



Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
in Advance of the Proposed
Development at River House, 1
Maidstone Road, Foots Cray, Sidcup,
Kent.

October 2018

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development at River House, 1 Maidstone Road, Foots Cray, Sidcup, Kent.

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Report for River House Properties Limited

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development at River House, 1 Maidstone Road, Foots Cray, Sidcup, Kent.

Summary

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by River House Properties Limited to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) at River House, 1 Maidstone Road, Foots Cray, Sidcup, 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: **high**
- Iron Age: **low**
- Roman: **moderate**
- Anglo-Saxon: **low**
- Medieval: **low**
- Post-Medieval: **high**
- Modern: **high**

The PDA is situated at the bottom of the Cray Valley just north of the High Street of Foots Cray. The PDA is located within car park area at the rear of River House. The PDA was originally a marshy area associated with the river until the late 18th century when the area was industrialised with a paper mill and accompanying mill pond built on the site. The building was subsequently used for photographic film manufacture and a silk mill before being demolished in 1929. The site then became a factory for the manufacture of radios. Following mergers, the site eventually belonged to STC Ltd who manufactured semi-conductors. As part of the factory complex, for its workers a swimming pool was built on the site of the PDA. In 1985, the factory building was eventually demolished and replaced by the present River House, slightly to the south of the area of the mill/factory buildings and a state-of-the-art semi-conductor factory attached to the rear of River House that covered the site of the previously demolished buildings

and swimming pool. Once the factory closed in 1993, the semi-conductor building was demolished and River House left in situ as an office block.

In terms of archaeology, the area being in the Cray Valley has had attracted people and consequently the area has had millennia of activity. Both the east and west banks of the Cray have had in-situ evidence of the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic period and therefore there is the potential for archaeological remains of high significance. The area to the east there have been many Roman finds, especially a bathhouse although this appear localised to that area but does confirmed continued exploitation of the valley and the use of the valley in Roman times would have regional significance. It is also possible that there are remains at the PDA relating to the earlier Post Medieval and Modern buildings on the site. Consequently, the archaeological potential for the Prehistoric, Post Medieval and Modern period is considered high, moderate for the Roman period and low for all other periods.

However, given the continued use of the site since the Post Medieval period, which has seen a number of different buildings on the site as well as the 18m piles used in the construction of the 1985 semi-conductor building, it is likely that the archaeology in area of the PDA would have been severely truncated and disturbed by these previous buildings and therefore the potential for surviving archaeology is considered low.

The proposed development of a new office building in the current car park area at the rear of Rover House will require piling given the unstable river valley geology of river gravels and alluvium. 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 River House Properties Limited (the 'Client'), to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) at River House, 1 Maidstone Road, Foots Cray, Sidcup, Kent centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 47559 70992 (Fig. 1).

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The PDA is located in Foots Cray. Foots Cray is an area 14 miles south east of the centre of London within the London Borough of Bexley. The PDA is close to the

boundary of the London Borough of Bromley. Sidcup is 1.5km to the north, north west and Bexley 3.2km to the north east. The PDA sits on the northern side of the A211 Maidstone Road that passes through Farningham, Swanley and towards Sidcup. The PDA consists of the existing River House office building with a large car park to the north, north west of the building. The River Cray traverses in a north. North east to south, south westerly direction across the PDA, passing under the existing River House. The river forms the eastern boundary of the PDA. River House, along with Cray House, which joins it to the east is one of a number of buildings in the immediate area that makes up the 5 Aches Business Estate. The part of the PDA relating to the new proposed building sits on level ground at an average height of 26m AOD (Fig. 1).

- 1.2.2 The Cray River Valley begins in the Orpington Area and flows northwards to Bexley, where it is then joins by a small tributary called the Shuttle. The river then flows through Crayford where it joins the River Darent and subsequently the river Thames. It is a gentle valley with undulating sides.
- 1.2.3 The British Geological Society (BGS 1995) shows that the local geology at the PDA consists of bedrock comprising of Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) chalk. There are superficial deposits of Alluvium – Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel, which is not expected as it runs along the area of the River Cray. This data is at relatively low resolution (1:50,000) and offers only a rough indication of the site geology, and the site's location within a river valley landscape could mean a high level of variation is present in the geological deposits.

Geotechnical Information

- 1.2.4 Borehole data on the BGS records the sequence at the site of a sewer in 1971 circa 200m north, north east of the PDA on the western side of the River Cray. Below the topsoil was 1.7m of sandy clay brickearth at 26m AOD, followed by dense coarse gravel of 4m with the bottom of the layer at 22m AOD. Then chalk was reached.
- 1.2.5 On the southern side of the Maidstone Road, circa 150m south from the PDA, and immediately on the eastern side of the River Cray, there was made ground of circa 18m being black sandy clay with flints and brick, before gravel was reached at between 1.8m – 9.1m depth, after which was chalk.

- 1.2.6 . One of the boreholes mentioned in an excavation at the business park that found a palaeochannel, being an old river course, does suggest that the area around the PDA is also likely to have been impacted by palaeochannels in the past. Even during the historic mapping period, it can be seen that the water course has altered both naturally and managed over time.

1.3 The Proposed Development

- 1.3.1 The proposed development is for a new office building located on part the site of the car park for River House, which is at the rear. The new building will join that of the existing River House. In addition, another floor is to be added to River House. Figure 2 shows the whole of the PDA including the existing building location. However, particular focus is given to the part of the PDA in the north western area where the new building will be located as the new floor will not disturb any archaeology (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 and ensure that a Heritage Asset is protected to enable it to be passed on to future generations.

2.1.2 Statutory protection is also 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
- Hedgerow Regulations (statutory Instrument No. 1160) 1997
- Treasures Act 1996
- Burial Act 1857.

2.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

2.2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's core principles in relation to planning and the historic environment and is covered in section 16, paragraphs 185-202. These principles are designed to underpin the planning and decision-making process to ensure that Local Planning Authorities (LPA), developers and owners of heritage assets adopt a consistent approach to the conservation of the Historic Environment.

2.2.2 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.'

2.2.3 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).'

2.2.4 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.'

2.2.5 Paragraph 190 of the NPPF states that:

'The LPA 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.'

2.2.6 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.
- **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.

2.2.7 The NPPF is supported by the Planning Policy Guidance, which includes Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance (2008) as well as Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes 1 to 3, all issued by Historic England.

2.3 Regional Policies

London Plan, 2016

2.3.1 It is the overall strategic plan for London, setting out an integrated economic, environmental, transport and social framework for the development of London over the next 20–25 years. There are two sections relevant to archaeology.

2.3.2 Policy 7.8: Heritage Assets and Archaeology

(A) London's heritage assets and historic environment, including listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens and other natural and historic landscapes, conservation areas, World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields, scheduled monuments, archaeological remains and memorials should be identified, so that the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and of utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.

(B) Development should incorporate measures that identify, record, interpret, protect and, where appropriate, present the site's archaeology.

Planning Decisions

(C) Development should identify, value, conserve, restore, re-use and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.

(D) Development affecting heritage assets and their settings should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.

(E) New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources, landscapes and significant memorials. The physical assets should, where possible, be made available to the public on-site. Where the archaeological asset or memorial cannot be preserved or managed on-site, provision must be made for the investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that asset.

LDF Preparation

(F) Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and enhance the contribution of built, landscaped and buried heritage to London's environmental quality, cultural identity and economy as part of managing London's ability to accommodate change and regeneration.

(G) Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organisations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying, protecting, enhancing and improving access to the historic environment and heritage assets and their settings where appropriate, and to archaeological assets, memorials and historic and natural landscape character within their area.

2.3.3 Policy 7.9: Heritage-Led Regeneration

2.3.4 (A) Regeneration schemes should identify and make use of heritage assets and reinforce the qualities that make them significant so they can help stimulate environmental, economic and community regeneration. This includes buildings, landscape features, views, Blue Ribbon Network and public realm.

2.3.5 Planning Decisions - (B) The significance of heritage assets should be assessed when development is proposed and schemes designed so that the heritage significance is recognised both in their own right and as catalysts for regeneration. Wherever possible heritage assets (including buildings at risk) should be repaired, restored and put to a suitable and viable use that is consistent with their conservation and the establishment and maintenance of sustainable communities and economic.

2.3.6 LDF Preparation - (C) Boroughs should support the principles of heritage-led regeneration in LDF policies.

2.4 Local Plans

2.4.1 The PDA falls within the area of the London Borough of Bexley. The Local Planning Authorities are obliged by the government to articulate their future planning and policy objectives in a portfolio of strategic planning documents, the Local Development Framework (LDF). Within each LDF, the primary document is the Core Strategy, which sets out long-term visions for the planning authority and how these are to be achieved, in the form of policy guidance. The Core Strategy, in turn, is supported by a suite of supporting documents and evidence-based reports, including detailed policies and sites local plans.

2.4.2 The Bexley Core Strategy was formally adopted on 22nd February 2012. The relevant policy is found within Chapter 4, 'Managing the built and natural environment.' Of which policy CS19 on Heritage and Archaeology is pertinent.

Current Policies in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP)

2.4.3 The Unitary Development Plan (UDP) preceded the Core Strategy. It was adopted on 28 April 2004 but some policies expired in 2007. Following the adoption of the Core Strategy in 2012, some UDP policies were replaced. However, these policies regarding heritage still apply such as Policy ENV22 relating to Heritage Land. In particular the

Cray Valley is considered Heritage Land and is characterized by ‘attractive valley landscape along the River Cray where networks of lanes, copses and rolling hills provide a good example of traditional countryside. There are also ornamental grounds at Hall Place and Foots Cray Meadows.’

- 2.4.4 Policies ENV56, ENV57 and ENV58 concern the assessment of the historic environment and where not considered significant, the appropriate investigation is undertaken.

Areas of High Archaeology Potential – Area 17 River Cray

- 2.4.5 This large Area of High Archaeological Potential demarks the River Cray Valley, and includes the villages of North Cray, on the northeastern point of the valley, and Foots Cray, on the southeastern edge. Much of the central space is occupied by the Foots Cray Meadows recreation area, which has developed from the open estate and landscaped grounds of Foots Place and includes water features, bridges and historic woodlands (Fig. 16).
- 2.4.6 This area has a high archaeological potential for the prehistoric period, especially in the area of the North Cray Gravel Pit on Bough Road and Rectory Lane, adjacent to All Saints Church, a substantial amount of Palaeolithic material has been recovered. This includes at least two separate working floors and a large assemblage of flakes, cores, blades and other tools and debitage. The assemblage generally dates from the Upper Palaeolithic, c. 12,900 – 11,700BC), and is at c. 1m below ground level. In addition, Roman material has also been recovered from the valley suggesting continued occupation and exploitation of the landscape. All Saints would have been a focus in Medieval times

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by River House Properties Limited 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 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 ClfA. 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 Sources

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

Archaeological databases

- 4.2.2 Although it is recognised that national databases are an appropriate resource for this particular type of assessment, the Greater London Historic Environmental Record contains sufficient data to provide an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding landscape.
- 4.2.3 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.
- 4.2.4 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

- 4.2.5 A full map regression exercise has been incorporated within this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by 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.

Archival Research

- 4.2.6 Documentation held by the Facilities Engineer at River House was reviewed.

Aerial photographs

- 4.2.7 The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-5).

Secondary and Statutory Resources

- 4.2.8 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

- 4.2.9 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 the north western portion of the PDA), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. There are no Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, Historic Parks and Gardens, Protected Military Remains or NMP cropmarks 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 The GL HER records within the 500m assessment are related to the PDA's close position to the southern end of Hackington with listed buildings and also the prehistoric and Roman finds and burials found in and around the cattle market. The table in Figure 13 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 six nationally listed heritage assets and 16 locally listed heritage assets within the assessment area (Fig. 21). The Seven Stars Public house, which is Grade II listed and the locally listed bridge adjoin the wider PDA area. None of the other listed buildings (nationally or local) have any intervisibility with the PDA given the built-up urban nature of the area. The intervisibility of the ones that adjoin the PDA is severely restricted given the landscaping in the area and the setting of which has already been impacted by the surrounding urbanisation and 20th century building that has occurred in close proximity (Plates 16, 18-20).

Table 2: Designated Heritage Assets

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|---|
| MLO78475 | Post Medieval | No. 170 Rectory Lane. Grade II listed Early 19 th century |
| MLO79257 | Post Medieval | Seven Stars Public House, Grade II listed. Probably 16 th century or earlier. Two storeys. Timber-framed weatherboarded. Original range at right-angles to road, with gable end rising from pavement. Large 20 th century extension at right angles to the original building. |
| MLO79237 | Post Medieval | 180-188 Rectory Lane (even). Grade II listed. Probably built in 1737. Terrace of 5 houses. Three storeys and attic. |
| MLO79230 | Post Medieval | Tudor Cottages, Foots Cray High Street. No. 1-4. Grade II listed. late 15 th century or early 16 th century. Much restored and extended Wealden house. |
| MLO79176 | Medieval | Parish Church of All Saints, Rectory Lane. Grade II* listed |
| MLO79186 | Post Medieval | Walnut Tree Cottage, Grade II listed. Early 17 th century. |
| MLO66814 | Post Medieval | Harenc School, Rectory Lane. Locally Listed building. Dated 1882. |
| MLO66804 | Post Medieval | The Red Lion, Foots Cray High Street. Locally listed building. Early 19 th century public house. |
| MLO100710 | Modern | War Memorial Adjacent to Herenc School, Rectory Lane. Locally listed building. Erected 1920. |
| MLO66803 | Post Medieval | Bridge over River Cray, Foots Cray High Street. Locally listed building. It is built of red/brown bricks probably in the period 1814-1820. |
| MLO100711 | Modern | 20 th century stable block, Rectory Lane. Locally listed building. It is located within the curtilage of the Grade II listed Old House. |

| | | |
|--|---------------|---|
| MLO100968 | Modern | No 57 (Burchston) Suffolk Road. Locally listed building. A bungalow built in 1928. It is one of a pair built for Edward Burch. |
| MLO100967 | Modern | No. 53 (Burchcote), Suffolk Road. Locally listed building. A bungalow built in 1928. It is one of a pair built for Edward Burch. |
| MLO100761 | Post Medieval | Penny Farthing Bridge, Fooks Cray Meadows. Locally listed building |
| MLO66811 MLO66806 MLO66812 MLO66807 MLO66810 MLO66813 MLO66809 MLO66808 | | Tudor Parade (Mount Culver Parade). This includes Nos. 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79. Locally listed buildings. An inter-war terrace of two storeys plus attics built in 1936. |

5.3 Previous Archaeological Works

5.3.1 There have been a number of archaeological events in the assessment area which are provided in the table below. These confirm the potential for there to be deposits in the area from the Palaeolithic period.

Table 3: Events

| Event ID | Name | Distance | Findings |
|------------|---|------------|--|
| ELO107/108 | Evaluation at Palm Avenue (No. 1-31)/Maidstone Road in 2001 | c. 320m SE | The site comprised two trenches which revealed a layer of peat containing fire cracked flint possibly associated with deliberate burning of the woodland in the Mesolithic to Iron Age period. |
| ELO15421 | Evaluation in 2015 at Cray Road (Coca Cola) | c. 500m S | One trench revealed a possible feature which was considered to need further investigation. A prehistoric ditch was also identified which contained worked flint of a possible Bronze Age date. |
| ELO2639 | Watching Brief at Amberley Court /Rectory Lane in 1999 | c. 200m NW | No significant archaeological deposits were identified. Only modern garden features. |
| ELO7536 | Evaluation in 2007 at Fooks Cray High Street (Garage site) | c. 150m SW | No significant archaeological deposits were identified. |
| ELO8271 | Evaluation at 24 Mount Culver Avenue | c. 450m SE | No significant archaeological activity was recorded. |

Landscape Characterisation

- 5.3.2 The PDA is in an area characterised by GLHER Historic Landscape Characterisation of 'Industry', with a type not yet determined. To the east is inter and post war housing and to the west is also classed as post war housing, although amongst this housing are obviously earlier buildings, predominately from the Post Medieval period (Fig. 19).
- 5.3.3 Large estates and grand houses along the river contribute to its varied landscape setting. Some of these estates and their houses are gone (Fooks Cray Place and North Cray Place) but Loring Hall, High Street House and Hall Place are among those still in existence. Fooks Cray was traditionally an arable farming community although in the 20th century some industrial activity began to take place, based around the river.

Registered Parks & Gardens

- 5.3.4 The area north of the 5 Acres Business Park, circa 300m from the PDA is the Registered Park and Garden of Fooks Cray Place. A site consisting of two mid-18th landscape parks incorporated into one estate in the early 19th century then subsequently re-divided being North Cray Place and Fooks Cray Place. The North Cray Place estate covered an area to the east of the River Cray, the surviving parkland now known as Fooks Cray Meadows. Capability Brown was involved in the development of North Cray Place, receiving £1300 from the then owner, Mr Coventry, a Sub-Governor of the South Sea Company, in 1771. The North Cray Place house was originally next to the parish church in North Cray. Fooks Cray place stood adjacent to the parish church in Fooks Cray. The gardens are 89 hectares and lie between Fooks Cray and North Cray. Due to the further buildings from the business estate between the PDA and the southern boundary of the parks, there is no intervisibility and the setting of the park will not be altered (Fig. 20).

Conservation Area

- 5.3.5 The conservation area in Fooks Cray was designated in 1998 and is an "area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance". The London Borough of Bexley produced an appraisal in 2008 that remarks on the close juxtaposition of the residential and commercial character and the valley location with the crossing point of the river around historic crossroads. On the north side of Maidstone Road, the appraisal mentions that the service yards behind the street buildings are unrelated and excluded from the designation.

