

Proposed overflow car parking for Reculver Towers, Reculver Lane, Reculver, Kent

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment Report

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SUMMARY

This report presents a provisional desk-based assessment constituting rapid archaeological appraisal of land north of Reculver Lane, Reculver, Kent (TR 22537 69213, centred; Figs 1–2). The report was commissioned by Anna Stevens of Canterbury City Council in August 2016 in view of proposed development of the site.

The proposed development entails the building of a shallow car park surface and cutting of a new entrance to the site from Reculver Lane in order to form a safer crossing point; removal of existing path and steps is also planned.

On the basis of previous work within the proposed development area and nearby, archaeological remains of regional significance are likely to be extant within the proposed development area, and may lie close to the surface.

A programme of archaeological watching brief on the cutting of a bedding area for hard-standing in the car park, any tree planting pits or demolition work in the vicinity, removal of the old access point and construction of the new access point, is recommended, as well as any intrusive groundworks associated with path laying.

A site walkover conducted on 09/08/16 has shown that a combination of the existing topographical concealment and planned screening of the car park with trees should neutralise any perceived negative impacts on the overall setting of the monument. The screening of the area, preferably with native species, will soften any such impact, balancing visitor requirements in the area with an appreciation of the historic landscape.

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report presents a provisional desk-based assessment constituting rapid archaeological appraisal of land north of Reculver Lane, Reculver, Kent (TR 22537 69213, centred; Figs 1–2). The report was commissioned by Anna Stevens of Canterbury City Council in August 2016 in view of proposed development of the site.
- 1.2 The proposed development entails the building of a shallow car park surface and cutting of a new entrance to the site from Reculver Lane in order to form a safer crossing point. Removal of the existing path and steps at the corner of the field next to Reculver Lane is also planned.
- 1.3 This assessment is a consultation document prepared for the client which may be submitted as part of a planning proposal (supplementing a heritage statement for example). It constitutes a pilot study assessing the potential for further research, either desk-based or in the field. Additional desk-based research and/or fieldwork may be requested by planning authorities or specified as conditions on any planning consent, although any request for further desk-based work should clearly demonstrate the benefits of such an approach as opposed to field evaluation, for example.
- 1.4 The objective of the current research, verbally agreed with the client and in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), has been to view readily available existing evidence in order to assess the extent and nature of any heritage assets with archaeological interest within the Proposed Development Area (PDA), and thereby gauge the likelihood of heritage assets of archaeological interest being affected by development within the PDA. Research has been undertaken to an appropriate level of detail in response to funding limitations which affect the affordable scope and provisional nature of the study, as well as the particular circumstances of the proposed development.

2. POLICY AND RESEARCH FRAMEWORKS

- 2.1 This report has been prepared in accordance with national and local policy regarding heritage assets and with reference to research frameworks.

National policy

- 2.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG March 2012) sets out a series of core planning principles designed to underpin plan-making and decision-taking within the planning system. In terms of development proposals affecting known heritage assets, the following principle states that planning should:

Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations.

- 2.3 By definition the historic environment includes all surviving physical remains of past human activity. Heritage assets include extant structures and features, sites, places and landscapes. The European Landscape Convention definition of a historic landscape describes: ‘an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors’ (Council of Europe 2000: which came

into force in the UK in March 2007; see research frameworks, below). Furthermore the historic landscape encompasses visible, buried or submerged remains, which includes the buried archaeological resource.

2.4 Policy 126 states that:

Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:

- *The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*
- *The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;*
- *The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and*
- *Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of the place.*

2.5 When determining planning applications, the following policies are especially pertinent:

128. Local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

129. Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of the heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.

132. When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require

clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a Grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.*

139. Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.

- 2.6 The existence of the latter within a proposed development area can be partially investigated and to an extent predicted via desk-based assessment, but field evaluation and/or archaeological monitoring of groundworks are likely to be a planning requirement and should be expected.

Local policy

- 2.7 Planning policy in the Reculver area is governed by Canterbury City Council regional policy; the most relevant policy in this instance being R13:

Proposals to further enhance the attraction of Reculver [...] as a destination for visitors, in particular leisure and open air recreational proposals, will be permitted by the City Council subject to design, visual and environmental impacts, and suitable access arrangements.¹

- 2.8 With particular reference to the Proposed Development Area, the Adopted Local Plan for Reculver (Canterbury City Council 2009) states that:

3.2.3 The Roman Fort, (including the Towers and an area within the Camping and Caravan Club), is given statutory protection by English Heritage as a designated Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) and this is enforced through Policy BE14 in the Local Plan. This policy restricts development that might affect the monument or its setting and in the event that development is permitted will require archaeological investigation prior to works taking place.

