

Archaeological Evaluation Report
Dorking Angling Society Lake Extension
Brockham, Surrey

NGR: TQ 18854 50404

Planning Application number: MO/2010/1311
Mole Valley District Council

ASE Project No: 5914 ASE Site Code: RRB13

ASE Report No: 2013135 OASIS ID: archaeol6-152692



By Giles Dawkes BA MIFA

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By Giles Dawkes BA MIFA With contributions by Luke Barber

June 2013

Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR

Tel: 01273 426830 Fax: 01273 420866 Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Land and Water Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation, in advance of development, at Dorking Angling Society Land Extension, Dorking, Surrey.

Thirteen trenches measuring $25m \times 1.5m$ were excavated. Trenches 1-4 succeeded in identifying a possibly man-made channel shown on historic maps. This is probably no earlier than late 18^{th} century in date. The evidence from the trenching suggests that the channel was allowed to partially silt-up before being deliberately backfilled in the early 20^{th} century. There were no other archaeological features or finds.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for 1.1.1 Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by Land & Water Services Limited on behalf of Dorking Angling Society to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development on land at Dorking Angling Society's lake situated to the south of the A25 Reigate Road, Brockham, Surrey. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 18854 50404 and its location is shown in Figure 1.

1.2 **Geology and Topography**

- The site lies to the east of Dorking and to the west of Reigate and is bounded by the A25 Reigate Road to the north and west, the River Mole to the south and existing pasture to the east. The site generally slopes down from north (c. 45m OD) to south (c. 42m OD). According to the British Geological Survey the majority of the site is located on Holocene Alluvium overlying Folkstone Formation (sandstone).
- 1.2.2 The site is an open field under pasture bounded by mature hedgerows and

1.3 **Planning Background**

1.3.1 Planning permission has been granted by Mole Valley District Council (Planning Reference MO/2010/1311) for the replacement of an existing entrance, creation of new area of parking, extension of an existing lake, with new landscape treatments and habitat creation proposals. Condition 15 of the planning condition states that:

No development shall take place in this Area of High Archaeological Importance until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: The site lies within an Area of High Archaeological Potential where it is considered necessary to preserve as a record any archaeological information before it is destroyed by the development in accordance with Mole Valley Local Plan policy ENV49 and policy CS14 of the Mole Valley Core Strategy.

In accordance with recommendations made by Gary Jackson (Archaeological Officer, Surrey County Council) to Mole Valley District Council an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment was produced (SCAU 2012). This recommended that a programme of intrusive fieldwork (trial trench evaluation) be undertaken in order to assess the nature and extent of any potential archaeological remains so that the need for implementing any further

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archaeological mitigation measures could be determined by the SCC Archaeological Officer prior to development.

1.3.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; ASE 2013) for archaeological evaluation was then submitted to and approved by the SCC Archaeological Officer. All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with this WSI, as well as with the standards and guidance and other codes of practise and relevant documents of the IfA.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

- 1.4.1 The general aims of the archaeological investigation listed in the WSI (*ibid*.) were to ascertain:
 - Whether archaeological remains are present on the site and if so assess the date, survival and condition of said remains.
 - The character date and quality of ancient remains and deposits.
 - How they might be affected by the development of the site
 - And to enable the Surrey County Council Archaeology Officer to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further archaeological work either in advance of, or during, the development.
- 1.4.2 Specific aims of the archaeological investigation listed in the WSI (*ibid.*) were to:
 - Identify and characterise the remains of any prehistoric activity on the site
 - Identify and characterise any earlier courses/meanders of the River Mole.

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out between 28th and 30th May 2013 and has been prepared in accordance with the WSI (*ibid.*).
- 1.5.2 The work was carried out by Giles Dawkes (Senior Archaeologist) and John Cook (Archaeological Surveyor) and managed by Neil Griffin (fieldwork) and Jim Stevenson (post-excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The following background is summarised from the DBA (SCAU 2012).

2.2 The River Mole would have provided a route through the landscape and ready source of water from the Palaeolithic onwards. The nearest Palaeolithic find is from c. 2km to the east. Extensive evidence of Mesolithic activity has been identified during modern quarrying activity in the wider area, principally to the east at 'Frank's Sandpit'. Neolithic and Bronze Age features, artefacts and palaeoenvironmental evidence has also been recovered from this quarry during more recent phases of sand extraction. A Bronze Age bowl barrow is located approximately 900m north of the site.

Roman

2.3 A Late Iron Age/early Roman ditched enclosure was also located at the above mentioned quarry. Further quarrying in close proximity identified a second rectilinear enclosure ditch, from which a Roman vessel was recovered in addition to Bronze Age artefacts.

Anglo Saxon

2.4 Brockham and Betchworth to the south are both recorded in the Domesday Book indicating that these communities were established by at least the 11th century. No Anglo-Saxon settlement remains have been identified within 1km of the site.

Medieval to Modern

2.5 Betchworth Castle to the southeast is thought to have originated in the 11th century as an earthwork fortress. This was subsequently replaced by a stone castle in 1379 before being rebuilt in the 15th century, possibly as a fortified manor house rather than a castle.

