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Providing Archaeological Solutions and Specialist Advice across the South of Britain



AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON LAND ADJACENT TO TUDOR BARN, LONG MILL LANE, ST MARY'S PLATT, TN15 8NA

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PRO Archaeology Services

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FIELDWORK 31<sup>st</sup> August to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011

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with the Local Museum in due course under Accession

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## Summary

An archaeological watching brief involving the supervised mechanical ground reduction across the new build footprint was carried out by PRO Archaeology Services in advance of the construction of a new detached house and ancillary garage (Planning reference: TM/07/02163) on land adjacent to Tudor Barn, Long Mill Lane, St Mary's Platt, Sevenoaks, Kent (NGR: 562220 156510).

The results followed an evaluation conducted by PRO Archaeology Services (PAS 2010), which revealed a stratigraphic sequence of natural geology overlaid by buried topsoil and made ground deposits. The earliest archaeological features were seen cut into the natural brickearth and consisted of four shallow ditches and postholes all dated to the Post medieval period.

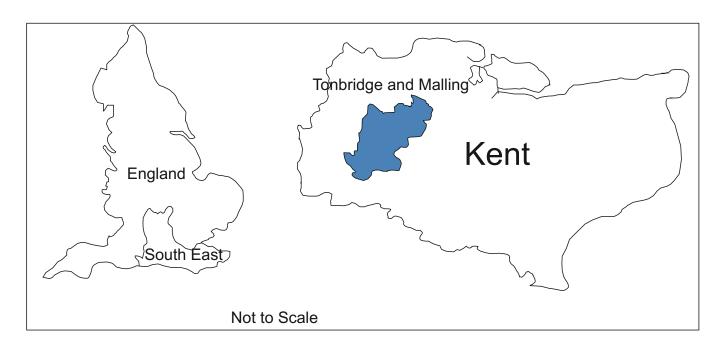
The following excavations revealed more detail of the discovered features which are considered to represent the below surface remains of a structure, survived as gullies and postholes. The structure was probably associated with the known pottery Kiln located approximately 10m to the north of the site, excavated during the 1960's, and may have acted as a drying shed or for other storage purposes.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

PRO Archaeology Services were commissioned by Guy Vigar with Oakland Vale Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the initial ground works of a detached house and ancillary garage on land adjacent to Tudor Barn, Long Mill Lane, St Mary's Platt, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 8NA centred at National Grid Reference 562220 156510.

This report documents the results of the archaeological watching brief which was undertaken in accordance with a Specification prepared by The Heritage Conservation Team at Kent County Council, archaeological advisors to Tonbridge and Malling District Council. This document was submitted to PRO Archaeology Services prior to the commencement of the on-site works. This approach complies with the principles established in *PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide* (Department of Culture, Media and Sport, 2010), *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991) and *Standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs* (IFA, 1999).

Copies of this report will be deposited with the client, The Heritage Conservation Team at KCC, The Historic Environment Record (HER), Tunbridge Wells Museum and the Plaxtol Local History Group, along with an ordered project archive for long term storage and curation.



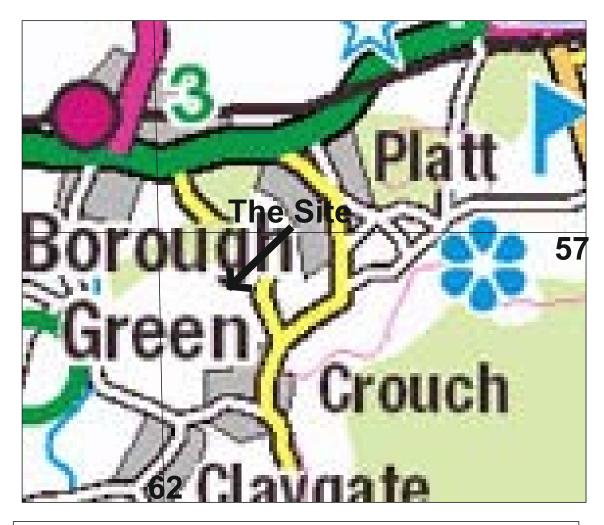


Figure 1: Site Location from OS map 1:250 000 Copyright Number: 0100031673

#### 2. SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Topographically, the proposed development site lies within a rural setting in the grounds of Tudor Barn which is grass covered (Figures 1 and 2).

According to the maps of the British Geological Survey the site lies on bedrock of the Hythe Formation.

## 3. PLANNING BACKGROUND

An application for planning permission for the proposed construction of a new residential development, to comprise the construction of a detached house and ancillary garage, (planning reference: TM/07/02163) has been submitted to and granted consent by Tonbridge and Malling District Council, the Local Planning Authority. An extension was granted on the planning consent; Reference 10/01432/FLX. A condition of this outline planning consent states that;

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of

i. archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority; and

ii. following on from the evaluation, any safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation and recording in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Wendy Rogers and Teresa Hawtin, of the Heritage Conservation Team at KCC (the advisor on archaeological matters to the Local Planning Authority) assessed the archaeological potential of the site through two trial trenches. This work was undertaken by PRO Archaeology Services and the remains of drainage ditches thought to be associated with a pottery kiln were discovered (PAS 2010).

