

**Woodlands Farm,
Meopham**

**Archaeology Desk-
Based Assessment &
Heritage Statement**

Client: 

AB Heritage Project No: 64350

Date: 10/07/2026

Woodlands Farm, Meopham

Archaeology Desk-Based Assessment & Heritage Statement

Client	
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AB Heritage Limited has been commissioned by [REDACTED] to produce a Combined Archaeology Desk-Based Assessment & Heritage Statement covering proposed works at Woodlands Farm, Wrotham Rd, Meopham, Kent, DA13 0RQ. It was requested as part of a forthcoming outline planning application for a residential development scheme of 67 units. The site is approximately 3 hectares in size.

The main house at Woodland Farm is located in the north-western corner of the site. It is an early 20th century Edwardian home, which was subsequently extended on several occasions. There are also several ancillary buildings, including a Barn and a Stable, located nearby. The rest of the site includes a garden, equestrian facilities, an orchard, and an adjacent field, which occupies the eastern half of the site.

In terms of built heritage, it is assessed that none of the structures within the setting of the site constitute heritage assets. Woodlands Farm itself dates to approximately 1902 and was built in a typical Edwardian style. It was subsequently extended with an uneasy design style, which detracts from the overall aesthetic quality of the property. It is assessed that Woodlands Farm does not have sufficient architectural or historic interest to be considered a building of any heritage significance. The proposed development across the site, including the demolition of Woodlands Farm, is judged not to be the cause of any harm to any built heritage asset or their setting.

In terms of archaeology, the site sits within a broader area with a distinct lack of previous archaeological work. The site likely formed an isolated farmstead in the Post-Medieval period. Prior to this, it is possible the adjacent Gravesend/Wrotham Road developed as a droveway, but the site almost certainly lay far south of the furthest extent of the linear Medieval village of Meopham. The Prehistoric nature of the site and its surroundings is particularly unclear, with a large amount of significant archaeology recorded within the broader surrounding landscape. The entire site is part of a Kent County Council Area of Archaeological Notification, covering much of Gravesham Borough and highlighting the residual potential for Palaeolithic remains. A Prehistoric trackway which is thought to run along the ridgeline of the North Downs escarpment c.1km south of the site.

Although the site has been judged to have a baseline level of archaeological potential a full impact assessment is not possible. This is due to the lack of available information for the site and study area, combined with the emerging picture of archaeology within the broader surroundings where investigation has been done. Therefore, further archaeological investigation will be required to establish whether any archaeological remains survive and whether the proposals could cause an impact to archaeology, in line with paragraph 207 of the NPPF.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 AB Heritage Limited has been commissioned by [REDACTED] to produce a Combined Archaeology Desk-Based Assessment & Heritage Statement covering proposed works at Woodlands Farm, Wrotham Rd, Meopham, Kent, DA13 0RQ (see Figure 1). It was requested as part of a forthcoming planning application for a residential development scheme. The Local Planning Authority (LPA) is Gravesham Borough Council.

1.1.2 This report includes a description of the baseline conditions, from an examination of readily available sources on the history of the site, identifying any known and potential heritage assets subject to potential impact. It proposes a suitable mitigation strategy, where such works are deemed appropriate.

1.2 Site Location & Description

1.2.1 The site of proposed development consists of Woodlands Farm and its adjoining land, positioned on the corner of Gravesend/Wrotham Road and Newlands Lane, centred at NGR TQ 63489 62180. The site is approximately 3 hectares in size and consists of Woodlands Farmhouse in the north-western corner, some nearby agricultural buildings and equestrian facility as well as the large adjoining field which takes up the eastern half of the site (see Plate 1).

1.2.2 The surrounding area is a mixture of rural fields, woodland and suburban housing development (see Plate 1). The site is located near the southern extent of the village of Meopham, one of the longest linear settlements in the UK, with development grouped around several nuclei along the village's almost 11km extent. The site is included within a Kent County Council Archaeological Notification Area.



Plate 1. Aerial Photo of site and surroundings (Google Earth, 2026)

1.3 Geology & Topography

Geology

- 1.3.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS) records the underlying bedrock geology as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation. These are sedimentary rocks and are marine in origin, being formed between 93.9 and 86.3 million years ago during the Cretaceous period.
- 1.3.2 The BGS records superficial deposits of Clay-with-flints Formation across the whole site. These sedimentary deposits are subaerial and pedogenic in origin. They are detrital, comprising coarse to fine-grained materials, weathered to form layers of accumulated material. They were formed between 66 million years ago in the Palaeogene and 11,800 years ago during the Quaternary period.
- 1.3.3 The BGS does not hold any records of boreholes within the site boundaries, however, there are four records of previous borehole surveys having been conducted along Gravesend/Wrotham Road to the immediate east of the site (REF: TQ66SW14, TQ66SW13, TQ66SW24, and TQ66SW20). These were conducted between 1984-85 and all detected significant layers of Clay-with-flints superficial deposits.

Topography

- 1.3.4 The site of proposed development is set on a slope, increasing from around c.187m above Ordnance Datum (OD) along the northern boundary to around c.191m OD along the southern boundary.
- 1.3.5 Within the wider landscape context, the site is positioned on relative high ground on the northern side of the ridgeline running through Trosely Country Park c.900m south of the site. This ridgeline runs east-to-west between the River Medway valley and the River Darent valley and forms part of the North Downs which cross Kent and Surrey.

1.4 Overview of Proposed Development

- 1.4.1 The proposed development consists of residential development across much of the site. The outline planning application will seek permission for 67 dwellings of varying size across the site. As part of this several residential roads will be laid out, with accompanying landscaping (including several bodies of water) and associated gardens, street furniture, and utilities are all expected to be constructed or installed. All of the existing structures of Woodlands Farm within the site would be demolished. Further information regarding the proposed layout and orientation of the scheme are shown in Figure 4.

1.5 Planning Background & Consultation

- 1.5.1 The Gravesham Borough Council Planning Portal records three previous planning applications at the site. This includes a 2021 application for a Lawful Development Certificate in respect to the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension and a two-storey side extension (REF: 20210801) which was refused. It also includes a 1984 application (REF: 19840197) for the construction of an equestrian and country leisure centre in the southern part of the site (excluding the current Woodlands Farmhouse), which was refused. Finally, there is a record of a 1978 application for the erection of an extension at the front of the existing double garage and single garage at the side (REF: 19781043) which was permitted.

- 1.5.2 Prior to the commissioning of this report the applicant sought pre application advice from Gravesham Borough Council, who replied in a document dated to the 12th of January 2026 (REF: PRE20250148). The following was stated in regard to Heritage:

A planning application should be submitted with an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and include the results of a geophysical magnetometer survey. Depending on the results of the assessment and initial field evaluation (as required by the NPPF) then trial trenching field evaluation may also be required, but it is possible that this phase of work and any subsequent mitigation could be the subject of a planning condition.

- 1.5.3 The entire site is included within a Kent County Council Archaeological Notification Area (ANA) (see figure 2). The ANA [AB 18] covers most of Gravesham and the description included with the HER data contains the following description: "Some Palaeolithic potential; Area of multi-period background potential". The purpose of the ANA is to flag areas in which Kent County Council Archaeologists should be consulted by LPAs when considering applications for Major Planning Permission.

- 1.5.4 On the 23rd of April 2026, Peter Layfield of AB Heritage, contacted Jacob Warrender, Senior Archaeological officer for Kent County Council (KCC), The purpose of this email was to inform KCC of the production of this report, to request any preliminary comments, confirm the scope for the HER data order and to ask whether there is anything not yet in the public domain that may be pertinent to the assessment of this report. On the 24th of April, Jacob Warrender responded with a phone call in which the site and surrounding archaeology was discussed, followed by the following comments in an email:

Thank you for making contact, a 1km search radius would be most appropriated for a site in that area. The land around Meopham is relatively sparse with HER point of view though this is primarily due to a lack of work within the area rather than due to a paucity of archaeology. A topographic study of the Wrotham/Gravesend Road to the west of the site suggest that it may be part of an ancient trackway located on the ridgeline running between Wrotham and Gravesend intersecting Watling Street. A brief glance at historic mapping would suggest the surrounding landscape would have been mixed use farming and woodland during the late post-medieval period.

Geophysical surveys carried out around Meopham approx. 2km to the north of the site off Wrotham road have shown circular features that are as yet unexcavated but may be funerary in nature.

The Kent archaeology society have been working on a project to map known cropmarks and archaeological works on to an interactive map and I would advocate it as a useful resource however it seems that the area immediately around your site is either blank or has not been completed yet. However, it does help to create a good picture of the intensity of land use within the general area.

