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## **SeaClean Wight Pipelines**

### Archaeological Assessment Report

#### **Volume 1**

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## S Non-Technical Summary

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- S.1 In 2000 RPS Consultants on behalf of Southern Water carried out a programme of archaeological works associated with the construction of the SeaClean Wight Pipelines, Isle of Wight. The entire route from Yarmouth to Sandown via the north of Newport with links to West Cowes, East Cowes and Ryde was monitored for archaeological sites. This work identified 55 sites ranging from find scatters of archaeological material to those with surviving features and deposits, spanning in date range from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods.
- S.2 An assemblage of prehistoric worked flint including cores, scrapers, blades, arrowheads and axes was recovered from 42 sites. A pit assigned a prehistoric date and filled with burnt flints that were probably used for pot-boilers was found at a site to the east of New Farm, Brading. Bronze Age activity associated with burial practices was identified at sites in the Thorley, Thorley Street and Wellow areas. This included a ring ditch of a barrow and several cremation urns. Iron Age occupation was identified at sites near Thorley, Northwood and Havenstreet. This included structural remains, a significant assemblage of pottery and evidence for iron and copper metal working. Significant Roman remains were identified at sites near Thorley Street and to the south of Havenstreet. This evidence included a large enclosure ditch and kilns associated with metalworking and black-smithing activity. The most important medieval site identified during the works was at Great Briddlesford Farm to the west of Havenstreet. Here midden deposits produced a significant assemblage of Saxo-Norman pottery and contemporary evidence for iron smelting activities. Notable post-medieval remains included a lime kiln found near Heathfield Farm and two large assemblages of clay pipes found at sites at Ningwood and Parkhurst.

# 1 Introduction

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## Project Background

- 1.1 An archaeological watching brief and other associated archaeological work has been carried by RPS Consultants on behalf of Southern Water during the construction of the SeaClean Wight Pipelines. The project involved the construction of approximately 55km of pipeline and associated pumping stations for wastewater treatment and disposal facilities at a single site at Sandown. These pipelines extended from Yarmouth in the west to Sandown in the south-east via Dodnor and Fairlee, with links to East Cowes and West Cowes in the north and to Ryde in the north-east (figure RPSC 1).
- 1.2 A staged programme comprising desk-based assessments (*Stage I and Stage II Cultural Heritage Appraisals* RPS Clouston 1997 and 1998), consultation with the County Archaeological Office and geophysical survey field evaluation (*Geophysical Survey/64 Seaclean Isle of Wight* GSB Prospection 1999) identified the archaeological potential of the pipeline routes. An appropriate mitigation strategy was agreed with the County Archaeological Office where construction works had the potential to impact on surviving archaeology. A written scheme of investigation outlining the scope of the archaeological work was produced by RPS Consultants and approved by the County Archaeological Office. The work consisted of two main components; archaeological investigation and recording was carried out on selected areas stripped in advance of the main construction works, with an archaeological watching brief for all other areas of the pipeline routes.
- 1.3 The archaeological work was commissioned by Southern Water and carried out from January to October 2000. Martin Connell BSc MIFA managed the archaeological project for RPS Consultants. Kevin Trott BA carried out the watching brief. Daryl Stump and Owen Cambridge were the project officers with assistance from Sharon Adnitt, Chris Clay, Tom Jameison, Matthew Pearson MA, Quentin Hutchinson and Katie-Sue Wilson.
- 1.4 This assessment report presents the results of the fieldwork with a brief description of the archaeological findings in terms of the structural and artefactual evidence supported by background information, tables and illustrations. Recommendations for further work culminating in the production of a report for publication and a research archive is presented in Appendix 4. The assessment report is written by Martin Connell and Kevin Trott with contributions from Simon Bray, Malcolm Lyne PhD, Rob Masefield MA, Jacqueline Mckinley, Emily Murray PhD, Chris Salter PhD, Rob Scaife PhD, Paul Simpson and David Tomalin PhD.

## Geological and Topographical Background

- 1.5 The solid geology on the majority of the pipeline route comprises principally the Hamstead Beds of the Oligocene, which extend over the northern part of the island from Yarmouth in the west to Brading in the east. Upper Chalk of the Cretaceous lies to the south. The Reading Beds, London Clay, Bagshot Beds, Osborne and Headon Beds, and Bembridge Marls and Limestone lie between the Upper Chalk and Hamstead Beds.
- 1.6 Pleistocene drift deposits of plateau gravel partially overlies the Hamstead Beds in the area of Northwood, East Cowes and Doreshill Farm. Pleistocene Marine Gravel partially overlies the Bagshot Beds at Barnsley Farm and Appley. Recent deposits of alluvium lie in the valleys of the River Medina and both River Yars.

- 1.7 The ground along the majority of the pipeline routes gently undulates with steeper and hilly sections in the area to the west of Havenstreet.
- 1.8 The majority the pipeline route runs through open countryside predominantly under arable cultivation with two built up stretches through the north of Newport and East Cowes.

## **Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 1.9 The Palaeolithic period (before c.9000BC) represents the earliest period of human occupation. Nomadic hunter-gatherers followed migratory animal herds during the warmer interglacial periods.
- 1.10 Following the last retreat of the ice and afforestation of the land, the culture of the hunter-gatherers continued during the Mesolithic period (c.9000–4,000BC). The initial rapid rise in the sea level broke the land bridge between the Isle of Wight and the mainland creating the existing island. Although specific settlement sites have been identified on the island, numerous pieces of worked flint have been found which provide evidence for contemporary activity.
- 1.11 A more settled life style was inaugurated by the farmers of the Neolithic period (4,000-2,000BC) with a mixture of crop growing and animal husbandry. The postglacial forest was gradually cleared, probably for the higher downland areas. The first known burial sites date from this period in the form of long barrows including Longstone near Mottistone, one on Afton Down with a probable mortuary enclosure on Tennyson Down. No evidence of such sites or agricultural settlements has been identified in the immediate areas of the pipelines. However the numerous finds of flint axes in the locality of the pipelines suggest activity associated with forest clearance with other worked flint tools and burnt flint indicative of contemporary hunting and cooking activities.
- 1.12 During the Bronze Age (c.2,000-650BC) agricultural activity intensified with more extensive woodland clearance mainly taking place on the chalk uplands. The first metalworking took place with the use of bronze becoming established for weapons and fine tools. Evidence for this consists of a number of bronze palstaves found in a railway cutting near Newport during the construction of the railway in the last century, at Werran Brickyard, Ryde and Moons Hill near Freshwater. Flint continued in use for everyday disposable items such as knives and arrowheads. Burial rites became more sophisticated with the dead being buried in and around round barrows or cremated and placed in urns. These include "bowl" barrows comprising earth mounds surrounded by a ditch dating from the Late Neolithic to the Late Bronze Age period. Many of these barrow sites have probably been lost. Those that have survived do so reasonably intact, such as the scheduled and excavated barrow site at Vittlefield Farm or as ring ditches with the remainder of the barrow having been ploughed out (such as at Thorley and Wellow areas and possibly to the south-west of Cowes). The latter examples are usually identified from aerial photographs.
- 1.13 During the Iron Age (650-AD43) iron replaced bronze as the principal metal industry. Changes in social organisation led to the introduction of communal and personal defensive structures in the form of hillforts and fortified settlements, based on a tribal system. A promontory fort lies on Chillerton Down in the centre of the island with other evidence for contemporary settlement sites on the Isle of Wight found at Knighton and Mersley (near Newchurch) on or near the chalk ridge. Known Roman villa sites have produced Late Iron Age pottery suggesting a continuity of occupation from the Late Iron Age.

- 1.14 There was an extensive import and export trade with the Roman Empire in the Late Iron Age prior to the main Roman period (AD43-410). Settlement was focussed on the rural villa estate with intensive arable and stock farming. These were predominantly centred on the lighter soils associated with the Chalk Downland. Contemporary settlements site in the vicinity of the pipelines include Gurnard, Carisbrooke, Clatterford and Brading.
- 1.15 The Isle of Wight probably remained Romanised well into the late sixth century. Early medieval settlement of the island began in the late fifth-early sixth centuries with the Jutes establishing a presence on the island, contemporary cemeteries have been found at Bowcombe, Chessell and under the site of Carisbrooke Castle. With the arrival of the Saxons in the seventh century the basis of the later medieval settlement pattern was established. This is evident by the numerous settlements with Saxon place-names origins. Names with Saxon elements include Wilmingham (the *ham* i.e. village of Wighelm's), Wellow (*welig* meaning willow), Whippingham (the *ham* of *Wippa's* people) Wootton (the *ton* i.e. the homestead or village in or by a wood), Briddlesford (derived from *brigdels* meaning bridle), Apley (*æppel-loah* meaning apple wood) and Brading (*brerd* meaning brim border-a reference to Brading Down).
- 1.16 During the late eight, ninth and tenth centuries the Island would have subject to sporadic Danish raids although actual settlement and influence was minor.
- 1.17 The feudal organisation of the Normans set the pattern for the Medieval period (AD1066-1530). William I gave the lordship of the island to William Fitz Osbourn, with the family eventually being based at Carisbrooke Castle. Settlement was based on manorial centres located across the island. Manorial sites in the areas of the pipelines include Thorley Manor, Ningwood Manor, Shalfleet Manor, Great Briddlesford Farm, East Ashey Manor Farm and Barton Manor. There was probably less settlement in the north part of the island due to the poorer nature of the soils and these remained largely wooded; the Royal Forest of Parkhurst extended from the Newtown river in the west to the River Medina in the east. Settlement away from the manorial centres included the planned towns of Yarmouth, Newport and Newtown, all established by the thirteenth century.
- 1.18 The population of medieval Wight probably declined in the mid-fourteenth century, partly due to a deteriorating climate, poor harvests, and a shift from arable to pasture based farming. The Black Death (AD1346) and the threat and reality of French raids also contributed to a decline in the population. These effects may be seen in the number of deserted and shrunken medieval villages on the island including Roud and Knighton. Several potential medieval settlement sites including Watchingwell, Great Briddlesford Farm and Barnsley Farm lie on or near the route of the pipelines.
- 1.19 During the post-medieval period (from AD1530) the routes of the pipelines would have been much as it is today and under agricultural use. This period was characterised by enormous changes to the landscape brought about by the enclosure movements of the medieval open field systems by hedge planting and new farming methods. The latter included new crop rotations, the use of manure and artificial fertilisers to improve the fertility of the soil (including chalk marling and liming to neutralise soil acidity), and the building of model farmsteads in the 19<sup>th</sup> century including Osborne and West Ashey Farm. Prosperity increased with several of the manor houses rebuilt and improved, and many individual farms having their own lime kilns.
- 1.20 By the sixteenth century the major towns were Yarmouth, Newport and Brading. Further defensive measures were taken against the threat of invasion, which led to the construction of several coastal forts commissioned by Henry VIII located at Yarmouth, Sandown and East and West Cowes.

## Aims and Objectives

- 1.21 The general aim of the archaeological work was to identify, record and retrieve archaeological remains and deposits that may have been exposed, disturbed or destroyed by the construction works associated with the SeaClean Wight project, Any identified archaeology may enhance the understanding of the prehistoric and historic human activity and environment of the areas of the pipelines.
- 1.22 Several specific aims were identified for stretches of the pipelines. These were to identify, record and retrieve archaeological remains associated with the following:
- The potential Saxon boundary south of Shalfleet (Site 1);
  - The potential Saxon boundary and possible medieval settlement of Watchingwell (Site 2);
  - The potential Saxon boundary south of Coleman's Farm (Site 3);
  - The linear and rectilinear features identified near Padmore Farm, south of Whippingham (Site 4);
  - The potential medieval settlement at Great Briddlesford Farm (Site 5);
  - The potential medieval settlement at Barnsley (Site 6);
  - The potential prehistoric and historic features identified from cropmarks West of Wilmingham Lane (Site 7);
  - The possible prehistoric features identified from cropmarks at Thorley Street (Site 8);
  - The prehistoric activity east of Wellow (Site 9);
  - The potential prehistoric activity west of Chawton farm (Site 10);
  - The quay at Brading (Site 11); and
  - And human activity or remains of environmental material at Brading Marshes (Site 12).

## Archaeological Investigations Methods

- 1.23 The archaeological investigations were carried in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Institute of Field archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (1994, revised 1999)* and *Archaeological Excavations (1994, revised 1999)*.
- 1.24 A rapid study was carried out to establish the known historical and archaeological background of the area of the pipeline route. Documentary and cartographic sources including information held with the Isle of Wight County Sites and Monuments Record and English Heritage consulted.
- 1.25 The watching brief included at least one walkover of the entire easement after the topsoil had been stripped and a scan for any artefacts present on the generated spoil heaps. Selected areas thought to have a good potential for archaeology were monitored as ground disturbance works were taking place; this included the easement strip and the excavation of the pipe trench. The excavation of the pipe trench was also monitored in areas where archaeological sites had been identified on the stripped easement.
- 1.26 Exposed archaeological deposits were hand cleaned, photographed, sampled and recorded. All layers, features and fills were given a unique number and described on proforma context sheets. These were drawn in plan and section. Heights for the layers and features were recorded as reduced levels on the drawings and context sheets for the identified sites. Artefacts observed were also retained from identified features, deposits



and stripped easements including the spoil heaps. Bulk soil samples were also collected from several archaeological features.

- 1.27 Temporary site benchmarks related to the Ordnance Survey datum were established for sites with significant archaeological features by traversing from known OS benchmarks.
- 1.28 Several monitoring visits from the County Archaeological Office were carried out during the excavation work on several of the identified sites.
- 1.29 Finds recovered during the watching brief were labelled with their individual stratigraphic context, washed and prepared for analysis. Several specialists commented on the finds; Paul Simpson (Museum's Conservator, Isle of Wight Council) and Dr David Tomalin on the Bronze Age pottery; Dr Malcolm Lyne on the other pottery; Jacqueline Mckinley (Wessex Archaeology) on the cremation bone; Dr Emily Murray (University of Birmingham Field Archaeology Unit) on the animal bone; Dr. Rob Scaife (University of Southampton) on the environmental evidence with contributions by Simon Bray (University of Southampton) on the molluscan fauna; and Dr Chris Salter (University of Oxford) on the iron slag. Their comments are included in the relevant find sections of this report.
- 1.30 An individual site number (a PRN) was obtained from the County Archaeological Office for each of the identified sites found during the watching brief.
- 1.31 On completion of the project the site archive will be deposited with the County Archaeological Centre, Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight.

## 2 Individual Site Description

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- 2.1 Archaeology was identified at 55 individual sites along the route of the pipelines, their locations are shown on figure RPSC 2. The identified sites consisted of archaeological features and deposits, and/or spot finds of archaeological material. These are listed in Appendix 1 with their corresponding PRN, name, national grid reference and summary description.
- 2.2 This section presents a brief description of the main structural evidence identified at the individual sites with a brief comment on the artefactual evidence. The artefactual evidence including the work carried out by the relevant specialist is presented in Section 3. Detailed finds catalogues for the pottery and flint from the identified sites are presented in Appendices 2 and 3. Plans of archaeological features and deposits identified at 15 sites are shown on figures RPSC 3-21. Context numbers referred to in the text and on the drawings are bracketed, square brackets [x] denote a cut or feature, round brackets (x) indicate a layer, deposit of fill.

### Norton to Dodnor Pipeline

- 2.3 This stretch of the pipeline extends from Norton in the west to Dodnor in the east, via Thorley, Wellow, the south of Shalfleet and the A3054 corridor into Newport. The River Yar section was traversed by a trenchless crossing involving drilling. A pumping stations was constructed at Norton (SZ 3475 8968). Archaeology was identified at 17 sites along the route. Two targeted sites (Sites 1 and 3) produced no archaeological evidence. The location of these sites is shown on Figure RPSC 2A.

#### Site 1 South of Shalfleet

- 2.4 Site 1 was located adjacent to the Calbourne stream and the sewage works south of Shalfleet where the route of the pipeline crossed the line of a Saxon boundary identified from documentary sources.
- 2.5 Although a watching brief was maintained during the construction works, no remains for the Saxon boundary including any evidence for a ditch and/or bank were identified in the area of Site 1. No other archaeological remains or artefacts were identified.

#### Site 2 (PRN 4188) Lower Watchingwell

- 2.6 Site 2 was located adjacent to the Clamerkin Brook at Lower Watchingwell where the route of the pipeline crossed the line of a Saxon boundary identified from documentary sources and ran through an area where a possible deserted medieval settlement may have existed.
- 2.7 *Structural Evidence:* A total of eight contexts were recorded in the field immediately to the east of the Clamerkin Brook at Site 2. Tentative evidence was identified for a circular structure with a central hearth comprising a gully, hearth and posthole (Table 1). All were sealed by subsoil with a significant quantity and concentration of Medieval pottery. These features are shown on Figure RPSC 3.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Hearth                 | 1                  |
| Ring gully             | 1                  |
| Post hole              | 1                  |

**Table 1: Type and number of features recorded at Site 2**

- 2.8 The hearth [6] consisted of a sub-circular deposit of charcoal and angular flints in a shallow sloping sided feature with a flat base. The segment of a curvilinear gully [4] and posthole [5] lay 1.5m to the south. Although no datable finds were recovered from the features, they are probably Medieval in date and may be associated with a deserted medieval settlement.
- 2.9 No archaeological remains such as a bank or ditch associated with the Saxon boundary were identified during the construction works.
- 2.10 *Artefactual Evidence:* Sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from a subsoil identified between the plough-soil and the archaeological features and /or undisturbed natural.
- 2.11 The quantity and concentration of the pottery identified at the site was probably larger than that expected if deposition was from standard manuring practices. This substantiates the structural remains and suggests medieval settlement immediately in the area, tentatively centred on the existing Lower Watchingwell buildings. The absence of man-made boundary features at the site may suggest the Saxon boundary was delineated by an existing topographical feature and probably the Clamerkin Brook.

#### **Site 3 East of Lower Watchingwell**

- 2.12 Site 3 was located east of Lower Watchingwell and to the north-east of Dingers Farm where the pipeline route crossed the line of a Saxon boundary identified from documentary sources.
- 2.13 No evidence for the Saxon boundary was identified on the pipeline easement at Site 3, nor was any contemporary or other artefacts recovered from the site. A find scatter of prehistoric flint was recovered in the field c.200m to the west of the boundary line. This is recorded as Site 24 (see below).

#### **Site 7 (PRN's 1618, 1620, 2074, 3898 and 4158) West of Wilmingham Lane, Thorley**

- 2.14 Site 7 is located to the west of Wilmingham Lane and in an area of extensive aerial photographs cropmarks, several of which lie on the route of the pipeline. These include a linear feature (PRN 1618), a rectilinear enclosure (PRN 1620) and a circular ring ditch (PRN 2074) thought to be associated with a Bronze Age barrow cemetery and other activity. Given the potential archaeological and recording work was carried out after the topsoil strip and in advance of the main construction works.
- 2.15 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 274 context grouped among five PRN Sites were recorded at Site 7. These contexts corresponded with features associated with existing PRN Sites (1618, 1620 and 2074) with others allocated two new PRN sites (3898 and 4158). The type and number of recorded features identified are summarised in Table 2. Evidence was produced for Bronze Age burial practices represented by cremation urns and a ring ditch (probably associated with a round barrow), and Late Iron Age/early Roman and later Roman activity represented by several linears, enclosure ditches and potential pits. The site also produced evidence for an animal burial and two circular structures of probable prehistoric date. Identified features are shown on Figures 5, 6 and 7.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Cremations             | 4                  |
| Animal Burials         | 1                  |
| Heath                  | 1                  |
| Ring ditch/gully       | 1                  |
| Ditches/gully          | 21                 |
| Pits                   | 10                 |
| Quarry pits            | 2                  |
| Posthole/stakehole     | 40                 |
| Midden                 | 2                  |
| Tree throws            | 27                 |

Table 2: Type and number of features recorded at Site 7

*Bronze Age Phase*

- 2.16 Visible remains of the ring ditch (PRN 2074) identified from aerial photographs were recorded on the site as contexts [108], [126] and [222]. This consisted of a curvilinear ditch (c.2.1m wide and 0.6m deep) with sides sloping at 45° to a rounded base. The base of the sampled section in the south-west part exhibited a shallow groove. Fragmentary sherds of pottery from a Bronze Age urn (date Range 1500-1000BC) recovered from the fill of ditch segment [108] suggest an earlier Bronze Age date for the ditch.
- 2.17 Four cremation burials [16], [48], [63], [65] were identified at chainages 396m, 276m, 325m and 340m on the easement, all to the east of a circular ring ditch (at chainage 234m). These comprised four semi-complete pots respectively (106), (49), (90) and (66) contained in circular cuts (of diameter range 0.32m to 65m) with near vertical sides. Three (106), (90) and (66) were inverted and their respective fills (107), (91) and (77) contained fragments of burnt bone. Urn (49) consisted of just the base.
- 2.18 Several features were identified that produced just fragmentary sherds of Bronze Age urns and no other artefacts of a later date. Several were probably contemporary with the burial features represented by the urns and ring ditch and may themselves have been associated with burial practices. These included features [20], [32], [61], [81], [88], [115] and [144]. Features [20], [61] and [81] were typically circular cuts with steep sloping sides and U-shaped base with diameters of c.0.7m. These probably were the remnants of disturbed cremation burials. Their fills produced burnt stones and charcoal. The cremation urn cut [65] had truncated the north side of feature [81], proving that this feature was earlier. Features [32] and [115] were oval in shape with shallow sloping sides and wide U-shaped bases (and larger with lengths of c.1.5m and widths of c.0.8m). They also produced burnt stones and were again probably associated burial practices, although this could not be proven. Features [88] and [144] were different with D-shaped plans and one long side steeper than the other. These were interpreted as probable tree throw holes that contained residual Bronze Age pottery.

