

# Archaeological Watching Brief at the site of the former Quarter Deck and 37 Beach Street, Deal, Kent



Date: 01/08/2014

NGR 637790 152672

Site Code: QUART-WB-14

(Planning Application DOV/09/00930)

Report for  
Jenner (Contractors) Ltd

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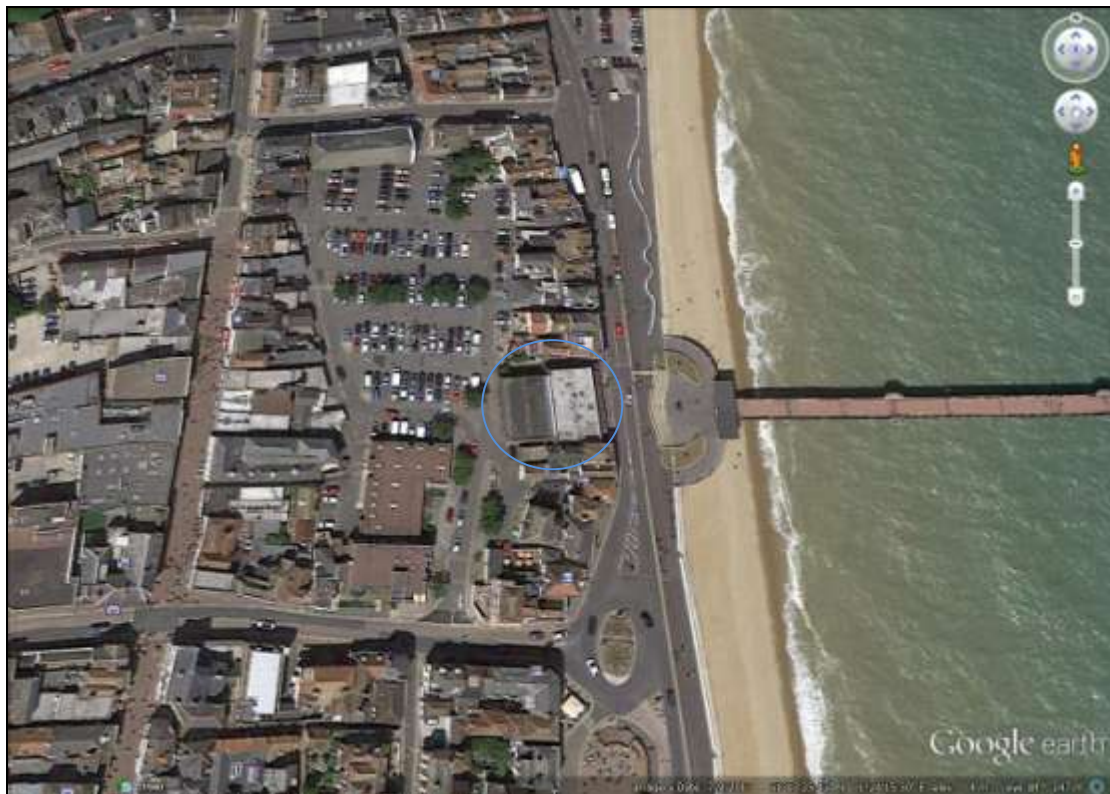


Plate 1. Area of Investigation (blue circle). Google Earth 07/9/2013 (eye alt 247m)

# **Archaeological Watching Brief at the site of the former Quarter Deck and 37 Beach Street, Deal, Kent**

NGR 637790 152672  
Site Code: QUART/WB/14

## **1. SUMMARY**

*1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an archaeological watching brief of land formally occupied by the Quarter Deck building and the adjacent property 37 Beach Street, Deal in Kent. A planning application (DOV/09/00930) for planning permission for the proposed demolition of the existing building and part demolition of 37 Beach Street and the redevelopment of the site as mixed use was submitted to the LPA whereby the LPA requested that an Archaeological Watching Brief be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. This involved archaeological monitoring of the demolition and groundworks connected with the development and recording of any features revealed.*

*1.2 The Archaeological Watching Brief was maintained throughout the programme of demolition, ground reduction and excavation (Plates 2-4). No archaeological features were revealed during the ground works, and no archaeological artefacts retrieved.*

*1.3 The Archaeological Watching Brief has therefore been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification.*

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

2.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Jenner (Contractors) Ltd to carry out an archaeological watching brief at the above site during the demolition of the Quarterdeck building and partial demolition of 37 Beach Street, and the construction of three and four storey buildings to provide restaurant/café units (Use Class A3) on the ground floor with associated public square, landscaping, boundary wall and railings and covered bin store, and 14 residential units on the upper floors, with bin and cycle stores (Fig. 2). The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out in an Archaeological Specification (KCC 2014) and in discussion with the Archaeological Heritage Officer, Kent County Council. The watching brief was carried out from 30<sup>th</sup> June to 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

## **3. SITE DESCRIPTION AND TOPOGRAPHY**

3.1 The proposed development site is located opposite South Parade and Deal Pier. The site is bounded to the north and south by residential and commercial properties, and to the west by a large public car park. The site elevation is about 5m.aOD. The British Geological Survey (BGS 1:50,000) shows the site's underlying geology is Seaford Chalk Formation overlain by sand and gravel Storm Beach Deposits. At the site itself sand and gravel beach deposits were revealed (Plate. 3).