I would suggest that an examination of available ariel photography and Lidar survey form part of the DBA and that a geophysical survey would be likely to be required on any forthcoming development.

- 1.5.5 On the 23rd of April 2026, Peter Layfield of AB Heritage emailed Gravesham Borough Council, hoping to consult with their Conservation Officer/Heritage Team, requesting any preliminary comments regarding known built heritage, and proposed development of the proposal site.

This included the opportunity to raise any potential non-designated heritage assets that might not yet be on a Local List, or equivalent schedule of historic buildings. In a response dated to the 24th of April, Gravesham Borough Council declined to provide any comments outside of a pre-application service.

1.6 Project Qualifiers

- 1.6.1 This report has been prepared under instruction and solely for the use of [REDACTED] and any associated parties they elect to share this information with.
- 1.6.2 Measurements and distances in this report are approximations only and should not be used for detailed design purposes.
- 1.6.3 All work undertaken is based upon the professional knowledge of AB Heritage and relevant standards, technology and legislation at the time of writing. Changes in these areas may occur in the future, causing changes to the conclusions, recommendations or advice given. AB Heritage is not responsible for advising any parties on the implications of such changes.
- 1.6.4 This report utilises information obtained from third party sources. AB Heritage takes no responsibility for the accuracy of such information.
- 1.6.5 Where recommendations are provided these need to be approved by the Local Planning Authority and do not themselves comprise mitigation of impacts.

2. AIMS & METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims of Report

- 2.1.1 Early assessment of the implications of proposed development on the heritage resource is key to informing reasonable planning decisions. Indeed, NPPF 207 requires local planning authorities to request descriptions on the significance of any heritage assets affected by a proposal, including any contribution made by their setting. This states that:

‘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’.

- 2.1.2 This assessment therefore has the following objectives:

- The report will assess whether the site has the potential to contribute towards the research objectives in the South East Research Framework (SERF) for archaeology.
- To provide sufficient evidence on the heritage of the site and any potential impacts on such a resource, to inform the Local Planning Authority’s decision-making process in relation to the current planning application; and
- To develop appropriate recommendations / mitigation responses, where necessary, to assist the work of the planning team.

2.2 Methodology

Study Area

- 2.2.1 Due to the site’s size, the nature of the proposed development and the rural context, a 1km study area was deemed appropriate to capture surrounding heritage assets whose setting may be affected by the proposed works and to help inform the archaeological potential of the site. This was confirmed as appropriate by Jacob Warrender, Senior Archaeological Officer for KCC in an email dated to the 24th of April 2026.

Standards & Guidance Used

- 2.2.2 The assessment has been carried out in line with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists’ (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment* (2017), along with a range of other guidance, including:
- *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings and Structures* (CIfA, 2020);
 - *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets* (Historic England, 2019);
 - *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (Historic England, 2017); and
 - *Conservation Principles, Policies & Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment* (Historic England, 2008).

Selection and Assessment of Sources

2.2.3 In line with para 3.3.6 and Annex 1 of the ClfA *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*, this report considers appropriate sources of information and a rationale behind their use. These have been detailed in Table 1:

Table 1: Examination of Appropriate Sources

SOURCE	TYPE OF EVIDENCE	CONSULTED	COMMENT
Kent Historic Environment Record	The primary source of information concerning the current state of archaeological, heritage and architectural knowledge in this area. Contains published and unpublished archaeological and historical sources, including any previous investigations undertaken within the study area.	23/04/2026	The HER Commercial dataset search reference number for this project is FS-Case-831264441. A 1km study area was used after agreement with Jacob Warrender of KCC.
Consult Gravesham Conservation Officer	Early discussion with the Local Planning Authority Planning Archaeologist and / or Conservation Officer is key to understanding the significance of an area and creating a tailored approach most appropriate to assessment of a site.	24/04/2026	An email was sent on the 23 rd of April requesting any preliminary comments, but particularly paying attention to the potential for non-designated heritage assets in the study area. A response on the 24 th of April declined to offer any comments.
Consult Kent County Council Archaeologist	Early discussion with the Local Planning Authority Planning Archaeologist is key to understanding the significance of an area and creating a tailored approach most appropriate to assessment of a site.	24/04/2026	Consultation was carried out with Jacob Warrender of KCC on the 24 th of April. Further details are included in section 1.5 of this report.
Site Walkover	This task allows for development of a greater understanding of the on-site heritage resource, or any historic issues of the site, including information the general condition and setting of the area of proposed development and the site in which it stands.	28/04/2026	A site visit was undertaken on 28 th of April by Peter Layfield of AB Heritage. A visual assessment of the site and the immediate surroundings was conducted.
National Heritage List for England	Information on statutory and non-statutory designated sites, including Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments.	23/04/2026	A review of the NHLE confirmed that the site contained no designated heritage assets, although several were present within the 1km study area and are included within the Gazetteer in Appendix 1,

SOURCE	TYPE OF EVIDENCE	CONSULTED	COMMENT
Kent Archives	Readily accessible information on the site's history from readily available historic documentary sources, maps and photographs.	23/04/2026	No relevant records were identified in the online catalogue search.
Archaeology Data Service	The ADS is a digital repository for heritage records that supports the long-term digital preservation of such data to support future research, learning and teaching.	05/05/2026	A review of the ADS online data catalogue did not reveal any further relevant information or records pertinent to the site.
MAGIC	The MAGIC website provides authoritative geographic information about the natural environment from across government, including from Historic England. The information in an interactive map format covers rural, urban, coastal and marine environments.	05/05/2026	A review of the MAGIC online website did not reveal any further relevant information.
NMR Aerial Photographic Library	This database, held at Historic England's archive in Swindon, contains over 4 million aerial photographs covering the whole of England and dating from the early 20 th century to the present day. This unique collection, captures the changes in our urban and rural landscape over a period of almost 100 years.	11/05/2026	No aerial photos of the site were available on the online catalogue.
South East Research Framework (SERF)	Regional Research Frameworks have been developed in each region as part of the Regional Research Frameworks initiative promoted by English Heritage in collaboration with local authorities, in order to provide an effective yet flexible structure for decision making regarding future archaeological research.	11/05/2026	The Research Framework was consulted in regard to the established information about the area and what the goals and aims are for future research into various periods.
Geotechnical Information	Utilising information from the British Geological Survey this report includes information on the below ground geology of the site to better understand the potential for past activity.	11/05/2026	Geotechnical information was consulted and incorporated into the baseline assessment of the report (section 1.3).
LiDAR Imagery	Lidar Imagery uses a laser light to create a 3D representation of a site's surface and can be used to find archaeological features.	11/05/2026	Lidar Imagery was obtained through the Kent Lidar Portal website and the National Library of Scotland.
Local Historic Societies	Using the British Association for Local History list of local societies, checks were made with relevant organisations where	05/05/2026	Kent Archaeology Societies' website was consulted and contained a number of resources including its archaeological features map. No features for the site were recorded, but much of the

SOURCE	TYPE OF EVIDENCE	CONSULTED	COMMENT
	there was a specific and obvious benefit to consulting local expertise on the history of the proposed development site.		surrounding landscape to the east of the site had been mapped., showing a variety of undated earthworks, field boundaries etc.

2.2.4 For reporting purposes, any relevant archaeological information gathered from the above sources has been allocated AB numbers, which can be viewed in the Cultural Heritage Features Gazetteer (Appendix 1).

Assessment of Archaeological Potential

2.2.5 This report contains a record of the known historic environment resource of the area. It also assesses the potential for archaeology to survive within the limits of the site, using the following scale:

- No Potential - Clear evidence of past impacts / site sterilisation
- Low - Very unlikely to be encountered on site
- Medium - Features may occur / be encountered on site
- High - Remains almost certain to survive on site

2.2.6 In relation to buried archaeological remains, where a site is known or there is a medium or above potential for archaeology to survive, full impact assessment will be undertaken.

Assessment of Archaeological Significance

2.2.7 Assessment of the heritage significance of an archaeological heritage asset is judged upon various factors, including any existing designation, plus information on any relevant architectural, archaeological or historical factors. Considering these criteria, each identified feature is assigned a level of significance in accordance with a five-point scale (Table 2, below).

