

Mill House, Stowting Court Road Stowting, Kent An Archaeological Evaluation And Watching Brief Report

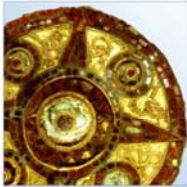
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ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Mill House, Stowting Court Road, Stowting, Kent An Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report

On Behalf of: CTM Architects LLP
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National Grid Reference (NGR): TQ 1232 4184

AOC Project No: 30237

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Non-Technical Summary

An archaeological evaluation and watching brief was undertaken between 20th August 2008 and 20th February 2009 at Mill House, Stowting Court Road, Stowting, Kent. The work was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on behalf of CRM Architects. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological remains within the site. Following the evaluation it Kent County Council's archaeology advisor required a further programme of archaeological watching brief to record any archaeological remains exposed during groundworks.

The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of two trenches measuring 11.50m x 2m and 3.00m x 2.20m at base. The trenches were positioned as specified by the archaeology advisor. Natural silty clay was identified at between 92.38mOD and 91.62mOD. Sealing the gravel were post-medieval and modern deposits of made ground, garden soil and concrete slabs.

In Trench 1 a cobbled surface was recorded overlying the natural deposits. The surface has been interpreted as a previous surface relating to the Mill House. In Trench 2 a linear wall and soakaway were recorded and also appear to relate to previous structures relating to the Mill House. The watching brief was focused primarily on the excavation of test pits and general ground reduction. Ground reduction within the wheelhouse prior to its renovation uncovered internal red brick walls which would have housed the interior workings of the wheel.

The finds recovered from the investigations date to the 20th century. The assemblage included pottery sherds, ceramic roof tile fragments, glass bottles, including an almost complete 'Camp Coffee' <Patterson's Glasgow> bottle as well as 'Anzora' and 'Brylcream' hair lotion bottles. Bricks samples were taken from the wall recorded in Trench 1. The sample suggests a 16th or 17th century date, and the use of lime mortar suggests a date prior to 1850. However, the bricks could have been reused in a structure later than the date of their manufacture.

1 Introduction

1.1 Site Location

- 1.1.1 The development site is located within the complex of Mill House Farm, in the west of Stowting Village; National Grid Reference **TQ 1232 4184**. The site is surrounded by fields and hedgerows, with farm buildings to the south and east.
- 1.1.2 The site of Stowting Castle (Scheduled Monument – Ref: 12825), a medieval mote and bailey, is located approximately 50m to the north of the site's northern boundary.
- 1.1.3 The Evaluation was carried out in August 2008 and comprised the excavation of 2 trenches. A further programme of watching brief was conducted on site due to the archaeological remains observed during the evaluation.

1.2 Development Proposal

- 1.2.1 The proposed development comprises the construction of a part one / part two storey extension to the north and east side of Mill House, as well as refurbishment of the House's interior and restoration of the mill building (including the repair and reinstatement of the mill to full working order).

2 Planning Background

- 2.1 The proposed development scheme was granted planning permission under Planning Policy Guideline 16 (PPG 16). The local planning authority placed the following condition on planning consent (Y08/0237/SH):

Condition 4 states

"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.*
- 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.*

Reason To ensure appropriate assessment of the archaeological implications of any development proposals and the subsequent mitigation of adverse impacts through preservation *in situ* or by record.

- 2.2 The local planning authority is Shepway District Council. Archaeological advice to the council is given by the Archaeology Officer, Wendy Rogers.
- 2.4 A 'Site Specification' was produced by the Archaeology Officer detailing the aims and methodology of the proposed evaluation. No Written Scheme of Investigation was required by the Archaeology Officer. This document reports on the results of the archaeological field evaluation and watching brief.

3 Methodology

- 3.1 The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of 2 trenches, one measuring 11.50m x 2.00m and the second 3.00m x 2.20m.
- 3.2 Before excavation the entire site was visually inspected and all trenches were scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) to check for live services.
- 3.3 All overburden was removed down to the top of the first recognizable archaeological horizon or the uppermost natural deposit where no archaeological horizons were present, using a one tonne tracked excavator with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket. All machining was carried out under direct control of experienced archaeologists.
- 3.4 On completion of machine excavation, all faces of trenches that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools and the full stratigraphic sequence was recorded. Any archaeological remains revealed were excavated by hand with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appeared to be demonstrably worthy of preservation *in situ*.
- 3.5 The site code **MHS 08** was obtained for the project, and used for all fieldwork.
- 3.6 All recording was undertaken in accordance with the standards and requirements of the Archaeological Field Manual (Museum of London Archaeology Service 3rd edition 1994), and the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- 3.7 The Bench Mark used for the site heights was located on Mill Cottage, measuring 91.43mOD.
- 3.8 After recording, the trenches were backfilled with excavated material.
- 3.9 Following the results of the evaluation, a watching brief was requested by the Archaeological Advisor in order to record archaeological remains under threat by the development. A watching brief was conducted during all intrusive works on site.
- 3.10 All on-site works were monitored by an experienced archaeologist under the overall project management of Andy Leonard, Fieldwork Divisional Manager. The evaluation and watching brief were monitored by Wendy Rogers on behalf of the council.

4 Aims and Objectives

- 4.1 The aim of the initial evaluation programme of archaeological work (part (i) of condition 4) was to:
- Determine the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the areas of proposed groundworks and to provide an assessment of their quality, importance and extent
 - Identify above ground archaeological remains which may be affected by the proposed development
 - Identify historic elements and archaeological features and structures visible in the current Mill House within the areas of proposed works.

