

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
in advance of the Proposed Development at The
Gate House, Old Palace Road, Bekesbourne, Kent
CT4 5ES

NGR: TR 19371 55500



Date of Report: 20/04/2016

SWAT. ARCHAEOLOGY

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1 SUMMARY

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) has been commissioned to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment in advance of the proposed development of a carport at The Gate House, Old Palace Road, Bekesbourne, CT4 5ES as part of the planning application submitted by Mervyn Gulvin (Architect) on behalf of Mr and Mrs Thomas.

This Desk Based Assessment examines the wide variety of archaeological data held by Kent County Council and other sources.

Based on this data the potential for archaeological sites either on or in the near vicinity of the proposed development can be summarised as:

- *Prehistoric: Low*
- *Iron Age: High*
- *Romano-British: High*
- *Anglo-Saxon: Low*
- *Medieval: High*
- *Post-medieval: High*
- *Modern: High*

The Desk Based Assessment concludes that:

- *The site has **High** potential for any archaeological discoveries.*

The PDA is located in the village of Bekesbourne, within the district of Canterbury, in the East of the county of Kent and the south east of England. The

proposed Development of a carport adjoins the northeast elevation of the existing Gate House (TR15NE608) on Old Palace Road (NGR: TR 19371 55500). Immediately to the north is The Old Palace (TR15NE30/737) and Flint Cottage that have a shared history with the Gatehouse. The PDA is situated to the southeast of the village, on the northwest bank of the Nailbourne River and is bordered to all sides by agricultural land.

Bekesbourne has not been subject to any significant residential development in recent history and remains largely undeveloped.

2 INTRODUCTION

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by Mr and Mrs Thomas to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment to supplement a Scheduled Monument application for the proposed carport development at The Gate House, Old Palace Road, Bekesbourne (Figure 1).

The report has accessed various sources of information to identify any known heritage assets, which may be located within the vicinity of the Proposed Development Area.

The PDA is centered on National Grid Reference: TR 19371 55500.

Archaeological investigations, both recent and historic have been studied and the information from these investigations has been incorporated in the assessment.

The property is set within a Conservation Area and the PDA is within the curtilage of a Scheduled Monument (No. 366).

The Gate House (TR15NE608) is one of the three buildings that remain above ground and may have formed part of the Archbishops medieval 'Old Palace' complex (TR15NE30/737). In 1972 the installation of a new sewer trench uncovered a mass of brick walls and brick drain culvert. The discovery inspired a small excavation carried out by Canterbury Trust in 1976 (EKE4072). The foundations of The Old Palace and the associated drainage channels were largely in situ beneath the ground c.50-100m

to the west of the existing house. The excavation was postponed due to poor weather and continued in January 1978 when excavations that continued beneath the medieval foundations uncovered evidence of Iron Age and Roman occupation on the site. A mixture of Iron Age, Belgic and 13th century pottery were found along with early and late Roman pottery, a quern fragment, Constantine coins and quantities of daub. No Anglo-Saxon or 11th and 12th century material was found on site. The internal walls were 30cm wide and the external 60cm indicating that the upper floors were timber framed.

Evidence suggests that the absence of Anglo-Saxon material was due to flooding from the Nailbourne river during that period rendering the area unsuitable for occupation.

The Manor of Livingstone was known to have had a Manor House from at least the 14th century, when it was farmed as part of the property portfolio of a family of London Wine Merchants, the Dogets. Little is known about the house but records note repairs to a barn, pig-house, the bridges and a 'Cisterna', the provision of lead for the mill and a new door for the buttery.

In 1443 Canterbury Cathedral Priory took possession of the property and in 1501 the Chapel was dedicated to Dom John Thornton, suffragan Bishop to Archbishop William Warham. No improvements were made until the second half of the 15th century, which were noted in a lease of 1492. The property had been developed to provide accommodation for the firmarii and recreational facilities for the monastery. In the 1517 obituary of Thomas Goldstone II, the property is described as a separate and substantial dwelling that sits alongside the house for the working firmarius.

A survey taken in 1575 records a Hall to the Great Parlour, the Inner Parlour, the Great Chamber, the Painted Chamber and the Green Chamber, a Press in the Lobbie, the Closet, a Bedchamber over the Kitchen and a Children's Chamber, an Armoury, a Garrett Chamber, a Granary, a Buttery and an area beneath the stairs, a Kitchen, a Bolting house and another house nearby, a Larder, a Long Garrett, Stables and a Library.

Between 1589 and 1592 Archbishop Whitgift constructed the Long Gallery and added new glazing to the Studies, Parlours, Kitchen, and Larder, the Chamber over the Larder, the Chamber over the Kitchen and an Old Garrett above the Kitchen and in the Great Window in the Long Gallery. Buttresses were also constructed, the Wash House was repaired and a new Bridge was built.

Further construction work was done between 1592 and 1647 shown in the 1632 accounts (£28 10 shillings and £0.09).

In 1647 The Palace, described as a brick and timber construction, was sold by the Commonwealth Commission and the survey details that below stairs there was a Great Hall and a Great and Little Parlour, both lined with oak, a Chapel paved with tiles, a Buttery, Beer Cellar and Wine Cellar, a Kitchen, Scullery and Larder, a Bakehouse, Brew house and Still house with another room inside it, Several Wood houses and Coal houses and other outhouses. Above stairs was an oak-lined Great Lodging Chamber and three smaller Chambers, one of which was also oak-lined, a Long Gallery and two wainscoted Studies. On the upper floor were two Great Garrets and above the Kitchen a Great Chamber, above the Cellar two small Chambers and over the Porch an oak-lined Chamber and a Little Study.

To the east of the Courtyard was a Barn of two bays and three small Stables and on the south-west side a Pigeon House. The premises were all tiled and beyond were walled gardens, an apple orchard, a hop garden and a 6 acre forestall.

In 1656 a contract was drawn up between the new owner and a local carpenter from Deal for the demolition of the mansion house, commonly known as the Bishop's House. All that was to be left standing were the foundation of the outward walls of the mansion, adjoining and fencing the orchard garden and a little courtyard, to be the same height as the other walls encompassing the orchard and garden.

In 1660 the property was described as virtually all in ruins except for the Lodge, the Housekeeper's house and part of the Stables.

Surveys in 1667 and 1669 describe the site as in a poor state, the fences down, the outhouses ready to drop, the Gatehouse almost irreparable and the footbridge much decayed. The Stables had queen-post roof trusses and the Gatehouse was constructed in English bond with red brick and yellow mortar with Caen stone quoins and stone window surrounds. The courtyard had a pebble surface and the drain was connected to the Nailbourne stream.

The surviving buildings were completely rebuilt in the 19th century with new roof, crenulations and rendering and a new wing to the southwest. The gardens to the northwest are the remains of the walled gardens and orchard mentioned in historical documents.

In 2009, a watching brief (EKE11193) on the groundworks for a garage at Flint Cottage, located adjacent to The Old Palace, produced a compact brick rubble layer.

In 1997 a watching brief (EKE5343) on the construction of a new conservatory produced a negative result.

This report is a desk-based appraisal from known cartographic, photographic and archaeological sources and is a research led statement on the archaeological potential of the proposed development.

It may be that intrusive investigations, such as a Geophysical Survey and/or an Archaeological Evaluation, with machine cut trial trenching, may be requested by Historic England as a requirement of Scheduled Monument Consent

2.1 Geology and Topography

The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the PDA is situated upon Bedrock Geology of Seaford Chalk Formation – Chalk, which was formed approximately 84 to 89 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period during a period when warm chalk seas previously dominated the local environment. The Superficial Deposits are of Alluvium – Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel, which were formed up to 2

million years ago in the Quaternary Period when rivers previously dominated the local environment.

The PDA sits at an average height of 82ft (25m) AOD.

2.2 Planning Background

The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

Policy 12 is the relevant policy for the historic environment:

2.2.1 Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

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.

2.2.2 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 (NPPF 2012).

Canterbury City Council in the Canterbury District Local Plan Publication Draft 2 list a number of policies relevant to archaeology:

Policy HE1. Historic Environment and Heritage Assets

HE2. World Heritage Site and Buffer Zone

HE4. Listed Buildings

HE8. Heritage Assets

HE11. Archaeology

HE12. Area of Archaeological Importance

Policy HE1 relates to the importance of the historic environment, HE2 to the World Heritage site, HE 4 and 5 to Listed Buildings, HE 5-10 to the Conservation areas, HE12 to the World Heritage site and HE 13 to Historic Parks and Gardens.

Policy HE11 concerns below ground archaeological remains, their evaluation, excavation and mitigation strategies:

Policy HE11

The archaeological and historic integrity of designated heritage assets such as Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other important archaeological sites, together with their settings, will be protected and, where possible, enhanced. Development, which would adversely affect them, will not be permitted.

Where important or potentially significant heritage assets may exist, developers will be required to arrange for field evaluation to be carried out in advance of the determination of planning applications. The evaluation should define:

- *The character, importance and condition of any archaeological deposits or structures within the application site;*
- *The likely impact of the proposed development on these features (including the limits to the depth to which groundworks can go on the site); and*
- *The means of mitigating the effect of the proposed development including: a statement setting out the impact of the development.*

Where the case for development affecting a heritage asset of archaeological interest is accepted, the archaeological remains should be preserved in situ.

Where preservation in situ is not possible or justified, appropriate provision for preservation by record may be an acceptable alternative. In such cases archaeological recording works must be undertaken in accordance with a specification prepared by the City Council's Archaeological Officer or a competent archaeological organisation that has been agreed by the City Council in advance.

Sites of Archaeological Interest

Scheduled Monuments, of which the application site is one, are protected by Part I of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and investigation for archaeological purposes is provided for in designated areas by Part II of that Act.

Guidance in Circular 11/95 states in paragraph 80:

80. Scheduled ancient monuments are protected by Part I of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, and investigation for archaeological purposes is provided for in designated areas by Part II of that Act. Where these provisions apply, their effect should not be duplicated by planning conditions (cf paragraphs 21-23 above), although authorities granting planning permission in such circumstances are advised to draw the attention of the applicant to the relevant provisions of the 1979 Act.

81. Where, however, planning permission is being granted for development which might affect a monument which has not been scheduled, or which might affect land

in an area which is considered to be of archaeological interest but which has not been formally designated as such under section 33 of the 1979 Act, the local planning authority may wish to impose conditions designed to protect the monument or ensure that reasonable access is given to a nominated archaeologist - either to hold a "watching brief" during the construction period or specifically to carry out archaeological investigation and recording before or in the course of the permitted operations on the site. (For further advice on archaeology and planning conditions see paragraphs 29 and 30 of PPG 16: Archaeology and Planning or PPG 16 (Wales), and model conditions 53-55).

