# **DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

# Site Name

# Cranleigh School, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8QQ

# Type of project

# Archaeological Evaluation

# **Quality Control**

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	¥		

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# An Archaeological Evaluation at Cranleigh School, Cranleigh, Surrey

Site Code: SCSC 07

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 5500 0200

Written and Researched by Stuart Holden Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, May 2007

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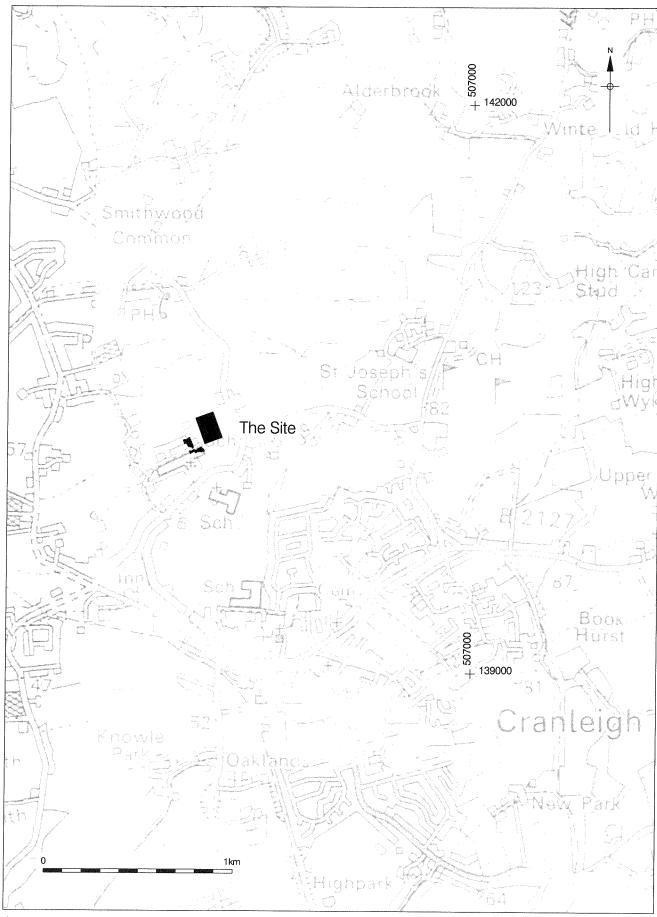
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# 1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at Cranleigh School, Surrey.
- 1.2 The archaeological work was implemented towards the partial discharge of an archaeological planning condition on the permission for the proposed redevelopment of school buildings.
- 1.3 Six trenches were excavated across the previously undeveloped areas, four to the north of the physics building and two to the south. A single feature was identified during the course of the evaluation, a linear gulley, possibly a land division. No dateable artefacts were recovered from this feature.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. Cranleigh School, Surrey (Figure 1), in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the school.
- 2.2 The evaluation was conducted on the 3rd and 4th April 2007 and was commissioned by Pringle Richards Sharratt Ltd. on behalf of Cranleigh School
- 2.3 Six trenches were excavated across areas where there were previously no buildings, four to the north of the physics building and two to the south (Figure 2). Excavation continued to a depth at which the natural strata were exposed.
- 2.4 The National Grid Reference of the site centre is TQ 5500 0200.
- 2.5 The site was given the unique code SCSC 07.
- 2.6 The evaluation was undertaken by Stuart Holden with the project managed by Peter Moore.



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Figure 2 Trench locations 1:500 at A4

#### 3 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEACH OBJECTIVES

#### 3.1 Planning Background

#### Archaeology in Surrey

- 3.1.1 The study aims to satisfy the objectives of Surrey County Council who fully recognise the importance of the buried heritage for which they are the custodians. Surrey County Council's 'Structure Plan', 1994 contains policy statements in respect of protecting the buried archaeological resource.
- 3.1.2 The proposed development of the site is subject to the Council's Archaeology Policies:

#### Surrey Structure Plan

Policy PE13

# Heritage records and archaeological investigation

An adequate record will be required to be made where development affecting buildings, parks and gardens, sites or areas referred to in Policy PE12 is permitted.

Local plans will identify Sites and Areas of high Archaeological Potential within which prior archaeological evaluation will be required to provide information on the effects of development proposals on any archaeological or historical features of the site, enabling their preservation to be secured if justified.

