



# Hostile Mitigation Scheme

## Marlowe Theatre, The Friars, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2AS

### Archaeological Watching Brief

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## Summary

An archaeological watching brief was conducted by Canterbury Archaeological Trust between 3 October 2018 and 14 May 2019, during installation of a hostile mitigation scheme at the Marlowe Theatre, The Friars, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2AS (centred NGR 614806 158045). The watching brief was requested by East Kent Engineering Partnership, on behalf of Canterbury City Council.

The Marlowe Theatre lies within the Canterbury Area of Archaeological Importance and within a Scheduled Monument, the Dominican Friary complex of Blackfriars (NHLE 1005491). Previous archaeological investigations in the area have revealed evidence for Roman, medieval and post-medieval occupation.

Monitored groundworks were conducted in three localities within the theatre grounds: Area 1 comprised machine excavation of a single trench for the installation of nineteen bollards enclosing the front apron of the theatre; Area 2 comprised hand excavation of seven trenches for the installation of a new security gate on the west side of the theatre; and Area 3 comprised the hand excavation of a single trench for the installation of two bollards to the north of the theatre, at a pedestrian entrance through the north-west boundary. An original proposal for additional bollards to be located along the frontage of The Friars was not carried out.

Archaeological remains of medieval date, comprising a potential masonry wall and a refuse pit were identified in Area 2 at a depth of 0.54m below ground level. Post-medieval garden/horticultural soils and a gravel surface were recorded in Area 2 at a depth of between 0.40m and 0.44m. Post-medieval garden soils and a brick founded glasshouse were recorded in Area 3 at a depth of between 0.15m and 0.25m. These correspond with the use of the grounds as formal gardens during the nineteenth century, as illustrated on a First Edition Ordnance Survey 1:500 map sheet published in 1874. Part of a concrete foundation recorded in Area 2 potentially related to the former Odeon Cinema, constructed on the site in 1933. Ground formation deposits associated with the redevelopment of the Marlowe Theatre in 2009 were recorded in Areas 1 and 2, with modern impacts extending to depths of between 0.40m and 0.44m.

The archaeological works successfully met the principal objective: to ensure the preservation by record of the buried archaeological resource where the scheme would result in its permanent loss. While the results contribute to the local heritage knowledge of Canterbury, further analysis of the data is not presently recommended.

## Acknowledgments

The archaeological watching brief and excavation were commissioned by Chris Maw, Principal Engineer, East Kent Engineering Partnership, on behalf of Canterbury City Council. Groundworks were carried out by Ovenden Allworks and FM Conways.

The work was monitored by Rosanne Cummings, Archaeological Officer of Canterbury City Council, and Maria Buczak, Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Kent and Sussex, Historic England.

The archaeological programme was managed by Richard Helm. Fieldwork was undertaken by Dale Robertson and Kirsty Bone, surveying by Paul-Samual Armour. Post-excavation data processing and reporting was conducted by Dale Robertson, Laura O'Shea-Walker and Tania Wilson.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT) were commissioned by Canterbury City Council (CCC) to undertake an archaeological watching brief and excavation during the installation of a hostile mitigation scheme at the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2AS (centred NGR 614806 158045).
- 1.1.2 The proposed scheme comprised the installation of static and telescopic bollards on the frontage of the theatre, and a new security gate controlling access to the service entrance and car parking to the rear. The depth of groundworks was anticipated to be 400mm bgl (below ground level) for all bollard locations, and 800mm bgl for security gate posts.
- 1.1.3 The archaeological works followed a written scheme of investigation (WSI; CAT 2018) submitted for approval to the CCC Archaeological Officer and to Historic England. The WSI was prepared following consultation of the National Heritage List for England (NHLE on-line), the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER on-line), the CCC/CAT Urban Archaeological Database (UAD), and CAT's own publications, unpublished reports, and archives.
- 1.1.4 The Marlowe Theatre is situated within the Scheduled Monument of the Dominican Friary complex of Blackfriars (NHLE 1005491) and within the Canterbury Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI) designated under section 35 of *the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* (revised 1983). CAT has been appointed by the Secretary of State as the Investigating Authority for the Canterbury AAI.
- 1.1.5 Scheduled Monument Consent to undertake the installation works was granted to CCC prior to commencement of groundworks. An application to install two further static bollards located at the northern access point, via Donsway Drive and St Peter's Lane, also at an anticipated depth of 400mm bgl, was approved under the existing Scheduled Monument Consent as a continuation of the existing hostile mitigation scheme following submission of a separate WSI (CAT 2019a) for the additional works.

## 1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The Marlowe Theatre lies in the northern quarter of the walled city, on the western bank of the east branch of the River Stour. It falls within a block of land bounded by that branch of the river to the east, St Peter's Lane to the north-west, St Peter's Street to the south-west, and a road known as 'The Friars' to the south-east. St Peter's Church, of probable late Anglo-Saxon origin, occupies the south-western corner of this block, with the more extensive thirteenth-century Dominican Friary complex on the north and east side.
- 1.2.2 The present-day ground surface stands at an elevation of between 8m and 9m above Ordnance Datum (OD).
- 1.2.3 The underlying geology of the PDA comprises superficial alluvial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel overlying Seaford Chalk Formation (BGS on-line). Previous archaeological and geotechnical works in the current Marlowe Theatre area have recorded river gravel together with overlying waterlogged alluvial deposits, with the gravel lying between 3m and 4 metres bgl, at around 5m OD (Holman and Wilson 2011, 1).

## 1.3 Heritage potential

- 1.3.1 Prior to major excavations of the Marlowe Theatre in 2009, very little was known about this part of the city during the Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods, and the general impression gained was that most of this area then, as until relatively recently, was river floodplain, poorly drained and largely uninhabited. A trench cut in the Pound Lane car park (located to the northwest of the theatre site) revealed water-lain Roman sediments overlying the natural river gravel, which was located at around 6m OD (Parfitt 1995). There was no evidence for any Roman occupation here. Instead, the low-lying marshy area seemed to have served as a convenient area for refuse disposal: amongst the finds recovered was a rare example of a complete Roman wooden spade, preserved by the waterlogged conditions.