Research frameworks

- 2.9 The national and local policy outlined above should be considered in light of the non-statutory heritage frameworks that inform them. While the regional South East Research Framework for the historic environment (SERF)² is still in preparation, initial outputs are available on-line and have been considered in preparing this report, in order to take current research agendas into account.
- 2.10 It has only recently been more fully acknowledged, for example, that entire historic landscapes also need to be protected. A key feature of 'landscape' is that it is conceptual, subjective and relative rather than absolute. A succinct Highways Agency (2007) definition states that 'Historic Landscape is defined both by people's perceptions of the evidence of past human activities in the present landscape and the

¹ http://www.cartogold.co.uk/canterbury/text/05_r_countryside.htm

² <http://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/history-and-heritage/south-east-research-framework>

places where those activities can be understood in the landscape today. This definition highlights the role of perception and emphasises the rich cultural dimension implanted in landscape character by several millennia of human actions.’

3. LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The PDA is an irregular elongated area, lying approximately 125m south-west of Scheduled Monument of Reculver Roman Fort and Anglo-Saxon monastery (SM 1018784, TR 86 NW 1, TR 86 NW 2), adjacent to the Interpretation Centre that lies at the current boundary of the historical site and its seafront visitor facilities. It is situated on gently rising ground, bounded to north by the ‘cliffs’ and the sea, to the west by further grassed and gravelly seafront hinterland traversed by paths, to the east by a continuation of grassed areas adjacent to the recently built children’s play area, and to the south by Reculver Lane (Figs 1 and 2).
- 3.2 Bedrock geology within the PDA is shown as outcropping Thanet Formation– Sand Silt and Clay bedrock, with no superficial deposits.³

4. DESIGNATIONS

- 4.1 The PDA lies in the vicinity of the Scheduled Monument of Reculver Roman Fort and Saxon Monastery (SM 1018784) and within the Reculver Conservation Area (Designated on 09.12.1997).
- 4.2 The PDA does not affect or impact on any World Heritage Sites, Registered Battlefields, Listed Buildings or Registered Parks and Gardens.

5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

- 5.1 A search of the Canterbury Urban Archaeological Database (UAD, as well as a list of reports of archaeological investigations not yet included in the HER, was conducted at the Canterbury Archaeological Trust offices (Fig 2). Grey literature reports relating to recent work in the area local to the proposed development have been consulted, along with CAT annual reports and historical and archaeological data published in *Archaeologia Cantiana* and the Kent Archaeological Review. Excavation lists and reports have been checked in the CAT archive and on the National Monuments Record database. The UAD and reports search covers a radius of 250m around the PDA (centred on NGR 622862/169234). These records have been assessed in terms of their particular relevance to the PDA and only significant evidence is cited in this report. Further (on-line) historic environment records (KCC HER and Portable Antiquities Scheme records) were also consulted in comparison.
- 5.2 It has been considered beyond the means of this project to pursue detailed questions requiring an in-depth study of primary documentary and cartographic sources. General historical context for archaeological findings is provided where applicable/significant in terms of results, and a survey of published and unpublished maps (including geology and contour survey) has been undertaken. A full list of maps consulted is provided in

³ <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

the list of sources at the end of the report. Only maps showing significant topographical developments are reproduced here.

- 5.3 Aerial photographic evidence was consulted. No pertinent geophysical surveys were available. Only photographs, images or results showing significant features or topographical developments are reproduced, the findings incorporated with map regression, documentary evidence and archaeological sections of the report as appropriate and fully referenced.
- 5.4 All results of analyses are presented below in synthesis and in order of chronology. UAD and HER numbers are given in parentheses.
- 5.5 A brief walkover of the site was undertaken 09/08/16, and an informal photographic record kept in relation to the current state of the setting of the Scheduled Monument in view of current plans to improve the same. This material is considered in a separate section.

Prehistoric (c 500,000BP – AD 43)

