

# Archaeological Monitoring of Land adjoining Sagana Lodge, Gore Lane, Eastry, Kent

Site Code GOR/WB/16



Report for L. Wilkinson  
Date of report 16/09/2016  
Updated 12.03.2017

## **SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY**

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Date of report: 16/09/2016



**Plate 1. Aerial view of site (red target) showing the site prior to development.**

**(Google Earth 09/07/2013: Eye altitude 350m).**

## 1.0 Summary

1.1. From the 25<sup>th</sup> July to the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016 Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief on ground works involved in the build of a new house on land adjacent to 'Sagana Lodge' Gore Lane, Eastry in Kent. (Fig. 1 & Plates 2-5).

1.2. The works were carried out on behalf of the owner Lynette Wilkinson.

1.3. An Archaeological Watch was kept during the reduction of parts of the site.

The archaeological work was undertaken in two phases.

Phase 1: Clearing of debris, some topsoil and foliage and excavation for a sloped access drive and hard standing (Plates 2-5 and Figure 1)

Phase 2: Excavation of foundation trenches (Plates 5-13 and Figure 1)

1.4. The Archaeological Watching Brief was to watch for any signs of archaeological activity. In particular, any evidence of archaeological activity associated with the known archaeological sites in the area including finds recorded through the Portable Antiquities Scheme of Roman and medieval coins found in the adjacent fields on the opposite side of Gore Lane.

1.5. The Planning Application Number for the development is DOV/13/01092.

1.6. Although the archaeological potential has been highlighted by the Archaeological Watching Brief specification the Archaeological Watching Brief revealed no buried archaeological features or burials, and no archaeological finds were retrieved.

## 2.0 Introduction

### 2.1 Planning Background

Planning permission was obtained on 24/10/2014 and one of the conditions requested that an Archaeological Watching Brief be undertaken in order to record any archaeological remains uncovered during the development work. The following condition was attached to the planning consent:

*Condition 7 Archaeological Watching Brief- this condition is part discharged in order to allow the development to commence. However the condition is not considered to have been fully complied with until the on-site works have been completed in accordance with the approved written specification, and an implementation report has been produced and submitted to and approve in writing to the Local Planning Authority in accordance with the timetable*

*including in the written specification for the reporting works. It should also include agreement for the publication (if required) of the results.*

### **3.0 Schedule of Visits**

An archaeologist suitably experienced attended the site (Dr Paul Wilkinson and Tim Allen SWAT Archaeology) and monitored the excavation works from 25<sup>th</sup> July to 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

### **4.0 Aims and Objectives**

4.1. The reason for the monitoring and recording, were to:

*“The objectives of the archaeological watching brief are to contribute to the heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of the archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the ground works “(KCC 2016).*

4.2. The ground works were to reduce the topsoil overburden and natural soil to the levels required by the building and access road to the adjoining roadway, dig the foundations for the house, all services would connect through the watched access road (Plates 3-6).

4.3. A full programme of proposed works by the contractor were made available to SWAT Archaeology before the on-site monitoring took place.

4.4. Confidence Rating

No factors hindered the recognition of archaeological and deposits during the monitoring and recording exercise.

### **5.0 Archaeological and Geological Background**

5.1. The underlying geology at the site (NGR 630710 155190) according to the British Geological Survey map is Bedrock geology of bedrock white chalk of the Margate Chalk Member capped by Superficial Deposits of Head Deposits of Clay and Silt. The geology revealed on site was mid orange brown sandy silty clay at about 20cm BGL (below ground level) topped by the remains of dark brown humic topsoil.

5.2. The site lies within an area of known archaeological interest. Some 200m to the south an Early Medieval ditch has been located (TR 35 SW 441) whilst just beyond an Early Medieval Cemetery (TR 35 SW 37). To the south-east a chalk mine (TR 35 NW 791) and to the west a WWII road block (TR 35 NW 204) whilst to the east is the main Roman road from Richborough to Dover. There are no HER records in the close vicinity to the PDA. The site itself is generally sloping down to the north-west at a height of about 17-12.50m OD.

## **6.0 Methodology**

6.1. The Watching Brief was conducted in accordance with the Archaeological Specification compiled by KCC Heritage Conservation Group and it also complied with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (CIfA: Dec 2014).

