ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD NOTEBOOK 2000

A RECORD OF THE PROJECTS OF THE:

BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD UNIT

Introduction

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit have developed into a deeply motivated and enthusiastic team. The numbers of the unit continue to rise as is recorded in the attendance record. During each year the unit was involved in many programs of both excavation and research. Research programs through field walking and geophysics are an essential element of the unit. Many of the projects are part of an on going program or study, some may be held in abeyance for some considerable time before they develop into major projects.

The Unit is concerned that much of their endeavors is unlikely to be published in their interim state, but that some record of their achievements be listed and recorded if only in limited circulation. It is considered that all the museums and Council bodies as well the County Archaeologist be supplied with the document and that a copy is deposited at Barbican House library for reference.

It has been instilled into every member of the unit about the futility of non-publication and all are aware of how much knowledge has been lost in past through neglect in publication. The Unit considers that even the smallest investigations require publication somewhere and that even negative results from projects are recorded for future reference.

Past unpublished projects are being included in the publication to bring awareness of research conducted in the past around Brighton and Hove, but not as yet recorded. Hollingbury field walking in 1991 produced very little in the way of finds other than flint material and is deemed too ‘insignificant’ for publication. The field walking was conducted and despite the lack of finds requires some record be it of a negative nature. The negative aspect of archaeology is as important as the more productive.

John D.Funnell 18th January 2000

CONTENTS

Preliminary report on archaeological investigations conducted by Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society in Pudding Bag Wood and Stanmer Great Wood, Brighton, during the year 2000

by John D.Funnell P.I.F.A.

During the spring and early summer of 2000, Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society, at the request of Brighton and Hove Council, and with full support from English Heritage, conducted archaeological investigations on two linear bank and ditch earthworks (often referred to as Cross Ridge Dykes,) located in Pudding Bag Wood and Stanmer Great Wood, to see ~ before scheduling, a date for construction could be determined. Results tentatively date the Pudding Bag Wood earthwork to the Neolithic and the Stanmer Great Wood earthwork to the early Iron Age.

Introduction

A recent discussion by Hamilton (1999) has noted that Linear earthworks are often associated with Bronze age landscape blocks, however a limited number of excavations by Curwen & Curwen (1918), Bedwin (1970) and O'Connor (1976) have failed to give any clear indication to the actual purpose of these earthworks. So when Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society was approached by Brighton and Hove Council to conduct excavations on two linear earthworks in the Stanmer region, which were being considered for scheduling by English Heritage, an opportunity arose under which this hypothesis could be investigated. Pudding Bag Wood and Stanmer Great Wood are located north of Brighton in the County of East Sussex (Fig 1.) Pudding Bag Wood lies on the periphery of an area of tertiary clay with flint. The geology is a combination of clays, sands and flint overlying a chalk bedrock. Periglactial activities and water action have affected the various layers causing some interaction of deposits. (pers comm. S. Ullyott Lecturer at Brighton University). The clay capping has eroded down to chalk bedrock at the small dip in the hill which is the location of the Coldean Lane car park. The hill rises gently again to the east and the clay deposits are again found on the upper contours.

This area is rich in archaeological evidence of prehistoric times. Excavations at Downsview (Rudling & Funnell forthcoming), and Varley Halls, Coldean (Greig 1993), have provided evidence of middle and late Bronze Age settlements. There have been a number of isolated Bronze Age finds, including cremation burials in nearby Coldean and along the Ditchling Road (Yeates 1950). Tumuli have been uncovered at Patcham Fawcett School dating to the Bronze Age and recent excavations produced further evidence of settlement in this area (Greatorex forthcoming). Geophysical surveying and field walking conducted by the Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society have provided evidence of Neolithic, Bronze age, iron Age and Roman activity. (Fig 2.)

With evidence of prehistoric activity in such proximity to the earthworks a project involving excavation, geophysics and survey was planned to see if any links could be established between features and the surrounding archaeological landscape. It was hoped that some conclusion as to their purpose, as well as a date for their construction, could be determined. Excavations were conducted on the two earthworks to determine a date of construction.

Geophysics was conducted on a nearby area known to contain a barrow (SMR27018) to investigate a link to the recently excavated Bronze Age site at Downsview and a contour survey was conducted to determine how a number of features fit into their topographical surroundings.

The Contour Survey

The linear earthwork in Pudding Bag Wood is part of a more complex set of depressions and raised features. A study of the SMR and documents of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society produced no evidence for any previous contour survey in this area. A number of depressions are located close to the linear earthwork, both to the north and south of the termini. A solitary depression abuts the wall surrounding Stanmer at the north west corner of the wood, close to a pair of gate entrances.

A series of ranging posts were aligned along the length of the earthwork placed at 10 metre intervals and recordings taken. The west ditch, the ditch base, the bank peak and the bank east side were recorded using the same method. The earthwork termini were surveyed by sighting and measuring ranging poles at a number of convenient locations The details were recorded using a plane table and alidade. The drawings were transferred to computer using scanning devices, the results were regenerated into a Radan graphical output. (Fig.3). A cross sectional survey of both the depressions and tumulus (SMR 459) was undertaken and drawings produced (Fig.4)

The subtle nature of the linear feature made the precise location of the west side of the ditch difficult to determine. The east side of the bank and the peak of the mound are quite distinct. The termini of the linear earthworks flow down gentle slopes at both ends, although the southern section is disturbed and cut by another depression. There is a small platform at the south end of the earthwork, and the mound drops from this level gently down into the surrounding natural contours. Part of the Survey included the flint wall surrounding Stanmer. The wall has two openings in the south west corner, both are of single door dimensions. A section of the wall was demolished during the Brighton Bypass construction, when a temporary road was constructed to allow chalk to be transported from the area of Downsview to be re-deposited at the fields of Eastwick Barn and the road is now a wide walkway. This section of the wall was rebuilt to its original dimensions. However, the linear earthwork peters out before it reaches this recent construction and so was not affected by it.

The large depression close to the Stanrner wall is located between the door openings and is hidden by a copse of trees. The depression measures 14M long by 12M in width and is oval in shape. The north end of this depression is considerably steeper than the south side, suggesting the earth was removed from the south side.

To the north of the linear earthwork lie two depressions and the raised mound of a tumulus, an Scheduled Ancient Monument, all three features being surveyed. The tumulus has a depression in the centre suggesting that it has been robbed at some time in the past. The depression to the east of the tumulus, the central feature of the three, is less deep than the depression to the east, measuring 8M in diameter and only 0.7M in depth. The depression to

the east is considerably larger measuring 1OM by 9M and is 1.2M in depth. The eastern side of this depression opens on to the natural contours. No further earthworks were noted north of the recorded complex. The final depression surveyed is located at the southern end of the linear feature and cuts into the east side of the larger earthworks. The upcast from the workings of this feature lie less well defined around the top west side of the depression creating a platform.

The survey allowed an overview of all the features and their relative positions. The location of a second tumulus in the area is known but is not well defined and no trace could be found of it above ground. The tentative location of this mound is shown in dotted detail on the survey drawing. A geophysical survey may produce more accurate location details for this feature. The linear earthwork terminates at the north end short of the depressions, the features are distinctly separate entities. The depression close to the Stanmer wall is an isolated and very insular feature. It is the depression at the southern end of the linear earthworks that produces the only form of chronology in this sequence of features. The southern depression clearly cuts into the side of the linear and post dates the ditch and bank. The survey produced no evidence for a bank on the west side of the linear ditch.

The dating of the depressions can only be conjectural. The local Stanmer Preservation Society believe that the wall surrounding Stanmer was constructed during the early 19th century by Napoleonic prisoners of war and that the depressions are a result of digging for flint nodules as part of that enterprise. The woods do contain a number of features from the second world war, including slit trenches, but these are located north of the Upper Lodge cottages. Local people are unaware of Pudding Bag Wood being utilised for military purposes involving the creation of earthworks.

The Geophysical Survey (Resistivity)

The resistivity survey conducted at Coldean Lane car park has been the subject of an earlier interim report and is appended to this later document.

The Excavations

Pudding Bag Wood

Pudding Bag wood is the south west section of Stanmer Woods, and is bounded on the south and west by a flint wall, a historical boundary of Stanmer Park. The earthwork (TQ32550962) had been investigated before by the Society with an excavation in 1962, (SMR reference Antiquity No. TQ 30 NW *55).* This investigation of a trench 1 .4M wide confirmed that the earthworks were artificial but derived no evidence for purpose or dating. The excavation in 1962 was only partially back filled. The earthwork runs from south to north and measures 104 metres in length. The width of ditch and bank measures 15.6M. The ditch is located on the west side of the adjacent bank. The bank of the earthworks measures 0.7M in height.

The method of excavation was to utilise the section cut in the earlier excavation. The back fill was removed down to the previously excavated levels. Once the original trench had been cleared of rubble it was found that the earlier work had only investigated the bank section and not the adjacent ditch. The ditch fill was removed and the stratigraphy noted and recorded. A limited number of sherds of very abraded pottery were recovered from the upper fills of the ditch, but no pottery was found under the bank layers. A considerable quantity of flint material of flakes and some tools were retrieved, particularly from the ditch primary fill. Very few finds were recovered from the bank section and these were mainly found in the upcast from the ditch construction. Despite intense studies of the section no trace was found of a buried land surface.

The section was cleaned back, drawn (Fig.5) and photographed and a video diary maintained of the progress of the excavation. The ditch proved to be 1.2M deep and 3.1M wide. The complete section was cut back a further 0.5M to the north with individual finds measured in its exact position, both laterally and vertically. A survey drawing was compiled of the section. Each find collected was placed into a section drawing constructed on a computer producing an overall illustration of the finds (Fig.6). It can be observed from the graphical display that there are distinct stratigraphical layers of finds both below and above a well defined layer of large flint nodules, context C. The section produced evidence for the sequence of construction for the ditch and bank and the subsequent collapse. A berm was constructed measuring approximately 4.2M in width including the ditch width. A section of the flat area can be observed on the east side of the ditch. The upcast from the ditch fill created the bank with a significant mound of large flint nodules placed on the berm edge. There is no evidence for a bank on the west side of the ditch. A primary silting on the west side of the ditch is apparent but the collapse of the flint mound is evident on the east side where the primary ditch fill consists entirely of large flint nodules and sandstone pieces. The ditch continued silting up until a distinct layer of flint nodules cover the lower layers. A find of a broken barbed and tanged arrow head and a few sherds of pottery were found in this layer. A secondary silting comprised the upper ditch fills with another thin layer of flint nodules capping this upper fill. The top stratigraphy consisted of leaf mould and organic material overlain by the upcast from the excavation of 1962.

The Stratigraphy

Layer A. The top layer consisted of a layer of overburden, this being the remains of the spoil from the 1962 excavation. This layer was clearly defined as a light brown colour overlying the much darker strata below consisting of the recent leaf mould and faunal deposits.

Constituent parts of fill medium flint nodules 40%, large flint nodules *5%,* Firm clay, root action and animal burrowing.

Layer B. Dark brown soil. Sandy clay with organic layer of leaf mould build up. Some small flint nodules 20%.

Layer C. Medium brown fill, small to medium flint nodules 50%

Layer C2. Ephemeral layer of in ‘C’ of soft sandy clay

Layer D. Clay mixture, bright yellow and brown colour. Medium flint nodules. Some small fragments of Ironstone. Natural geology

Layer E. Medium dark brown soil of firm, compact clay. Large to medium flint nodules *25%*. Some darker flecks of soil (It is possible that this layer is the buried land surface, but if it is it is very disturbed and may indicate agricultural use prior to construction of earthwork). The flecks were considered to be part of natural geology by S.Ullyott (Brighton University)

Layer E2. Lower ditch fill. Large flint nodules 80%. Some large pieces of Ironstone

Layer E3. Sandy Clay on west side of lower ditch fill

Layer F. Dark brown clay soil consisting of compact clay. Small/medium flint nodules 10%. Natural geology.

Layer G. Upper ditch fill-medium/dark brown loose sandy clay. Large flint nodules 2%.

Layer H. Same constituents as layer G, but below sealed flint ‘C’ layer. Layer J. Chalk substrata picked up on east side of bank section in several areas.

Stanmer Great Wood

The linear earthwork in Stanmer Great Wood, (TQ33 190924), runs from the south west to north east across the ridge of the hill and as such may be termed a ‘cross ridge dyke’. The bank measures 72M in length and the combined width of the ditch and bank is approximately 13M. The ditch is located on the east side of the bank. The earthwork has been cut through by a woodland path, but no record is known of any investigation conducted during that process. A number of flint flakes were found among nearby uprooted tree hollows prior to the commencement of the excavation.

A section measuring 9.SM in length and 1M wide was laid out 1OM south of the woodland path, running from west to east. The section cut through the bank of the feature and across the width of the ditch. The bank measured 7M in width. The ditch measured 2M in width and the depth of the ditch was IM. The ditch was considerably smaller in both width and depth to that of Pudding Bag Wood, but the ditch ‘v’s’ were of similar angles. The bank was overcut in depth to exaggerate the archaeological features for recording in section. Mr Stuart Ullyott of Brighton University examined the section upon completion and noted that the geology was typical of this area of clay with flint. No trace was found of any chalk substrate in this section. The clay was predominantly sandy in texture with occasional flint nodules in the upper layers. The natural geology consisted of pure sandy clay. The ditch bottom, however continued down to a more prolific level of flint nodules. The excavations at Stanmer Great Wood produced both flint artefacts and pottery. During the excavation an area of intense flint debris cut into the sandy lower levels on the west side of the section (Context D) This

peculiar area, resembling a ditch section, was initially considered to be cutting through the bank and running parallel to it from north to south. The examination of the section, however, showed that the bank overlay this feature. The excavation of this feature produced only compact flint nodules and compressed flint and gravel, no finds were recovered from within this context. It is now considered that the intrusive feature is geological and may be associated with periglacial activity.

The pottery recovered from the ditch included a number of decorated pieces. The preservation of the sherds was generally poor, but the quantity was significantly greater than the number found at Pudding Bag Wood. The flint material consisted mainly of flakes and the style of artefact was a completely different assemblage to that found at Pudding Bag. The collection comprised of a significant number of smaller flakes. A number of cores and scrapers were found.

The section was cut back to the south a further 0.5M and the section drawn (Fig.7) and photographed. The finds were recorded individually in both lateral and vertical locations. The finds locations were transferred to a computer where a graphical image was accurately plotted (Fig. 8)

The construction of the Stanmer Great Wood earthwork was similar to that of Pudding Bag Wood. An initial berm was created on the west side of the ditch approximately 4.2M wide. The bank consisted of the upcast from the ditch upper fills. Similarly, there is no evidence for a bank on the east side of the ditch. The primary fill of this feature consisted entirely of medium to large flint nodules. The stratigraphy above the primary fill produced a sequence of sandy barns interspersed with layers of flint beds. Both Pudding Bag Wood and Stanmer Great Wood produced significant similarities in construction.

The Stratigraphy

Layer A. A fine textured sandy loam, medium brown in colour

Layer B. Mid/brown to orange sandy loam. Small/medium flint nodules 20%

Layer C. Mid/brown to orange sandy loam. Small/medium flint nodules 40%

Layer D. Mixed gravels, fine medium texture. Constituents of small flint nodules some iron-stone. Gritty sand. Angular and sub-angular nodules 80%

Layer E. A fine textured sandy loam, medium brown in colour between 2 layers of medium/large flint nodules. Flint nodules 25%. Below layer C.

Layer F. Thin layer of orange to medium brown fine gravels. Below layer A and C

Layer G. Light brown/orange sandy soil. Very small flint inclusions *0.5%* No finds Natural geology, soil substrate.

Layer H. Large/medium flint nodules 90% Derived from clay, ditch primary fill.

Layer I. This layer has the same constituents as layer G, but with some small flint nodules 1%. Below layers C and partially below D.

Layer J. Same constituents as mid/brown sandy loam at east end of ditch.(same context cut by ditch).

Layer K. Light brown silty clay. Below layer F.

Discussion

The excavations at Pudding Bag Wood and Stanmer Great Wood were a unique opportunity to examine such enigmatic features. The project permitted comparisons to be made in various aspects of the earthworks, including method of construction and finds distribution. The earthworks are well defined in the landscape and only vary in dimensions, both lie on a north to south orientation and the banks are located only on one side of the ditch. The distinct difference between the two features is that the ditch at Pudding Bag is on the west side compared to the Great Wood ditch being to the east. The Pudding Bag ditch is significantly larger than that of Stanmer Great Wood, but the stratigraphy is similar. There was no evidence for buried land surfaces found in either section, and the sections from both earthworks produced no signs of recutting of the ditches.

The linear features, while similar in construction, have produced finds in both content and distribution of differing periods. The Pudding Bag Wood collection contained only a few sherds of pottery from the upper ditch fill with no pottery being found under the bank sections. The flint material, containing significant quantities of flint flakes and some hammer stones were found in the primary deposits of the ditch section. The bank produced a scattering of flint flakes, generally dispersed within the upper deposits. A damaged barbed and tanged arrow head came from the upper fill of the ditch. The flint material from the primary fills is currently being examined by Mr Chris Butler. A complete report will be forthcoming.

The collection of flint flakes and tools as well as pottery is significantly larger at the Stanmer Great Wood feature than that of Pudding Bag Wood. The flint material from there consists mainly of small flakes with a number of associate cores from both the ditch fills and the bank. The pottery and flint is well distributed throughout the whole of the ditch and bank although the pottery, with the exception of a solitary sherd from the lower ditch, is concentrated in the layers above the primary ditch fills. The pottery is very poorly preserved but a number of decorated pieces were recovered. A more detailed analysis of the pottery collection will be forthcoming.

A small trench measuring 1 M square was cut 15 .6M to the west of the linear feature to examine the geology of the area and even this small trench produced finds of flint flakes and fire-cracked flint indicating prehistoric activity around the earthwork.

The method of construction, the gradual silting of the ditches, the upper flint deposit effectively sealing the ditches and the dating from finds have all provided evidence for prehistoric activity in the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age periods in Stanmer. However, the reason for the construction and the setting in the ancient landscape is still as elusive as ever. Very little is known and recorded about Neolithic Stanmer, field walking in the vicinity of Varley Halls and Marquee Brow has produced significant quantities of white patinated flint flakes and tools dating from this period (Funnell forthcoming). A number of isolated finds from trees uprooted in the 1987 gales have been recovered east of the earthwork in Stanmer Great Wood, but the evidence for activity in the Neolithic is very ephemeral. The tentative date for Pudding Bag Wood feature would make a significant addition to known sites of this era

The settlements at Downsview and Varley Halls nearby, both had a ditch on the eastern boundary. Both of these ditches and those of Pudding Bag Wood and Stanmer Great Wood tend to align on a north to south alignment and it is only in aerial photographs of the Varley Hall fields that pboughed out lynchets are noted running east to west. The excavations at Eastwick Barn (Rudling & Funnell forthcoming) of a 'Celtic' field system proved conclusively that the field system was dated to the Late Iron Age and similar finds of this date were noted in the excavations on Varley Halls. It has been suggested that these features are probably part of ancient field systems and boundaries. However apart from the ditches being aligned on the same North-South axis as at the eastern boundary ditches found at Downsview and Varley Halls, there is little evidence to confirm or deny this suggestion. One hypothesis proposed during the excavation was that the linear nature of the feature could be conceived as a form of open cast mining, exploiting the flint and clay deposits. The clay found varies in texture and standard but the sections produced limited areas of very good quality. The abundance of flint nodules discovered in the primary fills of both ditches, and the dark patination of much of the flint found including the cores and tools, could suggest that the poorer quality of flint was still being utilised. The flint assemblage at Pudding Bag Wood tends to suggest a Neolithic/Bronze age date for construction, whereas the pottery from Stanmer Great Wood indicates a much later Iron Age period for its construction.