- 5.6 Although the geology recorded by the British Geological Survey within the PDA is not of a type likely to produce Palaeolithic implements, the area of coast between Reculver and Herne Bay, about 1km south-west of the PDA, has been identified as an area of particular density of Palaeolithic implements with palaeochannels exposed in the eroding cliff face (Wymer 1999, 94, 126–7). At least two Palaeolithic handaxes have been found on the beach at Reculver (TR 26 NW 61, TR 29 NW 19) to the east of the PDA, as well as a fossil elephant tooth (TR 26 NW 1212).
- 5.7 Mesolithic flintwork has been similarly recovered from the beach at Reculver, but again well to the east of the PDA, including a collection of flakes and blades (TR 26 NW 1020; Wymer and Bonsall 1977, 151) and a ‘Thames pick’ (TR 26 NW 22) dredged up off the coast. A core and second tranche axe are further recorded as being from Reculver in a gazetteer of Mesolithic artefacts (Wymer and Bonsall 1977, 151) but are not recorded on the HER. Elsewhere, *in situ* Mesolithic flint working debris has been discovered at Hillborough, (Bishop and Lyne 2008), indicating that the landscape around the PDA was well-used in this period.
- 5.8 Coastal erosion and, particularly throughout the Mesolithic, rising sea levels, have brought the sea considerably closer to the study area than it once was; during that time the PDA would have occupied relatively high ground with a good view over the Wantsum, Stour and Swale Valleys (Bishop and Lyne 2008).
- 5.9 Neolithic pottery and artefacts (TR 26 NW 15) are amongst those found on the beach at Reculver, but again to the east of the PDA and the Scheduled Monument; the majority of prehistoric archaeological material eroding out of the cliff to the west of the Roman fort and in the region of the PDA is of Bronze or Iron Age date.
- 5.10 Rescue excavations at the eroding cliff face have uncovered a complex of pits and ditches (TR 26 NW 1011) containing pottery dating from the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age (Philp 2005, 66, 192), strongly suggestive of a settlement to the east of the PDA.

- 5.11 Bronze Age activity in the vicinity of the PDA is further indicated by the chance find of a Flanged Axe (TR 26 NW 3) and a Palstave (TR 26 NW 16), though the precise findspots are not recorded. A possible ‘cropmark’ within or just adjacent to the PDA can be seen on satellite imagery, suggesting a circular or sub-circular feature more than 6m in diameter; if indeed representing an archaeological feature, the mark suggests an eavesdrip gully for a roundhouse, but this is highly speculative (Fig 7).
- 5.12 The location of the settlement, on relatively high ground, is typical for the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age in Kent; also typically, later Iron Age settlement seems to have moved elsewhere. The Roman name *Regulbium* is probably derived from a Celtic place-name meaning ‘Great Headland’ (Mills 2011, 1103), which probably better described the topography then than it does now.
- 5.13 Five Iron Age gold coins (TR 26 NW 5) have been found at Reculver, and in addition to this, the Portable Antiquities Scheme archive records a gold quarter stater dating from 200–175 BC, and three Mediterranean copper alloy coins, dating from 304–127 BC, though it is conceivable that these may have been later Roman imports.⁴ Another Iron Age coin (TR 26 NW 75) has been found within the scheduled area to the east.

Romano-British (c AD 43 – 410)

- 5.14 The Roman fort at Reculver (TR 86 NW 1), known as *Regulbium* in the late fourth-/early fifth-century text *Notitia Dignitatum*, replaced a first-century temporary military invasion camp on the same site. At that time this occupied a promontory that could have extended 1–3 miles north of the current coastline, controlling passage through the Wantsum Channel, and perhaps access to a harbour which has been postulated close-by (Philp 2005, 3). A ditch containing late Iron Age pottery discovered during cliff-top rescue excavation has been identified as part of the mid-first-century Roman ‘fortlet’ (Philp 2005, 192).
- 5.15 Excavations at the eroding cliff section to the west of the fort and just north of the PDA have revealed evidence of a metalled road surface (TR 26 NW 1008; Willson 1976). This Roman road was probably that considered by Roman roads expert Ivan Margary to have been a second road from the fort, heading west on to the higher ground in the direction of Bishopstone. It seems highly likely that the road is identical with that shown as still in use as ‘The King’s Highe Way’ on an estate map of 1685, and forming a crossroads with that from Canterbury (Reculver Lane), at the heart of the post-medieval settlement (Figs 3–7) to the west of the fort. The road and its probable Roman forebear have therefore been lost to coastal erosion in the vicinity of the PDA, but a more westerly stretch would indeed appear to be visible as cropmarks on modern satellite imagery (Figs 6a and 6b).
- 5.16 The cropmarks in question consist of two parallel linear features, 6.5–7m apart and running east-north-east–west-south-west, which is consistent with drainage ditches either side of a road. A large rectilinear feature, about 75m across, is also visible, on a slightly different alignment. This does not appear to correspond to anything on early post-medieval maps.

