

# Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment In advance of Development at the Herne Bay Golf Course, Herne Bay, Kent

NGR: 617320 166594



Report for  
Quinn Estates Ltd

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**SWAT. ARCHAEOLOGY**

Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company  
School Farm Oast, Graveney Road  
Faversham, Kent  
ME13 8UP

Tel; 01795 532548 or 07885 700 112

[www.swatarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.swatarchaeology.co.uk)

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## **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of Development at the Herne Bay Golf Course, Herne Bay, Kent**

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### **1 SUMMARY**

*Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) has been commissioned to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development at the Herne Bay Golf Course, Eddington, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7PG.*

*This Desk Based Assessment examines the wide variety of archaeological data held by Canterbury City Council, Kent County Council and other sources. This data is reviewed and it is recommended in this case that further archaeological assessment will be required and that an archaeological evaluation programme of works is recommended, and undertaken to a written scheme of investigation (WSI) approved by the Archaeological Officer, Canterbury City Council. This will provide an additional assessment of the nature, depth and level of survival of any archaeological deposits present within the extents and immediate vicinity of the site to be developed and used to inform further mitigation if necessary.*

*The site is located to the south of the Thanet Way (A2990), adjacent to Bullockstone Road to the west (see Fig. 1). The site is 42.59 (105.19 acres) in extent, relatively flat with a slight decline to the north (Plate 1) at a height of about 11-12mAOD (above Ordnance Datum).*

#### **1.1 History of the site**

The site was thought to have originally been established as a golf course in around 1889, with the current eighteen golf course laid out by the renowned James Braid in 1913 and remodelled by Donald Steel in the mid 1990's and closed some years ago. The former Herne Bay Golf Club lies to the south of Herne Bay town centre and the site is 42.59ha and comprises the redundant golf club buildings and course plus some additional land (Fig. 1). The entrance to the site is from the Thanet Way (A2990) and leads into a large car parking area and adjacent club house. There are also a number of metal sheds which were previously used for storing equipment.

The rest of the site is managed grassland including water features and bunkers, the construction of which will have had a serious impact on any buried archaeology. There are also several belts of trees which form part of this managed landscape. The site gently slopes towards Plenty Brook which runs from south-west to north-east through the site. Plenty Brook is recognised by the Environment Agency as a 'main river'.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Planning Background**

Planning Policy Framework - Planning for the Historic Environment (2012)

It is worth quoting from this long awaited planning document, in particular Section 12, pages 30-34.

#### ***12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment***

*126. Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:*

- *the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*
- *the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;*
- *the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and*
- *opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.*

*127. When considering the designation of conservation areas, local planning authorities should ensure that an area justifies such status because of its special architectural or historic interest, and that the concept of conservation is not devalued through the designation of areas that lack special interest.*

*128. 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. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact*

*of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.*

*129. Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They 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.*

*130. Where there is evidence of deliberate neglect of or damage to a heritage asset the deteriorated state of the heritage asset should not be taken into account in any decision.*

*The principles and policies set out in this section apply to the heritage-related consent regimes for which local planning authorities are responsible under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, as well as to plan-making and decision-taking.*

### **Local policy**

*'In January 2010, Canterbury City Council went out to consult upon the Core Strategy Options Report, which planned for the period up until 2026. The Options Report principally sought views on a number of options on how housing and employment growth should be distributed across the District. The Options report also included some cross-cutting policies. The Options Report was prepared and consulted on in advance of the publication of the NPPF and remains in an early stage of preparation. Therefore in accordance with the guidance contained at Annex 1 of the NPPF, it can only be afforded little weight. However, relevant heritage policies and considerations contained in the Options Report are set out below:*

### **Proposed Core Policy CP7**

*This policy should seek to ensure protection and enhancement of the District's Strategic Assets. This policy would include:*

*a. Reference to assets supported by national policy protection; including nationally and internationally designated wildlife sites, best and most versatile farmland, the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, listed buildings and conservation areas;*

- b. Specific policy references on local/ regional assets, including Local Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves, the Canterbury AHLV and Wantsum Channel AHLV, ancient woodland, locally listed buildings and historic parks and gardens;*
- c. Protection and enhancement of the World Heritage Site, to include preserving and enhancing the 'buffer zone', and setting of the site, and improving the links and connections between the Cathedral, St Augustine's Abbey and St Martin's Church;*
- d. Support for a World Heritage Site Management Plan Supplementary Planning document;*
- e. Protection of landscape character and biodiversity opportunity areas;*
- f. Identification, promotion and protection of Green Infrastructure;*
- g. Clarification of the duty to protect and enhance biodiversity.*

Applying the same general principles on a local scale, the relevant Canterbury District Local Plan (2001-2011: First Review; Canterbury City Council 2006a; 2006a; 2006b) policies are BE3 (World Heritage Sites), BE5–6 (Listed Buildings), BE7–8 (Conservation Areas), BE9 (buildings of local architectural or historic interest), BE10 (Historic Landscapes), BE14 (Scheduled Ancient Monuments) and BE15 and BE16 (Archaeology), and Heritage, Archaeology and Conservation SPD, 2007.

### **Research frameworks**

The national and regional policy outlined above should be considered in light of the non statutory heritage frameworks that inform them. While the South East Research Framework for the historic environment (SERF) is still in preparation, initial outputs are available on-line and have been considered in preparing this report.

*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.*

## **2.2 The Proposed Development**

The proposed development will comprise the following key elements:

*The demolition of the existing golf club house and associated maintenance buildings to facilitate the erection of a new Sports Hub (Use Class D2) comprising a sports pavilion, dual use cricket pitch including two mini soccer pitches, two artificially surfaced football pitches (one shared with hockey), one artificially surfaced hockey pitch, six artificially surfaced tennis courts and tennis pavilion; foodstore (Use Class A1), petrol filling station (Use Class Sui Generis) and car hand wash cabin; a new pedestrian, cycle and vehicular access off the Thanet Way, together with associated circulation roads, Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDs), landscaping, parking, infrastructure, lighting and earthworks.'*



### **2.3 Project Constraints**

No project constraints were encountered during the data collection for this assessment.

### **2.4 Geology and Topography**

The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the geology of the site and its surrounds consists of Bedrock Geology of London Clay Formation-Clay and Silt whilst the Superficial Deposits formed some 2 million years ago are Head-Clay and Silt formed from material accumulated by down slope movements including landslide, debris flow, solifluction, soil creep and hill wash.

## **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **3.1 Introduction**

The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Quinn Estates Ltd in order to supplement a planning application for the development of the site at the former Herne Bay Golf Course.

Canterbury City Council will require an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment Report to clarify the extent of known archaeology on the development site and its environs.

### **3.2 Desktop Study – Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2011)**

This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2011). A desktop, or desk-based assessment, is defined as being:

*“a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate”. (2011)*

The purpose of a desk-based assessment is to gain an understanding of the historic environment resource in order to formulate as required:

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

IFA (2011)

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Desk-Based Assessment**

#### *4.1.1 Archaeological databases*

The local Historic Environment Record (HER) held at Canterbury City Council, the Urban Archaeology Data Base, the Archaeology Data Service Portal (ADSP), and Kent County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) provides an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding environs of the former Herne Bay Golf Course.

