

Archaeological Watching Brief at Orchard Thatch, London Road, Teynham, Kent

**NGR: TQ 9560 6241
Site Code TYN-WB-11**



**Report for
Kevin Rickwood
Planning Reference No. SW/11/1459**

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Plate 1. Photograph of site trenches.

Plate 2. Photograph of site soil strip.

Archaeological Watching Brief at Orchard Thatch, London Road, Teynham, Kent

NGR TQ 9560 6241

Site Code: TYN-WB-10

1.0 SUMMARY

In March 2012 the Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief on the paddock to the north of Orchard Thatch, a residential building adjacent to London Road on the eastern outskirts of the village of Teynham. The ground works were in connection with the construction of stables. The works were carried out for Kevin Rickwood and commissioned by Woodstock Associates. The Planning Application Number is SW/11/1459.

The Watching Brief revealed no archaeological features.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

A planning application (PAN: SW/11/1459) for the construction of a new stables and ménage (Fig. 1) was submitted to Swale Borough Council. Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of Swale Borough Council requested that an Archaeological Watching Brief be undertaken in order to record any archaeological remains uncovered during associated groundworks. The following condition (2) was attached to the planning consent:

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

2.2 Schedule of Visits

An experienced archaeologist attended the site and monitored excavation works on March 2nd and 6th. On March 2nd the excavation of the foundations of the proposed building (Plate 1) was watched, and on March 6th ground reduction for the building slab was watched (Plate 2).

2.3 Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the monitoring and recording, as specified by Kent County Council was to:

'contribute to the heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of any archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the groundworks'. (KCC 2011)

2.4 Proposed Groundworks

The ground works involved area strip of turf, digging of foundations and reduction of topsoil to construct a concrete base for the stables (Plates 1, 2). No archaeology was revealed.

2.5 Confidence Rating

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

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The underlying geology at the site according to the British Geological Survey map is Thanet Sand Formation, Sand, Silt and Clay. (see Plate 2).

Topographically the site slopes down to the south-east. The southern boundary along London Road which is the A2 and formally the Roman road to London (Watling Street) is at 25mOD whilst the east boundary of the site slopes down to 21mOD.

The archaeological potential is based on the proximity of archaeological remains recorded in the KCC HER. These include:

Just to the east a tumulus with possible cist was excavated in the 19th century (TQ 96 SE 10).

To the north east a possible medieval moated manor house near Frognall (TQ 96 SW 1054).

The Roman road called Watling Street passes along the southern boundary of the site.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

The Watching Brief was conducted in accordance with the specification compiled by Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation and it also complied with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (1999). The works comprised the observation of all groundworks, including the inspection of subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features and finds.

5.0 RESULTS

5.1 General

Reduction of the surface in Phase 1 to construct the foundations and again the groundworks in Phase 2 revealed an area of natural geology (Plates 1, 2). No archaeological features were recorded.

6.0 FINDS

No archaeological features were found and no finds were retrieved.

7.0 DISCUSSION

The Archaeological Watching Brief carried out at Orchard Thatch revealed that no archaeological features were present.

8.0 CONCLUSION

The Archaeological Watching Brief has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. No buried archaeological features have been affected as a result of the development.

9.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank the Woodstock Associates for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Heritage and Conservation (Kent County Council).

Paul Wilkinson
March 2012

REFERENCES

IFA (1999) *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

Kent County Council (2012) *Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief at Orchard Thatch, London Road, Teynham, Kent*

Wilkinson P. *Swale Archaeological Survey 2000*

APPENDIX 1

Kent County Council SMR summary form

Site Name: Orchard Thatch, London Road, Teynham, Kent	
Site Code: TYN-WB-12	
Site Address:	
As above.	
Summary:	
<p>In March 2012 Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief at the above address. The works were carried out on behalf of the owners advance of the construction of a stables. (Planning Application Number: SW/11/1459).</p> <p>The Watching Brief revealed no archaeological features.</p>	
District/Unitary: Swale	Parish: Teynham
Period(s): N/A.	
NGR (centre of site : 8 figures): NGR TQ 9560 6241 (NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)	
Type of archaeological work (delete)	
Watching Brief	
Date of Recording: March 2012	
Unit undertaking recording: Swale & Thames Archaeological Survey Co. (SWAT)	
Geology: Thanet Sand Formation	
Title and author of accompanying report:	
Wilkinson, P. (2011) <i>Archaeological Watching Brief at Orchard Thatch, London Road, Teynham, Kent (SWAT Archaeology)</i>	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate)	
As above.	
Location of archive/finds: SWAT Archaeology	
Contact at Unit: Dr P. Wilkinson	Date: March 2012

