

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD NOTEBOOK 2013

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

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 2013.

Brighton and Hove City Council

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

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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 number of people from London and Southampton and other areas throughout Sussex. A number of the team did participate in the excavations at Bridge Farm during July and August and took advantage of the numerous study events, but most of the team remained at Rocky Clump.

During May the BHAS Field Unit were asked to assist Archaeology South East (A.S.E.) with their excavations at Patcham. A new housing development revealed houses, pits and ditches dated to the Saxon and medieval period. The excavations continued for over a month and gave the field unit a great opportunity to work with a professional team., and suffice to say that BHAS proved themselves very able in the professional environment.

A resistivity survey planned for Beacon Hill, Rottingdean had once again to be postponed for a variety of reasons. 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.

David Staveley conducted a large magnetometry survey to the north east of Rocky Clump in the early part of the season. A number of people had noted circular anomalies on Google Earth and it was thought that perhaps these features were round houses. Sadly the survey failed to find any evidence for settlement or round houses.

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. John Skelton has agreed to become an assistant site director. This season he has focused on his own small excavation in the north/east section of the site, investigating the possible interaction between the 'trackway' found in 2011 and the upper east/west ditch and other features.

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 up to 26 people attended each finds processing sessions held at the ASE workshops in Portslade and at the Patcham Community Centre, with all of the appropriate finds being both washed and marked.

Once again 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.

A second baby burial was found at Rocky Clump this season, and the remains have already been passed to the bones team, along with 2 Skulls from Rocky Clump, found at Winchester Museum, finds from the early excavations in the 1950's.

The Society was involved in a number of watching briefs throughout the year. These projects are the diminishing list of watching briefs allocated to BHAS during the past year or so. New watching briefs will be passed to professional units only.

Mr Geoff Bennett the senior planner (Conservation) left Brighton and Hove City Council this year and has been replaced by Ms Sanne Roberts.

Hard copies of this report are now passed to Ms S. Roberts 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 Webmaster Mr Martin Devereux and are made available to the field unit members and others who desire a copy.

John Funnell 28th January 2014

ROCKY CLUMP EXCAVATIONS 2013

(Interim Report)

(Pits, ditches and layers with a baby burial)

By John Funnell, edited by Mark Gillingham with contributions by John Skelton

Introduction

The new season of excavations at Rocky Clump, Stanmer, near Brighton commenced in early April (Fig 1.). The weather in the previous weeks had delayed the start being, as it was, extremely cold and too uncomfortable for working. Another set back was that our local digger driver was not available due to ill health and this meant that the top soil had to be removed by hand once again. The farmer, Mr David Robinson, had harrowed the vestiges of grass in the field just before our arrival and on setting up the electric fencing we found a 'La Tene' brooch not far from the site of last seasons digging.

The object this year was to extend a trench started in the latter part of 2012 which had produced evidence for burning. This section also revealed a continuation of a ditch found in 2011 running south/east to north/west. The new trench would investigate another 6 metre length of the large north/south west boundary ditch and more of the 'interior' of the Iron Age enclosure.

A magnetometry survey of the east side of the north field was undertaken by David Staveley and some members of the BHAS field unit.

The excavation was once again used as a training facility for those members wishing to enhance the skills gained from dayschools and other training sessions. Some members moved to Bridge Farm during July and August with several taking advantage of their free training sessions on a variety of subjects including pottery analysis and environmental sampling.

A number of new people joined the team this year, with several coming down from London on a regular basis and one group joining us for a day at Patcham. They came all the way from Southampton. New members of the BHAS field unit were also recruited from Bridge Farm and a dig conducted by the Sussex School of Archaeology at Isfield.

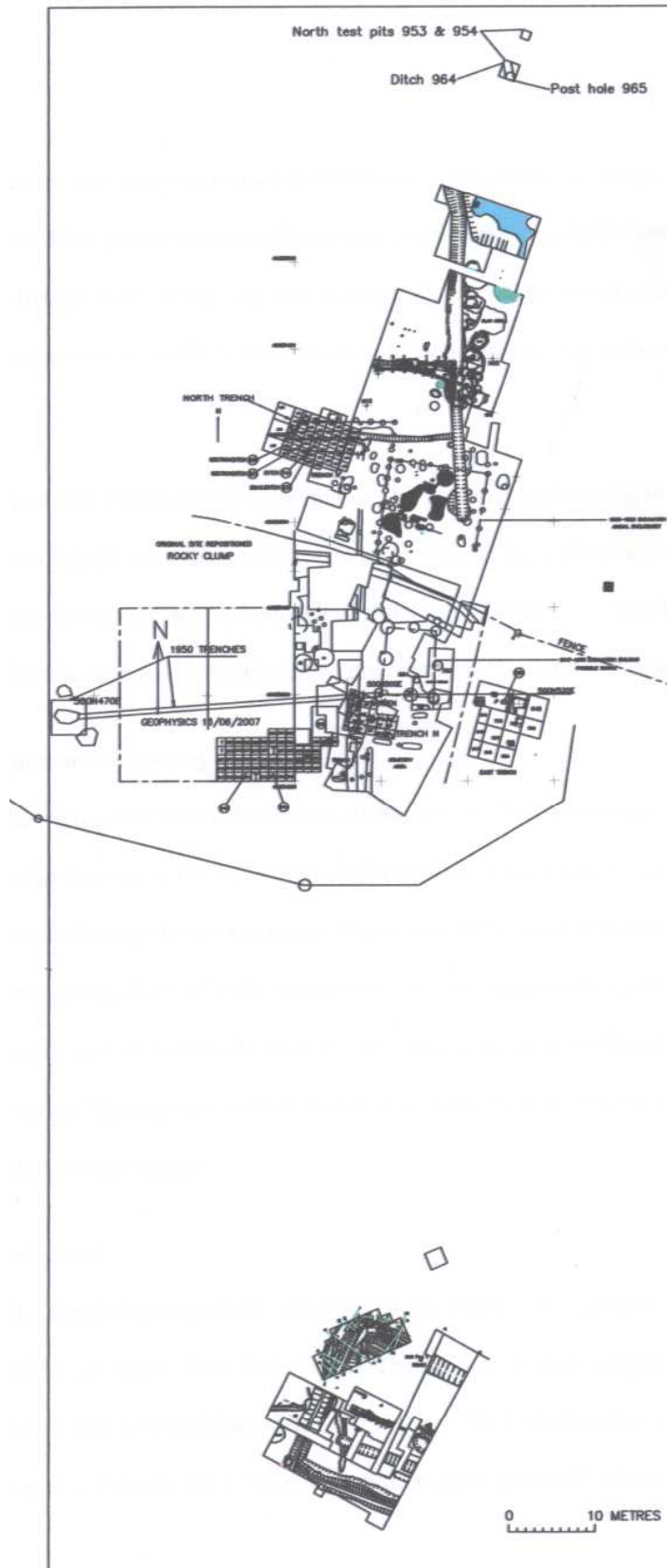


Fig 1. ROCKY CLUMP EXCAVATIONS DETAILS 1947–2013

The Magnetometry Survey

During the winter of 2012/2013 members of the BHAS Field had noticed on Google earth some circular features in the north field and to the east of the copse of trees at Rocky Clump. It was thought that these circular features could be associated with round houses. Early in the spring of 2013 David Staveley conducted a magnetometry survey of an extensive area east of the trees at Rocky Clump and continuing northwards down into the adjacent valley. The extensive survey failed to find any trace of features that could be construed as archaeological.

The Excavations

The section that had been partially excavated at the end of 2012, context 347, had been back filled for protection from frost (fig 2.). The exposed surface had been covered with a blue tarpaulin and then with back filled soil (Fig 3.). The first objective was to remove this overburden and also set up lines to extend the boundaries of the trench. The previous boundary, having been identified, was extended to 14 metres east/west and 6 metres north/south. The site extension northwards by another 2 metre width was allocated new top soil contexts 373-379. The new 2 metre addition to the west boundary of the site was allocated top soil contexts 380 and 381. New contexts numbers were given to the 1 metre strip that lay between the south boundary of the new excavations and the north boundary of the 2012 excavations. These contexts, 382-386, were partially explored with only top soil, contexts 382 and 386, being removed. (Fig 4.)

A number of new features had been revealed in the latter part of 2012 including a sooty soil surface indicating burning in Context 367. A new extension to the small north/south ditch found in 2012 was also revealed, context 365, and a new western section of the 'barn' floor was uncovered, context 362. As the season progressed and new areas were opened up new features were revealed, excavated and recorded. (Fig 5.)

A small trench was opened in the north/east section of the site to investigate the complex series of features found previously in that location. The excavations in 2011 had revealed a feature considered to be a possible 'trackway' running north of and parallel to the 'upper east/west enclosure boundary ditch. The trackway was thought to be where chalk from the very deep ditches had been removed, possibly using a cart. However, in 2012 a new investigation of the possible terminus of the 'trackway' revealed a deep gully cutting and intercutting with a series of pits. One of these pits cut into the north side of the 'upper' east/west boundary ditch. The new trench in 2013 would extend the investigations westwards to seek a greater understanding of this complex area. (Fig 6.)

During the latter part of the season the north side of the site was extended by another 2 metres and given top soil context numbers 394, 395, 396, 438, 443 and 444. While the easterly contexts 394, 395, 396 and 443 were fully excavated down to natural geology the west contexts 438 and 444 were only partially excavated. However, the most westerly context, 444, was taken down to reveal the upper section of the large

north/south ditch it covered and also the back fill for the south/west section of the 2011 excavations which did confirm the accuracy of the site plans.

Although the new trenches were not extensive the excavations did reveal a complex series of layers and intercutting features.

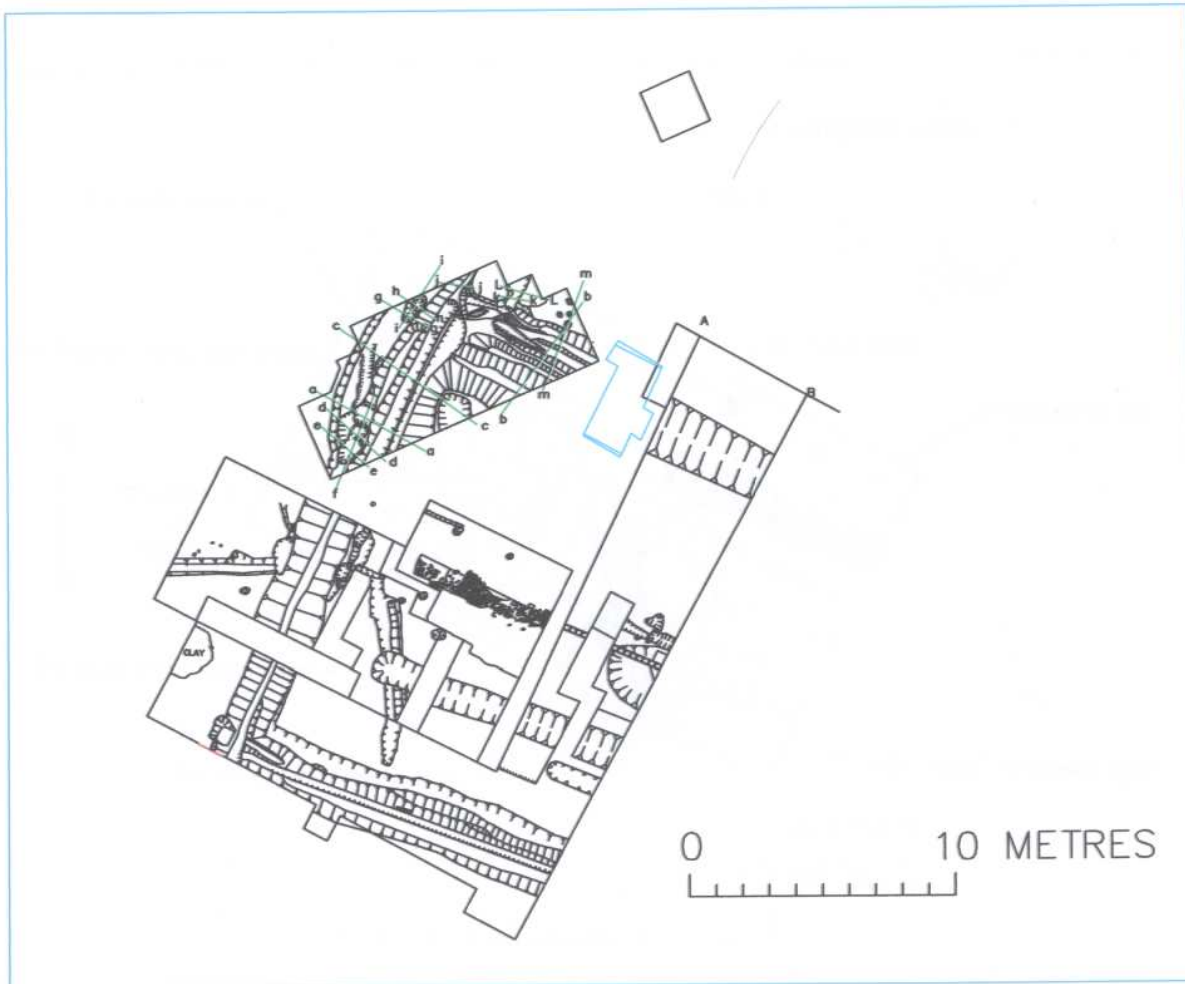


Fig 2. ROCKY CLUMP EXCAVATIONS DETAILS 2011–2013
(South field)

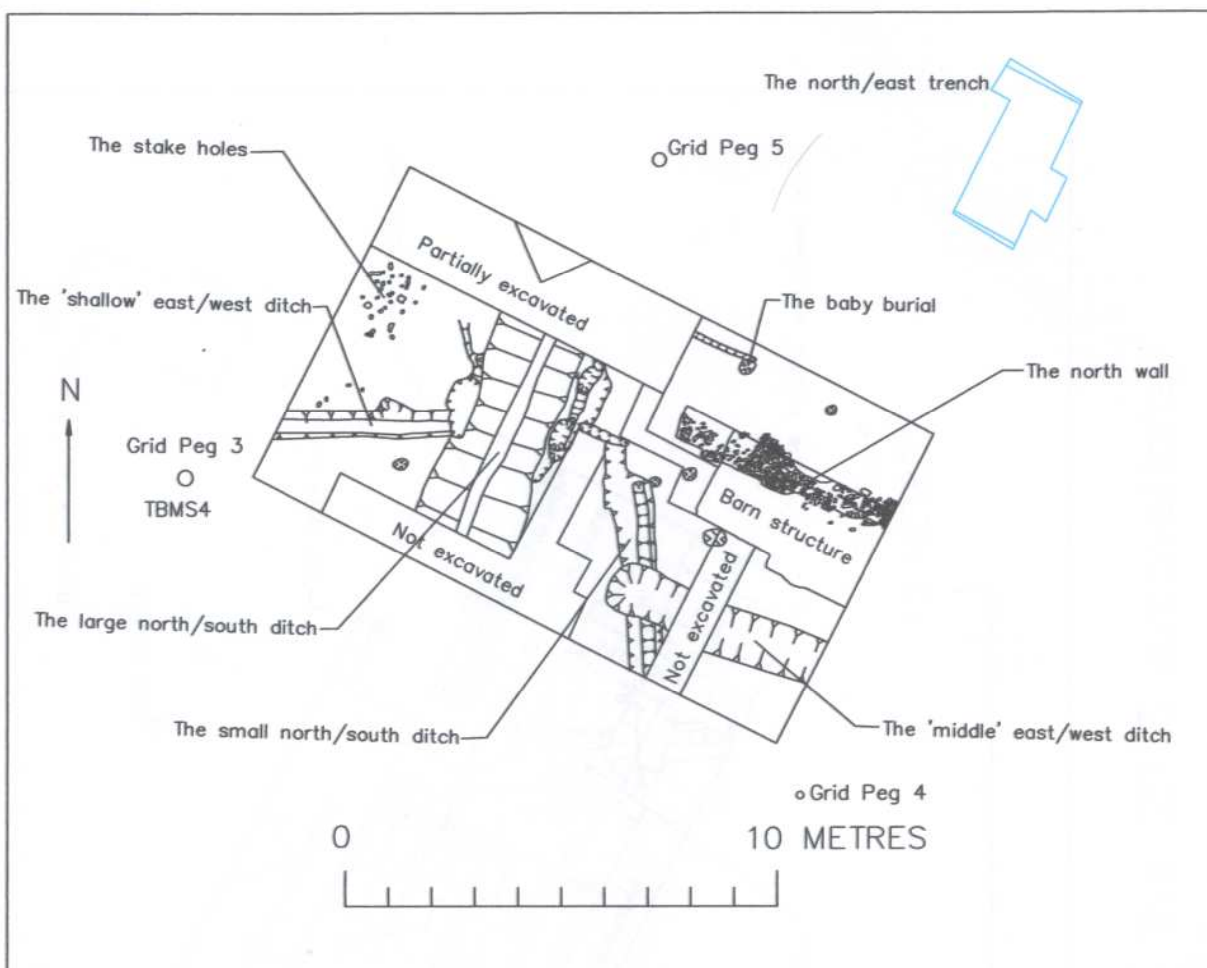


Fig 3. The 2013 excavations

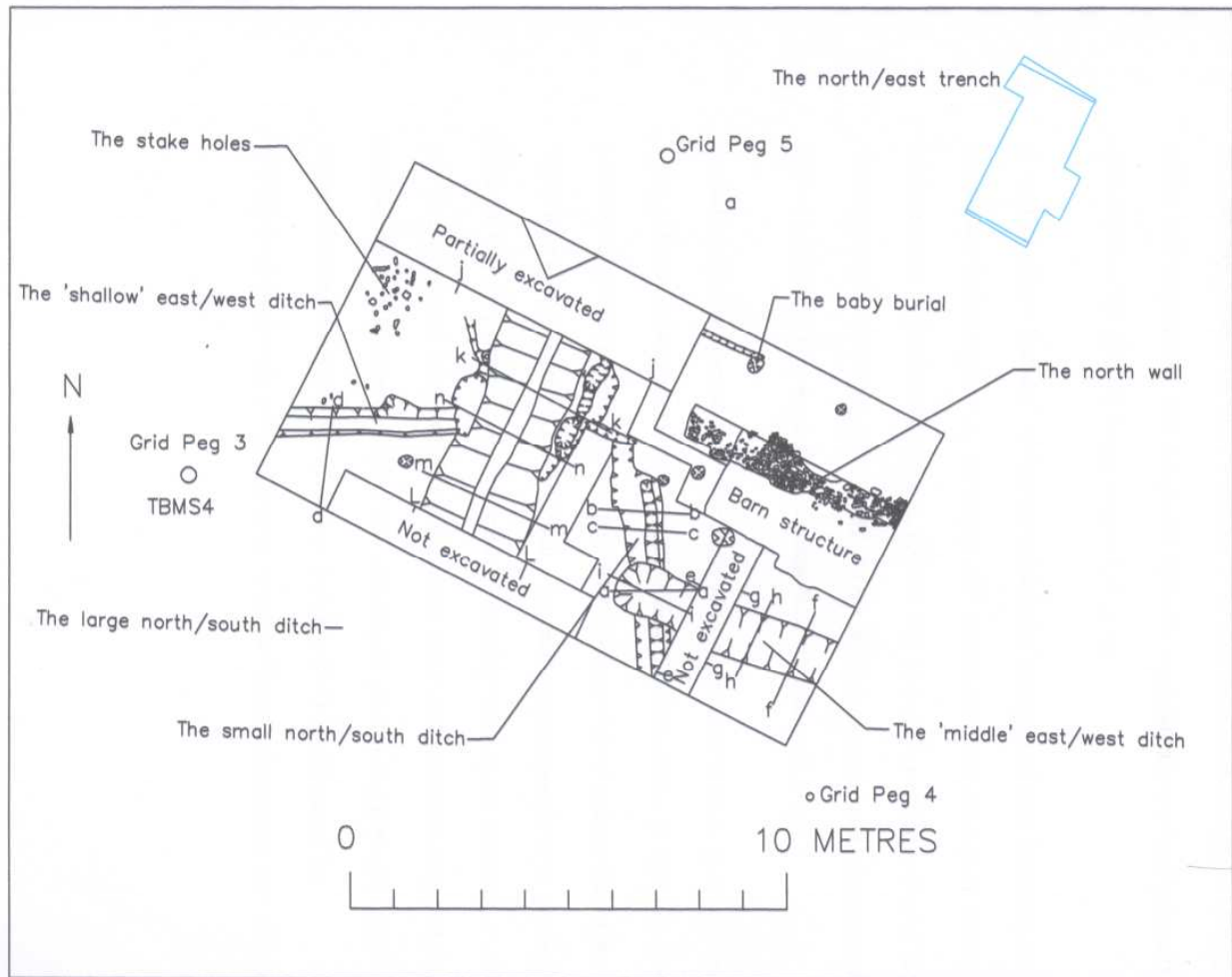


Fig 3a. The 2013 excavations
(The sections and stake holes)

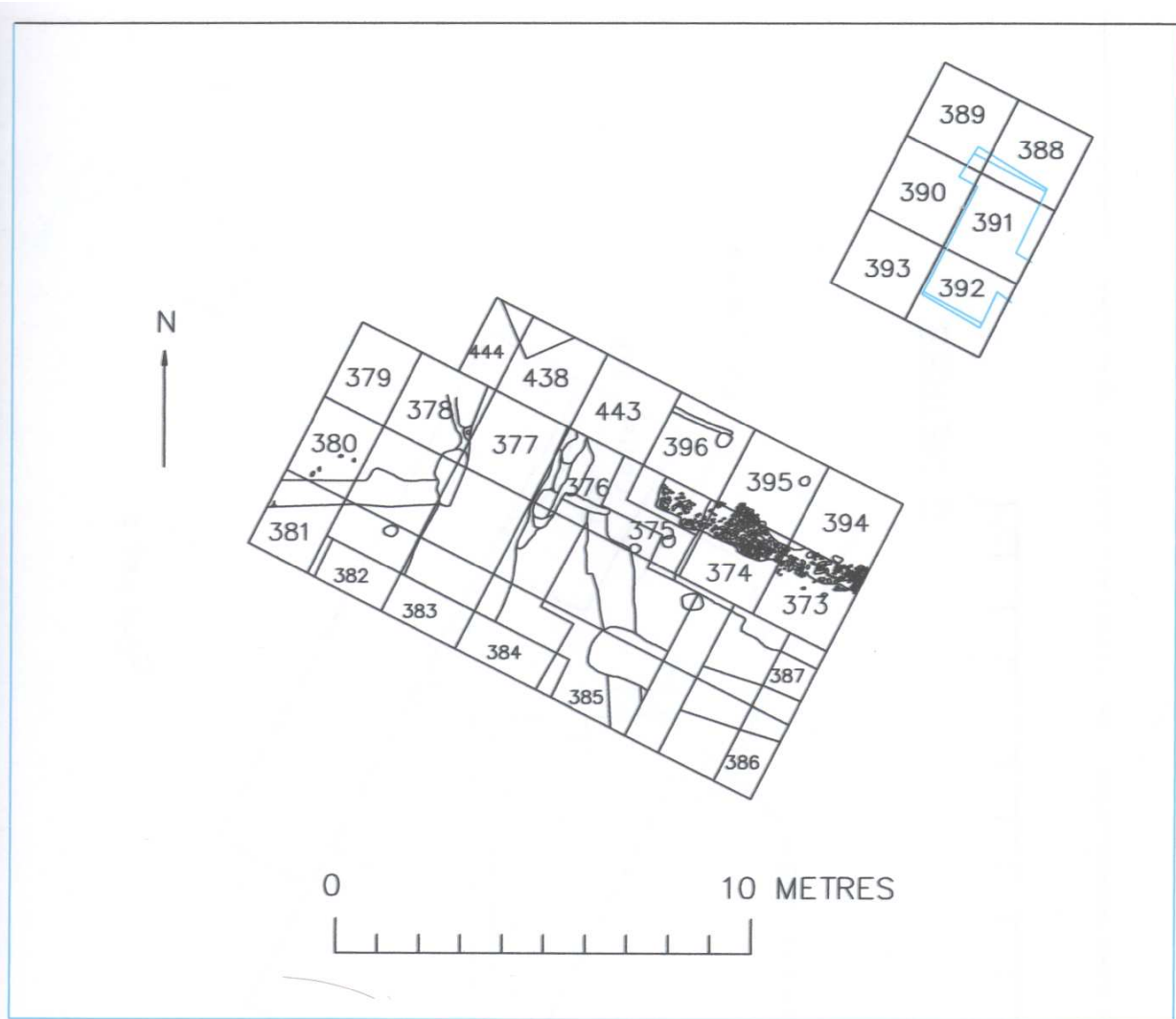


Fig 4. 2013 Top soil contexts

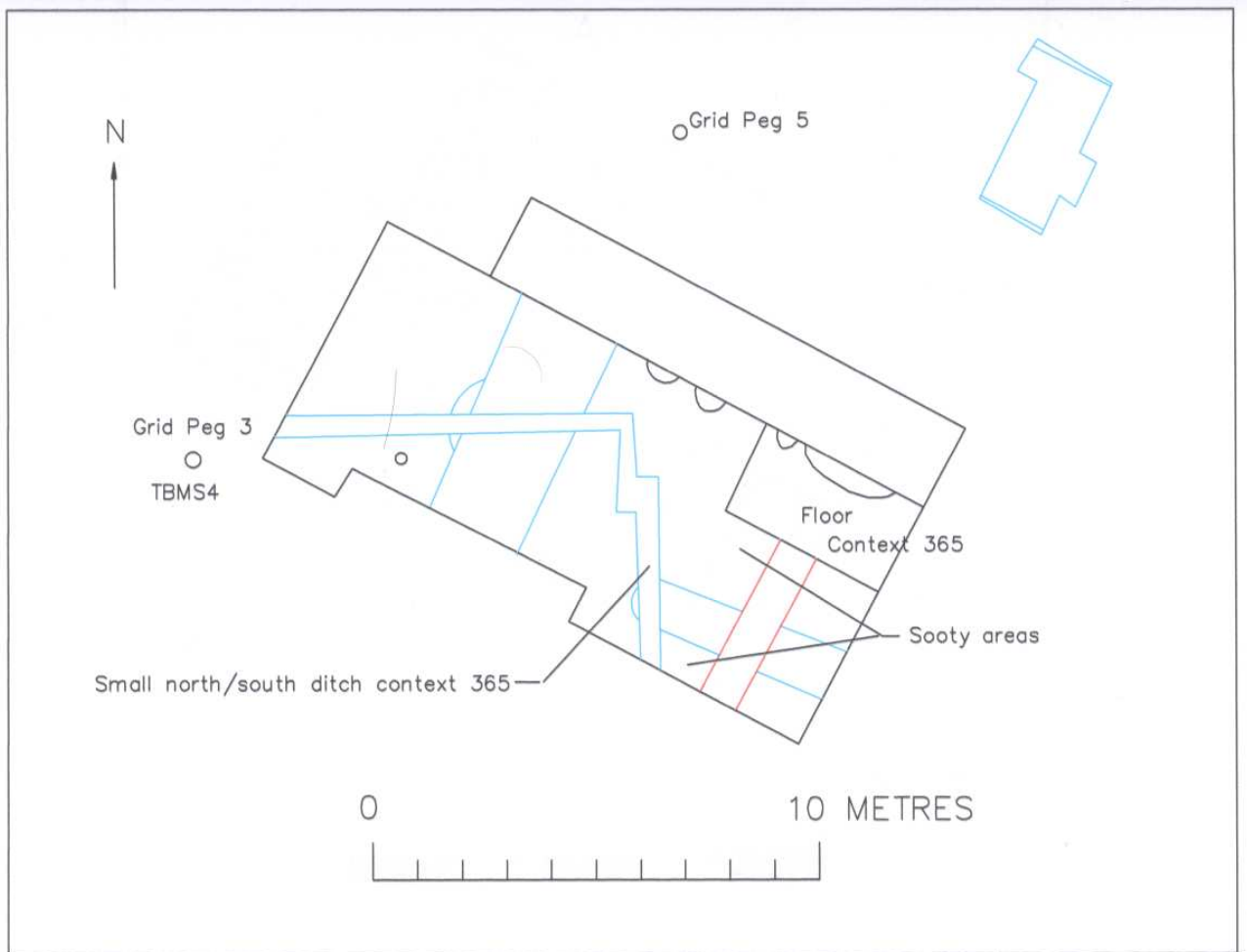


Fig 5. Rocky Clump excavations (new features)

