

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report
Gore Water Supply Works
Hartlip Hill, Kent**

**NGR: 584221 165289
(TQ 84221 65289)**

Permitted Development

**ASE Project No: 170356
Site Code: GWH 17**

**ASE Report No: 2017226
OASIS ID: archaeol6-285114**



By Simon Stevens

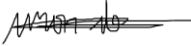

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Southern Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the sinking of a new borehole at Gore Water Supply Works, Hartlip Hill, Kent (NGR 584221 165289).

Mechanical ground reduction of an area measuring c.60m by c.20m was monitored. No archaeological deposits or features were recorded, but a limited assemblage of flintwork was recovered from the topsoil.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 The Finds**
- 6.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

Bibliography
Acknowledgements

Appendix: Summary Table of HER within the Study Area

HER Summary
OASIS Form

TABLES

- Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive
- Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples
- Table 3: List of recorded contexts
- Table 4: Finds quantification

FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site Location
- Figure 2: Site plan showing monitored areas

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Southern Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the sinking of a new borehole at Gore Water Supply Works (WSW), Hartlip Hill, Kent (NGR 584221 165289; Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site of the new borehole is located on the northern side of Hartlip Hill (the A3), at a height of c.24mAOD. Following the removal of several trees the area was open wasteland, bordered by the A3 to the south, the railway line to the north and woodland to the west and east.

1.2.2 According to current data from the British Geological Survey, the underlying geology consists of the Thanet Beds formation of sands, silts and clays, with localised superficial head deposits of clays and silts (BGS 2017).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 As Permitted Development under the terms of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015, the scheme falls outside of the usual Local Planning Authority framework(s).

1.3.2 However, following consultation between Southern Water, ASE and Kent County Council, it was agreed that archaeological monitoring of the groundworks associated with the scheme would be prudent.

1.3.3 Subsequently a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE 2017) for the archaeological work was prepared by ASE and submitted to Kent County Council prior to the commencement of the work. The document outlined the methodologies to be used on-site and in the reporting and archiving of the results of the monitoring of the groundworks.

1.4 Research Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The overall aim of the archaeological watching brief was to record any archaeological features, deposits and artefacts that may be impacted by the development.

Specific Research Aims

1.4.2 It was noted that the watching brief had the potential to inform on the following areas of research, as set out in the South-Eastern Research Framework (SERF 2014):

- How did Lower/Middle Palaeolithic activity at outcrops of clay-with-flints fit in with behaviour across the wider landscape?
- Patterns of occupation, settlement and cultural change in the region through the Lower/Middle Palaeolithic,

- The impact of the imposition of the Roman road-network on existing settlement patterns and communication networks,
- Areas around temples, which are potentially just as important as the temple sites themselves, need to be examined systematically,
- The relationship of villa and non-villa settlements to each other and to the landscape,
- The consolidation of a regional scope for analysis and interpretation of Roman pottery production and distribution,
- The Romano-British /Anglo-Saxon transition

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological monitoring of groundworks at the site undertaken in May 2017 by Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist). The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager) and by Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift (Post-excavation Managers).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following information is taken from the WSI (ASE 2017), the data retrieved from the Historic Environment Record (HER) held by Kent County Council. All HER records from within a 1km radius of the site are appended below.

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 Numerous implements of Palaeolithic date have been found within 2km of the works area, including a handaxe of Lower to Middle Palaeolithic date which was found in a gravel pit near a railway cutting, located within 200m of the work area (TQ 86 NW 204/ TQ 86 NW 8).

2.2.2 In November 1961 the concrete floor of a disused pig-sty at No. 3 Spade Lane, Hartlip (c. 1km southwest of the site) caved in to reveal a denehole 24ft. deep with double-trefoil chambers. The shaft was approximately 3ft in diameter. It was explored by J. Caiger and H. A. N. Berry before being filled in. All the chambers bore many pick mark indentations but no datable material was found. The shaft is about 1.5 metres in diameter and 8.0 metres in depth; one chamber is partly visible.

2.2.3 In 1934, a pit was observed in the face of a working in Eastwood's Brickfield, c. 1km northwest from the works area, from which pottery of pre-Belgic date was recovered.

2.2.4 A findspot of a Late Iron Age gold stater (MKE57720) is recorded from the southern side of Moor Street, directly opposite the works area.

