

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD NOTEBOOK 2012

A RECORD OF THE PROJECTS OF THE BRIGHTON AND
HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD UNIT

Introduction

The new season of activities for the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were focused this year on the excavations at Rocky Clump. Once again the excavations were supported by a good number of people. This year the local Sussex volunteers were joined by a visiting Australian, a number of people from London and Canterbury with an enquiry from a couple at Colchester. One or two of the team did participate in the final year of the Barcombe bath house excavations during August, but most of the team remained at Rocky Clump.

A resistivity survey was planned for Beacon Hill, Rottingdean as David Worsell is keen to lead members of the team on a major survey of Beacon. Beacon Hill does contain two Neolithic long barrows. Surveys conducted on the hill in past years have produced some interesting anomalies. However, the hill is a well managed local nature reserve and the Society has to work around nesting birds and sheep grazing. This did cause some time constraints and with this year's inclement weather has meant that, this season, no surveying was carried out. However, there was a large magnetometry survey, conducted by David Staveley, in the south field at Rocky Clump, just after the excavations had commenced.

Training in archaeological techniques was once again a feature of the excavations, with several of the team enhancing and using the expertise gained at training courses at the Barcombe Roman bath house excavations. John Skelton has proved to be one of our most enthusiastic members and is now regularly either drawing sections and planning or teaching others the techniques.

Post excavation activities have included finds washing, marking and cataloguing and these events have been supported by a number of archaeological day schools. All of these post excavation processes have proved popular with the BHAS field unit. This season nearly 30 people attended each finds processing session at the Patcham Community Centre, with all of the appropriate finds being both washed and marked.

At the end of the year Archaeology South East (ASE), the local professional Unit, opened their doors and allowed BHAS members to use their finds washing facilities and complete the washing of all of the pottery from this seasons excavations.

The BHAS bones team, lead by Carol White, continue with the processing of all of the bone material from the excavations, and this is conducted at Carol's home at Newhaven.

Carol also supervised the excavation of the baby burial found at Rocky Clump.

The Society was involved in a number of watching briefs throughout the year. However, East Sussex County Council and the County Archaeologist have fallen in line with the policy at West Sussex County Hall and are no longer conducting watching briefs on small scale developments. Large developments will be the prerogative of professional units, although small developments in archaeologically sensitive areas, and not covered by developer funding, may be channelled through to the Society.

Hard copies of this report are passed to Mr G.Bennett at Brighton and Hove Planning Department, Casper Johnson, the County Archaeologist, Brighton Museum, Barbican House, the East Sussex Records Office and the National Monuments Records Office at Swindon. CD-Rom copies are produced by the Society's web master Mr Martin Devereux and are made available to the field unit members and others who desire a copy.

John Funnell 20th March 2013

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Field Walking

No field walking was conducted in 2012

Miscellaneous

No miscellaneous items were recorded in 2012

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEFS

1. 11 Braemore Road, Hove
2. 11 Stanford Road, Brighton
3. 21 Nanson Road, Coldean
4. 31 Bridle Way, Telscombe Cliffs, East Sussex
5. 40-42 Bristol Gardens, Brighton
6. 45 Elizabeth Avenue, Hove
7. 85 Lincoln Avenue, Peacehaven
8. 146 Nevill Road, Hove
9. The Royal Pavilion, May 2012
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BHAS Field Unit Attendance Record

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Excavations at Rocky Clump, Stanmer 2012

(An Interim Report - Ditches and Layers)

By John Funnell, edited by Mark Gillingham with
contributions by Carol White and John Skelton

Introduction

In 2011 excavations at Rocky Clump, Stanmer, had revealed the junction of 2 large ditches, with the results of a previously conducted resistivity survey indicating the location of a possible prehistoric or early Romano-British enclosure. The ditches were quite substantial and another linear feature located immediately north of the ditches, and running parallel, was interpreted as a possible trackway for a small cart to assist with the removal of the chalk when the ditches were being created. The 2011 excavations provided an interesting collection of features, of an earlier date, to add to those found in the north field in previous years. (Fig 1.)

In mid March 2012 Brighton City Parks called the Society to inform them they were able to provide a digging machine to remove the top soil for the new season of excavations. Several members of the BHAS field unit met in the south field at Rocky Clump and with spray paint laid out the location for the new trenches. The digging machine promptly arrived and about 250mm depth of turf and top soil was removed and placed over the location of the previous season's excavations.

During the top soil removal several patches of chalk were noted and along the east side of the trench the digging machine bucket was heard to disturb stones or flint, indicating the possible location of features. The trench measured 22 metres in length along the east side and 16 metres along the south side and was an 'L' shape. The reason for this unusual shape was that this configuration would be able to pick up both of the large ditches found in 2011 as they continued across the field. The trench could later, if time allowed, be extended to incorporate part of the interior of the enclosure in the north/west section.

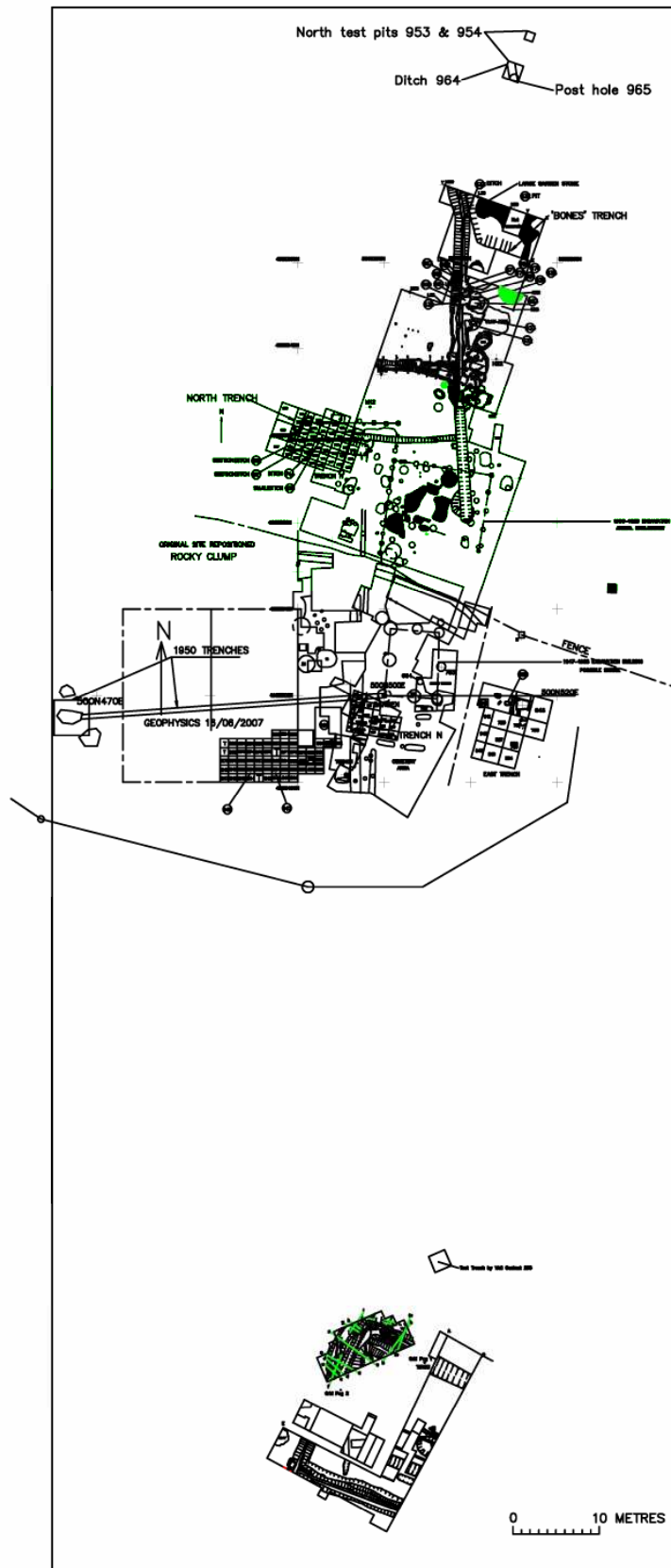


Fig 1 Rocky Clump Excavations 1947-2012

The Magnetometry Survey

One week after the top soil had been removed and the new trench created, David Staveley arrived on site to conduct a magnetometry survey. The previous surveys in both the north and south fields had all been resistivity surveys, which had revealed an interesting collection of anomalies. However, from previous experience these anomalies could be either archaeological or geological. In 2011 an Australian student, studying in London, had carried out a small magnetometry survey west of the trees at Rocky Clump which had produced some very clear images. The new major survey in the south field was anticipated to reveal a similar good clarity of images.

The new survey did produce some excellent results (Figs 2.). The magnetometry revealed the continuation of the substantial ditches going both eastwards and southwards, but, in addition, other ditches, previously unknown. Another 2 ditches were revealed running eastwards, away from the major north/south ditch in the west, and another very interesting ditch running westwards and southwards before curving dramatically and then heading south/eastwards. The area contains numerous features and David Staveley indicated a number of locations that he considered worthwhile investigating (Fig 3.).



Fig 2 Magnetometry Survey

Magnetometry Interpretation

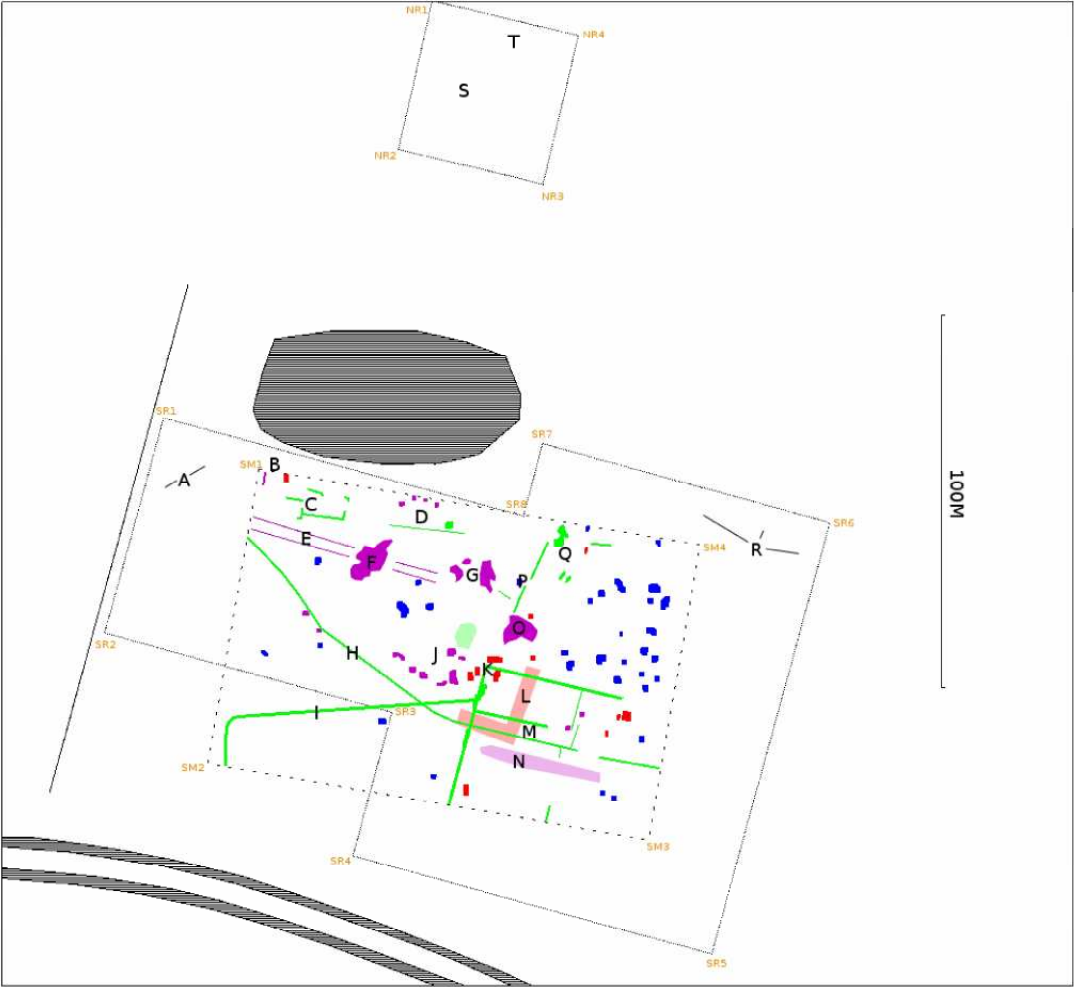


Fig. 3

The Excavations

The primary task was the cleaning back and removal of the remaining top soil seeking the features already known about and uncovering any new ones revealed in the magnetometry survey. The trench was divided into 3 sections and allocated different context numbers (Fig 4.) The south section was the first area to be trowelled and the large north/south ditch revealed, along with a substantial ditch running east/west and called the lower east/west ditch. At the east end of the south trench a small extension was made to the south east corner to reveal the opposite side of the lower east/west ditch, the small extension measured 2 metres in length and 1 metre in width. A similar 1 metre square extension was made on the south side of the trench approximately mid way along the south side at context 308.

As the excavation progressed along the south section it became increasingly clear that much of the chalk revealed was not the natural surface, but a fill probably being the vestiges of the upcast from the construction of the large lower east/west ditch. Several areas were cleaned back down to the lower natural chalk, and the removal of this chalk rubble produced very few finds. The layers of these varying deposits were recorded and photographed in the south facing baulk wall.

On the north side of the lower east/west ditch and about half way along the trench was an irregular shaped gully, or small ditch, context 304. This was the only other feature noted in the south section.

The east trench was cleaned back in the second phase of excavation, starting at the upper baulk and moving down the hill southwards. The large upper east/west ditch, found in 2011, was gradually revealed along with an irregular shaped feature in the north/west corner which was anticipated to be where the end of the possible trackway, also found last season, came to the surface.

A third ditch had been revealed in the magnetometry survey running east/west and called the middle east/west ditch. Cleaning back in the east trench revealed the collection of flint nodules and other stones which had been heard while the top soil was being removed by the digger. It was originally anticipated to be some form of pit, but the geophysical results clearly showed that it should be the location of another ditch. A sondage, measuring 1 metre in width, was cut on the west side of the east trench to seek traces of the third ditch and, after the removal of considerable quantities of chalk, the ditch was found, and appeared to be quite wide, but with a fill quite different to those found in the upper and lower east/west ditches.

It was during the latter phase of the dig that the central area of the east trench became the focus of attention, and revealed quite a depth of top soil and loam coming down onto a surface consisting of a mixture of large chalk nodules, flint nodules and iron stone blocks.

During the last weeks of digging, in November and early December, a small extension was started at context 347. This area was an extension of the main trench to chase features found during the earlier part of the season. The area did reveal the anticipated ditches but also a number of new features. Due to lack of time, the

deteriorating weather, and heavy frosts, this surface was covered with tarpaulins and back filled along with the main trenches.

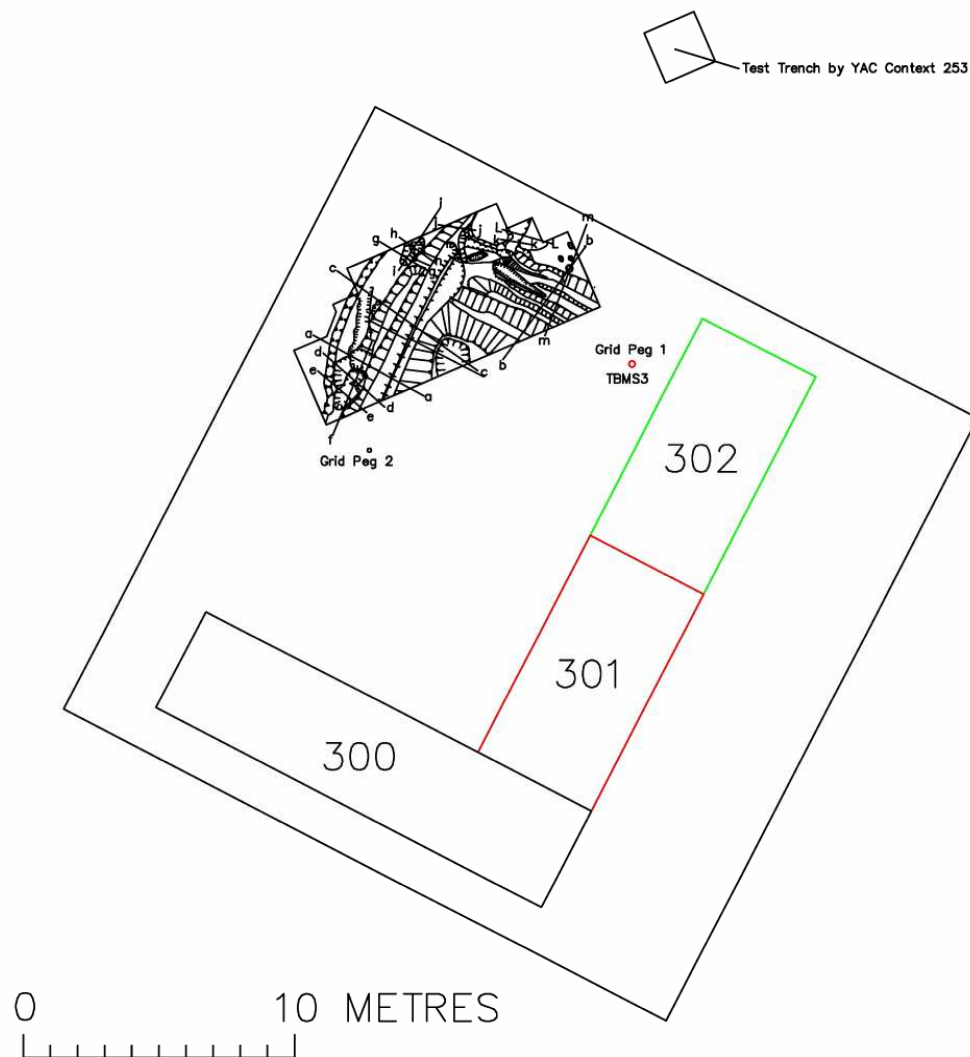


Fig.4 Rocky Clump 2012 - Top Soil Contexts

The Features

The North/South Ditch Contexts 312,315, 320, 323, 329 and 340 (Fig 5.)

As in previous seasons, the ditches were generally excavated using 1 metre wide sections, allowing a number of section drawings to be created which allowed a more intensive study of the variations in fill deposits. The remaining baulks were then removed once the section drawings had been completed. The excavations in 2011 had noted a distinct difference in the fills of the north/south and east/west ditches, and this variation continued in 2012. The upper fill of the north/south ditch consisted of a very dark, soft, silty soil, with the lower fill being more of a chalky loam. These different fills had been noted in 2011 and they continued in this ditch as it progressed southwards. The pottery recovered this season is similar in style to that found in the ditches in 2011. It was also noted that while the upper fill had more broken sherds the lower fills contained more concentrated collections of sherds, probably from single vessels deposited at various times.

The north/south ditch is a steep sided 'V' shape measuring 2 metres in width and almost 2 metres in depth going from the bottom to the top of the top soil (Fig 6. section a-a) The depth of the ditch appears to become shallower as it progresses southwards (Fig 6. sections b-b & c-c) where it is cut by, or cuts, the lower east/west ditch. The ditch is divided into 2 main fills, with the upper surface of the soft, silty layer having a significant number of large flint nodules as part of its constituents. This appears to be quite a common feature and had similar patterns in several of the ditches found in the north field. On the west side of the north/south ditch was a pit, Context 310, and ditch section 312

The Pit Contexts 310 and 327 (Fig 5.)