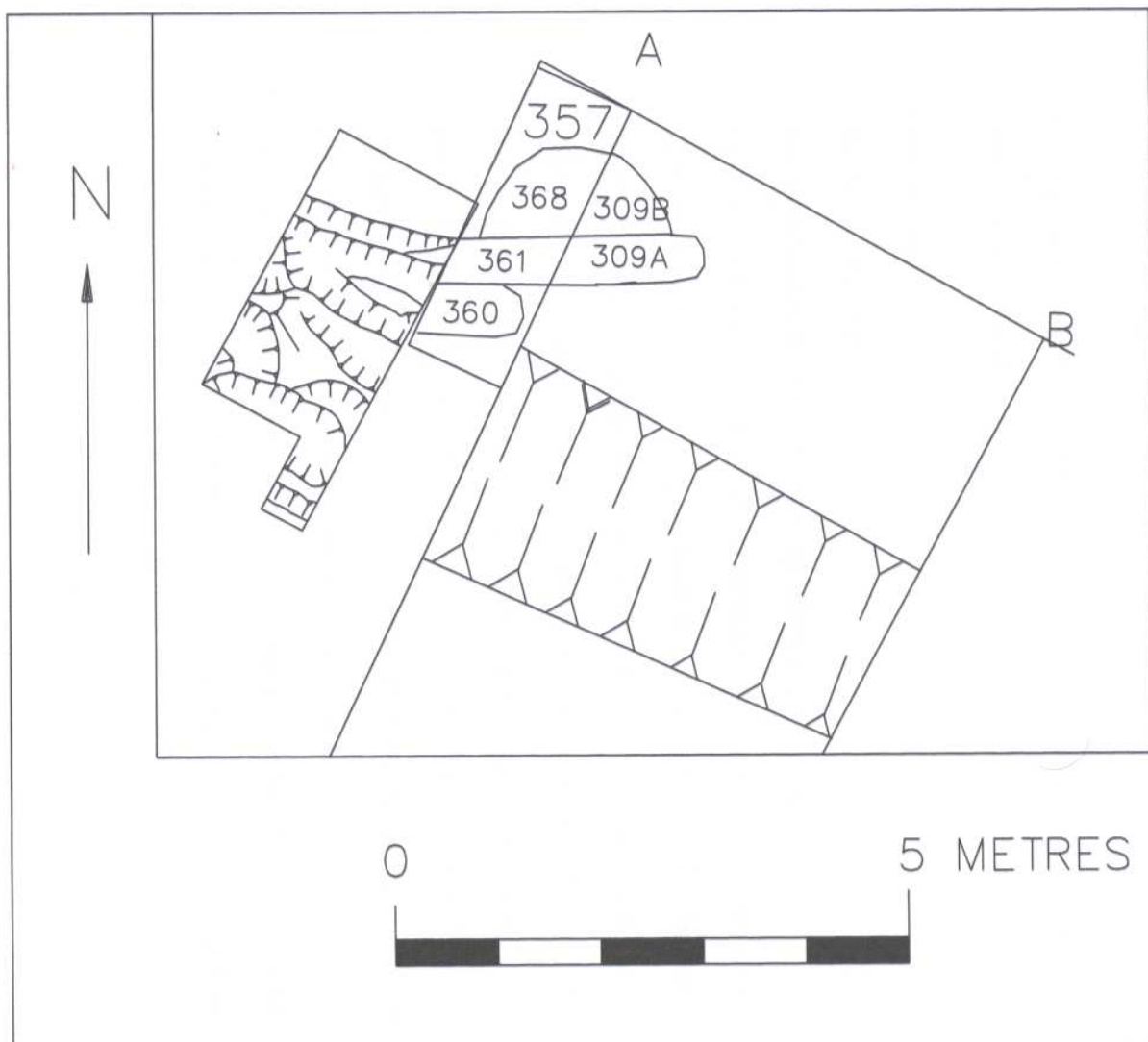


Fig 6. The North/East Trench

The Features

The Ditches (Fig 7. & 7a.)

The Small North/South Ditch Context 365 (Fig 8. a-a, b-b & c-c.)

The most visible feature revealed in 2012, and subsequently in 2013, was a continuation of a small ditch context 304, running south/east to north/west across the site. The new section had been given context number 365 in 2012. A small area to the west of this feature, context 366, latterly came down onto natural chalk and was not a feature. The small north south ditch had a pair of sondages cut to examine the variation in fills between the ditch and the adjacent floor layers located either side of the ditch. The sondages consisted of contexts 410, 411, 412 and 413 located at the north section of this ditch and contexts 414, 415 and 416 located lower down the slope. The sections confirmed that the ditch varied in width and depth along its length. After excavation the central section, located over the 'middle' east/west ditch measured 1 metre wide with a depth of 23cms, while at the southern end and at the baulk it was only 60cms in width. The north section appeared to have a 'dog-leg' step to the west and at this point measured only 28cms in width and only 17cms in depth. The north/east side of this ditch terminated at the natural chalk. The small channel at the north end was allocated context 423 but revealed only light loam and no finds.

This small north/south ditch had a deeper, shallower, gully running along its length and this section measured 24cms in width and had a depth of 13cms. The fill of the ditch was of a light clay loam, and this was very noticeable amongst the surrounding light brown chalky loam.

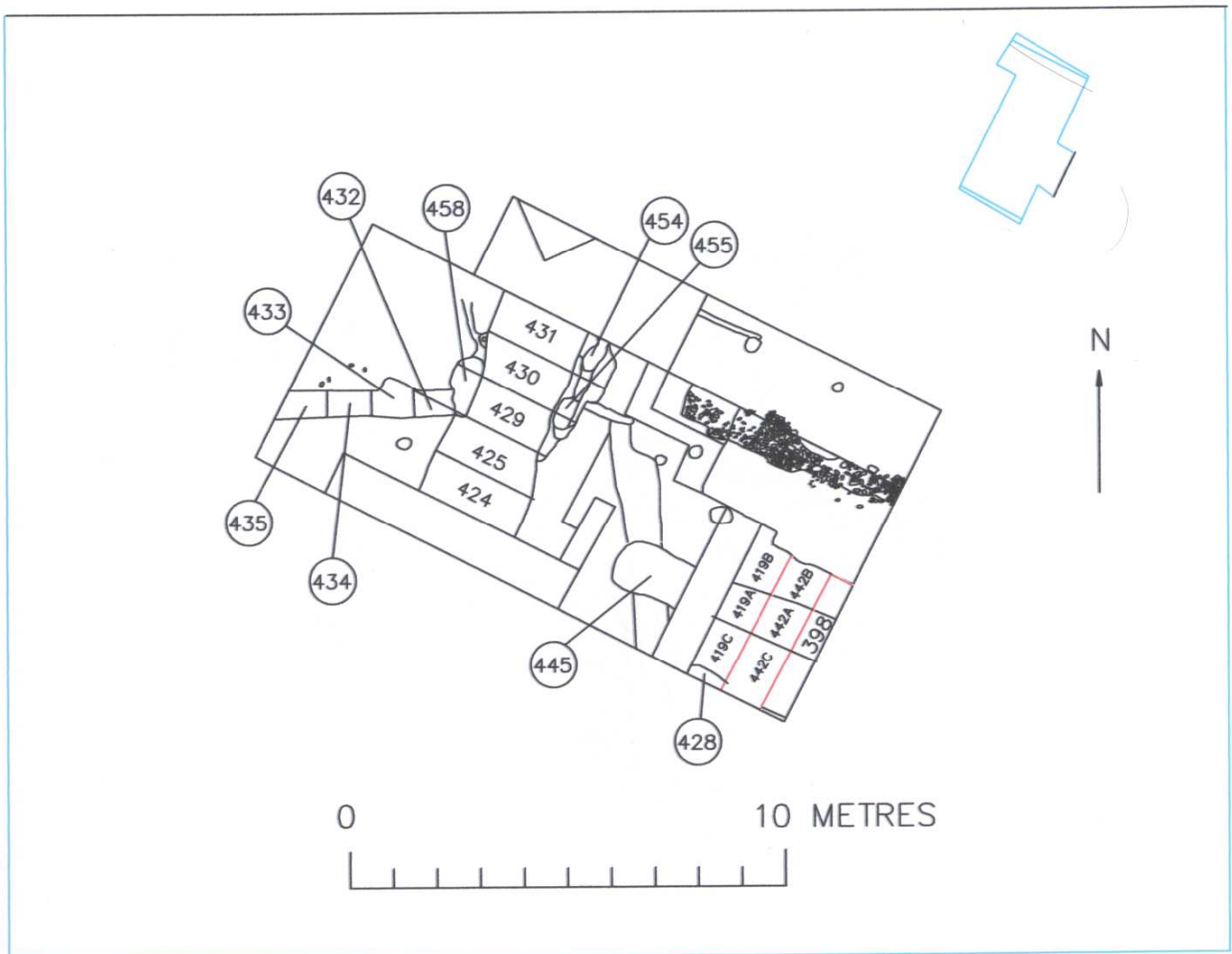


Fig 7. Ditch sections and pits 2013



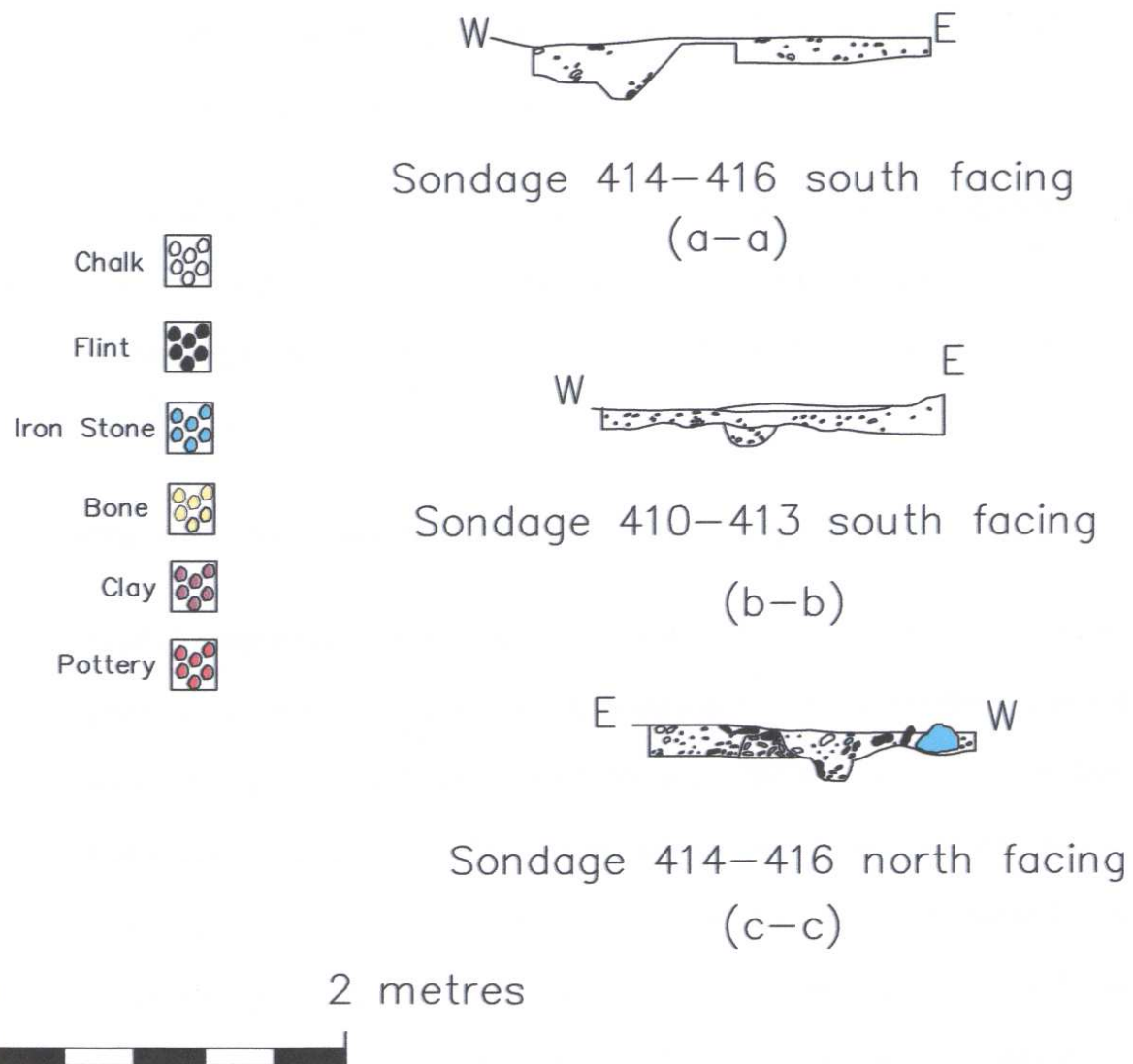


Fig 8. Small north/south ditch sections

The Small East/West Ditch Context 364 (Fig 7a.) (Fig 9. d-d)

In 2012 a magnetometry survey across the south field at Rocky Clump produced an interesting collection of new features including a new ditch, context 364. The new ditch appeared to terminate at the junction with the large north/south west boundary ditch. This feature carried on out into the field in a westerly direction before turning dramatically and then heading south easterly. A small section of this feature was uncovered in 2012 but never investigated, although it was planned. One of the reasons for extending the site in a westerly direction in 2103 was to investigate this feature. This new ditch was divided into several sections to allow for a detailed study of the stratigraphy. The context numbers allocated were 432, 433, 434 and 435. Contexts 433 and 435 were removed first, with the others excavated later after the sections had been recorded.

The ditch had a fill of light chalky loam and was quite shallow. It was flat bottomed for most of the length and terminated at a pit located on the west side of the large north/south ditch, context 458. The ditch measured 50cms wide and was up to a maximum 23cms deep, but this did vary along the length of the feature.

The most significant observation about this shallow ditch was the large number of large snail shells found within the fill. It was while the main north/south ditch was being sectioned that a similar concentration of snail shells was found in the upper fill of this ditch, context 429. It soon became apparent that the shallow east/west ditch did not terminate at the pit context 458, but continued eastwards across the large north south ditch and finally linked up with the small north/south ditch context 365. These 2 relatively shallow ditches formed the north/east junction of a much later enclosure.

Set into the eastern section of this ditch, and located above the east side of the large north/south ditch was an area of burning, and a solid well fired surface of a hearth context 447.

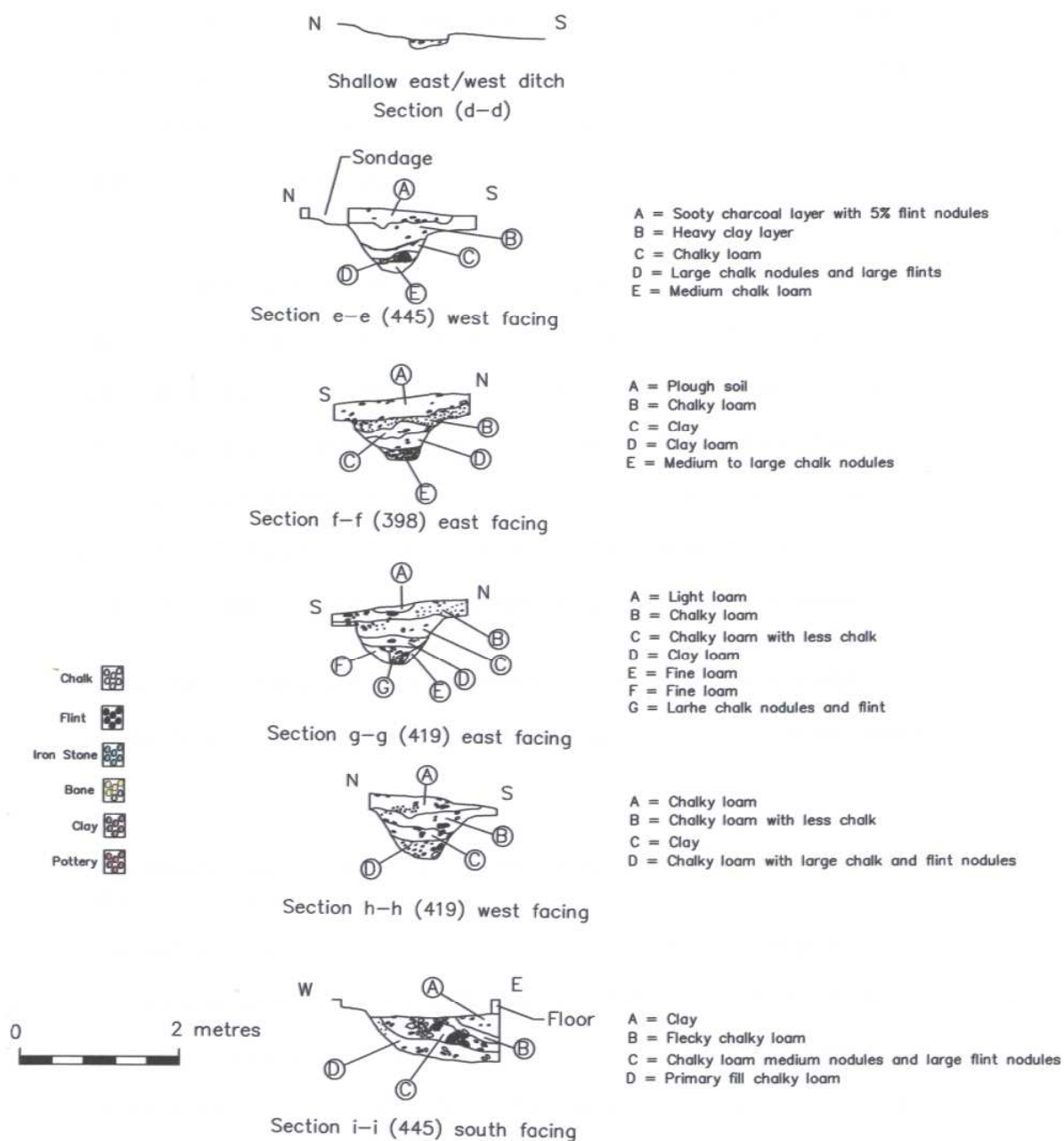


Fig 9. The Shallow east/west & middle east/west ditches

The 'Middle' East/West Ditch Contexts 398, 419, 442 & 439 (Fig 7a.) (Fig 9. (e-e) – (i-i))

This ditch was called the middle east/west ditch as it was located within the Iron Age enclosure with the 'lower' east/west ditch being the southern enclosure boundary ditch and the 'upper' east/west ditch being the north boundary ditch. The middle ditch is located within the enclosure and maybe an earlier feature, but does appear to have

some correlation with the 'barn' building having at one time a chalk causeway constructed across it (found in 2012).

The ditch was divided into 1 metre wide sections to record any variation in the ditch fills as it progressed westwards. The predominant fill, once again, was similar to the fill found in 2012 which was a heavy clay deposit in the upper fill, which produced few finds. The west terminus of this ditch was revealed in 2013 and the final section cut at this end, context 445, showed that the lens of clay continued almost to the end of the ditch, but not quite. The lower fill consisted of a light chalky loam, although the end nearest to the west terminus did have a proliferation of large flint nodules.

The ditch which was a fairly regular shape along its length measured 1.15M in width and 0.6M in depth. The bottom of the ditch was rounded. The ditch appears to terminate almost in line with the west end of the 'barn' building.

The Large North/South Ditch Contexts 424, 425, 429, 430 and 431 (Fig 7.) (Fig 10. (j-j) to (l-l) & (Fig 11. (m-m) and (n-n))

The western boundary of the Iron Age enclosure is called the large north/south ditch. It has been partially excavated in other locations in both 2011 and 2012. The new section proved to be similar to the previous excavations revealing a thick, dark, silty layer as the upper fill and a light chalky loam as the lower. The fills were not that simplistic and other subtle intermediary layers were also recorded. The upper dark layers produced the most numerous finds with significant amounts of pottery and large quantities of animal bone towards the bottom of this upper fill. Some of the pottery from this fill had raised eye-brow decoration and one sherd, found in context 430A, had an interesting lined and zig-zag pattern,. The lower chalky fill produced fewer finds. The most interesting find from the upper layer was a coin of the Emperor Nero found in context 425A.

Several sections were cut through the ditch, contexts 424, 429 and 431 and after recording the section details the remaining sections were removed. The top soil from the remaining link to the 2011 excavations had only the top soil removed. The fills in this section were never excavated due to time limitations.

The ditch measured 2.3M in width and 1.53M in maximum depth which included the top soil. The sides were steep and 'V' shaped and as proven in the previous examinations had a flat bottom. A number of incursions were noted with pits 457 and 458 being cut on the west side of the ditch and an elongated pit 459 being cut on the eastern side of the ditch.. The north section of the ditch, context 431 did produce a number of pieces of iron slag in the upper fill which may indicate some small metal working activity. Soil sample analysis may reveal more about activities in this area.