The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) and was also used. The search was carried out within a 1km radius of the proposed development site (17/12/12). The Portable Antiquities Scheme Database (PAS) was also used as an additional source as the information contained within is not always transferred to the local HER data base.

#### 4.1.2 Historical documents

Historical documents, such as charters, registers, wills and deeds etc were deemed not relevant to this specific study as the study is concerned primarily with a 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century managed landscape and its potential archaeology.

#### 4.1.3 Cartographic and pictorial documents

A full map regression exercise was undertaken during this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by Kent County Council, the local library service, and the Internet plus Ordnance Survey Historical mapping.

#### 4.1.4 Aerial photographs

The study of aerial photograph's held at the Kent Archive Centre, Maidstone has not added a great deal to this study as the immediate area around the proposed development site has been subject to intensive landscape profiling for a golf course from 1889.

#### 4.1.5 Geotechnical information

No geotechnical information was available for this study.

#### 4.1.6 Secondary and statutory resources

Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological studies, landscape studies; dissertations, research frameworks and websites are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment where necessary.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

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		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 Introduction**

The Archaeological record within the area around Herne Bay Golf Course is diverse and comprises activity dating from one of the earliest human period in Britain (the Stone Age) through to the post-medieval and modern periods. Herne Bay Golf Course is situated to the west of the main Roman road running from Canterbury to Reculver. The geographic and topographic location of Herne Bay Golf Course is within a landscape that has been the focus of trade, travel and communication since the Neolithic, if not before.

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, followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed on the previous page in **Table 1**.

## **5.2 Archaeological investigations carried out within the surrounding area**

An extensive archaeological narrative for the surrounding area is provided within the Sites and Monuments record (HER) held at Kent County Council and other sources. Within a 1km radii of the proposed development site some 78 archaeological sites are recorded on the Kent HER ranging from Prehistoric to 20<sup>th</sup> century military sites. Indeed in consulting the HER map (Plate 2) provided by KCC the proposed development site is ringed by archaeological activity which is likely to continue into the proposed development site. However, an area of the proposed development site that has been transformed into a golf course may have suffered serious damage to the archaeological resource through major remodelling of the landscape.

## **5.3 Archaeological investigations carried out to date, within the Proposed Development Area (PDA).**

Only one event seems to have taken place within the confines of the proposed development site. Iron Age pottery sherds were retrieved in a field-walking exercise by Canterbury Archaeological Trust in 1988 (TR 16 NE 1157).

## **5.4 Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas**

No scheduled monuments are recorded within the confines of the proposed development site. However, two buildings in the near vicinity are identified. 100m

south-west of the proposed development site (TR 16 NE 1157) a listed building and Underdown House (TR 16 NE 25), just to the south-west is a Grade II\* listed building dating from 1600-1799.

### **5.5 Prehistoric (Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age)**

The Palaeolithic represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. Palaeolithic dated material occurs in north and east Kent, especially along the Medway and Stour Valleys. The Palaeolithic presence within the assessment area has been identified from one find spot.

A Late Glacial flint working site (TR 16 NE 106) at Underdown Lane, Eddington, just to the north of the PDA is thought to be a lithic working site (Upper Palaeolithic to Early Mesolithic - 10500 BC to 7001 BC). In 2001 Wessex Archaeology carried out the excavation at Underdown Lane. A brickearth deposit contained a large assemblage of Late Glacial worked flints. Over 200 pieces were recovered, with many refits within the collection indicating knapping in the immediate area. A microlith, six burins and long blades, plus a core for producing such blades were found, along with flakes, all typical of a Long Blade industry dating to 10,300 to c.9700 BP, the transition period from the Upper Palaeolithic to Early Mesolithic.

The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has only one record of archaeological evidence from this period within the assessment area. Evidence of Early Mesolithic activity in the form of flint tools and flakes has been retrieved by Wessex Archaeology from the above site at Eddington Lane, just north of the PDA.

The Neolithic period, the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry may be represented within the assessment area by a Neolithic struck flint retrieved by Canterbury Archaeological Trust just to the west of the PDA at Herne Bay High School (TR 16 NE 91). Additional Prehistoric activity may have been identified at Herne Bay High School by the finding of a 'prehistoric trackway' by Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust in 1999-2000.

The Bronze Age, a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level is also represented in the assessment area by field systems and pits. Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust in 1999-2000 undertook an archaeological evaluation of three areas at Herne Bay High School. In the area of the proposed car park a number of archaeological features were observed. The main feature was a probable prehistoric trackway or hollow way, mapped on the east side of Bullockstone Road during

previous archaeological works. Other features observed included pits of various sizes (some located along the edge of the trackway) and a number of linears, all dated from spot finds of prehistoric pottery. In the two other areas examined, no archaeological features were observed. The exposed archaeological features were covered in geotex and the site backfilled to preserve them in situ.

A number of modern features were also observed. The features are almost certainly a continuation of the extensive settlement mapped by Canterbury Archaeological Trust (1) on the east side of Bullockstone Road (see TR 16 NE 85, 86, 87).

A watching brief on groundworks associated with the construction of a soakaway at the Herne Bay High School found that no archaeological finds or features were observed in the northern half of the soakaway, the report suggests that any deposits had been removed during landscaping and scouring of the area associated with the construction of the school. In the southern half a portion of a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch, or large pit was recorded. There was no trace of the hollow way exposed in the 1999 evaluation.

Further evaluation work by the Hertfordshire Trust was undertaken at the Herne Bay High School in 2000. A trench and test pit was dug in each of the two areas. Archaeology was recorded in both trenches and possibly one of the test pits. One trench contained a single linear, the other a linear and two pits. All the features were dated to the early/middle to Late Iron Age, on the basis of ceramic evidence. Most of the features also contained daub. Residual Bronze Age material was also recovered from the features, including a barb and tanged arrowhead.

An evaluation of the proposed area for an All Weather Pitch for the High School, in February 2000, revealed the profuse presence of Late Iron Age/Early Roman features (TR 16 NE 88), a continuation of the multi period archaeology recorded east of Bullockstone Road. Some of the flint tempered pottery recovered maybe of Bronze Age date. Excavation work on the site of the All Weather Pitch, revealed further Iron Age/Early Roman features (TR 16 NE 88). A number of residual struck flints were found in these later features, suggesting an earlier prehistoric (Neolithic?) presence in this area (see TR 16 NE 91). Again, large amounts of abraded flint tempered pottery (Bronze Age?) were also found in the Late Iron Age/Early Roman features (see above). A small number of later Roman and medieval features were also identified (TR 16 NE 89 and 90).