- 1.3.2 Excavations at the Marlowe recorded the earliest activity to the west of the theatre, where a large Roman townhouse was identified. The house would have been situated on what would have been a peninsula of dry land overlooking the river. Up to five sunken rooms and a corridor were partially excavated, and one of the rooms had a hypocaust comprising twenty-five *pilae* stacks, which would have supported a tiled floor. A wooden threshold from a doorway was found preserved in the waterlogged conditions. Fragments of painted wall plaster were found, coloured white, red, blue, black and yellow. The evidence suggests this was a building of considerable status, quite unexpected in this part of Canterbury, which was previously thought to have been relatively marginal in Roman times (Holman and Wilson 2011, 3). The building appeared to have been affected by the rising water table soon after its construction, as occupation horizons and floors were sealed by layers of waterborne silt. The building was later modified and reduced to a low-status structure, and perhaps went out of use in the later Roman period, when the building was left to decay.
- 1.3.3 No evidence for Anglo-Saxon occupation was identified across the Marlowe Theatre site, which appeared to have been largely open land at that time.
- 1.3.4 As part of the major excavation works in 2009, in an area to the east of the theatre, three lines of preserved medieval timber river revetments were revealed. The revetments ran across the area on a north-west to south-east alignment and were constructed from vertical wooden posts and horizontal planks, with substantial deposits of gravel and domestic rubbish used to infill the gaps between each pair. The earliest phase incorporated reused timber beams of probable late eleventh- or early twelfth-century date. Two phases of construction were identified, the first dated to c 1123, the second to c 1142, demonstrating the rapid rate at which riverside areas were being reclaimed during the medieval period. As part of the second phase, a pair of tiered structures were also identified as having jutted out into the river. A possible 'lost' medieval lane was identified in the same area, represented by a metalled surface with gentle camber: however, insufficient material was recovered to date the surface closely.
- 1.3.5 Several large medieval refuse pits were identified within the western area of the Marlowe site, suggesting this area was used mainly for rubbish disposal. One of the pits was wood-lined and waterlogged, and contained a wooden platter (KHER TR15 NW1585).
- 1.3.6 The Dominican Friary (Blackfriars) was founded during the early to mid-thirteenth century and constituted a major religious house within the city (NHLE 1005491). On the edge of the main Friary complex and to the north-east of the present theatre, lies the medieval guest hall, added in the early fourteenth century and still surviving largely intact. This structure was erected on the western bank of the river and connected with the main buildings by bridge. The Friary was dissolved in 1538, but a birds-eye view of the complex drawn by Thomas Langdon in 1595 provides important details concerning the topography of the region during the later sixteenth century. This is unlikely to have changed much since late medieval times. The main friary buildings, with the outlying guest hall, are all identifiable on the map. Also shown is a western loop of the main river creating a small, elongated island. The waterway passes immediately to the west of the guest hall, so that the hall itself lies across the width of the island. Another bridge is shown providing access with the land to the west. The subsidiary waterway seems to have been silted and filled in by the nineteenth century, but its course is still partly discernible on the First Edition Ordnance Survey 1:500 map, published 1874, marked by a curving line of trees and a length of boundary wall.
- 1.3.7 The main Blackfriars Gate, the southern gate to the monastery, was built in 1356 and was sited at the intersection of St Peter's Street with The Friars, until its demolition in 1787 (KHER TR15 NW233). During works to the main drainage system in the mid nineteenth century, City Engineer (and antiquarian) James Pilbrow observed the foundations of the gate, which consisted of chalk blocks in mortar. In 1984, a watching brief was undertaken in this area during the laying of a water-pipe to the east of 11 St Peter's Street. These foundations were exposed and recorded as measuring 1.32m wide. The structure was faced, front and back, with a mixture of small greensand blocks and knapped flint, and the foundations cut earlier street metallings. Excavation work in 1987 revealed the gate piers (dated c 1356) just 0.2m below the present street surface, and earlier floor surfaces associated with a structure which pre-dated the gate were also identified 1.1m below the present street level.
- 1.3.8 The 1595 drawing shows all the ground to the west of the guest hall as then being unoccupied land, with a planted orchard running up to the friary access road (marked as 'Friars Waye'). A single small building

is shown fronting onto this road on the edge of the orchard. The 1874 map shows the Theatre ground as formal gardens, with a network of curving footpaths, planted trees and a glasshouse situated in the north-west, and a range of buildings on the frontage of The Friars.

- 1.3.9 The Marlowe Theatre was first built as the Odeon Cinema in 1933 and a motor company was established along the frontage of The Friars at around the same time: both effectively represented the first major new development in the area since medieval times.
- 1.3.10 Archaeological works in 2009 at the former Friars Motor Company, located to the south-east of the theatre, revealed a sequence of waterlogged deposits from which a small quantity of thirteenth-century pottery was recovered. Traces of an ephemeral medieval building with tile hearth were identified on the upper horizon of the waterlogged deposits at a depth of about 1.9m bgl. The building was sealed by a considerable build-up of dumped and probable agricultural or horticultural soils, brought in to raise the levels clear of the threat of flooding by the adjacent river. The considerable accumulation of soils (about 1m thick in total) suggested that a hiatus in structural occupation of the frontage occurred during the later medieval period, the entire area probably being open ground.
- 1.3.11 Part of the friary precinct wall was identified within this area, along with traces of a small building and a central tile hearth. External to the building, to its rear, was evidence of a courtyard paved with bricks in a rough herringbone pattern (Holman and Wilson 2011, 4). Following demolition, the area was levelled and a new brick-built building, of probable late seventeenth-century date, was erected on almost exactly the same footprint. This structure was demolished in the later eighteenth or early nineteenth century and replaced with a contemporaneously built range of brick buildings that extended along most of the frontage. These structures were a mix of domestic dwellings and stores, at least in the early twentieth century, and are typical of buildings (and their development) of the period. They were demolished when the Odeon Cinema was constructed in 1933.

