



Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

52 New Street, Ash,
Kent, CT3 2BB

HCUK Group is a multi-disciplinary environmental practice offering expert advice in archaeology, heritage, landscape, arboriculture, and planning. It began life in 2010 as Heritage Collective LLP, before becoming Heritage Collective UK Limited in 2014. In the coming years diversification saw the addition of Archaeology Collective, Landscape Collective and Planning Collective, before all strands came together to be branded under a single umbrella: HCUK Group, based on the acronym for the original company. A home working company since the beginning, we are pleased to employ a talented workforce of consultants and support staff, who are on hand to advise our clients.



Project Number: 8199C
File Origin: \HCUK Group\Projects - Documents\Projects 8001-8500\8101-8200\08199 - 52 New St, Kent\ARCH\Reports

Author with date	Reviewer code, with date
EC, 12.08.2022	RD-0310, 17.08.2022
CV, 03.11.2022	JM-0167, 22.08.2022

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Non-Technical Summary

This archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared by HCUK Group, on behalf of Classicus Estates. This is ahead of an application for outline planning permission with all matters reserved (except for access) for the demolition of existing buildings, including 51-53 Sandwich Road, and the erection of up to 52 new homes, including affordable, access from New Street and Sandwich Road, together with associated parking, open space, landscaping, drainage and associated infrastructure.

The assessment has confirmed that the Site does not contain any designated archaeological assets, such as World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments, or registered battlefields, where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in situ and against development. This assessment has identified 152 archaeological records on the Kent Historic Environment Records (KHER) within the 1km study area. One of these assets, the crash site of a World War II Supermarine Spitfire I has the potential to be in or extend into the Site. If found, such remains may be protected under the Military Remains Act 1986 and would warrant preservation in situ.

Data from the KHER relating to previous archaeological investigation carried out on a plot of land to the south of New Street, immediately opposite the Site, records later Prehistoric occupational activity. Therefore, there is a medium potential for archaeological remains associated with this period.

The Canterbury to Richborough Roman Road runs immediately adjacent to the northern boundary of the Site, and the Dover to Richborough Road runs just south of the Site's southern boundary. There are an abundance of findspots recorded on the KHER, dating to the Roman period, therefore there is a high possibility that remains associated with this period could be identified within the Site.

The historic map regression has identified development, predominantly in the southern extent of the Site, during the late Post Medieval and Modern periods. A building is shown immediately adjacent to the southern boundary of the Site on the 1841 Ash Tithe plan, and this appears to still remain within the fabric of one of the current buildings. The development in the southern half of the Site predominantly relates to the Site's use as a plant nursery throughout the 20th century. Furthermore, the northern extent of the Site was used as arable land until it was used as a plantation during the later 19th century and 20th century. LIDAR analysis has identified ridge and furrow running north-south in the northern half of the Site, although this is likely related to the Modern plantation.

The scope of any further archaeological works that would be needed in advance of or during development of the Site would need to be discussed and agreed with the Kent County Council Historic Environment Team, the nominated archaeological advisors to the local planning authority.

1. Introduction

Background

- 1.1** This archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared by Emma Cooper of HCUK Group on behalf of Classicus Estates. The proposed development is for 52 residential dwellings.
- 1.2** The site in question is known as 52 New Street, Ash (Figure 1), occupying an area of approximately 1.5 ha and centred at NGR TR 29433 58329. It is hereafter referred to as the Site.
- 1.3** By way of introduction, the Site of formed of scrubland with an area of hardstanding and industrial buildings in the southern extent of the Site. New Street bounds the Site's southern boundary and Sandwich Road bounds the northern boundary. Residential properties and their environs bound the Site to the east and west.
- 1.4** The purpose of this assessment is to determine and assess the archaeological potential of the Site and to assess the significance of any relevant archaeological heritage assets identified. The report is informed by site inspection, historical information, and by data relating to heritage assets. It seeks to provide sufficient information to allow an informed understanding of the potential impact of the proposed development on the significance of those assets, and to consider the need for solutions (design, engineering etc) where necessary. The report will not address designated or non-designated built heritage. All implications of the development proposal on matters relating to the built heritage are discussed in a separate Heritage Impact Assessment.¹
- 1.5** The report considers heritage assets of archaeological interest, including finds/findspots of artefactual and ecofactual material (e.g. stone tools, bone), and locations, features or objects referenced from historic documents. Where appropriate, it refers to archaeological and palaeoenvironmental deposits, including sub-surface archaeological remains of features, buildings, and structures.
- 1.6** This assessment has been prepared in accordance with Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment² published by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). It takes into account the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)³ and other local planning policy and guidance where relevant.

¹ HCUK Group 2021.

² CIfA 2020

³ MHCLG, 2021

- 1.7** This desk-based assessment comprises an examination of digital data held by the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER) together with documentary research. It incorporates a map regression indicating the impact of change over time.
- 1.8** This data has been collected for an area comprising a 1km radius of the Site boundary, which is referred to as the 'study area'. This radius has been selected on the basis of professional judgment as being sufficient to determine the archaeological potential of the Site, taking into account its location, topography, and character.

Geology and Topography

- 1.9** The British Geological Survey identifies the underlying solid geology (Figure 3) in the southern and north-eastern extents of the Site as being Lambeth Group – Sand, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 59.2 and 47.8 million years ago during the Palaeogene period, and was deposited in fluvial, estuarine, lagoonal, or proximal marine environments. The north-western and south-eastern extents of the Site has been identified as Thanet Formation - Sand, silt and clay, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 59.2 and 56 million years ago during the Palaeogene period. Superficial Geological deposits (Figure 4) cover most of the western part of the Site and these have been identified as Head, 1 - Clay and silt, sedimentary superficial deposits formed between 2.588 million years ago and the present during the Quaternary period.⁴
- 1.10** The soils of the Site are classified as being within the Soilscape 6 class, which are 'Freely draining slightly acid loamy soils'⁵.
- 1.11** The Site occupies a total area of c.1.5ha. and is situated c.22m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the northern extent of the Site rising to c.29m aOD in the southern extent of the Site.

Site Visit

- 1.12** A site visit/walkover was undertaken on 11th August 2022 by Liz Vinson, Director of HCUK Group Ltd, in bright and clear conditions.
- 1.13** The Site appears to slope down towards the northern end from the southern entrance of the Site.
- 1.14** A number of industrial units sit in the southern extent of the Site, and these are surrounded by hardstanding. The northern extent of the Site is currently scrubland,

⁴ BGS, 2021

⁵ Cranfield University, 2021

and the ground levels appears to have been levelled. It is understood that dense vegetation was recently cleared.

1.15 Photographs taken during the Site walkover:



Photograph 1: View north-west along the southern boundary of the Site.



Photograph 2: View north through the centre of the Site across areas of hardstanding.



Photograph 3: View east across the Site towards the eastern boundary.



Photograph 4: View west across the Site towards the western boundary.



Photograph 5: View north-east across the Site towards the eastern boundary.

2. Methodology

Sources

2.1 In preparing this assessment we have compiled readily available archaeological and historical information from documentary and cartographic sources, primarily:

- Kent HER (KHER) for known archaeological sites, monuments and findspots within 1km of the Site (i.e. the study area).
- Maps and documents held by online resources.
- The British Geological Survey (BGS) onshore digital maps at 1:50 000 scale.
- Soil Survey of England and Wales.
- The National Heritage List for England (Historic England).
- Other relevant books, journals and grey literature reports that were identified in the course of the data collection.

2.2 The information gathered from the above sources has been verified and augmented as far as possible by site inspection, in order to arrive at conclusions on the significance of the various heritage assets and archaeological remains that have been identified.

Assessment

2.3 The assessment seeks to understand and define the significance of heritage assets identified from the sources above, taking into account the categories of special interest defined in the NPPF⁶, primarily archaeological interest, historic interest, architectural interest and artistic interest.

2.4 The importance of a heritage asset is the overall value assigned to it based on its heritage significance, reflecting its statutory designation or, in the case of undesignated assets, the professional judgement of the assessor (Table 1).

⁶ MHCLG, 2021

Table 1: Criteria for Assessing the Importance of Heritage Assets

Importance of the asset	Criteria
Very high	World Heritage Sites and other assets of equal international importance
High	Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Monuments, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Battlefields, Grade I and II* Listed Buildings, and undesignated heritage assets of equal importance
Medium	Conservation Areas, Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens, Grade II Listed Buildings, heritage assets on local lists and undesignated assets of equal importance
Low	Undesignated heritage assets of lesser importance

2.5 The assessment also considers change to the setting and significance of heritage assets, where appropriate.

Archaeological Potential

2.6 The report concludes with (1) an assessment of the archaeological potential of the Site, (2) an assessment of the significance of any archaeological remains that may be present, and (3) an assessment of the likely effects of the proposed development on heritage assets, both in terms of physical impact and (where relevant) change to setting.

3. Relevant Policy Framework

National Planning Policy Framework

3.1 The significance of a heritage asset is defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2021 as being made up of four main constituents, architectural interest, historical interest, archaeological interest and artistic interest. The setting of the heritage asset can also contribute to its significance.

3.2 The assessments of setting and significance (and the assessments of impact) are normally made with primary reference to the four main elements of special significance identified in the NPPF.

3.3 Paragraph 203 of the NPPF describes the approach to be taken towards non-designated heritage assets, as follows:

"The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset."

3.4 Footnote 68 of the NPPF, which is attached to paragraph 200, states that "Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest, which are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets." Further guidance on non-designated heritage assets is contained in National Planning Practice Guidance, as revised in July 2019, notably paragraph 040 which states that "Irrespective of how they are identified, it is important that the decisions to identify them as non-designated heritage assets are based on sound evidence", and paragraph 041 which in full reads as follows:

"What are non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest and how important are they?"

The National Planning Policy Framework identifies two categories of non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest:

(1) Those that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments and are therefore considered subject to the same policies as those for designated heritage assets (National Planning Policy Framework footnote 63). They are of 3 types:

those that have yet to be formally assessed for designation.

those that have been assessed as being nationally important and therefore, capable of designation, but which the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has exercised his/her discretion not to designate.

those that are incapable of being designated by virtue of being outside the scope of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 because of their physical nature.

