

Archaeological Watching Brief on land at 16 Crown Gardens, Canterbury, Kent

Site Code CROWN/WB/20



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Archaeological Investigation on Land at 16 Crown Gardens, Canterbury, Kent

NGR 614066 158115



View 1. View of proposed development site

1.0 Abstract

1.1. From 2nd-3rd December 2020 Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA of Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief of ground works involved in the construction of a two-storey side and single storey rear extension following the removal of the existing garage and outbuilding at 16 Crown Gardens, Canterbury in Kent (Figure 1, View 1 and Plates 1-4).

1.2. An Archaeological watching brief presence was kept during the excavations of footings (Plates 1-4).

1.3. The archaeological work was undertaken in one phase.

Phase 1: Watching excavation of ground and foundation trenches (2nd-3rd Dec 2020).

1.4. The Archaeological Watching Brief were to determine whether any significant archaeological remains had survived within the footprint of the proposed groundworks. In particular, any evidence of archaeological activity associated with the known archaeological sites in the area included on the KCCHER data and highlighted in the SWAT Archaeology Written Scheme of Investigation Specification dated 05/11/2020.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is Canterbury City Council (CA/20/01872).

1.6. Although the archaeological potential has been highlighted by the SWAT Archaeology WSI Specification the Archaeological Watching Brief revealed no buried archaeological features and no archaeological finds were retrieved.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 The site is located at 16 Crown Gardens to the north of the City of Canterbury and the NGR to the centre of the site is NGR 614066 158115.

2.2 Planning Background

The groundworks in involve the demolition of existing structures and the build of a two storey side extension.

The following Condition (3) requiring a programme of archaeological monitoring was attached to the planning consent:

(3) Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, shall secure 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 in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: *To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded in accordance with policies HE11 and HE12 of the Canterbury District Local Plan 2017 and the National Planning Policy Framework.*

3.0 Schedule of Visits

An archaeologist suitably experienced attended the site (Dr Paul Wilkinson SWAT Archaeology) and closely monitored the excavation works from 2nd-3rd December 2020.

4.0 Aims and Objectives

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

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

4.2. Proposed Groundworks.

The ground works were to excavate the ground for the erection of a two storey extension (Plates 1-4).

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

4.4. Confidence Rating

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

5.0 Archaeological and Geological Background

5.1. The underlying geology at the site according to the British Geological Survey is Bedrock Geology of Seaford Chalk Formation- Chalk. Superficial deposits are recorded as Head Clay and Silt. Geology revealed on site was light grey brown sandy silt (Plates 1-4).

5.2 The archaeological potential was accessed from the (KCCHER) which has provided details of any previous investigations and discoveries. The records show that 50m to the NW of the PDA (Proposed Development Area) of 16 Crown Gardens Roman cremations were found at Westgate Court Farm and at 22-24 Crown gardens (TR 15 NW 2109). About 60m to the SSE additional Roman cremations were found at Queens Avenue (TR 15 NW 2158) and 55m to the North even more Roman cremations have been found (TR 15 NW 2118).

6.0 Methodology

6.1. The Archaeological Investigations were conducted in accordance with the Archaeological Specification compiled by SWAT Archaeology 'Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief on Land at 16 Crown Gardens, Canterbury, Kent CT12 8LQ.

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

6.3. Excavations within the area was carried out by contractors using a 360 degree machine equipped with a toothed bucket necessary to remove the demolition material and subsoil down to formation level (Plates 1-4).

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

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

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

6.8. The archaeological investigation work was carried out in accordance with current ClfA Standards and Guidance, (ClfA: 2017), and methodology discussed on a number of occasions with the CCC Archaeological Officer.

7.0 Results

7.1 No archaeological features or finds were revealed or recovered. The subsoil encountered across the site was deposits of light grey brown silty soil. No archaeological features were revealed in the natural geology and no archaeological finds retrieved from the site.

7.2 The site produced no archaeological features or deposits or finds and no environmental potential was recognised on site.

8.0 Finds

No finds were retrieved.

9.0 Discussion

The development site is in an area of high archaeological potential. However, no archaeology was revealed on the development site.

10.0 Conclusion

The Archaeological Investigation has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the SWAT Archaeological Specification. As far as it is known no buried archaeological features have been affected as a result of the development.

11.0 Acknowledgments

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank the landowner/developer for commissioning the project. Fieldwork was undertaken and report written by Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIFA.

Appendix 1

HER Summary Form

Site Name: Development of land at 16 Crown Gardens, Canterbury, Kent

SWAT Site Code: CROW/WB/20

Site Address: As above

Summary:

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Monitoring on the development site above. The site has planning permission for housing development whereby Canterbury City Council (CCC) requested that Archaeological Watching Brief be undertaken to closely monitor the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

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

District/Unitary: Canterbury City Council

Period(s):

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) 614006 158115

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Watching Brief

Date of recording: 2nd-3rd December 2020

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

Geology: Bedrock geology is Seaford Chalk Formation. Soil deposits encountered on site were grey brown sandy silt

Title and author of accompanying report: Wilkinson P. (2020) Archaeological Watching Brief of land at 16 Crown Gardens, Canterbury, Kent

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

See above

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



Plate 1. View of the site (looking N)



Plate 2. View of trenching in progress (looking E)

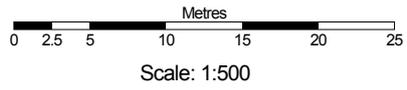


Plate 3. View of side extension trenching (looking NE)



Plate 4. View of foundation trenches (looking SE)

Figure 1. Location of
area watched



**16 Crown Gardens
Canterbury
CT2 8LQ**

Supplied by: National Map Centre
License number: 100031961
Produced: 04/12/2020
Serial number: 2293384

Plot centre co-ordinates: 614058,158105
Download file: swat_18crownqdns.zip
Project name: swat_18crownqdns