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The Archaeological Monitoring of a Development at Silverdale, Coldwaltham, West Sussex.

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THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF A DEVELOPMENT AT SILVERDALE, COLDWALTHAM, WEST SUSSEX

Summary

The development is a site of about 0.56 hectares (1.27 acres) adjacent to the 1960s development of Silverdale, on the south-eastern edge of the village of Coldwaltham (NGR TQ 0255 1634). Planning permission was granted by Horsham District Council to Raglan Housing Association for six semi-detached bungalows, with garages and an access road (planning application ref. CW/4/96), with an attached condition requiring archaeological monitoring as detailed in a Specification provided by West Sussex County Council (JPFM silverdale.brf (rev.a) 4.11.96). Raglan Housing contracted Southern Archaeology to carry out the monitoring. This was undertaken by a temporary Field Officer (Melanie Barge) between 30th April and 10th June 1997; additional help being provided by assistant Field Officers as part of a ten working day contingency as specified by West Sussex County Council.

The groundworks produced a large quantity of pottery and revealed a series of ditches, both mainly of the Roman period. The following report consists of a brief account on the finds with an assessment of the excavation results and proposals for post-excavation analysis and publication.

SECTION A: ASSESSMENT REPORT

This report has been based on the guidelines set out in the document Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991*).*

A1. THE EXCAVATION

This section deals with a description of the site, its archaeological and historical background, the excavation methods employed, the chronological sequence and a summary of the excavation results.

A1. 1. Site Description

The site (centred NGR TQ02251634) was, prior to the commencement of development works, a small pasture field situated on the south-eastern edge of the village of Coldwaltham. It is bordered to the north-west by Silverdale housing estate, to the north-east by a similar field, still being used as a meadow, to the south-east by the Littlehampton to Crawley railway and to the south-west by an ancient trackway (Fig. 2).

A1. 2. Geology

The site lies on a peninsula of the Folkestone Beds sands, bounded to the north by the alluvium and river deposits of the river Rother and to the south and east by those of the Arun. Large outcrops of gault clay are found in the area, the nearest being just north of the village towards Hardham (Geological Survey of Great Britain 1:63 360 map sheet 317).

A1. 3. Archaeological Background

The site sits in the centre of an area rich in archaeological finds. The Palaeolithic is represented by finds from Wiggonholt and Greatham (Sear, 1987, 4). To the north, at Stopham (Southern Archaeology forthcoming), and to the south-east at Rackham (Garton, 1980) are Mesolithic flint working sites. Also at Rackham is a Neolithic flint working site (Holden and Bradley, 1975).

Pulborough

The Pulbourgh area has a dense concentration of Roman sites, perhaps indicating the presence of a distribution centre where Stane Street crosses the River Arun. In the early nineteenth century a late third century coin hoard was uncovered by workmen near Watersfield (SAC 11, 137). Stane Street has a *mansio* (posting station) at Hardham, which was partially excavated in 1926 (Winbolt, 1927). Near its north-east corner was a large pit full of pottery kiln wasters, indicating the presence of a kiln site close-by. The Wiggonholt potteries and bath-house, 4km to the east of Silverdale, were excavated more recently (Evans, 1974; Winbolt and Goodchild, 1937 and 1939). The Borough Farm Roman villa, to the north-east of Pulbourgh, was first excavated in 1817 and then again in 1909 (VCH Sussex, 3, 1935, 25; Scott, 1993, 188). Found at this site were samian wasters and mould fragments, one the few sites with direct evidence for the production of true samian ware in Britain. Other local pottery production sites are known at Nutbourne (Southern Archaeology forthcoming), Stopham (Barttelot, 1878) and Watersfield (Evans, 1974, 107) (Fig. 1).

The river Arun has produced a number of wooden dugout canoes of uncertain date, possibly Medieval (Sussex N & Q 16, 185-7). Coldwaltham church has a Norman tower and Hardham Priory was a small Medieval ecclesiastical centre for the area. More is known from historical sources for these later periods, see below.

Near the site itself when the current Silverdale estate was being built, in 1963, a small excavation took place at No.1 Silverdale. This produced layers of Medieval and Roman occupation with one stone-packed posthole (Barton, 1963, 85). The finds are currently in Worthing Museum.

A1. 4. Historical Background

A number of cartographic sources were consulted for the assessment:

1) OS 1:10 560 (1961 ed.) TQ 01 NW.
The area under investigation is shown as open fields, between the road A19 and the railway the only boundary marked is the current one between the 1963 and the new development at Silverdale.

2) Coldwaltham Tithe Map (1841).
The first pre-railway map. The area is marked out in a series of field boundaries, the fields being used for arable. The owner of these fields are members of the Neale family, a prominent land owner in this area. Field 171 now contains the 1963 development, the current development covers field 173 and part of 175.

3) Yeakell and Gardner (1778).
The site is just included on the northern edge of this survey. The boundaries marked correspond to those of the 1841 map, except for one field that was later divided into two: 180 and 181.

Historical references to Coldwaltham start in the seventh century with an Anglo-Saxon charter dealing with tracts of land contested between the church and the crown. This is followed in the tenth century by a similar charter dealing with the same land and referring back to a promise made in the first charter then broken by the crown. (Barker, 1947, 60-63; 1949, 84).

Later references to Coldwaltham again refer to land and ownership and give a range of names to the village, Uualdham, Waltham, Est Waltham and Waltham on the Hethe, being the most interesting (Sear 1987, 1). An intriguing reference is made to Coldwaltham in a 1374 Coroners report, which names 'le Tor' at Coldwaltham as the site of a murder. The accused were the wife of

the slain and a male accomplice; she had died before being brought to justice leaving him to hang for the crime (Hunnisett, 1957, 49).

The industrial revolution brought the next major changes to the area. In 1785 a canal was built to ease the navigation of the Arun to Pulbourgh and passed close to Coldwaltham. The railway did not arrive until 1859 and expanded in 1868; this caused the only major change to the area under investigation. The Littlehampton to Crawley railway cutting runs diagonally through the fields forming the south eastern edge of the current site.

In this century, post-war development has taken place on the south side of the A19 at Arun Vale and Silverdale. Between these two sites and the railway a strip of land was left to be used for a number of years as allotments by the local residents. In 1976 this changed as plans were put forward to build a four-lane motorway on the land. The allotments had to be quitted, but local pressure halted the road plans and the land reverted to meadows and horse paddocks until now.

A1. 5. Excavation Methodology

Initial monitoring work was restricted to watching the stripping of the topsoil in trenches 1, 2, 3 and 4 (Fig. 2). When it became clear that the site had a series of archaeological features the ten day contingency was implemented - three extra staff were brought in to help excavate and record the features before the digging of the foundation trenches. Once the ditches had been identified small sections were excavated where they were crossed by the foundations.

