

# **ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD NOTEBOOK 2018**

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

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## Introduction

This year The BHAS Field Unit was led by the new archaeological secretary Pete Tolhurst. He took over from John Skelton who stood down, but who continues as a member of the field unit, with responsibility for the photographic recording. John is also very adept at creating 3D images of features. The season commenced with some field walking at Perching, in very cold and damp conditions, but a good number turned out despite the weather.

In April the field unit returned to Rocky Clump and the south field large enclosure. Some of the soil was removed using a machine, but a large section also had to be dug by hand. The site is producing late Iron Age pottery, and some very interesting features.

BHAS outreach continued with a good number of visits to local schools with our Stone Age finds and presentation. BHAS also took two groups of school children on a visit to the Neolithic Causewayed enclosure at Whitehawk Hill. The outreach team were also at Michelham in May with their collections of finds for handling. The outreach team were also working down at Brighton museum and in the later part of the year were marking finds for the professional unit of Archaeology South East. This was on material from excavations that lacked funding.

The 5 girls from Roedean School continued working with the BHAS team until the end of the spring term. In May the girls presented a display at Roedean School about their activities. Unfortunately due to lack of resources and membership support this project will not continue. We have to rely on too few people and the support of ASE which we cannot guarantee.

There were some geophysics conducted this year with a survey at Preston Manor. The survey produced some very interesting anomalies. The very busy schedule of excavations at Rocky Clump did mean that the team were unable to conduct more geophysics at Beacon Hill, but BHAS did conduct a small excavation on the hill and two watching briefs, in January and December.

The excavations at Rocky Clump produced some very interesting features and finds, and over 90 people participated in BHAS activities in 2018. The Rocky Clump excavation brought in a good number of younger people, most seeking experience with regards possible degree courses at Universities. The digging also brought in a good number of people from Surrey, and even an enquiry from Essex.

There was training in the use of the total station, section drawing and planning. Most of the team are encouraged to use the archaeological passport, a useful document for those contemplating a career in archaeology. A number of the team joined the ranks of professional archaeology, joining up with Paul Wilkinson and the SWAT team working on the large expanse at Peacehaven. It was in that location that BHAS found a number of Neolithic axes when field walking in 2003.

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. BHAS members also assisted A.S.E. with the marking of finds from excavations they conducted at Chichester and Hardham.

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.

Some watching briefs were conducted at Beacon Hill and Woodingdean, and some members of the team joined up with CBAS and their excavations at Hangleton, close to the site of the medieval village. Unfortunately the team were not allowed to work on any medieval houses, but only on post holes and features on the periphery of the site. Details about this excavation can be obtained from CBAS (Chris Butler Archaeological Services).

Hard copies of the BHAS Field Notebook are now passed to Barbican House library, the East Sussex Records Office at The Keep, and the National Monuments Records Office at Swindon. CD-Rom copies are produced by the Society's web master Mr Martin Devereux and are made available to the field unit members and others who desire a copy. CD copies are passed to Ms L.Johnson at Brighton and Hove Planning Department, Greg Chuter, the County Archaeologist, and Brighton Museum,

John Funnell 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018





## **An Interim Report on the Excavations at Rocky Clump, Stanmer Park**

**Site Code: 500300**

**April – October 2018**



***Author: Pete Tolhurst October 2019***

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## **Introduction**

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for excavations at Rocky Clump, Stanmer Park was submitted by Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society (BHAS) to the County Archaeologist (Greg Chuter) and Brighton and Hove City Council in 2018 and it was approved for the excavation to start in April that year.

It was in April of 2018 that the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society returned to Rocky Clump after 4-year break while excavating a Saxon and medieval site at Ovingdean. Rocky Clump has been under investigation with various excavations taking place since 1947. There have been a number of publications about the various digs, with one booklet entitled 'Rocky Clump; a forgotten shrine' (Gorton) which was later revised and published in the Sussex Archaeological Collections (Gilkes). John Funnell led the excavations from 1991 to 2013 and a number of his reports have been published in the BHAS Field Notebooks since 1999 (Funnell) and are accessible on the BHAS website.

The 2018 season of excavations were led by new site director Pete Tolhurst. He was ably assisted by a number of the BHAS field unit members including Carol White, John Funnell, John Skelton, Mark Gillingham and Stefanie Freiling. During the season over 60 different people participated in the digging with a number coming from both Sussex and Surrey. There was also a considerable number of younger people joining the dig, in anticipation of possible university placements and associated archaeological subjects.

The excavation days were Wednesdays and Saturdays with one complete week of digging in August. The season experienced exceptionally good weather throughout the year and was generally well supported. Training has been an important feature on site, particularly in the use of the Total Station and surveying. Other training included the taking of soils samples, section drawing and completing context sheets.

## Archaeological History

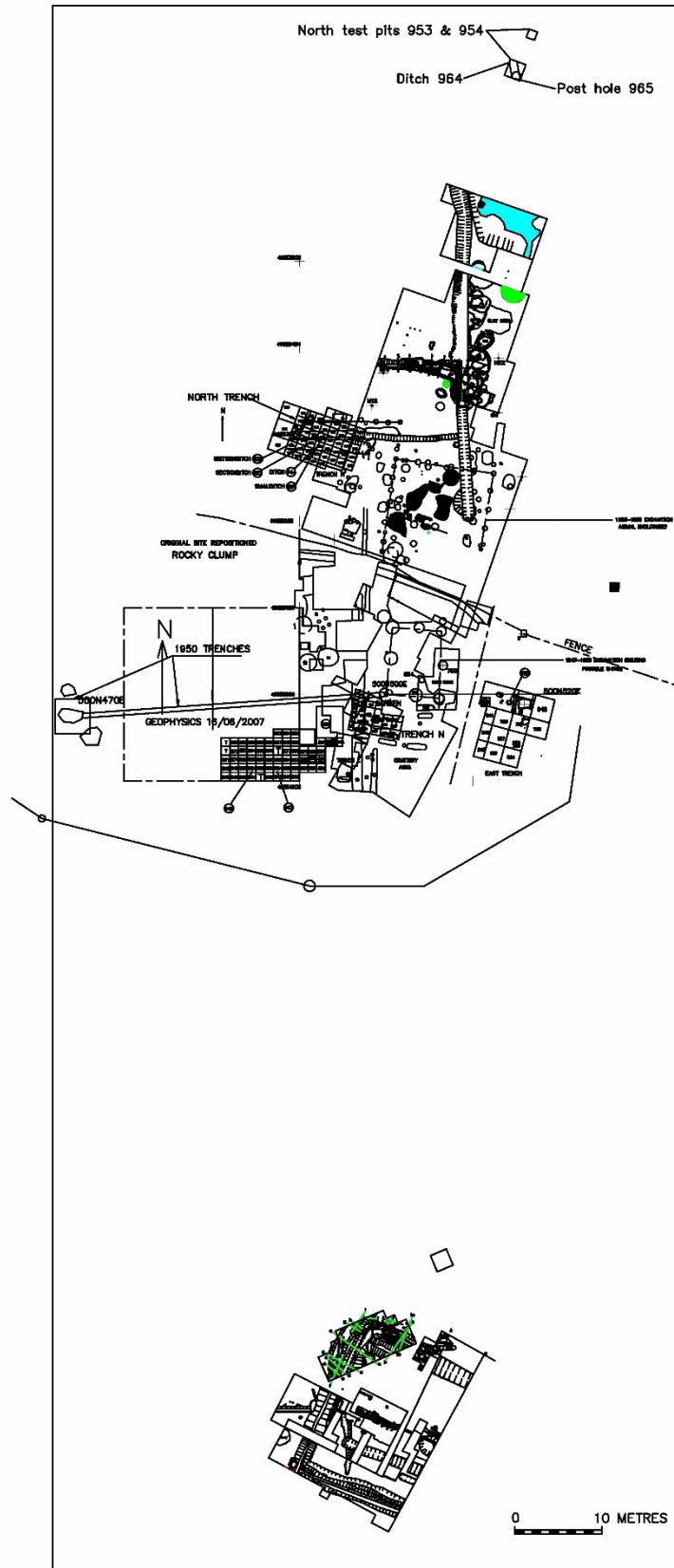
The early excavations at Rocky Clump were conducted by Walter Gorton and Charlie Yeates and these excavations are now referred to as Phase 1. The excavations conducted between 1991 and 2011, were by John Funnell and Norman Phippard, are now referred to as Phase II. The excavation report for 1992 – 2011 has not been published as the BHAS are still awaiting specialist reports regarding the coin and glass finds (Funnell forthcoming). In 2012 the excavation moved from the field north of the copse of trees called Rocky Clump to the field south of the trees. The new excavation area is now termed phase III.

From 2011 to 2013 BHAS excavated the north and west ends of a large rectangular enclosure, which had been revealed during a previous geophysics survey (Fig 1.)

The first season in the south field uncovered the junction of 2 very large ditches running east/west and north/south. The ditches were over 3 metres in width and nearly 2 metres in depth. The BHAS field unit returned in 2012 and opening a new 'L' shaped trench revealed more of the upper east/west ditch and more of the lower east/west and middle east/west ditches. A section of the west ditch was also excavated. Among the finds that season was a baby burial found in the upper east/west ditch. A number of other ephemeral features were also revealed including a platform at the lower, south end of the trench, and a possible causeway across the middle east/west ditch.

In 2013 a new trench was opened between the areas investigated the previous 2 seasons. The new area revealed another ditch cut into the earlier ditches, so postdating them, and a linear wall running east/west comprised of large flint nodules (Fig 2.). Another important find was a second baby burial, but this time the burial was in a small pit, away from the ditches. Along with the baby burial another interesting find was that of ring made from silver twisted wire, with large silver balls at the ends, looking very similar to a miniature torc. This was found in the lower east/west ditch. This find was examined by the British Museum.

The object of the 2018 excavations was to investigate the central section of the enclosure, and the east end. The geophysics suggested that a set of ditches at the east end could prove to be a complicated entrance into the enclosure. The enclosure, with such large ditches, was a major undertaking, and would have some important purpose.



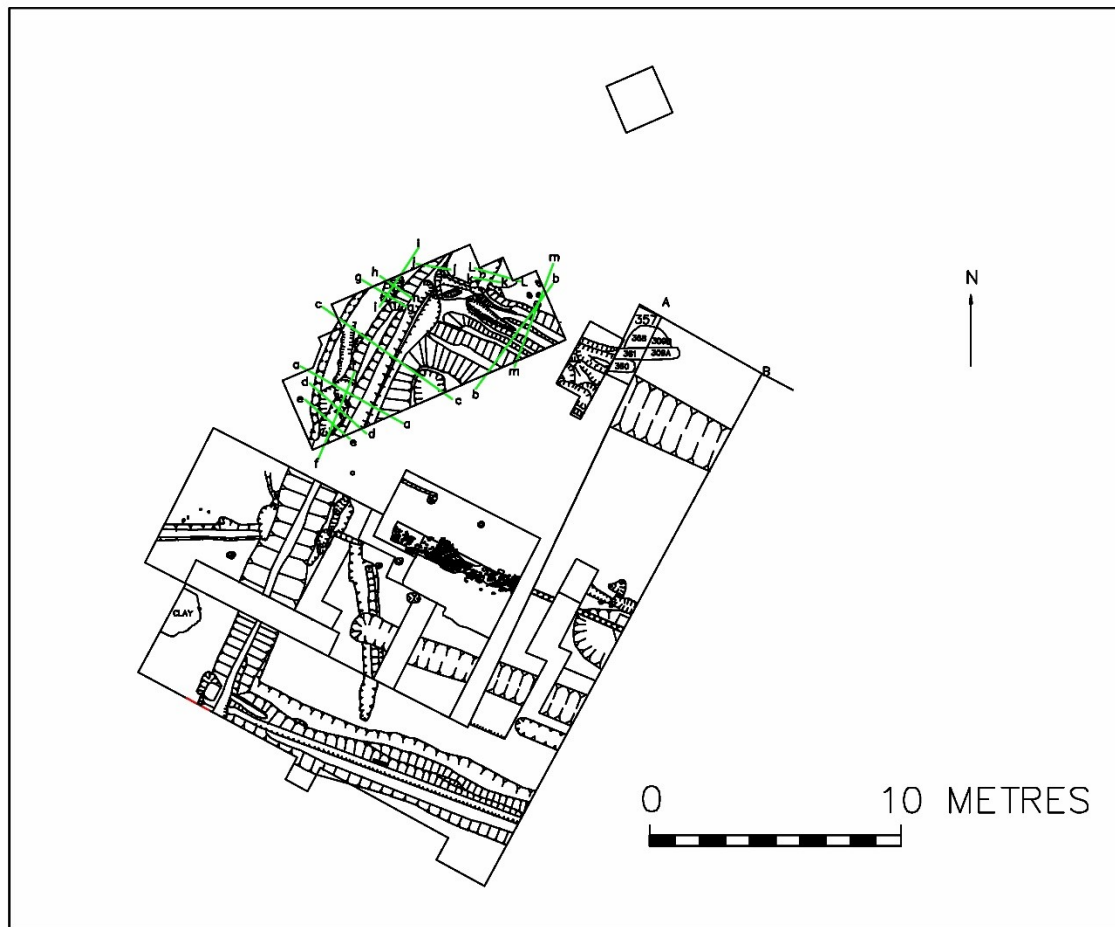


Fig 2. ROCKY CLUMP EXCAVATIONS DETAILS 2011–2013  
(South field)

### Location Map

Rocky Clump (TQ 328 101) is the site of a Romano-British farmstead situated in a small plantation in Stanmer Park, on an East-West ridge to the North of a dry chalk stream running down into Stanmer Village. It is surrounded by fields, in an area known as Patchway, which were formerly arable but are currently pasture. It is so called because the clump of trees at the top of the hill contains some sarsen stones.



According to the British Geological Survey Map (1:50,000 scale) the bedrock is Newhaven Chalk formation occasionally overlain by deposits of clay with flints and with Head deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel in the valley bottom.



**Rocky Clump Location**

**Photo: Google Earth**

## **Archaeological Work Undertaken: The 2018 Excavations**

The location of the new trench was measured in from measurements taken at the end of 2013. A member of the ASE field unit came to the site and with their GPS system set out accurate grid pegs, and a number of TBM pegs for recording. The trench size was 20 metres square

On April 10<sup>th</sup> 2018 BHAS hired a JCB to remove some of the top soil. It was decided to remove the soil from the upper/north section of the trench using the machine. A number of grid marker posts were set out in the new trench for recording at 6 metre intervals going north/south and east/west. The trench was allocated grid numbers (Fig 3.) but only a few of the grid numbers were used during excavation.

During the digging season a number of new edges were created by hand to consolidate the sections and make the excavation trench neater and tidier. The site director Pete Tolhurst decided each session which areas were to be investigated. Context numbers were issued to new features as they were revealed (Fig 3a.).

The excavations commenced at the west end of the site, working down from the north edge of the trench. This face had already been squared off and tidied up. Eventually the upper east/west ditch was exposed. This ditch was running at a slight angle and while the complete width was exposed at the west end, it gradually disappeared into the baulk at the east end with the final 6 to 7 metres not being exposed at all.

As the soil removal moved slowly down the slope a range of features began to appear. A number of pits and post holes were revealed, and also a rough, linear arrangement of flints, just south of the upper east/west ditch (Fig 4). The chalk surface in this location was not solid or firm, and had a loose rubble feel to it.

As the excavation progressed southwards a number of other post holes were uncovered together with another linear arrangement of flints running parallel to the upper east/west ditch. This arrangement of flints was anticipated, being a continuation of the line of flints found in 2013. The 'wall' was confirmed as continuing in an easterly direction. This feature terminated about 7 metres east of the new trench west baulk.

During the season the excavations moved eastwards, exposing a complex set of features, including the anticipated pair of east ditches, noted in the geophysics. The new area included a number of large post holes. The ditch furthest to the east was called the lower north/south ditch, and proved to be larger and deeper than the inner east ditch called the upper north/south ditch. It soon became obvious that both ditches could not have been opened at the same time, as they were too close together.

The lower north/south ditch terminated before reaching the upper east/west ditch, while the upper north/south ditch terminated in the south at a large solution hollow. This ditch curved slightly westwards at the south end, towards the natural feature.

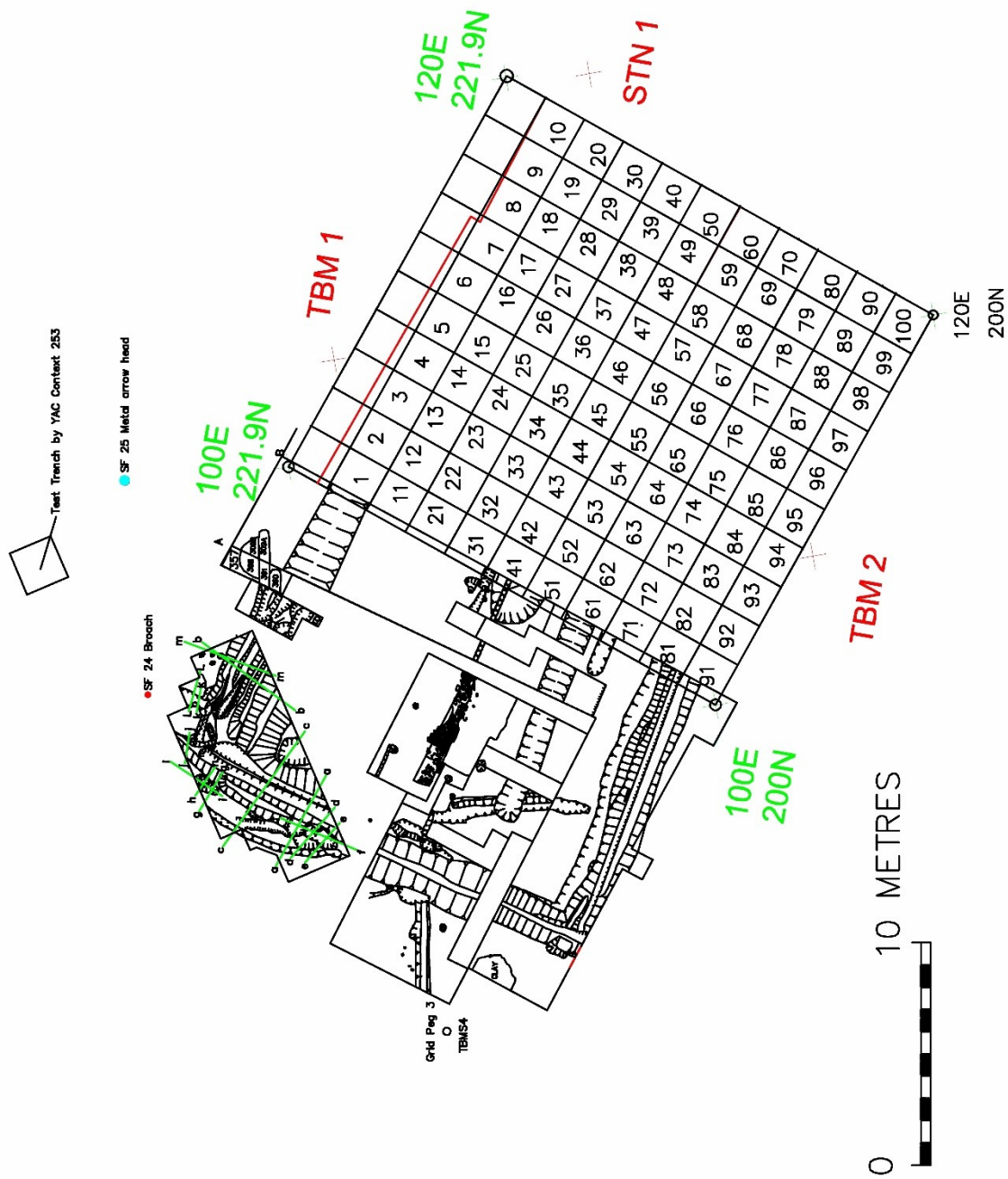


Fig 3. Rocky Clump 2018 The grid numbers



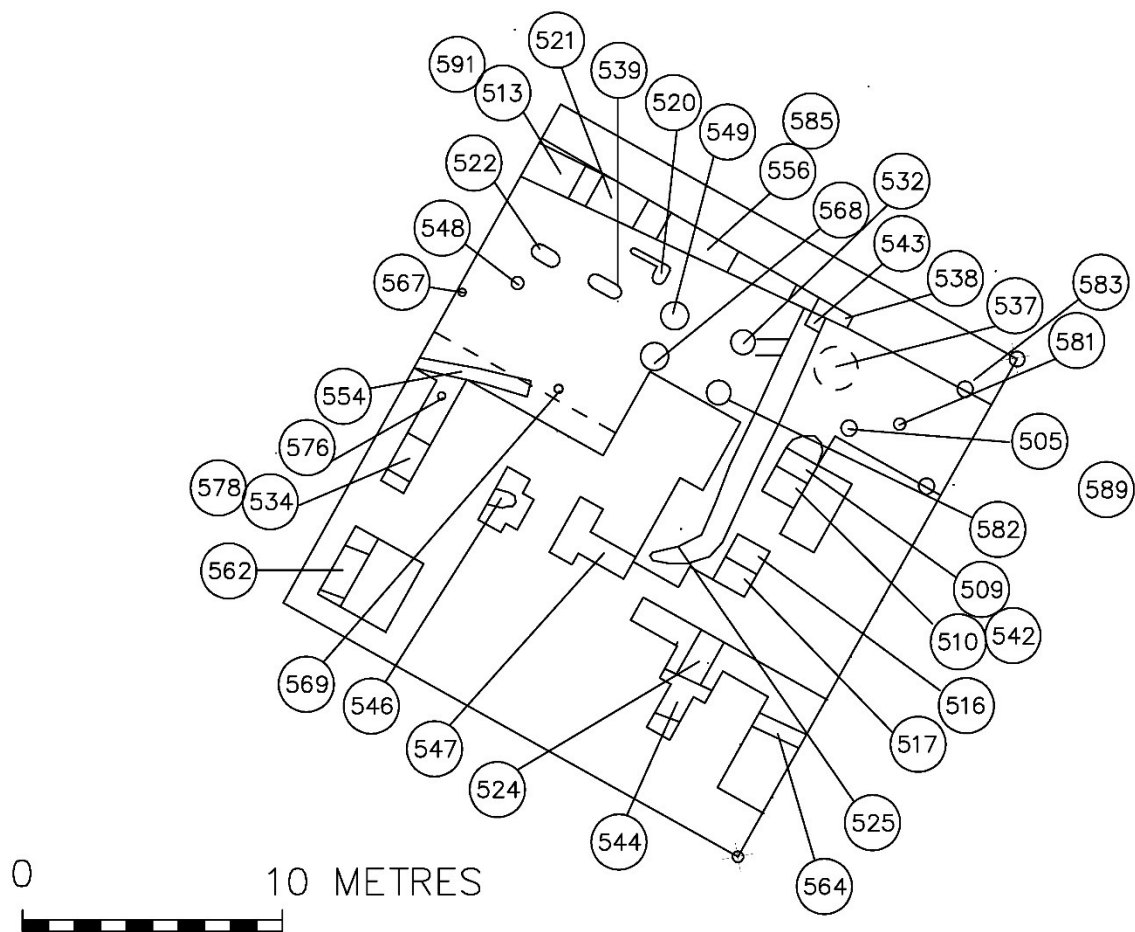


Fig 3a. Rocky Clump the contexts

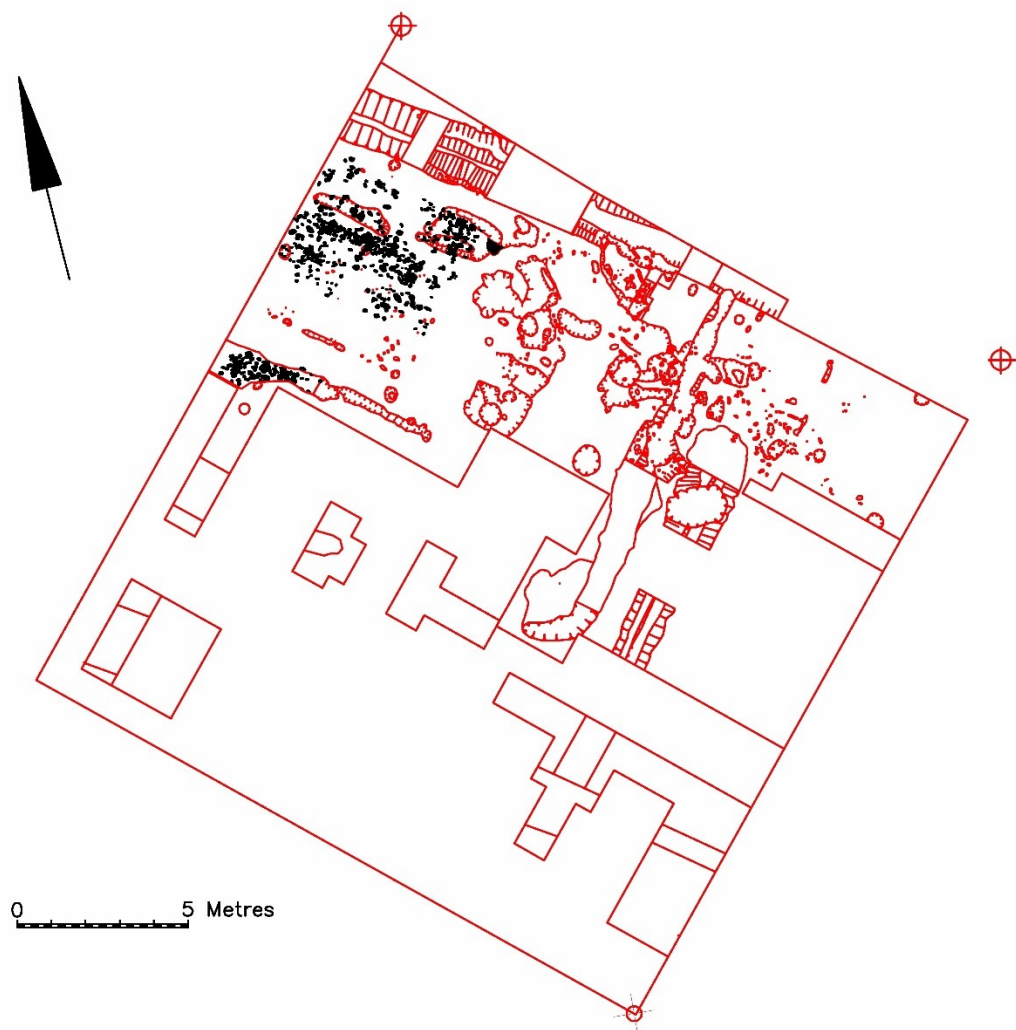


Fig 4. Rocky Clump Flint Concentration west end

It was noticeable that the surface east of the north/south ditches was very hard and compact and looked as natural chalk should look. The surface to the west of the north/south ditches was quite disturbed, with an over layer of loose chalk rubble. This disturbed surface was over the whole area exposed, down to the east/west flint 'wall'. On completion of the excavation the whole of the upper area was planned (Figs 5 & 5a.)

The middle east/west ditch and the lower east/west ditch were also revealed by a number of small test trenches, the purpose of which were to confirm their locations. One test trench revealed the middle east/west ditch and another test trench showed that this ditch appeared to terminated before it linked up with the upper north/south ditch.

