

Archaeological Investigations on land at
Hillrise, 35 Salisbury Road, St Margaret's Bay,
Dover, Kent

Site Code Hill/EX/19



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Archaeological Investigations on land at
Hillrise, 35 Salisbury Road, St Margaret's Bay, Dover,
Kent

Site Code HILL/EX/19
NGR 636793 144854



Plate 1. View of proposed development (looking NW)

1.0 Abstract

1.1. In April 2019 Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA of Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Investigation ahead of ground works involved in the build of a single storey front extension and creation of front garden terrace with retaining walls and external walls (Figure 1 and Plates 1-6).

1.2. An Archaeological Watch was kept during the overburden and foundation excavations of the site. (Plates 1-6).

1.3. The archaeological work was undertaken in two phases.

Phase 1: Digging out of the ground overburden for the new extension and garden terrace on the 29th April 2019 (Plates 1-3).

Phase 2: A close watch on the follow on foundation trenches (Plates 4-6).

1.4. The Archaeological Investigations were in two parts.

(a) To determine whether any significant archaeological remains had survived within the footprint of the proposed groundworks. In particular, any evidence of archaeological activity associated with the known archaeological sites in the area included on the KCCHER data.

(b) To enable any remains encountered to be appropriately investigated and recorded.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is Dover District Council (DOV/18/00364).

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 at Hillrise, 35 Salisbury Road in St Margaret's-at-Cliffe near Dover in Kent. The site itself is level at about 578m AOD (Figure 1).

2.2 Planning Background

The following Condition (8) requiring a programme of archaeological monitoring 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 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 (Dr Paul Wilkinson SWAT Archaeology) and closely monitored the excavation works on 29th and 30th April 2019.

4.0 Aims and Objectives

4.1. The specific aims of the archaeological work were to:

(6.1) 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.

4.2. The ground works were to excavate the ground for the build of a single storey extension and garden works (Plates 1-6).

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 Bedrock Geology of Newhaven Chalk Formation- Chalk.

5.2 The site is located on the North Downs dip-slope. In this part of Kent, the dip-slope is dissected by a number of small dry valleys, which have led to the creation of the familiar rolling chalk downland, comprising south-west to north east trending ridges of higher ground, dissected by a series of parallel dry valleys. Salisbury Road (along with The Droveaway, which runs parallel to the north) runs along the crest of one such ridgetop, with The Droveaway possibly following an ancient trackway out onto the downs. Hillrise is located just off the summit of this ridge, on the seaward sloping side at an elevation of some 82m aOD, with the land falling away towards the cliffs of the Straight of Dover, with the present-day cliff-edge lying around 235m away.

5.3 The archaeological potential is contained within the KCC Archaeological Specification (Ben Found Senior archaeologist KCC and dated November 5th 2018).

6.0 Methodology

6.1. The Archaeological Investigations were conducted in accordance with the Archaeological Specification compiled by KCC Heritage (Ben Found: November 2018)

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

6.3. Excavation of the area was carried out by contractors using a 360 degree machine equipped with a toothed bucket necessary to remove some of the concrete overburden down to formation level (Plates 1-6).

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 investigation work was carried out in accordance with current ClfA Standards and Guidance, (ClfA: 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 Chalk overlaid by topsoil or concrete slabs. No archaeological features were revealed in the natural geology and no archaeological finds retrieved from the site.

7.2 The proposed build is for a single storey extension and garden terrace. The area watched were surveyed in and shown on Figure 1.

7.3 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 high 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 landowner for commissioning the project. Fieldwork was undertaken and report written by Dr Paul Wilkinson MCifA.

Appendix 1
Kent County Council HER Summary Form

Site Name: Development of land at 35 Salisbury Road, St Margarets, Dover, Kent

SWAT Site Code: HILL/EX/19

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 single storey extension whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC) requested that Archaeological Works be undertaken to close monitor the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

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

District/Unitary: Dover District Council

Period(s):

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) 636793 144854

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Investigation

Date of recording: 5th June 2019

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

Geology: Bedrock geology is Chalk Formation

Title and author of accompanying report: Wilkinson P. (2019) Archaeological Investigation on land at Hillrise, 35 Salisbury Road, St Margaret's Bay, Dover, Kent CT15 6DL

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



Plate 2. View of the site (looking west)



Plate 3. View of foundation trench (looking east)



Plate 4. Foundation trench (looking SW)



Plate 5. Foundation trench (looking SW)