Regional Policies

The South-East Research Framework (SERF) is on-going with groups of researchers producing a Resource Assessment, which will identify research questions and topics in order to form a Research Agenda for the future.

This Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Good Practise Advice notes 1, 2 and 3, which now supersede the PPS 5 Practise Guide, which has been withdrawn by the Government. The Good Practise Advice notes emphasises the need for assessments of the significance of any heritage assets, which are likely to be changed, so the assessment can inform the decision process. Significance is defined in the NPPF Guidance in the Glossary as "the value of the heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic, or historical. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also it's setting". The setting of the heritage asset is also clarified in the Glossary as "the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve".

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 Scheduled Monument applications.

2.3 The Proposed Development

The proposed development will comprise of the addition of a carport to the North east elevation of the existing Gate House (Plates 3-6).

2.4 Project Constraints

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

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned in order to supplement a Scheduled Monument Consent application for the proposed carport development at The Gate House, Old Palace Road, Bekesbourne, Kent, CT4 5ES (TR 19371 55500), and to establish the potential for archaeological features and deposits.

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 Archaeologists (2014). 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". (CiFA 2014)

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 (PDA) and the surrounding environs of Bekesbourne.

The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) was also used. The search was carried out within a 500m radius of the proposed development site.

Relevant HER data is included in the report. The Portable Antiquities Scheme Database (PAS) was also searched 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 considered not relevant to this specific study.

4.1.3 Cartographic and Pictorial Documents

A cartographic and pictorial document search was undertaken during this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by Kent County Council, the Internet and Ordnance Survey Historical mapping (Figures. 3-8).

Map Regression 1769 - 1955

The Andrews Dury map of 1769 (Figure 2) although of doubtful cartographic accuracy is important for a view of the landscape in c.1769. Annotation tells us of: 'A Bp Pallace in ruins'.

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.

The OSD of 1797 (Figure 3) shows with some clarity that the scheduled buildings of the 'Porter's Lodge' and 'Stables' as one but according to the diary of Charles Beke 1870 and the writings of Nicholas Battley (Vicar of Bekesbourne from 1685 to 1704) the two buildings, which were all that were extant from the Archbishops' Palace, were joined by tall gates with a room above so it seems logical that they show as one in 1797 (Thomas; pers corres).

Research has shown that: *'In 1656 a contract was drawn up between the new owner and a local carpenter from Deal for the demolition of the mansion house, commonly known as the Bishop's House. All that was to be left standing were the foundation of the outward walls of the mansion, adjoining and fencing the orchard garden and a little courtyard, to be the same height as the other walls encompassing the orchard and garden'.*

The Ordnance Survey map of 1801 based on the earlier 18th century surveys again do not show the Porter's Lodge and Stables (Figure 4).

However, the OS Map of 1873 (Fig.5) Bekesbourne House (TR15NE737) is a long rectangular series of buildings on a northwest southeast axis, entered from 'Pilgrims Way' via a long driveway and surrounded by snaking paths and tracks that lead around the grounds of lawn, orchard and gardens. The gatehouse (TR15NE608) is the first of the buildings from the north entrance. The estate is set in the outskirts of the village, on the northwest bank of the Nailbourne river, surrounded by open fields and accompanied by St Peter's Church (TR15NE13) and Cobham Court (TR15NE847) to its southeast boundary, the Vicarage (TR15NE613) to the east, the National School to the northeast and Parsonage Farm (TR15NE739) to the north. Chalk Pit farm

(MKE86421) is just visible at the edge of the map. The main road is 'Pilgrims Way' and the river runs under the small footbridge by the church (TR15NE543) and continues under the road bridge (TR15NE694) and under The Chatham and Dover Railway (TQ85SE300), which runs almost parallel to the road.

By the OS Map of 1898 (Fig.6) a second footbridge has been established from the Bekesbourne estate to a small island in the centre of the river. There have been changes to the tracks and paths on the estate and a large glasshouse has been installed in the north garden. Otherwise, the estate, its neighbours and the surrounding countryside remain unchanged.

By the OS Map of 1907 (Fig.7), with the exception of a small outbuilding in the orchard the estate remains unchanged. The church has a Lych-Gate and the School has a small extension to the northeast elevation.

By the National Grid Map of 1955 (Fig.8), the grounds to the southwest of the estate have undergone a change in layout. The orchard and entrance boundary have been removed along with the Nailbourne river-island and footbridge and in its place is a small inlet to its northwest bank. Cobham Court has also changed the layout of the buildings from an open courtyard plan to a multiyard plan as has Parsonage Farm. The village is beginning to develop as the School has been further extended and three small dwellings, a Post Office, telephone box and letter box have sprung up to the north of School Lane (Pilgrims Way) and one dwelling to the south (Cobham Court Cottage) and a Pavilion can be seen at the edge of Patricbourne village to the southwest.

By the National Grid Map of 1989 the Old Palace remains unchanged within a setting that is continuing to develop. Cobham Court has undergone significant development and the removal of several buildings. A pumping station can be found to the east of School Lane adjacent to the river and the Old Vicarage and to the north the village is continuing to develop outwards. The Pavilion in the southwest is now accompanied by a recreation ground.

4.1.4 Aerial Photographs

The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken. In 1960 the site is located in a wider agricultural setting with small farmsteads to the south and an area of development to west; between 1960 and 1990 the layout of the site and the surrounding area remain unchanged. Between 2008 and 2013 significant changes are made to the north garden layout, however there are no changes within the immediate vicinity of the PDA. (Plates 1-2)

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	c. 500,000 BC – c.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 the PDA is diverse and should comprise possible activity dating from one of the earliest human periods in Britain (the Neolithic) through to the post-medieval period. Bekebourne is situated adjacent to the Nailbourne River; the Roman Road (A2) is located on the Southern Border of the village and the City of Canterbury can be found 3.5 miles to the southeast. The geographic and topographic location 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 History of the site

Bekebourne derives from the Old English 'burna' meaning a 'stream' referring to the Little Stour. The Domesday Book records Bekebourne as Burnes and Borne and in the late 12th century, it gained a manorial affix from the de Beche family.

The Canterbury area has been inhabited since prehistoric times. Lower Paleolithic axes, and Neolithic and Bronze Age pots have been found in the wider area and three Lower Palaeolithic to Middle Palaeolithic hand-axes were found in the locality of the PDA, however they lack provenance (TR 15 NE 1148). Evidence of Iron Age occupation at the site, in the form of pottery, was uncovered during excavations by

Canterbury Trust in 1978.

The nearby city of Canterbury was first recorded as the main settlement of the Celtic tribe of the Cantiaci, which inhabited most of modern-day Kent in the first century AD. In 43 AD the Romans invaded Britain and captured the settlement and named it Durovernum Cantiacorum. Despite being counted as one of the 28 cities of Sub-Roman Britain, it seems that after the Romans left Britain in 410 Durovernum Cantiacorum was abandoned, with the exception of a few farmers, and gradually fell into decay. Bekesbourne and Patricbourne are villages that developed along the Roman Road from London to Dover and there is evidence of Roman occupation within the immediate vicinity of the PDA and finds of Roman pottery and a mini axe (TR15NE67, TR15NE10) have been uncovered in the surrounding area.

Evidence from local excavations and environmental documentation suggests that the area was flooded during the Saxon period and Saxon occupation occurred within the Canterbury walls and on higher ground towards Patricbourne, centred around the church of St Mary. Jutish refugees arrived; possibly intermarrying with the locals and their presence was confirmed in 1936, when a Jutish inhumation was discovered in a garden southwest of the PDA. It was accompanied by a bronze brooch with ring and dot ornament, a string of beads and a Jutish bottle (TR 25 NW 31).

During the 12th century, the Normans built the nave and tower of Bekesbourne parish church (TR 15 NE 7), a Grade: I listed building, dedicated to Saint Peter. The chancel was built in the following century and this church displays the first recorded example of brick mathematical tiles. An early medieval cemetery, excavated by F. Jenkins (TR 15 NE 1) southwest of the PDA confirms that during this period the area became more suitable to habitation.

In 1344 Cobham Manor house was built for the de Cobham family and became under their ownership the Court of Shepway, the highest of the Cinque Port Courts. The original Manor house on the site of the Old Palace and Gate House was built in the 14th century for the Doget family. The family were London Wine Merchants and while they farmed the manor, it only formed a small part of their property portfolio.

Canterbury Cathedral Priory took possession of the Manor in 1443 and towards the second half of the 15th century improvements were made to convert the property into accommodation for the firmarii and recreational facilities for the monastery. The chapel was dedicated to Dom John Thorton, suffragan Bishop to Archbishop William Warham in 1501.

During the Dissolution of the Monasteries, the property was surrendered to the crown along with several religious houses in Canterbury. Thomas Becket's shrine in Canterbury was demolished and all the gold, silver and jewels were removed to the Tower of London and his image, name and feasts were obliterated throughout the kingdom, ending the pilgrimages and certainly impacting the village of Bekesbourne. Thomas Cramner, Archbishop of Canterbury gained possession of the property in 1540 and developed it into a Palace and it was further improved between 1589 and 1592 by Archbishop Whitgift. The Commonwealth Commission sold the property in 1647, the year of the English Civil War, and in 1656 a contract was made with a local carpenter for its demolition.

During the 19th century the property was completely rebuilt and the original buildings remained beneath the ground until a sewer channel was excavated in 1976 revealing brick walls and drainage. A series of excavations by Canterbury Trust followed.

During the First World War, a number of barracks and voluntary hospitals were set up around the city of Canterbury and 115 people were killed in air raids; the most devastating of which was on 1 June 1942 during the Baedeker Blitz.

The village of Bekesbourne was the site of an aerodrome, which thrived as the home of the Kent Flying Club until World War II, when it was closed. There are several WWII military buildings and features within the area around the PDA, namely roadblocks, a gun emplacement, a pillbox, a fortified house, a civil defence building and a military headquarters.

5.4 Scheduled Monuments; Listed Buildings; Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas

One conservation area, one scheduled monument, two listed buildings, no events, no find spots, no buildings, no farmsteads, no protected military remains, no historic parks & gardens and no cropmarks are recorded within the confines of the proposed development area (PDA). However, six events, thirty find spots, eleven monuments, seven Listed Buildings, four farmsteads, three buildings, one protected military remains site, one historic park & garden and several cropmarks are recorded within the assessment area.