The features were recorded by single context recording, photographed and drawn. In addition to this Watching Brief recording forms were also filled out every day to record daily activity and finds.

The four areas were excavated by machine (tracked 360^0 with 1.5 m wide smooth bucket) to accommodate groundworkings for the building of the three semi-detached bungalows and access road. Three smaller trenches were excavated by hand outside of these areas (55, 57, 58). After the laying of the foundations deep narrow trenches were excavated by machine for drains and services (tracked 360^0 with 0.6m wide toothed bucket).

A1. 6. Feature Descriptions

The excavation revealed twelve subsoil features; all but one (63), are ditches or gullies. The only direct in-situ evidence for settlement was a pair of doubtful beam slots (15 and 29), though the quantity of finds indicates that there was one close by. All the features produced some artefactual material and all were cut into the natural sands (Refer to Figs. 2 and 3)

A1. 6. 1. *Flat-bottomed ditches*

Four of the ditches have steep sides and flat bottoms. Three are shallow, not more than 0.20m deep (8, 44, 63), the fourth is deeper at 0.40m deep (13). All had single context fills. Ditch 13 was heavily disturbed by animal activity in trench 3, though an adequate section in trench 4 gives a clear indication of its character and direction.

Feature 63 was only seen in a deep trench dug for the drains near the end of the monitoring period and its exact nature, whether linear or square, was not ascertainable. Only one small fragment of fired clay was recovered from this feature.

A1. 6. 2. *U-shaped ditches*

Four small ditches of this shape were found: 21, 24, 31, 46. Ditches 21, 24, 31 have single fills, Ditch 46 has two, 45 and 56. Contexts 24 and 31 are essentially the same feature, but running at right angles to each other and joined by a gently curved corner. Ditch 21 produced the greatest proportion of artefactual material from the whole site.

A1. 6. 3. *V-shaped ditches*

Only two of the ditches from the site have v-shaped profiles (6, 10). Both have single context fills, though ditch 10 has clear lines of windblown filling sequences. Both produced little in the way of artefactual evidence, though ditch 10 did have one complete vessel within the upper part of its fill, from which a sample was taken.

A1. 6. 4. *V-shaped ditches with square-cut bottoms*

Two of the ditches have similar profiles to ditch 10, but with the addition of a narrow square cut bottom, which often had hard compacted clay or sand sides (15, 29). These may be the beam slots of timber-framed buildings. Ditch 29 is on the same alignment as ditch 10, ditch 15 is a right-angled return to ditch 29 with a sharply curving corner joining them. Both have single context fills and contain artefactual material.

A1. 7. Archaeological Features

A more detailed description of the ditches is included in this section, with widths, finds and preliminary dating given.

A1. 7. 1. *Features*

6: a small ditch, 0.98m wide. Fill (5) produced 37 finds, mainly Roman pottery sherds and a waste flint flake, four sherds of Medieval date are intrusive in a disturbed area of the ditch. Roman, late 1st century.

8: a large ditch 2.15m wide. Fill (7) produced 15 finds, mainly Roman pottery sherds, but with three Medieval sherds. Medieval, 11th to 13th century.

10: a deep v-shaped ditch 1.70m wide. Fill (9) produced 97 finds: 19 sherds of prehistoric (IA) pottery, 1 flint core and a couple of waste flakes as well as 67 sherds of Roman pottery. Roman, early 2nd century.

13: a small ditch 0.72m wide. Fill (12) produced 31 finds: 1 sherd of prehistoric pottery, a flint hammerstone (?) and 29 Roman sherds and tile fragments. Roman, late 1st century.

15: A small ditch with a possible beam slot, 0.44m wide, in the bottom. Fill (14) produced 22 finds: 2 sherds of prehistoric pottery, 1 flint flake, 18 Roman sherds and 1 fragment of Roman tile. Roman, 2nd to early 3rd century.

21: a ditch 1.10m wide. Fill (22) produced 1108 finds: 42 sherds of prehistoric (IA?) pottery, 14 flint flakes, 1000 Roman sherds (many complete or near complete, if broken, vessels), 44 fragments of Roman tile and 2 metal objects. Roman, mid to late 2nd century.

24: a gully 0.68m wide. Fill (23) produced 139 finds: 3 sherds of prehistoric pottery and 1 flint flake. The rest are Roman, including 112 sherds, 13 tile fragments and 4 metal objects, one of which is the only fragment of copper alloy from the whole site. Roman, late 3rd to early 4th century.

29: a ditch 0.90m wide with a possible beam slot, 0.33m, wide in the bottom. Fill (28) produced 13 finds, all Roman except 1 flint flake. Roman, 2nd to early 3rd century.

31: a gully 0.43m wide. Fill (30) produced 9 finds, all Roman. Roman, late 3rd to early 4th.

44: a small ditch 0.69m wide. Fill (43) produced 3 finds, all Roman. Roman, 3rd century.

46: a small ditch 1.10m wide narrowing rapidly at the bottom to a small gully 0.40m wide. Fill (45), the upper fill, produced 60 finds, mainly Roman with some prehistoric: 1 sherd (IA?) and 3 flints. Fill (56), the lower fill, produced 6 finds: 1 prehistoric sherd, the rest Roman. Roman, 3rd century.

63: a small ditch ? 1.10m wide. Fill (62) produced only one small, highly abraded, Roman (?) ceramic object. Roman (?).

A1. 8. Discussion

The features observed over the whole site appear to be a series of field boundaries and possible beam slots. The ditches are nearly all of a Roman date; some may be late iron age and one is Medieval. The ditches could have divided up land plots which in some cases may even have contained dwellings, though no direct evidence of this was seen. The dates of the finds from these ditches indicate that there are at least two, if not three, phases in the use of this land during the Roman period, though their alignments stayed the same throughout the period. The later, Medieval, ditch is on a different alignment to the earlier and later boundaries, which indicates at least one major change in land division after the Roman period and before the current divisions were set out.

A2. ARTEFACTUAL DATA

In this section the artefacts from the excavation are discussed and assessed by material type. Total quantities are shown in table 1, with breakdown by artefact type and/or relative date in the individual sections.

Material type	No.
Flint	93
Prehistoric Pottery	104
Roman Pottery	2412
Medieval Pottery	95
Post-Medieval Pottery	29
Roman Tile	196
Medieval/Post-Medieval Tile	42
Glass	5
Ferrous	9
Copper Alloy	1
Lead	4
Industrial Waste	28
Bone	6
Mortar	1
Worked Stone	1
Total	3025

Table 1: Summary quantification of material type.

