

**THAMES WATER  
MAINS INSTALLATION WORKS,  
LAND ADJACENT TO 4 PRIORY ROAD,  
DARTFORD, DA1 2BL**

An Archaeological Watching Brief

**September 2018**



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LAND ADJACENT TO 4 PRIORY ROAD,  
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An Archaeological Watching Brief

Site Code: PIY18

Site centre: NGR TQ 5391 7446

Batch 18 Project

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## ***Abstract***

*On the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018 Compass Archaeology Ltd conducted an archaeological watching brief on land opposite 4 Priory Road, Dartford, DA1 2BL. This was during groundworks associated with the installation of a Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) onto an existing water main as part of the Pressure Management Batch 18 Project. The work was commissioned by SMB JV on behalf of Thames Water, based on advice from the Kent County Archaeological Officer.*

*The programme of archaeological work entailed the monitoring of the excavation of a single open-cut trench, situated along the eastern side of Priory Road, approximately 100m north of the junction with Westgate Road. The trench measured 9.0m long by 2.5m wide by 1.33m deep (max.).*

*The stratigraphy was recorded in two stages in order to coincide with the anticipated exposure of archaeology during excavation at either end of the trench. It is important to note, however, that the trench was heavily disturbed by the installation of modern services, especially in the eastern and southern parts. It was possible to observe in section the existing road surface and bedding layer (0.15m thick) overlying a series of sandy/silty clay layers of made-ground containing post-medieval brick rubble (0.90m thick). This was observed in both ends of the trench. It is thought that these layers may represent possible 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century bedding layers associated with an earlier version of Priory Road.*

*The heavily compacted layers of chalk (0.15m thick) and flint pebbles (0.60m thick) recorded in the east-facing section, in the southern part of the trench, may also correspond with the construction of an earlier road, or they may represent the backfill of a feature such as the edge of a modern sewer/drain cut – running parallel with the section north-south.*

*Natural deposits were observed in the north-western corner of the trench at a depth of 1.27m below ground level, sloping down eastwards where it reached the trench base at 1.33m below ground level. The natural geology comprised orange-yellow sandy clay with occasional coarse angular gravels.*

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*Figs.3, and 9 reproduced from original drawings provided by Claire Hallybone and Thames Water*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document forms a summary of the results of an archaeological watching brief conducted on land opposite 4 Priory Road, Dartford DA1 2BL (Fig.1). This occurred as two separate monitoring visits, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018, in order to coincide with excavations.

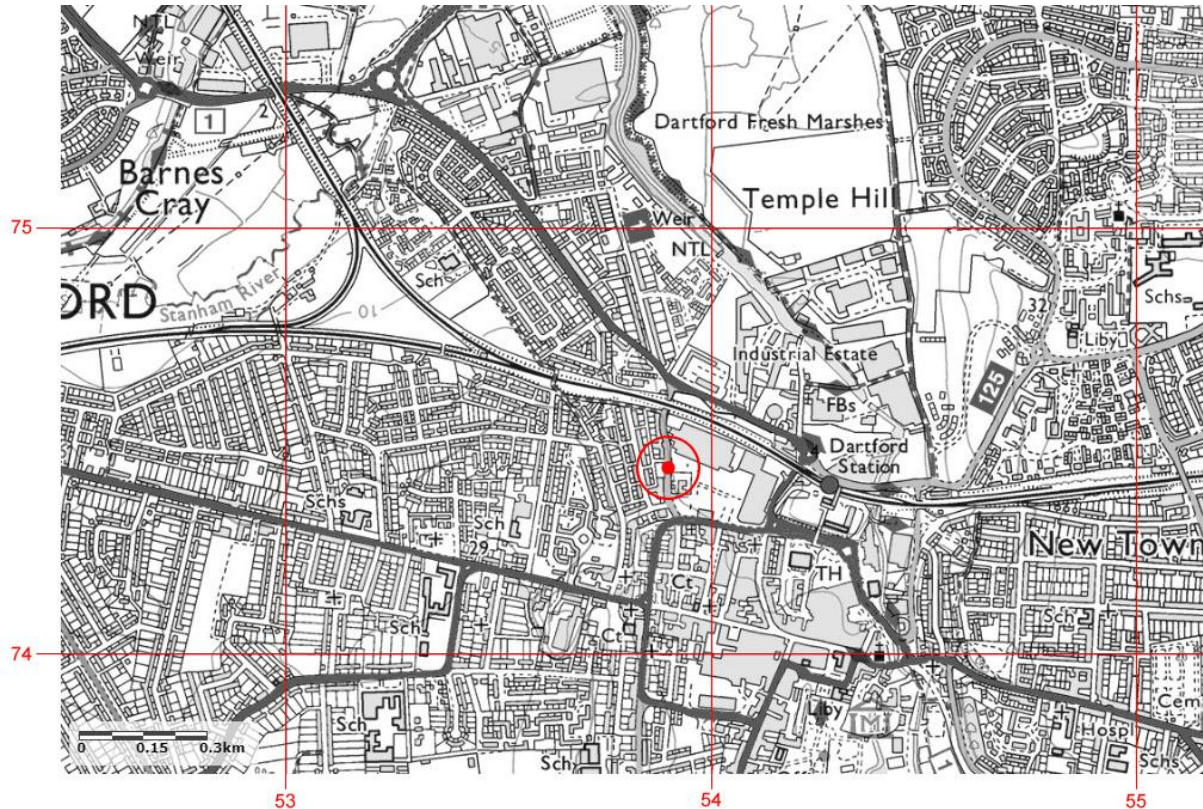


Figure 1: Site location (centre), marked in red.

1.2 The watching brief was commissioned by SMB JV on behalf of Thames Water, following advice from the Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council who considered archaeological monitoring of the excavations was required. This was based on the proximity of known archaeological remains currently documented in the Kent Historic Environment Records (KHER).

1.3 The programme of archaeological works entailed the monitoring of the excavation of a single open-cut trench, situated along the eastern side of Priory Road, and the installation of a Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) onto an existing water main as part of the Pressure Management Batch 18 Project.

## 2 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 2.1 Compass Archaeology would like to thank SMB JV for commissioning Compass to undertake the archaeological watching brief on behalf of Thames Water as well as ensuring access and providing support on site during the groundworks.

## 3 SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1 The groundworks followed the trajectory of an existing water main, which ran north-south along the eastern side of Priory Road. The trench was situated adjacent to number 4 Priory Road, approximately 100m north of Westgate Rd and 150m south of Burnham Rd/Victoria Rd (Fig.2).