The PDA is within the curtilage of a Scheduled Monument site for the remains of the Archbishops Palace (TR15NE30) and is within the immediate vicinity of the existing Grade II Listed Old Palace (TR15NE737), which shares intervisibility with the PDA.

There are four farmsteads within the assessment area, three post medieval and one undated. Cobham Court (MKE86420) is in an isolated position with a regular courtyard and L-Plan in which the farmhouse is attached to the agricultural range. It underwent significant development in the 19th century and lost over 50% of its original form. Chalk Pit farm (MKE86421) is in an isolated position and is a regular U-Plan courtyard with farmhouse detached and in a central position and remains unchanged. Parsonage farm (MKE86419) is in an isolated position and is a loose courtyard plan with working agricultural buildings and a detached farmhouse in a central position; it has lost less than 50% of its original form. A dispersed plan Oast (MKE86422) that is part of a dispersed cluster and located within the village remains unaltered.

Cobham Court (TR15NE847/3/894) is within c.200m southeast of the PDA and is a post medieval Grade II Listed Building and the garden a recorded Landscape (TR15NE1071), built in 1344 for the de Cobham family. The estate was used in 1598 for the inauguration of Henry Brooke, 11th Lord Cobham, as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

An early medieval cemetery (TR15NE1) of thirty-six graves was excavated by F.

Jenkins where a strong Frankish element was reflected in the brooches and buckles. In 1936, a Jutish inhumation burial (TR25NW31) was found in the back garden of 'Homestead' accompanied by a bronze brooch, a string of beads and a Jutish bottle. Both sites are c.500m southeast of the PDA.

St Peters Church (TR15NE13) is a Grade I Listed building dating to the 12th century located within c.200m southeast of the PDA. It was largely rebuilt in 1881. St Mary's Church at Patricbourne (TR15NE7) was founded c.500m west of the PDA, by an alien priory cell of Austin Canons in 1200 AD and dissolved in 1409AD. It has undergone several periods of rebuilding and is now Grade I Listed.

There are three Grade II, post-medieval bridges (TR15NE694/543/582) over the Nailbourne within c.100-300m of the PDA.

Howletts (TR15NE1072) is a recorded landscape c.500m from the PDA and was once an ancient park, imparked in the 15th or 16th century, covering 120 hectares, surrounding the principal building of 1797. It is now an estate of 22 hectares and the site of a wild animal park. A Romano-British mini axe (TR15NE67), a medieval brooch (MKE56680), a silver strap (MKE56679) and a copper alloy strap (MKE56682) were found here.

A Supermarine Spitfire I from RAF Kenley crash-landed c.500m to the southwest of the PDA on 26th August 1940. The pilot was unhurt and the site is scheduled as Protected Military Remains (TR15NE1107).

The area had a strong military presence through the Second World War and several monuments still survive; five road blocks (TR15NE396/863/842/844/873), an anti tank gun emplacement (TR15NE870), the Home Guard Headquarters (TR15 NE912) and an unusual shaped pillbox (TR15NE904).

The report has accessed various sources of information to identify any known heritage assets, which may be located within the vicinity of the Proposed Development Area. Archaeological investigations, both recent and historic have been studied and the information from these investigations has been incorporated

in the assessment.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

6.1 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. 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 not represented in the assessment area.

There are no records that reflect prehistoric activity within the search area. 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 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). Iron Age pottery was discovered in excavations at The Old Palace (EKE4072) and metal detecting has produced eight copper alloy coins MKE57444/MKE57445/MKE57446/MKE57447/MKE57581/MKE57764/MKE57765 MKE57766 dating from between 120BC and 42AD. Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to the Iron Age period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

6.3 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. Excavations at The Old Palace (EKE4072) have produced evidence of Roman occupation. A mini (votive) axe was found at Howletts (TR15NE67) and five or six Roman urns (TR15NE10) were found locally, the potential is therefore to be considered **high**.

6.4 Anglo-Saxon

The Anglo-Saxon period is not represented within the assessment area. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period in the PDA is considered as **Low**.

6.5 Medieval

Excavations (EKE4072) at the Old Palace produced no evidence of the 11th and 12th century but found 13th century pottery, so it is possible that the site remained unoccupied until the construction of the Manor House in the 14th century. The presence of medieval archaeology within the assessment area is well represented and the potential for finding remains dating to the medieval period is therefore considered as **high**.

6.6 Post Medieval to Modern

The Post Medieval period is represented within the assessment area by the continuation of occupation on the site and the development of the Manor House into a Palace for the Archbishop and then the final construction of the existing buildings. The potential for finding remains dating to the post-medieval period is therefore considered as **high**.

6.7 Summary of Potential

The desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site but this potential can only be tested by fieldwork. Research has shown that the PDA may contain archaeological sites and these can be summarised as:

- Prehistoric: **Low**
- Iron Age: **High**
- Roman: **High**
- Anglo-Saxon: **Low**
- Medieval: **High**
- Post-Medieval and Modern: **High**
-

7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 Introduction

Cartographic Regression, Topographical Analysis, and Historic Research have provided evidence for the historic use of the site. By collating this information we have assessed the impact on previous archaeological remains through the following method of categorisation:

- **Total Impact** - Where the area has undergone a destructive process to a depth that would in all probability have destroyed any archaeological remains e.g. construction, mining, quarrying, archaeological evaluations etc.
- **High Impact** – Where the ground level has been reduced to below natural geographical levels that would leave archaeological remains partly in situ either in plan or section e.g. the construction of roads, railways, buildings, strip foundations etc.

- **Medium Impact** – Where there has been low level or random disturbance of the ground that would result in the survival of archaeological remains in areas undisturbed e.g. the installation of services, pad-stone or piled foundations, temporary structures etc.
- **Low Impact** – Where the ground has been penetrated to a very low level e.g. farming, landscaping, slab foundation etc.

7.2 Existing Impacts

7.2.1 Cartographic regression (4.1.3), Topographic analysis (4.1.4) and Historical research (5.2) indicate that the site has been subject to horticulture. Kitchen gardens and lawns will have had minimal impact but the creation of ornamental gardens and the cultivation of orchards will have had a deeper impact on buried archaeology. Therefore, previous impacts to archaeological remains from gardening are considered to be **moderate**.

7.2.2 Historical research documents that the site has been subject to redevelopment from the 14th century to the present date, therefore, previous impacts to archaeological remains from construction are considered to be **high**.

7.2.3 Agriculture became gradually more intense over time and by the modern era it was mechanised. Although the farming process rarely penetrates below the upper layers of the ground, plough truncation can have a significant impact on preserved shallow deposits. The site is within an enclosure that may once have been subject to agricultural use, therefore the impact of agriculture is considered to be **medium**.

7.3 Proposed Impacts

7.3.1 The general development of the site

At the time of preparing this archaeological assessment, the extent of the proposed development was for the construction of carport to the north-east wall of the existing Gate House.

7.3.2 The very nature of construction can have a negative impact on below ground deposits through the movement of plant, general ground disturbance and contamination and excavation. Therefore, extensive impact can be expected within the development area once construction begins.

7.3.3 With due consideration to the impacts sited above the following is an assessment of the specific impacts and their relation to this development:

- Ground contamination from the storage and use of materials may have an adverse effect on soil sampling and recording of shallow deposits – **Medium impact**
- Ground vibration, weight displacement and surface disturbance from the movement and use of plant and machinery may cause disruption of shallow features and deposits – **Medium impact**
- Ground penetration from the erection of access equipment, barriers etc. could result in isolated damage to shallow features and deposits – **Medium impact**
- Landscaping may result in the displacement of shallow features and deposits – **Medium impact**
- Ground stripping and levelling could remove shallow deposits and features and leave the archaeological horizon open to damage or destruction from the foot, plant or vehicle traffic – **High impact**
- Trenching for the installation of services may involve the removal of shallow deposits or features and further damage the archaeological horizon sited immediately below or neighbouring archaeology – **High impact**
- The excavation of the foundations may result in the entire removal of the archaeological feature or deposit from a localised area, subsequently intruding on related neighbouring archaeology – **High impact**

- The long-term effect of the development will be in the new use of the site and changes resulting therein. In this case the possibility of higher foot and vehicular traffic to the site – **Low impact**

7.4 Proposed mitigation for the impact of the construction process

Several mitigation strategies have been put into place in advance of the development.

- A photographic record of the northeast wall of both wings of the Gatehouse will be undertaken prior to the works and lodged at the Kent County Archives and an archaeological evaluation will take place to determine if any archaeological features or deposits survive within the impact zone, followed by a full excavation if required.
- The contractor will adhere to the requirements set out in the risk assessment to reduce risk and increase safety and prepare a method statement that considers options that lessen the impact of the construction process on buried archaeology.
- The carport has been designed with a concrete raft foundation of 350mm thickness with 75mm above ground level to minimise damage to archaeological remains and deposits.

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 may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential.

9. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Setting of Listed Buildings

One of the tasks of the site visit (Plates 3-6) was aimed to identify any designated heritage assets within the wider context of the PDA in accordance with *The Setting of Heritage Assets – English Heritage Guidance* (English Heritage 2011). This guidance states that “*setting embraces all of the surroundings (land, sea, structures, features and skyline) from which the heritage asset can be experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset*” (The Setting of Heritage Assets, English Heritage 2011).

The Listed Buildings of The Gate House, and The Old Palace share intervisibility with the PDA (Plates 3-6)

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

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 Mr and Mrs Thomas (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

Paul Wilkinson PhD., MCifA., FRSA.

20th April 2016

10 REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY

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National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

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Tim Tatton-Brown 'Excavations at the 'Old Palace', Bekesbourne
Near Canterbury (Archaeologia Cantiana Vol XCVI 1980).

