

# Archaeological Investigations on land at 2 Castle Cottages, Castle Road, Richborough, Kent

Site Code RICH /AI /18



Date of report 18/10/2018

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# Archaeological Investigations on land at 2 Castle Cottages, Castle Road, Richborough, Kent

NGR 632030 160303

Date of report: 18/10/2018

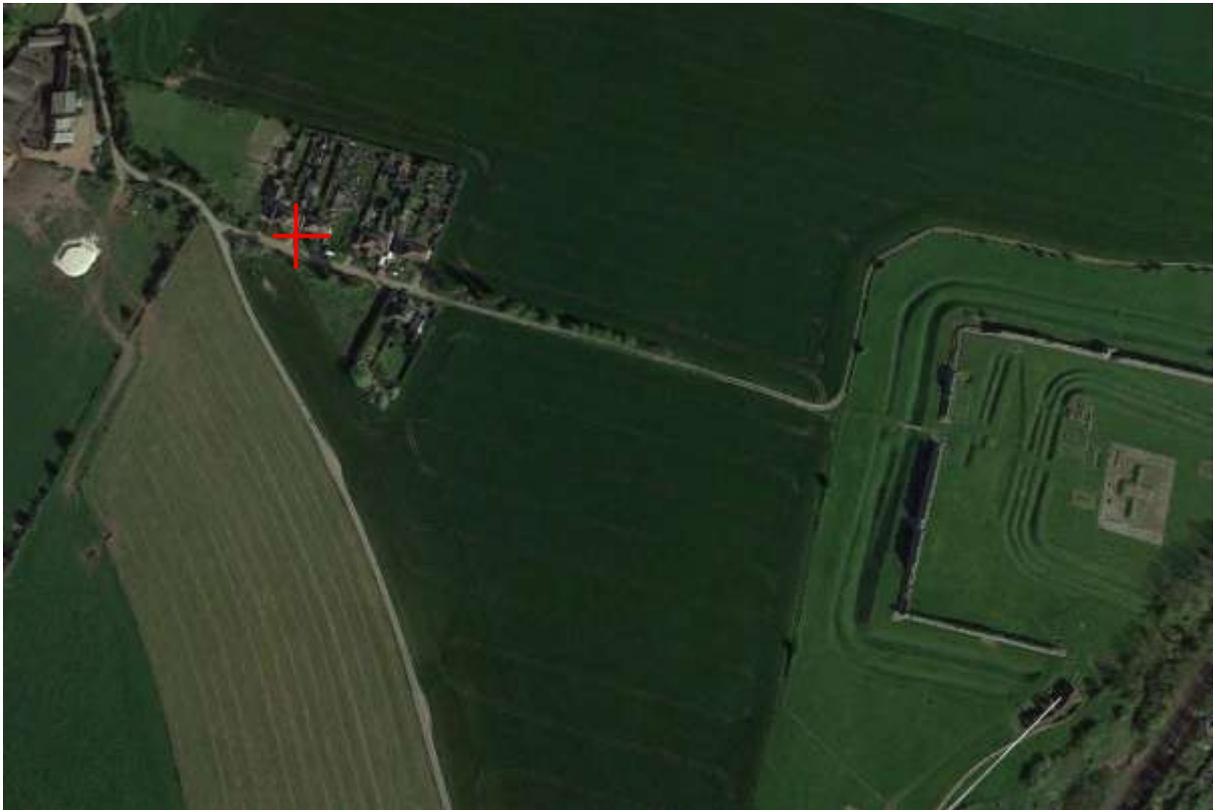


Plate 1. Aerial view of site (red target) showing the site in relationship to Richborough Roman fort.

(Google Earth 2018: Eye altitude 287m).

## **1.0 Abstract**

1.1. On the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 Dr Paul Wilkinson MCifA and a team from Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Investigation on ground works involved in the build of a single storey front extension at 2 Castle Cottages, Castle Road, Richborough in Kent. (Fig. 1 & Plates 2-6).

1.2. The works were carried out on behalf of the land owner.

1.3. An Archaeological Investigation was undertaken with the excavation of foundation trenches by SWAT Archaeology (Plates 2-6).

The archaeological work was undertaken in one phase.

Phase 1: The digging out of the foundation footprint of the new building to about 0.1.10m below present ground level of about 12.10m AOD (1<sup>st</sup> October & Plates 2-6).

1.4. The Archaeological Investigation was to excavate the foundation trenches by hand and to expose any signs of archaeological activity. In particular, any evidence of archaeological activity associated with the known archaeological sites in the area including the nearby Roman fort and Roman settlement and road.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is Dover District Council DOV/18/00154.

