

An Archaeological Evaluation at Old Manor Cottage, Dorking Road, Chilworth, Surrey

**NGR TQ 02530 47254
Planning Reference: 2006/P/1913**



**By
Michelle Collings MA, AIFA**

**Project No. 2723
ASE Site Code: MCC06**

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Archaeology South-East

Archaeology South-East is a division of University College London Field Archaeology Unit. The Institute of Archaeology at UCL is one of the largest groupings of academic archaeologists in the country. Consequently, Archaeology South-East has access to the conservation, computing and environmental backup of the college, as well as a range of other archaeological services.

UCL Field Archaeology Unit and South Eastern Archaeological Services (which became Archaeology South-East in 1996) were established in 1974 and 1991 respectively. Although field projects have been conducted world-wide, Archaeology South-East retains a special interest in south-east England with the majority of our contract and consultancy work concentrated in Surrey, Hampshire, Sussex, Kent, Greater London and Essex.

Drawing on experience of the countryside and towns of the south east of England, Archaeology South-East can give advice and carry out surveys at an early stage in the planning process. By working closely with developers and planning authorities it is possible to incorporate archaeological work into developments with little inconvenience.

Archaeology South-East, as part of the Field Archaeology Unit, is a registered organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists and, as such, is required to meet IFA standards.

Abstract

An archaeological evaluation comprising four trenches was carried out at Old Manor Cottage, Dorking Road, Chilworth, Surrey on the 30th November to 1st December 2006. The trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 31.50m. No archaeological deposits or features were observed and no finds of archaeological significance were encountered.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Field Archaeology Unit, was commissioned by Iain Alexander Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Old Manor Cottage, Dorking Road, Chilworth, Surrey (NGR TQ 02530 47254) in advance of development for residential purposes on land as illustrated in Figure 1.
- 1.2 The proposed development will involve the demolition of the present Old Manor Cottage and associated outbuildings, built in the 1960s, and the construction of two new residential properties with basements (Planning Ref: 2006/P/1913).
- 1.3 A Method Statement outlining the requirements was prepared by ASE (2006) and submitted and duly approved by Guildford Borough Council's archaeological advisor, Tony Howe, Archaeological Officer, Surrey County Council (SCC).
- 1.4 The fieldwork was undertaken by Michelle Collings on the 30th November and 1st December 2006. The project was managed by Jon Sygrave (Project Manager).
- 1.5 The British Geological Survey map shows the underlying geology consists of Hythe Beds and Lower Greensand (Geological Survey of Great Britain Aldershot sheet 285). The ground surface level was 48.00m OD.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site occupies an area of land situated within in the grounds of Old Manor Cottage, formerly thought to be part of the garden of Old Manor House which is situated to the eastern edge of the site.
- 2.2 Old Manor House is a Grade II listed building that was constructed in the early 17th century and in the 19th century was the home of Kapitan Bouvier, the manager of the nearby Chilworth Gunpowder Works, which was operated by a German company from the 1880s.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 Four trial trenches, measuring 6m by 1.8m, 10m by 1.8m, 12.50m by 1.8m and 3m by 1.8m were excavated across the development site in the areas of impact (see Figure 2). The trench layout was agreed in advance with Guildford Borough Council's archaeological advisor, Tony Howe, (SCC). The trenches were accurately laid out in relation to known 1:1250 Ordnance Survey points. Some modification to the suggested layout was necessary due to the presence of live services resulting in a 3.5m shortfall in trenching. This was agreed with the SCC Archaeological Officer who considered the total trenching to be satisfactory.

- 3.2** The trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under constant archaeological supervision.
- 3.3** No stratified archaeological deposits were uncovered in the trenches and mechanical excavation ceased when the underlying natural sediments were reached. The sections of the trenches were selectively cleaned to observe and record the stratigraphy.
- 3.4** All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the Specification and using the standard Archaeology South-East recording system. Archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20. Deposit colours were verified by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- 3.5** The spoil from the excavations was inspected by the archaeologist to recover any artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest.
- 3.6** A full photographic record of the work was kept (colour slides and digital), and will form part of the site archive.

