (detail) shows the access track to Little Hall Farm, Canterbury Hill road to the west and a large gravel pit with track access to the Canterbury Hill road. Unfortunately the OS surveyors note books have not survived from 1874 to explain features 167, 165. However, hachures

on the map drawn by the surveyor just north of the Little Hall Farm access track indicate the possible remains of kilns and debris piles associated with the kiln workings. The pond just below the field boundary 218 is in the same field as the Time Team investigation in 2000 (Appendix 3 & Fig. 14). Feature 167 is probably a pond with a hedge or overgrown ditch leading diagonally to it, however it is for short duration, does not appear on earlier maps and by 1898 this feature has disappeared from the mapping record (OS Historic Mapping Appendix 6).

The 1896 OS map drawn to a scale of 6" to the mile shows for the first time Little Hall Farm, the Sarre Penn stream, Tyler Hill and annotates numerous 'Old Clay Pit' and Gravel Pits' to the north and north-east of Tyler Hill (Fig. 10).

The 1898 OS map drawn to a scale of 6" to the mile shows the track leading to Little Hall Farm and the woods to the east of the farm are called 'Little Hall Wood'. Tyler Hill is showing more residential development (Fig. 11).

The 1920 and 1940-47 (Fig. 12) OS maps show little change from previous topography.

## **6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

### **6.1 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age**

The potential for finding remains that date prior to the Iron Age within the confines of the proposed development area is considered **low**.

### **6.2 Iron Age**

The potential for finding remains dating to the Iron Age within the proposed development area is also considered **low**.

### **6.3 Romano-British**

The presence of Romano-British archaeology in the research area, though small (one shed) suggests that further archaeological remains associated with this period could extend into the proposed development area. The potential is therefore to be considered as **medium**.

### **6.4 Anglo-Saxon**

Anglo-Saxon archaeology within the assessment area has not been found which suggests the potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period on the proposed development area is considered as **low**.

## 6.5 Medieval

The presence of medieval archaeology within the assessment area is also represented. The potential for finding remains dating to the medieval period is therefore considered as **high**.

## 6.6 Post-Medieval

Evidence for post-medieval occupation in the area is abundant with a number of kilns in the vicinity. The potential for finding remains dating to the post-medieval period is therefore considered as **moderate**.

# 7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

## 7.1 Existing and proposed Impacts

The search area is for the most part, subject to farming and the potential impact on buried archaeological deposits from annual ploughing will have been due to recent agricultural activities. A high pressure gas main bisects the area and runs parallel to the proposed development sites western boundary.

The remains of the Tyler Hill tile and pottery industry is widely dispersed over four square miles and since the medieval period this area has been extensively developed, not least by the University of Kent at Canterbury as seen on the GoogleEarth aerial photograph (Plate 1). Work on the university has destroyed any sense of 'place' as highlighted in the *National Planning Policy Framework (2012)*. The university buildings are metres away from the proposed access road to the proposed development and have destroyed any sense of 'historic landscape' as highlighted in the Planning Policy Framework. The same destruction of 'historic landscape' has occurred at Tyler Hill village with ribbon development of housing in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The kilns and associated works highlighted in the scheduling application to English Heritage (Appendix 3) is down slope and far removed from the proposed development and this kiln and its associated works are not at risk from the proposed development.

John Cotter, the onetime medieval pottery specialist of Canterbury Archaeological Trust in his paper of 1991 says:

*'Nowadays Tyler Hill is a pleasant rural hamlet but it may not always have been so. In former times, with its sprawl of workshops, stockpiles of brick, tile and fuel, its waster heaps and constant clouds of wood-smoke, it may have been regarded as something of an eyesore. The impact the industry had on the medieval landscape must have been considerable, but of all this only subtle traces now remain. Those sand and clay pits that were not completely filled-in survive now only as ponds or hollows in the fields. Other hollows, bumps and terraces in the sloping fields above the Sarre Penn mark the site of an extensive complex of unexcavated kilns and workshops. In Honey*

*Wood there are low ivy-covered mounds, some of them composed entirely of discarded medieval roofing tiles, and near the war-time bomb-crater pottery wasters from the obliterated kilns still litter the ground.*

*The medieval ceramics industry at Tyler Hill and the Blean took the form of a north-south ribbon development alongside the Hackington Road. It was largely concentrated on Tyler Hill itself but pockets of the industry were strung out over an area of at least two miles. Given this considerable geographic extent it is unlikely that the remains of the industry will be much affected by any one development project. If current proposals for development in the area come to fruition, then any work will hopefully be preceded by a campaign of excavation and fieldwork which should form the basis of a thorough and methodical study of the industry and its products. At the same time it is hoped that some areas of archaeological importance may be protected so that archaeologists of the future, armed with more sophisticated techniques, might have their own opportunity to re-evaluate this important centre of medieval industry' (Cotter J 1991: 56).*

In July and August 1993 Canterbury Archaeological Trust undertook an Archaeological Watching Brief on the cutting of a trench adjacent to the road for the Tyler Hill Rising Main (Cotter J 1995: 15-16). The results are of some interest. Field C (Fig. 15) is north of the PDA and Field D is the field where the proposed access road to the proposed crematoria is situated. The report by Cotter states: *Field C was surprisingly devoid of archaeological features.....About a third of the way along Field D there gradually commenced a thick layer containing medieval tile and pottery....usually at a depth of around 1m below the present ground surface'.*

In other words the trench dug across where the proposed road to the proposed crematoria is going shows that under the proposed road- at the very best – the archaeology is 1m down, well beyond any impact of the proposed road.

