

To: Planning Department of Runnymede Borough Council

From: Surrey County Council, Historic Environment Planning: Archaeology

Application Number: RU.22/0776

Date Consultation Received: 23/5/2022



Address: Weybridge Business Park Addlestone Road Addlestone

Proposal: "Industrial redevelopment to provide x3 units within Classes E(g)ii (Research and development), E(g)iii (Industrial processes), B2 (General industrial) and B8 (storage and distribution) use, with ancillary office accommodation, new vehicular access, associated external yard areas, HGV and car parking, servicing, external lighting, hard and soft landscaping, infrastructure and all associated works following the demolition of existing buildings"

Comments:

The application site is fairly large, well over the 0.4 hectares threshold which is recommended for archaeological assessment and possibly evaluation under the guidelines set out in Runnymede Local Plan Policy.

The applicants have therefore supplied a desk based archaeological assessment, produced by Savills, that contains a review of information currently held in the Surrey Historic Environment Record together with other relevant sources in order to determine the potential for significant archaeological remains to be present. The assessment indicates that that the site has a theoretical potential to contain archaeological remains, and some fragments of Iron Age pottery were recorded during foundation digging in 1915, but that successive redevelopment of the site will have caused extensive and widespread disturbance to any potential archaeological remains

The site does indicate that the site has some potential to contain surviving below ground elements of the original 19th century buildings and that some archaeological investigations may be required, but I have reviewed the assessment, particularly the historic maps that show that the site has been comprehensively developed several times in the past, together with an Environmental site investigation report that was included with a previous application for a large part of the current site that clearly shows extensive areas of modern made ground over the area, and consider it is very unlikely that significant archaeology will have survived.

I therefore consider that due to the comprehensive phases of redevelopment across the site, the potential for significant archaeological remains to be present is so limited that it would not be reasonable or proportionate to require any further archaeological investigations and so I have no archaeological concerns in this case.

Signed:  Archaeological Officer

Date: 13/6/2022

File Ref: Con/33/1/49