

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development for an Artificial Turf Pitch at Maidstone Grammar School, Barton Road, Maidstone, Kent.

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National Grid Reference TQ 76697 54795



Report for Maidstone Grammar School

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Summary

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by Maidstone Grammar School to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) for an Artificial Turf Pitch at Maidstone Grammar School, Barton Road, Maidstone, Kent.

This Desk Based Assessment is intended to explore and disseminate the known and potential heritage resource within the site and the surrounding area, and to assess the likely impacts of the development proposals on this resource. Based on this data the potential for archaeological sites either on or in the near vicinity of the proposed development can be summarized as:

- Prehistoric: **low**
- Iron Age: **low**
- Roman: **high**
- Anglo-Saxon: **low**
- Medieval: **low**
- Post-Medieval: **moderate**
- Modern: **high**

The PDA is situated within the playing fields for Maidstone Grammar School. The area has been playing fields since the school located there in 1930. Prior to that the wider area was still rural until the early 20th century when it became more urbanised with the growth of Maidstone. There are a number of known archaeological site within the area. Within the PDA itself was a World War II anti-tank ditch and just 50m to the north west Post Medieval pits and ditches were found along with Post Medieval artefacts. Circa 100m north west is a Roman Villa found in 1870, whose exact location and plan is not known and it is possible that elements of the villa do extend towards the PDA. In addition, the school has an air raid shelter located in the northern area of the school grounds. A GPR survey suggested evidence of a structure underground west of the PDA which could relate to a possible air raid shelter but the GPR survey does not suggest that there are any structures extending underneath the playing field.

The GPR did not provide any evidence of the anti-tank ditches possibly due to its great depth below the playing field. The potential archaeology for the Roman and Modern period is considered high, with moderate for the Post Medieval period and low for all other periods. The area of the PDA that was not disturbed by the anti-tank ditch is expected to have had a low impact on any potential archaeology. However, in the area of the anti-tank ditch, it is likely that the construction of the ditch would have had a total impact on the archaeological potential in that area for any period prior to the Second World War. It is not known what the anti-tank ditch was filled with or how much of it remains but given the area has remained a playing field post war, there is likely to have been a low impact on the archaeological potential on the ditch surviving.

The proposed development of artificial turf will require elements that impact a depth of up to 1.0m in places. Given there is potential made ground in the area of the playing fields and that the GPR results did not suggest any evidence of the anti-tank ditch, it is possible that the potential remains of the anti-tank ditch will not be encountered. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Maidstone Grammar School (the 'Client'), to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) for an Artificial Turf Pitch at Maidstone Grammar School, Barton Road, Maidstone, Kent. centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 76697 54795 (Fig. 1).

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The PDA is circa 1km south, south east from the centre of Maidstone. It is located on the east of the Loose Road, off Barton Road, with Mote Park to the east. The school is surrounded by residential housing with buildings ranging from the 1930s up to modern times set along the edges of the northern and western sides of the school area with a large playing field for the rest of the area. The PDA is located on the grassed playing fields the slopes downwards to the north at an average height of 50m AOD (Fig. 1)

- 1.2.2 The British Geological Society (BGS 1995) shows that the local geology at the PDA consists of bedrock comprising of Hythe Formation – Sandstone and (Subequal/subordinate) Limestone interbedded. The Lower Greensand Group is a geological unit, which forms part of the underlying geological structure of southeast England. South of London in the counties of West Sussex, East Sussex and Kent, which together form the wider Weald, the Lower Greensand can usually be subdivided to formational levels with varying properties into the Atherfield Clay Formation, the Hythe Formation, the Sandgate Formation, Bargate Formation and the Folkestone Formation. The Lower Greensand is one of the most landslide-susceptible formations in the UK. The Lower Greensand Group was deposited during the Early Cretaceous Period, which lasted for approximately 40 million years from 140 to 100 million years ago. Kentish Ragstone is a hard, grey, sandy limestone that forms an important component of the Hythe Formation. The ragstone bed runs along the line from Hythe to Maidstone to Westerham. There are no superficial deposits.

Geotechnical Information

- 1.2.3 There is no known Geotechnical information.

1.3 The Proposed Development

- 1.3.1 The proposed development is for the part of the grassed playing field to be replaced with flood lit artificial turf, with dugouts and storage areas incorporated into the design. A 3m high acoustic fence will also be erected on the southern side. As the land very gently slopes downwards towards the north, the pitch will be set level. As a result, in the northern part of the artificial turf area the pitch level will be set slightly higher than the current ground level. At the southern end the pitch will be sunk into the ground slightly at various amounts up to a maximum level of 1.0m below present levels. Additional landscaping in the form of trees will also take place along the southern boundary of the school (Fig. 2).

1.4 Project Constraints

- 1.4.1 No constraints were associated with this project.

1.5 Scope of Document

- 1.5.1 This assessment was requested by the Client in order to determine, as far as is possible from existing information, the nature, extent and significance of the Historic Environment and to assess the potential impact of development on Heritage Assets. The assessment forms part of the initial stages of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist with decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

2 PLANNING BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 National legislation and guidance relating to the protection of, and proposed development on or near, important archaeological sites or historical buildings within planning regulations is defined under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. In addition, local authorities are responsible for the protection of the historic environment within the planning system.

2.2 Heritage Assets

- 2.2.1 Designated heritage assets are defined in NPPF Annex 2 as:

‘World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Park and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and Conservation Areas designated under the relevant legislation.’

- 2.2.2 Designation is a formal acknowledgement of a building, monument or site’s significance, intended to make sure that the character of the asset in question is protected through the planning system and to enable it to be passed on to future generations.
- 2.2.3 Statutory protection is provided to certain classes of designated heritage assets under the following legislation:
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990;
 - Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; and

- Protection of Wrecks Act 1973

2.3 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 2.3.1 The Historic Environment, as defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2018): Annex 2, comprises:

‘all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.’

- 2.3.2 NPPF Annex 2 defines a Heritage Asset as:

‘a building monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets include designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing)’.

- 2.3.3 NPPF Section 16: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment sets out the principal national guidance on the importance, management and safeguarding of heritage assets within the planning process. The aim of NPPF Section 16 is to ensure that Local Planning Authorities, developers and owners of heritage assets adopt a consistent approach to their conservation and to reduce complexity in planning policy relating to proposals that affect them.

- 2.3.4 Paragraph 185 of the NPPF states that:

‘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. The planning authorities should take into account:

- a) The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*

- b) *The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;*
- c) *The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and*
- d) *Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.'*

2.3.5 Paragraph 189 of the NPPF states that:

'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.'

2.3.6 Paragraph 190 of the NPPF states that:

'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 to 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.'

2.3.7 The NPPF, Section 16, therefore provides the guidance to which local authorities need to refer when setting out a strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment in their Local Plans. It is noted within this, that heritage assets should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance.

2.3.8 The NPPF further provides definitions of terms which relate to the historic environment in order to clarify the policy guidance given. For the purposes of this report, the following are important to note:

- **Significance.** The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. For World Heritage Sites, the cultural value described within each site's Statement of Outstanding Universal Value forms part of its significance.
- **Setting.** The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

2.3.9 The NPPF advises local authorities to take into account the following points in paragraph 192 when drawing up strategies for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment;

- a) The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and preserving them in a viable use consistent with their conservation;
- b) The positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that the conservation of the historic environment can bring;
- c) The desirability of new development in making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.

2.3.10 Paragraphs 193 and 198 consider the impact of a proposed development upon the significance of a heritage asset.

2.3.11 Paragraph 193 emphasises that when a new development is proposed, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (and that the more important the asset, the greater this weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any

potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.

2.3.12 Paragraph 194 notes that any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of:

- a) Grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional;
- b) Assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.

2.3.13 Paragraph 195 states that where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm (or total loss of significance of) a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply:

- a) The nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and
- b) No viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and
- c) Conservation by grant-funding or some form of charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and
- d) The harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.

2.3.14 Conversely, paragraph 196 notes that where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.

- 2.3.15 The NPPF comments in paragraph 201, that not all elements of a Conservation Area or World Heritage Site will necessarily contribute to its significance. Loss of a building (or other element) which makes a positive contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area or World Heritage Site should be treated either as substantial harm under paragraph 195 or less than substantial harm under paragraph 196, as appropriate, taking into account the relative significance of the element affected and its contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area or World Heritage Site as a whole.
- 2.3.16 Paragraph 198 states that LPAs should not permit the loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred.
- 2.3.17 Paragraph 200 encourages LPAs to look for new development opportunities within Conservation Areas and World Heritage Sites, and within the setting of heritage assets, to enhance or better reveal their significance. Proposals that preserve those elements of the setting that make a positive contribution to the asset (or which better reveal its significance) should be treated favourably.
- 2.3.18 Any LPA based on paragraph 202, should assess whether the benefits of a proposal for enabling development, which would otherwise conflict with planning policies but which would secure the future conservation of a heritage asset, outweigh the disbenefits of departing from those policies.

2.4 Planning Policy Guidance

Planning Policy Guidance that help to preserve the built and archaeological heritage are:

Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance (Historic England, 2008)

- 2.4.1 Historic England sets out in this document a logical approach to making decisions and offering guidance about all aspects of England's historic environment. The Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance are primarily intended to help us to ensure consistency of approach in carrying out our role as the Government's statutory advisor on the historic environment in England. Specifically, they make

a contribution to addressing the challenges of modernising heritage protection by proposing an integrated approach to making decisions, based on a common process.

2.4.2 The document explains its relationship to other policy documents in existence at that time, including Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005), which includes the explicit objective of 'protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment' In this document, Heritage England provide detailed guidance on sustaining the historic environment within the framework of established government policy. In particular, the document distils from Planning Policy Guidance note (PPG) 15 Planning and the Historic Environment (1994) and PPG16 Archaeology and Planning (1990) those general principles which are applicable to the historic environment as a whole.

2.4.3 The policy document provides details about a range of Heritage Values, which enable the significance of assets to be established systematically, with the four main 'heritage values' being:

- **Evidential value.** This derives from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity. Physical remains of past human activity are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them especially in the absence of written records, the material record, particularly archaeological deposits, provides the only source of evidence about the distant past.
- **Historical Value.** This derives from the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present. It tends to be illustrative or associative. Illustration depends on visibility in a way that evidential value (for example, of buried remains) does not. Places with illustrative value will normally also have evidential value, but it may be of a different order of importance. Association with a notable family, person, event, or movement gives historical value a particular resonance.

- **Aesthetic value.** This derives from the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place. Aesthetic values can be the result of the conscious design of a place, including artistic endeavour. Equally, they can be the seemingly fortuitous outcome of the way in which a place has evolved and been used over time.
- **Communal value.** This derives from the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory. Communal values are closely bound up with historical (particularly associative) and aesthetic values but tend to have additional and specific aspects. These can be commemorative and symbolic values reflect the meanings of a place for those who draw part of their identity from it or have emotional links to it. Social value is associated with places that people perceive as a source of identity, distinctiveness, social interaction and coherence. Spiritual value attached to places can emanate from the beliefs and teachings of an organised religion, or reflect past or present-day perceptions of the spirit of place.

2.5 Statutory Protection

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

- 2.5.1 Both above and below ground archaeological remains that are considered Nationally can be identified and protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Any works affecting a scheduled Monument should be preceded by an application to the Secretary of State for Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC). Geophysical investigation or the use of a metal detector requires advance permission from Historic England.

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

- 2.5.2 The legal requirements on control of development and alterations affecting buildings, including those which are listed or in conservation areas (which are protected by law), is set out in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013

- 2.5.3 From April 2014, the act introduced changes to the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. This covers heritage planning and legal requirements around nationally and locally listed buildings and consent orders. It upholds levels of existing heritage protection, whilst also simplifying the process. Listed Building Heritage Partnership Agreements were introduced to allow listed building consent for specified works (other than demolition), to listed buildings covered by the Agreement, which would otherwise require several consents. Listed Building Consent Orders and Locally Listed Building Consent Orders have been introduced to allow local planning authorities to grant permission for works (other than demolition) to listed buildings in their area, which would otherwise require several consents. Where new buildings are listed, it is now possible to declare that specific features of the building, or specific buildings or structures attached to, or within the curtilage of the listed building are not of special interest. The demolition of unlisted buildings in conservation areas now requires planning permission rather than conservation area consent.

Hedgerow Regulations (statutory Instrument No. 1160) 1997

- 2.5.4 The Regulations apply to most countryside hedgerows. In particular, they affect hedgerows which are 20 meters or more in length; which meet another hedgerow at each end; are on or adjoin land used for: agriculture, forestry, the breeding or keeping of horses, ponies or donkeys, common land, village greens, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) or Local Nature Reserves. The act is to protect important countryside hedgerows from removal, either in part or whole. Removal not only includes grubbing out, but anything which could result in the destruction of the hedge. A hedgerow is deemed important and therefore protected if it is at least 30 years old and meets a number of other criteria.