*The reason why many nationally important monuments are not scheduled is set out in the document *Scheduled Monuments*, published by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. Information on location and significance of such assets is found in the same way as for all heritage assets. Judging whether sites fall into this category may be assisted by reference to the criteria for scheduling monuments. Further information on scheduled monuments can be found on the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's website.*

(2) Other non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest. By comparison this is a much larger category of lesser heritage significance, although still subject to the conservation objective. On occasion the understanding of a site may change following assessment and evaluation prior to a planning decision and move it from this category to the first.

Where an asset is thought to have archaeological interest, the potential knowledge which may be unlocked by investigation may be harmed even by minor disturbance, because the context in which archaeological evidence is found is crucial to furthering understanding.

Decision-making regarding such assets requires a proportionate response by local planning authorities. Where an initial assessment indicates that the site on which development is proposed includes or has potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, applicants should be required to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation. However, it is estimated that following the initial assessment of archaeological interest only a small proportion – around 3% – of all planning applications justify a requirement for detailed assessment."

- 3.5** Paragraph 205 of the NPPF also makes provision for the recording of heritage assets that are likely to be demolished or destroyed by development.

Relevant Local Policies

- 3.6** The following local policies are relevant to the historic environment and this assessment. The Dover District Council Core Strategy (adopted February 2010) and the 'saved' policies of the Dover District Council Local Plan (adopted 2002) which sets out the planning framework for the area. Policies relating to archaeology and the

historic environment have since been deleted.⁷ A new Dover District Council Local Plan is currently in development and once adopted will replace the current selection of documents. The relevant policies, relating to archaeology and the historic environment have been included below.

Table 2: Relevant Policies

Local Plan	Relevant Policy
<p>Dover District Council Local plan, currently in development⁸</p>	<p>DM Policy 46: Archaeology</p> <p>The archaeological and historic integrity of Scheduled Monuments and other important archaeological sites, together with their settings, will be protected and where possible enhanced. Development which would adversely affect such heritage assets will be assessed in line with DM Policy 44.</p> <p>Planning applications, on sites where there is, or is the potential for, an archaeological heritage asset, must include an appropriate desk-based assessment of the asset.</p> <p>In addition, where the assessment reveals that important or potentially significant archaeological heritage assets may exist, developers will be required to, where necessary, arrange for field evaluations to be carried out by an appropriately qualified contractor in advance of the determination of the planning application. Such an evaluation should define:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The character, significance and condition of any archaeological deposits or structures within the application site; and b. The likely impact of the proposed development on the archaeology, its significance and setting (including the limits to the depth to which groundworks can go on the site); and

⁷ Dover District Council 2010.

⁸ Dover District Council 2022.

	<p>c. The means of mitigating the effect of the proposed development including a statement setting out the impact of the development.</p> <p>Where the case for development affecting a heritage asset of archaeological interest is accepted, the archaeological remains should be preserved in situ. Where this is not possible or justified, appropriate provision for preservation by record may be an acceptable alternative dependent upon their significance. In such instances archaeological recording should be undertaken by an approved archaeological body, deposited with the Kent Historic Environment Record and should take place in accordance with a specification and programme of work to be submitted to and approved by the District Council in advance of development commencing.</p>
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4. Archaeological Background

Introduction

4.1 There are no designated archaeological assets, such as scheduled monuments or registered battlefields, within the Site or wider 1km study area. There are 152 archaeological monument entries within the study area, the distributions of these are depicted on Figures 5, 6 and 7. There are 33 previous archaeological investigations recorded on the KHER within the study area, the distribution of these are shown on Figure 8.

Timescales

4.2 Timescales used in this assessment:

Table 3: Timescales

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 12,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 12,000 – 4000 BC	
Neolithic –	c.4000 – 1800 BC	
Bronze Age –	c.1800 – 600 BC	
Iron Age –	c.600 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Saxon / Early Medieval –	c. AD 410 – AD 1066	
Medieval–	1066 –1485	
Post Medieval Period –	1485 – 1901	
Modern –	1901 – Present	

Prehistoric

4.3 The KHER records 10 archaeological monuments or findspots of Prehistoric date within the 1km study area.

Table 4: Prehistoric monuments recorded on the KHER within 1km of the Site

Monument ID	Name/Description	Monument Type	Dates	Period
MKE14610	Neolithic/Bronze Age flints, Mill Field, Ash	Findspot	4000 BC to 701 BC	Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age
MKE5905	Iron Age quarter stater found 1855	Findspot	800 BC to 42 AD	Iron Age
MKE65811	Iron Age gold coin	Findspot	800 AD to 42 AD	Iron Age
MKE65824	Iron Age gold coin	Findspot	800 BC to 42 AD	Iron Age
MKE7194	Iron Age gold coin	Findspot	800 BC to 42 AD	Iron Age
MKE101144	Iron Age Copper Alloy Coin	Findspot	30 AD to 40 AD	Late Iron Age
MKE78792	Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit, Ash	Pit	1000 BC to 401 BC	Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age
MKE80556	Middle Bronze Age features, Europa Nurseries, Ash	Gully; Feature	1600 BC to 1001 BC	Middle Bronze Age
MKE9020	Middle Iron Age pits, Mill Field, Ash	Pit	400 BC to 101 BC	Middle Iron Age
MKE90847	Late Iron Age/Roman enclosure, Mill Field, Ash	Ditch; Enclosure; Pit	25 AD to 409 AD	Late Iron Age to Roman

4.4 Evidence of activity from the Palaeolithic period is often formed of residual finds which are often associated with natural river gravel terraces. Kent has recorded a relative abundance of Palaeolithic archaeology, more so than any other county. The Site sits within the area surveyed during the Stour Basin Palaeolithic Project. The project looked at the 'curation of the Palaeolithic historic environment in the potentially important Stour Basin area'⁹ This Project has identified that there is a low potential for Palaeolithic remains within the Site, but such remains could have a high significance as they would likely be undisturbed.

4.5 During the Mesolithic period the ice sheets had receded, temperatures and sea-levels were rising, and Britain was connected to the continent by land bridges. The hunter gatherers who utilised the area were highly mobile and due to changing conditions often only settled seasonally. There are no records relating to this period within the 1km Study Area.

4.6 The Neolithic period marked a shift from the mobile lifestyle of the Mesolithic to permanent settlements and arable farming. The earliest recorded deposits on the KHER relate to 17 struck flints dating from the Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age (MKE14610) found during a watching brief (EKE4972), c.90m south of the Site. This

⁹ Kent County Council. 2018.

watching brief also rendered Middle Iron Age pits (MKE9020) containing slag, loomweights, and fragments of a pottery spindle whorl, suggesting settlement occurred in the area. It also identified a late Iron Age/Roman enclosure (MKE90847) containing 1st century pottery. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit (MKE78792) was identified c.170m north-west of the Site, during an archaeological evaluation (EKE12051). Approximately 800m north of the Site, a Middle Bronze Age gully sealed below a layer of burnt flints was identified during an archaeological evaluation (EKE12353).

- 4.7** Four Iron Age findspots are recorded in the 1km Study area, including an Iron Age Copper alloy coin (MKE101144), c.980m south-east of the Site; a gold coin (MKE5095), c.290m south; two gold coins (MKE65811, MKE7194), c560m north-east; a gold quarter-starter (MKE5905), c.280m south; and another gold coin (MKE65824), c.240m south.
- 4.8** The archaeological potential for further assets of prehistoric date is medium based on the Site’s proximity to previously known settlement activity. If such remains existed, they would probably relate to the late prehistoric period and might be considered of local importance.

Roman

- 4.9** The KHER records 45 archaeological monument records of Roman date within the 1 km study area.

Table 5: Roman monuments recorded on the KHER within 1km of the Site

Monument ID	Name/Description	Monument Type	Dates	Period
MKE57546	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 238 AD	Roman
MKE57547	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	337 AD to 341 AD	Roman
MKE57548	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	81 AD to 96 AD	Roman
MKE57549	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	296 AD to 362 AD	Roman
MKE57550	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	354 AD to 361 AD	Roman
MKE63090	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63091	Roman silver coin	Findspot	117 AD to 138 AD	Roman
MKE63093	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63094	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63096	Roman copper alloy brooch	Findspot	50 AD to 70 AD	Roman
MKE63099	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63101	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63371	Roman silver coin	Findspot	43 AD to 409 AD	Roman
MKE63372	Roman silver coin	Findspot	43 AD to 409 AD	Roman
MKE63382	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63384	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	308 AD to 324 AD	Roman
MKE63388	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman

MKE63389	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	300 AD to 399 AD	Roman
MKE63393	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63394	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63395	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63396	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	307 AD to 361 AD	Roman
MKE63397	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63398	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	300 AD to 399 AD	Roman
MKE63399	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63400	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63402	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63403	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	307 AD to 361 AD	Roman
MKE63405	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63406	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE63407	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	43 AD to 410 AD	Roman
MKE64935	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	330 AD to 341 AD	Roman
MKE65339	Roman copper alloy bracelet	Findspot	43 AD to 1100 AD	Roman
MKE65348	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	324 AD to 325 AD	Roman
MKE101401	Roman Copper Alloy Coin	Findspot	275 AD to 285 AD	Roman
MKE101831	Roman Copper Alloy Coin	Findspot	296 AD to 392 AD	Roman
MKE112769	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	310	Roman
MKE112898	Roman copper alloy coin	Findspot	335 AD to 341 AD	Roman
MKE5904	Roman cremations	Cremation	43 AD to 409 AD	Roman
MKE7202	Stone coffin - possibly Roman	Coffin	43 AD to 409 AD	Roman
MKE77166	Ash Roman Villa	Villa?	43 AD to 409 AD	Roman
MKE78654	Roman occupation, Ash	Gully; Pit; Post Hole; Building; Ditch; Enclosure	43 AD to 300 AD	Roman
MKE63370	Roman gold coin	Findspot	456 AD to 457 AD	Early Medieval
MKE44573	A Roman road running from Canterbury to Richborough	Road; Linear Earthwork	43 AD to 409 AD	Roman
MKE75997	Roman Road	Road	43 AD to 409 AD	Roman
MKE76019	Site of Roman Road	Road	50 AD to 400 AD	Roman

