

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
in advance of the proposed development
of Land at Hoplands Farm, Hersden,
Canterbury, Kent CT3 4HY

NGR: TR 62015 16135



Report Quinn Estates Ltd

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SWAT. ARCHAEOLOGY

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Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>List of Plates</i>	<i>iii</i>
1. SUMMARY.....	4
2. INTRODUCTION.....	5
2.1 Geology and Topography.....	6
2.2 Planning Background	6
2.3 The Proposed Development	9
2.4 Project Constraints.....	10
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	10
3.1 Introduction	10
3.2 Desktop Study – Institute For Archaeologists (revised 2011)	10
4. METHODOLOGY	10
4.1 Desk-Based Assessment.....	10
4.1.1 Archaeological databases	10
4.1.2 Historical documents	11
4.1.3 Cartographic and pictorial documents	11
4.1.4 Aerial photographs	13
4.1.5 Geotechnical information	13
4.1.6 Secondary and statutory resources	4
5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT	14
5.1 Introduction	14
5.2 History of the Site.....	15
5.3 Archaeological and Historical Development.....	17
5.4 Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas	18

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	18
6.1 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age	18
6.4 Anglo-Saxon	20
6.5 Medieval	20
6.6 Post-Medieval	20
7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT	20
7.1 Existing Impacts	20
7.2 Proposed Impacts	21
8. MITIGATION	21
9. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	22
9.1 Archive	22
9.2 Reliability/limitations of sources	22
9.3 Copyright.....	22
10. REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY	23

List of Plates

Plate 1. Google Earth view 1940

Plate 2. Google Earth view 1960

Plate 3. Google Earth view 2007

Plate 4. Google Earth view 2013

Plate 5. Google Earth view 2013 showing possible Roman road NE of the site

Plate 6. South view of Site

Plate 7. East view of the Site

Plate 8. West view of the Site

List of Figures

Fig.1 Site location

Fig.2 Location of CAT test pits

Fig.3 Andrews Dury map of 1769

Fig.4 Historic mapping 1898

Fig.5 Historic mapping 1898

Fig.6 Historic mapping 1907

Fig.7 Historic mapping 1937

Fig.8 Historic mapping 1937

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land at Hoplands Farm, Hersden, Canterbury, Kent CT3 4HY**

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1 SUMMARY

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) has been commissioned to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment in advance of the proposed development of residential dwellings on land south of Island Road (A28) in Hersden, Kent as part of the planning application submitted on behalf of Quinn Estates Ltd. This Desk Based Assessment examines the wide variety of archaeological data held by Kent County Council and other sources.

Based on this data the potential for archaeological sites either on or in the near vicinity of the proposed development can be summarised as:

- *Prehistoric: High*
- *Romano-British: High*
- *Anglo-Saxon: High*
- *Post-medieval: Moderate*

The Desk Based Assessment concludes that:

- *The site has a high potential for Prehistoric remains and has within the site with two monuments dating to the Iron Age with extensive Prehistoric, Iron Age archaeology in the near vicinity of these monuments*
- *In addition Roman archaeology has been found on the site*
- *On the western edge of the site is an extensive Anglo-Saxon cemetery*

The site lies within the civil parish of Sturry, located some six miles north east of Canterbury, just east of the parish of Westbere, on the Island Road (A28). It comprises of an area of 361,164 sqm and is close to the River Stour (Figure 1).

2 INTRODUCTION

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by Quinn Estates to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment to supplement a planning application for the development of the site situated south of Island Road and north of the River Stour (Figure 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. The PDA is centered on National Grid Reference TR 62015 16135. Archaeological investigations, both recent and historic have been studied and the information from these investigations has been incorporated in the assessment. Two investigations in particular are important for the understanding of the potential archaeological resource of the site. An Anglo-Saxon burial ground (TR26SE12) is located c.10m to the west of the PDA; some 60-70 cremations and inhumations of early 6th to 7th Century were found by Dr A.G. Ince in a gravel pit in 1931. Many of the graves were with grave-goods that now are on exhibition at the Canterbury Museum. The report was written up by Jessup in the Antiquaries Journal (24) of 1946.

It is likely that burials may have encroached on the west boundary of the PDA.

In addition Canterbury Archaeological Trust undertook test pitting on the west side of the PDA and subsequently evaluation and exposed important Iron Age and Roman remains including two Iron Age enclosures within the proposed development site (Rady J. & Holman J. 2004).

This report is a desk-based appraisal from known cartographic, photographic and archaeological sources and is a research led statement on the archaeological potential of the proposed development.

It may be that intrusive investigations such as a Geophysical Survey and/or an Archaeological Evaluation with machine cut trial trenching may be requested by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) as a Planning Condition.

2.1 Geology and Topography

The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) indicates that the north of the site is London Clay, formed 34 to 56 million years ago, during the Paleogene period, when the area was dominated by deep seas and infrequent slurries of shallow water sediments were re-deposited as graded beds.

Moving south the geology changes to Head, a gravel, sand, silt and clay deposit formed 3 million years ago during the Quaternary period when the environment was dominated by subaerial slopes, an accumulation of down slope movements including landslide, debris flow, solifluction, soil creep and hill wash.

The south of the site is the Lambeth Group (sand). Bedrock also formed in the Paleogene period when the environment was dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas; marginal coastal plains with lakes and swamps, periodically inundated by the sea. (BGS 1:50,000 digital).

The PDA begins at a height of 101-104 average in the north and continues downhill to a height of 13 – 49 Average; it is in close proximity to a significant water course “The River Stour”.

2.2 Planning Background

The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

Policy 12 is the relevant policy for the historic environment:

12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

12.6. Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:

- the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;

- the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;
- the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
- opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.

12.8. 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 (NPPF 2012).

