



Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development of Land North of 18 Broom Hill Road, Stroud, Kent

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development of Land North of 18 Broom Hill Road, Strood, Kent

National Grid Reference 572943 169562



Report for Mr Anil Aggarwal

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development of Land North of 18 Broom Hill Road, Strood, Kent.

Summary

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by Mr Anil Aggarwal to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development of Land North of 18 Broom Hill Road, Strood, 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: **moderate**
- Anglo-Saxon: **low**
- Medieval: **low**
- Post-Medieval: **high**
- Modern: **high**

The PDA is located at the base of Broom Hill on the Broom Hill Road that runs parallel to the Gravesend Road (A226). The site is between Broom Hill Road and Pepys Road and was the site of a Lime Kiln and Quarry that can be seen on the 1st edition OS Map of 1867. The closest Roman archaeological evidence in the form of ritual pits are located c.500m south of the site, however, the Roman Road runs east west c.200m south of the site, therefore the Roman period has been given a moderate potential. The quarry and Lime Kiln on site was operating during the post-medieval period and there are several post-medieval records within the area, particularly along the road leading out of Strood and towards the top of Broom Hill where the Smock Mills were sited. However, it appears by the time of the tithes that the quarry is no longer active. The post-medieval has a high potential. The modern period saw many changes to the site, with the construction of a house and other buildings and as a consequence this period has a high potential. In the north western section of the PDA are also two small cave areas with brick lined entrances.

In 1844, the area is recorded as in arable use. There have been a number of other buildings on the site since and aside from the present modern buildings of the chalet bungalow and garages, no historical buildings remains. The site has undergone clearance to the chalk bedrock and the historical impact is considered total. It is possible that there may be remains at the northern end of the site underneath the pile of rubbish and soil and behind the vegetation on the quarry walls. The caves and their brick entrances remain as well as a hearth like feature in the quarry wall at the south eastern corner. There is also the potential of observing 2 wells within the PDA as marked on early maps. Therefore, previous impacts to potential archaeological remains from the industrial processes connected with a quarry and lime kiln are considered to be total/high. With the proposed development likely to cause a high/total impact to any potential archaeology, the need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities and these are expected to be in line as per the previous 2019 outline planning application and archaeological condition (MC/19/1708) for a programme of archaeological work.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Background

2.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Mr Anil Aggarwal (the 'Client), to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development area (Application Site) of Land North of 18 Broom Hill Road, Strood, Kent, Kent National Grid Reference (NGR) 572943 169562 (Fig 1).

2.2 The Site

2.2.1 The Application Site is situated between Broom Hill Road to the west and Pepys Road to the east north of 18 Broom Hill Road. Located in Strood to the west of the River Medway in North Kent where Rochester Bridge is circa 1km to the south east. The PDA is open ground with a chalet bungalow located in the central western part. Also within the PDA at the northern end are modern disused garages. The western, northern and eastern boundary of the PDA are vertical chalk faces created when the PDA was previously a quarry of various height reaching as far as circa 7m at the northern end and circa 3m at the south eastern corner. In the north western section of the PDA are also two small cave areas with brick lined entrances. To the north are residential houses. The entire PDA is an area of circa 1.0 acre. The Application Site gently slopes downwards from 45m aOD the southern end is on steeply sloping ground from a high at 14m aOD at the southern part of the PDA to circa 43m aOD at the northern end (Fig. 1).

Previous Planning Application

2.2.2 In 2019, an outline planning application was submitted with a PDA including a previous desk-based assessment dated August 2017 that included the area of the current house of 18 Broom Hill Road to the south with matters reserved for appearance and landscaping for the construction of 8 houses with widening of the existing vehicular entrance and drive and the demolition of existing garages (MC/19/1708). KCC were consulted and considered the site to have potential for industrial remains and associated cottages and to also include investigation of the two caves onsite. The application was approved with the following archaeological condition:

(11) No development shall take place until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured in accordance with a written specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning

Authority. The archaeological works shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved specification.

Reason: Required before commencement of development to avoid any irreversible detrimental impact on any archaeological interest and in accordance with Policy BNE21 of the Local Plan 2003

Geology

2.2.3 The British Geological Society (BGS 1995) shows that the local geology at the Application Site consists of Lewis Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation (Undifferentiated) – Chalk. Immediately north of the PDA is Thanet Formation – Sand, Silt and Clay. There are no superficial deposits.

Geotechnical Information

2.2.4 There is no geotechnical information.

2.3 The Proposed Development

2.3.1 The proposed development is an outline application for a residential development of 30 1 and 2 bed flats, with associated parking.

2.4 Scope of Document

2.4.1 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 archaeological 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.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 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.

3.1.2 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.

3.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

3.2.1 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.'

3.2.2 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).'

3.2.3 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.

3.2.4 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.’

3.2.5 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.’

3.2.6 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.'

3.2.7 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.

3.2.8 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'.*

3.2.9 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'.*

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

3.2.11 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'.

3.2.12 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'.*

3.2.13 Paragraph 201 states that:

'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.'

3.2.14 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'*.

3.2.15 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'*.

3.2.16 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'*.

3.2.17 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'*.

3.2.18 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'*.

3.2.19 The NPPF further provides definitions of terms which relate to the historic environment in order to clarify the policy guidance given. For the purposes of this report, the following are important to note:

- *Significance. The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.*

- *Setting. The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.*

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

3.2.21 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*

3.3 Local Policies

3.3.1 Medway Council has a Local Plan adopted in 2003, retained in 2007. The plan has a policy relevant to the site.

POLICY BNE18: SETTING OF LISTED BUILDINGS

3.3.2 Development which would adversely affect the setting of a listed building will not be permitted.

POLICY BNE20: SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS

3.3.3 Development affecting scheduled ancient monuments or other nationally important sites will not be permitted if it would: (i) damaged or destroy such sites; or (ii) be detrimental to their setting.

POLICY BNE21 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

3.3.4 Development affecting potentially important archaeological sites will not be permitted, unless: (i) the developer, after consultation with the archaeological officer, has arranged for an archaeological field evaluation to be carried out by an approved archaeological body before any decision on the planning application is made; and (ii) it would not lead to the damage or destruction of important archaeological remains. There will be a preference for the preservation of important archaeological remains in

situ. (iii) where development would be damaging to archaeological remains, sufficient time and resources are made available for an appropriate archaeological investigation undertaken by an approved archaeological body. Such investigations should be in advance of development and in accordance with a specification and programme of work approved by the council. Resources should also be made available for the publication of the results of the investigation.

3.3.5 A new Local Plan to cover the period until 2037 is currently in process. The Council also has included the following policies to Heritage:

Policy BE5: Historic Environment

To ensure the continued contribution that the historic environment has on Medway, the council will support the conservation and, where possible, the enhancement of the historic environment; including the heritage assets and their distinctiveness and characteristics. This will be achieved through:

- Restricting development that could have an unacceptable impact on a designated heritage asset and its setting;
- Ensuring that all new development contributes to local distinctiveness and character;
- Encouraging development that makes sensitive use of historic assets, particularly where they are under-used or redundant;
- Promoting the preservation of historic buildings considered to be 'at risk';
- Resisting demolition or destruction of heritage assets without substantial justification that clearly demonstrates that public benefit outweighs the harm or loss resulting from the demolition or destruction;
- Working with stakeholders on heritage initiatives, including bids for funding.

Policy BE6: Managing development in the historic environment

Development that impacts a heritage asset, or its setting, should achieve a high quality of design which will preserve or enhance the asset's historic or architectural character, appearance and setting.

Where a development impacts upon a heritage asset, or its setting, a proportionate heritage assessment must be submitted that assesses the level of impact.

The demolition or other loss of a heritage asset will not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that there are exceptional and overriding reasons; and that all possible methods of preserving the asset have been investigated. In the circumstances where the loss of a heritage asset can be fully and robustly justified, the developer must make information about the heritage asset and its significance available to the council, along with making it possible for any materials and features to be salvaged.

Where a development involves, or has the potential to involve heritage assets with archaeological interest, applicants must submit a desk-based assessment, or where appropriate, a field evaluation.

Local Planning Guidance

3.3.6 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.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Mr Anil Aggarwal 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.

4.1.2 This Desk-Based Assessment therefore forms the initial stage of the historic environment investigation and is intended to inform and assist in decisions regarding the historic environment along with mitigations for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

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

4.2.1 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)

4.2.2 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)

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 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 (ClfA, 2017).

5.2 Sources

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

Archaeological databases

5.2.2 Although it is recognised that national databases are an appropriate resource for this particular type of assessment, the local Historic Environmental Record held at Kent County Council (KHER) contains sufficient data to provide an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding landscape.

5.2.3 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.

5.2.4 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

5.2.5 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 11.

Aerial photographs

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

Secondary and Statutory Resources

5.2.7 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

5.2.8 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 and Heritage Assets.
- Making a note of any surface scatters of archaeological material.
- Identifying constraints or areas of disturbance that may affect archaeological investigation.
- Understand the setting of known Heritage Assets and the wider landscape.

5.2.9 The results of the walkover survey are detailed in Section 5 of this document.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 This section of the assessment will focus on the archaeological and historical development of this area, placing it within a local context. Each period classification will provide a brief introduction to the wider landscape (500m radius centred on the Application Site), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. There were no Registered Parks and Gardens, Protected Military Remains or NMP cropmarks within the search area. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed in Table 1.

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

6.2 Designated Heritage Assets

6.2.1 There are two listed buildings within study area of the PDA. The two listed buildings are found on London Road c.500m southeast of the site and are C18th timber framed houses (TQ76NW581/TQ76NW501). The listed buildings do not share intervisibility with the PDA.

6.3 Previous Archaeological Works

6.3.1 The report has accessed various sources of information to identify any known heritage assets, which may be located within the vicinity of the Proposed Development Area. Archaeological investigations, both recent and historic are provided in the Kent HER data in Appendix 10.3. These have been studied and the information from these investigations has been incorporated into the assessment.

- 6.3.2 A watching brief carried out in 2013 by SWAT archaeology at 1 Jersey Road, c.150m south of the PDA, produced a negative result (EKE13279). An evaluation carried out in 2007 by Canterbury Archaeological Trust at 33 London Road, c.350m southeast of the PDA recorded a negative result (EKE10011). Due to the lack of intrusive events within the assessment area, no established stratigraphy exists for this site

Medway Valley Palaeolithic Classification Area

- 6.3.3 The Application Site sits within an area designated 17 (Fig.21) There has been scant archaeological work carried out within the assessment area and both archaeological surveys have proved negative.