4.10 There are three Roman roads running through the study area. The course of the Canterbury to Richborough Roman Road (MKE44573, Margary 10) runs east-west immediately adjacent to the northern boundary of the Site.¹⁰ Another Roman Road (MKE75997, Margary 100R) running from Richborough to Dover runs c.170m south of the Site. Although it should be noted that historic OS mapping which is discussed

¹⁰ Margary. I.D. 1957.

in more detail below marks the course of the road as running immediately adjacent to the southern boundary of the Site. ¹¹

- 4.11** A possible length of Roman road (MKE76019), and associated ditch, is visible as a cropmark c.950m south-east of the Site.
- 4.12** Approximately 80m west of the Site a number of Roman cremations (MKE5904) were recorded at Ash Workhouse in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- 4.13** Roman occupation has been identified c.175m west of the Site during an archaeological evaluation (EKE11860, EKE12051). Archaeological remains included pits, gullies, post holes and the remains of a robbed-out timber building. Occupation started during the 1st century and is thought to have continued until the 3rd century.
- 4.14** Cropmarks showing a rectangular structure. (MKE77166), c.460m east of the Site, show a possible Roman villa.
- 4.15** A Roman stone coffin (MKE7202) was found in the 18th century, c.590m south-east of the Site.
- 4.16** There are a large number of Roman findspots recorded in the study area including 33 copper alloy coins, one copper alloy bracelet, one copper alloy brooch, and three silver coins.
- 4.17** The Site sits in relatively close proximity to Richborough Roman Fort and Amphitheatre (NHLE 1014642), which is located c.2.7km north-east of the Site. Known as *Rutupiae*, the fort is known as a Saxon Shore Fort which were heavily defended later Roman military installations located exclusively in south-east England. They were predominantly constructed during the 3rd Century AD to protect the coast against Saxon raiders. The scheduled monument includes an area of c.40ha and comprises multiple periods from the Iron Age, Roman to Medieval periods. The fort sits on a promontory which was originally a small island in the southern end of the Wantsum Channel. The island was of major strategic importance during this period and was a landing point during the Roman invasion in AD 43. Richborough was the major point of entry from the continent and was in use until the 5th century AD ¹²¹³
- 4.18** The archaeological potential for further assets of Roman date is high based on the current data from within the study area and the Site's proximity to two Roman roads.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Historic England. 2022.

¹³ Millett, M. 1995.

If such remains existed, they might be considered of regional to national importance if associated with the Roman Roads or Richborough Roman fort.

Saxon/Early Medieval

4.19 The KHER records 13 archaeological monument records of Saxon/Early Medieval date within the 1km study area.

Table 6: Saxon/Early Medieval monuments recorded on the KHER within 1km of the Site

Monument ID	Name/Description	Monument Type	Dates	Period
MKE63092	Early Medieval copper alloy brooch	Findspot	450 AD to 525 AD	Early Medieval
MKE63097	Early Medieval copper alloy brooch	Findspot	410 AD to 1066 AD	Early Medieval
MKE63379	Early Medieval copper alloy brooch	Findspot	410 AD to 1066 AD	Early Medieval
MKE63390	Early Medieval copper alloy brooch	Findspot	410 AD to 1066 AD	Early Medieval
MKE63401	Early Medieval copper alloy brooch	Findspot	410 AD to 1066 AD	Early Medieval
MKE63404	Early Medieval copper alloy brooch	Findspot	410 AD to 1066 AD	Early Medieval
MKE64140	Early Medieval copper alloy brooch	Findspot	475 AD to 525 AD	Early Medieval
MKE76471	Merovingian gold tremissis, Ash, near Sandwich	Findspot	600 AD to 675 AD	Early Medieval
MKE76472	Merovingian gold tremissis, Ash, near Sandwich	Findspot	600 AD to 675 AD	Early Medieval
MKE76473	Anglo-Saxon silver early penny ('sceat'), Ash, near Sandwich	Findspot	700 AD to 750 AD	Early Medieval
MKE76474	Anglo-Saxon silver penny, Ash, near Sandwich	Findspot	1065 AD to 1066 AD	Early Medieval
MKE5910	Early medieval cremation and barrow, Woodnesborough	Barrow; Cremation	667 AD to 699 AD	Early Medieval
MKE90848	Anglo-Saxon burial and pits, Mill Field, Ash	Inhumation; Pit; Gully	500 AD to 700 AD	Early Medieval

4.20 The parish of Ash covers an area of more than 7000 acres and is one of the largest parishes in Kent. The area was once part of the royal manor of Wingham and it is

recorded in c.850 AD that it was given by King Athelstan of Kent to the See of Canterbury. ¹⁴

- 4.21** A watching brief (EKE4972) c.80m south of the Site identified an Anglo-Saxon burial and pits (MKE90848). An Early Medieval copper alloy brooch (MKE63092) was also identified in the same area during metal detecting.
- 4.22** Two Merovingian gold tremisses (MKE76471, MKE76472), an Anglo-Saxon silver early penny (MKE76473) and an Anglo-Saxon silver penny (MKE76474) were all identified c.450m south-west of the Site.
- 4.23** An Early Medieval barrow and cremation (MKE5910) is sited c.800m south-east of the Site. The barrow was first excavated (EKE4713) in the mid-19th century and a cremation and grave goods were recorded.
- 4.24** Approximately 725m south of the Site six copper alloy brooches (MKE63097, MKE63379, MKE63390, MKE63401, MKE63404, MKE64140) were identified during metal detecting.
- 4.25** Just outside the 1km Study Area is located a scheduled monument comprising an Anglo-Saxon inhumation cemetery (NHLE 1005141).
- 4.26** The archaeological potential for further assets of Saxon/Early Medieval date is low based on the relative lack of data close to the Site. If such remains existed, they might be considered of local importance.

Medieval

- 4.27** The KHER records 31 archaeological monument records of Medieval date within the 1km study area.

Table 7: Medieval monuments recorded on the KHER within 1km of the Site

Monument ID	Name/Description	Monument Type	Dates	Period
MKE57545	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1279 AD to 1307 AD	Medieval
MKE63373	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1199 AD to 1216 AD	Medieval
MKE63377	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1272 AD to 1307 AD	Medieval
MKE63380	Medieval copper alloy pot	Findspot	1066 AD to 1540 AD	Medieval
MKE63381	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1216 AD to 1272 AD	Medieval
MKE63383	Medieval copper alloy thimble	Findspot	1400 AD to 1499 AD	Medieval
MKE63385	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1272 AD to 1307 AD	Medieval
MKE63386	Medieval seal matrix	Findspot	1066 AD to 1540 AD	Medieval

¹⁴ St Nicholas Parish Church. Nd

MKE63391	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1247 AD to 1272 AD	Medieval
MKE64417	Medieval copper alloy seal matrix	Findspot	1300 AD to 1400 AD	Medieval
MKE64622	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1272 AD to 1307 AD	Medieval
MKE64623	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1307 AD to 1327 AD	Medieval
MKE64937	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1165 AD to 1214 AD	Medieval
MKE65299	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1247 AD to 1272 AD	Medieval
MKE65340	Medieval lead seal matrix	Findspot	1300 AD to 1500 AD	Medieval
MKE65341	Medieval copper alloy strap end	Findspot	1300 AD to 1500 AD	Medieval
MKE65342	Medieval copper alloy thimble	Findspot	1300 AD to 1500 AD	Medieval
MKE65343	Post Medieval copper alloy button	Findspot	1500 AD to 1800 AD	Medieval
MKE95092	Medieval Copper alloy seal matrix	Findspot	1200 AD to 1400 AD	Medieval
MKE101150	Medieval Copper Alloy Buckle	Findspot	1350 AD to 1650 AD	Medieval
MKE101151	Post Medieval Copper Alloy Knife	Findspot	1500 AD to 1650 AD	Medieval
MKE101173	Medieval Silver Coin	Findspot	1307 AD to 1309 AD	Medieval
MKE101403	Medieval Copper Alloy Harness Pendant	Findspot	1300 AD to 1450 AD	Medieval
MKE101406	Medieval Copper Alloy Buckle	Findspot	1250 AD to 1500 AD	Medieval
MKE101408	Medieval Copper Alloy Jetton	Findspot	1400 AD to 1700 AD	Medieval
MKE101409	Medieval Silver Coin	Findspot	1205 AD to 1207 AD	Medieval
MKE108786	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1242 AD to 1247	Medieval
MKE112770	Medieval copper alloy strap fitting	Findspot	1250 AD to 1400 AD	Medieval
MKE112771	Medieval copper alloy buckle	Findspot	1230 AD to 1400 AD	Medieval
MKE112852	Post Medieval copper alloy sword belt	Findspot	1500 AD to 1700 AD	Medieval
MKE112853	Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1125 AD to 1135 AD	Medieval
MKE90824	Moat, Moat Farmhouse, Ash, Dover	Moat	1066 AD to 1539 AD	Medieval

4.28 During the Medieval period Ash was on the main road between Canterbury and the port at Sandwich. The Grade I listed St Nicholas Church sits c.630m west of the Site was built around 1190 and is believed to have been built on the site of an earlier Saxon church¹⁵. A list of churches made in 1071 records 'Aesce' in the manor of Wingham, which is believed to reference the settlement.¹⁶

4.29 It wasn't until 1282 when Ash became a separate parish, and this is recorded in the deed detailing the founding of a College of Canons at Wingham and the dividing of

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

the manor into four parishes. In this deed Ash was given a chapel at Fleet which was within the walls of Richborough Castle.¹⁷

- 4.30** A Medieval moat (MKE90824) is recorded c.560m west of the Site, a Post Medieval farmstead (MKE86799) now occupies the Site.
- 4.31** The KHER records the following findspots within 1km of the Site: 14 silver coins, four seal matrixes, three buckles, two copper alloy thimble, one strap end, one copper alloy button, , one knife, one harness pendant, one strap fitting, one jetton, one copper alloy sword belt. one copper alloy pot.
- 4.32** The archaeological potential for further assets of Medieval date is low based on the Site’s distance from the historic core of Ash. If such remains existed, they would probably be considered of local importance.

Post Medieval

- 4.33** The KHER records 37 archaeological monument records of Post Medieval date within the 1km study area.

