

LAND ADJACENT TO WILLIAM HARVEY HOSPITAL, KENNINGTON ROAD, ASHFORD

Archaeological Trial Trenching
Prepared for: Care UK

SLR Ref: 402.02498.00011.0028
Version No: v1
August 2017





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Acknowledgements

SLR is grateful for the assistance of Wendy Rogers of the Kent County Council. SLR would also like to thank Richard Smith of Care UK for commissioning the work. The field work was undertaken by Stephen Lancaster and John Winfer of SLR Consulting, with the report compiled by Stephen Lancaster and Andy Bates, with illustrations by Caroline Malim.

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SLR is a Registered Organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). SLR undertakes work to the highest professional standards. This statement has been produced with reference to the CIfA's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2014). SLR operates a quality management system to ensure all projects are managed in a professional and transparent manner; this qualifies the organisation for ISO 9001:2000.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Planning Background and Work Programme

The client, Care UK, received conditional planning permission (16/01136/AS) to develop land adjacent to the William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, Kent (Figure 1) as a facility for the care for elderly, intermediate care, specialist care services for high acuity residence, and keyworker accommodation. The proposed development is over with three floors with a basement. As part of the planning application, SLR Consulting were commissioned and produce a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (SLR 2016), which was submitted as part of the planning application.

The Senior Archaeological Officer (SAO) at Kent County Council (KCC) indicated the need for an archaeological evaluation (site investigation), and subsequent mitigation work if archaeological remains are found of sufficient heritage significance to merit this. As a result the following planning condition was included in its consent:

'Prior to the commencement of development the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, will secure and implement:

- 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 further archaeological investigation, recording and reporting, determined by the results of the evaluation, in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority*

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.'

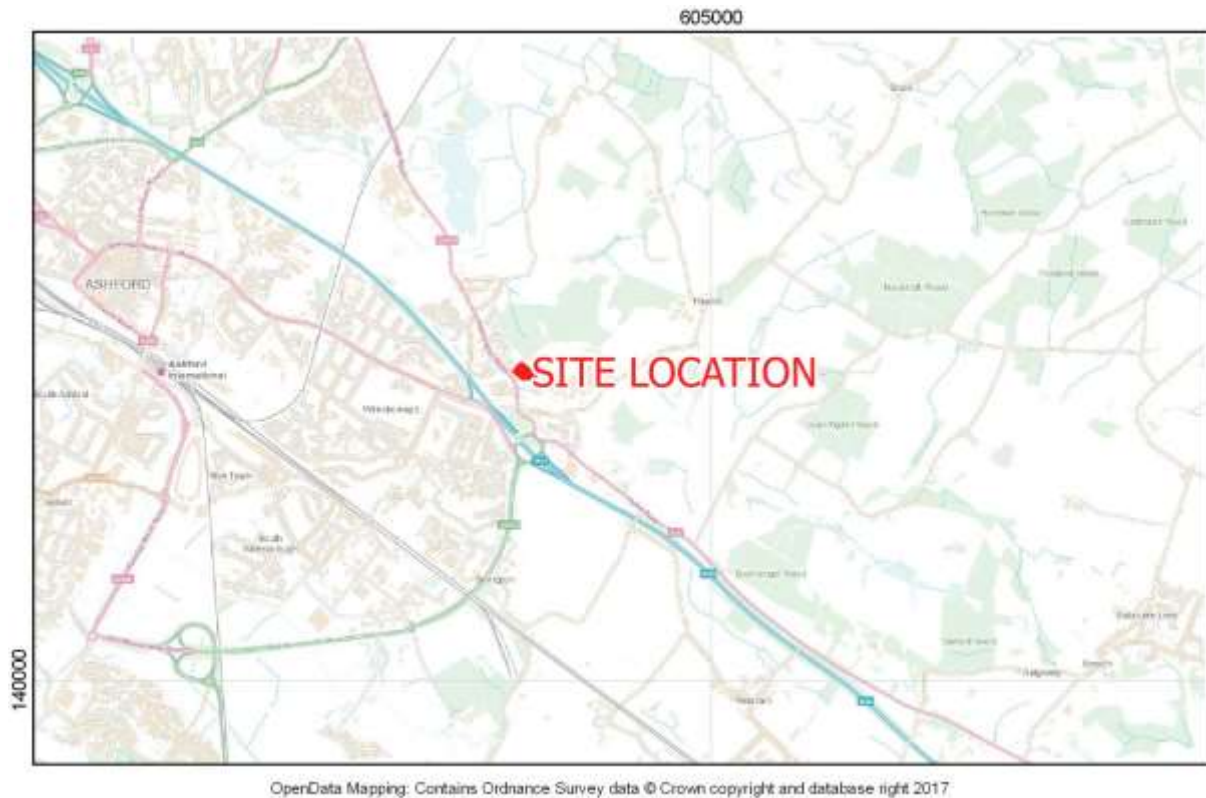
These works would be in compliance with paragraphs 128, 129 and 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). In response, the client has commissioned SLR Consulting to design a scheme of archaeological work that was submitted in March 2017 (SLR 2017). Following its approval by KCC's SAO, Care UK commissioned SLR Consulting to implement the agreed programme of archaeological work.

