



**Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in
Relation to the Proposed Development at
the Old Roman Oyster Beds, Reculver
Lane, Reculver, Kent.**

June 2020

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Relation to the Proposed Development at the Old Roman Oyster Beds, Reculver Lane, Reculver, Kent.

National Grid Reference TR 23039 69347



Report for Whitstable Oyster Company Limited

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Relation to the Proposed Development at the Old Roman Oyster Beds, Reculver Lane, Reculver, Kent.

Summary

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by the Whitstable Oyster Company Limited to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in relation to the Proposed Development at the Old Roman Oyster Beds, Reculver Lane, Reculver, Kent.

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

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

Reculver is circa 3 miles east of Herne Bay and nine miles north east of Canterbury on the north Kent coast. The PDA, an area of approximately circa 1.25 acres, is located east of the Reculver Towers and south of the promenade and the beach. The PDA comprises two storage buildings which are used solely in connection with the commercial agricultural operation on the site of a shellfish hatchery. The shellfish hatchery, approximately 1020 metres in length, is located directly adjacent to the application and is under the same ownership as it, however does not form part of this application site. The existing car parking area within the PDA is located in front of, or to the north of, the existing buildings on site. Vehicular access to the site is direct from Reculver Road and a spine road runs through the site to the northeast where it connects with a smaller lane. The site access is existing and has been used for a number of years in connection with the oyster hatchery on this site. The focal point of the village surrounds the Reculver Towers being the remains of a Medieval church and Roman Fort, which is situated on

a knoll, means that they are highly visible from the surrounding landscape. This area is classed as a scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) of which immediately west to the area of the PDA. Aside the Towers, to the west is a public car park and Visitor Centre and the King Ethelbert Pub, with caravan parks either side of Reculver Road. These form the eastern end of the Reculver country Park and also part of a conservation area. Surrounding Reculver to the south are arable fields crossed by a large number of drainage ditches in what is a low-lying flat landscape.

The finding of hand axes on the beach and standing remains has meant that the area around the PDA has attracted the attention of antiquarians and archaeologist over the past few centuries, which has led to large number of excavations and KHER records in the assessment area to the west and south west. The area has been used from the Prehistoric period onwards and it has a coastline that has also changed dramatically. Immediately to the west, is the designated Roman Saxon Shore fort noted in documentary sources as Regulbium, which later became the site of an Anglo-Saxon monastery and is a site of national importance Prehistoric activity is also known in the wider area to the west of the PDA on evidence from the eroding cliffs. However, in this Prehistoric and Roman period, the PDA is likely to have been part of the Wantsum channel. The PDA only being used probably as land from the Medieval period when the Wantsum Channel silted up, although there is no certainty as to the exact edge of the coastline. It is possible that the area in and around the PDA was used as saltings and in the Post Medieval period became used as a fishery, going out of use in the late 19th century before coming back into use in the late 20th century. However, Romans exploited Oysters and it is unknown exactly whether and where this took place at Reculver. Being on the periphery of any settlement area, the likelihood of archaeology from the Roman period onwards is unclear and cannot be discounted but is considered to be low/moderate.

The proposed development is for the use of the existing buildings within the PDA as a micro-brewery. This would involve re-cladding the external walls with corrugated metal, re-roofing the main building, erecting a small single storey link extension between the small storage unit and the main unit, erecting a flat roof over the small storage unit and the proposed link extension, inserting new windows and doors to the storage unit, internal alterations. The overall potential for surviving archaeology is considered low given the past disturbance in the 19th century when the area of the PDA had water channel and ponds created for the fishery. Consequently, the impact of the proposed development in terms of the underground storage tank given its depth below the ground surface will have a total impact on any potential

surviving archaeology. The area of the extension requiring piling will have a high impact. Given the low potential for archaeology and historical below ground disturbance, the need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities but it is recommended that any below ground works are to be supervised by an approved archaeologist working to a Written Scheme of Investigation approved by the Local Planning Authority for a watching brief.

In terms the Scheduled Monument, the proposals associated with the development are extremely minor and considered to have a negligible magnitude of impact. To a Heritage Asset classed of high value, this would result overall in a slight impact and is considered to amount to 'less than substantial' harm to the setting or significance of the Scheduled asset.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by the Whitstable Oyster Company Limited (the 'Client'), to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment in relation to the proposed development area (the PDA) at the Old Roman Oyster Beds, Reculver Lane, Reculver, Kent centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TR 23039 69347 (Fig 1).

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 Reculver is circa 3 miles east of Herne Bay and nine miles north east of Canterbury on the north Kent coast. The PDA, an area of approximately circa 1.25 acres, is located east of the Reculver Towers and south of the promenade and the beach. The PDA comprises two storage buildings which are used solely in connection with the commercial agricultural operation on the site of a shellfish hatchery. The shellfish hatchery, approximately 1020 metres in length, is located directly adjacent to the application and is under the same ownership as it, however does not form part of this application site. The existing car parking area within the PDA is located in front of, or to the north of, the existing buildings on site. However, the car parking is more informal, and through limited use over the years has vegetation growing over part of it. Vehicular access to the site is direct from Reculver Road and a spine road runs through the site to the northeast where it connects with a smaller lane. The site access is existing and has been used for a number of years in connection with the oyster hatchery on this site.
- 1.2.2 Reculver is a small village with very little by way of permanent residents. It is accessed via a single road called Reculver Lane from the A299 Thanet Way. The focal point of the village surrounds the Reculver Towers being the remains of a Medieval church and Roman Fort, which is situated on a knoll, means that they are highly visible from the surrounding landscape. This area is classed as a scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) of which immediately west to the area of the PDA. Aside the Towers, to the west is a public car park and Visitor Centre and the King Ethelbert Pub. These form the eastern end of the Reculver country Park and also part of a conservation area. On the approach to the main car park in Reculver are caravan parks on both sides of the road, although the majority are

on the southern side. These caravan parks are predominately static although, some now have 'log cabin' types. The parks include permanent buildings in the form of shops, club houses and shower blocks and access roads. Surrounding Reculver to the south are arable fields crossed by a large number of drainage ditches in what is a low-lying flat landscape. The PDA lies at 3m aOD (Fig. 1).

Geology

1.2.3 The British Geological Society (BGS 1995) shows that the local geology at the PDA consists of bedrock comprising of Thanet Formation – Sand, Silt and Clay. At the PDA there are superficial deposits of Tidal Flat Deposits – Clay and Silt deposits when the area was part of the Wantsum. The area immediately to the west considered part of the historical coastline when the Wantsum existed. Boreholes in the area of the church from 1953 (BGS-TR26NW4) and immediately north west of the PDA in 1991 (BGS-TR26NW12) confirms that the Thanet Formation beds meet chalk at a depth of circa 31-33m below the surface. The soft sand of the exposed cliffs at Reculver are subject to erosion and mapping informs us that in the 19th century that the towers were protected by a layer of stone armoury at the beach, although the sea wall had yet to be built, which occurred during the mid-20th century. In unprotected areas the coastline retreats by about a metre a year.

Plate 1: Borehole BGS-TR26NW12

GEOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION	STRATA RECORD		THICKNESS METRES	DEPTH METRES
	NATURE OF STRATA			
	made up ground		1	1
Thanet Beds	brown sandy CLAY		9	10
" "	sticky grey CLAY		23	33
Upper Chalk	CHALK with flint bands		79	112
" "	CHALK with very hard flint bands		38	150
Middle Chalk	CHALK with hard flint bands		55	205

Geotechnical Information

1.2.4 There is no known geotechnical information.

1.3 The Proposed Development

1.3.1 The development is for the use of the existing buildings within the PDA as a micro-brewery. This would involve re-cladding the external walls with corrugated metal, re-roofing the main building, erecting a small single storey link extension

between the small storage unit and the main unit, erecting a flat roof over the small storage unit and the proposed link extension, inserting new windows and doors to the storage unit, internal alterations. (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 2019): 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 Local Policies

2.3.1 Canterbury City Council has a Local Plan adopted in 2017. The plan has a number of policies relevant to archaeology:

- POLICY HE1: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets
- POLICY HE4: Listed Buildings
- POLICY HE5: Development Affecting and Changes to Listed Buildings
- POLICY HE6: Conservation Areas
- POLICY HE8: Heritage Assets in Conservation Areas
- POLICY HE11: Archaeology
- POLICY HE12: Areas of Archaeological Interest
- POLICY HE13: Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens

2.3.2 These policies are covered in turn in more detail below.

POLICY HE1: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets

2.3.3 The City Council will support proposals which protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and the contribution it makes to local distinctiveness and sense of place. Proposals that make sensitive use of historic assets through regeneration and reuse, particularly where these bring redundant or under-used buildings and areas into an appropriate use, will be encouraged.

2.3.4 Development must conserve and enhance, or reveal, the significance of heritage assets and their settings. Development will not be permitted where it is likely to cause substantial harm to the significance of heritage assets or their setting unless it is necessary to achieve substantial public benefit that would outweigh the harm or loss, or all of the following apply:

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

2.3.6 Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use. Any development affecting directly, or the setting of, a listed or locally listed building, Conservation Area, Scheduled Monument, registered park or garden, historic landscape, or archaeological site will be required to submit a Heritage Statement with any Planning Application. The statement will need to outline and provide evidence as to the significance of the heritage asset including its setting, the likely impact of the development upon it and be proportional to the importance of the said heritage asset.

POLICY HE6: Conservation Areas

2.3.7 Development within a conservation area should preserve or enhance its special architectural or historic character or appearance.

- 2.3.8 Development, in or adjoining a conservation area, which would enhance its character, appearance, or setting will normally be permitted. Important features or characteristics, which contribute to its special character and setting, that need to be protected, include; plan form, buildings, architectural features, built form, archaeological sites, materials, trees, streets and spaces and the relationships between these features.
- 2.3.9 New development in a conservation area should aim to preserve and enhance the character and local distinctiveness of the historic environment and respect its surroundings in terms of height, massing, volume, scale, form, materials, details, roofscape, plot width and the design of any new pedestrian, cycle or vehicular access.

POLICY HE8: Heritage Assets in Conservation Areas

- 2.3.10 The City Council has a presumption in favour of the conservation of heritage assets. The more significant the asset, the greater the presumption in favour of conservation and the greater the justification required for its alteration. Proposals involving substantial harm to designated heritage assets within a conservation area will normally be refused unless it can be shown that the harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all the other criteria in Policy HE1 apply. If the proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a heritage asset, or the building, or the element affected does not contribute to the significance of the area, the harm will be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal.

POLICY HE11: Archaeology

- 2.3.11 The archaeological and historic integrity of designated heritage assets such as Scheduled Monuments and other important archaeological sites, together with their settings, will be protected and, where possible, enhanced. Development which would adversely affect them will not be permitted.
- 2.3.12 Planning applications, on sites where there is or is the potential for an archaeological heritage asset, must include an appropriate desk-based assessment of the asset.
- 2.3.13 In addition, where important or potentially significant archaeological heritage assets may exist, developers will be required to arrange for field evaluations to be

carried out in advance of the determination of planning applications. The evaluation should define:

- 2.3.14 The character, importance and condition of any archaeological deposits or structures within the application site; The likely impact of the proposed development on these features (including the limits to the depth to which groundworks can go on the site); and the means of mitigating the effect of the proposed development including: a statement setting out the impact of the development.
- 2.3.15 Where the case for development affecting a heritage asset of archaeological interest is accepted, the archaeological remains should be preserved in situ. Where preservation in situ is not possible or justified, appropriate provision for preservation by record may be an acceptable alternative. In such cases archaeological recording works must be undertaken in accordance with a specification prepared by the Council's Archaeological Officer or a competent archaeological organisation that has been agreed by the Council in advance.

POLICY HE12: Areas of Archaeological Interest

- 2.3.16 Within the Canterbury Area of Archaeological Importance and areas of recognised archaeological potential elsewhere in the District the City Council will determine planning applications involving work below ground level once the applicant has provided information in the form of an evaluation of the archaeological importance of the site, and, an assessment of the archaeological implications of the proposed development.

TV6

- 2.3.17 The Local Plan also has a policy specific to the Reculver Country Park as follows:

Proposals to further enhance the attraction of Reculver and develop Reculver Country Park as a quality attraction for visitors, in particular open-air recreational proposals, will be permitted by the Council. Any proposals would be subject to design, visual and environmental impacts, including meeting habitat regulations requirements and ensuring suitable access arrangements. Any future development at Reculver will need to have regard to the aims of the Reculver masterplan.

Reculver Masterplan (2009)

- 2.3.18 In addition to the general policies, Canterbury City Council also has a 2009 Masterplan for Reculver to provide a co-ordinated vision for the enhancement of Reculver setting out aspirations and a framework future development to improve the perception, regeneration and management of the area.
- 2.3.19 The Masterplan considered the site of the PDA in potential being a catalyst for assisting in the regeneration at Reculver. The report refers to the PDA as a site that was at the time leased by the caravanning and Camping Club site with the possibility of development of 'fixed' camping pods. However, this did not go ahead at the time. The current proposal is similar to that mentioned in the masterplan.

Reculver Management Plan 2015-2020

- 2.3.20 This is a revised Management Plan version produced in 2015. Investment has occurred in the area following the Masterplan with the improvements to the Visitor Centre and other Caravan Parks now offering higher quality log cabin caravans. There are increased number of visitor attraction events such as Heritage Open days and re-enactments The Visitors Centre has now become a café. The management plan reiterates the masterplan in confirming the objective of encouraging private businesses to make sustainable accommodation and business improvements.

Local Planning Guidance

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

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by the Whitstable Oyster Company 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 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 local Historic Environmental Record held at Kent County Council (KHER) 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 Kent County Council, the internet, Ordnance Survey and the Kent Archaeological Society. A full listing of bibliographic and cartographic documents used in this study is provided in Section 10.

Aerial photographs

4.2.6 The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-9).

Secondary and Statutory Resources

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

Walkover Survey

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

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

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This section of the assessment will focus on the archaeological and historical development of this area, placing it within a local context. Each period classification will provide a brief introduction to the wider landscape (500m radius centred on the PDA), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site’s immediate vicinity. There are no Registered Parks and Gardens, Historic Parks and Gardens or NMP cropmarks in 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 Kent HER records within the 500m assessment are dominated by the listed buildings within with centre of the village to the west and north west of the PDA. Below ground archaeology records are sparse with many relating to chance finds. The table in Figure 16 details all the KHER data in the assessment area.

5.2 Designated Heritage Assets

5.2.1 One of the tasks is 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 is one designated asset being that of the Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) listing for the Roman fort and Anglo-Saxon Monastery (Fig 26). There are no nationally listed buildings but there are three locally listed buildings in the assessment area detailed in table 2 below. These are the few remaining houses left from the Post Medieval village to the west of the Scheduled Monument. The majority of the village, has been demolished or fallen into the sea.
- 5.2.4 The Scheduled Monument of the Roman fort and the Reculver Towers are located to the west of the PDA. Of the flint walls surrounding the fort, much is covered in vegetation only allowing glimpses here and there. A footpath alongside the King Ethelbert public house follows below the southern wall before turning to follow the eastern wall, which is also the access road for the fishery. Here the path rises upwards in order that it is level with the mound of the fort at the eastern gate entrance. The fort area itself is grass and is higher on the eastern side. In the far north east corner are the remains of the parish church and the Reculver Towers. To the west of the fort area, the land slopes down sharply to meet the King Ethelbert pub and the public car park and café. South and south west of the car park are caravan sites.
- 5.2.5 Due to the locally listed buildings being located on the western side of the Roman Fort area, there is no intervisibility of these designated assets with the PDA. However, there is intervisibility between the PDA and the Scheduled Monument (Plate 15). Consequently, the PDA has the potential to impact upon the setting of the SAM. However, the proposed development changes to the buildings are considered very minor and will have no impact upon the setting of the SAM. There is no change to the car parking area nor the existing vehicular access to the site using the access road that follows the line of the boundary wall around the Roman fort area. At present it is also utilised for access by the Environment Agency at the Reculver Pumping Station and for workers at the fishery, meaning vehicular journeys are currently kept to a minimum and going forward they are expected remain minimal and not significantly different to current arrangements.

Table 2: Designated Heritage Assets

1018784	Roman / Anglo-Saxon	Saxon Shore Fort, Anglo-Saxon Monastery and Associated Remains – Scheduled Ancient Monument
TR 26 NW 1174	Post Medieval	King Ethelbert Public House. Locally listed building (7088). Dated 1843 on the keystone on the doorway, but probably earlier. L-shaped building. 2 storeys now faced with colour washed roughcast. Tiled roof with eaves cornice, 3 windows facing south and three windows facing west, glazing bars intact on first floor.
TR 26 NW 1175	Post Medieval	Reculver House. Locally listed building (7164). 18th century, 2 storeys painted brick hipped old tiled roof, 2 sashes with glazing bars intact and a 3-light sash to the ground floor. Porch with pilasters, 2 storey mid-19th century right side extension with hipped slate roof.
TR 26 NW 1138	Post Medieval	Beach Cottage. Locally listed building (7165). Probably a fisherman's cottage originally. 18th century or earlier, one storey tarred weather boarding thatched roof. Left side outside chimney stack, one casement window.

5.3 Previous Archaeological Works

5.3.1 The finding of hand axes on the beach and standing remains has meant that the area around the PDA has attracted the attention of antiquarians and archaeologist over the past few centuries, which has led to large number of excavations and KHER records in the assessment area. Focus will be given to those that have taken place close to the PDA in the immediate surrounding area. Figure 28 shows the location of some of the known excavation areas and trenches.

Excavations at Reculver, 1952 - 1969

5.3.2 A monograph pulls together a number of excavations over a couple of decades initially by the Reculver Excavation Group and then Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit along with other groups. Of the Roman fort area, only 8% of the surviving area has been excavated (4% of the original area). These have found structures within the walls of the 2nd century fort being that of the Principia, bathhouse and barracks, intervallum roads and many pits and ovens, as well as understanding

the ramparts, all to the west of the PDA. Beneath the Saxon Shore fort, evidence of an earlier fort was found through identifying ditches that was on a much smaller scale.

- 5.3.3 The monograph also refers to a drawing of what it considers to be the possible Roman coastline. The eastern and southern boundaries of the projected coastline in the Roman period are broadly in line with that of the eastern and southern boundary of the historic caravan park, east and south of Roman fort, which means that in Roman times the area of the PDA was considered as part of the Wantsum channel.
- 5.3.4 Outside of the fort walls on the eastern and southern sides, identified initially by aerial photography in 1920, were the outline of two dark parallel lines. It is understood that Roman forts were usually defended by two defensive ditches outside of the main walls. In 1958, a 75ft trench was cut across the line of the southern ditches at 135 ft from the south west corner of the main fort wall. The inner ditch was located as being 4 ft deep and 25 ft wide. The ditches were again excavated in 1962 on the eastern side circa 122 ft south of the east gatehouse. This time the outer ditch was also located. In keeping with many other Roman ditches, the profile was 'V' shaped. The two ditches were separated by a 16 ft wide berm. The outer ditch being 19 ft wide and 6 ½ inches deep. The monograph comments that these ditches were cut by four shallow pits that were considered to relate to Second World War activity. The plan of the ditches shows that the archaeological horizon was circa 15-25cm below ground level.
- 5.3.5 In 1963 during the construction of a new toilet block within the historical caravan area south east of the Roman fort, revealed a significant feature that was fully excavated. The structure was 16 x 15 ft, with multiple flues connected to a 10 ft furnace tunnel that had at the end a 9 ft wide stoke hole. The structure was identified as that of a corn dryer set into the ground and built of flint, tile and sandstone blocks set within orange clay. Post holes over the stoke hole suggested a possible canopy. The plan of the feature revealed that the feature was also just 25cm below the surface. No artefacts were recovered from the central structure although it was considered to be 3rd century in date. In the immediate area of this structure, during the construction of the historical caravan park's access road through the site in 1994/5, a 500-yard length, it was monitored by KARU. The only

major feature identified was that of a potential Roman Road running north west of the corn dryer although minor features such as pits and ditches were found. The monograph refers to minor random trial holes in the general area of the caravan site and east of the fort that showed undisturbed natural soils at shallow depths. The report refers to the forts ditches which occupied an area of circa 80 ft beyond the fort's walls. The report considered that the archaeology of the area could have been impacted and reduced by ploughing but considered that deeply cut features may survive. This was identified by the surface level being below that of the level of its foundations.