The upper north/south ditch was revealed in a 1 metre wide test trench running east/west. Once the location of this ditch was known another test trench further south uncovered the junction of the upper north/south ditch and the lower east/west ditch. This area of excavation noted that the lower east/west ditch actually curved to the north and continued as the lower north/south ditch. An earlier test trench had revealed a continuation of the lower east/west ditch, which continues past the junction with the lower north/south ditch, but as a much smaller, and shallower, feature. This difference in ditch size could be observed in the geophysical images. The upper east/west ditch and lower east/west ditches do continue eastwards into the baulk, and out into the field, but they diminish in size as they progress eastwards.

It was towards the end of the season that while excavating a 2-metre-wide section of the lower north/south ditch that interesting variations occurred. A section of this ditch continued downwards, passing through the ditch and continuing deeper into the bedrock chalk. At first it was considered that we could have found a well, and the settlement water source, but this feature eventually bottomed out. The bottom section of this large pit was only partially excavated, the area being left for further investigation in 2019.

A small area measuring 3 metres square, and located above the lower east/west ditch, was de-turfed and used for a YAC visit. There was very little top soil removed by the young diggers and this open area will be part of the 2019 excavation.

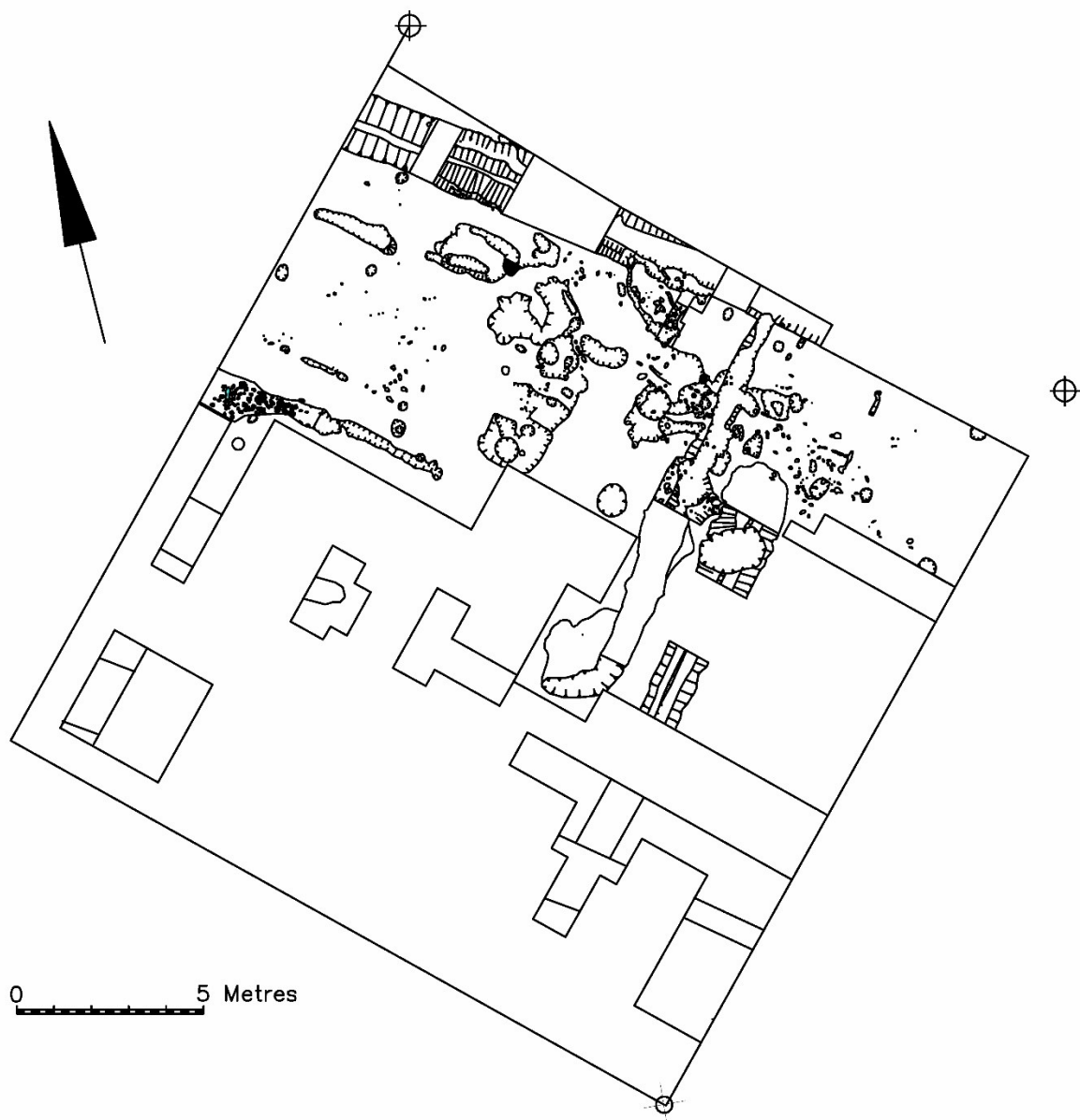


Fig 5. Rocky Clump 2018 after final planning

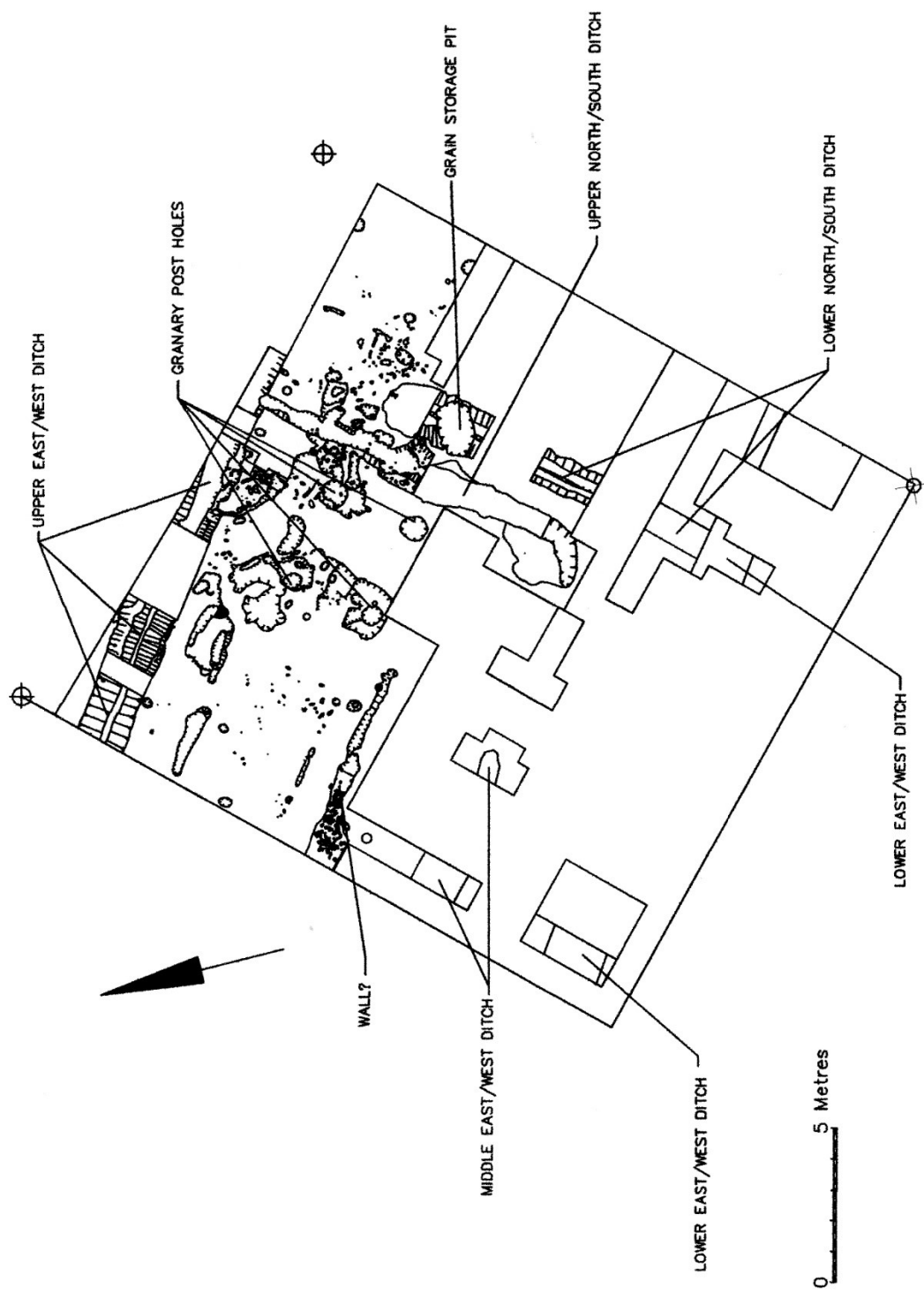


Fig 5a. Rocky Clump Main Features

## **The Ditch sections (Fig 3a)**

### **The Upper East/West ditch section Contexts 513/591 (Fig 7).**

This ditch section was located at the west end of the ditch. The length of the section was 2 metres. The ditch proved to be over 70 centimetres in depth and 1.4 metres wide. It was a 'v' shape and had a narrow gully running along the base of the ditch.

The fills were recorded in section and proved to have a number of re-cuts. During the excavation it did appear that the ditch had slightly terraced edges, but this later proved to be a very compact layer of chalk. The upper fills, contexts 513 and 540, consisted of large flint nodules and a darker, silty loam soil. Most of the pottery and bone finds came from within these upper fills including a deposit consisting of flint, stone, tile and an upturned sheep's skull. This was removed sequentially for further investigation (see below). It was at the lower junction of fill contexts 553/572 that the baby burials were found. One burial was at the west end close to the baulk with, a second baby burial a little further to the east.



**Upper East/West ditch -Structured deposit? Photo: BHAS**



**Upper East/West ditch section Context 513. Photo: BHAS**

### **The Upper East/West ditch section Context 521 (Fig 7.)**

This section of the upper east/west ditch measured 1 metre in length and had similar fills to ditch section contexts 513/591. The only exception to this was that the upper, dark, silty fill had fewer large flint nodules in its constituents.

### **The Upper East/West ditch Section Contexts 556/585 (Fig 3a)**

This ditch section measured 2.7 metres in length. The section had vestiges of the re-cut found at the west end of this ditch, with a terracing comprising of compact chalk loam. The lower layer of dark, silty loam produced copious amounts of black burnished pottery, among a collection of large flint nodules. Unfortunately, due to the season coming to a close, the ditch was never fully excavated to its full depth. The north edge of this section disappeared in to the north baulk, while the south section was an irregular shape with a very disturbed face, and a collection of either stake holes or root action holes. A small gully ran from the south edge of the ditch southward towards another collection of 'stake' holes and a disturbed area.

### **The Upper East West ditch: East End Contexts 538/543 (Fig 3a & 6.)**

The east end of the upper east/west ditch was only partially excavated as the ditch, at this location, disappeared into the north baulk. This last section was still excavated down to natural depth but the bottom was never reached and revealed only part of the south wall face. The fill was of a light chalky loam. The junction of the upper east/west ditch, and the upper north/south ditch, was sectioned (Fig 6.) to determine whether any chronological sequence could be observed by features cutting features. Sadly, the section revealed a general back fill with no evidence for sequence.



