

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development at Simon Langton Boys Grammar School, Langton Lane, Nackington Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 7AS

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Summary

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by Kent County Council to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) at Simon Langton Boys Grammar School, Langton Lane, Nackington Road, Canterbury, CT4 7AS.

This Desk Based Assessment is intended to explore and disseminate the known and potential heritage resource within the site and the surrounding area, and to assess the likely impacts of the development proposals on this resource. Based on this data the potential for archaeological sites either on or in the near vicinity of the proposed development can be summarized as:

- Prehistoric: **moderate**
- Iron Age: **moderate**
- Roman: **moderate**
- Anglo-Saxon: **low**
- Medieval: **low**
- Post-Medieval: **low**
- Modern: **low**

The PDA is a school and accessed via a Langton Road from the western side of Nackington Road located to the south of the city of Canterbury. The Site is that of Simon Langton School for Boys consisting of a number of school buildings of various dates clusters towards the northern and eastern part of the Site along with playing fields to the west and south, car parking and artificial sports fields and covers an area of circa 20.5 acres.

Being located on the southern outskirts of Canterbury on the higher ground overlooking the Stour Valley, means that the area has been attractive for millennia There is archaeological significance within the assessment area of moderate potential for the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods.

The research suggests that the area has not been built on until the current school and that the construction of the school would have affected the historical land levels resulting in an uncertain conclusion for the historical impact except in the area of the old quarry, where the historical impact is considered total.

The proposed development considers four options for a new classroom block. As this is a feasibility study the type of foundations for each of the options are not known. Option 1 is set within the bank. This would remove some of the bank and foundations set below the level of the area of the old tennis courts. As we do not currently know the historical land levels and made ground, the impact on any potential archaeology is uncertain. This also applies to Option 2 potentially located in the area of the tennis courts, where the historical land levels are also uncertain. Option 3 required the demolition of the Wendy House. The proposed block will require foundations and in the areas not already historically impacted by those of the Wendy House, the proposed impact remains uncertain as the area is situated on the playing field being set higher than the school and therefore the historical land levels in this area are uncertain as it is also close the bank. For option 4, the proposal is to build above the swimming pool. This is in an area that has previously been quarried with total historical impact and therefore no impact is likely on any potential archaeology. The development proposals for options 1,2 and 3 are likely to cause a high impact upon any potential archaeology should any archaeology remain in situ. The proposed development for option 1 would mean the proposed block being cut into the bank area and would potential allow for an understanding of the stratigraphy and possible historical land levels at the site. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities but it is anticipated that for proposed options 1,2 and 3, that an evaluation will ascertain the nature of any archaeological deposits

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Kent County Council (the 'Clients'), to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment to support a feasibility study of the various proposed development areas (PDA) at Simon Langton Boys Grammar School, Langton Lane, Nackington Road, Canterbury, CT4 7AS centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TR 15320 55815 (Fig 1).

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The PDA is a school and accessed via a Langton Road from the western side of Nackington Road located to the south of the city of Canterbury. The Site is that of Simon Langton School for Boys consisting of a number of school buildings of various dates clusters towards the northern and eastern part of the Site along with playing fields to the west and south, car parking and artificial sports fields and covers an area of circa 20.5 acres. To the south is Canterbury Rugby Club beyond which is the A2 dual carriageway. To the west is a footpath along the western boundary and arable fields. To the north and east are residential houses along Nackington Road. The Site is located on a number of different levels. The playing fields are on broadly level ground and set higher than the school and are at circa 51m aOD. Around the school buildings it averages 47m aOD sloping down slightly towards the north to 43m aOD. Between the playing fields and the lower levels there is a steep bank (Fig. 1).

Geology

1.2.2 The British Geological Society (BGS 1995) shows that the local geology at the PDA consists of a band of bedrock comprising of Seaford Chalk Formation. There are no superficial deposits at the PDA.

Geotechnical Information

1.2.3 There is no known geotechnical information.

1.3 The Proposed Development

1.3.1 The feasibility study considers a number of differed sites at the PDA for the proposed development of a new classroom block. Site 1 is a single block for 16 classrooms located in between the Star Centre and the observatory. The building will be located half into the current bank of the playing field and half into the car parking area. Site 2 is located as an 'L' shaped block on the current car parking area next to the observatory and Star Centre. The western area of the current currently has planning consent of a MUGA. Site 3 is located at the north eastern corner of the playing fields. This would involve the demolition of J Block, which currently has 3 classrooms (AKA Wendy Block) to be replaced by a two-storey block to provide 19 classrooms. Site 4 is proposed to build a two-storey classroom block constructed over the existing swimming pool, which is located to the east of the group of school buildings. Following the construction of the new block, a number of mobile classrooms located to the north of the Site and also next to the swimming pool will be removed. The northern area of mobiles will be replaced with car parking spaces. In addition, new car parking spaces are prosed to the north of the Star Centre and also into the bank area of the playing field to the south of the observatory (Fig.2).

1.4 Project Constraints

1.4.1 No constraints were associated with this project.

1.5 Scope of Document

1.5.1 This assessment was requested by the Client in order to determine, as far as is possible from existing information, the nature, extent and significance of the Historic Environment and to assess the potential impact of development on Heritage Assets. The assessment forms part of the initial stages of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist with decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

2 PLANNING BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 National legislation and guidance relating to the protection of, and proposed development on or near, important archaeological sites or historical buildings within planning regulations is defined under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. In addition, local authorities are responsible for the protection of the historic environment within the planning system and ensure that a Heritage Asset is protected to enable it to be passed on to future generations.

2.1.2 Statutory protection is also provided to certain classes of designated heritage assets under the following legislation:

- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990;
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; and
- Hedgerow Regulations (statutory Instrument No. 1160) 1997
- Treasures Act 1996
- Burial Act 1857.

2.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

2.2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's core principles in relation to planning and the historic environment and is covered in section 16, paragraphs 185-202. These principles are designed to underpin the planning and decision-making process to ensure that Local Planning Authorities (LPA), developers and owners of heritage assets adopt a consistent approach to the conservation of the Historic Environment.

2.2.2 The Historic Environment, as defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019): Annex 2, comprises:

'all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human

activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.'

2.2.3 NPPF Annex 2 defines a Heritage Asset as:

'a building monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets include designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).'

2.2.4 Paragraph 189 of the NPPF states that:

'In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting.'

2.2.5 Paragraph 190 of the NPPF states that:

'The LPA should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.'

2.2.6 The NPPF further provides definitions of terms which relate to the historic environment in order to clarify the policy guidance given. For the purposes of this report, the following are important to note:

- **Significance.** The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
- **Setting.** The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

2.2.7 The NPPF is supported by the Planning Policy Guidance, which includes Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance (2008) as well as Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes 1 to 3, all issued by Historic England.

Hedgerow Regulations (statutory Instrument No. 1160) 1997

2.2.8 The Regulations apply to most countryside hedgerows. In particular, they affect hedgerows which are 20 meters or more in length; which meet another hedgerow at each end; are on or adjoin land used for: agriculture, forestry, the breeding or keeping of horses, ponies or donkeys, common land, village greens, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) or Local Nature Reserves. The act is to protect important countryside hedgerows from removal, either in part or whole. Removal not only includes grubbing out, but anything which could result in the destruction of the hedge.

2.3 Local Policies

2.3.1 Canterbury City Council has a Local Plan adopted in 2017. The plan has a number of policies relevant to archaeology:

- POLICY HE1: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets
- POLICY HE4: Listed Buildings
- POLICY HE5: Development Affecting and Changes to Listed Buildings
- POLICY HE6: Conservation Areas
- POLICY HE8: Heritage Assets in Conservation Areas
- POLICY HE11: Archaeology
- POLICY HE12: Areas of Archaeological Interest

2.3.2 These policies are covered in turn in more detail below.

POLICY HE1: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets

2.3.3 The City Council will support proposals which protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and the contribution it makes to local distinctiveness and sense of place. Proposals that make sensitive use of historic assets through

regeneration and reuse, particularly where these bring redundant or under-used buildings and areas into an appropriate use, will be encouraged.

- 2.3.4 Development must conserve and enhance, or reveal, the significance of heritage assets and their settings. Development will not be permitted where it is likely to cause substantial harm to the significance of heritage assets or their setting unless it is necessary to achieve substantial public benefit that would outweigh the harm or loss, or all of the following apply:
- 2.3.5 The nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and, no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and, conservation by grant-funding or some form of charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and, the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.
- 2.3.6 Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use. Any development affecting directly, or the setting of, a listed or locally listed building, Conservation Area, Scheduled Monument, registered park or garden, historic landscape, or archaeological site will be required to submit a Heritage Statement with any Planning Application. The statement will need to outline and provide evidence as to the significance of the heritage asset including its setting, the likely impact of the development upon it and be proportional to the importance of the said heritage asset.

POLICY HE6: Conservation Areas

- 2.3.7 Development within a conservation area should preserve or enhance its special architectural or historic character or appearance.
- 2.3.8 Development, in or adjoining a conservation area, which would enhance its character, appearance, or setting will normally be permitted. Important features or characteristics, which contribute to its special character and setting, that need to be protected, include; plan form, buildings, architectural features, built form, archaeological sites, materials, trees, streets and spaces and the relationships between these features.

- 2.3.9 New development in a conservation area should aim to preserve and enhance the character and local distinctiveness of the historic environment and respect its surroundings in terms of height, massing, volume, scale, form, materials, details, roofscape, plot width and the design of any new pedestrian, cycle or vehicular access.

POLICY HE8: Heritage Assets in Conservation Areas

- 2.3.10 The City Council has a presumption in favour of the conservation of heritage assets. The more significant the asset, the greater the presumption in favour of conservation and the greater the justification required for its alteration. Proposals involving substantial harm to designated heritage assets within a conservation area will normally be refused unless it can be shown that the harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all the other criteria in Policy HE1 apply. If the proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a heritage asset, or the building, or the element affected does not contribute to the significance of the area, the harm will be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal.

POLICY HE11: Archaeology

- 2.3.11 The archaeological and historic integrity of designated heritage assets such as Scheduled Monuments and other important archaeological sites, together with their settings, will be protected and, where possible, enhanced. Development which would adversely affect them will not be permitted.
- 2.3.12 Planning applications, on sites where there is or is the potential for an archaeological heritage asset, must include an appropriate desk-based assessment of the asset.
- 2.3.13 In addition, where important or potentially significant archaeological heritage assets may exist, developers will be required to arrange for field evaluations to be carried out in advance of the determination of planning applications. The evaluation should define:
- 2.3.14 The character, importance and condition of any archaeological deposits or structures within the application site; The likely impact of the proposed development on these features (including the limits to the depth to which groundworks can go on the site); and the means of mitigating the effect of the

proposed development including: a statement setting out the impact of the development.

- 2.3.15 Where the case for development affecting a heritage asset of archaeological interest is accepted, the archaeological remains should be preserved in situ. Where preservation in situ is not possible or justified, appropriate provision for preservation by record may be an acceptable alternative. In such cases archaeological recording works must be undertaken in accordance with a specification prepared by the Council's Archaeological Officer or a competent archaeological organisation that has been agreed by the Council in advance.

POLICY HE12: Areas of Archaeological Interest

- 2.3.16 Within the Canterbury Area of Archaeological Importance and areas of recognised archaeological potential elsewhere in the District the City Council will determine planning applications involving work below ground level once the applicant has provided information in the form of an evaluation of the archaeological importance of the site, and, an assessment of the archaeological implications of the proposed development.

Local Planning Guidance

- 2.3.17 The Kent Design Guide, 2008. Prepared by the Kent Design Group, it provides the criteria necessary for assessing planning applications. Helps building designers, engineers, planners and developers achieve high standards of design and construction. It is adopted by the Council as a Supplementary Planning Document.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Kent County Council to support a planning application. This assessment has been prepared in accordance with guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (see below) and in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Good Practice Advice notes 1, 2 and 3, which now supersede the PPS 5 Practice Guide, which has been withdrawn by the Government.
- 3.1.2 This Desk-Based Assessment therefore forms the initial stage of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist in decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

3.2 Desk-Based Assessment – Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2017)

- 3.2.1 This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014, revised 2017). A desktop, or desk-based assessment, is defined as being:

‘Desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant regulations of ClfA. In a development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so) and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact.’

(2017:4)

- 3.2.2 The purpose of the desk-based assessment is, therefore, an assessment that provides a contextual archaeological record, in order to provide:

- *an assessment of the potential for heritage assets to survive within the area of study*
- *an assessment of the significance of the known or predicted heritage assets considering, in England, their archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interests*
- *strategies for further evaluation whether or not intrusive, where the nature, extent or significance of the resource is not sufficiently well defined*
- *an assessment of the impact of proposed development or other land use changes on the significance of the heritage assets and their settings*
- *strategies to conserve the significance of heritage assets, and their settings*
- *design strategies to ensure new development makes a positive contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of the historic environment and local place-shaping*
- *proposals for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research, whether undertaken in response to a threat or not.*

CIFA (2017:4)

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The methodology employed during this assessment has been based upon relevant professional guidance including the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* (CIfA, 2017).

4.2 Sources

- 4.2.1 A number of publicly accessible sources were consulted prior to the preparation of this document.

Archaeological databases

- 4.2.2 Although it is recognised that national databases are an appropriate resource for this particular type of assessment, the local Historic Environmental Record held at Kent County Council (KCCHER) contains sufficient data to provide an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding landscape.
- 4.2.3 The National Heritage List for England (NHLE), which is the only official and up to date database of all nationally designated heritage assets and is the preferred archive for a comprehensive HER search.
- 4.2.4 The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) was also used. The search was carried out within a 500m radius of the proposed development site and relevant HER data is included in the report. The Portable Antiquities Scheme Database (PAS) was also searched as an additional source as the information contained within is not always transferred to the local HER.

Cartographic and Pictorial Documents

- 4.2.5 A full map regression exercise has been incorporated within this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by the Kent County Council, the internet, Ordnance Survey and the Kent Archaeological Society. A full listing of bibliographic and cartographic documents used in this study is provided in Section 10.

Aerial photographs

4.2.6 The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-8).

Secondary and Statutory Resources

4.2.7 Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological studies, archaeological reports associated with development control, landscape studies, dissertations and research frameworks are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment.

Walkover Survey

4.2.8 The Site is visited for a walkover survey. This is for the purpose of:

- Identifying any historic landscape features not shown on maps.
- Conducting a rapid survey for archaeological features.
- Making a note of any surface scatters of archaeological material.
- Identifying constraints or areas of disturbance that may affect archaeological investigation.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This section of the assessment will focus on the archaeological and historical development of this area, placing it within a local context. Each period classification will provide a brief introduction to the wider landscape (750m radius centred on each site of the PDA), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site’s immediate vicinity. There are no Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, Historic Parks and Gardens or Protected Military Remains in the search area. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed in Table 1.

Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	c. 500,000 BC – c.10,000 BC
	Mesolithic	c.10,000 BC – c. 4,300 BC
	Neolithic	c. 4,300 BC – c. 2,300 BC
	Bronze Age	c. 2,300 BC – c. 600 BC
	Iron Age	c. 600 BC – c. AD 43
	Romano-British	c. AD 43 – c. AD 410
	Anglo-Saxon	AD 410 – AD 1066
	Medieval	AD 1066 – AD 1485
	Post-medieval	AD 1485 – AD 1900
	Modern	AD 1901 – present day
Table 1: Classification of Archaeological periods		

5.1.2 The Kent HER records within the 750m are sparse reflecting the edge of the suburbia of Canterbury and the lack of intrusive investigations in the area. Details and placement of the HER records are provided in Figures 10 and 11.

5.2 Designated Heritage Assets

5.2.1 One of the tasks of the site visit was aimed to identify any designated heritage assets within the wider context of the PDA in accordance with The Setting of Heritage Assets – English Heritage Guidance (English Heritage 2011).

5.2.2 This guidance states that “setting embraces all of the surroundings (land, sea, structures, features and skyline) from which the heritage asset can be experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset” (The Setting of Heritage Assets, English Heritage 2011).

5.2.3 There are six designated heritage assets, all Grade II listed within the assessment area mainly of barns, farmhouses and oasthouses associated with the scattered Post Medieval Farms in the area (Table 2). Stuppington Farm to the west, Merton Farm to the south, south west, and Winter’s Farm to the south, south east. The closest designated asset is that of Winter’s Farmhouse circa 490m to the south. However, there is no intervisibility with Merton Farm due to the rugby club in between and the vegetation along the A2. Neither is there any intervisibility with Winter’s Farm due to the residential urbanisation along the western side of Nackington Road. Stuppington Farm is also separated from the PDA by an arable field and the A2 with a number of hedgerows preventing intervisibility. The inclusion of the proposed development within the school will only be a minor increase on the overall cluster of buildings already within the area of the school and will not alter any significance to the setting or the historical interest of these assets.

HER Ref	Period	Distance	
TR 15 NW 1248	Post Medieval	c. 780m W	Barns at Stuppington Farm. Grade II Listed (1096955). Dated 1721.
TR 15 NW 1261	Post Medieval	c. 570m SSW	Merton Farmhouse. Grade II Listed (1096956). Early 19th Century.
TR 15 NE 447	Post Medieval	c. 785m NNE	Oasthouse. Grade II Listed (1260210). Early 19th Century.
TR 15 NW 1354	Post Medieval	c. 550m SW	Building to Right of Merton Farmhouse. Grade II Listed (1334308). Early 19th Century.
TR 15 NW 1334	Post Medieval	c. 745m W	The Farmhouse and Attached Former Cart Store, Stuppington Court Farm. Grade II Listed (1334346). 17th Century.
TR 15 NE 579	Post Medieval	c. 490m SSE	Winter's Farmhouse. Grade II listed (1372287). 18th century.

Table 2: Designated Assets

5.3 Previous Archaeological Works

5.3.1 There have been a number of intrusive archaeological events in the area (Fig.10 & 15), which are expanded upon below.

A2 By-pass (EKE13793)

- 5.3.2 No indication of the Roman road of Stone Street was found during the excavations in 1979-1980. In the area to the west of Stuppington Lane, circa 750m west of the PDA, a large number of Iron Age, late Iron Age, Roman and post-Medieval pits and ditches, together with traces of possible timber buildings, two possible ironworking furnaces and a Roman pottery kiln were excavated, with much of the archaeology being shallow as it was considered that the top of the hill had been reduced by weathering and agriculture in the area.

Bat and Ball Car Park (EKE17798)

- 5.3.3 This site is located on the south side of the Roma Road from Canterbury to Dover circa 630m north east of the PDA and included parts of the St Lawrence's Hospital from the mid-12th century. Initially an evaluation in 2006, the site was further excavated in 2010 and 2011. Roman Cremations were found with is not surprising given its location next to the Roman road. The hospital also had an associate cemetery. Following the dissolution, the remains were converted into a manor house, of which evidence for was found along with the accompanying ornamental garden. The cricket ground was built on the site in 1841. The site also had Prehistoric evidence with Neolithic scrapers and also worked flints from hill wash. A Roman ditch containing potter was also found.

South Canterbury Water Main (EKE5726)

- 5.3.4 To the east on the outer reaches of the assessment area Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age features were found (TR 15 NE 397) during the watching brief.

Merton Farm (EKE16334 & EKE16335)

- 5.3.5 Geophysical surveys were undertaken in 2006 and 2008 on two different areas circa 600m south west of the southern boundary of the playing fields and to the south of the Merton Farm buildings. Focus was upon area of cropmarks showing linear ditches in the form of a rectangle. Features identified from the survey uncovered a secondary ditch on the same alignment as the known ditch system, with a berm feature 17 metres in width separating the two. The preservation of these features suggests that any archaeological remains on the site survived intact below the plough horizon at the time of survey. IT is unclear if these ditches are potential Roman in date and related to their close proximity to that of Stone Street Roman road, which is just to the west of this area.

Nunnery Fields (EKE11252)

- 5.3.6 Towards the outer reaches of the assessment area to the north, north west, the 2002 evaluation uncovered late Post Medieval or Modern features.

Land South of Canterbury

- 5.3.7 This is a large area that was investigated in relation to a proposed development of circa 4000 houses in what is currently agricultural fields, an area that was bisected by the Pilgrim's Way at Watling Street. The western edge of this Site is close to that of Nackington Road and continued eastwards for circa 2km and also covers an area of circa 2km from north to south on the eastern side and just 1km north to south on the western side. Following an assessment of the area by DBA, evaluation trenches were placed circa 1.6km east and 2km north east of the PDA. The evaluation focused on features identified in the geophysical survey and there were a number of ditches and pits with dating evidence belonging to the later Iron Age and Roman periods. In addition, a small residual assemblage of prehistoric worked flint was recovered.

Conservation Area

- 5.3.8 There are a number of Conservation Areas north of the PDA clustered together (Fig. 13) which concerns the 1937 part of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Medieval Nunnery Fields, residential houses Ethelbert Road and along the Old Dover Road, St Lawrence and Oaten Hill. Given the urbanisation of the area between the PDA and the Conservation Areas, the distance between and lack of intervisibility, the Conservation Areas do not have any significance to PDA and are not considered here any further.

Landscape Characterisation

- 5.3.9 The PDA lies in the area classified under KHER as post 1810 settlement. It is immediately east of fields of parliamentary type enclosure and orchards to the south. In the Canterbury Landscape Diversity Assessment, the area of the school forms part known as Nackington Farmlands. The school is situated on the suburban edge of this area. With the rolling farmlands to the west and the area bisected by the A2 to the south west. The vegetation along the boundaries, which contain hedgerows, mature trees reinforces the change from suburbia to farmland would not be affected by the proposed development (Fig. 12).

Stour Palaeolithic Area

- 5.3.10 The PDA lies within two different Palaeolithic Classification Areas, where the boundary between the two diagonally dissects the site into two on a north east to south west axis. The majority of the school buildings and northern section of the playing fields lies in PCA 19 with the southern part of the playing fields in PCA 13 (Fig. 14).
- 5.3.11 Area 19 covers the slopes down towards the Stour River and contains higher 3rd terrace deposits with spreads of brickearth. The Palaeolithic potential associated with PCA 19 is considered high, although the PDA is on the extreme fringes of this area and in the immediate vicinity, there has been little by way of finds from the Palaeolithic.
- 5.3.12 PCA 13 is associated with the chalk downs north and north west of Dover. The Palaeolithic potential is considered to be moderate with surface finds, usually incorporated in Head deposits.

5.4 Archaeological and Historical Narrative

- 5.4.1 Canterbury is a historic English cathedral city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There is evidence that the city was occupied from the Palaeolithic period. Within the wider district, the area north of Canterbury in the Whitstable/ Herne Bay area has revealed significant late Bronze Age, early Iron Age settlement areas as has within Canterbury itself suggesting there was a ford across the Stour in this area. In the first century AD a major Iron Age settlement and Hillfort was established at Bigbury to the west of the city by the local Celtic tribe the Cantiaci and became known as 'Durovernon' or "Stronghold by the Alder Grove". Another Iron Age settlement was also established on the top of the slope where the University of Kent is and also in the area Marlowe Arcade. South and south east of the town just outside of the town walls is an area of a groups of mounds that may be potential barrows. These include Dane John, beneath St Mary Bredin School, one that was below Station Road East, another on the site of St George's roundabout, St George's Lane and at Oaten Hill. Further south, away from the city walls, south of the town late bronze Age and early Iron age finds and features have been found

west of the PDA suggesting activity sites of this period. In the area around there are cropmarks of ring ditches, usually associated with Bronze age barrows and this is likely to be a result of the area being on the higher ground overlooking the Stour Valley towards Canterbury.

- 5.4.2 In 43 AD the Romans invaded Britain and founded a settlement close to the River Stour and took over the Celtic settlement, rebuilding it and naming it 'Durovernum Cantiacorum' or "Fortress of Kent". It became one of the 28 cities of Roman Britain, connected to the major Kentish ports of Richborough, Dover and Lympne and therefore of considerable strategic importance. There was no major military Garrison but in the 3rd century an earth bank and city walls were constructed with seven gates, Northgate, Westgate, Riding gate, Burgate, Worth Gate, London gate and Queningate, leading outwards to the Roman roads that created a network of communication across Kent. South out of Canterbury are two Roman Roads. To the west of the PDA is Stone Street that leaves Canterbury towards Lympne (Margary No. 12). The other is to the east of the PDA, being the Old Dover Road, part of Watling Street (Margary No. 1a) towards Dover.
- 5.4.3 Roman cemeteries are documented to the east, south and northwest of the city walls and burial mounds are to the east and south. The Roman are well known for their roadside ritual activity and with burials occurring outside of the city walls and alongside roads. The town flourished for 300 years but by the 4th century the Roman civilization was in decline and the Romans abandoned both Canterbury in 407AD and Britain in 410AD. Canterbury ceased to be a town, inhabited by the residual farming population that probably farmed lands beyond the walls.
- 5.4.4 In the late 4th century, the Jutes arrived, a Germanic people that settled in Britain in the late 4th century and made Canterbury or 'Cantwareburh' meaning "Kentish Stronghold" their centre. In 597 AD the Pope sent Augustine with a group of monks to convert the Saxon population to Christianity. King Ethelbert the King of Kent, married to a Christian woman, gave little opposition and in 598AD Augustine and his monks built a church outside the city walls and in 602AD rededicated a deserted Roman church. Augustine became Archbishop in 603AD and by 672AD Canterbury was given complete authority over the English Church.

- 5.4.5 The town began to prosper again and craftsmen returned to the town. The River Stour was a great source of trade from British towns as far as Ipswich and further afield in northern France and by 630AD gold and silver coins were being struck at the Canterbury mint. The Church of Saint Mildred is an Anglo-Saxon stone church in Canterbury probably dating from the 11th century.
- 5.4.6 The close proximity to the eastern coast made the town a prime target for the Vikings and consequently it was raided in 842 and 851AD suffering great loss of life. Archbishop Dunstan re-founded the abbey built by Augustine and recovery began. A second wave of attacks began in 991AD until finally in 1011 the Danes laid a siege on Canterbury that lasted 20 days, capturing the town, burning the cathedral and houses and killing the Archbishop.
- 5.4.7 At the time of the Domesday survey in 1086 Canterbury was flourishing, its population numbering some 6000 and new areas of settlement were growing outside of the city walls. The cathedral burned again and was replaced twice by the Normans in 1070 and 1175. The hinterland of Canterbury in this period was rural and one of scattered hamlets. Nackington's entry in the Domesday Book detailed that it had 43 households, with 134 acres of meadow, woodland for 60 pigs, 17 mills and 1 church and was referred to as 'Natyndune'. Nackington had a parish church to the south east of the PDA built in the 11th century given to the Priory of St Gregory in Canterbury by Archbishop Lanfranc in around 1076 AD. Nackington possibly comes from the Old English 'næt' meaning 'wet, moist' with 'ing' as a 'place-name forming suffix' and 'dun' for a 'hill, down'; therefore, a 'hill at a wet place' or alternatively 'Nata's Hill'. South, south west of the PDA is Merton Farm. Referred to prior to the Domesday Book as 'Mertone' meaning in Old English, farmstead by the pool.
- 5.4.8 In 1170AD, followers of King Henry II murdered the Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Becket, and the city became a major focus of pilgrimage in Britain and Europe. The number of pilgrims visiting the city brought trade and further prosperity.
- 5.4.9 During the Medieval period England's main export was wool and Canterbury thrived on both the wool and leather trade until 1348 when the Black Death arrived. Canterbury had the tenth largest population in England at 10,000 but

that number fell dramatically to 3,000 by the early 16th century. Agriculture in the hinterland around Canterbury would have been need to support such a population.

- 5.4.10 At the Dissolution, the Abbey and three Friaries were closed, Thomas Becket's shrine was demolished and all the gold, silver and jewels removed to the Tower of London. The removal of his image, name and feasts put an end to the constant stream of pilgrimages that entered the city.
- 5.4.11 Hasted comments on Nackington as having 'no village, but there are 18 houses interspersed throughout it'. There was also the ancient manor of Staplegate, alias Nackington, that resided in the Hundred of Whitstable and so called after the family name of Staplegate. Nackington House was a seat in Nackington Parish. Not much is known about the house but it is referred to in the list of Lost English Country Houses as having been lost in 1921 following demolition after the building got into a poor state of repair. A will from 1882 of a Mr Ottiwell Charles Waterfield J. P. of Nackington House, valued his estate as £106,375. A newspaper article from 1921 refers to a century old turret tower striking clock from Nackington House was to be removed and re-erected by a Mr Albert Price on his farmhouse at Blean.
- 5.4.12 During the 19th century, Canterbury began to spread outwards. By the first half of the 20th century, the suburbs of Canterbury had reached along the Old Dover Road to the Nackington Road junction where Canterbury's Cricket Ground was built and next door, the Kent & Canterbury Hospital. Away from the road frontages, the area was still rural.
- 5.4.13 World War II brought further destruction to the city; 10,445 bombs were dropped in 135 raids culminating in the Baedeker Blitz of 1942 when 48 people were killed and part of the town was destroyed. Archives held at Canterbury Cathedral, do not show any bombs that landed within the PDA, although a number did fall into the field to the west
- 5.4.14 Originally started in 1881 at Whitefriars in Canterbury, in 1959, the Simon Langton School for Boys decided to move their school out of the centre of Canterbury, to the present site that they owned and had been previously using for playing fields. The Whitefriars site mostly destroyed in 1942 through bombing. The land for the

playing fields was originally purchased in 1920, the current pavilion survives from 1932. During the Second World War, an aid raid shelter was created in the area of the old Chalk pit, now the location of the swimming pool, which later opened in 1961 and a roof added in the early 1980s. The new school at Nackington was designed by Sir Hugh Wilson to accommodate 540 boys.