Following the production of the evaluation report Wendy Rogers (Senior Archaeological Advisor at the Heritage Conservation Team Kent), advised Tonbridge and Malling District Council a watching brief would be the appropriate response to further investigate the discovered Post medieval features (KCC 2011).

The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Paul Riccoboni (Senior Archaeologist) of PRO Archaeology Services on the 31<sup>st</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011.

## 4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims of the project were to contribute to the heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of archaeological remains exposed as a result of the ground reduction. The initial aims and objectives set out during the evaluation stage of works were primarily to determine whether any significant archaeological remains would be affected by the development and if so what preservation or mitigation measures are appropriate (KCC 2010).

Specific requirements of the evaluation were stated that:

- If structures and remains associated with the medieval pottery kilns survive within the area of the proposed house and garage it would be preferable for such remains to be preserved in situ, especially if the remains comprise of kiln structures. This may involve the re-designing or relocation of the foundations for the proposed development.
- If it is decided that further mitigation measures are appropriate, these could include further detailed archaeological excavation. As a minimum, an archaeological watching brief will need to be maintained during further groundworks, including the construction of the ancillary garage.
- Any further work would need to be subject to further specifications.

The aims and objectives of the archaeological watching brief were to contribute and further knowledge of the kiln site and to learn more of the previous features discovered during the evaluation stage of works.

## 5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIOCAL BACKGROUND

Evidence of early prehistoric activity was first documented in the area of Ightham and St Mary' Platt by Benjamin Harrison (1794-1875) (HER:TQ 65 NW 9 - MKE1193, HER: TQ 65 NW 11 - MKE1195 & HER:TQ 65 NW 59 - MKE1243). Harrison collected flints from places such as High Field, Oldbury rock shelters and the shode gravels, he presented all of his findings (except one) to the Maidstone museum in 1880 (Harrison, 1928). Harrison recognised that the Tertiary deposits on the high ground of the North Kent meant the rudimentary worked tools were of a pre-palaeolithic age, called 'eoliths' and were the work of what he termed 'Plataeu Man'.

Later scattered prehistoric flint find spots are also known within a 0.5km radius of the site and are listed within Appendix 1. Find spots include two Mesolithic medium sized tranchet axes alongside blades and flakes from Platt (HER: TQ 65 NW 70 – MKE1253) and a Neolithic leaf shaped arrowhead found in 1967 by Dr J R Chiswell in his garden (HER TQ 65 NW 46 – MKE1230).

Roman pottery sherds have been discovered within the village of Platt by Mr Thomas May in 1928 (HER 65 NW 10 – MKE1194). This is the only Roman findspot recorded within the village.

The discovery of a late medieval kiln site within the grounds of Platt Farm (now Tudor Barn) led to an archaeological excavation in the 1960's and quantities of pottery are still to be seen in the grounds of the house (HER: TQ 65 NW 82 - MKE13656). The pottery is dateable to *c*.1450-1700 with some documentary evidence for earlier pottery.

Other kiln sites are also known within St Mary's Platt (HER: TQ 65 NW 79 - MKE1262). In 1968/69 a proton magnetometer survey was carried out in a field at St Marys Platt (TQ 621 566) which due to the vast scatter of wasters was thought to have been a kiln site for Wrotham pottery.

St Mary's Platt includes a number of listed buildings (full reference in Appendix 1) including Patchways, dated 1637 (HER: TQ 65 NW 139 - MKE35880) but incorporating an earlier framed structure and Pigeon's Green Farmhouse, a Grade II listed building (HER: TQ 65 NW 205 - MKE36581) with the main construction period being 1500 to 1599. This building was a farmhouse with later alterations, most notably during rebuilding after bomb damage in the Second World War.

The archaeological evaluation undertaken by PRO Archaeology Services discovered the remains of drainage gullies dated to the Post medieval period (PAS 2010).

## 6. METHODOLOGY

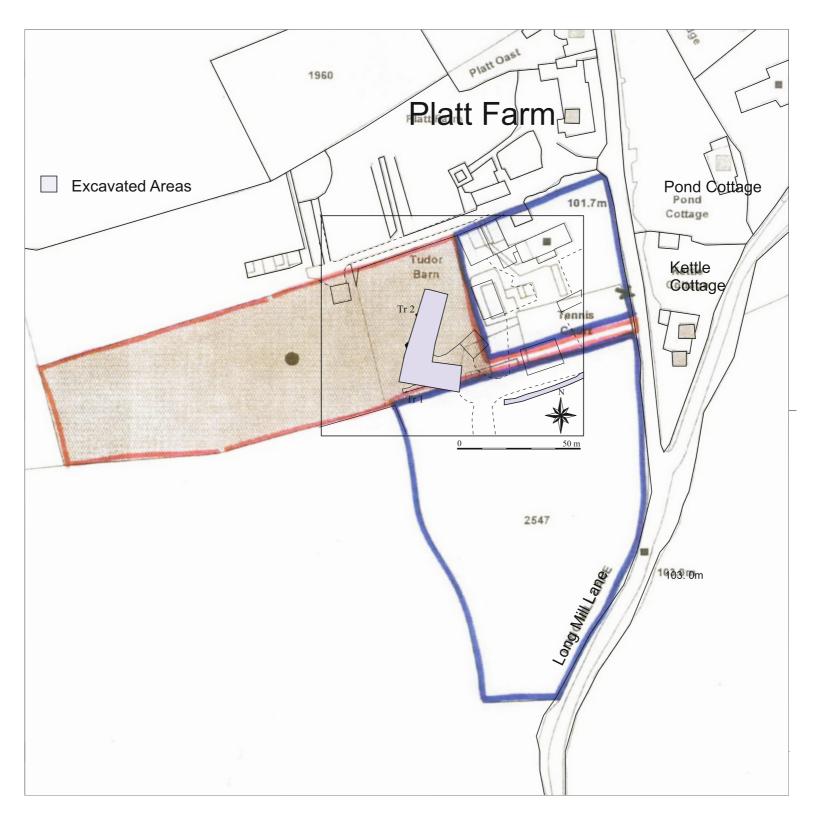
The archaeological watching brief was carried out during ground reduction over the foot print of the new building during two days by Paul Riccoboni (Senior Archaeologist) of PRO Archaeology Services. This involved an initial ground reduction over an area of 168m² to varying depths of 102.29 – 101.33m AOD.

