



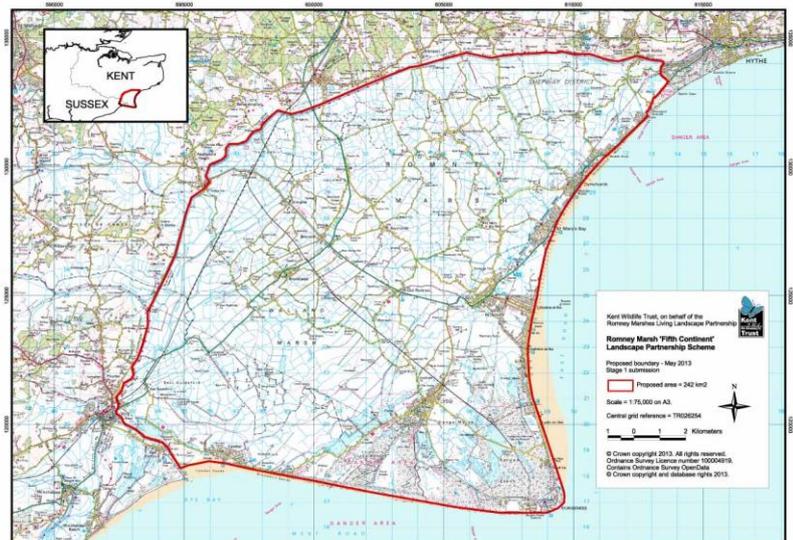
LOTTERY FUNDED

SPECIFICATION FOR THE SENTINELS ON THE MARSH - FIFTH CONTINENT LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

Kent Wildlife Trust (KWT) on behalf of the Fifth Continent Landscape Partnership (FCLP) is seeking to appoint a 'Church Heritage Consultant' as part of the Sentinels on the Marsh Project for the Continent Landscape Partnership Scheme funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

Background

Romney Marsh is a landscape of remote countryside, open skies and tranquil villages. In parts nationally and internationally important for wildlife, the Marsh supports a wide range of habitats and many rare and endangered species of plant and animal. They are also of great historical importance, containing the Royal Military Canal – the third longest defensive monument in the British Isles – together with several of the Cinque Ports, and many medieval churches and other heritage features. Consequently, the area is protected by a range of designations including Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), National Nature Reserve (NNR), Local Wildlife Site (LWS) and Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). However, over the last few decades, the Romney Marsh landscape has changed dramatically through the intensification of arable farming and increase of turf growing. In addition, most of the remaining grazing marsh is now improved grassland. There has also been an increase in tourism and industry, including the nearby Dungeness power stations. Despite the economic prosperity brought to the area by these activities, the area still has some of the most deprived wards in England and the area is now faced by the challenge of how to maintain sustainable rural communities, protect the unique heritage of Romney Marsh and increase the quality of life for local people in the current financial climate and with the decommissioning of Dungeness A and decommissioning of Dungeness B an imminent prospect.



The Romney Marsh Living Landscape is of distinctive character, supports sustainable farming, is rich in wildlife and history, and is enjoyed as a place to live, work and spend leisure time. The Fifth Continent Scheme is an initiative by the Romney Marsh Living Landscape Partnership which seeks to secure Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF) for a variety of investigations, habitat improvements, community engagement opportunities and training programmes for the people and wildlife of the Romney Marsh area. Kent Wildlife Trust is leading on the Scheme. The geographical area covered by the Fifth continent Scheme is the land to the South and East of the Royal Military Canal, inside the red boundary. The Eastern boundary stretches to West Hythe.



The Fifth Continent Scheme aims to deliver a suite of projects outlined in the Landscape Conservation Action Plan (LCAP) which will enhance our existing knowledge base regarding the heritage and development over time of Romney Marsh and its unique landscape; provide a clearer understanding of the current condition of both the physical and socio-economic resilience of the area; and fully engage local communities and other stakeholders in acknowledging, strengthening, protecting and celebrating all that makes this landscape so important. Through this process the many diverse communities, habitats and landscapes of the Marsh will be better equipped to demonstrate the resilience that has created the Romney Marsh landscape in the first place. The strategic aims of the Landscape Partnership Scheme are:

- Facilitate the restoration, recreation and enhancement of the built and natural heritage of the area
- Put the communities and people of the Marsh back at the centre of their landscape and heritage and enhance opportunities for visitors and locals alike
- Develop opportunities for learning and skills development

An application by the Fifth Continent Project Board (led by Kent Wildlife Trust) to the HLF Landscape Partnership Scheme has been successful. The Delivery Stage (which runs from March 2017 to September 2020) is now in progress. The Scheme comprises of a suite of projects. One of these is the Sentinels on the Marsh Project. This project aims to gain a better understanding of the historic churches across the Marsh and to put them back at the heart of their communities.

