

## Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION:  
THE BULL'S HEAD  
ADISHAM  
KENT**

NGR: TR 2283 5417

*on behalf of Beyleigh Estates*



Calli Rouse BA PIFA

January 2011

ASC: 1360/ABH/2



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## Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	ABH	<i>ASC project no:</i>	1360
<i>OASIS ref:</i>	92001	<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	
<i>County:</i>	Kent		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Adisham		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Adisham		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	TR 2283 5417		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	c.1000sqm		
<i>Present use:</i>	Car park		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Erection of two semi detached houses with associated landscaping and change of use of existing building from public house to shop/community use		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	Pre-planning		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Canterbury City Council		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> January 2011		
<i>Client:</i>	Beyleigh Estates		
<i>Commissioned by:</i>	Mr David Norris AKH Associates 129B Stafford Road Wallington Surrey SM6 9BN		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Mr David Norris		

## Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	Calli Rouse	<i>Date:</i>	25/01/2011
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<i>Revisions:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	
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<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	
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## CONTENTS

Summary.....	4
1. Introduction .....	4
2. Aims & Methods .....	8
3. Archaeological & Historical Background .....	9
4. Results. ....	11
5. Conclusions .....	15
6. Acknowledgements .....	16
7. Archive .....	16
8. References .....	17

### Appendices:

1. Trench Summary Tables.....	18
2. List of Photographs.....	21
3. Finds Concordance .....	21
4. ASC OASIS Form .....	22

### Figures:

1. General location .....	3
2. Site plan .....	5
3. Proposed development plan.....	6
4. Trench location plan .....	7
5. Extract from 1873 Ordnance Survey map .....	9
6. Trench 1, plan and section.....	13
7. Trench 6, plan .....	14

### Plates:

*Cover:* General site shot

1. Trench 1 .....	11
2. Trench 1 .....	11
3. Trench 2 .....	11
4. Trench 3 .....	12
5. Trench 4 .....	12
6. Trench 6 .....	12

