# Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Land at 80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent



Planning Application SE/12/01279 Date: 08/04/13

Report for Lidl UK

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# <u>Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Land at 80</u> <u>London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent</u>

NGR 551991 155588 Site Code: SEV/EV/13

#### SUMMARY

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an archaeological evaluation and assessment of land at 80 London Road, Sevenoaks in Kent. A planning application (SE/12/01279) for the construction of a Lidl food store with 70 car parking and bicycle spaces was submitted to Sevenoaks District Council whereby the Council requested that an Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (KCC 2012) and in discussion with the Archaeological Heritage Officer, Kent County Council.

The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of four geo-archaeological test pits which encountered no archaeological features. The Archaeological Evaluation has therefore been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification.

#### INTRODUCTION

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Lidl UK to carry out an archaeological evaluation and assessment at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (KCC 2012) and in discussion with the Archaeological Heritage Officer, Kent County Council.

The evaluation was carried out from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION AND TOPOGRAPHY

The development is situated on the site of a garage with parking immediately north east of the A224, London Road north out of Sevenoaks. The geo-archaeological report from 'Quest' (Appendix 2) says of the location and its potential:

"According to the British Geological Survey the site lies in the proximity of 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace River Gravels. Alluvial deposits were thought to survive in close proximity of the site. The site averages 85.50aOD. The London Road site lies within the built-up area of Sevenoaks, in the valley of a minor tributary of the River Darent. The Darent flows approximately west to east to the northwest of Sevenoaks, turning sharply northward immediately north of the town. The minor tributary joins the Darent from the south at the point where the Darent turns northward. The tributary drains the lower part of the dip slope of the Cretaceous Lower Greensand Hythe Beds, which rise quite steeply to the south of Sevenoaks.

Immediately to the north of Sevenoaks the floodplain of the Darent is at about 65m OD. The London Road site, which is *ca.* 1.0km south of the edge of the Darent floodplain is at a level close to 85m OD. The British Geological Survey (BGS 1:50,000 Sheet 287 Sevenoaks, 1971) shows the site occupying part of a small patch of 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace Gravel which overlies the transition from the Hythe Beds upward across the narrow outcrop of the Sandgate Beds into the Folkestone Beds. At the site itself the gravel is probably underlain mainly by Sandgate Beds. The mapped remnant of 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace River Gravels occupies much of the floor of the tributary valley rising from 80m to 90m over an upvalley distance of *ca.* 400m.

The mapping of gravel in this situation as a terrace suggests that the axis of the tributary valley lies to the west of the mapped 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace outcrop, where BGS maps Alluvium (outside the area of investigation). Early topographic maps tend to confirm that the course of the tributary was to the west of the mapped gravel outcrop. In the main valley of the Darent near Sevenoaks the mapped remnants of the 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace are at about 80-90m OD,>15m above the floodplain. It seems possible that the gravel remnant at the London Road site was mapped as 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace on the basis of height OD, without taking account of its position on the floor of the tributary valley in which it is situated.

It seems unlikely that the gravel underlying the London Road site is of the same age as the 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace gravels of the Darent, which at >15m above the modern floodplain are likely to be late Middle Pleistocene in age. The London Road gravel is more likely to be of Late Devensian age, and related to the last phase of high energy fluvial activity generally recognised in the river valleys of South-East England.

No Palaeolithic material is recorded by Roe (1968) from the valley of the Darent at Sevenoaks. The nearest find-spot is Stonepitts about 5km downstream from Sevenoaks at a level above the 100m contour, so above the level of the 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace of the Darent. Wymer (1999) doesn't mention the Darent Valley upstream of sites around Dartford, close to the confluence of the Darent with the Thames. Wymer (1977) records one Mesolithic site to the east of Sevenoaks on the dip slope of the Hythe Beds".

#### **PLANNING BACKGROUND**

Planning consent (SE/12/01279) for the erection of a Lidl food store with associated access and parking was approved by Sevenoaks District Council (SDC). Sevenoaks District Council requested that an archaeological evaluation and assessment be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The Local Planning Authority (SDC) placed the following condition on the planning consent:

19) No development shall take place within the application area until the applicant (Item No 4.1) 5 has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The site is within an area of archaeological potential. A programme of work is required to mitigate the impact of development and ensure preservation "by record" of any surviving remains in accordance with EN25A of the Local Plan.