*Late Iron Age/ Roman Phase*

- 2.19 Several features were identified that may be assigned a Late Iron Age/Earlier Roman date (ranging from L.I.A to 2<sup>nd</sup> century). These comprised several linears including [137]/[126]/[224], [226], [30]/[123], [71], [34], [40] and [2], posthole [119] and several pits, some of which may have represented tree throw holes. The linears probably represented ditches, with two defining probable enclosures (curvilinear [137] and linear [40]). PRN 1628 recorded in the context
- 2.20 Several features were identified that probably represented a later phase of Roman activity dated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> century. Ditches [67]/[69], [55] and [135]/[163] probably defined a rectangular enclosure at least 40m in width and corresponded to the cropmark feature identified from aerial photographs and recorded as PRN 1620. The east and west

side of the enclosure were defined by the north-west to south-east aligned ditches [67]/[69] (1.7m wide 0.8m in deep) and ditch [55] (1.2m wide and 0.3m deep, the south side by south-east to north-east aligned ditch [135]/[163] (1.4m wide and 0.5m deep). No contemporary features were identified in the interior of the enclosure. Two later linears [59] and [165] orientated north-west to south-east truncated the southern enclosure ditch. Feature [165] consisted of a set of postholes aligned with the ditch [59] and all may have had a structural function.

- 2.21 Several large pits represented by contexts (133), (242), [111] and [228], also of later Roman date were interpreted as possibly quarry pits. These were irregular shape cuts reaching 12m in length and at least 0.7m in depth. Pit [111] truncated linear [123] and pit [93] truncated the south-east corner of the enclosure ditch [55] indicating it was later than the enclosure.
- 2.22 Other features assigned a later Roman date included the sub-circular pits [121] and [98] (c.1.4m in diameter) immediately to the north of quarry pit [93], a probable hearth [167] at chainage 401m and pit [127]. This pit contained a large assemblage of oyster shells and truncated the Bronze Age ring ditch.
- 2.23 Evidence for two structures was also identified on the easement. Structure A at Chainage 275m comprised 6 postholes with a curvilinear gully [28] to the south side and may have represented a circular structure. Although the postholes or the gully produced no datable material, the gully was stratigraphically earlier than the two later Roman pits (133) and (242), and a prehistoric date for the structure is considered likely. The Bronze Age cremation burial [48] and the broadly contemporary pits [88] and [115] lay in the immediate vicinity and it is possible the structure was also of a contemporary date. Structure B at Chainage 323m comprised 27 postholes interpreted as a circular structure c.3.5m in diameter with a possible entrance on the south side. None of the postholes produced datable ceramic material and although the structure may have been contemporary with the Bronze Age cremation burial [63] immediately to the south, Late Iron Age/Roman features were also presented in the immediate vicinity and the structure alternatively may have been contemporary with this activity.
- 2.24 An animal burial [85] was identified immediately to the south of Structure B. This comprised the articulated remains of a semi-complete cow with the head facing towards the south. Although a sherd of pottery potentially Iron Age in date was recovered from the fill, no secure date can be assigned to the burial; however a prehistoric date is likely.

#### *Post-medieval Phase*

- 2.25 Evidence for post-Roman activity comprised two infilled ditches [269] and [273] of post-medieval date towards the east end of the easement.
- 2.26 *Artefactual Evidence:* In addition to a significant assemblage of Bronze Age, Late Iron Age and Roman pottery including the cremation urns, the site produced a large quantity of worked flint, four possible sling shot pebbles, Roman floor, roof and walls tile, post-medieval Welsh roofing slate, shell and assorted items of metalwork including iron nails and two Roman coins.

#### **Site 8 (PRN 3957) Thorley Street**

- 2.27 Site 8 is located south of Thorley village, south-east of a possible sunken medieval village and north-west of a group of ring ditch cropmarks, which probably represent the ploughed out remains of bronze age barrows.

2.28 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 19 contexts were recorded at Site 8 with evidence recorded for three potential prehistoric features (comprising two pits and a possible hearth), a later pit, a field boundary and a Post-medieval trackway (Table 3). The features are shown on Figure RPSC 8.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Hearth                 | 1                  |
| Ditch                  | 1                  |
| Pit                    | 3                  |
| Trackway               | 1                  |
| Modern                 | 2                  |

Table 3: Type and number of features recorded at Site 8

2.29 The earliest features were probably two discreet pits [8004] and [8006] and area of burning interpreted as remains of a hearth [8008]. Although these features are of tentative prehistoric date and may be associated with the adjacent barrow cemetery, this could not be proven.

2.30 A large pit [8016] produced sherds of Roman and medieval pottery and tentatively may be medieval in date. Post-medieval features included an earlier field boundary [8014], which produced a single find of residual Medieval pottery, and trackway [8011]. These both ran in a general NNE-SSW direction and were recorded on the 1844 Tithe Map of the Thorley Street area. All these three features suggest the site was peripheral to the contemporary settlement activity focussed on Thorley village and primarily agricultural in use.

2.31 *Artefactual Evidence:* The site produced a small assemblage of pottery of varied date range, fragments of clay pipes, shell and a piece of Post-medieval brick.

#### Site 9 (PRN 3956) Wellow

2.32 Site 9 is located south of Wellow village. It stretched from the Station Road in the east to the village of Wellow in the west. And to the north of a cluster of ring-ditch cropmarks believed to be a Bronze Age barrow cemetery. These are designated PRN nos. 1634-7, 1640-3 and 2605-6. Of these only PRN 2606 appeared to be threatened by the ground disturbance works.

2.33 Given the potential of the site for important prehistoric remains a geophysical survey was carried out on the site prior to the main construction works (GSB Prospection 1999). This report summarised that the "survey has successfully located numerous anomalies of potential archaeological interest, including a ring ditch that directly correlates with the aerial photographic evidence. It is the only feature noted on the aerial photographs that is visible within the data. Survey has also identified a number of anomalies that may indicate the presence of features associated with medieval settlement. Several former field boundaries have also been identified. Many of the archaeological anomalies are weak and ephemeral and it is possible that some of these are the result of recent agricultural activity or natural variations within the subsoil."

2.34 The route of the pipeline was positioned to avoid as many as the features as possible with archaeological recording and investigative work carried out after the topsoil strip in advance of the main construction works.

2.35 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 104 contexts were recorded at Site 9. Evidence was produced for Medieval and Post-medieval agricultural activity in the form of field boundaries; drainage features; a cobbled area; a heavily truncated hearth; a possible trackway and deep deposits of medieval plough-soils. These plough-soils sealed an

earlier phase of Medieval activity comprising gullies and postholes as well as one possible prehistoric pit/cremation cut. Multiple residual prehistoric flint artefacts were also recovered. The type and features recorded at Site 9 are summarised in Table 4 and shown on Figures RPSC 9 and 10.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Hearth                 | 1                  |
| Walls                  | 2                  |
| Cobbled area           | 1                  |
| Ditches                | 8                  |
| Gullies                | 3                  |
| Pits                   | 5                  |
| Postholes              | 5                  |
| Trackway               | 1                  |

**Table 4: Type and number of features recorded at Site 9**

- 2.36 Feature [9057] was identified that appeared to correlate with the ring ditch cropmark (PRN 2606). This comprised a single circular pit (1m in diameter and 0.7m in depth) with near vertical sides and flat base located in the centre of the circular cropmark. The fill (9058) comprising sandy clay produced no finds. No evidence for an associated ring ditch was located in the excavated pipe trench. This single pit was below the Medieval plough-soils and colluvial horizons. Given that the sampling strategy only targeted archaeological remains directly threatened by the construction works, it is possible that the ring ditch and other contemporary features remain preserved in-situ within Site 9.
- 2.37 Three phase of Medieval activity were identified on Site 9. Several postholes including [9076], [9080] and [9084] and other features defined the earliest. These cut the natural clays and chalk and were sealed by a second phase of Medieval activity defined by soils containing only Medieval (and earlier artefacts). These soils were interpreted as plough-soils. A later phase of medieval features cut and lay above these soils. These included a cobble surface (9016), several pits including [9004] and [9006], a heavily truncated hearth [9013] and a probable trackway or hedged field boundary [9073]. The cobble surface had no associated features such as postholes or beam slots that would suggest this was a floor to a building. It was therefore interpreted as an area of hard standing. These features were ephemeral in nature and did not appear to be associated with domestic settlement. They may likely have been associated with agricultural activity.
- 2.38 Post-medieval features identified included several field boundary/drainage ditches and the remains of a single trackway that continues in use today but which nevertheless may have origins in the Post-medieval period. Several artefact concentrations recorded on the northern side of the easement and immediately south of the current road denoted refuse dumps. These and the absence of any structural features suggest that the site remained predominately agricultural throughout the post-medieval period.
- 2.39 *Artefactual Evidence:* The site produced a large assemblage of Medieval pottery, a single clay tobacco pipe, Post-medieval tile, brick and slate, shell, and metalwork including several coins.

#### **Site 14 (PRN 4187) East of Wilmingham Lane**

- 2.40 Site 14 was located in the field immediately to the east of Wilmingham Lane, within part of the wider area that contained Site 7.

- 2.41 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 40 contexts comprising ditches, one gully, pits and postholes (see Table 5) were recorded at Site 14. These are shown of Figures RPSC 12 and 13. Pottery probably Iron Age in date recovered from the fills of several of the features suggest a contemporary date for this site.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ditches                | 2                  |
| Gully                  | 1                  |
| Pits                   | 3                  |
| Postholes              | 12                 |

Table 5: Type and number of features recorded at Site 14

- 2.42 The features were located at two main concentrations respectively 95m and 155m east of Wilmingham Lane and all had been truncated by later ploughing activity. The features in the east comprised two sub-rectangular pits [11] and [34], and group of 12 postholes. Sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from nine of the posthole fills. Burnt clay and fragments of daub were recovered from postholes [7] and [32]. Although the postholes suggest some form of structure, substantiated by the burnt clay and daub, it was not possible to determine the form of this structure. The features to the west comprised a NW-SE aligned linear [5] interpreted as a gully and a small square pit [3], c.0.8 x 0.8 x 0.25m deep. The pit produced sherds of Iron Age pottery.
- 2.43 Two linears [1] and [39] interpreted as ditches were also identified at the site. Both were aligned N-S and had shallow sloping sides. Although none contained datable finds their fills were not dissimilar to those of the Iron Age features and they also may be of contemporary date.
- 2.44 *Artefactual Evidence:* The site produced a significant assemblage of Iron Age pottery and a clay loom weight of contemporary date. Other material included fragments of West County roof slate and an oyster shell. These were all probably derived from manuring processes.
- 2.45 These features provide evidence of Iron Age activity at this site. The structural remains and finds of domestic artefacts (pottery and loom weight fragments) suggest that this is associated with settlement activity. Evidence for Iron Age activity was also identified at Site 7 to the west of Wilmingham Lane. Both these sets of data indicate significant activity in the Wilmingham Lane locality during the Iron Age period.

#### Site 15 (PRN 4177) West of Broad Lane, Thorley

- 2.46 Site 15 is located south of Thorley Village in the field immediately west of Broad Lane. Cropmarks of potential archaeological features exist to the south of the pipeline route including two linears (possibly representing ditches or trackways) that run NE-SW and may extend onto the line of the pipeline.
- 2.47 A find scatter was recorded at the site. This comprised medieval pottery of 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century date and three prehistoric flint tools. No associated archaeological features were observed on the stripped easement, this included any evidence for the two linears. The pottery probably derived from the known medieval settlement of Thorley by manuring practices. The worked flint provides evidence of prehistoric activity tentatively of mesolithic/early neolithic and late neolithic/bronze age in the area.



### Site 16 (PRN 4186) Ningwood

- 2.48 Site 16 is located south of Ningwood on part of the pipeline easement immediately adjacent to Station Road. Evidence was identified here for a possible Medieval occupation site. Residual prehistoric flint was also produced from the site.
- 2.49 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 16 contexts were recorded at the site. These comprised three linears interpreted as ditches or gullies and one pit (Table 6). Two land drains, one with clay drainage pipes and the other filled with chalk, were also noted. These are shown on Figure RPSC 14.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ditch/gully            | 3                  |
| Pit                    | 1                  |
| Modern land drain      | 2                  |

Table 6: Type and number of features recorded at Site 16

- 2.50 The three linears were aligned E-W perpendicular to the road. Ditches [6] and [11] had sloping sides with widths of c.1.6m, gully [9] with near vertical sides and flat base was smaller with a width of 0.3m. The sub-circular pit [3] was shallow with sloping sides and a diameter of 0.6m. The fills of these features all produced sherds of medieval pottery, the gully fill also produced burnt flint.
- 2.51 *Artefactual Evidence:* The site produced a medieval pottery assemblage of 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century date, shell and metalwork. Residual prehistoric flint flake recovered from the spoil heap.
- 2.52 The structural and artefact data was interpreted as tentative evidence for Medieval occupation at the site, the pottery suggests that this was domestic. The linears may have defined plot boundaries, the pit the remnants of a rubbish pit with the gully tentatively serving some structural function. The flint flake denotes prehistoric activity in the landscape.

### Site 17 (PRN 4178) South of Lower Dodpits Farm

- 2.53 Site 17 was located in the field two fields south of Lower Dodpits Farm, Ningwood just to the north of a trackway running along the line of the former Newport to Freshwater railway. This site produced evidence for a structure and associated cobbled floor of probable medieval date. The site also produced a significant quantity of metalwork.
- 2.54 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 8 contexts representing two potential walled structures and a cobbled area of probable medieval date were recorded at the site (Table 7). These are shown on Figure RPSC 15.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Structure – walls      | 2                  |
| Cobbled surface        | 1                  |

Table 7: Type and number of features identified at Site 17

- 2.55 Structure A appeared to represent a rectangular building 4m in width and at least 8.9m in length. The surviving remains of the wall comprised of dry-stoned chalk and ironstone foundation material (3). This was present for the east wall and the slight returns of the south and north walls (at the east end), elsewhere the remnant foundation material appeared to have been robbed out and only traces of the foundation trench survived.

Structure B was represented by a wall (4) running N-S. This consisted of wall foundation material of drystone limestone and chalk. The north end appeared to butt the earlier Structure A; other parts had been robbed out. Immediately south of these extant walls an area of hard packed limestone and chalk cobbles and stones (5) appeared to represent an internal floor or surface. Medieval pottery was recovered from this deposit, as were peg tiles, glazed ridge tiles and roofing slate, which were interpreted as demolition material.

- 2.56 *Artefactual Evidence:* The site produced medieval pottery of 12th to 15<sup>th</sup> century date, assorted building material of probable Medieval date including glazed peg tiles, glazed crenallated ridge tile and West County Slate, shell and a relatively significant quantity of metalwork.
- 2.57 The structural and artefactual data provides tentative evidence for a medieval building at this location. The pottery types indicate domestic vessels and it is probable that the building was associated with settlement.

#### **Site 18 (PRN 4209) Norton**

- 2.58 Site 18 was located at the site of the Southern Water Compound on the west side of the River Yar valley.
- 2.59 A find spot of pottery was recovered from the site. This comprised a single sherd of earthenware 16<sup>th</sup> century in date and was probably derived from manuring practices. No features were identified at the site.

#### **Site 19 (PRN 4179) East of Lower Dodpits Farm**

- 2.60 Site 19 was located in the field to the east of Lower Dodpits Farm.
- 2.61 A scatter of finds was recovered from this site. This material included a large assemblage of clay pipes, sherds of Post-medieval pottery, brick fragments, a hone, shell and metalwork including a coin and token. Residual prehistoric flint tools were also recovered from the subsoil surviving between the topsoil and natural. No contemporary features were observed.

#### **Site 20 (PRN 4180) South of Warlands Farm**

- 2.62 Site 20 was located south of Warlands Farm in the field to the west of the track leading to the sewage works.
- 2.63 Three items of prehistoric worked flint were recovered from a subsoil, which survived between the topsoil and ploughsoil at this site. Two were flakes and are probably Late Neolithic/ Bronze Age in date. Two pieces of burnt flint were also recovered. Although no contemporary features were identified, the burnt flint may indicate the remnants of some form of camp where cooking activities were carried out.

#### **Site 21 (PRN 4197) West of Barton's Corner**

- 2.64 Site 21 was located in the field to the west of Barton's Corner.
- 2.65 A finds scatter was recorded at this site. This material comprised one sherd of Medieval pottery probably deposited by manuring practices, a fragment of clay pipe and six pieces of prehistoric flint work. The latter included a blade of probable Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date and four flakes of Late Neolithic/ Bronze Age date.

#### **Site 22 (PRN 4198) North of Elm Copse**

- 2.66 Site 22 was located to the north of Elm Copse in the field immediately east of Barton's Corner.
- 2.67 A finds scatter comprising one sherd of Post-medieval earthenware and prehistoric material was recovered from the site. The prehistoric flint include three flakes of both Mesolithic/Neolithic and Neolithic/Bronze Age date. A relatively significant quantity of burnt flint suggestive of cooking activities associated with a camp was also recovered however no contemporary in situ features were identified.

#### **Site 23 (PRN 4202) Three Gates Farm**

- 2.68 This site was located to the south of Three Gates Farm.
- 2.69 A find scatter comprising worked flint and one piece of burnt flint was recovered from a subsoil surviving between the topsoil and natural at this site. The worked flint consisted of two flakes, which are probably late neolithic/bronze age in date. No contemporary features were identified.

#### **Site 24 (PRN 4181) North of Dinglers Farm**

- 2.70 Site 24 was located in the field immediately to the north of Dinglers Farm.
- 2.71 Two items of worked flint and a piece of burnt flint were recovered from the site. The worked flints comprised a flake and rough core both probably Late Neolithic/ Bronze Age in date.

#### **Site 25 (PRN 4182) Vittlefields Farm**

- 2.72 Site 25 was located in the field between Vittlefields Farm in the west and Betty Haunt Lane in the east.
- 2.73 A find scatter of predominantly prehistoric flint was recovered from the site. This comprised of one core and six pieces of burnt flint. Other material collected included a pewter draw handle. No in situ deposits associated with the burnt flint were identified at the site.

#### **Site 26 (PRN 4183) West of Forest Road Garage**

- 2.74 Site 26 was located north of Park Green Farm in the field to the west of Forest Road Garage.
- 2.75 A find scatter of both Medieval pottery sherds and prehistoric flints were recovered from the site. The Medieval pottery comprised sherds of 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century date which were probably deposited by manuring practices. The flint included a core Mesolithic/Early Neolithic in date and a flake of Late Neolithic /Bronze Age date. Other material included clay tobacco pipes.

### **Fairlee to Sandown Pipeline**

- 2.76 This stretch of the pipeline extends from Fairlee in the west to Sandown in the south-east via Wotton Common, Ashley and Brading. It crosses Brading Marshes. A pumping station was constructed at Fairlee (SZ 5066 9115). Archaeology was found at 16 sites along the route, one site (Site 11) produced no archaeological remains. Their locations are shown on Figure RPSC 2B.

### Site 5 (PRN 3966) Great Briddlesford Farm

- 2.77 Site 5 was located to the south of Great Briddlesford Farm identified as the possible site of a Medieval grange. Several visible earthworks including an apparent building platform and bank (which ran into the stripped easement) were noted immediately adjacent to the site and the farm buildings, and are possibly contemporary with the grange.
- 2.78 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 30 contexts were allocated at Site 5. Evidence was identified for four midden deposits, three gullies, a pit, and a ditch and bank all of medieval date as well as modern features (Table 8). These are shown on Figure RPSC 4.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Midden deposits        | 4                  |
| Gully                  | 3                  |
| Pit                    | 1                  |
| Ditch and bank         | 1                  |
| French drains          | 3                  |

Table 8: Type and number of features identified at Site 5

- 2.79 The topsoil strip revealed three large spreads (2), (4) and (7) ranging in size from c. 5x5m to 10x6m and up to 0.3m in depth. Datable finds recovered from them were either Medieval or earlier in date and they were interpreted as midden deposits probably derived from the Medieval occupation centred on the existing house and farm buildings to the north. These deposits sealed and partially filled three earlier gullies [1], [10] and [24], c.1m in width and reaching depths of c.4m, interpreted as medieval gullies for drainage and/or industrial activity.
- 2.80 Several deposits associated with the above were burnt and included material of iron slag, fragments of furnace lining, charcoal and burnt clays. These comprised deposit (12), which appeared to be an individual dump within spread (7), and deposits (25), (26), (29) and (30), all associated with spread (4) and gully [24].
- 2.81 The southern end of a visible earthwork, which ran N-S into the easement, was recorded as bank (18) with a ditch [20] on the east side. No datable material was recovered from these features and the earthwork was not dated.
- 2.82 Post-medieval features recorded included three French drains that ran north to south across the easement cutting the medieval deposits and a midden deposit (16). A shallow pit [22] 1.5m in length and 1m in width was identified in the adjacent field to the west. Post-medieval artefacts were also recovered from the topsoil and spoil heap.
- 2.83 No prehistoric or Roman features were recorded at the site. Residual material of prehistoric worked flint, burnt flint and sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the medieval midden deposits (2) and (7).
- 2.84 *Artefactual Evidence:* A significant assemblage of Saxo-Norman pottery, items of metalwork and iron working material was produced from the site. Other material included residual items of Roman roof and floor tiles and prehistoric worked flint recovered from the Medieval midden deposits (2) and (4). The worked flint included flakes, cores and scraper of mesolithic/early neolithic and late neolithic/bronze age in date. One piece of burnt flint was also recovered from the site.

