

Archaeological Evaluation of Land at the New Kent Union Building, Park Wood Road, Canterbury, Kent



NGR: 61337 15860

Site Code: UNI/EV/17

(Planning Application: 17/01477)

SWAT Archaeology

The Office, School Farm Oast

Graveney Road Faversham, Kent, ME13 8UP

Email: info@swatarchaeology.co.uk

Tel.: 01795 532548 and 07885 700112

© SWAT Archaeology 2018 all rights reserved

Contents

List of Figures.....	3
List of Plates.....	3
1. Summary.....	4
2. Introduction.....	4
3. Site Description and Topography.....	4
4. Planning Background.....	5
5. Archaeological and Historical Background.....	5
6. Aims and Objectives.....	5
7. Methodology.....	6
8. Monitoring.....	6
9. Results.....	6
10. Discussion.....	8
11. Finds.....	8
12. Conclusion.....	8
13. Acknowledgements.....	8
14. References.....	8
15. CCC Summary Form.....	9

List of Figures:

Figure 1 –Location of site

Figure 2. Evaluation trench

List of Plates:

Plate 1 - Aerial view of site

Plate 2 – Trench 1 (looking NW)

Plate 3 – Trench 1 (looking NW)



Plate 1. Aerial photograph of site (6/9/2016) Google Earth

Archaeological Evaluation of Land at the new Kent Union Building, Park Wood Road, Canterbury, Kent

NGR: 61337 15860

Site Code: UNI-EV-17

1. Summary

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at the new Kent Union Building, Park Wood Road, Canterbury in Kent. A Planning Application (CA/17/01477/FUL) to develop this site for a proposed two storey Student Union building with roof terrace comprising administration and study facilities, retail unit, bar, dance studios and estate agent together with hard landscaping to Canterbury City Council, whereby the Council requested that an Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT Specification A and CCC Manual Part B) and in discussion with the Archaeological Heritage Officer, Canterbury City Council. The results of the excavation of one evaluation trench revealed that no archaeological features were present within the trench (Figure 1). The natural geology of River Terrace Deposits- Sand and Gravel was reached at an average depth of between 0.45m and 0.60m below the modern ground surface (Plate 3).

The Archaeological Evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Archaeological Specification.

2. Introduction

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Jenner (Contractors) Ltd to carry out an archaeological evaluation at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT 2017) and in discussion with Rosanne Cummings, Archaeological Heritage Officer, Canterbury City Council. The evaluation was carried out on the 22nd October 2017.

3. Site Description and Topography

The proposed development site is located to the north of Canterbury city on the University of Kent at Canterbury campus site (NGR 61337 15860). To the east is located Park Wood and beyond the Kent Business School. To the south are university residential areas and include Bishopden Court and Farthings Court (Figure 1). The site is located in an existing car park area immediately east of a single storey admin building which includes a shop and bar. The car park area is flat and tarmac. The site is about 66m aOD (Plate 1 & Fig.1). (SWAT WSI 2017).

4. Planning Background

Canterbury City Council gave planning permission (CA/17/01477/FUL) for development of land off Park Wood Road, Blean, Canterbury, Kent.

On the advice of Rosanne Cummings, Archaeological Heritage Officer (CCC) a programme of archaeological works in the form of an initial archaeological evaluation was attached to the consent. The planning permission has the following Archaeological Condition (3):

No development, other than demolition, shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of:

(i) archaeological monitoring during ground investigation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable and if necessary

(ii) a programme of archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable.

(iii) following on from the above, any safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation, post-excavation assessment, analysis, publication or conservation in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: *To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded in accordance with policy HE11 of the Canterbury District Local Plan Publication 2017 and the National Planning Policy Framework.*

The opportunity was missed to attend the ground investigation works so subsequently an archaeological evaluation was necessary. The results from this evaluation will be used to inform CCC Archaeology and Heritage and Canterbury City Council of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with the development proposals.

5. Archaeological and Historical Background

The Archaeological record, both in and around the Proposed Development Area (PDA) is diverse. The Kent County Council Historic Environment Record (KCCHER) has provided details of any previous investigations and discoveries. There are no archaeological discoveries recorded in the vicinity of the development site, however in 2013 the Canterbury Archaeological Society found Prehistoric remains on the site of the campus and more recently Canterbury Archaeological Trust conducted an open area excavation on the proposed site of Turing College and found Iron Age remains. Neither of these investigations are recorded on the KCCHER.