This report details the results of the archaeological trial trenching and geoarchaeological test pits that were undertaken in accordance with the WSI in June of 2017 (SLR 2017).

1.2 Site Location

The application site is a development plot adjacent to the William Harvey Hospital, centred on NGR 603712, 142124 (Figure 1). It measures c 1 hectare in size and was under vegetation at the time the work was undertaken. To the north east of the proposed development lies a second plot of land currently under development as an intermediate care and support centre. To the south east of the application boundary is an access road, beyond which is the William Harvey Hospital. To the south west is more land under vegetation, beyond which is the A2070. Immediately to the north west of the application site is an area of woodland.

Figure 1: Site Location



The M20 between Folkstone and Maidstone lies c 250m to the west of the application site. The village of Willesborough lies to the south west and the town of Ashford to the north west. The application site is close to the edge of currently developed land associated with these two settlements.

1.3 Geological and Topographic Background

The underlying solid geology of the application site comprises sandstone of the Folkstone Formation, formed in shallow seas c 100 to 125 million years ago during the Cretaceous period. Overlying the solid geology within either part or across the entire application site are sand and gravels of river terraces, deposited in the last 3 million years during the Quaternary period. A review of the British Geological Society web portal produced no borehole logs within the immediate environs of the application site that were not listed as confidential. Ground investigation works carried out by SLR Consulting Ltd in November 2016 suggested between 0.3m and 0.9m of made ground overly the site comprising reworked topsoil and in places reworked subsoil.

Much of the region has been urbanised by the development of Ashford, Maidstone and Folkstone with both major road and rail transport routes. The River Stour is located c 900m to the north of the application site, which drains into the North Sea at Pagwell Bay near Ramsgate. The surrounding rural area comprises small to medium sized fields, utilised as both arable land and pasture, with dispersed farmsteads and nucleated villages. Large houses with extensive parklands and gardens are found throughout the region (Natural England 2013).

2.0 Brief History and Archaeological Background

The desk-based assessment produced by SLR provided a study of all designated cultural heritage assets within 2km of the site boundary, and non-designated sites drawn from the Historic Environment Record within 1km of the site boundary. The below background information provides selected information from this study. In addition the SAO at KCC stated that 'The site lies within an area of archaeological potential associated with prehistoric activity. River Terrace Gravels known on the site, have potential for Palaeolithic stone artefacts and palaeoenvironmental remains (seeds, molluscs, bone etc). A Neolithic arrowhead has been found to the west and the site lies within an area overlooking a river valley, favourable places for prehistoric activity.'¹ Where appropriate, the Historic Environment Record's monument number (MKE) and Historic England's National Heritage List for England (NHLE) number are provided.

2.1 Prehistoric

Sites attributed to the prehistoric periods are rare. The HER records the finding of two Neolithic artefacts within the inner study area. An arrow head (MKE3943) was recovered from Willesborough Lees c 270m to the west of the application boundary. A polished flint axe (MKE3953) was recovered from Willesborough, c 910m to the south west of the application boundary.

2.2 Roman

The HER records the finding of a gold Roman coin (MKE55696) c 830m to the north east of the application boundary, also recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme. There is some ambiguity in the HER concerning the date of the coin, which it also records as of an early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon date. It seems likely that this is the Roman coin recorded as KENTDEF360 by the Portable Antiquities Scheme database, although they do not provide its location.

2.3 Medieval and Post-Medieval

There are seven buildings recorded by the HER attributed to the medieval or early post-medieval period, all of which are Listed Buildings. The Church of St Mary the Virgin (MKE22419; NHLE 1233902) is a Grade II* Listed Building c 950m to the south west of the application boundary. Its origins date back to the Anglo-Saxon period, when it was part of the monastery of St Augustine in Canterbury. Adjacent to the church is Court Lodge (MKE23268; NHLE 1362849), a Grade II Listed Building. Amongst the other medieval and post-medieval buildings are two Grade II listed 15th century barns (MKE23057; NHLE 1071043). Opposite the church, c 890m to the south west of the application boundary is The William Harvey Public House, a 15th or 16th century timber framed building which is also a Grade II Listed Building (MKE21729; NHLE 1184765). Buildings 124 and 126, The Street (MKE22248; NHLE 1362853) is a 15th century farmhouse located c 440m to the south east of the application boundary. Walnut Tree House (MKE21373; NHLE 1071057) is a 16th century timber framed building located c 600m to the south east of the application boundary. Both of these lie within Lacton Conservation Area.

14 and 18 Blackwell Road are thought to be a late medieval timber hall, now divided into two cottages (MKE23438; NHLE 1184225). The building is located c 760m to the north west of the application boundary. Shepway is a restored 16th century timber house, located c 710m to the north west of the application boundary (MKE23572; NHLE 1362856). Both of these buildings lie within Willesborough Lees Conservation Area.

