

Archaeological Monitoring of a proposed development of two detached dwellings at 2a Cold Blow Crescent, Bexley DA5 2DS



Planning application 12/00041/FUL
Report for Ryan Rana

SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Figure 1. Site plan

Archaeological Monitoring of a proposed development of two detached dwellings at 2a Cold Blow Crescent, Bexley DA5 2DS

Date of report: 22/10/14



Plate 1. Aerial view showing the site prior to development.

(GoogleEarth 19/7/2013, eye alt 209m).

1.0 Summary

1.1. On 6th and 7th October 2014 Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief on ground works involved in the build of two detached dwellings at 2a Cold Blow Crescent, Bexley in Kent (Fig. 1 & Plate 1).

1.2. The works were carried out on behalf of Ryan Rana.

1.3. An Archaeological Watch was kept during the machine excavation of the foundation trenches (Plates 2-4). The archaeological work was undertaken in two phases.

Phase 1: Foundation trenches for building 1 (Plates 2-5).

Phase 2: Foundation trenches for building 2 and service connections to existing pipes (Plates 2-5).

1.4. The Archaeological Watching Brief was to watch for any signs of any archaeological below ground impact.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is 12/00041/FUL.

1.6. Although the archaeological potential was highlighted in the SWAT Specification of the site being close to known archaeological sites (MLO 8427 & MLO 8444) the Archaeological Watching Brief revealed no buried archaeological features and no archaeological finds were retrieved.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Planning Background

Planning application 12/00041/FUL was submitted to the Local Planning Authority, London Borough of Bexley. EHGLAAS on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA) requested that a programme of observation and recording of the main ground disturbance work associated with the development be undertaken in order to record any archaeological remains uncovered during the development work. The following condition (8) was attached to the planning consent:

No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

3.0 Schedule of Visits

Dr Paul Wilkinson MifA from SWAT Archaeology monitored the excavation works on 6th and 7th October 2014.

4.0 Aims and Objectives

4.1. The reason for the monitoring and recording, were to:

‘establish the presence or absence of any elements of the archaeological resource across the area of the proposed development site’.

4.2. A full programme of proposed works by the contractor were made available to SWAT Archaeology before the on-site monitoring took place.

4.3. Confidence Rating

No factors hindered the recognition of archaeological and deposits during the monitoring and recording exercise.

5.0 Archaeological and Geological Background

5.1 The site is located to the north of Dartford Road and is located on the east side of Cold Blow Crescent. The development site is in an Area of Archaeological Potential, details of which have been sourced by the Greater London HER team at gher@english-heritage.org.uk

In the vicinity of the development site there has been found numerous remains including in Bexley High Street a peat bed exposed in an archaeological evaluation trench (MLO 8427) which contained a Anglo-Saxon spearhead. During the rebuilding of a shop adjacent to the supermarket in Bexley High Street medieval pottery was found beneath foundations (MLO 8444).

6.0 Methodology

6.1. The Watching Brief was conducted in accordance with the SWAT Archaeological Specification, and it also complied with the Institute of Field Archaeologists’ Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IfA: 1994, revised Oct 2008). All

works adhered to EH GLAAS Archaeology Guidance Papers (AGPs, revised 2009), in particular *AGP No 3; Standards and Practises in Archaeological Fieldwork in London*. The project also conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (Oct 1994, revised Sept 2001 and Oct 2008).

6.2. The works comprised the observation of all ground works, including the inspection of any revealed subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features and finds.

6.3. The Watching Brief was carried out in two phases according to the needs of the building contractors.

6.4. All excavation was carried out under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

6.5. Where possible the areas of excavation were subsequently hand-cleaned with the intention of revealing any observed features in plan and section.

6.6. If found archaeological features under threat were to be 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.

6.7. The archaeological watching brief was carried out in accordance with current IfA Standards and Guidance, (IfA: 2008), and the methodology itemised in the Archaeological Watching Brief Specification produced by SWAT Archaeology (2014).

7.0 Results

7.1 General

No archaeological features or finds were revealed or recovered.

8.0 Finds

No buried archaeological features were located in the Archaeological Monitoring phase and no finds were retrieved.

9.0 Discussion

The Watching Brief phase of works on the site included watching the digging of the foundation trenches and connection trench for services (Plates 2-5).

10.0 Conclusion

The Archaeological Monitoring has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. As far as it is known no buried archaeological features have been affected as a result of the development.

11.0 Acknowledgments

SWAT Archaeology would like to Mark Horner for commissioning the works.

Dr Paul Wilkinson, FRSA., MIfA

References

HER data (Greater London HER Team)
IFA (1994 & 2008) Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs
SWAT Archaeology (2014) Specification for a Programme of Archaeological Investigation and Assessment of Land at 2a Cold Blow Crescent, Bexley DA5 2DS

APPENDIX 1

HER summary form

Site Name: Land at 2a Cold Blow Crescent, Bexley DA5 2DS	
Site Address: See above	
Summary: An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out on 6 th & 7 th Oct 2014 on the above site. No archaeological remains were revealed.	
District/Unitary: London Borough of Bexley	Parish:
Period(s):	
NGR (centre of site : 8 figures): (NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)	
Type of archaeological work (delete) Watching Brief	
Date of Recording:	
Unit undertaking recording: SWAT Archaeology	
Geology: Sandy silt	
Title and author of accompanying report: Archaeological Monitoring of Land at 2a Cold Blow Crescent, Bexley DA5 2DS P. Wilkinson	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) n/a <p style="text-align: right;">(cont. on attached sheet)</p>	
Location of archive/finds: SWAT Archaeology	
Contact at Unit: P Wilkinson	Date: 22/10/14

Plates



Plate 2. Phase 1, view of the site after trenches dug (looking north-east)



Plate 3. Phase 2, view of the site after trenches dug (looking east)



Plate 4. Phase 1. Trenches being excavated (looking east)



Plate 5. Phase 2. Trenches being excavated (looking east)

