Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment In advance of Development of Land at Castle Road, Sittingbourne, Kent

NGR: 592024 164964



Report for ICA Ltd

SWAT. ARCHAEOLOGY

Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company
School Farm Oast, Graveney Road
Faversham, Kent
ME13 8UP
Tel; 01795 532548 or 07885 700 112
www.swatarchaeology.co.uk

Contents

List of Fig	gures	iii
List of Pla	ates	iii
1. SUMN	1ARY	4
2. INTRO	DUCTION	7
2.1	Planning Background	7
2.2	The Proposed Development	
2.3	Projects Constraints	10
2.4	Geology and Topography	10
3. AIMS	AND OBJECTIVES	11
3.1	Introduction	11
3.2	Desktop Study – Institute For Archaeologists (revised 2011)	
4. METH	ODOLOGY	12
4.1	Desk-Based Assessment	12
4.1.1	Archaeological databases	12
4.1.2	Historical documents	12
4.1.3	Cartographic and pictorial documents	12
4.1.4	Aerial photographs	12
4.1.5	Geotechnical information	12
4.1.6	Secondary and statutory resources	12
5. ARCHA	AEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT	13
5.1	Introduction	14
5.2	Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings Historic Parks & Gardens and	
	Conservation Areas	
5.3	Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age	
5.4	Iron Age	
5.5 5.6	Romano-British	
5.7	Medieval	
5.8	Post-Medieval	15
5.9	Modern	
5.10	Undated	
5.11	Cartographic Sources and Map Regression	
5.12	Aerial Photographs	тэ

6. ARCI	HAOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	15
6.1 6.4 6.5 6.6	Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age Anglo-Saxon Medieval Post-Medieval	16 16
7. IMP	ACT ASSESSMENT	16
7.1 7.2	Existing Impacts Proposed Impacts	
8. MITI	GATION	16
9. OTH	ER CONSIDERATIONS	17
9.1 9.2 9.3	Archive Reliability/limitations of sources Copyright	17
10. AC	(NOWLEDGEMENTS	17
11. REF	ERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY	18

List of Figures

Fig.1	O.S. Surveyors Drawing 1799
Fig.2	O.S. map (1868)
Fig.3	O.S. map (1898)
Fig. 4	O.S. map (1908)
Fig. 5	O.S. map (1964)
Fig. 6	Proposed development
Fig. 7	Site Plan
Fig. 8	CAT & ASE excavation area
Fig. 9	CAT excavation features

List of Plates

Plates 1-5. Google Earth 1940-2013

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of Development of Land at Castle Road, Sittingbourne, Kent

1 SUMMARY

SWAT Archaeology have been commissioned by ICA Ltd to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of land at Castle Road, Sittingbourne in Kent. The assessment is in support of a planning application.

This Desk Based Assessment examines the wide variety of archaeological data held by Kent County Council and other sources. This data is reviewed and it is recommended in this case that an Archaeological Watching Brief will be required.

The proposed development area (PDA) is situated in a landscape rich in known archaeology. In 2006 an archaeological excavation was carried out by Archaeology South East on land adjacent to the PDA. A Late Iron Age/Romano-British settlement was revealed (Fig. 8). This excavation was located to the south of an archaeological excavation by Canterbury Archaeological Trust which also found similar features and occupation (Fig. 9).

However, examination of cartographic sources shows that from the 19th century the proposed development area (PDA) has been subject to extensive brickearth extraction and Google aerial photographs from 1940 reinforce the fact that the area of the PDA has been subject to brickearth removal.

Although it is unlikely that any archaeological remains have survived the extensive removal of brickearth in the vicinity of the PDA the work by Canterbury Archaeological Trust at Castle Road revealed landscape features, such as enclosure ditches, and smaller features, such as pits and postholes, from the later prehistoric to the Roman period in 1997/8, to the north of the site on Plot K (CAT 1998), and on the adjacent Plot L2, Castle Road in 2003 (CAT 2003) on a site that cartographic sources had also indicated brickearth extraction.

The site (Fig. 7) is located on the north-east outskirts of Sittingbourne and is bounded by Castle Road to the north and east, and Gas Road to the south. To the east the site boundary is with Eurolink Gateway and to the west by a scrap yard. The proposed building covers an area of 1440sqm with adjacent car parking.