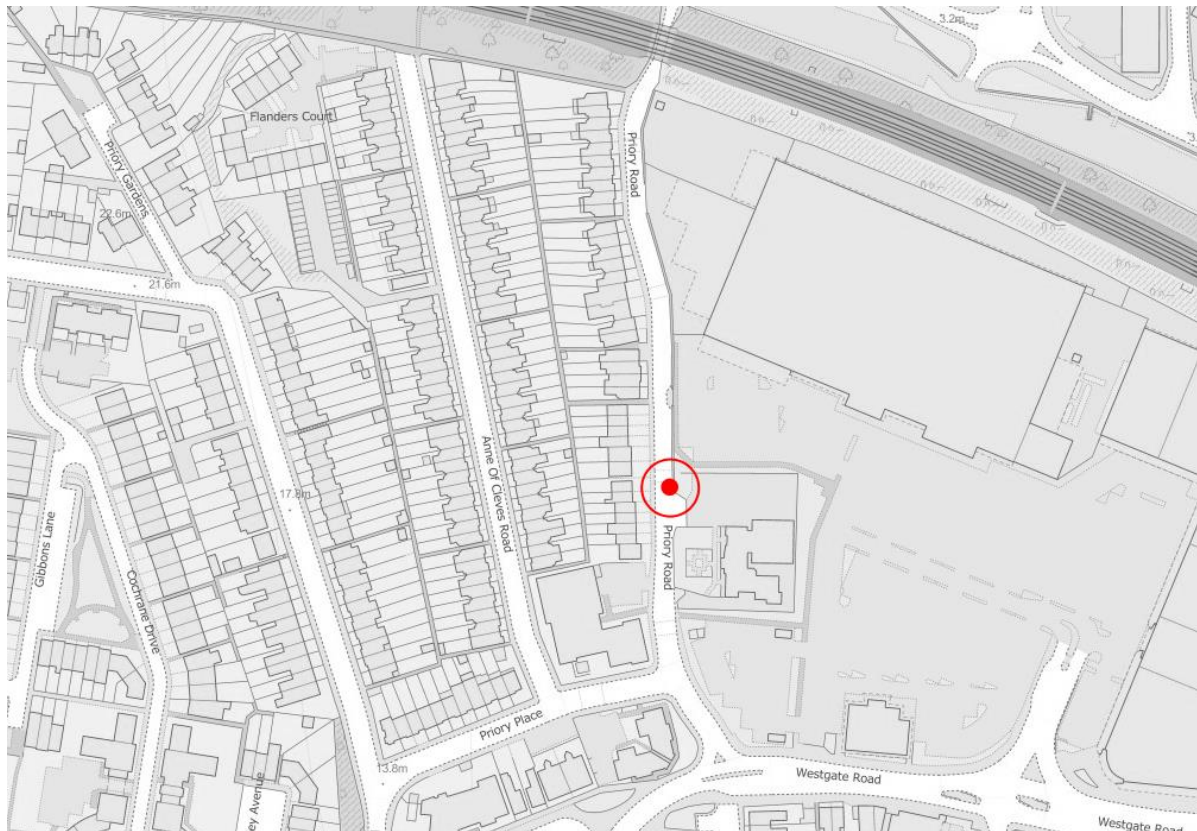


Figure 2: Site location (marked in red) on Priory Road

- 3.2 The site is situated within the western part of an Area of Archaeological Priority (AAP), surrounding Pleistocene deposits and the medieval Dominican Priory complex and later manor house (Fig.3). As such, the site was flagged by Kent County Council as archaeologically sensitive and it was determined that an archaeological watching brief was required.



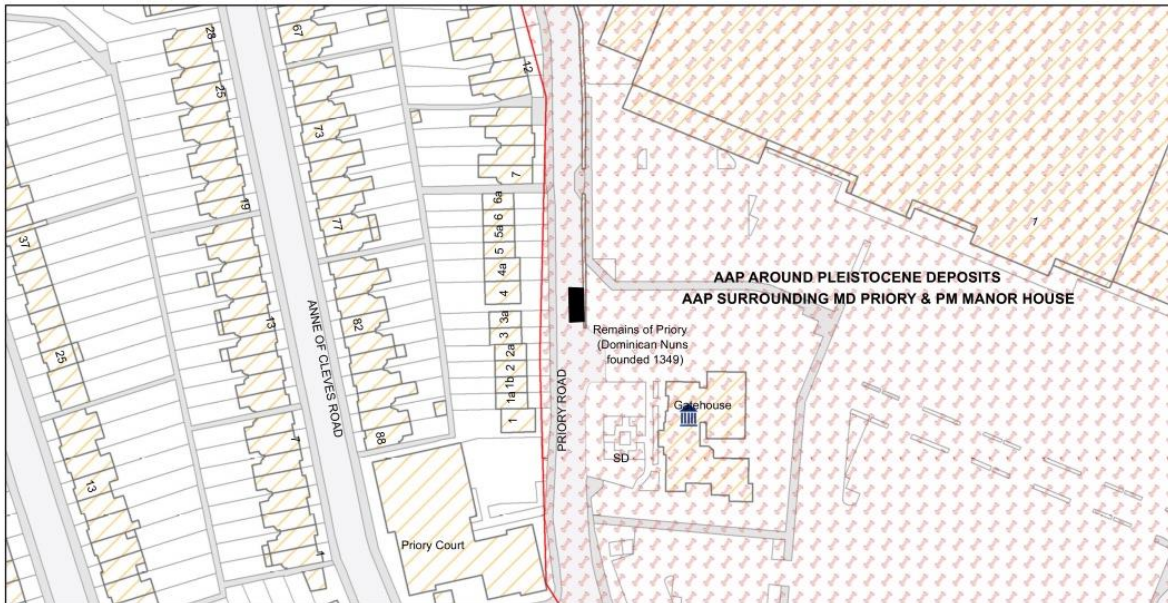


Figure 3: Proposed works (black) in relation to the AAP (red)

**3.3** According to the British Geological Survey (Sheet 271: *Dartford*) the site sits on a narrow band of Taplow Gravel, characterised by sandy gravel from the River Thames (Fig.4). This is bounded by a thin vein of Seaford Chalk to the west, and alluvial deposits from the River Darent to the east.