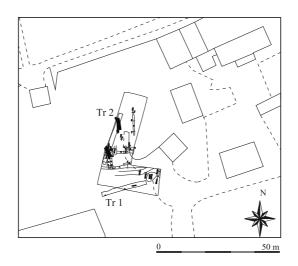
The ground reduction by 7 tonne mechanical excavator with a 1.6m wide toothless bucket was directed continuously by an experienced archaeologist.

A site plan at a scale of 1:50 was produced using measuring tapes in relation to a site grid. Where necessary, surfaces were hand cleaned for examination and recording, and deposits observed were recorded on standard *pro-forma* context recording sheets. All sections were drawn at scales of 1:10 or 1:20.

A full black and white, colour (35mm transparency) and digital photographic record of the work was taken and will form part of the site archive. Site levels were taken relative to a spot height of 101.70m AOD in Long Mill Lane.

Figure 2: Location of Excavation Area





All recording points were accurately tied into the National Grid and located on the 1:1250 map of the area (Figure 2).

All artefacts recovered during the excavations were suitably labelled, bagged, boxed and marked in accordance with the Institute of Conservation 1983 Conservation Guidelines No. 2. The assessment of artefacts was provided by Luke Barber MIFA a pottery and special find specialist at the Sussex Archaeological Society. No samples thought suitable for environmental sampling were taken.

The site archive will include all project records and cultural material produced by the project. The archive will be prepared in accordance with Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990). On completion of the project PRO Archaeology Services will arrange for the archive to be deposited with the Tonbridge and Malling Museum service in conjunction with the general standards for archive preparation within a reasonable timeframe (usually three months of completion of the project).

Number of Contexts	19
No. of files/paper record	28
Plan and sections sheets	2
Bulk Samples	0
Photographs	13 digital 7 B&W & 13 Colour Slide
Bulk finds	6 bags
Registered finds	0
Environmental flots/residue	0

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

## 7. RESULTS

All deposits and features were assigned individual context numbers. Context numbers in [] indicate features i.e. pit cuts or sections across ditches, while numbers in () show feature fills or deposits of material. Numbers not shown in any brackets are masonry features i.e. walls. Features assigned a letter have been grouped during post excavation on the basis of the association of the features in plan and the stratigraphic relationships established on site, combined with the dating evidence. ie. a linear feature with consistent dating will generally be considered as one feature if the profiles, fills and dating evidence are the consistent. Linear features therefore have one letter. The original context numbers (assigned on site) have been kept as unique identifiers for sections/slots excavated across features during the excavation stage (not illustrated on plan but described in text).

Summary of features within Stage 1 evaluation trenches

Trench No.	Cut No.	Feature Description	Provis. Date
1	100	Posthole	16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> Century

1	102	Posthole	16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> Century
			with some later
			intrusion
1	109	Posthole	none
2	200	Linear feature Re-examined during	Mid 16 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup>
		the Stage 2 Watching Brief	Century
2	202	Linear feature Re-examined during	Later 16 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup>
		the Stage 2 Watching Brief	Century
2	204	Linear feature Re-examined during	Mid 16 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup>
		the Stage 2 Watching Brief	Century
2	206	Linear feature Re-examined during	Later 16 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup>
		the Stage 2 Watching Brief	Century
2	208	Tree hole	None
2	216	Soakaway Re-examined during the	Modern
		Stage 2 Watching Brief	
2	218	Pit	Modern
2	220	Posthole	Mid 16 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup>
			Century

The excavated area included a series of Early Post medieval shallow ditches which formed part of a rectilinear enclosure *c*. 3m wide and a minimum of 5m in length, set out close to a known kiln site excavated during the 1960's. The exact position of the kiln is unknown but is assumed to have been where an existing pond now lies to the west of the site.

## The Early Post medieval Period

## Enclosure 1; Linear Features

Ditch D was stratigraphically one the earliest ditches. It was *c.* 3.5m in length and 0.80m wide with shallow concave sides. The ditch was filled by mid-dark brownish grey silty clay loam (1020) with no finds.

Ditch C was orientated approximately north south and was *c*. 3.5m in length and 0.60m wide. Ditch C was seen to cut Ditch D in plan. Section [1011] was representative of the shape and form of the feature with concave sides forming an irregular base (Figure 4; Section 4). It was filled by mid-dark brownish grey silty clay (1012) with finds dated to the later 16<sup>th</sup>/ early 17<sup>th</sup> Century AD.