An area of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity was recorded by Canterbury Archaeological Trust south of Eddington (TR 16 NE 85). Two main concentrations of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age archaeological features were identified during an

evaluation. Along the northern edge of the evaluation area some of these features appeared to be sealed by a 'buried soil'. The features consisted of pits, postholes and ditches. Residual prehistoric material was also found in later Late Iron Age/Romano-British features, while some of the sampled linears containing worn prehistoric pottery sherds, but aligned with Late Iron Age/Romano-British features, maybe of this later date. In the second area, residual prehistoric material was also found in later Anglo-Saxon features. The evaluation concludes that the two areas of prehistoric activity extend to the south west and north of the evaluated area, although it was not possible to say whether the areas were contemporary.

## **5.6 Iron Age**

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 tribe occupying the area that is now Kent, was Canterbury). The Kent HER records several Iron Age sites in the vicinity of the proposed development site. Again recent archaeological investigations at the Herne Bay High School in 2000 by the Hertfordshire Trust revealed the profuse presence of Late Iron Age/Early Roman features (TR 16 NE 88), a continuation of the multi period archaeology recorded east of Bullockstone Road. Iron Age pottery sherds were retrieved in a field-walking exercise by Canterbury Archaeological Trust in 1988 (TR 16 NE 1157) on the proposed development site.

An Iron-Age ditch was located at Eddington Farm (TR 16 NE 72). Sections of ditch located during watching brief with several indeterminate pits or hollows associated with a thin, dark occupation horizon, flecked with charcoal, burnt daub and pottery scraps. Pottery from all features was of the same flint tempered coarse ware type, of the period c.800-600 BC. Assessment of these features suggests that the ditch sections represent one corner of a farmstead enclosure-ditch, which ought to extend to the south and to the west.

## **5.7 Romano-British**

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 predominant feature of the Roman infrastructure within Kent is arguably the extensive network of Roman roads connecting administrative centres: the towns to military posts and rural settlements.

In 1990 an assessment (TR 16 NE 69) for the anticipation of the construction of Thanet Way took place. A small scattering of Roman pottery was found implying a settlement site, adjacent to Owls Hatch Road. A few later Iron Age pottery sherds from the same site (1) were also found, perhaps suggesting a pre-conquest settlement.

In 1991 an archaeological evaluation was carried out by Canterbury Archaeological Trust at various sites along Thanet Way.

Four trenches immediately adjacent to Owl's Hatch Road and west of Plenty Brook, revealed a number of archaeological features; ditches and pits. These were found in a concentrated area of pot scatter. More features were located to the east of Trench 2A and considerable amounts of pottery were collected. Five features in all were noticed; 3 pits and two linear features which were possible ditches. The ditches contained 1 sherd of 'Belgic' grogged probably post-Conquest c. AD 50-75/100 and 2 sherd which were dated to around 75 AD onwards. But a majority of the finds which came out of these were Early Medieval through, so these sherd may just be residual. One other pit contained Iron Age/Roman pottery sherds. This was a large circular pit, c.3.5m in diameter, which contained between 50-75 sherds in its fill. five were of 'Belgic' grogged dating to the Conquest c. AD 25-75. The rest were all post-Conquest, including Romanising 'Belgic' wares c. AD 75-100/125 and Roman Canterbury sandy wares dating to the late 1<sup>st</sup> century to the second. The dates suggest 2nd century occupation. Roman tiles were also present (2).

There appears to be human activity on the Thanet Way area from the Late Iron Age through to the 13th century. Large quantities of charcoal and Roman brick and tile suggests long-term occupation. 9th and 10th century ceramic material contained in some features may suggest a presence of an Anglo-Saxon occupation site also. (2) In 1995 an evaluation was carried out by Canterbury Archaeological Trust at specific sites along Thanet Way. Roman, Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery all found. Rubbish pits, hearth pits, quarried holes, possible post holes, ditches and a gully were all present. It appears the site (3) however is Romano-British and specialist examination of the pottery dates it to c.50/100-300 AD.

Reports referred to in above text are:

- (1) Unpublished document: Canterbury Archaeological Trust. 1990. Thanet Way: Archaeological Evaluation.
- (2) Unpublished document: Canterbury Archaeological Trust. 1991. Thanet Way Sections 2-4: Archaeological Evaluations (TWPT 91) Level III Report.



- (3) Unpublished document: Canterbury Archaeological Trust. 1995.  
Archaeological Works on the Thanet Way Sections 2-4 1995: Assessment.

### **5.8 Anglo-Saxon**

The Anglo-Saxon period is represented by (TR 16 NE 70). In 1991 an archaeological evaluation was carried out by Canterbury Archaeological Trust at various sites along Thanet Way. A possible Roman/Anglo-Saxon feature was found. The feature was broad and shallow but no firm conclusions can be drawn for its purpose and the whole extent was not revealed, it is perhaps a sunken or hollow way. It is aligned north-south. Seven 'Belgic' grogged ware sherds were recovered mostly dating between c.25-125 AD. The remainder were Medieval, another 7 sherds. 3 were late 6th and 7th century, c.575-650/675 AD. Another chalk-filled sherd was c.550-650 AD. Three scraps of Early Medieval pottery, c.1150-1225 AD, and roof tile were also found. (1).

An area of mid-early medieval activity was found on land south of the Thanet Way, Eddington, Herne Bay (2). The evaluation recorded ditches and pits (most of the ditches were north-south aligned). They were located in a tight group, with the earlier features (AD 550-700) to the north and the later features (AD 700-850) to the south, although a number of features contained ceramics from both periods. Many of the features contained daub and burnt flint. One trench on the western edge of the evaluation area also recorded a mid-early medieval feature.

Reports referred to in above text are:

- (1) Unpublished document: Canterbury Archaeological Trust. 1991. Thanet Way Sections 2-4: Archaeological Evaluations (TWPT 91) Level III Report.  
(2) Unpublished document: Canterbury Archaeological Trust. 1998.  
An Archaeological Evaluation: Land South of the Thanet Way, Eddington, Herne Bay. 19 Aug-2 Sept 1998.

### **5.9 Medieval**

The medieval period is not well represented within the assessment area and the only area of medieval activity is at Herne Bay High School, Herne Bay (TR 16 NE 90). Sparse medieval features were noted during excavation work ahead of the construction of an all-weather pitch at the School. Three sections of linear and a single pit were recorded. One of the linears contained struck flint, which is presumed residual. The same linear also contained animal bone. Fieldwork in the area of the High School revealed multi-phase archaeology from the prehistoric through to the

Roman. Some of these earlier features also contained medieval pottery, although this may be a result of manuring activities.

Six medieval (C10th-13th) pottery sherds found in 2007 during excavation work prior to construction of new tennis courts included a single C11th/12th jar rim.

### **5.10 Post-Medieval**

The Post Medieval period within the assessment area is only represented by listed buildings.

### **5.11 Modern**

Modern development within the 1km assessment area has been limited to domestic housing, and farming – the latter being responsible for the present landscape.