Table 2: Assessing the Significance of an Archaeological Heritage Asset

SCALE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE	
VERY HIGH	The highest status of site, e.g., Scheduled Monuments (or non-designated assets of schedulable quality and importance), or other designated / non-designated assets that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical associations. Heritage assets of known or likely clear national importance, including extremely well-preserved historic landscapes, whether inscribed or not, with exceptional coherence, time depth, or other critical factors.
HIGH	Other designated / non-designated archaeological sites or assets with strong and coherent survival of key factors, such as extent / condition / context associations, providing clear evidence of occupation / settlement, ritual, industrial activity, etc. Examples may include archaeological remains that contribute significantly to research priorities, burial sites, deserted medieval villages, Roman roads, dense finds scatters, etc.
MEDIUM	Evidence of human activity that retains clear archaeological value, albeit with lesser coherence and / or merit than listed above. Such features will have the potential to contribute to research objectives and may include more ephemeral and / or degraded settlement activity to that listed above, defined historic field systems, finds scatters more dispersed in nature, or deposits with the potential for the recovery of meaningful environmental data.
LOW	Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest. Examples include destroyed antiquities, structures of almost no architectural / historic merit, buildings of an intrusive character or relatively modern / common landscape features such as quarries, drains and ponds etc.
UNCERTAIN	Insufficient information exists to assess the importance of a feature (e.g. unidentified features on aerial photographs).

- 2.2.8 The significance of known assets is typically determined by reference to existing designations. **Where an asset's interest or value covers a range of the above possibilities or, for previously unidentified features, where no designation has yet been assigned, the significance of an archaeological heritage asset is based on professional judgement.** For example, while all nationally registered, Listed Buildings can range in scale and importance from a single milestone to the site of St Paul's Cathedral. For this reason, adjustments are made on a case-by-case basis.

Assessment of Heritage Significance

- 2.2.9 Assessment of heritage significance is judged on various factors, including existing designation(s) and the perceived heritage interests or values of a feature and / or its setting in-line with criteria set out by English Heritage in '*Conservation Principles, Policies & Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment*' (2008) and Historic England's '*Advice Note 12*' (2019).
- 2.2.10 As a result, this report will assess significance against **Archaeological, Architectural, Artistic, Historic** and **Setting** interests. Each relevant category discussed will result in an overall level of significance being defined for the feature, in accordance with a five-point scale comprising Very High, High, Medium, Low and Uncertain.

Combined Impact Assessment

- 2.2.11 The degree of impact upon the heritage resource is determined based on professional judgement as to the level of effect from a proposed development on the baseline conditions of the site and the cultural heritage resource identified. The criteria for assessing the level of impact will be expressed against a five-point scale comprising Very High, High, Medium, Low and Uncertain.
- 2.2.12 Overall, the degree of change will be assessed in terms of NPPF (as harmful or beneficial) and, where appropriate, against relevant local planning policy.

3. PLANNING & LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

3.1 Archaeological & Heritage Legislation

- 3.1.1 Current legislation, in the form of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, provides for the legal protection of important and well-preserved archaeological sites and monuments through their addition to a list, or 'schedule' of archaeological monuments.
- 3.1.2 Likewise, structures are afforded legal protection in the form of their addition to 'lists' of buildings of special architectural or historical interest, under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990. This legislation also allows for the creation and protection of Conservation Areas by local planning authorities to protect areas and groupings of historical significance.
- 3.1.3 The categories of assets with some form of legal protection have been extended in recent years, and now include Registered Parks and Gardens, and Historic Battlefields. While designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site is not a statutory designation under English planning law, such a designation is regarded as a material consideration in planning decisions.

3.2 National Planning Policy Framework 2025

- 3.2.1 The NPPF sets out government policy on the historic environment, which covers all elements, whether designated or not, that are identified as 'having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest'.
- 3.2.2 Paragraph 207 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 required in the assessment should be 'proportionate to the assets importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance'.
- 3.2.3 Paragraph 214 explains that 'where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to 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 loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss.
- 3.2.4 Paragraph 215 advises that where a proposal involve 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 securing its optimum viable use. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage assets, Paragraph 216 states that a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

3.3 Local Planning Policy

Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy 2014

- 3.3.1 Policy CS20: Heritage and the Historic Environment

The Council will accord a high priority towards the preservation, protection and enhancement of its heritage and historic environment as a non-renewable resource, central to the regeneration of the area and the reinforcement of sense of place. Particular attention in this regard will be focused on those heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. Securing viable, sustainable and appropriate futures for such assets at risk will need to be reconciled with the sensitivity to change that many present.

Proposals and initiatives will be supported which preserve and, where appropriate, enhance the significance of the Borough's heritage assets, their setting where it contributes to the significance of the asset and their interpretation and enjoyment, especially where these contribute to the distinct identity of the Borough.

These include:

- Gravesend Town Centre, its development as a heritage riverside town, and its setting;
- The Borough's urban and rural conservation areas; and
- Surviving built features and archaeology relating to the Borough's maritime, military, industrial and transport history.

When considering the impact of a proposed development on a designated heritage asset, the weight that will be given to the asset's conservation value will be commensurate with the importance and significance of the asset. For non-designated assets, decisions will have regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORIC BACKGROUND

4.1 Previous Works in the Study Area

- 4.1.1 There are no records of previous archaeological work within the site and only two within the 1km study area. These comprise the following:
- A 2009 walkover at Trosley County Park [AB 16] approximately c.900m to the south-east of the site. Possible earthworks relating to former field boundaries were found.
 - Archaeological excavations at Hall Wood c.950m south-east in 1964-65 revealed a complex of features around the Medieval to Post Medieval enclosed settlement at Stanstead [AB 4]. This included a possible cattle pond; a small mound which was the remains of a lookout tower destroyed by fire in the mid-13th century; the footings of a windmill, and an oven and iron ore perhaps indicating a bloomery. A causeway of slightly later date was also found.

4.2 Archaeology & History Background

The Prehistoric Period (c .500, 000 BC – AD 43)

- 4.2.1 There is no securely dated evidence for Prehistoric activity within the study area, however an historic trackway [AB 1] which follows the ridge of the North Downs escarpment c.1km to the south of the site, is believed to be Prehistoric in origin.
- 4.2.2 The site is also located within the Gravesham Archaeological Notification Area [AB 18]. The ANA specifically raises the possibility of some Palaeolithic potential among remains from other periods. That ANA covers most of Gravesham Borough and is intended to flag to the Local Planning Authority a broad range of archaeological potential, including Palaeolithic potential, rather than the site and surrounding area specifically.
- 4.2.3 There is more secure evidence for prehistoric activity outside the study area. Approximately 2.2km south-east of the site is the Scheduled Coldrum Megalithic Tomb, a Neolithic long barrow (NHLE: 1013069). Another Scheduled Neolithic long barrow is present at Addington, c.3.5km south of the site (NHLE: 1015978). Closer to the core of Meopham village, where, unlike the site and study area, there have been a number of previous archaeological investigations, there are also several records of Prehistoric activity. This includes a broad range of discoveries, such as a round barrow c.1.3km east of the site (HER: TQ66SW13). Undated circular enclosures, which are speculated to be Prehistoric funerary monuments (HER: TQ66SW25), have been observed in aerial photographs c.1.3km north-west of the site. Neolithic flints (HER: TQ66NW143) and Iron Age ditches (HER: TQ66NW144) were discovered near Meopham School 3.5km north of the site.
- 4.2.4 It is clear that the broader landscape had a diverse range of activity during the Prehistoric Period; indeed, the landscape to the west of the River Medway is well known for its Prehistoric monuments, particularly those dating to the Early Neolithic (Kent Archaeology, 2026).

The Roman Period (c. AD 43 – AD 410)

- 4.2.5 There are no records of Roman activity within the site or the study area. The Roman road of Watling Street passed north of Meopham village, approximately 8km north of the site. There are some archaeological records of Roman activity (HER: TQ66NW146) closer to Meopham, approximately 4km north of the site, but otherwise the evidence in the local area remains comparatively sparse.