5.5 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

Andrews, Dury and Herbert map of 1769

5.5.1 Andrews, Dury and Herbert published their atlas some thirty years before the Ordnance Survey, immediately becoming the best large-scale maps of the county. The mansion house and outbuildings of Nackington House in an area called Nackington Street to the south and south east of the PDA. The PDA at this point appears outside of the garden and orchard area of the mansion. Opposite the mansion, on the eastern side of Nackington Road, appears to be residential plots. The hamlet of Nackington with its church to the south east, this part of the parish being referred to as Staplegate manor being the northern part of the parish. Outside of the rear boundary area associated with the house it is open and rural (Fig.3).

Ordnance Surveyors Drawings 1797

5.5.2 This map shows greater detail in the land use and field boundaries. The PDA can be seen as part of two fields. There is also a footpath showing alongside the western boundary heading northwards towards Canterbury (Fig.4).

St Mary Bredin, Canterbury and Nackington Tithe Map of 1852 and 1843 respectively

5.5.3 Given the location of the PDA on the edge of two parishes, the two maps have been overlaid on top of each other. Unfortunately, the records for Nackington concerning Nackington House appear incomplete with no written pages concerning designation 57 being the house or surrounding land. The extreme southern part falls into the Nackington area, whereas the northern section falls within the St Mary Bredin part of Canterbury. Based on the St Mary Bredin tithes, the southern part of the PDA being field designated No. 86 is owned by the Right Honourable Lord Sondes and occupied by George Mount and is just referred to as

an arable field. The field of the northern part of the Site is also arable and owned and occupied by the same individuals (Fig.5).

Historic OS Map 1877

5.5.4 This is the first properly scaled OS map and there appears little change. A footpath is shown alongside the western boundary and for the first time the northern boundary is defined by a diagonal footpath (Fig 6).

Historic OS map 1898

5.5.5 The PDA is shown as a single field and the Nackington/St Mary Bredin parish boundary line is now no longer showing across the southern part of the PDA. The south eastern part of the PDA is now showing a rectangular subdivision of the field. Immediately north of this subdivision is a pit. A number of boundary stones are marked on the map on the eastern and northern boundary lines of the PDA (Fig.7).

Historic OS map 1907

5.5.6 There appears to be no change at the PDA except that the quarry pit is larger in size (Fig.8).

Historic OS map 1945

5.5.7 There appears to be little change at the PDA. The OS map do not show the change in land use from arable to that of the school playing fields, which by this time is used by the Simon Langton Boys School. Immediately south of the quarry is a building, which is the pavilion. By this time to the south east of the PDA, Nackington House has been demolished leaving a number of outbuildings. (Fig. 9).

5.6 Aerial Photographs

1948

5.6.1 This aerial photograph shows the PDA as two fields with an east/west boundary across the centre. It is not possible to see the pavilion as this is situated behind the eastern boundary trees, as is the chalk pit. There are open fields to the west

and south with an orchard to the north. To the east is a single detached house. By this time to the north, the Kent and Canterbury Hospital has been built alongside the St Lawrence Cricket Ground (Plate 1).

1940s

- 5.6.2 This shows the use of the southern field area as playing fields. In the field to the west, are possible scars from the bombs that fell into the field. The quarry area is fenced off (Plate 2).

1960s

- 5.6.3 By this time, in 1959, the new school had been built. The pool, outdoor at this point was built in place of the quarry in 1961 and can clearly be seen. The northern part of the PDA has been planted as orchards. The area immediately west of the main school buildings is tennis courts. Around the southern part of the main school buildings can clearly be seen the shadow relating to the banks where the school and tennis courts has been built lower than that of the playing fields. (Plate 3).

1974

- 5.6.4 The photo angle clearly shows the bank around the school buildings and the different levels. At the bottom of the photograph can be seen the swimming pool. By this time, the Wendy House (J Block) has been built between the main school and the pavilion. The building to the bottom right in the photo is the caretakers house. The area to the north is still covered in trees (Plate 4).

1990

- 5.6.5 A number of additional buildings have been built at the school with buildings in the area of the current arts and drama and science blocks on the western side of the school. The northern part of the PDA has been cleared of trees and is now grass with three mobile classrooms located in that area. The swimming pool now appears to have a cover. East of the PDA, the solitary detached house now has houses on either side along Nackington Road. To the north of the access road, the Chaucer Hospital has been built. The land to the north and west has reverted to arable land (Plate 5).

2003

- 5.6.6 The buildings on the western side have been replaced with new blocks and what is M Block on the south eastern side of the main building has been extended. The northern part now has a car park and the mobiles have been removed. On the southern side of the tennis courts is now a mound covered in vegetation of which has come from the removal of soil from the building of the new blocks (Plate 6).

2007

- 5.6.7 There have been further changes. A new sports hall has been built in the northern part of the site and to the west of this is now a court area. To the south of this, the grass tennis courts have become tarmac. The aerial photograph shows a cropmark running east/west axis from the western side of the playing field. This cropmark appears to be the remains of the parish boundary line between the Nackington and St Mary Bredin parishes. A separate linear cropmark is also in the field immediately north of the PDA but is just outside of the area of this photograph, located at NGR 615284 156129 (Plate 7) that may possibly be an enclosure.

2019

- 5.6.8 The far northern part of the PDA has been left as a wilderness area with a pond and a number of mobiles have been placed north of the sports hall. The caretakers house has been replaced with the Café 42 building and it appears the roof of the swimming pool has been replaced. In the area of the tennis courts, there is a new school building being the Star Centre.

5.7 Walkover Survey

- 5.7.1 The walkover survey is not intended as a detailed survey but the rapid identification of archaeological features and any evidence for buried archaeology in the form of surface scatters of lithic or pottery artefacts. A walkover was undertaken on the 20th April 2020. No features or artefacts were seen (Plates 9-19).
- 5.7.2 The school was approached via Langton Lane off Nackington Road. The school buildings are predominately clustered together in the north east part of the site and range from the original main block to buildings erected in the past few years.

The school buildings are clearly set lower than the level of the playing fields by about 2 metres. The location of the proposed development option 1 is located immediately next to the Star Centre, which was only built a few years ago, that was also set into the bank of the playing fields. The area in front of the Star Centre is currently tarmacked having historically been tennis courts and this is the area of the proposed development option No. 2. This area faces to the north the enclosed artificial sports pitches next to the sports hall. To the west of the Star Centre is a small observatory and in the far western end of the bank is a mound of soil left from previous construction at the school, which is now landscaped into terraced setting in an amphitheatre shape. The western boundary is a mature hedgerow and trees. There is to the north west in places glimpses of views towards Canterbury across the Stour Valley.

- 5.7.3 The boundary with the rugby club to the south is one dotted with mature trees. The pavilion from 1931 sits in the eastern corner of the playing field, next to the Wendy House (J Block) also at the level of the playing field and is potentially the site of the proposed development option No. 3. The classrooms look out over the playing fields and the bank between the school levels and the playing field continues around the southern edge of the school building.
- 5.7.4 Immediately north of the pavilion are a number of storage sheds before the area is fenced off due to the circa 4m drop into what was the area of the old chalk quarry. The southern bank of the quarry is covered in light vegetation. The western side of the quarry is bordered by modern gabions. The eastern side of the old quarry area which joins the rear garden area of the residential plots is at the lower levels supported by wooden frames and stones set into the bank, with the upper levels being garden fencing. Within the quarry area is situated the swimming pool constructed in 1961. The floor level surrounding the pool is level with the surrounding area at the bottom of the quarry, with the pool having a deep end of some 3/4m at the northern end of the pool and the shallow end at the south. The pool area is accessed from the north western corner of the old quarry area and is currently covered with firm clear covering and the pump room located at the northern end of the pool. The pool is considered to be option No 4 for the proposed development.

5.8 Summary of Potential

Palaeolithic

5.8.1 The Palaeolithic period represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area and it appears there is little by way of finds in the wider area even though the Palaeolithic survey suggests a high potential for finds from this period. Therefore, the Palaeolithic potential in this area is considered **low**.

Mesolithic

5.8.2 The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has no record from this period. Therefore, it is considered that the potential for finding remains that date to this period is **low**.

Neolithic

5.8.3 The Neolithic period was the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry. The Kent HER has no records from this period. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Bronze Age

5.8.4 The Bronze Age was a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area being the spread of flint pot boilers and pottery from the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age to the east of the PDA (TR 15 NE 397). Circa 240m to the east of the PDA, a palstave axehead (MKE57417) find was reported under the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS). A cropmark is considered to be of unknown periods but are likely to be Bronze Age. This includes a ring ditch visible in aerial photographs circa 385m south, south west of the PDA (TR 15 NE 1064) that is likely to be a ploughed-out barrow. In addition, the 2016 excavation to the east and north east of the PDA found residual flintwork interpreted as being Bronze Age. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **moderate**.

Iron Age

5.8.5 The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres (the Iron Age 'Tribal capital' or civitas of the Cantiaci). The Kent HER has one record from this period within the assessment area being that of a PAS reported Iron Age copper alloy coin (MKE57779) to the north west of the PDA. In the wider area to the east on the high ground, the 2016 evaluation where middle to Late Iron Age pottery was found in ditches interpreted as an enclosure structure, which extended in the Late Iron Age. Whilst many finds from this period have not be found in the assessment area, the location of the PDA also on the higher ground overlooking Canterbury means that the area of the PDA is also likely to have been attractive in this period. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **moderate**.

Romano-British

5.8.6 The Romano-British period is the term given to the Romanised culture of Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire, following the Claudian invasion in AD 43, Britain then formed part of the Roman Empire for nearly 400 years. The Kent HER has four records from this period within the assessment area. A Roman Bronze figurine was found circa 690m to the north west of the PDA (TR 15 NW 271) and broadly in the same area, there is a PAS silver coin (MKE57491) and a Romano-British skull found in an old chalk pit (TR 15 NE 128). Circa 615m to the south west another skull, thought to be Roman was also found, although no further information is available (TR 15 NW 2304). The location of the PDA means that it sits in between a couple of Roman Roads, whose path lies outside of the assessment area. Watling Street to the north east (TQ 86 SW 1320) from Canterbury to Dover and Stone Street (TR 14 NW 53), Canterbury to Lympe to the west. Much Roman activity is likely to be focused along the roadside as has been the case with the 2016 evaluation to the north east, where Iron Age activity continued into the Roman period and where there is evidence of field systems and the potential for a high-status Roman building nearby. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **moderate**.

Anglo-Saxon

5.8.7 The Kent HER has four records from this period within the assessment area, all of which are PAS finds of metal items from this period of two silver pennies (MKE56911; MKE94778), a copper alloy brooch (MKE57045) and buckle (MKE57335). PAS find are normally located to grid squares where their exact find location is not known. In this instance all the finds were to the north of the PDA except for a silver penny, which was to the south. In the Anglo-Saxon period the Roman city of Canterbury fell into ruins. However, Christianity came to Canterbury in 597AD and the area revitalised. The PDA is located outside of the core settlement area, in the rural hinterland in this period. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Medieval

5.8.8 The Kent HER has four records from this period within the assessment area all of which are PAS finds in the wider area around the PDA. A gold coin was found circa 750m, west, south west (MKE56777) and a buckle, circa 440m north, north west. Circa 395m north of the PDA, a pilgrim's badge was found. Canterbury in the Middle Ages was a major town. Its position between London and the Continent meant it was a vital stopping place. In addition, the city attracted pilgrims to its cathedral to worship Thomas Becket. However, the PDA was essentially in the rural hinterland in this period. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period cannot be discounted and is period is considered **low**.

Post Medieval

5.8.9 The Kent HER has 14 records from this period within the assessment area reflecting the continued growth and urbanisation of Canterbury that over spilled outside of the city walls and towards the rural hinterland in an area of scattered farmsteads. The records include six Grade II listed buildings, and four farmstead records. In addition, there was the Elham Valley railway, that opened in 1889 and has since been demolished. Mag regression shows the PDA as agricultural land just to the north west of the mansion and gardens of Nackington House. Whilst Nackington House itself is not reflected in the KHER, an ice house associated with the house is (TR 15 NE 376) just outside of the PDA in what is now a residential

garden. The potential for finding remains that date to this period is considered **low**.

Modern

5.8.10 KHER has 14 records dating to this period, many representing sites relating to the Second World War of roadblocks, sirens, air raid shelters, civil defence posts and fortified houses. There is one record located within the PDA being the site of a Second World War shelter at what was just then the playing fields for the school in the old quarry (TR 15 NE 902), although any remains of this would have been destroyed by the construction of the swimming pool in 1961. The School having been built opened on the Site in 1959. The potential for finding archaeological remains dating to this period in the PDA is considered **low**.

Unknown

5.8.11 Aside from the cropmark previously mentioned, there are two other cropmark records of unknown date. Circa 510m to the west is a linear cropmark with rounded corners (TR15 NW 1603) and circa 710m to the north west a cropmark of two parallel lines (TR15 NW 1604). In addition, the 2007 aerial photograph shows a linear cropmark in the field immediately north of the PDA, that is not in the KHER. Figure 16 also shows a cropmark of an unknown feature in the assessment area on the eastern side of the Nackington Road.

Overview

5.8.12 This desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site but this potential can only be tested by fieldwork.

5.8.13 The desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site. Archaeological investigations in the vicinity, map research, the historical environment record results and recent archaeological investigations have shown that the PDA may contain archaeological sites and these can be summarised as:

- Prehistoric: **moderate**
- Iron Age: **moderate**
- Roman: **moderate**

- Anglo-Saxon: **low**
- Medieval: **low**
- Post-Medieval: **low**
- Modern: **low**

6 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Cartographic Regression, Topographical Analysis, and Historic Research have provided evidence for the historic use of the site. By collating this information, we have assessed the impact on previous archaeological remains through the following method of categorisation:

- **Total Impact** - Where the area has undergone a destructive process to a depth that would in all probability have destroyed any archaeological remains e.g. construction, mining, quarrying, archaeological evaluations etc.
- **High Impact** – Where the ground level has been reduced to below natural geographical levels that would leave archaeological remains partly in situ either in plan or section e.g. the construction of roads, railways, buildings, strip foundations etc.
- **Medium Impact** – Where there has been low level or random disturbance of the ground that would result in the survival of archaeological remains in areas undisturbed e.g. the installation of services, pad-stone or piled foundations, temporary structures etc.
- **Low Impact** – Where the ground has been penetrated to a very low level e.g. farming, landscaping, slab foundation etc.

6.2 Historic Impacts

6.2.1 Cartographic regression (5.5), Topographic analysis (1.2) and Historical research (5.4) indicate that the PDA was not built on, being agricultural until the area was first used by the school initially as playing fields, with the introduction of the pavilion in 1931 and the school in 1959. However, in the late 19th century, the far eastern section, there was a small chalk quarry. The building of the school and the swimming pool appears to have had a major impact on the site due to the changing levels from the construction between the school and the playing field that has resulted in a large bank which would have resulted in a **high/total** historical impact upon any potential archaeology.