Historic Maps

- 2.6 Cartographic sources indicate that the site lies on grassland/pasture from at least 1768 (Roque's map). The course of the River Mole is show to have deviated considerably since 1768. At this date it is show to pass much closer to Betchworth Castle whereas from 1864 the river takes a more northerly course before turning sharply to the south.
- 2.7 A meander is shown looping north off the main channel by 1838 (Figure 3) and is still an open channel by the time of the 1870 Ordnance Survey (Figure 4), by which time a possible man-made easterly diversion from this meander links into the current lake.
- 2.8 By 1934 the northerly meander is shown by the Ordnance Survey as longer having effectively been cut off from the main channel by the construction of the Reigate Road on an embankment that crosses the floodplain (Figure 5).
- 2.9 It is not clear whether or not the former meander was culverted at this time in order to keep the lake fed with fresh water. The probable man-made diversion of the northerly meander is incorporated into the western end of the current lake.

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3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 Thirteen trenches measuring 25m x 1.5m were excavated (Figure 2). Four of the trenches (T1-4) were targeted on the location of the man-made river diversion and the others located in apparent blank areas. Trenches 6, 7 and 8 had to be re-located slightly further north than originally intended due to the present of mature undergrowth around the pond.
- 3.2 The trenches were located using a Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS).
- 3.3 The trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision by machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.
- 3.4 The excavation was taken down in small spits to the top of the underlying geology to identify archaeological features. The sections of the trenches were cleaned to observe and record stratigraphy.
- 3.5 All removed spoil was scanned for the presence of stray, unstratified artefacts.
- 3.6 All encountered deposits, features and finds were recorded and sampled according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2007) using pro-forma ASE recording sheets.
- 3.7 All features were investigated by sondage, by hand and planned using digital survey equipment.
- 3.8 A photographic record of the work was kept and forms part of the site archive which is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices at Portslade and will be offered to a suitable local museum or archive repository at the end of the project.

Number of Contexts	35
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	1
Photographs	20
Bulk finds	1 box
Registered finds	-
Environmental flots/residue	1

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 **RESULTS**

4.1 Trench 1

(Figure 6)

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m
1/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
1/004	Cut	River channel	Tr.	+4m	+1.01m
1/005	Fill	Channel fill	Tr.	+4m	+0.13m
1/006	Fill	Channel fill	Tr.	+4m	0.88m

Table 2: Trench 1 recorded contexts

Natural sand [1/003] was encountered at c. 40.55m OD.

Cut into the sand was the southern edge of man-made river channel [1/004] aligned east-west and filled with dark grey alluvial clay [1/005] and brown silt clay [1/006]. The river channel had vertical sides and the bottom of the feature was not reached by the excavation.

The river channel was sealed by subsoil [1/002] and topsoil [1/001].

4.2 Trench 2

(Figure 7)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m
2/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.14m
2/003	Fill	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
2/004	Cut	River Channel	Tr.	+18.5m	+0.9m
2/005	Fill	Channel fill	Tr.	+18.5m	+0.9m

Table 3: Trench 2 recorded contexts

Natural sand [2/003] was encountered at c. 40.45m OD.

Cut into the sand was the eastern edge of man-made river channel [2/004] aligned north-south and filled with brown silt clay [2/005]. The channel had vertical sides. The bottom of the channel was not reached by the excavation.

The river channel was sealed by subsoil [2/002] and topsoil [2/001].

4.3 Trench 3

(Figure 8)

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.13m
3/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.1m
3/003	Fill	Channel fill	Tr.	6m	0.1m
3/004	Cut	River Channel	Tr.	6m	+0.9m
3/005	Fill	Channel fill	Tr.	6m	+0.8m
3/006	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 4: Trench 3 recorded contexts

Natural sand [3/006] was encountered at c. 40.47m OD.

Cut into the sand was river channel [3/004] aligned east-west and filled with grey clay [3/005] and dark grey silt and brick rubble [3/003]. Nineteenth century pottery and CBM were retrieved from [3/005]. The river channel had vertical sides. The bottom of the feature was not reached by the excavation.

The river channel was sealed by subsoil [3/002] and topsoil [3/001].

4.4 Trench 4

(Figure 9)

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.13m
4/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.11m
4/003	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-
4/004	Cut	River Channel	Tr.	+10m	-
4/005	Fill	Channel fill	Tr.	+10m	-

Table 5: Trench 4 recorded contexts

Natural sand [4/003] was encountered at c. 40.49m OD.

Cut into the natural was river channel [4/004] aligned east-west and filled with brown silt clay [4/005]. The river channel was not excavated in this trench.

The river channel was sealed by subsoil [4/002] and topsoil [4/001].

4.5 Trench 5

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m
5/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.1m
5/003	Layer	Natural colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 6: Trench 5 recorded contexts

The natural colluvium [5/003] was encountered at c. 40.35m OD.

Overlying the colluvium was subsoil [5/002] and topsoil [5/001]. There were no archaeological finds or features identified.

4.6 Trench 6

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m
6/003	Layer	Natural colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	+1.2m

Table 7: Trench 6 recorded contexts

The natural colluvium [6/003] was encountered at *c.* 40.51m OD. The colluvium was excavated by machine to a depth of 1.2m. The base of the deposit was not reached.

Overlying the colluvium was subsoil [6/002] and topsoil [6/001]. There were no archaeological finds or features identified.