Treasures Act 1996

- 2.5.5 The act is designed to deal with finds of treasure in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It legally obliges finders of objects which constitute a legally defined term of treasure to report their find to their local coroner within 14 days. An inquest led by the coroner then determines whether the find constitutes treasure or not. If it is declared to be treasure then the finder must offer the item for sale to a museum at a price set by an independent board of antiquities experts known as

the Treasure Valuation Committee. Only if a museum expresses no interest in the item, or is unable to purchase it, can the finder retain it. 'Treasure' is defined as being: (i) All coins from the same find, if it consists of two or more coins, and as long as they are at least 300 years old when found. If they contain less than 10% gold or silver there must be at least 10 in the find for it to qualify; (ii) Two or more prehistoric base metal objects in association with one another; (iii) Any individual (non-coin) find that is at least 300 years old and contains at least 10% gold or silver; (iv) Associated finds: any object of any material found in the same place as (or which had previously been together with) another object which is deemed treasure; (v) Objects substantially made from gold or silver but are less than 300 years old, that have been deliberately hidden with the intention of recovery and whose owners or heirs are unknown.

Burial Act 1857.

- 2.5.6 Its purpose is to regulate burial grounds. It regulates where and how deceased people may be buried and provides for the exhumation of remains. The Act made it illegal to disturb a grave (other than for an officially sanctioned exhumation).

2.6 Local Policies

- 2.6.1 Maidstone Borough Council, has a Heritage Strategy dated October 2017. The Maidstone Borough Council Local Plan was adopted in October 2017. There are no specific policies relating to archaeology. The council has a number of Spatial Objectives one of which is:

'To safeguard and maintain the character of the borough's landscapes including the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and its setting, the setting of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and other distinctive landscapes of local value whilst facilitating the economic and social well-being of these areas including the diversification of the rural economy'

POLICY SP18: Historic Environment.

- 2.6.2 To ensure their continued contribution to the quality of life in Maidstone Borough, the characteristics, distinctiveness, diversity and quality of heritage assets will be protected and, where possible, enhanced. This will be achieved by the council encouraging and supporting measures that secure the sensitive restoration,

reuse, enjoyment, conservation and/or enhancement of heritage assets, in particular designated assets identified as being at risk, to include:

- (i) Collaboration with developers, landowners, parish councils, groups preparing neighbourhood plans and heritage bodies on specific heritage initiatives including bids for funding;
- (ii) Through the development management process, securing the sensitive management and design of development which impacts on heritage assets and their settings;
- (iii) Through the incorporation of positive heritage policies in neighbourhood plans which are based on analysis of locally important and distinctive heritage; and
- (iv) Ensuring relevant heritage considerations are a key aspect of site master plans prepared in support of development allocations and broad locations identified in the local plan.

Local Planning Guidance

- 2.6.3 The Kent Design Guide, 2008. Prepared by the Kent Design Group, it provides the criteria necessary for assessing planning applications. Helps building designers, engineers, planners and developers achieve high standards of design and construction. It is adopted by the Council as a Supplementary Planning Document.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Maidstone Grammar School to support a planning application. This assessment has been prepared in accordance with guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (see below) and in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Good Practice Advice notes 1, 2 and 3, which now supersede the PPS 5 Practice Guide, which has been withdrawn by the Government.

- 3.1.2 The Good Practice Advice notes emphasizes the need for assessments of the significance of any heritage assets, which are likely to be changed, so the assessment can inform the decision process.
- 3.1.3 Significance is defined in the NPPF Guidance in the Glossary as “the value of the heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic, or historical. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset’s physical presence, but also its setting”. The setting of the heritage asset is also clarified in the Glossary as “the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve”.
- 3.1.4 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.

3.2 Desk-Based Assessment – Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2017)

- 3.2.1 This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014, revised 2017). A desktop, or desk-based assessment, is defined as being:

‘Desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant regulations of CfA. In a development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so) and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact.’

(2017:4)

- 3.2.2 The purpose of the desk-based assessment is, therefore, an assessment that provides a contextual archaeological record, in order to provide:

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

CIFA (2017:4)

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The methodology employed during this assessment has been based upon relevant professional guidance including the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* (CIFA, 2017).

4.2 Designated Heritage Assets

- 4.2.1 There are a number of criteria to address and they include the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the Heritage Assets.

Heritage Assets

- 4.2.2 Any Heritage Asset which includes a World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Wreck, Registered Park or Garden, Conservation Area or Landscape can be identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. Heritage Assets are the valued components of the historic environment and will include designated Heritage Assets as well as assets identified by the Local Planning Authority during the process of decision making or through the plan making process.

Setting

- 4.2.3 The surroundings in which a Heritage Asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset or may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

Significance

- 4.2.4 The value of a Heritage Asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance may be informed by a number of factors which may include; assessment of the significance of the site, setting and building, where relevant, under a number of headings:
- Historic significance – the age and history of the asset, its development over time, the strength of its tie to a particular architectural period, the layout of a site, the plan form of a building, internal features of special character including chimneystacks and fireplaces,
 - Cultural significance – the role a site plays in an historic setting, village, town or landscape context, the use of a building perhaps tied to a local industry or agriculture, social connections of an original architect or owner,
 - Aesthetic/architectural significance – the visual qualities and characteristics of the asset (settlement site or building), long views, legibility of building form, character of elevations, roofscape, materials and fabric special features of interest,

- Archaeological significance – evolution of the asset, phases of development over different periods, important features, evidence in building fabric, potential for below ground remains.

4.3 Sources

- 4.3.1 A number of publicly accessible sources were consulted prior to the preparation of this document.

Archaeological databases

- 4.3.2 Although it is recognised that national databases are an appropriate resource for this particular type of assessment, the local Historic Environmental Record held at Kent County Council (KCCHER) contains sufficient data to provide an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding landscape.
- 4.3.3 The National Heritage List for England (NHLE), which is the only official and up to date database of all nationally designated heritage assets and is the preferred archive for a comprehensive HER search.
- 4.3.4 The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) was also used. The search was carried out within a 500m radius of the proposed development site and relevant HER data is included in the report. The Portable Antiquities Scheme Database (PAS) was also searched as an additional source as the information contained within is not always transferred to the local HER.

Cartographic and Pictorial Documents

- 4.3.5 A full map regression exercise has been incorporated within this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by the Kent County Council, the internet, Ordnance Survey and the Kent Archaeological Society. A full listing of bibliographic and cartographic documents used in this study is provided in Section 10.

Aerial photographs

- 4.3.6 The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-7).

Secondary and Statutory Resources

4.3.7 Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological studies, archaeological reports associated with development control, landscape studies, dissertations and research frameworks are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment.

Walkover Survey

4.3.8 The Site is visited for a walkover survey. This is for the purpose of:

- Identifying any historic landscape features not shown on maps.
- Conducting a rapid survey for archaeological features.
- Making a note of any surface scatters of archaeological material.
- Identifying constraints or areas of disturbance that may affect archaeological investigation.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 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 (500m radius centred on each site of the PDA), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. There are no Conservation Areas, Scheduled Monuments or Protected Military Remains within the search area. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed in Table 1.

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	c. 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		

5.1.2 There Kent HER records within the 500m assessment are relate to the PDA’s close position in relation to the Barton Roman Villa and the nearby Roman Road thought to follow the line of the present Loose Road, along with the impact of the Second World War with anti-tank ditches and other related defence structures. The table in Figure 14 details all the finds, features and buildings within the assessment area.

5.2 Designated Heritage Assets

- 5.2.1 One of the tasks of the site visit was aimed to identify any designated heritage assets within the wider context of the PDA in accordance with The Setting of Heritage Assets – English Heritage Guidance (English Heritage 2011).
- 5.2.2 This guidance states that “setting embraces all of the surroundings (land, sea, structures, features and skyline) from which the heritage asset can be experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset” (The Setting of Heritage Assets, English Heritage 2011).
- 5.2.3 There are two listed heritage assets within the assessment area and two undesignated heritage assets. The designated listed buildings are Grade II listed. Neither listed asset or undesignated heritage asset has any intervisibility with the PDA and are located towards the outer reaches of the assessment area.

Table 1 Designated Heritage Assets

TQ 75 NE 620	Post Medieval Modern	135-141 Upper Stone Street, Maidstone. Grade II listed (1225552). One building now sub-divided. A timber-framed structure of 2 storeys refronted with stucco but retaining the overhang of the 1st
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		floor. Tiled roof hipped at the south end. Modern casement windows and shopfront. Circa 1900 onwards
TQ 75 NE 974	Modern	The Tabernacle, the Mote Cricket Club. Grade II listed (1416462). A private cricket pavilion built by 1908 for Lord Bearsted, owner of Mote Park, in Vernacular Revival style.
TQ 75 NE 975	Modern	The Mote Cricket Pavilion, an early 20th century building.
TQ 75 NE 1002	Post Medieval to Modern	St Philip's Church built sometime between 1851 and 1862. It is now linked with All Saint's Church, Maidstone and is still in use.

5.3 Previous Archaeological Works

- 5.3.1 There have been a number of archaeological events in the assessment area. The excavations closest to the school are discussed in more detail below. The first in 1870 with the excavation of the Roman Villa, and others in more recent years in relation to the various buildings works undertaken at the school.
- 5.3.2 The Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT) undertook a watching brief for a new access road at the school in 2011 (EKE 11642). This was located just to the south of the school buildings that line the northern boundary, circa 80m north west of the PDA. No archaeological finds or features were observed (*Unpublished document: Canterbury Archaeological Trust. 2011. Negative Watching Brief: Maidstone Grammar School for Boys, Barton Road, Maidstone*).
- 5.3.3 CAT undertook a watching brief in 1998 in an area to the south west of the school playing field for a new tennis court and play area circa 20m south west of the PDA (EKE 5463). No archaeological finds or features were found due to the shallow depth of the topsoil removed (*Unpublished document: Canterbury Archaeological Trust. 1998. An Archaeological watching brief at Maidstone Grammar School, Maidstone*).
- 5.3.4 In 2003, Archaeology South-East undertook a test pit evaluation ahead of construction for a new school building circa 120m west of the PDA and circa 50m south west of where the expected Roman villa is thought to be located (EKE 9586). Finds and features in this area related to Post Medieval pits and ditches with 19th century tile, clay pipe and pottery. Further evaluation in the form of a watching brief in the same area in 2004 found a Post Medieval gully (EKE 8851). Nothing of Roman date was observed (*Unpublished document: Archaeology South-East*).

2003. An Archaeological Evaluation on land at the Boys' Grammar School, Barton Road, Maidstone and Unpublished document: Archaeology South-East. An Archaeological Watching Brief at the Boy's Grammar School, Barton Road, Maidstone, Kent).

- 5.3.5 In 2008, CAT undertook a watching brief of groundworks in an area close to the northern boundary of the school, circa 65m north, north west of the PDA (EKE 10660). Two small fragments of tegulae were found that relate to the nearby Roman villa. The edge of the known WWII air raid shelter was unintentionally exposed, revealing its construction (*Unpublished document: Canterbury Archaeological Trust. 2008. Report on a Watching Brief at Maidstone Grammar School, Barton Road, Maidstone, Kent).*
- 5.3.6 In 2016, a ground penetrating radar survey (GPR) was undertaken surveying the playing fields, initially to identify any unchartered air raid shelters. The playing fields were split into 50m square grids, of which the PDA falls into grids 5 and 4 on the western side and grid 4 and 3 on the eastern side. Grid 5 and 4 is the area where we would expect there to be possible remains of the anti-tank ditch. The result did identify area of disturbed ground within those grids, but not at the locations within the grids expected for the anti-tank ditches nor at a depth expected for anti-tank ditches (*Unpublished Document: Specialist Survey Contractors. 2016. Ground Penetrating Radar Survey of Playing Fields: Maidstone Grammar School for Boys).*
- 5.3.7 In 2017, SWAT Archaeology undertook a watching brief at three locations within the school grounds. One at the Performing Arts centre on the northern boundary, west of the tennis courts. Another at the Science and Computing building, north east of the quadrangle and another at the new Pavilion building, location towards the south west corner of the playing field. No archaeological features or finds were observed (*Unpublished Document: SWAT Archaeology. 2018. Archaeological Watching brief on land at Maidstone Grammar School, Barton Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 7BT).*

Barton Roman Villa

- 5.3.8 In 1870, a Roman Villa was excavated by Mr Roach Smith and an article published in the *Archaeologia Cantiana* in 1876. In 1870, the site was a hop field owned by a Mr Fauchon. It was interpreted that only one half of the foundations were revealed during the excavation and that the villa was thought to continue towards the west and south. It was mentioned in the foundations were not in a good state of preservation and that in the western area that foundations were previously grubbed out. Some rooms contained hypocaust. The 1876 article did include a plan of the villa with a north arrow and scale (*Roach Smith, C. 1876. On a Roman Villa near Maidstone. Archaeologia Cantiana. Vol. 10. pp. 163-172.*)
- 5.3.9 Whilst the article does include a plan, it is not possible from that plan to accurately locate it in the landscape. The only identifying feature is a boundary line marked on the plan. Using the scale, the plan has been overlaid onto Google Earth in the approximate location used on the historical OS maps. Based on the boundary line on the plan and plotting this onto maps of the period suggests that the north arrow in the plan does not match the angle of the boundary line and suggests that the villa plan should be turned at a slight angle (Fig. 13).
- 5.3.10 The School history mentions that the '*Roman villa lies under the area between the Gatehouse and the canteen, referring to excavations in the 1930s and 1950s, which the area now covered by tarmac*'. However, it does not appear that there are any records relating to these excavations and this area mentioned is slightly to the east of the area identified on the OS maps. It is possible what was uncovered in the 1930s and 1950s were additional new elements not excavated in 1870 or that the location of the 1870 excavation site was found and is possibly located on maps slightly too far to the west.