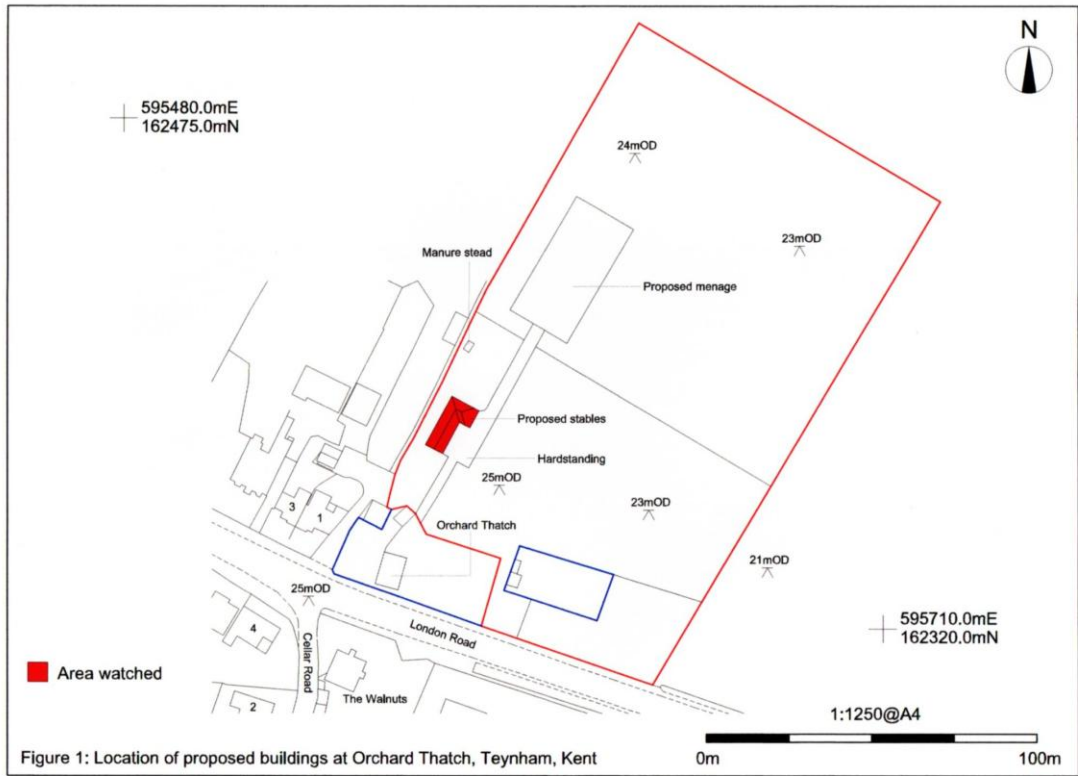


Figure 1. Site Location

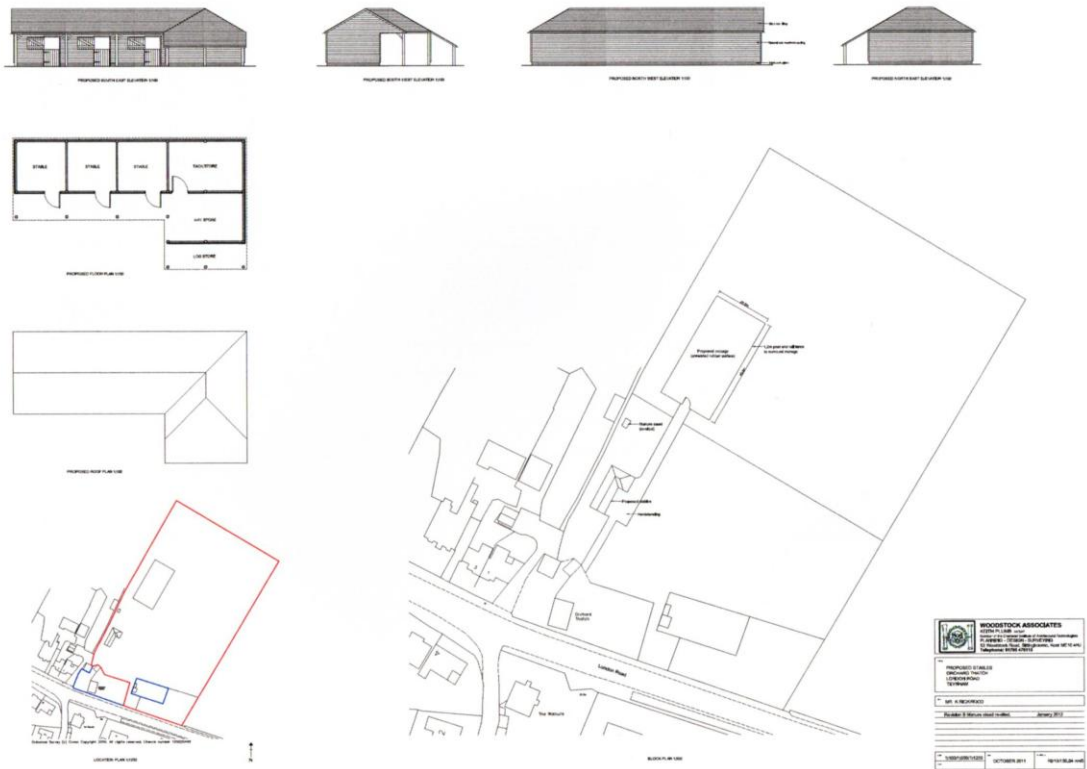


Figure 2. Indicative plan of construction

PLATES



Plate 1. Showing natural geology and foundation trenches (Phase 1) for new stables



Plate 2. Showing soil strip (Phase 2) prior to construction of the stables concrete base (facing north)