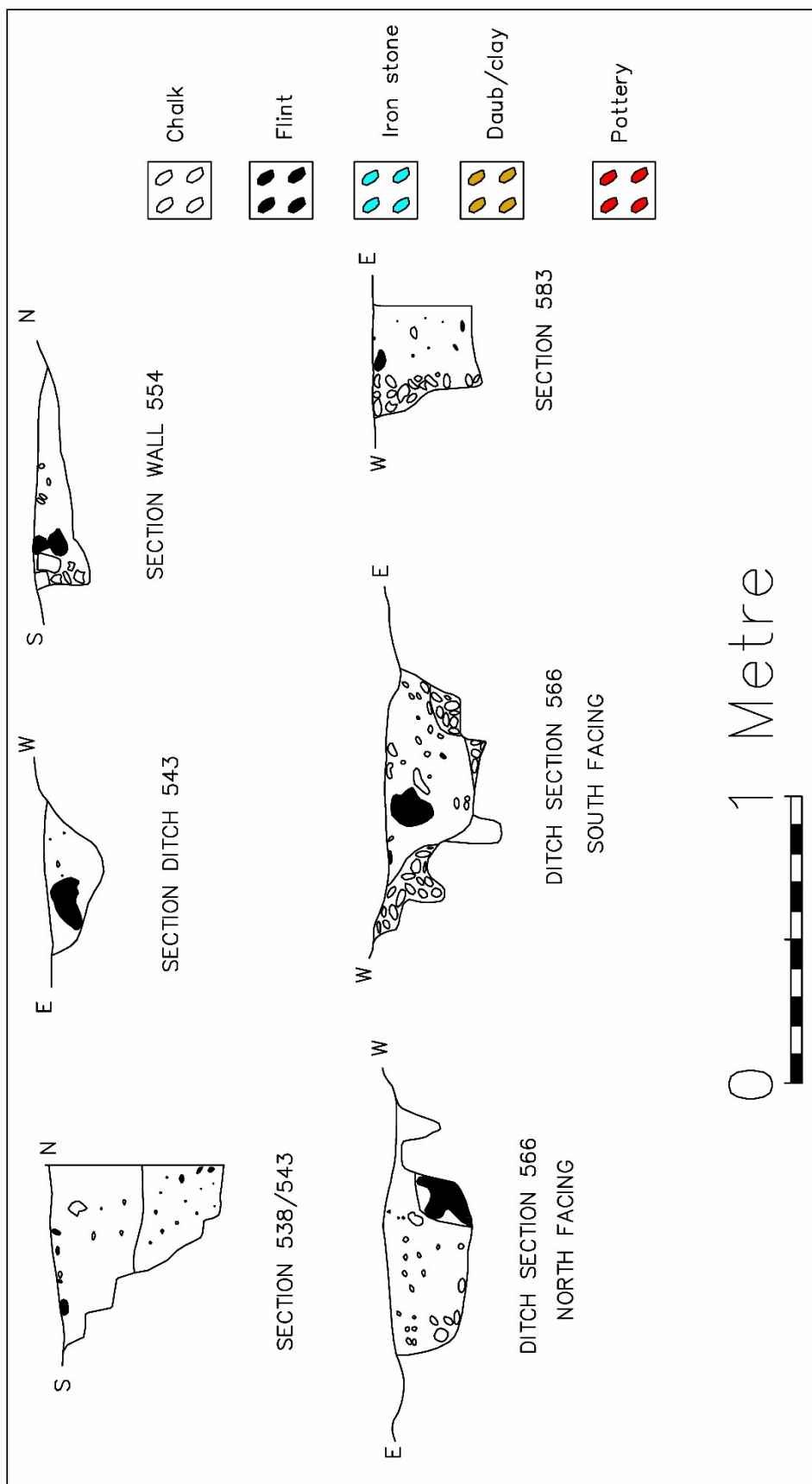


Fig 6. Pit & ditch sections Rocky Clump 2018



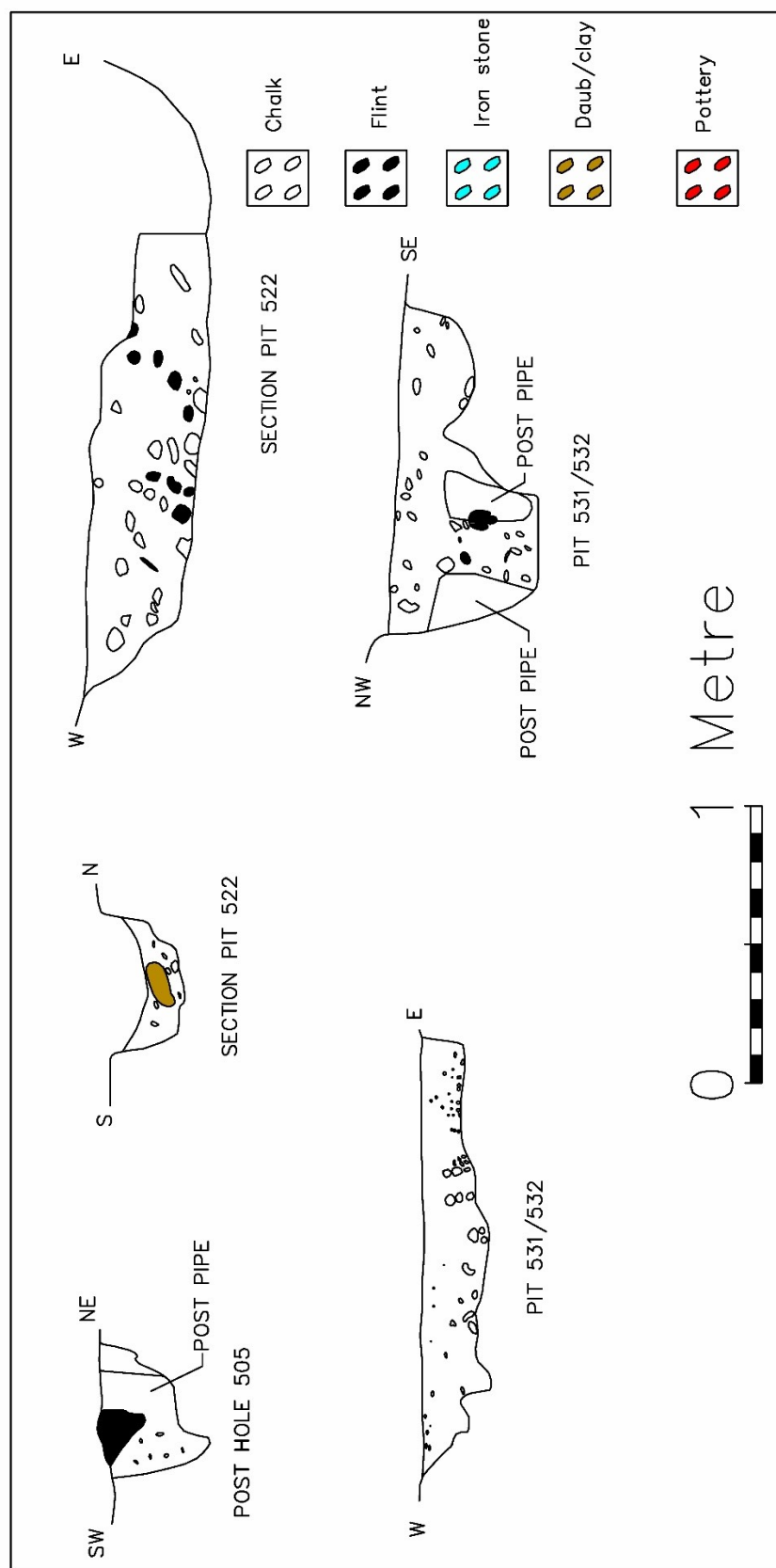


Fig 6a. Pit sections Rocky Clump 2018

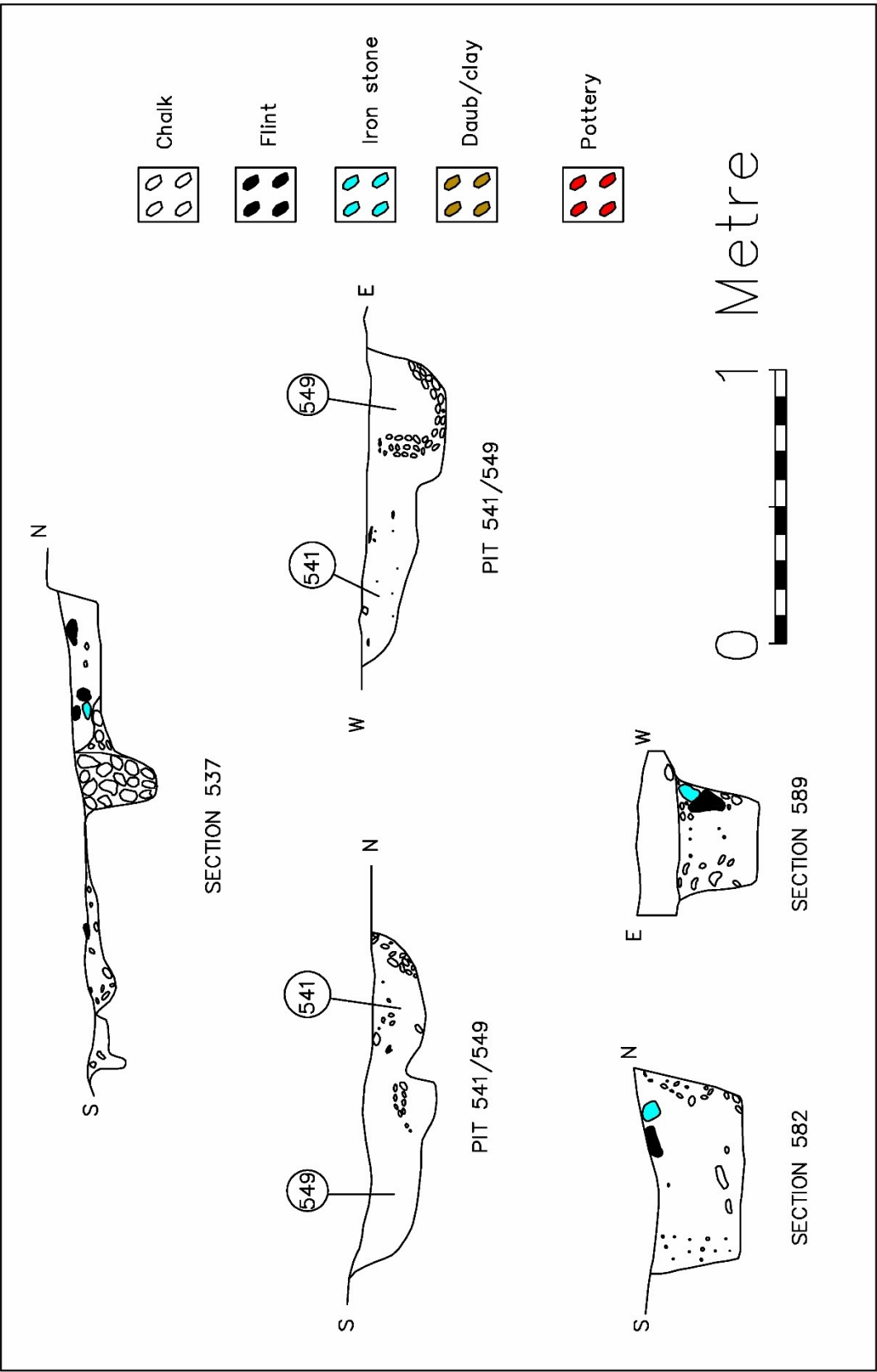


Fig 6b. Pit sections at Rocky Clump 2018

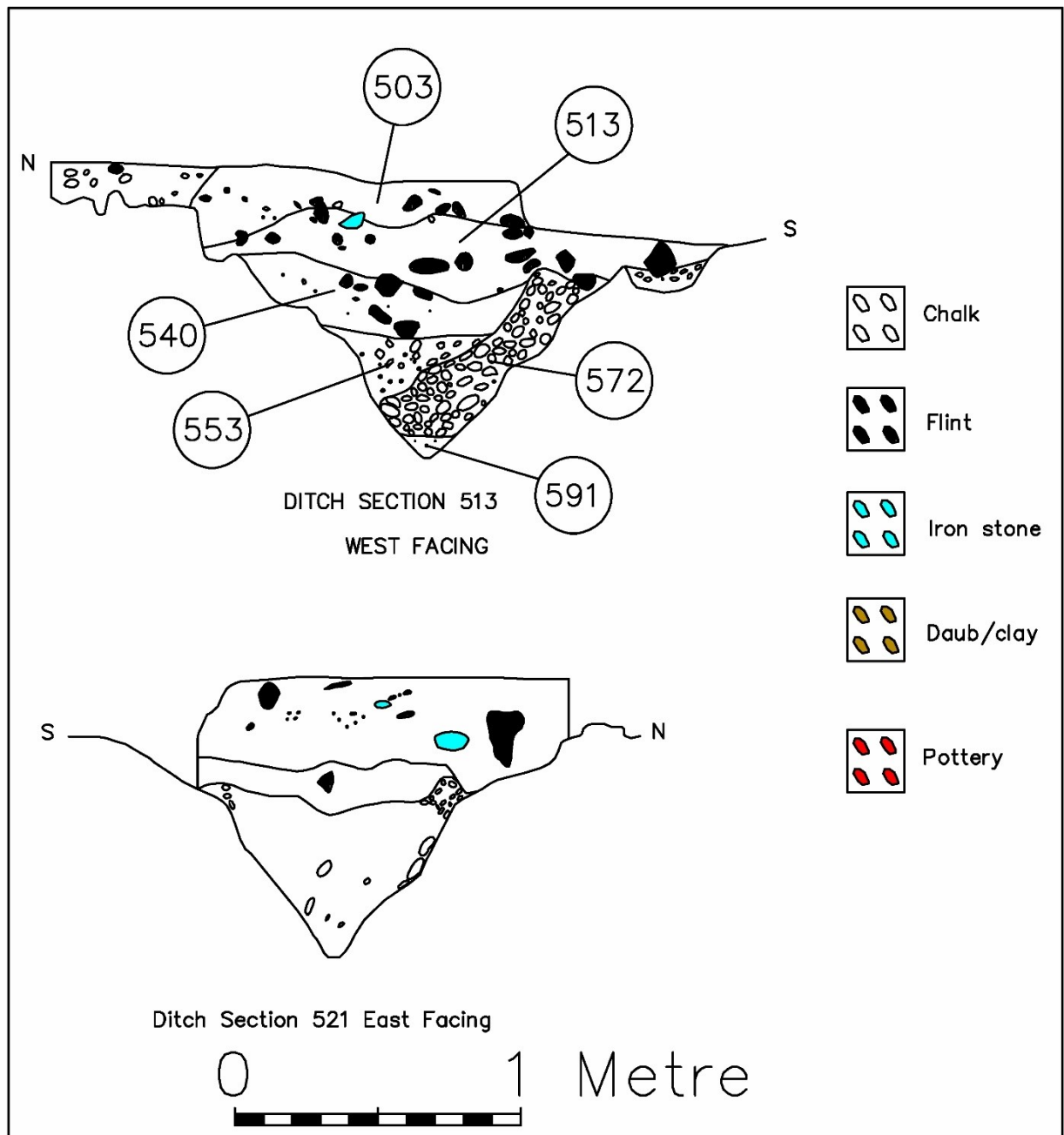


Fig 7. Sections of Upper East/West ditch

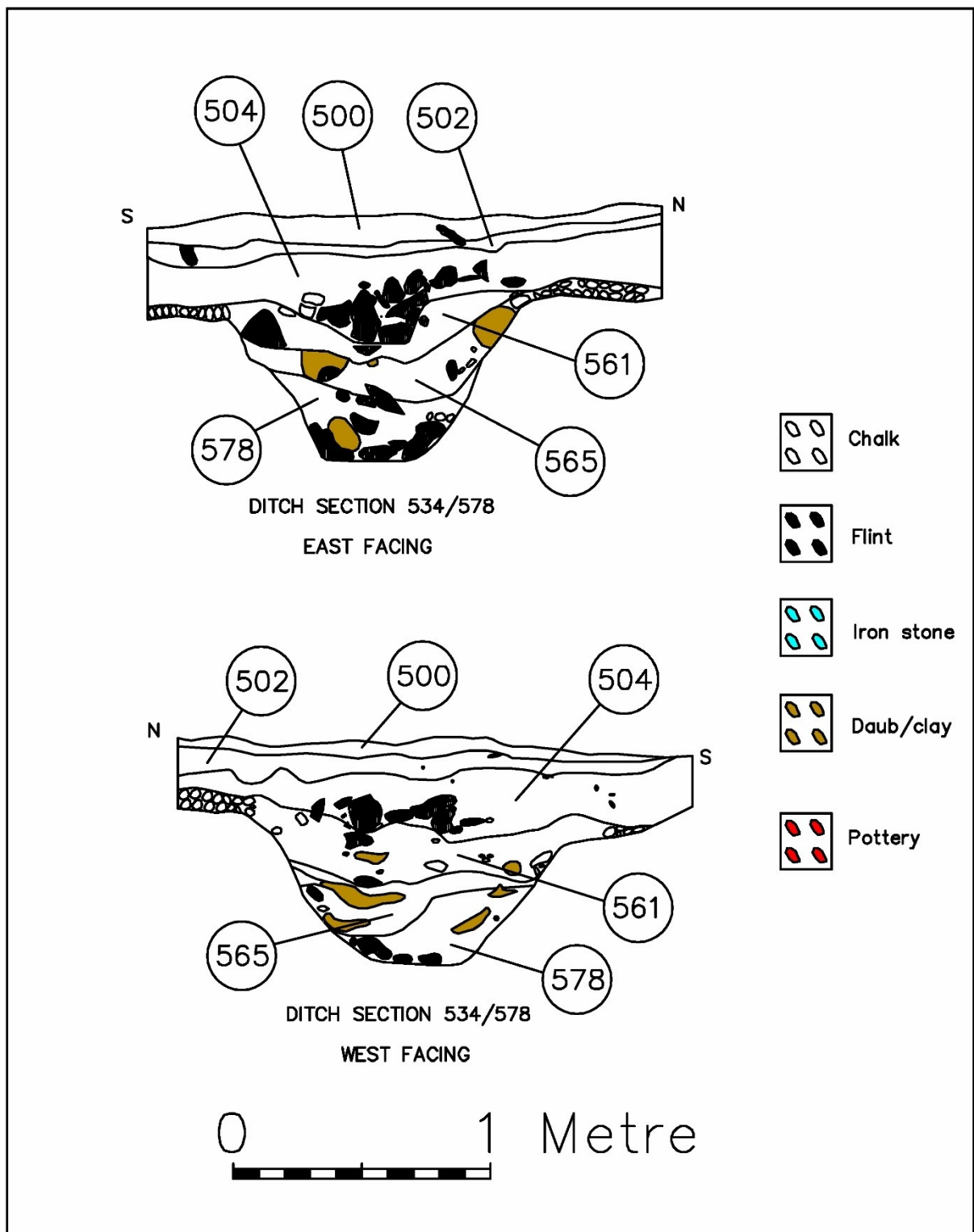


Fig 8. Sections of Middle East/West ditch

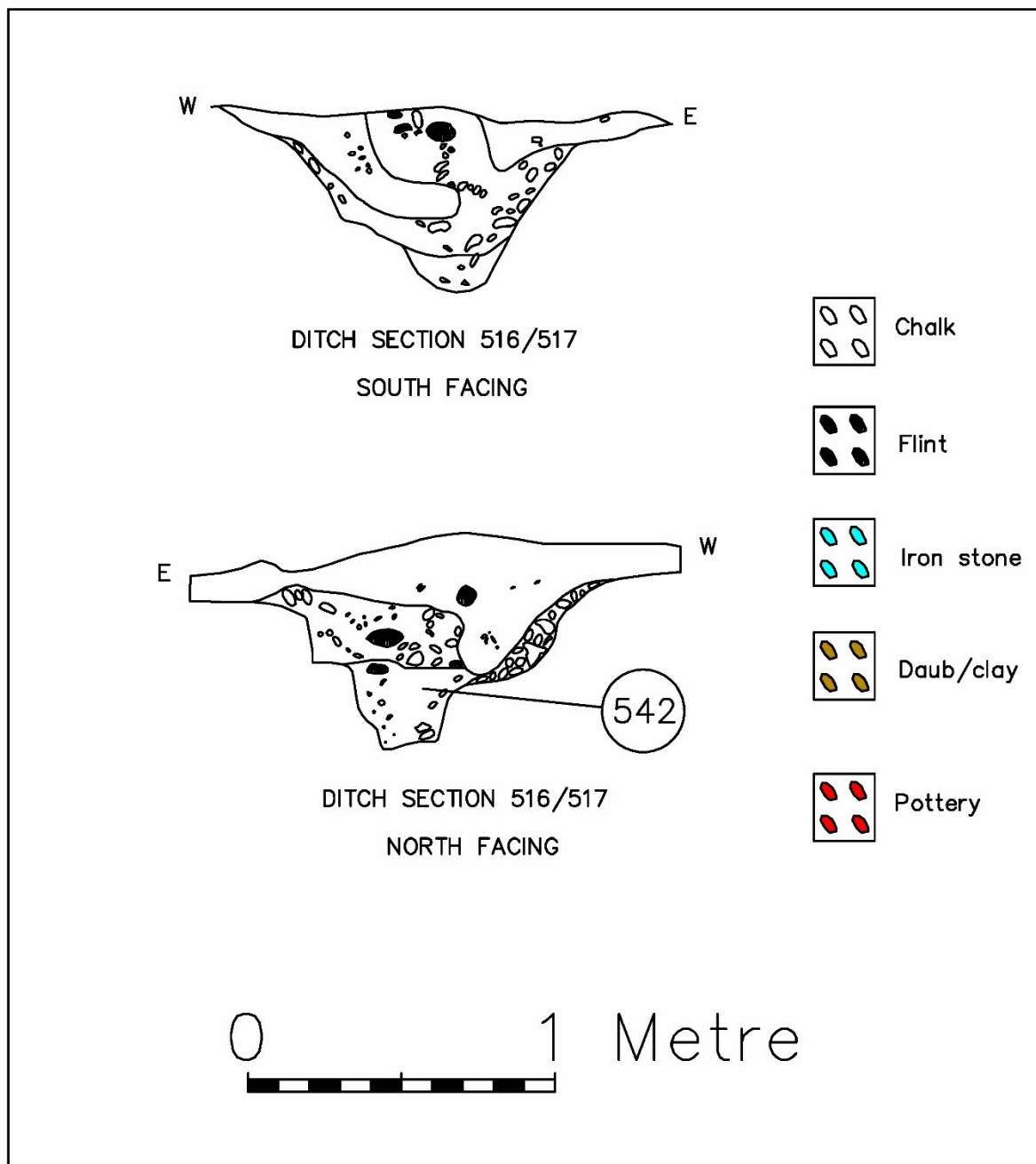


Fig 9. Sections of Lower North/South ditch

### **The Lower North/South Ditch (Fig 3a.)**

#### **The lower section of the Lower North/South Ditch Contexts 516/517 (Fig 9.)**

The lower north/south ditch was so named as it emanated from the top of the lower East/west ditch going northwards. The lower north/south ditch was sectioned in 2 locations. The lower section measured 2 metres in length (Fig 3a). The ditch at that location was 1 metre in width and 45 – 55 cms in depth. The ditch had a flat base, which bottomed out on the east side at its maximum depth. A platform had been created at a depth of 30-35 cm on the west side indicated the location of a later re-cut. The upper fill contained a number of large flint nodules, while the lower fills consisted mainly of chalky loam. This ditch was smaller than the upper and lower east/west ditches.



**Lower North/South ditch looking South. Photo: BHAS**

#### **The upper section of the Lower North/South Ditch Contexts 509/510 (Fig 10.)**

A second section was cut through the lower north/south ditch a metre north of contexts 516/517 to investigate a new section of the same ditch. The final north section of this ditch, which included the terminus, was not excavated this season.

Section 509/510 had similar upper fills of chalky loams and produced numerous finds of pottery and bone. As excavation progressed downwards into the section the width of the ditch gradually became wider until it was realized that the ditch had been cut through a large pit. The sections of the ditch were drawn and the lower fills revealed finds of several sheep skulls, all visible in section. The large pit continued downwards.

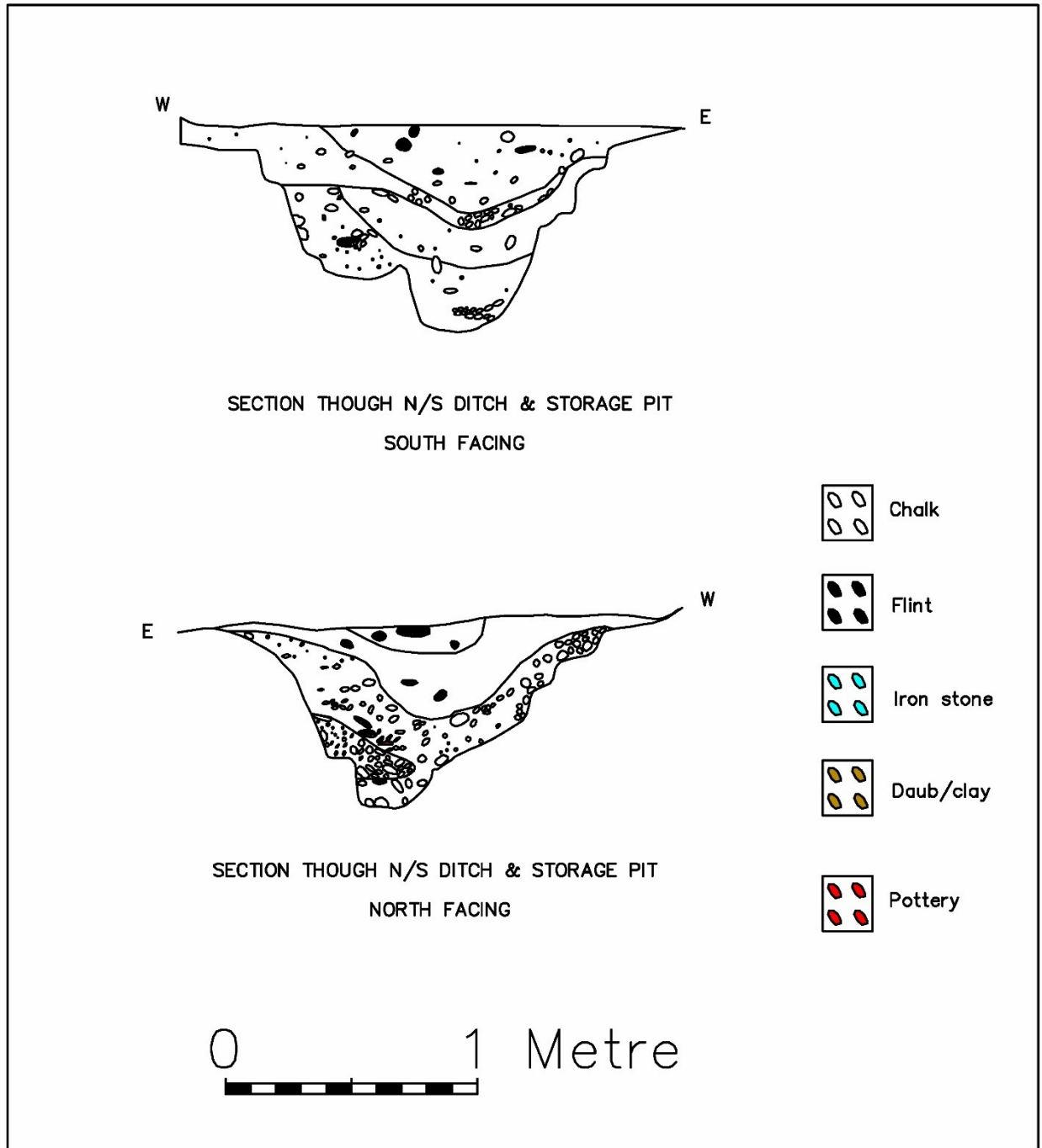


Fig 10. Sections of Grain storage pit/ditch





**Lower North/South ditch with Inverted Sheep Skull. Photo: BHAS**

### **The Upper North/South Ditch: Upper/Middle Sections Context 566 (Fig 3a & 6)**

The method of investigation for the upper north/south ditch was similar to the other ditches with various sections being cut along the length. The upper section had already been investigated, as part of the junction with the upper east/west ditch. This upper section proved that the smaller north/south ditch was only 65 cm in width and a shallow 20 cm in depth (Fig 6.) As the upper north/south ditch continued southwards it gradually became wider, with the fills more complex (Fig 6a). The sides of the ditch in context 566 were very smooth and had an almost puddled texture. There were also numerous 'stake' holes or root holes on either side. The shape of the ditch in this section was very irregular. However, it was from this central section that the best pottery find was uncovered. It proved to be an almost complete imported Gallo-Belgic ware jug, with some very fine decoration. The pottery came from the upper fills.

### **The Upper North/South Ditch, Lower Section (Fig 3a)**

The lower section of this ditch focused at the south end. It was very disturbed as it curved away to the west at the very bottom, around a natural outcrop of clay with flints and solution hollow. The side of the ditch to the east was fairly typical of a ditch section, but as the lower section of the ditch curved and collided with large flint eroding from the natural features and the well-defined ditch shape was lost. The lower section was only partially excavated and finds were few from the fill.



### **The Middle East/West Ditch (Figs 3a & 8.)**

The middle east/west ditch has always been different to the ditches at the boundary of the enclosure. The different daub laden fill was noted in the 2012/3 excavations. This ditch is within the enclosure creating another inner boundary. A small section was uncovered in 2018 at the west end context 534/578. The ditch in this location measured 1.15 metres in length and had a maximum depth of 65 cm. The fill was completely different to the surrounding ditches, being composed of very large flint nodules, interspersed with several discreet layers of heavy clay or daub. A similar fill was determined in this ditch when the area was excavated at the west end in 2012 when a terminus was also found. Additional test trenches were cut to the east of new trench to see if it linked up with the upper north/south ditch at the east end of the enclosure. The extension context 547 did not reveal more of the middle east/west ditch. Despite being almost at the same level north, as the lower end of the upper north/south ditch, it was found that the middle east/west ditch terminated before they met. This left a clear area of natural chalk between the two ditches.

### **The Lower East/West Ditch: Contexts 524, 544, 564 and 562 (Fig 3a.)**

The lower east/west ditch was only partially investigated during 2018, the focus being on the features to the north. One objective had been to locate the feature and confirm that it still continued eastwards. The first test trench was located at the south east corner of the main trench. A section 2 metres wide was cut northwards from the south baulk and a ditch was revealed, context 564. This feature proved to be very narrow in width and completely different to the lower east/west ditch excavated in 2013. A second test trench was cut running east to west and revealed the position of the lower north/south ditch. Once this location was established the area was gradually opened up to reveal the junction of the lower east/west ditch, and the lower north/south ditch at context 544. The small ditch to the far east proved to be quite shallow and is reflected in the geophysical images. However, even at the junction of both of the lower ditches it was confirmed that the lower east/west ditch reduced dramatically in width as it progressed eastwards.

The junction did produce an interesting collection of finds in the upper fills, this consisted mainly of animal bone. The bone finds included several pieces of cow mandible, and an almost complete cow rib. The excavations at the junction did not reach the bottom of the section, and the area was covered up ready for further investigation in 2019.

A trial trench was cut at the west end of the lower east/west ditch, and this confirmed that at that end the section was much wider, context 579. A very interesting large curved piece of natural flint was revealed eroding out of the natural chalk. What was very noticeable in the sections created was a layer of about 30 cm of chalk which tended to indicate that the upcast of chalk from the ditch construction was deposited north of the ditch. This deposit of chalk effectively created a platform of chalk. This platform had been noted in the earlier excavations in 2012. Only a small depth of the

ditch was excavated and this area was covered up ready for 2019. An area measuring 3 metre square was de-turfed to the east of the trial trench, and this was used for the visiting young archaeologists club (YAC).

### **The Post Holes (Fig 3a.)**

The 2018 excavations revealed a number of post holes, of varying shapes and sizes. At present the post holes do not indicate the presence of possible structures or fence lines and appear to be in random locations. There were 2 post holes located either side of the upper north/south ditch close to the junction with the upper east/west ditch.

<b>Post Hole</b>	<b>Diameter Cm</b>	<b>Depth cm</b>
505	58x42 (oval)	35
532	40	54
548	26	8
549	48	60 (Max)
567	36	10
568	55	46
569	30/35	45
576	36	5
581	28	50
582	50	40
583	36	34

### **Post Hole Context 505 (Figs 6a & 11)**

This post hole was oval in shape with the longer side running north/south. The post hole had vertical sides and was flint packed. The post hole was excavated down to a hard surface during section and recorded. Once the remaining fill had been removed the solid stone, noted during sectioning at the bottom, proved to be 1/3 of a broken quern stone (see below). The broken stone had retained part of the central circular channel for pouring in the grain. This post hole was in quite a complex area with a myriad of small stake holes around.

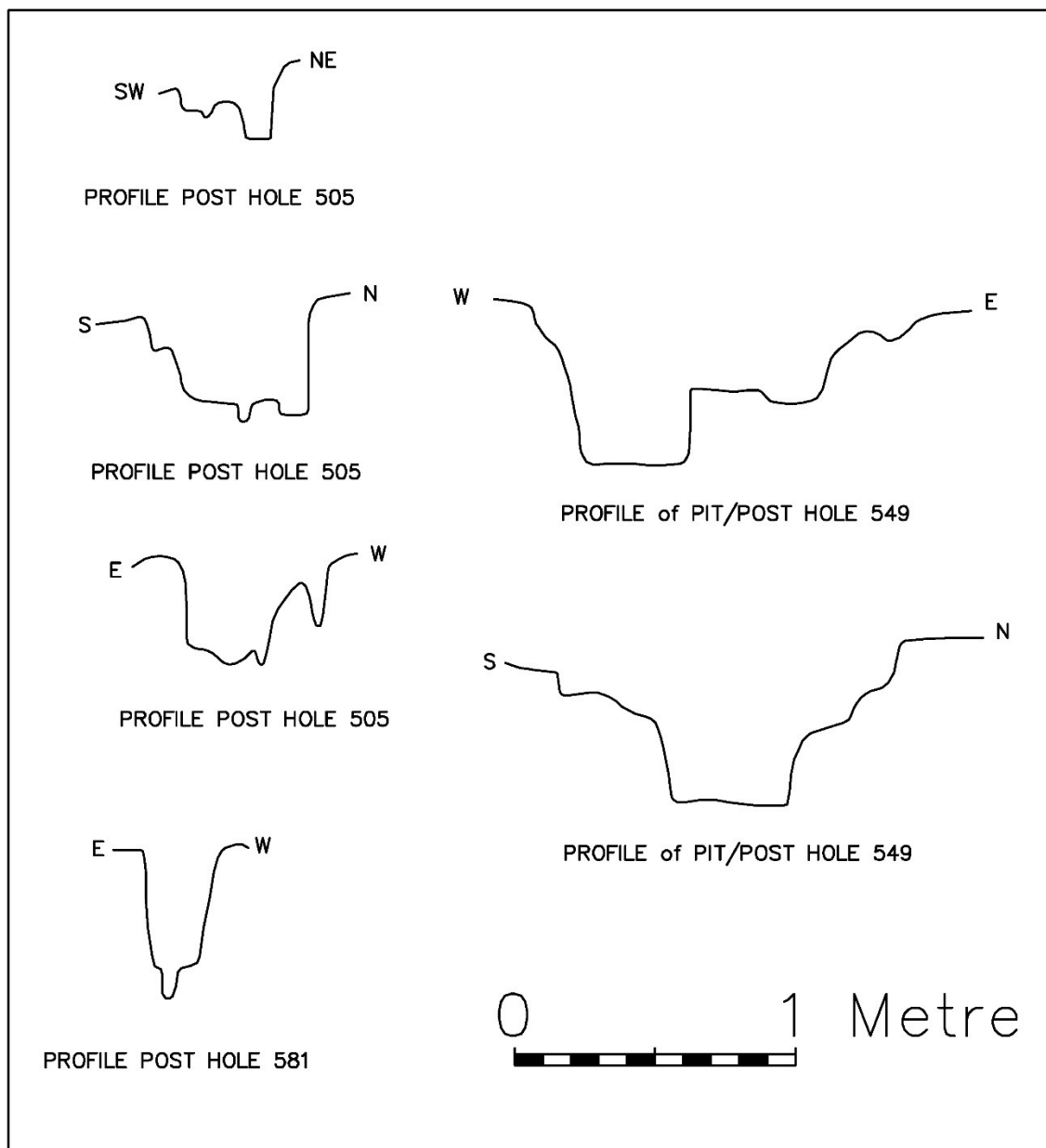


Fig 11. Profiles at Rocky Clump 2018



**Post Hole Context (505) Photo: BHAS**

#### **Post Hole Context 532 (Fig 6a.)**

This post hole was one of the larger ones, and part of the square configuration of post holes. It was flat bottomed and slightly truncated on the east side where a gully appears to lead in from the upper north/south ditch. It had flint packing. It also had a number of stake holes, or possible root holes in and around this area. The area surrounding this post hole had been one of the first areas to be investigated and the complexity of the features required a number of sections to be cut and recorded. The sections investigated a possible shallow ditch, running from the post hole to the upper north/south ditch, and is recorded as context drawings 531/532 (Fig 6a)

#### **Post Hole Context 548 (Fig 3a)**

This was a shallow flat-bottomed feature measuring only 8 cm deep. However, even though it was not particularly deep feature it did have an incredible number of small animal bones within it.

#### **Post Hole Context 549 (Figs 6b & 11.)**

This post hole was another of the square figuration located in the north/west corner. It was a large flat based post hole, and was initially thought to be a pit as it had various incursions on the north and east sides which is visible on the profile drawings (Fig 11.)

### **Post Hole Context 567 (Fig 3a.)**

This was a small vertical sided flat based post hole similar in shape and size to post hole 548, but without any finds in its fill.

### **Post Hole Context 568 (Fig 3a)**

This feature was the south/west post hole of the square configuration. It was vertically sided and flat bottomed. The feature had a small incursion on the east side of the post hole. It was a mixture of chalk rubble with some flint, but no large pieces of flint packing.

### **Post Hole Context 569 (Fig 3a)**

This post hole was at the east terminus of the 'wall' feature context 554. The post hole was vertically sided for almost its whole depth. It was only during the last centimetres when it became very pointed and stake shaped. The fill was of chalky loam with little flint in the inclusions.

### **Post Hole Context 576 (Fig 3a)**

This was a very shallow feature located just south of the east/west 'wall' feature. It was a fill of light chalky rubble.

### **Post Hole Context 581 (Fig 3a & 11)**

This post hole was vertically sided and had a went down to a pointed stake shape in the lower section. It was very similar in shape to post hole 569, but was located at the east end of the trench.

### **Post Hole Context 582 (Fig 3a & 6b)**

This large post hole was the south east post of the square configuration. The post hole had vertical sides and was flat bottomed. The fill was mostly of chalky loam with some medium flint nodules and medium sized iron stone fragments.

### **Post Hole Context 583 (Fig 3a & 6.)**

This post hole was found at the very north/east of the trench and half of this feature remained under the baulk. It was straight sided, flat bottomed and had a fill of light chalky loam.

### **Post Hole Context 589 (Fig 3a)**

This post hole was at the end of the site and was only partially revealed. This feature disappeared under a section of the trench that had not been excavated. The post hole

had a vertical side, a flat base and the fill was a chalky loam. It is very similar to post hole context 583 and could be part of a later fence line. It is possible that a third post hole lies buried beneath the unexcavated area. This will be confirmed in 2019.

### **The Pits (Fig 3a)**

A number of pits were revealed across the site. Some at the west end of the trench were linear in shape, while another had a complex shape. At the east end of the site, around post hole context 532 were a number of complex cuts. There was a similar complexity to the east of the lower north/south ditch. The features comprised of shallow cuts interspaced with a myriad of 'stake' holes or root holes context 537 (Fig 6b).

#### **Pit: Context 520**

This was shallow pit that was complicated by a section running southwards at the east end. There were no finds from this feature. The pit ran mainly in an east/west direction, and almost parallel to pit contexts 522 and 539 which were a little further to the south.

#### **Pit: Context 522 (Figs 3a & 6a.)**

This pit measured 2.5 metres in length but only 50 cm in width and only 30 cm in depth. This feature had been covered over by the linear arrangement of flints. It had a fill consisting of a mixture of darkish clay soil and daub, with some fragments of medium sized flint but containing few finds.

#### **Pit: Context 537 (Figs 3a & 6b)**

This pit was a very shallow feature, and located in a very disturbed area containing numerous stake or root holes. It was located just north of the lower north/south ditch terminus and west of the large post hole 505.

#### **Pit: Context 539 (Figs 3a)**

This pit was located to the east of pit 522, and had a similar linear arrangement and alignment. It measured 65 cm in length and 25 cm in width, but was shallower than pit 522. The fill was not of daub and clay but a light chalky loam. There were few finds from the fill, and the surrounding area also had a number of shallow incursions into the chalk.

#### **Pit: Contexts 509/510/542 (Fig 3a & 10.) The Grain Storage pit**

During the excavation of the lower north/south ditch section it became apparent that there was an additional larger and more elliptical feature emerging (see below). As the excavation progressed the feature evolved into a deep pit, finally bottoming out onto natural chalk. The pit had been cut into both the west and east side of the north/south ditch and measured 90 cms running south/west to north/east and 60 cms running

north/west to south/east. The pit cut was not vertical but curved inwards on both sides causing overhangs. On the west side the pit had cut into a solution hollow of clay with flint. This solution hollow had been noted above affecting the fill of the upper north/south ditch. To facilitate the digger the pit was excavated down to the bedrock chalk on the west side, but there are still fills remaining on the east side. There were numerous fills recorded during the excavation process. The bottom fill produced an interesting collection of pottery.



**Grain Storage Pit in early stages of excavation. Photo: BHAS**

### **The 'Wall' Feature: Context 554 (Fig 3A & 6.)**

It was during the earlier excavations in 2012 and 2013 that a linear arrangement of large/medium flints was uncovered in a shallow ditch. At the time it was thought that the feature had the potential to be a wall. In 2018 the excavations on the south section of the main trench, revealed that this 'wall' did continue eastwards as a very subtle feature, reducing in size as it progressed. The wall finally terminated at post hole context 569. There wasn't any evidence to show the wall turning northwards. It also wasn't possible to determine whether it went in a southerly direction, although there appears very little evidence for it doing so. The fill of the 'wall' consisted of small flint nodules and some iron stone. In this section the shallow ditch has a distinct south edge but only tapered upwards on the north side with no distinct edge on the north side. There were finds of black burnished pottery from within the fill of the wall.

## **The Finds**

### **The Pottery**

The excavations in the south field at Rocky Clump have produced pottery that is quite different to that found in the north field. The predominant new finds are mainly of black burnished, grog tempered pot with the outer surfaces being very smooth. The pottery appears to be hand-made rather than wheel thrown. There are a variety of rim shapes indicating a good number of different vessels. A large number of sherds are decorated with a 'raised eyebrow' style of decoration. Other decoration includes a pattern of crossed lines and a number of sherds with simple lines running horizontally.

There was a distinct lack of the later hard, grey fabric pottery, and no mortaria of any description. A number of very small pieces of samian ware were found, but all from the well disturbed top soil.

