

**An Archaeological Evaluation at  
The Dullingham Motors Site, 12 Brinkley Road,  
Dullingham, Cambridgeshire**

**Planning ref: 11/00377/CAC**

**NGR: TL 6299 5775**

**Project No: 4941  
Site Code: ECB 3595**

**ASE Report No: 2011201  
OASIS ID: archaeol6-107847**

**Kathryn Grant, MSc AIFA  
With illustrations by  
John Cook and Justin Russell**

**August 2011**

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**Abstract**

*On 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011 an archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East (ASE) at the Dullingham Motors Site, 12 Brinkley Road, Dullingham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 6299 5775) in advance of a proposed residential development. The work was commissioned by Brinkley Developments Ltd.*

*Three trial-trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 45m. The trenches showed little sign of disturbance to the natural horizon. No archaeological features or finds were encountered during the evaluation. Natural geology comprising light yellowish brown weathered clay with flint gravel and chalk patches was encountered at 79.48m AOD in the northwest of the site (Trench 1) and 80.16m AOD in the east (Trench 3) suggesting a slope in the natural horizon from southeast to northwest.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Project Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology were commissioned by Brinkley Developments Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the Dullingham Motors Site, 12 Brinkley Road, Dullingham, Cambridgeshire (NGR 562990 257750, Figure 1), hereafter referred to as the 'site'..

1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of a residential development on the old garage site (Dullingham Motors) positioned on the western side of Brinkley Road opposite the Green.

### **1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology**

1.2.1 The site lies on the western side of Brinkley Road in Dullingham to the east of Cambridge and south of Newmarket.

1.2.2 At the time of the archaeological evaluation the site was roughly level at 80.0-81.0m AOD with demolition material covering the entire site.

1.2.3 According to current data from the British Geological Survey the geology of the site is Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation (BGS 2011).

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 A planning application was submitted for the demolition of the former garage and ancillary buildings and for the construction of seven houses (Ref: 11/00377/CAC). The site was considered to have high archaeological potential and a programme of archaeological work was recommended by Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning & Countryside Advice (CAPCA). The first stage in the programme of work was to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching.

1.3.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by ASE (2011) and was submitted to CAPCA for approval prior to archaeological works commencing on site. The WSI was compiled with reference to the brief prepared by the County Archaeologist, Daniel McConnel, as well as with the *Standards and Guidance: Archaeological Evaluations* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), and other codes and relevant documents of the IfA.

### **1.4 Aims and Objectives**

1.4.1 The aims of the archaeological investigation were to:

- Establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development area
- Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.
- Establish the ecofactual/environmental potential of archaeological features

- Appraise the likely impact of the development proposals on any archaeology located

1.4.2 The specific research questions for this project were outlined within the WSI as follows:

- Is there any evidence of prehistoric activity, such as residual finds?
- Is there any evidence of Roman settlement and if so, what is its nature?
- Are there any features or deposits associated with a medieval building fronting the street? Is there any associated back-plot activity, such as boundary ditches or rubbish pits, to the rear?

1.4.3 In addition, the broad aim of the archaeological investigation was to ascertain the character, quality and degree of survival of any archaeological remains on the site and to record any that may be impacted by the scheme.

## **1.5 Scope of the report**

1.5.1 This report details the results of archaeological evaluation works on the site. The fieldwork was undertaken on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011 by Kathryn Grant (Archaeologist) and John Cook (Surveyor).

1.5.2 The fieldwork was managed by Andy Leonard and Neil Griffin. The post-excavation reporting was managed by Jim Stevenson.

## 2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.2 Archaeological Background

2.2.1 There are 16 monuments and 25 listed buildings recorded on the HER within a 1km search radius of the centre of the site (centred on NGR 562990 257750). The results of the HER search are summarised below, with locations plotted on Figure 1.

