Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development of Land at Preston Farm, Shoreham, Kent

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National Grid Reference TQ 52636 62652

Report for Hatchery

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Summary

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by Hatchery to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) of land at Preston Farm, Shoreham, Kent.

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

- Prehistoric: **high**

- Iron Age: **high**

- Roman: **high**

- Anglo-Saxon: **high**

- Medieval: **high**

- Post-Medieval: **high**

- Modern: **low**

Preston Farm is a former dairy farm located between the villages of Shoreham and Eynsford on the western side of the A255 at the southern end of the Darent Valley. Shoreham is just 1.5km to the south west. The PDA is approximately four acres with the eastern boundary alongside the London to Sevenoaks railway line that runs parallel with that of the A225. adjoining the recreation ground. The western boundary of the farm follows the line of the River Darent with the land rising gently from circa 51m aOD in the west to circa 55m aOD in the east. Within the PDA are a number of existing farm buildings of various ages. Comprising of a commercial yard in the north western corner with workshops. The central part of the site includes stable blocks and livery buildings. On the eastern side outside the confines of the PDA is the original farmhouse currently undergoing restoration. On the western side of the livery buildings is a large open sided Dutch barn. The southern part of the site includes more stables blocks and livery office with a hardstanding parking area. The south western part of the PDA comprises of open-air horse arenas. Adjacent to the north eastern corner of the PDA is the

residential Dairy House. Access to the PDA is via a long track from the A225 some 300m north east of the farm.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of high potential for all periods except for low for the Modern period. The Darent Valley is important in that has yielded evidence for all Prehistoric periods and was obviously an attractive environment. The valley continued in use during the Roman period with one if not two buildings located south of the PDA set within a Roman estate similar to many other along the river. The manor at Preston probably originated as a farm to provide income and support to monastic clergy, the name derived from "Priest's tun" or farm. The site may have been set up after the founding of the minster at Rochester in 604. Consequently, the research suggests that the site carries significant national and regional potential and its early origins should be investigated as well as the opportunity for Prehistoric evidence.

The demolition of the majority of buildings are from the 20th century with just the barn and oast earlier and of the late Victorian period. The barn is of poor condition and is not of any significance. The oast has already been converted and has lost its cowl. Again, this is not a building of any significance. The current modern buildings are likely to have disturbed any potential archaeology although the level of disturbance is unclear. The development proposals for foundations and associated services will have a high impact on any potential archaeological remains. 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 anticipated that that an evaluation will be required to ascertain the nature of any archaeological deposits.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Hatchery (the 'Clients),
to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development
area (PDA) of land at Preston Farm, Shoreham, Kent centred on National Grid Reference
(NGR) TQ 52636 62652 (Fig 1).

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 Preston Farm is a former dairy farm located between the villages of Shoreham and
Eynsford on the western side of the A255 at the southern end of the Darent Valley.
Shoreham is just 1.5km to the south west. The PDA is approximately four acres with
the eastern boundary alongside the London to Sevenoaks railway line that runs parallel
with that of the A225. adjoining the recreation ground. The western boundary of the
farm follows the line of the River Darent with the land rising gently from circa 51m aOD
in the west to circa 55m aOD in the east. Within the PDA are a number of existing farm
buildings of various ages. Comprising of a commercial yard in the north western corner
with workshops. The central part of the site includes stable blocks and livery buildings.
On the eastern side outside the confines of the PDA is the original farmhouse currently
undergoing restoration. On the western side of the livery buildings is a large open sided
Dutch barn. The southern part of the site includes more stables blocks and livery office
with a hardstanding parking area. The south western part of the PDA comprises of
open-air horse arenas. Adjacent to the north eastern corner of the PDA is the residential
Dairy House. Access to the PDA is via a long track from the A225 some 300m north east
of the farm (Fig. 1).

Geology

1.2.2 The British Geological Society (BGS 1995) shows that the local geology at the PDA
consists of a band of bedrock comprising of New Pit Chalk Formation - Chalk. There are
superficial deposits of Head – Clay, Silt sand and Gravel on the western side of the PDA
on a north to south axis, with a band of alluvium - Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel on the
same alignment immediately west associated with the River Darent. Due to the low
resolution of the mapping along with the changes in the path of the river over the
course of time it is not possible to identify the exact boundary lines between the
geology at the PDA.

Geotechnical Information

1.2.3   There is no known geotechnical information.

1.3   The Proposed Development

1.3.1   The proposed development is for the demolition of some of the existing farm buildings with refurbishment to others along with new builds to create a new courtyard area to be used as commercial workspaces surrounded by landscaped gardens (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 than 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.

Hedgerow Regulations (statutory Instrument No. 1160) 1997

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

2.3   Local Policies

2.3.1   Sevenoaks District Council has a Core Strategy adopted in 2011 and has a number of policies relevant to archaeology:

POLICY SP1

2.3.2   A distinguishing feature of the District is the high quality of the natural and built environment. Sevenoaks contains two AONBs and other areas of attractive landscape identified in the Countryside Assessment. The built and historic heritage of Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Historic Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and sites of archaeological interest, contribute to the special quality and character of many parts of the District. A key responsibility of the plan is to ensure their continued protection, conservation and enhancement. The District's towns and villages also include other areas of high-quality environment.

Design of New Development and Conservation

2.3.3   All new development should be designed to a high quality and should respond to the distinctive local character of the area in which it is situated. Account should be taken of guidance adopted by the Council in the form of Kent Design, local Character Area Assessments, Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans, Village Design Statements and Parish Plans. In rural areas account should be taken of guidance in the Countryside Assessment and AONB Management Plans. In areas where the local environment lacks positive features new development should contribute to an improvement in the quality of the environment. New development should create safe, inclusive and attractive environments that meet the needs of users, incorporate principles of sustainable development and maintain and enhance biodiversity. 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. The District's heritage assets and their settings, including listed buildings, conservation areas, archaeological remains, ancient monuments, historic parks and gardens, historic buildings, landscapes and outstanding views will be protected and enhanced.

2.3.4 The Allocations and Development Management Plan was adopted in 2015. The following Policies are relevant.

Policy EN1 – Design Principles

2.3.5 Proposals which would create high quality design and meet the following criteria will be permitted: a) the form of the proposed development would respond to the scale, height, materials and site coverage of the area; b) the layout of the proposed development would respect the topography and character of the site and the surrounding area and sensitively incorporate natural features such as trees, hedges and ponds within the site; c) the proposal would not result in the loss of buildings, open spaces or green infrastructure that would have an unacceptable impact on the character of the area; d) the proposal would ensure satisfactory means of access for vehicles and pedestrians and provide adequate parking and refuse facilities; e) the proposal would incorporate, within the design opportunities for increasing biodiversity potential, where possible, and retaining and enhancing Green Infrastructure features including sustainable drainage systems. Proposals that affect a site's existing biodiversity and Green Infrastructure should be designed in a way that avoids or mitigates any potential harm; f) the design of new buildings and the layout of spaces, including footways, car and cycle parking areas, would be permeable and provide connectivity with neighbouring areas; g) new development would be inclusive and where appropriate make satisfactory provision for the safe and easy access of those with disabilities; and h) the design of new developments would result in the creation of a safe and secure environment and incorporate adequate security measures and features to deter crime, fear of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. Where appropriate, new developments should include infrastructure that meets modern communication and technology needs and restricts the need for future retrofitting. Such infrastructure should include Broadband, high speed internet cabling, digital TV cabling and provision of a power supply that would support green technology initiatives

such as in-home electric car charging points. Subject to the above considerations, development should make efficient use of the land on which it is proposed. Where appropriate, proposals should include details and strategies for the effective management and maintenance of sites following their completion.

Policy EN3 - Demolition in Conservation Areas

2.3.6   Proposals involving the demolition of a non-listed building in Conservation Areas will be assessed against the contribution to the architectural or historic interest of the area made by that building. Buildings that make a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area should be conserved. Where a building makes no significant contribution to the area, consent for demolition will be given subject to submission and approval of a detailed plan for redevelopment or after use of the site.

Policy EN4 – Heritage Assets

2.3.7   Proposals that affect a Heritage Asset, or its setting, will be permitted where the development conserves or enhances the character, appearance and setting of the asset. Applications will be assessed with reference to the following: a) the historic and/or architectural significance of the asset; b) the prominence of its location and setting; and c) the historic and/or architectural significance of any elements to be lost or replaced. Where the application is located within, or would affect, an area or suspected area of archaeological importance an archaeological assessment must be provided to ensure that provision is made for the preservation of important archaeological remains/findings. Preference will be given to preservation in situ unless it can be shown that recording of remains, assessment, analysis report and deposition of archive is more appropriate.

Policy EN5 - Landscape

2.3.8   The Kent Downs and High Weald Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and their settings will be given the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. Proposals within the AONB will be permitted where the form, scale, materials and design would conserve and enhance the character of the landscape and have regard to the relevant Management Plan and associated guidance. Proposals that affect the landscape throughout the District will be permitted where they would: a) conserve the character of the landscape, including areas of tranquillity; and b) where feasible help secure enhancements in accordance with landscape actions in accordance with the Sevenoaks Countryside Assessment SPD.

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

2.3.9   The importance of the wider landscape character of the District is recognised by the extent of the High Weald and Kent Downs Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The AONB designation gives these areas the highest protection in terms of their landscape and scenic beauty and highlights the importance of the conservation of the wildlife and the cultural heritage of these landscapes. The character of the AONB's will be conserved and enhanced primarily through Core Strategy Policy LO8-Countryside and the Rural Economy.

LO8 – Countryside and the Rural Economy

2.3.10   The Countryside and the Rural Economy. The extent of the Green Belt will be maintained. The countryside will be conserved and the distinctive features that contribute to the special character of its landscape and its biodiversity will be protected and enhanced where possible. The distinctive character of the Kent Downs and High Weald Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and their settings, will be conserved and enhanced. Particular regard will be given to the condition and sensitivity of the landscape character and securing the recommended landscape actions in the proposed SPD to ensure that all development conserves and enhances local landscape character and that appropriate mitigation is provided where damage to local character cannot be avoided. Development that supports the maintenance and diversification of the rural economy, including development for agriculture, forestry, small scale business development and rural tourism projects, and the vitality of local communities will be supported provided it is compatible with policies for protecting the Green Belt, the Kent Downs and High Weald Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty conserves and enhances the value and character of the District's woodland and the landscape character of other rural parts of the District and that it takes account of infrastructure requirements.

