

# Archaeological Watching Brief on land at 2 Kingsdown Road, Walmer, Kent CT14 7LH

Site Code KING/WB/18



Date of report 12/07/2018

## **SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY**

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# Archaeological Watching Brief on land at 2 Kingsdown Road, Walmer, Kent

Site Code KING/WB/18  
NGR 637747 150592

Date of report: 12/07/2018



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

(Google Earth 20/4/2017: Eye altitude 217m).

## **1.0 Abstract**

1.1. From the 9<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA of Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief on ground works involved in the build of a double height extension on land at 2 Kingsdown Road, Walmer in Kent. (Fig. 1 & Plates 1-7).

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

1.3. An Archaeological Watch was kept during the excavation of foundation trenches (Plates 3-7).

The archaeological work was undertaken in one phase.

Phase 1: The digging out of the foundation footprint of the new building to about 0.70-0.80m below present ground level of about 3.00m AOD (9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> May & Plates 5, 6).

1.4. The Archaeological Watching Brief was to watch for any signs of archaeological activity. In particular, any evidence of archaeological activity associated with the known archaeological sites in the area including the nearby findings of Roman and World War II remains.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is DOV/17/01227.

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

## **2.0 Introduction**

2.1 The site is located on land to the north and adjacent to No 2 Kingsdown Road itself fronting onto the road and shingle beach and beyond the sea. To the north are blocks of flats and to the west semi-detached and terraced houses. The site itself is level at about 3.00m aOD (Figure 1).

### **2.2 Planning Background**

Planning application DOV/17/01227 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 an Archaeological Watching Brief 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 watching brief to be undertaken by an archaeologist approved by the local planning authority so that the excavation is observed and items of interest and finds are recorded. The watching brief shall be in accordance with a written programme and specification which has previously 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 archaeologist suitably experienced attended the site (Paul Wilkinson SWAT Archaeology) and monitored the excavation works from 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

### **4.0 Aims and Objectives**

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

*“The objectives of the archaeological watching brief are to contribute to heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of any archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the groundworks. Particular attention will be made to the character, height below ground level, condition, date and significance of the deposits (SWAT Archaeology 18/04/2018).*

4.2. The ground works were to excavate the foundation trenches for the new two storey extension (Plates 2-7).

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

4.4. Confidence Rating

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

## **5.0 Archaeological and Geological Background**

5.1. The underlying geology at the site according to the British Geological Survey is that the Bedrock Geology is Seaford Chalk- Chalk whilst the Superficial Deposits are Storm Beach Deposits- Sand and Gravel.

5.2. The application site consisted of an area of known important archaeological remains. To the SSW were found WWII barbed wire (MWX 43655), to the SW a probable WWII gun emplacement (MWX 43654) and to the NNE a WWII slit trench (MWX 43660), whilst to the north is the site of a Romano-British cremation cemetery (TR 35 SE 17).

## **6.0 Methodology**

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

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

6.3. The Watching Brief was carried out according to the needs of the building contractors from 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

6.4. Excavation of the area was carried out by contractors using a 360 degree machine equipped with a toothless bucket necessary to remove the soil down to formation level (Plates 2-6).

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

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

6.7. If found archaeological features under threat were to be excavated to enable sufficient information about form, development date and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded without prejudice to more extensive investigations, should these prove to be necessary.

6.8. The archaeological watching brief was carried out in accordance with current 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 beach gravel overlaid by silty sandy clay and overlaid by topsoil. No archaeological features were revealed in the natural geology and no archaeological finds retrieved from the site which was swept with a Fisher CZ 3D metal detector.

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

7.3 The site reduction was about 60cm-80cm deep at about 3.00m 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 Monitoring has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the SWAT Archaeological Specification. As far as it is known no buried archaeological features have been affected as a result of the development.

## **11.0 Acknowledgments**

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Jeffery Applegate for commissioning the project. Fieldwork was undertaken 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 Kingsdown Road, Walmer, Deal. Kent

**SWAT Site Code:** KING/WB/18

**Site Address:** As above

**Summary:**

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

The Archaeological Monitoring consisted of site visits which encountered no buried archaeological features or artefacts.