The Medieval Period (AD 410 – AD 1536)

- 4.2.6 It is during the Early Medieval period that the nearest village, Meopham, originated. The name Meopham is Saxon in origin and is first recorded in 778 CE (Gravesham Borough Council, 2017). The particular layout of Meopham as a linear settlement also has its origins in this period. Meopham itself is a particularly long linear settlement, possibly one of the longest in Europe, and evolved several nuclei of settlement with their own greens (although most of these are now lost). It is considered that this pattern of settlement is indicative of 'early cattle stations or vaccaries' developed within areas of 'wood pasture' during the period of primary colonisation within the region (Gravesham Borough Council, 2017). Such small greens are thought to have been associated with isolated farmsteads. The nearest green to the site would have been around Culverston Green, close to Owls Castle [AB 7], c.800m north of the site, although it is now lost. It is thought that Gravesend/Wrotham Road (which bounds the site to the east) evolved as a Medieval droveway, where animals were driven from the village into the woods of the High Weald and North Downs to graze (Gravesham Borough Council, 2017).
- 4.2.7 There is also evidence of later Medieval activity within the study area. This includes two 14th century Medieval copper finds [AB 2 & 3] c.460m east of the site. An enclosed Medieval settlement at Stansted [AB 4], c.950m south-east of the site, has been identified through excavation.
- 4.2.8 It is likely that, during this period, the site existed within the rural hinterland south of Meopham, perhaps even covered by woodland, on the edge of a Medieval droveway used to move animals for pasture.

The Post Medieval Period (AD 1537 – AD 1800)

- 4.2.9 During the Post Medieval Period, the site likely began to be farmed, if it had not already been in use. The surrounding landscape became dotted with isolated farmsteads, the earliest of which remains to this day at Owls Castle [AB 7], c.800m north of the site, originally dating to the 16th century. The name of the road along the north side of the site, 'Newlands Road', might relate to deforestation and expanded settlement in the area.
- 4.2.10 By the 18th century, Upper Goose Farm [AB 9] c.100m north-west of the site, Oak Farm [AB 10] c.25m south-west of the site, Rose Farm [AB 11] c.400m south-west of site, and the Goslings [AB 13] c.600m west of the site had all been established.
- 4.2.11 It is also likely that, during this period, the first phase of Woodlands Farm [AB 8] was constructed within the site. The farmstead appears to have been grouped in the north-western corner of the site, close to the footprint of the current Woodlands Farm.

The Modern Period (AD 1801 – present)

- 4.2.12 The first depiction of Woodlands Farm **[AB 8]** dates to the 1841 Tithe mapping. In this, it is depicted as having an 'L'-shaped main structure with several ancillary buildings, much like many of the other isolated farmsteads within the local area (see Plate 2 and Figure 1&2). The rest of the site is recorded as comprising two fields, both simply referred to in the Tithe apportionment as 'Fields' (The Genealogist, 2026).



Plate 2. 1841 Tithe Map IR/29/17/244 (The Genealogist, 2026)

- 4.2.13 By 1867, a few notable changes were recorded. The site was depicted with a slightly different arrangement of buildings in the north-east corner, possibly reflecting some demolition of earlier structures and the two large fields to the east had been combined. (Plate 3).



Plate 3. 1867 OS Map 6-Inch (National Library of Scotland, 2026)

- 4.2.14 At some point following the 1867 depiction of the site, the original farm on the site was demolished. The 1895 OS map shows the former area of the farm as clear of structures other than three Tanks (water cisterns or similar) and a feature in blue, possibly a pond. The site appears to have also been redivided, with the western part now separated from the adjoining field (see Plate 4).



Plate 4. 1895 OS Map 25-Inch (National Library of Scotland, 2026)

- 4.2.15 By 1907, a new structure had been built, now clearly labelled as Woodlands. There appear to have been two structures: a main house orientated north-to-south and an ancillary building,

possibly a stable, orientated east to west (see Plate 5). These are the core of the same buildings which are included within the site currently (see Plate 1). The immediate surroundings appear to have been retained as a garden or orchard, although there had again been a rearrangement in field boundaries within this western section of the site.



Plate 5. 1907 OS Map 25-Inch (National Library of Scotland, 2026)

- 4.2.16 Prior to 1936, there appear to have been further changes to the main structure, including an extension along the eastern range of the house and the construction of a series of small ancillary buildings to the east, positioned alongside Newlands Lane. While the eastern part of the site had remained largely unchanged, the western part had seen a large-scale rearrangement and redivision (see Plate 6). The nature or purpose of these divisions is unclear, although the presence of ownership ties interconnecting each of the divisions, suggests they remained unified under the same owner.
- 4.2.17 In the surrounding area, there are also the first signs of encroaching residential development, with houses appearing on Hodsoll Road (left side of Plate 6) and on the north side of Newlands Lane opposite the site.



Plate 6. 1936 OS Map 25-Inch (National Library of Scotland, 2026)

4.2.18 Subsequently, prior to 1968, further changes appear to have taken place, including minor modifications to the main building, the demolition of many of the smaller ancillary buildings to the east, and the construction of a new large structure (presumably a barn) further to the east (see Plate 7). There had also been gradual development in the surrounding area, with a semi-suburban character beginning to emerge, including new buildings to the north-east along Newlands Lane (top right on Plate 7). The area c.600m to c.1km to the east and south-east of the site was used as a World War Two training ground [AB 17] and was later built over by residential development, prior to part of it being designated as Trosley Country Park [AB 16].



Plate 7. 1968 OS Map 1:2,500 (National Library of Scotland, 2026)

- 4.2.19 Available LiDAR imagery of the site does not show any features of particular note. There is a slight raised linear section of ground within the eastern field with the appearance of a possible former field boundary (marked with a blue arrow), but most of the notable anomalies appear to be associated with the recently installed equestrian ground in the centre-western part of the site (see Plate 8). The southern boundary of the site appears to be marked by an earthwork running along the boundary of the adjacent field (marked with green arrow on Plate 8).

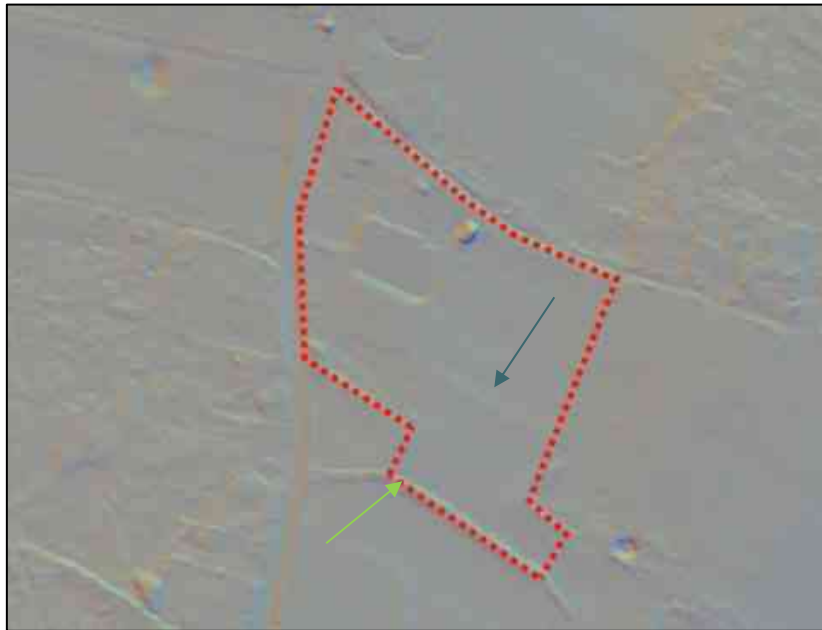


Plate 8. LiDAR Imagery DTM 50cm-1m (National Library of Scotland, 2026)

5. SITE VISIT

- 5.1.1 A site visit was undertaken by Peter Layfield for AB Heritage on the 28th of April 2026. The purpose of this visit was to gain a greater understanding of the existing land use and past impacts within the current site limits, along with an appreciation for the potential survival of the above and below-ground historic environment.
- 5.1.2 The primary entrance into the site is in the north-west corner, at the intersection of Gravesend/Wrotham Road and Newlands Lane. A large driveway provides access to Woodlands Farm. The main structure is three-stories in height, with a long pitch on the western side connecting to a ground floor sheltered veranda and the front entrance. Two very prominent chimneys are positioned on this plane. The gable end features the date '1902', presumably indicating the date of construction (see Plate 9).
- 5.1.3 The interior of the building has been almost entirely modernised, with little to indicate the building's early 20th century origins outside of some fireplaces, and with a range of features such as skirting boards, staircases, and partition walls having been updated.



Plate 9. Western elevation of Woodlands Farmhouse

- 5.1.4 Moving southwards, the building features three main ranges. The two most westerly are the original early 20th century sections of the house, while the easterly one is a later early-to-mid 20th century extension. The extension appears to have been built in a different design and detracts somewhat from the otherwise cohesive appearance, which is particularly appreciable on the southern elevation (see Plate 10).
- 5.1.5 The windows across the entire building are almost universally of the same design, with lead lined mullion casement designs (see Plate 10). These are of some aesthetic value. In terms of date, it is possible that they are original to the building, but it is more likely that they date to the same time as the extension or postdate both.