The most interesting pottery find was from the upper fill of the upper north/south ditch with a collection of sherds, possibly a complete vessel, of a Gallo-Belgic jar (Cunliffe 1975). This type of pottery was common during the late Iron Age and early Roman period, with a good number of vessels being found at Camulodunum. The pottery has now been washed and is in the process of being marked. Some research has shown that the pottery is similar to sherds found at Newhaven (Green 1981), and more recently at Horsham (Peachey & Mustchin 2018).

### **Flintwork**

There was very little flintwork recovered this season, and this was mainly from the top soil contexts. Most of the items were waste flakes with only an occasional flint scraper. One notable flint find was of a section of a Neolithic axe, it was a rough out and was broken, possibly during manufacture. This was found in the upper fills at the junction of the lower east/west ditch and the lower north/south ditch. The flints will be washed and processed.

### **The Bone**

The excavations produced a large collection of animal bone. Large bone was found mainly in the south east ditch junction, mainly of cow (Bos). Bone was recovered from most of the ditch sections, and is probably mainly of sheep and pig. This is similar to the animal bone found in the north field. One post hole (Context 548), did produce an interesting collection of small bones in the fill, and these are being studied at the moment. One special find was of a decorated bone pin (Registered Find 11).

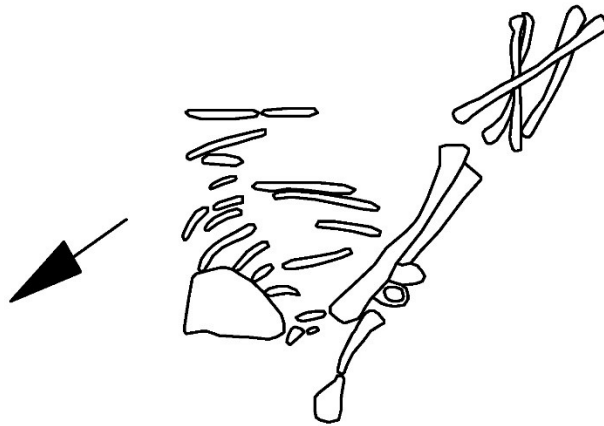


### **The Baby Burials (Fig 12.)**

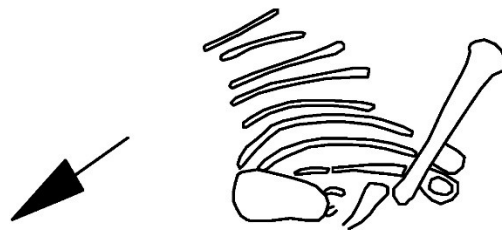
The Rocky Clump south field enclosure has produced a number of baby burials. This season another 2 burials were uncovered in the upper east/west ditch section context 513/591 at levels located about half way into the feature (see below). The burials were almost in the same layer, but spaced apart. One of the earlier baby burials was found in the same ditch, but further to the west. Another burial was in a small pit inside the enclosure. The bones indicate that they were probably neo-natal, similar to the burials found in previous seasons. The babies appear to have had a reverential burial. The babies are being examined by the BHAS bone specialist Carol White.



**Baby Burial: Upper East/West ditch. Photo: BHAS**



Baby burial – upper level



Baby burial – lower level



Fig 12. Rocky Clump baby burial 2018

## **The Marine Shell**

The excavations in the ditches in the north field produced copious amount of marine shell, mainly oyster, but the south field is lacking in finds of oyster with only a few fragments of shell being found. The only exception to this was a large deposit of mussel shells, almost a midden, found in a pit in 2012 at the west end of the enclosure. The 2018 season did produce a few finds of oyster, but very little else.

## **The Iron Metal Work**

The finds of iron objects this season included a small collection of nails. Most of the nails are of a square section and quite small in size. Another iron object was a possible crucible or lamp (Registered Find 7). The site director will be contacting the professional unit of Archaeology South East to see if a possible x-ray could be obtained.

## **The Copper Alloy Metal Work**

This season did produce a pair of nice objects of copper alloy. One item, a ring, was found in the upper fills of the upper east/west ditch and close to the south edge. The object was of a copper ring about 80 cm in diameter and about 8mm in diameter in thickness. It was either broken, or had been deliberately created with an open end, possibly as an arm ornament (RF3). The copper alloy ring is similar to one found at Fishbourne Volume II page 41, item 55 (Cunliffe 1975). Another find from the upper east/west ditch, context 521, was of the pin of a brooch (RF13). No trace of the body was found despite intense and careful excavation.



**Copper Alloy Ring**



**Brooch Pin** Photos: BHAS

## The Coins

The area at the west end of the trench produced a number of coin finds. There were four barbarous radiates and a very good condition Sestertius

- 1) RF 1 Barbarous Radiate Emperor Maximillian (295-297AD)
- 2) RF 2 Barbarous Radiate
- 3) RF 8 Sestertius Antoninianus (2<sup>nd</sup> century)
- 4) RF10 Claudius II (AD 268-270). Ae Antoninianus. Commemorative issue struck after his death. Obverse: DIVO CLAVD(IO), radiate bust right. Reverse: CON) SECRATI (O, large altar.

### **Sestertius Antoninianus (2<sup>nd</sup> Century) Photo: John Skelton**



### **Barbarous Radiate: Claudius II (AD 268-270). Photo: John Skelton**





Fig 13. Rocky Clump 2018 overall plan

## Discussion

The return to Rocky Clump and the south field was important as so much more work needed to be carried out. The geophysical surveys and the previous excavations had revealed a much earlier phase to the settlement, although the actual living accommodation is yet to be found. The enclosure is of considerable size, and its creation was a major undertaking. What is most important is to learn why it was it created, and for what purpose?

The excavations in 2012 and 2013 revealed some interesting features, but as at this time we have no real understanding of what they are (Fig 13.). The boundary ditches are large, and have produced numerous finds of pottery and bone, and even a unique silver ring of twisted wire, looking very similar to a miniature Iron Age torc. (Funnell 2013). The silver ring has been examined by the British museum and considered to be unique. They have provisionally dated it to the medieval period, but it is known that it came from a well stratified lower layer of the late Iron Age, lower east/west, ditch.

The earlier excavations also produced some evidence of chronological sequencing with a later ditch forming the north west corner of another possible enclosure. The previous digs had revealed a number of chalk surfaces and edges associated with a platform. This platform had been created from the upcast of the ditch digging, but there is no evidence for any mound associated with the ditches, and no new evidence for a mound was found in 2018.

The internal features found at the west end of the enclosure included a small number of large pits, possibly associated with metal working, but very few post holes to indicate structures or buildings. A number of very ephemeral linear arrangements of flint could possibly be humble wall footings, with one exception being a more substantial possible wall running through the area east to west located north of the middle east west ditch. However, a single 'wall' raised more questions than answers.

The most significant finds from the earlier work was the finding of 2 baby burials. One had been laid to rest in the upper east/west ditch while other was found in a small pit within the enclosure ditches. There was very little evidence found for activity within the enclosure at the west end.

One of the interesting developments this season was that because there was a limited amount of top soil removed by mechanical digger, much more soil removal had to be done by hand. This allowed us to judge the depth of soil down to bedrock chalk much easier.

As a result, the excavations commenced at the west end of the site and gradually moved eastwards. One of the most notable observations was a linear arrangement of flint nodules on the north side of the trench, just south of the upper east/west ditch. A number of plough marks cutting into the chalk were also observed.

In the previous excavations a line of flints indicating the location of a possible wall was recorded running just north of the middle east/west ditch, but there were no other wall features noted within the enclosure. It is possible that the linear arrangement noted in 2018 is another wall, partially destroyed by modern ploughing.

The 2018 trench contained a number of post holes, but no configuration suggesting the location of a round house. One post hole had a broken quern stone as a base, in context 505, but as yet this post hole has no other similar parallels close by. A pair of post holes contexts 583 and 589 were of a pointed stake like shape and may be indicators of a fence line, only further excavations will confirm this. At present there is no discernible post hole configurations for either fence lines or round houses. This situation may change as more of the surrounding top soil is removed.

The only exception to this was the uncovering of 4 quite large post holes: contexts 532, 549, 568 and 582. These large post holes are located at the east end of the enclosure and form a square measuring 1.5 metres square. This feature is almost certainly a granary structure built to house the grain for grinding and baking. It is also noticeable that the broken quern stone, used for packing, was found in a post hole close by to the granary, context 505. Granary buildings are often associated with hill-fort sites such as Danebury (Cunliffe 1995) but would have been essential on any settlement site however small. The suggestion of a granary was confirmed during the visit of Greg Chuter the County Archaeologist. It is not certain whether Rocky Clump has a 4 or 6 posted granary, but this will be confirmed by further soil removal to the south in 2019.

It was while excavating the outer, most easterly north/south ditch, that a large pit was discovered. The north/south ditch was a significant find in itself, and produced a good collection of finds. But as the section got deeper it revealed a large elliptical pit. The feature was 'bell-shaped' and went down almost 1.5 metres. It contained a good collection of finds including a significant number of sherds of pottery from the primary fill. At first it was thought that the feature was a well, but eventually the pit did bottom out. It is bell shaped with an overhang on both the east and west sides. The north and south side are cut by the ditch. The pit was considered to be a grain storage pit for housing the grain that would be used for re-sowing, a reasoning confirmed by Greg Chuter. The pit has only been partially excavated with some fill remaining in the west section. This will be removed in 2019.

The ditches have proved to be extremely interesting this season. The upper east/west and lower east/west ditches are quite large and in general 'v' shaped and steep sided. This season revealing the two north/south ditches has raised a number of questions. The south east terminus of the enclosure shows that the lower east/west ditch does continue. This ditch then curves northwards, transforming into the lower north/south ditch. This outer north/south ditch is still quite a significant feature. The excavation also showed that the lower east/west ditch does continue eastwards after this junction, but as a feature much reduced in size. One possible explanation is that when creating the enclosure, a smaller area was later decided upon, rendering work on the outer easterly



section of this feature unnecessary. The upper east/west ditch also tends to grow smaller going eastwards, when viewed in the geophysical images, but as this was not excavated, we cannot confirm this is the case.

The initial thought at the beginning of the season was that the two east ditches were part of a complex entrance arrangement. We can now say that they could not have been in use at the same time, as they are too close together. The inner or upper north/south ditch is quite shallow, and out of context with the other enclosure boundary ditches. This shallow ditch, did however, produce some of the most interesting pottery.

During the excavation of the grain storage pit it was observed that the bottom fill of the lower north/south ditch did have traces of this ditch going through the fill of the pit. This does suggest that the storage pit is the earlier feature, cut by a later constructed boundary ditch. Another observation is that the primary fill of the later ditch contained a good number of animal skulls, and these were also in the primary fill of the ditch as it cut the storage pit.

The excavations of 2018 have provided exciting new evidence for the interior of the late Iron Age enclosure. The excavations have also raised more questions. The granary is perhaps the most important new feature, and does the now parallel 'pair' of simple linear flint 'walls' hint at a possible building? Possibly a winnowing shed or barn? This structure is immediately west of the granary. It would have been a sill beamed wooden structure leaving very little evidence. The pair of ditches at north end contexts 522 and 539 could possibly be part of a more solid localised beam building maybe with an entrance? The lack of post hole evidence is somewhat perplexing but there are alternative methods of timber building construction.

The chalk surface to the west of the east boundary ditches is remarkably different to that to the east of the ditches. The surface within the enclosure is well worn and 'lived' on, a complete variation to the different solid, compact bedrock chalk further east.

The middle east/west ditch also raises queries about its purpose. The ditch has a completely different fill to the other ditches but it still quite a significant feature. The ditch does terminate at both the west and east ends. Is this termination an indicator of internal divisions? It is also interesting to note that both this ditch and the pit 522 contained large concentrations of daub, could this possibly be associated with the adjacent 'winnowing' shed?

The coin finds have also raised interesting questions being a mixture of both early and later periods. The pottery from the boundary ditches tends to suggest an early period of occupation, but the later coins suggest a continuation of use of the enclosure throughout the Roman period. We do know that the area to the north of the Rocky Clump copse contained coins dating to the early 4<sup>th</sup> century AD.

Another question must be about the pair of ditches at the end. If they were not both created at the same time, what is the chronological sequence? From the excavated

evidence it would appear that both the granary and grain storage pit were in use at the same time, possibly with the 'winnowing' shed. If that is the case, why is there no outer boundary ditch to protect both these important resources? The later creation of the outer eastern boundary ditch may be for protective measures, as it does provide and respect the granary and shed, but it did remove the storage pit from us. Perhaps another storage pit is yet to be found. It is the inner, shallow east ditch that raises questions as to its purpose. It is too small to provide protection, and is very irregular, and in an area covered by stake holes. Could these holes have been created by shrub root action, on a site abandoned? This ditch also has a surface resembling puddling, and some form of water interaction. Is there some other activity taking place that we need to consider?

The excavations at Rocky Clump are gradually teasing out evidence for activities in this part of Stanmer during the late Iron Age and early Roman periods. We have now established one possible purpose for the creation of the enclosure and that is to protect the valuable food resource, something essential during those turbulent times.

This season there have also been a good number of burned stones found in the upper east/west ditch. This could be evidence of some material which may have been used in metal working (i.e. Slag) and a possible crucible. Could these finds indicate that there may have been some form of small-scale metal working on the site? Metal working evidence was revealed at Oving, near Chichester, inside a smaller enclosure. (Bedwin & Holgate 1985).

The Rocky Clump enclosure appears to have had plenty of activity, but the details of these still have to be reviewed by the examination of other similar sites excavated in other areas.

The excavations in 2019 may provide new and important evidence for other activities inside the enclosure. New finds of post holes may provide evidence for other buildings or round houses. Despite the continued excavations at this site, there is still no evidence for actual settlement. The search will continue in 2019.

## **Acknowledgements**

The author would like to thank Brighton and Hove City Council, David Larkin Country Side Manager at City Parks, Greg Chuter and the tenant farmer Mr. David Robinson for allowing access to the land. I would also like to thank John Funnell, John Skelton and Mark Gillingham for their excellent support and all of the BHAS members who assisted on site, supported the excavation and for their patience in my first year as Site Director. A final thank you must go to Jim and Betty Driver who continue to let us store our tools and equipment in their sheds and garden.

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***Pete Tolhurst October 2019.***

## **Excavations at Hangleton (TQ 269 074)**

In August of 2018 BHAS were approached by Chris Butler requesting volunteers for his excavation at Hangleton. The dig was on the site of the old Downsman public house. The location is close to the site of the medieval village excavated by Eric Holden in the 1950's (Holden 1963). This excavation revealed at least 8 buildings and various other features. It was often difficult to determine whether the buildings had been lived in or were for animals.

BHAS members visited the excavation in early August and were willing to participate and help out. However, on arriving the team were given the news that they could only dig on the features outside of the main site, and could sweep and clean back the area looking for new features instead.

The team did complete some ground sweeping, but the very dry summer had produced a thick coating of chalk dust and this tended to cover rather than reveal features. The site was quite large and to the north west of the pub building some flint surface had been revealed, and the professional diggers were working in that area. The BHAS team were allowed to brush and clean the walls in the area to the north of the pub, but were not allowed to conduct any excavation other than on very peripheral features.

One or two of the BHAS did return to Hangleton during the following weeks. On one occasions two members were sectioning and excavating a number of post holes outlined in the chalk around the edge of the main site. Most of these proved to be modern, although a couple did produce some medieval pottery in the fill. These were close to the location of medieval buildings investigated by Eric Holden.

The professional excavators had revealed a flint floor surface, but as at Ovingdean there was no clear definition or shape to call it a proper house or building. This team also found a long flint wall feature cut into the north west chalk, but it was not clear exactly what this feature proved to be.

The BHAS team have always been willing to assist professional units with their excavations, but at Hangleton there was some reason why we could not. That reason still remains unknown. This caused BHAS some concern as The society is regarded as working to highest standards and to professional levels, both in excavation and recording.

If you would like more details about the Hangleton excavation you would need to contact Chris Butler at Selmeston. He is the Director of CBAS the team that led the excavation.

John Funnell 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018

**Ref:-**

**Holden E.** 1963 ' Excavations at the Deserted Medieval Village of Hangleton'  
Sussex Arch.Colls. 101, 54-182



# **Report on the test pit excavations at Beacon Hill, Rottingdean, East Sussex**

**3rd November 2018**

**Authors: J. Funnell & P. Tolhurst  
Excavations at Beacon Hill, Rottingdean 2018**

## Introduction

In early October the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were contacted by David Larkin a manager at City Parks about conducting a survey at Beacon Hill, Rottingdean (TQ 3645 0265). A large beacon was being constructed to celebrate the end of the First World War (Fig 1.). The County Archaeologist, Mr. Greg Chuter, was concerned about the damage to potential archaeological remains in that location. The County Archaeologist suggested that a trench be cut across the area to be used, to investigate and find evidence for archaeology on this part of Beacon Hill. The BHAS conducted a small scale excavation on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018.





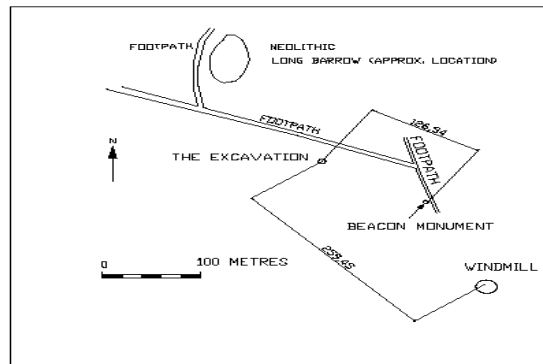


Fig 1. LOCATION OF EXCAVATION ON BEACON HILL

## The History of Beacon Hill

Old maps of Beacon Hill show that the hill has not been ploughed during the past century or longer. A map of 1873/1874 shows a pastoral landscape and subsequent maps throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century show no change to this environment. However, Beacon Hill does contain a number of archaeological features. The old maps show the location of an earthwork scheduled as a Neolithic long barrow. They also show a large dew pond and an enigmatic mound to the north located just east of the top of Beacon Hill. There are no historical records for this mound and it appears never to have been investigated. This feature is also shown on old maps and is shown on the HER as a possible bowl barrow.

In the past few years a second Neolithic long barrow was found from aerial photographs, and located in what was part of the old pitch and putt golf course. This feature has now been scheduled and is located to the south of the BHAS excavation.

When the Rottingdean windmill was constructed in 1802 the skeleton of a 'warrior' was found, bearing a sword. This is almost certainly a Saxon burial. In 1862 during work to the Rottingdean cricket pitch, which was located on Beacon Hill at that time, a further 4 skeletons and an urn were found. The pitch and putt course was opened in 1938 (Carder 1990). There are no archaeological finds noted during the course construction. During the past two decades sheep grazing has been part of keeping the Beacon Hill grass under control. On a number of occasions after sheep grazing, earthwork anomalies have been revealed. In 2005, 2006 and 2009 the BHAS were on Beacon Hill conducting resistivity surveys around the earthworks. The resulting images have suggested that Beacon Hill has a good amount of archaeology hidden beneath its slopes.

The resistivity survey of 2005 was close to the location of the new beacon site, and this survey revealed a number of features including a large ditch and a circular shape which could possibly be the location of an old windmill (Funnell 2005). (Fig 2.)

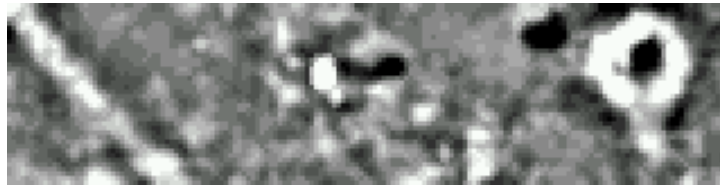


Fig 2. Geophysical images on Beacon Hill 2005

A visit to the Beacon monument on Beacon Hill, located just north/west of the windmill shows that the hill has been used as a beacon location on numerous occasions. The beacons included a warning of the approach of the Spanish Armada in 1588, and several of Queen Victoria's jubilees.

### **The Geology**

Beacon Hill is the southern section of a spur of the South Downs that runs down from Warren Road to the cliffs and the sea between Rottingdean and Ovingdean. The central section has been built upon at Ovingdean, while the most prominent location of the spur is at Mount Pleasant, just north of Ovingdean. The southern section has an undulating topography rising up from the southern end of Ovingdean to a higher location west of the 'Blind Veterans' complex. The hill then drops back down towards the cliffs and sea. On the east side of Beacon hill is located the village of Rottingdean, while the west slopes dramatically down to Greenways Road. This is the road leading to Ovingdean church and the old village.

The British Geological survey of this area (Sheet 318/333) shows the geology to be predominantly upper and middle chalk on the hill, with head deposits in the adjacent valleys.

## The excavations

The area was cleared of shrub and brambles by Jason Fisher and the Friends of Beacon Hill. The area was approximately 6/7 metres in diameter (Fig 3.)

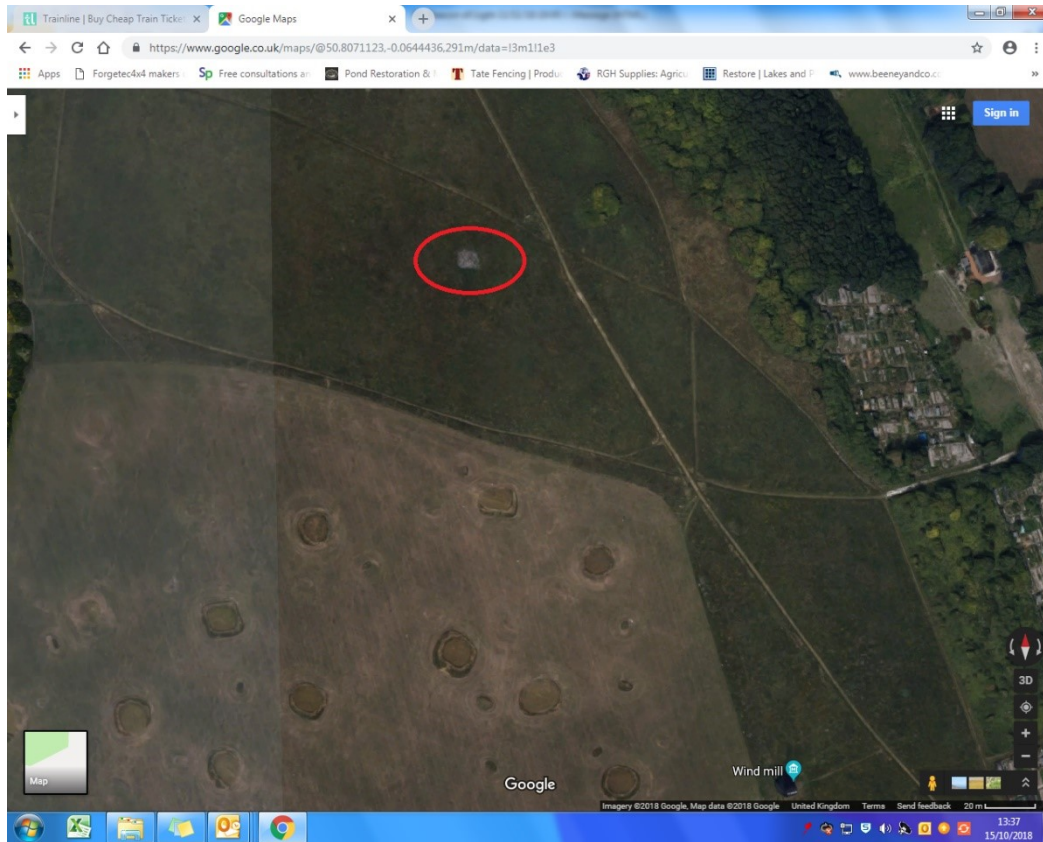


Fig 3. The area cleared by the Friends of Beacon Hill (Google Earth)

It was decided to sink 5 test pits. One was to be cut at the centre of the circle cleared with the other 4 trenches at the cardinal points of the compass (Fig 4.). The area was measured out for accuracy and strings set up to set the dimensions of each trench. The excavation was conducted by members of the BHAS Field Unit led by Archaeological Secretary Pete Tolhurst.

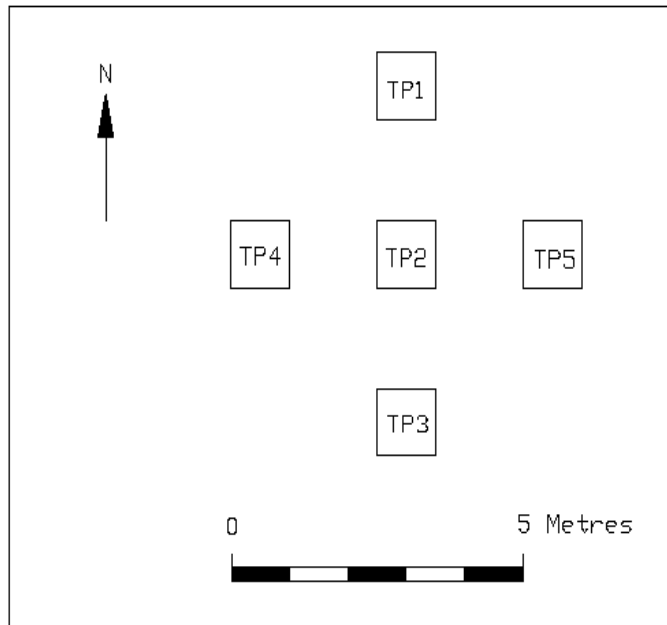


Fig 4. The Location of the test pits

The top layer was a very soft and light dark loam, with plenty of bramble roots. These were removed using shovel and spades. At a depth of about 15 cm the excavation continued using trowels.

Test Pit 1- This was the most northerly trench. After the removal of the top soil and bramble roots a second layer consisting of chalk rubble was revealed. This was quite a soft fill and was easy to remove and measured about 10 cm in depth. Below this was a lighter loam. The chalk bedrock was revealed at 32 cm depth. The surface had no visible plough marks and was virgin chalk. (Fig 5.)

Test Pit 2 – This trench was at the centre of the area cleared. This proved to have deeper soil going down to a depth of 40 cm at the north end, and dropping down to 50cm at the south end. A slight curving edge was noted going from west to south/east. The chalk bedrock was again free of any plough marks. ((Fig 6.)

Test Pit 3 – This trench was at the south end of the excavation and proved to be the deepest reaching a depth of just over 50 cm (Fig 7.) This trench revealed a stratigraphy of 4 distinct layers, with the chalk rubble second layer very visible in the sections all round (Fig 8.)

Test Pit 4 – This pit was on the west side of the area, and went down to a good depth almost 50 cm. The stratigraphy was similar to the other pits with at least 4 clear levels. (Fig 9.)

Test Pit 5 – This test pit was on the east side of the area. The top soil was removed and during the subsequent trowelling a large protruding flint was visible with a sharp edge facing upwards. As the excavation progressed it became clear that there was either a pit or post hole in this location, on the north/east side of the test pit. The fill was carefully removed and from the bottom level of this possible post hole a piece of fire-cracked flint and a sherd of pottery were recovered (Fig 10.)

After photographs were taken, including a number for creating 3D imaging, all of the test pits were back filled. Measurements to the excavation were taken from both the Rottingdean windmill location and the Beacon Hill monument.