Archaeological assessment or evaluation will also be required prior to development on sites of 0.4 hectares or more. Where archaeological remains are identified which cannot be preserved in situ, proper archaeological investigation will be required prior to development.

#### Para. 3.44

Archaeological and historic sites and buildings are a non-renewable sources of information about Surrey's past. Every effort should therefore be made to preserve this resource. When physical preservation is not possible, preservation as a record is essential as information once destroyed is lost forever.

#### Para. 3.46

Large-scale development proposals should be assessed initially against the Sites and Monuments Record, the record of known sites and finds in the County, maintained by the County Council. Where appropriate, such proposals should also be evaluated by fieldwork, as there are likely to contain currently unknown archaeological or historic potential because of their size. This evaluation will provide the necessary information to determine the planning application and, where appropriate, the need to preserve the archaeological resource. Where archaeological remains are identified but cannot be preserved, a proper scheme of archaeological investigation will be required.

3.1.3 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the development site.

# 3.2 Research Objectives

- 3.2.1 The objectives of the archaeological investigations, as identified by the Surrey Archaeological Officer, are to define the character and extent of any archaeological remains so as to allow an informed and reasonable planning decision to be taken.
- 3.2.2 The objectives of the evaluation were:
  - To locate and define any archaeological deposits, features of structures
  - To locate and define any prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, medieval or post-medieval archaeology on the site.
  - To locate and define any previous disturbances on the site which may have removed or truncated any remains.

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Langthorne, 2006) was compiled prior to the commencement of the evaluation. A summarised version of the results of this document is below.

#### 4.2 Prehistoric

4.2.1 There is little archaeological evidence for prehistoric activity in the Cranleigh area besides occasional chance finds of artefacts from the Palaeolithic to Bronze Age periods. A possible Iron Age field system has been found at Wyphurst Road, Cranleigh whilst postholes and a scatter of pottery sherds, dating from the late Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age, found near Shamley Green in 1996 could be part of a settlement.

#### 4.3 Roman

4.3.1 Industrial activity is represented at Wykehurst farm where an excavation in 1936 uncovered a tile kiln and clay pits which date from AD100 -150. Settlement of the area is demonstrated by the remains of late-1st/early-2nd century AD dwellings and field system at Wyphurst Road. A bronze coin showing Valentenian II was found at "The Hollyhocks". The alignment of a Roman road was recorded in 1961 at Coneyhurst Gill.

#### 4.4 Saxon

4.4.1 There is no known evidence to indicate any Saxon activity in the area

#### 4.5 Medieval

- 4.5.1 During the medieval period the hamlet of Cranely or Cranelegh became a centre for hawking and hunting. The crane has been adopted as the symbol of the hamlet and has become the substantive portion of its name, the other part "legh" deriving from a Saxon word that means "a clearing in a forest".
- 4.5.2 Medieval sites in the surrounding area include a motte at Broomhall Copse which was excavated in 1928 a medieval Pond bay containing furnace slag from a forge found in 1961 at Coneyhurst Gill.

## 4.6 **Post-Medieval**

4.6.1 Cartographic evidence shows that the site was used for agricultural purposes prior to the founding of a school in 1863. Surrey County School was completed by 1865 with Headmaster's house, a small gym, classrooms and dormitories. Since its inception, the school has continued to expand with the purchase of land and the erection of buildings. There are no records of formal archaeological investigations at Cranleigh School.

## 5 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

## 5.1 **Geology**

5.1.1 This area of Surrey is predominantly based on Weald clay. A lower Cretaceous sedimentary material, it is orange and grey in colour and has been used for brick making. It is also of interest to note that various trenching operations within the Cranleigh village area (notably under the Cranleigh Cricket Club ground) have revealed beds of fossilised winkle shells. Dating from the Jurassic, this material is commonly known as Sussex Marble. No borehole or geological test pit data from on, or near to, the site was available for analysis.

# 5.2 **Topography**

5.2.1 The land of the school slopes away from the development area towards the south and west and the level of the area is c. 75m. The levels were transferred from a benchmark of 56.56m AOD on Horseshoe Cottage.