### Site 11 Brading

- 2.85 Site 11 was located in the area of Wall Lane on the north-west side of the River Yar valley where there was thought to be a good potential for evidence of early quays to survive. Extant earthworks located to the east and south-west of the site are thought to be respectively the remains of a post medieval quay (PRN 1816) and a medieval quay (PRN 1868).
- 2.86 No physical remains or features associated with a quay were identified in the pipe trench excavated in the locality of Site 11. Nor were there any other non-related archaeological features or artefacts.

### Site 12 (PRN 4199) Brading Marshes

- 2.87 Site 12 targeted the route of the pipeline running through Brading Marshes and the Yar Valley where alluvial deposits may have provided remains of waterlogged material and data on the palaeo-environment.
- 2.88 An assemblage comprising 23 items of worked flint was recovered from a subsoil surviving between the topsoil and natural towards the south end of Site 12. This included flakes, cores and blades of both mesolithic/early neolithic and late neolithic/bronze age date.

### Site 13 (PRN 3965) North-east of Doreshill Farm

- 2.89 Site 13 was located in a field to the east of Knight's Farm and north-east of Doreshill Farm in an area where no archaeological activity had been identified prior to the construction of the pipeline.
- 2.90 Evidence of Late Iron Age/Early Roman activity was identified at Site 13. This comprised four gullies interpreted as field or enclosure ditches, which were probably associated with nearby settlement. Artefacts of contemporary date were recovered from the plough-soil. Residual flint flakes found indicate prehistoric activity in the immediate locality.
- 2.91 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 12 contexts were allocated at Site 13. This comprised four gullies (Table 9), which are shown on Figure RPSC 11.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Gullies                | 4                  |

Table 9: Type and number of features identified at Site 13

- 2.92 The four gullies [1], [9], [11] and [4] probably represented drainage gullies and were aligned NE-SW and had sloping sides and rounded bases (c.1m wide and surviving depths of c.0.4m). Their fills consisted of clay silts.
- 2.93 *Artefactual Evidence:* An assemblage of Late Iron Age /Early Roman pottery was recovered from the site. Two residual flakes probably Late Neolithic /Bronze Age date were recovered from the fill of ditch [4].

### Site 27 (PRN 4168) South of North Fairlee Farm

- 2.94 Site 27 was located in a field on the north side of North Fairlee Road and south of the track leading to North Fairlee Farm.

- 2.95 A find scatter comprising a sherd of Medieval pottery, fragments of clay pipes and shell was recovered from a subsoil identified between the plough-soil and natural on the site. No associated features were observed and the sherd is probably the product of manuring practices.

**Site 28 (PRN 4167) East of North Fairlee Farm**

- 2.96 Site 28 was located in a field on the north side of North Fairlee Farm and north of the track leading to North Fairlee Farm.

- 2.97 A scatter of finds comprising predominantly Post-medieval pottery was recovered from a subsoil surviving between the plough-soil and natural on the site. Other material included a fragment of clay pipe and a possible prehistoric flake. No contemporary in situ features or other deposits were identified on the site.

**Site 29 (PRN 4166) South of Binfield Farm Lane**

- 2.98 Site 29 was located in the field on the north side of North Fairlee Farm and immediately south of the track leading to Binfield Farm and Marina.

- 2.99 A finds scatter comprising post-medieval sherds of pottery and clay pipes was recovered from a subsoil recorded between the topsoil and plough-soil on the site.

**Site 30 (PRN 4165) Binfield Corner**

- 2.100 Site 30 was located in the field on the south side of North Fairlee Road, south of Binfield Corner.

- 2.101 A find scatter of post-medieval pottery, fragments of clay pipe and two items of flint flakes probably Late Neolithic/ Bronze Age in date were recovered from a subsoil identified between the plough-soil and natural on the site. No contemporary features were identified.

**Site 31 (PRN 4176) West of Great Briddlesford Farm**

- 2.102 Site 31 was located in a field south of a sharp bend on the track leading to Great Briddlesford Farm, 100m to the south-east.

- 2.103 A find scatter including an assemblage of 16 prehistoric worked flint was recovered from the site. The flint work consisted of flakes, cores and an end scraper, all of probable Late Neolithic/Bronze Age date. No prehistoric features were seen on the pipeline easement. Other material collected from the site included a sherd of medieval pottery probably deposited by manuring practices.

**Site 32 (PRN 4028) Havenstreet**

- 2.104 Site 32 was located in the southern part of the field immediately to the east of Walkerhill Copse and south of a Havenstreet Station.

- 2.105 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 45 contexts were recorded at Site 32. Evidence was produced for occupation activity of both Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age date comprising two ditches, two pits and a posthole (Table 10). These are shown on Figure RPSC 16. Significant quantities of pottery and other artefacts were also recovered from the site.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ditches                | 2                  |
| Pits                   | 2                  |
| Postholes              | 1                  |

Table 10: Type and number of features identified at Site 32

2.106 The earliest ditch [44] recorded was aligned NE-SW and had sloping sides with a rounded base (0.8m in width). It was assigned a Middle Iron Age date. The later ditch [45] of Late Iron Age date was located 12m to the west. This was aligned E-W and also had sloping sides and a rounded base. The eastern ends of both ditches terminated in the pipeline easement. The two pits and posthole were probably contemporary with the Late Iron Age phase of activity. A subsoil, which lay between the plough-soil and natural sealed all these features. This was present on much of the stripped easement and remained undisturbed by the pipeline construction works. It is therefore probably that other in situ features are present on the site that have not been exposed or disturbed by the works.

2.107 *Artefactual Evidence:* The site produced a significant assemblage of Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery. Other artefacts recovered and probably contemporary with the Iron Age activity were pebbles retained from the fills of ditches [44] and [45] thought to be sling shot stones, fragments of loom weights, a hone, metalwork and lumps of daub. Fragments of roof tile of Roman and Post-medieval date recovered from the plough-soil were probably derived from manuring practices. The fills of the two ditches also produced a significant quantity of worked flint items. This included flakes, scrapers and blades of both Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and Late Neolithic/Bronze Age date. Burnt flint was also recovered from the ditch fills. The flint was associated with later finds and is residual.

#### Site 33 (PRN 4551) West of Chillingwood Copse, Havenstreet

2.108 Site 33 was located two fields to the south-east of Site 32 on the west side of Chillingwood Brook and to the north-west of Chillingwood Farm buildings.

2.109 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 40 contexts were recorded at Site 33. These provided evidence for Roman activity comprising kiln structures, gullies and pits with later activity of Medieval date represented by a gully (Table 11). These features are shown on Figures RPSC 17.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Gullies                | 5                  |
| Kilns                  | 7                  |
| Pits                   | 3                  |

Table 11: Type and number of features identified at Site 33

2.110 The seven kiln structures identified on the site comprised typically of a central chamber (c.0.5m in diameter) with steep sides and a flat base with a narrow steep sided flue. Three of the kilns ([12], [18] and [21]) had their flues on the west side of the chamber, two ([15] and [27]) had the flues on their south-west side, and kilns [7] and [24] had their flues respectively on the north and north-west sides. They were all cut into the natural of clay, which had been burnt. A NW-SE aligned gully [32] and irregular shape pit [30] were located immediately to the south-east of the kilns. The south-east end of the gully had a return to the south-west, which suggested it may have defined an enclosure. All were assigned a later Roman date.

- 2.111 Two gullies [34] and [36] were located 30m to the south-west of the kilns. These were both aligned E-W and c.0.2m in width, gully [34] had steep sides and a rounded base, and gully 36 had a V-shaped profile. Gully [5] and pits [1] and [3] lay 70m to the north of the kilns. The gully was aligned WSW-ENE and 0.6m in width. All contained finds of later Roman date and appeared contemporary with the kilns.
- 2.112 The E-W aligned gully [10] was later than the other features identified on the site with Medieval sherds of pottery recovered from the fill.
- 2.113 *Artefactual Evidence:* The site produced a significant assemblage of Late Roman pottery, iron working material, Roman roof, floor and wall tiles, a fragment of quern stone, assorted items of metalwork and a possible sling shot pebble from the fill of pit [30]. Burnt flint was recovered from pits [3] and [30] and gully [32].

#### **Site 34 (PRN 4174) North of Rowlands Farm**

- 2.114 Site 34 was located in the field immediately to the east of Rowlands Lane and south of the wood, north of Rowlands Farm.
- 2.115 A find scatter comprising two flint flakes, one with a possible retouch, was collected from a subsoil between the plough-soil and natural on the site. Both are tentatively Late Neolithic/Bronze Age in date.

#### **Site 35 (PRN 4169) Green Lane Farm**

- 2.116 Site 35 was located in the field on the south side of Green Lane, opposite to Green Lane Farm.
- 2.117 A find scatter including sherds of Medieval pottery and prehistoric worked flint were recovered from a subsoil recorded between the plough-soil and natural. No contemporary archaeological features were identified on the easement.

#### **Site 36 (PRN 4173) East of New Farm, Brading**

- 2.118 Site 36 was located in a field on the east side of West Lane to the east of New Farm.
- 2.119 *Structural Evidence:* A total of nine contexts were recorded at Site 36 with evidence produced for a pit of probable prehistoric date and a post-medieval ditch (see Table 12). These two features are shown on Figure RPSC 18.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ditch                  | 1                  |
| Pit                    | 1                  |

Table 12: Type and number of features identified at Site 36

- 2.120 The pit [2] was oval in shape (0.6m long and 0.45m wide) with sloping sides and a flat base. It was significantly filled with burnt flint, a method used for cooking purposes where the flint was heated and then used for pot boilers etc, and probably represented a prehistoric feature. The ditch [4] was aligned N-S and was interpreted as an infilled field boundary. A sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered from one of the fills.
- 2.121 *Artefactual Evidence:* The site produced sherds of Medieval pottery 12th to 15<sup>th</sup> century in date, one possibly within the date range AD 450-650, one sherd tentatively prehistoric in date and a 19<sup>th</sup> century piece of china. Burnt flint was recovered from pit [2]. Other finds included fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> brick and a clay pipe fragment.



#### **Site 37 (PRN 4161) North of Vicarage Lane, Brading**

- 2.122 Site 37 was located in the field to the east of Rowborough Lane and to the north of Vicarage Lane.
- 2.123 A find scatter comprising pottery sherds and metal objects of Medieval and Post-medieval date was recovered from a subsoil identified between the topsoil and natural. No features were identified on the easement.

#### **Site 38 (PRN 4164) South of Hardingshute Farm**

- 2.124 Site 38 was located in the field on the west side of West Lane on the opposite side of the road to Little Hardingshute, south of Hardingshute Farm.
- 2.125 A find scatter of Medieval pottery recovered from the interface of the plough-soil with natural was probably derived from manuring practices.

#### **Site 39 (PRN 4163) South of Hardingshute Farm**

- 2.126 Site 39 was located in the field on the west side of West lane immediately south of Little Hardingshute.
- 2.127 A find scatter of worked flint of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date and a sherd of early Post-medieval pottery were recovered from the site.

### **Ryde Spur Pipeline**

- 2.128 This section of the pipeline extends from Ryde in the north and joins the Fairlee-Sandown section south of Hardingshute Farm. A pumping station was constructed at Ryde (SZ 6056 9230). Archaeology was identified at seven sites along the route. The location of these sites are shown on Figure RPSC 2B.

#### **Site 6 (PRN 4549) Barnsley Farm**

- 2.129 Site 6 was located in the area to the east Barnsley Farm thought to be site of possible Medieval settlement.
- 2.130 No structural or artefactual evidence for Medieval activity was identified on the site. One flint blade probably Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date was recovered from the plough-spoil in the field to the south west of Barnsley Farm.

#### **Site 40 (PRN 4175) South of Barnsley Farm**

- 2.131 Site 40 was located in the field immediately to the north of Whitefield Wood, south of Barnsley Farm.
- 2.132 A scatter of finds were recovered from the site. These included a flint blade of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date and metal objects recovered from the plough-soil and spoil heap.

#### **Site 41 (PRN 4172) South of Bullen Road**

- 2.133 Site 41 was located in the field to the east of Cothey Bottom Copse and immediately south of Bullen Road.
- 2.134 A significant quantity of prehistoric flints was recovered from the plough-soil on the site. This included flakes, end scrapers and a core of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and Late Neolithic/ Bronze Age date. Other material recovered from the site included Medieval

sherds of pottery, probably derived from manuring practices. No features or deposits were identified on the easement.

**Site 42 (PRN 4170) North of Bullen Road**

- 2.135 Site 42 was located in the field to the north of Bullen Road.
- 2.136 A find scatter recovered from the plough-soil was identified at the site. This included an abraded sherd of Roman pottery and sherds of Post-medieval pottery. No archaeological features were identified on the easement.

**Site 43 (PRN 4034) East of Westridge Farm, Appley**

- 2.137 Site 43 was located in the field to the east of Westridge Farm and south of the field where Site 44 was recorded.
- 2.138 *Structural Evidence:* A total of eight contexts were recorded at Site 43. Evidence was produced for two pits and a posthole; all of Medieval date (Table 13). These are shown on Figure RPSC 19.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Pits                   | 2                  |
| Postholes              | 1                  |

**Table 13: Type and number of features identified at Site 43**

- 2.139 The two pits [2] and [6] were oval with respective dimensions of 3.4 x 2.7m and >1.2m x 1.3m. Both were interpreted as rubbish pits and produced sherds of Medieval pottery and other artefacts. The single posthole [4] was of contemporary date and suggested some form of structure. All provided evidence for medieval domestic occupation at or in the immediate vicinity of the site.
- 2.140 *Artefactual Evidence:* The site produced a medieval pottery assemblage of 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century in date typical of domestic wares, shell and a large assemblage of metal objects. A residual prehistoric flint flake was recovered from the fill of pit [6].

**Site 44 (PRN 4171) East of Westridge Farm, Appley**

- 2.141 Site 44 was located in the field to the east of Westridge Farm and north of the field where Site 43 was recorded.
- 2.142 A find scatter comprising of a prehistoric flint flake was recovered from a subsoil identified between the topsoil and natural on the stripped easement. No archaeological features were observed on the easement.

**Site 45 (PRN 4162) North of West ridge Farm, Appley**

- 2.143 Site 45 was located north of Westridge Farm in the field south of Calthorpe Road.
- 2.144 A find scatter of a significant quantity of prehistoric work flint was recovered from the pipeline easement. This assemblage included blades, flakes, cores and a scraper of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and Late Neolithic/Bronze Age dates. Pieces of burnt flint were also recovered. Artefacts of a post-prehistoric date included sherds of Medieval and Post-medieval pottery and fragments of clay pipes. No contemporary archaeological features were observed on the easement.

## Woodvale to Dodnor Pipeline

- 2.145 The stretch of the pipeline extends from Dodnor in the south to Woodvale on the outskirts of West Cowes in the north. A pumping station was constructed at Woodvale (SZ 4778 9608). Archaeology was found at eight sites along the route and these are shown on Figure RPSC 2A.

### Site 10 (PRN 4208) West of Chawton Farm, Northwood

- 2.146 Site 10 was located west of Chawton Farm in the fields to the north and south of the track leading to St John's Church, Northwood. St John's Church has Medieval origins and was probably the focus of Medieval settlement. A significant quantity of prehistoric flint tools recovered by field walking also had been identified in the vicinity. Given this potential for archaeology, an archaeologist was present for the easement strip.
- 2.147 An assemblage of prehistoric worked flints was retrieved from the easement. This comprised flakes of both Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and Late Neolithic/Bronze Age date. Pieces of burnt flint were also recovered from the site. Other material recovered from the site included assorted cu-alloy items of Post-medieval and modern date, a lead puddle and a coin.
- 2.148 No archaeological features contemporary with the prehistoric material or the potential medieval settlement were identified on the site.

### Site 46 (PRN 4200) Parkhurst Dairy Farm

- 2.149 Site 46 was located in the field to the east of Parkhurst Dairy Farm, Parkhurst.
- 2.150 A find scatter including a large assemblage of clay tobacco pipes dominated by Irish manufactured pipes was recovered from the site. Other material comprised a hone (whetstone), cu-alloy and lead metalwork including three weights, and four coins.

### Site 47 (PRN 4204) Horsebridge Hill

- 2.151 Site 47 was located in the field to the north of Stag Lane, Horsebridge Hill.
- 2.152 A find scatter comprising metal objects of probable post-medieval and modern date was recovered from the site. This included iron and lead material. One of the iron objects was an rove probably associated with boat construction. Four coins and a token of 17<sup>th</sup> century were also recovered from the site.

### Site 48 (PRN 4550) County Agriculture Ground

- 2.153 Site 48 in the site of the Agricultural Show Ground.
- 2.154 A find scatter comprising flakes of Late Neolithic/Bronze Age date, Mesolithic bladelets and post-medieval material was collected from the site. The Post-medieval material included sherds of pottery, a stem fragment of a clay tobacco pipe and brick fragments. No in situ features were identified on the easement.

**Site 49 (PRN 4184) North of Chawton Farm, Northwood**

- 2.155 Site 49 was located to the north of Chawton Farm and Site 10.
- 2.156 A find scatter comprising a significant assemblage of prehistoric flint was recovered from the site. The assemblage included a small possible tranchet axe of Mesolithic date, flakes, cores and blades. A piece of burnt flint was also recovered.

**Site 50 (PRN 4035) Somerton**

- 2.157 Site 50 was located in the field north of Medham Farm Lane and to the south of Nodes Farm at Somerton. Evidence was produced for Late Iron Age occupation activity at the site.
- 2.158 *Structural Evidence:* A total of 29 contexts were recorded at Site 50. These comprised one ditch and four pits all of Iron Age date, and a modern service trench (Table 14). These are shown on Figure RPSC 20.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ditch                  | 1                  |
| Pits                   | 4                  |
| Modern                 | 1                  |

Table 14: Type and number of features identified at Site 50

- 2.159 The NNW-SSE aligned ditch [29] had sloping sides with a rounded base, the south end terminated in the pipeline easement. Six segments were excavated through the feature; these recorded as [3], [6], [9], [11], [21] and [23]. The pits [13], [15], [17] and [19] lay to the west of the ditch. These were sub-rectangular and sub-circular in shape with sloping sides and rounded bases; the largest pit [17] was 1.8m in length and 0.6m in width. All were sealed by a subsoil (2) and cut the natural. Datable material recovered from these features indicate a Late Iron Age date.
- 2.160 *Artefactual Evidence:* A significant assemblage of Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from the site. Other finds included fragments of a clay loom weight recovered from the fill of the ditch and residual prehistoric worked (flakes scrapers and blades), a sherd of Medieval pottery and assorted metal objects.

**Site 51 (PRN 4189) South of Cockleton Farm**

- 2.161 Site 51 was located in the field to the south-east of Cockleton Farm.
- 2.162 A find scatter including a prehistoric blade of probable Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date and a sherd of Post-medieval pottery was recovered from a subsoil identified between the plough-soil and natural.

**Site 52 (PRN 4210) South of Tutton's Hill, Gurnard**

- 2.163 Site 52 was located in the field to the south of the church at Gurnard.
- 2.164 A find scatter including iron, lead and cu-alloy objects of Post-medieval and modern date was recovered from the site. The lead items consisted of puddle fragments and cut pieces suggestive of a nearby lead industry. Three coins were also recovered from the site.

## Cowes to Fairlee Pipeline

- 2.165 This section of the pipeline extends from Fairlee in the south to Springhill in the north via Whippingham. A pumping station was constructed at Cowes (SZ 5101 9641). Archaeology was identified at six sites along the route. One targeted site (Site 4) produced no archaeological evidence. These sites are shown on Figure RPSC 2B.

### Site 4 Padmore Farm, South of Whippingham

- 2.166 Site 4 was located in the fields to the north and south of Folly Road to the west of Padmore farm, Whippingham. Linear and rectilinear earthworks have been identified in the area of the pipeline route, which may be associated with Medieval activity.
- 2.167 No evidence was identified on the pipeline easement for the earthworks, other archaeological features or spot finds of artefact.

### Site 53 (PRN 4185) South of Heathfield Farm, Whippingham

- 2.168 Site 53 was located in the field immediately west of the Whippingham Road and East Cowes Road junction. Site 54 lay in the adjacent field to the north.
- 2.169 A find spot comprising a prehistoric flint scraper of Neolithic/Bronze Age date was recovered from a subsoil identified between the plough soil and natural.