Local Planning Guidance

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

3.1.2 This Desk-Based Assessment therefore forms the initial stage of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist in decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

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

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

'Desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant regulations of CIfA. 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 1km 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 1-5).

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   ARCHAOLOGICAL 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 (1km radius centred on each site of the PDA), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. There were no Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, Historic Parks and Gardens in the search area. The Kent HER records within the 1km assessment area concern records for all periods of archaeology Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed in Table 1. Figure 12 and 13 provide details of all the HER records.

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		

5.2   Designated Heritage Assets

5.2.1   One of the tasks of the site visit was aimed to identify any designated heritage assets within the wider context of the PDA in accordance with The Setting of Heritage Assets – English Heritage Guidance (English Heritage 2011).

5.2.2   This guidance states that "setting embraces all of the surroundings (land, sea, structures, features and skyline) from which the heritage asset can be experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset" (The Setting of Heritage Assets, English Heritage 2011).

5.2.3   There are 12 designated heritage assets, with over half located on the northern outskirts of Shoreham village comprising of Medieval and Post Medieval property. There were a group of heritage assets located north of the PDA in the area of Castle Farm with the farmhouse, cottages and gardens walls. All of these heritage assets were towards the outer reaches of the assessment area and there were none located within the PDA itself. In addition, the outer reaches of the PDA to the south lies within the Conservation Area of Shoreham (Fig. 15). Given that the village has a number of survival Medieval and Post Medieval houses, the Conservation Area recognises the historic character and aesthetic significance of the area.

5.3   Previous Archaeological Works

5.3.1   There is little by way of events in the surrounding area due to the sparely occupied nature of the area (Fig.16). However, a key intrusive event is that of an excavation in 1982 by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit (KARU). In 1948, it was reported that north of the village of Shoreham hypocaust, tesserae, flint chalk foundations had been found cut into the River Darent with Roman pottery beneath the water level. Through probing at the time, it was estimated that there was a building of some 120ft long between 2-4ft below ground level. The position of which was on Preston Farm land, circa 630m south west of the farmhouse at Preston Farm.

5.3.2   In 1982, sewer pipes were being laid in the general area from Farningham to Sevenoaks and given that this was to go through the area of the 1948 discovery, they investigated with 37 test pits. A building comprising of three rooms was found, some walls contained 2-3 courses but other walls had been robbed. The building was circa 40-50cm below the ground level and was 8.8m east-west and 5.55m north-south. There was evidence of opus signinum and tesserae. Room one was rectangular with room 2 being apsidal and much smaller than room one. Room three at the western end had been added on. The floor containing charcoal with possible hypocaust channels. The purpose of the building is unclear. But finds included pottery, some of which was higher status Samian ware, glass and tile. The finds suggested the building dated from the late 1st century to the early 3rd century for items such as storage jars and cooking pots and a piece of quern stone analysed to come from Germany.

5.3.3   Since the building was not of the size as suggested by the 1948 discovery, it is considered that there is possibly another Roman building in the vicinity to the west.

5.3.4   For the 1982 excavated building, burials were placed in room 1 and Interpreted as being placed when the building was in a ruinous state. This comprised of 2 adults although bone preservation was poor one was identified as an adult. The heads were at the western end with an east-west orientation. There was no dating evidence but they are considered to be late Roman or Anglo-Saxon.

Landscape Characterisation

5.3.5   The PDA lies in the area classified as 'miscellaneous valley bottom paddocks and pastures' (Fig. 14).

5.3.6   Sevenoaks District Council have prepared a Supplementary Planning Document: Sevenoaks Countryside Assessment from 2011 under the Local Development Framework. Shoreham is located in the Landscape Type classed as 'Downs River Valleys and within the Darent Valley – Eynsford and Shoreham Character Area. The landscape is one of a gently undulating river valley containing traditional rural settlements with many mad-made features and historical vernacular buildings in villages linked by lanes and isolated farmsteads. The landscape is one of pasture close to the river with arable fields on the higher chalky ground. Many hedgerows have been removed from the valley floor and limited to roadside verges. The hedgerows having been replaced by post and wire fencing leads to a relatively open landscape. The historic features are to be found alongside the river, with Roman villas and historic mill villages, dominated by villages with buildings pre 1801 in vernacular styles using flint, brick and weatherboarding. This landscape has a very distinct historic settlement pattern with ancient influences. Historic mill sites and villages are strung out along the managed river course with isolated farms scattered in the valley. The reports states of the importance in preserving the pattern of settlement which is considered to be the strongest and distinctive element of the landscape of which this proposed development maintains.

Darent Valley – Pleistocene Potential

5.3.7   Shoreham as it sits in the Darent Valley has superficial geology that holds evidence of early man. The earliest is 300, 000 years ago with the finding of the Swanscombe skull. Swanscombe has also revealed stones axes that has showed it was used as an elephant butchery site. In Farningham Woods, Otford Mount, more hand axes as well as faunal

remains of Woolly Rhinoceros, wild horse and mammoth at Sevenoaks Wildfowl Reserve, previously a quarry pit. Mesolithic activity in the valley has also been found with many stone tools. Including some known from the Shoreham area.

5.4 Archaeological and Historical Narrative

5.4.1   Along with many other valleys across Kent, the Darent Valley was attractive to early humans.   Palaeolithic activity has been found in nearby Farningham and also further along the valley at Swanscombe. As well as early human remains, animal remains of woolly rhinoceros, wild horse and woolly mammoth have also been found.

5.4.2   Activity along the valley continued in the Mesolithic period usually through stone implements. A number of picks have been found in and around Eynsford as well as other implements along the valley as well as at a quarry in Darenth and close by at the Darenth Roman Villa site where a large assemblage of Mesolithic flint was found. Neolithic activity in the valley would have seen clearance of woodlands and the beginnings of settlement in the landscape as evidenced by stone tools, especially in the area close to Dartford. At Darenth, in a quarry Neolithic remains included both flora and fauna, along with scrapers and axes.

5.4.3   Bronze Age activity has been found near to Otford and at nearby Lullingstone, there is a Prehistoric trackway (TQ 56 SW 76) but finds and features from this period are limited compared to other periods. Struck flints were found in excavating Shoreham Roman buildings and thought to be late Neolithic or Bronze Age. To the south outside of Shoreham parish, a burial urn and Bronze Age axe head have been found. At Otford, Bronze Age farming evidence has been found.

5.4.4   Activity increased in the Iron Age along the valley. From Dartford, a farmstead at Farningham, and close by the Darenth quarry site, a significant Iron Age farmstead was found. Closer to the PDA in Lullingstone Park is an Iron Age settlement located on a spur on the edge of a small wooded area along with a surrounding field system (TQ 56 SW 15). North of this are a series of hillforts and it is believed that Oldbury hill fort controlled the Shoreham area.

5.4.5   Nearby Lullingstone to the north is well known for its Roman villa. Just one of a large number along the Darent Valley, which was exploited by the Romans with the river used as an important trade route and a number of mills. The Lullingstone Villa, to the south west of the village of Eynsford and some 3km north, north east of the PDA was built circa 80AD, 40 years after the invasion, with occupation continuing until the mid-4th century. It is an important and significance site, given its high status, grand mosaics and evidence relating to Romano-British Christianity. Eynsford itself has evidence for Roman activity, through a potential water mill. Another Roman building is located alongside the eastern side of the Darenth just south of the PDA as mentioned in section 5.3 although purpose of the building is unknown. South of the village at Filston, just 1.3km from the Preston Farm Roman site is considered a Roman farmstead. The Romans would have carved up the landscape along the river Darent with villa estates, especially to support agriculture in this period. The estates would have been placed on an east-west axis, to take advantage of the difference land use, from the waters, edge, meadowland, arable and the slopes, hills and wooded areas. It is highly likely that there is a villa building nearby and /or perhaps a mill.

5.4.6   Eynsford has Anglo-Saxon origins as evidenced by its remains below that of the Norman castle. An Anglo-Saxon cemetery is located outside of the castle. Eynsford is first documented in 864 AD, as "Egenes homme". The derivation is unclear, but one possibility is that it represents "Ægen's river-meadow", from the Old English hamm "river-meadow, enclosure ". Shoreham appears to be derived from the Old English 'Scora' meaning a settlement by a cut or steep slope possible represented by the deep bed cut of the river Darent. In the Saxon period, the Darent had three crossing points. One at Dartford, another at Otford and also at Eynsford. Otford to the south had on its western side a large Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Polhill.

5.4.7   Shoreham developed from the 5th Century onwards as a farming community, based around the ford across the River Darent and confined to the valley sides and enclosed by the thickly wooded ridges of the North Downs to east and west. In the Medieval period the settlement formed around the church, which is dated to the 12th century. Shoreham Manor belonged to the Archbishop of Canterbury until the dissolution with the agricultural estate centred in Otford. Hasted, a late 18th century historian refers to Preston as an appendage to the manor of Halsted and was held by the archbishop of Canterbury. The church at Shoreham was a primary mother-church which established

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daughter foundations, one of which was at Preston. The manor at Preston probably originated as a farm to provide income and support to monastic clergy, the name derived from "Priest's tun" or farm. The site may have been set up after the founding of the minster at Rochester in 604. Nothing is known with regards to the relationship between Preston Farm and that of the parish church to the south of St Peter and St Paul circa 1km away but they are linked by a straight north-south track. A church was listed in the Textus Roffensis in 1122.

5.4.8   The weald was to the south at beyond Sevenoaks and the forest dens would have provided beech mast and acorns as pannage or Autumn fodder. It is likely that the A225 would have been a droveway heading from Farningham down towards the Weald. It is in this period that the boundaries of the Hundred boundaries would have been set, this continues to be immortalised as the parish boundary between Eynsford and Shoreham which is on an east-west axis just north of Castle Farm and Redman's Lane.

5.4.9   Shoreham is not mentioned in the Domesday Book but it does not necessarily follow that there was no settlement here. Part of the large manor of Otford. The manor had six mills and 50 acres of meadow and enough woodland for 150 pigs. It is believed that Shoreham had a mill in this period but the location is not known.