Proposed Impact

6.2.2 The proposed development considers four options for a new classroom block. As this is a feasibility study the type of foundations for each of the options are not known. Option 1 is set within the bank. This would remove some of the bank and foundations set below the level of the area of the old tennis courts. As we do not currently know the historical land levels and made ground, the impact on any potential archaeology is uncertain. This also applies to Option 2 potentially located within the area of the tennis courts, where the historical land levels are also uncertain. Option 3 required the demolition of the Wendy House with the proposed block built in the area of the Wendy House and also on unbuilt ground to the west. The proposed block will require foundations and in the areas not already historically impacted by those of the Wendy House, the proposed impact remains uncertain as the area is situated on the playing field being set higher than the school and therefore the historical land levels in this area are uncertain as it is also close the bank. For option 4, the proposal is to build above the swimming pool. This is in an area that has previously been quarried with total historical impact and therefore no impact is likely on any potential archaeology.

7 SIGNIFICANCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Archaeological Significance is assessed under a number of criteria, which includes, Period, Rarity, Group Value, Survival/Condition, Fragility/Vulnerability, Diversity and Potential. These criteria are the same as used by the Government in the scheduling of ancient monuments and provide a useful framework in assessing significance and also pulls together and summarises the findings in the report.

7.2 Significance Criteria

Period

7.2.1 There is archaeological significance within the assessment area of moderate potential for the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods and low for all other periods based on archaeological finds, activity and cropmarks in the area.

Rarity

7.2.2 Understanding the use of the landscape in this area of higher ground south of Canterbury would be of benefit for the Bronze and Iron Age especially in settlement patterns and fields systems. The potential for Roman activity around the Roman Roads and roadsides is not considered rare as there have been many finds in the vicinity across Kent. However, the potential to understanding general Roman activity in this this area between Stone Street and Watling Street would potentially have regional significance.

Documentation

7.2.3 The historical and landscape development of the PDA can be understood reasonably well from the cartographic, archive, photographic and other sources. It is possible that further detailed research nationally may uncover more documentary evidence, although it is unlikely to alter the conclusion present in this report.

Group Value

7.2.4 The potential for archaeology at the PDA has group value in potentially providing more information regarding the use of the land in the Prehistoric, Iron age and Roman period south of Canterbury.

Survival / Condition

- 7.2.5 The survival of any potential archaeology is essentially uncertain for options 1, 2, and 3 given the impact of the construction of the school and the levelling of the playing field and lowering of the land on which the school buildings are sited and the creation of a bank. The levels of the historical land surfaces are not known as to what is made ground and what has been reduced. In terms of option 4 at the site of the swimming pool in the old quarry area, the historical impact is considered to be total.

Fragility / Vulnerability

- 7.2.6 Any potential remains within the PDA in the area of the proposed development, should they survive in-situ will be vulnerable to damage during the proposed development from foundations and services.

Diversity

- 7.2.7 Being located on the southern outskirts of Canterbury on the higher ground above the city, means that the area has been attractive for millennia from the Prehistoric through to the Roman period after which the area was essentially agricultural.

Potential

- 7.2.8 The impact assessment concludes that the site has a moderate potential for archaeological remains although it is uncertain whether this will still potentially be in situ given the impact of the construction of the school on the area.

Significance

- 7.2.9 Based on the information gained in this report, it can be concluded that the site is of moderate archaeological interest in relation to the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods of which carries regional significance.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 The purpose of this archaeological desk-based assessment was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record in order to determine the potential survival of archaeological deposits that may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.
- 8.1.2 The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of moderate potential for the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman with low potential for all other periods. The research suggests that the area has not been built on until the current school and that the construction of the school would have affected the historical land levels resulting in an uncertain conclusion for the historical impact for options 1, 2 and 3. For option 4 in the area of the quarry, the historical impact is considered total. The development proposals are likely to cause a high impact upon any potential archaeology should any archaeology remain in situ. The proposed development for option 1 would mean the proposed block being cut into the bank area and would potential allow for an understanding of the stratigraphy and possible historical land levels at the site. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities but it is anticipated that for proposed options 1,2 and 3, that an evaluation will be required to ascertain the nature of any archaeological deposits.

9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 Archive

- 9.1.1 Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, two copies of this desk-based assessment will be submitted to the LPA and Kent County Council (Heritage) within 6 months of completion.

9.2 Reliability/Limitations of Sources

- 9.2.1 The sources that were used in this assessment were, in general, of high quality. The majority of the information provided herewith has been gained from either published texts or archaeological 'grey' literature held at Kent County Council, and therefore considered as being reliable.

9.3 Copyright

- 9.3.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company and the author shall retain full copyright on the commissioned report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. All rights are reserved, excepting that it hereby provides exclusive licence to Kent County Council (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

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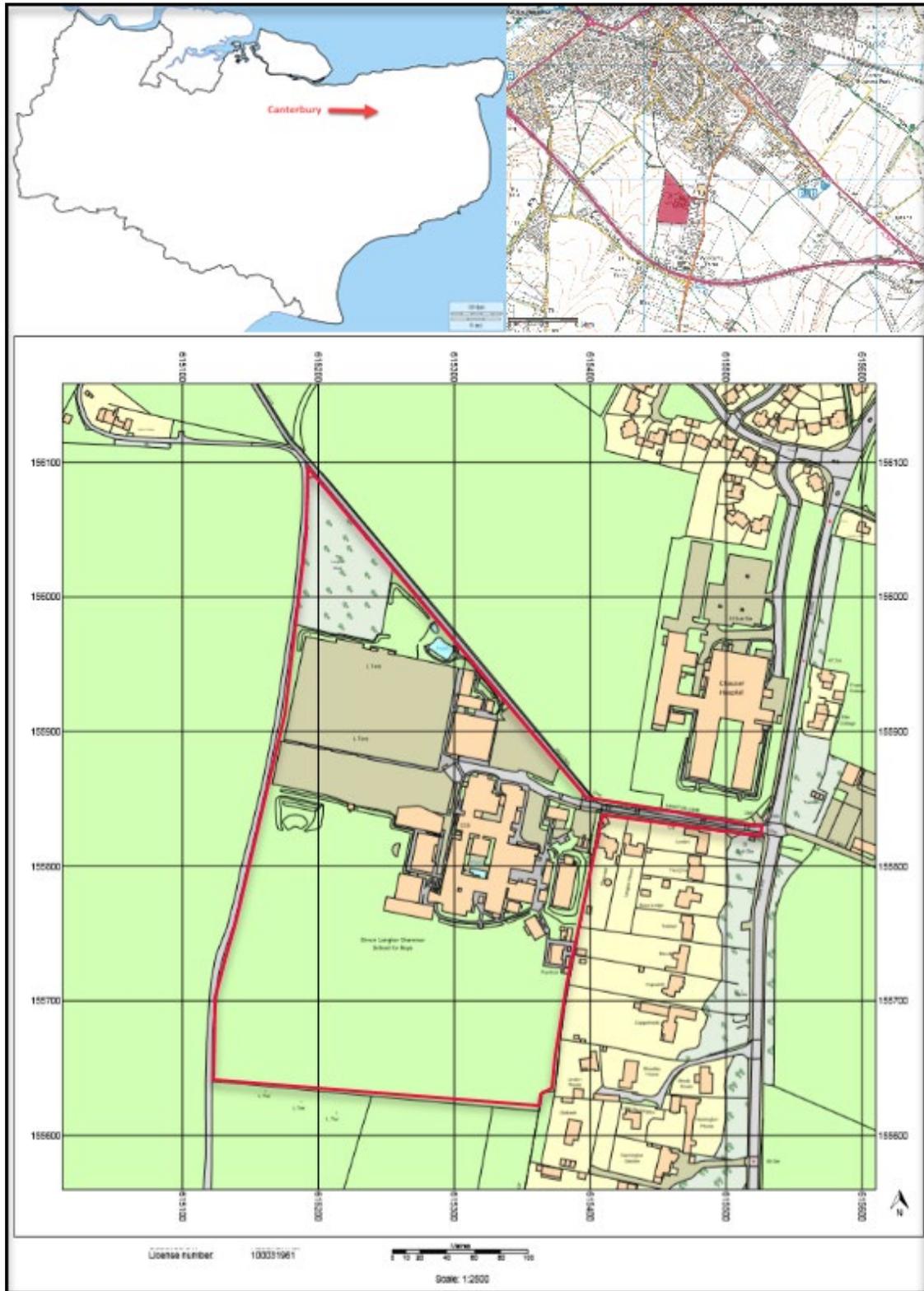
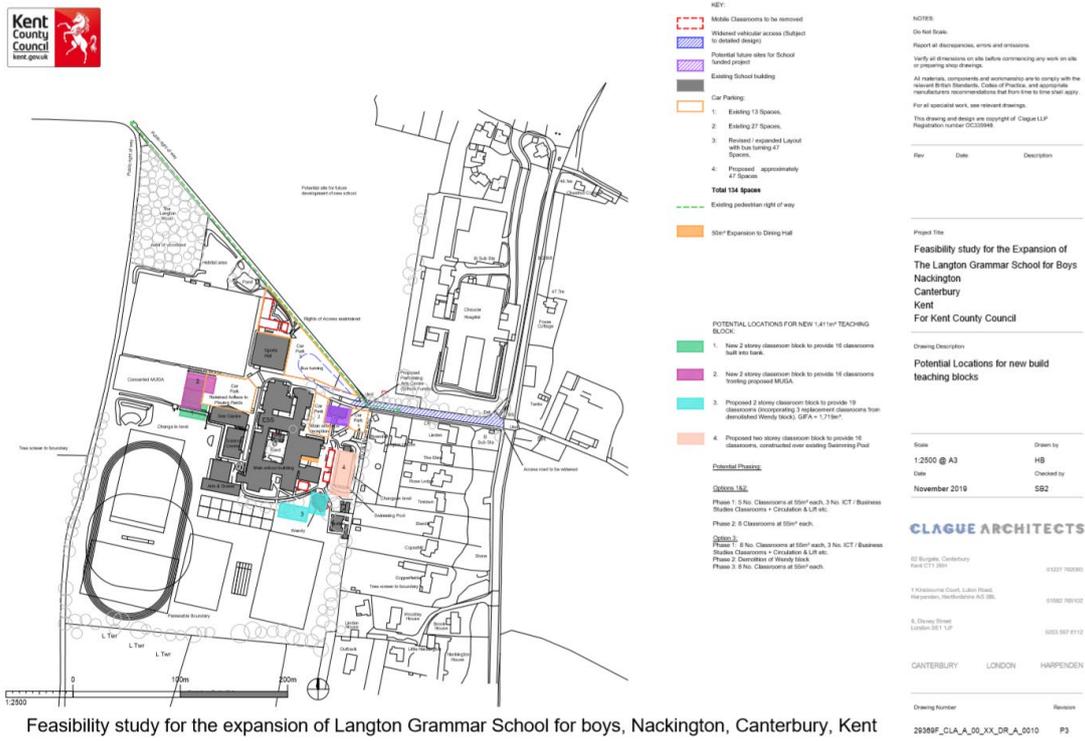


Figure 1: Location Maps, Scale: 1:10,000 & 1:500



Feasibility study for the expansion of Langton Grammar School for boys, Nackington, Canterbury, Kent
 Figure 2: Proposed Development Areas

