

Archaeological Monitoring of a proposed extension to Golford Gate, Tenterden Road, Cranbrook, Kent

NGR: TQ 7981 3651



Planning application 13/01905/HOUSE
Report for Dennis Lloyd Property Services

SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Figure 1. Site plan

Archaeological Monitoring of a proposed extension to Golford Gate, Tenterden Road, Cranbrook, Kent

Date of report: 17/08/14



Plate 1. Aerial view showing the site prior to development.

(GoogleEarth 7/9/2013, eye alt 397m).

1.0 Summary

1.1. On 30th June 2014 Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief on ground works involved in the build of a new extension to the property called 'Gollford Gate' at Tenterden Road, Cranbrook in Kent (Fig. 1 & Plate 1).

1.2. The works were carried out on behalf of Dennis Lloyd Property Services.

1.3. An Archaeological Watch was kept during the machine excavation of the foundation trenches (Plates 2-4). The archaeological work was undertaken in one phase.

Phase 1: Foundation trenches (Plates 2-4).

1.4. The Archaeological Watching Brief was to watch for any signs of any archaeological below ground impact.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is 13/01905/HOUSE.

1.6. Although the archaeological potential was highlighted in the KCC Specification of the site being on the alignment of a Roman road, and Gollford Gate itself a listed building the Archaeological Watching Brief revealed no buried archaeological features and no archaeological finds were retrieved.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Planning Background

Planning application 13/1905/HOUSE was submitted to the Local Planning Authority, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. KCC Conservation Group on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA) requested that an Archaeological Watching Brief be undertaken in order to record any archaeological remains uncovered during the development work. The following condition 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 been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority,

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.

3.0 Schedule of Visits

Dr Paul Wilkinson MifA from SWAT Archaeology monitored the excavation works on 30th June 2014.

4.0 Aims and Objectives

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

'contribute to heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of the archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the groundworks' (KCC 2014)

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

4.3. 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 site is located to the south of the Tenterden Road (Plate 1 & Fig 1). The property is a listed building and the proposed extension is located on the south-east corner of the property. The building works watched were the cutting by machine of two trenches to a depth of 1.00m.

5.2 The British Geological Survey (1990, sheet 288 Maidstone) shows the site as lying on the eastern limits of an extensive area of Tunbridge Wells Sand Formation which form the natural geology. The geology revealed on site (Plate 4) was a yellow sand- in some areas yellow orange- overlaid by a thick (48cm) layer of dark brown sandy silty topsoil.

5.3 Archaeological Data

The Kent HER lists a flint implement found in gardens at Golford (TQ 73 NE4) and dated to either the Mesolithic or Bronze Age. In addition Wendy Rogers Senior Archaeological Officer KCC highlights the possibility of a Roman road passing through or close to the site (Fig. 1). In addition the building Golford Gate is listed (TQ 73 NE 267) and of 16th century origins.

6.0 Methodology

6.1. The Watching Brief was conducted in accordance with the Archaeological Specification, and it also complied with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IfA: 1994, revised Oct 2008).

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

6.3. The Watching Brief was carried out in one phase according to the needs of the building contractors.

6.4. All excavation was carried out under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

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

6.6. 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.

6.7. The archaeological watching brief was carried out in accordance with current IfA Standards and Guidance, (IfA: 2008), and the methodology itemised in the Archaeological Watching Brief Specification produced by the Heritage Conservation Group, KCC (2014).

7.0 Results

7.1 General

No archaeological features or finds were revealed or recovered.

8.0 Finds

No buried archaeological features were located in the Archaeological Monitoring phase and no finds were retrieved.

9.0 Discussion

The Watching Brief phase of works on the site included watching the digging of the foundation trenches (Plates 2-4).

10.0 Conclusion

The Archaeological Monitoring has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the 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 Dennis Lloyd for commissioning the works.

Dr Paul Wilkinson, FRSA., MIfA

References

HER data (KCC 2014)

IFA (1994 & 2008) Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

KCC (2014) Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief in Kent

APPENDIX 1

Kent County Council HER summary form

Site Name: Land at Golford Gate, Tenterden Road, Cranbrook, Kent	
Site Address: See above	
Summary: An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out on 30/06/142014 on the above site. No archaeological remains were revealed.	
District/Unitary: Tunbridge Wells	Parish:
Period(s):	
NGR (centre of site : 8 figures): TQ 7981 3651 (NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)	
Type of archaeological work (delete) Watching Brief	
Date of Recording: 30/06/14	
Unit undertaking recording: SWAT Archaeology	
Geology: Tunbridge Wells Sand Formation	
Title and author of accompanying report: Archaeological Monitoring of Land at Gollford Gate, Tenterden Road, Kent. P. Wilkinson	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) n/a <p style="text-align: right;">(cont. on attached sheet)</p>	
Location of archive/finds: SWAT Archaeology	
Contact at Unit: P Wilkinson	Date: 17/08/14