#### **4. PLANNING BACKGROUND**

4.1 The Local Planning Authority placed the following condition (9) on the planning consent:

*(9) No development shall be carried out on the land until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a 'watching brief'.*

*This shall be undertaken by an archaeologist approved by the Local Planning Authority so that excavation is observed and items of interest and finds are recorded. The watching brief shall be in accordance with a written specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority (South East Plan Policy BE6).*

*Reason:*

*To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.*

#### **5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL and HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

5.1 KCC Heritage advice indicated that the site may contain earthen fortifications associated with the castles built by Henry VIII. In addition shore facilities for the important offshore anchorage may also have survived on the site.

#### **6. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

6.1 The purpose of the archaeological watching brief, as set out within the Archaeological Specification (2014) are to contribute to heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of the archaeology exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the groundworks.

#### **7. METHODOLOGY**

7.1 The objectives of the archaeological watching brief are to contribute to heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of any archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the ground works. Stripping of demolition/topsoil and subsoil prior to construction of the foundations for the housing and office development was watched (Plates 2 & 3) but no archaeological features were exposed. The construction methodology used was for large reinforced concrete slab foundations to be built on top of the storm beach deposits.

7.2 Ground reduction excavation was carried out using an 8 ton mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket for removing the overburden to the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon, or natural, under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist. The area was subsequently inspected to identify any exposed features in plan and carefully selected cross-sections through the features would have been excavated to

enable sufficient information about form, development date and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded without prejudice to more extensive investigations, should these prove to be necessary.

7.3 No archaeology was revealed in the stripping or ground reduction. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the KCC Archaeological Specification (2014) by Dr Paul Wilkinson of SWAT Archaeology. Attendance on site was for five days from 30<sup>th</sup> June to 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 on an intermittent basis to fit in with the ground workers programme.

## **8. MONITORING**

Curatorial advice was available during the course of the evaluation.

## **9. RESULTS**

The archaeological watching brief failed to reveal any archaeological features.

## **10. FINDS**

No finds were retrieved.

## **11. DISCUSSION**

11.1 A uniform stratigraphic sequence was identified throughout the site consisting of the natural geology of sand and gravel (Storm Beach Deposits). The natural geology was sealed by a layer of demolition.

11.2 The site was reduced by an 8 ton machine fitted with a toothless bucket to the level of the natural geology to enable construction works to be facilitated on the firmer ground of the Storm Beach Deposits. No archaeological features were found cutting this geological horizon of the natural which was mid orange brown sand with gravel (Storm Beach Deposits).

11.2 Despite the lack of identifiable cut archaeological features, this watching brief has been successful in revealing a stratigraphic sequence throughout the site. The archaeological watching brief has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Archaeological Specification. No archaeological activity was found during the watching brief which will inform the Archaeological Officer of the archaeological potential of site.

## 12. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Jenner (Contractors) Ltd for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Ben Found, Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council for his advice and assistance.

Paul Wilkinson undertook the fieldwork. Illustrations were produced by Jonny Madden for *Digitise This*. The project was managed and the report written by Paul Wilkinson.

Dr Paul Wilkinson MifA

01/08/2014

## 13. REFERENCES

### Bibliography

Kent County Council (KCC), (2014) *Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief at the Quarterdeck and 37 Beach Street, Deal, Kent CT14 6HY*

Institute for Field Archaeologists\_ *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*. Published October 1994, revised Sept 2001 and Oct 2008 and last updated Nov 2013.