Air Raid Shelters

- 5.3.11 There is a known air raid shelter in the northern area of the school site with the entrance caged off behind the Sixth Form building. It was exposed in 2008 with the construction of the building and the area of the air raid shelter underneath the building was bridged over. The shelter is known to extend west, east and south from the entrance. Southwards is no longer possible due to the Sixth Form Building. The area westwards underneath the Science and Computing block was

filled with boulders. The eastern arm underneath the Applied Learning Centre was bridged.

- 5.3.12 Late 2017, during drainage works on the edge of the playing field, the school, circa 10m south from the south western corner of the quadrangle building a possible second air raid shelter was found. This one contained earth and the eastern edge of the structure was determined with the structure heading westwards towards the gardens that are south of the School House. The location of this air raid shelter would have actually been to the west of the anti-tank ditch and meant that for the school there would have been two air raid shelters entrance either end of the opposite sides of the quadrangle. This new structure is potentially the feature picked up in the north western portion of Grid 5 of the GPR survey.

Landscape Characterisation

- 5.3.13 The PDA is in an area characterised by KCC Historic Landscape Characterisation of 'post 1810 settlement (general)' (Fig. 15).

Medway Valley Palaeolithic Project

- 5.3.14 The PDA is situated within the Palaeolithic area designated 51. No finds have been found from designated area 51 and therefore the likelihood of finds is classed as low (Fig. 16).

Designations

- 5.3.15 There are a number of designations surrounding the PDA within the assessment area (Fig. 17). To the east is the nationally registered Historic Park and Garden of Mote Park. An 18th and 19th century landscape park created from an earlier deer park, set at the east edge of Maidstone. The park surrounds a 1790s country house with informal, mid-19th century pleasure grounds. The earthwork remains of an earlier formal garden of the early to mid-18th century, related to the site of the former mansion, lie within the park. The area in Mote Park that includes the leisure centre is an Historic Park and Garden.
- 5.3.16 To the south west of the PDA is South Park, an Historic Park and Garden. It is a neighbourhood park devolved from meadowland designed by Bunyards of Maidstone in 1929. Features include tennis courts, bowling and putting greens, football and hockey pitches, a pond and a tree belt.

Cropmarks

- 5.3.17 The KHER cropmarks refer to the position of the anti-tank ditches (Fig. 18). These were put into place as part of the wider defence strategy around Maidstone in the Second World War (Fig. 12). It formed part of the Newhaven-Cliffe branch of the GHQ line. It was defenced with pillboxes, anti-tank gun emplacements and anti-tank ditches. Maidstone was considered an important nodal point with a 'fortress' with an officially designated garrison. As a result, Maidstone was surrounded by an anti-tank ditch on the eastern perimeter. It is not known what the ditches at the school were constructed of, but the School's wartime issue of the 'Maidstonian' refers to the ditches having concrete spikes known as dragons teeth in the pits. The school also mentions that one of these dragons teeth was found when putting in the foundations for the technology centre in 1981. This suggests that potentially there are still the possibility of remains in situ relating to the anti-tank ditches. Half of the anti-tank ditch survival along the northern side would have been impacted by the building of the new school buildings to the east of the quadrangle. It is likely that the ones south of the quadrangle are less disturbed (Plates 8 and 9).
- 5.3.18 Based on data from Hoo and the Stop line there, lengths of anti-tank ditches were excavated, generally to a depth of 6 feet (1.83m) and a width of 15 feet (4.57 m). Anti-tank ditches constructed during the Second World War were generally V-shaped or square in profile, designed to trap vehicles or to present them with an impossible to climb vertical face. The 1940 photos suggest these ditches were V shaped.

0-100m Radius

- 5.3.19 There are five KHER entries for this area. Within the PDA, is part of the anti-tank ditch that once surrounded the eastern portion of the defence of Maidstone during World War II (TQ 75 SE 57). Circa 50m north east of the PDA is another arm of the anti-tank ditch that ran in an east/west axis in the northern part of the school (TQ 75 SE 58). Also, in relation to the Second World War is the school's air raid shelter, which is preserved under the new learning centre circa 100m north east of the PDA (TQ 75 SE 352).

- 5.3.20 Circa 100m to the north west of the PDA is Roman villa location (TQ 75 SE 18). The full extent of the Roman villa has not been excavated and the 1870 plan cannot be exactly pinpointed into the landscape. Also, the school comments that more of the villa was found near the gatehouse. As a consequence, it is not clear how close to the PDA the remains of the villa and its artefacts are likely to be found. Circa 50m west of the PDA an excavation discovered Post Medieval features pits and ditches as well as finds of pottery, clay pipes, glass bottles and animal bones, amongst other items (TQ 75 SE 140).

100-200m Radius

- 5.3.21 There are two KHER entries for this area. Circa 130m, north, north west of the PDA, in a garden was found a bronze Roman brooch dated to 65-80 AD (TQ 75 SE 33). On the Loose Road, circa 200m west, south west are the remains on anti-tank blocks that was part of the defence of Maidstone in the Second World War (TQ 75 SE 142).

200-300m Radius

- 5.3.22 There are six KHER entries for this area. To the west of the PDA is Loose Road which follows the line of an earlier Roman Road that travelled from Rochester, through Maidstone towards Hastings (TQ 75 SE 36). Whilst exact location of the road has been found in various places along its length, the portion near to the PDA has not been determined. Circa 300m south west of the Historic Park and Garden of South Park (TQ 75 SE 356). To the south, south west was the farmstead of Cherry Garden (MKE 84741). This farmstead had agricultural buildings to four sides of the yard with the farmhouse originally in a detached central position. The farmstead has since been demolished and replaced by residential housing. There was also an oast house in relation to Cherry gardens circa 280m south of the PDA (TQ 75 SE 371), which has also been demolished and replaced with housing. Along the Loose Road, there was also a tramway which opened in 1904 and closed by 1930 (TQ 75 SE 296). It came from Barming, via Maidstone and travelled onto Loose where there was a depot. Circa 300m north east of the PDA, is Mote Cricket Club, which started in the 19th century (TQ 75 NE 977) and is a landscape KHER record.

300-400m Radius

5.3.23 There are five KHER records for this area. Circa 350m north west is St. Philip's Church built to support the increased urbanisation of the area in the mid-19th century (TQ 75 NE 1002). The church is still in use. Circa 350m to the north east close to the rugby ground pavilion on the edge of Mote park, close to the cricket ground was an anti-tank ditch, part of the same circuit around the eastern portion of the Defence of Maidstone (TQ 75 NE 152). To the north west, circa 400m from the PDA, is 135-141 Upper Street Maidstone, a Grade II listed timber building (TQ 75 NE 620). East of the PDA, in this assessment area is the Registered Park and Garden of Mote Park that consists of a 17th and 18th century landscape (TQ 75 SE 338) and also a separate record for the 18th and 19th century landscape in the park (TQ 75 SE 341).

400-500m Radius

5.3.24 There are five KHER records for this area. A further portion of the Second World War anti-tank ditch is to the south west, 500m from the PDA (TQ 75 SE 56). Also, from the Second World War is the location of the flame trap on the Loose Road, circa 450m south, south west of the PDA (TQ 75 SE 144). 500m north east of the PDA is the farmstead of Pinfold, of a linear plan that exists with no apparent alteration (MKE 84767). There are two further records in relation to pavilions belonging to the Mote Cricket Club. The Tabernacle is Grade II listed built in 1908 (TQ 75 NE 974). A separate pavilion north of The Tabernacle is also early 20th century is recorded as a building of local interest (TQ 75 NE 975).

5.4 Archaeological and Historical Narrative

5.4.1 'Maidstone' derives from the Roman word 'Maduicœ' which translates to the Saxon word 'Med-wæge' meaning meadow and water probably referring to the settlement at the River Medway. Saxon charters record the name as de 'maeides stana' and 'maegdan stane' meaning stone of the maidens or stone of the people possibly referring to the prehistoric megaliths that survive within the local area. There is evidence of occupation at Maidstone from the earliest periods of human history.

- 5.4.2 The Roman road to nearby Rochester (TQ 74 SE 36) passed through the town of modern day Maidstone, transporting goods from the coastal ports and the local sandstone, known as Kentish Rag stone, to other parts of the country. The remains of two Roman villas survive within the town, one imminently next to the PDA and another located at the Mount, south of Maidstone Barracks and north of the railway station.

Maidstone was the meeting place of the hundred (parish) and by the time of the Domesday Book in 1086 it was a village of over 250 inhabitants and the manor of Maidstone was under the ownership of the Archbishop of Canterbury and known for its five watermills, which made it the principal grain market in the county. In 1170 the murder of Thomas Becket the Archbishop of Canterbury, caused the church to venerate him as a saint and so Canterbury became one of the most important sites for pilgrims. The pilgrims passed through Maidstone and in 1260 Archbishop Boniface established a hospital for the care of wayfarers, particularly those on pilgrimage, and a chapel, which later became St Peter's Church.

- 5.4.3 By the 13th century, Maidstone had developed from a village into a town and in 1267, a charter granted the town the right to hold weekly markets and an annual fair. The River Medway, c.500m west of the PDA, had long been used as a transport route and continued to convey locally grown fruit and vegetables to the markets of London and to bring hides for the local tanners on the return journey.
- 5.4.4 During the Medieval period the town continued to expand and in 1348 the Archbishop's Palace, situated on the bank of the River Medway was built on the site of a resting house used by the Archbishops when travelling from London to Canterbury.
- 5.4.5 In the same year the Black Death arrived and decimated the population by one third. The loss of population caused starvation and hardship among the remaining residents and the announcement of a poll tax increased the discontent. Penenden Heath, one mile to the northeast, was a shire moot, assembly area and place of execution and the site of a famous trial between Odo Bishop of Bayeux, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the half-brother of William the Conqueror. In 1381 it became renowned for being the assembly point for the 'Peasants Revolt' led by Wat Tyler.

- 5.4.6 Despite spasmodic returns of disease, the town began to recover and in 1395 the Norman parish church of St Mary was demolished and the new church of All Saints erected and the 'College of Secular Canons' founded by Archbishop Courtenay. The Archbishops resided there until the reformation and the carved sedilia and the twenty-eight oak seats used by the collegiate priests are still in the church.
- 5.4.7 The town was also the home of the Guild of Corpus Christi a religious guild whose principal object was the to provide for and promote the decorous observance of the Feast of Corpus Christi. Members of the guild employed a chaplain who said prayers for their souls when they died and looked after its members in old age and in times of sickness. The Guild was dissolved but the assembly hall still survives.
- 5.4.8 In 1549 Maidstone was incorporated and the town was authorised to build a grammar school, which was endowed with the Guild's estates with the school located at the Corpus Christi Hall on Earl Street. The town rebelled against the crown in 1551, in support of their kinsman Thomas Wyatt the poet, who was charged for committing adultery with Anne Boleyn and as a consequence the charter of incorporation was revoked. Five years later a new charter was established and Maidstone was created a borough.
- 5.4.9 In 1567, the Walloons, a French speaking Belgic people, settled here and introduced the manufacture of linen and woollen goods. Despite outbreaks of plague the woollen industry thrived and the population continued to grow. During the 16th century and 17th century Maidstone grew increasingly important. Its population grew from about 2,000 in 1500 to about 2,500 in 1600 and about 3,000 in 1650. This was despite outbreaks of the plague. Like all towns Maidstone suffered epidemics. It struck in 1563, 1575, 1595, 1604, 1669 and 1626. The last outbreak of plague was in 1666.
- 5.4.10 At the end of the 17th century the wool trade went into decline it was succeeded by papermaking. Kent Paper Works can be seen on the OS Map on the east side of Upper Stone Street. Anthony Woodville, Lord Rivers, whose sister Elizabeth Woodville married King Edward IV, was patron of William Caxton the printer and the Woodvilles made their home at Mote Park on the edge of the town.