Table 8: Post Medieval monuments recorded on the KHER within 1km of the Site

Monument ID	Name/Description	Monument Type	Dates	Period
MKE78248	Milestone, Sandwich Road (A257), Ash	Milestone	1540 AD to present	Post Medieval
MKE104232	United Reformed Church, The Street, Ash, Dover	United Reformed Church	1860 to present	Post Medieval
MKE86797	Farmstead in Ash	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86798	Outfarm in Ash	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86799	Moat Farm	Farmstead	1540 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86817	Farmstead in Ash	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86818	Great Weddington (Weddington House)	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86819	Little Weddington Farm	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86820	Farmstead in Weddington	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86841	Twitham Court Farm	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86842	Hills Court	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86843	Outfarm in New Street (Woodnesborough)	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86844	Outfarm in New Street (Ash)	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval

¹⁷ Ibid.

MKE86846	Farmstead in Coombe	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86847	Outfarm north east of Ringleton Manor	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86876	Each Manor Farm (Each Farm)	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86877	Great Selson	Farmstead	1600 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86878	Goss Hall	Farmstead	1540 AD	Post Medieval
MKE86879	Outfarm west of Beacon Hill Farm	Farmstead	1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE63098	Post Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1558 AD to 1603 AD	Post Medieval
MKE63100	Post Medieval gold coin	Findspot	1540 AD	Post Medieval
MKE63375	Post Medieval copper alloy medallion	Findspot	1837 AD to 1901 AD	Post Medieval
MKE63378	Post Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1760 AD to 1820 AD	Post Medieval
MKE65145	Post Medieval gold finger ring	Findspot	1650 AD to 1750 AD	Post Medieval
MKE95104	Post Medieval Gold finger ring	Findspot	1700 AD to 1750 AD	Post Medieval
MKE101149	Post Medieval Silver Coin	Findspot	1644 AD to 1645 AD	Post Medieval
MKE101400	Post Medieval Copper Alloy Mount	Findspot	1600 AD to 1700 AD	Post Medieval
MKE101402	Post Medieval Copper Alloy Coin	Findspot	1636 AD to 1644 AD	Post Medieval
MKE101404	Post Medieval Copper Alloy Bell	Findspot	1600 AD to 1700 AD	Post Medieval
MKE101405	Post Medieval Copper Alloy Bell	Findspot	1600 AD to 1800 AD	Post Medieval
MKE112791	Post Medieval copper alloy token	Findspot	1648 AD to 1672 AD	Post Medieval
MKE112845	Post Medieval silver coin	Findspot	1579 AD	Post Medieval
MKE112851	Post Medieval copper alloy furniture fitting	Findspot	1600 AD to 1700 AD	Post Medieval
MKE113107	Post Medieval silver coin	Findspot	Undated	Post Medieval
MKE100057	Mount Ephraim Mill (former site)	Post Mill	1735 AD to 1955 AD	Post Medieval
MKE16836	Ash brewery	Brewery; Maltings	1540 AD to 1900 AD	Post Medieval
MKE5925	Destroyed post-mill	Post Mill	1540 AD to 1900 AD	Post Medieval

4.34 The closest record on the KHER relates to Ash brewery (MKE16836), c.170m west of the Site. The brewery was founded in 1837 and ceased in 1954. Some buildings still remain however the Brewhouse was demolished. Two brick-built cellars were identified during an evaluation on the Site in 2003 (EKE11860, EKE12051). Prior to the brewery a workhouse occupied the Site, and some structural elements were found during the investigations.

4.35 Two post mills are recorded within the study area. A corn post mill known as Mount Ephraim Mill (MKE100057), constructed in 1735 and blown down in 1955, sat c.190m

south-west of the Site. The second mill (MKE5925) is also destroyed, and was located c.880m north-west of the Site.

4.36 There are 17 farmsteads recorded on the KHER within the 1km Study Area, including:

- A farmstead (MKE86817), c. 250m west of the Site;
- A farmstead and an outfarm (MKE86798, MKE86798) both c.940m west of the Site;
- Farmstead at Great Weddington (MKE86818) and Little Weddington Farm, c.740m north of the Site. Another farmstead in Weddington (MKE86820) sits c.850m north of the Site;
- Twitham Court Farm (MKE86841), c.650m north-east of the Site;
- Hills Court (MKE86842), c.890m north-east of the Site;
- Two outfarms in New Street (MKE86843, MKE86844), c.425m south-east of the Site;
- Farmstead in Coombe (MKE86846), c.750m south-east of the Site;
- Outfarm north east of Ringleton Manor (MKE86847), c.940m south-east of the Site;
- Each Manor Farm (MKE86876) and Great Selson farmstead (MKE86877), c.810m east of the Site; and
- Goss Hall (MKE86878) and an outfarm at Beacon Hill Farm (MKE86879), c.650m north-east of the Site;

4.37 The KHER records the following Post Medieval findspots: five silver coins, two gold finger rings, one gold coin, one copper alloy medallion, one copper alloy mount, one copper alloy coin, one copper alloy bell, one copper alloy token, one copper alloy furniture fitting.

4.38 The Site is first depicted on the 1767 Dury plan of Kent (Figure 11) and the Site is shown as open and undeveloped. Two field boundaries runs north-south through the Site, one along the western boundary of the Site and the other near to the eastern boundary of the Site.

4.39 The 1797 Ordnance Survey drawing (Figure 12) shows the Site as being undeveloped with the Sandwich Road to the north and New Street to the south.

4.40 The 1840 Ash Tithe plan (Figure 13) shows most of the Site as being undeveloped and sitting within two plots. A range of buildings sit in the very south of the Site, adjacent to New Street.

Table 9: Land Holdings on the Ash Parish Tithe Apportionment, dated 22nd July 1840¹⁸

Plot Number	Landowner	Occupier	Name/Description of Premises	Cultivation Type
1019	Anna Maria Lukin	Samuel Petley	Cherry Garden Cottage	Garden
1020	John Friend	Thomas Sutton	Cottage and Garden	Garden
1021	Samuel Reynolds Solley	James Tomlin	Sixteen Acres	Arable

4.41 The 1873 Ordnance Survey plan (Figure 14) shows the Site containing two buildings in its very southern extent. Most of the Site is laid out with an orchard and the very eastern extent appears to be open agricultural or pastoral land.

4.42 The 1898 Ordnance Survey plan (Figure 15) shows the Site as still being predominantly laid out with orchard. The roads to the north and south of the Site are marked as Roman Roads.

4.43 The archaeological potential for further assets of Post Medieval date is high and likely relates to agricultural activity within the Site. If such remains existed, they would probably be considered of local importance.

Modern

4.44 The KHER records seven archaeological monument records of Modern date within the 1km study area.

Table 10: Modern monuments recorded on the KHER within 1km of the Site

Monument ID	Name/Description	Monument Type	Dates	Period
MKE42024	Former Ash Radar Station	Radar Station	1953 AD to 1997 AD	Modern
MKE77654	George V pillar box, Chequer Lane	Pillar Box	1922 AD to 1927 AD	Modern
MKE98038	VAD hospital, Village Hall, Queen's Road, Ash	Hospital	1914 AD to 1919 AD	Modern
MKE89879	Crash site of Supermarine Spitfire I	Aircraft Crash Site; Spitfire	1940 AD	Modern
MKE16632	Possible radar station or military site, near Ash	Radar Station	1901 AD to present	Modern
MKE18046	Royal Observer Corps (ROC) Underground Monitoring Post	Underground Monitoring Post	1962 AD to present	Modern

¹⁸ The Genealogist.

MKE56634	East Kent Light Railway	Railway	1912 AD to 1948 AD	Modern
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- 4.45** Kent’s proximity to the continent means that there are a number of records relating to military defences and action throughout the 20th century.
- 4.46** The airplane crash site, of a Supermarine Spitfire I (MKE89879, DKE21852) is located c.200m south-east of the Site. The plane crashed in 1940 following a mid-air collision with another Spitfire. This site has been designated as Protected Military Remains under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986¹⁹ which provides protection for the wreckage of military aircraft and vessels. The exact location of crash sites can often be inaccurate, therefore the possibly of debris associated with this plane within the Site cannot be ruled out.
- 4.47** A Royal Observer Corp (ROC) underground monitoring post (MKE18046) is located c.450m east of the Site. The post was built in 1962 and subsequently closed in 1968. A possible radar station or military site (MKE16632) is marked on a map immediately adjacent to the ROC monitoring post. It is thought to date to World War II.
- 4.48** A former Cold War RAF Radar Station (MKE42024) is located c.820m south-east of the Site. The Station became operational in 1953 and was in operation until 1998.
- 4.49** A military hospital (MKE98038) was set up in the Ash village hall, c.570m west of the Site, during World War II.
- 4.50** A George V pillar box (MKE77654) is located c.815m west of the Site.
- 4.51** The East Kent Light Railway (MKE56634) runs c.570m south-west of the Site. The railway was opened in 1912 to support development of the East Kent Coalfield, with passengers first using the line in 1912. The railway survived to nationalisation in 1948 when all general freight traffic ceased, and the track taken up.
- 4.52** The 1907 Ordnance Survey plan (Figure 16) shows the majority of the Site being laid out as a plantation. Three boundary stones are depicted along the boundaries of the Site, one in the north-western corner, another halfway down the western boundary, and the third on the eastern boundary. Buildings are depicted immediately adjacent to New Street in the southern extent of the Site and in the north-eastern corner.
- 4.53** The 1938 Ordnance Survey plan (Figure 17) depicts additional buildings in the southern extent of the Site. Two small structures are shown straddling the eastern boundary of the Site. Three boundary stones are still depicted along the boundary of

¹⁹ Protection of Military Remains. 1986.

the Site although the stone in the north-western corner of the Site has been moved to the eastern boundary.

- 4.54** The 1955 Ordnance Survey plan (Figure 18) depicts further additions to the range of the buildings in the southern extent of the Site. Nine glasshouses are depicted within the southern half and the main area of the Site is marked as 'Nursery'.
- 4.55** The 1970 Ordnance Survey plan (Figure 19) shows further substantial development across the southern half and north-eastern extent of the Site. There are now 14 glasshouses within the Site and further buildings running north through the centre of the Site.
- 4.56** The 1982 Ordnance Survey plan (Figure 20) shows only some of the buildings shown on the 1970 plan remain within the Site. The northern-most glasshouses have been demolished.
- 4.57** The archaeological potential for further assets of Modern date is high based on the development identified in the Site and the surrounding area. If such remains existed, they would be considered of local importance.