FIGURES

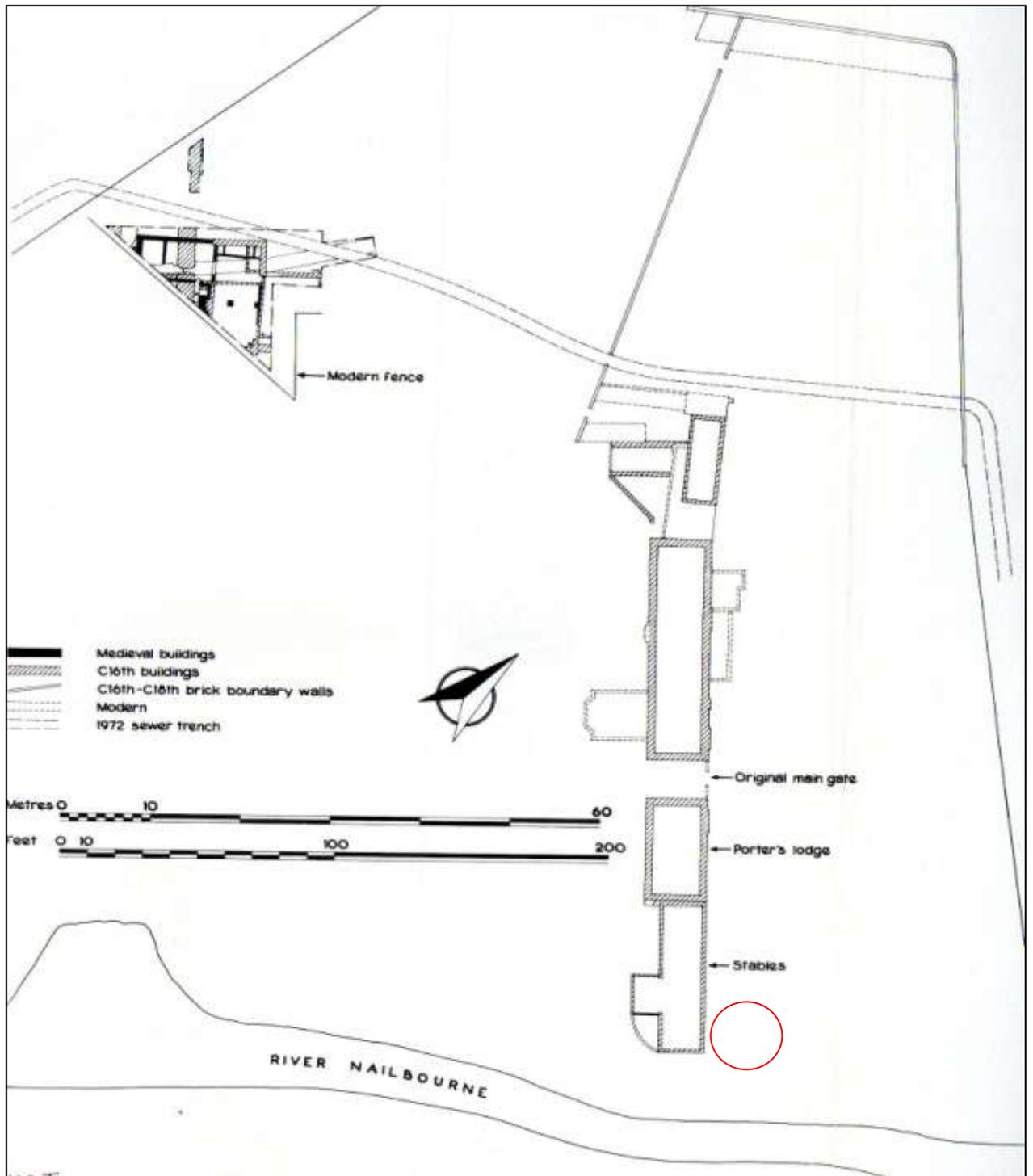


Figure 1. Site map with location of proposed car port and CAT excavations (1976-78)

