

# Archaeological Monitoring on land at Coral Cottage, Hardy Road, St Margarets at Cliffe, Kent

Site Code CORAL/WB/20

NGR Site Centre: 635369 145587

Planning Application Number: 19/00338



Date of report 19/08/2020

## **SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY**

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## **1. Summary**

*Between 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4th July 2020 SWAT Archaeology carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at land at Coral Cottage, Hardy Road, St Margarets at Cliffe in Kent. The works were commissioned by the landowner and carried out during the excavation of ground works associated with the new development.*

*The Watching Brief was conducted in accordance with an archaeological Watching Brief Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by SWAT Archaeology and approved by Kent County Council Heritage & Conservation.*

*Despite the potential for the presence and survival of archaeological remains, no features were recorded during the archaeological monitoring works.*

## **2.0 Introduction**

The proposed development area (PDA) is situated on land at Coral Cottage, Hardy Road, St Margarets at Cliffe which is situated in Nelson Park just to the north of the village of St Margarets at Cliffe and just to the SE of Mill Hill. The NGR to the centre of the site is NGR 635369 145587 (Figure 1).

### **2.2 Planning Background**

The land has a planning permission (Y18/1322/FH) for the erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear and front extensions (rear extension to be demolished).

The following Condition (4) requiring a programme of archaeological monitoring was attached to the planning consent:

*No development shall commence until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a Watching Brief to be undertaken by an archaeologist approved by the Local Planning Authority so that the excavation is observed and items of interest and finds recorded. The Watching Brief shall be in accordance with a written programme and specification, which has been submitted and approved by the Local Planning Authority.*

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

## **3.0 Schedule of Visits**

An archaeologist suitably experienced attended the site (Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA) and closely monitored the excavation works from 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

## **4.0 Aims and Objectives**

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

*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. (SWAT Archaeology 2020: Paragraph 3.1).*

4.2 The objectives of the monitoring were therefore to:

- To ensure the archaeological excavation and monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect buried archaeological remains;
- To secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme;
- To secure the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive and the appropriate publication of the project results, if required;
- To secure the analysis, long term conservation and storage of the project archive.

4.3 The specific archaeological requirements of the watching brief are summarised below;

- Monitoring of all ground works;
- Mitigation by a programme of archaeological excavation and recording in the event that additional archaeological remains are encountered;
- Post-excavation and publication, where required.

4.2. Proposed Groundworks.

The ground works were to excavate the ground for the erection of a detached two storey extension (Plates 1-6).

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

4.4. Confidence Rating

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

## **5.0 Archaeological and Geological Background**

5.1. The underlying geology at the site according to the British Geological Survey is Bedrock Geology of Lewes Seaford Chalk Formation- Chalk. Superficial deposits are recorded as Head-Silt & Gravel and geology revealed on site was topsoil sitting on chalk. The PDA is set at an average height of 86m aOD (Plates 1-6).

5.2 The archaeological potential was highlighted by the Senior Archaeological Officer as part of the planning process and the Dover Council Case Officer's report notes that KCC Archaeology has been consulted and that the KCC Archaeology advice that archaeological remains may have survived on the site and a condition watching brief condition is recommended.

In addition the KCC HER data was consulted for this specification and 80m to the NNE at Nelson Park an undated ditch was recorded during an archaeological investigation (TR 34 NE 228). 50m south a medieval ditch has been recorded (TR 34 SE 122) and 300m south a cropmark has been identified (TR 34 NE 38).

## **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 at Coral Cottage, Hardy Road, St Margarets at Cliffe'.

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. All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in the WSI (SWAT Archaeology 2020) and carried out in compliance with the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (CIfA 2014).

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 chalk down to formation level (Plates 1-6).

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

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

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

6.8. The archaeological investigation work was carried out in accordance with current ClfA Standards and Guidance, (ClfA: 2014), and methodology discussed on a number of occasions with the Senior Archaeological Officer KCC.

Excavation of the foundation trenches was carried out by building contractors using a 360° machine equipped with a toothed ditching bucket (Figure 2). All areas of excavation were either carried out under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist or inspected and recorded by the archaeologist in attendance (See Table 1, below). Where possible the areas of excavation were hand-cleaned with the intention of revealing any observed features in plan and section. 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.