Available Funding

There is £8,400 available to cover 42 days of work @ £200 per day. The work will be funded through the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Timetable

This contract will commence in July 2018 and run until September 2020

Programme of Work

A detailed description of the work requirement is presented in the Accompanying Fifth Continent Gap Analysis. The work will be split between studies of the lost/ruined church sites and the standing churches

Lost/ruined churches study:

- Review existing information to provide detail for research activities and identify 3 lost/ruined sites for field survey work (secure Scheduled Monument consent if needed), finalise permission and access. The consultant will be employed for **3 days**.
- To assist with the write-up of survey information arising from three weekends of lost church surveys. The consultant will be employed for **5 days**.
- To assist with post excavation work and the write-up of excavation findings at St Martin's Field (New Romney) for a final report. The consultant will be employed for **18 days**.

Standing churches:

To provide training to volunteers (alongside the Heritage Officer) to enable volunteers to examine how churches have influenced village layout and uncover the relationship between the churches and the communities in which they are situated. To work with volunteers to write up their studies

- Facilitate 2 days at archive centres (i.e. in Maidstone and Canterbury), give volunteers chance to gather together research materials. **2 days work**
- Run 2 training days on churchyard surveys. Sessions to include: fixed point photography (to record and assess condition of memorials), historic map and LiDAR analysis and the photography and measured survey of surviving earthworks around standing churches. Training to take place at the Churches Project base (*to be decided*). **2 days work**
- With the Heritage Officer, run two reporting workshops after volunteer studies have been completed. Allowing volunteers to share their research and learn how to write it up. **2 days work**
- Spend up to 10 days working with volunteers to write up their findings and edit together in to one document. **10 days work**

Outputs

Recommendations of the 3 appropriate lost-ruined sites for field survey work with secured permissions
 Support for synthesis of all 3 survey weekends
 Support during community archaeology project at St Martin's Field, New Romney
 Attendance at 2 training sessions at archive centres
 Attendance at 2 training sessions on Graveyard surveys and Map/LiDAR analysis
 Attendance at 2 workshops for volunteers to report discoveries
 5 (estimated) edited reports on church surveys (maximum 14 churches). The text to be written by volunteers

Special Considerations

The Consultant will work closely with the Heritage Officer to develop and deliver the 'Programme of work' elements listed above. He/She should be aware that a Community Archaeologist consultant will be assisting the Heritage Officer with the delivery of the St Martin's Field campaigns.
 The final reports will be the property of Kent Wildlife Trust. All those involved in their compilation will be credited.
 The consultant will be required to sign a contract covering the works outlined in this brief.
 Those submitting a bid should also read the project details provided alongside this brief.

Health and Safety

The contractor will exercise all reasonable care, skill and diligence in undertaking and carrying out work and will work to adequate health and safety regulations
 The contractor will be required to have £5M public liability insurance cover

Communication

The Heritage Officer will be the main point of contact for the implementation of this contract
 Any queries or difficulties in implementing the project would be communicated to the Heritage Officer as soon as possible as they will be keeping relevant partners from the Fifth Continent Project Board informed of progress, difficulties etc.

Submission of Quote

Experience

The contractor is required to outline their qualifications and/or experience of undertaking similar work outlined within this specification. Examples of previous work may be listed or provided.

Presentation

The contractor is at liberty to present his/her quote (and supporting information) in any format they feel would best present their case. Provision of an itemised timetable would be welcomed.

Quote Contact

Quotes are to be submitted by June 11th via email to Lucie.Bolton@kentwildlife.org.uk or by post to The Fifth Continent Heritage Officer , Kent Wildlife Trust, The Garden Room, Romney Marsh Visitors Centre, Dymchurch Road, New Romney, TN28 8AY.

Payment

A purchase order number will be raised for the successful contractor, who will be responsible for undertaking works

The contractor will be expected to keep a time sheet of the work undertaken

Warning must be given to the Heritage Officer as to submission of an invoice

Payment will not be made until Kent Wildlife Trust is satisfied with the extent and quality of the work undertaken as described by the invoice

Full payment will be made on completion of the work or as part payments where this is mutually agreed

Payment will be made within 30 days of receipt.