Flint Material

Report forthcoming

The Pottery

Report forthcoming

The Environmental Analysis

Report forthcoming

Acknowledgements

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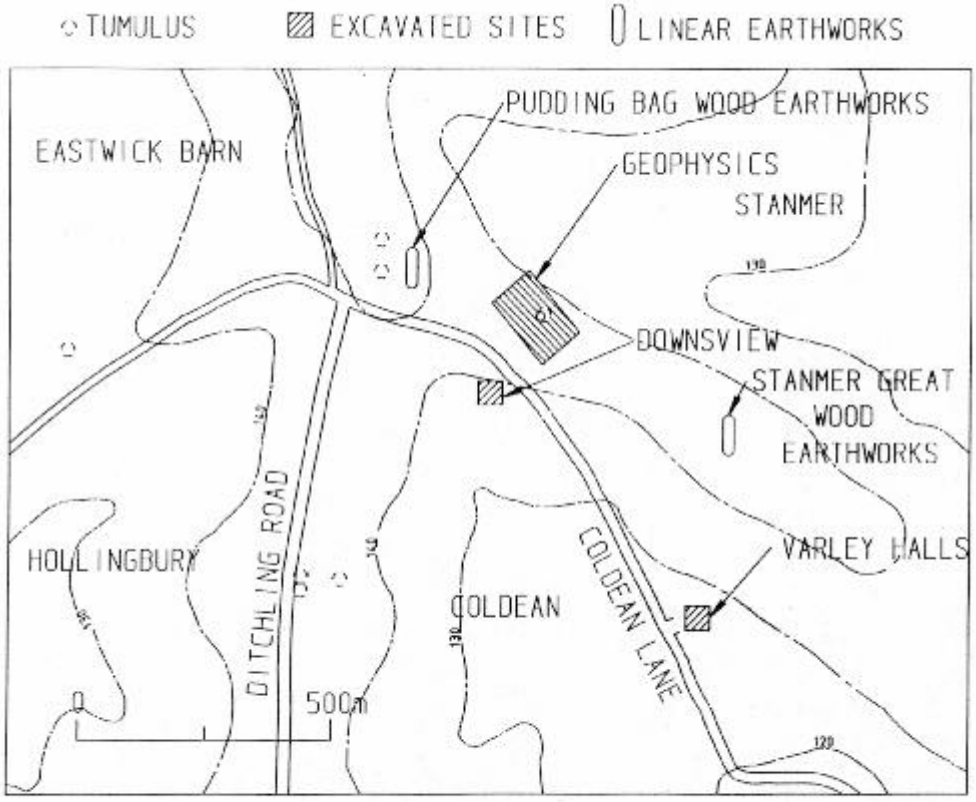

FIG. 1

(BRIGHTON BYPASS OMITTED FOR CLARITY)

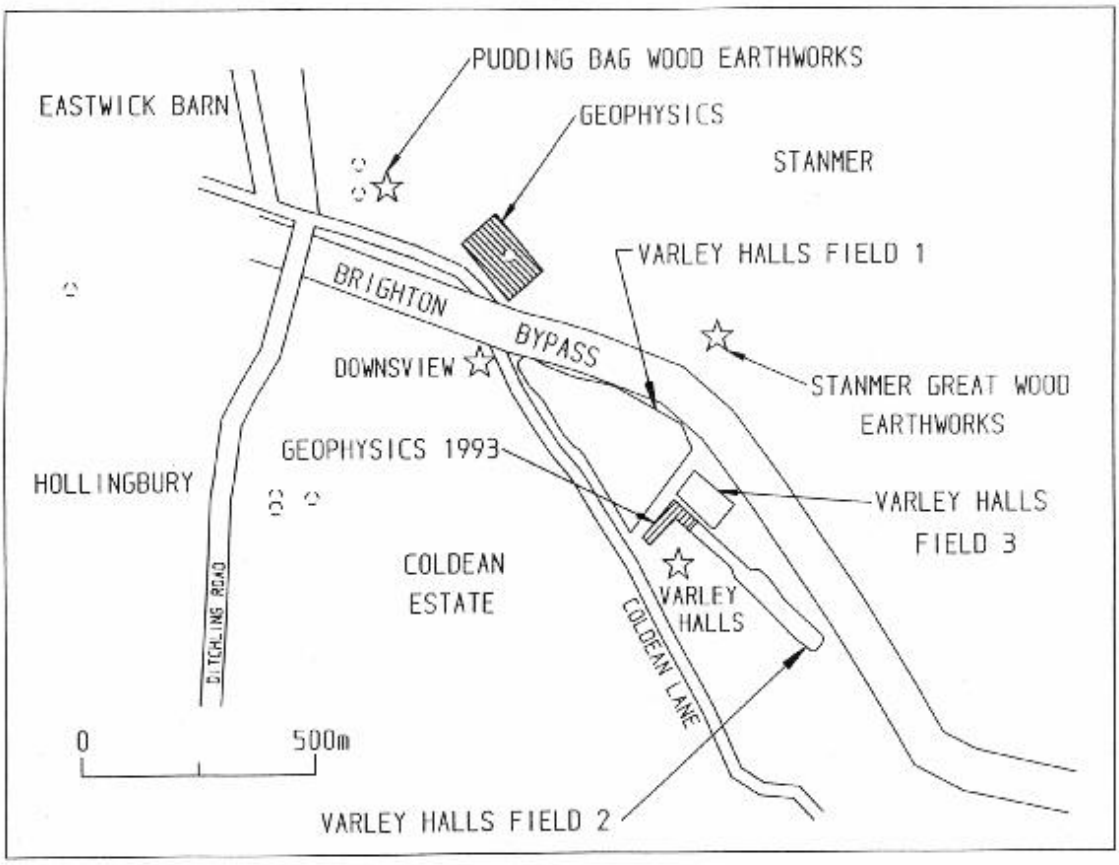
PUDDING BAG WOOD EARTHWORKS
EASTWICK BARN
GEOPHYSICS
STANMER
VARLEY HALLS FIELD 1
BRIGHTON
BYPASS
DOWNSVIEW
STANMER GREAT WOOD
EARTHWORKS
GEOPHYSICS 1993
HOLLINGBURY
VARLEY HALLS
FIELD 3
COLDEAN
ESTATE
VARLEY
HALLS
COLDEAN LANE
BITCHLING ROAD
0
500m
VARLEY HALLS FIELD 2

FIG. 2

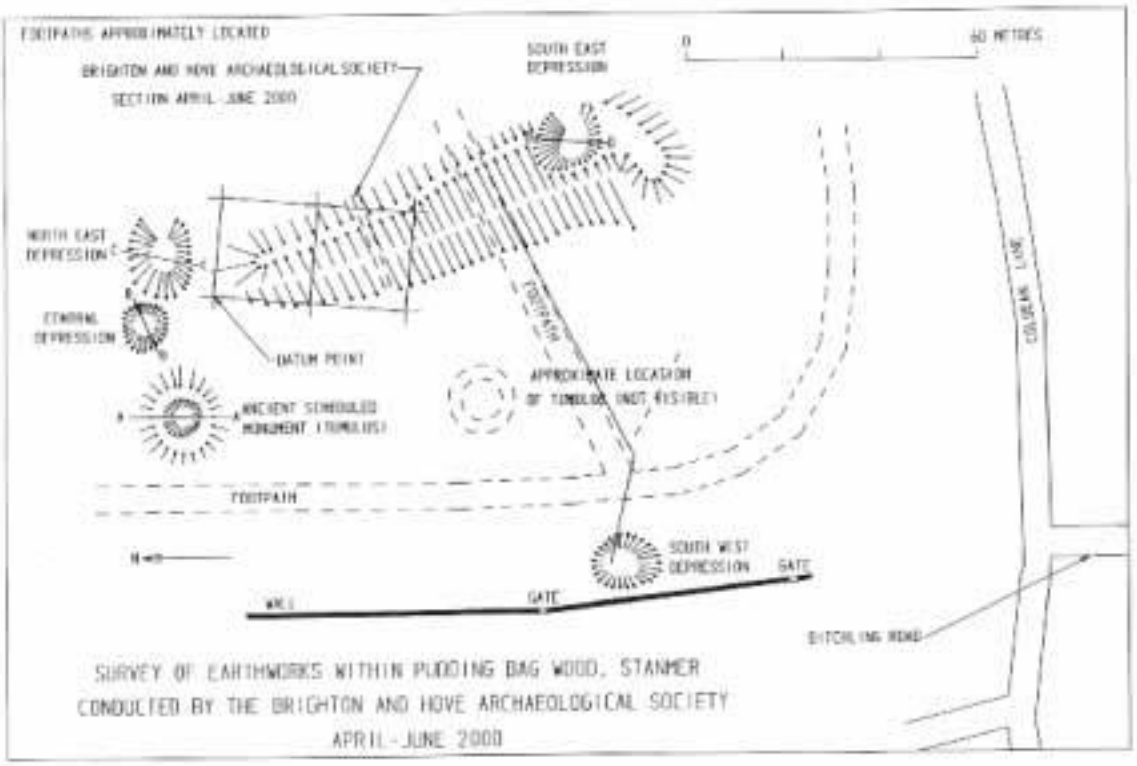
FOOTPATHS APPROXIMATELY LOCATED
BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
SECTION APRIL-JUNE 2000
SOUTH EAST DEPRESSION
0
60 METRES
NORTH EAST DEPRESSION
CENTRAL DEPRESSION
DATUM POINT
FOOTPATH
APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF TUMULUS (NOT VISIBLE)
ANCIENT SCHEDULED MONUMENT (TUMULUS)
COLDEAN LANE
FOOTPATH
SOUTH WEST DEPRESSION
GATE
WALL
GATE
BIRCHLING ROAD
SURVEY OF EARTHWORKS WITHIN PUDDING BAG WOOD, STANMER
CONDUCTED BY THE BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
APRIL - JUNE 2000

FIG.3

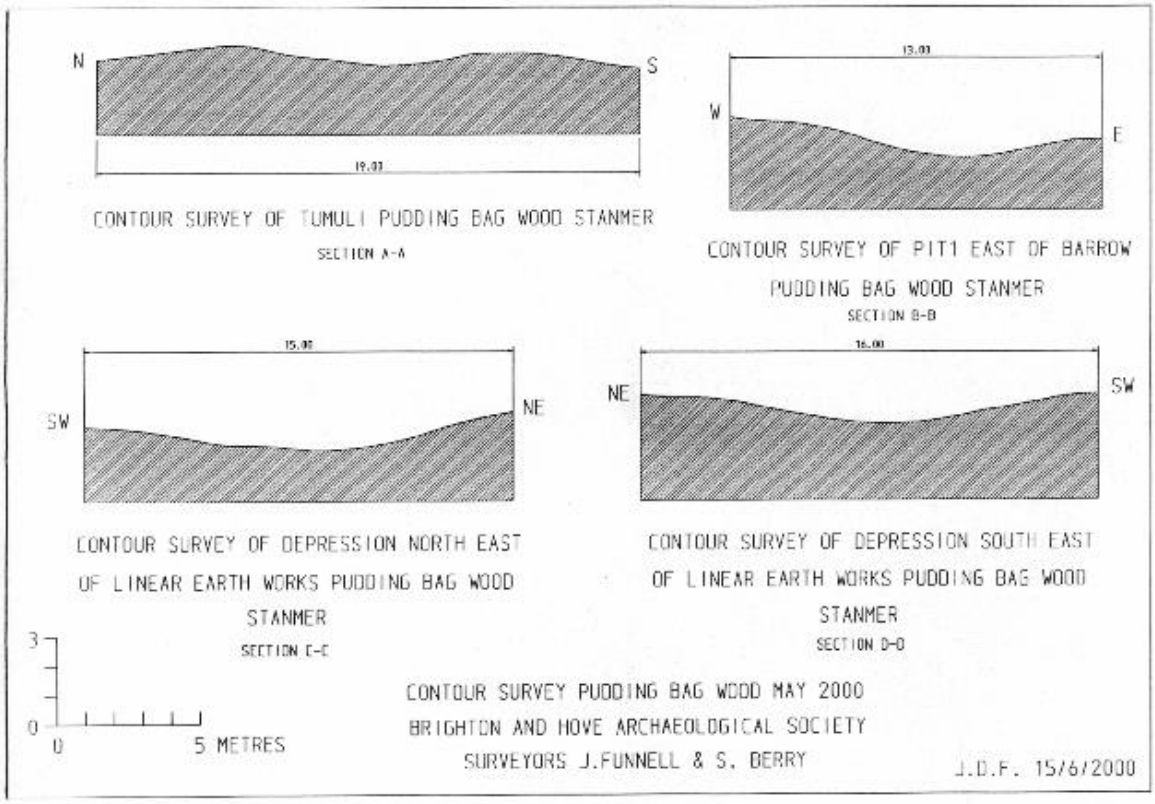

FIG.4

Fig 5.

Section Pudding Bag Wood

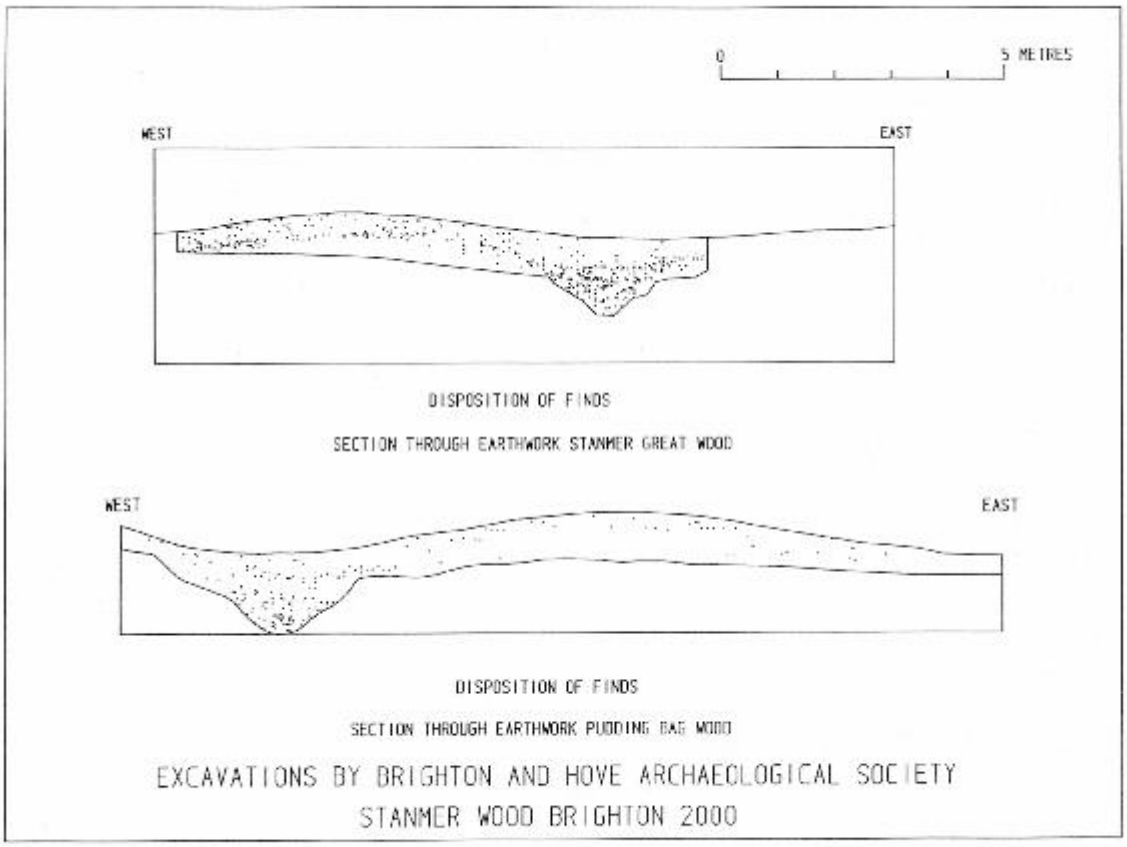

FIG.6

Fig 7

Section Stanmer Great Wood

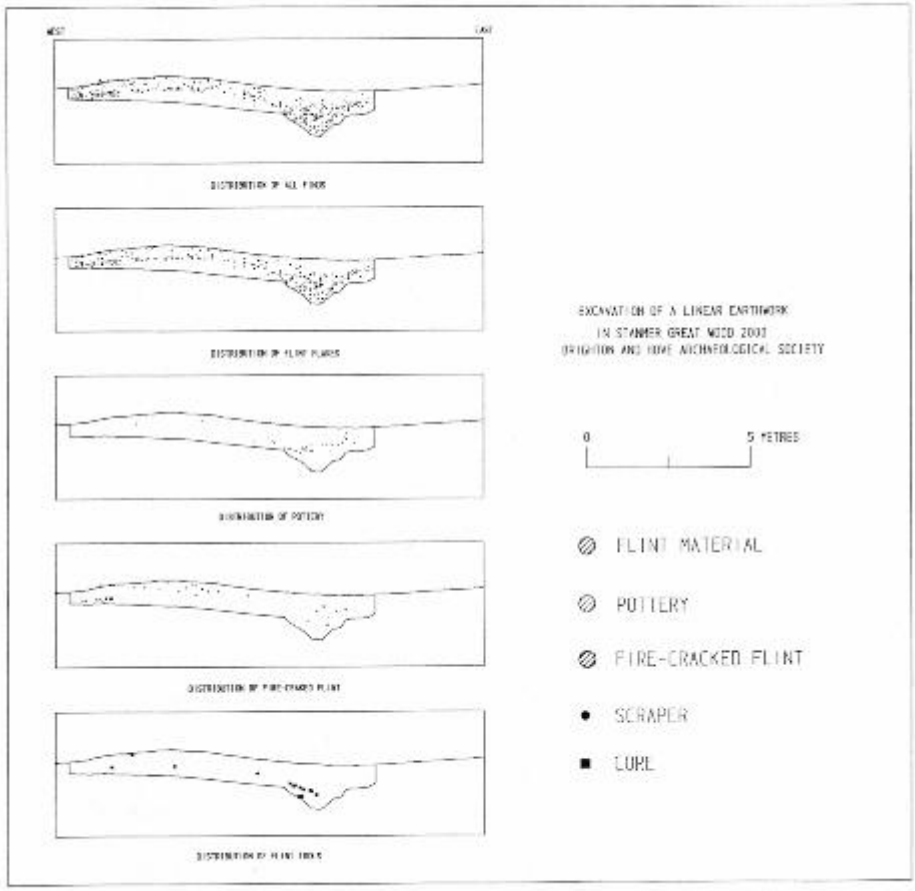
EXCAVATION OF A LINEAR EARTHWORK
IN STANMER GREAT WOOD 2003
BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
0
5 METRES
FLINT MATERIAL
POTTERY
FIRE-CRACKED FLINT
SCRAPER
CORE

FIG.8

EXCAVATIONS AT ROCKY CLUMP STANMER 2000

Introduction

The excavations at Rocky Clump Stanmer began in late June and continued through to December. An area of 72m square was uncovered north of the existing trench. The purpose of this new section was to examine anomalies produced in the geophysical survey of 1998. A number of linear arrangements had been observed and 2 significant areas of high resistance. The new excavation would examine one of the areas of high resistance and produce some understanding of the linear anomalies closet to the existing excavation.

The top soil areas were grided out in 2m square sections to allow spatial disposition of the plough soil artefacts to be recorded. The majority of top soil was removed by trowelling with a small extension on the east side (12m square) being removed by mattock and shovel. The new grids on the south side of the extended site had been started in 1999 and given context nos. 481-492, a number of these areas were given new numbers for the new season . The dual context numbers allocated are:- 472/526, 473/525, 474/524, 475/532, 476/531, 477/530, 478/538, 479/537, 480/536, 481/523, 484/529, 485/528, 487/535, 488/534, 509/527, 510/533, 511/539.

The highest number will be referred to as the context number in any report. The new section produced a number of features including post holes, pits and a large area of dark fill. The new area contains some geological deposits (solution holes) of tertiary clay with associate iron stone nodules and blackened flint.

Trowelling back emphasised the features and a new ditch running from west to east was one of the first features noted. The ditch crosses grid numbers 490, 483, 482 and 523. In this sections it is well defined, but as it enters grid no 524/530 the situation becomes more complex. A cut running from south to north was anticipated being the extension of the known significant ditch excavated in the previous 2 years, and while a well defined edge has been found on the west side of the new excavation the area on the east side is proving to be far more complex.

A substantial pit or possible building appears to encroach on the north/south ditch in areas 525, 526, 530, 531, 532, 535, 536, 537 and 538. The whole fill is interspersed with flint nodules of significant size. The areas to the east, contexts 526, 532 and 538 producing a greater concentration than the fills to the east. On the south eastern corner some clay with flint patches could indicate solution hollows in that section, contexts 526 and 532.

A large area of solution material consisting of clay, blackened flint and iron stone lies immediately west of the north/south ditch edge tentatively suggested by the edge of a chalk boundary in contexts 525 and 536. The junction of the 2 ditches is very obscure at this moment with no real definition readily observed. A linear feature of disturbed flint nodules hinted at the location of a possible wall feature running south to north in contexts 523, 529 and 535.

A number of circular features on the west side of the trench, contexts 501, 502, 503, 504 and 505 along with stake holes 506 and 507 were uncovered. The majority of these features are small in diameter, with the exception of context 502, and may be ploughed out flint nodule recesses rather than post holes.

The Excavations

A small number of circular features were uncovered including the small post holes or nodule holes mentioned above. All of these features were sectioned and produced fills of chalky loam, with no finds. The exceptions to these features are:-

Context 411 Pit

This large pit has already been the subject of investigation in 1999 when it was sectioned and drawn. The feature disappeared under the baulk at that time. A plastic membrane was placed along the section during back filling and the remainder of the pit was excavated in 2000. The feature had produced Roman pottery from the section cut in 1999. The pit is round base.

Context 540 Pit

An area of rubble was cleaned back north of the large pit 411. A collection of flint rubble is abutted on the north side and the east by well defined chalk boundaries. Between the north edge of the pit 411 and the chalk boundary of the new east/west ditch south edge lies a possible post hole. The circular feature was cleared back ready for planning was not included in this seasons excavations.

Context 512 Ditch

The new ditch section cuts across the site from west to east. At the west side of the trench the ditch disappears under the baulk, on the east side it is ill defined and part of the complex features under excavation. The feature was cleaned back and recorded. A series of interspersed sections were cut to determine the configuration of the ditch profile and the stratigraphy. Drawings were compiled of all the various sections.

The ditch contained an upper fill of flint nodules running the length of the areas excavated, the linear arrangement terminated and turned to the north where a similar collection of badly disturbed flint nodules ran northwards. The lower fills consisted of chalky loam with no distinct layers other than the very shallow chalk primary fill. The ditch has a straight vertical cut on the north side but tapered out on the south side, resembling the cut of a footing for a building wall.