Canterbury City Council in the Canterbury District Local Plan Publication Draft 2 list a number of policies relevant to archaeology:

Policy HE1. Historic Environment and Heritage Assets

HE2. World Heritage Site and Buffer Zone

HE4. Listed Buildings

HE8. Heritage Assets

HE11. Archaeology

HE12. Area of Archaeological Importance

Policy HE1 relates to the importance of the historic environment, HE2 to the World Heritage site, HE 4 and 5 to Listed Buildings, HE 5-10 to the Conservation areas, HE12 to the World Heritage site and HE 13 to Historic Parks and Gardens.

Policy HE11 concerns below ground archaeological remains, their evaluation, excavation and mitigation strategies:

Policy HE11

The archaeological and historic integrity of designated heritage assets such as Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other important archaeological sites, together with their settings, will be protected and, where possible, enhanced. Development which would adversely affect them will not be permitted.

Where important or potentially significant heritage assets may exist, developers will be required to arrange for field evaluation to be carried out in advance of the determination of planning applications. The evaluation should define:

- *The character, importance and condition of any archaeological deposits or structures within the application site;*
- *The likely impact of the proposed development on these features (including the limits to the depth to which groundworks can go on the site); and*
- *The means of mitigating the effect of the proposed development including: a statement setting out the impact of the development.*

Where the case for development affecting a heritage asset of archaeological interest is accepted, the archaeological remains should be preserved in situ.

Where preservation in situ is not possible or justified, appropriate provision for preservation by record may be an acceptable alternative. In such cases archaeological recording works must be undertaken in accordance with a specification prepared by the City Council's Archaeological Officer or a competent archaeological organisation that has been agreed by the City Council in advance.

Regional Policies

The South-East Research Framework (SERF) is ongoing with groups of researchers producing a Resource Assessment which will identify research questions and topics in order to form a Research Agenda for the future.

This Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Good Practise

Advice notes 1, 2 and 3 which now supersede the PPS 5 Practise Guide which has been withdrawn by the Government. The Good Practise Advice notes emphasises the need for assessments of the significance of any heritage assets which are likely to be changed, so the assessment can inform the decision process. Significance is defined in the NPPF Guidance in the Glossary as “the value of the heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic, or historical. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset’s physical presence, but also its setting”. The setting of the heritage asset is also clarified in the Glossary as “the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve”.

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.

2.3 The Proposed Development

Description	Hectares	Acres
Site Area	28.7	71.0
Development Area	11.6	28.6
Open Space & Landscape	15.9	39.3
SUDS & wetland	1.3	3.1
Residential	8.1	20.1
Assumed average residential density	30.7 dph	-
Total number of dwellings	250 dwellings	-
Local Centres and Mixed Uses	0.5	1.14
Commercial Development	1.6	3.9
Transport Infrastructure	1.4	3.4

The proposed development will comprise of 250 dwellings, commercial development, local centres and mixed uses with the construction of vehicular access, associated car parking and landscaping set in parkland (Figure above).

The site comprises nine fields, each bounded by mature trees and hedging located adjacent to Hoplands Farm. The north boundary faces Island Road and a medium density residential housing. The remains of the line of the SE & CR railway bound the PDA to the south leading onwards to the Stour River. To the east and west are open fields and the Lakes view Industrial.

2.4 Project Constraints

No project constraints were encountered during the data collection for this assessment.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by Quinn Estates Ltd in order to supplement a planning application for the development of the site at land adjacent to Island Road, Hersden, Kent CT3 4EY.

3.2 Desktop Study – Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2011)

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

“a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate”. (CiFA 2014)

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Desk-Based Assessment

4.1.1 Archaeological databases

The local Historic Environment Record (HER) held at Kent County Council provides an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area (PDA) and the surrounding environs of Hersden.

The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) was also used. The search was carried out within a 500m radius of the proposed development site (20/10/15).

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.

4.1.2 Historical documents

Historical documents, such as charters, registers, wills and deeds etc were considered not relevant to this specific study.

4.1.3 Cartographic and pictorial documents

A cartographic and pictorial document search was undertaken during this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by Kent County Council, the Internet and Ordnance Survey Historical mapping (Figs. 3-8).

Map Regression 1769-2004

A map regression exercise on maps was carried out on the proposed development area and has shown that the PDA has always been woods and fields.

Maps consulted for this period include the Andrews Dury maps of 1769, the Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawings of 1798 and the first published OS County map of 1801.

The scale on the 1799 Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawings and OS County map was too small to interpret detail of the site in question.

The most productive early map is the Andrews Dury maps of 1769. This map shows a landscape in which the roads and field systems are already established. The PDA –as

now- shows a landscape that is for the most part fields and wood. The Andrews and Drury map of 1769 shows the farm (Hoplands) as one of several farmsteads in a landscape of shaw, pasture, arable land and woods, set between the Roman Road and the Stour River, just south of 'Halfway House', east of 'Deanry' and west of a small development, 'Upstreet' (Figure 3).

From the 1840s the Ordnance Survey started work on the Great Britain 'County Series', modelled on the earlier Ireland survey. A start was made on mapping the whole country, county by county, at six inches to the mile (1:10,560). From 1854, to meet requirements for greater detail, including land-parcel numbers in rural areas and accompanying information, cultivated and inhabited areas were mapped at 1:2500 (25.344 inches to the mile), at first parish by parish, with blank space beyond the parish boundary, and later continuously.

In the OS map of 1898, Hersden is not yet mentioned as a village. North of Hoplands Farm is a spring and a well and south of the site, the railway can be seen and the River Stour is marked as the 'Great Stour'. Between Hoplands and to the north east Westbere Court a gravel pit is situated in Field 229 and another gravel pit with a building adjacent to the Roman road (Island Road) and to the north west of Hoplands in Field 202. Both gravel pits are located inside the area of the proposed development (Figures 4, 5)

The OS map of 1907 shows that the gravel pit has been enlarged in Field 229 as has the gravel pit in Field 202 (Figure 6).