A2. 1. Storage

The finds are currently held at the offices of Southern Archaeology (Chichester) Ltd. All the metal objects have been stored in air tight containers containing silica gel; no further conservation is currently deemed necessary.

A2. 2. Struck Flint

Fragments of burnt and struck flint were collected from all over the site. The greatest quantities coming from the topsoil (11) and the spoilheaps, being easily seen after heavy rain. The flint accounts for about 3% of all the finds.

A2. 2. 1. *Summary of struck flint data*

The main flint types and numbers are listed in table 2

Type	No.
Cores	8
Blades	18
Blades retouched	6
Flakes	34
Flakes retouched	6
Burnt flakes	13
Burnt flint	6
Handaxe	1
Hammerstone	1
Total	93

Table 2: The main flint types and quantities.

The cores are mainly of bladelet/blade manufacture, though flake cores are represented. No sampling for small debitage was undertaken. The high proportion of waste flakes and blades as well as a few retouched examples indicates the presence of flint working either in-situ or very close by. The burnt pieces may be attributed to relatively recent agricultural practices.

The range and technology of the finds points to a Mesolithic date for the flint working. No later technology has been identified, though activity from the Palaeolithic is represented in an ovate handaxe.

Natural flint is present only as sparse gravel deposits within the sands and seems not to have been utilised. The flint used to produce implements was clearly imported.

A2. 4. Pottery

The pottery finds have been divided into four periods: prehistoric, Roman, Medieval and post-Medieval; the quantities of each are given in table 3. Within each grouping the range of basic vessel types is given with preliminary dates. Nearly all the sherds recovered from the topsoil are small and abraded. The exceptions to this included a large and unworn rim sherd of Saxo-Norman date which was probably disturbed by animal activity. Within the features the sherds are generally larger, but with some wear and abrasion, the exceptions being those vessels from ditch 21, which apparently lay where they had been initially discarded.

Period	No
Prehistoric	104
Roman	2412
Medieval	95
Post-Medieval	29
Total	2640

Table 3: Summary of Pottery by Period.

A2. 4. 1. *Prehistoric*

The prehistoric sherds, present in nearly all the ditch fills, are seemingly limited to the Iron Age and are of a range of flint-tempered fabrics. Most of the sherds are too small for the identification of vessel type. The most unusual sherds come from ditch 21 where a large number of rim and body sherds are Iron Age in style but, though flint-tempered, the clay itself has been fired to a pale orange colour.

A2. 4. 2. *Roman*

The Roman pottery assemblage represents the greatest proportion of finds on the site, about 80% of all the finds. The pottery from the various ditches has a wide date range - extending from the conquest to the early fourth century.

The pottery from ditch 10 is largely of the late first century and , together with a number of crushed flint tempered Iron Age sherds, suggests that this ditch was dug towards the end of the Iron Age and remained open until the early years of the second century. The base of a Pulborough samian bowl of early second century date came from the top of the feature. Ditch 15 joins ditch 29 at right angles and also produced a small amount of late first century pottery, including a bead-rimmed jar and an imitation Gallo-Belgic platter in local grey ware.

The largest pottery assemblage encountered was dumped in the top of ditch 21 and consists largely of a number of partially complete vessels from local Hardham kilns. Coarse grey-ware forms include large girth-carinated and necked bowls, girth-cordoned jars, a flagon, a necked liquid-storage jar and an imitation Gallo-Belgic platter. Local finewares include a cornice-rimmed beaker of very unusual carinated form with dot-barbotined diamond-shaped panels and a squat necked-bowl with rouletted girth decoration. Imported wares include fragments from a late second century Cologne rough-cast bag-beaker and central Gaulish samian Dr.33 and 27 cups. A late second century Dr.38 bowl from the same source was also present. The bulk of the pottery is of Antonine date, but the presence of the Gallo-Belgic platter imitation indicates that some of the assemblage, at least, is earlier than *c.*AD. 150. The local pottery includes a number of kiln seconds or possibly wasters, suggesting manufacture somewhere in the immediate vicinity.

The fills of ditches 44 and 46 did not produce very much pottery, but what there is includes a Hardham everted-rim cooking pot fragment of early third century date and pieces of similarly dated Rowlands Castle ware. Ditch 24 contained a good late third to early fourth century pottery assemblage, including very late Hardham products, Alice Holt wares from the Hampshire-Surrey borders, New Forest colour-coated finewares, a Dorset Black-Burnished 1 ware dish from the factories around Poole Harbour and a very odd imitation BB1 beaded and flanged bowl of uncertain origin. It is either a local attempt at copying Dorset BB1 wares or has come from the Highland zone of north and west Britain. There were a number of kilns in Yorkshire (Catterick and Doncaster) and elsewhere producing such wares to supply the military garrisons in and around Hadrians Wall. Further research should identify the source of this bowl with more precision.

Ditch 13 produced small amounts of pottery of generally Iron Age to late second century character, although the abraded nature of many of the fragments suggests that the feature could be post-Roman in date.

A2. 4. 3. *Medieval*

The majority of the Medieval sherds came from the topsoil (11) and have no relevance to the features. The exception are the three (11th to 13th century) sherds from ditch 8. Also represented are sherds of all periods from the grass-tempered wares of the Anglo-Saxon to the 'West Sussex ware', of the Tudor period.

A2. 4. 4. *Post-Medieval*

The post-Medieval period (c. 1540 to 1901) is only partially represented, with fragments of hard, red fabrics with brown and red glazes, some white glazed, fine white fabrics, a clay pipe stem and sherds of blue and white glazed, white earthenware.

A2. 5. *Brick and tile*

This group includes the various fragments of brick and/or tile found over the whole site, most of which were found in the topsoil (11). They have been divided into two groups: Roman and Medieval/post-Medieval.

A2. 5. 1. *Roman*

196 fragments of Roman brick and tile were recovered from the site. Most of the fragments are unidentifiable, but a small number can be identified and have been classified as follows:

Tegula	15
Imbrex	3
Brick	5
Flue - combed	1
- relief patterned	1
Unidentified	171
Total	196

Table 4: Summary of Roman brick and tile types.

The tegula fragments show a variety of form and fabric type. This may reflect a range of buildings, different dates of construction or tile production. The quantity of tile and brick fragments possibly indicates the presence of substantial buildings in the vicinity, the combed flue tile suggesting that at least one of the buildings had a hypocaust system. The relief patterned flue tile fragment is a relatively rare find, though paralleled at Wiggonholt bath-house. It is of Lowther's *diamond and lattice* group 5, and dates from the late 1st or early 2nd century (Lowther, 1948, 8-9).

A2 . 5. 2. *Medieval/Post-Medieval*
The remaining brick and tile is distinctly post-Medieval with a few fragments of Medieval, the majority consisting of peg tiles and bricks. The most interesting fragment is a piece of curved tile with traces of green glaze on its outer surface, probably part of a ridge tile.