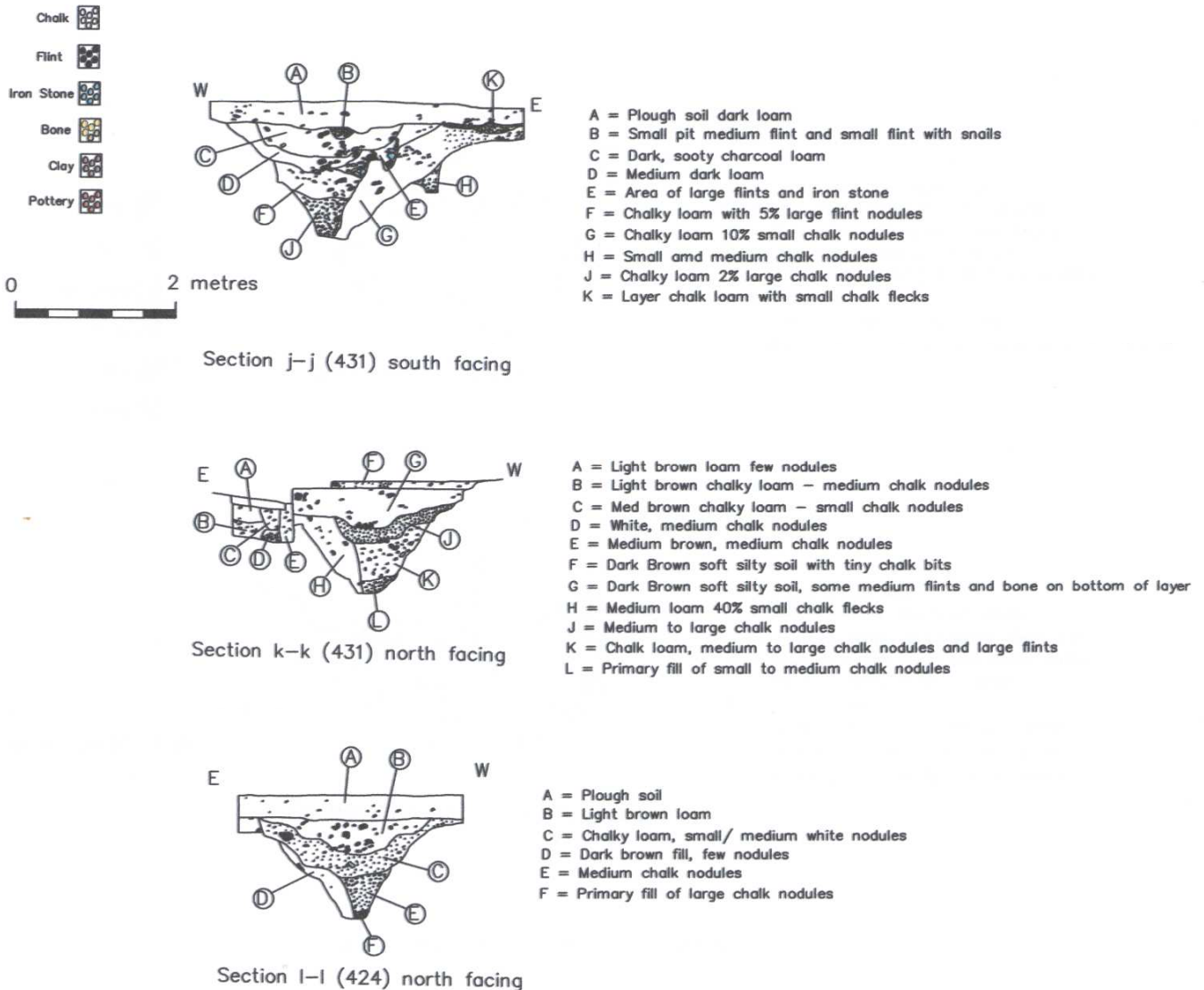
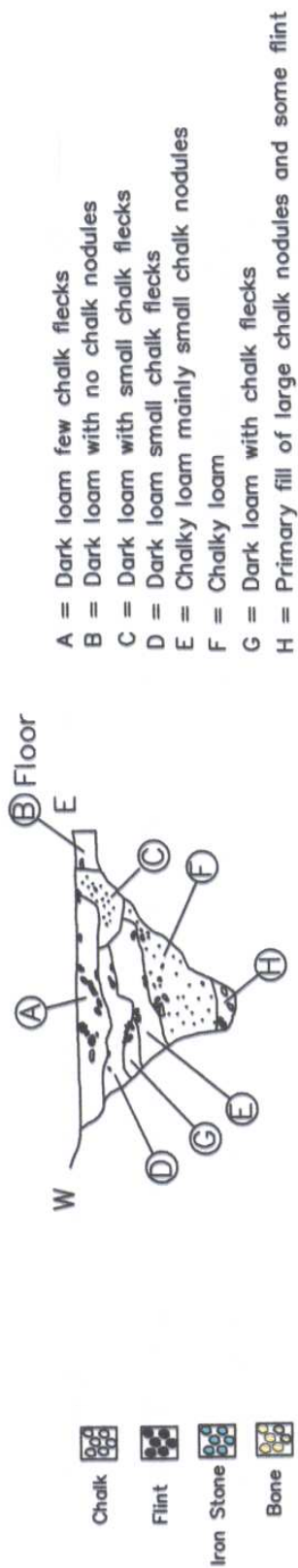


Fig 10. The large north/south ditch

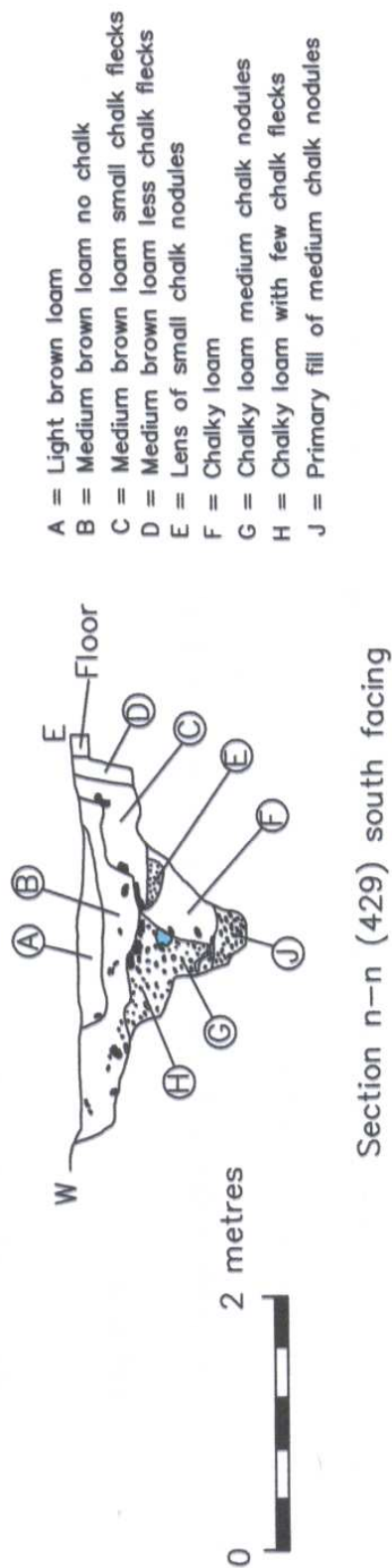
The Pits

Pit Context 458 (Fig 7.) and (Fig 11. (n-n) context H)

This large pit was located on the west side of the large north/south ditch. It measured 1.3M in length (north to south) and cut into the west side of the ditch by 0.85M. It had vertical sides and still had vestiges of a lower chalky fill in the bottom layers. Due to time restrictions and poor weather the bottom of this features was never reached but the excavated depth was 44cms. The feature appears to have been cut by the north/south ditch and the fill was similar to the main ditch fills showing that it was being used, like the main ditch, for depositing rubbish.



Section m-m (424) south facing



Section n-n (429) south facing

Fig 11. The large north/south ditch

Pit Context 454 and 455 (Fig 7.) and (Fig 10. (k-k) contexts A-E)

This pit was quite an elongated feature measuring over 1.5M in length and disappeared into the north baulk, so may have continued for a little further. However, there was no sign of this pit in the excavations in 2011 so it must terminate within the unexcavated section between the trenches. The depth of the pit was 60cms with the north circular section about 10cms deeper. The shape was vertical sided and was quite irregular along its length and roughly cut.

The pit cut into the large north/south ditch in 2 locations within ditch sections 431 and 430. The sides of the pit were steep and almost vertical and at the north end there was an even deeper circular section. The fill of the pit was quite complex with the lower layers being a re-deposited chalk fill. The upper layers contained a similar fill to the main north/south ditch, a dark silty soil, and above this appears to be a medium fill of chalky loam associated with the floor surrounding the 'barn' structure. Another feature in this complex was the hearth found in the upper fill of the shallow east/west ditch that cuts across the site and the main ditch.

Massimo's Pit Context 400 (Fig 12.)

This particular feature was called Massimo's pit as it was the focus of training in excavation and section drawing for a student from Venice. When the trench was opened and the floor of the barn' was revealed a number of cuts into the floor were noted along the north baulk of the site. The pit context 400 was considered to be a later feature and of possible Saxon date and was used as such for training purposes. However, the finds from the pit suggested a Roman date rather than Saxon and this was confirmed when the pit proved to be part of the flint foundation wall of the 'barn' structure.

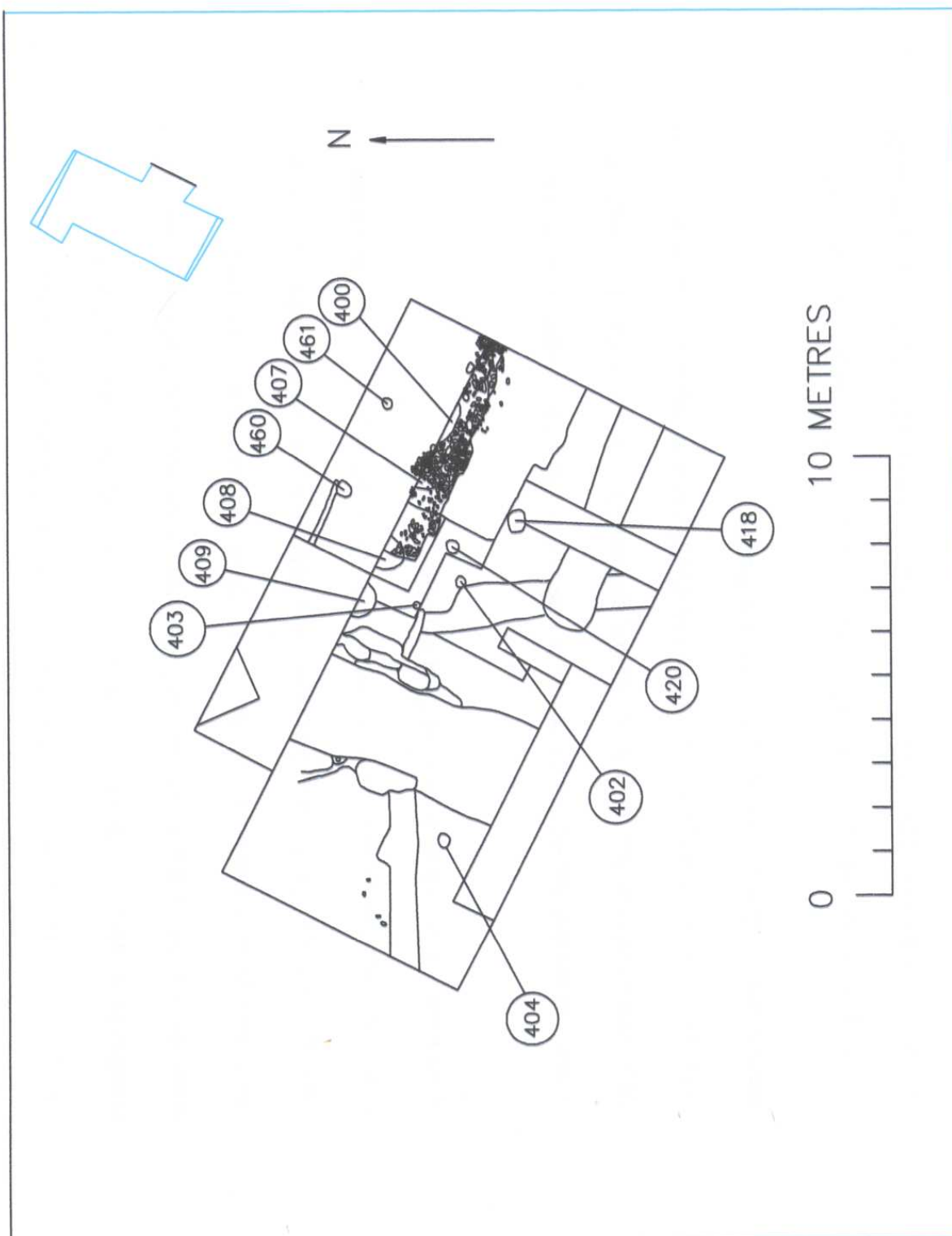


Fig 12. 'Post holes' 2013

The Post Holes Contexts 402, 403, 404, 407, 408, 409, 418 & 420 (Fig 12. & Fig 13.)

The 2013 season in the south field produced a number of features considered to be possible post holes. Several of these features contexts 402, 403, 407, 408, 409, 418, 420 were observed in the medium brown fill of a layer surrounding the 'barn' structure. All of these features were sectioned and excavated and none contained any substantial flint packing. Features 407, 408 and 409 were found later to be part of the north 'wall' of the barn. The other 'post holes' were all vertical sided and only went to a depth of 20cms down to the natural chalk below the floor deposit.

A later feature considered to be a post hole was context 461. This feature did contain large nodules of flint, but upon investigation continued to a much deeper level and was never fully bottomed. Its proximity to another circular feature found to be a solution hole tends to suggest that this was also a geological feature.

The only strong contender for a post hole was context 404. This was a vertical sided feature, located south of the shallow east/west ditch. The post hole had a chalky loam fill into the natural chalk, but did not contain flint packing.

Another post hole was cut by the north/south ditch. This feature, context 457, like the other 'post' holes had no flint packing in its fill, but at the bottom there was evidence for a post pipe in the form of a smaller circular cut into the natural chalk measuring 12cms in diameter.

'Post Hole' Details

Context	Diameter	Depth
402	19cms	5cms
403	16cms	8cms
404	25cms	12cms
407	50cms	(Found later to be part of the barn north wall)
408	75cms	(Found later to be part of the barn north wall)
409	80cms	(Found later to be part of the barn north wall)
418	48cms	15cms
420	32cms	15cms
428	20cms	13cms
457	50cms	17cms (Post pipe 12cms diameter and 1cm deeper)
461	20cms	40cms (Feature not bottomed and considered as solution)

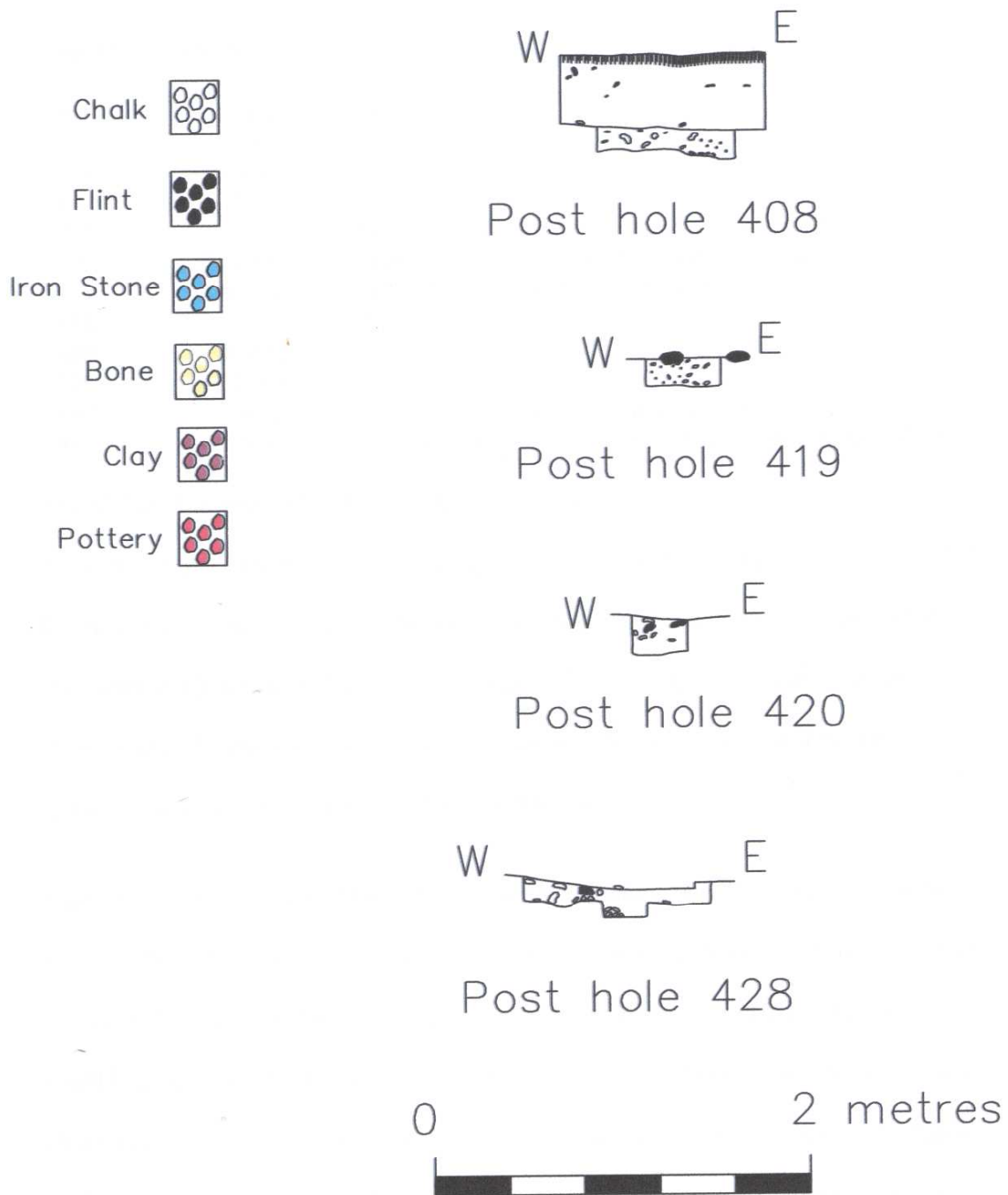


Fig 13. The 'Post' holes and pits

The Gullies Contexts 454, 455, 456 & 459 (Fig 14.)

A number of gullies were noted all cutting into the natural chalk. One gully, Context 459, was recorded on the west side of the boundary ditch. This feature was of a curved nature and ended at a junction with post hole, context 457. The gully was square sided and 15cms wide. The gully was deepest at the junction with the post hole and became shallower as it progressed northwards towards the baulk.

A pair of gullies, contexts 454 and 455, were noted running parallel and east of the large north/south ditch. Gully 454 measure 16cms in width and was 12cms deep with the other, context 455, measuring 13cms in width and the same depth. A third linear feature, a possible gully context 456, linking the parallel features was investigated but proved to be a very shallow feature, if a gully at all. All three gullies would have created a rectangular configuration. The northern gully terminated at pit context 460 which proved to be the location of a baby burial.

The Baby Burial Context 460 (Fig 14.)

It was during the process of seeking a depth for the east gully, context 456, that a softer section of chalk fill was noted at the end of gully context 455. As the investigation progressed a small pit measuring 34cms in diameter was revealed. As the excavation of this pit continued small fragments of bone started to appear. The excavation became more refined as it was appreciated that a second baby burial had been found.

The burial pit measured 34cms in diameter and had a depth of 26cms. The sides were almost vertical, but with a very slight slope. The baby had been seated in the pit with its back up against the west side, and facing east. The head was resting on the chest. The remains of the baby have been passed to the BHAS bones specialist team who will investigate it in more detail. The small nature of the bones tends to suggest that it is neo-natal.

The 'Barn' Structure (Fig 3. and Fig 14.)

It was during the 2012 season of excavations that a floor surface comprising of chalk and ironstone fragments was noted. At first this linear feature was thought to be some form of road or trackway, but a visit by the Assistant County Archaeologist altered the interpretation to that of a low status barn structure. In 2012 the north side of the structure was also recorded as having a more substantial lower fill of large flint nodules. When the trench, context 347, was opened at the end of 2012 the chalk floor was observed to be continuing westwards, context 362.

During 2013 the original trench was extended and the top soil carefully removed and came down, once again, onto the chalk floor. However, at this western end there were fewer fragments of ironstone and the floor was mainly chalk, with a few small flint nodules interspersed. The structure was found to terminate 4 metres further west than the area opened in 2012, and stopped short of the large north/south enclosure ditch.

Levels were taken of the floor and going south to north the floor changed only 10cms over a 2 metre length, while going east to west the level variation was less than 10cms over a 4 metre length. The structure was surrounded by a floor of light brown chalky loam on the south and west sides but the north side was dramatically different.

The North side of the Building (Fig 14.)

In 2012 an examination of the floor of the barn building revealed a solid north wall constructed of large flint nodules, but no similar feature was found on the south side. In 2013 sondages cut to examine the 'middle' east west ditch were extended northwards to the south side of the barn floor, contexts 398 and 419. Once again there was no evidence for any substantial footing south of the barn floor.

One of the reasons for opening the new trench had been to investigate the extent of this barn floor. However, it soon became apparent that the north side was still under the baulk. An extension to the trench was made to seek the north side of the building. The new area opened had the topsoil contexts 394, 395, 396 and 443.

The original trench had revealed a large pit, Massimo's pit, and this was thought to be a later feature cutting into the barn floor. However, as the new section was opened it became apparent that this pit was in fact an exposed section of the north wall of the barn.

The wall feature consisted of large flint nodules deposited in a linear arrangement, with some widths slightly wider than others suggesting even the possibility of buttressing. After a period of rain there was even the suggestion that a linear arrangement may be progressing northward at the west end, but it was a very ephemeral feature and may have been archaeological creativity.

The wall was 70cms in width and was sectioned in several locations. The foundation trench was very irregular and not really a typical well defined and flat foundation base. The north/south section proved to be curved in configuration and the foundations going east to west were very irregular ending at the west end in a circular terminus. While the wall was a very well defined linear feature it was very insubstantial in depth. The curved section of the ditch reached a maximum depth of 20cms.

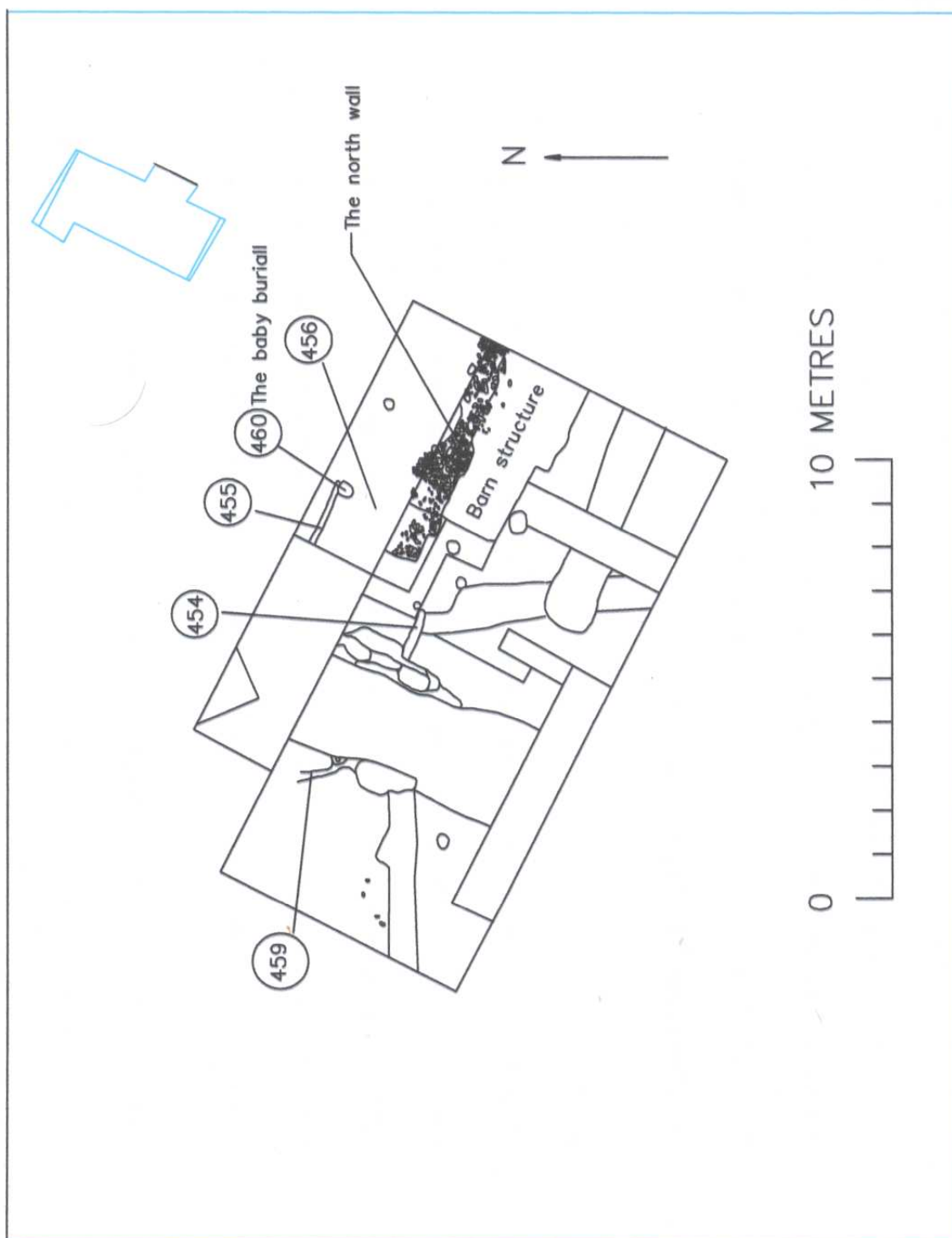


Fig 14. The barn, north wall, gullies & baby burial

The Hearths or Fire-pits (Fig 15.)