Archaeological Watching Brief Outside the Roman Fort, 1994-95, KARU

5.3.6 This was as a result of the reconstruction of 427m of roadway through the caravan site. The original roadway was removed, the formation level reduced and a wider concrete road built. In all 20 features were revealed, 17 on the northern arm and three on the western arm. Most of the features were seen on the northern arm. Moving northwards from the south east corner there were a ditch, hollow, clay lined pit, hearth alongside metalling of a Roman road, another pit and a ditch and post holes. Most features were at a depth of circa 40cm and most finds and features were Roman in date. 40 sherds of pottery were found, all of which was Roman except for three that were Medieval. The Roman road was on a south west by north east axis of which a 4m length was exposed. A layer beneath the road revealed Roman pottery and tile fragments. The Roman hearth contained Roman tile in situ. Some pits contained domestic Roman rubbish and also a bronze brooch.

5.3.7 On the east-west road close to the WC/shower block, an area of rolled flint pebbles was seen resting on the natural. In general, it has been found following this and previous excavations the area south of the fort, that it has few features, with activity predominately confined to the eastern side of the caravan site.

Archaeological Evaluation at Reculver Caravan Park, Herne, Kent, 2011

5.3.8 An evaluation was carried out at the caravan site by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust in 2011 comprising of four test pits and 10 machine cut trenches. This was ahead of potential refurbishments of the site that included extensions to the internal road network, removal of amenity buildings, relocation of parking amongst other refurbishments. Not all planned trenches were able to

be cut due to the presence of live services for electricity and/or drainage. Figure 28 shows the location of the trenches concerned.

- 5.3.9 The excavations revealed top soil of circa 15-25cm in depth across the entire site with the archaeological horizon between 30-40cm on the western side and 40-60cm along the eastern side. Archaeological features were seen in all trenches. These features were interpreted as post holes and pits. There were also some ditches and drains. Finds from the trenches included ceramic building material that included daub and Roman brick and tile as well as tegulae and box flue. Medieval or Post Medieval peg tile was also found. The majority of these items were interpreted as possibly redeposition or residuality. CAT also found a patch of pebbles similar to that seen in 1994-5.
- 5.3.10 The majority of the pottery encountered was Roman from the last 1st century to the mid third century. There were also 20 pieces of worked or burnt flint, some animal bone. There was an adult inhumation which was located in the south east corner of the caravan site. Preservation was poor and there was no skull and no grave cut was identified. The position of the skeleton was considered unusual and it was of indeterminate date.

Landscape Characterisation

- 5.3.11 The PDA sits within the area classified as 'Fishpond, hatchery complexes, natural ponds and lakes'. Immediately west is 'Prehistoric and Roman (hillforts, other defensive enclosures and Roman forts). To the south and east are large areas of 'small rectilinear enclosures'. From map regression, the use of the land at the PDA for a fishery/hatchery appears to exist from at least the time of the tithes. Prior to that the historic maps suggest that this area was marshland (Fig. 24).

Stour Valley Palaeolithic Project

- 5.3.12 The majority of the PDA is situated in area classed as 5 with area 17 immediately to the west. Area 5 is an area of alluvium deposits from the Wantsum Channel as part of the floodplain. Stray finds have been found in the Canterbury area but the overall probability of finds is considered to be low (Fig. 27).
- 5.3.13 Area 17 is a large area on the eastern side of Blean down to the Wantsum Channel that is Head Brickearth and Head Gravel, mainly of slopewash origin. However, there are staircases of fluvial deposits from the later Middle Pleistocene becoming

progressively younger to the further east. Finds from this period have been found on the beach west of Reculver due to the eroding cliff. Consequently, the project considers that the area of the PDA to have a low chance of Palaeolithic deposits.

Conservation Area

5.3.14 The PDA is circa 100m east of the Reculver Conservation area (Fig.25). In 2010, Canterbury City Council produced a Conservation Area Appraisal document. The Conservation Area for Reculver was designated in 1997 to predominately protect the Reculver Towers and Roman fort, which are the key characteristics in the local landscape in which they dominate as a highly visible landmark and the area around being essentially undeveloped. The appraisal comments that the Council set up in the 1950s a Caravan Park to the west of the Towers and Roman Fort with circa 1000 caravans. In 1980, the Reculver Country Park was created which resulted in the caravans being removed from the cliff edge to new sites slightly inland. It is these caravan parks that circle the southern boundary of the Conservation Area. The viewpoint from the east towards the Conservation Area is dominated by the Towers and fort which are higher in elevation than that of the caravan parks. From the south the views into the Conservation Area is restricted by the Caravan Park, which the reports comment that whilst these are not as imposing as other development types, they detract from the spacious feels of the area interrupting the view from the south.

5.3.15 The aim of the Conservation Area is to ensure developments respect the distinctiveness of Reculver and the Conservation Area appraisal provides the following guidance:

- Any new development should have a visual understanding of the historic roots of the conservation area as a place of great historical and cultural heritage and all that that entails.
- Replacement of crude hard landscaping, in particular the pathway running horizontally behind the Towers and the car park (which would also benefit from being relocated), with landscaping more appropriate to the historic and environmental setting.

- Ensuring the scale of extensions and any new buildings are in keeping by not dominating the landscape and therefore detracting from the visual impact of the Reculver Towers.
- Protection of the views to and from the Reculver Towers.
- It is important that any change or enlargement does not swamp existing buildings and does not make presently unsympathetic buildings more visible.
- Boundary treatments should remain open and undeveloped wherever possible.
- The open nature of the conservation area is of primary importance in terms of its character and also in providing contrast against the Towers, accentuating its prominence. It is essential therefore that this be retained.
- Any development should act to enhance the Conservation Area for biodiversity, in particular through enhancement of the grassland and landscape plantings including appropriate plant species to support the indigenous fauna of the area.

5.3.16 The nature of the proposed development in comparison to the existing buildings are minor and are on the eastern side away from that of the Towers and will not be seen behind the present structure and will not impact negatively upon the upon the Conservation Area. The overall look and feel of the proposed development will be an improvement in the aesthetics of the current building and will enhance the wider area around the conservation area.

0-100m Radius

5.3.17 There are 11 KHER entries. One to the west, south west of the PDA. In 2011, during work on the access road within the caravan site next door, Roman features for pits and post holes were also found, although they were not excavated (TR 26 NW 288). The remainder are Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) Finds to the west of the PDA that have been assigned to a grid square location. Items include Mesolithic flints flakes, copper alloy, brooches, pin and buckle as well as a currency bar and other copper alloy items.

100-200m Radius

5.3.18 There are 12 KHER entries for this area from the PDA. The PDA lies east, outside the 2nd century Roman fort (TR 26 NW 1), walls and the double ditch that

surrounds the southern and eastern sides of the fort. This area also includes the site of the Anglo-Saxon monastery immediately adjacent to the PDA, located on the Roman Fort area (TR 26 NW 2). Nearby, to the south west in the caravan park, a Roman Road discovered in 1994-5 (TR 26 NW 223) accompanied by a hearth, post holes, ditches and pits. Aside from the Roman period, worked and burnt flint attributed from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age were found during the 2011 evaluation (TR 26 NW 289). In addition, the KHER refers to a 1941 photograph, which suggests an area of a linear cropmark (TR 26 NW 1038), although this cropmarks does not show on the KHER cropmark map (Fig.29), although the records states it is of unknown date, it is in the region of the area in which the metalled road was discovered in 1994-5. To the north west, a sewer outfall, which is likely to be post Medieval (TR 26 NW 1058). West of the PDA is Beach Cottage, potentially a 17th century or early fisherman's cottage. There is one record to the south being that of an undated cropmark of a linear feature in the adjacent field (TR 26 NW 87), which may potentially relate to an historical water channels as seen in the same area of the 1872 OS map. The inter-tidal zone also throws out finds that must have come from the eroded cliff face that has revealed Roman artefacts (TR 26 NW 1001) and prehistoric flints (TR 26 NW 1020). Near the outflow of the Northmouth sluice was a Second World War pillbox (TR 26 NW 1124), that has likely been destroyed due to the strengthening of the sea wall since.

200-300m Radius

- 5.3.19 There are KHER entries for this area from the PDA. Most of which have been discussed in the previous archaeological excavations section. Roman activity has been seen elsewhere in the caravan park, particularly on the eastern side. To the south west, the remains of a significant corn dryer structure was found in 1963 (TR 26 NW 67). In 2011, an undated inhumation was found (TR 26 NW 290). Whilst masonry has been observed in the inter tidal zone it is not clear whether these are from the fort, monastery or whether there was in fact a deserted Medieval village (TR 26 NW 72). This inter-tidal zone also throws out finds that must have come from the eroded cliff face contemporary with the Anglo-Saxon monastery (MKE 57280), as well as a Roman brooch and scoop and an Anglo-Saxon spearhead. To the west, north west, features include an undated fish weir

(TR 26 NW 1033). To the west, north west on Reculver beach in 1897, a fossil of an elephant tooth was found (TR 26 NW 1212), no further information is known.

- 5.3.20 One of the KHER Records appears to be a duplicate entry and appears to be placed in the wrong location. Record TR 26 NW 1009 refers to Roman cremation for which the source description suggests this is in fact the same as KHER entry TR 26 NW 222, which makes sense to be that location from the source article description and not where TR 26 NW 1009 is placed.

300-400m Radius

- 5.3.21 There are 14 KHER records for this area. To the west of the PDA, in this radius, Medieval items such as a bronze seal matrix (TR 26 NW 1005) was found near the Post Medieval King Ethelbert public house (TR 26 NW 1174). This area also has the Roman Road that ran initially westwards from Reculver towards Sturry (TR 26 NW 203). This area to the west has also revealed Iron Age coins (MKE57673; TR 26 NW 75). South west of the PDA, there is an area where cremation and inhumations from the Roman period were discovered in 1950 and 1971, which has led to suggestions that this area could be a Roman cemetery (TR 26 NW 222). This is possible as the Romans buried people outside that of the settlement boundaries. Some records relate to the inter-tidal zone and cliff area to the west has revealed human remains, likely from the Medieval church (TR 26 NW 1078; TR 26 NW 1200), as well as a Roman well and pottery, remnants from the forts as it eroded into the sea. Many more items from this radius have been discovered from the eroding cliffs. In addition, a Palaeolithic handaxe was found on the beach in antiquity (TR 26 NW 61). To the south are curvilinear cropmarks (TR 26 NW 1040).

400-500m Radius

- 5.3.22 There are 12 KHER records for this area. To the south west was a curvilinear cropmark which potential suggests an historic field boundary of drainage channel (TR 26 NW 1039). The other is a rectilinear enclosure/gridded shaped cropmark of unknown type (TR 26 NW 1057). The remainder are Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) Finds to the west of the PDA that have been assigned to a grid square location. The majority of which are Iron Age copper alloy coins, although a few are also gold Stater type.

Over 500m

- 5.3.23 The majority of records for this radius are to the west of the PDA reflecting the main settlement area of Reculver. Post Medieval field barn that is seen on early photographs and maps that has been demolished and is likely to be related to the nearby farmstead (MKE86546). To the south west are more undated cropmarks. And it has been identified as a possible trackway and field system and a curvilinear feature of unknown type (TR 26 NW 86). To the west, is an undated fish weir (TR 26 NW 1032). Also, to the west, there is the Farmstead of Lovestreet Farm which on early maps is referred to 'Court Lodge', which may suggest that the farm has earlier origins as Court Lodge farms were associated with the church and in this case, the monastery (MKE86545). Of this farm, the farmhouse survives and is called Reculver House, a locally listed building (TR 26 NW 1175) and now forms part of the Blue Dolphin Caravan Park clubhouse. To the north west, more beach finds have been found, in this case an Anglo-Saxon ceramic vessel (TR 26 NW 1003) and another Roman rubbish pit (TR 26 NW 1063). This area to the west, finds and features of Roman rubbish pits and a clay figurine, as well as a Roman road, Anglo-Saxon coins and Medieval amulet.
- 5.3.24 To the east, there are less features as this area was part of the Wantsum Channel and was not land until the Post Medieval period. However, activity of unknown dates relating to salt mounds and other smaller mound has been identified from a 1941 photograph in the area of the fishery (TR 26 NW 1043; TR 26 NW 1051) as well as square cut features (TR 26 NW 1037). Another fish weir was also seen on a 1998 photograph to the east north east.

5.4 Archaeological and Historical Narrative

- 5.4.1 Palaeolithic handaxes have been found and recorded in the 19th century, usually on the beach. Many Palaeolithic sites are usually deeply buried but it is the erosion of the cliff face, that provides the opportunity for these items to be found.
- 5.4.2 During the Mesolithic period the coastlines of Thanet and this part of North Kent would have been different to the present-day coastline. The water levels were lower. It is thought that the area of the Isle of Thanet at this point in time would not have been an island. By the Bronze Age it is thought that the waters had rose

enough to form an island and the Wantsum Channel but that there was still land to the north and east of the present coastline of the Isle of Thanet. A Mesolithic tranchet axe was found in the Roman fort that is thought to be residual rather than in-situ.

5.4.3 By the Bronze Age, sealed beneath the Roman fort are Bronze Age ditches and pits, in turn sealed by Iron Age features, thought to be an Iron Age settlement.

5.4.4 The earliest known reference to the Wantsum Channel is in the second century AD geography of Ptolemy that confirms the channel was large enough to isolate Thanet during the Roman period. The channel for shipping provided a sheltered route as opposed to travelling around the North Foreland Headland, which was more exposed, as well as providing access to Canterbury.

5.4.5 In the Roman period, the sea was 1.4km to the north and Reculver was then located on the southern tip of a promontory on the north western side of the Wantsum Channel. The Wantsum Channel was joined by the River Stour and the southern end of the channel joined the sea at Richborough. It is the strategic location of the Wantsum that led to the Romans deciding to build forts at both Richborough and Reculver. The Romans were the first to name Reculver in documentation in the Notitia Dignatatum, calling it *Regulbium* recorded in 425 AD. Deriving its form the local language of Rogulbion, meaning 'great headland'. This document from the early fourth century lists the units of the Roman army in Britain under the command of Comes Littoris Saxonnicum and the garrison at Reculver given as Cohortis primae Baetasorium. The exact coastline east of The Towers through various time periods is uncertain. It is thought that the area of the PDA was in Roman period part of the Wantsum channel, later becoming marshland (Figure 3).

5.4.6 Excavations in the area confirm that soon after the invasion in 43 AD, a small fort was constructed, which was then upgraded and expanded to a full-size fort of some 25 acres in the late 2nd century. These were known as Saxon Shore forts to protect against sea-borne raiders. This fort included within its walls, headquarters, barracks and a bath house. Outside of the fort walls, it is thought that the vicus was to the north and west side. Roman activity has been found up to circa 350m west of the fort. The fort walls were originally estimated to have

stood 4.5m high and 3m thick at the base. The area to the south of the fort has had limited excavation but archaeological finds and features of Roman ditches, pits, post holes, corn dryer, as well as evidence of a Roman Road, possibly connecting Reculver to Canterbury confirming that Roman activity occurred all around the fort. Saxon Shore Forts outside of the stone walls were normally surrounded by one or two ditches and at Reculver there are two infilled 10m wide ditches separated by each other and the wall by up to 10m wider berms. Archaeological evidence suggests that the fort was abandoned around 370 AD, with the Romans leaving Britain in 410 AD.

- 5.4.7 Of this fort, very little the remains visibly other than the walls of which can still be seen at Reculver. Approximately half of the main fort area has been lost to the sea. The north wall, most of the west wall have gone. Although the northern part of the east wall has been lost to the sea, the gateway and guard post remain. The outer facing of the wall has gone leaving the internal rubble core showing, with part remaining up to 2.6m in depth.
- 5.4.8 Bede's Ecclesiastical History written in the 8th century in the Anglo-Saxon period refer to the channel as 'Uantsumu' and that the river Wantsum that is fordable only in two places. The Wantsum appears to have been at its deepest in the Roman and Anglo-Saxon period.
- 5.4.9 In the Saxon period, there are a number of spelling for Reculver such as *Racculfe* circa 730 AD and *Reaculfe* in 890 AD. The importance of Reculver continued into the Saxon period as a significant coastal trading settlement in this period based on the large number of Anglo-Saxon coins found in the vicinity. Around 669 AD, when King Egberht of Kent granted land for the foundation of a monastery less than 100 years after the arrival of Christianity in 597 AD. A church was built on the site of the Roman fort which was dedicated to St Mary. By the early 9th century the monastery was a large wealthy estate. Early monasteries had no set layout but were normally contained within an enclosure. In this case they utilised the Roman defences and the early church foundations are within that of the later Medieval stone church. The monastery became part of the lands belonging to the Archbishop of Canterbury in the early 9th century and disputes occurred between the King and Archbishops over the estate. By 838, control passed to the King of Wessex to provide protection to assist against Vikings attacks before passing back

to the Archbishop of Canterbury by 949 AD. At the time of the Norman invasion, the monastery had become a parish church.

5.4.10 In the Domesday Book of 1086AD, Reculver was a very large settlement with 115 households. There were 30 plough teams along with 33 acres of meadow, woodland to support 20 pigs, one mill, one fishery, five salthouses and one church with the land owned by The Archbishop of Canterbury.

5.4.11 By the Medieval period, a Royal Charter of 1155 in the reign of Henry II established the Cinque Ports, which were for maintaining ships ready for the Crown in case of need. The chief obligation laid upon the ports, as a corporate duty, was to provide 57 ships for 15 days' service to the king annually, each port fulfilling a proportion of the whole duty. In return the towns received many privileges. Reculver was a coastal confederation port to that of Sandwich.

5.4.12 Following the Saxon period, the Wantsum Channel silted up following the deposition of shingle at the southern end. By 1485 a bridge had to be built at Sarre, an historic fording place for the Wantsum as ferries could no longer operate. By the 16th century the channel had all but dried up entirely except for large drainage ditches. By the 1540s, the distance Reculver was from the sea had reduced from the 1.4km estimated in Roman times to circa 400m and the town had become much smaller in size and by 1576 AD, the settlement was considered "poore and simple" by William Lambarde who wrote book on Kent county history. The last surviving record of Reculver as a limb of Sandwich dates from 1377, and its name is absent from Cinque Port records of 1432, probably because of "drastic coastal erosion, and the consequent silting up of the Wantsum Channel between Sarre and the North Mouth

5.4.13 The marshy land created following the silting up of the Wantsum from the Medieval period would have been classed as marginal land and would have been utilised, once drained to become pasture. Any inter tidal areas would have potential supported salt making. Salt making in areas of tidal mudflats has occurred since prehistory. The Romans are well known for their salt industry in the along the Thames estuary and as we have seen for Reculver, the Domesday book also refers to salt houses. Salt production involved the heaping up and percolation of estuarine mud, followed by a process of evaporation in boiling pans

or vats. Medieval salterns include a range of features connected with the collection and evaporation processes, of which the most visually distinctive are the oval or kidney-shaped middens of waste material which may cover areas of 2ha or more. Other features usually survive in buried form beneath and around the middens, illustrating the fact that salterns were often in use for periods of at least a century, during which time they were occupied seasonally, their component structures being rebuilt at the beginning of each summer or as required. Evaporation was often aided by an evaporation kiln fuelled by peat or wood products, of which several different types are known, and the remains of temporary wooden buildings, wooden or wicker troughs and clay-lined pits have also been found during excavation. Salt was an expensive commodity during the medieval period, particularly in demand for food preservation and curing. The resultant mounds have sometimes survived into modern times as archaeologically identifiable features, as at Seasalter level west of Whitstable, where excavation prior to levelling revealed evidence of salt manufacture during the thirteenth century.