- 5.3.6 A key element of the conservation area is retaining views along certain sightlines. The erection of the new building within the PDA to the north west of the existing River House will not impact on views along Rectory Lane or north and south along the River Cray.
- 5.3.7 Immediately to the north was a mill pond of historic interest, which powered the variety of mills formerly located on this site since the building of the first mill in the Saxon Age. However, only part of the pond remains and the character of the original mill pond area has changed significantly with modern development. It was therefore not included within the conservation area boundary.

0-100m Radius

- 5.3.8 There are five GLHER entries for this area. To the west of the PDA, a worked scraper core was discovered in 1911 and dates from the Palaeolithic (070478). In the same area a flaked flint was found in alluvium that is considered to be Neolithic (070315), both confirming the use and significance of the Cray Valley in Prehistoric times. Harenc School in Rectory Lane to the west, north west is a locally listed building of which the roof can be seen from the PDA as the school is higher up the valley sides (MLO66814). Adjacent to the school is a war memorial, also locally listed (MLO100710). Circa 30m from the southern boundary of the new building is the Grade II Seven Stars pub located on Fooks Cray High Street (MLO79257).

100-200m Radius

- 5.3.9 There are seven GLHER entries for this area. Circa 170m to the south west is The Red Lion pub, a locally listed building from the early 19th century (MLO66804). To the west, north west, circa 150m away from the PDA is 170 Rectory Lane, a Grade II listed building from the early 19th century (MLO78475). Nearby to the north, north west at the Rectory Lane, Amberley Court junction is a post Medieval to modern ditch with an associated brick structure (MLO61920). It is thought these are the remains of a garden feature structure in relation to a nearby house. Next to the Seven Stars, circa 120m from the PDA of the new building is the bridge that passes over the River Cray at Fooks Cray High Street (MLO66803). The current bridge dates to circa 1814-1820 but has since been widened. In Rectory Lane, circa 175m west of the PDA are the Grade II listed houses of No 180-188 (MLO79237) thought to have been built in 1737. In Fooks Cray High Street are No. 1-4 known as Tudor Cottages and thought to be later 15th

century, altered somewhat altered and modernised (MLO79230) circa 150m south west. On the outer reaches of this radius in Rectory Lane, west of the PDA is a 20th century stable block, which is a locally listed building (MLO100711) and is within the curtilage of 170 Rectory Lane.

200-300m Radius

5.3.10 There are 14 GLHER entries for this area. Within this radius is Tudor Parade (Mount Culver Parade) to the south east. The whole parade, Nos. 65 to 79 (odds) are individually locally listed. The building is of inter-war date (MLO66806, MLO66811, MLO66812, MLO66807, MLO66810, MLO66813, MLO66809, MLO66808). Circa 300m east of the PDA, peat deposit relating to the Mesolithic to Iron Age period was found in the Palm Avenue area during an evaluation (MLO75443). The deposits include cracked flints. On the outer reaches of this radius, to the north is the parish church that is Grade II* listed from the Medieval period, although as with many churches altered in the Victorian period (MLO79176). The accompanying cemetery is also recorded the earliest dated grave being 1656 (MLO98352). Also, in Rectory Lane is a landfill site that is from the 19th/20th century infill (071701) and a gravel pit at the junction with Baugh Road (MLO103363). The pit has produced finds from the Palaeolithic in the early 20th century. At the northern edge of the business park, circa 300m from the PDA there is the 18th century landscape now known as Fooks Cray Meadows (MLO59800).

300-400m Radius

5.3.11 There are three GLHER records for this area. In the area behind the church was the house in Rectory Lane that was once owned by Sir Francis Walsingham (070587), who was Secretary of State to Elizabeth I. A new house was built on the site by 1754. Roman pottery was discovered in 1935 in the area circa 370m to the east, south east of the PDA in a sewer trench and near a Spring (070495). Romans are known to venerated springs and to the north of this area is a Roman bath house and this could be part of a wider Roman complex. Circa 330m north, north east is Penny Farthing Bridge, which is locally listed (MLO100761) and thought to be from the time that the parkland was landscaped by Capability Brown.

400-500m Radius

5.3.12 There are 10 GLHER records in this area. In the area of Palm Avenue, previously known as Beden's Field and unfinished flint axe and leaf shaped arrowhead was found

from the Neolithic period to the east of the PDA (070481). Activity in the area continued into the Bronze Age with flint tools also found with Neolithic material (070481). The Roman bathhouse mentioned previously is circa 480m north east of the PDA discovered in 1956 (070492). The excavation also uncovered a kitchen hut form the same period. More Roman pottery was found circa 420m east, north east near Ellenborough Road in 1956 (070531) and also to the south, south east during the construction of the Sidcup by-pass (070491). Circa 460m east of the PDA, a Palaeolithic scraper and scraper core along with worked angle flakes were discovered in the early 20th century (070479). More prehistoric activity in the same area, this time from the Mesolithic, a tranchet axe was found at 9 Harvill Road (070480). To the west, south west is the locally listed building of 57 Suffolk Road, also called Burchston (MLO100968). This is a bungalow, one of two built in 1928. The other being 53 Suffolk Road called Burchcote (MLO100967). They were both built by Edward Burch. Also, in this area is Walnut Tree Cottage, a Grade II listed early 17th century, circa 500m west of the PDA.

5.4 Archaeological and Historical Narrative

- 5.4.1 Foots Cray takes its name from Saxon landowner Godwin Fot who held the manor here at the time of Edward the Confessor. Recorded as Crai in 1086As, Footscaei in 1100. Modern thinking suggests that the name Cray means 'rough' in the sense of turbulent waters as opposed the previously accepted translation of 'fresh'.
- 5.4.2 There is evidence that the Cray Valley has been an attractive area for humans for millennia. Both to the north and south of the PDA, lithic implements from the Palaeolithic period in the form of blades, cores and scrapers have been found (070504, 070512), including a worked scraper core found immediately to the west of the PDA (070478). In addition, there are also Mesolithic items in the form of a tranchet axe at Foots Cray (070480) and Mesolithic blades at Bunkers Hill as well as a possible Mesolithic occupation site at Stable Meadows Allotments (070484). Activity in the Neolithic period is supported by blades, cores, scrapers and arrow heads on both the east and west banks of the River Cray in the area around the PDA (070481, 070315). Further afield, a pipeline trench in the Cray Valley found a hundred struck flints being waste flakes and nodules and at Sevenoaks Way Neolithic human remains were found along with flints (070760).

- 5.4.3 The Bronze Age in the valley is represented by a palstave found in Foots Cray Meadows (MLO99795) and nearby in a gravel pit, flint tools including Discoidal Scrapers with Neolithic material (070482). Iron Age ditches and pottery have been found in the wider area at Upper College Farm (070589) as well as on the eastern edge of the assessment area in what is Palm Avenue, peat deposits that were radiocarbon dated to the Mesolithic through to the Iron Age (MLO75443). A large Iron Age settlement was located at Crayford.
- 5.4.4 The Romans were also attracted to River areas. Roman settlement and villa buildings have been seen along the Medway and Darent valleys and it appears the Cray Valley is no exception. There is evidence in Crayford and St. Mary Cray by the river of substantial Roman buildings. At the edge of the Ellenborough Road estate a Roman bath house was possibly found during the building of the estate. On the eastern bank to the north of Five Arches Bridge, at North Cray, part of a Roman building was found, when first a water line went through the valley in 1990, then in 1995 a sewer line cut through further more substantial Roman remains. Roman pits and ditches have been found in North Cray Road (MLO64552) and towards St Paul's Cray, a Roman settlement area and cremation cemetery (MLO19736, MLO17506). Crayford also had a sizeable Roman fortification and was called *Noviomagus Cantiacorum* - The New Market [of the *Cantiaci*].
- 5.4.5 Foots Cray as a village is thought to have originated as a Saxon settlement. There is a Sax Charter which refers to "land in Cray". In Anglo-Saxon times it is thought that the River Cray was still then a navigable river for small vessels. St Augustine when he founded Christianity at Canterbury brought with him Paulinus, who eventually became the third Bishop of Rochester. Paulinus founded a number of churches along the River Cray valley, hence the nearby village of St Paul's Cray. It is around 633AD that it is believed a Saxon wooded building was erected on the site of the present church, although this is unsubstantiated.
- 5.4.6 At the time of the Domesday, the area was owned by Bishop Odo of Bayeux, the Kings half-brother. Referred to as Crai. It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is. . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, and 8 villeins, with 1 carucate and an half, and 4 cottagers, and 1 mill of 10 shillings. There is 1 servant, and wood for the pannage of 6 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth 4 pounds, and afterwards

3 pounds, now 4 pounds. Goduin held it of king Edward. Essentially a small riverside settlement.

- 5.4.7 The Foots Cray estate was sold in 1314 to John Abel, during the occupation by the Abel family that there is first mention of All Saints Church which the current stone church dates to around 1330. John Holden, Rector was brought to account in 1333 by William Vaughan, husband of John Abel's daughter Joan, accused of failing to keep the rectory in repair. The manor then passed through various ownership with the manor house at Foots Cray Place, behind the church. It is possible that the village originally was around the church before later migrating to the crossroads and forming a linear development along the Maidstone Road.
- 5.4.8 The roads from Foots Cray to St Mary Cray, Blendon and Bromley were established by the 15th century. The road from Wrotham to Foots Cray was turnpiked between 1751 and 1752 and from Lee to Foots Cray bridge in 1781. The Tollgate was reputedly near Walnut Tree Cottage on Sidcup Hill.
- 5.4.9 The Seven Stars has records going back to 1753. It has a weather boarded range at right angles to the road, which is probably 16th, though the windows and the stucco are 19th. The range parallel with the road was added c1930. Stage Coaches called in at the Seven Stars or Tigers Head on their way between London and Maidstone.
- 5.4.10 The exact date of this first house at Foots Cray Place is not known, but six generations of the Walsingham family owned Foots Cray Place (alias Pike Place) up until c.1676. In about 1579 Francis Walsingham sold the manor lands but kept the house and the surrounding land of about 106 acres, and not being able, through Government business to keep the house on, passed it back to his cousin Thomas Walsingham.
- 5.4.11 In 1752 Bourchier Cleeve acquired the old house and built a new house, called it Foots Cray Place and placed it on the brow of the ridge of the estate. However, since he could not see the river, he created one with a canal which was dug from the western strand running along the 25m contour alluvial terrace taken from a sluice at the millpool by the main road. Here the canal was some 4m higher than the river, which had flowed further down the valley to due east of the new Place. But it was not just the new house, the estate was changed with the old field system grassed over and new orchards, stables and a kitchen garden.

- 5.4.12 In 1773 the estate was sold to Benjamin Harenc. A paper mill was located just north of the Seven Stars. In 1798, it was bought by Harenc. Harenc School was founded by Benjamin Harenc, the 2nd of Foots Cray Place, who gave the land in 1815 for a National School. Formerly known as the Foots Cray National School and the Foots Cray Church of England School. Harenc School was rebuilt in 1883
- 5.4.13 The 1769 map of Kent shows a ford across the River Cray, with a pack horse bridge to the south of the ford on the approximate line of the present bridge. The present bridge is a small twin arched bridge which consists mostly of the original bridge, built around 1815. The mill made the river higher and so the County authorities made the owners rebuild the bridge. There is a horse wash on one side. It was widened in 1909 to accommodate buses.
- 5.4.14 In 1798, Hasted commented on Foots Cray Park that it 'is covered with coppiced wood and the soil is very poor being either gravel or unfertile clay.' In fact, the parkland had just been designed by Capability Brown in 1781, whose design included the 5 Arches Bridge in Foots Cray Meadows.
- 5.4.15 When the railways came in the mid-19th century and a station was added at nearby Sidcup, this meant that Sidcup, which previously used to be the smaller settlement, now eclipsed that of Foots Cray as suburbia took hold.
- 5.4.16 By the 1870s, the paper mill was used as a fabric printing works for Royale. In 1900 the mill was then being used as a factory making photographic film. Its final function was the processing of silk. The paper mill had two cast iron overshot waterwheels in parallel. Each was 15 feet (4.57 m) diameter. One was 10 feet 6 inches (3.20 m) wide and the other was 5 feet (1.52 m) wide with a large mill pond between the Maidstone Road and the mill (Plate 7). The mill was demolished in 1929.
- 5.4.17 In the 1920, Kolster Brandes utilised the mill site for a factory making radios. As a result, the mill building was demolished in 1929 and a new factory building built in its place. Later taken over by Standard Telephone and Cables (STC), the Foots Cray factory site was considered a strategic manufacturing site for the Second World War. During the Blitz, a number of high explosive bombs were dropped in the area and the location of these are shown in Fig. 17, which all appear to be outside of the PDA.

- 5.4.18 Later the site was used for making semi-conductors and computer parts. As a working site factory there were a number of different manufacturing buildings across the wider site. In 1985, the present River House, was built and designed by Gollins Melvin Ward, a well-known London architect firm. The western range is over the River Cray, on the site of the old mill that was demolished in 1929.
- 5.4.19 In 1992, STC had been taken over by Northern Telecom and it was decided to close the factory in 1993. The GMW building was retained and the remainder of the site became Sidcup Technology Centre and the 5 Arches Business Park.
- 5.4.20 In 1949, the Palladian House of Foots Cray Place burnt down leaving the park land known as Foots Cray Meadows for recreational use.
- 5.4.21 As urbanisation continued and the use of the motor vehicle increased, The Sidcup bypass was built to take through traffic out of Sidcup and Foots Cray. Industries developed and expanded alongside the Sidcup bypass.

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 the cluster of buildings around the crossroads. The route of the River Cray is highlighted and appears to show part bridge, part ford across the Maidstone Road. Immediately to the west of the Cray on the northern side of the Maidstone Road is the building which is still there today, the Seven Stars pub. The PDA is situated on land to the rear of the pub which appears to show a boundary line which would be the parkland relating to Foots Cray Place. This shows the area before the paper mill was created by Herenc (Fig. 3)

Ordnance Surveyors Drawings 1797

- 5.5.2 This map shows the individual buildings. It appears by this time; the River Cray now longer has a ford and is fully bridged. The location of the Seven Stars pub can be identified which now appears to be 'L' shaped. As the map is smudges at the point of the PDA is it not clear if there is a mill building showing, which would be expected by this time. Immediately north of the PDA the Cray appears to split into two. IT is not

clear if this is the result of a mill of part of the landscaped garden following the design by Capability Brown. Aside from the cluster of housing around the crossroads, the area is rural (Fig. 4).

Tithe Map from 1838

- 5.5.3 The tithe map shows greater detail and the parish boundary at this point stopped at the Seven Stars. However, you can clearly see the main building of the paper mill with another much smaller building at the rear, which is located in the area of the PDA. In front of the mill next to the Seven Stars is the Mill pond (156). Behind the mill there appears to be two watercourses one man made and the other the natural course of the Cray which as a River is much wider at this period. 154 being the Seven Stars. 155 is a building likely to be related to the Mill, which is owned at this point by the Right Honourable Lord Bexley. West of the paper mill is 153, registered as an arable field. 152, 151, 150 are house and gardens. Immediately west at 149 is Tiger's Head Inn, with a house and garden located on the corner of the crossroads. Along Rectory Lane, the National School has now been built (Fig. 5).

Historic OS Map 1870

- 5.5.4 This is the first scaled OS Map and allows for some of the present-day boundaries to be ascertained. The paper mill by this time has expanded with more buildings located at the rear. At the front the mill pond still exists and the River Cray is still showing as two separate watercourses with part of the PDA straddling the marshy area between the two. Part of the PDA is within gardens. The Seven Stars has a new range added to the rear (Fig. 6).

Historic OS Map from 1898

- 5.5.5 The PDA appears not to have changed except that the map suggests that there is a footpath that runs across the site from the church towards the Maidstone Road. However, to the west of the Seven Stars is a new building fronting the Maidstone Road. On the southern side of the Maidstone Road, there are now large buildings at the rear of the road frontage suggesting the area is becoming industrialised. There is also another large building at the rear of the school (Fig.7).

Historic OS Map 1908

- 5.5.6 The PDA has not changed other than it is no longer a paper mill but a building that manufactures photographic film. Given the shape of the building depicted, it is

utilising the existing mill building. Alongside the western boundary of the PDA is a new building, which is a large greenhouse. The land in the western part of the PDA is no longer open as there are now boundary lines showing. As a result, there is no longer a footpath across the PDA (Fig. 8).

Historic OS Map 1933

- 5.5.7 There have been significant changes. The mill building has been replaced as part of the Cray Works to the east of the PDA, which shows a much larger factory building. The new building on the old mill site is roughly the same size and alignment. However, whilst there is still a mill pond in the front at the rear, the western most water course does not come right up to the building at the rear, leaving only the straight man-made route that passes underneath the eastern end of the building. In the north western corner of the PDA there is a new building related to the factory. The area to the west is confirmed as a nursery. (Fig. 9).

Historic OS Map 1938

- 5.5.8 This shows that the new building in the north west corner appears to have joined up with the replacement mill building. The mill pond in front still exists. (Fig.10).

Architect Plans

- 5.5.9 Held at River House by Kevin Bilewicz, Facilities Engineer are a number of historic architect Plans and copies of deeds. As well as the plans, Kevin has worked at the site since 1979, when it was held by STC and remembers a number of events and buildings in relation to the PDA. These are covered in detail below.

1939 Map in Deeds

- 5.5.10 This shows the main building within the PDA, which is the building that replaced the demolished mill in 1929. As you can see as well as the main building there are a large number of other buildings to the front and the rear of the main building. This shows that in front of the main building there is still the mill pond and at the rear there are two channels of water for the River Cray with marshy ground in between (Fig. 11).

