

**An Archaeological Watching Brief on
Land at the Rear of 223A-235 Telegraph Road,
Deal, Kent**

Planning Ref: DOV/07/01005

**NGR: 636683 150950
(TR 36683 50950)**

**Project No: 3773
Site Code: TRD 09**

**ASE Report No. 2009053
OASIS id: archaeol6-57326**

Kathryn Grant, BA MSc AIFA

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April 2009

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Forest Homes (Kent) Ltd., to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works associated with a new residential development on land at the rear of 223A-235 Telegraph Road, Deal, Kent (NGR 636683 150950). The archaeological watching brief took place on 23rd March 2009.

No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered during the watching brief. Natural geology comprising degraded chalk with periglacial striping was encountered at a maximum height of 22.26m AOD in the western corner of the site sloping gently to 20.34m AOD in the south. Only low-level modern intrusion was observed in the south of the site during the archaeological monitoring.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 Discussion and Conclusion**

Bibliography
Acknowledgements

Appendix 1:
Appendix 2:

SMR Summary Sheet
OASIS Form

FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site location map
- Figure 2: Site plan showing topography and areas of 19th century quarrying
- Figure 3: Plan showing monitored areas and evaluation trenches

TABLES

- Table 1: Quantification of the Site File
- Table 2: List of Recorded Contexts

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Field Archaeology Unit (UCLFAU), was commissioned by Forest Homes (Kent) Ltd, to undertake an archaeological watching brief on land at the rear of 223A-235 Telegraph Road, Deal, Kent (NGR 636683 150950: Figure 1), hereafter referred to as 'the site' in this report.

1.1.2 The project comprises the erection of 14 detached/semi-detached dwellings and garages and includes construction for vehicular access, associated works and landscaping (Figure 3).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The British Geological Survey map Sheet 290 (Deal) Solid and Drift Edition (1:50,000 scale) indicates that the site lies on Upper Chalk, with Head Brickearth covering this in the extreme East.

1.2.2 The site is located on the west side of Telegraph Road between Forelands Square and Thornbridge Road, Deal, Kent. The site is roughly rectangular in shape, covering an area of approximately 0.5ha, with a sharply rising slope to the west (Figures 1 & 2).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 In 2005, during an initial application for planning, a condition was attached to the planning consent (reference DOV/04/00738) requiring a programme of archaeological investigation, in the form of a Stage 1 evaluation during which 4 trial trenches were excavated (Fig. 3) to assess the site's archaeological potential (ASE 2005).

1.3.2 A later stage of application for planning permission resulted in the decision to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the main area strip. The Local Planning Authority's planning reference for the project is DOV/07/01005.

1.3.3 The Local Planning Authority's condition on the planning consent states that:

'No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a watching brief to be undertaken by an archaeologist approved by the Local Planning Authority so that the excavation is observed and items of interest and finds are recorded. The watching brief shall be in accordance with a written programme and specification which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. .

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.'

1.3.4 A Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief was prepared by the Heritage Conservation Group (HCG 2008) of Kent County Council (KCC). All

work was carried out in accordance with this document and the relevant *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IfA (2001)).

1.4 Aims and Objectives

- 1.4.1 The key objectives of the archaeological watching brief are to contribute to heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of the archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the ground works.

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 This report details the findings of the watching brief which was undertaken by Kathryn Grant (Archaeological Field Officer) on 23rd March 2009. The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Fieldwork) and Dan Swift (Post-excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Overview

- 2.1.1 The development area lies in an area of considerable archaeological potential. Previous archaeological work, carried out at various sites in the vicinity, includes a series of excavations undertaken by Dover Archaeological Group in the 1980's, at Mill Hill, some 160 metres to the west of the application site. These revealed evidence of a multi-period occupation site, ranging in date from the Neolithic to Anglo-Saxon times.
- 2.1.2 Other features of interest at the Mill Hill site include a Bronze Age round barrow, a pagan Anglo-Saxon cemetery (which also revealed the burial of a rich and highly important Iron Age warrior), and a possible subterranean shrine with a rare Romano-British chalk figurine.
- 2.1.3 Closer to the application site, Iron Age finds and a Roman cremation have been located in the area of the cemetery and allotments, to the north-east. Further information on the above is provided in the Kent County Historic Environment Record, which is located at KCC Strategic Planning, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent.
- 2.1.4 With the exception of the preceding evaluation (see 2.2), no other archaeological work has taken place at the site. In the north and west of the site, the topsoil is homogenous and the subsoil is intact showing no sign of truncation or modern disturbance. The southern extent of the site, however, demonstrated signs of slight modern intrusion in the form of post-holes. This evidence suggests that the site, located to the rear of existing residential buildings, has lain vacant for a prolonged period prior to this development

