Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in advance of Proposed Development of Land at Havelock Street, Canterbury, Kent

NGR: 615342 158000



Report for Townscape Havelock Ltd Date of Report: 12/10/2015 Updated: 14/12/2016

# SWAT. ARCHAEOLOGY

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# Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of Proposed Development of land at Havelock Street, Canterbury, Kent

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#### 1 SUMMARY

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) has been commissioned to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development of residential dwellings on land at Havelock Street, Canterbury, Kent as part of the planning application submitted by Townscape Havelock Ltd.

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 further archaeological assessment will be required in the form of an <u>Archaeological Evaluation</u> as a condition on the planning permission.

A Design and Access Statement has been prepared by Townscape Havelock Ltd and this document sets out the architectural proposals for the development of the site in a sustainable manner both environmentally and economically.

The site lies just outside the historic core of Canterbury but within the boundaries of the World Heritage Site and in one of Canterbury's designated Conservation Areas. In addition it is within an Area of Archaeological Importance (Figure 12). The site is bounded to the north by Old Ruttington Lane and to the south by Havelock Street. Ruttington Lane did once contain mostly 17<sup>th</sup> century houses that were destroyed by aerial bombing in WW2. In 1970 a terrace of town houses was built on the site. Havelock Street is named after Sir Henry Havelock who died at the siege of Lucknow. The terraced housing built during the 1870's was occupied by military personnel but these houses on the Proposed Development Area (PDA) on the north side of the

street were badly damaged by aerial bombing during WW2, demolished, and utilised as playgrounds and 'temporary' single storey concrete panel classrooms in the immediate post-war period.

#### 1.1 History of the site

The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is located outside the Canterbury city walls on the north-east side of the city. Archaeological activity in the vicinity of present day Canterbury started in the prehistoric period with people taking advantage of the resources provided by the River Stour. By the Iron Age a large 'oppidum' had been established to the west of Canterbury at Bigbury and it was probably a tribal capital by the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC.

With the arrival of the Roman Empire in AD 43 a Roman town was established at the crossing point of the River Stour and became a regional (cantonal) capital and administrative centre known as *Durovernum Cantiacorum*.

With the demise of the Roman Empire in the west Canterbury became the centre of a new Kentish Kingdom. In AD597 Canterbury became the centre of the reintroduction of Christianity to Britain with the arrival of St Augustine from Rome.

By the 9<sup>th</sup> century a new pattern of streets had been laid out on top of Roman ruins and with the murder of Thomas Becket in 1170 Canterbury became the focus for pilgrimage. The city walls were rebuilt in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century on the line of the Roman walls and the city and its environs continued to prosper to the present day.

The PDA is situated outside the Roman circuit of walls but can be expected to contain elements of the archaeological record of all these ages.

#### Map Regression 1783-1985

A limited map regression exercise on large scale Ordnance Survey maps has been carried out on the proposed development area (Figs. 6-10). In addition earlier historical maps have been viewed and have shown that the site in 1640 was probably open fields (Figs. 1-2). The Heller map of 1670 (Fig. 3) shows the same rural

view as does the Andrews Dury of 1769 (Fig. 5). The Fenner map of 1825 is of particular interest as it shows that even by this date Havelock had not been developed (Fig. 4). But the OS map of 1873 some 48 years later shows Havelock Street fully developed (Fig. 6).

From the 1840s the Ordnance Survey started work 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.

The Ordnance Survey map of 1873 (Figure 6) shows Havelock Street and the wider urban scene. To the west is 'Christ Church Cathedral', and closer to and just inside the Roman walls is the 'Deanery Gardens'. To the south is 'The Monastery' whilst to the north-east is 'St Gregory's Church'. Havelock Street is shown in good detail with terraced housing on both sides of the street.

A close-up of the same 1873 OS map shows in detail the PDA. On the north side of Havelock Street and inside the area of the PDA are nine terraced houses with one passageway leading to the rear. All the houses have a single storey scullery to the rear and five of the houses have a outside latrine attached to the rear whilst one has a garden shed. Two more latrines are freestanding in the same plot of land where the passageway is situated. These houses were no longer standing by 1940 as shown in the aerial photograph (Plate 1). The houses inside the north area of the PDA are more interesting as they are a group which were obviously built at different times and may stretch back to the medieval period.

The OS maps of 1898 and 1907 (Figures 8-9) show the same scene but with less detail but four houses on the north side of the PDA have had large extensions built.

The aerial photograph of 1940 shows that all the houses on the PDA have been destroyed and the rubble removed (Plate 1).

The OS map of 1955 (Figure 10) shows the area of the PDA cleared and a building the 'Diocesan & Payne Smith School' established. Other areas of clearance have taken place to the north of the PDA where rows of houses have to be replaced by a 'Builder's Yard whilst to the south of the PDA the area is completely cleared of housing.

