

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at
Glaziers Forge Farm, Forge Lane,
Dallington, East Sussex**

Planning Ref: RR/2009/6/P

**NGR: 565013 121307
(TQ 65013 21307)**

**Project No. 3797
Site Code: GFF 09**

**ASE Report No. 2009062
OASIS id: archaeol6-58385**

Kathryn Grant BA MSc AIFA

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Blue Ridge Designs Limited, to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Glaziers Forge Farm, Forge Lane, Dallington, East Sussex (NGR TQ 65013 21307) during ground works associated with the construction of an extension to a residential property. The watching brief took place on Wednesday 15th April 2009.

No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered during the watching brief monitoring of the ground works.

The ground works revealed deposits consisting of modern made ground associated with possible construction phases of the main residential property and old farm buildings. Natural geology comprising brown-orange sandy clay was recorded at a maximum height of 0.4m below ground surface (9.83 -10.50m AOD).

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Blue Ridge Designs Limited, to undertake a programme of archaeological work at Glaziers Forge Farm, Forge Lane, Dallington, East Sussex (NGR TQ 65013 21307; Figure 1), hereafter referred to as 'the site'.
- 1.1.2 The ground works comprised the excavation of foundations for a new single-storey extension to the existing residential property with an all weather link between the main house and annexe and a detached car port with games room.

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 According to the Ordnance Survey geological survey of Great Britain, scale 1:50,000 (Sheet 319 - Lewes), the underlying geology is Tunbridge Wells Sand (with clay).
- 1.2.2 The site is located at the far end of Forge Lane along the course of the Willingford Stream and northwest of Dallington village.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 Planning permission was granted by Rother District Council (Planning Reference: RR/2009/6/P) for the proposed construction works at Glazier's Forge Farm. Since the site was deemed to have archaeological potential, the following condition was attached to the planning consent:

"No development shall take place 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, including a timetable for the investigation, which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority and the works shall be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: The development is likely to disturb features of archaeological interest, which need to be examined and recorded in accordance with Policy GD1 (viii) of the Rother District Local Plan and Policies S1(j) and EN22 of the East Sussex and Brighton and Hove Structure Plan 1991-2011."

- 1.3.2 Consultation between ASE and the Assistant County Archaeologist, East Sussex County Council (ESCC) in his capacity as advisor to the local planning authority (LPA) on archaeological planning matters established that an archaeological watching brief was to be maintained during intrusive ground works associated with the scheme.
- 1.3.3 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) was prepared by ASE (ASE 2009) following communication with the Assistant County Archaeologist, ESCC, who has approved the document prior to archaeological works commencing on site. All work was carried out in accordance with this document (unless

otherwise specified below), in addition to the relevant *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and the ESCC *Standards for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording, and Post-Excavation Work in East Sussex* (ESCC 2008).

1.4 Aims and Objectives

- 1.4.1 The general aim of the archaeological watching brief as outlined in the WSI (ASE 2008) was to ensure that any features, artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest that will be affected by the proposed ground works are recorded and interpreted to appropriate standards.
- 1.4.2 A specific aim of the archaeological investigation was to ascertain whether any evidence of activity relating to iron working associated with the Glazier's Gorge foundry is present at the site.

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 This report details the findings of the watching brief which was undertaken by Kathryn Grant (Archaeological Field Officer) Wednesday 15th April 2009. The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Fieldwork) and Dan Swift (Post-excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The site lies within an Archaeologically Sensitive Area, designated as such by ESCC due to its proximity to the early post-medieval Glazier's Gorge foundry known to have been operating between at least 1574 and 1713 (ESCC Historic Environment Record number MES3601, see Table 1).

2.2 Although little recorded archaeological excavation has taken place within the area, several isolated finds spots have been recorded on the East Sussex County Sites and Monuments Record as lying within c.1km of the site. These sights of archaeological interest are tabulated below (Table 1) and their positions located on Figure 1.

