



Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development for a new MUGA at Gravesend Grammar School, Church Walk, Gravesend, Kent.

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Report for Baxall Construction

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the proposed Development for a New MUGA at Gravesend Grammar School, Church Walk, Gravesend, Kent.

Summary

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by Baxall Construction to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the proposed development (PDA) for a new MUGA at Gravesend Grammar School, Church Walk, Gravesend, Kent.

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

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

The PDA is situated just over 1km south east of Gravesend High Street with Milton Road East forming the northern and north eastern boundary, which turns into Rochester Road. The north west corner of the PDA borders the residential properties of The Rectory and Meletune. Church Walk, a narrow no-through lane forms the western boundary with Rectory Field playing fields further west. The eastern boundary is St John's Roman Catholic School and along the southern boundary are residential houses of Milton Hall Road and Pine Avenue. The PDA is Gravesend Grammar School which consists of a number of school buildings of various ages from the 1930s onwards across the length of the western side of the PDA with the school playing fields forming the eastern side of the PDA. The PDA lies at various levels. The lowest point of the site is at the northern end at 10 aOD and rises to 18 aOD at the southern end.

The PDA seems to have been away from main settlement areas having been a rural area until the mid-19th century when to the south east Milton Hall was built and the PDA formed part of the land belonging to the hall, having previously belonged to Parrock Farm to the south west of the PDA. There is very little below ground archaeology in the assessment area despite watching briefs and excavations at the PDA and the school to the east. Activity from the Medieval period reduces as the area appears to be agricultural and outside of the main settlement area of Gravesend. The settlement of Milton and Denton appear to be more to the north and east respectively. Of note is the curve of the road around the northern boundary of the site, whereby it appears to have historically followed around some possible feature rather than continuing straight across the site. The PDA was not built onto until the museum of antiquities in the latter part of the 19th century in the far south western corner, to be replaced by a school in the 1930s of which the original school building is in use and further buildings added to the north and south of the original school building. Therefore, the archaeological potential is considered to be low for all periods. However, it is possible that previous archaeological events at the school have not revealed any archaeology due to earlier disturbances associated with the school. The proposed development is for a MUGA to be built on the playing field immediately adjacent to the northernmost car parking area and north of the sports hall. The proposed development is in an area not thought to be historically disturbed. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Baxall Construction (the 'Client'), to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) for a new MUGA at Gravesend Grammar School, Church Walk, Gravesend, Kent centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 65797 73673 (Fig 1).

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 Gravesend lies on the north Kent coast on the southern banks of the river Thames. The river's edge is circa 600m north of the PDA, where it is 21 miles south east of central London. The PDA is situated just over 1km south east of Gravesend High Street with Milton Road East forming the northern and north eastern boundary, which turns into Rochester Road. The north west corner of the PDA borders the residential properties of The Rectory and Meletune. Church Walk, a narrow no-through lane forms the western boundary with Rectory Field playing fields further west. The eastern boundary is St John's Roman Catholic School and along the southern boundary are residential houses of Milton Hall Road and Pine Avenue. A gap between the houses here allows for a rear entrance into the school currently used for deliveries. The PDA is Gravesend Grammar School which consists of a number of school buildings of various ages from the 1930s onwards across the length of the western side of the PDA with the school playing fields forming the eastern side of the PDA. The PDA lies at various levels. The lowest point of the site is at the northern end at 10 aOD and rises to 18 aOD at the southern end. The expanse of the playing fields appear broadly level at around 14m aOD (Fig. 1).

Geology

1.2.2 The British Geological Society (BGS 1995) shows that the local geology at the PDA consists of two types. The southern half is Thanet Formation Sand with the northern half of the PDA as bedrock comprising Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) chalk. There are no superficial deposits. Given the low resolution of the BGS mapping it is not possible to pinpoint the exact geology at the location of the development itself. Westwards, along the line of Church Walk, there is a patch of

Head- Clay, Silt, Sand and gravel. Again, with the low resolution it is possible that this may extend into the PDA.

Geotechnical Information

- 1.2.3 A 2019 soil investigation was undertaken within the PDA. A borehole located circa 185m south, south west of the area of the proposed MUGA revealed 0.3m of topsoil, below which was 0.5m of fill. Below the fill was 0.5m of Head, orangey brown slightly sandy clay. Below this was the chalk bedrock at 1.3m below ground level (*Unpublished Document: Evans and Langford LLP. 2019. Gravesend Grammar School Church Walk, Gravesend – Report on Ground Investigation*).

Stratigraphy

- 1.2.4 A 2008 watching brief for the sport hall northern extension, adjacent to the area of the proposed MUGA, revealed areas of made ground where it had previously been levelled. The chalk bedrock was encountered with peri-glacial features and above was 0.3m of brown slightly clayey silt, chalk flecks and small flint rubble, described as old agricultural soil (*Unpublished Document: Canterbury Archaeological trust. 2008. An Archaeological Watching Brief at Gravesend Grammar School for Boys, Gravesend, Kent*).

1.3 The Proposed Development

- 1.3.1 The proposed development consists of a Full planning application for the construction of a new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), providing three hard surfaced sports courts, with associated fencing, earthworks, landscaping and floodlighting Gravesend Grammar School, Church Walk, Gravesend, Kent (Fig.2).

1.4 Project Constraints

- 1.4.1 No constraints were associated with this project.

1.5 Scope of Document

- 1.5.1 This assessment was requested by the Client in order to determine, as far as is possible from existing information, the nature, extent and significance of the Historic Environment and to assess the potential impact of development on

Heritage Assets. The assessment forms part of the initial stages of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist with decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

2 PLANNING BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 National legislation and guidance relating to the protection of, and proposed development on or near, important archaeological sites or historical buildings within planning regulations is defined under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990). In addition, local authorities are responsible for the protection of the historic environment within the planning system.
- 2.1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework was updated in July 2018, revised in February 2019 and July 2021 is the principal document which sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It provides a framework in which Local Planning Authorities can produce their own distinctive Local Plans to reflect the needs of their communities.

2.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 2.2.1 The Historic Environment, as defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2021): 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.’

- 2.2.2 NPPF Annex 2 defines a Heritage Asset as:

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

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

2.2.4 Paragraph 190 of the NPPF states that:

‘Plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. This strategy should take into account:

- a) The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- b) The wider social, cultural, economic, and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;
- c) The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
- d) Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.’

2.2.5 Paragraph 194 of the NPPF states that:

‘In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets’ importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.’

2.2.6 Paragraph 195 of the NPPF states that:

‘Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account to the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment

into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.'

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

2.2.8 The NPPF further provides definitions of terms in the glossary 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 (for heritage policy)**. The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic, or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. For World Heritage Sites, the cultural value described within each site's Statement of Outstanding Universal Value forms part of its significance'.
- **'Setting of a heritage asset**. 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'.

2.2.9 The NPPF advises local authorities to take into account the following points in paragraph 197 when drawing up strategies for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment;

a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and preserving them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;

b) the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and

c) the desirability of new development in making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness’.

2.2.10 Paragraphs 199 and 204 consider the impact of a proposed development upon the significance of a heritage asset.

2.2.11 Paragraph 199 emphasises that when a new development is proposed, ‘great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and that the more important the asset, the greater this weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance’.

2.2.12 Paragraph 200 notes that:

‘Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of:

a) grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional;

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

2.2.13 Paragraph 201 states that:

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

a) the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and

b) no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and

c) conservation by grant-funding or some form of charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and

d) the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.'

2.2.15 Conversely, paragraph 202 notes that 'where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use'.

2.2.16 The NPPF comments in paragraph 207, proffers that 'not all elements of a Conservation Area or World Heritage Site will necessarily contribute to its significance. Loss of a building (or other element) which makes a positive contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area or World Heritage Site should be treated either as substantial harm under paragraph 201 or less than substantial harm under paragraph 202, as appropriate, taking into account the relative significance of the element affected and its contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area or World Heritage Site as a whole'.

2.2.17 Paragraph 204 states that 'Local Planning Authorities should not permit the loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred'.

2.2.18 Paragraph 206 encourages Local Planning Authorities to 'look for opportunities for new development within Conservation Areas and World Heritage Sites, and within the setting of heritage assets, to enhance or better reveal their significance. Proposals that preserve those elements of the setting that make a positive contribution to the asset (or which better reveal its significance) should be treated favourably'.

2.2.19 Any LPA based on paragraph 208, 'should assess whether the benefits of a proposal for enabling development, which would otherwise conflict with planning policies, but which would secure the future conservation of a heritage asset, outweigh the disbenefits of departing from those policies'.

2.3 Designated Heritage Assets

2.3.1 Designated heritage assets are defined in NPPF Annex 2 as:

‘A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield and Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.’

2.3.2 Designation is a formal acknowledgement of a building, monument, or site’s significance, intended to make sure that the character of the asset in question is protected through the planning system and to enable it to be passed on to future generations.

2.3.3 In addition to the NPPF, statutory protection and guidance documents are also provided to certain classes of designated heritage assets under the following list:

- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990);
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979);
- Planning Practice Guidance: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
- Protection of Wrecks Act (1973); and
- Hedgerow Regulations (statutory Instrument No. 1160) 1997.

2.4 Local Policies

2.4.1 Gravesham Borough Council has a Local Plan adopted in September 2014. Within it is Policy CS20 relating to the Heritage and Historic Environment.

POLICY CS20: Heritage and Historic Environment.

2.4.2 The council will accord a high priority towards the preservation, protection and enhancement of its heritage and historic environment as a non-renewable resource central to the regeneration of the area and the reinforcement of sense of place. Securing viable, sustainable and appropriate futures for assets at risk will need to be reconciled with the sensitivity to change that many present. Proposals and initiatives will be supported which preserve and where appropriate enhance the significance of the borough’s heritage assets, their setting where it

contributes to the significance of the asset and their interpretation and enjoyment especially those which contribute to the distinct identity of the Borough. When considering the impact of a proposed development on a designated asset, the weight that will be given to the asset's conservation value will be commensurate with the importance and significance of the asset. For non-designated assets, decisions will have regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

2.4.3 The Council are current going through a process to consider a new Local Plan. The Core Strategy sets out that the Council intend to produce a Supplementary Planning Document on heritage and the historic environment in due course. These would be read in conjunction with the NPPF and current Core Strategy Policy CS20. The Council is looking to apply the following suite of policies as appropriate when determining planning applications that have the potential to impact upon heritage assets and their settings.

- Proposed Policy HER 1: Development Involving Heritage Assets
- Proposed Policy HER 2: Listed Buildings
- Proposed Policy HER 3: Conservation Areas
- Proposed Policy HER 4: Archaeology

Proposed Policy HER 1: Development Involving Heritage Assets

2.4.4 Proposals which protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment of the borough and the contribution it makes to local distinctiveness and sense of place will be supported. Encouragement will also be given to proposals that make sensitive use of historic assets through regeneration and re-use, particularly where these bring redundant or underused assets back into an appropriate use. Proposals involving enabling development which conflict with policy will be required to demonstrate that it is reasonably necessary to secure the future conservation of the heritage asset and that this outweighs the dis-benefits of departing from policy.

2.4.5 Development will be expected to conserve and enhance or reveal the significance of designated heritage assets and the contribution made to that significance by

their settings. Development will not be permitted where it is likely to cause substantial harm to the significance of designated heritage assets, either directly or indirectly through development within their settings, unless it is necessary to achieve substantial public benefit that would outweigh the harm or loss, or all of the following apply:

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

2.4.6 Where a development will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, any harm will be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.

2.4.7 The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset will be a material consideration in its determination. Those that affect the significance of non-designated heritage assets will be carefully considered, and a balanced judgment made having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the asset involved. Proposals which, on balance, have an unacceptable impact will not be permitted.

2.4.8 Any application affecting directly or indirectly the significance of a designated or non-designated heritage asset should be prepared in sufficient detail to enable the Council to evaluate the impact of the proposal on that asset. A Heritage Statement will also be required in support of such applications to outline and provide evidence as to the significance of the heritage asset, the contribution made by its setting, and the likely impact of the development upon it and any alternatives considered that may impact lesser upon its significance. In

determining applications, the Council will accord additional weight as appropriate where multiple heritage assets stand to be adversely affected.