To see the chaotic mess a medieval tile industry can have on the landscape the drawing (Fig. 3) by Victor Ambrose, the Time Team artist, of the site of the 2000 'dig' gives an indication.

To summarise, the Tyler Hill pot and tile industry, although important in detail, is less important as a landscape. The foci of activity was spread over four square miles centered on Tyler Hill and there was presumably no regard of 'landscape' in the medieval period- only on availability of resources and markets. That medieval landscape is no longer, only the buried archaeology which of course needs either excavation or preservation in situ. It is significant that although medieval pot and tile kilns were identified early on in the design and construction of the adjacent university the presence of them did not stop or hinder the recent development of that site.

## **7.2 Development Impacts**

Extensive impact is to be expected within the development area once construction begins. The excavation of footings and the installation of services will be the main cause of this impact and it is therefore considered as **moderate-high**.

At the time of preparing this archaeological desk-top study, the extent of the proposed development consists of the following key elements:

- Crematorium
- Chapel
- Wildflower meadow and screen of native trees
- Car parking and access road
- Memorial Garden

## **8 MITIGATION**

The purpose of this archaeological desk-based assessment was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record, in order to determine the potential survival of archaeological deposits that maybe impacted upon during any proposed construction works. It was also to provide an insight into 'sense of place'.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within a general landscape of **high** archaeological potential. However, this potential is localised and dispersed and it is unlikely that the current scheduling application with English Heritage will include any areas of the proposed development.

It is recommended in this case that further archaeological assessment will be required in the form of an Archaeological Evaluation should be carried out in phases on the areas that will be impacted on by the proposed development. This will provide an additional assessment of the nature; depth and level of survival of any archaeological deposits present within the extents of the proposed development site and used to inform Canterbury City Council Archaeological Advisor if further mitigation is necessary.

## **9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

### **9.1 Archive**

Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, two copies of this desk-based assessment will be submitted to Canterbury City Council and Kent County Council (Heritage) within 6 months of completion.

### **9.2 Reliability/limitations of sources**

The sources that were used in this assessment were, in general, of high quality. The majority of the information provided herewith has been gained from either published texts or archaeological 'grey' literature held at Kent County Council, and therefore considered as being reliable.

### 9.3 Copyright

Swale & Thames Survey Company and the author shall retain full copyright on the commissioned report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. All rights are reserved, excepting that it hereby provides exclusive licence to Mercia Crematoria Developments Ltd (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

## 10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Paul Wilkinson PhD., MifA., FRSA.

06/02/2013



Fig. 3. Postulated view by Time Team of the medieval kiln site at Tyler Hill situated down slope from the proposed development area and looking south towards Canterbury Cathedral (at a cathedral which was not in this form in the 13<sup>th</sup> century!)

## 11 REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Plate 1 Google aerial photograph of environs of proposed development site (2007)