¹ Response to planning application 16/01136/AS accessed at: <http://planning.ashford.gov.uk/Planning/IDOX/default.aspx?docid=1418803>

The HER records a further 10 post-medieval farmsteads which are not listed buildings. They have undergone varying degrees of alterations, with the exception of the buildings at Lees Farm (MKE87369) which is in its original form. The buildings and farmhouse at Little Lacton (MKE87376; MKE21393) and a 19th century barn (MKE22239) were entirely demolished to make way for the M20 in the 1980's

Most of these farmsteads are recorded as c AD 1800 in date, with the exception of Lees Farm and Simmerhill (MKE87374) which are recorded as c AD 1600 in date; a farmstead called Rosemary (MKE87370), Lacton House (MKE87375) and Lacton Hall (MKE87377) which are recorded as c 1700 in date.

Willesborough Windmill (NHLE 1184561) is 19th century Grade II* listed, located within Willesborough 530m to the west of the Site. The former Willesborough hospital (MKE17395) was constructed in 1837 as a workhouse, c 300m to the north west of the Site, converted to a hospital in c 1947. It is currently utilised for office space.

2.4 Undated

The crop marks (MKE44340) of a field system or drainage system have been identified from aerial photography. The HER recorded that 18th century sketches of the area depict a road which would have been parallel to these crop marks. Similar marking to the south of Hinxhill Road have also been identified. These are mirrored by the trees of former boundaries depicted in 19th century maps of the area, and may be of a pre-parliamentary enclosure field system. It seems likely that the crop marks under discussion here also relate to a pre-parliamentary enclosure field system.

3.0 Methodology

3.1 Standards

All work was carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), and in accordance with the following guidance and generally excepted best practise:

- Kent County Council Manual of Specifications Part B: Evaluation and Trial Trenching Requirements
- Kent County Council Specification for Geoarchaeological Test Pitting
- Archaeological Archives Forum 2007 (revised 2011) : Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation;
- ClfA, 2014: Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation;
- Society of Museum Archaeologists 1995: Towards An Accessible Archive; and
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (Archaeology Section) 1990: Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage.

3.2 Aims and Objectives

3.2.1 Aims

There were three main aims detailed in the WSI:

- to contribute to establishing the extent and significance of any archaeological remains which may exist within the Site;
- to assess the impact on the heritage significance of archaeological remains from the proposed development; and
- to establish the presence or otherwise of any river terrace gravels below the site and thus Palaeolithic potential or residual Palaeolithic flint.

3.2.2 Objectives

The specific objectives of the programme of work were defined in the WSI as follows:

- to undertake geoarchaeological investigation to establish the nature and date of the general deposit–sequence on the site;
- to establish the nature, date, extent and condition of preservation of any man-made archaeological features or remains which may be present on the site;
- to investigate the inter-action between human and natural activity within the site; and
- to provide an appropriate level of information for planning further mitigation in the form of open area excavation or watching brief (if required).

3.3 Trial Trenching

Four trial trenches were excavated measuring 25m in length and 1.8m wide, equating to a 4% sample of the total development area, using a backhoe loader mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket. The machine operated under close archaeological supervision down to the first archaeological

or natural deposits, which ever was encountered first. Great care was exercised to identify any buried soils, colluvium, or other archaeological deposits which might lie over the subsoil. All spoil was scanned for artefacts.

Archaeological features were examined by the excavation on interventions into them using the following strategies:

- small discrete features were to be initially half-sectioned (50% excavated), and following recording fully excavated;
- larger discrete features were half-sectioned; and
- linear features were sample excavated along their length – with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.

One long face of each trench was cleaned to allow the site stratigraphy to be understood and for the identification of archaeological features.

Investigation of features at the trench limits included hand cleaning of the trenches long section either side of the feature, for a distance of at least 1m from the feature edge. This was done to identify and record potential remnant bank deposits or other associated deposits, and to record and gain an understanding of the overlying stratigraphy.

Recording comprised a full description and preliminary classification of the deposits and materials revealed on SLR Consulting pro-forma sheets. Plans and Sections were drawn at appropriate scales (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). The photographic record comprised digital colour format.

The trial trenches were located in respect of the Ordnance Survey Grid using a Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS).

3.4 Geoarchaeological Test Pits

After recording of the original trenches a geoarchaeological test pit was machine excavated in two stages. The initial stage was excavated to approximately 1 m below ground level to allow the pit to be entered for cleaning and recording. Once this was completed each pit was deepened to approximately 2 m below ground. The pit was not re-entered, but observations were recorded and pit photographed from the edge of the pit.

The recording was undertaken by a geoarchaeologist, with regard taken to identifying and sampling any deposits with the potential for further analysis

The machine excavated spoil from the pit was segregated into separate piles according to sediment type or spit depth where a deposit was of considerable depth. This allowed suitable sediments to be passed through a 10mm mesh sieve. Approximately 100l of sediment from each suitable deposit or 250mm spit of a thick deposit was sieved in this way.

3.5 Archive

The results of the evaluation and geoarchaeological test pits will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with:

- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (Archaeology Section) (1990). Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage;
- Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation Archaeological Archives Forum 2007 (revised 2011); and

- The Society of Museum Archaeologists. Towards An Accessible Archive;

There is currently no suitable archive within Kent. SLR will hold the archive for up to five years. If, after this period, no suitable archive has become available the archive will be returned to the owner or disposed of. In addition, a copy of the report will be made available to the National Archaeological Record, and the Arts and Humanities Data Service (ADHS) online database project Online Access to index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

4.0 Results of the Trial Trenching

Four trenches were excavated across the application site (Drawing 1), in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). Each trench measured 25m in length and 1.8m wide, with the exception of Trench B. Trench B was extended to the south east by a further 5.25m, and 8m of its final length at this end widened to 3m. A summary of the results is presented below, with detailed context descriptions provided in Appendix 1.