5 Topography and Geology

- 5.1 The British Geological Survey map (No. 289) indicates that the site's geology comprises Lower Chalk overlain by Alluvium, with Head deposits to the south and Dry Valley Nailbourne deposits to the north (KCC, 2008).
- 5.2 Geotechnical site investigations were undertaken by Geotechnical Services in May 2008 (Geotechnical Services, 2008). This work comprised the excavation of two continuously sampled boreholes. The results are summarized as follows:

DEPTH	DEPOSITS
Ground level - 0.5m / 2m	FILL – Topsoil / clinker / silty clay with gravel, roots and brick fragments, etc.
0.5m to 0.9m (BH1 only)	HEAD DEPOSITS - Firm CLAY with flint gravel & cobbles.
2m to 2.5m (BH2 only)	ALLUVIUM - very soft, moist, dark grey silty CLAY.
0.9m to 2.5m - 3m+	LOWER CHALK - stiff silty CLAY with laminations of grey Chalk.

Table 1: Summary of Geotechnical Borehole results (R. Carr Geotechnical Services, 2008, P.2)

- 5.3 Groundwater was encountered at c. 2.2m in each borehole. The Geotechnical Services report states that the depth of the Lower Chalk varies between c. 0.9m and 2m, and is superficially overlain locally by Head and Alluvial Deposits. In BH2, where fill material was noted to a depth 2m, the Geotechnical Services report suggests that this fill material may have been deposited in order to reduce the original slope of the stream valley
- 5.4 Where man has clearly placed soil, or added non-naturally occurring material, either to form a level surface or to dispose of unwanted material, for example, it is referred to as Made Ground (fill material). Inclusions within the composition of Made Ground can provide a general indication of its date; inclusions such as the concrete, plastic or glass, for example, would indicate a modern date, while the presence of brick would suggest a probable post-medieval or modern date.

6 Archaeological and Historical Background

The information summarised below has been extracted from the Impact Assessment produced by AOC Archaeology (AOC 2008). Please refer to this document for further information.

Prehistoric (c. 500,000 BC – AD 43)

- 6.1 While there is currently no known evidence of prehistoric activity from within the site or the immediate surrounding area, there is evidence of prehistoric utilisation of the wider landscape surrounding the development site. This is suggested by the presence of a number of finds and monuments; including the site of a Bronze Age barrow (Scheduled Monument Ref: 12839 & KHER Ref: TR 14 SW 26) located in the area of Stowting Court Farm, c. 440m south-west of the development site, as well as possible prehistoric lynchets (KHER Ref: TR 14 SW 60) to the north of Stowting Hill House, approximately 600m to the north of the development site.
- 6.2 Further prehistoric barrows in the area have also been identified at:
- Swinyards Hill (Scheduled Monument Ref: 12823), c. 750m north-east of the development site;
 - Stowting Common, where the ploughed out remains of a Bronze Age barrow were recorded c. 1km north-west of the site; and
 - A concentration of at least a further six prehistoric barrows in West Wood, c. 1.5km to the north-east of the site.

Roman (AD 43- 410)

- 6.3 There is one entry from the KHER dating to the Roman period from within the 500m study radius; this relates to probable Romano-British pottery noted in the garden of 'Braeside' (KHER Ref: TR 14 SW 6), c. 45m to the east of the development site.
- 6.4 It has been also suggested that there is evidence of Roman activity in the 'Pean'; the field to the east of the Motte and Bailey Castle (Hammon, 2004, P.10). Hammon records that a number of Roman artefacts and coins have been found in this field and aerial photographic evidence suggest a possible Roman structure; though a recent assessment of available aerial photographic supplied by Kent County Council did not confirm the presence of such features and there is, to date, no confirmed supporting evidence Roman remains in this area recorded on the KHER.
- 6.5 Within the wider surrounding landscape, there are several sites of Roman date, which testify to a degree of activity in this area during that period. These include the route of a Roman road along Stone Street, approximately 1.1km to the east of the development site. A hoard of large brass Roman coins that were ploughed up in c. 1790 in fields over 1km to the north of the site reflect a potential Roman field system (ads.ahds.ac.uk); and a Roman Barrow (Scheduled Monument Ref: KE122) on the west side of Stone Street, with a possible Roman field system to the south of this, c. 1.2km north-east of the development site.

Early Medieval (AD 410 - 1066), Medieval (1066 - 1536) & Post-Medieval (1536 - 1900)

- 6.6 The origin of the settlement of Stowting is known to date from at least the early medieval period. However, while the Manor of Stowting (historically spelt *Stutinge*, *Stotinges*, *Estotinges*, *Stutinges* and *Stowling*) was recorded towards the end of the early medieval period, in a charter of AD 1044 (grant of the Manor by an Egelric Bigge to Christchurch in Canterbury), the archaeological evidence

suggests that settlement in this area potentially dates from the earlier 6th century, based upon a large Anglo-Saxon Cemetery discovered in 1844, c. 550m to the north of the development site.

- 6.7 By the Domesday survey of 1086 Stowting, which fell with the administrative Hundred also called Stowting, is recorded as:

'Of the same manor [Aldington] the earl of Ewe holds Estotinges for one manor. It was taxed at one suling and an half. In the time of King Edward the Confessor, and now, for one suling only. The arable land is eight carucates.

In demesne there are two, and twenty seven villeins, with thirteen borderers, having seven carucates, and one mill of twenty-five pence. There is a church, and twenty acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of ten bogs, and eight servants.

In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth eight pounds, now ten pounds' (Hasted, 1799, P.46-51).