- 5.4.14 Saltmarshes were colonised at high tides by fish who fed on the nutrients and to exploit these fish weirs were placed in creeks such as the one identified at Cold harbour, although its date is unknown but there are many others along this stretch of coastline. In 1576 William Lambarde commented that oysters from Reculver itself were "reputed as farre to passe those of Whitstaple, as Whitstaple doe surmount the rest of this shyre in savorie saltnesse".
- 5.4.15 The coastline continued actively retreating in this period, with many houses being lost to the sea. By 1630, the church stood 152m from the sea and with a continued decline due to erosion, the village essentially abandoned by the end of the 18th century. The need for sea walls and coastal defences were paramount especially for the marshes around the area of what was the Wantsum, that was now valuable grazing land. Sewers and drainage ditches had to be regularly cleared to help prevent flooding. It was the landowner's responsibility for the maintenance of sea walls and drainage ditches. The major landholders in each area usually took the initiative in the collection of payments and the organisation of works, through the agency of manorial officials and the coercive power of manorial courts. The sea and river walls were built using locally available

materials, principally marsh earth or clay, timber and brushwood or rushes. The earth was heaped up, either free-standing or around a timber framework. This area was imbanked after Elizabethan times.

- 5.4.16 It was at this point that the encroachment of the sea meant that Antiquarians according to Hasted were finding Roman remains on the beach. Documentary records refer to people finding brick arches, mosaic flooring and finds such as coins in the sea in the late 17th century in the area outside of the north wall of the fort. Although sea defences were tried, erosion continued and the church was within 4m of the sea in 1809. Whilst the main part of the church was deliberately demolished before it fell into the sea, Trinity House ensured that the Towers were retained as a navigational aid, which continues until this day. This has led to groynes and other sea defence in the area below the church ever since.
- 5.4.17 One of the inns in Reculver was lost to the sea in 1808 with a replacement building built by 1809, that is the current King Ethelbert Inn. The settlement at this point consisting of just a farmstead, vicarage and coastguard cottages and a few houses.
- 5.4.18 The earliest indication of the PDA being used as a fishery is sometime in the early 19th century when it is likely that pond and water channels were dug. In 1864 a bill in Parliament created the Herne Bay, Hampton and Reculver Oyster Fishery Company. In 1867, it was reported that a Frank Buckland, along with others had leased an extensive area of water known as 'the Dene' at Reculver for the purpose of experimenting on oyster culture with the area of water being at all time under control. Given that they were clearing existing beds it is possible that that appear to have gone out of use and that at the location of the PDA there were already water beds, it is possible that this refers to the area of the PDA. Prior to leasing this area, Mr Buckland had tried and failed in his experiment of oyster culture at a site on the foreshore near Herne Bay Pier. At Reculver by 1868, the local press is reporting success at the site. By 1874, the act was having major parts of it repealed, contracting the eastern portion of their grounds, relinquish Hampton Point pier amongst other assets. and the name changed to that of Herne Bay Oyster Fishery Company. It is not known what happened to the tanks at Reculver.

- 5.4.19 During the Second World War, the coastline east of Reculver was used to test prototypes of Barnes Wallis's bouncing bomb. In addition, its coastal location meant that a number of pillboxes were located along the coastline.
- 5.4.20 After the war, Reculver was seen as a destination place and the first static caravan parks were created. The area of the Towers, Roman Fort and Saxon Shore Fort became a Scheduled Ancient Monument in 1927. In 1969 the old coastguard cottages were removed from the fort site when sea wall works were undertaken. The new coastguard cottages behind the public house were demolished in 1988 when the area was improved under the management of English Heritage.
- 5.4.21 At the PDA, many of these water channels have altered over the years. The last major alteration being in the late 20th century when the fishery was significantly expanded eastwards having previously fallen into what appears to be disused for a period. No other structures are seen at the fishery site until the current building at the PDA was built for storage sometime prior to 1990. Since then east of the PDA, a number of other structures have been built.
- 5.4.22 The central area of Reculver is part of the wider Reculver Country Park. Managed by Canterbury City Council and the Wildlife Trust that covers some 64 acres mainly along the coastal area from Bishopstone, circa 1.5m west of Reculver to just past Reculver Towers.

5.5 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

Chart showing the Isle of Thanet, 1548

- 5.5.1 This chart from 1548 shows the church at Reculver situated on the promontory aside *The Olde Mouth* to what was the River Wantsum, with the comments that 'This channel is stopped'. To the east of 'The Olde Mouth' is a new channel called 'North Mouth' with the comment 'this channel ebbith...'. It is difficult to be absolutely certain as to the location of the PDA in these maps east of the Reculver Towers and in relation to the historic water channels as the North Mouth and the Olde entrance to the Wantsum would have moved over time. However, if the main channel of the River Wantsum as seen in later maps is that of the Cold

Harbour area, which is east of the PDA, it is possible that the PDA here, could be either west of the old channel or between the old and the new channel (Fig. 4).

Lewis' Map of 1723 showing Reculver in the mid-1600s

- 5.5.2 Again, the exact location of the PDA is unclear but either side of the Wantsum is fields and it is thought that the PDA is located west of the main channel (Fig 5).

Reculver Estate Map, 1685

- 5.5.3 This map (Fig. 6) shows the church set within the boundary area of the Roman Fort also including the Vicar's House and Chapel House and other unnamed buildings. The full extent of the boundary all around the church can be seen although the northern extent is close to the sea. Access to the church is from the west with the village just outside of the gates. From the south west is the access road that can be recognised as Reculver Lane, called Canterbury Road in this drawing, although this drawing suggests that there is also another road coming across the cliff top from the west called '*The Kings highe way*'. The village houses are located around a crossroads and the road north goes into the sea suggesting that it did continue further north before it was reclaimed by the sea. South west of the village on the corner of Reculver Road are a cluster of houses.
- 5.5.4 There is a track leading east off Reculver Lane in an area of fields south of the fort boundary although this does not appear to continue past the fort. The PDA is immediately east of the boundary walls with the map suggesting a channel of some form alongside the eastern boundary of the church. This area to the south is labelled *The Marsh Land* and includes a number of drainage channels. The fact that the map does not focus on the area to the east of the church suggests that there is little of interest in this period.

Andrews, Dury and Herbert map of 1769

- 5.5.5 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 PDA to the east of the channel referred to as New Haven. The main channel of the River Wantsum is located east of the PDA in the area referred to as Yenlade or Northmouth Sluice in the area of Cold Harbour. The origin of the name Cold Harbour has long been debated although here given its location where it is in easy reach of a point on a watercourse which was once navigable or

capable of water transport up to that point suggests it was a point of shelter. The northern wall of the fort has been lost to the sea by this point in time and the crossroads of village houses now much closer to the sea (Fig. 7).

Hasted, 1798

- 5.5.6 This map suggests that the area of the PDA is immediately east of New Haven, in an area of marshland between New Haven and the River Wantsum at North Mouth. The map also suggests that the road east of out the church continues eastwards across the area close to the coast and is likely to be the line of the footpath which still exists this day (Fig. 8).

Ordnance Surveyors Drawings 1797

- 5.5.7 The maps from this series shows the individual buildings and field boundaries although this area the mapping has not been completely finalised. The church surrounded by other buildings within the rectangular fort walls. The area of the village has lost more houses to the sea north of the crossroads. The cliff top access road from the west is at the cliffs edge and is likely to be impassable. The cluster of houses south west of the village is labelled Court Lodge and suggests that this was a monastic farm estate originally associated with the monastery. The PDA is a field with a footpath leading out of the eastern gateway along its southern boundary. The southern boundary also appears to be a water channel with the western boundary also a water channel that flows northwards. Another field is located aside the northern boundary of the PDA (Fig. 9).

Tithe Map from 1842

- 5.5.8 This map shows more land having been lost to the sea. The Towers are now right on the edge of the cliff. The crossroads to the village is no longer there, just the road that led towards the crossroads. Within the fort area around the church are a number of building that remain. In the village area the position of the pub aside the south west corner of the fort walls can be identified. Opposite the pub are left a few houses. South west of the church on Reculver Lane is the farmstead. The area south and south west of the church has a large number of drainage channels. Immediately east of the church, there is now a building. The area of the PDA is now an oyster hatchery farm in areas designated 94, 95 and 96. The owner is Robert Collard who lives at nearby Brook Farm, just to the south west of the village, along with Thomas Rigden and Henry Rigden. The area is referred to in the

tithes as Salts lying north of the sea wall and east of Reculver Sluice and classified as marsh. The area designated 97 is referred to as beach and is classed as waste. The footpath still runs along the southern boundary of the PDA, but due to the Reculver Sluice, now passes alongside the western boundary and around to top of the sluice rather than continuing in a straight-line westwards (Fig. 10).

Historic OS Map 1872

5.5.9 This is the first properly scaled OS map. The buildings aside the church are named as the Coastguard Station and The Vicarage. The area of the beach immediately north of the church is protected, which has resulted in the area of the cliffs either side of this protected area receding leaving the area of the Towers now prominently out of line with the rest of the cliff confirming that the protected of this cliff area was working. The pub is highlighted and north and south of the pub are a couple of houses each side. The farmstead to the south west is called Lovestreet Farm. The PDA is still a collection of ponds. And waterways. The Reculver Sluice is now referred to here as Northmouth Sluice with the North stream running along the south of the PDA surround by embankments as sea wall (Fig. 11).

Historic OS map 1896

5.5.10 The majority of the PDA is a pond area within the fishery (Fig.12).

Historic OS map 1906

5.5.11 The PDA appears unchanged except that there now appears to be a pond in the southern part of the PDA, meaning that the entire area appears to be water. The map refers to the area of the fishery as 'Old Oyster Bed' suggesting it has gone out of use and this seems to tie in with the newspaper articles in the late 19th century (Fig.13).

Historic OS map 1939

5.5.12 The area of the water tanks at the PDA is showing as mud (Fig.14).

Historic OS map surveyed 1930-1960, published 1961

5.5.13 The buildings around the public house are no longer there, having been demolished. West of The Towers the coast line has significantly retreated especially in the area to the north of Reculver House. South west of the PDA, there are the first signs that the area is a caravan park. The area to the south of the PDA are still showing as drainage channels and sheep washes. There are a couple of buildings situated on the corner of Reculver Road and the access track to the PDA. From historic postcards, it is known that these buildings housed a café, shop and bingo hall in the 1940s. The area of the PDA is still referred to a mud (Fig.15).

5.6 Aerial Photographs

1931

5.6.1 This shows the area of the PDA as part of an area of mud/marsh set within a larger trapezium area of raised banks. The western boundary alongside the sluice has much higher embankments. The southern portion of the PDA is an irregular shaped area filled with water with a long channel to the east. There can be seen a footpath that runs across from the eastern gate area of the fort towards the high ground at the top of the sea wall south of the PDA. (Plate 1 & 2)

1940s

5.6.2 There is little change from the earlier aerial photographs (Plate 3).

1960s

5.6.3 The area to the west and south west is now a caravan site with two WC/shower blocks and an access road around the site. The area south of the PDA is still arable and pasture. In the field south of the PDA can be seen a cropmark. This is the line of an old drainage channel and follows the path as seen in the 1872 historic OS map. At the PDA at this point in time, the areas that were mud have now become grassed over (Plate 4).

1990

5.6.4 There have been significant changes at the PDA, which has been put back into use as a fishery. The area east of the PDA has reverted back to having water tanks. The PDA itself has remained as dry land and now contains a single building. More

outbuildings are located east of the PDA to support the fishery. North of the PDA a new promenade has been put into place. The area south of the PDA remains arable. West and south west of the PDA is still a static caravan park although the number of pitches appears to have reduced. There are also two new WC/shower blocks in the eastern part of the PDA. The sewage works, south of the original WC/shower block is no longer there. Except for The Towers, all other buildings within the Roman fort walls have now been removed leaving just the public house at the edge of the western side (Plate 5).

2003

- 5.6.5 The building at the PDA has had a small extension to the western side. It appears in the area east of the PDA, more tanks areas have been opened and the area of the fishery extended eastwards into what was previously an arable field and before that a marshy area crossed with small water channels (Plate 6).

2007

- 5.6.6 More outbuildings have been placed within the PDA, to the east of the original outbuilding, which are smaller in size (Plate 7).

2019

- 5.6.7 There is little change. (Plate 8)

LIDAR

- 5.6.8 The LIDAR effectively the land as much disturbed and shows buildings cover the majority of the area of the PDA. There is rough ground along the northern part of the PDA where there is currently a parking area. The lidar also shows a channel at the very southern part of the PDA. The north western corner of the PDA shows the remains of a bank. This is thought to be left from when this area was also part of the fishery water channels and ponds (Fig. 16).

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 12th February 2020. No artefacts or archaeological features were identified in the walkover (Plates 10-15).

5.7.2 The PDA is approached from a concrete ramp from the promenade at the north west corner. It slopes down into the site which is situated lower than its surrounding boundaries by 2/3 metres. The steep concrete slope of the sea wall and promenade forms the northern boundary. The area of car parking along the northern part of the site is compact ground with patches of grass. The PDA is dominated by the existent large storage building that is made of corrugated metal sheets. On the western side there is a small breeze block extension. At the rear of this building is a mobile home. At the eastern side of the PDA there is a small temporary structure with metal framework and a plastic covering. The south eastern part of the eastern boundary is actually a deep-water channel and the vegetation at the rear also suggests that the ground there is wet. The western side of the PDA is rough grass and there remains alongside the western side of the northern part of structure a visible bank. This bank can also be seen on the LIDAR (fig.?). It is possible that this bank could be a remnant of the boundary of a channel or pond when this part was used for the fishery rather than storage. Adjacent to the western boundary, the land slopes sharply upwards being the grassed eastern bank of the sluice. The southern boundary is also grassed and slopes upwards sharply to the sea wall, which is also has a public footpath on the top. To the south beyond the sea wall are open arable fields. To the eastern is other outbuildings and water channels associated with the fishery.

5.8 Summary of Potential

Palaeolithic

5.8.1 The Palaeolithic period represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has three records from this period within the assessment area. Found in antiquity and likely originated from the cliff following erosion, a handaxe and elephant's tooth has been found. In addition, flint debitage east of the fort has been found on the beach, that could range in date from the Palaeolithic to the Iron Age. Based on the Stour Palaeolithic survey, the area of the PDA is situated in an area of low potential being part of the Wantsum channel and away from the eroding cliffs. The possibility of chance

finds cannot be discounted but the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Mesolithic

- 5.8.2 The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has three records from this period within the assessment area. One record is dated from the Mesolithic up until the end of the Iron Age. Circa 170m to the south west of the PDA, a flint assemblage was discovered in 2011. The other records are of flint flakes reported under the PAS, where the exact location is not provided. The area of the PDA is likely to have still been underwater in this period. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Neolithic

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

Bronze Age

- 5.8.4 The Bronze Age was a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Kent HER has just one record from this period within the assessment area being that of Late Bronze Age, Early Iron Age materials from the eroding cliff west of the PDA. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Iron Age

- 5.8.5 The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres (the Iron Age 'Tribal capital' or civitas of the Cantiaci). The Kent HER has 10 records from this period within the assessment area. All as PAS finds where exact location is not known and likely to be from the beach area. There is an Iron Age farmstead below the original early Roman fortlet, although the area of the PDA is still thought to be part of the

Wantsum Channel at this point in time. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Romano-British

5.8.6 The Romano-British period is the term given to the Romanised culture of Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire, following the Claudian invasion in AD 43, Britain then formed part of the Roman Empire for nearly 400 years. The Kent HER has 19 records from this period within the assessment area. Unsurprising given the Scheduled Ancient Monument recognising the early Roman fortlet and also the 2nd century Saxon-Shore fort. Outside of the fort, it was defended by double ditches and further outside of this area to the south and east, Roman activity occurred evidenced by the pits, ditches, post holes, heaths, as well as roads and a large corn dryer. Also, with inhumations and cremations in the area of the caravan park, it is not certain whether there is also a Roman cemetery or whether these are isolated burials. To the west of the PDA, there are many more Roman structures, features and artefacts, some identified within the fort from excavations and others on the beach from the eroded cliffs. It is thought that the area of the PDA in this period was still part of the Wantsum channel and possibly part of the inter tidal zone area, given the close proximity of the PDA to the main fort area, and close to what is considered to be a small harbour area south west of the PDA, the possibility of chance finds cannot be discounted. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low/moderate**.

Anglo-Saxon

5.8.7 The Kent HER has six records from this period within the assessment area. Immediately to the north is the Anglo-Saxon monastery which is also part of the Scheduled Ancient Monument with the ruined church beneath the Norman parish church. Saxon finds have also been found in the beach area as well as human remains from the cliffs from the church burial ground. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development cannot be discounted given the proximity of the PDA to the Anglo-Saxon occupation area site, therefore the potential is considered **low/moderate**.

Medieval

5.8.8 The Kent HER has five records from this period within the assessment area. Since so much land north of the PDA has been lost to the sea, it is not certain to identify whether Reculver was in fact a deserted Medieval village. However, the Anglo-Saxon church was rebuilt in stone in the 12th century and there have been stray Medieval finds such as an amulet and bronze seal as well as human remains from the church yard. Previous excavations within the PDA have found to odd piece of Medieval pottery. It is during this period that the Wantsum Channel becomes sited up and the main channel at this point moved eastwards. Therefore, it is likely at this point in time that the area of the PDA is marshy. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development cannot be discounted, therefore the potential is considered **low/moderate**.

Post Medieval

5.8.9 The Kent HER has 13 records from this period within the assessment area. Some relate to the remaining buildings from Post Medieval Reculver such as the public house and the farmhouse as well as a fisherman's cottage. There are also several records reflecting the sea defences set up in the Post Medieval period to try and protect Reculver. Map regressions suggests the area of the PDA in this period was marshland before becoming a fishery although the area was essentially ponds and water channels. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low/moderate**.

Modern

5.8.10 KHER has two records dating to this period. Both are pillboxes from the Second World War in the area of the beach, that have been removed probably as a result of the significant amount of sea defence works that has been undertaken in the second half of the 20th. It appears that the use of the PDA as a fishery went out of use sometime in the early 20th century and it was not until the late 20th century was the site re-invigorated and back into use. Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to this period in the PDA is considered **low**.

Undated

5.8.11 There are 21 undated records. Six of the records are cropmarks, the others are PAS finds of a copper alloy nature and stone beads which may just occur naturally. In addition, a number of fish weirs have been identified from aerial photographs

as well as an undated inhumation found in 2011 in the caravan site next to the PDA. In the area of the PDA. To the east of the PDA mounds and square cut features have been identified from 1941 photographs around 1998. These were in an area that was not originally used for the fishery until the late 20th century, are given the extensive water channel created are likely to have been destroyed. The nature of these mound is unclear. It is possible that they have been created from drain clearance. Other in the same area are classed as salt mounds suggesting salt works may have been undertaken in the area. By the 1960s, the area concerned was in arable use which the site of the mounds seen as cropmarks before the entire site became part of the fishery. At the time of the tithes this area is part of Chislet parish and is marshland used for pasture.