Requirements for the archaeological evaluation comprised four geo-archaeological test pits (Fig. 1) designed to establish whether there were any significant archaeological remains at the site that may be affected by the proposed development. The results from this evaluation will be used to inform KCC of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with the development proposals.

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL and HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The development site lies within an area of archaeological potential mainly in relation to the proximity of 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace River Gravels. These deposits have potential to contain rare and important early prehistoric remains and palaeo-environmental remains.

# **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of the evaluation, as set out within the Archaeological Specification (2012) was:

- To clarify the potential of the 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace River Gravels which may survive on site.
- Whether any significant archaeological remains would be affected by the
  development and if so what mitigation measures are appropriate. Such measures
  may include further detailed archaeological excavation, historic building recording
  and/or an archaeological watching brief during construction work.

# **METHODOLOGY**

Trial test-pitting was carried out on 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> March 2013 with the excavation of four test pits. Test pit location was agreed prior to the excavation between KCC and SWAT. Excavation was carried out using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothed bucket to remove the tarmac then a toothless ditching bucket removing the overburden to the top of the

first recognisable archaeological horizon, or natural, under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist and geo-archaeological specialist.

It was found that the development site had been severely truncated, either by quarrying and or landscaping. The present ground surface has been formed into a slight / shallow bowl.

The present surface was used as a large car park, consequently the underlying strata was sealed by tarmac, interspersed with a series of covered drains and raised, kerbed areas.

Each Test Pit (TP) measured 1.8m x 1.8m (Fig. 2) and they were excavated (by machine) to a depth of 2m. Following cleaning of the section, a detailed record of the sedimentary sequences within each test pit was made, identifying sedimentary units and their composition. One face of each test pit was drawn (at a scale of 1:10 see Fig. 3) and photographed. Samples were not collected from the recorded section within each test pit, as the stratigraphy encountered deemed this unnecessary.

Selected sedimentary units were sieved through a 10mm mesh, from spoil (collected in 250mm spits) in TP 1 but this proved to be non-productive. Further sieving did not take place under the advice of the geo-archaeologist present – this was due to ground contamination (petroleum-based) and the absence of the River Gravels - the naturally occurring strata being colluvial gravels only.

# **Test Pit Description and Location**

A total of four test pits were excavated, in accordance with the KCC specification (Fig. 1).

Test Pit One (TP1)

TP1 was located on a slight incline, in the northern-most corner of the site. Excavation of this test pit encountered a Victorian waste water pipe trench truncating the stratigraphy of the north-west and southern sections.

The north-west facing section was recorded and this comprised of Tarmac and 'Type 1' aggregate (100) to a depth of 0.5m. This sealed mid-dark brown clayey sand with moderate to frequent angular and sub-angular gravels, varying in size from 20mm to 60mm (101). This layer was disturbed by root action. This layer sealed (102), a thin (100mm) 'band' of light yellow-brown colluvium. This contained moderate to frequent angular and sub-angular gravels that varied in size from 20mm to 60mm. Underneath this was (103), a thick (+ 0.55m) layer of mid-dark brown silty sand, containing moderate to frequent angular and sub-angular gravels, that varied in size from 20mm to 100mm. Excavation ceased at this level. There was no evidence of the River Gravels.

#### Test Pit Two (TP2)

TP2 was located slightly to the east of the centre of the site, and at the base of the 'bowl' formed by the 'landscaping' of the site. Excavation of this test pit encountered a modern waste water pipe trench truncating the north-east section.

The south-east facing section was recorded and this comprised of Tarmac and 'Type 1' aggregate (200) to a depth of 0.55m. This sealed a layer (201) of mixed grey and green silts and yellow clay lenses. This was a 'construction horizon' 0.15m thick. Underneath this was further layer of disturbed material (202), comprising of orange-brown silty, sandy gravel containing occasional fragments of Peg Tile. This layer was 0.50m. This layer and context (201) were contaminated by petroleum-based substances. Layer (202) sealed (203), a greengrey silty, sandy gravel. This comprised of angular and sub-anglar flint, varying in size from 30mm to 60mm. This context was 0.35m thick and was interpreted as colluvium. Underneath this was a dark grey-brown silty, sandy gravel (204) comprising of angular and sub-angular gravels. The final layer recorded in TP2 was context (205). This was orange-brown silty, sandy gravel comprising angular and sub-angular flint varying in size from 30mm to 100mm. Excavation ceased at this level. There was no evidence of the River Gravels.