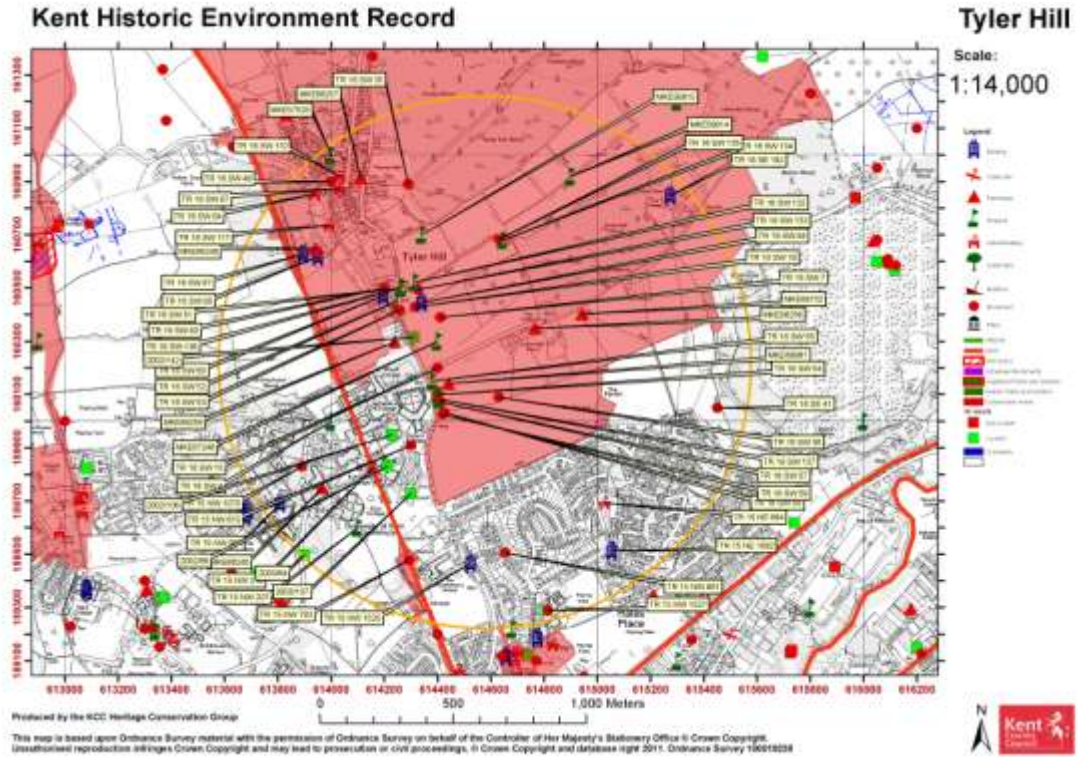


Plate 2. KCC HER data



Figure 4. Andrews and Drury map (1769) of the proposed development area



Figure 5. OS map (1797) showing the proposed development area