Unknown

- 4.58** The KHER records nine archaeological monument records of Unknown date within the 1km study area.

Table 11: Unknown monuments recorded on the KHER within 1km of the Site

Monument ID	Name/Description	Monument Type	Dates	Period
MKE15833	Prehistoric and Romano-British pottery, Ash	Findspot	Undated	Unknown
MKE43390	Four sherds of 10th/11th century pottery and a flint blade-flake found during a watching brief	Findspot	Undated	Unknown
MKE63095	copper alloy brooch	Findspot	Undated	Unknown
MKE63374	copper alloy jetton	Findspot	Undated	Unknown
MKE63376	copper alloy unidentified object	Findspot	Undated	Unknown
MKE63387	Silver unidentified object	Findspot	Undated	Unknown
MKE63392	copper alloy bead	Findspot	Undated	Unknown
MKE5933	Rectangular enclosure	Rectangular Enclosure	Undated	Unknown
MKE91156	Cropmark of a rectilinear enclosure, south of Ash	Rectilinear Enclosure	Undated	Unknown

- 4.59** These include pottery (MKE15833) which likely relates to the Prehistoric or Roman periods, c.140m north of the Site.

- 4.60** Four sherds of pottery and a flint blade flake (MKE43390) found c.720m south-west of the Site. The pottery likely dating to the Early Medieval or Medieval period and the flake from the Mesolithic to Middle Bronze Age period.
- 4.61** An undated copper alloy brooch (MKE63095) was found c.830m south of the Site during metal detecting.
- 4.62** An undated copper alloy jetton (MKE63374) and a copper alloy unidentified object (MKE63376) were found during metal detecting c.600m south of the Site.
- 4.63** A silver unidentified object (MKE63387) and a copper alloy bead (MKE63392) were found during metal detecting c.720m south of the Site.
- 4.64** A rectangular enclosure (MKE5933) seen on aerial photographs lies c.750m south-west of the Site.
- 4.65** A cropmark of a rectangular enclosure (MKE91156) seen on Google Earth, lies c.845m south-west of the Site.

Previous Archaeological Work

- 4.66** The KHER holds 33 records for previous archaeological investigations having been carried out within the wider 1km study area (Figure 8).

Table 12: Previous Archaeological Investigations within the 1km Study Area

EvUID	Name	Year
EKE10283	Geotechnical test pits, A257 Ash Bypass, Great Pedding Farm	1991
EKE10405	Negative watching brief at 72 The Street, Ash	2008
EKE10421	An evaluation at the former site of Wisteria Cottage, Coombe Lane, Ash	1993
EKE10456	Geotechnical work at the proposed new school at Cartwright and Kelsey Primary School, Ash	2002
EKE10457	Evaluation at Ash Cartwright & Kelsey CE (Aided) Primary School, Ash, Kent	2003
EKE10458	Exploratory Environmental Investigation at Ash Motor Co., Sandwich Road, Ash	1999
EKE10459	Desk Based Assessment: Puma Power Plant, Sandwich Road, Ash, Kent	2003
EKE10462	Description and Analysis of Puma Power Plant Site, Ash	2003
EKE10463	Evaluation on land at 47 New Street, Ash, near Sandwich	2009
EKE10504	Evaluation of Land Adjacent to 41 New Street, Ash, Near Sandwich	2010
EKE11003	Negative watching brief: Woodbine Cottage	1995
EKE11085	Excavations at Each End, Ash	1992
EKE11573	Desk based assessment of RAF Ash	1998
EKE11860	Evaluation at the Puma Power Plant site, Sandwich Road, Ash	2003
EKE12051	Excavation at the former Puma Power Plant site, Ash	2003
EKE12052	Watching brief at the former Puma Power Plant site, Ash	2003/4
EKE12328	Desk based assessment of Ash Radar Station	2008

EKE12329	Desk based assessment of the Europa Nursery site, Ash	2008
EKE12352	Watching brief at Europa Nursery, Weddington, Ash	2008
EKE12353	Evaluation at Europa Nursery, Weddington, Ash	2008
EKE12570	Trial trenches in Park Field, Ringlemere	2009
EKE13072	Negative watching brief at The Vineries, New Street, Ash	2012
EKE16795	St Nicholas Church, The Street, Ash, Kent, Watching Brief Report	
EKE19958	Land at White Post Farm, Ash-next-Sandwich, Kent, Archaeological Evaluation	2019
EKE20971	Archaeological Evaluation Report, Land of Chequer Lane, Ash, Kent, CT3 2JF	2019
EKE21522	Excavation alongside A257, Ash, 2002	2002
EKE4713	Excavation at Coombe, 1845	
EKE4878	Ash by-pass evaluation 1992	1992
EKE4925	Evaluation on land adjacent to the Lion Hotel, The Street, Ash	1997
EKE4972	Watching Brief at Mill Field, Ash	1992
EKE8877	Watching brief on land adjacent to 115 New Street, Ash	
EKE9032	Watching brief at Whistler's Forstal, Coombe Lane, Ash	2003
EKE9034	Watching brief at 56 New Street, Ash	2004

4.67 These include twelve archaeological evaluations, ten watching briefs, four desk-based assessments, three schemes of trial trenching, three geotechnical surveys, and one historic building survey.

4.68 None of these are within the Site itself however one watching brief (EKE9034) took place immediately adjacent to the south of the Site at number 56 New Street. No archaeological finds or features were identified.

4.69 Another watching brief (EKE4972) was carried out on the opposite side of New Street from the Site. This evaluation identified Prehistoric, Roman, and Saxon occupation.

4.70 There are 29 reports relating to previous archaeological evaluations recorded within the 1km Study Area.

Table 13: Reports recorded on the KHER within the 1km Study Area

Report ID	Title	Year
1992/79	Each End, Ash: Cremations Report	1992
2018/827	Land off New Street, Ash-next-Sandwich Evaluation report	2016
2018/264	St Nicholas Church, The Street, Ash, Kent, Watching-brief report	2009
2019/248	Land adjacent to 57 New Street, Ash, Kent, Archaeological evaluation report	2019
1992/13	Ash 1992, Mill Field: Archaeological Watching Brief Report	1992
1992/14	Archaeological Evaluation of the route of the Ash By-pass 1992	1992
1992/69	Each End, Ash. 1992: An Assessment of the Archaeological Potential of the Post-Excavation Material	1992
2005/278	Watching Brief At Whistler's Forstal, Coombe Lane, Ash	2003
2003/201	Description and Analysis: Puma Power Plant Site, Ash, Kent	2003
2003/202	Puma Power Plant, Sandwich Road, Ash: An archaeological evaluation report	2003
2004/483	Watching brief on land adjacent to 115 New Street, Ash	2004

2008/236	RAF Ash, Kent: Survey Report	1998
2003/7	Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Puma Power Plant, Sandwich Road, Ash, Kent	2003
1993/121	Wisteria Cottage, Coombe Lane, Ash, Archaeological Evaluation Report	1993
1995/54	Negative Watching Brief: Woodbine Cottage, Coombe Lane, Ash	1995
2000/153	Factual Report on an Exploratory Environmental Investigation at Ash Motor Co., Sandwich Road, Ash, Kent	2000
1997/5	Residential Development at The Street, Ash: Report on a Programme of Archaeological Evaluation	1997
2005/280	Watching Brief At 56 New Street, Ash	2004
2009/304	The Bunker: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment	2008
2009/306	Archaeological Impact Assessment: Europa Nursery, Ash, Kent	2008
2003/211	Proposed New School at Cartwright and Kelsey Primary School, Ash: Report on Ground Investigation	2002
2010/101	Report on Evaluation Trenching in 'Park Field', Ringlemere 2009: RFW Trenches 10 and 11	2010
2009/444	Archaeological Excavation (phase 1): Europa Nursery, Weddington, Ash, Kent	2009
2009/593	Negative Watching Brief: 72 The Street, Ash	2008
2010/144	Land Adjacent to 41 New Street, Ash, Nr Sandwich, Kent: Archaeological Evaluation Report	2010
2005/116	Puma Power Plant, Sandwich Road, Ash, Kent: An archaeological post-excavation assessment and updated project design	2004
2010/124	Archaeological Evaluation on land at 47 New Street, Ash, near Sandwich, Kent	2009
2004/115	An Archaeological Evaluation at Ash Cartwright & Kelsey CE (Aided) Primary School, Ash, Kent	2003
2013/274	Negative Watching Brief: The Vineries, New Street, Ash	2012

4.71 None of these have been carried out within the Site itself.

LiDAR

4.72 LiDAR data (1m resolution from 2021, Figure 10) has been downloaded for the Site to enable interrogation through QGIS software using hillshade settings and variations of light angles and azimuth heights. This shows ridge and furrow across the northern two-thirds of the Site; however, this likely relates to relatively modern horticultural activity and the Site's use as a nursery and orchard during the late Post Medieval and Modern periods.

Historic Landscape Characterisation

4.73 The Site contains one Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) type, that of Post 1810 settlement (general). This 'includes expansion of hamlets, villages, towns and cities as well as new settlement groups.'²⁰

Aerial Photographs

4.74 A review of Historic aerial photographs has identified two depicting the Site:

- EAW004732 and EAW004734, both taken in 1947, depict an oblique view of the village of Ash. The Site can be seen in the background with a building in the southern extent of the Site, adjacent to New Street. The northern extent of the Site appears to be laid out as a plantation²¹²².

4.75 A review of modern aerial photographs through Google Earth (Figure 19) shows a building in the southern extent of the Site, to the east of which sits a gateway into the Site. To the rear are numerous sheds extending north. The very north of the Site is currently scrubland.

²⁰ Croft. A, Munby. J., and Ridley. M. 2001

²¹ <https://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/en/image/EAW004732>

²² <https://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/en/image/EAW004734>

5. Impact Assessment

Proposed Development

- 5.1** The proposed development will comprise up to 52 residential dwellings and associated landscaping and access roads.