6.4 Archaeological and Historical Narrative

- 6.4.1 In prehistoric times the area was largely flooded, interspersed with marshland and remained unpopulated. Many Palaeolithic finds in this area of west Kent are from gravel terraces associated with the Medway, Ebbsfleet and Thames Valleys. Palaeolithic artefacts and both, flora and fauna have been found in the area on the opposite side of the River Medway around Upnor, some with little provenance and stratigraphy, although there have been some more recent excavations as test pitting in the last decade or so that allows us a greater understanding of the potential in this period. In 1925, a Palaeolithic flint works was reported in a quarry to the east of All Saints church at Frindsbury. The find resulted in over 4000 stone tools including hand axes, large flint flakes, core pieces and quartzite hammer stones, dating from 300,000 BC.
- 6.4.2 There is little evidence from the Mesolithic period. In the wider area, flint tools have been found at Cliffe, Higham and Erith.
- 6.4.3 The Medway Megalithic Long Barrow group lie to the south of Chatham in an area known as the Medway Gap, situated on both sides of the Medway valley. Several causewayed enclosures, some of the most distinctive early Neolithic monuments, are known from the county, including one at Burham.
- 6.4.4 During the Bronze Age, the River Valleys were attractive with a number of barrows along the side of the Medway Valley confirming the importance of the River Medway during this period, not just for burials but also for settlement, communication and trade. By the Iron Age, Rochester is an area of settlement with its own mint to the east of Strood.

- 6.4.5 In 43 AD, the Romans landed on the Kent Coast and made their way across ancient tracks to the lands of the Iron Age tribe of the Cantiaci where the Battle of the Medway ensued. North Kent was a key area for activity in the Roman period. Rochester, known as 'Durobrivae', circa 1km to the west was an important town in this period with a crossing across the River Medway making it a key strategic position. Along the north Kent coast, the land was divided into villa estates, with one known in the area of Fort Amhurst, with another possible villa site in the area of Luton to the east. In the wider area, to the east the area around Lower Halstow, Upchurch and Newington were important pottery industrial areas, which utilised the waterways for transportation of goods. North Kent was linked inland by Watling Street, a Roman Road from London to Dover, via Canterbury. It ran down Chatham Hill slightly to the south of Chatham High Street Site, following close to the line of the New Road before heading towards Rochester and crossing the river south of the present bridge.
- 6.4.6 Evidence at Piper's House Farm in the area of Broom Hill suggests that Ancient Britons took refuge in the chalk pits while under attack. Following their conquest, the Romans built a bridge with stone foundations across the river Medway and laid a road on a causeway across the marshy ground, which lead from Dover to London, now known as Watling Street (A2). Evidence of another causeway road, discovered at the canal dock in 1819, lead along the bank towards Frindsbury to the suspected location of a Roman villa; a bronze statue of cupid (5.25") was among the artefacts found during an excavation of the site. Field patterns suggest that there was a substantial Roman agricultural settlement centred near Frindsbury and chalk was quarried at Broom Hill.
- 6.4.7 The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle states that the Vikings raided the Medway area in the ninth century, in 986 and 1016. The Isle of Sheppey and Rochester were their main targets. In the Anglo-Saxon period, Rochester became one of the two dioceses in Kent, Canterbury being the other. The bishopric for Rochester was established by Æthelberht in 604 AD, and the foundation of the cathedral there by Bishop Justus. In 764 AD, documentary evidence in the form of a charter shows that King Sigereð gave 20 ploughlands to land to Bishop Eardwulf at Æslingaham and subsequently confirmed by King Offa. It is thought that these lands included that of Frindsbury. Frindsbury meaning 'Friend's Stronghold'. A Jutish burial containing a spearhead, knife and bronze ring set with an amethyst was found on Strood Hill and another with spearhead and shield was found at Woodstock Road and are now housed at the Guildhall Museum. In 764 AD, Offa King of Mercia and Sigereð King of Kent granted Bishop Eardulph of Rochester lands

in Easlingham (Frindsbury). Transport, was at that time, dominated by the river Medway and in 960 AD a new wooden bridge was built. During the 8th and 9th centuries the Danes attacked Rochester, pillaging the surrounding areas.

- 6.4.8 Strood is located on the northwest bank of the River Medway and was until 1193 part of Frindsbury, which sits to the east. The Old English name *Strōd* refers to a 'marshy land overgrown with brushwood'. In the Domesday Book of 1086 AD, Frindsbury was called *Frandesberie* and it was owned by the Bishop of Rochester. The book refers to there being land of 680 ha, which is a reduction on the land on the earlier charter with only 16 ploughlands, nine slaves and a mill. There were 40 acres of meadow and woodland for five pigs. At the time of the Domesday, the area was one of scattered hamlets
- 6.4.9 In 1122, a small wooden church was erected at Strood, as a chapel of ease to the parish of Frindsbury and the Manor of Strood was founded. The Manor was granted, along with all dues and administrative rights of the Hundred of Shamwell, to the Knights Templar by King Henry II in c.1159AD as a reward for their assistance in 'The Anarchy' (the civil war in England and Normandy 1135 - 1154). The Manor House is thought to have served as a 'camera' to provide suitable lodging for Templar dignitaries travelling between London and Dover on the Watling Road and would have been attached to land that produced food for the estate. The Bishop of Rochester, Gilbert de Glanvill, founded the Newark or Strood hospital in Strood in 1190, east of the church. The Hospital raised the profile of Strood, however, there was constant concern about financial management and rivalry with the Rochester Priory.
- 6.4.10 In 1193, Strood became a parish. It was run by the monks of Newark Hospital and had its own burial grounds. An annual fair, to be held on 26th August, was granted in 1206 to the Priory of Rochester and continued well into the 18th Century. It was traditionally held over three days and associated with the Christian celebration of the Assumption. In 1264 Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester and leader of the 2nd Barons' uprising, planned his strategy for capturing Rochester Castle from Strood and successfully besieged the gatehouse and set fire to the wooden bridge. Bishop de Glanville had built the Strood Quay and Wharf, with rents going to Newark Hospital and following Simon's death a heavy fine was levied on Strood because he had stayed there during the siege. By 1293 the Rochester wharf was in such disrepair that ships were using the Strood

facilities and ferries were used in place of the bridge to cross the river. Finally in the harsh winter of 1309, the bridge was damaged by ice.

- 6.4.11 The Templar Manor had been converted to a farm to provide an income from rent but by 1307, the Templars became unpopular, and King Philip of France decided to seize the possessions of the Templars. By 1312 the Templar order was dissolved, and the Pope insisted that their possessions should pass to the Knights Hospitallers, rather than the King, however, it is noted in records from this period that the Grand Prior of the Hospitallers complained that the King was still occupying, or had recently re-occupied the estate. In 1324 the Grand Prior handed the Manor back to King Edward III and he granted it to his kinswoman, Mary of St Pol, Countess of Pembroke as an endowment for any religious house she pleased.
- 6.4.12 Corruption in the finances of the Newark Hospital had steadily worsened until 1330 when the Bishop of Rochester Hamo de Hethe intervened, and reforms were put in place. In 1344 Mary of St Pol, Countess of Pembroke gave Strood Manor to the Abbess and Sisters Minorities of St Clare of Denny Convent in Cambridgeshire, although it is likely that it remained rented out as a farm. The convent was dissolved in 1539, and the property was granted to Edward Elrington, who then sold it to the Cobham family of Cobham Hall. In 1603 Lord Cobham was convicted of conspiring against James I, and his property and lands were seized and sold. From there the manor passed through several owners before being broken up into smaller estates.
- 6.4.13 In 1387, a stone bridge built by John de Cobham and Robert Knolles replaced the damaged wooden bridge and in 1460 Edward IV appointed a mayor of Rochester with jurisdiction over Strood river frontage and the houses there.
- 6.4.14 Following the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII in the 1530s, Frindsbury Manor was initially confiscated from Rochester Priory but returned to the Dean and Chapter in 1542.
- 6.4.15 Broom Hill, which owes its name to the Broom plant that was first grown on the hill during the C17, is the highest hill in Strood, from which the two rivers, the Thames and the Medway can be seen. It was an important part of the landscape and during the time of the Spanish Armada as it was the site of one of the chain of early warning beacons set up from strategic points along the south coast, criss-crossing Sussex, Surrey and Kent to London.

- 6.4.16 In 1606 James I and his family showed off the Dockyard to King Christian IV of Denmark from the hill and forty years later, during the Civil War, Cromwell's troops were ambushed there before they eventually captured Rochester. Several skeletons, believed to be victims of the spotted fever epidemic of 1657, when infected sailors were billeted on Strood residents, have been discovered on Broom Hill.
- 6.4.17 By the post-medieval period Strood was well established. The inhabitants were chiefly seafaring or fishermen, engaged in dredging oysters. In 1672 the parishes of St. Margaret's at Rochester and St Nicholas at Strood successfully applied to extend the area over which Richard Watts charities could operate. The parish of Strood utilised some of the money to provide a workhouse for the poor. Above the door was set a stone slab with inscription, which is now displayed in the Guildhall Museum, Rochester. In 1769, a tollgate was erected at The Angel Inn on North Street, to pay for improvements to the parish.
- 6.4.18 The development of the riverside resulted in various boatyards and ship repair businesses on both the river and in the creeks, which drain the marshes. Several limekilns had been in place from the Middle Ages and were still in use in the 19th century. The windmill on Strood Hill was a smock mill that was unsuitably sited and suffered from variable winds until it was demolished in 1860. The Killick's Mill on Broom Hill had six sides rather than eight and in 1880 had its cap blown off for the second time. In 1890, the cap was replaced and worked for a year; however, the mill proved unprofitable and was demolished around 1920s. Fields Mill on Broom Hill burnt down in 1875.
- 6.4.19 Between 1804 and 1824 the Thames and Medway canal was dug to provide a safe route between the rivers Medway and Thames. Entry to the basins was only possible at high tides, the tolls were too high for the costs to be recouped and the end of the Napoleonic wars removed the military justification. The venture proved a commercial failure and instead a single line railway was laid through the tunnel, part on the towpath and part on a timber structure that sat over the canal. In 1844, the canal was sold to the South Eastern Railway. The canal was filled in, a double track constructed and the station, opposite The Railway Tavern, was completed 10 February 1856. The railway terminated at Strood, where passengers would take a steamer or coach to Rochester and Chatham. On 18 June 1856, the line was extended along the riverbank to Maidstone, and Strood Station was opened. In the same year a new road bridge over the Medway was opened

in the location of the Roman bridge and one year later the mediaeval bridge was demolished, and the stone used to build the Strood Esplanade. In 1860, the southeastern railway built Strood pier.