2.2 Recent Archaeological Investigation

- 2.2.1 A recent archaeological evaluation and archaeological excavation was undertaken by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust and Dover Archaeological Group (respectively) at a site adjacent to the Deal Waterworks (some 175 m. to the south-west of the site at NGR 636451 150887) (pers comm. Ben Found, 2009). These works revealed evidence for settlement provisionally dated to the Earliest/Early Iron Age (900 - 300 BC) as well as an early Roman field system (AD 50 -150 and in-filled by the early third century AD) (pers comm. Ben Found, 2009).
- 2.2.2 In 2005, four trial trenches (Figure 3), each measuring 20m in length and 2m in width, were excavated by ASE (Project No. 2144) on areas of the site not affected by the 19th century quarrying (Figure 2).
- 2.2.3 At the time of the evaluation, the site was heavily overgrown, and had the remains of wooden outbuildings in some places. The sharp slope was formed as a result of the previous use of the site as a chalk quarry in the 19th century.
- 2.2.4 With the exception of four modern postholes and general 20th century disturbance, no archaeological remains or artefacts were observed.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 The Ground Works (Figure 3)

- 3.1.1 As a sample of the site had already been assessed during a trial trenching evaluation, the aim of the watching brief was to assess the areas surrounding the original trenches. Since the contractors required a reduction of the entire upper area of the site (that had been unaffected by the 19th century quarrying), it was decided that a watching brief on the ground reduction ground works would be the most suitable measure to assess any further archaeological potential.
- 3.1.2 Although the majority of the area was monitored, the watching brief ceased when it was thought, beyond reasonable doubt, that no archaeological remains were present within the development area. This decision resulted from a discussion between the archaeological contractor and the County Archaeologist (Ben Found). The unmonitored area was the southernmost corner of the site in which modern disturbances had already been observed. The majority of the area had also previously been evaluated during trial-trenching (Trenches 3 and 4: see figure 3).

3.2 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.2.1 Machining was undertaken by a 360-degree mechanical excavator equipped with a flat-bladed ditching bucket. The area (unaffected by 19th century quarrying) was stripped of topsoil and subsoil deposits under archaeological supervision to ensure that any exposed archaeological remains were identified and recorded as per the KCC specification document (KCC 2008). Excavation began in the north of the site and was carried out in a single direction to enable revealed surfaces to be inspected prior to disturbance from being tracked over.
- 3.2.2 During the monitored excavations all revealed surfaces were examined for the presence of archaeological features and artefacts. The removed spoil was scanned for the presence of any stray, unstratified artefacts. The uncovered deposits were recorded according to accepted professional standards (IFA 2000 and 2001, EH 1991) using pro-forma context record sheets. Level data was obtained through existing site plans from previous archaeological work.
- 3.2.3 A digital photographic record of the areas exposed during the ground works was kept and will form part of the site archive.

3.3 The Archive

- 3.3.1 The site archive is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices in Portslade, East Sussex pending submission to a suitable local museum. The contents of the site archive are summarised in Table 1.

3.3.2 Table 1: Quantification of the Site Archive

Number of Contexts	3
Number of files/paper record	1 file
Plan and sections sheets	None
Photographs	10 digital images

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 The stripped area (Figure 3) revealed only overburden deposits and natural geology. Only three contexts were uncovered during the ground works. Although some small areas (in the south of the site) had been affected by low-level modern intrusion (e.g. modern postholes), no archaeological deposits were uncovered during the ground works. The removed soil was scanned for the presence of stray artefacts; no archaeological finds were observed.