⁴ PAS reference: KENT5100; KENT5086; KENT5087; KENT5088

- 5.17 Of key significance for the Roman period in relation to the PDA itself is the evidence of settlement features that have been discovered through erosion of the cliffs nearby and immediately to the north. These include a rubbish pit dated to the late second or early third century (TR 26 NW 1063) which produced a Romano-Gaulish clay figurine (TR 26 NW 64). A pit associated with the road metalling discovery already mentioned (TR 26 NW 1008; Willson 1976) adds further weight to the suggestion that the extra-mural settlement associated with the fort, the *vicus*, may have extended as ribbon development along the road this far west.
- 5.18 Roman activity at Reculver continued until the early fifth century, when the *Notitia Dignitatum* records that the *Cohors I Baetasiorum* was stationed at the fort; after the collapse of the Roman Empire. The fate, or indeed the fullest extent, of the *vicus* is unknown.

Anglo-Saxon (c 450 –1066)

- 5.19 By the end of fourth century, in the run up to Rome's official abandonment of Britain in AD 410, the fort was already becoming derelict (Wilmott 2011, 3), and it probably became an early Anglo-Saxon estate centre (Everitt 1986, 76). In AD 669, an Anglo-Saxon monastery (TR 26 NW 2) was founded on the site.
- 5.20 A great number of Anglo-Saxon period finds have been recovered from the foreshore at Reculver, including a claw beaker (TR 26 NW 78), a fragment of a garnet disc brooch (TR 26 NW 68), glass and *porosphaera* beads (TR 26 NW 14), and pottery (TR 26 NW 66). An entire Frankish vessel (TR 26 NW 1003) and a bottle (TR 26 NW 71), found in collapsed cliff material, were both dated AD 500–700. In 1894, an Anglo-Saxon bronze bowl (TR 26 NW 13) was washed up on the beach at Reculver, and earlier, in the eighteenth century, 20 sceattas, and a Merovingian silver coin and three gold coins were found, some or all of which may derive from graves eroded out of the cliff-face (Richardson 2005, 65). The headland at Reculver was probably the site of a pre-Christian Anglo-Saxon cemetery, but judging by the lack of recent Anglo-Saxon discoveries at the beach there, it may now be mostly or entirely lost to the sea (*ibid*, 66). Everitt (1986, 76) identified Reculver as an early Anglo-Saxon estate centre, though little archaeological evidence for this has been recovered in the immediate vicinity of the PDA, other forms of evidence point to Reculver as an important manor which held detached pasture at Shottenden and Chelmington (*ibid*, 159–8).

Medieval (c 1066 – 1540)

- 5.21 Domesday evidence suggests a substantial early medieval settlement in the area, and from 1200, a market was held at the town.⁵ This probably centred on the crossroads west to the church, adjacent to the location of today's King Ethelbert pub. Few indications of medieval settlement are currently observable, and it would seem that the rapid rate of erosion has obliterated much of the settlement, at least on the north side of the crossroads. Archaeological evidence from the area consists of one copper-alloy seal matrix (TR 26 NW 70) broadly dated to the medieval period.

⁵ <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/list-index-soc/markets-fairs-gazetteer-to-1516/kent>

- 5.22 St Mary's church clearly remained important; major remodelling in the twelfth century resulted in the construction of the iconic double spires.
- 5.23 The Wantsum channel began to silt up and would eventually join the Isle of Thanet to the Kentish mainland; by the end of the period the channel had almost entirely silted up and much of the land was 'improved' for agriculture.

Post-medieval (c 1540 – 1900)

- 5.24 The estate map of 1685 (Fig 3) depicts a reasonably sized settlement remaining clustered around the crossroads next to the church, formed by the Canterbury Road and 'the King's Highe Way', but already threatened by the sea. Andrews, Dury and Herbert's map of 1769 (Fig 4) shows continued encroachment leaving only a small group of houses with gardens to the west of the fort, and Hasted described how the northern part of the fort wall had 'been very lately, nearly all of it, destroyed by the falling off the cliff down on the sea shore, where vast fragments of it lie' by his day (Hasted 1800, 109). Reculver itself he calls 'a small mean village, of five or six houses, situated a small distance from the church, and inhabited mostly by fishermen and smugglers, and would be unworthy of notice, but for the reputation it derives from former times'.
- 5.25 By 1807 it was agreed that the Church itself was to be demolished (Gough 1983, 135) and materials used to build a new church at Hillborough (TR 26 NW 1158), c 2km to the south-east. The towers were left as maritime navigation aids and as such were consolidated and underpinned in 1909.
- 5.26 During the nineteenth century, the landscape setting of the PDA was primarily agricultural. Several farms were dotted about, and Lovestreet Farm (MKE86545), built around 1800, lay close to the PDA on its south-east approach; two associated barns, (MKE86546, TR 26 NW 1014), one dating from the eighteenth century, are now demolished.
- 5.27 The area of the PDA is identified as arable on the 1839 Tithe map (Fig 5). The King Ethelbert Inn (TR 26 NW 1174), constructed around 1843, is now a locally listed building.