### Site 54 (PRN 4152) South of Heathfield Farm, Whippingham

- 2.170 Site 54 was located two fields to the west of the Whippingham Road and south of Heathfield Farm. Site 53 lay in the field to the south.
- 2.171 *Structural Evidence:* A total of ten contexts (Table 15) were recorded at the site with evidence produced for a post-medieval lime kiln, shown on Figure RPSC 21. This was located in the south-west corner of the field (identified on a historic map as "Lime Kiln Ground") on ground sloping towards the stream leading to an inlet of the River Medina.

| Feature Interpretation | Number of Features |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Kiln                   | 1                  |

Table 15: Type and number of features recorded at Site 54

- 2.172 The kiln (3) survived as the base of a circular structure of bricks with a flue on the south-east side, all below the existing ground level. The internal facing bricks had been vitrified. The structure was infilled with brick rubble (7), interpreted as material from the collapse of the kiln's dome, which lay above deposits of ash and burnt lime (9) and (10).

### Site 55 (PRN 4201) West of Heathfield Farm, Whippingham

- 2.173 Site 55 was located in the field immediately to the west of Heathfield Farm, Whippingham.
- 2.174 A find scatter comprising sherds of pottery (Medieval and Post-medieval in date), fragments of clay pipes and flint blade of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date was recovered from a subsoil identified on the easement. No in situ features were identified and this material probably derived from manuring practices.

**Site 56 (PRN 4207) North of Whippingham Church**

- 2.175 Site 56 was located in the field immediately north of St Mildred's Church, Whippingham.
- 2.176 A find scatter comprising prehistoric worked flint was recovered from the site. This material included flakes and a scrapper of Late Neolithic/Bronze Age date. Burnt flint was also collected. No contemporary features were observed.

**Site 57 (PRN 4206) North of Whippingham Works**

- 2.177 Site 57 was located in the field on the east side of Beatrice Avenue and immediately north of Whippingham Works.
- 2.178 A find scatter of comprising three prehistoric flints was collected from the pipeline easement.

**Site 58 (PRN 4205) West of Barton Manor Farm**

- 2.179 Site 58 was located in the field on the west side of Whippingham Road directly to the west of Barton Manor Farm.
- 2.180 A find scatter comprising a prehistoric flint flake and a modern glass bottle stopper was recovered from the site.

## 3 The Finds and Specialist Work

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- 3.1 This section describes the artefacts recovered from the sites identified along the length of the pipeline under their respective type and includes components of the relevant specialist's report. Detailed catalogues for the pottery and flint are presented in Appendices 2 and 3 respectively. An assessment of the metalworking debris is presented in Appendix 5.

### Pottery by Malcolm Lyne

#### Introduction

- 3.2 The Sea Clean pipeline yielded pottery from 24 ploughsoil and subsoil scatters and 12 excavated occupation sites at Great Biddlesford Farm, West of Wilmington Lane Thorley, Thorley Street, Wellow, North-East of Doreshill Farm, Wilmington Lane Thorley, Ningwood, South of Lower Dodpits Farm, Havenstreet, West of Chillingwood Copse, East of New Farm Brading and Somerton.
- 3.3 The pottery ranges in date between Late Bronze Age and post-Medieval but does not include any Early Iron Age or obvious Middle Saxon material: it is possible, however, that further examination of the Saxo-Norman material from Great Biddlesford Farm may show that some of the pottery belongs to the latter period.

#### Methodology

- 3.4 All of the pottery assemblages were quantified by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric. Fabrics were classified using a x8 magnification lens with built-in metric scale for determining the nature, size, form and frequency of added inclusions. Very-fine fabrics were subjected to further examination with a x30 magnification pocket microscope with built-in artificial illumination source. Fabrics were classified numerically under the prefixes BA, IA, R and M for Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Medieval respectively (See Appendix 2).

#### The Assemblages

##### *Late Bronze Age*

- 3.5 Site 7 west of Wilmington Lane, Thorley produced a quantity of Bronze Age urn fragments (664 sherds) in a variety of fabrics from Pits 20, 32, 61, 81, 155 and 157, Cremation cut 65 and the fill of the ring-ditch. Diagnostic rim sherds from Pit 20 are from South Lodge type Deverel Rimbury bucket urns dated c.1500-1000 BC. Numerous fragments from shattered clay objects are also present.
- 3.6 This assemblage has been subsequently examined by David Tomalin and further comments are presented below.

##### *Middle to Late Iron Age*

- 3.7 Site 14 at Wilmington Lane, Thorley produced 79 small and featureless shell-tempered sherds from the fills of ten postholes. This material looks Iron Age in date.

- 3.8 Site 32 at Havenstreet yielded 1112 sherds (11227 gm.) of pottery belonging to this period from the fills of two ditches and is of great importance in that this material is accompanied by numerous fragments from a variety of well-dated imported amphorae.
- 3.9 Section 9 through the fills of Ditch 44 yielded fragments from Middle Iron Age grog-tempered saucepan pots and somewhat more significant quantities of calcined-flint tempered globular bead-rim jars of similar date. These were accompanied by Campanian Dressel 1A amphorae (c.130-50BC) and a fragment from a Catalan Dressel 1 (c.50BC-AD20). The presence of both of these amphora types suggests that deposition took place during the mid-first century BC.
- 3.10 The pottery from Section 15 across the same ditch appears to be later in date: the material includes further grog-tempered sherds from saucepan pots and bead-rim jars as well as a considerably greater quantity of calcined flint tempered wares. These latter differ from those found in Section 9 in including not only bead-rim jars but open forms such as bead-rim carinated bowls of Late Iron Age type. The accompanying amphorae fragments are from Catalan Dressel 1s (c.50BC-AD20) and a Dressel 2.4 (c.50BC-AD.50+). The material was probably deposited during the last decades of the first century BC and is totally lacking in Vectis ware.
- 3.11 Ditch 45 has Late Iron Age Vectis ware in its lower fills and redeposited earlier material similar to that from Ditch 44 in its upper ones. All of this indicates that the Late Iron Age of Vectis can be subdivided into an earlier L.I.A.1 phase characterised by calcined flint tempered wares running parallel with the end of the Middle Iron Age saucepan-pot tradition and dated to the first century BC; replaced by L.I.A.2 sand-tempered Vectis ware during the first half of the first-century AD under the influence of Durotrigian Black Burnished ware imports.
- 3.12 Site 50 at Somerton produced 169 sherds (1893 gm.) of Late Iron Age 2 Vectis ware from nine individual ditch segments and other contexts. A complete lack of Gallo-Belgic and other Romanised wares suggests that occupation was entirely Late Iron Age in date.
- Late Iron Age 2-Pre Flavian*
- 3.13 Site 13 north-east of Doreshill Farm has Late Iron Age type Vectis ware forms associated with Durotrigian imports, local butt-beaker copies and a flagon of pre-Flavian type. This material (189 sherds, 2084 gm.) clearly overlaps with the end of the Havenstreet occupation and that at Somerton and continues until c.AD.70
- Roman*
- 3.14 Some of the assemblages from Site 7 west of Wilmingham Lane, Thorley could also be Late Iron Age 2/Pre-Flavian date (Posthole 44, Ditches 55 and 59 and Linear feature 71) but they are all very small and difficult to date with any precision. Equally small assemblages from Linear feature 2 and Feature 12 can be dated c.AD.70-200 but the only large assemblages from the site are those from Quarry 93 fills 94,95,96 and 97 (196 sherds) and date mainly to the period c.AD.270-400. The presence of 25 chaff-tempered sherds does, however, push activity on into the Sub-Roman/Early Saxon period. Further Late Roman assemblages come from Features 36,38,67/69 and 230, Pit 121, Ditch 135 and posthole alignment feature 165.
- 3.15 Site 33 west of Chillingwood Copse is of Late Roman date and may be a pottery and tile production site also engaged in lead and iron working. The pottery associated with the various ?kiln sites is however quite sparse in quantity and lacks definite wasters. If the firing features were engaged in pottery production then it was almost certainly that of late Vectis ware during the late-third and early-fourth centuries. The small 'kiln assemblages' are more than compensated for by substantial fourth-century pottery assemblages from Pits 1,3 and 30 and smaller ones from elsewhere.



- 3.16 The medieval Site 5 at Great Biddlesford Farm produced some abraded third-to-fourth century sherds from Late Saxon features; indicative of Late Roman activity nearby.  
*Saxo-Norman to Medieval*
- 3.17 There are more sites of this date range along the line of the pipeline than any other. Site 2 Lower Watchingwell produced 328 eleventh century to Late Medieval sherds from an intense subsoil scatter. Site 5 at Great Biddlesford Farm produced substantial Saxo-Norman assemblages (392 sherds) from drainage gullies, middens etc and has the potential to supply useful information on the development of pottery on the Island between the 10th and 13th centuries. The early pottery includes Portchester ware.
- 3.18 More general twelfth to 15th century pottery assemblages came from Site 9 at Wellow, Site 15 west of Broad Lane, Thorley, Site 16 at Ningwood, Site 17 south of Lower Dodpits Farm, Site 36 east of New Farm, Brading and Site 43 north-east of Westridge Farm, Appley.
- 3.19 Late Saxon and Medieval pottery from the Island is very poorly understood. The only kiln published is a 15th century one from Knighton and the only ceramic sequences are those from Mersley Farm, Wootton Creek and Carisbrooke Castle which are still to be published. This makes the material from the pipeline sites of considerable importance: our poor knowledge of Vectensian Saxo-Norman ceramics in particular means, however, that the various fabric datings in the catalogue may be subject to revision when the site pottery reports come to be written up.  
*Post-Medieval*
- 3.20 Not much can be said about this period but assemblages are present from Sites 19 east of Lower Dodpits Farm (17th-19th c.), 28 east of North Fairlee Farm (16th-20th c.) and 29 south of Binfield Farm Lane (16th-18th c.). It was noticed that nearly all of the 16th to 18th century glazed earthenware is in an off-white to pink fabric with pale green glaze and appears to come from the same source, probably on the Island. Many of the sites produced sherds in imported blue-glazed Westerwald stoneware.

## **The Bronze Age Pottery including the Cremation Urns by David Tomalin**

### **Summary**

- 3.21 This assessment has examined an assemblage of semi-complete and fragmentary Bronze Age pots recovered from a cremation cemetery cut by the installation of a Southern Water pipe-line at Thorley in the western sector of the Isle of Wight. The pots have been decorated with a variety of impressed and relief-moulded decorative motifs. These motifs, and the mineral contents of the potting clays, present evidence of the social, economic and cultural ties of Islanders in the south coast region and the English Channel maritime zone in the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC (Tomalin, 1988 & 1995).
- 3.22 The pots from this cemetery are the first group to be scientifically investigated since a small Deverel-Rimbury cemetery was examined in a cliff-face at Barnes High in 1929. They are consequently of some importance to the prehistory of the Isle of Wight as well as archaeology of the Wessex region. Unlike the earlier find, the Thorley pots are notably different in their composition and decoration. They also offer some particular evidence of maritime traffic, perhaps reaching as far as the Cornish peninsular. Some other fired clay items are also present in the assemblage and these contain organic impressions which may provide evidence of a contemporary industrial process.

- 3.23 This assessment sets out prescriptions which will permit the compilation of a descriptive archival catalogue of all of the Bronze Age pottery from the cemetery. This will be accompanied by a synthesised and illustrated report dealing with the context of the pots and their cultural implications. This report will be designed to fulfill the need for scientific appraisal and public dissemination and it will ensure that disturbance of the Bronze Age cemetery has been demonstrably mitigated by *preservation by record*.

### Preliminary Examination of the Artefactual Evidence

#### Site 7, PRN 4158.

**Contexts 49, 66, 90 and 106.** Four semi-complete pots, putatively of the *Food Urn tradition*, have been recovered from the pipe-line easement at Thorley. These are currently undergoing conservation in the laboratory of the Isle of Wight County Museum Service. All of these pots have been recovered from individual funerary context where most, if not all, were inverted over cremated human remains. The inversion of the pots has been fortunate because this has saved their more distinctive and decorative portions from destruction by plant and machinery. At present these pots are bandaged or undergoing consolidation but sufficient can be seen to reveal that they are distinctively constructed and that their decoration includes impressed cord motifs and relief-moulded features.

*Prescription:* After consolidation, these pots will require formal and textural examination and the preparation of the drawn illustrations suitable for publication. The formal and decorative features of these pots will require description and discussion exemplifying their cultural significance in an insular and regional context in southern Britain.

**4158.21.1.** 19 sherds represent at least one large shell-tempered urn. A large vessel tempered with exotic stone particles is also present as well as a clay object which has been subjected to high oxidising temperatures. The sherds with exotic tempering have also been exposed to high oxidising conditions.

*Prescription:* It seems highly likely that these sherds are associated with those from context 22 and cross-comparison should be made with view to preparing drawn reconstructions. This is particularly important with regard to the exotic urn. This vessel requires particular petrological examination.

**4158.22.1.** An assemblage of 132 sherds comprises the discernable remains of several large urns of the Later Bronze Age. These include substantial vessels of the Deverel-Rimbury tradition fashioned in both shell tempered and shell-with-flint tempered fabrics. One large thick-walled vessel is tempered with particles of igneous or metamorphic rock which are distinctly foreign to the region. This, potentially, represents a long-distance maritime connection with Bronze Age Wight. At least one large vessel bears moulded relief decoration comprising arcaded ribs and cordons. Analogies for this can be found in certain funerary assemblages in south Wessex. These analogies will need to be specified and explained. Another pot is decorated with shallow horizontal grooves in the manner of a globular urn.

At least one ceramic item in this assemblage is not a pottery container. This is perhaps a loom weight or an item employed in a high temperature process. This object is devoid of the tempering materials which are present in the other sherds. It has also been intensely fired.

*Prescription:* Textural and formal examination is required of each of these sherds to establish the character and the minimum number of vessels present. This examination should also establish the fabric groups which can then be confirmed by petrological examination. Time should be allocated for the preparation of drawn reconstructions for publication. The formal and cultural analogies of the vessels will need to be established by reference to appropriate assemblages in the Isle of Wight and, more particularly, in south Wessex. It is apparent from the arcaded decoration that this pottery represents some notably strong cross-Solent links with Bronze Age Dorset. These will need to be adequately explained in the final report.

**4158.23.1.** Two sherds of the Deverel-Rimbury tradition require description and integration into the site catalogue.

**4158.33.1.** Some 36 shell-tempered sherds from this context seem attributable to the base and lower body of a Deverel-Rimbury vessel. A rim sherd is also present.

*Prescription:* A formal and textural description and a reconstruction drawing is required

**4158.50.2.** An assemblage of 88 sherds comprising the discernable remains of a thin-walled shell-tempered urn and a stone-tempered vessel of exotic character (compare 4158.22.1). There are also untempered fragments of an intensely oxidised fired-clay object (compare also 5158.22.1).

*Prescription:* Drawn reconstruction of the fired the clay object should be attempted and its textural and petrological characteristics should be ascertained. The vessel tempered with exotic stone should be similarly examined. There are organic casts in the fired clay object and these should be examined by an appropriate botanical specialist.

**4158.62.2.** Some 32 shell tempered sherds of Deverel-Rimbury character require formal and textural description.

**4158.66.1.** Some 22 sherds of a grog-tempered vessel require formal and textural description and integration into the site catalogue. Comparison with the vessel from context 78 is required.

**4158.78.2.** Some 50 sherds representing the foot and walls of a single grog-tempered urn are present. These are highly friable. These require formal and textural examination and description. This vessel can be chronologically differentiated from other vessels in the collection.

**4158.89.1.** Three sherds of the Deverel-Rimbury tradition require formal and textural description and integration into the site catalogue.

**4158.116.2.** Ten sherds require textural description and integration into the site catalogue.

**4158.156.1.** Two sherds of the Deverel-Rimbury tradition require formal and textural description and integration into the site catalogue.

**Site 7, PRN 2074**

**2074.109.1.** Some seven small sherds and crumbs of a shell-tempered vessel require formal and textural description and dating.

**2074.145.1.** Some ten sherds and crumbs require characterisation, dating and textural description

**2074.145.2.** A fired clay crumb requires characterisation and description.

**Cultural Assessment**

- 3.24 This assessment of the artefactual evidence shows that the course of the new pipeline at Thorley has bisected and disturbed a significant prehistoric cemetery of Early and Middle Bronze Age date. The disturbance of this cemetery carries a particular cultural significance for the archaeology of the Isle Wight. On the island, funerary vessels of this type are relatively rare and their occurrence, in this insular context, can offer evidence of cross-Solent contact and long-distance maritime trade. The preliminary assessment of the pottery from this cemetery confirms that this is the case at Thorley. There now remains a need to present a satisfactory technical and cultural description of the evidence which the pipe-line has disturbed. A study of the inclusions in the pottery will establish the number of fabrics and the potential origins of the clays. (The assessment suggests that these should not exceed 15). A formal examination and textural description of the vessels and sherds will enable the production of a descriptive archival catalogue and the preparation of an appropriate series of reconstruction drawings suitable for publication. A shortened version of the archive catalogue, suitable for publication will be needed and this should be accompanied by a descriptive and synthesising text. This text should account for the burial context of the cremation pots and the associated sherds. It should describe the cultural affinities of these vessels, setting the pottery in its intra-Island and regional context. Where evidence for long-distance maritime links has been revealed in this pottery, this should be evaluated, discussed and brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

**Consolidation and Conservation of the Bronze Age Cremation Urns by Paul Simpson**

- 3.25 Four Bronze Age urns were excavated from Thorley, by archaeologists employed by RPS Consultants working on the Seaclean Wight Project. A brief Conservation assessment was produced containing information regarding background and suggested treatment. The following report describes the actual treatment conducted on the excavated objects.

**Background**

- 3.26 The urns were excavated prior to pipeline excavations in Thorley. Three urns were bandaged and block lifted from the site leaving the contents intact, the fourth was excavated and bagged with the soil still adhering to it. A brief description of the treatment of the urns in the laboratory is recorded below.

**Excavation Number: 49**

**Cons Number: 688**

Fragments from an urn, pieces lifted and bagged within the soil matrix.

Although in pieces the condition of the ceramic is hard and not friable.

Cleaned the pieces with tap water using a soft brush and plastic modelling tools to remove the adhering soil. As the soil was removed it became apparent that the fragments formed part of the base of a large urn. The fabric is shell tempered; ceramic ribs formed to strengthen the base are present on the inner surface of the fabric.

As the fabric is hard no consolidant was used.

**Excavation Number: 90**

**Cons Number: 689**

Part of an urn. The object was bandaged and lifted with contents. Damaged by ploughing leaving only a narrow collar of the object remaining. The object is inverted so the surviving pieces are from the rim and top section.

Conducted a micro-excavation of the contents and removed the contents in layers, using plastic modelling tools. The soil was removed in 2cm layers these samples were bagged and numbered. The urn contained a cremation and the fragmented bones were separated from the soil and bagged and numbered by layer after they had been washed in tap water using a soft brush to remove the adhering soil.

The fabric of the urn itself was very fragile and in some areas disintegrating. It was consolidated by spraying with 10% Primal AC33 in tap water. As the bandages were removed the fragments were roughly sketched to illustrate their relationship with each other. The pieces were washed in tap water using a soft brush. The outer faces were consolidated by spraying with 10% Primal AC 33 in tap water. After air drying the pieces were numbered and bagged separately.

**Excavation Number: 66**

**Cons Number: 690**

Part of a Bronze Age urn. Like the other urns this one had also been truncated by ploughing. Again only the rim and upper part of the body had survived.

Conducted a micro-excavation on the urns contents using plastic modelling tools and a soft brush. The soil was excavated in layers and these were numbered and bagged separately. This urn contained a large amount of cremated bone. The bone was cleaned with tap water and a soft brush and then the fragments were numbered and bagged by layer.

The remaining ceramic was fragile and fragmentary. The pieces were first washed using tap water and a soft brush and then consolidated by spraying with 10% Primal AC 33 in tap-water. The location of the fragments was sketched and then they were numbered and bagged separately.

**Excavation Number: 106**

**Cons Number: 691**

Partial Bronze Age Urn, truncated by ploughing. Block lifted like the other urns, bandaged and with contents remaining inside the urn. This is the largest remaining urn, again it has a substantial amount of the rim and shoulder surviving.

Treated in the same manner as the others. First the contents were excavated using plastic modelling tools the sediment was numbered and bagged in layers. This urn also contained a large amount of cremated bone. The bone was cleaned in tap water with a soft brush, the fragments were then air dried and bagged by layer.

The urn was carefully unwrapped and consolidated by spraying with 10% Primal AC 33 in tap-water at the same time the urn was cleaned by spraying with tap-water and gently brushing with a soft brush. At this stage the object remained upstanding revealing a pattern of cross-checked corded decoration on the surface.

The object was too fragile to remain in a single piece, one half of the outer face had been rubbed away in burial leaving the fabric extremely friable. The consolidated pieces were numbered and bagged separately for safety in storage.

## **Recording**

- 3.27 The treatment of the objects was recorded using the Modes format supplemented with sketches and colour photographs taken before during and after treatment. Soil samples and cremated bones from the urns were bagged and numbered according to the layer from which they were excavated.

## **Packing and Storage**

- 3.28 The ceramics and cremation were packed in archival quality polythene bags, plastazote foam, polyethylene boxes where necessary, acid free tissue paper and archival quality storage boxes.

## Clay Tobacco Pipes

- 3.29 Fragments of clay tobacco pipes were recovered from 14 sites. These comprise fragments of stems, bowls and spurs within a date range of 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century. Two large assemblages were obtained from East of Lower Dodpits Farm (Site 19) and Parkhurst Dairy Farm (Site 46). All are summarised below.