1.1 History of the site

The Ordnance Surveyors' Drawings (OSDs), compiled between 1789 and c.1840, represent the first continuous topographic mapping of England and Wales and are the most detailed record of the landscape preceding full-scale industrialisation in the mid-19th century. These original manuscript maps, drawn primarily at scales of ca. 1:21,120 and 1:31,680, with the Kent series being the first maps produced. Responsibility for the mapping of Britain fell to the Board of Ordnance, from which the Ordnance Survey takes its name. The Board had been established in Tudor times to manage the supply of stores and armaments for the army and maintain national defences. From its headquarters in the Tower of London, engineers and draftsmen set out to produce the first military maps by a system of triangulation.

The survey of Kent was first to go ahead. It began in 1795 under the direction of the Board's chief draftsman, William Gardner. Critical communication routes such as roads and rivers were to be shown clearly and accurately. Attention was paid to woods that could provide cover for ambush, and elaborate shading was used to depict the contours of terrain that might offer tactical advantage in battle.

Preliminary drawings were made at scales from six inches to the mile, for areas of particular military significance, down to two inches to the mile elsewhere. Back in the Drawing Room at the Tower of London, fair copies of the drawings were prepared at the reduced scale of one inch to the mile. From these, copper plates were engraved for printing.

The engraved map of Kent was published in 1801 at a scale of 1" to the mile whereas the Ordnance Survey Surveyors drawing where drawn at 6" to the mile. In consequence a tremendous amount of detail shown on the surveyor's drawings does not make it on to the smaller scale engraved maps.

The map shows 'Merston' on the 1798 OSD (Fig. 1) with some clarity. 'All Saints' Church' is situated to the south of the PDA. A group of four buildings are located adjacent and to the west of the church and survive into the 19th century as Court Lodge. It is likely these four buildings represent a medieval farm, as the church dates back to the 12th-13th centuries. In Glynne's book "The churches of Kent", published by John Murray 1877, he describes the church as being small, with a nave and chancel with side aisles, a wooden turret over the west end of the nave, and on the north side was a doorway with a shouldered arch.

A bell of about 3 ½ cwt, cast by William Oldfield of Canterbury for the church in about 1560, was inscribed I.H.S., a cross, lion passant and another cross, was later removed to the new church when parts of the old church was pulled down in 1873.

The nave was divided from each side by two pointed arches. The south side arches were Early English, supported by a circular pier having a Norman capital. On the

north side the arches were supported by an octagonal pier. The chancel had two Early English arches on each side, with piers like that of the south nave. There are several rectors and their wives buried in the vaults under the floor, although some of the tomb stones may have been re-aligned from their original positions.

To the north of the church a small area of orchard is shown, and beyond in the area of the proposed development are open fields.

From the 1840s the Ordnance Survey concentrated on the Great Britain 'County Series', modelled on the earlier Ireland survey. A start was made on mapping the whole country, county by county, at six inches to the mile (1:10,560). From 1854, to meet requirements for greater detail, including land-parcel numbers in rural areas and accompanying information, cultivated and inhabited areas were mapped at 1:2500 (25.344 inches to the mile), at first parish by parish, with blank space beyond the parish boundary, and later continuously. Early copies of the 1:2500s were available hand-coloured. Up to 1879, the 1:2500s were accompanied by Books of Reference or "area books" that gave acreages and land-use information for landparcel numbers. After 1879, land-use information was dropped from these area books; after the mid-1880s, the books themselves were dropped and acreages were printed instead on the maps. After 1854, the six-inch maps and their revisions were based on the "twenty-five inch" maps and theirs. The six-inch sheets covered an area of six by four miles on the ground; the "twenty-five inch" sheets an area of one by one and a half. One square inch on the "twenty-five inch" maps was roughly equal to an acre on the ground. In later editions the six-inch sheets were published in "quarters" (NW,NE,SW,SE), each covering an area of three by two miles on the ground. The first edition of the two scales was completed by the 1890s. A second edition (or "first revision") was begun in 1891 and completed just before the First World War. From 1907 till the early 1940s, a third edition (or "second revision") was begun but never completed: only areas with significant changes on the ground were revised, many two or three times.

On the 1868 OS map All Saints' Church is shown with a different ground plan than the OSD 1798 drawing. The associated farm buildings now named Court Lodge have still survived including a farm pond just to the north-east of the church. The area of the PDA is in an area named 'Brick Field' and just to the east on the east bank of the Creek a public house called the Brickmakers' Arms has been established. Additional industrial activity is attested by Gas Works, Cement Manufactory, with associated kilns, and engine house (Fig. 2).

On the 1898 OS map there are further changes. Large areas of brickearth extraction with associated tram lines are shown in the area of the PDA. The Court Lodge

buildings have disappeared, and a number of wharfs have been built on the east bank of the Creek (Fig. 3).