The aerial photograph of 1960 (Plate 2) shows this building and a football pitch to the south of it but within the area of the PDA.

The OS map of 1999 (Fig. 11) shows new housing to the north and south of the PDA but little has changed on the PDA apart from the name of the school which is now 'Diocesan & Payne Smith (aided) Primary School'.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Planning Background

The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) Policy 12 is the relevant policy for the historic environment:

#### 12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

12.6. 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.

12.8. 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** 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 its setting". The setting of the heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve".

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.

#### **Regional Policy**

The South-East Research Framework is ongoing 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 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 the erection of student accommodation scheme with a warden's unit. The land is currently used for car parking.

# 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) has been consulted and shows that the proposed development site (PDA) is located on Bedrock Geology of Thanet Formation- Sand, Silt and Clay with Superficial Deposits of Clay and Silt. The PDA itself is located on the north side of Havelock Street and to the east of Broad Street. The site slopes from ENE (10.56m OD) to WSW (10.24m OD).

# 3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

# 3.1 Introduction

The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Townscape Havelock Ltd in order to supplement a planning application for the development of the site of land at Havelock Street, Canterbury, Kent.

# 3.2 Desktop Study – Institute for Archaeologists

This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Institute for Archaeologists (December 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)

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

5. 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 placeshaping

7. proposals for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research, whether undertaken in response to a threat or not (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 was consulted but because of the plethora of sites and finds in this part of Canterbury only monuments, sites and finds within a 75m radius of the proposed development area (PDA) of Havelock Street have been researched. The Historic England Online Listing was also sourced:

<u>https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/</u> and also the Portable Antiquities Scheme at <u>www.finds.org.uk</u>

#### 4.1.2 Historical documents

Historical documents, such as charters, registers, wills and deeds were not accessed for this specific study.

#### 4.1.3 Cartographic and pictorial documents

A limited map regression exercise was commissioned for the report. Research was carried out using the Internet and Ordnance Survey Historical mapping (Figs. 6-11).

# 4.1.4 Aerial photographs

The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-3).

# 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 local research frameworks and websites have been included within this assessment where appropriate.

# 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

#### 5.1 Introduction

Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	<i>c</i> . 500,000 BC – <i>c</i> .10,000 BC
	Mesolithic	<i>c</i> .10,000 BC – <i>c</i> . 4,300 BC
	Neolithic	<i>c</i> . 4.300 BC – <i>c</i> . 2,300 BC
	Bronze Age	<i>c</i> . 2,300 BC – <i>c</i> . 600 BC
	Iron Age	<i>c</i> . 600 BC – <i>c</i> . AD 43
Romano-British		AD 43 – <i>c</i> . 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 of the PDA is diverse and comprises possible activity dating from the Bronze Age through to the Modern period. The geographic and topographic location of the site is within an urban landscape that has been the focus of trade, travel and communication since the Neolithic. There have been numerous archaeological investigations that have delivered a wealth of data on the Roman and Medieval periods (Figures 12-14).

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 (75m radius centered on the PDA). Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed on this page in **Table 1**.

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

One Scheduled Monument- St Augustine Abbey (1016844) and no Historic Parks & Gardens. The PDA is within a Conservation Area and within an Area of Archaeological Interest (AAI). In addition, the proposed development area (PDA) in within the World Heritage Site of Canterbury. No listed building are in the vicinity of the Proposed Development Site (PDA) but many are situated in Broad Street (Figures 12-14).

#### 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 and is not represented within the assessment area.

The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age and is not represented within the assessment area.

The Neolithic period, the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry is represented within the assessment area. Early-Mid Neolithic pits were found in an evaluation at Christchurch College some 75m to the south east of the PDA (EKE 13781).

The Bronze Age is a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Kent HER has one record of archaeological evidence from the Bronze Age, prehistoric pottery sherds dated to about 900-800BC were found in an evaluation at Christchurch College 75m to the south east of the PDA (EKE 13781).

#### 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 Kent HER records several excavations, monuments and find spots within the assessment area including Late Iron Age activity near Diocesan House, 26 Broad Street (TR 15 NE 414).

#### 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. The assessment area has undergone several excavations, particularly at Diocesan House where Romano-British burials were found (TR 15 NE 414) and at Christchurch College residual pottery and pits were uncovered in an archaeological evaluation (EKE 13781).

#### 5.6 Anglo-Saxon

The Anglo-Saxon period is represented in the assessment area with Jutish or Saxon pottery sherds found near Diocesan House (TR 15 NE 416), and archaeological features dating to the Early and Mid Anglo-Saxon periods (EKE 13781).

#### 5.7 Medieval

The medieval period is represented within the assessment area with numerous sites in the vicinity, the closest are medieval pits at 35-6 Broad Street about 15m west of the PDA (EKE 13862).