The most noticeable feature about trench 347 was the soot and scorched areas. There were basically 3 locations where soot and burning were observed. One area, context 367, was a large area on the east side of the trench, and was located in and around, and above the 'middle' east west ditch. The surface was compact in places but subsequent excavation of a number of features in this location showed that the deposit was very shallow and almost only a smear over the surface and may have been better preserved because of the clay fill of the ditch below.

The first hearth to be noted was constructed partly above part of the large north/south boundary ditch and on its east side. The feature also formed part of the curious shallow east/west ditch. The hearth consisted of an area of solid burned clay, measuring 15cms in depth. To the south side of this and part of the shallow east/west ditch was a large segment of ironstone. This stone was supported by a collection of large flint nodules. These flints also continued to the north of the solid scorched section. The fill around this area was sooty and black and a number of animal bones were found in association with this area. The east side of the hearth looked very disturbed and at one point appeared to be a possible pit with a curve on the south side, context 422. However, upon investigation this proved to be more of the 'floor' layer that surrounded the barn, and above the baby burial.

The third area of burning, the fire-pit in the north/east trench is discussed separately, see below.

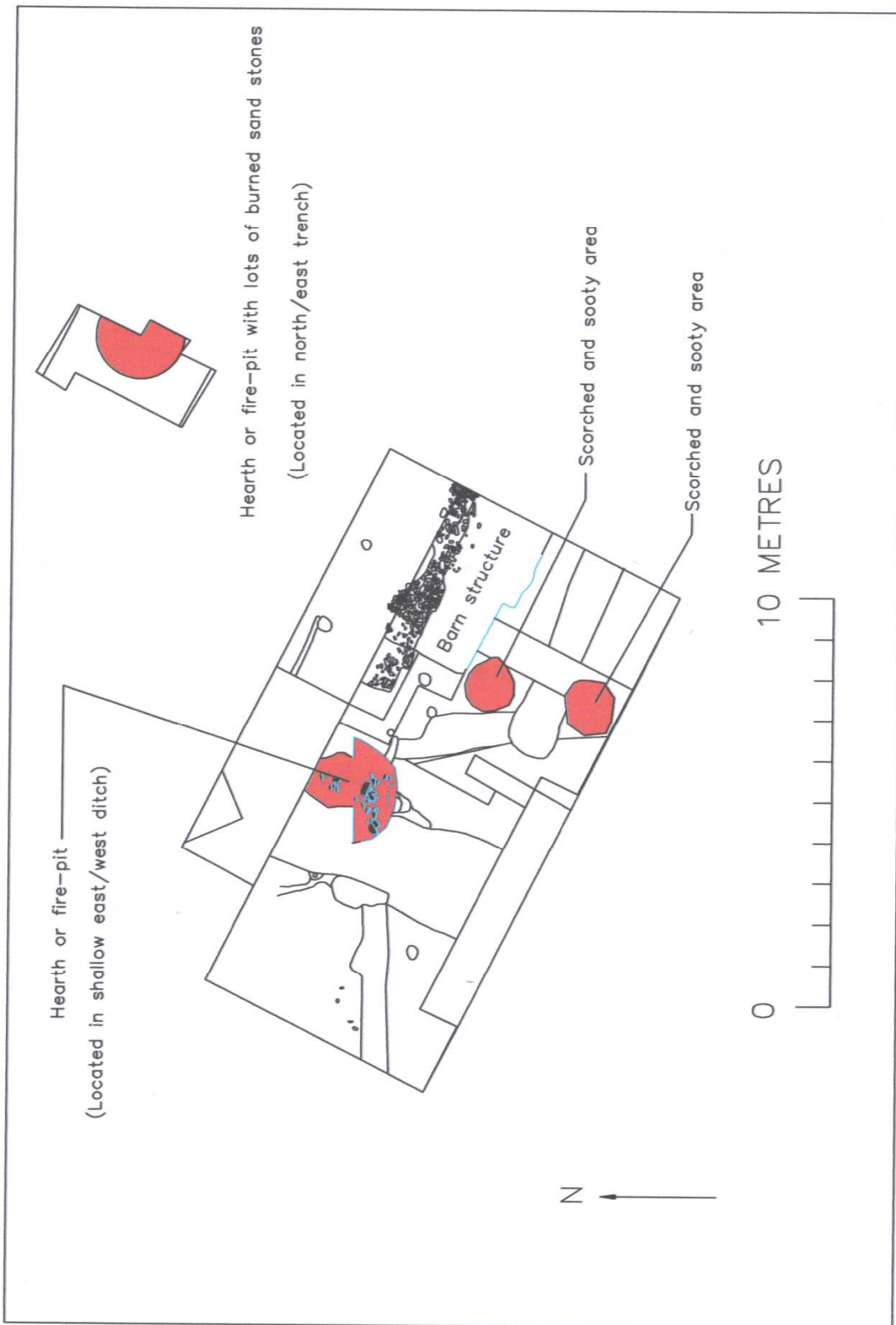


Fig 15. The scorched areas and fire-pits 2013

The North East Trench and Fire-pit - by John Skelton (Fig 6.)

The North East trench (grids 388 - 392) was an extension of the 2012 North West trench and was intended to investigate whether the gulley, (context 361) revealed in 2012, extended westwards and whether a layer of sooty loam seen in the West facing section of the 2012 trench represented a pit that cut into the side of the North face of the large northern East/West ditch.

As time and human resources were limited a careful excavation of a small area was considered to give the best chance of detecting subtle changes in contexts that would reveal the chronology of what was already considered a complex area. Fills in grids 388 – 392 were carefully removed until evidence of underlying features was revealed.

The fills corresponding to a westward extension of gulley 361 followed a stratigraphy suggested by the East facing section of the previous year. The lower fills were of medium chalk nodules (up to about 10 cm diameter) and large flints (up to several 10s of cm diameter) suggesting a tip from the North into the gulley cut creating a south facing slope over which a more loamy soil had been deposited. However there were many variations in the fill, at times suggesting small pits cut into the fill, sometimes containing finds of bone, pot and traces of charcoal, but these failed to correspond to the underlying cuts into the solid chalk. These cuts revealed that, rather than continuing Westwards as a gully, cut 361 resolved into a number of East West cuts resembling a number of small intersecting pits or the uneven floor of a ditch the North side of which is over a metre deep.

At a depth of about 54 cm below present soil level the loamy soil extending Southwards over the Northern East/West ditch revealed areas of darker soil suggesting pits. Several of these were ephemeral, losing definition with depth and did not reflect underlying cuts but pit 448 corresponded to the suspected area of burnt material extending from the overburden of 361 to the centre line of the large East/West ditch. At this depth the centre line of the large ditch was marked by a linear collection of large flints resembling the rows of flints believed to represent the North and South walls of the barn structure situated further South. The burnt material of context 448 occupied a saucer shaped depression and contained charcoal, small pieces of cremated bone and burnt pot and a large quantity of roasted sandstone pieces measuring up to about 15 cm across. The main concentration of the roasted sandstone was to the South of the fill of 448 and intermingled with some of the flints on the centre line of the large ditch. A few pieces were found South of these flints amongst a smear of sooty loam (suggesting material may have been raked out of the pit). The burnt fill was above a layer of loam and a bottom layer of chalk fill. Once again the cuts into the solid chalk North wall of the large ditch below did not exactly reflect the extent of this pit.

The fact that pit 448 contained burnt material extending into the fill of gully/ditch 361 and into the fill of the large East/West ditch indicates that these two ditches were filled and then pits cut into the area. A possible interpretation is that these pits were then partially

filled, purposefully or by erosion, and the depression left used as a fire-pit, possibly for cooking (a few large bones were found in surrounding contexts).

The Floor Layers

When the trench, context 347, had been first opened at the end of the 2012 season the most noticeable feature was the proliferation of soot, charcoal and blackened pottery in the fill, context 367. The whole area to the east of the west enclosure boundary ditch had a thin, subtle layer of soot and signs of burning. This layer proved to be quite shallow, but was a distinct feature below the top soil. One baulk containing the various layers, and located across and above the 'middle' east west ditch, was left in-situ. The section clearly indicated a sooty horizon but with little depth.

The 'floor', which contained this sooty upper surface was located south of the barn structure and continued westwards. It continued up to and partially over the north/south ditch on its eastern side. This was noted in the section drawings and photographs (Fig 0.). The same floor continued southwards down to a shallow terrace cut into the chalk north of the 'lower' east/west ditch, and this terrace was recorded in 2012. Only a small section of this terrace was revealed in 2013. This small section of terrace was uncovered at the east end of the new trench as context 428.

A number of sondages were cut into the floor at several locations, mainly to investigate the relationship with the small north/south ditch but other areas, contexts 399, 439 and 440 confirmed that the depth of the floor varied from 10cms to 20cms in depth over a very irregular chalk natural surface. The fill from these investigations produced very little in the way of finds and usually consisted of small bone fragments.

The depth of soil varied dramatically over the site. The west end, west of the large north/south boundary ditch measured only 25-30cms in depth, but in the area north of the barn structure and in the north/east trench this soil depth increased to over 60cms in places. However, as with the floor surface surrounding the barn, the finds from the upper layers of this thicker layer of soil were few, with only pottery and bone finds appearing closer to the chalk natural surface. This floor terminated over the east side of the west boundary ditch and did not continue on the west side.

The Stake Holes (Fig 3.)

One area that produced an interesting collection of features was to the west of the large north/south boundary ditch and to the north of the shallow east/west ditch that cut across the site. In this small section a multitude of small stake holes were revealed. The chalk although only about 20cms below the top soil was quite soft and different to the other areas of natural chalk.

No stake holes were found to the south of the east/west ditch and a small sondage into this area of soft chalk came down onto a harder, but irregular surface of solid chalk.

The stake holes measured 2-3cms in diameter and were cut into the chalk at various angles to the vertical (45 to 90 degrees). The features were planned and recorded.

The Finds

The Pottery

As anticipated the most prolific focus for finds was the large north/south ditch. Another area producing significant amounts of pottery was the area to the north of the north wall of the barn structure. The pottery from the large ditch included sherds containing the raised eye-brow Iron Age style decoration with other pieces have some interesting zig-zag form of decoration. There was a significant collection of diagnostic pieces.

The Bone

The north/south ditch once again produced the best collection of animal bone, much of it from the lower depths of the upper fills. Among the bones were sheep and horse with several skulls of pig. The BHAS bones team will produce an interim report for the 2013 season.

Marine Molluscs

The finds of marine shells were not so prevalent this season. The large ditch produced most of these finds with oyster shell being the most collected. There were a few fragments of mussel shells and an interesting collection of limpet and cockle shells and just one or two whelk shells.

Land Snails

A large number of land snails were collected from the curious east/west ditch. This is the latest feature to cut across the south field. The shells are quite large and may possibly be of edible snails. While the dating of the feature appears to be late Roman or medieval then the snails may represent a possible food source however, they may equally be just a large population in favourable environmental conditions. A selection of the shells will be taken to the Booth Natural History Museum for further investigation.

The Metal Work

A number of metal items were found this season. Iron, copper alloy, lead and iron slag were all represented. The items have been quite hard to identify and will require expert analysis to determine their original use. Those pieces that could be identified were an Iron Age brooch and 2 coins. One peculiar object found was a small, well defined arrow head, which had a small perforated hole. This was found just north of the site boundary and close to the location of the La Tene brooch.. The object was investigated and the consensus is that it is of modern origin, possibly a child's toy. Just how this object,

which is still basically archaeology, came to be at Rocky Clump is a mystery. A current index of the small finds from the south field at Rocky Clump is appended to this report.

The 'La Tene' Brooch (Fig 17.) by John Skelton

The brooch has been researched and identified as a La Tene I type (3rd - 4th Century BC). The bow is narrow and the spring is bilaterally wound with the cord (the length that joins both sides of the spring) external to the windings. The foot is turned up and back towards, but not touching the bow which ends with perforated knobs or eyelets. Unfortunately a small piece of the spring has broken. This makes it difficult to determine if the pin was pivoted and the spring a skeuomorphic feature (being a mock or representational spring) or whether the bow, spring and pin were continuous. It may be that small pendants were hung from the eyelets or maybe they contained small gems or other decorative material. Some fibulae were worn in pairs connected by a fine chain.

Sue Hamilton in Barber et al, (2002) describes a similar brooch found at Eastwick Barn on the opposite side of Ditchling Road and within ½ mile of Rocky Clump. Attributed to 4th/3rd century BC and of a "type 1Bb" (or La Tene I type) this brooch has a mock spring but has a distinctive decoration on the bow.

The Coins

SF 26 Coin 1 (Context 387) Barbarous radiate AD 286-297. The coin weighs less than 1 grm and is ovoid in shape measuring 11.17 to 11.4mm. It is 1.2mm thick. The coin was identified by W.L.Santer.

SP 35 Coin 2 (Context 425A) Nero, AD 54-58. Diameter 27mm. Weight 11gm. Type minted at Lugdunum c. AD 64-67. Of good style except for the letters S and C on the reverse being at an angle to the victory, and the absence of a globe at the point of the bust on the obverse; hence possibly a barbarous issue.

Obverse: IMP NERO CAESAR AVG P MAX TR PPP, head of Nero, bare, left.

Reverse: Victory draped, moving left, holding a shield (Inscribed SPQR), S.C. left and right in field.

Reference: Cf. BMC 388; RIC 606. The coin was identified by D.Rudling.

Discussion

The excavations at Rocky Clump in 2013 were focused in 2 areas. The main trench measuring 14 metres by 6 metres was located over the west boundary ditch and mainly within the Iron Age enclosure. The second trench measuring only 3 metres by 2 metres was located over the upper east/west ditch and 'trackway found in 2011. What both trenches revealed was a complexity of features and layers.

It was anticipated that the west boundary ditch would produce the most finds and this was exactly what happened. This ditch produced good finds from well stratified layers. The upper fills confirmed usage during the Roman period of AD150-230, similar to finds from the 2011 and 2012 excavations (Pers Comm. M.Lyne). The pottery from the lower fills included finds of Iron Age sherds with several having the distinctive raised eye-brow decoration.

The fills of this ditch tend to show that any defensive banks associated with the ditch construction were re-used as back filling sometime after the banks were longer required. The direction and shape of the fills tend to show that back filling was directed from the east which would have been the location of any defensive feature. This also applied to the upper east/west ditch fill which mainly contained the same chalky loam fill almost to the top, with very little later Roman material (Funnell 2012). As noted in 2012 the ditch west boundary ditch was still being used during the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD for dumping rubbish waste from the settlement site, still yet to be found.

The new section of the 'middle' east/west ditch was just as confusing as the section excavated in 2012. This ditch contained few finds, and none at all from the upper clay layer. What was of note is that this ditch was covered by the medium brown fill of the floor layer surrounding the barn structure, and on top of this were a number of distinct areas of scorching or burning along with sooty deposits.

The barn structure is still regarded as a timber beam constructed building. Once again the new excavations failed to produce any substantial post holes for an alternative method of building. The simple chalk floor was still quite well preserved with investigations on the south side still finding no evidence for foundations. The north side of the structure did have quite a significant linear arrangement of flint nodules tending to suggest some attempt at elaborate building techniques, but the poorly created foundation trench appears to suggest that this endeavour was not taken too seriously and only produced a half hearted effort.

The few possible post holes are certainly not associated with any structures and must be regarded as either later additions cut into the floor or merely a colourisation in the floor deposits creating an illusion of post holes.

The floor of the barn was surrounded by a light loamy floor which extended southwards to just north of the lower east/west ditch. This layer was set into a terrace cut into the natural chalk. The floor was relatively level across the whole of the barn area and up to

the north/south boundary ditch. The same floor layer surrounding the barn continued westwards even covering part of the east side of the boundary ditch. No similar floor was found north of the barn flint wall footings which came down onto natural chalk.

The one feature which can be effectively sequenced is the curious shallow ditch that runs from east to west across the site. This ditch cuts through the large west boundary ditch and produced an interesting collection of snail shells limited to this one feature, and was notable during excavation. The same ditch meets up or joins the small north/south ditch running at right angles down the hill in a south easterly direction where it was found to terminate in 2012. The south terminus was north of the 'lower' east/west ditch. It is possible that any trace of this ditch was removed by later activities in the south field, for no trace of the ditch was found in the baulk of the south side of the lower/east/west ditch. The geophysics and the fact that the east/west section of this ditch links with the small north/south does tend to suggest that the feature is forming a much later enclosure on a different orientation, but only further work in the field to the south of the Iron Age enclosure could confirm this.

One of the most interesting finds of this season's was the second baby burial. The burial which was outside and to the west of the barn building was cut into the natural chalk. There was no visible sign in the fills about the feature for it being a later cut. The orientation of the baby, facing eastwards, tends to show a prehistoric tendency with Bronze Age and Iron Age round houses frequently having their entrances facing in this direction, as if seeking the first rays of morning as the sun rises. The first baby was found buried in the upper east/west ditch after it had been partially back filled. The new baby burial within the enclosure interior is not unusual as baby burials are often found under Roman villa floors. It is possible that other burials may lay beneath this floor layer and any new excavations should look carefully at what is considered natural chalk as it may hide similar burial pits.

The chronological sequence is once again very debateable, but there are some areas that can be sequenced quite accurately. The primary contexts are the main boundary ditches. However, what is not certain is the relationship between the ditch and the pits located on either side. A similar situation was noted in the north field where pits were located either side of the main north/south ditch. It is highly possible that the elongated pit on the east side of the large north/south ditch and the smaller pits on the west side are the earliest features, but there was little dating material from any of them. It is possible that they are associated with testing the ground prior to the main ditch creation. The fill of the elongated pit was mainly of chalk which must suggest that it was quickly abandoned after it was cut, as few finds came from the fill, and the later large ditch cut pit in 2 locations as it moved northwards.

Similarly the shallow gullies running parallel east to west on the east side of the main ditch may be vestiges of a very slight timber structure, possibly associated with the baby burial but the evidence is much too slim to confirm. The curving gully on the west side of the ditch does not link up with a similar gully found curving around the features in the excavations of 2011. The shape of both of these gullies is the same with vertical sides

and chalk fill. It was thought that the original gully could have been the rain tract for a round house, but neither of these features fits in with this idea.

The barn structure with its more solid north foundation and surrounding outer floor is perhaps the best in-situ remains. We have shape and a level environment, but what purpose this flimsy structure was used for is still debateable. What is certain is that the surrounding floor was laid very quickly as few finds were recovered from the various sondages cut. A barbarous radiate was found lying upon this floor in 2012 so these deposits show that by the late third century the barn had gone out of use.

It is from the floor surface surrounding the barn that we have the later phase of burning and scorching with burned areas above the 'middle' east/west ditch. Another hearth or fire pit located in the north/east section produced significant quantities of burned sandstone, while a third was located above the upper fills of the large north/south ditch. Was this later phase of the site seeing Rocky Clump change from a farm to an industrial area. Finds of iron slag from the upper fills of the large north/south ditch may testify to this. However, if the later phase is industrial then it cannot be compared to the early metal working being conducted at Oving (Bedwin). The fire-pits and hearths found this season confirm that this activity took place after the enclosure ditches had been filled in.

The final phase in this small area of the Rocky Clump south field is the east/west ditch or later enclosure. Without doubt the last phase of the site found in this trench. Exactly when these ditches were constructed is still to be confirmed. Is it late Roman or medieval? One of the finds from this shallow feature included some small fragments of clay pipe, so it is possible that this feature is relatively modern. A study of old maps of Stanmer must be a task for the future.

One observation was about the soil depth in both the area north of the barn building and above the fire-pit in the north/east trench. The soil depth in these locations is up to 60cms. The soil is deposited above both the barn building and the hearth and cannot be associated with any banks created during the digging of the ditches, as these had already been filled back in. The mound of dirt contains very little in the way of ancient finds and so must be associated with some other activity or soil deposition at a date as yet unknown.

The curious collection of stake holes has caused some thought. Any number of shapes could be created to suit several purposes. It is possible that they are associated with stakes and fencing that could be used to entrap or keep secure small creatures, like baby pigs. The main question is why would such a feature be on the outside of the enclosure?

The reason for the construction of the enclosure is still open to question. Whether it was from an awareness of the impending Roman invasions by either Julius Ceasar or Claudius may be a possibility, and the rapid back filling of potential defences an observation that the Roman presence in Sussex proved not as hostile as feared.

The present lack of evidence for houses or structures, other than the barn within the enclosure is making the idea that the enclosure is a defended settlement looking more and more unlikely. However, the continuing lack of settlement site does need to be addressed.

Excavations at Rocky Clump have been ongoing since 1947 and various early reports have suggested that the site is a possible shrine (Gorton) or a small Romano-British settlement (Gilkes). The continuing excavations suggest that the occupation at Rocky Clump is more chronologically extensive than first envisaged. The earliest Iron Age and Roman enclosure phases appear more defensive and later develop into a more open farming enterprise in the 2nd until the early 4th century AD. Test trenches have confirmed there is continuing archaeology in both of the fields and further investigations will allow a greater overview of the farmstead and its later development on this part of the South Downs.

A chronological sequence has been compiled (Fig 16.) and is based on the topographical and inter-cutting sequences noted during excavation. However, the pottery is currently being studied and it appears that some features appear to have medieval dating which could change the dating in some areas of the site.

New investigations are planned for immediately south of the trees at Rocky Clump. A number of geophysical circular anomalies may prove to be the site of several round houses. The west side of the Iron Age enclosure may also provide evidence for an entrance, as ditches in that location are not aligned. There is still more to reveal at Rocky Clump and much more to learn before we can answers outstanding questions.

Author: John Funnell 6th March 2014



Fig 16. The Chronological Sequence

Acknowledgements:-

The author would like to thank Mr Geoff Bennett of Brighton and City Council and tenant farmer Mr David Robinson for allowing access to their lands, to Carol White, David Rudling and Bill Santer for their specialist knowledge and to the site directors and diggers for making this continuing investigation so productive, and allowing a greater understanding of this part of Iron Age and Roman Sussex.

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Fig 17

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			Barberous 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	
	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	
16	Copper Alloy	300	15.4	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	17.3	12.65	Silver finger ring coiled	0.88	3.045	09/06/2012	

NO.	SMALL FIND	CONTEXT	PT 1	PT 2	REMARKS	TBMS3	LEVEL	DATE
	Baby Burial	328	2.6	12.06	Found in lower ditch fill	0.795	2.06	28/07/2012
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	13.2	6.9	Bent in 'V' shape	0.83	2.215	30/10/2012
NO.	SMALL FIND	CONTEXT	PT 1	PT 2	REMARKS	TBMS3	LEVEL	DATE
24	Broach	North of trench 347			lying on top of field			06/04/2013
25	Metal arrow head	North of trench 347			lying on top of field			08/04/2013
			PT3	PT5		TBMS4		
26	Coin	387	15.2	10.85	Barbarous radiate?			
27	Copper alloy ring	376	9.57	7.37	May be part of another	3.24	3.19	08/06/2013
28	Lead item?	381	2.4	10.82		2.675	2.75	19/06/2013
29	Iron Brooch?	431	8.19	5.96		2.555	2.555	17/08/2013
30	Copper object?	422B	8.7	6.95		2.38	2.4	21/08/2013
31	Metal object	431A	8.3	5.7	Furniture piece	2.55	2.72	28/08/2013
32	Metal object	431A	8.65	5.58	Furniture stud or nail	2.405	2.4	03/09/2013
33	Worked bone	419E	12.8	11.35	Worked bone	2.405	3.255	03/09/2013
34	Metal object	431D	8.08	5.68	Rectangular piece	2.605	3.01	25/09/2013
35	Coin	425A	7.01	8.39	A large coin - Nero	2.57	2.915	12/10/2013

GEOPHYSICS AT STANMER 2013

Introduction

The paddock in Stanmer, opposite to the Stanmer café, (TQ335097) has long been considered the medieval heart of the village (Fig 1.). The paddock is full of earthworks generally believed to be the remains of the house platforms and intertwining trackways. A resistivity survey was conducted in the paddock in 1984 (Saville) and the Sussex Archaeological Collections has a paper about the early village focused round the Tudor period (Warne), and it is unlikely that the village had changed much from Norman to Tudor times. The name Stanmer is derived from old English and means Stony pool (Mills) and the Domesday book mentions the village stating that it was in the Falmer Hundred and that it answered for 20 hides. Stanmer had 49 villagers with 10 small holders have 26 ploughs, Woodland at 6 pigs valued at £15 (Phillimore).

During the Second World War a contingent of the Canadian Tank Corp were based at Stanmer and it is possible that some of the earthworks may be associated with their activities. There are no records of what Canadians did at Stanmer, so it is impossible to know if any of the earthworks are from this period without some archaeological intervention.

