

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report  
The Town House  
The Street, Ightham  
Kent, TN15 9HH**

**NGR: 559530 156750**

**ASE Project No: 170245  
Site Code: IGH17  
ASE Report No: 2017150  
OASIS id: archaeol6-280397**





**By Odile Rouard**

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<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Odile Rouard</b>	<b>Archaeologist</b>	
<b>Reviewed and approved by:</b>	<b>Dan Swift</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>	
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	<b>April 2017</b>		
<b>Revision:</b>			

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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Stiles & Co Chartered Surveyors Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the replacement of a floor at the Town House, The Street, Ightham TN15 9HH, Kent.*

*No archaeological features, deposits or surfaces were identified in the watching brief.*

## CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Background
- 3.0 Methodology
- 4.0 Results
- 5.0 Discussion and Conclusions

Bibliography  
Acknowledgements

HER Summary  
OASIS Form

### TABLES

- Table 1: Quantification of site archive
- Table 2: List of recorded contexts

### FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Location of monitored area
- Figure 3: Selected plates

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by the Stiles & Co Chartered Surveyors Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during intrusive works to replace a floor at the Town House, The Street, Ightham, Kent. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR 559530 156750; Figure 1.)

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey BGS 2017) of the area, the site lies on Sandgate Formation – sandstone and mudstone. No superficial deposits were recorded.

### **1.3 Aims and Objectives**

1.3.1 The general aim of the archaeological work was to monitor any intrusive groundworks to ensure that any features, artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest exposed and affected by the works were recorded and interpreted to appropriate standards.

### **1.4 Scope of Report**

1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological work on the site. The monitoring was undertaken by Odile Rouard (Archaeologist) on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2017.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 The Town House is a 16<sup>th</sup> century timber-framed building. It is a Grade II Listed Building and is located immediately west of The Street. Another Listed Building (The Old Forge House, Grade II\*) is situated just across the road from the Town House.

## **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Fieldwork Methodology**

3.1.1 A watching brief was maintained during groundworks associated with the replacement of the kitchen floor of the property, following water damage. A monitoring visit was undertaken on March the 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017.

3.1.2 The exposed floor was examined for the presence of archaeological deposits or artefacts.

3.1.3 All deposits encountered were recorded according to accepted professional standards using ASE standard record sheets. A full photographic record of the area was kept and forms part of the site archive.

### 3.2 The Site Archive

3.2.1 The project archive is presently held at Archaeology South-East offices at Portslade, East Sussex, and will be deposited with Sevenoaks Museum in due course. The contents of the project archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	3
No. of files/paper record	1
Photographs	11 digital images

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The watching brief was undertaken over a day in March 2017.

4.1.2 The stratigraphy of the kitchen floor was observed to be a modern tile floor (001) overlying a modern concrete slab (002) and overlying in turn a compacted make-up layer made of rubble and broken ceramic building material.

4.1.3 No archaeological finds or features were identified.

<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Max. Length m</b>	<b>Max. Width m</b>	<b>Deposit Thickness m</b>
001	Floor surface	Tile	5m	5m	0.02m
002	Floor surface	Concrete slab	5m	5m	0.05m
003	Make-up layer	Compacted rubble and CBM	5m	5m	-

Table 2: List of recorded contexts

## 5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 No significant archaeological features or deposits were identified in the watching brief.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

BGS 2017. *British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer*.  
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed 23rd April 2017

English Heritage 2008. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation*

Kent County Council 2007. *Standard Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief/evaluation/excavation*

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

ASE would like to thank Stiles & Co Chartered Surveyors Ltd for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project. The watching brief was directed by Odile Rouard. Justin Russell produced the figures for this report; Darryl Palmer managed the excavations, Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift the post-excavation process.



**HER Summary**

<b>Site code</b>	IGH17				
<b>Project code</b>	170245				
<b>Planning reference</b>					
<b>Site address</b>	The Town House, The Street, Ightham TN15 9HH				
<b>District/Borough</b>	Sevenoaks, Kent				
<b>NGR (12 figures)</b>	559530 156750				
<b>Geology</b>	Sandgate Formation – Sandstone and Mudstone				
<b>Fieldwork type</b>			WB		
<b>Date of fieldwork</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> of March 2017				
<b>Sponsor/client</b>	Stiles & Co Chartered surveyors Ltd				
<b>Project manager</b>	Darryl Palmer				
<b>Project supervisor</b>	Odile Rouard				
<b>Period summary</b>	None				
					Other:
<b>Project summary</b>	<p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Stiles &amp; Co Chartered Surveyors Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the replacement of a floor at the Town House, The Street, Ightham TN15 9HH, Kent.</i></p> <p><i>No archaeological features, deposits or surfaces were identified in the watching brief.</i></p>				

## OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-280397**

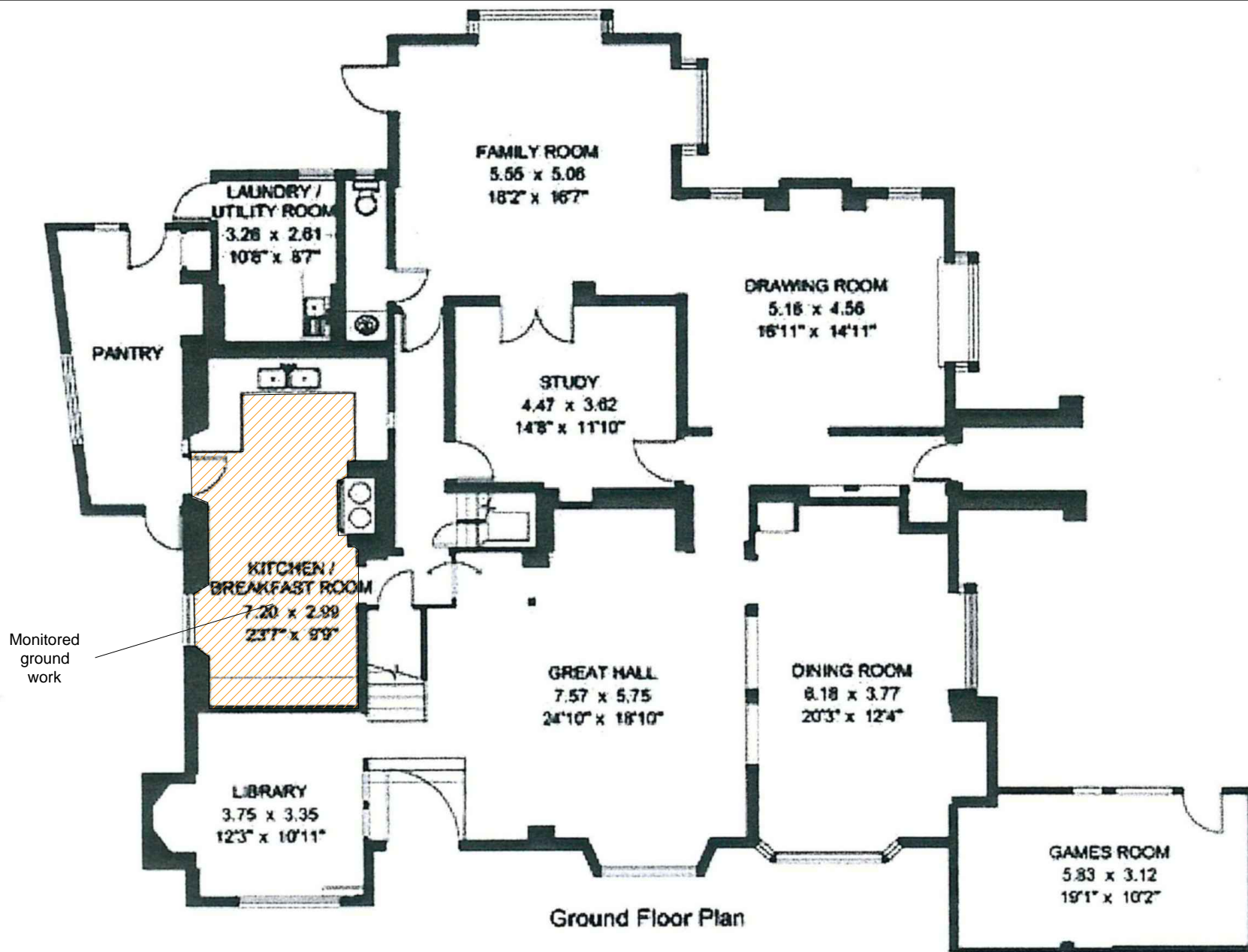
### Project details

Project name	Archaeological Watching Brief Report During Works at The Town House, The Street, Ightham, Kent, TN15 9HH
Project dates	Start: 22-03-2017 End: 22-03-2017
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	IGH17 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	KENT TONBRIDGE AND MALLING IGHTHAM The Town House
Postcode	TN15 9HH
Study area	0.5 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 559530 156750 50.918853404193 0.218975782801 50 55 07 N 000 13 08 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 45m Max: 50m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Stiles and Co Chartered Surveyors Ltd
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Darryl Palmer
Project supervisor	Odile Rouard
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Stiles & Co Chartered Surveyors Ltd
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Tunbridge Wells
Physical Contents	"other"
Digital Archive recipient	Tunbridge Wells

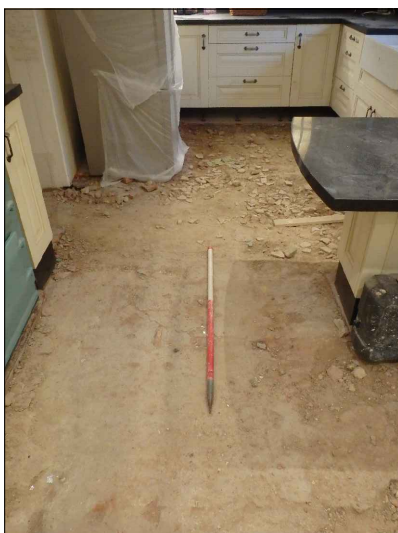
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Tunbridge Wells
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","other"
Paper Media available	"Map","Miscellaneous Material"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Watching Brief Report During Works at The Town House, The Street, Ightham, Kent, TN15 9HH
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Rouard, O.
Other bibliographic details	Report number: 2017150
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade
Entered by	Odile Rouard (o.rouard@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	24 March 2017



© Archaeology South-East		The town House, The Street, Ightham, Kent	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 170245	April 2017	Site location	
Report Ref: 2017150	Drawn by: AR		



© Archaeology South-East		The town House, The Street, Ightham, Kent	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 170245	April 2017	Detail of monitored ground work	
Report Ref: 2017150	Drawn by: AR		



General view of the monitored area, looking south



Detail of broken tile and stone



Detail of make up layer

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