The OS map of 1937 shows that the land adjacent to the east of Hoplands Farm has been development into a mine. The Railway has the addition of 'Chislet Halt' a station built specifically for the mineworkers that lived outside of the town. The River has gained a sluice gate and two access points that originate in the mine. The village of Hersden is now marked and is a large development of medium density housing, on the north side of the Roman Road (Island Road), built to house the

mineworkers. Just to the west of the PDA a 'Saxon and Jutish Cemetery found AD 1931 & 1932' is marked south of Bushy Close Wood in an 'Old Gravel Pit' (Figures 7,8)

By 2013 the village of Hersden has developed to the west but the mine and the railway are no longer visible, having gone out of use. Hoplands Farm is still in situ with the addition of a pumping station and Westbere Court, previously Halfway House, has been developed into The Villas, Canterbury Industrial Park and Lakeview International Business Park (Figure 1).

4.1.4 Aerial photographs

The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-3). Both the 1940 and 1960 aerial photographs show a rural landscape south of the Roman road on the site of the proposed development. The 2007 aerial photograph shows quite clearly the route of the sewer pipeline transecting the western half of the PDA and running north to south from Island Road- the Roman road from Canterbury to the ferry crossing over the Wantsum Stream to Thanet. Of particular interest is a close up of the same aerial photograph to the north of the Roman road that shows a double ditched possible Roman road presumably running from the Roman fort at Reculver to the same ferry crossing, This road and its route is unknown to the Kent HER.

The 2013 aerial photograph shows the rural landscape south of the Roman road called Island Road.

4.1.5 Geotechnical information

To date, no known geotechnical investigations have been carried out at the site. However, archaeological test-pitting and evaluation by Canterbury Archaeological Trust took place in the western area of the site in 2004. It is important that some of the data produced in the 2004 report is summarised here and read in conjunction with the plan (Figure 2).

Test Pit 1. Natural clay and gravel located at a depth of 0.23m beneath ground level at 34.62mOD.

Test Pit 3. Natural clay and gravel located at a depth of 0.47m beneath ground level at 33.82mOD.

Test Pit 6. Natural London Clay located at a depth of 0.30-0.40m sealed by a deposit of greyish brown gravel overlaid by a brown grey silty loam overlain by topsoil at 24.20mOD.

4.1.6 Secondary and statutory resources

Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological studies, landscape studies; dissertations, research frameworks and websites are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment where necessary.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Introduction

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	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

The Archaeological record within the area of Hersden is diverse and comprises possible activity dating from the Bronze Age through to the Post-medieval period. The geographic and topographic location of the site is within a landscape that has

been the focus of trade, travel and communication accelerated since the building of the Roman road that lies on the north boundary of the PDA.

There have been numerous archaeological investigations (Appendix 1) that have delivered a wealth of potential, particularly relating to the Iron Age and Roman periods.

5.2 History of the site

Hersden village is located in the lower regions of the north Kent plain, within the Stour Valley, on a branch of the River Stour, near the site of the Ashford and Ramsgate Railway. It was planned and constructed by the Chislet Colliery Company to house the coal miners and their families, who had moved to Kent from Wales, Scotland and the North to work at the nearby Chislet Colliery. Completed in 1929, the origin of the name is uncertain. It was thought that Mr Griff Davies, the colliery secretary, combined the names of Haseden and Hersing from J k Wallenberg's "Place Names of Kent" to produce 'Hersden', however, the name Hersden appears on the map of 1877 relating to a farmstead later known as Walnut Tree farm (now the sewage farm) and on a field to the west of the farm sloping down to Westbere as Hersden Hill. The Kent coalfield was discovered in 1890 during exploratory works for coal and the northern extension at Hersden was created after coal was discovered in Chislet in 1919.

The landscape in which the proposed development sits is agricultural in character and home to the several areas of woodland. Blean Woods, north west of the site is the largest ancient broadleaved woodland in southern Britain and is a mixture of hornbeam, hazel, beech, oak, birch and sweet chestnut. Brambles, bracken and bluebells are dominant on the woodland floor and plants such as the common spotted orchid, common centaury and St John's Wort are found in the woodland rides. It is home to many forest birds such as woodpeckers, tree creepers and nuthatch and the spotted flycatcher, nightjar, bullfinch and hawfinch are also resident along with an important population of nightingales and an occasional summer visit from the golden oriole. It is one of the few homes of the heath fritillary butterfly and the scarce seven-spot ladybird.

Stodmarsh National Nature Reserve, east of the site, is an important mixture of reed beds, fens, ditches, wet grassland and open water. The reserve has the largest reed bed in the south east of England, providing a sanctuary for migrating birds such as swallows and house martins in the summer and starlings in the winter. Bittern, marsh harrier, kingfisher, great crested grebe, coot, moorhen, reed bunting, bearded reedling are also resident along with a large variety of invertebrates, rare plants and a strong population of water voles.

Early human habitation is evident in the numerous flint tools and arrow-heads found throughout the area and appears to centre around the north bank of the River Stour. Pottery sherds and axe-heads from the Bronze Age have been found around the Sturry Hill gravel pits and a copper alloy socketed axe-head was found by metal detecting c.40m west of the PDA (MKE94707)

A burial-ground near Stonerocks Farm showed that there was a 2nd Century, Iron Age settlement of Belgic Celts, who gave Canterbury its pre-Roman name of Durovernum. The Romans built the road now known as 'Island Road' (A28) to connect Canterbury, the local tribal capital, to the Isle of Thanet ferry and their fort at Reculver. It forms the north boundary of the PDA (TR16SE206) and 40m west of the PDA a Roman lead alloy steelyard weight was discovered (MKE94749).