- 5.4.11 During the English Civil War, Maidstone was firmly on the side of the Parliamentarians until parliament outlawed traditional ceremonies. On 1 June 1648, during the "Second English Civil War" the Battle of Maidstone took place between some 2,000 Royalist forces governed by Sir James Pearse, and General Fairfax and his army of dragoons. At first the Royalists managed to repulse the enemy but by midnight the remaining Royalists had been driven into the churchyard, and finally surrendered. 300 Royalists died in the battle, and 1,300 were captured and between 30 and 80 of Fairfax's men were killed.
- 5.4.12 In advance of the possible invasion of Napoleon, a local militia of Kent Volunteers was trained to defend the county. In response, two army barracks, which later became the home of the West Kent Regiment, were built and in 1799, King George III and Prime Minister William Pitt visited Mote Park to inspect 3,000 assembled troops.
- 5.4.13 In the 19th Century the channels of the River Medway were deepened to allow for more efficient transportation of goods and the town underwent considerable improvements with the installation of sewers, drainage, electricity and trams.
- 5.4.14 By the early 18th century the population of Maidstone had probably reached 4,000. It doubled by the end of the century. In 1801, the population of Maidstone was just over 8,000. By the standards of the time it was quite a large town. It grew rapidly. By 1851 the population had risen to over 20,000. By the end of the century it was over 33,000. In 1819 Maidstone gained its first police force and in 1822 it gained gas light.
- 5.4.15 In 1871, the Grammar School moved location to a site on Tonbridge Road to allow for the increased numbers of students and a being a location less commercial away from the centre of town. There was another move in 1930 to its present site in Barton Road for more space for larger buildings and a large playing field with land donated by George Foster-Clark, Justice of the Peace and Alderman of the Borough of Maidstone.
- 5.4.16 Detling, just to the North of the town, was a Naval Air station during the First World War, and served the Royal Air Force during the Second World War. Maidstone suffered bomb damage from Luftwaffe bombers, V-1 flying bombs and V-2 rockets and on 13 June 1944, the first night of the flying bomb attacks on

London, eight shells hit Maidstone. At the school site in Barton Road, air raid shelters were built that were large enough for over 300 people. In September 1940, bombs landed near the school at the Foster Clark Estate, Greenside, Birch Tree Way and South Park Road. The south eastern corner of the main quadrangle building in wartime was made into a machine gun post.

- 5.4.17 The school continued to develop with additional buildings added. In 1960 the south block was opened including a library, small halls and other classrooms. In 1981, a technology block was built, with further classroom built in 1993, along with a new maths, history and art block in 2005, and an applied learning centre in 2010. In 2011 the sixth form and food technology centre were built.

5.5 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

Andrews, Dury and Herbert map of 1769

- 5.5.1 Andrews, Dury and Herbert published their atlas some thirty years before the Ordnance Survey, immediately becoming the best large-scale maps of the county. This shows a sparsely populated rural landscape south of Maidstone. It is to the east of the Loose Road, just south of the junction with the Old Tovil Road, with Mote Park to the east of the PDA (Fig. 3)

Hasted, 1798

- 5.5.2 The area around is still sparsely populated. There is little difference compared to the previous map (Fig. 4).

Ordnance Surveyors Drawings 1797

- 5.5.3 This map shows the individual buildings and essentially shows an agricultural landscape. The PDA is located within a field of which there are other fields nearby containing orchards. There is a cluster of housing around the junction of Loose Road and Old Tovil Road but the urbanisation of Maidstone southwards has not yet started (Fig. 5).

Tithe Map from 1841

- 5.5.4 The tithe map shows greater detail. The PDA is a part of field 4119. It is referred to as 'The Old Ground' and contained hops. It is owned by George Edward Sayer

and occupied by James Fauchon, who lives in plot 4111 to the north west of the PDA in a house opposite the Old Tovil Road junction. New housing being a row of terraced housing has been built south of the junction on the western side of Loose Road. The area is still essentially rural. (Fig. 6).

Historic OS Map 1870 six inch to the mile

5.5.5 This is the first scaled OS Map. The row of terraced houses is labelled as Sheal's Cottagers. The PDA is still a field and based on the excavation in the Archaeologia Cantiana, it is still a hop field at this point in time. To the south of the PDA are orchards and the farmstead of Cherry Garden (Fig. 7).

Historic OS Map from 1898 six inch to the mile

5.5.6 There is little change to the PDA. However, following the 1870 excavation, the OS map shows the site of a Roman Villa. To the north, St Philip's church and Vicarage can be seen. Little else has changed (Fig.8).

Historic OS Map 1907 six inch to the mile

5.5.7 The PDA has not changed but nearby there has been changes. A row of terraced houses has been built on the eastern side of Loose Road, to the west of the PDA. At the southern end of this terrace there is now a large building labelled as a laundry. North of the terraced houses is a new road called Barton Road and St. Philip's Avenue with terraced housing beginning to be built along them. The field to the east of St Philip's Avenue is still a field. The area to the south is still orchards and the Cherry Gardens farmstead (Fig.9).

Historic OS Map 1936 six inch to the mile

5.5.8 There have been significant changes. The quadrangle of the Grammar School is now showing being the original building, with the PDA located on the playing fields, which also includes a pavilion to the south east of the PDA. Directly to the east of the Roman Villa (site of) is the gatehouse to the school. To the north east of the PDA, what was previously a field is now complete with residential housing called the Foster Clark Estate. To the south of the PDA is still orchards and Cherry Garden is now referred to as Cherry Grounds. East of the orchards is another new housing estate in what was the western edge of Mote Park (Fig.10).

Historic OS Map 1946 six inch to the mile

- 5.5.9 More residential housing has been built in the Cherry Gardens area and orchards. The laundry building is still in existence south west of the PDA (Fig.11).

5.6 Aerial Photographs

1940s

- 5.6.1 This photograph clearly shows the anti-tank ditches, one from the east the adjoins the western quadrangle of the school with rows of dragons teeth between the end of the ditch and the school building. The other initially traversing south from the southern quadrangle of the school. The corner of the quadrangle in between would have been the machine gun post. Along the northern school boundary, there are a number of small buildings relating to the school that are nissen huts. North and south of the school are the residential estates with their gardens backing onto the school boundary. South west of the school is the laundry building. (Plate 1).

1960s

- 5.6.2 This is a clearer photograph. It appears that all elements of the anti-tank ditches have been removed. To the east of the quadrangle a new diamond shaped school building has been built. To the west of the gatehouse area there is a new long building being the refectory, along with two courts in between the refectory and the laundry. The feature along the northern side of the school boundary in the far eastern corner is a swimming pool. South of the swimming pool can be seen a faint cropmark of where the anti-tank ditch was (Plate 2).

1990

- 5.6.3 The PDA is still playing fields and further school building being the Technology Block are seen to the east of the quadrangle. The court area to the south west of the gatehouse has been replaced with a rectangular building being the Sports Hall. (Plate 3).

2003

- 5.6.4 The swimming pool has been replaced with two tennis courts in the north eastern corner. South west of the gatehouse, mobile classrooms can be seen around the rectangular building. In the south western corner of the playing field there is now another hard court with mobile classrooms to the north of that (Plate 4).

2007

- 5.6.5 More new buildings have replaced the refectory south west of the gatehouse being a new refectory and the mobile classrooms in that area are no longer showing. (Plate 5).

2013

- 5.6.6 No changes are noted other than the Sixth Form and Applied Learning Centre building have been constructed along the northern boundary (Plate 6).

2018

- 5.6.7 A new block for Science and Computing has been built to replaced part of the 1960s block on the far northern boundary just to the east of the quadrangle and the Performing Arts Centre, just west of the tennis courts has been built. No other changes are noted. (Plate 7).

5.7 Walkover Survey

- 5.7.1 The walkover survey is not intended as a detailed survey but the rapid identification of archaeological features and any evidence for buried archaeology in the form of surface scatters of lithic or pottery artefacts. The walkover survey was undertaken on the 20th September 2018. No artefacts or archaeological features were identified in the walkover (Plates 10-14).
- 5.7.2 The PDA is predominately a grassed playing field with an artificial cricket wicket. It slopes downwards to the north. There was no evidence on the ground of any prior ground disturbance other than the area alongside the new Pavilion at the western end of the playing field that was still fence off and shown disturbance from the recent service trench and soakaway.

- 5.7.3 Of note is the difference in ground levels between the main school building and the playing fields (Fig. 14). If it is possible during the original construction of the school buildings to level them into the landscape, that the excess soil was added in the area of the playing fields. Therefore, it is unclear whether there is an element of made ground and potentially how deep the anti-tank trench may be as a result, which may explain why such a ditch was not showing on the GPR.

5.8 Summary of Potential

Palaeolithic

- 5.8.1 The Palaeolithic period represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the 500m assessment area. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Mesolithic

- 5.8.2 The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Neolithic

- 5.8.3 The Neolithic period was the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. Therefore, potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Bronze Age

- 5.8.4 The Bronze Age was a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Iron Age

- 5.8.5 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 Kent HER no records from this period within the assessment area. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Romano-British

- 5.8.6 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 Kent HER three records from this period within the assessment area. The Roman villa to the north west of the PDA, of which the location and plan of the villa is not clearly known and therefore there is the possibility that elements extend to the south and east of the expected location towards the PDA. A Roman brooch was also found nearby in a garden and the villa location would have been to the east of a Roman Road travelling from Rochester to Hastings via Maidstone. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Anglo-Saxon

- 5.8.7 The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Medieval

- 5.8.8 The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Post Medieval

- 5.8.9 The Kent HER has nine records from this period within the assessment area. The landscape of Mote park and its cricket club to the east and north east contributes three records. There is a listed building in Upper Stone Street to the north west and the nearby mid-Victorian Church of St. Philips. Based on map regression, it suggests the area in the Post Medieval period was agricultural. There were two

farmsteads, one to the south called Cherry Gardens, with accompanying oast house, which has since been destroyed and to the north and extant, Pinfold. However, close by to the PDA, within school grounds, Post Medieval features and finds have been found. Therefore, the potential of finding remains that date to this period cannot be entirely discounted within the confines of the development site but it is considered **moderate**.

Modern

5.8.10 KHER has 11 records dating to this period. The majority of records in this area relate to features from the Second World War. The anti-tank ditch is recorded in various locations, two within the school grounds with one located within the PDA itself. The others at various locations outside of the school to the north east and south west. In addition, anti-tank blocks and the location of a flame thrower are on the Loose Road. The other modern feature are the Historic Garden and Park of South Park, Mote cricket club pavilions and the tramway on the Loose Road that went out of use in 1930. Given the location of the anti-tank ditch within the PDA, the potential for finding remains dating to this period in the PDA is considered **high**.

Overview

5.8.11 This desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site but this potential can only be tested by fieldwork.

5.8.12 The desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site. Archaeological investigations in the vicinity, map research, the historical environment record results and recent archaeological investigations have shown that the PDA may contain archaeological sites and these can be summarised as:

- Prehistoric: **low**
- Iron Age: **low**
- Roman: **high**
- Anglo-Saxon: **low**

- Medieval: **low**
- Post-Medieval: **moderate**
- Modern: **high**

6 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Cartographic Regression, Topographical Analysis, and Historic Research have provided evidence for the historic use of the site. By collating this information, we have assessed the impact on previous archaeological remains through the following method of categorisation:

- **Total Impact** - Where the area has undergone a destructive process to a depth that would in all probability have destroyed any archaeological remains e.g. construction, mining, quarrying, archaeological evaluations etc.
- **High Impact** – Where the ground level has been reduced to below natural geographical levels that would leave archaeological remains partly in situ either in plan or section e.g. the construction of roads, railways, buildings, strip foundations etc.
- **Medium Impact** – Where there has been low level or random disturbance of the ground that would result in the survival of archaeological remains in areas undisturbed e.g. the installation of services, pad-stone or piled foundations, temporary structures etc.
- **Low Impact** – Where the ground has been penetrated to a very low level e.g. farming, landscaping, slab foundation etc.

6.2 Historic Impacts

6.2.1 Cartographic regression (5.5), Topographic analysis (1.2) and Historical research (5.4) indicate that the PDA was agricultural land until the school came to the site in 1930 where it became a playing field. During the Second World War as part of the defence of Maidstone and anti-tank ditch was constructed, one along the northern boundary on an east west axis up to the eastern side of the quadrangle building and one initially on a north south axis from the southern quadrangle

building , which crossed the PDA and then turned. The location of the ditch across the PDA can be reasonably accurate given the overlay of the 1940 photograph. However, it is not known what the ditch lined with and what it was later filled with but there would have been significant truncation and disturbance in that area. Given the size of such ditches, which are about 1.8m in depth, it would have been expected that the GPR would have shown some disturbance. However, it does not appear to be the case. The construction of the ditch itself would have likely to have totally destroyed any archaeological evidence in relation to earlier archaeological periods prior to the Second World War. However, given that this area has been a playing field post war, aside from the filling in, there is still likely to be archaeological evidence surviving below ground of the ditch. Therefore, any impact on surviving archaeological remains would have been **high/total** in the area of the anti-tank ditch in relation to archaeological periods pre-Second World War and post Second World War, there is likely to have been a **low** impact.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 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 may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.
- 7.1.2 The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential for the Roman and Modern period, moderate for the Post Medieval period and **low** potential for all other periods. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities.

8 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Archive

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

8.2 Reliability/Limitations of Sources

- 8.2.1 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.

8.3 Copyright

- 8.3.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company and the author shall retain full copyright on the commissioned report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. All rights are reserved, excepting that it hereby provides exclusive licence to Maidstone Grammar School (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

Paul Wilkinson PhD MCIfA.