6.4.20 After the 1st World War, housing development began to creep up the hill. People were encouraged to grow their own food and allotments were plotted out on Broom Hill and sold. During the 2nd World War, a German Messerschmitt plane crashed on the hill. A young woman helped the wounded pilot before he was taken to Chatham Police Station by the Home Guard with fixed bayonets, followed by an angry crowd of housewives wielding brooms and spades. The pilot returned in 1955 to thank the doctor who treated him and the girl who had helped him. In 1946-47 some 100 prefab bungalows were built on the top of the hill because of the housing shortage. The prefabs were all demolished by 1977 and replaced with Broom Hill Park (4.5 Ha).

Landscape Character Areas

6.4.21 The KHER historic landscape classification shows the Application Site as part of 'the extent of Strood in 1810.

6.5 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

Andrews, Dury and Herbert map of 1769

6.5.1 Andrews, Dury and Herbert published their atlas some thirty years before the Ordnance Survey, immediately becoming the best large-scale maps of the county. This shows the PDA located south wards of the hill top. Here it is referred to as Strood Hill. The settlements of Finsbury and Strood are to the south west. The maps suggests to the south of the PDA is the hamlet possible of the Coach and Horses already in existing on the main road from Rochester to London (Fig. 3).

Strood Tithe Map, 1844

6.5.2 The PDA is within an area designated 149a. This is owned by Thomas Picher and occupied by William Costen and is referred to as a chalk pit and is in arable use suggesting that the quarry had already gone out of use. The land immediately north of the chalk pit designated 179a owned and occupied by the same people is called Chalk Hole Field and is also in arable use. The occupier lives in the property seen here immediately south of the PDA in plot designated 150a. There is a road alongside the western boundary of the PDA that follows the line of the present Broom Hill Road (Fig.4).

Historic OS map 1867

6.5.3 This is the first OS map and shows greater detail of the PDA. The PDA is a quarry and lime kiln located in a rural area at the point where two roads intercept and join Strood Road. It is bounded to the east by Pepys Road and to the west by Broom Hill. Immediately south of the PDA is Nightingale Hall which is accessed from a private drive way on the west boundary; there are two wells to the west side of the site, a track way through the centre. There are further quarries to the south. A quarry and glasshouses can be found southwest. Broom Hill Farm is to the west, the Coach and Horses public house and Strood Water Works are to the south and the vicarage and national school are east. Aside from the quarries the area is rural (Fig.5).

Historic OS map 1897

6.5.4 Immediately south of the PDA, Nightingale Hall has been demolished and replaced with a smaller building with a glass house extension on the southern side. The kiln and quarry are no longer in use and are named 'old chalk pit', one of the wells remains in situ and there are three new rectangular buildings to the north of the site. The town of Strood is spreading westwards and Strood water works has grown to accommodate the new population. The quarry to the southwest is also marked as an 'Old Chalk Pit' and houses have been developed along the London Road opposite Broom Hill Farm, now Grange Farm (Fig.6).

Historic OS map 1909

6.5.5 The glass house has been removed to Nightingale Hall and a second house with glass house extension has been built to the south. The outbuildings to the north have been extended or reconstructed and the well is no longer recorded. Within the PDA the southern part appears to be in use as an orchard. Terrace housing has been developed to the west side of London Road. Terrace housing and low-density development in continuing in ribbon style along The Strood Hill Road (Fig.7).

Historic OS map 1934

6.5.6 South of the PDA, the original Nightingale Hall is now diminished in size and the new house has been extended to the north. An outbuilding has been constructed west of the trackway in the south western part of the PDA. The central portion is still in use as an orchard Terrace housing has been developed to the west side of London Road. Terrace housing and low-density development in continuing in ribbon style along The Strood Hill Road (Fig.8)

Historic OS map 1938

6.5.7 The site remains unchanged, and the town has seen post war development. Allotment gardens are to the east and low-density housing is found to the north (Fig. 9)

Historic OS Report 1952

6.5.8 The site remains unchanged and the low-density housing to the north has spread south to meet the western boundary. The house to the south of the PDA has been numbered 18 (Fig. 10).

Historical OS Map 1962

6.5.9 There appears no change to the PDA. However, the trackway that formed the western boundary is no longer there and a new road has been created called Pepys Way with semi-detached housing on the eastern side of the road. On the western side of the road are occasional buildings, most likely to be garages. There is now also new housing adjacent to the north west of the PDA on the eastern side of Broom Hill Road (Fig.11).

Historical OS Map 1988-93

6.5.10 The PDA labelled as pit disused. The buildings located on the western side of the central trackway through the PDA appear unchanged, the building on the eastern side has been demolished and a new building with a larger footprint located further north. South of the PDA, there is houses immediately east of 18 Broom Hill Road on the western side of Pepys Way (Fig 12).

Historical OS Map 2003

6.5.11 There appears no change within the PDA (Fig 13).

6.6 Aerial Photographs

1940s

6.6.1 In the 1940 the PDA remains in a rural area with town development towards the north and east. A house, accessed from a southern driveway or path, is visible to the south of the PDA at the junction of Broom Hill Road and a trackway that runs along the eastern boundary of the PDA. Within the PDA a trackway runs from the south western boundary, through a wooded area and past a building to each side to arrive at the quarry area in the far northern part of the site. It is not clear what the circular feature is at the northern end of the quarry (Plate 1).

1960s

6.6.2 By 1960 town development has entirely encompassed the site. Several small plots have been sectioned off adjacent to the south east boundary. The northern part of the site is in shadow so little by way of features can be discerned (Plate 2).

1990

6.6.3 Garages and an area of hard standing have been constructed to the north east of the PDA and the plots to the east boundary are small buildings. A large building within northern part of the PDA can be seen with cars parked to the north of this building. Buildings on the western side of the trackway can also be identified. The building on the eastern side of the trackway appears to have lost its roof. The vegetation in the area is dense (Plate 3).

2007

6.6.4 There has been further development to the plots adjacent to the eastern boundary. By 2006, a garage has been added to the west boundary, after which the site remains little change except for deterioration of the building in the northern part of the PDA (Plate 4)

2020

6.6.5 However, seen in the 2020 aerial photograph and built by 2011 is a new house in the central western area with separate access from Broom Hill Road. Post 2020, the large building in the northern part of the PDA has no roof (Plate 5).

LIDAR

6.6.6 The LIDAR clearly shows the steep sides and depth of the PDA from the quarrying especially at the northern end. Towards the southern end of the PDA the land rises and the height of the old quarry faces lessen (Fig. 20)

6.7 Walkover Survey

6.7.1 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 as well as assessing heritage assets and setting. The walkover survey was undertaken on the 2nd of November 2022. Archaeological features were observed and are commented upon below (Plates 7-27).

6.7.2 The site was entered via a gate on the south western side of the PDA from Broom Hill Road. Within the site is the chalet bungalow of 20 Broom Hill Road which is accessed

via a separate small driveway halfway along the western side of the PDA. There is currently no physical boundary between the rear of 18 Broom Hill Road and the PDA. The demarcation being the line between the grass at the rear of the house (outside of the PDA) and the temporary made ground on the southern part of the PDA of crushed aggregate. The central part of the site is chalk bedrock. Around the edges are occasional piles of fallen chalk usually caused by growing vegetation making the old quarry face unstable.

- 6.7.3 The central western part of the site of 20 Broom Hill Road is a modern chalet bungalow that appears on made ground. With retaining brick walls on the eastern side and the southern garden area retaining walls of wooden sleepers.
- 6.7.4 There are modern garages of two buildings located within the PDA. Whilst these have weatherboarding remaining in places, the construction is one of brick and breeze blocks. The larger garage building has lost part of its roof and to the rear of these garages is a concrete hardstanding area. The site in the past 1-2 years has had its vegetation and topsoil stripped and along dumped rubbish and this is all piled up at the northern end of the quarry. It is not possible to make out the quarry face at the northern end due to the overgrown vegetation.
- 6.7.5 There are two caves with entrances edged in brick in the north western corner. Each of a different design of arch shape. Further into the caves the caves reverts back to the natural chalk. A flint band can clearly be seen. Access inside the caves was not obtained as there are currently filled with rubbish.
- 6.7.6 By the eastern end of the larger garage building the old quarry face is supported by three brick buttresses. It is not clear if there are more in that area behind the vegetation. At the south eastern corner of the old quarry built into the quarry face is an opening surrounded by brick. Its purpose is not clear.
- 6.7.7 The north western cliff face above the caves is piled. Adjacent to the eastern boundary of Pepy's Way are a number of garages with fencing and or vegetation behind and grass or hardstanding in between. The western boundary aside from the two entrances is mature hedges and trees.

6.8 Summary of Potential

6.8.1 This section pulls together by period the historical documentation, mapping, aerial imagery and KHER data, and the known historic landscape to provide an overview by period

Palaeolithic

6.8.2 The Palaeolithic period represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. The Kent HER no entries for this period. Elsewhere along the Medway Valley and nearby Isle of Grain and the Hoo Peninsular, remains in the form of stone tools and fauna have been found. However, due to the quarrying at the site, the potential for finding finds from this period is considered to be **low**.

Mesolithic

6.8.3 The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has no records from this period. It is considered that the potential for finding remains that date to this period is **low**.

Neolithic

6.8.4 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 study area. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Bronze Age

6.8.5 The Bronze Age was a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Kent HER has one record dating to this period within the assessment area, a bronze age socketed axe found c.500m south, is held at Rochester Museum, although its exact provenance is unknown (TQ 76 NW 4). The potential for finding remains from this period is considered **low/moderate**.

Iron Age

6.8.6 The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres (the Iron Age 'Tribal capital' or civitas

of the Cantiaci). The Kent HER has one record dating to this period; a copper alloy coin dating 150BC-43AD (MKE66794) was found by metal detector c.400m west. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Romano-British

6.8.7 The Romano-British period is the term given to the Romanised culture of Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire, following the Claudian invasion in AD 43, Britain then formed part of the Roman Empire for nearly 400 years. There are two Kent HER records from this period within the assessment area; The Roman Road of Watling Street is located c.200m 27 south of the site (TQ 86 SW 132) and 12 ritual pits containing several Samian vessels, three Upchurch beakers, queens rings, knives, nails, bone pins, animal bones, oyster shells and a human skeleton were uncovered c.500m south (TQ 76 NW 116). Therefore, the potential for finding archaeological features or deposits from this period is considered **moderate**.