During the 5th Century the Romano-Britons brought in Frisians and Jutes as mercenaries to aid in the fight against the invading Picts and Scots and rewarded them for their service with land. During an evaluation for the installation of a new sewer pipe south of the Roman road (Island road) Iron Age enclosures and ditches were discovered on the west side of the proposed development area. Further investigation revealed significant Iron Age and Roman deposits, features and burials. One of the enclosures measured 50m wide and the ditch surrounding it was between 3-4m wide and 1.2m deep (KHER TR26SW205/EKE9671).

In the mid-5th century, Kent was re-organised into lathes, or districts and Sturry was the first. Known as Stour-gau, meaning lathe or district on the Stour.

In 1931, Dr A.G. Ince uncovered a 6th to 7th Century Burial Ground (TR26SE12) in a gravel pit within 10m of the west boundary of the PDA; between 60-70 cremations and inhumations with numerous grave-goods of brooches, buckles, strings of beads,

necklaces, pendants, bracelets and rings, shield bosses and pots of varying size and style, some of which are on exhibition at the Canterbury Museum.

Following the 7th Century the area seems to have settled into a farming landscape with Canterbury forming the medieval centre of activity. Metal detecting has produced four silver medieval coins dating from 1249 - 1279 AD, one a Penny of Alexander III of Scotland, to the east of the PDA (MKE57319/20/21/22) and an evaluation south of Island Road revealed a multi-phase medieval timber-framed building and pit (TR21256235).

The Post Medieval period landscape is dominated by woodland and farmsteads. Breadlands Farm (TR16SE140/MKE86407/TR16SE138/MKE86408), Hersden Farm (MKE86479) and Westbere Farm (MKE86477/TR26SW156) are all loose courtyard style where as Hoplands farm (MKE86478) and Joiner Farm are of Regular courtyard style (MKE86476).

The South East & Chatham Railway arrived in 1846 (TR15NE1063) supplying the route from Ashford to Ramsgate. They were in fierce competition with the London, Chatham & Dover Railway company, to such a degree, that competing routes to the same destination were built and many towns still bear the legacy of two stations. In 1898, after forty years of bitter rivalry they agreed to share the operation of the routes while remaining as separate companies. Between them, they held the monopoly on the Railway service in Kent and to the main Channel ports for ferries to France and Belgium, This arrangement continued until 1923 when they finally amalgamated as the SE & CR.

The discovery of coal in 1911 was to produce a lasting affect on the area. A landscape that was in essence rural and home to several isolated farmsteads, was developed into a mining town, by the Chislet Colliery Company; the Mine itself (TR26SW75) which is located adjacent to the PDA, a new residential development to house the miners and their families north of Island Road, 'Hersden station' for the use of miners living outside of the village, new bridges and access routes to the railway or the River Stour and a Pump-house (MWX43718) and Windmill (MWX43717) which fed water up to the boilers to drive the shaft wheels. At its peak the mine employed upwards of 1600 men, mining 223,733 tonnes of coal. It closed in 1969.

5.3 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 centered on each site of the PDA), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed on page 14 in **Table 1**.

A preliminary review of the cultural heritage data shows that the site has archaeological potential.

5.4 Scheduled Monuments; Listed Buildings; Historic Parks & Gardens and Conservation Areas

One farmstead; one monument; one event; one milestone; no Listed Buildings; no Historic Parks & Gardens and/or Conservation Areas are recorded within the confines of the proposed development area (PDA). The Farmstead in the vicinity of the Proposed Development Site (PDA) is Hoplands farm (MKE86478), a post medieval farmstead of regular courtyard multi-yard layout with central detached farmhouse in an isolated position. It has suffered significant loss of form, estimated at least 50%. The monument is the location of two Iron Age enclosures (TR26SW205), one 50m wide with ditches of 3-4m x 1.2m, found during an evaluation prior to a sewer pipe installation. An excavation (EKE9671/TR26SW90) in the same area, revealed significant Iron Age and Roman deposits, features, and burials.

These significant archaeological remains are within the bounds of the PDA.

A milestone (TR26SW197) is sited on the Island Road that bounds the PDA to the north (Figures 9-11).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

6.1 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age

Significant quantities of Bronze Age metalwork have been recorded within a 750m

radius of the PDA. A hoard of Bronze Age metalwork is recorded from Chislet Park Farm in 1879 including at least five palstave axes (HER Ref: TR 26 SW17; TR 209 629). A Bronze Age spear is recorded from TR 21800 62370 (HER Ref: MKE 56949). The same location is given for two copper alloy ingots (HER Refs: MKE 56950, MKE 57302), and copper alloy casting waste (HER Refs: MKE 56951 and MKE 56952). Further finds of copper alloy casting waste are recorded at TR 21650 62300 (HER Refs: MKE 56957, 56954) and at TR 21820 62490 (HER Ref: MKE 57225) and TR 21670 62350 (HER Ref: MKE 57226). A copper alloy axe of c.1500 to 1150BC is recorded from TR 21100 62700 (HER Ref: MKE 79268). The potential for finding remains dating to the Prehistoric within the confines of the PDA is considered **high**.

6.2 Iron Age

There are two records that reflect Iron Age activity within the search area and both offer evidence of occupation. Archaeological investigations south of Island Road Hersden by Canterbury Archaeological Trust in 2004 revealed two phases of Iron Age enclosure representing a farming settlement (HER Ref: TR 26 SW 205; TR 2008 6161). An Iron Age copper alloy toggle is recorded from TR 21100 62700 (HER Ref: MKE 79271). The potential for finding remains dating to the Iron Age within the confines of the PDA is considered **high**.

6.3 Romano-British

There are two records that reflect Romano-British activity within the search area and one of these is a road that would have been widely used. Subsidiary Roman Roads one aligned north-west to south-east and apparently extending off the Canterbury to Upstreet Road, and a further east-west aligned road were identified during archaeological investigations south of Island Road, Hersden (HER Ref: TR 26 SW 86, TR 212 623). This Road was associated with extensive Roman activity with several timber buildings set in tenement plots, fence lines, quarry pits and ditches represented (HER Ref: TR 26 SW 90, TR 21234 62309). There is a possibility that a village or small Roman town is represented here, developed from an earlier Iron Age settlement. The potential for finding remains dating to Romano-British archaeology in the research area suggests that the potential is therefore to be considered **high**.