Overview

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

- Prehistoric: **low**

- Iron Age: **low**

- Roman: **low/moderate**

- Anglo-Saxon: **low/moderate**

- Medieval: **low/moderate**

- Post-Medieval: **low/moderate**

- Modern: **low**

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 in the prehistoric until the Roman period part of the Wantsum Channel. As the channel began to silt up, it may have been in the inter tidal zone and possibly in the Medieval period the area of the PDA may have been used for saltings. Although it is also possible that the area was by then marshland and used for pasture. The first signs of the area being used as a fishery with the creation of a significant area of ponds and channels seen from the tithe map onwards where the PDA area is referred to as 'Salts' suggesting that this area may well have been used for salt making or alternatively just referred to as a marshy area. Evidence east of the PDA suggests the presence of salt mounds may have survived until at least the middle of the 20th century. If there were any in the area of the PDA, they would have been lost with the significant changes that have occurred with the area of the fishery. Into the 20th century, it appears the fishery went out of use, eventually with the ponds and channels silting up becoming mudflats. The land reverting back to use again sometime before 1990, when we see the creation of ponds and channels again with the western part of the fishery,

in the area of the PDA having its first structures built. The likely impact on surviving archaeology prior to the Post Medieval period is considered to be **high/total** due to the creation of the ponds and channels.

- 6.2.2 The area immediately around the PDA would have also been impacted with the creation of the sea wall, both to the north of the PDA and the older sea wall to the south of the PDA, as well as the creation of the sluice to the west. Given the size and significance of these works, the impact of these on the PDA is **uncertain**.
- 6.2.3 The footings associated with the extension are to be of a 600mm width with an approximate 25m depth of pile. These are likely to have minimal physical impact on any potential archaeological deposits, where obstructions are avoided. The screw piles have the added benefit that they can be unscrewed when they are no longer required, a process that should also involve little damage to deposits. The main impact will be the displacement of material during insertion. Additionally, if obstructions become caught between the pile blades, then this could lead to further disturbance.
- 6.2.4 No associated service trenches are required except for one to run to the underground storage tank. The proposed development shows the indicative location of the underground storage tank adjacent to the north west corner of the current building, although its final location and design is not fixed yet. In general, this would normally include a plastic tank located approximately 500mm beneath the surface, with the base of the tank circa 1.5m below ground level laid on top of an area of bedding material such as sand and depending on groundwater levels may also require some form of anchoring system. This is proposed to be located in an area that was previously dug out for a water channel/pond area based on the 19th historic maps, so the potential impact of the water tank is considered minimal given the historical disturbance to that area. Overall, the potential impact of the proposed development is considered **high** in the area of the pile foundations, **total** in the area of the underground storage tank.

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 in the report.

7.2 Significance Criteria

Period

7.2.1 The national significance of Reculver is recognised by its position of a SAM. There are several periods of significance for the site, recognition as a Roman Saxon Shore fort based on an earlier Roman military camp, followed by an Anglo-Saxon monastery and Medieval church. Prehistoric activity is also known in the wider area to the west of the PDA on evidence from the eroding cliffs. However, in this Prehistoric and Roman period, the PDA is likely to have been part of the Wantsum channel, with the PDA only being used probably as land from the Medieval period, although there is no certainty as to the exact coastline. It is possible that the area in and around the PDA was used as saltings and in the Post Medieval period became used as a fishery, going out of use in the late 19th century before coming back into use in the late 20th century. However, Romans exploited Oysters and it is unknown exactly whether and where this took place at Reculver. Being on the periphery of any settlement area, the likelihood of archaeology from the Roman period onwards is unclear but thought to be low/moderate.

Rarity

7.2.2 Saxon Shore forts were listed in a 4th century manuscript, the Notitia Dignitatum, which provided details of nine forts of which Reculver is one named as Regulbium. These forts were located in south east England and their survival is rare nationally. The Anglo-Saxon monastery was at the site in less than one hundred years after the arrival of Christianity in Britain. The early monastery at Reculver is one of 65 that are known early monasteries from documentation of which only 15 can be attributed to specific sites. Being on the periphery of the settlement area in this period, it is unclear as to the exact location of the channel of the Wantsum in the

Anglo-Saxon period onwards but it is likely that the area was used for pasture and or saltings. Saltings are known all around the Thames estuary and it is rare to find ones in situ as many are destroyed. It is important to understand techniques and the scale of any industry.

Documentation

- 7.2.3 The historical and landscape development of the PDA can be understood reasonably well from the cartographic, photographic and other sources from the Roman period onwards. Reculver strategic importance in its location has meant that the site is mentioned in Roman as well as Anglo-Saxon Documentation. Saltings are also mentioned in the Domesday Book and newspaper articles inform with regards to the use of the PDA as an oyster hatchery in the second half of the 19th century.

Group Value

- 7.2.4 Reculver is important in allowing for the comparison with other Saxon Shore forts such as Brancaster and Caistor. In addition, the site is important in understanding these early unstructured Anglo-Saxon monasteries. Previous excavations have shown that the archaeology outside of the scheduled fort area is just as important in providing our understanding of the site and further archaeological work outside of the fort boundary has the potential to add to the known find and features already found in that area. Less is known about the area to the east of the fort and monastery and how the land would have been used in this period, especially in relation to saltings.

Survival / Condition

- 7.2.5 Due to the use of the PDA as a fishery in the second half of the 19th century, when significantly large areas of ponds and water channels were dug, along with the uncertain potential construction impact by the surrounding sea wall and sluice, it is thought that the historical impact on any potential archaeology is high/total.

Fragility / Vulnerability

- 7.2.6 The potential impact of the proposed development is considered high in the area of the pile foundations, total in the area of the underground storage tank and low elsewhere.

Diversity

7.2.7 There is little diversity of archaeology in the area.

Potential

7.2.8 The overall archaeological potential of finding archaeology in-situ is considered low/moderate for all periods, with the exception of the Prehistoric and modern period, which is considered low. Although given the location of the PDA at the what was potentially the waters' edge and on the periphery of the main settlement, the possibility of chance finds cannot be discounted.

Significance

7.2.9 Based on the information gained in this report, it can be concluded that the site is of low/moderate archaeological interest and significance.

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 **low/moderate** archaeological potential. The overall potential for surviving archaeology is considered **low** given the past disturbance in the 19th century when the area of the PDA had water channel and ponds created for the fishery. The impact of the proposed development in terms of the underground storage tank given its depth will have a **total** impact on any potential surviving archaeology. The area of the extension requiring piles will have a **high** impact. Given the low potential for archaeology and historical below ground disturbance, the need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities but it is recommended that any below ground works are to be supervised by an approved archaeologist working to a Written Scheme of Investigation approved by the Local Planning Authority for a watching brief.

- 8.1.3 In terms the Scheduled Monument, the proposals associated with the development are extremely minor and considered to have a negligible magnitude of impact. To a Heritage Asset classed of high value, this would result overall in a slight impact and is considered to amount to 'less than substantial' harm to the setting or significance of the Scheduled asset.

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 Kent County Council, 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 Whitstable Oyster Company Limited (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

Paul Wilkinson PhD MCIfA.

SWAT Archaeology

June 2020

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Proposed Development at the Old Roman Oyster Beds, Reculver Lane, Reculver, Kent.
Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

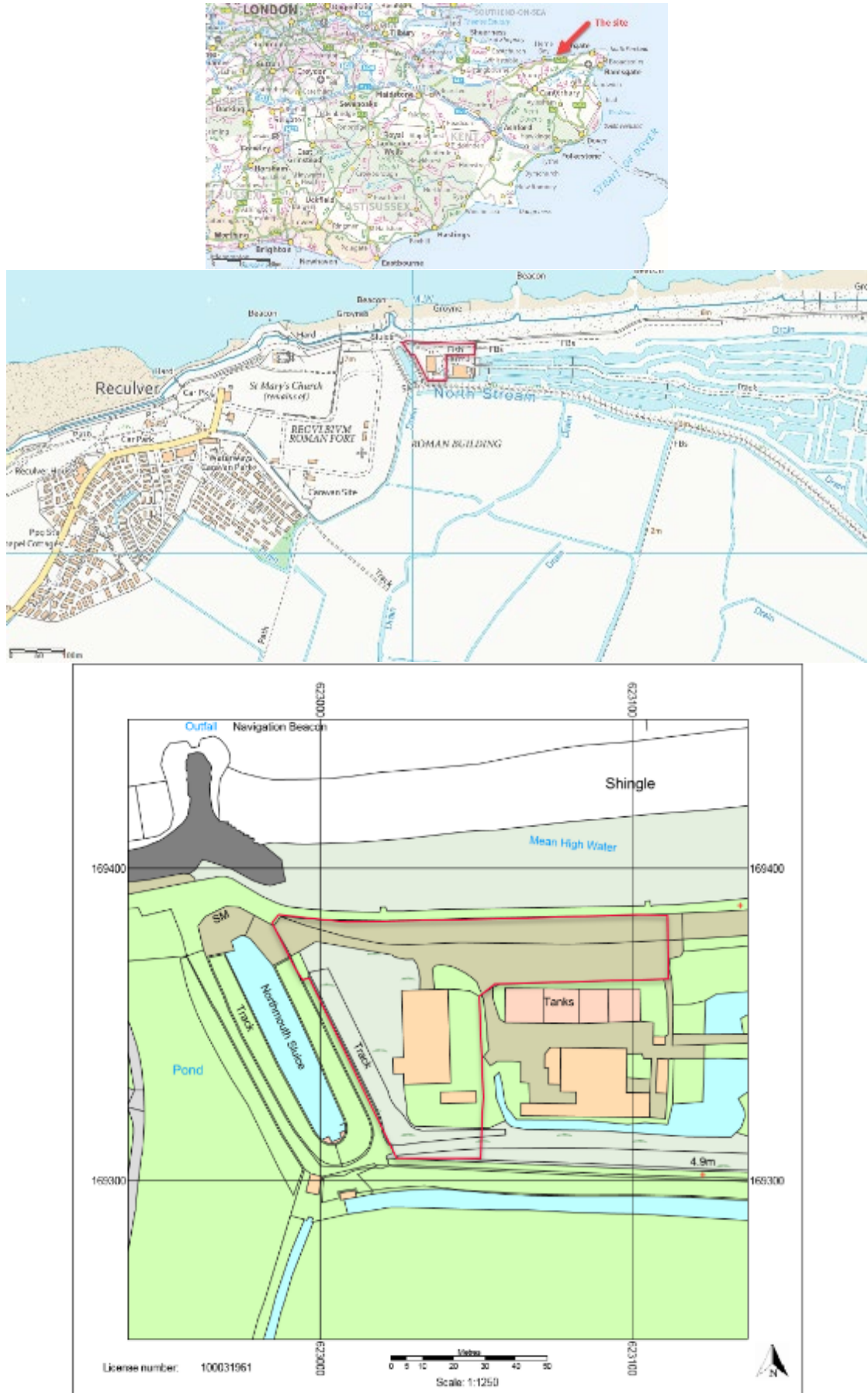


Figure 1: Location Maps, Scale 1:640,000, 1:20,000, 1:2500 respectively.

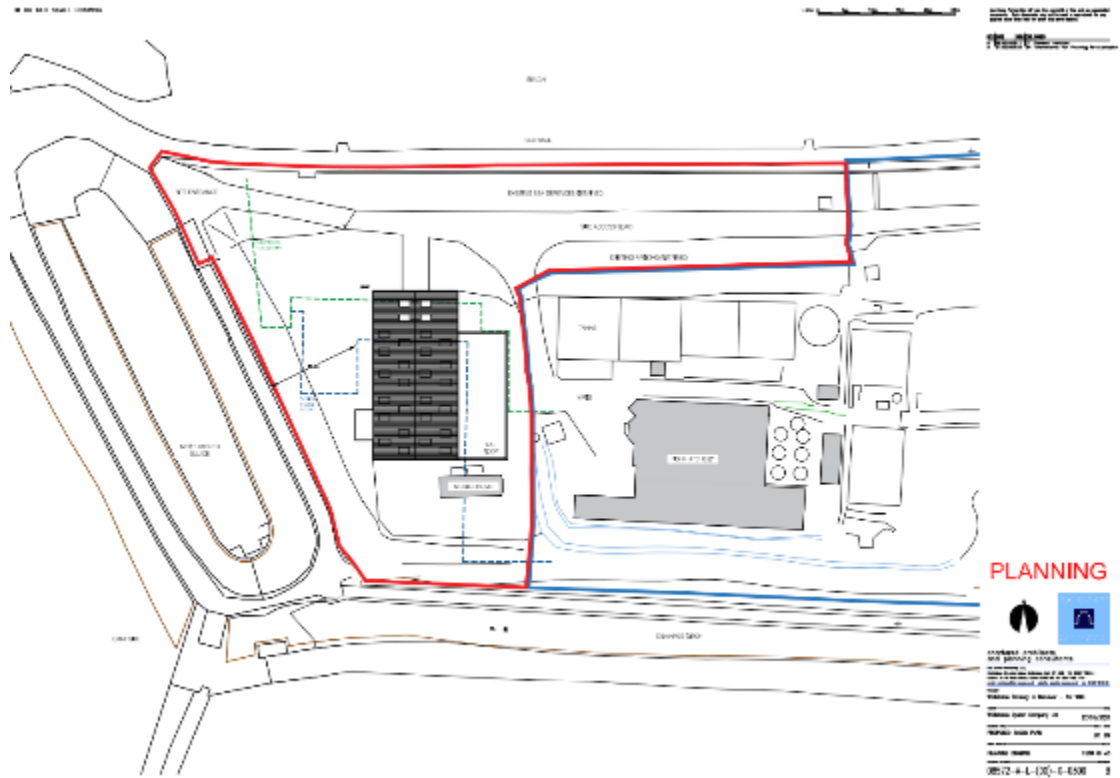


Figure 2: Proposed Development

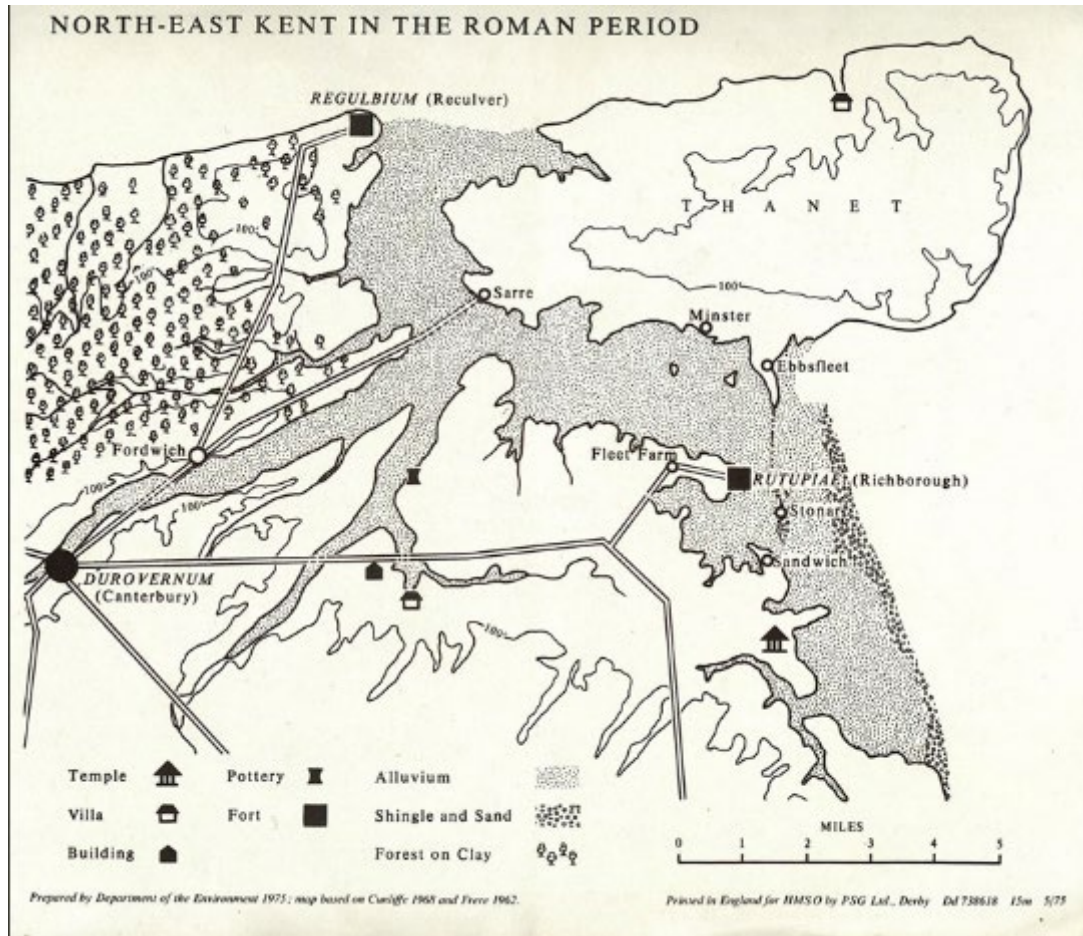


Figure 3: North East Kent in the Roman period.

