

**AN ARTEFACT RECOVERY EXERCISE  
AT THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WORLD WAR GUN EMPLACEMENT,  
SEAFORD HEAD GOLF COURSE, SEAFORD.  
TV 4945 9850**

In March 2004 the writer carried out an artefact recovery exercise after the levelling of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War anti aircraft emplacement. Prior to their demolition the structures were recorded by C.G. Archaeology (Greatorex C. 2004). The area of the structures had been the site of a mid/late 20<sup>th</sup> century sand quarry which had revealed a large number of Romano-British cremations (Lower M. 1854, Price J. 1882)

The levelling of the site had involved the infilling of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War structures with soil from the levelling of the site (which consisted of a dark brown sandy loam) and soil from golf course groundworks (which comprised of a yellow/brown sand mixed with chalk and flint fragments and topsoil). The bulk of the artefacts retrieved were located in the local dark brown sandy loam.

## **FINDS**

### **Pottery**

- 1 small body sherd of Romano-British East Sussex grog tempered ware.
- 1 body sherd of Romano-British grey ware, probably from the Hardham kilns.
- 1 body sherd of 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century flint gritted ware.

### **Humanly Struck Flints**

- Rough workshop waste: 17 flakes
- Blades: 7
- Retouched flakes: 2
- Axe thinning flakes: 1
- Cores: 2

The majority of this assemblage would appear to be Mesolithic, with some possible Neolithic pieces.

### **Fire Fractured Flints**

21 fragments of fire fractured flint were recovered, 2 of which may have started life as cores.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The retrieval exercise proved successful and also highlighted the potential of the undisturbed areas of this site. The two Romano British sherds are likely to have been associated with the cremation cemetery, which was only partially explored in 1850-1880 and may cover a large area.

The recovery of an assemblage of Mesolithic flintwork and presumably contemporary fire fractured flints, shows that this sandy outcrop was a focus for activity during this period. This would have been an ideal location to exploit the resources provided by the sea, the River Ouse and the Seaford downland.

The finds and a copy of this report will be deposited at the Barbican House Museum, Lewes, East Sussex.

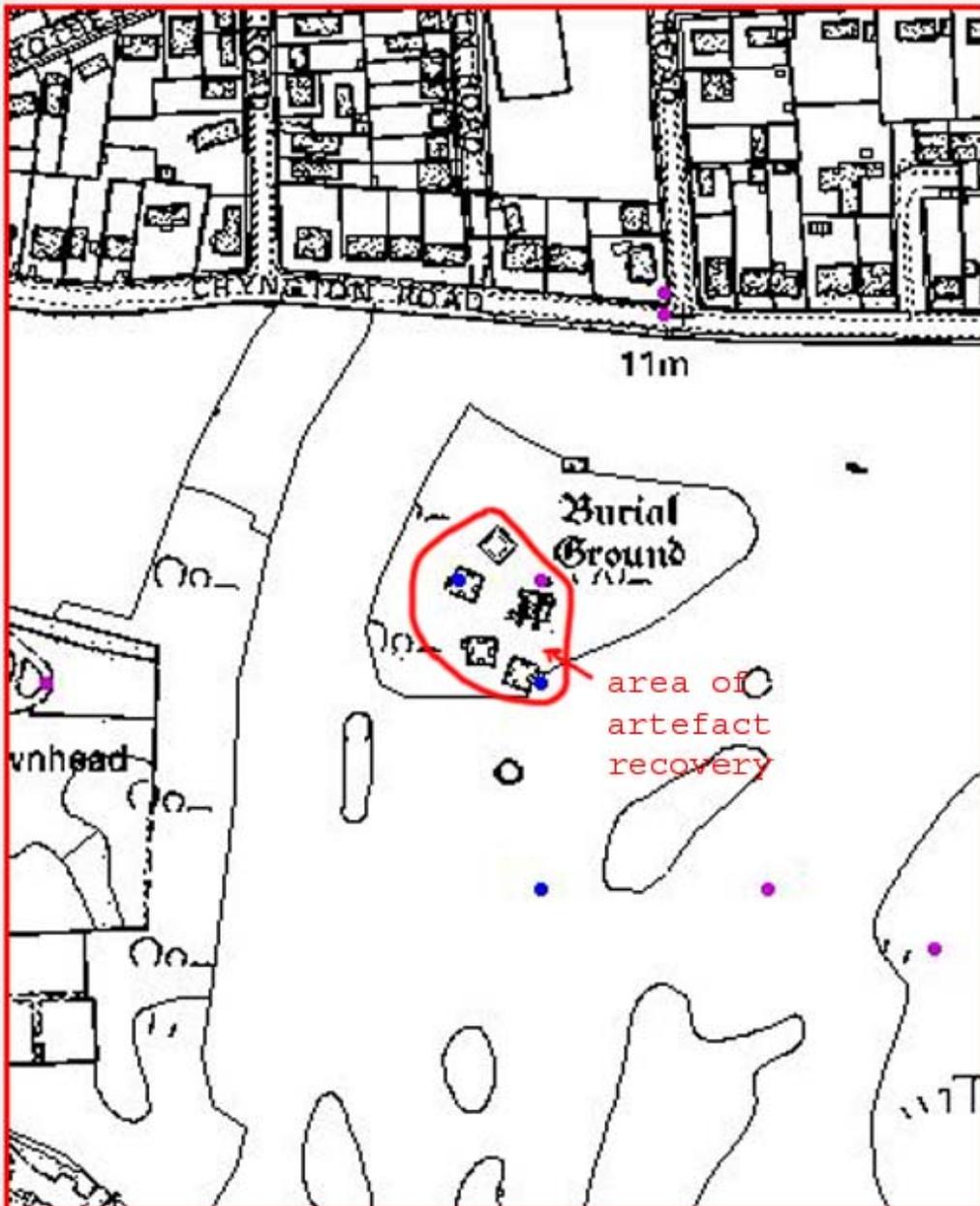
**Reference**

Greatorix C. (2004), 'Second World War heavy anti-aircraft battery, Seaford Head, East Sussex.' C.G. Archaeology project no. 04/01.

Lower M. (1854), Sussex Archaeological Collections vol. 7, pp 73-74.

Price J. (1882), 'On excavations in the Camp, the tumulus, and Romano-British cemetery, Seaford, Sussex' Sussex Archaeological Collections vol. 32, pp 178-200.

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LOCATION	
Figure 1	