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Review of progress on the LATER MEDIEVAL AND TUDOR period since the 2006 Surrey Archaeological Research Framework (SARF)

Understanding of major sites in Surrey dating from the period 1066-1603 has developed considerably in the time since the publication of the SARF. A number of new and important investigations have been carried out. The continuing excavation at Woking Palace has revealed the complex development from medieval manor house to Tudor palace. Exploration at Farnham Castle has added considerably to knowledge of the original tower keep and later well shaft (as well as resulting in its vastly improved presentation). Excavation on parts of Bermondsey Abbey's site by Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) has added important details to discoveries from previous excavations. Investigation around Waynflete's Tower, initially by *Time Team*, has elucidated much about Esher Palace. The precincts of Newark Priory have been surveyed in detail. Waverley Abbey has been placed in the context of its estate and granges. Perhaps the single most impressive medieval small find to emerge in recent years was a medieval seal matrix from Stone Priory, Staffordshire, found at Cobham.

Additionally, monographs reporting earlier major excavations have appeared: Merton Priory; Bermondsey Abbey; Winchester Palace, Southwark; Dunley Place and Fastolf Place in Southwark, together with Edward III's of great house at Rotherhithe; the Rose and Globe theatres (all these by Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA)); Southwark Cathedral, by PCA; Oatlands Palace; Reigate Priory (where some of the work post-dates the SARF) (both by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit (SCAU)). The finds volume of Martin Biddle's excavations at Nonsuch Palace (some dating from the sixteenth century, although the majority were rather later) was published shortly before the SARF, as was the Society's report on the royal palace of Guildford. Publication of a small excavation on the gatehouse wing of Sutton Place has aided understanding of a singularly important sixteenth century house.

Furthermore, the Medieval Studies Forum of the Society has been established and has pursued an active programme of meetings and visits, with some talks reporting new historical research on aspects of Surrey's medieval environment, as well as developing a reference collection of Surrey medieval pottery. The Villages Study Programme has continued to add to understanding of various medieval settlements, as have test pitting programmes. Extensive dendrochronological evidence has contributed to understanding the dating and development of medieval buildings. Taken together, this is undoubtedly adds up to an impressive quantity of good quality research, a view which is reinforced by the quantity of archaeological discoveries at the end of this review.

Research projects identified in 2006

It is worth noting that among the major possible projects identified in the SARF were the continuation of the Villages Study and dendrochronology programmes, which have undoubtedly been major successes. Other major possible projects included:

- Exploring the potential for creating accurate maps of earlier parish boundaries;
- The study of various records to discover obligations to maintain roads, causeways and bridges;
- Gathering survey evidence for manorial sites.

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These have not progressed on a systematic basis, although some locally gathered information has contributed to understanding of the themes. Some of the suggested projects involving documentary research would be major undertakings, and would need to take into account factors such as the uneven survival of manorial documents (with a bias towards ecclesiastical estates) and their varying utility over time (probably greatest in the early fourteenth century, when the working of demesne land in-house was at its peak). Among the more detailed possible projects in the SARF were seven that involved achieving archive order and publication for specific sites, many of which would have to be the specific responsibility of the excavators (and some of these remain unpublished). Altogether, rather more possible projects were listed than were likely to be achieved.

Overall, the pattern of what has been achieved and not achieved since the SARF, excepting the work of commercial archaeology units or major community excavation, strongly suggests that, although there has been a considerable amount of activity related to Surrey's medieval historic environment, much of it is focused on individual places where it is possible to assemble interested groups of people rather than on broader county-wide survey projects, which are more likely to be pursued as part of an individual's research interests, possibly over the longer term.

Archaeological discoveries since 2006

The following list is unlikely to contain every post-Conquest to Tudor discovery in recent years, but it is indicative of the number of excavations that have produced significant medieval evidence and the importance and range of what has been found.

Battersea: Bridges Wharf, evidence of revetment on former Battersea Creek, probably before sixteenth century.

Bermondsey: Bermondsey Square, (PCA) foundation of south side of abbey church, including south-west tower, gatehouse, part of cloister, burials.

Bermondsey: 161 Grange Road, stone built culvert probably associated with grange of Bermondsey Abbey.

Bermondsey: 19 Long Walk, evidence of east range of abbey cloister.

Bermondsey: 247-253 Long Lane, large ditch parallel to Long Lane, eleventh of twelfth century.

Bermondsey: Abbey Street, fourteenth to fifteenth century wall foundation, probably boundary wall of yard.

Bletchingley: North Park Farm, evidence of early post-medieval road in area that had been disemparked.

Charlwood: Churchyard, iron slag in soil, suggesting iron working in vicinity in twelfth to fifteenth centuries. No evidence of former north chapel to the church.