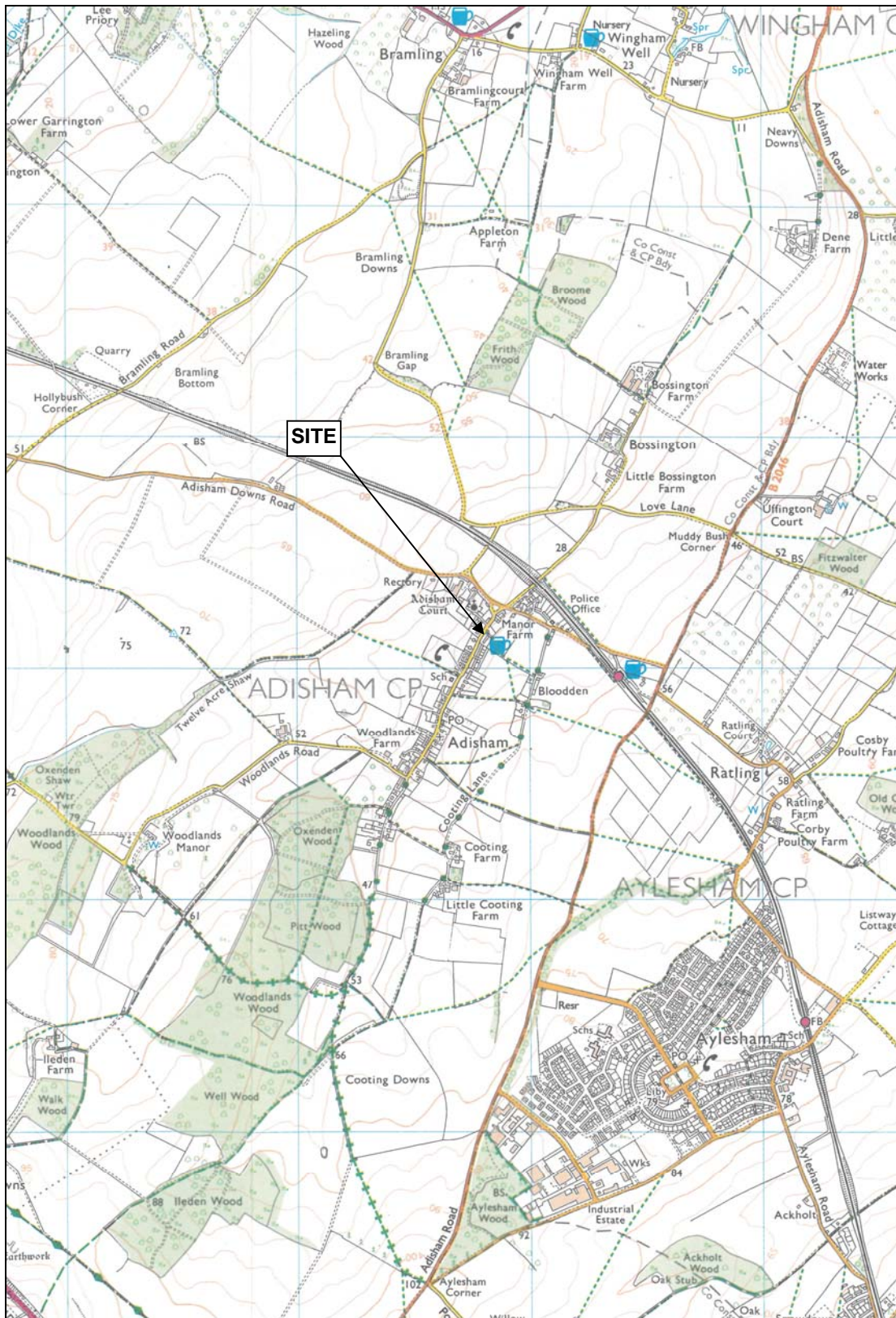


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

## Summary

*During January 2011, ASC carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at the Bull's Head pub in Adisham, Kent, in order to inform development proposals for the site. The evaluation revealed that much of the site had been truncated, probably when it was levelled to provide a larger car park for the pub. A post medieval well was uncovered close to the centre of the site, and a large, shallow feature containing 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century finds was uncovered to the rear of the pub. A former smithy is known to have existed adjacent to the pub, and a trench in this area revealed a possible 19<sup>th</sup> century mortar foundation.*

### 1. Introduction

1.1 In January 2011 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out an evaluation at The Bull's Head, 9 The Street, Adisham, Kent. The project was commissioned by AKH Associates, on behalf of their client, *Beyleigh Estates*, and was carried out according to the requirements of the *Canterbury City Council Archaeological Officer*, archaeological advisor (AA) to the local planning authority (LPA), *Canterbury City Council*, and a project design prepared by ASC (Fell 2010).

#### 1.2 *Planning Background*

This evaluation was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Statement 5* (PPS5), in order to inform proposals for the development of the site.

#### 1.3 *Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd*

ASC is an independent archaeological practice providing a full range of archaeological services including consultancy, field evaluation, mitigation and post-excavation studies, historic building recording and analysis. ASC is recognised as a *Registered Organisation* by the Institute for Archaeologists and is also accredited ISO 9001, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

#### 1.4 *The Site*

##### 1.4.1 *Location & Description*

The development site is located in the county of Kent, in the district of Canterbury, and in the parish and village of Adisham, at NGR TR 2283 5417 (Fig. 1).

The site comprises a roughly rectangular c.1000sqm area of ground, on the south eastern side of The Street. The former Bull's Head pub is located in the westernmost corner of the site. It is bounded to the south west and north east by residential developments, and to the south east by farmland (Fig. 2).