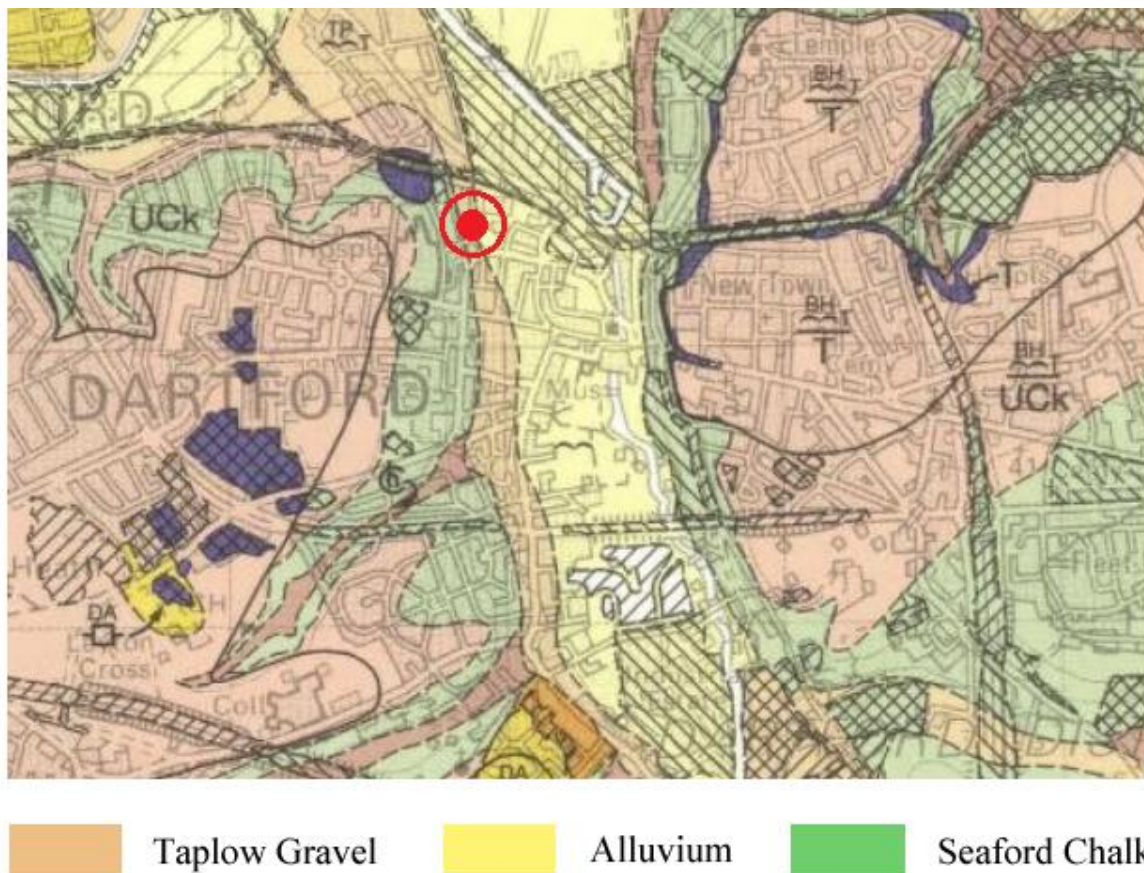


Figure 4: Extract from the BGS (1998) Sheet 271: *Dartford*, with site location marked in red.



## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND**

**4.1** Included here is a summary of the archaeological and historic background of the site, and the wider environs of Priory Road. A basic search of the Kent HER was made within a radius of 250m around the study site (centred on TQ 53913 74428) (see: <http://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.ExploringKentsPast.Web.Sites.Public/>).

The following section is largely based on these results. Refer to Appendix II for a full list of KHER entries.

### **4.2 *Prehistoric***

**4.2.1** There is some archaeological evidence of general ‘background activity’ taking place in the vicinity of the site during the prehistoric period. As a whole, Kent was exploited for its natural resources and was extensively quarried.

**4.2.2** Two Iron Age urns were recovered from the grounds of the County Hospital, dated to cAD200. Whilst not indicative of settlement on their own they indicate a presence in the area. The potential for encountering prehistoric finds or features of archaeological interest is therefore considered low.

### **4.3 *Roman***

**4.3.1** Due to its location on the river, Dartford was a strategic crossing point and focus of settlement during the Roman period. The Romans built a military road from their invasion point along the Kent coast, to London, crossing the River Darent. Dartford sprang up around this ford with settlers attracted to the rich soils of the Darent Valley.

**4.3.2** A small number of residual finds have been found within the site vicinity, including an unstratified coin of the Emperor Nero (reigned AD54-68) recovered from some garden rubbish.

### **4.4 *Medieval***

**4.4.1** Similarly, there is little archaeological evidence of settled occupation or large scale activity occurring in the vicinity of the site during the Saxon period. The documentary evidence suggests the Darenth (*Tarent*) existed as a large (59 households) settlement, appearing in Domesday, along with Horton Kirby (*Hortune*) which was another fairly sizeable settlement at the time.

**4.4.2** Despite the settled surrounds, there is no evidence of medieval activity or occupation in the vicinity of the study site. The potential for Saxon remains is deemed to be low.

### **4.5 *Post-Medieval***

**4.5.1** Following the dissolution of the Priory the site became a manor house. It was given to Anne of Cleves by Henry VIII as part of the divorce settlement. Anne of Cleves lived there between 1553 and 1557. It was later incorporated into John Hall’s Works and the surviving part is now open to the public and used as a wedding venue.

- 4.5.2 Elsewhere, the arrival of the railway in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and easy access to the river meant Dartford became a prosperous industrial town. John Hall established an Iron foundry and engineering works on land to the north of the site in 1875, which remained in business until the 1950s-60s. More notably, Martin Frobisher established an experimental smelting works in the area, in an attempt to extract gold from ‘Black Ore’ brought back from Baffin Island, Canada.
- 4.5.3 Dartford continued in a similar manner, expanding and adapting as the needs of the town grew (Figs.5-8). Renewed activity began in the post-war period and the previously open landscape of the Priory and its land was transformed into a residential and industrial hub, with the site itself being finished in the post-1960s.
- 4.5.4 The post-medieval period is well reflected in the archaeological record, in the form of features, stratigraphic sequences and finds. It is therefore considered that the likelihood of encountering finds and features of archaeological interest dating from the post-medieval to the modern period is high.



Figure 5: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 6-inch map (1895), with site location marked in red. The area is predominantly industrial in nature, incorporating the Priory Manor House into its grounds, with the surrounding land comprising open fields.





Figure 6: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 6-inch map (1907), with site location marked in red. The manor house can still be seen, however much of the previously open land to the west of Priory Lane has been laid out as terraced housing

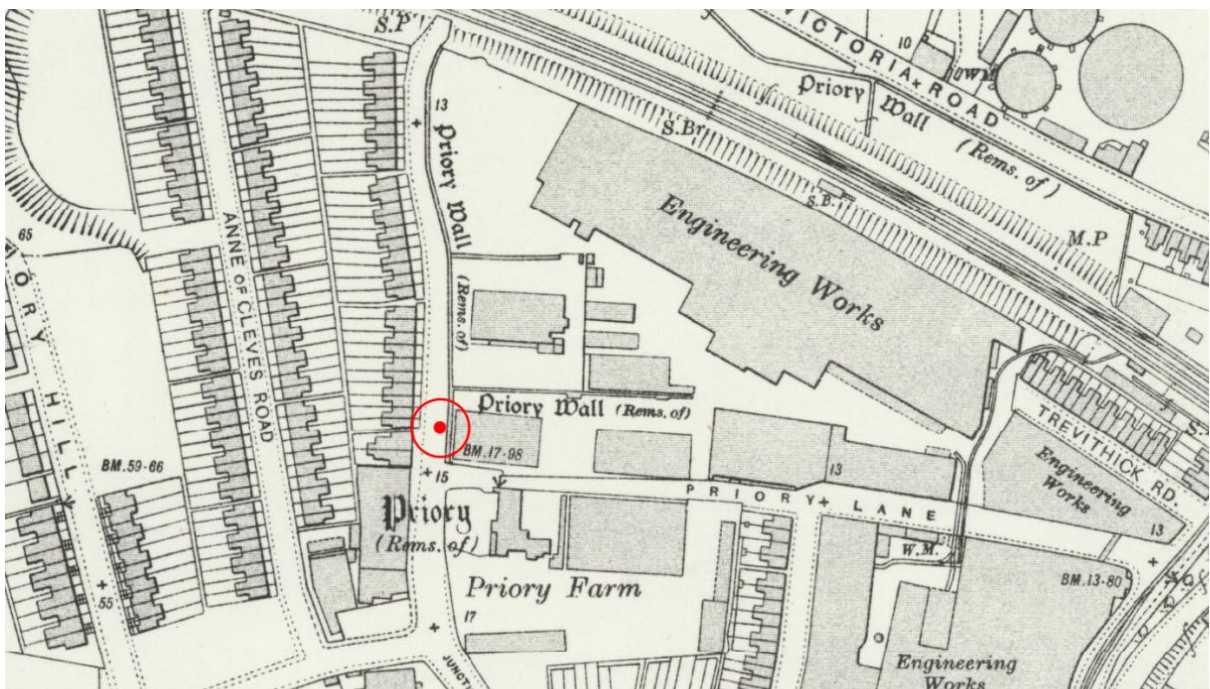


Figure 7: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 25-inch map (1931), with site location marked in red. Hall's Engineering Works has now expanded to the north of Priory Lane and only the main Manor House building now remains.





