

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
The Former Red House School, Kingswood Park
Bonsor Drive, Tadworth
Surrey**

NGR: TL 2413 5650

Planning Ref: P/12/02102/F

ASE Project No: 6538

Site Code: RST 14

ASE Report No: 2014105

OASIS ID: archaeol6-176039



By Ian Hogg

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**By Ian Hogg
With contributions from Elke Raemen**

April 2014

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the former Red House School, Kingswood Park, Tadworth in advance of the redevelopment of the site.

Originally four archaeological evaluation trenches, measuring between 10m and 20m x 1.8m were to be excavated. Subsequently only three were excavated with the last trench to be done at a later date.

Natural clay with flints was observed across the site between 159.10m and 169.10m AOD. A post medieval pit or ditch terminal was recorded in Trench 1 in the south of the site which was overlain by topsoil. Much of the north and centre of the site had been disturbed during the construction of the previous building occupying the site and its subsequent demolition.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of the redevelopment of the former Red House School, Kingswood Park, Bonsor Drive, Tadworth, Surrey. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 2413 5650 and its location is shown in Figure 1.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 According to data from a geotechnical survey of the site the geology comprises clay with flints overlain by between 0.2m and 0.7m of made ground (CgMs 2014).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning consent was granted for the redevelopment of the site, involving the demolition of the existing building and the construction of a new residential development.

1.3.2 The following condition was applied to the planning consent:

No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interests of the archaeological importance of the site and to accord with policy Pc8 of the Reigate and Banstead Local Plan 2005

1.3.3 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation for the archaeological evaluation of the site was prepared (CgMs 2014) and approved by the Surrey County Council Archaeologist, Nick Truckle, in his capacity as advisor to Reigate and Banstead Borough Council on archaeological matters. All work was undertaken in accordance with this document and with the relevant standard and guidance documents of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2009).

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The aims of the archaeological investigation were as follows:

- To establish whether any archaeological sites exist within the site, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to require preservation *in situ*.

- The evaluation aimed to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- The evaluation also sought to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.

1.4.2 The specific aims of the investigation were:

- To establish the presence or otherwise of prehistoric and any later activity, and to define the date and nature of such activity
- To establish the environmental context of prehistoric and later activity
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy if necessary

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out on the site between the 26th and 27th March 2014 and has been prepared in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2014). The work was carried out by Ian Hogg (Archaeologist), and was managed by Andy Leonard (fieldwork) and Dan Swift (post-excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site lies within an area of known prehistoric activity. Palaeolithic handaxes have been recorded to west of the site with further finds of Mesolithic flints to the west and south-west of the site (Pastscape).
- 2.2 Further findspots of Neolithic flints have also been recorded close to the site. While Bronze Age activity is poorly represented in the area, an Iron Age 'banjo enclosure' has been recorded near Walton Down to the west of the site (SHER 3194).
- 2.3 While relatively little Roman activity has been noted near the site, a villa complex is thought to have existed on Walton Heath, 3 miles west of the site (VCH, 1902).
- 2.4 Tadworth itself appears to have Saxon origins (VCH 1902); however, little Saxon activity has been noted close to the site. Tadworth is mentioned in the Domesday Book and comprised two manors, the south of which was gifted to Bishop Odo of Bayeux and later reverted to the church. The present manor house Tadworth Manor (west of the site) was built in 1700.
- 2.5 The vicinity of the site remained undeveloped until the start of the 20th century when the area to the west of the site was built upon. The Red Lion Public House occupied the site at the time of the first Ordnance Survey map (OS 1868), this appears to have been replaced by the Red House, a building subsequently replaced by Red House School in the mid 20th century.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The evaluation involved the machine excavation of three trial trenches; each measuring between 10m x 1.8m in plan. Trenches 2 and 3 also had to be moved due to on-site constraints and Trench 3 was shortened from 20m to 9m in length. A fourth proposed trench (CgMs 2014) was not excavated due to logistical reasons. The requirement for this trench has now been waived by the SCC Archaeological Officer (see section 6.4).
- 3.2 All trenches were scanned using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) prior to excavation. Excavation was then undertaken by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat ditching-bucket under archaeological supervision, removing spits of overburden no more than 0.10m thick to the top of the underlying natural substrate.
- 3.3 All features were investigated by hand excavation and all features and deposits were recorded using standard ASE context sheets, with colours recorded by visual inspection only. Test pits were recorded on plastic drawing film at appropriate scales. A digital photographic record of the evaluation was kept.
- 3.4 Trenches were located and tied in to the Ordnance Survey via digital GPS survey equipment.
- 3.5 Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned by eye, and with a metal-detector for unstratified artefacts.