On the west side of the north/south ditch and at the southern end of the trench was a pit. The pit measured 96cms in width and 70cms in depth and was almost straight sided and flat bottomed being 80cms from the north/south ditch going westwards. The feature was sectioned by creating a sondage in contexts 310 and 312 (Fig 6. section d-d) to investigate the relationship between the large ditch and the pit with a view to seek out the chronological sequence. The pit is also on the same alignment as the lower east/west ditch and may have been a terminus.

The Gully Context 304 (Fig 5.) & (Fig 7. e-e)

On the north side of the lower east/west ditch was a small shallow gully. The feature was noted due to the variation in fill, the gully having a light brown fill in contrast to the surrounding white chalk. The gully was quite shallow, with a line of flint nodules running along the central axis of the fill. The gully, which appeared slightly curved, produced very few finds.

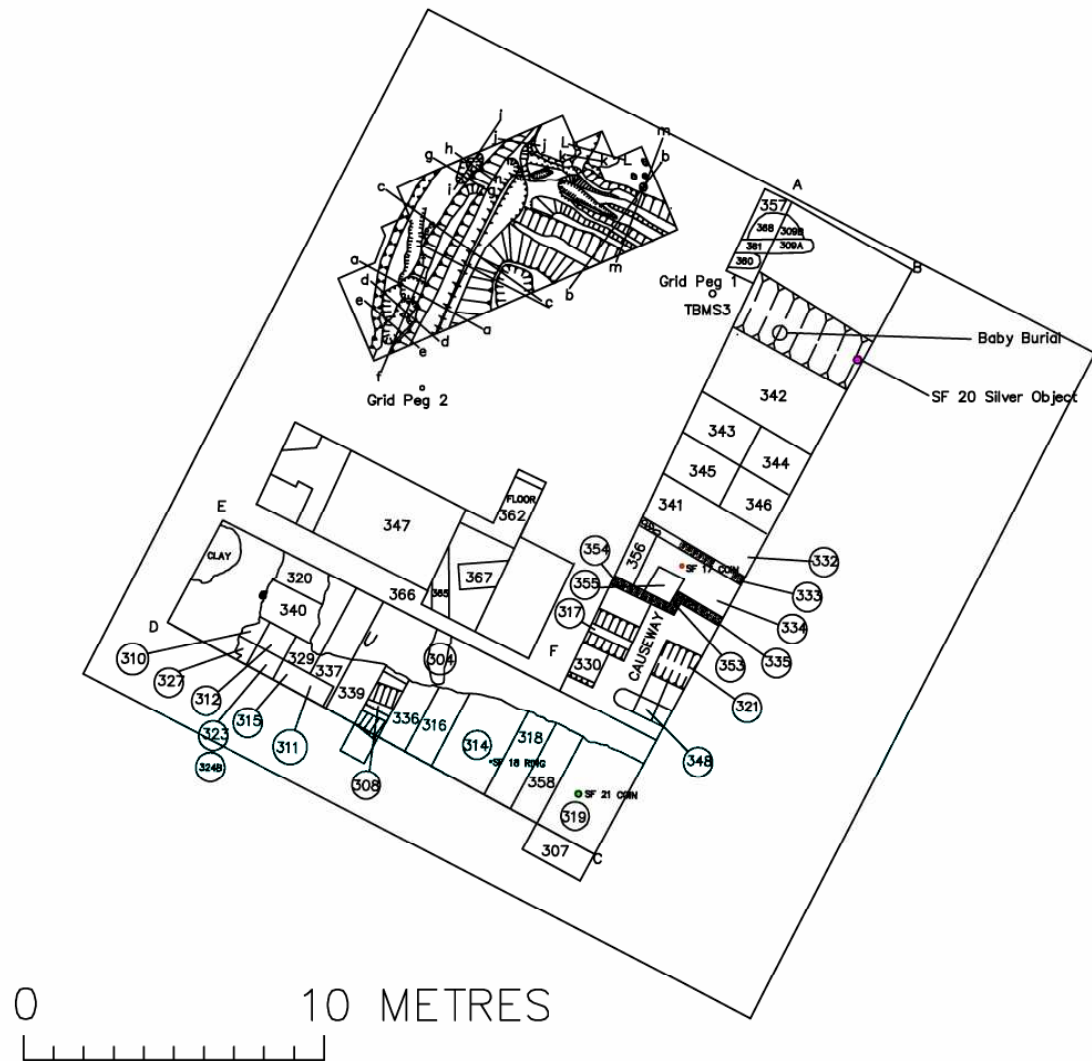


Fig 5. Rocky Clump 2012 – Main contexts

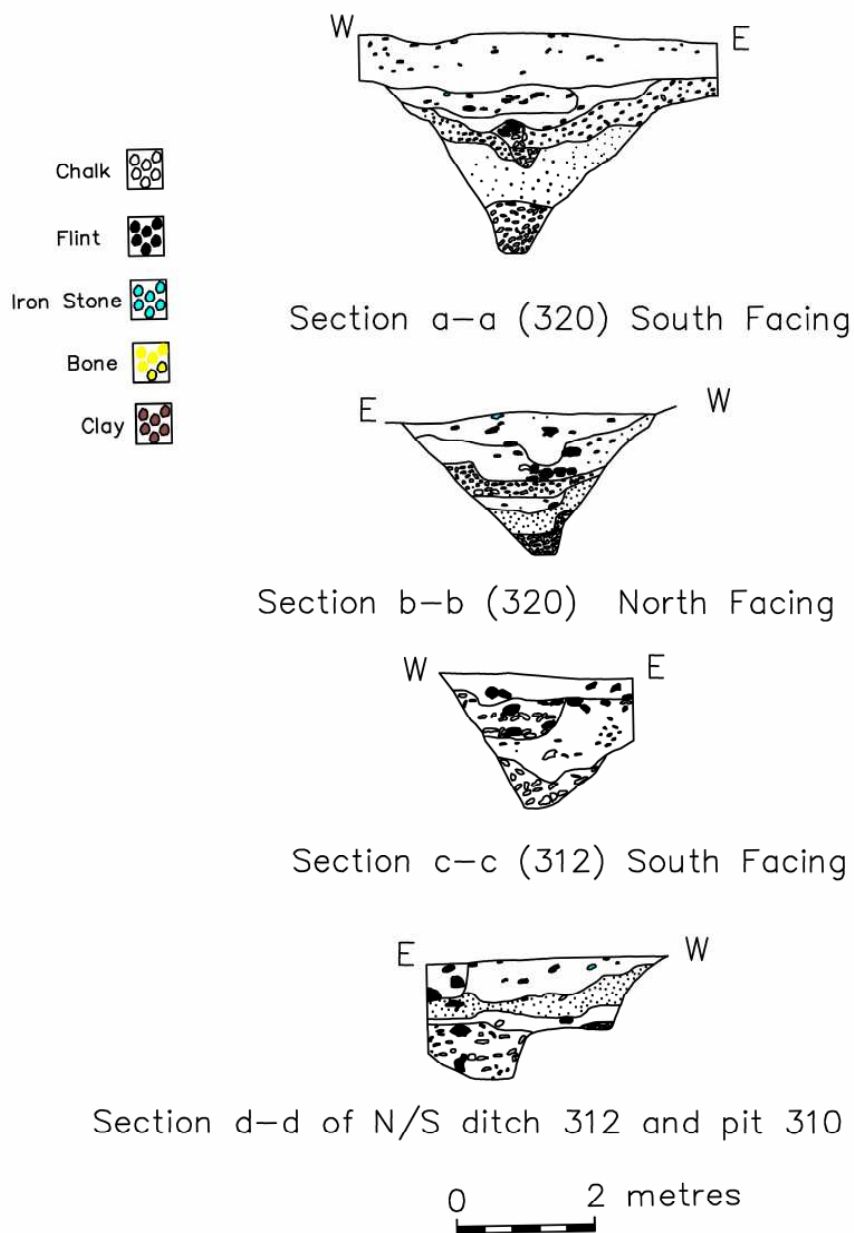


Fig 6. Pit and N/S ditch sections

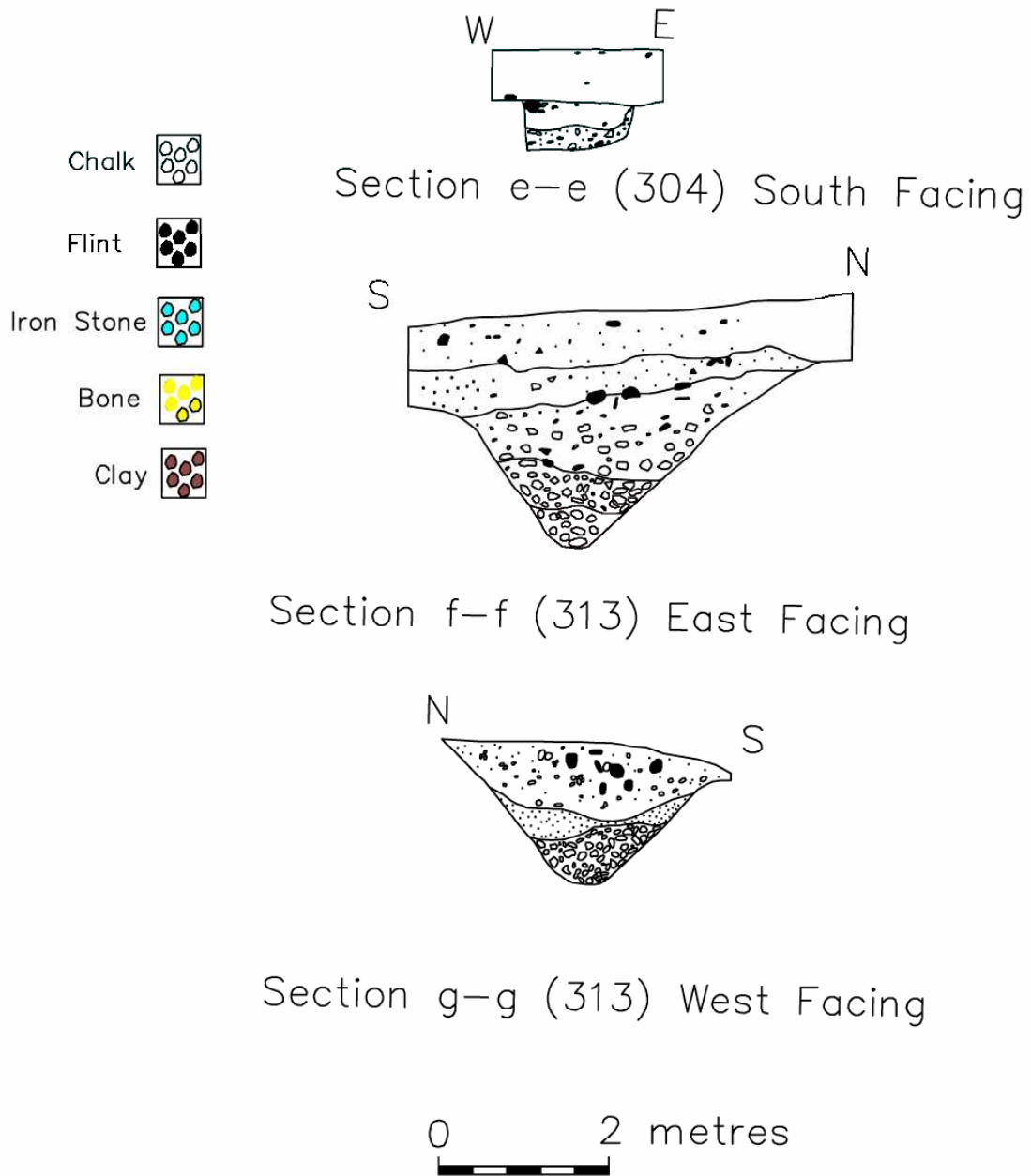


Fig.7 Gully (304) and Upper E/W Ditch Sections

The Upper East/west Ditch Contexts 313 & 331 (Fig 5.) & (Fig 7. sections f-f & g-g)

The upper east/west ditch was revealed after cleaning back by trowelling, and was in the expected location at the upper end of the east trench. The ditch was similar to the north/south ditch being a sharp 'V' shaped feature. This ditch measured 2 metres in width at the west end and 1.7 metre in width at the east end. The bottom of the ditch was extremely sharp with very little trace of any flatness. The fill of the ditch was similar to the fill found in the 2011 season consisting of a chalky loam mainly of small and medium chalk nodules. Among the finds from the ditch were pottery and a baby burial. The baby burial was located about 2/3rds of the way into the ditch on the west side. The feature was excavated in 2 segments and section drawings produced at each stage (Fig 7. Sections f-f & g-g). A silver object was found in the fill of the ditch on the east section.

The Lower East/west Ditch (Fig 5.) Contexts 308, 311, 314, 316, 318, 319, 337, 336, 339, & 349

(Fig 8. Sections h-h, i-i, j-j & k-k) & (Fig 9. Sections l-l, m-m & n-n)

The largest feature found during the 2012 season of digging was the lower east/west ditch. It was unknown until the results of the magnetometry survey, but rapidly came into view as the cleaning back process revealed the extent and size of the feature. The whole of the north side of the ditch was revealed but a large section of the south side disappeared into the south baulk. A number of trench extensions, going southwards, allowed the south edge to be revealed in some places. The south edge of this ditch was considerably lower than the north side, and the possible upcast from the ditch construction on the north side was quite prevalent as a loose rubble of small chalk pieces. Very few finds were recovered where interventions were made into these north layers of upcast rubble. The south side of the ditch produced a very solid surface of natural chalk.

The ditch broke into the large north/south ditch at its western end. The ditch was virtually straight in section with a shallow terrace on the north side visible only at the western end. The ditch was not at right angles to the north/south ditch and produced an angle of less than 90 degrees to the north/south ditch. The feature had been cut twice, and on both occasions the bottom of the ditch was flat bottomed. The later or second cut, on the north side was at a slightly different angle to the original cut and produced a level platform along the bottom of most of the ditch. The west end of the feature was slightly smaller than the east end, measuring 1.9 metres in width at the east end. The ditch was excavated in several segments with contexts 308, 316, 314, 318 and 319 being excavated first with the remaining baulks contexts 336, 337, 339 and 349 being excavated after section drawings had been completed.

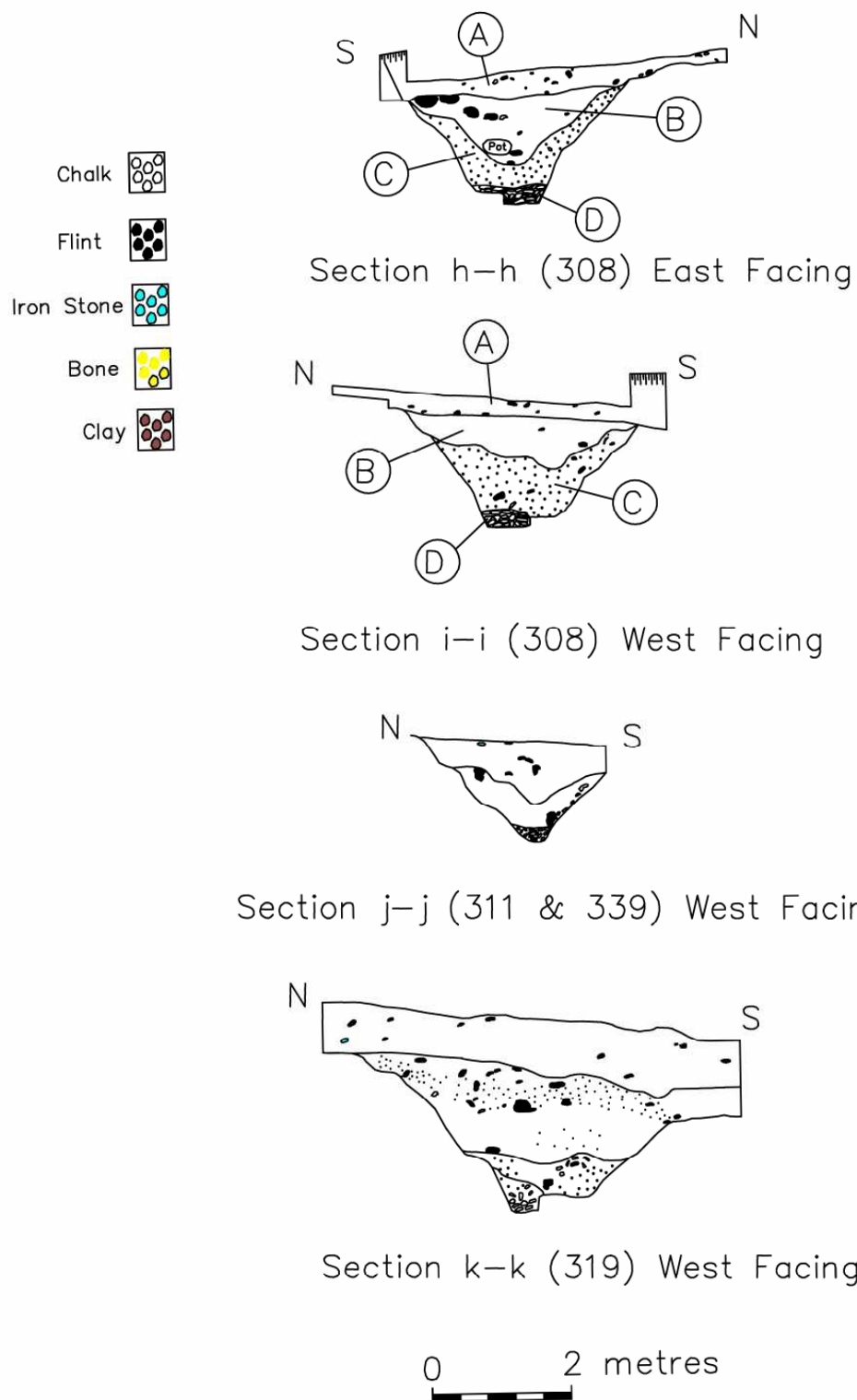
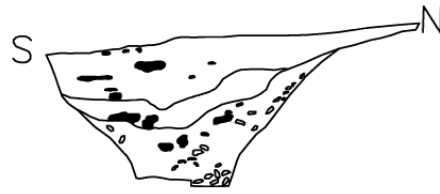
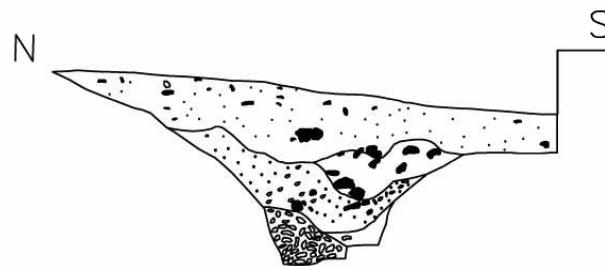
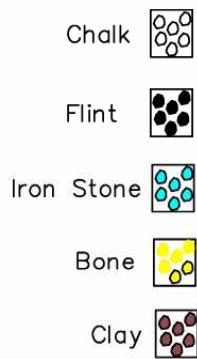


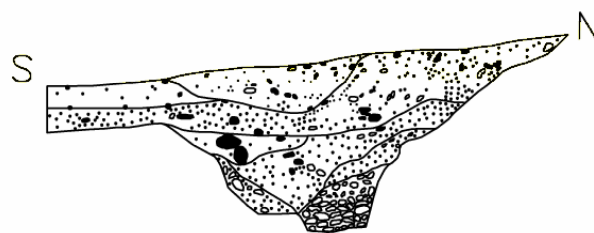
Fig 8. Lower E/W Ditch Sections



Section I-I (336) East Facing



Section m-m (349) West Facing



Section n-n (349) East Facing



Fig 9 Lower E/W Ditch Sections

The fills of the lower east/west ditch were of similar layers along the whole length, with the upper fill consisting of a dark, silty soil with the lower fills consisting of a more chalky loam. The north side of the ditch, at the bottom level, had a hard compact chalk deposit, which at first was considered to be the natural until pottery sherds eroding out of the side confirmed that it was a fill. Among the finds at this lower depth was some perforated pottery. No similar primary compact layer was found on the south side of the ditch.

