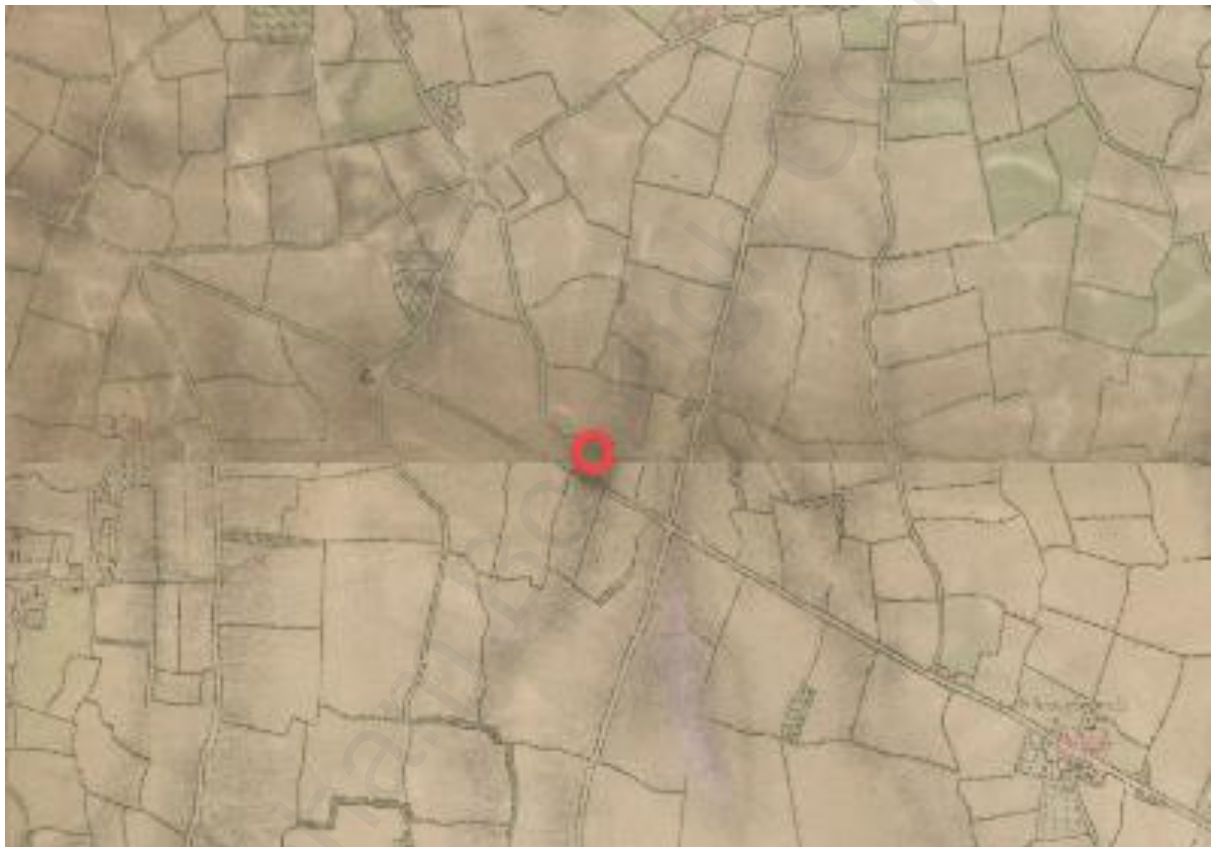




Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in
Advance of the Proposed Development at
Ellenor Hospice, Coldharbour Road,
Gravesend, Kent.

June 2019

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National Grid Reference TQ 63861 71772



Report for Ellenor Hospice

Date of Report: 18th June 2019

SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the proposed Development at Ellenor Hospice, Coldharbour Road, Gravesend, Kent.

Summary

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by Ellenor Hospice to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the proposed development (PDA) at Ellenor Hospice, Coldharbour Road, Gravesend, Kent.

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

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

The PDA lies in the dip slope of the north downs with the Thames circa 2.7km to the north and covers an area of circa 1.5 acres. The centre of Gravesend and Northfleet are 2.7km and 2.5km to the north, north east and north west respectively. Circa 390m to the south west is the A2 carriageway and the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL) circa 530m, also to the south east. The site sits on the northern side of Coldharbour Road, just west of a roundabout and close to Northumberland Bottom and the A2/Wrotham Road junction.

A significant amount of archaeological excavations have taken place in the area to the south and east of the PDA over the past couple of decades with the CTRL, the A2 widening scheme, the building of the A2 Activity park, as well as excavations closer to the PDA for supermarkets, roundabouts and restaurants and a new housing estate in the field to the east. As a result, there is a sizeable and meaningful archaeological record for the area. The record is dominated

*by prehistoric activity, both agricultural, occupational and funerary in character. In addition, unsurprisingly given the closeness to the Roman Road of Watling Street and the major settlement of Springhead to the west, Roman activity is also seen but in the immediate area of the PDA this activity is likely to be field boundaries. Activity following this period in the area begins to tail off with the area becoming increasingly rural and agricultural and the Roman Road no longer a main highway until the early 20th century. The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential for the Prehistoric, the Iron Age and Roman periods, **moderate** for the Medieval and **low** for all other periods. Given the closeness of previous excavations to the south and east, the PDA has the potential to widen and assist our understanding of this area northwards of the extraordinary large excavation areas undertaken at the CTRL, A2 widening and the Activity Park. However, the relatively small areas involved for the extensions, as well as the past high impact on surviving archaeology likely from the original construction of the hospice, along with stratigraphy nearby to the east suggesting the archaeological horizons are circa 0.5m below ground level, the overall potential of finding archaeology in-situ is considered low. The main building is to be extended at the eastern end with a single storey and at the southern end with two-stories, as well as the removal of storage buildings on the northern side to create a new rear access area. The new extensions will require foundations. The southern extension is to be two-storey and will extend into a banked area where the current building is set lower than the road. As a consequence, the proposed development will have a high impact upon any potential archaeology within the area. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities.*

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Ellenor Hospice (the 'Client'), to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) at Ellenor Hospice, Coldharbour Road, Gravesend, Kent centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 63861 171772 (Fig 1).

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The PDA lies in the dip slope of the north downs with the Thames circa 2.7km to the north and covers an area of circa 1.5 acres. The centre of Gravesend and Northfleet are 2.7km and 2.5km to the north, north east and north west respectively. Circa 390m to the south west is the A2 carriageway and the Channel Tunnel Rail Link circa 530m also to the south east. The site sits on the northern side of Coldharbour Road, just west of a roundabout. The western boundary is along Packham Road with the northern boundary along Marks Square, a residential housing estate. This road turns a corner, northwards circa two thirds of the way along the northern boundary, which means the north eastern boundary borders a public footpath across an arable field. The eastern boundary adjoins a patch of grass alongside the roundabout.
- 1.2.2 The PDA lies on the right side of the Wrotham Dry Valley at an average height of 46m AOD on broadly level ground. The lower point of the dry valley is circa 360m to the east. The site is currently occupied by the car park, gardens and buildings relating to Ellenor Hospice (Fig. 1)
- 1.2.3 The British Geological Society (BGS 1995) shows that the local geology at the PDA consists of bedrock comprising of Thanet Formation – Sand. There are no superficial deposits.

Geotechnical Information

- 1.2.4 A large number of boreholes were taken along the route of the A2 widening scheme but these are confidential. Just south of the A2 is the Channel Tunnel Rail Link where in 1997 a large number of boreholes were also taken along its length. The closest one to the PDA is TQ 67 SW 679 (Ref TP804) that was 4m in depth (Table 1). A number also in the same area was found to be chalk in an area suggested by the BGS map to be that of a spur Thanet Sand. This suggests that the map BGS is not completely accurate and that the natural geology is of chalk. Unfortunately, with no boreholes closer to the PDA the geology at that point cannot be confirmed as to whether it is sand or chalk.

Table 1: Borehole Data for TQ 667 SW 6749

Description	Depth (m) (Thickness)	Cumulative Depth (m)	Level AOD (m) – Ground level 51.57
Bitumen coated Limestone Gravel – made Ground	0.05	0.05	51.52
Black silty (ash) fine to coarse sand with slag, coal and clinker - made ground	0.015	0.20	51.37
Red Brick Cobbles – made ground	0.30	0.50	51.07
Structureless chalk	1.10	1.60	49.97
Slightly weathered chalk	2.40	4.0	47.57

Stratigraphy

- 1.2.5 The 1992 evaluation at the supermarket site immediately south of the hospice and the roundabout site east of the hospice comments that the supermarket area was Thanet sand and east of the hospice was brickearth undisturbed at a depth of 41-48cm.
- 1.2.6 At the 2012 evaluation of a proposed restaurant site some 200m south east of the PDA, the archaeological horizon was found at a depth of 0.4m below ground level. Topsoil was seen at an average depth of 14cm, followed by subsoil circa between 14 and 28cm. The natural below that was of yellow red silty sandy clay containing flints and rare chalk flecks.
- 1.2.7 The 2016 evaluation in the field immediately east of the PDA revealed natural head deposits at an average of 44.5m aOD, circa 0.5m below ground level.

1.3 The Proposed Development

- 1.3.1 The proposed development is for refurbishment and extension of its current facility to include a new single-storey extension for clinically compliant single in-patient en-suite rooms at the end of the eastern wing and a two-storey extension to accommodate office space at the end of the southern wing, as well as the removal of storage buildings on the northern side to create a new rear access area. A mobile building currently situated in the south eastern corner of the site currently used as an office will no longer be required and will be removed (Fig. 2).

1.4 Project Constraints

- 1.4.1 No constraints were associated with this project.

1.5 Scope of Document

- 1.5.1 This assessment was requested by the Client in order to determine, as far as is possible from existing information, the nature, extent and significance of the Historic Environment and to assess the potential impact of development on Heritage Assets. The assessment forms part of the initial stages of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist with decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

2 PLANNING BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 National legislation and guidance relating to the protection of, and proposed development on or near, important archaeological sites or historical buildings within planning regulations is defined under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. In addition, local authorities are responsible for the protection of the historic environment within the planning system and ensure that a Heritage Asset is protected to enable it to be passed on to future generations.
- 2.1.2 Statutory protection is also provided to certain classes of designated heritage assets under the following legislation:
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990;
 - Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; and
 - Hedgerow Regulations (statutory Instrument No. 1160) 1997
 - Treasures Act 1996
 - Burial Act 1857.

2.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 2.2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's core principles in relation to planning and the historic environment and is covered in section 16, paragraphs 185-202. These principles are designed to underpin the

planning and decision-making process to ensure that Local Planning Authorities (LPA), developers and owners of heritage assets adopt a consistent approach to the conservation of the Historic Environment.

- 2.2.2 The Historic Environment, as defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2018): Annex 2, comprises:

'all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.'

- 2.2.3 NPPF Annex 2 defines a Heritage Asset as:

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

- 2.2.4 Paragraph 189 of the NPPF states that:

'In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting.'

- 2.2.5 Paragraph 190 of the NPPF states that:

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

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

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

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

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

2.3 Local Policies

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

POLICY CS20: Heritage and Historic Environment.

2.3.2 The council will accord a high priority towards the preservation, protection and enhancement of its heritage and historic environment as a non-renewable resource central to the regeneration of the area and the reinforcement of sense of place. Securing viable, sustainable and appropriate futures for assets at risk will need to be reconciled with the sensitivity to change that many present. Proposals and initiatives will be supported which preserve and where appropriate enhance the significance of the borough's heritage assets, their setting where it contributes to the significance of the asset and their interpretation and enjoyment especially those which contribute to the distinct identity of the Borough. When considering the impact of a proposed development on a designated asset, the weight that will be given to the asset's conservation value will be commensurate with the importance and significance of the asset. For non-designated assets, decisions will have regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

2.3.3 Gravesham Council has identified key sites around the PDA for future land use (Fig.17). The field to the east is identified for residential housing and planning permission has been given and an archaeological evaluation undertaken. The area to the south is identified for employment use and an evaluation has also been undertaken there in advance of development.

Local Planning Guidance

- 2.3.4 The Kent Design Guide, 2008. Prepared by the Kent Design Group, it provides the criteria necessary for assessing planning applications. Helps building designers, engineers, planners and developers achieve high standards of design and construction. It is adopted by the Council as a Supplementary Planning Document.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

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

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

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

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

(2017:4)

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

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

CIFA (2017:4)

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

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

4.2 Sources

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

Archaeological databases

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

Cartographic and Pictorial Documents

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

Aerial photographs

- 4.2.6 The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-8).

Secondary and Statutory Resources

- 4.2.7 Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological studies, archaeological reports associated with development control, landscape

studies, dissertations and research frameworks are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment.

Walkover Survey

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

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

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This section of the assessment will focus on the archaeological and historical development of this area, placing it within a local context. Each period classification will provide a brief introduction to the wider landscape (500m radius centred on each site of the PDA), followed by a full record of archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. There are no Conservation Areas, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens or Historic Parks and Gardens within the search area. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed in Table 2.

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

5.1.2 The Kent HER records within the 500m assessment are predominately related to the PDA's position close to the Roman Road of Watling Street and the many prehistoric finds found during the A2 widening scheme south of the PDA. The northern part of the assessment area predominately has records relating to the Modern period. The table in Figure 20 details all the finds, features and buildings within the assessment area. However, there are two sites recently archaeologically investigated by evaluation that have yet to be included within the KHER data. These include the field to the east of the PDA and a supermarket site immediately south of the PDA. The reports for these sites have been obtained and are the archaeological finds and features from these sites are detailed in sections 5.3.9- 5.3.11.

5.2 Designated Heritage Assets

- 5.2.1 One of the tasks of the site visit was aimed to identify any designated heritage assets within the wider context of the PDA in accordance with The Setting of Heritage Assets – English Heritage Guidance (English Heritage 2011).
- 5.2.2 This guidance states that “setting embraces all of the surroundings (land, sea, structures, features and skyline) from which the heritage asset can be experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset” (The Setting of Heritage Assets, English Heritage 2011).
- 5.2.3 There are no designated heritage assets within the assessment area. There is one KHER record for a non-designated building at the outer reaches of the assessment area, north of the PDA relating to a George VI pillar box dating from circa 1950-

1952 (MKE 77965). Consequently, the proposed development will have no impact on the non-designated asset.

5.3 Previous Archaeological Works

5.3.1 Large areas were excavated to the south of the PDA as a result of the A2 widening scheme and the construction of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL). This has allowed for a significant amount of information to be known about the use of in the area south of Gravesend and Northfleet from Palaeolithic times onwards. In addition, an excavation was completed in the area opposite the hospice. Given the sheer volumes of finds in this area, focus is given here to those closest to the PDA.

Coldharbour Road Supermarket and Roundabout Evaluation, 1992.

5.3.2 In 1992 an evaluation was undertaken at the site of what is now a supermarket on the southern side of Coldharbour Road as well as a small area in what was then north of Coldharbour Road at the area east of the hospice where a new roundabout was planned (Fig. 18). There were 11 evaluation trenches, eight south of the hospice and three, east of the hospice being a total of circa 2% of the overall area. Trench Eight, some 30m in length revealed a hollow in the centre circa 20m wide which contained four features interpreted as pits or gullies. Some of the features in this hollow area contained Iron Age pots/herds. Trench 9 in the roundabout area had no archaeological finds or features, whereas Trench 10 being 10m in length joining Trench eight at right-angles, contained five features which under advice from the KCC in the time available, were not examined. However, these features sat in the same hollow area. This region suggests a possible settlement site with the land surface reduced by erosion and ploughing hence the features in the hollow area have survived.

5.3.3 In the area south of Coldharbour Road, a substantial 14m of V-shaped ditch was found. That was curvilinear in shape and interpreted as a circular or oval ditched enclosure. However, no dating evidence was found for this feature but thought to be prehistoric. Associated artefacts were struck flints and bot boilers in the upper filling of the ditch of possible late Neolithic, early Bronze Age date but these could be residual, again the features and finds suggesting a settlement site in the

area. Across the area as a whole, most trenches produced struck flint and pot boilers as well as two scrapers and some prehistoric pottery, all thought to be residual. Also, a shaft thought to be a Medieval well was found. (*Unpublished Document: Philp, B. 1992. Northfleet 1992 (Safeways PLC): An Archaeological Evaluation of a site at Coldharbour, near Gravesend, Kent. Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit*).

Coldharbour Road Supermarket and Roundabout Evaluation, 1994

- 5.3.4 Following the trial trenching by KARU in 1992, Oxford Archaeology revisited the site in 1994 for a strip and map. Area 1 related to the proposed roundabout east of the PDA. The strip revealed many discrete pits along with some post holes. None of the pits were interpreted as relating to any prehistoric settlement in the area with residual knapped flints recovered from some of them. In Area 2 south of Coldharbour Road, Medieval chalk pits were found. Some late Neolithic/Beaker pottery was found but most of the assemblage dated to the Bronze Age. In addition, there was some pottery from the 11-13th century. Across the area were 756 pieces of residual struck flint and 35 pieces of burnt flint. Overall the area was interpreted as being a Late Neolithic/Bronze Age enclosure with two parallel ditches seen as a driveway and therefore the area associated with land division and demarcation with suggestion of domestic occupation in the vicinity (*Unpublished Document: Mudd, A. 1994 The Excavation of a Late Bronze Age Site at Coldharbour Road, Gravesend. Archaeologia Cantiana. Vol. 114. pp. 363-410*).