3.6 Archive Quantification

- 3.7 The archive is currently held at ASE offices in Portslade and will be deposited with Epsom Museum in due course.

Number of Contexts	10
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Photographs	8 digital photographs
Bulk finds	1 Bag

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1

- 4.1.1 Trench 1 was located in the south of the site; it measured 10.00m x 1.80m and was aligned north-west to south-east. The trench was 0.65m deep at the south-eastern end and 0.52m deep at the north-western end; excavation ceased at the top of the natural clay with flints.
- 4.1.2 Natural clay with flints [1/004] was observed at c. 168.90m AOD. The natural deposits were cut by a small pit or possibly a ditch terminal [1/003] partially revealed at the south-eastern end of the trench. This feature was sub circular in shape with gently sloping sides and an undulating base; it measured 0.81m in diameter and was 0.20m deep. The fill [1/002] consisted of dark brownish grey clay-silt with occasional charcoal inclusions and a high degree of root activity. Finds including 17th- to 18th-century tile fragments and mid-19th to early-20th century bottle glass were retrieved from this fill.
- 4.1.3 The feature was sealed by a dark brownish grey clay-silt topsoil [1/001], this deposit measured between 0.47m and 0.60m in thickness.

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	10.00	1.80	0.47-0.60
1/002	Fill	Pit fill	0.81	0.51	0.20
1/003	Cut	Pit cut	0.81	0.51	0.20
1/004	Layer	Natural	10.00	1.80	-

Table 2: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

4.2 Trench 2

- 4.2.1 Trench 2 was located in the centre of the site; it measured 10.00m x 1.80m and was aligned north-west to south-east. The trench was 0.62m deep at the north-western end and 0.59m deep at the south-eastern end; excavation ceased at the top of the natural clay with flints.
- 4.2.2 Natural clay with flints [2/003] was observed at c. 169.10m AOD. The natural deposit showed signs of modern disturbance in some areas; it was overlain by a dark grey clay-silt topsoil [2/002] with occasional concrete inclusions, this deposit was between 0.22m and 0.55m thick. The topsoil is likely to have been imported to the site during the construction of the previous building; this is also the likely cause of the disturbance to the natural deposit. The topsoil was sealed by a modern demolition deposit [2/001] at the north-western end of the trench; this deposit consisted of dark grey rubbly clay with frequent concrete inclusions. It measured 0.30m in thickness.
- 4.2.3 No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
2/001	Layer	Demolition deposit	10.00	1.80	0.30
2/002	Layer	Imported topsoil	10.00	1.80	0.22-0.55
2/003	Layer	Natural	10.00	1.80	-

Table 3: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

4.3 Trench 3

4.3.1 Trench 3 was located in the west of the site; it was aligned east to west and measured 9.00m x 1.80m having been moved from its original position and shortened due to on site constraints. The trench was 0.80m deep at the eastern end and 0.90m deep at the western end; excavation ceased at the top of the clay with flints.

4.3.2 The earliest deposit observed in Trench 3 was the natural clay with flints [3/003], encountered at c. 159.10m AOD, the natural deposit showed signs of recent disturbance associated with the recent demolition programme. The natural deposit was sealed by a demolition deposit consisting of dark grey rubbly clay with frequent concrete inclusions [3/002]. This deposit measured between 0.40m and 0.60m in thickness. The demolition deposit was sealed by 0.30m of crushed concrete [3/001].