5.4.10   Hasted, a late 18th century historian mentions that Preston formed part of the manor of Chelsfield in 1284. At the time of Edward III, Preston became the estate and residence of Sir Thomas de Buckland. A female descendent marries into the Polhill family. By the late 17th century the Polhill family appear to have moved to Burwash and Preston by way of a sale had transferred to Paul D'Aranda in 1693.

5.4.11   Paul D'Aranda played a prominent part on Shoreham Village life. Originally a Huguenot whose ancestors were Spanish. After around 20 years in Shoreham he was sworn in as Justice in 1706 and served during the early decades of the 18th century and documentation exists of his notebooks. As a result, there would have been many visitors to Preston. He died in 1712 and is buried in Shoreham church. Preston then transferred to his son of the same name. The estate transferred again in 1715 to John Borrett who also purchased the manors of Shoreham, Castle Farm and Filston as well as Preston becoming the local squire. John eventually built a house at the southern end of the village which was called Newhouse after which Preston became a rented farm.

5.4.12   Shoreham Castle is a medieval fortified manorial complex, founded on lands granted to Bishop Odo of Bayeux. In 1307 the stone castle passed to Hugo de Poyntz, who held it under the archbishop of Canterbury. There are references of a 15th century ownership dispute and that the castle had a moat fed by the River Darenth. By the 16th century the castle was in ruins and no trace of the moat can now be found. Mapping suggests that it stood on an island with the river running both sides. Only later situated on the eastern side of the river. An irregular-shaped timber-framed 16th to 17th century farmhouse of three builds, incorporates a chunk of flint walling of exceptional thickness which narrows and curves round, from south to east. Also surviving to the east are two massive fragments of flint walling but the extent or layout of the castle has never been resolved. The site was the manor of Lulling stone-castle until 1715, when Percival Hart transferred the title to his manor house at Lullingstone Park. It is possible as early as the 14th century that a deer park may have been created in Lullingstone Park. It was definitely in place by 1570. The park entirely in the Eynsford Parish was some 690 acres and on the southern boundary utilised the parish boundary line, becoming a substantial bank and would have had a pale fence on top.

5.4.13   Shoreham like nearby Eynsford would have been an agricultural village in the Medieval period for both arable and pasture. Growth of the villages were slow in this period and the surrounding hinterland one of scattered farms. Shoreham Castle Farm, to the north of the PDA on the southern boundary of the parish boundary essentially farmed lands on the western side of the river reaching southwards beyond the Preston Farm homestead area. However, the estate map suggests the rectangular area south west of the Preston Farm which is surrounded by water channel on the eastern side of the river was in the ownership of Castle Farm at this time and called Broad Meadow.

5.4.14   Nearby Lullingstone Castle. was started in 1497 and is said to have provided inspiration for Otford Palace. Both Henry VIII and Queen Anne were regular visitors, and the silk farm that was later established here provided silk for Queen Elizabeth II's coronation gown. The house was associated with an extensive parkland estate on the western side of the valley, established on a mediaeval deer park.

5.4.15   In the Post Medieval period the river was host to a number of mills. Eynsford had a paper mill which operated from 1648 until 1952, located on the site of an earlier corn

mill. In Shoreham, there was also a paper mill established in 1690 to the north of the village.

5.4.16   In 1801, the population of Eynsford was 841, which had grown to circa 2000 by 1901. In Shoreham the population was similar in 1801 at 828 reaching 1,515 in 1901. The occupation for the majority of males was agricultural labourers followed by retailers and handicrafts and in 1881, agriculture was still the predominate occupation by far. In 1862 to railway from London Victoria was opened and this would have allowed for the easy route of agricultural produce to the markets in London. This would have helped transform the area as the turnpiked road, (A225) was wholly chalk and stones and not considered a comfortable way to travel.

5.4.17   The main valley farms in the 19th century were Castle Farm, Preston Farm, Filston Farm and Sepham Farm. These farms were predominately arable in 1843 with only a small acreage for fruit and hops.

5.4.18   During the 20th century, the Shoreham paper mill closed. The village and area suffered bombing in the Second World War due to the nearby location in Lullingstone Park of a dummy airfield. The Rifle Range at Preston Hill was built in 1897 on land owned by Bingham Mildmay and leased to Lt. Col. G. Henderson of The Queens Own Royal West Kent Regiment.

5.5   Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

Symonson map 1596

5.5.1   This earlier map shows Eynsford with its spelling as 'Aynsford' aside the river Darent to the north and Shoreham to the south. North of Eynsford, running through Farningham on a north west-south east axis is the line of the London to Dover Road with its crossing across the river. There is also a crossing on the river at Shoreham (Fig.3).

Andrews, Dury and Herbert map of 1769

5.5.2   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 map shows the location of the PDA on the river Darent with a road heading to the PDA westwards from the main north-south road between Eynsford and Shoreham. The parish boundary

line is marked to the north of the PDA on an east-west axis in between the PDA and Shoreham Castle. The map suggests that there are buildings in Preston on both sides of the river (Fig.4)

Ordnance Surveyors Drawings 1797

5.5.3   This map shows greater detail in the land use and field boundaries. The PDA is clearly shown here with all buildings located on the eastern side of the river. The farmhouse is the building outlines in red with the outbuildings in a courtyard on the south, west and north of the farmhouse. The map also annotates that the fields adjacent to the river are prone to flooding and marshy (Fig.5).

Shoreham Tithe Map of 1832

5.5.4   This shows the far designated as area 376 which is owned by St John Mildmay and occupied by Elizabeth Green. The field to the south of which the PDA is part is called Parlour Field, which is arable and the field to the north is called Cow lees and is meadow. The other fields relating to the farm also included the area on the eastern side of the main road in the Preston Hill area. In all the farm has 300 acres being a mixture of pasture, arable and meadow. The tithe map clearly shows the river diving in two with a managed watercourse heading around field designated 375 and passing just west of the yard before joining the main river again to the west of the north west corner of the yard, this is Broad Meadow and in 1720 was part of the Castle Farm estate but by this time appears to be part of Preston Farm with the name of the meadow remaining unchanged. South of the house is the main large barn with two separate smaller buildings on the western range and an 'L' shaped building for the northern range. East of the northern range is a smaller detached building. Aside from the farmhouse, it appears that none of the farm buildings survive from this time. A later tithe apportionment in 1867 shows that the farm is then occupied by James Smith and had reduced to 285 acres (Fig.6).

Historic OS Map 1871

5.5.5   This is the first properly scaled OS map and there is little by way of change at the farm itself. However, on the east on the western side of the main road, the railway has arrived effectively cutting through the original access road to the farm. As a consequence, the access road is now diverted to run parallel with the railway northwards until it passes under a bridge, north east of the farm to join the main road.

A track runs south of the farm towards Shoreham. There is a small bridge crossing the river west of the yard (Fig.7).

Historic OS map 1897

5.5.6   There are additional buildings within the yard including that of an oast on the northern side of the northern range, which still survives without its cowl. North east of the oast is another new building being a barn. This also survives. The map refers to the area being liable to flooding (Fig.8).

Historic OS map 1909

5.5.7   There is little change other than a new building has been added on the eastern side of the yard to the west of the farmhouse (Fig.9).

Historic OS map 1938

5.5.8   There is little change (Fig.10).

Historic OS Map 1949

5.5.9   There appears to be no change at the PDA (Fig.11).

5.6   Aerial Photographs

1940s

5.6.1   This shows a number of farm buildings located west of the farmhouse around four sides of the yard. The area of the PDA cointinues extending to the north and south of the yard area and also west of the water channel (Plate 1).

1960s

5.6.2   There appears to be little by way of change (Plate 2).

1990

5.6.3   There have been significant changes with many of the present farm buildings added in the second half of the 20th century. The centre of the yard area is now covered by a large rectangular building to the west of the eastern range that has facilitated the removal of the buildings on the western range. West of those buildings is now a couple

of new buildings. Many of the other ranges have also been removed. Especially the northern range although a building remains to the east of that range. The southern range has a building remaining although this has been extended and the yard area also moved southwards. A horse arena has been added to the south western part of the PDA. Due to the extension of the area of farm buildings westwards, the water channel that passed through the area of the PDA has been filled and the channel moved westwards. In addition, there is now a second access road into the yard at the north eastern corner (Plate 3).

2001

5.6.4   In the south western part of the PDA a further horse arena has been added (Plate 4).

2019

5.6.5   The yard area has widened to include the north western corner (Plate 5).

LIDAR

5.6.6   The LIDAR map shows disturbance in the south western corner caused by the horse arenas situated in the area of the previous water channel with the suggesting of ground levelling raising the bank of the river on the eastern side to the west of the westernmost arena. In addition, the north western corner yard also appears to have been 'flattened'. (Plate 6).

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. A walkover was undertaken on the 22nd September 2020. No features or artefacts were seen (Plates 7-19).

5.7.2   The PDA contains a large number of modern farm buildings, predominately from the second half of the 20th century using metal frame, bricks and or blocks (Fig.19). The oldest building in the PDA is a late 19th century barn in poor condition in the north eastern corner (plate 9). Nearby from the same period is that of an oast of which the cowl has been removed (Plates 7 & 12). The PDA is essentially used for livery and other small businesses at the moment. Apart from the two horse arenas the area is

predominantly covered in concrete. In order to make the horse arena level there has been landscaping and terracing on the bank of the river. Outside of the PDA, the Georgian farmhouse is undergoing development works. This sits much higher than that of the yard in order to be above the flood levels.

5.8   Summary of Potential

5.8.1   This section brings together all the data from KHER, with additional information gleaned from the excavation events and the historic maps and aerial photographs and discusses by period.