Ditch A was orientated approximately east west and a minimum of 11.5m in length and 0.80m in width. It had three hand excavated sections placed across it: [1007], [1015] & [1017]. Section [1007] was representative of the shape and form of the feature (Fig 4; Section 1). It had steep concave sides forming a gently rounded base 0.80m wide and 0.25m deep. The ditch was filled by mid – dark brownish grey silty clay (1008) with tile dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries AD. Ditch A was proved to cut Ditch D & C illustrated in section's positioned to record the stratigraphic relationships (Figure 4; Section's 1 & 2).

Ditch B was orientated approximately east west and was a minimum of 2m in length and 0.50 wide with concave sides forming a rounded base. The feature was filled by mid brownish grey silty clay (1010) with no inclusions. No relationship could be ascertained between the two features A & B in section (Figure 4; Section 1).

Ditch F was on an approximate east west alignment and was a minimum of 1.8m in length and 0.85m in width. The ditch had shallow concave sides forming an almost flat base (Figure 4; Section 5). It had one dark brownish grey fill with pottery sherds (1024).

Ditch G was orientated approximately north-south and was 1.5m in length and 0.50m wide with shallow concave sides forming a gently rounded base and terminal filled by homogenous mid brown grey silty clay (1026) (Figure 4; Section 5). It was cut by Ditch E.

Ditch E was orientated approximately east west and was a minimum of 7.5m in length and 0.60m wide. It was not entirely straight with a kink at its eastern end. The ditch had two hand excavated sections placed across it: [1021] & [1037]. A representative profile of the ditch was recorded against the eastern baulk section: [1021] (Figure 4; Section 7). The ditch had steep concave sides and an almost flat base. It was filled by mid greyish brown silty clay (1022) with seven pottery sherds dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> /17<sup>th</sup> Century AD.

## Other linear features

Ditch H was aligned on an approximate north south direction and was 5.5m in length and 0.40m wide. This ditch had two hand excavated sections placed across it: [1027] & [1035]. Section 1035 proved the ditch was c. 0.20m thick and had concave sides forming a gently rounded base (Figure 4; Section's 12 & 13). It was filled by mid brownish grey silty clay loam (1036).

#### Discrete features

Posthole 1029 was sub circular in shape, 0.15m deep and 0.40m in wide. It was filled by mid grey brown silty sand (1030) with no finds (Figure 4; Section 6).

Posthole 1031 was sub circular in plan, c. 0.70m wide and 0.20m deep with concave sides forming a gently rounded base (Figure 4; Section 8). It was filled by mid-dark brownish grey silty clay with no inclusions (1032).

Posthole 1033 was sub circular in shape and located at the terminal end of Ditch H. It was 0.70m wide and 0.20m in depth with concave sides and a rounded base (Figure 4; Section 14), filled by a single brown grey silty clay (1034).