Plate 5. Foundation trenches

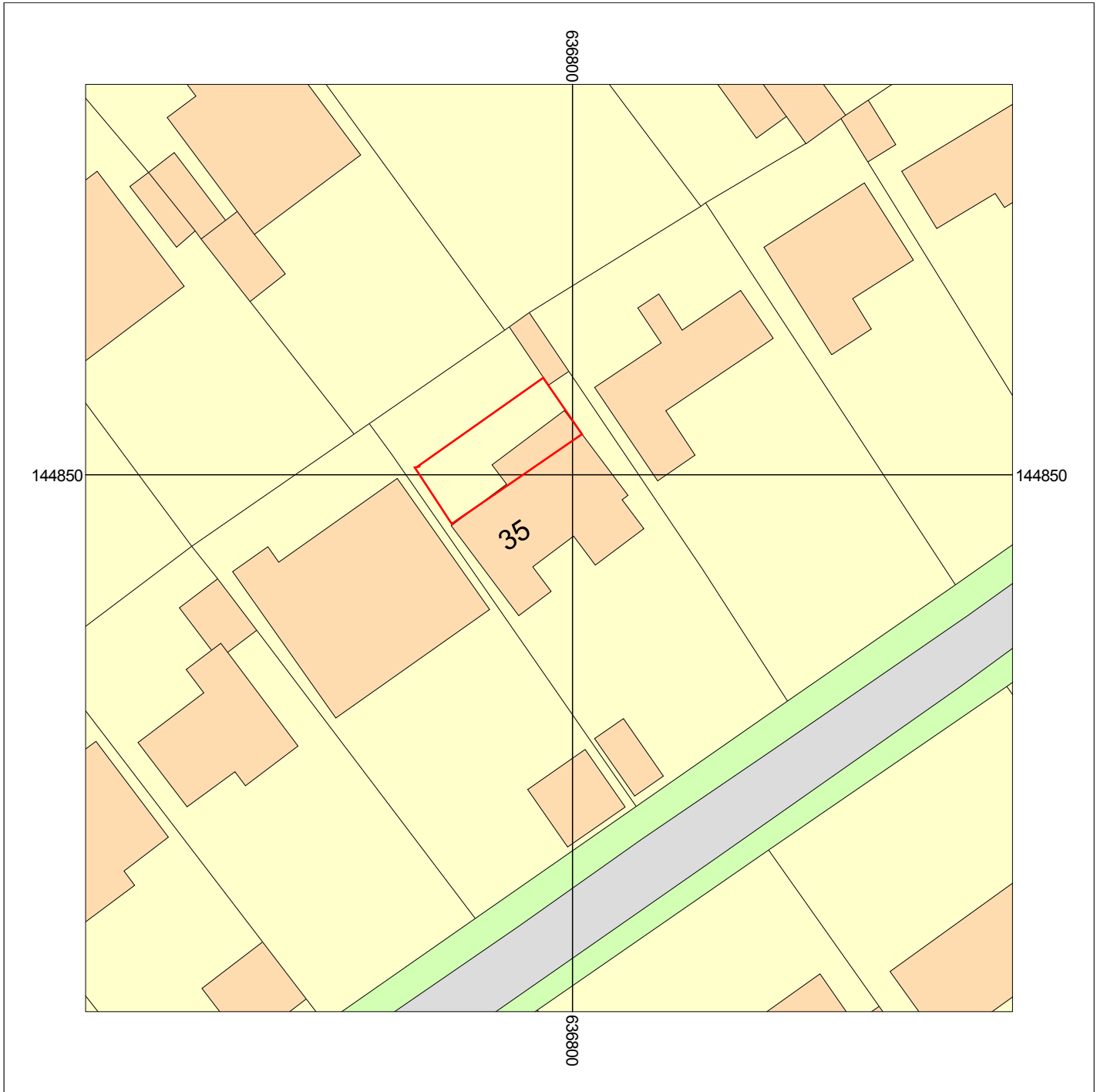


Plate 6. Foundation trench



Plate 5. Foundation trench

Figure 1
Area of archaeological
investigation



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



**35 Salisbury Road
St Margarets Bay
Dover
CT15 6DL**

Supplied by: National Map Centre
License number: 100031961
Produced: 07/10/2019
Serial number: 2163950

Plot centre co-ordinates: 636798,144844
Download file: SWAT_35SalisburyRd.zi
Project name: SWAT_35SalisburyRd