

## TECHNICAL NOTE – ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE

1.1 The Trust for Thanet Archaeology have produced an Environmental Impact Assessment chapter on Archaeology and Heritage Assets, based on an archaeological Desk Based Assessment, to assess the potential effects of the proposed development.

1.2 Historic maps and documents were reviewed to trace the historic formation and use of the land that forms the Site, showing that most was used for arable cultivation as far back as 18th century. Orchards were present in the north east and south east of the Site and a field between Wises Oast Business Centre and Borden Nature Reserve. Aggregate extraction for clay and chalk has taken place in two areas in the south east corner between Cryalls Lane and Borden Lane to the south of Cryalls farm.

1.3 A baseline of Heritage Assets within a study area of 1km radius from the boundary of the Site was generated from the records in the Kent County HER, supplemented by other documentary sources. Statutory designated Heritage Assets, represented by Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and sites with Protected Military Remains are present within the Study Area, but none are located within the Site. No Scheduled Monuments or Historic Parks and Gardens are present.

1.4 Analysis of the Non-designated Heritage Assets data in the landscape established that the main potential for additional Heritage Assets within the limits of the Site is represented by buried archaeological deposits. The data indicated low potential for Palaeolithic, Mesolithic to Bronze Age and Anglo Saxon archaeology, medium potential for Roman and Medieval features and high potential for Late Iron Age/early Roman and Post Medieval archaeology associated with Micketts Farm.

1.5 Historic soil erosion and intensive cultivation, particularly orchard planting and renewal, are estimated to have had a general medium to high adverse effect on the archaeological potential of the Site. Aggregate extraction removing geological deposits had a total adverse effect on the archaeological resource in two areas. Recent reversion of areas to scrub and animal burrowing in places is likely to have had a low to medium adverse effect on the archaeological potential.

1.6 The adverse effects of the proposed development on any archaeological Heritage Assets will be confined to the construction phase. Excavations for foundations, service trenches, access routes, landscaping and the general movement of plant over exposed surfaces represent the highest potential for disturbance or loss of archaeological deposits. Long term attrition of the Site through gardening, tree planting and localised improvements to residential properties can have a medium adverse effect on any surviving archaeological remains on the Site.

To mitigate the potential adverse effects of the proposed development, further field evaluation by geophysical survey and trial trenching, taking the specific potential adverse effects of the proposed residential development into account, could confirm the archaeological potential of the Site and assess the truncation of deposits from historic land use. Further mitigation measures may be necessary to protect or record any archaeological deposits, replacing them with records, analysis and interpretation of equal or greater value than the data lost to the adverse effects of the proposed development.

**Prepared by: The Trust for Thanet Archaeology**