By 1908 the OS map shows that the areas of brickearth extraction have expanded. The Gas Works have also expanded with additional industrial activity to the south. Domestic housing has been built to the east of All Saints' Church (Fig. 4).

By 1964 the OS map shows that brickearth extraction has been completed in the area of the PDA and the land is a waterlogged relict industrial waste (Fig. 5).

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

The National Planning Policy Guidance (27th March 2012)

The National Planning Policy Guidance sets out a series of core planning principles designed to underpin plan-making and decision-taking within the planning system. In terms of development proposals affecting known heritage assets, the following principle states that planning should:

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.
- 12.7. 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.

12.8. 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.

2.2. Local Policy Framework

Local planning policy is set out in the Swale Borough Council Local Plan 2008, which is gradually being replaced by Local Development Framework Development Plan Documents (DPD). There are no saved policies in the local plan relevant to the historic environment and no relevant DPDs. The reader is referred to national policy. Guidance to help practitioners implement the NPPF, including the legislative requirements that underpin it, is provided in *Planning for the Historic Environment Practice Guide* (2010).

Heritage assets include extant structures and features, sites, places and landscapes. The European Landscape Convention definition of a historic landscape describes: 'an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors' (Council of Europe 2000: which came into force in the UK in March 2007; see research frameworks, below). Furthermore the historic landscape encompasses visible, buried or submerged remains, which includes the buried archaeological resource.

Policy 126 states that:

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:

- i) The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- ii) The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;

- iii) The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
- iv) Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of the place.

When determining planning applications, the following policies are especially pertinent:

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.

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 the 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.

When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification.

Substantial harm to or loss of a Grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional.

Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.

Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.

The existence of the latter within a proposed development area can be partially investigated and to an extent predicted via desk-based assessment, but field

evaluation and/or archaeological monitoring of groundworks are likely to be a planning requirement and should be expected.

More recently English Heritage has issued detailed guidance on the *Setting of Heritage Assets* (2011). This guidance is based on principles and guidance already issued by English Heritage in the *Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide* (2010), and *Conservation Principles: Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment* (2008). It provides a framework for assessing impacts based on the identification of individual asset's cultural significance and the relationship between that and its surroundings followed by assessment of the degree to which change in the surroundings affects significance.

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.

2.3 The Proposed Development

The proposed development will comprise of a planning application for a proposed industrial building of 1440sqm with attached car parking (Fig. 6).

2.4 Project Constraints

No project constraints were encountered during the data collection for this assessment.

2.5 Geology and Topography

The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that proposed development site (PDA) is situated on Thanet Bed (sand) deposits, as also shown by the British Geological Survey Sheet 272. It is thought that on the PDA the underlying natural sand will be sealed by residual Brickearth deposits. The distribution of Brickearth deposits is known to have been affected by brick production on the site. Local knowledge has suggested the area of the PDA was used as an ash dumping site from the Northfleet Power Station (TQ 96 SW 209).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Simon Fitch of ICA Ltd in order to supplement a planning application for the development of land at Castle Road, Sittingbourne, Kent.

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 Archaeologist (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
- 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 Kent County Council provides an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding environs of Castle Road, Sittingbourne, Kent. The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) and was also used. The search was carried out within a 500m radius of the proposed development site (29/07/14). 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.

4.1.2 Historical documents

Historical documents, such as charters, registers, wills and deeds etc were not relevant to this specific study.

4.1.3 Cartographic and pictorial documents

A full map regression exercise was undertaken during this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by Kent County Council, the Internet and Ordnance Survey Historical mapping (Figs. 1-5).

4.1.4 Aerial photographs

The study of the collection of aerial photographs by Google Earth was consulted (Plates 1-5).

4.1.5 Geotechnical information

To date, no known geotechnical investigations have been carried out at the site.

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

5.1 Introduction

Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	<i>c</i> . 500,000 BC – <i>c</i> .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

The Archaeological record within the area around Castle Road is diverse and should comprise possible activity dating from one of the earliest human period in Britain (the Neolithic) through to the post-medieval period. The PDA is situated to the east of Milton Creek. The geographic and topographic location of Castle Road is within a landscape that has been the focus of trade, travel and communication since the Neolithic.

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**.

5.2 Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas

There are no listed buildings, Historic Parks or Conservation Areas in the proposed development area. However, to the south is located All Saints' Church (TQ 96 SW 7), a Scheduled Monument 1011768.

5.3 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 found.

The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has no record of archaeological evidence from this period within the assessment area.

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 represented in the assessment area by a possible Late Bronze Age ditch in the near vicinity (TQ 96 SW 266).