Land at Coldharbour Road Restaurant Evaluation, 2012

- 5.3.5 In 2012 ahead as the development of a restaurant a budget hotel block, Wessex Archaeology undertook an evaluation of an area of land on the southern side of Coldharbour Road circa 200m south east of the PDA. There were six evaluation trenches and seven geotechnical test pits. The only feature was a single east-west orientated ditch dated provisionally to the Neolithic/ Bronze Age through waste flakes and burnt flint. It contained a charcoal layer containing burnt wood and low numbers of cereal grains and fish bone (*Unpublished Document: Wessex Archaeology. 2012. Land at Coldharbour Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7PF: Archaeological Evaluation Report*).

Land at Coldharbour Road Restaurant Watching Brief, 2012

- 5.3.6 Following the above evaluation, a watching brief was carried out. What was previously interpreted as a ditch was reinterpreted as an oval pit along with a post hole. No dating evidence was seen but it can be broadly dated to the Late Neolithic or Bronze Age from the artefacts obtained in the evaluation. Overall this suggested that the area was one of low activity (*Unpublished Document: Wessex Archaeology. 2012. Land off Coldharbour Road, Gravesend, Kent: Archaeological Watching Brief Report*).

A2 Pepperhill to Cobham Widening Scheme, 2009

- 5.3.7 In the area of Downs Road, circa 700m south west of the PDA, activity relating to the Bronze Age and Iron in the form of pits were seen as well as an Anglo-Saxon sunken featured building and Medieval pit. Eastwards and closer to the PDA an Iron Age Holloway originally seen in the CTRL continued into the A2 area that was just north of an Iron Age settlement area in the region of the CTRL (TQ 67 SW 547). (TQ 67 SW 486). In the A2 widening area south of the PDA, there were Bronze Age enclosures along with cremations. There were also four Iron Age post structures in a cluster, which also included placed deposits such as whole pots, iron objects charred grain and loom weights. There was also suggestion of salt manufacture. An Iron Age inhumation burial as well as several cremations with grave goods were also discovered. The site was believed to have been abandoned in the Roman period as later field boundaries went across the site. A high-status single cremation was seen in one of the enclosures as well as for smaller urned cremations. During the Medieval period, evidence of sunken feature buildings, pits, kilns and deneholes were observed (*Unpublished Document: Oxford Archaeology / Highways Agency. 2009. A2 Pepperhill to Cobham Widening Scheme: Archaeological {Post-excavation Assessment Report and Updated Project Design: Volume 1}*).

A2 Activity Park

- 5.3.8 A 3-hectare site alongside the north of the new A2 route following the widening with the northern boundary circa 200m south of the PDA was subject to a strip and map in 2010 in advance of the development of the activity park. Residual flint represented the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic periods. Bronze age activity included a ring ditch, seven cremations and a field boundary ditch. All pointed to an organised open landscape with burials and monuments. Later in the Bronze

Age and early Iron Age activity suggested settlement with the landscape agricultural with a droveway and field boundaries filled with pits, post built structures and metalled holloway. No late Iron Age activity was seen and the Roman represented by evidence in the northern area of cremations and a small inhumation cemetery. Chalk pits were the only activity seen in the Post Medieval period (*Unpublished Document: Dawkes, G. 210. Archaeological Investigations at A2 Activity Park, Gravesend, Kent. Archaeology South-East*).

Land at Coldharbour Road: An Archaeological Evaluation, 2016 and 2018

5.3.9 The site investigated is in the field immediately east and north east of the PDA in advance of residential housing (Fig.19). The initial Stage 1 evaluation in 2016 was for 32 trenches and was focused on the area immediately east of the PDA at the southern end of the field. The 2018 evaluation was Stage 2 and covered the central and northern western part of the field. Focusing on the trenches closest to the PDA from Stage 1 revealed in Trench 1 a ditch, a probable ditch terminus and a posthole. The posthole contained no finds. The ditch was aligned north west to south east and contained two pieces of worked flint and was interpreted as continuing into trench 2. The other ditch also running on a similar alignment revealed no finds. Trench 2 as well as the ditch also contained a ditch terminus or pit with fire cracked flint. Trench 3 contained an undated cremation that was left in-situ but possibly considered to be Roman given others already found in the wider area and the closeness to Watling street. Trench 6 also contained undatable ditches. Trench 7 contained a quarry pit of circa 6m diameter and 2m depth that contained Post Medieval roof tile and coal. A possible pit/ditch also in this trench had a single sherd of early Roman pot. An east west aligned ditch also had fire cracked flint and continued eastwards into trench 13. Moving eastwards from the PDA, the next row of evaluation trenches identified further ditches, postholes, pits. Finds included later prehistoric pottery, lava quern of type used in the Roman, Saxon and Medieval period, iron slag, Late Iron Age / Early Roman pottery, worked flint cracked flint and animal bone. Some trenches in this area had no finds or features being trenches 4, 9, 12 and 15. The flints recovered were identified as Neolithic/Bronze Age date with most pieces as being residual. The majority of the pottery was ascribed to be Late Iron Age / Early Roman in date and indicative that the area lies close to settlement activity although no actual settlement was found. Environmental sample were suggestive of small-scale

domestic background waste. In general, the ditches were identified field boundaries and possibly trackways for both the Late Iron Age/ Early Roman period and also the Medieval period with the land used for agricultural activity. A review of the alignment of ditches found in the area to the east of the PDA did not suggest continuation into the area of the PDA (*Unpublished Document: CGMS. 2016. An Archaeological Evaluation: Land at Coldharbour Road, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent*).

- 5.3.10 The stage 2 evaluation revealed very little by way of features and finds. There were pits with no apparent alignment with the landscape of each other and fragments of Early Iron Age pottery. Consequently, this area was considered peripheral to activity occurring to the south relating to agriculture and Iron Age farmsteads (*Unpublished Document: CGMS. 2019. Archaeological Evaluation: (Stage 2) Land at Claphall, Coldharbour Road, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent*).

Land South of Coldharbour Road, 2018

- 5.3.11 An evaluation in 2018 ahead of a new supermarket at a site south of the PDA was adjacent to the 2012 restaurant evaluation which was to the east of the 1994 roundabout/supermarket evaluation was to the west of this evaluation. 14 evaluation trenches were located across the site of which four contained archaeological features. Comprises of ditches, and pits representing prehistoric and Bronze Age activity (*Unpublished Document: Wessex Archaeology. 2018. Land South of Coldharbour Road, Gravesend, Kent: Archaeological Evaluation*).

Landscape Characterisation

- 5.3.12 The PDA is in the eastern part of an area characterised by KCC Historic Landscape Characterisation of 'Post 1810 Settlement (general)'. Immediately east is a strip running north-south of an area of 'Fields predominately bounded by tracks, roads and other rights of way'. East of this strip which is circa 300m wide, is more Post 1810 settlement with a golf course to the north, effectively sandwiching this arable area (Fig. 25).
- 5.3.13 The Council describes the area immediately east and north east of the PDA as the Gravesend Southern Fringe. This area has small arable fields with an undulating topography. The eastern area is a dry valley into Gravesend and is considered an area of high flooding risk. As a result, the council is only considering development

in the western part of this area. This area east of the PDA is isolated from the wider countryside, which is an area south of the A2. This land is surrounded by the urban settlement of Gravesend and Northfleet which covers much of the area north of the A2. Much of the historical arable land in this area has already been lost to urban development and thus the area has low significance as a landscape since it is so fragmented with poor cultural and ecological integrity.

Cropmarks

- 5.3.14 The Kent HER has a number of cropmarks seen on the south western reaches of the 500m assessment area so of which has since been investigated in subsequent excavations. West of the A2 Activity Park, these suggest a rectangular enclosed settlement (TQ 67 SW 15) but no entranced or internal features that are provisionally interpreted as Roman. Another group of cropmarks (TQ 67 SW 125) south of the PDA also suggest an enclosed settlement complex with pits. At Northumberland Bottom a late Iron Age / Roman field system was seen as cropmarks and subsequently investigated archaeological as part of the CTRL (TQ 67 SW 123). Another possible Roman Cropmark of a boundary ditch appears south of the PDA (TQ 67 SW 140) (Fig. 26).

0-100m Radius

- 5.3.15 There is one KHER entries for this area. On the opposite side of Coldharbour Road circa 20m south to the PDA of the PDA was an area excavated ahead of a new supermarket and roundabout where evidence of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity were found in the form of pits and ditches suggesting a possible settlement close by (MKE 15144). However, recent excavations to the east of the PDA yet to appear in the KHER records showed evidence of Neolithic/Bronze Age activity with flints and Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery and field boundaries.

100-200m Radius

- 5.3.16 There is one KHER entry for this area from the PDA. The Roman road of Watling Street passes circa 100m south, south east at its closest point to the PDA (MKE 404).

200-300m Radius

- 5.3.17 There are eight KHER entries for this area from the PDA. All are prehistoric except for a Roman cremation burial found circa 220m south east at the Activity Park

(MKE 90979) and another cremation circa 210m south, south east of unknown date but could plausibly be Roman (MKE 90980). Of the other records they are all in the similar area southwards of the PDA. The earliest is Palaeolithic flints, circa 300m south west at the Activity Park (MKE 90970), which are considered residual. Circa 290m south west of the PDA following excavation at a restaurant site on the southern side of Coldharbour Road, an early Neolithic to late Bronze Age post hole was seen (MKE 97966) along with a pit from the same time frame (MKE 78700). To the south, south west, a middle Bronze Age ditch and cremations were also discovered at the Activity Park (MKE 90972), as well as features from the late Bronze Age, possibly early Iron Age occupation activity in the form of a trackway, a post-built structure, with field systems and ditches (MKE 90974). Activity continued in the area into the middle Iron Age with post-built structures (MKE 90976).

300-400m Radius

5.3.18 There are eight KHER records for this area all towards the south west. More prehistoric activity was noted at Activity Park with flints dating from the Mesolithic through to the Bronze Age period. Circa 350m away, features ranging from the Bronze Age through to the early Medieval period were seen during excavations ahead of the A2 widening (MKE 40133). Bronze Age features included enclosure ditches and cremations. The Iron Age was represented by storage pits and a cremation burial. A Roman boundary ditch was also discovered along with an Anglo-Saxon period grubenhaus and deneholes. Circa 390m away Bronze Age ring ditch containing one crouched inhumation and another 100m to the east of the ring ditch. In addition, two unurned cremations were found 20m west of the ring ditch, also thought to be Bronze Age (MKE 90973). A portable antiquities scheme find of a Potin Iron Age coin of copper alloy was discovered in 2000 (MKE 66686) circa 320m south west of the PDA. At Activity Park, circa 350m to the south west a Roman enclosure ditch and pit was excavated (MKE 90981).

5.3.19 In the area north of the PDA circa 350-370m, there are some Modern records. One is a building record of a George VI pillar box from the 1950s (MKE 77965). The other two are related to the Cold War period and include the site of a 1950s air raid siren (MKE 41849) as well as a 1960s Cold War rest centre (MKE 41941).

400-500m Radius

- 5.3.20 There are ten KHER records for this area including two farmsteads and one undated record, which are covered in separate sections. Of the others more Neolithic to Bronze Age activity is found along the A2 widening and CTRL routes. Flints were found fieldwalking ahead of the CTRL construction circa 475m south west of the PDA (MKE 78455). At the A2 widening, an early Bronze Age beaker pit containing a burial was excavated (MKE 40266). To the south, south east at the outer reaches of the assessment area, Iron Age pits and ditches were seen (MKE 40274) along with a Roman cemetery enclosure (MKE 40275). This was in the north west corner of a larger enclosure and included two early Roman high-status cremation burials in square pits along with lower status cremation burials and later inhumations, which are finds considered of national importance.
- 5.3.21 There are three Modern records for this radius. To the north west is a World War II defended locality that was part of the anti-invasion defences, although no traces survive (MKE 41720). Another WWII defence was located to the south east of the PDA at the junction of Watling Street and Wrotham Road being a weapons pit of which nothing remains (MKE 41722). There was also a Police Telephone box in the same area for WWII, which is likely to have been removed by 1946. (MKE 41790).

Farmstead

- 5.3.22 There are two KHER records for this area, both of the Post Medieval period. To the north west was Durndale, a multiyard farmstead that had the farmhouse in a detached central position and first seen on the 1797 Ordnance Surveyors drawing. The farmstead has been completely demolished sometime in the late 1960s/ early 1970s, to be replaced by a housing estate. To the south east, there was another farm at Northumberland Bottom, first seen on the 1839 tithe map. This was an L plan shape with the farmhouse in a central position. This farmstead was completely demolished by at least 1973 when Watling Street was originally widened from a single carriageway to a dual carriageway and the junction of Watling Street and Wrotham Road was reconfigured (MKE 88826).

Undated

- 5.3.23 There is one undated KHER record. Circa 460m south, south east were a cluster of dene holes (MKE 40276), one of which had an apparent ramp down into the

denehole and produced a mixture of residual prehistoric and Roman material along with Post Medieval items. Therefore, dating of the denehole is uncertain but it is in an area of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman activity.

5.4 Archaeological and Historical Narrative

- 5.4.1 As the PDA lies on the boundary line between Gravesend and Northfleet. Both areas will be considered. Gravesend in old English was 'aet paem grafes ende' meaning at the grove's end becoming the Gravesend spelling by 1232. Northfleet is 'nord fleot' meaning north creek or inlet and had several spellings before settling on North Fleet by 1610. Being situated on the River Fleet it was used to distinguish that from the settlement of Southfleet.
- 5.4.2 The river Fleet (now known as Ebbsfleet) reputedly had its source at Springhead of eight natural springs out of the chalk. Springhead is located circa 2.3km west of the PDA. Originally this river was tidal and Northfleet on the north Kent coast had a harbour. In 1901, the waters were pumped out to be used by the local water company and the riverbed dried up. The names Ebbsfleet is an artificial creation of 17th century antiquities, partly inspired by the name of Ebbsfleet in Thanet, 47 miles to the east. The river now is only a stream and Southfleet is at the head of the Ebbsfleet Valley.
- 5.4.3 The CTRL excavations south of the A2 found evidence relating to the Palaeolithic and in particular in on the southern boundary of the Northfleet parish, a trap pit was found containing part skeleton of a giant elephant: carbon dated 450,000 years old, surrounded by the undisturbed scatter of flint tools. At the time the Ebbsfleet Valley was a lush densely wooded tributary of the Thames containing a swamp. The CTRL excavations also found evidence in the prehistoric period for the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age activity.
- 5.4.4 South of the PDA and towards the area of CTRL and Activity Park, Bronze Age boundary ditches and cremations were found. The Iron Age activity was concentrated around the springs at Springhead and the area associated with a ritual landscape. There was a 500m 'processional way' from the river edge to the high point overlooking the springs and many votive offerings in the form of coins were found. It was perhaps a continuation from this period of the area's religious

significance that attracted the Romans. Iron Age activity also extended eastwards from the area of Springhead, where south of the PDA during the construction of the CTRL, an enclosed settlement area was established between dry valleys on the west facing hillside, which was in continued use into the late 1st century AD and other Iron Age features and structures. Immediately to the west of the PDA, possible Late Iron Age/ Early Roman field boundaries have been found suggesting the area of the PDA was agricultural in this period.

- 5.4.5 In Roman times circa 2km to the west of the PDA was the Roman town called Vagniaci since 56 AD situated at the river's source and the river was used to link Watlings Street to the River Thames. It was a posting station and an important religious centre based on the springs with a sanctuary complex including a temple, ritual shaft in an area enclosed by a ditch. A large number of coins and brooches were found suggesting these were votive offerings. A second temple was also found close to Watling Street. Other properties were found lining Watling Street and along a branch road in the direction of the Roman villa at Northfleet. As well as residential properties, industry was also seen with an aisled barn, blacksmith forge, a baking, a possible brewing complex and crop dryers. At Pepperhill there was a major Roman cemetery with circa 600 burials. It was the Romans that first began to dig chalk from the area. Roman activity has also been seen in the area eastwards of the main settlement, to the area south of the PDA with a cemetery containing high status cremations, lower status cremations and inhumations as well as enclosure ditches.
- 5.4.6 The original Anglo-Saxon name for the section of the route between Canterbury and London was Casingc Stræt or Key Street, a name still borne by a hamlet on the road near Sittingbourne. This section only later became considered part of Watling Street. The Roman town did not develop into an English settlement, it was probably the parent of the Saxon Ebbsfleet estate, which was subsequently divided into Northfleet and Southfleet. Anglo-Saxon sunken feature buildings relating to three possible settlements from the late 5th until the early 8th were discovered at various places along the Ebbsfleet Valley between Springhead and Northfleet. Anglo-Saxon burials were also found in the area at the head of the valley, some with grave goods. The CTRL excavation also found an extremely early tidal watermill dated to 692 AD just north of the Roman Villa.

