

An Archaeological Evaluation on Land at The Farthings, Little Farthings and Farthings Retreat, Guildford Road, Horsham, West Sussex

HORSHAM: Broadbridge Heath and Horsham Planning ref: DC/09/0985

NGR: TQ 157 312

Project No: 4711 Site Code: TFH10

ASE Report No: 2011001 OASIS ID: archaeol6-90872

Kathryn Grant, MSc AIFA
With contributions by
Elke Raemen, Luke Barber Sarah Porteus and Justin Russell

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East (ASE) on land at The Farthings, Guildford Road, Horsham, West Sussex (NGR: TQ 157 312) between the 15th and 16th December 2010. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to assess the archaeological potential of the site in advance of the proposed residential development.

Four trial-trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 85m. The trenches were positioned were practicable to provide a random sample of the area. Although the trenches showed little sign of disturbance to the natural horizon no archaeological features were encountered during the evaluation. Natural geology comprising mid yellowish-orange Weald Clay was encountered at 35.99m AOD in the southwest and 34.10m AOD in the northeast.

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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 CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at The Farthings, Guildford Road, Horsham, West Sussex (NGR TQ 157 312; Figure 1), hereafter referred to as the 'site' in this report.
- 1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of a residential development on vacant land positioned to the rear of 'Jacaranda', 'Farthings Cottages' and 'Farthings Lodge' located to the south of Guildford Road in Horsham.

1.2 Planning Background

1.2.1 An application for planning permission for the residential development of 26 dwellings (Figure 2) on the site was permitted with conditions (Planning Reference: DC/09/0985). Condition 26 states that:

The developer shall arrange for an archaeological organisation or appropriately qualified archaeologists to observe the excavations and record archaeological evidence that may be uncovered as a result of the development in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of development.

Reason: The site is potentially of archaeological interest and therefore the safeguards indicated in policy DC10 of the Horsham District Local Development Framework: General Development Control Policies (2007) should be implemented.

1.2.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by ASE (2010) and was subsequently approved by the WSCC County Archaeologist, John Mills prior to archaeological works commencing on site. The Written Scheme of Investigation complied with the Standards and Guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2001) and the Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions (WSCC 2007 – version 2b).

1.3 Aims and Objectives

- 1.3.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological features and to inform as to the requirement for any further mitigation as necessary.
- 1.3.2 The purpose 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 such archaeological features that may be impacted by the scheme. The findings from the archaeological evaluation are considered within this document with a view to assessing the potential impact of development upon any revealed archaeological remains.

1.4 Scope of the report

- 1.4.1 This report details the results of archaeological evaluation works on the site. The fieldwork was undertaken between 15th and 16th December 2010 by Kathryn Grant and Leslie Davidson.
- 1.4.2 The fieldwork was managed by Darryl Palmer and the post-excavation reporting was managed by Jim Stevenson.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 2.1.1 The site lies on the western edge of Horsham and is bounded by Guildford Road to the north, fields to the east and south and 'Jacaranda', 'Farthings Cottages' and 'Farthings Lodge' to the west.
- 2.1.2 The Geological Survey of England and Wales Sheets 302 (Horsham) shows the site lies on Weald Clay.

2.2 Archaeological Background

- 2.2.1 The following information has been taken from a Desk Based Assessment (ASE 2006) and is re-produced here with due acknowledgement.
- 2.2.2 The site is considered to have low to moderate potential for the prehistoric period, low potential for the Romano-British, Anglo-Saxon and Medieval periods and moderate to high (localised) potential for the Post-Medieval period (ASE 2010). The archaeological background of the site is presented below by period.

2.2.3 Prehistoric

Two Prehistoric sites are recorded within the wider vicinity. A poorly provenanced find of a Neolithic plano-convex flint knife and a sherd of possible Iron Age pottery were found during an archaeological evaluation at Christ's Hospital in 2000.

2.2.4 Romano-British

A Roman tileworks was excavated in 1964-5 in the vicinity of the site, a quernstone was found in a garden in Hills Place prior to 1962 and a tile kiln of probable 2nd century date is located on Baystone Farm. A large rubbish pit containing mid 2nd century pottery was discovered during excavations at Hill Place in 2000, and a sherd of pottery was found during an archaeological evaluation at Christ's Hospital in 2002.