Figure 8: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map, TQ5274-5374-A (1962), with site location marked in red. Several of the terraces adjacent to the site have been cleared and the Engineering Works has expanded, abutting the Manor House. The previously open fields are now almost entirely built over.

## **5 OBJECTIVES**

- 5.1** The objectives of the archaeological watching brief were to contribute to the known heritage of the area through the recording of the archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the groundworks.

## **6 METHODOLOGY**

### **6.1 Standards**

- 6.1.1** The field and post-excavation work were carried out in accordance with the standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, CIfA, (*Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief 2014*). Overall management of the project was undertaken by a full member of the CIfA.
- 6.1.2** Fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the Construction (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations. All members of the fieldwork team held valid CSCS (Construction Skills Certificate Scheme) cards, and wore hi-vis jackets, hard-hats, steel-toe-capped boots, etc., as required. All members of the fieldwork team also followed the contractors' health and safety guidelines.
- 6.1.3** The Client and Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council were kept informed of the progress of fieldwork.

### **6.2 Fieldwork**

- 6.2.1** The watching brief monitored excavations associated with the completion of a single open cut trench to install a Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) on to an existing water main (Fig.9). The existing main ran north-south along the eastern site of Priory Road. The trench measured approximately 9.0m in length by 2.50m in width by a maximum of 1.33m in depth, exposing the existing main.
- 6.2.2** The works were undertaken via a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket to clear the extant road surface, followed by hand excavation and cleaning to expose the existing services.
- 6.2.3** Adequate time was given for investigation and recording of the trench, although every effort was made not to disrupt the development programme.
- 6.2.4** Observations were recorded as appropriate on pro-forma Trench sheets by written and measured description. The investigations were recorded on a general site plan and related to the Ordnance Survey grid. The fieldwork record was supplemented by digital photography, in .jpeg and RAW formats.
- 6.2.5** The recording system followed the procedures set out in the Museum of London recording manual. By agreement the recording sheets used are directly compatible with those developed by the Museum.



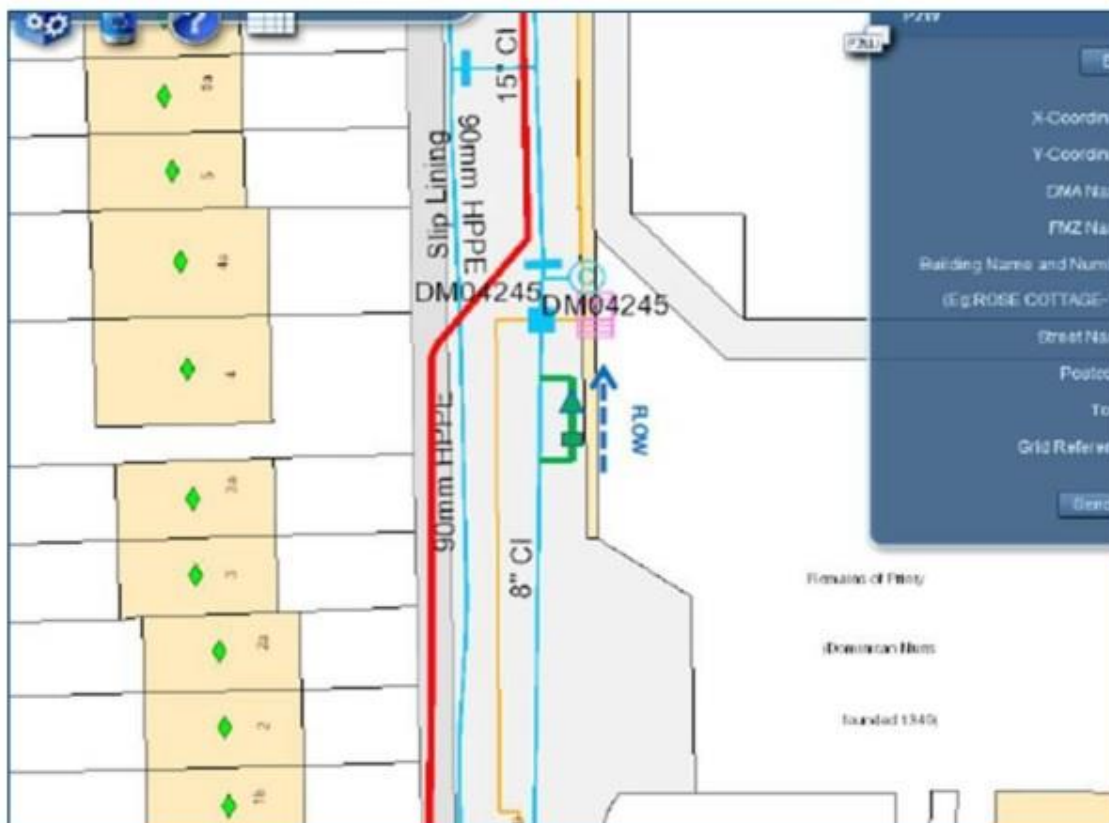
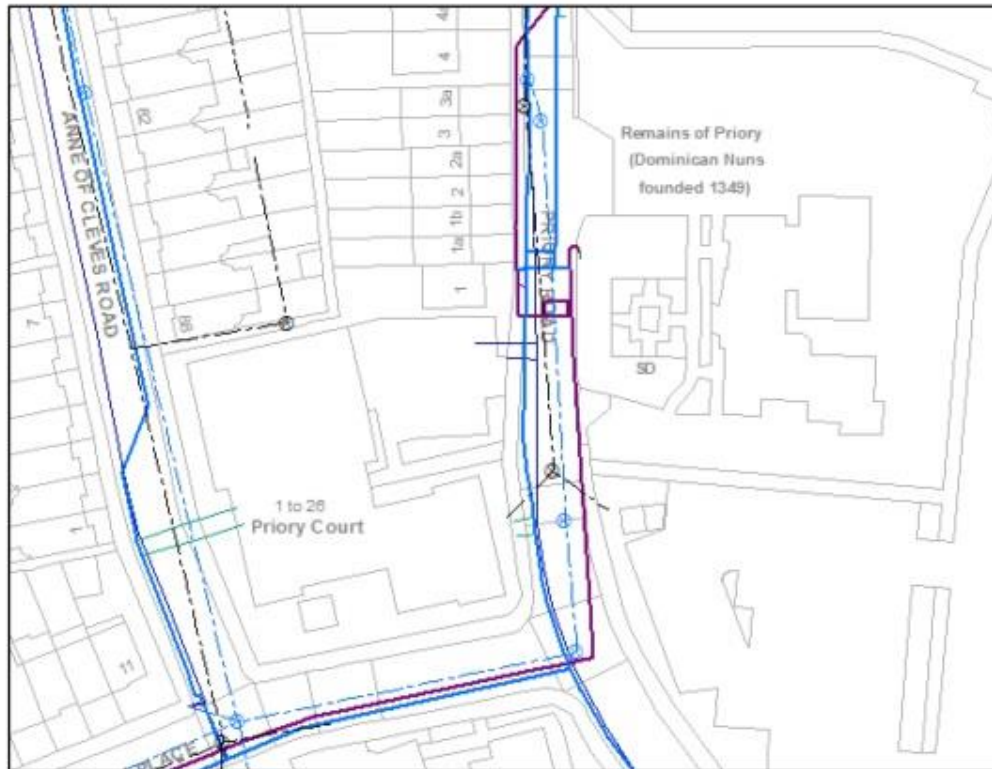


Figure 9: Scope of work

### **6.3 Post-excavation**

**6.3.1** The fieldwork was followed by off-site assessment and compilation of a report, and by ordering and deposition of the site archive.