No. as plotted on Figure 1	CCC HER No.	OS Co-ordinates (TL)	Description
1	07384	6265 5800	17 <sup>th</sup> century Dullingham House, stable and porter's lodge
2	07284A	6280 5800	18 <sup>th</sup> century Dullingham House park
3	07399	6274 5813	14 <sup>th</sup> century stone cross
4	07401	637 583	The Old Mill, Stetchworth – site of windmill
5	07404	634 573	Dullingham – site of windmill
6	07407	63 58	Find of Roman pottery vessel (not shown on map)
7	07408	63 58	Possible Roman camp
8	07417	632 577	16 <sup>th</sup> gravestone
9	09137	624 570	Enclosure, unknown date
10	09140	623 583	Cropmark enclosure
11	09141	628 577	Earthworks banks
12	12062	624 584	Post-medieval vicarage
13	MCB17089	6315 5769	14 <sup>th</sup> century St Mary's church
14	MCB17174	6308 5774	19 <sup>th</sup> century Methodist church
15	MCB17341	63156 57884	15 <sup>th</sup> century Dorlyn cottage
16	MCB17508	62153 57277	14 <sup>th</sup> century deer park

Table 1: Summary of monuments HER records with 1km

2.2.2 There is no evidence of any prehistoric remains in the area although the undated earthworks (No. 9) may be of this broad period. The possible Roman camp and isolated find of Roman pottery indicates the potential for a minor rural settlement of perhaps associated with an adjacent road or trackway. The proximity of the 14<sup>th</sup> century church suggests that the site lies near the medieval core of the village on a street frontage.

2.2.3 The 25 listed buildings are most entirely post-medieval cottages, farmhouses and the associated structures, such as barns. Other than the medieval buildings noted above is the Guildhall (HER no. 49175), a timber-framed house built before 1495 in Station Road, Dullingham.

### 3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Methodology

- 3.1.1 The evaluation work comprised two archaeological trenches excavated under archaeological supervision by mini mechanical tracked excavator fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket. A toothed bucket was used to break through any remaining concrete overlying the trenches. The trenches were positioned across the development area so as to ensure that an optimum sample of the area was investigated (Figure 2).
- 3.1.2 The area was CAT scanned prior to machine excavation and all excavation proceeded with caution. No services were picked up during the survey, but a small water pipe was revealed intact across the middle of Trench 1 on a rough east-west alignment.
- 3.2.2 Excavation was undertaken in 100mm thick spits through the overburden, during which the removed spoil and surface of each spit was scanned for any stray, unstratified artefacts or features. The excavations were taken down to the top of the underlying natural geology.
- 3.1.3 All of the trenches, features and deposits were recorded using ASE standard record sheets. All archaeological deposits were excavated and recorded in accordance with accepted professional standards (IfA 2000 & 2001, EH 1991) using pro-forma context record sheets. Each deposit uncovered during the archaeological trial-trenching was assigned its own unique context number system prefixed with the trench number. None of the deposits were deemed suitable for environmental sampling. A photographic record was maintained throughout the evaluation. The trenches were located and levelled using a Total Station and tied into the Ordnance Survey 1:1250 scale map of the area.

#### 3.2 The Project Archive

- 3.2.1 The project archive is currently held at offices of ASE. Cambridgeshire County council Archaeological Store have been contacted and offered the site archive once the project is complete.
- 3.2.2 The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Trenches	3
Number of Contexts	9
No. of files/paper record	1 file
Photographs	25
Bulk finds	None
Registered finds	None
Environmental Samples	None

Table 2: Quantification of project archive



## 4.0 RESULTS (Figures 2 and 3)

### 4.1 Summary

4.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits were uncovered during the archaeological works. No archaeological artefacts were revealed in any of the trenches. The deposits encountered in each trench were the similar and have been described in 4.2. The specific details of each trench and any variations in the revealed deposits have been presented in order from 4.3 onwards.

### 4.2 Natural and Overburden Deposits

4.2.1 Natural geology [003] comprising light yellowish brown weathered clay with flint gravel and chalk patches was encountered at 79.48m AOD in the northwest of the site (Trench 1) and 80.16m AOD in the east (Trench 3) suggesting a slope in the natural horizon from southeast to northwest.

4.2.2 The natural horizon was overlain by soft mid greyish brown clayey silt subsoil [002] with rare flint gravel and occasional chalk fleck. Sealing the subsoil in all of the trenches was mixed demolition material of recent origin [001].