**District/Unitary:** Dover District Council

**Period(s):**

**NGR (centre of site to eight figures)** 637747 150592

**Type of Archaeological work:** Archaeological Watching Brief

**Date of recording:** May 2018

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

**Geology:** Bedrock geology is Seaford Chalk

**Title and author of accompanying report:** Wilkinson P. (2018) Archaeological Watching Brief on land at 2 Kingsdown Road, Walmer, 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:** 12/07/18



Plate 2. General view of site (looking WNW)



Plate 3. View of foundation trenching (looking E)



Plate 4. View of foundation trenching (looking W)



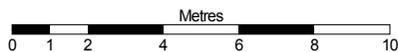
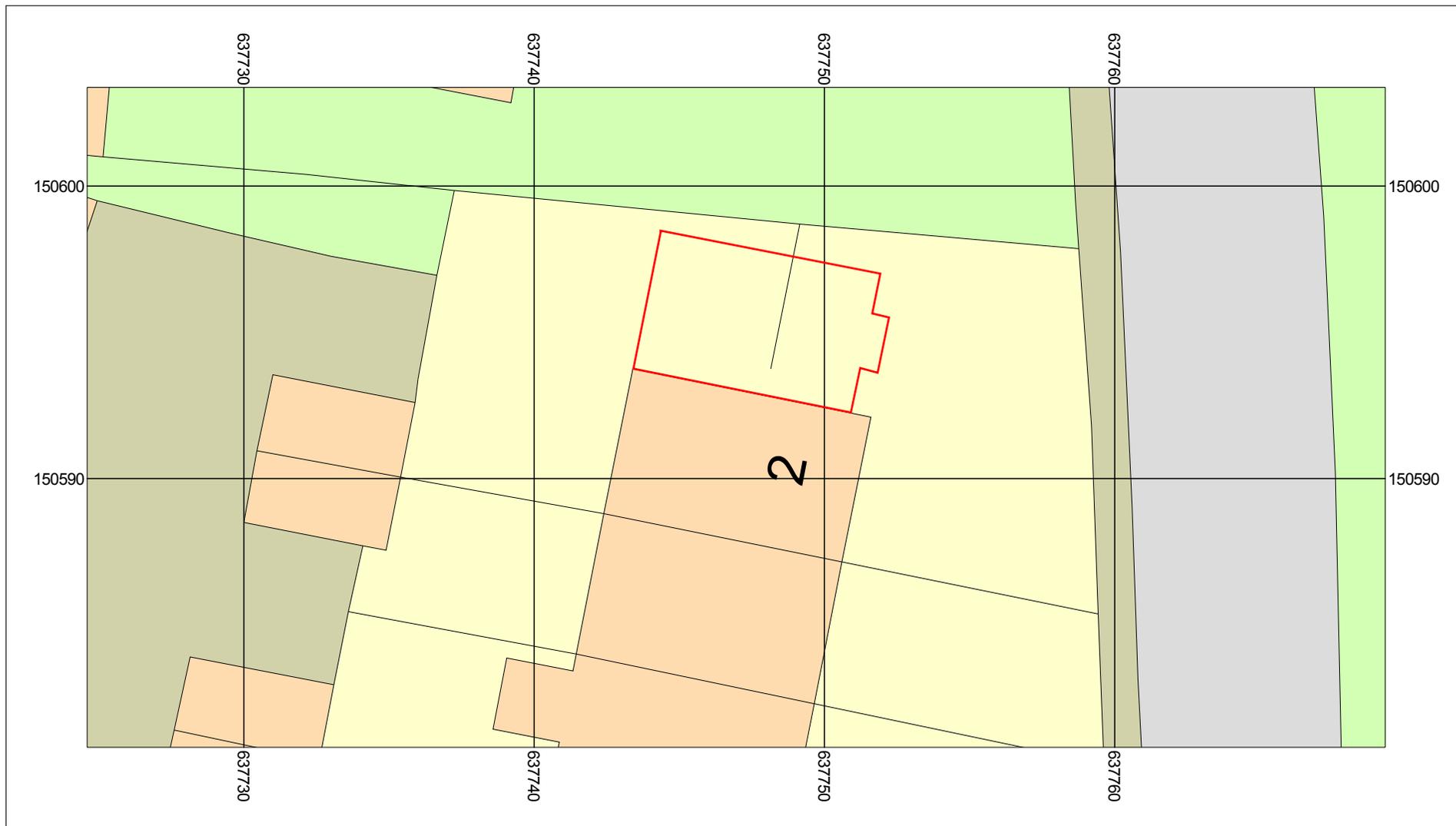
Plate 5. View of trench section (looking E)



Plate 6. View of trench section (looking E)



Plate 7. Completed foundation trench (looking W)



Scale: 1:200

**Kingsdown Road**  
**Deal**



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Licence number  
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National Map Centre  
100031961  
12/07/2018  
2005773

Plot centre co-ordinates: 637747.150592  
Download file: kingsdown.zip  
Project name: swat2