

Archaeological Monitoring of Land at Willow House, Station Road, Appledore, Ashford, Kent

Site Code WILL/WB/16



Report for Mr B Roberts
Date of report 05/02/2016

SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeological Monitoring of Land at Willow House, Station Road, Appledore, Kent

Site Code WILL/WB/15

Date of report: 05/02/2016

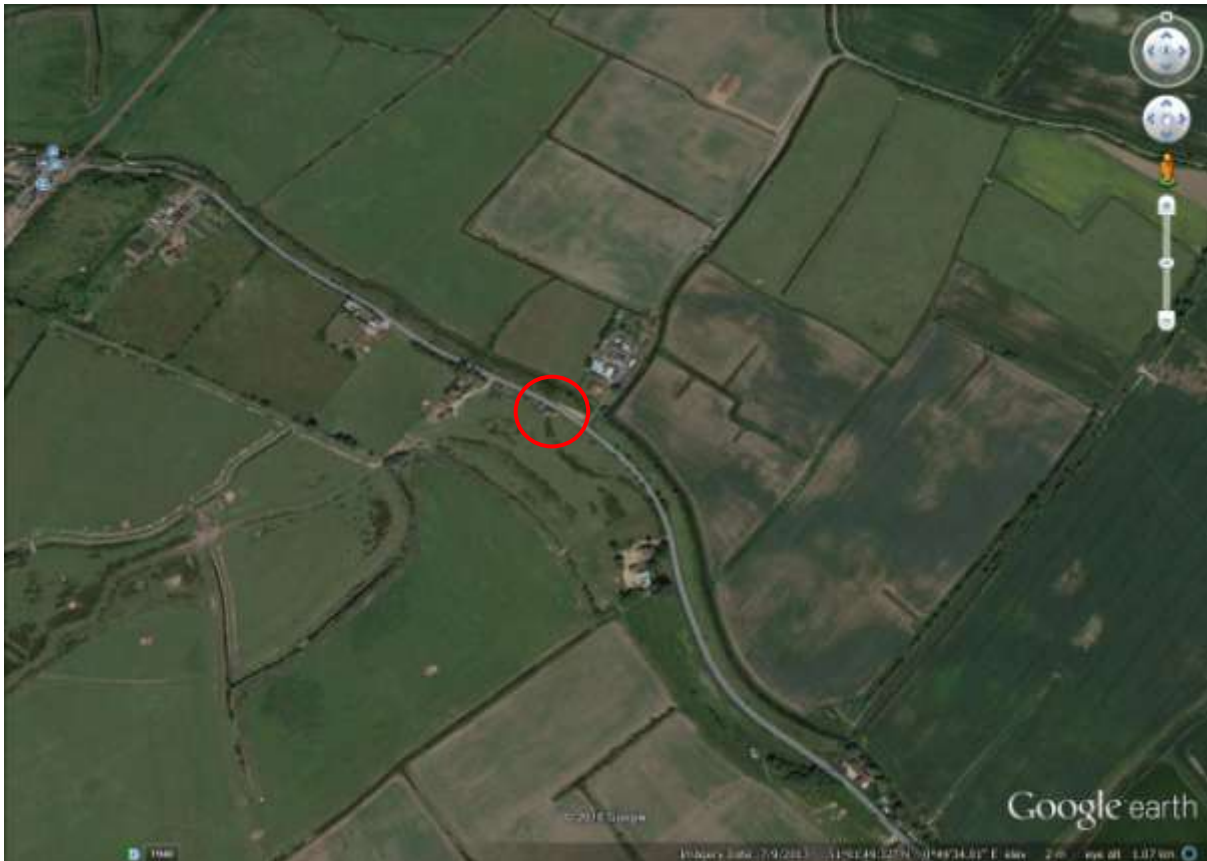


Plate 1. Aerial view of site (red circle) showing the site prior to development.

(Google Earth 20/04/2015: Eye altitude 312m).

1.0 Summary

1.1. From the 8th, 11th, 12th January 2016 Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief on ground works involved in the build of a new extension to Willow House, Station Road, Appledore, Ashford in Kent. (Fig. 1 & Plates 1-6).

1.2. The works were carried out on behalf of the owner Mr B Roberts.

1.3. An Archaeological Watch was kept during the machine digging of foundations (Plates 2-6).

The archaeological work was undertaken in one phase.