### 4.3 Trench 1 (Figures 2 and 3)

4.3.1 Trench 1 was 2m wide, 15m long and between 0.75m and 1.1m deep. It was on a north-south orientation and was positioned along the western edge of the site. No archaeological features were revealed within this trench and no archaeological artefacts were recovered from any of the deposits. The recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated (Table 3) and are summarised below.

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Deposit Thickness (mm)	Height m AOD
1/001	Deposit	Demolition Material	300 N/ 400 S	80.71 N/ 80.65 S
1/002	Deposit	Subsoil	800 N/ 400 S	-
1/003	Deposit	Natural	-	79.48 N/ 80.12 S

Table 3: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 1

### 4.3.2 Summary

Natural geology was overlain by subsoil [1/002] and demolition material [1/001]. Natural geology [1/003] was encountered at 80.12m AOD in the south of the trench and sloped down to 79.48m AOD in the north. A small modern water pipe was revealed crossing the middle of this trench on a rough east-west alignment. Modern truncation of the natural horizon was also witnessed to the north of this pipe.

### 4.4 Trench 2 (Figures 2 and 3)

4.4.1 Trench 2 was 2m wide, 15m long and between 0.75m and 1.0m deep. It was on a northwest-southeast orientation and was positioned across the middle of the site. No archaeological features were revealed within this trench and no archaeological artefacts were recovered from any of the deposits. The

recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated (Table 4) and are summarised below.

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Deposit Thickness (mm)	Height m AOD
2/001	Deposit	Demolition Material	450 NW/ 300 SE	80.65 NW/ 80.64 SE
2/002	Deposit	Subsoil	550 NW/ 500 SE	-
2/003	Deposit	Natural	-	79.86 NW/ 79.95 SE

Table 4: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 2

#### 4.4.2 Summary

Natural geology [2/003] was encountered at 79.86m AOD in the northwest of the trench and 79.95m AOD in the southeast. The natural horizon was overlain by subsoil [2/002] and demolition material [2/001].

#### 4.5 Trench 3 (Figures 2 and 3)

4.5.1 Trench 3 was 2m wide, 15m long and between 0.65m and 0.9m deep. It was on a north-south orientation and was positioned east of Trench 2. This trench was relocated from its original proposed position to avoid blocking the site entrance and to maintain a safe distance from the old fuel pumps and any associated contaminated materials. No archaeological features were revealed within this trench and no archaeological artefacts were recovered from any of the deposits. The recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated (Table 5) and are summarised below.

Context Number	Context Type	Context Description	Deposit Thickness (mm)	Height m AOD
3/001	Deposit	Demolition Material	250 N/ 300 S	80.42 N/ 80.71 S
3/002	Deposit	Subsoil	500 N/ 350 S	-
3/003	Deposit	Natural	-	79.84 N/ 80.16 S

Table 5: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 3

#### 4.5.2 Summary

Natural geology [3/003] was encountered at 79.84m AOD in the north of the trench and 80.19m AOD in the south. The natural horizon was overlain by subsoil [3/002] and demolition material [3/001] (as described in 4.2).

## **5.0 DISCUSSION**

### **5.1 Overburden and degree of previous disturbance**

5.1.1 The character and depth of the overburden deposits found within both of the evaluation trenches suggests that there has been substantial landscaping on the site, with the removal/redistribution and subsequent importation of material to level the site in the recent past. This has in some areas of the site led to a considerable depth of overburden above the surface of the natural geology.

5.1.2 Natural geology [003] comprising light yellowish brown weathered clay with flint gravel and chalk patches was encountered at 79.48m AOD in the northwest of the site (Trench 1) and 80.16m AOD in the east (Trench 3) suggesting that the site slopes off naturally from southeast to northwest. Modern truncation of the natural horizon was limited to small areas within the evaluation trenches, but other parts of the site are likely to have been more extensively disturbed (for example where the former garage pumps and tanks were located in the northeast and east of the site). The thickness of overburden within the trenches was between 650mm and 1100mm.