SWAT Archaeology

September 2018

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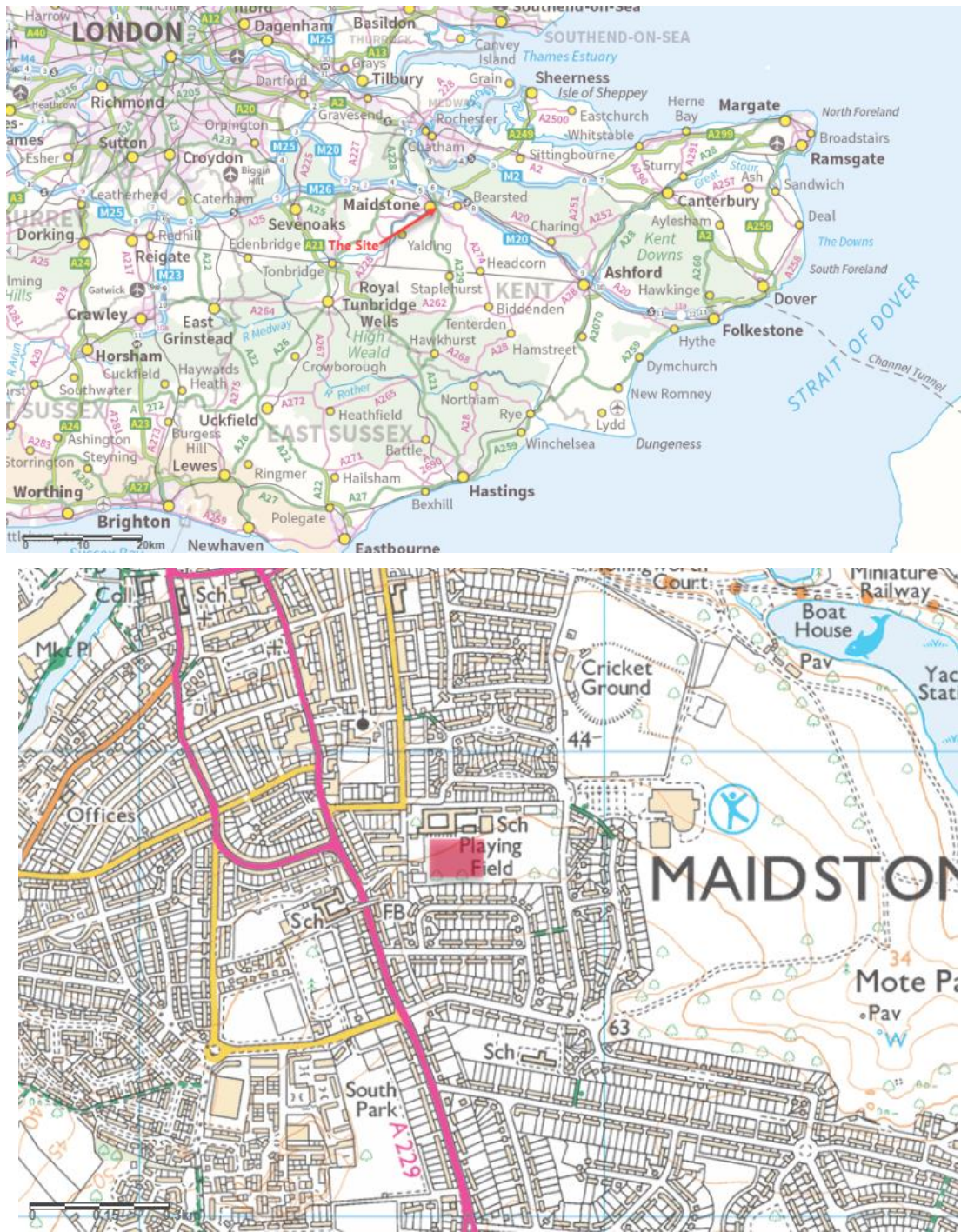


Figure 1: Site location map, scale 1:10000.