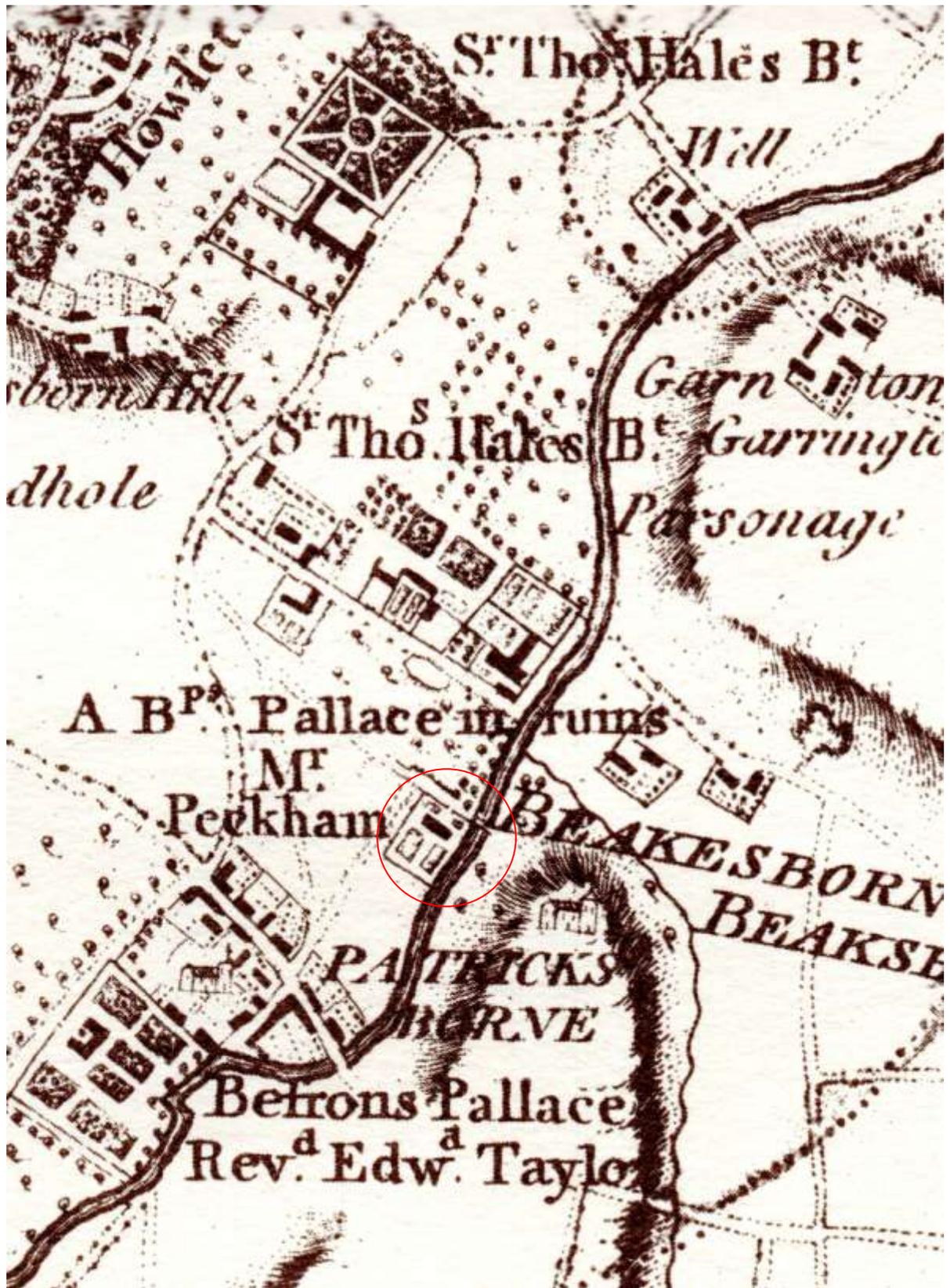


Figure 2. Andrews Dury map of 1769



Figure 3. OSD 1797



Figure 4. OS 1801

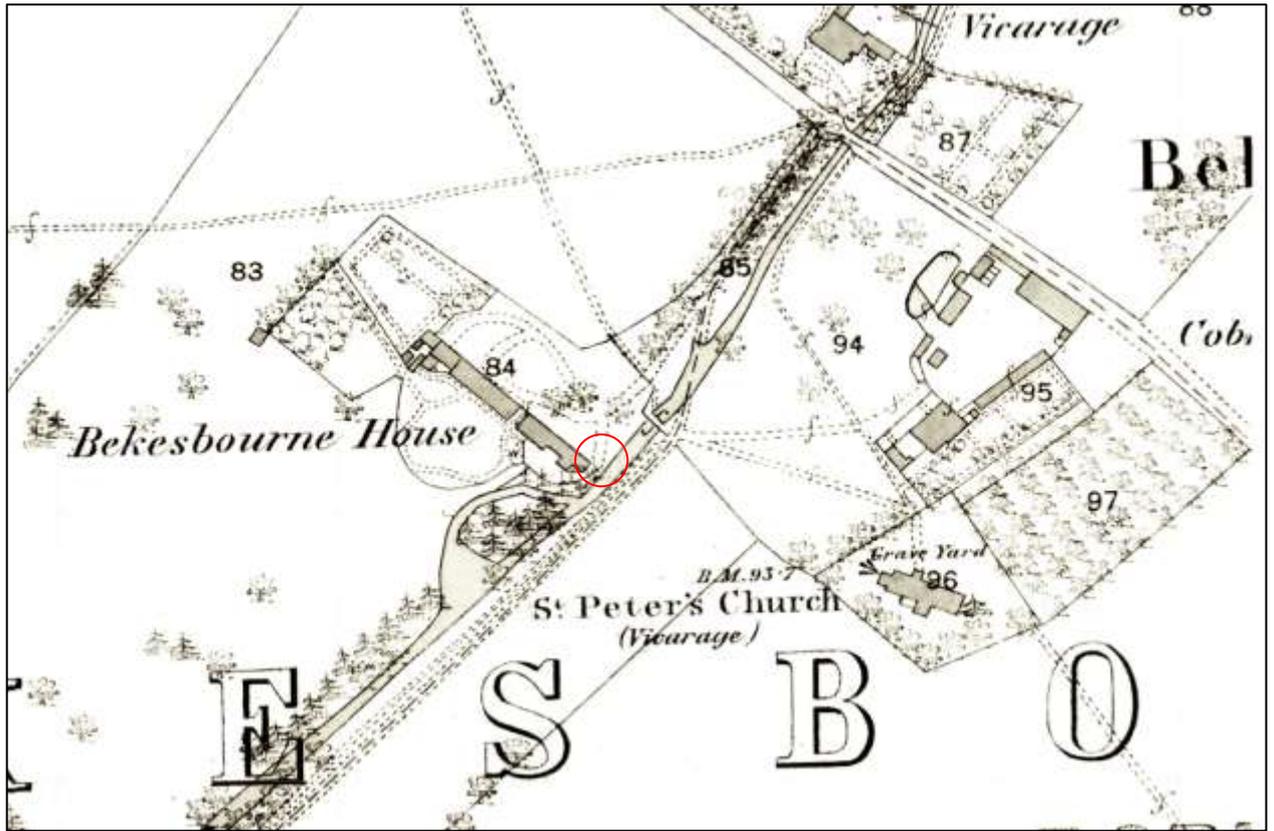


Figure 5. OS 1873

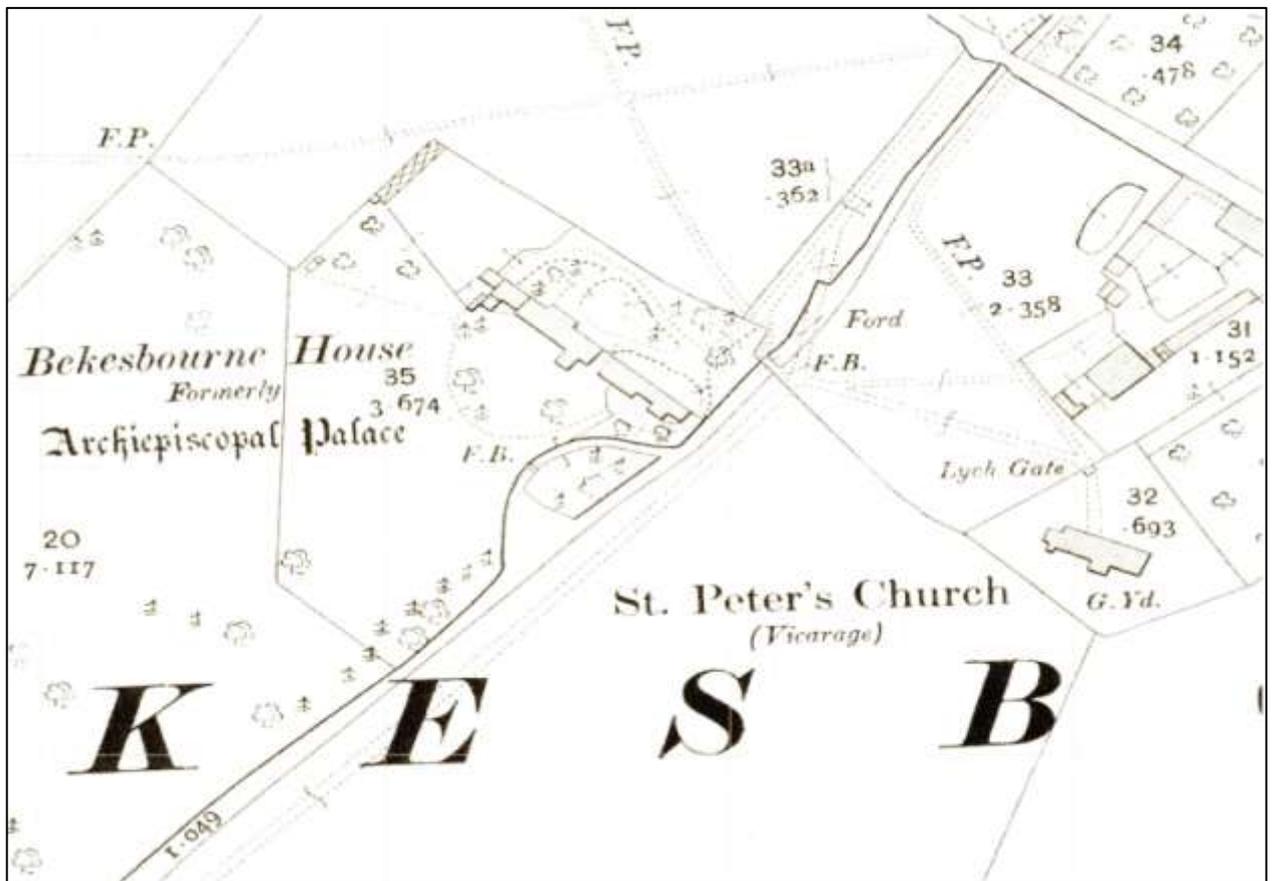


Figure 6. 1898 OS map

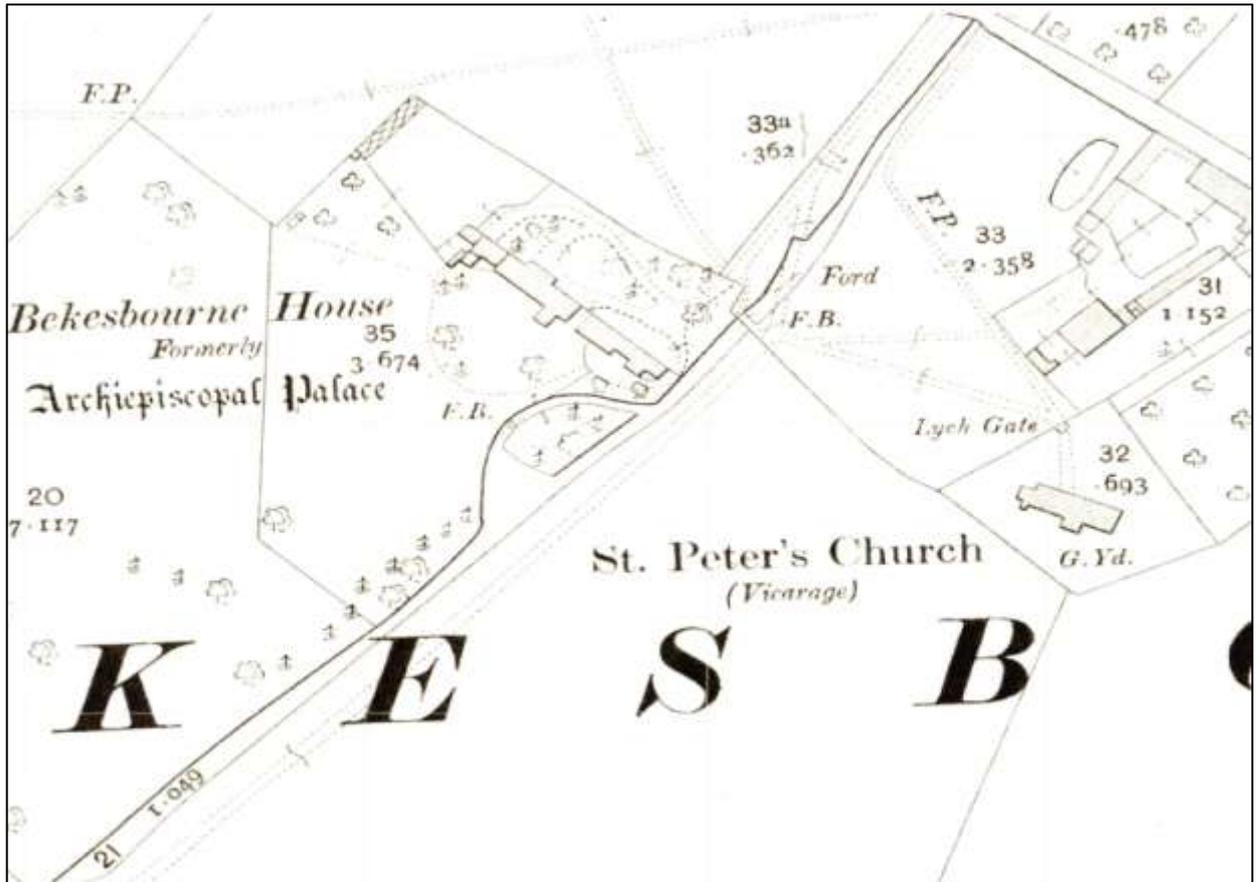


Figure 7. 1907 OS map

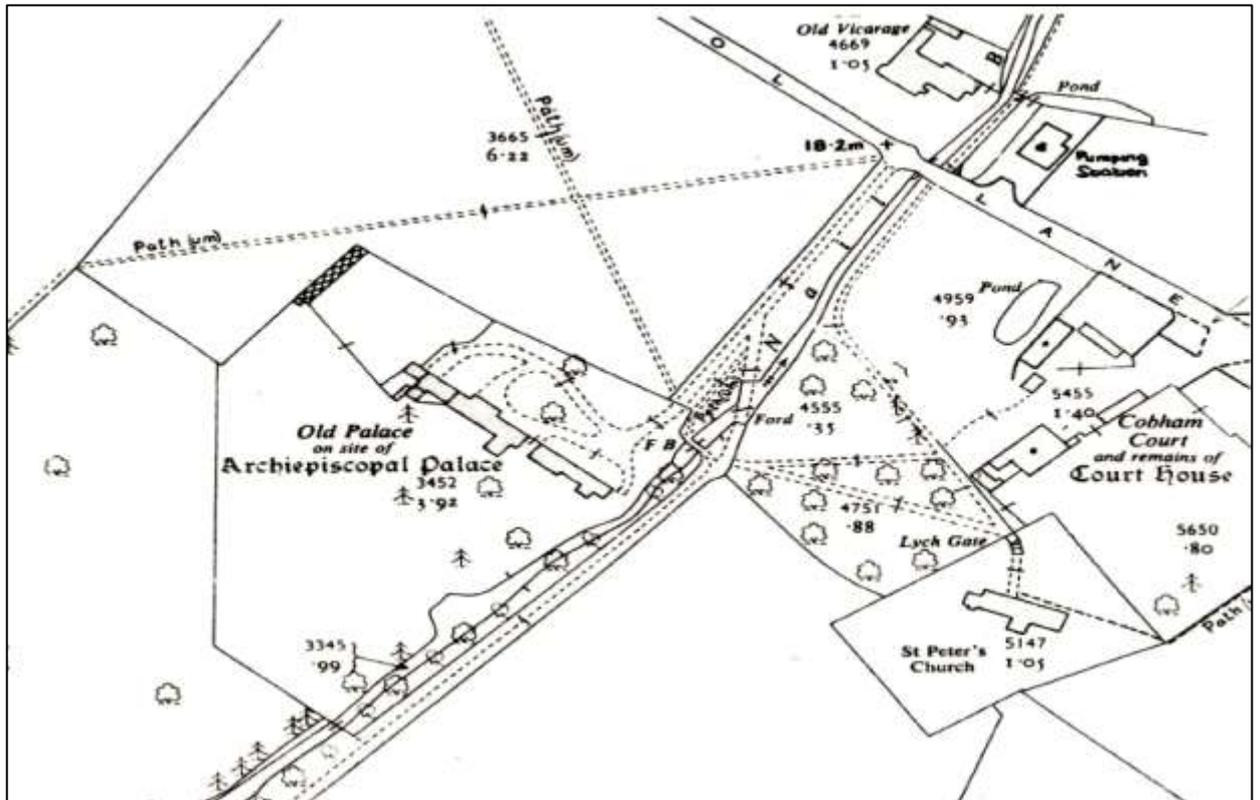


Figure 8. 1955 OS map

PLATES



Plate 1. 1960 Google Earth



Plate 2. 1990 Google Earth



Plate 3. Looking south-west at location of proposed car park



Plate 4. Looking west



Plate 5. Looking north



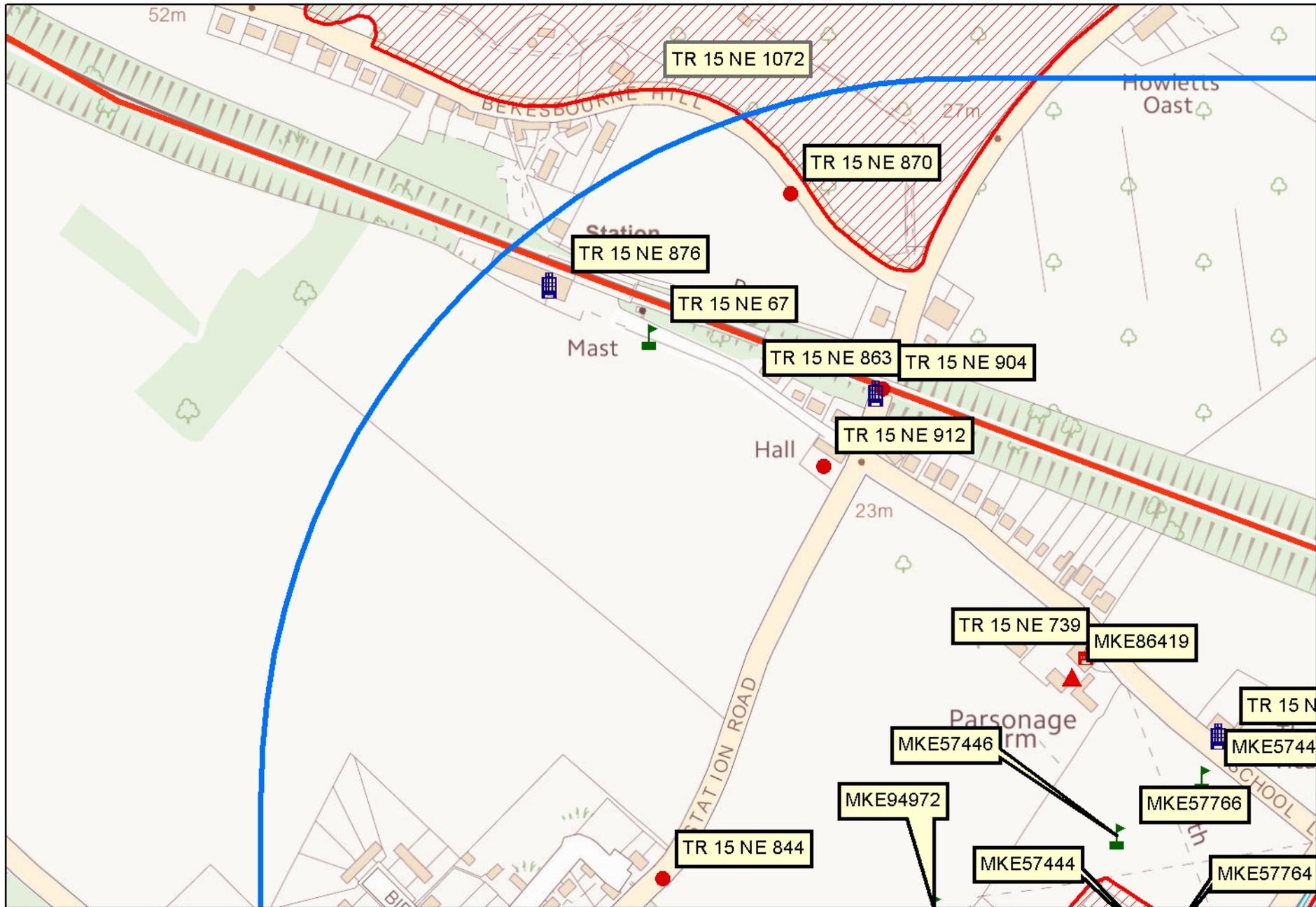
Plate 6. Looking south at site of proposed car park

Appendix I - Archaeological Sites

Period	Type	Location	Kent HER Reference	Description
19th century?	Watching Brief	N of site	EKE11193	Garage foundations - compact brick rubble rich layer - possibly 19th century levelling
Early Med/Anglo-Saxon	Cemetery	SE of site	TR 15 NE 1	Early Saxon cemetery of 36 graves - excavated by F. Jenkins.
Post-Medieval	House	SE of site	TR 15 NE 3	Cobham Court and remains of Court House - 17th century - Cinque Ports Court
Norman - Post-Medieval	Church	SW of site	TR 15 NE 7	The Church of St Mary, Patrixbourne - late 12th/13th c. Austin
Roman	Findspot	NE of site	TR 15 NE 10	Five/six Roman urns, with fragments of many others.
Med - Post-Medieval	Grade I Listed Building	E of site	TR 15 NE 13	St Peter's Church is 12th/13th century largely rebuilt in 1881
Post-Medieval	Archbishop's Palace	NE of site	TR 15 NE 30	Site of Archepiscopal palace, built during the reign of Henry VII
Roman	Findspot	NW of site	TR 15 NE 67	Romano-British Mini Axe
Med - Post-Medieval	Windmill	SE of site	TR 15 SE 130	Probable remains of a Post-Med windmill. The marks of the 'crosstrees' are visible on aerial photog.
Early Med/Anglo-Saxon	Burial	SE of site	TR 25 NW 31	1936 - Jutish inhumation with grave goods - back garden of 'Homestead'
Post-Medieval	House	SW of site	TR 15 NE 368	Bifrons, country house nr Patrixbourne since at least C16, demolished 1948. Excavated 1988-89
Modern	Monument	NW of site	TR 15 NE 396	WWII anti-tank blocks
Modern	Roadblock	NW of site	TR 15 NE 863	WWII Roadblock on Bekesbourne Lane under the viaduct.
Modern	Roadblock	NE of site	TR 15 NE 842	WWII Road-block on a small bridge in a farm-track between Bekesbourne and Garrington Farms
Modern	Roadblock	W of site	TR 15 NE 844	1940 WWII Roadblock on Station Road - temporary structure
Modern	Defence Obstruction	N of site	TR 15 NE 873	1940 - WWII Obstruction - Long Arch, a brick-lined culvert carrying the Nailbourne under the Railway
Modern	Gun Emplacement	NW of site	TR 15 NE 870	1940 WWII Anti-Tank Gun emplacement in the vicinity of Bekesbourne Hill
Modern	Pillbox	NW of site	TR 15 NE 904	An unusual pillbox built into the viaduct over Bekesbourne Lane.
Modern	Military Headquarters	NW of site	TR 15 NE 912	Bekesbourne Home Guard WWII headquarters in the Village Hut.
Modern	Fortified House	NE of site	TR 15 NE 876	1940 WWII fortified house adjoining Bekesbourne Hill.
Modern	Civil Defence Building	NE of site	TR 15 NE 879	1942 Adisham civil-defence first aid post at Infants' School
Post-Medieval	Railway	NW of site	TQ 85 SE 300	1853 - East Kent Railway Company extension from North Kent Line at Strood to Canterbur