- 5.4.7 Cynedretha, Abbess of Cookham in Berkshire exchanged lands with Archbishop of Canterbury for the land of 10 families and a large holding in Northfleet. (From this time each successive Archbishop became Lord of the Manor of Northfleet, until the year 1538). In 975 Northfleet as a manor was larger and more valuable than that of Gravesend.
- 5.4.8 In the Domesday Book it was called Northfluet. Within the Tollingtrough Hundred as part of the Aylesford area, it had 43 households consisting of 36 villagers and 7 slaves. There was land for 14 ploughshares, 20 acres of meadow, 20 swine render, one mill, 1 fishery and a church. The Lord of the Manor was the Archbishop of Canterbury.
- 5.4.9 Recorded as Gravesham in the Domesday Book, Gravesend was smaller than Northfleet with only 12 households made up of four villagers and eight slaves. There was only land for four plough teams and a single church was the only other resource.
- 5.4.10 The location of Gravesend is at a point where the higher land – the lowest point of the dip slope of the North Downs – reaches the river bank. To the east are the low-lying Shorne Marshes; to the west, beyond Northfleet and the Swanscombe Marshes. The settlement thus established because it was a good landing place: it was also sheltered by the prominent height of what is now called Windmill Hill; although Windmill Hill still remains a dominant feature, Gravesend's highest point is actually further inland at Marling Cross, adjacent to the A2.
- 5.4.11 The area is likely to have been cleared of woodland by the 11th century. By then it had been confined to small blocks usually confined to higher ground with acidic clay soil like nearby Shorne. Lime from Gravesend was used in the construction of Dover Castle in 1168 AD. Gravesend was the eastern terminus of the Long Ferry on the Thames from London, which was in existence prior to 1293. Around this time, it is thought that The Ebbsfleet river began to silt up and a bridge added at further downstream at the Stonebridge area in Northfleet. Thus, travellers diverted away from the Roman road, using a newer road with passed much closer to Gravesend between Strood and Dartford.
- 5.4.12 Watling Street became a by-road and footpath between Park Corner, Swanscombe and Sandy Lane, Betham until the arterial road, the A2/M2 was

opened in 1924 with a minor road diverting south via Betsham. As such the area around the PDA in the Medieval period was rural.

- 5.4.13 Gravesend has one of the oldest surviving markets in the country. Its earliest charter dates from 1268, with town status being granted to the two parishes of Gravesend and Milton by King Henry III in its Charter of Incorporation of that year
- 5.4.14 The ancient parish church of Northfleet (dating from the 14th century, but with work from earlier periods) is dedicated to St Botolph. Its tower was built in 1717, after the original had fallen.
- 5.4.15 The cement-making industry requires plentiful water supplies, and chalk as its main ingredient, both of which were to hand. In 1796, James Parker set up kilns on Northfleet creek to make his Roman cement, it was the beginning of a large complex of cement works along this stretch of the river. The manufacture of Portland cement began in April 1846.
- 5.4.16 Journeys by road to Gravesend were historically quite hazardous, since the main London-Dover road crossed Blackheath, notorious for its highwaymen. Stagecoaches from London to Canterbury, Dover and Faversham used Gravesend as one of their "stages" as did those coming north from Tonbridge. In 1840 there were 17 coaches picking up and setting down passengers and changing horses each way per day.
- 5.4.17 Northfleet by 1800 was the home of numerous shipyards. In 1815 the first steamboat started plying between Gravesend, Kent, and London, an event which was to bring much prosperity to the area. From its origins as a landing place and shipping port, Gravesend gradually extended southwards and eastwards. Better-off people from London visited the town during the summer months; at first by boat, and then by railway. More extensive building began after World War I, which increased further after World War II, when many of the housing estates in the locality were built. Northfleet became a town in 1874 and in 1974 it was merged with the Borough of Gravesend
- 5.4.18 Although a great deal of the town's economy continued to be connected with maritime trade, since the 19th century other major employers have been the cement and paper industries. It was an area famous for Gun Flint manufacturing

as Flint is found in amongst the Chalk. The Springhead/Ebbsfleet Valley area was used for the growing of Watercress much of which was supplied to the London market.

- 5.4.19 Gravesend railway station lies on the North Kent Line, and was opened in 1849. The Gravesend West Line, terminating by the river and for some time operating as a continental ferry connection, closed in 1968.
- 5.4.20 From 1932 to 1956, an airport was located to the east of Gravesend. It began as a civilian airfield, but during World War II it became a Royal Air Force fighter station, RAF Gravesend, and so Gravesend was heavily bombed by the Luftwaffe. In 1956 the site was taken over by Gravesend Town Council; a large housing estate known as Riverview Park was built on its site. On Friday, 16 August 1941 150 German aircraft flew through over Kent. The formation split and a group dropped about 106 bombs ranging from 50–250 kilos over the town. The bombs killed 29 people, injured 27, and badly damaged two schools.
- 5.4.21 In 1983 fund raising began by four Lion Clubs in north west Kent with enough money raised that in 1990 building began at the site in Coldharbour Road. The site was owned by the Colin Ferguson Trust who offered the hospice a 99 lease for just £1 a year. The hospice opened to patients in 1992 and was called the Lions Hospice. In 2007, the Ellenor Foundation and the Lions Hospice merged.
- 5.4.22 With the opening in 2003 of the first section of the CTRL which, in part, used a long-closed branch railway between Longfield and Gravesend West stations. Section two which opened in 2007 required a new station, Ebbsfleet International railway station, in the Ebbsfleet Valley.

5.5 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

Andrews, Dury and Herbert map of 1769

- 5.5.1 Andrews, Dury and Herbert published their atlas some thirty years before the Ordnance Survey, immediately becoming the best large-scale maps of the county. This shows a sparsely populated and arable landscape in the area around the PDA.

The route of the old Roman road is highlighted although sources suggest the main road used was northwards closer to Gravesend and Northfleet at this time. South of Gravesend and Northfleet are many hamlets such as that of Perry Street. The PDA at this point is on the road south eastwards from Perry Street that passes immediately south of the PDA and continues southwards, crossing Watling Street and heading towards Nash street (Fig. 3).

Hasted, 1798

- 5.5.2 The area is still sparsely populated and the locations of roads and hamlets not dissimilar to the map above (Fig. 4).

Ordnance Surveyors Drawings 1797

- 5.5.3 The maps from this series shows the individual buildings and field boundaries. However, the area around the PDA is dominated by fields. There is a building to the north west which is in the location of a known farmstead of Durndale. To the south east along Watling Street is a hamlet of Shinglewell (Fig. 5).

Tithe Map from 1839

- 5.5.4 The tithe map shows greater detail and the PDA falls under the tithes for Northfleet being located at the far eastern edge of the Northfleet parish. The PDA is part of field designated 507. It is an arable field owned by Elizabeth Sayer and Jane and Francis Lane. The occupier is William Huble. The area is still predominately arable (Fig. 6).

Historic OS Map 1869

- 5.5.5 This is the first properly scaled OS map. This suggests that this section of Watling Street is still more or less a trackway. To the east on the Wrotham Road is Claphall and to the north west is the farmstead of Durndale. Coldharbour Road at this point is unnamed and a rural road from Perry Street heading towards Watling Street and the crossroads with the Wrotham Road called Northumberland Bottom. This area has an Inn called the Turnpike Gate and a number of other

buildings located around the crossroads. A straight-line footpath passes across the fields in a north west-south easterly direction to the east of the PDA (Fig. 7).

Historic OS map 1898

5.5.6 There is little change compare to the previous map (Fig.8).

Historic OS map 1909

5.5.7 There is still little by way of change. There are some more buildings lining the Wrotham Road on the eastern side north of the Northumberland Bottom crossroads. The area is still predominately fields (Fig.9).

Historic OS map 1933

5.5.8 There no change at the PDA. The area on the eastern side of the Wrotham Road and northern side of Watling Street at Northumberland Bottom is increasingly urbanised. There have been significant changes to Watling Street, which is no longer a track but it is now a modern main single carriageway road. To the north east of the PDA on the eastern side of Wrotham Road there is now a golf course (Fig.10).

Historic OS map 1946

5.5.9 There is little change compared to the previous map (Fig.11).

Historic OS map 1950

5.5.10 There is little change (Fig.12).

Historic OS map 1966

5.5.11 There have been significant changes. North of the PDA there is now a housing estate on the eastern side of Coldharbour Road (Fig.13).

Historic OS map 1973

5.5.12 A new housing estate now occupies the area east of Durndale Farm and the area west of Coldharbour Road. The PDA is still part of a field. Watling Street has been widened to create a dual carriageway. As a result, there is now a new roundabout at the junction of Watling street with Wrotham Road and an underpass. As a consequence, the line of Coldharbour Road immediately in the area of the PDA

has been rerouted slightly so that it no longer directly joins Watling Street, the continuation of the old route now shown as a short track (Fig. 14).

Historic map 1980

5.5.13 There is little change (Fig. 15)

LIDAR

5.5.14 The LIDAR picture does not appear to show anything other than historical field boundaries to the east of the PDA otherwise the area is quite urbanised (Fig. 16).

5.6 Aerial Photographs

1940s

5.6.1 This shows the PDA as part of a wider field with an area dominated by arable fields. Coldharbour Road is a small tree lined road. Durndale Farm to the north west can be seen as also the housing along Wrotham Road at Northumberland Bottom. The golf course can be seen to the far east. (Plate 1).

1960s

5.6.2 The area is still very rural and the PDA is s part of a number of fields but it appears that the field is not all of the same crop. The housing estate to the north of the PDA has been completed (Plate 2).

1990

5.6.3 More residential housing has been built to the west and Coldharbour Road has been rerouted. The line of the original road where it joined Watling Street can still be seen. Watling Street is now a dual carriageway and there is now a new junction area between the eastern end of Coldharbour Road and Wrotham Road at Northumberland Bottom. The PDA is still part of an arable field (Plate 3).

2003

5.6.4 There have been significant changes. The PDA now has the 'T shaped hospice building. The remainder of the field to the east still exists except for a new roundabout to the south east of the PDA. This was put into place to aide the

traffic flow as on the opposite side of the road to the PDA there is now a supermarket (Plate 4).

2011

- 5.6.5 South of the PDA there have been significant changes in that Watling Street has been diverted to run more to the south. The old dual carriageway has been removed and grassed. The area between the old route of Watling Street and the new road has the Activity Park under construction. At the PDA, there have been some extensions. A small extension added to the far eastern end and a larger extension added to the north eastern side (Plate 5).

2018

- 5.6.6 No changes are noted other than the restaurant and hotel have been built south east of the PDA and the Activity Park has been finished (Plate 6).

5.7 Walkover Survey

- 5.7.1 The walkover survey is not intended as a detailed survey but the rapid identification of archaeological features and any evidence for buried archaeology in the form of surface scatters of lithic or pottery artefacts. The walkover survey was undertaken on the 30th November 2018. No artefacts or archaeological features were identified in the walkover (Plates 8-12).
- 5.7.2 The PDA currently consists of a 'T' shaped brick and tiled building (Plate 8). The western and eastern wing is single storey with the southern wing 2-storey and set down into the ground lower than the road. There is a car park at the western end of the PDA bordered by trees and grass. The main access is from Coldharbour Road. There is a garden area to the south east and east. The far south eastern corner used to be grass but is currently taken up by a temporary mobile building serving as an office. To the north are some storage buildings and a wooden gated entrance from Marks Square. A footpath starts off Marks Squares and runs along part of the north eastern boundary of the PDA continuing across the arable field to the east. On Coldharbour Road, between the road and PDA garden boundary, there is a public footpath set within a verge that has trees and is grassed with

bushes against a wooden fence providing privacy in the garden area from the road.

5.8 Summary of Potential

Palaeolithic

- 5.8.1 The Palaeolithic period represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has just one record from this period within the assessment area. Figure 20 shows the cluster of Prehistoric records to the south of the PDA. Palaeolithic flints were found during the excavation at the Activity Park. These were considered to be residual. In the wider area of the Ebbsfleet Valley some 2km west of the PDA, historical river channels, Palaeolithic evidence in the form of and Levallois artefacts at the lower levels and hand axes at higher levels along with environmental evidence including an elephant and other animals were discovered at a level of some 20 feet below ground. The geology of the PDA suggests that it lies well outside of the potential Palaeolithic area. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Mesolithic

- 5.8.2 The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has one record from this period within the assessment area being that of a few flints dating from the Mesolithic period were found during excavation ahead of the construction of the Activity Park (MKE 90971). Mesolithic items were not discovered during the excavations closer to the PDA at the supermarket and roundabout site. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Neolithic

- 5.8.3 The Neolithic period was the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry. The Kent HER has five records from this period within the assessment area. The Activity Park excavation found a few Neolithic blades, (MKE 909971). In the area of the CTRL, worked flints was found that could be dated to either the Neolithic or Bronze Age period (MKE 78455). Circa 300m

south east of the PDA at the restaurant site, a post hole and a pit that could be attributed to the Neolithic or Bronze Age period was seen (MKE 97966 & MKE 78700). Closer to the PDA at the supermarket site a Neolithic pit was discovered (MKE 15144). Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **moderate**.

Bronze Age

- 5.8.4 The Bronze Age was a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. There are nine Kent HER records from this period within the assessment area. As seen in the previous paragraph, many finds could also easily relate to the Bronze Age period (MKE 78455; MKE 97966; MKE 78700). The supermarket and roundabout site close to the PDA contained many Bronze Age features such as ditches interpreted as a droveway (MKE 15144). The A2 widening saw Bronze Age enclosure ditches and cremations (MKE 40133) and a beaker pit containing 5 vessels overlooking the Wrotham dry valley (MKE 40266). The Activity Park saw a ditch containing residual flints, thought to be a field boundary and five cremations (MKE 90972). More funerary features were found at Activity Park with cremations, an inhumation and a ring ditch all dated to the Bronze Age (MKE 90973). Further field systems, pits, ditches, trackways and holloways were also located (MKE 90974). Immediately east of the PDA, recent evaluations have discovered worked flints although they may be residual and immediately south of the PDA Bronze Age ditches and pits were also discovered. The results are suggestive of nearby settlement but the features are likely to be field boundaries attesting to the general agricultural use of the area around the PDA. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Iron Age

- 5.8.5 The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres (the Iron Age 'Tribal capital' or civitas of the Cantiaci). The Kent HER has six records from this period within the assessment area and possibly a second. The A2 widening scheme saw Iron Age inhumations and cremations, a post hole (MKE 40133) as well as pits and ditches

(MKE 40274). To the south west an Iron Age Potin copper alloy coin was found (MKE 66686) in the area south of the PDA. The Activity Park area saw Iron Age post-built structures and some of the Bronze Age features such as ditches, fields systems and trackways mentioned in the previous paragraph could also apply to the Iron Age (MKE 90974) although some post-built structures clearly dates to the middle Iron Age (MKE 90976). Also, some of the cropmarks seen may also relate to the Iron Age. Immediately east of the PDA are Iron Age/Early Roman field boundaries with pottery as well as suggesting continued agricultural activity for the area in this period and into the Roman period. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Romano-British

- 5.8.6 The Romano-British period is the term given to the Romanised culture of Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire, following the Claudian invasion in AD 43, Britain then formed part of the Roman Empire for nearly 400 years. The Kent HER has five records from this period within the assessment area (Fig. 21). The Roman Road of Watling street is to the south (MKE 4004). At Activity Park, Roman enclosures (MKE 90981) and cremation burial (MKE 90979) were observed and many of the cropmarks in the assessment area are also thought to have Roman origins. A Roman boundary ditch was found during the A2 widening but one of the most important finds during the widening was a cemetery enclosure south east of the PDA. This contained cremations and inhumations over a long period that also included some high-status burials (MKE 40275). The field immediately east of the PDA also appears to have continued in use during the early Roman period and may possible have a suggestive Roman cremation although this was not dated with any certainty. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Anglo-Saxon

- 5.8.7 The Kent HER has just one record from this period within the assessment area being that of a sunken featured building located during the A2 widening works (MKE 40133). Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Medieval

- 5.8.8 The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area. A Medieval well and pit was located just south of the PDA at the supermarket excavation (MKE 15144). The A2 widening found the use of the area continued into the Medieval period with pits, kilns and deneholes (MKE 40133; MKE 40276). The field to the east of the PDA uncovered some Medieval activity and pottery. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period is considered **moderate**.

Post Medieval

- 5.8.9 The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area both relating to farmsteads, both now demolished (Fig. 22). The map regression suggests the area in this period was mainly agricultural with very few buildings. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Modern

- 5.8.10 KHER has six records dating to this period (Fig. 23). Three relate to the Second World War concerning of which two concern defended localities northwards of the PDA of which nothing remains (MKE 41720; MKE 41722) and the third, a police telephone box south eastwards of the PDA (MKE 41790), which was decommissioned by at least 1946. Two records relate to the Cold War period being an air raid siren (MKE 41849) and rest location (MKE 41941), again to the region north of the PDA. The final record for this period is a non-designated heritage asset of a George VI pillar box from the 1950s. The PDA was part of an arable field and not built on until 1990. Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to this period in the PDA is considered **low**.

Undated

- 5.8.11 There is one record that are undated relating to some cremation burials (MKE 90980). These were urned cremations and given their location they may tentively be considered Roman.

Overview

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

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

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

6 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

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

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

- **Low Impact** – Where the ground has been penetrated to a very low level e.g. farming, landscaping, slab foundation etc.