Along the south facing slope of the feature was an area of smooth facing chalk, it ran for about 70cms and there was some discussion as to what sort of digging implement could have caused this flat and even face to have been created.

The lower ditch gully and terrace continued for most of the excavated length, but a few metres from the western end of the ditch the features merged into one single ditch. A slight curving indicated the start of the later cut.

The lower ditch produced the majority of finds for 2012 with significant quantities of pottery and bone. Among the bone items was the complete skull, including the horns, of a cow. This ditch also produced an interesting collection of samian pottery, with a number of pieces in close proximity suggesting it is from a single vessel. Metal work from this ditch included a coin and the 'Falmer' silver ring. The metal finds came from the upper fill of the ditch.

The Middle East/west Ditch Contexts 317 and 321 (Fig 5.) & (Fig 10. sections o-o, p-p and q-q) & (Fig 11. sections r-r and s-s)

The middle east/west ditch proved to have the most interesting collection of fills. When the top soil was being removed by the digger the noise from the movement of flint nodules was very noticeable and some form of pit was expected to be found. The results of the magnetometry survey clearly indicated that another ditch, and not a pit, lay at the lower end of the east trench. However, the removal of the top soil overburden came down onto a chalk like surface. A sondage measuring 1 metre in width was sunk on the west side of the east trench, contexts 317 and 330, to trace the location of this as yet hidden feature. After the removal of large amounts of chalk and very little loam the ditch was finally revealed. It appeared to be quite a wide feature.

Although this ditch had been revealed on the west side of the east trench it was not certain how this related to the flint laden 'pit' on the east side of the east trench. The original sondage was deepened to seek the ditch depth and configuration and revealed a much shallower ditch than the other three previously investigated. This ditch was less well defined and with a more rounded ditch bottom. Finds were fewer than in the other ditches. The fill was of a mixture of chalk nodules with very little loam, similar to the upper layer, and as work progressed downwards it showed that the ditch was smaller than the upper section had indicated as a metre length of the ditch proved to be of a shallow platform cut into the natural chalk, context 330. The width of this ditch proved to be 1.9 metres and had a depth of 85cms.

It was still proving difficult to understand the relationship between the pit on the east side and the ditch on the west disappearing into the baulk between both features. The pit context 321 was now sectioned and excavated. This area proved to be a mixture of flint nodules, iron stone pieces and a clay like fill. The feature had been cut into a clay with flint solution hollow which added to the complexity of the relationships. As work progressed so it became apparent that the pit had the same sloping sides as the ditch section to the west, on the other side of the baulk. Once the fill of the 'pit' had finally been removed it became apparent that the feature with all these complex fills was the location of a deposit of chalk creating a solid chalk causeway across the ditch. The chalk had spilled into the east side of the baulk of the ditch and when this section had been excavated it confirmed that the 'pit' was a feature within the longer and larger ditch. When viewing this ditch from either side of the causeway there were such variations in ditch fills, that only further extensions to the ditch on the east side would allow a greater appreciation of what had occurred in antiquity. The west facing section of the east side of the ditch was a rich mixture of clay deposits with a selection of ironstone pieces set into the clay.

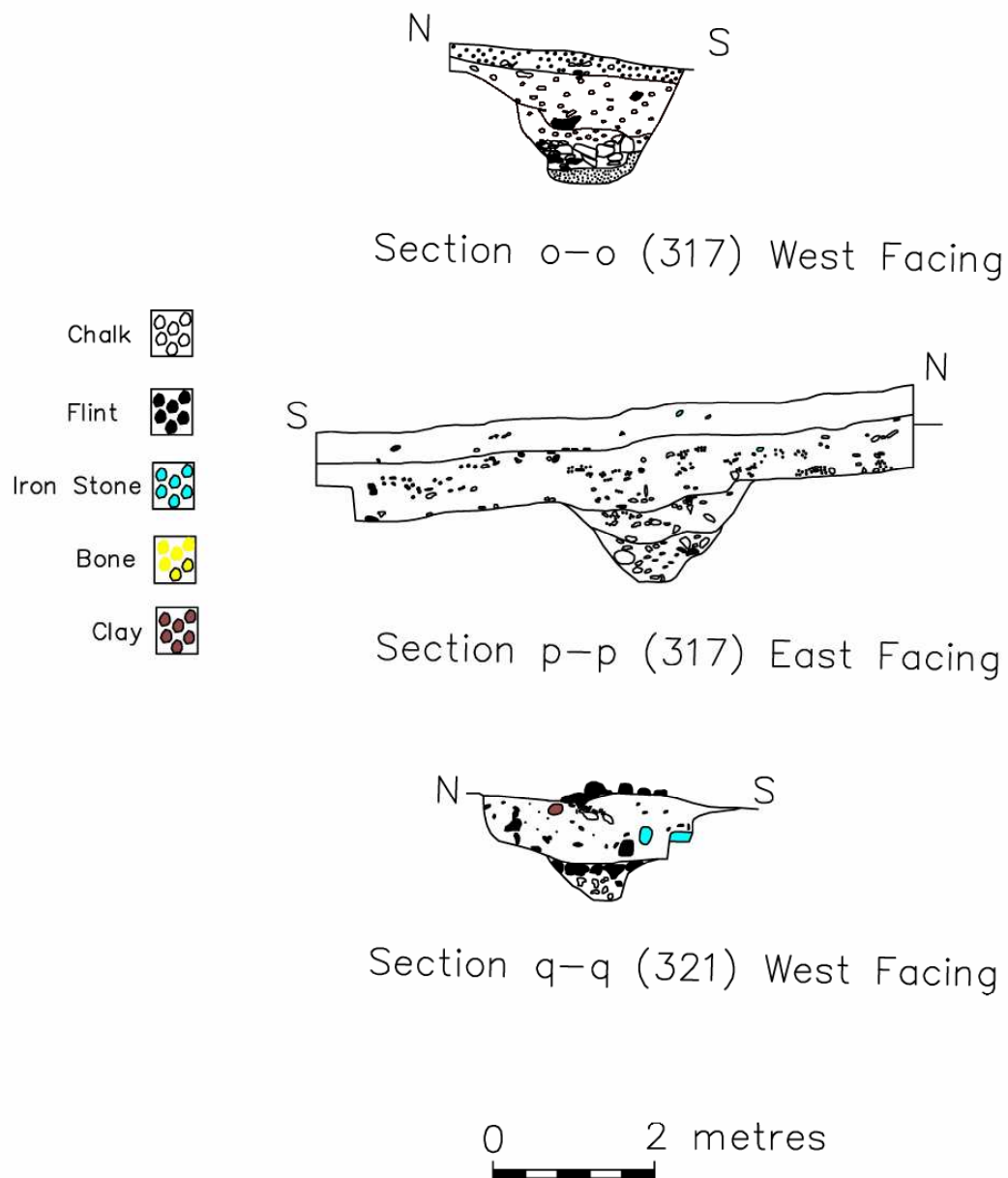


Fig 10. Middle E/W ditch sections

A shallow ditch Context 348 (Fig 5.) & (Fig 11. section s-s)

To the south of the middle east/west ditch was another curious feature which appeared to be yet another ditch running east/west context 348. The feature measured only 60cms in width and was 13cms deep and it ran for 2.2 metres out of the east baulk before terminating just west of the chalk causeway. The ditch was sectioned and proved to be quite shallow with almost vertical sides, and with very few finds. The fill was similar to that found in the middle east/west ditch. Below the fill of this shallow feature the excavation came down onto natural clay with flint. This natural deposit was very visible within the middle east/west ditch as well as the south facing side of the same ditch. The fill of 348 was a quite distinct medium brown colour and quite different to the surrounding chalk deposition.

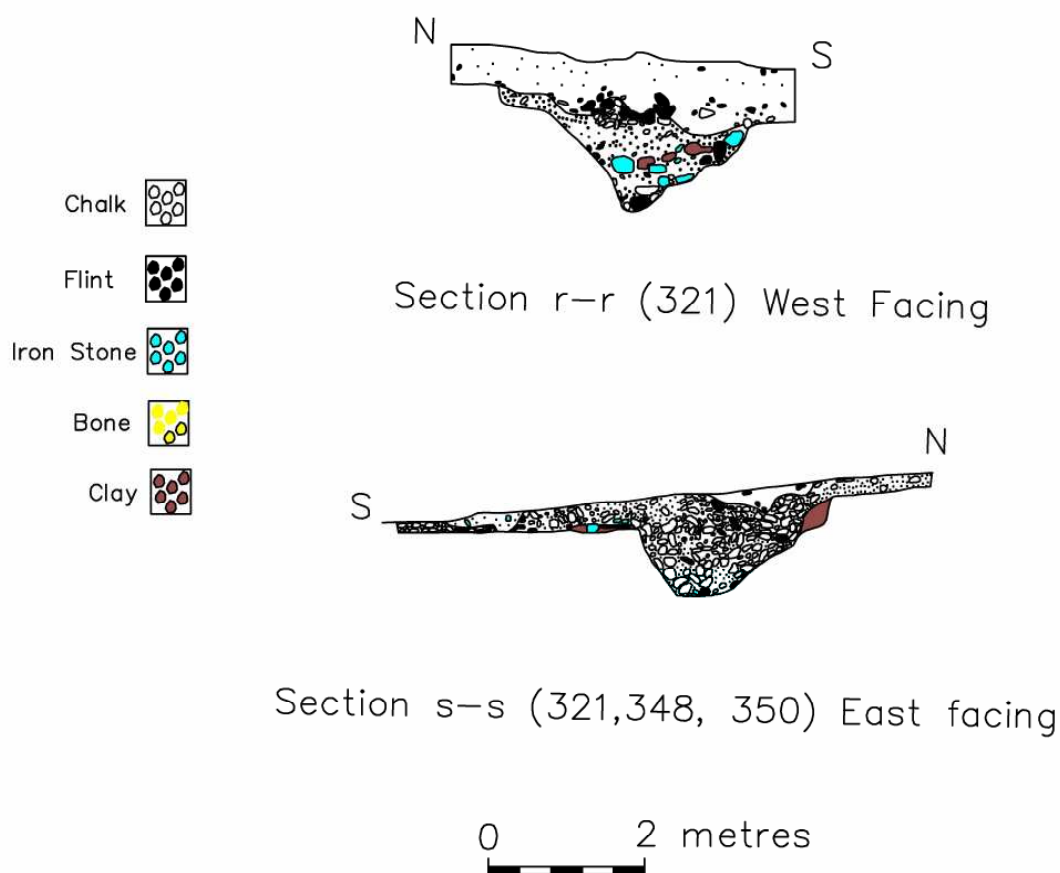


Fig 11. Middle E/W ditch sections

The Floor Area (Contexts 332, 333, 334, 335, 352, 353, 354, 355 and 356 Fig 5.) & (Fig 12. sections t-t, u-u, w-w and x-x)

The most complex area uncovered during the 2012 season of excavations was the 'floor'. During the removal of the top soil in area context 301 a coin was found, and this area later proved to be floor context 334. As the top soil and upper layers were being systematically removed it became apparent that there was an interesting collection of fills north of the middle east/west ditch. A possible floor was discerned comprising a mixture of flint nodules, large chalk nodules and areas of iron stone. At one point it looked very much as if there were a number of linear arrangements of ironstone and flint, contexts 334, 335, 353, 354, 355 and 356.

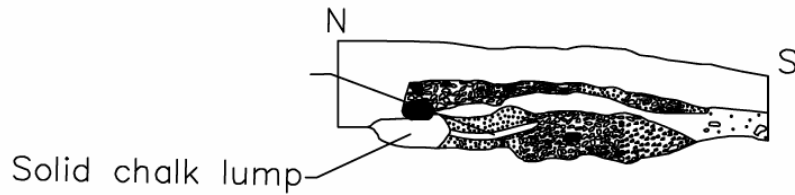
As the excavation progressed the north side of the 'floor' was found to consist of a puddled chalk surface, and south of this surface was a linear arrangement of large flint nodules. Sondages were cut on both the east and west side of the trench to produce sections of this floor in two locations. The linear arrangement of ironstone and flint proved to be more irregular within the fill except on the north side. The fill was a medium brown colour and few finds were found within it. Both the west and east sections produced sections that suggested a possible alternative interpretation, which was of a trackway or roadway crossing the enclosure. Greg Chuter, the Assistant County Archaeologist, on one of his visits to Rocky Clump suggested that the sections were not robust enough to be a trackway and that the construction was probably attributed to a low status barn or lean to building. Part of the floor was left in-situ for evaluation by future archaeologists.

One of the BHAS field unit, Dot McBrien was not convinced by the surface designated the natural below the 'floor' and cut a small sondage to check out her theory. The sondage produced a lower fill of hard compressed chalk below which there was an even lower fill of large chalk pieces with a few flint nodules in place. The lower layer produced no finds of any description and was an irregular circular configuration. During the last few days on site the areas were mattocked away and still produced no finds, but an extension to the main trench going in a westerly direction revealed that this floor continued in that direction with a similar fill of flint, chalk and ironstone.

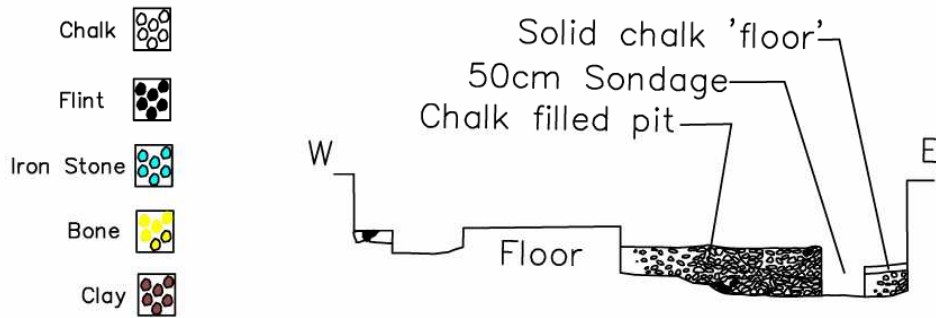
The section drawings confirm that the floor was between 2.4 metres wide and 18cms deep on the west side and 2.6 metres wide and 18cms deep on the east side.



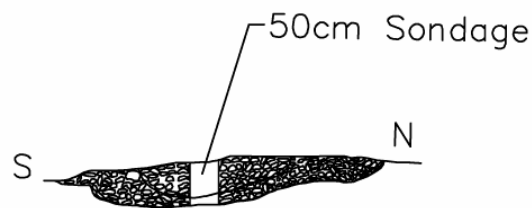
Section t-t East facing floor section



Section u-u West facing floor and pit



Section w-w across the trench, floor and pit



Section x-x through pit below floor facing east

0 2 metres

Fig 12. The 'floor' and pit

The North/West Corner Contexts 309A, 309B, 360, 361 and 368 Fig 5.) & (Fig 13. sections y-y and z-z with profiles aa-aa and bb-bb)

In the north corner of the upper east/west ditch a circular feature was revealed and this was expected to be where the trackway, found in 2011, surfaced. Upon excavation the feature proved to be quite a complex collection of both a ditch and pits, and all of these were quite deep. The excavation was extended another metre westwards and produced even more archaeology.

The feature proved to be a small ditch running westwards context 361, and a large pit context 368. The pit had a fill of large flint nodules and dark chalk loam. There were also a number of shallow cuts into this pit creating small terraces, and the pit was almost vertical sided, and undercut on the south facing side. On the south side of the small ditch an incursion had taken place between this small ditch and the main upper east/west ditch which resembled a possible post hole. Unfortunately the cramped and compact area of this collection of features, and it being the last days of digging, there was not enough time to allow for any further extension to the north/west corner. In 2011 there were a number of post holes found further to the west of this area and it is possible that the new post hole is associated with these features, but only additional digging in the future will allow a better interpretation of their purpose.

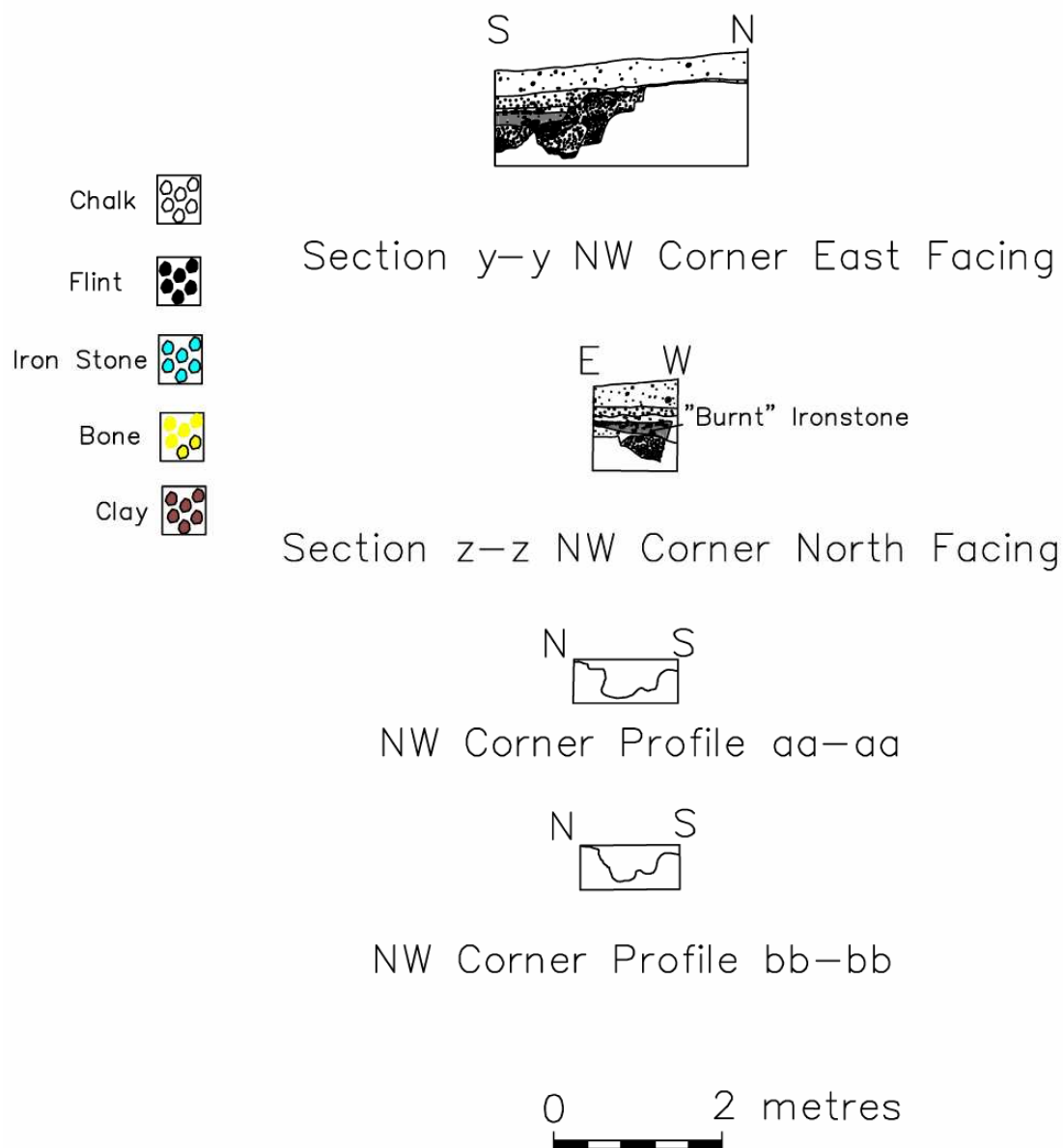


Fig 13. The N/W Corner

The North West Corner (Notes by John Skelton the excavator.)