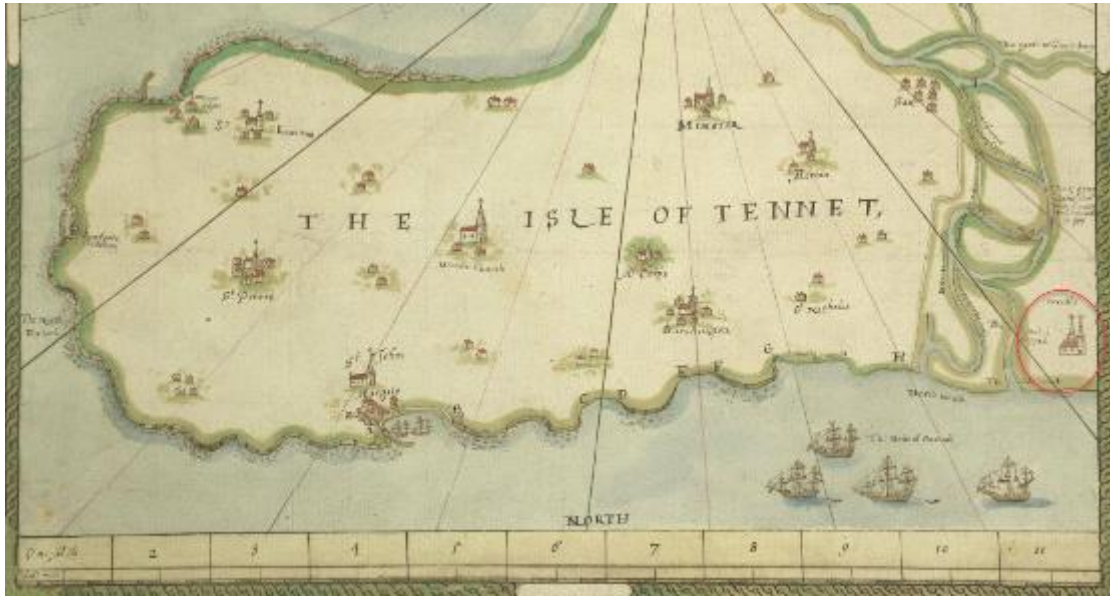


Figure 4: 1548 Chart of the Isle of Thanet showing Reculver

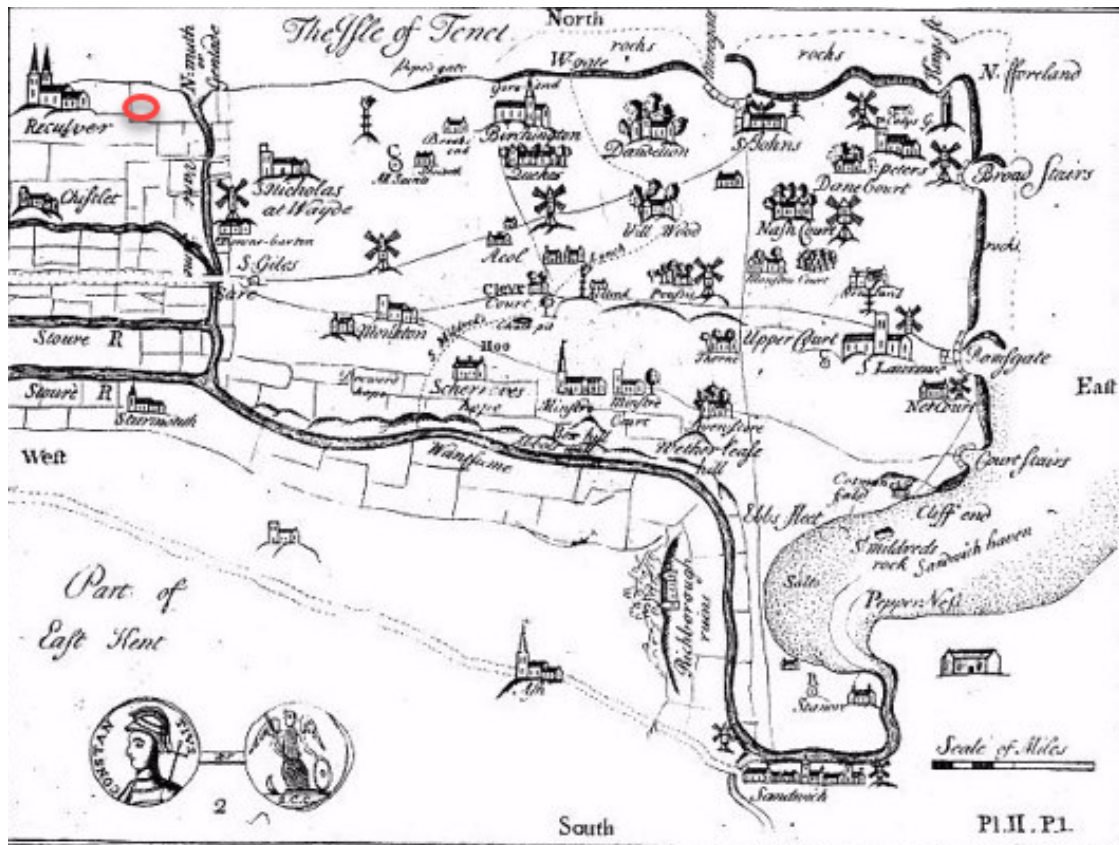


Figure 5: Lewis' Map of 1723 showing Reculver in the mid-1600s.

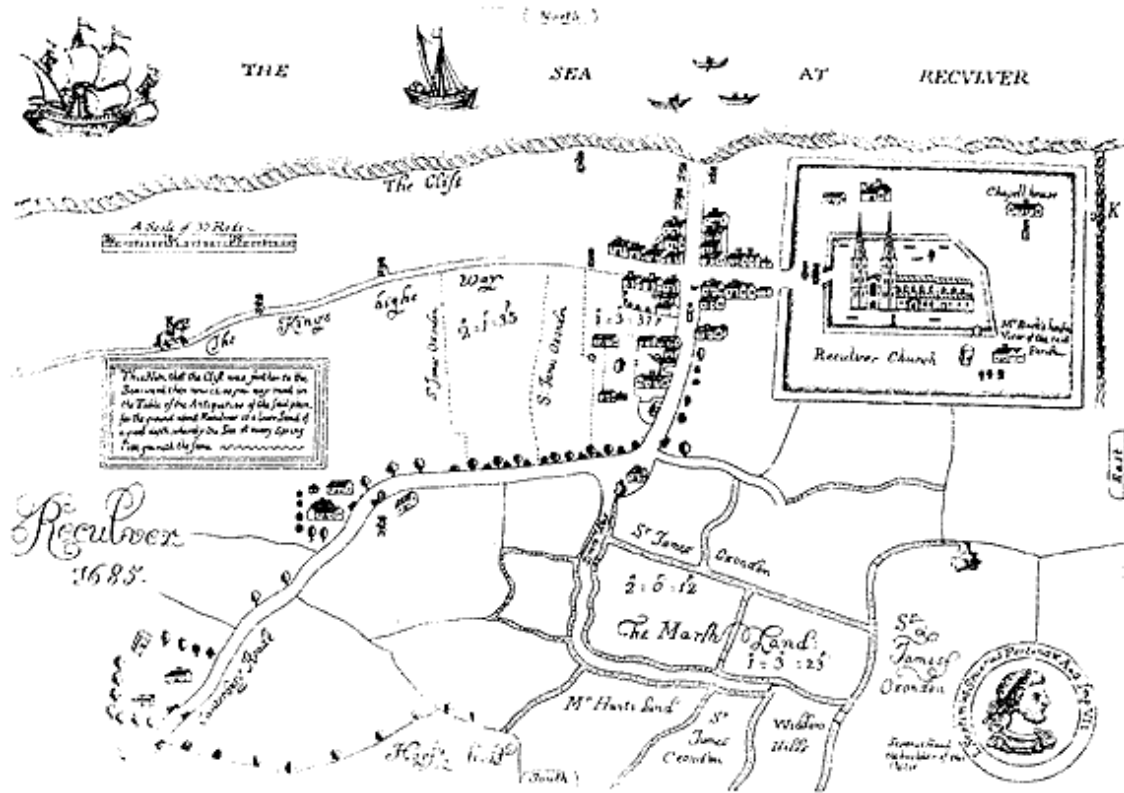


Figure 6: Reculver Estate Map, Thomas Hill, 1685

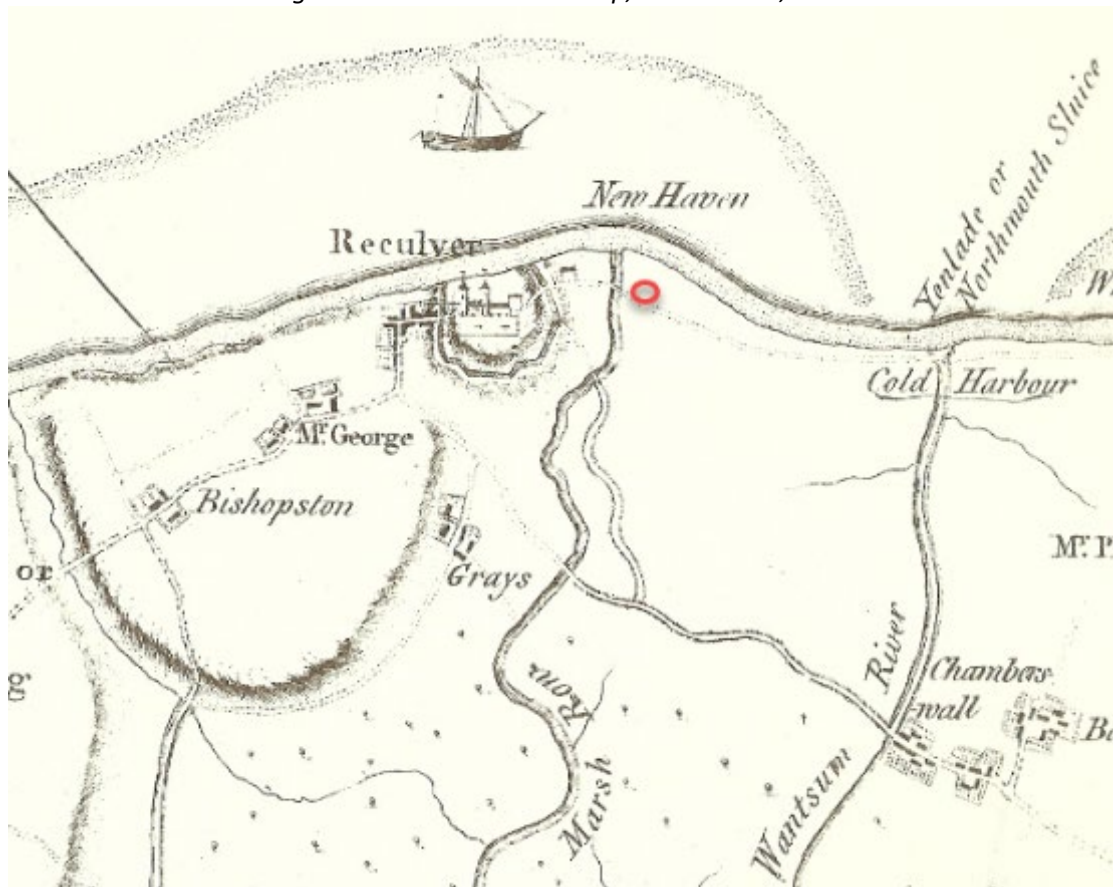


Figure 7: Andrew, Dury and Herbert Map from 1769



Figure 8: Hasted, 1798



Figure 9: Ordnance Surveyors Drawing, 1797



Figure 10: Reculver Tithe Map, 1839

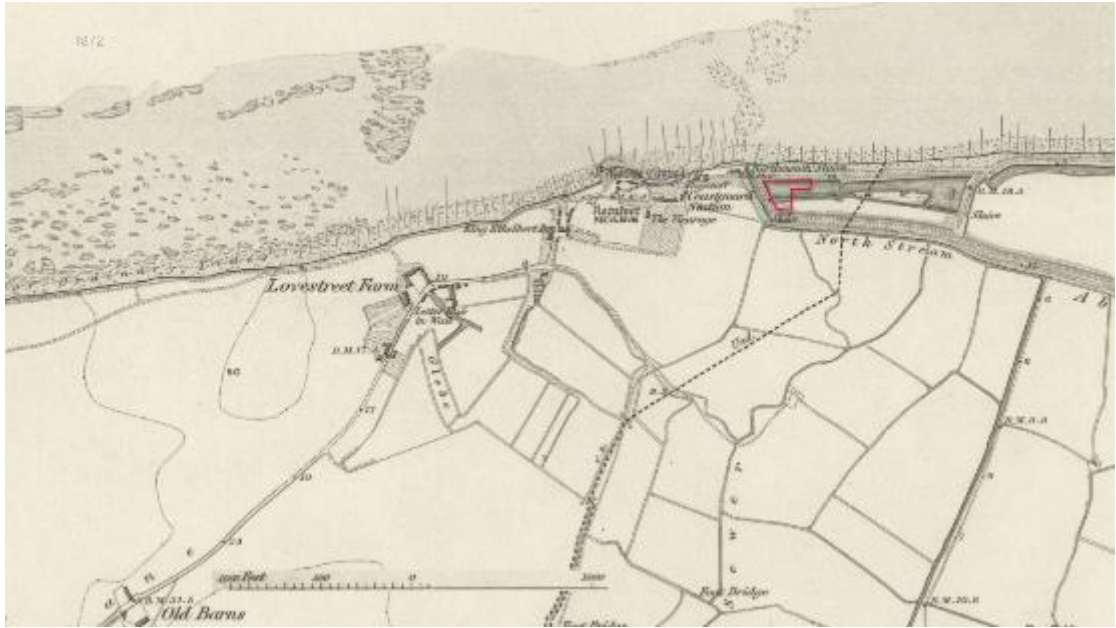


Figure 11: Historic OS Map 1872

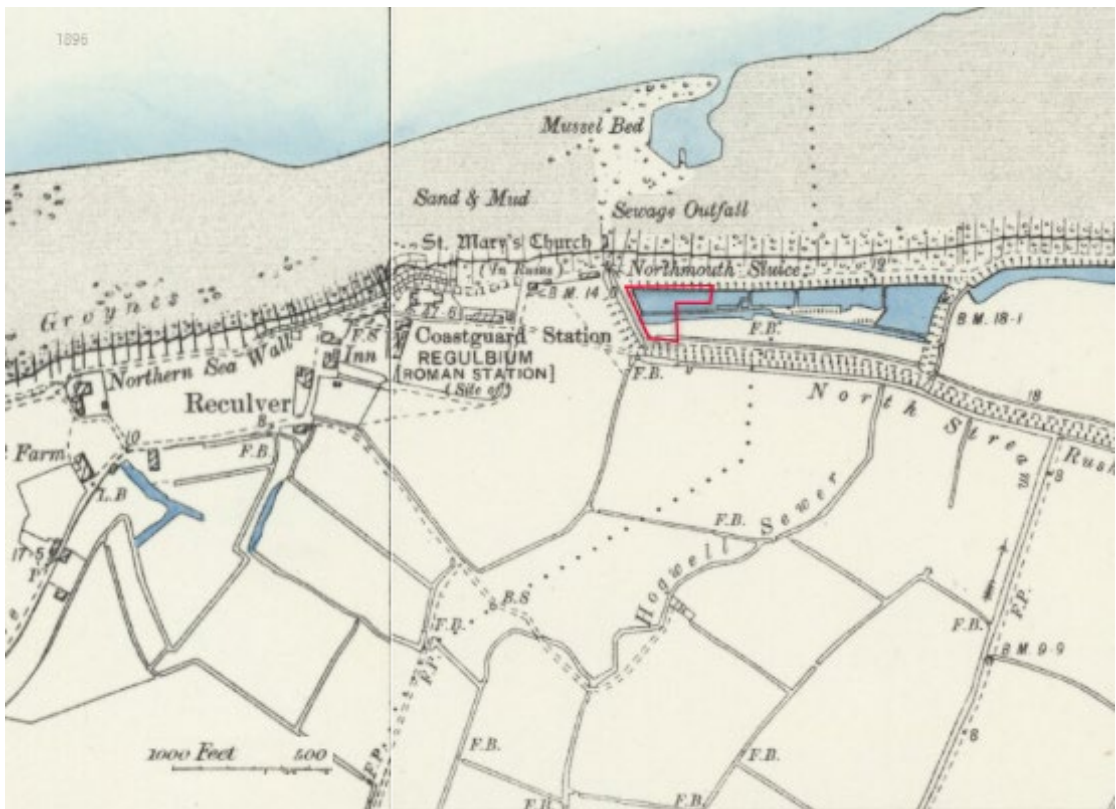


Figure 12: Historic OS Map from 1896



Figure 13: Historic OS Map 1906



Figure 14: Historic OS Map 1939

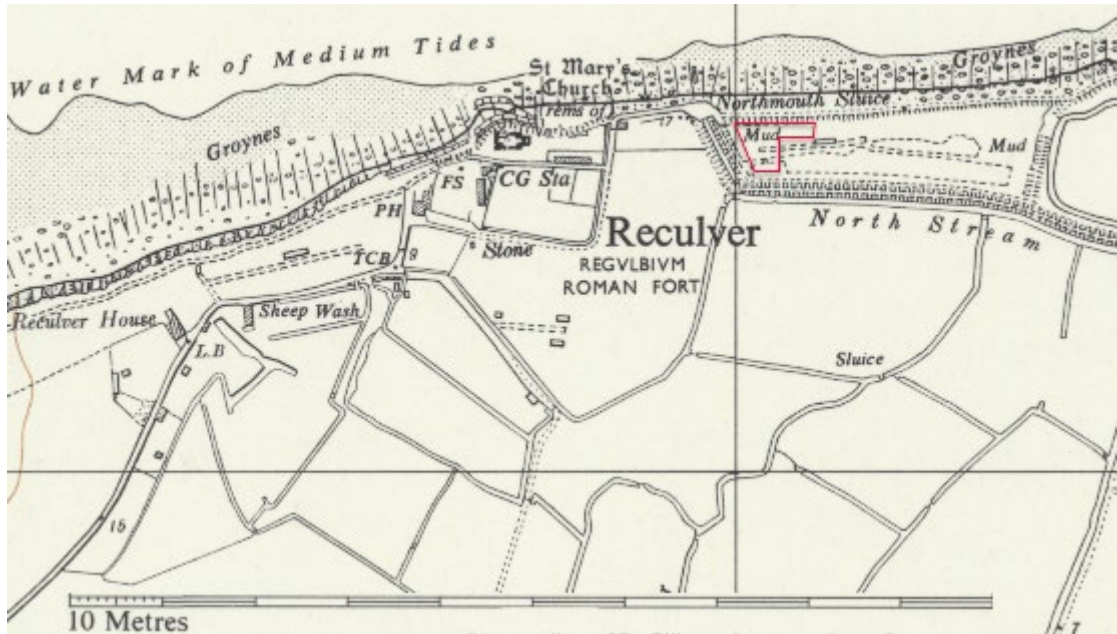


Figure 15: Historic OS Map Surveyed 1930-1960, Published 1961

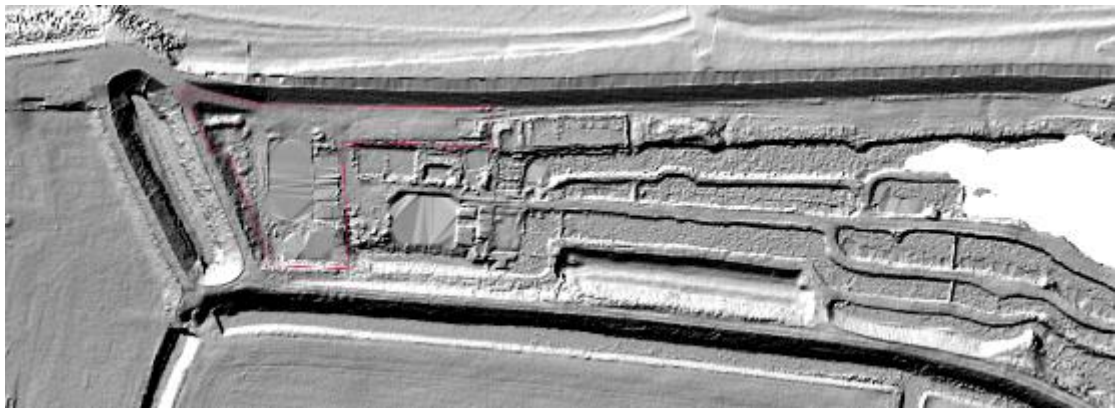


Figure 16: LIDAR 25cm DTM (Environment Agency)

11 APPENDIX 1 – KCC HER DATA (SEE FIGURES 17-29).

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
	HLC			The PDA sits within the area classified as 'Prehistoric and Roman (hillforts, other defensive enclosures and Roman forts) that also includes the area north of the PDA.
TR 26 NW 86	Monument	c. 570m SSW	Unknown	Cropmarks of a possible trackway and field system, Reculver.
TR 26 NW 87	Monument	c. 135m S	Unknown	Cropmark of an unidentified linear feature, near Lobster Farm.
TR 26 NW 1174	Building	c. 385m W	Post Medieval	King Ethelbert Public House. Locally listed building (7088). Dated 1843 on the keystone on the doorway, but probably earlier. L-shaped building. 2 storeys now faced with colour washed roughcast. Tiled roof with eaves cornice, 3 windows facing south and three windows facing west, glazing bars intact on first floor.
TR 26 NW 1175	Building	c. 670m WSW	Post Medieval	Reculver House. Locally listed building (7164). 18th century, 2 storeys painted brick hipped old tiled roof, 2 sashes with glazing bars intact and a 3 light sash to the ground floor. Porch with pilasters, 2 storey mid-19th century right side extension with hipped slate roof.
TR 26 NW 1138	Building	c. 160m W	Post Medieval	Beach Cottage. Locally listed building (7165). Probably a fisherman's cottage originally. 18th century or earlier, one storey tarred weather boarding thatched roof. Left side outside chimney stack, one casement window.
TR 26 NW 1124	Monument	c. 160m NNW	Modern	Second World War Pillbox on the coast at Reculver, near the outflow of the Northmouth Sluice by 1940. In early

				to mid-1941 the seaward walls of this pillbox will have been thickened to three feet and six inches, to better withstand shell-fire. The coastline here has been heavily strengthened, here since the Second World War and it is most unlikely that any trace survives.
TR 26 NW 1092	Monument	c. 755m WSW	Modern	Second World War Pillbox on the coast west of Reculver. There was a Second World War pillbox on the coast at Reculver, presumably firing out to sea. In early to mid-1941 the seaward walls of this pillbox will have been thickened to three feet and six inches, to better withstand shell-fire.
MKE56937	Findspot	c. 540m W	Medieval to Modern	PAS find. Medieval lead alloy amulet. Cast lead alloy amulet in the shape of an 'ankh'. The date of this object is uncertain, and it may be a foreign piece. Ankh.
MKE56990	Findspot	c. 440m W	Middle Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age copper alloy coin. Dated from 220 BC to 200 BC
MKE56991	Findspot	c. 440m W	Middle Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age copper alloy coin. Dated from 146 BC to 127 BC
MKE56992	Findspot	c. 440m W	Middle Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age copper alloy coin. Dated from 304 BC to 289 BC
MKE57030	Findspot	c. 440m W	Middle Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age Stater gold coin. Dated from 200 BC to 175 BC.
MKE57280	Findspot	c. 245m WNW	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	PAS find. Early Medieval earthenware vessel. Frankish Wheel-Thrown Vessel Early Medieval, late 6th-mid 7th century.
MKE57671	Findspot	c. 440m W	Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age copper alloy coin.
MKE57672	Findspot	c. 440m W	Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age copper alloy coin.
MKE57673	Findspot	c. 340m W	Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age copper alloy coin.