Plates



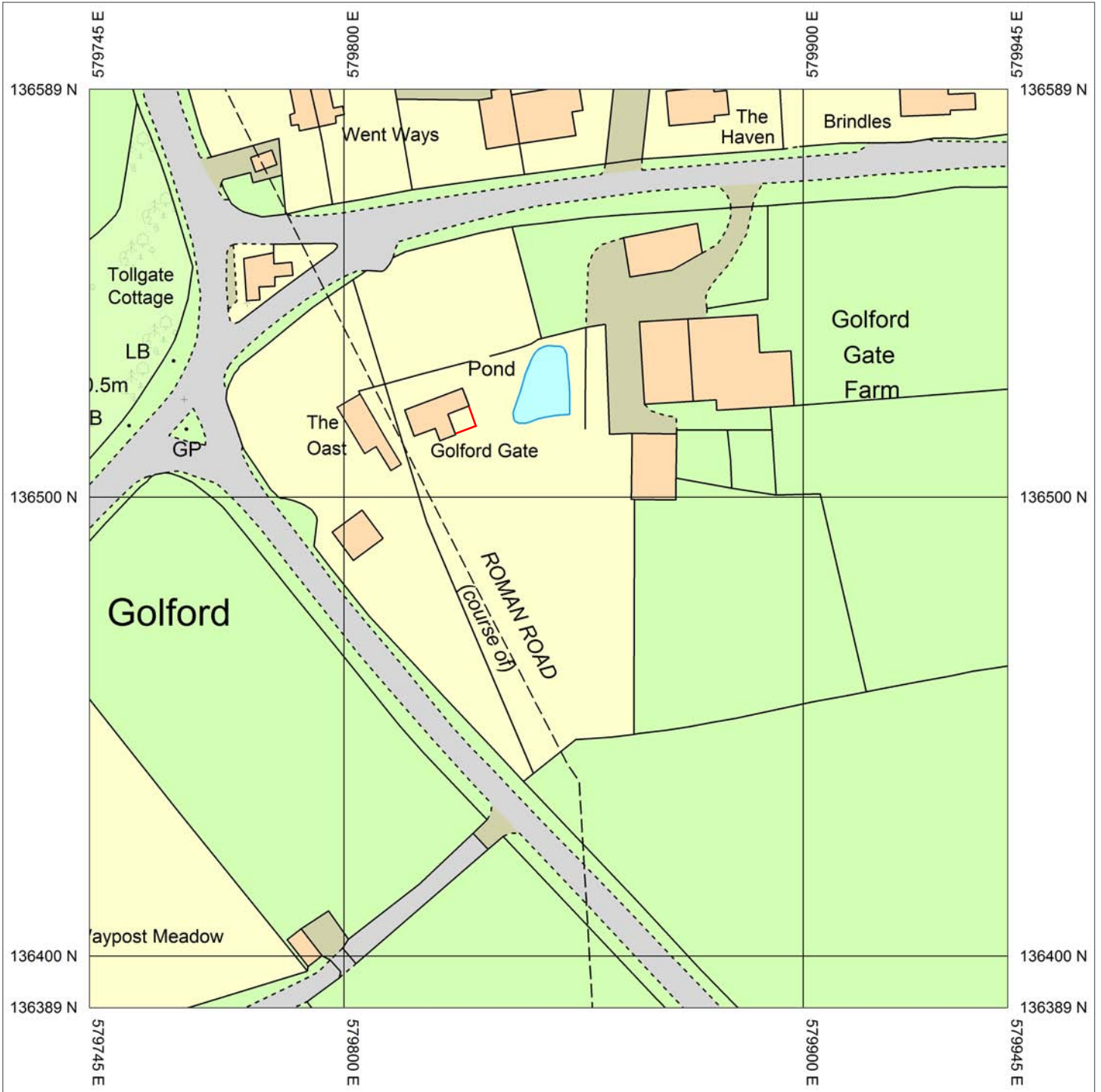
Plate 2. Phase 1, view of the site after part topsoil strip (looking west)



Plate 3. Phase 1. Trenches being excavated (looking east)



Plate 4. View of site showing site trenches (looking west)



Golford Gate

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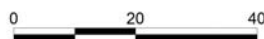
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Tenterden Road
Cranbrook
TN17 3NX



Scale 1:1250

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Plot Centre Coordinates: 579845, 136489

Figure 1
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