The feature in the NW corner of the 2012 excavations (just north of the western end of the main north ditch) was initially thought to be the shallow exit of a trackway from the ditches exposed in the 2011 dig. The feature measured approximately one metre by one metre and disappeared under the western baulk.

A section was cut midway into this feature N-S and it was quickly revealed to be a much deeper feature than expected comprising of two cuts. In the upper levels there was no clear difference in the fill in what later appeared to be a possible pit to the north and a possible gully to the south. It was, however, noted that the fill in the southernmost segment was loamier and that in the northernmost segment chalkier and that there was a preponderance of charcoal flecks, small pieces of daub and pottery in the southernmost fill particularly at lower levels. Upon completion the east facing section revealed a pit to the north apparently cutting into a shallow gully to the south. There were large flint nodules forming part of the fill of the pit. The excavation of the rest of the feature up to the western baulk confirmed this interpretation.

The excavation was then extended to the west by one metre in the hope of finding the intersection of the gully with the ditch. Instead this revealed a much more complicated set of features but again there was no definitive evidence of which feature cut which either during excavation or through examination of the sections. Where we may have expected the intersection of the gully and the main ditch we found either two pits or the termini of more gullies. However, there is a suggestion that the feature cut into the side of the main east/west ditch is the later feature as revealed by the spread of a layer of very dark sooty loam in north and east facing sections.

During excavation sketch plans were made of the position of the characteristic, large flint nodules at various depths. These sketches have been amalgamated into a series of diagrams that show the spread of the nodules which appear to be concentrated over the north pit and the western area of complex cuts (sections y-y & z-z). These diagrams also show the concentration of the loamy soil in the gully area. These observations reinforce the interpretation that the pit was open after the gully had been filled.

An interesting feature of the north pit was evidence of undercutting in the north wall (profiles aa-aa & bb-bb). Whether this represents the creation of a bell shaped pit or a method of enlarging the pit by undercutting and collapse is not known. In either case it would appear to be incomplete.

Further excavation westwards is needed to resolve the issue of whether these further features are pits or gully termini.

The New Extension Context 347 Contexts 362, 365, 366 and 367(Fig 5.)

A small area was opened for a visit by the Young Archaeologists Club, (YAC), in October. As the excavation progressed into November and December, with the recording of the main trench taking place, a number of the team transferred to this location. The top soil was removed by hand and this produced more in the way of finds from the upper layer. The features gradually came into view with the first being an extension of the north/south ditch, context 363. Attached and joining this ditch was uncovered the curious curving ditch revealed in the magnetometry survey, context 364. This ditch runs westwards into the field before it curves to the south. This new ditch approaches the north/south ditch before curving dramatically northwards and runs parallel with it for a short distance. The excavation confirmed that the geophysical images were correct and that the ditches did run parallel.

On the east side of the trench, context 347, new features appeared which included a new ditch running northwards context 365. The removal of the south baulk confirmed that it was a continuation of the small gully context 304 revealed above the lower east/west ditch. On the east of this ditch was an area containing a concentration of soot and charcoal with pottery eroding from this surface, context 367. The fill contained a considerable number of metal readings from the metal detecting equipment. A small extension to the trench running northwards produced more evidence for the "road/trackway" or floor found in the east trench and confirmed that it continued westwards. A chalk feature was noted between the charcoal area and the floor location. The trench was covered with tarpaulins and back filled ready for the new season.

The Layers

The excavations this season, other than the ditches, have been comprised mainly of layers, beds or deposits of chalk or chalky loam. Above the lower east/west ditch were noticeable layers of chalky fill, and these were investigated in a number of locations. To the east of the north/west ditch a 1 metre section was excavated down to the edge of the lower east/west ditch and it produced a chalky fill contexts 351 and 359. The fill produced no finds and the section was terminated short of the location of the small gully context 304, to leave this feature undamaged and in-situ. The chalky rubble fill appears to continue eastwards with the shallow gully context 348 being cut into it at a later date. The top soil had a depth of 20cms with a shallow loamy layer measuring 12cms in depth with the lower chalky rubble fill being 10cms deep.

The floor fill consisted of a light chalky loam and this commenced on the north side of the middle east/west ditch and continued northwards to the linear arrangement of large flint nodules determined as the north boundary of a possible timber framed building. The floor was checked with a dumpy level on a number of occasions and tended to show that it was relatively level over its width varying only by a couple of centimetres at either side. The floor measured between 12 and 27cms in depth over the whole of its width (Fig 12 section w-w.)

Between the floor area and the upper east/west ditch an area was excavated that produced no features, but were allocated area contexts 343, 344, 345 and 346. The

area measured almost 5 metres in width and 3 metres from north to south, the area was split into 4 equal contexts. The fill consisted of a medium brown light chalky loam lying immediately below the plough soil and this continued down to the natural chalk. The only noteworthy observation about this large area is the increased depth of soil. The variation in soil depth was noticeable over the whole site where the depth varied from a minimum of 20cms in area 'F' (Fig 5.) to 70 centimetres in area 'C' in the south east corner of the site. The contexts 343-346 were to be in the deeper section with the top measuring 50-60cms in depth in these locations.

The Baby Burial (Fig 14)

The baby was found in the lower fills of the upper east/west ditch. It was located 86cms below the upper edge of the ditch on the north side. The baby had been carefully laid to rest with the head to the north and facing to the west. The remains are being investigated by the BHAS bones team.

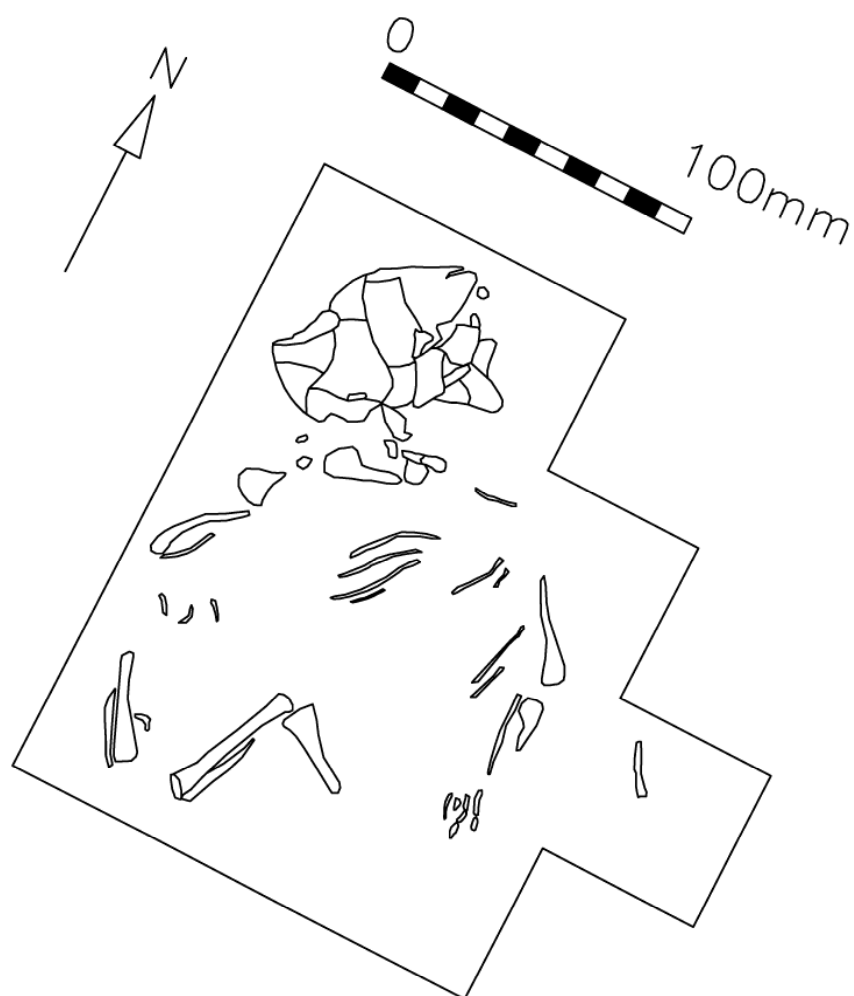


Fig 14. BABY BURIAL (CONTEXT 328)

Measurements

Context Feature	Width	Depth	Depth to topsoil
Upper E/W ditch 313 (W)	2.00	0.89	1.40
Upper E/W ditch 331 (E)	1.75	0.92	1.28
Middle E/W ditch 317	1.15	0.57	1.10
North/South ditch 320 (N)	1.90	1.13	1.55
North/south ditch 320(S)	1.87	0.75	1.11

The Finds

The Pottery

The season produced copious amounts of pottery, mainly burnished East Sussex Ware and a significant amount of samian ware. The pottery is being washed and will be examined at the finds processing meetings in 2013. A number of pieces of coarse wares and samian were found to be decorated including more of the raised eye-brow decoration.

The Bones by Carol White

The season once again produced numerous bones, mainly small and butchered fragments but also a large number of long bones, some vertebrae and an almost complete cow skull along with its horns. In 2011 the bones were predominantly pig with a number of articulated burials while this year the main collection of bones in the lower east/west ditch has proved to be horse, although no horse skull or mandible has yet been recovered. The most important find this year has been the revealing of an almost intact baby burial. The location of the bones from the cemetery within Rocky Clump is being pursued with the potential for DNA analysis linking a mother buried in the trees with the baby buried in the ditch. All of the bones are currently being examined by the BHAS bones team.

Molluscs

A number of molluscs were recovered from the various fills with oyster being the most collected. It was noted that the finds of marine shell, particularly mussel, are fewer this year than last year.

Stone Objects

The middle east/west ditch produced a significant collection of worked sarsen and ironstone blocks. The general size and shape tend to suggest that they may be pad stones, possibly for a timber framed structure, and were mainly found in the area to the east of the chalk causeway constructed across this ditch. This same fill appears in the west facing baulk and looks to carry on eastwards. One stone object of particular interest was a partially perforated elongated pebble. It could be a partially created mace head or, as Greg Chuter suggested, the partially bored surface of a fire lighting stone, used for twisting sticks to create sparks for tinder.

Roman Roofing Tile

An extremely small number of fragments of Roman roofing tile were found this season, and will add to the small collection found in previous excavations in both the south and north fields. The collection is quite small and may not even constitute a single complete Roman roofing tile. Most of the material is of tegula tile although part of an imbrex was found in the north field excavations.

Metal Work

The 2012 season produced an extremely interesting collection of metal work albeit a small one. The most prevalent find was of nails, and as they came from the lower ditch fills could be construed as Roman rather than contemporary items. The most significant pieces of metal work came from the upper east/west ditch which produced a small silver object that had been crushed in antiquity, and has no discernable shape and from the lower east/west ditch the 'Falmer' silver ring. This ring bears a strong resemblance to the design of an Iron Age torque, being constructed of twisted silver wire with silver balls at the ends. The item was recorded and sent to the British Museum. They have called it a unique item and an unprecedented find. The items are logged in the Rocky Clump South Field Special Finds Register.

Coins by W.Santer

The 2012 season of digging at Rocky Clump produced 2 Roman coins.

Coin 1. Context 301

Barbarous Radiate of Claudius II (AD275-285)
Obverse Legend (DIVO CLAUDIO)
Reverse Legend CO(NSECRA)TIO
Reverse depicts large altar with decorations.

PAS database parallel: SUR-BD 3EE6
Cf. Cunetio Hoard Publication p160, No 2875

Width 6.13mm to 5.74mm (Oval in shape) and thickness 0.045mm

Coin 2. Context 319A (SF21)

Barbarous Radiate AE3 of Tetricus 1, (AD 270-273)
Obverse: Partial legend: "...tricus" with a well defined portrait
Reverse: No discernible markings due to corrosion products

Measurements:
Width, 19.25mm to 16.5mm
Weight 3.5 to 4 grammes
Thickness, 0.05mm approx

(Identification confirmed by Stephanie Smith Sussex FLO)

Discussion

The 2012 season of excavations at Rocky Clump were designed to seek evidence for ancient activity within the ditches of the later Iron Age early Romano-British enclosure found in 2011. The project was based around the report from the excavations at Oving, near Chichester that in 1965 produced evidence for metal working within a ditched enclosure, along with the remains of a round house (Bedwin).

The 'L' shaped trench was designed to confirm the continuation of the large ditches running north/south and east/west and then examine an area between them. The magnetometry survey, completed after the trench had been opened, added a complexity of new features to the area not previously appreciated from the resistivity survey. The new survey added a number of new ditches running in several directions. These new anomalies required additional thought and focus on how to record and determine, if possible, a strategy for a chronological sequence for these new features. The geophysics tends to suggest that the upper and lower east/west ditches are an integral part of an enclosure with both these features linking to the north/south ditch. The upper and lower east/west ditches tend to link up with another pair of north/south ditches further eastwards as yet unexcavated. The middle east/ditch appears to link with the west north/south ditch but does not reach the easterly north/south ditch terminating about 30 metres east of the east enclosure boundary, while the westerly north/south ditch disappears southwards and out of view terminating at some distance away from any feature. The new, curiously shaped ditch, running westwards which later turns southwards in a wide curve, disappears into the distance possibly creating a much larger enclosure.

The ditches have been the main focus of attention this season (Fig 15.). The upper east/west ditch had a similar fill to the same ditch found last season, and the same can be said of the north/south ditch which has a distinct upper fill of dark, silty soil with a lower fill of light chalk loam. The north/south ditch section in 2011 had pottery from the upper fill dated from 130AD to 250AD by Malcolm Lyne, while the pottery from the lower fills he confirmed is of late Iron Age date. This year the lower fill of the lower east/west ditch produced some perforated pottery. Similar perforated pottery at Eastbourne has been dated to the Saxon period (Pers. Comm. H.Forsythe).

The upper fills of the lower east/west ditch produced copious amounts of pottery and the finds of a coin and the 'Falmer' ring, all of which tend to suggest a later Roman dating for usage. The possible Saxon dating for the perforated pottery appears anomalous at present.

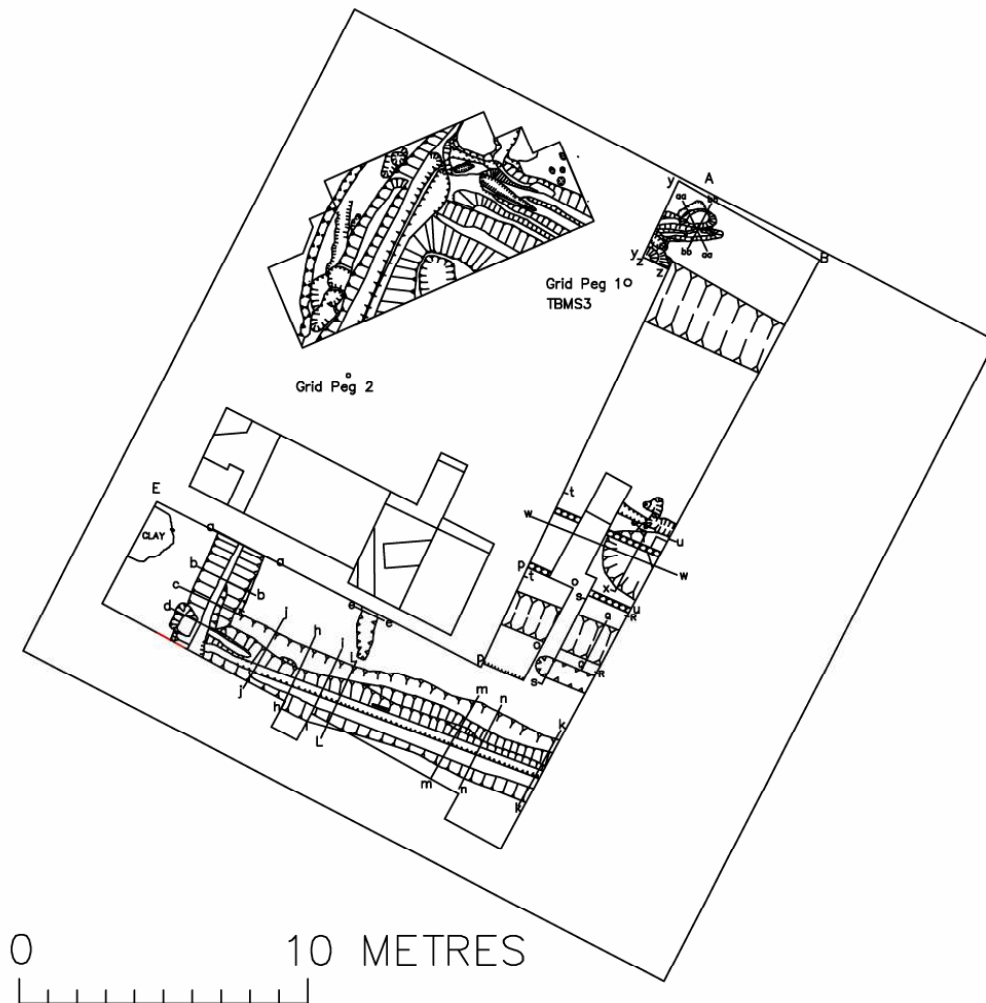


Fig 15. Rocky Clump 2012 - Final Planning

The upper ditch may produce some good dating from the pottery recovered from the fills, which appears consistent throughout the whole ditch. This ditch has very few, if any, other distinct layers. The baby burial proved an exciting find and portrayed a reverential interment of a neo-natal baby. Currently investigations are being conducted to seek the location of the remains from the 1950-1980 excavations as it is now possible to conduct a DNA survey which could link the child with one of the people buried within the cemetery inside of Rocky Clump. The silver object was also found in a similar layer in the same ditch but to the east of the burial.

The middle ditch is the most complex feature. It is nothing like the other ditches having a coarse rough cut, steeper sided walls, a rounded base and rough chalky rubble for a fill. It is very close to the location of the lower east/west ditch and from the geophysical survey terminates much earlier than the lower east/west ditch. It would appear that the middle ditch is from an earlier phase within the enclosure and that it was not immediately filled in. The chalk causeway across this ditch tends to suggest that an entrance was constructed to gain access to a building immediately north of the ditch. The fill of the middle ditch, east of the causeway, includes numerous pieces of ironstone and may suggest that this is demolition material for

when any possible building was taken down, but only further investigations could confirm this theory.

The floor area was perhaps the most interesting feature this season (Fig 12. sections t-t, u-u, w-w and x-x) causing considerable amounts of thought. The floor is only 2 metres in width but does measure at least 10 metres in length at present, and may be even longer. The floor is well delineated on the north side by a linear collection of flints, which may have been a foundation surface for a timber beam wall. The elevated surface would have been required as during the wetter weeks of the excavation water was seen to lie in the puddled chalk surface immediately north of the line of flints. The south side of the floor appears to have been the north edge of the middle east/west ditch, but no linear arrangement of flints was found on the south side of the floor to confirm this south boundary, which could suggest an open sided, south facing structure, with a wall to the north.

It looks increasingly as though the middle ditch was only partially constructed and quickly abandoned in favour of the lower larger ditch, the causeway created, and a building constructed with the middle ditch left as a drainage feature before it was later backfilled with building demolition rubble. Any structure would probably be associated with a low status animal enclosure. The full chronological sequence will require a complete excavation of the whole area to completely understand the complex sequence of events in this tiny area.

The lower east/west ditch is of some significance and the dimensions, both width and depth, show that considerable amounts of exertion were required to create this feature. The ditch appears to have been cut with the upcast being thrown to the north. The significant amount of chalk rubble found in that location tends to suggest that vestiges of this operation still remain. There is a compacted area of this chalk rubble between the lower and middle east/west ditches and this may be part of a 'trackway' running parallel to the ditches, linked to the causeway crossing the middle ditch. The only anomalous feature in this trackway is the curious gully. However, the new area opened up, north of the lower east/west ditch and at the end of the season appears to show that this gully is the termination of a ditch that carries on northwards. The gully may be a drainage feature linked to enclosure interior activities as yet unknown, which would make this feature a later activity cut into the compact trackway.