Factors Affecting Archaeological Survival

- 5.2** Archaeological remains can survive as earthworks and as below ground archaeological features, finds and layers. Part of the assessment process is to consider what factors may have affected archaeological survival. That is to say, what conditions would have enhanced the chances of survival and what conditions would have reduced the chances of survival.
- 5.3** The subject of archaeological preservation has been covered comprehensively elsewhere²³, and it is a subject which is subject to ongoing review as our understanding grows. The following addresses some familiar scenarios for assessment reports such as this, to allow the reader an insight into some 'typical' scenarios.
- 5.4** In rural locations, below ground remains are likely to be sealed by a relatively thin series of layers. Typically, a topsoil of c.100-200mm and a subsoil of 100-300mm. Therefore, they may be sealed by 200-500mm of deposits. There are variations to this including landscapes affected by colluvial or alluvial deposits. There are also Peat rich areas where soil deposits can be significantly deeper. Earthworks are most common in areas not subject to modern, mechanised ploughing, although earthworks can be preserved in hedgerows, wooded areas and even as plough-reduced remnants within arable fields. Pasture/grassland provides a relatively static condition for archaeological remains however mechanised ploughing especially of deep rooting crops (e.g. Sugar Beet) causes truncation of archaeological deposits.
- 5.5** Hydrology has a significant role to play in the preservation of remains and proximity to watercourses and wetlands should be considered as it affects the variety and type of artefacts/ecofacts that could be present on a site.
- 5.6** There are many instances of survival in what superficially seem to be destructive scenarios, with preservation beneath buildings and roads which once constructed provide a relatively stable environment.

²³ Historic England 2016.

- 5.7** Horticultural activities on the site will have caused some truncation to below ground archaeological remains, although it is very likely that if any remains are present they would still survive beneath and between areas of such activity.

Assessment of Significance

- 5.8** This assessment of significance has been guided by the National Planning Policy Framework²⁴. It has also been guided by Historic England's guidance *Conservation Principles, Policies, and Guidance*. This states that the 'heritage values that can be ascribed to a place' can be grouped into four values: *Evidential, Historic (illustrative or associative), Aesthetic, and Communal*.²⁵
- 5.9** The route of the Canterbury to Richborough Roman Road runs immediately adjacent to the northern boundary of the Site. Therefore, there is a possibility of Roman remains to be encountered at the roadside and other activity within the Site. Such remains would be of high significance due to their *evidential* value as they would provide an insight to those traversing the Road and occupation in the area. Furthermore, they would hold significance due to their *illustrative historic* value, as they would expand the current timeline of the Site. Such remains could potentially hold national significance if they were to be associated with the fort at Richborough or the Roman Roads.
- 5.10** A watching brief just south of the Site identified early Neolithic to middle Iron Age activity. The activity included early Neolithic to late Bronze Age struck flints and middle Iron Age pits. Such deposits suggest some level of Prehistoric occupation within close proximity of the Site. Below-ground archaeological remains relating to this period would be considered of archaeological significance due to their *evidential* value as they would show the earliest human use of the Site. They would also be of *illustrative historic* value as they would provide further evidence for Prehistoric occupation in Ash.
- 5.11** Cartographic analysis has identified development within the Site throughout the later Post Medieval and Modern periods. During the late 19th century two rectangular structures are depicted in the very southern extent of the Site, with the northern extent of the Site being used as arable land and later as a plantation. During the Modern period the Site continues to change, with more construction in the southern extent of the Site and the Site becoming a plant nursery by the mid-20th century. A World War II air crash is listed on the KHER south-east of the Site and these points are often inaccurate. Therefore, there is a potential for remains associated with the crash to survive within the Site. Features associated with the Post Medieval and

²⁴ MHCLG. 2021.

²⁵ Historic England.

Modern development of the Site would yield archaeological significance due to their evidential and illustrative historic value as they would show the development of the Site throughout this period of growth in Ash.

- 5.12** The potential for previously unknown archaeological remains from the Early Medieval or Medieval periods to be identified within the Site should not be discounted. Any such remains found may have considerable archaeological interest depending on character and level of preservation. The presence and significance of hitherto unknown archaeological remains cannot be assessed without field evaluation.

Potential Effects

- 5.13** The historic map regression has identified two Post Medieval buildings in the southern extent of the Site. It is not known if these have been incorporated into the current buildings which occupy this area of the Site. However, the Site walkover did identify some earlier features within one of the buildings adjacent to New Street.
- 5.14** Ridge and furrow has been identified in the northern extent of the Site. It is likely that these features relate to horticultural practices, such as the plantation or orchard that occupied the Site throughout the later Post Medieval and Modern periods. The development would impact upon these features.
- 5.15** There is the potential for direct physical impacts to heritage assets during the construction phase of any future development of the Site, as any ground moving activities associated with the proposed works would have the potential to expose, damage or destroy hitherto unknown archaeological remains. Such activities could include piling, topsoil stripping, ground reduction, digging of service trenches and landscaping.

6. Conclusions

6.1 The proposed development comprises up to 52 residential dwellings and associated landscaping and access roads.

6.2 The following table details the archaeological potential ascribed to the Site by period and an assessment of the likely archaeological importance of any remains of those periods should they survive.

Table 14: Assessed Archaeological Potential and Importance by period

Period	Archaeological Potential	Archaeological Importance
Prehistoric	Medium	Local
Roman	High	Regional to National
Early Medieval/Saxon	Low	Local
Medieval	Low	Local
Post Medieval	High	Local
Modern	High	Local – Unless associated with the World War II crash site, such remains would be of National significance and warrant preservation in situ.

6.3 Based on the information within the KHER, supplemented by historic mapping, the Site is considered to have a high potential for below-ground archaeological remains. It is likely that such remains would relate to the Roman, Post Medieval and Modern periods, deposits from the Prehistoric period could also be encountered.

6.4 The Canterbury to Richborough Roman Road runs east-west along the northern boundary of the Site, and the Dover to Richborough Roman road runs just south of the Site. Therefore, there is a high potential for Roman archaeology to be identified within the Site, especially close to the course of these routes and there is a potential that such remains could be of regional to national importance.

6.5 Cartographic analysis has identified development in the southern extent of the Site during the late 19th and throughout the 20th century and later activity relating to a plant nursery established on the Site during the mid-20th century. Furthermore, the Protected Military Remains of a Supermarine Spitfire I is recorded c.200m south-west of the Site. These points are often inaccurate and therefore there is a potential for remains associated with the crash to survive within the Site.

6.6 On the basis of available evidence, it is considered that the proposed development accords with current legislation, the planning policies contained within the NPPF and the policies of the adopted Dover District Core Strategy. The Site has been subject to

desk-based assessment and the archaeological potentials and importance have been assessed. The proposals do not impact on any designated archaeological sites or areas of archaeological importance highlighted within the Dover District Core Strategy. A phased approach to archaeological mitigation is likely to be required at the site, initially in the form of trial trenching to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains, their character, date, extent, depth, state of preservation and significance. The results of trenching will determine if any further archaeological work is needed and what the scope of that work would be.

- 6.7** The scope of any further archaeological works that would be needed in advance or during development of the Site would need to be discussed and agreed with the Archaeological Advisor to the local planning authority.