# Test Pit Three (TP3)

TP3 was located in the centre of the north facing slope of the site.

The south-east facing section was recorded and this comprised of only three layers of stratigraphy. The latest layer (as with all the Test Pits) comprised of Tarmac and 'Type 1' aggregate (300) and was 0.53m thick. This sealed (301), a very dark grey-black silty (slightly clayey) soil. This soil horizon had a thickness of 0.55m and comprised of disturbed 'garden soils' containing frequent fragments of brick and wood. This layer was contaminated by petroleum-based substances. Underneath this was (302). This comprised of yellow-brown sandy, silty gravel containing frequent angular and sub-angular gravels varying in size from 20mm to 30mm and occasional gravel measuring up to 80mm. Excavation ceased at this level. There was no evidence of the River Gravels.

# Test Pit Four (TP4)

TP4 was placed near the site entrance (London Road). The proximity to the street frontage and the Public House 7m to the south east resulted in the exposure of several  $19^{th} - 20^{th}$  century services.

The south-east facing section was recorded and this comprised of only three layers of stratigraphy. Tarmac and 'Type 1' aggregate (400), with a thickness of 0.65m, sealed a layer of yellow-brown sandy, silty gravel (401). This layer contained frequent angular and subangular gravels varying in size from 20mm to 30mm and occasional gravel measuring up to 80mm. Underneath this was context (401) a +1m thick layer (402) of dark grey-black silty

clay, containing Victorian pottery. Excavation ceased at this level. There was no evidence of the River Gravel.

#### Discussion

The excavation of the four test pits produced negative results, as the River Gravel was not observed. Excluding the present Tarmac land surface of the proposed development site (contexts (100), (200), (300) and (400)) there is no direct correlation between the stratigraphy observed in the test pits. It is possible that contexts (302) and (401) share a relationship (context (401) being redeposited). Test pits; TP2, TP3 and TP4 produced petroleum-based contaminated strata. This may become a health hazard.

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the specification. A single context recording system was used to record the deposits, and context recording numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes. These are used in the report and shown in bold. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with KCC and IFA standards and guidance.

#### **MONITORING**

Curatorial monitoring was not carried out during the course of the evaluation.

#### **FINDS**

No finds were retrieved

# **DISCUSSION**

The geo-archaeological report from 'Quest' (Appendix 1) states that:

"None of the deposits observed in the Trial Pits has the appearance of fluvial sediment in primary depositional context. It is not possible therefore to confirm the presence of the Terrace Gravel mapped here by the British Geological Survey. The lack of primary depositional structures of fluvial origin, the angularity of the clasts, and the poor sorting of the deposit seem more likely to reflect a colluvial origin involving down slope movement from the valley side onto the valley floor. There was no evidence within the deposits for the survival of former stable land surfaces and the uppermost part of the deposit including the natural surface of the valley floor had been removed prior to the emplacement of Made Ground".

#### CONCLUSION

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. The 'Quest' report (Appendix 2) states:

"On the basis of the sediments encountered here, there is no reason to recommend further archaeological or geo-archaeological investigation of the site". No other archaeological activity was found during the evaluation which will inform the Archaeological Officer of the archaeological potential of site. The evaluation has, therefore, assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development.

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

SWAT would like to thank Lidl UK commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Wendy Rogers, Senior Heritage Officer, Kent County Council for her advice and assistance. Paul Wilkinson supervised the fieldwork, assisted in the field by James Madden and Simon Hughes. Illustrations were produced by James Madden for *Digitise This*. The project was managed by Paul Wilkinson.



Dr Paul Wilkinson MifA April 2013

#### **REFERENCES**

# **Bibliography**

Kent County Council (KCC), (2012) Specification for Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Land at 80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Institute for Field Archaeologists (IfA), Rev (2008)\_Standard and Guidance for\_archaeological field evaluation.