Context 525 Pit

Context 525 is a top soil area that overlay the north side of a large pit, context 412, excavated in 1999. This pit had been cut by the large south/north ditch. The previous years excavation had produced finds of bone, pottery and shell and a large sarsen block from the lower stratigraphy. A number of peculiarities from context 412 had included a sheep skull overlying a bed of oyster shells and a cattle skull overlying a bed of mussel and winkle shells.

A polythene membrane had been placed to effectively seal the old section boundary from the remaining half of the pit expected to be excavated this season. The area produced a deep dark fill, producing significant finds of pottery, bone and shell. At this moment, however, there is no indication of the pit and ditch features as separate entities, but an expansion of the ditch feature into

a much larger configuration. The pit has been excavated to a depth of 20cms and a change in the constituents of the fill is becoming apparent with a chalky loam being found under the dark upper fill. There is no edge apparent at this time.

Context 535/536/537/538 Pit/Building

The large area within trench J was littered with flint nodules interspersed with a dark fill. The dimensions of the feature required a section cut to determine the depth and nature of the stratigraphy. The central sections 529/530/531/532 and 533 were retained for section recording and used as baulks. An initial investigation was undertaken to trace the edge of the east/west ditch running through context square 530 but was abandoned when it was noted that it was important to record the complete section across the site, only a few millimetres had been trowelled. This area is also the important location of the junction of both ditches, requiring an accurate record of which cut which for the chronological sequence.

A section was begun on the north side of the large features excavating from east to west the contexts 535, 536, 537 and 538. A small section was cut to the east of the trench running northwards to provide a drainage ditch during the heavy rains of November and December. As the section progressed downwards it was found to contain a mixture of very dark soil and large flint nodules, but no clear definition was forthcoming of any features until at a depth of 30cms on the west side of the cut a linear feature began to appear. The east side of the section produced a distinctive edge in the chalk in context 538, this lay below an area of disturbed medium sized flint nodules, these flint nodules continued in the small drainage section cut. The edge of the feature in context 538 , lying under the flint bed has a distinct curvature. Area context 538 produced an upper fill of dark soil and a lower fill of chalk rubble, the section is incomplete at this time.

Excavation on the west side of the large feature in context 536 produced a linear chalk edge, linked visually to the edge found on the west side of the pit context 525 and is probably the west edge of the known south/north ditch continuing northwards. The fill consists of a very dark soil with considerable numbers of large flint nodules. It was at the centre of context 536 that the flint nodules were found to lie in a well defined linear configuration running from the south east corner to the north west. The south east corner of this arrangement is less wide than the north end, possibly as a result of excavation removing loss upper nodules. The 'wall' feature is about 50cms wide and has been excavated to a depth of 5cms. The line of flint lies between two contexts of varying fill constituents. The east side of the 'wall' consists of very dark silty soil and large flint nodules, context 536A, the west side consists of a pink coloured chalk loam context 536B. The excavation has produced no distinct bottom as yet. A coin of 295-297A.D. , a barbarous radiate, was recovered from the dark fill of 536A.

The Finds

The finds during the 2000 season were mainly confined to the top soil layers. As in past years the artefacts collected have included pottery, including some small pieces of Samian ware, mostly of grey wares and East Sussex ware. A number of sherds of prehistoric material was found this year. Quantities of bone and shell, the majority of which was oyster was also found. The top soil contexts contain quantities of contemporary or recent dating materials including building tile and brick, slate, nails, glass and ceramics.

Flint work and fire-cracked were still found but only in small amounts, similar to the quantities found in past years. The most significant finds this years, again from top soil contexts have been the small finds of metal objects. Pit section context 525 has produced the most prolific amount of finds, especially bone and pottery with rim sherds. Surprisingly the large section cut through 535/536/537 and 538 has been less productive in finds collection.

Small Finds

1) Coin of Henry VIII Context 473/525
2) Cuneiform Broach Context 473/525 - Details appended. Dated from 2nd to 3rd century.
3) Roman coin Barbarous Radiate 295-297 Context 474/524
4) Roman coin Barbarous Radiate 295-297 Context 479/537 Badly corroded
5) Roman coin context 489 Badly corroded
6) Bronze nail, square headed Context 492
7) Coin of Trajan (AD 98-117) - Found field walking in south field with pottery sherds.
8) Roman glass found in stratified layer of context 525
9) Roman coin- barbarous Radiate context 536A

Roman Glass

At a day school on glass in January 2001, John Shepherd of the Museum of London examined some of the glass from Rocky Clump and identified a number of pieces of Roman window glass and some fragments from Roman glass vessels, including some during the excavations in 2000.

Discussion

The new area uncovered north of the existing trench J continues to produce new and exciting contexts. Finds from the new area opened include pottery, bone, shell and a number of small finds. The small area of the new extension has produced a significant number of features adding more to the complexity of the site. The third ditch running from west to east is parallel to those found in the excavations of 1998 and 1999 but are unlikely to be filed boundaries as they are so closely spaced apart. It is possible that they signify new boundaries laid down over a period of time, but only detailed examination of the finds will provide accurate dating. It is noticeable, however, that both east/west ditches align at right angles to the north/south ditch indicating a contemporary date. the large ditch section found in 1999, context 444 being detached from this configuration may of course be from a different period.

It is the new large area in this excavation with the very dark fill that is providing a most interesting curiosity. The wall feature found some depth into this darker material and dividing as it does two very distinct layers carries on tantalisingly under the baulk. The reason for the extension of the excavation being carried out in this area was the linear features observed in the geophysical survey of 1998. The area of dark fill is located on a dark anomaly in this survey suggesting an area of high resistance, generally regarded to be walls or similar hard structures. The large depressions does contain large quantities of large flint nodules, but are not typical of the results expected from such survey readings. The wall feature while perhaps confirming the location of linear arrangements of contexts lies in the wrong direction to the anomalies produced on the geophysical survey. The lines

of high resistance in the 1998 survey suggest a rectangular arrangement of contexts running in a north easterly direction, the wall excavated in 2000 is actually running north west.

The finds from this season have included significant quantities of bone from context 525, a general disposition of -pottery, bone and shell from the deposits at 536A and 536B. Context 536B has been trowelled down to a chalky rubble on the east side of the section but continues in depth on the west side, it is anticipated that the west edge of the north/south ditch should appear at some time within the precincts of context 536A. The upper fills of context 529 have not been excavated at this time requiring careful examination to determine the nature of the ditch junctions and a possible chronological sequence for their construction. Contexts 525, 525A and 525B are being considered as part of the north section of pit 412 from the 1999 excavation, despite a clear west boundary curving around and joining the east/west ditch there is no distinct east edge to the known north/south ditch. It is possible that the large dark area constitutes another building cutting through earlier features, but only further excavation will determine whether this hypotheses is accurate.

It is evident that despite the extensive undertaking already completed Rocky Clump continues to provide important evidence for the settlement of a Romano-British community during the early part of the 1st millennium A.D. The exact location of the actual settlement still has not been uncovered, but geophysics and field walking do suggest a strong possibility that it lies south of Rocky Clump and not north. A limited number of casual fieldwalking projects carried out after the removal of the crop has produced considerable quantities of pottery finds from this area, close to a circular feature noted in the resistivity survey of 1999 and a coin of the emperor Trajan was found within a focus of pottery sherds in the same vicinity.

The features revealed in 2000 provide ample evidence for rural activities north of the trees with suggestions of more out -buildings buried in that location. The distinct lack of larger pottery sherds and supplementary finds of lamps or other domestic equipment suggest more buildings are likely to be found. The large amount of small finds from this season complement an already impressive array. The coins and broach within the new precincts of trench J tend to confirm a 2nd to 3rd century date for occupation, with the new coin of Trajan confirming activities at Rocky Clump in the 1st century.

The silver coin of Henry VIII from the top soil is regarded at this time as being an intrusive item, but only further excavation can confirm whether a Tudor presence is located close by.Rocky Clump and the site of the Romano-British settlement and possible ;shrine' still retain a certain mystique and interest in the less sophisticated lower status settlements. The general finds of pottery, bone and shell continue to provide information on diet, husbandry and trade. A complete study of the bones from the Rocky Clump excavations up to 1999 has been made by Georgina Slater, a student from Southampton University and is appended to this document in disc format. The small finds from 2000 have provided evidence to show that even low status economies could provide rich and elegant personal adornments. One such rare example was found this year in the form of a cuneiform broach in the shape of a four leaf clover, embellished with red enamelling it was found in context 472/526. The quality of the workmanship and the delicacy of the refinement clearly indicate that a backwater site such as Rocky Clump managed to acquire high quality status goods and may support the theory of a 'shrine' or sacred area. The broach is one of five found from within Britain at this time, the other broaches being found in Yorkshire, The Scilly Isles and another at Brighton. (G.Bishop pers comm.)

In conclusion it is obvious that Rocky Clump still has much to offer the archaeological environment, in the search for the complete picture of rural Roman Britain in this area. It is still

some time before the full story of Rocky Clump will be fully understood and the importance of this site cannot be underestimated.

Programme for 2001

It is hoped that the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society will continue with the support of Brighton and Hove Council and Mr David West in their endeavours to unravel the secrets of the past in Stanmer. The BHAS Field Unit is comprised of ordinary members of the public, professional members of Archaeological Units and educational personnel covering all ages and ranges of society: they are all linked in one pursuit the compilation of a complete and accurate record of the archaeology at Rocky Clump Stanmer.

A total of 59 people participated in the field activities this year with over 600 days worked in the archaeological environment. In addition educational training has been organised in finds processing and the studies of brick, tile and glass with regard archaeological contexts. Richard Pulley, member of the Field Unit, has contacted Malcome Lyne and has under his guidance started a pottery fabric collection, Richard is hoping to develop this further and encourage a small group to record and analyse the collection we have so far excavated. It is hoped that the people of Brighton and Hove will be able to continue to enjoy this facility and to become familiar with the archaeological environment of the countryside around Brighton and Hove.

Acknowledgements

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16th January 2001

Reference:-

Richard Hattat, 1989, Ancient Brooches and Other Artefacts. Pp156-157
IllustrationNo:1615

COIN FINDS

South Field 2000

Coin found field walking in south field October 14th 2000. The find was in association with considerable amounts of pottery, about 150 sherds.

The coin is 33mm in diameter, 3mm average thickness, weight approx 10 grammes, metal is 'orichalcum', Roman brass, being an alloy of copper and zinc, which corresponds to the general description of a 2nd century Sestertius.

It is very smooth worn, having a fine light even green patination and carries a clearly delineated portrait which is unmistakably that of the Roman emperor Trajan 97-11 7AD. The reverse shows a faint outline of a standing female figure.

Perversed above the head of Trajan is part of the original legend, "NO OPTIMO AVG GER" The entire legend may well have been

IMP CAES NER TRAINO OTIMO AVG GER DAC

The coin may well have been minted 98-100 AD in Roma, although would have been lost quite some time later. It is so smooth in surface wear that it may have been in circulation for some time or perhaps have been carried around as a keepsake or talisman for a long time, prior to loss.

Context 314

Coin of Emperor Trajan AD97-i 17 Its approx weight is 9 grammes, diameter 27mm and is made of 'orichalcum' (an alloy of approx 80% copper 20% zinc) which produced a golden yellow metal. Two similar size coins were in circulation:
The 'As' made of pure copper (red)

And the higher value "Dupondius" made of orichaicum (yellow), valued at 2 asses of haifa sestertius.

See appended note

Context 473

Silver Half Groat of Henry VIII, minted *1544-47*. Third coinage
Obverse: First bust

Reverse: Royal coat of arms in shield Context 478

A much corroded bronze Roman coin, apparent diameter approx 19mm. And carrying very faint indication of head showing resemblance to those found on "barbarous radiates". Possibly from late third century.

Context 485

A much corroded bronze Roman coin, apparent diameter approx 19mm. And carrying very faint indication of head showing resemblance to those found on “barbarous radiates”. Possibly from late third century.

Context 536

Roman “barbarous radiate” 15mm diameter dating from about 270-273AD

Obverse: Through-the-thick corrosion deposit can be seen the outline of a head, bearded, facing right wearing the familiar radiate “spikes”

Reverse: This appears to show a standing figure facing left with raised right arm carrying a garland?

W.S. Santer

CONTEXT RC 314

This is a coin of the Emperor Trajan AD 97-117, it's approx wt is 9 grms, diameter 27mm, and is made of orichalcum (an alloy of approx.80% copper/20% zinc) which produced a golden yellow metal. Two similar size coins were in circulation:

> the "As" made of pure copper (red),
> and the higher value "Dupondius" made of orichalcum (yellow), valued at two asses or half a sestertius.

obverse: head of Trajan facing right, legend;
IMP . CAES . NERVA TRAIAN . AVG. GERM. P . M.

reverse: figure standing between S C ,with COS to the right followed possibly by II. to the left of the S appear T R (P7) indiscernible.

This could indicate that the coin was minted after Trajan's second consulate awarded AD 98, and as his third consulateship is dated AD 100, then this produces a likely date between AD98- 100.

abbreviations:

IMP. "imperator"--supreme commander over all the Legions of the Roman Army. CAES. "caesar"--absolute monarch/dictator, derived from Julius Caesar.

NERVA-- Trajans adoptive father. TRALAN--Trajan.

AVG. Augustus

P.M. ."pontifex maximus"--judge of everything relating to the religion and sacred ceremonies of the Romans, a dignity which once conferred was held for life.

S C.."senatus consulto"--lssued by authority of the Senate.

COS."consul"--an annual appointment to the "judiciary" which was often held by an emperor who would often advertise the fact on his coins, showing the number of occasions he had held the appointment. This can be a useful aid to dating.

TR.P."tribunicia potestas"--Tribune of the people with power to dismiss both the Assembly and the Senate and to veto any order of the Senate. It was awarded annually in the days of the Republic. Augustus began the practice of dating his reign by the years of his tribunician power as though the office was still bestowed annually and indicated this on his many of his coins as did successive emperors, thus providing a useful means of dating much of the Imperial coinage.

GERM. ."germanicus"--Title given in commemoration of victory over an enemy of the Empire.

W.S. Santer

Pottery Finds at Rocky Clump

Rocky Clump has for some time been an archaeological enigma. Ever since the site was first excavated in the early 1950's it has been reluctant to reveal its true identity (Funnell 2000: 9). Thanks to the continuing diligence of members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society the site is at last beginning to reveal its secrets. If we were to use Collingwood's definition of a villa, 'the dwelling of people somewhat Romanised in manners, who farmed' (quoted in Scott, 1993:2) then perhaps Rocky Clump could, in terms of the pottery evidence at least, be classed as a villa !

Although only a relatively small proportion of its pottery has been analysed at present an interesting picture is beginning to emerge. From just below the plough soil has come a range of pottery from a number of different sources. It suggests a level of sophistication that points towards a relatively wealthy and well integrated farming community. By no means aristocratic the material might best be associated with *coloni*, the class of semi dependent yet self-responsible peasants (Love 1991: 26) that existed in Romanised Britain.

Pottery dating from the first century AD to the fourth century AD and into the early middle ages has been recovered, either from field walking or excavation. The vast majority (well over half the total fabric weight) is East Sussex grog tempered ware, ranging in date from first century AD to some late 'dog dish' and beaded and flanged bowl forms from the fouth century AD. This is a fabric form that does seem to be almost exclusively found within the county of East Sussex and whose production centre is still uncertain. It ranges in colour from orange through to dark brown and black. It seems to have been used mainly in the production of utility items such as jars and bowls.

From the first century AD comes interesting imported ware; fragments from a Gallo-Belgic flagon, a butt beaker and small pieces southern Gaulish Samian. From within the south east of England comes a very interesting piece of north Kent fine ware, possibly a beaker, dating from between 75-150 AD. Another fragment of local fine ware comes from the Pulborough Samian pottery, it can be distinguished by its purple/maroon fabric colour, a small but striking fragment. From this early period of Romanisation come considerable quantities of sandy grey fabrics which are associated with the Hardham pottery industries. These are thought to be located near Pulborough some thirty miles to the west of Rocky Clump.

Moving into the second and third centuries AD there are examples of fine ware from the Wickham Barn kilns (near South Chailey) as well as cream ware from Wiggonholt (near Pulborough). There are also examples of cocirser sandy fabrics from the Alice Holt kilns in Hampshire. Imported wares continue but only in much reduced numbers. Just one very small piece of Lower Rhineland (Cologne) ware has been recovered dating from between 130-200AD has been found. Other finds include fourth century East Sussex ware as well as late Alice Holt fabrics. A fragment from a Nene Valley mortaria was recovered from field walking in the south field. This is an unusual find in this part of southern England, it could date from anywhere between the second to the forth century. No Saxon material has been recorded from the site although Anglo-Norman fabrics of the early middle Ages are relatively common finds.

As the ditch features to the north of Rocky Clump itself were excavated so they revealed material dating back to the middle Iron Age and into the immediate post conquest period. Some Samian fabrics were recovered along with material that could relate to the earliest examples of Wickham

Barn fabric. Part of a carinated jar from Hardham and an Asham pot rim suggest that the east west ditch was at least in part filled by the middle of the second century AD. Just to confuse matters however some of the pit contexts did produce sherds that relate to forth century material. We will have to await further details of the exact location of pit and ditch contexts before any firm analysis of the site can be made.

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Rocky Clump Pottery Analysis

Context	Description
02	Lower Nene Valley, mortaria
02	Hardham, grey ware
02	SarniariDg3l
127	East Sussex ware, ‘early’ oxidised
127	Wickham Barn - fine ware 2C AD
127	East Sussex ware- early 1C- 2C AD
127	Hardham rim - unusual form
127	SamianDrag3l - 15OAD-200AD
127	East Sussex ware buff/orange fabric oxidised
128	Pulborough Samian Drag 36, 90 - 13OAD
128	Wickham Barn grey/white jar
147	Gallo-Belgic ware- butt beaker 43-8OAD
149	HardhamlAlice Holt -base 3C AD
149	Hardham -oxidised base
149	Alice Holt -reduced 270-370AD
149	East Sussex ware -‘dog dish’ 200-300AD
149	Alice Holt -self slip early 3C AD
153	Gallo -Belgic, flagon
154	Lower Rhineland -rough cast ware 130-200AD
154	Alice Holt -reduced fine ware 270AD+
154	Hardham -grey ware 70-270AD
300	Alice Holt -270-370AD
305	East Sussex ware- late beaded and flanged dish 4C AD
314	Samian -South Gaulish
395	Sarnian
395	Anglo-Norman, pot 12-13C AD
407	Another part of 305
408B	Hardham -fine ware
411	East Sussex ware, 2-3C AD
412	Alice Holt -beaded and flanged bowl 5B4, 270-330 AD
412	Hardham -pie dish 2-3C AD
413	Pre Wickham Barn -fine ware 70 - 200AD
413	East Sussex ware -soot soaked post 300AD
440	Hardham -early example
443	Hardharn -ware
443	Worthing/Findon -ware late 2-3C AD
444A	Samian ware, S. Gaul 70 -110 AD
445A	Samian ware, S. Gaul Dr27 43-1 lOAD
446	East Sussex ware- early
446	‘Ashham’ pot- IC AD
449	Middle Iron Age
467A	Alice Holt 3C AD

Rocky Clump 2000

CONTEXT No	Flakes	Cores	Blades	Bladelets	Piercer	Scraper	Notched	Retouche	Others	Total
2	102	3	1		1		2			
7	2								1PICK	
12	1									
14	5									
21	1									
39	1									
40	1									
44	2									
58	2									
63	1									
69	8									
70	1									
83	4									
84	2									
90	1									
92	6									
96	1									
100	1									
101	1									
103	1									
120	4									
122	3									
127	4									
128	7									
129	2									
130	4									
132	4									
133	3									
134	1									
135	4									
137	1									
140	7									
142	5									
143	3									
144	1									
149	8						1			

CONTEXT No	Flakes	Cores	Blades	Bladelets	Piercer	Scraper	Notched	Retouched	Others	Total
150	5									
151	3									
152	1									
153	12									
154	4									
155	3									
157	4									
161B	1									
162	8									
165	1									
166	2									
183	2									
190	3									
194	3									
202	7	1					2			
209	3						1			
210	8									
21	11						1			
215	4									
216	2									
217	6									
218	4									
218A	1									
219	11	1								
220	20	1								
221	3									
222	5									
223	2									
224	4	1								
225	6									
226	1									
227	9									
228	8				1					
229	11									
230	5									
230A	3						1			

CONTEXT No	Flakes	Cores	Blades	Bladelets	Piercer	Scraper	Notched	Retouched	Others	Total
231	8									
231A	4									
232	7									
233	15						1			
234	3									
235	5									
236	7				1					
237	7									
238	5									
239	5	1								
250	2									
260	1									
261	6									
262	2									
263	5									
264	5									
265	9									
266	4									
271							1			
275	5									
278	2									
282	3									
287	6	1								
301	2									
305	7									
306	7									
307	1									
314	3									
328	1					1				
336	4									
337	1									
348	1									
350	3			1						
351	1									
355	2									
3571	1									