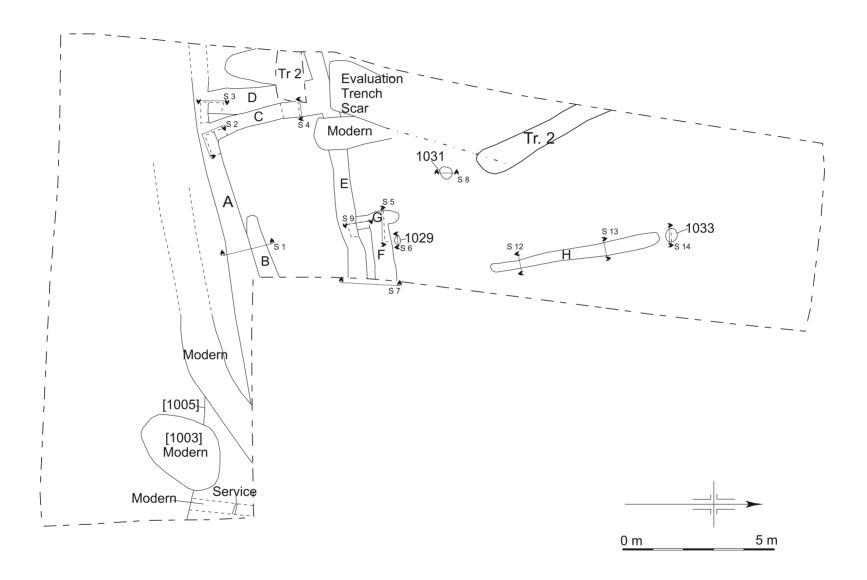


Figure 3: Excavation Plan

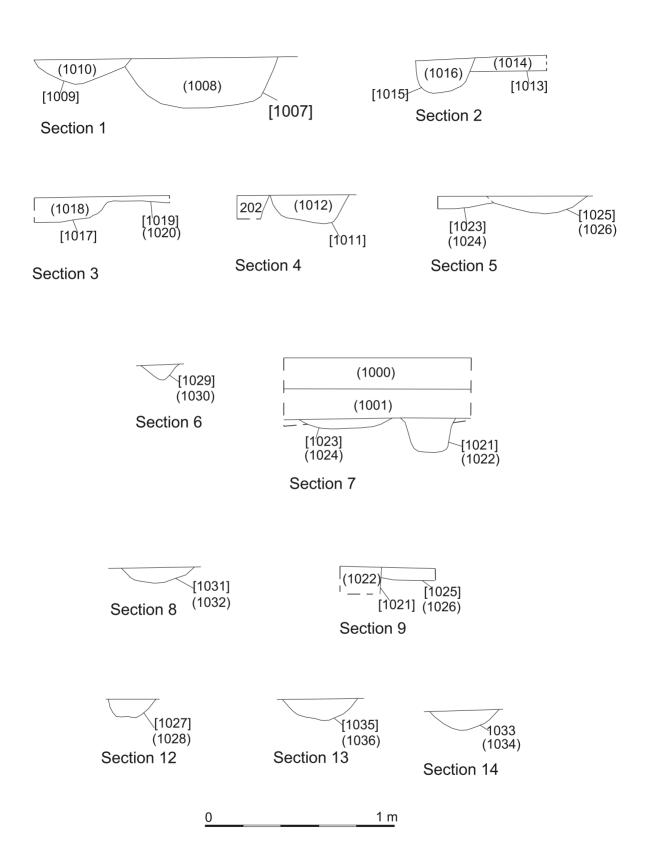


Figure 4: Sections

#### Modern

#### Other features

An elongated pit was recorded at the very eastern edge of the excavation area orientated approximately east-west. Feature [1005] was c. 2m in width and a minimum of 3m in length. It had a single mid grey brown silty sand fill (1006) with an iron pipe.

#### Pits

A modern pit [1003], c. 2m x 3m in dimensions was recorded cutting modern ditch [1005] (Figure 3) It was filled by a mottled grey brown fill with modern concrete finds throughout (1004).

## The New Driveway

The new driveway was monitored for any possible archaeological remains (Figure 2). The excavations were limited and only removed the topsoil (*c.* 200mm reduction) No archaeological finds or features were observed.

## **8. THE FINDS** by Luke Barber

## **Quantification and Spot Dates**

Context		Pot	Other	Date
	Pot (Early post- med)	(Late post-med)		
1001	3/52g	-	-	Later C16th – 17th
1002	5/113g	=	-	Later C16th – 17th
1004	3/27g	1/8g	Peg tile 1/11g	Later C18th – early
			Leather 1/8g	19 <sup>th</sup> but residual
				later C16th – 17th
1006	5/50g	-	Peg tile 1/11g	Later C16th – 17th
			Stone 1/13g	
1008	1/2g	-	Peg tile 1/24g	Later C16th – 17th
1012	3/32g	-	Stone 1/46g	Later C16th – 17 <sup>th</sup>
1018	1/21g	-	-	Later C16th – 17th
1022	7/27g	-	-	Later C16th – 17 <sup>th</sup>
1026	5/52g	-	-	Later C16th – 17th

## **The Pottery** by Luke Barber

The archaeological work recovered a small group of pottery from two different periods. The assemblage is very similar to that recovered from the first phase of fieldwork. On the whole it is characterised by small sherds often showing signs of moderate, to occasionally heavy, abrasion. Although this suggests that much of the material has been subjected to reworking the silty nature of many of the fabrics means they would weather quite rapidly, particularly in an acidic subsoil.

## Early Post-medieval

The majority of the pottery from the site can be placed in a probable mid/late  $16^{th}$ -to  $17^{th}$ - century date range. A number of local earthenware fabrics are represented, none of which are closely datable, particularly in the complete absence of better dated non-local regional and imported wares. All of the fabrics noted from the first phase of fieldwork are represented (T1 - T5) though three new ones were noted in the current assemblage. Fabrics include:

- T1 Silty/sparse fine sand tempered oxidised medium fired earthenware, often with brown or black ?slipped surfaces. Unglazed.
- T2 As T1 but with deliberately reduced throughout and slightly harder fired.
- T3 As T1 but very hard-fired. A notably warped rim sherd from [1006] is definitely a waster.
- T4 An orange to reddish slightly sandy glazed earthenware. Medium fired. These earthenwares have a wide date range extending well into the 18<sup>th</sup> century. After that date they become notably more refined to become the Late post-medieval equivalent.
- T5 Black-glazed earthenware. Similar to T4 but redder, with some calcareous inclusions and with a thick, usually all-over black or dark metallic glaze. Typical of the 17<sup>th</sup> century though the ware could continue into the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. A single mug base sherd (20g) from [1026] is present.
- T6 A well-fired silty earthenware as T1 with orange, maroon or grey cores, usually with reduced surfaces. What is notable about this fabric is it contains moderate to abundant calcareous inclusions to 0.5mm. Such wares are well known in Kent (Canterbury Archaeological Trust fabric PM64) and it is interesting to identify at least one source for these wares.
- T7 A very fine silty reduced earthenware with occasional sand inclusions closely related to T1.
- T8 A very fine silty oxidised earthenware with occasional sand inclusions closely related to T1.

A few feature sherds are present in the assemblage. Context (1001) produced a necked jar with down-turned triangular club rim in T3 while (1002) produced three further jar rims in T2. All of these are thickened (rounded and tapering club) with quite complex moulding/beading on their tops. Similar jar rims in T2 were recovered from (1012) and (1018). The only other form in T2 is from a plate with thickened rim with deep central groove around its edge and spots of black glaze (1004). A thickened/collared jar rim in T3 from (1006) has extreme twisting/warping on it and is undoubtedly a waster. Unfortunately, with the exception of the mug base in T5 from (1026) none of the glazed earthenware sherds are diagnostic of form.