- 2.4.9 Should permission be granted for the removal of part or all of a heritage asset, this will not be allowed to proceed until such time as a mechanism is put in place to ensure that any approved replacement development will proceed. Where permission is granted for such development, conditions will be attached requiring photographic or other recording of the asset to be removed with a report containing said information to be submitted to the Council as a public record.

Proposed Policy HER 3: Conservation Areas

- 2.4.10 Development, in or adjoining a Conservation Area, which would enhance its character, appearance, or the contribution made to its significance by its setting will normally be permitted subject to other policies within the Development Plan. In evaluating proposals, the Council will have regard to its adopted Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans as a material consideration.
- 2.4.11 New development in a Conservation Area should aim to preserve and enhance the character and local distinctiveness of the historic environment and respect its surroundings in terms of height, massing, volume, scale, form, materials, details, roofscape, plot width and the spaces between buildings.
- 2.4.12 Development within, affecting the setting of, or views into and out of, a Conservation Area should preserve and enhance all features that contribute positively toward the area's character and appearance. Particular consideration will be given toward the following:
- The retention of buildings, groups of buildings, existing street patterns, historic building lines and ground surfaces;
 - Retention of architectural details that contribute positively to the character or appearance of the area;
 - The impact of the proposal on the townscape, skyline, landscape and the relative scale and importance of buildings in the area;
 - The protection of trees and elements of landscape or townscape that contribute positively towards the character and appearance of the area;

- Whether the proposals result in the removal of unsightly and negative features and their replacement by others that make an appropriate and positive contribution.

2.4.13 Where development is proposed within a Conservation Area, consideration should also be given to the possible existence of buried archaeology to which policy HER 4 may apply. Any Heritage Statement should, therefore, also provide evidence that this aspect has also been assessed.

Proposed Policy HER 4: Archaeology

2.4.14 The archaeological and historic integrity of designated heritage assets and other important archaeological sites, together with the contribution made toward their significance by their settings, will be protected and, where possible, enhanced.

2.4.15 Planning applications on sites where there is or is potential archaeological interest must be supported by an informed assessment of the asset and the impact of the proposal on its significance.

2.4.16 Where important or potentially significant archaeological heritage assets may exist, developers may be required to arrange for field evaluations to be carried out in advance of the determination of planning applications in accordance with a specification to be agreed in writing with the Council.

2.4.17 Where the case for development affecting a heritage asset of archaeological interest is accepted, a decision will be made on its treatment weighing the significance of the asset against the public benefits of the proposal. Where the heritage asset is of demonstrably equivalent significance to a Scheduled Monument, any potential harm to that significance shall be evaluated on the same basis as if it were a designated heritage asset.

2.4.18 Where preservation in situ is not possible or justified, appropriate provision for preservation by record will be required. In such cases, a copy of the report detailing and interpreting findings shall be deposited with the Council and the County Historic Environment Record.

Local Planning Guidance

- 2.4.19 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 Baxall Construction to support a planning application. This assessment has been prepared in accordance with guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (see below) and in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Good Practice Advice notes 1, 2 and 3, which now supersede the PPS 5 Practice Guide, which has been withdrawn by the Government.
- 3.1.2 This Desk-Based Assessment therefore forms the initial stage of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist in decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

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

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

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

(2017:4)

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

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

CIFA (2017:4)

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

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

4.2 Sources

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

Archaeological databases

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

Cartographic and Pictorial Documents

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

Aerial photographs

4.2.6 The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-6).

Secondary and Statutory Resources

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

Walkover Survey

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

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

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This section of the assessment will focus on the archaeological and historical development of this area, placing it within a local context. Each period classification will provide a brief introduction to the wider landscape (500m radius from the PDA boundaries), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. There are no Scheduled Monument, Registered Parks and Gardens or Historic Parks and Gardens within the search area. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed in Table 1.

Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	c. 500,000 BC – c.10,000 BC
	Mesolithic	c.10,000 BC – c. 4,300 BC
	Neolithic	c. 4,300 BC – c. 2,300 BC
	Bronze Age	c. 2,300 BC – c. 600 BC
	Iron Age	c. 600 BC – c. AD 43
	Romano-British	c. AD 43 – c. AD 410
	Anglo-Saxon	AD 410 – AD 1066
	Medieval	AD 1066 – AD 1485
	Post-medieval	AD 1485 – AD 1900
	Modern	AD 1901 – present day
Table 1: Classification of Archaeological periods		

5.1.2 The Kent HER records within the assessment are dominated by records relating to the modern period (60%), especially those relating to the Second World War. In addition, as expected for an urbanised area, there are also a high number of Post Medieval records (31%). The table in Figure 12 details all the finds, features and buildings within the assessment area.

5.2 Designated Heritage Assets

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

5.2.2 This guidance states that “setting embraces all of the surroundings (land, sea, structures, features and skyline) from which the heritage asset can be

experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset” (The Setting of Heritage Assets, English Heritage 2011).

5.2.3 Within the 500m assessment area there are a total six listed building records and 12 building records. These records relate to a varied range of buildings. From the Post Medieval industrial for the Gravesend Canal Basin (TQ 67 SE 235), to Parrock Hall, now residential flats (TQ 67 SE 1063), a Modern pillar box (TQ 67 SE 1067) and two Medieval two churches, along with a modern First World War Memorial, located at St Peter and St Paul’s church (TQ 67 SE 383). The two closest designated heritage assets are the churches and war memorial.

5.2.4 The construction of a new canteen will not affect the setting of these heritage assets, which has already significantly eroded with the urbanisation of the area and the significant change that has occurred at the current school. Therefore, overall, any impact caused to the significance of the heritage asset would be considered as ‘less than substantial’ in accordance with NPPF Paragraph 196.

Table 1 Designated Heritage Assets

TQ 67 SE 235	Post Medieval to Modern	c. 400m NNW	Gravesend Canal Basin. By the end of 1801 four miles of the canal had been constructed and the canal basin. The basin was 750 ft long by 150 ft wide. The entrance lock and eastern half of the basin had brick walls, while the western half had timber camp shedding or nothing at all. The eastern half was also deeper. Originally the lock gates were made of wood, but had been eaten away so badly by 1819 that they had to be replaced by iron gates.
TQ 67 SE 1063	Post Medieval	c. 440m SW	Parrock Hall. Grade II listed (1054775). Now flats. This was probably the former manor house of Milton Manor. Early C18. Consists of a centre portion of 2 parallel ranges and 3 storeys with 5 windows and recessed wings of 2 storeys and 2 windows each. Red brick. Hipped slate roof with parapet and modillion cornice. Most glazing bars intact. Doorcase in moulded architrave surround with pediment over supported on console brackets.
TQ 67 SE 1100	Medieval to Modern	c. 180m E	St Marys Roman Catholic Church, Denton. Grade II listed (1089037). This

			was the original Parish Church of Denton before the present Parish Church was built in the C14. It is C12 - C13. It fell into ruins at the Reformation and was restored in 1901. It was opened as a Roman Catholic Church in 1940. Built of flints with a tiled roof. Little mediaeval work visible outside.
TQ 67 SE 1132	Medieval to Post Medieval	c. 40m N	Church of St Peter and St Paul, East Milton Road, Gravesend. Grade II* (1341484). C14 in origin. Built of stone and flint. Crenelated tower in 3 stages with buttresses. The slate roof with wide bracket eaves and pediment to the east front dates from 1790. The church was further restored in 1852 and 1863. It is a long narrow building with galleries on the north and west sides of the Nave. These and the alter-piece were inserted in 1819.
TQ 67 SE 1067	Post Medieval to Modern	c. 300m NW	Pillar Box at the Junction of Norfolk Road and St John's Road. Grade II listed (1341486). 1856-60. A fluted pillar box with vertical posting aperture. Conical cap and moulded base.
TQ 67 SE 383	Modern to Unknown	c. 20m N	Milton War Memorial. First World War memorial unveiled on 8 April 1923.

5.3 Previous Archaeological Works

5.3.1 There have been a number of intrusive archaeological works within the assessment area, mainly to the far north of the area by the canal basin and embankment area, which has less relevance given the industrial nature of the works. There were archaeological events at the PDA in 2009 and also in 2021 being watching briefs. At the St John's School to the east of the PDA, there was a watching brief and evaluation. These events are detailed below.

Gravesend Grammar School for Boys, 2008.

5.3.2 The watching brief in 2008 for the northern sports hall extension within the agricultural soil above the chalk bedrock, revealed very occasional burnt flint and worked flint flakes, which were possibly considered to be of late prehistoric date and were not considered to be of any significance (*Unpublished Document:*

Canterbury Archaeological trust. 2008. An Archaeological Watching Brief at Gravesend Grammar School for Boys, Gravesend, Kent).

St John's Roman Catholic School, Gravesend: Watching Brief and Evaluation, 2012

- 5.3.3 An evaluation was carried out in 2008 followed by a watching brief in 2009 by Oxford Archaeology in advance of building works at the school. The resulting soil sequence showed the site consists of very shallow topsoil overlying chalk in the trial trenches in the south eastern part of the site. The made ground thickens substantially to the north, presumably having been redeposited from the south of the site. It is likely that most archaeological features will have been removed entirely from the southern, where the terrace cuts into the slope, but could potentially be preserved beneath made ground to the north. The evaluation and watching brief recorded no evidence for significant archaeological remains in the investigated area. There has clearly been extensive landscaping in the recent past, where the natural slope has been levelled to form the existing sports pitch terrace.

Gravesend Grammar School, 2021

- 5.3.4 A watching brief by SWAT Archaeology in 2021 at the site of the new teaching block and car park area to the west and south west of the proposed MUGA development area revealed no archaeological finds of features (pers.comm).

Landscape Characterisation

- 5.3.5 The PDA is in the eastern part of an area characterised by KCC Historic Landscape Characterisation of 'Post 1810 Settlement (general)'. Immediately north around the church of St Peter and St Paul is the area of 'Town and city- 1810 extent' (Fig. 18).
- 5.3.6 The centre of Gravesend due to its urban nature is outside of the areas reviewed under the Gravesham Council Landscape Character Assessment. However, initially the area was part of the agricultural hinterland supporting Gravesend. Being east of the centre of the town the area in the mid-Victorian period took on an industrial characteristic to the north, with residential characteristics with the grand houses of Milton and Parrock Hall with their accompanying agricultural land before greater urbanisation in the 20th century when the farmland was replaced

by housing, but also, large areas remained open with the two schools, Gravesend Grammar and St John's along with the sports ground.

Conservation Area

5.3.7 There are two Conservation Areas within the assessment area. Gravesend Riverside to the north and Windmill Hill to the south west. Windmill Hill from at least the 14th century, the summit of the hill has been used as the location for beacons to warn London of impending invasion. Beacons on the hill have been mentioned in 1377 and 1719, and some remnants of these buildings survive. Windmill Hill could be accessed directly by visitors arriving by steamer at the Town Pier, progressing along High Street and Windmill Street. Visitors to the town in the first half of the 19th century; former agricultural and mill buildings were converted as the hill was developed into a resort attraction, such as The Millers Cottage PH. These historic structures provide a reminder of the rural history of the land, prior to the extensive residential development as Gravesend extended southwards during the 19th century. The Riverside Conservation Area reflects the importance of the port of Gravesend plus also its defensive location with Henry VIII Gravesend Blockhouse, along with that of the industrial canal basin. Due to the urbanisation of the area and the distance of the PDA from these areas, the proposed development will not have an impact on the Conservation Areas (Fig. 19).