A World War 2 public air-raid shelter was located at Winches Field (TR 16 NE 1326). The timber-lined public trench air-raid shelter in Winches Field was excavated during the Munich Crisis of late September 1938, when some £610, overall, was spent on trenches and shelters for the public at various sites in Herne Bay. These were begun before the Home Office had published its standard specification for permanent shelters, and could be difficult subsequently to upgrade to the specified standard. In mid February 1939 'the question arose of making permanent the trench shelters constructed during the emergency, at Westbrook, Winches Field and Kent College Close. Approval was sought to provide a permanent concrete lining to the Westbrook and Kent College Close trenches, but the Winches Field Shelter was passed over. By September, however, the other shelters were out of use whilst the 'trench shelters constructed in Winch's Field were still available for use except in very heavy and continued wet weather.' They were large enough for three hundred persons, and seem to have been quite celebrated: 'we had a number of public air raid shelters in the town, the best remembered being the large semi-underground one in Winches Field, at the east end of what is now Herne Bay Football Ground where council flats stand on the site.' In May 1944 the Winches Field shelters were found to be 'full of water and a danger to children'. It was ordered that they be filled in (Larkin 1946: Wartime antics of a Lark).

### **5.12 Undated**

There is no Kent HER undated records that fall within the assessment area.

### 5.13 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

A rapid map regression exercise carried out on the proposed development area (PDA) has shown that the site was undeveloped up until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century when the building of the golf course and housing in the surrounding landscape took place. Nine detailed maps of the area dating from 1769 up to 20<sup>th</sup> century show the area to be farmland until the building of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century golf course. On the Andrews and Drury map of 1769 (Fig. 4) three properties are given prominence-Strode Park belonging to 'Gilbert Knowlett Esq', Underdown Farm owned by 'Mr Beake' and Eddington or Headington owned by 'Reynolds'. The area of the PDA on this 1769 map has no item of interest apart from reference to a 'Ridgeway' on the south-east area of the PDA. To the south-east, and beyond the Ridgeway 'Tyle Kiln Hill is annotated. On the OS Surveyors Drawing of 1798 (Fig. 3a) to a six inch scale shows in great detail every field. The area of the PDA is an arable and pasture landscape farmed by Sea Street Farm, Greenhill Farm, Northwood Farm, Strode Farm, Underdown Farm and Eddington Farm. The fields are all aligned on the various lanes, brown fields arable and green fields pasture. The curve of the fields east of Green Hill and north of Underdown but south of Underdown Farm (not named) suggest a relict ridge and furrow field system with a 'ribbon' development of a possible village east and west of the track above 'Underdown'. This possible medieval track and associated house plots can no longer be identified in the modern landscape and are just inside the north area of the PDA. The fresh water stream in 1798 is featured just north of the (unnamed) Eddington Farm.

The 1801 OS map of Kent (Fig. 5) to a one inch scale shows this stream, again just to the north of the (unnamed) Eddington Farm. South of the farm and in the north area of the PDA the possible medieval road is still shown with a group of houses which may be inside the north-east area of the PDA.

The 1874 OS map of Herne Bay (Fig. 6) to a 25 inch scale shows a golf course with pavilion and bandstand east of the Herne Road and south of Eddington. This is not the location of the modern golf course and is outside the proposed development area. This golf course is also shown on the 1898 OS map (Fig. 7) and the 1908 OS map (Fig. 8). The area of the PDA is shown as an overlay on the OS map from 1898 (Fig. 3), whilst the area it covers is shown on the OS maps for 1898 and 1908 (Figs. 9 & 10).

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

### 6.1 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age

The potential for finding remains that date prior to the Iron Age within the confines of the proposed development area is considered **high**.

## 6.2 Iron Age

The potential for finding remains dating to the Iron Age within the proposed development area is also considered **high**.

## 6.3 Romano-British

The presence of Romano-British archaeology in the research area, though small but concentrated suggests that further archaeological remains associated with this period could extend into the proposed development area. The potential is therefore to be considered as **moderate**.

## 6.4 Anglo-Saxon

Anglo-Saxon archaeology within the assessment area has been found which suggests the potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period on the proposed development area is considered as **moderate**.

## 6.5 Medieval

The presence of medieval archaeology within the assessment area is also represented. The potential for finding remains dating to the medieval period is therefore considered as **moderate**.

## 6.6 Post-Medieval

Evidence for post-medieval occupation in the area is abundant with a number of farms in the vicinity. The potential for finding remains dating to the post-medieval period is therefore considered as **moderate**.

# 7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

## 7.1 Existing Impacts

The 1km search area is for the most part, subject to farming and the potential impact on buried archaeological deposits will have been due to agricultural activities. The site of the proposed development (the golf course) will have been affected by the construction and landscaping of the course itself. Additionally, existing services may also have had a damaging effect. Therefore, the impact is considered as **high** for the golf course site.

Extensive impact is to be expected within the development area once construction begins. The excavation of footings and the installation of services will be the main cause of this impact and it is therefore considered as **moderate-high**.

## 7.2 Proposed Impacts

At the time of preparing this archaeological desk-top study, the extent of the proposed development consists of the following key elements:

*The demolition of the existing golf club house and associated maintenance buildings to facilitate the erection of a new Sports Hub (Use Class D2) comprising a sports pavilion, dual use cricket pitch including two mini soccer pitches, two artificially surfaced football pitches (one shared with hockey), one artificially surfaced hockey pitch, six artificially surfaced tennis courts and tennis pavilion; foodstore (Use Class A1), petrol filling station (Use Class Sui Generis) and car hand wash cabin; a new pedestrian, cycle and vehicular access off the Thanet Way, together with associated circulation roads, Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDs), landscaping, parking, infrastructure, lighting and earthworks.'*

## 8 MITIGATION

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 maybe impacted upon during any proposed construction works.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential.

It is recommended in this case that further archaeological assessment will be required for Phase 1 and that an Archaeological Evaluation should be carried out to a specification approved by the Canterbury City Council Archaeological Advisor in phases on the areas that will be impacted on by the proposed development. This will provide an additional assessment of the nature; depth and level of survival of any archaeological deposits present within the extents of the proposed development site and used to inform Canterbury City Council Archaeological Advisor if further mitigation is necessary. However, due to the presence of protected species, trenching can only be carried out post-planning and post-mitigation. Trenching can therefore not be carried out now and would need to be the subject of a planning condition.

## **9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

### **9.1 Archive**

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

### **9.2 Reliability/limitations of sources**

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**

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## **10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The author would like to thank Quinn Estates Ltd for commissioning this report.

Paul Wilkinson PhD., MifA., FRSA.

07/05/2013

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HER data Kent County Council 2012



Plate 1 Google aerial photograph of environs of proposed development site.