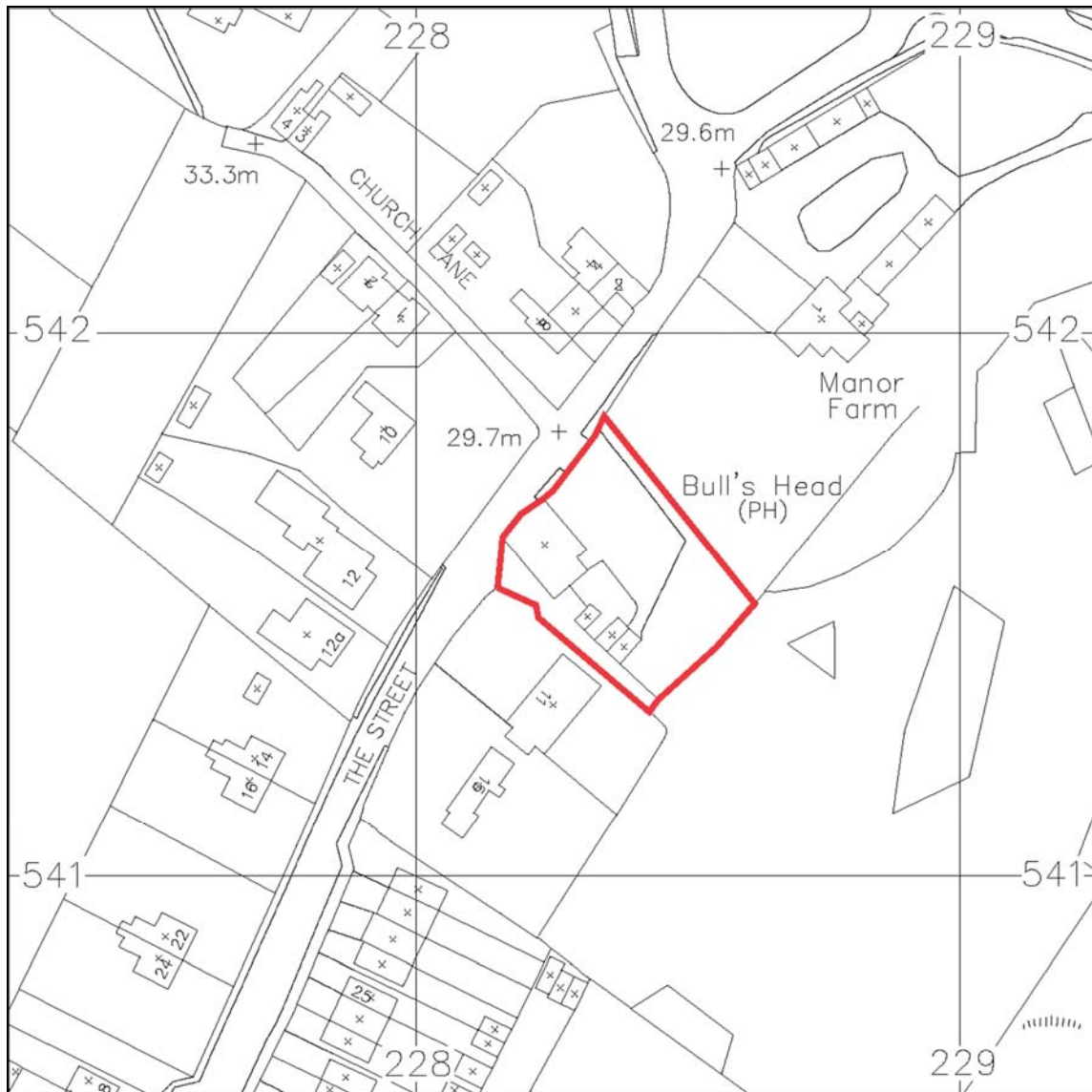
##### 1.4.2 *Geology & Topography*

The soils of the area belong to the *Coombe 1 Association*, which are characterised as *well drained calcareous fine silty soils, deep in valley bottoms, shallow to chalk on valley sides in places. Slight risk of water erosion* over chalky drift and chalk (Soil Survey 1983, 511f). The underlying geology comprises Upper Chalk (BGS, Sheet 289). The site covers mostly level ground, and lies at an elevation of c.28mAOD.



1.4.3 *Proposed Development*

Erection of two semi detached houses with associated landscaping and change of use of existing building from public house to shop/community use (Fig. 3)



**Figure 2:** Site plan (scale 1:1250)



Figure 3: Proposed development plan (not to scale)

## 2. Aims & Methods

### 2.1 Aims

As described in the project design (Section 2.3), the aims of the evaluation were:

- to establish the presence or absence of any elements of the archaeological resource across the area of the proposed development site.

### 2.2 Standards

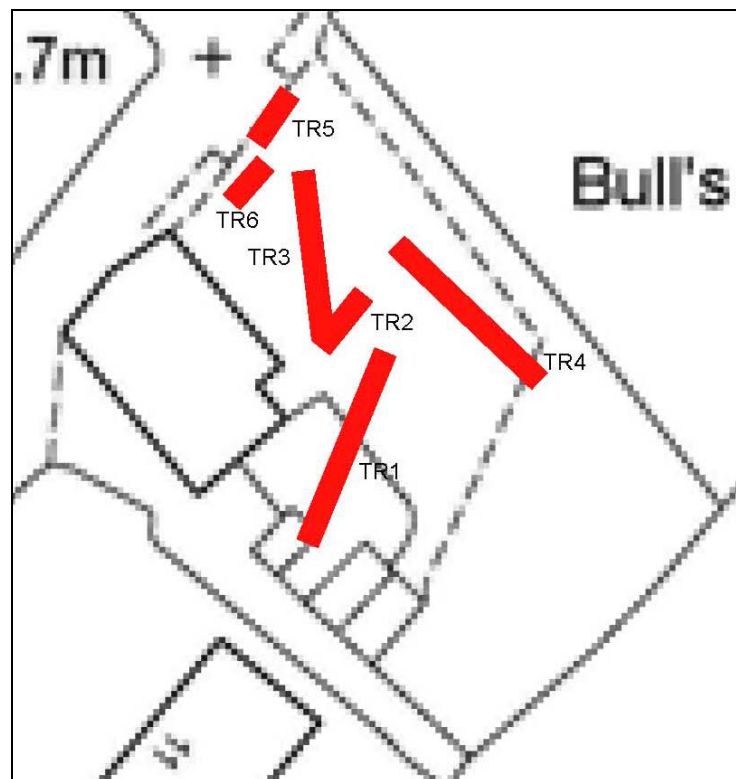
The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

### 2.3 Methods

The work was carried out according to the methods outlined in the project design (Section 3).