2.3 **Table 1:** Site of archaeological interest held on the ESCC HER

Ref. No.	ESCC HER No.	Ordnance Survey co-ordinates	Description	Period
1	DES 3801	TQ 65790 21360	Grade II Listed Building (barn) at 'Little Worge' c. 1750 on site of earlier barn	PM
2	DES 2842	TQ 64480 22170	Grade II Listed Building 'Westdown' probably 17 th century	PM
3	DES 2464	TQ 65092 221337	Grade II Listed Building 'Glazier's Forge' 17 th century or earlier - originally and iron foundry	PM
4	MES 3580	TQ 65500 20800	Over 100 Bronze Age flints in 100m long concentration	P
5	MES 3601	TQ 64900 21200	Iron furnace and two pond bays at 'Glaziers Forge'	PM
6	MES 3684	TQ 64100 22100	At least seven bell pits on western edge of woodland	PM
7	MES 3685	TQ 64050 22210	Possible Cyrene limestone quarry	U
8	MES 3688	TQ 64600 20700	Neolithic and Bronze Age flints found by Forestry Commission workers	P
9	MES 3691	TQ 65300 20300	Iron working (bloomery) site	U

P=prehistoric, R=Roman, M=medieval, PM=post-medieval, M=modern, U=undated

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 The Ground Works

- 3.1.1 The monitored ground works involved the excavation of foundation/footing trenches for the new buildings.
- 3.1.2 Any intrusive ground works associated with the construction of the extension were excavated under the supervision of an archaeologist.

3.2 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.2.1 The complete adopted methodology may be found in the WSI (ASE 2009). What is listed in this section is a brief précis of the detail within that document.
- 3.2.2 Machining excavation was undertaken by a small mechanical excavator. Any exposed archaeological remains were identified and recorded as per the WSI document (ASE 2009).
- 3.2.3 During the monitored excavations all revealed deposits were examined for the presence of archaeological features and artefacts. The removed spoil was scanned for the presence of any stray, unstratified artefacts. The uncovered deposits were recorded according to accepted professional standards (IFA 2000 and 2001, EH 1991) using pro-forma context record sheets
- 3.2.4 A digital photographic record of the areas exposed during the ground works was kept and will form part of the site archive.
- 3.2.5 The level of deposits has been approximated from the levels given on the supplied architect's plans.

3.3 The Archive

- 3.3.1 The site archive is presently held at the Archaeology South-East offices in Portslade, East Sussex pending submission to a suitable local museum. The contents of the site archive are summarised in Table 1.
- 3.3.2 Table 1: Quantification of the Site Archive

Number of Contexts	3 contexts
Number of files/paper record	1 file
Plan and sections sheets	None (several measured sketches)
Photographs	20 digital images

4.0 RESULTS

(Figures 2-4)

- 4.1 Ground works relating to the extension in the northern part of the site comprised of trenches excavated for wall footings. The trenches were 0.7m wide and 1.00m deep.
- 4.2 A shallower footing trench was excavated adjacent to the annexe for the construction of the all weather link to the main house. This trench measured c.0.5m wide and 0.5m deep (from the top of the overlying slab which had already been removed).
- 4.3 Only evidence of modern activity was uncovered during the watching brief and no artefacts were observed. All of the sections excavated for the new extension revealed modern made ground [001] with a maximum thickness of c. 0.4m. This directly overlay natural brown-orange sandy clay [002]. A blue-grey silty clay [003] surrounding a modern water pipe was also observed where the trench abutted the main house.
- 4.4 The excavated trench for the all weather link comprised only natural brown-orange sandy clay [002] and no archaeological remains were present.