**Site 8, PRN: 3957. Thorley Street:** Five plain stem fragments of 18th or 19th century date were recovered from context 8009.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow:** A single plain pipe stem of 17th century date was found in context 9031.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm:** A total of 164 clay tobacco pipe fragments were recovered from context 3. A total of 24 bowls are dated on style to 1690-1710. Twenty-two spurs are assigned a 1660-1690 date range and 10 further spurs to the period of 1690-1710. A total of 123 plain stems are of similar date. A single stem is stamped with the makers name JOHN ALLY who was producing tobacco pipes in Newport in the early 18th century (1705-1751).

**Site 21, PRN: 4197. West of Barton's Corner:** A single stamped stem fragment of JOHN STEPHENS (who was producing tobacco pipes in Newport in 1705-1751) was collected from context 1.

**Site 26, PRN: 4183. West of Forest Road Garage:** A single plain stem of 18th or 19th century date range was recovered from context 1.

**Site 27, PRN: 4168. South of North Fairlee Farm:** Ten plain stem fragments of 18th century date were recovered from context 2.

**Site 28, PRN: 4167. East of North Fairlee Farm:** Sixteen plain stem fragments of 18th century date and a single bowl associated with the style of pipe by Edwin Hale of Portsmouth (1773-1841) were found within context 2.

**Site 29, PRN: 4166. South of Binfield Farm Lane:** Three plain stem fragments of a style dated to the late 17th century were recovered from context 2.

**Site 30, PRN: 4165. Binfield Corner:** A single 17th century plain stem, six plain 18th or 19th century stem fragments and single spur fragment was found within context 2. The spur is stamped with "E H", this mark relates to Edwin Hale of Portsmouth who was producing tobacco pipes in the period of 1773-1841. The two surviving pipe bowl recovered are both of a type produced in London in 1830-1900.

**Site 36, PRN: 4173. East of New Farm Brading:** A single spur fragment stamped with "R G" was recovered from context 5. This pipe is associated with the tobacco pipe maker Richard Goodall of Gosport and Fareham in Hampshire (c.1834-1867).

**Site 45, PRN: 4162. North of Westridge Farm:** Three plain 17th century stem fragments, twenty plain 18th-19th century stem fragments and two stamped stems were recovered from context 2. The stamped 'named' stems belong to Henry Leigh of Portchester in Hants who was producing tobacco pipes in 1883-1932.

**Site 46, PRN: 4200. Parkhurst Dairy Farm:** A total of 101 clay tobacco pipes were collected from context 1. The assemblage consisted of 56 plain stems of 18th or 19th century date, six decorated stems and two bowl fragments with "E H" associated with Edwin Hale of Portsmouth (1773-1841). Five bowls are of a style dated to 1780-1820 and one is an Irish Armorial pipe bowl (1750-1780). Within the assemblage twelve stamped stems bore marks of their makers; two stems have DUBLIN stamps, seven with DERRY, and single examples with BELFAST, KILLARNEY and THE MEER stamps. This collection is dominated by Irish tobacco pipes and may relate to Irish soldiers billeted at Parkhurst Barracks during the period of the Napoleonic war.

**Site 48, PRN: 4550. County Agricultural Ground:** A single plain stem fragment of 18th or 19th century date was collected from context 1.

**Site 55, PRN: 4201. West of Heathfield Farm:** Fifteen plain stem and a plain bowl of London type dated to c.1780-1820 were recovered from context 2.

## Fired Clay Objects

- 3.30 Several clay objects including diagnostic fragments of loom weights and daub were recovered from five sites. Several of the loom weight items have parallels with other pieces obtained from other excavation sites and are dated Iron Age (Poole, 1984 & 1987, Winham, 1987).

**Site 7, PRN: 4158. West of Wilmington Lane, Thorley:** A small fragment of oxidised fired sandy clay with a reduced core was collected from context 244, the exterior of the piece has a rough uneven appearance.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow:** A total of seven unidentifiable fragments of fired clay objects were found in contexts 9017 and 9045. The fragments consisted of a fine-sandy fabric sometimes burnt with inclusions of yellow clay tabular pellets.

**Site 14, PRN: 4187. East of Wilmington Lane, Thorley:** A small assemblage of fired clay objects were excavated from contexts 8, 16, 24 and 33. Thirty-six unidentifiable fragments have an oxidised sandy clay matrix and 10% crushed shell filler. A single large fragment from a circular clay loom weight was excavated from

context (24). This is made from a fine sandy clay matrix with a few ferrous inclusions. The surviving fragment is 70 mm thick and shows no evidence for a suspension groove.

**Site 32, PRN: 4028. Havenstreet:** The deposits at Havenstreet produced 89 fired clay loom weight fragments and lumps of daub. A total of 78 fragments were recovered from ditch 44. These appear to be sherds of loom weights mainly in a oxidised red-brown fine-well-sorted sandy clay with organic and burnt flint inclusions. A corner fragment with a partial perforation associated with a triangular weight was found in context 8 (thickness c.13 mm). Five corner fragments from similar loom weight types were retained from contexts 10, 14 and 35. Another loom weight from context 35 consisted of six joining fragments with a perforation (17 mm.) associated with a further triangular loom weight type (thickness 58 mm). The fragments of daub retained from contexts 13, 16 and 28 consisted of a well-sorted sandy clay with numerous organic inclusions. No traces of wattle impressions were identified.

**Site 50, PRN: 4035. Somerton:** Two fragments of a single burnt clay loom weight in a fine-well-sorted sandy fabric was found in context 6. The fragments suggest the weight was triangular in shape, a type typical of the middle-late Iron Age period. The site also produced a total of 19 fragments of burnt clay. Contexts 7, 10 and 14 all contained unidentifiable fragments of fired clay in a rough sandy fabric with inclusions of tabular clay pellets. The fired clay objects found in contexts 10, 12 and 16 appeared to be fragments of loom weights. A small fragment of clay loom weight (79 mm thick) in a rough-sandy-clay fabric with burnt flint tempering was recovered from Context 3. Further fragments of similar fabrics were recovered from deposits 12 and 16.

## Building Material

- 3.31 Brick, roof tiles comprising of ceramic and slate, floor tile and wall tile were recovered from eleven sites on the route of the pipelines. Fragments of identifiable daub recovered from Site 32 are described in the Fired Clay Objects section. Roman material was recovered from Sites 5, 7, 32 and 33, Medieval material was recovered from Sites 5, 14 and 17 and Post-medieval material were found at Sites 5, 7, 8, 9, 19, 32, 36, and 48. The majority was collected from secondary contexts, building material associated with in situ building remains was identified at Sites 9, 16, 17 and 54.

## Ceramic Building Material

**Site 5, PRN: 3966. Great Briddlesford Farm.**

**Brick:** Four contexts (1, 15, 16 and 23) produced a total of ten Post-Medieval brick fragments. Their fabric was highly fired reddish-brown with ironstone inclusions. **Roof Tile:** Fifteen Roman tegulae were collected from contexts 2, 7 and 12. Three Roman imbrex fragments were obtained from context 7. The fabric of the Roman tile consists of a sandy fabric with abundant quartz sand and sub-angular grains, with ironstone or clay tabular argillaceous inclusions. Contexts 2 and 7 produced six fragments of medieval curved ridge tiles. These tiles are sanded on their undersides and made of a sandy reduced fabric with quartz inclusions. Contexts 16 and 23 contained twenty-one fragments of highly fired post-medieval peg tile. **Floor Tile:** Two fragments of Roman floor tile were recovered from context 7. The tiles are highly fired and contain a fine well sorted sandy clay fabric with a few quartz grain inclusions. The thickness of the fragments (23mm) suggests they are from a lydion type of tile.

**Site 7, PRN's: 1620, 3898, 4158. West of Wilmington Lane, Thorley:**

**Brick:** PRN: 4158. Three fragments of a hard fired sandy brick were recovered from context 242. These are post-medieval in date. **Roof Tile:** PRN: 1620. Five Roman tegulae fragments and five Roman imbrex fragments were retained from contexts 68 and 70. Their fabrics consist of a sandy matrix with quartz grains and clay tabular argillaceous pellets. A single face panel of a tegula obtained from context 68 has a signature device of Tomalin Type 1 (1987). PRN: 4158. Thirty-five fragments of Roman tegulae and six Roman imbrex fragments were found in contexts 58, 96, 97, 122, 136, 168 and 239. Their fabrics are similar to above. PRN: 3898. Two post-medieval peg tile fragments of a highly fired sandy fabric were recovered from context 185. **Floor Tile:** PRN: 4158. Twelve floor tiles were recorded from contexts 97 and 239. The size of the tiles are suggestive of lydion types. Their fabrics are hard fired with creamy streaks of clay within a sandy matrix. **Wall Tile:** PRN: 4158. A single fragment from the face of a combed Roman box flue tile was found in context 97. The combing style consists of a 4-point comb with a width of 38mm. The fabric is similar to the roof tiles from this site.

**Site 8, PRN: 3957. Thorley Street**

**Brick:** Three fragments of post-medieval brick were obtained from contexts 8009 and 8013. The fabric was a highly fired orange red with no inclusions present.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow**

**Brick:** Twenty-two brick fragments of post-medieval date were recovered from contexts 9021, 9023 and 9031. The fabric was a highly fired reddish brown with a few flecks of ironstone inclusions, a single brick in context 9031 demonstrated a thickness of 45mm and a width of 95mm. **Roof Tile:** A total of 3 Post-Medieval peg tile

fragments were derived from contexts 9021, 9023 and 9029. The fabric is a highly fired sandy fabric with occasional gravel flint fragments as inclusions.

**Site 17, PRN: 4178. South of Lower Dodpits Farm**

**Roof Tile:** Context 5 produced a total of seven glazed peg tiles in a rich orange fabric and eight glazed crenallated roof ridge tiles. The style of this roof tile assemblage would suggest a medieval date and they are probably of local manufacture. **Floor Tile:** Twenty-seven fragments of plain medieval floor tiles with a thickness of 24mm were recovered from context 5. The hard fired sandy matrix suggests a Medieval date.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm**

**Brick:** Eighteen fragments of brick were excavated from context 3. Two fabrics were present, the first fabric was a sandy highly fired reddish brown. The second fabric was also highly fired but had a grey salt glaze on the exterior of the dark-grey ironstone rich fabric. The bricks were crudely made and suggest a mid-late 17th century date.

**Site 32, PRN 4028. Havenstreet**

**Roof Tile:** Two tiny sherds of post-medieval peg tile of a highly fired fabric were found in context 0. Two Roman tegulae fragments were also recovered from context 0. Their fabric consists of a sandy quartz sand with sub-angular grains and clay tabular argillaceous pellets.

**Site 33, PRN: 4551. West of Chillingwood Copse**

**Roof Tile:** Thirty six large fragments of Roman tegulae and seven imbrex fragments were retained from contexts 2, 4, 13, 31, 35 and 37. Their fabric is a sandy quartz sand with a small amount of sub-angular grains and clay tabular argillaceous pellets. **Floor Tile:** Six fragments of Roman floor tile (tydion) was recovered from contexts 2 and 4. The fabric is similar to the roof tile. **Wall Tile:** A single fragment from the face of a combed box flue tile was found in context 31. The fabric is similar to the above types. The type of tile is usually associated with Roman hypocaust systems (into which hot air is channelled from under floor heating into hollow tiles set into the walls). The combing is represented by a '11' point comb approximately 42mm in width, a style of the combing seen on tiles present at the nearby Roman villa of Combley.

**Site 36, PRN: 4173. East of New Farm Brading**

**Brick:** Half of a single brick was recovered from the fill of context 5 at Brading. The fabric is highly fired reddish brown sandy matrix. The width measures 85mm and the height is 67mm. A 19th century date should be considered.

**Site 48, PRN: 4550. County Agricultural Ground**

**Brick:** Two brick fragments of post-medieval date were recovered from context 1. The fabric was highly fired red sandy matrix.

## Other Building Material

- 3.32 Other non-ceramic building material recovered comprised West County and Welsh roofing slates.

### Slate

**Site 7, PRN: 3966. West of Wilmington Lane, Thorley:** Four fragments of Welsh slate were recovered from context 231.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow:** Four fragments of Welsh slate were recovered from contexts 9017, 9016 and 9023. The slate type would suggest a post-medieval date.

**Site 14, PRN: 4187. East of Wilmington Lane Thorley:** Two fragments of West Country slate were recovered from context 0 (unstratified).

**Site 17, PRN: 4178. South of Lower Dodpits Farm:** A single roofing slate of West Country origin was retained from context 5. A single nail hole is present 0.9 x 0.7mm. A medieval date should be considered.

### Stone

- 3.33 Stone objects were recovered from seven sites on the pipeline routes. The assemblage included three hone stones, the rim of a mortar, a rim fragment of a rotary quern, sling shot pebbles and a pad-stone.

## Worked Stone

**Site 14, PRN: 4187. East of Wilmington Lane Thorley:** Nine burnt fragments of Bembridge Limestone were recovered from contexts 8, 12, 14 and 16.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm:** A fine grained micaceous sandstone hone stone was recovered from context 3. It is rectangular in section and broken at one end and along the centre (Length 7.6mm).

**Site 32, PRN: 4028. Havenstreet:** A single fragment of a fine-grained ferruginous sandstone of trapezoidal shape was recovered from context 16. This item is possibly a hone stone. (Central length 5.5mm, thickness 0.7mm and width x 4.2mm).

**Site 43, PRN: 4034. East of Westridge Farm:** A large fragment of pad-stone for a timber column was retained from context 7. The item is axe tooled and made of local Bembridge Limestone. A single mortar rim was found as stone packing in context 7. This is well-worn internally with intensive all-over tool-marking.

**Site 46, PRN: 4200. Parkhurst Dairy Farm:** A broken segment of a round-sectioned hone stone was found in context 1. It is made from pale green medium-grained poorly compacted quartz sandstone with some 3% mica. Glauconite appears to have dissolved in old fractured surface. (diameter 25mm)

**Site 33, PRN: 4551. West of Chillingwood Copse:** Three fragments of worked Ferruginous Sandstone were recovered from contexts 4 and 31. A single fragment from the rim of an upper rotary quern stone (with concave grinding profile) was recovered from context 4. (Diameter of the quern is c. 64mm).

## Sling Shot Pebbles

- 3.34 Sixteen pebbles interpreted as sling shot stones were recovered from three sites summarised below. They are water worn spherical pebbles with an average diameter of 24.87mm (range 15 to 40mm) and weight of 32.18g (range 10 to 100g).

**Site 7, West of Wilmingham Lane  
PRN: 2074**

| Context (PRN 2074)         | Number of pebbles |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 237<br>Fill of feature 236 | 2                 |

**PRN: 4158**

| Context (PRN 4158)       | Number of pebbles |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 47<br>Fill of feature 46 | 2                 |

**Site 32, Havenstreet  
PRN: 4028**

| Context (PRN 4028)      | Number of pebbles |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 16                      | 5                 |
| 22                      | 1                 |
| (All fills of ditch 44) |                   |
| 10                      |                   |
| 35                      | 1                 |
| 36                      | 3                 |
| (All fills of ditch 45) | 1                 |



| Context (PRN x)      | Number of pebbles |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 31<br>Fill of pit 30 | 1                 |

## Bone

- 3.35 Both cremated fragments of human bone from three cremation urns and animal bone was recovered from sites identified along the length of the pipeline.

## The Cremation Urn Bone by Jacqueline Mckinley

- 3.36 Cremated bone from three Early Bronze Age urned burials was received for assessment. The vessels had been inverted in all three burials and had subsequently (probably in the Romano-British period) been truncated to varying degrees by ploughing; pot 66 (context 77) survived to 8cm depth, pot 90 (context 91) to 6cm depth and pot 106 (107) to 18cm.

## Methods

- 3.37 The vessels were all emptied by the conservator in 2cm spits. In view of the high level of disturbance to context 91, leaving only 6cm of the burial *in situ*, the writer concluded the integrity of the original order of deposition had probably been compromised too far to warrant examination by spit and the bone was amalgamated. The spits were maintained for the two remaining deposits.
- 3.38 The bone from each context was rapidly scanned to assess the condition of the bone, number of individuals in each deposit, age and sex, presence of pathological lesions and other inclusions.

## Results

- 3.39 A summary of the scan is presented in Table 1.
- 3.40 The high level of disturbance to burials 91 and 77 is likely to have resulted in the loss of some bone. The surviving bone was generally in very good condition, large quantities of both compact and trabecular bone being present in all except burial 91. The relative scarcity of trabecular bone and slight worn appearance of the latter probably reflects the higher levels of disturbance in this instance, exposing the bone to a more adverse burial environment.
- 3.41 Each burial appeared to contain the remains of a single individual, all were adult, the two for whom sex could be ascertained in the scan being male. The remains of the older adult male (107) showed extensive pathological lesions which were largely age-related, though other predisposing factors may have been involved.

| context | bone wt. | age & sex        | comment  |
|---------|----------|------------------|--|
| 77      | 901.5g   | adult male       | bone in good condition; 6 spits, one unspitted bag;  |
| 91      | 549.5g   | Adult            | bone slightly worn, little trabecular bone   |
| 107     | 2085.3g  | older adult male | pathology – osteophytes, <i>ante mortem</i> tooth loss, dental abscesses, degenerative disc disease, vertebral collapse and fusion; bone in very good condition; varying levels oxygenation; 8 spits |

Table 1: Summary of results from scan of burnt/cremated bone

- 3.42 None of the burials appeared to contain fragments of cremated animal bone or other, artefactual, pyre goods.
- 3.43 The wide range in the weights of bone, 549.5-2085.3g, may in part reflect the levels of disturbance suffered by the burials, but the two higher weights are both above average for cremation burials in general. The latter fall within the relatively high range of weights consistently recorded from primary Bronze Age burials (McKinley 1997). The weight of bone from burial 107 is exceptionally high, being substantially over the average of c. 1525.7g observed by the writer from burials of this type and comprising the second largest weight of bone from a single individual with no animal bone currently recorded (*ibid.*).

## The Animal Bone by Emily Murray

### Introduction

- 3.44 Animal bones were recovered from seven of the fifty-five sites identified along the length of the SeaClean pipeline on the Isle of Wight. The total volume of faunal material is small and is stored in an individual box (c. 46x22x33 cm). The bones were hand-collected from a variety of contexts that have been dated, on the basis of the pottery evidence, to Iron Age, Roman, Medieval and Post-Medieval phases of activity.

### Methods

- 3.45 The faunal samples were recorded using a modified version of a system devised by Davis (Davis 1992; Albarella & Davis 1994). This system considers a selection of anatomical elements as 'countable' while the presence of non-countable specimens of interest, such as antler, horncores and non-countable elements from unusual species, are also noted. The measurements were taken to the nearest tenth of a millimetre and largely follow von den Driesch (1976). Tooth wear stages for cattle and pig follow Grant (1982) and Payne (1973 and 1987) for caprines. Mandibles with at least two teeth whose wear stage was recordable were assigned to the mandibular stages of O'Connor (1988) for cattle and pig, and Payne (1973) for caprines. Differentiation of sheep and goat was attempted on distal tibia and distal humeri using the criteria described in Kratochvíl (1969) and Boessneck (1969) respectively. Horncores were also differentiated to species but not 'counted'. The bones of *Anas* were of wigeon/mallard size and because they are difficult to differentiate to species with certainty they are simply recorded here as 'duck' (*Anas* sp.).

### Results

- 3.46 The total range of species identified includes cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse, dog, red deer, hare, rabbit, duck and chicken/pheasant. Site 7 produced the largest assemblage and the greatest range of species, although the bones were very poorly preserved. Table 1 lists the species identified and the number of countable elements recorded for each site while table 2 lists the animal bone measurements. The material from each site is discussed below separately.

#### Site 7, West of Wilmingham Lane

##### PRN 1620

Five cattle bones and one non-countable red deer element -the shaft and proximal end of a metacarpal- were recorded from a late Roman ditch context (68.7).

##### PRN 4158:86

This deposit comprised the articulated remains of a semi-complete cow (Plan 10) which had not been positively dated at the time of this assessment. Unfortunately the state of preservation was extremely poor. The cortical surface of the bones was heavily eroded and the material was also very fragmented. No positive signs of butchery or gnawing were noted. The anatomical elements identified are listed in table 3 and these correspond

with the plan, i.e. mandible, forelimb and hind limb. Fragments of a scapula blade, ribs and the proximal epiphysis of a metacarpal, all non-countable, were also identified. The distal epiphyses of the humerus, radius and tibia were all fused indicating that the individual was *circa* four years of age or older (after Silver 1969) while the tooth wear data also indicates that this was an adult (after O'Connor 1988). It was not possible to determine the sex of the animal.

**PRN 4158 Late Iron Age/Roman (60.3)**

Four horse and sheep mandibular elements were recorded.

**PRN 4158 Roman**

The largest number of animal bones from Site 7 came from Roman contexts (3, 68, 94, 96, 97, 103, 118, 122, 136 & 231) and as with the articulated cow, the preservation of the material was poor. This was the only assemblage from the pipeline sites to produce bird bones and these were of a duck and a galliform, probably chicken. The only materials recovered from the 'tree throw hole' (231) were rabbit bones. It is probable that these derive from a natural accumulation as rabbits were not introduced to Britain until the twelfth century (Veale 1957). Non-countable elements included a red deer metatarsal shaft, a sheep horncore and the proximal epiphysis and shaft of a neo-natal femur, probably pig.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow.**

A small quantity of faunal remains from domestic species was recovered from a number of different features – gully, midden, ploughsoil and ditch – and these have been dated to medieval and post-medieval phases of activity. The assemblage included the canine of a boar (9023) and a cattle lower third molar in which the hypoconulid was heavily reduced (9017). A hyoid (non-countable), probably caprine, with medio-lateral knife marks indicating the removal of the tongue, was also noted (9045).