MKE57725	Findspot	c. 440m W	Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age gold Stater coin
MKE57808	Findspot	c. 440m W	Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age Stater gold coin.
TR 26 NW 4	Monument	c. 615m W	Roman	Romano-British rubbish pit. In 1947, F. Jenkins and J. Boyle excavated a pit in the cliff face at Reculver ('A': TR 22436928) which contained late 2nd/3rd century pottery, a penannular brooch, a brass coin of Marcus Aurelius and another of Septimus Severus. The pits were destroyed by coastal erosion in 1953.
TR 26 NW 18	Findspot	c. 570m W	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	Early-medieval sceatta from the foreshore west of Reculver 1953.
TR 26 NW 61	Findspot	c. 355m WNW	Lower Palaeolithic	Reculver, Palaeolithic hand axe (prob from beach). Reported as Early Acheulian hand axe. Possibly from J Evans' collecting visits in 1860s-1890s.
TR 26 NW 64	Findspot	c. 530m W	Roman	Roman Gaulish clay figurine, Reculver. Recovered from a rubbish pit exposed by the sea in the cliff face, 800 feet west of Reculver in 1953.
TR 26 NW 72	Monument	c. 245m W	Medieval	Possible Deserted Medieval Village at Reculver. In the inter-tidal zone, an area of collapsed masonry has been observed by bait-diggers and bathers. these may be the remains of the inundated Medieval village, fallen walls of the fort or both.
TR 26 NW 75	Findspot	c. 340m W	Iron Age	Iron Age coin, Reculver.
TR 26 NW 1200	Findspot	c. 310m W	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	Early Medieval human remains, cliff face at Reculver. In 1992 human bones were discovered in the cliff face at Reculver, it was concluded that they belonged to three different skeletons. None of the bones showed evidence of cause of death. These skeletal remains are likely to be associated with the cemetery and church founded in the

				7th century, they are unlikely to be Roman due to the land use in the Roman period.
TR 26 NW 67	Monument	c. 205m SW	Roman	Roman corn dryer, Reculver. In 1963 a small excavation outside the Roman fort at Reculver found a corn drying oven. It was built of flints, tile and sandstone blocks and had a central flue and side vents, with a central wall across the chamber to support the floor of the oven above.
TR 26 NW 222	Monument	c. 350m SW	Roman	Roman burials, Reculver. Cremations and inhumations dating to the Roman period have been reported from this area south of the Roman fort at Reculver. Trenching in 1971 35 feet away from a caravan site sewage works, revealed a cremation burial with the remains of an early 3rd century beaker and some other pottery. Taken in conjunction with the report that one or more skeletons were found when the sewage works was built in the 1950s, this could have been a cemetery associated with the fort
TR 26 NW 223	Monument	c. 195m SW	Roman	Roman ditches and roads outside of Reculver Roman fort. In late 1995 and early 1996 the road through the caravan park at Reculver was replaced. During this work a number of Roman features were observed. These included a road, a number of ditches, pits and post holes relating to a fence. Pottery was mostly of the 2nd and 3rd centuries and some late 2nd pottery was found below the road metalling.
MKE79267	Findspot	c. 800m W	Roman	PAS find. Copper alloy coin. A Roman copper alloy Sestertius, possibly of Trajan (AD 98 - AD 117). The coin is very worn so reverse type and mint are unclear. Date: from 98 AD to 117 AD.

MKE86545	Farmstead	c. 680m WSW	Post Medieval	Lovestreet Farm. A dispersed plan farmstead. Altered - partial loss of original form (less than 50%).
MKE86546	Farmstead	c. 600m WSW	Post Medieval	Outfarm east of Lovestreet Farm. A field barn with no associated yard. Farmstead completely demolished.
TR 26 NW 1212	Findspot	c. 285m WNW	Palaeolithic	Reculver beach - 19th C find of fossil elephant tooth, found 1897, no further information is known.
MKE94775	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Post Medieval to Modern	Post Medieval Copper alloy currency bar. A complete, but repaired, cast copper alloy 'manilla' dating to the Post Medieval/Modern period, between AD c.1550 - 1945.
MKE94785	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Roman	PAS find. Copper alloy brooch. Bow and footplate of a Roman P-shaped brooch. The head of the brooch is incomplete and is bent to one side along with the top part of the bow. The catchplate is complete with possible corroded remains of pin within it. The brooch measures 63.38mm in length and 19.02mm at its widest point. Dated from 175 AD to 250 AD.
MKE94786	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Unknown	PAS find. Copper alloy buckle. Possibly a fragment of a buckle frame of Post Medieval date. Both ends of this copper alloy object reveal breaks. The centre of this strip has a width of 7.85mm which tapers on both sides to c.4.5mm. The object is bent out of shape. Unknown date.
MKE94787	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Unknown	PAS find. Mesolithic Flint flake. The flint is an opaque blue grey colour. The ventral surface is smooth with concentric ripple marks. The flint is trapezoid in cross section. It is 67.4mm long, 38.16mm wide and 13.21mm thick. It weighs 37.36g.
MKE94788	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Unknown	PAS find. Mesolithic Flint flake. This flint flake is a dark grey-brown colour with light grey patches. It a shallow

				trapezoid in section and has a shallow ridge running along the length of its dorsal surface. The bulb of percussion is visible at one end of the smooth ventral surface.
MKE94789	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Unknown	PAS find. Copper alloy pin with globular head, possibly Roman. It measures 68.23mm in length. The pin shaft is circular in section with a diameter of 1.90mm and tapers to a point. The pin head is 2.93mm wide. The pin weighs 1.42g.
MKE94790	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Unknown	PAS find. Stone bead. A fossil sponge of the type known as 'porosphaera'. They were sometimes used as beads in the Bronze Age but most are natural. Length 9.68mm. At its widest the bead measures 12.07mm in diameter. It weighs 1.95g.
MKE94791	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Unknown	PAS find. Stone bead. This is a stone bead of unknown date. The bead is oval in section and in plan. A narrow, circular perforation of 1.74mm runs through the centre of the length of the object. The bead has a length of 13.10mm, width of 10.61mm and weighs 0.93g. Dr Kevin Leahy writes: it is likely that this find represent a fossil sponge known as 'porosphaera' which, although used as beads during some periods of the past, are natural in origin.
MKE94792	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Unknown	PAS find. Medieval Copper alloy rove. Five complete copper-alloy roves of Medieval to Post-Medieval date (c.1350 - c.1700). Four are missing the rivet, one retains part of a square-sectioned iron rivet. The objects are lozenge-shaped in plan.

MKE94793	Findspot	c. 65m NW	Unknown	PAS find. Copper alloy nail. Two copper alloy nails of uncertain date. The incomplete nail has a sub-circular head.
MKE94918	Findspot	c. 440m W	Roman	PAS find. Copper alloy brooch. A fragment of a copper alloy Hod Hill type brooch, of Roman date; AD 43 - 70. The fragment consists of the lower part of the bow and the broken catch plate. The bow has a moulded ridge running down the centre of the bow meeting a raised triangular section. The bow joins the convex catch plate. Date: from 43 AD to 70 AD.
MKE94919	Findspot	c. 440m W	Roman to Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	PAS find. Copper alloy scoop. An incomplete copper alloy Scoop of possible Roman date. The scoop is oval in shape, tapering to a point before terminating in an old break. The circular sectioned shaft joins the scoop with two ribbed collars before terminating in an old break.
TR 26 NW 1001	Findspot	c. 110m NNW	Roman	Various Roman Artefacts. In July 1957 Mr. A. W. Jan gave to a museum a number of objects which he had recovered from the beach at Reculver.
TR 26 NW 1003	Findspot	c. 645m W	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	Saxon ceramic vessel. A Saxon pot found on the shore near Reculver after a cliff fall in about 1936. Decorated bottle of Frankish type dated perhaps s c AD550-700 (1). Find in context with others in inter-tidal zone.
TR 26 NW 1005	Findspot	c. 375m WSW	Medieval	Bronze Seal. Medieval bronze seal-matrix found in 1976.
TR 26 NW 1008	Monument	c. 595m W	Roman	Late Roman occupation at Reculver Cliff. Roman metalled road, road-side ditches and pit found in exposed in cliff face to the west of Reculver. Material displays date range of the 3rd to the fourth century AD.
TR 26 NW 1009	Monument	c. 640m WSW	Roman	Possible Roman cemetery. Possible early third century Roman cremation discovered on the site of the

				Municipal Caravan site at Reculver, may indicate cemetery directly associated with the Fort itself. From 1971.
TR 26 NW 1011	Monument	c. 540m W	Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age	Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age material at Reculver. West of the Roman fort at Reculver the eroding cliff cuts the fill of pits and ditches containing Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age material.
TR 26 NW 1014	Building	c. 615m WSW	Post Medieval	Barn marked on chart of 1774 as a navigational feature.
TR 26 NW 1015	Monument	c. 375m W	Post Medieval	Buildings on Reculver Foreshore on a 1774 chart.
TR 26 NW 1020	Findspot	c. 110m NNW	Prehistoric	Prehistoric flint debitage from foreshore to east of Reculver fort. A flint flake and three blades were found on the shore east of Reculver Fort (1). These could be any age from Palaeolithic to Late Prehistoric.
TR 26 NW 1022	Findspot	c. 305m W	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	Saxon leaf shaped spearhead.
TR 26 NW 1024	Monument	c. 305m WNW	Roman	Roman well. Roman pottery found in a well on Reculver foreshore.
TR 26 NW 1025	Findspot	c. 345m W	Roman	Roman pottery. An unspecified amount of Roman pottery found on the beach at Reculver, below the cliff.
TR 26 NW 1057	Monument	c. 460m SSW	Unknown	Rectilinear enclosure/gridded cropmark. Seen on 1941 photograph.
TR 26 NW 1040	Monument	c. 350m S	Unknown	Curvilinear cropmarks. Seen on 1941 and 1998 photographs.
TR 26 NW 1039	Monument	c. 470m SW	Unknown	Curvilinear cropmarks. Seen on 1941 photograph.
TR 26 NW 1038	Monument	c. 155m SW	Unknown	Linear cropmarks. Seen on 1941 photograph.
TR 26 NW 1033	Monument	c. 245m WNW	Unknown	Fish weir. Seen on a 1998 photograph.

TR 26 NW 1032	Monument	c. 540m W	Unknown	Fish weir. Seen on a 1998 photograph.
TR 26 NW 1047	Monument	c. 290m W	Post Medieval to Modern	Sea Defences in front of St Mary's Church Reculver. Seen on all OS maps.
TR 26 NW 281	Monument	c. 190m WNW	Post Medieval	Rectangular feature. Shown on 1st ed OS 6 inch, not on any later surveys.
TR 26 NW 1058	Monument	c. 115m NW	Post Medieval to Modern	Outfall Sewer. Shown on 1st, 2nd and 3rd ed OS 6 inch and current mapping.
TR 26 NW 1063	Monument	c. 710m W	Roman	Romano-British rubbish pit. 2nd/3rd century pottery and building debris and Romano-Gaulish figurine. Excavated in 1949.
TR 26 NW 1078	Findspot	c. 345m W	Medieval	Human remains eroding out of cliff at St Mary's Church, Reculver. Bones were found protruding from a newly eroded section of cliff face near the NW tower of the ruined church of Reculver. Osteological analysis revealed that a total of 3 individuals had been found: an adult, a juvenile and a child. It seems likely that the remains belonged to a cemetery associated with the church, the eroding cliff has resulted in a number of bones being displaced and strewn down the abraded cliff face. An early date is unlikely as the find spot was within the internal confines of the Roman barracks, tradition dictates that burials are located outside occupied areas.
TR 26 NW 1083	Monument	c. 255m ENE	Post Medieval	Groynes defending length of coastline, Reculver
TR 26 NW 1084	Monument	c. 605m W	Post Medieval	Groynes defending length of coastline, Reculver
TR 26 NW 288	Monument	c. 90m WSW	Roman	Romano-British ditches, pits and post-holes (10 KHER record spots) found outside Reculver Roman fort. Archaeological evaluation carried out in 2011 found evidence of Roman ditches, pits and post-holes of

				probable Roman date in a number of trenches and test-pits east and south of the Roman fort as well as an inhumation burial. The features were not excavated and no further interpretation could be made.
TR 26 NW 289	Findspot	c. 170m SW	Early Mesolithic to Late Iron Age	Small flint assemblage, Reculver Roman fort. In 2011 an archaeological evaluation outside the Roman fort found a small flint assemblage. The assemblage consisted of 20 fragments of burnt and worked flint.
TR 26 NW 290	Monument	c. 215m SSW	Unknown	Undated inhumation burial, Reculver Caravan Park. In 2011 an archaeological evaluation found evidence of Roman features (TR 26 NW 288) as well as an undated inhumation burial of an adult male. Only 30 - 40 % of the skeleton was present and there seemed to be no grave cut. The excavators tentatively suggested that the legs were bound.
TR 26 NW 203	Monument	c. 405m W	Roman	Roman Road running from Sturry to Reculver.
TR 26 NW 1	Monument	c. 130m W	Roman	Reculver Roman fort, known as Regvlbium in the Notitia Dignitatum, also the site of a Roman conquest period fort. Excavations inside the fort in 1968 uncovered the south and east sides of a double-ditched enclosure. The ditches contained mid-1st century pottery, and probably represent a fortlet of the Conquest period
TR 26 NW 2	Monument	c. 130m W	Post Roman	Anglo-Saxon Minster and the ruins of St Mary's Church. St Mary's Church c.669-15thc; Former site of Benedictine Monastery founded AD 669 and destroyed by Vikings.
TR 26 NW 1043	Monument	c. 520m E	Unknown	Salt Mound. Identified from 1941 aerial photograph
TR 26 NW 1051	Monument	c. 795m E	Unknown	Mound, identified from 1941 aerial photograph

TR 26 NW 1037	Landscape	c. 590m E	Unknown	Series of square cut features, seen on a 1941 aerial photograph.
MKE86606	Farmstead	c. 680m SE	Post Medieval	Outfarm south east of Lovestreet Farm. loose courtyard plan with a building to one side of the yard. Farmstead completely demolished.
TR 26 NW 1034	Monument	c. 780m ENE	Unknown	Fish weir. Seen on a 1998 photograph.