In October 2013 the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society learned from local sources that part of the paddock was to be turned into an extension of the existing orchard, located immediately east of this section of the field. Concerns were raised about the potential damage to archaeology during the tree planting process and so the Society was asked by the Assistant County Archaeologist, Greg Chuter to conduct a geophysical and topographical survey of the area (Fig 2.). The survey was conducted on Saturday 19th October during a morning and early afternoon of heavy and persistent rain.



Fig 1 – Stanmer Overall Survey



Fig 2 – Stanmer Geophysics

The Surveying

The south section of the field was set out into grids measuring 20 metres square (Fig 3.), using a total station. The area was a total of 6 grids. The lower south section of the field, measuring 76 metres from the south field wall, was not surveyed using resistivity methods but was surveyed using magnetometry. The south west section contained a large oak tree. All 6 grids were surveyed using a TR Systems resistivity meter, the measurements were taken at 1 metre intervals and the readings measured in Ohms. The results were translated using 'Snuffler' software.

The same area, and a much larger extend of the main paddock was investigated using a magnetometer (Figs 4, 5 and 6).

A topographical survey was attempted, but the continuous deluge meant that it was impossible to sketch due to the soggy paper.

The Results of the Surveys (Comments by Geophysics leader David Staveley)

Resistivity Survey

A high resistance squarish feature attached to the eastern edge is most likely down to something going wrong with the machine in the area. It doesn't look archaeological. What seems to be a negative lynchet runs SE-NW and on the same alignment, a ditch can be seen further south which heads towards a very high resistance feature. This shows more clearly on the flattened image with a hole in the centre. It could be a small building or even a well. There is a physical hole in the area, but I'm not absolutely sure if they are in the same position. A second, much fainter ditch, only really visible on the flattened image, heads east-west across the survey area at the very southern end.

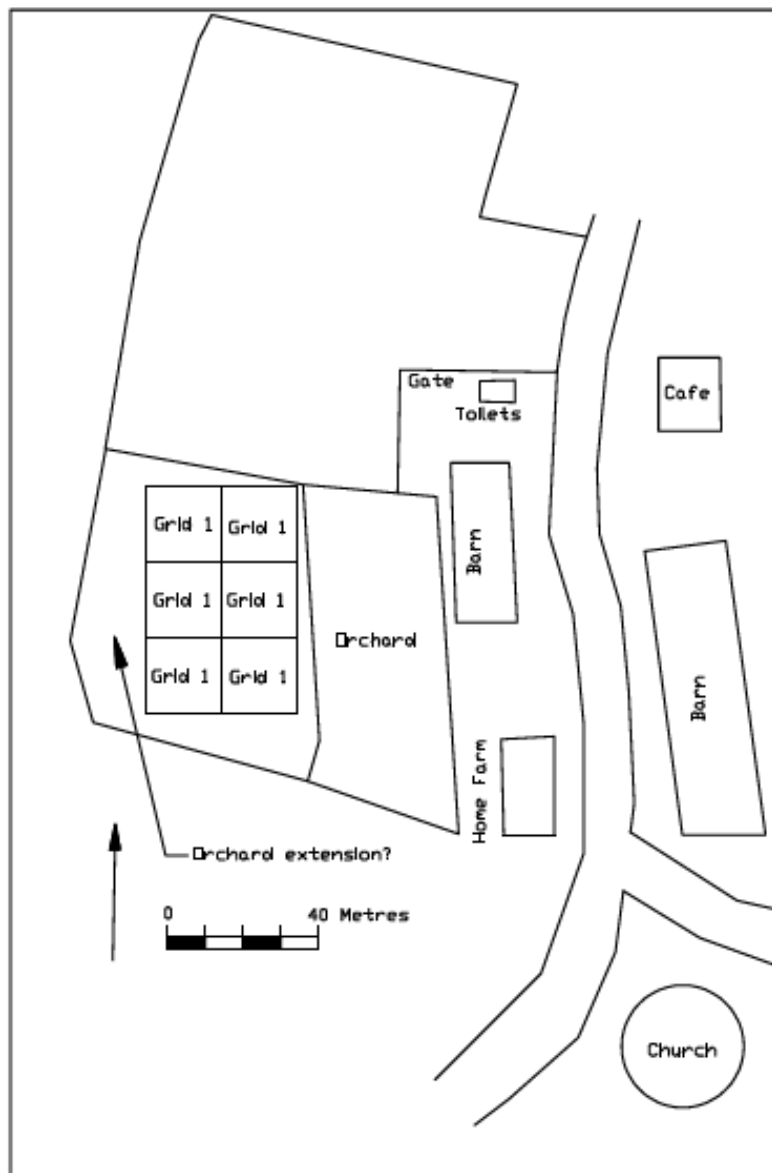


Fig 3. Location of Starmer Resistivity Survey

Magentometry Survey

There is a lot of metal junk in the field, both from horses and the original occupation. Of the features that can be seen, there is the remains of metal fence footings running NW from the inside corner. A very strong and wide linear feature in the NE relates to earthworks on the ground, and is probably good archaeology, though it is not clear exactly what it is. Towards the southern end, there is a vague hint of cut linear features on the same alignment as the fence footings, the southern one, a short section only visible, matches a ditch on the res. The northern one matches what seems to be a negative lynchet, very visible on the resistivity.

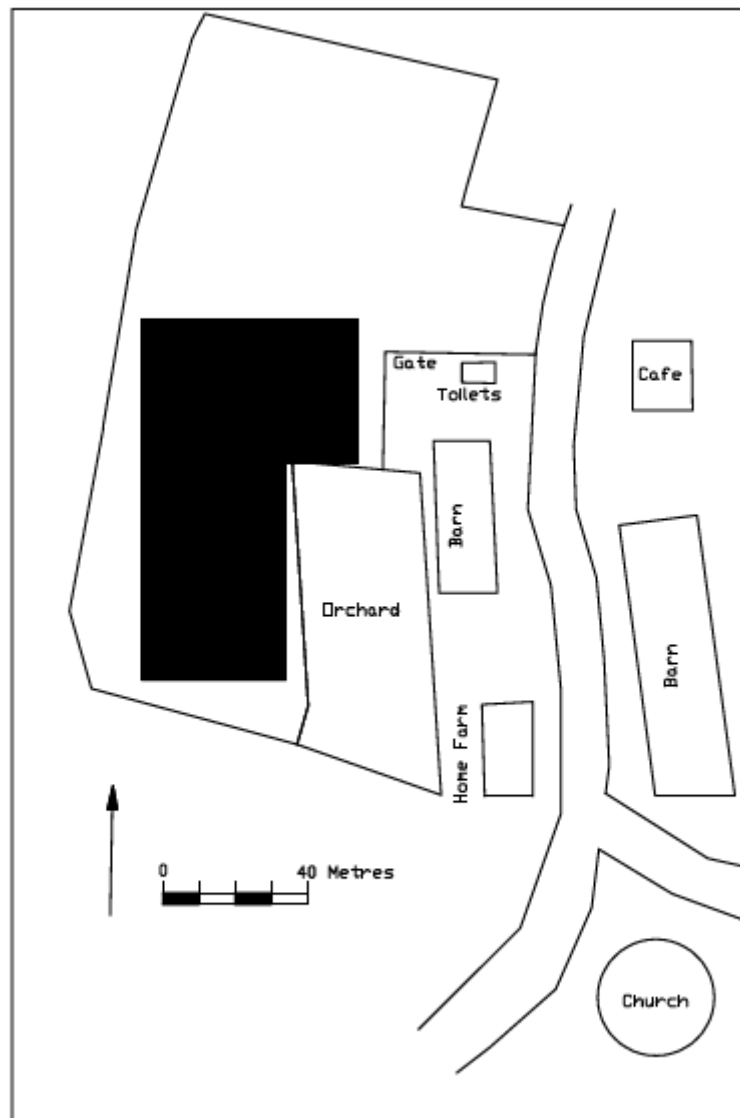


Fig 4. Location of Stanner Magnetometry Survey

Conclusions

The geophysical survey has produced evidence for some activity in the field, but it is difficult to determine any clear definition of features other than the possible trackways. Medieval settlements leave very little remain, consisting as they do of timber framed buildings, house platforms and trackways.

The field is full of earthworks which do tend to suggest housed platforms and other features, with some areas suggesting trackways located between possible houses. At Muddleswood in West Sussex the evidence for medieval settlement was very ephemeral especially during a very dry summer, and it was not until after heavy rain that rubbish pits were indentified (Butler).

The paddock at Stanmer is so full of earthworks that further surveys, both topographical and an extension to the resistivity survey, are planned for the near future. It is hoped that these new projects will produce more solid evidence for the medieval occupation of Stanmer.

Acknowledgements

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society would like to thank the Assistant County Archaeologist Greg Chuter and Brighton and Hove County Council for organising access to the lands, to the Stanmer Preservation Society and other local people for bringing the development of the orchard to the notice of the Society, and to all those members, locals and Sean Harris from Thames Valley Archaeological Services who actually conducted the surveying in such awful conditions.

Author:- John Funnell 18 Reeves Hill, Coldean, Brighton, East Sussex, 19th October 2013

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A 'SINK' HOLE IN OLD BRIGHTON (TQ3100 0405)

On Friday 14th June 2013 a 'sink' hole appeared in a private car park in the centre of Brighton. E-mails about the feature were sent to the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society over the following week-end telling them about the opening.

One informant recorded that the feature measured about 6 feet in diameter (2 metres) and could be either a tomb or a grave, as the feature is adjacent to the west side of the church located along Ship Street.

The other informant mentioned that the feature extended out beneath the visible opening and could be much larger.

A visit was made to Duke Street, Middle Street and Black Lion Street to record the feature, but it appears that the 'hole' was in a private car park located on the north side of Duke Street. The entrance to the car park is between an antiquarian book shop and a news agent and opposite the Victory pub. The entrance gates are labelled 'Dukes Yard'. Before a second visit could be made to the site work man appeared and filled in the hole with soil.

We would like to thank both Jodi and Simon for informing the Society and an attempt will be made to ensure accurate site locations are known before venturing out to record future incidents.

John Funnell 18th June 2013

A DRAIN OPENING AT RODMELL

Introduction

On Tuesday 16th July 2013 rangers from the South Downs National Park were creating a path south of Rodmell when a large hole was found. The opening is at the edge of a field to the east of the Lewes to Newhaven Road and is located immediately south of the village of Rodmell (TQ 4205 0585).

The Structure (Fig 1.)

The hole in the ground had been covered by 3 large slabs of concrete, the centre section appearing to have fallen into the void below at some time in the past. The structure appears to be a drain or soakaway of some description. It is constructed of bricks 9" x 4.5" x 2.5" in size and the method of build used both the Double Flemish style of construction with the upper and some other layers being old English (Plate 1.). Access was not possible without disturbing the other large slabs of concrete, and so measurements were taken using a standard tape, which proved unsatisfactory. The structure is square in shape measuring approximately 2.5 metres square and 2.2 metres deep. On the north east corner a total of 6, visible, metal stanchions had been imbedded into the corner for use as foot and hand holds for getting in and out of the feature. (Plate 2.) The subsequent concrete capping would have then rendered these items redundant as no access hatch was noted.

On the north/west section an 8" drain pipe (200mm) was noted dropping vertically downwards into the void (Plate 3.), and it is possible that a metal grill of some description may lay beneath the grass. Another smaller drain pipe was noted protruding from the south face of the feature. The floor surface appeared very damp, and as the central roofing block which had fallen into the space was not covered with similar muddy deposits it can be assumed that the actual floor surface is not far below the visible surface. A bottle was noted on the east side of the concrete slab, but dating was not possible.

To the west of the feature and to the south of the feature another pipe, set in concrete, appears to drain water from the neighbouring main road, but the location would not allow any water to drain into the larger feature. Around the feature were noted large chunks of other concrete items, and a section of solid flint wall.

Conclusions

The 'hole' in the ground revealed by the Rangers appears to be some form of drain or soakaway, associated with possibly draining the adjacent road. Any water running off the road would drop down into a steep sided valley, possibly causing flooding or problems with farming activities. The author suggested that the rangers contact Southern Water to investigate further its usage, as the filling in of this void could create problems elsewhere. The style of brick construction of double Flemish bond does suggest a possible 1930's or pre-Second World War time for its build.

John Funnell 18th July 2013



Plate 1. The interior walls



Plate 2. The interior, fallen concrete slab and metal hand and foot rails



Plate 3. The down pipe

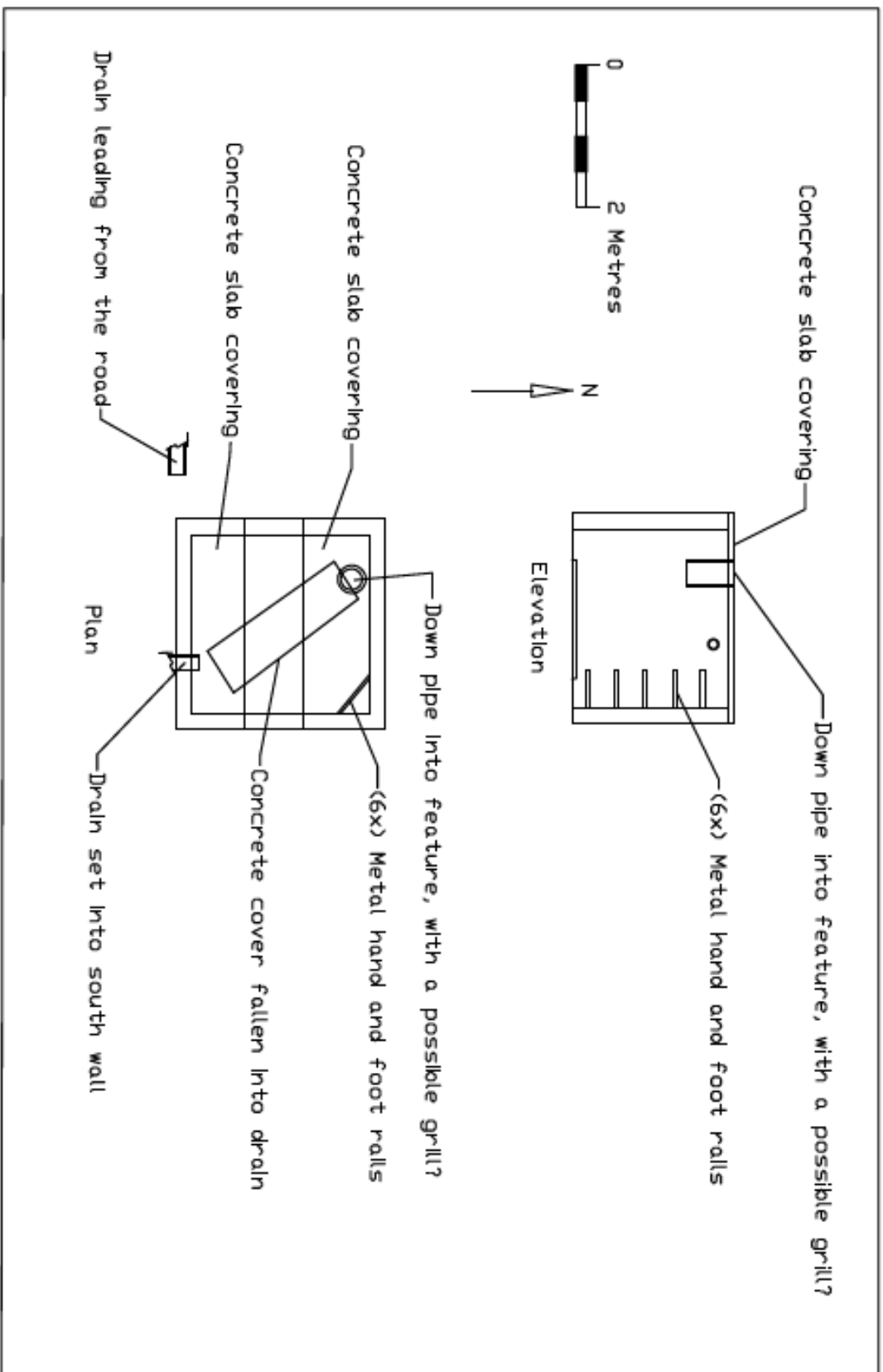


Fig 1. A drain or Soakaway at Rodmell

MOULSECOOMB PLACE – A POSSIBLE ICE HOUSE (TQ3259 0694)

Introduction

An archaeological Watching brief was carried out on the site of a possible ice house to the north of Moulsecoomb Place, Brighton on the 27th September 1993. The site was revealed during construction work in an area of ground landscaped as gardens in the 18th century. Although the site's thick walls, chalk floor and semi-subterranean location contribute to its identification as an ice house its shape and dimensions are not typical for a structure of this type.

The structure included a flint walled chamber with a chalk floor showing evidence of re-use and alteration.

The Survey

The chamber had been fully excavated, extending northwards beneath the embankment which carries the road. Its excavated area was 3.5M long, north-south, and 3M wide east-west. It was 1M deep from ground level on site but examination of the section north indicated that about 1M of original ground surface have been previously removed from the site. The chamber had walls of dressed flint and showed traces of having been rendered. A 0.5M wide and 0.6M high section of this wall survived above ground level at the south eastern corner of the chamber. A small brick lined cavity or cupboard had been built into the southern end of the western wall. The bricks measured 0.5M x 0.2M x 0.15M; the cavity was 0.4m wide, 0.3m high and 0.3m deep. It also showed traces of rendering. The top of the cavity had been destroyed during site clearance. The chamber was floored with packed chalk. The building contractors considered this floor suitably stable bedding for the development and was not excavated.

The chamber had been sub-divided sometime after its initial construction; a single skin brick wall extended across it from east to west 2M from the chambers south end. The bricks used were modern stocks. The area to the north of this wall was filled with chalk rubble and soil but it was unclear whether this was part of a policy of deliberate in-filling in the past.

At the south east corner of the site a section of dressed flint wall 0.5M wide stood to a maximum height of 0.6M high. At the corner it rises from the retaining wall of the chamber. It turned southwards 0.5M west of the south-east corner, extended 1.5M in that direction. It then turned , extending westwards for 2M before its course was obscured by a yew tree which remained standing on the site. The line of the wall may be conjectured since a further flint wall emerged from beneath the tree extending northwards. No indication that the wall continued to the west was found. Although partly truncated by development works this wall appeared to connect with a section of similar wall visible on the north section at the site boundary. This wall ran parallel to the western edge of the chamber which lay 0.5M to the east. The area defined by the walls

to the south of the chamber was sub-divided from east to west by another wall constructed on both flint and brick. The wall was 0.5M wide and 1.5M high with a layer of lint 0.7M high beneath a brick layer of similar height. This wall had been truncated and it is unclear whether it extended right across this area. The presence of the tree at its probable junction with the western wall made it impossible to determine the relationship between the building phases of the walls.

Conclusions

Although the larger size and rectangular shape of this building does raise some questions about the interpretation of this monument, the evidence suggest that this is an ice house associated with the 18th and 19th century Moulsecoomb Place house. It is typical of this type of structure that it had thick insulating walls, was built into a hill slope, again to create a suitable insulating environment, and that it had chalk floor which would have aided drainage through the porous rock. Although the flint walls themselves are difficult to date with any degree of accuracy the presence of hand made bricks in the fabric of the structure suggest that it was erected in the 18th century. This suggested date links with the refurbishment and rebuilding of the house and with the great period of ice houses construction. A ring of hand bricks also suggested as an ice house has been located to the south-east of the house within its grounds. This structure has not been properly investigated and , hence, the identification is tentative.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank those members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society who assisted with the survey and to Mr Ron Martin of the Sussex Industrial Archaeological Society for his observations and comments.

W.Santer 3rd October 1993.

WATCHING BRIEF - THE ROYAL PAVILION, BRIGHTON 2013

Introduction

The tunnel that runs from the Royal Pavilion to the Brighton Museum was once a link from the Royal palace to the stables. It was built in 1821 at a cost of £1,783. (rpm). The tunnel is believed to have been used by the Prince Regent, later George IV, as access to the stables, keeping him away from the local citizens, as he was a little unpopular at times. Other people have suggested it was used for assignations with his mistresses or for merely keeping dry when moving from one location to another. Whatever the purpose of the tunnel, it was a considerable feat of engineering.

The tunnel lies within an area of water concentration with the local water source of the Wellesbourne and Winterbourne streams linking at the Level and then channelling down towards the sea at Pool Valley. The tunnel did have drains constructed on either side of its walls to remove water that could cause possible damp problems. Water was a problem at the Royal Pavilion in later years lying on the pavilion gardens (Carder).

In 2012 the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society conducted a watching brief when the roof of a large section of the tunnel that runs from the Royal Pavilion to the Brighton Museum was exposed (Funnell 2012- 2). Earlier in May of the same year a trial trench, close by in the garden shrubs, had uncovered one of the several light shafts that emanate from the tunnel below. This particular light shaft had the glass topping still in place, albeit slightly damaged. (Funnell 2012-1).

The large section of tunnel roof exposed in 2012 had a curved shaped roof, with a single square shaped light shaft. The tunnel roof showed some signs of repairs with roofing slate cemented into the roof in several locations. A sondage cut on the north side of the tunnel wall indicated that several centimetres below the tunnel wall there appeared to be an undercut, not noticeable on the inside of the tunnel itself. The stratigraphy from ground level down to tunnel top was quite shallow, being only about 20-30cms in depth. The tunnel was photographed and measured with plans and a report being published in the 2012 BHAS Field Notebook.

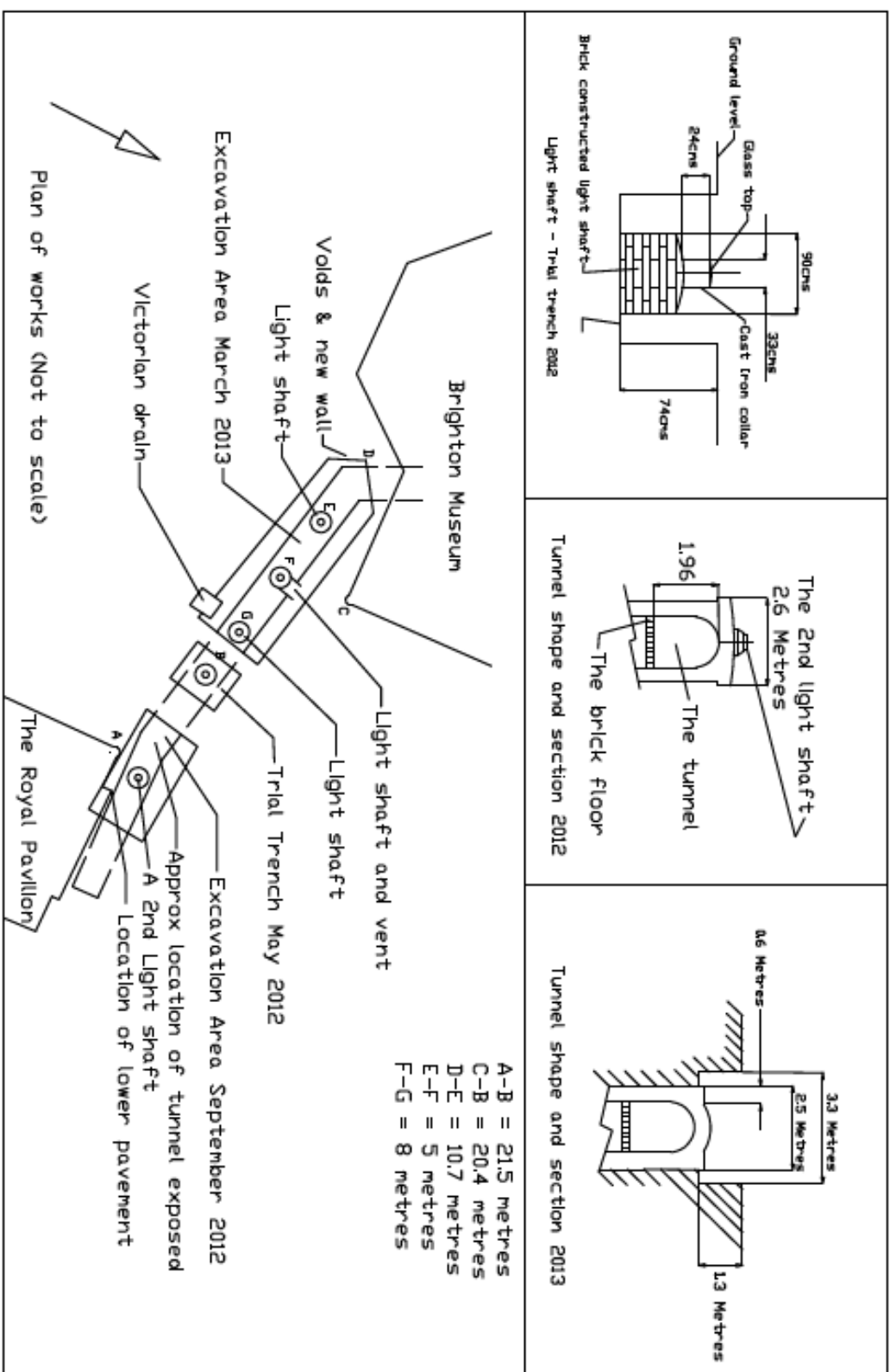


Fig 1. Watching Briefs at The Royal Pavilion 2012 and 2013

The New Excavations

In March 2013 the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were asked once again to conduct a watching brief when a new section of the Royal Pavilion to Brighton museum tunnel was exposed. A number of visits were made to site on the 15th, 19th and 22nd of March 2013 (Fig 1.)