CONTEXT No	Flakes	Cores	Blades	Bladelets	Piercer	Scraper	Notched	Retouched	Others	Total
365A	1		1							
370	2							1		
390	4									
391	1									
392	11									
393	8									
394	23		1							
395	2									
396	4									
397	3									
401	11									
402	13									
403	3									
404	2									
406	2									
407	4									
411	8									
412	8									
412A	2									
413	3									
413WA	1									
414	4									
415	1									
419	1									
439	1									
442	2									
443C	I									
444A	2									
445B	1									
446A	I									
449	2									
450B	I									
451	1									
451A	3									
453	1									
455	2									

CONTEXT No	Flakes	Cores	Blades	Bladelets	Piercer	Scraper	Notched	Retouched	Others	Total
456A	1									
462	1									
464	4									
465	2									
467A	2									
472	16									
473	15									
474	1									
475	3									
476	14									
477	15									
478	35									
479	13									
480	25									
481	13	1								
482	9		1							
483	5									
484	3									
485	1									
486	6									
487	8									
488	5									
489	7									
491	5									
492	10									
493	1									
495	2									
496	2									
509	10									
510	4									
511	7									
513	2									
514	4									
515	1									
519	2									
522/3	3	1								
522/5	1									
523	3									
524	2									
525	20	1								
526	11									
530	4									
531	2									
537	1									

25th Jan 2001

ROCKY CLUMP FIRE CRACKED FLINT 2000

CONTEXT No	NO	WEIGHT (Grammes)
2	7	252
13	2	10
14	10	158
26	3	30
50	3	26
69	10	296
83	1	10
84	1	6
92	3	366
96	1	6
97	3	18
100	1	2
120	2	14
121	3	44
127	2	10
128	1	12
132	2	20
134	1	8
140	3	50
149	4	60
150	8	58
151	2	16
152	4	18
153	5	32
154	3	82
155	1	12
156	8	110
157	2	30
162	1	50
162V111A	1	16
167	4	16
184	1	2
194	1	74
197	2	4
198	1	24
202	7	122

CONTEXT	NO	WEIGHT (Grammes)
209	4	22
210	5	31
213	4	56
215	9	152
216	1	14
217	5	24
218	8	28
218A	3	8
219	5	34
220	5	30
222	3	22
223	1	34
224	2	1
225	4	18
227	4	44
228	10	52
229	7	20
230	7	18
231	6	36
231A	2	18
232	6	114
233	3	52
234A	9	106
235	1	2
236	6	80
237	5	58
239	1	20
260	5	52
261	5	28
264	2	24
266	1	24
275	1	8
281	4	38
282	1	22
288	1	6
296	1	170

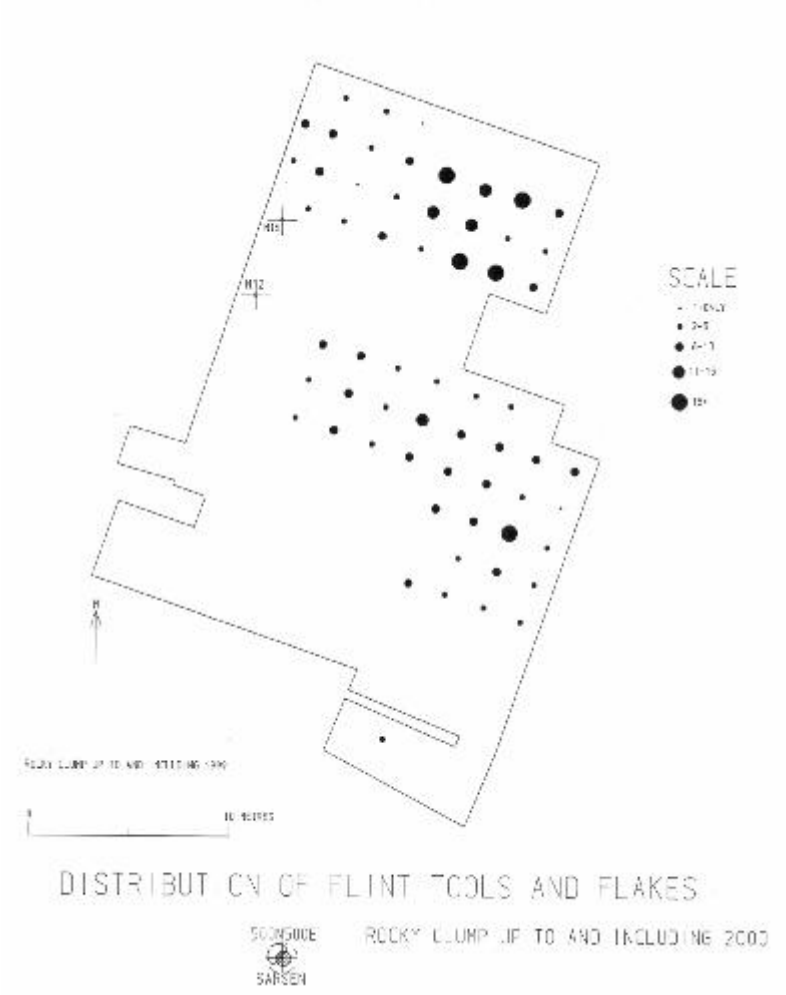
CONTEXT No	NO	WEIGHT (Grammes)		CONTEXT	NO	WEIGHT (Grammes)
301	2	60		444	1	14
303	1	16		444A	2	6
305	5	46		445B	1	22
306	2	26		446A	2	4
322	1	8		449	1	80
325	2	22		463	1	24
333	5	322		464	1	12
335	1	35		472	1	28
342	4	66		473	3	8
350	1	24		474	1	6
				475	4	66
351	4	14		476	3	16
351A	2	14		477	5	34
355	1	10		478	12	142
357	1	8		479	6	156
358	2	10		480	1	140
360	1	26		481	5	87
361A	2	392		482	2	78
370B	3	60		484	2	12
376	1	4		487	1	4
390	6	94		488	1	9
392	1	2		489	4	342
393	4	52		491	2	8
394	10	142		492	3	18
397	2	11		495	1	12
396	6	34		509	2	8
401	4	66		510	7	36
402	1	90		511	2	38
403	3	12		513	2	60
406	3	18		514	2	7
407	3	30		515	1	5
411	2	28		516	1	22
412	2	18		519	1	2
41 2A	3	50		522/3	1	6
41 3WA	4			523	1	18
415		154		524	1	4
440	1	16		525	3	30
				535	1	10

30th January 2001

Context No	BRICK	TILE	SLATE	P/M POT	GLASS	CLAY PIPE	METAL	NAILS	GEOLOGY	FOSSIL
208			1							
229		3					1			
230	22	3			1					
231	1	2	2		1		1			
232							2			
260	4	7	4		3			3		
261				1	3		2			
262						1	1			
269		2						3		
307			1					2		
392	1						1			
393	1			1	1		1			
395		3						1		
396					1		2			
397		2			2					
401					2					
402		4	2		2					
403		2		1						
404					1			2		
444								4		
447								1		
447B								1		
453								1		
456B								1		

Context No	BRICK	TILE	SLATE	P/M POT	GLASS	CLAY PIPE	METAL	NAILS	GEOLOGY	FOSSIL
456							2			
457								1		
460	2	3								
467A		3								
469		1								
472				8	1			4		
473					4					
474					1		1	4		
475					1			5		
476		5			1	1		5		
477		1			1			2		
478			3		3			4		
479	3		6	8	9		1	5		
480	6	2	2		1		1	5		
481		1			1			3		
482	6	7	3	2	2		1			
483			1	1		1		1		
484			1					2		
485	20	2	1		3			3		
486	5		1		2		1	2		
487	2	3	5		6		2			
488	5		3		1					
489			4		1		3	3		
490	2	1						1		

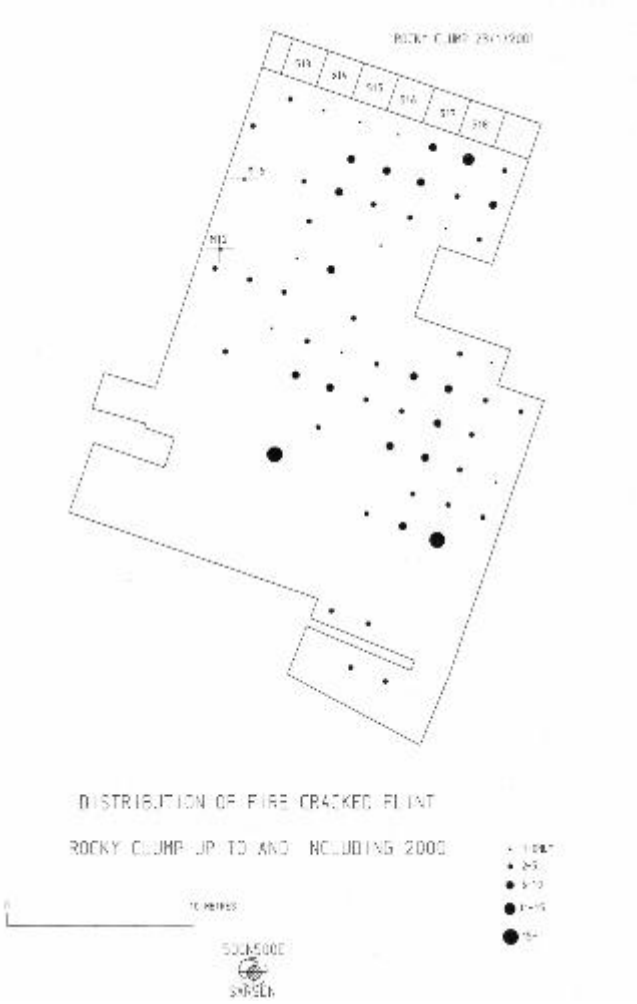
Context No	BRICK	TILE	SLATE	P/M POT	GLASS	CLAY PIPE	METAL	NAILS	GEOLOGY	FOSSIL
491	3				1			1		
492	3	3	2					2		
493	3	1		4						
495		11				1				
497		1								
498	4	2		6						
500	1	I								
509	10	7	2	4	1		1	1		
510	1	1			1					
511	10	4	3		2			3		
515	6	7	2	3	1			1		
516	5	3	1	5	1					
523								2		
527	I									
532	1	1								