## 6.9 Timetable

6.9.1 Archaeological monitoring was carried out on the following days;

<b>Task</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Archaeological monitoring	3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2020	Paul Wilkinson
	4 <sup>th</sup> July 2020	Paul Wilkinson

**Table 1 Attendance Schedule**

## 6.10 Recording

6.10.1 A complete drawn record comprising both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections) was undertaken. Where appropriate, the plans and sections were annotated with coordinates and aOD heights and form part of the site archive.

6.10.2 Photographs were taken as appropriate providing a record of excavated features and deposits. The record also includes images of the Site overall. The photographic record comprises digital photography. A photographic register of all photographs taken is contained within the project archive.

6.10.3 A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. A full list is presented in Table 1 below. Layers and fills are identified in this report thus (100), whilst the cut of any features is shown [100]. Context numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes.

## 6.11 Stratigraphic Sequence

6.11.1 The stratigraphic sequence recorded during the archaeological works remained relatively consistent across all areas of the site, comprising areas of topsoil mixed with hardcore in places overlaying the natural geology. The following Table provides detailed description of each stratigraphic context

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>

001	Brown loam mixed with hardcore in some areas	Topsoil (Plate 1)
002	Chalk	Natural (Plate 2)

*Table 2 Stratigraphic Sequence and Register of Contexts*

6.11.2 No archaeological features or finds were revealed or recovered. The natural geology encountered across the site was Chalk. No archaeological features were revealed in the natural geology and no archaeological finds retrieved from the site.

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

The Site Archive, which will include; paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

All archive elements will be marked with the site/accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises 1 file/document case of paper records & A4 graphics including;

## **7.0 Finds**

No finds were retrieved.

## **8.0 Discussion**

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

## **9.0 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.

## 10.0 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.

## 11.0 REFERENCES

ADS 2013. Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice, Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice

AOC Archaeology 2018 Snelgrove, Dover, Kent: Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment. AOC Archaeology Report Reference: 24375

Brown, D.H., 2011. Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2009, Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives, Institute for Archaeologists

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Department of the Environment, 2010, *Planning for the Historic Environment*, Planning (PPS 5) HMSO.

English Heritage 2002. Environmental Archaeology; a guide to theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation, Swindon, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines

English Heritage, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE).

Kent County Council Heritage & Conservation 2014, Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief in Kent

SMA 1993. Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections, Society of Museum Archaeologists

SMA 1995. Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive, Society of Museum Archaeologists

SWAT Archaeology 2019 Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief of Land at The Gables, Coombe Wood Lane, Hawkinge, Kent CT18 7BZ

## **Appendix 1**

### **Kent County Council HER Summary Form**

**Site Name:** Development of land at Coral Cottage, Hardy Road, St Margarets at Cliffe, Kent

**SWAT Site Code:** Coral/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 residential development whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC) 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:** Dover District Council

**Period(s):**

**NGR (centre of site to eight figures)** 635369 145587

**Type of Archaeological work:** Archaeological Watching Brief

**Date of recording:** July 2020

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

**Geology:** Bedrock geology is Chalk overlaid by Topsoil

**Title and author of accompanying report:** Wilkinson P. (2020) Archaeological Watching Brief of land at Coral Cottage, Hardy Road, St Margarets at Cliffe, 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

## Plates



Plate 1. View of trenching in progress (looking NE)



Plate 2. View of foundation trenching (looking SW)



Plate 3. View of trenches (looking S)



Plate 4. Foundation trench section (looking E)