### 2.4 Constraints

Due to access problems, the presence of services across the site and lack of space, trenches 4-6 were excavated in place of the proposed trench layout (Fig 4).



**Figure 4:** Trench location plan (scale 1: 500)



### **3. Archaeological & Historical Background**

3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods.

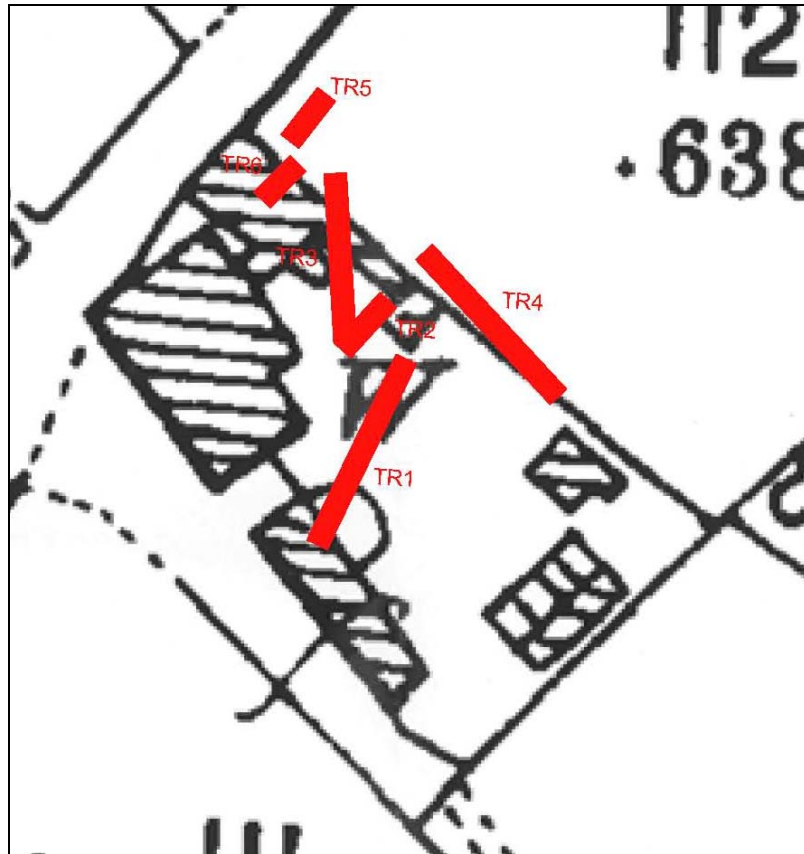
This section has been compiled with information from readily available sources.

3.2 Adisham is an area of considerable archaeological and historical interest. The proposed development is situated in the historic core of the village. The origin of the village is not understood but a settlement may have developed during the Saxon period. At the time of the Domesday survey (1086) the village was referred to as *Edesham* and was held by the Archbishop of Canterbury (William & Martin 2003, 13). The site is situated c.100m southeast of the church of St Anthony, which dates from the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Newman 2002, 127-8).

3.3 It is not known how long a public house has been situated on the site but the earliest phase of the present building dates to the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. The building was extended to the rear during the 18<sup>th</sup> century with a later wing on the north side, parallel to The Street. One Richard Rigden applied for a renewal of an ale licence in 1740 (Fell 2010).

3.4 The principal building is shown on the Tithe map of Adisham, which was originally drawn up in 1826. The plot is labelled '97' and shows a rectangular building stretching back from the Street, with a separate square building to the rear.

3.5 The first edition Ordnance Survey 1: 2,500 scale map (Fig. 4) was published in 1873 and shows the site in detail. The main building is labelled 'Bulls Head' and shows a smithy and a number of other outbuildings to the north and east.



**Figure 5:** Extract from 1873 Ordnance Survey map, showing trench locations (*scale 1: 500*)

## 4 Results

### 4.1 General

Most of the site was covered by a c0.1m thick layer of tarmac. Below this was a layer of dark green sandy made ground with frequent pebble inclusions. This layer varied in thickness between 0.08 and 0.15m. The natural encountered across the site comprised white and beige chalk, and, in some places, orange clay with flints. Trenches 3, 4 and 5 did not contain any pre-modern archaeological features.

Detailed information regarding the trial trenches and their contents appears in Appendix 1.

### 4.2 Trench 1 (Figs. 4 & 5: Plates 1 & 2)

Trench 1 measured 14.5m. The natural in the northern 2.1m of the trench comprised orange clay with flints. A layer of redeposited natural chalk was observed (104), below which a c.5.4m wide feature [106] was uncovered, close to the centre of the trench. A 0.5m wide slot was excavated across the centre of this feature, which was filled with a mid brown clay with chalk, containing moderate amounts of 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century tile, pottery and clay pipe stems (105).