4.7 Trench 7

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m
7/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m
7/003	Laver	Natural colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 8: Trench 7 recorded contexts

The natural colluvium [7/003] was encountered at *c.* 43.39m OD in the south and 44.38m OD in the north.

Overlying the colluvium was subsoil [7/002] and topsoil [7/001]. There were no archaeological finds or features identified.

4.8 Trench 8

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.1m
8/003	Layer	Natural colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	1.1m
8/004	Layer	Natural colluvium?	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 9: Trench 8 recorded contexts

The dark grey clay and gravel natural [8/004] was encountered at *c*. 39.40m OD. This deposit may represent an earlier colluvium event and was only seen in a machine dug sondage at the end of the trench. Overlying [8/004] was a 1.1m thick deposit of colluvium [8/003], and subsoil [8/002] and topsoil [8/001].

There were no archaeological finds or features identified.

4.9 Trench 9

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.13m
9/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.1m
9/003	Layer	Natural colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 10: Trench 9 recorded contexts

The natural colluvium [9/003] was encountered at *c.* 42.36m OD in the south and 44.37m OD in the north.

Overlying the colluvium was subsoil [9/002] and topsoil [9/001]. There were no archaeological finds or features identified.

4.10 Trench 10

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.14m
10/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.09m
10/003	Layer	Natural colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 11: Trench 10 recorded contexts

The natural colluvium [10/003] was encountered at *c*. 40.35m OD.

Overlying the colluvium was subsoil [10/002] and topsoil [10/001]. There were no archaeological finds or features identified.

4.11 Trench 11

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.11m
11/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.16m
11/003	Layer	Natural colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 12: Trench 11 recorded contexts

The natural clay sand [11/003] was encountered at c. 41.35m OD.

Overlying was subsoil [11/002] and topsoil [11/001]. There were no archaeological finds or features identified.

4.12 Trench 12

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m
12/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.12m
12/003	Layer	Natural colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 13: Trench 12 recorded contexts

The natural clay sand [12/003] was encountered at c. 40.72m OD.

Overlying was subsoil [12/002] and topsoil [12/001]. There were no archaeological finds or features identified.

4.13 Trench 13

Number	Туре	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
13/001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.21m
13/002	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.1m
13/003	Layer	Natural colluvium	Tr.	Tr.	-

Table 14: Trench 13 recorded contexts

The natural clay sand [13/003] was encountered at c. 41.02m OD.

Overlying was subsoil [13/002] and topsoil [13/001]. There were no archaeological finds or features identified.

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5.0 FINDS

Context	Pottery	Wt (gr)	CBM	Wt (gr)
3/005	1	6	4	286

Table 15: Finds quantification

5.1 The Pottery by Luke Barber

5.1.1 The evaluation recovered a single pottery sherd (context [3/005]). This consists of part of the rim from a green transfer-printed refined white earthenware saucer that can be placed between *c.* 1830 and 1900.

5.2 The CBM by Luke Barber

- 5.2.1 Just four pieces of brick and tile were recovered during the archaeological work, all coming from context [3/005]. The single fragment of brick (196g) has no surviving dimensions but is from a well formed and fired brick tempered with moderate/abundant fine/medium sand with common ferruginous sandstone pieces to 2mm.
- 5.2.2 The brick, which has been burnt post-breakage, can be assigned a general 18th- to 19th- century date. The remaining pieces of ceramic building material consist of peg tile fragments varying in thickness from 12 to 13mm. All are well formed and medium/well fired but two contemporary fabrics are present. The first, represented by two pieces, is tempered with sparse fine sand with common iron oxide inclusions to 1mm and some voids to 3mm. The second, is generally of similar nature but is more sandy, has notably less iron oxides and no apparent voids. However, both are likely to be of 18th- to early 19th-century date.

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6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The archaeological evaluation has shown that the site is untruncated. The integrity of the natural horizon was good.
- 6.2 The natural deposits recorded were alluvial sand in the west (T1-4), alluvial clay sand in the east (T11-13), and in the north, in the trenches (T5-10) located on and at the base of the slope, colluvial deposits.
- 6.3 Trenches 1-4 succeeded in identifying the probably man-made river channel shown on historic maps. Trenches 2 and 4 demonstrated that the channel was over 18m wide: significantly greater than shown on the 1838 tithe map (Figure 3). However, the 1870 Ordnance Survey map shows that the channel had been enlarged, either through natural erosion or by man-made means, and had become more sinuous in form (Figure 4).
- In Trench 3, the inlet into the area of the existing pond remained consistently narrow (Figure 8) and this feature might reflect the small east-west channel shown on the 1870 map (Figure 4). Pottery and CBM from the fill of the channel in this trench suggest that this was in use or was backfilled sometime between 1830 and 1900.
- 6.5 There was no evidence that the river channel was brick-lined or culverted.
- 6.6 The form of the channel as shown on the 1838 map (Figure 3) might suggest that the channel may have served as a duck decoy, or a leat for a mill of some description though none is marked on the map. Given the cartographic and finds evidence the feature is not likely to be older than late 18th century in date, though this is speculative.
- 6.7 The evidence from the trenching suggests that the channel was allowed to partially silt-up before being deliberately backfilled in the early 20th century. The 1934 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 5) shows that the vast majority of the channel had disappeared as an open feature by then.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeology South-East would like to thank Land and Water Services for commissioning the work and SCC for their assistance and guidance throughout the project.