2.3 Romano-British

2.3.1 The site is situated on the northern side of a major Roman road, Watling Street, which ran between Canterbury and St Albans (TQ 86 SW 132). Roman activity is regularly evidenced alongside and near to Roman roads in the form of burials, which are known from alongside Watling Street, and small buildings, as well as settlement.

2.3.2 A substantial Roman Bath House, and possible villa site is located c. 1m southwest of the works area, and a villa and the site of three Romano-British pottery kilns are located near to Upchurch, c. 1.5km north of the works area, and a cemetery is also known at Upchurch, c. 2km to the northwest. Additionally, the site of a Roman Villa and Romano-British date temple (both Scheduled Monuments) are located c. 1.3km to the northeast of the works area.

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

2.4.1 There are no Anglo-Saxon sites or finds spots within the immediate vicinity of the site, although an Anglo-Saxon cemetery site has been recorded at Otterham Creek, located c. 2km northwest of the works area; this site also included Roman period finds including Samian Ware pottery and coins.

- 2.4.2 A 15th century Hall House, with 20th century additions, is located c. 850m south of the works area at Pope's Hall (TQ 86 SW 116). The name is derived from Thomas Pope, who is recorded as the occupier in 1505. This Hall House formed the core of a full regular courtyard plan farmstead, which developed from the mid-16th century (MKE85039).
- 2.4.3 The northern boundary of the Conservation Area for Hartlip Village lies c. 700m south of the works area. The village itself dates from medieval times, and no doubt grew to accommodate the increasing numbers of people associated with the manors which were prospering in the area. The name 'Hartlip' is thought to derive from the Old English 'heoret hliop', meaning a leaping place for harts or stags. The oldest surviving building in the village is the church, parts of which date from the 13th and 14th centuries, although the present day appearance owes much to extensive restoration undertaken in 1865.

2.5 Post-Medieval

- 2.5.1 Lying just east of Hartlip Village is the 17th century building known as Paradise Cottages (TQ 86 SW 105), while a number of historic farmsteads are recorded in the vicinity of the site, including the early 19th century Breach Farm c. 800m northeast of the works area (MKE85093, MKE85094, TQ86 NW 1179, TQ 86 NW 1181).
- 2.5.2 Local rural industry in the post-medieval period is represented by Mill Hill brickworks, located just north of the works area (TQ 86 NE 126), which is depicted as a brickworks on the 6" Ordnance Survey map edition of 1908.

2.6 Undated

- 2.6.1 During the survey of a derelict chalk quarry and brickworks c. 1km northwest of the works area, near Otterham Quay lane, Rainham, a partly quarried away denehole was discovered 6.85m down the west face of the quarry. The denehole shows the usual trefoil pattern except that an attempt to form a chalk pillar had been made in one side of the chamber. Pick impressions of a short-headed iron pick were abundant on the walls and roof, and deep rope marks were found cut into the chalk at the base of the shaft. At least one other denehole has been disturbed in the past by quarrying operations; the outline of a blocked chamber could be seen in the chalk face of the quarry, but it was not possible to gain entry into the excavation.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

3.1.1 Mechanical ground reduction was monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. All stripped surfaces of the 'natural' and all sections were examined for archaeological deposits and all spoil was scanned for the presence of archaeological artefacts, both visually and with a metal detector.

3.1.2 All encountered deposits were recorded according to accepted professional standards using standard Archaeology South-East context record forms. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart. A full photographic record of the monitoring was maintained.

3.2 Fieldwork Constraints

3.2.1 There were no physical constraints to the archaeological monitoring of the groundworks; all machining was closely observed, all sections were examined and all spoil was scanned for the presence of archaeological artefacts.

3.3 The Site Archive

3.3.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be offered to Sittingbourne Heritage Museum at in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Context sheets	3
Section sheets	0
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	12
Context register	1
Drawing register	0
Watching brief forms	2
Trench Record forms	0

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	1 small bag
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	0
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction (Figure 3)

4.1.1 Mechanical ground reduction at the site was monitored over two days in May 2017. A Hyundai 220LC excavator fitted with a toothless bucket was used to reduce the ground level in an area measuring c.60m by c.20m by a maximum of 380mm.