**Site 14, PRN: 4187. East of Wilmingham Lane**

One 'countable' element, a heavily corroded cattle mandible, was recorded from this site. Based on the tooth wear stages (after Grant 1982) the mandible came from an elderly individual (after O'Connor 1988).

**Site 16, PRN: 4186. Ningwood.**

Two loose teeth, one cattle and one horse, and an incomplete sheep/goat mandible from an individual aged 6-8 years (after Payne 1973), were the only 'countable' elements recovered from site 16.

**Site 17**

Bones and teeth of cattle, sheep/goat and pig were recorded and both a distal tibia and humerus were positively identified as sheep. Rabbit was also represented by a 'non-countable' element, the proximal epiphyses of a femur. All of the bones came from context 5.5.

**Site 19**

As for site 17, bones and teeth of cattle, sheep/goat and pig were recorded. Both a cattle calcaneum and a caprine tibia had been gnawed, probably by a dog. The tooth wear stages of the pig mandible indicated that it derived from a subadult (after Grant 1982 and O'Connor 1988). All of the material came from the same post-medieval midden deposit (context 3.9).

**Site 32**

All of the bone material recovered from Havenstreet was fragmented and calcined, i.e. the bone had acquired a whitish colour, sometimes with a bluish hue, through subjection to high temperatures. Only one fragment from an Iron Age ditch context (12.8), the olecranon process of a pig ulna, was identifiable.

| Species  | Site No.   | 7         | 7         | 7         | 7        | 9        | 14       | 16        | 17            | 19       | 32   |
|--|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|---------------|----------|------|
|  | PRN        | 1620      | 4158      | 4158      | 4158     | 3956     | 4187     | 4186      | 4178          | 4179     | 4028 |
| Phase  | late Roman | Roman     | ?         | LIA/Roman | Med/PM   | Iron Age | medieval | ?medieval | post-medieval | Iron Age |      |
| Cattle ( <i>Bos taurus</i> )                                 | 5          | 6         | 15        | -         | 1        | 1        | 1        | 2         | 9             | -        |      |
| Sheep/Goat ( <i>Ovis/Capra</i> )                             | -          | 1         | -         | 3         | 2        | -        | 1        | 4         | 1             | -        |      |
| [Sheep] ( <i>Ovis aries</i> )                                | -          | -         | -         | -         | -        | -        | -        | [2]       | -             | -        |      |
| Pig ( <i>Sus scrofa</i> )                                    | -          | 1         | -         | -         | 3        | -        | -        | 1         | 1             | 1        |      |
| Equid ( <i>Equus</i> sp.)                                    | -          | 2         | -         | 5         | 1        | -        | 1        | -         | -             | -        |      |
| Dog ( <i>Canis familiaris</i> )                              | -          | 2         | -         | -         | -        | -        | -        | -         | -             | -        |      |
| Red deer ( <i>Cervus elaphus</i> )                           | *          | 1         | -         | -         | -        | -        | -        | -         | -             | -        |      |
| Hare ( <i>Lepus</i> sp.)                                     | -          | 1         | -         | -         | -        | -        | -        | -         | -             | -        |      |
| Rabbit ( <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> )                      | -          | 5         | -         | -         | -        | -        | -        | *         | -             | -        |      |
| <i>Anas</i> sp.  | -          | 3         | -         | -         | -        | -        | -        | -         | -             | -        |      |
| Chicken/pheasant ( <i>Gallus gallus/Phasianus colchius</i> ) | -          | 1         | -         | -         | -        | -        | -        | -         | -             | -        |      |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>5</b>   | <b>23</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>8</b>  | <b>7</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>11</b>     | <b>1</b> |      |

**Table 1** SeaClean pipeline, Isle of Wight. Number (NISP) of hand-collected (HC) mammal and bird bones. 'Sheep/Goat' includes the specimens identified to species. Numbers in squared parentheses are not included in the total of the site.

\* means that the taxon is present but no specimens could be 'counted' (see text).

| Site | PRN  | context | Phase | Species  | ELEM       | GL      | Bd  | BT  | HTC | SD  | BaF | Wmin | Wmax |
|------|------|---------|-------|----------|------------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| 7    | 4158 | 96.4    | R     | Anas sp. | femur      | 892     | 142 | -   | -   | 67  | -   | -    | -    |
| 19   | 4179 | 3.9     | PM    | cattle   | humerus    | -       | -   | 709 | 332 | -   | -   | -    | -    |
| 19   | 4179 | 3.9     | PM    | cattle   | humerus    | -       | -   | 718 | -   | -   | -   | -    | -    |
| 7    | 4158 | 122.4   | R     | cattle   | metatarsal | -       | 510 | -   | -   | -   | 482 | -    | -    |
| 7    | 4158 | 97.9    | R     | cattle   | radius     | 2980    | -   | -   | -   | 468 | -   | -    | -    |
| 7    | 4158 | 86      | ?     | cattle   | radius     | c. 2280 | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -    | -    |
| 7    | 4158 | 86      | ?     | cattle   | scapula    | -       | -   | -   | -   | 435 | -   | -    | -    |
| 7    | 1620 | 68.7    | LR    | cattle   | tibia      | -       | 591 | -   | -   | -   | -   | -    | -    |
| 7    | 4158 | 97.9    | R     | red deer | scapula    | -       | -   | -   | -   | 288 | -   | -    | -    |
| 7    | 4158 | 136.6   | R     | equid    | tibia      | -       | 703 | -   | -   | -   | -   | -    | -    |
| 7    | 4158 | 118.2   | R     | rabbit   | scapula    | -       | -   | -   | -   | 57  | -   | -    | -    |
| 17   | 4178 | 5.5     | ?Med  | sheep    | tibia      | -       | 244 | -   | -   | -   | -   | -    | -    |
| 17   | 4178 | 5.5     | ?Med  | sheep    | humerus    | -       | -   | 250 | 123 | -   | -   | -    | -    |
| 7    | 4158 | 103     | R     | sheep    | horncore   | -       | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 170  | 260  |
| 9    | 3956 | 9021    | PM    | pig      | scapula    | -       | -   | -   | -   | 270 | -   | -    | -    |

**Table 2 SeaClean pipeline: animal bone measurements (to the nearest tenth of a millimeter) by site and Species after von den Driesch (1976). Humerus HTC, BT and Bd are taken for all species using the method Described by Payne and Bull (1988) for pigs. 'Wmax' and 'Wmin' are the largest and smallest diameters at the base of horncores. R = Roman LR = Late Roman Med = medieval PM = post medieval**

| <b>Site 7: PRN 4158:86</b>        |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| deciduous + permanent incisors    | 6 |
| deciduous and permanent premolars | 1 |
| M1/2                              | 5 |
| M3                                | 3 |
| Horncore                          | - |
| Cranium                           | - |
| Atlas                             | - |
| Axis                              | - |
| Scapula                           | - |
| Humerus dist.                     | - |
| Radius dist.                      | 1 |
| Ulna prox.                        | 1 |
| Carpel                            | 1 |
| Metacarpel dist.                  | 1 |
| Pelvis acetabulum                 | - |
| Femur dist.                       | - |
| Tibia dist.                       | 1 |
| Astragalus                        | - |
| Calcaneum                         | 1 |
| Scafocuboid (cuboid)              | - |
| Metatarsal dist.                  | - |
| Phalanx 1 prox.                   | - |
| Phalanx 2 prox.                   | - |
| Phalanx 3 prox.                   | - |

**Table 3 Countable body parts of the articulated cattle skeleton.**  
 Prox. = proximal, dist, = distal

## Shell

- 3.47 The assemblage of shell recovered from nine sites was dominated by oyster with smaller quantities of cockle, mussel, winkle and hand-collected land snail (for other snails see environmental evidence section below). The largest shell assemblage was recovered from Site 7 and this included two samples recovered from the Roman pit [127], which have been assessed by Simon Bray.

### Site 7, PRN 2074. 128 & 129 Notes from Simon Bray's Assessment.

**Introduction:** Two samples of marine molluscs from the Wellow midden site on the Isle of Wight were assessed for community composition, their potential as a food source and the range of sizes found within each sample were also identified. The assessment consisted of identifying the mollusc shells to species level, examining the best preserved, utilising these as indicators of habitat and looking for signs of predation activities. As a food resource, molluscs are generally available all year round, are often well preserved and there is usually little doubt that they were brought to a midden site by human activities (Deith, 1985). As mentioned the assemblage can be used to indicate the dominant species being used by human hunter-gatherer activities at the time but in addition the community of shells can, to some extent, be utilised to indicate the environment from which they were collated.

**Conclusions:** Both samples contained the same species representation. The second fill sample suggested a preference for *Mytilus edulis* (mussel) and the upper level sample suggested a change to *Ostrea edulis* (oyster). Mussels could not be compared in size as most were fragmented in one sample and all were in the other. Littorinids were large and likely to have been collected from the lower shore, two examples may have been manually cracked open and one showed signs of crab predation. Carpet shells were found in limited numbers with a small number of complete valve halves allowing measurement. This may suggest that suitable habitat was limited or that a preference for larger species is being exhibited. Cockles were very low in numbers and again this may suggest a limited habitat or alternative species preference. *Ostrea edulis* comprised 25% of the dry weight of the second fill sample, but in contrast 80% of the weight in the upper level sample. The mean sizes of specimens were similar but in the upper level sample the ranges of sizes was markedly greater with a notable increase in larger specimens available for consumption. This may indicate active cultivation, or the abandoning of the bed for a period allowing longer growth time, or that the environment had improved for oysters, e.g. nutrient enrichment, allowing larger growth to be attained. The habitat for both samples appears to be one of a partly sheltered to moderately exposed shore although oysters can exist in anything from mud to hard substrate. This is based upon the level of mussels present and the fact that one showed predation signs from *Nucella lapillus*, which is generally a moderately exposed rocky shore intertidal predator. However this conclusion can only be drawn about the one specimen and may not indicate the foraging preference for the whole midden content.

**Site 7, PRN: 1620, 2074, 4158. West of Wilmington Lane Thorley:** A total of 149 shells excluding those from pit [127] were recovered from the archaeological investigations at Thorley. This collection consists of 86 oysters, 12 cockles, 7 mussels, 18 winkles and 27 land snails.

| Contexts     | Oysters   | Cockles   | Mussels  | Winkles   | Land snail |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1620.68      | 1         |           |          |           | 13         |
| 1620.70      | 1         |           | 4        |           | 3          |
| 2074.109     | 1         |           |          |           |            |
| 2074.145     | 1         |           |          |           |            |
| 3898.185     | 1         |           |          |           |            |
| 4158.4       | 1         |           |          | 2         |            |
| 4158.56      | 1         |           |          | 9         |            |
| 4158.58      | 1         | 1         |          |           |            |
| 4158.80      | 2         |           |          |           | 2          |
| 4158.87      |           | 1         |          | 1         |            |
| 4158.94      | 2         |           |          |           | 3          |
| 4158.95      |           | 4         | 1        | 1         |            |
| 4158.97      | 4         | 6         |          | 2         | 3          |
| 4158.99      | 1         |           |          |           |            |
| 4158.103     | 3         |           |          |           |            |
| 4158.112     |           |           |          |           | 1          |
| 4158.113     | 1         |           |          |           |            |
| 4158.122     | 1         |           |          |           |            |
| 4158.136     | 2         |           |          | 2         | 2          |
| 4158.156     | 4         |           |          |           |            |
| 4158.160     | 25        |           |          |           |            |
| 4158.227     | 32        |           | 2        |           |            |
| 4158.231     | 1         |           |          |           |            |
| 4158.239     | 1         |           |          | 1         |            |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>87</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>27</b>  |

The assemblage of oysters produced 44 left valves, which tend to be saucer-shaped with external frilly growth shoots, and 42 right valves which are typically flat and much smoother on the outer surface. The infestation on the Thorley oysters show signs of burrowing by the worms *Polydora ciliata* on shells in contexts 2074.109, 2074.145, 4158.58, 4158.80, 4158.97, 4158.160, 4158.227 and 4158.239. Contexts 2074.109, 4158.99 and 4158.113 produced evidence of the bore-holes from the gastropod molluscs such as *Ocenebra erinacea*.

The small assemblage of cockles were probably collected from a sandy location on the northern-Wight coastline, and the mussels and winkles were probably obtained from the Freshwater Bay environs situated approximately 3km to the south of the site.

The shell assemblage from Thorley would suggest that they are all from a domestic food assemblage.

The land snails collected by hand are species common in the Thorley environs. *Helix aspersa* was recovered from contexts 1620.68, 1620.70, 4158.94 and 4158.97. A total of 2 *Cepaea hortensis* were found in contexts 4158.80 and 4158.112. A single *Discus rotundatus* was obtained in context 4158.80. All three species of land snail are widely distributed and do not favour limited environments.

**Site 8, PRN: 3957. Thorley Street:** Two left valves from two oysters and a single winkle were found within contexts 8013 and 8015. The two left oyster valves showed signs of infestation by the burrowing worm *Polydora ciliata*. This would indicate the oysters were collected from a hard or sandy location, particularly in warm shallow waters like the Western Yar. The single winkle would have been collected (with others) from a rocky shore-like environment like Freshwater Bay.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow:** Fifty two oyster shells, 22 edible winkles, 2 whelks and a single cockle was retained from nine excavated deposits at Wellow.

The assemblage of oysters contain 37 left valves, which tend to be saucer-shaped with external frilly growth shoots, and 15 right valves which are typically flat and much smoother on the outer surface. The infestation on the Wellow oyster shells show signs of burrowing by the worms *Polydora ciliata* in contexts 9021, 9045 and 9046. Contexts 9029, 9036, 9038, 9045 and 9046 produced evidence of the bore-holes of the gastropod mollusc *Ocenebra erinacea*. The remainder of the assemblage was free from any signs of infestation. *Polydora ciliata* is a marine polychaete worm that is responsible for distinctive small burrows over the general outer shell surface. This species has a wide distribution and is found predominantly on hard sandy or clay grounds, particularly in warm shallow waters typified by harbour locations. *Ocenebra erinacea* is an infestation that is also more common in harbour living oyster shells than coastal or bay farmed oysters. The oysters collected at Wellow would suggest that the oysters were dredged from harbour locations, and then brought fresh into Wellow for general consumption by the local inhabitants.

The small collection of winkles found in contexts 9045 and 9048, combined with the two whelks found in context 9045 would have been collected from a rocky shore location. In contrast to the single cockle found in context 9045 that derived from a sandy coastal habitat.

**Site 14, PRN: 4187. East Wilmington Lane Thorley:** A single left valve from an oyster shell was recovered from context 4. Little can be said about a single shell.

**Site 16, PRN: 4186. Ningwood:** Three oysters, 11 cockles, 1 whelk and 92 winkles were recovered from contexts 2, 4, 7, 8 and 11. The oysters and cockles may have been brought-in from a harbour location similar to those at Newtown and Shalfleet estuary. The winkles and whelk may be obtained from a rocky location like the area to the east of the mouth of Newtown creek.

**Site 17, PRN: 4178. South of Lower Dodpits Farm:** Two oyster shells (1 left and 1 right valve) were found in context 5.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm:** Two winkles and two oyster shells were excavated from context 3. The winkles would have derived from a rocky shore location.

**Site 27, PRN: 4168. South of North Fairlee Farm:** Two oyster shells were recovered from context 2. The shells consisted of a single left, and a single right valve. There was no signs of infestation to suggest environmental constraints.

**Site 43, PRN: 4034. East of Westridge Farm:** Six left valves and a single right valve from seven oysters was recovered from Context 7. The small collection were abraded from soil conditions and little more can be said about this assemblage.

## Metalwork

- 3.48 Metalwork comprising iron, copper alloy and lead items including several coins were obtained from 17 sites. The assemblages are dominated by domestic pieces of household and dress items, and agricultural pieces including horse furniture, all predominantly Medieval and Post-Medieval in date. Site 47 produced an iron rove and stud associated with boat construction. Notable assemblages include the Roman iron nails recovered from Site 7 and the large quantity of 17<sup>th</sup> century pieces including buckles, a sword chape, musket shot and spoon fragments from Site 19. All the assemblages are summarised below.



## Iron

**Site 5, PRN: 3966. Great Bridlesford Farm:** A total of eight ironwork items were recovered from five contexts. Context 1 contained a single corroded item representing a probably handle. Context 2 contained a unidentifiable corroded rectangular or rounded item. A single nail, a horseshoe of late medieval type (c.1350-1400) and a corroded probable punch were recovered from context 7. A corroded shank like object was found in context 12. Context 23 produced two nail types of probable Post-Medieval date.

**Site 7, PRN: 4158. West of Wilmington Lane Thorley:** A total of 89 iron items were recovered from fourteen contexts at Thorley. The vast majority of the assemblage consists of general purpose nails, Roman in character (from contexts 4158.4, 4158.7, 4158.18, 4158.56, 4158.97 and 4158.99). Similar nails probably of Roman date also came from contexts 3898.185, 4158.231 and 4158.239. Two nails from context 4175.0 are post-medieval in date. A single Roman hobnail was recovered from context 4158.97. The same context also produced a hook fitting and a small iron cleaver of Manning Type 11b (1985), a single L-shaped pintle and corresponding loop associated with a window fitting. Two corroded items came from contexts 4158.120 and 122, a Post-Medieval plough tine and fitting were found in context 3898.185. The final iron item consisted of barbed wire fragments from context 4158.244.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow:** A total of 16 items of ironwork were recovered from the site. The ironwork consists of 9 nails from four contexts 9029, 9031, 9045 and 9046. A bucket handle with barbed wire fragments was found in context 9021, a strip from a mount associated with a medieval chest was recovered from context 9040, a tip of a knife was recovered from context 9045 and the ard-tip from a Medieval plough type was found in context 9046. Three late medieval type horseshoes were recovered from context 9002 and 9048.

**Site 16, PRN: 4186. Ningwood:** An unidentified rectangular plate with a central rivet was found in Context 7.

**Site 17, PRN: 4178. South of Lower Dodpits Farm:** Individual mouth bits and conical links associated with a single snaffle-bit of 13th or 14th century date were recovered from Context 5. Five medieval style horseshoes, a riveted plate fragment, a single carpenters wedge and 13 medieval styled nails, (probably structurally associated in character) were also obtained from Context 5.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm:** A total of 22 iron objects were recovered from this site. The collection consists of 5 post-medieval nails from context 0 and eight nails from context 3. A single 17th century styled key and a buckle of contemporary date were recovered from Context 0. A hook and 6 large fragments of a 17th century cauldron were produced from Context 3.

**Site 32, PRN: 4028. Havenstreet:** A total of 6 corroded items of ironwork were recovered from the site. Two nails were identified in contexts 14 and 16. A rectangular shaped piece of a probable plate was found in context 14, a plumb bob in context 28 and 2 corroded items (possibly knives) in context 35.

**Site 33, PRN: 4551. West of Chillingwood Copse:** A total of 22 iron objects were recovered from this site. The ironwork was all corroded and consisted of 15 nails and a single hob nail (from contexts 2, 4, 8 and 31). Fragments from an anvil was recovered in contexts 2 and 8. A file was recovered in context 8 and a broken knife blade in context 28. The final item consisted of an unidentifiable fitting of unknown function.

**Site 37, PRN: 4161. North of Vicarage Lane, Brading:** A total of 55 iron artefacts were recovered from Context (2). Thirty-three nails were present. Eight horseshoes, four harness fittings, four padlock fragments, a single key, a chape, the lug from a cauldron, door knob, various corroded fragments and a single stonemasons chisel. Nails that are probably Medieval in date dominate the assemblage. The horseshoes and harness fittings also suggest a broad Medieval date. The smaller fitting barrel padlock is of a type common in the period of 1300-1350, as is the stone masons chisel. The Post-Medieval items identified include the key or the doorknob, which suggest a 18th century date range.

**Site 40, PRN: 4175. South of Barnsley Farm:** Two iron artefacts were recovered from context 0 (unstratified). One is a single broken horseshoe with two rectangular nail holes, of a type common in the Post-Medieval period. The second item consists of a terminal rolled-over end of a 17th century 'firedog', rectangular in section with rounded terminal ends.

**Site 43, PRN: 4034. East of Westridge Farm:** A total of 28 ironwork items were recovered from three contexts. The items from context 0 (unstratified) were probably all post-medieval or modern in date and consisted of 11 nails, a single knife blade fragment, a complete window pintle, a bolt, a fragment of a horseshoe and four gutter fragments. Context 3 produced a single nail of a type dated to around c. 1250-1300, a single hook and plate of a style dated to c. 1350-1400 and five horseshoes of Early Medieval style (Type 2B). A single Medieval styled nail was recovered from context 7

**Site 47, PRN: 4204. Horsebridge Hill:** Five iron items were found in context 0 (unstratified). The assemblage consists of two probable Post-Medieval nails square in section with square heads. One is a single iron rove and stud associated with boat construction. One is an iron hook and riveted plate identified as a style common in the 17th century. The final item consists of a rectangular iron horse harness buckle of 18th century date.