Palaeolithic

5.8.2   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 seven records from this period within the assessment area. However, these finds have been located to general grid squares as their exact location and provenance is not known. Finds includes lint implements, a core and flakes. These are worked flints found generally in the Darent Valley. In situ concentrations of material assigned to the Upper Palaeolithic were found in the wider area in Lullingstone Park. The PDA is therefore located in an area at the side of the valley that potentially has provided evidence for the Palaeolithic. Therefore, the Palaeolithic potential in this area is considered **high.**

Mesolithic

5.8.3   The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has two records from this period. One being a Mesolithic Thames pick (TQ 56 SW 34) of where the exact location and provenance is unknown. Circa 555m west of the in the area of Hulberry on chalk uplands, a number of flint implements have been found including 15 tranchet axes, 13 other axes, sharpening flakes, picks, cores and scrapers. In addition, recent work in Lullingstone Park found Mesolithic implements in situ. Significant evidence of the Mesolithic has been found elsewhere along the Darent Valley. These include 16,000 worked flints at Darenth Gravel Pit, a pick near Eynsford, and multiple small flint flake finds throughout the valley. Therefore, it is considered that the potential for finding remains that date to this period is **high**.

Neolithic

5.8.4   The Neolithic period was the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry. The Kent HER has two records from this period being Portable Antiquities Scheme finds where the exact location is not revealed but assign to a grid square (MKE113525; MKE113526). Not in the HER are the flint implements discovered whilst excavating the Roman building south west of the farm in 1982 where two scrapers, three blades and several flakes were found and dated to the Neolithic or early Bronze Age. Neolithic activity has been found at Darenth and a pick in Eynsford suggesting the valley was utilised during this period. There are records of unknown date for flint implements, which suggest Prehistoric activity in the area. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high.**

Bronze Age

5.8.5   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 two records from this period within the assessment area. A spearhead (TQ 56 SW 29) was recovered from gravel in 1957 400 yards south of Lullingstone Castle (Castle Farm), which places it essentially west of the PDA on the western banks of the river and close to where a chisel was found in 1977. A PAS find, also in the same area found a fragment of an axe head of copper alloy bronze (MKE110400). In the wider area there is a ditched prehistoric trackway at Lullingstone and a bowl barrow at Otford Mount to the south. In general, there is considered to be an underrepresentation of evidence for this period. In light of the finds to the west, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high.**

Iron Age

5.8.6   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 four records for this period, three for of which were PAS finds located to grid squares. Finds included one silver coin (MKE72574), and two copper alloy coins (MKE72873). A copper alloy brooch was also found (MKE72485). Circa 815m to the west during works for a pipeline, an Iron Age pit was discovered which contained seven vessels (TQ 56 SW 108). North West of the PDA in Lullingstone Park

there is an Iron Age settlement (TQ 56 SW 15) as well as further north in Farningham and where there are hillforts confirming the area was utilised in this period. Romans tendered to have villa site located on or near existing Iron Age farmstead which may be the case at Shoreham. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Romano-British

5.8.7 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 six records from this period within the assessment area. The key one being the Roman buildings found to west of the PDA (TQ 56 SW 4) of which little is known or understood with regards to the site. Further south west, closer to the village Roman pottery and quern were found in 1956 (TQ 56 SW 10). In addition, the Shoreham area has a number of PAS fins concerning two copper alloy coins (MKE72884; MKE73002), a copper alloy brooch (MKE72499) and bracelet (MKE110401). The Darent was lined with a number of Roman Villas along its length as well as mills with the Darent utilised as an agricultural supply route. There is the exceptional villa at Lullingstone, but the other Roman sites in Shoreham are likely to be mills or farmsteads. The proximity of the building discovered in 1948 to the river raises the possibility that this may have been a mill site. The building excavated in 1982, with its apse suggests a bath house. Given that the excavation did not find any drains and other features potentially associated with a bathhouse, this raises the possibility that it may have been a church. Any possible villa is unlikely to have been sited so close to the flood plain and would have been set back. However, it is reported nothing had been found to the east. The Roman farm estates were set out in the landscape and it is likely that there were field boundaries especially as the estates would have stretched back towards the hills to the east. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Anglo-Saxon

5.8.8 The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area. Both being PAS finds of a copper alloy leash (MKE72724) and a silver sceatta coin (MKE110421). The grave found in the Roman building excavated in 1982 may be of the Anglo-Saxon

period. Given the Old English definition of the farm's name suggesting it has early monastic origins, along with the understanding Shoreham had a daughter church, suggests that the Preston Farm site is of some importance. Little is known or understood regarding this period. One has to consider if whether the apsidal Roman room found to the south of the present farm is a possible chapel, that Preston Farm continued as a religious site into the Anglo-Saxon period. The possibility of other graves in the area cannot not be ruled out. In Kent, other villa sites such as Eccles have been used later by Anglo-Saxons for graves. The evidence for early Christianity in the Darent valley is representative of the relatively higher density of Christian-related finds in Kent and Essex compared to most of Roman Britain. It is believed that the majority of early churches were of the house-church type although, there are a few early rectangular standalone rural churches. Some later evolved into stone churches. It is likely that the parish boundary line was set out in this period (TQ 56 SW 215) Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high.**

Medieval

5.8.9   The Kent HER has 18 records from this period within the assessment area, showing the continued occupation and growth of the village in this period. Six of the records related to listed buildings to the south west of the PDA in the village. In addition, there is the monument record reflecting the Medieval site of the manor house of Castle Farm (TQ 56 SW 17) with Hasted also suggesting Preston is a manor site, although there do not appear to be any above ground surviving structures from this period. The remaining records are PAS finds where the exact location is not revealed. Artefacts consist of several buckles, brooches, three silver coins, two lead alloy tokens and a copper alloy jetton. The tithes suggest that the land relating to the farm continued on the eastern side of the A225 on Preston Hills, which is likely to be the same in the Medieval period, if not also left over from the Roman period estate boundaries. It is the area to the east where Medieval lynchets have been found (MKE99239) although, the report concerning Preston Hill suggests that they may even be earlier. The PDA itself was just outside of the main settlement area and it is possible that the straight track southwards towards the parish church was established in this period. The earliest map that represents it is from 1720. The potential for finding remains that date to this period is considered the potential for this period is **high**.

Post Medieval

5.8.10   The Kent HER has 23 records from this period within the assessment area, with six being listed buildings and one building records concerning properties not just in the village but also features at Castle Farm. There are also a large number of records relating to farmsteads and outfarms surrounding the area of the village including that of Preston Farm itself, which is not surprising given the agriculture was the predominate industry. There is a record recognising the railway (TQ 75 NE 816) just to the east of the farm, of which required a change in farm access. There are also five PAS finds including a gold coin (MKE113527), two silver coins (MKE110420; MKE113529), a copper alloy jetton (MKE113531) and a copper alloy knife (MKE110422).   We know from early post Medieval maps that there were buildings here from at least 1720 and most likely earlier. Aside from the farmhouse, many of the earlier farm outbuildings have been demolished leaving only a barn and oast from the late 19th century. We know from documentation that the Site was lived in by prominent members of local society and most likely had many visitors from the village. More detail about the site as a farmstead is provided in section 5.8.13. The potential for finding remains that date to this period is considered **high.**

Modern

5.8.11   KHER has two records dating to this period being a Second World War crash site located on the outer reaches of the assessment area (TQ 56 SW 115) and Second World War bomb craters on Preston Hill to the south east. This part of the Darent Valley was heavily bombed during the Second World War due to the fact that a decoy air field had been sited at Lullingstone Park. The aim was to draw enemy bombers away from nearby Biggin Hill. On one night in February 1944, 1200 incendiary bombs and 3 high explosives fell on Preston Hill. It is not believed that any fell in the area of the PDA. At the PDA, during the second half of the 20th century many of the original farm buildings were demolished and extensive parts of the yard area extended and concreted. The potential for finding archaeological remains dating to this period in the PDA is considered **low.**

Farmsteads

5.8.12   Preston Farm was arranged around a courtyard with buildings on four sides based on Post Medieval mapping. Early Post Medieval maps suggest that there were three sides with the fourth being the eastern range added in the second half of the 19th century. Preston Farm is classed as a large-scale loose courtyard farmstead. Large farmsteads

developed across Kent from the medieval period, often on the sites of medieval estate farms. Large farmsteads, often manorial, can be found in close proximity to a medieval church or chapel representing an early church/ manor relationship as is likely the case at Preston Farm. Large-scale regular and loose courtyard farmsteads had developed in the Darent Valley by the late 19th century, including cattle housing, stables and granaries. Most have been rebuilt in the early-mid 19th century, with the survival of occasional earlier large threshing barns. In the chalklands and vales large barns were built for storage and processing of the grain crop, and related to yards where straw and the manure from cattle was trodden down and redistributed to fertilise the fields. Increases in grain production and yields in the 18th and early 19th centuries often led to the construction of an additional barn and in many cases, the enlargement and adaptation of earlier barns. Based on the historical mapping, it appears that the main barn was on the southern range and was likely to have been a large aisled barn. We know Preston as having arable fields was a dairy farm and there are pasture fields such as cow less that also attest to that. The characteristics of farmsteads in the Darent Valley was one where there is a long history of arable based farming and estate management from the Iron Age and Roman periods due to the diversity of the farming landscape the valley offered.

5.8.13   What is unusual about the farmstead is the leat, the surrounds Broad Meadow. The earliest map depicts it in place by 1720 based on the Castle Farm estate map. The original purpose and date of this channel is unknown but they are usually associated with mills. Another possibility is whether this area was an early moated manor site, similar to that of Castle Farm which also sat within its own island. There appears to be no documentation to support this other than the Andrews and Dury map which shows buildings either side of the river suggesting that at Preston Farm there may have been buildings on the western side of the leat.

5.8.14   In the Medieval period, for the majority of the population, water was usually not fit for consumption. Therefore, beer was drunk, originally flavoured with herbs and spices and only became popular with hops in the 16th century. In the South East nearly every farm had its own hop garden. Most oast houses were built in the 18th century, although it appears in the area of Preston Farm, this did not happen significantly until after the arrival of the railway. Initially, oast kilns were designed with square towers which were easier to build. From the 1840s, round kilns were used as it was thought that these had

better heat distribution. However, as technology advanced, square kilns ended up being classed as more efficient and so design reverted back to that of square kilns in the 1890s and early twentieth century. Like many other farms in the Darent Valley, the farm grew hops as evidence with the oast in the late 19th century, although at the time of the tithes, there is no indication that hops were being grown in 1843 or 1867. At Preston Farm the oast is round and was built sometime between 1871 and 1897 based on the historical OS mapping. Hop growing developed from the later 16th century and by the mid-17th century and it was claimed that around 25% of the hop acreage in England was in Sussex. At its height, in the mid-19th century 45,000 acres were under hops in Kent and Kent produced circa 65% of the national output. The industry sharply declined from the 1970s. The oast at Preston has been converted and is now an office, having lost its cowl.

