

Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Wincheap Farmhouse, 64 Hollow Lane, Canterbury, Kent



NGR: 614139 156617

Site Code: WIN/EV/16

(Planning Application: CA/16/00571/FUL)

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1. Summary

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Wincheap Farmhouse, 64 Hollow Lane, Canterbury in Kent in December 2016. A Planning Application (CA/16/00571/FUL) to develop this site for the erection of two detached chalet bungalows and associated parking to Canterbury City Council, whereby the Council requested that an Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT Specification A and CCC Manual Part B) and in discussion with the Archaeological Heritage Officer, Canterbury City Council. The results of the excavation of one evaluation trench revealed that no archaeological features were present within the trench (Figure 1). The natural geology of Clay and Silt was reached at an average depth of between 0.55m and 0.90m below ground level (BGL). The Archaeological Evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Archaeological Specification.

2. Introduction

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by the land owners to carry out an archaeological evaluation at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT & CCC 2016) and in discussion with Rosanne Cummings Archaeological Heritage Officer, Canterbury City Council. The evaluation was carried out on the 7th December 2016.

3. Site Description and Topography

The proposed development site at Wincheap Farm is located in the vicinity of the Roman road which connected the Roman city of Canterbury to the Roman fort at Lympne. The name 'Hollow Lane' may suggest the unknown route of the Roman road as it approached Canterbury. The site is to the south of Wincheap. The OD height of the proposed site is about 23m AOD rising upslope to 33m AOD to the adjacent farmland (Plate 1 & Fig.1).

The underlying geology is mapped as Bedrock Geology of Seaford Chalk Formation and Superficial Deposits of Head- Clay and Silt (BGS 2016).

4. Planning Background

Canterbury City Council gave planning permission (CA/16/00571/FUL) for development of land at Wincheap Farmhouse, 64 Hollow Lane, Canterbury, Kent.

On the advice of Rosanne Cummings, Archaeological Heritage Officer (CCC) a programme of archaeological works in the form of an initial archaeological evaluation was attached to the consent:

(Condition 3) No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of:

(i) archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority; and (ii) following on from the evaluation, any safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation, post-excavation assessment, analysis, publication or conservation in accordance with a specification and timetable 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 policy BE16 of the Canterbury District Local Plan 2006, policy HE11 of the Canterbury District Local Plan Publication Draft 2014 and the National Planning Policy Framework.

5. Archaeological and Historical Background

The Kent County Council Historic Environment Record (KCCHER) has provided details of any previous investigations and discoveries. Historic OS mapping indicate that the development site was a farm in the 19th century and this is reflected in the KCCHER record where the farm buildings to the north are listed (MKE 86263). There are no archaeological discoveries recorded in the vicinity of Wincheap Farmhouse but 100m to the north a Romano-British cremation was found (TR 15 NW 465), and 175m to the east another Roman cremation was found (TR 15 NW 2303).

6. Aims and Objectives

According the SWAT Archaeological Specification, the aims and objectives for the archaeological work were to ensure that the:

The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation is to establish or otherwise the presence of any potential archaeological features which may be impacted by the proposed development. Also to find out the depths of features below the surface, how much overburden and the extent of the depth of deposits themselves. In addition the dates and quality of any archaeological remains

which will be achieved through a limited sample excavation of features. Human remains will not be excavated (see also CCC Evaluation Specification Part B: 4. Objectives).

7. Methodology

The Archaeological Specification called for an evaluation by trial trenching comprising a first phase of one trench within the footprint of the proposed housing development. A 4.5 ton 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a flat-bladed ditching bucket was used to remove the topsoil and subsoil to expose the natural geology and/or the archaeological horizon. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the SWAT & CCC specification. A single context recording system was used to record the deposits, and context recording numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes. These are used in the report and shown in **bold**. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with KCC, SWAT and ClfA standards and guidance.

8. Monitoring

Curatorial monitoring was available during the course of the evaluation.

9. Results

The evaluation has identified no archaeological features within the one trench (Figure 1).

Trench 1

9.1 The plan is recorded in Figure 1 (see also Plates 2-5). The trench lay on a NNE to SSW alignment and measured approximately 15m by 1.20m.

Undisturbed natural geology (**103**) was identified across the trench as sandy silty clay, at a depth of approximately 1.10m (21.18m OD) below the present ground surface at 22.28m AOD at mid-trench. The natural geology was sealed by a clean layer of crushed Type 2 hardcore (**102**) 0.25m thick. Above this was a dark layer of re-deposited subsoil (**101**) 0.12m thick, mid to dark brown in colour and containing small stones and chalk granules, above this to the north was a 10cm thick layer of concrete and to the south a 10cm layer of crushed hardcore (**100**).

10. Discussion

With some archaeological sites in the vicinity of the PDA it was expected that the evaluation may produce evidence of archaeological activity. But there was none. Most of the site has been used as a parking area for the adjacent development.

11. Finds

No finds were found.

12. Conclusion

The evaluation trench at the proposed development site revealed no archaeological features or artefacts.

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprised of concrete/hardcore **(100)** sealing a Type 2 substrate **(101)** which overlay the natural geology **(103)**. Therefore, this evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the aims and objectives as set out in the planning condition and the Archaeological Specification.

13. Acknowledgements

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank the client for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Rosanne Cummings Archaeological Officer, Canterbury City Council. Site survey and illustrations were produced by Bartek Cichy. The fieldwork was undertaken and the project was managed and report written by Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA.

Paul Wilkinson

02/01/2017

14. References

Institute for Field Archaeologists (IfA), Rev (2014). *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*

SWAT Archaeology (2016) *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Wincheap Farmhouse, 64 Hollow Lane, Canterbury, Kent*

CCC Specification Manual Part B

KCC and Historic England HER data 2016

Canterbury City Council HER Summary Form

Site Name: Land at Wincheap Farmhouse, 64 Hollow Lane, Canterbury, Kent

SWAT Site Code: WIN/EV/16

Site Address: As above

Summary:

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Evaluation on the development site above. The site has planning permission for residential housing whereby Canterbury City Council requested that Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The Archaeological Evaluation revealed no archaeology.

District/Unitary: Canterbury City Council

Period(s):

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) 614139 156617

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: 7th December 2016

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

Geology: Underlying geology is Clay and Silt

Title and author of accompanying report: Wilkinson P. (2016) Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Wincheap Farmhouse, 64 Hollow Lane, Canterbury, Kent

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

No archaeology found

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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Date: 02/01/2017

PLATES



Plate 1. Location of trench



Plate 2. Excavating trench



Plate 3. Excavating trench

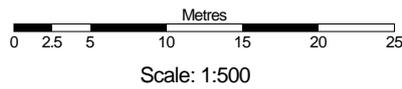


Plate 4. Section (looking north)



Plate 5. Excavated trench (looking SSW)

Figure 1
Location of
Trenches



Wincheap Farm



Supplied by: National Map Centre
License number: 100031961
Produced: 01/12/2016
Serial number: 1768647

Plot centre co-ordinates: 614139,156617
Download file: gqs.zip
Project name: wincheap