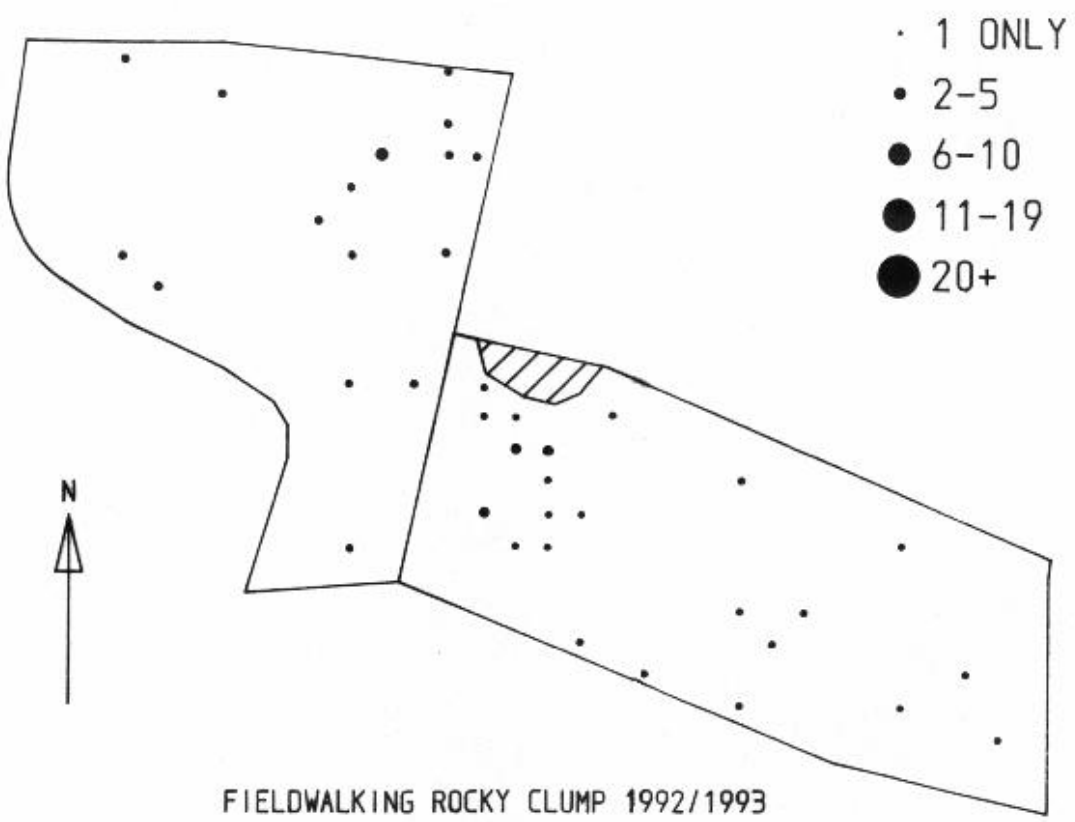


DISTRIBUTION OF FLINT TOOLS AND FLAKES

SOUTHWOOD SARSEN

ROCKY CLUMP UP TO AND INCLUDING 2000

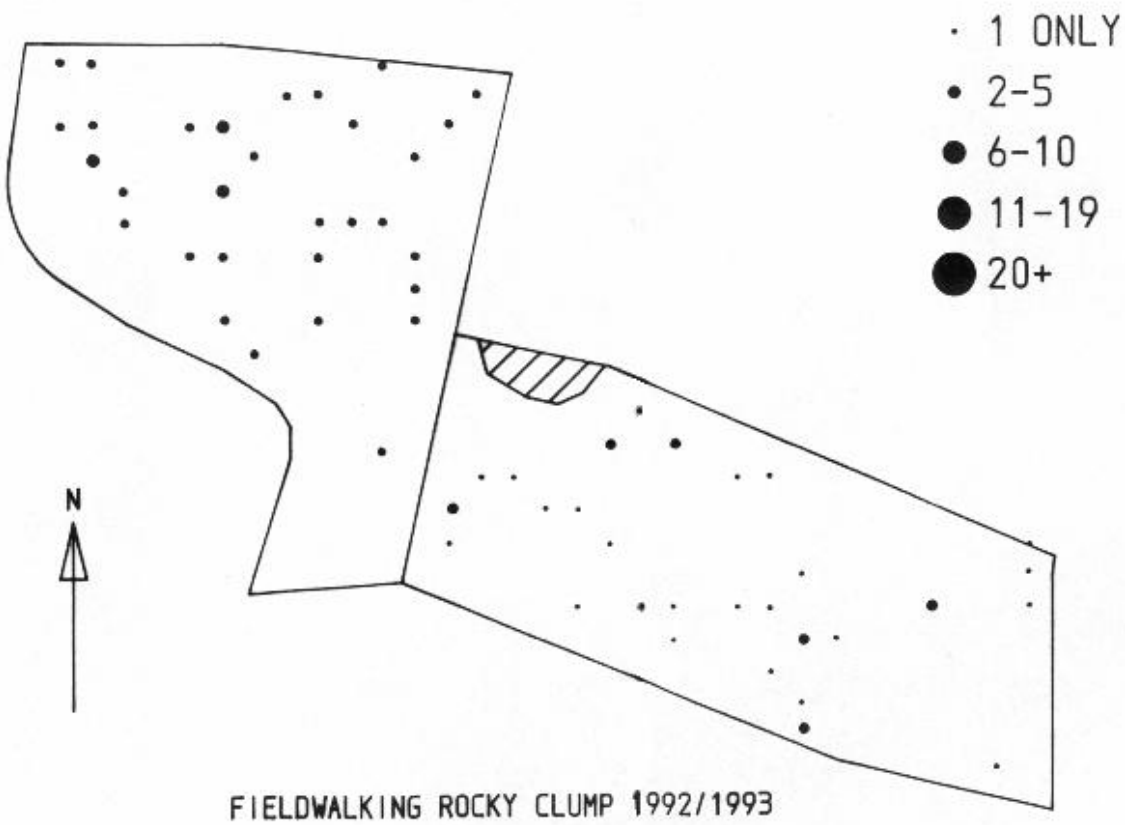

DISTRIBUTION OF FIRE CRACKED FLINT
ROCKY CLUMP UP TO AND INCLUDING 2000
SOLNSOD
SWEDEN



FIELDWALKING ROCKY CLUMP 1992/1993

SOUTH FIELD AND WEST FIELD

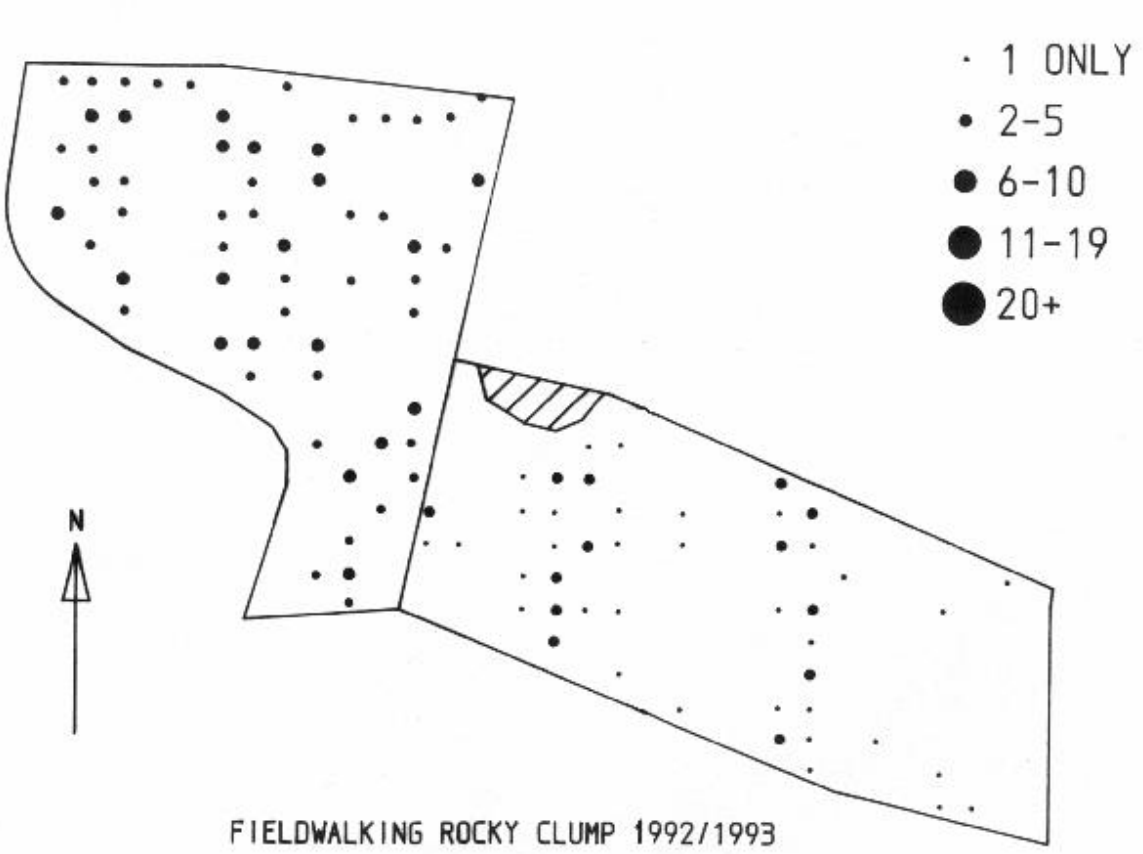
MOLLUSCS



FIELDWALKING ROCKY CLUMP 1992/1993

SOUTH FIELD AND WEST FIELD

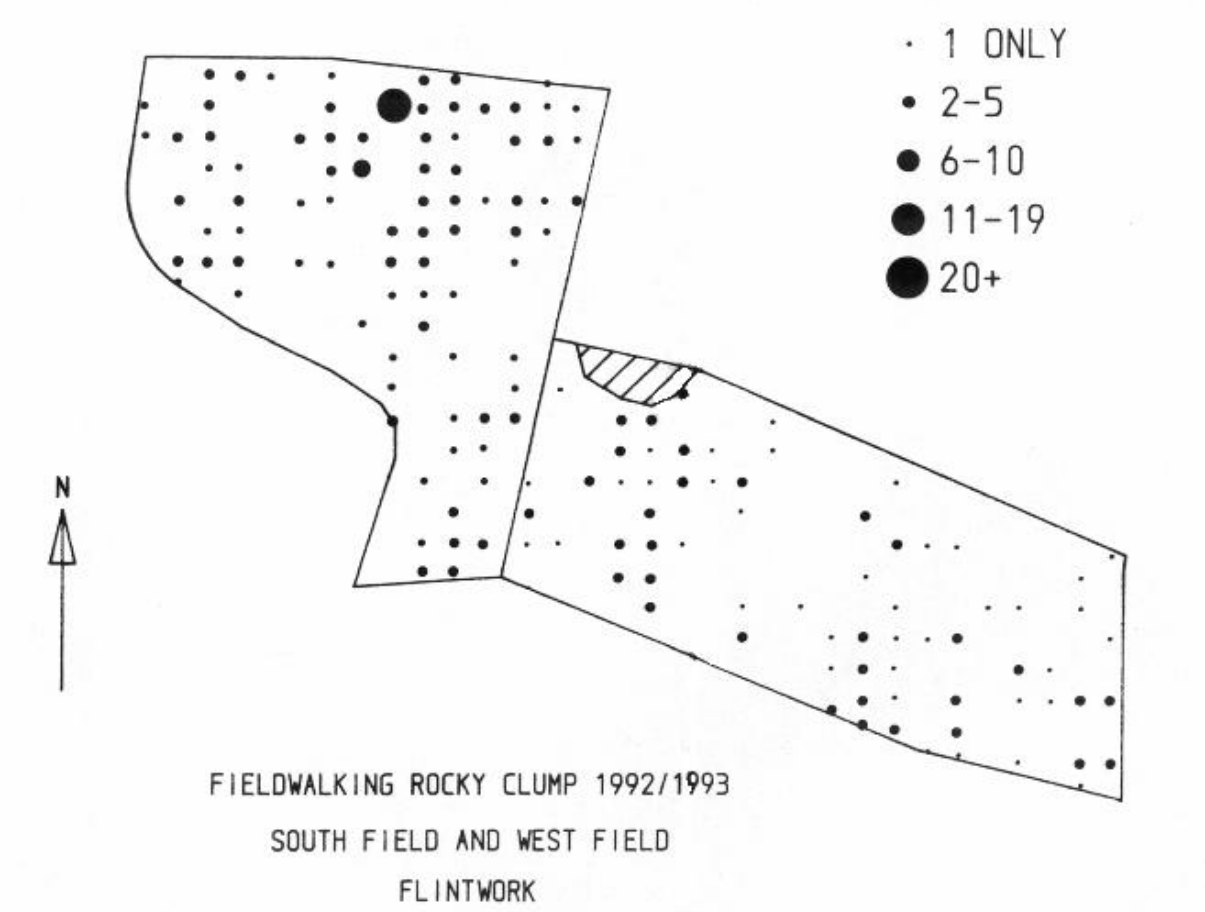
MEDIEVAL TILE



FIELDWALKING ROCKY CLUMP 1992/1993

SOUTH FIELD AND WEST FIELD

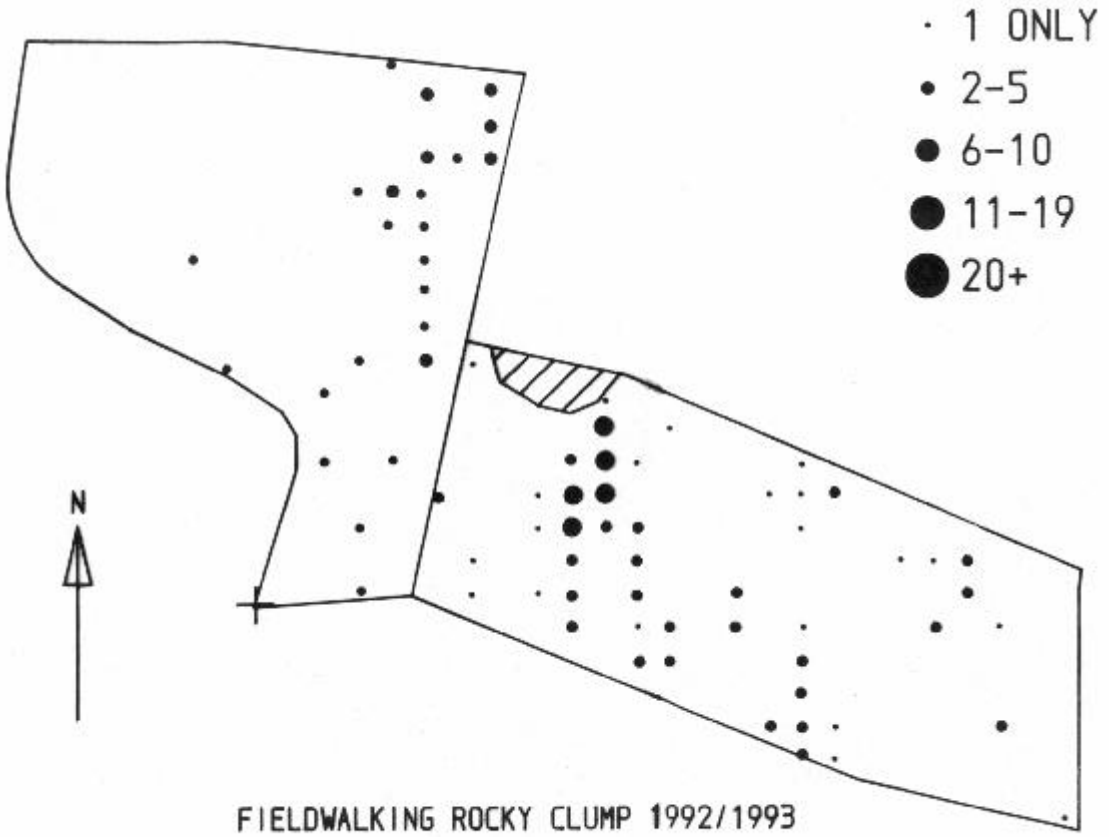
FIRE-FRACTURED



FIELDWALKING ROCKY CLUMP 1992/1993

SOUTH FIELD AND WEST FIELD

FLINTWORK



FIELDWALKING ROCKY CLUMP 1992/1993

SOUTH FIELD AND WEST FIELD

POTTERY

Romano-British brooch found at Rocky Clump

Date: 20th May 2000

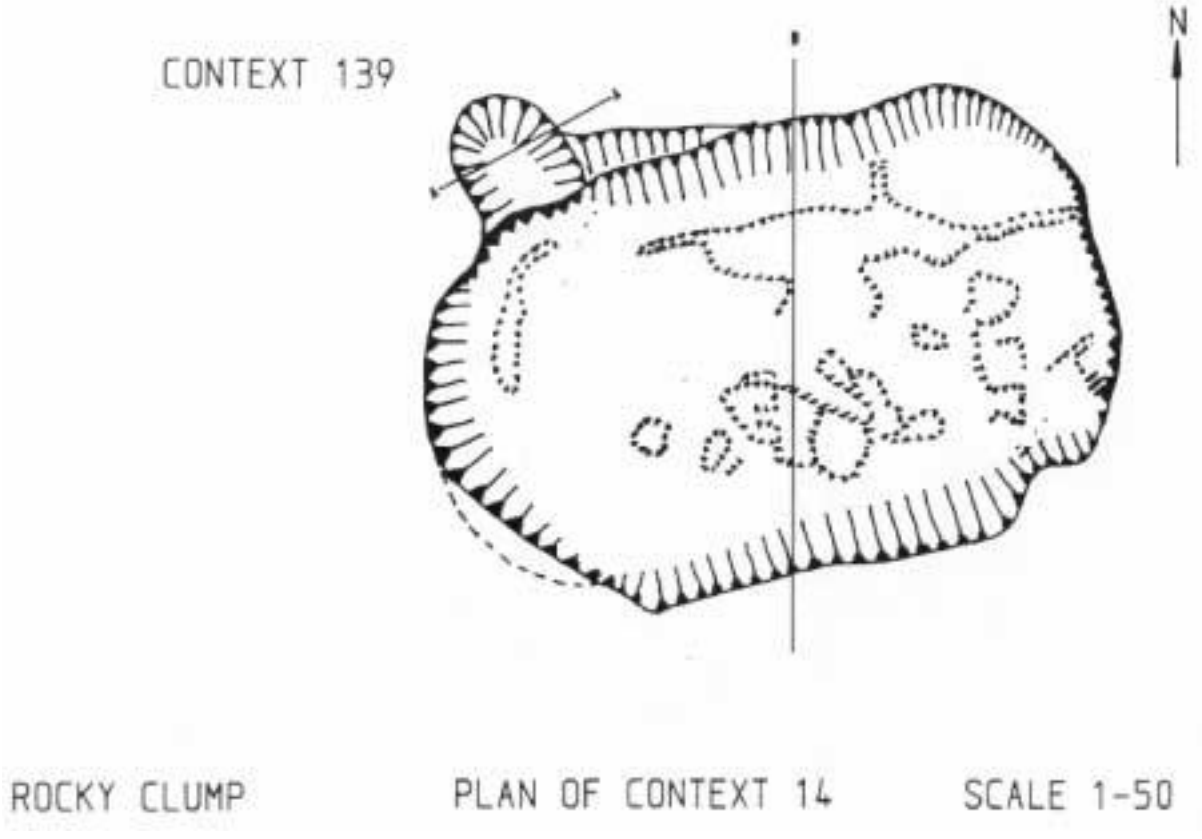
Location: Grid area 474

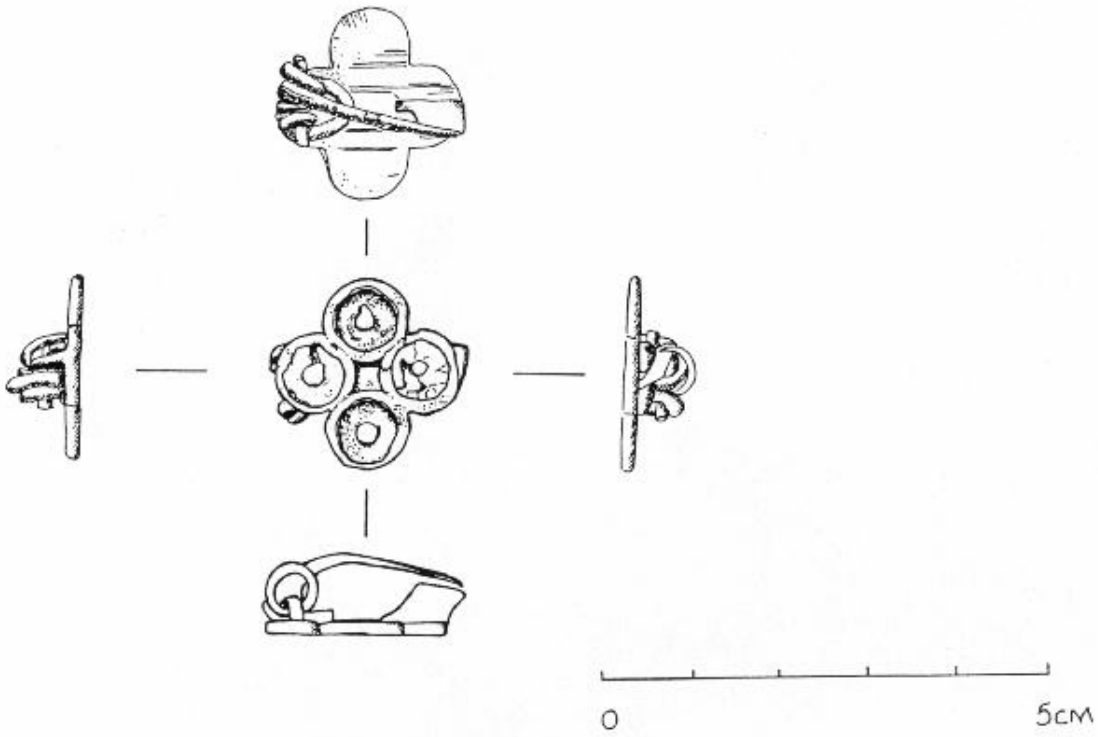
Description: This copper alloy composite plate brooch is one of five which have found in the UK up to1989. This uncommon form consists of four conjoined enamelled discs with a central square area. In each of the enamelled discs there is a central bronze dot, which is the same as four of the others found. The fifth one having a dot, which can be square or round, in the central area.

These brooches have a date range from 2nd century AD to possibly early 3rd century AD.

Other known find sites have been, Yorkshire, Norfolk, Nor'Nour in the Scilly Isles and interestingly Brighton, Sussex.

Reference: Richard Hattatt, 1989, *Ancient Brooches and Other Artefacts*. Pp156-157. Illustration No: 1615.



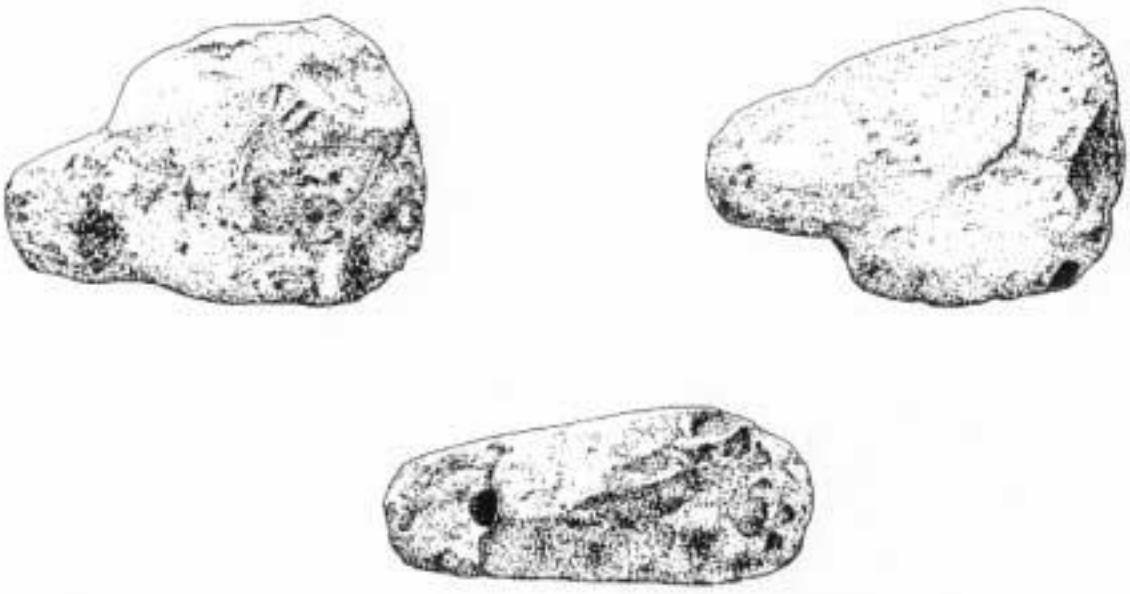


BROOCH CONTEXT 474

ROCKY CLUMP SMALL FINDS (BRONZE)

QUERN STONE CONTEXT 57/71

ROCKY CLUMP SMALL FINDS



CHALK LOOM WEIGHT/DOOR STOP CONTEXT 57/71

ROCKY CLUMP SMALL FINDS

STUD CONTEXT 57/70

BROOCH CONTEXT 92

STUD CONTEXT 57/70

ROCKY CLUMP SMALL FINDS (BRONZE)

ROMAN KEY (IRON)

MEDIEVAL BUCKLE

(FIELD WALKING IRON SQUARE)

ROCKY CLUMP SMALL FINDS (BRONZE)

Fieldwalking at Ovingdean, East Sussex 2000

by John Funnell

The walking of fields along the coast road at Ovingdean produced finds dating from the prehistoric, Roman, Medieval and contemporary periods

Interim Report

Introduction

Ovingdean lies in a small valley to the east of the town of Brighton and west of the village of Rottingdean. The focus of Ovingdean is the church built in the 11th century but the village also possesses a grange. There has been considerable development in recent years with the changing of many farm buildings to housing. The historical content of Ovingdean has been well documented by local historian, John Davies, but the archaeological record is limited. A number of geophysical surveys have been conducted on the field to the north of the church, called Hogs Croft. The surveys have produced a number of significant anomalies suggesting the location of a possible thegnly manor (report appended), medieval pottery has also been found in the upcast from a badgers set to the west of the church. The Sites and Monuments Record for the area note a number of finds including Saxon burials from the hill between Rottingdean and Ovingdean where the windmill is sited. Roman pottery has been found on the field adjacent to Roedean school. Metal detectorists have been noted in the fields close to St Dunstans both east and west of Ovingdean Road.

The farmer had noted a number of finds particularly of large clusters of oyster shells being ploughed up in the lower fields to the west of the road called Greenways. A brief examination of the fields produced finds of white patinated flint including a number of scrapers, fire-cracked flint and, close to the western field boundary, pottery of both Iron Age and Roman dating, including Samian wares. The local historian John Davies provided a sketch of the approximate location of a building noted on aerial photographs from the 1960's. The building would appear to be close to the northern field boundary in the east field located in the north east section, where a footpath bends sharply to the north before returning to its original east west direction.

The Methodology

A datum location was set up in the north east corner of the field located at the field entrance opposite the road called Beacon Hill (TQ35950310). A grid was set out with lines running from east to west. Each line spaced 20M apart and transects were walked 20M apart (Fig.1), finds were collected from each transect. The lines were lettered from A to X. A lynchet feature cutting across the fields effectively divides the area into 2 fields, the area ploughed consists of the entire east field and approximately 50% of the west field. The remaining field was left as set aside. Upon the completion of the field walking of the ploughed area a small section of the set aside was examined in the north west corner and the finds recovered have been added to the survey.

The Finds

Flint Material

A total of 2841 pieces of flint were found including flint flakes, flint tools and fire-cracked flint. The percentage of tools to waste material (debitage) 3% is significantly high to suggest that this is the possible location of an industrial area. The majority of the flint material possessed either a white or pale blue patination. A large proportion of the flint material still retained sections of cortex attached. A concentration of fire-cracked flint was located in the valley bottom and on the gentle rise of the hill to the north east corner of the field.

Flakes	1857	
scrapers	23	
Piercers	4	
Notched Pieces	5	
Cores	15	
Blades	8	
Saws	2	
Fire-cracked Flint	927	(Wt 30151gms)
Total	**2841**	

Pottery

The range of material from this field walking encompassed periods dating from the prehistoric, possibly Iron Age, period through to contemporary times. A large proportion of the sherds found dated to the Roman and Medieval periods. The spread of Medieval pottery lies along the valley bottom while the Roman and Prehistoric finds appear concentrated in the north west section of the field although sherds were found across the whole of the field.

Prehistoric (Iron Age)	11
Roman	132 (including 2 pieces of Samian ware)
Medieval	93 (including 4 pieces of glazed ware, 3 strap handles, 1 face)
19th/20th Century	692
Total	**928**

Molluscs

A number of marine molluscs were collected from across the field with the predominant species being oyster. Scallops were found in limited quantities and a number of land snails noted, these latter items not being recorded. The disposition of shell was focused on the valley bottom with a small concentration in the central area above the lynchet feature to the west, close to the location of Roman pottery.

Oyster	159
Scallop	8
Mussel	3
Total	**170**

Clay Pipe

A number of clay pipe stems were found generally located within the valley bottom although a limited number were found west of the lynchet feature. The thin diameter of the stems tends to suggest a later version of the pipes probably late 18th century or 19th century.
Total pieces 47

Contemporary Materials

A significant collection of late 19th and 20th century material was found across the whole field including , brick, tile, slate, glass and glazed ceramics. The items were recorded and discarded.

Brick	523
Tile	300
Slate	75
Glass	226

Metalwork

There were very few metal items found and these were either contemporary nails or bolts. A very limited collection of severely corroded and obscure items were recorded, but without x-ray identification is it difficult to determine the exact identification of these finds.

Nails	16
Bolts	2
Rivet	1
Unidentified	21 (Under investigation)
Total	**40**

Conclusions

The fields at Ovingdean have provided information to suggest that a number of important sites from antiquity lie in this vicinity. The quantity, patination and number of flint tools suggest some form of Neolithic industrial centre along the coastal region. It could therefore be that an access to the flint layers in the cliffs at Rottingdean and Ovingdean was being utilised. The Rottingdean valley is not too elevated above sea level and the ancient valley bottom may have been even lower allowing easier access. The use of primitive ladders could have allowed access to the sea shore as the depth of similar industrial centres, notably flint mines, indicate that Neolithic peoples had overcome height restrictive problems.

The large concentration of fire-cracked flint on the north west section of the field may provide evidence for a flint cairn dating to the Bronze Age. Flint cairns have been found along the Sussex coast notably in West Sussex. The lack of supportive evidence in the form of Bronze Age pottery would on this hypothesis conjectural with only some form of excavation in this location providing accurate evidence to prove this theory. A flint cairn of this nature was recently excavated at the Iron Age site of Eastwick Barn, Patcham (Rudling forthcoming).

The presence of Medieval pottery was anticipated with the field being close to the location of

Ovingdean church. The number of pieces and fabrics is varied with a notable number of pieces of green glazed wares. One small sherd appears to possess the feature of a Medieval face jar and this is being investigated for a more accurate date. The disposition of the Medieval pottery lies over the whole field, but is more concentrated in the valley bottom.

A significant number of prehistoric and Roman sherds were found concentrated in the north west corner of the fields walked. The pottery collection included heavily calcined pieces, East Sussex wares and, most significantly, pieces of Samian ware. An examination of aerial photographs taken over the past century tends to suggest that a Roman building may lie within the field precincts. A geophysical survey would prove beneficial to examine this area in more detail and provide evidence for walls or floor areas. The large molluscan presence tends to support a Roman site although oyster was a common dietary item in both Roman and Medieval periods.
Ovingdean is a small hamlet, the church, the archaeological and historical evidence all provide a rich picture of its development. The flint material found during this field walking clearly indicate that Ovingdean's origins were clearly established during the Neolithic period. The finds of Iron Age, Roman and Medieval pottery emphasise that this beautiful valley has nurtured and maintained the people of Ovingdean over a very long period.

Field Walking is a useful tool in detecting the presence of artefacts. The concentration of finds are markers to the location of ancient sites and give a guide for further research should the opportunities arise. It is important that ancient peoples and their lives are recorded and preserved and Ovingdean provides material for several such projects in the future.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Mr G.Bennett of Brighton and Hove Council, Mr David Baker the tenant farmer for allowing access to the lands and Mr John Davies for his kindness and historical assistance. The author would also like to thank all members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit who conducted the field walking. All finds will be deposited in Brighton museum upon completion of the project.