1.6. Although the archaeological potential has been highlighted by KCC Heritage Conservation the Archaeological Investigation revealed no buried archaeological features and no archaeological finds were retrieved.

## **2.0 Introduction**

2.1 The site is located on land to the front of 2 Castle Cottages, Castle Road, Richborough, near Sandwich, Kent. The property is located on the north side of Castle Road a track overlaying the Roman road from Richborough Castle to Canterbury (Figure 1).

### **2.2 Planning Background**

Planning application DOV/18/00154 was submitted to Dover District Council the Local Planning Authority (LPA). Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of the LPA requested that a Programme of Archaeological Work be undertaken in order to record any archaeological remains uncovered during the development work. The following condition (5) was attached to the planning consent:

*No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.*

*Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded. These details are required prior to the commencement of the development as they form an intrinsic part of the proposal, the approval of which cannot be disaggregated from the carrying out of the rest of the development.*

### **3.0 Schedule of Visits**

An archaeological team suitably experienced attended the site with Dr Paul Wilkinson (SWAT Archaeology) and carried out the excavation works on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018.

### **4.0 Aims and Objectives**

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

*“The aim of the archaeological investigations are two-part: firstly to determine whether any significant archaeological remains survive within the footprint of the groundworks for the proposed development; and secondly to enable any remains encountered to be appropriately investigated and recorded, such that the archaeological investigations will secure the excavation, recording and analysis of any archaeological remains that will be disturbed by the proposed development” (KCC Heritage WSI July 2017)*

**7.**

4.2. The ground works were for an archaeological team to excavate the foundation trenches for the new single storey extension (Plates 2-6).

4.3. A full programme of proposed works by the contractor were made available to SWAT Archaeology before the on-site excavation 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 is that the Bedrock Geology is Thanet Sand Formation- Sand, Silt and Clay whilst the Superficial Deposits are not recorded (Plates 2-6) .

5.2. The application site consisted of an area of known important archaeological remains which are summarised in the KCC Heritage Specification (dated July 2018).

## **6.0 Methodology**

6.1. The Archaeological Works were conducted in accordance with the Archaeological Specification compiled by KCC Heritage and it also complied with the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (CIfA: Dec 2017).

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

6.3. The Archaeological Work was carried out according to the needs of the building contractors on 1st October 2018.

6.4. Excavation of the trenching was carried out by SWAT Archaeologists necessary to remove the soil down to formation level (Plates 2-6).

6.5. 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.

6.6. The archaeological work was carried out in accordance with current CIfA Standards and Guidance, (CIfA: 2017), and methodology discussed on a number of occasions with the Senior Archaeological Officer KCC.

## **7.0 Results**

### **7.1 General**

No archaeological features or finds were revealed or recovered. The subsoil encountered across the site was deposits of water worn shingle in a yellow brown sandy matrix overlaid

by topsoil. No archaeological features were revealed in the natural geology and no archaeological finds retrieved from the site.

7.2 The proposed build is to be located to the front of the main house. The area was surveyed in and shown on Figure 1.

7.3 The site reduction was about 1.00m-1.20cm deep at about 12.10m AOD. The site produced no archaeological features or deposits or finds and no environmental potential was recognised on site.

## **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 Investigation has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the KCC 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 the landowners for commissioning the project. Fieldwork was undertaken by SWAT Archaeology and report written by Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIFA.

## **References**

HER data (KCC and Historic England 2018)

CIFA (2017) Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

**Appendix 1**  
**Kent County Council HER Summary Form**

**Site Name:** Development of land at 2 Castle Cottages, Castle Road, Richborough, Kent

**SWAT Site Code:** RICH/AI/18

**Site Address:** As above

**Summary:**

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Investigation on the development site above. The site has planning permission for a new extension to the front of the house whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC) requested that an Archaeological Investigation be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

The Archaeological Investigation consisted of excavating the foundations which encountered no buried archaeological features or artefacts.