Figure 6. OS map detail (1799) of proposed development area

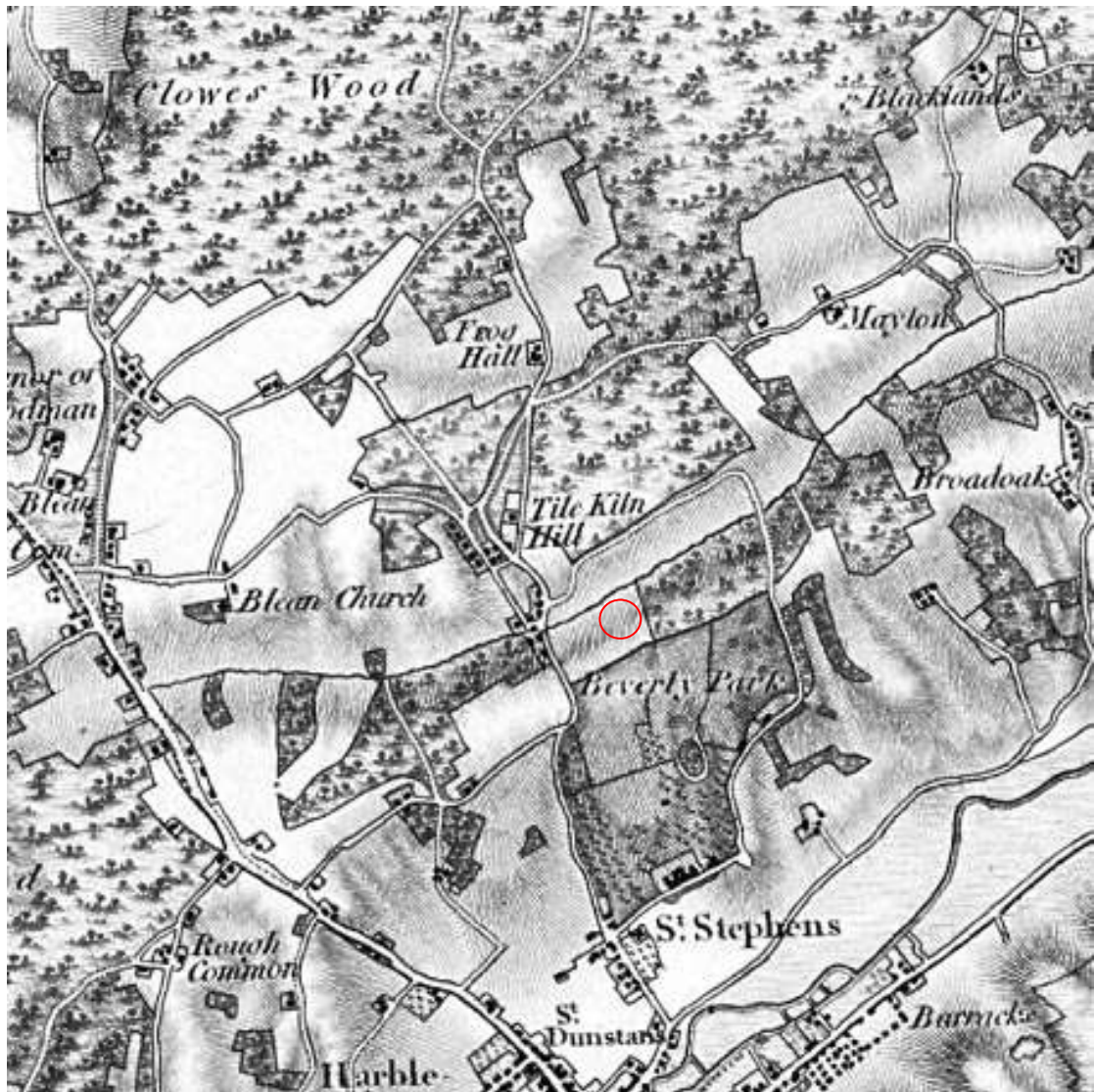


Figure 7. OS map (1805) of area of the proposed development area

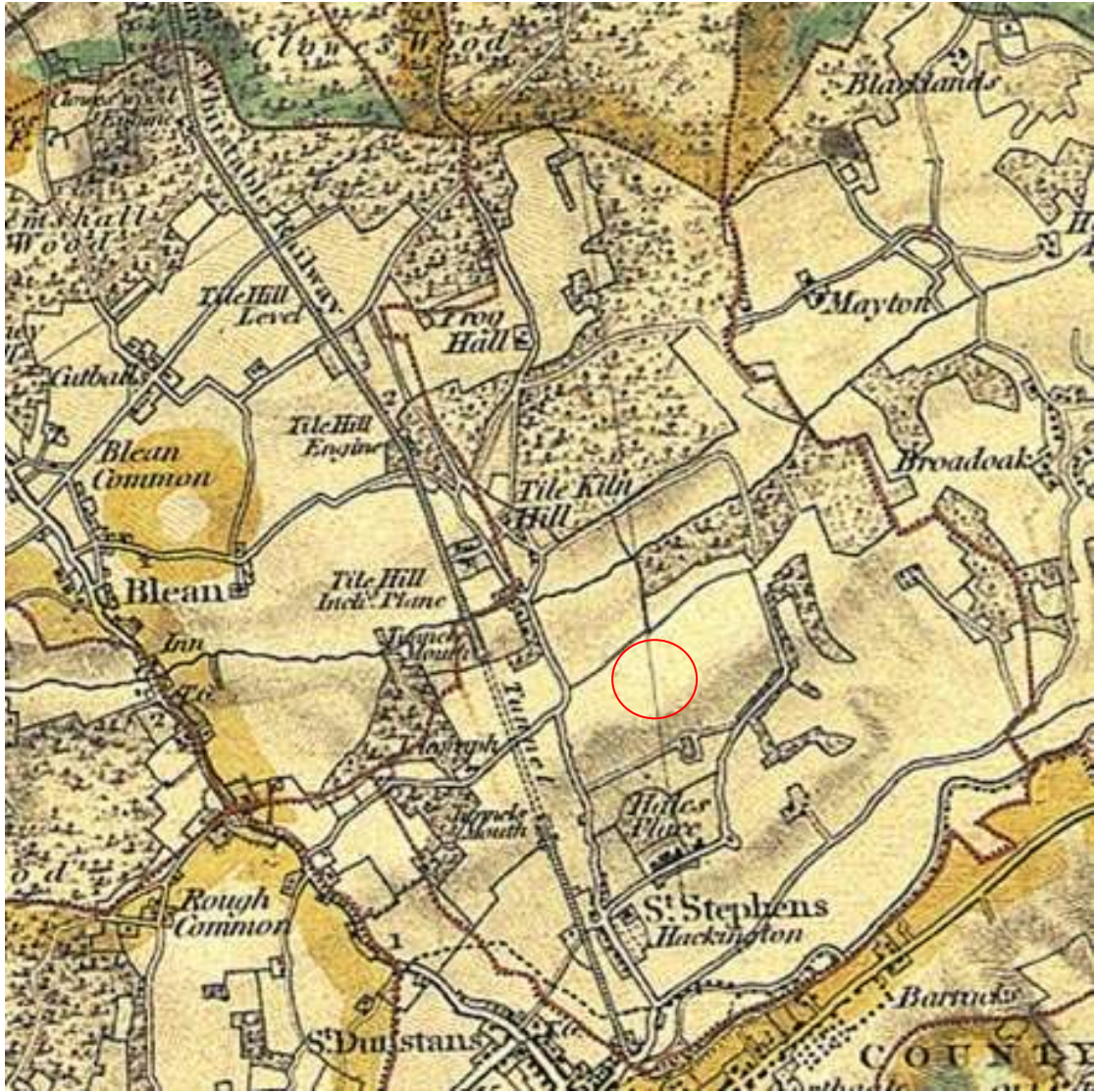