4.1 Trench A

Trench A was aligned northeast / southwest, close to the southwestern boundary of the application site (Plate 1). It measured 25m in length and 1.8m wide. The overlying topsoil, layer 100, measured 0.3m thick below which the underlying natural subsoil 101 was encountered. No archaeological features were located within the trench.

Plate 1: Trench A, looking southwest



4.2 Trench B

Trench B was excavated on a northeast / southwest orientation, parallel to the north eastern boundary of the application site. Initially the excavated trench measured 25m in length and 1.8m wide. At its south eastern end the trench was extended by 5.25m, making a total length of 30.25m, and for 8m of its length widened to 3m (Figure 2 and Plate 2) in order to investigate feature 102. The topsoil, layer 100, was excavated to a depth of 0.3m below which natural subsoil was located.

Figure 2: Features in Trench B

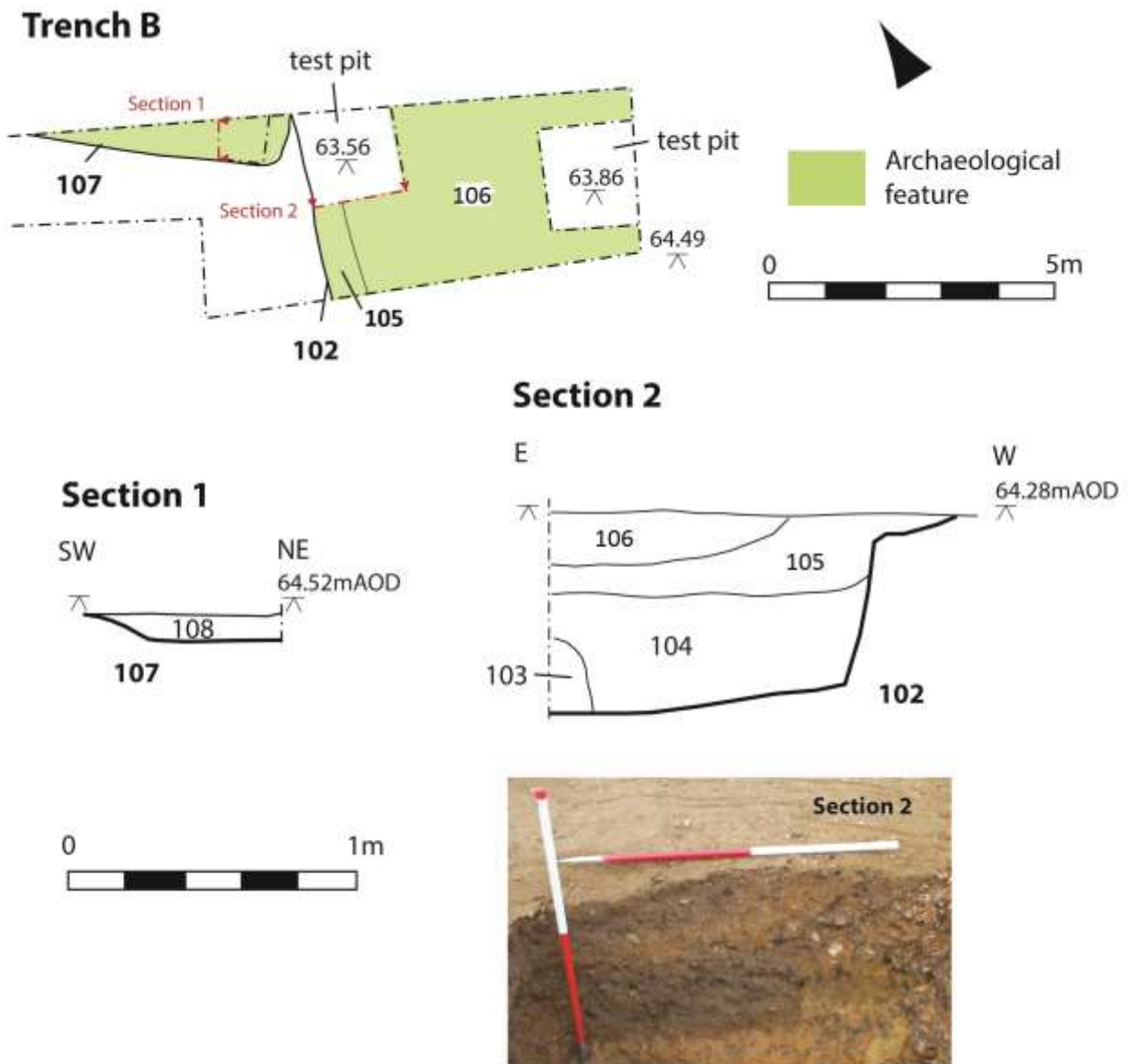


Plate 2: Trench B, looking northwest



Two features were identified in the south eastern end of the trench (Figure 2). The earliest feature on site was a shallow linear feature (107) (Plate 3). It measured 5m in length and 0.9m wide within the trench, continuing beyond the north eastern limit of excavation. Its only fill, deposit 108, comprised brown grey silty sand which appeared to be derived from the surrounding soils. The depth of the deposit, and feature, measured 0.1m deep. Very little of the feature was visible archaeologically, but it is described as having a flat base. The feature is interpreted as the base of a gully or shallow ditch.