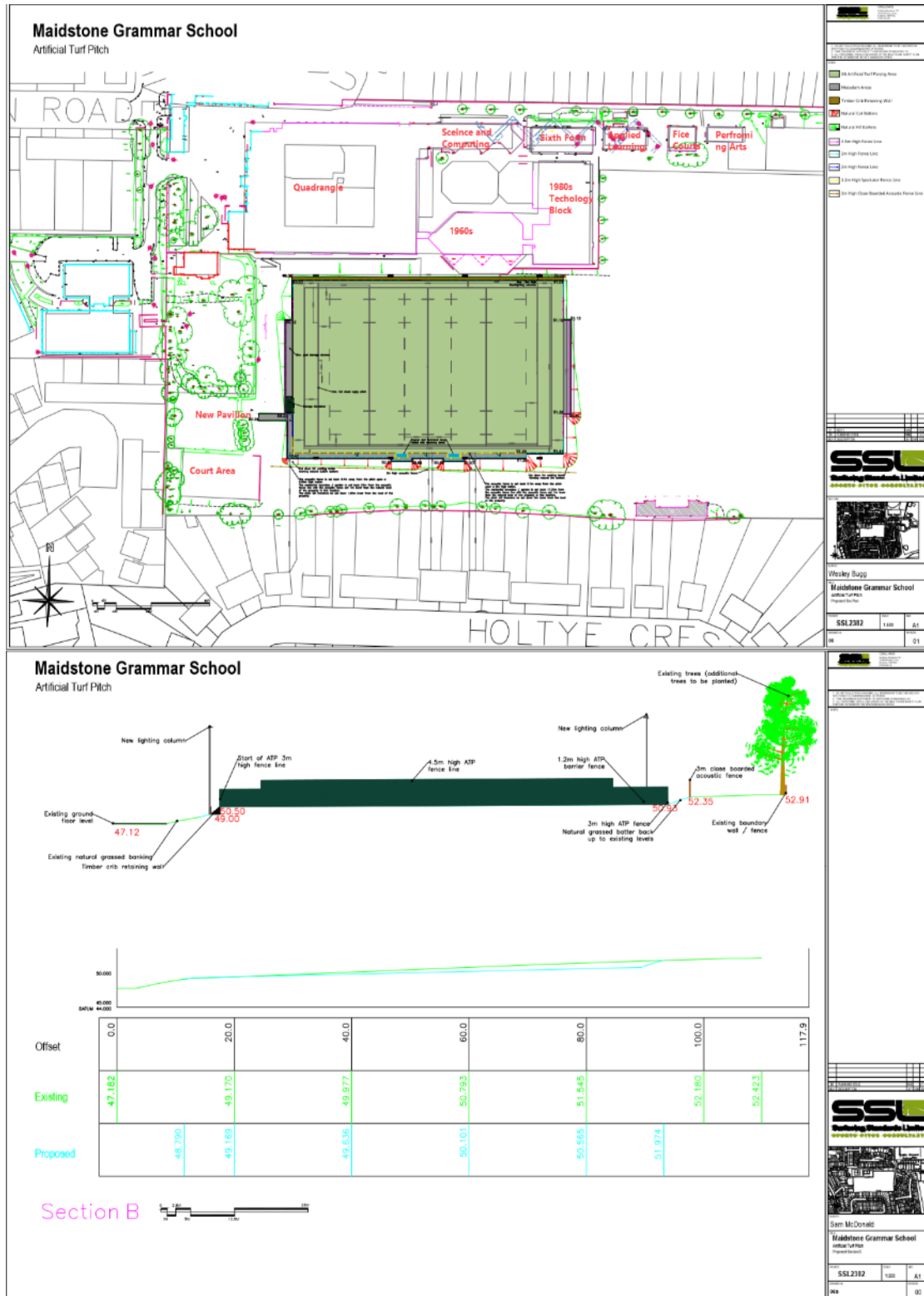


Figure 2: Proposed Development Area,



Figure 3: Andrew, Dury and Herbert Map from 1769



Figure 4: Hasted, 1798



Figure 5: Ordnance Surveyors Drawing, 1797

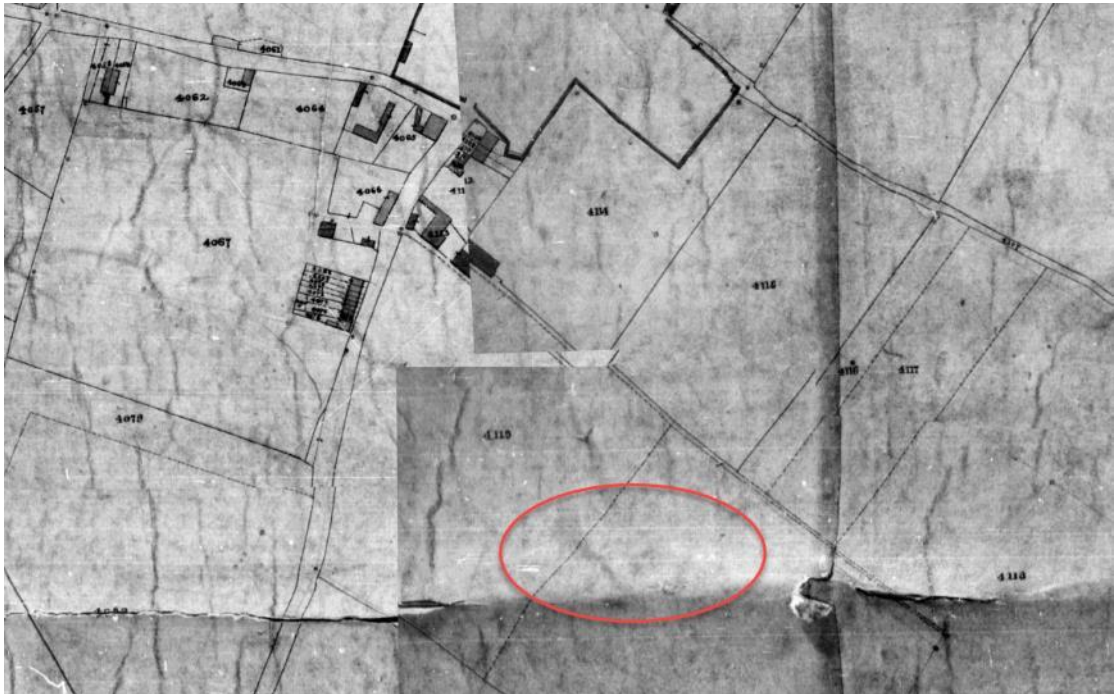


Figure 6: 1843 Tithe Map

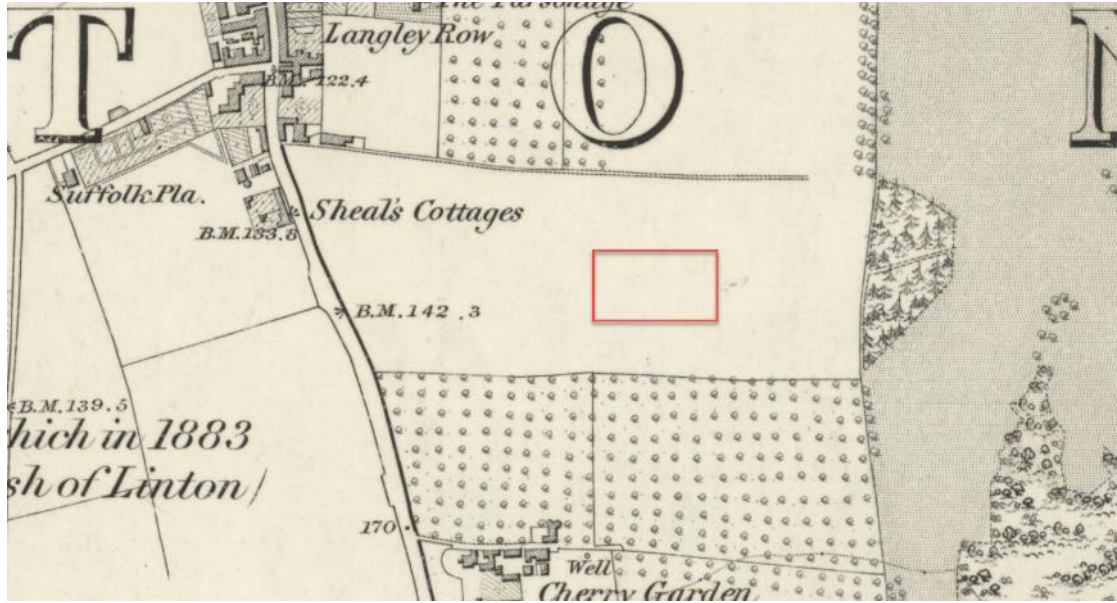


Figure 7: Historic OS Map 1870 six inch to the mile

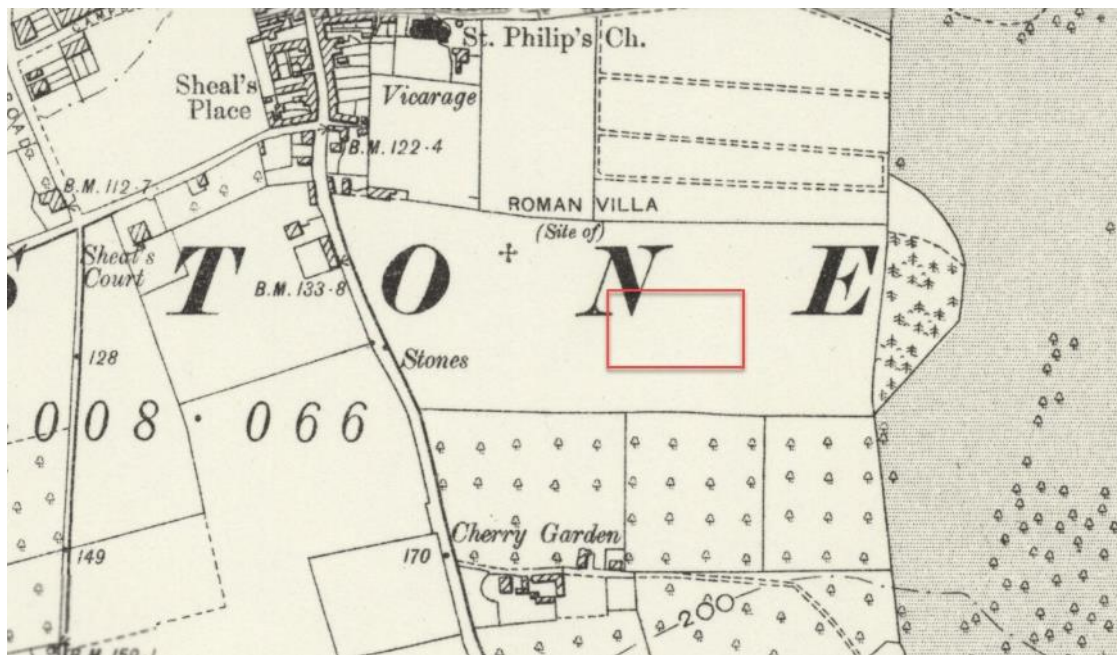


Figure 8: Historic OS Map from 1898 six inch to the mile



Figure 9: Historic OS Map 1907 six inch to the mile

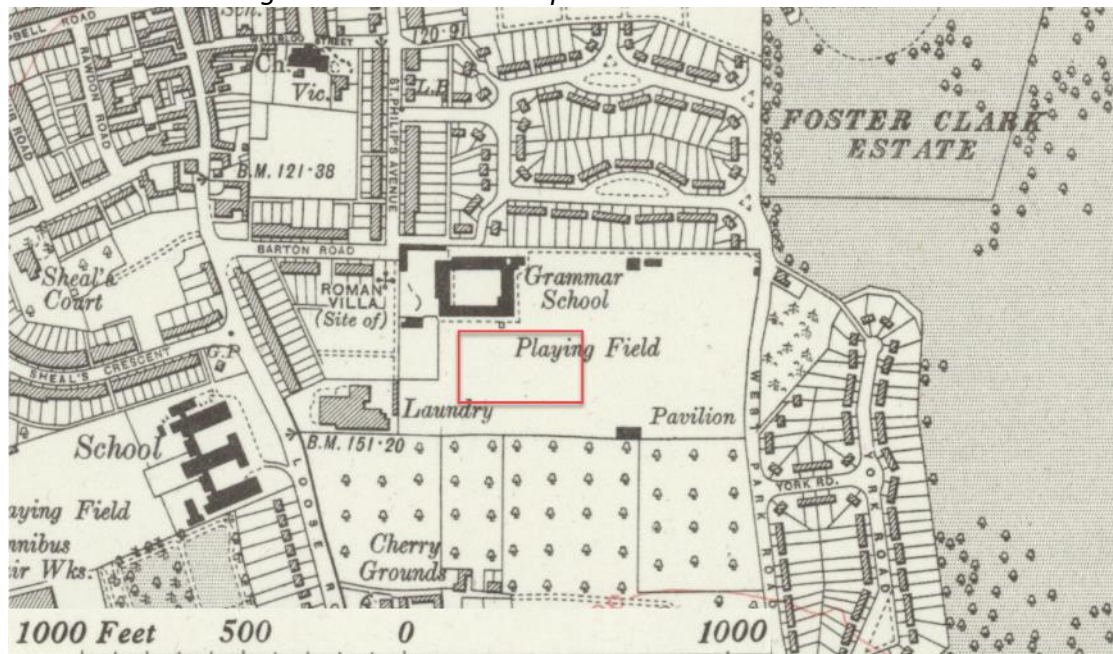


Figure 10: Historic OS Map 1936 six inch to the mile

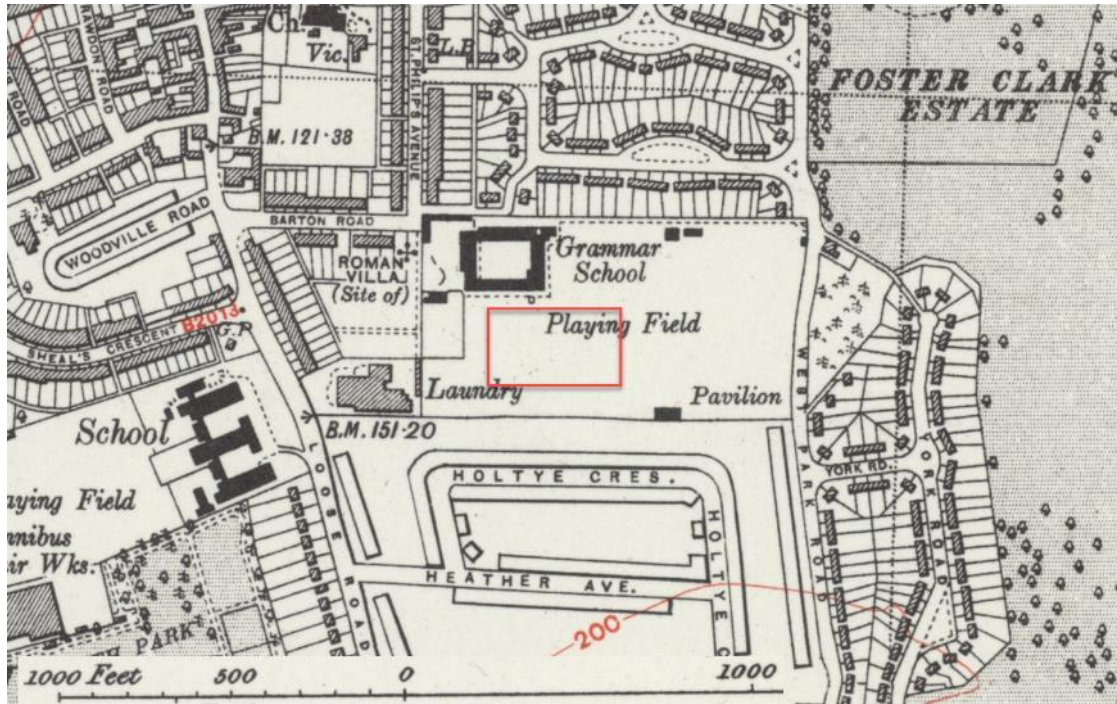


Figure 11: Historic OS Map 1946 six inch to the mile

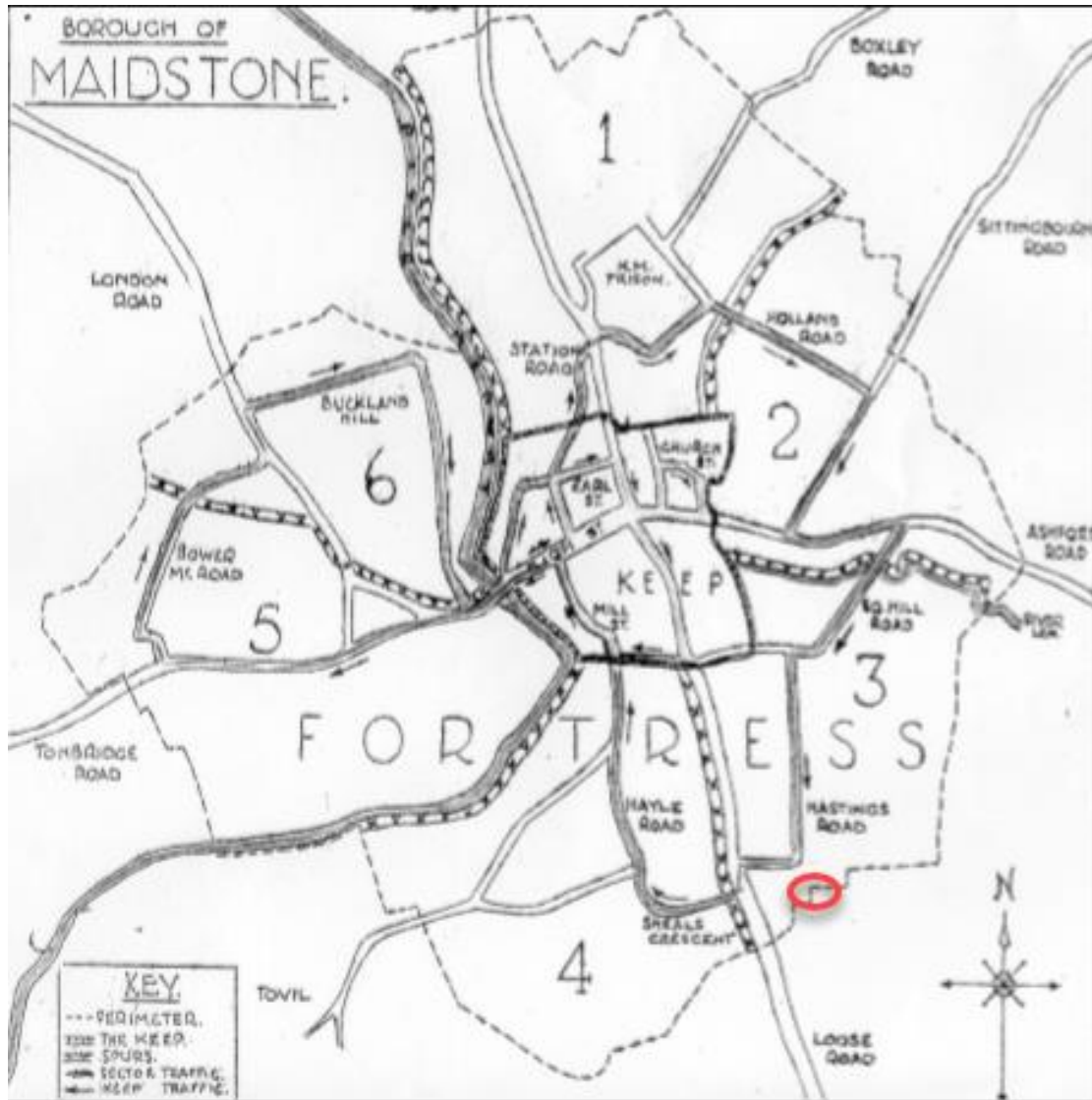


Figure 12: Map showing the fortress of Maidstone with the PDA location highlighted

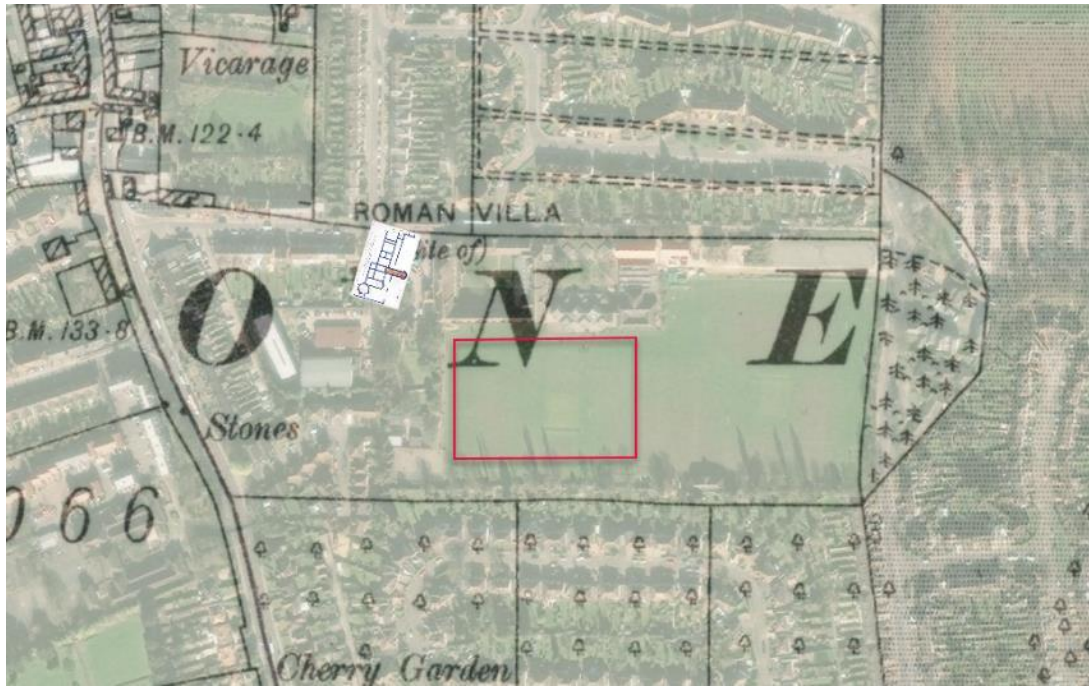


Figure 13: 1898 map, with villa plan overlaid onto Google Earth

10 APPENDIX 1 – KCC HER DATA (SEE FIGURES 14-18)

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
	HLC			The PDA is in an area characterised by KCC Historic Landscape Characterisation of '1810 settlement (general).
TQ 75 NE 152	Monument	c. 350m NE	Modern	Second World War anti-tank ditch near Rugby Ground Pavilion, Mote Park, Maidstone. Indicated by aerial photographs. The ditch was part of an interrupted circuit enclosing Maidstone. This section ran north-south for c. 140m.
TQ 75 SE 18	Monument	c. 100m NW	Roman	Roman Villa (Site of), Barton Road, Maidstone. Walls of a Roman villa, suggestive of a courtyard type, were uncovered at Maidstone in 1870 in a field east of the road to Loose and 250 yards south-east of St Philips Church. Traces of the villa were found while building the Boys Grammar School, 1929, but no details are given and nothing more is known at Maidstone Museum. Nothing is visible on the ground and no further finds were made when a house was erected some years ago a few yards from the siting given. No further information was obtained at the school where a watch for such evidence has been kept.
TQ 75 SE 33	Findspot	c. 130m NNW	Roman	Bronze Roman brooch c. AD 65-80, found in garden.
TQ 75 SE 56	Monument	c.500m SW	Modern	Second World War anti-tank ditch, part of the defences of Maidstone. Indicated by aerial photographs. The ditch was part of an interrupted circuit enclosing Maidstone
TQ 75 SE 57	Monument	Within PDA	Modern	World War II anti-tank ditch.

