

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk,
Farnham, Surrey**

Archaeological Watching Brief

by Luis Esteves

Site Code: LEF 18/30

(SU 8377 4710)

Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk, Farnham, Surrey

An Archaeological Watching Brief

For Mr Cochrane

by Luïs Esteves

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

LEF 18/30

July 2018

Summary

Site name: Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk, Farnham, Surrey

Grid reference: SU 8377 4710

Site activity: Watching Brief

Date and duration of project: 18th April to 18th May 2018

Project coordinator: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Luis Esteves, Danielle Millbank

Site code: LEF18/30

Summary of results: The watching brief successfully investigated the new footing trenches at the site. No deposits nor artefacts of archaeological interest were uncovered.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Farnham Museum in due course.

This report may be copied for bona fide research or planning purposes without the explicit permission of the copyright holder. All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website: www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Report edited/checked by: | Steve Ford ✓ 09.07.18 |
| | Steve Preston ✓ 09.07.18 |

Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk, Farnham, Surrey An Archaeological Watching Brief

By Luis Esteves

Report 18/30

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7HX (SU 8377 4710) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Stephen Cochrane, the landowner.

Planning permission (WA/2015/1704) has been gained from Waverley Borough Council for the construction of a new house and garage with access. The permission is subject to a condition (8) which requires the implementation of a program of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The site is identified as being of archaeological potential, as it is sited next to works undertaken by the Surrey Archaeological Society who noted on map regression that the site remained undeveloped until the early 20th century and found soil layers indicating the ground could have been terraced in the past. It is in close proximity to Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) of Farnham Castle of 12th century date (1012181).

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and the Borough Council's policy (H.E 14; Local Plan 2002) on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Nick Truckle, Archaeological Officer at Surrey County Council, who advises the Borough Council on archaeological matters in the planning system. The fieldwork was undertaken by Luis Esteves between 18th and 20th April and Danielle Millbank on 18th May 2018. The site code is LEF 18/30.

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Farnham Museum in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the north side of the town of Farnham, Surrey (Fig.1). The topography is sloped to the north, though in the garden of Lowndes End the slope is gradual. The garden is orientated NW-SE with Lowndes End SE of the new house. The access exists to the north and north east, leading to the Castle Street *c.*50m to the east. The underlying geology is Gault clay (BGS 1976).

The site lies at a height of c.75m above Ordnance Datum (OD), though the site is approximately 0.6m higher in the north east and 0.8m lower in the south west.

Archaeological background

Farnham is first recorded in a document reference of AD685-8 when King Cadwella of Wessex made a grant of 60 hides of land for the formation of a minster church (Robertson 2004). This Anglo-Saxon origin makes it one of the oldest attested places in Surrey. It was a substantial manor at the time of the Domesday Survey (1086) and had borough status by the 13th century and proposed into Post-Medieval times. Farnham has been subject to many archaeological investigations and there is a wealth of archaeological detail for the Medieval settlement and how it developed.

Lowndes End is a post-war built bungalow with extensive gardens. Two test pits in this garden dug by the Surrey Archaeological Society identified soils consistent with no previous occupation of the site, but suggested that the land had once been agricultural terraced, possibly creating a lynchet on the northern valley slope of the River Wey (Graham 2015).

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the watching brief was to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the ground works. This was to involve monitoring the reducing of the ground level, removing overburden to create a flat level to excavate further. This was to occur under archaeological supervision, and if archaeological deposits were identified would be excavated by hand by a trained archaeologist. Where excavation was undertaken by machine, excavation was undertaken with a toothless, grading bucket. The watching brief would also monitor the digging of foundation and service trenches for the new development.

Results

Excavation of the footprint was undertaken over an area covering 128 sq m (Fig.3). This reduced the topsoil and part of the underlying subsoil particularly in the NW. The topsoil was 0.2m deep and the subsoil underneath was 0.3m to 0.5m thick to a depth of 0.7m in the SE (Pl.1). The topsoil was a grey brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions, and the subsoil was light grey brown sandy silt with occasional stone gravel inclusions. This was stripped gradually following the slope to the SE. Once this was complete, underlying natural was exposed

on the NW side of the strip. This was exposed at 0.7m deep and was a light brown grey clay. The reduction dug up to 0.3m of the natural geology on the NW side to a terraced depth of 0.9m to 1m deep in section (Pl.3).