Plate 3: Linear feature 107, looking northwest



Context 107 appeared to have been truncated by Context 102. Context 102 was located in the south eastern 5m of the trench, and present across the width of trench. It extended beyond the sides and the south eastern end of the trench, though in the profile recorded in Geoarchaeological Test Pit B this deposit had thinned down to a thickness of approximately 0.09m. The cut of the feature had a flat base and straight, sloping, sides (Plate 4). It contained four deposits, Contexts 103, 104, 105 and 106 (Figure 2), derived from surrounding soils, natural subsoil or a mixture of the two, which are considered to have been backfilled into the feature. A small

amount of ceramic material was recovered from the fills of this feature (see Appendix 2 for the ceramic assessment report). The ceramic material included a fragment of brick, fragments of tile and vessel sherds. One of the tile fragments (from Context 104) has been dated to the Roman period, with the vessels sherds from this context tentatively dated to the medieval period. The brick fragment was recovered from Context 105: both have been tentatively dated to the Roman or medieval periods. The other probable tile fragment (Context 106) has been tentatively dated to the medieval period.

Plate 4: Feature 102, looking southwest



4.3 Trench C

Trench C was positioned on a northeast / southwest alignment in the south eastern part of the application site, measuring 25m in length and 1.8m wide (Plate 5). Topsoil 100 was excavated to a depth of 0.3m, whereupon natural subsoil 101 was encountered. No archaeological features were located within the trench.

Plate 5: Trench C, looking southwest



4.4 Trench D

Trench D excavated on a northwest / southeast alignment parallel to the southwestern side of the application area. Topsoil 100 was excavated to a depth of 0.32m to reveal the underlying natural subsoil, 101. No archaeological features were present within the trench (Plate 6).

Plate 6: Trench D, looking northwest



5.0 Results of the Geoarchaeological Test Pits

In addition to the topsoil and subsoil (Contexts 100 and 101 respectively) one deposit was identified in all of the test pits recorded on the site, Context 900, and one in two of the test pits, Context 901.

Context 900 consisted of a yellow to orange coloured moderately to well sorted medium grained sand, with very rare clasts. It contained occasional to rare small (0.5x3 cm approx.) lenses of slightly silty sand. It was penetrated by sub-vertical infills of material resembling Context 900, probably root or earthworm infills.

Context 901 consisted of a poorly to moderately sorted sandy silt with clasts. The deposit was generally matrix supported but had small areas of clast supported material. The clasts were predominantly of flint, with rare examples of limestone. Clast sizes varied between 1-12 cm across, though most were in the range 3-6 cm. Clast distribution was generally random with occasional clusters. There were also rare lenses of grey sand with flint grit. The deposit was coloured orange brown, turned to grey brown after exposure.

In Geoarchaeological Test Pit A, the sequence of Contexts was Contexts 100, 101, 900, 904, 901, 900 and 905. Contexts 904 and 905 were only recorded in quantity in this test pit. Context 904 consisted of a moderately sorted grey clay sand to clay, with clasts ranging from shattered flint 'grit' (0.3-0.6 cm) to flint nodules (2-8cm), forming thin curved layers, thickening in places to approximately 7-10 cm. Context 905 consisted of a very well sorted fine sand, with rare clasts, in the form of rounded gravel, mainly of flints, with occasional limestone, 1-3 cm in size. The repetition of Context 900 in the sequence reflects the structure that the deposits form part of (see Plate 7). This feature is interpreted as part of a periglacial involution feature, a type of feature created by refreezing of the active layer in tundra conditions exerting downward pressure on the lower, still mobile, sediments, that are sitting over the solid permafrost leading to the characteristic upthrust form of the involution as the still mobile sediments deform (Collard 1988, Evans and Benn 2004).

Plate 7: Geoarchaeological Test Pit A, Involution Feature in Image Centre



Geoarchaeological Test Pit B the sequence of natural deposits consisted of Contexts 100, 101, and 900, however archaeological features were also present within this sequence.

Plate 8: Geoarchaeological Test Pit B



In Geoarchaeological Test Pit C, the sequence of natural deposits was Contexts 100, 101, 901 and 900.

Plate 9: Geoarchaeological Test Pit C



In Geoarchaeological Test Pit D, the recorded sequence of natural deposits consists of Contexts 100, 101, 902, 903 and 900. Context 902 consisted of a grey yellow fined to medium grade sand, moderately to well sorted, with occasional to common clasts, predominantly of flint (1-4 cm across). Context 903 consisted of a yellow brown coarse sand, moderately sorted, with common to frequent clasts, predominantly of flint (2-8 cm across).