6. Aims and Objectives

According to the SWAT Archaeological Specification, the aims and objectives for the archaeological work were to ensure that:

The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation is to establish or otherwise the presence of any potential archaeological features which may be impacted by the proposed development.

Also to find out the depths of features below the surface, how much overburden and the extent of the depth of deposits themselves. In addition the dates and quality of any archaeological remains which will be achieved through a limited sample excavation of features. Human remains will not be excavated (see also CCC Evaluation Specification Part B: 4. Objectives).

7. Methodology

The Archaeological Specification called for an evaluation by trial trenching comprising a first phase of one trench 25m long and 2m wide within the footprint of the proposed building development. A 7.5 ton 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a flat-bladed ditching bucket was used to remove the tarmac and subsoil to expose the natural geology and/or the archaeological horizon. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the SWAT specification. A single context recording system was used to record the deposits, and context recording numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with CCC, SWAT and ClfA standards and guidance.

8. Monitoring

Curatorial monitoring was available during the course of the evaluation.

9. Results

The evaluation has identified no archaeological features within the one trench (Figure 2).

Trench 1

9.1 Trench orientation: SW-NE. Depth: 0.85m. Width: 2.00m. Length: 25m. No archaeology was detected. Tarmac covered most of the site and the subsoil under (101) was dark grey silty subsoil loosely compacted and 55cm thick overlaying mottled mid yellow with slight orange hue firm sand (102) which in some areas was contaminated with petrochemicals (Figure 2 & Plates 2, 3).

10. Discussion

With some archaeological sites known in the vicinity of the PDA it was expected that the evaluation may produce evidence of archaeological activity. But there was none. Most of the site has been used as a car park and building site. The trench showed a typical sequence of tarmac, subsoil and natural geology.

11. Finds

No finds were found.

12. Conclusion

The evaluation trench at the proposed development site revealed no archaeological features or artefacts.

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprised of tarmac overlaying the subsoil **(101)** sealing the natural geology **(102)**. Therefore, this evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the aims and objectives as set out in the planning condition and the Archaeological Specification.

13. Acknowledgements

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank the client, Jenner (Contractors) Ltd for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Rosanne Cummings Archaeological Heritage Officer, Canterbury City Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Tim Allen MCIfA and Paul Wilkinson MCIfA.

Paul Wilkinson 16/01/2018

14. References

Institute for Field Archaeologists (IfA), Rev (2017). *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*

SWAT Archaeology (2017) *Specification for a Programme of Archaeological Evaluation New Kent Union Building, Park Wood Road, Canterbury CT2 7SG*

CCC Specification Manual Part B

HER Summary Form

Site Name: Land at the New Kent Union Building, Park Wood Road, Canterbury CT2 7SG

SWAT Site Code: UNI/EV/17

Site Address: As above

Summary:

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Evaluation on the development site above. The site has planning permission for development whereby Canterbury City Council Heritage and Conservation requested that Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

The Archaeological Monitoring consisted of an Archaeological Evaluation which revealed no archaeology.

District/Unitary: Canterbury City Council

Period(s):

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) 61337 15860

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: 22nd October 2017

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

Geology: Underlying geology is River Terrace Deposits- Sand and Gravel

Title and author of accompanying report: Wilkinson P. (2017) Archaeological Evaluation of Land at the new Kent Union Building, Park Wood Road, Canterbury CT2 7SG

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

No archaeology found

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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Date: 16/01/2018



Plate 2. Trench 1 (looking north east)



Plate 3. Trench 1 (looking NE)

Figure 2



159850N

159850N

159800N

159800N

Site Location Plan
Scale 1:200

University of
Kent

Drawing Title	
Site Location Plan	
Planning Application Issue	
Project Title	
Parkwood - Kent Union Building at Parkwood University of Kent Canterbury Kent. CT2 7NZ	
Scale	Date
1:100 and 1:200(A1)	27.09.16
Drawn- NJH	
DRAWING NO	P4-53-001
P.S.Czarnomski BSc (Hons) CEng MCIBSE MBIFM The Director of Estates University of Kent Estates Department Canterbury, Kent, CT2 7NN.UK	