Plate 10. Southern elevation of Woodlands Farmhouse

- 5.1.6 The lack of cohesive design quality for the extension is even more apparent on the eastern elevation of the building. The extension features an overhanging first floor section, supported by a metal column, with the entire section having been coated in a thick layer of external render. Further northwards, the building features a small single-storey pitched-roof extension which is internally interconnected with the main building (see Plate 11).



Plate 11. Eastern elevation of Woodlands Farmhouse

- 5.1.7 That single-storey extension was then further extended in the 1970s (REF: 19781043) to provide interconnected access to the two-storey garage unit set to the north of the main house. This garage unit appears to have originally been used as stables, with the interior of

one of the units retaining some original stable bays (see Plate 12). The building itself was further extended as part of that same application to provide garage bays. The second storey above the garages is currently in use as a self-contained flat.



Plate 12. Northern elevation of Woodlands Farmhouse

- 5.1.8 Moving further eastwards, there are several modern agricultural buildings, including a stable and a barn, neither of which appear to be of any heritage significance and are likely later 20th century additions (see Plate 13).



Plate 13. Agricultural buildings to the east of Woodlands Farm

- 5.1.9 To the south of the main house is an area of garden lawn, eventually giving way to an orchard in the south-western corner of the site. Tree roots may have affected any underlying deposits.

Within this area of garden is a lone, free-standing section of wall. The wall features two buttresses on its northern side. This appears to correspond with a small feature first recorded on the 1936 OS Map (see Plates 6 & 14). While its purpose is unclear, it is likely that this is a remnant of that structure, although it could also indicate that the divisions observed in the 1936 and 1968 OS maps were marked by distinct walls; however, this would be unlikely.



Plate 14. Southwards view of lawn set to the south of Woodlands Farm

5.1.10 Moving eastwards, there is a section of lawn and a sand-covered equestrian ground set to the south of the modern agricultural buildings (see Plate 15). There are no features of note in this section of the site, although it appears that some levelling has taken place around the equestrian ground, with a noticeable slope to the north and north-western boundary.



Plate 15. North-westwards view of lawn and equestrian facilities south-east of Woodlands

- 5.1.11 The entrance into the adjacent field is located near the northern boundary of the site. The general slope on which the entire site is located is much more appreciable here, with the open ground meaning that the incline towards the south is clearly noticeable (see Plate 16). Some rutting of the ground is notable around the entrance, where horses have regularly moved in and out.



Plate 16. South-eastwards view of adjacent field from the north-western corner

- 5.1.12 The field can be characterised as pastoral scrub, with no particular features of archaeological interest observable through visual inspection (see Plate 17). The boundaries of this field are marked by thick, overgrown vegetation and hedgerow; while it was not possible to obtain a full view, it appears that the southern boundary is marked by an increase in ground level in the neighbouring southern field, as shown on LiDAR mapping (see Plate 8).



Plate 17. North-westwards view of adjacent field from south-eastern corner

- 5.1.13 Moving outside of the site, Newlands Lane runs along the northern boundary. At the western end of the lane, the ground level of the road appears to be significantly lower than that of the site, perhaps by as much as 0.5m in places, with concrete reinforcement having been added to the banks along the roadside.
- 5.1.14 The houses along Newlands Lane are universally modern. The rural agricultural character of the site eventually gives way to suburban development further along the road (see Plate 18).



Plate 18. Eastwards view of houses on Newlands Lane

- 5.1.15 The buildings immediately to the north-west of the site are also fairly modern, appearing to date to the 20th century, with some modern agricultural buildings grouped around the location of the former Post Medieval Upper Goose Farm **[AB 9]** (Plate 19).



Plate 19. View northwards towards current Upper Goose Farm on Wrotham Road

- 5.1.16 Likewise, the area around the former Oak Farm **[AB 10]** set to the south-west, where Wrotham Road is renamed to Gravesend Road, appears to have been entirely redeveloped with modern structures in the later 20th century or early 21st century (see Plate 20). Further modern houses are noted on Hodsoll Street, travelling west from the site.
- 5.1.17 Within the 1km study area there are three Listed Buildings. This includes the Grade II Listed Goslings **[AB 13]** c.580m west of the site, and the adjacent Grade II Listed Owls Castle and Owls Castle Barn **[AB 7]** c.890m north of the site. As shown on Plates 17 to 19, there are no long-distance views towards the north, south, east or west due to the existing built and natural environment. This means there is simply no appreciation of these Listed Buildings.



Plate 20. South-westwards view of current Oak Farm on Gravesend Road

6. KNOWN & POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

6.1 Known Archaeological Resource

- 6.1.1 There are no known archaeological resources within the boundaries of the site., but it is likely that a possible Post-Medieval farmstead [AB 8] was located in the north-west corner of the site.
- 6.1.2 The entire site is located within a Kent County Council ANA [AB 18] covering most of Gravesham Borough, which notes some potential for palaeolithic remains and multi-period activity.

6.2 Past Impact Within the Site Boundary

- 6.2.1 Some level of past impact can be attested to within the site, primarily within the north-western corner. The farmstead present since at least the late 18th century [AB 8] at Woodlands Farm was demolished in the late 19th century and replaced by the current Edwardian structure. This building was subsequently extended, and there has since been a complex series of ancillary buildings, particularly towards the immediate east of the main house. The disturbance associated with this building and demolition work has likely caused significant disruption or damage to any earlier archaeological resource, should any have been present.
- 6.2.2 The remaining western part of the site appears to have undergone a complex series of boundary rearrangements throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. The nature of these boundaries is unclear, with a small section of buttressed wall remaining; however, it is more likely that this formed part of a small structure, rather than indicating the presence of a former walled garden.
- 6.2.3 The eastern half of the site appears to have been in use as a field for much of its recent history. This carries with it some likely animal disturbance, as well as any earlier ploughing and possible ditch/boundary digging which could have adversely affected any shallow archaeological deposits.

6.3 Potential Archaeological Resource

- 6.3.1 It is assessed that there is a low-to-medium potential for Post Medieval and Modern remains associated with the previous farmstead. However, these would likely be of low significance as they were demolished, and any below-ground elements were likely subsequently affected by the 20th century construction.
- 6.3.2 Gaging the potential for remains relating to earlier periods is more difficult due to the distinct lack of previous archaeological work, not just in the site, but within the 1km study area as well. Where there has been archaeological work, there is an emerging picture of a broader landscape with a surviving record of, particularly prehistoric, archaeology. Investigations around the core of the village of Meopham to the north have identified a number of Neolithic, Iron Age and broadly Prehistoric features and findspots. While to the south and south-east there are several Scheduled barrows and funerary monuments.
- 6.3.3 Given the various matters examined in this report, the fact that the site is located in the Gravesham ANA, the lack of substantial past impacts across much of the site, and the

emerging archaeological record within the broader area, it is assessed that there is a low potential for archaeology relating to the Roman and Medieval periods and a low-to-medium potential for Prehistoric remains.

- 6.3.4 The significance of any archaeological remains would be highly dependent on the nature of survival and the broad range of possible features. A disturbed artefact scatter would likely be of low significance, while any settlement/funerary activity would likely be more medium-to-high significance.

7. BUILT HERITAGE: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

- 7.1.1 In accordance with English Heritage guidance *Conservation Principles, Policies & Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment* (2008), and Historic England's Advice Note 12 (2019), Heritage Assets derive their significance from a defined range of interests or values. These are **Archaeological**, **Architectural** or **Artistic**, **Historic** and **Setting** Interest. This report will assess those factors relevant to the overall understanding of the importance of the feature under consideration.
- 7.1.2 There are several Designated Heritage Assets within the broader study area (see Figure 2 and Appendix 1). However, based on the site visit and historic research, it can be established that none of these share any visual or contextual link with the site of proposed development. Therefore, it can be judged that the site does not fall within their setting, and they will be excluded from the scope of this assessment.
- 7.1.3 Gravesham Borough Council does not have a public Local List of non-designated heritage assets, and no further guidance was offered during consultation (Section 1.5). However, based on the site visit and historic research, it can be assessed that none of the buildings within the immediate surroundings of the site are of any discernible heritage significance. They are all 20th or 21st century structures, usually replacing earlier buildings, especially on Gravesend/Wrotham Road. They are not of any particular historic, architectural, artistic, or archaeological interest and, as a result, cannot be said to have any significance which a proposal could affect.
- 7.1.4 Woodlands Farm itself is likewise judged to be a building of no particular heritage significance. Dating to 1902, the core of the building is of standard Edwardian style, with typical architectural detailing common to the period. This is a fairly common architectural style in Britain, and the building itself cannot be said to have any particular architectural or historic interest. The building lacks any discernible evidential value or group value with any other nearby heritage assets. Furthermore, the building has seen several extensions, particularly the somewhat-poor quality extension on the eastern range of the building, which has detracted from the structure's overall cohesive design and aesthetic quality. Overall, Woodlands Farm cannot be judged to have any heritage significance.
- 7.1.5 Accordingly, no built heritage assets will be taken forward to impact assessment.