## The Finds

### The Flintwork (Table 1.)

A total of 78 pieces of flintwork were collected weighing a total of 1477 gm. All but two of the pieces were struck flakes, with 2 cores also being recovered. All of the flakes were hard hammered, with the majority (69%) having a white patination. Other patinations were blue and blue/grey, with only 3 flakes being black. Most of the flakes retained some vestige of cortex. The flakes were simple struck flakes and none had been retouched.

Context	No	Wt gm	White	Grey	Blue	Black	Core
TP1/1	4	186	1	3			
TP1/2	7	48	5		2		
TP2/1	2	19		1		1	
TP2/2	1	7	1				
TP2/3	5	150		4	1		
TP2/4	6	128	3	1	1	1	1
TP3/1	2	41	1			1	
TP3/2	2	35	2				
TP3/3	5	73	2	2	1		
TP3/4	5	186	5				1
TP4/2	3	59	3				
TP4/3	3	22	2		1		
TP4/4	17	305	16		1		
TP5/2	4	39	3		1		
TP5/3	3	27	2	1			
TP5/4	7	152	6	1			
Total	76	1477	52	12	9	3	2

Table 1. The Flintwork

The most well defined stratigraphy of the area was revealed in Test pit 3. The greater depth also produced a detailed visual display of the various layers. The very dark top soil had a depth of 15 cm. Below this was a layer of loose chalk rubble measuring 15 cm in depth while below this a light loam deposit measured 15 cm in depth with a shallow 5 cm of depth of a layer just above the natural chalk. It was in this lower layer that most of the flintwork was found.

### **The Fire-Cracked Flint (Table 2.)**

A similar situation to the flintwork also applied to the collection of fire-cracked flint, with most of the pieces again coming from the bottom layers, in all of the test pits.

Context	Number	Wt gm
TP1/1	2	184
TP1/2	4	62
TP2/1	4	18
TP2/3	12	248
TP2/4	13	211
TP3/3	3	110
TP3/4	31	997
TP4/2	1	13
TP4/3	1	12
TP4/4	25	505
TP5/2	2	34
TP5/3	13	197
TP5/4	2	79
Total	113	2670

Table 2. The Fire-Cracked Flint

### The Pottery (Table 3.)

It was interesting that such a small area produced 16 sherds of pottery with mostly prehistoric fabrics, although some sherds could be Saxo-Norman. Two sherds had a similar fabric to pottery found from the Ovingdean medieval excavations, which were conducted from 2015 to 2018. A more detailed and accurate assessment will be published once the pottery has been examined by a specialist. As with the flintwork and fire-cracked flint the location of the majority of the pottery came from the bottom layers.

Context	No	Description	Wt gm	Diag.
TP1/1	1	Medium sand temper (Saxo-Norman)	3	
TP1/2	2	Flint temper 0.1 to 0.3 mm (Saxo)	12	1 Rim
TP2/4	1	Flint temper 0.3 to 0.6 (I.A.)	2	
TP3/1	1	Fine sand temper (Medieval)	5	
TP3/2	1	Black flint/sand temper (I.A.)	2	
TP3/4	6	Flint temper 0.3 to 0.6 (I.A.)	31	
TP3/4	1	Daub	7	
TP4/4	1	Flint temper 0.3 to 0.6 (I.A.)	3	
TP5/4	1	Black flint/sand temper (I.A.)	7	
TP5/5	1	Red/brown flint temper (I.A.)	5	
Total	16		68	

Table 3. The Pottery

The excavation also produced a number of post medieval ceramics which totaled 11 in number. The majority of these sherds came from the top soil and upper chalk layers. One single piece of grey stoneware, which was a very fine vessel spout fragment, did come from the lower layer of test pit 5. It is highly likely that this may have dropped in from the upper layer during the excavation, as it quite out of context with the other finds in that layer.

### Marine Mollusc

The excavation produced 5 pieces of marine mollusc. There were 2 small fragments of oyster shell, an almost complete limpet shell, a complete whelk shell and a small fragment of scallop. Most of the shell came from the upper layers, with only a single piece of oyster being found in the lower layer of test pit 4.

### Contemporary Materials

The excavation produced 6 fragments of modern roofing tile (71gm), 6 fragments of modern brick (79gm), 5 pieces of modern glass, 1 clear piece 23 green in colour and 2 sherds being black. There was also a single piece of blue roofing slate (15gm).



## **Clay Pipe**

A total of 8 fragments of clay pipe stems were recovered ranging from 5.5 mm in diameter to 8 mm diameter. The majority of the stems were between 20 and 30 cm in length with a single piece slightly longer measuring 39 mm in length. No bowls were found and all the pipe stems were plain and without decoration.

## **Metalwork**

The excavation produced 2 large and older nails, with a squared body section and large heads, and a single small copper alloy plate measuring 17x16x0.5mm thick.

## **Animal Bone**

Only two pieces of animal bone were found, in the same test pit. One larger long bone with a knuckle end is sheep, but the smaller long bone measuring only 10m in diameter came from the bottom layer of Test pit 5.

## **Stone**

A small number of stone finds are included in the collection of finds. One item is a small light brown beach pebble, recovered from the loam fill of test pit 4, while the other pair of stone finds were a possible complete rubbing stone (TP1/3) measuring 85 x 60 x 23 mm thick. The other rubbing stone was of a reddish fabric but was only a small fragment. One face was highly burnished.

## **Discussion**

Beacon Hill has long been regarded as having great archaeological potential. A combination of Neolithic long barrows and Saxon burials make any ground intervention requiring investigation and recording. The various geophysical surveys conducted by BHAS over the past decade, revealing additional images of possible ancient features, has only enhanced the importance of Beacon Hill as a site of immense importance.

The whole area of Ovingdean and Rottingdean is rich in archaeology. Field walking in the valley to the west of Beacon Hill produced numerous finds from the Neolithic to the medieval periods (Funnell 2000), and it is well known that metal detectorists have frequently been observed digging on Beacon Hill in the past.

The small test pits cut by the BHAS in November have only embellished the known records. The excavation has revealed edges that could indicate the location of ancient features or terraces. The finds from the excavation have provided additional evidence for activity on the hill ranging from the Neolithic through to the medieval period, with clay pipe stems and Victorian ceramics showing even later activity.

Beacon Hill remains a site of great interest and any ground intervention will require monitoring and recording. It is the ambition of BHAS to eventually conduct a major geophysical survey of Beacon Hill, and hopefully discover even more features. It is anticipated that further information may give a greater insight into the history of this very intriguing location.

A meeting was held with Jason Fisher in November and he has suggested working with the Friends of Beacon Hill. He also said that BHAS could effectively follow the sheep onto Beacon Hill after they have cropped the grass. This would make geophysics a great deal easier than with the present long grass, and may highlight even more subtle earthworks.

## **Acknowledgements**

The authors would like to thank Greg Chuter, the County Archaeologist and David Larkin of City Parks for allowing access to Beacon Hill, to Jason Fisher and the friends of Beacon Hill for clearing the excavation area, and to the members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society that conducted the excavation. A copy of this report will be passed to County Hall and Brighton and Hove City Planning. A copy of the report will be published in the BHAS Field Notebook for 2018.

Authors John Funnell and Pete Tolhurst (13<sup>th</sup> November 2018)

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Fig 5. Test Pit 1.



Fig 6. Test Pit 2





Fig 7. Test Pit 3



Fig 8. Test Pit 3, the stratigraphy





Fig 9. Test Pit 4



Fig 10. Test Pit 5

## Excavations at Patchway Field, Stanmer, near Brighton.

*A series of earthworks in the valley bottom at Patchway Field, Stanmer, proved to be the possible site of a small 14<sup>th</sup> century medieval farmstead.*

*(This document is the first draught of the article submitted to SAC and published in SAC 15.5 This original document includes the basic plan drawings from the archive. These are quite crude and were not deemed of good quality for SAC publication.)*

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### Introduction

The aim of this article was to bring together the meagre records from the investigations at Patchway Field, Stanmer and produce some record of the excavation, even if it is a less than ideal document. The archive is very sparse with only a few notes on context sheets and some very basic plans and section drawings.

The written record about the excavations is derived mainly from the BHAS annual reports, although there are brief notes about the excavation in a Stanmer publication entitled 'Hovel in the Woods'. It was written in the 1980's (Yeates). In chapter 3, entitled 'They helped shape the landscape', Charlie Yeates writes

*'The important earthwork down the southern slope at Patchway Field. It is here that we believe the little Saxon community founded their settlement. The long, narrow, fertile valley running away from the earthwork, nestling in the shelter of the coombe head would be the logical area for their farming activities. We have never discovered actual evidence of their occupation here in Patchway Field, but certainly in Medieval times, a little farmstead appears to have flourished there, because we carried out many a season's work, gathering large quantities of Medieval pottery, an iron military arrow head, a riding spur and cutting shears, all of Medieval origin. Then there is a record dated 1279 in which it states that Maude de Kymere relinquished to the Priors of Lewes all her rights in the tenement called Pachelsweye. We are confident that this refers to the earth work area in Patchway field'.*

The "little Saxon community" referred to at Patchway Field is believed to be the seven burials found within the trees at Rocky Clump (Gilkes 1997), although no burial goods were ever found and the dating is based purely on the orientation of the interments.

Patchway is a small field nestled at the end of a valley about one kilometre west of the village of Stanmer (TQ32650885) (Fig 1.) The field contains a series of earthworks forming an enclosure, almost circular in configuration but with an open end on the east side. BHAS conducted a number of small scale excavations within the enclosure between 1958 and 1971. The only records of these investigations are in the BHAS annual reports, which mention that the society was digging at that location, and a small



archive of notes and drawings. A number of short notes in the archive indicate some historical research.

## Historical Context

The name Patchway does have some interesting connotations. One Old English version of the interpretation comes from the county of Avon where it is suggested that in that location it is 'the enclosure of a man called Peot' (Mills 1991). Other interpretations of the name Patchway could be derived from the Old English Pettelswige, or Paeccasweoh with the weoh , or shrine, belonging to an individual named Paeccel (Stenton 1971).

Excavations at Rocky Clump, located a short distance away in a field to the north of this site, have provided some evidence for Roman and later activities possibly associated with the place name. Substantial post holes at Rocky Clump may be the location of some form of Roman house, barn or as the excavator suggested a possible Roman shrine (Gorton 1988).

Amongst the archive were notes referring to some historical research. The historical evidence documented suggests that in 1279AD a building at Patchway may have belonged to one Maude de Keymere. The document reads that on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 1279

*'How Maude de Keymere in her widowhood quit claimed all rights that she had in the whole tenement of Paccheleswye in the parish of Falemere' The lands were assigned to the Prior of Lewes and the convent of the same place (Lewes Chartulary SRS 40).*

Another medieval complex referred to in the archive is Piddingworth Manor which is located north of Patchway Field and only a short distance away. There is a mention of Martin de Piddingworth in 1201 and 1204. In 1290 Joan, the widow of Nicholas de Pydelyngworth, possessed a house and 60 acres of land as her dowry. By the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century the manor was held by Gilbert Sykelfot (Christie 1937).



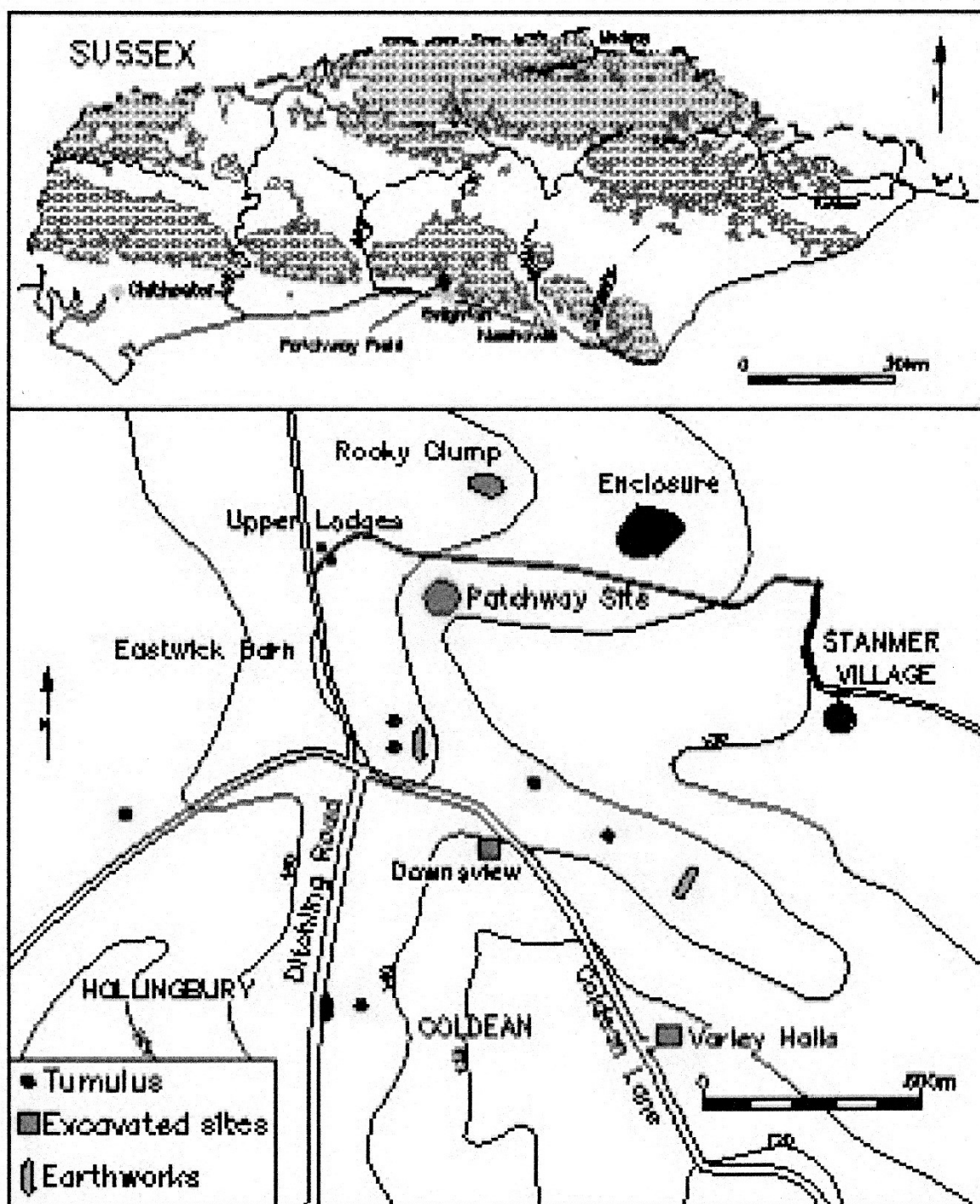


Fig 1. Location map and excavated sites in Stanmer  
(The Brighton bypass omitted for clarity)

## **The excavations**

The first tentative steps were taken in 1958 when members of the BHAS 'Stanmer Group', including some boys from Varndean School, made two interventions into the horseshoe shaped enclosure. There are no directions or locations given for these trenches but they did produce enough archaeological finds to justify return visits to Patchway.

In 1960 they found flints with some mortar suggesting a collapsed wall. The excavations produced no roofing tile of any description and some small nails found during this season tend suggest that any building would have had either shingle or thatched roof. It is possible that the nails were associated with rafters or other structural woodwork. There was only a slight scattering of pottery possibly indicating that it was an outbuilding rather than for habitation. A second trench was cut down to a depth of 5 feet 6 inches (1.67 metres) revealing deep colluvial deposits. It consisted of a number of layers, separated by layers of flints. The top layer produced medieval pottery while the bottom layer produced Roman pottery and a bronze fibula similar to one found at Angmering (Ref SAC 79 Page 34 Number 1).

Further excavations in 1965 are recorded as having revealed the possible site of a 13<sup>th</sup> century farmstead. The features appear to be more substantial, but still appear to be of only one structure. Among the finds were an iron arrow head and some green glazed wares. One area produced a number of medieval tiles and also part of a quern.

The 1970 season revealed part of a tiled floor and several unconnected areas of flint and mortar. Some flints were mortared together but no semblance of a house or building plan was revealed. Finds included horse or ox shoes, a gilded buckle, bronze straps, a prick spur and animal bones.

The final season of excavations was in 1971. The dig revealed no definite outlines for a building but only a spread of chalk over a darker loam fill. The excavators recorded that there were many unmortared flints. However, some of the flints did have mortar traces and it was suggested that the structure was an open sided cart lodge (Fig 2.)

A number of sections were drawn (Fig 3.) but the drawing were very crude. The excavation was very much a family event and photographs show a shed and several children with small wheel barrows (Fig 4.). The daughter of Charlie Yeates remembers the excavation with great affection and Ken Goodchild said thaty along with digging there was plenty of 'sausage sizzling'.

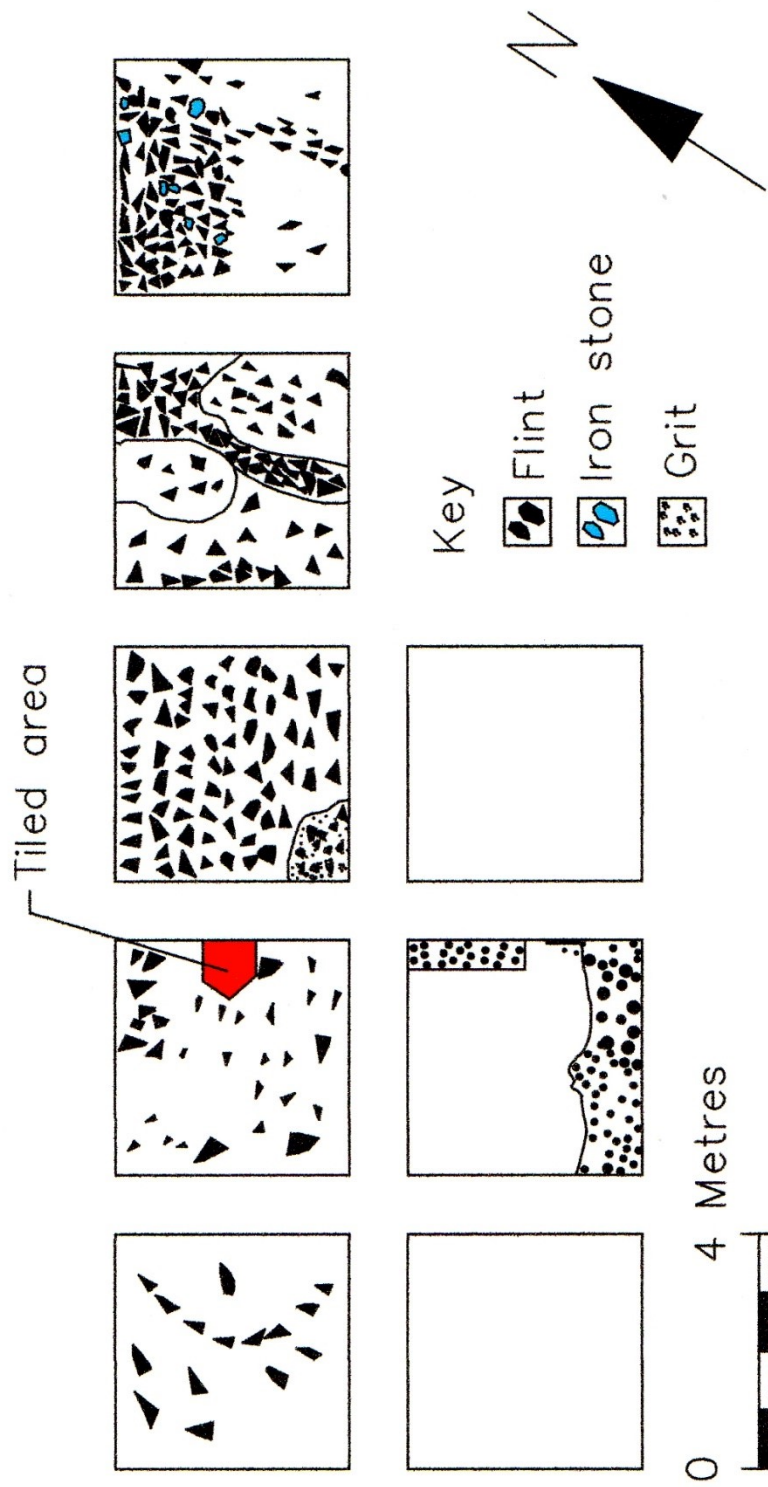


Fig 2. Patchway Field Trenches

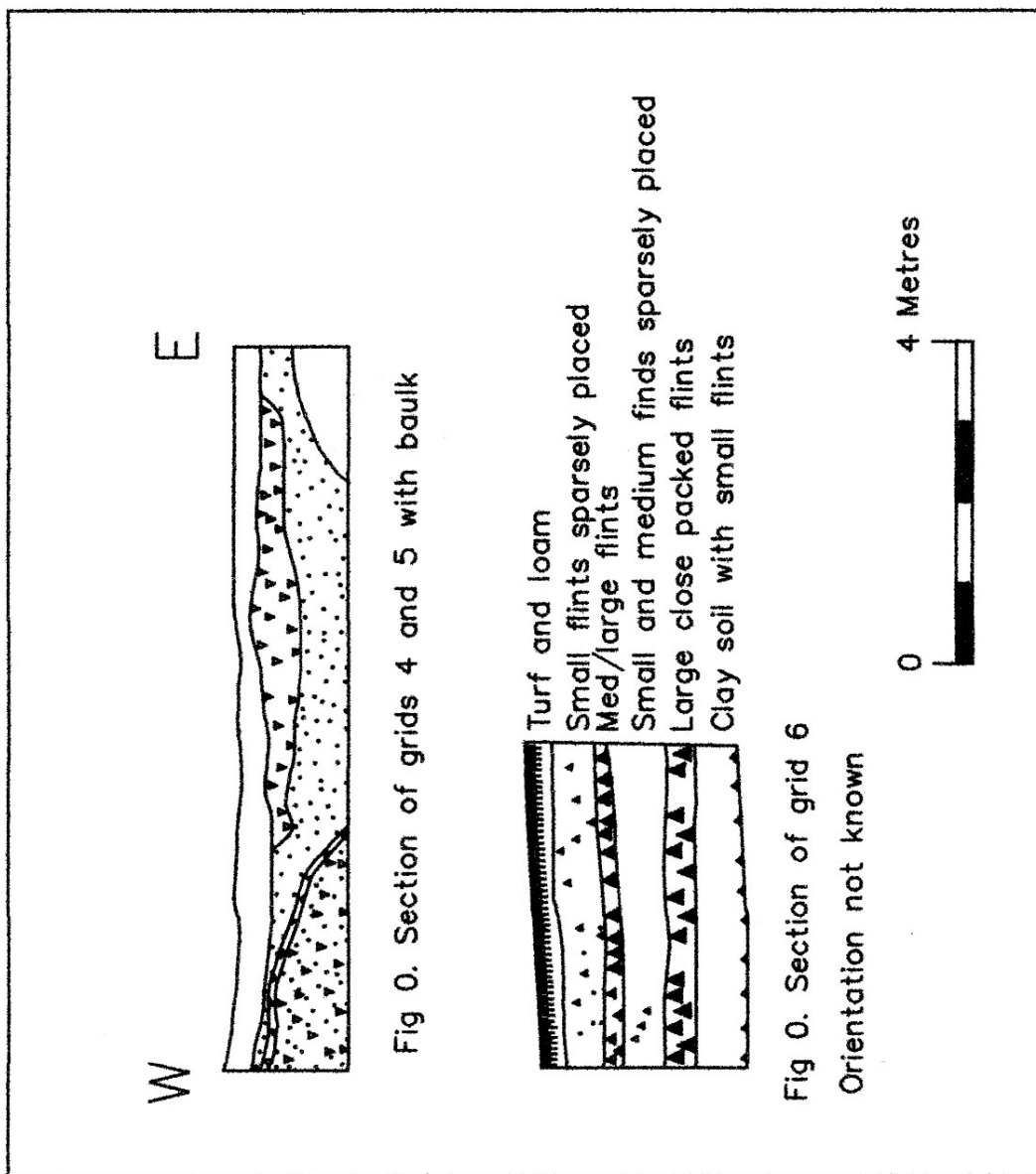


Fig 3. Patchway Field Section drawings



Fig 4. The excavations in Patchway Field, Stanmer, circa 1968

## The Finds

A search of the stores by members of the Stanmer Preservation Society produced a small number of finds from the excavation.

## The Pottery

A very brief pottery report had been written by K. Barton. It is quite a basic document:-

### Pottery from Stanmer Park

<b>Romano- British/Iron Age</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Saxon</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Saxo-Norman</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Medieval red sandy wares</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Other coarse wares</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Partial or unglazed wares</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>West Sussex wares</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Other glazed jugs</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Paint under glazed jugs</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Post medieval Tudor 16<sup>th</sup> C glazed</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Other 17<sup>th</sup> C</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Modern</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>

### Conclusions by K.Barton

The site was very short lived. The incidence of unglazed and partially glazed jugs together with both coarse and finer red wares and only a few glazed wares suggest a date of the early 14<sup>th</sup> century.

(Unfortunately the collection of pottery recovered from the Stanmer museum store consisted of only seven rim sherds, all from different pots. This is only 6% of the total collection mentioned in the pottery report. It is uncertain where the remaining missing pieces have gone and it must be assumed that they are now lost).

### The Metalwork (Iron) (Fig 5.)

- 1) Barbed arrow head (London Museum No 2. Page 66 Fig. 16).
- 2) A prick spur (London Museum No. 6 Page 102 Fig 31)
- 3) A pair of shears 10" (254mm) long (London Museum No IB Page 154 Fig 47)



- 4) A Roman 'Dolphin' style fibula (Scott) late 1<sup>st</sup> or early 2<sup>nd</sup> Century (Now lost)
- 5) A complete horse shoe (London Museum No. 5 Page 112 Fig 36)
- 6) Fragments of 2 horse shoes

## Discussion

The small valley at Patchway has deep colluvial deposits and these have revealed a Roman presence in the lower depths comprising a few sherds of pottery and a Roman fibula from the lower levels. It is possible that these finds were washed down from the nearby Romano-British site at Rocky Clump. Finds at Patchway Field and Rocky Clump have included items from both the Romano-British and medieval periods (Gilkes 1997).



Fig 5. The metal finds from Patchway field, Stanmer

The small collection of finds from Patchway Field tend to suggest that a small medieval farmstead may have been located within, and around, the confines of a banked enclosure. However, the finds appear to more hunting orientated and the lack of any bone assemblage or other domestic debris does raise the possibility that the enclosure

may have had other uses. The sketchy plans and section drawings show a number of features including possible walls and floors of both flint and chalk. A small tiled area could be the location of a central hearth, but these simple drawings lack any clear definition of actual structures. Whilst there are many robust medieval buildings still surviving there are few examples of low status or peasant dwellings around or recorded. The medieval settlement at Hangleton had a number of low status structures (Holden 1963) and excavations at Muddleswood (Butler 1994) and Bramble Bottom, Eastbourne (Musson 1955) show that very little survived of houses that may have been timber framed with wattle and daub walls.

The pottery at Patchway tends to suggest a date of the early 14<sup>th</sup> century for the site, whatever it may have been. Medieval pottery has been found in other valleys around Patchway (Pers. Comm J.Driver), so it is possible that other small dwellings may still be hidden and awaiting discovery in Stanmer.

The horseshoe shaped enclosure is still visible in the valley bottom at Patchway. Further investigations, including geophysics, may prove worthwhile to establish whether any buildings, medieval or Roman, are still hidden in Patchway Field.