- 6.8 During the first half of the medieval period a motte and bailey castle (Scheduled Monument Ref: 12825) was constructed in Stowting, located c. 50m north of the development site. It is not known when Stowting Castle went out of use but its remains still comprise a steep sided mound, surrounded by a broad ditch with an outer ditch defining a bailey area. The motte and its ditch are tree covered and in excellent condition, with a heavy scatter of flint and tile on the top of the mound, suggesting past building activity. The motte is roughly circular with a flat top measuring c. 35m, while the ditch around the motte averages 12m in width and 1.3m in depth, although it would originally have been deeper (English Heritage, 1991).
- 6.9 The bailey is a flat area of varying width, which is raised above the surrounding land by about 0.5m, which would have been surrounded by a second water-filled moat of c. 8 - 9m wide. This moat has been in-filled to a greater degree than the inner moat and now survives only as a slight depression in the field on the northern side of the castle (English Heritage, 1991). A water system, incorporating the natural river, is associated with the castle and water from springs to the north-west of this system would have flowed down the western side of the castle, supplying the outer moat.
- 6.10 Crop marks, identified to the west of the motte and bailey castle, have been identified as possible indications of a medieval settlement associated with the castle, though there is currently no confirmed archaeological evidence to support this.
- 6.11 Stowting appears to be a relatively prosperous settlement in the early half of the medieval period with a castle, church, mill, a weekly market and two days of fair every year. Historical documentation also records a constable and six men stationed here in the reign of Henry II, with both a Court Baron and a Court Leet held there (Hammon, 2004, P.13).
- 6.12 Settlement continued in Stowting through the medieval and post medieval periods, with the lordship of the manor being held at Stowting Court, c. 500m to the south-west of the site. The ownership of the manor is recorded in Hasted's topographical dictionary of Kent in 1799 and shows it to be dominated by the Jenkins family, which owned the Manor of Stowting from 1626 until 1935. Available records (tithe apportionment etc.) show that this family was also the landowner of the mill site during the 18th and 19th century.

Mill House

- 6.13 A mill was present in Stowting at the beginning of the medieval period, as recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086, though there is no evidence to demonstrate that the Domesday mill site is that of the present Mill House. However, the current site's position, in close proximity to the medieval motte and

bailey castle and a potential medieval settlement focus around the church, would place the Mill House site in a prime location for medieval activity.

- 6.14 The cartographic sources suggest that the current mill building dates to at least AD 1840 though is most likely of an earlier date. An indenture of land ownership shows that the water mill was in existence in 1794, when it is recorded that the lease of Stowting Mill was given by John and William Jenkins to a Mr. John Whitehead for 7 years. The indenture describes the site as follows:

'Mesuage of tenement and water mill, 1 stable, 1 garden, 1 orchard all those several pieces of land herein after particulars mentioned, that is to say one piece of meadow called Mill Meadow containing 5 acres, 3 roods and 38 perches...; one other pieces of meadow land called the Rushey Meadow containing 1 acre, 2 roods and 20 perches...; one piece of arable land adjoining the Lodge containing 3 roods and 28 perches; one piece of meadow land called Church Meadow containing 3 roods and 26 perches; one other piece of meadow called Two Acres containing 1 acre, 3 roods and 28 perches...together with all and singular wears, heads, ponds, water and appurtenances to said mill belonging and appertaining now in the tenure and occupation of said John Whitehead'.

- 6.15 An earlier indenture of 1766 appears to be of the same site, giving a lease for 14 years. Although the writing is difficult to decipher, it does list a similar amount of land as described in the later document of 1794. The 1766 indenture does mention two water mills, though it is possible that this may be referring to two water wheels in the same mill and may explain the evidence of the blocked up wheel shaft hole in the north of the current building.
- 6.16 The nature of the previous water system may also have had an impact on the location of the Mill House site. The Mill occupies a favourable location along the route of the stream, where the main channel is met by the channel that runs by and through the motte & bailey castle site. The cartographic evidence shows the extent of the motte & bailey system over a hundred years, documenting its gradual decrease in size. On the 1840 tithe map the motte is shown as linked to the channel that feeds into the mill pond from the north-east and, in the present, it is still linked via a culvert. The current system includes drainage ditches along the northern and western edges of the field, behind Mill House.
- 6.17 It was not possible within the remit of the desk-based study to determine whether the Motte & Bailey water system and that supplying the mill are contemporary, or if the Mill water system was set up after the Motte & Bailey went out of use. However, it appears that the systems have certainly been intentionally linked together in the past, most likely for the mill to take advantage of the stream running past the Motte & Bailey to feed the mill pond; this suggests that the Motte & Bailey Water system, whether contemporary or not, was an essential part of the Mill's water supply system.

7 Results - Evaluation

7.1 Trench 1

- 7.1.2 Trench 1 (11.50m x 2.00m) was excavated to the north-west of the property and was orientated northeast – southwest.
- 7.1.3 Natural Head Deposits, consisting of firm mid orange yellow silty clay (104), were recorded at level of 92.49mOD in the south-western end of the trench. Overlying (104) in the north-east of the trench was (105), a 0.50m thick deposit of redeposited alluvium. This has been interpreted as the dumped remains of pond silts, deposited during the re-excavation of the pond which lies to the north-east of the Mill House. Two fragments of 20th century roof tile were recovered from the deposit.
- 7.1.4 Cutting into (104) was [106] a modern service trench measuring 1.85m x 0.50m x 0.30m. The trench, which ran east-west, was filled by (107) a mid orange brown silt clay with inclusions of roof tile fragments, 20th century glass bottle sherds and 20th century pottery fragments including examples of porcelain, stoneware and white glazed china.
- 7.1.5 Overlying the deposit (104) in the south-west of the trench, was (103), a 0.10m thick cobble yard surface, measuring 3.25m x 0.70m. The cobbling consisted of small and medium sized rounded and sub-rounded cobbles in a mid grey brown silty clay matrix. The cobbled surface has been interpreted as the original external surface for Mill House.



Plate 1: Cobbled surface (103) aligned northeast – southwest

- 7.1.6 Overlying (103) was (102), a 0.20m thick deposit of dark brown grey silt clay with inclusions of 19th/20th century pottery fragments including transfer printed ware and plain white glazed sherds. The deposit measured 3.85m long and 1.80m wide and was a demolition layer associated with the disuse of the cobbled surface (103).

7.1.7 Overlying the trench was a mixture of 0.25m thick topsoil and grass (101) and 0.05m thick concrete paving slabs (100). Both deposits represent the modern external surface associated with the current Mill House.

7.2 Trench 2

7.2.1 Trench 2 measured 3.0m x 2.20m and was excavated to the north-east of the bungalow. The trench was roughly square shaped.

7.2.2 Natural alluvium (213), consisting of firm light blue grey silty clay, was recorded in the base of the trench at 91.82mOD. Overlying (213) was (212), a 0.30m thick deposit of Natural Head deposits, consisting of mid brown orange yellow silty clay.