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 Assessment of Change

- 8.1.1 The proposed development would involve the demolition of the current Woodlands Farm building, as well as the associated ancillary farm buildings. The entire site would be redeveloped for a total of 67 residential dwellings of varying sized. A proposed site plan is provided in Figure 4. Work such as the demolition of the current Woodlands Farm, the excavation of foundations/basement levels, service trenches, roads, landscaping (including the creation of several bodies of water) etc. are all likely to have the potential to expose and disturb archaeological remains.
- 8.1.2 Should archaeological remains be present within the site, it is likely that the proposed works across the site could disrupt, truncate or damage surviving archaeological remains. Excavation, particularly associated with foundations has the potential to penetrate much deeper than the previous shallow impacts across much of the site associated with animal disturbance. The proposed development would encompass almost the entire 3-hectare site with many points of particular impact. While much of the remains associated the Post Medieval farmstead have already been severely disrupted by the 20th century construction in the north-west corner of the site, there remains a baseline potential for further disruption in this area as well.

8.2 Impact Assessment

- 8.2.1 At this stage a full Impact Assessment is not possible. This report has identified that there is baseline potential for archaeological remains to survive within the site. The presence of such remains needs to be established before a full understanding of the nature or significance of any archaeological remains on site can be understood. This is required in order to understand the potential impacts to the historic environment from future development on the site, per paragraph 207 of the NPPF.
- 8.2.2 Accordingly, recommendations for further archaeological work on the site are provided in Section 9, below.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Outline Recommendations

Archaeology

- 9.1.1 There is currently insufficient information to adequately assess whether redevelopment of the site will adversely affect the historic environment, in the form of buried archaeological remains.
- 9.1.2 It is therefore recommended that a geophysical survey is undertaken across the site in order to better understand the potential for complex or significant archaeological remains within the site. This accords with Local and National Planning Policy, as well as the consultation undertaken with Kent County Council.
- 9.1.3 All recommendations are subject to the approval of the Local Planning Authority.

Heritage

- 9.1.4 There are no recommendations for further work in regard to built heritage.

9.2 Conclusion

- 9.2.1 AB Heritage Limited has been commissioned by [REDACTED] to produce a Combined Archaeology Desk-Based Assessment & Heritage Statement covering proposed works at Woodlands Farm, Wrotham Rd, Meopham, Kent, DA13 0RQ. It was requested as part of a forthcoming outline planning application for a residential development scheme of 67 units. The site is approximately 3 hectares in size.
- 9.2.2 The main house at Woodland Farm is located in the north-western corner of the site. It is an early 20th century Edwardian home, which was subsequently extended on several occasions. There are also several ancillary buildings, including a Barn and a Stable, located nearby. The rest of the site includes a garden, equestrian facilities, an orchard, and an adjacent field, which occupies the eastern half of the site.
- 9.2.3 In terms of built heritage, it is assessed that none of the structures within the setting of the site constitute heritage assets. Woodlands Farm itself dates to approximately 1902 and was built in a typical Edwardian style. It was subsequently extended with an uneasy design style, which detracts from the overall aesthetic quality of the property. It is assessed that Woodlands Farm does not have sufficient architectural or historic interest to be considered a building of any heritage significance. The proposed development across the site, including the demolition of Woodlands Farm, is judged not to be the cause of any harm to any built heritage asset or their setting.
- 9.2.4 In terms of archaeology, the site sits within a broader area with a distinct lack of previous archaeological work. The site likely formed an isolated farmstead in the Post-Medieval period. Prior to this, it is possible the adjacent Gravesend/Wrotham Road developed as a droveway, but the site almost certainly lay far south of the furthest extent of the linear Medieval village of Meopham. The Prehistoric nature of the site and its surroundings is particularly unclear, with a large amount of significant archaeology recorded within the broader surrounding landscape.
-

The entire site is part of a Kent County Council Area of Archaeological Notification, covering much of Gravesham Borough and highlighting the residual potential for Palaeolithic remains. A Prehistoric trackway which is thought to run along the ridgeline of the North Downs escarpment c.1km south of the site.

- 9.2.5 Although the site has been judged to have a baseline level of archaeological potential a full impact assessment is not possible. This is due to the lack of available information for the site and study area, combined with the emerging picture of archaeology within the broader surroundings where investigation has been done. Therefore, further archaeological investigation will be required to establish whether any archaeological remains survive and whether the proposals could cause an impact to archaeology, in line with paragraph 207 of the NPPF.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 Cultural Heritage Features Gazetteer

This gazetteer incorporates relevant archaeological, heritage and historic environment assets identified during a search of sources listed in Table 1 within 1km of the site.

Abbreviations

GII LB – Grade II Listed Building

PAS FINDSPOT – Portable Antiquities Scheme

ANA – Archaeology Notification Area

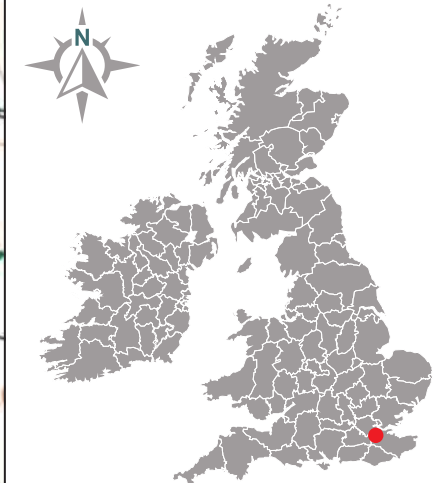
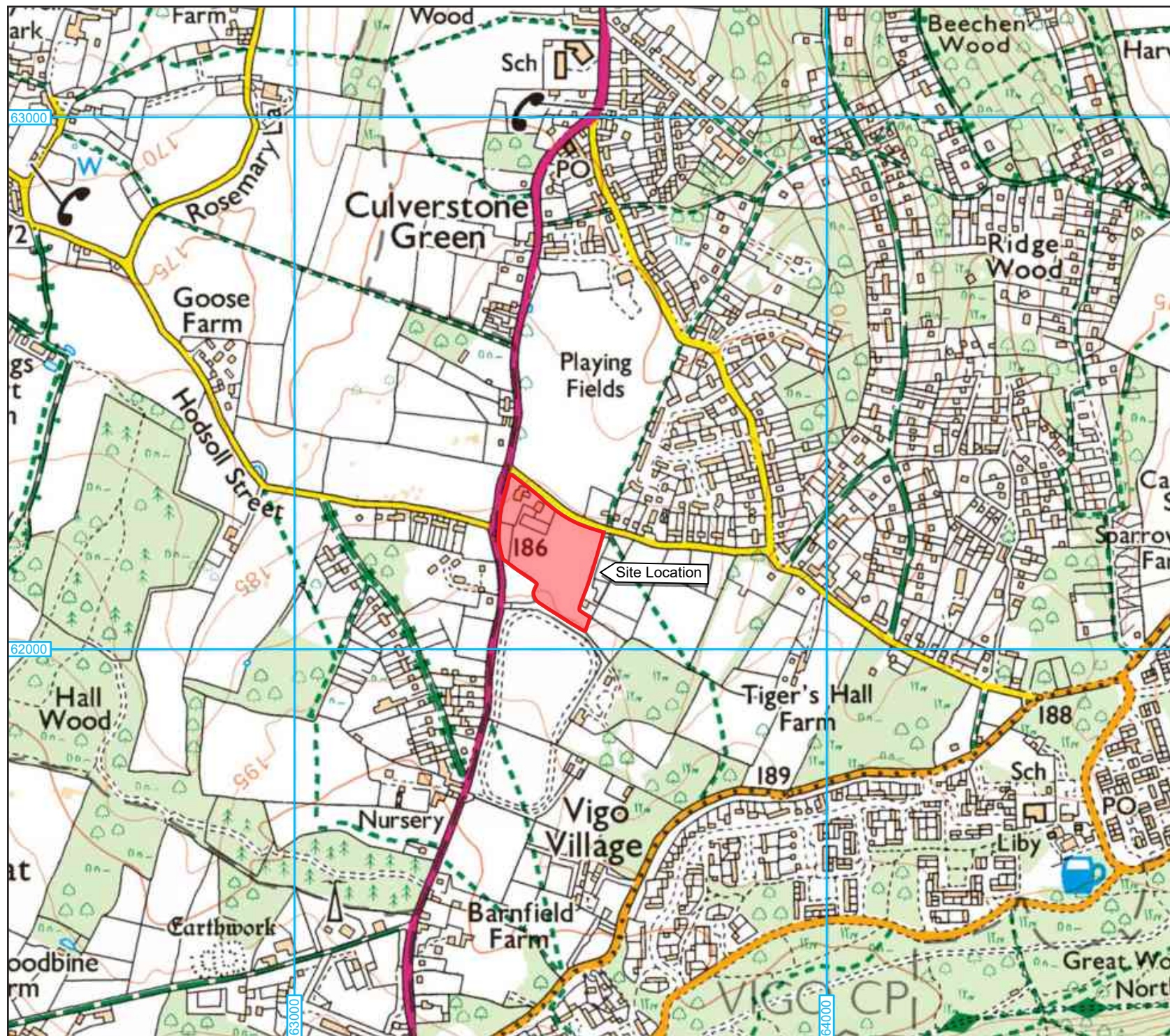
HER: XXXXX HER Monument Prefix and UID