Early Med/Anglo-Saxon	Findspot	NE of site	MKE56679	Early Med silver strap fitting - sub rectangular, foot ends in snake type zoomorphic head
Early Med/Anglo-Saxon	Findspot	NE of site	MKE56680	Tinned copper alloy saucer brooch, tinned surface fits disc rather than saucer
Early Med/Anglo-Saxon	Findspot	NE of site	MKE56681	Early Med disc copper alloy brooch
Early Med/Anglo-Saxon	Findspot	NE of site	MKE56682	Early Med copper alloy strap fitting
Early Med/Anglo-Saxon	Findspot	NE of site	MKE56683	Early Med copper alloy brooch
Early Med/Anglo-Saxon	Findspot	NE of site	MKE56684	Early Med copper alloy strap fitting
Early Med/Anglo-Saxon	Findspot	NE of site	MKE56685	Early Med silver brooch
Iron Age	Findspot	N of site	MKE57444	Iron Age copper alloy coin
Iron Age	Findspot	SE of site	MKE57445	Iron Age copper alloy coin
Iron Age	Findspot	N of site	MKE57446	Iron Age copper alloy coin
Iron Age	Findspot	N of site	MKE57447	Iron Age copper alloy coin
Medieval	Findspot	SW of site	MKE57563	Med silver coin: halfpenny of Richard II
Medieval	Findspot	SW of site	MKE57564	Med silver coin: penny of Edward I/II
Iron Age	Findspot	SW of site	MKE57581	Iron Age copper alloy coin
Iron Age	Findspot	Nw of site	MKE57764	Iron Age copper alloy coin
Iron Age	Findspot	SE of site	MKE57765	Iron Age copper alloy coin
Iron Age	Findspot	Nw of site	MKE57766	Iron Age copper alloy coin
Medieval - Modern	Landscape	Nw of site	TR 15 NE 1072	Howletts - 15th/16th-century estate of 22 hectares (54 acres)
Medieval - Modern	Landscape	SE of site	TR 15 NE 1071	Cobham Court - garden of 3 hectares (7 acres) - Re-designed and
Medieval	Findspot	SW of site	TR 15 NE 1070	Anglo-Norman silver penny
Medieval	Findspot	SW of site	TR 15 NE 1071	Anglo-Norman silver penny
Medieval	Findspot	Nw of site	TR 17 NE 1072	Early Denarial silver early penny ('scoat')
Medieval	Findspot	NW of site	MKE79290	Cast copper alloy Med spectacle buckle
Medieval	Findspot	NW of site	MKE79291	Incomplete cast copper alloy Med annular buckle
Medieval	Findspot	NW of site	MKE79292	Complete cast copper alloy Med pin.
Medieval	Findspot	Nw of site	MKE79293	Silver struck Med double patard of Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy - dates between 1467-1477
Medieval	Findspot	Nw of site	MKE79295	Struck silver Med penny of Edward III, minted in Durham 1356-1361
Medieval	Findspot	Nw of site	MKE79296	Struck silver Med penny of Edward I, minted in London, 1302-1303
Post-Medieval	Farmstead	Nw of site	MKE86419	Loose courtyard plan- buildings to two sides of the yard - Partial loss of original form - isolated position
Post-Medieval	Farmstead	SE of site	MKE86420	Regular courtyard - buildings to 3 sides & L-plan element. Isolated position - significant loss of form

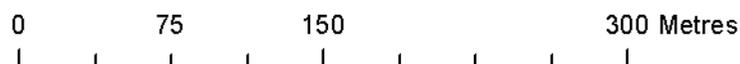
Post-Medieval	Farmstead	SE of site	MKE86421	Regular U-plan courtyard - Isolated position with no alteration
Undated	Farmstead	SW of site	MKE86422	Dispersed plan. No apparent alteration - located within a village
Modern	Crash Site	SW of site	TR 15 NE 1107	Supermarine Spitfire I (R6632) of 616 Sq, RAF Kenley, crash landed
Lower Palaeolithic -	Findspot	SE of site	TR 15 NE 1148	Three handaxes - lacking precise provenance
Medieval	Findspot	N of site	MKE94972	13th century gold finger-ring decorated with a cross between two incised triangles.