A2. 6. Metalwork
14 metal objects were recovered: 9 iron, 4 lead and 1 copper alloy.
The iron objects comprise 4 nails and 3 unidentifiable objects, 1 large 20th century horseshoe and a pair of 19th-20th century barber' scissors.
The lead objects comprise 1 solid truncated cone, 40mm high, 1 flat sheet, 2mm thick, 1 small length of tube, 20mm long and 1 small curved piece, 25mm long, possibly part of another tube.
The copper alloy object is a long , square-sectioned strip, 33mm long by 3mm wide.

Most of these finds came from the topsoil (11). Ditch 21 had 1 nail and 1 lead object and ditch 24 had the copper alloy strip and 3 iron objects.

A2. 7. Glass
Of the 5 fragments of glass recovered, two are small clear bottle necks, one is a fragment of clear bottle glass with the letters 'V PIE' on its side. The other two fragments come from a thick green bottle and a discoloured blue? bottle. All are Post-Medieval and came from the topsoil (11).

A2. 8. Worked Stone
The only fragment of worked stone recovered, half a Greensand stone saddle quern, of probable prehistoric date, was found near to ditch 8, in the top of the natural sands.

A2. 9. Bone
Few bones survived due to the acidity of the soil; those that were found are probably no older than the 19th century:
1 small limb bone with possible butchery marks across the shaft,
1 unidentifiable fragment, badly etched by the acidic soil,
1 sheep tooth, not very worn,
1 small mammal mandible,

2 fragments of a large femur, bovine?, very badly etched by the soil, with possible butchery marks.

Also found, but later reburied, were the remains of a large horse skeleton, from the early 20th century. One horseshoe was kept (see metalwork above).

A2. 10. Industrial Waste

The small amount of industrial waste comprised mainly iron-slag, with some clinker and coal. Ditch 24 produced the most iron slag, which gives this a Roman date and is evidence for metal working in this period. The rest is from the topsoil (11) and is therefore undatable.

A2. 11. Recipient Museum

Provisionally the recipient museum will be Worthing, as it already holds the 1963 excavation finds.

A3. ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

No environmental sampling was to have been undertaken on the site, partly because this was not part of the watching brief specification, but mainly since the acidic nature of the soil was thought to limit the environmental potential. In the event four samples were taken, three from the fills of complete vessels, one from ditch 10 and two from ditch 21. The fourth was taken from an area of burnt wood underneath one of the vessels in ditch 21. Complete samples were taken from the vessel fills in the hope that the contents would provide evidence for their use. For assessment purposes the sample from ditch 10 was processed to see if any useful information can be gained from these samples. The sample was the complete fill of the vessel and weighed 1.530kg (3lb 6oz). The sample was wet-sieved through a 2mm and a 500 μm mesh to wash out the finer sand and silt; the 500 μm residue was then flotted. Once dry the residues were sorted into five groups: burnt plant remains, burnt bone, shell, ceramic and unsorted. A brief summary of each group follows.

A3. 1. Burnt plant remains

From the 2mm residues a large quantity of material was recovered; the 500 μ residue and flot also produced large quantities of material. The majority of this is carbonised wood, with some quite large lumps surviving, there are also some seeds which will be identifiable upon closer analysis.

A3. 2. Burnt bone

A small quantity of burnt bone was recovered. The largest fragment, 30mm long, may be identifiable, the rest are too small.

A3. 3. Molluscan remains

Two very small fragments of shell were found in the 2mm residue. They may be far too small for identification.

A3. 4. Ceramic

A number of sherds of pottery were recovered. These and smaller fragments derive form the vessel which produced the sample.

A3. 5. Unsorted material

The remaining material is comprised mainly of sand and sandstone, with small quantities of flint, burnt sandstone, slag and quartz.

SECTION B: STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

This section summarises the archaeological potential of the site. The data recovered has been summarised in the previous section and the potential for research in the following.

B1. RECOVERED ARTEFACTUAL MATERIAL

This section itemises the groups of material recovered by the excavation. This material has been divided into 'on-site' and 'off-site'; the former refers to the material relationships within the site and its immediate setting, including deposition and assemblage integrity and intrasite spatial organisation, the latter refers to the material's relationship within its regional context, including its relationship with similar sites.

B1. 1. On-site

Artefactual data: Pottery assemblages, struck flint

Structural data: Ditches.

Spatial data: Pottery, flint, features.

B1. 2. Off-site

Artefactual data: Pottery assemblages, struck flint.

Environmental data: Burnt organic material; bone, wood, seeds.

B1. 3. Data Potential for each period

This section lists the data for each period, the periods are in the order as in section A2. 4.

B1. 3. 1. *Prehistoric*

Artefactual data: Pottery, worked stone.

B1. 3. 2. *Roman*

Artefactual data: Pottery, metal, tile, brick.

Structural data: ditches

Environmental data: Burnt organic material; bone, wood, seeds.

B1. 3. 3. *Medieval*

Artefactual data: Pottery, tile

Structural data: Ditch

B1. 3. 4. *Post-Medieval*

Artefactual data: Pottery, metal, tile, brick, glass.

B2. ASSESSMENT OF DATA POTENTIAL

This section presents an assessment of the research potential of the data recovered. A separate category is included to deal specifically and in detail with the Roman pottery assemblage.

B2. 1. Artefactual data

Of the prehistoric flintwork only the Mesolithic has significant potential. Analysis of the production technology can provide relative dating and comparison for regional parallels.

The prehistoric pottery requires positive identification of date. If the interim identification of all the pottery as Iron Age is correct its relevance in comparison with other Iron Age sites, regionally and locally, must be considered. The presence of apparently misfired sherds may have significance in the interpretation of the origins of the Roman pottery industry.

The Coldwaltham site lies in the centre of a little known but major area of Roman pottery production. Previous discoveries have tended to be poorly recorded but what little information that we have indicates an industry which had its origins in the pre-Roman Atrebatic Iron Age (perhaps as early as 50BC) and grew into a large production centre during the late first and second centuries. The products from these kilns have been found right across Sussex into Hampshire, Surrey, Kent and London and display an unusually high level of technological competence for Britain. The wares come in a wide variety of fabrics and finishes, including glazed vessels, rouletted imitation South Gaulish samian forms in red colour-coated buff ware, cream ware honey-pots, flagons and mortaria, mica-dusted black 'London ware' bowls and dishes with combed, compass-scribed and rouletted decoration and a considerable variety of course greywares. An immigrant central Gaulish samian potter was even producing what can only be described as true Samian pottery at Pulborough during the early second century. The kiln technology required to produce such pottery is very sophisticated and the Pulborough potter had access to moulds for making Terra Sigillata bowls brought over from Gaul. This is a unique occurrence in Roman Britain.