### Maps

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

### Websites

Kent Landscape Information System <http://extranet7.kent.gov.uk/klis/home.htm>

Exploring Kent's Past <http://www.extranet7.krnt.gov.uk/ExploringKentsPast/>

## Plates



Plate 2. View of site following demolition (looking south-east)





Plate 3. View of site reduction showing modern slab foundations sitting on Storm Beach Deposits (looking south-west)



Plate 4. View of site reduction showing Storm Beach Deposits and shallow foundations of adjoining property (looking south)

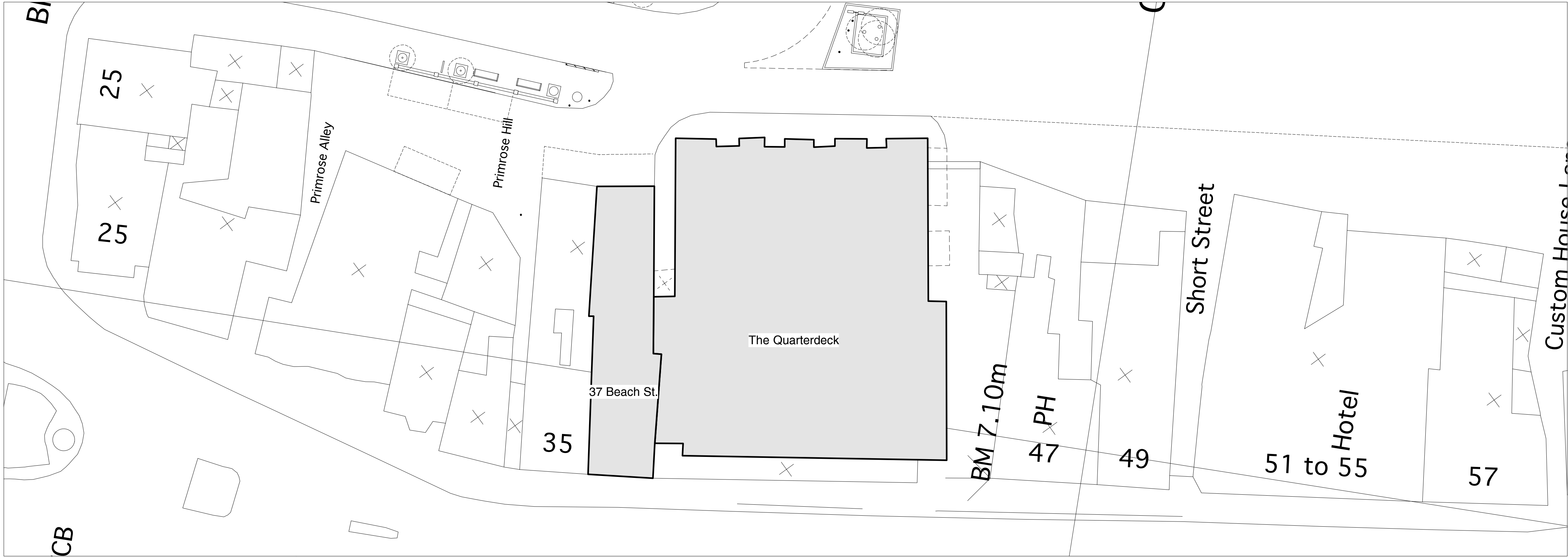
# APPENDIX 1 – Kent County Council HER Summary Form

<b>Site Name:</b> <i>Former site of Quarterdeck and 37 Beach Street, Deal, Kent</i>	
<b>SWAT Site Code:</b> <i>QUART/WB/14</i>	
<b>Site Address:</b> <i>As above</i>	
<b>Summary:</b> <i>Swale &amp; Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an archaeological watching brief on land at the site of the former Quarterdeck and 37 Beach Street, Deal, Kent. A planning application (DOV/09/00930) for the demolition of the existing building and the construction of residential and A3 restaurant/cafe units at the above site was submitted to the LPA whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of the LPA requested that an Archaeological Watching Brief 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 2014) and in discussion with the Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.</i> <i>The Archaeological Watching Brief consisted of watching the demolition, ground reduction and excavation which encountered no archaeological features.</i>	
<b>District/Unitary:</b> <i>Dover District Council</i>	<b>Parish:</b> <i>Deal</i>
<b>Period(s):</b> <i>n/a</i>	
<b>Tentative:</b>	
<b>NGR (centre of site : 8 figures):</b> <b>(NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs):</b> <i>NGR 637790 152672</i>	
<b>Type of archaeological work (delete)</b> <i>Watching Brief</i>	
<b>Date of Recording:</b> <i>30<sup>th</sup> June to 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014</i>	
<b>Unit undertaking recording:</b> <i>Swale &amp; Thames Survey Company (SWAT)</i>	
<b>Geology:</b> <i>Storm Beach Deposits</i>	
<b>Title and author of accompanying report:</b> <i>Wilkinson P. An Archaeological Watching Brief at the site of the former Quarterdeck and 37 Beach Street, Deal, Kent</i>	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate)</b>  <i>As above</i>	
<b>(cont. on attached sheet)</b>	
<b>Location of archive/finds:</b> <i>SWAT</i>	
<b>Contact at Unit:</b> <i>Paul Wilkinson</i>	<b>Date:</b> <i>01/08/2014</i>