## 1.4 Objective

- 1.4.1 The principal objective of the watching brief, as set out in both WSIs, was to ensure the preservation by record of the buried archaeological resource where the scheme would result in its permanent loss. This would be achieved by monitoring all groundworks and by excavating, recording, and analysing any archaeological remains that would be disturbed by the proposed scheme.
- 1.4.2 Specific objectives to be addressed by the watching brief comprised:
  - a) determine the depth below existing ground level, nature, character, date, state of preservation and importance of the archaeological resource;
  - b) understand the nature, character, date and extent of Roman, Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval activities present on each site; and
  - c) place and assess any archaeological remains revealed within the context of other archaeological investigations in the immediate area and within the setting of the historic urban landscape.
- 1.4.3 The watching brief would therefore contribute to:
  - a) an understanding of the construction chronology of the city of Canterbury and how key elements of the archaeological narrative (deposits and finds) relate to each other spatially, functionally and chronologically;
  - b) the heritage knowledge of the city of Canterbury, and the historic significance of each site; and
  - c) provide a resource for future research and education.

## 1.5 Methodology

- 1.5.1 The procedure and methodology followed during the archaeological works were set out in detail in the approved WSIs. The archaeological works were conducted in accordance with accepted professional standards as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (CIfA 2014b). CAT is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and conforms to their by-laws, standards and policy statements.

- 1.5.2 The archaeological work comprised the monitoring of all groundworks required for the scheme.
- 1.5.3 The original proposal comprised of three principal elements:
- a) nineteen bollards to be installed at the nosing to the front apron of the Marlowe Theatre, involving excavation of a trench to a depth of around 400mm bgl;
  - b) thirteen bollards to be installed to the east of the theatre, located on the street frontage of The Friars, involving excavation of a trench to a depth of around 400mm bgl; and
  - c) the installation of a new security gate to the north-west of the theatre, involving the excavation of approximately six trenches to a depth of around 800mm bgl, and an associated cable run.
- 1.5.4 Following revision of the scheme, it was determined that the installation of the thirteen bollards to the east of the theatre would not be carried out, so no archaeological monitoring was required.
- 1.5.5 Additional works as a continuation of the hostile mitigation scheme comprised two further bollards to be installed at the northern access point of the theatre site, leading out to Donsway Drive and St Peter's Lane, involving excavation to a depth of around 400mm bgl.
- 1.5.6 The extent of all groundworks and exposed archaeology was mapped using a GNSS/GPS (Leica Viva GS08) connected to OS correctional data via Leica Smart Net. A positional accuracy of within  $\pm 50\text{mm}$  (3D) was obtained using the ETRS89 to OSGM conversion via the OSTN02 projection and the OSGM Geoid.
- 1.5.7 Following hand or machine excavation, all exposed surfaces were inspected by an archaeologist. All exposed features and structures were recorded in plan and section. Where archaeological remains were encountered above the agreed formation level, machine excavation was temporarily halted to allow the remains to be investigated further, and where necessary, excavated by hand. All groundworks were monitored to ensure ground disturbance was minimised to prevent damage to any archaeology present.
- 1.5.8 Where hand excavation was required, all features, deposits and structures were excavated stratigraphically in accordance with normal professional practice. Recording of contexts was undertaken using pro forma CAT recording sheets. All hand drawn plans and sections were drawn on A3 drafting film at appropriate scales. A full digital photographic record was maintained.

## 1.6 Health, safety and welfare

- 1.6.1 Health, safety and welfare followed the CAT's (2019b) 'Company Policy and Procedural Manual for Health, Safety and Welfare'.
- 1.6.2 Site investigation works were conducted in accordance with a project-specific risk assessment and method statement (RAMS; CAT 2019c). All CAT operatives were inducted on site safety procedures before commencement of works.
- 1.6.3 All CAT operatives hold valid CSCS safety cards. CAT is a member of Constructionline and is AcclaimSSIP accredited.

## 1.7 Project Archive and data processing

- 1.7.1 The project archive has been prepared in accordance with Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: the MoRPHE project managers' guide (HE 2015) and Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (AAF 2011).
- 1.7.2 All fieldwork records have been collated, checked for consistency and a full digital copy made. Hand drawn plans and sections have been scanned and digitised using AutoCAD 2018. Photographic records have been catalogued and cross-referenced with trench records.
- 1.7.3 All retained artefacts recovered during the project have been processed, catalogued, and packaged in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation guidelines (UKIC 1990). The finds have all been washed and marked where appropriate.
- 1.7.4 Bulk finds (BF) are contained by context in polybags and stored within 'standard' (17 x 12 x 9 cubic inch,  $0.43 \times 0.30 \times 0.23\text{m}^3$ , capacity  $0.03\text{m}^3$ ) or 'half sized' (17 x 12 x 4.5 cubic inch,  $0.43 \times 0.30 \times 0.11\text{m}^3$ ,



capacity 0.015m<sup>3</sup>) brass-wire stitched museum boxes (1.9mm double kraft-lined, pH 6.5–8), both with 4-inch (0.10m) deep lift-off lids, supplied by the Ryder Box Co.

1.7.5 Registered small finds (SF) are stored in sealable plastic containers, with silica gel and a humidity indicator strip, as required.