**6.3.2** Assessment of finds was undertaken by appropriately qualified staff. Finds were treated in accordance with the appropriate guidelines, including the Museum of London's 'Standards for the Preparation of Finds to be permanently retained by the Museum of London'. All identified finds and artefacts were retained and bagged with unique numbers related to the context record, although certain classes of material were discarded once an appropriate record had been made.

### **6.4 Report Procedure**

**6.4.1** This report contains a description of the fieldwork plus details of any archaeological remains or finds, and an interpretation of the associated deposits. Illustrations have been included as appropriate, including a site plan located to the OS grid. A short summary of the project has been appended using both the OASIS Data Collection Form and Kent County Historic Environment Record Report Form.

**6.4.2** Copies of this report will be supplied to the Client and the Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.

### **6.5 The Site Archive**

**6.5.1** Assuming that no further work is required, an ordered indexed and internally consistent archive of the evaluation will be compiled in line with CIfA standards and guidance (CIfA 2014)a, and will be deposited in the Dartford Borough Museum under site code PIY18.

## 7 RESULTS

7.1 The following forms a written description of observations made during the watching brief conducted on land adjacent to 4 Priory Road. Deposits are shown as (x), while cuts are presented as [x]. The text is supplemented with illustrative photographs.

7.2 The watching brief was conducted across the course of two separate monitoring visits, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018. A single rectangular trench measuring 9.0m long by 2.50m wide was excavated along the eastern side of Priory Road, adjacent to property No.4 Priory Road. It was aligned N-S and ran parallel to a stone boundary wall 0.92m to the east; its location is displayed on the plan below (Fig.10).

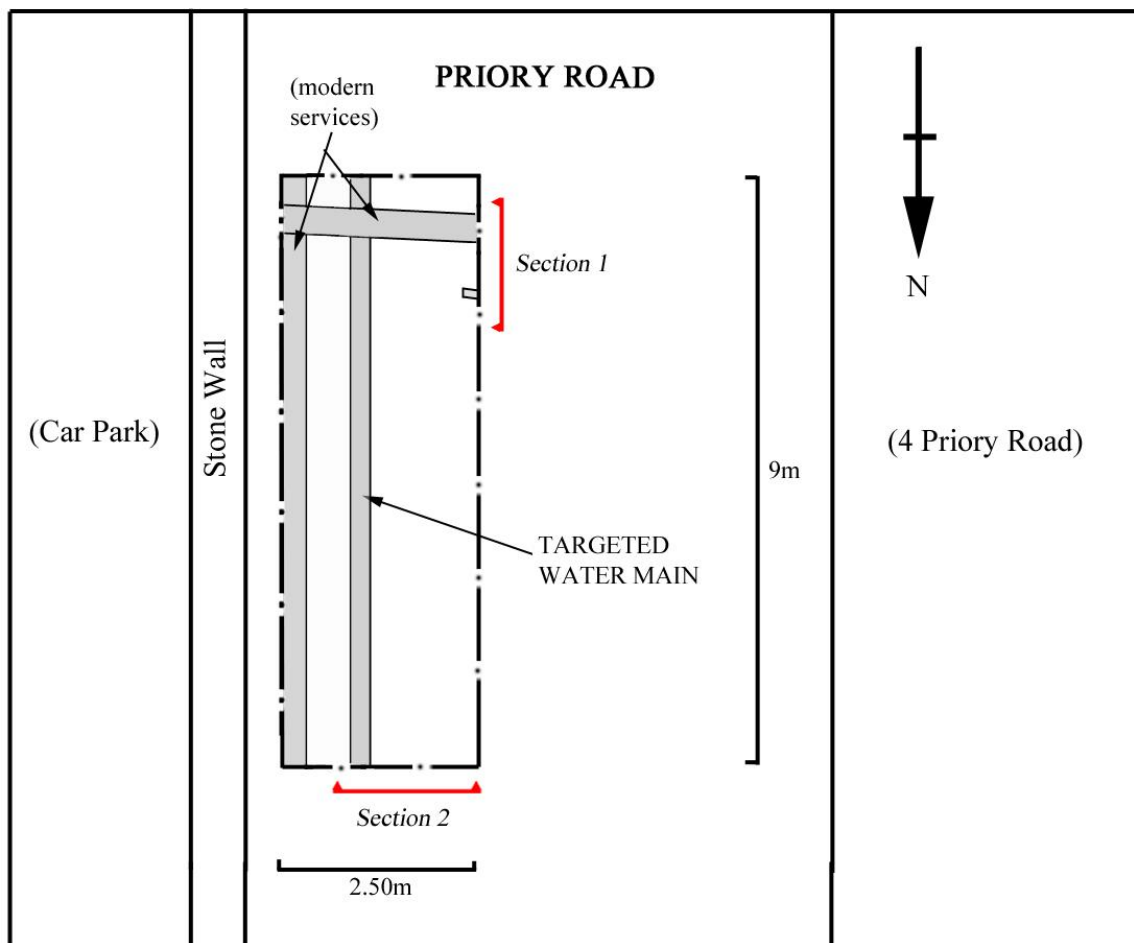


Figure 10: Plan of N-S Trench, highlighting Sections 1 & 2, and modern services (not to scale)



Figure 11: General shot of the excavated trench, facing SW; the water main is shown in the centre of photograph

**7.3** The stratigraphy was recorded in two stages, in order to coincide with the anticipated exposure of archaeological deposits and remains during excavation at either end of the trench (Fig.11). The east-facing section in the southern portion of the trench was recorded first (*Section 1*, Fig.10) followed by the south-facing section in the northern end of the trench (*Section 2*, Fig.10). It was decided to target sections fixed at either end of the trench in order to investigate and compare a range of deposits. It is important to note, however, that the material within the trench was heavily disturbed by modern services running through the trench in the eastern and southern parts (Figs.12-13).





*Figure 12: Detail of trench, facing SW, highlighting extensive disturbance caused by modern services*



*Figure 13: Detail of disturbance caused by water main (below) and unknown service pipe (above), both running N-S, in west-facing section*



## 7.4 Section 1

- 7.4.1** The stratigraphy in the southern part of the trench was observed in *Section 1* (Fig.14) and comprised an upper layer of tarmac (1), 0.15m thick, which forms the modern road surface. This overlies a clean, compact layer of chalk (2), measuring at 0.15m thick, extending along the trench section at a uniform level. Below the chalk, a layer of very compact flint rubble (3) was observed at 0.30m below ground surface, extending down to 0.90m below ground surface (0.60m thick). A lower layer of made-ground (4) consisting of a dark grey-brown silty dumped material was recorded 0.90m below ground level, extending down to the trench base, 1.27m below ground level. The made-ground contained frequent gravel and small stony inclusions, as well as a single brick fragment dated to the 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century (Appendix III).
- 7.4.2** The chalk, flint and made-ground layers were truncated by the cuts of two modern services [5], [7], both running east-west across the trench, clearly illustrated in the east-facing section (Fig.14). Most of the material in this area of the trench consisted of loose backfill (6) and (8), associated with these modern cuts.
- 7.4.3** Natural geology was not exposed in this southern portion of the trench.