TQ 75 SE 58	Monument	c. 50m NE	Modern	A Second World War anti-tank ditch indicated by aerial photographs. The ditch was part of an interrupted circuit enclosing Maidstone.
TQ 75 NE 620	Listed Building	c. 400m NW	Post Medieval to Modern	135-141 Upper Stone Street, Maidstone. Grade II listed (1225552). One building now sub-divided. A timber-framed structure of 2 storeys refronted with stucco but retaining the overhang of the 1st floor. Tiled roof hipped at the south end. Modern casement windows and shopfront. Circa 1900 onwards
TQ 75 SE 140	Monument	c. 50m W	Post Medieval	Post medieval pits, ditches and features with associated small finds at Maidstone Grammar School, Barton, Road, Maidstone. Two small post medieval pits and ditches and two sub circular features. Post medieval finds (pottery, clay pipes, glass bottles, peg tiles, copper alloy knee buckle, bowl and animal bones).
TQ 75 SE 142	Monument	c. 200m WSW	Modern	Anti-tank blocks. A set (9) of Second World War 5 ft anti-tank blocks still exists at Loose Road, Maidstone, part of the southern defences of the town.
TQ 75 SE 144	Monument	c. 450m SSW	Modern	WWII Flame trap. During the Second World War a flame trap was located on the Loose Road, part of the southern defences of the town. The trap would have consisted of a barrel of fuel attached to an explosive device and would have been detonated to destroy approaching enemy vehicles.
TQ 75 SE 338	Landscape	c. 400m E	Post Medieval	17th and 18th century landscape of Mote Park. This park is the landscape created in association with the old Mote House, built c. 1680 by Sir John Marsham which was demolished c.1800, parts of the park may have been incorporated into the later Mote Park still in existence (2010). There remains a series of features, earthworks, platforms, banks and ditches along with information from historic maps about the grounds of the old park.
TQ 75 SE 341	Landscape	c. 400m E	Post Medieval	Mote Park, 18th-19th Century landscape. An 18th and 19th-century landscape park created from an earlier deer park, set at the east

				edge of Maidstone. The park surrounds a 1790s country house with informal, mid-19th-century pleasure grounds. The earthwork remains of an earlier formal garden of the early to mid-18th century, related to the site of the former mansion, lie within the park.
TQ 75 SE 36	Monument	c. 250m W	Roman	Roman road; Rochester- Maidstone- Hastings.
TQ 75 SE 352	Monument	c. 100m NE	Modern	Air raid shelter under Maidstone Grammar School. Preserved under the new Applied Learning Centre
TQ 75 SE 356	Landscape	c. 300m SW	Modern	South Park is a neighbourhood park devolved from meadowland designed by Bunyards of Maidstone in 1929. Features include tennis courts, bowling and putting greens, football and hockey pitches, a pond and a tree belt. In 2007 the tennis courts were refurbished and restored.
MKE 84741	Farmstead	c. 300m SSW	Post Medieval	Cherry Gardens. Regular courtyard farmstead with buildings to four sides of the yard incorporating an 'L' plan element. Farmhouse detached in central position. Farmstead completely demolished.
MKE 84767	Farmstead	c. 500m NE	Post Medieval	Pinfold. A linear plan farmstead. Farmhouse attached to agricultural range. No apparent alteration.
TQ 75 SE 371	Monument	c. 280m S	Post Medieval to Modern	Former site of an oasthouse to the northeast of Cherry Garden. The rectangular building with three roundels is first recorded on the 1st edition OS Map, suggesting it was constructed in the middle of the nineteenth century. It is recorded in the 2nd and 3rd editions of the OS, but appears to have been demolished by the time of the 4th edition and 1940s aerial photographs prior to the development of modern housing in the area.
TQ 75 SE 296	Monument	c. 250m W	Modern	Maidstone tramway opened in 1904 and closed in 1930. Only the earliest section of the tramway is shown on the 3rd edition OS mapping. The tramway had been removed by the time of the 4th edition OS mapping. It apparently extended from Barming, via

				Maidstone, to Loose. There is said to have been a second depot in Loose in the area of Pickering Street.
TQ 75 NE 974	Listed Building	c. 450m NE	Modern	The Tabernacle, the Mote Cricket Club. Grade II listed (1416462). A private cricket pavilion built by 1908 for Lord Bearsted, owner of Mote Park, in Vernacular Revival style.
TQ 75 NE 975	Building	c. 480m NE	Modern	The Mote Cricket Pavilion, an early 20th century building. A cricket pavilion built by Lord Bearsted of Mote Park and opened in 1910. Later C20 rear and south west additions. Vernacular Revival style. The Mote Cricket Club was founded in 1857 and the first Kent County Cricket Match took place at Mote Park in 1859. No cricket pavilion is shown on the ground on the 1868 25 inch Ordnance Survey map. A cricket pavilion is shown on the 1897 and 1908 maps in the same location as the present building, but it was a forerunner of the current cricket pavilion.
TQ 75 NE 977	Landscape	c. 300m NE	Post Medieval to Modern	The Mote Cricket Club, Maidstone. A 19th century cricket club.
TQ 75 NE 1002	Building	c. 350m NW	Post Medieval to Modern	St Philip's Church built sometime between 1851 and 1862. It is now linked with All Saint's Church, Maidstone and is still in use.

Figure 14: KHER Monument Record

Kent County Council - Maidstone Grammar School - Historic Landscape Character

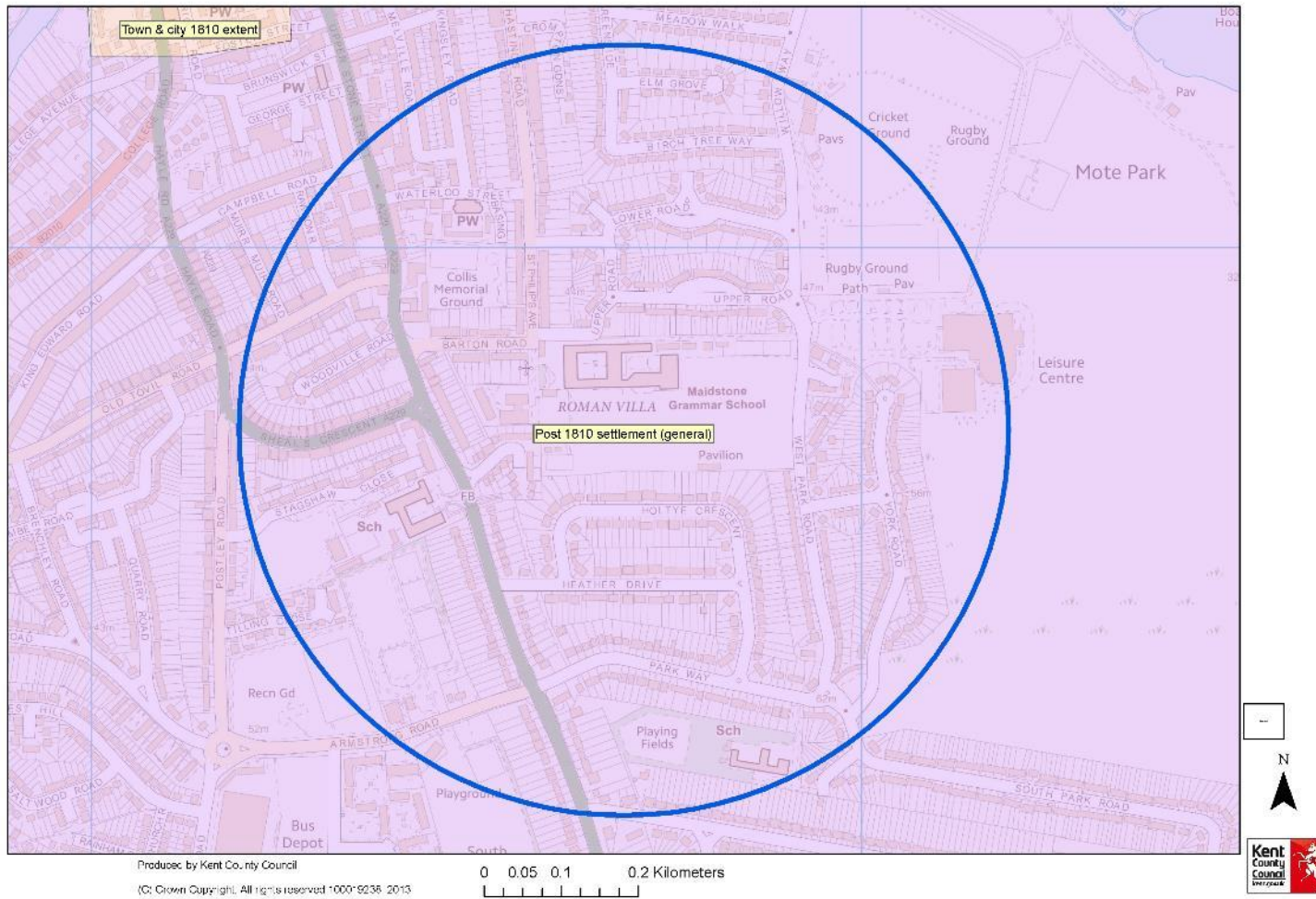


Figure 15: KHER Historic Landscape Character

Kent County Council - Maidstone Grammar School - Medway Valley Palaeolithic Project