6.2 Historic Impacts

- 6.2.1 Cartographic regression (5.5), Topographic analysis (1.2) and Historical research (5.4) indicate that the PDA was agricultural land until the hospice was built in 1990, although it is not clear if the area would have been subjected to modern plough depths. No doubt the construction of the main building and storage areas would have resulted in much disturbance and truncation of the ground around the building area. Also, with the southern wing set lower than the road it is not clear if there would have been any made ground in that region from the original construction. Therefore, any impact on surviving archaeological remains is likely to have been at least **high**.
- 6.2.2 The main building is to be extended at the eastern end with a single storey and at the southern end with two-stories as well as the removal of storage buildings to create a new rear access area. The new extensions will require foundations and particularly as the southern extension is to be two-storey and will extend into a banked area where the current building is set lower than the road. As a consequence, the proposed development will also have a **high** impact upon any potential archaeology within the area of the foundations.

7 SIGNIFICANCE

7.1 Introduction

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

7.2 Significance Criteria

Period

- 7.2.1 The significant amount of excavation that has occurred in the area from the CTRL, A2 widening and the Activity Park, as well as closer to the PDA has provided much information by way of prehistoric activity in the area from the Palaeolithic through to the Iron Age. There is also a large amount of Roman activity, but this tails off into the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval period whereby the area seems to be used for deneholes and kilns. In the Post Medieval period, the area is rural and agricultural.

Rarity

- 7.2.2 Prehistoric activity, particularly in the Palaeolithic period is rare and as a result, understanding the occupation and activity during this period is a key research topic of national significance although the geology of the area and the depths required means it is unlikely that the PDA will provide any information from this period other than the possibility of chance finds of residual flints. However, the Roman cemetery enclosure to the south east of the PDA is considered of national importance but there is no suggestion that this extends as far as the PDA, although a possible single Roman cremation may have been found in the field to the east of the PDA. The excavations to the south and east of the PDA at the supermarket and roundabout site found evidence of the Neolithic and Bronze age but no actual settlement area other than a suggestion that one could be nearby. According to the South East Research Framework, any information to assist in the understanding of the landscape in this period from the Neolithic into the early, middle and late Bronze Age would be of benefit.

Documentation

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

Group Value

- 7.2.4 The potential for the PDA, which is close to previous excavations south and east of the PDA have a high group value in widening and adding to these areas and understanding of the use of the Wrotham dry valley of the Gravesend Southern Fringe.

Survival / Condition

- 7.2.5 The historical research suggests that the PDA was agricultural land until 1990, when the main hospice building was built. As well as being subjected to possible modern plough damage, the construction of the hospice itself would have had a high impact of any potential archaeology. The recent excavations to the east suggest that the archaeology was only circa 0.5m below the ground surface and therefore potential vulnerable to disturbance.

Fragility / Vulnerability

- 7.2.6 Any potential remains within the PDA, should they survive in-situ will be vulnerable to damage during the proposed development due to the requirement for foundations for the new extensions.

Diversity

- 7.2.7 There is the potential for high archaeological remains are for the prehistoric period, Iron Age and Roman period, with moderate for the Medieval and low for all other periods. Recent large-scale excavations confirm the exploitation of the area from the earliest periods onwards including mainly agricultural activity, some occupation activity, funereal activity, as well as industry with deneholes and kilns.

Potential

- 7.2.8 The overall archaeological potential is considered high for the prehistoric, Iron Age and Early Roman period but given the relatively small areas involved for the extensions, as well as the past high impact on surviving archaeology from the original construction disturbance, they overall potential of finding archaeology in-situ is considered low.

Significance

Based on the information gained in this report, it can be concluded that the site is of archaeological interest with a high chance of prehistoric archaeology especially of the Neolithic and Bronze Age period, which is considered of regional significance, along with that of the Iron Age and Roman period. Given the closeness of previous excavations to the south, south east, along with the recent excavations immediately to the east of the PDA, the PDA has the potential to widen and assist our understanding of this area northwards of the extraordinary large excavation areas undertaken at the CTRL, A2 widening and the Activity Park. Although whether any archaeology is to be found in-situ uncertain.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 The purpose of this archaeological desk-based assessment was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record in order to determine the potential survival of archaeological deposits that may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.
- 8.1.2 The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential for the Prehistoric, Iron Age and Roman period, **moderate** for the Medieval period and **low** for all other periods. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities.

9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 Archive

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

9.2 Reliability/Limitations of Sources

- 9.2.1 The sources that were used in this assessment were, in general, of high quality. The majority of the information provided herewith has been gained from either published texts or archaeological 'grey' literature held at Kent County Council, and therefore considered as being reliable.

9.3 Copyright

- 9.3.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company and the author shall retain full copyright on the commissioned report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. All rights are reserved, excepting that it hereby provides exclusive licence to Ellenor Hospice (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

Paul Wilkinson PhD MCifA.

SWAT Archaeology

June 2019

Gravesend Borough Council

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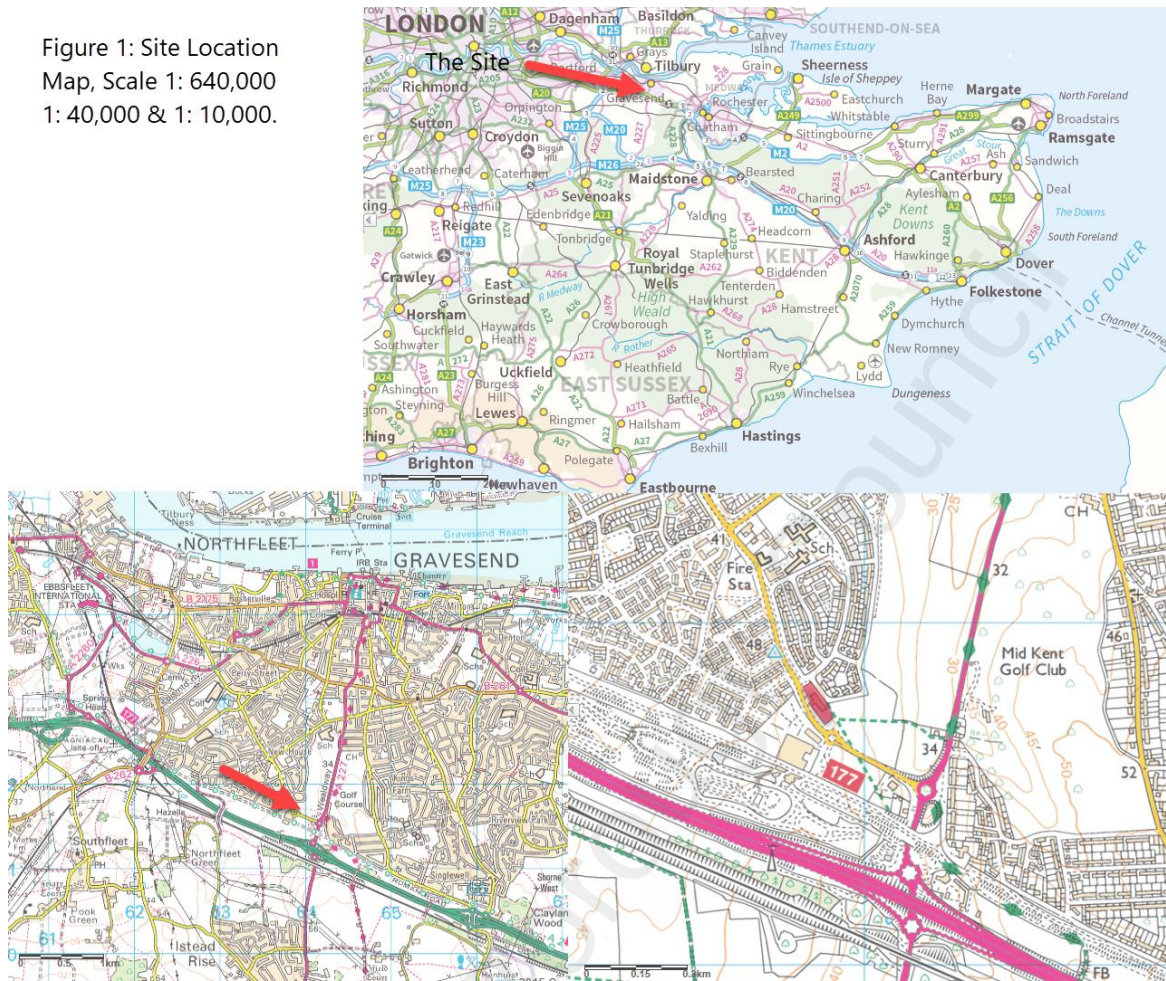
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Figure 1: Site Location Map, Scale 1: 640,000
1: 40,000 & 1: 10,000.