Figure 8. OS map (1871) of the area of the proposed development area

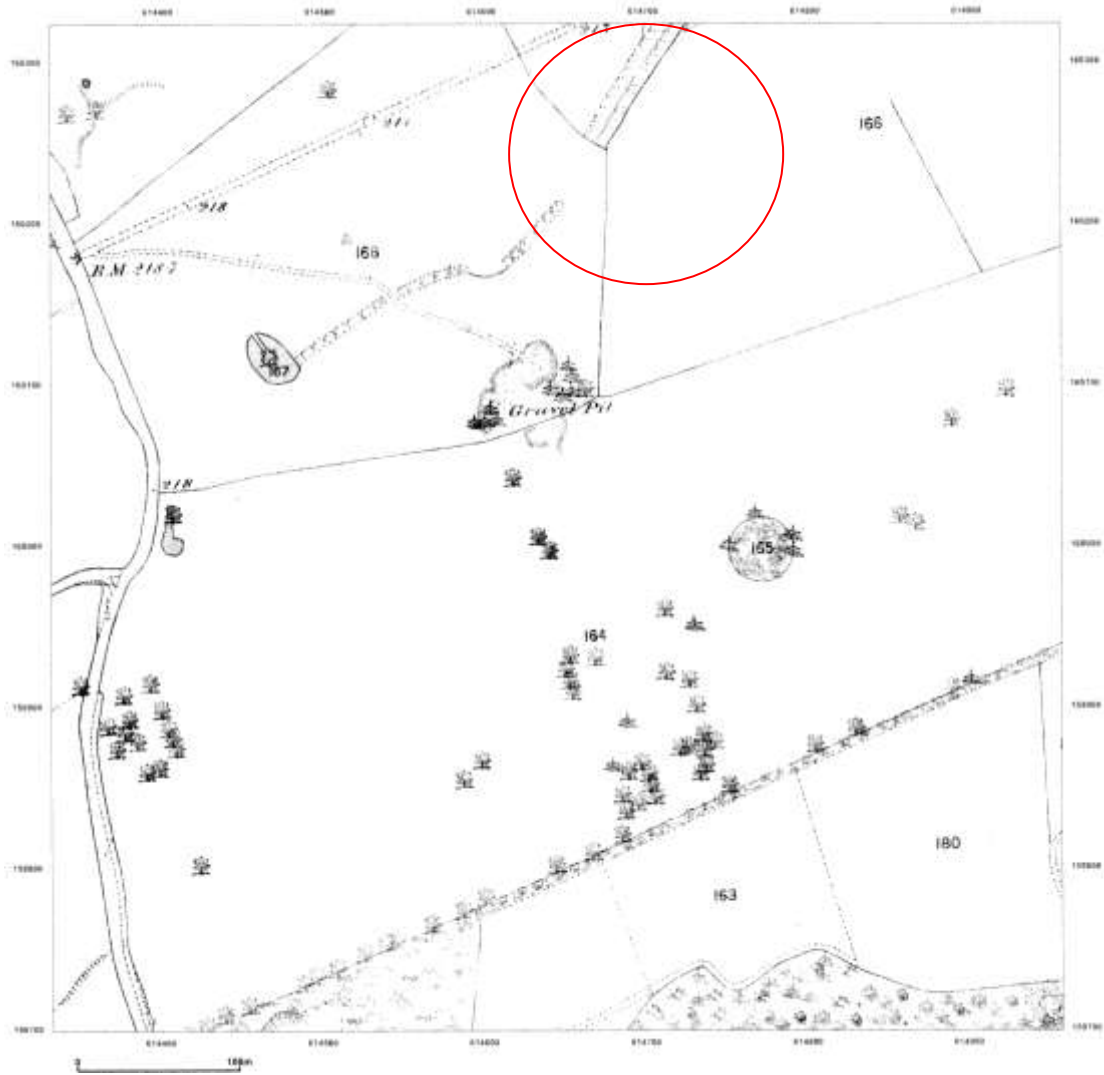


Figure 9. OS map (1874) of the proposed development area

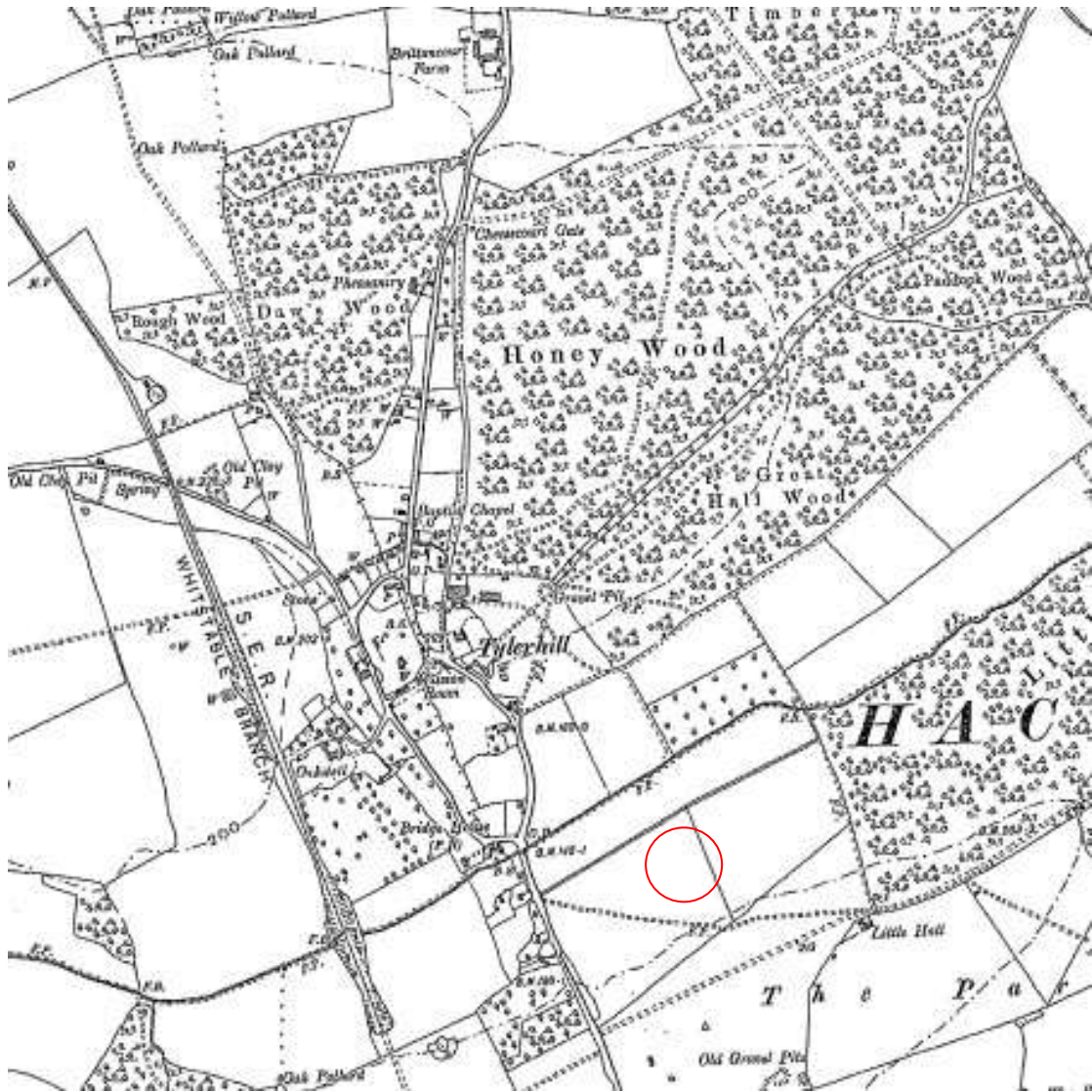