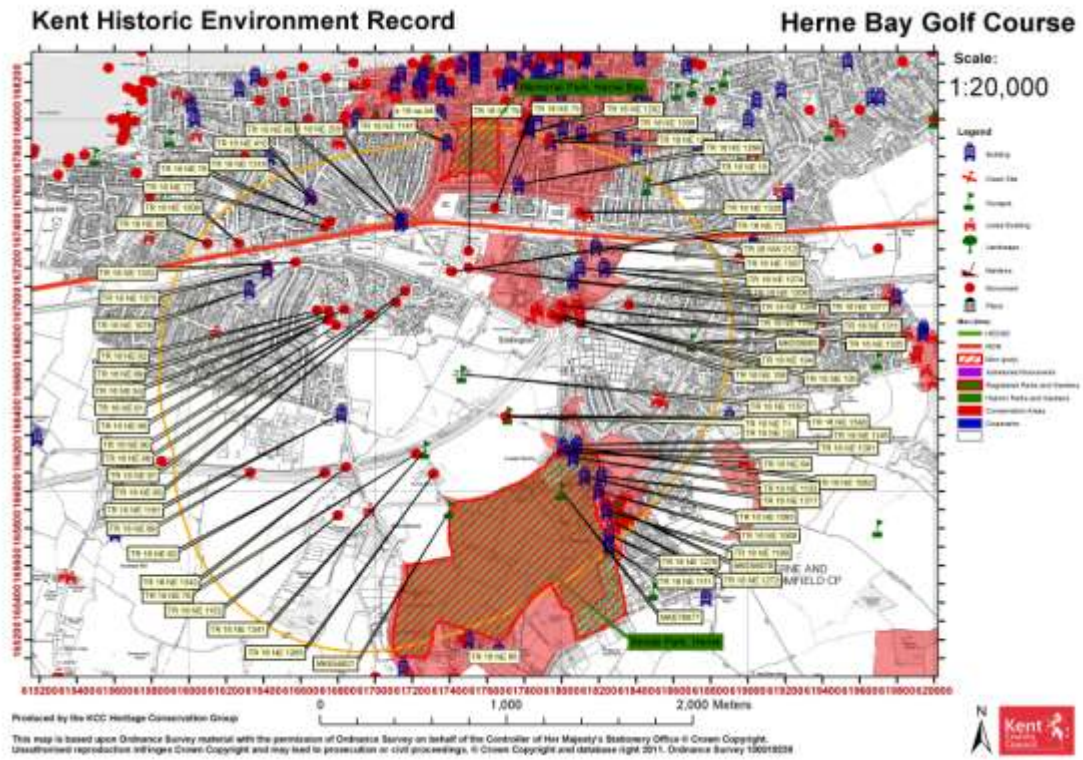


Plate 2. KCC HER data (for information only)

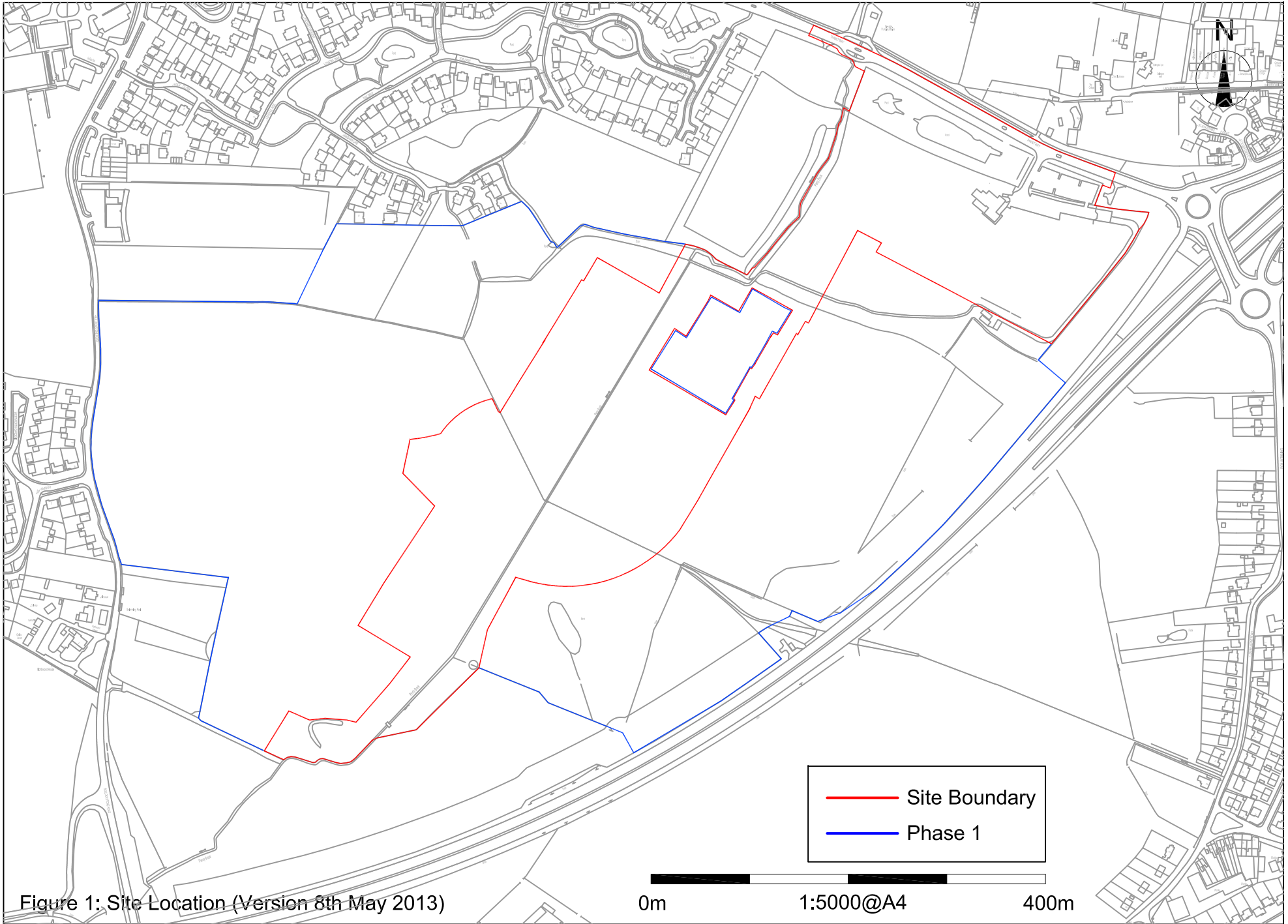


Figure 1: Site Location (Version 8th May 2013)

0m

1:5000@A4

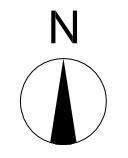
400m



1:10000@A3



Figure 2: Location of site of proposed development with 1898 map (Version 8th May 2013)



1:10000@A3



Figure 3: Location of site of proposed development with aerial photograph (Version 8th May 2013)



Figure 3a. Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawing 1798 of the environs of the proposed development site