CA – Conservation Area

AB No.	Period	Description	Status	NGR	Ref. No.
1	Multi-Period	Pilgrim's Way/North Downs Way. Prehistoric trackway following the ridge of the North Downs escarpment. For much of its course it is followed by a parallel trackway at the foot of the scarp, traditionally associated with a pilgrim route to Canterbury. (location accurate to the nearest 10m based on available information) The Pilgrims Way trackway is the route taken by pilgrims to the shrine of Thomas Becket in Canterbury, from Winchester in Hampshire. Becket's shrine was seen as the most important in the country during the medieval period after his canonization in 1173, and Winchester was formerly the early medieval capital of England and an important religious centre. The route closely follows a preexisting ancient trackway, and today much of the north downs way parallels the pilgrim's way.	HER MON	Centred TQ 5584 5331 (151685m by 31313m)	HER: TQ 55 SE 124
2	Medieval	Portable Antiquities Scheme find - Medieval copper alloy dagger chape. 14-15th Century. Sheet copper alloy, tubular, dagger chape with soldered wavy seam, silvered surface, serrated upper edge and two inscribed lines or bands below the upper edge and one just above the terminal. No obvious attachment hole visible.	PAS FINDSPOT	TQ 63989 61979 (point)	PAS: MKE75671
3	Medieval	Portable Antiquities Scheme find - Medieval copper alloy buckle. Double-looped buckle frame, both loops oval. The frame is bevelled on the front but flat on the back. Pin missing. Late medieval to early post-medieval. Date: from Circa 1350 AD (Certain) to Circa 1650 AD (Certain)	PAS FINDSPOT	TQ 64024 62030 (point)	PAS: MKE75673
4	Medieval	Medieval - post-medieval enclosed settlement, Stansted. Earthwork remains of enclosed settlement with bailey to the west. Investigation of the site uncovered the remains of a lookout tower, destroyed in the mid 13th century, a windmill, an oven and a possible bloomery. Pottery dating from the early to mid 12th century was also found.	HER MON	Centred TQ 6286 6141 (94m by 61m)	HER: TQ 66 SW 10
5	Post Medieval	Portable Antiquities Scheme find - Post Medieval copper alloy buckle. 1500-1650 Copper alloy, cast, broken half of a double oval loop buckle with moulded knops in the end of the central strap bar. Sheet copper tongue present and decorative rectangular attachment plate with rusty stains from two attachment pins.	PAS FINDSPOT	TQ 63966 61944 (point)	PAS: MKE75674

AB No.	Period	Description	Status	NGR	Ref. No.
6	Post Medieval	Owls Castle (Cook's Farm) A regular L-plan farmstead.	HER MON	TQ 6290 6314 (point)	HER: MKE84190
7	Post Medieval	Owls Castle Barn. C16 aisled. Five bays. Timber-framed north side. Buttressed flint wall south side. Hipped roof now shingled. Queen posts. Two waggon porches on north side. Owls Castle. C16 timber-framed "hall" house. Cased in red brick with grey headers in C18 when it was an inn. Hipped thatched roof with pentice at west end of south front. Some casement windows, some sashes with glazing bars. Much original timber framing exposed internally.	GII LB GII LB	TQ 63563 63171	NHLE: 1081085 NHLE: 1350207
8	Post Medieval	Former Farm complex at Woodlands Farm, appears to have been demolished prior to 1890s.		TQ 63440 62279	
9	Post Medieval	Manor Farm (Upper Goose Farm). A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to two sides of the yard.	HER MON	TQ 6340 6242 (point)	HER: TQ 66 SW 160
10	Post Medieval	Oak Farm. A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to one side of the yard.	HER MON	TQ 6337 6210 (point)	HER: MKE84194
11	Post Medieval	Rose Farm. A regular L-plan farmstead.	HER MON	TQ 6329 6174 (point)	HER: MKE84196
12	Post Medieval	Miller Farm. A regular multiyard farmstead.	HER MON	TQ 6324 6151 (point)	HER: MKE84195
13	Post Medieval	The Goslings. C17 timber-framed building. Two storeys now refaced in flint with red brick dressings. Half-hipped tiled roof. Weatherboarded gable ends. Central C17 brick chimneystack. Three casement windows and simple central doorcase.	GII LB	TQ 62848 62508	NHLE: 1275798
14	Post Medieval	Home Farm. A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to three sides of the yard.	HER MON	TQ 6253 6276 (point)	HER: TQ 66 SW 127
15	Post Medieval	Site of the post-medieval poor house, Ash-cum-Ridley, Sevenoaks. Site of the poor house, Ash-cum-Ridley, cottages and garden. The building appears on the 1792 and 1838 Tithe maps, also the Ordnance Survey maps 1862-1875, 1897-1900, 1907-1923.	HER MON	Centred TQ 6271 6280 (22m by 21m)	HER: TQ 66 NW 36
16	Modern	Trosley Country Park, Trottisccliffe. Trosley Country Park was purchased by Kent County Council in 1973. The park is a site of Special Scientific Interest and is biologically rich in flora and fauna. A walkover survey in 2009 found earthworks relating to possible field systems and former boundaries within the park.	HER MON	Centred TQ 6410 6128 (1787m by 761m)	HER: TQ 66 SW 117

AB No.	Period	Description	Status	NGR	Ref. No.
17	Modern	CAMPS A and B Camps A and B, Wrotham (Vigo) Second World War Pre-Officer Cadet Training Unit, Vigo Village, Trosley, Kent. Camp C, Wrotham (Vigo) Second World War Pre-Officer Training Unit, Trosley near Wrotham, Kent Possible Second World War buildings, Trottiscliffe. There are the remains of a building platform on the south side of the track between Vigo Village and Trosley Park. They consist of a concrete floor on a brick base. Some concrete uprights survive and probably originally had wooden panels between them. There is also some evidence of internal divisions and other features. It was possibly the site of a World War 2 Officers Training Camp.	HER MONS	TQ 6380 6149 (point) TQ 6424 6215 (point) TQ 6391 6132 (point)	HER: TQ 66 SW 115 HER: TQ 66 SW 114 HER: TQ 66 SW 45
18	Multi-Period	Gravesham Archaeology Notification Area. Large area marked for some Palaeolithic potential; area of multi-period background potential. 2 Consult KCC on Major planning applications or equivalent only (including reserved matters).	ANA		
19	Multi-Period	Hodsoll Street Conservation Area	CA	Centred on TQ 62556 63021	



KEY

-  Site Location
-  Site Boundary (inset)