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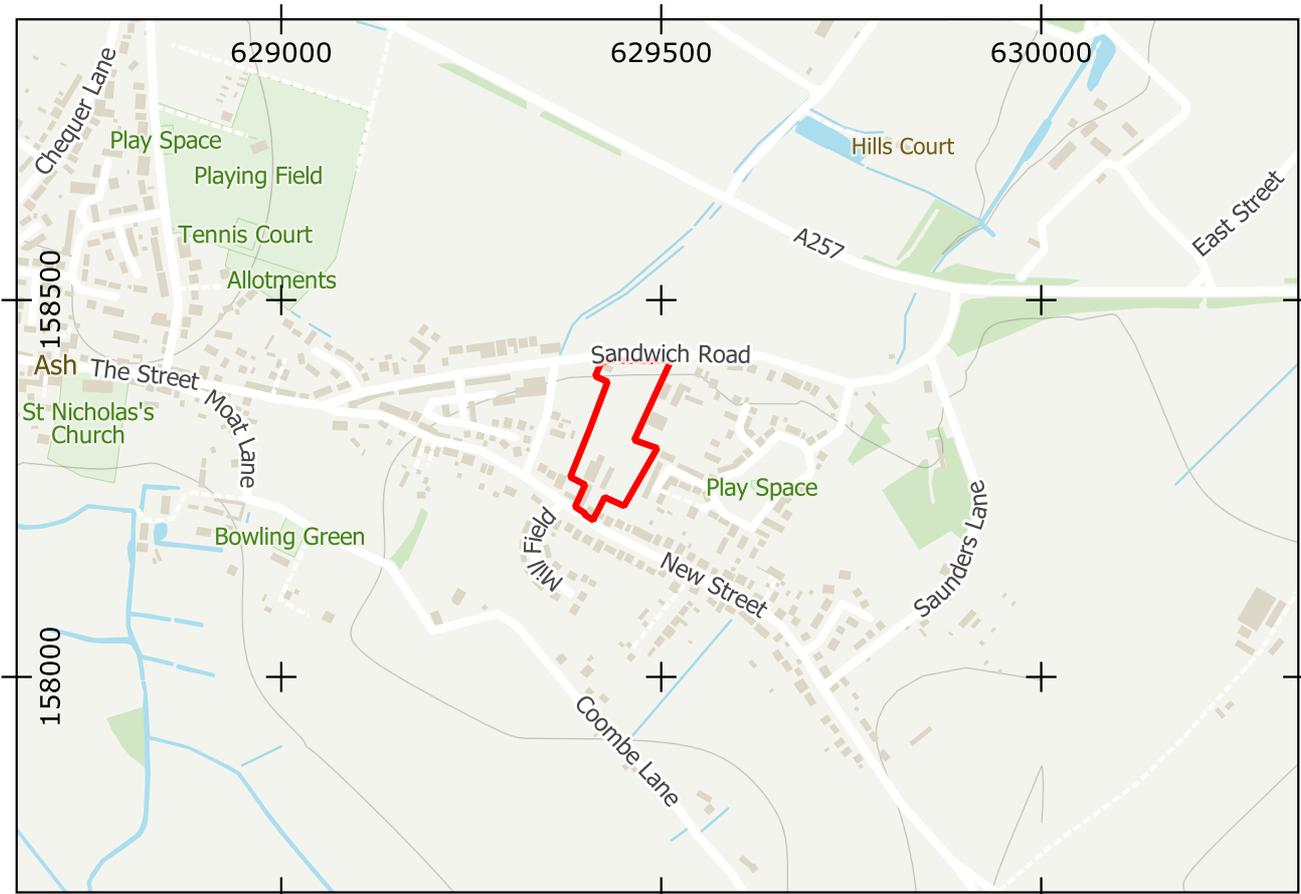
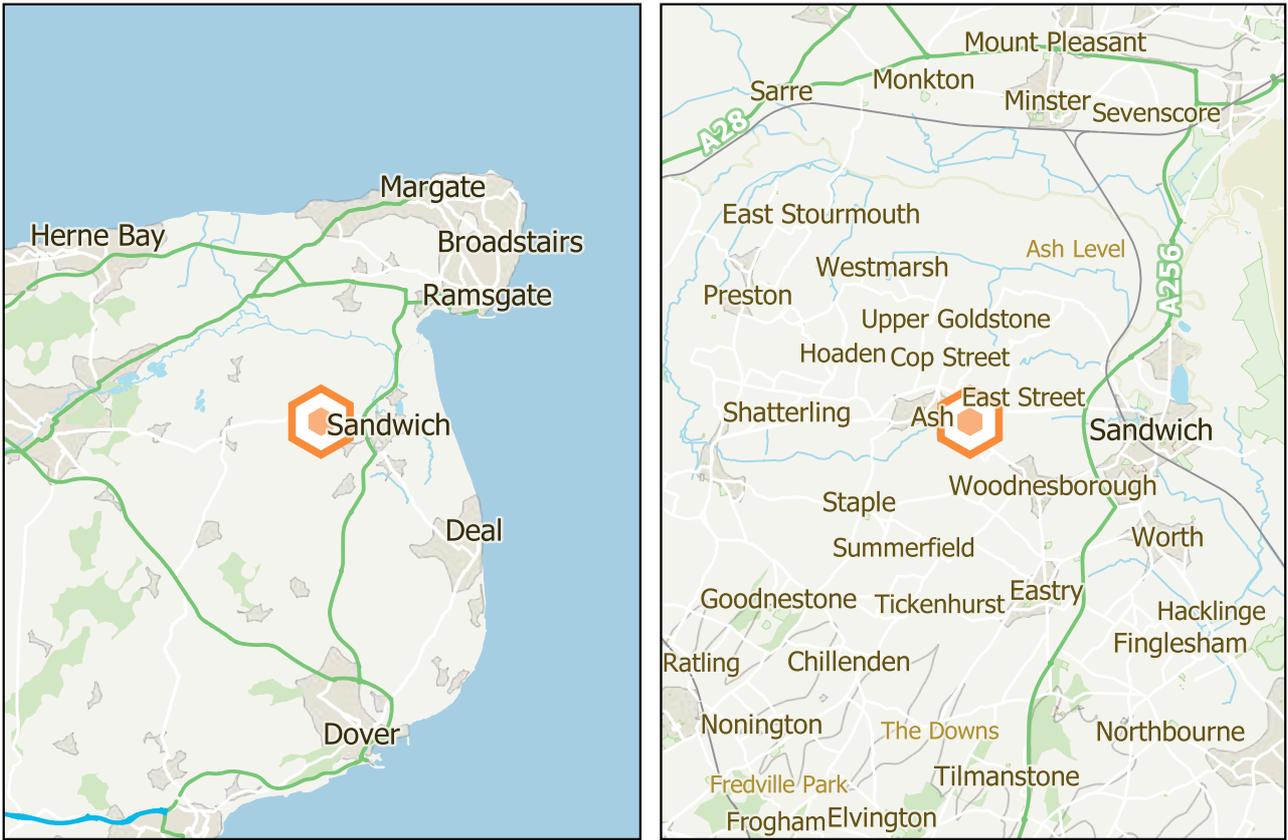
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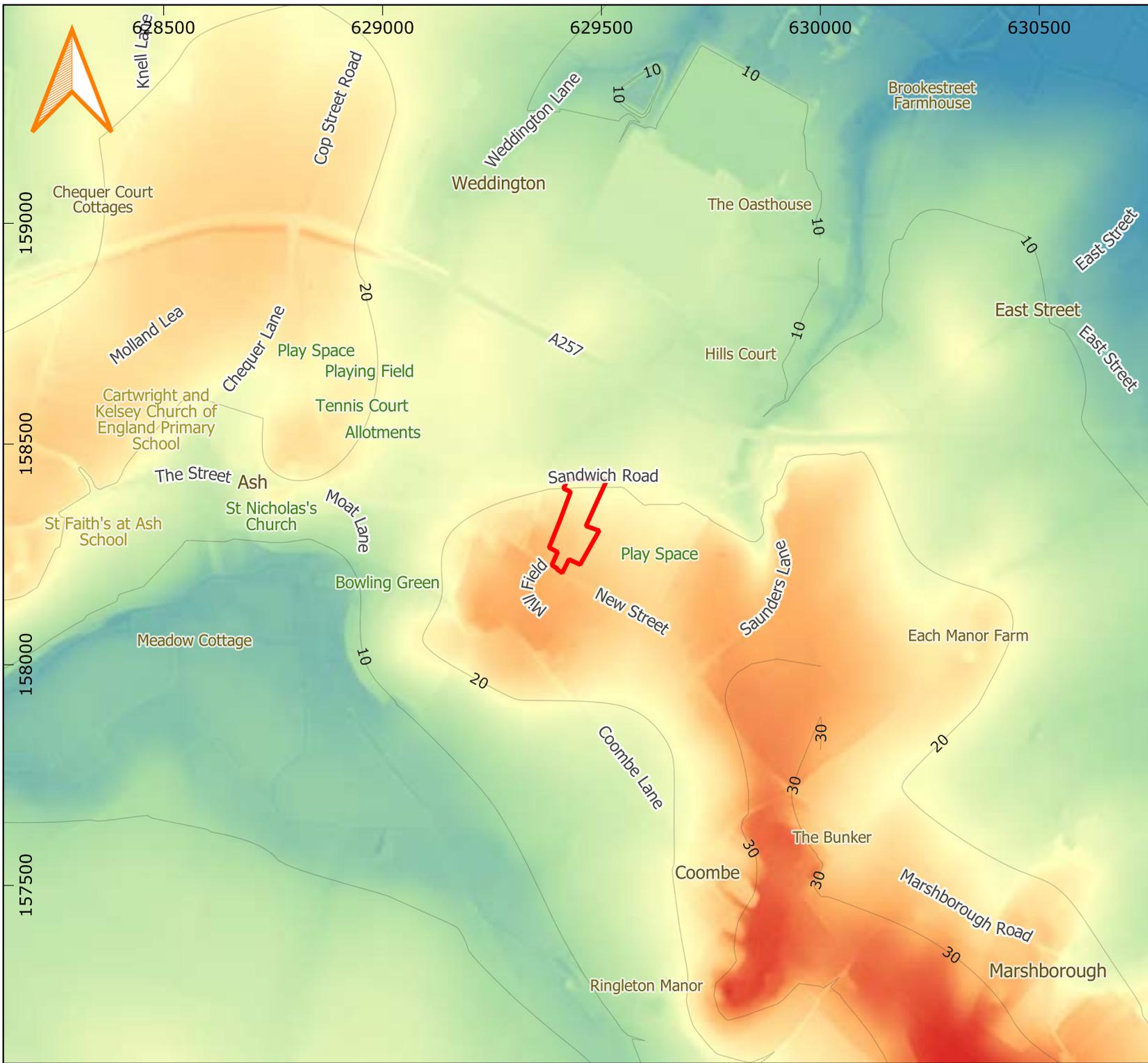
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7. Figures



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Figure 1: Site Location



Key:

- Site boundary
- 1km Study Area
- Site Boundary
- Height in metres above Ordnance Datum
- 0m aOD
- 10m aOD
- 20m aOD
- 30m aOD
- 40m aOD