Building Plan (undated)

- 5.5.11 This plan is undated but is thought to be from the 1960s. The main factory building is on the same alignment as that in the 1939 deed map but has a different outline suggesting that the building seen in 1939 had been replaced at some point. It has also

been extended (Z). The trajectory of the river Cray passes under this building and the mill pond is no longer in place. The second watercourse on the western side has also disappeared and the marshy ground now replaced with more factory buildings. Immediately at the rear of the main factory building (B) there is a swimming pool and terraces (Fig 12).

1983 Architects drawing (existing buildings)

- 5.5.12 There appears little difference to the 1960s map. The main factory building is labelled 24 (Fig. 13).

1983 Architects Drawing (Proposed)

- 5.5.13 This drawing shows part of the outline of building 24 with the shape of River House in red. At the rear of River House is a rectangular building outline also in red, which was the state-of-the-art semi-conductor building. This building was required to be vibration proof. Therefore, the inside and outside of the building were separate in order to isolate the building from the ground. To avoid vibrations, the semi-conductor building was piled to a depth of 18m and the building placed on a rubber strip to act as a damper. The semi-conductor building was joined onto the rear portion of River House. The facilities Engineer also recalls during the construction of this building and River House in 1984/1985, the mill wheel was discovered and was due to be sent away, possibly to a museum, although it is not known what actually happened to it. It was also at the point that the path of the River Cray was further altered to the east. (Fig. 14). Plate 6 shows an aerial view of the semi-conductor building and River house in the late 1980s.

Post 1993

- 5.5.14 Once STC had closed, many of the factory buildings were cleared. River House remained and the area that was the semi-conductor building was demolished. However, due to the piling, the building was cut from its frame and the area raised up with made ground as a result. This is why the car park is between 1-1.5m higher than the land to the east by the river. Additional cladding was then added to the rear of River House to close the previous opening to the semi-conductor building.
- 5.5.15 In order to fully understand where the majority of the historic features are positioned in relation to the present River House and the proposed new building in the car park, I have overlaid the various plans and clearly highlighted the main relevant features.

This confirms that the present River House was situated to the south of the earlier main factory building. The proposed new building area is within the area previously occupied by the various factory building and mill, as well as the semi-conductor building and part of the swimming pool. No doubt looking at the earlier maps, there would have also been additional buildings that came and went in this area (Fig.15)

5.6 Aerial Photographs

1940s

- 5.6.1 The location of the new building in the north western area of the PDA includes one of the factory buildings, with an open-air swimming pool to the rear and a large building to the west of the pool. To the east of the pool can be seen the route of the Cray before it passes under the building and out into the still existent mill pond at the front of that building (Plate 1).

1945

- 5.6.2 There is little change (Plate 2).

1960

- 5.6.3 The nursery to the west of the PDA is no longer showing the large greenhouse that was on the western boundary. The area of the new building still shows that large factory building with swimming pool and building to the west of the pool with a smaller extension on the northern end. The Cray is tree lined. In front of this building the mill pond has gone to be replaced by a narrower watercourse (Plate 3).

Late 1980s

- 5.6.4 There is no 1990s Google Earth photo. However, the farewell magazine for the factory has an aerial photograph that shows the site. By this point, River House has been built and can be identified by its distinctive shape. The area seen to the north western end of this building, no longer shows a swimming pool and a number of separate buildings but one very large building on the location of the PDA.

2003

- 5.6.5 There are significant changes. The factory complex is no more leaving in place River House and is a remnant from the factory. The area to the rear is now car parking (Plate 4).

2017

- 5.6.6 There is little change to the PDA (Plate 5).

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 24th September 2018. No artefacts or archaeological features were identified in the walkover (Plates 8-20).
- 5.7.2 The PDA in the area of the new building is a tarmacked car park. It is a raised area with a brick supporting wall, higher than the land between the car park and the banks of the river Cray and River House for reasons discussed previously. The lower part of River House on the western end is partially on stilts. The River Cray can be seen coming from the direction of the bridge on the Maidstone Road, traversing down a cascade and under River House and out northwards along a man-made channel. The banks of the River Cray are covered in trees and other vegetation meaning it is not easy possible to see the river from the car park. The northern and western boundaries are metal fencing with a steep grass bank from the tarmacked car park towards to the fencing reflecting the changes in land levels on the western side and the valley rises in height. As a result of the valley sides, the roof of the Victorian school located in Rectory Lane can be seen from the car park.

5.8 Summary of Potential by Period

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 GLHER has three records from this period within the assessment area. Palaeolithic activity has been found within the area at the

bottom of the Cray Valley immediately to the west of the PDA and also circa 260m to the north west, as well as on the east bank. Therefore, the potential of finding remains that date to this period is considered **high**.

Mesolithic

- 5.8.2 The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area being the peat deposit in the area of Palm Avenue that contained cracked flints and the tranchet Axe found at 9 Harvill Road suggests the Cray Valley continued to be an attractive area for activity in this period. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period cannot be entirely discounted within the confines of the development site but is considered **high**.

Neolithic

- 5.8.3 The Neolithic period was the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry. The GLHER has two records from this period within the assessment area. Flaked flint found immediately next to the PDA, which is the west banks of the River Cray and an unfinished flint axe and leaf shaped arrowhead on the western bank in the area of Palm Avenue. Again, confirming the continued importance of the Cray Valley in prehistoric times. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

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 GLHER just one record from this period within the assessment area where in the area of Palm Avenue along with Neolithic material. Bronze Age flint tools were found during gravel workings. 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 GLHER just one record from this period within the assessment

area being the peat deposit in Palm Avenue, which started in the Mesolithic and continued into the Iron Age period. 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 GLHER has four records from this period within the assessment area. The area to the east and north east of the PDA appears to have a number of records relating to Roman activity as well as further southwards along the Cray Valley in the area of the Sidcup by-pass. The significant find is that of a Roman bathhouse with accompanying kitchen hut. Roman pottery has also been found nearby in the area of a spring. Given that the Roman activity appears localised, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **moderate**.

Anglo-Saxon

5.8.7 The GLHER 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 GLHER has one record from this period within the assessment area. Very little survives of Medieval Fooks Cray except for the parish church. It is likely that during this period the river Cray was not managed and the area of the PDA not utilised. 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 GLHER has 12 records from this period within the assessment area reflecting the growth and urbanisation of Fooks Cray during this period. There are a number of nationally and locally listed buildings along Rectory Lane as well as two public houses in the High Street, Tudor Cottages and the bridge and the church graveyard. There are also records relating to a house and possible garden features in Rectory Lane. In addition, there is the Penny Farthing Bridge built and situated in the landscaped parkland in this period. The map regression confirms that there was a mill built on

the site in this period of which it is possible that there are surviving remains. 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 **high**.

Modern

5.8.10 GLHER has 12 records dating to this period. Eight relate to the locally listed building that make up Tudor Parade (Mount Culver Parade) built in 1936. There are also two bungalows, locally listed built in 1928 as well as the War Memorial in Rectory Lane. Map regression confirms that there are demolished buildings below the PDA from this period being the building that replaced the mill in 1929 and the 1980s semi-conductor factory. Therefore, 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: **high**
- Iron Age: **low**
- Roman: **moderate**
- Anglo-Saxon: **low**
- Medieval: **low**
- Post-Medieval: **high**
- 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 part agricultural land, part marshy area prone to flooding from the river. Around the late 18th century, paper mill was built on the site with a number of other buildings northwards to the rear that came and went and a large mill pond to the south. It was probably at this point that a second straighter man-made watercourse was put into place for the mill to the east of the original river watercourse. This paper mill building was demolished and replaced in 1929 by a new factory building on the same site, which was then replaced further in the 1960s, with a swimming pool added at the rear. By 1985 River House had been built, slightly to the south of the old mill and previous factory site. By this time the mill pond had disappeared, the original watercourse in the area to the north no long seen, with the

marshy ground also having been filled and replaced by made ground and factories and the man-made watercourse moved further eastwards during the construction of River House. The area of the old factory and swimming pool was now a purpose-built semi-conductor building that had been significantly piled during construction. Once demolished in 1993 when the factory closed, the building frame was cut away and the 18m piles left in situ, this raising the level of the land that later became a car park.

6.2.2 Therefore, it appears that at some point in time the whole of the PDA has either been river, marshy ground, a swimming pool, terraces or has been built on by various factory buildings. As a result, these buildings and the piling in 1985 would have caused significant disruption and truncation to the archaeological horizons and any potential archaeology. Especially since the archaeology was known to have been disturbed and uncovered when building River House and the semi-conductor building with the finding of the mill wheel. Truncation. In the area of the car park there is also made ground. As a result, the historical impact on the potential archaeology is considered to be **total**.

6.2.3 The requirements of pile foundations for the new office building will result in **total** impact on any potential archaeology.

7 SIGNIFICANCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Archaeological Significance is assessed under a number of criteria, which includes, Period, rarity, group value, survival/condition, Fragility/Vulnerability, Diversity and Potential. These criteria are the same as used by the Government in the scheduling of ancient monuments and provide a useful framework in assessing significance and also pulls together and summarises the findings.

7.2 Significance Criteria

Period

7.2.1 The non-designated assets relate from the earliest period of human activity the Palaeolithic onwards and relates to the attractiveness and use of the Cray Valley. Designated assets are from the Post Medieval period and reflect the growth and

importance of the village of Footh Cray. A period in which the Cray Valley still held an attraction with a number of grand houses and parklands along its length.

Rarity

- 7.2.2 Prehistoric activity, particularly in the Palaeolithic period is rare and as a result understanding the occupation and activity and exploitation of the river valley is a key research topic of national significance. As in understanding the Roman occupation along the valley length is considered of regional significance. Understanding of the medieval and post-medieval development of the area, including the development of the grand country estates and landscapes in the 18th century can be considered to be of local rarity.

Documentation

- 7.2.3 The historical and landscape development of the PDA can be understood reasonably well from the cartographic, photographic and other sources. No doubt further research will uncover more documentary evidence especially with regards to the chronology and use of the different buildings following the demolition of the mill in 1929, whilst the site was a factory, although it is unlikely to alter the conclusion present in this report.

Group Value

- 7.2.4 The potential for the PDA as part of the Cray Valley to have Palaeolithic and Roman remains has a high group value with the remains from this period nearby already found representing the use of the River Valley.

Survival/ Condition

- 7.2.5 The survival of potential archaeological remains with the PDA under the car park is unknown. However, given the continued use of the site during the 20th century with many demolitions and rebuilding as well as swimming pools, piling and altered watercourses, there would have been considerable disturbance within the PDA and the chance of surviving archaeology is considered low although it is possible that some of the foundations of the earlier buildings may survive below ground.

Fragility/ Vulnerability

- 7.2.6 Any potential remains within the PDA, should they survive in-situ will be vulnerable to damage from piling during the proposed development.

Diversity

- 7.2.7 The potential is for remains from the Palaeolithic onwards as well as 18th onwards in relation to the industrialisation of this area of Foots Cray in the form of the paper mill, silk mill, and factories. The Palaeolithic remains are significant given their lack of diversity, whereas the industrial buildings are not considered to be significant due to diversity.

Potential

- 7.2.8 The Cray Valley has been attractive since Palaeolithic times, with activity also recorded into the Mesolithic and Neolithic period. River Valleys were also important places for Romans to settle as seen elsewhere in the River Medway and River Darent and many Roman buildings have also been found along the River Cray, with a bathhouse located within the assessment area. As Foots Cray grew and industrialised, the PDA became the site of a mill and has consistently been in use since then with a number of successive buildings on site. As a result, it is considered that there is high potential for archaeological remains from the prehistoric, Post Medieval and Modern period and moderate potential for the Roman period. However, there is expected to have considered disturbance to any archaeology and therefore any potential archaeology may not have survived.

Significance

- 7.2.9 The south east research framework (SERF), mentions the need to understand Palaeolithic chronology especially in areas of Palaeolithic deposits of which the Cray Valley is significant. The Conservation Area Appraisal focuses on the village's historical association with the river and the mill site has important local significance to that understanding and the area is included within the UDP as an area of High Archaeological significance and potential.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 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.

- 8.1.2 The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential for the Prehistoric, Post Medieval and Modern period, **moderate** potential for the Roman 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.

9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 Archive

- 9.1.1 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.

9.2 Reliability/Limitations of Sources

- 9.2.1 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 Greater London Heritage, and therefore considered as being reliable.

9.3 Copyright

- 9.3.1 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 River House Properties Limited (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

Paul Wilkinson PhD MCifA.

SWAT Archaeology

October 2018

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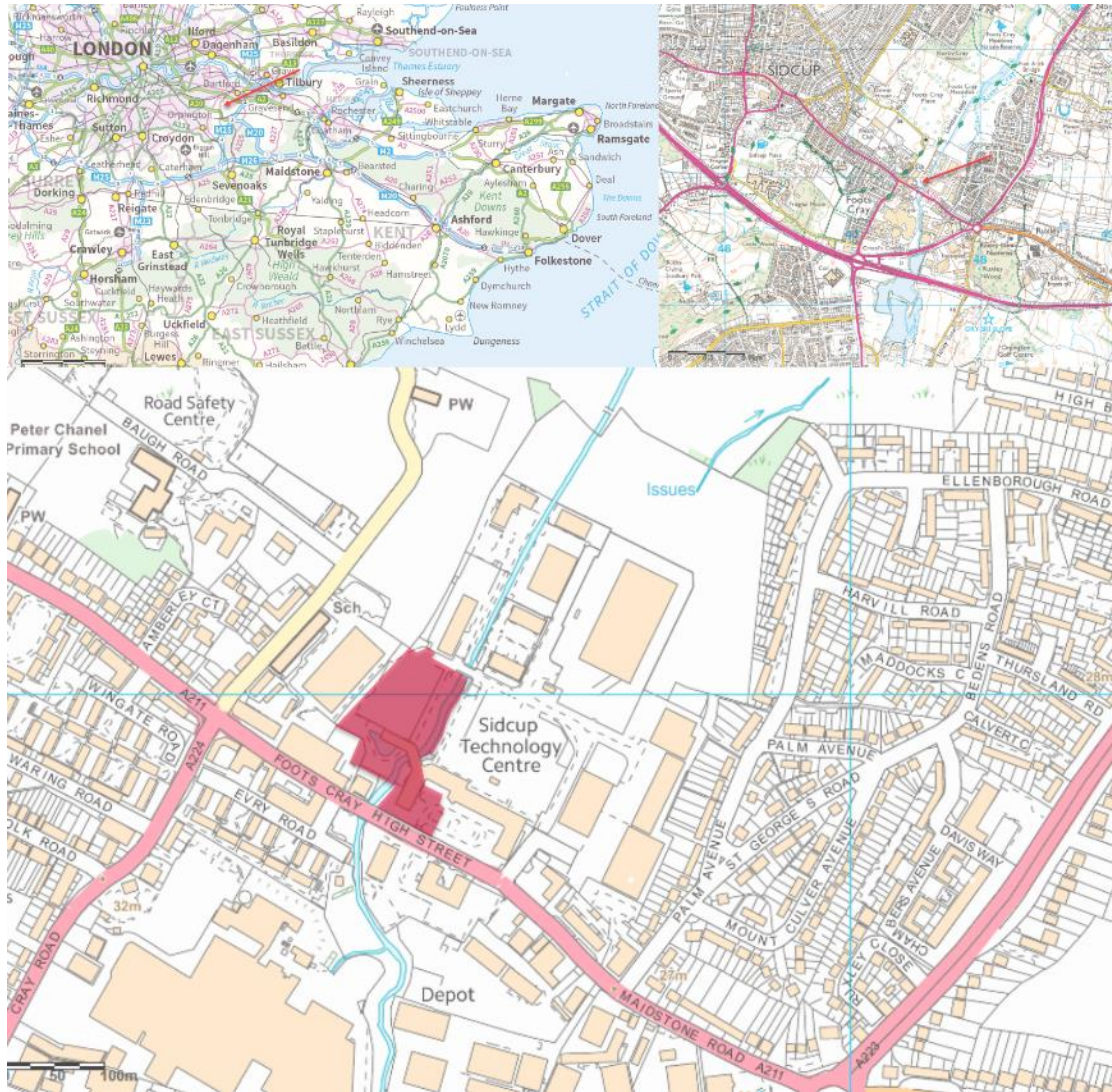


Figure 1: Site location map, scale 1:20,000 & 1:5,000.