### 4.3 Trench 2 (Fig. 4: Plate 3)

This trench measured 4.87m. A well was uncovered close to the centre of this trench. The well had previously been covered by a concrete cap and buried beneath the surface of the car park. The cap had been broken prior to the evaluation, and the excavation of Trench 2 revealed the well, which was c.2.5m deep. The well was lined to a depth of 1.28m by 17 courses of red bricks bonded with lime mortar.

### 4.4 Trench 6 (Fig. 6: Plate 6)

Trench 6 measured 3.6m. This trench contained a modern, filled in soakaway, with a modern drain connected to it. The modern drain cut a linear feature [603] containing 19<sup>th</sup> century material and bitumen, and a roughly square patch of mortar [604].



**Plate 1:** Trench 1, showing [106] looking east, 2m scale



**Plate 2:** Trench 2, looking north north east, 1m scale



**Plate 3:** Trench 3, looking north north west, 2x 1m scale

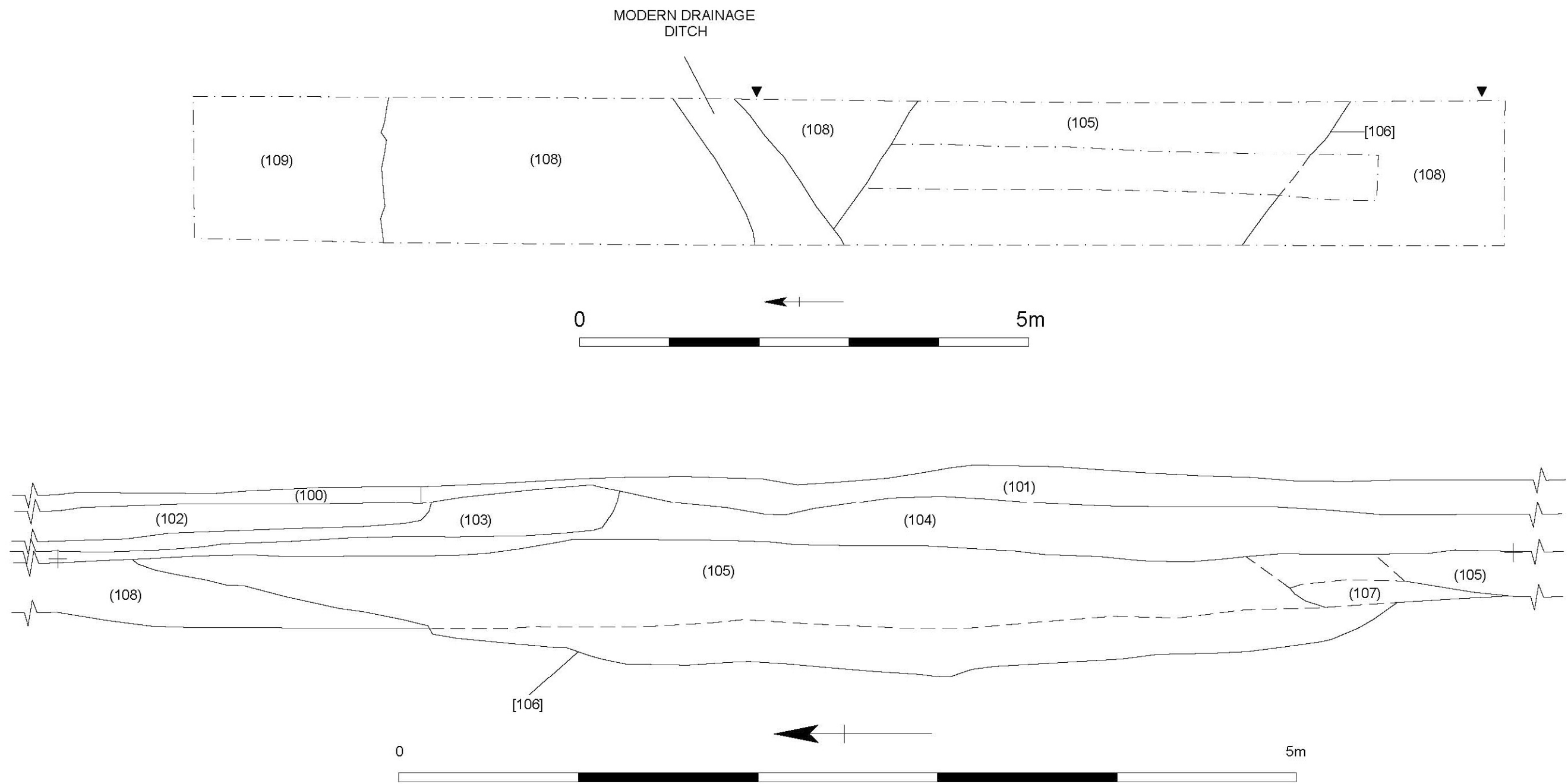




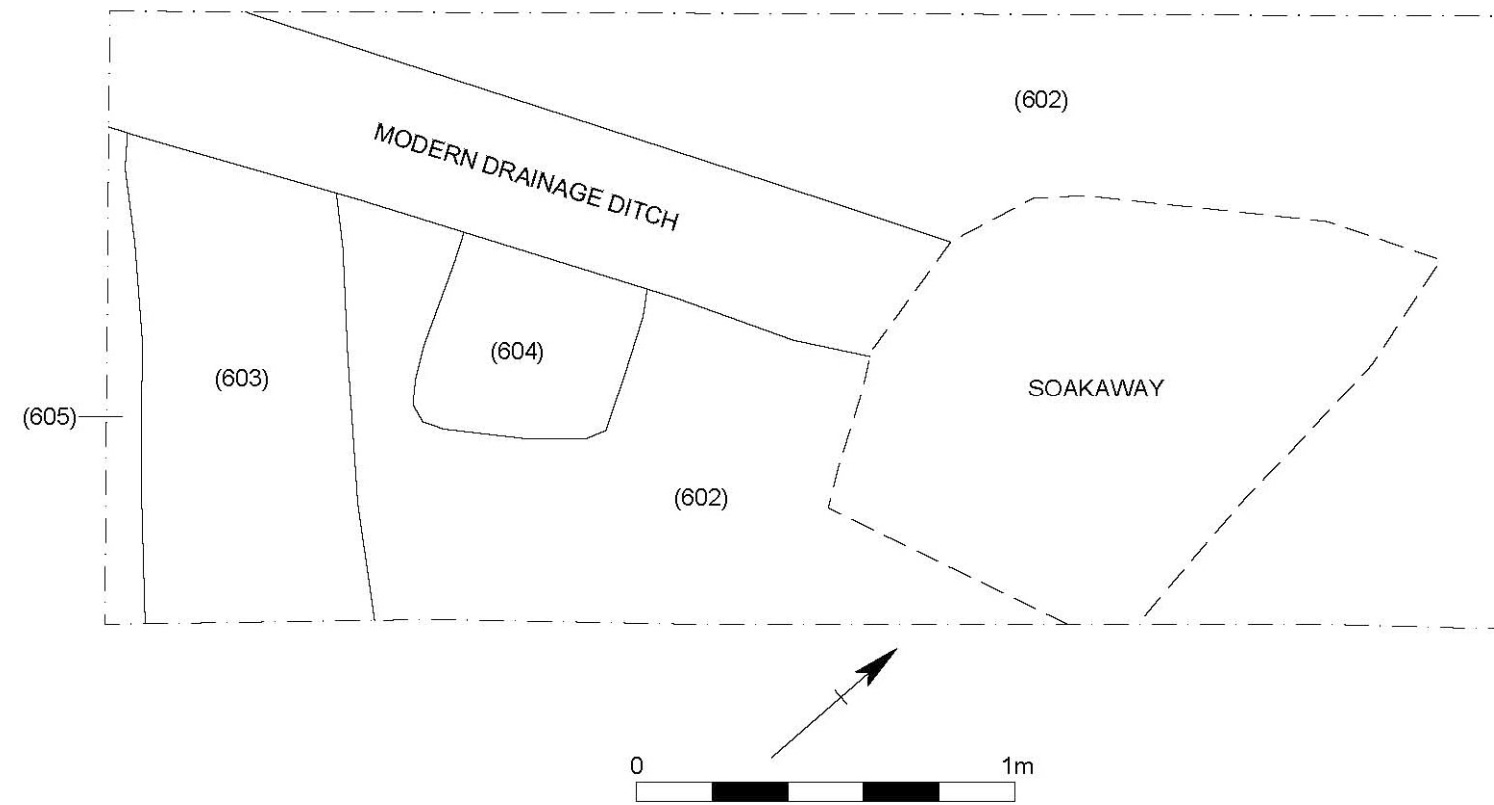
**Plate 4:** Trench 4, looking south west, 2x 1m scale