Modern (c 1900 – 2000)

- 5.28 During the Second World War, a series of pillboxes lined the coast at Reculver, two to the west of the PDA (TR 26 NW 104, TR 26 NW 105): now destroyed.
- 5.29 After the war, a rise in the popularity of caravan holidays made Reculver a new destination for holiday-makers, who came to take advantage of the caravan parks established there, one of which can be seen from aerial photographs as occupying PDA, with the current Interpretation Centre buildings clearly associated (Fig 8).

6. SITE WALKOVER

- 6.1 The walkover survey of the proposed car park in tandem with the Scheduled Monument itself (undertaken 09/08/16; see Fig 9) demonstrated that the scheme should have little

impact on the setting of the Reculver Towers and Roman Fort, thanks to location and screening.

- 6.2 The area of the proposed car park itself lies to the south of existing buildings including the Interpretation Centre and in an area already used for overflow parking, on sloping ground set back from the sea front (Figs 10–11). Views along the beach towards the monument will be largely unaffected by the laying of hard-standing in the car-parking area (Fig 12), visually equating with and serving the currently quite ‘isolated’ Interpretation Centre building.
- 6.3 While part of a current view, at least from within the proposed car-parking area immediately to the south of the Interpretation Centre (Fig 13), will be blocked by screening and parking in the foreground, the overall vista, revealing the monument on approach along Reculver Lane, will still be appreciated, with the towers and raised fort area foregrounded by the recently constructed children’s play area and the King Ethelbert pub, and lawns (Fig 14).
- 6.4 Where even visible from within the monument itself, the area planned for the overflow parking is already largely screened, and also lies amid buildings and back grounded by static caravans on the opposite side of Reculver Lane (Fig 15). This relative concealment is continued as one approaches the elevated entrance/exit to the monument, where the view of the proposed car park is screened by the public house as well as buildings including the Interpretation Centre (Fig 16). On descending the ‘ramp’ towards the existing car park the proposed overflow area is all but invisible (Fig 17).

7. INTERIM IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Existing impacts

- 7.1 Previous impacts to the PDA might be associated with groundworks associated with the building in the mid twentieth century of the structures currently used as the Interpretation Centre, and from use of the site for parking and moving of caravans.
- 7.2 Many visual impacts have already been imposed on the historic landscape setting of the Reculver monuments, mostly through the same development of the area as a twentieth-century ‘resort’ for caravanning and camping.

Archaeological assessment

- 7.3 Existing evidence suggests that later prehistoric, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon archaeology is to be found intact within the PDA, which would be of regional research significance.

Potential impacts

- 7.4 There is a moderate chance that extant archaeological features, layers, artefacts or ecofacts, particularly relating to the later prehistoric, Roman, or Anglo-Saxon periods, may be exposed, disturbed or destroyed even by shallow groundworks within the PDA.

- 7.5 The planting of trees to screen the parking area, the removal of the existing entrance to the field next to Reculver Lane and the cutting of a new entrance way to the field will probably require more reduction of the existing ground surface, and so may be more likely to impinge on any extant archaeology.
- 7.6 The destruction of preserved archaeology without proper record, particularly that in the hinterland and relating to an important scheduled monument, constitutes a major negative impact on the historic environment.
- 7.7 Given the location of the proposed parking area, it is not considered to have any notable impact on the current setting of the scheduled monument; the project in any case forms part of a more general scheme of master planning by Canterbury City Council currently at the planning stage that will endeavour, in liaison with Historic England, to strike a balance in the landscape allowing for appreciation of the historic setting alongside requirements for the parking of wheeled transport so that more may comfortably visit this marginal location.

Mitigation recommended

- 7.8 In order to mitigate this potential impact, it is recommended that an archaeological watching brief on all site investigation procedures, demolition and groundworks should be undertaken, in liaison with the Local Authority Archaeologist; this would include the cutting of a bedding area for hard-standing in the car park, any tree planting pits or demolition work in the vicinity, removal of the old access point and construction of the new access point, is recommended, as well as any intrusive groundworks associated with path laying.
- 7.9 If archaeological remains are exposed and are assessed to be at risk from the proposed development, further mitigation appropriate to the established significance of those remains may be required, in the form of an archaeological excavation or preservation *in situ*. If excavated, archaeological remains will be 'preserved by record' and the information generated made public, again via means appropriate to their significance.
- 7.10 Proposed screening of the area with trees will only further its existing topographic concealment within the view from the monument, while not removing significant views of the monument on approach; use of native tree species should in addition enhance the overall sense of the landscape setting of the monument as well as softening the impact of further parking in the wider vicinity of the fort and towers.
- 7.11 The proposed car park will form part of an ongoing scheme to balance the requirements of visitors with revitalisation of the area's appreciation as an historic landscape.