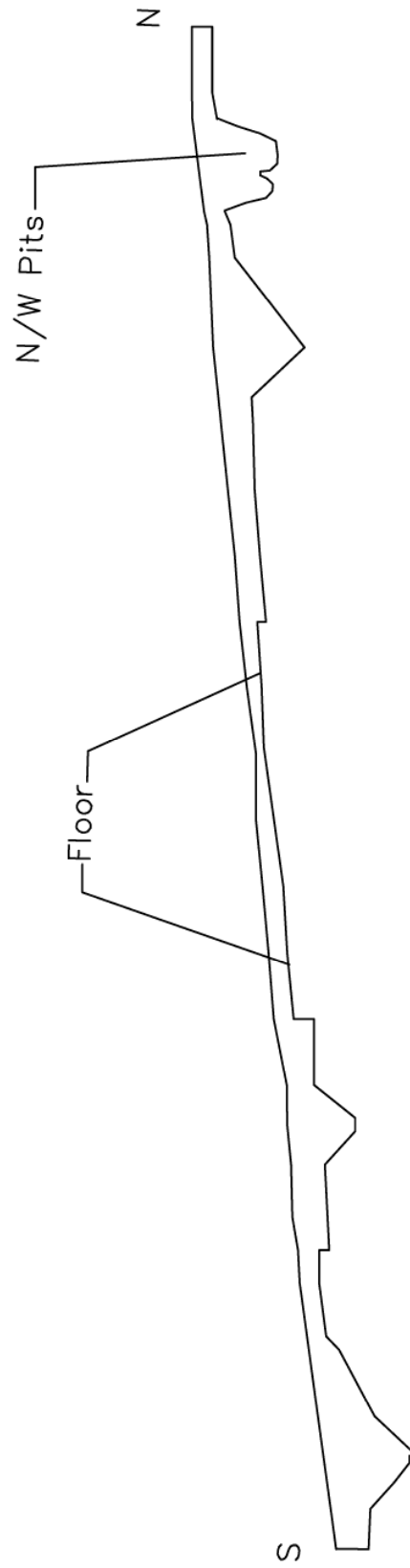


Fig 16. Showing the contour survey and ditch, floor and pitch relationship

Perhaps the most dramatic effect can be noted in a contour survey conducted across the site from north to south (Fig 16.) The floor surface can be seen as relatively level and even. The lower east/west ditch has a dramatic variation in surfaces from the very high north section to the much lower south section, and this variation in height raises the question as to the of sense of purpose or chronological sequencing of the various features.

The north side of the lower east/west ditch rises quite quickly, enhanced by the upper fill of chalk upcast, while the lower south side is much shallower and has a flat even surface. Is this variation the effects of the lower side being part of a negative lynchet? The geophysics tends to suggest in area 'N' that there is a linear anomaly located south of the lower ditch, is this ditch the north side of a ploughed out ancient field? The elevated surface, along with any upcast, would prove a formidable combination for defence and/or animal enclosure.

The excavations in 2011 of the north/west ditch junction provided clear evidence of a chronological sequence showing that the north/south ditch had been the later cut. The junction was probably created at the same date, but the north/south ditch had evidence for a later re-cut. The west end junction of the north/south ditch and the lower east/west ditch was sectioned in an attempt to provide a chronological sequence for the cutting of this ditch junction, but unfortunately there was no evidence for any re-cutting sequence. It is possible that the features were cut at the same time, and the shallow pit on the west side of the north/south ditch may be an indicator that the lower east/west ditch was cut first, but there was no evidence to confirm this. The fills of both the north/south and lower east/west ditch complemented each other clearly showing that while a cutting sequence could not be obtained both ditches were opened at the same time and were back filled together, with the same fills being found in both ditches at the same levels, continuing from one into the other. The same fills were also shown as being part of the north/south ditch and the small pit on the west side of the ditch.

The most perplexing aspect of this season has been the complete lack of post holes which would have provided good evidence for buildings and habitation, along with any form of activity. It is possible that there was a timber framed structure within the enclosure but at present the evidence is far from conclusive. Some thought is still required to construct a chronological sequence for any of the features, with the exception of the causeway, and all dating at present is based upon pottery and coin evidence.

The current evidence from both the south and north excavations, based upon coin and pottery, appears to suggest that Rocky Clump has two major phases of activity and possible occupation. The enclosure and some of the ditches to the north have provided good material evidence for activity in the late Iron Age with a return to the site and more activity in the late 2nd to early fourth centuries AD.

It is hoped that future excavations will provide answers to some of these outstanding questions, with extensions to the site in virtually all directions required to better understand the ancient landscape in these fields. Among the many questions remaining are the extent and chronology of the enclosure, the boundary of the

curious curved series of ditches and the location of the settlement itself. The south field is filled with numerous geophysical anomalies and, hopefully, the new season will provide some of the answers, although it will probably raise even more questions. However, that is the nature of archaeology.

A drawing of the last 20 years of digging has been produced to indicate the various chronological stages of the excavation over the past two decades.

Author: John Funnell 28th December 2012

References:-

Bedwin O. & Holgate R. 1985 'Excavations at Copse Farm, Oving, West Sussex' Proceedings Of the Prehistoric Society 51, 1985, 215-245.

Funnell J.D. Rocky Clump Interim Reports 1993-1998

Funnell J.D. Rocky Clump Interim Reports in Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Notebooks 1999- 2011

SITE TITLE ROCKY CLUMP SOUTH FIELD - SITE CODE 500300

NO.	SMALL FIND	CONTEXT	PT 1	PT 2	REMARKS	TBMS3	LEVEL	DATE
1	Coin	South Field			Barbarous Radiate		TQN32824/E10030	
2	Flint Arrowhead	76			Refer notebook	2.415	2.69	25/06/2011
3	Metal Object?	79			Lead spindle whorl?	2.59	3.03	
4	Metal knife	37/102	7.65	6.14		1.13	1.7	
5	Copper Alloy	56/115	4.09	8.35	Ring or band	1.13	1.75	
6	Copper Alloy	South Field			TQ328330 Medieval?			
7	Lead Globule	60/120				1.035	2.03	13/08/2011
8	Copper Alloy	South Field			TQ32867 Buckle			07/09/2011
9	Brooch	39/184			Iron Age -La Tene	0.95	1.77	07/09/2011
10	Bored tooth	35/153				0.95	1.195	14/09/2011
11	Spindle Whorl	58/153	10.2	2.72		0.845	1.615	12/10/2011
12	Iron Hinge	Spoil heap			possible Iron brooch			
13	Pin Copper	South Field						
14	Roman Glass	4/107	7.6	6.62		1.01	1.32	22/10/2011
15	Coin	South Field			Carausius 286-293AD			Dec-11
16	Copper Alloy	300	15.42	10.12	Cylindrical piece + frag	0.37	2.075	14/04/2012
17	Coin	301	9.15	10.48	Barbarous Radiate	1	2.175	26/05/2012
18	Silver ring	314A	17.28	12.65	Silver finger ring coiled	0.88	3.045	09/06/2012
19	Nails	324	19	10.13		0.69	2.73	04/08/2012
20	Silver Object	331A	5.47	14.69	A clasp of some sort	0.785	1.39	04/08/2012
21	Coin	319A	17.3	14.5	Tetricus 270-273AD	0.755	3.065	15/08/2012
22	Loom weight	361	1.95	11.8	Could be mace-head?	0.64	0.94	24/10/2012
23	Metal Blade	347	13.15	6.9	Bent in 'V' shape	0.83	2.215	30/10/2012
	Mussel shells	74/81				0.735	0.999	10/08/2011
	Skull & pot	38				0.79	2.235	09/11/2011
	Pig burials	5				0.44	1.36	03/12/2011
	Baby Burial	328	2.6	12.06	Found in lower ditch fill	0.795	2.06	28/07/2012

Geophysics at Rocky Clump

Introduction

Rocky Clump has had a number of geophysical surveys conducted, mainly in the north field, and generally with regard to planning the next season excavations. Of note from the results of these past surveys has been the notable and very large ditch running northwards from a southern terminus located just north of the copse of trees. Numerous features were noted and these still continue northwards beyond the boundary of the area excavated.

A resistivity survey in the south field, conducted a number of years ago, produced a number of anomalous features which could be discerned as either archaeological or geological. A similar survey in the field to the west of Rocky Clump also produced a similar picture, raising the question as to whether the features are archaeological or natural.

In 2011 a student from University College London, Rob Wiseman, conducted a small magnetometry survey on lands immediately west of Rocky Clump, and on a small area to the south of the trees. This survey produced some very interesting and clear images. (Fig 1.)

In 2012 David Stavely conducted a major survey of the field to the south of Rocky Clump and produced some extremely interesting results, confirming that this location does contain an enclosure, with pottery suggesting a late Iron Age date for its construction.

The report of this survey is attached to this note.

References:-

Funnell J. Rocky Clump Interim Report 1998

Funnell J. Brighton and Hove Archaeological Field Notebook 1999

Funnell J. Brighton and Hove Archaeological Field Notebook 2011

J. Funnell 20th March 2013



**Fig1 Geophysical Surveys conducted
by Rob Wiseman and David Staveley**

A Geophysical Survey at Rocky Clump

by David Staveley

Introduction

Rocky Clump is the site of a Romano-British farmstead, west of the village of Stanmer. It is so called because the clump of trees at the top of the hill contains some sarsen stones. A significant amount of excavation by the Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society has taken place at the site. Excavations in the 1960's concentrated within the clump itself (Gorton & Yeates 1988), whilst those in the 1990's and 2000's followed features into the field to the north of the clump. Now in the 2010's, excavation has started in the field to the south of the clump. This report details some of the geophysics undertaken at the site.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank the members of BHAS for help with this survey.

Methodology

The magnetometer survey was undertaken using a GRAD601-2 using 40x40m grids, with lines spaced 1 metre apart and 4 readings per metre along the line, walking east-west. The data was processed using Snuffler with despiking, destriping (per sensor/direction) and interpolation (Y only) filters applied.

The resistivity in the north field was undertaken using a TR-Systems meter in the north field and a Geoscan RM15 in the south field, with lines spaced 1 metre apart and 1 reading per metre along the line. The data was processed using Snuffler with despiking and interpolation filters applied.

Geology

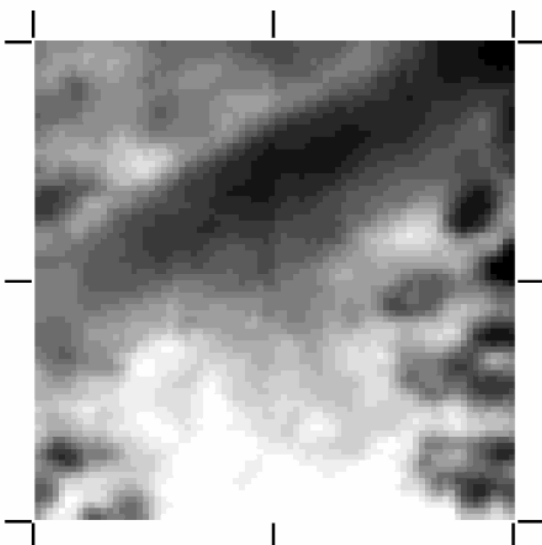
Though this survey is on chalk, there are also pockets of clay-with-flints present. Whilst this makes distinguishing archaeology from geology difficult, it has allowed a magnetometry survey to take place. Normally, a chalk soil will not contain any of the magnetic particles that allow a cut in the geology to contrast with untouched areas. The presence of clay-with-flints introduces those particles, at the expense of making interpretation difficult. Some attempt can be made at distinguishing the two by comparing the magnetometry results to the resistivity results. Clay-with-flints will usually be strong, small, rounded features, with a clear edge on the magnetometry. Additionally, if a feature shows up strongly on the resistivity, but it does not show strongly on the magnetometry, then it is more likely to be archaeological in nature. In some cases, the distinction cannot be made with certainty. These features will be discussed fully in the interpretation.

Positioning

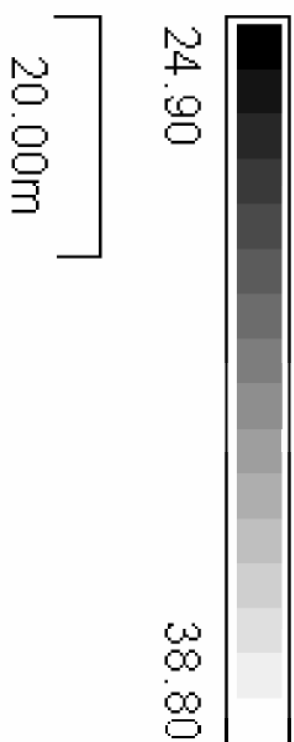
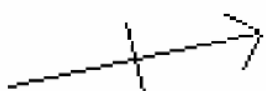
The positioning is not great for these surveys. The two resistivity surveys were undertaken without any total station resections, being matched up on Google Earth to excavation features visible to the north, and a new total station grid along with a small resistivity survey to the south. The total station resection points set up are now of little value, with one of the points, a telegraph pole, having shifted, leaving a horizontal difference of nearly half a metre. As an alternative, the corner points of the survey areas are recorded here, in WGS84 decimal degrees, as taken from Google Earth, with the total station survey matched up to the 2009 imagery. Please note that the GE imagery itself will not be exactly placed, so they cannot be relied upon to be an exact location. The points listed here are labelled in orange on the interpretation image.

Description	Easting (Longitude)	Northing
NR1	-0.113763	50.876334
NR2	-0.113896	50.875973
NR3	-0.113341	50.875890
NR4	-0.113205	50.876251
SR1	-0.114791	50.875326
SR2	-0.115016	50.874806
SR3	-0.113916	50.874617
SR4	-0.114067	50.874269
SR5	-0.112695	50.874032
SR6	-0.112244	50.875076
SR7	-0.113341	50.875264
SR8	-0.113417	50.875090
SM1	-0.114426	50.875206
SM2	-0.114626	50.874493
SM3	-0.112941	50.874306
SM4	-0.112740	50.875020

Northern Resistivity Results

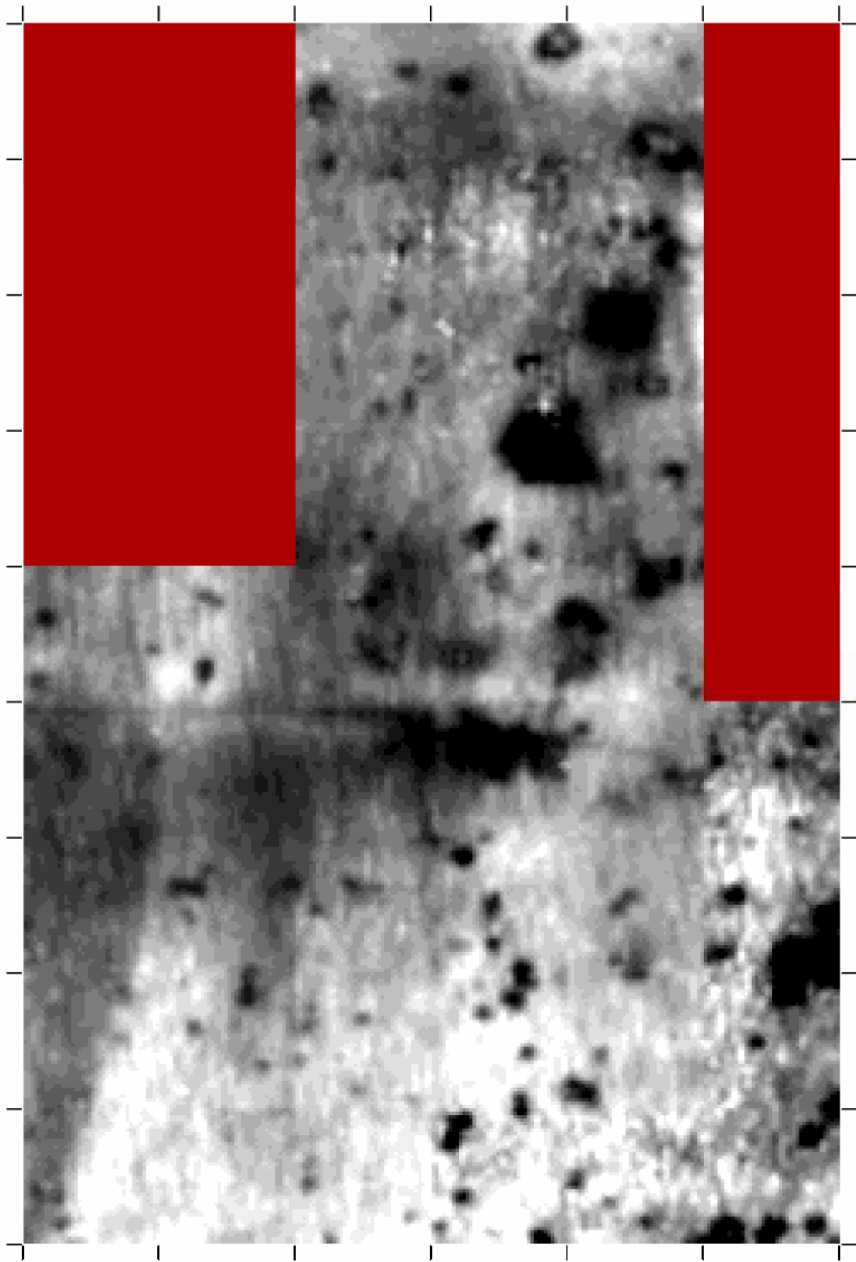
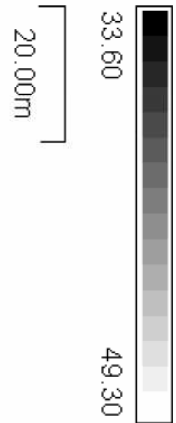
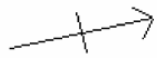


Document: rconflat
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Grid Height: 80 (40 m)
Orig. Sample Size: 1.00 x 1.00m
New Sample Size: 0.50 x 0.50m



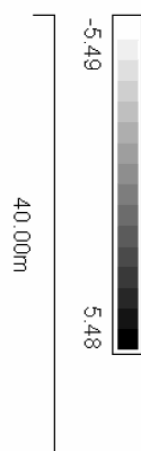
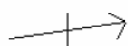
Southern Resistivity Results

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Grid Height: 240 (120 m)
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New Sample Size: 0.50 x 0.50m