**Site 50, PRN: 4035. Somerton:** A total of 11 ironwork items were recovered from context 0 (unstratified). Seven items are unidentifiable due to the corroded nature of the fragments. The remaining 4 items are nails, all having square shanks with an average length of c.55mm. The lack of heads on the nail shanks prevents a secure date for the nails.

**Site 52, PRN: 4210. South of Tuttons Hill Gurnard:** Three Post-Medieval nails were recovered from context 0 (unstratified). All the nails are square in section and have an average measurement in length of 40mm. One nail has a square head surviving (13 x 16mm).

## Copper Alloy:

**Site 7, PRN: 4158. West of Wilmingham Lane, Thorley:** Two Cu-alloy items of Roman date were found in context 97. These consist of a tubular fitting and a Cu-alloy perforated plate with central loop.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow:** Twelve items of Cu-alloy were recovered by metal detecting from the site. A belt decoration consisting of an acorn or pinecone of probable 15th or 16th century date was recovered from context (903). A fragment cut from a plate was obtained from context (905). A catch plate from a Roman brooch of probably 1st century date was found in context (906). A rove or plate, 37mm in length and 19mm in width, with a punched perforation of 11mm diameter was recovered from context (907). Context (908) produced a rumble bell with a sunburst design and fish scale decoration of 16th or 17th century date. Context (911) produced a rivet round in section, with a length of 16mm and a head diameter of 0.9mm. A belt chap with a rocker arm ornament of date range 1400-1600 was found in context (913). A buckle plate with three rivets present and a cross design on the obverse (35 mm in length and 27mm in width) of date range 1250-1400 was recovered from context (915). A hook of a style common in the 17th century, a hollow plain button top of 18th century date, a spoon bowl for use in molten bronze working of Medieval date and a shoe or knee buckle (length 32mm and width 22mm) with obverse decoration of a style dated 1660-1720 were all recovered from context (0).

**Site 10, PRN: 4208. West of Chawton Farm, Northwood:** Fourteen pieces were recovered from context (0). The material comprised five 20th century plain buttons; a single diamond shaped rove, a D-shaped buckle of 19th century style, two nails, four plate fittings and a late 20th century lighter attachment.

**Site 17, PRN: 4178. South of Lower Dodpits Farm:** Two fragments of a bronze cauldron were recovered from context 5. A single plain pendent of 13th or 14th century date was found in context 7. Twelve small items were recovered from context 0. A spectacle buckle with iron prong, flat reverse and chamfered obverse, length of central bar 18mm and overall width 32mm is typical of a style dated 1450-1600. A buckle with an iron pin and chape attachment of length 25mm and width 16mm is of a 1350-1450 style. A plain rectangular strap-end (32mm in length and 22mm in width) with two rivets is of 13th century style. A grottle bell fragment is of 16th century date. Six fragments from a single object of sheet bronze (length 140mm and width 33mm) are probably of 14th-16th century date. A rectangular plain harness decoration with single rivet (length 21mm and width 0.8mm) is 13-14th century in date. A cauldron leg attached to a portion of the pot wall is typical of a style dated 1300-1500.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm:** Twenty-eight items were found within context 0. Three are buckle frames typical of a style dated 1690-1720. One comprises a rectangular frame with chape attachment (pin missing) of length 34mm and width 25mm, one of length 36mm and width 25mm has an embossed line decoration, and the third one, 47mm in length and 34mm in width has no pin or spindle. A rectangular belt or strap slide of length 45mm and width 10mm is of a style common in the 1600-1700 period. A bell mount with moulded rivets on the reverse and a relief of a fleur-de-lis pattern on the obverse is of 18th century date style. Items of horse furniture include a harness-ring (external diameter of 25mm and internal of diameter 18mm) of 16th-17th century date, the circular convex head of a harness stud (length 20mm and diameter of head 23mm) and eleven circular convex harness studs (length 14mm and diameter of head 11mm). A spoon bowl with an internal concave profile showing the remains of a scribed scroll-work and silver plaited and a rectangular shank from a spoon handle with the surviving part 65mm in length are 17th-18th century in date. Seven concave profile buttons with reverse attachments are dated 17th century. A single thimble with a plain band around the base and six bands of circular punches followed by four similar bands of circular punches leaving a small undecorated area at the top (external diameter 20mm and internal diameter 18mm) is of 15th-16<sup>th</sup> century style.

**Site 32, PRN: 4028. Havenstreet:** A tapering strip with silver gilding was recovered from Context (0).

**Site 33, PRN: 4551. West of Chillingwood Copse:** Three fragments of plate were recovered from context 4.

**Site 37, PRN: 4161. North of Vicarage Lane, Brading:** Context 2 produced 17 items of Cu-alloy. In addition to seven 20th century buttons, this assemblage includes conical bosses from two buttons of 17th century date, a Cu-alloy bead, a chape fragment and three plate items a buckle of 18th century style. The chape and bead are probably medieval in date.

**Site 40, PRN: 4175. South of Barnsley Farm:** A medieval buckle strap, three 19th century buttons and two agricultural machinery pieces were collected from the site.

**Site 43, PRN: 4034. East of Westridge Farm:** Two medieval horse harness fittings were recovered from context 3 and four 20th century buttons were collected from context 0.

**Site 46, PRN: 4200. Parkhurst Dairy Farm:** Fifty-four items were recovered from context 0. These include a nail with a square section and flat head (length 30mm and diameter of head 17mm), a harness ring (external diameter 40mm and internal diameter 30mm), the top of a candle stick assigned a 16th century date, nine interlocking circular rings from a chain (average external diameter 20mm and internal diameter 16mm), seven rectangular belt buckle frames of 20th century date, fourteen pieces of agricultural machinery, twenty plain buttons of 19th or 20th century date, and a sugar spoon bowl probably Late 18th century in date.

**Site 47, PRN: 4204. Horsebridge Hill:** A collection of 22 items were recovered from context 0. This included two buttons of 18th century date, seven 19th century buttons, a nail, two spoon bowls and probable items from agricultural machinery.

**Site 50, PRN: 4035. Somerton:** The assemblage recovered from context 0 (unstratified) on the site included a single plate and fragment from a 18th century buckle, an eyelet of 16th century date, six nails, seven 18th century plain buttons, two diamond shaped roves, two chain links and seven fragments from a 2nd World War hand grenade.

**Site 52, PRN: 4210. South of Tutton's Hill, Gurnard:** The assemblage of post-medieval pieces recovered from the site included a knob from a door handle of 20th century date, twelve plain buttons of 20th century style and a single 18th century button with traces of gilding, four diamond shaped roves with central

perforations (probably 19th century), ten nails circular in section with flat heads (average length 40mm and diameter of head 5mm), two horse harness buckles probably 18th century in date and a single convex button of 18th century style.

## Lead

**Site 5, PRN: 3966. Great Briddlesford Farm:** Twelve pieces of cut lead from a sheet of lead was recovered from context 7.

**Site 7, PRN: 4158. West of Wilmington Lane, Thorley:** Context 7 produced three lead items. Two items are perforated rectangular sheet fragments and one is a pot-mend with pottery (BB1) adhering to the sides.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow:** Three items recovered from context 0 consisted of two musket shots and a pendant with five perforations and a uneven cut edge (diameter 45mm) probably Medieval in date.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm:** A large assemblage of lead artefacts were recovered from context (0). This included a single circular steelyard weight with iron suspension (weight 460g), thirty-four musket shot of various sizes and weights, a single perforated lead sheet fragment, a sword chape fragment of probable 17th century date, ten shanks associated with spoon handles also of 17th century date and a pot-mend (no pottery present).

**Site 25, PRN: 4182. Vittlefields Farm:** A single pewter drawer handle of 18th century date was recovered from context 0.

**Site 33, PRN: 4551. West of Chillingwood Copse:** This site produced three lead objects. These comprised a Roman steelyard weight (460g), a lead weight (20 gm) of probable medieval date, and a single medieval sex foil with lobes and a central perforation associated with spur straps of a 1270-1350 date range.

**Site 37, PRN: 4161, North of Vicarage Lane, Brading:** A circular perforated weight (30g) was found associated with cut strips of lead sheeting in context 0.

**Site 40, PRN: 4175. South of Barnsley Farm:** A single spoon shank with LONDON stamped on the obverse section and dated to the 18th century was recovered from context (0).

**Site 46, PRN: 4200. Parkhurst Dairy Farm:** Seven lead objects were recovered from context 0. These comprise four spoon shanks of 17th or 18th century date, a rounded steelyard weight (wt. 25g), a square steelyard weight (wt. 25g) and a conical weight (wt. 185g). A single shank from a spoon handle was recovered from context 1.

**Site 47, PRN: 4204. Horsebridge Hill:** Five lead buttons and the shank of a pewter spoon handle of probable 18th century date were recovered from context (0).

**Site 50, PRN: 4035. Somerton:** Nine objects were recovered from context (0). These comprised a shank from a spoon handle (surviving length 75mm) of 16th or 17th century date, a pot-mend with pottery in situ consisting of Vectis ware (Late Iron Age or Roman), five scraps of lead cut from a sheet of lead and two circular perforated weights of probable medieval date (wt. 10g and 20g).

**Site 52, PRN: 4210. South of Tutton's Hill, Gurnard:** Eight cut fragments of lead were recovered from context (0).

## Coins

3.49 The coins and associated finds recovered from the sites are listed below. (W & C are abbreviations for worn and corroded).

**Site 7, PRN: 4158. West of Wilmington Lane, Thorley:** Two Roman AE, W.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow:** Context (9029) Cu-alloy token with a stamped crown and WD motif, 18th or 19th century. Context (9004) Medieval half penny, W. Context (9009) Victoria farthing 1893, W. Context (9010) Rose farthing of Charles I, W & C. Context (9046) Medieval half penny, W. Context (0) George II half-penny, W.

**Site 10, PRN: 4208. West of Chawton Farm:** A William III halfpenny, W & C.

**Site 17, PRN: 4178. South of Lower Dodpits Farm:** French jetton 1400-1500. obv: three fleur-de-lis with shield. rev: a cross of three strands fleurenee with a quatrefoil in the centre enclosed by a treasure of four arches.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm:** A William III farthing 1697. W. A Token of William of South-Yarmouth, Isle of Wight.

**Site 33, PRN: 4551. West of Chillingwood Copse:** Context 2: Roman AE of Constantine W & C. Context 4: Roman AS W & C. Context 31: Roman AS W & C. Context 11: Medieval long cross penny, W.

**Site 46, PRN: 4200. Parkhurst Dairy Farm:** Context (0). A 17th century penny, W & C. A George II halfpenny, W & C. A George III Penny, W & C. A Victoria 1891 halfpenny W.

**Site 47, PRN: 4204. Horsebridge Hill:** Context (0). A George I halfpenny, W & C. A George II penny, W & C. A George III Penny, W & C. A token of 17th century date, W & C.

**Site 52, PRN: 4210. South of Tutton's Hill, Gurnard:** A Charles II penny, W & C. A George I penny, W & C. A Victoria halfpenny, 1862.

## Metalworking Debris by Chris Salter (see Appendix 5)

## Other Industrial Material

### Copper Alloy and Lead Waste

- 3.50 Other tentative evidence for industrial metal working was found at several sites. These comprised offcuts of sheet metal (see above) and waste of copper alloy and lead summarised below. None were found in sufficient concentrations or original contexts.

**Site 7, PRN's: 1620 and 4158. West of Wilmington Lane, Thorley:** Two scraps of molten copper alloy were recovered from contexts 68 and 97. Fifteen pieces of congealed molten puddles of lead recovered from context 7 and eight molten puddles recovered from context 97.

**Site 10, PRN: 4028. West of Chawton Farm, Northwood:** A globule of copper alloy waste and a single puddle of congealed molten lead were found in context 0.

**Site 17, PRN: 4178. South of Lower Dodpits Farm:** Fifteen pieces of molten congealed puddles of lead were found in context 5.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm:** Eleven small puddles of congealed molten lead (weight 130g) were recovered from context (0).

**Site 32, PRN: 4028 Havenstreet:** A small globule of copper-alloy scrap was recovered from context 24.

**Site 33, PRN: 4551, West of Chillingwood Copse:** Context (22) yielded fifteen pieces of congealed puddles of molten scrap lead.

**Site 37, PRN: 4161. North of Vicarage Lane, Brading.** Two molten copper-alloy fragments were recovered from context (2).

**Site 40, PRN: 4175. South of Barnsley Farm:** Molten scrap of copper alloy and four small puddles of congealed molten lead were recovered from context (0).

**Site 43, PRN: 4034. East of Westridge Farm:** A total of three molten puddles of lead associated with lead working were recovered from context 0.

**Site 46, PRN: 4200. Parkhurst Dairy Farm:** Nine congealed molten lead puddles associated with lead working were recovered from context (0).

**Site 47, PRN: 4204. Horsebridge Hill:** Molten scrap of copper-alloy and eleven pieces of congealed lead were found in context 0.

**Site 50, PRN: 4035, Somerton:** Nine lumps of congealed molten puddles of lead were recovered from context (0).

**Site 52, PRN: 4210. South of Tutton's Hill, Gurnard:** Two globules of copper-alloy and twelve puddles of congealed molten lead were found in context 0.

### Coal

**Site 43, PRN: 4034. East of Westridge Farm:** Four coal fragments were recovered from context 3.

### Glass

- 3.51 The assemblage of glass recovered from nine sites comprises both window and vessel glass of 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

**Site 5, PRN: 3966. Great Briddlesford Farm:** Two clear glass fragments from a 19th century closed vessel and 2 fragments from a single wine bottle in dark green glass of 18th or 19th century date were recovered from context 16. Three joining fragments from a clear piece of window glass were obtained from context 23.

**Site 7, PRN: 4187. East of Wilmington Lane, Thorley:** A single body fragment from a dark green wine bottle of 18th century date was found in an unstratified context (0).

**Site 8, PRN: 3957. Thorley Street:** A base fragment from a closed vessel in clear glass of probable 19th century date was found in context 8009.

**Site 9, PRN: 3956. Wellow:** A total of 9 fragments of glass were recovered from the site. A large fragment from the kick of a dark green wine bottle of a 1760-1780 date range and a small chip from a light green piece of window glass was found in context 9023. Three fragments from a dark green wine bottle of 18th century date were recovered from context 9029. A fragment of a kick and three body sherds all of dark green glass and from a single wine bottle of a 1760-1770 date range were recovered from context 9031.

**Site 19, PRN: 4179. East of Lower Dodpits Farm:** A total of 42 fragments were recovered from context 3. Twenty-two are body fragments, 5 are basal kicks and 8 are neck fragments. These are all dark green glass associated with wine bottles of late 17th or early 18th century date. Two further base fragments in light-blue glass and probably parts of tumblers are of early 18th century date. Five fragments from a glass window pane were also recovered.

**Site 28, PRN: 4167. East of North Fairlee Farm:** A single fragment from the kick of a dark green wine bottle of a date range of 1760-1770 was recovered from context 2.

**Site 36, PRN: 4173. East of New Farm Brading:** The base fragment of a square clear glass bottle 19th century in date was recovered from context 5.

**Site 55, PRN: 4201. West of Heathfield Farm:** A single bottle stopper of 20th century date was recovered from context 2.

**Site 58, PRN: 4205. East of Barton Manor Farm:** A bottle stopper in clear glass with HOLBROOK & Co. (20th century) was recovered from context 2.

## Flint

- 3.52 An assemblage of at least 405 items of worked flint and 208 pieces of burnt flint were recovered from 42 sites on the pipelines. Site 7 West of Wilmingham Lane (with 57 items), Site 9 Wellow (31 items), Site 32 Havenstreet (39 items) and Site 45 North of Westridge Farm (47 items) have the largest assemblages of worked flint. The largest quantities of burnt flint are from Site 36 East of New Farm (representing the entire fill of pit [2] interpreted as an in situ prehistoric feature) and Site 32 Havenstreet (with 137 pieces).
- 3.53 The worked flint includes flakes, cores, blades, scrapers, end scrapers, a possible tranchet arrowhead (from Site 9), and a possible tranchet axe (from Site 49) spanning the Mesolithic, Neolithic and early Bronze Age periods. A catalogue of the flint recovered from the individual sites is presented in Appendix 3.

## Environmental Evidence by Rob Scaife

### Introduction

- 3.54 Excavation of sites along the route of the Seaclean pipeline revealed a variety of features with contexts containing obvious charred remains. These included funerary remains, domestic/occupation sites and industrial areas (Romano-British). These sites therefore offered very substantial potential for obtaining ecofact material allowing studies of prehistoric to medieval agriculture; especially the crops grown, and the background environment. It should be noted that there have been few previous plant macrofossil studies carried out on the Isle of Wight and any data obtained from this project would help to fill substantial gaps in our knowledge of the island early agrarian history. Charcoal if present could provide evidence of the woodland composition and its utilisation. Given the alkalinity of many of the sites, it was expected that terrestrial Mollusca would be obtained which would provide information on the background environment. A very substantial number of contexts was sampled and processed for such environmental remains. These range in date from the fills of the Bronze Age cremations at Thorley, Romano-British industrial and occupation activity at Havenstreet to medieval midden deposits at Wellow. The range of features examined was varied and includes the fills of ditches and pits, floors coverings and open middens.

### Method

- 3.55 Samples of 10 to 20 litres volume were taken from all main contexts from the excavated sites and especially where these exhibiting obvious charred remains. Botanical remains and molluscs were extracted using flotation (Siraf tank) with the flot collected in sieves of 5.6mm, 4.0mm and 0.5u. Residues were kept and examined for non floating material and scanned for other archaeological material. In latter case, iron working products were removed using a magnet (K. Trott). Examination of both elements and identification of the plant remains was carried out using a Wild M3c low power binocular microscope (x6-x40). Late Bronze Age and Romano-British marine molluscs obtained from midden contexts at Thorley were sorted and individually hand washed. The latter were passed to S. Bray (Southampton University) for further assessment. Material obtained from flotation comprised largely charcoal and terrestrial molluscs with surprisingly little evidence of cereal crop

remains or seeds of associated arable weeds (segetals). All of the samples were examined and the relative quantities of the different environmental categories estimated on a scale of \* (sporadic) to \*\*\*\*\* (abundant). These data are given in tables which correspond to each site. All nomenclature follows that of Stace (1997).

### Summary of Results

- 3.56 Overall, there were few crops and weed seeds and only a small representation of the woodland/shrub constituents. Charcoal and mollusca were the principal elements recovered. The latter includes largely terrestrial but with two ditch fill contexts providing late-Bronze Age and Romano-British midden material containing marine shells (see Bray). The latter provide useful data on food resources and utilisation whereas the former (terrestrial) molluscs will provide information on the local environment.
- 3.57 a) **The Crop Remains:** It was anticipated that the range of sites would provide a range of cereal remains and possibly other crop types which would allow a study of the changing agronomy from the late-prehistoric period. This was unfortunately not the case with only small numbers of cereal grain and chaff being recovered. A very small number (individuals) came from the Bronze Age cremation fills of Thorley (context \*\*\*) and slightly greater quantities from elsewhere. Preliminary inspection of the latter shows a typical presence of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta* L.). The predominance of spelt wheat is typical and highly characteristic of the Iron Age and Romano-British periods. Since the pioneer work of Jessen and Helbaek (1944), Helbaek (1952), there has been increasing evidence for the marked expansion of spelt wheat from the Iron Age and maintaining importance into the Romano-British period.
- 3.58 This is evidenced particularly in southern England (Helbaek 1952; Murphy 1981; Jones 1981) and eastern England (e.g. Murphy 1985; Scaife 1944). Reasons for this marked change in crop husbandry are not clear but suggestions of changes in taste preferences, change to Autumn sowing and more suited to a cooler wetter climate have been variously considered (Fowler 1984, p.163). Whatever the cause for the change in agronomy, there was a clear predilection for spelt wheat during these periods and as suggested by Jones (1981) may have been widely used in making porridge. Use in brewing has also been postulated because of sprouted ears which have frequently been recovered in some sites. This grain type/caryopses includes both *Triticum spelta* L. (spelt wheat) and *T. dicoccum* Schubl. (emmer wheat) which are generally not identifiable to species (although Jacomet 1987 distinguishes in some cases on 'pear' shaped grains) from the grain alone due to similar morphology. Identification to genus is, however, possible from chaff (glumes and spikelet forks). The fact that so little chaff was present may suggest that the grain had been cleaned and the waste material/chaff disposed of elsewhere. Spelt wheat may also to have been harvested and transported as whole ears of grain and subsequently stored and processed at the point of consumption (Jones 1981) Thus, the presence of spelt need not infer the local growth on/near the site of its processing although it does show the local/regional importance of this crop. Alternatively, the small numbers of grain may represent 'background waste' distributed across the site.
- 3.59 It is unfortunate that more charred plant/cereal material was not forthcoming. Given the relatively large sample sizes processed, this perhaps reflects a lack of activity which caused (cereal processing/parching etc.) charring and thus preservation.
- 3.60 b) **Charcoal:** Charcoal formed the bulk of the recovered environmental material. This came largely from the Iron Age and Romano-British sites, including Dores Hill (PRN 3965), the industrial sites of Chillingford Copse

(PRN 4551) and the Haven Street sites (PRN 4028). Prehistoric (Bronze Age) material was recovered from the ring ditch sites at Thorley. Identification of the charcoal will provide useful information on the character of late prehistoric and historic woodland, its structure and utilisation. Although pollen data is available for the Island, these do not provide specific information on such woodland utilisation. This may be especially pertinent to the late-Iron Age/early Roman sites representing transition from the dominant woodland of the Neolithic to middle Bronze Age and the impact of Romano-British occupation and agriculture. Given the wide date range of the sites from late-Prehistoric to medieval, it is possible that temporal changes in the woodland environment may be evidenced. In the case of the prehistoric sites, the charcoal may prove useful for radiocarbon dating of sites where artefact recovery has been small.