0-100m Radius

5.3.8 There are seven KHER entries for this area. North of the PDA is the Medieval church of St Peter and St Paul that is Grade II* listed and also includes a First World War memorial and a George VI pillar box nearby. Along the road between the church and the PDA was a tram line from 1883 until 1929 (TQ 67 SW 633). To the east was the farmstead of Denton Farm (MKE84323), which was demolished in the 20th century, possibly leaving only the farmhouse, although this is unclear whether this has survived recent residential developments. To the south of the PDA was the Milton Hall Farm (MKE 84322), which has been completely demolished. Within the PDA itself is a building record of the surviving building of the Second World War air raid shelter, which was above ground and made of brick (TQ 67 SE 340). It is about 15 x 5 m with a flat concrete roof, with one long side wall removed and it was not possible to enter the air raid shelter, but the

caretaker informs me that other than the remaining brick shell, there is little by way of features.

100-200m Radius

- 5.3.9 There are seven KHER entries for this area from the PDA. To the east is the Grade II listed St Mary's Roman Catholic Church on the opposite side of the Rochester Road. To the north was the site of the National School, demolished in 1960 (TQ 67 SE 16) and also the North Kent railway from 1849 (TQ 57 SE 277). The remaining records all relate to the second World War reflecting air raid shelters and air warden's posts.

200-300m Radius

- 5.3.10 There are six KHER entries for this area from the PDA. Aside from a George V pillar box there are a number of other modern records relating to the military. To the west of the PDA was a military hospital, with a drill hall nearby along with the site of anti-aircraft guns. To the east is the site of Denton Manor House (TQ 67 SE 233). What is unclear is the record relating to the Deserted Medieval Village of Denton mentioned in a publication in 1971, although no such evidence of the village has been seen on the ground (TQ 67 SE 55).

300-400m Radius

- 5.3.11 There are six KHER entries for this area from the PDA. Many are to the north of the PDA in what was an industrial area. This area included Gravesend Power Station (TQ 67 SE 206), demolished in 2004, and the town gasworks that moved here beside the canal basin for the importation of coal (TQ 67 SE 287). To the south was an air warden's post and the canal basin area was a decontamination centre and rescue unit base. At Waterton Avenue, to the north east, a watching brief identified 19th century remains (TQ 67 SE 1002) and there is a Grade II listed pillar box to the north west.

400-500m Radius

- 5.3.12 There are 16 KHER records for this area. 11 are from the Modern period, three of which are pillar boxes. There are more sites of air raid shelters, air warden's post, air raid siren site and Second World War feeding stations and to the north east the Protected Military Remains crash site of a Hurricane in 1940. To the west near the Milton Barracks was a Cold War control centre used from 1975-1985. To

the east was also a Mission Hall. To the north, is the actual Canal Basin from 1801 (TQ 67 SE 235), along with the canal (TQ 67 SE 20). To the west was the Milton Barracks built in 1860 (TQ 67 SE 1171). And to the south west, Parrock Hall, originally built in the early 18th century, it is now Grade II listed and residential flats. There is just one solitary Palaeolithic record being a handaxe of uncertain location and provenance (TQ 67 SE 279).

5.4 Archaeological and Historical Narrative

- 5.4.1 The CTRL excavations south of the A2 found evidence relating to the Palaeolithic and in particular on the southern boundary of the Northfleet parish, a trap pit was found containing part skeleton of a giant elephant: carbon dated 450,000 years old, surrounded by the undisturbed scatter of flint tools. At the time the Ebbsfleet Valley was a lush densely wooded tributary of the Thames containing a swamp. The CTRL excavations also found evidence in the prehistoric period for the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age activity. Archaeological evidence from the Bronze age onwards suggests Gravesend was attractive at the river's edge with the higher chalky ground. Environmental evidence suggests the area was agricultural in this period with woodland clearance.
- 5.4.2 The Iron Age activity was concentrated around the springs at Springhead and the area associated with a ritual landscape. There was a 500m 'processional way' from the river edge to the high point overlooking the springs and many votive offerings in the form of coins were found. It was perhaps a continuation from this period of the area's religious significance that attracted the Romans. Iron Age activity also extended eastwards from this area, where south west of Gravesend during the construction of the CTRL, an enclosed settlement area was established between dry valleys on the west facing hillside, which was in continued use into the late 1st century AD and other Iron Age features and structures. Circa 1km East of the PDA, Late Iron Age/Early Roman field boundaries have been seen.
- 5.4.3 In Roman times circa 3.3km to the south west of the PDA was the Roman town called Vagniaci since 56 AD situated at the river's source and the river was used to link Watlings Street to the River Thames. It was a posting station and an important religious centre based on the springs with a sanctuary complex

including a temple, ritual shaft in an area enclosed by a ditch. A large number of coins and brooches were found suggesting these were votive offerings. A second temple was also found close to Watling Street. Other properties were found lining Watling Street and along a branch road in the direction of the Roman villa at Northfleet. As well as residential properties, industry was also seen with an aisled barn, blacksmith forge, a baking, a possible brewing complex and crop dryers. At Pepperhill there was a major Roman cemetery with circa 600 burials. It was the Romans that first began to dig chalk from the area. Roman activity has also been seen in the area eastwards of the main settlement, to the area south, west of the PDA, with a cemetery containing high status cremations, lower status cremations and inhumations as well as enclosure ditches. In Gravesend itself, Roman activity just west of the centre of Gravesend, found ditches, possible masonry and wooden buildings and pottery dating from the mid first century to the fourth century and it is possible that this was a Roman port area connected to Springhead. To the south east of the PDA, at the village of Chalk there is also a Roman villa, suggesting that the entire landscape in and around Gravesend used by the Romans.

- 5.4.4 The original Anglo-Saxon name for the section of the route between Canterbury and London was Casingc Stræt or Key Street, a name still borne by a hamlet on the road near Sittingbourne. This section only later became considered part of Watling Street. The Roman town did not develop into an English settlement.
- 5.4.5 Cynedretha, Abbess of Cookham in Berkshire exchanged lands with Archbishop of Canterbury for the land of 10 families and a large holding in Northfleet. (From this time each successive Archbishop became Lord of the Manor of Northfleet, until the year 1538). In 975, nearby Northfleet as a manor was larger and more valuable than that of Gravesend. Gravesend in old English was 'aet paem grafes ende' meaning at the grove's end becoming the Gravesend spelling by 1232.
- 5.4.6 Recorded as Gravesham in the Domesday Book, Gravesend had only 12 households made up of four villagers and eight slaves. There was only land for four plough teams and a single church was the only other resource. Milton had its own entry which recorded 26 households, which was considered quite large for the time, with 4 ploughlands for three plough teams, a mill and one church. At

the time of the Conquest, it was owned by Earl Leofwin and given to Bishop Odo of Bayeux.

- 5.4.7 The parish boundary between Milton and Gravesham would have been established along the line now marked by the High Street and Windmill Street, separating the early parishes. Milton is a small parish of just a mile and a half north-south and quarter of a mile east-west to the east of Gravesend. Milton's name has origins as a 'mill farmstead' being 'myln tun' in old English. Recorded as Melantun on documentation in 975 AD. Nearly Denton refers to a 'valley farmstead'.
- 5.4.8 The southern part of the parish of Milton included Parrock Farm and the court lodge. After the disgrace of Bishop Odo, the Manor of Milton was passed to the Montchensie family. The manor changed hands many times. Parrock is a manor within Milton Parish, documentation refers to Robert de Parrock in 52nd reign of Henry III obtained a weekly Saturday market and a three-day fair on the day of St Edmunds.
- 5.4.9 The location of Gravesend is at a point where the higher land – the lowest point of the dip slope of the North Downs – reaches the river bank. To the east are the low-lying Shorne Marshes; to the west, beyond Northfleet and the Swanscombe Marshes. The settlement thus established because it was a good landing place: it was also sheltered by the prominent height of what is now called Windmill Hill, just south west of the PDA. The PDA itself appears to be formed on a spur of land.
- 5.4.10 The area is likely to have been cleared of woodland by the 11th century. By then it had been confined to small blocks usually confined to higher ground with acidic clay soil like nearby Shorne. Lime from Gravesend was used in the construction of Dover Castle in 1168 AD. Gravesend has one of the oldest surviving markets in the country. Its earliest charter dates from 1268, with town status being granted to the two parishes of Gravesend and Milton by King Henry III in its Charter of Incorporation of that year. Gravesend was the eastern terminus of the Long Ferry on the Thames from London, which was in existence prior to 1293. Travellers diverted away from the Roman road, using a newer road which passed much closer to Gravesend between Strood and Dartford.

- 5.4.11 Milton church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul dates back to the 14th century. Earlier than this it is believed that a church stood in Milton at least from Saxon times. A possible surviving remnant of an earlier church on this site is to be seen low down at the south west corner where a filled in arch is part of the present structure. However, this cannot confidently be regarded as part of the church existing here in 1086 and noted in Domesday Book.
- 5.4.12 Gravesend's location on the banks of the Thames, downstream from London made it a strategic location. On Gravesend's river front are the remains of a Tudor fort built by command of King Henry VIII in 1543, which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. In the Tudor period around 80% of English exports passed out of the river Thames. In addition, there were the important royal dockyards at Deptford and Woolwich to defend. In all, five blockhouses were built along the Thames including one on the northern side of the river at Tilbury and another at Milton, although Milton Blockhouse was demolished in 1557. The Gravesend Blockhouse was eventually demolished in 1844.
- 5.4.13 In 1673 Henry Child sold mansion and most of Parrock Farm to John Coosens of Cuxton. In 1761, Parrock Hall built by Peter Moulson, then Lord of the Manor of Milton.
- 5.4.14 By the Post Medieval period, Watling Street became a by-road and footpath between Park Corner, Swanscombe and Sandy Lane, Betham until the arterial road, the A2/M2 was opened in 1924 with a minor road diverting south via Betsham. Therefore, the road east out of Gravesend is likely to have passed that of the PDA, heading towards the village of Chalk and onwards to Rochester.
- 5.4.15 Journeys by road to Gravesend were historically quite hazardous, since the main London-Dover Road crossed Blackheath, notorious for its highwaymen. Stagecoaches from London to Canterbury, Dover and Faversham used Gravesend as one of their "stages" as did those coming north from Tonbridge. In 1840 there were 17 coaches picking up and setting down passengers and changing horses each way per day. As a result, Gravesend had a large number of inns to support this trade.
- 5.4.16 In 1815 the first steamboat started plying between Gravesend, Kent, and London, an event which was to bring much prosperity to the area. From its origins as a

landing place and shipping port, Gravesend gradually extended southwards and eastwards. In 1801 the population of Gravesend was 2,483. By 1891 this has reached 23,876. Better-off people from London visited the town during the summer months; at first by boat, and then by railway. More extensive building began after World War I, which increased further after World War II, when many of the housing estates in the locality were built. Northfleet became a town in 1874 and in 1974 it was merged with the Borough of Gravesend.

- 5.4.17 In 1824, the Thames and Medway Canal between Gravesend and Rochester was completed. By 1844 a railway east of the town was opened using the tunnel of the canal.
- 5.4.18 Much of the population was for Milton Parish, until about the 1840s scattered in rural farmhouses, country houses and cottages or those living along the east side of the High Street so not in Gravesend parish. The boundary between the two parishes is centred up Gravesend town High Street (which puts the old Town Hall in Milton, not Gravesend) then Windmill Street and Singlewell Road. Just as Northfleet developed to the west of Gravesend, censuses record this parish of Milton saw an almost fourfold increase in population between 1831 and 1901 (from 4,348 to 9,256, in 1851, to 15,534 in 1901). In 1914 the Parishes of Gravesend and Milton merged to form the Borough of Gravesend.
- 5.4.19 Although a great deal of the town's economy continued to be connected with maritime trade, since the 19th century, other major employers have been the cement and paper industries. It was an area famous for Gun Flint manufacturing as Flint is found in amongst the Chalk. The Springhead/Ebbsfleet Valley area was used for the growing of Watercress much of which was supplied to the London market. The area west of the town was used for market gardening with its good transport links to London by boats.
- 5.4.20 Milton Hall, located south of the PDA, was designed and built in 1874 for George Matthews Arnold (1826-1908 eight times Mayor of Gravesend) Mr Arnold was a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and a keen local historian. where He established to the north west of the main house a museum of local antiquities. Pine Avenue is broadly located where the drive was that led to the mansion. Pine trees flanked the drive; these were cut down in May 1984. The first house on the

west side, now much altered was the Lodge that still has the two Arnold lions (one from each gate pillar) in the front garden. In the back garden of what is now 30 Pine Avenue are the columns of the old Gravesend market, presented to G.M. Arnold in 1898 when the present market hall was erected. Bernard Arnold, his only surviving son, occupied the house from his father's death in 1908 until his own death in 1925. In the 1930s, Milton Hall was a ruin and demolished was demolished.

