

Report Of A Watching Brief Conducted At 5, Winton Avenue Saltdean, Brighton

On Sunday 14th June and Monday 15th June 1998 a member of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society conducted a watching brief at 5, Winton Avenue, Saltdean, Brighton. The area surveyed was subject to a small development of an existing building extension.

The location of a Saxon burial in the garden of the property had been reported by the houseowner Mr Price.(Ref TQ3 88030) The object of the watching brief was to examine the ditches created by the digging of the footings and investigate the soil removed from the ditches.

The extension of the building lies south east of the existing and overlies a previous development of a concrete hard stand. This previous development had cut into the natural chalk by over a metre in depth and the terracing extended back to the present steps leading into the house. New footings were being cut into the existing steps and new steps were being created leading up to the new extension.

The exposed section showed only clean chalk with no evidence for a cutting indicating the location of a graves. Examination of the surrounding precincts produced considerable quantities of contemporary disturbance, footings for walls and the hard core base for the concrete hard stand. No artefacts were found during this examination. The layer above the chalk section has already been cleared down to the chalk sub-soil and the new extension footings are cutting through the existing step foundations. No features were observed.

The burial lay in the north west section of the garden on a steep incline.

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society would like to thank Mr Price for his co-operation and assistance during the watching brief

John Funnell
(Hon. Sec. Archaeology Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society)
18th June 1998