The limited/closely-related range of earthenware fabrics present, together with the definite presence of a waster sherd (three possible wasters being noted in the earlier work), suggests that much of this assemblage probably represent waste material from a nearby kiln. The area is well known for its pottery production around this time with a number of kilns suspected in the area, including close to

the current site and one at Borough Green. Although this generic 'Wrotham' industry is best known for its elaborate slipwares, which appear to span the 17<sup>th</sup> to mid 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, these are very rarely found archaeologically. The industry also produced plain unglazed and black-glazed wares like those recovered from the current site (Ashdown 1968) and it is probable these made up the bulk of what was produced.

## Late Post-medieval

A single sherd from a willow-pattern transfer-printed pearlware plate was recovered from (1004). A late 18<sup>th</sup>- to early 19<sup>th</sup>- century date is probable.

## The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

Tile was recovered from just three contexts. The examples from contexts (1006) and (1008) are quite crudely formed and hard-fired. They are tempered with sparse fine sand with sparse/moderate calcareous inclusions to 0.5mm, a fabric noted in the earlier work. The tiles would be in keeping with a later 16<sup>th</sup>- to early 18<sup>th</sup>- century date and it is quite possible they were made locally as part of the Wrotham ceramic industry. The peg tile from (1004) is far better made and evenly fired. It is tempered with sparse fine sand and calcareous inclusions to 0.5mm and probably represents a mid 18<sup>th</sup>- to 19<sup>th</sup>- century continuation of the earlier fabric.

## The Other Materials by Luke Barber

Context (1004) produced part of a perforated leather disc measuring 65mm in diameter. The piece has a 15mm diameter centrally punched hole around which are/would have been six 13mm diameter punched holes. Although the function of the piece is uncertain its finish would suggest a later post-medieval date. The only other material from the site consists of three weathered pieces of stone, all of which are ferruginous medium-grained sandstones from Tertiary deposits, or more likely, the Lower Greensand. A local source is almost certain.

## 9. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The archaeological watching brief was successfully in establishing more information regarding the features first discovered during the archaeological evaluation (PAS 2010).

The evidence suggests that the site was occupied or used for pottery production, dated by ceramic evidence to the Early Post medieval period. The ceramic assemblage includes some characteristic 'waster' sherds common on kiln sites.

The ditches formed a rectilinear enclosure and are probably eavesdrip gullies which served an outbuilding possibly used as a drying shed for the nearby

pottery kiln of similar date first discovered during the 1960's dated between the 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries AD (TQ 65 NW 82). It could have also been used as a simple wooden storage structure. The building may have been founded on cill beams, either bedded in shallow slots that have since been ploughed out, or simply resting on the ground surface. The eavesdrip gullies themselves can also be interpreted as the actual cill beam slots, although not universal in form, the fact they have rounded bases would imply drip gullies, rather than cill beam slots, which we might expect to have flat bases.

The enclosure or building plot seems to have two phases of activity, both within the Early Post medieval period. Through stratigraphic relationships we can see that some of the ditches had been recut. Any structure, likely to have been a wooden shed or similar, may have shifted slightly to the south east during its second phase of use when gullies B, F G and C were instated. If a wooden drying shed had rotted we can assume it may have had a lifespan of perhaps 50 years before it needed replacing, which provides some indication of how long the site may have been used for this purpose, before going out of use completely and returning to pasture.

The main aim of the watching brief to contribute to the understanding of the pottery kiln and any associated structures has been achieved by the excavations.

A confidence rating is high that the best possible results were achieved.

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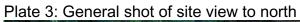


Plate 1: Excavation in Progress to surface of archaeology or natural clay





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## Appendix 1: List of HER data detailing a 0.5km search of the area.

#### TQ 65 NW 9 - MKE1193

TQ 6188 5671, Site of paleolithic finds. The Harrison collection of flints has been largely dispersed, only a few selected examples being held by the Maidstone Museum.

#### TQ 65 NW 10 - MKE1194

TQ 6260 5642. Roman potsherds found A.D. 1928. Numerous fragments of Roman cooking pots and some medieval domestic utensils. Fragments determined by Mr. Thomas May. Visited 19.5.1928.

#### TQ 65 NW 11 - MKE1195

TQ 6281 5642. Site of palaeolithic find. The Harrison collection of flints has been largely dispersed, only a few selected examples being held by the Maidstone Museum.

#### TQ 65 NW 46 - MKE1230

TQ 6160 5727. A Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead was found in 1967 by Dr J R Chiswell in the top foot of soil of his garden at 'Wayside', Maidstone Road, Borough Green.

#### TQ 65 NW 51 - MKE1235

TQ 6320 5677. 17<sup>th</sup> Century Listed Building. Great Comp., Comp Lane, Platt

## TQ 65 NW 59 - MKE1243

TQ 6190 5668 Site of paleolithic finds. The Harrison collection of flints has been largely dispersed, only a few selected examples being held by the Maidstone Museum

#### TQ 65 NW 65 - MKE1249

TQ 6140 5703. Site of palaeolithic finds. Chellian and Acheulian implements in J.W. Bance Collection from Crow Hill, Borough Green

#### TQ 65 NW 70 - MKE1253

TQ 62 57. Two mesolithic medium sized tranchet axes and an unspecified number of mesolithic blades and flakes from Platt are now in Maidstone Museum.