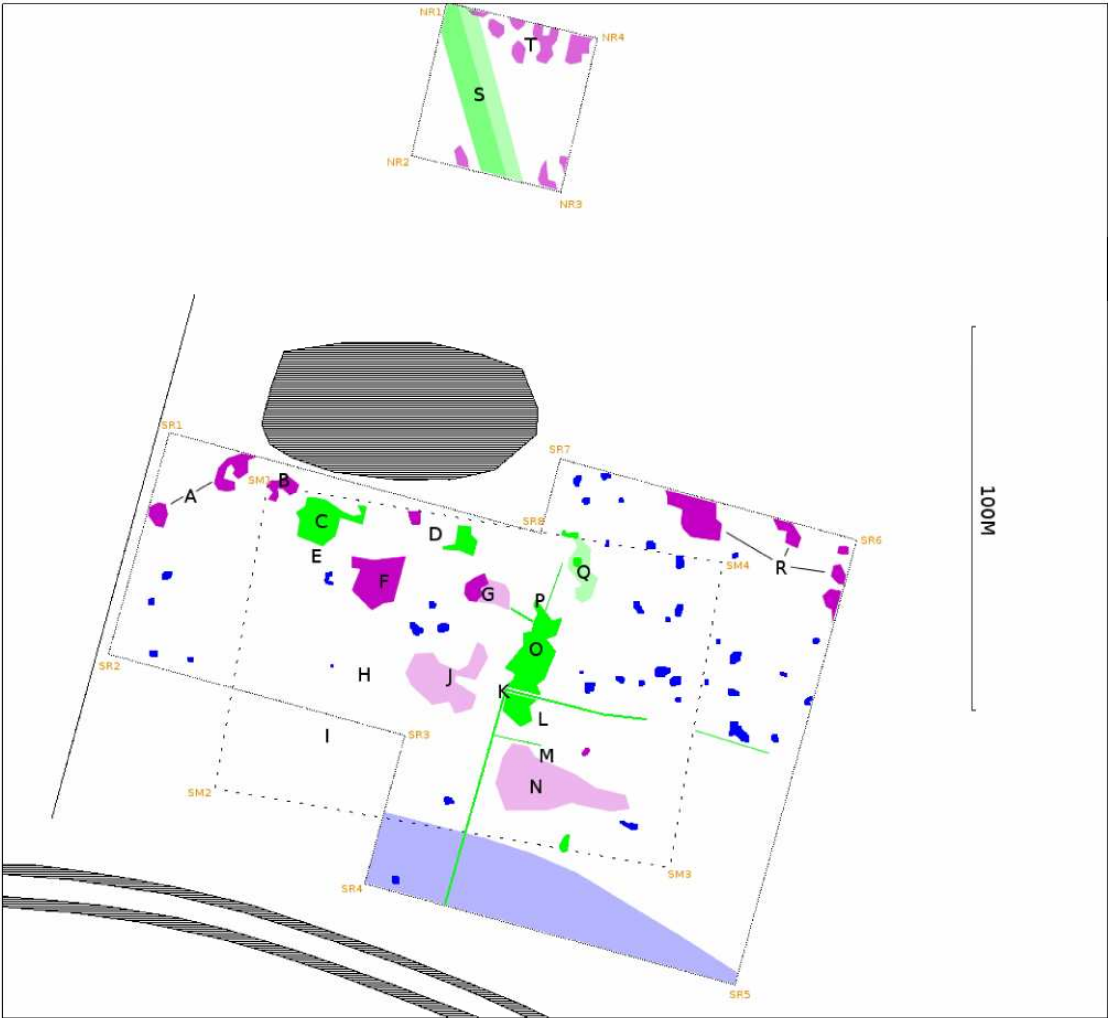


Southern Magnetometry Results

Document: rc0312proc
Grid Width: 480 (120 m)
Grid Height: 160 (80 m)
Orig. Sample Size: 0.25 x 1.00m
New Sample Size: 0.25 x 0.50m



Resistivity Interpretation



The map displays the study area with various sampling locations marked by letters (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R) and numbers (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100). The map also shows the locations of the sampling stations (SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5, SR6, SR7, SR8, SR9, SR10, SR11, SR12, SR13, SR14, SR15, SR16, SR17, SR18, SR19, SR20, SR21, SR22, SR23, SR24, SR25, SR26, SR27, SR28, SR29, SR30, SR31, SR32, SR33, SR34, SR35, SR36, SR37, SR38, SR39, SR40, SR41, SR42, SR43, SR44, SR45, SR46, SR47, SR48, SR49, SR50, SR51, SR52, SR53, SR54, SR55, SR56, SR57, SR58, SR59, SR60, SR61, SR62, SR63, SR64, SR65, SR66, SR67, SR68, SR69, SR70, SR71, SR72, SR73, SR74, SR75, SR76, SR77, SR78, SR79, SR80, SR81, SR82, SR83, SR84, SR85, SR86, SR87, SR88, SR89, SR90, SR91, SR92, SR93, SR94, SR95, SR96, SR97, SR98, SR99, SR100) and the locations of the sampling stations (SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5, SR6, SR7, SR8, SR9, SR10, SR11, SR12, SR13, SR14, SR15, SR16, SR17, SR18, SR19, SR20, SR21, SR22, SR23, SR24, SR25, SR26, SR27, SR28, SR29, SR30, SR31, SR32, SR33, SR34, SR35, SR36, SR37, SR38, SR39, SR40, SR41, SR42, SR43, SR44, SR45, SR46, SR47, SR48, SR49, SR50, SR51, SR52, SR53, SR54, SR55, SR56, SR57, SR58, SR59, SR60, SR61, SR62, SR63, SR64, SR65, SR66, SR67, SR68, SR69, SR70, SR71, SR72, SR73, SR74, SR75, SR76, SR77, SR78, SR79, SR80, SR81, SR82, SR83, SR84, SR85, SR86, SR87, SR88, SR89, SR90, SR91, SR92, SR93, SR94, SR95, SR96, SR97, SR98, SR99, SR100). The map also shows the locations of the sampling stations (SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5, SR6, SR7, SR8, SR9, SR10, SR11, SR12, SR13, SR14, SR15, SR16, SR17, SR18, SR19, SR20, SR21, SR22, SR23, SR24, SR25, SR26, SR27, SR28, SR29, SR30, SR31, SR32, SR33, SR34, SR35, SR36, SR37, SR38, SR39, SR40, SR41, SR42, SR43, SR44, SR45, SR46, SR47, SR48, SR49, SR50, SR51, SR52, SR53, SR54, SR55, SR56, SR57, SR58, SR59, SR60, SR61, SR62, SR63, SR64, SR65, SR66, SR67, SR68, SR69, SR70, SR71, SR72, SR73, SR74, SR75, SR76, SR77, SR78, SR79, SR80, SR81, SR82, SR83, SR84, SR85, SR86, SR87, SR88, SR89, SR90, SR91, SR92, SR93, SR94, SR95, SR96, SR97, SR98, SR99, SR100) and the locations of the sampling stations (SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5, SR6, SR7, SR8, SR9, SR10, SR11, SR12, SR13, SR14, SR15, SR16, SR17, SR18, SR19, SR20, SR21, SR22, SR23, SR24, SR25, SR26, SR27, SR28, SR29, SR30, SR31, SR32, SR33, SR34, SR35, SR36, SR37, SR38, SR39, SR40, SR41, SR42, SR43, SR44, SR45, SR46, SR47, SR48, SR49, SR50, SR51, SR52, SR53, SR54, SR55, SR56, SR57, SR58, SR59, SR60, SR61, SR62, SR63, SR64, SR65, SR66, SR67, SR68, SR69, SR70, SR71, SR72, SR73, SR74, SR75, SR76, SR77, SR78, SR79, SR80, SR81, SR82, SR83, SR84, SR85, SR86, SR87, SR88, SR89, SR90, SR91, SR92, SR93, SR94, SR95, SR96, SR97, SR98, SR99, SR100).

Interpretation Description

The resistivity survey areas are outlined with dotted lines and the the magnetometry survey area with a dashed line. Positioning points are in orange. Features that are considered archaeological are shown in green. Geology is shown in blue. Features shown in purple may be either archaeology or geology, and are discussed in the descriptions below. Modern features are shown in red.

- A. The author of this report has a limited understanding of geological formations. The size of the features shown marked at A is a lot larger than the standard small pit expected for clay-with-flints, yet the features have a rounded shape as expected. The magnetometry did not cover this area, so those results cannot help with the interpretation, thus the nature of this features is undecided, with a leaning towards it being geological.
- B. This feature looks similar to that seen in A on the resistivity. What part of it extends into the magnetometry looks like a small section of ditch to the west, and is obscured by metal trash to the east. Its proximity to feature C may make it part of that, but the link is not conclusive. The nature of this feature is undecided, with a leaning towards it being archaeological.
- C. A substantial, vaguely rectangular, low-resistance feature shows at this point on the resistivity results, whilst on the magnetometry, there are a series of much smaller ditch features, possibly representing a small enclosure. The large area on the resistivity is clearly not clay-with-flints on comparison with the magnetometry, and the two sets of results show complimentary aspects of this archaeological feature.
- D. There are a number of small features in this area, on which the resistivity and magnetometry do not agree. On the resistivity are two areas of low resistance, a small one to the west and a larger one to the east. The western feature is matched on the magnetometry, so may be geological, but this is not certain. The eastern feature is a lot smaller on the magnetometry, suggesting that the bulk of it is archaeological in nature. The magnetometry also shows an east-west ditch, on the same alignment as one of the ditches making up the magnetometry results for feature C.
- E. Though there are plough marks showing on the magnetometry results, heading ENE, these two ditches, which continue past feature F, are not on the same alignment. It is still possible that these are plough marks only showing at this point, but this feature may also be a ditched trackway. Undecided with a slight leaning towards being modern.
- F. A large amorphous feature shows at this point on with the resistivity and magnetometry results. The eastern edge looks fairly straight on the resistivity, and the edges on the magnetometry are not quite as clear as would be expected for clay-with-flints. The feature is smaller on the magnetometry, with the resistivity feature extending further to the west. This combined with the size of the feature suggests that it is archaeological rather than geological, but

this is far from clear.

- G. A number of amorphous features here look most likely to be geological on both the magnetometry and resistivity, but there is a small ditch feature heading to the eastern end of feature G from the direction of features O and P, throwing this into doubt somewhat. Undecided with a slight leaning towards being geological.
- H. Though it doesn't show at all on the resistivity, a long, thin ditch feature shows on the magnetometry. It starts at, or may be part of, the ditch making up the southern enclosure ditch of the enclosure at M. It then heads up to near the western end of feature E, making two slight turns on the way. It is quite faint on the magnetometry, suggesting a slight feature, which may explain why it doesn't show on the resistivity.
- I. Another ditch that doesn't show on the resistivity, feature I nevertheless looks like a much more substantial feature on the magnetometry. It starts to the east at the western end of the enclosure, just north of feature H, and heads west, crossing feature H before making a turn to the south via a rounded corner. Coincidentally, it is on the same alignment as a lot of the plough marks around it, but this probably does not signify that those plough marks are ancient, as they seem to cross the feature to the west.
- J. On the resistivity results, this is wide amorphous area of weak low resistance. The magnetometry makes things a little clearer. The north-eastern part of the resistivity feature shows as a weak feature on the magnetometry. It is clearly not clay-with-flints, and its proximity to the archaeological features to the east means that this is most likely archaeological too. The bulk of the resistivity feature, to the south and west, resolves into a series of small strong features that are most likely clay-with-flints, but the proximity to the other features means this is not conclusive.
- K. This is the site of the 2011 excavation that revealed the corner of the enclosure, a deep cut ditch into the chalk with plenty of finds associated with Romano-British occupation of the site. The ditch extends, apparently unbroken, all the way to the south and off of the resistivity results. To the east, the ditch extends for about 37 metres before apparently stopping. This apparent end to the ditch is clearest on the magnetometry, whilst on the resistivity, it seems to start again some distance further on. The mess in the area on the magnetometry is due to not only the excavation there, but also it is the spoil heap that resulted from feature L. The rest of the enclosure is discussed as feature M.
- L. L is a negative feature on the magnetometry only. It is the machine cut trench opened in 2012, just before the magnetometry survey took place to further examine the Romano-British settlement.
- M. The enclosure itself is complex. On the resistivity, the large low-resistance feature O seems to cross the ditch into the enclosure itself. This is unfortunately obscured by metal junk on the magnetometry. The larger

ditches making up the western and northern edges of the enclosure have already been discussed as feature K. The southern and western ditches do not show well on the resistivity but do show well on the magnetometry as ditches smaller than the outer ditch K. There appear to be two sets, perhaps representing two phases of occupation. The smaller enclosure seems to have an entrance on the east side of the southern ditch, whilst the larger enclosure seems to have an entrance on the north side of the eastern ditch. There are small hits of ditch sections heading south from near the south east corner of the outer ditch, whilst the southern ditch seems to continue east and off the edge of the magnetometry results after a break of about 5 metres.

- N. A large feature shows here on both the magnetometry and resistivity, being larger on the latter. It seems broadly on the same alignment as the enclosure to the north, suggesting it is archaeological, and may be part of some farming activity. It may also be an underlying geological change, but not clay-with flints. Undecided with a fair leaning towards being archaeological.
- O. This is a huge feature on the resistivity results, which if you include the part that extends into feature M, is roughly 27 metres long and 10 metres wide. Its association with features K and P, plus the fact that only about a third of its area shows on the magnetometry, strongly suggest that this is archaeological in nature, at least for the most part. The strength of the feature on the magnetometry, which is as wide as the resistivity, but occupies only the central third lengthwise, may suggest some clay-with-flints in this area, but there is little doubt that even this will be mixed in with archaeology.
- P. The ditch extending north from K and O is only visible for a short distance on the resistivity results, being subsumed in the southern part by feature O. It is clearer on the magnetometry, extending down as far as feature O on those results, though its passage south of that is obscured. There seems to be a small entrance about half way up, and it seems to end roughly where a ditch would be if C and D were extended eastwards. In addition to this, a small section of ditch also seems to extend westwards towards feature G on both the magnetometry and resistivity results. This may be a continuation of one of the ditches of feature E.
- Q. There is a fair sized, but weak low resistance feature in this area, just east of where feature P ends. The magnetometry only covers the central and southern parts of this. In the centre part is a feature that may be a pair of clay-with-flint pits, but its association with the rest of the low resistance area suggests otherwise. In the southern part, a part of small ditch sections appear on the magnetometry.
- R. See A.
- S. Moving now to the northern field. This small resistivity survey was undertaken to find out the extend of a ditch that was being excavated at the time. Under excavation, the ditch very very large, deep, had been re-cut, and included a pit alignment on the eastern side. Clearly a very important boundary and was in use for a long period of time. This is reflected in the resistivity results, which

show just how big the feature is compared to the ditches in the southern field.

T. See A.

Site Code.	ROCKYCLUMP12
Site identification and address	Rocky Clump, Stanmer, East Sussex
County, district and / or borough	East Sussex
O.S. grid ref.	TQ328102
Geology.	Chalk and Clay-with-flints
Project number.	SNUFFLER1202
Fieldwork type.	Geophysics
Site type.	
Date of fieldwork.	South Res: 09/02, North Res: 04/09, South Mag: 03/12
Sponsor/client.	Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society
Project manager.	David Staveley
Project supervisor.	
Period summary	Roman
Project summary. (100 word max)	Resistivity and magnetometry on the Romano-British farm at Rocky Clump

Woodingdean Magnetometry Survey December 2012

Introduction

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society received a request for help to conduct a magnetometry survey at Woodingdean. The field is south west of the existing cemetery along Warren Road and is a possible extension to the cemetery site. The field boundary to the west of the cemetery has been moved by about 40 metres in a westerly direction and a new fence installed, along with numerous trees being planted. A small wooded copse lies immediately north of the area to be surveyed.

The area has a number of visible earthworks consisting of both linear and circular features, and a number of depressions. The area is littered with metal plate covers, and a drain or other utility feature is known to cross the field.

History of the Area

In 2004 BHAS conducted an investigation in the field to the south of the cemetery, and east of this new survey. A number of lynchets were examined and a pair of post holes revealed. The excavation produced a number of prehistoric flint flakes but very few other finds, and no pottery at all. A curious road like feature was sectioned and found to be of contemporary dating, being constructed of concrete and breeze blocks. A motor-cycle was found buried beneath this solid construction. No other dating was found for the creation of this 'road' and visiting locals had seen nothing to confirm when this feature had been constructed. (Funnell 2004) and (Phippard 2004).

A Roman farmstead is known to be located in the field to the south, and to the east, of the cemetery (Pers. Comm. P.Martin), and a Bronze Age palstave was found by the Brighton and District Metal Detecting Club about 3 or 4 years ago. Another impressive find from the past was of a Bronze boar, found on top of the hill to the west of the survey.

The Magnetometry Survey.

The survey was conducted by David Staveley after the grids had been measured in using a total station. The grids measured 40 metres square. A total of 8 complete grids were completed and about 5 or 6 partial grids. The results were created using 'snuffler' software. (Fig 1.)

The Conclusions

The survey at Woodingdean revealed the location of the large utility feature crossing the field, and a number of old fence lines, noted by metal fragments. There are a number of linear features running in various directions, but very little to indicate any intense ancient activity. A number of test pits confirmed mainly Second World War activity, but with one possible Iron Age ditch being revealed.

The project will be the subject of a report by Chris Butler Archaeological Services. (CBAS)

References:-

Funnell J.D. 2004 'Excavations at Woodingdean Cemetery (A short note)' The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Notebook 2004.

Phippard N. P. 2004 'Woodingdean Cemetery'. The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Notebook 2004.

Phippard N.P. 2004 'Woodingdean Cemetery Project 2004 – An Interim Report' The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Notebook 2004

J. Funnell 20th March 2013



Fig 1 Magnetometry Survey at Woodingdean Cemetery 2012

BRIGHTON & HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WATCHING BRIEF

Planning application number:- BH2011/03428

Address: 11 Braemore Road, Hove

Planning Officer:- Mr Wayne Nee

Name of Applicant: Mr. Price

Date of watching brief: 26 March 2012

BHAS officers conducting watching brief: Bill Santer and Maria Gardiner

History and Topography

Braemore Road, Hove lies on a section of the Woolwich and Reading Beds, and brick earth prevalent along this part of the Sussex coast. The location was favored during the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods with a number of finds of flint arrow heads and other items. The same geology is where the Bronze Age barrow produced the find of the amber cup, now on display in Hove Museum, along with a knife/dagger and cremated bone.

RESULTS

The geology consisted of a light grey fill, with a darker blacker area where a contemporary drain had been cut leading to a soakaway. A close examination of the surfaces exposed revealed produced no evidence for archaeological activity. An examination of the soil removed from the trenches excavated recovered no finds other than modern building rubble.

References:-

Curwen E. & Curwen E.C. 1924 'The Hove Tumulus,' Brighton and Hove Archaeologist 2, 20-8

Phillips B. 1857 'Discovery of a Tumulus at Hove, near Brighton' Sussex Archeological Collections Volume 9, 119-124

W.Santer (Watching Brief Officer of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society)

BRIGHTON & HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WATCHING BRIEF

Planning application number:- BH2011/02762

Address: 11 Stanford Road, Brighton

Planning Officer:- Ms Louise Kent

Name of Applicant: Mr. M. Williams

Date of watching brief: 23 March 2012

BHAS officers conducting watching brief: Mark Gillingham and John Funnell

History and Topography

Stanford Road lies on the east side of the downland ridge that runs along the Dyke Road, heading northwards from the sea. It is an elevated location and similar to ridges at Bishopstone and Eastbourne that have produced Saxon settlement and cemeteries (Bell) and (Thomas). Between 1883 and 1893 a number of Anglo-Saxon burials were discovered during the construction of new roads and buildings in Hamilton Road, Exeter Street and Stafford Road. In 1985 a small kitchen extension produced three more Anglo-Saxon burials (Smith). Excavations at the Eastbourne College of Art and Technology revealed a Anglo-Saxon cemetery that contained 128 burials spread over a considerable area.

The proximity of the small development at 11 Stanford Road, although small, justified a watching brief being so close to the previous burial locations.

RESULTS

12 "boreholes" were being dug for the foundations of a garden office/summerhouse in the south west corner of the rear garden. The area affected was about 3.5 metres by 2.5 metres. Each borehole had a diameter of approximately 30cms and was dug to a depth of 60cms. All the boreholes contained an initial fill of dark loamy soil except for the three forming the NW corner which were dug through an existing patio with the initial fill consequently being mainly bricks and concrete rubble. The layer of dark soil was only about 20cms at the western end but gradually increased to a depth of about 40cms at the eastern end. Below this dark soil, a layer of sand was revealed which extended to the bottom of all 12 holes. A few small pieces of building material were found within this sandy layer.