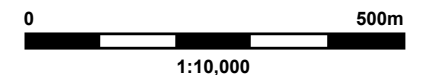
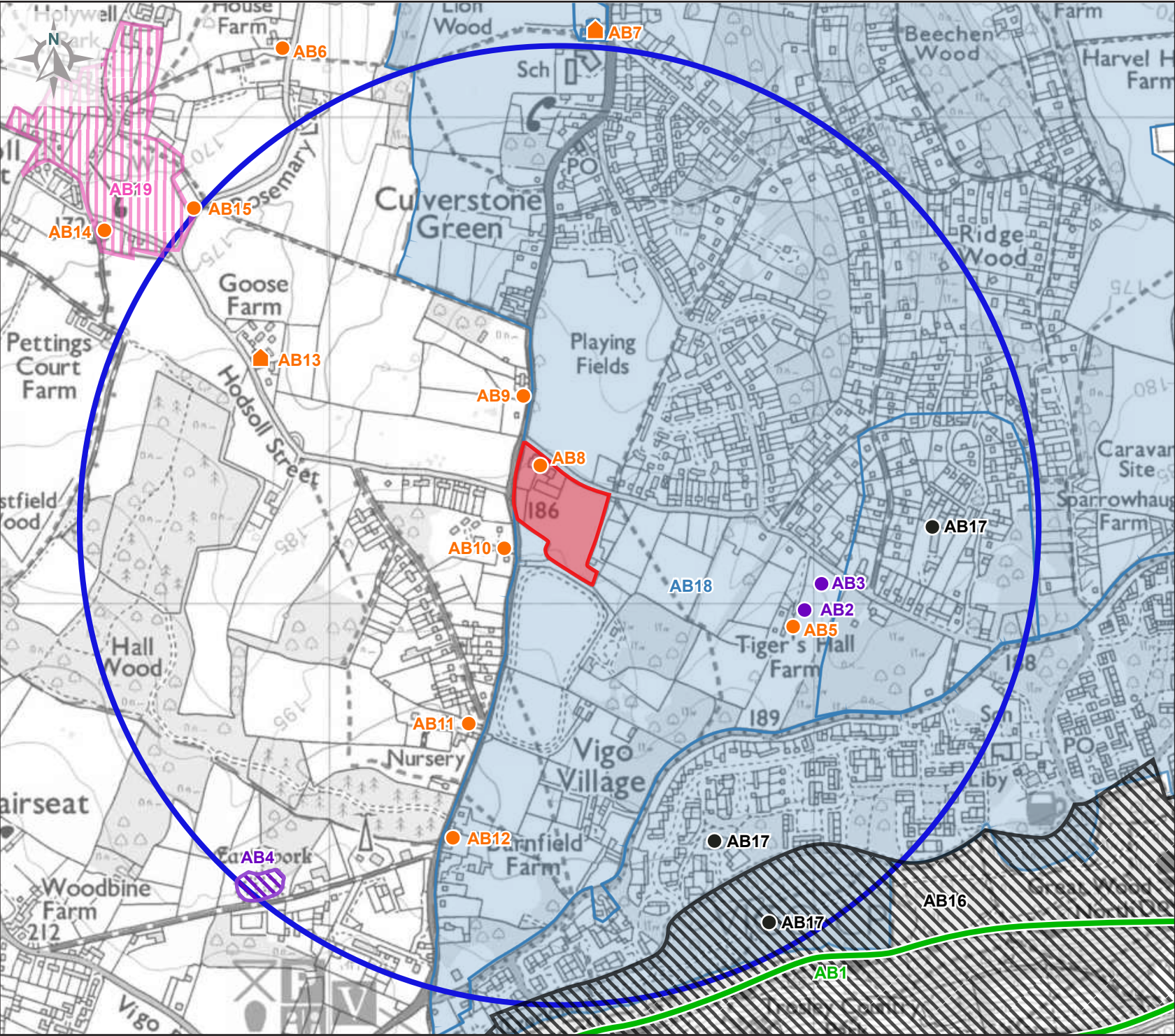


Figure 1: Site Location

Project:
Woodlands Farm, Meopham

Date: 13/05/26 Job No: 64350



KEY

Site Boundary

Search Area (1Km)

Listed Building

Archaeological Features (point)

Archaeological Features (poly)

Archaeological Features (line)

Archaeology Notification Area AB18

Conservation Area AB19

PERIOD

Prehistoric

Roman

Medieval

Post Medieval

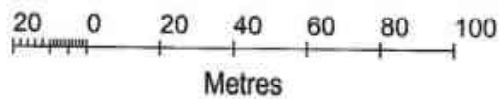
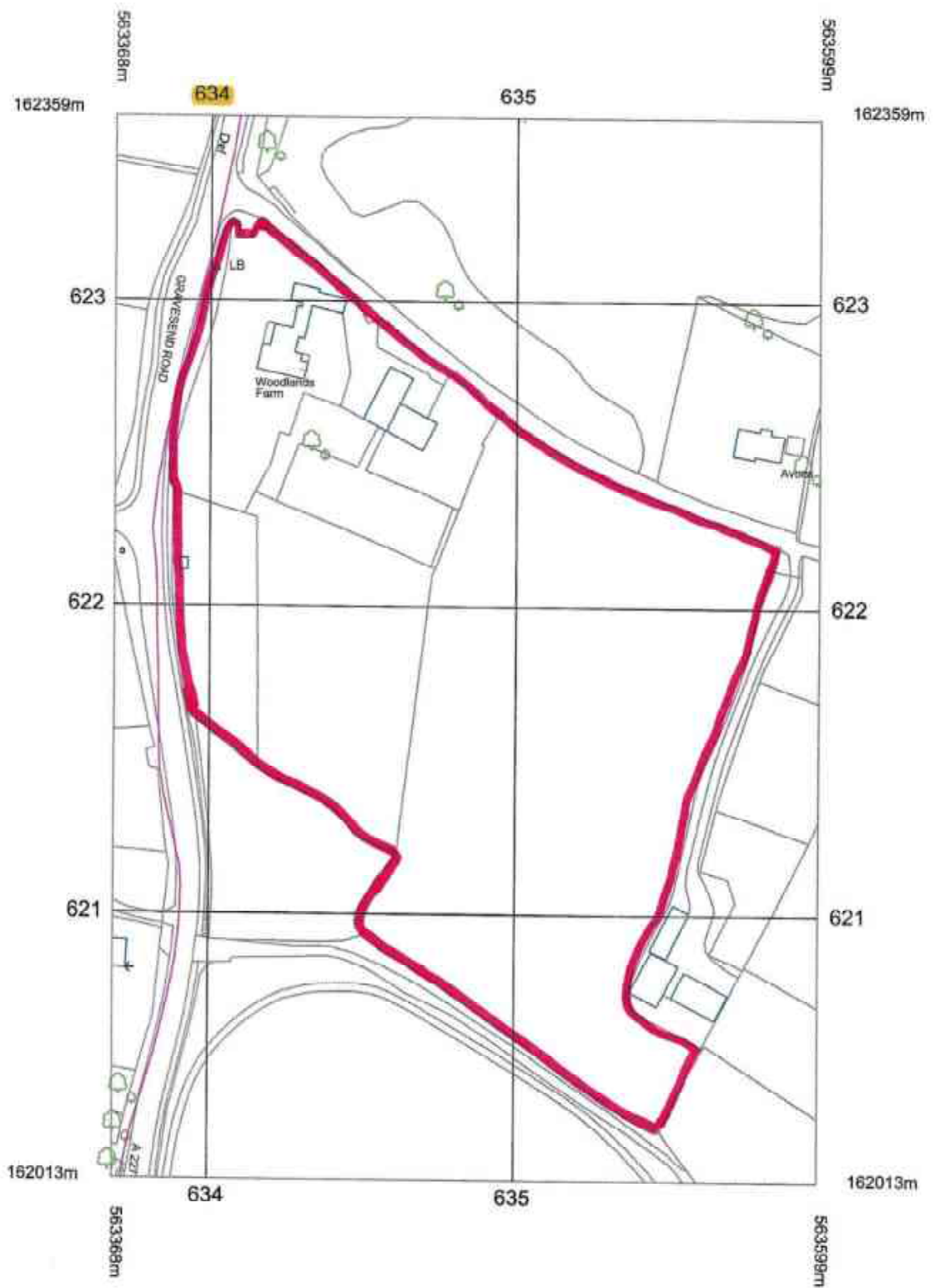
Modern

Undated

0

500m

1:11,000



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KEY:



OAK - 5 X 4 Bed
127 SQM (4B8P)

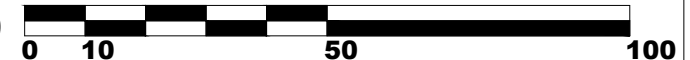


ASH - 18 (2 X 3) Bed
95.5 SQM (3B5P)



ROSE - 13 (2 X 2) Bed
79.5 SQM (2B4P)

1:1250



Proposed Site Plan
1:1250



Site: Woodlands Farm,
Wrotham Road,
Meopham,
Culverstone,
Gravesend,
Kent DA13 0RQ

Title: Proposed Site Plan

Scale at A3:
1:1250

Drawing no.:
002

Date:
27/06/2026

Revision:
A



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