Figure 17: Gazetteer of KHER Monuments Record

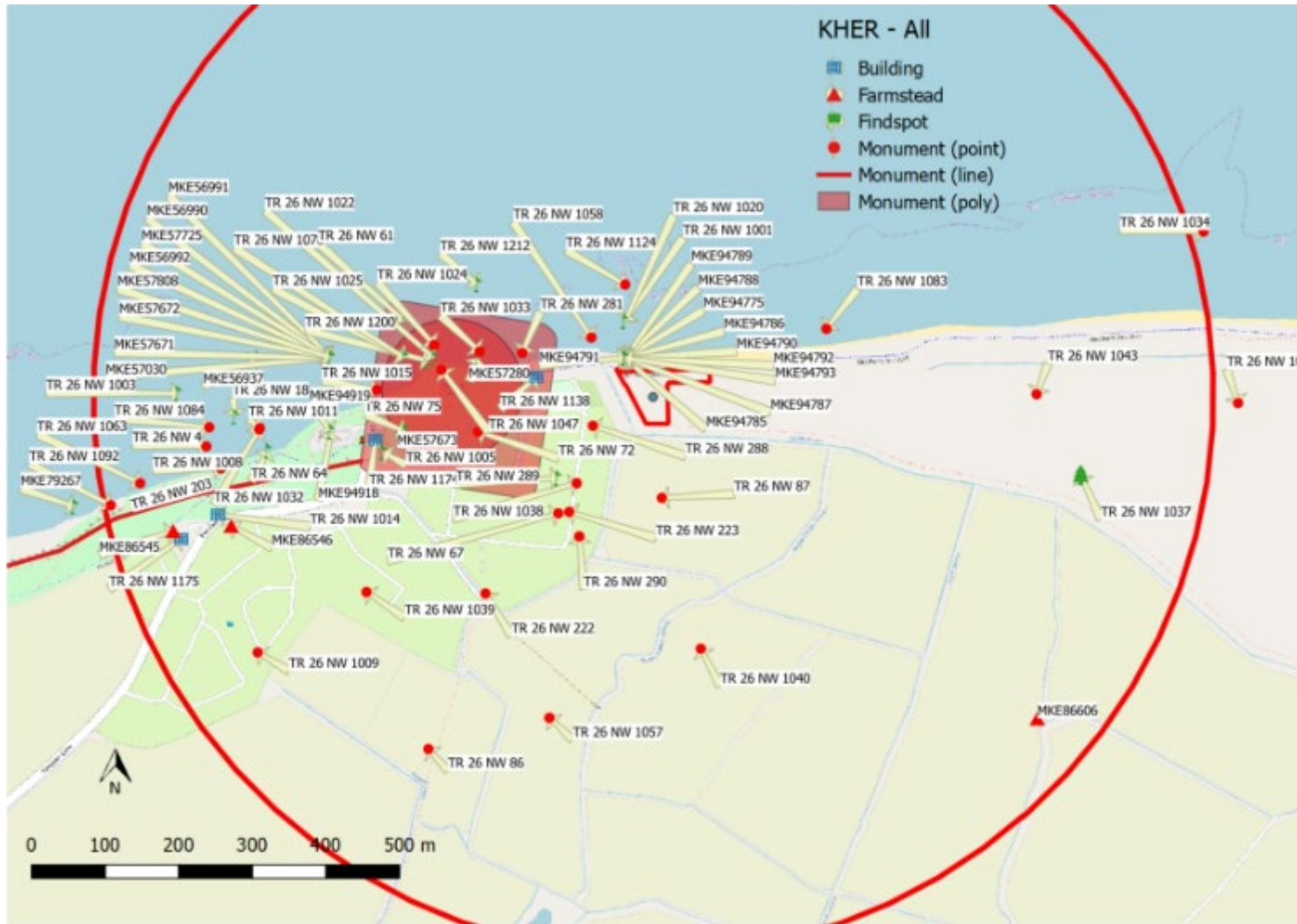


Figure 18: KHER Monument Data – All

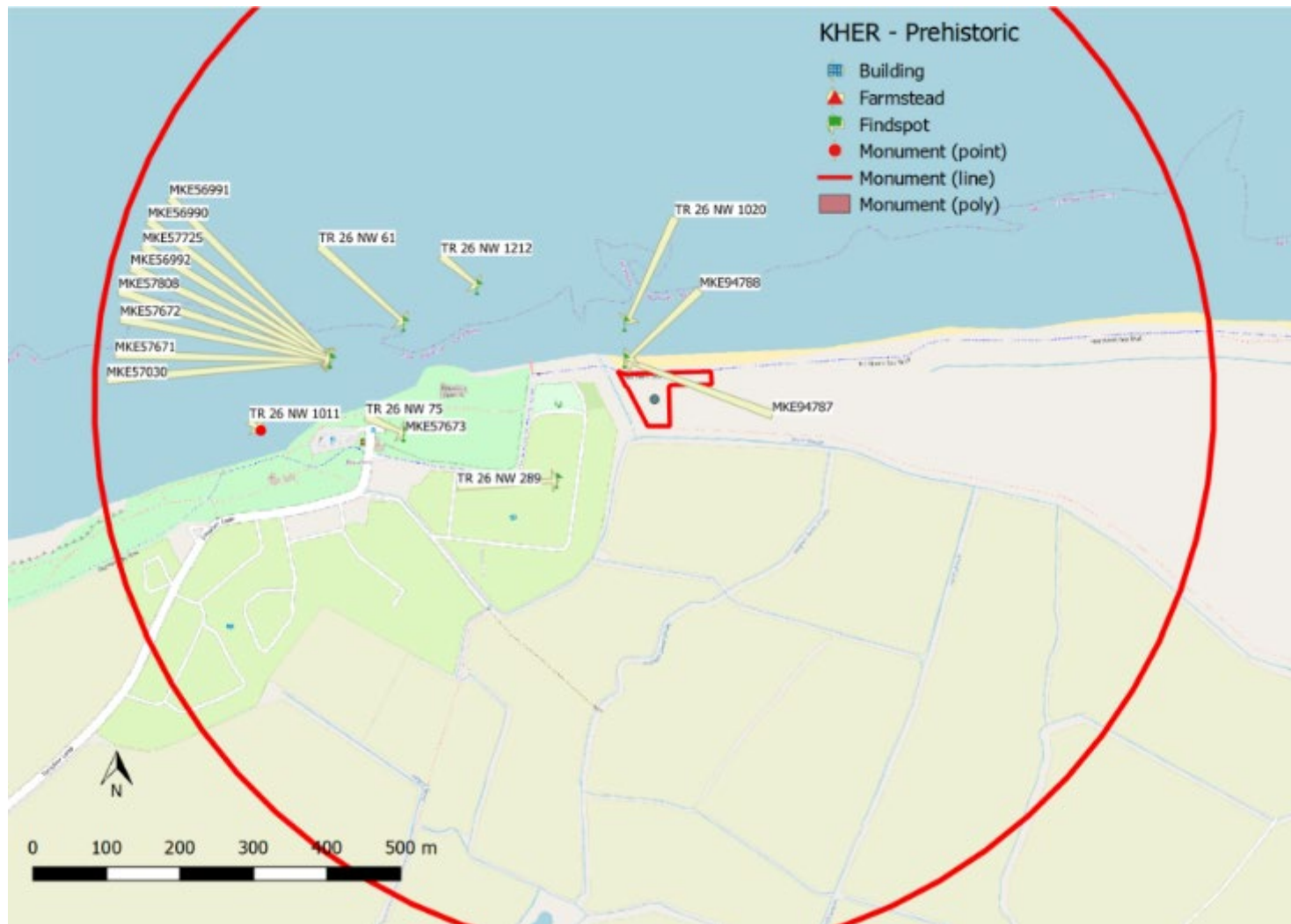


Figure 19: KHER Monument Record – Prehistoric (including Iron Age)

