

KERN14/001



THE FORMER DAIRY CREST SITE, WALNUT CLOSE/KERNEL CLOSE, GUILDFORD

*Archaeological Evaluation
for Heritage Collective*

August 2014

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THE FORMER DAIRY CREST SITE, WALNUT CLOSE/KERNEL CLOSE, GUILDFORD

Archaeological Trial Trenching

Headland Archaeology was commissioned by Heritage Collective to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of construction on a site known as the former Dairy Crest site, Walnut Tree Close/Kernel Court, Guildford. Two trenches were dug measuring 7.5 by 1.6m. A series of deposits were encountered associated with modern development across the site. The natural geological horizon was reached at c.50m. No archaeological remains were identified within the evaluation trenches. It is likely that there has been considerable modern disturbance and truncation within the development area as the result of previous construction on the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology was commissioned by Heritage Collective, acting on behalf of Guildford SPV Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of construction on a site known as the former Dairy Crest site, Walnut Tree Close/Kernel Court, Guildford NGR SU 499056 150283. This site is henceforth referred to as the Development Area (DA).

The development has been granted planning permission with a planning condition for archaeological investigation due to the presence of significant archaeological remains within the vicinity of the DA.

“Condition 6. No development shall take place until a written programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme for investigation, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall only take place in accordance with the detailed scheme approved pursuant to this condition. The archaeological works shall be carried out by a suitably qualified investigating body approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: *To allow adequate archaeological investigation before any archaeological remains are disturbed by the approved development. In accordance with the following policy number(s), HE11 of the Guildford Borough Local Plan 2003 (as saved by CLG Direction dated 24/9/07).”*

The evaluation was undertaken on 29th July 2014 in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Heritage Collective (Garland 2014).

2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The DA lies at NGR SU 499056 150283 off Walnut Tree Close, in Guildford, Surrey. The site is bounded to the north and west by London-Havant railway line and to the south and east by buildings within the Riverside Business Centre. The DA has been developed previously, with storage and refrigeration units occupying the majority of the site at the time of the evaluation.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The archaeological background is summarised in detail in the DBA (Garland 2014) and WSI (Heritage Collective 2014). Records from the HER indicate that there is potential for remains from various periods to be present within the vicinity of the DA.

The most significant of these is the early prehistoric activity is known from Woodbridge Road, Guildford, to the north of the DA, which uncovered approximately 100,000 to 150,000 pieces of struck flint, representing evidence of a specialised microlith industry that dated to the Later Mesolithic. Unstratified Mesolithic and Neolithic flints have also been identified within the vicinity of the DA.

4 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the evaluation are:

- To determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or remains,
- To record the character, date, location and preservation of any archaeological remains on site,
- To record the nature and extent of any previous damage to archaeological remains.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Site works

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken over the course of one day on the 29th July 2014 in accordance with the WSI (Garland 2014). Two trenches, measuring 7.5 by 1.6m, were excavated by a tracked machine equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. The ground surface across the DA comprised of tarmac and concrete. A concrete breaker, attached to the tracked machine, was used to break through the hard deposits and expose the sub surface deposits beneath. Machine excavation continued until the underlying geological sediments or the first significant archaeological horizon was encountered.

5.2 Recording

All recording was in accordance with the code of practice of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). The trench and contexts were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological standards. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

All trenches were planned using a Trimble differential GPS system. The site plan was accurately linked to the National Grid and heights to AOD. Sample sections from both trenches were hand drawn at a scale of 1:20.

A digital photographic record was taken and a metric scale was clearly visible in record photographs.

5.3 Reporting and Archives

The results of the work are presented below. A summary report has been prepared for submission to the OASIS database (Headland4-186234).