Plate 10: Geoarchaeological Test Pit D

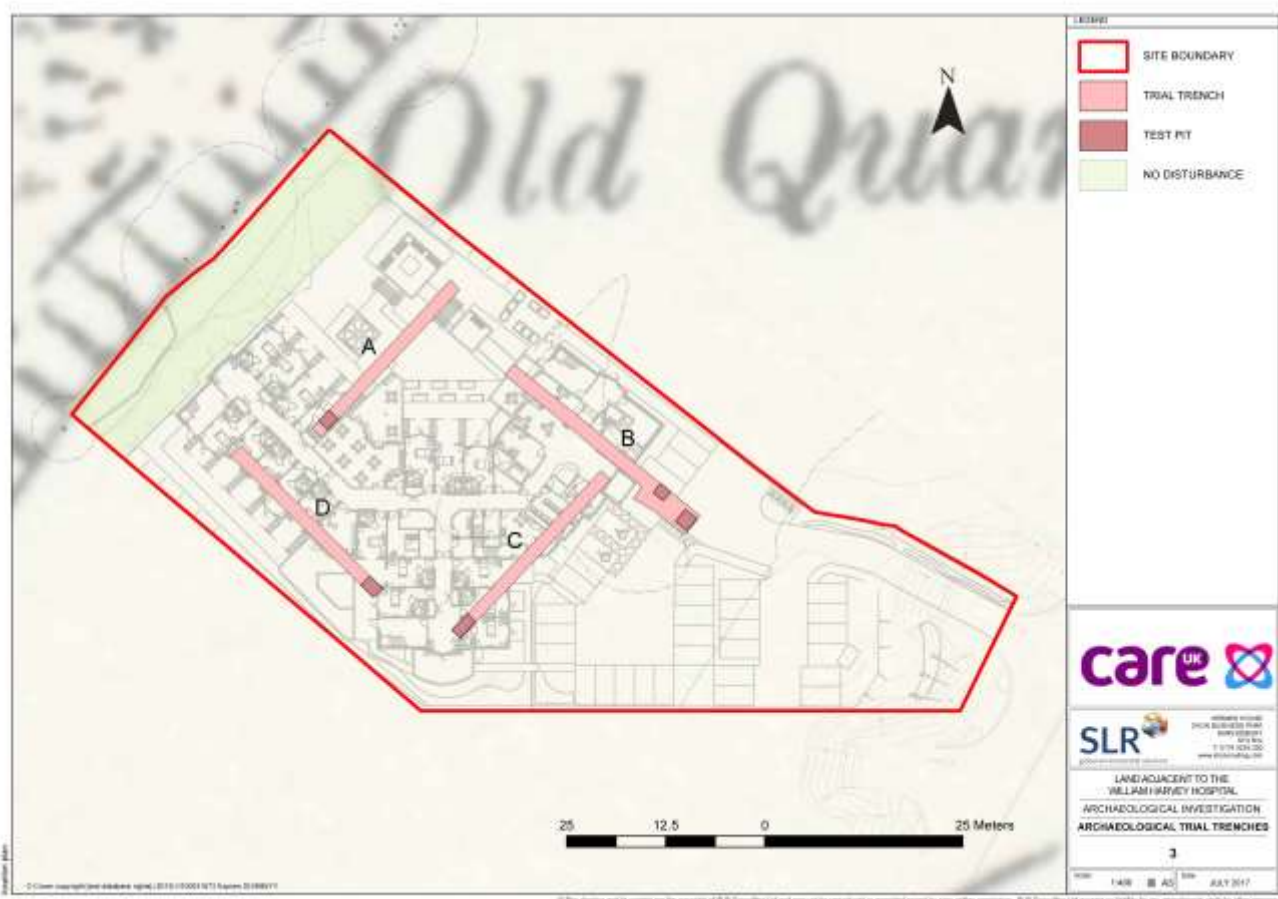


6.0 Discussion

6.1 Trial Trenching

In June of 2017 four archaeological trial trenches and four geoarchaeological test pits, located within the trial trenches, were excavated within the application area in accordance with the WSI. Two archaeological features were identified within Trench B. One of these features (Context 107 and associated fills) contained ceramic material, dating from the Roman and medieval periods. All the ceramic material showed signs of rolling and abrasion, suggesting that they may be residual. The thinness of Context 106 at the south eastern end of the trench may indicate that the deposit is the result of landscaping or ground works associated with the relatively recent preparation of the site. The features are located outside of the area of the main building footprint of the proposed development, but within the area of proposed car parking and soft landscaping (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Trial Trenches and Proposed Development Footprint



6.2 Geoarchaeological Investigations

As noted in 5.0, the deposits observed in the geoarchaeological test pits tended to be composed of either deposits that were poorly sorted mixtures of sands, gravels and silts, or underlying these well sorted sands. The poor sorting and lack of sedimentary structure of the predominantly silt deposits (Contexts 101, 901) is inconsistent with these contexts being unmodified river terrace deposits. Descriptions of the terrace deposits for the Kentish Stour Formation note the presence of sands and gravels (McMillan, Hamblin and Merritt 2011), and borehole data from other parts of the region do have records of well-sorted and structured deposits of

sand and gravel. It should also be noted that the report on geoarchaeological test pits on the adjacent plot also notes that the upper natural sediments appear to be at an altitude that is not easily correlated with any of the river terrace deposits described for the region (Wardell Armstrong 2014: 15). Moreover, the site appears to be located on a current watershed, arguably making the presence of river terrace deposits less likely. These lines of evidence are interpreted as indicating that, BGS mapping notwithstanding, none of the geoarchaeological test pits found river terrace deposits. The observation of a periglacial feature suggests that the upper deposits have been subject to reworking by periglacial processes, which would accord better with the observed mixed range of particle sizes and lack of sedimentary structure, irrespective of the original mode of deposition. The observed upper natural deposits would seem to be better classified under the category of 'head deposits'.