Anglo-Saxon

6.8.8 There is one Kent HER record from this period within the assessment area; a Jutish burial with skeleton, spearhead and knife was found c.300m south of the PDA (TQ 76 NW 20). Whilst Frindsbury existed as a settlement in this period, it was to the south east outside of the study area. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period in the PDA is considered **low**.

Medieval

6.8.9 There are no Kent HER records from this period within the assessment area. Whilst Frindsbury continued growing in this period, the core settlement was around the church to the east. It is likely that the PDA was part of the agricultural hinterland in this period. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the potential for finding remains dating to the medieval period in the PDA is considered **low**.

Post Medieval

6.8.10 There are eight records held at the Kent HER from this period within the assessment area; the Lime Kiln located on the PDA is marked on the 1st edition OS map (TQ 76 NW 289), 'Fields Mill' (before 1832AD) was a smock mill that is marked on the 1st edition

OS map and burnt down around 1875, c.400m north (TQ 76 NW 894), Kylick Mill (before 1832 AD) was a smock mill marked on the 2nd edition OS map as disused and demolished 1930, c.350m north (TQ 76 NW 895). There are two Grade II Listed buildings; number 16 and 18 London Road (TQ 76 NW 501) formerly part of number 10-20 and number 10, 12 and 14 London Road (TQ 76 NW 581) formerly part of number 10-20 are found c.500m south east. Chatham and Dover railway (TQ 85 SE 300), built in 1853 is found c.500m south east of the PDA. There are two farmsteads recorded within the assessment area. Range Farm is a regular multi-yard courtyard with detached farmhouse and a possible oast in a central position within the village. The farmstead is now demolished but was located c.150m west (MKE84557). A loose courtyard plan with working buildings to one side and detached farmhouse in central position is found within the village, c.450m south (MKE84647). During the Medieval period, the PDA was in use as a quarry and also a lime kiln. By the time of the tithes, it appears the quarry is no longer active reverting to arable use. Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to this period is considered **high**.

Modern

6.8.11 There are three records in the Kent HER within the assessment area from this period. 28 Chatham and district tram way (opened 1902) is located c.400m southeast (TQ 76 NE 476); an aircraft crash site of a Messerschmitt from 30th September 1940 is recorded c.450m north (TQ 77 SE 189) and Broom Hill Park (4.5 Ha) c.500m north (TQ 77 SE 1069). By the modern period, historical mapping refers to the quarry as 'old chalk pit' and there were many changes of use with the Site. The creation of the brick lined entrance to the caves is no known. Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to this period is considered **high**.

Overview

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

6.8.13 The PDA is located at the base of Broom Hill on the Broom Hill Road that runs parallel to the Gravesend Road (A226). The site is between Broom Hill Road and Pepys Road and was the site of a Lime Kiln and Quarry that can be seen on the 1st edition OS Map of 1867. The closest Roman archaeological evidence in the form of ritual pits which are located c.500m south of the site, however, the Roman Road runs east west c.200m south of the site, therefore the Roman period has been given a moderate potential. The

quarry and Lime Kiln on site was operating during the post-medieval period and there are several post-medieval records within the area, particularly along the road leading out of Strood and towards the top of Broom Hill where the Smock Mills were sited. However, it appears by the time of the tithes that the quarry is no longer active. The post-medieval has a high potential. The modern period saw many changes to the site, with the construction of a house and other buildings and as a consequence this period has a high potential.

6.8.14 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 Application Site may contain archaeological sites, and these can be summarised as:

- Prehistoric: **low**

- Iron Age: **low**

- Roman: **moderate**

- Anglo-Saxon: **low**

- Medieval: **low**

- Post-Medieval: **high**

- Modern: **high**

7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 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.

7.1.2 Cartographic regression, topographic analysis and historical research indicate that the PDA was a quarry and lime kiln that was developed through the 18th and 19th centuries. However, whilst the lime kiln was noted on the 1st edition map, it is not noted on any subsequent maps and was most likely demolished in the late Victorian period. In 1844, the area is recorded as in arable use. There have been a number of other buildings on the site since and aside from the present modern buildings of the chalet bungalow and garages, no historical buildings remain. The site has undergone clearance to the chalk bedrock and the historical impact is considered total. It is possible that there may be remains at the northern end of the site underneath the pile of rubbish and soil and behind the vegetation on the quarry walls. The caves and their brick entrances remain as well as a hearth like feature in the quarry wall at the south eastern corner. There is also the potential of observing 2 wells within the PDA as marked on early maps. Therefore, previous impacts to potential archaeological remains from the industrial processes connected with a quarry and lime kiln are considered to be **total/high**.

Proposed Impact

- 7.1.3 Should any archaeological remains survive in-situ will be vulnerable to damage during the proposed development. Vegetation is due to be removed from the quarry walls as the vegetation makes the chalk unstable. At present the plan is that the walls will be left as is once the vegetation is removed. It is not clear what will happen to the caves as it is believed that bats may be roosting there and therefore currently there are no plans to block them up, although this may change. The current garages and chalet bungalow will be demolished and removed, and the current levels of the bungalow reduced and hardstanding removed. It is not known if the present chalet bungalow rests on made ground and it sits higher than the surrounding quarry levels.

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 development works.

8.1.2 The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of high archaeological potential and the periods that have the highest potential for survival are the post-medieval and Modern period. Caves and other potential lime kiln features carry significance of industrial interest.

8.1.3 With the proposed development likely to cause a high/total impact to any potential archaeology, the need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities, and these are expected to be in line as per the previous planning application and archaeological condition.

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

10 REFERENCES

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Figure 2: Proposed Development