Excavation of the footings were then undertaken (Pl.2). On excavation much were dug through the remaining subsoil to a depth of 0.92m, with the remains of the subsoil seen between 0.1m and 0.6m deep in section. The natural geology contained some patchy areas with a higher proportion of large sub angular flint. The general thickness of topsoil in the NW suggested the ground had been added to on the excavated northern edge, but not substantially so. No disturbance of the lower subsoil was observed on excavation. The final NW section was 1.8m in the depth, and the eastern side of the footing was entirely dug though the underlying natural deposit (Pl.4).

Finds

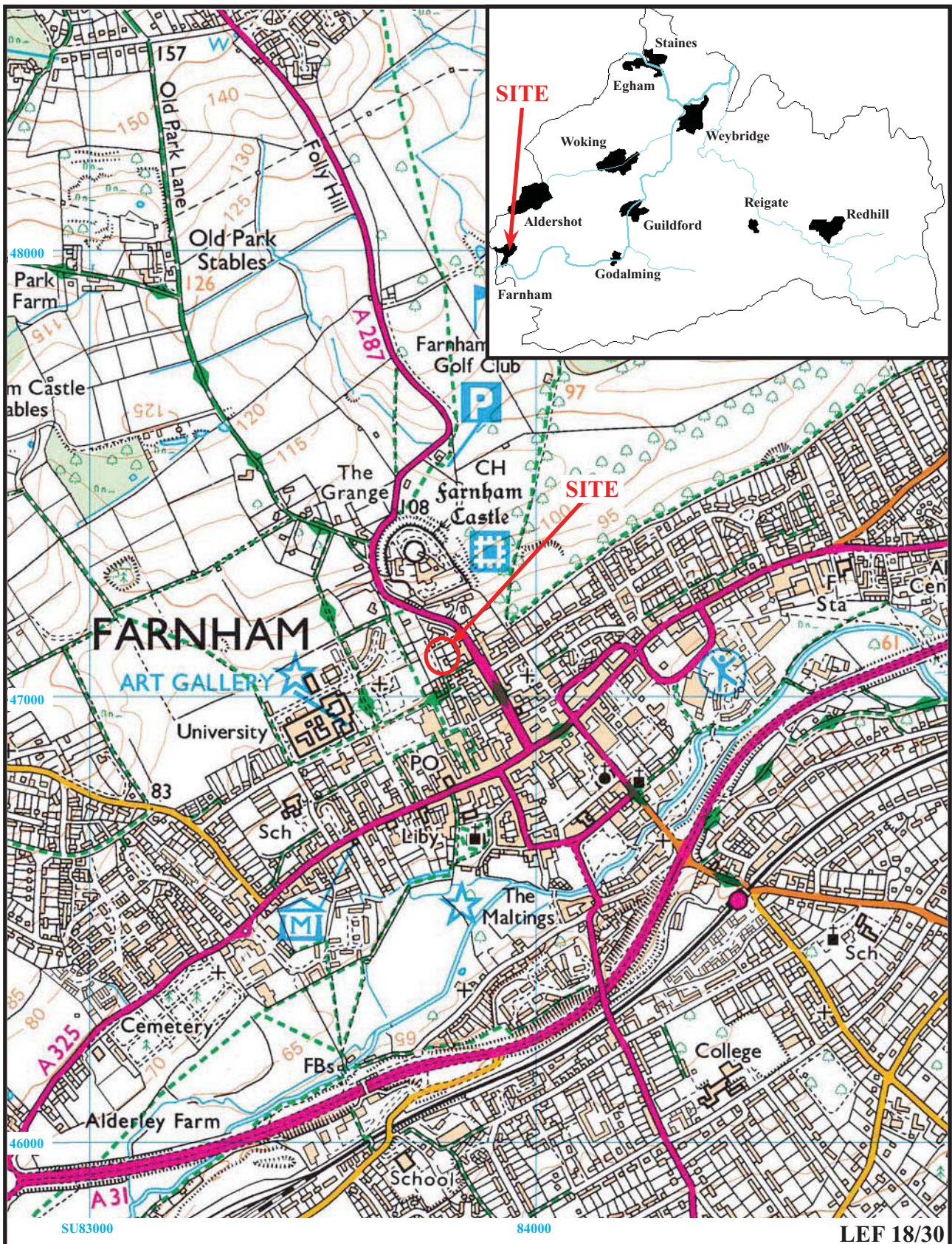
No archaeological finds were identified in the works.

Conclusion

The watching brief successfully investigated the new footing trenches at the site and monitored the ground reduction prior to the excavation of the footings. No previous ground disturbance was noted and no archaeological deposits were uncovered. Some raising of the topsoil was evident from past modification, but nothing to suggest substantial modification of the topography that existed.