**Plate 5:** Trench 6, looking north east, 2x 1m scale



**Figure 6:** Trench 1, plan and section (scale as shown)



**Figure 7:** Trench 6, plan (scale as shown)

## **5. Conclusions**

- 5.1 The evaluation demonstrated that the development site had been subjected to terracing, probably during the last 50 years, while the site was in use as a car park. This has removed much of the natural subsoils across the site.
- 5.2 Trench 1 was targeted in the vicinity of buildings to the rear of shown on 19<sup>th</sup> century Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping. The large feature uncovered in this trench may date to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Its function remains unknown. A small area of brick rubble was noted in section at the southern end of the trench which may be related to the buildings shown on OS mapping, which local residents maintain were stables.
- 5.3 The well uncovered in Trench 2 is also shown on OS mapping, and may be contemporary with the pub. Local tradition suggests that there were a number of springs located on or near to the site, and the well may have been excavated to take advantage of one of these.
- 5.4 Trenches 5 and 6 were excavated in the vicinity of the former smithy on the site. Trench 5 was devoid of any archaeological finds or features, suggesting that this part of the site remained untouched until the modern period, or that any archaeological remains have been removed during levelling for the car park. A possible mortar foundation was uncovered in Trench 6, although the inclusion of 19<sup>th</sup> century material in its fill suggests that, if it is a footing, it is unlikely to be related to the former smithy.
- 5.5 In conclusion, the results of the evaluation indicate that the northern part of the site has been truncated to such an extent that it is unlikely that any archaeological remains survive in that area. Although some evidence of the former smithy and the stables to the rear of the pub may still be present on the site, it is likely that these were also affected by ground reduction for the car park.



## **6. Acknowledgements**

The evaluation was commissioned by *AKH Associates*. The writer is grateful to David Norris for his assistance. The project was monitored by Richard Cross of Canterbury City Council on behalf of the local planning authority. Thanks are also due to Ovenden Plant Hire for providing the machinery.

The project was managed for ASC by David Fell MA MIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by Dr Jonathan Hunn BA PhD MIFA, Calli Rouse BA PIFA and Lydia Breeze-Chilcott BA. The report was prepared by Calli Rouse and edited by Bob Zeepvat MA MIFA.

## **7. Archive**

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Project Design
3. Initial Report
4. Clients site plans
5. Site records
6. Finds records
7. Site record drawings
8. List of photographs
9. B/W prints & negatives
10. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Canterbury City Museums.

## **8. References**


### ***Standards & Specifications***


- EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*. English Heritage (London).
- Fell, D 2010 *Specification for a Programme of Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of The Bull's Head, Adisham, Kent* ASC/1360/ABH/1
- IFA 2000a Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.
- IFA 2001 Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds)*.


### ***Secondary Sources***


- BGS *British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid & Drift Geology*.
- Newman, J 2002 *The Buildings of England: North East and East Kent*
- Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).
- Williams & Martin 2003 *Domesday Book A Complete Translation* (Penguin)

## Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables


Trench 1						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	14.5m	Width	1.6m	Depth	0.89m
	Levels					
	Trench top NW			30.64m OD		
	Trench base NW			30m OD		
	Trench top SE			31m OD		
	Trench base SE			30.34m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	TR 22838 54138		SE	22832 54152	
	Orientation			NW-SE		
Reason for Trench						
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)	
100	Layer	Tarmac	1600	100	-	
101	Layer	Mid brown silty loam - Topsoil	1600	200	-	
102	Layer	Dark grey silt with frequent pebbles – Made Ground	1600	160	100	
103	Layer	Green sand with frequent pebbles – Made Ground	1600	260	100	
104	Layer	Chalk – Redeposited Natural	1600	300	200	
105	Fill	Mid brown/grey soft clay and chalk with tile, CBM, pottery and clay pipe inclusions	1600	670	360	
106	Cut	Cut of Post medieval feature		670	360	
107	Layer	Mixed grey and white chalk – Redeposited Natural	1600	290	410	
108	Layer	Chalk - Natural	1600	340	380	


Trench 2						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	4.85	Width	1.6	Depth	0.43
	Trench top NW			30.56m OD		
	Trench base NW			30.13m OD		
	Trench top SE			30.58m OD		
	Trench base SE			30.17m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	TR 22836 54134		SE	TR 22833 54138	
	Orientation:			NW-SE		
	Reason for Trench:					
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)	
200	Layer	Tarmac	1600	250	-	
201	Layer	Green sand with frequent pebbles – Made Ground	1600	80	250	
202	Layer	Pink concrete and rubble – Made Ground	1600	60	330	
203	Layer	Mid brown clay – Subsoil	1600	100	430	
204	Feature	Brick lined well	990	2550	430	

Trench 3						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	11m	Width	1.6m	Depth	0.59m
	Levels					
	Trench top N			30.07m OD		
	Trench base N			29.55m OD		
	Trench top S			30.55m OD		
	Trench base S			30.12m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	N	TR 22832 54126		S	TR 22833 54137	
	Orientation			N-S		
Reason for Trench						
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)	
300	Layer	Tarmac	1600	40	-	
301	Layer	Brown black crumbly silt – Subsoil	1600	180	40	
302	Layer	Green sand with frequent pebbles – Made Ground	1600	80	220	
303	Layer	Dark brown silt with moderate brick inclusions - Subsoil	1600	100	300	
304	Layer	Chalk - Natural	1600	190	400	