1.7.6 A summary of the project archive by each car park locality is presented in Table 1.

*Table 1. Project archive*

		Count
Fieldwork records	Daily record sheets	11
	Context register	1
	Context records	14
Survey data	Primary drawings (A3 sheets)	0
	Annotated drawings sheets	1
	Digital survey data (.dwg)	1
Photography	Photographic register sheets	4
	Digital images (.jpg)	83
Finds	Bulk find (BF) record	2
	Registered small find (SF) record	0
Environmental	Bulk soil sample	0

1.7.7 A digital copy of the complete project archive has been compiled under the project name HMSMTC WB 18 using the CAT Integrated Archaeological Database (IADB), a secure password protected online resource available at: [http://iadb.canterburytrust.co.uk/portal\\_main.php?DB=CAT](http://iadb.canterburytrust.co.uk/portal_main.php?DB=CAT).

1.7.8 The archive is presently held on behalf of Canterbury City Museums at the offices of CAT (92a Broad Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2LU).

## 2 Results

### 2.1 Area 1

2.1.1 Area 1 was located on the south-west facing frontage of the Marlowe Theatre. The work comprised machine excavation of a trench for the installation of nineteen bollards at the nosing to the front apron of the theatre. The archaeological monitoring was conducted on 5 April 2019. The machine excavated trench formed a rough U-shape and measured approximately 26m long by 1m wide and 0.4m deep.

2.1.2 A summary of contexts is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Marlowe Theatre Area 1 context summary

Context	Type	Description	Depth (m bgl)
1001	Layer	Concrete paving slabs	0.00–0.03
1002	Layer	Type 1 concrete aggregate bedding	0.03–0.06
1003	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty clay with common light yellow coarse sand and brick fragments	0.06–0.14
1004	Layer	Light yellow white crushed concrete	0.14–0.32
1005	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty clay with common brick and concrete fragments	0.32–0.40+

2.1.3 The earliest deposit exposed comprised a mid yellow brown silty clay deposit with common brick and concrete fragments (1005), exposed at a depth of 0.32m bgl and continuing below the level of excavation. This was part sealed by a layer of light yellow-white crushed concrete (1004), exposed at a depth of 0.14m bgl. The crushed concrete was overlain by a layer of mid yellow-brown silty clay with common light yellow coarse sand and brick fragments, which was sealed by a Type 1 concrete aggregate mixed bedding (1002) for the concrete paving slabs (1001) which form the existing ground surface.

2.1.4 No finds were recovered during the monitoring works in Area 1 and no deposits with potential for the recovery of environmental data were identified.

### 2.2 Area 2

2.2.1 Area 2 was located on the service access road leading along the north-west side of the Marlowe Theatre. The groundworks comprised hand excavation of seven trenches (P1–P7) for the location of security fence posts and an associated machine-excavated cable run. The archaeological monitoring was conducted between 3 and 11 December 2018.

2.2.2 A summary of contexts is shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Marlowe Theatre Area 3 context summary

Context	Type	Description	Depth (m bgl)
2100	Layer	Brick block paving	0.00–0.10
2101	Layer	Light orange yellow coarse sand bedding	0.10–0.14
2102	Layer	Tarmacadam surface	0.14–0.20
2103	Layer	Type 1 aggregate bedding material	0.10–0.36
2104	Layer	Type 1 aggregate bedding material	0.28–0.44
2105	Wall	Concrete foundation	0.44–0.62+
2106	Layer	Fine soft grey silty clay	0.36–0.65+
2107	Layer	Compacted dark brown silty clay	0.44–0.54
2108	Wall	Chalk and flint wall	0.54+
2109	Layer	Cut for wall 108	0.54+
2110	Fill	Fill of cut 111	0.54–0.65
2111	Cut	Cut for pit	0.54–0.65
2112	Layer	Compacted reddish gravel	0.40–0.54
2113	Wall	Brick foundation offset, formed of unfrogged red stock bricks, for extant west boundary wall	0.41–0.65+

2.2.3 Trench P1 was situated adjacent to the south-east face of standing brick wall 2113, The wall forms the north-west boundary between the Marlowe Theatre and the rear of properties fronting St Peter's Lane.

The trench measured 0.6m long by 0.4m wide and 0.65m deep. The earliest feature observed was the brick offset foundation (2113) of the standing western boundary wall. The top of the foundation was encountered at a depth of 0.41m bgl. The foundation was overlain by a fine soft grey soil (2106) which was in turn overlain by a Type 1 aggregate bedding (2103) and the present surface of brick block paving (2100).

- 2.2.4 Trench P2 measured 0.8m long by 0.8m wide and 0.65m deep. A deposit (2110) thought to represent the upper fill of a pit (2111) was encountered at a depth of 0.54m. The deposit comprised dark grey ashy-silty-clay containing common animal bone, ceramic building material (CBM), flint, oyster and two sherds of pottery of thirteenth- to fourteenth-century date. The pit was sealed by a deposit of compacted dark orange brown silty clay (2107) with rare CBM, chalk and oyster. This deposit was in turn overlain by a Type 1 aggregate bedding material (2104) and (2103), a thin tarmacadam surface (2102), sand bedding (2101), and the present block paving (2100).
- 2.2.5 Trench P3 measured 0.3m long by 0.3m wide and 0.54m deep. A wall (2108) formed of chalk blocks, and possibly originally flint-faced, constructed within a foundation trench (2109), was exposed at the base of the trench. The wall was sealed by a compact mid reddish brown silty clay and gravel deposit (2112). This was in turn overlain by compact dark orange brown silty clay (2107), which was also observed in trench P2. The sequence was completed with Type 1 bedding (2103), sand bedding (2101) and the present block paving (2100).
- 2.2.6 Trench P4 measured 0.8m long by 0.8m wide and 0.62m deep. A concrete wall foundation (2105) was encountered at a depth of 0.44m bgl. This was sealed by a Type 1 aggregate bedding (2103 and 2104), tarmacadam (2102), sand bedding (2101) and the present block paving (2100).
- 2.2.7 Trenches P5 and P6 each measured 0.4m long by 0.4m wide and 0.5m deep. Trench P7 measured 0.4m long by 0.3m wide and 0.5m deep. Each of these trenches shared a sequence of Type1 aggregate bedding (2103), sand bedding (2101) and the present block paving (2100).
- 2.2.8 The cable run trench measured 7m long by 0.5m wide and 0.45m deep. The trench revealed a sequence of Type1 aggregate bedding (2103), sand bedding (2101) and the present block paving (2100).
- 2.2.9 A small quantity of finds, comprising two sherds of medieval pottery dated c AD 1200–1400 and a fragment of ceramic roof louvre or curfew cover, was recovered from the fill of pit 2111 in trench P2 (Table 4). No deposits with potential for the recovery of environmental data were identified.