Figure 3: Andrew, Dury and Herbert Map from 1769

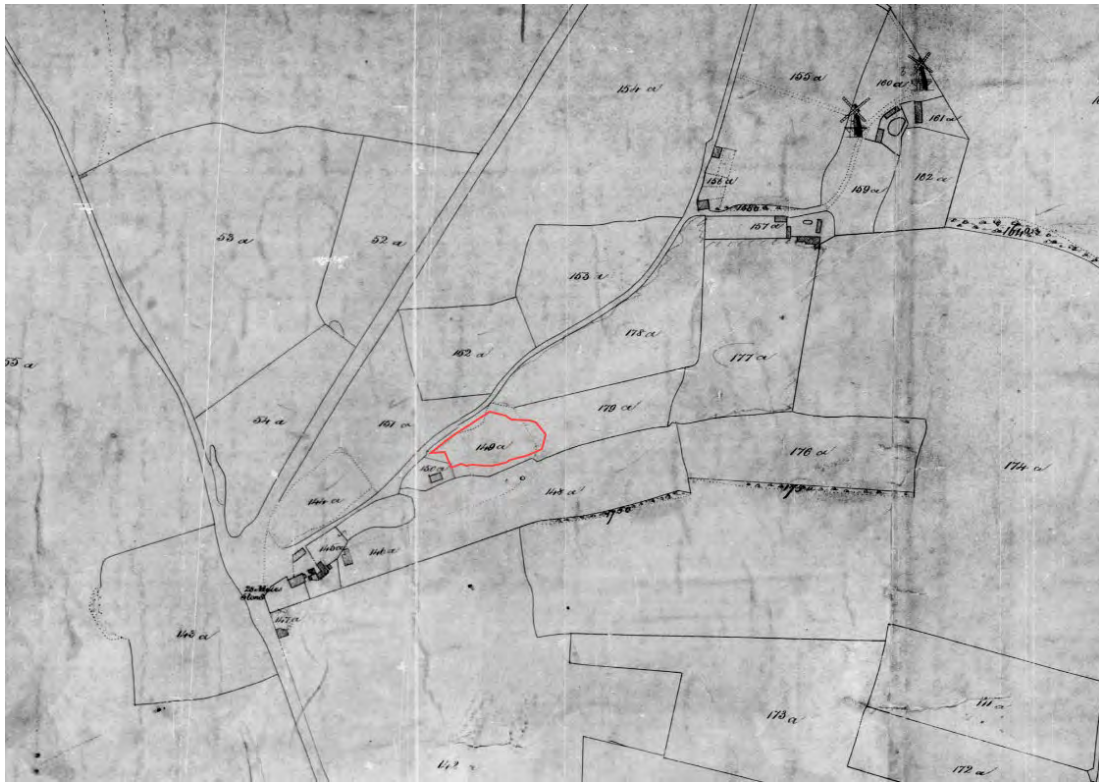


Figure 4: Strood Tithe Map 1844

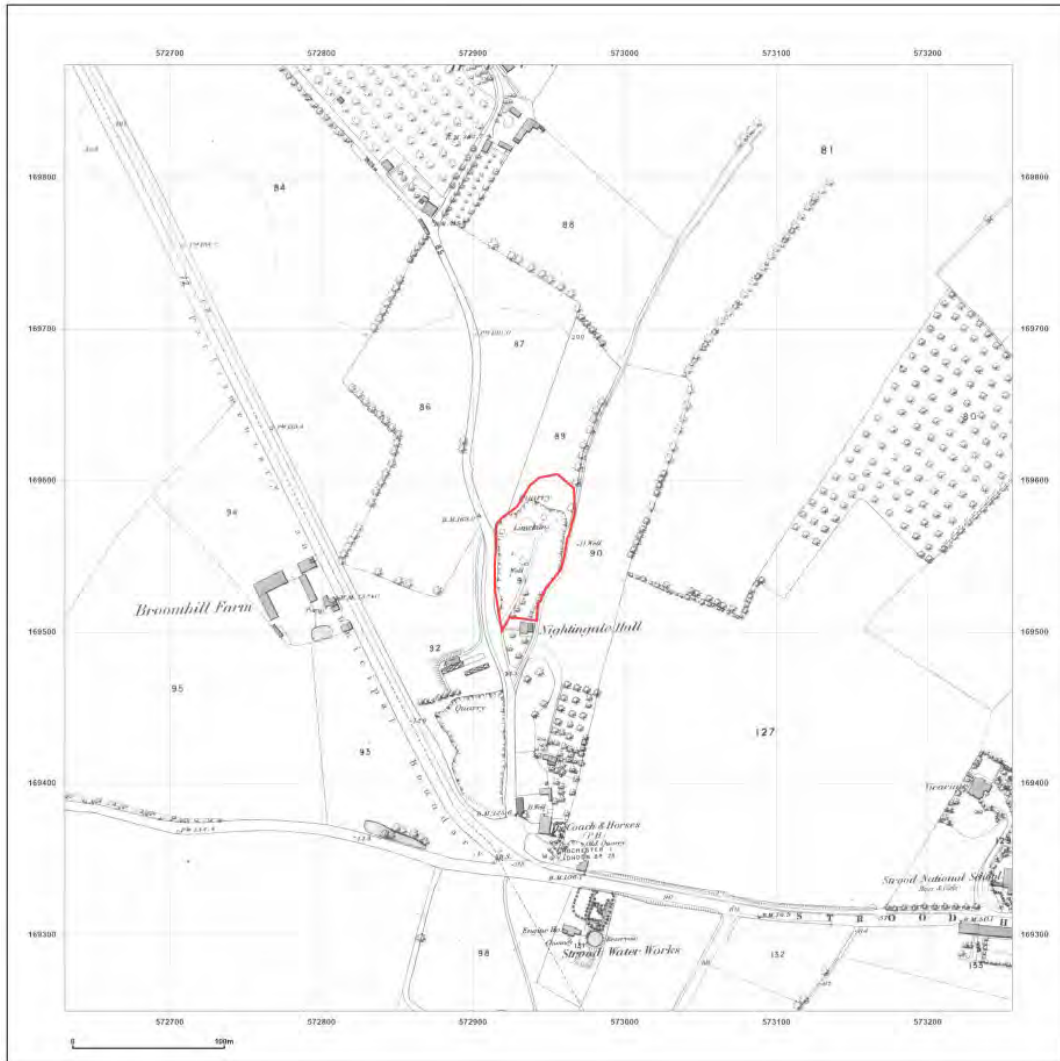


Figure 5: Historic OS Map 1867, scale 1:2500

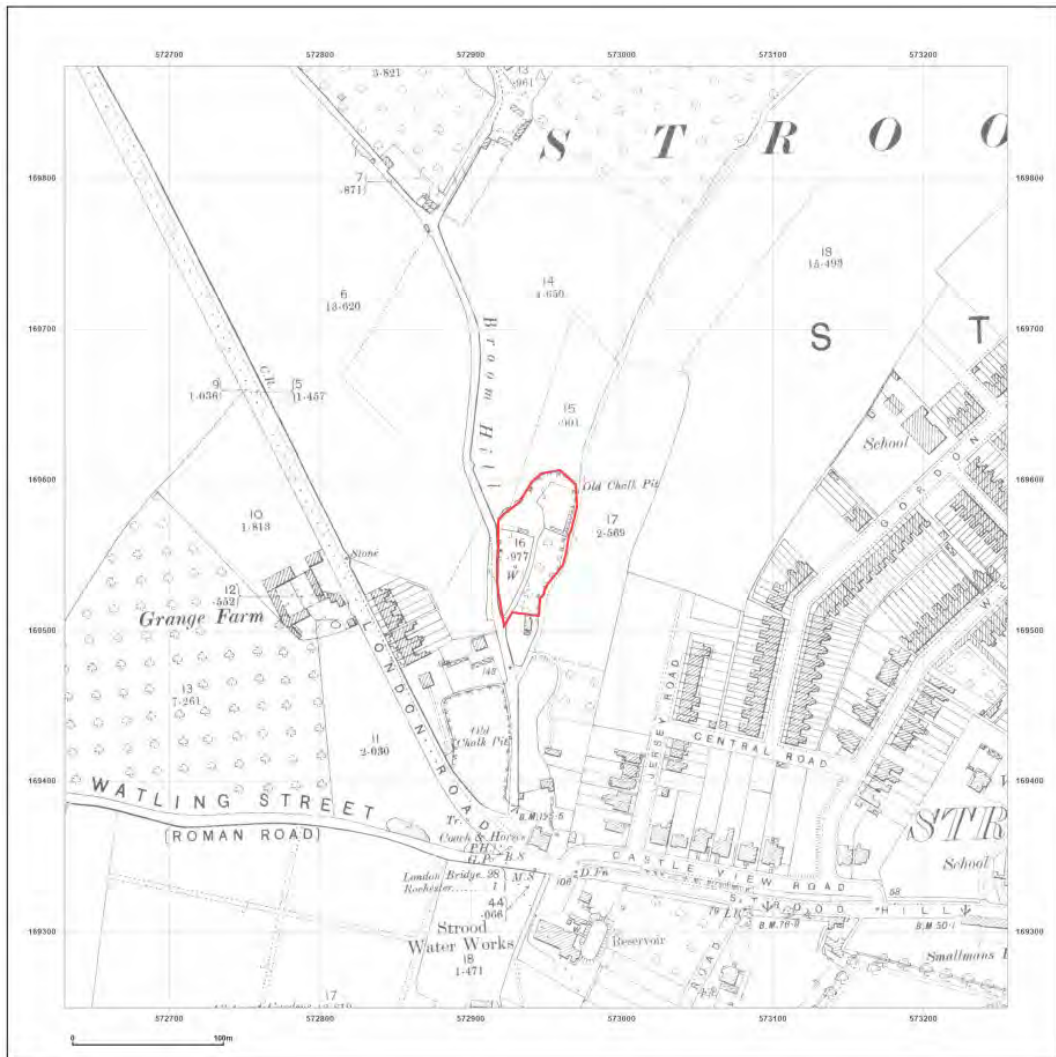


Figure 6: Historic OS Map from 1897, scale 1: 2,500

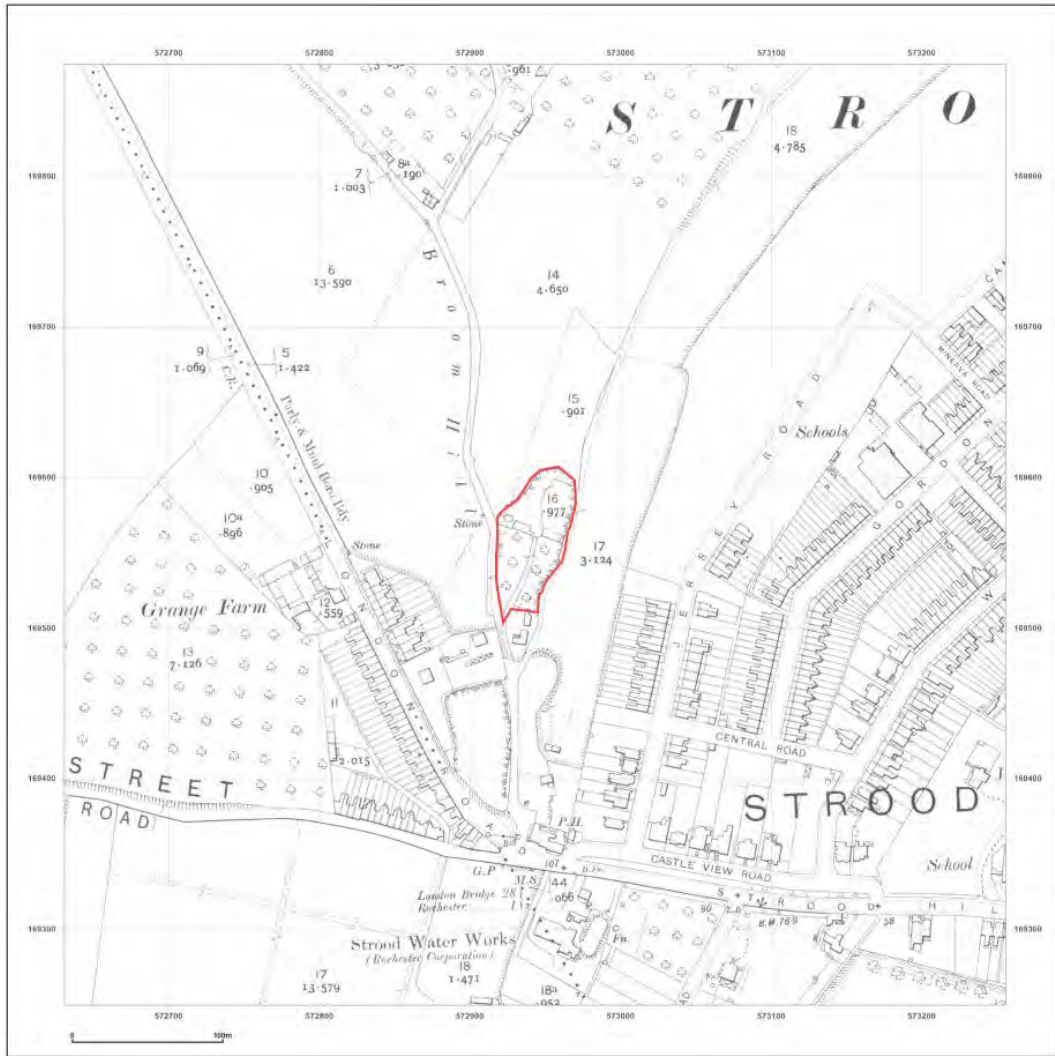


Figure 7: Historic OS Map 1909, scale 1: 2,500

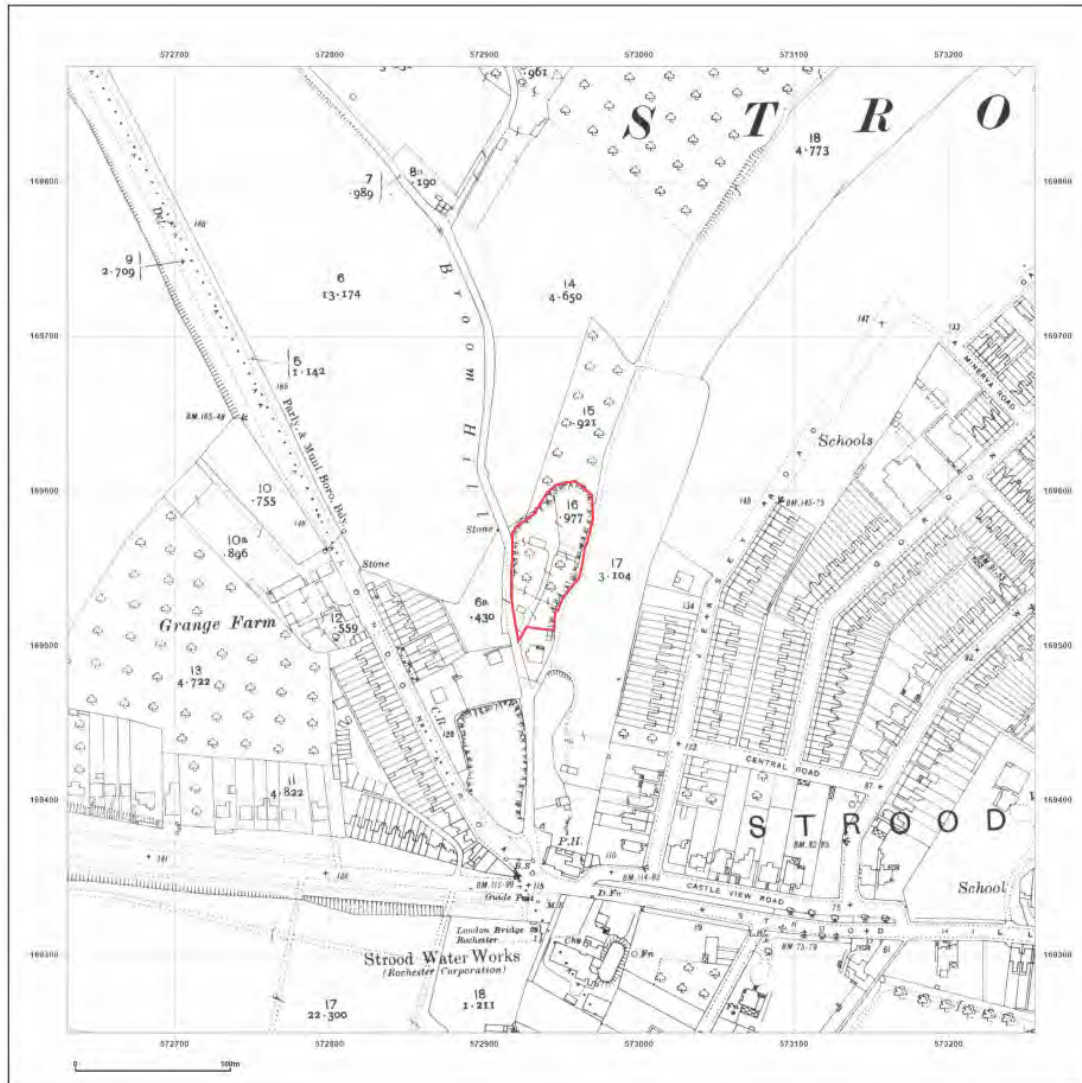


Figure 8: Historic OS Map 1934, scale 1: 2,500

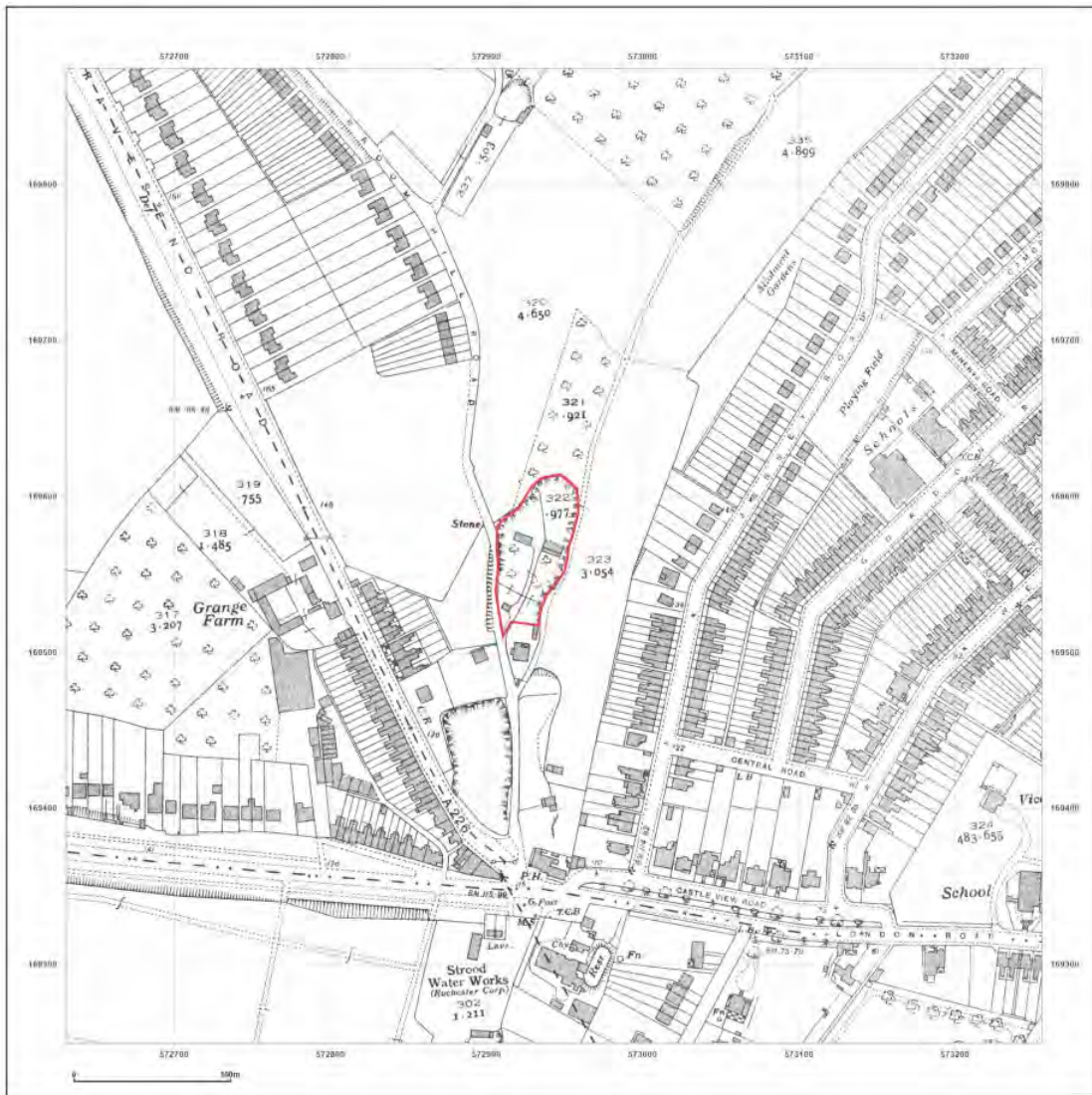


Figure 9: Historic OS Map 1938, scale 1: 2,500

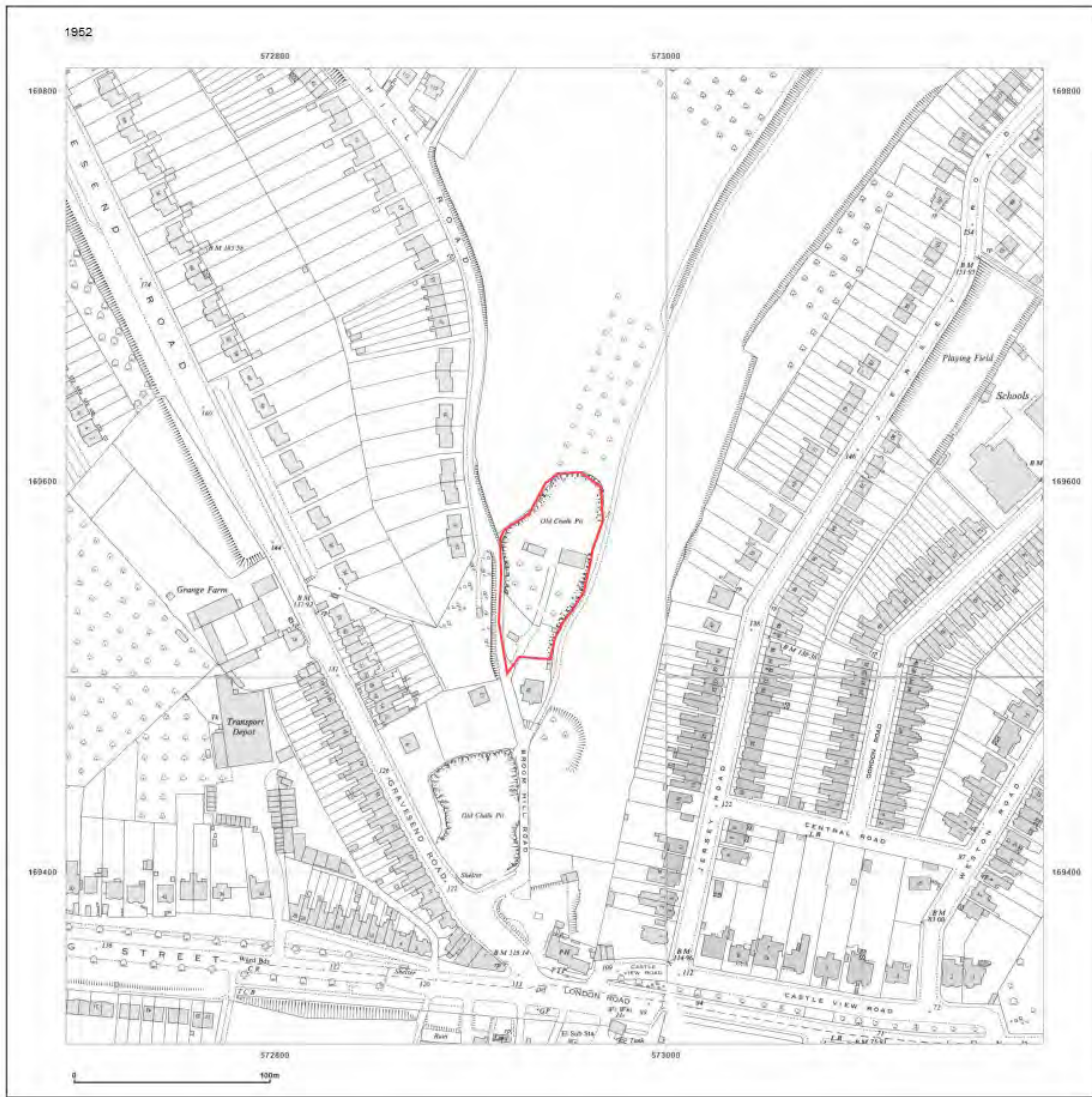


Figure 10: Historical OS Map 1952, scale 1:1,250



Figure 11: Historical OS Map 1962, scale 1:2500



Figure 12: Historical OS Map 2003, scale 1:1,250

10.3 APPENDIX 1 – KCC HER Data (see Figures 14-21). ALL DISTANCES TAKEN FROM THE SITE BOUNDARY

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
EKE10011	Event	c. 350m SE	N/A	2007- Evaluation by Canterbury Archaeological trust, 33 London Road, no archaeological deposits or features found.
EKE13279	Event	c. 150m S	N/A	2013- Watching Brief by SWAT Archaeology, 1 Jersey Road. Negative result
TQ76NW4	Find spot	c. 500m S	Bronze age	Bronze age socketed axe, exact find spot and date of discovery unknown. Rochester museum
TQ76NW20	Monument	c. 300m S	Anglo Saxon	Jutish burials, skeleton, spearhead and knife found on Strood Hill. Second burial skeleton spearhead and shield found on Woodstock Road 1990.
TQ76NW16	Monument	c. 500m S	Roman	12 ritual pits (10 ft deep) containing several Samian vessels, three up church beakers, queens rings, knives, nails, bone pins animal bones and oyster shells and one human skeleton.
TQ86SW132	Monument	c. 200m S	Roman	Roman road of Watling street from Canterbury to Rochester.
TQ76NW267	Monument	c. 300m S	Unknown	A well found at Strood Water Works.
TQ76NW289	Monument	On site	Post Medieval	A line kill marked on the first addition OS map at a Quarry.