4.3.3 No archaeology was recorded in this trench.

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
3/001	Layer	Crushed concrete	9.00	1.80	0.30
3/002	Layer	Demolition deposit	9.00	1.80	0.40-0.60
3/003	Layer	Natural	9.00	1.80	-

Table 4: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

5.0 THE FINDS by Elke Raemen

- 5.1 A small quantity of finds was recovered during the evaluation. Finds were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and bagged by material and context. Finds were bagged and stored following IFA guidelines (2008). No further conservation is required.
- 5.2 The assemblage as it stands is of no significance beyond providing dating evidence.

Context	CBM	wt (g)	Glass	wt (g)
1/002	2	122	1	16

Table 5: Quantification of the finds

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material

- 5.3.1 Two roof tile fragments were recovered from [1/002]. They are in a micaceous orange fabric with common fine quartz, rare medium medium quartz and rare medium red iron-rich inclusions. Both are of 17th- to 18th-century date.

5.4 The Glass

- 5.4.1 An aqua bottle neck fragment, probably from a mineral water bottle, was found in [1/002]. The piece dates to the mid 19th to early 20th century.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 Natural clay with flints was observed across the site. A substantial degree of horizontal truncation had occurred across the north, west and centre of the site with only Trench 1 exhibiting intact topsoil.
- 6.2 A single pit or ditch terminal of late post-medieval date was recorded in Trench 1. The remainder of the site had been heavily disturbed first by the construction of the previous building on site and subsequently during its demolition. While a topsoil deposit was recorded in Trench 2, given this modern disturbance to natural deposit below this it is likely that this topsoil was imported during the construction of the previous building which lay immediately to the north.
- 6.3 No finds or features of prehistoric date were recorded on the site.
- 6.4 Due to the negative results and the amount of previous disturbance that was revealed during the evaluation, it was agreed with the SCC advisor that the requirement for the proposed fourth trench could be waived.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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HER Summary

Site Code	RST 14					
Identification Name and Address	Former Red house School, Kingswood Park, Bonsor Road					
County, District &/or Borough	Tadworth, Surrey					
OS Grid Refs.	TL 2413 5650					
Geology	Clay with flints					
Arch. South-East Project Number	6538					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.					
Type of Site	Green Field					
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 26-03-2014 to 27-03-2014					
Sponsor/Client	CGMS Consulting					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Ian Hogg					
Period Summary						
			PM			
<p>Summary</p> <p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the former Red House School, Kingswood Park, Tadworth in advance of the redevelopment of the site.</p> <p>Originally four archaeological evaluation trenches, measuring between 10m and 20m x 1.8m were to be excavated. Subsequently only three were excavated with the last trench to be done at a later date.</p> <p>Natural clay with flints was observed across the site between 15.56m and 16.16m AOD. A post medieval pit or ditch terminal was recorded in Trench 1 in the south of the site which was overlain by topsoil. Much of the north and centre of the site had been disturbed during the construction of the previous building occupying the site and its subsequent demolition.</p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-176039

Project details

Project name	Former Red house School, Kingswood Park, Bonsor Road, Tadworth
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the former Red House School, Kingswood Park, Tadworth in advance of the redevelopment of the site. Natural clay with flints was observed across the site. A post medieval pit or ditch terminal was recorded in Trench 1 in the south of the site which was overlain by topsoil. Much of the north and centre of the site had been disturbed during the construction of the previous building occupying the site and its subsequent demolition.
Project dates	Start: 26-03-2014 End: 27-03-2014
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	RST 14 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	6538 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
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Site location	SURREY REIGATE AND BANSTEAD BANSTEAD Former Red House School, Kingswood Park, Bonsor Road, Tadworth
Postcode	KT20 6NY
Study area	350.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 2413 5650 51.2935631564 -0.21950878633 51 17 36 N 000 13 10 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andrew Leonard
Project supervisor	Ian Hogg
Type of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting

Project archives

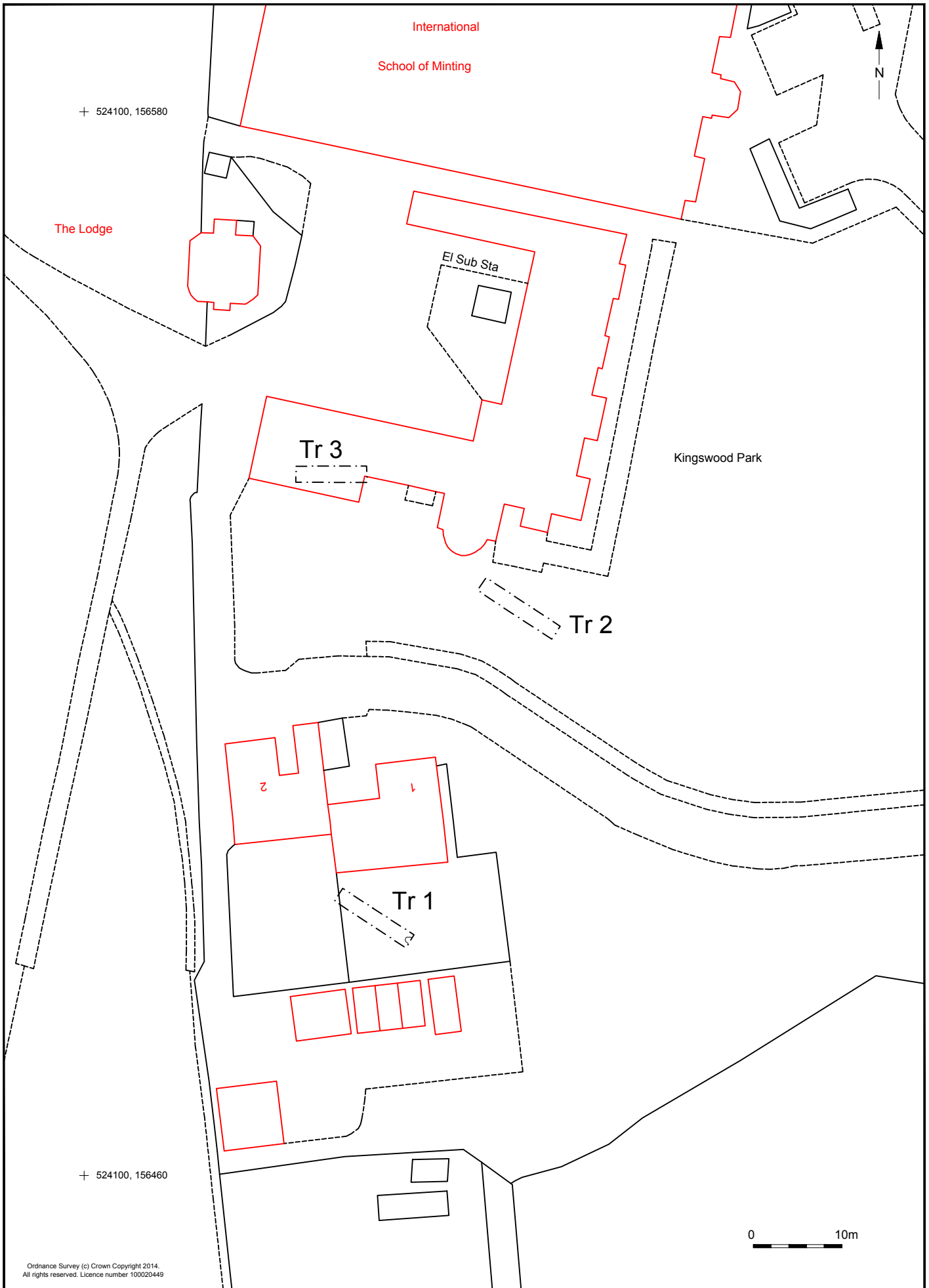
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Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Glass"
Digital Archive recipient	Guildford Museum
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images vector","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Guildford Museum
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Entered by	Ian hogg (ian.hogg@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	28 March 2014



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© Archaeology South-East		Former Red House School, Kingswood Park, Bonsor Drive	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 6538	April 2014	Site location	
Report Ref: 2014105	Drawn by: RHC		



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Project Ref: 6538	April 2014	Evaluation trench location		
Report Ref: 2014105	Drawn by: RHC			