Very little has been written about this exceptional Hardham pottery industry. Excavations at Hardham during the 1920s revealed a dump of kiln wasters which were published according to the standards of the time. No kilns were found and most of the pottery is no longer extant. Samian moulds were found at Pulborough during the 19th century and presented to the British Museum. The accounts of the circumstances of this discovery are very sketchy indeed. A kiln was discovered at Lickfold in 1955 and lifted and preserved by the Parham estate together with the associated pottery. This kiln and its products have never been published, but were seen by Jane Evans of Worthing Museum during the 1960s. Jane Evans also discovered two kilns at Wiggonholt in an excavation carried out in advance of roadwork's in 1964. These kilns produced creamware flagons, mortaria and other forms during the early second century and their publication (Evans, 1974) remains the only detailed account of the kilns and products of this important Roman pottery industry. What other information that we have comes from finds of Hardham pottery at Chichester, Hassocks and elsewhere in Sussex and their association, if any, with more dateable artefacts.

We are thus left with the unsatisfactory situation of a very important Roman pottery industry with Continental connections, many of the products of which cannot be precisely dated because of lack of information. Pottery is of primary importance in the dating of occupation and other sites ; more so than coins because of the long periods during which some Roman coinage remained in circulation. The wide distribution of Hardham pottery means that any further information on types and their dating will be of use in refining the dating of buildings and features discovered on Roman sites throughout south-east Britain and in turn extend our Knowledge of the history of Roman Britain.

The Coldwaltham site has the potential to provide us with important dating evidence for the Hardham Roman pottery, particularly as it appears to have been occupied continuously from the Iron Age to the fourth century, and is in the very heart of the production area. It is important that this assemblage is published as it can contribute considerably to the currently limited knowledge of the Hardham potteries

The remaining pottery assemblages are potentially important in the understanding of the development of Medieval and Post-Medieval Coldwaltham. The range of material, though not from stratified contexts, can provide a better understanding of the early history of the village from Anglo-Saxon to the Post-Medieval period.

B2. 2. Structural data
The ditches that run across the site are potentially important in the understanding of land change, during the Roman period especially. The dating sequences of these ditches are reliant on the exact dating of the finds from them and no real work on the significance of the land boundaries can be done without an in-depth study of the pottery. Analysis of environmental samples may provide additional information regarding function.

B2. 3. Spatial data
The distribution of the artefactual material within the features can provide evidence for the usage of the land over the site and over time. This relates directly to the Roman and earlier material, the majority of the Medieval and Post-Medieval material providing more information on the development of Coldwaltham.

B2. 4. Environmental data
The environmental samples taken from the complete vessels have the potential to provide evidence for the use and deposition of the vessels. By study of the layer of burnt material from ditch 21 it may be possible to determine whether it came from a kiln or an open cooking fire. It may also provide information about the environment in this area during the Roman period, the wood used in the fires, seeds from surrounding plants, animal remains, beetles etc. Of the remains already recovered the charcoal survives in large enough fragments for species of trees to be identified, the burnt bone may be identifiable whereas the mollusca may not be.

B2. 5. Conclusions
It is clear that the main areas for detailed research are in the artefactual material both spatially on the site, regionally in the area and as an assemblage. The environmental material, which although limited in quantity is rich in information, is another area for detailed research. The Post-excavation project design presented in the next section considers these research areas in more detail.

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SECTION C: POST-EXCAVATION PROJECT DESIGN SPECIFICATION

This section presents the post-excavation project design specification based on the results of the assessment. The aims and objectives of the post-excavation project design programme are set out in the first part of this section. In the following part the data categories and analytical methods to be utilised in addressing the academic objectives are presented. The section ends with a synthesis and concludes with a breakdown of the items to be dealt with in a final publication.

C1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

C1. 1. Aims

The principal aims of the post-excavation project design programme can be summarised as follows:

1) To collate all the recovered data and interpret it into a suitable format for publication.

2) To analyse and interpret the large assemblage of data within its local, regional and national context.

3) To create a fully ordered and indexed research archive to a standard suitable for depositing with the appropriate museum and other curatoral institutions.

C1. 2. Objectives

As a result of the assessment it is possible to set out a series of objectives for the post-excavation project design programme.

1) To form a clearer idea of the prehistoric settlement pattern in this area by comparison with assemblages from other sites. To analyse technological elements of the assemblage in order to provide a more accurate date for and identification of the on-site activity.

2) To confirm that the interim identification of all the prehistoric pottery as Iron Age is correct. If so, to establish its relevance in comparison with other Iron Age sites, regionally and locally. To establish whether the presence of apparently misfired sherds has significance in the interpretation of the origins of the Roman pottery industry.

3) To analyse the Roman assemblage in order to establish precise dating and identify on site activity.

4) To determine if the Roman pottery assemblage indicates the presence of a kiln site. If so, to treat the assemblage as a kiln group.

5) To determine the later history of the site using the post-Roman material and documentary evidence about the village.

C2. METHODS OF ANALYSIS

The data recovered from the site has been set out in a series of groups, each group is given a brief explanation of the post-excavation analysis needed.

C2. 1. Stratigraphic data

The stratigraphic archive is ordered, listed and a full context listing given (Appendix 1). Further work on this will involve checking, correcting and phasing where appropriate. An interpretative

text with illustrations can be prepared and revised where necessary on the basis of further work on the artefacts.

C2. 2. Artefactual data

C2. 2. 1. *Prehistoric material.*
The single Palaeolithic handaxe (identification Dr. M Roberts) is almost certainly a stray find. The regional and local significance of the find should be established.

The small flint assemblage requires specialist identification of tool types, technology and date, so that its regional and local significance can be established.

The pottery, found mainly in Roman ditches, requires specialist identification of both form and fabric and comparison with local assemblages, both of prehistoric and earlier Roman date.

C2. 2. 2. *Roman data.*
The largest and most important assemblage for the site. As has been stated above the pottery is potentially of national importance; an in-depth report on the fabrics, forms, dates and usage is essential. This will require:

identification of intrusive elements,
illustration and identification of the local vessel forms,
identification of parallels for the vessel forms,
identification of the distribution of the kiln products,
analysis of the fabric types.

C2. 2. 3. *Post-Roman*
The few early, late and post-Medieval finds are unlikely to add significantly to our understanding of settlement patterns in these periods. Only one ditch was Medieval, its relationship to earlier and later field systems may be of significance.

C3. PUBLICATION
The final report is expected to be a single publication in a relevant journal. It will contain an account of the monitoring but for the most part will be taken up with analysis of the assemblages.