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1 (Figure 3 and Plate 1)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
1/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.60m
1/002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
1/003	Deposit	Re-deposited Natural	0.80m	Tr.	0.30m

- 4.1.1** Trench 1 (Plate 1) was 6.00 long by 1.8m wide. The trench was 0.60m deep at its north eastern end and 0.70m deep at its south western end. The stratigraphy in trench 1 comprised of topsoil (1/001), a blackish dark brown humic silty sand with small pebbles approximately 1-5mm in size overlying natural (1/002), a light orangey yellow to light brownish yellow silty coarse sand. Natural was encountered at depths between 47.40m OD and 47.30m OD. There was a deposit of re-deposited natural (1/003) underlying the topsoil located to the south western end of the trench associated with a modern drainage pipe (as shown in figure 3).
- 4.1.2** No archaeological deposits or features were observed. A sherd of late 18th to mid 19th century industrial slipware with brown external slip let into purpose-made grooves was recovered from the topsoil (1/001).

4.2 Trench 2 (Plate 2)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
2/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.65m
2/002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

4.2.1 Trench 2 (Plate 2) was 10m long by 1.8m wide. The trench was 0.45m deep at its southeastern end and 0.65m deep at its northwestern end. The stratigraphy comprised of topsoil (2/001) overlying natural (2/002) as described for trench 1. Natural was encountered at depths between 47.55m OD and 47.35m OD.

4.2.2 No archaeological deposits or features were observed. Three sherds of pottery were recovered from the topsoil (2/001), a white stoneware base fragment dating to the 18th century, a sherd of 19th century blue transfer printed china and a fragment of 19th century industrial slipware. A fragment of glass was also recovered from the topsoil (2/001), this was the base of a green wine bottle with prominent kick, dating to the 18th to early 19th century.

4.3 Trench 3 (Figure 3 and Plate 3)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
3/001	Deposit	Concrete Surface and make up	Tr.	Tr.	0.08m
3/002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
3/003	Deposit	Made Ground	1.00m	Tr.	0.08m
3/004	Deposit	Made Ground	1.00m	Tr.	0.38m

4.3.1 Trench 3 (Plate 3) was 12.50m long by 1.8m wide. The trench was 0.38m deep at its eastern end and 0.46m deep at its western end. Trench 3 was situated across the driveway of the current property. To the eastern most end of the trench the stratigraphy comprised of concrete surface and the bedding material (3/001) overlying two deposits of made ground, a yellowish orange silty sand with occasional flecks of CBM (3/003) and a greyish brown very silty sand with frequent CBM inclusions (3/004) overlying natural (3/002). To the middle and western end of trench 3 the stratigraphy comprised of concrete surface and the bedding material (3/001) overlying made ground (3/004) with underlying natural (3/002), as described for trenches 1 and 2. Natural was encountered at depths between 47.62m OD and 47.54m OD. The upper deposit of made ground (3/003) sloped to the east and was located to the east of a modern drainage pipe (as shown in figure 3 and plate 3).

4.3.1 No archaeological deposits or features were observed. A residual sherd of Cologne or Frechen stoneware Bellarmine bottle of late 16th to 17th

century date and two clear window glass fragments of late 19th to 20th century date were recovered from made ground (3/004).

4.4 Trench 4 (Plate 4)

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
4/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.50m
4/002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

4.4.1 Trench 4 (Plate 4) was 3m long by 1.8m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m. A patch of natural was encountered at this depth but excavation was ceased due the presence of live services. An electric service was located extending from the eastern trench edge and bending to the south and a water pipe was located aligned diagonally underneath this (as shown in plate 4). The stratigraphy comprised topsoil (4/001) overlying natural (4/002), where the later was encountered, as previously described. Natural occurred at 47.54m OD.

4.4.1 No archaeological deposits or features were observed and no artefacts were recovered.

5.0 THE FINDS by Elke Raemen

The archaeological work produced only a small quantity of finds. Five sherds of pottery were recovered. Topsoil (1/001) produced a fragment of industrial slipware with brown external slip let into purpose-made grooves. This sherd dates to the end of the 18th to mid 19th century. Three sherds from the topsoil (2/001) in trench 2 comprise a white stoneware base fragment dates to the 18th century. Further, a sherd of blue transfer printed china and a fragment of an industrial slipware rim of a jug or tankard were recovered, both dating to the 19th century. Made ground (3/004) contained a fragment of a Cologne or Frechen stoneware Bellarmine bottle of late 16th to 17th century date.