#### 5.8 Post-Medieval

The Post Medieval period is represented by post-dissolution garden features and loams at Christchurch College about 75m south east of the DBA.

#### 5.9 Modern

The Modern Period is represented by the site of a WW2 roadblock in Old Ruttington Lane about 10m from the PDA (TR 15 NE 759) and the site of a WW2 fortified house about 40m west of the PDA (TR 15 NE 822).

#### 5.10 Undated

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

#### 5.11 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

A map regression exercise carried out on the proposed development area has shown that the site was open ground up to the 19<sup>th</sup> century and then developed with terraced housing which was destroyed in WW2 and apart from a 'temporary' concrete slab construction school classroom has not been developed since.

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

#### 6.1 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age

There is one record that reflects 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

There are several records that reflect Iron Age activity within the search area. The potential for finding remains dating to the Iron Age within the confines of the PDA is considered **medium**.

#### 6.3 Romano-British

There are several records that reflect Romano-British activity within the search area. The potential for finding remains dating to Romano-British archaeology in the research area suggests that the potential is therefore to be considered **high**.

#### 6.4 Anglo-Saxon

Anglo-Saxon archaeology within the assessment area has been represented. The potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period on the development site is considered as **high**.

#### 6.5 Medieval

Medieval archaeology within the assessment area has been well represented. The potential for finding remains dating to the Medieval period on the development site is considered as **high**.

#### 6.6 Post-Medieval

There are a number of records that reflect Post-Medieval activity within the search area. The potential for finding remains dating to the post-medieval period is therefore considered as **high**.

# 7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### 7.1 Existing Impacts

The search area is for the most part, subject to urban development and the potential impact on buried archaeological deposits will have been due to these activities. A site visit has shown that the site is tarmaced with large trees on the north boundary (Plates 5-8). In addition it may be that the terraced housing on the north and south sides of the PDA may have been cellared and so the impact on the potential archaeological resource in these areas of development will have been **high**. Rosanne Cummings CCC Archaeological Officer has looked at the archaeological archive held at CCC and has commented:

"Observations during building work to the rear of nearby property in 2006 recorded a sequence of soils and features dating from the Roman through to the medieval period occurring a depth of between 600-850mm below the existing ground surface. Features of early Roman date cutting the underlying brickearth clays were recorded at a depth of 110-120m below the ground surface.

It is likely that important archaeology will have survived in the rear gardens of Havelock Street at a depth of between 60cm-85cm below the existing ground level and any evaluation trenching should be focused in this area (Figure 15).

#### 7.2 Proposed Impacts

At the time of preparing this archaeological assessment, the extent of the proposed development (Figure 16) was for the build of student residential units and landscaping. 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 very **high** archaeological potential.

It is recommended in this case that further archaeological assessment will be required subsequent to planning permission being granted and that an <u>Archaeological Evaluation</u> should be carried out under planning conditions. These procedures will provide an additional assessment of the nature; depth and level of survival of any archaeological deposits present within the extents of the site and used to inform if further mitigation is necessary.

# 9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

#### 9.1 Archive

Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, two copies of this deskbased assessment will be submitted to Canterbury City Council and 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 HER data held at Kent County Council, and therefore considered as being reliable.

#### 9.3 Copyright

Swale & Thames Survey Company 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 Townscape Havelock Ltd (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

Dr Paul Wilkinson MCifA. October 12th 2015. Updated 14/12/2016

# 10 REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY

CifA (December 2014) STANDARD AND GUIDANCE for historic environment deskbased assessment.

National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

Data provided by Kent HER (Figures 12-14)

Plates



Plate 1. The Google Earth view (1940) of the site (eye alt 680m).



Plate 2. The Google Earth view (1960) of the site (eye alt 680m). 1



Plate 3. The Google Earth view (2008) of the site (eye alt 680m).



Plate 4. The Google Earth view (2013) of the site (eye alt 680m).



Plate 5. Viewing the Site (looking north-west)



Plate 6. Viewing the Site (looking north)



Plate 7. View of Site on right (looking east Ruttington Lane)



Plate 8. View of Site on right (looking west Havelock Street)



Figure 1. Somner map 1640



Figure 2. Somner map 1640 (detail)



Figure 3. Heller map 1670 Figure 4. Fenner map 1825 (below)





Figure 5. Andrews Dury map of 1769



Figure 7. 1873 OS map (detail)



Figure 9. 1907 OS map



Figure 11. 1999 OS map



Kent Historic Environment Record - Designations (NOTE: Entire area is within World Heritage Site)

Figure 12. KCC HER Designations

#### Kent Historic Environment Record - Events



Figure 13. KCC HER Events



Kent Historic Environment Record - Monuments

Figure 14. KCC HER Monuments



Figure 15. Areas of potential archaeology (pink)