#### 6 METHODOLOGY

- The fieldwork was designed to assess the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains, which may require further mitigation.
- The excavation of six trenches, each measuring circa 7m by 1.8m was agreed with Surrey County Council Archaeological Officer. The positions of the trenches were altered slightly from the proposed drawing in the written scheme of investigation in order to obtain maximum coverage within the constraints of the site layout and services.
- Under archaeological supervision, a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket was used to remove unproductive soils down to the highest archaeological horizon. The features identified within the trenches were then cleaned and investigated by hand. Investigation was limited to identifying the extent and nature of the deposits and to recover dating evidence.
- All archaeological features (stratigraphical layers, cuts, fills, structures) were recorded as necessary in plan and in section using standard recording methods. A photographic record using 35mm colour transparencies, black and white print film mediums was also made as appropriate.
- The work was undertaken to standards of the Institute of Field Archaeology (IFA, 2001).
- 6.6 Following the completion of the archaeological investigation, the trenches were backfilled using the excavated material.

## 7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

#### 7.1 **Summary**

- 7.1.1 No substantial archaeological evidence was identified in any of the six trenches excavated and no artefacts were present. Trenches 1-4 were located to the north of the physics building whilst Trenches 5 and 6 were located to the south. Each trench measured 7m in length except for Trench 6 which measured 5m due to the constraints of an established willow tree and the physics building.
- 7.1.2 In each of the trenches the general sequence of natural light yellowish brown sandy clay [1] overlain by mid yellowish brown silty clay sand subsoil [2] and light grey brown silty sand topsoil [3] was recorded.

#### 7.2 **Trench 1**

7.2.1 Aligned west northwest-east southeast, this trench was cut from a height of between 74.45m and 74.53mOD. The natural stratum was present between levels of 73.89m and 74.07mOD, overlain by a maximum thickness of 0.28m of subsoil and 0.18m of topsoil.

#### 7.3 **Trench 2**

7.3.1 Aligned west north northwest-south southeast, this trench was cut from a height of between 74.49m and 74.57mOD. The natural stratum was present between levels of 73.93m and 73.95mOD, overlain by a maximum thickness of 0.26m of subsoil and 0.20m of topsoil.

#### 74 Trench 3

7.4.1 Aligned west northwest-east southeast, this trench was cut from a height of between 74.68m and 74.88mOD. The natural stratum was present between levels of 74.26m and 74.40mOD. Cutting through the natural at the western end of the trench was a narrow, shallow gully aligned west southwest- east northeast and measuring 0.75m in width and 0.14m in depth, cut from a height of 74.40mOD. The fill of this feature was sterile of dateable artefacts whilst being parallel with the alignment of many of the nearby buildings etc, suggests to the author that this represents a former boundary, perhaps a field ditch of hedgerow. The sequence was completed by a maximum thickness of 0.26m of subsoil and 0.18m of topsoil.

#### 7.5 **Trench 4**

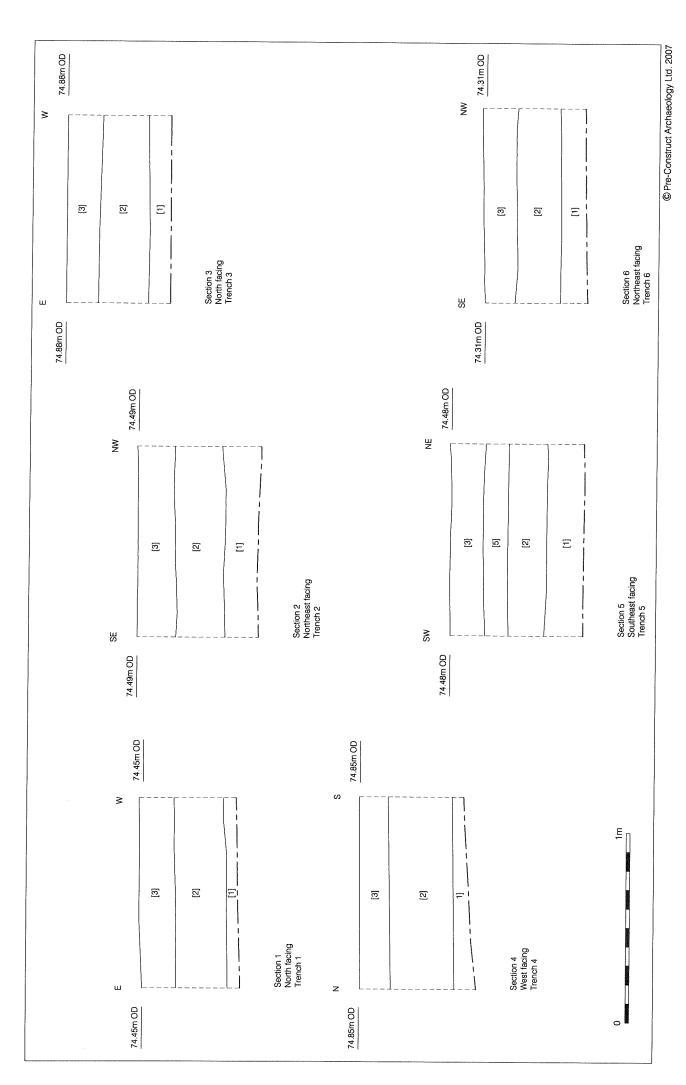
7.5.1 Aligned north-south, this trench was cut from a height of 74.85mOD. The natural stratum was present between levels of 74.19m and 74.36mOD, overlain by a maximum thickness of 0.34m of subsoil and 0.16m of topsoil.