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HER Summary Form

Site Code	RRB13					
Identification Name and Address						
County, District &/or Borough	Surrey					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ					
Geology	Weald Clay	У				
Arch. South-East Project Number	5914					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green√ Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. May 13	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Land and V	Vater Servic	es Ltd			
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Giles Dawkes					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
0	AS	MED	PM ✓	Other Modern		

Summary

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Land and Water Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation, in advance of development, at Dorking Angling Society Land Extension, Dorking, Surrey.

Thirteen trenches measuring 25m x 1.5m were excavated. Trenches 1-4 succeeded in identifying a possibly man-made channel shown on historic maps. This is probably no earlier than late 18th century in date. The evidence from the trenching suggests that the channel was allowed to partially silt-up before being deliberately backfilled in the early 20th century. There were no other archaeological features or finds.

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OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-152692

Project details

Project name Evaluation at Dorking Angling Society, Reigate Road, Brockham

of the project

Short description Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Land and Water Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation, in advance of development, at Dorking Angling Society Land Extension,

Dorking, Surrey. Thirteen trenches measuring 25m x 1.5m were excavated. Trenches 1-4 succeeded in identifying a possibly manmade channel shown on historic maps. This is probably no earlier than late 18th century in date. The evidence from the trenching suggests that the channel was allowed to partially silt-up before being deliberately backfilled in the early 20th century. There were

no other archaeological features or finds.

Project dates Start: 28-05-2013 End: 30-05-2013

Previous/future

work

Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference

codes

RRB13 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI) Site status

Current Land use Open Fresh Water 1 - Running water

Current Land use Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed

Monument type **LEAT Medieval**

LEAT Post Medieval Monument type

POTTERY Post Medieval Significant Finds

Significant Finds **CBM Post Medieval**

Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches", "Test Pits"

Development type Aquaculture

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England

SURREY REIGATE AND BANSTEAD REIGATE Dorking Angling Site location

Society, Reigate Road, Brockham

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RH4 1NY Postcode

Study area 20000.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 18854 50404 51 0 51 14 23 N 000 17 49 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 39.00m Max: 43.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator

Archaeology South-East

Project design originator

Archaeology South-East

Project

director/manager

Neil Griffin

Project supervisor Giles Dawkes

Type of

sponsor/funding

body

Client

Name of

sponsor/funding

Land & Water Services Limited on behalf of Dorking Angling Society

body

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient

Local Museum

Physical Archive

RRB13

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive

recipient

Local Museum

Digital Archive ID RRB13

Digital Contents "Survey"

Digital Media

available

"Images vector"