6.4 Anglo-Saxon

There is one record that reflects Anglo-Saxon archaeology within the assessment area and it is a large Burial Ground, evidencing occupation and located adjacent to the western boundary of the PDA. The potential for finding remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period in the PDA is considered as **high**.

6.5 Medieval

Medieval archaeology within the assessment area is represented with the metal detecting find of four coins. The potential for finding remains dating to the medieval period on the development site is considered as **low**.

6.6 Post-Medieval and Modern

There are several records that reflect Post-Medieval activity within the search area; one is the railway and the remainder, are farmsteads. The potential for finding remains dating to the post-medieval period is therefore considered as **low**.

6.7 Summary of Potential

The desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site but this potential can only be tested by fieldwork. Research has shown that the PDA may contain archaeological sites and these can be summarised as:

- Prehistoric: High
- Iron Age: High
- Roman: High
- Anglo-Saxon: High
- Medieval: Low
- Post-Medieval and Modern: Low

7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 Existing Impacts

The search area to the east of the PDA has been subject to previous impacts from mining and the potential impact on buried archaeological deposits will have been

significant, however the area to the west and within the bounds of the PDA has remained agricultural since the 18th century and any impact will have been due to agricultural activities, therefore, the previous impacts are considered **low** on the known and unknown archaeological resource.

It is worth keeping in mind the sewage pipes running north/south in the western area of the PDA. It was evaluated in 2004 by Canterbury Archaeological Trust but it seems there was no follow up strip map and sample was undertaken even though important prehistoric archaeology was revealed in the archaeological evaluation.

7.2 Proposed Impacts

At the time of preparing this archaeological assessment, the extent of the proposed development was for the build of commercial and residential units, access roads, landscaping and car parking. Extensive impact is to be expected within the development area once construction begins. The excavation of footings and the installation of services will be the main cause of this impact and it is therefore considered as **high**.

8 MITIGATION

The purpose of this archaeological desk-based assessment was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record, in order to determine the potential survival of archaeological deposits that may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.

The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential with monuments located within the area of the PDA. The proposed development will have an adverse impact on these buried remains and it is recommended that an archaeological investigation either through geophysical survey and/or archaeological evaluation should be carried out under planning conditions. These procedures will provide an additional assessment of the nature; depth and level of survival of any archaeological deposits present within the extents of the site and used to inform if further mitigation is necessary.

9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Setting of Listed Buildings

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). 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).

The PDA is screened to the north by an existing development of medium density housing and to the east by a Commercial Estate. The only designated heritage asset that shares intervisibility with the PDA is Hoplands Farm (MKE86478) (Plates 6-8).

9.1 Archive

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

9.2 Reliability/limitations of sources

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

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

Paul Wilkinson PhD., MCifA., FRSA.

November 20th 2015

10 REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY

Canterbury District Local Plan Publication Draft 2 (2014)

Jessup R. F. 1946 An Anglo Saxon Cemetery at Westbere (Antiquaries Journal 26 1946)

Rady J. & Holman J. 2004 Archaeological Test-pitting on the line of a new sewer pipeline south of Island Road, Westbere, near Hersden, Canterbury

IFA (2014) STANDARD AND GUIDANCE for historic environment desk-based assessment.

National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

Data provided by Kent HER

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

HER Ref.	Location	Period	Summary
EKE 11584			Geotechnical report on the A28 bypass
EKE 11177	N of site		WB on test pits Spires Academy- no archaeology
EKE 12050	On site	Iron Age	Test pitting revealed Iron Age enclosures
MKE 86476	E of site	Post medieval	Multiyard farmstead
MKE 86407	E of Site	Post medieval	Loose courtyard plan farmstead
MKE 86408	On site	Post medieval	Loose courtyard plan farmstead
MKE 94749	N of site	43AD-410AD	Lead alloy steelyard weight
MKE 94707	N of site	Bronze Age	Fragment of Late Bronze Age socketed axe found by metal detector
MKE 57875	N of site	Unknown	Copper alloy unidentified object
MKE 86480	N of site	Post medieval	A field barn with no associated yard
MKE 86479	S of site	Post medieval	Loose courtyard plan farmstead
MKE 86478	S of site	Post medieval	A regular multiyard farmstead
MKE 57321	E of site	Medieval	Medieval silver coin c.1279AD
MKE 86477	E of site	Post medieval	Loose courtyard plan farmstead with only the farmhouse surviving
MKE 57322	E of site	Medieval	Medieval silver coin c.1249AD
MWX43717	S of site	Post medieval	A windmill or wind pump
MWX43718	S of site	Modern	Pump house visible on GoogleEarth 2007 and OS 1938 edition
TR16SR140	NW of site	18 th century	Barn at Bredlands Farm
TR16SE138	NW of site	1700-1799AD	Bredlands Farm Grade II listed building
TR16SE12	W of site	410-1065AD	Anglo Saxon burial ground
TR26SW205	On site	Iron Age to Roman	Iron Age enclosures, pits, post holes and ditches

HER Ref.	Location	Period	Summary
TR26SW215	N of site	Modern	George V pillar box
TR26SW197	N of site	Modern	Milestone
TR26SW156	E of site	Post medieval	Westbere Court Grade II Listed building
TR26SW75	E of site	Modern	Chislet Colliery 1901-1946
MWX 43061	E of site	Modern	WWII defended gun position at Chislet Colliery
MWX 43084	E of site	Modern	WWII pillbox and trench at Chislet Colliery