Context	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness m
001	Layer	Topsoil	0.26
002	Layer	Subsoil	0.06
003	Layer	'Natural'	-

Table 3: List of recorded contexts

4.2 The Stratigraphic Sequence

4.2.1 The recorded stratigraphic sequence was straightforward. It consisted of a mid-brown silty clay topsoil, context [001], which overlay an intermittent layer of an orangey brown silty clay subsoil, context [002], which in turn overlay the 'natural' mid-brownish orange slightly silty clay 'natural', context [003].

4.2.2 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered, although a small assemblage of struck flints was recovered from the topsoil.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

- 5.1.1 A small assemblage of worked flint was recovered from topsoil deposits during the watching brief and were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context. All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014).

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)
001	5	73
Total	5	73

Table 4: Finds quantification

5.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

Five flakes weighing 74g were recovered from the topsoil (context [001]). They are made from a mid to dark grey flint with a thin abraded cortex. One of the flake is burnt, and one is partially recorticated milky blue. Unsurprisingly, the pieces display moderate to heavy post depositional edge damage. Four pieces were recorded as broken. The pieces of flint débitage are likely to be Neolithic or Bronze Age in date.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

6.1.1 The stratigraphic sequence was straightforward; there were no significant buried archaeological deposits or features, despite the proximity of a known Roman road.

6.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

6.2.1 The presence of areas of subsoil implies little in the way of disturbance in the monitored area.

6.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

6.3.1 The only archaeological material retrieved from the site was a small assemblage of flintwork found in the topsoil. This represents a 'background scatter' of prehistoric material, and is not considered indicative of any significant or lasting activity at the current site.

6.4 Consideration of research aims

6.4.1 Given the paucity of archaeological deposits and the limited assemblage of artefacts the research aims listed in the WSI (ASE 2017) could not be addressed in any meaningful way.

6.5 Updated Research Agenda

6.5.1 Arguably the discovery of the flintwork at the site could be a springboard to consideration of other isolated scatters in the hope of the establishment of any patterns of deposition in the local landscape.

6.6 Conclusions

6.6.1 The implementation of an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks at Hartlip Hill resulted in the identification of a scatter of flintwork, but no remains of any other date, Roman or otherwise.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Appendix 1: Summary Table of HER within the Study Area (use in reference with Figure 1)

Bold *Italics* indicate designated sites, buildings and areas

HER Number	National Grid Reference	Record Type	Description	Period
TQ 86 NW 204	TQ 84 65	Findspot	3 Palaeo. Handaxes counted by F. Wenban-Smith. One crude handaxe found in gravel pit near rail cutting, reported by Evans.	Lower Palaeolithic to Middle Palaeolithic - 500000 BC to 125000 BC
MKE57720	NGR 584000, 165000	Findspot	Iron Age gold coin Stater (gold)	Iron Age - 800 BC to 42 AD
TQ 86 NW 8	TQ 84 65	Findspot	Flint implement/U	Unknown
TQ 86 SW 132	NGR 58047, 16107	Monument	Watling Street Roman Road from Canterbury to Rochester	Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD
<i>TQ 86 SW 116</i>	NGR 584032, 164375	Listed Building Grade II	POPE'S HALL Hall house. C15 with C20 additions. Name derived from Thomas Pope, occupier in 1505.	Medieval to Modern - 1400 AD to 1999 AD
MKE85039	NGR 58400, 16434	Farmstead	Pope's Hall A full regular courtyard plan farmstead	Post Medieval - 1540 AD
<i>TQ 86 SW 105</i>	NGR 584333, 164353	Listed Building Grade II	PARADISE COTTAGES GV II House, sometime cottage pair. C17.	C17, Post Medieval - 1600 AD to 1699 AD
TQ 86 NE 126	NGR 58512, 16524	Monument	Brickworks at Mill Hill Brickworks shown on O.S. 6" Map, edition of 1908.	Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD
MKE85093	NGR 58479, 16563	Farmstead	Breach Farm. A regular L-plan farmstead.	Post Medieval - 1800 AD
MKE85094	NGR 58496, 16564	Farmstead	Breach Farm. A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to three sides of the yard.	Post Medieval - 1800 AD
<i>TQ 86 NW 1179</i>	NGR 584756, 165623	Listed Building Grade II	BREACH HOUSE House. Early C19.	Post Medieval - 1800 AD to 1832 AD
<i>TQ 86 NW 1181</i>	NGR 584793, 165617	Listed Building Grade II	BREACH FARMHOUSE	Post Medieval - 1800 AD to 1832 AD
MKE85035	NGR 58432, 16565	Farmstead	Gore House A regular multiyard farmstead	Post Medieval - 1800 AD