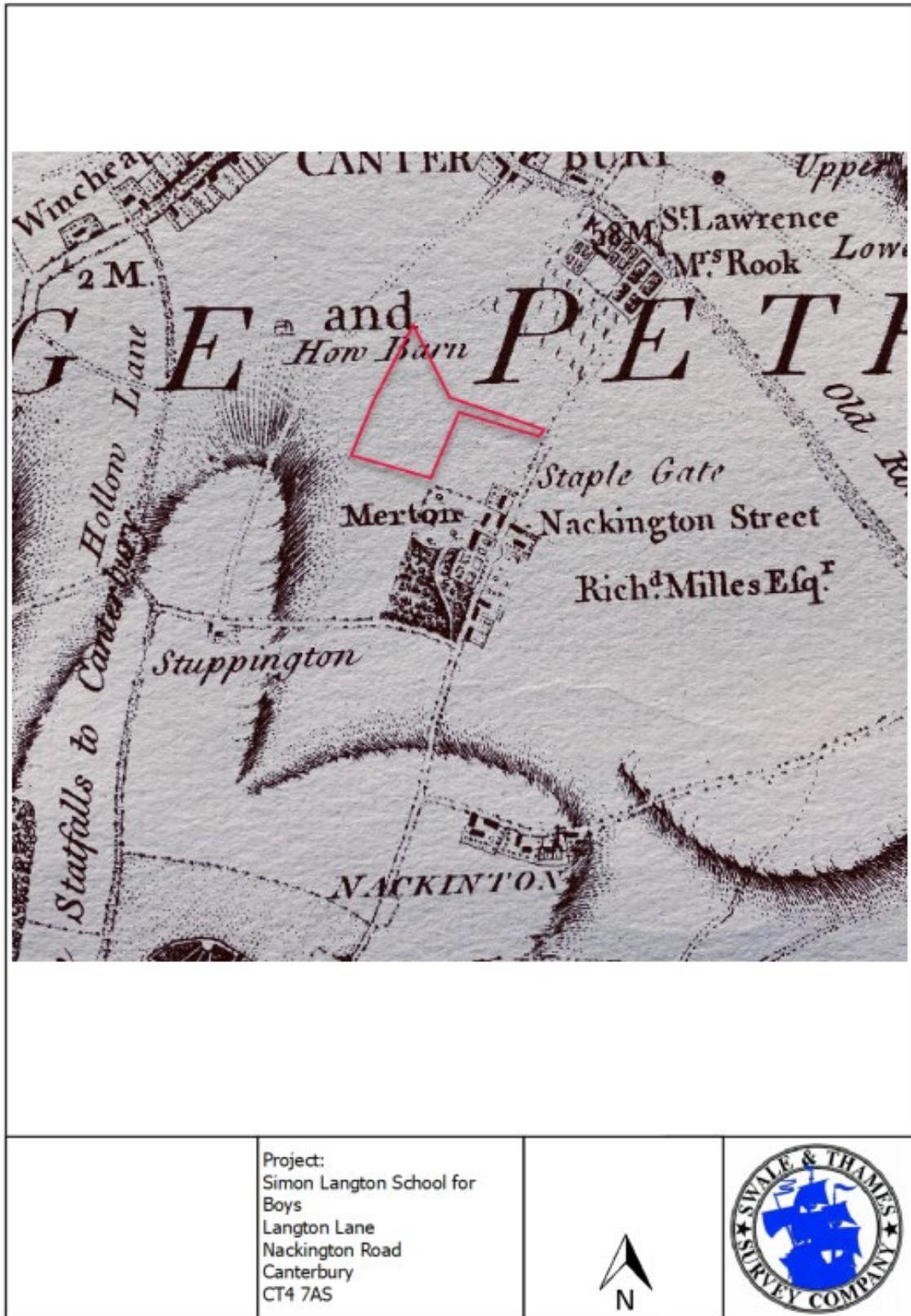


Figure 3: Andrew, Dury and Herbert Map from 1769



Figure 4: Ordnance Surveyors Drawing, 1797

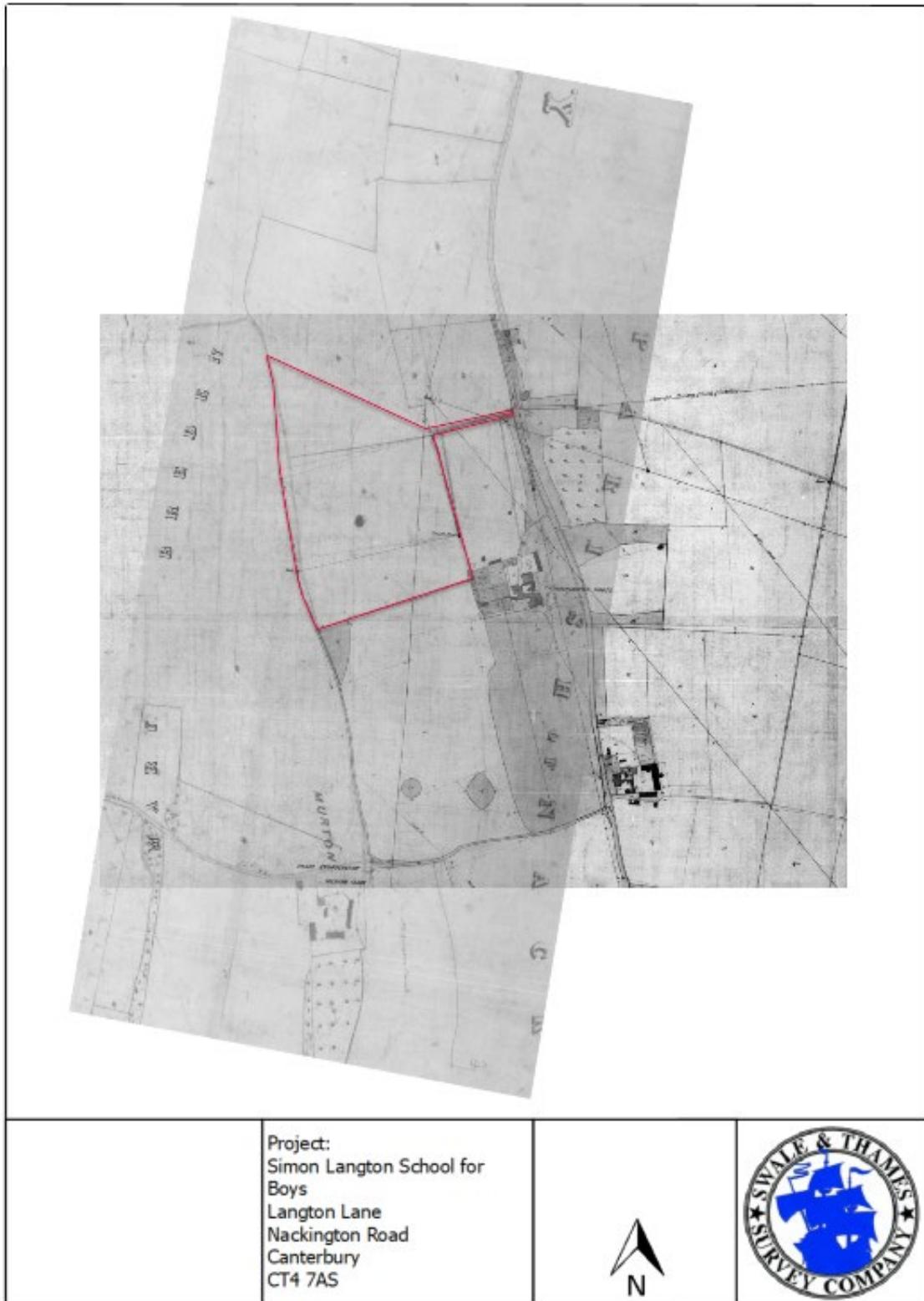


Figure 5: St Mary Bredin, Canterbury and Nackington Tithe Map of 1852 and 1843 respectively