Figure 14: Detail of east-facing section (*Section 1*), in southern end of trench (1m scale); illustrating truncation caused by service pipe [5] (bottom left), and compacted layers of chalk (2) (0.15m down from scale top) and flint rubble (3) (0.40m down from scale top)

## 7.5 Section 2

- 7.5.1** The stratigraphy in the northern part of the trench was recorded from the south-facing *Section 2* (Fig.15). Unfortunately work had already been undertaken to support the trench sides with timber shoring, which partially reduced the visibility of the section (Fig. 16).



- 7.5.2** Despite this, it was possible to record the stratigraphy of the section. Below the tarmac of the current road surface (9), measuring 90mm thick, was a substantial layer of pale concrete (10) associated with the backfilling of the original water mains cut [11]. Below the concrete was a series of dirty, mixed deposits of sandy and silty clay (12), (13), (14), extending down to 1.27m below ground surface, interpreted as post-medieval made-ground. These layers were observed to contain frequent small gravelly flint inclusions, as well as small pieces of chalk and chalk dust. A small number of post-medieval brick samples were retrieved from these lower layers of made-ground, which were subsequently dated to the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Two examples of 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> century brick were also identified, probably residual fragments of material associated with the Dominican Priory which once stood to the east of the study site (Appendix III).
- 7.5.3** The lower made-ground layer sealed approximately 60mm of compact orange-yellow, sandy clay (15), which sloped downwards from west to east, continuing into the trench base at 1.33m below ground level. This was taken to be the natural geology.



*Figure 15: Detail of south-facing section (Section 2), in northern end of trench (0.5m scale); illustrating water main (blue) [11] and unknown service pipe (far right), backfilled with concrete (10), truncating dark layers of made-ground (12), (13), (14) (left)*





*Figure 16: View of timber shoring supporting trench sides, facing NW*

## 8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1** The stratigraphic sequence recorded at both ends of the trench was extensively affected by heavy disturbance caused by the installation of various modern services. In those areas of less-affected truncation, however, it was possible to observe in section the existing road surface and bedding layer overlying a series of sandy/silty clay layers of made-ground containing post-medieval brick rubble. This was observed in both ends of the trench. It is thought that these layers may represent possible 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century bedding layers associated with an earlier version of Priory Road.
- 8.2** The anomalous, compact layers of chalk and flint pebbles recorded in the east-facing section, in the southern part of the trench, may also correspond with the construction of an earlier road, or they may represent the backfill of a modern cut feature – the edge of a sewer/drain – running parallel with the section north-south. The high level of disturbance often made it difficult to distinguish any interface between original made-ground/bedding layers and modern service backfill.
- 8.3** Natural deposits were observed only in the north-western corner of the trench, at a depth of 1.27m below ground level, sloping down eastwards where it reached the trench base at 1.33m below ground level. The natural geology comprised orange-yellow sandy clay with occasional coarse angular gravels.

## **9 SOURCES**

### **9.1 Bibliography**

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014)a. *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives.*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014)b. *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief.*

Communities and Local Government (2012). *National Planning Policy Framework.*

Historic England (2015). *Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service: Standards for Archaeological Work.*

Kent Archaeological Society,  
<https://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/Research/02/DDAG/08/20.html>

Kent County Council (2017). Heritage Maps.

Mayor of London (2015). *The London Plan.*

Page, William (1926), 'Friaries: the Dominican Nuns of Dartford' in *A History of the County of Kent: Volume 2*, pp. 181-190

### **9.2 Cartographic Sources (in chronological order)**

Ordnance Survey (1895). *Kent. Sheet IX.NW. Six-inch.*

Ordnance Survey (1907). *Kent. Sheet IX.NW. Six-inch.*

Ordnance Survey (1931). *Kent. Sheet IX.NW. Six-inch*

Ordnance Survey (1962). *TQ5274-TQ5374-A. 1:1250*

British Geological Survey (1998). Sheet 271: *Dartford.*

**APPENDIX I**

## List of Contexts

Number	Section No.	Description	Interpretation
(1)	1	Tarmac and concrete bedding	Existing road surface
(2)	1	Compact white chalk, very clean	Possible earlier bedding layer or backfill of cut running parallel with section
(3)	1	Very compact mid brown-grey flint rubble	Possible bedding layer for post-medieval road
(4)	1	Dark grey-brown sandy, silt with frequent gravel and small stone inclusions, occasional ceramic building material (CBM)	Post-medieval made-ground deposit; bedding layer for earlier road?
[5]	1	Intrusive V-shaped cut	Modern service (Electricity)
(6)	1	Dark, loose silty soil with concrete	Modern service backfill of [5]
[7]	1	Intrusive V-shaped cut	Modern service (Unknown)
(8)	1	Dark, loose silty soil	Modern service backfill [7]
(9)	2	Tarmac and concrete bedding	Existing road surface
(10)	2	Pale grey concrete	Backfill of [11]
[11]	2	Intrusive V-shaped cut	Modern service (water mains)
(12)	2	Moderately compact, mid grey-brown silty clay; occasional CBM, flint and chalk inclusions	Upper deposit of post-medieval made-ground/levelling layer
(13)	2	Compact, mid orange-brown silty clay; occasional CBM and flint inclusions	Middle deposit of post-medieval made-ground/levelling layer
(14)	2	Moderately compact, pale orange-brown sandy clay; frequent chalk dust, occasional CBM, animal bone and flint inclusions	Lower deposit of post-medieval made-ground/levelling layer
(15)	2	Compact, orange-yellow sandy clay with occasional coarse gravel	Natural geology



## APPENDIX II

## KHER Record

### Monuments

#### Prehistoric

No.	HER no.	TQ ref.	Description	References
1	TQ 57 SW 85	5367 7438	MKE967. Iron Age site, County Hospital. Two urns probably found by the chief gardener in c 1932. Two vessels dated to cAD200.	

#### Roman

No.	HER no.	TQ ref.	Description	References
2	TQ 57 SW 50	5394 7420	MKE935. Findspot. A coin of Nero, found at the east end of Essex Road. Unstratified.	