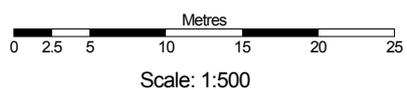
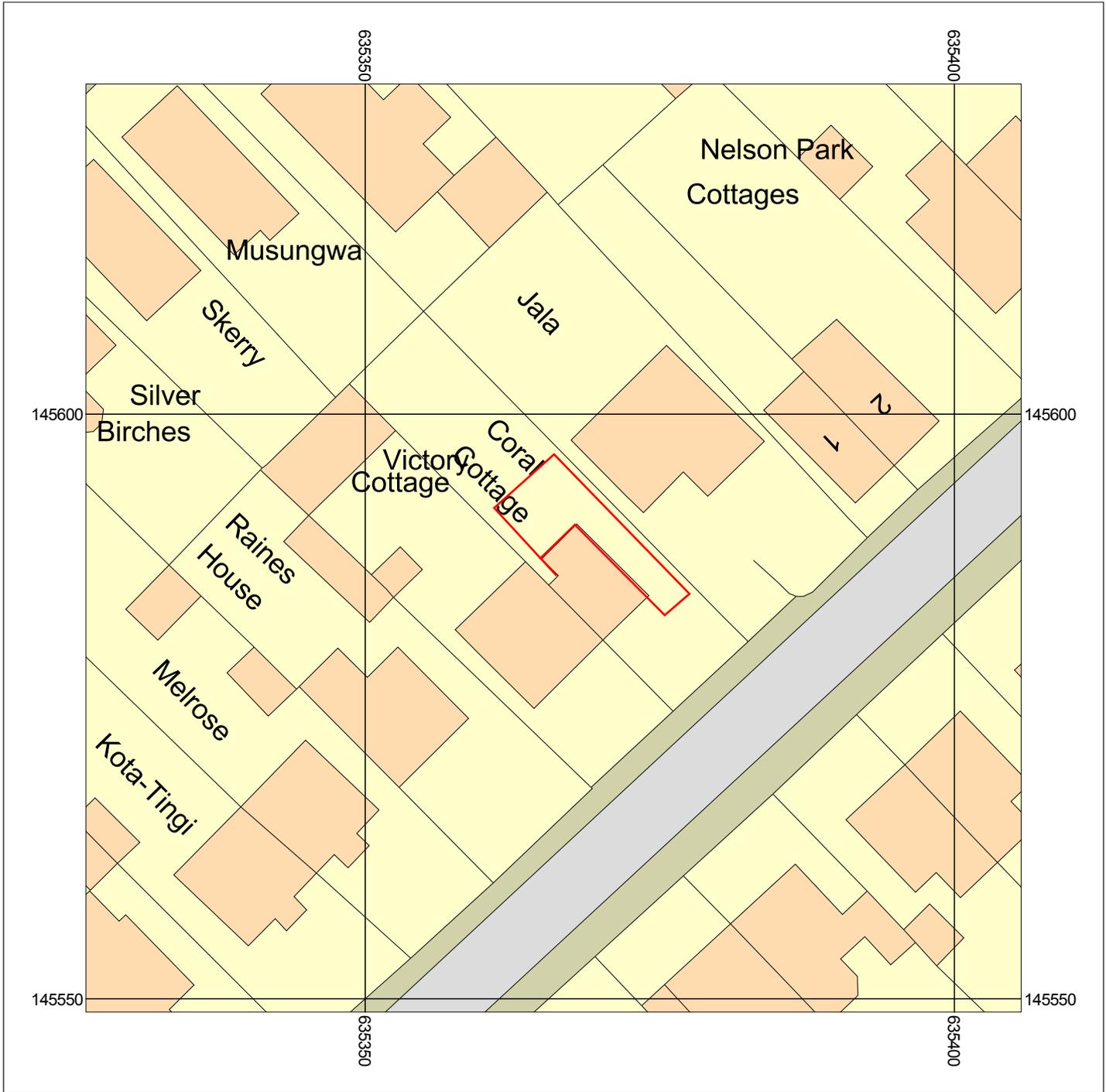


Plate 5. View of trenches (looking S)



Plate 6. View of trenching in progress (side area looking NE)