A section of tunnel was uncovered measuring 28.4 metres in length with a width of approximately 3.5 metres. The actual tunnel width was 2.5 metres (Plate 1.)



Plate 1. The tunnel and Light Shafts (Looking eastwards).

The new excavation uncovered three light shafts, very similar to the one found in the trial trench of May 2012. The light shafts measured about a metre in diameter and about 20-30cms in height. All of these light shafts were severely truncated and had been capped with concrete. No vestiges of any glass capping were noted. The shafts were slightly damaged when the solid concrete capping was removed, but the third shaft at the east end was left untouched with the concrete cap left in place. An examination of one of the damaged light shafts showed that the outer surface was covered with Hampshire cream mathematical tiles, measuring 120 x 65 x 20mm thick (Pers. Comm. Brighton Museum Student placement on an MA Buildings study course.)(Plate 2.) The tiles may have been left over from the original Prince Regent Marine Pavilion constructed in 1787 (Carder 161, a).



Plate 2. The Light Shaft created using mathematical tiles

The shape of the tunnel changes as it moves westwards. The east side, noted in 2012 had a curved configuration going from one side to the other. The area of tunnel opened in 2013 has a different shape. The basic shape comprises of a curved surface, with a steeper drop either side of about 20-25cms. On either side of this curved upper surface is a flattened surface measuring 55-60cms in width (Fig 1.) At either side of the tunnel outer wall a slot was dug measuring 40cms in width and to a depth of 16-20 cms. There was no sign of any undercut along the whole of the area excavated. Towards the west end of the tunnel, and where it turns northwards to enter the museum building, this section of tunnel top is noticeably higher and wider. This extra girth and depth lasts for between 3 and 4 metres in length.

The depth of excavation in this section was noticeably deeper than on the other side of the garden. The measurement from the upper tarmac surface down to the lowest section of side ditch was between 1.3 and 1.35 metres compared to only a few centimetres on the east side of the garden. The deeper section produced a complex series of stratigraphical layers, with several sections or cuts where utility facilities had been buried across the Pavilion complex, but above the tunnel.

The sections on either side of the tunnel showed several fills comprising grit and sand deposits filled with flints, dark loamy soils filled with brick, tile and flints and upper surfaces of compact chalk. The top surfaces consisted of layers of concrete and tarmac with some areas having paving slabs noted in section. Several areas had vestiges of brick construction. The builders noted that the surface to the north of the tunnel was much easier to dig than on the south side. Both sides of the tunnel produced layers filled with brick and tile (Plates 3 & 4).



Plate 3. South facing section



Plate 4. North facing section

The West end of the tunnel is perhaps the most complex area, with a number of cuts and small brick features. The far west end of the new excavation came down onto a number of voids, and through openings in a metal like structure a modern breeze block wall was visible. This is apparently the 'crew' room in the Brighton Dome, and is obviously a recent construction built under the existing road surface and this wall continued for some distance into the Pavilion gardens on the south side (Plate 5.)



Plate 5. The west end of the excavation and the voids

The Light Shafts

A total of 3 light shafts were uncovered in this excavation, along with the light shaft found in the trial excavation and another found during phase 1 of the development it makes a total of 5 shafts along the length of the tunnel. The only fully constructed feature was found in the trial trench, with the phase 1 feature a very shallow feature and of a different construction being a square shape. The three light shafts found in this phase of the development are similar in shape and size to the one found in the trial trench, but with the upper sections, along with the glass top, having been removed and covered with a thick layer of concrete. The third from west light shaft still retains this concrete layer, as the light shaft structure may be severely damaged if this was removed using heavy machinery.

The middle shaft, or the one located second from the west end of the tunnel also has an additional feature. This light shaft has what appears to be a brick constructed 'ventilation' duct, that runs from the light shaft towards a 'lighting well' opening on the south side of the museum wall. The duct is 4 bricks in depth and has no solid foundation. The surface below this duct was partially removed to confirm no foundation features. The duct joins the light shaft, but the author of this document could not gain access to the tunnel to examine the inside of the tunnel and the interior of this light shaft to confirm its purpose (Plate 6.)



Plate 6. The Light Shaft and Vent

The Drain Feature

At the end of the excavation, and opposite the third from the west light shaft, was a drain cover. This was opened and found to be to a depth of about 4 metres. There are steel hand grips which would allow access to this drain. It appears that the drain opens up to a chamber below, also constructed of brick, and that the chamber is probably part of a Victorian sewer system. This sewer may link to a larger through chamber that is known to run through the Royal Pavilion gardens between the Royal Pavilion and the museum.



Plate 7. The Victorian Drain

The interior of this drain appears to be a well constructed feature built of brick. However, the outer surface of this feature is also made of brick but is of a very poor construction with very little, if any cement between the bricks on the outer surface (Plate 7.)

The Finds

Animal Bone Report – Carol White

A small assemblage of 25 bones was recovered, seven positively identified (Schmid, 1972) as Ovis (Sheep), two as Bos (Cattle), four as medium sized mammal and twelve and large size mammal; cattle, therefore, was the predominant species. Where possible, measurements were taken and recorded (Von den Dreisch, 1976).

The majority the bones exhibited cut or chop marks indicative of butchery and/or food preparation. Five of the bones recovered were skull fragments from a large mammal, indicative of slaughter and butchery in the immediate vicinity.

A bone recording sheet is appended to this report.

Schmid, E. (1972) *Atlas of Animal Bones for Prehistorians, Archaeologists and Quaternary Geologists*. Elsevier Publishing Co., Amsterdam

	SPEC NO	TX	C	AP	S	FUSION			ZONE								SPECIAL				Measured Y/N	NO OF UN- ID SHERDS	MEASUREMENT/COMMENTS	
						P	D	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	S					
	1	72	1	12	R	0	1					X	X	X	X			1	3	Y		BD 28.04	Shaft in two pieces	
	2	54	1	12	R	3	5					X	X						3	N				
	3	6	1	93	R	0	0									1	1		3	N		Incomplete		
	4	72	1	1	L	0	1					X	X	X	X			1	3	N		Too abraded to accurately measure.		
	5	72	1	3	L	5	5					X	X						3	N				
	6	5	1	16	0	0	0	X	X							1	1		3	N				
	7	6	1	99	0	5	5					X	X					1	3	N				
	8	5	1	102	0	0	0												3	N	1			
	9	6	1	10	R	3	0		X	X									3	N				
	10	72	1	80	0	0	1									1	2		3	N				
	11	72	1	12	R	0	1						X	X	X	3	2		3	Y		BD 32.88		
	12	72	1	12	L	1	0		X	X	X							1	3	N				
	13	6	1	87	0	3	3									3	2		3	N				
	14	6	1	83	0	0	0												3	N		Fragmentary		
	15	72	1	1	L	5	5			X	X	X	X					1	3	N				
	16	54	1	22	L	1	0		X	X	X	X				3	2	1	3	N				
	17	6	1	93	L	0	0									1	1	1	3	N		Incomplete		
	18	6	1	93	0	0	0									1	1	1	3	N		Incomplete		
	19	5	1	100	0	0	0												3	N				
	20	5	1	102	0	0	0												3	N	1			
	21	6	1	90	0	0	0												3	N				
	22	6	1	90	0	0	0												3	N				
	23	6	1	90	0	0	0												3	N				
	24	6	1	90	0	0	0												3	N				
	25	6	1	90	0	0	0												3	N				
	26	6	1	90	0	0	0												3	N				
es								Anatomical Part												Fusion				
is (Sheep)								01 = Humerus												0 = No Fusion Data				
s (Cattle)								12 = Tibia												1 = Fused				
edium indeterminate																								

Ceramics

A number of pieces of 19th century or early 20th century ceramics were recovered from the excavation by the builders. A total of 10 pieces of glazed ceramics were recovered with 7 pieces being of a plain white or off-white colour. It is possible that a number of these pieces are from the same vessel, with fragments of a base and rim. There is one piece of the same colour that has a different shaped rim, and this must be from another vessel. There were four decorated pieces, all blue in colour. One piece has a simple brush technique, another has whorls and flowers, another showing shrubs and a window with the third having a wave like motif. This last piece also has the vestiges of handles and a rim, which from the size, about 40mm apart, probably indicates that it is from a cup or drinking vessel. One small white fragment is from a completely different vessel. All of the ceramics are quite thin measuring only about 2.5mm in thickness or thinner.

Clay Pipe

A total of six clay pipe stems were found, but sadly no bowls which would have allowed some accurate dating. The stems measured 5, 6, (2x) 7 and (2x) 9mm in diameter, all with a large bore. It is possible that they are from a single pipe, but most likely from several. The length of the pipe fragments were 20, 22, 28, 45, 56 and 62mm in length. None of the pipe stems were decorated and they are probably of 19th century dating.

Glass

The excavations produced 6 pieces of glass. All of the glass has an opaque finish, caused by glass 'rusting'. Two of the pieces are the body section of bottles, with 2 pieces being the spouts or top sections of brandy bottles or a similar alcoholic beverage container. One piece of glass, of a slightly different texture, is flat and may be window glass of some description, while another piece has a curious bulge shape and maybe from a decorative item.

Marine Mollusc

A single, complete piece of oyster, comprising one half of the crustacean was found during the excavation.

Stone

Three circular stones were recovered measuring 25, 34 and 36mm in diameter, the items are probably natural flint, but were collected because of their distinctly circular configuration. Another stone object has a number of linear features and is possibly a fossil of some description.

Brick

The sections on both side of the tunnel were awash with fragments of brick and roofing tile, generally red in colour. Among the more distinct pieces were the following;-

1. Black Glazed Brick – The piece measures 60x33x20mm thick, it is broken and glazed only on one side.
2. Grey glazed Brick – The piece measures 60x55x45mm thick, it is broken and has glaze on only one side.
3. White Glazed Brick – The piece measures 155x 110x70mm thick, it is broken and has glaze on only one side. This particular brick has a frog on both sides.
4. White Glazed Brick – The piece measures 111x70x65mm in length, it is broken and has glaze on only one side. It has a frog on one side, and is filled with cement on the other, so is probably similar or perhaps even part of the same broken brick.

Conclusions

It is obvious from the results of this excavation that the tunnel revealed, and constructed in the late 18th or early 19th centuries, had an original construction trench much wider than the one created today. The tunnel construction, of brick, shows some regularity in the central section, but with some possible constructing difficulties perhaps encountered at the points where the tunnel has to curve and link to the main buildings. There is one interesting question as to why the tunnel changed in shape as it progressed eastwards. This change in shape could be attributed to the reduction in soil depth as it approached the east end of the excavated trench, and the north end of the Royal Pavilion building. The drop in soil depth would require a less dramatic curvature of the tunnel top, causing a more gradual slope on either side of the tunnel centre.

The light shafts while being of a regular nature at the west end have a dramatic change in shape at the east end. This is probably because of the shallow depth of soil at the east end.

The sections on either side of this new excavation clearly showed a mass of back filled deposits, and no sign of a solid natural layer, so the original excavation created for the building of the tunnel must have been much wider.

The interesting drain feature, obviously constructed during a later Victorian a period abuts the south side of the tunnel and runs down the south wall, and may possibly even use the wall of the original tunnel for one of its walls, but a more detailed survey would be required to confirm this. The fact that a larger, later chamber lies beneath the tunnel could possible cause some concern, and will no doubt be addressed by the builders and developers.

The finds from the excavation provide some interesting pieces from the 19th and early 20th centuries, but can only be regarded as a collection of Georgian or Victorian debris, the pieces having no stratigraphical provenance or context.

The uncovering of the Royal Pavilion to Brighton Museum tunnel has allowed a unique opportunity to examine the 19th century feature. The final phase, which will incorporate the best preserved light shaft, will complete this very interesting project. This final phase should be happening in the not too distant future.

John Funnell (Archaeological Co-ordinator Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society)
29th March 2013

References:-

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Funnell J.D. 2012 'Brighton and Hove Archaeological Field Notebook 2012'

Royal Pavilion Website ' The Royal Pavilion Secret Tunnel' brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk

WATCHING BRIEF - 7 BROOKSIDE, PIDDINGHOE, EAST SUSSEX

Introduction

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were asked by the County Archaeologist at East Sussex County Council to conduct a watching brief during building works being carried out at 7, Brookside, Piddinghoe in April of 2013. Members of BHAS visited the site on Monday 15th April and Wednesday 17th April when the footing trenches were being dug for a small kitchen extension measuring 3.5M x 4.5M. (Plate 1.)



Plate 1. The Garden Area

The Geology

Piddinghoe is located on a small elevated mound about the 10M contour level. The river Ouse lies to the east of the village as well as a large tract of estuary leading down towards the port of Newhaven. The geology is predominantly chalk with a section of the South Downs rising up behind the village on the west side. The river has a clay base.

The History

Piddinghoe is considered to be the possible location of a Saxon settlement. The round church tower of St John's church is of Norman origin but the circular configuration of the

churchyard does suggest an earlier Saxon phase. The village is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and was held by William de Warenne after the conquest. It lay within the hundred of Holmestrow.

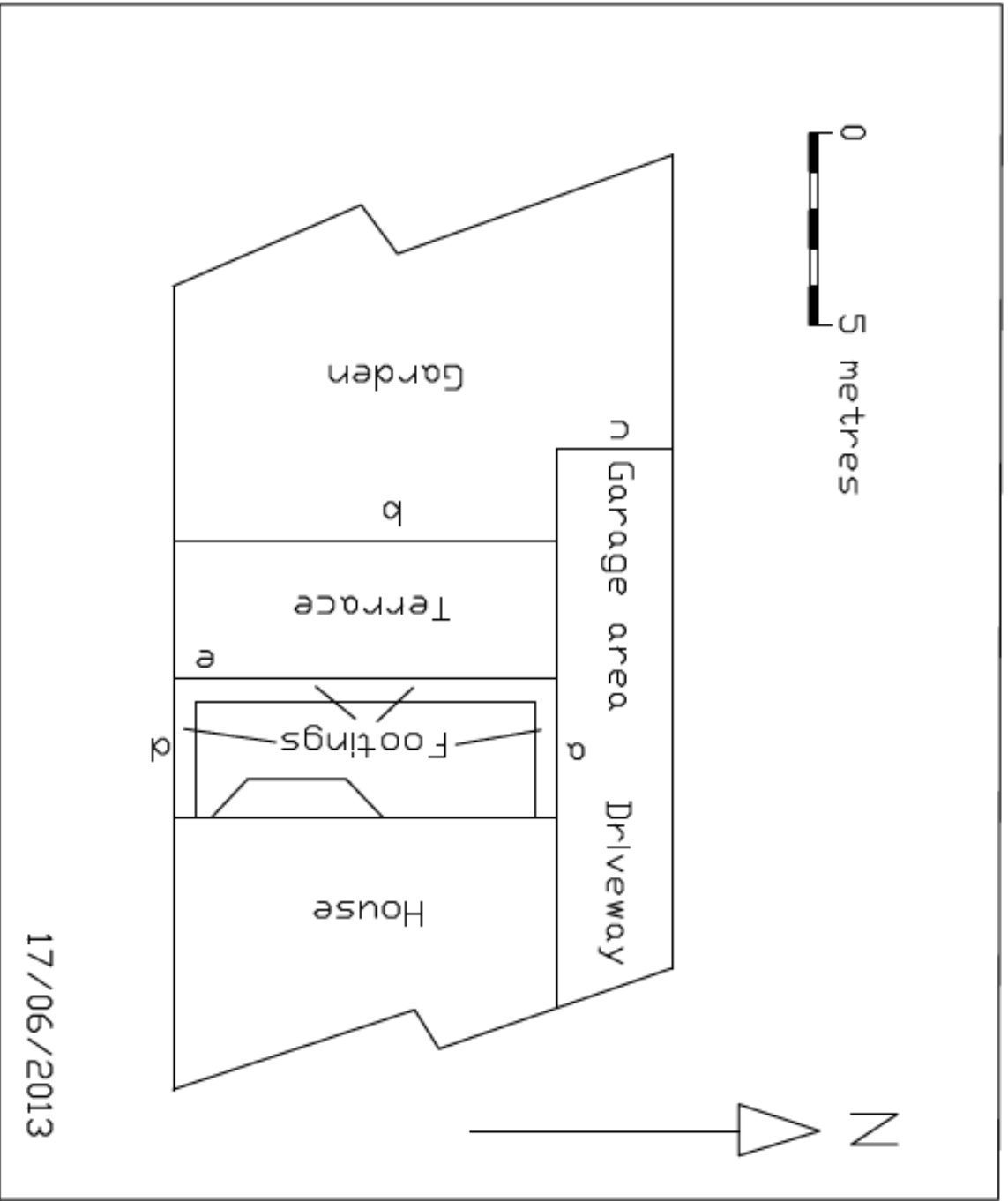
The village has a number of medieval buildings and earthworks that tend to suggest that these may be the location of a deserted medieval settlement (Burleigh).

The river also has Palaeolithic finds with a number of bi-faces being found in the lower reaches of the river at Newhaven along the gravelled terraces on the west side of the river.

The Watching Brief

Members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological site visited the site on Monday 15th April when the back garden was being cleared. The area consisted of a paving slab surface surrounded by small flower beds on the north and east sides. The flower beds contained a dark rich loamy soil that produced no finds of any interest. Below the paved area was a thin layer of sand for bedding in the slabs.

The owners of the house said that the garden had originally had a slope dropping down towards the south and that this had been terraced when the garden had been created. During the clearance a large drain was noted north of the building running east/west with a drain cover at each end. During the footing trench excavation other drains were noted running across the garden and from the north facing section of the house meeting at a large brick constructed soakaway (Fig 1.). The drains and the soakaway were removed during the footing trench excavations. (Plates 2 & 3.)



Watching Brief at 10 Park View Road, Hove



Plate 2. Drains and disturbed areas

Observations were made during the removal of the material for the footings. A large section of the excavation had been dug before for the drains and soakaway with only a small area of undisturbed geology on the east side and a slightly larger undisturbed section on the north side. The top layer consisted of garden loam with contemporary finds of brick, tile, glass and other modern debris. The lower geology consisted of clay with flint. The flint was undisturbed and had a yellow cortex. (Plates 3, 4 and 5.)

A search was made of the deposits removed from the excavations and among the clay deposits were two rough flint flakes. Both flakes were primary items and both contained vestiges of cortex and had a dark brown/black patination.

Conclusions

The watching brief at Brookside, Piddinghoe produced no evidence for this location being used in either the Saxon or Medieval periods, but the flint flakes does suggest some activity during the prehistoric period.



Plate 3. The brick soakaway



Plate 4. The lower clay with flint deposits



Plate 5. The stratigraphy on the east side of the garden.

References:-

Burleigh G.R. 1973 ' An Introduction to Deserted Medieval Villages in East Sussex" Sussex Archaeological Collections 111, 45-83

Burleigh G.R. 1976 ' Further Notes on Deserted Medieval and Shrunken Villages in Sussex' Sussex Archaeological Collections 114, 61-68

[PDF]

[Piddinghoe Conservation Area Appraisal - Lewes District Council](http://www.lewes.gov.uk/Files/plan_CAA_Piddinghoe.pdf)

www.lewes.gov.uk/Files/plan_CAA_Piddinghoe.pdf

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

WATCHING BRIEF - 45 OLD LONDON ROAD
NEGATIVE RESULT - ACCESS WATCHING-BRIEF REPORT SHEET

Site Name & Location <div style="text-align: right;">45 Old London</div> Road		Grid Ref. TQ 3008 TQ 302087 TQ 30220873 TQ 3022208733
Planning Ref.		
ESCC Monitoring Officer		District Patcham Parish
Archaeologist Details John Skelton BHAS John Funnell BHAS		Date of visit (list each monitoring visits on fresh sheet) Early May 2013 -see below Author of Report J L Skelton
Developer Mrs J Fairweather		Nature of development Small ground floor rear extension
Land Owner/Tenant (if different from above)		Site contact
Geology (solid & drift) The property lies in the bottom of a dry chalk valley where periglacial deposits, alluvium and loess sediments can be expected. (Ref)		Soil (general)
Archaeological Potential (if known) The Patcham area is rich in Bronze Age to Romano British period settlements (Ref. 1,2) and recently Saxon and Medieval remains have been found about 300m North in Vale Avenue. Patcham is referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 and the Old London Road area dates to the 17th 18th Centuries (Ref. 3) Relevant ESHER Refs. (if known)		Nature of groundworks Footings to depth of 1m Site topography – Land use Listed private dwelling situated in terrace of knapped flint cottages in conservation area.
Topsoil levels		OS Benchmark
Recording Checklist (tick) – Attach to this sheet	Context Register Written Record Drawn Record Plans sections Photographic record <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	

Stratigraphic Descriptions (Describe all deposits exposed by the groundworks)

The excavations was due to be completed in 1-2 days starting on 30/04/13 but turned out very intermittent. JS was present for lifting of the paving blocks and removal of paving bedding sand and aggregate on 01/05/13 exposing a very dark gritty soil (Photo 1) in the top layer of which was several oyster shells and a small segment of clay tobacco pipe.

JS returned on 03/05/13 when the bulk of the footings were dug out by hand. The soil remained of a very dark, gritty nature in the Southeast end but was of a more complex stratigraphy in the Northwest end (Photo 2). Here there were about 150 – 200mm of garden topsoil under which was a layer of flint “cobbles” 75 – 150mm deep situated about 400mm from the building and extending away from the building. Below these was a 50 – 100mm layer of “puddled” chalk gradually merging into a clay with flints which extended to about 750mm at this time. The flint layer may represent an old cobbled rear yard laid over chalk bedding or be waste from preparation of the material for the knapped flint walls of the cottage. The layer of clay with flints extended to where the Northernmost drain pipe crossed the trench. The finds all came from the dark gritty soil to the full depth of the excavation and consisted of building rubble (bricks and tiles contemporary with the cottage, not quantified), marine shells (oyster and one scallop), highly glazed domestic ceramics, glass bottles and agrarian bones.

JF returned to the site upon finalising of the footings and reported no change in stratigraphy up to the final depth of 1m. JF also examined the finds to confirm that they were contemporary with the building.

Photographs



The Finds (All identifications are tentative and made by author)

Marine shells Oyster shells (9), 54-90mm in length, total weight 378gm.
 Scallop (1) fragment, weight 4gm.

Bone Sheep? limb bone, mid section (2), 57 and 80 mm long.
Sheep, proximal end of right metatarsal, 70mm long.
Sheep?, proximal end of right scapula, 91mm long.

Ceramics

All ceramics were highly glazed and fabric of uniform even colour with no **(Photo 3)** discernable inclusions. Believed to be no earlier than Early Modern.

Creamware 7 sherds representing 4 bowls or plates.

- 1) 4mm thick rim, 280mm dia. flat rim 33mm wide.
- 2) 4mm thick rim, 260mm dia. flat rim 26mm wide.
- 3) 5mm thick rim, too small to measure, flat rim.
- 4) 3mm thick rim, 230mm dia. scalloped rim 31mm wide.

Earthenware 3 sherds representing 3 vessels.

- 1) 5mm thick rim of irregular diameter, flat rim 16mm wide light beige fabric.
- 2) 8mm thick base of unknown diameter, brick red fabric.
- 3) 8mm thick rim, 100mm dia. with an applied lip – may be to secure lid, may be teapot.

Glass Six pieces (5 base, 1 neck) representing minimum of 3 green glass bottles of same type. Base is 90mm in diameter with a 40mm high punt and very thick.
The side walls are 3mm thick. The glass has an iridescent surface that may be due to patination whilst buried.

Clay tobacco pipe A segment of stem 18mm long, 10mm in diameter with a bore of 3 mm. This size bore is suggestive of an earlier period of clay pipe manufacture but this method of dating is unreliable for individual pipes. (Ref.4)

Photographs



3 Selected images of ceramics – large creamware plate/bowl, scalloped edge creamware: beige earthenware, Brown earthenware (possible teapot rim).



