

**To:** Planning Department of Elmbridge Borough Council

**From:** Surrey County Council, Historic Environment Planning: Archaeology

**Application Number:** 2023/0866

**Date Consultation Received:** 18/04/2023



**Address:** St Georges Hill Lawn Tennis Club, Warreners Lane, Weybridge, KT13 0LL

**Proposal:** Detached two-storey outbuilding and 3 semi-enclosed padel tennis courts with associated landscaping, fencing and access works, following the demolition of existing ancillary buildings.

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### **Comments:**

Thank you for consulting Surrey County Council's Historic Environment Planning Team regarding the above planning application. Please note that my response relates solely to the buried archaeological heritage and not to the historic built environment, which is a matter for your Conservation Officer.

The development proposal has been submitted alongside a supporting archaeological assessment which demonstrates that the site lies in an area with a high overall archaeological potential, with a possibility that features, deposits, and finds dating from the prehistoric onwards could survive in the areas affected by development groundworks.

The assessment is of good quality and suitable to support the application. The further recommendation of the assessment is that appropriate mitigation of the negative effects of the development could be effectively managed through a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of the development groundworks. This office agrees with these findings.

Therefore the site falls within an area of archaeological significance and archaeological remains may be damaged by ground disturbance for the proposed development. It is therefore recommended that the following condition is applied should permission be granted to mitigate the impacts of development. This is in accordance with Paragraph 205 of the NPPF which states that local planning authorities should '*require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible*'.

### **Condition:**

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, to be conducted in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority.

### **Reason:**

The site lies in an area of archaeological potential. The potential impacts of the development can be mitigated through a programme of archaeological work. This is in accordance with national and local plan policy.

In view of the nature and scale of the development, the low likelihood of the potential archaeology, and in line with the recommendations of the supporting document, field evaluation through trial trenching would represent an appropriate initial phase of work to determine the archaeological potential and levels of previous truncation and the need for any further phases of work. I would be pleased to discuss the approach with the applicant, or their archaeological consultant should permission be granted.

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**Signed:** Matthew Saywood, Archaeological Officer

**Date:** 04/05/23

**CSE:** 4554

**File Ref:** Con/33/5/28