It is interesting to note that the current excavations of a medieval site at BHAS at Ovingdean, also within an enclosure, are producing similar obscure features of flint and chalk walls/floors. There are also similar finds of arrowheads, a spur and pottery. It could prove a very interesting comparison (Skelton).

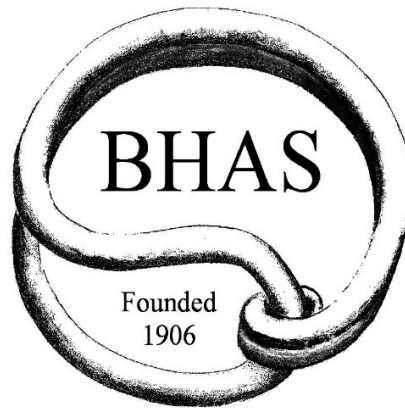
## **Acknowledgements**

The author would like to thank the family of the late Ken Goodchild for allowing access to the paper archive, Brighton Council for allowing access to the land, and the Stanmer Preservation Society for seeking, finding and loaning the finds from their museum collections. It would also be appropriate to thank all of those past members of the BHAS who assisted with the excavations and Mark Gillingham for proof reading and editing this report.



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**Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society**

**Report of the Geophysical Survey carried out on the croquet lawn of  
Preston Manor on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

***Authors: Pete Tolhurst & John Funnell June 2019***

## **Introduction**

In May 2018 Paula Wrightson, who is the venue manager of, Preston Manor asked the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society (BHAS) if they could conduct a geophysical survey of the croquet lawns south of the manor building. The summer proved to be excessively dry and the survey was left until the late autumn when the excavations at Rocky Clump had been completed.

The survey was conducted on a cold and sunny day on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November. The team of 6 BHAS members was led by Field Unit Director Pete Tolhurst.

## **History**

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society have already conducted surveys on the grounds to the north of the main manor building, both completed in 1999 (Funnell 1999). The results of these surveys were very positive and indicated good evidence that vestiges of old buildings may still lay beneath the lawns to the north of the existing manor building and at the south end of Preston Drove.

It was during these surveys that Preston Manor staff informed the BHAS team that they had carried out work among the flowerbeds to the west of the Preston Church of St Peters and this had produced fragments of human remains. An examination of the church graveyard showed that it is about two metres, higher than the gardens in Preston Manor.

The guide book to Preston Manor focuses mainly on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and the rooms relating to the Stanford family. Other paintings in the guide book show that the croquet lawns have been flat and terraced for some considerable time. The earliest depictions of the manor and gardens is a drawing dated to 1617. This drawing shows the croquet lawn east of a formal Tudor style garden. The manor is much earlier in date than the 17<sup>th</sup> century with references in Domesday (Morris 1976). The current manor was built in 1738, but over the centuries has had numerous building and out buildings built and then demolished. Some of the flint and rubble walls in the walled garden date to the 16<sup>th</sup> century or earlier. A major survey of Preston manor was undertaken in 1999 (Martin D. 1999).

## **The Geology**

Preston Manor lies at the bottom of a gentle slope running westwards down from the Ditchling Road. To the west of the manor, and on the opposite side of the Wellesbourne stream (now running below ground), the topography rises steeply up to the Dyke road.

The British Geological survey of this area (Sheet 318/333) shows the geology at this part of Preston Park to be head deposits of colluvial material. Immediately east of the croquet lawns, at St Peters church, this geology changes to upper and middle chalk.

## The Survey

The survey was carried out using an RM 15 Geoscan resistivity machine in twin probe configuration. The grids were laid out as 20 x 20 metres squares. The traverse lines were spaced 1 metre apart and the probe measurements were taken at 1 metre intervals. The mobile probes generally penetrate down to two to three centimetres into the surface layer and readings are taken down to approximately 10 - 15cm into the soil (The remote probes were repositioned after about every 1200 placements of the mobile probes to ensure they were between 15 and 50 metres from the mobile probes during measurements) The resistivity survey measures variations in soil electrical resistance that may indicate the presence of walls and floors (typically producing high readings) and pits and ditches (typically producing low readings).

Grids were measured out with four complete and two partial 20 metres square grids being completed on the croquet lawns. On the east side of the lawns the survey included the steep bank running north/south and part of the flower beds.

The results were downloaded using 'Snuffler' software and the results are shown in Figure 1.



***Fig 1. The Results of the Geophysical Survey at Preston Manor***

## Conclusions

The results of the resistivity survey at Preston Manor proved exceptionally good with images and potential features that were not expected. It was considered that with all of the terracing and landscaping of the grounds to the south of Preston Manor, any archaeology would have been removed years ago when the croquet lawns were created.

The images instead have revealed not one, but a number, of rectangular and linear features, with one rectangle containing quite high resistance that could only be construed as being possible walls. The rectangular arrangements run either north/south or east/west in alignment with the existing garden features. Some of the rectangles are a little more subtle than others and could possibly indicate garden features of the old flower beds. They could also be construed as being part of a formal garden. However, the drawing of 1617 tends to suggest this is where the existing central garden was already well established, although it could have been relocated or changed shape?

The results revealed in the 2018 survey have certainly raised questions about the archaeology beneath the croquet lawns. It also shows that the features revealed may indicate that the medieval manor may still exist hidden beneath the grass of the croquet lawns and not under the standing house and currently believed.

Both Preston Manor and the BHAS are keen to investigate these anomalies. Both groups would like to see if walls do remain, and if so, what possible date they are. Discussions over the winter period will be taking place about a future project.

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## **Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society**

### **A Geophysical and Contour survey of the scheduled site at Old Erringham Farm, Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex.**

Old Erringham was a very significant site excavated by Eric Holden in the mid 1970's. The excavations revealed the foundations of a chapel, a Saxon weaving hut and several burials (Holden 1976 & 1980). The field and surrounding area was subsequently scheduled, although houses were built on the actual excavation location.

In 2017 Heritage England asked the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society (BHAS) to conduct a major geophysical survey of the scheduled fields (see fig. 1.) with a view to identifying any other archaeological features. Several of the fields contain earthworks, consisting of lynchets, platforms and circular incursions. The survey was carried out at various times, starting in May and finishing in July 2017. BHAS conducted a resistivity survey of all of the fields (Fig 1.), with David Staveley conducting magnetometry surveys of fields that were not affected by electrical fencing or heavy parked farm machinery (Fig 2.). A contour survey was made of the earthworks in all of the fields.

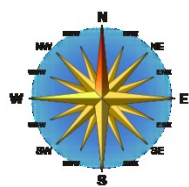
The results produced a number of interesting anomalies, but with very few distinct images identifying archaeological features. A number of circular configurations could indicate the location of round houses, or barrows and there are a number of low resistance features which could possibly be the location of pits. Medieval sites consisted mainly of timber framed buildings with wattle and daub walls and thatched or turfed roofs. These types of structure leave very little archaeological evidence which can be observed in geophysical images. The ancient village of Stanmer, which has numerous house platforms in the paddock opposite the café, produced very bland images from a geophysical survey of that field.

It was a privilege to be asked to conduct the surveys and the results and data have been passed to Heritage England. There is one note of caution. The south field, which has the most interesting earthworks, produced the most significant anomalies. However, the current tenant farmer informed us that the previous tenant had buried a number of cows in that location, after an outbreak of foot and mouth disease. It is likely that these anomalies are more recent and should perhaps remain untouched.

#### **References:-**

**Holden E.W.** 1976 'Excavations at Old Erringham, Shoreham; Part One. A Saxon weaving hut, Suss. Arch. Coll. **114**, 306-21.

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***Fig.1. The scheduled area at Old Erringham Farm***



# Fieldwalking at Perching Manor Farm 2018

## Introduction

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society have been invited to conduct archaeological activities in and around Perching Manor Farm, by a contact made at Marlipins museum, Shoreham. After contact had been made with the farmer, Mr David Ellin, a date for fieldwalking one field was set up for late in January 2018. Perching has a long history and there is a Scheduled Ancient Monument site located to the west of the field walked. This field is down to pasture and contains a number of earthworks and a ditch deemed to be part of a 'moated' site.

The field walked is immediately north of the Perching Manor Farm buildings (TQ 2430 1155) and is about 610 metres in length and 180 metres at its maximum width, although this does vary in size going northwards. The east boundary of the field drops down into the stream running northwards being fed from the spring at the village of Fulking.



Fig 1. The field at Perching (Google Earth)



## **History**

Perching Manor and Perching Sands is mentioned in Domesday and it records that there were two mills, probably in the Wealden side of the manors. There were 3 manors in total, with the lower two manors being smaller 'settlements' (Vigar). The larger manor is located in a small valley up along the South Downs west of Devils Dyke (TQ 2435 1025). This location is the site of a number of medieval house platforms (Burleigh 1973). BHAS had visited the upper Perching site a few days before on one of their winter walks, and had viewed the field to be walked from the top of a tumulus or burial mound located on the hill. A geophysical survey of Upper Perching had been conducted by BHAS in 2004 (Funnell 2004). It is in the area of this survey that are located the only vestiges of medieval strip lynchets in this part of Sussex (Holden 1963).

Keith Edgar, a student at the Centre for Continuing Education produced a project based upon the ownership of Perching as one of his projects for the Centre for Continuing Education at Sussex University (Appended). In this document King Edgar, around 970AD, described that 10 families of freeholders made up a town, tithing or vill, and 10 tithings composed a hundred. The Normans described a manor as a district of ground held by a lord or great personage who kept for himself such parts as were necessary for his own use which were called terrae Dominicales, or Demesne lands, and distributed the rest to freehold tenants.

Perching had been divided into 3 before the Norman conquest, it was crown property under Edward the Confessor and was held by Azor and Oswald. After the conquest it passed to William de Waterville.

Other than a few historical notes there has never been any archaeological investigations conducted at Perching Manor Farm.

Prior to the commencement of the field walking the team were informed that the area around Perching Sands Farm, in the north area of investigation, had the potential for finds from the Palaeolithic period (M.Pope pers. Comm.)

## **The Geology**

Perching Manor Farm and Perching Sands Farm have a mixture of geology, with the narrow field being walked consisting of head deposits, lodged between adjacent bands of gault clay.

## **The Methodology**

The field walked is a long thin field on a basic north/south orientation. A base line was set out running south to north along the west side of the field. The field edge and a road were parallel to this line. The only exception to this was at the north end where for about 80 metres a section of the field, and the road curve westwards. The section of the field to the west of the base line was not walked. The first line was measured in from the

south boundary, which was another road located north of the farm buildings. The first line was 15 metres north from the road, as the ground in that particular area was exceptionally boggy and wet. Lines were set at 20 metre intervals and were lettered A-Z and AA-EE with line KK being the last line walked. Each line was divided into 20 metre transects, and finds were collected for each transect.

The winter had been very wet and the ground was extremely boggy, and there was a certain amount of scrub growth over the field. The weather had been wet during the previous week, and rain arrived on the day of the field walking, but only after the survey had been completed.

The field walkers were a mixture of seasoned walkers, along with a number of new faces who had not walked before. Before the walking commenced there was a health and safety presentation by Pete Tolhurst, an explanation of the field walking technique and the types of finds that might be collected. The field had a noticeably large collection of plastic debris and the walkers were informed that this was not to be collected.

Training of field walking included a number of new faces being placed with experienced walkers, until the new faces were confident in walking their own lines. The large number of walkers who turned out ensured that the field was walked in one day.

## **The Finds**

### **The Flintwork (Fig 2 & Fig 3.) by Mark Gillingham**

The flintwork was an interesting, if small, collection of waste flint flakes, with very few tools. It was mainly natural black in colour with a few pieces of brown and grey patinated pieces. Among the collection were some cores, a possible blade fragment and 3 possible hammerstones.

The most predominant find was fire-cracked flint. This material was found all over the field.

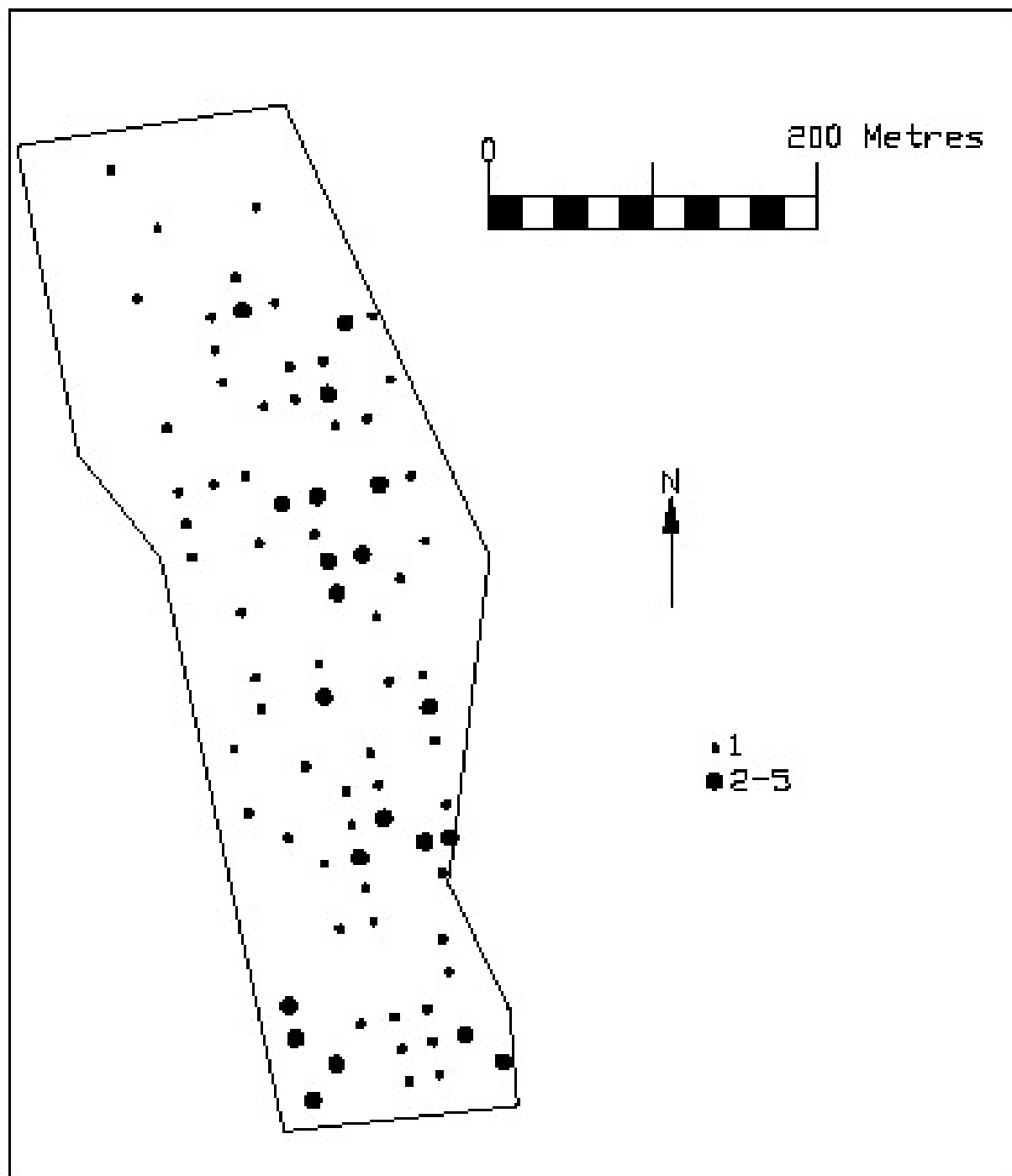


Fig 2. Perching Field Walking 2018 - Flintwork

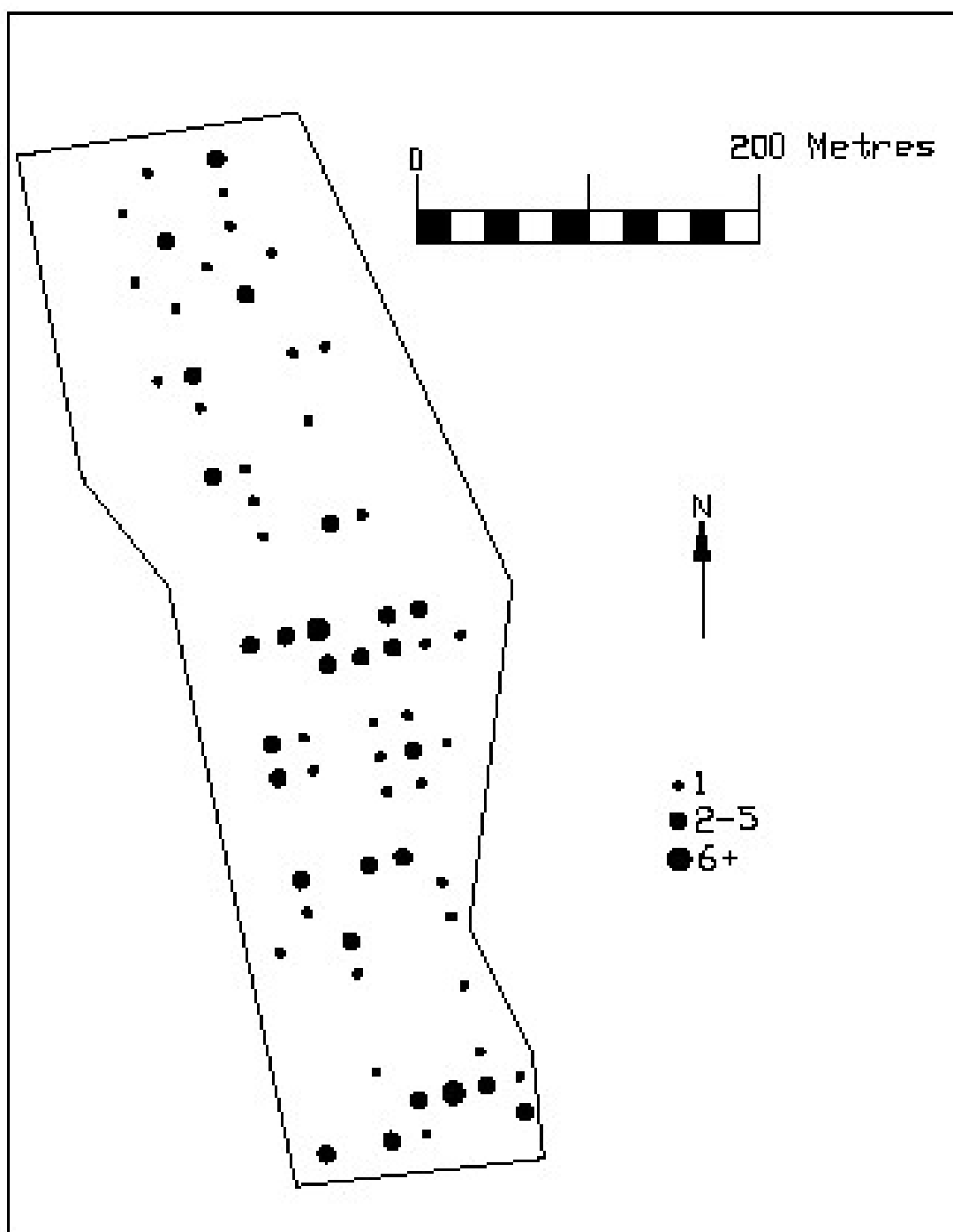


Fig 3. Perching Field Walking 201B - Fire-cracked flint

## The Pottery

There was a small but interesting collection of pottery recovered from the field walking. Roman pottery was small in number with only 2 pieces of East Sussex wares, one fine, white, sand tempered mortaria style fabric, and a single piece of rim with a coated outer surface.

The most prolific ancient wares consisted of medieval pottery. There were 3 base sherds found, and 3 pieces of rim. The body sherds totalled 10 in number making a total of 15 sherds. A possible small fragment of daub was found.

Type	Fabric	Number
Roman	East Sussex Ware	2
Roman	Fine, white (mortaria)	1
Roman	Fine grey sandy ware	1
Medieval	Fine, sandy ware	5
Medieval	Coarse sandy ware, 0,2 Flint inclusions	5
Medieval	Fine sandy ware with flint inclusions	2
Medieval	Green glazed wares	3

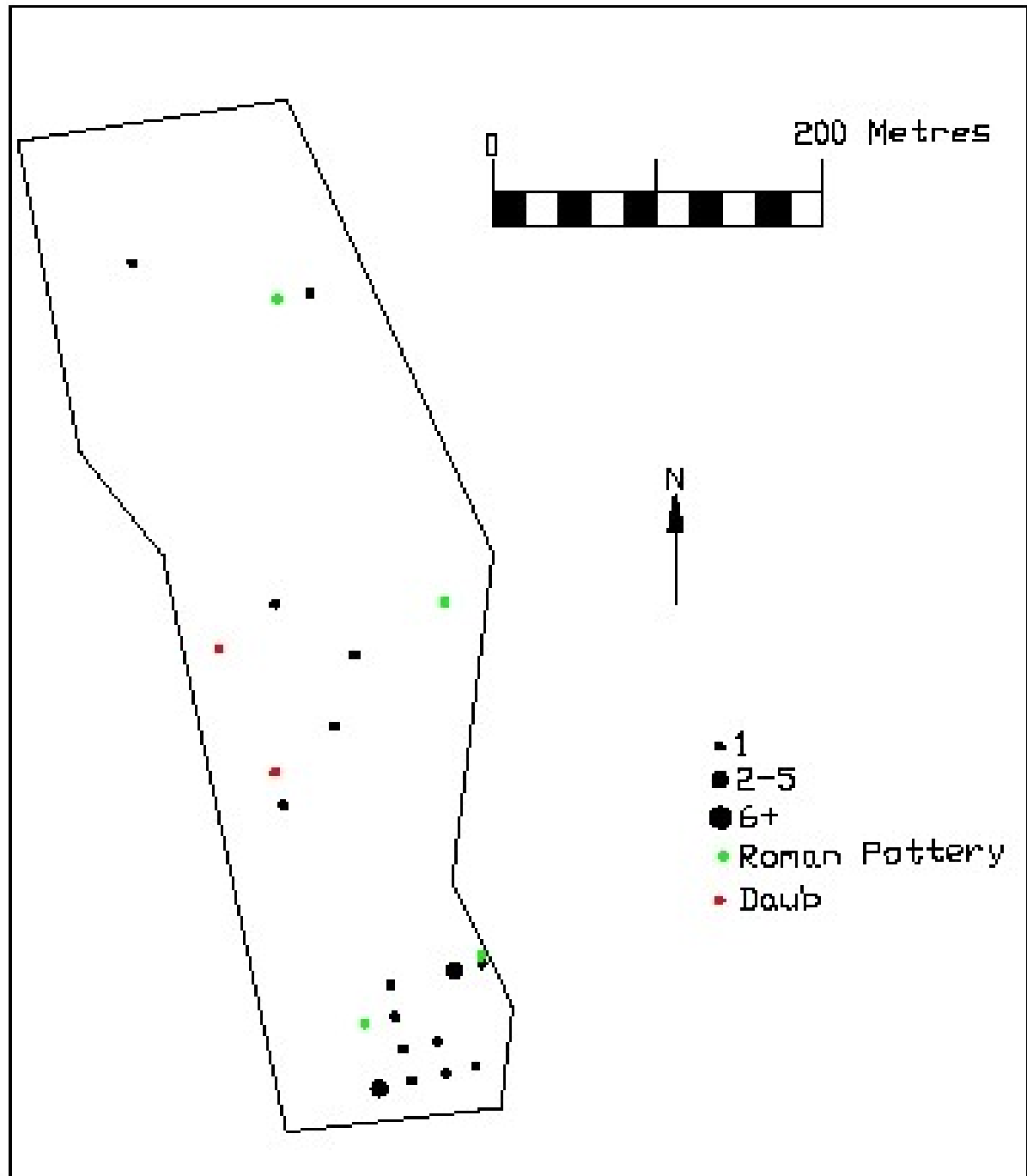


Fig 4. Perching Field Walking 2018 – Medieval Pottery

## Victorian Pottery and Ceramics

The majority of the pottery and ceramics collected was Victorian or modern. The predominant Victorian pottery was the dark brown glazed wares called Keymer Wares. This ceramic is common among field walking finds and is found all over this part of East Sussex.

Victorian Pottery	Fabric	Number
Keymer Ware	Brown glazed	5
Blue ands White	With decoration	1
White	Plain ceramic	5
Cream	Plain fabric	3
Victorian	Green decoration	1
Victorian	Brown decoration	1
Victorian	Green internal glaze	1
Stoneware	Brown and grey coating	2
Flowerpot		2
Total		21

## Clay Pipes (Fig 5.)

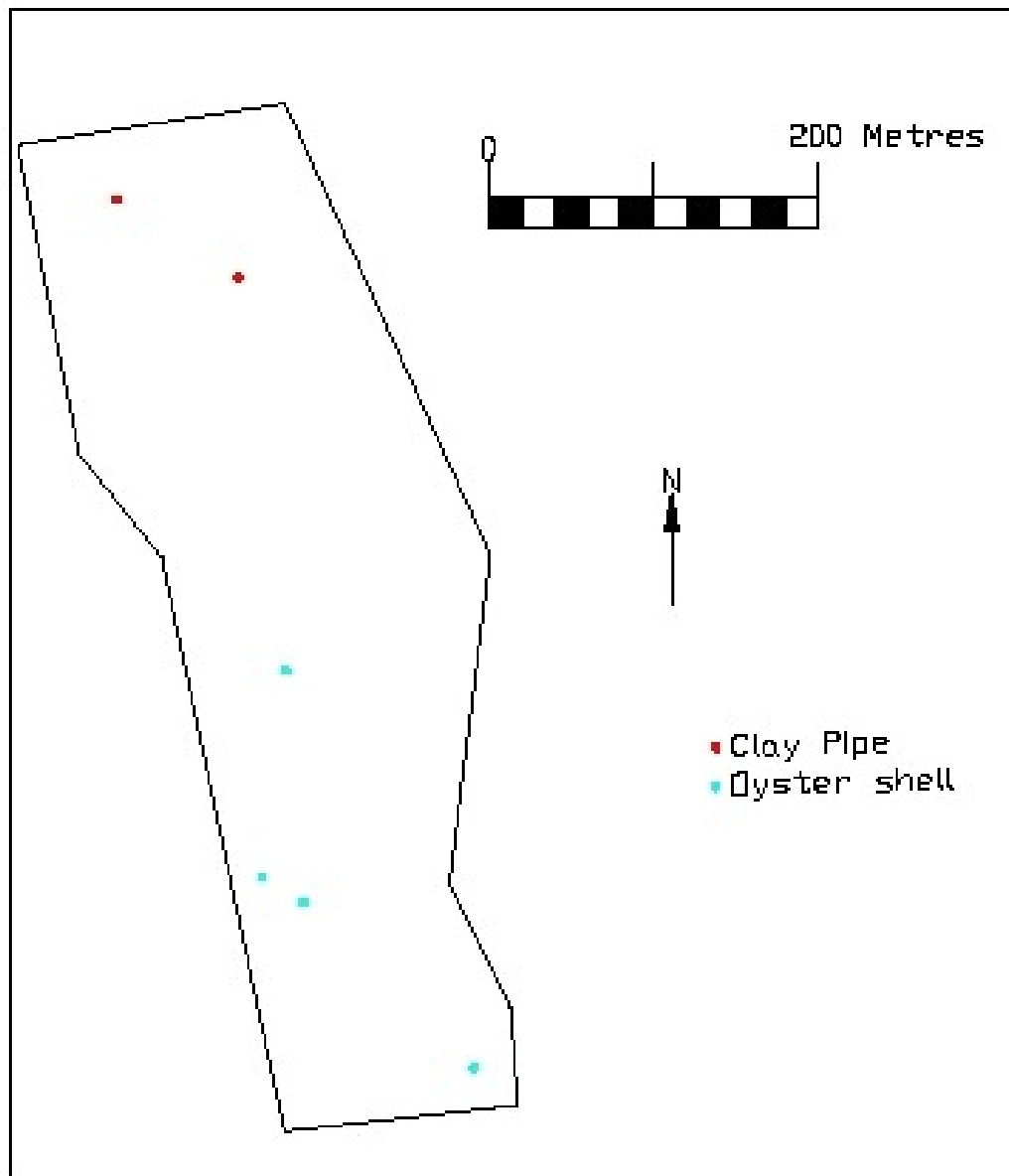


Fig 5. Perching Field Walking 2018 - Clay pipe and Oyster

The survey collected only 2 pieces of clay pipe, and these were both pipe stems. Both pieces of stem measured 6mm in diameter.