2.2.5 Medieval

Horsham developed during the medieval period as a market town serving the surrounding rural hinterland, and had achieved borough status by 1235. The town expanded during the 13th century, becoming a prosperous market town. The rural landscape to the west of the town comprised a mainly pastoral landscape of irregular assarts (fields carved from the woodland and other waste) with small patches of common demesne arable around scattered settlement foci, usually enclosed at an early date leaving little trace in the documentary record. The area around Broadbridge was of poor quality, as reflected in the Heath place-name element, and was utilised as common pasture by the late 13th century.

A manorial centre was established in the richer soils of the Arun valley (Broadbridge Manor, still surviving as Broadbridge Farm), first recorded in 1243 when it was held by William de Covert from the de Braose lords of

Bramber Rape. Records from 1298 indicate 50 acres of demesne arable (i.e. farmed directly by the Coverts) and 27 acres of meadow. By 1272 a deer park had been established within the manor. The existence of a curvilinear field boundary at the foot of the hill immediately south-east of Broadbridge Farm may fossilise the park boundary, as medieval parks often had an oval shape to enclose the greatest area with the shortest length of (maintenance-requiring) boundary. The manor included a water mill.

2.2.6 Post-medieval

The post-medieval period saw Horsham retaining its function as a market town. The layout remained fundamentally medieval in nature, with piecemeal suburban development on all sides. By 1524, the town had the highest average wealth in Sussex. The later post-medieval period saw a continuing rise in prosperity, partly due to the presence of a large barracks and the holding of assizes in the town, culminating in its status as joint county town of West Sussex (with Chichester) in 1889.

Much of the surrounding area was farmland subject to piecemeal enclosure during the post-medieval period.

Cartographic evidence of the vicinity reveals a relatively static landscape, in which field enclosure has been the predominant factor. Agricultural practices, especially those of the 20th-century may have truncated or even destroyed shallow archaeological deposits, but deeper features (pits, ditches, building foundations, etc.) may still survive.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2010), and complies with the relevant Standards and Guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2001), and the WSCC Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions (2007). This section is a brief précis of the complete adopted methodology which can be found in the WSI (ASE 2010). A Risk Assessment of the fieldwork to be carried out was produced prior to any work on site.
- 3.1.2 The evaluation work comprised four archaeological trenches which were excavated under constant archaeological supervision to a cumulative length of 85m using a 13-tonne mechanical tracked excavator fitted with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket to minimise damage to deposits. Each trench was scanned with a cable avoidance tool (CAT) prior to excavation to ensure no unknown services were present.
- 3.1.3 The trenches were positioned across the development area so as to ensure an optimum sample of the area (Figure 2). Trench 3 had to be relocated twice from its proposed position (see WSI, Fig. 2) as it was initially in a private garden, and subsequently due to the presence of a service trench. No other services were encountered during the archaeological works.
- 3.1.4 Excavation was undertaken in 100mm thick spits through undifferentiated topsoil and subsoil, during which the removed spoil and surface of each spit was scanned for any stray, unstratified artefacts. These finds were recovered and bagged according to the context and trench number from which they were found. The excavations were taken down to the top of the underlying natural geology or to the surface of any significant archaeological deposit; whichever was higher. When removed, topsoil, subsoil and made ground deposits were kept separate to ensure that they could be redeposited stratigraphically during the backfilling process for optimum reinstatement.
- 3.1.5 All four trenches were located and levelled using a Total Station and tied into the Ordnance Survey 1:1250 scale map of the area.
- 3.1.6 All of the trenches, features and deposits were recorded using ASE standard 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.
- 3.1.7 On the completion of all excavation and recording, the County Archaeologist, (WSCC) was informed and attended the site to inspect the trenches. Following this meeting, permission was obtained for the trenches to be backfilled and compacted.

3.2 The Site Archive

3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be offered to

the local museum in due course.