#### **Maps**

Ordnance Survey1st Edition (1871-1890)

Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (1897-1900)

Ordnance Survey 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (1907-1923)

Ordnance Survey 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (1929-1952)

# Websites

Kent Landscape Information System <a href="http://extranet7.kent.gov.uk/klis/home.htm">http://extranet7.kent.gov.uk/klis/home.htm</a>
Exploring Kent's Past <a href="http://www.extranet7.krnt.gov.uk/ExploringKentsPast/">http://www.extranet7.krnt.gov.uk/ExploringKentsPast/</a>



Plate 1. View of TP 1 looking south east, 1m scale



Plate 2. View of TP 3 looking north west, 1m scale



Plate 3. View of TP 2 looking west, 1m scale



Plate 4. View of TP 4 looking north west, 1m scale

# **APPENDIX 1 – Kent County Council HER Summary Form**

Site Name: 80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent

**SWAT Site Code:** *SEV/EV/13* 

Site Address:

80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent

# Summary:

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at the former garage site. A planning application for the construction of a new industrial development, along with associated car parking and services at the above site was submitted to Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of Sevenoaks District Council requested that an Archaeological Evaluation by test pits be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (KCC 2012) and in discussion with the Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.

The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of four test pits which encountered no archaeological features.

Parish:

District/Unitary: Sevenoaks

Period(s): Tentative:

NGR (centre of site: 8 figures):

(NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs): NGR 551001 155588

Type of archaeological work (delete)

Evaluation-test pits

Date of Recording: March 2013

Unit undertaking recording: Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT)

Geology: Made up ground

Title and author of accompanying report:

Wilkinson P. An Archaeological Evaluation at 80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent

Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate)

As above

(cont. on attached sheet)

Location of archive/finds: SWAT

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson Date: 08/04/2013

# **APPENDIX 2**

# A REPORT ON THE GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT 80 LONDON ROAD, SEVENOAKS, KENT

# C.P. Green and D.S. Young

Quaternary Scientific (QUEST), School of Human and Environmental Sciences, University of Reading, Whiteknights, PO Box 227, Reading, RG6 6AB, UK

# **INTRODUCTION**

This report summarises the findings arising out of the geoarchaeological investigations undertaken by Quaternary Scientific (University of Reading) in connection with the proposed development at 80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent (National Grid Reference: TQ 51991 55588) during archaeological assessment of the site by Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company. The main aim of the geoarchaeological investigations was to observe and interpret the sub-surface stratigraphy across the site, to clarify the existence of 1st Terrace River Gravels, and to highlight sediments of potential geoarchaeological significance.

#### THE SITE

The London Road site lies within the built-up area of Sevenoaks, in the valley of a minor tributary of the River Darent. The Darent flows approximately west to east to the northwest of Sevenoaks, turning sharply northward immediately north of the town. The minor tributary joins the Darent from the south at the point where the Darent turns northward. The tributary drains the lower part of the dip slope of the Cretaceous Lower Greensand Hythe Beds, which rise quite steeply to the south of Sevenoaks.