Figure 10. OS map (1896) of the proposed development area



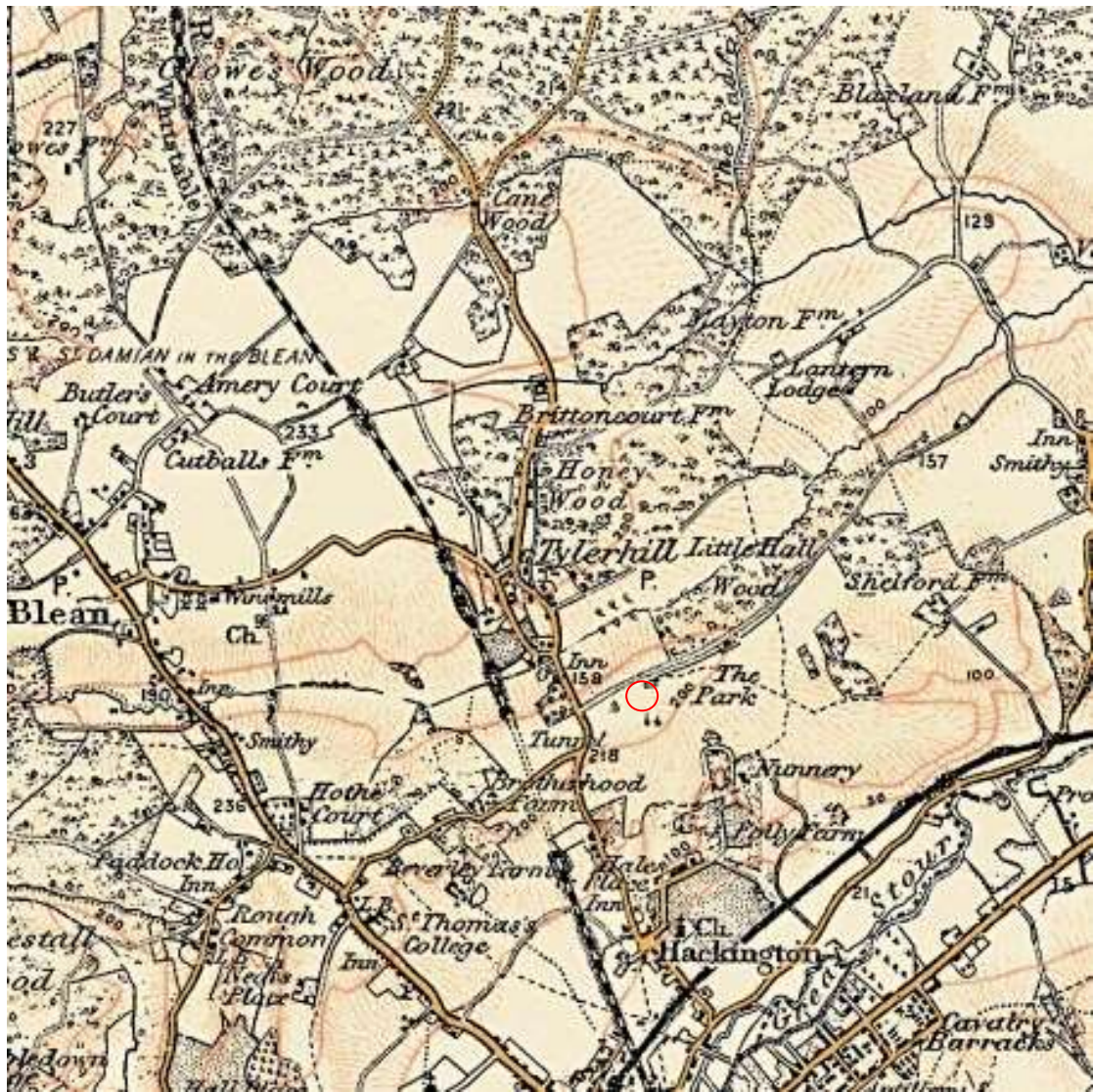


Figure 11. OS map (1898) of the proposed development area

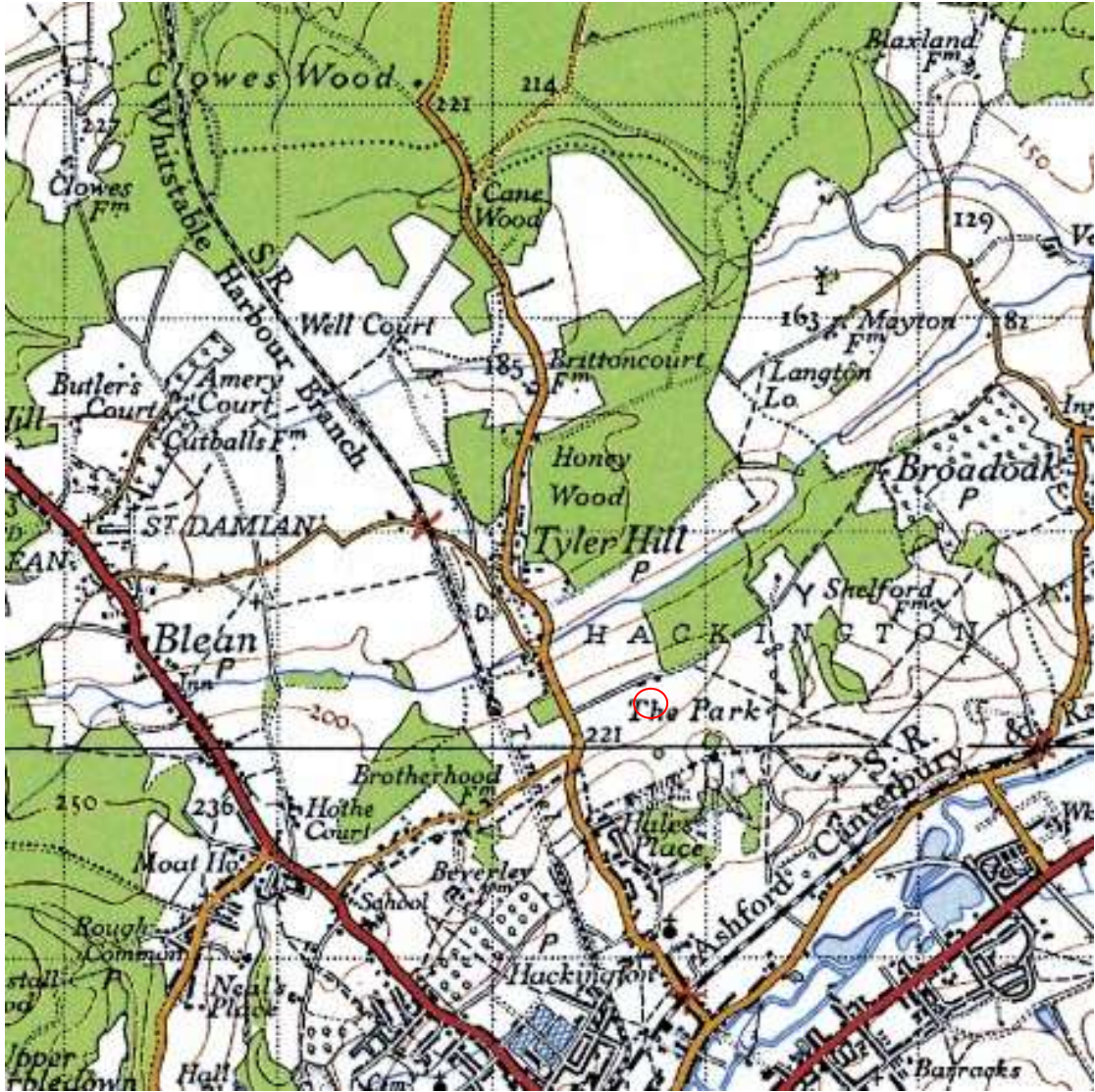