3.2.2 The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Trenches	4
Number of Contexts	14
No. of files/paper record	1 file
Photographs	36
Bulk finds	1 small box
Registered finds	None
Environmental Samples	None

Table 1: Quantification of Site Archive

4.0 RESULTS (Figures 2 and 3)

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits were uncovered during the archaeological works. Only topsoil finds were recovered from the site. The deposits encountered in each trench were the same 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

- 4.2.1 Natural geology [003] comprising mid yellowish-orange firm Weald Clay was encountered at 35.99m AOD in the southwest and 34.10m AOD in the northeast.
- 4.2.2 The natural horizon was overlain by sterile, light orange-brown soft silty clay subsoil [002]. Sealing the subsoil in all of the trenches was mid greyish-brown, friable, clayey silt topsoil [001] with very rare pottery/glass sherds and ceramic building materials (CBM).

4.3 Trench 1

4.3.1 Trench 1 was 2m wide, 15m long and 700mm deep (max). It was on a northwest-southeast orientation and was positioned in the south-western corner of the site. No archaeological features were revealed within this trench, but a few post-medieval CBM fragments and pottery/glass sherds were recovered from the topsoil. The recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated and are summarised below (Table 2).

	Number	Туре	Description Deposit Thickness (mm)		Height m AOD		
•	1/001	Deposit	Topsoil	200 - 250	32.66 - 36.77		
	1/002	Deposit	Subsoil	400 - 450	-		
	1/003	Deposit	Natural	-	35.49 - 35.99		

Table 2: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 1

4.3.2 Summary

Natural geology was encountered at 35.49m AOD in the southeast of the trench and 35.99m AOD in the northwest. This was overlain by subsoil and topsoil (as described in 4.2). A few unstratified, post-medieval finds were collected from the topsoil covering this trench (see section 5.0 of this report), but the deposit was generally very sterile.

4.4 Trench 2

4.4.1 Trench 2 was 2m wide, 20m long and 550mm deep (max). It was on a northeast-southwest orientation and was positioned in the south-eastern corner of the site. No archaeological features or artefacts were revealed within this trench. The recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated and are summarised below (Table 3).

Number	Туре	Description	Deposit Thickness (mm)	Height m AOD
2/001	Deposit	Topsoil	150 - 200	35.81 – 35.90
2/002	Deposit	Subsoil	300 - 350	-
2/003	Deposit	Natural	-	35.18 – 35.40
2/004	Deposit	Made ground	100	-

Table 3: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 2

4.4.2 Summary

Natural geology [2/003] was encountered at 35.18m AOD in the southwest of the trench and 35.40m AOD in the northeast. A small linear land-drain was uncovered crossing the middle of this trench on a rough east-west alignment. The natural was overlain by subsoil [2/002]. A thin layer of made ground [2/004] comprising light grey silt with frequent chalk fragments was encountered above the subsoil in the north-eastern end of this trench for approximately 8m. Topsoil [2/001] covered the trench. No finds were recovered from any of the deposits in this trench.

4.5 Trench 3

4.5.1 Trench 3 was 2m wide, 25m long and 550mm deep (max). It was on an east-west orientation and was positioned north of Trench 2 in the middle of the site. This trench was relocated twice from its original proposed position (ASE 2010) which was in a private garden. A service pipe was uncovered in the alternative position for the trench (see Trench 3A on Figure 2) and so it was moved again to the position seen on Figure 2. No archaeological features or artefacts were revealed within this trench. The recorded contexts from this trench have been tabulated and are summarised below (Table 4).

Number	Туре	Description	Deposit Thickness (mm)	Height m AOD	
3/001	Deposit	Topsoil	100 - 150	35.07 – 36.04	
3/002	Deposit	Subsoil	350 - 400	-	
3/003	Deposit	Natural	-	-	
3/004	Deposit	Made ground	50	34.73 – 35.43	

Table 4: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 3

4.5.2 Summary

Natural geology [3/003] was encountered at 34.73m AOD in the east of the trench and 35.42m AOD in the west. A small linear land-drain was uncovered crossing the middle of this trench on a rough north-south alignment. The natural was overlain by subsoil [3/002]. A thin layer of made ground [3/004] comprising dark grey silt and fragmented ceramic building materials of post-medieval date was encountered above the subsoil towards the eastern end of this trench. This deposit was only present for approximately 1.5m and was only 50mm thick. Topsoil [3/001] covered the trench.