All archive preparation will be undertaken in accordance with guidelines published by the IfA on behalf of the Archaeological Archives Forum (July 2007). The archive will be deposited with a suitable museum in the Guildford Area.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Discussion

Two trenches were excavated within the development area, measuring 7.5x1.6m (Illus 1, 2 and 4). A full description of the deposits identified in each trench is provided in Appendix 1

Within the area of Trench 1 the uppermost deposits encountered were of modern origin and comprised a tarmac surface [100], measuring 0.2m in depth. Context

[100] overlay further modern roadway makeup deposits comprised of yellow brown stone chippings [101], measuring 0.14m in depth and a layer of grey stone chippings [102], measuring 0.15m in depth (Illus 3 & 6).

Light blue brown clay deposits [103] of natural origin were encountered at an average depth of 0.48m below surface level. Context [103] was separated from the deposit of stone chippings [102] by a layer of geotextile membrane.

The uppermost deposit within the area of Trench 2 was modern in origin and was comprised of concrete with steel rods within [200], measuring 0.13m in depth. This overlay a deposit of modern stone chippings [201] associated with previous development on the site, measuring 0.36m in depth. A light blue brown clay deposit of natural origin was encountered at an average depth of 0.5m (Illus 5 and 6).

Fragments of the stone chipping deposits [102, 201] were impressed into the upper surfaces of [103, 202] and not within, suggesting a degree of compaction associated with previous construction on site.

No significant archaeological deposits or remains were identified; furthermore no artefacts were recovered during the monitoring.

Table 1: Significance of Heritage Assets

Description of Heritage Asset	Trench Number	Feature Number/s	Significance of heritage asset on Local, Regional, National, International scale
n/a	1 & 2	-	None

6.2 Conclusion

No evidence of significant archaeological remains was found within the DA. The archaeological evaluation revealed no evidence for past activity of any date.

Evidence from the evaluation indicates that there has been considerable modern disturbance and truncation of natural geology within the DA as the result of previous construction on the site. Therefore the potential for the survival of any archaeological deposits within the development area is considered to be nil.

7 REFERENCES

7.1 Bibliographic sources

Archaeological Archives Forum *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (published by the IfA 2007).

Communities and Local Government 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework, Government National Planning Policy*.

English Heritage (1991 and 1997) *National Research Framework*

English Heritage 2006. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*

Heritage Collective 2014. *WSI for Archaeological Evaluation at The Former Dairy Crest Site, Walnut Tree Close/Kernel Court, Guildford, GU1 4UD*.

Garland, N. *Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: The Former Dairy Crest Site, Walnut Tree Close/Kernel Court, Guildford, GU1 4UD*. Heritage Collective report (2014).

8 APPENDICES (SITE REGISTERS)

Trench and context register

Tr. no.	Orient ation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. Depth (m)
1	N-S	7.5	1.6	0.48
Context No.	Context Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
100	Tarmac roadway-modern in origin			0.0-0.2
101	Yellow brown small-medium sized stone chippings-modern makeup			0.2-0.34
102	Grey small-medium sized stone chippings-modern makeup			0.34-0.49
103	Light blue brown clay with no stones within. Natural geology			0.49-0.85
104	Mid brown blue clay natural geology observed within a sondage at the south of the trench. No stones within.			0.85+
No archaeological deposits identified within.				

Tr. no.	Orient ation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. Depth (m)
2	NE-SW	7.5	1.6	0.5
Context No.	Context Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
200	Concrete with steel rods within			0.0-0.13
201	Yellow brown small-medium stone chippings-modern makeup			0.13-0.46
202	Light blue brown clay-natural geology-same as Trench 1.			0.46+
No archaeological deposits identified within.				