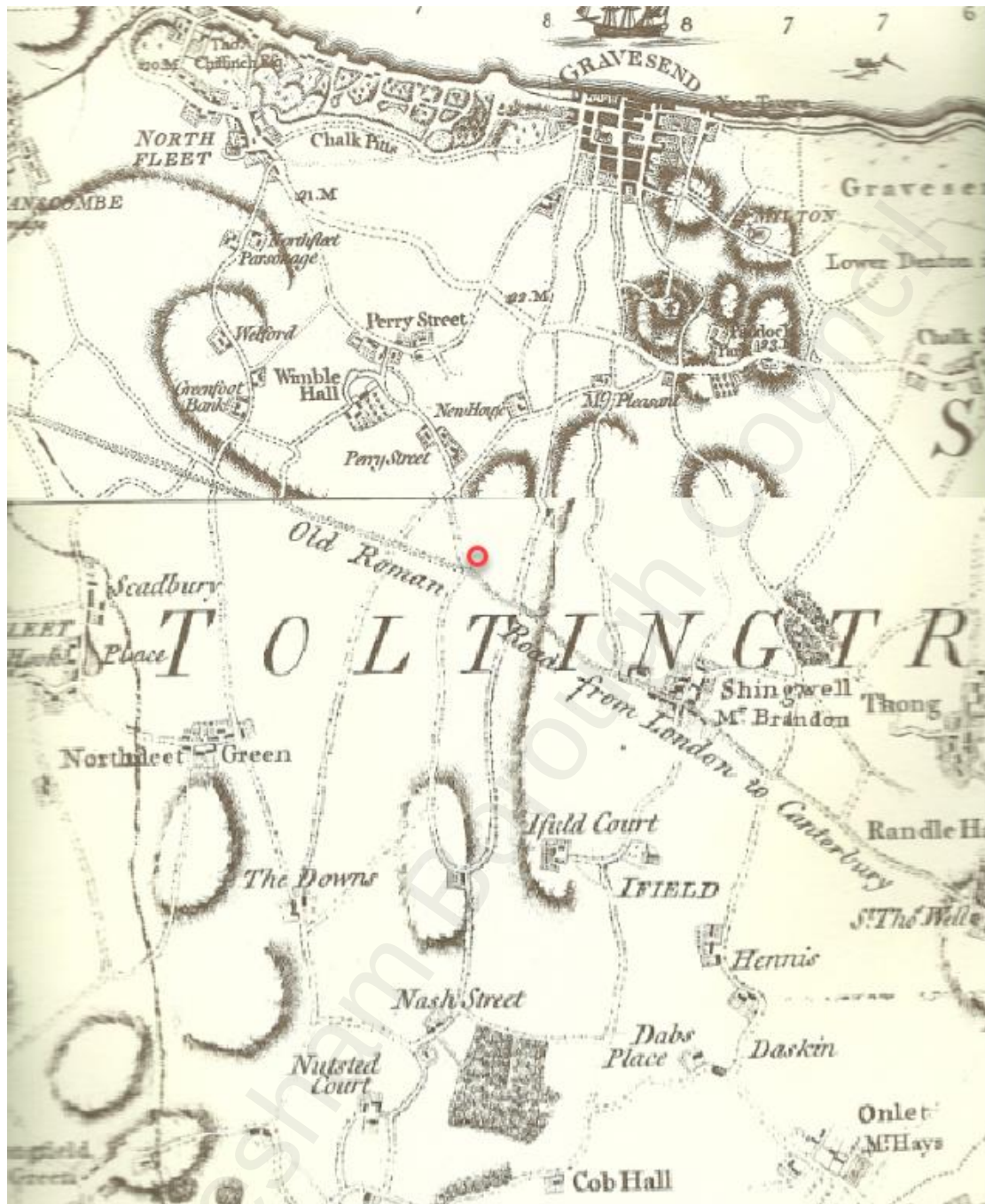


Figure 3: Andrew, Dury and Herbert Map from 1769

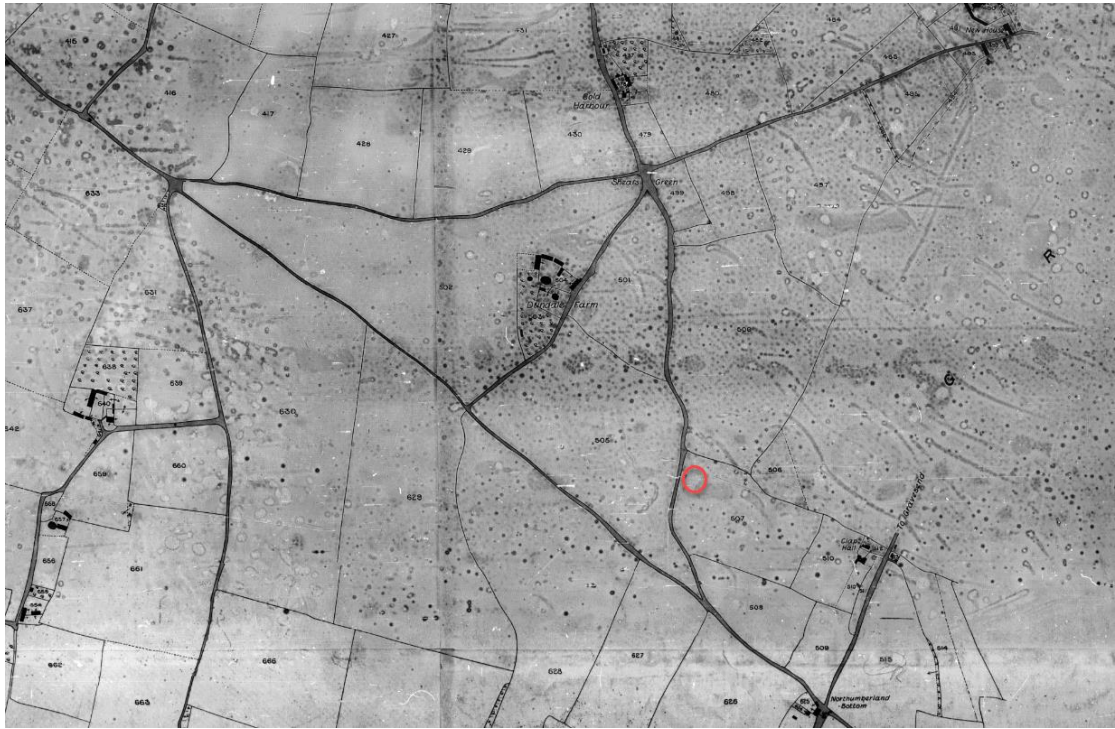


Figure 6: 1839 Northfleet Tithe Map

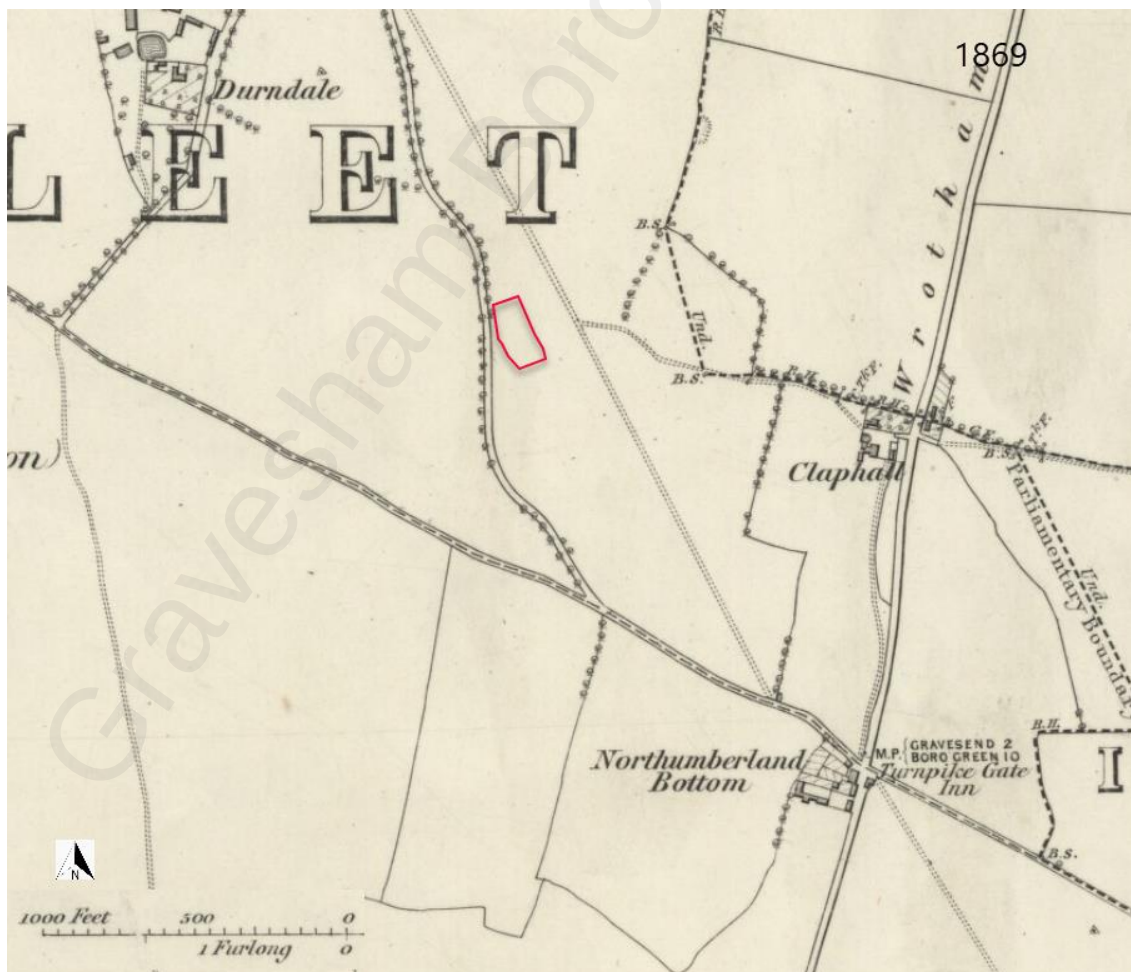


Figure 7: Historic OS Map 1869

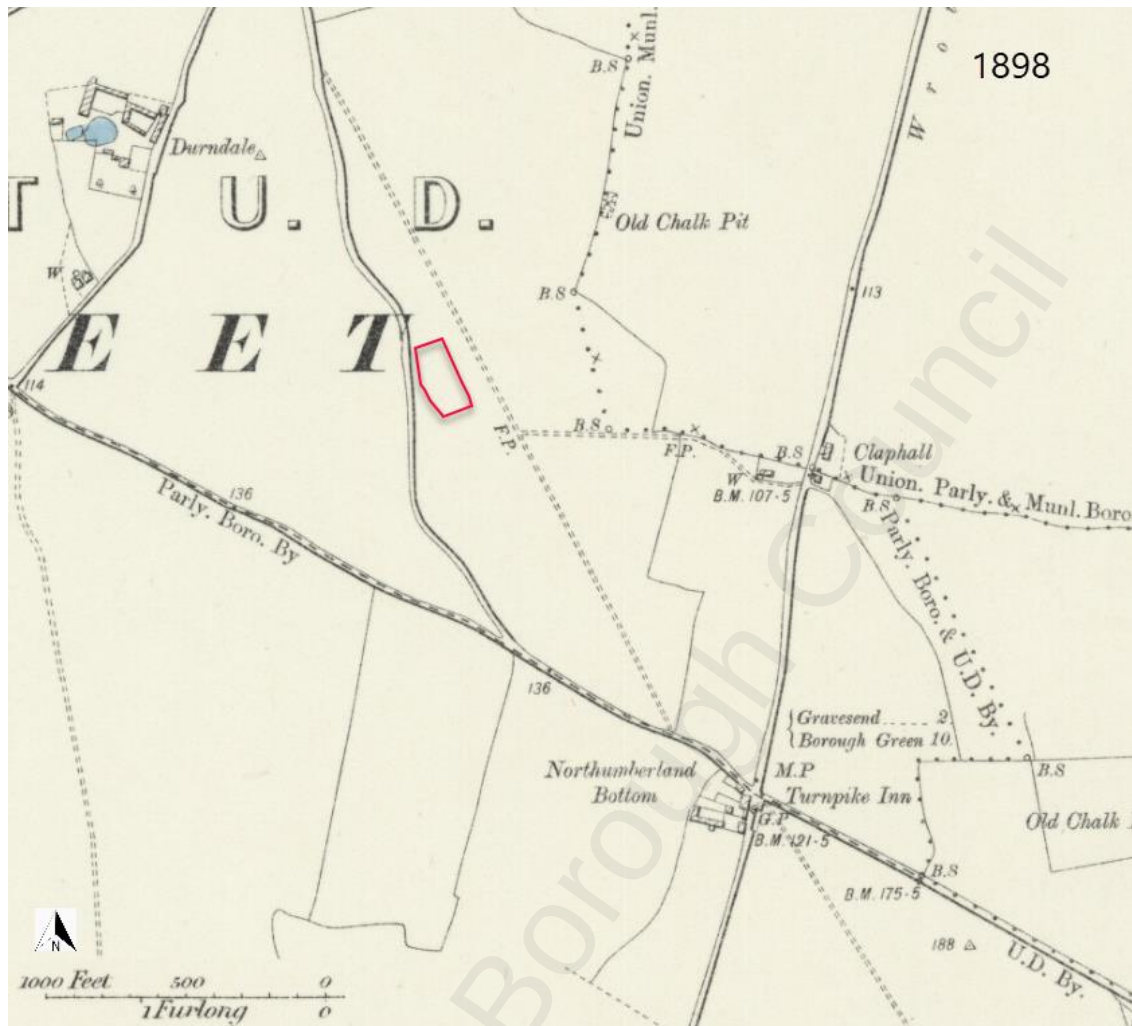


Figure 8: Historic OS Map from 1898

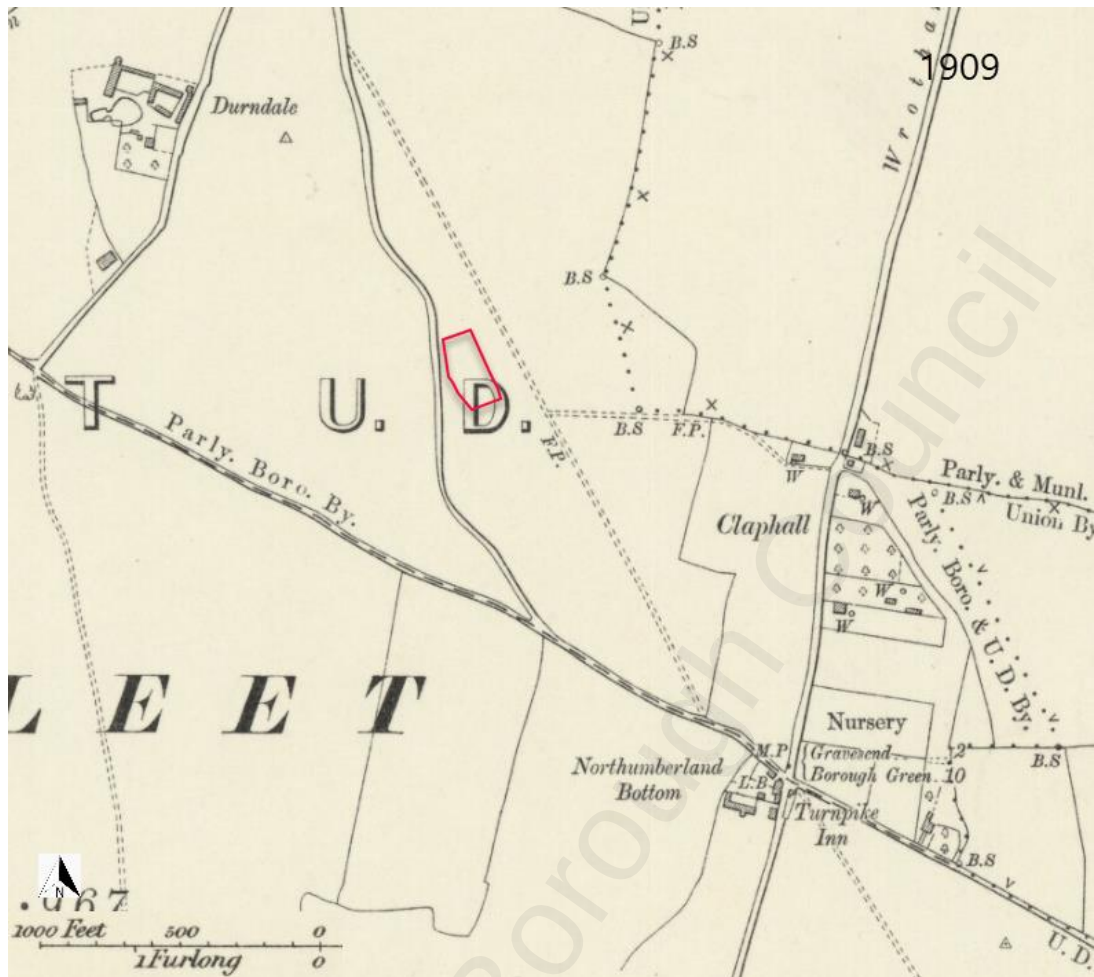


Figure 9: Historic OS Map 1909

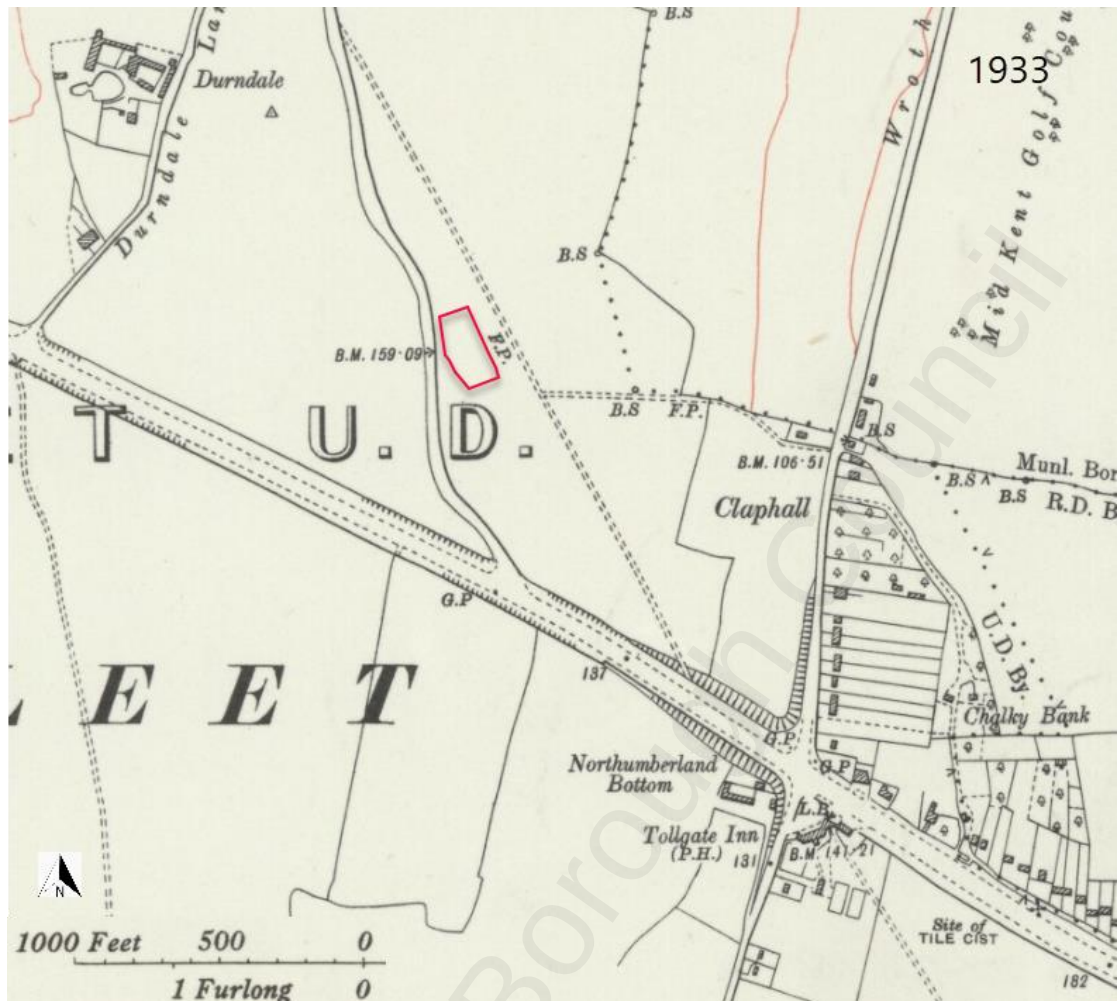


Figure 10: Historic OS Map 1933

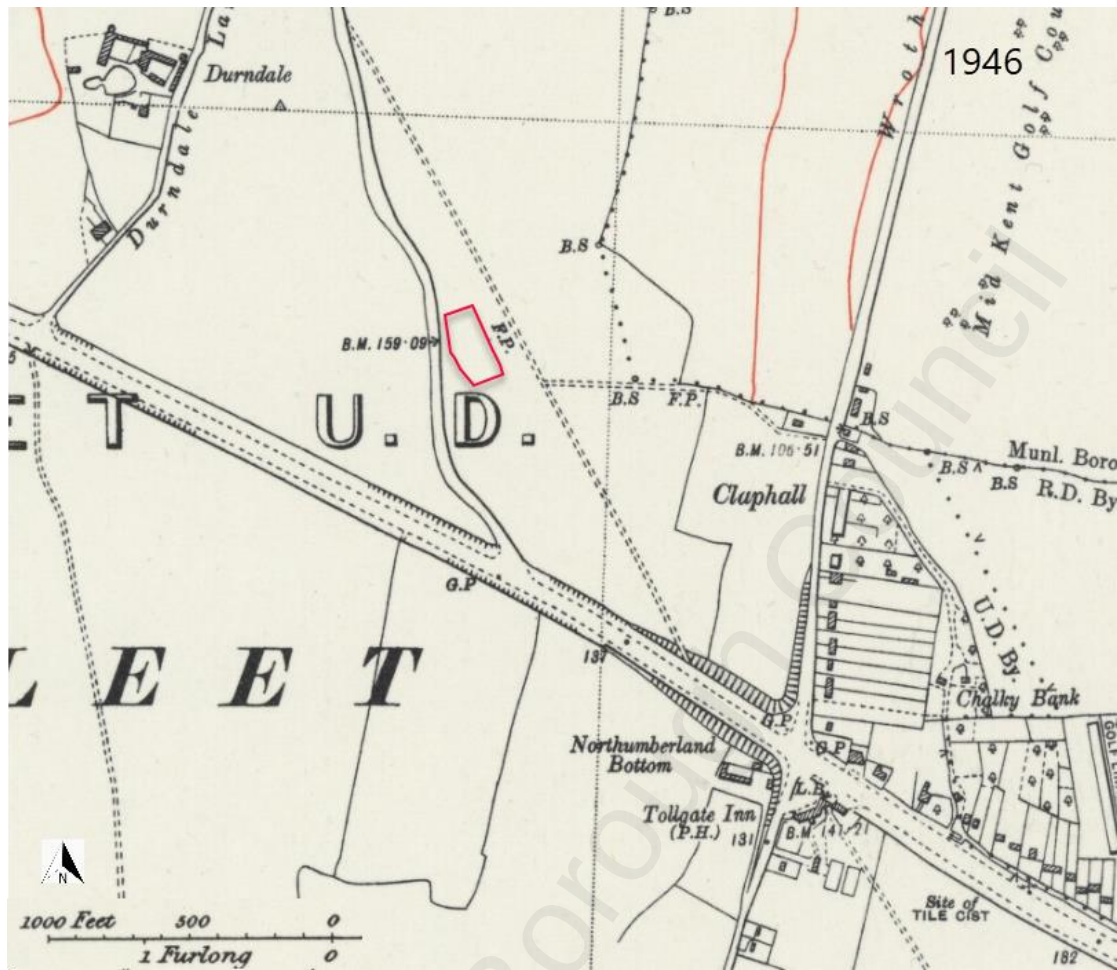


Figure 11: Historic OS Map 1946

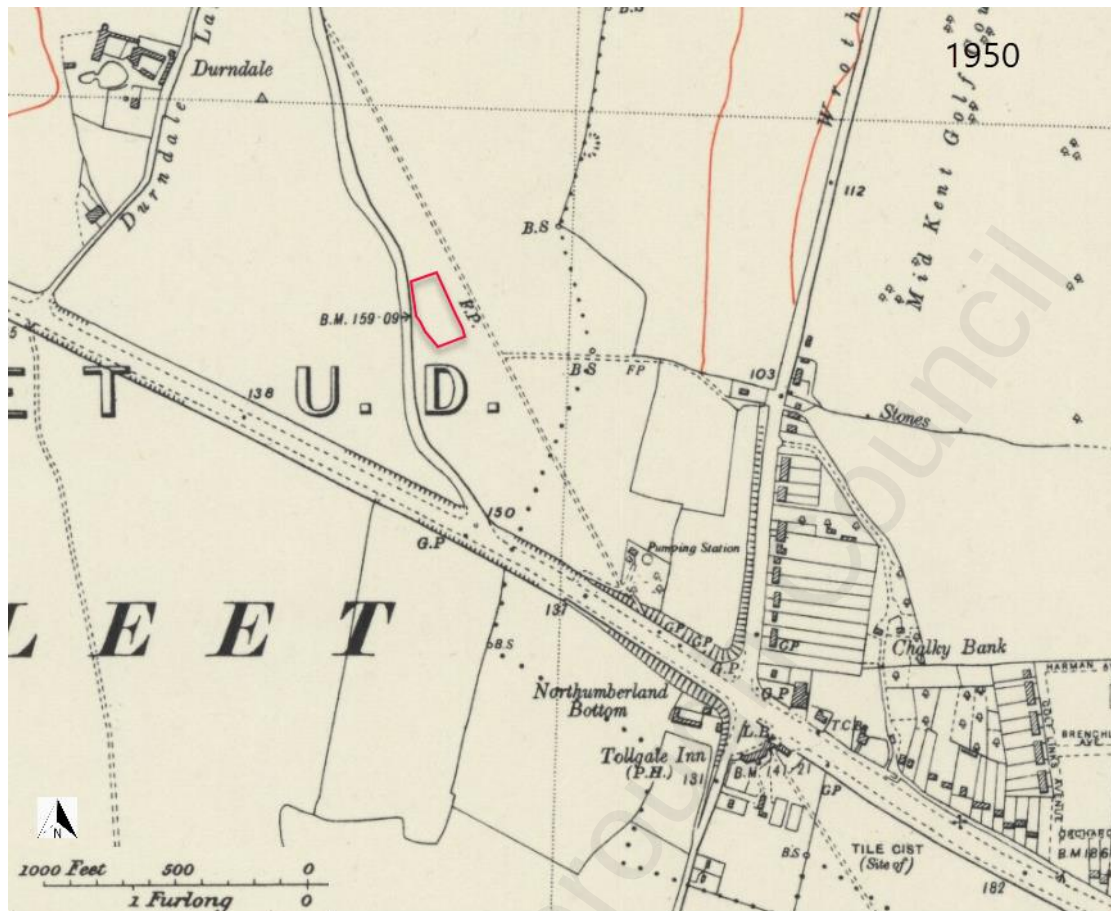


Figure 12: Historic OS Map 1950

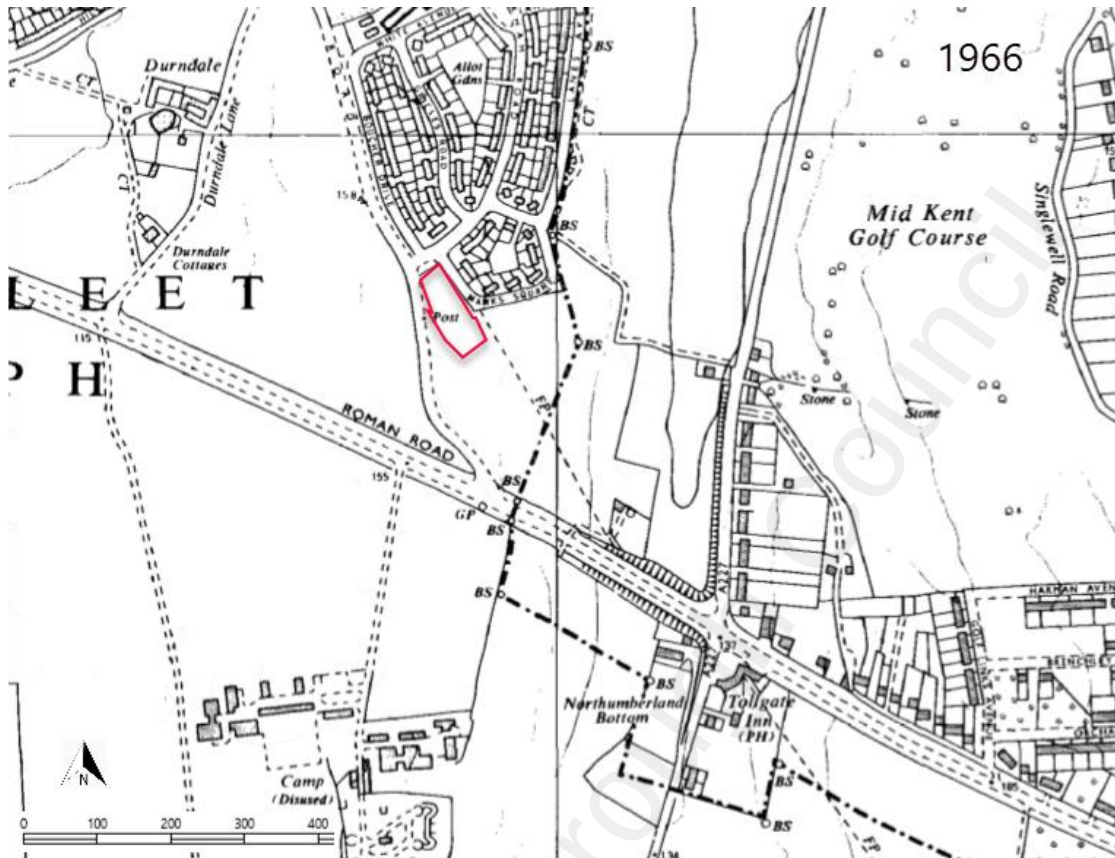


Figure 13: Historic OS Map 1966



Figure 14: Historic OS Map 1973

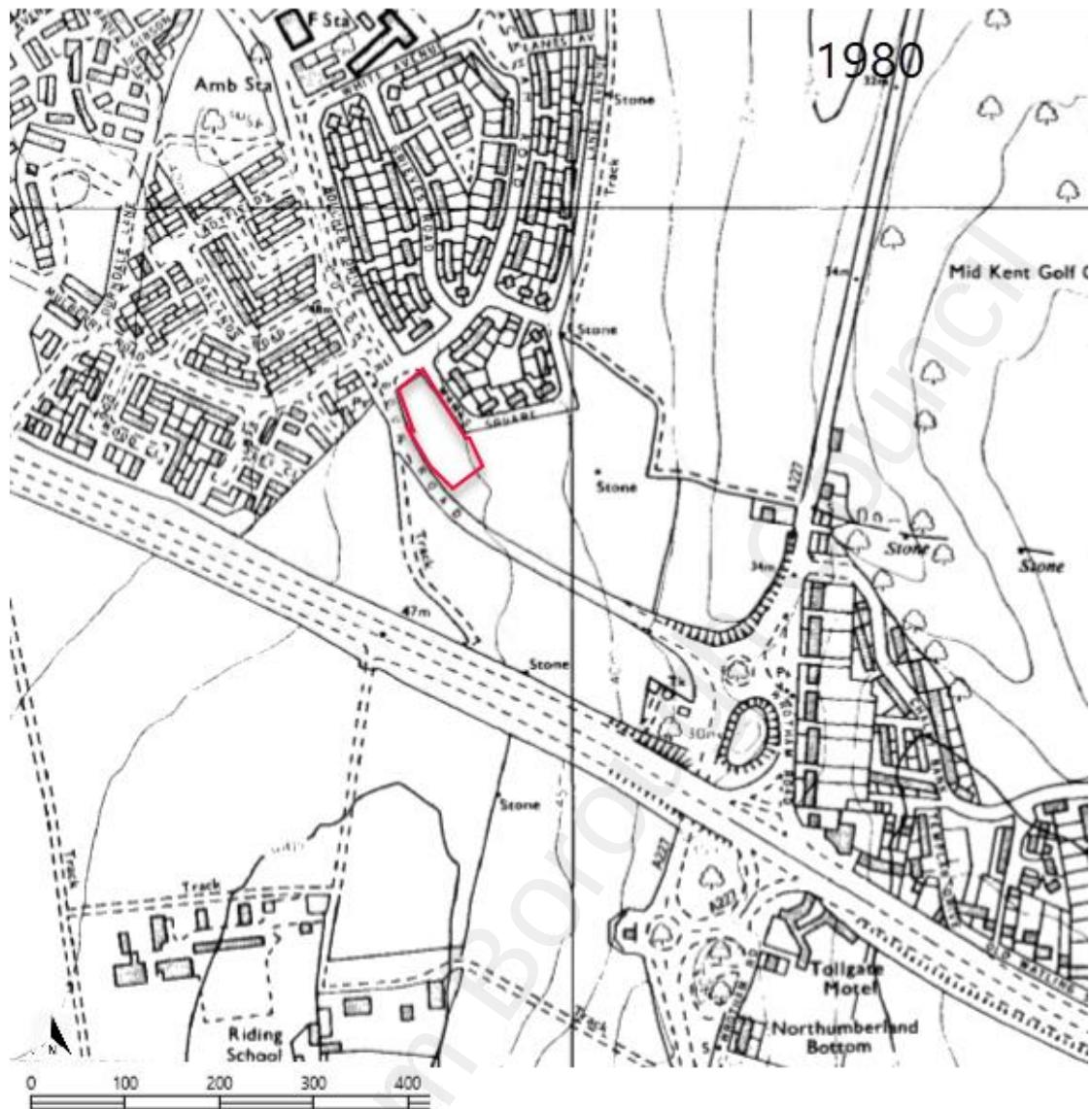


Figure 15: Historic OS Map 1980



Figure 16: DSM 1m (Environment Agency)



Figure 17: Key Site Land at Coldharbour Road Schematic Plan (Gravesham Brough Council)

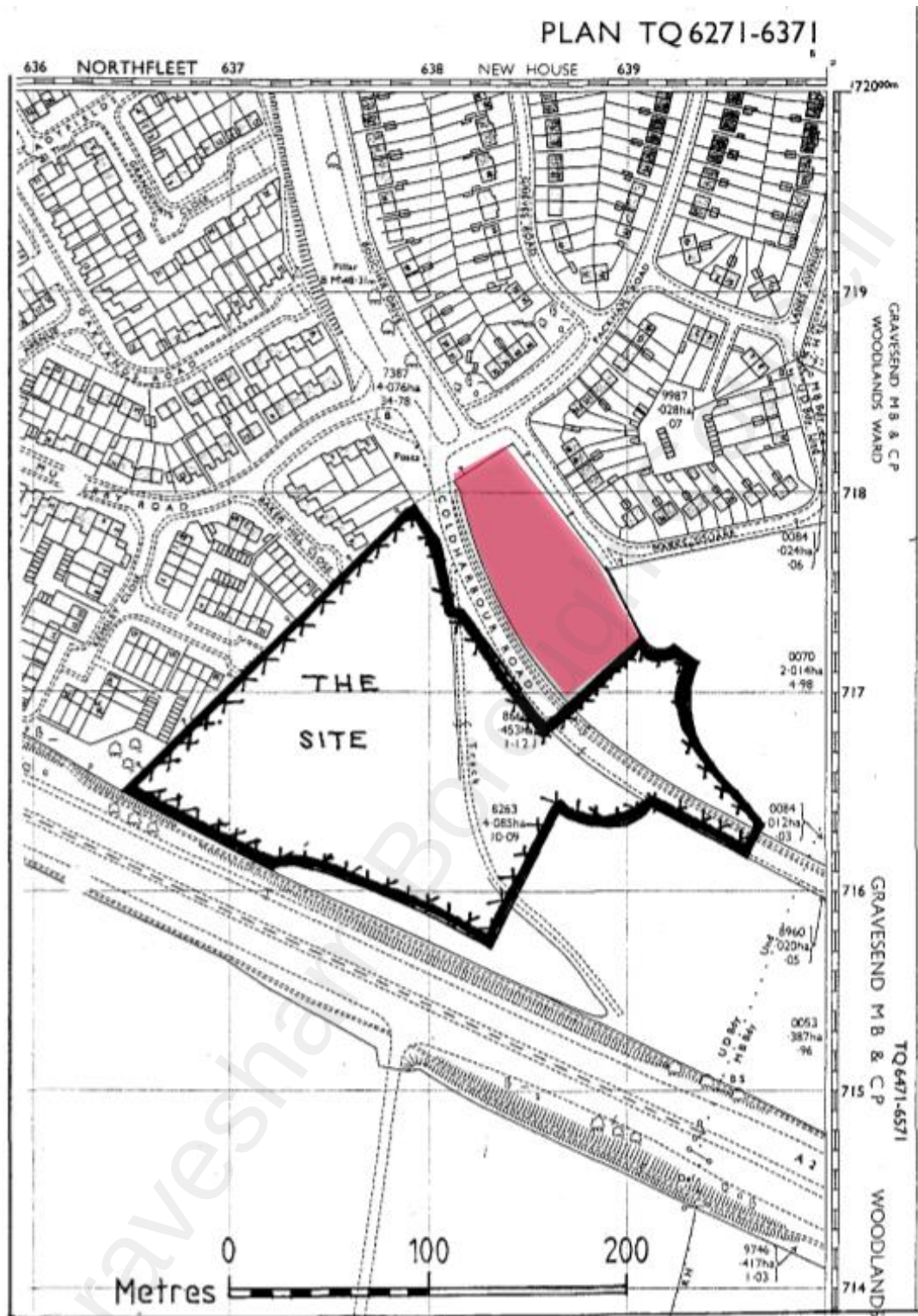


Fig. 1. Site location map (1/2500)

Figure 18: Site of the 1992 excavation by KARU in relation to the PDA.

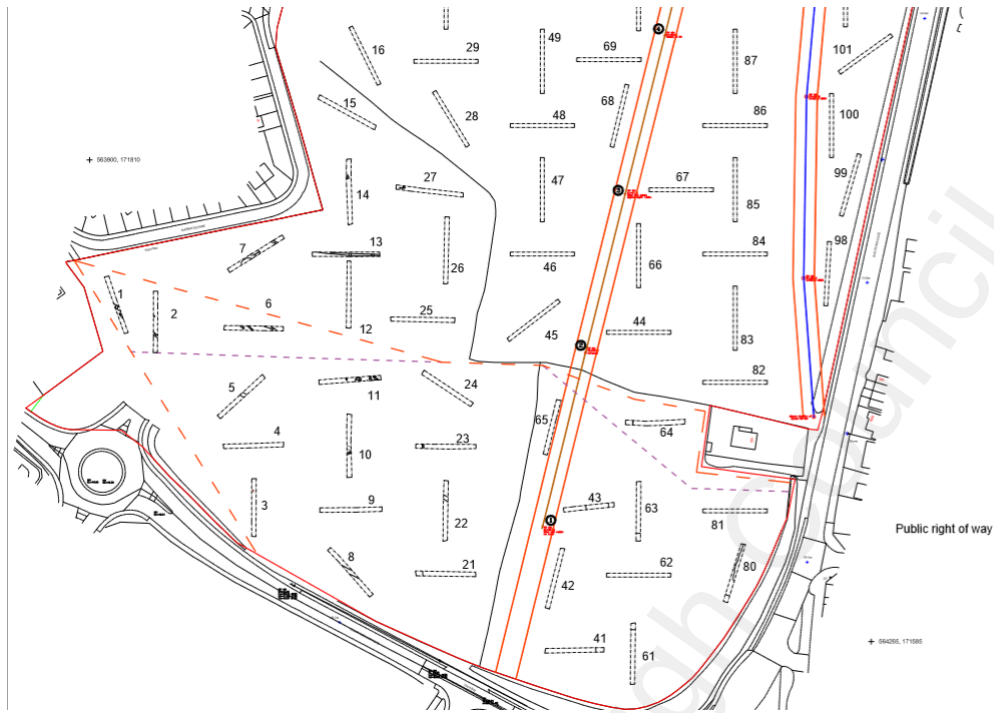


Figure 19: Site of the Stage One Evaluation trenches from 2016 at Coldharbour Road

11 APPENDIX 1 – KCC HER DATA (SEE FIGURES 20-26).

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
	HLC			5.3.9 The PDA is in the eastern part of an area characterised by KCC Historic Landscape Characterisation of 'Post 1810 Settlement (general)'. Immediately east is a strip running north-south of an area of 'Fields predominately bounded by tracks, roads and other rights of way'. East of this strip which is circa 300m wide, is more Post 1810 settlement with a golf course to the north, effectively sandwiching this arable area
TQ 86 SW 132 – MKE 4004	Monument	c. 180m SSE	Roman	The Roman road Watling Street ran from Canterbury to Rochester. Excavations at Springhead Nursery, exposed c.90m of what is believed to be part of Watling Street. It was up to 8m wide and had a gravel metalled surface defined by roadside ditches. The projected line of this road placed the Roman road beneath the A2, before it turned south-eastwards to avoid the lowest part of the Ebbsfleet valley. There was also a second road, 5 m wide, joined Watling Street to the north-west. In Dartford, along Spital Street, part of an earlier road, preceding the established Watling Street was previously found