4 Glass bottle base

References

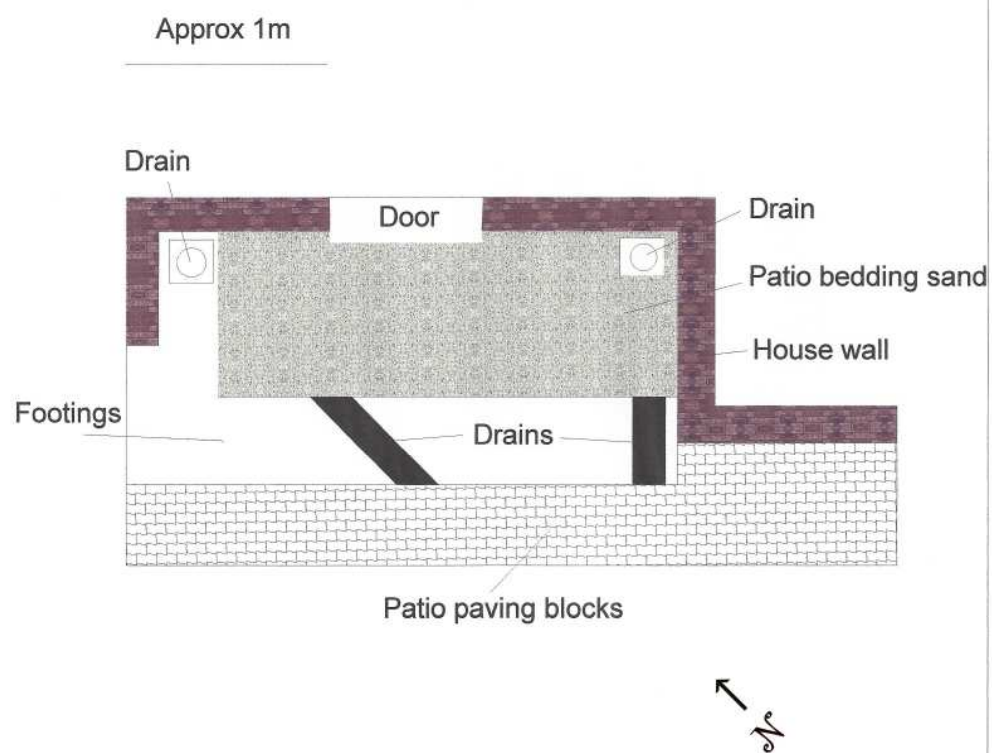
- 1 L. Fisher,
http://www.academia.edu/2054564/Pottery_report_from_Patcham_Fawcett_site_B_Brighton_East_Sussex_1994
- 2 Downland Settlement and Land-Use: The Archaeology of the Brighton Bypass. ed. / D.R. Rudling. Archetype, 2002
- 3 http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/sites/brighton-hove.gov.uk/files/downloads/conservation/Patcham_Character_Statement.pdf
- 4 Cambridge Archaeology Field Group <http://www.cafg.net/docs/articles/claypipes.pdf>

All internet sites accessed 01062013

Note Further images are available

Sketch Location Plan of site – areas monitored
(Attach developer plans etc.)

Sketch plan of excavated area - not to scale



East Sussex CC Archaeology Section 2012

WATCHING BRIEF - 9 THE BEECHES

NEGATIVE RESULT - ACCESS WATCHING-BRIEF REPORT SHEET

Site Name & Location 9 The Beeches Planning Ref. BH2012/03681		Grid Ref. (8 Figure) TQ 2954 0717	
ESCC Monitoring Officer		District Brighton Parish	
Archaeologist Details John Skelton BHAS Mark Gillingham BHAS		Date of visit (list each monitoring visits on fresh sheet) 31/05/2013 Author of Report John Skelton	
Developer Mr Santino Sarri		Nature of development Construction of double garage, drive and boundary wall.	
Land Owner/Tenant (if different from above)		Site contact	
Geology (solid & drift) Situated in area of Woolwich Beds sands and clay over chalk.		Soil (general) I	
Archaeological Potential (if known) Within archaeological notification area. The archaeology of the Brighton Bypass (1.5 km north) revealed extensive Bronze age to Romano British occupation of the area (Ref 1) Relevant ESHER Refs. (if known)		Nature of groundworks (Refer to development plan) 1.1 m footings, 450mm wide, for double garage and removal of top 30 cms for drive. Site topography – Land use Urban housing development on ridge between dry chalk valleys.	
Topsoil levels		OS Benchmark	
Recording Checklist (tick) – Attach to this sheet	Context Register Written Record Drawn Record: plans sections Photographic Record <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Stratigraphic Descriptions (Describe all deposits exposed by the groundworks)

Topsoil depth and thickness

Subsoil depth and thickness

Natural Substrate depth exposed

The contractor for this development has previous experience of the site and believes that No 9 was one of the last buildings constructed. Consequently much of what was to become building waste accumulated around it. He reported that previously on this plot he unearthed a car axle from beneath the garden soil and described the area as a “builder’s graveyard”.

He commenced by removing about 30 cm of topsoil from the area of the proposed garage (which was the site of a previously demolished greenhouse and boundary wall). Within this top soil two flint waste flakes were discovered (one definite, one possible) as well as much domestic and garden rubbish. The excavation of the trenches was troubled by the presence of building waste including slabs of concrete, heavy duty cable, and plastic pipes. In the trench nearest the house there was plastic waste and concrete down to the level of a layer of clay with some flints at a depth of about 60 cm (Photos 1,2).

In the South corner (where the former boundary wall was situated) the building waste continued to the full depth of the trench. Indeed, there was still a concrete slab embedded in the trench floor near this corner (Photo 3). In the East corner was a layer of dark, sooty soil at a depth of 80 cm and 25 cm thick (Photo 4). This layer spread along the Southeast and Northeast trenches petering out to disappear after about 5 m. This was overlaid by disturbed clay and loam. Pieces of pitch and brick were found in the substrate just above the dark layer. This layer is interpreted as the remains of a fire upon which building waste was burnt and later a garden layer was created over it. There was nothing in the trenches to suggest that any archaeology was present and much to suggest that the area was very disturbed during the initial building of the property. These observations were confirmed by Mark Gillingham when he visited the site.

I did not consider it worthwhile to produce any formal section drawings but have included a “working” sketch plan which has been “over-inked” for copying.

Photos



2



3



4



Sketch Location Plan of site – areas

WATCHING BRIEF - 10 PARK VIEW ROAD, HOVE

PLANNING APPLICATION No:- BH2013/00836

ADDRESS:- 10 Park View Road, Hove

PLANNING OFFICER:-Ms Helen Hobbs

NAME OF APPLICANT:- Mr & Mrs C.McNicholl

DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:- 17th June 2013

DATE OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 17th June 2013

BHAS OFFICER CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- J.Funnell

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

Site Location – TQ 28650610

History – Park View Road, Hove and the surrounding area have had recorded finds of Roman pottery and roofing tile. It is possible that an unknown Roman villa is located within this area.

Geology – Upper and middle chalk, but close to outcrop of Woolwich beds. The visible geology was predominantly clay overlying a bed of natural chalk with large flint nodules noted in the lower depths of the footing trenches.

Stratigraphic Descriptions

The deepest stratigraphy was in the south facing (north side) of the north footing trench.

Top soil vestige 15cms

Chalk and grit mixture 40cms

A thin localised lens of clay 18cms

Chalk bedrock exposed 30cms

Maximum depth of section in this face was 110cms

The top soil immediately west of the house and up to the footing trenches had already been reduced by 20cms leaving only a residual layer of clay remaining, between 10 and 20cms above the chalk. The driveway had been smoothed with deposits from the surrounding area.

The Watching Brief

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were called to the site after all of the ground work had been completed and the footing trenches had been excavated. The developer had only just become aware of the archaeological condition.

A survey was made of the exposed ground surface and the surrounding edges and photographs taken along with applicable measurements.

Depth from driveway to footing depth (maximum depth on site) 1.1 metres (face a)

Footing 60cms wide

Interior surface of planned extension floor surface was 20cms lower than the surrounding area

Depth of terracing in garden 60cms with only clay upper layer exposed (face b)

Garage area – Depth of clay was variable across the garden but down to a maximum depth of 90cms on the north side. (face c)

An inspection of the east footing trench showed a number of incursions into the soil that may be archaeological or solution holes. An examination of the features revealed no finds.

The south footing trench did not come down onto chalk but a clay loam (face d). The east facing section in this location tends to suggest that there may have been some infilling in the past (face e). An inspection produced finds of modern brick and tile.

No pits, post hole or walls were noted in the ground surface or the surrounding sections.

The Finds

An examination was made of the ground surface and a single piece of Roman grey ware pottery was recovered. Other items included several pieces of glass, some opaque, and a number of sherds of modern flower pot.

Conclusions

Most of the archaeological layers and finds had either been excavated or the soil removed by a grab truck before the arrival of the BHAS officer. The examination of the ground surface noted no features other than geological, but it is possible that pits or post holes could have been lost during the digging process, but no features were noted in any of the surfaces or sections revealed. A single sherd of Roman grey ware pottery does tend to suggest that some Roman occupation is located in this area of Hove, but as yet in a location undiscovered.

Author:- John Funnell (Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society)

**EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
NEGATIVE RESULT
ACCESS WATCHING-BRIEF REPORT SHEET**

Site Name & Location 10 Park View Road, Hove		Grid Ref. (8 Figure) TQ28650610	
Planning Ref. BH2013/00836			
ESCC Monitoring Officer Mr Greg Chuter		District Hove, Sussex Parish	
Archaeologist Details Roman pottery and tile found in the past		Date of visit (list each monitoring visits on fresh sheet) 17 th June 2013 Author of Report John Funnell	
Developer Not known (call from mobile)		Nature of development House extension, terrace and garage	
Land Owner/Tenant (if different from above) Not known		Site contact Keith	
Geology (solid & drift) Upper and middle chalk, but close to outcrop of Woolwich beds		Soil (general) Clay with underlying chalk	
Archaeological Potential (if known) Possible Roman villa location Relevant ESHER Refs. (if known)		Nature of groundworks (Refer to development plan) Footings trenches for house extension and garage Site topography – Land use Current use is garden	
Topsoil levels		OS Benchmark	
Recording Checklist (tick) – Attach to this sheet	Context Register Written Record Drawn Record: plans sections Photo <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Record <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		

Stratigraphic Descriptions (Describe all deposits exposed by the groundworks)

Topsoil depth and thickness

Subsoil depth and thickness

Natural Substrate depth exposed

The deepest stratigraphy was in the south facing (north side) of the north footing trench.

Top soil vestige 15cms

Chalk and grit mixture 40cms

A thin localised lens of clay 18cms

Chalk bedrock exposed 30cms

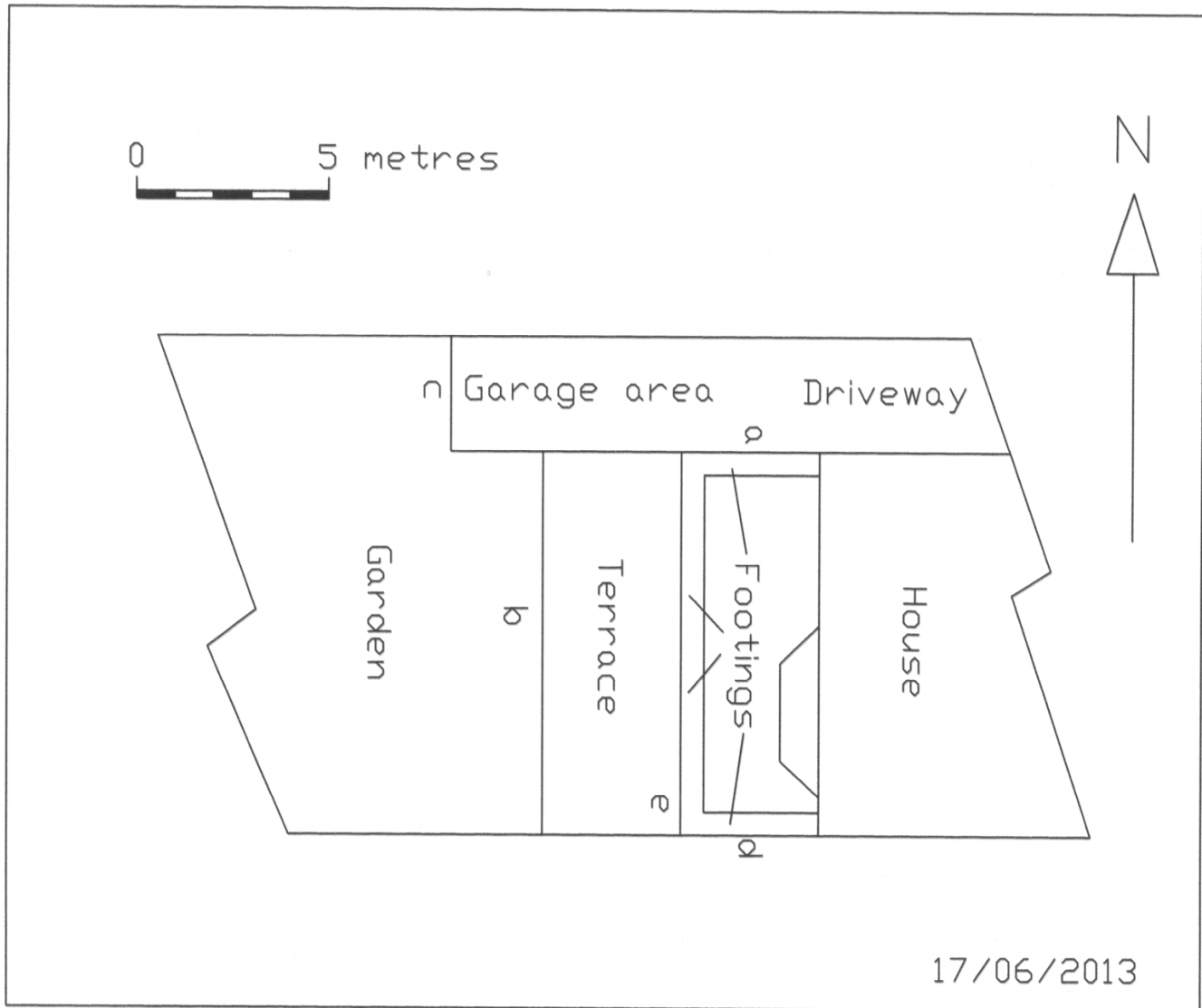
Maximum depth of section in this face was 110cms

The top soil immediately west of the house and up to the footing trenches had already been reduced by 20cms leaving only a residual layer of between 10 and 20cms above the chalk.

The driveway had been smoothed with deposits from the surrounding area.

PTO

Sketch Location Plan of site – areas monitored
(Attach developer plans etc.)



Watching Brief at 10 Park View Road, Hove

North ↑

Scale (Approx.)

Sketch Plans, Sections & other notes

North ↑

Scale (Approx.)

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were called to the site after all of the ground work had been completed and the footing trenches had been excavated. The developer had only just become aware of the archaeological condition.

A survey was made of the exposed ground surface and the surrounding edges and photographs taken along with applicable measurements.

Depth from driveway to footing depth (maximum depth on site) 1.1 metres (face a)

Footing 60cms wide

Interior surface of planned extension floor surface was 20 cms lower than the surrounding area

Depth of terracing in garden 60cms with only clay upper layer exposed (face b)

Garage area – Depth of clay was variable across the garden but down to a maximum depth of 90cms on the north side. (face c)

An inspection of the east footing trench showed a number of incursions into the soil that may be archaeological or solution holes. An examination of the features revealed no finds.

The south footing trench did not come down onto chalk but a clay loam (face d). The east facing section in this location tends to suggest that there may have been some infilling in the past (face e). An inspection produced finds of modern brick and tile.

No pits, post hole or walls were noted in the ground surface or the surrounding sections.

Finds

An examination was made of the ground surface and a single piece of Roman grey ware pottery was recovered. Other items included several pieces of glass, some opaque, and a number of sherds of modern flower pot.



Figure

1 South facing north footing



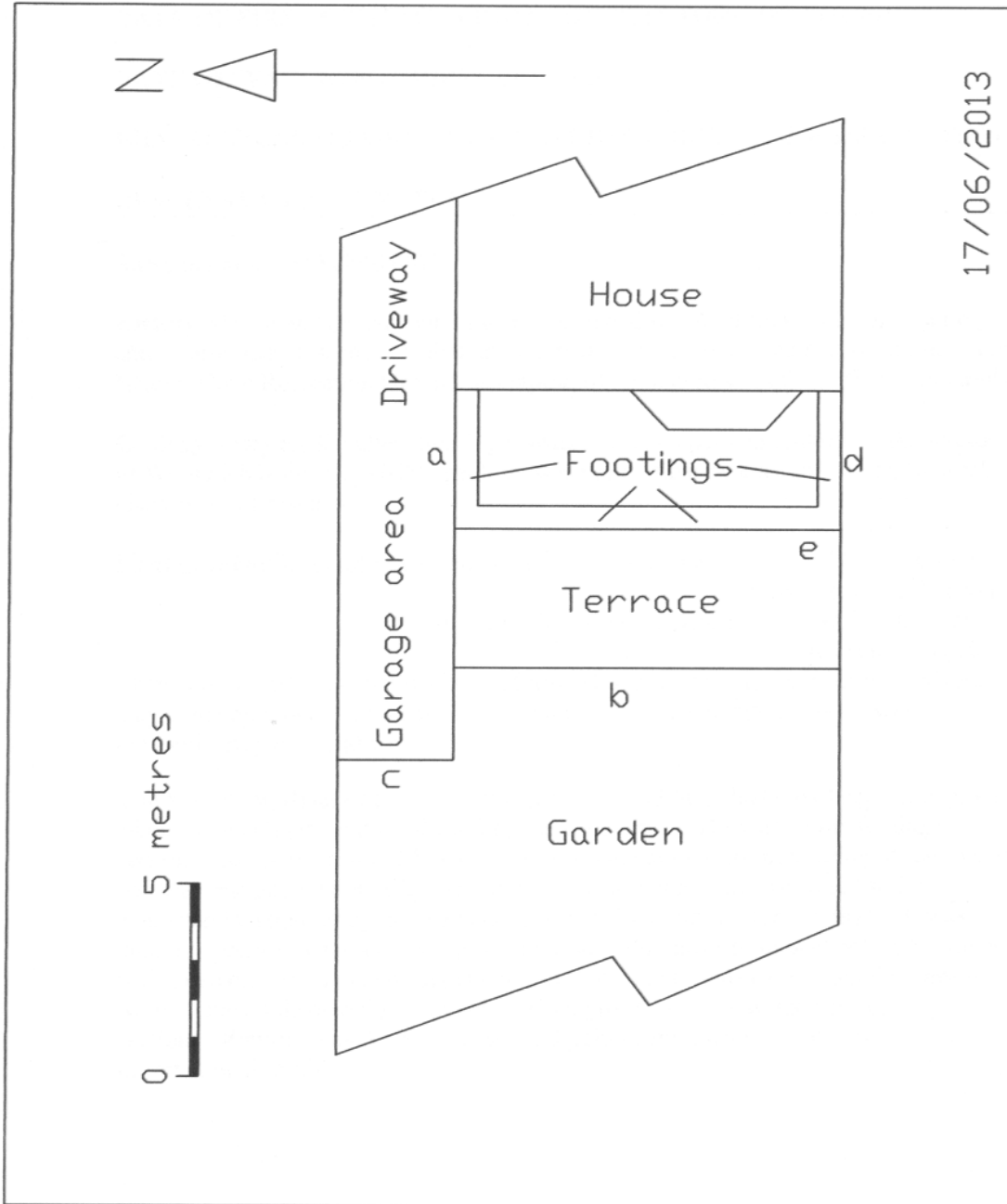
Figure 2 Garden terrace



Figure 3 Footing trenches



Figure 4 New Garage area



Watching Brief at 10 Park View Road, Hove

WATCHING BRIEF - 28 ORCHARD AVENUE, HOVE

PLANNING APPLICATION No:- BH2012/00472

ADDRESS:- 28 Orchard Avenue, Hove

PLANNING OFFICER:-Mr Robert McNicol

NAME OF APPLICANT:- Ms Hayley Gibbs

DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:- 18th June 2013

DATE OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 21 June 2013

BHAS OFFICER CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- J. Funnell and J. Skelton

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

Site Location – TQ 2848 0613

History – Hove and the surrounding area have had recorded finds of Roman pottery and roofing tile. It is possible that an unknown Roman villa is located within this area. Nearby Hove Recreation Ground has produced large numbers of flint flakes and tools.

Geology – Dry chalk valley entering coastal plain. Upper and middle chalk, outcrop of Woolwich beds. The visible geology was predominantly clay and sands. Bedrock chalk was not reached.

Stratigraphic Descriptions –

Topsoil depth and thickness	300 - 400 mm - brown loam garden soil
Substrate depth and thickness	600 - 700 mm – red sands and clay

There was a relatively shallow layer of topsoil overlaying a loose layer of sand and clay containing occasional small shattered flint. At 1m depth this layer was predominantly clay and compact.

The Watching Brief - Prior to attendance by BHAS there had only been some ground clearance and laying out conducted by the contractors. Digging of the footings commenced upon arrival of BHAS members and continuous monitoring of removal of soil was maintained until digging halted mid afternoon. The excavated soil was deposited in a bunker by the roadside and trowelled through for any finds. It was quickly apparent that there was only a relatively thin layer of topsoil before the digger was down onto to sand and clay (Photos 1a,1b) and all finds came from the topsoil. No

pits, post hole or walls were noted in the ground surface or the surrounding sections. Return visits were made as the digging continued with the same observational results.

The Finds - There were numerous finds of contemporary glass, ceramic, building material, agrarian bone and domestic items (Photo 2) but also a number of finds of potentially older items. These included oyster, scallop and mussel shell, clay pipe stems and struck flint.

Ceramic sherds

Whiteware	1(possible teapot handle)
Creamware	4
Brown earthenware	5
Green stoneware	1(handle)
Plantpot	5
Tile	1
Blue and white glazed	4
Clay pipe stem	2 (3.3cm x 0.6cm dia – 2mm bore / 2cm x 0.5cm dia – 2mm bore.)

Glass sherds

Green	3
Clear	2

Metal (Photo 3)

Nails 3 (All heavily corroded and of rectangular cross section. The largest (13cm) complete the other two (4cm and 3.8cm) had broke tips. The largest appears to taper in both cross sectional dimensions whilst the smaller only taper in one dimension.)

Knife blade	1 (7.2cm x 1.8cm x 0.3cm, heavily corroded.)
	2
Ornate pierced strip	Probably a child's modern hairgrip. Not corroded.

Bone

Sheep? left scapula	1
Pig? Right humerus	1
Fragments	2

Total weight 48g

Shell

Oyster	11 fragments	69 g
Scallop	5 fragments	19g
Mussel	2 fragments	1g

Flint (Photo 4) Flakes 2

Conclusions.

No archaeological features were revealed and the finds were confined to the topsoil. Most of the finds could not be attributed to a period earlier than the Victorian era except for the two flint flakes.

Author:- J. Skelton (BHAS)

Photographs



Photo 1a _West facing section



Photo 1b_ West trench looking South



Photo 2_Selected finds.



Photo 3_Metal finds



Photo 4_Flint finds

**EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
NEGATIVE RESULT
ACCESS WATCHING-BRIEF REPORT SHEET**

Site Name & Location 28, Orchard Avenue, Hove		Grid Ref. (8 Figure) TQ 2848 0613	
Planning Ref.		District	
ESCC Monitoring Officer Mr Greg Chuter		Parish	
Archaeologist Details John Funnell (BHAS) John Skelton (BHAS)		Date of visit (list each monitoring visits on fresh sheet) 21 June 2013 Author of Report John Skelton	
Developer Hayley Gibbs		Nature of development Domestic dwelling extension.	
Land Owner/Tenant (if different from above)		Site contact	
Geology (solid & drift) Dry chalk valley entering coastal plain. Upper and middle chalk, outcrop of Woolwich beds. The visible geology was predominantly clay and sands. Bedrock chalk was not reached.		Soil (general)	
Archaeological Potential (if known) Hove and the surrounding area have had recorded finds of Roman pottery and roofing tile. It is possible that an unknown Roman villa is located within this area. Nearby Hove Recreation Ground has produced large numbers of flint flakes and tools. Relevant ESHER Refs. (if known)		Nature of groundworks (Refer to development plan) Footings for ground floor extension Site topography – Land use Housing estate adjacent to Greyhound stadium in dry chalk valley.	
Topsoil levels		OS Benchmark	
Recording Checklist (tick) – Attach to this sheet	Context Register <input type="checkbox"/>	Written Record <input type="checkbox"/> 1	Drawn Record: plans sections <input type="checkbox"/> 1
			Photographic <input type="checkbox"/> 1

Stratigraphic Descriptions (Describe all deposits exposed by the groundworks)

Topsoil depth and thickness 300 - 400 mm - brown loam garden soil

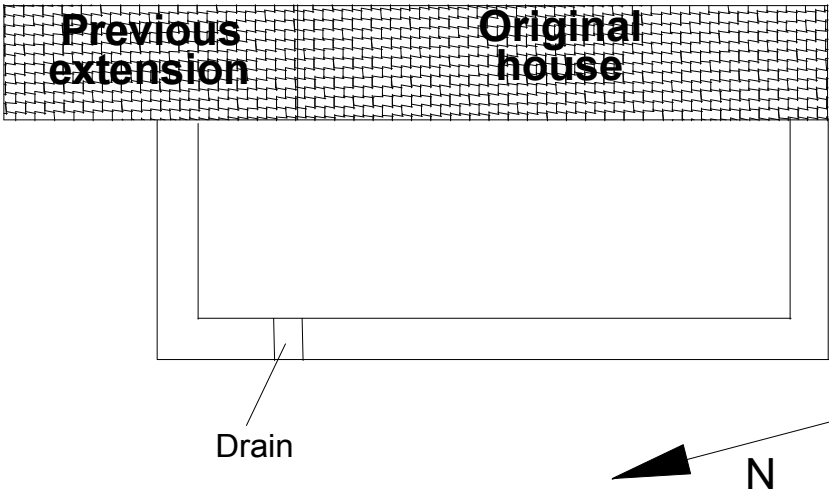
Substrate depth and thickness 600 - 700 mm red sands and clay

There was a relatively shallow layer of topsoil overlaying a loose layer of sand and clay containing occasional small shattered flint. At 1m depth this layer was predominantly clay and compact.