### **5.2 Summary of archaeological remains**

5.2.1 The presence of a fairly intact subsoil horizon in the majority of the sampled area would suggest that archaeological remains would survive if they were originally present. However, no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were recovered during the evaluation.

## REFERENCES

ASE 2011. *Dullingham Motors, Brinkley Road, Dullingham, Cambridgeshire – Archaeological Evaluation - Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished ASE document (prepared by Andy Leonard)

BGS 2011 British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer, accessed 16.08.2011 [http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer\\_google/googleviewer.html](http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html)

English Heritage 1991. *The Management of Archaeological Projects*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. London: English Heritage

IfA 2000. Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*

IfA 2001. Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance* documents

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Bob Gaylord (Brinkley Developments Ltd.) for commissioning the work and Daniel McConnell (CCC) for his guidance throughout the project.

### SMR Summary Form

Site Code	ECB 3595					
Identification Name and Address	Dullingham Motors, 12, Brinkley Road, Dullingham					
County, District &/or Borough	Cambridgeshire					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR: TL 6299 5775					
Geology	Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4941					
Type of Fieldwork	<b>Eval.</b> ✓	<del>Excav.</del>	<del>Watching Brief</del>	<del>Standing Structure</del>	<del>Survey</del>	<del>Other</del>
Type of Site	Green-field	<b>Shallow Urban</b>	<del>Deep Urban</del>	<del>Other</del>		
Dates of Fieldwork	<b>Eval.</b> ✓ 15-08-2011	<del>Excav.</del>	<del>WB.</del>	<del>Other</del>		
Sponsor/Client	Brinkley Developments Ltd (Bob Gaylord)					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard and Neil griffin					
Project Supervisor	Kathy Grant					
Period Summary	<del>Pala</del>	<del>Meso.</del>	<del>Neo.</del>	<del>BA</del>	<del>IA</del>	<del>RB</del>
	AS	MED	PM	Other <b>No Archaeological Remains</b>		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p>On 15th August 2011 an archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East (ASE) at the Dullingham Motors Site, 12 Brinkley Road, Dullingham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 6299 5775) in advance of a proposed residential development. The work was commissioned by Brinkley Developments Ltd.</p> <p>Three trial-trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 45m. The trenches showed little sign of disturbance to the natural horizon. No archaeological features or finds were encountered during the evaluation. Natural geology comprising light yellowish brown weathered clay with flint gravel and chalk patches was encountered at 79.48m AOD in the northwest of the site (Trench 1) and 80.16m AOD in the east (Trench 3) suggesting a slope in the natural horizon from southeast to northwest.</p>						

## OASIS FORM

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-107847**

### Project details

Project name	The Dullingham Motors Site, 12 Brinkley Road, Dullingham
Short description of the project	<p>On 15th August 2011 an archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East (ASE) at the Dullingham Motors Site, 12 Brinkley Road, Dullingham, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 6299 5775) in advance of a proposed residential development. The work was commissioned by Brinkley Developments Ltd.</p> <p>Three trial-trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 45m. The trenches showed little sign of disturbance to the natural horizon. No archaeological features or finds were encountered during the evaluation. Natural geology comprising light yellowish brown weathered clay with flint gravel and chalk patches was encountered at 79.48m AOD in the northwest of the site (Trench 1) and 80.16m AOD in the east (Trench 3) suggesting a slope in the natural horizon from southeast to northwest.</p>
Project dates	Start: 16-08-2011 End: 16-08-2011
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB 3595 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DULLINGHAM Dullingham Motors, 12 Brinkley Road
Postcode	CB8 9UW
Site coordinates	TL 6299 5775 52.1934194118 0.384891698079 52 11 36 N 000 23 05 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 79.48m Max: 80.16m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice (CAPCA)
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard/Neil Griffin/Jim Stevenson
Project supervisor	Kathryn Grant
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Brinkley Developments Ltd