Author

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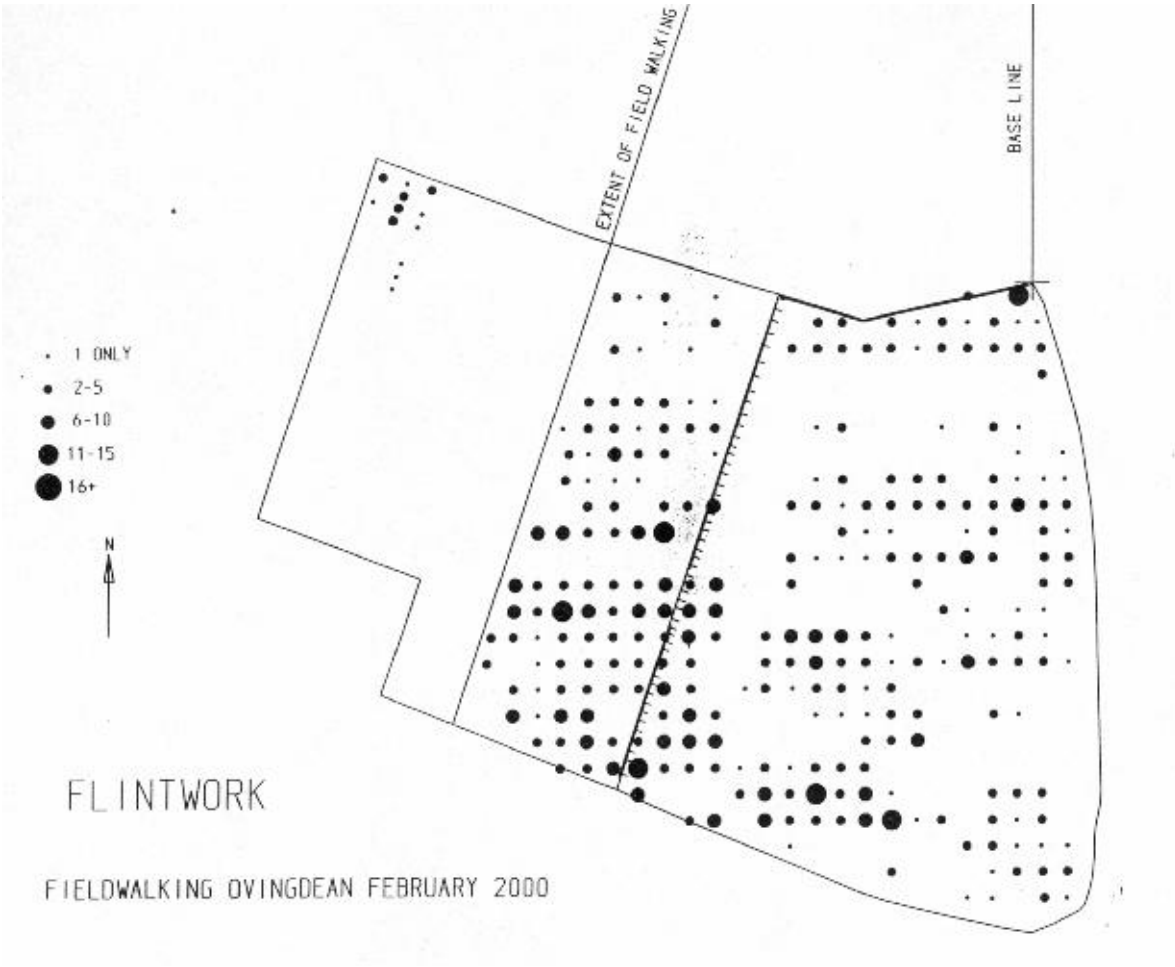
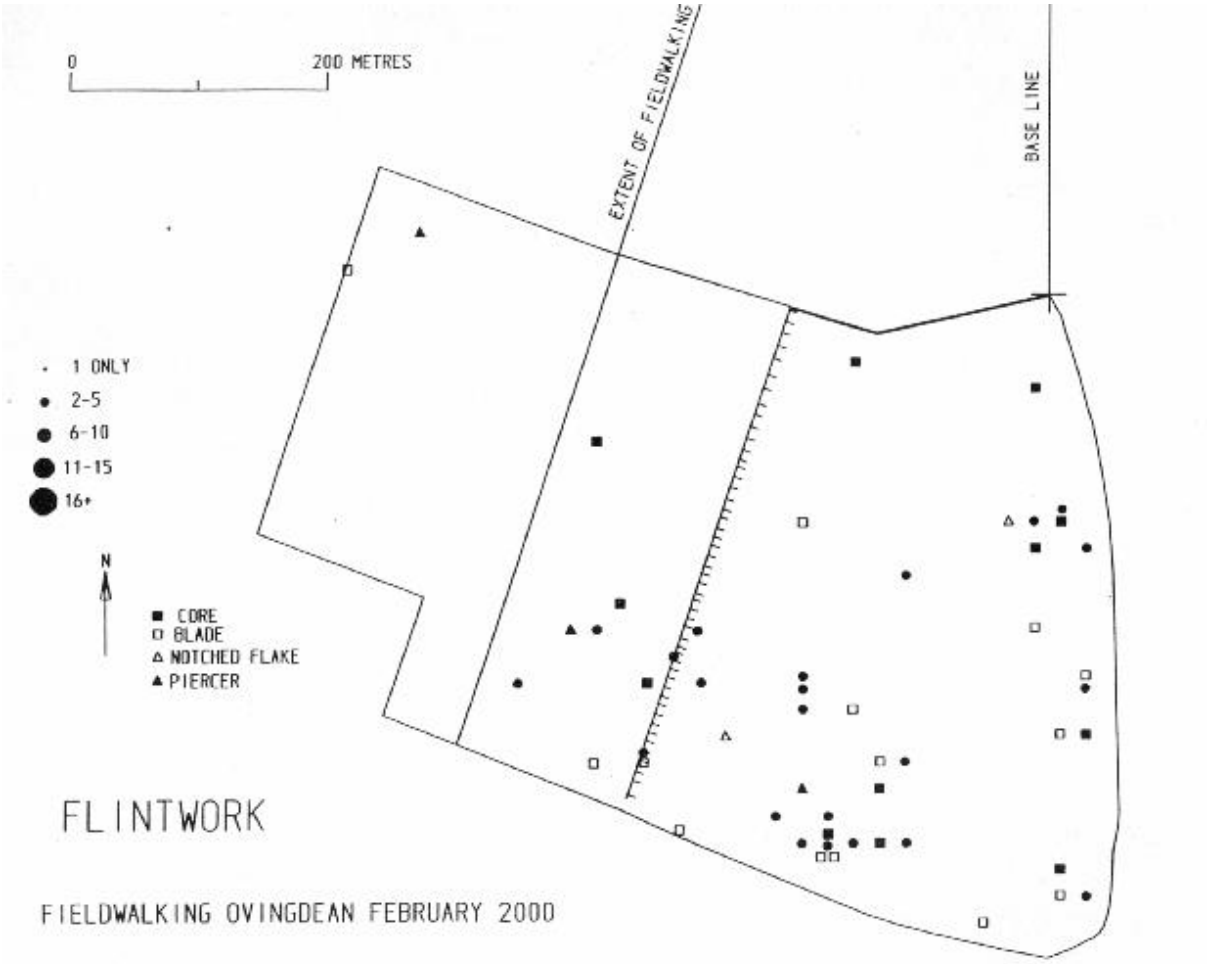
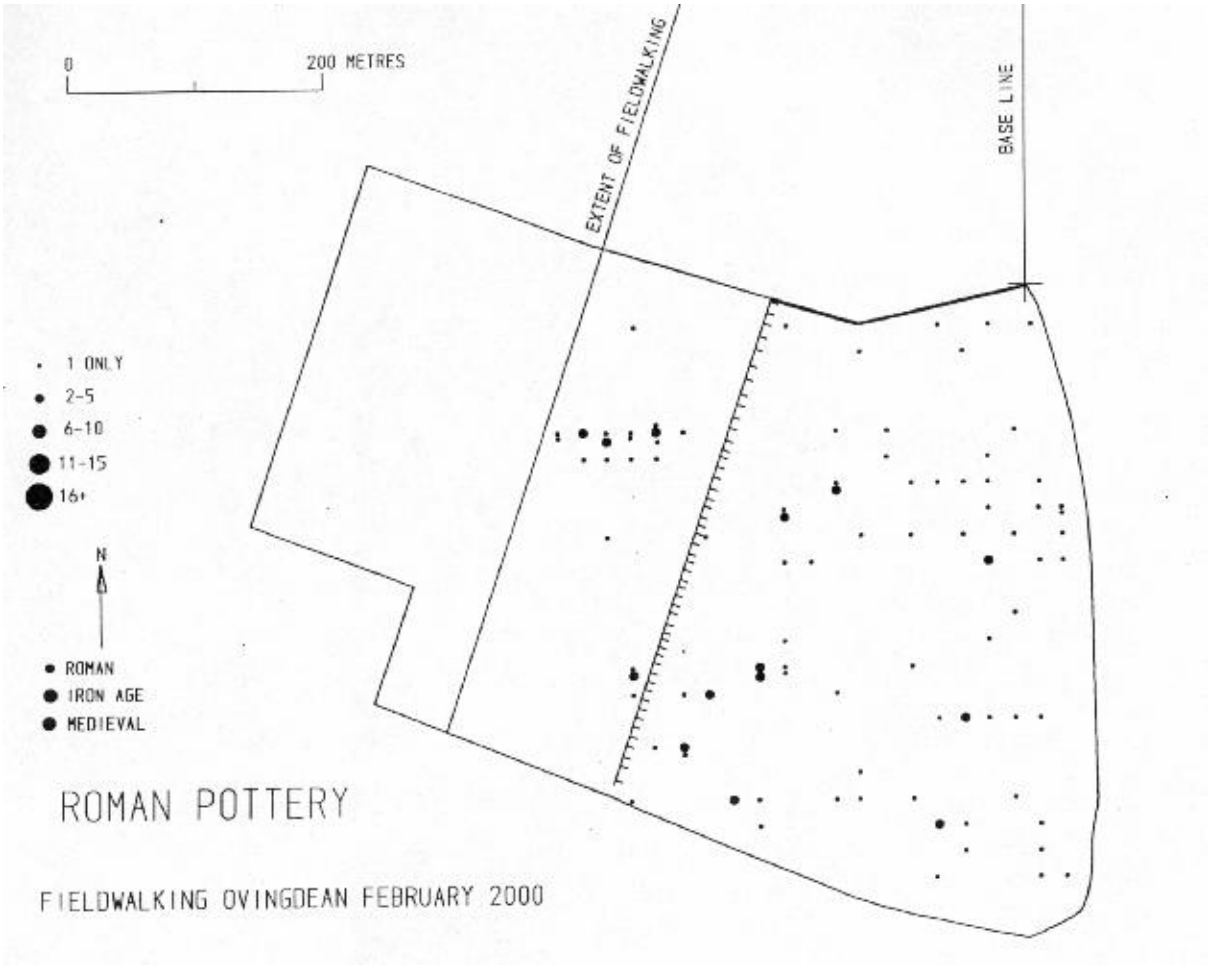
16th October 2000

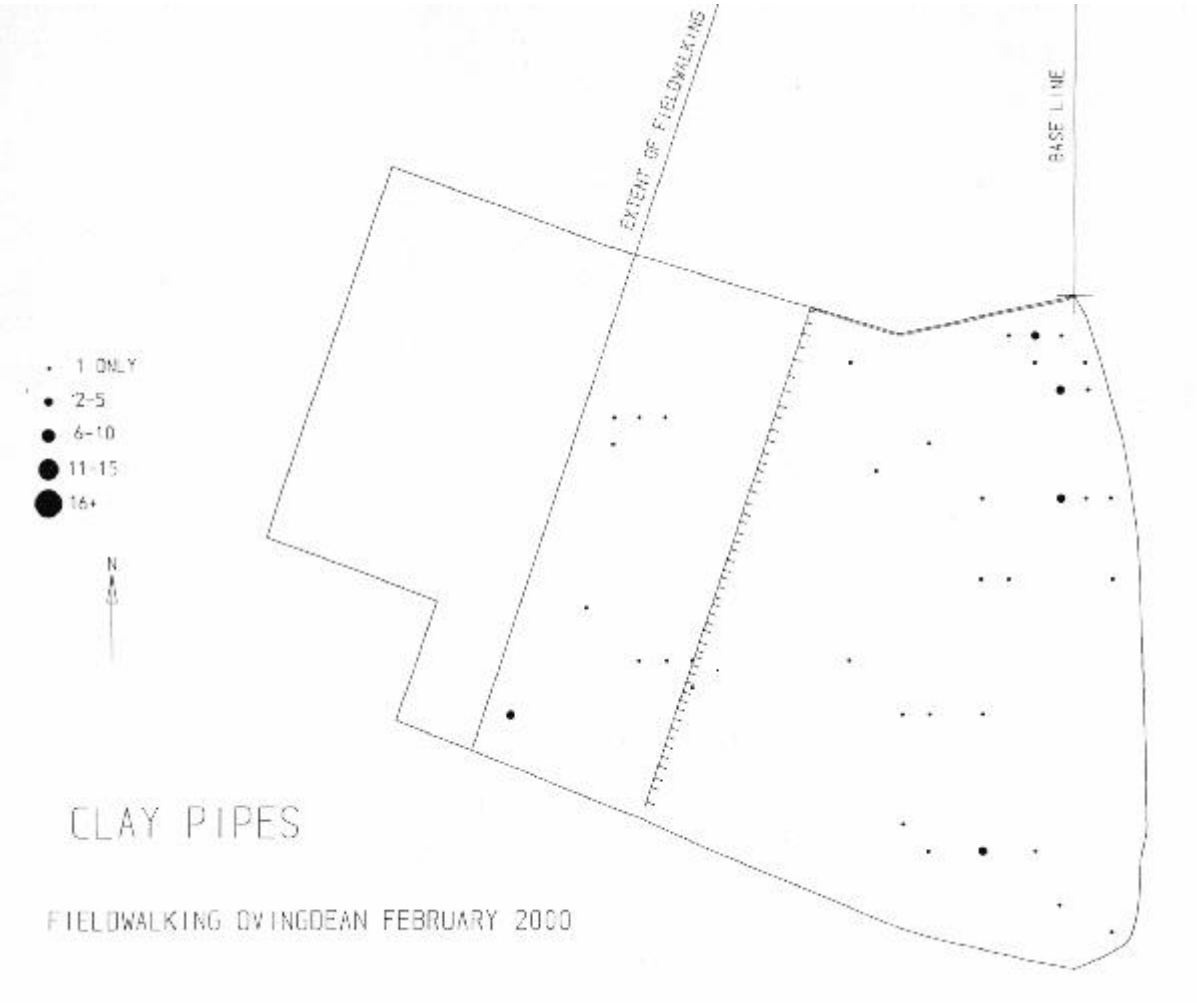

EXTENT OF FIELD WALKING
BASE LINE
1 ONLY
2-5
6-10
11-15
16+
N
FLINTWORK
FIELDWALKING OVINGDEAN FEBRUARY 2000


0
200 METRES
EXTENT OF FIELDWALKING
BASE LINE
1 ONLY
2-5
6-10
11-15
16+
N
CORE
BLADE
NOTCHED FLAKE
PIERCER
FLINTWORK
FIELDWALKING OVINGDEAN FEBRUARY 2000


EXTENT OF FIELDWALKING
BASE LINE
1 ONLY
2-5
6-10
11-15
16+
N
FIRE-CRACKED
FIELDWALKING OVINGDEAN FEBRUARY 2000


0
200 METRES
EXTENT OF FIELDWALKING
BASE LINE
1 ONLY
2-5
6-10
11-15
16+
N
ROMAN
IRON AGE
MEDIEVAL
ROMAN POTTERY
FIELDWALKING OVINGDEAN FEBRUARY 2000


EXTENT OF FIELDWALKING
BASE LINE
1 ONLY
2-5
6-10
11-15
16+
N
MOLLUSCS
FIELDWALKING OVINGDEAN FEBRUARY 2000



CLAY PIPES

FIELDWALKING OVINGDEAN FEBRUARY 2000

Field Walking at Hollingbury 1991

In 1991 members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society field walked a field located east of the Scheduled Ancient Monument. The field (TQ) has a distinct horse shoe shape. The field was divided into lines spaced 20 metres apart and walked in 20 metre long transects. The walking was conducted going west to east down the natural slope. Finds were collected and dot density diagrams produced (Figs 1-4).

Members of the Young Archaeologist Clubs (YAC) were invited to assist with the final part of the project, but the farmer had harrowed the field immediately prior to this exercise making the visual identification difficult by creating a dusty environment.

Conclusions

The field walk was conducted over a particularly large area, but the finds collection produced very little in the way of concentrations. The flint and fire-cracked flint were found in considerable quantities with an emphasis over the south west section of the field. The north/east section of the field was distinctly lacking in finds of any description, but may have been affected by the harrowing prior to the walking. The most significant aspect of the finds was the almost complete lack of pottery finds, with only 2 pieces of Roman and a single piece of Medieval sherds being collected. It is generally anticipated that flint work will be found and at Hollingbury the collection suggests utilisation of this area of the Downs during both the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods, There is no clear indication of any concentrated Neolithic industry in the field as the finds of tools are few in comparison to the main assemblage.

The almost complete lack of pottery from antiquity, in a location so close to the site of the hill-fort, suggests that this area of land may have been used for pasture in ancient times. H.S.Toms records a significant number of earthworks on the hill to the west of the hill-fort, but the majority of these were destroyed when the Hollingbury housing estate was constructed. The field systems on the west side of the hill and finds of prehistoric and Roman material, including burials, tend to suggest that any settlement in these periods lay in that direction. A vestige of the field system in the form of lynchet features can be observed on the hill to the east of the ASDA superstore.

From the amount of material collected and the lack of any concentration of finds, of any period, it can be construed that this section of the Downs east of the Hollingbury hill-fort has only been used for pastoral purposes over a number of millennium.

Acknowledgements

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society would like to thank Mr G. Bennett of Brighton and Hove Council and Mr David West, tenant farmer, for allowing access to the field and to those members of the BHAS Field Unit who conducted the field walking.