- 5.4.21 In 1911, part of the Arnold Museum collection was auctioned. Gravesend Corporation declined to provide a museum for the collection, but Gravesend Public Library Committee accepted the offer of some of the items, which subsequently formed the basis for the Gravesend Museum.
- 5.4.22 From 1932 to 1956, an airport was located to the east of Gravesend. It began as a civilian airfield, but during World War II it became a Royal Air Force fighter station, RAF Gravesend, and so Gravesend was heavily bombed by the Luftwaffe and accounts for the significant number of support infrastructure of air raid shelters, warden's posts required in a heavily populated area. In 1956 the site was taken over by Gravesend Town Council; a large housing estate known as Riverview Park was built on its site. On Friday, 16 August 1941 150 German aircraft flew through over Kent. The formation split and a group dropped about 106 bombs ranging from 50–250 kilos over the town. The bombs killed 29 people, injured 27, and badly damaged two schools.
- 5.4.23 Gravesend Grammar School was opened by Princess Beatrice of Battenberg, youngest daughter of Queen Victoria, on 19 July 1893. The school was originally based in Darnley Road, Gravesend and later moved to grounds of Milton Hall in the 1930s becoming the new County School for Boys.
- 5.4.24 Two bombs fell on the east side of the County School for Boys and caused extensive damage to the school and also to the "Prince of Wales" public house, Denton Post Office and the Co-op Stores. The school building was partly rebuilt after being bombed during World War II. A second bomb landed in the playing fields but failed to detonate.
- 5.4.25 A second school building, known as the Centenary Building, was built in 1993 to commemorate the school's 100th year and currently houses facilities including

multiple computer facilities and chemistry labs, which is located at the southern end of the school, attached to the original County School building.

5.4.26 In 1993, the original sport hall was built. In 2007, the 2 storey, eight blocks of classrooms were added to the area north of the quad building. In July 2009 a new sports centre was opened, adjacent to the sports hall, and named the Sanderson Sports Centre. The swimming pool located in this area was demolished and the area converted to car parking. In 2013 the main school and the Centenary Building were linked by a new building containing eight new classrooms including a large art room and a lecture theatre. In 2016, a new music block was opened opposite a computer facility.

5.4.27 Over the years the school has been known under a number of various different names. These are as follows

1893–1898: The Gravesend Municipal Technical School

1898–1904: The Gravesend Municipal Day School

1904–1914: The Gravesend County Day School

1914–1946: The County School for Boys, Gravesend

1946–1967: The Gravesend Grammar School for Boys

1967–1982: The Gravesend School for Boys

1982–1999: Gravesend Grammar School for Boys

1999–present: Gravesend Grammar School

5.5 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

Andrews, Dury and Herbert map of 1769

5.5.1 Andrews, Dury and Herbert published their atlas some thirty years before the Ordnance Survey, immediately becoming the best large-scale maps of the county. This shows a sparsely populated area around the PDA and there is no indication as to why the road would curve round the top of the PDA rather than continuing straight. It is possible that it was historically respecting a feature from prehistory. The area south of the PDA shows two houses. Milton Court Lodge, a farmstead and Paddock. North of the PDA is the church of St Peter and St Paul and to the east, St Mary's Catholic church, in ruins at this point. The parish

boundary runs alongside the PDA to the east along what is known as Milton Road East and Rochester Way. To the east in the parish of Denton, the map remarks that it is in ruins. To the south west are images of windmills and this is in the area known as Windmill Hill. The centre of Gravesend is to the north west. Far, north and north east, the area is marsh (Fig. 3).

Hasted, 1798

- 5.5.2 The area is still sparsely populated and the locations of roads and houses not dissimilar to the map above, although there is no mention of Milton Court Lodge or the Roman Catholic church (Fig. 4).

Tithe Map, 1840

- 5.5.3 North in this map is to the right. The PDA is predominately located within a field designated No 55. The landowner is Alexander Raphael and occupied by Thomas Colyer who farmed Parrock Farm. The field is arable. The majority of the eastern boundary follows that of the parish boundary. The area around the PDA is essentially farmland also belonging to Parrock Farm, of which Parrock House can be seen to the south west of the PDA. To the far north the canal has been built (Fig. 5).

Historic OS Map, 1863-65

- 5.5.4 This is the first properly scaled OS map. The PDA is still farmland belonging to Parrock Farm. From Parrock House a lane has been created to take the family north to the parish church. Opposite the church on the north west corner of the PDA is the Rectory. North west of The Rectory is the National School. East of the church, terraced houses have been built called Elizabeth Place and Milton Villas. Within the eastern side of the PDA are a couple of small houses. East of Rochester Way is Denton Court and Denton Farm. The area around is very rural (Fig. 6).

Historic OS map 1895

- 5.5.5 By 1895, there have been significant changes. To the south of the PDA, Milton House has been built and the area north of the house in which the PDA sits is pasture which is divided into a number of areas. The access to Milton House is from the south. At the southern end of the PDA is a large square building of unknown purpose. Just beyond the south east corner are a number of buildings thought to be part of the farm area for Milton Hall. The area to the north around

the parish church is increasingly urbanised and the line of the railway can be seen. To the far west, farmland has been replaced with Milton Barracks, along with the hospital and Drill Hall. To the north west the national school has a new larger building in the site (Fig. 7).

Historic OS map 1907

5.5.6 Within the PDA at the southern end the square building has been greatly extended and is now called the George Arnold Museum. By the south eastern boundary corner there are also more buildings, which make up the farmstead area of Milton Farm, just north of Milton Hall itself. Aside the eastern boundary, there is a new building labelled Milton Hall Dairy. It is also at this time that Parrock Hall and farm just of the map to the south west has been replaced by housing. To the east the site of St Mary's Church, which had been in ruins had been rebuilt and now called St Mary's Roman Catholic Church (Fig. 8).

Historic OS map 1933

5.5.7 There have been significant changes. Milton Hall and the associated farmstead are no longer. Only the dairy building aside the eastern boundary survives. Within the PDA, at the southern end is now a new building labelled County School. South of this area the museum buildings appear to have been demolished. However, there is a building remaining, but it is unclear if this is a new building of a part remaining from the museum. The rest of the PDA are playing fields for the school and includes a pavilion. The area west of the school has become a sports ground (Fig.9).

Historic OS map 1936-1937

5.5.8 The quad building at the school has been built. To the south Milton Road and Pine Avenue, the remnants of the drive way that served Milton Hall has begun to have housing plots built on the land. To the east Denton Court House has been demolished and a number of houses are being built in the area. Denton Farm buildings still remain (Fig.10).

Historic OS map 1961

- 5.5.9 A number of other buildings have been built within the school including two new buildings at the far south west corner. The north eastern part of the quadrangle building at the school is blank in the area where the Second World War bomb destroyed that part of the building. Aside the eastern boundary, south of the Milton Dairy Hall, which is no longer labelled as such, is a couple of new school buildings relating to a separate school which became St John's Roman Catholic School. All the houses on Pine Avenue and Milton Hall Road have now been built. To the east there has been more housing estates built around Denton Farm (Fig.11).

5.6 Aerial Photographs

1940s

- 5.6.1 The photograph shows the original country school building and the quad building. Below the original school building at the south west corner is a T shaped building and a couple of other buildings along the western boundary. These are not seen on the 1936-1937 map, suggesting that they were erected sometime in the 1940s, most likely after the war. In addition, this aerial photograph shows the missing north eastern part of the quadrangle building that was destroyed by a bomb in 1940. North of the quad building is an allotment area and further allotment area are at the north eastern end of the playing fields. On the eastern side is the dairy building and to the south are the residential houses of Milton Hall Avenue and Pine Avenue, although not all plots are filled with houses, with some areas as allotments. The area of the original Milton Hall appears to be scrub. To the west is the sports ground with more allotments surrounding it. The far western side the hospital building can be seen (Plate 1).

1960s

- 5.6.2 There is little change at the PDA except for an infill on another building at the south western corner of the school. To the east, the dairy building has been demolished, to be replaced by a few residential plots South of that now has primary school buildings. To the south, all the houses in Pine Avenue and Milton Hall Road have been built (Plate 2).

1990

5.6.3 North west of the quad building, the sports hall has been built (Plate 3).

2003

5.6.4 The sports hall has been replaced and a swimming pool added west of it. Surrounding these building are a number of mobile classrooms. The original county school building, south of the quad has been extended for a science and technology block on its eastern side (Plate 4).

2013

5.6.5 The quad building and the science block have been joined together by a new building. The swimming pool has been demolished and the sports hall extended northwards. North of the quad building is a block of mobile classrooms (Plate 5).

2018

5.6.6 There appears to be no change (Plate 6).

LIDAR

5.6.7 The LIDAR map shows that along the western side of the PDA, there is very little area that is not disturbed. In the wider area, to the north east of the playing field, the LIDAR suggests that there could be the remains of a large area that is a dip in the playing fields. It is not clear what has caused the dip nor why the area was not levelled like the rest of the playing field. Map regression does not suggest that this is an historic pit (Plate 7).

5.7 Walkover Survey

5.7.1 The walkover survey is not intended as a detailed survey but the rapid identification of archaeological features and any evidence for buried archaeology in the form of surface scatters of lithic or pottery artefacts. The walkover survey was undertaken on the 30th of July 2019. No artefacts or archaeological features were identified in the walkover other than the site of the air raid shelter. None of the buildings were investigated internally (Plates 8-9).

- 5.7.2 The site of the proposed development for a MUGA is just to the east of the northern car parking area. The area is currently part of the playing field and is level ground and is grass.

5.8 Summary of Potential

Palaeolithic

- 5.8.1 The Palaeolithic period represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. In the wider area one record (TQ 67 SW 435) refers to the find of two Palaeolithic handaxes from the Windmill Hill area, west, south west of the PDA, whilst the second record refers to large number of Palaeolithic artefacts attributed to the general Gravesend area (TQ 67 SW 436). In the wider Gravesend area, significant Palaeolithic activity has been noted to the south west of Gravesend in Ebbsfleet Valley. It is possible that during this period due to the changing path of the Thames, Gravesend was in fact underwater at this point in time. The lack of prehistoric archaeology within the assessment area itself may be due to lack of excavation opportunity in the area rather than lack of archaeological remains. However, it was likely in this period that the area was heavily wooded and not prone to settlement. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Mesolithic

- 5.8.2 The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. In the wider area Earlier Mesolithic sites are recorded at Springhead and Swanscombe and also to the west of the PDA in the area of the Sensory Garden that had Mesolithic flints (TQ 67 SW 640). It was suggested that the flints found were produced over a long period of time and mixed as a result of colluvial action. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site cannot be discounted but is considered **low**.

Neolithic

5.8.3 The Neolithic period was the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. A small number of Neolithic artefacts have been found in antiquity in the wider Gravesend area but given the poor provenance and archaeological records for this period, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Bronze Age

5.8.4 The Bronze Age was a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area although in the wider area Bronze Age flints have been found to the west in the area of Gravesend Community Hospital (TQ 67 SW 373). There is little evidence that the study area itself was settled in the Bronze Age. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Iron Age

5.8.5 The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres (the Iron Age 'Tribal capital' or civitas of the Cantiaci). The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. Across the wider Gravesend area, a number of Iron Age settlements have been found including a religious site at Springhead. However, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Romano-British

5.8.6 The Romano-British period is the term given to the Romanised culture of Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire, following the Claudian invasion in AD 43, Britain then formed part of the Roman Empire for nearly 400 years. The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area, with Roman activity seen to the west of the PDA closer towards and slightly west of the centre of Gravesend. Given the significant Roman complex at nearby Springhead in the

Ebbsfleet Valley, and the Roman Road of Watling Street which passed to the south of Gravesend, it is possible that that Gravesend was an important area in the Roman period supporting the much larger settlement to the south west of the town, perhaps as a port. However, in the area of the PDA, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is still considered **low**.