Plates



Plate 1. 1940 Google Earth



Plate 2. 1960 Google Earth



Plate 3. 2007 Google Earth



Plate 4. 2013 Google Earth showing extent of site

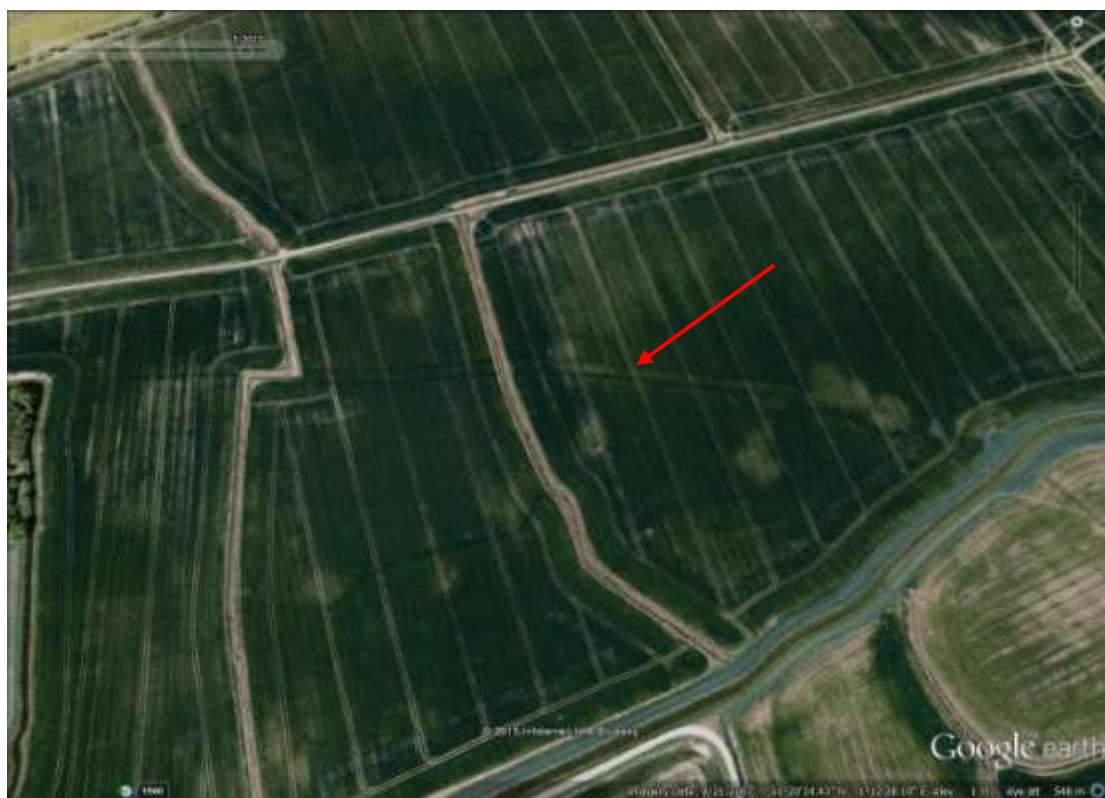


Plate 5. 2013 Google Earth- Possible Roman road to the north east of the PDA



Plate 6. View of Site (looking south)



Plate 7. View of Site (looking east)



Plate 8. View of Site (looking west)