- 3.61 **c) Mollusca:** Marine mollusca of late Bronze Age and Romano-British date have been examined from the Thorley site (see report by Simon Bray). Substantial numbers of terrestrial molluscs were also recovered from a number of sites at Thorley and preservation here is due to the calcareousness of the soils in this region. Quantities are sufficient to provide statistical counts from the sequentially sampled profiles. This will establish the character of the on-site and areas immediately adjacent.

### Individual Site Descriptions

Site 7, 8 and 9 Thorley Street Area (Bronze Age to medieval)

The Thorley region produced the greatest number of sites with potential for recovery of environmental material. Contexts range from Bronze Age cremation pit and cremation urn fills to medieval midden deposits. Overall, the range of contexts produced significant quantities of both charcoal and molluscs but no charred cereal/grain and only a small number of seeds.

**Charcoal** was especially abundant in contexts 8003 and 8005 from samples 905 and 906 which also contained *Corylus avellana* (hazel nut fragments) which may suggest that the charcoal also derives from hazel. Ecologically this might be expected from the hazel growth on these local calcareous soils. Hazel was also found in Bronze Age samples 8 (context 64). Samples 1 (context 17), 5 (context 23), 6 (context 50) and 8 (context 22) also contained quantities of charcoal which would warrant identification and may also be of value for radiocarbon dating.

**Molluscs;** Alkalinity of the soils in the Thorley/Wellow region has facilitated preservation of terrestrial/land mollusca. These are particularly important in Sample 12 (context 109-110,112); sequential samples for 'Unmarked (green bag sequence)' and sample 11 (context 68) (? Bronze Age). These should be considered as important and with analysis could provide environmental information on these sites.

#### **Suggested further work:**

- Identification and analysis of the charcoal remains.
- ?radiocarbon dating of the charcoal remains if necessary once identified.
- Identification and analysis of the terrestrial/land molluscs to provide information on the local vegetation and environment of Thorley during the Bronze Age.

|                         |            |      |      |     |    |     |
|-------------------------|------------|------|------|-----|----|-----|
| Context                 | 64         | 64   | 64   | 22  | 22 | 22  |
| Depth cm                |            |      |      |     |    |     |
| Sample                  | 8          | 8    | 8    | 8   | 8  | 8   |
| Size mm                 | 5.6        | 4    | 0.5  | 5.6 | 4  | 0.5 |
| Feature                 | Cremation  | 63   |      |     |    |     |
| Age                     | B.A.       | B.A. | B.A. |     |    |     |
| My Sample               | 17         | 16   | 20   | 18  | 19 | 24  |
| Charcoal                | *          | *    | *    | *** | ** | *** |
| <b>Seeds</b>            |            |      |      |     |    |     |
| <i>Corylus avellana</i> | Nut Frags. |      | *    |     |    |     |
| <i>Rosa Thorn</i>       |            |      | *    |     |    |     |
| Molluscs                |            |      | *    |     |    | *   |
| <b>Thorley Sites</b>    |            |      |      |     |    |     |



|                      |     |     |    |     |     |           |             |             |             |         |
|----------------------|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| <b>Context</b>       | 4   | 21  | 21 | 21  | ?   | 68        | 68          | 68          | 68          | 290?240 |
| <b>Depth cm</b>      |     |     |    |     | ?   | 0-10      | 40-50       | 50-60       | 60-70       | 70-80   |
| <b>Sample</b>        | 1   | 3   | 3  | 3   | 11  | 11        | 11          | 11          | 11          | 11      |
| <b>Size mm</b>       | 5.6 | 5.6 | 4  | 0.5 |     | 5.6/4/0.5 | 5.6/4.0/0.5 | 5.6/4/0.5   | 5.6/4.0/0.5 | 0.5     |
| <b>Feature</b>       |     |     |    |     |     |           |             |             |             |         |
| <b>Age</b>           |     |     |    |     |     |           |             |             |             |         |
| <b>My Sample</b>     | 58  | 39  | 40 | 41  | 5,6 | 36,37,38  | 34,35       | 30,31,32,33 | 55,56,57    | 78      |
| <b>Charcoal</b>      | .   | 0   |    | *   |     |           |             |             | *           |         |
| <b>Molluscs</b>      |     |     | .  | .   | **  | **        | **          | ***         | *           | .       |
| <b>Thorley Sites</b> |     |     |    |     |     |           |             |             |             |         |

|                         |          |        |          |       |       |     |             |             |
|-------------------------|----------|--------|----------|-------|-------|-----|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Context</b>          | 109      | 109c   | 109      | 110   | 112   | 95  | 8003        | 8005        |
| <b>Depth cm</b>         | Oct-20   | 20-30  | 30-40    | 50-60 | 50-60 | ?   | ?           |             |
| <b>Sample</b>           | B12      | B12    | B12      | F12   | 12    | 13  | 905         | 906         |
| <b>Size mm</b>          |          |        |          | 4,0.5 | 0.5   | 0.5 | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6,4.0,0.5 |
| <b>Feature</b>          |          |        |          |       |       |     |             |             |
| <b>Age</b>              |          |        |          |       |       |     |             |             |
| <b>My Sample</b>        | 61,62,63 | 3,A,B, | 64,65,66 | 14,15 | 13    | 51  | 7,8         | 98,99,102   |
| <b>Charcoal</b>         |          |        | *        |       |       | *   | **          | *****       |
| <b>Seeds</b>            |          |        |          |       |       |     |             |             |
| <i>Corylus avellana</i> |          |        |          |       |       |     | **          | *           |
| <i>Chenopodium</i>      |          |        |          |       |       |     | *           |             |
| <b>Molluscs</b>         | ***      | **     | **       | *     | **    |     |             |             |

|                              |          |             |             |             |           |             |             |             |             |           |
|------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| <b>Context</b>               | 22<4>    | 23          | 50          | 50          | 50        | 17          | Unmarked    | Unmarked    | Unmarked    | Unmarked  |
| <b>Depth cm</b>              |          |             |             |             |           |             | 0 to 10     | 10 to 20    | 30 to 40    | 40 to 50  |
| <b>Sample</b>                | 14       | 5           | 6           | 6           | 6         | 1           |             |             |             |           |
| <b>Size mm</b>               |          | 5.5,4.0,0.5 | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | Residue   | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6, 4.0. |
| <b>Feature</b>               |          |             |             |             |           |             | FT          |             |             |           |
| <b>Age</b>                   |          |             |             |             |           |             |             |             |             |           |
| <b>My Sample</b>             | 26,27,28 | 69          | 92,93,94    | 95,96,97    |           | 10-3,7,8    | 25,29       | 83,84,85    | 88,90,91    | 86,87,89  |
| <b>Charcoal</b>              | *        | ***         | ***         | ***         | ****large | ***         | *           |             |             |           |
| <b>Molluscs</b>              |          | *           |             |             |           |             | *           | ****        | *           | *         |
| <b>Misc.</b>                 |          |             |             |             |           |             |             |             |             |           |
| <b>Build.Mat</b>             | *        |             |             |             |           |             |             |             |             |           |
| <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> |          | Tubers      |             |             |           | *           |             |             |             |           |

**Site 9. Wellow Site (PRN 3956) Context 9049**

This site and context produced few environmental remains with little charcoal and few seeds. Sporadic grain/caryopses were recovered including *Triticum* sp. (wheat) and *Secale cereale* (rye). The latter is typical of medieval contexts and has some significance as the first record of this crop from this period on the Island.

**Suggested further work:**-confirmation of cereal identifications.

|                       |       |      |
|-----------------------|-------|------|
| Context               |       | 9049 |
| Depth cm              |       |      |
| Sample                |       | 902  |
| Size mm               |       |      |
| Age                   |       | Med. |
| My Sample             |       | 12   |
| Charcoal              |       | *    |
| Cereals               |       |      |
| <i>Triticum</i> sp.   | Grain | *    |
| <i>Secale cereale</i> | Grain | 1    |
| <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> |       | *    |

**Site 13. North East of Dores Hill Farm (PRN 3965)**

This late Iron Age and Early Roman ditch fill produced substantial charcoal fragments in PRN3965.82. obtained from the residues. There were no other ecofacts present. The charcoal requires identification and will provide information on the Iron Age/Early RB vegetation after the period of late Prehistoric woodland clearance (lime) but prior to more extensive woodland utilisation during the Roman period.

**Suggested further work:** Identification of the charcoal.

|          | PRN3965.82   | PRN3965.4.7 |
|----------|--------------|-------------|
| Context  |              |             |
| Depth cm |              |             |
| Sample   |              |             |
| Size mm  | From Residue | Residue     |
| Date     |              |             |
| Charcoal | ***large     | *           |

**Site 14. East of Wilmingham Lane, Thorley (PRN 4187) Context 33 Sample 1**

This middle Iron Age settlement deposit produced seeds of *Prunus* (bird cherry) and weeds (docks, vetches and wild pea and goose-foots/oraches). A single grain/caryopsis of *Triticum spelta* type (emmer and spelt wheat) was recovered and is diagnostic of the Iron Age period. *Hordeum* sp. (barley was also present.

**Suggested further work:** Confirm cereal determinations. and sort residues more thoroughly for evidence of chaff for specific identification of the cereals.

**PRN 4187**

|                  |           |            |            |            |
|------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Context</b>   | <b>33</b> | <b>33</b>  | <b>33</b>  | <b>33</b>  |
| <b>Depth cm</b>  |           |            |            |            |
| <b>Sample</b>    | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>1</b>   |
| <b>Size mm</b>   |           | <b>5.6</b> | <b>4</b>   | <b>0.5</b> |
| <b>Date</b>      |           | Mid IA     | Settlement |            |
| <b>My Sample</b> |           | 104        | 105        | 106        |
| <b>Charcoal</b>  |           | 0          |            | *          |

**Cereals**

|                        |       |  |  |   |
|------------------------|-------|--|--|---|
| <i>Triticum spelta</i> | Grain |  |  | 1 |
| Fragments              | Grain |  |  | 5 |
| <i>Cf Hordeum</i>      | Grain |  |  | 1 |

**Seeds**

|                         |   |  |   |   |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| <i>Corylus avellana</i> | * |  |   |   |
| <i>Prunus</i> sp.       | * |  | 2 |   |
| <i>Chenopodium</i>      |   |  |   | * |
| <i>Rumex</i>            |   |  |   | * |
| <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i>   |   |  |   | * |

**Site 32. Haven Street (PRN 4028)**

A series of samples was examined from Late Iron Age occupation (Sites 32) at Haven Street. Charcoal was the most abundant remain with only a single cereal grain fragment noted (unidentifiable). The charcoal was abundant in different size fraction from samples 1, 3 and 4 and was probably from domestic fires. Identification of this charcoal and comparison with other material of this age from other sites, will provide useful information on the woodland character of the Island during the Iron Age. This is little understood at present being after late prehistoric clearance of dominant lime woodland and prior to the possible more extensive impact of the Roman activity.

***Suggested further work:*** Charcoal identification for woodland/wood type, age and any evidence compared with other sites of specific woodland management regimes.

|                                | PRN4028.10  | PRN4028.16  | PRN4028.20  | PRN4028.24 | PRN4028.6   | PRN4551   | PRN4551   | PRN4551   |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Site                           | 32          | 32          | 32          | 32         | 32          | 33        | 33        | 33        |
| Context                        |             |             |             |            |             | 21        | 21        | 21        |
| Depth cm                       |             |             |             |            |             |           |           |           |
| Sample                         | 1           | 2           | 3           | 4          | 5           | 1         | 1         | 1         |
| Size mm                        | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6        | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | 5.6       | 4         | 0.5       |
| Date                           | L-IA Occup. | L-IA Occup. | L-IA Occup. | L-IA Coup. | L-IA Occup. | L-RB Ind. | L-RB Ind. | L-RB Ind. |
| My Sample                      | 80,81,82    | 3,4,C       | 48,49,50    | 109        | 75,76,77    |           |           |           |
| Charcoal                       | ***         | **          | ****        | ***        | *           | ***       | **        | ****      |
| Cereals                        |             |             |             |            |             |           |           |           |
| Fragments                      | Grain       |             | *           |            |             |           |           |           |
| Misc.                          |             |             |             |            |             |           |           |           |
| Building Mat.                  | Daub?       | **          |             |            |             |           |           |           |
| <b>Haven Street (PRN 4028)</b> |             |             |             |            |             |           |           |           |

**Site 33. West of Chillingwood Copse: (PRN 4551)**

This site produced only charcoal with no seeds or molluscs. This was, however, present in higher quantities than most of the sites examined. Large fragments were particularly important in Context 21 and in PRN4551.31.31. Given that this was a late Roman industrial site, identification of the charcoal and possibly determination of wood age should provide data on the character of the woodland remaining after late-prehistoric deforestation and its utilisation for industry during this period.

*Suggested further work:* Identification of the charcoal

|          | PRN4551     | PRN4551.2. | PRN4551.13. | PRN4551.31.3 |
|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Site     | 33          | 20         | 6           | 1            |
| Context  | 21          |            |             |              |
| Sample   | 1           |            |             |              |
| Size mm  | 5.6,4.0,0.5 | Residue    | Residue     | Residue      |
| Date     | L-RB Ind.   |            |             |              |
| Charcoal | ****        | **         | **          | ***large     |

**Site 50. Somerton (PRN 4035)**

Late Iron Age to early Roman-British occupation site. This was a single context sample (PRN4035.25) which produced only charcoal, especially in the smaller fraction (0.5 to 4mm). This may be identifiable and would allow comparison with other samples from the other sites of this age. Together these would provide valuable information adding to a picture of the late Iron Age/Early RB woodland/environment.

*Suggested further work:* Identification of the charcoals if the size of the fragments are large enough.

|          | PRN4035.25 | PRN4035.25 | PRN4035 |
|----------|------------|------------|---------|
| Context  |            |            |         |
| Depth cm |            |            |         |
| Sample   |            |            |         |
| Size mm  | 5.6        | 4          | 0.5     |
| Age      | L-IA to    | Early RB   |         |
| Charcoal | *          | **         | ***     |



## 4 Discussion

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- 4.1 The archaeological work associated with the SeaClean Project has produced secure evidence of activity from the prehistoric period up to the present. This includes Bronze Age, burial activity, Iron Age occupation, Roman activity including significant evidence for metal working, medieval occupation and industrial activity and a post-medieval lime kiln. Negative features and finds of artefacts generally represented this activity.
- 4.2 Confidence Rating: It is considered that the archaeological work carried out during the construction works associated with the SeaClean pipelines has identified, recovered and appropriately recorded any archaeological material that was present on the route. Artefacts with some in situ negative features dominated the archaeological evidence. Where features did survive, generally only a part of the feature was exposed and not the full extent. This has prevented a complete understanding of the nature and purpose of the respective feature.

### Prehistoric-Mesolithic-Early Bronze Age

- 4.3 Prehistoric activity represented by the assemblages of worked flint was identified at 42 sites. The assemblages were dominated by material probably lost through hunting, gathering and farming activity and although cores and flakes were recovered no conclusive evidence was identified for flint working industry at the sites. The only possible in situ feature found predating the Late Bronze Age activity was a probable pot-boiler pit [2] filled with burnt flint at Site 36.

### Bronze Age

- 4.4 Bronze Age activity was found at Site 7 and tentatively at Site 9 with evidence produced for ring ditches of barrows, cremation urns and associated features all relating to burial practices. Two phases may be represented. These substantiate the data obtained from the aerial photographic and cropmark evidence and provide conclusive evidence for the barrow cemeteries. All survived as negative features and had been truncated by later ploughing activity. The potential ring ditch and associated pit [9057] were overlain by colluvium, which had probably accumulated during the medieval period. Components of the environmental material may provide information on the local environment.

### Middle to Late Iron Age

- 4.5 Sites 7, 13, 14, 32 and 50 have provided structural and artefactual evidence for Middle to Late Iron Age activity. This tentatively is associated with domestic settlement activity with evidence of both iron and copper alloy metal workings at Site 32. The evidence at Sites 7 and 14 was hinted at by existing information, but that at Sites 13, 32 and 50 was unexpected. All contribute to the understanding of Iron Age activity on the Isle of Wight. The large assemblage of pottery from Site 32 is of particular significance and will help to determine the dating of Middle and Late Iron Age pottery from the Isle of Wight.

### Late Iron Age/Pre-Flavian

- 4.6 A phase of later Iron Age and early Roman (Pre-AD70) activity was also identified at Sites 7, 32 and 50 suggesting a possible continuity of settlement. Components of the environmental material obtained from selected Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman contexts may provided

data on the character and change of the late prehistoric and historic landscape from woodland to agricultural use.

## Roman

- 4.7 Evidence of Roman activity was identified at Sites 7 and 33 with residual artefacts found at many of the other sites, the residual finds were probably the result of manuring practices. The cropmark feature identified from aerial photographs and recorded as PRN 1620 at Site 7 West of Wilmingham Lane was confirmed by the archaeological work as a rectangular enclosure dated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century. Although no contemporary features were identified in the enclosure's interior several postholes and building material debris of contemporary date hint at structural remains in the vicinity. Two later ditches represented a later phase of Roman activity post-dating the enclosure.
- 4.8 Whereas the Roman activity at Site 7 may have been associated with domestic settlement, tentatively suggested by the sherds of pottery, that at Site 33, Chillingwood Copse near Havenstreet was associated with industrial activity. The archaeological evidence represented by the kilns and associated finds indicate that this industrial activity was associated with metal workings and black-smithing.

## Medieval

- 4.9 Site 5 is probably the most important medieval site identified on the route. The exposed features and deposits of medieval date comprised predominantly of midden or rubbish material derived from the Medieval Grange at Great Briddlesford Farm. These deposits contained a significant assemblage of pottery and iron working material suggestive of iron smelting activities. The former will contribute significantly to developing the Isle of Wight's ceramic dating sequence, the latter could greatly contribute to medieval archaeo-metallurgical knowledge.
- 4.10 Where as the archaeological evidence has substantiated the documentary evidence for the Medieval site at Great Briddlesford Farm and the medieval remains at Site 9 at Wellow, Site 2 at Lower Watchingwell, Site 16 at Ningwood and Site 43 at Appley were not totally unexpected, one previously unknown medieval site south of Lower Dodpits Farm (Site 17) has been identified by the archaeological work. This site produced structural remains of a building probably associated with domestic activity evident by the sherds of medieval pottery.
- 4.11 No archaeological evidence was identified for the documented Saxon boundaries at Sites 1, 2 or 3. The absence of for example any associated ditch or bank may suggest the topographical features of the Calbourne Stream and Clamerkin Brook defined these boundaries. Similarly no features or significant concentrations of medieval artefacts were identified at Site 6 to suggest medieval settlement at Barnsley Farm.

## Post-medieval

- 4.12 Probably the most significant Post-medieval feature identified during the archaeological work was the lime kiln found at Site 54. Although near to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century 'model' brickworks at Alverstone, the bricks of the kiln suggest a slightly earlier date and it was probably used to produce lime. The lime used as an artificial fertiliser to improve the fertility of the soil. Other notably post-medieval material included the two assemblages of clay pipes found at Sites 19 and 46.

## 5 Conclusion

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- 5.1 The archaeological work associated with the SeaClean Project has identified 55 archaeological sites ranging in date from prehistoric to post-medieval, including significant Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Medieval evidence.
- 5.2 The work has provided a valuable insight into the activity at several sites known to be archaeologically significant prior to the Project as well as providing archaeological evidence for many completely new sites.
- 5.3 Aspects of these sites will enhance the existing archaeological knowledge of the Isle of Wight and the region, whilst others, specifically the metal workings, may have national relevance.
- 5.4 On those sites where features were exposed, the construction works have caused relatively limited damage to the surviving archaeology (namely where truncated by the pipe trench). The archaeological resource at these sites therefore still remains largely intact.

## 6 The Archive

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- 6.1 The archive for each of the seven sites consists of two components the paper archive and artefactual archive. Each is stored under the relevant PRN.
- 6.2 The paper archive consist of all the primary records of the watching brief work, including context sheets, photographs, site registers and original plan and section drawings. This currently comprises seven A4 ring files for all the identified sites and at least twenty A5 sheets of permatrace.
- 6.3 The artefactual archive consists of all the artefacts. These finds, where appropriate, have been washed, individually marked and stored by category and context.
- 6.4 RPS Consultants currently hold the paper archive and many of the finds in store at their premises at The Old Barn, Deanes Close, Steventon, Abingdon, OX10 7LG. Other finds at the present are held with the relevant specialist.
- 6.5 The paper archive and artefacts (subject to the permission of the relevant landowner) will be deposited with the County Archaeological Centre, Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight on completion of the project.

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