HER Number	National Grid Reference	Record Type	Description	Period
MKE85036	NGR 58423, 16514	Farmstead	Farmstead at Hartlip Hill A loose courtyard plan farmstead with buildings to three sides of the yard.	Post Medieval - 1800 AD
MKE85040	NGR 58390, 16446	Farmstead	Dane House. A regular L-plan farmstead.	Post Medieval - 1800 AD
MKE85079	NGR 58378, 16533	Farmstead	Outfarm on Watling Street	Post Medieval - 1800 AD
MKE85128	NGR 58515, 16504	Farmstead	Farmstead north west of Pond Farm	Post Medieval - 1800 AD
MKE89080	NGR 58389, 16436	Farmstead	Yard west of Pope's Hall. A regular U-plan courtyard farmstead.	Post Medieval - 1800 AD
TQ 85 SE 300	NGR 58710, 15497	Railway	CHATHAM AND DOVER RAILWAY	Post Medieval - 1858 AD
MKE99592	NGR 58430, 16543	Monument	Gore House, (World War 1) 6" Naval Battery off the A2, Newington	Modern - 1914 AD to 1918 AD
TQ 86 SW 9	NGR 58498, 16499	Site	U mark on AP. Mark on air photograph 03494 of 14/7/1928 (Chatham S20). Possibly modern. The field is under cultivation. Some slight undulations in the surface were noted but nothing could be made of them.	Unknown date
TQ 86 SW 127	NGR 58429, 16463	Building	A rectilinear enclosure visible as a cropmark in aerial photos of 1990 to the north of Hartlip.	Unknown date
EKE10278	TR 010 753	Desk based assessment	Historic Environment of the North Kent Coast: Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey	
EKE13239	TQ 7988 7665	Historic Landscape Characterisation	Historic landscape characterisation and historic seascape characterisation, Hoo Peninsula Historic Landscape Project	
EWX8094	TQ 97377 72644	Field Walking Part Photographic Survey	North Kent Coast Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey Phase II: Field Assessment (Pilot)	
EWX8626	TQ 9737 7264	Field Walking Recorded Observation Stray Finds - Recorded	Survey, North Kent Coastal Zone: Phase II, Year Two	

HER Summary

Site code	GWH 17				
Project code	170356				
Planning reference	Permitted Development				
Site address	Gore WSW, Hartlip Hill, Kent				
District/Borough	Swale Borough				
NGR (12 figures)	584221 165289				
Geology	Thanet Formation				
Fieldwork type			WB		
Dates of fieldwork	15.05.2017 to 16.05.2017				
Sponsor/client	Southern Water				
Project manager	Neil Griffin				
Project supervisor	Simon Stevens				
Period summary					
Project summary	<p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Southern Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the sinking of a new borehole at Gore Water Supply Works, Hartlip Hill, Kent (NGR 584221 165289).</i></p> <p><i>Mechanical ground reduction of an area measuring c.60m by c.20m was monitored. No archaeological deposits or features were recorded, but a limited assemblage of flintwork was recovered from the topsoil.</i></p>				