Figures



Figure 3. Andrew Dury map of 1769 with the area of proposed development

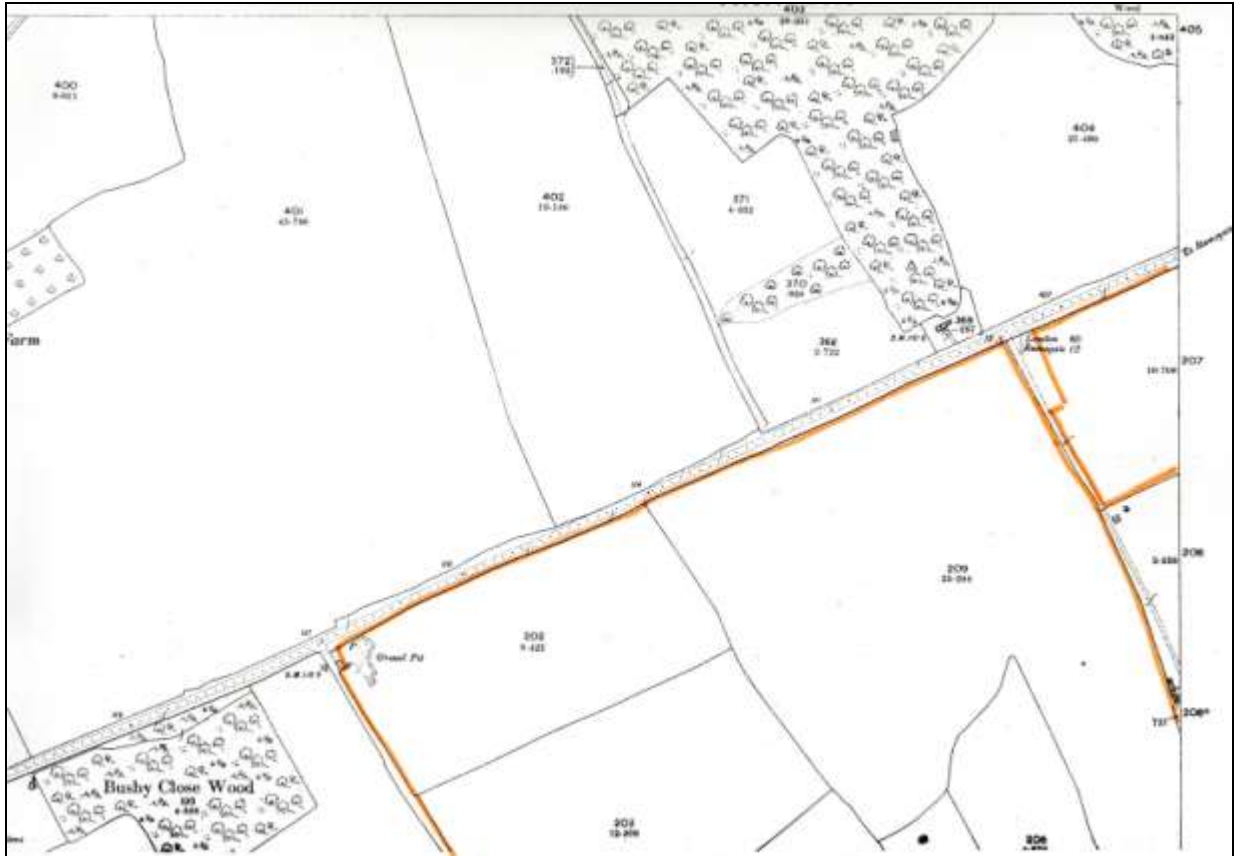


Figure 4. OS map of 1898 25" 2nd Edition 36/9 showing west area of the PDA

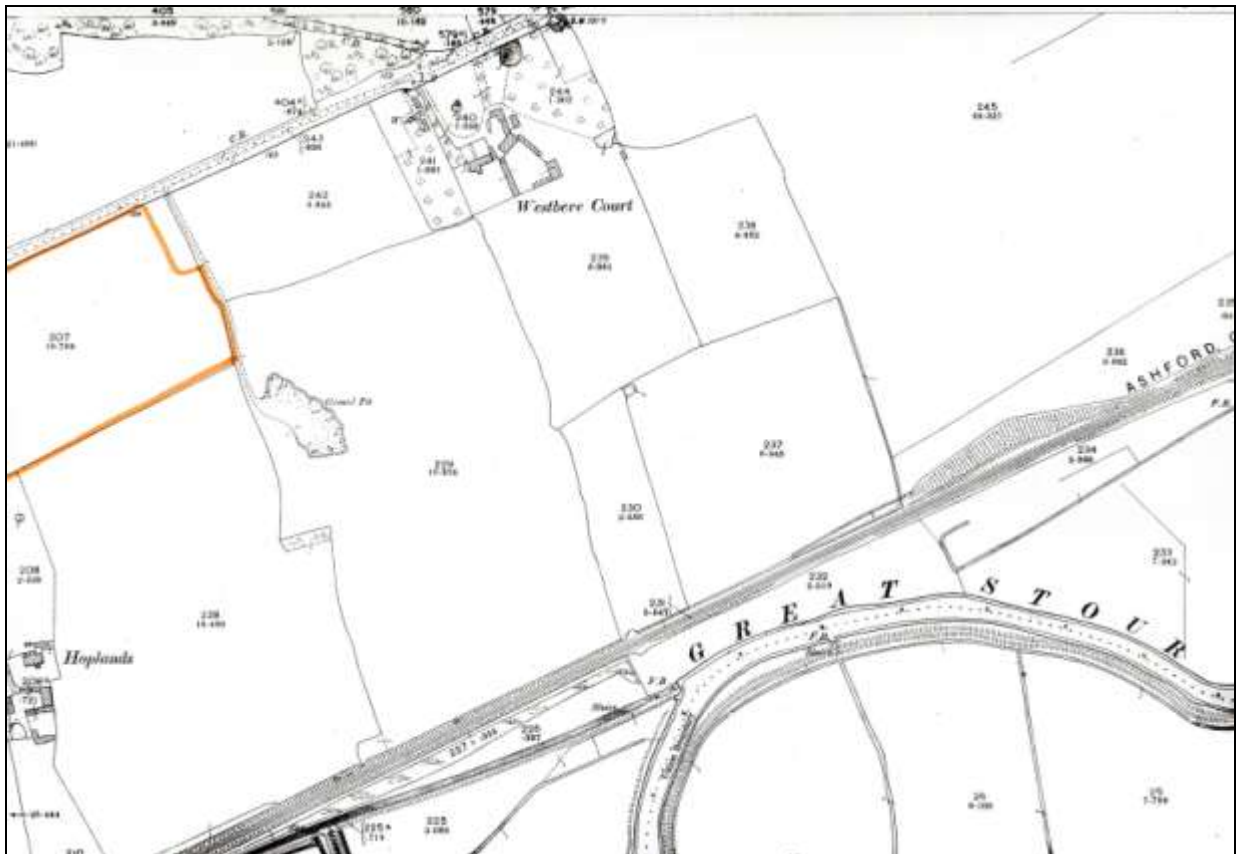


Figure 5. OS map of 1898 25" 2nd Edition 36/10 showing east area of the PDA



