

## Figure 2 : Proposed method of working



Figure 3 : Approved and proposed restoration

## The quarry and its surroundings

Location - The quarry is located on the outskirts of Lydd in Kent and extends over the county boundary into East Sussex. It adjoins the former Scotney Court Quarry and lies to the north and west of Lydd town beside Jury's Gap Road. It covers parts of four farms, Dering Farm which is owned by Brett and Pigwell, Scotney Court and Wall Farms owned by All Souls College, Oxford. Few residential properties are close to the quarry.

Landscape - Lydd Quarry is a large linear block of land lying parallel to Jury's Gap Road and between the high grade agricultural land of Romney Marsh to the north and the Ministry of Defence Lydd Ranges complex to the south. The quarry occupies one of the older parts of Walland Marsh and historical records point to agricultural reclamation of the gravel banks and silt lagoons in the period 1200 to 1280 AD. The land lies generally flat between 2m and 3m AOD. Unworked land is in agricultural use.

Public rights of way - These are shown on Figure 1.

Soils - Part of the land still to be worked is agricultural land Grade 3a but none is of higher grade.

*Ecology* - The quarry lies within the newly notified Dungeness, Romney Marsh and Rye Bay Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), the interest in which is mainly the landform evolution (geomorphology) of the undisturbed land and the wintering waterfowl using the water filled gravel pits and surrounding areas. Water voles are found on Romney Marsh but there is little evidence of them using the quarry.

Archaeology - Archaeological investigations in the Romney Marsh area in the 1990s revealed new evidence on the historical development of the Marsh and the variable land use over the centuries. Evidence of Bronze Age, Romano-British and Mediaeval occupation (including a mediaeval farmstead within a field system) has been located on the plant site and Areas 2 and 3 at the quarry (see Figure 1). Further archaeological investigations have been carried out on land south-west of the plant site (Areas 4 -9) and with the exception of during the Anglo-Saxon period (c410AD-1066AD), further evidence of occupation and activity during the periods between the Bronze Age and the Post-medieval times (c2,300BC to present) were found.

Groundwater and surface water - The water table lies within about 1m of the undisturbed land surface and flows very slowly towards the south-west and the English Channel. The Romney Marsh area is drained by a series of sewers (open watercourses) which also flows towards the sea in the south-west.

Local highway network - Jury's Gap Road, on which the single access to the quarry lies is the C24 road which runs between East Guldeford in East Sussex and Lydd in Kent. The road is classed as a local distributor as is the B2075 on the north side of Lydd. Together these roads form a coastal link between New Romney and Rye passing through the centre of Camber as an alternative to the A259(T) trunk road which they both join. The lorry route from the quarry to New Romney passes around the outskirts of Lydd (Tourney Road and Robin Hood Lane) and not along the High Street.

## The proposed continuing site operations

- 1;
- Iorry movements are already restricted by the Kent ROMP conditions;
- less than 110% of the largest tank;
- sufficiently to be detrimental to the water environment
- the vicinity of Area 10 and the passer-by and to confine the operations to the smallest possible area.
- 15m wide, undisturbed margins will be left to protect the Jury's Gut Sewer and Widney Fleet and 10m wide to protect the Scotney Petty Sewer;
- all land will be kept in its existing use until needed for extraction;
- all archaeological work will be carried out by competent archaeologists in accordance with a written scheme of investigation included in the ES;
- all soils and overburden removed to expose the sand and gravel will be used in restoration;
- the water table will be locally lowered so that excavation of overburden and sand and gravel can be carried out in relatively dry conditions. Groundwater will be pumped to an adjoining water filled excavation;
- working will be from north-east to south-west (see Figure 2)
- extraction will be by hydraulic excavator or shovel and transport for processing at the plant site in Kent will be by conveyor
- the land will be restored to lakes, a variety of wildlife habitats and permanent pasture (see Figure 3);
- effective noise control measures will continue to be implemented;
- effective dust control measures will continue to be implemented;
- essential maintenance work will be carried out on Saturday afternoons and Sundays;
- the average rate of mineral extraction will be about 300,000 tonnes per year.

• no new accesses from the public highway will be constructed; the existing entrance on Jury's Gap Road in Kent is shown on Figure

• all fuel oil storage will either be in proprietary 'tanks within tanks' or be in tanks located within impervious bunds of capacity no

• strict controls over working practices will ensure that no substance, including sand and sediment enters any watercourse or feature,

• all activities have been designed to give the maximum environmental protection to occupiers of those few residential properties in

• hours of working will be 0700-1800 hours Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) and 0700-1300 hours on Saturday. Only