The lower natural deposits are consistently composed of well sorted sands, usually of medium grade. Similar deposits have been recorded across the area, including in the geoarchaeological test pits excavated on the adjacent pit and in a range of boreholes in the area around the site. These have been consistently interpreted as belonging to the Folkestone Formation, an interpretation which is consistent with the known lithological character of that formation. The Folkestone Formation is dated to the Lower Cretaceous, and is therefore not archeologically relevant.

7.0 Conclusions

No features or finds of archaeological significance were located in three of the trenches. The features uncovered at the south eastern end of Trench B contained ceramic material of Roman and medieval date, and appeared to be residual.

No natural deposits consistent with the river terrace deposits of the Kentish Stour Formation were observed within the test trenches or geoarchaeological test pits.

8.0 References

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McMillan, A.A, Hamblin, R.J.O., and Merritt, J.W., 2011 *A lithostratigraphical framework for onshore Quaternary and Neogene (Tertiary) superficial deposits of Great Britain and the Isle of Man*, Research Report RR/10/03 Keyworth, British Geological Survey

SLR 2016 *Land Adjacent to the William Harvey Hospital, Kennington Road, Ashford: Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* unpublished client report

SLR 2017 *Land Adjacent to the William Harvey Hospital, Kennington Road, Ashford: Written Scheme of Investigation* unpublished client report

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology, 2014, *Plot 1, Land Adjacent to William Harvey Hospital, Kennington Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent. CP. No: 11144*

APPENDIX 01

Context Records

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Length(m)	Width(m)	Depth(m)	Description	Interpretation
A - D	100	Deposit		Trench Wide	Trench Wide	0.3-0.4	Mid brown grey silty topsoil	Topsoil
A - D	101	Deposit		Trench Wide	Trench Wide	N/A	Orange brown sandy silt with common flint clasts (1-10 cm across).	Natural Subsoil
B	102	Cut		6+	3+	0.7	Shape of cut in plan unsure, gradual break of slope top and gradual slope of side to 0.1m depth then near vertical. Base slopes to south west	Feature cut
B	103	Fill	102	0.5+	0.12+	0.3	Orange silty sand containing frequent flint.	Fill of 102.
B	104	Fill	102	6+	3+	0.4	Grey silt sand	Fill of 102.
B	105	Fill	102	1.4+	1+	0.28	Orange yellow sand	Fill of 102.
B	106	Fill	102	6+	3+	0.2	Light grey silt sand	Fill of 102, possibly result of recent groundworks.
B	107	Cut		5+	0.9+	0.1	Linear, gradual break of slope top, gradually sloping sides to flat base	Possible gully
B	108	Fill	107	5+	0.9+	0.1	Brown grey silt sand	Fill of 107

APPENDIX 02

Ceramics Assessment

Assessment of ceramics from William Harvey Hospital, Ashford

George Nash, SLR Consulting

Based on recent archaeological evidence, iron ore was mined in the Weald and transported to Ashford where two ironworks processed the ore into metal implements and ingots. Further evidence has revealed the existence of a Roman settlement; located to the north of the current town centre, located near the junction of Albert Road and Wall Road. The presence of Roman ceramics at the William Harvey Hospital site therefore is not surprising. Also present are sherds that probably date to the medieval period.

A total of six sherds / fragments of ceramic material were recovered from the site, each revealing a different fabric types and use. All six shreds were in various degrees of abrasion, suggesting a possible residual context (i.e. the result of subsequent working and reworking of sub-surface soils).

Context (104) comprised three pieces of ceramic, one of which was a probable tile fragment. The other two were pottery (vessel) sherds, one of which was heavily abraded. Both sherds, probably body-fragments show evidence of them being wheel-thrown. The firing technique for both reveal oxidising firing techniques.

Context (105) two pieces of ceramic to include a brick fragment, possibly Roman in date. Small abraded pottery sherd, probably Roman in date; both pieces show evidence of sub-surface rolling/abrasion activity.

Context (106) Single sherd, possible a fragment of a medieval tile; shows evidence of sub-surface rolling/abrasion activity.