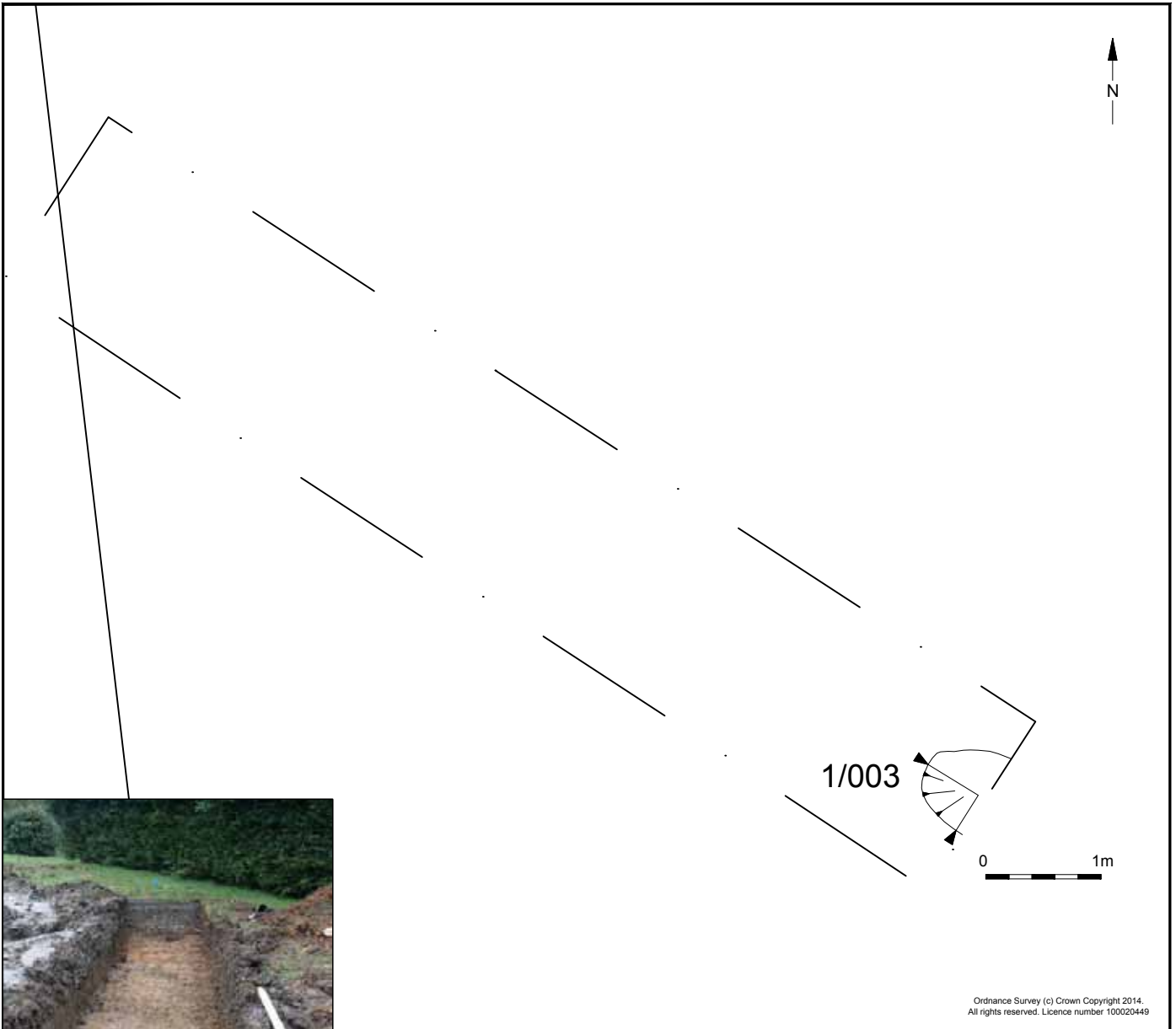
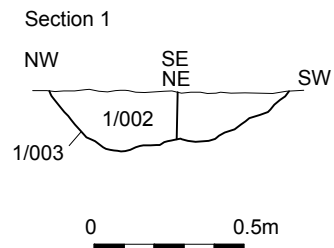


Fig. 3.1 Trench 1 looking south-east



Fig. 3.2 Section 1 looking south-east



© Archaeology South-East		Former Red House School, Kingswood Park, Bonsor Drive, Tadworth	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 6538	April 2014	Trench 1 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2014105	Drawn by: RHC		

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