Phase 1: Foundation trenches dug (Plates 2-6)

1.4. The Archaeological Watching Brief was to watch for any signs of archaeological activity. In particular, any evidence of archaeological activity associated with the known archaeological sites in the area including any impact on the adjacent Rhee Wall, a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is Y15/0007/SH.

1.6. Although the archaeological potential has been highlighted by Historic England the Archaeological Watching Brief revealed no buried archaeological features and no archaeological finds were retrieved.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Planning Background

Planning application Y15/0007/SH was submitted to Shepway District Council the Local Planning Authority (LPA). Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of the LPA requested that an Archaeological Watching Brief be undertaken in order to record any archaeological remains uncovered during the development work. The following condition (4) 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.

3.0 Schedule of Visits

An archaeologist suitably experienced attended the site (Dr Paul Wilkinson SWAT Archaeology) and monitored the excavation works on the 8th, 11th & 12th January 2016

4.0 Aims and Objectives

4.1. The reason for the monitoring and recording, were to:

“The objectives of the archaeological watching brief are to contribute to the heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of the archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the ground works” (KCC 2015).

4.2. The ground works were to excavate the foundation trenches (Plates 2-4).

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 map is Bedrock geology of Tunbridge Wells Sand- Mudstone. The superficial geology revealed on site was Tidal Flat Deposits- Clay and Silt topped by dark brown humic topsoil.

5.2. The application site consisted of an area set to the south of the present house. The site itself is generally level at a height of about 2m aOD.

5.3. The site lies within an area of known archaeological potential associated with important medieval activity associated with the adjacent Rhee Wall (TQ 92 NE 170).

6.0 Methodology

6.1. The Watching Brief was conducted in accordance with the Archaeological Specification compiled by KCC and it also complied with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (ClfA: Dec 2014).

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

6.3. The Watching Brief was carried out in one phase according to the needs of the building contractors from 8th-12th January 2016.

6.4. Excavation of the area was carried out by contractors using a 360 degree machine equipped with a toothed bucket necessary to remove the soil and cut the foundation trenches (Plates 2-4).

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 watching brief was carried out in accordance with current IfA Standards and Guidance, (CIfA: 2014), and methodology previously discussed with the Archaeological Officer KCC.

7.0 Results

7.1 General

No archaeological features or finds were revealed or recovered. The subsoil encountered across the site was the Tidal Flat Deposits overlaid by topsoil. No archaeological features were revealed in the natural geology and no archaeological finds retrieved from the topsoil.

8.0 Finds

No finds were retrieved.

9.0 Discussion

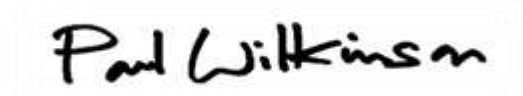
The development site is in an area of archaeological potential. No archaeology was revealed on the development site.

10.0 Conclusion

The Archaeological Monitoring has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the KCC 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 Conker Conservation Ltd commissioning the project. Fieldwork was undertaken and report written by Paul Wilkinson.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Wilkinson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. It is enclosed within a thin, light grey rectangular border.

Dr Paul Wilkinson, BA (Hons), PhD., FRSA., MCIfA.

References

HER data (KCC 2015)

CIfA (2014) Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

KCC Archaeological Watching Brief Specification (2015)

Appendix 1

Kent County Council HER Summary Form

Site Name: Development of land at Willow House, Station Road, Appledore, Ashford, Kent

SWAT Site Code: WILL/WB/16

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 a new extension to an existing dwelling whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC) requested that Archaeological Monitoring be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

The Archaeological Monitoring consisted of site visits which encountered no buried archaeological features or artefacts.

District/Unitary: Shepway District Council

Period(s):

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) 580166 156492

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Monitoring

Date of recording: January 2016

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

Geology: Underlying geology is Tidal Flat Deposits- Clay and Silt

Title and author of accompanying report: Wilkinson P. (2016) Archaeological Monitoring at Land at Willow House, Station Road, Appledore, 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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Date: 05/02/2016