7.2.3 Post-medieval wall [206] was recorded in the eastern limit of Trench 2 measuring 3.0m x 0.30m x 0.60m deep. The wall was constructed using unfrogged red bricks in an irregular coursing i.e. one stretcher to every five headers. The bricks measured 230m x 110m x 55mm and were bonded with hard whitish yellow lime mortar. The depth of each brick, just 55mm, may be indicative of a 16th or 17th century date, although this wall could be later, reusing old materials. The wall has been interpreted as the remains of an earlier extension to Mill House.

7.2.4 Cutting into the natural deposit was a post-medieval circular soakaway [207]. The structure was located in the southern corner of Trench 2 measuring 0.98m x 0.96m x 0.92m deep. The structure was constructed using frogged red brick halves measuring 0.11m x 0.13m x 0.07m, and of probable 19th-20th century date. The soakaway was backfilled by (208), loose mid brown grey silty clay. Inclusions within the deposit include glass bottle fragments, metal tins, jam jars and pottery sherds, also of 20th century date. The cut of the soakaway, [211], was only observed in section measuring 1.70m wide x 0.84m deep. The cut was backfilled with two fills (210 & 209), recorded as mid orange brownish yellow silty clay and light brown silty clay respectively. The fills represent redeposited natural used during the construction process of [207]. No finds were recovered from the backfill.



Plate 2: Wall [206] and soakaway [207]

- 7.2.5 Overlying the soakaway and cutting into the natural deposit was a large feature [215], measuring 2.0m long x 0.40m deep. The cut was filled by (214), a firm mid grey silt clay approximately 0.40m thick. The function of this feature remains unclear though it may relate to the construction of wall [206] discussed below.
- 7.2.6 Positioned between wall [206] and soakaway [207] were layers (205) and (203). Both layers consisted of light grey clay silt with rare inclusions of rounded flint, approximately 0.24m to 0.22 thick. These layers may have been deposited during the construction or demolition phase of either wall [206] or soakaway [207]. No finds were recovered from either deposit.
- 7.2.7 Overlying soakaway [207] were layers (204) and (216), consisting of loose dark brown silty clay measuring 0.30m and 0.20m thick respectively. Clay tobacco pipe and roof tile were recovered from (216) along with pottery sherds dating to the 19th-20th century. These layers represent a garden or subsoil deposit which indicates a change of land-use from a functional occupied space for buildings, to an open space. This is also characterised in the overlying deposits (202), (201) and (200). Layer (202) was recorded as a 0.14m thick deposit of mid grey silt clay, whilst (201) was recorded as 0.10m mid yellow orange grey silty sand. Pottery recovered from (202) was dated to the 20th century and included examples of coloured china ware, fragments of a glass bottle and vase and brick and roof tile. Both layers represent made ground and bedding deposits for concrete slab surface (200).

7.3 Watching Brief

- 7.3.1 Six test pits were excavated within the exterior and interior of the wheel house building. These were recorded as Test Pits 1-6. The test pits were excavated to investigate the current footings of the building and to relieve the ground pressure exerted on the north-eastern wall prior to removal of the roof. No archaeological features were observed during the excavation of the test pits. The stratigraphy observed during the watching brief is detailed below.

TP1

Context	Thickness	Description
001	0.10m	Concrete
002	0.45m	Mid brown grey silt sand with inclusions of brick, metal fragments of mill machinery. Demolition Material
003	0.85m	Dark orangey brown sandy silt, inclusions of brick. Demolition material.

TP2

Context	Thickness	Description
004	0.10m	Concrete
005	0.85m	Mid brown grey silt sand with inclusions of brick, metal fragments of mill machinery. Demolition Material.
006	0.40m	Dark orangey brown sandy silt, inclusions of brick. Demolition material.

TP3

Context	Thickness	Description
007	0.10m	Concrete
008	1.12m	Dark orangey brown sandy silt, inclusions of brick. Demolition material.

TP4

Context	Thickness	Description
009	0.10m	Concrete
010	0.20m +	Mid brown grey silt sand with inclusions of brick, metal fragments of mill machinery. Demolition Material.

TP5

Context	Thickness	Description
011	0.10m	Concrete
012	0.20m +	Mid brown grey silt sand with inclusions of brick, metal fragments of mill machinery. Demolition Material.

TP6

Context	Thickness	Description
307	1.25m	Firm mid brown grey clay sand silt with inclusions of brick rubble. Fill of construction cut.
308	NFE	Light white grey clay chalky sand. Natural deposit.
309	1.25m	Sharp sloped construction cut for mill house. Base not observed.

- 7.3.2 Ground reduction within the wheel house was monitored under watching brief conditions, revealing the remains of internal walls.
- 7.3.3 The earliest deposit recorded during the reduction was (304), the solid base of the wheel house building. The exact nature of the base could not be determined due to high level of water.
- 7.3.4 Directly above the floor were a series of red brick walls (305), (see Figure 3). Three northeast-southwest walls and five northwest-southeast walls formed the internal walls associated with the waterwheel mechanism. The interconnecting walls measured between 1.80m and 7.20m long and between 0.34m and 0.60m wide. The walls were on average 0.75m in depth. The walls were composed of unfrogged red brick measuring 220mm x 120mm x 70mm, bound by a grey mortar. Located within the lower courses of the walls were voided channels measuring approximately 0.10m wide. These were built into the walls to allow excess water from the water wheel to pass through the building. It is likely that the water would have been directed towards a drain or outlet although this was not observed during the ground reduction.
- 7.3.5 A section of the north-western wall (306) was exposed during the ground reduction. The wall was composed of large cut stones measuring on average 600mm x 150mm x 300mm. The stone was bound together by grey gritty mortar. The use of stone within this section rather than brick suggests that the stonework was thought to be stronger and that it would withstand the pressures of the working wheel better.



Plate 3: Stone wall [306] with internal walls [305] and the remains of the internal wheel.