4.2

Table 2: List of Recorded Contexts

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Thickness	Height m AOD
100	Layer	Topsoil	200mm	20.93 – 22.48
101	Layer	Subsoil	300mm	20.73 – 22.28
102	Deposit	Natural	-	20.34 – 22.26

4.3 Summary of Contexts

4.3.1 Natural geology [102], comprising degraded grey-white chalk with periglacial striping, was encountered at a maximum height of 22.26m AOD in the western corner of the site sloping gently to 20.34m AOD in the south. Overlying the natural sediment was a largely-intact mid orange-brown silty subsoil deposit [101]. The site was covered with a homogenous humic grey-brown fine silty topsoil and turf [100] at a maximum height of 22.48m AOD in the western corner of the site sloping gently to 20.93m AOD in the south.

4.3.2 No archaeological features or remains were uncovered during these works.

5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1** No archaeological deposits or features were recorded during the archaeological watching brief on land at the rear of 223A-235 Telegraph Road, Deal, Kent. The results uncovered during the watching brief are consistent with the findings of the evaluation works undertaken in 2005.
- 5.2** Although the southern extent of the site demonstrated evidence of modern intrusion, the majority of the site manifested no signs of truncation demonstrated by the largely intact subsoil deposit [101]. It can be assumed, therefore, that if any archaeological features or deposits were present within the development area they would have survived and been detected during the archaeological monitoring.
- 5.3** Natural geology comprising degraded chalk with periglacial striping was encountered at a maximum height of 22.26m AOD in the western corner of the site sloping gently to 20.34m AOD in the south.
- 5.4** As the watching brief was entirely negative, the proposed development will have no impact on the archaeological resource.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The co-operation and assistance of Ben Found of Kent County Council and Tony Warman of Forest Homes (Kent) Ltd is gratefully acknowledged.

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	TRD 09					
Identification Name and Address	Telegraph Road, Deal					
County, District &/or Borough	Kent					
OS Grid Refs.	TR 636683 150950					
Geology	Chalk with periglacial striping					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3773					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 23-03-09	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Forest Homes (Kent) Ltd					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Kathy Grant					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Forest Homes (Kent) Ltd., to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works associated with a new residential development on land at the rear of 223A-235 Telegraph Road, Deal, Kent (NGR 636683 150950). The archaeological watching brief took place on 23rd March 2009. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered during the watching brief. Natural geology comprising degraded chalk with periglacial striping was encountered at a maximum height of 22.26m AOD in the western corner of the site sloping gently to 20.34m AOD in the south. Only low-level modern intrusion was observed in the south of the site during the archaeological monitoring.</i></p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-57326

Project details

Project name Telegraph Road, Deal, Kent

Short description of the project *Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Forest Homes (Kent) Ltd., to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works associated with a new residential development on land at the rear of 223A-235 Telegraph Road, Deal, Kent (NGR 636683 150950). The archaeological watching brief took place on 23rd March 2009. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered during the watching brief. Natural geology comprising degraded chalk with periglacial striping was encountered at a maximum height of 22.26m AOD in the western corner of the site sloping gently to 20.34m AOD in the south. Only low-level modern intrusion was observed in the south of the site during the archaeological monitoring.*

Project dates Start: 23-03-2009 End: 23-03-2009

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated project reference codes TRD 09 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes DOV/07/01005 - Planning Application No.

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Other 13 - Waste ground

Monument type NONE None

Significant Finds NONE None

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Prompt Planning condition

Project location

Country England

Site location KENT DOVER DEAL Telegraph Road, Deal, Kent

Postcode CT14 9

Site coordinates TR 636683 150950 50.8743072162 1.748395737160 50 52 27
N 001 44 54 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 20.34m Max: 22.26m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator Heritage Conservation Kent County Council

Project design originator The Heritage Conservation Group Kent County Council

Project director/manager Neil Griffin

Project supervisor Kathryn Grant

Type of sponsor/funding body Client

Name of sponsor/funding body Forest Homes (Kent) Ltd.