5.4 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 has a Late Iron Age-Roman settlement (TQ 96 SW 204) located just to the east of the PDA. Iron Age and Roman features were also found at Plot Li just to the east of the PDA (TQ 96 SW 231).

5.5 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 (villas, farmsteads and temples) increasing the flow of trade, goods, communications and troops. Canterbury or *Durovernum Cantiacorum* was a major town of the Roman province of Britannia and the regional capital. The assessment area includes a number of records from this period including Roman pottery on land at Plot D2 located close to the PDA (TQ 96 SW 232).

5.6 Anglo-Saxon

The Anglo-Saxon period is not represented within the proposed development area.

5.7 Medieval

The medieval period is represented within the assessment area by All Saints' Church located just south of the PDA (TQ 96 SW 7) and its associated farm buildings.

5.8 Post-Medieval

The Post Medieval period within the assessment area is represented by the listed building of All Saints' Church.

5.9 Modern

Modern archaeology within the assessment area has been limited to remains from maritime activity along the Creek and includes the remains of a concrete wharf or platform just to the west of the PDA (TQ 96 SW 1045).

5.10 Undated

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

5.11 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

A map regression exercise (Figs. 1-5) carried out on the proposed development area has shown that the site was undeveloped up until the early 19th century. Six detailed maps of the area dating from 1798 up to 1964 show the area to be subject to brickearth extraction.

5.12 Aerial Photographs

The National Monuments Records were consulted during the writing of this report. Google Earth provided vertical images dated from 1940-2013 (Figs. 1-5).

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 is therefore considered **low**.

6.2 Iron Age

The potential for finding remains dating to the Iron Age within the confines of the development site is also considered **low**.

6.3 Romano-British

The potential for Romano-British archaeology is considered to be **low**.

6.4 Anglo-Saxon

The potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period on the development site is considered as **low**.

6.5 Medieval

The potential for finding remains dating to the medieval period is considered as **low**.

6.6 Post-Medieval

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

7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 Existing Impacts

The search area is for the most part, subject to brickearth extraction and the potential impact on buried archaeological deposits will have been due to these activities. The site of the proposed development will have been affected by the removal of brickearth for brick making. It is unlikely that any archaeological deposits have survived. The existing impact is considered as **high**.

7.2 Proposed Impacts

At the time of preparing this archaeological assessment, the extent of the proposed development was for the build of an industrial building and associated car parking. 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 **high**.

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.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of low archaeological potential because of the extensive historic brickearth extraction on the area of the PDA.

9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 Archive

Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, two copies of this desk-based assessment will be submitted to 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 (SWAT Archaeology) 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 ICA Ltd (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to thank Simon Fitch of ICA Ltd for commissioning this report.

Paul Wilkinson PhD., MifA., FRSA. 31st July 2014

11 REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY

IFA (revised 2011) STANDARD AND GUIDANCE for historic environment desk-based assessment.

National Planning Policy Statement 2010: Planning for the Historic Environment. TSO (The Stationery Office)

National Planning Policy Practise March 2012.

ASE, 2006, 'Specification for an archaeological excavation at Plot L1, Castle Road, Sittingbourne', unpubl. report.

CAT, 1998, 'Highway infrastructure for Eurolink Phase III, Sittingbourne, Kent: an archaeological watching brief December 1997-February 1998', unpubl. report.

CAT, 2003, 'A Late Iron Age and Early Roman site at Castle Road, Sittingbourne, Kent', unpubl. report.

OA, 2005, 'Plot L1 Castle Road, Sittingbourne', unpubl. report.

Sparey-Green 2000, 'Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of proposed factory/industrial site, Castle Road, Sittingbourne', unpubl. CAT report.

Figures



Figure 1. OSSD map of 1798 (red cross denotes centre of PDA)

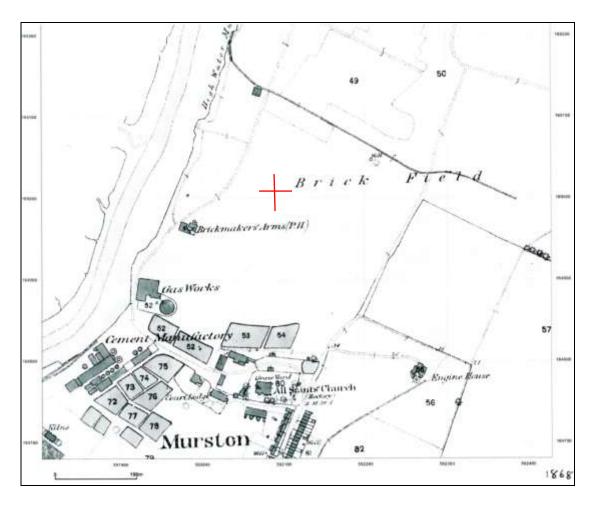


Figure 2. The site at Castle Road, Sittingbourne, Kent (OS 1868).