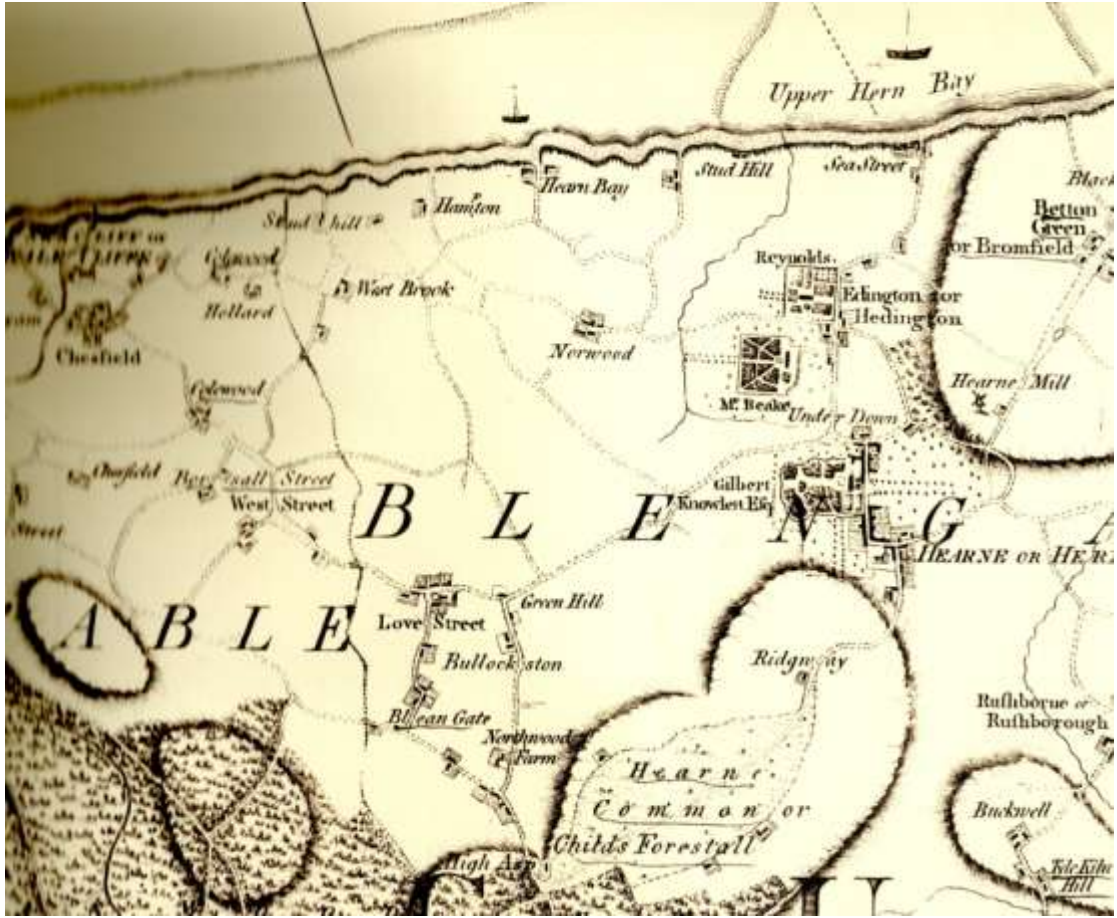


Figure 4. Andrews and Drury map (1769) of the proposed development area



Figure 5. OS map (1801) showing the proposed development area

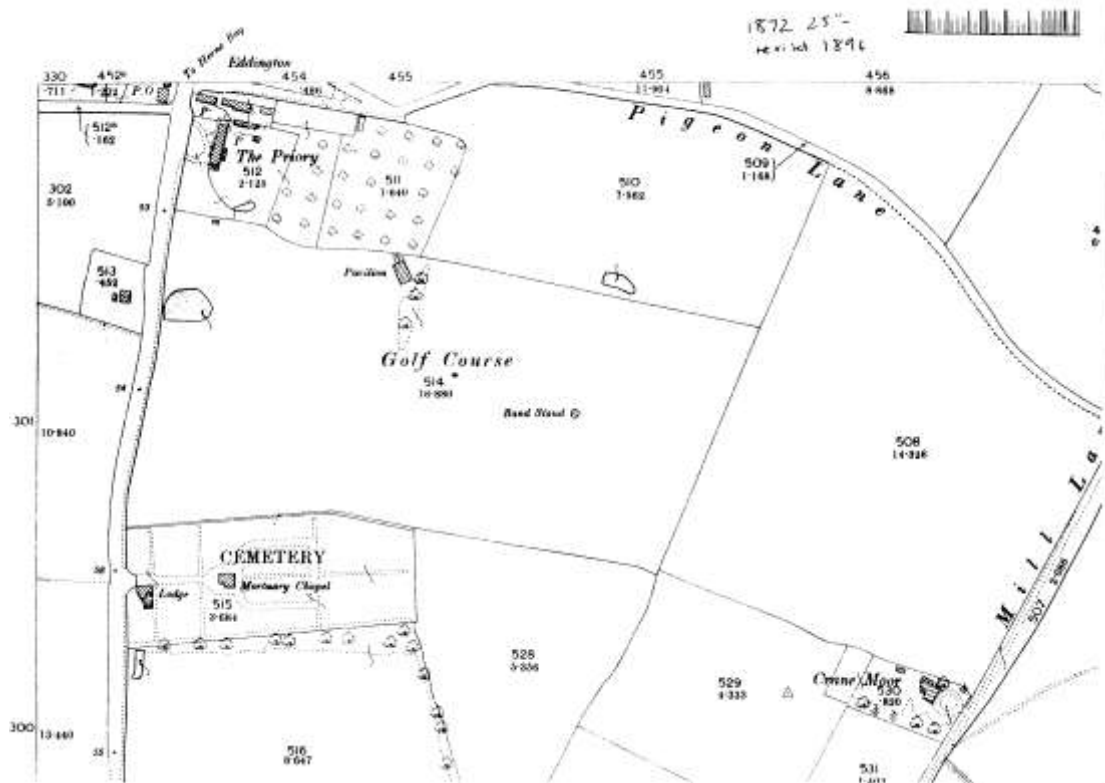