It seems quite likely that the sandy layer is the residue of builders' sand stored in the rear garden at the time the house was constructed about 150 years ago. It also seems likely

that the level of the rear garden was “made up” at that time as a very large amount of soil must have been removed when the house was built. The basement floor is very much lower than the rear garden as is evidenced by the existing large and very deep basement area adjacent southern part of the rear of the house. In view of both this and small amount area actually exposed, the absence of any archaeological features (and finds) is not entirely surprising.

Several photographs illustrating this report are attached.

References:-

Bell M. 1977 ‘Excavations at Bishopstone, Sussex’ Sussex Arch. Colls. Vol **115**

Smith P.S. 1988 ‘Early Anglo-Saxon Burials from Stafford Road. Brighton, East Sussex’ Sussex Arch. Colls Vol **126**, 31-51

Thomas G. 2011 ‘The Later Anglo-Saxon Settlement at Bishopstone: A Downland Manor in the Making’. CBA Dec 2010.



BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WATCHING BRIEF

PLANNING APPLICATION No:- BH2008/03054

ADDRESS:- 21 Nanson Road, Coldean

PLANNING OFFICER:-Mr Aidan Thatcher

NAME OF APPLICANT:- Ms Joyce Edmonds-Smith

DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:- 3rd February 2012

DATE OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 7th and 9th February 2012

BHAS OFFICER CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- J.Funnell

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

The planning application at 21 Nanson Road was passed without any archaeological condition attached. The site was visited on Friday 3rd February 2012 and the builder confirmed that he was quite happy for the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society to be present when the footing trenches were being cut.

This part of the Coldean estate has produced, in the past, a number of Roman ditches and possible Iron Age round house terraces. Finds have included a gold coin and Roman and Iron Age pottery.

A visit was made to the site on Tuesday 7th February. The ground was being cleared down to a consistent level, and the footing trenches to the south of the site were being excavated. The soil depth varies from the north to the south dramatically, with a depth of soil of over 1.5M noted at the south end and only about 40cms noted at the north end before natural chalk appeared. No pits or floor levels consisting of a darker deposit, possibly indicating ancient floor surfaces, were noted. A small layer to the west of the west footing had a shallow dark layer, but the material eroding from the section was all modern, a old drain cut in this side was also noted.

An examination of the soil being removed from the upper surfaces was made during the scraping process, but only finds and materials from contemporary sources were forthcoming. The pieces noted were modern brick and roofing tile, along with concrete and drain sections.

The site was re-visited on Thursday 9th February. The area was surveyed and no archaeological layers were noted in the new trenches excavated. A scrutiny of the soils and material removed produced only a single Late Neolithic flake.

John Funnell

BRIGHTON & HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WATCHING BRIEF

Planning application number:

Address: 31 Bridle Way, Telscombe Cliffs, East Sussex

Planning Officer: Mr Greg Chuter

Name of Applicant: Lisa Dean

Date of watching brief: 12 March 2012

BHAS officers conducting watching brief: Mark Gillingham and John Skelton

RESULTS

The watching brief was in respect of a trench approx 8.5 metres long with a width of 30cms and a depth of 45cms. This was to be dug immediately adjacent to the public footpath and it therefore seemed highly likely on initial inspection that the ground would have been seriously disturbed when the footpath was formed.

This soon proved to be the case as the removal of the topsoil quickly exposed a layer of concrete sloping downwards across almost the entire width of the trench. The removal of this concrete layer took the trench down to a depth of approx 30cms exposing a layer of loose sandy soil in the final 15cms of the trench. However, mixed with this sandy soil were some pieces of modern brick and glass confirming that this layer had also been disturbed when the adjacent footpath was constructed.

Although several pieces of struck flintwork were found in the topsoil, these were clearly residual with any evidence of possible archaeological features long since destroyed.

Two photos are attached. One shows the sloping concrete layer in the trench and the other shows the north side of the trench after the removal of this layer.

M.Gillingham (Watching Brief Officer Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society)





BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WATCHING BRIEF

PLANNING APPLICATION No:- Cross Ltd

ADDRESS:- 40-42 Bristol Gardens

PLANNING OFFICER:-Mr Greg Chuter ESCC

NAME OF APPLICANT:-

DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:-3rd February 2012

DATE OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 4th February 2012

BHAS OFFICER CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- J.Funnell

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

A visit was made to the site on Saturday 4th February and Monday 6th February. The development had already commenced with the central area having the floor removed down to a lower rubble deposit. A trench had been cut into the middle of the north side of the development and shuttering constructed. The shuttering appeared to closely align with a possible Victorian culvert indicated by a curved ceiling noted on the east facing lower wall of the adjacent building to the west, which is still standing.

During this phase of the work an opening had appeared that was subsequently found to be a large metal container of fairly contemporary dating (Pers, comm., builders).

A visit to the site on Monday 6th February noted a curved archway in a lower north facing brick wall. The west facing lower wall consisted of a mixture of flint and poor quality mortar construction, interspaced with sections of red contemporary brick, showing various development changes in the past.

The finds consisted of contemporary building rubble and large section of modern drain pipe. The developers mentioned that they would be moving to the south section of the site within the next couple of weeks. It would be of interest to see if there are cellars beneath the floor in that location, as indicated by the arched section.

The area was noted for being the location of Victorian stables (Pers. Comm. Builders).

A visit was made to the site on the 14th February 2012 after footing trenches had been cut over 2 metres in depth. Viewed from the north walls were noted having been cut by the footings trench. One wall was adjacent to the road on the east side (Bristol Place) and another wall more central in the excavated zone. A cellar of some description was noted, about 2 metres in width running under the road of Bristol Gardens, the fill was of a dark fill. The area between the walls appeared to be a fill of

loose chalk rubble. The only area that appeared to have a solid foundation was in the north footing trench, running parallel to Bristol Gardens, this seemed to have solid chalk at the west end of the trench, but even in this location there appeared to be some form of stratigraphy which could indicate other compressed fills of chalk and other materials. The builders had not started on the south section which is the location of the noted brick arches.

John Funnell (Archaeological Co-ordinator Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society)

BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WATCHING BRIEF

PLANNING APPLICATION No:- BH2012/01673

ADDRESS:- 45 Elizabeth Avenue, Hove.

PLANNING OFFICER:-Mr Steven Lewis

NAME OF APPLICANT:- Mr Nick Taggart

DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:- May 2012

DATE OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 18th August 2012

BHAS OFFICER CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- J.Funnell

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

Site Location - NGR 28473 0712

History – Elizabeth Avenue lies in the parish of West Blatchington and close to where Iron Age pottery and Roman coins have been found in the past. The location is also close to the site of a 14th or 15th century manor house.

The southern section of the garden had been terraced previously and vestiges of a retaining wall were visible in several locations, and marked the west boundary of the new excavations.

Geology – The geology is Upper and middle Chalk. The geology of the small area excavated during the watching brief consisted of an overburden of modern material measuring a maximum of 20cms in depth, this was applicable only on the east side of the excavation. Below this upper layer was a deposit of clay soil varying in depth between 20 and 25cms. The clay deposit overlay the natural chalk.

The Excavation – The removal of a concrete garage and part of the driveway had been carried a day or two before the watching brief visit, but no incursions were made into the clay or chalk until an officer from the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society was present. The area affected measure approximately 3 metres in width and 12 metres in length. The upper layer of soil was removed followed by the excavation of natural chalk down to the required level. A number of incursions within the chalk were observed and investigated. The features varied in size with 3 circular features measuring 17cms in diameter. The features were examined with a trowel and produced a fill of clay containing a selection of flint nodules of varying size. The features were recorded as natural clay solution hollows. Three other features observed in the chalk after the area had been levelled were also investigated, and produced a similar geological content. Small incursions into the chalk were also noted in the south facing section and upon investigation proved to be geological. No archaeological features were found.

An examination of the soil being removed produced a number of archaeological items.

The Finds

- 1) Fire-fractured flintwork – A total of 4 pieces of fire fractured flint was recovered from the soil removed. The fire-cracked flint had a total weight of 278gms
- 2) 2 struck flint flakes were recovered. The pieces were hard hammered waste flakes and had a grey patination. The items are probably of the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age periods. No flint tools or other flakes were found.

Conclusions

The area of examination was quite small but still produced some interesting archaeology. The flint flakes are an indication of prehistoric activity in the area, which is common all over the South Downs. The fire fractured flint, normally associated with settlement activity, could possibly be linked with the Iron Age pottery found previously. This part of Brighton and Hove may still retain vestiges of prehistoric and Roman activity buried beneath small undisturbed locations. Continued vigilance and further archaeological investigation may, in the future, provide evidence for a greater understanding of the archaeology and ancient landscape of this part of Sussex.

John Funnell (Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society)



Fig 1. Removing the top soil

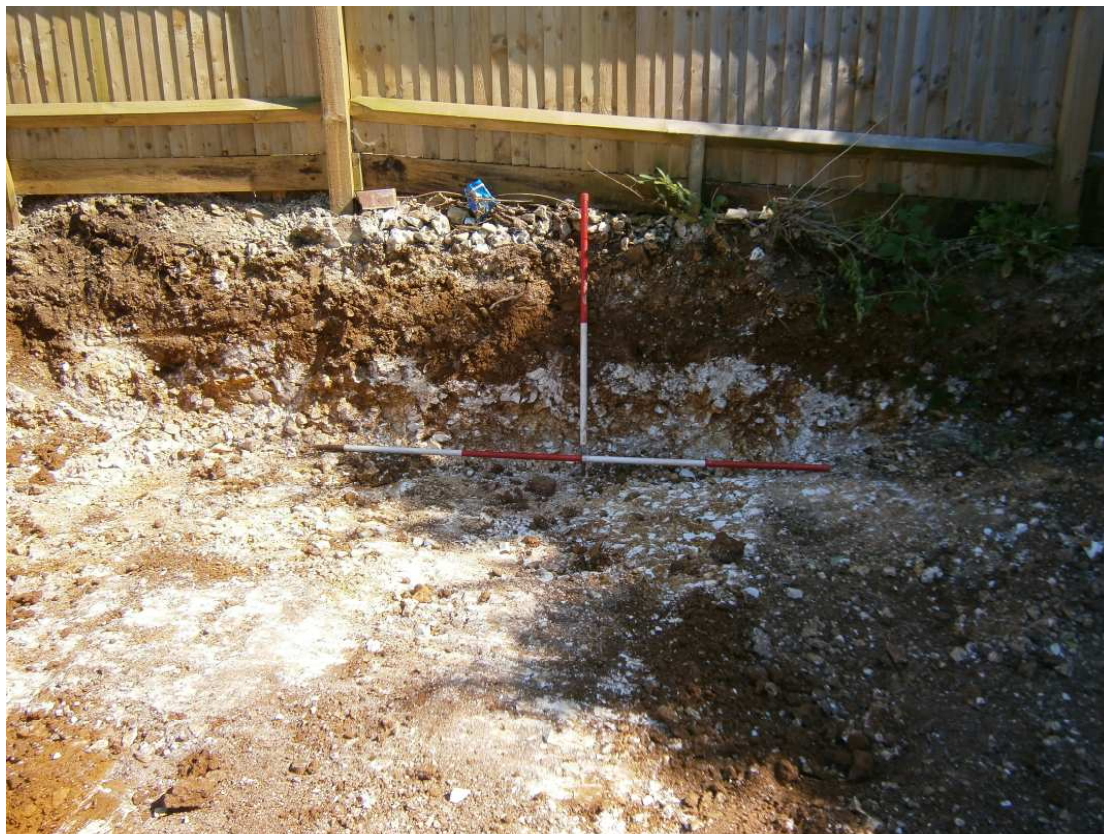


Fig 2. Solution Hollows noted in south facing section



Fig 3. One of several small solution hollows



Fig 4. Solution Hollows and the terrace boundary wall footing

BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WATCHING BRIEF

PLANNING APPLICATION No:- LW/12/0010

ADDRESS:- 85 Lincoln Avenue, Peacehaven

PLANNING OFFICER:-Mr Greg Chuter ESCC

NAME OF APPLICANT:- Dr Annaz

DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:- 8th October 2012

DATE OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 15th October 2012

BHAS OFFICER CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- J.Skelton

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

Watching Brief 85, Lincoln Avenue, Peacehaven. 15 October 2012.

Introduction

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were invited to conduct a watching brief of the excavation of footings for a front porch extension at 85, Lincoln Avenue, Peacehaven.

Background

Number 85 lies at the Northern end of Lincoln Avenue within an area of tertiary deposits known as Woolwich Beds consisting of sands, silts and clay. Recent research and watching briefs have recovered evidence of Mesolithic, Neolithic (Ref 1), Bronze Age and Iron Age (Ref 2) habitation in the Peacehaven area.

The Excavation

Arrangements were made for the observer to attend on Monday 15 October at 10 am but upon arrival it was announced by the householder that the footings had already been dug. The spoil had been placed in the rear garden. An initial inspection of the footings showed that the area had been previously disturbed by construction work as there were large areas of concrete and service pipes and cables intersecting the footings (see Fig 1) and there were no indications of features or finds in the section faces.

The spoil heap was examined by trowelling through at least one third of the heap, care being taken to include some of the green/yellow clay and topsoil as well as the predominant red sand. The few finds were all confined to the topsoil and all but one

were of modern character. The footings were then examined in more detail and measurements taken but nothing of archaeological significance was noted. Photographs were taken at each stage.(Photos 1, 2, 3)

The Finds

All finds came from the loamy topsoil in the spoil heap. Several pieces of modern, children's toys were found as well as two pieces of bone (chicken thigh and beef rib) probably of modern domestic refuse origin and one rusted nail (possibly a 2 inch cleat). One piece of fire cracked flint (24 gm) was also recovered.

Conclusions

No archaeology was disturbed or revealed by this construction work.

The excavation showed considerable evidence of having been previously disturbed by building work. The only find of archaeological significance (fire cracked flint) came from the topsoil. There was no evidence of features or artefacts within the sections.

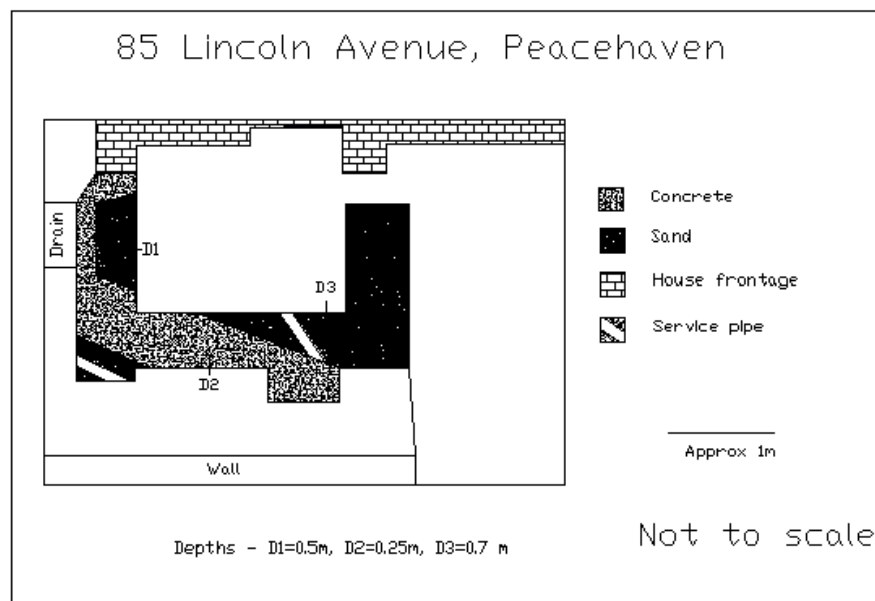


Fig 1 Excavated footings to the South of house frontage



1. Looking North into East end of footings



2. South facing section in East end of footings at depth 0.7 m



3. West facing section in West end of footings at depth 0.5 m

References

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2. Grant, Kathryn (2010) *An Archaeological Evaluation on land at Seaview Avenue, Peacehaven, East Sussex*, Archaeology South East Report No: 2010014. Accessed 18/10/2012 at <http://www.archaeologyse.co.uk/ReportLibrary/2010/2010014-4108-Seaview-Ave-Peacehaven-EV-APPROVED.pdf>

BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WATCHING BRIEF

PLANNING APPLICATION No:- BH2012/00705

ADDRESS:- 146 Nevill Road, Hove

PLANNING OFFICER:-Mr Mark Thomas

NAME OF APPLICANT:- Mr James Sarll

DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:- 14th May 2012

DATE OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 28th – 30th May 2012

BHAS OFFICERS CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- J.Skelton, N.Phippard & M.Gillingham

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

Introduction

Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society carried out a watching brief at the above address over a period of three days to observe an excavation at the rear of the property. A set of three trenches were excavated to place foundations for a wooden structure. Two trenches were dug to 4m length x 1m depth x 30cm width running approx. NNE and a third 6m length x 1m depth x 30cm width running approx. SSW (see plan sketch). All drawings are to approximate scale.

The Excavations

The general method of excavation was by mini digger, but shovel and hand trowel were used by BHAS observers when possible features appeared within the trench. Each trench was photographed in colour by Sony digital SLR. Only two photographs have been used to show features in the report.

The surface of the excavation area consisted of concrete measuring approx. 8 cm thick; underlying the concrete was normal building rubble acting as a foundation. This rubble extended approx. 1m outwards from the exterior wall of the house and was removed by the mini digger. The ground material underlying this rubble foundation in trenches A and B and part of C was a mix of orange sand, red sandy clay loam and mounds of very wet soft chalk nodules (see section drawings and photographs attached). The chalk nodules formed a wave action, undulating along each baulk of the trenches, and appeared to continue across the excavated trench into the opposite baulk but slightly offset.

Each trench was dug to the required depth and the spoil was placed onto the existing concrete surface as the builder's dumper machine (required to take spoil to the waste skip) had broken down, the spoil was then roughly trowelled over by an

observer to check for possible artefacts. This process continued when the excavated spoil was placed directly into the repaired dumper.

Throughout the entire excavation observations were made of the newly exposed trenches. In Trench A, on the floor of the trench, a possible post hole was exposed measuring approx. 15cm across by 18cm deep. From this a number of flints, some fractured (possibly due to packing) were removed but no dating evidence was found. This possible feature lay below an arched area of very loose wet sandy loam sediment and was enclosed by two arched areas of wet soft chalk nodules as mentioned previously. There were no definite features in the other two trenches.

The Finds

Finds were few and far between and comprised:-

A small oyster shell

Semi-circle of tin alloy, tarnished green, possibly part of a toy tin car

A thin rod of lead, possibly part of a stained glass window

A possible small hammerstone

Conclusion

The excavation was 1m x 30cm x 4m or 6m. Trench A contained the only possible archaeological feature but without any dateable finds. The other trenches produced an interesting mix of ferric sandy loam sediments, these being geological rather than archaeological.

Plan View

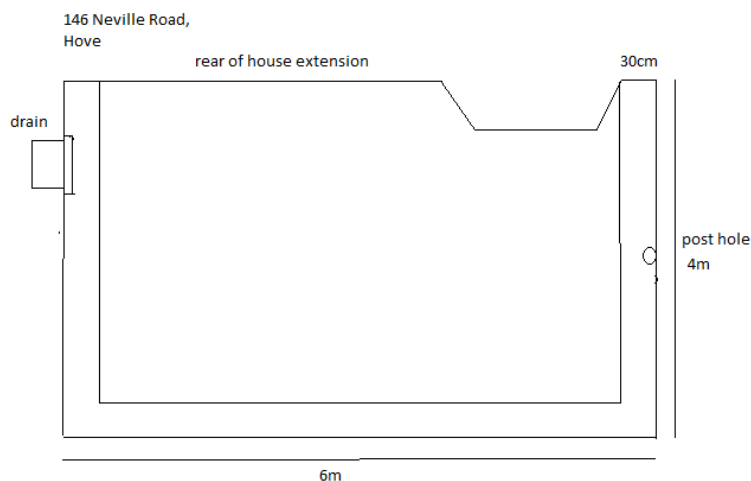
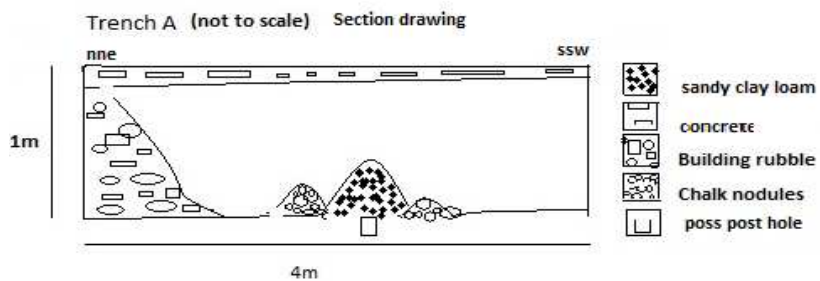




Photo: Trench A showing possible post hole.