Table 4. Marlow Theatre Area 2 finds archive

Find No	Context	Material	Type	Dating	Qty	Wgt (g)
BF1	2110	Pottery	Post-Roman	c AD 1200-1400	2	16
BF2	2110	Ceramic	Roof louvre or curfew cover	Medieval	1	-

## 2.3 Area 3

- 2.3.1 Area 3 was located north of the Marlowe Theatre, at a pedestrian entrance through the north-west corner of the boundary. Two fixed bollards were to be installed at the northern access point of the theatre grounds leading out to Donsway Drive and St Peter’s Lane. The archaeological works were conducted on 14 May/05/2019.
- 2.3.2 The works comprised hand excavation of a trench measuring approximately 2.5m long by 1m wide and 0.5m deep. Ground contractors had completed the excavation prior to notification of the groundworks, but a record of the excavated trench was undertaken before installation of the bollards.
- 2.3.3 A summary of contexts is shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Marlowe Theatre Area 4 context summary

Context	Type	Description	Depth (m bgl)
3001	Layer	Concrete	0.00–0.06
3002	Layer	Type 1 aggregate bedding material	0.06–0.14
3003	Wall	Brick wall, unfrogged red stock bricks laid in irregular flemish bond, 4 courses high, light yellow grey hard mortar	0.14–0.53+
3004	Floor	Brick floor, unfrogged red stock bricks, abuts wall 3004	0.53+

Context	Type	Description	Depth (m bgl)
3005	Wall	Brick wall, unfrogged red stock bricks laid in regular flemish bond 5 courses high, lower course offset by 0.04m, light yellow grey hard mortar	0.14–0.53+
3006	Layer	Tarmacadam surface	0.00–0.05
3007	Layer	Mid olive yellow coarse sand bedding	0.05–0.11
3008	Layer	Concrete, sandstone paving and brick rubble fragments	0.11–0.25
3009	Fill	Fill of utility trench 3014	0.11–0.53+
3010	Cut	Utility trench, aligned N-S	0.11–0.53+
3011	Layer	Mid olive-brown silty clay with rare CBM, subangular flint, chalk and charcoal	0.25–0.44
3012	Layer	Mid orange-brown sandy clay with abundant subrounded flint	0.44–0.50
3013	Layer	Mid orange-brown silty clay, common small CBM, chalk, subangular flint, charcoal and mortar	0.50–0.53+

- 2.3.4 The earliest deposits comprised a sequence of soil horizons (3013, 3012 and 3011), representing probable post-medieval garden/horticultural soils. Brick wall 3005, aligned north-west to south-east, extended along the north-east side of the excavated trench, truncated soil layer 3011, and was abutted on its south-west face by brick floor (3004). This floor 3004 was overlain by brick wall 3003, which was aligned perpendicular to wall 3005 and abutted its south-west face.
- 2.3.5 A modern utility trench (3010), aligned north-west to south-east, truncated wall 3005. This was overlain by a layer of concrete, broken sandstone paving and brick rubble fragments (3008), capped by a coarse sand bedding deposit (3007) for the existing tarmacadam surface (3007) to the south-west, and a Type 1 aggregate bedding material (3002) for a concrete surface (3001) to the north-east.
- 2.3.6 No finds were recovered during the monitoring works in Area 3 and no deposits with potential for the recovery of environmental data were identified.

## 2.4 Discussion

- 2.4.1 The earliest archaeological features comprised the possible pit (2111) identified in Area 2 trench P2, and the masonry wall (2108) recorded in Area 3 trench P3. Both are likely to be of medieval date, with pottery of the thirteenth to fourteenth century recovered from the pit.
- 2.4.2 Pit 2111 was sealed by a compacted soil deposit, possibly representing post-medieval garden/horticultural soils.
- 2.4.3 Wall 2108 was sealed by a compacted gravel deposit (2112), perhaps representing a post-medieval surface.
- 2.4.4 A poured concrete foundation recorded in Area 2 trench P4 may be associated with a foundation for the 1930s Odeon Cinema.
- 2.4.5 In Area 3, the sequence of soil horizons (30013, 3012, 3011) corresponded with gardens illustrated on the 1874 OS map, while a brick structure, represented by wall 3005, brick floor 3004 and internal partition wall 3003, are probably associated with a glasshouse, also shown at this location on the same map.
- 2.4.6 Area 1, and the remaining Area 3 trench deposits, were all of modern date and appear to be associated with ground formation as part of the redevelopment of the Marlowe Theatre in 2009.

## 3 Conclusion

### 3.1 Significance and research potential

- 3.1.1 The archaeological works identified archaeology of medieval and post-medieval date. This was limited to Area 2, where groundworks extended to a depth below modern ground formation deposits associated with redevelopment of the Marlowe Theatre in 2009, and Area 3, which was located north of significant 2009 redevelopment impacts.
- 3.1.2 A summary of the archaeological results and assessment of the significance of the data is shown in Table 6. Assessment of the significance was constrained by the limited depth and extent of the monitored groundworks. The level of significance, where significance refers to the value of the heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest (NPPF 2019, 71) is based on criteria set out in Appendix 1.