5.8.15 The farms in the Darent Valley have high rates of conversion to residential use, and of change to traditional farmsteads on working farms remaining in agricultural use. The result is that legible groups of traditional farmstead buildings are very rare. Preston Farm is no longer a working farm and many of the original farm buildings demolished in the second half of the 20th century. The Kent Downs AONB Farmstead guidance says to take opportunities to reinforce and enhance the historic character of farmsteads.

Overview

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

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

• Prehistoric: **high**

• Iron Age: **high**

• Roman: **high**

• Anglo-Saxon: **high**

• Medieval: **high**

• Post-Medieval: **high**

• 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 is likely to have been occupied by at least the Medieval period, if not earlier. The tithe map is the earliest historical map that we can rely on un order to understand the location of earlier farm buildings. Figure 20 shows the estimated location of those buildings that have now been demolished from 1843 and the additional buildings added through the 19th century. What is uncertain given the potential longevity of the Site is below these farm buildings existing in 1843 is to whether there are earlier farm buildings. Any farm buildings, particularly the modern ones are likely to have caused high historical disturbance of any potential archaeology.

Given the potential for flooding at the Site is also unclear as to what depth any Prehistoric archaeology may lay and whether this is below the level of disturbance. In addition, there have been terracing on the western side of the site that has also disturbed the historical path of the leat as well as the general concreting and services across the area of the PDA.

6.2.2   The proposed development involves the demolition of some of the present buildings (Fig.18). The new units will require foundations and associated service trenches, which will be a high impact on any potential archaeology in those areas.

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 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   There is archaeological significance within the assessment area of high potential for all
        periods except for the modern. The Darent Valley is any important that has yielded
        evidence for all Prehistoric periods. The valley continued in use during the Roman
        period with one if not two buildings located south of the PDA. The farm name suggests
        that it has Anglo-Saxon monastic related origins which continued into the Medieval
        period and Post Medieval period as a farmstead.

Rarity

7.2.2   Any finds or features relating to the Prehistoric period would be rare and be of national
        significance, especially if related to the Palaeolithic or Mesolithic. Very little is known
        about Bronze Age activity in the valley and therefore activity from this period would be
        considered rare. The potential for the early origins of the Site as a monastic farmstead
        would be considered rare. There is also much to be explained as to the origins and use
        of the leat feature.

Documentation

7.2.3   The historical and landscape development of the PDA has some documentation,
        although not much is understood or known about the Anglo-Saxon or Medieval aspects
        of the Site. It is possible that further detailed research nationally may uncover more
        documentary evidence.

Group Value

7.2.4   The potential for archaeology at the PDA has important group value in potentially
        providing information regarding the Prehistoric use of the valley. Also, of significance is

the understanding of the Roman estate and use that occurred along the river and is of regional significance. Any information from the Anglo-Saxon period onwards has the potential to inform regarding the origins and growth of Preston Manor, the Medieval farmstead and its relationship with the settlement at Shoreham and is of regional significance.

Survival / Condition

7.2.5   The growth of the farmstead in the Post Medieval period has the potential to have caused below ground disturbance for earlier archaeological period, although this is restricted to a small courtyarded area west of the farmhouse. The building of the 20th century farm buildings would have caused greater disturbance of a wider area of the PDA and have a high impact on any potential archaeology prior to the Post Medieval period. The are of the historical leat has been subject to terracing with the water channel moved westwards and it is uncertain whether this feature survives.

Fragility / Vulnerability

7.2.6   Any potential archaeology within the PDA in the area of the proposed development, should they survive in-situ will be vulnerable to damage from the proposed development and will have a high impact on any potential archaeology in those areas. The depth of any surviving archaeology is undetermined and may survive below modern disturbance.

Potential

7.2.7   The impact assessment concludes that the site has a high potential for archaeological remains and is of archaeological interest.

Significance

7.2.8   Based on the information gained in this report, it can be concluded that the site is of archaeological interest in relation to all period except the modern and caries national, regional and local significance. The Site is a significant and enigmatic one. The history of Preston Farm is unclear but suggests Anglo-Saxon origins of some importance. There are also landscape features such as the leat which are unexplained but obviously put in place for a reason.

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.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** potential for all periods except for low for the Modern period. The research suggests that the site carries significant national and regional potential and its early origins should be investigated as well as the opportunity for Prehistoric evidence. The demolition of the majority of buildings are from the 20th century with just the barn and oast earlier and of the late Victorian period. The barn is of poor condition and is not of any significance. The oast has already been converted and has lost its cowl. Again, this is not a building of any significance. The current modern buildings are likely to have disturbed any potential archaeology although the level of disturbance is unclear. The development proposals for foundations and associated services will have a high impact on any potential archaeological remains. 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 anticipated that that an evaluation will be required to ascertain the nature of any archaeological deposits.

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 Hatchery (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

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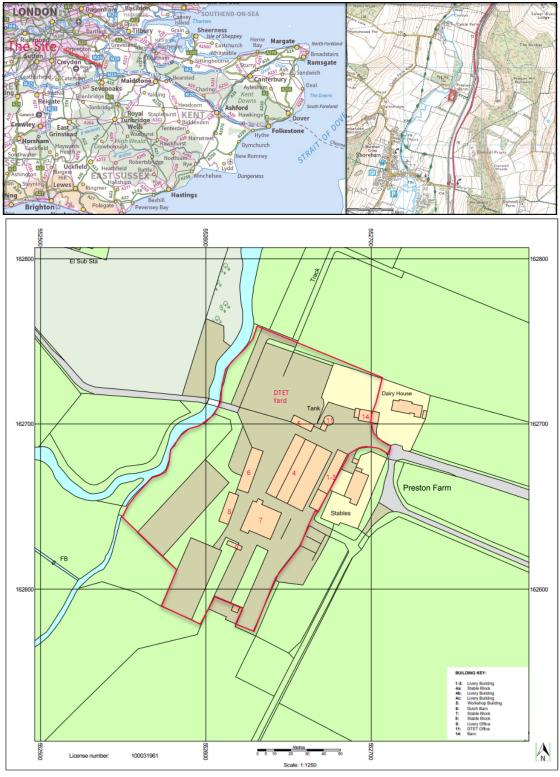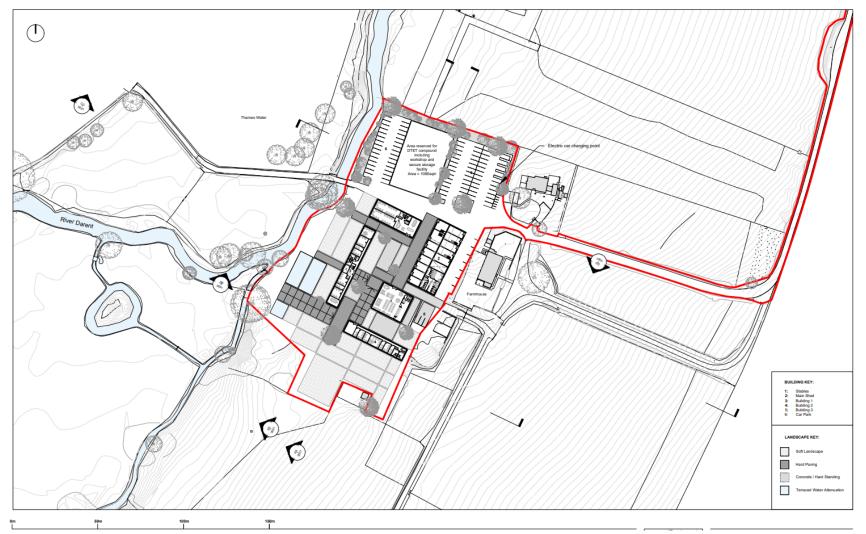*Figure 1: Location Maps*

Figure 2: Proposed Development Area masterplan

Figure 3: Symonson, 1596

Figure 4: Andrew, Dury and Herbert Map from 1769

49

Figure 5: Ordnance Surveyors Drawing, 1797

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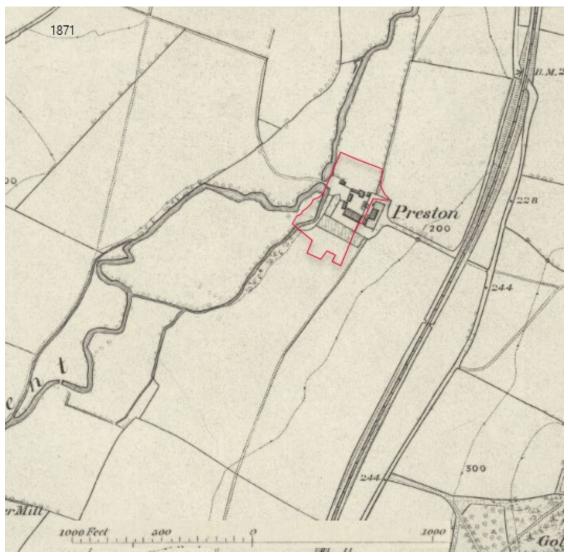*Figure 6: Shoreham Tithe Map 1843*