Anglo-Saxon

- 5.8.7 The Kent HER has no records from this period within the assessment area. The potential Anglo-Saxon activity area by the church is considered to be further north. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Medieval

- 5.8.8 By this period the number of Kent HER records start to rise which is unsurprising given Gravesend's Medieval origins as a town (Fig.15). The Kent HER has three records from this period. In the wider area excavations in the High Street area has uncovered Medieval evidence of pits and the Blockhouse fortification at the outer edges of the assessment area that is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Milton church was initially thought to be at St Mary's, just east of the PDA, which is Grade II listed. Originally it fell into ruins, it was restored in the early 20th century. The St Peter and St Paul parish church built in the 14th century and is thought to have replaced St Mary's as the parish church although it does not appear that a settlement started around the church although within the parish was Parrock Manor. There is a Medieval record for Denton having been a deserted Medieval village although this has yet to be proven. Map regression suggests that the area of the PDA in this period was outside of the main town area and was agricultural in the Post Medieval period and this probably applies to the earlier Medieval period as well. Milton Road East and the Rochester Road was likely to have been the main road east out of Gravesend heading towards Rochester in this period, although it is not clear why the road curves around rather than continuing is a straight line across the PDA. The potential for finding remains that date to this period cannot be entirely discounted within the confines of the development site but is considered **low**.

Post Medieval

5.8.9 The Kent HER has 13 records from this period (Fig.16). Parrock Hall to the south west of the PDA is Grade II listed, built in the early 18th century, although there has been a manor here centuries before. To the far north, the canal and its basin was opened in 1801. Map regression suggests the area in this period was still mainly agricultural with scattered farms. Denton Farm was to the east of the PDA, with nearby Denton Manor House. In addition, there was also a Farmstead at Milton Hall, although there is no separate KHER record for that of Milton Hall itself, which was built in 1874 and the nearby location of the Museum of Antiquities, which potentially seems to fall into the southern part of the PDA, slightly overlapping the area of the current canteen (Plate 8) and away from the area of the proposed development. The land of the proposed canteen itself remained agricultural and belonged to that of Parrock Farm although later it may have transferred to the ownership of Milton Hall Farm once Milton Hall had been built. The agricultural usage of the land appears to have been confirmed by the stratigraphy of the 2008 watching brief. It was only in the second half of the 19th century that this area of Gravesend began to be urbanised with housing and associated services such as railways, tramways, gasworks and the National School. To the west the Milton Barracks were constructed with a Territorial Army Drill Hall by the late 19th century. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Modern

5.8.10 KHER has 25 records dating to this period within the assessment area (Fig.17). Most of them being monument records relating to the Second World War where there are locations of air raid shelters, Air Raid Wardens Posts, emergency feeding centres, and also the 1940 crash site of a Hurricane. By the 1930s the museum had gone, as had Milton Hall, with the land of the PDA used for a new County School, with the main building located at the south western part of the site. During the 20th century, there have been significant changes at the school with a large number of new buildings and others, demolished and replaced. Map regression and the site visit confirms many of the modern buildings, particularly those in the southern part of the site are extent and known. The potential for finding unknown remains dating to this period in the PDA is considered **low**.

Overview

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

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

- Prehistoric: **low**

- Iron Age: **low**

- Roman: **low**

- Anglo-Saxon: **low**

- Medieval: **low**

- Post-Medieval: **low**

- Modern: **low**

6 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

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

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

6.2 Historic Impacts

6.2.1 Cartographic regression (5.5), Topographic analysis (1.2) and Historical research (5.4) indicate that the PDA was agricultural land until the later part of the 19th century when the south western area of the school was partly covered by the George Arnold Museum. It was not until the 1930s that the land that belonged to the demolished Milton Hall was utilised for a new school site for a school that had been founded by George Arnold. The original school building remains in use. Shortly after the construction of the main school building, to the north, the quadrangle block was built with further school buildings to the south and also to the north of the main building with the swimming pool and ports hall. However, it appears that the area of the proposed MUGA does not appear to have been built on and at the northern end of the Site, does not appear to have undergone

any levelling. Therefore the area of the proposed MUGA is likely to have had a historical **low** impact upon any potential archaeology.

- 6.2.2 The MUGA with its associated fencing, earthworks, landscaping and floodlighting will cause a **medium/high** impact to the area on any potential archaeological remains.

7 SIGNIFICANCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Archaeological Significance is assessed under a number of criteria, which includes, Period, Rarity, Group Value, Survival/Condition, Fragility/Vulnerability, Diversity and Potential. These criteria are the same as used by the Government in the scheduling of ancient monuments and provide a useful framework in assessing significance and also pulls together and summarises the findings in the report.

7.2 Significance Criteria

Period

7.2.1 The PDA seems to have been away from main settlement areas having been a rural area until the mid-19th century. There is very little below ground archaeology in the assessment area. Activity from the Medieval period reduces as the area appears to be agricultural and outside of the main settlement area of Gravesend. The settlement of Milton and Denton appear to be more to the north and east respectively. The PDA was not built onto until the museum of antiquities in the latter part of the 19th century in the far south western corner, to be replaced by a school in the 1930s.

Rarity

7.2.2 The potential archaeology is not considered rare.

Documentation

7.2.3 The historical and landscape development of the PDA can be understood reasonably well from the cartographic, photographic and other sources from the Post Medieval period onwards.

Group Value

7.2.4 There is little potential for any group value.

Survival / Condition

7.2.5 The historical research suggests that aside of the museum, the majority of the PDA was agricultural land until the 1930s when the County School was built. In

the area of the proposed MUGA, it does not appear to have been built on at all nor subject to made ground or levelling.

Fragility / Vulnerability

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

Diversity

- 7.2.7 There is not the potential for archaeology from a diverse number of periods.

Potential

- 7.2.8 The overall archaeological potential is considered low for all other periods. Previous excavations to the east at St John's Roman Catholic School and in the area of the sports hall at the PDA along with recent watching briefs did not reveal any archaeology of any significance.

Significance

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

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 The purpose of this archaeological desk-based assessment was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record in order to determine the potential survival of archaeological deposits that may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.
- 8.1.2 The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of low archaeological potential. However, it is possible that previous archaeological events at the school have not revealed any archaeology due to earlier disturbances associated with the school. The proposed development is in an area not thought to be historically disturbed. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities.

9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 Archive

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

9.2 Reliability/Limitations of Sources

- 9.2.1 The sources that were used in this assessment were, in general, of high quality. The majority of the information provided herewith has been gained from either published texts or archaeological 'grey' literature held at 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 Baxall Construction (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

Paul Wilkinson PhD MCIfA.

SWAT Archaeology

December 2021

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Proposed New MUGA Development at Gravesend Grammar School, Church Walk, Gravesend, Kent
 Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment



Figure 1: Location Maps: Scale 1:640,000, 1:20,000, 1:2,500



Figure 3: Andrew, Dury and Herbert Map from 1769

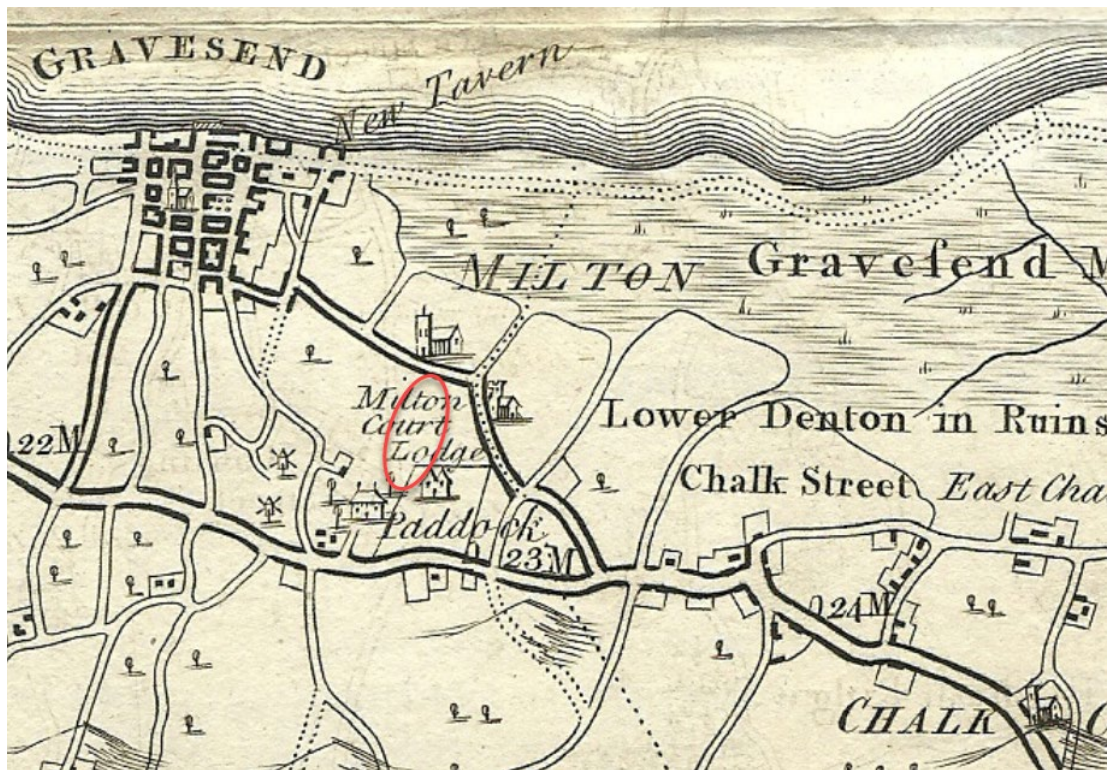


Figure 4: Hasted, 1798



Figure 5: 1840 Milton Next Gravesend Tithe Map

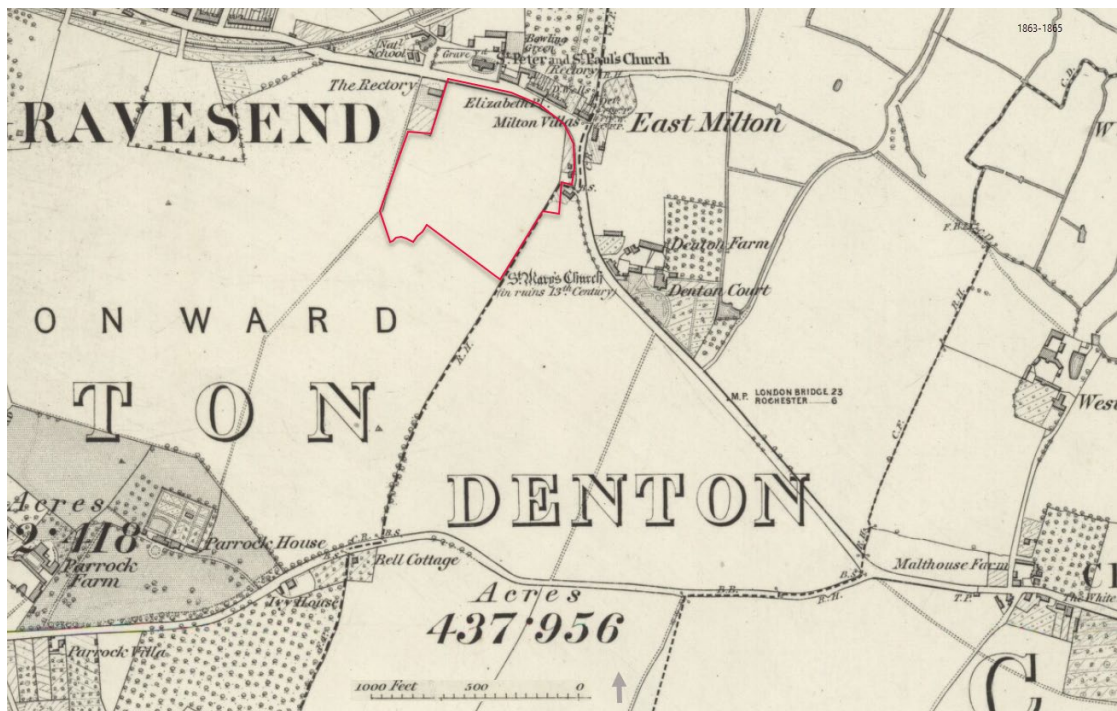


Figure 6: Historic OS Map 1863-1865



Figure 7: Historic OS Map from 1895

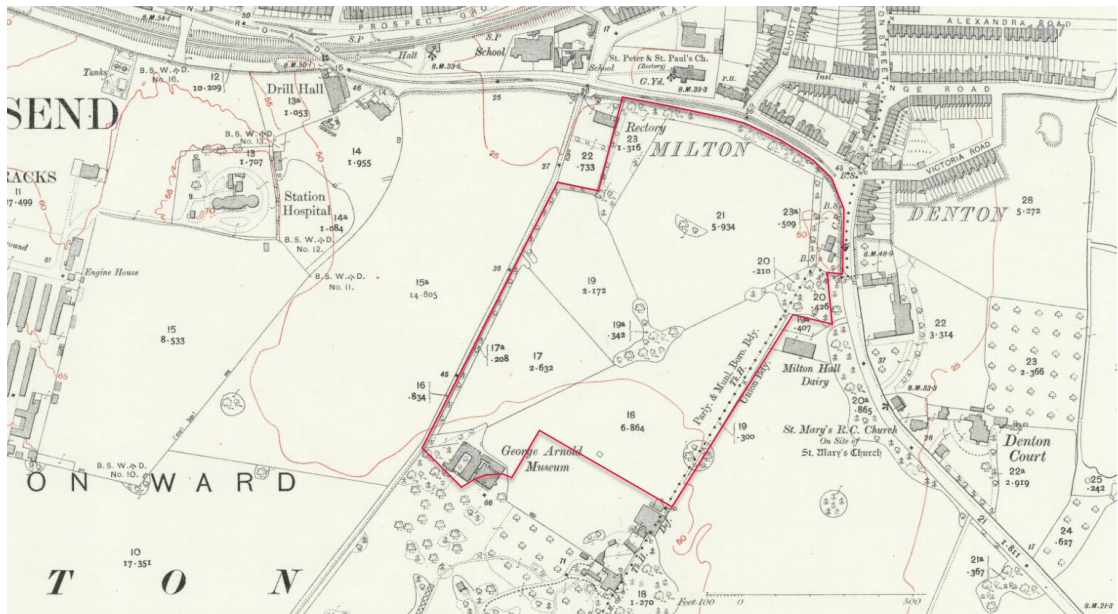


Figure 8: Historic OS Map 1907

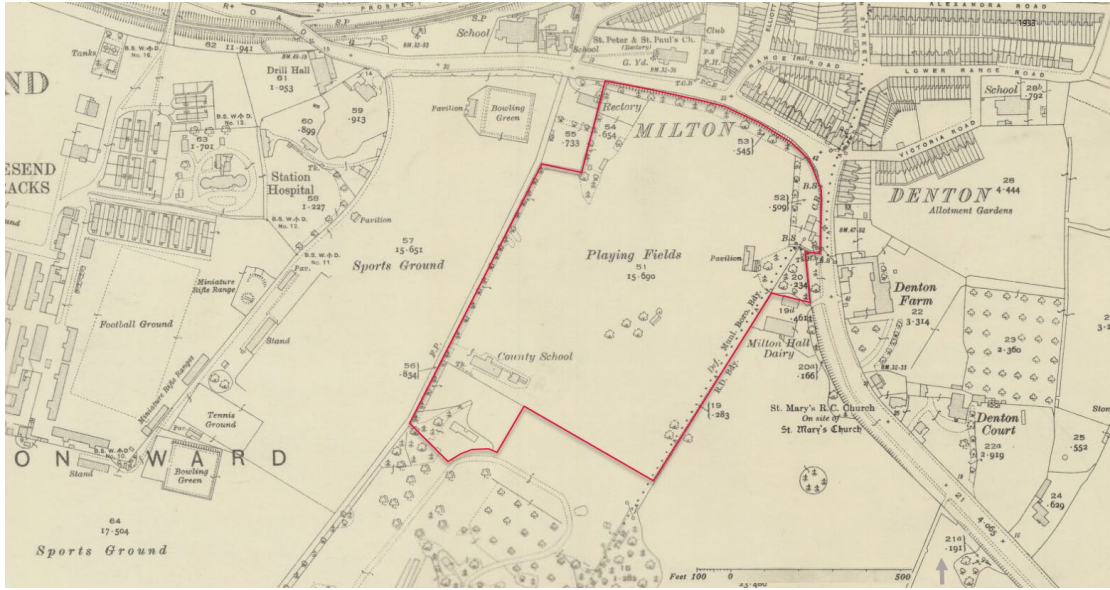


Figure 9: Historic OS Map 1933

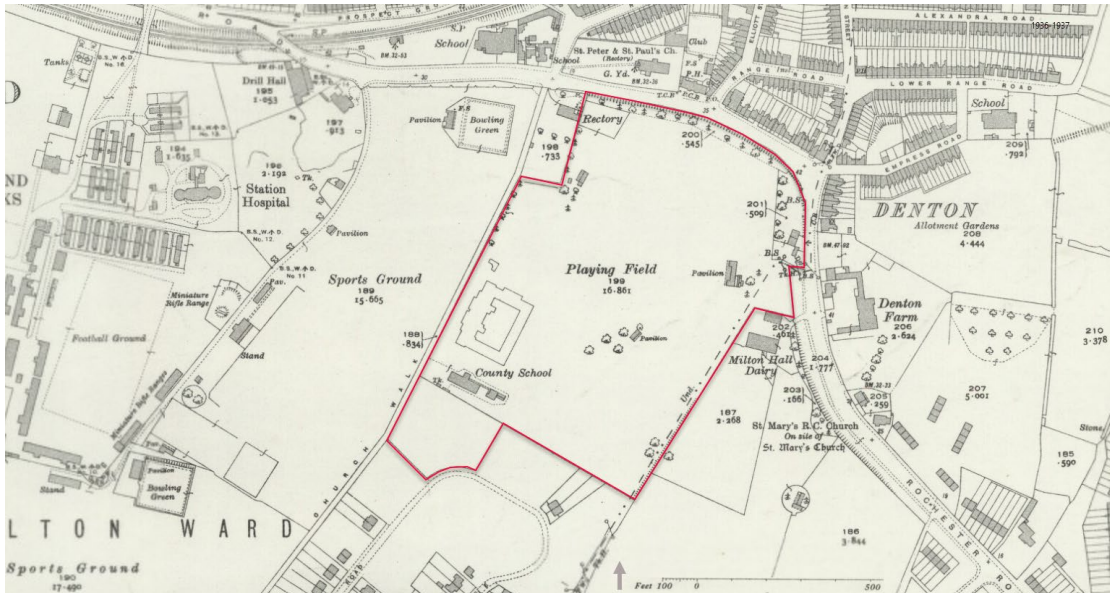


Figure 10: Historic OS Map 1936-1937

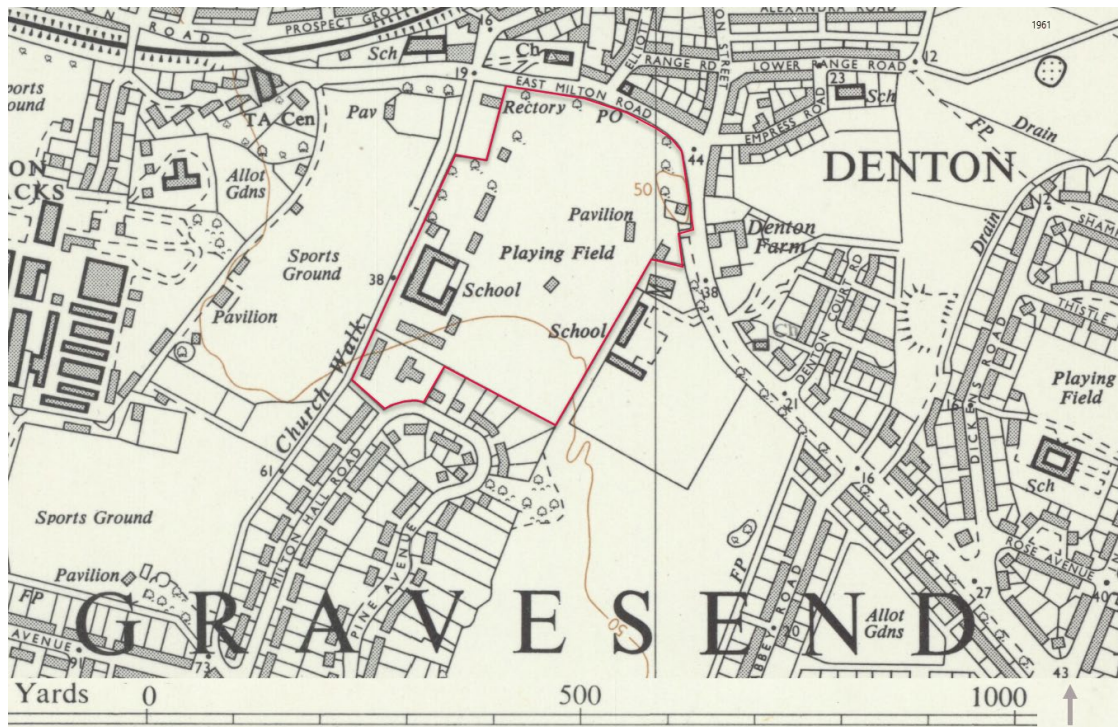


Figure 11: Historic OS Map 1961

11 APPENDIX 1 – KCC HER DATA (SEE FIGURES 12-19). ALL DISTANCES TAKEN FROM THE PDA BOUNDARIES

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
	HLC			The PDA is in the eastern part of an area characterised by KCC Historic Landscape Characterisation of 'Post 1810 Settlement (general)'. Immediately north is a small area by St Peter and St Paul's church of 'Town and city- 1810 extent'
TQ 67 SE 206	Monument	c. 320m N	Modern	Gravesend Power Station. Electricity generating station near Thames & Medway Canal basin built 1902-3. Further construction took place between 1906 and 1920. It became a research station in c.1970 and was finally demolished in March 2004.
TQ 67 SE 55	Monument	c. 280m NW	Medieval	Denton deserted medieval village. Maurice Beresford and J.G.Hurst eds. Deserted Medieval Villages, 1971, lists 69 places for Kent in their County Gazetteers of Deserted Medieval Villages. In most cases there is nothing to prove that there was a village at the sites in question. A deserted church site or isolated church certainly does not prove the existence of a deserted village.
TQ 67 SE 235	Listed Building	c. 400m NNW	Post Medieval to Modern	Gravesend Canal Basin. By the end of 1801 four miles of the canal had been constructed and the canal basin. The basin was 750 ft long by 150 ft wide. The entrance lock and eastern half of the basin had brick walls, while the western half had timber camp shedding or nothing at all. The eastern half was also deeper. Originally the lock gates were made of wood, but had been eaten away so badly by 1819 that they had to be replaced by iron gates.
TQ 67 SE 1063	Listed Building	c. 440m SW	Post Medieval	Parrock Hall. Grade II listed (1054775). Now flats. This was probably the former manor house of Milton Manor. Early C18. Consists of a centre portion of 2 parallel ranges and 3 storeys with 5 windows