Table 6. Summary of archaeological results

Location	Description	Minimum depth (m bgl)	Period	Significance
Area 1	Ground formation deposits associated with 2009 redevelopment	0.00–0.40	Modern	Negligible
Area 2	Masonry chalk and flint wall	0.54	Medieval	Low
	Refuse pit	0.54	Medieval	Low
	Gravel surface	0.40	Post-medieval	Negligible
	Garden/horticultural soil	0.44	Post-medieval	Negligible
	Brick offset wall foundation to standing west boundary wall	0.41	Post-medieval	Negligible
	Ground formation deposits associated with 2009 redevelopment	0.00–0.44	Modern	Negligible
Area 3	Garden/horticultural soil	0.25	Post-medieval	Negligible
	Brick structure, probable glasshouse	0.14	Post-medieval	Negligible

### 3.2 Publication

- 3.2.1 The recovered archaeological data is not considered to hold sufficient research potential to warrant publication.
- 3.2.2 The potential to refine the project results from the existing project data is considered low. No further work is recommended.

### 3.3 OASIS

- 3.3.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record has been created for the project (Appendix 2).
- 3.3.2 The OASIS record will be submitted to the Canterbury UAD and the KHER.
- 3.3.3 The present report will be available online as an open-access pdf file via the Archaeology Data Service website (<https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>).

### 3.4 Conclusion

- 3.4.1 The archaeological works successfully met the principal objective, as set out in the WSI: to ensure the preservation by record of the buried archaeological resource where the scheme would result in its permanent loss.

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## Appendix 1. Significance Criteria

Value	Examples
Very High	<p>World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments of exceptional quality, or assets of acknowledged international importance or can contribute to international research objectives.</p> <p>Grade I Listed Buildings and built heritage of exceptional quality.</p> <p>Grade I Registered Parks and Gardens and historic landscapes and townscapes of international sensitivity, or extremely well-preserved historic landscapes and townscapes with exceptional coherence, integrity, time-depth, or other critical factor(s).</p>
High	<p>Scheduled Monuments, or assets of national quality and importance or that can contribute to national research objectives.</p> <p>Grade II* and Grade II Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas with very strong character and integrity, other built heritage that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical association.</p> <p>Grade II* and II Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and historic landscapes and townscapes of outstanding interest, quality and importance, or well preserved and exhibiting considerable coherence, integrity time-depth or other critical factor(s).</p>
Medium	<p>Designated or undesignated assets of regional quality and importance that contribute to regional research objectives.</p> <p>Locally Listed Buildings, other Conservation Areas, historic buildings that can be shown to have good qualities in their fabric or historical association.</p> <p>Designated or undesignated special historic landscapes and townscapes with reasonable coherence, integrity, time-depth or other critical factor(s).</p> <p>Assets that form an important resource within the community, for educational or recreational purposes.</p>
Low	<p>Undesignated assets of local importance.</p> <p>Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations but with potential to contribute to local research objectives.</p> <p>Historic (unlisted) buildings of modest quality in their fabric or historical association. Historic landscapes and townscapes with limited sensitivity or whose sensitivity is limited by poor preservation, historic integrity and/or poor survival of contextual associations.</p> <p>Assets that form a resource within the community with occasional utilisation for educational or recreational purposes.</p>
Negligible	<p>Assets with very little or no surviving cultural heritage interest. Buildings of no architectural or historical note. Landscapes and townscapes that are badly fragmented and the contextual associations are severely compromised or have little or no historical interest.</p>

## Appendix 2. OASIS Record

OASIS ID (UID)	canterbu3-508172
Project Name	Hostile Mitigation Scheme, Marlowe Theatre, The Friars, Canterbury. Watching Brief
Site Name	Hostile Mitigation Scheme, Marlowe Theatre, The Friars, Canterbury
Activity type	Watching Brief
Project Identifier(s)	Hostile Mitigation Scheme, Marlowe Theatre, The Friars, Canterbury
Planning Id	-
Reason For Investigation	Scheduled monument consent
Organisation Responsible for work	Canterbury Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	03-Dec-2018 - 14-May-2019
Location	Hostile Mitigation Scheme, Marlowe Theatre, The Friars, Canterbury NGR : TR 14806 58045 LL : 51.281029359295, 1.07872959348272 12 Fig : 614806,158045
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Kent District : Canterbury Parish : Canterbury, unparished area
Project Methodology	Archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks conducted during installation of bollards and security gate associated with Hostile Mitigation Scheme
Project Results	<p>An archaeological watching brief was conducted between 3 December 2018 and 14 May 2019, during installation of a hostile mitigation scheme at the Marlowe Theatre, The Friars, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2AS (centred NGR 614806 158045). The watching brief was requested by East Kent Engineering Partnership on behalf of Canterbury City Council.</p> <p>The Marlowe Theatre lies within the Canterbury Area of Archaeological Importance and within a Scheduled Monument: the Dominican Friary complex of Blackfriars (NHLE 1005491). Previous archaeological investigations in the area have revealed evidence for Roman, medieval and post-medieval occupation.</p> <p>Monitored groundworks were conducted in three localities within the theatre grounds: Area 1 comprised machine excavation of a single trench for the installation of nineteen bollards enclosing the front apron of the theatre; Area 2 comprised hand excavation of seven trenches for the installation of a new security gate on the west side of the theatre; and Area 3 comprised the hand excavation of a single trench for the installation of two bollards to the north of the theatre, at a pedestrian entrance through the north-west boundary. An original proposal for additional bollards to be located along the frontage of The Friars was not carried out.</p> <p>Archaeological remains of medieval date, comprising a potential masonry wall and a refuse pit were identified in Area 2, at a depth of 0.54m bgl. Post-medieval garden/horticultural soils and a gravel surface were also recorded in Area 2, at a depth of between 0.40m and 0.44m bgl. Post-medieval garden soils and a brick founded</p>



OASIS ID (UID)

canterbu3-508172

glasshouse were recorded in Area 3 at a depth of between 0.15m and 0.25m bgl. These correspond with the use of the grounds as formal gardens during the nineteenth century, as illustrated on a First Edition Ordnance Survey 1:500 map published in 1874. Part of a concrete foundation recorded in Area 2 potentially related to the former Odeon Cinema, constructed on the site in 1933.