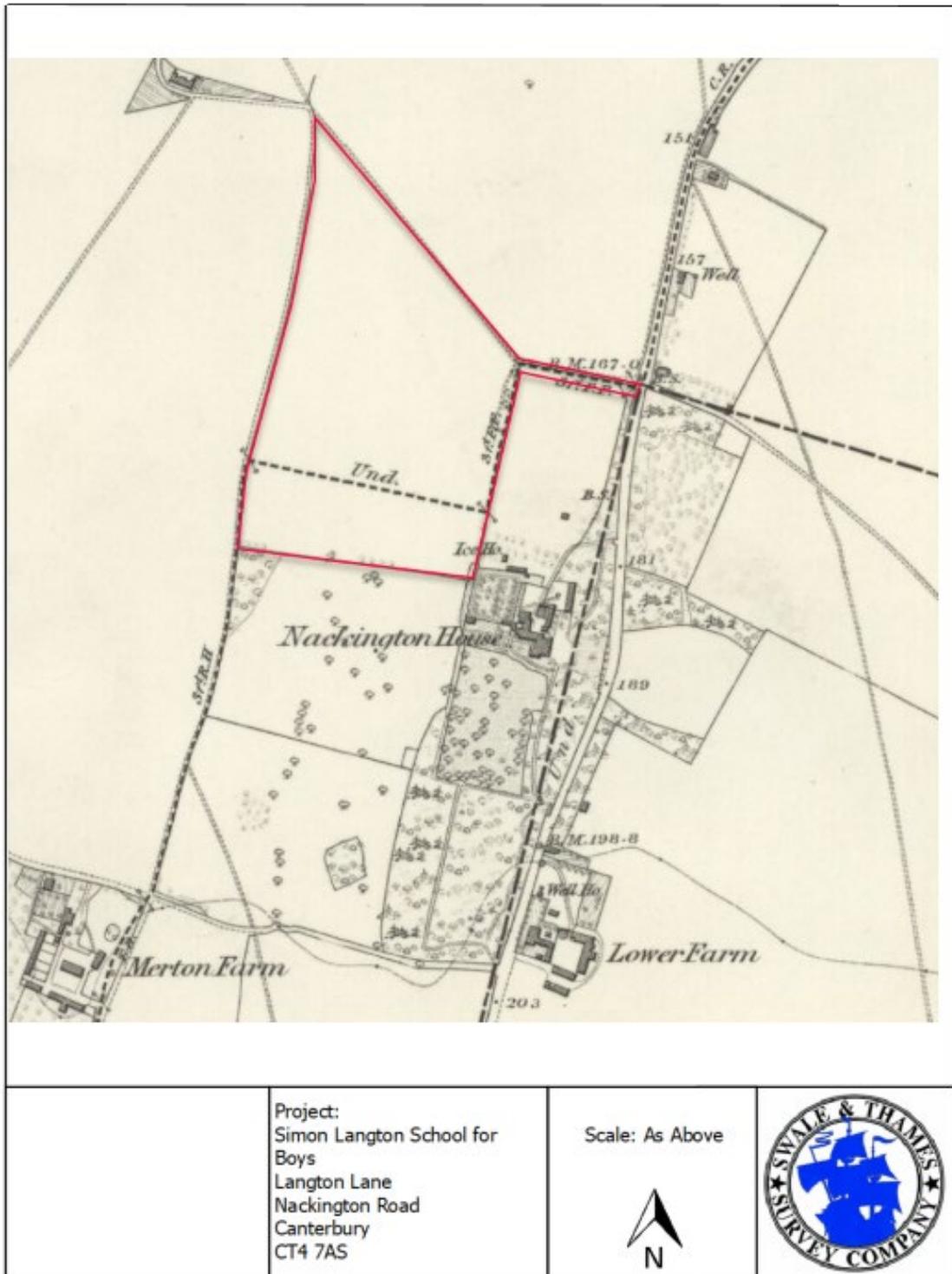


Figure 6: Historic OS Map 1877

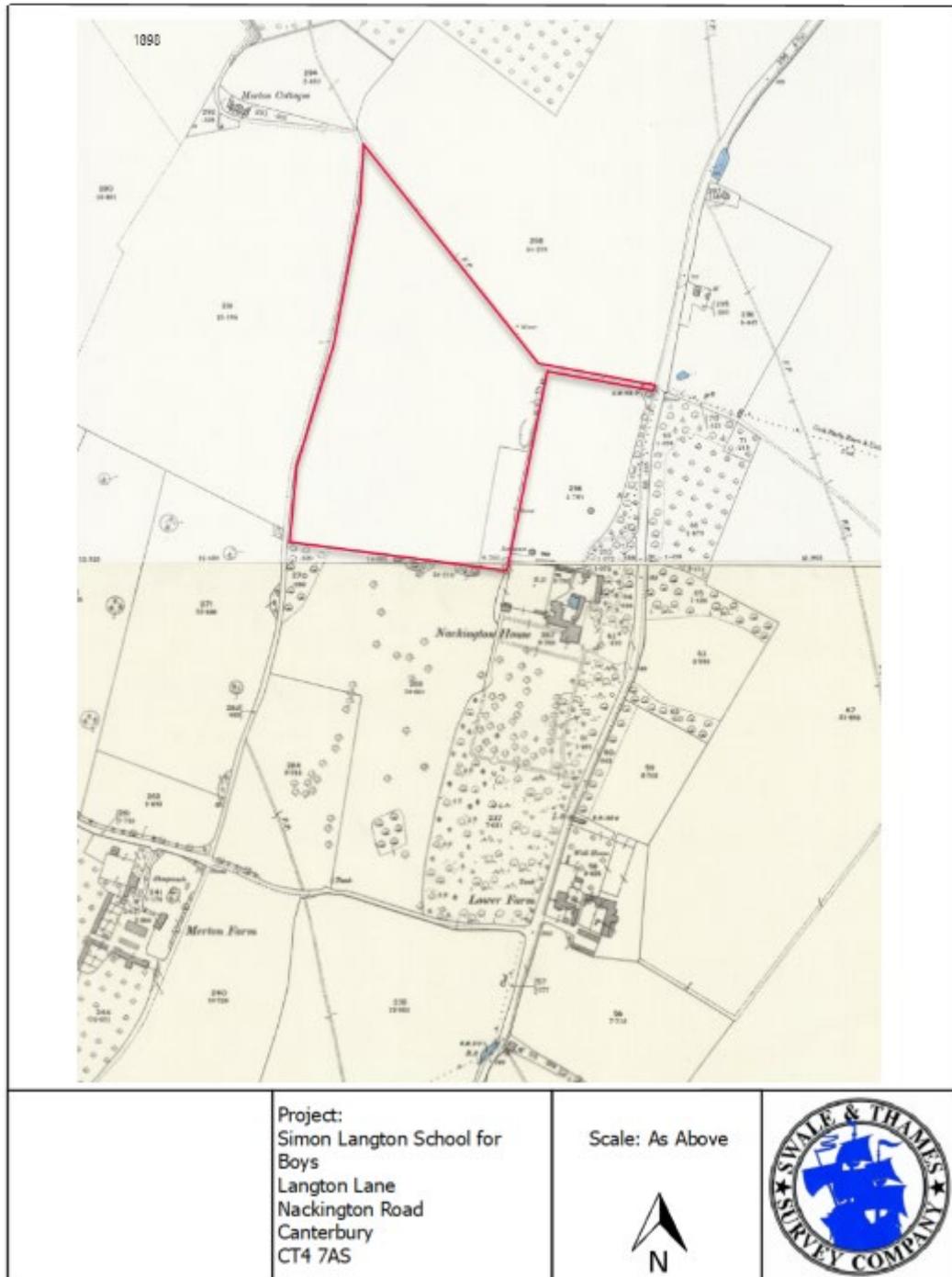


Figure 7: Historic OS Map from 1898

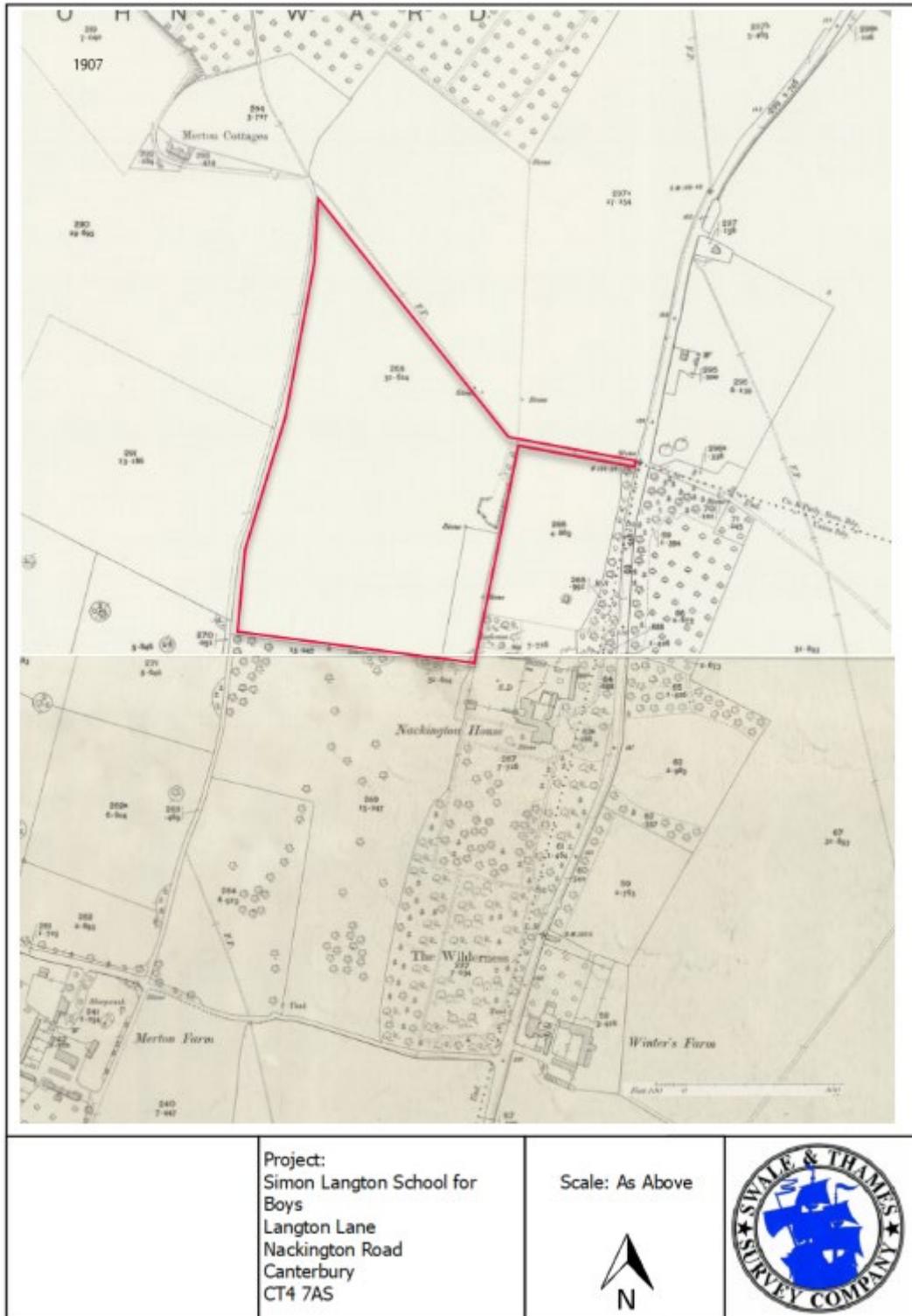


Figure 8: Historic OS Map 1907

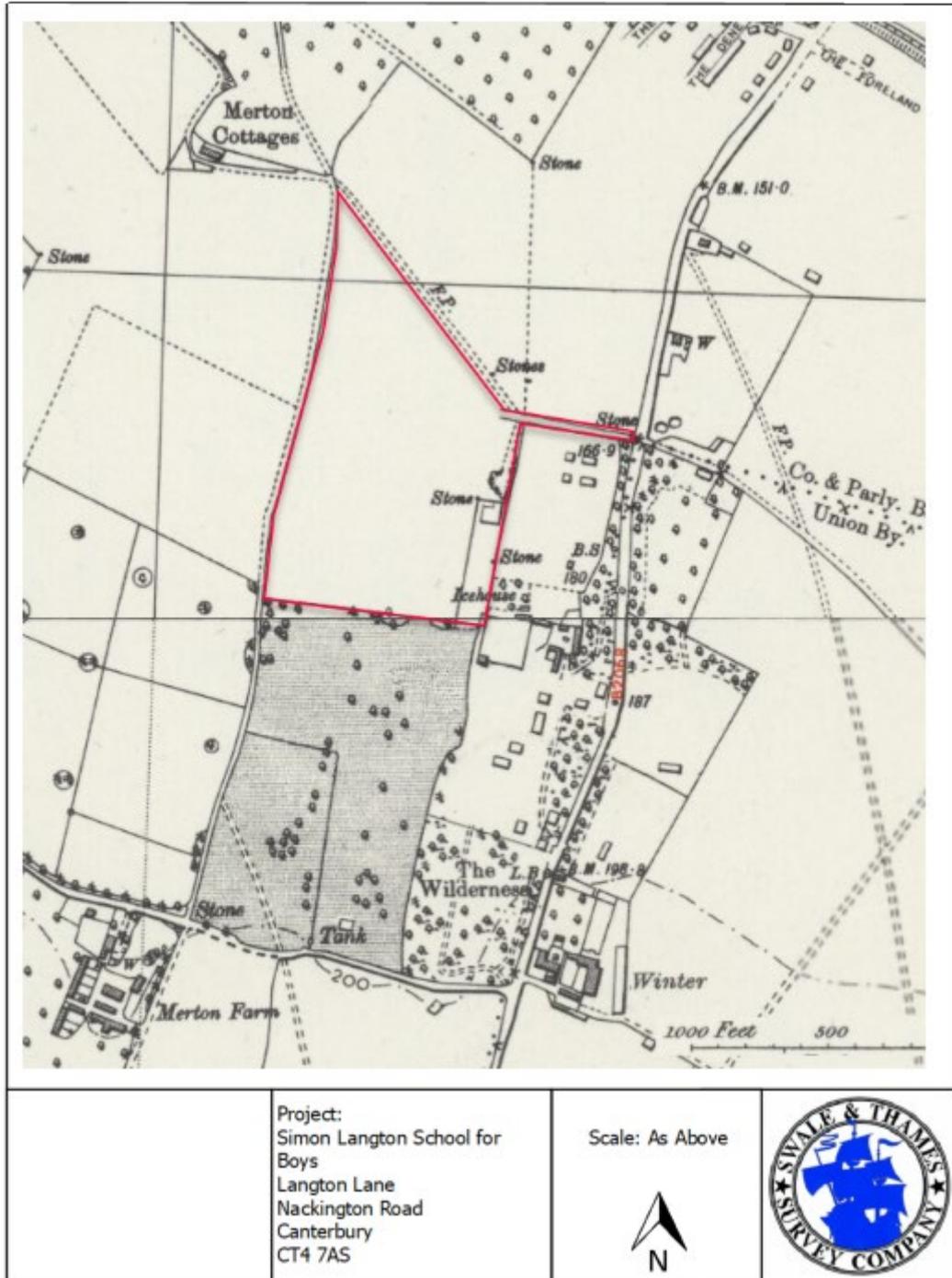


Figure 9: Historic OS Map 1945

11 APPENDIX 1 – KCC HER DATA (SEE FIGURES 10-16). ALL LOCATION DISTANCES TAKEN OUTWARDS FROM THE CLUSTER OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AT THE PDA.

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
TR 15 NE 376	Monument	c. 130m SSE	Post Medieval	Icehouse, Little Nackington, Canterbury
TR 15 NE 388	Building	c. 500m NNE	Modern	The Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Opened in 1937
TR 15 NE 397	Monument	c. 845m E	Prehistoric	Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age feature to the west of the Old Gate Inn. A spread of flint pot-boilers and pottery dateable to the Late Bronze or very early Iron Age was found during a watching brief along the course of the South Canterbury Water Main in Sept/Oct 2000.
TR 15 NW 1248	Listed Building	c. 780m W	Post Medieval	Barns at Stuppington Farm. Grade II listed (1096955). Dated 1721.
TR 15 NW 1261	Listed Building	c. 570m SSW	Post Medieval	Merton Farmhouse. Grade II listed (1096956). Early 19th century.
TR 15 NE 447	Listed Building	c. 785m NNE	Post Medieval	Oasthouse. Grade II listed (1260210). Early 19th century.
TR 15 NW 1354	Listed Building	c. 550m SW	Post Medieval	Building to Right of Merton Farmhouse. Grade II listed (1334308). Early 19th century.
TR 15 NW 1334	Listed Building	c. 745m W	Post Medieval	The Farmhouse and Attached Former Cart Store, Stuppington Court Farm. Grade II listed (1334346). 17th century.
TR 15 NE 579	Listed Building	c. 490m SSE	Post Medieval	Winter's Farmhouse. Grade II listed (1372287). 18th century.
TR 15 NE 858	Monument	c. 645m NNE	Modern	Second World War Civil Defence emergency water tank at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury
TR 15 NE 892	Building	c. 610m NNE	Modern	Second World War Civil Defence Emergency Hospital at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury

TR 15 NE 887	Building	c. 850m NNW	Modern	Second World War Emergency Hospital and air-raid siren at the Public Assistance Institution, Canterbury
TR 15 NE 756	Monument	c. 735m N	Modern	Second World War Civil Defence warden's post at 67 Cromwell Road, Canterbury.
TR 15 NE 801	Monument	c. 780m NNE	Modern	Second World War Civil Defence warden's post at 28 Ethelbert Road, Canterbury.
TR 15 NE 871	Monument	c. 520m NNE	Modern	Second World War Air-raid shelter provision for hop-pickers, Canterbury
TR 15 NE 816	Monument	c. 425m NE	Modern	Second World War roadblock on Nackington Road, Canterbury. It was flanked by a possible concrete block and well-defined zig-zag slit trench, to the west. Covering fire will have been available from two fortified houses just in the rear of the roadblock.
TR 15 NW 975	Building	c. 530m NW	Modern	Second World War fortified house at Hallbank Cottages, near Stuppington Lane, Canterbury
TR 15 NE 782	Monument	c. 850m NNW	Modern	Second World War fortified house at the Public Assistance Institution, Nunnery Fields, Canterbury.
TR 15 NE 893	Building	c. 450m NE	Modern	Second World War fortified house on Nackington Road, Canterbury
TR 15 NE 777	Building	c. 515m NE	Modern	Second World War fortified house on Nackington Road, Canterbury
TR 15 NE 128	Monument	c. 475m NNW	Roman	Romano-British Skull. found in a chalk pit called "The Devil's Court Hall", at Redlands near Canterbury
TR 15 NW 271	Findspot	c. 690m NW	Roman	Head of a Roman Bronze figurine. found in 1980 in an arable field on the west side of Stuppington Lane.
MKE56776	Findspot	c. 750m WSW	Medieval to Post Medieval	PAS find. Post Medieval copper alloy key (locking), 16th century.
MKE56777	Findspot	c. 750m WSW	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval gold coin. Dated circa 1361 of Edward II.
MKE56910	Findspot	c. 395m N	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval silver pilgrim badge openwork figure of archangel Michael (with two wings to either side) spearing the devil. Dated 1450-1530AD.
MKE56911	Findspot	c. 395m N	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	PAS find. Early Medieval silver coin. Penny of Cnut minted at Dover.

MKE57045	Findspot	c. 215m NNW	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	PAS find. Early Medieval copper alloy brooch. Anglo-Saxon small-long brooch. The brooch was cast in copper alloy and is complete except for the pin. Dated 475-525AD.
MKE57330	Findspot	c. 440m NNW	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval copper alloy buckle. Dated circa 1200-1400 AD.
MKE57335	Findspot	c. 440m NNW	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon to Medieval	PAS find. Early Medieval copper alloy buckle. Dated 1000-1200 AD.
MKE57417	Findspot	c. 240m E	Middle Bronze Age	PAS find. Bronze Age copper alloy palstave axehead. Dated 1500-1300 BC.
MKE57491	Findspot	c. 215m NNW	Roman	PAS find. Roman silver coin. A silver denarius of Faustina Senior. Minted in Rome, after AD 147.
MKE57513	Findspot	c. 490m W	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval lead ampulla. The ampulla has a rectangular body with a recessed heraldic design on one side. Date: from Circa 1150 AD to Circa 1500 AD.
MKE57779	Findspot	c. 595m NW	Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age copper alloy coin
TR 15 NE 1064	Monument	c. 385m SSW	Unknown	Cropmark of a ring ditch, to the South of Canterbury visible as a cropmark in aerial photos of 1990 to the south of Canterbury.
TR 15 NE 1081	Building	c. 710m N	Modern	George V pillar box, Ethelbert Road / Hospital Approach
TR 15 NE 1115	Monument	c. 580m N	Post Medieval to Modern	Site of Canterbury South station. The station served the Elham Valley Railway. Opened in 1889, it was closed in 1947. The station was a timber-framed corrugated-iron structure. It was demolished sometime in the 1960s.
MKE86265	Farmstead	c. 755m W	Post Medieval	Stuppington Court Farm. Loose courtyard with working agricultural buildings on three sides and with additional detached elements to the main plan. Farmhouse detached in central position. Altered - partial loss of original form (less than 50%).
MKE86266	Farmstead	c. 605m SSW	Post Medieval	Merton Farm. A regular multiplan farmstead. Farmhouse detached in central position. Altered with partial loss of original form (less than 50%).
MKE86286	Farmstead	c. 500m SSE	Post Medieval	Winter's Farm (Lower Farm). A regular courtyard farmstead with buildings to four sides of the yard incorporating a L-plan element.

				Farmhouse detached in central position. Altered with partial loss of original form (less than 50%).
MKE86287	Farmstead	c. 450m NNW	Post Medieval	Ridlins Farm. A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to two sides of the yard. Farmhouse detached in central position. Farmstead completely demolished.
TR 15 NW 1603	Monument	c. 510m W	Unknown	Linear cropmark, to the south of Canterbury with rounded corner in Google images 2007 and aerial photos 1999 to the south of Canterbury.
TR 15 NW 1604	Monument	c. 710m NW	Unknown	Cropmark of two parallel lines, to the north west of Hallbank Cottages visible as a cropmark in Google Earth image 2007.
TR 15 NW 2304	Monument	c. 615m SW	Roman	Skull. No other information is known.
MKE94778	Findspot	c. 660m S	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	PAS find. Silver coin. A silver penny of Edward the Confessor, expanding cross type, c.1050-1053 AD.
TR 15 NE 902	Monument	Within PDA	Modern	Second World War school trench shelters at the Simon Langton School playing fields, Nackington Road, Canterbury. The shelter is thought to have occupied the site of the present swimming pool.
TR 14 NE 10	Monument	c. 550m NE	Post Medieval to Modern	Now disused, the Elham Valley railway line ran from Cheriton Junction, 1.12 miles west of Shorncliffe, to Harbledown Junction, 1.5 miles south of Canterbury West. Opened in 1887 and closed in 1947.
EVENTS				
ID	Name	Distance	Year	Type
EKE13793	A2 By-pass		1979-1980	Excavation / Watching Brief
EKE17798	Bat and Ball Car Park		2006	Evaluation

EKE5726	South Canterbury Water Main		2000	Watching Brief
EKE11252	Nunnery Fields Hospital		2002	Evaluation
EKE16335	Merton Farm		2006	Geophysical Survey
EKE16334	Merton Farm		2008	Geophysical Survey