Figure 12. OS map (1940) of the proposed development area

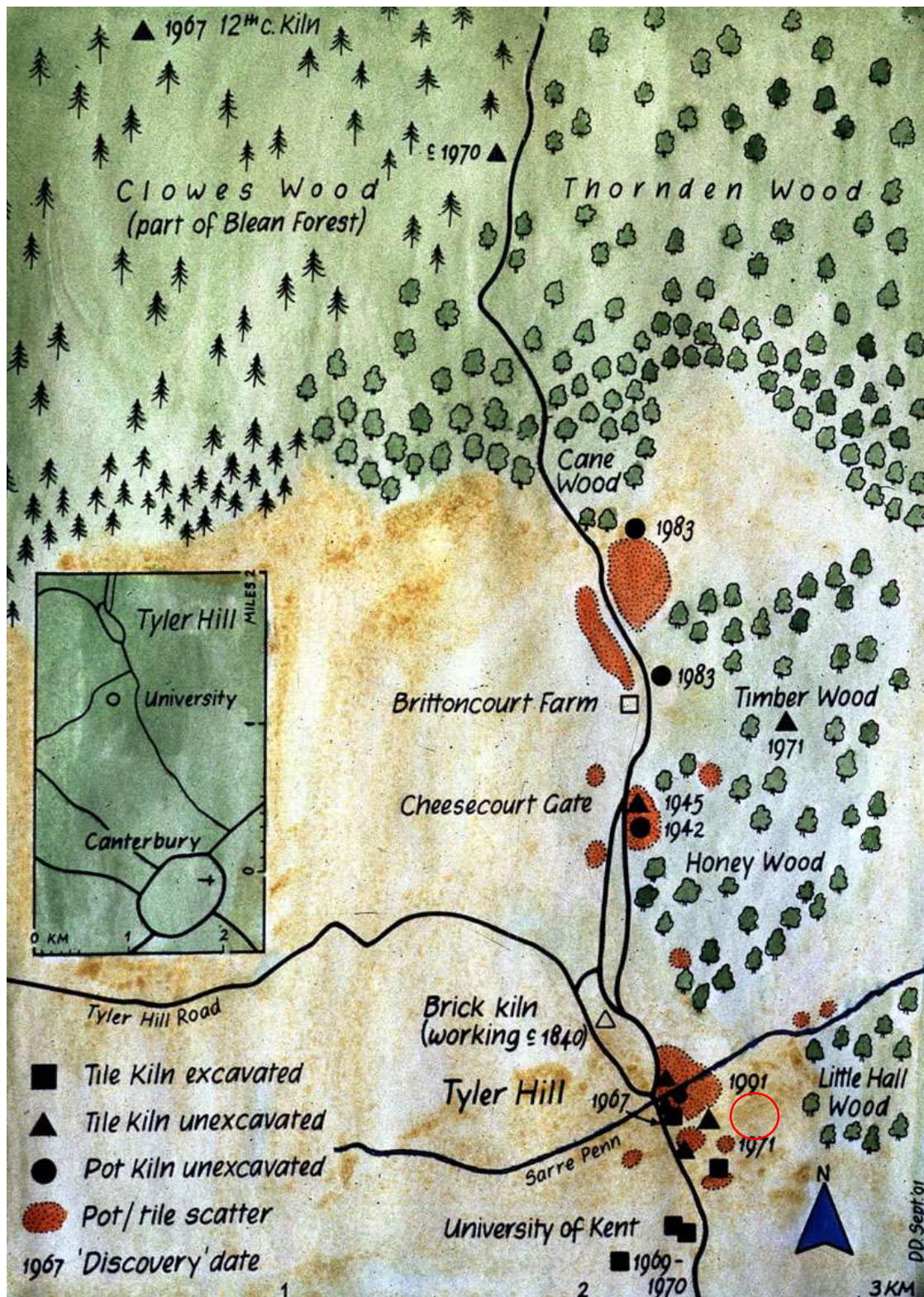


Fig. 13. Map based on John Cotters 1991 report. PDA ringed in red

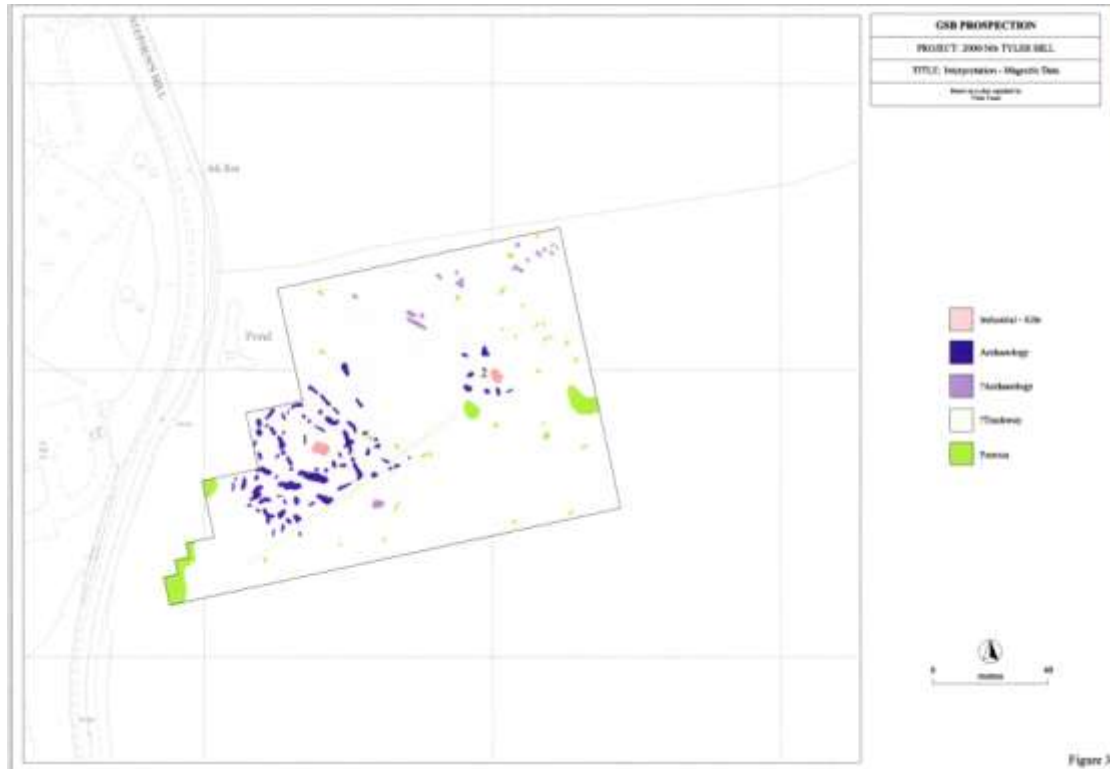