Kent Historic Environment Record - Bekesbourne Palace - Monuments 1

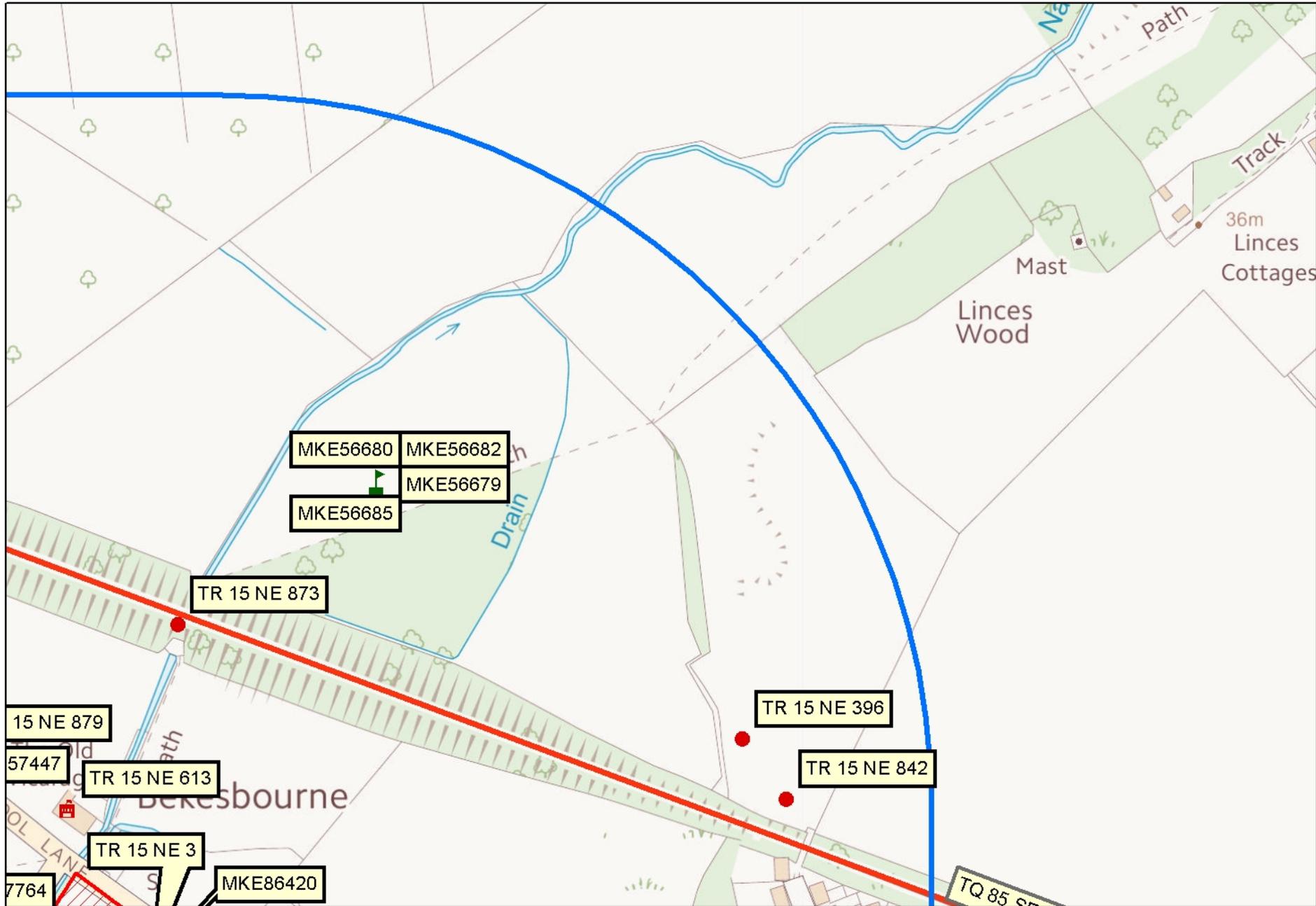


Legend

-  Building
-  Crash Site
-  Farmstead
-  Findspot
-  Listed Building
-  Landscape
-  Maritime
-  Monument
-  Place
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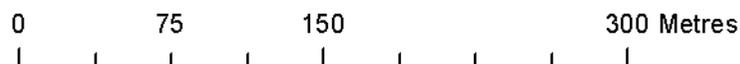


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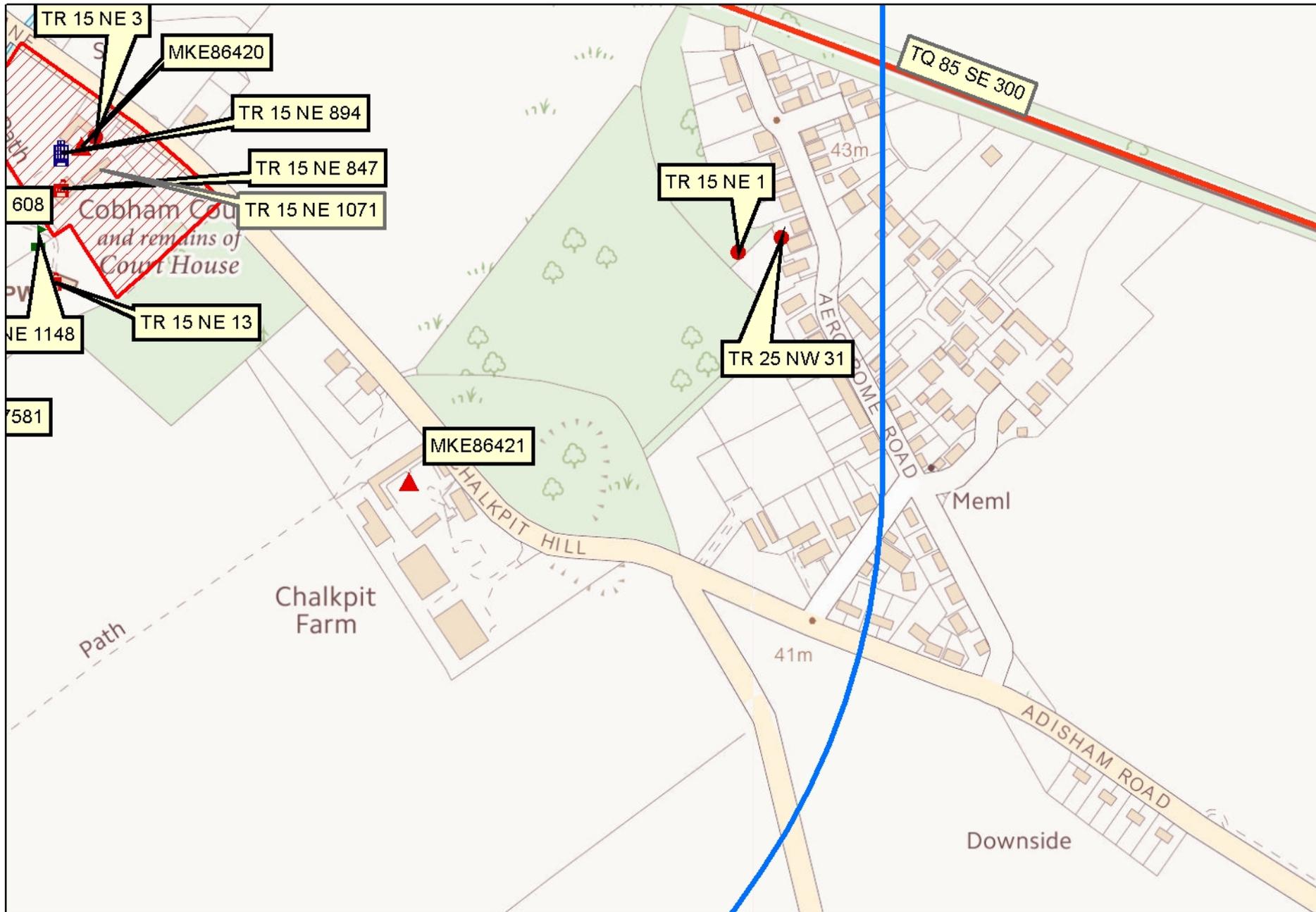


Legend

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-  Farmstead
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-  Maritime
-  Monument
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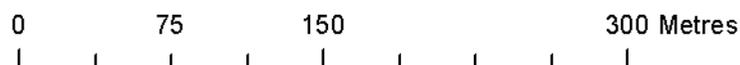