Figure 4: Ordnance Surveyors Drawing, 1797

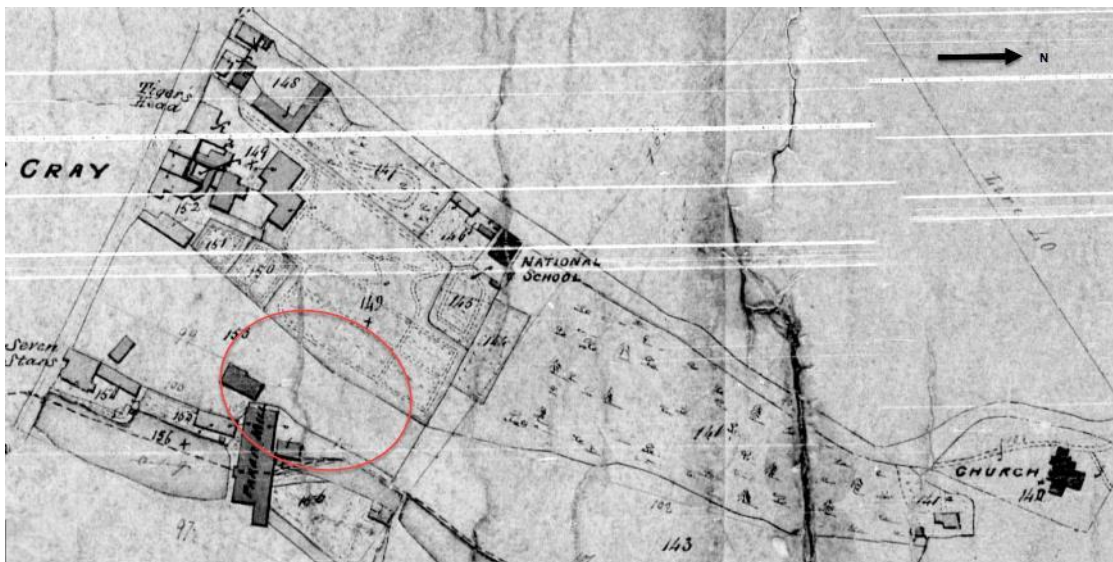


Figure 5: 1838 Tithe Map

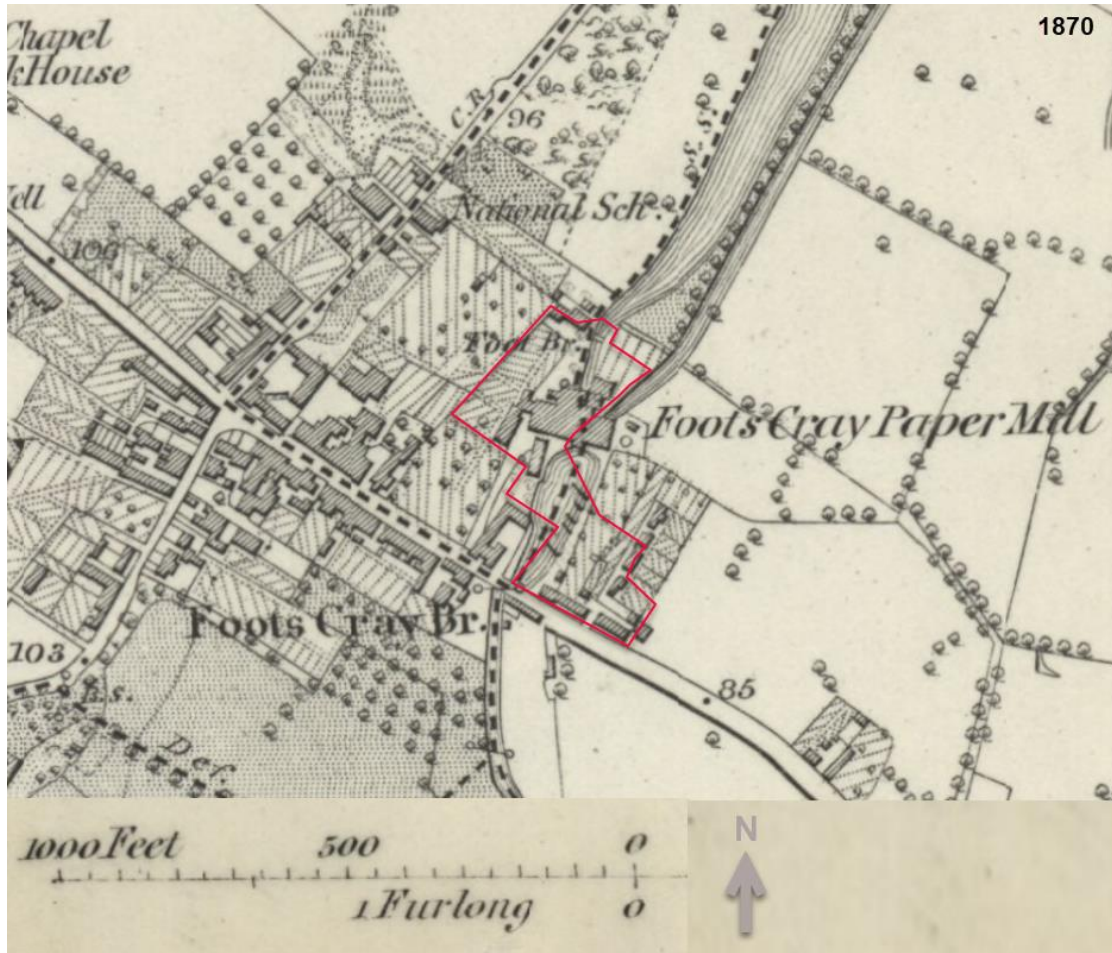


Figure 6: Historic OS Map 1870

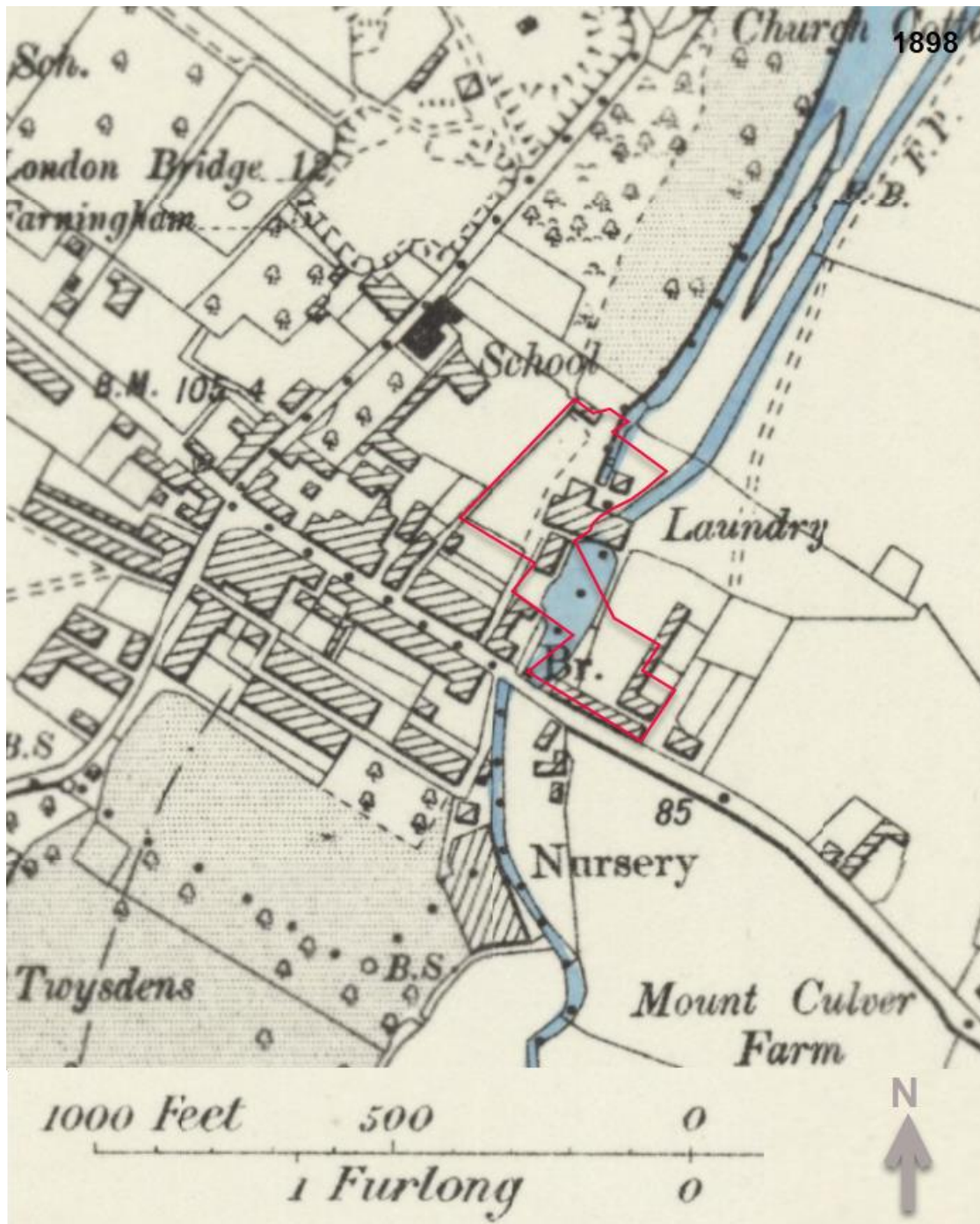


Figure 7: Historic OS Map 1898

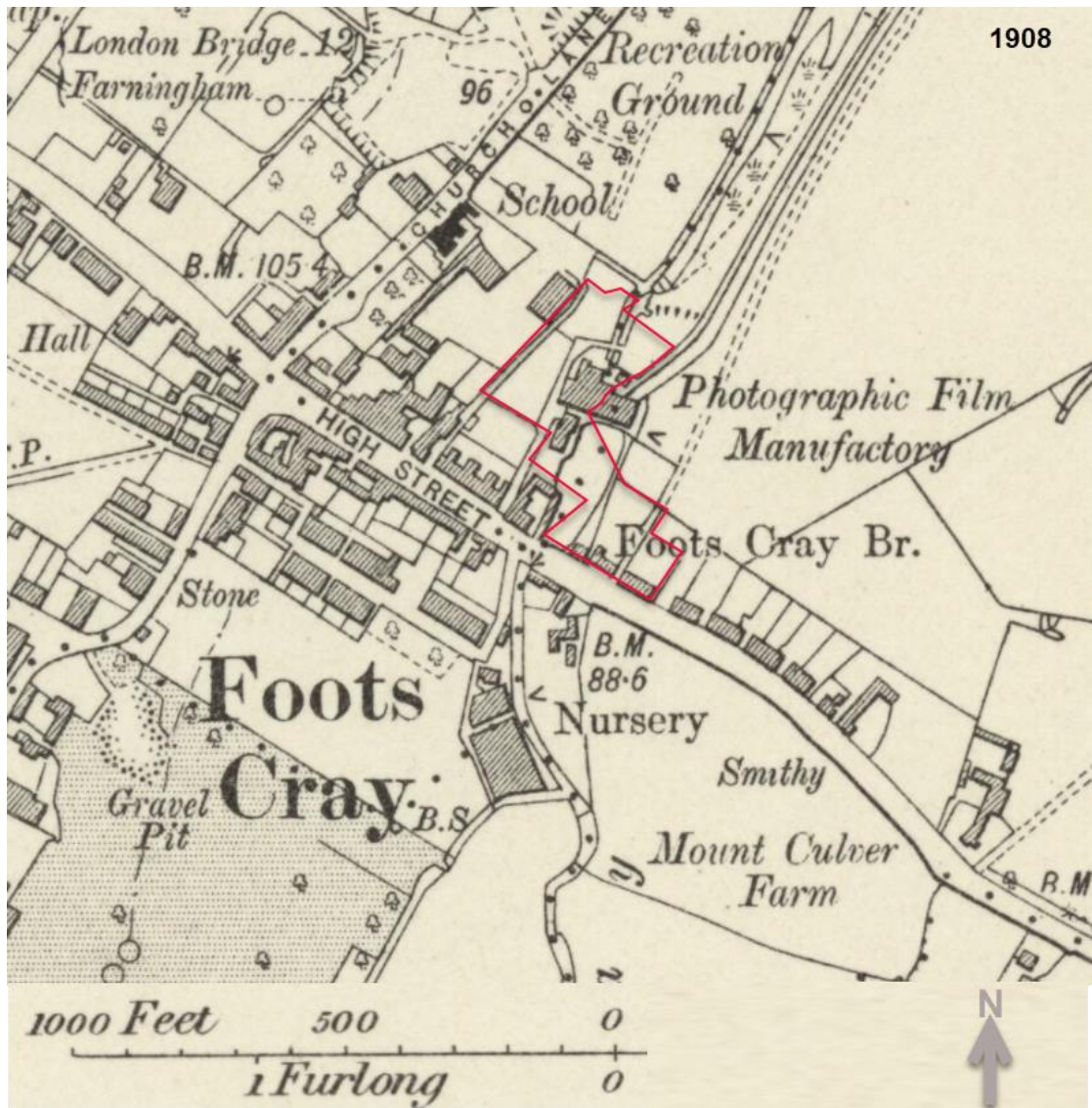


Figure 8: Historic OS Map from 1908

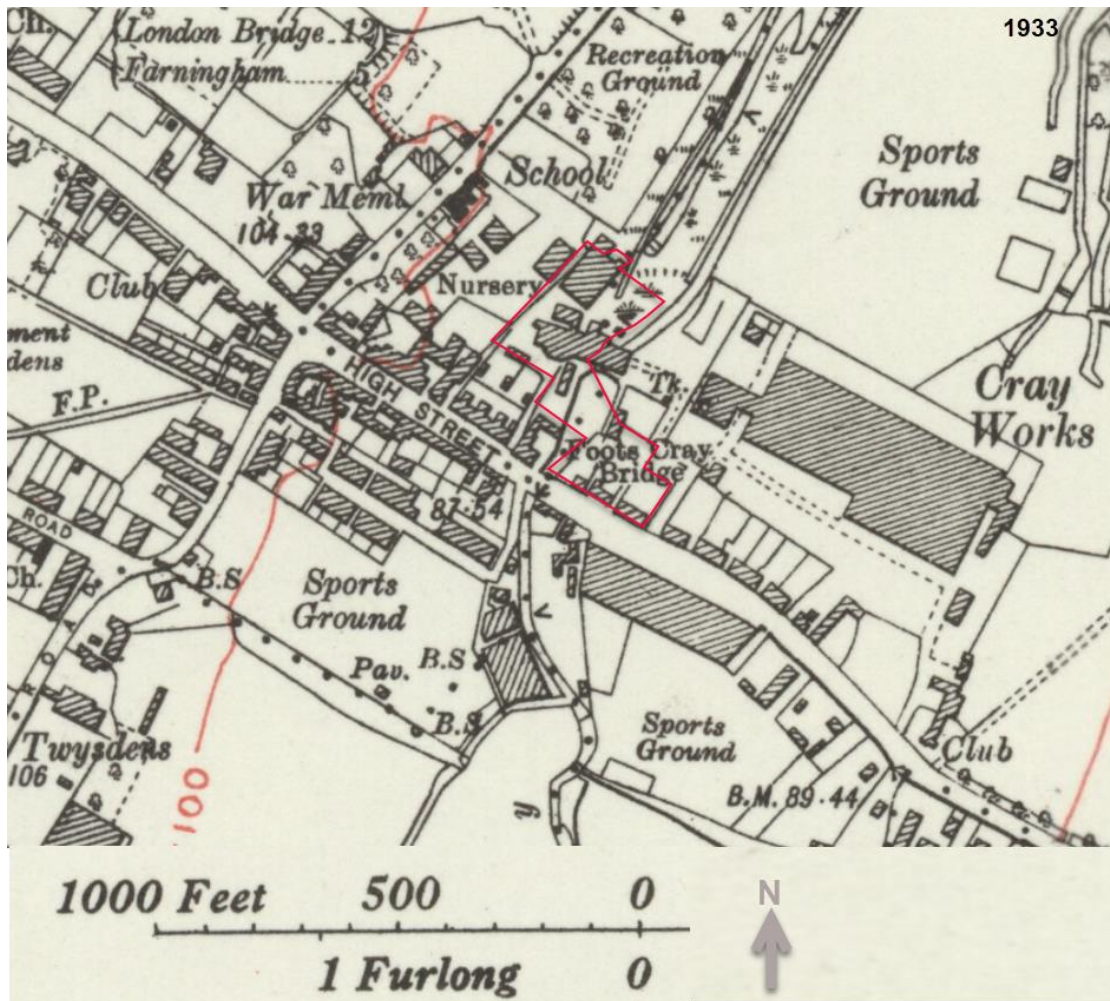


Figure 9: Historic OS Map 1933

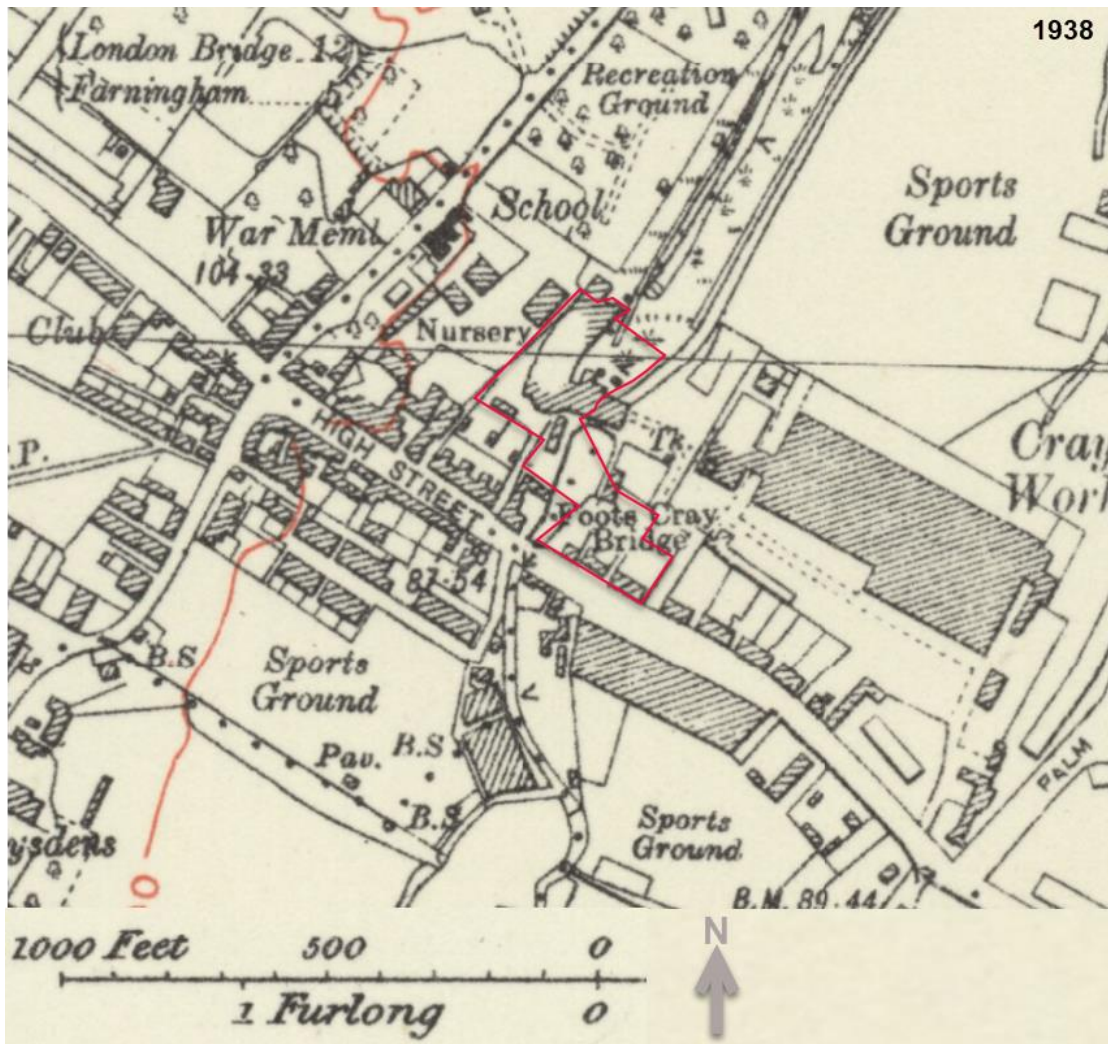


Figure 10: Historic OS Map 1938

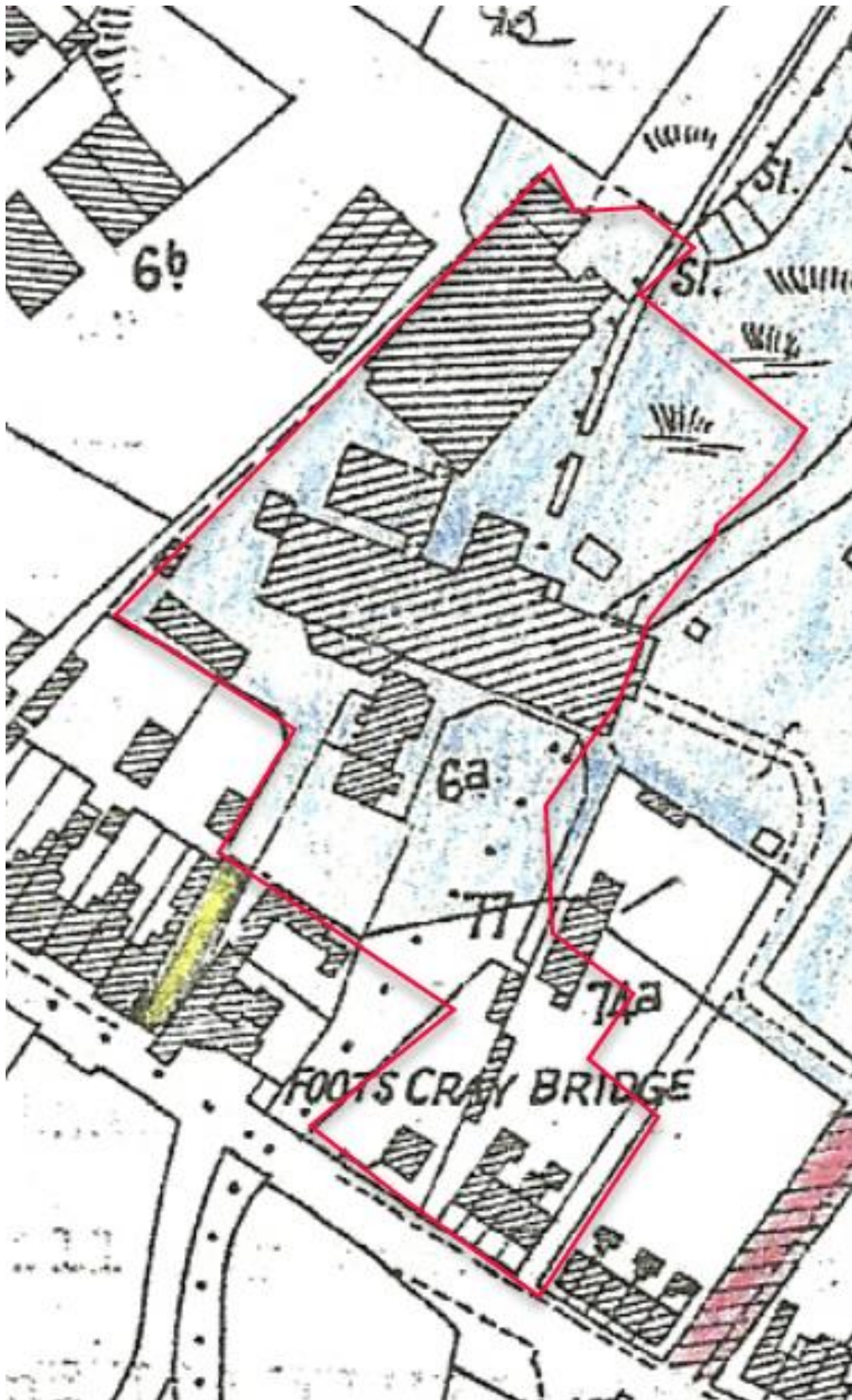