## **Marine Molluscs**

Despite the large size of the area walked only 4 tiny fragments of oyster shell were among the finds collected, and they were well distributed all over the field.

## **Glass**

A total of 12 fragments of glass vessel were found. The sherds were mostly of clear glass, but with a few dark green fragments, and a single piece of light green. The glass was all modern.

## **Building Material**

The field walking produced a good number of modern building material items. These included brick, tile and roofing slate. Modern tile was the largest item collected with 191 pieces, modern brick accounted for 145 items and slate totalled 136 fragments.

## **Metalwork**

A mixed collection of modern metal objects were collected. Most are probably fragments of farm machinery. Among the pieces were handles possibly from modern prams and a stainless steel spoon. A small globule of melted lead was found weighing in at 28gm.

**Slag** – The field walking produced only two, but quite large fragments of metal working slag weighing 162gm.

## **Horsham Stone**

A number of pieces of Horsham stone were collected. A total of 8 fragments were found, varying in thickness from 8mm to 22mm. The total weight of the pieces was 386gm.

## **Coin**

A single coin was found in line A. The coin is of Victoria and a date of 1896. It is a farthing, but the head of the queen is badly corroded but the image of Britannia on the obverse side is quite clear.

## **Conclusions**

The results of any field walking project will be a useful addition to the archaeological record. The finds from Perching Manor Farm comprised mostly of modern debris, including brick slate and tile.

For many years the Wealden area of Sussex was considered archaeological sterile, and was often described as consisting of dense forestation in ancient times. Over the past

few decades field walking projects have revealed that the Weald has in fact quite a rich and varied archaeology. Field walking at Novington, near Plumpton, produced considerable amounts of finds from the prehistoric period through to the medieval (Butler 1989 and Butler & Funnell 1992). The new field walking at Perching supports the idea that the Weald was settled and worked throughout time.

The flintwork recovered from this field walking is a small but interesting collection of pieces, mostly with a black patination (Fig 2.). The few implements found include a number of hammerstones. The complete lack of concentrations of any worked flint does cause some concern, as you would anticipate more flaked debitage with this number of hammerstones. The importance of the finds is that it indicates presence during the prehistoric period.

Fire-cracked flint is a good indicator of ancient activity, and at Perching there is a general spread all over the field (Fig 3).but once again there is no real focus or concentration indicating where past activities may have taken place. Sadly the field walking produced no evidence for any Palaeolithic activity.

A small number of sherds of Roman pottery is interesting. Roman pottery was collected at Novington and tended to suggest the location of a Roman villa east of one at Plumpton. The few sherds at Perching are too small to indicate any Roman presence in this field and may be intrusive, perhaps brought on the wheels of a tractor from another location. It does suggest that a Roman site may be located close by. There were also two pieces of daub, which also suggest some activity from this period.

The main collection of ancient pottery dated from the medieval period and there was a focus close to the farm buildings at the south section of the field. It has been suggested the medieval manor was probably located under the new farm buildings and the field walking tends to confirm this.

The Victorian ceramics are also a common feature of field walking. There was an interesting collection of sherds with a good number of Keymer ware, the glazed brown coated pottery. This is a common fabric possibly manufactured from the kilns located at Keymer and was very popular during the Victorian period, and into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The field walking has been a very useful exercise, both for investigation and for training purposes. The paucity of finds appears to show that this area of very boggy clay geology was not used for anything other than casual activity.

BHAS hope to return to Perching for further investigations, including more field walking and some geophysics. It is hoped that other archaeological finds may produce better evidence for Neolithic and medieval activities in this of Sussex.

## **Acknowledgements**

The author would like to thank the landowner Mr Dave Ellis for allowing access to the field, to Mr Ronnie Fox and Mrs Dot McBrien for their involvement, and to Pete Tolhurst director of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society, and its members who conducted the field walking

## **References:-**

**Burleigh G.R.** 1973 'An Introduction to Deserted Medieval Villages in East Sussex' SAC **111**, 46 & 73

**Butler C.** 1989 'Fieldwalking at Novington Manor, Plumpton' SAC **127**, 31-38

**Butler C. & Funnell J.** 1992 'Further Fieldwalking at Novington Manor, Plumpton, East Sussex' SAC **130**, 13-21

**Funnell J.D.** 2004 'Perchinghill Barn' *BHAS Field Notebook 2004*

**Holden E.W.** 1963 'Excavations at the Deserted Medieval Village at Hangleton' SAC **101**, 58

**Vigar J.** 'Perching Medieval Village' SAC XV (15) 315

## Appendix

### Notes from a Dissertation by Keith Edgar on Perching, Poynings and Edburton

Domesday Book – Perching had been divided into 3 manors before the conquest. It was crown property under Edward the Confessor and was held by Azor and Oswald. At the conquest it passed to Willaiaam de Waterville.

Poninges – William Fitz Rainald holds Poninges of William de Warenne. Cola held it of Earl Godwin who presented it to him. In the reign of Edward the Confessor it was assessed at 8 hides and is now assessed at such a quantity, but never paid land tax. The arable lanbd in 13 plough lands, there are 2 ploughs in the Demesne and 25 villeins, 8 bondsmen have 15 ploughs. Here are a church, 2 minsters, 2 mills of 12s, 50 acres of meadow and a wood of 40 hogs. In the reign of King Edward it was valued at £12 and still remains at £10.(SAC XV, page 55)

1150 – Edburton or Adburton or Abberton is a rectory, the advowson of which belongs to the Archbishop of Canterbury, It is mthe most west benefice in the deanery of South Malling to which it was first attached by Archbishop Theobald in 1150

1199 – At the end of the 12tgh century there is a chapel at Pertinger, a manor of this parish. It is named in the roll of 'Curia regis' dated 8/7/1199

1201 – A market was given to Crawley by Michaeol de Poynings. He gave a Norway hawk as a present to the King.

1220 – William Aguillon obtained from his wife's mother the manors of Addington (Surrey), Greatham (Hants), Scroteby (Norfolk) and Perching. He was named as one of the 25 barons appointed to enforce the Magna Carta in 1215. William survived his wife and died in 1244 when he was succeeded by his son.

1245 – One messuage and all lands in the vill of Edburton which the late William de la Sale sold to Richard le Grete, father of Alice, with pasture for 3 oxen in Schotisleye

1248 – Robert, who received a grant of a free warren inm his manors in 1248 (SAC 79, p56) At the time of the death of Henry III 16/11/1272 he was one of the kings council to whom the great seal was entrusted. In 1268 he married Margaret widow of Baldwin de Redvers, Earl of Devon. She was a aunt of Eleanor, wife of Henry III. He enl;arged his estates around Perching andf this brought him in to conflict with the Early of Surrey John de Warenne. Of which several court cases are recorded one of which Warenne's servanyt so stealing horses.

Robert died on 15/2/1286 year 14 of the reign of Edward I. His wife survived until 1292. Sir Roberts heir was his only daughter by his first wife Isabel who was 287 at the time of

his death, and who was already married to Hugh Bardoff, with whose descendants the manors passed.

1250 – One messuage and 2 virgates of land (30 acres) which he had in Edburton by gift from Isabel de Hontingcote

1260 – March 16<sup>th</sup> for Robert Aguillon, the king have granted that he may inclose and fortify the manse of their manor at Percingeres with a fosse and a wall of stone and lime and may crenellate it at their pleasure. (SAC XIII p.107)

There was a marriage of a Luke de Pynings with Isabel daughter and co heir of Robert de Aguillon of Perching. It was through this alliance that the family of Pynings acquired the manors of Perching and Addington (Surrey). (SAC 62 p12)

1282 – Rights and claims which Robert de Bordeville might have to the lands and tenures which they leased from William of Perchings in Edburton.

1283-4 – Rector of Edburton was Ralph de Cheyne – priest (SAC 26 p.30)

1286 – After Robert Aguillon's death it was recorded the details of what work the tenants had to do:-

Tenants had to plough 11.75 acres of land during the year and an acre was worth 10d. There were 10 customary tenants each of whom had to work for 42 weeks between Michaelmas (29<sup>th</sup> September) and the following feast on St Peter-in-chains (1<sup>st</sup> August) namely 525 works each worth 1d giving a total of 43s-9d that appears to be 2 days a week. There were 7 cottars each of whom during the same period was obliged to perform each week 'work' worth 1 1/2d Each of the aforesaid 10 customary tenants had to pay the lord 1 1/4d on every day he works for the remainder of the year August – September except Saturdays.

1291 – Edburton church is mentioned in the 1291 Taxation of Pope Nicholas IV

1296 – Edburton was listed as having 26 people. A list of people and taxes can be viewed (SAC II p.292)

1304 – There was a watermill in the manor of Perching. And the manor house of Perching stood 300 yards west of the present farm (VCH Vol VII p.202)

1315-17 - Great famine

1319 – William de Northo founded a chantry in the north transept of Edburton church dedicated to St Katherine (SAC 10, p10.)

1327 – Villat de Perching return 11 people value £3-4-8d

1337 – The start of the 100 years war

1337 – Thomas Lord Ppynings summoned to parliament and slain at Sluys 1339

1348 – Bubonic plague arrives

1453-4 – Sale by Henry Earl of Northumberland to Sir Edward Seymour for £1600 for the manors of Poynings and Perching (SAC 77 p256)

1523 – Lease from 20<sup>th</sup> May 1523 for 21 years from the following Michael,mas at annual rent of £56 from Henry, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Northumberland to George Giford of Poynings, of the masnor of Poynings and the manor or tenementof Perching in Edburton. (Letters of Henry VIII)

1537 – Anthony Browne received form the crown a grant of the manors of Poynings, Perching (in Edburton), Preston Poynings (in West Firle), Pangdean, Ashcombe (Lewes) Waldron and Chinting Poynings (in Seaford)

1553 – Parcel of land called fullyngmyll within the farm of Perching in Edburton &1 croft of land called Lokks & 1 messuage garden, land tenbement, pasture, wood etc in Edburton on the East side of the river of Edburton which was formerly William ESton my fathers & after John Eston my elder son.

1609 – John Cheele (plaintiff) and Anthony Viscount Mountague and Jane his wife (deforciants) Site of manor of Perching and tenements in Edburton granted toJohn Cheele for term of 21 years rendering annually £160 to said viscount

## **Watching Brief - 25 Sycamore Close, Woodingdean**

**BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

### **WATCHING BRIEF**

**PLANNING APPLICATION No:- BH2018/01212**

**ADDRESS:- 25 Sycamore Close, Woodingdean**

**NAME OF APPLICANT:- J.Bawden**

**DATE OF FIRST CONTACT FROM CONTRACTOR:- 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

**DATE OF WATCHING BRIEF:- 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

**BHAS OFFICER CONDUCTING WATCHING BRIEF:- J.Funnell**

**Location TQ365 057**

### **Introduction**

In August 2018 the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were asked by the County Archaeologist to conduct a watching brief at 25 Sycamore Close, Woodingdean. A condition was that in the event of any archaeology being revealed any excavations would be conducted by a professional unit.

### **The History of the Site**

A desk top study of old maps of the Woodingdean area noted that during the later 19<sup>th</sup> century it was mainly open grassland. It is not until 1910 that maps show some use of the land as allotments. Some of these allotments were close to the location of Sycamore Close. Most of Woodingdean remained undeveloped until the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Woodingdean has in the past produced a number of archaeological finds close to the site of this development. Among the finds have been Neolithic flintwork, a Bronze Age settlement to the east of this location, and pottery suggesting a possible Roman settlement to the west. There have also been a number of Anglo-Saxon burials with a scheduled cemetery located some distance to the east at The Bostle.

The development at 25 Sycamore Close was in the garden to the south of the existing house (Fig 1). The garden had originally been part of the property of a house located to the east of 25 Sycamore Close but had been purchased quite recently and grassed over. The new section of garden had originally been part of a vegetable plot with green houses, and other small buildings. It was considered some form of allotment which had



become quite neglected. The area to be excavated was about 7.5 metres east to west and 4.5 metres south of the existing house

## **The Geology**

The British Geological survey of this area (Sheet 318/333) shows the geology to be predominantly upper and middle chalk.

## **The Watching Brief**

The watching brief was conducted in a single day, with two visits to the location. A small trench had already been opened immediately adjacent to the existing house revealing the wall footings and earlier ground disturbance. The area to be removed by machine had a gradual slope downwards from east to west. The depth of soil at the east end was 20 cm and this increased to about 60 cm at the west end. The section previously opened revealed a plastic membrane or sheet visible below the top soil which clearly indicated that the ground had been disturbed in the recent past. The top soil was carefully removed at the east end and beneath it was chalk. The chalk at the east end was quite loose and removal proved quite easy. No features were noted at the east end.

It was in the central section that solid chalk was encountered. The west end had a greater depth of soil and a very disturbed patch of ground containing considerable quantities of soot and debris. A number of shrub roots were noted but again no ancient features were observed during the soil removal.

The surface uncovered was cleaned up by trowel and revealed 2 concrete items. These concrete fragments are probably bases of concrete posts associated with green houses or structures, built when the garden had previously been an allotment. Photographs were taken during the top soil removal (Figs 2, 3 & 4).

## **The Finds**

During top soil removal there was a noticeable collection of modern brick, and large fragments of paving slab, clearly indicating some previous ground disturbance. An examination was made of the soil removed. The only finds noted were of a contemporary nature, including numerous fragments of brick, plastic sheeting and modern flowerpot.

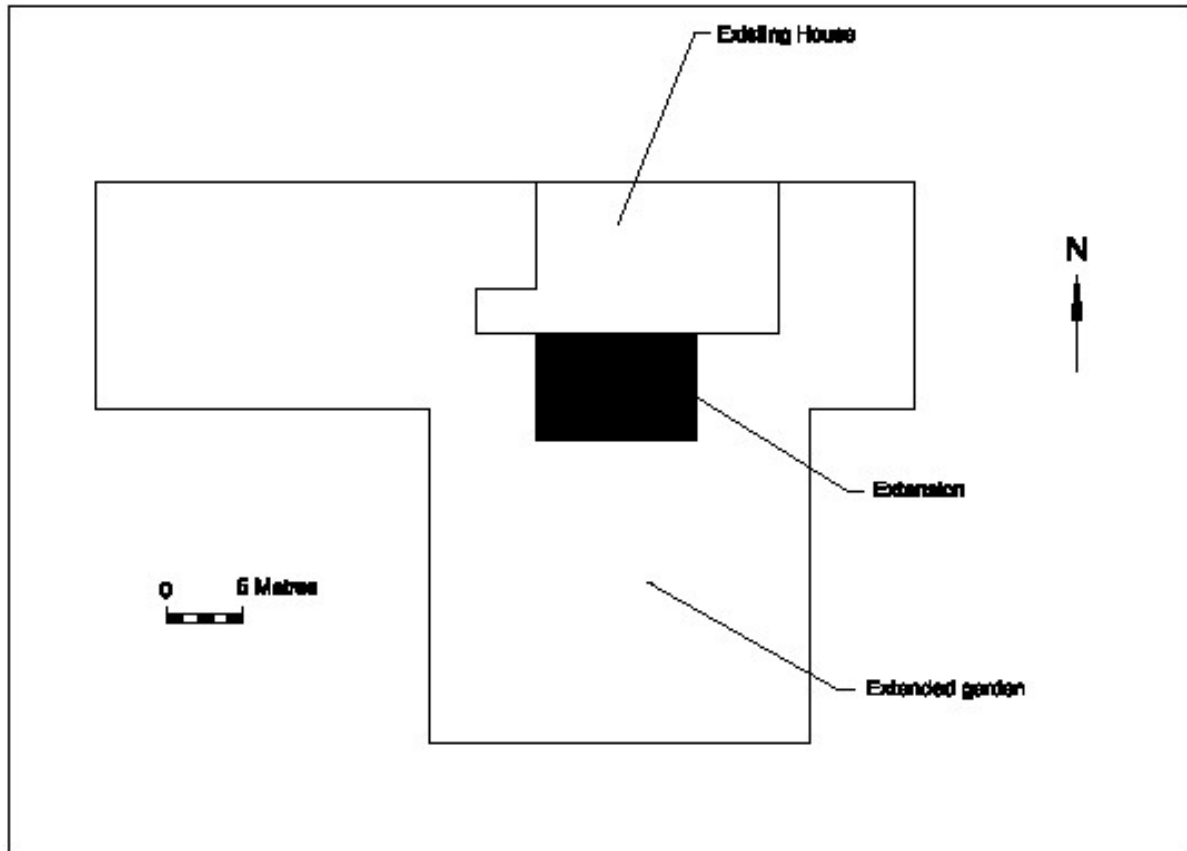
## **Conclusions**

The watching brief at 25 Sycamore Close found no evidence for ancient activity.

## Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Mr Mark Bawden and his family for allowing access to the site, and for providing refreshments. It was deeply appreciated.

John Funnell 14<sup>th</sup> October 2018



**Fig 1. Location of extension at 25 Sycamore Close, Woodingdean**



Fig 2. The loose chalk at the east end



Fig 3. The darker soil with soot at the west end





Fig 4. Evidence of root action

# **Watching Brief at Beacon Hill, Rottingdean**

## **Introduction**

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were contacted by the County Archaeologist Greg Chuter and asked to conduct a watching brief while contractors excavated a trench to lay a water pipe along 300 metres of the east facing side of Beacon Hill, Rottingdean. The local Brighton Ranger Emma Keane provided details of date and time for when the excavation was going to take place. The site was visited by John Cummin of the Beacon Hill Local Reserve team on the Monday, who recorded the location of the trench for his group. The watching brief was conducted on week commencing February 26<sup>th</sup> 2018. The start point for the pipe was at the south entrance of the allotments (TQ3670 0240) The pipe then ran for 150 metres in a north westerly direction.

## **The History**

Beacon Hill has a long history and it appears never to have been ploughed, at least in living memory. It is the site of a Neolithic long barrow recorded some time ago and now a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The long barrow is a visible earthwork in the landscape. The hill also has a large dew pond and another enigmatic earthwork at the north end of the hill close to the Beacon Hill Road. The location of this other earthwork is recorded on old maps but its purpose remains unknown. In the past decade a second Neolithic long barrow has been identified, as a crop mark south of the windmill, in the area that used to be a pitch and putt golf course.

The hill is often grazed by sheep, and this was the reason for the water pipe line being installed, to provide a water supply for those sheep. In past years, after sheep grazing, features have been observed as subtle earthworks in the landscape. A number of these features have been surveyed using geophysical surveying equipment. A resistivity survey was conducted on a part of the west facing section of the hill, which revealed a possible structure. The same survey conducted on an area to the south of the hill, close to the boundary of the old pitch and putt course revealed ditches and a possible ancient windmill (Funnell 2005). Another survey was conducted to the north of the windmill on lands similarly grazed, this survey produced further interesting anomalies (Funnell 2009). A small resistivity survey was also conducted to the west of the Neolithic long barrow (Funnell 2006)

It is recorded that when the footings for the windmill were excavated in 1802 a 'warrior' burial was found, with a sword (Carder 1990). This suggests that the burial may be Saxon. The hill is called Beacon Hill as a beacon was constructed during the reign of Henry VIII (Carder 1990), and there have been other beacons in more recent times. Recent excavations on the hill were conducted during the early part of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The post holes for a new park bench uncovered the remains of a sheep burial.

## **The Geology**

The geology of this part of Sussex is predominantly upper and middle chalk, with head deposits in both the valleys to the west and east of the hill.

## **The Watching Brief**

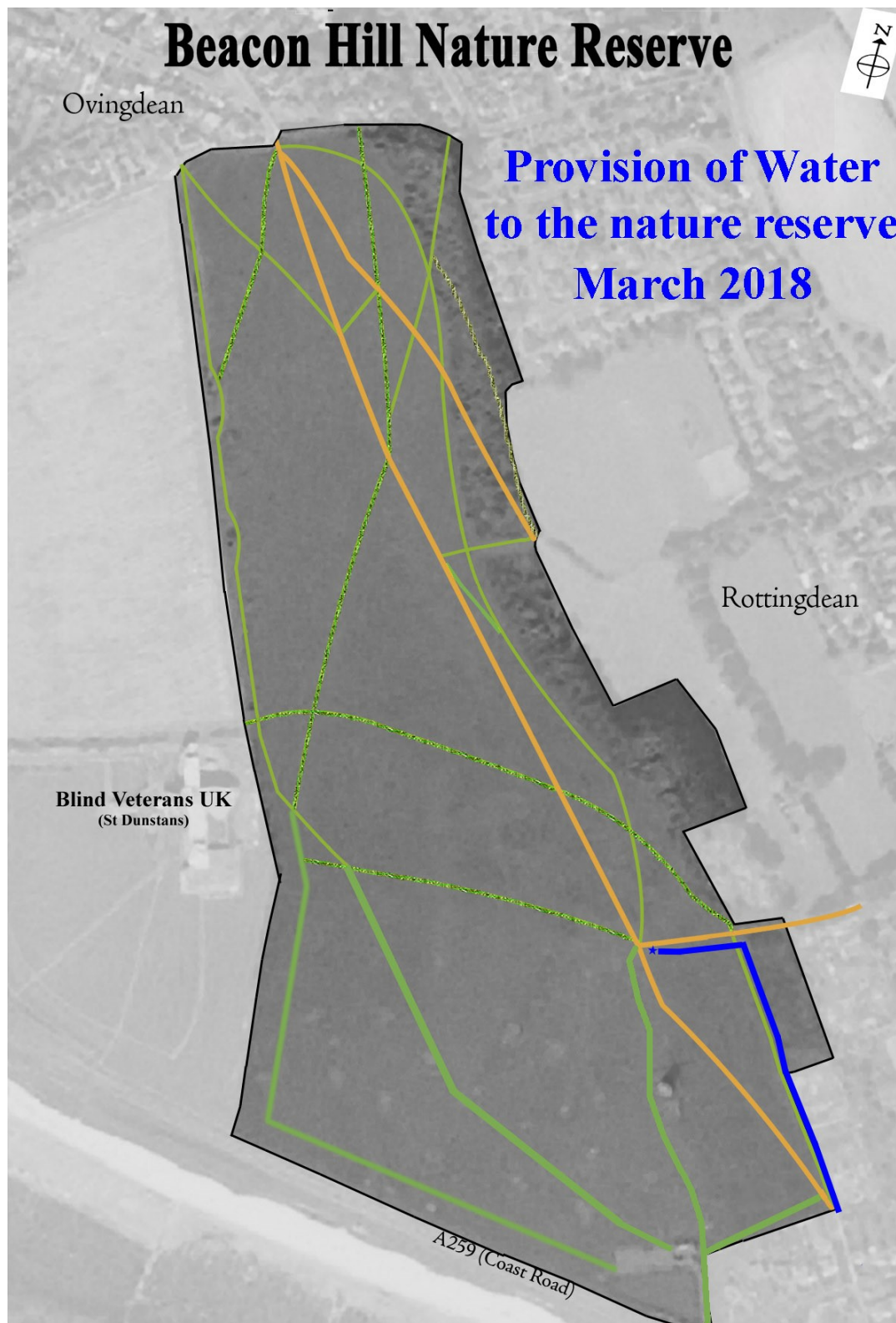
The excavation and watching brief were conducted in severe weather conditions. It was bitterly cold with snow flurries. On the first day the trench commenced at the south end of the allotments close the entrance. The top soil was about 30cm in depth with an upper layer which included numerous finds of crushed brick and tile. The area is also the main gateway entrance to Beacon Hill, and this debris was obviously material deposited to build up eroded areas. The trackway is sunken in this location from the continual use of the pathway.

The top soil was removed down to chalk level, which at the south end amounted to about 30cms, and this contained the modern debris. There were no features observed over the 35/40 metres cut in that first day. An inspection of the soil removed produced only finds of brick and tile. There was a complete lack of archaeology other than modern. The digging did reveal that an unrecorded plastic water pipe had been laid previously along the same alignment for about 50 metres. The trench for this pipe had been cut only into the top soil, and did not cut the tougher chalk deposit below. As the excavation moved northwards the top soil reduced down to a shallow 15 to 20cms in depth. The overall depth of the trench being cut was 80cms. It was noticeable that during the first 15 metres of the trench the chalk being removed contained numerous large flint nodules, which did impede the digging process, but on the northern section of the trench the large flint nodules disappeared.

## **The Results**

The trench at Beacon Hill was excavated in what proved to be one of the coldest weeks of the winter. It also proved an unfortunate coincidence that one of the watching brief team's motor vehicle had broken down and the other volunteer was taken ill. However, on the first day the watching brief the contractors carrying out the excavations, TWB (The Water Business), were briefed on how the top soil should be removed first, to identify possible features, with the lower chalk being removed afterwards. The contractors fully understood what was being undertaken. They were aware that the important procedure was to look out for features cut into the chalk, including possible graves, and to collect any flintwork or pottery from the top soil. Contact with the contractors was maintained throughout the excavation. The result of the watching brief was that no features were noted during the whole of the 300 metres cut during the subsequent week, and no finds were collected. The contractors were in fact quite disappointed by the lack of archaeological finds.

The result of the watching brief was that this thin section cut into Beacon Hill was devoid of any archaeology.



The Blue line shows the location of the water pipe (Copy from J.Cummin)



## **Acknowledgements**

The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society would like to thank the County Archaeologist Greg Chuter for inviting us to conduct the watching brief, Emma Keane the Brighton Ranger for keeping the Society posted on the event, and Gary and Karl of TWB for their enthusiastic support during the operation. A copy of this report will be passed to the County Archaeologist and will be recorded in the BHAS 2018 field notebook.

## **References:-**

**Carder T.** 1990 'The Encyclopaedia of Brighton' East Sussex County Libraries

**Funnell J.D.** 2005 'Beacon Hill, Rottingdean,' in 'Field Notebook of the Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society'

**Funnell J.D.** 2006 'Geophysical Surveying at Beacon Hill, Rottingdean, in 'Field Notebook of the Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society'

**Funnell J.D.** 2009 'Beacon Hill 2009,' in 'Field Notebook of the Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society'



Fig 1. The south end of the trench



Fig 2. A water pipe uncovered





Fig 3. The trench being excavated



Fig 4. A very shallow top soil, and no visible features



# Watching Brief at Beacon Hill, Rottingdean, December 2018

## Introduction

In the middle of 2018 the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society were contacted by Emma Keane, a Brighton and Hove countryside ranger, and Jason Fisher, a member of the Friends of Beacon Hill. BHAS were asked to conduct a watching brief while post holes for 3 benches were being dug at location (TQ 3665 0240). The event took place on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018. The benches are located just east of the Rottingdean Hub café and south of the Rottingdean windmill. (Fig 1.)