28 Orchard Avenue, Hove

Not to Scale

Approx 5m



Prior to attendance by BHAS there had only been some ground clearance and laying out conducted by the contractors. Digging of the footings commenced upon arrival of BHAS members and continuous monitoring of removal of soil was maintained until digging halted mid afternoon. The excavated soil was deposited in a bunker by the roadside and trowelled through for any finds. It was quickly apparent that there was only a relatively thin layer of topsoil before the digger was down onto to sand and clay (Photos 1a,1b) and all finds came from the topsoil. No pits, post hole or walls were noted in the ground surface or the surrounding sections. Return visits were made as the digging continued with the same observational results.

There were numerous finds of contemporary glass, ceramic, building material, agrarian bone and domestic items (Photo 2) but also a number of finds of potentially older items. These included oyster, scallop and mussel shell, clay pipe stems and struck flint.

<u>Ceramic sherds</u>	Whiteware	1	(possible teapot handle)
	Creamware	4	
	Brown earthenware	5	
	Green stoneware	1	(handle)
	Plantpot	5	
	Tile	1	
	Blue and white glazed	4	
	Clay pipe stem	2	(3.3cm x 0.6cm dia – 2mm bore / 2cm x 0.5cm dia – 2mm bore.)

<u>Glass sherds</u>	Green	3
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	Clear	2	
<u>Metal</u> (Photo 3) (13cm) largest smaller	Nails	3	(All heavily corroded and of rectangular cross section. The largest complete the other two (4cm and 3.8cm) had broken tips. The appears to taper in both cross sectional dimensions whilst the only taper in one dimension.)
	Knife blade	1	(7.2cm x 1.8cm x 0.3cm, heavily corroded.)
	Ornate pierced strip		Probably a child's modern hairgrip. Not corroded.
<u>Bone</u>	Sheep? left scapula	1	
	Pig? Right humerus	1	
	Fragments	2	
			Total weight 48g
<u>Shell</u>	Oyster	11 fragments	69 g
	Scallop	5 fragments	19g
	Mussel	2 fragments	1g
<u>Flint</u> (Photo 4)	Flakes	2	
Photographs			
<i>Photo 1a _West facing section</i>		<i>Photo 1b_ West trench looking South</i>	
<i>Photo 2_Selected finds.</i>			
<i>Photo 3_Metal finds</i>			
<i>Photo 4_Flint finds</i>			
<u>Conclusion</u>			
No archaeological features were revealed and the finds were confined to the topsoil. Most of the finds could not be attributed to a period earlier than the Victorianera except for the two flint flakes			

WATCHING BRIEF - 1 LANCASTER ROAD, BRIGHTON

PLANNING APPLICATION No:- BH2012/00585

ADDRESS:- 1 Lancaster Road, Brighton

PLANNING OFFICER:- MS Liz Arnold

NAME OF APPLICANT:- Mr Adam Bailey

DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:- July 2013

DATE OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 5 August 2013

BHAS OFFICER CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- J. Funnell, J. Skelton and Mark Gillingham

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

Site Location – TQ 30489 05440

Historical Background - Evidence of a Saxon cemetery have been discovered nearby.

Geology – Chalk (Seaford?) with overlaying clay with flints.

Stratigraphic Descriptions - Topsoil depth and thickness 0 - 450 mm - brown loam garden soil interrupted by garden wall footings. Substrate depth and thickness 450 - 900 mm – red brown and black sands overlaying an undulating layer of broken chalk with clay with flints fill.

The Watching Brief - John Funnell was present at the start of excavation by the mechanical digger and was joined by John Skelton shortly afterwards. Mark Gillingham paid a visit to the site when the main excavation phase was complete. A small section of the footings were to be excavated by hand the following day because of the presence of a drain in the NE section and because of access problems for the mechanical digger. A visit was made by John Skelton on the 6th and there was no change in the nature of stratigraphy revealed by this additional manual excavation.

The excavation was through garden soil and garden wall footings to a depth of about 450mm. Below this there was a layer of red, brown and black sands which, at a depth of about 900mm, were interrupted by an undulating layer of broken chalk and clay with flints (Photo 1). At first there appeared to be cuts into the chalk but there was no corresponding disturbance in the overlaying sands and it was concluded that the phenomenon was natural (Photo 2). The material between the bands of chalk appeared to be natural clay with flints. (A similar geology of undulating chalk and clay with flints has been observed at a watching brief in Hangleton Road, Hove.) There were no artefact finds whatsoever.

The Finds - None

Conclusions.

No archaeological features were revealed and there were no finds.

Author:- J. Skelton (BHAS)

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
NEGATIVE RESULT
ACCESS WATCHING-BRIEF REPORT SHEET

Site Name & Location						Grid Ref.							
Brighton 1 Lancaster Road,						TQ 30489 05440							
Planning Ref.													
ESCC Monitoring Officer Mr Greg Chuter						District Brighton and Hove							
						Parish Preston?							
Archaeologist Details John Funnell John Skelton Mark Gillingham						Date of visit (list each monitoring visits on fresh sheet)							
						05 August 2013							
						Author of Report John Skelton							
Developer Mr Adam Bailey						Nature of development							
						Small extension to end of terrace private dwelling							
Land Owner/Tenant (if different from above)						Site contact							
Geology (solid & drift) Chalk (Seaford?) with overlaying clay with flints						Soil (general)							
Archaeological Potential (if known) Evidence of a Saxon cemetery have been discovered nearby. Relevant ESHER Refs. (if known)						Nature of groundworks (Refer to development plan)							
						One meter deep footings							
						Site topography – Land use							
						Rear yard/garden of private dwelling.							
Topsoil levels						OS Benchmark							
Recording Checklist (tick) – Attach to this sheet						Context Register Written Record Drawn Record: plans sections Photographic Recd							
						<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>							

Stratigraphic Descriptions (Describe all deposits exposed by the groundworks)

John Funnell was present at the start of excavation by the mechanical digger and was joined by John Skelton shortly afterwards. Mark Gillingham paid a visit to the site when the main excavation phase was complete. A small section of the footings were to be excavated by hand the following day because of the presence of a drain in the NE section and because of access problems for the mechanical digger. A visit was made by John Skelton on the 6th and there was no change in the nature of stratigraphy revealed by this additional manual excavation.

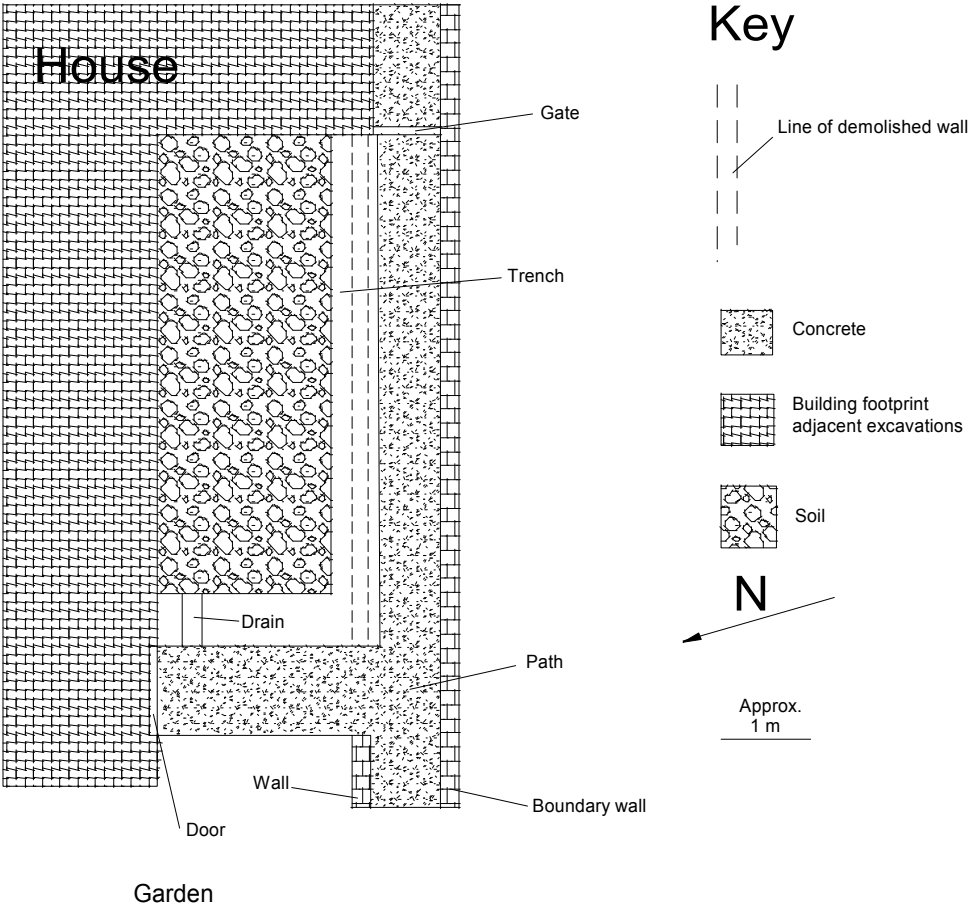
The excavation was through garden soil and garden wall footings to a depth of about 450mm. Below this there was a layer of red, brown and black sands which, at a depth of about 900mm, were interrupted by an undulating layer of broken chalk and clay with flints (Photo 1). At first there appeared to be cuts into the chalk but there was no corresponding disturbance in the overlaying sands. It was concluded that the phenomenon was natural (Photo 2).

The material between the bands of chalk appeared to be natural clay with flints. (A similar geology of undulating chalk and clay with flints has been observed at a watching brief in Hangleton Road, Hove.) There were no artefact finds whatsoever.

Sketch Location Plan of site – areas monitored
(Attach developer plans etc.)

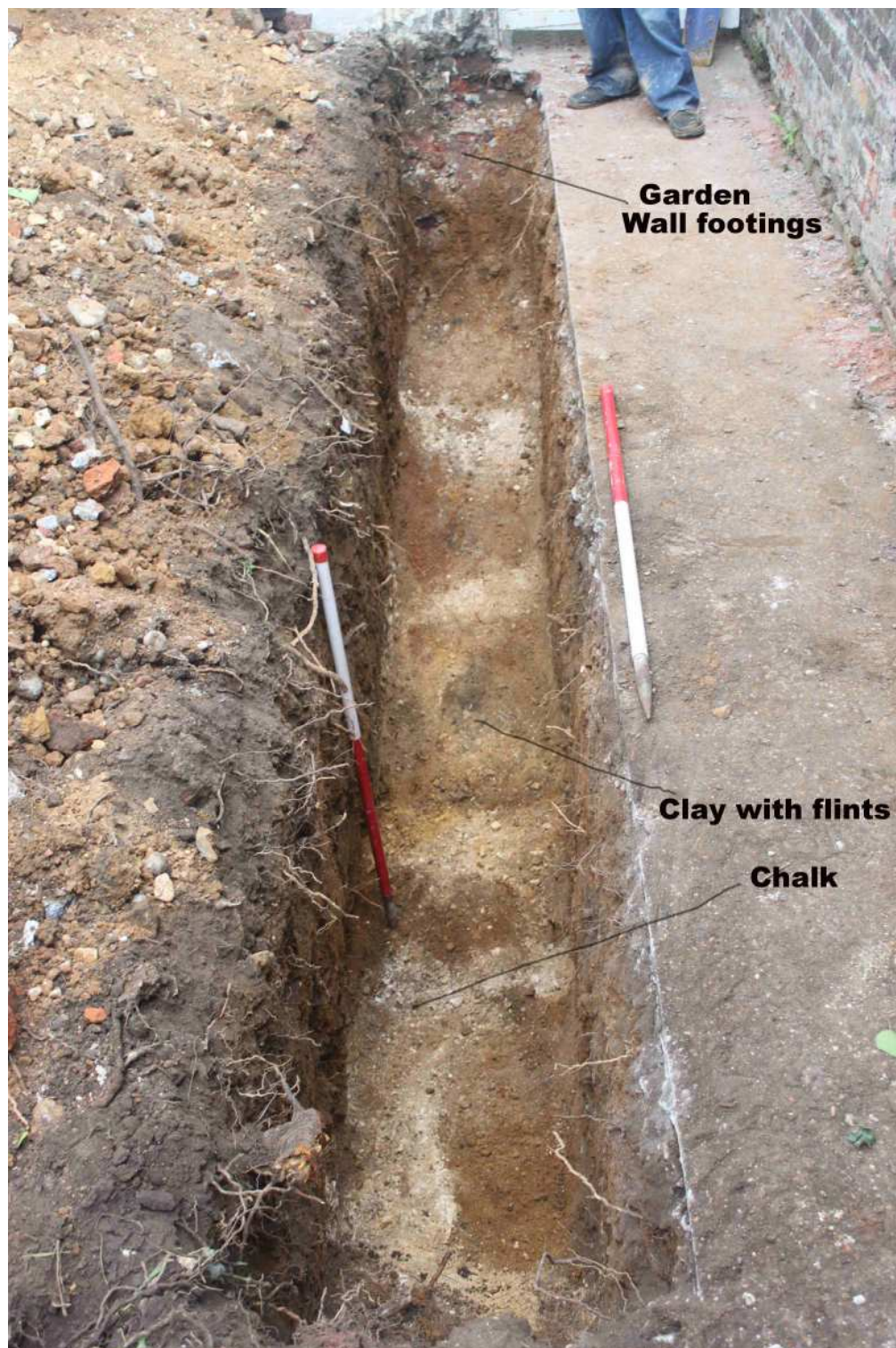
1 Lancaster Road, Brighton

Not to scale



PHOTOGRAPHS

1 Looking SE along trench



**2 Section of sand over chalk
undulations.**



East Sussex CC Archaeology Section 2012

WATCHING BRIEF - 56 WOODLAND AVENUE, HOVE

PLANNING APPLICATION No:- BH2013/00310

ADDRESS:- 56 Woodland Avenue, Hove

PLANNING OFFICER:- Mr Adrian Smith

NAME OF APPLICANT:- Mr Julian Ustaszewski

DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:- 21st November 2013

DATES OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 27th November – 2nd December 2013

BHAS OFFICERS CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- B.Collins, J.Skelton and J.Funnell

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

Site Location – (TQ 2850 0715)

Historical Background – Woodlands Avenue has in the past produced finds of Iron Age pottery and a Roman coin hoard, both in close proximity.

Geology – The geology is upper and middle chalk, with vestiges of clay in the upper layers. The builders were informed that the top soil for the rear garden had been imported for levelling the terrace.

The footing trenches and a soakaway produced a varying level of geology with the footing trenches close to the house having an upper clay soil depth of nearly a metre. The imported soil was a thin dark layer above this. There was a small area of chalk visible in the south east corner of the trench. The section nearest to the house and under the patio also contained a layer of hard core measuring about 15cms in depth.

The soakaway ran for approximately 6 metres westwards with the pit being the deepest section cut to a depth of 1.2 metres. The top soil and clay had a maximum depth of 30cms with the deeper soakaway revealing a large section of the natural chalk below.

The Watching Brief – The watching brief was conducted over a number of days while the footing trenches progressed around the existing house. The excavations revealed no features of archaeological interest during this process. A systematic examination was made of the soil as it was being removed and a small number of finds were collected.

The Finds –

There was a varied collection of contemporary building materials deposited during the creation of the garden patio, brick and tile etc.

The prehistoric finds consisted of a single hard hammer struck flint flake, with a grey patination and a small, possibly late Mesolithic core. 2 pieces of fire-cracked flint were found among the soil weighing 16gms.

Conclusions.

The excavation of the footing trenches and soakaway failed to reveal any archaeological features in the areas removed or in the remaining sections, with only natural geology being noted. The few finds were of a prehistoric date and no finds from the Roman or Iron Age periods were recovered, despite the close proximity to the previous finds spots.



Fig 1. The Front of the House



Fig 2. The north east facing section

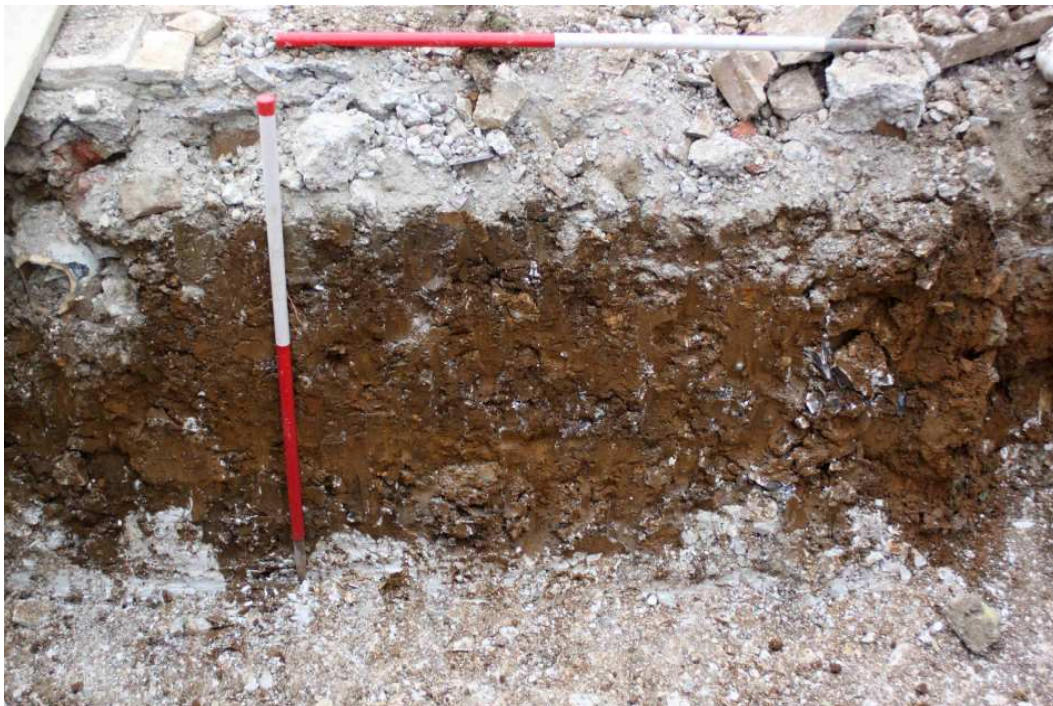


Fig 3. The north west facing section



Fig 4. The soakaway



Fig 5. Chalk appearing in the patio trench.

Author:- J. Funnell with photographs by John Skelton and John Funnell

Dated 8th December 2013

FIELD UNIT 2013 ATTENDANCE RECORD

John Funnell (Director)	71 Day	Brighton
Hestor Adams	14 Days	Brighton(Cardiff)
Alice Aguilar	1 Day	Southampton
Alessandra Amico	4 Days	Brighton
Ann Barrow	2 Days	Hove
Clive Bean	66 Days	Portslade
Christine Bell	1 Day	Eastbourne
Massimo Beltrame	13 Days	Venice(Italy)
Jennifer Bennett	5 Days	Hove
Christine Bien	3 Days	Worthing
Judith Billingham (G)	32 Days	Brighton
Fran Briscoe	22 Days	Brighton
Elliot Brown	4 Days	Eastbourne
Margaret Burrows	14 Days	Hurstpierpoint
Sarah Byng	1 Day	Littlehampton
Maureen Cauhalin	1 Day	Brighton
Beth Clements	9 Days	Brighton
Brenda Collins (G)(W)	71 Day	Lancing
Paul Collins (W)(M)	29 Days	Lancing
Victoria Collins	1 Day	Canberra(London)
Genevra Coradeschi	1 Day	Tuscany
Yvonne Corcoran	1 Day	Hurstpierpoint
Kirsty Craig	6 Days	Brighton
Bob Crowhurst (F)	4 Days	Brighton
Jennifer Devan	1 Day	Sutton
Lucy Dudman	2 Days	Haywards Heath
Samantha Eddowes	1 Day	Southampton
Elaine Evans	4 Days	Hove
Michael Fairbrother	2 Days	Burgess Hill
Hazel Fairbrother	2 Days	Crawley
Hayley Forsyth	2 Days	Horsham
Steffi Freiling	1 Day	Bristol
Kiera Funnell	2 Days	Plymouth
Maria Gardiner(E)(SP)(G)(W)	17 Days	Hove
Quintin Gee	5 Days	Southampton
Nila Germain	1 Day	Croydon
Mark Gillingham (Director)(W)	61 Day	Hove
Lesley Haines	17 Days	Burgess Hill
Margarita Hanlon	3 Day	Brighton
Sean Harris (TVAS)	1 Day	Brighton
Josie Ides	1 Day	Worthing
Glynis Jones (MacCloud)	13 Days	Lancing
Richard Jones	5 Days	Brighton

Felix Kerr	1 Day	London(Notts)
Ginette Leech	1 Day	Brighton
Janet Lamont	10 Days	East Grinstead
David Lea	6 Days	Hove
Sue Lloyd	1 Day	Hove
David Ludwig	42 Days	Rustington
Dot McBrien (S)(SP)(G)(W)	13 Days	Sompting
Joan MacGregor (G)	31 Day	Brighton
Nicky Matthews	4 Days	Newhaven
Aidan May	3 Days	Rustington
Christye McKinney	2 Days	Haywards Heath
Mark Melvin	4 Days	Worthing
Jo Miller	3 Days	Ringmer
Nadia Khalili-Nayer	15 Days	Shoreham
Hannah Maplesden	1 Day	Brighton
Nina McIntyre	2 Days	Eastbourne
Len Middleton	1 Day	London
Chris Morrison	1 Day	Southampton
Luke Morrison	1 Day	Southampton
Elaine O'Neill	2 Days	Brighton
Pru Olive	1 Day	Stanmer
Trudie Ormond	1 Day	Merston(London)
Darcey Newman	1 Day	Brighton
Sylvia Newman	25 Days	Brighton
Terry Newman	1 Day	Hove
David Nissen	1 Day	Hove
Alexis Becker	2 Days	Burgess Hill
Alison Partridge	5 Days	Newhaven
Norman Phippard (Director)(S)(G)	1 Day	Findon
Franz Plachy	18 Days	Hove
Caroline Poole	1 Day	Brighton
Helen Poole (BHAS)	1 Day	Brighton
Kathy Price	1 Day	Brighton
Donald Richardson	1 Day	Lewes
Charlotte Riding	19 Days	Hove
Linda Robinson	12 Days	Brighton
Derek Russell	1 Day	Brighton
Jane Russell	4 Days	Brighton
Alison Sanders	2 Days	Rotherham
Bill Santer (G)(Q)(M)(W)	16 Days	Saltdean
Cireena Simcox	2 Days	Brighton
Sarah Sinclair	1 Day	Billingshurst
John Skelton	53 Days	Hove
Kate Skelton	4 Days	Hove
Pamela Smith	3 Days	Brighton
Paul Smith	1 Day	Brighton

John Spiller	45 Days	Portslade
Alice Standen	1 Day	Steyning
Guy Standen	1 Day	Steyning
Ed Start	1 Day	Brighton
David Staveley(Director)(P)(S)(L)(G)	4 Days	Eastbourne
Merryn Staveley	1 Day	Eastbourne
Chelsea Sweeney	8 Days	Lewes(Canada)
Susanna Tarvainen	5 Days	London(Finland)
Jennifer Taylor	2 Days	Worthing
Amelia Thomas	1 Day	Brighton
Mrs Thomas	1 Day	Brighton
Pete Tolhurst	21 Day	Crowborough
Heather Turner	1 Day	Stanmer
Robert Turner	1 Day	Stanmer
Jana Valekova	1 Day	Brighton
Frances Wallace	1 Day	Brighton
Peter Wallace	2 Days	Brighton
Frances Weller	1 Day	Herstmonceux
Carol White (SP)(Director)	4 Days	Newhaven
Amy Woodward	3 Days	Brighton
David Worsell	2 Days	Seaford
Sue Worth	2 Days	Brighton
Linda Wright	4 Days	Southwick

Total Attendance (Excluding Bridge Farm)

Total Days 952
(Male Days 488 51%) (Female Days 462 49%)

Total Number of Participants 112 People, not including the Young Archaeologists Club (YAC)

Dated 31st December 2013

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).

BHAS FIELD NOTEBOOK INDEX

Note that the dates shown (1993-2013) are an indicator of when the work was carried out, and not the date of publication.

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Worthing-Patching-Geophysics-1998

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 April 2014