6.2. The works comprised the observation of all ground works, including the inspection of subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features and finds.

6.3. The Watching Brief was carried out in two phases according to the needs of the building contractors from 25<sup>th</sup> July to 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

Phase 1 (Figure 1) was to watch clearing the ground of some topsoil and foliage – red lined area- and this took place from 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

Phase 2 was to watch the cutting of the foundation, service and drainage trenches (Figure 1) –blue lined area- and this took place from the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

6.4. Excavation of the area was carried out by contractors using a 360 degree machine equipped with a toothless bucket necessary to remove the soil down to formation level in Phase 1 and cut the trenches in Phase 2 (Plates 2-4).

6.5. All excavation was carried out under the constant supervision of experienced archaeologists (Dr Paul Wilkinson MCifA and Tim Allen MCifA).

6.6. Where possible the areas of excavation were subsequently hand-cleaned with the intention of revealing any observed features in plan and section.

6.7. If found archaeological features under threat were to be excavated to enable sufficient information about form, development date and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded without prejudice to more extensive investigations, should these prove to be necessary.

6.8. The archaeological watching brief was carried out in accordance with current IfA Standards and Guidance, (CIfA: 2014).

## **7.0 Results**

### **7.1 General**

No archaeological features or finds were revealed or recovered. The subsoil encountered across the site was deposits of sandy silty clay overlaid by topsoil. The subsoil was between 18 and 20cm below ground level (BGL) across the site. No archaeological features were

revealed in the natural geology and no archaeological finds retrieved from the topsoil through a metal detector survey.

## **8.0 Finds**

No finds were retrieved even though the site was subjected to an extensive metal detector survey.

## **9.0 Discussion**

The development site is in an area of archaeological potential. However, no archaeology was revealed on the development site.

## **10.0 Conclusion**

The Archaeological Monitoring has fulfilled the primary aims and objectives of the SWAT Archaeological Specification. As far as it is known no buried archaeological features have been affected as a result of the development.

## **11.0 Acknowledgments**

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Lynette Wilkinson for commissioning the project. Fieldwork was undertaken and report written by Paul Wilkinson.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Wilkinson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The letters are dark and the background is a light, textured grey.

Dr Paul Wilkinson, BA (Hons), PhD., FRSA., MCIfA.

## **References**

HER data (KCC and HE 2016)

CIfA (2014) Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

KCC Archaeological Watching Brief Specification(2016)

## **Appendix 1**

### **Kent County Council HER Summary Form**

**Site Name:** Development of land adjacent to Sagana Lodge, Gore Lane, Eastry, Kent

**SWAT Site Code:** GOR/WB/16

**Site Address:** As above

#### **Summary:**

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Monitoring on the development site above. The site has planning permission for a new house whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC) requested that Archaeological Monitoring be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

The Archaeological Monitoring consisted of site attendance which encountered no buried archaeological features or artefacts.

**District/Unitary:** Dover District Council

**Period(s):**

**NGR (centre of site to eight figures)** 63071 155190

**Type of Archaeological work:** Archaeological Monitoring

**Date of recording:** September 2016

**Unit undertaking recording:** Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT. Archaeology)

**Geology:** Underlying geology is Bedrock geology of Chalk

**Title and author of accompanying report:** Wilkinson P. (2016) Archaeological Monitoring at Land adjacent to Sagana Lodge, Gore Lane, Eastry, Kent

**Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate)**

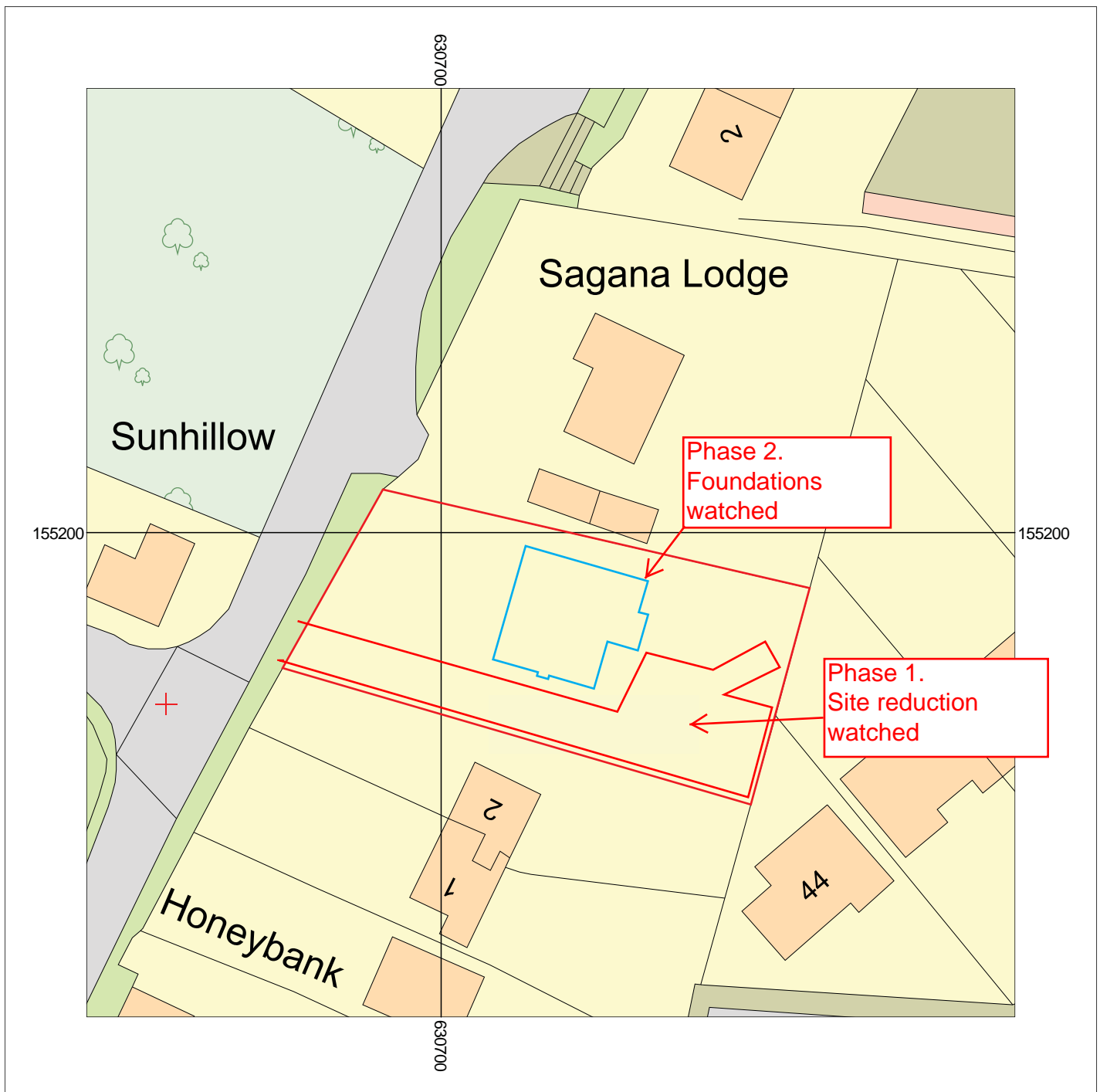
See above

**Location of archive/finds:** SWAT. Archaeology. Graveney Rd, Faversham, Kent. ME13 8UP

**Contact at Unit:** Paul Wilkinson

**Date:** 16/09/2016





Metres  
0 2.5 5 10 15 20 25

Scale: 1:500

Gore Lane

Eastry



Supplied by: National Map Centre  
License number: 100031961  
Produced: 16/09/2016  
Serial number: 1735509

Plot centre co-ordinates: 630709,155198  
Download file: swat3.zip  
Project name: gore



Plate 2. Reducing access drive (looking south-west)



Plate 3. Reducing access drive (looking north)





Plate 4. Removing debris from site (looking north-west)



Plate 5. A north-west aligned foundation trench





Plate 6. The northernmost east-west aligned foundation trench





Plate 7. The northernmost foundation trench looking west (three-metre scale)





Plate 8. The west end of the foundation trench layout (three-metre scale)



Plate 9. The southernmost foundation trench looking west (three-metre scale)





Plate 10. The site looking east during a break in the excavation



Plate 11. Detail of a typical foundation section (two metres of a three-metre scale visible)





Plate 12. The north-west part of the foundation trench layout (three-metre scale)



Plate 13. Close-up of a typical exposure within the foundation trenches