#### 7.6 **Trench 5**

7.6.1 Aligned west southwest- east northeast, this trench was cut from a height of between 74.32m and 74.48mOD. The natural stratum was present between levels of 74.07m and 74.67mOD, overlain by a maximum thickness of 0.20m of subsoil and 0.18m of topsoil.

#### 7.7 **Trench 6**

7.7.1 Aligned north northwest- south southeast, this trench was cut from a height of between 74.31m and 74.45mOD. The natural stratum was present between levels of 73.85m and 74.00mOD, overlain by a maximum thickness of 0.24m of subsoil, a 0.14m thick layer of redeposited natural [06] and 0.18m of topsoil.



# 8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 No significant archaeological structures deposits or artefacts were present on the site.

It is recommended that no further archaeological investigation is required to discharge the archaeological condition.

# 9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Pringle Richards Sharratt Ltd. for commissioning the work on behalf of Cranleigh School. The author would like to thank Nathalie Barrett for the surveying, Dave Harris for the drawings and Peter Moore for his project management and editing.

## 10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Langthorne, J 2006 An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment of land at Cranleigh School, Cranleigh, Surrey Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited unpublished report

Department of the Environment 1990 Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16)

Moore, P 2007 Written Scheme of Investigation for a Field Evaluation at Cranleigh School, Surrey Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited unpublished report

Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001 Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations

Surrey County Council, 1994 Structure Plan Surrey County Council

# **APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**

Context	Type	Trench	Description
1	Layer	1-6	Natural
2	Layer	1-6	Subsoil
3	Layer	1-6	Topsoil
4	Layer	3	Fill of [5]
5	Layer	3	Narrow, shallow gully
6	Laver	5	Re deposited natural

# **APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM**

# 11 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: ENGLAND

<u>List of Projects</u> | <u>Search Projects</u> | <u>New project</u> | <u>Change your details</u> | <u>HER coverage</u> | <u>Change country</u> | <u>Log out</u>

# 11.1.1 Printable version

techniques

# 11.2 OASIS ID: preconst1-26957

Project details	
Project name	Cranleigh School
Short description of the project	Evaluation of 6 trenches finding no archaeological deposits or artefacts.
Project dates	Start: 03-04-2007 End: 04-04-2007
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	SCSC 07 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Methods &	'Sample Trenches'

Development type Large/ medium scale extensions to existing structures (e.g. church, school, hospitals, law courts, etc.)

Prompt

Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Position in the

After full determination (eg. As a condition)

planning process

Project location

Country

England

Site location

SURREY WAVERLEY CRANLEIGH Cranleigh School

Postcode

GU6 8QQ

Study area

1620.00 Square metres

Site coordinates

TQ 5500 0200 50.7962161648 0.199634974488 50 47 46 N 000 11 58 E Point

Height OD

Min: 73.85m Max: 74.67m

Project creators

Name of

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Organisation

Project brief

Pre-Construct Archaeology

originator

Project design

Peter Moore

originator

Project

Peter Moore

director/manager

Project supervisor Stuart Holden

Type of

School

sponsor/funding

body

Name of

Cranleigh School

sponsor/funding

body

Project archives

Physical Archive No

Exists?

Digital Archive

recipient

Local museum

Digital Contents

'Stratigraphic'

Digital Media

'Spreadsheets','Text'

available

Paper Archive

Local Museum

recipient

Paper Contents

'Stratigraphic', 'Survey'

Paper Media

'Context

available

sheet', 'Correspondence', 'Drawing', 'Manuscript', 'Map', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report'

Project

bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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#### 12 OASIS:

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