Paper Archive

recipient

Local Museum

Paper Archive ID RRB13

Paper Media available

"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

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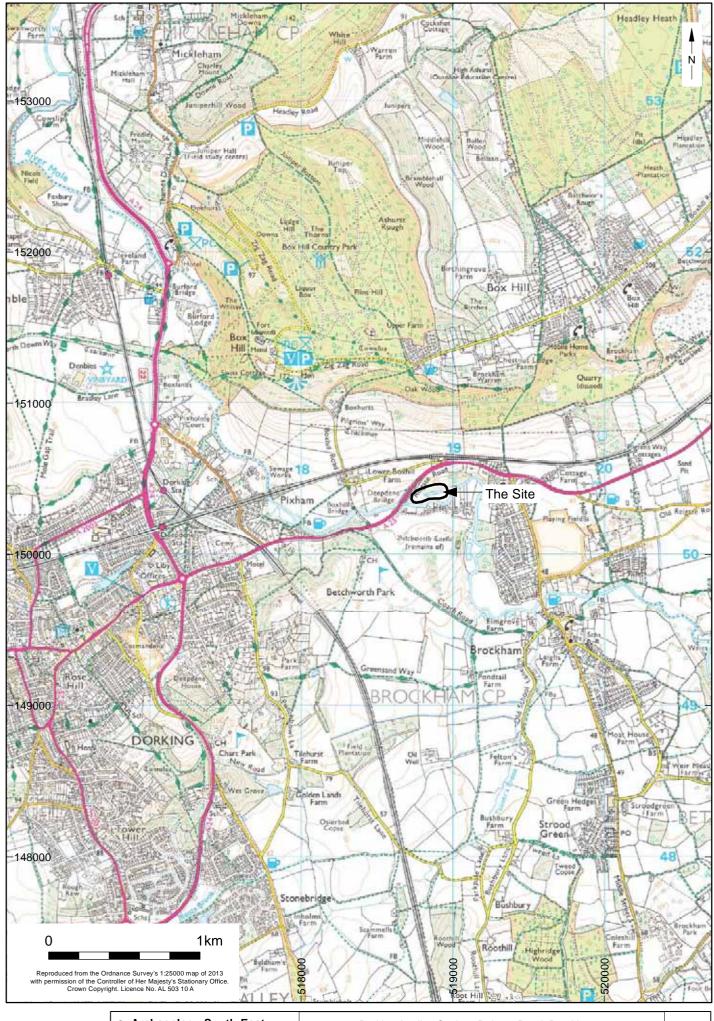
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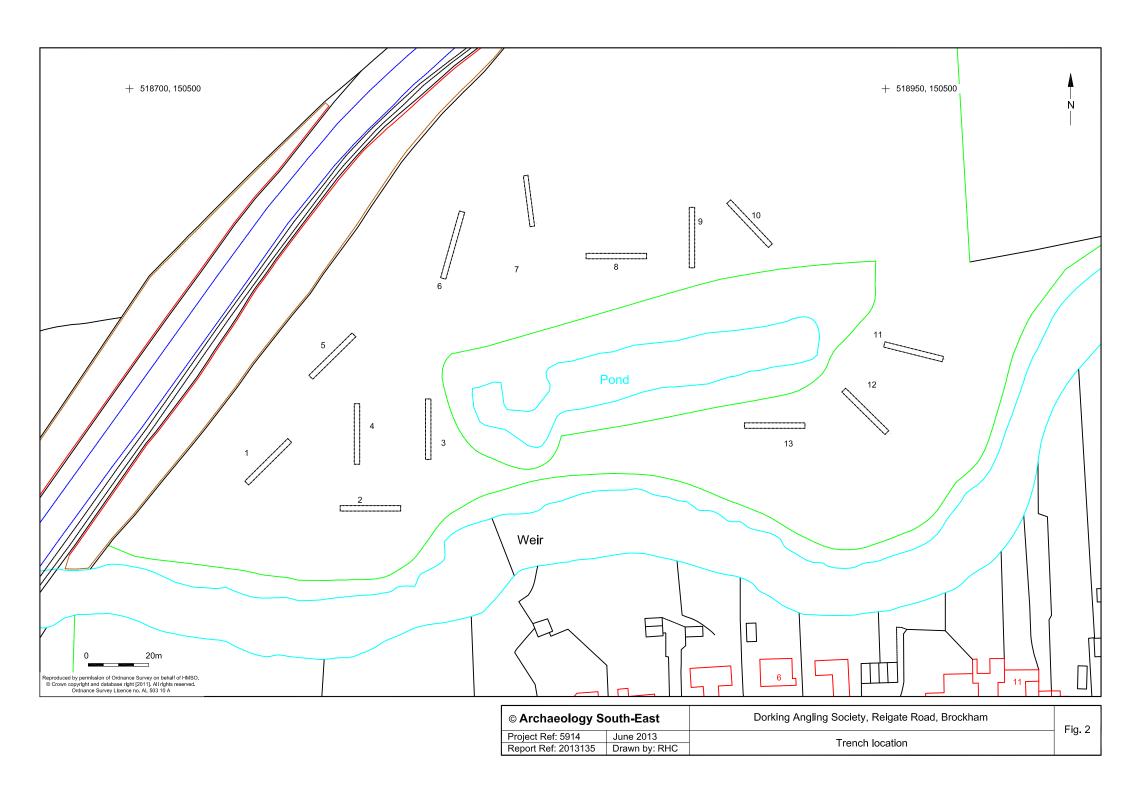
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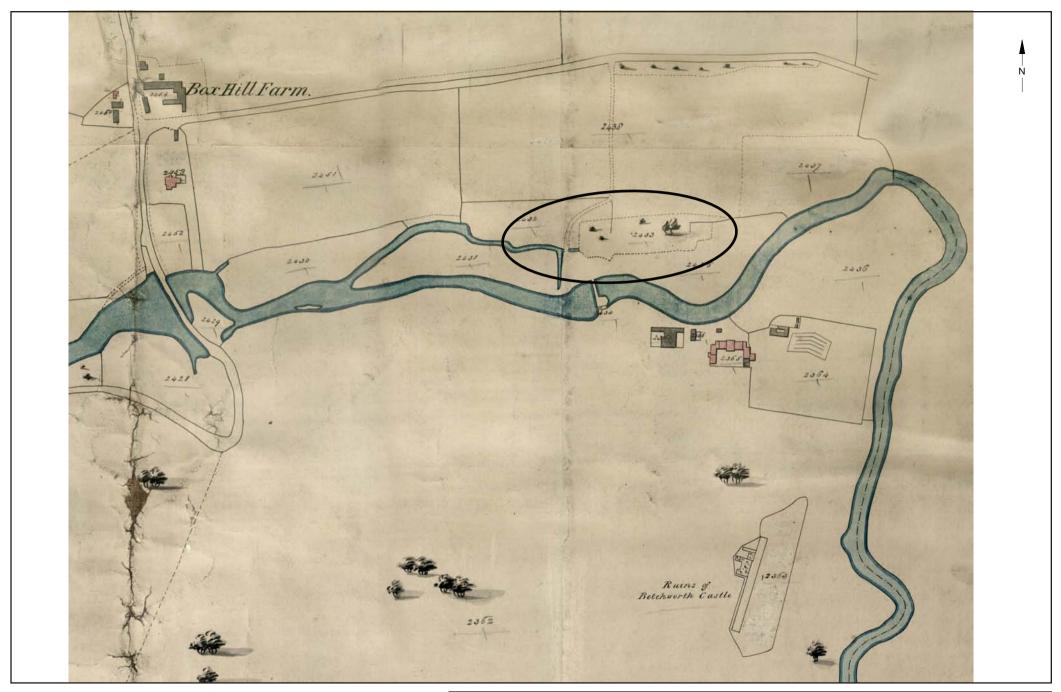
Entered by Dan Swift (D.swift@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 12 June 2013