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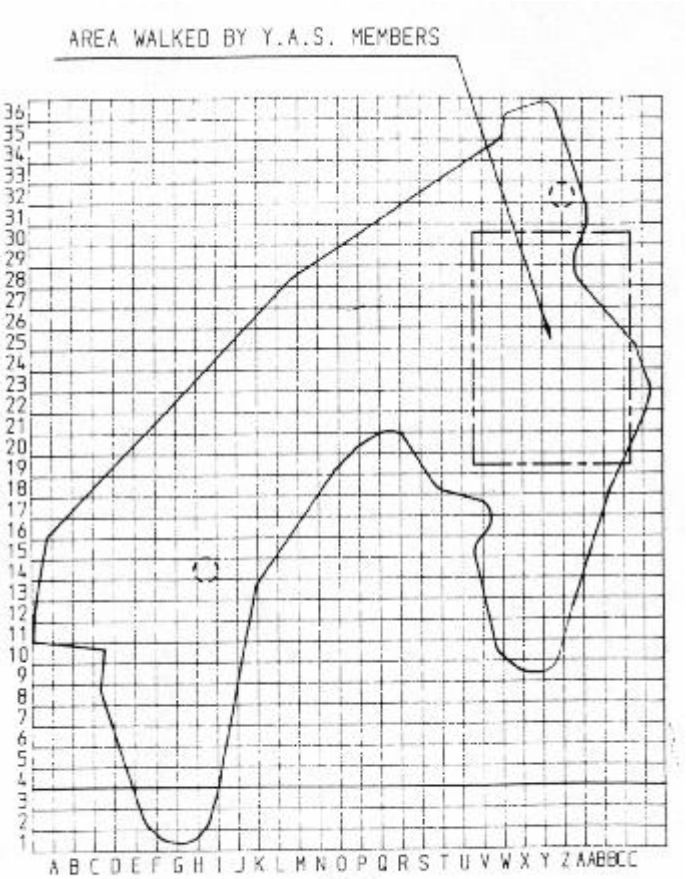

FIG 1

HOLLINGBURY FIELDWALKING GRID

LINES ARE 20 METRES APART

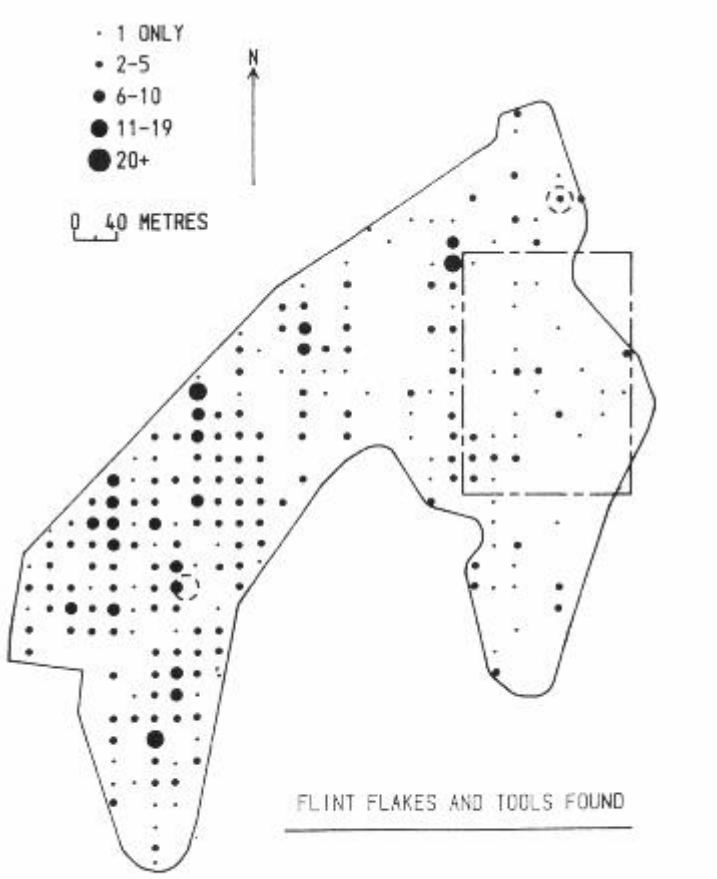
· 1 ONLY
• 2-5
● 6-10
● 11-19
● 20+
N
0 40 METRES
FLINT FLAKES AND TOOLS FOUND

FIG 2

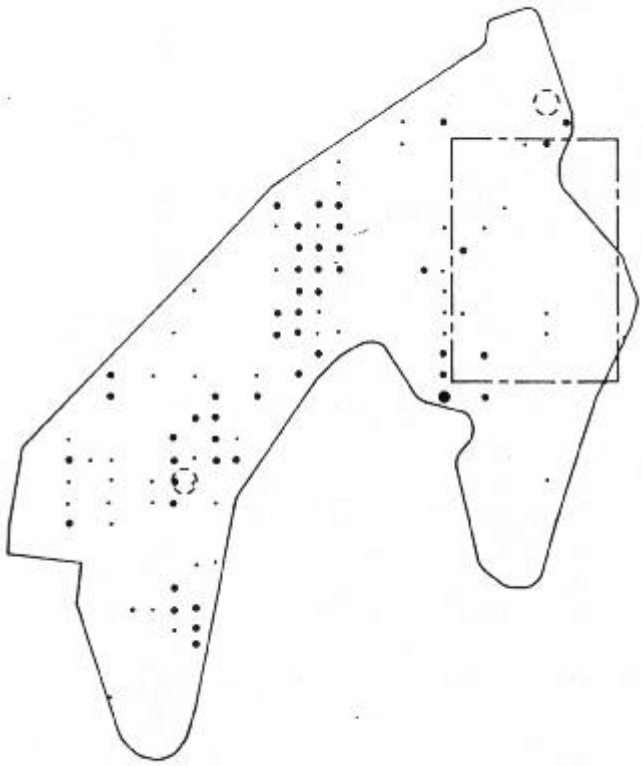

FIG 3

FIRE-FRACTURED FLINT

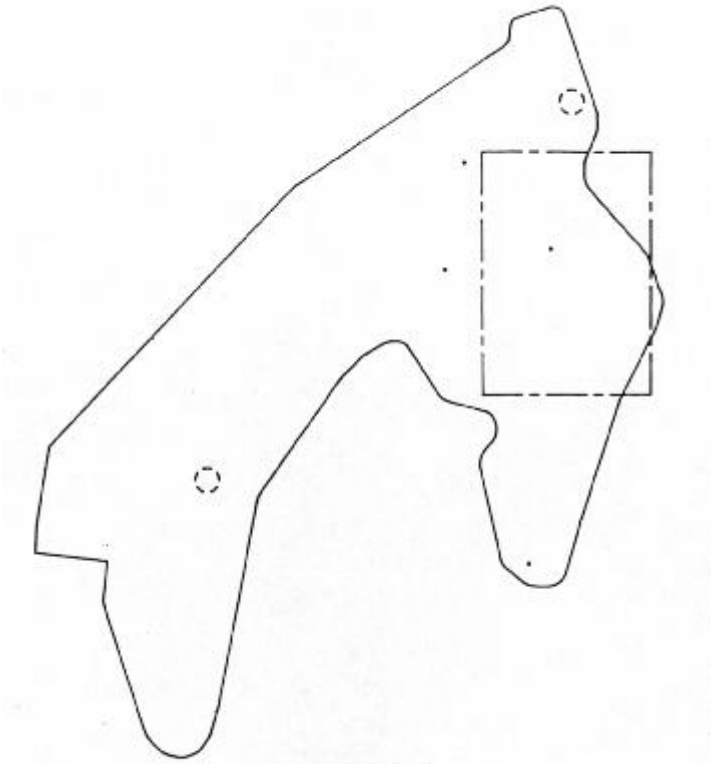

FIG 4

PREHISTORIC POTTERY

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY OF A TUMULUS AND THE THE SURROUNDING AREA AT COLDEAN LANE CAR PARK STANMER, BRIGHTON

Introduction

Coldean Lane car park lies on the eastern side of Coldean Lane, Brighton. It is located close to the top of the steep hill on the western boundary of Stanmer Park. The car park is of recent construction as it was built after the creation of the Brighton bypass. The Downsview school, located close by, was demolished prior to the Brighton bypass as the school lay within the path of the new road. A temporary road had been constructed along the south boundary of Pudding Bag Wood and a wall was partially demolished to allow access to the fields north of the bypass at Eastwick Barn. The purpose of this operation was to re-deposit the large quantities of chalk removed during the creation of a cutting on the bypass. The wall was then rebuilt and the temporary road left as a new trackway on the south side of Pudding Bag Wood. The deposits removed during the car park construction were left as mounds on the east side of the precinct and have subsequently become grassed over, producing similar characteristics to the known tumulus from the immediate vicinity. There are a number of well established paths and trackways crossing the area of survey.

Brighton and Hove Council have been conducting a scrub removal operation within Stanmer Woods. The Council wish to initiate a tree planting programme and are anxious to avoid affecting the known Scheduled Ancient Monument of a Bronze Age tumulus or burial mound. The Council requested the services of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society in conducting a geophysical survey of the area. The object of the survey was to accurately establish the location of the tumulus, thus preventing damage by the planting of trees on the monument. Permission was sought from English Heritage to conduct a resistivity survey within the constraints of the Scheduled Ancient Monument.

History of Area

This part of Brighton has been the subject of intense archaeological investigation. Prior to the construction of the Brighton bypass excavations at Downsview revealed settlement of Middle and Late Bronze Age periods close to the bridge crossing Coldean Lane. (Rudling forthcoming). The excavations at Downsview recorded a Bronze Age fire pit, probably of a round house, immediately adjacent to Coldean Lane suggesting that the settlement may extend further north into Stanmer Wood. Excavations at Varley Halls, east of the Downsview site, produced further evidence for Bronze Age settlement. (Greig 1997). A geophysical survey of lands around the excavated site at Varley Halls gave positive indications of further round houses, positioned on chalk terraces, being present (Fig 1). Fieldwalking on the land between these two sites produced finds of flint artefacts, fire-cracked flint and pottery of both prehistoric and Roman periods (Funnell forthcoming). Aerial photographs of the fields between Downsview and Varley Halls indicate ploughed out lynchet features retained as soil marks. Excavations of two cross ridge dykes currently being

undertaken in Pudding Bag Wood and Stanmer Great Wood, tentatively suggest activity close by from the Neolithic period.

The geophysical survey at Coldean Lane car park was designed to cover as extensive an area as possible in the time allocated. The tumulus was to be surveyed in an attempt to record the evidence for any surrounding ditch associated with the feature. The land between the Downsview excavation and the tumulus has not been surveyed before and geophysical evidence could provide evidence for new archaeological features associated with the Downsview settlement.

Methodology

A datum point was located close to the south east corner of the Coldean Lane car park (TQ32750940). A second location positioned 60 metres to the east provided a base line on the east side of the survey. Grids of 20 metres square were set out. A plan was drawn of the grid layouts and numbered (Fig 2). Dimensions were taken from points around the car park to accurately re-locate the initial grid should further surveys be conducted. The grids were established on a north to south alignment taken with a compass. Readings were taken at 1 metre intervals and the readings measured in Ohms. The land had been recently cleared but spring conditions had allowed the fauna to rapidly grow. Conditions for the survey proved difficult in some areas. The survey was also used as a training exercise for members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit. A total survey of 3 completed squares and a partially completed square were achieved. The weather had been predominately wet in the weeks preceding the survey. The data from the survey was transferred to computer and using Geoscan software graphical images were obtained. The information is maintained on computer for further reference. Computer information will be forwarded to English Heritage, the County Archaeologist and Brighton and Hove Council Planning Department.

Conclusions

The resistivity survey of the lands around the car park at Coldean Lane are produced in computer representation (Fig 3). The results provide some interesting anomalies. The survey produced some evidence for a ditch surrounding the Scheduled Ancient Monument in a series of low readings surrounding the high readings of the tumulus. The low readings of a possible surrounding ditch are not very well defined and may be affected by the continual impressions of the various footpaths in that area of the park. A number of isolated areas of low resistivity may suggest possible pit locations on the east side of grid 2. The actual tumulus feature is indicated by an unusual series of high readings. The north east corner of the survey emphasises an area of high readings compared to an area of relatively low readings on the north west side of the survey. This collection of anomalies is probably associated with the geology of the area. The Downs in this section of Stanmer are predominately clay with flint overlying a bed of chalk. The clay with flint layer ends just west of the Coldean Lane car park, but re-occurs to the east where the hill rises once again (S.Ullyatt pers comm.). The west side of the survey has high readings recorded close to the car park boundary, possibly associated with the car park construction. There were no

indications of extensions to the east of the known Downsview Bronze Age settlement. The survey produced some evidence of the possible location of new archaeological features in this part of Stanmer, near Brighton.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Mr Paul Roberts of English Heritage, Mr G.Bennett of Brighton and Hove Council Environmental Services Department for allowing access to the land and the Scheduled Ancient Monument, members of the BHAS Field Unit and Mr David Combes of the Sussex Archaeological Society for his invaluable assistance in the setting up of the survey grids and the subsequent computer interpretations. Mr Combes will be forwarding computer information to all the appropriate authorities.

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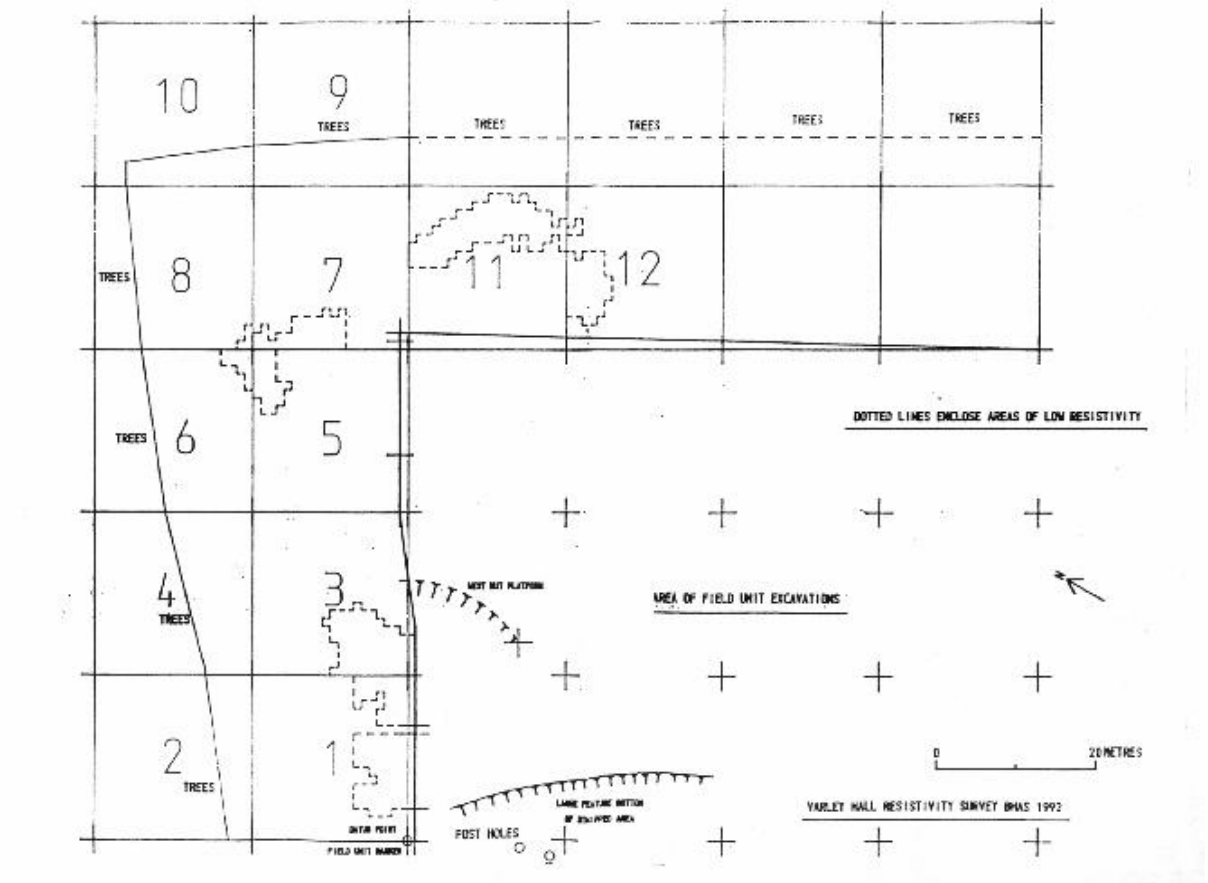
D.Rudling and J.Funnell, 'Excavations at Downsview' in D.Rudling (ed),'Downland Settlement and Landuse: The Archaeology of the Brighton By-pass' (forthcoming)


10
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1
TREES
DOTTED LINES ENCLOSE AREAS OF LOW RESISTIVITY
AREA OF FIELD UNIT EXCAVATIONS
0
20 METRES
YARLET HALL RESISTIVITY SURVEY BHAS 1992
POST HOLES

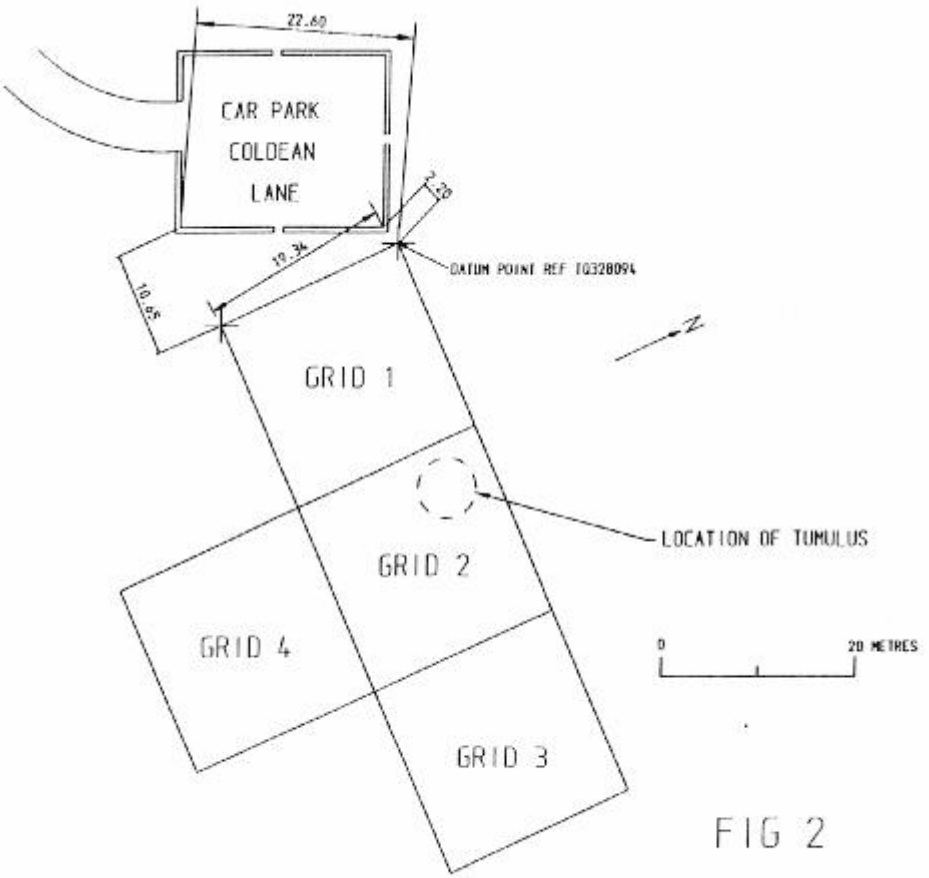


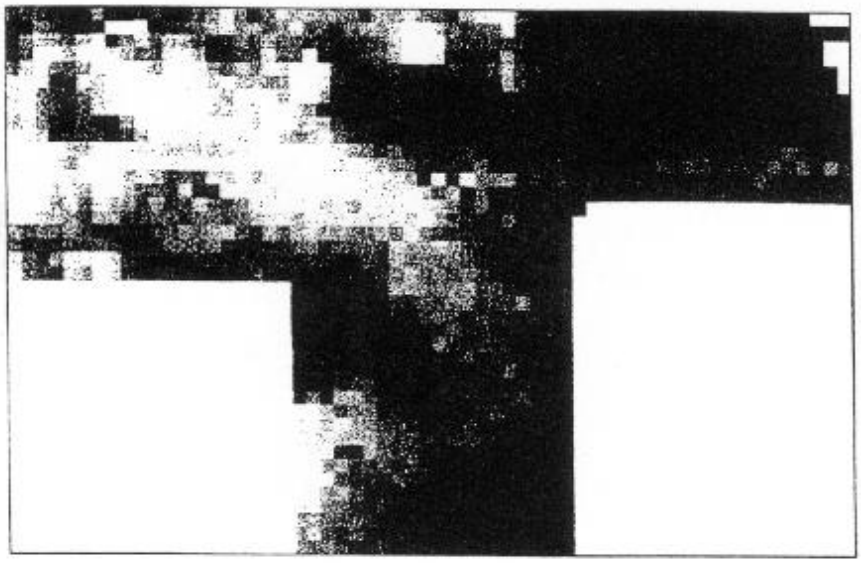
FIG 2

BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY AT COLDEAN LANE CAR PARK 2000

Geoplot 3.0 Resistance Data c: geoplot comp coldcam cold.cmp ---

Data Set:
Top Left Corner X,Y: 1, 1
Bottom Right Corner X,Y: 60, 40

Display Parameters
Shade Plot (Clip)
Minimum: 25
Maximum: 50
Contrast: 1
Units: Absolute
Palette: colour06.plt
Palette Option: Normal
Plotting Scale: 1:500
Printer Resolution (X): 300dpi
Printer Resolution (Y): 300dpi



50.00
47.92
45.83
43.75
41.67
39.58
37.50
35.42
33.33
31.25
29.17
27.08
25.00
ohm

TALES OF FALMER AND STANMER
(Including recording oral traditions)

Archaeological practise has always insisted that every aspect of research be conducted when studying for projects, especially excavation. Aerial photography, perusal of both ancient and contemporary documents, examination of paintings and carvings are all part of the desk top survey. The investigation of all archaeological reports in the vicinity of the projected programme is the basic requirement of any research programme. The utilisation of local groups and societies should always be promoted, for many are repositories of knowledge about local issues and sites, often collated over aeons of time. The collection of all factual material will produce the most intensive survey. In modern competitive archaeology, it is frequently the case that 'foreign' professional units visit, assess and excavate sites without any discourse with local groups or individuals. It would appear that many professional units regard the only complete appendium of knowledge is the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). It is to the detriment of archaeology that this assumption is far from the truth. Local people have much to offer researchers and are often willing, and indeed anxious, that what knowledge they have is passed on for future generations.

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit have for the past seven years been working within Stanmer Parish. As is often the case with outsiders, in insular societies, the trust and confidence of local people has to be earned. The local people watch and, once confident that interest in their local issues and history is not ephemeral, are willing to produce vital and accurate pieces of information. The older members of any society have memories and stories that are so important to the fabric of the era in which they lived. At Stanmer and Falmer members of the villages have joined the archaeological group, some participate actively, others watch the diggers with a keen and interested eye, some offer social support and, when reciprocated through talks, lectures or involvement in local events, the bond is sealed.

Stanmer and Falmer are both well documented historical villages, both villages are recorded in the Domesday book and water links their ancient names. Stanmer means stoney pool and Falmer means foul/brown pool (Mills). The local names encompass many of the fields and copses. Green Broom and Rocky Clump are names indicating the flora and geology associated with these little rural islands. Patchway, Iron Square, Flint Heap and Granny's belt give local colour to pastoral and ploughed domains. Each little area contains tiny pieces of information, clues to the ancient past:-

STANMER VILLAGE- The history of Stanmer has been the subject of publication on a number of occasions including Warne and Yeates. A geophysical survey was conducted in 1986 on the paddock opposite the local shop and a report produced (Saville). The paddock contains a number of platforms and trackways indicating a possible medieval dating for this section of the village.