#### Medieval

No.	HER no.	TQ ref.	Description	References
3	TQ 57 SW 1051	5393 7461	MKE25558. Grade II Listed Building. Remains of priory walls in Victoria Road, Kingsfield Terrace and Priory Lane, including the doorway in Kingsfield Terrace. Kentish ragstone with some flint and brick. Mainly medieval in date but some parts from Henry VIII's reign. The doorway was inserted in 1544.	Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology (2001). <i>Prospect Place Retail Park, Dartford.</i>
4	TQ 57 SW 1042	5394 7440	MKE25549. Grade II * Listed Building. Priory farmhouse containing the remains of Dartford Priory gatehouse. Royal Manor house, built in c1543. Surviving south-west corner of the great courtyard of a house built by Henry VIII within the precinct of Dartford Priory.  Granted to Anne of Cleves by Edward VI, later used by Queen Elizabeth I. Used as a farmhouse until taken over by Hall's Works.	Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology (2001). <i>Prospect Place Retail Park, Dartford. Desk-Based Assessment.</i>
5	TQ57 SW 90	5401 7452	MKE970. Dartford Priory (site of). A House of Dominican Nuns, or Sisters of The Order of St Augustine, and as such the only one of its kind in England. It was founded by Edward III in 1349 and dissolved in 1539 when Henry VIII built a Manor House on the site in c1543, It briefly returned to the Dominicans between 1557 and 1559 before returning to the Crown and later private ownership.  Archaeological work has uncovered numerous sections of walls, the main cloister and church.	Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology (2001). <i>Prospect Place Retail Park, Dartford. Desk-Based Assessment.</i>

## Post-medieval

No.	HER no.	TQ ref.	Description	References
6	MKE88615	5393 7436	Priory Farm. A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to three sides of the yard.	Unpublished document: Forum Heritage Services (2012). <i>Kent Farmsteads &amp; Landscape Project</i> .
7	TQ 57 SW 246	5398 7440	MKE20312. Experimental smelting works. The site of mills and smelting furnaces in an attempt to extract gold from 'Black Ore' brought back from Baffin island, Canada by Martin Frobisher.	Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology (2001). <i>Prospect Place Retail Park, Dartford: Archaeological Evaluation</i> .
8	TQ 57 SW 413	5399 7435	MKE774. Drainage ditch with finds. Uncovered during trial investigations associated with Henry VIII's estate. A drainage ditch 1-5m deep x 2m wide was found in addition to pottery ranging from Tudor Green to medieval glazed and coarse ware, and Roman wares including samian.	
9	TQ 57 SW 361	5400 7465	MKLE90632. Ironworks. Second World War air raid wardens sector post off Victoria Road.	Dartford Central Library: Contemporary map of air raid warden posts in Dartford area.
10	TQ 57 SW 245	5411 7440	MKE20311. Iron foundry and later engineering works founded by John Hall in 1875. Initially the company specialised in heavy foundry based engineering. It later moved into refrigeration, before the production of lorry engines and chassis, and then lifts. Fortunes declined in the 1950s and 60s. Archaeological evaluation work in 2003 uncovered evidence of a revetment for a 17 <sup>th</sup> century reservoir and a single piece of pottery. Also brick and yard foundations from the Hall's works. A tanning pit, shown on a map of 1807 and the mid-19 <sup>th</sup> century boiler shop identified.	Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology. Prospect Place Retail Park, Dartford: Post-Excavation Assessment Report and Updated Project Design.

## Modern

No.	HER no.	TQ ref.	Description	References
11	TQ 57 SW 398	5370 7430	MKE90671. West Hill hospital Second World War First Aid post. Established in 1939.	
12	TQ 57 SW 383  TQ 57 SW 405	5393 7418.	MKE90656. Technical College Second World War air raid shelter. In use for the general public after school hours between 1939/40 and 1945.  MKE92930. Blue plaque by 8 or 10 Essex Road. Marks the original site of Dartford Museum, situated here between 1908 and 1921.	

## Events

No.	HER ref	TQ ref	Description	Sources
13	EKE11663	5404 7456	Evaluation of land off Victoria Road, Dartford. No archaeological finds or features recorded. Visual inspection of a wall present revealed it was probably part of the priory though substantially rebuilt in post-medieval and modern periods.	Unpublished document: Archaeology South-East. 2011. <i>An Archaeological Evaluation on Land off Victoria Road, Dartford, Kent.</i>
14	EKE11660	5402 7473	7 geotechnical test pits at Unwins Warehouse-revealed no archaeological finds or features	Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology. 2009. <i>Unwins, Dartford, Kent: Archaeological Watching Brief on Geotechnical Works</i>
15	EKE3841	540 745	Hall- Thermotank Site, Hythe Street. No description recorded	
16	EKE8585	5401 7439	Evaluation at Prospect Place Retail Park. Extensive 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> century development had truncated most of archaeological evidence for Dartford Priory.	Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology. <i>Prospect Place Retail Park, Dartford: Post-excavation Assessment Report and Updated Project Design.</i> Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology. 2003. <i>Prospect Place Retail Park, Dartford, Kent: Archaeological Evaluation</i>
17	EKE8586	5405 7440	Evaluation at Prospect Place Retail Park. Much modern disturbance encountered, although archaeological features of an 18 <sup>th</sup> century reservoir and from John Hall's 19 <sup>th</sup> century engineering works were found.	Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology. <i>Prospect Place Retail Park, Dartford: Post-excavation Assessment Report and Updated Project Design.</i> Unpublished document: Wessex Archaeology. 2003. <i>Prospect Place Retail Park, Dartford, Kent: Archaeological Evaluation</i>
18	EWX6544	539 744	Excavation at Manor Gatehouse, Dartford. No description recorded	Article in serial: Baker C. 1991. <i>Excavations at the Manor Gatehouse, Dartford.</i> 18: pp.1-2