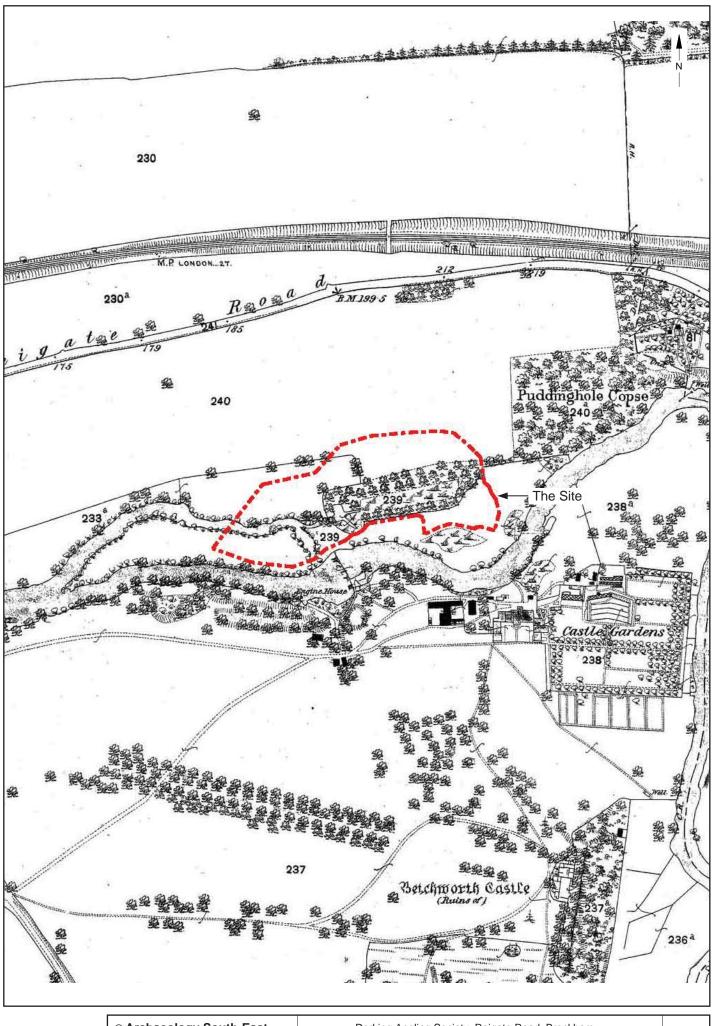


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Project Ref: 5914 Jun	ne 2013	Site location	
Report Ref: 2013135 Dra	wn by: RHC		