References

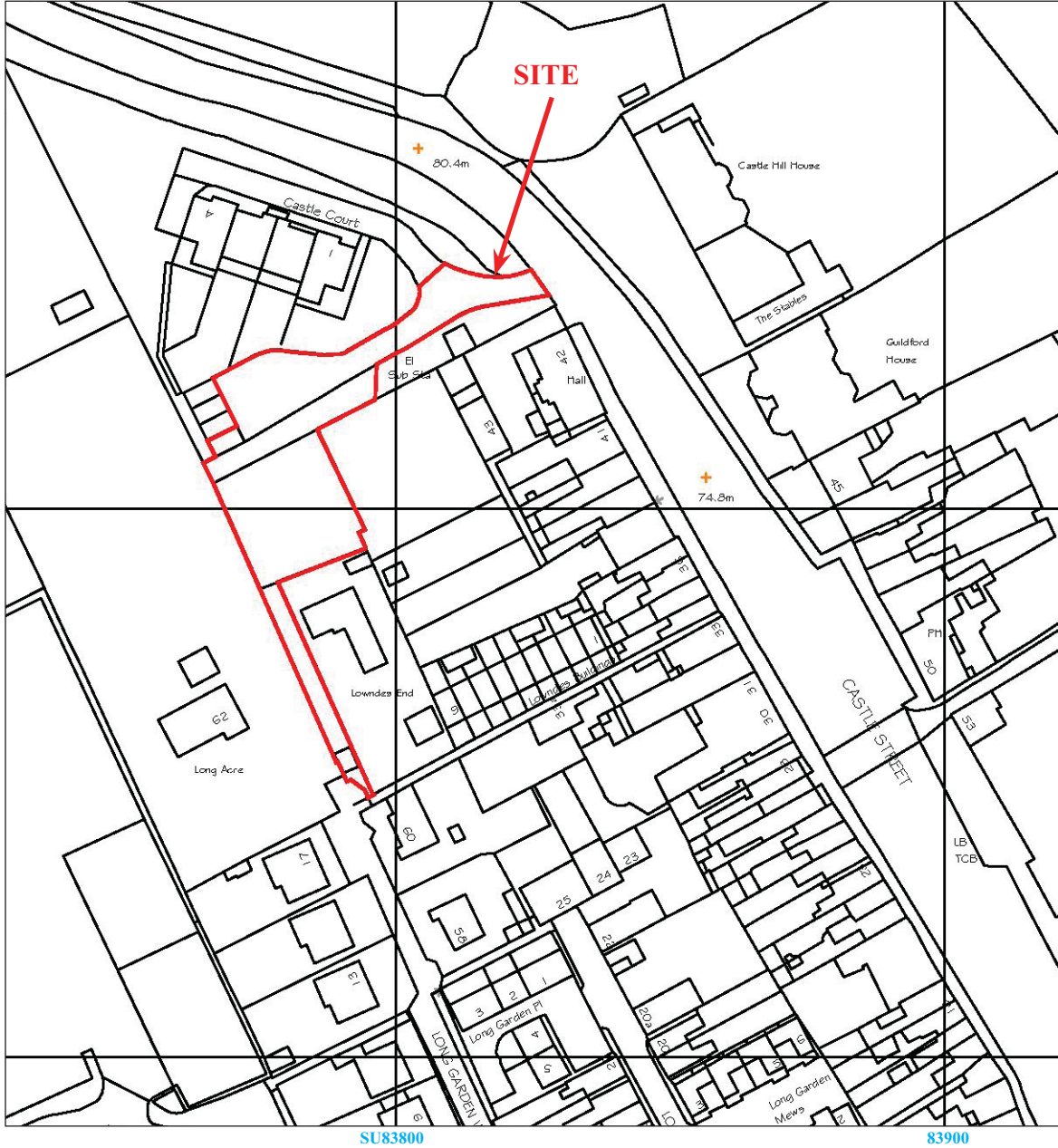
- BGS, 1976, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50 000, Sheet 285, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
- Graham, D, 2015, 'Report on Archaeological test pits at Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk, Farnham, Surrey', Surrey Archaeological Society unpubl doc
- NPPF 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London
- Robertson, J, 2004, '*Extensive Urban Survey of Surrey: Farnham* (revised edition)', Surrey County Council Archaeological Unit, Woking



Land north of Lownes End, Long Garden Walk,
 Farnham, Surrey, 2018
 Archaeological Watching Brief
 Figure 1. Location of site within Farnham and Surrey.