Trench 4						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	13.9m	Width	1.6m	Depth	0.41m
	Levels					
	Trench top NW			30.48m OD		
	Trench base NW			30.1m OD		
	Trench top SE			31.17m OD		
	Trench base SE			30.75m OD		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	TR 22838 54131		SE	TR22849 54141	
	Orientation			NW-SE		
Reason for Trench						
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)	
400	Layer	Tarmac	1600	90	-	
401	Layer	Pink grey rubble – Made Ground	1600	110	90	
402	Layer	Green sand with frequent pebbles – Made Ground	1600	80	200	
403	Layer	Light brown clay - Subsoil	1600	130	280	
404	Layer	Chalk - Natural	1600	20	410	



Trench 5												
							Max Dimensions (m)					
							Length	4.2m	Width	4.6m	Depth	0.4m
							Levels					
							Trench top NE			29.92m OD		
							Trench base NE			29.47m OD		
							Trench top SW			29.92m OD		
							Trench base SW			29.5m OD		
							NGR Co-ordinates					
							NE	TR 22831 54120		SW	TR 22829 54124	
							Orientation			NE-SW		
Reason for Trench												
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)							
500	Layer	Tarmac	1600	100	-							
501	Layer	Green sand with frequent pebbles – Made Ground	1600	80	100							
502	Layer	Dark grey silty clay with chalk - Subsoil	1600	120	180							
503	Layer	Mid orange clay with flints	1600	100	300							

Trench 6												
							Max Dimensions (m)					
							Length	3.6m	Width	1.6m	Depth	0.6m
							Levels					
							Trench top NE			29.92m OD		
							Trench base NE			29.61m OD		
							Trench top SW			30.02m OD		
							Trench base SW			29.61m OD		
							NGR Co-ordinates					
							NE	TR 22829 54125		SW	TR 22827 54128	
							Orientation			NE-SW		
Reason for Trench												
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)							
600	Layer	Tarmac	1600	100	-							
601	Layer	Green sand with frequent pebbles – Made Ground	1600	150	100							
602	Layer	Beige grey mixed rubble – Made Ground	1600	350	250							
603	Feature	Linear feature filled with mortar - ?foundation	540	-	600							
604	Feature	Square feature filled with mortar - ?foundation	540	-	600							
605	Layer	Orange clay with flints - Natural	1600	-	600							

## Appendix 2: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: The Bull's Head, The Street, Adisham, Kent			SITE NO/CODE: 1360/ABH
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	✓	✓	Trench 2, looking north east, 1m scale
2	✓	✓	Trench 2, well detail, looking north east, 1m scale
3		✓	Trench 2, well
4	✓	✓	Trench 2, looking north north east, 1m scale
5	✓	✓	Trench 3, looking north, 2x 1m scales
6	✓	✓	Trench 4, looking south west, 2x 1m scales
7	✓	✓	Trench 5, looking south west, 2x 1m scales
8	✓	✓	Trench 6, looking north east, 2x 1m scales
9	✓	✓	Trench 1, looking north east, 2x 1m scales
10	✓	✓	Trench 1, looking east north east, 1x 2m scale
11	✓	✓	Trench 1, looking east, 1x 2m scale
12		✓	General site shot, looking north west

## Appendix 3: Finds Concordance\*

Context	Pottery		Bone		Flint (no)	Shell (g)	Stone (no)	Other Finds	
	(no)	(g)	(no)	(g)				Type	(no)
(105)	8	88	1	14				Clay pipe	9

\*The finds were not retained.

## Appendix 4: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	The Bull's Head, The Street, Adisham, Kent	OASIS reference:	Archaeol2-92001
Short Description:	During January 2011, ASC carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at the Bull's Head pub in Adisham, Kent, in order to inform development proposals for the site. The evaluation revealed that much of the site had been truncated, probably when the site was levelled to provide a larger car park for the pub. A post medieval well was uncovered close to the centre of the site, and a large, shallow feature containing 17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> century finds was uncovered to the rear of the pub. A former smithy is known to have existed adjacent to the pub, and a trench in this area revealed a possible 19 <sup>th</sup> century mortar foundation.		
Project Type:	Evaluation		
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	None	Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	None
Current land use:	Car park	Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	Unknown
Monument type:	-	Monument period:	-
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	None		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Kent	OS reference: (8 figs min)	TR 2283 5417
Site address: (+ postcode if known)	The Bull's Head, 9 The Street, Adisham, Kent		
Study area: (sq. m. / ha)	c.1000sqm	Height OD: (metres)	c.38
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	-	Project design originator:	D. Fell
Project Manager:	D. Fell	Director/Supervisor:	J. Hunn
Sponsor / funding body:	Beyleigh Estates		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	17/01/2011	End date:	20/01/2011
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Canterbury City Museums	-	
Paper:		Archive box	
Digital:		CD	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Archaeological Evaluation: The Bull's Head, Adisham, Kent		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1360/ABH/2		
Author(s):	Calli Rouse BA PIFA		
Page nos	1-22	Date:	25/01/2011