Ground formation deposits associated with the redevelopment of the Marlowe Theatre in 2009 were recorded in Areas 1 and 2, with modern impacts extending to depths of between 0.40m and 0.44m bgl.

The archaeological works successfully met the principal objective: to ensure the preservation by record of the buried archaeological resource where the scheme would result in its permanent loss. While the results contribute to the local heritage knowledge of Canterbury, further analysis of the data is not presently recommended.

Keywords	Wall - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Rubbish Pit - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Garden - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Glasshouse - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Boundary Wall - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	
HER	Kent HER - unRev - STANDARD Canterbury UAD - unRev - STANDARD Scheduled Monument Casework - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	R Helm, D Robertson, T Wilson, L O'Shea-Walker
HER Identifiers	-
Archives	Physical archive, documentary archive and digital archive to be deposited with Canterbury Museums & Galleries



Photo 1. Marlowe Theatre Area 1, bollard installation trench location, looking south (no scale)



Photo 2. Marlowe Theatre Area 1 bollard installation trench, looking south (scale 0.5m)



Photo 3. Marlowe Theatre Area 1 bollard installation trench, looking north (scale 0.5m)



Photo 4. Marlowe Theatre Area 1 bollard installation trench, sample section detail showing modern ground formation deposit, looking west (scale 0.5m)



Photo 5. Marlowe Theatre Area 2 security gate installation location, looking north-east (no scale)



Photo 6. Marlowe Theatre Area 2 security gate installation trench P1, looking north-west (no scale)



Photo 7. Marlowe Theatre Area 2 security gate installation trench P2, looking south-east (scale 0.5m)



Photo 8. Marlowe Theatre Area 2 security gate installation trench P3, looking north-west (no scale)



Photo 9. Marlowe Theatre Area 2 security gate installation trench P4, looking south-west (scale 0.5m)



Photo 10. Marlowe Theatre Area 2 security gate installation trench P5, south-west (no scale)



Photo 11. Marlowe Theatre Area 3 bollard installation trench, looking north-west (scale 0.5m)



Photo 12. Marlowe Theatre Area 3 bollard installation trench, brick floor 3004, looking south-west (scale 0.5m)

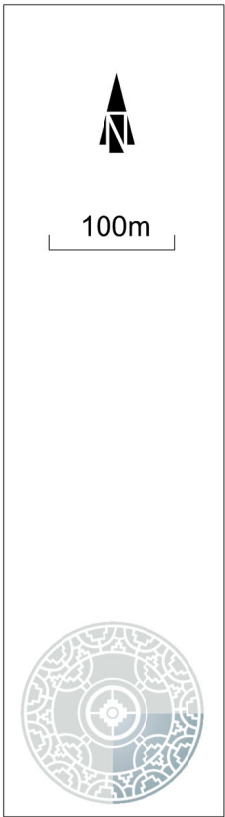


Photo 13. Marlowe Theatre Area 3 bollard installation trench, brick wall 3003 and brick floor 3004, looking north-east (scale 0.5m)



Photo 14. Marlowe Theatre Area 3 bollard installation trench, brick floor 3004 and brick wall 3005, looking south-east (scale 0.5m)