Figure 11: 1939 Map in Deeds

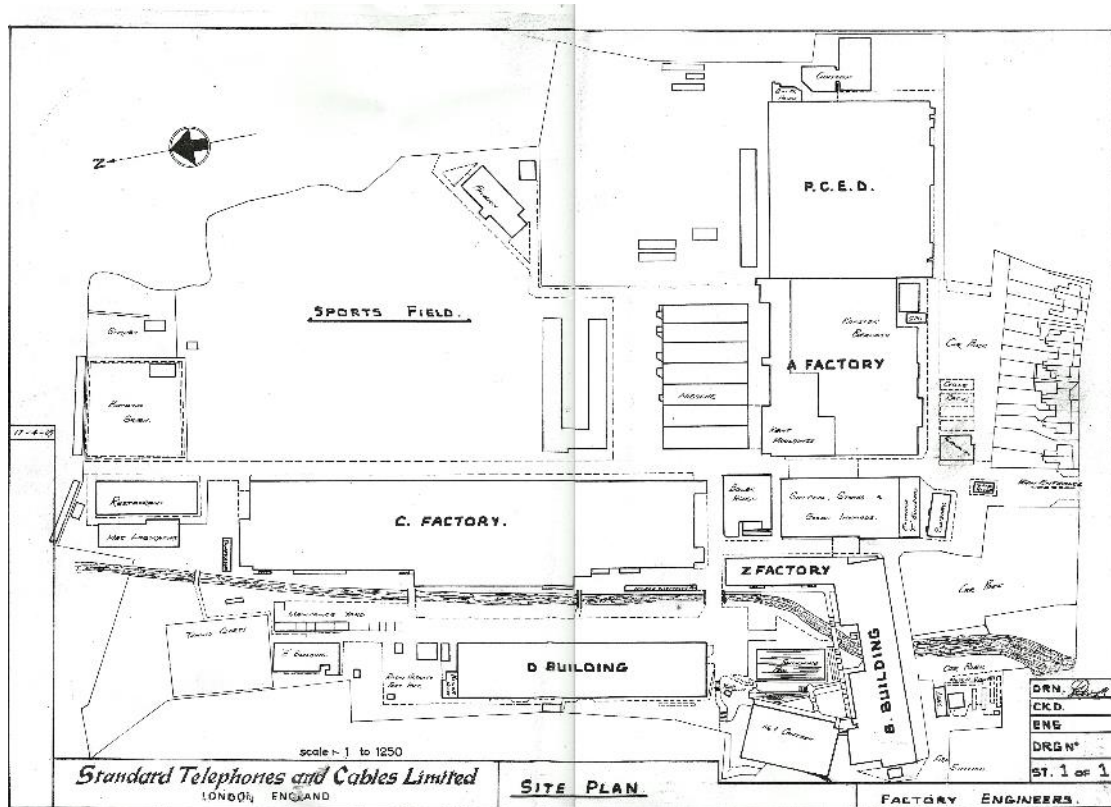


Figure 12: Building Plan (undated)

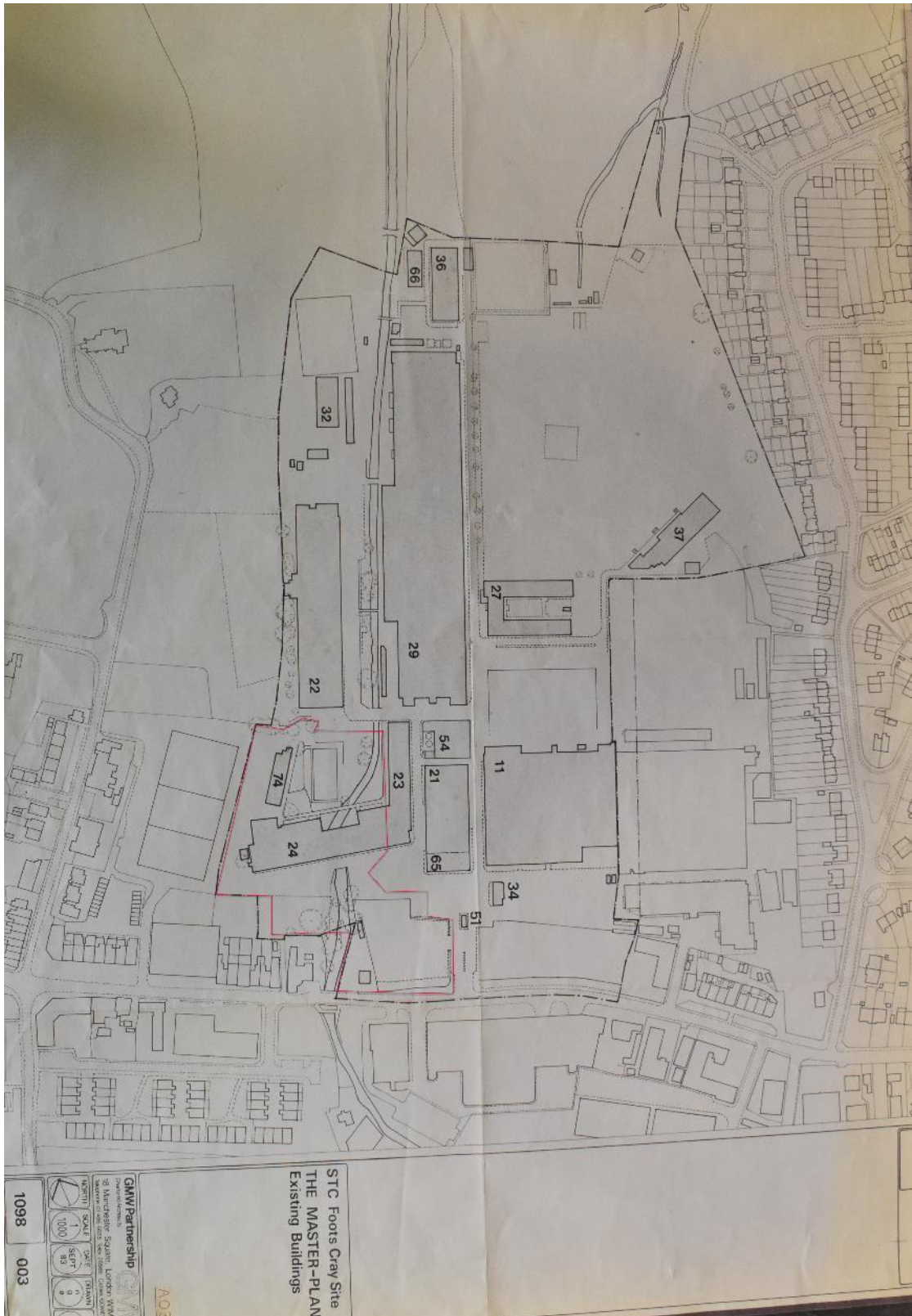


Figure 13: Buildings as at 1983 (GMW Architects)



Figure 14: Proposal showing River House and the new Simi-Conductor Building (GMW Architects)

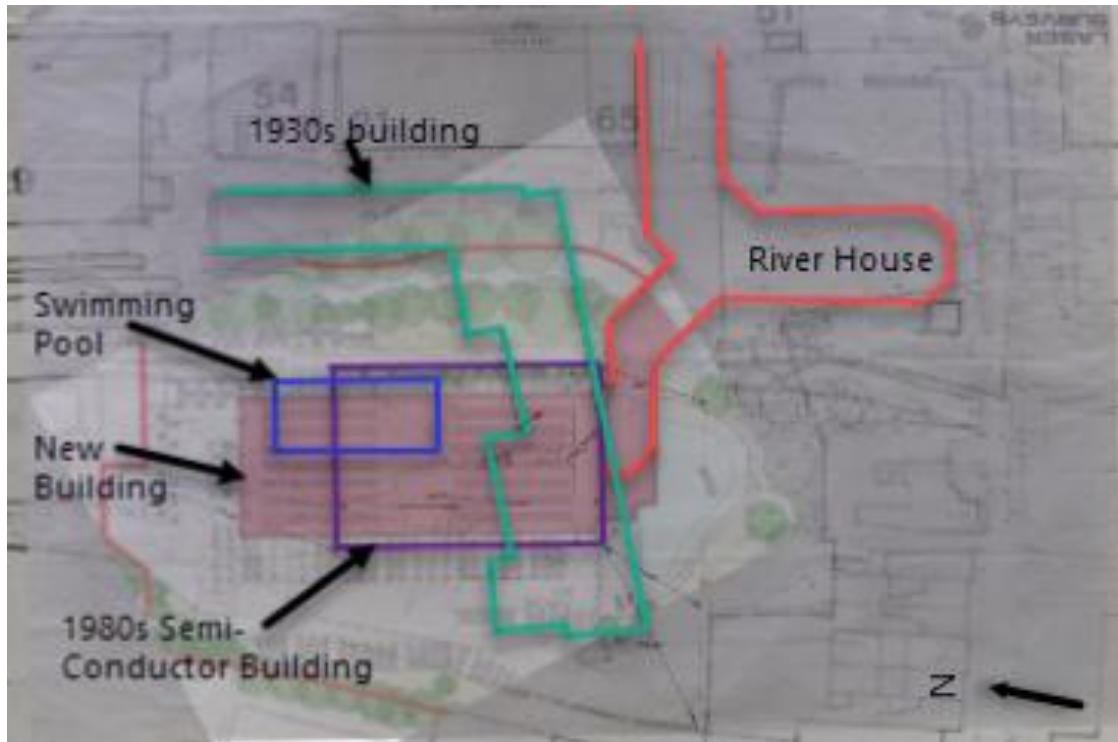


Figure 15: Overlay of map features in PDA Area

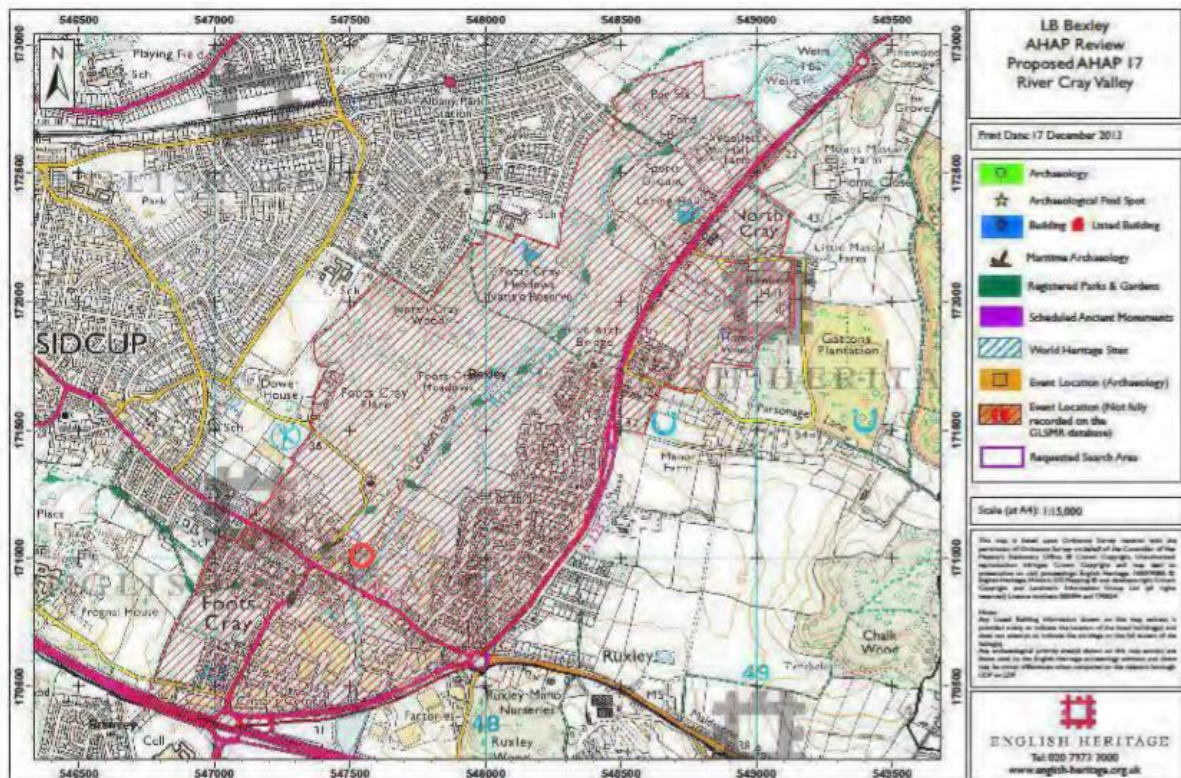


Figure 16: Area of High Archaeological Potential, Area 17 – River Cray Valley, London Borough Bexley