Figure 6. OS map detail (1874) of golf course



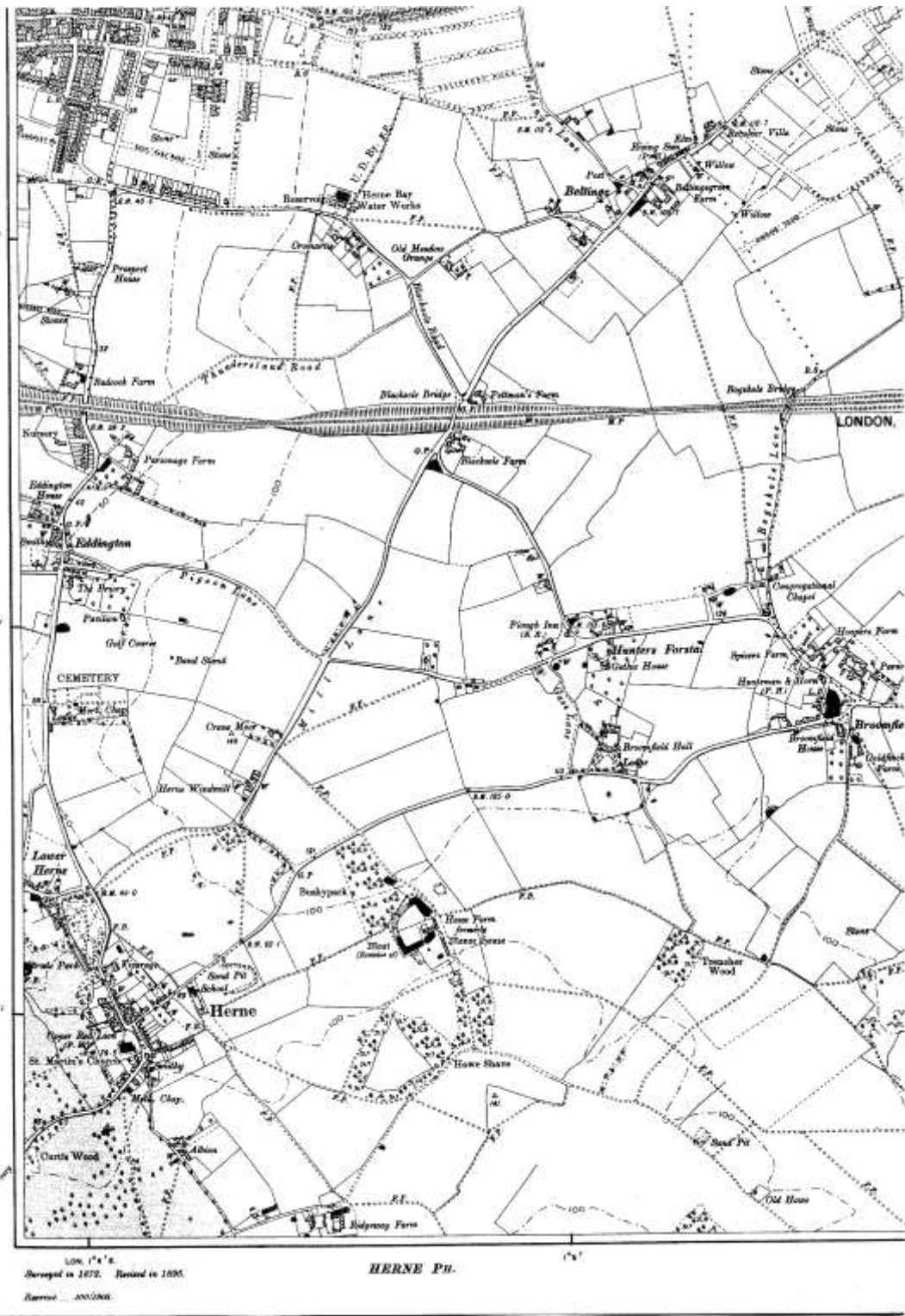


Figure 7. OS map (1898) of area east of the proposed development area

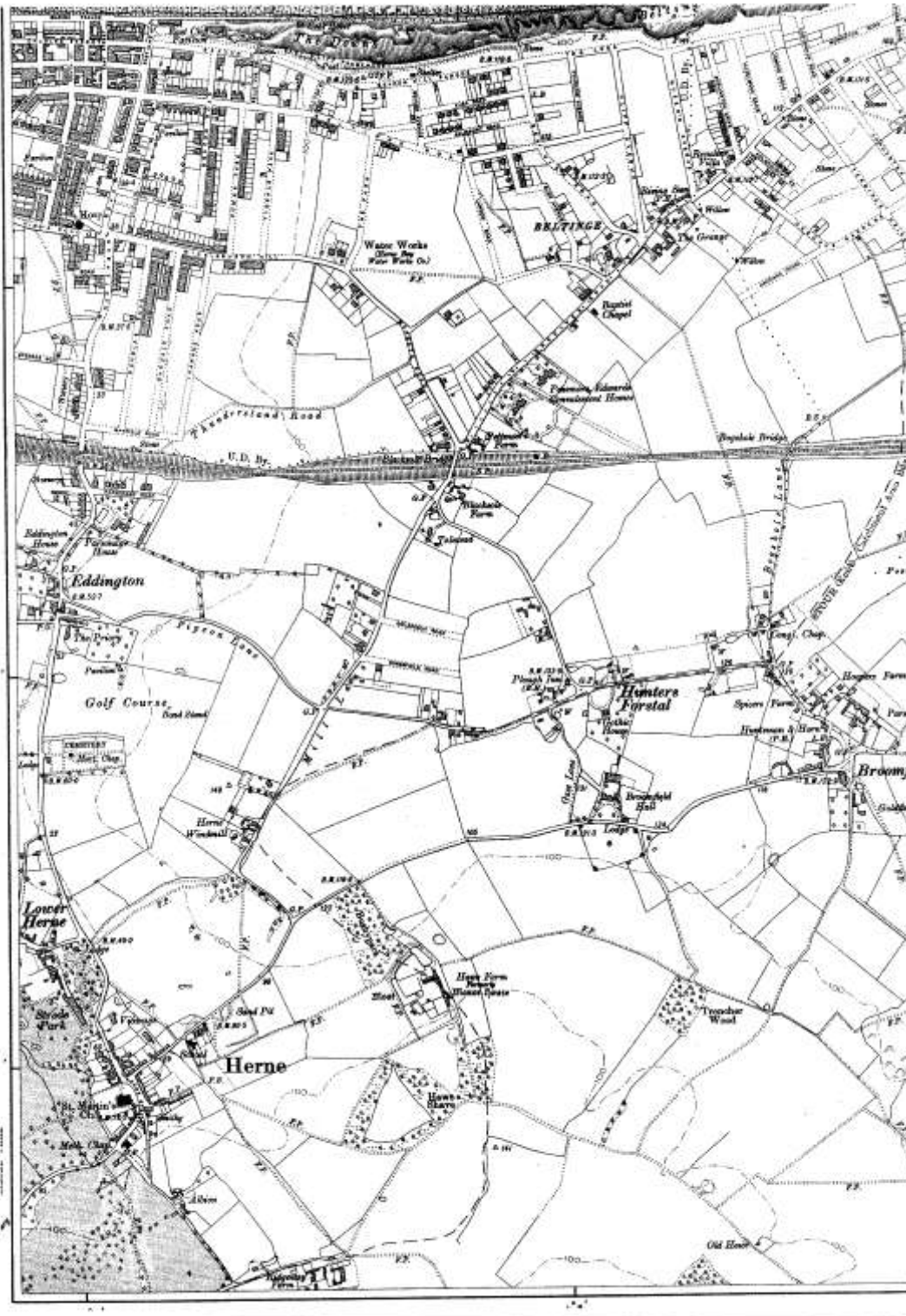


Figure 8. OS map (1908) of the area east of the proposed development area