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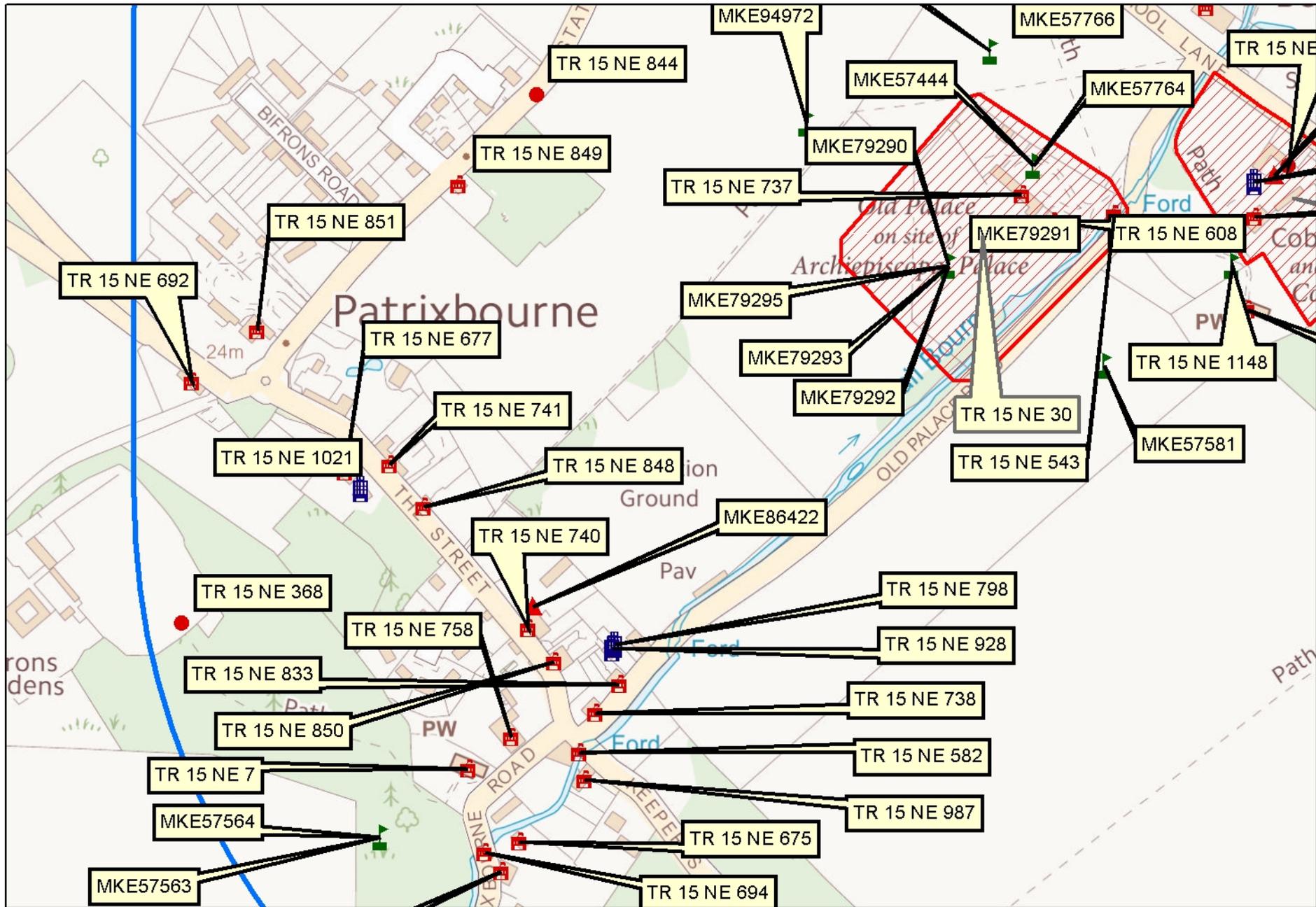


Legend

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-  Monument
-  Place
-  HEDGE
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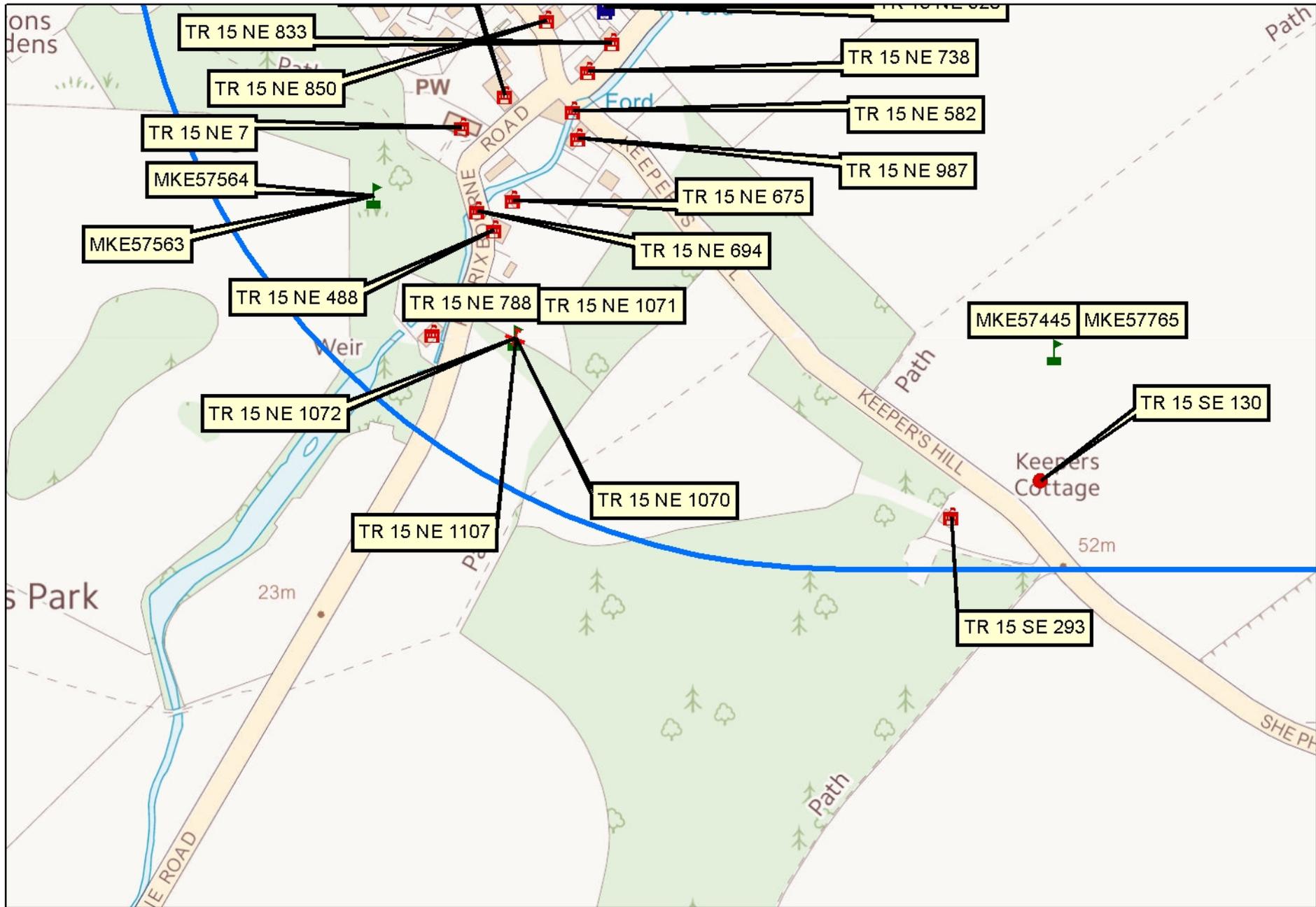


Legend

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-  Farmstead
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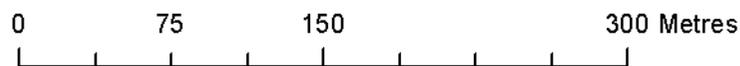


Kent Historic Environment Record - Bekesbourne Palace - Monuments 5



Legend

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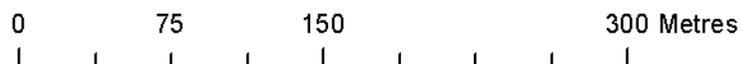


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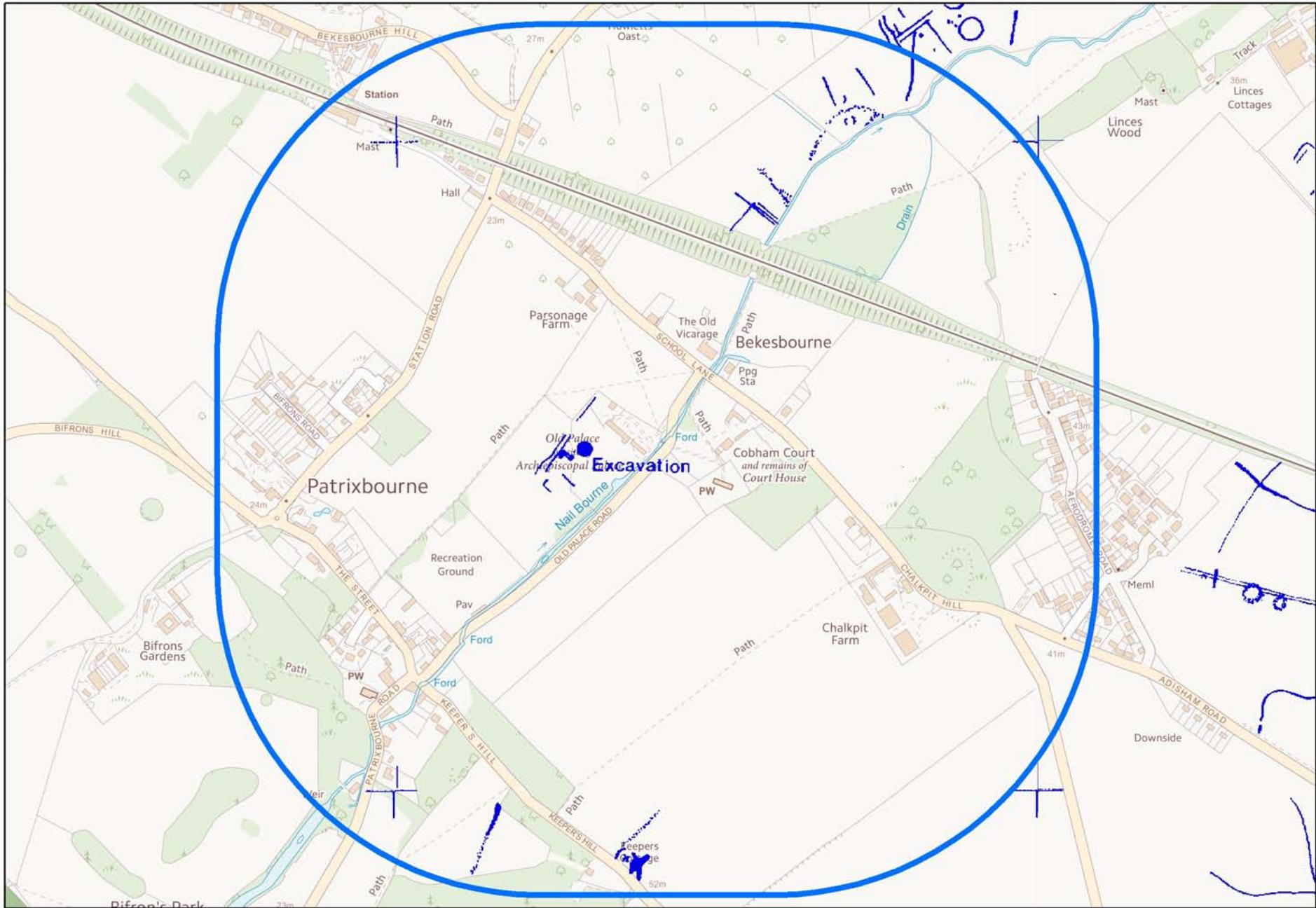


Legend

-  Building
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-  Farmstead
-  Findspot
-  Listed Building
-  Landscape
-  Maritime
-  Monument
-  Place
-  HEDGE
-  MON
-  Mon (poly)



Kent Historic Environment Record - Bekesbourne Palace - Cropmarks



Legend