C3. 1. Outline synopsis

The synopsis sketches the structure and contents of the report. It is recognised that the results of the analysis may produce additional or unforeseen results which will necessitate some revision in the context and layout of the final report.

C3. 1. 1. *Introduction*

Background and circumstances to the investigation, the geology and topography of the area, the archaeological and historical background.

C3.1. 2. *The Excavation*

Excavation strategy and methods, artefact retrieval, samples, recording.

C3. 1. 3. *Chronology*

Phasing of the site and any stratigraphic sequences seen.

C3. 1. 4. *Artefacts*

Detailed reports on all assemblages and finds in chronological order, Palaeolithic through to post-Medieval. With special emphasis on the Roman material

C3. 1. 5. *Environmental evidence*

Reports on the residues from all four samples and how they contribute to the understanding of the site.

C3. 1. 6. *Conclusions*

How Coldwaltham fits into the landscape of the Arun Valley, with special reference to the Roman assemblage and other kiln sites in the area and nationally.

Appendix 1: Context Listing

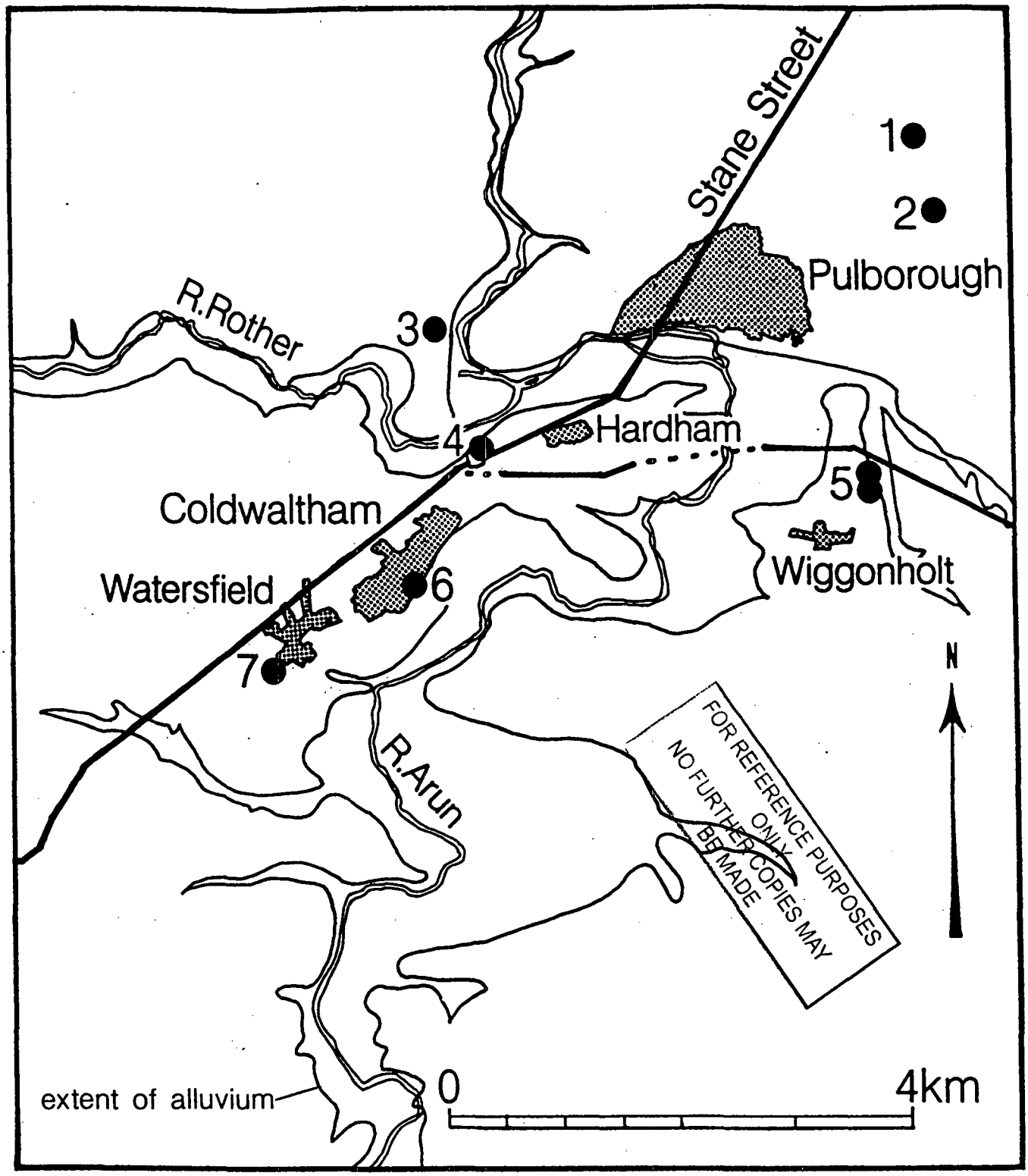
Context	Description	Interpretation
1	Large trench 33.50m by 14.40m, in north-east area of site	Area stripped of topsoil for ground workings
2	Large trench 26.30m by 14.10m, in centre of site	Area stripped of topsoil for ground workings
3	Large trench 41.60m by 14.40m, in south area of site	Area stripped of topsoil for ground workings
4	Long curved trench 74.30m by 14m, running through the middle of the site	Area stripped of topsoil for ground workings
5	Dark brown (10yr 3/4) sandy loam; frequent flint, sandstone and ironstone gravel	Fill of ditch 6
6	Linear feature with v-shaped profile	Cut of ditch
7	Dark brown (10yr 4/4) sandy loam; occasional flint gravel	Fill of ditch 8
8	Linear feature with u-shaped profile	Cut of ditch
9	Dark brown (10yr 3/4) sandy loam; occasional flint gravel	Fill of ditch 10
10	Linear feature with v-shaped profile	Cut of ditch
11	Dark brown (10yr 3/3) sandy loam; frequent flint, sandstone and ironstone gravel	Topsoil covering the whole site
12	Dark brown (10yr 3/4) sandy loam	Fill of ditch 13
13	Narrow linear feature with steep-sided flat-bottomed profile	Cut of ditch
14	Dark brown (10yr 3/3) sandy loam; occasional flint, sandstone and ironstone gravel	Fill of ditch 15
15	Linear feature with v-shaped sides and square cut bottom profile	Cut of ditch
16	Square cut section across ditch 24	
17	Square cut section across ditch 31	
18	Square cut section across ditch 15	
19	Square cut section across ditch 31	
20	L-shaped section cut to locate ditch 10	
21	Linear feature with u-shaped profile	Cut of ditch
22	Dark brown (10yr 3/4) sandy loam; occasional flint, sandstone and ironstone gravel	Fill of ditch 21
23	Very dark greyish brown (10yr 3/2) sandy loam; occasional flint, sandstone and ironstone gravel	Fill of ditch 24
24	Linear feature with shallow u-shaped profile	Cut of ditch

