

Archaeological Monitoring of Development of Land adjacent to 7 West Cliff Gardens, Herne Bay, Kent

Site Code WEST/WB/15



Report for Spencer Davis
Date of report 28/01/2015

SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Plate 1. Aerial view of site (red circle) showing the site prior to development.

(Google Earth 07/09/2013: Eye altitude 303m).

1.0 Summary

1.1. From 5th to 7th January 2015 Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief on ground works involved in the build of a new detached family house (Fig. 1 & Plates 2-5).

1.2. The works were carried out on behalf of Spencer Davis.

1.3. An Archaeological Watch was kept during the machine digging of foundations (Plates 1-3).

The archaeological work was undertaken in one phase.

Phase 1: Area strip (Plates 1- 3)

1.4. The Archaeological Watching Brief was to watch for any signs of archaeological activity. In particular, any evidence of archaeological activity associated with the known archaeological activity in the vicinity of the proposed development site.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is CA/14/00480/FUL.

1.6. Although the archaeological potential has been highlighted by the Archaeological Officer, Canterbury City Council (CCC), the Archaeological Watching Brief revealed no buried archaeological features, and no archaeological finds were retrieved.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Planning Background

Planning application CA/14/00480/FUL was submitted to the Local Planning Authority, Canterbury City Council (CCC). The Canterbury City Council Archaeological Officer requested that an Archaeological Watching Brief be undertaken in order to record any archaeological remains uncovered during the development work. The following condition (11) was attached to the planning consent:

[11] No development shall take place until the applicant or the developer or their successors in title has made arrangements for the implementation of an archaeological watching and recording brief, to be carried out during construction, in accordance with a written programme and scheme of work that has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority.

REASON: To ensure a proper record of matters of archaeological interest.

3.0 Schedule of Visits

An archaeologist suitably experienced attended the site (Dr Paul Wilkinson SWAT Archaeology) and monitored the excavation works from the 5th to the 7th January 2015.

4.0 Aims and Objectives

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

REASON: Pursuant to Articles 35 (1) and (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure)(England) Order 2015, the local planning authority is satisfied that the requirements of this condition (including the timing of compliance) are so fundamental to the development permitted that, if not imposed, it would have been necessary to refuse permission for the development. This is because, at the time of granting permission, full archaeological details were not yet available but this information is necessary to ensure the development complies with Canterbury District Local Plan 2006 Policy BE15 and Draft Canterbury District Local Plan 2014 Policy HE11 and otherwise to protect the environment of the site and its locality.

4.2. The ground works were to excavate the building platform and drain run (Plates 1-3).

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

4.4. 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 underlying geology at the site according to the British Geological Survey map is Bedrock geology of London Clay Formation and Superficial Deposits of Clay and Silt (BGS <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/>). The geology revealed on site was sandy silty clay topped by dark brown humic topsoil.

5.2. The application site consisted of an area set to the east of West Cliff Gardens. The site itself is generally level at a height of about 12m OD.

5.3. The site lies within an area of known archaeological potential including a Iron Age settlement at Hillborough (TR 26 NW 218) and a Hammer Stone found close to Hampton Pier (TR 16 NE 1).

6.0 Methodology

6.1. The Watching Brief was conducted in accordance with the Archaeological Specification compiled by SWAT Archaeology and it also complied with the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (CIfA: 2014).

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

6.3. The Watching Brief was carried out in one phase according to the needs of the building contractors from 5th to 7th January 2015.

6.4. Excavation of the area was carried out by contractors using a 360 degree machine equipped with a toothless bucket necessary to remove the soil and cut the foundation trenches (Plates 1-4).

6.5. All excavation was carried out under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist (Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA).

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

6.7. 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.

6.8. The archaeological watching brief was carried out in accordance with current IfA Standards and Guidance, (CIfA: 2014), and methodology discussed with the Archaeological Officer CCC.

7.0 Results

7.1 General

No archaeological features or finds were revealed or recovered. The subsoil encountered across the site was the sandy silty clay overlaid by topsoil. No archaeological features were revealed in the natural geology and no archaeological finds retrieved from the topsoil.

8.0 Finds

No finds were retrieved.

9.0 Discussion

The development site is in an area of archaeological potential. However, no archaeology was revealed on the development site.

10.0 Conclusion

The Archaeological Monitoring has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the SWAT Archaeological 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 thank Spencer Davis for commissioning the project. Fieldwork was undertaken and report written by Paul Wilkinson.

Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA.

References

HER data (<http://www.kent.gov.uk/ExploringKentsPast>)

IFA (2014) Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

SWAT Archaeological Watching Brief (2015)

Appendix 1
HER Summary Form

Site Name: Development of land adjacent to 7 West Cliff Gardens, Herne Bay, Kent

SWAT Site Code: WEST/WB/15

Site Address: As above

Summary:

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Monitoring on the development site above. The site has planning permission for a new family detached house whereby Canterbury City Council requested that Archaeological Monitoring be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The Archaeological Monitoring consisted of site visits which encountered no buried archaeological features or artefacts.

District/Unitary: Canterbury City Council

Period(s):

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) CT6 8DP

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Monitoring

Date of recording: January 2015

Unit undertaking recording: Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT. Archaeology)

Geology: Underlying geology is London Clay Formation

Title and author of accompanying report: Wilkinson P. (2015) Archaeological Monitoring at Land adjacent to 7 West Cliff Gardens, Herne Bay, Kent

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

See above

Location of archive/finds: SWAT. Archaeology. Graveney Rd, Faversham, Kent. ME13 8UP

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Date: 28/01/2015

Plates



Plate 2. General view of rear of site



Plate 3. View showing reduction of site



Plate 4. The site showing ground reduction

Fig. 1. Area watched
is within red lines

Land Adjacent to 7 West Cliff Gardens, Herne Bay



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Block Plan scale 1:500

DRAWING NO. 13/1204/LP/BP	DRAWING TITLE BLOCK PLAN
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PROJECT LAND ADJACENT TO 7 WEST CLIFF GARDENS, HERNE BAY, KENT, CT6 8DP	DATE FEB' 2014
	SCALE 1:500 @ A4

Scale 1:500



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