- 7.3.6 Housed within the wall and lying within the internal walls described above, were the remains of the internal wheel. Only the metal spokes and the central shaft remained intact. The wheel was connected to the external wheel by a metal pin/shaft which ran through the wall. The opening within the wall through which the wheel shaft ran was lined with red bricks similar to those observed in the internal walls (305).
- 7.3.7 Overlying the walls and the floor were two deposits of accumulated silt (303) and (302). The deposits were recorded as dark blue grey clay silt with brick and metal and mid grey brown clay silt with brick and metal fragments respectively. The deposits measured 0.30m and 0.40m thick.
- 7.3.8 Above the naturally accumulated silt deposits was a 1.00m thick deposit of modern backfill (301) composed of mid grey clay sand with inclusions of rubble, brick and mortar.

7.4 Finds

- 7.4.1 A collection of 20th century finds were retrieved from contexts (102), (107), (202), (208) and (216). The prominent artefacts of the whole assemblage are glass bottles, including an almost complete 'Camp Coffee' <Patterson's Glasgow> bottle as well as 'Anzora' and 'Brylcream' hair lotion bottles.
- 7.4.2 Pottery was present in deposits (102), (107), (202), (208) and (216), with transfer-printed ware and white glazed earthenware ('table china') being prevalent. Two pieces of ceramic roof tile were the only artefacts collected from context (105) and have been loosely dated to the 20th century.
- 7.4.3 Brick samples were taken from the wall and soakaway recorded in Trench 2. The bricks from soakaway [207] are a sandy fabric, with sharp edges and well-defined frogs. These are of 20th century date. The second sample from wall [206] consists of bricks just 55mm thick, and bonded with lime mortar. The size of the bricks is suggestive of a 16th or 17th century date for the wall, and the use of lime mortar suggests a date prior to 1850. However, the bricks could have been reused in a structure later than the date of their manufacture.

8 Conclusions and Interpretation

8.1 Conclusions

- 8.1.1 The evaluation revealed archaeological remains of post-medieval date in the both Trench 1 and 2. Trench 1 revealed a cobbled surface which is likely to represent an earlier surface related to Mill House. Trench 2 revealed a partially demolished and backfilled soakaway and the remains of an earlier 19th/20th century wall, both of which are likely to represent earlier phases of Mill House. Both Trench 1 and 2 demonstrated a significant change in the use of the exterior space of Mill House from developed to an unoccupied paved area.
- 8.1.2 The watching brief conducted during the excavation of six test pits revealed a sequence of demolition deposits. The ground reduction within the wheel house itself revealed a series of walls that would have housed the internal mechanism of the water wheel and associated structures. Two layers of naturally accumulated deposits of silty clay were also recorded within the wheelhouse.
- 8.1.3 Due to the limited scale of the archaeological remains publication will be through the online ADS OASIS form with a short summary submitted to the local roundup.

9 Bibliography

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MILL HOUSE, STOWING COURT ROAD, STOWING, KENT. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF REPORT



Figure 1: Site Location

MILL HOUSE, STOWTING COURT ROAD, STOWTING, KENT. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AND WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