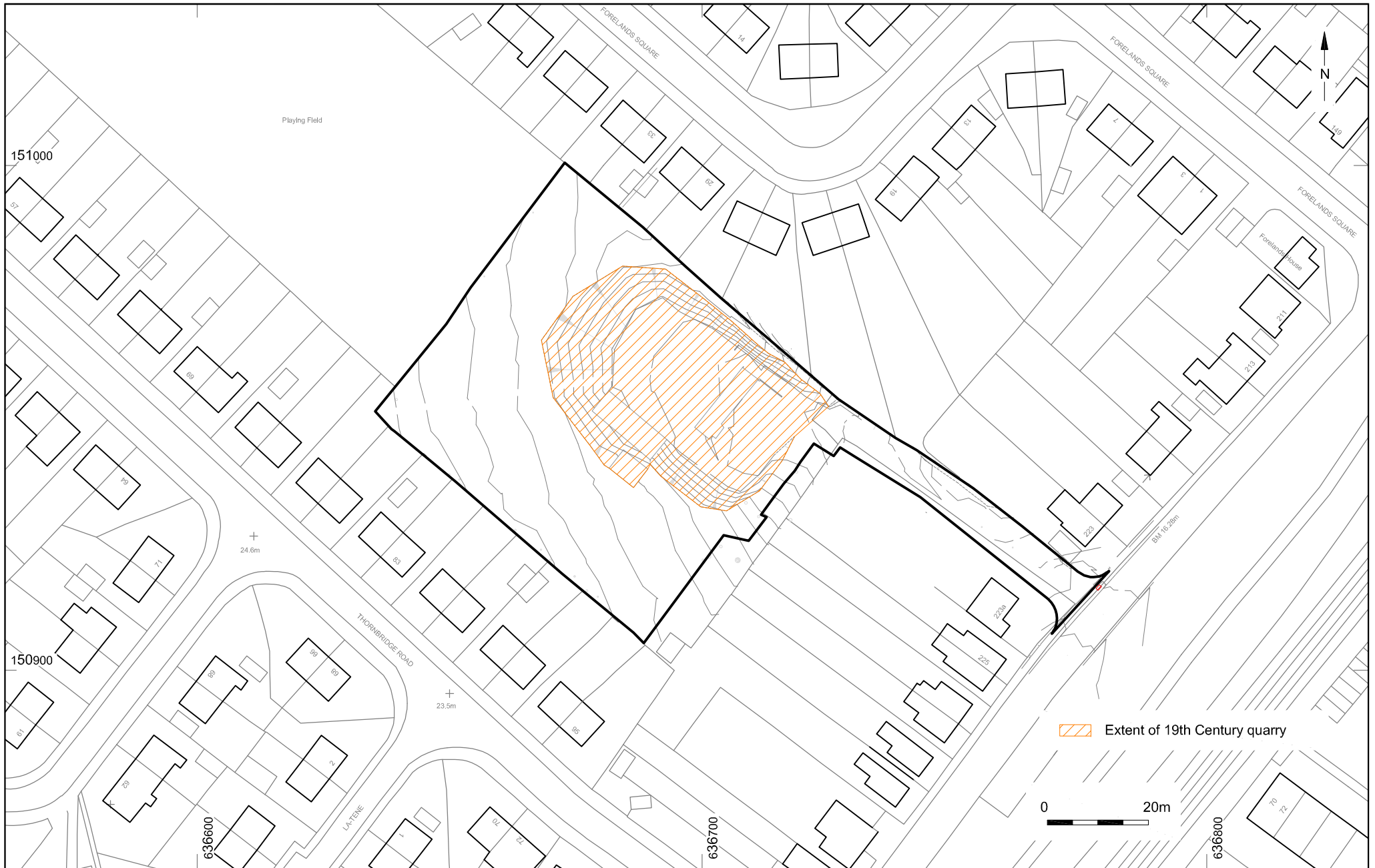
Entered by Kathryn Grant (Kathryn.Grant@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 26 March 2009