#### TQ 65 NW 71 - MKE1254

TQ 62 57. One mesolithic microlith, one mesolithic micro-burin and two other mesolithic implements from Platt are now in Rochester Museum

### TQ 65 NW 79 - MKE1262

TQ 621 566. In 1968/69 a proton magnetometer survey was carried out in a field at St Marys Platt which due to the vast scatter of wasters was thought likely to have been a kiln site for Wrotham pottery. No anomalies were detected in the survey and test holes revealed no features. Undulation in a nearby but inaccessible orchard suggest, however, that the kiln might be there. Numerous sherds mainly of coarse cooking pots were found. A field scatter was collected by D.Garrod, Field officer, KARU, 4/2/86 at Kingshill Farm

## TQ 65 NW 82 - MKE13656

TQ 622 565. A kiln here was excavated in the 1960's and quantities of pottery are still to be seen in the grounds of the house [Platt Farm]. The pottery is dateable to c.1450-1700. There is documentary evidence for earlier pottery Unpublished document: OS Card / NAR index entry. Inf. Peter Drewett AM 107 record sheet held by Kent SMR

#### TQ 65 NW 155 - MKE35840

TQ 6221 5704. Row House: Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1300 to 1799. Formerly 7 cottages, now only 3. C14-C17. L-shaped in plan with upright of L following curve of the road backwards. Coursed rubble stone with plain tiled roof and 4 ridge stacks. One storey; 7

bays. Wider return-gabled end bays with parapet-copings and kneelers.

#### TQ 65 NW 157 - MKE35842

TQ 6232 5691. House, formerly the Rectory. Late C18, altered in C19. Coursed rubble stone.

#### TQ 65 NW 158 - MKE35843

TQ 6319 5676. House. Mid C17. Limewashed brick on wide plinth with mullioned cellar lights and some stone dressings.

#### TQ 65 NW 159 - MKE35844

TQ 6227 5670. House. C18. Painted brick on ground floor, tile-hung above. Plain tile roof, and stacks with projecting breasts and 2 hipped dormers.

#### TQ 65 NW 176 - MKE35848

TQ 6224 5664. Oakbeams GV. Farmhouse. C16, restored in C20.

#### TQ 65 NW 164 - MKE35849.

TQ 6181 5723. Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1780 to 1820 Cottage. Circa 1800. Coursed ironstone ashlar with later extension to right of red brick and coursed stone blocks, these galletted, on ground floor, tile-hung on first floor.

#### TQ 65 NW 165 - MKE35860

TQ 6253 5672. Farm-building. C18. Brown random rubble stone with red brick dressings, and brick above on left.

#### TQ 65 NW 199 - MKE35861.

TQ 6249 5670. Pigeons Green: Farm-building. C18. Brown random rubble stone with red brick dressings.

#### • TQ 65 NW 139 - MKE35880

TQ6246056709. Patchways: Dated 1637, but incorporating earlier framed structure. C18 facade to south of random rubble stone with galletting and red brick quoins and dressings to windows.

#### TQ 65 NW 171 - MKE36032

TQ 6256 5674. Farmhouse. C16, much altered later. Random rubble stone ground floor with red brick dressings. Tile-hung first floor.

#### TQ 65 NW 170 - MKE36033

TQ 6223 5701. Church of St Mary: Anglican Church. 1841-42 by Whichcord and Walker. Early English in detail, though Perpendicular in form. Coursed rubble stone with some ashlar dressings, slate roofs.

#### TQ 65 NW 196 - MKE36036.

TQ 6226 5658. Platt Farmhouse. Farmhouse. C16, restored in late C19 and C20. Exposed framing with carved braces on both floors to left. Jetty to both front and side on joists and corner brackets. Central range of random rubble stone with red brick dressings. Modern rubble stone and red brick wing to right. Plain tiled roof, hipped to timber-framed left end with 2 gabled dormers to left of centre and one return gable in red and blue brick at right of centre. Central double stack in brick, one brick stack behind framed wing. Two storeys at each end, one storey with attic in centre. One window front to each wing, 2 windows to centre. Mixture of square and diamond lattice casements.

#### TQ 65 NW 195 - MKE36037

TQ 6222 5667. Dales. Jettied Farmhouse C16th.

#### TQ 65 NW 210 - MKE36038

TQ 6178 5723. Fir Tree Cottages. Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1810 to 1850

#### TQ 65 NW 194 - MKE36489.

TQ 6225 5663. Barn 15 yards south of the Oak Beams. Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1700 to 1799

#### TQ 65 NW 197 - MKE36490

TQ 6269 5689. The Hopfield. Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1933 to 1933

#### TQ 65 NW 163 - MKE36491

Crouch Farmhouse: TQ 6216 5703 Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1700 to 1799

#### TQ 65 NW 205 - MKE36581.

TQ 6252 5670. Pigeon's Green Farmhouse. Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1500 to 1599 Farmhouse. C16, with later alterations, most notably during rebuilding after bomb damage in the Second World War.