TQ 67 SW 177 – MKE 15144	Findspot	c. 20m S	Bronze Age / Iron Age	Bronze Age/Iron Age Site at Coldharbour Road. Trenching in advance of development in 1992 revealed part of a large curvilinear v-section ditch, possibly part of a circular/oval enclosure or the curved corner of a rectangular enclosure. Suggested dia. 50 -100m and late Neolithic/early bronze age date. On the N side of Coldharbour Rd. part of a small early iron age site (undetermined type) was also found. A well of medieval date and a scatter of

				worked flint associated a pit were also found. The pit/flint scatter were assigned a late Neolithic/early bronze age date. In 1993 the site was excavated ahead of development. Pits were discovered, some dating to the medieval period and possible prehistoric pits also. Evidence of a rectilinear feature, parallel ditches, and possible gullies was uncovered, most dating to a single phase of site organisation, possibly late bronze age. The largest of the parallel ditches are interpreted as a driveway, the remaining features representing attached settlement.
TQ 67 SW 488 – MKE 40133	Monument	c. 350m SSW	Bronze Age / Iron Age . Medieval	During A2 widening works in 2007 a range of archaeological features spanning Late Bronze Age to Post Medieval period were found across the area. Later Bronze Age enclosure ditches and unaccompanied cremations, early Iron Age storage pits and 4 post structures appeared in clusters which included placed deposits.
TQ 67 SW 461 – MKE 40266	Monument	c. 500m SSE	Bronze Age	Bronze Age Beaker pit - A2 Pepperhill to Cobham widening.
TQ 67 SW 462 – MKE 40274	Monument	c. 460m SSE	Iron Age	Iron Age Pits associated with Iron Age ditches. Found during removal of a field boundary during the A2 Pepperhill to Cobham widening.
TQ 67 SW 464 – MKE 40275	Monument	c. 480m SSE	Roman	Regular enclosure cemetery – Founding during the A2 widening. Small rectangular cemetery enclosure at the NW corner of the main enclosure which included two more Early Roman high-status cremation burials in square pits and several other lower status cremation burials and later inhumations.
TQ 67 SW 463 – MKE 40276	Monument	c. 460m SSE	Medieval	Medieval dene holes found during the A2 widening. Several dene holes formed a cluster at the western end of site. These north east dene holes included an odd crescentic example with an apparent ramp leading down into it. The Crescentic dene hole produced a mixture of residual prehistoric and Roman material along with post-Medieval items.