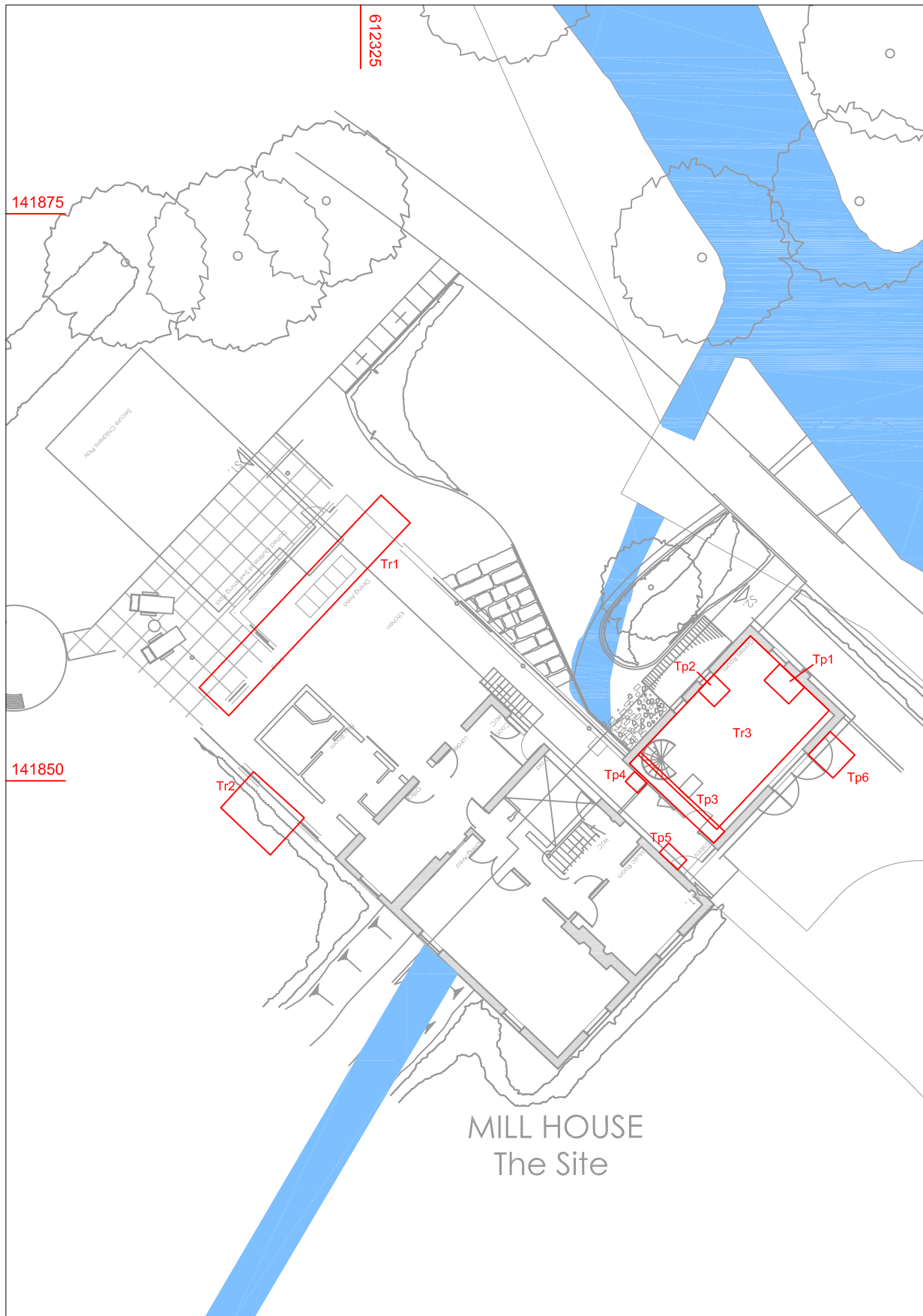


Figure 2: Detailed Site Location

■ Leat □ Trench/Test Pit Outlines



1:250

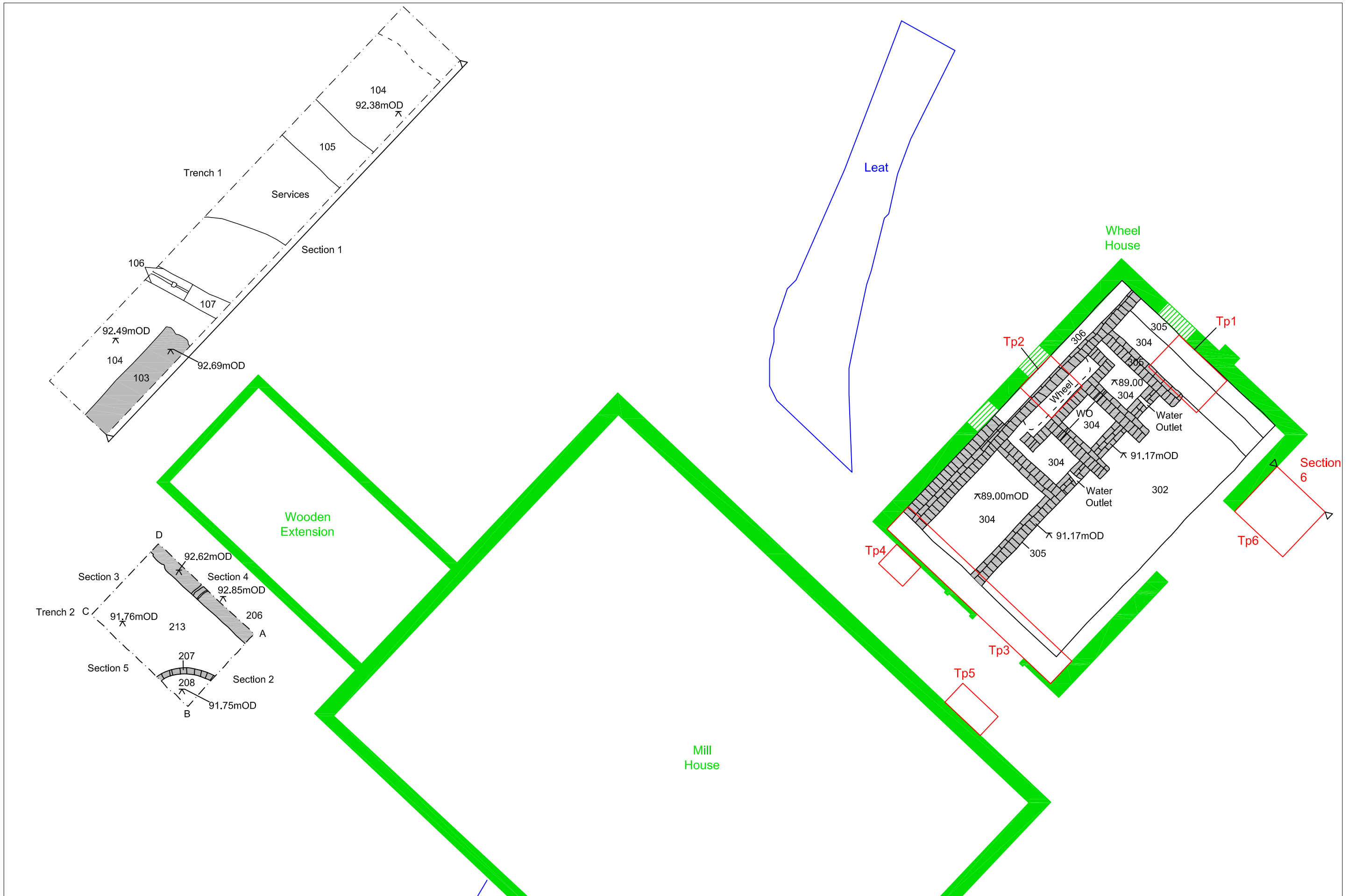
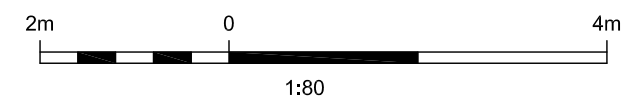