Figure 6. OS map of 1907 25" 3rd Edition 36/10 showing east area of the PDA

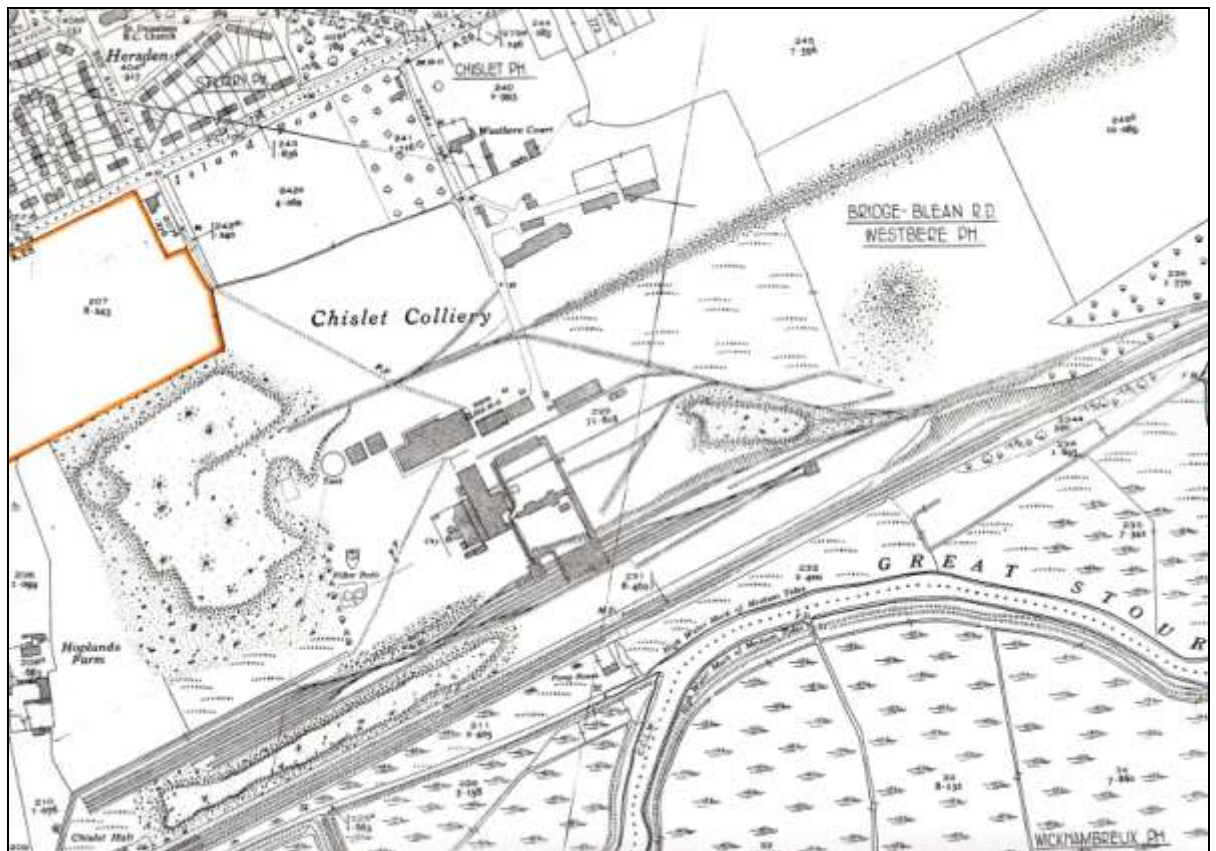


Figure 7. OS map of 1937 25" Rev. Edition 36/10 showing east area of the PDA

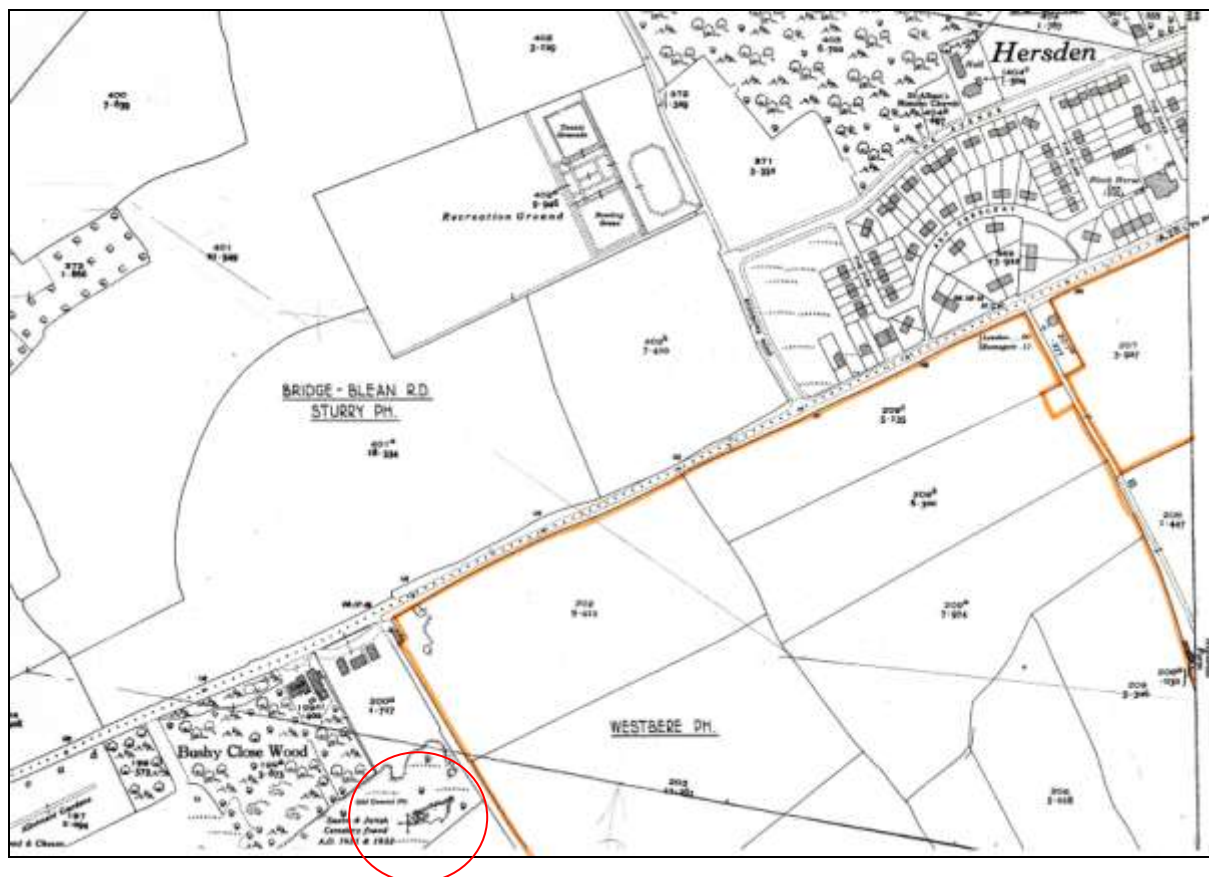


Figure 8. OS map of 1937 25" Rev. Edition 36/9 showing west area of the PDA and area ringed of Anglo-Saxon burials