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
				and recessed wings of 2 storeys and 2 windows each. Red brick. Hipped slate roof with parapet and modillion cornice. Most glazing bars intact. Doorcase in moulded architrave surround with pediment over supported on console brackets.
TQ 67 SE 1100	Listed Building	c. 180m E	Medieval to Modern	St Marys Roman Catholic Church, Denton. Grade II listed (1089037). This was the original Parish Church of Denton before the present Parish Church was built in the C14. It is C12 -C13. It fell into ruins at the Reformation and was restored in 1901. It was opened as a Roman Catholic Church in 1940. Built of flints with a tiled roof. Little mediaeval work visible outside.
TQ 67 SE 1132	Listed Building	c. 40m N	Medieval to Post Medieval	Church of St Peter and St Paul, East Milton Road, Gravesend. Grade II* (1341484). C14 in origin. Built of stone and flint. Crenelated tower in 3 stages with buttresses. The slate roof with wide bracket eaves and pediment to the east front dates from 1790. The church was further restored in 1852 and 1863. It is a long narrow building with galleries on the north and west sides of the Nave. These and the alter-piece were inserted in 1819.
TQ 67 SE 1067	Listed Building	c. 300m NW	Post Medieval to Modern	Pillar Box at the Junction of Norfolk Road and St John's Road. Grade II listed (1341486). 1856-60. A fluted pillar box with vertical posting aperture. Conical cap and moulded base.
TQ 67 SE 287	Monument	c. 345m N	Post Medieval to Modern	Gravesend Gasworks. Gasworks were moved to this site from a site in the west of the town to avoid river dues on coal and to be adjacent to the Canal basin of the Thames and Medway canal. Had a retort house, gasometers and a tramway. Appears on the OS 25"maps 1st to 4th editions.
TQ 67 SE 1221	Monument	c. 370m S	Modern	Pine Avenue Second World War Air Raid Wardens Post, Gravesend. Second World War air raid wardens post at the junction of Pine Avenue and Church Walk, with Old Road East, Gravesend. One of a network of such posts to serve Gravesend. Design and form

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
				unknown. Built 1939, decommissioned 1945 and probably removed by 1947.
TQ 67 SE 1212	Building	c. 475m NW	Modern	Gordon (now Chantry) School Second World War Emergency Feeding Centre, Ordnance Road, Gravesend. Second World War Emergency Feeding Centre within the Gordon (now Chantry) School, Ordnance Road, Gravesend. This facility for the feeding of any bombed-out local residents, began at least as early as 1942 (and probably in 1941). Its details are unknown. Decommissioning would have occurred in 1945. The school building survives.
TQ 67 SE 1157	Monument	c. 170m NW	Modern	East Milton Road Second World War air raid wardens post, Gravesend. Second World War air raid wardens post on the south side of East Milton Road, Gravesend. This was built as one of a network of such posts to serve Gravesend. Of uncertain design, it was built in 1939, decommissioned in 1945 and probably demolished c. 1948.
TQ 67 SE 1232	Monument	c. 160m E	Modern	Rochester Road Second World War air raid wardens post, Gravesend. Second World War air raid wardens post on the south side of Rochester Road, Gravesend, next to the entrance to the later St. John's School. Of rectangular plan, built of brick with a flat concrete roof, it probably originated in 1940, as part of a network of such posts serving Gravesend, to be decommissioned in 1945 and demolished in 2003.
TQ 67 SE 1224	Building	c. 530m W	Modern	Milton Barracks Cold War reserve Thames navigation control Gravesend. Cold War reserve Thames navigation service control centre, in the 19th century Old Armoury building, Armoury Drive, Milton Barracks, Gravesend. It was so used from about 1975-1985 and involved modest adaptation of one of its larger rooms. The building survives as a teaching facility for special needs children and young adults.

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
TQ 67 SE 1164	Monument	c. 415m N	Modern	Canal Road Second World War air raid wardens post, Gravesend. Second World War air raid wardens post some 80m south of Canal Road, Gravesend, one of a network of such posts serving Gravesend. Its design and form are unknown. It was probably built in 1939, to be decommissioned by 1945 and demolished post-war.
TQ 67 SE 1163	Monument	c. 415m N	Modern	Suffolk Road Second World War air raid siren, Gravesend. Second World War air raid siren in the NE angle of the junction of Suffolk and Canal Roads, Gravesend. No other details are known. It probably originated in 1939, to be decommissioned by 1945 and probably removed by 1946.
TQ 67 SE 1208	Building	c. 110m N	Modern	Norfolk Road Second World War tunnel air raid shelter, Gravesend. Second World War public air raid shelter for 46 people established in 1939 in an existing pedestrian tunnel connecting Norfolk and Raphael Roads which passes under a railway line. The nature of adaptations is unknown but is likely to have included blast walls at either end. It would have been decommissioned by 1945 and any adaptations speedily removed. The tunnel continues in use as a footway.
TQ 67 SE 1204	Monument	c. 170m W	Modern	Ellerslie Second World War air raid wardens post, Milton Road, Gravesend, Kent. Second World War temporary air raid wardens post at a large Victorian house called Ellerslie, on the south side of Milton Road, Gravesend. It is referred to in a document of October 1939 and then disappeared from mention. No other details are known.
TQ 67 SE 1211	Monument	c. 370m NW	Modern	Canal Basin Council depot Second World War decontamination centre and rescue unit base, Canal Road, Gravesend, Kent. Second World War decontamination centre and rescue unit base at the former Gravesend Council depot on the south side of Canal Road, Gravesend. The decontamination centre building, of unknown design, was under construction by May, 1939. Other existing council

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
				buildings - of mainly single storey types - were utilised for the basing of mobile rescue units and first aid parties. The depot appears to have remained in use for civil defence purposes until 1945, and then resumed normal civilian council functions. The buildings of the depot were demolished in phases from the 1980s onwards and nothing remains of the civil defence past of the site which is now (in 2007) being overbuilt with private apartments.
TQ 67 SE 1229	Building	c. 490m ESE	Modern	Northcourt School Second World War Emergency Feeding Centre, Dickens Road, Denton near Gravesend. Second World War Emergency Feeding Centre at Northcourt School off Dickens Road, Denton near Gravesend. This designation originated in March 1941. The then recently constructed school was provided with pre-positioned boilers, crockery and cutlery to provide cooking and food dispensing facilities for any people who were made homeless or who were without a kitchen as a result of damage from an air raid. The part of the premises so used is not known. This function probably continued until 1945. The school still exists.
TQ 67 SE 1173	Monument	c. 200m W	Post Medieval to Modern	Milton Road Territorial Army drill hall, Gravesend. Territorial Army drill hall established in the south side of Milton Road in Gravesend. This was a rectangular corrugated iron structure with a pitched roof. It originated in the 1890s for the use of the Kent Artillery Volunteers, continued in use for Territorial Army training until after the Second World War and was taken over by the Sea Cadet Corps in the 1970s, to be demolished for housing in the 1980s.
TQ 67 SE 1171	Monument	c. 545m W	Post Medieval to Modern	Milton Barracks, Wellington Street, Gravesend, Kent. 20th century use of Milton Barracks built in the 1860s off, and entered from, Wellington Street Gravesend. Its rectangular brick-walled enclosure contained 20 single-storey brick barrack blocks, an armoury and officers mess in the south half of the site, and an open space and

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
				playing fields to the north, which gained a new hospital in about 1870 and, in the 20th century.
TQ 67 SE 292	Crash Site (PMR)	c. 490m NE	Modern	Crash site of Hawker Hurricane V6550. It crashed into Barton's Timber Wharf, Albion Place, Gravesend at approximately 1pm on 15th October 1940.
TQ 67 SE 317	Building	c. 460m SE	Modern	George V pillar box, Colonial PH, Rochester Road
TQ 67 SE 306	Building	c. 200m NE	Modern	George V pillar box, Waterton Avenue / Denton Street
TQ 67 SE 320	Building	c. 15m NE	Modern	George VI pillar box, PO, East Milton Road, Denton
TQ 67 SE 353	Building	c. 410m S	Modern	George VI pillar box, Milton Hall, Old West Road / Pine Avenue
TQ 67 SE 319	Building	c. 440m SE	Modern	George VI pillar box, Old Road East / Valley Drive
MKE84322	Farmstead	c. 60m S	Post Medieval	Farmstead at Milton Hall. A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to two sides of the yard. Farmhouse detached in central position. Located within a park. Farmstead completely demolished.
MKE84323	Farmstead	c. 40m E	Post Medieval	Denton Farm. A regular U-plan courtyard farmstead. Farmhouse attached to agricultural range. Located within a village. Only the farmhouse remains.
TQ 67 SE 340	Building	Within PDA	Modern	Gravesend Grammar School Second World War air raid shelter, Church Walk, Gravesend. Second World War brick surface air raid shelter at Gravesend Grammar School at side of Church Walk, Gravesend, Kent. It is about 15 x 5 m with a flat concrete roof, with one long side wall removed. Built probably 1940 and

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
				decommissioned at the end of the Second World War in Europe in 1945.
TQ 67 SE 341	Building	c. 430m SW	Modern	16 Parrock Avenue Second World War air raid shelter, Gravesend. Second World War (or perhaps Munich Crisis) private underground air raid shelter. Built by then owner ER Chapman at the end of his rear garden at 16 Parrock Avenue, Gravesend, Kent. It is a 2 x 2m brick walled chamber with a flat concrete roof and a poured concrete floor, reached down concrete steps with a right-angled turn at their bottom. Within are elements of its bunk beds. It would have been decommissioned in 1945.
TQ 67 SE 223	Monument	c. 220m E	Post Medieval	Site of Denton Manor House. Buildings existed on this site until 1895. It is unclear if any part of the old Manor survived recent development.
TQ 67 SE 1248	Monument	c. 260m W	Modern	Military Hospital, Milton Barracks, Gravesend. Site of former Military Hospital, Milton Barracks, used as Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) Hospital during World War 1. Site re-developed for housing in 1980's.
TQ 67 SE 383	Listed Building	c. 20m N	Modern to Unknown	Milton War Memorial. First World War memorial unveiled on 8 April 1923.

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
TQ 67 SE 1002	Monument	c. 300m NE	Modern	19th century remains at Waterton Avenue. A watching brief on groundworks prior to house construction recorded compacted late 19th century rubbish across the entire site to a depth of 1.1m.
TQ 67 SE 279	Findspot	c. 520m SE	Lower Palaeolithic to Middle Palaeolithic	Palaeolithic handaxe and a possible flake-tool from Chalk, Gravesend. Uncertain location and provenance.
TQ 67 SE 1	Building	c. 480m E	Modern	Mission Hall, Dickens Road, Denton, Gravesham. First appears on the Ordnance Survey map 1929-1952 and on the 1946 aerial photograph.
TQ 67 SE 16	Monument	c. 155m N	Post Medieval	Site of the National School, Raphael Road, Gravesend. The building is shown on the Ordnance Survey map 1862-1875. Later as a school until c.1960 when it was demolished.
TQ 67 SE 1209	Monument	c. 280m NE	Modern	Denton Heavy anti-aircraft battery, Mark Lane, Denton, Gravesend, Kent. Second World War heavy anti-aircraft battery for 4 x 4.5-in. guns in a field south of the North Kent railway and east of Mark Lane at Denton, Gravesend. It formed part of the Thames South grouping of anti-aircraft gun defences. Built in 1938, it consisted of four standard octagonal concrete emplacements arranged on the points of an imaginary trapezium, to which was centred a rectangular concrete command post, having both surface and contained operational elements. The domestic site appears to have been about 100m NE of the battery. Decommissioned in 1945, it became derelict and the last remnants were removed in c. 1985.

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
TQ 67 SE 20	Monument	c. 420m N	Post Medieval to Modern	Thames and Medway Canal. Originally intended as a means of avoiding coastal attacks on shipping. It was a particularly expensive undertaking and never successful, the original motivation having passed by the time of completion and all budgets being exceeded in the process. Eventually, a railway was built utilising the tunnel and the canal was effectively and subsequently actually cut into two sections. The northern half remained in use for some time whilst the southern length quickly fell out of use. By 1840 the shareholders decided that it would be more profitable to build a railway.
TQ 57 SE 277	Monument	c. 100m N	Post Medieval	North Kent Railway. From 1849.
TQ 67 SW 633	Monument	c. 10m N	Post Medieval to Modern	Gravesend, Rosherville and Northfleet Tramways. Operated from 1883 until 1929.