**District/Unitary:** Dover District Council

**Period(s):**

**NGR (centre of site to eight figures)** 632030 160303

**Type of Archaeological work:** Archaeological Investigation

**Date of recording:** September 2018

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

**Geology:** Bedrock geology is Thanet Sand Formation

**Title and author of accompanying report:** Wilkinson P. (2018) Archaeological Investigations on land at 2 Castle Cottages, Castle Road, Richborough, 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:** 18/10/18



Plate 2. General view of site prior to development (looking W)



Plate 3. View of trenching (looking S)



Plate 4. View of foundation trenching (looking S)

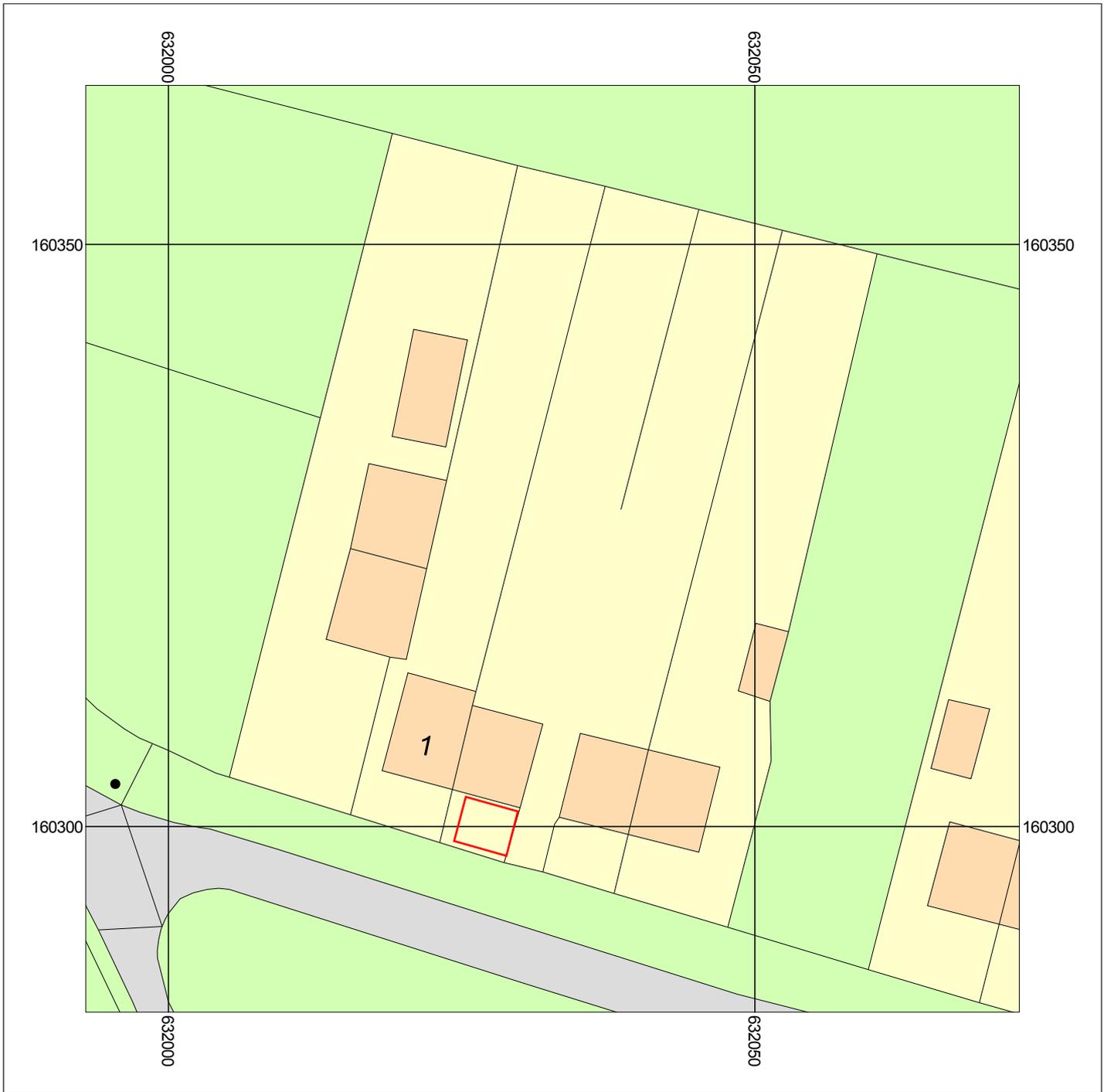


Plate 5. View of the trenches (looking N)



Plate 6. View of the trenches (looking NW)

Figure 1



Metres  
0 2.5 5 10 15 20 25  
Scale: 1:500



Supplied by: National Map Centre  
License number: 100031961  
Produced: 11/05/2018  
Serial number: 1982532

Plot centre co-ordinates: 632033,160324  
Download file: swat\_2castleroad.zip  
Project name: swat\_2castleroad