Drawing Register

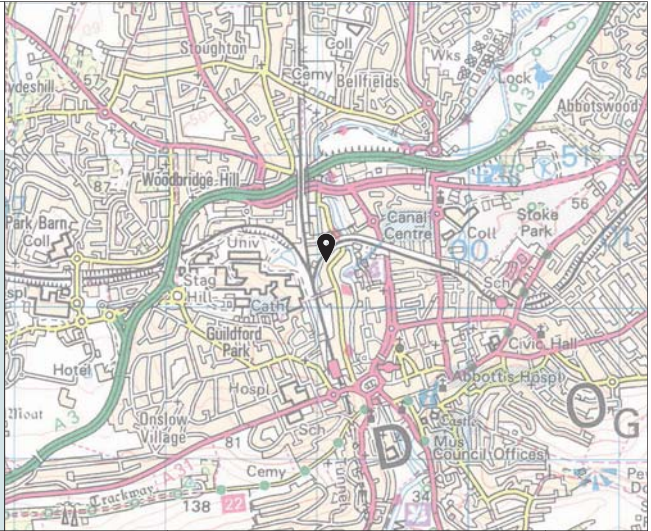
Drawing No.	Scale	Plan/Section	Description
1	1:20	Section	Tr. 1 East facing section
2	1:20	Section	Tr.2 SE facing section

Photographic register

Photo number	Colour Slide Film 952	B&W Film 961	Digital	Direction facing	Description
001	01	01	01	-	ID Shot. Camera no's 108, 109, 120
002	02	02	02	SW	Tr.1 general shot partly excavated on arrival
003	03	03	03	SE	Tr.1 with Tr.2 in background, concrete being broken
004	04	04	04	SE	Tr.1 with Tr.2 in background, concrete being broken
005	05	05	05	S	Tr.1 Plan
006	06	06	06	W	Tr.1 E facing section
007	07	07	07	W	Tr.1 E facing section-area of sondage
008	08	08	08	SW	Tr. 2 Plan
009	09	09	09	NW	Tr. 2 SE facing section
010	-	-	10	W	Tr. 2 with Tr.1 in background-general shot
011	-	-	11	N	Tr.2 general shot of site
012	-	-	12	NW	General site shot with Tr.2 in foreground and Tr.1 in background
013	-	-	13	N	Tr.1 General shot
014	-	-	14	SE	Tr.1 & 2-general shot
015	-	-	15	NW	General site shot



land at
Walnut Tree Close/Kernel Court
Guildford
Surrey



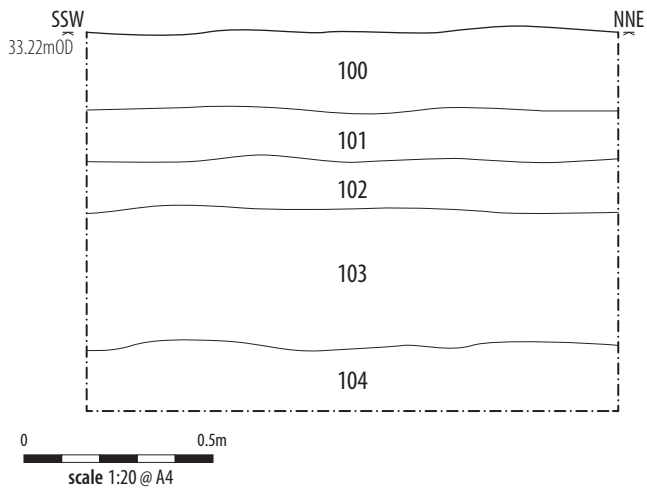
Reproduced using 2013 OS 1:50,000 Landranger Series no. 186 and digital data.
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scale 1:1,000 @ A4



ILLUS 2
Trench 1, looking S

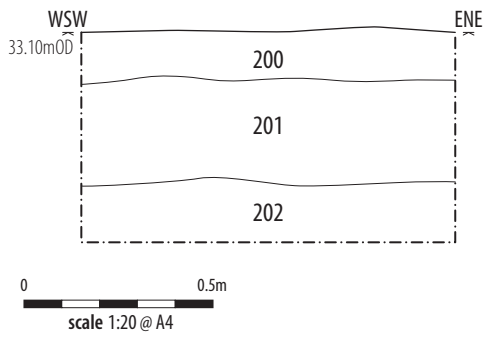




ILLUS 3
Trench 1, ESE facing section

ILLUS 4
Trench 2, looking SW





ILLUS 5
Trench 2, SSE facing section

ILLUS 6

General site shot with Trench 1 and 2 showing overburden





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