Context Number	Type	Description of Deposit	Max. Thickness of Deposit	Approximate Height m AOD
001	D	Made ground, a mixed brown-grey silty clay containing occasional brick and tile fragments, concrete rubble and waste metal	0.4m	10.03-10.90
002	D	Natural geology, brown-orange sandy clay	-	9.83 -10.50
003	D	Blue-grey silty clay	0.6m	10.45

Table 3: List of Recorded Contexts

5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1** No archaeological deposits or features were recorded during the archaeological watching brief on land at Glaziers Forge Farm, Forge Lane, Dallington, East Sussex. No archaeological artefacts were revealed during the excavations.
- 5.2** The monitored areas contained deposits of made ground [100] comprising a mixture of crush and fragmented building materials which were probably lain as a foundation to the concreted yard surface. With the exception of natural geology, the only other contexted was blue-grey silty clay deposit [003] surrounding a modern water pipe.
- 5.3** Natural Geology [003], comprising brown-orange sandy clay was encountered at a maximum height of 0.4m below ground surface (9.83 - 10.50m AOD).
- 5.4** As the watching brief was entirely negative, it is reasonable to surmise that the development at Glaziers Forge Farm has had no impact on the archaeological resource.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The co-operation and assistance of Greg Chuter of East Sussex County Council, Michelle Derrick and Mervyn Spates is gratefully acknowledged.

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	GFF 09					
Identification Name and Address	Glaziers Forge Farm, Forge Lane, Dallington					
County, District &/or Borough	East Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	NGR TQ 65013 21307					
Geology	Brown-orange sandy-clay					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3797					
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.	Excav.	WB. 15-04-09	Other		
Sponsor/Client						
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Kathy Grant					
Period Summary	Palaeo. None	Meso. None	Neo. None	BA None	IA None	RB None
	AS None	MED None	PM None	Other Modern activity only		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Blue Ridge Designs Limited, to undertake a programme of archaeological work at Glaziers Forge Farm, Forge Lane, Dallington, East Sussex (NGR TQ 65013 21307) during ground works associated with the construction of an extension to a residential property. The archaeological watching brief took place on Wednesday 15th April 2009. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered during the watching brief monitoring of the ground works. The ground works revealed deposits consisting of modern made ground associated with possible construction phases of the main residential property and old farm buildings. Natural geology comprising brown-orange sandy clay was recorded at a maximum height of 0.4m below ground surface (9.83 -10.50m AOD).</p>						