TQ76NW501	Listed Building	c. 500m SE	Pot medieval	Grade II listed building number 16 and 18 London Road formerly part of number 10-20
TQ76NW581	Listed Building	c. 500m SE	Post Medieval	Grade II listed timber framed building number 10, 12 and 14 London Road formerly part of number 10-20
TQ85SE300	Monument	c. 500m SE	Post Medieval	Chatham and Dover railway 1853. Strood to Canterbury with extension to Faversham Key
MKE66794	Find spot	c. 400m W	Iron Age- Roman	Iron age copper alloy coin 150BC-43AD found by metal detector
MKE84557	Farm stead	c.150m W	Post Medieval	Range Farm regular multi yard courtyard with detached farmhouse in central position within village. Farmstead demolished possible oast.
MKE84647	Farmstead	c. 450m S	Post Medieval	Loose court yard plan with working buildings to one side and farm house detached in central position within village.
TQ77SE189	Crash site	c. 450m N	Modern	Air craft crash site of a Messerschmitt BF109E-1 (5175) of 7/JG53 30 th September 1940 pilot capture and injured aircraft written off.
TQ76NE476	Monument	c. 400m SE	Modern	Chatham and district tram way opened 1902 closed 1930.

TQ77SE1069	Monument	c. 500m N	Modern	Broom Hill Park 4.5 hectares history dates to 1264 used for civil war campaign and in WWII iron age burial with sword dagger and amethyst ring and mid 17 th century skeletons.
TQ76NW894	Monument	c. 400m N	Post medieval	Fields Mill a smock mill for corn built before 1832 on first edition OS map burnt down around 1875.
TQ76NW895	Monument	c. 350m N	Post Medieval-Modern	Kyllick Mill a smock mill for corn built before 1832 and on first edition OS map on second edition is disused, demolished 1930 had hexagonal base rather than octagonal.
	HLC			Post 1810 settlement general
	Medway valley Palaeolithic project			Site is within KT17 south is KT19 and north is KT16

Figure 13: Gazetteer of HER Data

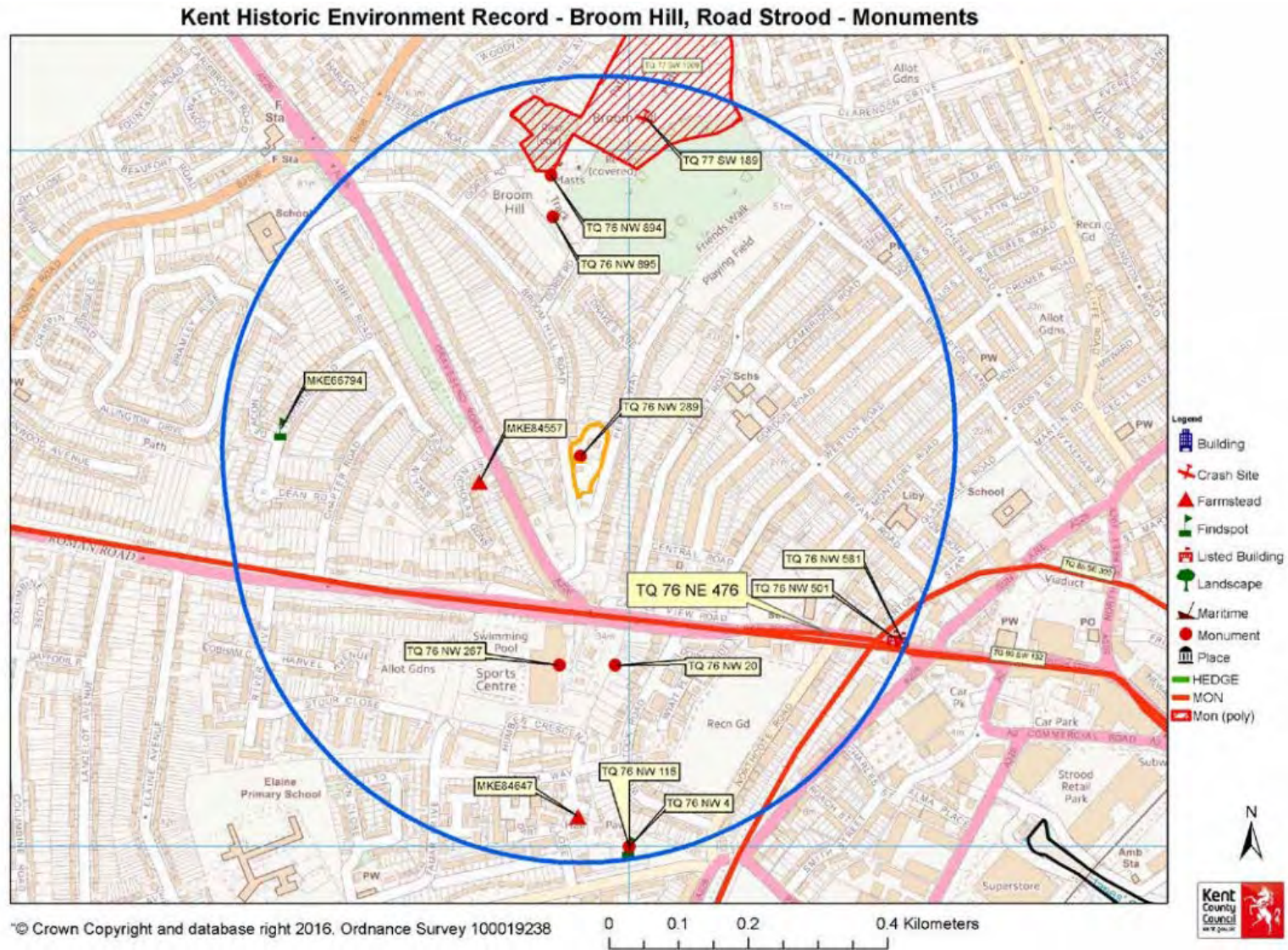


Figure 14: KHER Monument Record

Kent Historic Environment Record - Broom Hill, Road Strood - Historic Landscape Character