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MAPS AND VIEWS CONSULTED:

Extract from an Estate map of 1685, reproduced from Roach Smith (1850)

Andrews, Dury and Herbert map of Kent (1769)

Tithe map (1839)

Ordnance Survey First Ed (1877)

Ordnance Survey (1896).

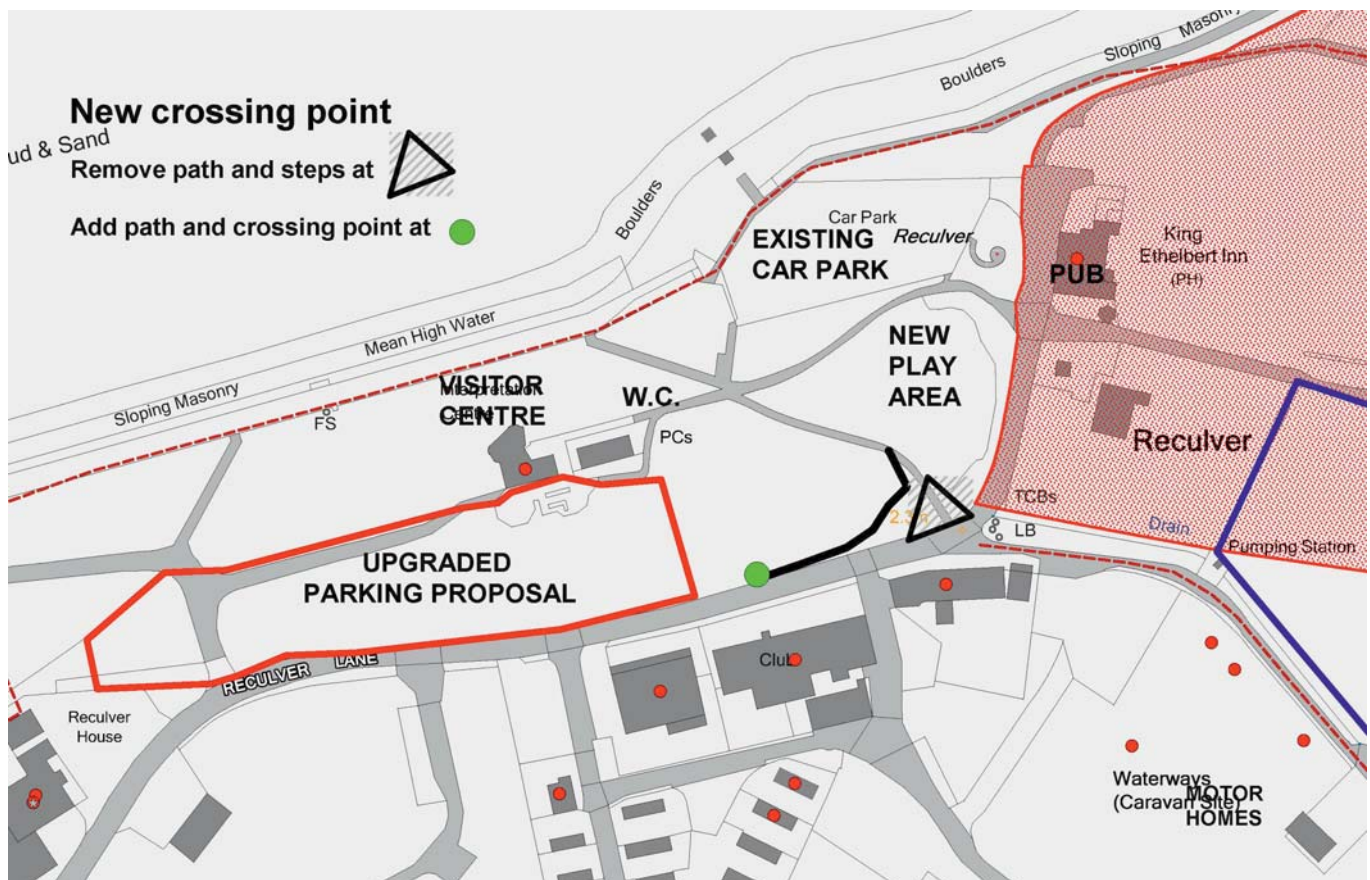


Fig 1. The Proposed Development Area (PDA), upgraded parking adjacent to the Interpretation Centre, accessed off Reculver Lane to the west (above), and the new crossing point (below, marked in green)