TQ 67 SW 1162 - MKE 41720	Monument	c. 475m NW	Modern	Second World War Defended Locality DL30 at Shears Green, Northfleet. Part of the anti-invasion defences, it was centred on the junction of Coldharbour Road and Hog's Lane. It is likely to have originated in 1940 and would have been decommissioned by early 1944. There are no known traces.
TQ 67 SW 1164 - MKE 41722	Monument	c. 470m SE	Modern	Second World War Defended Locality DL23, centred on the junction of the Watling Street and Wrotham Road, Gravesend. It consisted of weapon pits, no longer extant and probably originated in 1940, to be decommissioned by early 1944.
TQ 67 SW 1305 - MKE 41790	Monument	c. 500m SE	Modern	Second World War Police Telephone Box at Northumberland Bottom, Gravesend. This was integrated into the incident reporting system for the civil defence of Gravesend. It originated in 1939, would have been decommissioned for war emergency purposes in 1945 and removed by 1946.
TQ 67 SW 1350 - MKE 41849	Monument	c. 360m NNE	Modern	Cold War air raid siren erected c. April, 1952 in a fenced enclosure within a small open space on the west side of Packham Road at its junction with White Avenue, Northfleet. The dates of decommissioning and of removal are not precisely known but are thought by local residents to have been c. 1980. No other details are known.
TQ 67 SW 1286 - MKE 41941	Monument	c. 370m N	Modern	Cold War rest centre at Shears Green School, Packham Road, Northfleet, Kent. This was for people who might be made homeless from the results of an air attack. It was designated for a time in the 1960s and included a pre-positioned food store. No other information is known.
MKE 66686	Findspot	c. 320m SW	Iron Age	PAS find. Copper alloy Pontin coin circa 800 BC to 43 AD.
TQ 67 SW 511 - MKE 77965	Building	c. 350m NNE	Modern	A George VI pillar box, Packham Road / Laness Avenue. Letter Box Study Group Box Type: 35/2. Dates from 1950 to 1952

TQ 67 SW 508 – MKE 78455	Findspot	c. 475m SW	Bronze Age	Bronze Age flints, Northfleet, found during 1995 field walking. Carried out by Wessex Archaeology along the route of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link. Both struck and burnt flint were recovered, three areas in particular had high concentrations. Retouches were present, most commonly scrapers. The scrapers were consistent with Bronze Age date, they could possibly be Neolithic. The scatter is close to a nearby Bronze Age site at Coldharbour Road.
TQ 67 SW 521 – MKE 78700	Monument	c. 290m SE	Neolithic / Bronze Age	A Neolithic/Bronze Age Pit, Coldharbour Road. Found during a 2012 evaluation by Wessex Archaeology.
MKE 84168	Farmstead	c. 410m NW	Post Medieval	Durndale. A regular courtyard farmstead with the farmhouse detached in central position. Farmstead completely demolished.
MKE 88826	Farmstead	c. 500m SE	Post Medieval	Northumberland Bottom. A regular L-plan farmstead. Farmhouse detached in central position. Farmstead completely demolished.
TQ 67 SW 621 – MKE 90970	Findspot	c. 300m SW	Palaeolithic	In 2009/10 Archaeology South-East carried out a strip, map and sample excavation. Three residual Palaeolithic flints were found. They were heavily rolled and so had been redeposited from their original location.
TQ 67 SW 622 – MKE 90971	Findspot	c. 310m SW	Mesolithic to Bronze Age	Residual flints. In 2009/10 Archaeology South-East carried out a strip, map and sample excavation. Worked flints were found. These dated from the Mesolithic to Early Neolithic (a few blades) and from the Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (a polished flint chisel, the butt of a polished axe, a flake from a polished implement and other flakes and tools.
TQ 67 SW 623 – MKE 90972	Monument	c. 260m SSW	Bronze Age	Ditch and cremations. A2 Activity Park. In 2009/10 Archaeology South-East carried out a strip, map and sample excavation. A north-south ditch crossed the site, 110m of its length being exposed. It is thought to have been a field ditch though no entrances to fields could be found along its length. The fill contained residual worked flints but also worked flints of the Middle to Late Bronze Age.

TQ 67 SW 624 – MKE 90973	Monument	c. 390m SW	Bronze Age	Bronze Age funerary features, A2 Activity Park. A ring ditch was found on the west facing slope of the hill brow. The ring ditch was 18m in diameter, between 1.2m and 1.6m wide and survived to a depth of 0.5m. No internal features survived. A crouched inhumation had been inserted into the ring ditch. A second crouched burial was found 100m to the east of the ring ditch. A small piece of copper alloy was found with the second burial but there was otherwise no dating evidence of either burial. They are thought to be of Bronze Age date. Two unurned cremations were found 20m to the west of the ring ditch.
TQ 67 SW 625 – MKE 90974	Monument	c. 280m SSW	Bronze Age / Iron Age	Occupation activity, A2 Activity Park. A large number of features were found relating to the use of the area in the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. A driveway crossed the site, as did a later metalled hollow way. The focus of settlement appears to have been to the south of the site. Pit groups were found, along with post holes, possibly forming fence lines and post built structures. Pottery, briquetage and animal bones were found in the various features. Once the driveway had silted up and gone out of use, a field system was laid out across the area to the west. The metalled hollow way was laid out later still. Activity in the area appears to tail off in the Middle Iron Age.
TQ 67 SW 627 – MKE 90976	Monument	c. 260m SSW	Iron age	Post built structures at A2 Activity Park. Three groups of post holes were found to the east of the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age driveway. The structures were square and triangular in plan. Iron Age pottery was found in the post holes, along with charred grains and crop processing waste.
TQ 67 SW 630 – MKE 90979	Monument	c. 220m SE	Roman	Cremation burial, A2 Activity Park. With a vessel in a second pit and two possible marker posts. The cremation was of an adult and had been deposited in a small pit. Immediately adjacent there was a second pit with a complete 1st century AD early Roman bead-

				rimmed jar. The vessel had been packed around with flint cobbles. The post holes contained no dating material.
TQ 67 SW 631 – MKE 90980	Monument	c. 210m SSE	Undated	Undated cremation burials, A2 Activity Park. A group of three unurned cremation burials were found on the northern side of the site. They could be of any date but were tentatively dated to the Roman period due to their proximity to the route of the Roman road.
TQ 67 SW 632 – MKE 90981	Monument	c. 350m SW	Roman	Roman enclosure, A2 Activity Park. The north eastern corner of an enclosure was found on the southern part of the site. A piece of imbrex was found in the western ditch whilst the eastern ditch contained the base of a 1st century Roman pottery vessel. A pit to the north of the enclosure contained early Roman pottery.
TQ 67 SW 1377 – MKE 97966	Monument	c. 290m SE	Neolithic / Bronze Age	Possible Post Hole. In 2012 Wessex archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief on land at Coldharbour Road, Gravesend, between the 18th and 22nd of June 2012. A shallow circular posthole with a concave profile measuring 0.48m in diameter and 0.13m deep was uncovered.

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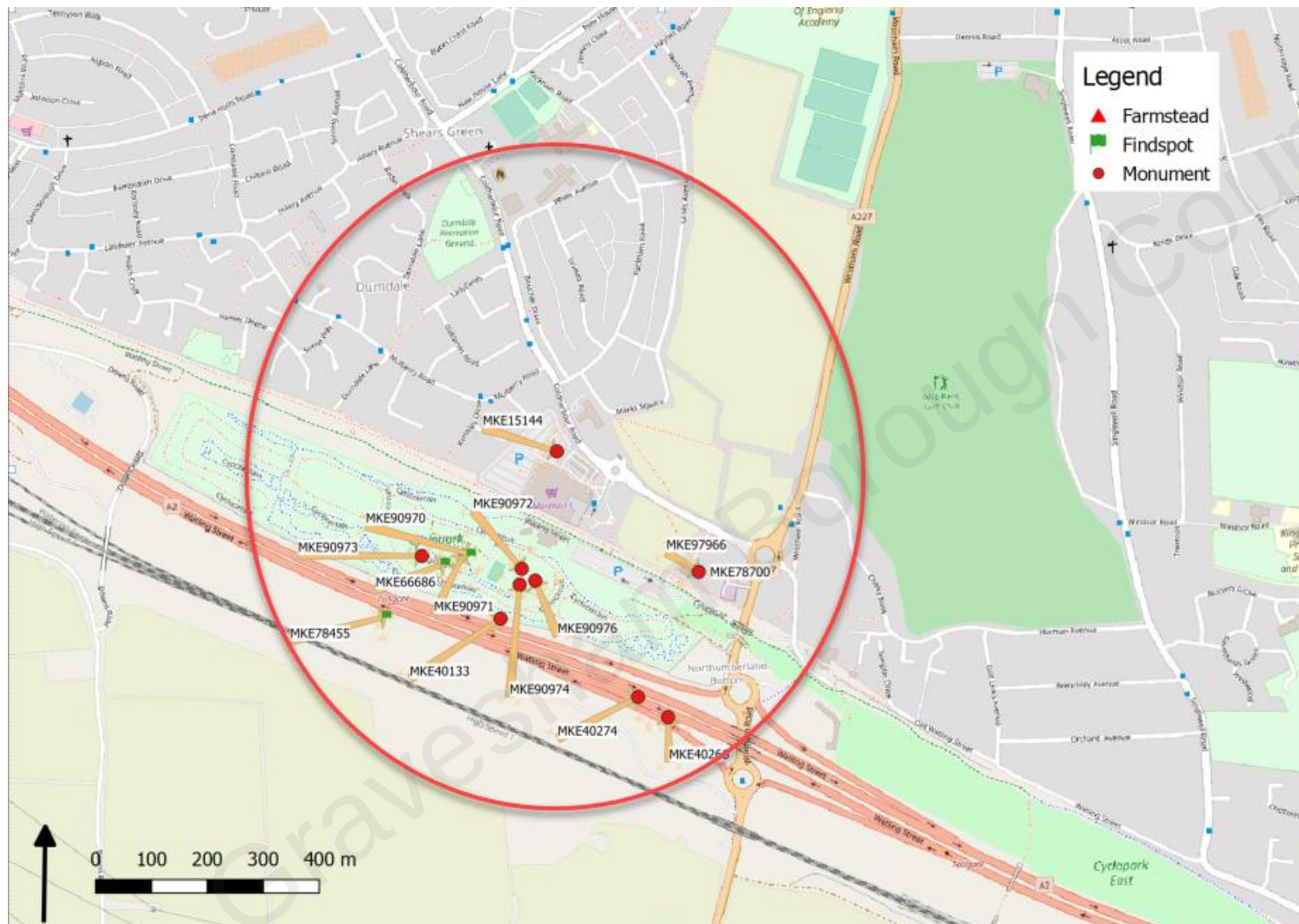