Figure 3: Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Plan

■ Building Walls
 □ Leat
 Structural Remains
 Test Pits



MILL HOUSE, STOWTING COURT ROAD, STOWTING, KENT. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

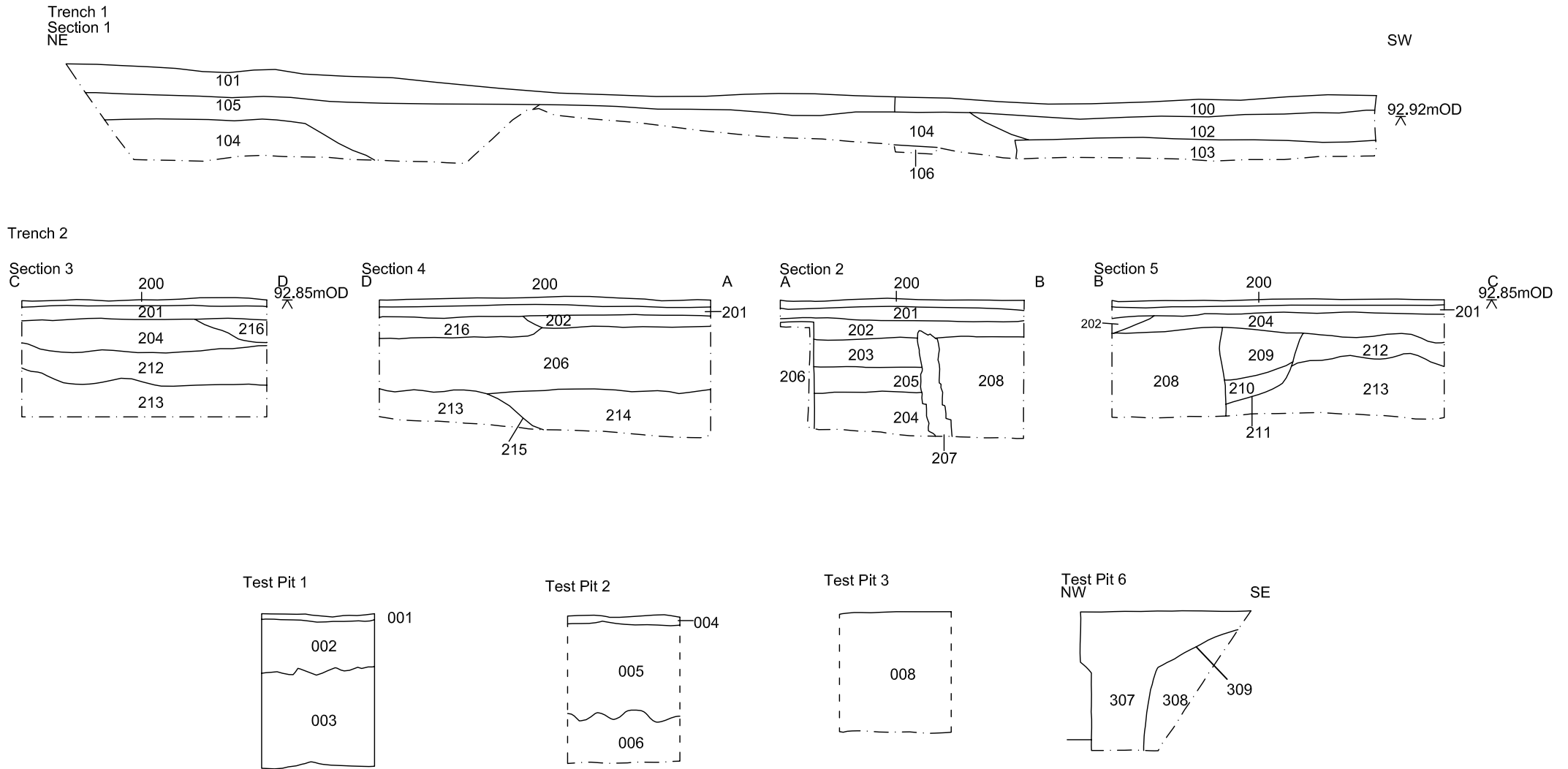
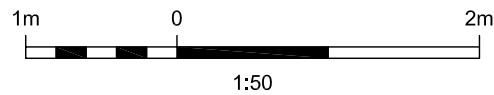


Figure 4: Sample Sections



Appendices



Appendix A – Context Register

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
001	Concrete slab	1.50m	1.00m	0.10m
002	General demolition material	1.50m	1.00m	0.85m
003	General demolition material	1.50m	1.00m	1.13m
004	Concrete slab	1.00m	1.00m	0.10m
005	General demolition material	1.00m	1.00m	0.85m
006	General demolition material	1.00m	1.00m	0.40m
007	Concrete slab	5.10m	0.70m	0.10m
008	General demolition material	1.00m	1.00m	1.14m
009	Concrete slab	0.75m	0.60m	0.10m
010	General demolition material	0.75m	0.60m	0.20m
011	Concrete slab	0.60m	1.10m	0.10m
012	General demolition material	0.60m	1.10m	0.20m
100	Patio Paving Slabs	4.25m	1.8m	0.05m
101	Topsoil	8.0m	1.8m	0.25m
102	Demolition Layer	3.65m	1.80m	0.20m
103	Cobbled Yard Surface	3.25m	0.70m	0.10m
104	Natural Geology	11.50m	2.00m	-
105	Redeposited Natural	4.0m	1.8m	0.5m
106	Service Trench	1.85m	0.5m	0.3m
107	Fill of service trench	1.85m	0.5m	0.3m
200	Concrete Paving Slabs	3.00m	2.20m	0.05m
201	Bedding Layer	3.0m	2.2m	0.10m
202	Demolition material	1.5m	1.90m	0.14m
203	Backfill deposit	-	1.0m	0.24m
204	Garden soil	3.00m	2.20m	0.30m
205	Madeground-backfilling	-	0.98m	0.22m
206	Red brick wall	3.00m	0.30m	0.60m
207	Red brick soakaway	0.96m	0.98m	0.92m
208	Fill of soakaway	1.0m	0.80m	0.90m
209	Backfill of soakaway cut	-	0.72m	0.52m
210	Backfill of soakway cut	-	0.60m	0.20m
211	Construction cut for soakaway	-	1.70m	0.84m

212	Natural firm brown yellow clay	2.2m	1.32m	0.30m
213	Natural firm light blue grey silty clay	3.00m	2.20m	0.60m
214	Redeposited natural silty clay	2.0m	1.0m	0.40m
215	Construction cut	2.00m	-	0.40m
216	Garden soil	1.60m	0.60m	0.20m
301	Rubble deposit	7.75m	5.10m	1.00m
302	Mid grey brown clay silt. Natural silt deposit	7.75m	5.10m	0.40m
303	Dark blue grey clay silt. Natural silt deposit	7.75m	5.10m	0.30m
304	Solid base of the wheelhouse	7.75m	5.10m	-
305	Interconnecting red brick walls	Various	0.22- 0.60m	0.75m
306	Stonewall	3.20m	0.35m	1.50m
307	Backfill of construction cut in Test pit 6	1.50m	1.40m	1.25m
308	Natural grey clay	1.50m	1.40m	-
309	Construction cut for the wheelhouse	1.50m	1.40m	1.25m

Appendix B – Finds Assessment

By Paul Fitz

A collection of 20th Century finds were retrieved from 6 contexts (see quantification table below). The prominent artefacts of the whole assemblage are glass bottles, including an almost complete 'Camp Coffee' <Patterson's Glasgow> bottle as well as 'Anzora' and 'Brylcream' hair lotion bottles.