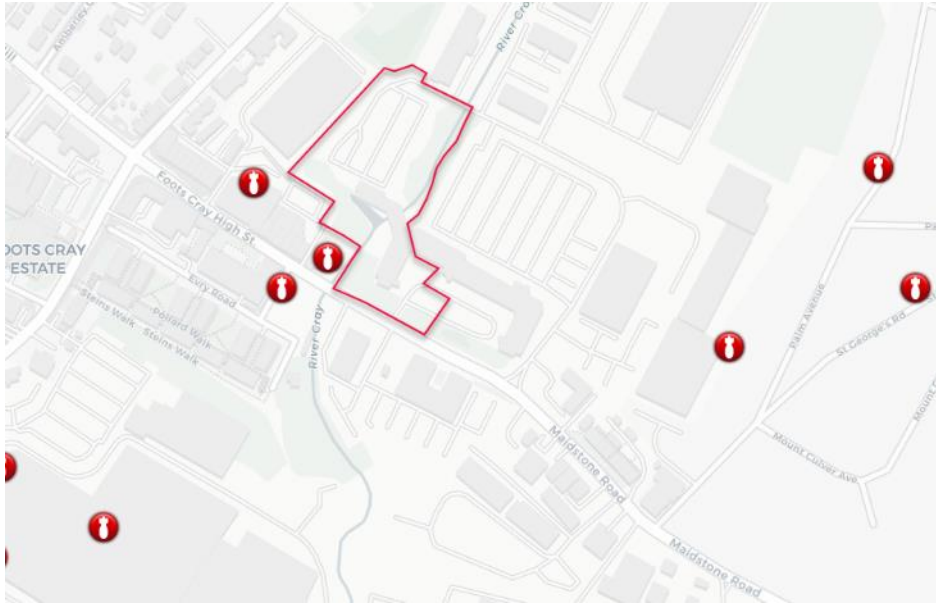


Figure 17: Mapping WW2 Bomb Census. 7th October 1940 to 6th June 1941 (Bomb Sight)

11 APPENDIX 1 – GLHER DATA (SEE FIGURES 18-21)

| GLHER | Type | Location | Period | Description |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|---|
| | HLC | | | |
| MLO66811 / DLO33581 | Locally Listed Building | c. 280m SE | Modern | No 75 Maidstone Road, Tudor Parade, Sidcup. Locally Listed Building (DLO33581). part of an inter-war terrace of two storeys plus attics built in 1936 for G S Ferdinando (1869-1949), an Estate Agent of Audley House, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, London W1 (by 1939 at Basildon Court, 27b Devonshire Street, Marylebone NW1). The building retains the local historic and/or architectural interest that warranted inclusion on the current approved Local List. It is therefore recommended that the building remains on the revised and updated Local List. |
| MLO66814 / DLO33580 | Locally Listed Building | c. 100m WNW | Post Medieval | Harenc School, Rectory Lane. Locally Listed building (DLO33580). originally the Footscray National School, on Rectory Lane was opened in 1882. It is constructed from yellow and red brick, with a tiled roof, alternating with plain and fishscale bands. There are two storey and the main block has two cross wings. The north wing has jettied oriel under gable with wide eaves, and there are applied timbers above the oriel. South wing is taller, also it is gabled with large windows with stone mullions and transoms. The first school built on the site was 1816. New extension to east 1996. Reason for addition to London Borough of Bexley Local List: The building retains the local historic and/or architectural interest that warranted inclusion on the current approved Local List. It is therefore |

| | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------|--|
| | | | | recommended that the building remains on the revised and updated Local List |
| MLO66804 / DLO33582 | Locally Listed Building | c. 170m SW | Post Medieval | The Red Lion, Fooks Cray High Street. Locally listed building (DLO33582). An early 19th century public house with later alterations and is occupying two distinct buildings. To the left is a three-bay, three storey building in yellow stock brickwork roughcast to front with smooth rendered gable ends and red plain-tiled roofs. The right hand gable end has incised coursing. Twin matching gables project from front pitch and there are three flat topped dormers projecting at the rear, all having casement windows. Three sash windows are to the once-jettied first floor, of which none are original, yet have interesting seven-paned designs to their upper sashes. Four gable-end stacks, each of three flues, are topped by red terracotta pots of which one is especially tall and has faired inlets at base. To the right is a two storey, two bay former shop with accommodation above also in yellow stock brickwork, roughcast to front, with red plain tiles between gables with two central stacks and low parapets. This building was incorporated circa 1940 when a substantially glazed shop front with seven pilasters and panelled timber stallrisers was built across both premises standing forward of the original building by 2 metres. Reason for addition to Local Listing: The building retains the local historic and/or architectural interest |
| MLO78475 / DLO14159 | Nationally Listed Building | c.150m WNW | Post Medieval | No. 170 (Old House), Rectory Lane. Grade II listed (198712). dating to the early 19th century. It has two storeys and attic, with four windows and two end bays which project slightly. Two central windows are set lower than others within relieving arches; and their glazing bars are intact. The doorway is offset from centre, and has pilasters and a pediment. The building is stuccoed and there are |

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| | | | | wide eaves on paired brackets. A Hipped slate roof has two plain dormers. |
| MLO61920 | Monument | C. 150m NNW | Post Medieval | Amberley Court / Rectory Lane. A post medieval to modern ditch and associated brick structure were found near Rectory Lane, Sidcup during a watching brief in November 1999 by Museum of London Archaeology Service. The ditch ran north-south and was 1.05m wide and 0.53m deep, no finds were present and it was on the same alignment as a copper water pipe. It was also located close to the east edge of a square brick structure, which consisted of a single course of unfrosted bricks. Although no finds were recovered it is thought that both features are relevantly modern and the ditch maybe a drainage feature, or was linked to the formal laying out of the garden (house is recorded under MLO78475), and as such the brick structure may have been the remains of a garden feature. |
| MLO66806 / DLO33581 | Locally Listed Building | c. 255m SE | Modern | No. 65 Tudor Parade, Maidstone Road. Locally listed building (DLO33581). the northern house in an inter-war terrace of two storeys plus attics built in 1936 for G S Ferdinando (1869-1949), an Estate Agent of Audley House, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, London W1 (by 1939 at Basildon Court, 27b Devonshire Street, Marylebone NW1). The building retains the local historic and/or architectural interest that warranted inclusion on the current approved Local List. |
| MLO100710 / DLO33349 | Locally Listed Building | c. 100m WNW | Modern | War Memorial Adjacent to Herenc School, Rectory Lane. Locally listed building (DLO33349). Erected circa 1920. It comprises a marble cross tapering to crucifix, set on a marble block with a moulded base and coping, inscribed "TO THE MEN OF FOOTS CRAY VILLAGE WHO FOUGHT IN THE GREAT WAR 1914 1918 AND THE WORLD WAR 1939-1945". On three stepped plinth within iron railings. Reason for addition to London Borough of Bexley Local List: The memorial has local historic significance and strong community |

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|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| | | | | importance. It is a structure of architectural merit commemorating a historic event of national importance |
| MLO66812 / DLO33581 | Locally Listed Building | c. 290m SE | Modern | No. 77 Tudor Parade. Locally listed building (DLO33581). Part of an inter-war terrace of two storeys plus attics built in 1936 for G S Ferdinando (1869-1949), an Estate Agent of Audley House, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, London W1 (by 1939 at Basildon Court, 27b Devonshire Street, Marylebone NW1). |
| MLO66807 / DLO33581 | Locally Listed Building | c. 260m SE | Modern | No 67 Tudor Parade. Locally listed building (DLO33581). Part of an inter-war terrace of two storeys plus attics built in 1936 for G S Ferdinando (1869-1949), an Estate Agent of Audley House, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, London W1 (by 1939 at Basildon Court, 27b Devonshire Street, Marylebone NW1). |
| 070478/ MLO8409 | Findspot | c. 20m from western boundary of PDA | Palaeolithic | Worked scraper core found 100 yards south of the church in Foots Cray in 1911. Includes angle flakes of Aurignacian/Magdalenian type. |
| MLO66803 / DLO33583 | Locally Listed Building | c. 120m SSW | Post Medieval | Bridge over River Cray, Foots Cray High Street. Locally listed building (DLO33583). A two-arched bridge crosses the River Cray on Foots Cray High Street. It is built of red/brown bricks probably in the period 1814-1820. The arches are symmetrical, springing from a brick and stone pillar below normal river level, the roadway is now improved to such a degree that the original crest of the bridge is concealed from views along the street. It was erected on the site of earlier timber bridges one of which existed in 1705 prior to the Turnpiking of the Foots Cray - Wrotham Road in 1752. The bridge was widened on the northern side in 1909: flat concrete span with hooped-top iron railings including four ball finials between square, smooth rendered pillars to each end. The original solid parapet of fifteen courses red/brown brickwork was laid to Flemish bond with stone coping of triangular section, and survives on the south side |

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| | | | | with short returns at each end. There is a benchmark at the east end. |
| MLO79257 / DLO14172 | Nationally Listed Building | c. 30m SW of southern boundary of PDA | Post Medieval | Seven Stars Public House, Fooks Cray High Street. Grade II listed (198672). Probably 16th century or earlier. Two storeys. Timber-framed weatherboarded. Original range at right-angles to road, with gable end rising from pavement. Two sashes on ground floor; small window in gable. Main entrance front with one sash and one casement. Right-hand part faced in roughcast and 20th century porch in angle below. Side and back of old range also of painted weatherboarding; various sashed and other windows. Tile roof. Large 20th century extension at right angles to the original building. |
| MLO79237 / DLO14139 | Nationally Listed Building | c. 175m W | Post Medieval | 180-188 Rectory Lane (even). Grade II listed (198713). Probably built in 1737. Terrace of 5 houses. Three storeys and attic. Each house has 2 windows; flush-framed sashes with glazing bars intact. Hipped dormers to attic. Ground floor windows altered; No 184 has curved window. Six-panelled doom. Red brick, colour-washed; brick stringcourses between storeys; moulded wooden eaves cornice; tile roof. Rear elevation of 2 storeys, weatherboarded, with extensions. Many bricks on ground storey are initialled and dated 1737. |
| MLO79230 / DLO14132 | Nationally Listed Building | c. 150m SW | Post Medieval | Tudor Cottages, Fooks Cray High Street. No. 1-4. Grade II listed (198671). late 15th century or early 16th century. Much restored and extended Wealden house; timber-framed; largely rebuilt behind facade. Formerly open central hall, flanked by 2-storeyed jettied wings under a single hipped roof, with small gablets at each end. Now modernised and storeyed throughout. Four windows to each floor; those to right being in modern extension. |
| MLO66810 / DLO33581 | Locally Listed Building | c. 275m SE | Modern | No. 73 Tudor Parade, Maidstone Road. Locally listed building (DLO33581). Part of an inter-war terrace of two storeys plus attics built in 1936 for G S Ferdinando (1869-1949), an Estate Agent of |

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|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| | | | | Audley House, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, London W1 (by 1939 at Basildon Court, 27b Devonshire Street, Marylebone NW1). |
| MLO75443 | Monument | c. 300m E | Mesolithic to Iron Age | Peat deposit, No 1-31 Palm Avenue, Maidstone Road. A peat deposit was located on land between Palm Avenue and Maidstone Road, Sidcup during an evaluation by Archaeology South East in 2001 and the Museum of London Archaeology Service in 2001. The peat deposit was between 1m and 2m thick, it contained fire cracked flints and was dated to the Mesolithic to Iron Age periods. The peat is understood to have been created slowly and will therefore have poor ecological and archaeological remains, which may also have periods of hiatuses. |
| MLO66813 / DLO33581 | Locally Listed Building | c. 295m SE | Modern | No. 79 Tudor Parade, Maidstone Road. Locally listed building (DLO33581). It is the southernmost house of an inter-war terrace of two storeys plus attics built in 1936 for G S Ferdinando (1869-1949), an Estate Agent of Audley House, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, London W1 (by 1939 at Basildon Court, 27b Devonshire Street, Marylebone NW1). |
| MLO66809 / DLO33581 | Locally Listed Building | c. 270m SE | Modern | No 71 Tudor Parade, Maidstone Road. Locally listed building (DLO 33581). Part of an inter-war terrace of two storeys plus attics built in 1936 for G S Ferdinando (1869-1949), an Estate Agent of Audley House, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square, London W1 (by 1939 at Basildon Court, 27b Devonshire Street, Marylebone NW1). |
| MLO100711 / DLO33348 | Locally Listed Building | c. 190m W | Modern | 20 th century stable block, Rectory Lane. Locally listed building (DLO33348). It has twin gables, and is weatherboarded. It is located within the curtilage of the Grade II listed Old House. |
| MLO66808 / DLO33581 | Locally Listed Building | c. 265m SE | Modern | No. 69 Tudor Parade, Maidstone Road. Locally listed building (DLO33581). |
| 070315 / MLO6615 | Findspot | c. 20m from western boundary of PDA | Neolithic | Bank of Cray River, Flaked flint found in alluvium. Celt like implement of bluish-grey with beginnings of white patina on the |

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| | | | | more convex face. Flatter face flaked all over. One side edge even and straight, the other rather zigzag, pointed butt. |
| 070481/ MLO8411 | Findspot | c. 420m ENE | Neolithic | Unfinished flint axe and leaf shaped arrowhead found in Bedens Field. Now Palm Avenue. Now built over. |
| 070492 / MLO8418 | Monument | c. 480m NE | Roman | Remains of a bath house with adjoining kitchen hut in 1956 in Bedens Fields, now Palm Avenue. A ditched enclosure was observed and investigated in nearby builders trenches. The site was subsequently covered by building estate. The bath house was excavated. It consisted of a 1st century AS Apsidal bath; lead waste pipe and tiles were also found. Next to the bath house there was a 250ft square ditched enclosure which was observed during building work and the north-east corner was also investigated. A ditch on average 9ft wide and 3ft deep was observed here. Initial 1st century AD silting of the ditch occurred, and then a final fill occurred in c.2nd century AD. Much of finds the indicated intense sheep and cattle farming with associated finds including: mass dismembered bones, sheep shears, heavy butchers knife, and tethering chains). A kitchen hut adjoining the bath house was also excavated. Two chalk block floors with a layer of occupational debris (AD80) was found between them. Beneath the lower floor, pieces of bead rim pot was found, dated to the mid-1st century AD. Adjoining the initial 250ft enclosure were found traces of four huts similar to the kitchen hut which was found near the bath house. All huts were chalk floored. Evidence of 4th century AD occupation was found in a compact but limited layer of flints, tiles, bones and pottery debris which survived being ploughed out in the topmost levels of the ditch. |
| 070587 / MLO2471 | Monument | c. 360m N | Post Medieval | House in Rectory Lane owned by Sir Francis Walsingham (1532-1590), Secretary of State to Elizabeth I. 1685 map shows 'E' shaped house situated by the river behind the church. Pulled down and |

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| | | | | new house built in 1754. Site may be at a small terraced area to the south east of the churchyard. |
| MLO79176 / DLO14078 | Nationally Listed Building | c. 290m N | Medieval | Parish Church of All Saints, Rectory Lane. Grade II* listed (198711). Church largely rebuilt circa 1863 by Henry Hakewill; though west spire and west porch belong to earlier church, also single lancet, 2 Perpendicular windows and wide arch to north aisle. Flint with stone bands and dressings; red tile roof. Nave with west porch, chancel, south chapel, north vestries and organ chamber. Wooden bell tower over nave, with shingled broached spire. Interior includes late 12th century font, with water-leaf capitals to corner shafts; gate to rood-loft stairs dated 1638; mid C14 effigy |
| 070495 / MLO8423 | Findspot | c. 370m ESE | Roman | Course Roman pottery found at the Mount Culver Estate in 1935 in a sewer trench and in 1931 near the springs by the estate. |
| MLO103363 | Monument | c. 260m NW | Palaeolithic | North Cray Gravel Pit. Baugh Road/ Rectory Lane. The former North Cray Gravel Pit produced evidence of an Upper Palaeolithic lithic working site with a number of finds in 1904-5 by Mr Arnold Vansittart. Many implements were found in situ within the pit. The pit has numerous names: 'North Cray pit', 'Fooks Cray Gravel Pit', 'Pit near Fooks Cray'. Land surface was recorded at approx. 27m O.D. The stratigraphy at the site was recorded as: Alluvium (0.9m) Gravel (2.4m) Unexposed sediments hidden beneath water level. The finds were situated in the base of the alluvium, on top of the gravel. The exact findspot locations have not been recorded, but are known to have come from the pit. The majority of the finds are now located at the British Museum. |
| MLO98352 | Monument | c. 290m N | Post Medieval | Cemetery. All Saint's Church, Rectory Lane. The eastern portion of the churchyard is situated at the corner of the former parkland of Fooks Cray Place. In appearance it is a 19th Century churchyard but overlays a much earlier burial ground; a grave recorded before it became illegible was dated 1656. The enlargement of the lower |