Figure 7: Historic OS Map 1871

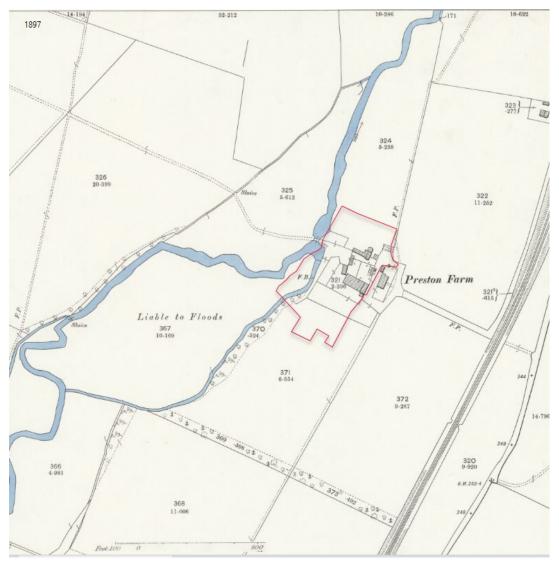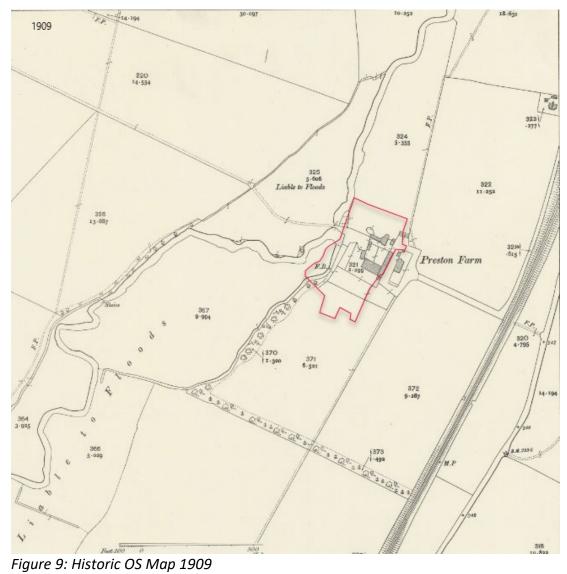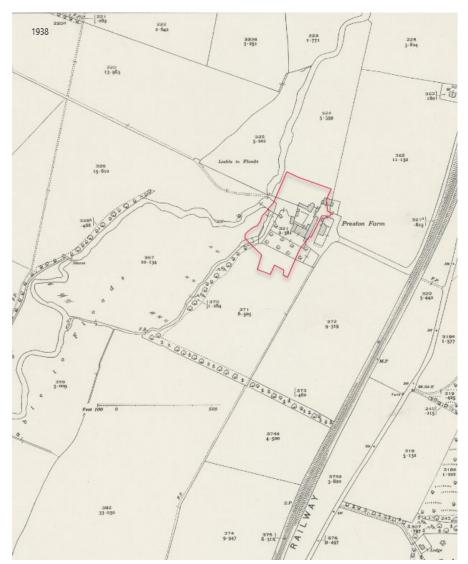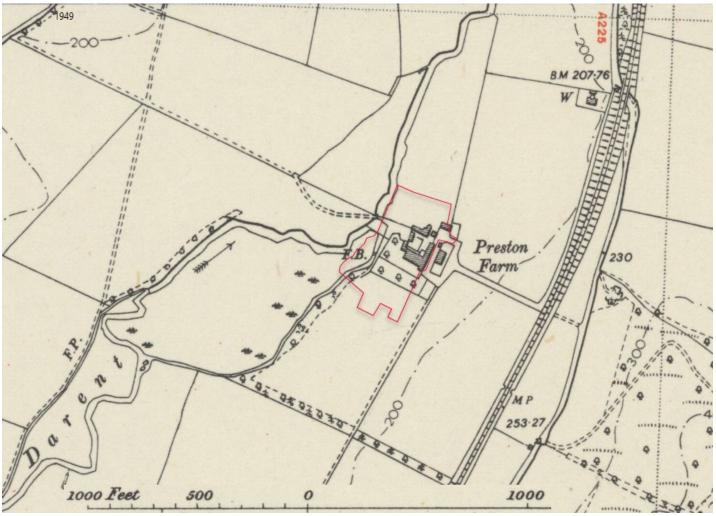*Figure 8: Historic OS Map from 1897*

Figure 9: Historic OS Map 1909

Figure 10: Historic OS Map 1938

Figure 11: Historic OS Map 1949

11   APPENDIX 1 – KCC HER DATA (SEE FIGURES 12-17).

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
TQ 56 SW 237	Building	c. 910m SW	Post Medieval to Modern	Former Baptist Chapel, Crown Road, Shoreham. The former Baptist Chapel in Crown Road, Shoreham was built in 1896 and is shown on the 1897-1900, 1907-23 and 1929- 52 maps. After 1982 it was converted into a private residence.
TQ 56 SW 108	Monument	c. 815m W	Middle Iron Age	Iron Age Pit, Cockerhurst Road, Shoreham. During pipeline work an Iron Age pit was found cut into the natural chalk. The pit was oval in plan, about 1.5m in diameter, with vertical sides and a flat bottom. Sherds from approximately seven vessels were recovered from the pit fill with either shell or flint tempering. They are thought to range in date to between the mid-4th century to early first century BC. A small quantity of animal bone was found as well.
TQ 56 SW 115	Crash Site	c. 960m NNW	Modern	Second World War Aircraft Crash Site, Castle Farm, Eynsford. Approximate location only.
TQ 56 SW 179	Listed Building	c. 820m N	Medieval to Post Medieval	Wall to East of Castle Farmhouse. Grade II (1243727). Mediaeval flint rubble retaining wall to east side of house.
TQ 56 SW 180	Listed Building	c. 785m N	Post Medieval	Garden Boundary Wall to Castle Farmhouse. Grade II (1243728).C18 or early C19 red brick boundary wall surrounding garden.
TQ 56 SW 145	Listed Building	c. 925m SW	Post Medieval	The Crown Inn. Grade II (1243743). C17 or earlier timber framed building, with painted brick elevations of 2 storeys with exposed framing facing street with 1st floor oversailing and supported on exposed timber joists.
TQ 56 SW 143	Listed Building	c. 860m SW	Medieval to Post Medieval	Oxbourne Farmhouse. Grade II (1243745). C16 or earlier timber framed farmhouse.
TQ 56 SW 133	Listed Building	c. 825m SW	Medieval to Post Medieval	Mill Lane Cottages. Grade II (1243746). Late mediaeval hall house with alterations.

TQ 56 SW 160	Listed Building	c. 780m SW	Medieval to Post Medieval	The Mill. Grade II (1243747). Disused paper mill. Very obviously incorporating a mediaeval framed structure. Elevations late C18 and early C19 in character.
TQ 56 SW 141	Listed Building	c. 1000m WSW	Post Medieval to Modern	Darenth House. Grade II listed (1243748). Formerly one residence although built at different dates, 1869 mainly. Darenth House and Darenth Hulme form a group with the Coach House and stable block.
TQ 56 SW 138	Listed Building	c. 800m S	Post Medieval to Modern	Two Urns Flanking Drive to Dunstall Priory. Grade II (1243751). Pair of stone urns on pedestals flanking driveway about 20 ft from main road entrance.
TQ 56 SW 164	Listed Building	c. 835m SW	Medieval to Post Medieval	Mill Lane Cottages. Grade II (1243852). Probably C16 timber framed structure with later elevations.
TQ 56 SW 193	Listed Building	c. 815m N	Medieval to Post Medieval	Castle Farmhouse. Grade II (1272733). House of 3 builds, with no great length of time between them. Left gabled section C16, right gabled section circa 1600 and link between possibly C17. Castle Farmhouse, the Wall to East, the Garden Boundary Wall and the Cottage to West form a group.
TQ 56 SW 197	Listed Building	c. 835m N	Post Medieval	Castle Farm Cottages. Grade II (1272734). 2-storey, 2-window cottage largely C18 but with timber-framed core; and C19 additions and alterations.
TQ 56 SW 178	Listed Building	c. 830m SSE	Post Medieval	Dunstall Priory. Grade II (1272744). This small mansion was built about 1810 by an architect called Lugar, a contemporary of John Nash, and is very similar in design to a number of houses built by Nash such as Cronkhill near Shrewsbury or Sandridge in Devon.
TQ 56 SW 4	Monument	c. 555m SW	Roman to Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	Shoreham Roman Villa or Bath House. Discovered in 1947.
TQ 56 SW 10	Findspot	c. 860m SW	Roman	Romano-British pottery and quern. Part of a Roman quern stone, Samian and 1st C. pottery have been found in 1956.
TQ 56 SW 17	Monument	c. 835m N	Medieval to Post Medieval	Shoreham castle farm, farm and Manor House (rems. of). Shoreham Castle, formerly called Lullingstone, was a manor in the early 14th century. The present farmhouse built out of the ruins is

				an irregular-shaped timber-framed structure, much altered in the 18th and 19th c. and of little architectural interest.
TQ 56 SW 29	Findspot	c. 620m WNW	Bronze Age	Spearhead/BA. A basal looped bronze spearhead 17.5cm long was recovered during the progress of mechanical excavation of flood plain gravel, during May 1957, 400 yards south of Lullingstone Castle. Type is characteristic of the late Bronze Age metal industry and is common in south-eastern England. The find spot is close to the area where a late bronze age chisel was recovered in 1977.
TQ 56 SW 34	Findspot	c. 550m SW	Palaeolithic	Flint implement/UP; Thames pick/Me. Flint implements including one Thames pick, some of the many 'worked' flints from the Darent valley. Few of the implements have been preserved. Col. Meates holds a few classifiable examples found by Greenfield and himself but no exact record to relate their provenance has been kept.
TQ 56 SW 36	Findspot	c. 335m S	Palaeolithic	Flint implements/UP. A core, a tortoise core (?) and a flake, one of the many 'worked' flints found in the Darent valley. Few of the implements have been preserved. Col. Meates holds a few classifiable examples found by Greenfield and himself but no exact record to relate their provenance has been kept.
TQ 56 SW 37	Findspot	c. 805m SSW	Palaeolithic	Flint implement/UP. Flint axe and flake, some of the many 'worked' flints found in the Darent valley. Few of the implements have been preserved. Col. Meates holds a few classifiable examples found by Greenfield and himself, but no exact record to relate their provenance has been kept.
TQ 56 SW 42	Findspot	c. 825m NE	Palaeolithic	Flint implement/UP. Flint implement, one of many 'worked' flints found in the Darent valley. Few of the implements have been preserved. Col. Meates holds a few classifiable examples found by Greenfield and himself but no exact record to relate their provenance has been kept.
TQ 56 SW 51	Findspot	c. 680m SSW	Palaeolithic	Flint implement/UP. Flint flake, one of many 'worked' flints found in the Darent Valley. Few of the implements have been preserved. Col. Meates holds a few classifiable examples found by Greenfield