OASIS Form

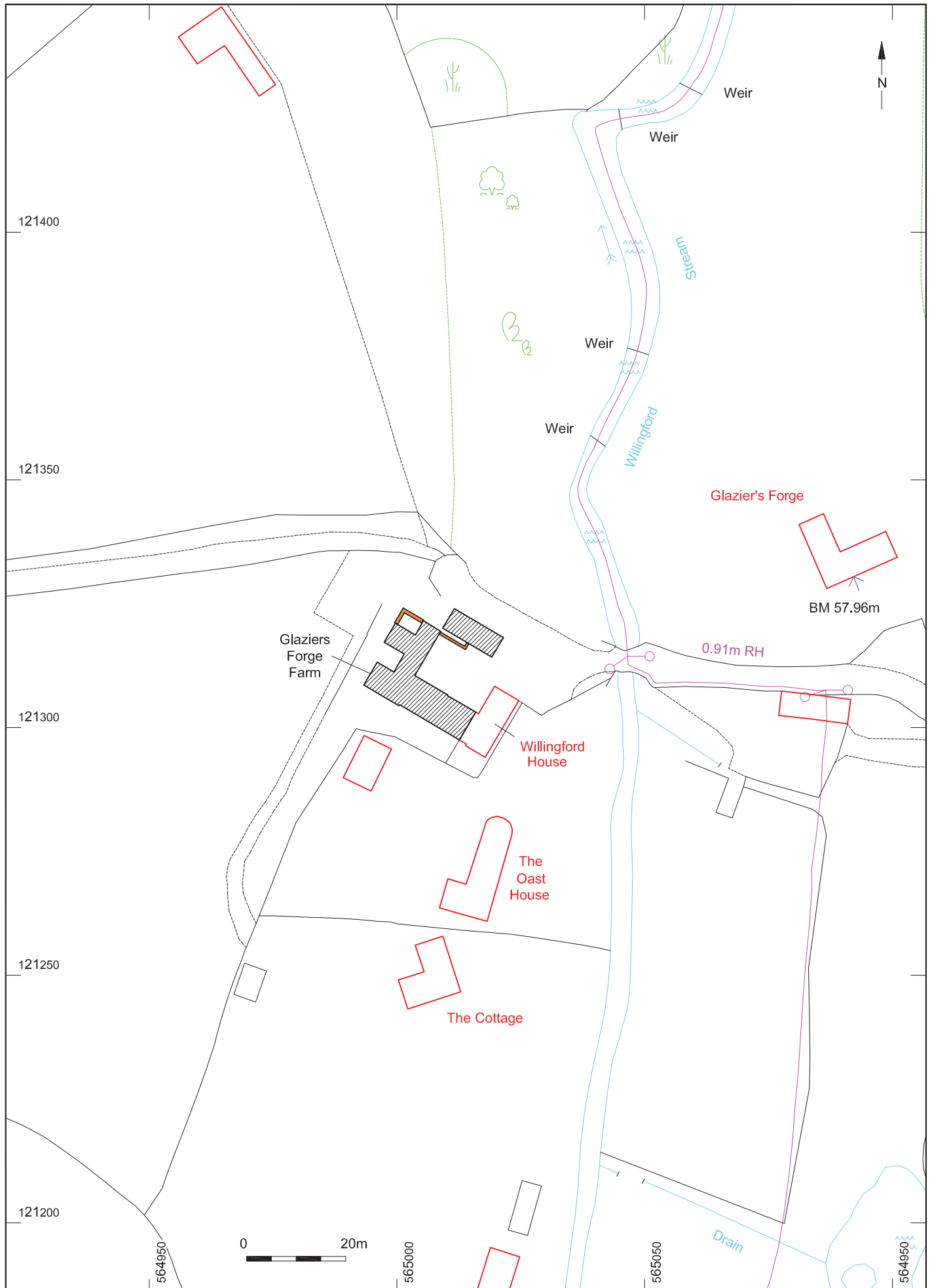
OASIS ID: archaeol6-58385	
Project details	
Project name	Glaziers Forge Farm
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Blue Ridge Designs Limited, to undertake a programme of archaeological work at Glaziers Forge Farm, Forge Lane, Dallington, East Sussex (NGR TQ 65013 21307) during ground works associated with the construction of an extension to a residential property. The archaeological watching brief took place on Wednesday 15th April 2009. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were encountered during the watching brief monitoring of the ground works. The ground works revealed deposits consisting of modern made ground associated with possible construction phases of the main residential property and old farm buildings. Natural geology comprising brown-orange sandy clay was recorded at a maximum height of 0.4m below ground surface (9.83 -10.50m AOD).
Project dates	Start: 15-04-2009 End: 15-04-2009
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	GFF 09 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	RR/2009/6/P - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location	
Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX ROTHER DALLINGTON Glaziers Forge Farm, Forge Lane
Postcode	TN21 9JG
Site coordinates	TQ 565013 121307 50.8868533083 0.225251421225 50 53 12 N 000 13 30 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 9.83m Max: 10.50m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	Archaeology South East
Project design originator	East Sussex County Council
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	Kathryn Grant
Name of sponsor/funding body	Blue Ridge Designs Limited
Entered by	Kathryn Grant (Kathryn.Grant@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	20 April 2009



© Archaeology South-East		Glazier's Forge Farm	Fig. 1
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© Archaeology South-East		Glazier's Forge Farm	Fig. 2
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© Archaeology South-East		Glazier's Forge Farm	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 3797	April 2009	Plan showing monitored groundworks	
Report Ref: 2009062	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Glazier's Forge Farm	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 3797	April 2009	Photo showing the main working area	
Report Ref: 2009062	Drawn by: JLR		

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