Figure 21: KHER Record - Prehistoric

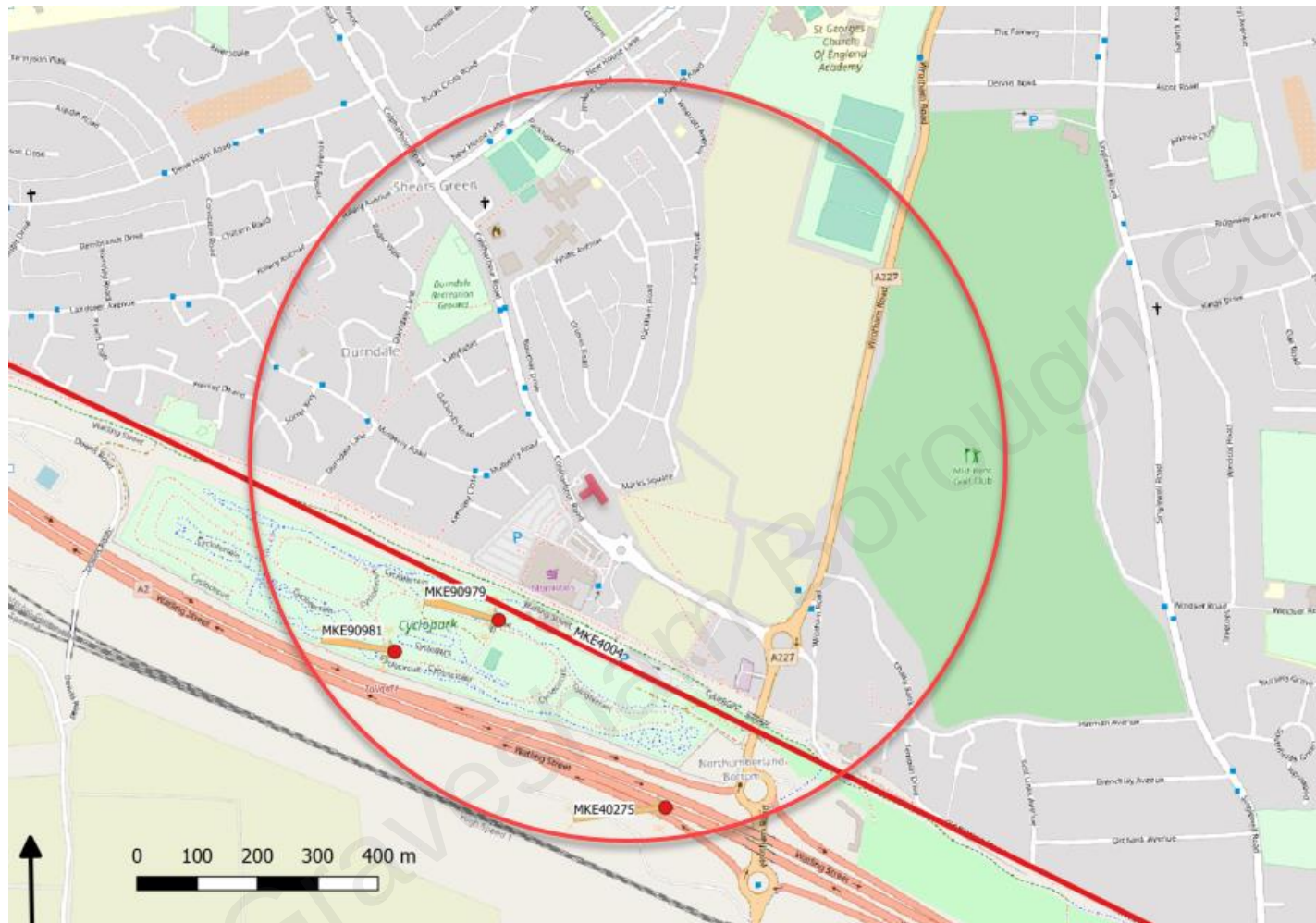


Figure 22 KHER Monument Record - Roman

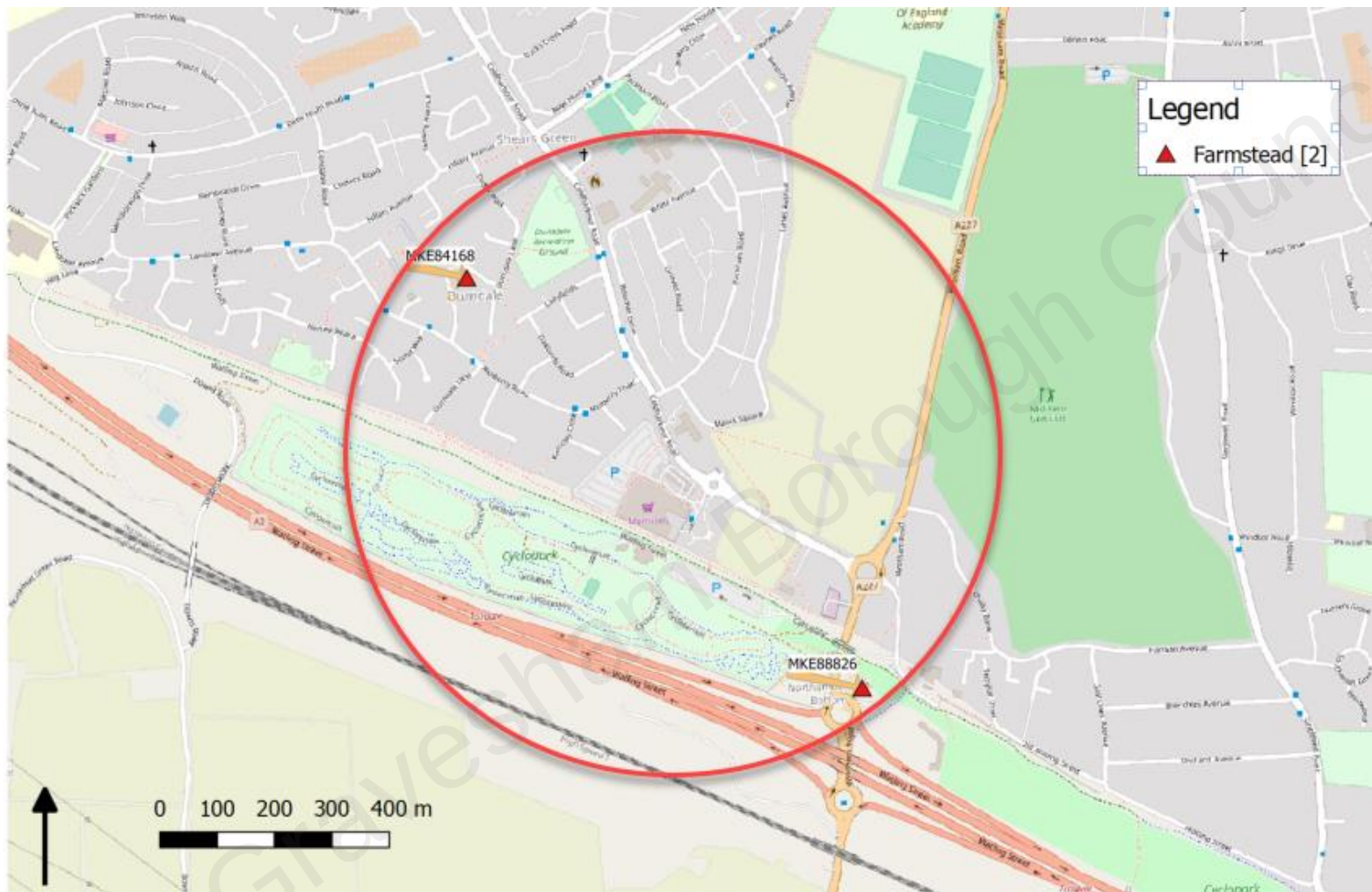


Figure 23: KHER Record – Post Medieval

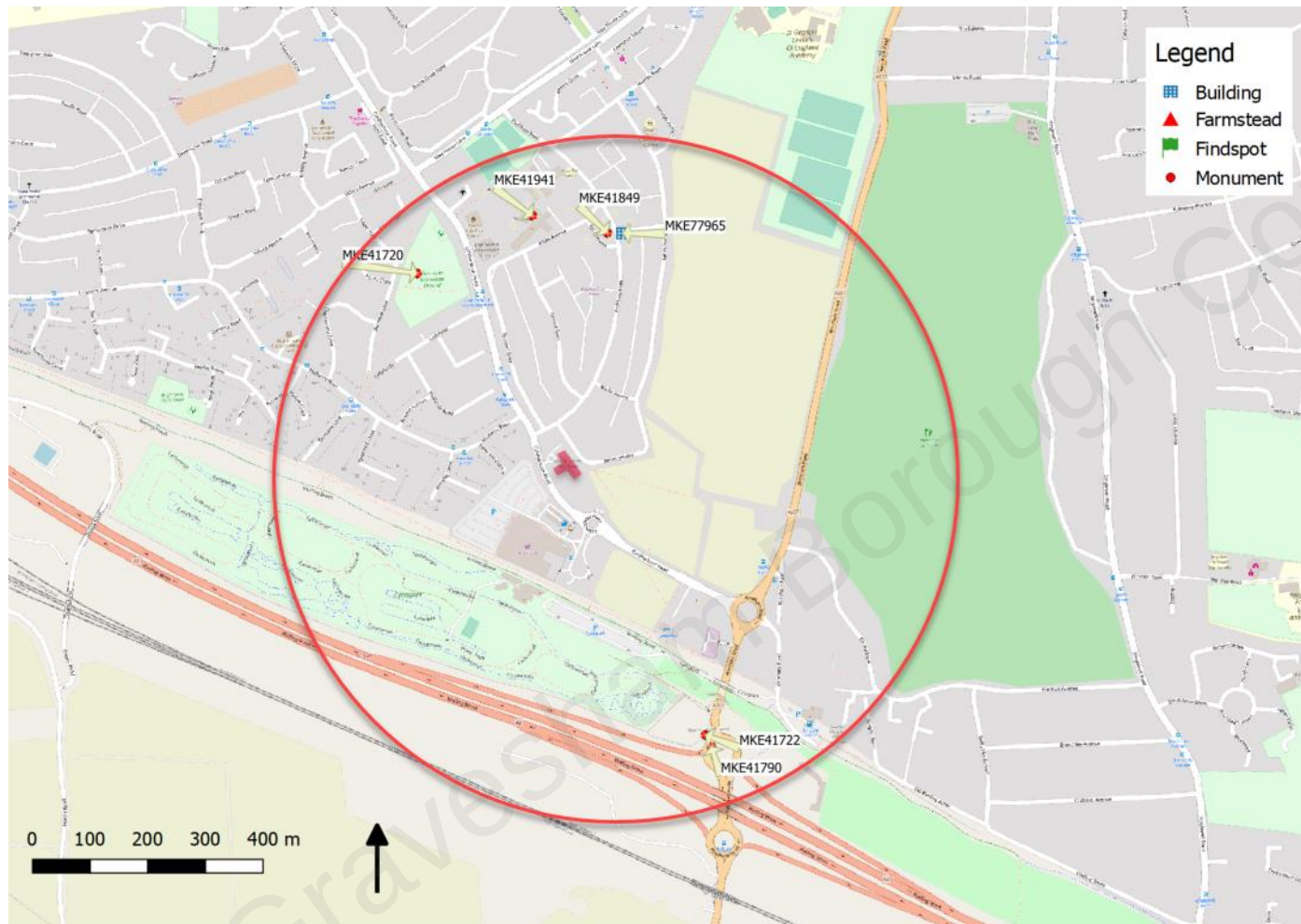


Figure 24: KHER Record - Modern

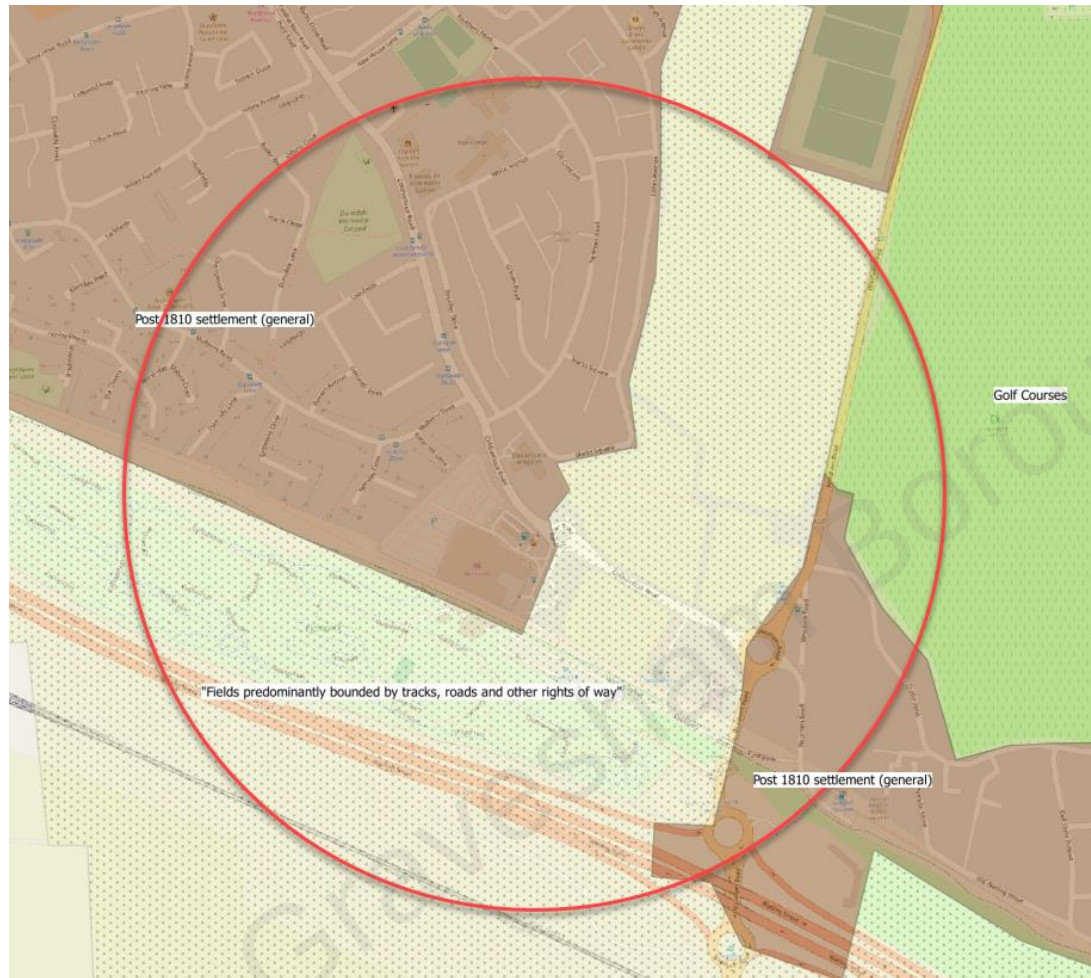


Figure 25: KHER Historic Landscape Character

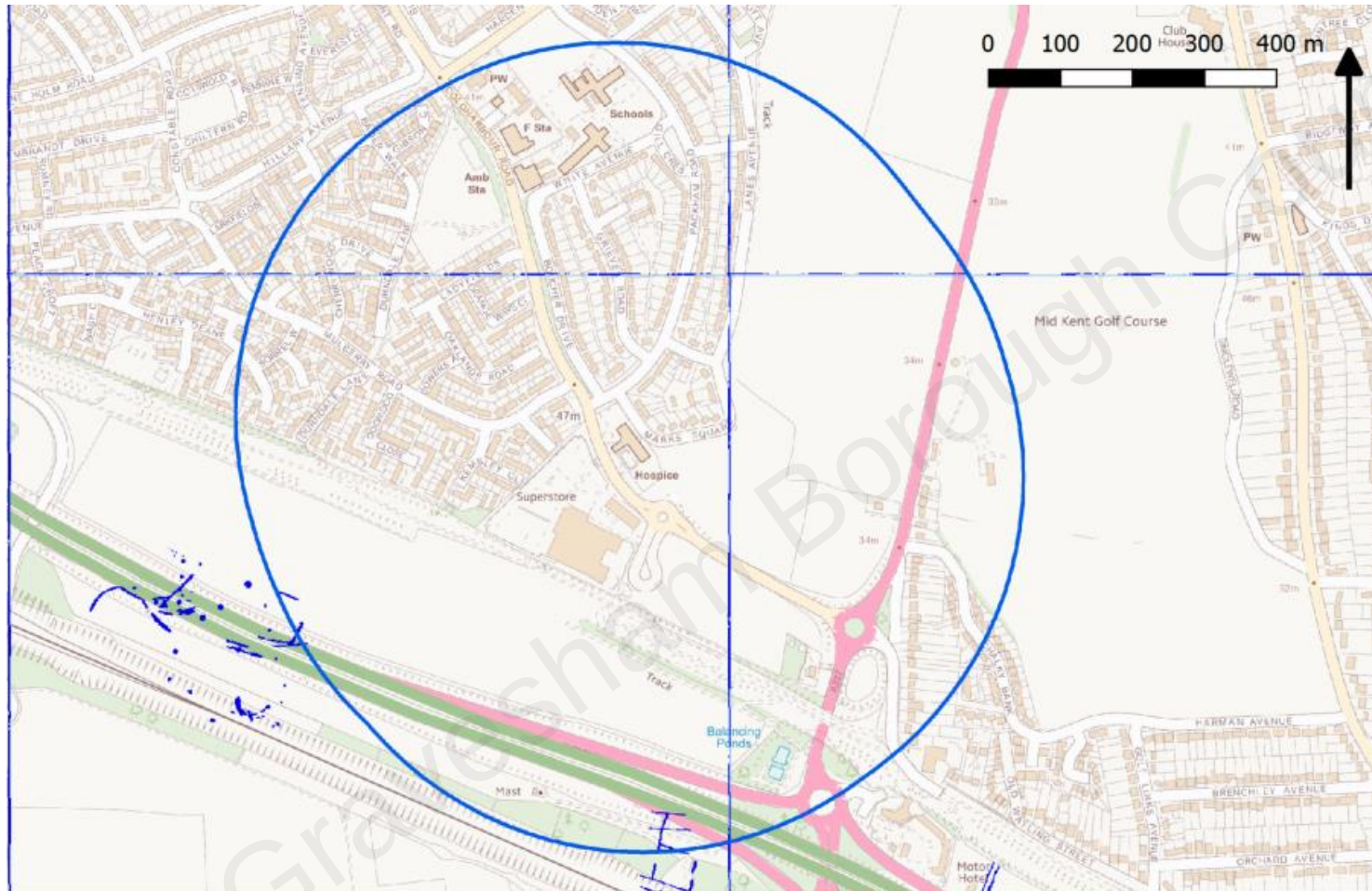


Figure 26: KHER Cropmarks



Plate 1: 1940s. All at an altitude of 1.38km (Google Earth).



Plate 3: 1960 (Google Earth)



Plate 4: 1990 (Google Earth)



Plate 5: 2003 (Google Earth)



Plate 6: 2011 (Google Earth)



Plate 7: 2018 (Google Earth)



Plate 8: Close up of the PDA.



Plate 9: View of PDA (facing E).



Plate 10: View of PDA (facing E)

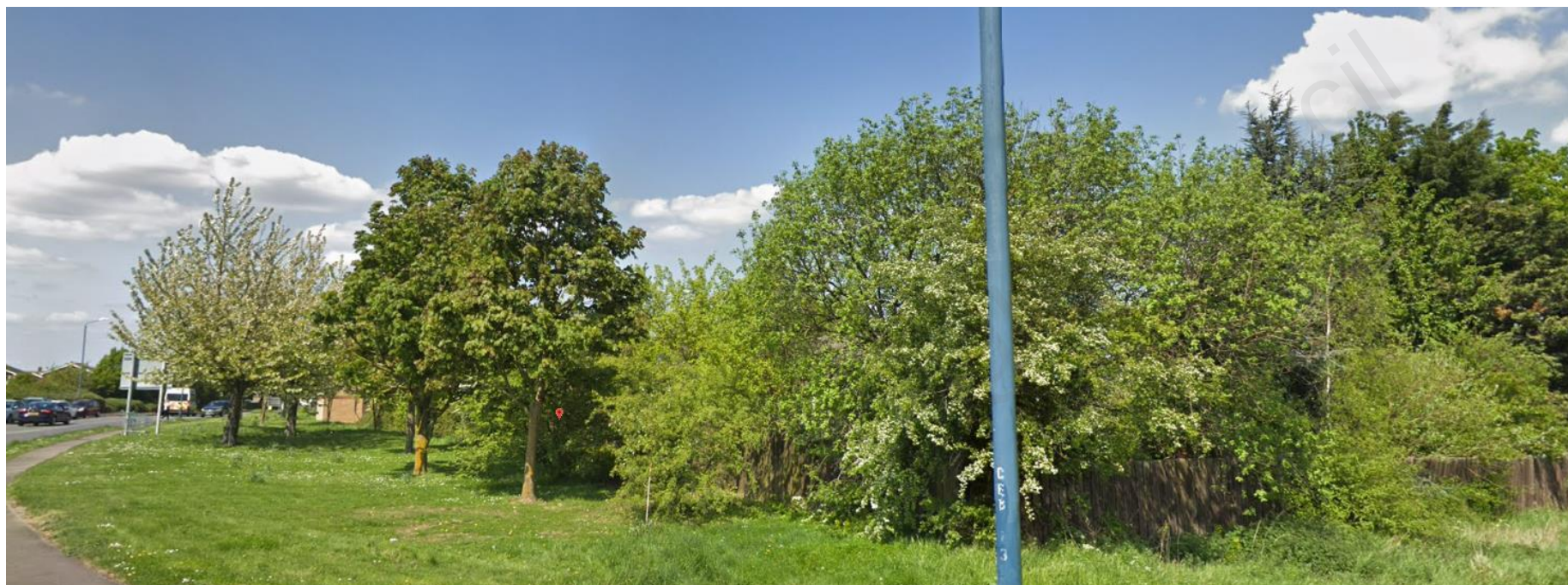


Plate 11: View across PDA from north eastern corner (facing N).



Plate 12: View of the rear of the PDA (facing SW).