Archaeological Evaluation on land at Court Lodge, Nackington, Lower Hardres, Kent

Site Code NACK/EV/19



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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeological Evaluation on land at Court Lodge, Nackington, Lower Hardres, Kent

> Site Code NACK/EV/17 NGR 615797 154685



Plate 1. Aerial view of site (red target) showing the site prior to development.

(Google Earth 9/4/2018: Eye altitude 456m).

1.0 Abstract

1.1. On the 30th October 2019 Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA of Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Evaluation on ground works involved in the build of a single storey extension at Court Lodge, Nackington in Kent. (Fig. 1 & Plates 1-5).

1.2. The works were carried out on behalf of the land owner.

1.3. The archaeological work was undertaken in one phase.Phase 1: The excavation of a single evaluation trench to about 350mm below present ground level of about 82.00m aOD. (Plates 2-5).5)

1.4. The Archaeological Evaluation was to ascertain if there were any signs of archaeological activity. In particular, any evidence of archaeological activity associated with the known archaeological sites in the area including the adjacent complex of historic farm building and any Prehistoric, Roman or later archaeological activity as itemised in the SWAT Archaeology written scheme of investigation (WSI) for this site.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is CA/19/00667.

1.6. Although the archaeological potential has been highlighted by the CCC Archaeological Officer and reports by CgMs the Archaeological Evaluation revealed no buried archaeological features and no archaeological finds were retrieved.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 The site is located within the complex of Court Lodge Farm and the site straddles a broad and irregular ridge with views of Canterbury with its cathedral in the distance. The site itself is level at about 82.00m aOD (Figure 1).

2.2 Planning Background

Planning application CA/19/00667 was submitted to Canterbury City Council the Local Planning Authority (LPA) requested that an Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken in order to record any archaeological remains uncovered during the development work. The following condition (3) was attached to the planning consent:

No development other than demolition shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has been first submitted to

and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority; and following on any safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation, post-excavation assessment, analysis, publication or conservation in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded in accordance with policies HE11 and HE12 of the Canterbury Local Plan 2017 and the National Planning Policy Framework.

3.0 Schedule of Visits

An archaeologist suitably experienced attended the site (Paul Wilkinson SWAT Archaeology) and undertook the archaeological excavation works on the 30th October 2019.

4.0 Aims and Objectives

4.1. The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation is to establish or otherwise the presence of any potential archaeological features which may be impacted by the proposed development.

4.2 Also to find out the depths of features below the surface, how much overburden and the extent of the depth of deposits themselves. In addition the dates and quality of any archaeological remains which will be achieved through a limited sample excavation of features. Human remains will not be excavated (see also CCC Evaluation Specification Part B: 4. Objectives).

4.3. A full programme of proposed works by the contractor were made available to SWAT Archaeology before the on-site monitoring took place.

4.4. Confidence Rating

No factors hindered the recognition of archaeological and deposits during the archaeological evaluation exercise.

5.0 Geological Background

5.1. The underlying geology at the site according to the British Geological Survey website is Bedrock geology of Seaford Chalk Formation and although no Superficial Deposits are recorded for the site the archaeological evaluation exposed Chalk and deposits of brown yellow clay (Plates 2-4).

6.0 Methodology

6.1. The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation was to establish or otherwise the presence of any potential archaeological features which may be impacted by the proposed development.

6.2 Also to find out the depths of features below the surface, how much overburden and the extent of the depth of deposits themselves. In addition the dates and quality of any archaeological remains which will be achieved through a limited sample excavation of features.

6.3 The initial location of the evaluation trench was compromised by a Georgian/Victorian cess pit so the location of the 7m evaluation trench was tuned 90 degrees to the location shown on Figure 1 but still within the footprint of the proposed development.

7.0 Results

7.1 General

No archaeological features or finds were revealed or recovered. The subsoil encountered across the site was deposits of silty clay underlain by chalk. No archaeological features were revealed in the natural geology and no archaeological finds retrieved from the topsoil which was swept with a Fisher CZ 3D metal detector.

7.2 The area of the evaluation trench was surveyed in and shown on Figure 1.

7.3 The trench reduction was about 300mm deep at a ground level of 82.00maOD. The site produced no archaeological features or deposits or finds and no environmental potential was recognised on site.

8.0 Finds

No finds were retrieved.

9.0 Discussion

The development site is in an area of archaeological potential. However, no archaeology was revealed on the development site.

10.0 Conclusion

The Archaeological Evaluation has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the SWAT Archaeological Specification. As far as it is known no buried archaeological features have been affected as a result of the development.

11.0 Acknowledgments

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank the landowner for commissioning the project. Fieldwork was undertaken and report written by Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA.

References

HER data (Historic England 2019)

SWAT Archaeology: Site Specific Requirements Land at Court Lodge, Nackington, Lower Hardres, Kent.

Appendix 1 HER Summary Form

Site Name: Development of land at Court Lodge, Nackington, Lower Hardres, Kent SWAT Site Code: NACK/EV/19 Site Address: As above

Summary:

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Evaluation on the development site above. The site has planning permission for a new single storey extension whereby Canterbury City Council requested that an Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of a single evaluation trench which encountered no buried archaeological features or artefacts.

District/Unitary: Canterbury City Council

Period(s):

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) 615797 154685

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: Oct 30th 2019

Unit undertaking recording: Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT. Archaeology) **Geology:** Bedrock geology is Chalk

Title and author of accompanying report: Wilkinson P. (2019) Archaeological WEvaluation at Court Lodge, Nackington, Lower Hardres, Kent

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

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



Plate 2. View of original location of evaluation trench (looking NW)



Plate 3. View of evaluation trench new location (looking S)



Plate 4. View of evaluation trench (looking SW)



OS Plan Colour

Figure 1 Location of Eval trench