Pottery was present in 5 of the 6 contexts, with transfer-printed ware and white glazed earthenware ('table china') being prevalent.

Two pieces of ceramic roof tile were the only artefacts collected from context (105) but looking at the finds as a whole they most likely originated from the early or mid 20th C. These have been discarded.

The finds have little research value, and with the complete glass bottles all displaying chips and mild abrasion are not of display quality, but may have merit as a 'handling collection'.

Brick samples from two structures were collected. The most recent of these are from a soakaway in Trench 2 [207], and are in a sandy fabric, with sharp edges and well-defined frogs. These are of 20th century date. The second structure consists of bricks just 55mm thick, and bonded with lime mortar. The size of the bricks is suggestive of a 16th or 17th century date for the wall, and the use of lime mortar suggests a date prior to 1850. However, the bricks could have been reused in a structure later than the date of their manufacture.

Context	Material	Object	Period	Complete	Inscription	Description/Comments
102	Ceramic	Pottery	20 th C	N		2 x transfer-printed ware, 1 x plain white glazed.
105	Ceramic	Roof tile	Post-medieval	N		x 2
107	Ceramic	Pottery	20 th C	N		x 4-porcelain, stoneware and white glazed 'china'
107	Glass	Bottle	20 th C	Y	Flower lee & co ltd reading. Number code 28.	x 1
107	Glass	Bottle	20 th C	Y		2-inc. 'Camp Coffee'
107	Ceramic	Roof tile	Post-medieval	N		x 2
202	Ceramic	Pottery	20 th C	N		x 2 coloured china ware
202	Ceramic	Brick/tile	Post-medieval	N		x 2
	Glass	Vase	20 th C	N		Body sherd, white and rose layered glass
202	Glass	Bottle	20 th C	Y	"Anzora" REGD	Label
206	Ceramic	Brick	Early post-medieval	Y		From wall, 233mm x 110mm x 55mm, sharp edges. Lime mortar
206	Ceramic	Brick		N		From wall, ?? X 115mm x 55mm. Lime mortar
207	Ceramic	Brick	19 th or 20 th C	N		2 x from soakaway, ??X 115mm x 66mm. Sharp edges and frog.
208	Ceramic	Pottery	20 th C	N		x 4. 1 paste jar
208	Glass	Bottle	20 th C	Y	1 with brylcream regd. 1 with ess "camp" coffee & chicory Glasgow	x 4 inc hair lotion and cream pots. 1 x blue
216	Ceramic	Tobacco pipe	Post-medieval	N		x 1 stem-undiagnostic
216	Ceramic	Roof tile	Post-medieval	N		x 1
216	Ceramic	Pottery	19 th -20 th C	N		x 8-transfer-printed ware, 1 x stoneware and 1 x red ware

Appendix C – Oasis Summary Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-58843

Project details

Project name MILL HOUSE, STOWTING COURT ROAD, STOWTING, KENT

Short description of the project AOC Archaeology conducted an evaluation and watching brief at Mill House, Stowting Court Road, Stowting, Kent on behalf of CTM Architects LLP. The two trench evaluation revealed a buried cobbled surface relating to Mill House, as well as a red brick wall and soakaway. The watching brief conducted during the excavation of test pits and ground reduction revealed a series of brick walls which would have held the internal workings of the wheelhouse.

Project dates Start: 20-08-2008 End: 20-02-2009

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project reference codes MHS08 - UKHO Reference Number

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Other 2 - In use as a building

Monument type COBBLED SURFACE Post Medieval

Monument type WALL Post Medieval

Monument type SOAKAWAY Post Medieval

Monument type RED BRICK WALLS-INTERNAL Post Medieval

Significant Finds CERAMICS Post Medieval

Significant Finds GLASS Post Medieval

Methods & 'Sample Trenches','Test Pits'
techniques

Development type Rural residential

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Position in the After full determination (eg. As a condition)
planning process

Project location

Country England

Site location KENT SHEPWAY STOWTING Mill House, Stowting Court Road, Stowting, Kent

Postcode TN25 6

Study area 600.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 12346 41832 51.1641666667 -0.393055555556 51 09 51 N 000 23 35 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 91.82m Max: 92.45m

Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology
Organisation

Project brief Kent County Council
originator

Project design AOC Archaeology
originator

Project Andy Leonard
director/manager

Project supervisor Tom Collie

Project supervisor Chris Pole

Project supervisor Paolo Guarino

Type of Developer
sponsor/funding
body

Name of CRM Architects
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Physical Archive As yet undetermined
recipient

Digital Archive As yet undetermined
recipient

Digital Contents 'Ceramics','Glass','Stratigraphic','Survey'

Digital Media 'Database','Images raster / digital photography','Spreadsheets','Survey','Text'
available

Paper Archive As yet undetermined
recipient

Paper Contents 'Ceramics','Glass'

Paper Media 'Context
available sheet','Map','Matrices','Microfilm','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey',
'Unpublished Text'

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title MILL HOUSE, STOWTING COURT ROAD, STOWTING, KENT. AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

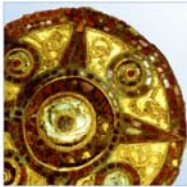
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