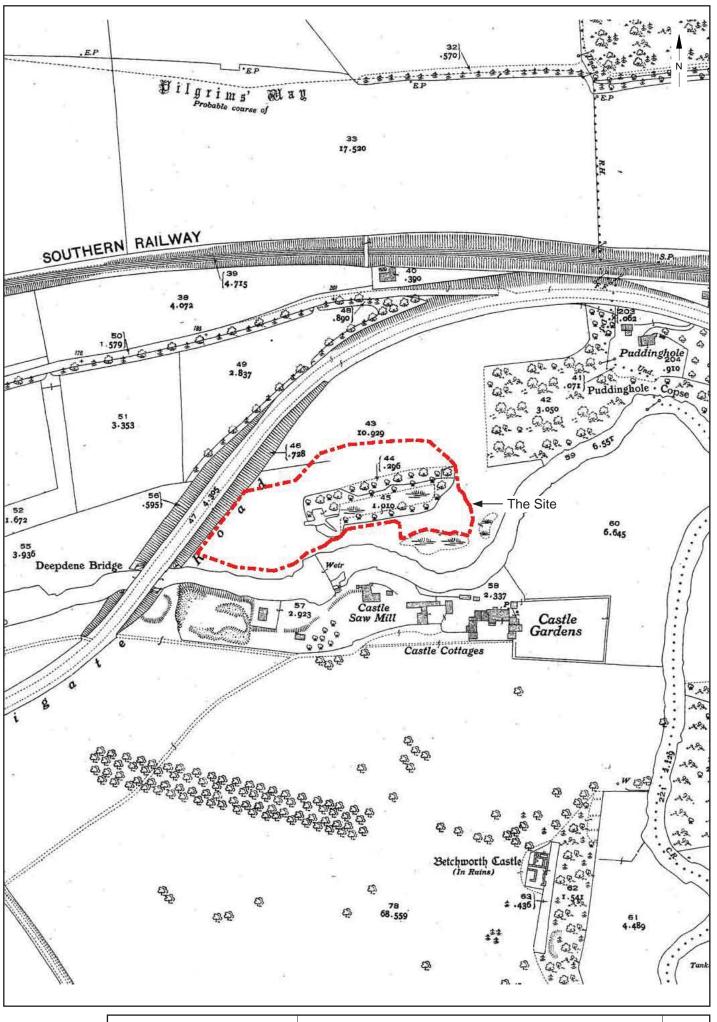




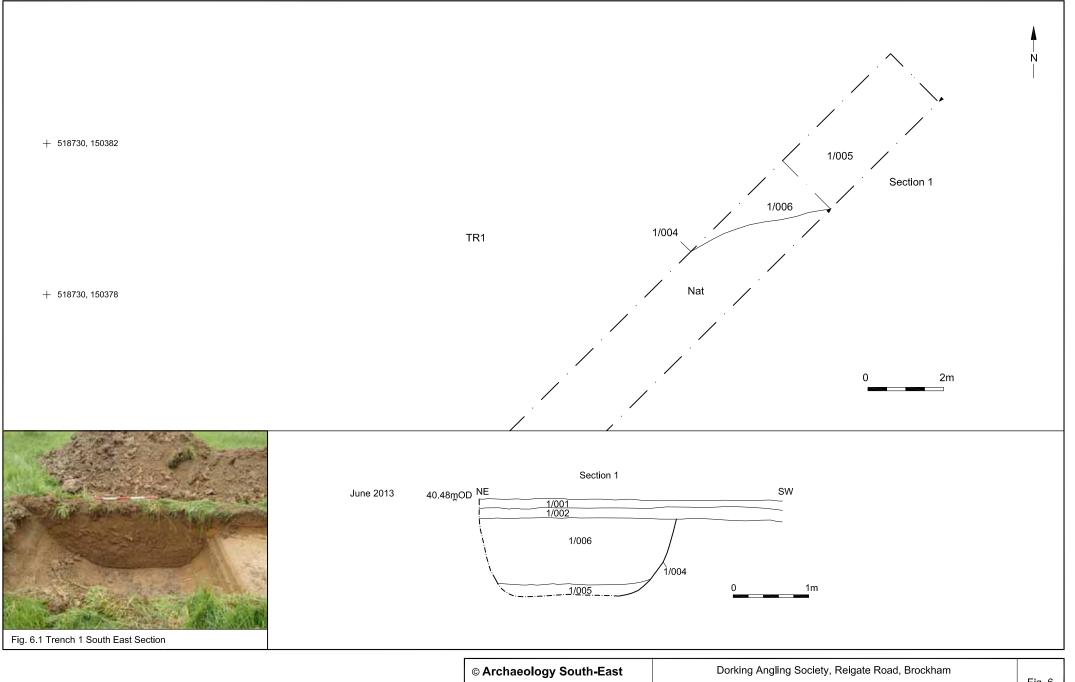
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Project Ref: 5914	June 2013	Tithe Man 1929	Fig. 3
Report Ref: 2013135	Drawn by: RHC	Tithe Map 1838	