Figure 10: Gazetteer of KHER Records

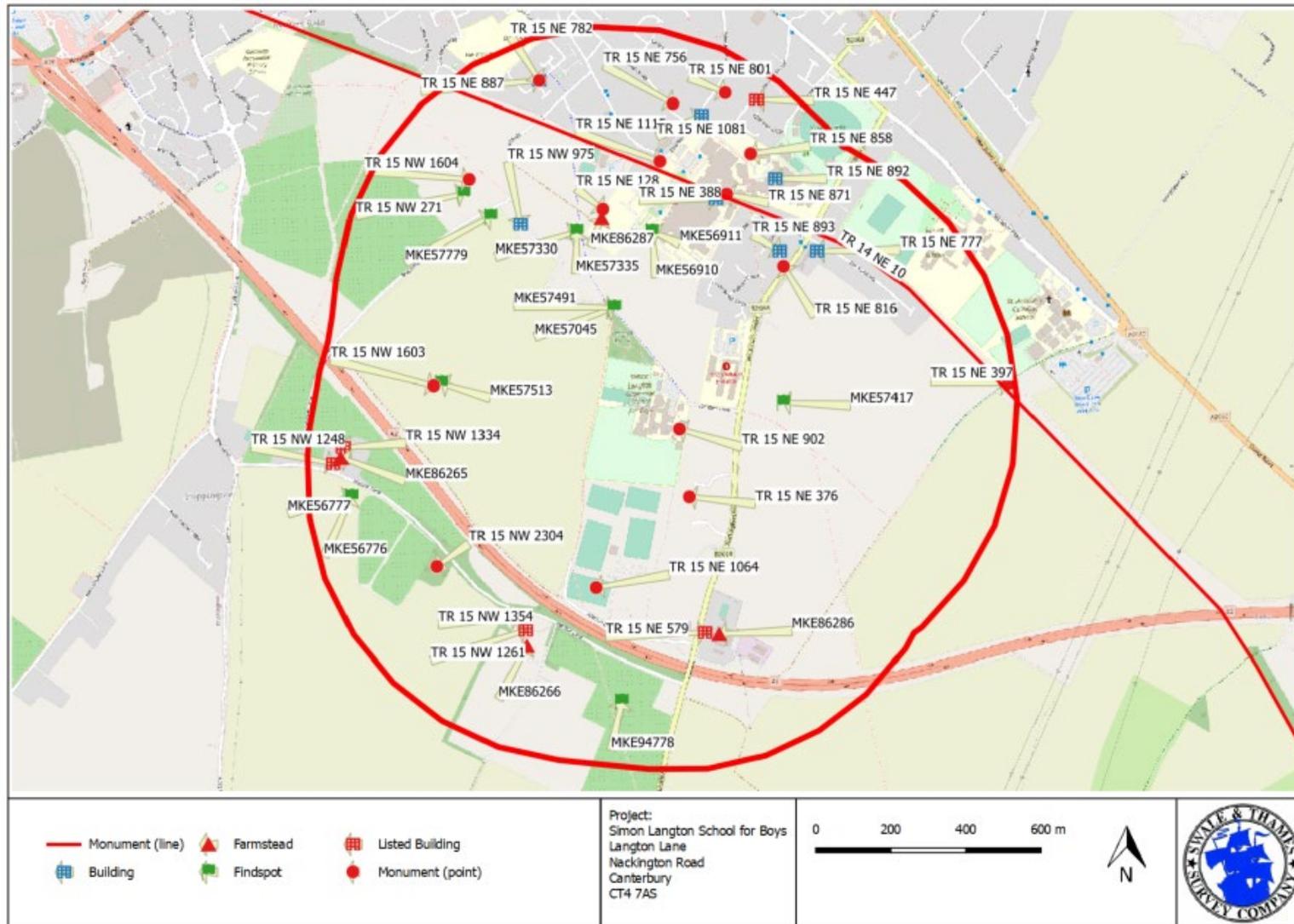


Figure 11: KHER Monument Record – All

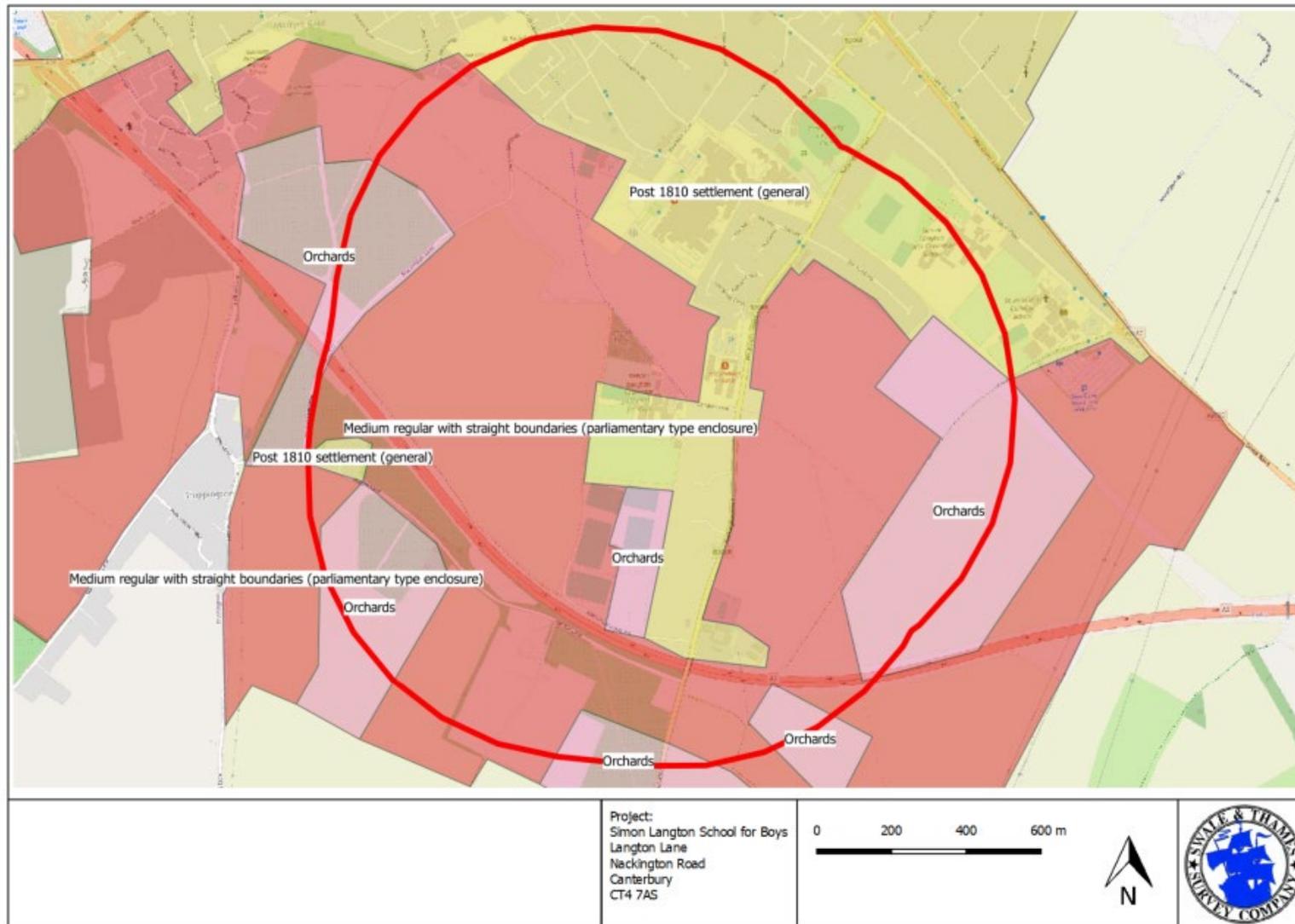


Figure 12: KHER Historic Landscape Characterisation

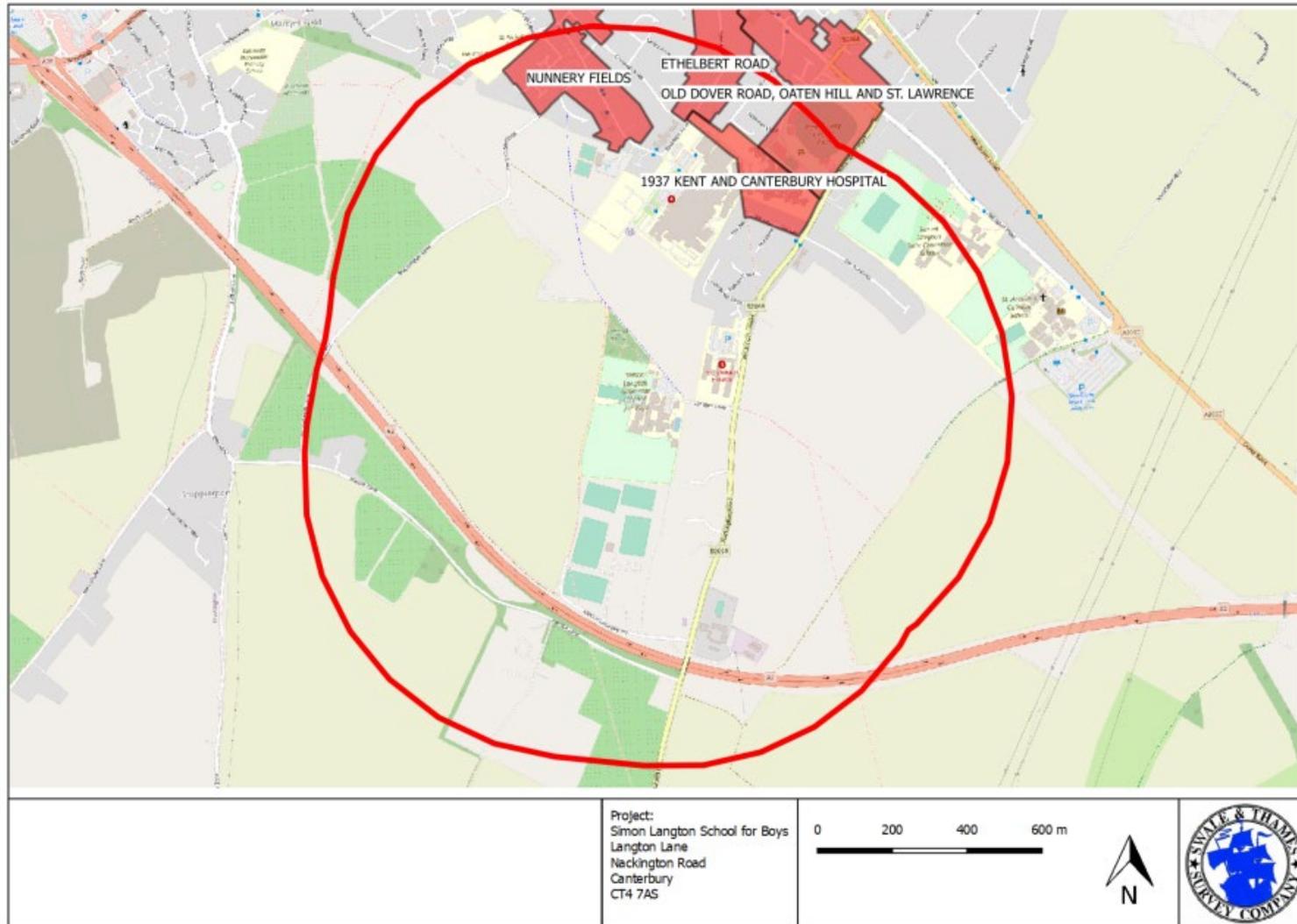


Figure 13: KHER Conservation Areas

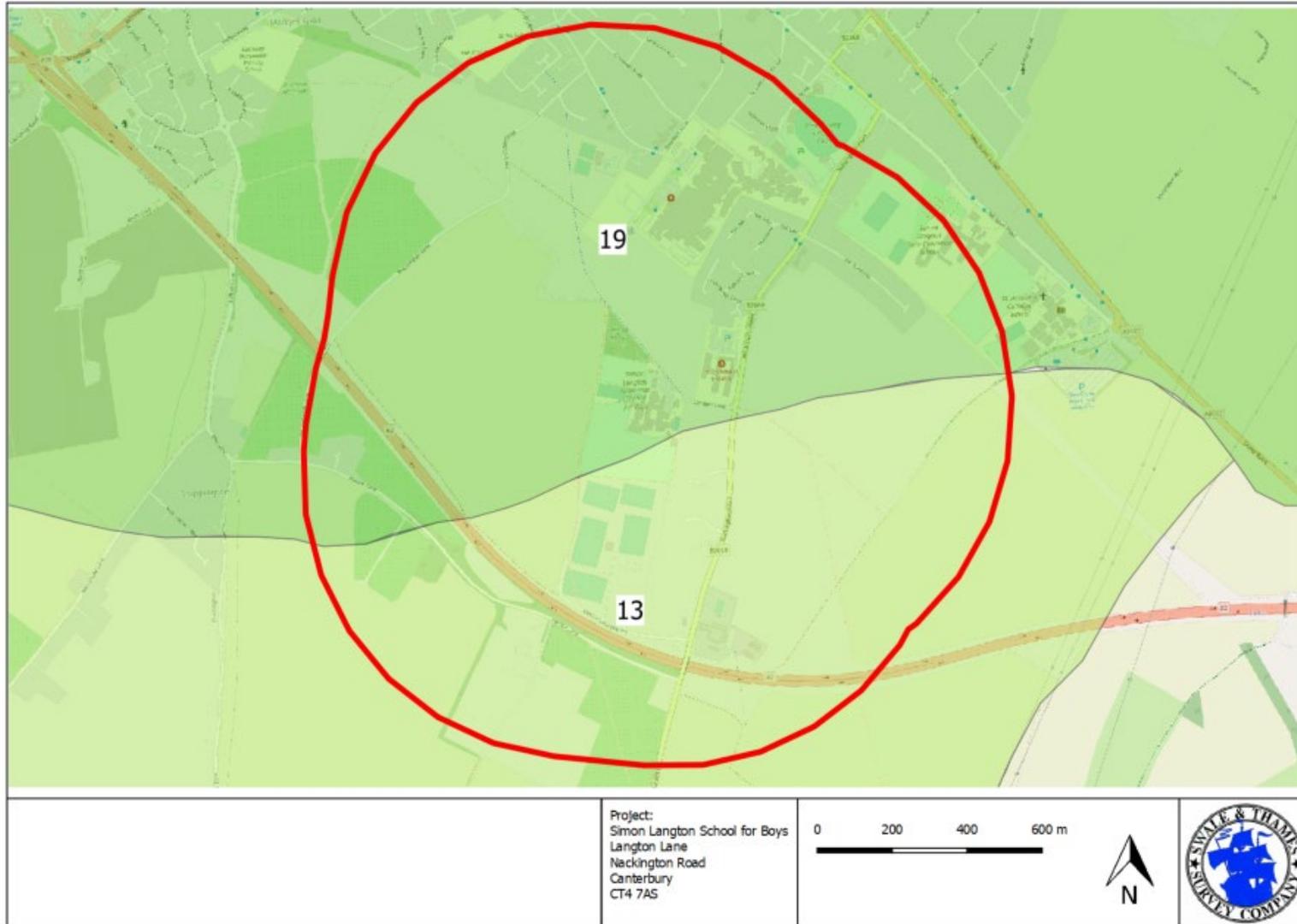


Figure 14: KHER Stour Palaeolithic Areas

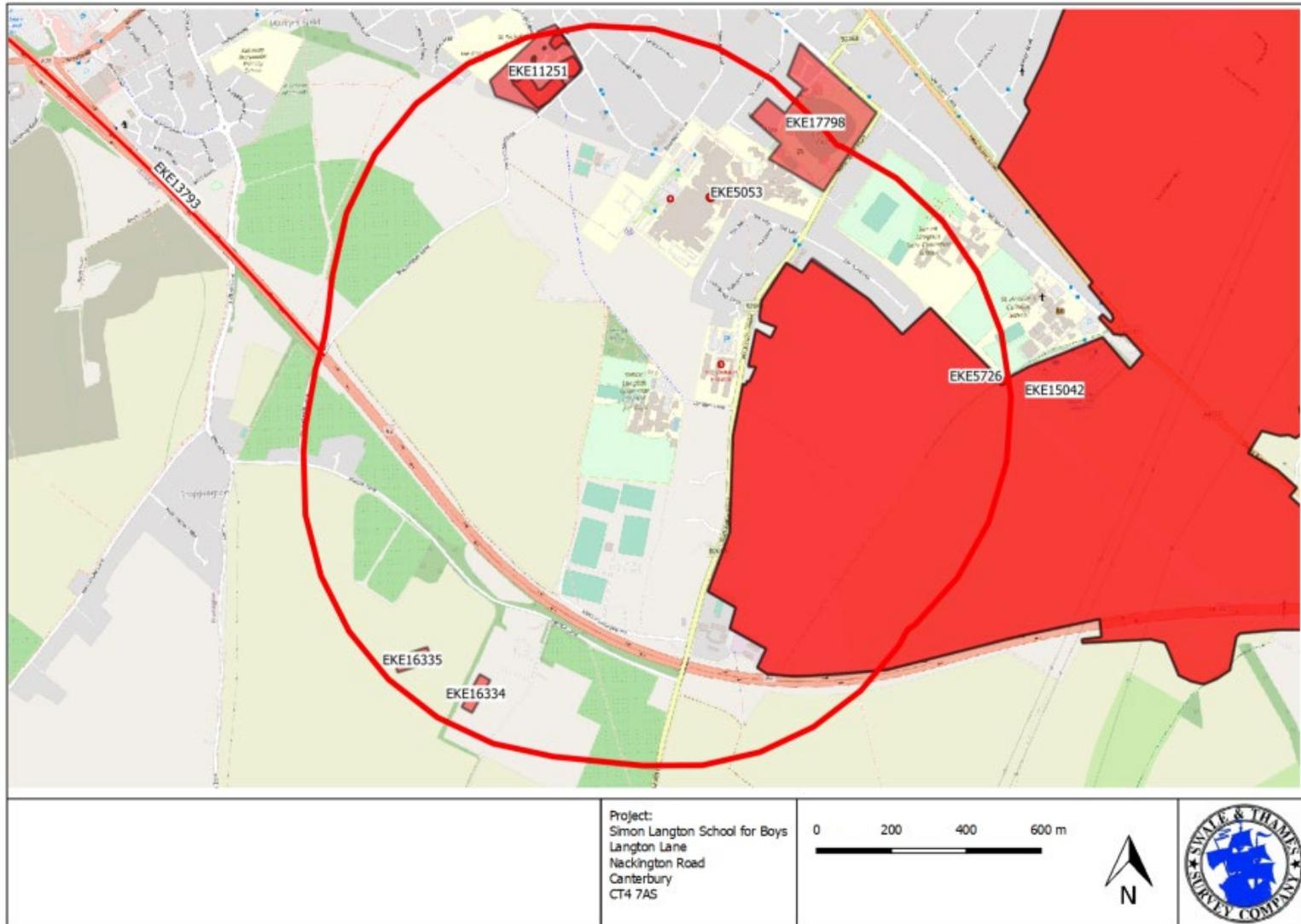


Figure 15: KHER Events

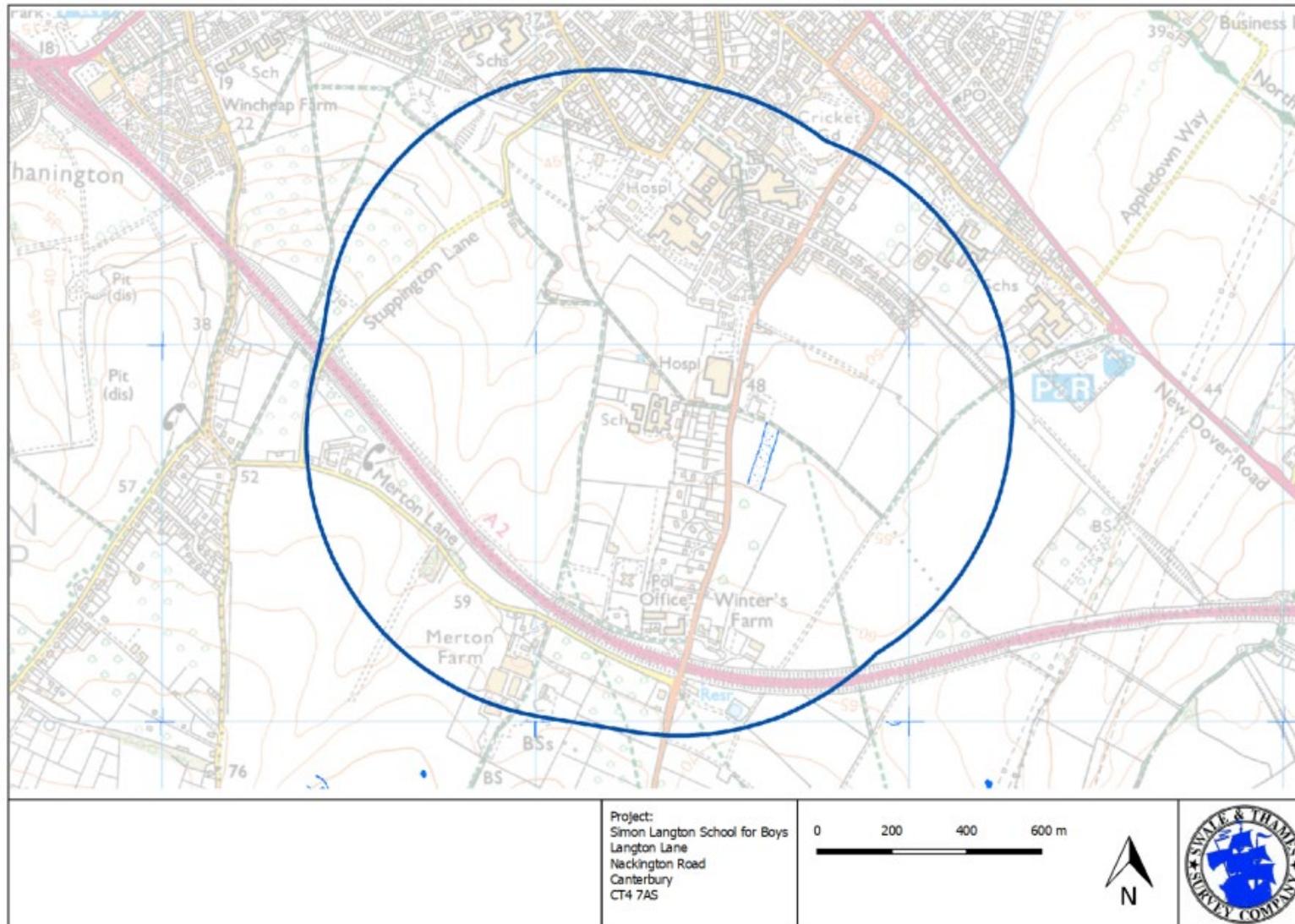


Figure 16: KHER Cropmarks



Project:
Simon Langton School for Boys
Langton Lane
Nackington Road
Canterbury
CT4 7AS



Plate 1: 1948



Plate 2: 1940s. (Google Earth).



Plate 3: 1960s (Google Earth)

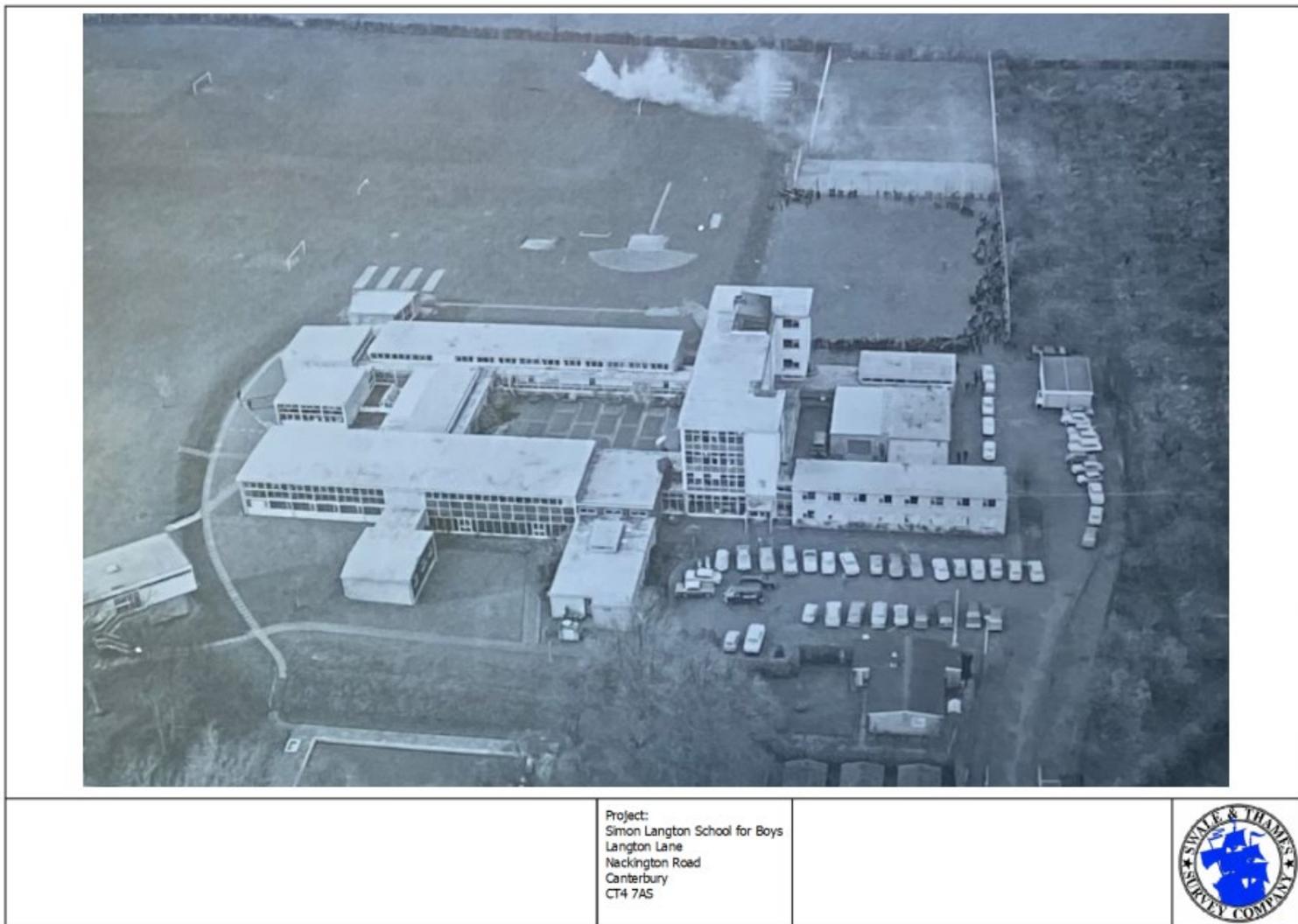


Plate 4: Aerial photograph of the school in 1974.



Plate 5: 1990 (Google Earth)



Plate 6: 2003 (Google Earth)



Plate 7: 2007 (Google Earth)



Plate 8: 2019 (Google Earth)



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Plate 9: View across location of proposal locations 1 and 2 (facing SW)