Reproduced under licence from Ordnance Survey Explorer Digital mapping at 1:12500
 Crown Copyright reserved



LEF 18/30



**Land north of Lownes End, Long Garden Walk,
Farnham, Surrey, 2018
Archaeological Watching Brief
Figure 2. Detailed location of site.**

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Digital Mapping under licence.
Crown copyright reserved. Scale 1:1250

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



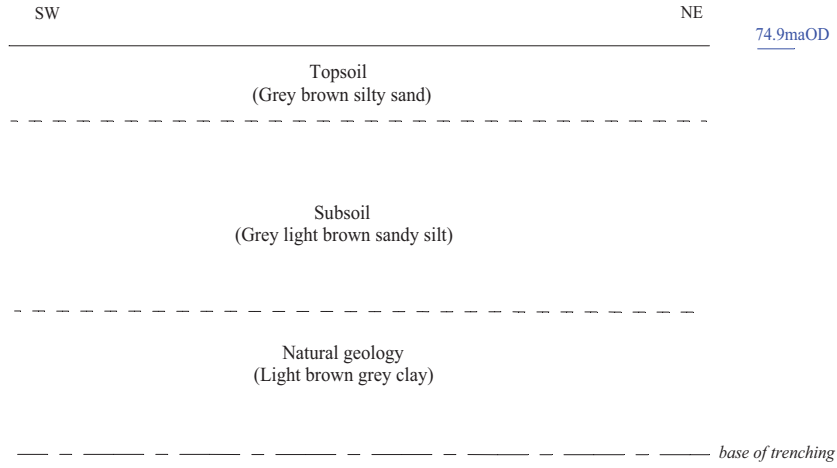
LEF 18/30

**Land north of Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk,
Farnham, Surrey, 2018
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Figure 3. Detail of excavated area.



THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



LEF 18/30

**Land north of Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk
Farnham, Surrey, 2018
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Figure 4. Section.



THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 1. Ground reduction in progress, looking north.



Plate 2. Excavated footings, looking south east, Scales: 0.5m.

LEF 18/30

**Land at north of Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk,
Farnham, Surrey, 2018
Archaeological Watching Brief
Plates 1 and 2.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 3. Representative depth section, looking west, Scale: 0.5m



Plate 4. Excavated footings, looking north, Scales: 0.5m.

LEF 18/30

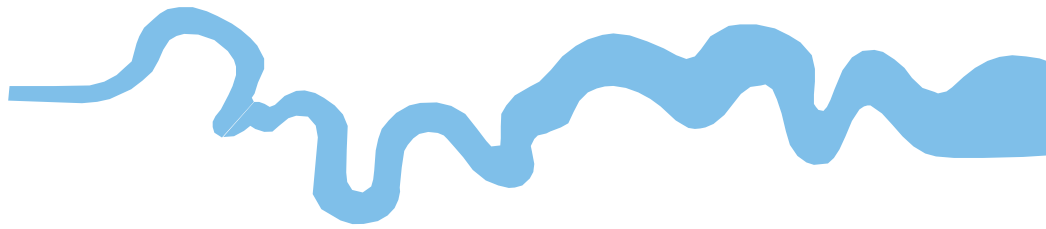
**Land at north of Lowndes End, Long Garden Walk,
Farnham, Surrey, 2018**
Archaeological Watching Brief
Plates 3 and 4.

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

TIME CHART

| | Calendar Years |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Modern _____ | AD 1901 |
| Victorian _____ | AD 1837 |
| Post Medieval _____ | AD 1500 |
| Medieval _____ | AD 1066 |
| Saxon _____ | AD 410 |
| Roman _____ | AD 43 AD 0 BC |
| Iron Age _____ | 750 BC |
| | |
| Bronze Age: Late _____ | 1300 BC |
| Bronze Age: Middle _____ | 1700 BC |
| Bronze Age: Early _____ | 2100 BC |
| | |
| Neolithic: Late | 3300 BC |
| Neolithic: Early | 4300 BC |
| | |
| Mesolithic: Late | 6000 BC |
| Mesolithic: Early | 10000 BC |
| | |
| Palaeolithic: Upper | 30000 BC |
| Palaeolithic: Middle | 70000 BC |
| Palaeolithic: Lower | 2,000,000 BC |





**Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd,
47-49 De Beauvoir Road,
Reading RG1 5NR**

**Tel: 0118 9260552
Email: tvas@tvas.co.uk
Web: www.tvas.co.uk**

***Offices in:
Brighton, Taunton, Stoke-on-Trent and Ennis (Ireland)***