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| | | | | portion to the east included part of the park, and has a large Cedar of Lebanon. There are some good monuments, plus a lychgate, and 19th Century trees including a number of yews and lime trees on the north east boundary. |
| MLO100968 / DLO33655 | Locally Listed Building | c. 460m WSW | Modern | No 57 (Burchston) Suffolk Road. Locally listed building (DLO33655). A bungalow built in 1928. It is one of a pair built for Edward Burch (hence name) of 20 South Crescent, Lewisham by A E Walters. The building is yellow brick with stone dressings and a gabled concrete tile roof. The main entrance is in a modern porch. There are two windows either side, which are UPVC. Stone quoins and stone plat band at right gable end. |
| MLO100761 / DLO33280 | Locally Listed Building | c. 330m NNE | Post Medieval | Penny Farthing Bridge, Fooks Cray Meadows. Locally listed building (DLO33280). a post medieval bridge comprising a single brick arch with a very small secondary arch adjacent to the east bank of the river. It is constructed from yellow stock bricks, laid in lime mortar with penny struck joints. (There are currently no parapets but beneath the plant growth there are traces of square brick piers on both banks and each side of the footpath where any parapets would have terminated. |
| 070531/ MLO10938 | Findspot | c. 420m ENE | Roman | Colour coated sherd found in 1956 near Ellenborough Road. |
| 070479/ MLO10932 | Findspot | c. 460m E | Palaeolithic | East Bank of the River Cray. Worked angle flakes, duck-bill scraper and scraper core found in 1905. |
| MLO100967 / DLO33654 | Locally Listed Building | c. 450m WSW | Modern | No. 53 (Burchcote), Suffolk Road. Locally listed building (DLO33654). A bungalow built in 1928. It is one of a pair built for Edward Burch (hence name) of 20 South Crescent, Lewisham by A E Walters. The house is yellow brick with stone dressings and a hipped concrete tile roof. A central door is under a canopy on timber supports resting on stone brackets. Two flat arched windows are either side of the door with stone dressings, pilasters. There are |

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| | | | | UPVC windows. Left return has one blocked window and two windows in extension. |
| MLO79186 / DLO14088 | Nationally Listed Building | c. 500m W | Post Medieval | Walnut Tree Cottage, Grade II listed (198740). Cottage circa early C17. Rendering, probably over timber framed construction. Plain tiled pitched roof to eaves. 2 storeys. 2 main bays. Central entrance with 19th century/20th century porch. Square headed 2-light casement windows. 'L' shaped stack to right return. Retains evidence of probable smoke bay on site of staircase. |
| 071701 / MLO72459 | Monument | c. 300m NW | Post Medieval/Modern | Rectory Lane. Site of landfill taken from British Geological Survey data supplied to the Environment Agency. It is not known whether this site was made or worked land, and the date of infill is unknown, although all of 19th/20th century date. |
| 070480 / MLO8410 | Findspot | c. 480m ENE | Mesolithic | Tranchet axe found at 9 Harvill Road. |
| 070482 / MLO8412 | Findspot | c. 450m E | Bronze Age | Flint tools including Discoidal Scrapers with Neolithic material found during gravel workings. |
| MLO59800 | Landscape | c. 300m N | Post Medieval to Modern | Rectory Lane/Bexley Lane/Leafield Lane/North Cray Road [Foots Cray Meadows], Sidcup, Bexley, London {18th century landscaped parks. Foots Cray Meadows (also referred to as Foots Cray Place and North Cray Place) was converted into a public park in the 1960's |
| 070491 / MLO8417 | Findspot | c. 500m SSE | Roman | Sidcup By-pass. Miscellaneous Roman sherds found in 1955 when the factory was built. |

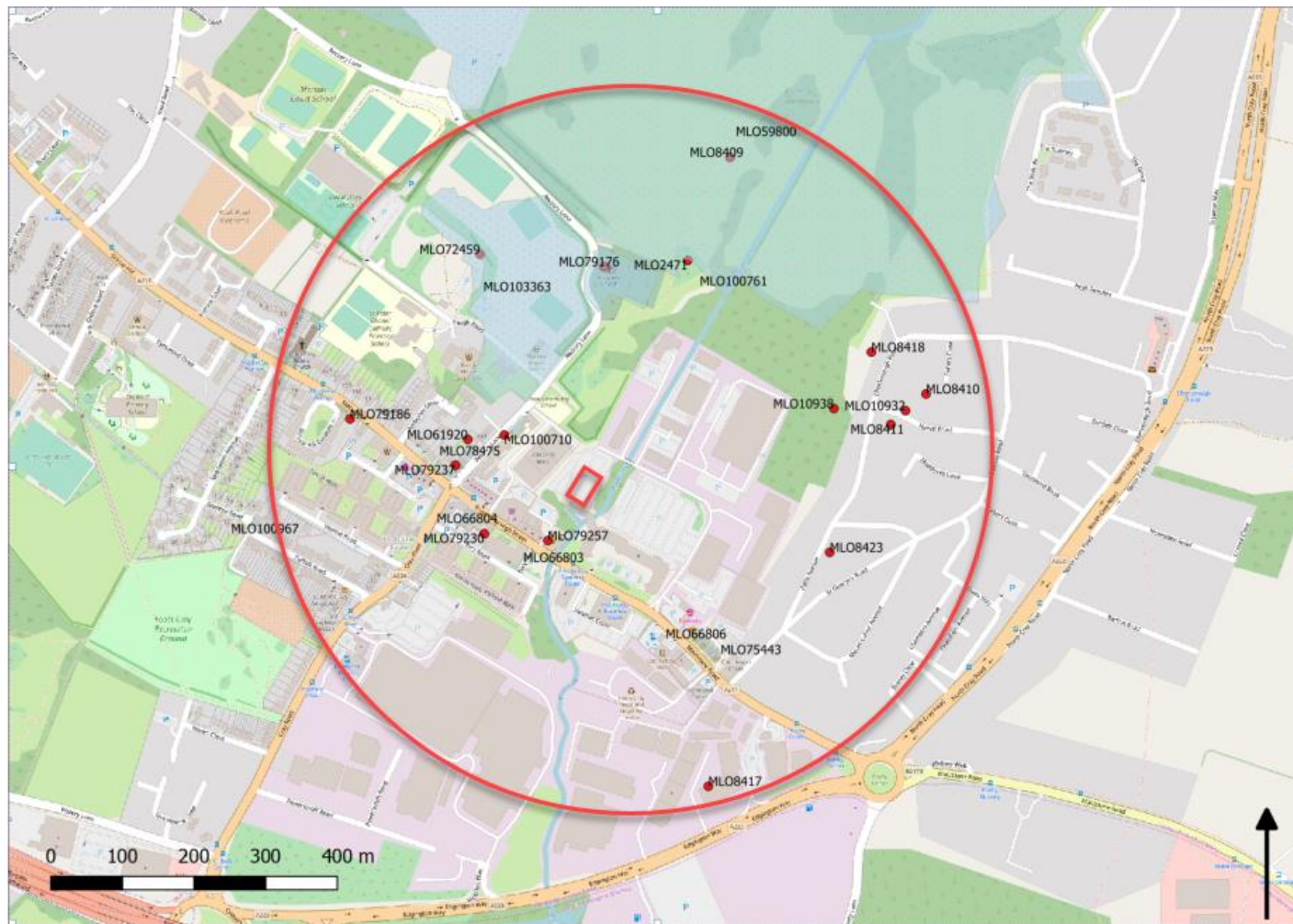


Figure 18: GLHER Monument Record

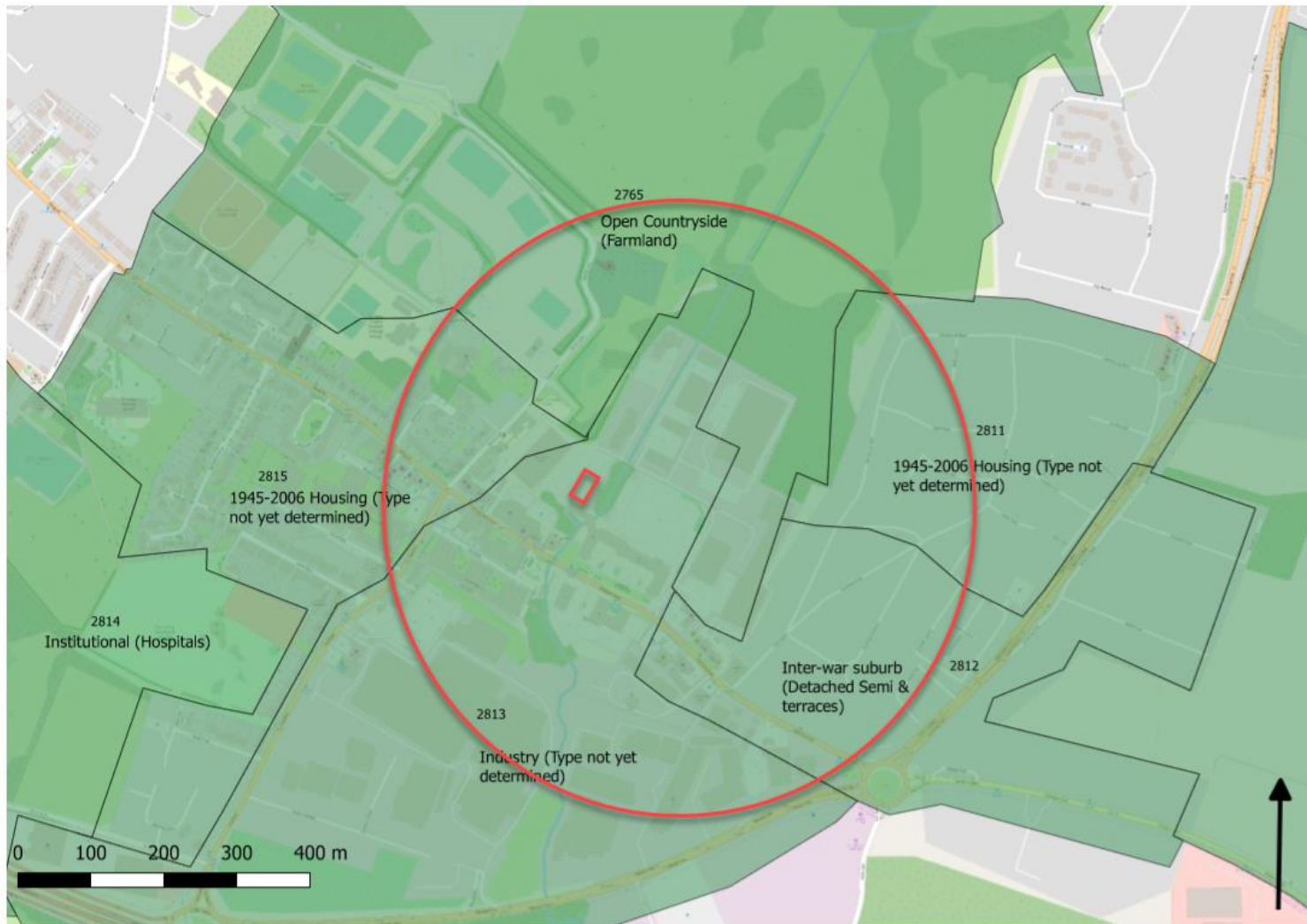


Figure 19: GLHER Historic Landscape Characterisation



Figure 20: GLHER Registered Parks & Gardens



Figure 21: GLHER, Listed Buildings, Local and National

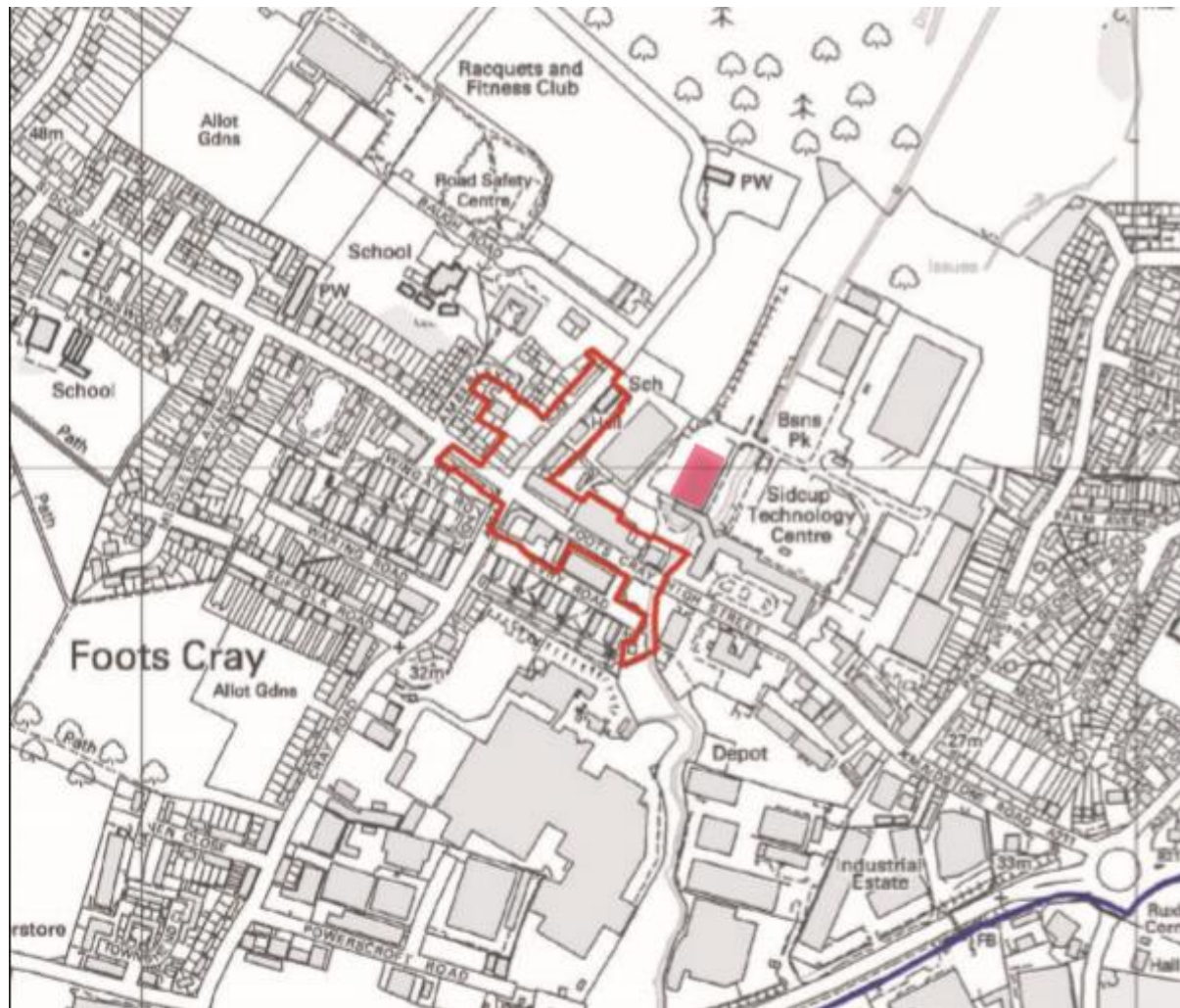


Figure 22: London Borough of Bexley Fooths Cray Conservation Area

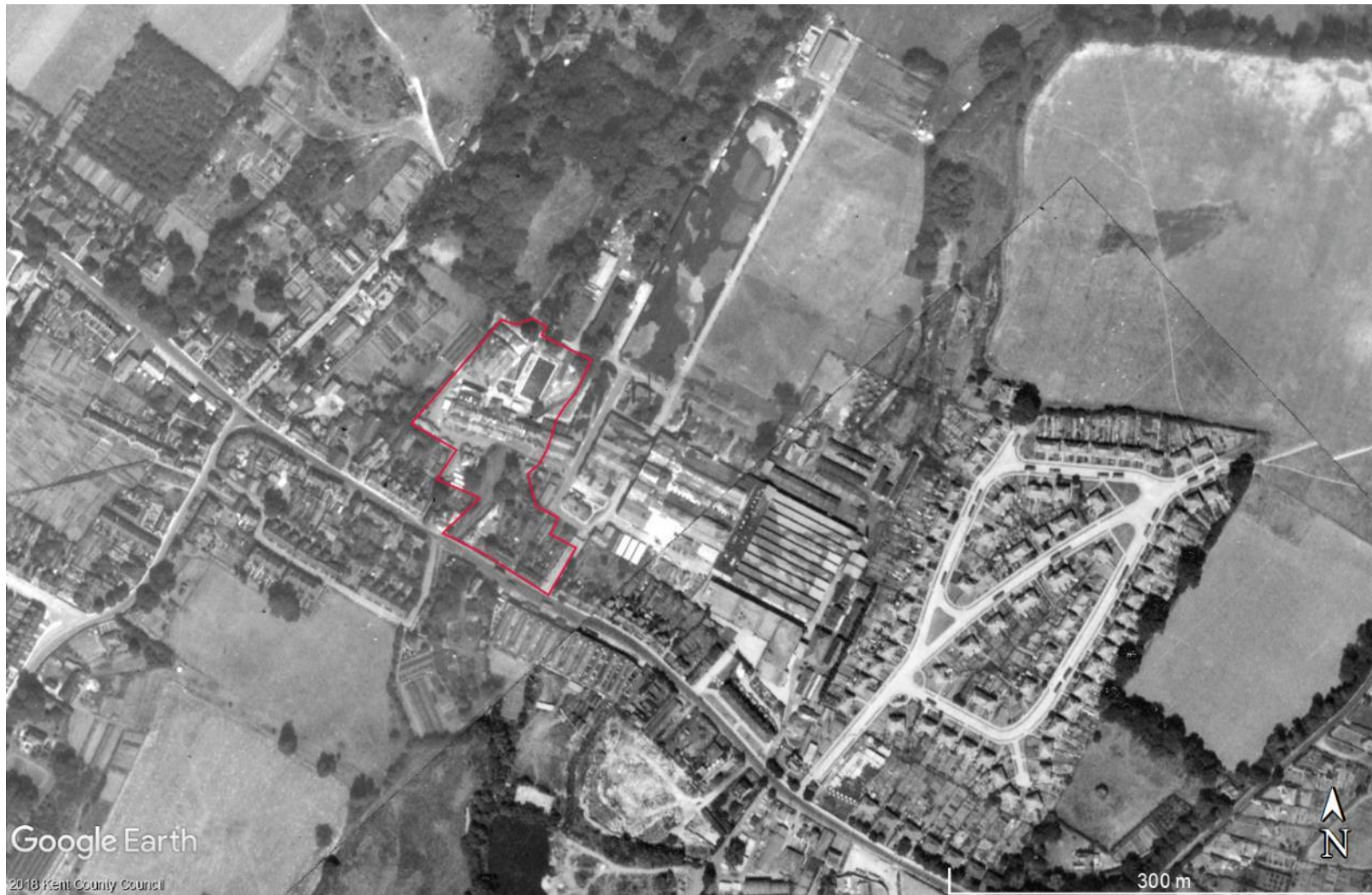


Plate 1: 1940s. All at an altitude of 971m (Google Earth).