In addition three glass fragments were recovered. Topsoil (2/001) contained a fragment from the base of a green wine bottle with prominent kick, dating to the 18th to early 19th century. Two clear window glass fragments of late 19th to 20th century date were recovered from made ground (3/004).

The current assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1** It is likely that modern activity on the site including the construction of the driveway; the laying of drainage pipes and services had a detrimental effect on the survival of archaeological remains. The small artefact assemblage indicates activity on the site dating from the late 16th to 17th century, although no archaeological features were observed. The recovered artefacts probably represent the disposal of rubbish between the construction of Old Manor House in the early 17th century and that of Old Manor Cottage in the 20th century.

7.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 7.1** The co-operation and assistance of Tony Howe of Surrey County Council is gratefully acknowledged, as is the co-operation of Iain Alexander of Iain Alexander Homes.

8.0 REFERENCES

ASE 2006, *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation at Old Manor Cottage, Chilworth, Surrey* unpub ASE grey report

9.0 APPENDIX: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

OASIS ID: archaeol6-21870

Project details

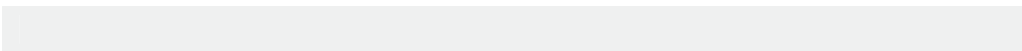
Project name	Old Manor Cottage, Dorking Road, Chilworth, Surrey
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation comprising four trenches was carried out at Old Manor Cottage, Dorking Road, Chilworth, Surrey on the 30th November to 1st December 2006. The trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 31.50m. No archaeological deposits or features were observed and no finds of archaeological significance were encountered.
Project dates	Start: 30-11-2006 End: 01-12-2006
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SURREY GUILDFORD GUILDFORD Old Manor Cottage, Dorking Road, Chilworth, Surrey
Postcode	GU4 8XX
Study area	50.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 02530 47254 51.2147491072 -0.531863449643 51 12 53 N 000 31 54 W Point
Height OD	Min: 48.00m Max: 48.01m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Self (i.e. landowner, developer, etc.)
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	JON SYGRAVE
Project supervisor	Michelle Collings
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Iain Alexander Homes



Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Archive ID	MCC06
Physical Contents	'Ceramics','Glass'
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Archive ID	MCC06
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography'
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Archive ID	MCC06

Paper Media available 'Context sheet', 'Drawing', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report'

Entered by Michelle Collings (tcrnmlc@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 22 December 2006