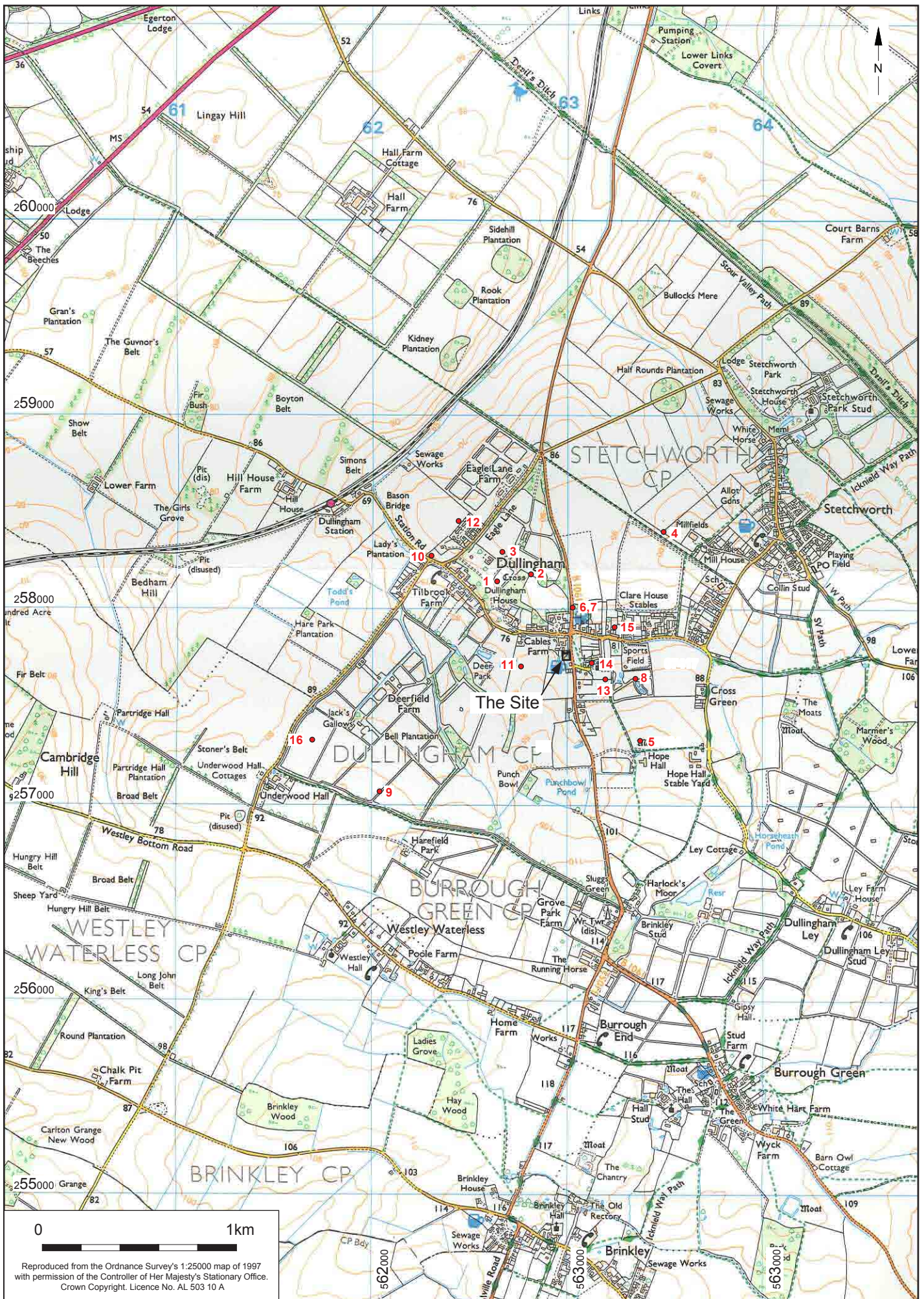
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### OASIS:

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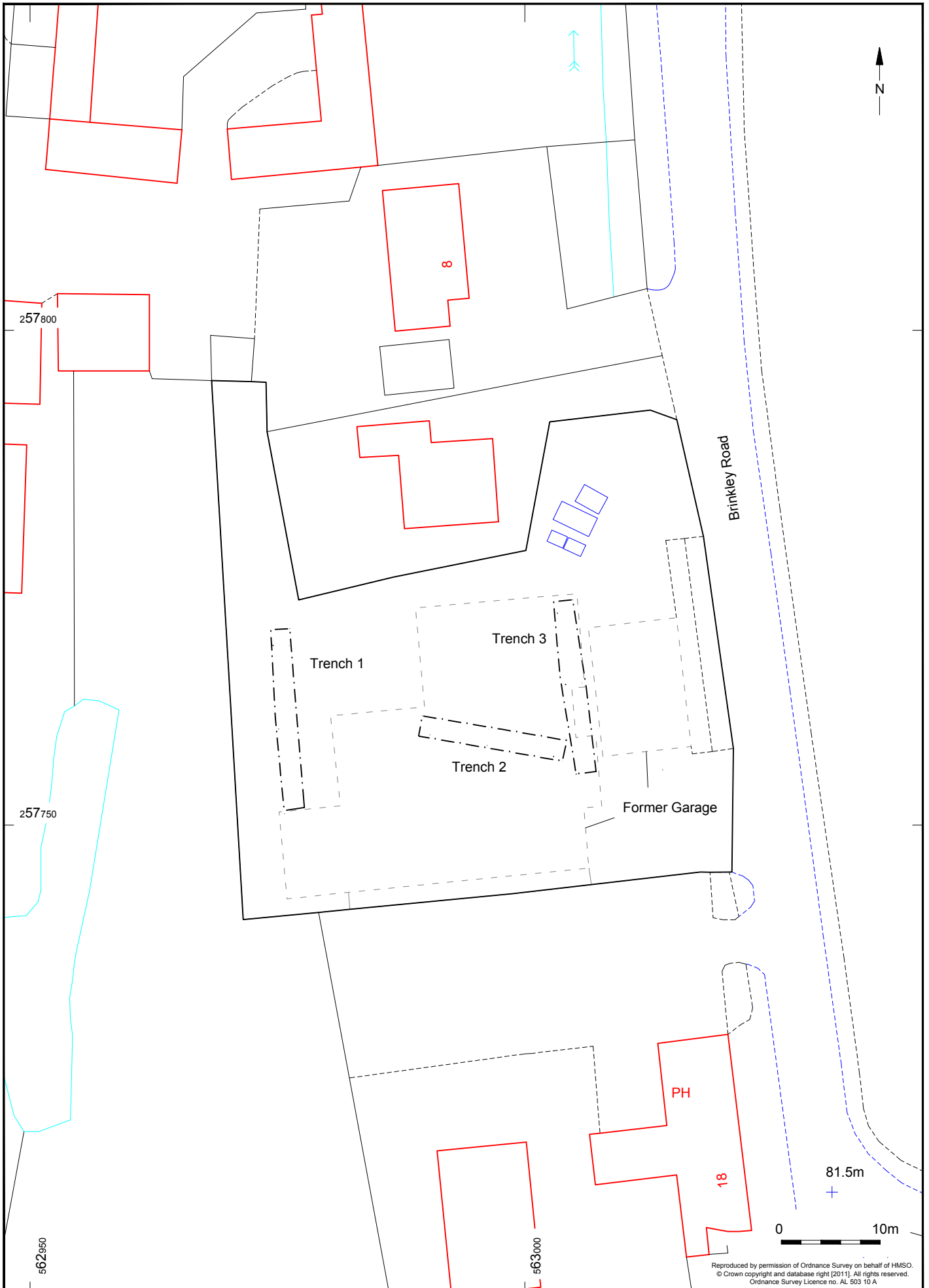
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© Archaeology South-East		Dullingham Motors, 12 Brinkley Road		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4941	Aug 2011	Site location		
Report Ref: 2011201	Drawn by: RHC			





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© Archaeology South-East		Dullingham Motors, 12 Brinkley Road	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4941	Aug 2011	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2011201	Drawn by: JLR		



Trench 1, looking north



Trench 1, west facing section



Trench 2, looking north-west



Trench 3, looking south

© Archaeology South-East		Dullingham Motors, 12 Brinkley Road	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 4941	Aug 2011	Photographs	
Report Ref: 2011201	Drawn by: JLR		

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