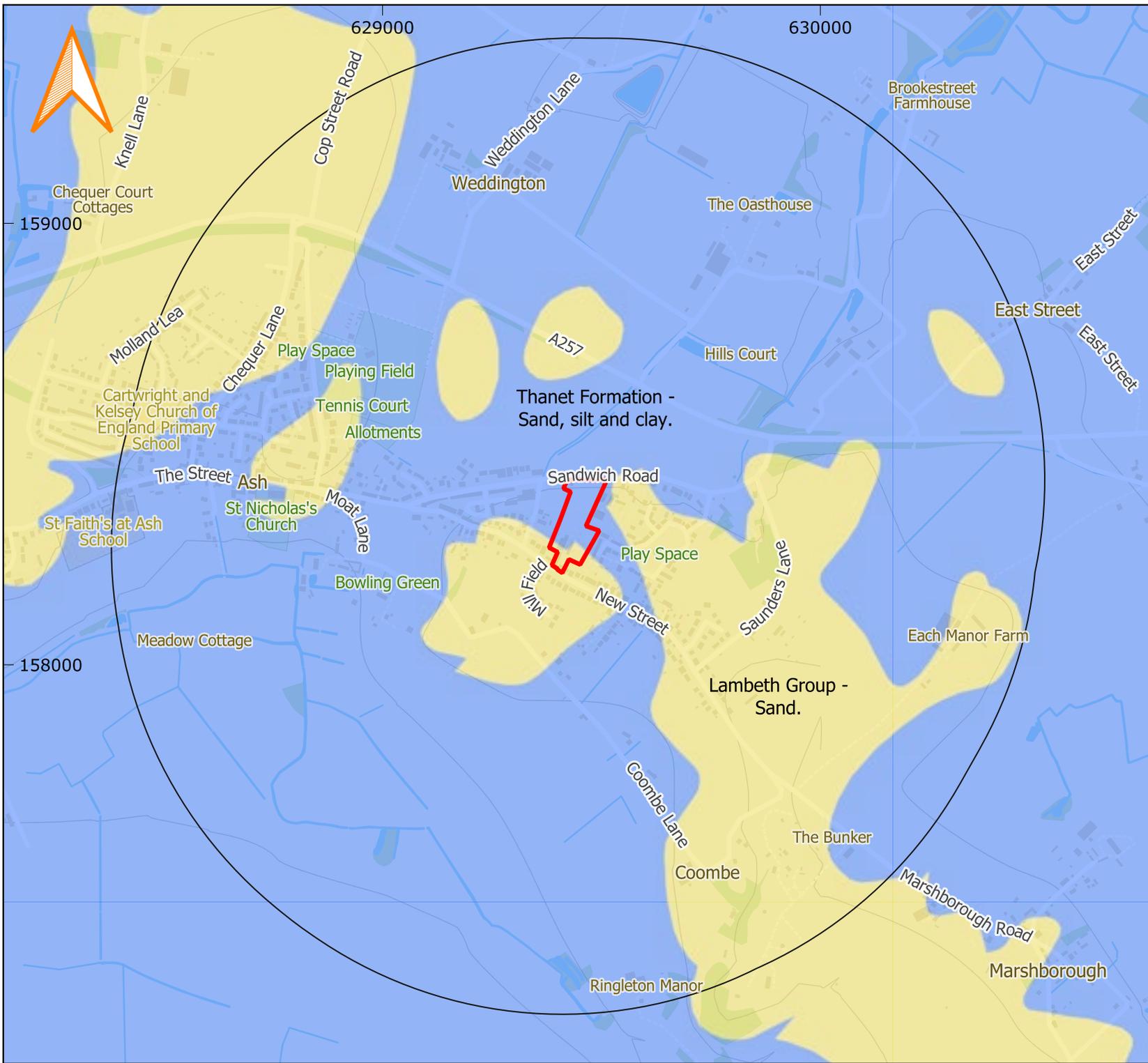


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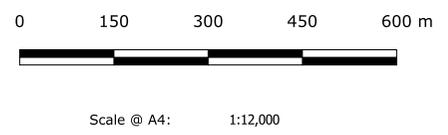
52 New Street, Ash, CT3 2BB
 Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

Figure 2.
 Topography within the 1km Study Area



Key:

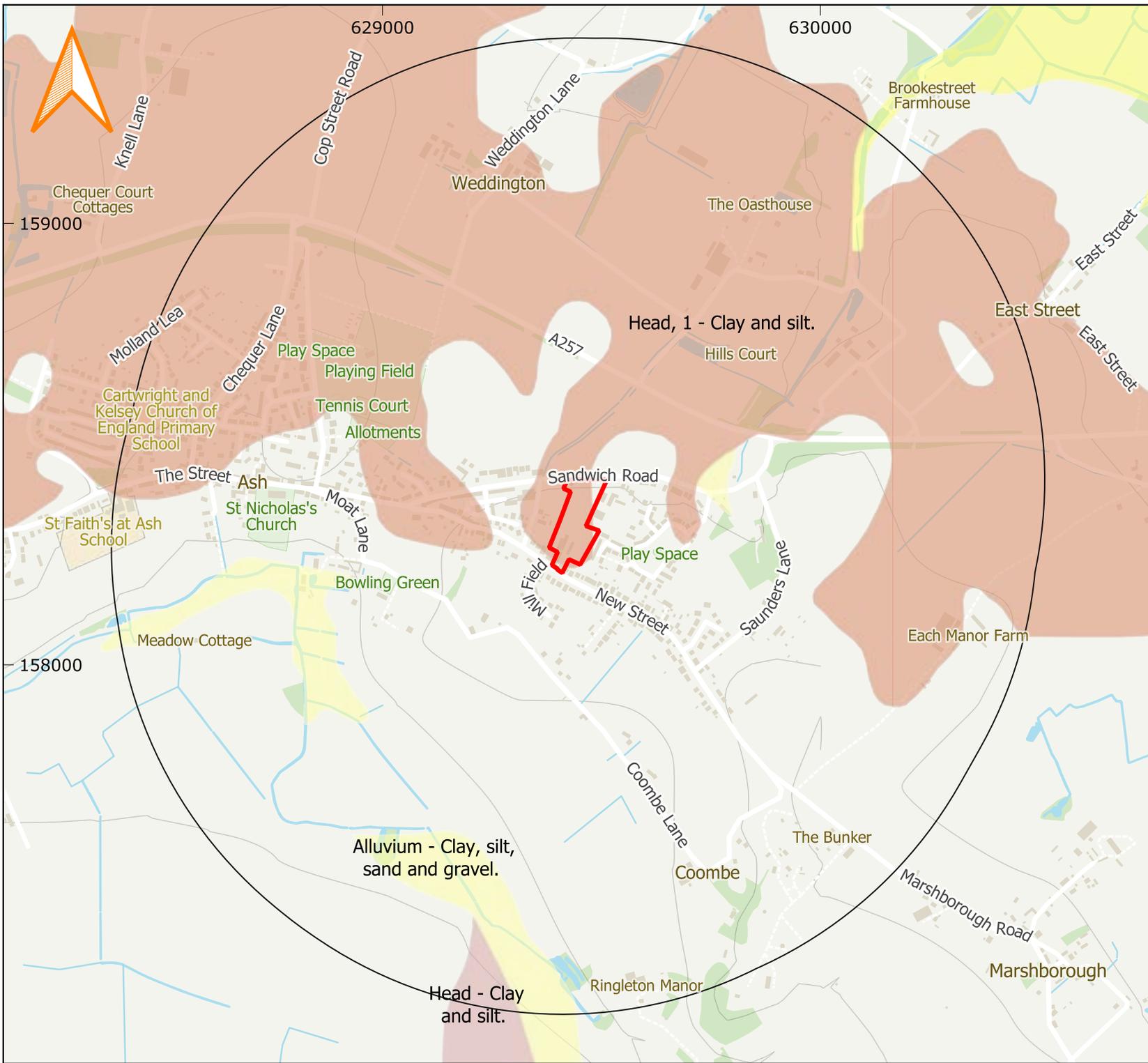
- Site boundary
- 1km Study Area
- Site Boundary
- 1km Study Area



**52 New Street, Ash, CT3
2BB**

Archaeological Desk Based
Assessment

Figure 3.
Bedrock Geological Deposits within
the 1km Study Area



Key:

- Site Boundary
- 1km Study Area

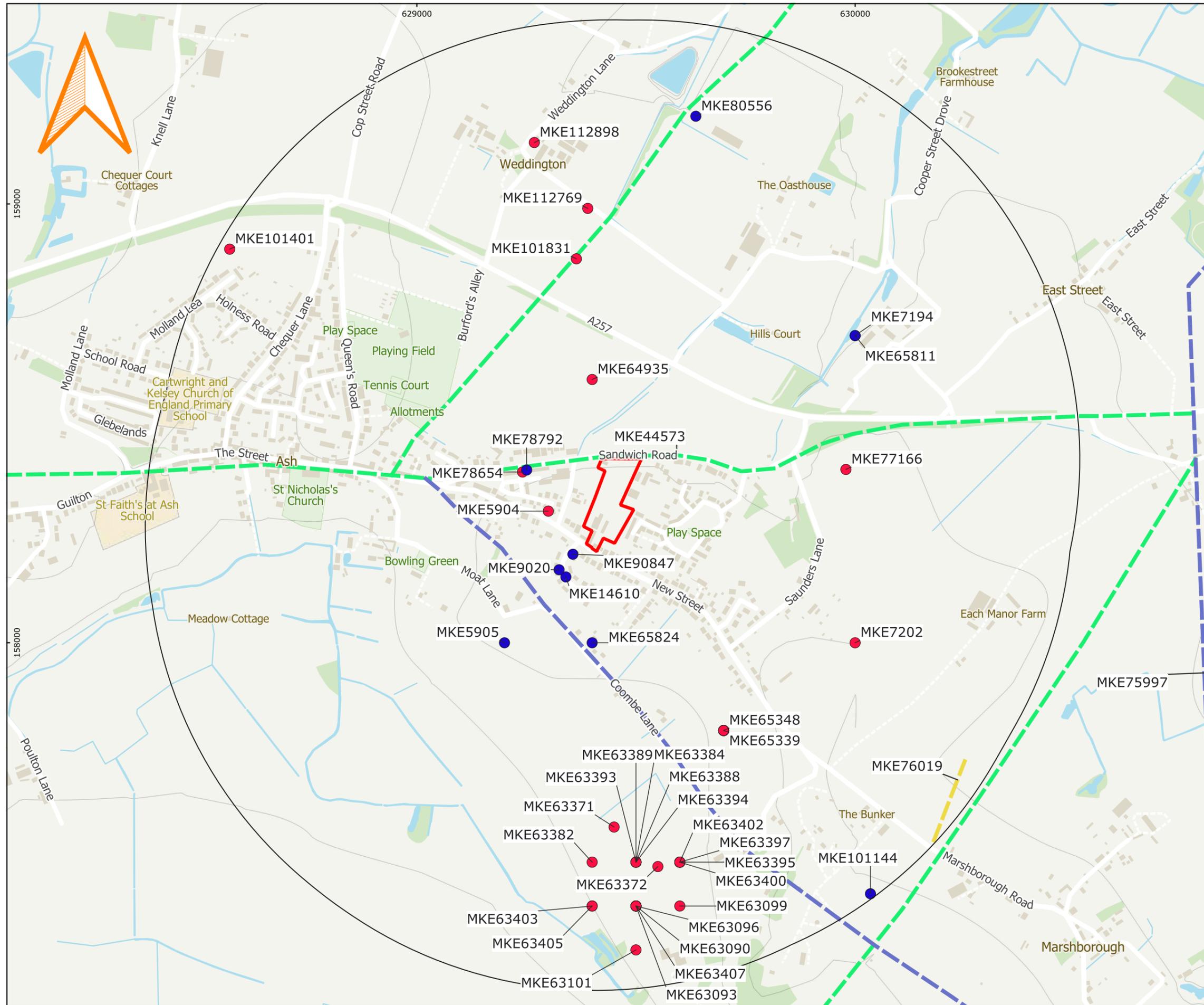


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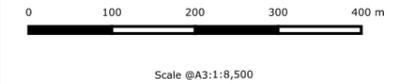
52 New Street, Ash, CT3 2BB
 Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

Figure 4.
 Superficial Geological Deposits within the 1km Study Area



Key:

- Site Boundary
- 1km Study Area
- Archaeological Monuments**
- Points**
- Prehistoric
- Roman
- Lines**
- - - A Roman road running from Canterbury to Richborough
- - - Roman Road
- - - Site of Roman Road



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Archaeological Desk Based
Assessment

Figure 5.
Archaeological Monuments
(Prehistoric and Roman),
recorded on the KHER, within
the 1km Study Area