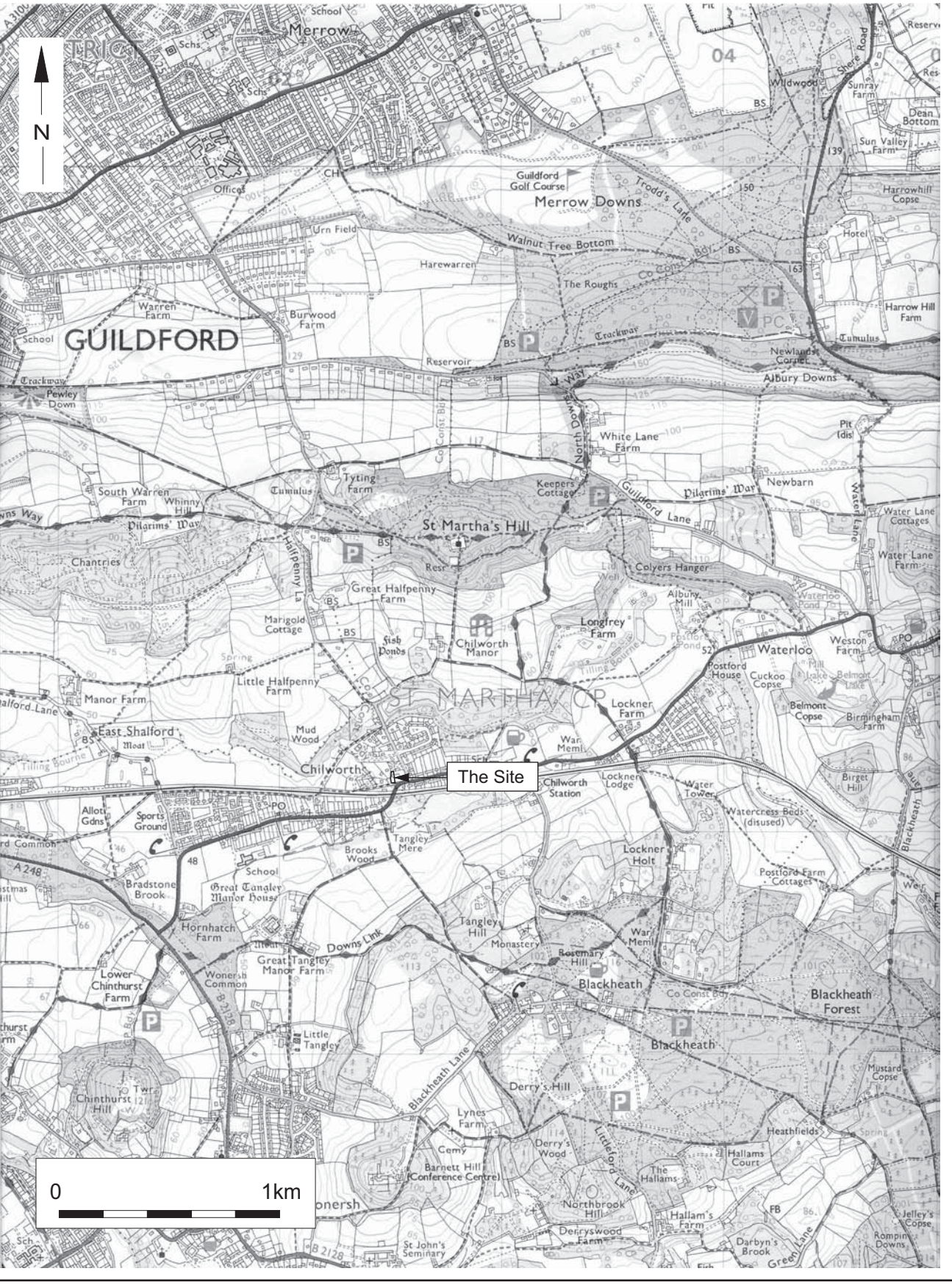
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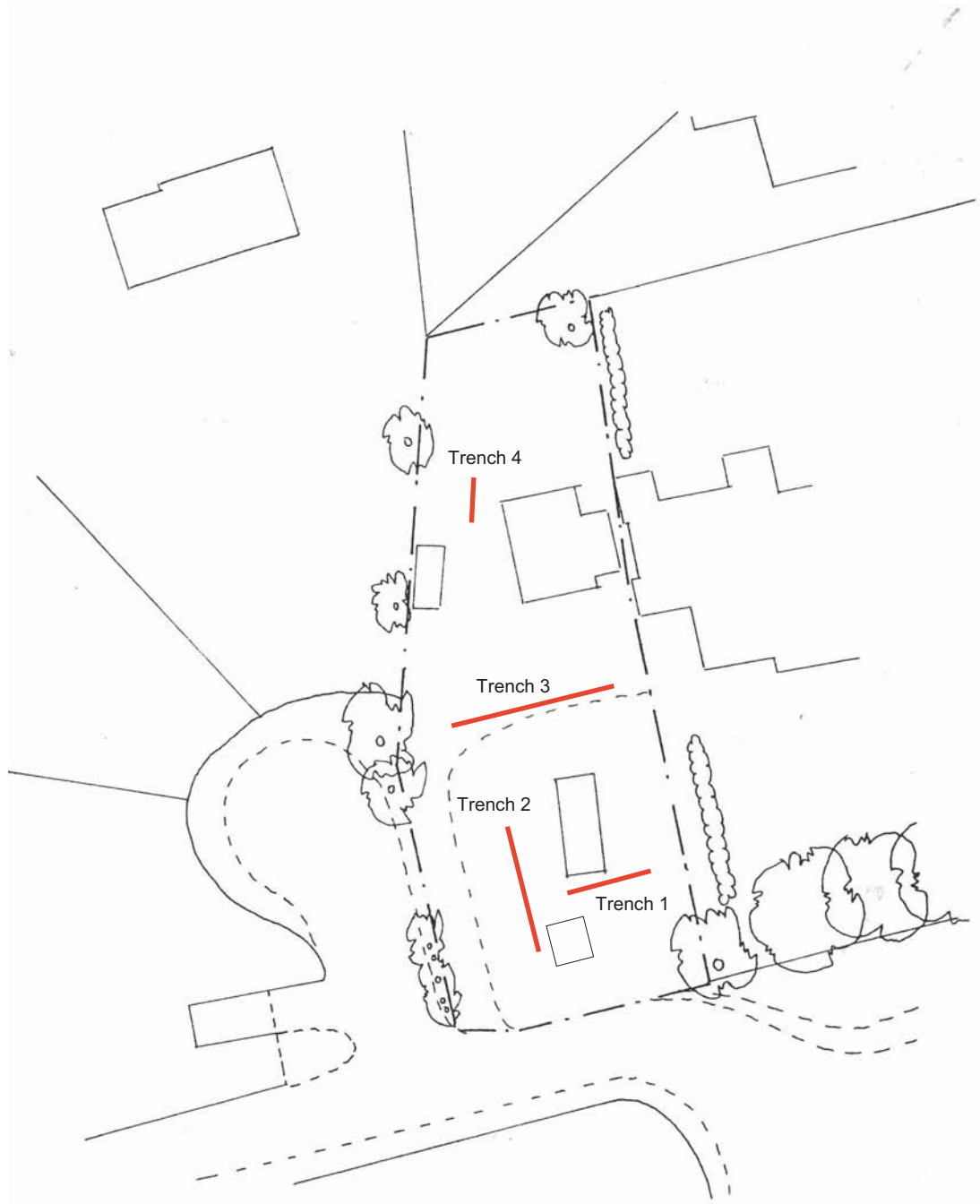
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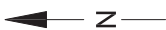
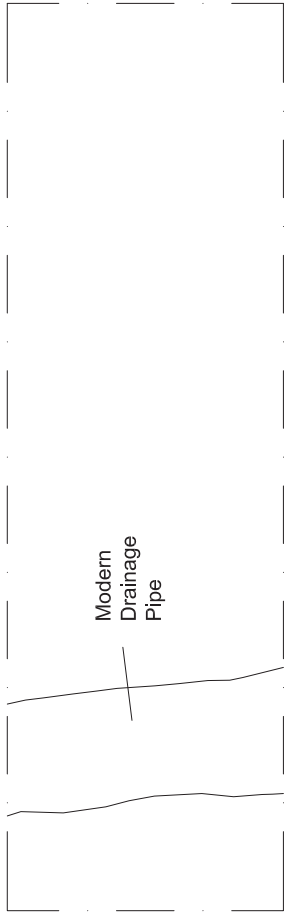
© Archaeology South-East			Old Manor Cottage, Dorking Road, Chilworth		Fig. 1
Ref: 2723	Dec 2006	Drawn by: JLR	Site Location Plan		