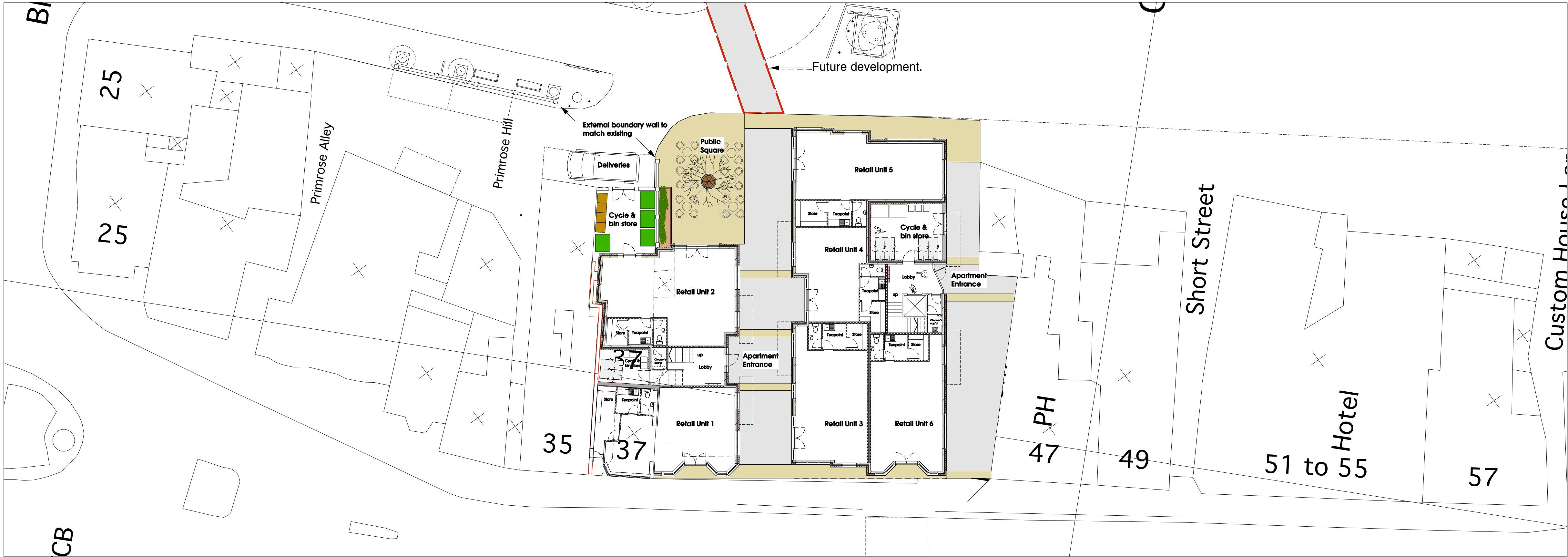


Figure 1.  
Areas watched  
(inside orange line)

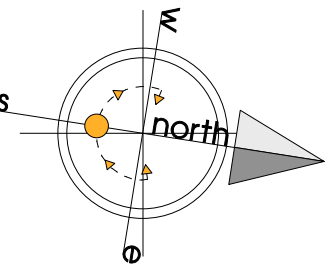




EXISTING SITE PLAN



PROPOSED SITE PLAN



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Do not scale off this drawing. All dimensions to be verified on site prior to work commencing.  
Contractors shall provide their own setting out drawings for comment by Hartwell Architects.  
All structural works are to be detailed or confirmed and approved by Structural Engineer.  
Any discrepancies, errors or omissions to be reported to the architect for further instructions before commencement of works.

FOR PLANNING

Rev.	Date	Detail
1	10/01/22	Details Initial
2	10/01/22	Details Initial
3	10/01/22	Details Initial
4	10/01/22	Details Initial
5	10/01/22	Details Initial
6	10/01/22	Details Initial
7	10/01/22	Details Initial
8	10/01/22	Details Initial
9	10/01/22	Details Initial
10	10/01/22	Details Initial



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Project The Quarterdeck, Beach Street, Deal.	Drawing 2008 / 10	Revision
Client DDC	Scale 1:200 @ A1	Drawn
Title Proposed and existing Site Plans.	Date JUNE 09	Checked





The Quarterdeck

Beach Street  
Deal

Produced 7/25/2014 from the Ordnance Survey  
National Geographic Database and incorporating  
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The representation of a road, track or path is no  
evidence of a right of way.

The representation of features as lines is no evidence  
of a property boundary.

0 20 40

Scale 1:1250

Supplied By: National Map Centre Kent

Serial number: 001148399

Plot Centre Coordinates: 637783, 152673

**Figure 3**  
**Location Plan**  
**OS 100039 licence**