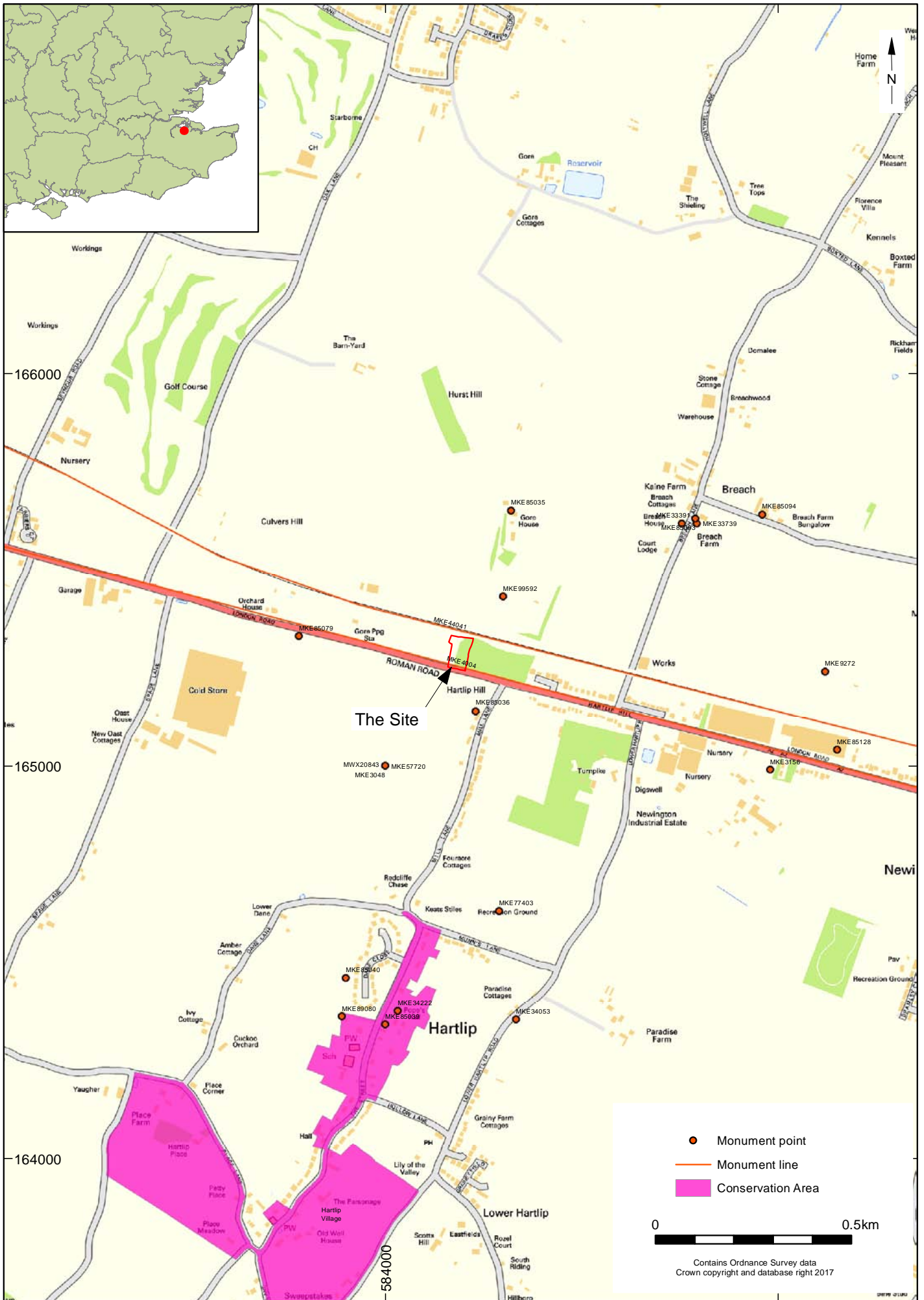
OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-285114