25	Square cut section across ditches 15 and 29	
26	Square cut section across ditch 29	
27	Square cut section across ditch 10	
28	dark brown (10yr 4/4) sandy loam; occasional flint, sandstone and ironstone gravel some charcoal flecks.	Fill of ditch 29
29	Linear feature with v-shaped sides and square cut bottom profile	Cut of ditch
30	Dark brown (10yr 3/3) sandy loam; occasional flint, sandstone and ironstone gravel	fill of ditch 31
31	Curving linear feature with shallow u-shaped profile	Cut of ditch
32	Rectangular section cut across ditch 21	
33	Long rectangular section cut across ditch 21	
34	Square cut section across ditch 24	
35	Square cut section across ditch 24	
36	Triangular cut section across ditch 31	
37	Square cut section across ditch 31	
38	Long narrow rectangular section cut across ditch 13	
39	Long narrow rectangular section cut across ditch 13	
40	Long narrow rectangular section cut across ditch 13	
41	Square cut section across ditch 21	
42	Long narrow rectangular section cut to locate ditch 24	
43	Dark brown (10yr 5/3) sandy loam; occasional flint, sandstone and ironstone gravel	Fill of ditch 44
44	Linear feature with steep sides and flat bottomed profile	Cut of ditch
45	Dark orange brown (10yr 2/2) sandy loam; occasional flint, sandstone and ironstone gravel	Fill of ditch 46
46	Linear feature with u-shaped profile	Cut of ditch
47	North-west end of trench 4	
48	Middle of trench 4	
49	Southern end of trench 4	
50	Cut of footings across ditch 46	
51	Cut of footings across ditch 44	
52	Square cut section across ditch 8	
53	Rectangular cut section across ditch 21	
54	Rectangular cut section across ditch 10	

55	Square cut section across ditch 46	
56	Light orange brown (10yr 4/6) very sandy loam.	Primary fill of ditch 46
57	Rectangular cut section to locate ditch 6	
58	Square cut section to locate ditch 6	
59	Square cut section across ditch 10	
60	Area cleared of 0.40m of topsoil by north corner of trench 1	Cleared for ground workings
61	Long narrow trench cutting across ditch 15	Dug for the laying of pipes for drains
62	Light grey orange brown (10yr 5/4) sandy loam; small occasional flint gravel some charcoal flecks	Fill of feature 63
63	Steep-sided flat-bottomed cut	Possible ditch
64	Long narrow trench cutting feature 63	Dug for the laying of pipes for drains
65	Long narrow trench cutting ditches 10 and 21	Dug for the laying of pipes for drains
66	Long narrow trench	Dug for the laying of pipes for drains
67	Area cleared of topsoil to south of trench 4 at its north end	Access ramp for the construction traffic
68	Area cleared of topsoil to north of trench 4 at its south end	Access ramp for the construction traffic

Appendix 2: The Artefactual Archive

Artefacts	**Boxes**
Stable material	10
Samples	1
Material requiring a stable environment	1(air-tight with silica gel)
Records	**Number**
Context sheets	68
Watching brief sheets	23
Small finds records sheets	1
Colour slide film record sheets	2
Black and white film record sheets	2
Survey sheets	7



1. Borough Farm, Roman Villa
2. Nutbourne
3. Stopham
4. Hardham *Mansio*
5. Wiggonholt Potteries
6. Coldwaltham, Silverdale
7. Watersfield.