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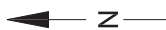
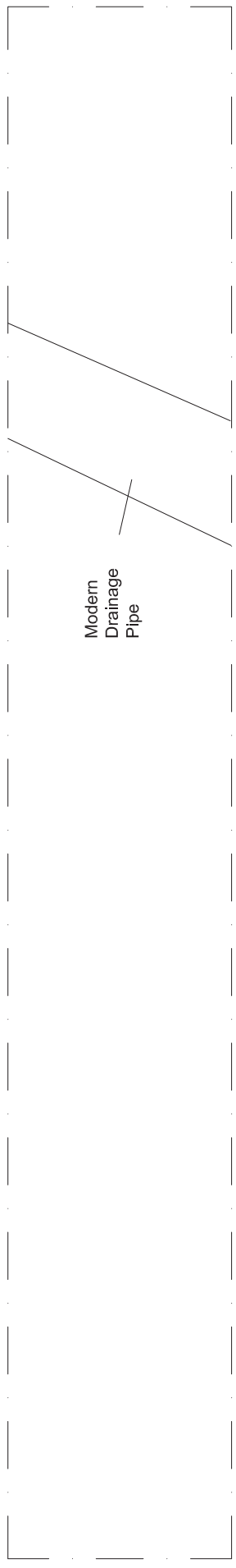


© Archaeology South-East			Old Manor Cottage, Chilworth	Fig. 2
Ref: 2723	Nov 2006	Drawn by: JLR	Trench Location Plan	

Trench 1



Trench 3



© Archaeology South-East		Old Manor Cottage, Dorking Road, Chilworth	
Ref: 2723	Dec 2006	Drawn by: FEG	Plans of trenches 1 & 3

Fig. 3



Plate 1: Trench 1 looking north-east



Plate 2: Trench 2 looking north-west



Plate 3: Trench 3 looking west



Plate 4: Trench 4 looking north