

Archaeology at Copped Hall in 2014

The Taster Weekends (now named Archaeological Experience Weekends)

The Copped Hall Trust Archaeological Project 2014 series of Taster Weekends kicked off on Saturday 12th July. Here are some pictures of the trenches and the participants who made them such a success.



The attendees on the 1st Taster Weekend had to start with the cleaning of the leaves and debris from the winter in the garden trench.

Work continuing in the lawn trench during the 2nd Taster Weekend.



Attendees on the 3rd Taster Weekend working on the various layers of flowerbed remains in the garden trench.

This view across Trench T shows the possible succession of flowerbed structures remaining from the Tudor, Georgian or Victorian landscaping.



At the same time as the work on the garden layout in the lawn area, excavation continued on the staircase between the upper and lower lawns.



The team working on the inter-lawn staircase during the 1st Taster Weekend.

Work continuing on the staircase during the 3rd weekend.





View across the trench where the staircase between the upper and lower lawns is being excavated.

During the second Taster Weekend we were visited by a group of archaeology students and supervisors from Birkbeck College, part of the University of London. they carried out geophysical surveys near the staircase trench, using a magnetometer and a resistance meter.

The students from Birkbeck College discussing progress on their surveying exercise near the staircase.



The Field Schools

The first Field School started to continue the work done earlier in the year on the foundations near the standing pillar. However the effects of Hurricane Bertha meant that we had to switch back to working on the staircase for a couple of days.



The team working on the staircase during the very wet days at the start of the 1st Field School.

Once the trench near the pillar dried out, work moved back there to continue investigating the foundations of the North-West wing of the mansion.

The trench containing the foundations running North-South in the North-East wing, near the standing pillar.



The trench containing the foundations running West-East in the North-East wing, near the standing pillar.