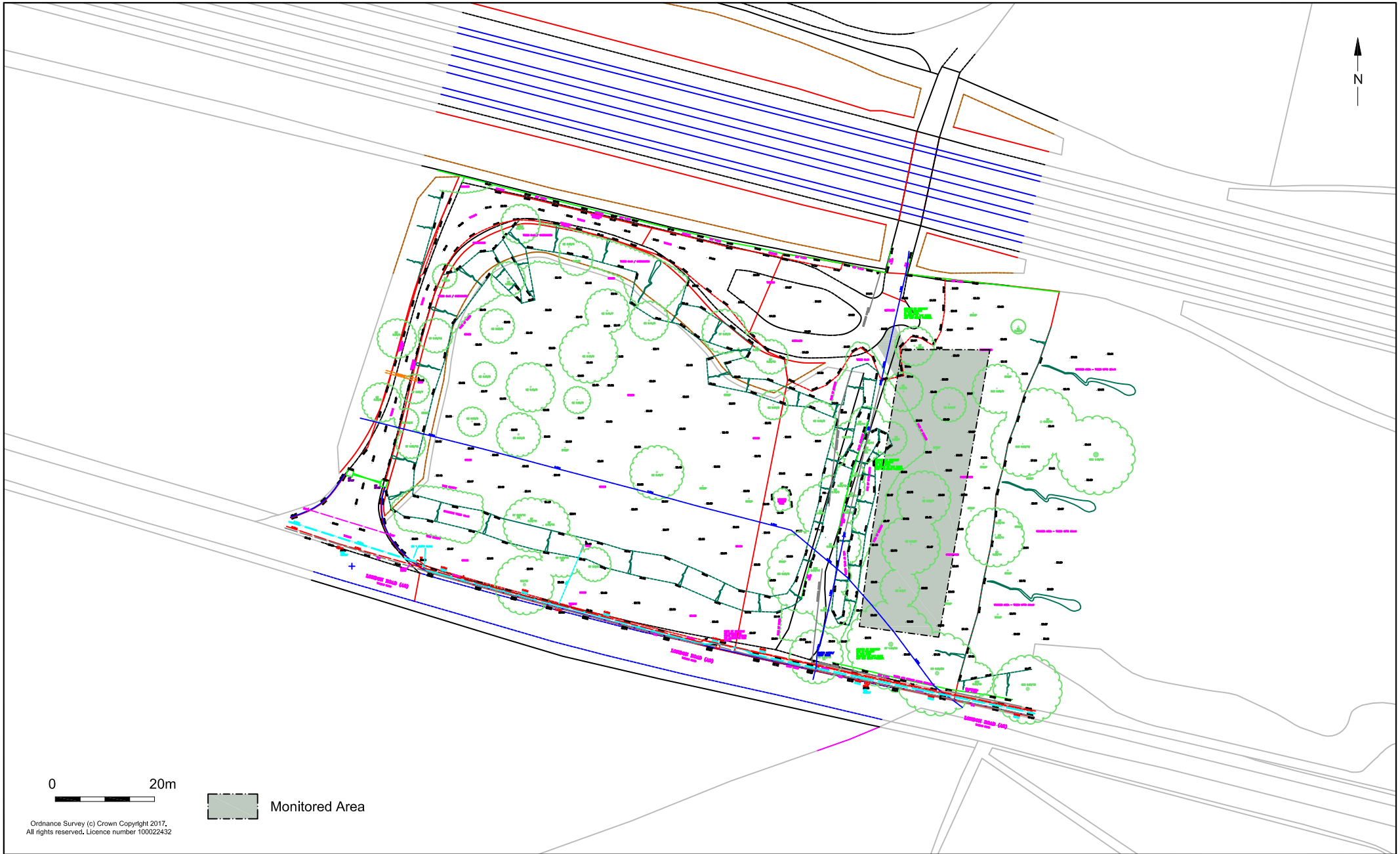
Project details

Project name	Gore WSW, Hartlip Hill, Kent ME8 8PT
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Southern Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the sinking of a new borehole at Gore Water Supply Works, Hartlip Hill, Kent (NGR 584221 165289). Mechanical ground reduction of an area measuring c.60m by c.20m was monitored. No archaeological deposits or features were recorded, but a limited assemblage of flintwork was recovered from the topsoil.
Project dates	Start: 15-05-2017 End: 16-05-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	170356 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	GWH 17 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	FLINTWORK Late Prehistoric
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	KENT SWALE HARTLIP Hartlip WSW, Hartlip Hill
Postcode	ME8 8PT
Study area	120 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 84221 65289 51.356202328146 0.646141763145 51 21 22 N 000 38 46 E Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Archaeology South-East
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	Simon Stevens

Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Southern Water
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Sittingbourne Heritage Museum
Physical Contents	"Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Sittingbourne Heritage Museum
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Sittingbourne Heritage Museum
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Miscellaneous Material", "Notebook - Excavation", " Research", " General Notes", "Report", "Unpublished Text"
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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© Archaeology South-East		Gore WPS	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 170356	May 2017	Site location and HER data	
Report Ref: 2017226	Drawn by: LG		



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© Archaeology South-East		Gore WPS	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 170356	May 2017	Site plan showing monitored area	
Report Ref: 2017226	Drawn by: LG		

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