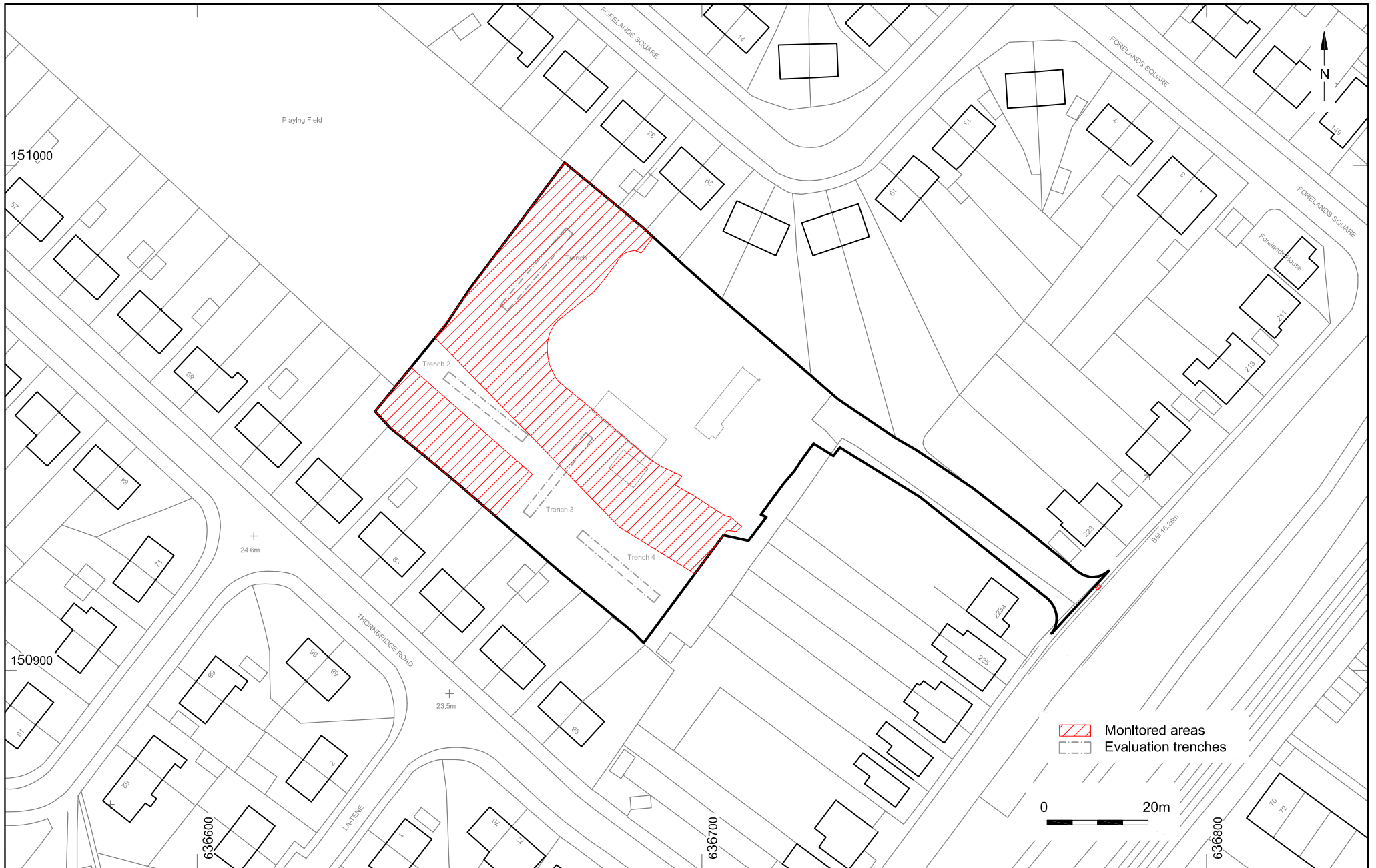


© Archaeology South-East		Telegraph Road, Deal	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 3773	April 2009	Site Location Plan	
Report Ref: 2009053	Drawn by: RC/JR		

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© Archaeology South-East		Telegraph Road, Deal		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 3773	April 2009	Plan showing topography and area of 19th Century quarry		
Report Ref: 2009053	Drawn by: RC/JR			



© Archaeology South-East		Telegraph Road, Deal		Fig. 3
Project Ref: 3773	April 2009	Plan showing monitored areas and evaluation trenches		
Report Ref: 2009053	Drawn by: RC/JR			

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