Plates



Plate 2. General view of site looking south-east towards the Rhee Wall



Plate 3. General view of site looking north-east



Plate 4. The site showing cutting of foundation trenches on the east side



Plate 5. Digging foundation trenches on the east side



Plate 6. Foundation trenches on the south-east side



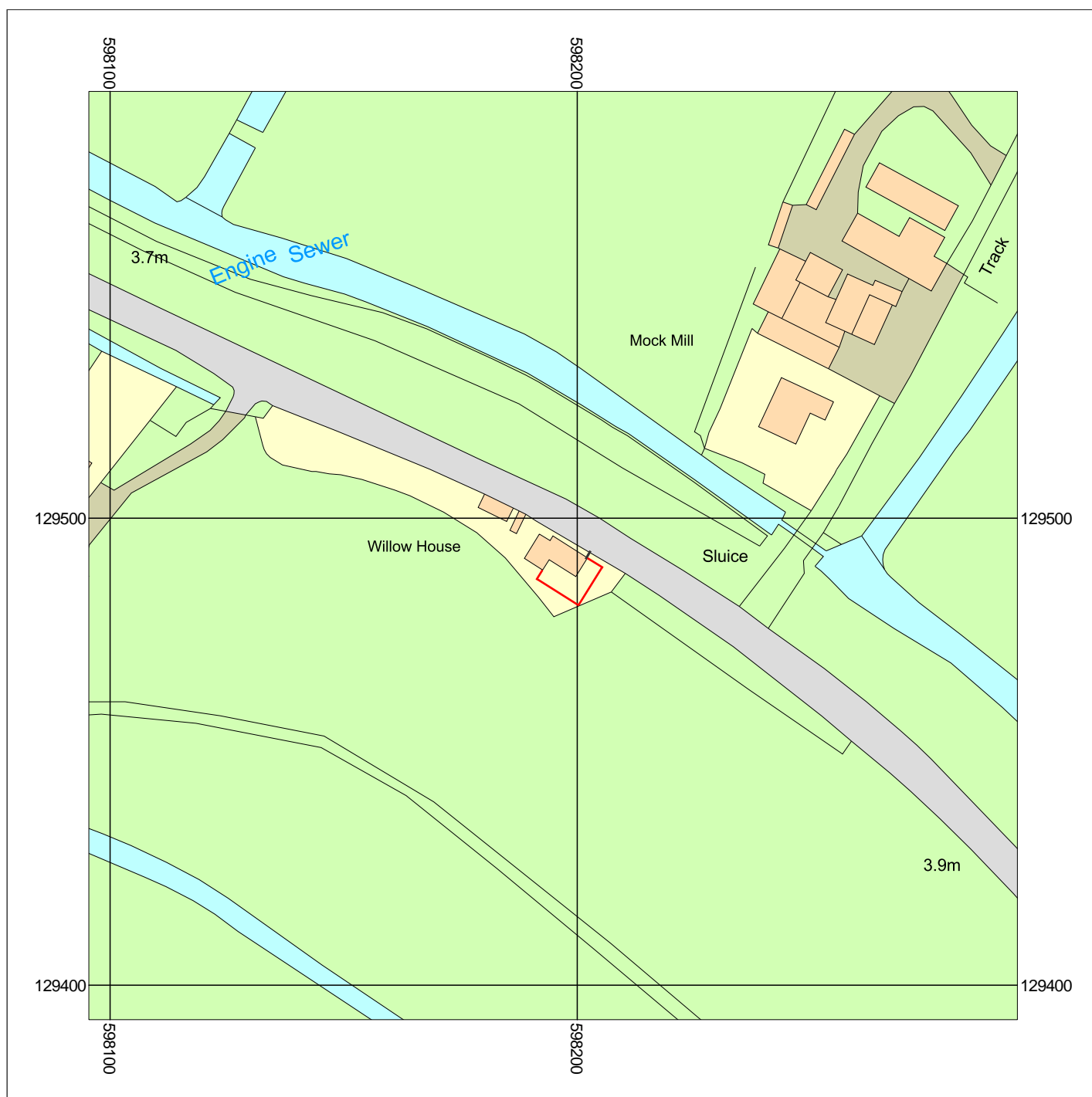
Plate 7. Foundation trenches on the east side



Plate 8. Location of foundation trenches on the south side



Plate 9. Completed foundation trenches on the south side



Metres
0 5 10 20 30 40 50
Scale: 1:1250



Willow House
Station Road
Appledore
TN26 2DQ

Supplied by: National Map Centre
License number: 100031961
Produced: 05/02/2016
Serial number: 1628038

Plot centre co-ordinates: 598195,129492
Download file: swat0502.2.zip
Project name: willow