Figure 1  
Areas watched

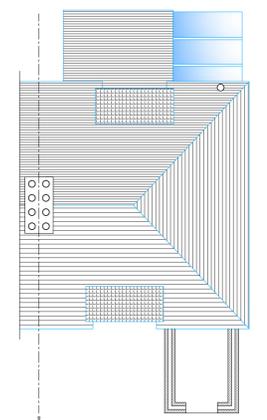
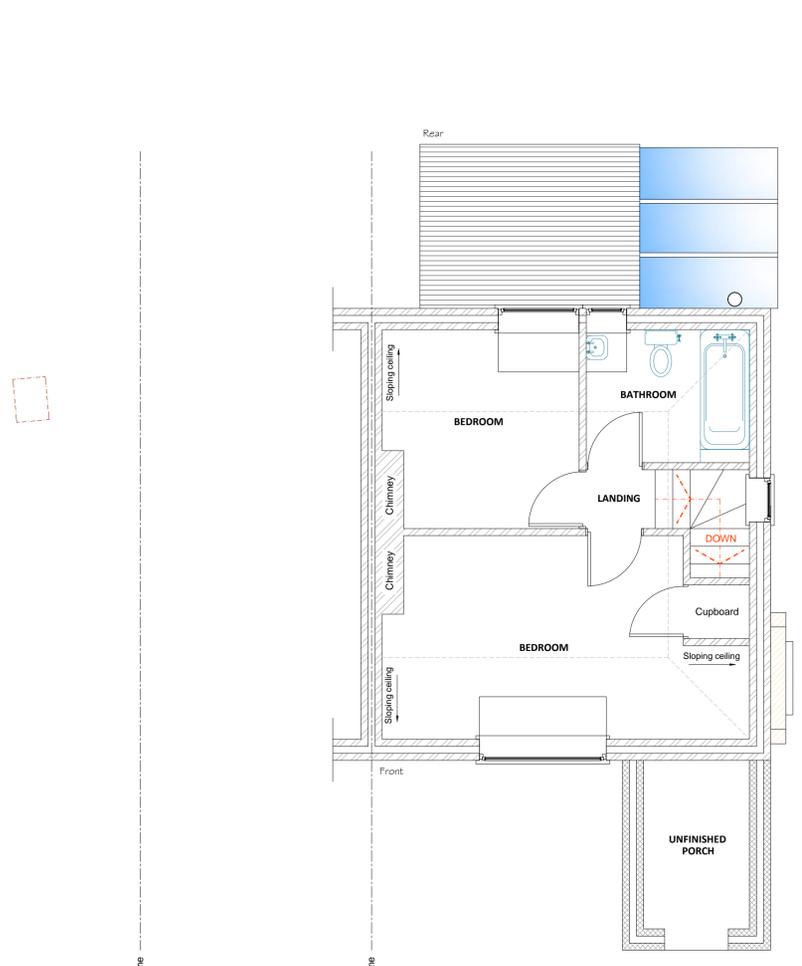
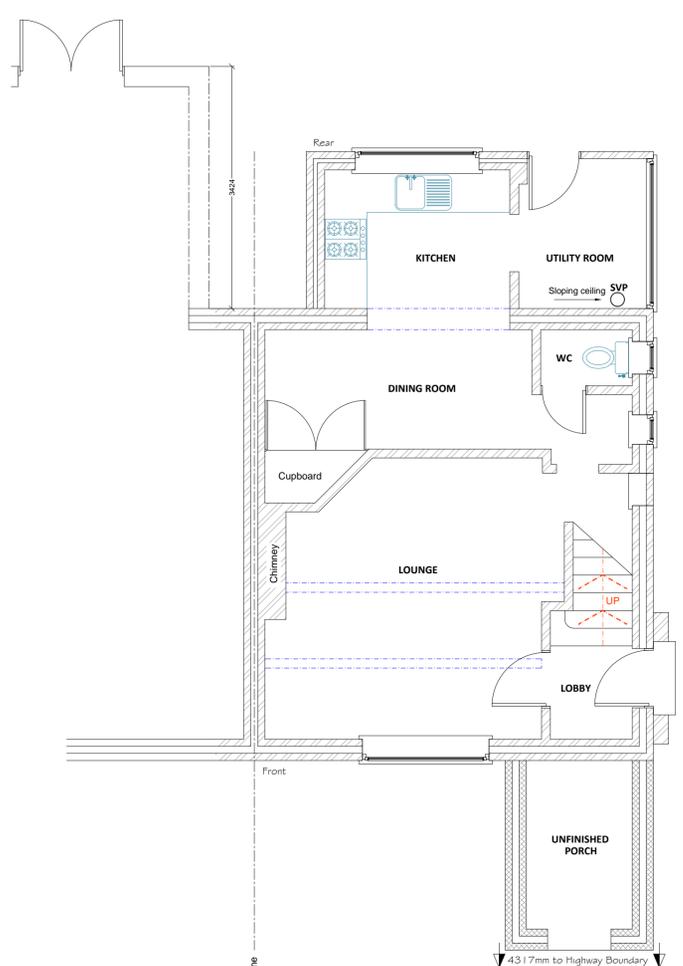