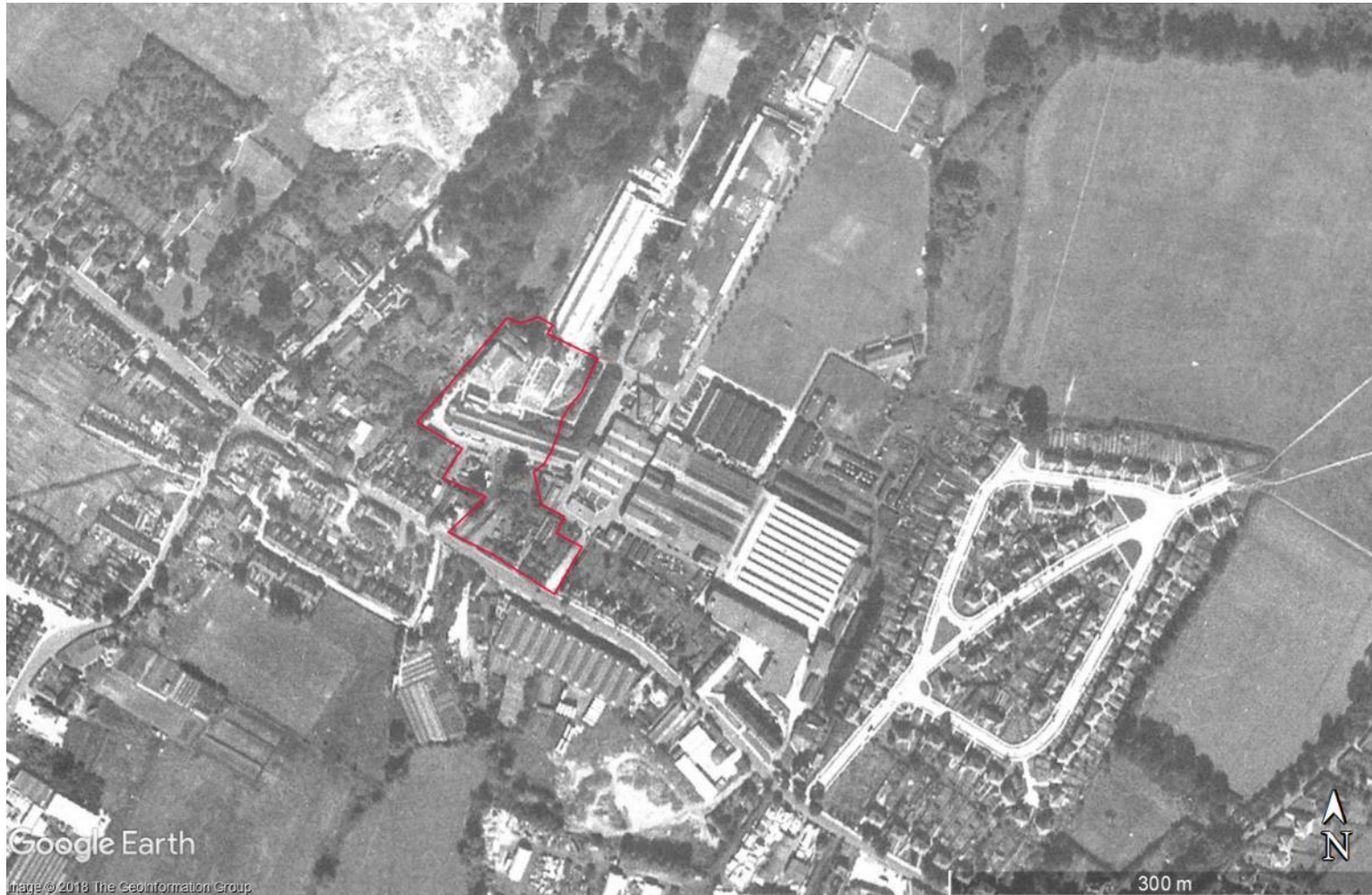


Plate 2: 1945 (Google Earth)



Plate 3: 1960 (Google Earth)



Plate 4: 2003 (Google Earth)



Plate 5: 2018 (Google Earth)

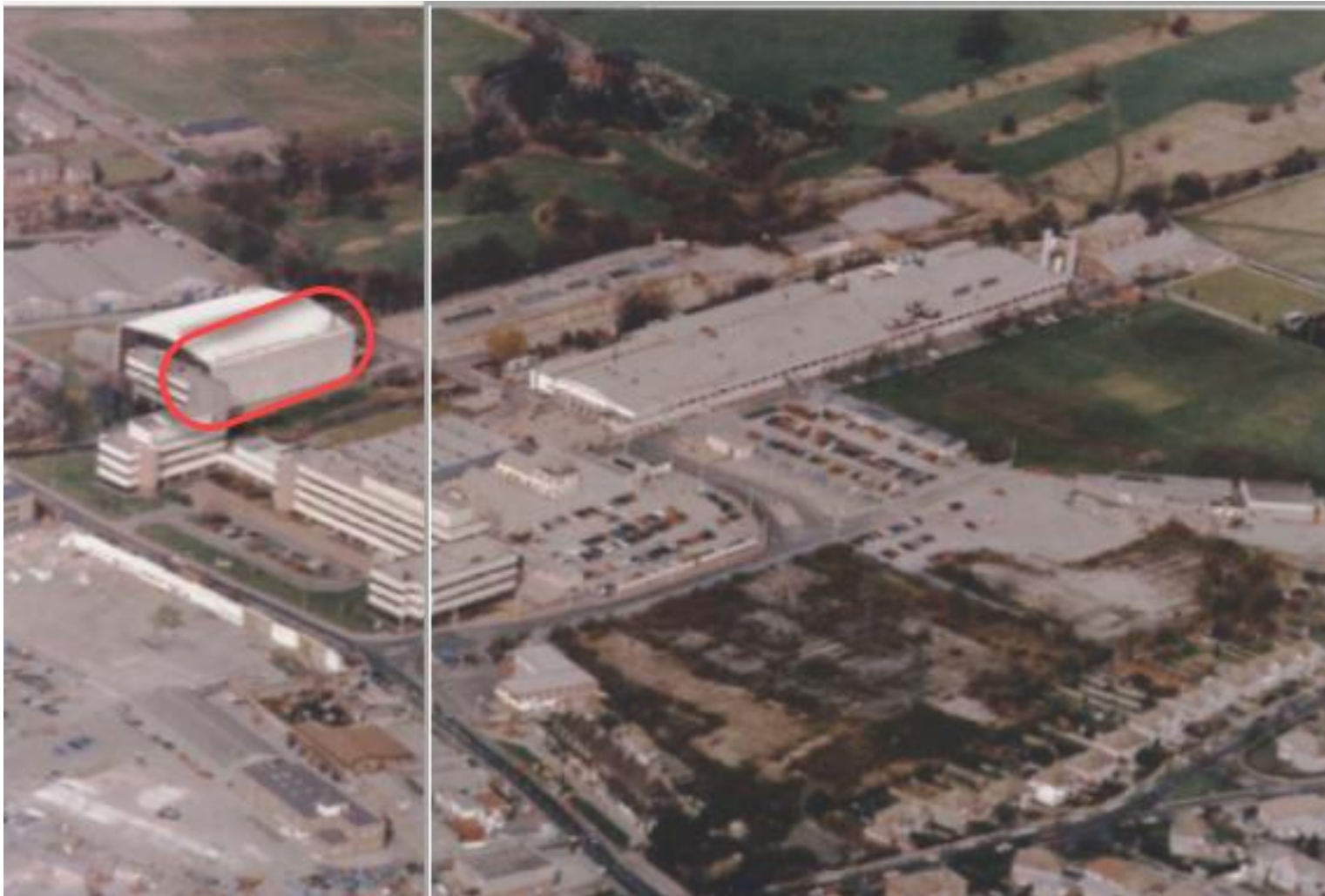


Plate 6: View of the semi-conductor plant in the late 1980s (Farwell Fooks Cray, Northern Telecom).



Plate 7: View of the original Foots Cray Mill, date unknown (millsarchive.org)



Plate 8: Entrance to River House (facing NNW)



Plate 9: View of the new build part of the PDA from the roof of River House (facing N)



Plate 10: View across the PDA from under River House (facing N)



Plate 11: View towards the PDA (facing NNE).



Plate 12: View the southern boundary of the new build part of the PDA (facing ESE).



Plate 13: View across the new build part of the PDA from northern boundary (facing S)



Plate 14: View along eastern boundary of the new built part of the PDA (facing SSW)



Plate 15: View along the southern boundary on the new build part of the PDA (facing WNW)



Plate 16: View of the River Cray from underneath River House (facing SSW)

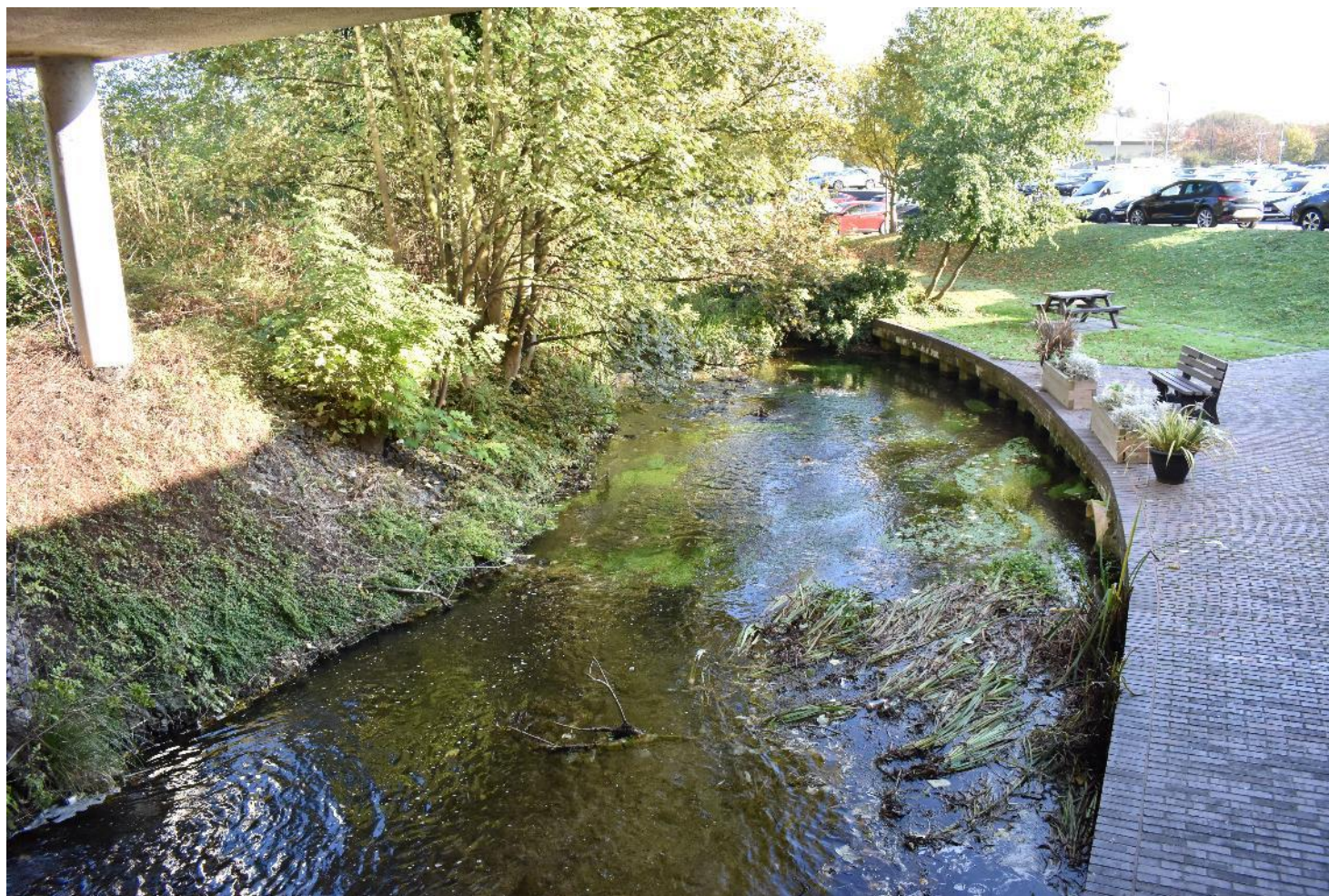


Plate 17: View of the River Cray from underneath River House (facing NNE)

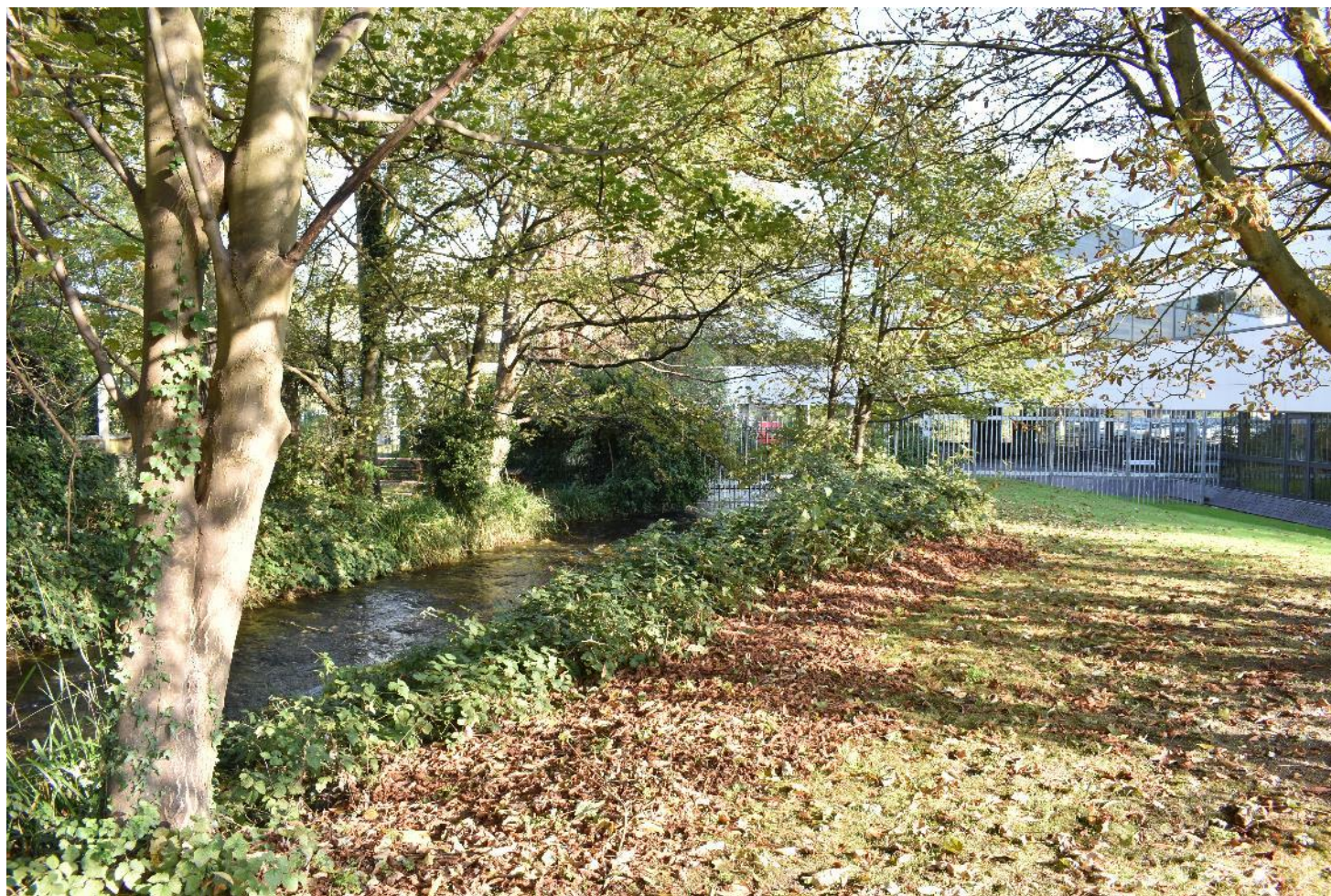


Plate 18: View towards the PDA from Maidstone Road beside the bridge (facing N)



Plate 19: View towards the Seven Stars from the southern boundary of the PDA (facing WSW)



Plate 20: View towards River House from the rear garden of the Seven Stars (facing NNE)