During the Second World War Stanmer village was evacuated and given over to military use. Canadian troops were stationed in the grounds with their tanks and other equipment. Many of the hard concrete stands and some of the car parks were created during this time as hard stands for heavier vehicles. There is a tragic tale that Canadian troops often slept underneath their tanks, for safety from air raids, and unfortunately one night heavy rain caused one of the tanks to sink into the soft ground suffocating and crushing those soldiers underneath.

The land around Falmer was still farmed and cultivated during the war, as was much of the country. Alf Mason remembers all the hard work in ploughing, seeding and nurturing the fields of corn only to see them destroyed by tanks, guns and soldiers preparing, through mock battles, for the D-Day

landings. He vividly remembers soldiers and armoured vehicles mounting Balmer Hill in a mock attack.

Sheep were often kept in fields along the Downs, but rustling during the war caused some problems. While moving a herd of sheep down into the lower valley at Stanmer, a soldier jumped from out of the trees to stop Alf and his pal continuing further, warning that a barrage was about to begin. Guns located along the Falmer hill began to shell targets within Stanmer and many of the sheep were blown to pieces, although mercifully not Alf, his pal or the soldier.

Alf remembers one afternoon just prior to the D-Day operation, when a concert was held in Stanmer for the troops about to embark on their perilous journey. The band played on a stage at the back of the house with the valley and the east hill behind Stanmer house covered with soldiers enjoying the afternoon.

STANMER HOUSE AND GROUNDS- An excavation in the grounds of Stanmer House to the north east of the existing building produced evidence for a much smaller 'Jacobean' building. (pers comm Mrs Edna Gorton) An ice house and subterranean passages lie beneath the existing museum premises and have been investigated. The remains of two summer houses lie to the south west of the main building behind the orchard and enclosed fruit garden of the main house, at the end of Lower Beech Walk. A significant mound is located in this area with a large yew tree sitting on the pinnacle of the mound. The mound is eroding various amounts of building debris but no archaeology. It is believed that this feature may be the result of the earth removed during the creation of the 'Ha-Ha's' at the back of the house in the 18th century.

STANMER WATER CATCHMENT-On the west side of the lower section of the lane running from the village up to the Upper Lodge cottages is located an area of industrial archaeology (TQ33400975). Behind a screen of trees lies the water catchment area. This complicated array of concrete guides water through filters and channels into deeper caverns and pits secreted below the valley floor. Vast tanks containing huge volumes of water lie buried below flagstones, one tank measures 22 yards 9 inches long (20.34M). These water tanks have been investigated by people using boats and a video diary was produced (location unknown). The catchment is well preserved and was constructed to supply the water for the lord of the manor in the large house, its elevated location allowed pressure to push the water up to the upper floor and the bath room. Another water feature is a concrete pond west of the lodge lane. The water running down the lodge lane was fed into a concrete pond, about 200M down from the lodge cottages. A pipe ran from this pond down to a water trough located in the field behind telegraph pole number 13. A new gate for a new road into Stanmer nurseries has cut the flow of water running down the lower lane and is in the process of creating a new channel running into the valley bottom. The catchment no longer works as valves have been removed and pipes cut.

UPPER LODGES- The small buildings known as the Upper Lodges were recently stripped of their outer coating and re-rendered. During this process it was observed that the buildings had altered a great deal over time. The cottages were significantly smaller when first built but were subsequently extended to the north and south. Arched entrances now filled in could be observed and old window openings also perceived. It is likely that the buildings were once barns or shelters for carriages with upper windows for perhaps storing hay? When the road between the cottages was dug up some time ago a cattle grid was found underneath. The north cottage has had a bathroom added to the north side of the building and when the footings were being dug an underground chamber was found, filled with bottles and old debris. Charlie Yeates suggested that the cottages

may have been the haunt of smugglers and that this secreted chamber was a hiding place for contraband. In the garden of the lodge to the north lie wall foundations of an earlier building. The footings have been noted by the occupier Jim and Betty Driver. The features have also appeared as parch marks in warm summers. The footings travel away from the existing building from the north east corner going northwards. A geophysical survey of the garden in 1997 produced no significant features, but did locate the concrete subterranean water trough to the west of the house in the orchard/ vegetable garden area. The garden of the north cottage has produced a considerable amount of domestic rubbish from the early part of the 20th century and a number of animal skulls. The location of this old rubbish tip lies in the bushes to the east of the lawn on the east side of the house.

STANMER GREAT WOOD- Recent excavations have been conducted by Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society on linear earthworks, often called 'cross-ridge dykes' in this area (TQ334092). A section cut through the ditch and associated ditch produced finds of flint, fire-cracked flint an pottery. The pottery tends to suggest an early Iron Age date for the construction of the feature.

PUDDING BAG WOOD-This wood lies at the south west corner of Stanmer. An elevated linear earthwork and several depressions lie in this vicinity. A tumulus or burial mound is also located in the wood close to the linear feature. Excavations in 1960 and 2000 investigated the features and surveyed the area surrounding the mound and depressions. A section excavated in 2000 through the linear feature produced significant collections of flint material tending to suggest a Neolithic date for the ditch and bank construction. The name Pudding Bag may be suggested by the shape of the linear feature resembling a late 19th or early 20th century culinary dish called bacon or suet pudding. The dish was of meat or bacon and suet and was enclosed in a linen cloth and boiled.

IRON SQUARE- has been field walked as part of the Rocky Clump project. The upper western slopes have produced finds of flint and fire-cracked flint but very little pottery. A 13th century buckle was found on the lea of the hill before it drops down to Patchway Field. The valley bottom (TQ32751040) contained significant quantities of medieval pottery and more was found in the line of trees heading towards Flint Heap. Mr Jim Driver the local woodsman, now retired, has mentioned that the next valley to the north also produces pottery finds, especially after a heavy fall of rain. There may be yet another medieval site in that direction (TQ32751070). Iron Square has a visible lynchet feature running from north to south. The flint concentrations were above the lynchet on the west side. Aerial photographs tend to suggest it is an elongated feature and may even be a medieval trackway running from Piddingworth to Patchway.

FLINT HEAP- previously called Flim Heap, has been examined on a number of occasions especially the rabbit and badger ejections. The name is tantalising bringing to mind the location of a Roman villa at 'Stoney Burr' near Lewes. However, no finds of any significance have been found in this area.(TQ32951050)

PATCHWAY FIELD- Patchway field has a significant earthworks in its valley bottom (TQ32800980). This enclosure was investigated by Walter Gorton and Charlie Yeates with the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society during the 1950's and 1960's. It appears to contain the remains of a 13th century farmstead and documentary evidence suggest that a lady named 'Maude de Keymer' may have lived there. The fields to the east of the earthworks have apparently produced a number of Medieval coins, but confirmation of the exact location is only by word of mouth with no positive supporting evidence. The bank on the south side of Patchway field that rises into Pudding Bag wood has produced Iron Age pottery eroding out of the footpath(TQ32750975). A

trackway leads from Patchway south over the hill of Sheep Down, it crosses the road and is clearly visible as an earthworks descending through a ploughed out field system into Coldean valley. Somewhere in this vicinity, exact location unknown, lies the buried head of an elephant. Apparently it is in the process of being defleshed, the skull to be displayed at the Booth Museum once the decomposition is completed.

ROCKY CLUMP- This copse of trees has been the focus of archaeological attention for 50 years with excavations inside the trees and in the field to the north producing features and finds suggesting an extensive settlement dating from the Prehistoric, possibly even Late Bronze Age through to the Roman fourth century A.D. A publication entitled 'Rocky Clump' a Forgotten Shrine, written by Walter Gorton has been published and recent excavations have been recorded through a number of annual interim reports. The site consists of a possible 'shrine' building with a large enclosure or building to the north. A third building, possibly a timber framed free standing building, lay north of this with pits and ditches running south to north and east to west. The interim reports and Rocky Clump publication can be found in libraries and at Barbican House, Lewes.

PIDDINGWORTH FIELD (TQ325108)- This large field is used for motor cross during the summer months. The north section of the field contains the lynchets and features of a 'Celtic' field system. There are also several lynchet features running to the south of the lane up from the pylons to High Park Barn, and the Stanmer boundary wall runs along the east side of the track. The manor of Piddingworth (Christie et al.) is located in this area and some of the earthworks may testify to this dwelling. The gate in the wall was apparently for the doctor and mid-wife when travelling from Falmer to Piddingworth High Barn by a footpath on the east side of the wall, the footpath is no longer in use.

Before the second world war a barn and two cottages were to be found at Piddingworth. The cottages were destroyed during the war and the barn was burnt down after the war.

GREEN BROOM- (TQ330110) This is a local name associated with the flora of this region. The entrance to Green Broom is a footpath that passes by the ruins of a shepherds building and there are also the vestiges of a small barn for the sheep. The building is now derelict and has been the target of vandals. In 1998 there was a wall and window still visible, but much of the building has now disappeared under a coating of scrub.

EAST OF GREEN BROOM-is a large field that produced white patinated flint flakes in the north west section of the field. Some medieval pottery has also been found along the north field edge. The east field boundary has produced a number of sherds of Roman pottery including Samian wares(TQ330107) The pottery was found by a lady walking her dog. The centre of the field has a number of lynchets and these are quite visible from Rocky Clump. It is in this field that a cow disappeared down a hole which was found to be some form of vaulted cellar. The cow was hoisted clear and the hole filled in to prevent a re-occurrence. The exact location is not known but is believed to be somewhere between 2 pylons located in the field.

MILLBANK WOOD- Iron Age Enclosure- An earthwork was noted in 1995 by a group from Northampton working in Stanmer Woods(TQ338107). There is a raised area surrounded by a ditch, particularly noticeable on the west side. A lynchet feature runs from Millbank wood towards the west ending at the track that leads up to the pylons. Iron Age pottery has been found in this field. A mound associated with the enclosure has not be found, but a plan of the earthwork at the SMR gives some indication as to its location. Part of a 'ha-ha' continues eastwards from where the

lynchet feature enters the wood. A 'ha-ha' is a ditch containing a wall or fence to keep intruders or vermin out of an area, the ditch hiding the boundary from view.

MILLBANK WOOD- Cobbled road- A road or track made of flint but now covered by grass (TQ340105) runs from Millbank down the hill towards Falmer and may be an ancient road to the Mill at Millbank. The trackway is well preserved with a well defined camber and runs for about 200 metres. It is constructed of flints with recent additional contemporary materials added in places.(pers comm J.Driver)

MILLBANK WOOD- Listening Post- The listening post dates back to the Second World War (TQ338108) and was a secret underground hideout. The location of the feature is on the north side of Millbank Wood facing Bow hill. It is noticeable by the rubble eroding from the side of the hill. Apparently in the 1950's a fire inside the listening post detonated ammunition secreted under the wooden floor and was the subject of a visual display for a number of days. The building had a unique cantilever entrance with lifting door and counterbalance weights. The building was filled in by farmer after the fire as it was deemed unsafe. Another listening post is known in woods further south. Millbank Wood was once known as Bow Hill Wood and a windmill was known to be working there during the early 17th century, the exact but location is not known.

LOTS POND- (TQ 339101) Lots pond is a concrete structure with a device to gravity feed water through a pipe into troughs in the adjacent field. The device is still visible but is not in service.

RICHMOND WOOD- A Saxon burial is known from Richmond Hill, on the south east facing slope. Part of the original park boundary wall, running east to west, could still be seen in 1949, but has now disappeared completely

BOW HILL- In certain light and looking from Millbank wood northwards on occasions it is noted that the top of Bow Hill appears to have some form of rectangular enclosure(TQ342113). The valley to the west of Bow hill has produced significant quantities of flint material. Earthworks can be seen on the east side of the valley at the bottom of Bow hill and crop marks have indicated the site of a valley bottom enclosure in this location(TQ341117).

LIME KILN WOOD- This feature consisting of a quarry to the north of the village of Stanmer (TQ335101) was probably created during the construction work and development of the new Stanmer House as a source of chalk for converting to lime and cement. A building or barn stood within the quarry until recent times.

GRANNY'S BELT- This is a line of trees that runs from Flint Heap to the track running up to the pylons north of Stanmer village(TQ334106). A large number of sarsen stones or grey wethers are deposited in this line of trees removed from the fields to avoid damage to plough shares. At the eastern end of Grannys belt is an incomplete semi-circle of trees sometimes considered to be Granny's belt. Within this small copse of trees lay a number of sarsen stones again deposited to avoid plough damage. Several of these large stones have been the subject of artistic decoration by a student from Sussex University. A pack of tarot cards were found secreted under one of the stones and it appears that the local cows give the area a wide berth. There is a legend that a stone circle lay within the precincts of this semi-circle, but photographs from the early part of the 20th century show that while there was a circle of exceedingly large sarsens in this part of the field they have been randomly deposited and constitute a random circle of stones and not a deliberately created stone circle. The exact location of all of these large stones is unknown.

ENCLOSURES- A number of circular enclosures run down the Upper Lodge lane, one being at Rocky Clump, a second lies behind farm buildings north of Stanmer village and a third lies to the west of Millbank in the valley. These circular copses of trees are probably associated with game rearing at the time of the Pelham development at Stanmer. In 1949 fencing could still be observed within the enclosures. The Upper Lodge lane runs up from Stanmer and between the Upper Lodge cottages where it links to the Ladies Mile continuing on to Patcham village. It is regarded by local people to be the country route for Sunday afternoon perambulations of the gentry during the 18th and 19th centuries.

ST MARY FARM- The lands around St Mary Farm are inundated with earthworks including tumuli and lynchet field systems (TQ343106). The features are clearly visible from the Falmer Hill as you travel down to Falmer village. A recent walk along the side of the field at the valley bottom produced a number of sherds of Romano-British pottery in a field of turnips. The field rises among a number of magnificent field boundaries to a platform looking down into the valley both north and south, it is an ideal location for a Romano-British farmstead. An ancient lane stills lies hidden among the trees, called Tenants Lain which leads from Falmer to St Mary Farm and is still used by locals during times of snow, when the new road is often impassable. A flint track also went from the farm along the bottom of the valley to Falmer as the St Mary Farm road was almost too steep for wagons and horses. In the garden on one of the cottages at St Mary Farm lie 2 large stone slabs. The slabs were found near Falmer by someone digging in a field. The decoration on the slabs is extremely ornamental depicting scenes of oyster shells and wheat sheaves on one and a mixture of designs on the other. Included in the carvings are a snake devouring itself, a time glass, a sextant and a box. The reasons for the carved stones and what they may depict is being investigated.

FALMER- The fields around Falmer have been the source of a significant number of important Neolithic flint axes found during ploughing over the past fifty years. A large depression now covered by University buildings may be the possible location of a flint mine(TQ352093). During the building of the University sports pavilion (TQ351093) it was noted that a configuration of post holes in two parallel lines ran from east to west and this area may be the location of a Roman building. Earthworks possibly associated with this area are still visible on the north side of the playing field close to the road running from Falmer to Mary Farm. A Roman brooch and grey ware pottery were found during ploughing in the field to the south of the sports pavilion.

COLDEAN LANE CAR PARK- site of gibbet? (TQ328094) Local knowledge has it that the site of the Coldean Lane car park was the site of a gibbet. There is very little to substantiate this tale and the location would be unusual as gibbets were generally located on major cross roads or meeting places, although a number of trackways do cross at this point. The original name of this area was Sheep Down indicating that the land was originally down to pasture (Warne)

COLDEAN FARM- The church of St Mary Magdalene (TQ 33050880) has a 'well' on the east side of the buildings close to Coldean Lane. Mr David West, who lived at the farm when he was a boy, remembers that a small stream ran through the Stanmer Wood down to the Lewes Road. The stream dried up and disappeared about 1952. The lack of re-emergence of the stream during the recent heavy rains of October 2000 could be caused by the Brighton Bypass cutting through the spring line in this area.

COLDEAN LANE- At the lower end of Coldean Lane close to the Hikers Rest public house are a number of earthworks(TQ336083). The earthworks lie in the trees to the east of the lane itself. One lynchet style feature runs south west to north east and is joined by another on the east side. The features were noted by downland ranger David Larkin. It is known that houses were located at the

bottom of the Coldean Lane on both sides of the road and the area was subsequently used as workshops for the estate management team. Whether these features are contemporary with these buildings can only be speculated upon. A plan of 1912 clearly show the buildings and areas named as the Nursery and the Pheasantry, it is possible that these rural activities are associated with the lynchets. Field walking on the field at Marquee Brow has produced finds from the Neolithic period in some quantity, but only excavation can reveal the actual date of these earthworks.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Jim and Betty Driver, Alf Mason, David West, David Larkin and all the people of Stanmer who supplied the information and local knowledge that assisted with the creation of this paper.

John Funnell 3rd March 2001

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Watching Brief at 28 Hawkhurst Road, Coldean, Brighton

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society conducted a watching brief at 28 Hawkhurst Road, Coldean during July of year 2000. The ground was examined after the top soil had been removed for an extension being built. No features were revealed in the chalk bedrock. A visual examination was made of the top soil and a metal detector used to identify metal objects present. The metal items found were of 20th century dating including a coin and numerous nails. A small globule of lead was also retrieved.

A single piece of Roman pottery was found in the top soil of typical coarse grey fabric.

Watching Brief at 9-10 Albion Street, Brighton

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society conducted a watching brief at 9-10 Albion Street, Brighton during December of year 2000. The ground was examined after the top soil had been removed for an extension being built. No features were revealed in trenches created for the footings, although a considerable amount of contemporary building rubble, including a broken toilet cistern, was noted in the section. An examination was made of the material removed from the trench and a find of a solitary flint flake found.

The flint flake has a blue patination with a large percentage of cortex remaining on one side. The flake was hard hammer struck, probably by another flint nodule. No retouch was noted on the item and the opinion is that this single piece is a waste flake. The flake probably dates to the late Neolithic/Bronze Age period.

Watching Brief at 49 Roedean Road, Brighton

Roedean is regarded as an area of extreme archaeological sensitivity with recorded finds from the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Roman periods.

On Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th October 1999 Mr Bill Santer, a member of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit, conducted a watching brief at 49, Roedean Road, Brighton. The extent of the brief was a small extension to the south of the existing building. The top soil and disturbed areas of rubble close to the house were removed down to natural chalk levels prior to the digging of foundation trenches for the new extension.

The Society wish to report that no archaeological features were revealed during the limited extension to the existing building and examination of upcast from the foundation trenches provided no finds from antiquity.

Watching Brief 84 Wolseley Road, Coldean, Brighton

The watching brief recorded no archaeological features cut into the natural chalk. The finds consisted of a solitary piece of fire-cracked flint weighing 16 grammes.

Watching Brief at 2 Winton Avenue Saltdean, Brighton

The watching brief examined the footing cut for the extension and found no features cutting into the natural chalk below. The area appears to have been heavily disturbed during the creation of a car hard stand. No finds were recorded.

Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit 2000 and Attendance Record

John Funnell (Director)	53	Brighton
Gary Bishop (Assistant Director) (P)(G)(S)	46	Hove
David Ludwig (Assistant Director)(G)	51	Rustington
Alexie	1	Brighton
Amey	1	Brighton
Patricia Ballard	4	Croydon
Ron Bakere	1	Hove
Stuart Berry (S)	17	Brighton
David Betts	1	Brighton
Val Betts	1	Brighton
Zoe Bradford	2	Hove
Dawn Burns	14	Littlehampton
Colin Cairns	1	Hove
Bob Crowhurst (F)	50	Brighton
Heidi Dawson	2	Hastings
Sue Duncton	11	Croydon
Celine Durand(S) (G)	15	Littlehampton
Karol Eager	1	Shoreham
Rob Foord	1	Hove
Maria Gardiner(E)	5	Hove
Mark Gilhingham	37	Hove
Dougal Gihiman	1	Australia
Robin Gillman	1	Australia
Francine Grant	13	Hove
Fred Gunn (F)	1	Eastbourne
Avril Huggins	2	Polegate
Fiona Imbimbo	8	Rottingdean
Leo Jago	22	Brighton
Chive Langan	64	Uckfield
Dot McBrien (E)(S)	30	Sompting
Daniel McBrien	2	Worthing
Joan MacGregor	4	Brighton
Gabriel Moshenka	6	Saltdean
Katherine Maybe	2	Rottingdean
Owen McDonough	1	Brighton
Colin Miller	16	Brighton
Sarah Mounce	2	Brighton
Daniel Oates	2	Brighton
Simone Oates	2	Brighton
Alexis Over	8	Brighton
Stephen Newman	1	Worthing
Lynda Penfold (F)	1	Brighton
Tracey Penn	2	Brighton
Pauline Phillips (5)	35	Hove
Norman Phippard	6	Brighton

Pippa Ponton	2	Hove
Caroline Poole	11	Brighton
Helen Poole	3	Brighton
Richard Pulley (F)	21	Worthing
Sam	1	Brighton
Bill Santer (QM)(G)	29	Brighton
Amanda Scales	1	Brighton
Tony Smith	2	Hastings
David Staveley	6	Brighton
Liza Stewart	9	Rottingdean
Frances Thompson	1	Burgess Hill
Kate Walters	4	Brighton
Christine Webster	1	Hove
Jeremy Webster (G)	11	Hove
Karma Wiles	4	Horsham

(E)= Training Officers
(F)=Finds Processing
(G)=Geophysics
(QM)=Quartermaster
(P)= Planning
(S)=Section Drawing

Total Days worked 643 Total Number Participants 60

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Mr Martin Brown, Assistant County Archaeologist

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Mr David Combes

Ms Sue Hamilton

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