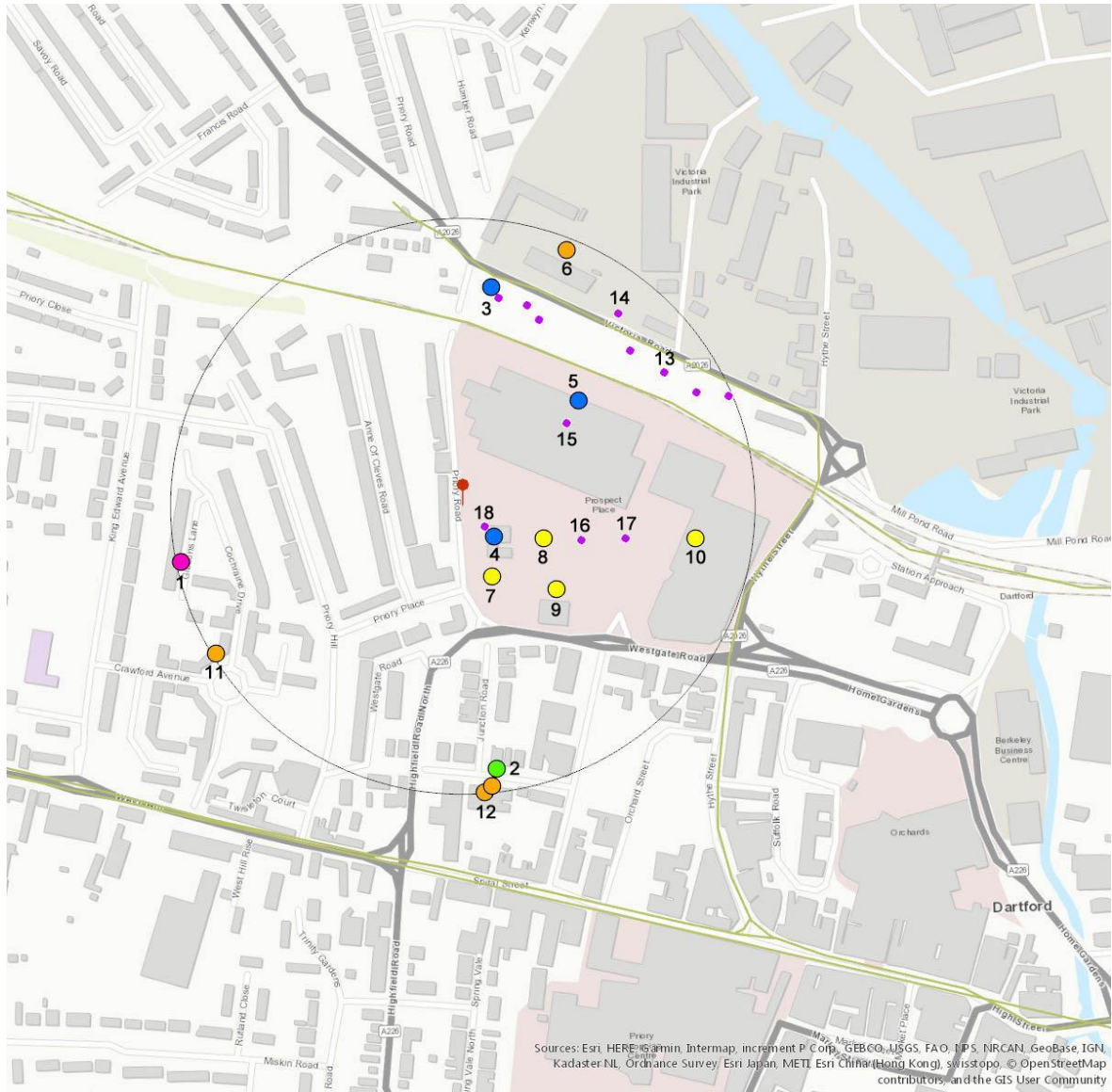


Figure 17: Distribution of KHER entries within a 250m radius of the site: pink = Prehistoric; green = Roman; blue = medieval; yellow = Post-medieval; orange = modern and; purple = events. Site location marked by red pin.

**APPENDIX III**

Ceramic Building Materials Analysis by *Susan Pringle*

Fill of	Context date	Period	Form	Weight	L	B	T	Comments	Fabric notes	E date	L date
South end of trench	1750-1850	PM	brick	526	96+	72+	65	Fragment with part shallow frog. Flat surfaces	Gault clay fabric, abundant fine to medium quartz and sparse coarse to very coarse quartz	1750	1850
North end of trench	1750-1900	PM	brick	402	85+	102	53	Unfrogged; creased faces, uneven base. Very abraded. Probably 15th/16th c.	North Kent version of fabric.	1400	1700
North end of trench	1750-1900	PM	brick	386	0	0	67	Flat faces. Flake with base almost all gone.	Fabric probably from early end of date range.	1750	1940
North end of trench	1750-1900	M/PM	peg	14	0	0	0	-	-	1200	1800
North end of trench	1750-1900	PM	peg	25	0	0	0	Part angular nail-hole	Kentish version of fabric	1450	1800

## Appendix IV OASIS Data Collection Form

OASIS ID: [compassa1-327874](#)

### Project details

Project name	Land Adjacent to 4 Priory Road
Short description of the project	<p>On the 3rd and 7th August 2018 Compass Archaeology Ltd conducted an archaeological watching brief on land opposite 4 Priory Road, Dartford, DA1 2BL. This was during groundworks associated with the installation of a Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) onto an existing water main. The programme of archaeological work entailed the monitoring of the excavation of a single open-cut trench, situated along the eastern side of Priory Road. The trench was heavily disturbed by the installation of modern services, especially in the eastern and southern parts. Nevertheless, it was possible to observe in section the existing road surface and bedding layer (0.15m thick) overlying a series of sandy/silty clay layers of made-ground containing post-medieval brick rubble (0.90m thick). It is thought that these layers may represent possible 18th/19th century bedding layers associated with an earlier version of Priory Road. The heavily compacted layers of chalk (0.15m thick) and flint pebbles (0.60m thick) recorded in the southern part of the trench may also correspond with the construction of an earlier road, or they may represent the backfill of a feature running parallel with the section north-south. Natural sandy clay deposits were observed in the north-western corner of the trench at a depth of 1.27m below ground level, sloping down eastwards where it reached the trench base at 1.33m below ground level.</p>
Project dates	Start: 03-08-2018 End: 07-08-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	PIY18 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 1 - Highways and road transport
Monument type	MADE GROUND Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice



### Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT DARTFORD DARTFORD Land Adjacent to 4 Priory Road
Postcode	DA1 2BL
Study area	22.5 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 5391 7446 51.447664124374 0.215118101194 51 26 51 N 000 12 54 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	County Planning Archaeologist
Project design originator	Kent County Council
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Project supervisor	Alex Kerr
Type of sponsor/funding body	Thames Water Utilities

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Dartford Borough Museum
Physical Archive ID	PIY18
Physical Contents	"other"
Digital Archive recipient	Dartford Borough Museum
Digital Archive ID	PIY18
Digital Contents	"other"

Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Dartford Borough Museum
Paper Archive ID	PIY18
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Unpublished Text"

### **Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Thames Water Mains Installation Works, Land Adjacent to 4 Priory Road, Dartford, DA1 2BL: An Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Kerr, A
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	250 York Road, London, SW11 3SJ
Description	A brief summary of the results of the watching brief. Includes site background, historic context, aims and objectives, methodology, written description of observations, conclusions reached. Accompanied by maps, location plans, and illustrative photographs.

<b>Site Name:</b> Thames Water Mains Installation Works – Land adj. to 4 Priory Road	
<b>Site Address:</b> 4 Priory Road, Dartford, DA1 2BL	
<b>Summary:</b> A watching brief, conducted during mains water installation works, monitored a single open-cut trench along the eastern side of Priory Road. The trench was dug to a maximum depth of 1.33m. Apart from a few truncated layers of post-medieval made-ground, no features of archaeological significance were observed; the material within the trench was heavily disturbed by modern service installations.	
<b>District/Unitary:</b> Dartford	<b>Parish:</b> Dartford
<b>Period(s):</b> Post-Medieval	
<b>NGR:</b> TQ 5391 7446 (centre)	
<b>Type of archaeological work:</b> Archaeological watching brief	
<b>Date of Recording:</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> August 2018	
<b>Unit undertaking recording:</b> Compass Archaeology Ltd	
<b>Geology:</b> Taplow Gravel	
<b>Title and author of accompanying report:</b> Thames Water Mains Installation Works, Land Adjacent to 4 Priory Road, Dartford, DA1 2BL: An Archaeological Watching Brief - Alex Kerr	
<b>Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate)</b>  The stratigraphic sequence recorded at both ends of the trench was extensively affected by the heavy disturbance caused by the installation of various modern services.  The existing road surface overlay a series of sandy/silty clay layers of made-ground containing post-medieval brick rubble. This was observed in both ends of the trench. It is thought that these layers may represent possible 18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> century bedding layers associated with an earlier version of Priory Road.  The anomalous compact layers of chalk and flint pebbles recorded in the southern part of the trench may also correspond with the construction of an earlier road, or they may represent the backfill of a modern cut feature – the edge of a sewer/drain – running parallel with the section north-south.  Natural deposits were observed in the north-western corner of the trench at a depth of 1.27m below ground level, sloping down eastwards where it reached the trench base at 1.33m below ground level. The natural geology comprised orange-yellow sandy clay with occasional coarse angular gravels.	
<b>Location of archive/finds:</b> Compass Archaeology Ltd	
<b>Contact at Unit:</b> Geoff Potter	<b>Date:</b> September 2018