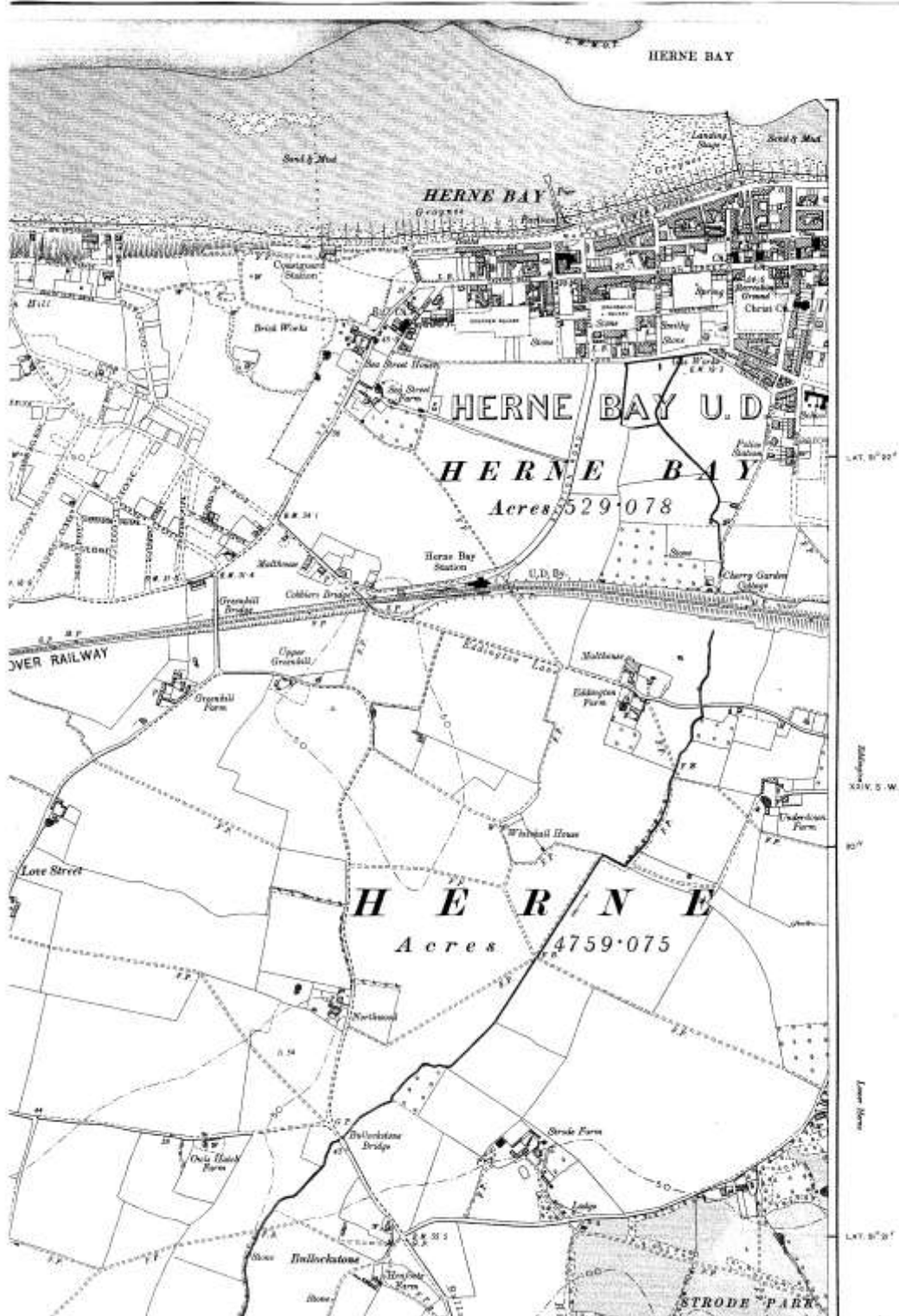


Figure 9. OS map (1898) of the proposed development area

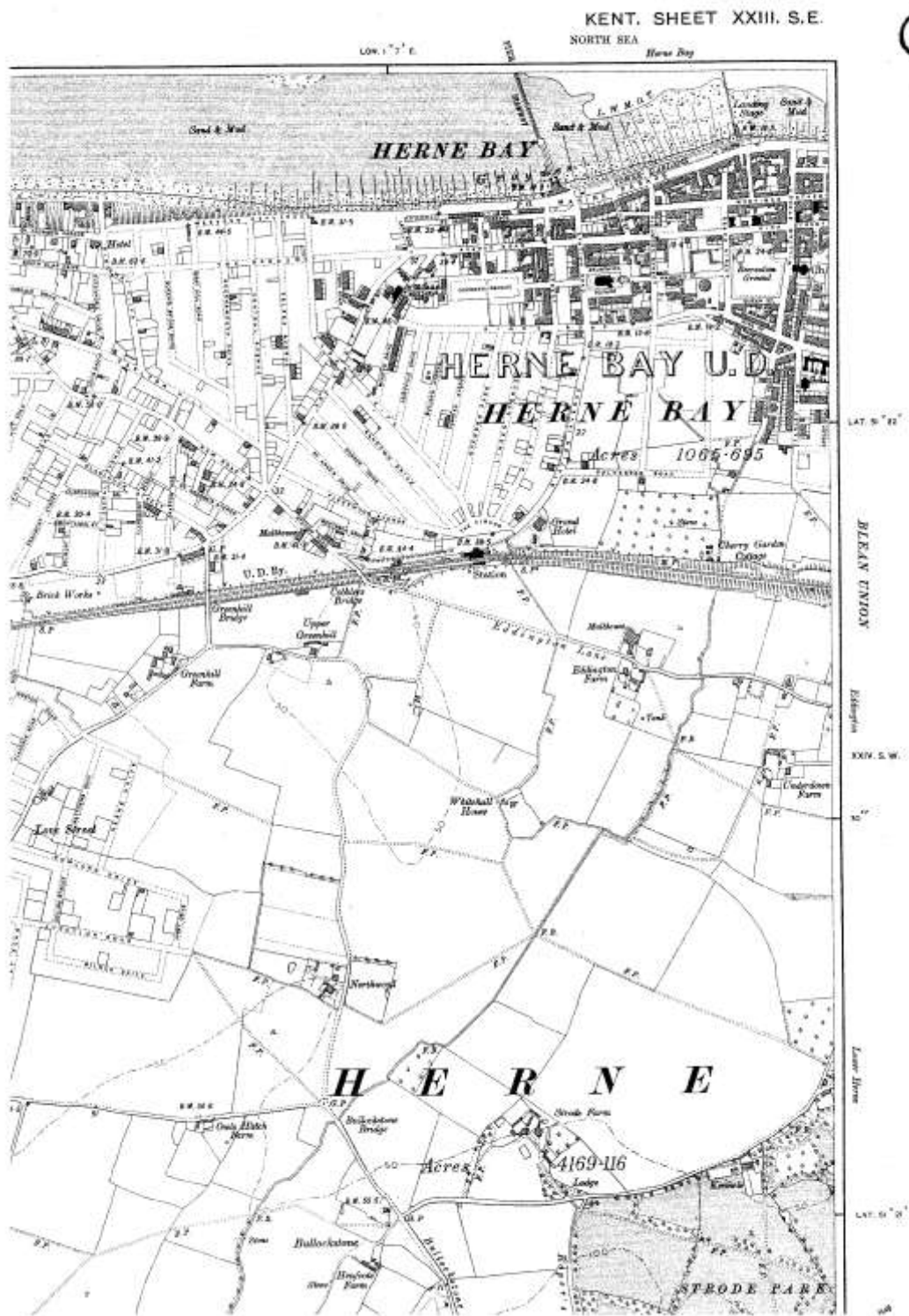


Figure 10. OS map (1908) of the proposed development area