Figure 15: KHER Historic Landscape Classification

Kent Historic Environment Record - Broom Hill, Road Strood - Events

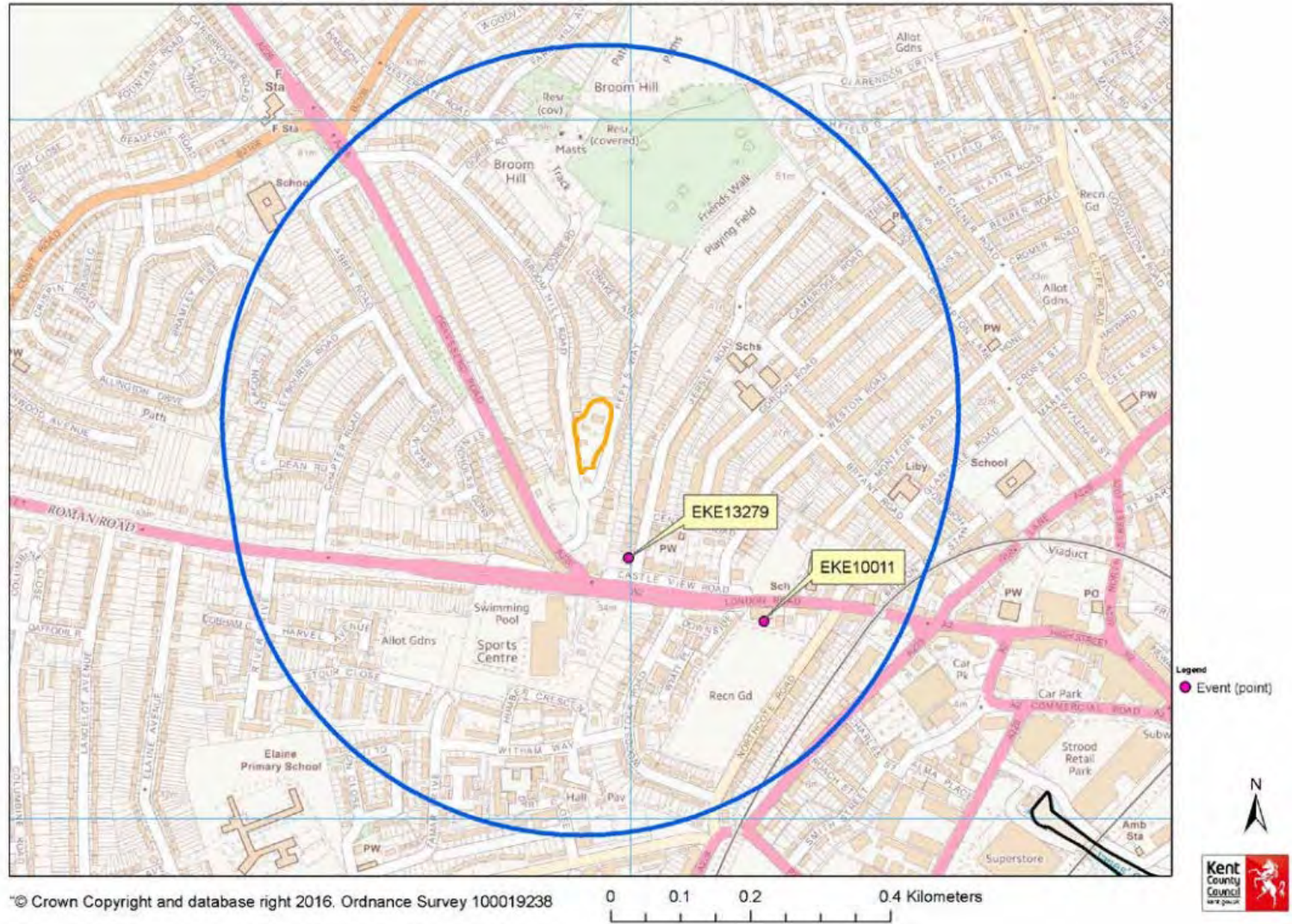


Figure 16: KHER Events

Kent Historic Environment Record - Broom Hill, Road Strood - Designations

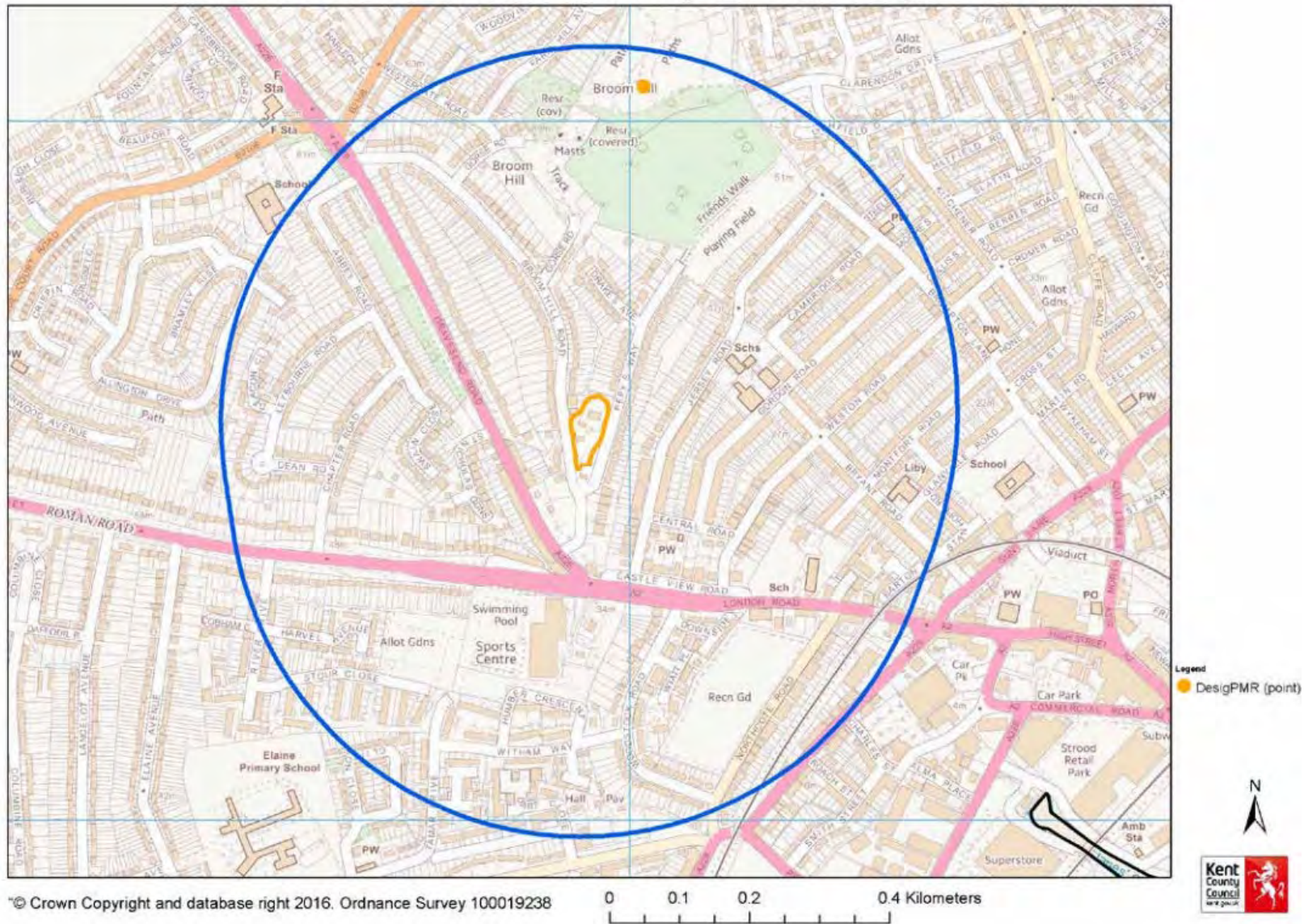


Figure 17: KHER – Designations

Kent Historic Environment Record - Broom Hill, Road Strood - Medway Valley Palaeolithic Project



Figure 18: KHER Medway Valley Palaeolithic Project

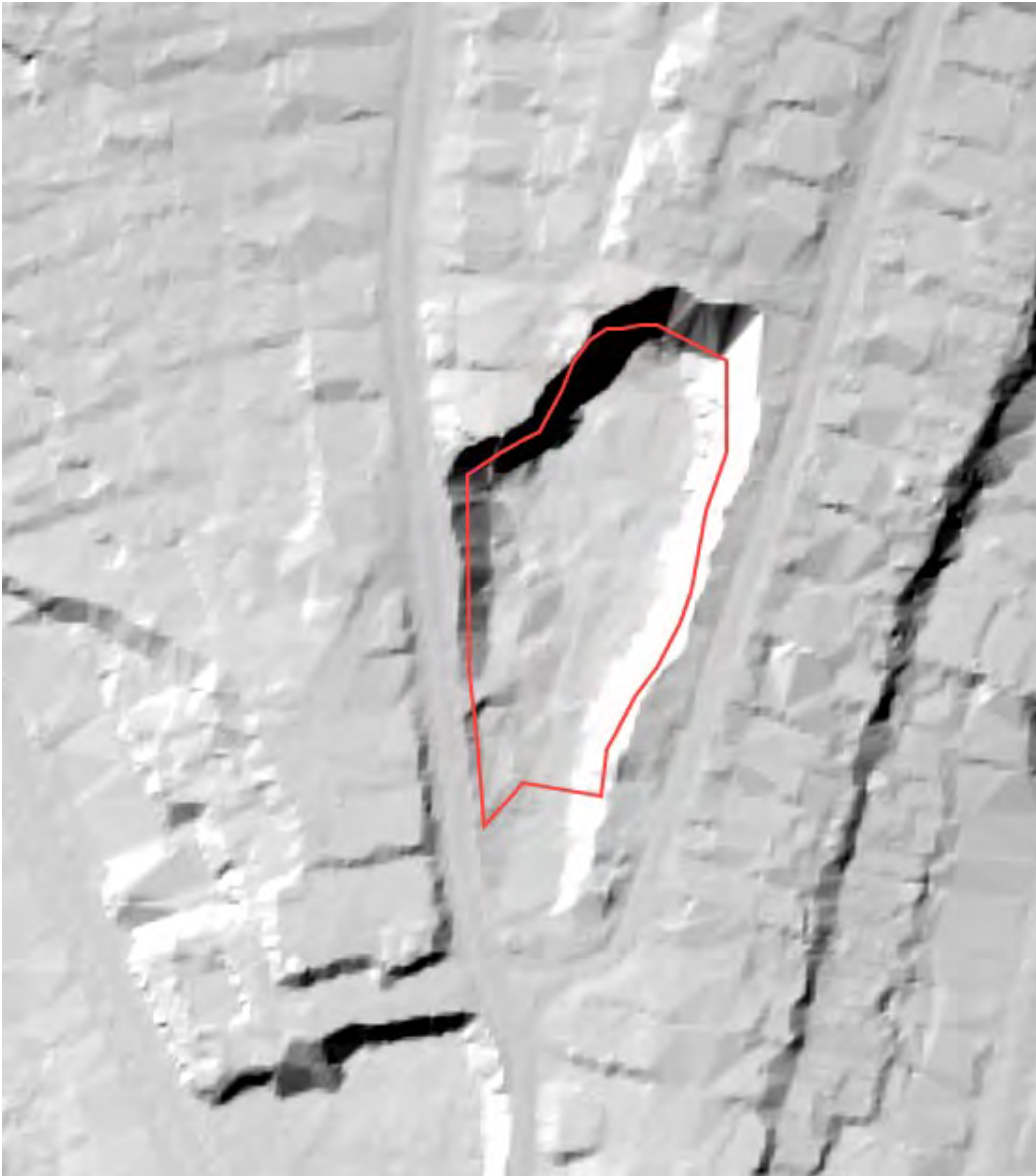


Figure 19: 1m DTM LIDAR (Environment Agency)



Plate 1: 1940s. (Google Earth).



Plate 2: 1960s (Google Earth)



Plate 3: 1990 (Google Earth)



Plate 4: 2007 (Google Earth)



Plate 5: 2020 (Google Earth)



Plate 6: 2022 (Google Earth)



Plate 7: Western boundary and entrance to the PDA (facing W)



Plate 8: View along the eastern boundary of the PDA (facing SSW)



Plate 9: View across the PDA from the southern end (facing ESE)



Plate 10: Southern boundary of the PDA. The building will be outside of the PDA (facing SW)



Plate 11: View towards 20 Broom Hill Road within the PDA (facing NNW)



Plate 12: View along the eastern quarry face (facing NW)



Plate 13: View across the central western part of the site (facing NE)



Plate 14: View of the garages at the northern end of the PDA (facing NE)



Plate 15: Western end of the garage building (facing)



Plate 16: View towards the rear (facing)



Plate 17: Northern face of the quarry (facing)



Plate 18: Rear of the garages (facing)



Plate 19: View across the site (facing)



Plate 20: View towards the piled retaining wall to houses above (facing)



Plate 21: Entrance to one of the caves (facing SE)



Plate 22: View inside the first cave



Plate 23: Second cave entrance (facing)



Plate 24: View inside the second cave



Plate 25: View of the brick buttresses on the eastern side (facing NE)



Plate 26: View towards the south eastern corner of the PDA (facing)



Plate 27: Close up of feature in the south eastern corner (facing SW)



Plate 28: Plate locations