Figure 12: Gazetteer of KHER records

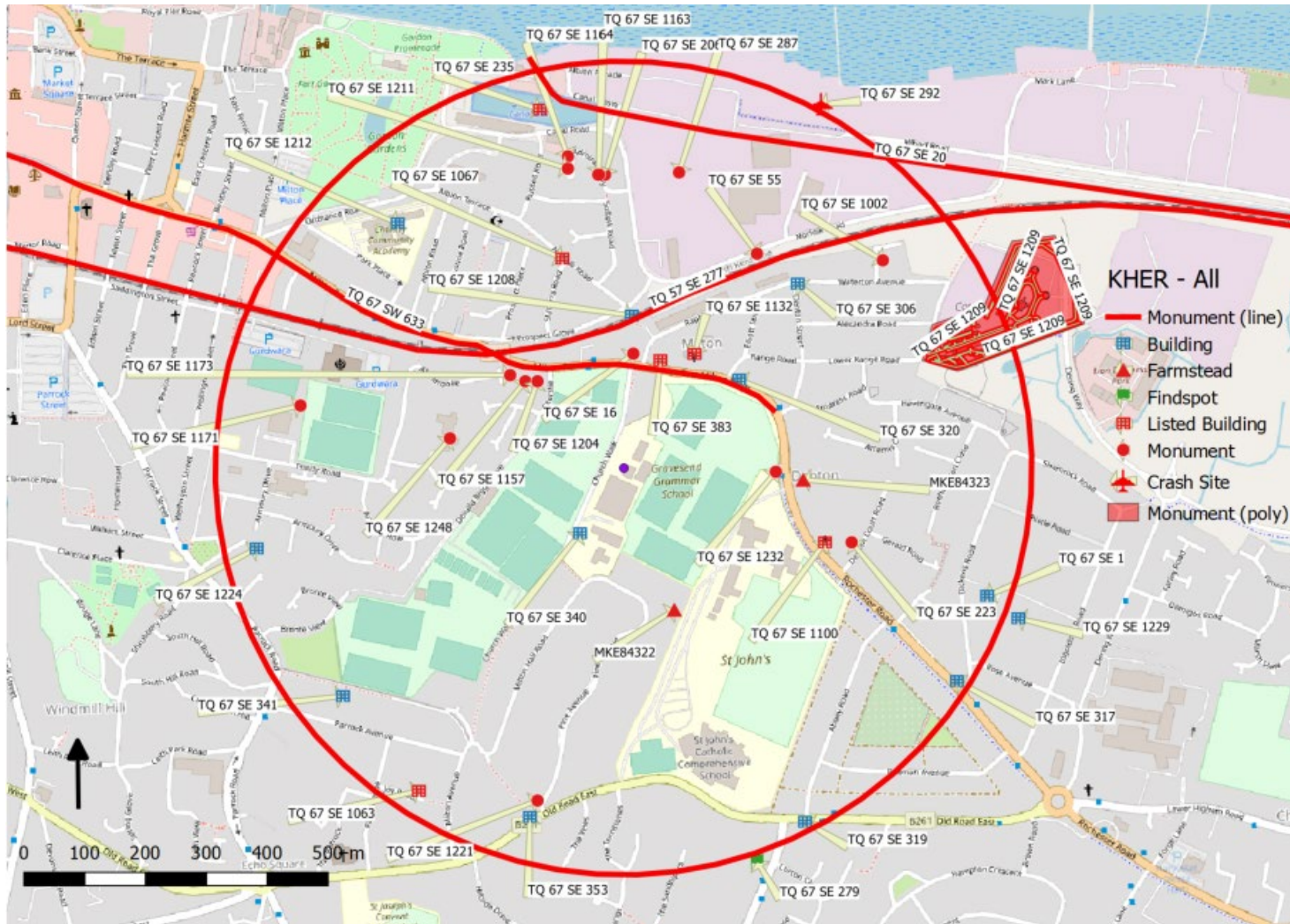


Figure 13: KHER Record - All



Figure 14: KHER Record - Prehistoric

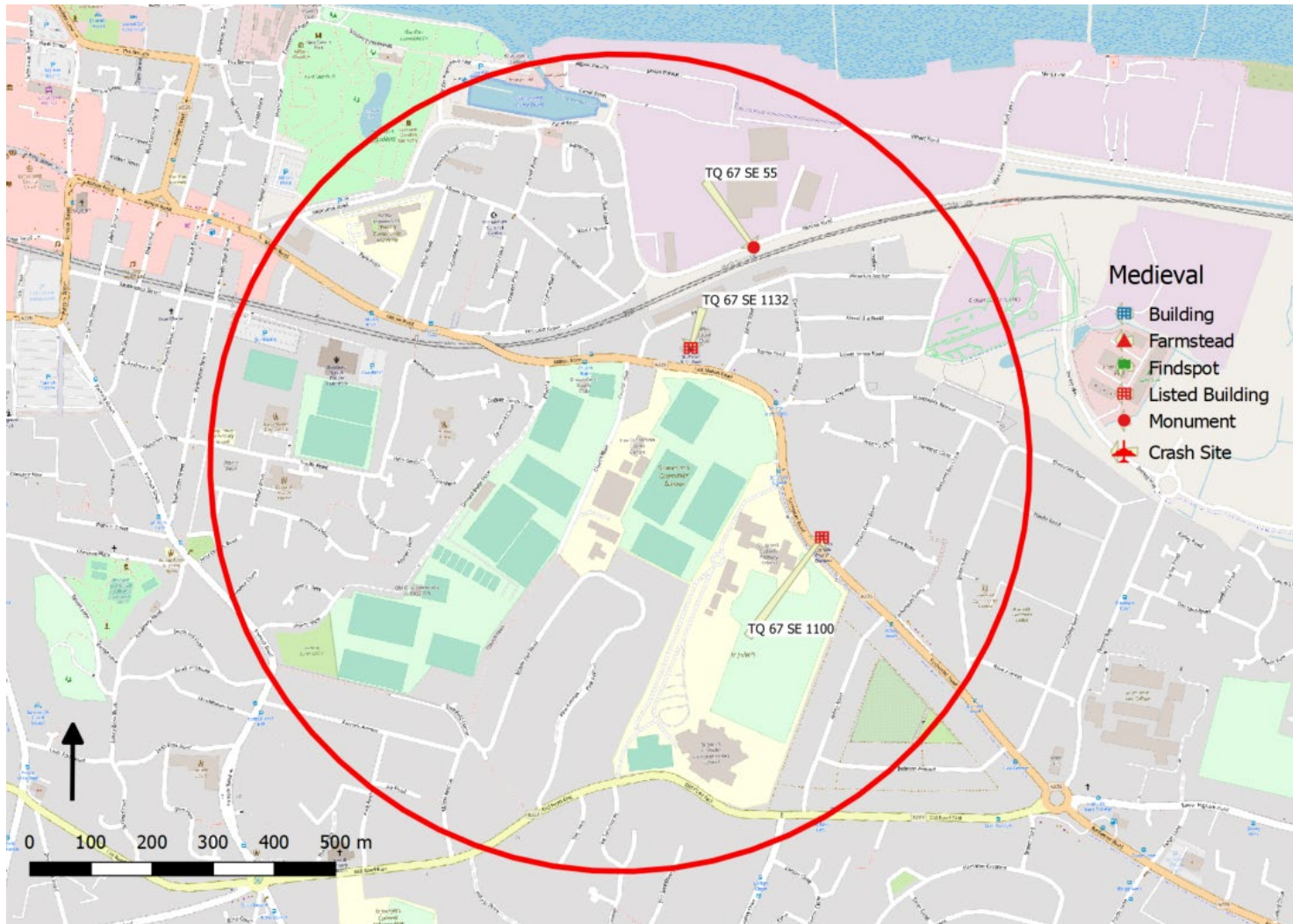


Figure 15: KHER Monument Record - Medieval

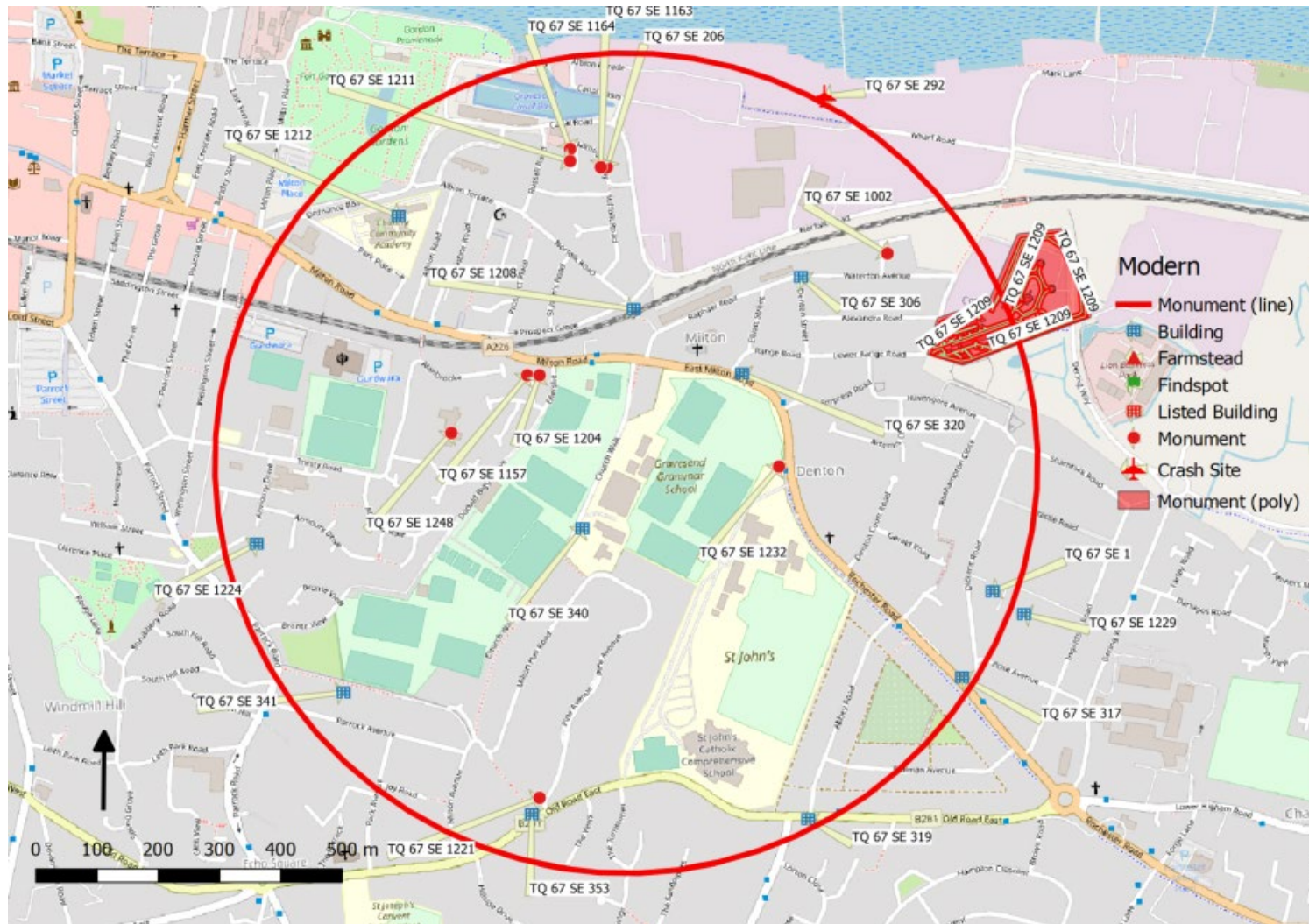


Figure 17: KHER Record – Modern



Figure 18: KHER Historic Landscape Character



Figure 19: KHER Conservation Areas



Plate 1: 1940s. All at an altitude of 767m (Google Earth).



Plate 2: 1960 (Google Earth)



Plate 3: 1990 (Google Earth)



Plate 4: 2003 (Google Earth)



Plate 5: 2013 (Google Earth)



Plate 6: 2018 (Google Earth)



Plate 7: DTM 1m (Environment Agency)



Plate 8: View across the playing fields towards the proposed site of the MUGA (facing N)



Plate 9: View towards the area of the proposed MUGA (facing SW).