				and himself but no exact record to relate their provenance has been kept.
TQ 56 SW 52	Findspot	c. 265m SW	Palaeolithic	Flint implement/UP. Flint flake, one of many 'worked' flints found in the Darent valley. Few of the implements have been preserved. Col Meates holds a few classifiable examples found by Greenfield and himself but no exact record to relate their provenance has been kept.
TQ 56 SW 53	Findspot	c. 280m SSW	Palaeolithic	Flint implement/UP. Flint flake, one of many 'worked' flints found in the Darent valley. Few of the implements have been preserved. Col. Meates holds a few classifiable examples found by Greenfield and himself but no exact record to relate their provenance has been kept.
MKE72039	Findspot	c. 555m S	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval silver coin. 1422 AD (Certain) to 1471 AD.
MKE72046	Findspot	c. 620m WNW	Medieval	PAS find. Early Medieval silver coin. 'PAX' type coin of Harold II. Date: from 1066 AD.
MKE72278	Findspot	c. 555m S	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval copper alloy buckle. Circa 1300 AD (Certain) to Circa 1500 AD (Certain).
MKE72279	Findspot	c. 555m S	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval copper alloy buckle. Circa 1300 AD (Certain) to Circa 1500 AD (Certain).
MKE72280	Findspot	c. 555m S	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval copper alloy buckle. Circa 1350 AD (Certain) to Circa 1450 AD (Certain).
MKE72281	Findspot	c. 555m S	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval copper alloy buckle. Circa 1300 AD (Certain) to Circa 1500 AD (Certain).
MKE72485	Findspot	c. 675m SSW	Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age copper alloy brooch
MKE72499	Findspot	c. 610m SSW	Roman	PAS find. Roman copper alloy brooch. 2nd Century
MKE72574	Findspot	c. 530m S	Late Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age silver coin. 38-40AD. Silver, struck unit, Amminus of the Cantii.
TQ 56 SW 61	Findspot	c. 555m W	Mesolithic	Mesolithic Flint implement. Mesolithic implements found on chalk uplands at Hulberry:- 15 tranchet axes 13 other axes 2 tranchet axe

				sharpening flakes 5 picks 2 cores 2 blades or flakes 2 scrapers They are in the Dartford Museum.
MKE72724	Findspot	c. 440m S	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	PAS find. Early Medieval copper alloy leash. Probable Late 10th. Anglo-Scandinavian, copper alloy, cast in two sections probable strap distributor or hunting dog leash.
MKE72873	Findspot	c. 810m NNW	Iron Age	PAS find. Iron Age copper alloy coin
MKE72884	Findspot	c. 475m S	Roman	PAS find. Roman copper alloy coin. 138-161AD.
MKE73002	Findspot	c. 485m S	Roman	PAS find. Roman copper alloy coin. 41-79AD.
TQ 56 SW 87	Monument	c. 770m NW	Unknown	Linear feature/Soilmark. Curvilinear feature, probably an infilled ditch.
TQ 56 SW 212	Monument	c. 880m ESE	Post Medieval to Modern	Site of Preston Hill Farm. The farmstead upon Preston Hill is thought to be Post-medieval in date, dating from between 1840 and 1867-8. On the 22nd January 1944 however Preston Farm received a direct hit from an enemy bomb, killing 3 people. That night 1200 incendiary bombs and 3 high explosive bombs fell on Preston Hill.
TQ 56 SW 213	Monument	c. 555m E	Post Medieval to Modern	Rifle range, Preston Hill. built in 1897 on land owned by Bingham Mildmay and leased to Lt. Col. G. Henderson of The Queens Own Royal West Kent Regiment. The remains of the range still survive and are in good condition.
TQ 56 SW 214	Monument	c. 575m SE	Modern	Bomb craters, Preston Hill. At least three bomb craters were counted and perhaps more potential craters may be found to the north of the site. Two bomb craters were found in the south west of the site, in the field north of Gold Hill. Another was found to the south west of the site of Preston Hill farm, which too was destroyed by a direct hit of a bomb in January 1944.
TQ 56 SW 215	Monument	c. 1000m NE	Unknown	Parish boundary between Shoreham and Eynsford, at Preston Hill

MKE83692	Farmstead	c. 835m SW	Post Medieval	Oxbourne Farm. Dispersed multi-yard. Farmhouse attached to agricultural range. Isolated position. Altered - significant loss of original form (more than 50%).
MKE83693	Farmstead	c. 880m SW	Post Medieval	Outfarm south east of Shoreham paper mill. An outfarm with a loose courtyard plan with a building to one side of the yard. Farmstead completely demolished.
MKE83694	Farmstead	c. 980m SSW	Post Medieval	Farmstead in Shoreham. A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to three sides of the yard. Farmstead completely demolished.
MKE83748	Farmstead	c. 805m SSE	Post Medieval	Dunstall Priory. A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to two sides of the yard. Only the farmhouse remains.
MKE83749	Farmstead	c. 880m ESE	Post Medieval	Preston Hill. Loose courtyard with working agricultural buildings on two sides. Farmhouse detached side on to yard. Isolated position. Farmstead completely demolished.
MKE83750	Farmstead	c. 20m E	Post Medieval	Preston Farm. Loose courtyard with working agricultural buildings on four sides and with additional detached elements to the main plan. Farmhouse detached in central position. Isolated position. Altered - significant loss of original form (more than 50%). Notes: Oast
MKE88628	Farmstead	c. 820m N	Post Medieval	Castle Farm (Shoreham Castle Farm). Dispersed multi-yard. Farmhouse detached in central position. Isolated position. Altered - partial loss of original form (less than 50%). Oast - lost.
MKE88807	Farmstead	c. 840m SSW	Post Medieval	Outfarm north east of The Mount. An outfarm with a loose courtyard plan with a building to one side of the yard. Farmstead completely demolished.
MKE110400	Findspot	c. 440m WSW	Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age	PAS find. Bronze Age copper alloy axehead. A small, broken, mouth fragment of a Late Bronze Age, cast, copper alloy-bronze socketed axe head. Probable rounded sub rectangular mouth with moulded double bands around the rim.

MKE110401	Findspot	c. 305m SSW	Roman	PAS find. Roman copper alloy bracelet. Broken and folded, approximate half section of a probable C1st-4th Roman, cast and forged, copper alloy bracelet
MKE110402	Findspot	c. 850m SSW	Medieval to Post Medieval	PAS find. Post Medieval lead alloy token. C16th-18th, crudely cast, lead alloy, medium size, circular, flat, uniface token.
MKE110420	Findspot	c. 485m W	Post Medieval	PAS find. Post Medieval silver coin. A complete but distorted, Post Medieval - Stuart Period, struck or hammered, silver alloy, Charles II (1660-1685) Groat.
MKE110421	Findspot	c. 430m WSW	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	PAS find. Early Medieval silver coin. Sceatta.
MKE110422	Findspot	c. 385m WNW	Post Medieval	PAS find. Post Medieval copper alloy knife.
MKE110423	Findspot	c. 340m WNW	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval copper alloy brooch.
MKE110448	Findspot	c. 270m S	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval copper alloy jetton. A complete, Late Medieval, C14-15th, struck or hammered, copper alloy - bronze, French Tournois type jetton, probably Charles VII (1422-1461).
MKE113524	Findspot	c. 455m WSW	Unknown	PAS find. Unknown lead alloy weight
MKE113525	Findspot	c. 340m SSW	Late Mesolithic to Middle Bronze Age	PAS find. Neolithic flint lithic implement
MKE113526	Findspot	c. 400m WSW	Late Mesolithic to Middle Bronze Age	PAS find. Neolithic flint lithic implement
MKE113527	Findspot	c. 425m W	Post Medieval	PAS find. Post Medieval gold coin. A Georgian Period 1777, minted, George III (1760-1820), gold alloy, early type guinea.
MKE113528	Findspot	c. 405m SSW	Medieval to Post Medieval	PAS find. Post Medieval lead alloy token. C16-18th, crudely cast.
MKE113529	Findspot	c. 340m SSW	Post Medieval	PAS find. Post Medieval silver coin Charles I (1625-1649) sixpence.
MKE113530	Findspot	c. 335m SSW	Medieval	PAS find. Medieval silver coin, An Edward IV first reign (1461-1470) light coinage groat.

MKE113531	Findspot	c. 1025m S	Post Medieval	PAS find. Post Medieval copper alloy jetton, German.
TQ 75 NE 816	Monument	185m E	Post Medieval	Sevenoaks, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells branch railway. The Sevenoaks, Maidstone and Tunbridge Branch Railway was opened between Swanley and Sevenoaks in 1862, and extended to Maidstone in 1874.
MKE99239	Monument	350m E	Undated	Lynchets, Preston Hill. A historic landscape assessment carried out in 2009 found numerous remains of lynchets where soil had accumulated against existing or former barriers such as hedgerows.
EVENT ID	**TYPE**	**DATE**	**LOCATION**	**DESCRIPTION**
EKE11440	Non-intrusive	2009	Preston Hill Country Park	Historical environment assessment, for enhanced farm environment plans for higher level stewardship, for Preston Hill Country Park, Shoreham
EKE12813	Excavation	1982	Preston Farm	37 test pits dug in advance of the Farningham to Sevenoaks sewer scheme. It appears that once the Roman building had been located two larger areas were opened over it. Locations of all the test pits unknown. Location of the areas excavated estimated.
EKE5096	Excavation	1994	Castle Farm	No finds found