Context No.	Number of sherds/ fragments	Description	Period
104	3	Three sherds/fragments of orange-buff fabric; all three showing slightly different kiln firing techniques. The largest fragment is a Roman oxidised tile fragment; the two sherds are rolled / abraded coarse gritty wares belonging to ceramic vessels, possible cooking wares of a medieval date.	Roman and possibly medieval?
105	2	One brick fragment, red-brown in colour with possible worked surface; fabric includes some quartz inclusions. Pottery sherd, orange-buff in colour; sherd belonging to the body of a vessel (possibly a cooking pot). Date: Roman or medieval.	Roman and / or medieval?
106	1	Buff orange ceramic, possibly a tile fragment. Tile edge and smooth upper surface present; with coarse under-surface	Medieval?

Discussion

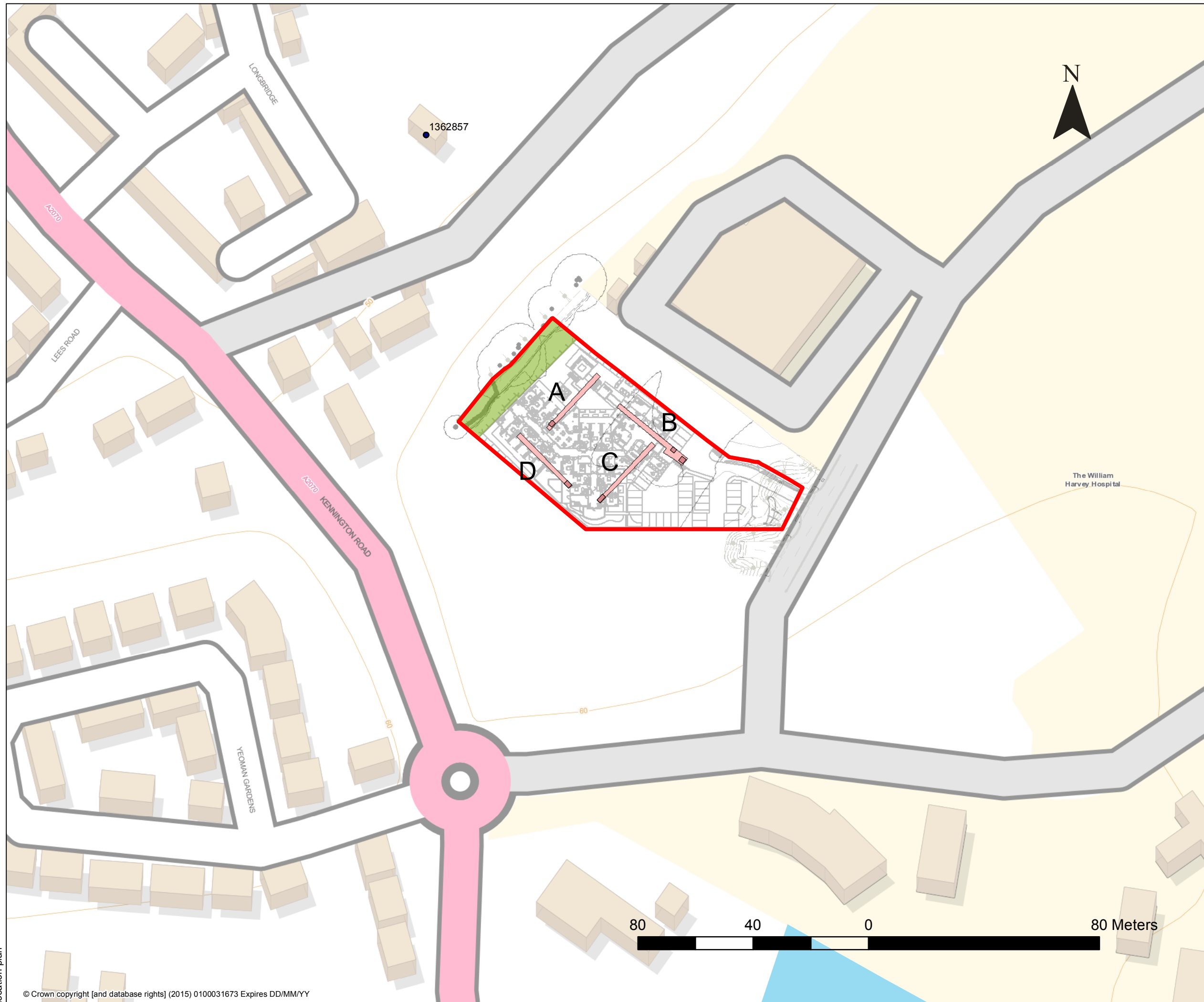
This small assemblage of ceramic material has been identified as containing Roman and medieval wares. All fragments are orange-buff in colour except the brick fragment (Context 105) which is reddish-brown. Nearly all the sherds / fragments are the result of oxidised firing. All sherds / fragments show evidence of rolling / abrasion and are therefore probably residual in context. It is possible that some form of Roman / medieval activity is located nearby. It should be noted that Roman kilns not recorded in this part of Kent and it is more probable that the Roman material originates from one of a number of kiln sites that have been found within the vicinity of Canterbury; the sherds identified as medieval probably originate from the locality.

References consulted




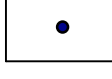


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LEGEND

-  SITE BOUNDARY
-  TRIAL TRENCH
-  TEST PIT
-  LISTED BUILDINGS
-  CONSERVATION AREA
-  NO DISTURBANCE



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1

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location plan

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