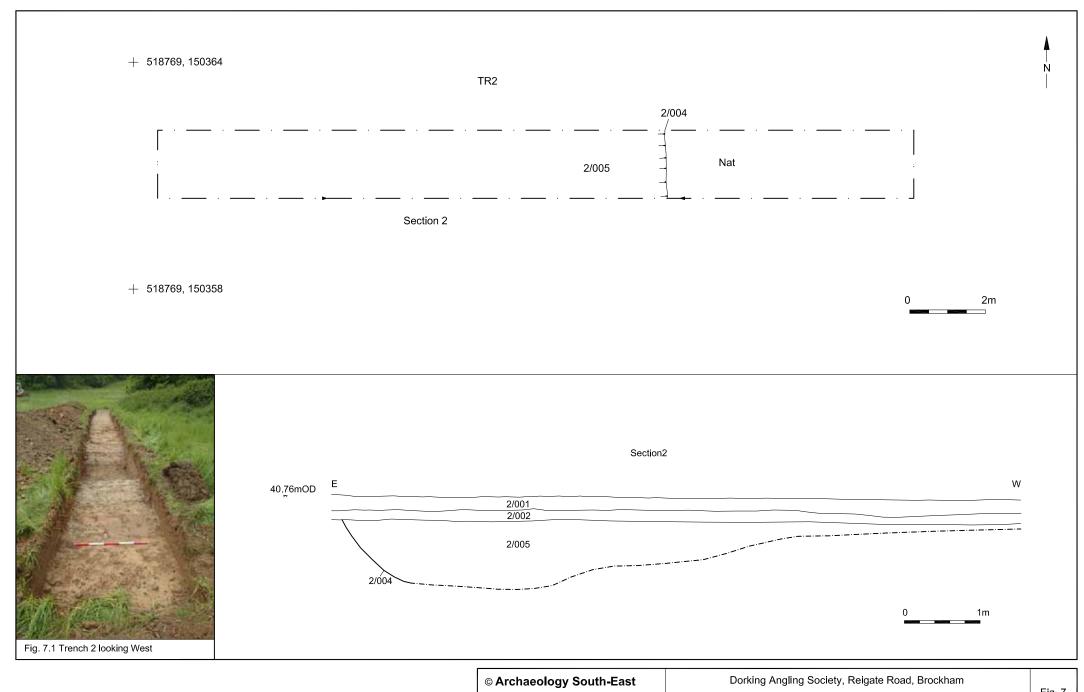
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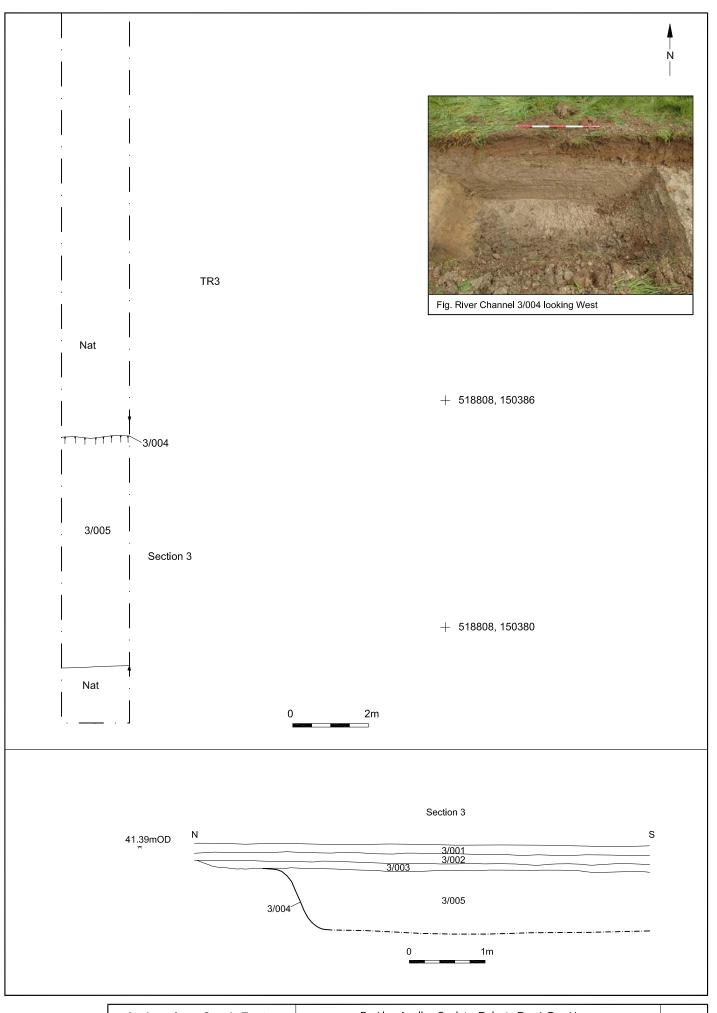
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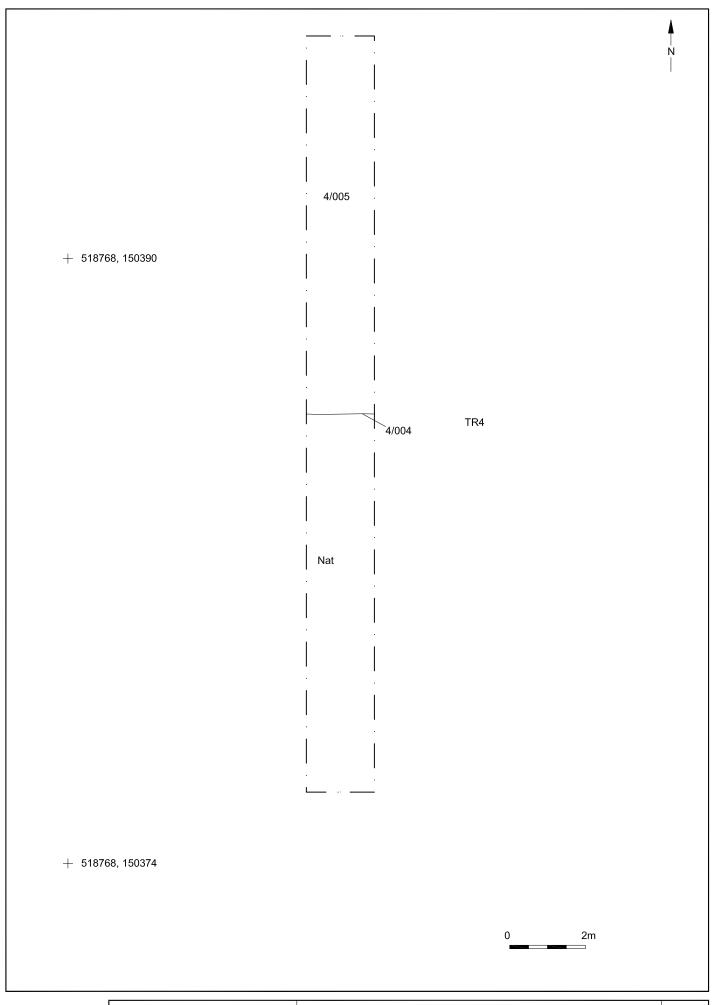
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Project Ref: 5914	June 2013	Trench 1 Plan, Section and Photograph	Fig. 6
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Project Ref: 5914	June 2013	Trench 3 Plan, Section and Photograph		ı
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Sussex Office

Units 1 & 2 2 Chapel Place Portslade East Sussex BN41 1DR tel: +44(0)1273 426830 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk

Essex Office

The Old Magistrates Court 79 South Street Braintree Essex CM7 3QD tel: +44(0)1376 331470 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk

London Office

Centre for Applied Archaeology UCL Institute of Archaeology 31-34 Gordon Square London WC1H 0PY tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