**Coral Cottage**  
**Hardy Road**  
**St Margarets at Cliffe**  
**Dover**  
**CT15 6HJ**

Supplied by: National Map Centre  
License number: 100031961  
Produced: 19/08/2020  
Serial number: 2258210

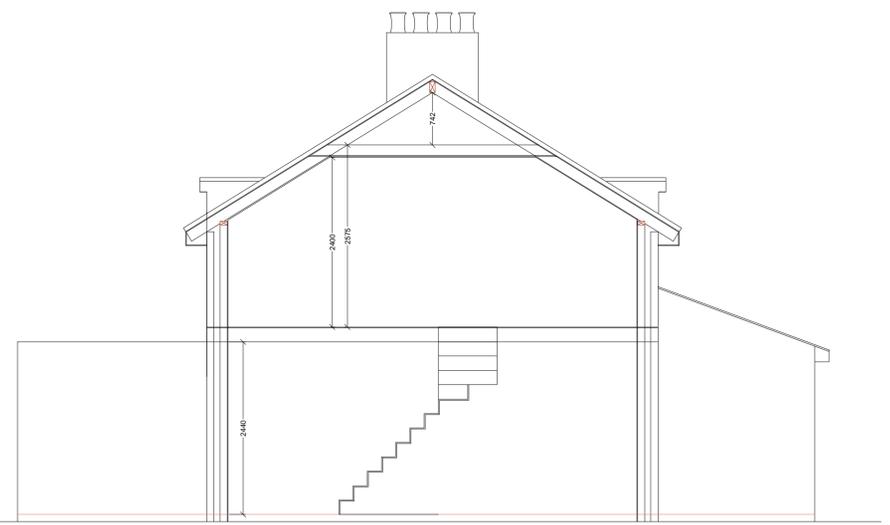
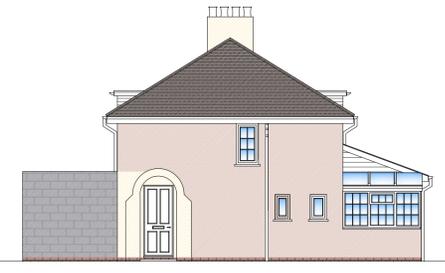
Plot centre co-ordinates: 635366,145589  
Download file: SWAT\_CoralCott.zip  
Project name: SWAT\_CoralCott

1:25  
5m  
4m  
3m  
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1m  
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0m  
1:50



**Key to hatching**

- Denotes brickwork on plan
- Denotes blockwork on plan
- Denotes studwork on plan



**FOR INFORMATION ONLY  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES**

01	First issue to planning	05/02/2019
00	First issue to client	03/10/2018
Rev	Description	Date
<b>NOTES</b>		
1. The Contractor should check all dimensions on site.		
2. It is the Contractor's responsibility to ensure compliance with building regulations and current codes of practice.		
3. Drawings cannot take into account any drains or underground works not locatable by visual survey of the site.		
4. Commencement of any building works prior to full building regulation approval is entirely at the client's risk.		
5. <b>IT IS THE CLIENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK THAT THE EZ-PLANS DRAWINGS THAT ARE ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION TO ENSURE THAT THEY SHOW THE CORRECT MATERIAL TYPES / COLOURS BEFORE THE BUILDER PLACES ANY ORDER FOR BUILDING MATERIALS.</b>		



CLIENT <b>Phil and Heidi Hoyle</b> Coral Cottage Hardy Road, St. Margarets-at-Cliffe, CT15 6HJ	PROJECT Erection of two storey side extension and a single storey rear and front extension
DRAWING Existing plans and elevations	SCALES As shown
STATUS <b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	DATE 02/10/2018
	SIZE A1
	REV. 01
	Dwg No. <b>EMA-2018-151-01</b>

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