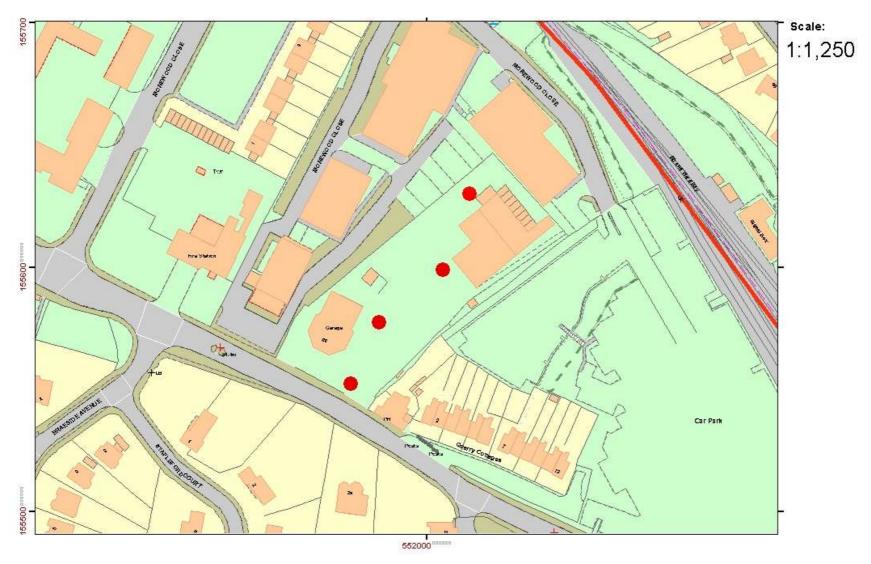
Immediately to the north of Sevenoaks the floodplain of the Darent is at about 65m OD. The London Road site, which is *ca.* 1.0km south of the edge of the Darent floodplain is at a level close to 85m OD. The British Geological Survey (BGS 1:50,000 Sheet 287 Sevenoaks, 1971) shows the site occupying part of a small patch of 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace Gravel which overlies the transition from the Hythe Beds upward across the narrow outcrop of the Sandgate Beds into the Folkestone Beds. At the site itself the gravel is probably underlain mainly by Sandgate Beds. The mapped remnant of 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace River Gravels occupies much of the floor of the tributary valley rising from 80m to 90m over an up-valley distance of *ca.* 400m.

The mapping of gravel in this situation as a terrace suggests that the axis of the tributary valley lies to the west of the mapped 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace outcrop, where BGS maps Alluvium (outside the area of investigation). Early topographic maps tend to confirm that the course of the tributary was to the west of the mapped gravel outcrop. In the main valley of the Darent near Sevenoaks the mapped remnants of the 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace are at about 80-90m OD, >15m above

the floodplain. It seems possible that the gravel remnant at the London Road site was mapped as 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace on the basis of height OD, without taking account of its position on the floor of the tributary valley in which it is situated.

It seems unlikely that the gravel underlying the London Road site is of the same age as the 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace gravels of the Darent, which at >15m above the modern floodplain are likely to be late Middle Pleistocene in age. The London Road gravel is more likely to be of Late Devensian age, and related to the last phase of high energy fluvial activity generally recognised in the river valleys of South-East England.

No Palaeolithic material is recorded by Roe (1968) from the valley of the Darent at Sevenoaks. The nearest find-spot is Stonepitts about 5km downstream from Sevenoaks at a level above the 100m contour, so above the level of the 1<sup>st</sup> Terrace of the Darent. Wymer (1999) doesn't mention the Darent Valley upstream of sites around Dartford, close to the confluence of the Darent with the Thames. Wymer (1977) records one Mesolithic site to the east of Sevenoaks on the dip slope of the Hythe Beds.



Suggested location of Trial Pits TP1 (north) to TP4 (south) at 80 London Road, Sevenoaks. (KCC Heritage Group).

# **METHODS**

# Field descriptions

Four trial pits were put down at the site (TP1 to TP4; Figure 1) by Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company. The trial pits were excavated by machine, removing sediment in 250mm spits and following the interfaces between sedimentary units where possible. The trial pits were excavated to the maximum depth of the machine arm (up to 2.2m). Representative sections in each trial pit were measured and photographed, and the spoil described using standard procedures for recording unconsolidated sediment, noting the physical properties (colour), composition (gravel, sand, clay, silt and organic matter) and inclusions (e.g. artefacts) (Tröels-Smith, 1955). The procedure involved: (1) recording the physical properties, most notably colour using a Munsell Soil Colour Chart; (2) recording the composition; gravel (Grana glareosa; Gg), fine sand (Grana arenosa; Ga), silt (Argilla granosa; Ag) and clay (Argilla steatoides) and (3) recording the unit boundaries e.g. sharp or diffuse. Depths OD for the top of each trial pit are estimated from a topographic survey of the site by EDI Surveys Ltd. The results are displayed in Tables 1 to 4.

# **RESULTS OF THE FIELD DESCRIPTIONS**

Four trial pits were put down at the site to a maximum depth of 2.2m. In Trial Pit TP4 only made ground was recorded. Representative sections (north facing) were measured in each trial pit (Table 1).