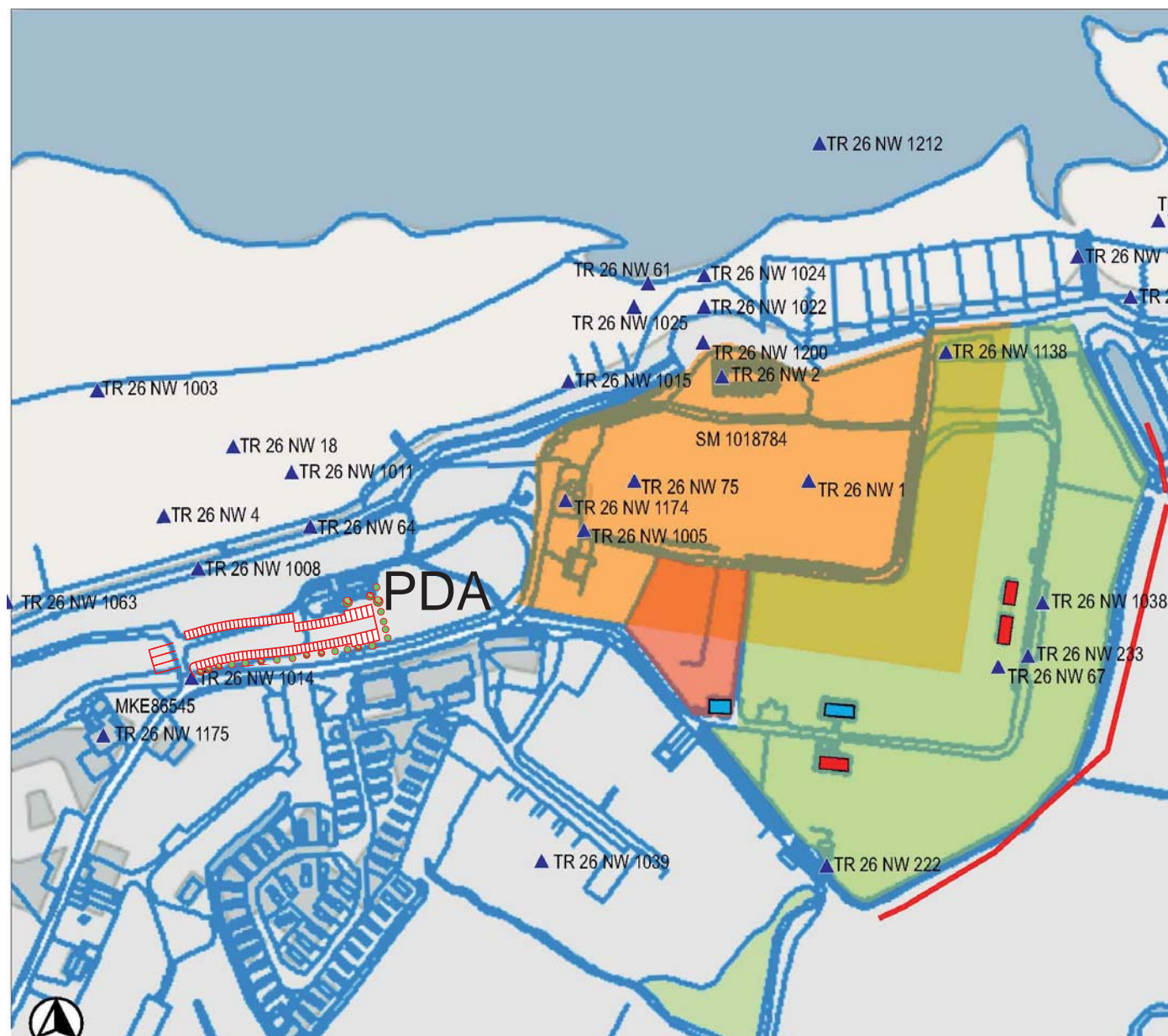


Fig 2. The Proposed Development Area (PDA), in relation to the Scheduled Monument of Reculver Roman Fort and Anglo-Saxon Monastery, Canterbury Urban Archaeological Database and Historic Environment Records