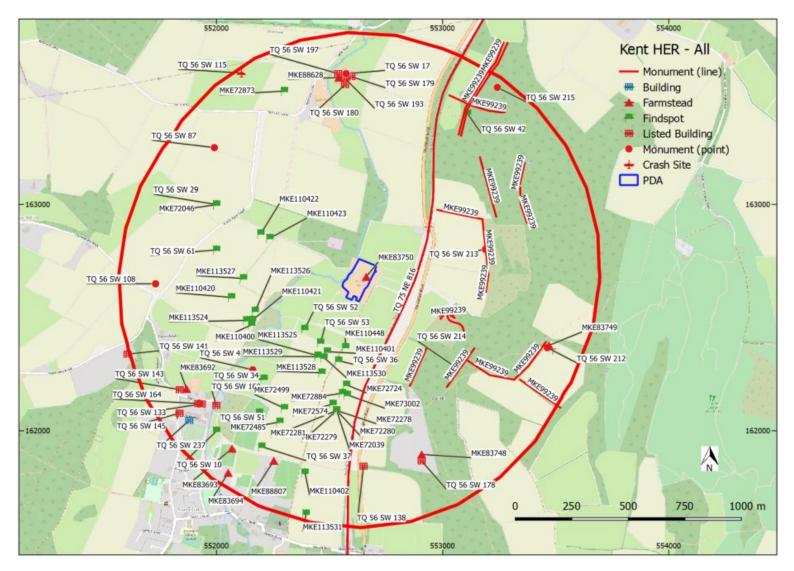*Figure 12: Gazetteer of KHER Records*
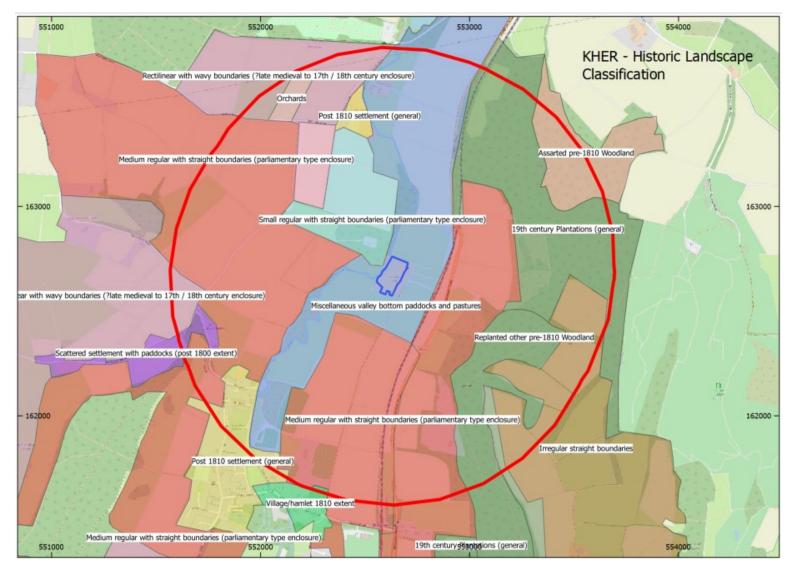
Figure 13: KHER Monument Record – All

Figure 14: KHER Historic Landscape Characterisation

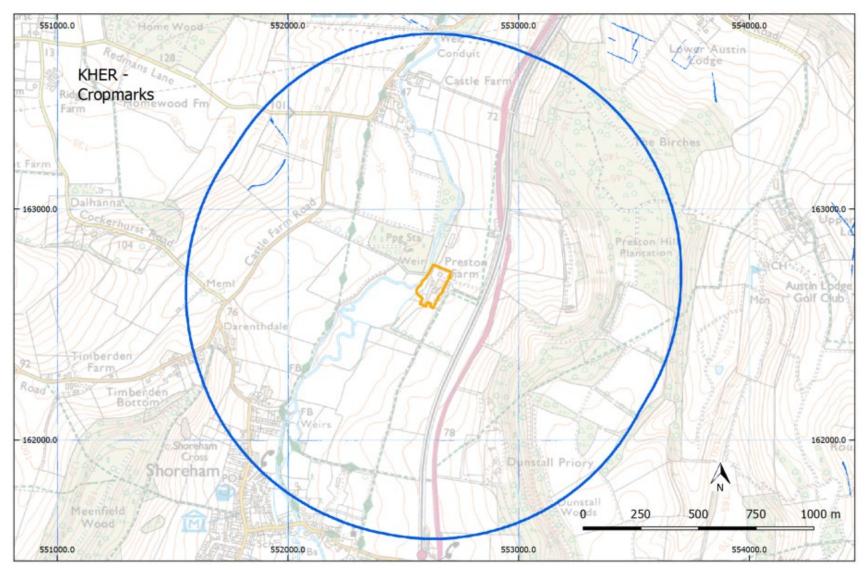*Figure 15: KHER Conservation Area*

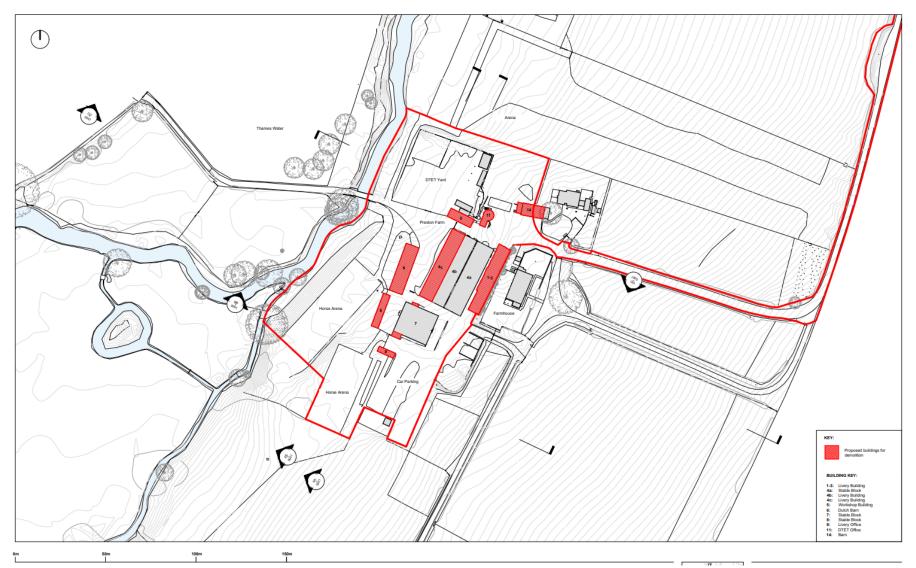*Figure 16: KHER Events*

Figure 17: KHER Cropmarks

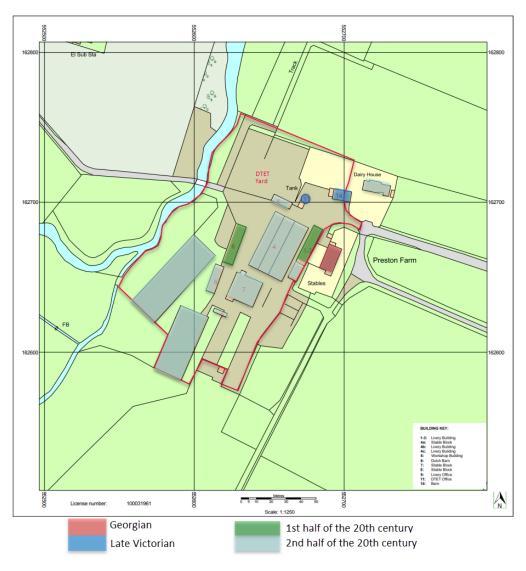*Figure 18: Proposed buildings for demolition*

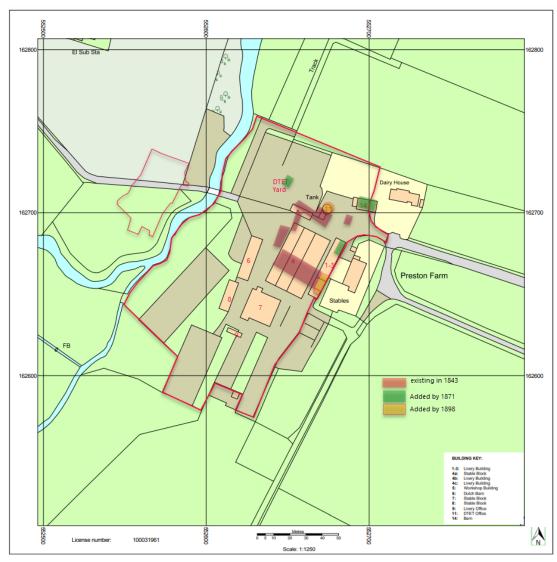*Figure 19: Phasing of the existing buildings*

Figure 20: Location of known historical Impacts

Plate 1: 1940s. (Google Earth).

Plate 2: 1960s (Google Earth)

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Plate 3: 1990 (Google Earth)

Plate 4: 2001 (Google Earth)

Plate 5: 2019 (Google Earth)

Plate 6: LIDAR, 50cm DTM (Environment Agency)

Plate 7: View of the entrance to the yard showing the remains of the oast (facing W)

Plate 8: Livery and stables building (facing SW)

Plate 9: View of the late Victorian barn (facing NE)

Plate 10: View of the Dutch barn (facing SW)

Plate 11: View of the DTET yard (facing NNE)

Plate 12: View across the north western part of the PDA (facing E)

Plate 13: View across the westernmost horse arena (facing NE)

Plate 14: View across the southern part of the PDA (facing E)

Plate 15: View across the southern end of the livery and stable buildings (facing E)

Plate 16: View in between the southern stable block buildings (facing SE)

Plate 17: View along the southern car parking area (facing NNE)

Plate 18: View towards the southern end of the livery buildings (facing NNE)
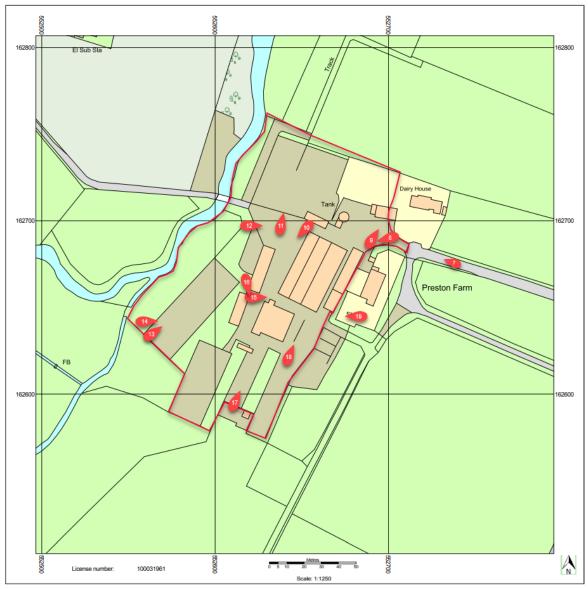
Plate 19: View across the yard from the southern side of the house (facing W)

Plate 20: Plate Locations