#### • TQ 65 NW 209 - MKE36592.

TQ 6226 5661. Platt Oast Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1600 to 1999 Oast house, now converted into dwelling house. C19 roundels added to C17 barn on north side

#### TQ 65 NW 221 - MKE36593

TQ 6226 5670. Rose Cottage: Grade II listed building. Main construction periods 1500 to 1999 Cottage. C16, restored in C20. L-shape in plan with wing on north side.

**APPENDIX 2**: List of recorded Contexts

Context Type Description No.		Description	Max. Featur	Max. Width	Deposit Depth	Height m.AOD
			e Length	- Trickin	Z opii.	
1000	Deposit	Topsoil	Site	Site	0.30	103.01- 101.99
1001	Deposit	Subsoil Site Site 0.15		/		
1002	Deposit	Natural	Site	Site	1	102.29- 101.33
1003	Cut	Pit	2.0	1.50	0.50 (min)	101.80
1004	Fill	Fill of 1003	2.0	1.50	0.50 (min)	101.80
1005	Cut	Ditch	2.0	2.0	0.20	101.86
1006	Fill	Fill of 1005	2.0	2.0	0.20	101.86
1007	Cut	Section: Feature A	11.5	0.80	0.25	101.81
1008	Fill	Fill of 1007	11.5	0.80	0.25	101.81
1009	Cut	Section: Feature B	2.0	0.40	0.10	1
1010	Fill	Fill of 1009	2.0	0.40	0.10	1
1011	Cut	Section: Feature C	3.5	0.80	0.25	102.01
1012	Fill	Fill of 1011	3.5	0.80	0.25	102.01
1013	Cut	Section: Feature C	3.5	0.50	0.20	102.05
1014	Fill	Fill of 1013	3.5	0.50	0.20	102.05
1015	Cut	Section: Feature A	11.5	0.60	0.40	102.05
1016	Fill	Fill of 1015	11.5	0.60	0.40	102.05
1017	Cut	Section: Feature A	11.5	0.40	0.30	102.05
1018	Fill	Fill of 1017	11.5	0.40	0.30	102.05
1019	Cut	Section: Feature D Eval Section 202	2.0	0.55	0.20	102.05
1020	Fill	Fill of 1019: Eval Section 202	2.0	0.55	0.20	102.05
1021	Cut	Section: Feature E	7.5	0.60	0.40	101.84
1022	Fill	Fill of 1021	7.5	0.60	0.40	101.84
1023	Cut	Section: Feature F	1.8	0.90	0.10	101.78
1024	Fill	Fill of 1023	1.8	0.90	0.10	101.78
1025	Cut	Section: Feature G	1.5	0.50	0.10	101.79
1026	Fill	Fill of 1025	1.5	0.50	0.10	101.79
1027	Cut	Section: Feature H	5.5	0.45	0.20	101.63
1028	Fill	Fill of 1027	5.5	0.45	0.20	101.63
1029	Cut	Posthole	0.40	0.40	0.15	/
1030	Fill	Fill of 1029	0.40	0.40	0.15	/
1031	Cut	Posthole	0.80	0.80	0.20	101.82
1032	Fill	Fill of 1031	0.80	0.80	0.20	101.82
1033	Cut	Posthole	0.70	0.70	0.20	101.49
1034	Fill	Fill of 1033	0.70	0.70	0.20	101.49
1035	Cut	Section: Feature H	6.0	0.45	0.20	101.55
1036	Fill	Fill of 1035	6.0	0.45	0.20	101.55

## **Kent County Council HER Summary Form**

Identification Name and Address	Land adjacent to Tudor Barn, Long Mill Lane, St Mary's Platt, Kent TN15 8NA						
Site Code	TBLS 10						
County, District &/or Borough	Tonbridge	Tonbridge and Malling district, Kent					
OS Grid Refs.	562220 15	6510					
Geology	Bedrock of	the Hythe F	ormation ove	rlain by brick	kearth		
PRO Archaeology Project Number	09/50/006	09/50/006					
OASIS Identifer	proarcha1-1	proarcha1-113242					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief: ✓	Standing Structure	Survey	Other	
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other			
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 31 <sup>st</sup> Aug 11-1 <sup>st</sup> Sep 11	Other			
Sponsor/Client	Guy Vicar						
Project Manager	Paul Riccoboni						
Project Supervisor	Paul Riccoboni						
Period Summary	Palaeo. Meso. Neo. BA IA RB					RB	
	AS	MED	PM ✓	Other			

## 100 Word Summary.

An archaeological watching brief involving the supervised mechanical ground reduction across the new build footprint was carried out by PRO Archaeology Services in advance of the construction of a new detached house and ancillary garage (Planning reference: TM/07/02163) on land adjacent to Tudor Barn, Long Mill Lane, St Mary's Platt, Sevenoaks, Kent (NGR: 562220 156510).

The results followed an evaluation conducted by PRO Archaeology Services (PAS 2010), which revealed a stratigraphic sequence of natural geology overlaid by buried topsoil and made ground deposits. The earliest archaeological features were seen cut into the natural brickearth and consisted of four shallow ditches and postholes all dated to the Post medieval period.

The following excavations revealed more detail of the discovered features which are considered to represent the below surface remains of a structure, survived as gullies and postholes. The structure was probably associated with the known pottery Kiln located approximately 10m to the north of the site, excavated during the 1960's, and may have acted as a drying shed or for other storage purposes.

## PRO Archaeology Services

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