Fig. 1. Location Plan

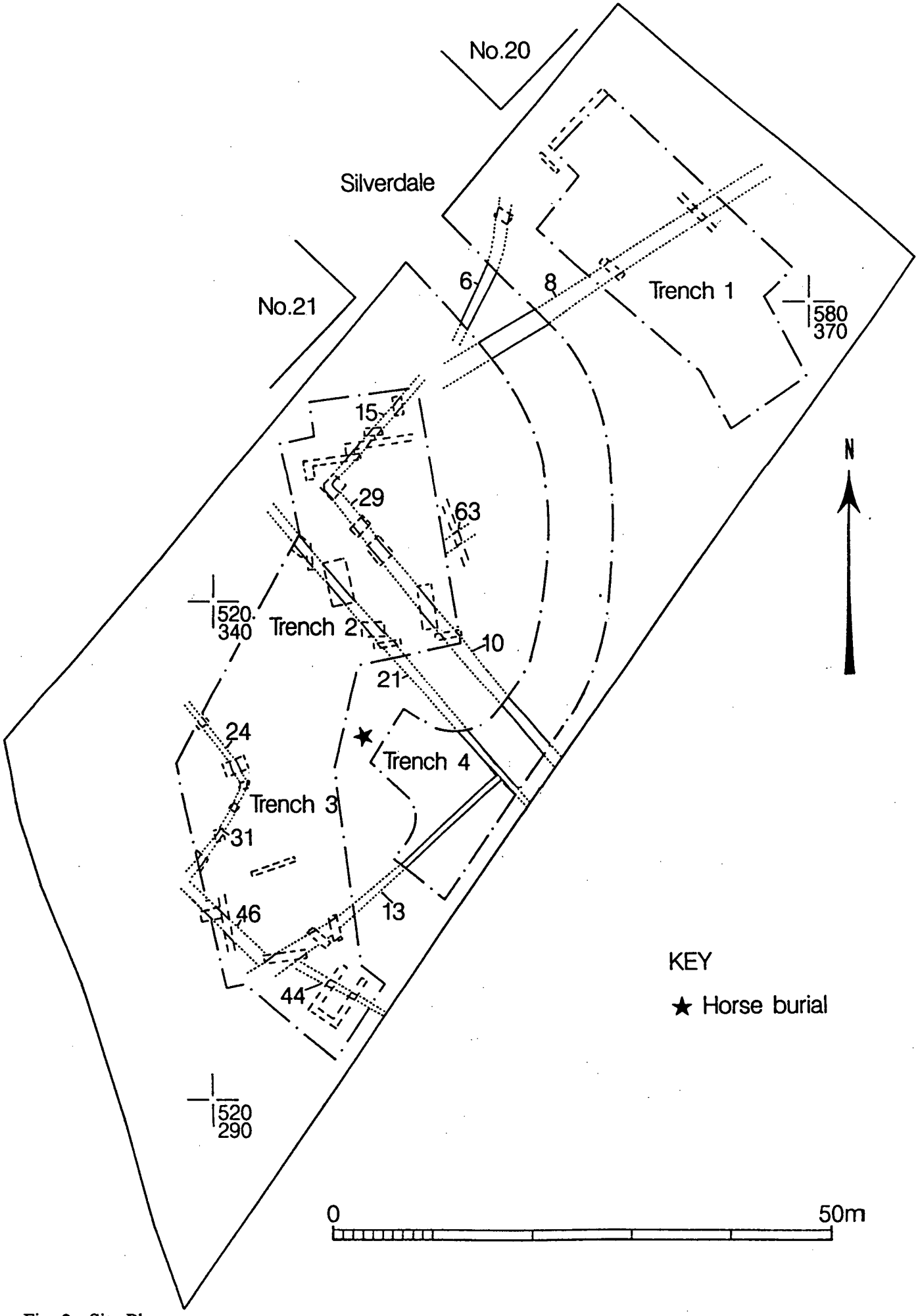


Fig. 2. Site Plan

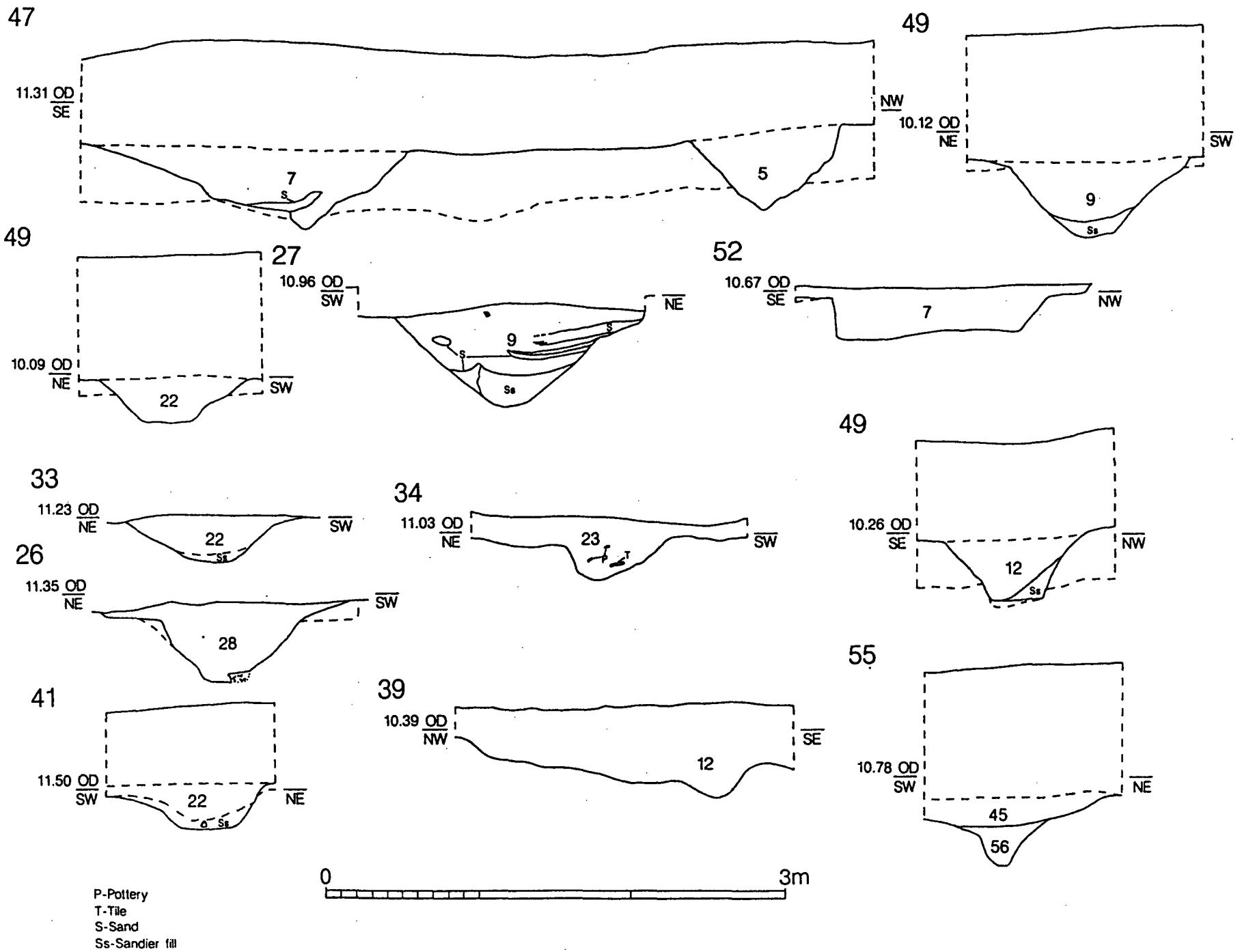
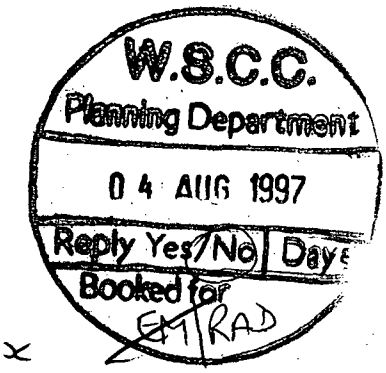


Fig. 3. Section Drawings

JPFM

97/11104

NMR EXCAVATION INDEX REPORT FORM: WEST SUSSEX



1. Type of recording: (please tick)
   - evaluation
   - excavation
   - watching brief ✓
   - other (specify)

2. Site name: SILVERDALE

   Address: SILVERDALE, COLDWALTHAM, WEST SUSSEX

   Civil parish: COLDWALTHAM

   National Grid Refs: TQ 0255 1634

3. Director/~~Supervisor~~: J. MAGILTON

   For (organisation): SOUTHERN ARCHAEOLOGY LTD. (CHICHESTER)

   Funded by: DEVELOPER

4. Date fieldwork started: 30th April 1997 Date finished: 10th June 1997

5. Main periods and site types:
   MESOLITHIC - SCATTERED FINDS
   ROMAN - DITCHES, LAND BOUNDARIES, SECONDARY EVIDENCE OF KILNS.
   MEDIEVAL - DITCH.

6. Location of documentary archive:

   All/~~some~~ records ~~have been~~/will be deposited in the following museum, record office etc.: OFFICES OF SOUTHERN ARCHAEOLOGY WORTHING MUSEUM.

   Archive contains (please circle):

   (NOT) (PLA) (PHO) (NEG) (SLI) (COR) (MSS)

7. Location of finds:

   All/~~some~~ finds ~~have been~~/will be deposited in the following museum, other body: WORTHING

8. Bibliography:

Signature: [signature]

Date: 31st July '97