Fig 1. Beacon Hill watching brief location (Google earth)

## The History of Beacon Hill

Beacon Hill contains a number of prehistoric features and a number of 'warrior' burials. A sheep skeleton was found close to this location a few years ago. BHAS have conducted a number of geophysical surveys over the past decade or so, and the images provided indicate a good number of potential features (Funnell 2005 and 2009). In September of 2018 a small excavation west of the Rottingdean windmills produced finds of pottery and flintwork (Funnell & Tolhurst 2018 forthcoming)

In the past few years a second Neolithic long barrow was found on the old pitch and putt site. It was observed from aerial photographs. This feature has now been scheduled

and is located to the west of this excavation. This feature is quite close to the location of the new benches, but is not in the scheduled area.

When the Rottingdean windmill was constructed in 1802 the skeleton of a 'warrior' was found, bearing a sword. This is almost certainly a Saxon burial. In 1862 during work to the Rottingdean cricket pitch, which was located on Beacon Hill at that time, another 4 skeletons and an urn were found. The pitch and putt course was opened in 1938 (Carder 1990). There were no archaeological finds noted during the course construction.

## **The Geology**

Beacon Hill is the southern section of a spur of the South Downs that runs down from Warren Road to the cliffs and the sea between Rottingdean and Ovingdean. The central section has been built upon at Ovingdean, while the most prominent location of the spur is at Mount Pleasant, just north of Ovingdean. The southern section has an undulating topography rising up from the southern end of Ovingdean to a higher location west of the 'Blind Veterans' complex. The hill then drops back down towards the cliffs and sea. On the east side of Beacon hill is located the village of Rottingdean, while the west slopes dramatically down to Greenways Road. This is the road leading to Ovingdean church and the old village.

The British Geological survey of this area (Sheet 318/333) shows the geology to be predominantly upper and middle chalk on the hill, with head deposits in the adjacent valleys.

## **The Watching Brief**

The location of the 3 tables had been set out using spray paint. Each table required 2 post holes each measuring approximately 60 cm square. The top soil was removed and then a layer of chalky loam measuring between 25 and 35 cm in depth. There were no features observed, although one post hole at the east end did have a shallow layer of additional loose chalk. This additional layer was only a few centimetres deep and also came down onto virgin chalk. The excavation of the post holes was carried by a number of volunteers from the Friends of Beacon Hill group.

The small collection of small post holes did produce some artefacts.

## **The Finds**

### **The Flintwork**

A total of 6 pieces of flintwork were collected weighing a total of 49 gm. All of the flakes were hard hammered, with 3 flakes (50%) having a grey patination. Other patinations were blue and black, with only 1 flake being black. Most of the flakes retained some vestige of cortex. The flakes were simple struck flakes and none had any retouch.

### **The Fire-Cracked Flint**

A single piece of fire-cracked flint was found weighing 25 gm.

### **The Pottery**

The pottery consisted of 3 sherds of Victorian or early 20<sup>th</sup> century ceramics. One item was a beige coloured stoneware vessel, which consisted of a complete base section and part of the wall. The other fragments were a small section of cream coloured glazed, and a single piece of glazed brown 'Keymer' type ware.

### **Contemporary Materials**

The excavation produced a single piece of modern roofing tile weighing 32 gm and a small piece of brick which weighed only 2 gm.

### **Animal Bone**

A small long bone was recovered measuring 40 millimetres in length, and weighing 3 gms. The bone is most likely from a sheep.

## **Discussion**

The small excavation of post holes for benches at Beacon Hill once again produced enough archaeology to confirm that this location has been the subject of activity from the prehistoric period to modern times. The Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society are hoping to work with the Friends of Beacon Hill to conduct further geophysics on the hill in the not too distant future. The aim is to return to the hill on a number of occasions, particularly in areas after there has been sheep grazing. This may also allow for some contour surveying to be undertaken. The Friends of Beacon Hill are also keen to conduct a small excavation in the area, possibly with the Friends group and a local school. This would require some planning, and involvement with the County Archaeologist.

## **Acknowledgements**

The author would like to thank Greg Chuter, the County Archaeologist and David Larkin of City Parks for allowing access to Beacon Hill, to Jason Fisher and to the Friends of Beacon Hill for digging the post holes.

A copy of this report will be passed to County Hall and Brighton and Hove City Planning. A copy of the report will be published in the BHAS Field Notebook for 2018.

Author John Funnell (15<sup>th</sup> December 2018)

## **References:-**

**Carder T.** 1990 'The Encyclopaedia of Brighton' East Sussex County Libraries

**Funnell J.** 2005 'Geophysics at Beacon Hill, Rottingdean 2005'  
Brighton & Hove Field Unit Notebook 2005

**Funnell J.** 2006 'Geophysics at Beacon Hill, Rottingdean 2006'  
Brighton & Hove Field Unit Notebook 2006

**Funnell J.** 2009 'Geophysics at Beacon Hill, Rottingdean 2009'  
Brighton & Hove Field Unit Notebook 2009

**Funnell J. & Tolhurst P.** 2018 'Excavations at Beacon Hill 2018'  
Brighton & Hove Field Unit Notebook 2018 (forthcoming)



## **Pangdean Casual Notes from The Sussex Archaeological collections and Sussex Notes and Queries.**

### **Introduction**

John Mills the recent Assistant County Archaeologist visited Pangdean in July of 2018, and was interested in a possible parch mark in the Pangdean grounds as being a possible round house. Stephen Evas, who is a gardener at the house, had contacted him about the parch marks and the collection of mainly medieval pottery that he recovered from the flower beds in the garden.

Pete Tolhurst and I visited the location on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018 and met up with Stephen and the manager of Pangdean, Ian Curry. The parch marks had gone by this time, but the collection of medieval pottery, and even some possible Iron Age sherds was very impressive. BHAS will be returning to Pangdean in the autumn when the weather is less dry and there has been some rain to aid a geophysical survey.

### **Notes from John Mills and the West Sussex HER**

At 48 households in the DB manor, it seems at least possible that there may have been a medieval settlement here, not only a farmstead: perhaps that might explain the medieval pottery Steve has found.

We haven't much on the HER, but Julie Gardiner (in her 1988 Neolithic flintwork PhD thesis) lists the find of a Neolithic polished axe and polished axe fragment from just east of the farm, and we have a record of an "Iron Age/ Romano-British" (or earlier?) field system on the brow of the coombe, to the south of the farm.

As you will have seen from the maps, the East/West Sussex county boundary kinks about a bit here; west of the A23 here is part of East Sussex, so the East Sussex HER may also have records that are relevant.

**Pangdean** – The black death in the mid-late 14<sup>th</sup> century was a major cause of depopulation and Pangdean is likely to have been one of those Deserted medieval villages (Burleigh 1973). Later evidence, however suggests that Pangdean may have been associated with a later plague of 1603. Some similar villages to Pangdean may have existed in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries, but may have been accounted for under other vills, but may have existed in 1086.

There was also migration where a village moved from one spot to another, as with the case at Pyecombe.

Pangdean TQ294117 1086: 28

Under Pinheden and pinwedene in Domesday – 20 villeins and 8 borders are recorded. Charters c1140, and c1147 refer to the church at Pingeden.

Tradition says that during the 1603 plague, which destroyed neighbouring Pyecombe, a farmer of Pangdean lived in a cave at Waydown nearby in order to escape the plague. When he returned many weeks later he was the last to die from the disease. His monument was one time visible in Pyecombe churchyard.

Pangdean – A charter of 1095 mentions the church of Pingeden. Dr Brandon believed Pangdean to be a hamlet with its own fields (Burleigh 1976). P.Brandon also considers the church of Piungeden should be identified with Pyecombe

Pyecombe TQ 293126 Mentioned in a charter of 1091-1098 with an entry for the village in NON Inq but no special reference to poverty. Parish registers which commence in 1561 record that the village suffered from the plague several times, and in 1603 the disease was so serious that survivors fled and later resettled the village about a mile from the church (TQ 285129) Horsfield recorded houses in Pyecombe as being few and scattered.

In May 1942 Pangdean along with a number of other downland locations was used for target practise (Brandon 1998)

### **References:-**

**Brandon P.F.** 1998 ' The South Downs' Phillimore

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

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

### **Sussex Archaeological Collections References**

Pyecombe Medieval village (**XV**), 315  
Roman finds (**XIII**), 131-4  
Sussex loops from **61 (LXI)**, 76, **72**, 49, 62

Pyecombe – **127**, 37  
Excavations of a Beaker barrow **129**, 1-28 (C.Butler)  
- Field Walking **126** (C.Butler)  
- Mesolithic and later flintwork site **139**, 7-26 (C.Butler)  
- Mesolithic camp **126**, 228  
- Mesolithic core **126**, 228  
- Post medieval sword belt fittings **126** (D.Gaimster)  
- Work at Pyecombe Church **134** (C.Butler)

Deserted Medieval villages (E.Holden) (**XV**), 312-5

## Professional Reports From the Sussex Archaeological Forum 2018

**Brighton: Brighton Dome.** (NGR 531204 104347 Brighton). (Site code: BDB 16. Director: Garrett Shennan). Brighton's Corn Exchange originated c. 1805 as a riding house for the Prince Regent's adjoining palace complex, built on the site of Brighton's first Quaker meeting house. The work associated with the renovation and expansion of this structure – now used as an arts venue – comprised standing building recording as well as below-ground monitoring. The excavations within the hall uncovered footings and drainage relating to its construction; to the west a Quaker cemetery was uncovered, in use c. 1700-1820. Around 20 individuals of mixed age and sex were exhumed, a number of whom had been reburied here, probably when the adjacent corn exchange/riding house was built. The 18<sup>th</sup>- century cemetery wall was also revealed, together with a number of wells belonging to the early 19<sup>th</sup>- century houses built on the site. The standing building recording within the Corn Exchange revealed the original timber frame and panelling of the Regency riding house, as well as upstanding walls relating to a stable-block constructed adjacent for the Regent's mistress, Mrs Fitzherbert, and an early 19<sup>th</sup>- century bakehouse relating to one of the houses adjacent. A cache of material was also discovered behind a wall in the Corn Exchange relating to the site's use as a hospital during World War I. This consisted of newspapers, matchboxes and other ephemera, as well as a number of letters written by the wounded servicemen. The building recording and archaeological monitoring works are both ongoing, as redevelopment work continues(ASE).

**Brighton: Pavilion Gardens.** (TQ 31204. BHCC) (Directors: John Skelton and Pete Tolhurst).

Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society took the opportunity to be present during the excavation of trenches in Pavilion Gardens. The trenches were dug over two days as part of a tree management regime intended to prevent the spread of disease by cutting through the roots. Two trenches approximately 10 metres long, 0.5 metres wide and one metre deep were dug by machine through garden soil and paths and then immediately backfilled. No artefacts were encountered apart from modern items apparently casually discarded by visitors. No stratigraphy apart from modern path construction was observed (BHAS).

**Brighton: 16 Bristol Gate.** (NGR: TQ 32983 03909). (Site code: BGB 16. Director: Rose Calis.) Watching brief monitoring the excavation of ground reduction, two garden wall trenches, soakaway and foundation trenches. Made-ground directly overlay the chalk natural. No archaeology found (CBAS).

**Falmer: Land at University of Sussex, Areas F, G and the North-West slope.** (NGR 534644 109466. Falmer Parish). (Site code: UOS 16. Director Lucy May). An evaluation was carried out on land that can generally be characterised as having been landscaped during the previous building work for the university campus. In two of the areas assessed made ground deposits directly overlay natural geology. One shallow feature was excavated in one area. However, like the rest of the site, it was clearly truncated and provided no dating. The western half of the north-west slope appears undisturbed,

whilst the eastern half has been built up using the materials from the previous building works within campus. Colluvial deposits exist below the made ground throughout most of these trenches in the eastern half of the area, overlying natural chalk geology. Geoarchaeological investigations demonstrated possible palaeoenvironmental evidence from a Holocene colluvial sequence in the north east corner of the northwest slope, and the presence of a large Pleistocene or Tertiary solution hollow on the ridge to the west in the same area. Pleistocene head units were determined to be of low geoarchaeological value (ASE).

**\*Ovingdean: Hog Croft.** (TQ 354 036: Ovingdean Parish). (Site code: 500209. Director: John Skelton). Excavation of a 13<sup>th</sup>- century manorial complex consisting of a stone manor house and timber structures bounded by earthwork banks. This is to be the last year of digging at Ovingdean and the site will be backfilled by Christmas. This year we have completed all but a six square metre strip of the four trenches originally planned. We have continued to reveal post holes and gullies and to delve deeper into the well. Crucially we have identified the corners of two buildings. one, a post hole building and another, a sill beam or post in trench building. However, the function of the two structures has not been determined. We are close to our "insured depth" of two metres in the well. Artefacts from the well have not been as prolific as hoped but we have a good collection of oyster shell, pottery and bone that should enable us to date the feature. Registered finds have been rare this year with only three; a broken copper alloy ring, a corroded ferrous object and a simple ferrous buckle. Bulk finds have continued to accumulate, the pottery being mostly c. 1200 - c. 1500, but, we have more examples of pottery that may be of Saxon origin. Excavations by BHAS will resume in April 2017, probably at Rocky Clump, Stanmer, where there will be digging opportunities for non-members who, by appointment, can join us on site for the day. If they find that the activities are "for them" they can then join the Society. Details can be obtained by visiting our website (<http://www.brightonarch.org.uk>) (BHAS).

**Peacehaven : 1 South Coast Road.** (NGR TQ 42525 000626). (Site code: SCR 16. Director: Iride Tomazic/Jon Baczkowski). Evaluation excavation of nine trenches, varying in length due to the shape of the site, and one test pit across the site. Trenches revealed several Late Iron Age/Roman features including ditches, post holes and a pit, all below 1m deep. One post hole and pit contained flint and FCF, as well as small pieces of pot, possibly of Late Iron Age/Roman date, included in the pit. Trenching revealed contamination across the site and was evident in several deposits. Subsequent full excavation found a number of pits containing early Neolithic pottery and flintwork and Late Iron Age/Roman features including a small pottery kiln. Currently in Post Excavation stage (CBAS).

**Saltdean: Land at 6 Falmer Avenue.** (NGR: TQ 3767 0260). (Site code: FAV 17. Director: Caroline Russell). A geophysical survey was undertaken before an evaluation excavation opening up twelve 20m x 2m trenches across the site. Eight trenches were shallow and had no archaeological features. Trench 10 revealed two successive deposits of colluvium and periglacial features. Trench 1 was opened at the base of the slope and revealed a large cut feature, 8.65m wide and 1.1m deep at the east end of

the trench, 'lined' with a dark soil and backfilled with a flint gravel deposit. It cut through the colluvium and excavation of a sondage exposed further colluvium beneath the cut and revealed that the base of the valley extended beyond a depth of 1.9m, the Limit of Excavation. The feature is modern having cut the topsoil, and is thought to be associated with drainage works undertaken on site in the 1970s. Trench 12, north of Trench 1, also revealed a very large modern cut, again believed to be part of the drainage works. It too looked to have been 'lined' with a deposit (CBAS).

**Brighton: Hannington Lane.** (NGR 531116 104164; Brighton & Hove). (Site code: HAL 17. Director: Garrett Sheehan). A geoarchaeological investigation and archaeological watching brief was carried out at the site between the 1st March and 13th October 2017. A record of the Quaternary sedimentation was achieved within the area assessed to an impact depth of 2.5m. No archaeologically sensitive deposits or sediments with palaeoenvironmental potential were encountered. The investigation showed that this part of Brighton and Hove lies within an area of deep Pleistocene sedimentation and possibly also lies either within the envelope of head deposits which formed in front of the Brighton-Norton Raised Beach or as part of the head comprising valley-side slope deposits of the Wellesbourne/Lewes Road Valley. The watching brief recorded a number of structural features relating to the development of the site from the early 19th to 20th centuries, some of which utilised reused material of 17<sup>th</sup>- to 18<sup>th</sup>-century date. No structures or deposits of medieval, or earlier date, were encountered (ASE).

**Brighton: Preston Barracks.** (NGR 532333 106366; Brighton & Hove). (Site code: PTN 17. Director: Teresa Vieira). The evaluation comprised a total of 12 trenches, from which six contained archaeology. Despite the significant truncation observed across the site, due to terracing and levelling off the ground surface, the evaluation successfully confirmed the existence of preserved remains of the former Preston Barracks, specifically the Soldiers Quarters and Stables building (ASE).

**Brighton: 251 - 253 Preston Road.** (NGR 530181 106780; Brighton & Hove). (Site code: BPO 17. Director: Teresa Vieira). The evaluation comprised the excavation of four trenches which was carried out between the 8th and 9th of January 2018. A single flint flake dating to the early prehistoric period (Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age) was recovered from the natural head deposit. Two brick surfaces dating to the 18th-19<sup>th</sup> century were recorded. The evaluation has shown that the site has been truncated in the past due to levelling and landscaping. No archaeological features were recorded (ASE).

**Brighton: Roedean School, Roedean Way.** (NGR 535186 103007; Brighton & Hove). (Site code: RSR 17. Director: Simon Stevens). During the archaeological watching brief a considerable area of downland was mechanically reduced to level the ground for the construction of sports pitches. A small number of archaeological features were revealed, recorded and excavated, comprising four shallow pits, one deep pit containing a sequence of fills, and a gully/ditch. Pottery recovered from the gully suggested a

Middle Bronze Age date for the feature, although later pottery in the same feature hinted at some longevity of use, perhaps stretching into the Iron Age. In the absence of any other closely datable evidence it is presumed that all of the other features were broadly prehistoric in date (ASE).

**Hove: West Blatchington Primary School.** (NGR 527313 107615; Brighton & Hove). (Site code: WBH 17. Director: Gary Webster). The fifteen trenches excavated did not yield any certain archaeological features, despite some significant finds and landscape features nearby. The majority of the site appears to be severely truncated, with what was probably the crest of a small hill or slope being levelled flat for the playing field. The east of the site has instead been raised, using redeposited natural material that contained finds from the 20th century. This area could potentially still hold archaeological features, although none (save a possible shallow chalk pit) were identified (ASE).

**Saltdean: Land at 6 Falmer Avenue.** (NGR TQ 3767 0260). (Site code: FAV 17. Director: Caroline Russell). Evaluation excavation of twelve 20m x 2m trenches to examine the archaeological potential of the site and investigate anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. Eight trenches were devoid of archaeological features. One trench was opened down to the natural chalk deposit. Three features were encountered and interpreted as natural in origin, potentially periglacial, on the basis that their fills contained no pottery or charcoal flecks. Small snails were recovered from the features. Another trench was opened across an area of disturbance identified from the geophysical survey, and believed to represent made ground, which was confirmed to be artificial upon excavation. Within the cut of the valley bottom, a deposit of colluvium was recorded and observed to overlie a gravel deposit not exposed *in situ* elsewhere on site. Two of the trenches exposed large modern cut features, thought to be associated with drainage works undertaken on site in the 1970s (CBAS).

**Brighton: Golf Farm, Devil's Dyke Road.** (NGR: 528155 108139) (Site code: DDR 18. Director: Simon Stevens). Seventy trenches were excavated and full topographic survey of the site undertaken to record surviving landscape features. The site encompasses surviving elements of Toadeshole Bottom, a dry valley partially filled by a substantial embankment carrying the A27 Brighton Bypass. Much of the current site is occupied by the embankment, constructed in the late 20th century. The archaeological evaluation revealed a small number of undated archaeological features. A small assemblage of later prehistoric flintwork was recovered from the topsoil. Surviving dry valley deposits and possible lynchets, also undated, form further elements of archaeological interest, all of which are preserved *in situ* going forward (ASE).

**Brighton: 411 Ditchling Road.** (NGR: 531381 107639). (Site code: BDR 18. Director: Gary Webster). The watching brief revealed a predominantly undisturbed natural sequence of topsoil and subsoil over natural chalk geology. One undated pit was recorded in the section of the foundation trench beneath the subsoil. The single undated archaeological feature survives *in-situ*. No archaeological finds were identified during the excavations (ASE).



**Brighton: Montpelier Baptist Church.** (NGR: 530093 104661). (Site code: MON 17. Director: Chris Russell). Wall foundations relating to the 1960's church were observed. No elements of the 19<sup>th</sup>- century church were present suggesting that the earlier structure had been completely removed on demolition (ASE).

# Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit 2018 Attendance Record

**Dated 31/12/2018**

John Funnell	74 Days	Brighton
Hestor Adams	1 Day	Brighton (Cardiff)
Nicholas Aherne	2 Days	Bexhill
Ann Barrow	3 Days	Brighton
Sue Batey	2 Days	Brighton
Clive Bean	41 Day	Portslade
Val Betts	2 Days	Brighton
Judith Billingham (G)	10 Days	Brighton
Fran Briscoe	48 Days	Shoreham
Peter Bristow	2 Days	Hove
Margaret Carey	20 Days	Brighton
Maureen Cahalin	18 Days	Saltdean
Duncan Cameron	29 Days	Brighton
Mabel Cameron	1 Day	Brighton
Beth Clements	11 Day	Brighton
Chris Coates	28 Days	Burgess Hill
Paula Cohen	1 Day	Lewes
Penny Cooper	2 Days	Brighton
Paul Corcut	1 Day	Brighton
Christian East	1 Day	Sunningdale (Berks)
Jane Elliott	1 Day	France
Elaine Evans	1 Day	Hove
Andrew Fanning	32 Days	Hove
Anne FitzGerald	1 Day	Brighton
Ronnie Fox	3 Days	Perching
Stefanie Freiling	35 Days	Southwick
Mary Funnell	5 Days	Brighton
Alex Gadd	1 Day	London
Ivor Game	1 Day	Staines
Maria Gardiner	11 Day	Hove
Quintin Gee	9 Days	Southampton
Heloise 'Gillingham'	1 Day	Hove
Mark Gillingham (Assist.Direct.)	60 Days	Hove
Xavier 'Gillingham'	1 Day	Hove
Francine Grant	1 Day	Hove
Lesley Haines	16 Days	Burgess Hill
Lucy Hammond	1 Day	Brighton
Nina Hayward	1 Day	Hove
Andrew Housam	5 Days	Scaynes Hill
John Hynnter	7 Days	Brighton
Ann Johnson	4 Days	Brighton

Eva Jonas	1 Day	Brighton Uni.
Jackie Jones	1 Day	Brighton
Archie Jones	1 Day	Shoreham
Glynis Jones	5 Days	Worthing
Marcus Jones	2 Days	Cobham (Surrey)
Finlay Larkin	20 Days	Brighton
Gordon LeRoux	1 Day	Lewes
Delia Lindsey	3 Days	Seaford
John Lonerhan	1 Day	Hove
David Ludwig	39 Days	Rustington
Dot McBrien	12 Days	Shoreham (Moved)
Joan MacGregor	8 Days	Brighton
Xanthe Maggs	3 Days	Brighton Uni (London)
Nicky Matthews	12 Days	Newhaven
Nadia Khalili-Nayer	2 Days	Shoreham
Juliet MacCaffery	11 Day	Brighton
Chrissie Melvin	3 Days	Worthing
Mark Melvin	15 Days	Worthing
Jo Miller	30 Days	Ringmer
Bruce Milton	1 Day	Burgess Hill
Charlotte Nash	1 Day	Epsom
Sylvia Newman	2 Days	Brighton
Simone Oates	4 Days	Seaford
Joao Oliviera	1 Day	Portugal
Alison Partridge	1 Day	St Albans (Newhaven)
Oliver Perry	3 Days	Tunbridge Wells
Jenny Preece	1 Day	Brighton
Rae Regenber	2 Days	Lewes (S.Africa)
Donald Richardson	2 Days	Lewes
Neil Richardson	18 Days	Eastbourne
Dan Robertson	1 Day	Brighton
Linda Robinson	21 Day	Hove
Luke Robinson	1 Day	London
Scarlett Robinson	1 Day	Epsom
Andrea Russell	4 Days	Brighton
Derek Russell	1 Day	Brighton
Jane Russell	3 Days	Brighton
Alison Sanders	1 Day	Rotherham
Graham Schakell	4 Days	Hove
*Gary Shipp	2 Days	Norfolk
John Skelton(Assist. Director)	64 Days	Hove
Kate Skelton	6 Days	Hove
Chloe South	4 Days	Lower Bevedean
John Spiller	5 Days	Portslade
David Staveley	4 Days	Eastbourne
Zoe Sutherland-Roe	3 Days	Shoreham ...

Barney Sykes	5 Days	Worthing
Andrew Symonds	19 Days	Lewes
Keith Thomson	2 Days	London
Rebecca Thomson	1 Day	Richmond Surrey
Pete Tolhurst (Director)	76 Days	Crowborough
Claire Turner	1 Day	Brighton
Matthew Walsh	4 Days	Perth Australia
Mia Warren	3 Days	Hangleton
Carol White (Site Supervisor)	11 Day	Newhaven
Helena White	1 Day	Guildford
Janis Winkworth	20 Days	Brighton
Sue Worth	3 Days	Brighton
Linda Wright	5 Days	Southwick

### **6 Girls from Roedean School**

Millicent Davies	4 Days	Roedean
Shirley He	4 Days	Roedean
Elaine Miu	3 Days	Roedean
Elina Ma	2 Days	Roedean(Left)+
Mary McHarg	3 Days	Roedean
Chelsea Yang	4 Days	Roedean

### **Total Attendance**

Number of people 99      Total Days 944

No of Males 42      No of Females 57

Male Days 571(60%)      Female Days 373(40%)

Total Number of Participants 99 People, not including the Young Archaeologists Club (YAC), or the 5 girls from Roedean school, who only worked for 1 hour per Days.

## **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 2018.

Brighton and Hove City Council

Ms L.Johnson, Senior Planner, Brighton & Hove City Council

Mr David Robinson (Farmer at Northease Farm) & Tenant at Stanmer

Mr Greg Chuter, County Archaeologist

Mr David Rudling, Chairman of BHAS

Mr P.Tolhurst – BHAS Director of the Rocky Clump excavations

Mr J.Skelton - BHAS Assistant Director of the BHAS Field Unit

Mr M.Gillingham – BHAS Assistant Director of the BHAS Field Unit

Ms C.White (Leader of the BHAS Bones Team)

Archaeology South East (ASE) for the use of their facilities in post ex.

Mr David Larkin, Acting Manager City Parks, Brighton and Hove City Council

Mr Jim and Mrs Betty Driver

And all members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Field Unit, and the girls from Roedean School

## BHAS Field Notebook Index

Note that the dates shown (1993-2018) are an indicator of when the work was carried out, and not the date of publication.

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### B

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Beacon Hill – Watching Brief December - 2018  
Beddingham – Roman and Prehistoric finds - 2008  
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Hard copies of the above reports and Field Notebooks were deposited at Barbican House Library, East Sussex County Council, Brighton and Hove City Council Planning Department and Brighton Museum. A number of copies were deposited at Brighton Library, the National Monuments Records Office, Swindon and at the East Sussex Records Office.

John Funnell 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019