Chertsey: Abbey Walls, foundations, probably relating to the refectory and dormitory ranges of the abbey.

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Chertsey: Abbey Gardens, twelve inlaid tiles discovered.

Chertsey: Bridge Wharf, no evidence of medieval Chertsey Bridge discovered, despite being presumed to be close to the site.

Dorking: rear of 72-82 South Street, pits probably associated with dwellings, twelfth to thirteenth centuries.

Egham: 89-95 High Street, medieval features along street frontage, including ditches, postholes and pottery kiln, as well as Tudor brick structures and a metalled surface.

Egham: Hope Cottage, evidence of a late medieval to Tudor moat.

Esher: Waynflete's Tower, possible fourteenth century manor house, later fifteenth century expansion.

Ewell: 15 High Street, footings containing late medieval pottery confirm early sixteenth century date.

Ewhurst: Lowerhouse Farm, revealed as originally a hall house.

Farnham: 48-49 Downing Street, pit containing medieval pottery.

Farnham: Castle, interior of buried walls of central tower within mound contained by shell keep.

Godalming: Museum, dendrochronological dating of 1445-6.

Godalming: Wiggins Yard, single pit containing medieval pottery.

Great Bookham: 16 The Park, test pit containing thirteenth to sixteenth century pottery.

Guildford: 192-194 High Street, thirteenth to fourteenth century pits, followed by hiatus in activity.

Guildford: 225 High Street, possible thirteenth to fifteenth century layers.

Guildford: Holy Trinity churchyard, intercutting burials of fifteenth to seventeenth centuries, and wall footing interpreted to be part of 1578 market building.

Guildford: St Catherine's Chapel, test pitting following resistivity survey, no medieval evidence.

Guildford: Castle, substantial foundation west of Great Hall, twelfth to thirteenth century.

Hambledon: Church, evidence of earlier medieval church.

Hindhead: A3, evidence of medieval field systems and hollow ways, north and south of the tunnel.

Horley: north of Tanyard Farm, iron Age site, but evidence of medieval agriculture indicates long-term continuity of modern field patterns.

Kingston: 39-41 High Street, complex construction including fifteenth century dendrochronological date.

Kingston: All Saints Church, survey of vestry at north-east corner indicating probable sixteenth century date.

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Kingston: 163-165 London Road and 50 Gordon Road, several medieval and post-medieval field boundaries.

Leatherhead: St Andrews School, Grange Road, linear features associated with eleventh to twelfth century field system and drainage.

Merstham: Home Farm, two bays of open hall house, probably late fourteenth to fifteenth century.

Mickleham: Church, various medieval features revealed during construction of new vestry.

Mitcham: 203 London Road, two twelfth to fourteenth century rubbish pits containing iron waste, suggesting metal working in the vicinity.

Newark Priory: survey of area surrounding the standing ruins, geophysical survey of gatehouse.

Oxted: 19-21 High Street, assemblage of late thirteenth to early fourteenth century pottery in land at rear.

Reigate: Priory, possible medieval structures and burials to the south of present building.

Southwark: St George the Martyr Church, parts of medieval church found to be incorporated in rebuilding of 1629.

Southwark: Bankside, 4 Holland Street, and Hopton Street, medieval drainage works.

Southwark: 6-7 Stoney Street, thirteenth century chalk structure medieval garden soil deposit.

Southwark: St Thomas Street, wall probably relating to medieval St Thomas church.

Southwark: 7 Holyrood Street, fifteenth to seventeenth century deposits, including copper alloy waste, suggesting metal working in the area.

Southwark: 170-194 Borough High Street, cultivated soil of medieval date cut by chalk wall foundation, interpreted as west limit of fifteenth to sixteenth century Brandon House.

Southwark: 15 Winchester Walk, junction of two masonry wall remnants, probably thirteenth to sixteenth centuries, probably part of Winchester Palace.

Southwark: 46 Weston Street, remnants of fourteenth to fifteenth century substantial timber revetment.

Southwark: London Bridge Station, two phases of timber revetment, demolition layers possibly fourteenth to fifteenth century.

Southwark: off Bedale Street, large ditch and collapsed fence, late eleventh to twelfth century.

Thorpe: TASI England, part of medieval road, various medieval pits, wells and ditches.

Woking: St Peter's Church, dendrochronological dating of planks in church door, felled between 1106 and 1138.

Woking: Woking Palace, five seasons of excavation to date. Large moat, hall and kitchen of manor house of c1200, new privy lodgings of c1300, later medieval lodgings, large early Tudor great hall, kitchens, and royal lodgings, fifteenth century watergate tower, Elizabethan gallery.

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Woking: Rosemead, High Street, test pit containing large sherds of stratified early twelfth century pottery.

Wrecclesham: Farm Bungalow, pit containing Norman pottery and residual fif