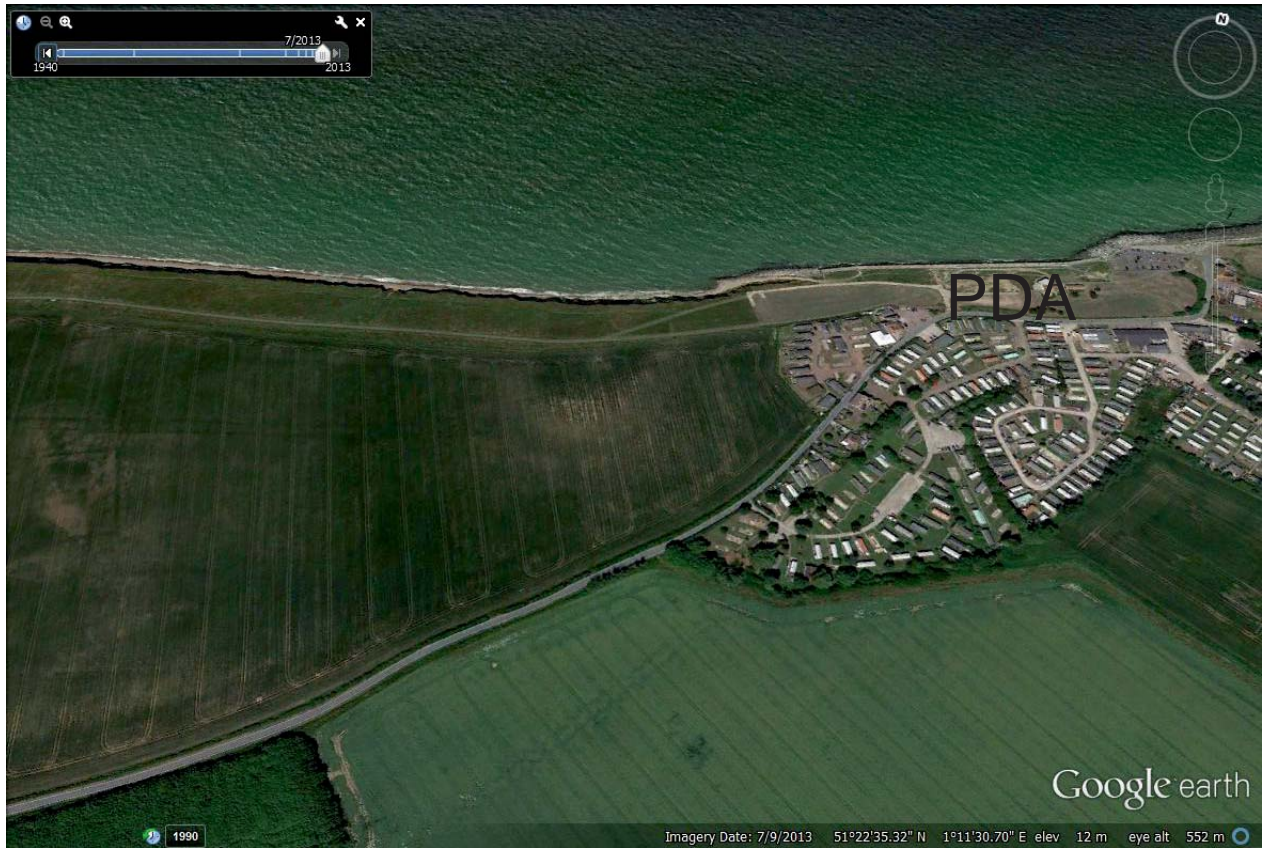


Fig 6a. Cropmarks to the west of the PDA, showing a road, believed to be a continuation of 'The King's Highe Way' alias a possible coastal bound Roman road, and an apparently spatially respected enclosure of unknown date





Fig 7. Potential but tenuous circular 'cropmark' bordering the PDA, to the south-east of the Interpretation Centre



Fig 8. The PDA as a caravan park with the Interpretation Centre buildings at its heart, in the 1960s



Fig 9. Locations of following viewpoints



Fig 10. View 1, looking west from within the proposed parking area



Fig 11. View 2: looking approximately north-east from within the proposed car park



Fig 12. View 3, looking east-north-east: the view along the beach to the towers will not be significantly compromised



Fig 13. View 4: looking approximately north-east from within the proposed car park; this view will be screened (see Fig 14)



Fig 14. View 5, looking north-east: an important view of the monument on approach will be maintained



Fig 15. View 6: looking approximately west from within the Scheduled Monument; where visible, the car-park area is already partially screened by trees and lies among buildings and caravans within the setting



Fig 16. View 7, looking approximately west from the elevated entrance within the Scheduled Monument: the proposed car-park is mostly screened by the public house and the Interpretation Centre



Fig 17. View 8: looking approximately south-west from the lower access to the Scheduled Monument; the car-park area is already partially screened by trees and lies among buildings and caravans within the setting