Plate 10: View showing proposal sites 1 and 2 (facing WNW)



Plate 11: View looking towards proposal site 1 (facing SW)



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Plate 12: View looking across proposal sites 1 and 2 (facing ESE)



Plate 13: View looking towards proposal site 1 and 2 (facing NNE)



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Plate 14: View looking towards proposal site 3 (facing NE)



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Plate 15: View towards proposal site 3 (facing NNE)



Plate 16: View across proposal site 4 (facing NW)

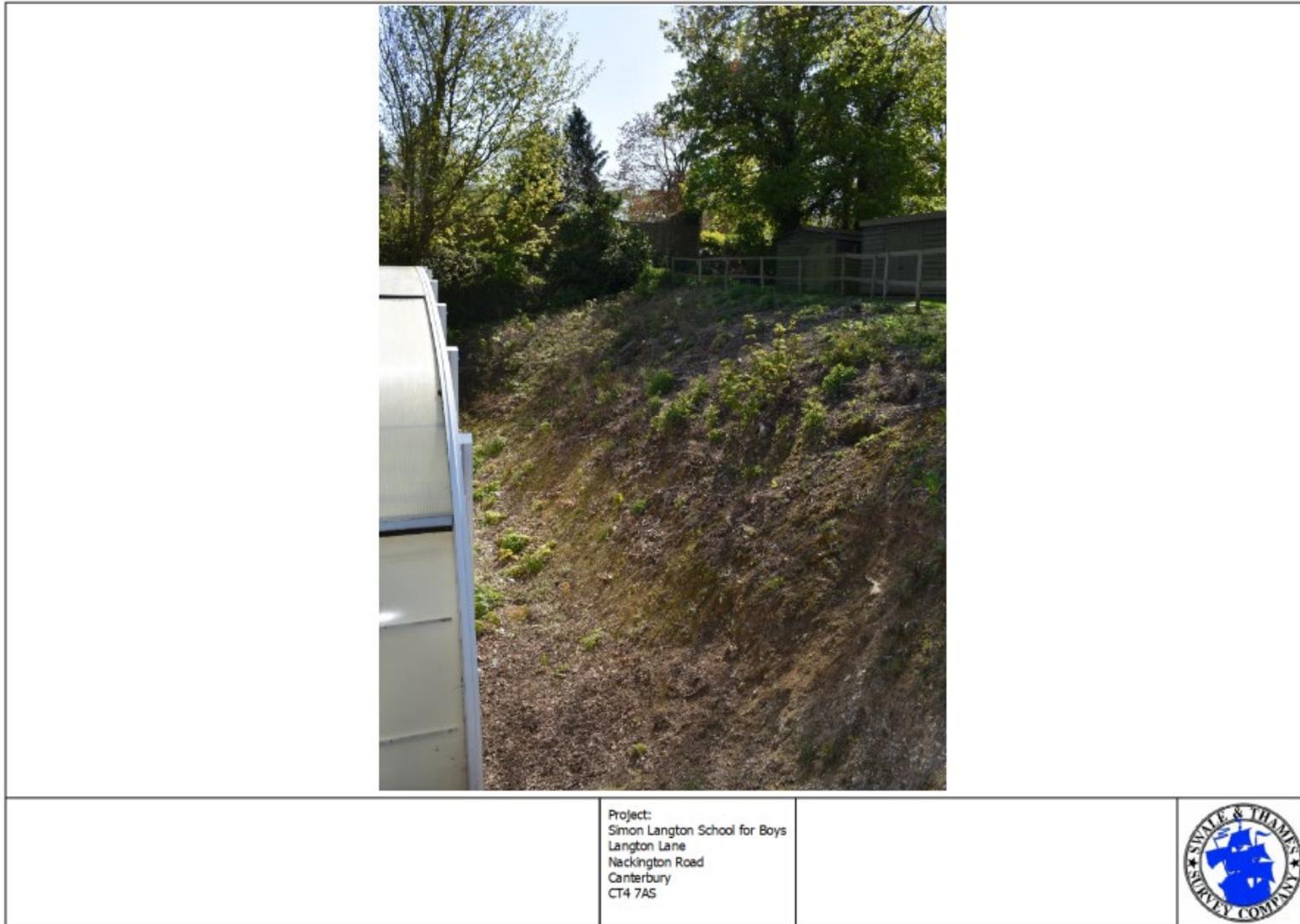


Plate 17: Southern end of proposal site 4 (facing ESE)



Plate 18: View across proposal site 4, also showing the rear buildings at proposal site 3 (facing SW)



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Plate 19: View along access road (facing W)



Plate 20: Plate Locations