4.6 Trench 4

4.6.1 Trench 4 was 2m wide, 25m long and 600mm deep (max). It was on a northwest-southeast orientation and was positioned in the north-eastern part of the site. No archaeological features or artefacts were revealed within this trench. The recorded contexts have been tabulated and are summarised below (Table 5).

Number	Туре	Description	Deposit Thickness (mm)	Height m AOD
4/001	Deposit	Topsoil	150 - 200	34.72 – 35.52
4/002	Deposit	Subsoil	350 – 400	-
4/003	Deposit	Natural	-	34.10 – 34.90

Table 5: List of Recorded Contexts for Trench 4

4.6.2 Summary

Natural geology was encountered at 34.10m AOD in the southeast of the trench and 34.90m AOD in the northwest. This was overlain by subsoil and topsoil (as described in 4.2). No finds were recovered from the deposits in this trench.

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered from the topsoil. Finds have all been washed and dried and were counted, weighed and bagged by context and by material. None of the finds require further conservation. A summary of the assemblage can be found in Table 6

5.1.2

Context	Pot	Wt (g)	СВМ	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)
1/001	2	20	3	78	1	4

Table 6: Quantification of the Finds.

5.2 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 Just two sherds were recovered from [1/001], both of which are of mid 19th- to mid 20th- century date. These consist of an unglazed earthenware flower pot with partial stamp '...Ltd. SA.' and a refined redware plate. The latter is decorated with white internal slip with green trailed slip leaves over, all under a clear glaze.

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

5.3.1 A total of 3 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from context [1/001]. The assemblage consisted of later post-medieval material of 18th to 20th century date. The assemblage contained a fragment of well formed tile with a groove marked down one side in an orange fabric with calcareous and silt inclusions, and two fragments of brick, one in a cream and silt marbled fabric and the other in a fine fabric with coarse iron rich inclusions and heavily vitrified surfaces.

5.4 The Glass by Elke Raemen

5.4.1 A single glass pane fragment was recovered from topsoil [1/001]. The fragment, in clear glass and with one textured surface, dates to the 20th century.

6.0 DISCUSSION

- **6.1** Considering the fact that the site has been little disturbed and was consequently thought to have archaeological potential, it is surprising that no archaeological features and only a small quantity of artefacts were uncovered during the evaluation. The recovered post-medieval material is consistent with a normal background scatter.
- **6.2** Given the complete absence of archaeological features within the trenches, it is reasonable to conclude that the site was not occupied in the past and has perhaps only ever functioned as agricultural land; therefore, the proposed development is unlikely to impact any archaeology.

REFERENCES

ASE 2006 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Land West of Horsham, West Sussex. Unpublished ASE document 2231

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IFA 2001. The Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standards and Guidance documents.

WSCC 2007. Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions. West Sussex County Council (WSCC) document.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work and John Mills (WSCC) for his guidance throughout the project.

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	TFH10	TFH10							
Identification Name	The Fa	The Farthings, Guildford Road, Horsham, RH12 1TS							
and Address									
County, District &/or	Horsha	am Dis	trict/West Su	ssex					
Borough									
OS Grid Refs.	NGR:	TQ 157	7312						
Geology	Weald	Clay							
Arch. South-East	4711								
Project Number									
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. v	/	Excav.	Watching	ł	Standing	Surv	ey	Other
				Brief		Structure			
Type of Site	Green field		Shallow	Deep		Other			
			Urban	Urban					
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. v	/	Excav.	WB.		Other			
	15-12-	10 to							
	16-12-	10							
Sponsor/Client	CgMs	Consul	lting						
Project Manager	Darryl	Palme	r						
Project Supervisor	Kathy	Grant							
Period Summary	Pala	Mesc	.		Ne	20.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED			Ы	Л	Othe	r	

100 Word Summary.

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South East (ASE) on land at The Farthings, Guildford Road, Horsham, West Sussex (NGR: TQ 157 312) between the 15th and 16th December 2010. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to assess the archaeological potential of the site in advance of the proposed residential development. Four trial-trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 85m. The trenches were positioned were practicable to provide a random sample of the area. Although the trenches showed little sign of disturbance to the natural horizon, no archaeological features were encountered during the evaluation. Natural geology comprising mid yellowish-orange Weald Clay was encountered at 35.99m AOD in the southwest and 34.10m AOD in the northeast.

OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: archaeol6-90872

Project details

Project name The Farthings, Guildford Road, Horsham

Short description of An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology

the project

South East (ASE) on land at The Farthings, Guildford Road, Horsham, West Sussex (NGR: TQ 157 312) between the 15th and 16th December 2010. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to assess the archaeological potential of the site in advance of the proposed residential development. Four trial-trenches were excavated to a cumulative length of 85m. The trenches were positioned were practicable to provide a random sample of the area. Although the trenches showed little sign of disturbance to the natural horizon no archaeological features were encountered during the evaluation. Natural geology [003] comprising mid yellowish-orange firm Weald Clay was encountered

at 35.99m AOD in the southwest and 34.10m AOD in the

northeast.

Project dates Start: 15-12-2010 End: 16-12-2010

Any associated project reference

codes

TFH10 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Current Land use Other 13 - Waste ground

Monument type NONE None

Methods & techniques

'Sample Trenches'

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt Planning condition

Project location

Country England

Site location WEST SUSSEX HORSHAM HORSHAM The Farthings, Guildford

Road, Horsham

Postcode RH12 1TS

Site coordinates TQ 157 312 51.0679142940 -0.348519059371 51 04 04 N 000 20

54 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 34.10m Max: 35.99m

Project creators

Name of Organisation

Archaeology South-East

Archaeology South-East

The Farthings, Horsham, West Sussex: ASE Report No. 2011001

Project brief originator

Archaeology South-East

Project

Darryl Palmer

director/manager

Project supervisor Kathryn Grant

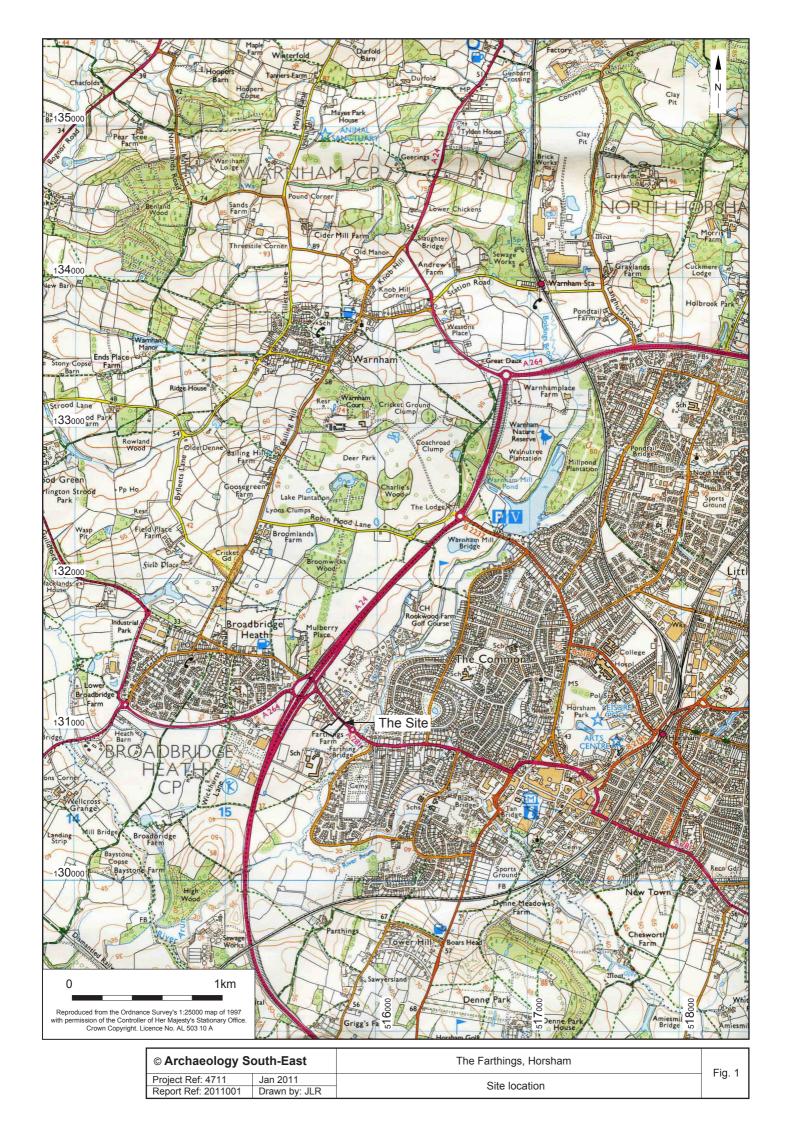
Entered by Kathryn Grant (Kathryn.Grant@ucl.ac.uk)