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Figure 1. Location map

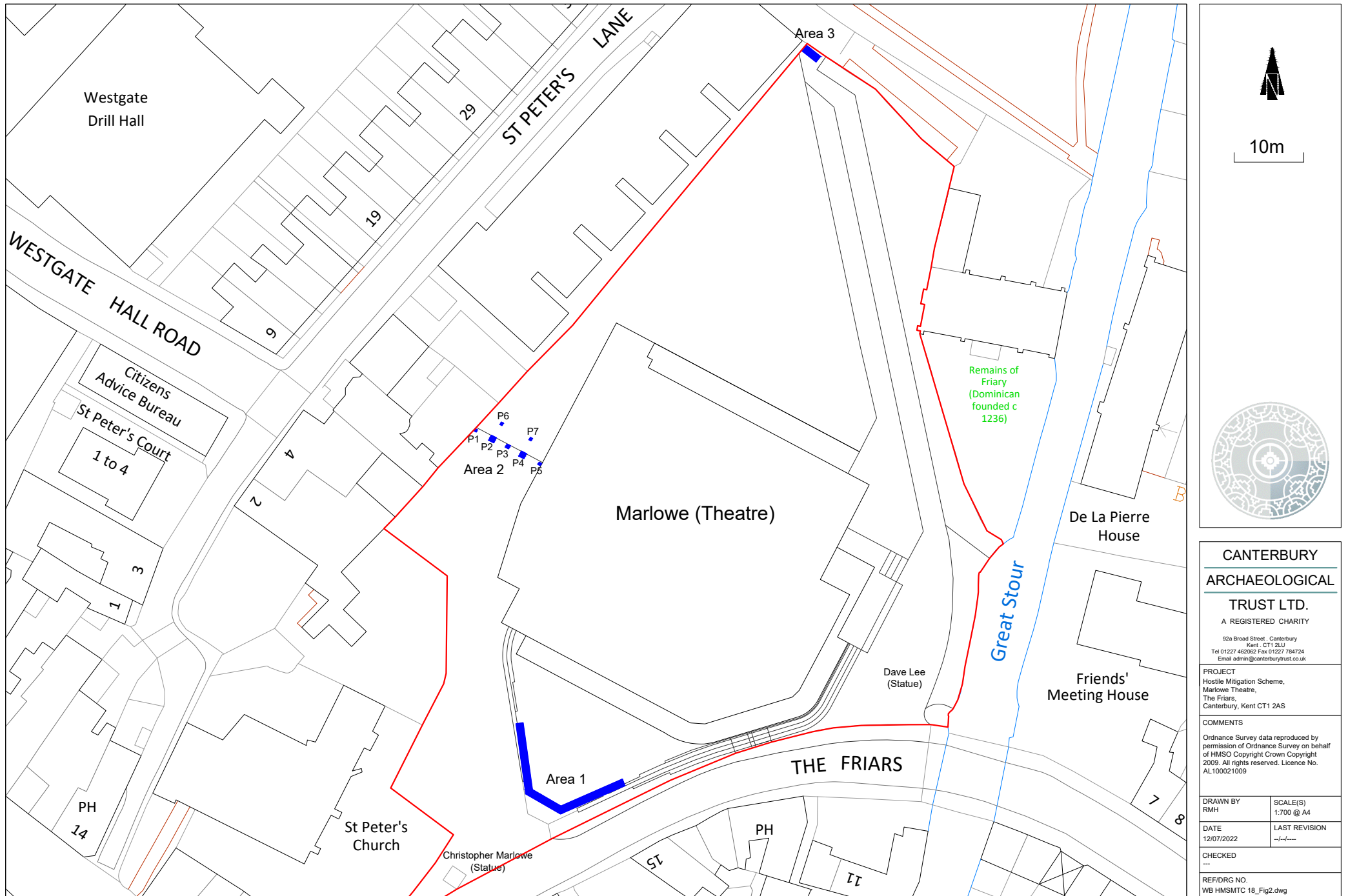


Figure 2. Marlowe Theatre, intervention locations

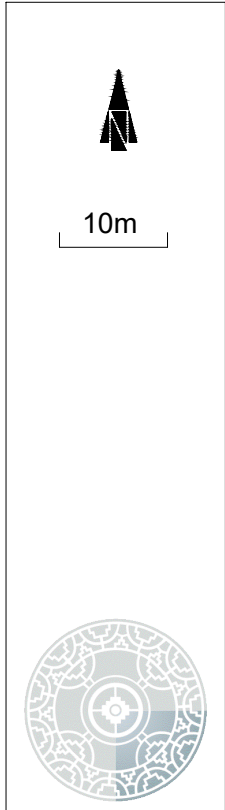
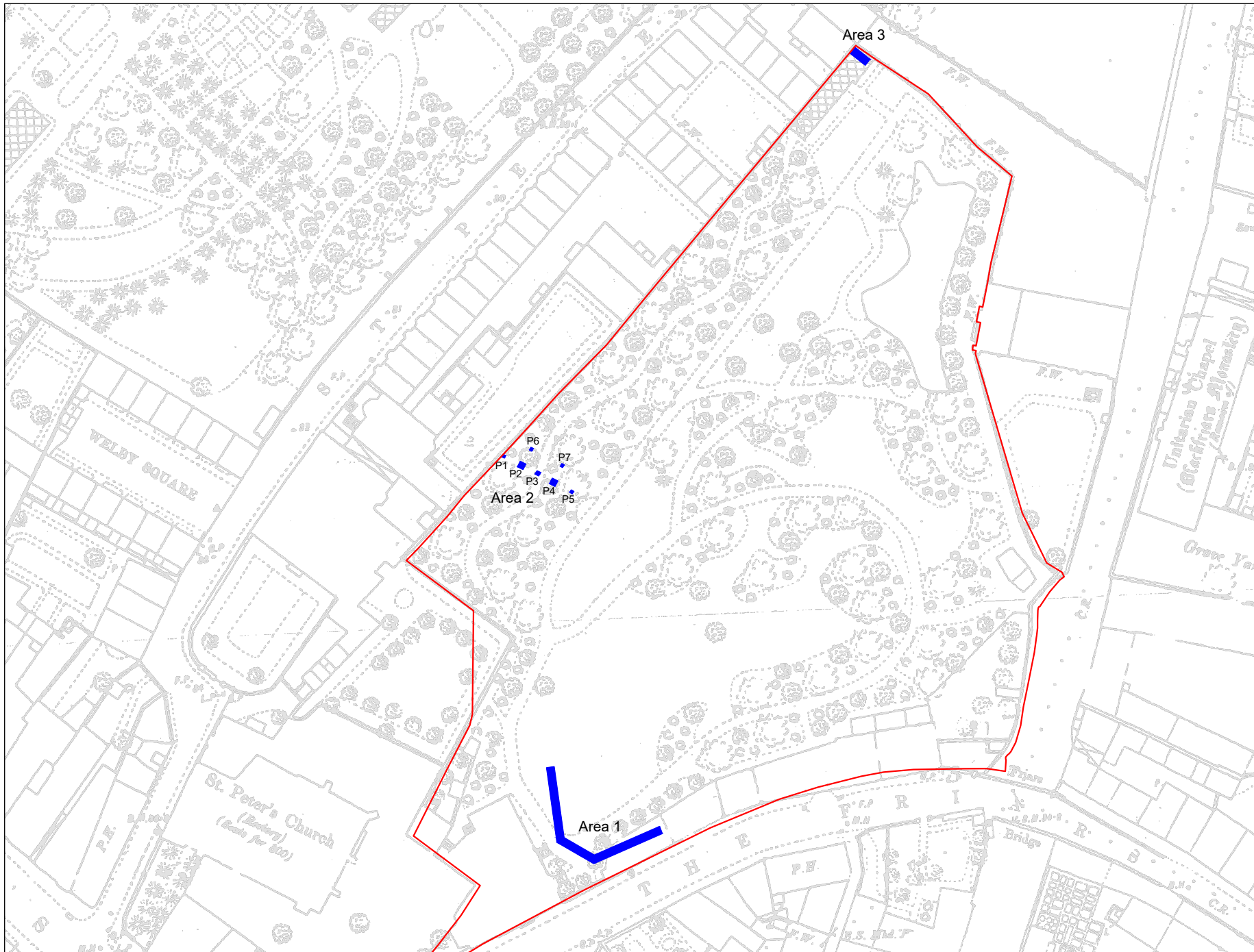
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Figure 3. Marlowe Theatre, 1874 Ordnance Survey map