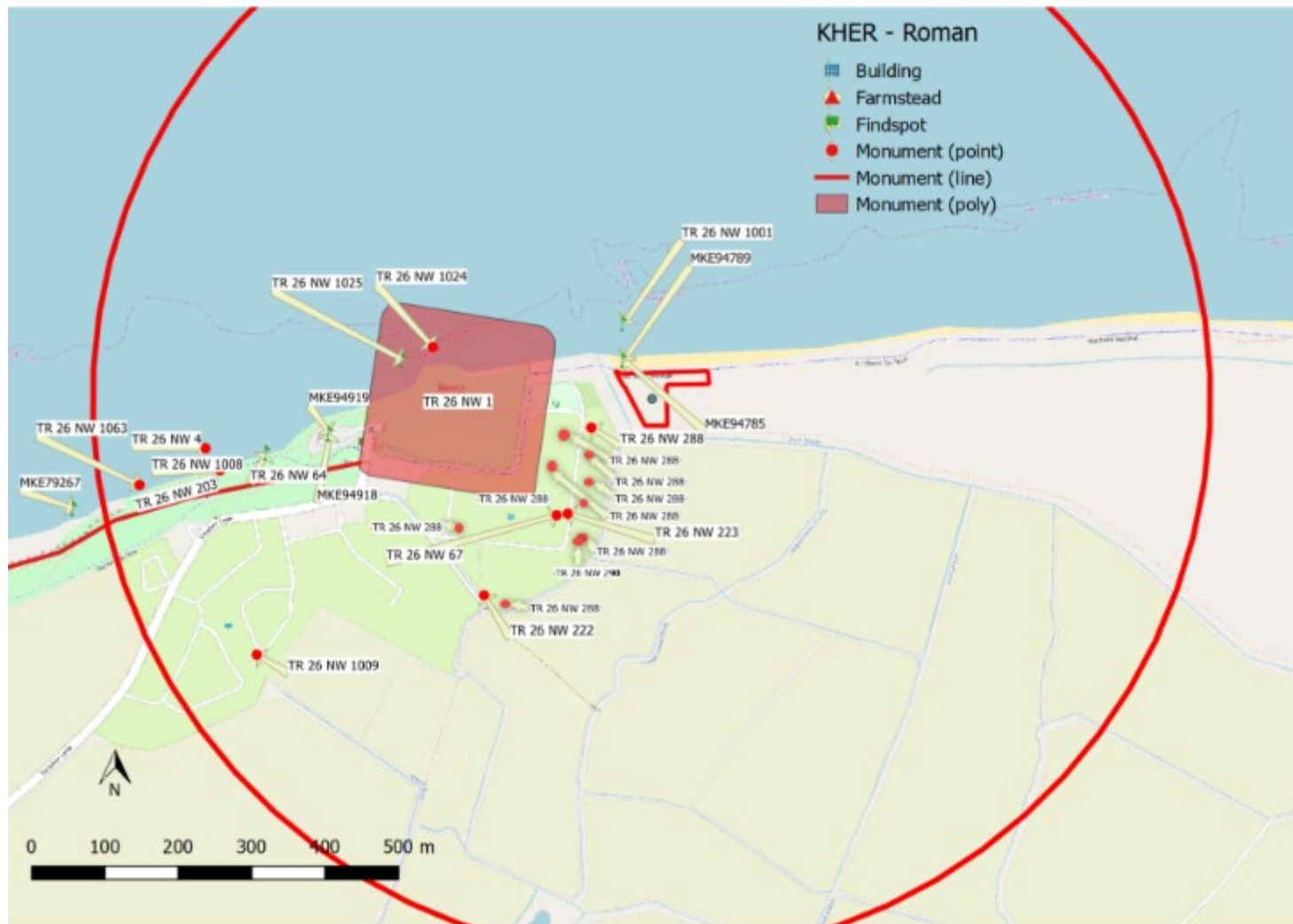


Figure 20: KHER Monument Record – Roman

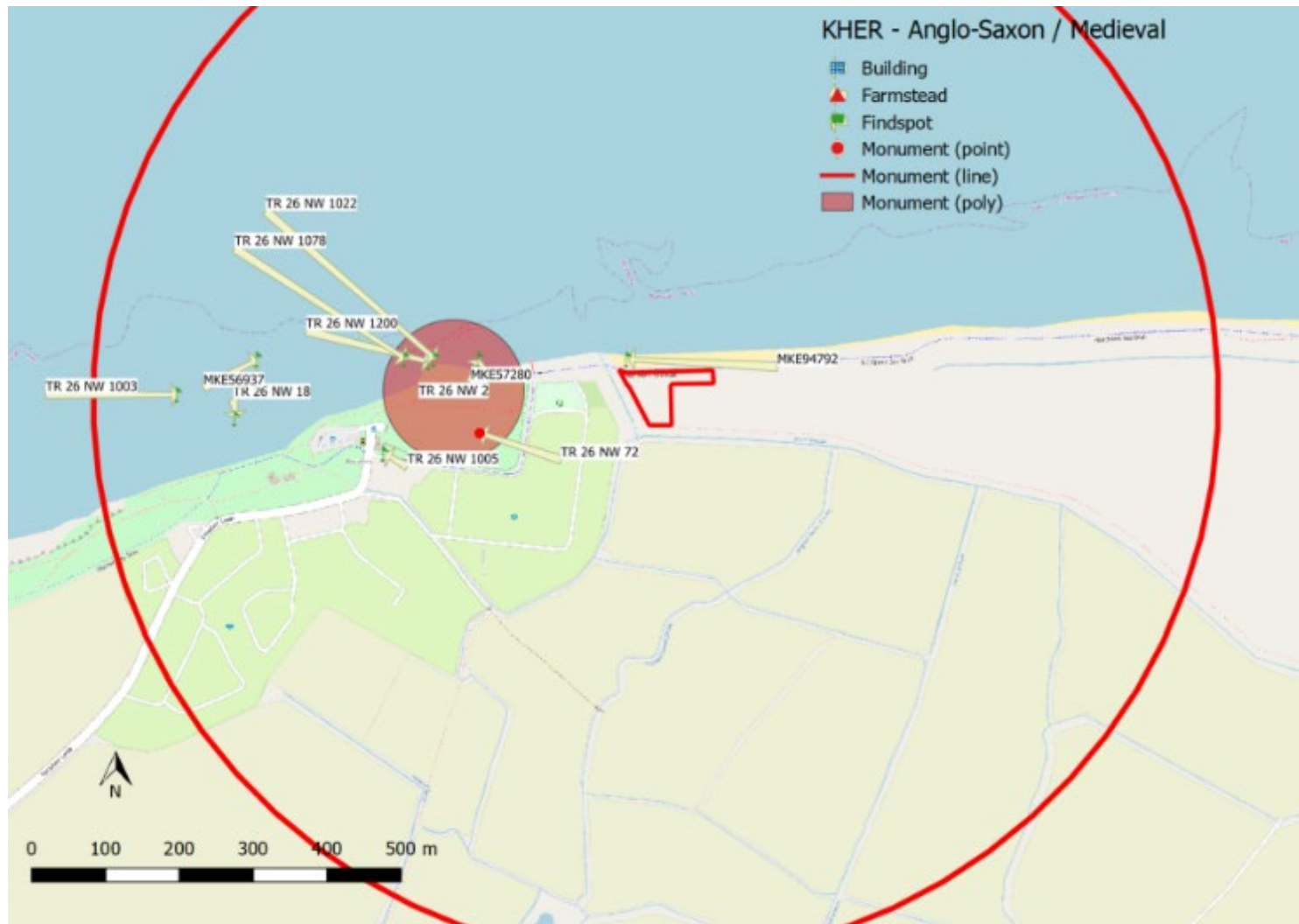


Figure 21: KHER Monument Record – Anglo- Saxon / Medieval



Figure 22: KHER Monument Record – Post Medieval

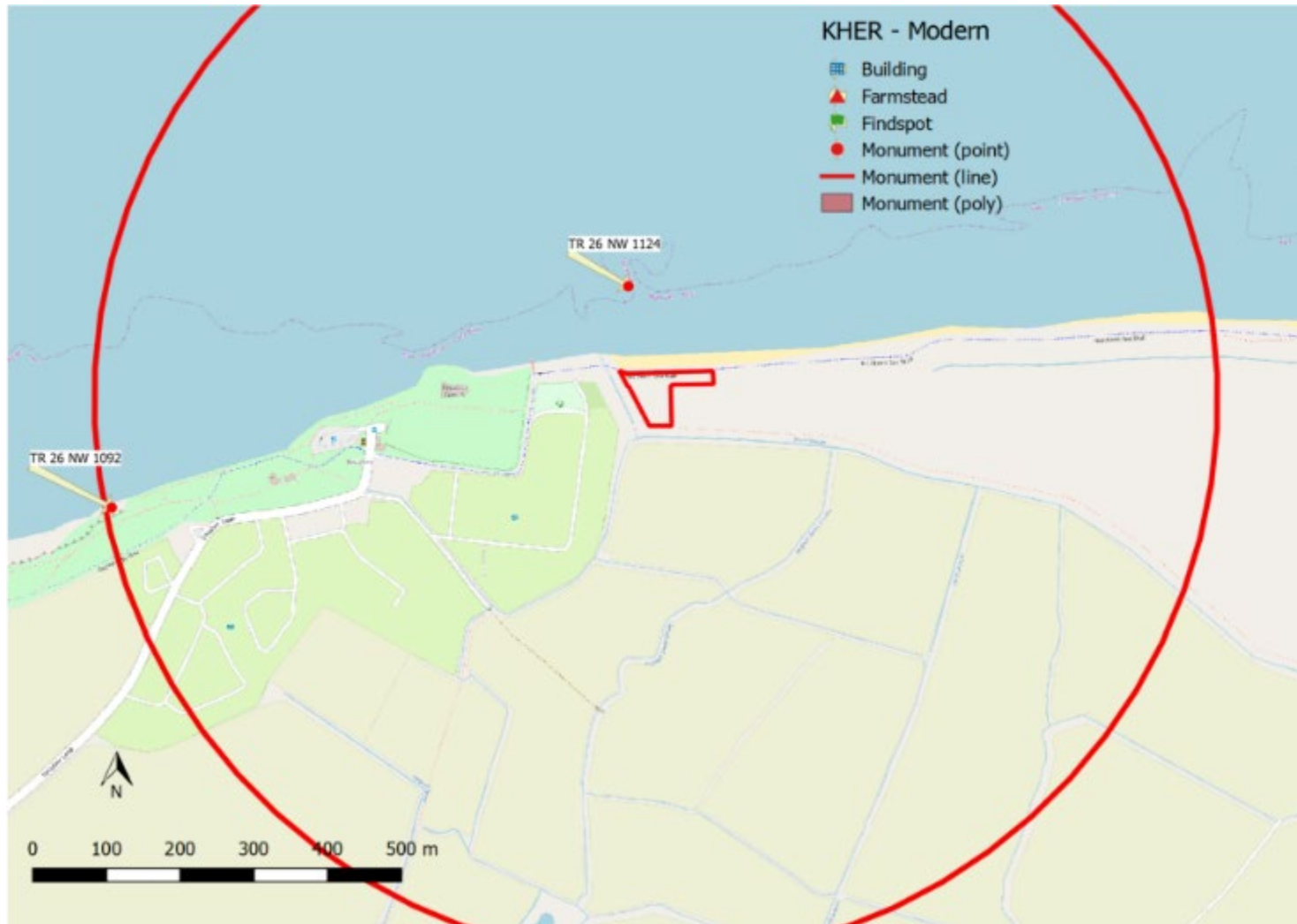


Figure 23: KHER Monument Record – Modern

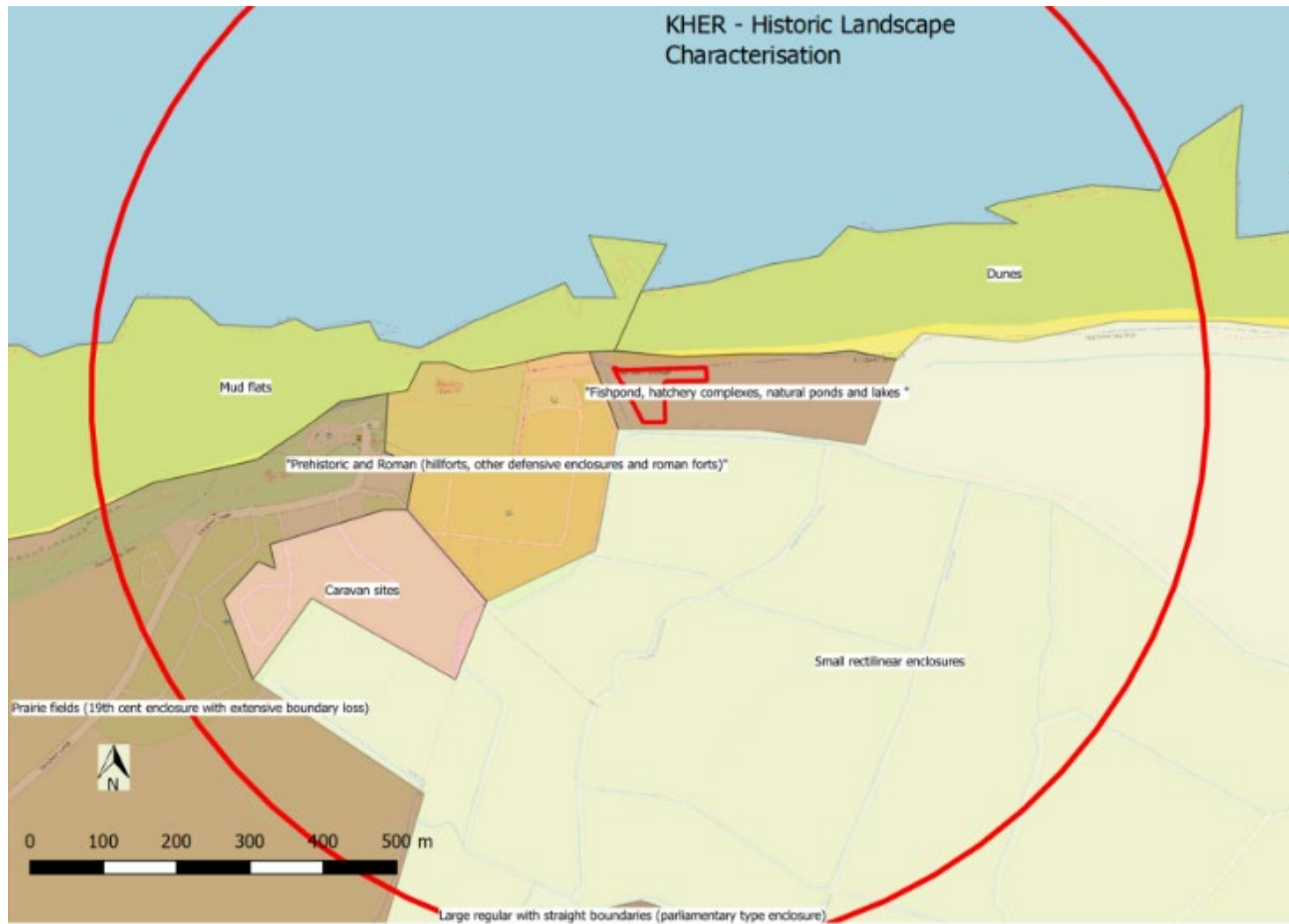


Figure 24: KHER Historic Landscape Characterisation

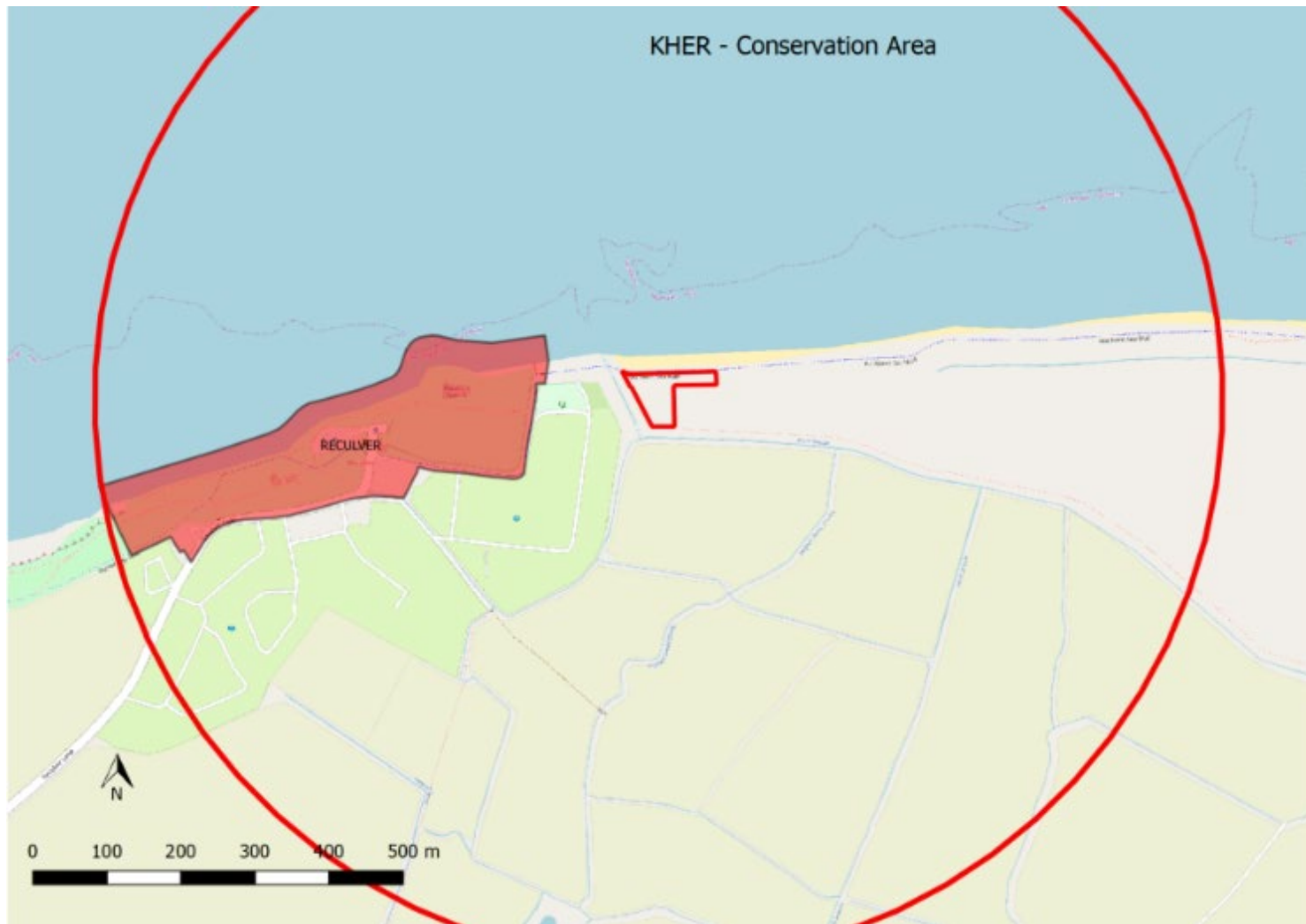


Figure 25: KHER Conservation Area

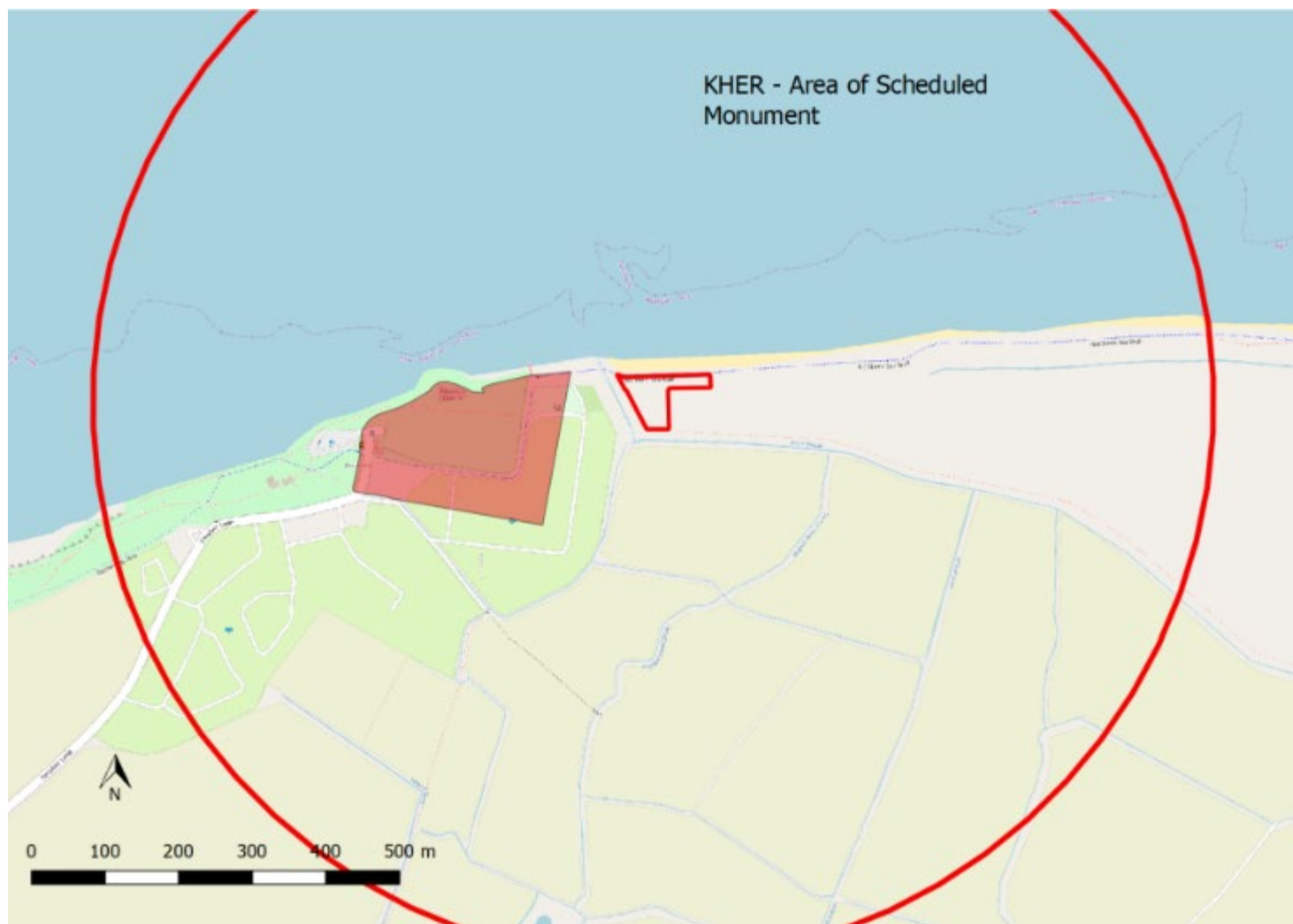


Figure 26: Area of Scheduled Ancient Monument

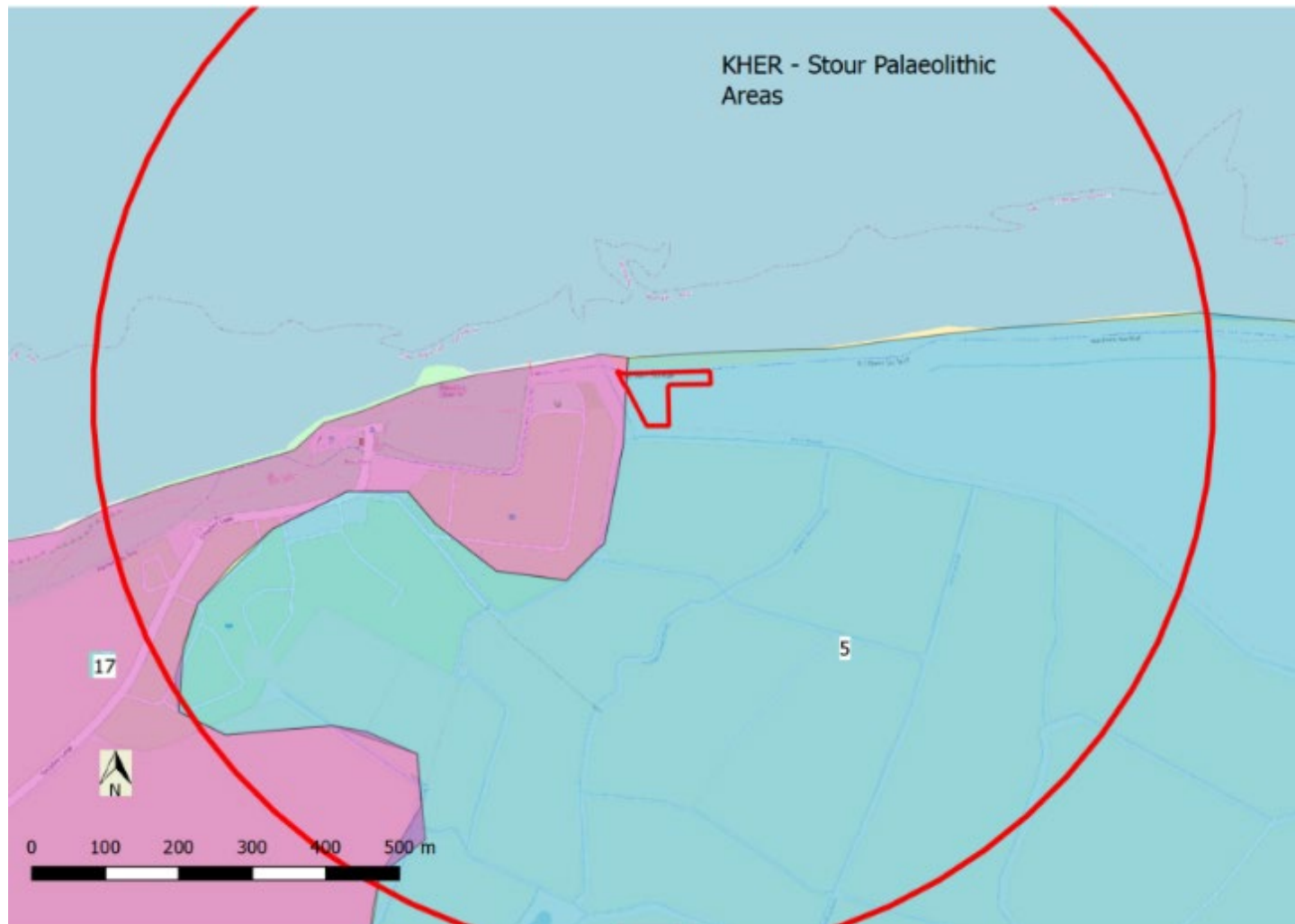


Figure 27: KHER Stour Palaeolithic Character Areas

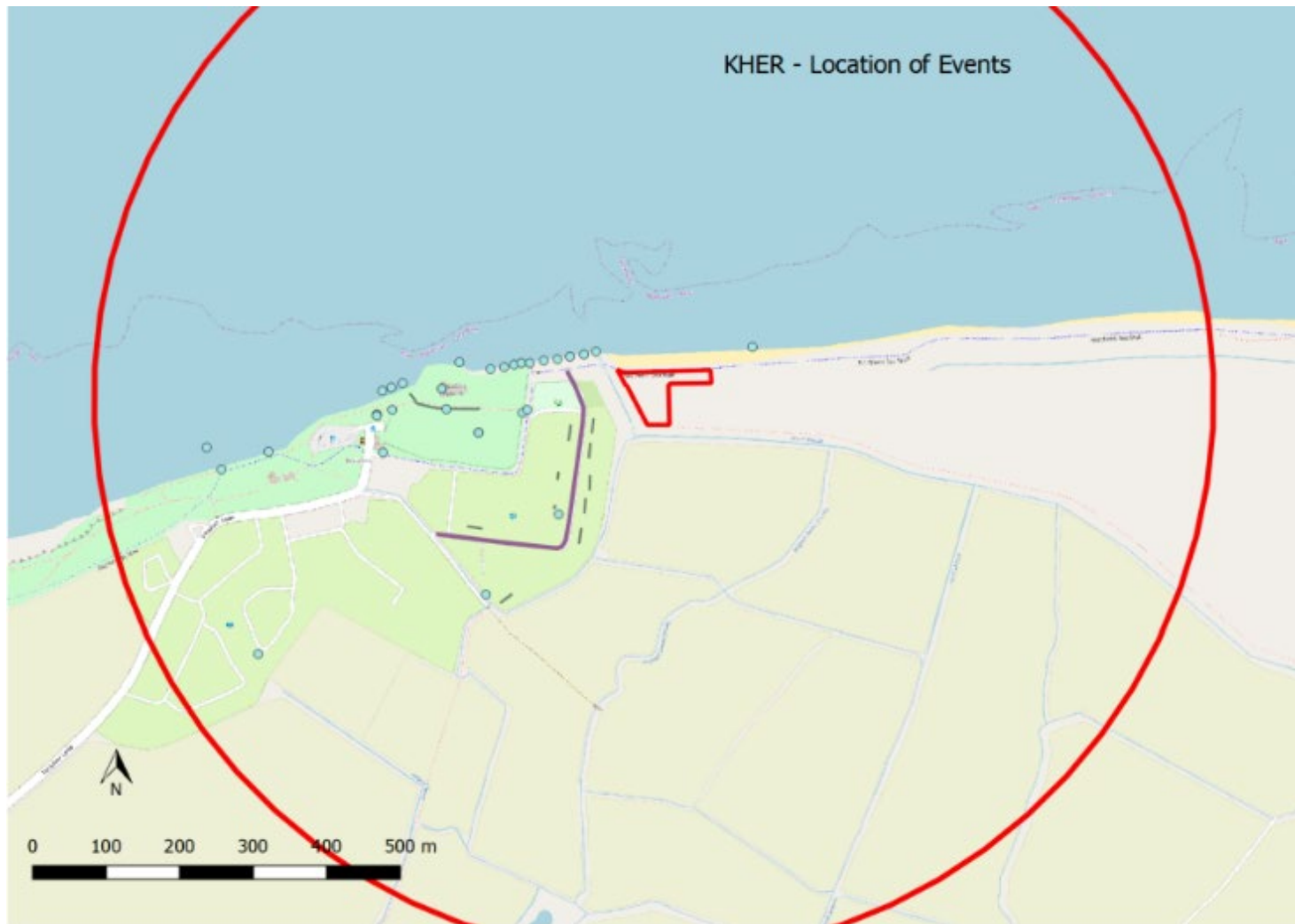


Figure 28: Location of Archaeological Events

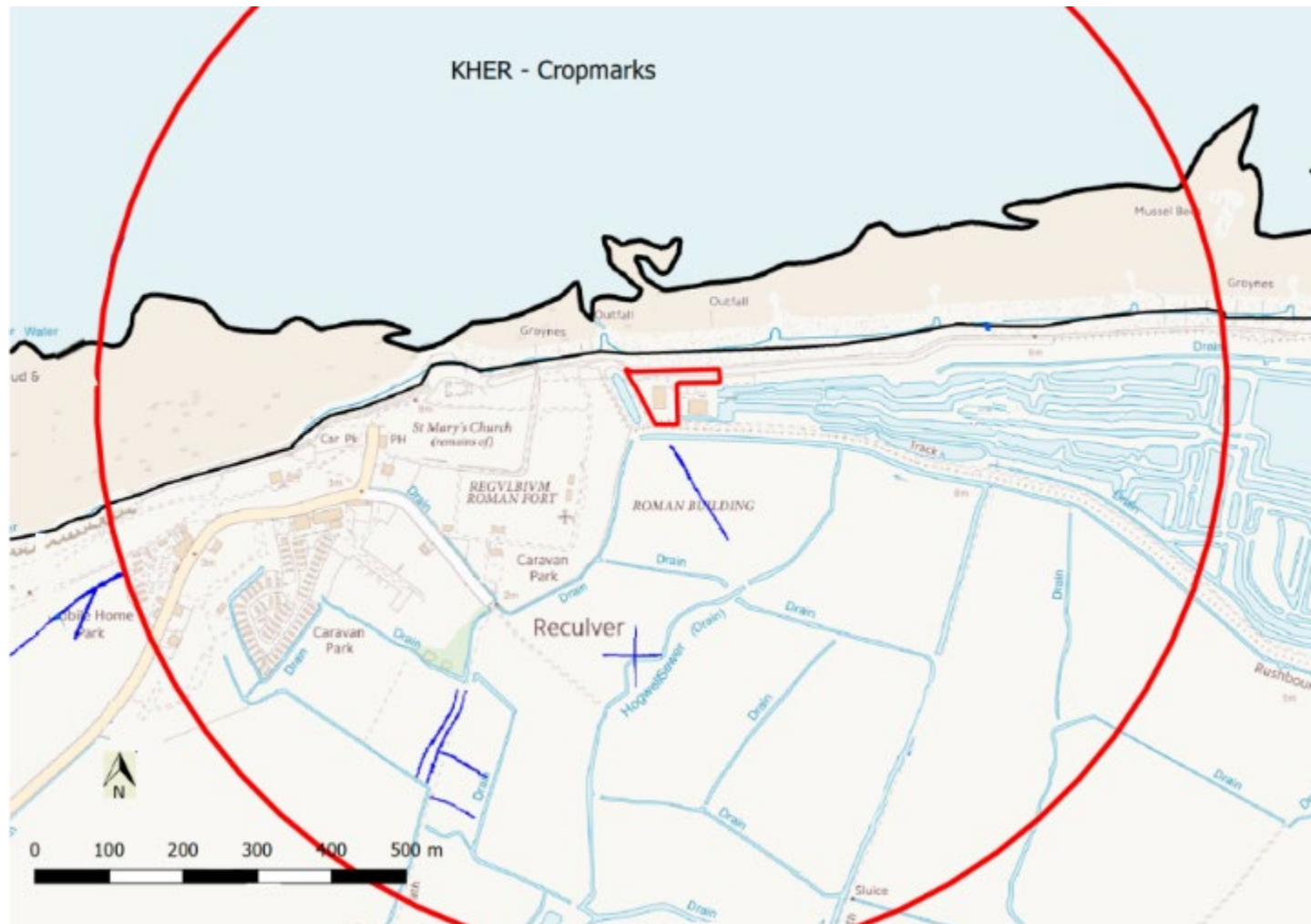


Figure 29: KHER Cropmarks



Plate 1: Aerial Photograph 1931



Plate 2: Aerial Photograph 1931



Plate 3: 1940s. All at an altitude of 610m (Google Earth).



Plate 4: 1960s (Google Earth)



Plate 5: 1990s (Google Earth)



Plate 6: 2003 (Google Earth)



Plate 7: 2007 (Google Earth)



Plate 8: 2013 (Google Earth)



Plate 9: 2019 (Google Earth)



Plate 10: View across the PDA from the north western corner (facing SE).



Plate 11: View along the northern section of the PDA (facing E)



Plate 12: View across the PDA (facing SW)



Plate 13: View across the PDA from the north eastern corner (facing W)



Plate 14: View across southern part of the PDA from south west corner (facing E)



Plate 15: View towards the PDA from The Towers (facing E)