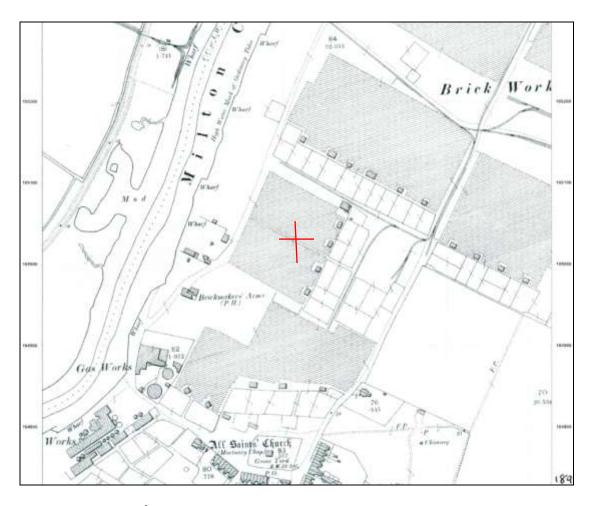


Figure 3. OS map of 1898



Figure 4. OS 1908 map



Figure 5. OS map of 1964

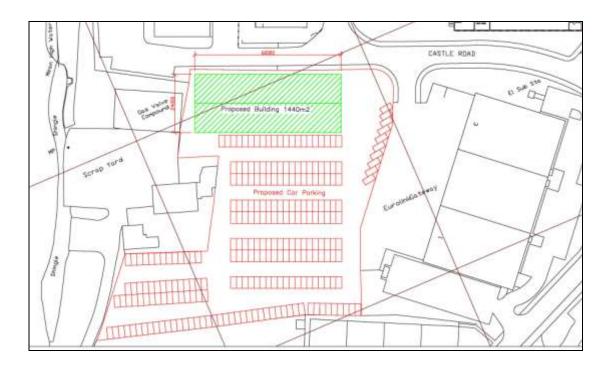


Figure 6. Proposed development



Figure 7. Site Plan

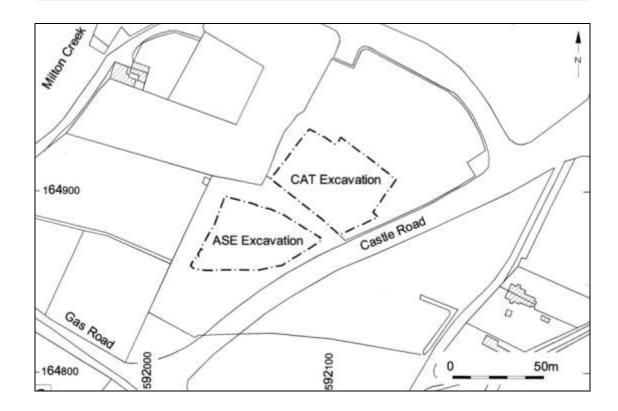


Figure 8. ASE & CAT excavations

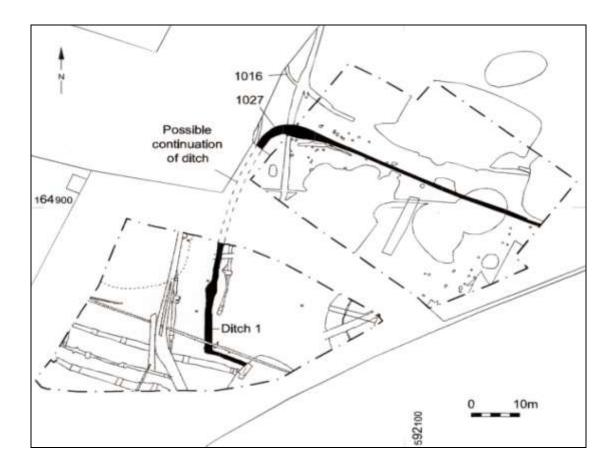


Figure 9. CAT excavations

Plates



Plate 1. Google Earth dated 1940



Plate 2. Google Earth dated 1960



Plate 3. Google Earth dated 1990



Plate 4. Google Earth dated 2003



Plate 5. Google Earth dated 2013 (red cross marks centre of site)