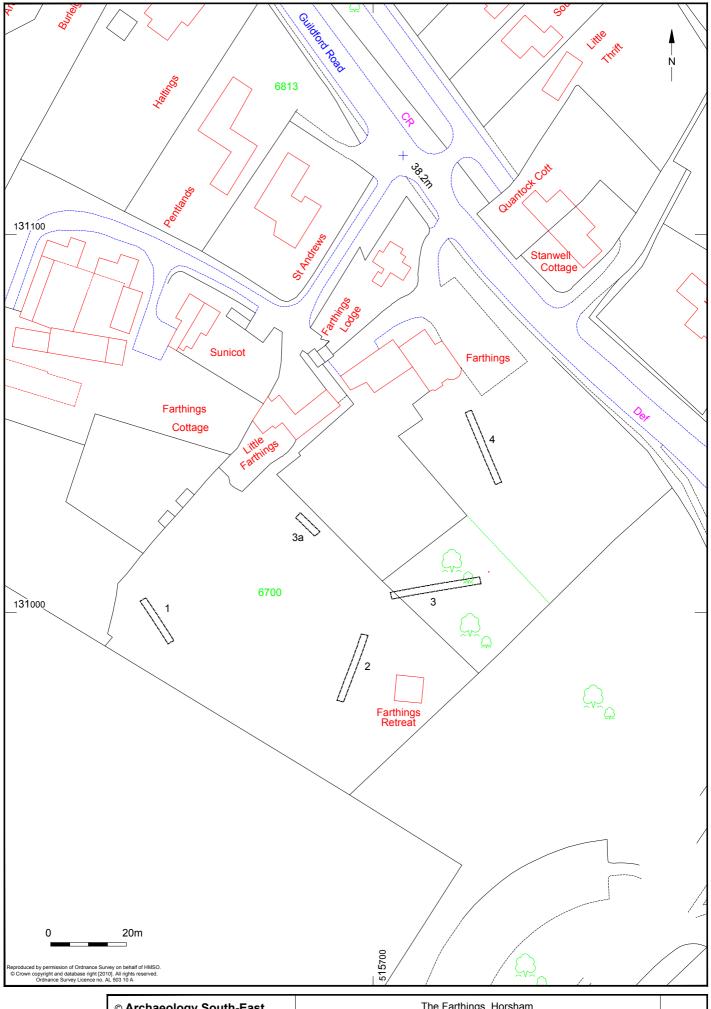
Entered on 7 January 2011

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© Archaeology South-East		The Farthings, Horsham	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4711	Jan 2011	Transh lassition	
Report Ref: 2011001	Drawn by: JLR	Trench location	



Trench 1 looking south-east



Trench 2 looking south-west



Trench 3 looking east



Trench 4 looking south

© Archaeology South-East		The Farthings, Horsham	
Project Ref: 4711	Jan 2011	Dhatagrapha	Fig. 3
Report Ref: 2011001	Drawn by: JI R	Photographs	

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