Figure 3

Fig. 14. Map from the Time Team geophysical survey

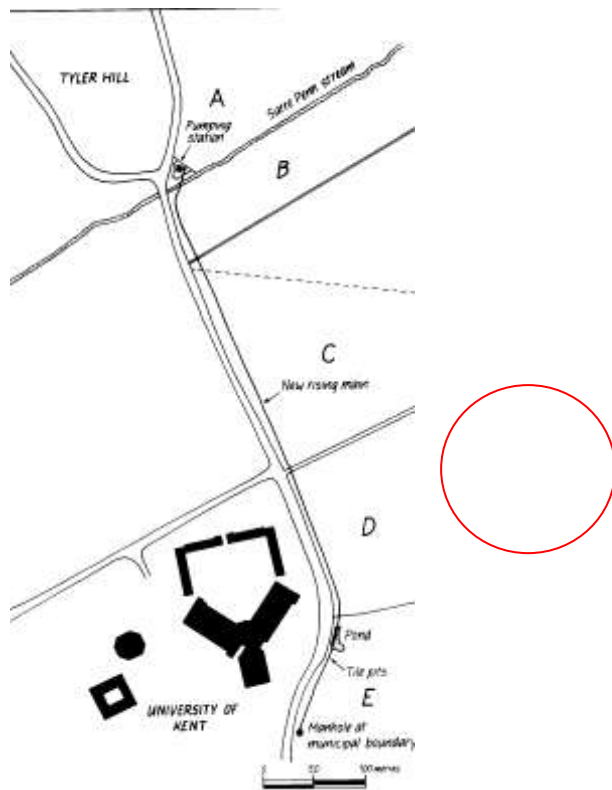


Fig. 15 Canterbury Archaeological Trust work on the Tyler Hill Rising Main. PDA circled in red