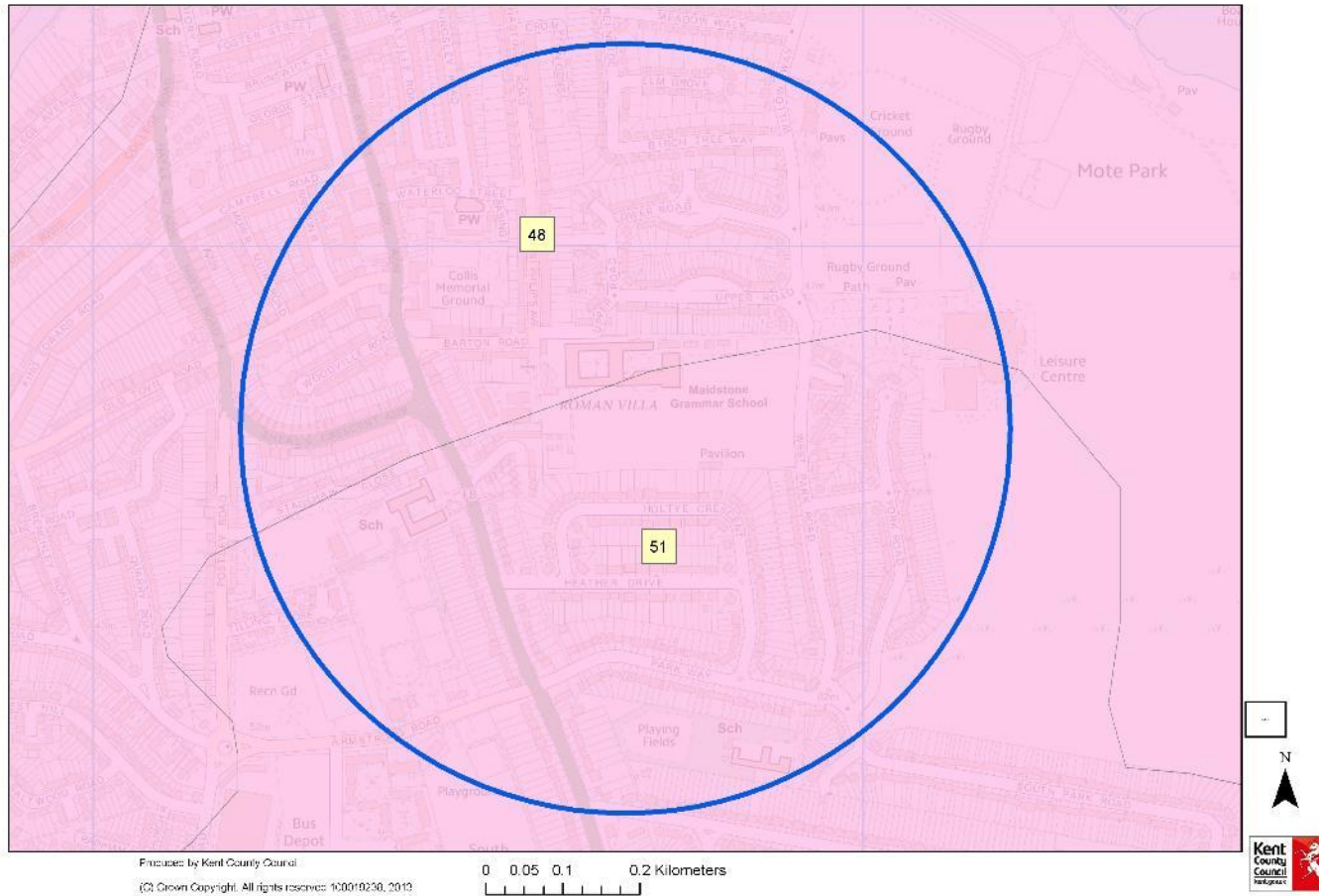


Figure 16: KHER Medway Valley Palaeolithic Project

Kent County Council - Maidstone Grammar School - Designations



Figure 17: KHER Designations

Kent County Council - Maidstone Grammar School - Cropmarks

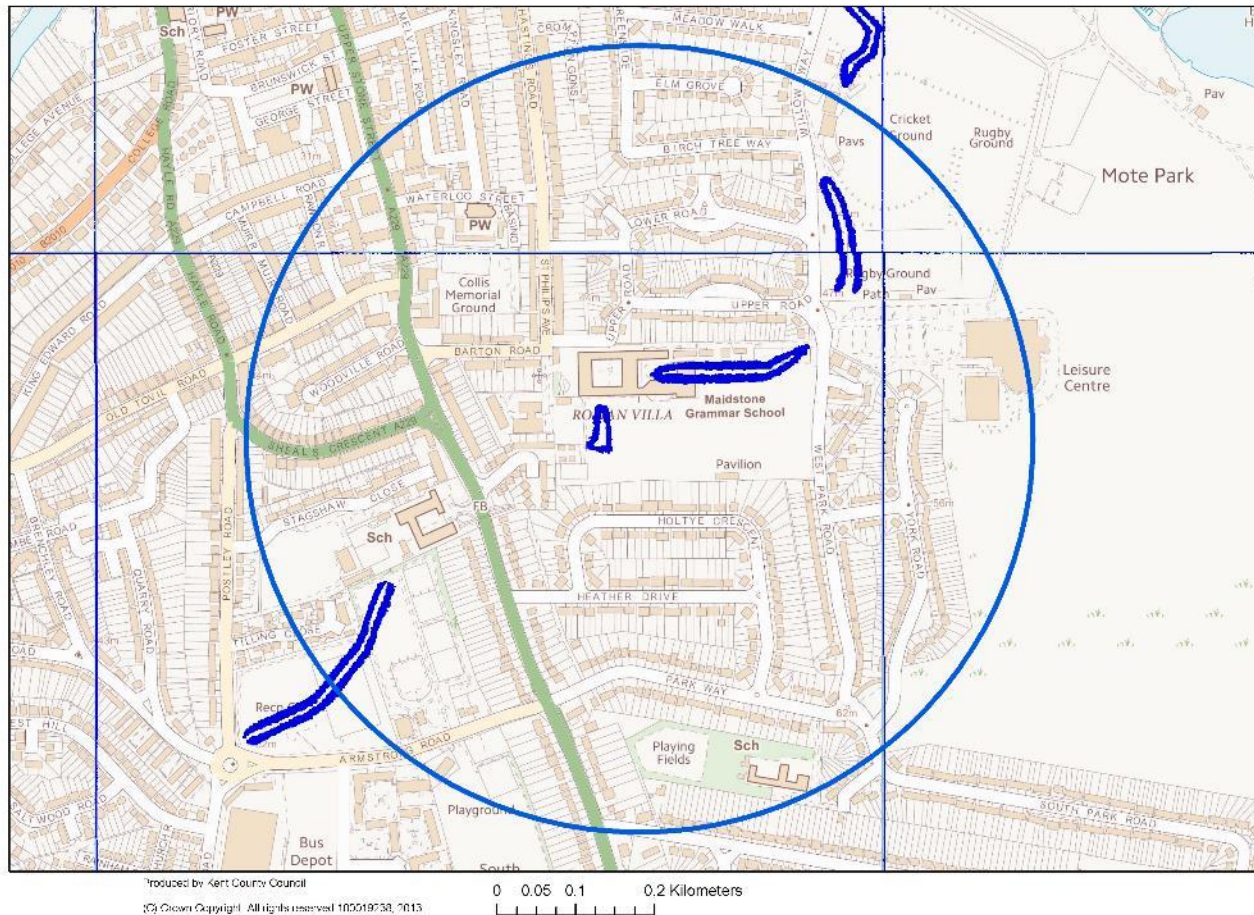


Figure 18: KHER Cropmarks

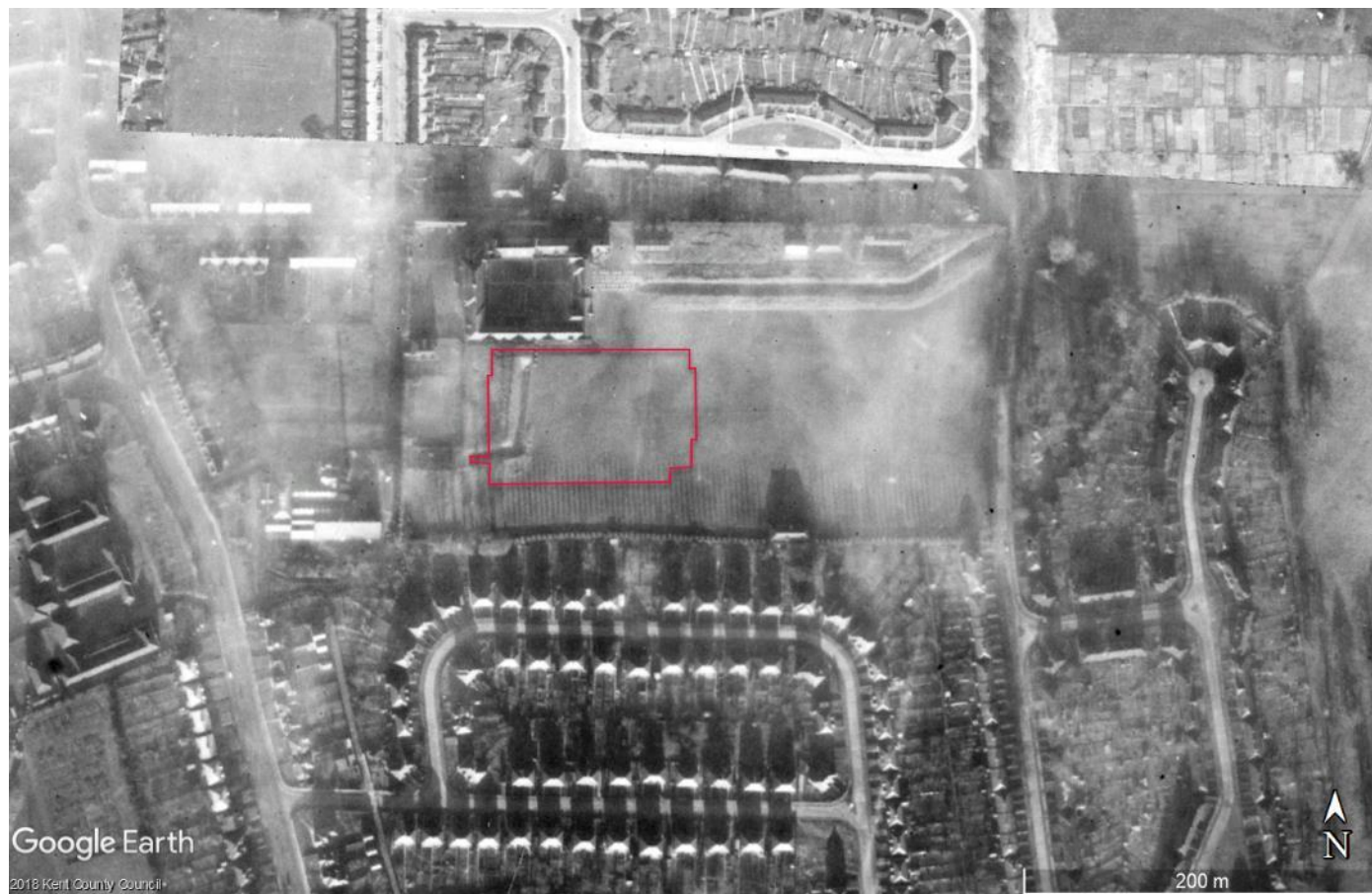


Plate 1: 1940s. All at an altitude of 803m (Google Earth).



Plate 2: 1960 (Google Earth)



Plate 3: 1990 (Google Earth)



Plate 4: 2003 (Google Earth)



Plate 5: 2007 (Google Earth)



Plate 6: 2013 (Google Earth)



Plate 7: 2018 (Google Earth)

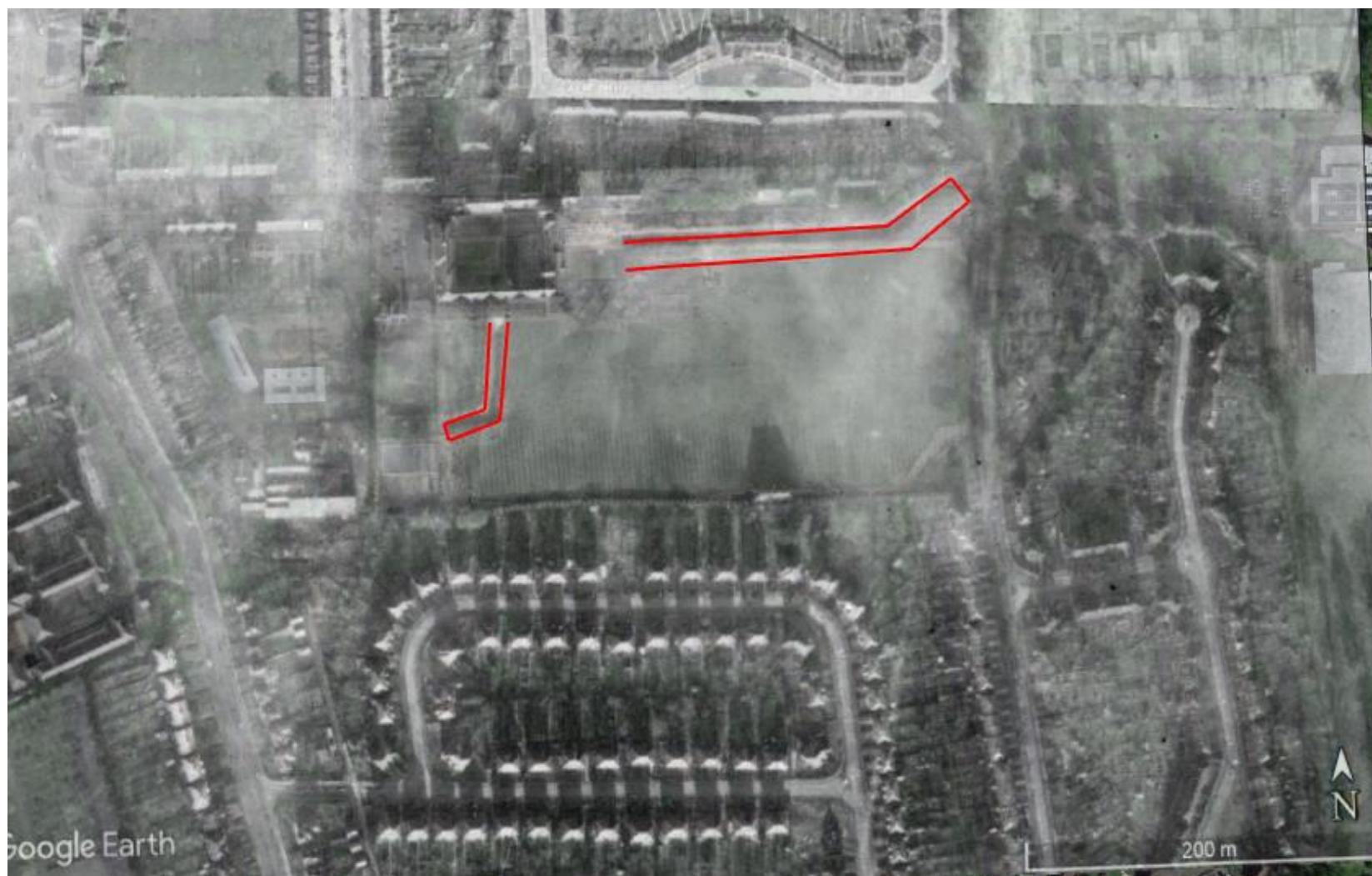


Plate 8: 1940 overlaid onto 2018 with ant-tank ditches marked



Plate 9: 2018 with anti-tank ditches marked and PDA.



Plate 10: View across the PDA (facing N).



Plate 11: View across PDA (facing W)



Plate 12: View across the PDA (facing S).



Plate 13: View across PDA (facing E).



Plate 14: View showing the difference in ground levels (facing SE)