Trench B showing chalk waves in section



Photographs supplied by John Skelton
Report compiled by Norman Phippard 7th June 2012

Watching Brief Brighton Pavilion 14th May 2012

Observers: John Funnell, Bill Santer and John Skelton.

Introduction

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were invited to conduct a watching brief of a test trench excavated within the grounds of Brighton Pavilion to expose a tunnel that runs between the Royal Pavilion and Brighton Museum. The project was to enable engineers to assess the load carrying ability of the subway.

History

The project design was to expose and examine the upper surface of a brick constructed tunnel that was built in 1822 running from the Royal Pavilion to the Brighton Museum, which in the 19th century was the location of the royal stables. The purpose of the tunnel was to allow the Prince Regent, later King George IV to move from one location to the other without public exposure. The King was increasingly overweight at this time and feared public ridicule (Pers. Comm. T.Thearle)

The tunnel was 8.5 feet (2.6metres) high and constructed of brick, with side drains to allow spring water or the Wellesbourne stream to soak away. Along the tunnel were light shafts capped with glass to allow natural light to illuminate the tunnel.

The Excavation

An L shaped area within a flower bed was manually excavated using spades and shovels. The position of the trench was measured in to the NW corner of the Pavilion and the SE corner of the Museum (Fig 1). No effort was made to remove soil in a graded fashion. The soil was loaded into "ton bags" directly from the trench. A rapid search was made of the soil as it was loaded. Subsequently two profiles of the excavation were drawn and sketches of two faces of the trench superimposed thereon. Photographs were taken at various stages of the excavation.

There was no clear stratigraphy noted during the excavation but upon completion it was noted that the topsoil (A in Fig 1) contained little flint whilst the subsoil (B in Fig1) contained some small to medium sized (~10 cm) flints. Within the top layer of soil were numerous plastic wads/shotcups from shotgun cartridges and numerous fragments of clay targets. These continued to be found in lower layers but with decreasing frequency. Other finds throughout both layers of soil included struck and fire cracked flints, pieces of slate, brick and tile, oyster and scallop shell, three glass fragments, two pottery sherds, two bone fragments and one piece of clinker or slag. These finds await evaluation but at this stage are considered to be secondary deposits in soils imported for the garden landscaping.

Part of the upper surface of the subway's arched roof was exposed as well as the full width of the upper surface of the adjacent NE wall (Photos 1 and 2). The surface of the subway and wall was coated in what appeared to be a lime mortar or clay like material about 1 cm thick. There also appeared to be an increase in the amount of brick fragments in the soil just over the side wall. This part of the subway included a

cupola surmounted by a cast iron cylinder and domed glass skylight which was just under the current soil surface (Photos 3 and 4). The glass had previously been damaged and repaired with what appears to be a resin type material. There is also evidence of more recent damage (Photo 5). Running over the arched subway roof from NW to SE in the SW face of the excavation is a line of "cable bricks" warning of the presence of cables. The bricks appear to take a detour around the SW side of the cupola (Photo 6). The cable was not detected. Photograph 7 shows the finished excavation looking NW.

The excavation details were transferred to a C.A.D. drawing for future reference

The Finds

Flintwork

The excavation produced an interesting collection of flintwork including what appears to be a partially made end scraper, a possible partially worked barbed and tanged arrowhead, a single piece of fired cracked flint (25gms) and 5 waste flakes. The patination varied from white (20%) to brown/black (80%). The collection appears to be Bronze Age in date. A further 5 pieces of non-descript flint fragments were also collected.

Miscellaneous Finds

A mixture of other finds were collected during the excavation and these included:-

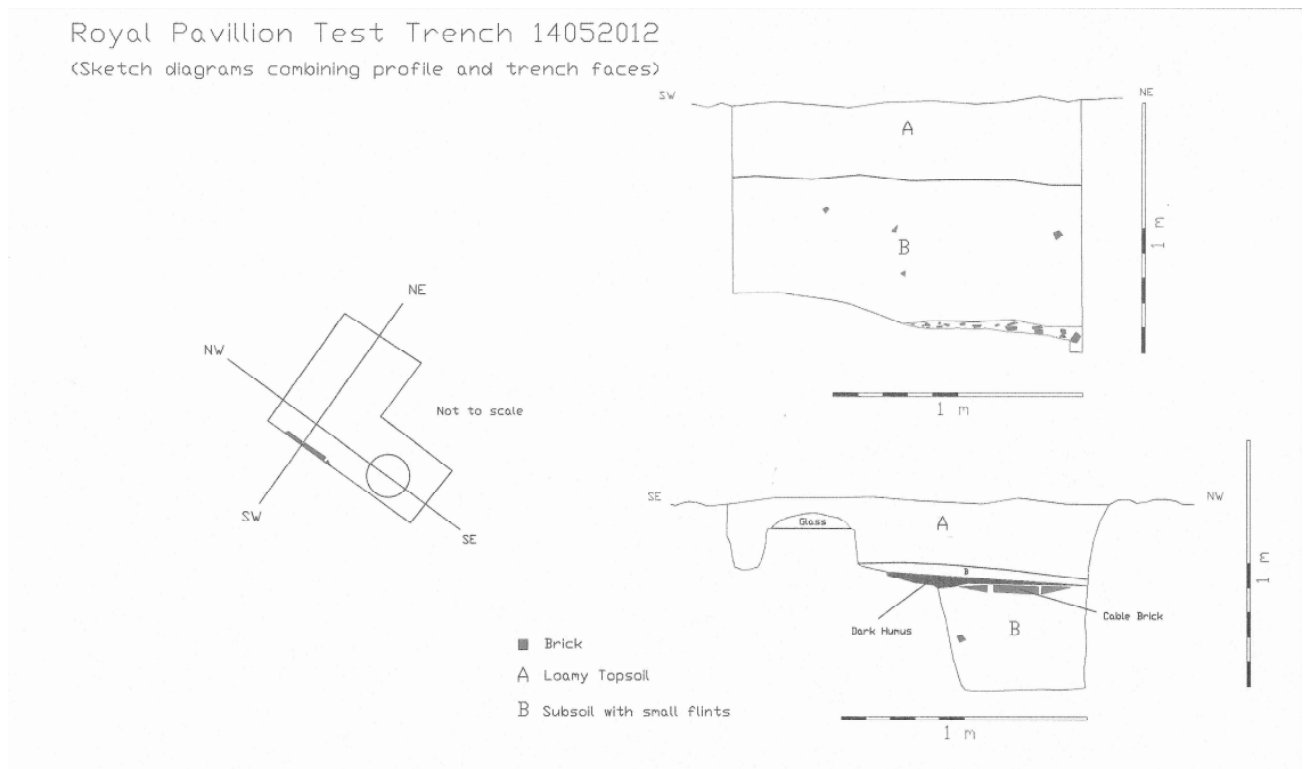
- 1) 1 fragment of contemporary ceramics white in colour
- 2) 2 pieces of modern flower pot
- 3) 3 pieces of glass, 2 modern one possibly of 19th century date
- 4) 2 fragments of animal long bone
- 5) 4 pieces of oyster shell, one with parasitic infestation, and a fragment of scallop shell.
- 6) 1 piece of grey roofing slate.
- 7) 3 Fragments of modern roofing tile.
- 8) 7 Fragments of brick, with one piece measuring 2.5" (64mm) in thickness.
- 9) Numerous plastic cartridge cases and clay pigeon fragments.

Other items collected were pieces of lime/mortar adhering to the upper surface of the tunnel (33gms) and a single fragment of mortar from around the cupola (48gms)

Conclusions

The small test trench did allow for a unique opportunity to examine the early 19th century features and their surroundings. The original excavation, during the construction of the tunnel, would have removed an enormous amount of soil deposits, but it would be assumed that some of the same material would have been used to back fill the open areas to the sides of the tunnel once it was completed. The flint flakes do hint at some possible disturbance of ancient layers, but with the absence of accurate provenance it is difficult to say more. The majority of finds from

the watching brief are contemporary and are probably associated with the manuring and bringing in of compost from outlying areas.



Photographs



1. Tunnel roof and top of sidewall looking NW



2. Tunnel roof and top of sidewall looking NE



3. Glass skylight revealed.



4. Looking SE



5. Repair to glass



6. Cable bricks in SW face



7. Finished excavation

Report compiled by John Skelton and John Funnell 24th May 2012

A Watching Brief at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton in September 2012

Introduction

In May of 2012 the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society conducted a watching brief during a small excavation to reveal the upper surface of the tunnel that runs between the Royal Pavilion and Brighton Museum (formerly the Royal Pavilion stables). That excavation revealed the roof of the tunnel and one of several known light shafts, this one capped by a glass dome, damaged in the past. A number of finds had been collected during that excavation were mainly of modern materials but which also contained a number of prehistoric flint flakes.

A new major development was to reveal a section of the tunnel measuring about 19 metres in length (Fig 1.). The tunnel is to be covered by a new support to allow vehicular access to the ice rink. The ice rink is regularly, but temporarily, constructed each year, and is now a recurring event that happens on the lawns to the east of the Royal Pavilion building.

The excavations were visited on the 18th, 20th and 21st of September.

The Excavations

The rectangular area, measuring approximately 19 metres by 6 metres, was removed using a digging machine for the upper surfaces, with manual labour used for the surfaces immediately above the tunnel structure (Fig 2.). The area proved to have numerous conduits for power and water crossing the tunnel (10+) going in both north/south and east/west directions (Fig 3.). It was not certain which of the services were still alive and all were treated with extreme caution, with hand digging being used rather than the machine. This is the first phase of a several phase operation. The removal of several large paving slabs on the south side of the site revealed a brick built wall and pavement lying below the later surface (Fig 4.)

The Stratigraphy (Fig 5.)

The tunnel lies only a few centimetres below the ground surface which still comprised several layers. The upper surface consisted of modern grooved concrete blocks measuring 12cms thick lying on top of a pink concrete sub surface measuring 20cms in depth. Below these modern layers was a thin deposit of clay soil about 20cms in depth. This clay layer gradually increased in depth going towards the Brighton museum reaching a depth of about 50cms at the north/west end of the excavation.

A small sondage or section was cut immediately adjacent to the north side of the tunnel to a depth of 60cms and produced a fill of sand, grit and flint called 'hoggen' by the builders (Fig 6.). No finds were recovered from this small sondage.

A light shaft was once again revealed, but was much shallower than the one revealed in May and from the inside of the tunnel is quite different in shape, having a curving inner surface, while the other light shaft is quite vertical. The new light shaft had a square section on top of the tunnel measuring 72cms square and 35cms high

and was adjacent to a cutting made into the top of the tunnel by a water or drainage duct on the north/west side of the light shaft.

The Tunnel

The 19 metre length of tunnel roof exposed had a slight coating of cement, but in many places the bricks used in the construction were visible. There was a patchwork of slate pieces in a number of locations, perhaps to prevent water leaks. A pair of concrete 'lumps' noted on the north side of the tunnel perhaps act as covers for more piping or service conduits. The tunnel was observed to have a steeper drop on the south side than on the north side, and the tunnel measured 2.6 metres in width across the top. The full width of the tunnel roof does not appear to form the outer vertical sides of the tunnel as an undercut was revealed in the sondage created. The cutting showed a drop of 20cms from the roof after which the brick was noted to disappear from view. No fill was removed by the builders to determine just how much of an undercut there was. It is assumed that this undercut of the roof occurs on both sides of the tunnel roof, but would need to be confirmed by a second sondage being created on the south side.

The interior of the tunnel measured 1.5 metres in width and 1.96 metres in depth, although the depth varied along the tunnel. Measurements taken at the bottom of the light shafts were 1.96, 1.98, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.35 metres with the depth increasing towards the Brighton museum end. The tunnel has a distinct curve at the east end, where it joins the wall to the south producing a maximum width of wall and tunnel of 1.2 metres. There is a pair of windows at the east end of the tunnel which terminates at a pair of doors leading into the basement level of the Royal Pavilion on its north side.

The Finds

An inspection was made of the materials being removed from the excavation and the vast majority of the fill was contemporary in nature with only brick and slate being noted. No finds were collected as a result of this inspection.

The bricks on the newly revealed pavement measured 23x11x6cms and appear to be relatively contemporary items. One of the access areas to a number of cable ducts running south/north had a thinner brick construction and this measured 23x11x3.5cms.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Mr Tim Thearle of Brighton Museum for inviting the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society to conduct the watching brief and also thank the contractors who were generous with their help and assistance during the visits.



Fig 2. The surface of the tunnel roof



Fig 3. The conduit piping and the light shaft, with traces of slate covering



Fig 4. The pavement and wall revealed



Fig 5. The shallow stratigraphy



Fig 6. The sondage showing the undercut of the roof on the north side of the tunnel

John Funnell 26th September 2012

Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit 2012 Attendance Record

John Funnell (Director)	74 Days	Brighton
Angela Abbo	8 Days	Brighton
John Atkin	3 Days	Uckfield
Andrea Balducci	1 Day	London
Ann Barrow	3 Days	Hove
Barrie Bassett	2 Days	Uckfield
Gillian Bassett	2 Days	Uckfield
Daniel Batten	1 Day	Ringmer
Clive Bean	61 Day	Portslade
Christine Bell	2 Days	Eastbourne
Christine Bien	4 Days	Worthing
Judith Billingham (G)	44 Days	Brighton
Fran Briscoe	44 Days	Brighton
Margaret Burrows	23 Days	Hurstpierpoint
Keith Butler	1 Day	Horsham
Susan Birks(P)(S)(L) (Director)	3 Days	Horsham
Sarah Byng	2 Days	Littlehampton
Maureen Cauhalin	4 Days	Brighton
Greg Chuter (Director)	1 Day	Eastbourne
Beth Clements	10 Days	Brighton
Brenda Collins (G)(W)	69 Days	Lancing
Paul Collins (W)(M)	35 Days	Lancing
Joanne Cordner	1 Day	Streatham, London
Kirsty Craig	12 Days	Brighton
Bob Crowhurst (F)	10 Days	Brighton
Gerri Curran	2 Days	Hove
Martyn Dunn	1 Day	London
Les Edwards	1 Day	Brighton
Elaine Evans	6 Days	Hove
Nina Feldman	1 Day	London
Hayley Forsyth	4 Days	Horsham
Maria Gardiner(E)(SP)(G)(W)	21 Day	Hove
Nila Germain	3 Days	Croydon
Mark Gillingham (Director)(W)	74 Days	Hove
Lesley Haines	4 Days	Burgess Hill
Margarita Hanlon	2 Day	Brighton
Jordan Hassel	1 Day	Brighton
Averil Huggins	1 Day	Polegate
Leo Jago	7 Days	Bramber
Linda Jennings	5 Days	Seaford
Ashley Jillet	2 Days	Worthing
Ginette Leech	3 Days	Brighton
Sue Lloyd	2 Days	Hove
David Ludwig	35 Days	Rustington
Malcolm Lyons	1 Day	Brighton

Dot McBrien (S)(SP)(G)(W)	16 Days	Sompting
Glynis MacCloud	2 Days	Lancing
Joan MacGregor (G)	49 Days	Brighton
Nicky Matthews	21 Day	Newhaven
Mark Melvin	6 Days	Worthing
Jo Miller	4 Days	Ringmer
Nadia Khalili-Nayer	4 Days	Shoreham
John Manley	4 Days	Burgess Hill
Anne Mayho	1 Day	Canterbury
Fiona Mayho	1 Day	Canterbury
William McCartney	1 Day	
Carina Mincioni	4 Days	Peacehaven
Jennifer Montagu	1 Day	Brighton
Elaine O'Neill	2 Days	Brighton
Sylvia Newman	37 Days	Brighton
Terry Newman	5 Days	Hove
David Nissen	2 Days	Hove
Alexis Becker	2 Days	Burgess Hill
Samantha Papworth	2 Days	Sydney, Australia
Alison Partridge	27 Days	Newhaven
Norman Phippard (Director)(S)(G)	14 Days	Findon
Franz Plachy	10 Days	Hove
Pippa Postgate	1 Day	Brighton
Kathy Price	1 Day	Brighton
Charlotte Riding	2 Days	Hove
Linda Robinson	3 Days	Brighton
Jane Russell	2 Days	Brighton
Alison Sanders	1 Day	Rotherham
Bill Santer (G)(Q)(M)(W)	17 Days	Saltdean
John Skelton	68 Days	Hove
Kate Skelton	5 Days	Hove
John Spiller	15 Days	Portslade
Ed Start	3 Days	Brighton
David Staveley(Director)(P)(S)(L)(G)	3 Days	Eastbourne
Janet Stephens	1 Day	Lewes
Jennifer Taylor	5 Days	Worthing
Amelia Thomas	1 Day	Brighton
Mary Tozar	1 Day	Ealing, London
Frances Weller	2 Days	Herstmonceux
Carol White (SP)(Director)	14 Days	Newhaven
David Worsell	5 Days	Seaford
Linda Wright	22 Days	Southwick
William Yuhill	1 Day	Brighton

Total Attendance (Excluding Barcombe)

Total Days 984 (Male Days 463 46%) (Female Days 521 54%)

Total Number of Participants 88 People, not including the Young Archaeologists Club (YAC)

Dated 31st December 2012

Codes (P) Planning (S) Section drawing (G) Geophysics (L) Surveying & levelling (E) Educational Officers (Q) Quarter master (F) Finds processing (Although finds processing carried out by much of the team, those with (F) process considerable amounts of site material) © Conservator (SP) Specialist Field (MD) Metal Detectorist).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Archaeological Co-ordinator of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit would like to express appreciation to those who assisted with the Society's field projects during 2012.

Brighton and Hove City Council

Mr G.Bennett, Senior Planner Conservation, Brighton & Hove City Council

Mr David Robinson, Tenant Farmer, Stanmer

Mr Casper Johnson, County Archaeologist

Mr Greg Chuter, Assistant East Sussex County Council

Mr David Rudling University of Sussex

Mr K.Edgar, Ms C.White (Leader of the BHAS Bones Team), Ms M.Gardiner

Mr N.Phippard- Assistant Director of the BHAS Field Unit

Mr W.Santer, Mr J.Skelton & Mr M. Gillingham -Watching Brief Officers

Mr David Larkin Brighton and Hove City Countryside Ranger

Mr Jim and Mrs Betty Driver

And all members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit

BHAS FIELD NOTEBOOK INDEX

Note that the dates shown (1993-2012) are an indicator of when the work was carried out, and not the date of publication.

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Arlington-Excavations-2007 (A note)
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Hard copies of the above reports and Field Notebooks were deposited at Barbican House Library, East Sussex County Council, Brighton and Hove City Council Planning Department and Brighton Museum. A number of copies were deposited at Brighton Library, the National Monuments Records Office, Swindon and at the East Sussex Records Office.

John Funnell 21st May 2012