Table 1: Lithostratigraphic description of Trial Pit TP1, 80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent

Depth (m bgs)	Approximate depth (m OD)	Composition
0.00 to 0.60	84.50 to 83.90	Made ground
0.60 to 2.00	83.90 to 82.50	7.5YR 4/4; Ag2 Ga1 Gg1; brown gravelly sandy silt. Gravel clasts 20-60mm, angular to sub-angular. Poorly sorted.

Table 2: Lithostratigraphic description of Trial Pit TP2, 80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent

Depth (m bgs)	Approximate depth (m OD)	Composition
0.00 to 0.70	84.50 to 83.80	Made ground
0.70 to 2.00	83.80 to 82.50	7.5YR 4/4 to 2.5Y 4/3; Ag2 Ga1 Gg1; brown (grading to olive brown with depth) gravelly sandy silt. Gravel clasts 20-80mm, angular to sub-angular. Poorly sorted. Diffuse contact in to:
2.00 to 2.20	82.50 to 82.30	2.5Y 6/8; Ga2 Ag1 Gg1; olive yellow gravelly silty gravelly sand. Gravel clasts 20-60mm, angular to subangular. Poorly sorted.

Table 3: Lithostratigraphic description of Trial Pit TP3, 80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent

Depth (m	Approximate	Composition
bgs)	depth (m OD)	
0.00 to 1.10	84.80 to 83.70	Made ground
1.10 to 1.40	83.70 to 83.40	7.5YR 4/4; Ag2 Ga1 Gg1; brown gravelly sandy silt with inclusions of mortar and brick. Gravel clasts 20-60mm, angular to sub-angular. Poorly sorted. Diffuse contact in to:
1.40 to 2.00	83.40 to 82.80	10YR 5/6; Ga2 Ag1 Gg1; yellowish brown gravelly silty sand. Gravel clasts 20-40mm, angular to sub-angular. Some possible evidence of sorting. Some ?modern rooting.

Table 4: Lithostratigraphic description of Trial Pit TP4, 80 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent

Depth (m bgs)	Approximate depth (m OD)	Composition
0.00 to 2.00	85.50 to 83.50	Made ground

#### SUMMARY AND INTERPRETATION OF THE SEDIMENTARY DEPOSITS

The four Trial Pits at the site form a transect from SSW to NNE. Trial Pit TP4 at the southern end of the transect was wholly in Made Ground, and in the other three pits, 0.6m to 1.1m of Made Ground was present. Underlying the Made Ground in all three pits was a brown, poorly sorted, gravelly sandy silt with angular and sub-angular clasts (20-60mm), predominantly of Hythe Beds chert or cherty sandstone. In Trial Pit TP3 fragments of brick and mortar were present in this unit but in none of the Trial Pits was there any evidence for the survival of a soil A-horizon in the upper part of the unit, indicating that the ground had been stripped prior to the emplacement of the Made Ground. In Trial Pits TP2 and TP3 this unit passed down through a diffuse contact into a paler coloured, rather more sandy but otherwise similar unit, olive yellow in Trial Pit 2, yellowish brown in Trial Pit 3.

None of the deposits observed in the Trial Pits has the appearance of fluvial sediment in primary depositional context. It is not possible therefore to confirm the presence of the Terrace Gravel mapped here by the British Geological Survey. The lack of primary depositional structures of fluvial origin, the angularity of the clasts, and the poor sorting of the deposit seem more likely to reflect a colluvial origin involving downslope movement from the valley side onto the valley floor. There was no evidence within the deposits for the survival of former stable land surfaces and the uppermost part of the deposit including the natural surface of the valley floor had been removed prior to the emplacement of Made Ground.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

On the basis of the sediments encountered here, there is no reason to recommend further archaeological or geoarchaeological investigation of the site.

# **REFERENCES**

Roe, D.A. (1968) A gazetteer of British Lower and Middle Palaeolithic sites. Council for British Archaeology, Research Report 8.

Wymer, J.J. (1999) The Lower Palaeolithic Occupation of Britain. Wessex Archaeology & English Heritage.

Wymer, J.J. (1977) Gazetteer of Mesolithic sites in England and Wales. Council for British Archaeology, Research Report 20.

