

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
UNDERTAKEN AT LONG MAN CAR PARK,  
WILMINGTON, EAST SUSSEX.**

**N. G. R. TQ 54335 04180**

**Project Number 08 / 10**

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**Christopher Greateorex BA, MIFA**

**2 OTTEHAM CLOSE, POLEGATE, EAST SUSSEX BN26 5AZ**

**TEL: 01323 488852 E-MAIL: [cagreateorex@btinternet.com](mailto:cagreateorex@btinternet.com)**

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***ABSTRACT.***

*An archaeological watching brief was maintained on groundworks associated with the construction of two new buttresses against the southern perimeter wall of Long Man Car Park, Wilmington, East Sussex.*

*The walls of the current village car park once formed part of a large barn. Indeed, a significant quantity of late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century roof tile, almost certainly associated with this barn (or at least a nearby building) was recovered from the excavated topsoil.*

*Just two cut features of limited archaeological importance were revealed during the watching brief. These two sheep burials each contained late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century tile of a type identical to that found within the topsoil.*

*Although the monitored groundworks did expose the flint base of the barn / car park wall, no evidence for a foundation trench or any other structural features was discovered.*

*An examination of historic cartographic sources has confirmed that the current perimeter walls of the barn / car park date from at least 1725. No cartographic or archaeological evidence was found to support a theory that the original barn was of late medieval origin. However, it is believed that a number of worked greensand and chalk blocks incorporated into the barn / car park walls were first used in the construction of the nearby Wilmington Priory complex.*

## **1.0. INTRODUCTION.**

- 1.1. This document presents the results of an archaeological watching brief maintained on groundworks associated with the construction of two new brick buttresses against the southern perimeter wall of Long Man Car Park, Wilmington, East Sussex (N. G. R. TQ 54335 04180) (Figure 1).
- 1.2. Long Man Car Park lies within the confines of Scheduled Ancient Monument Number ES 122 (Wilmington Priory) (see Section 3.0.). English Heritage therefore requested that the building work undertaken on behalf of Wealden District Council was subject to the programme of archaeological monitoring and recording described below.
- 1.3. The methodology employed during the project (see Section 5.0.) was based upon a targeted Method Statement prepared by C. G. Archaeology and agreed with Paul Roberts the English Heritage (South East) Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Greg Chuter the East Sussex County Council Assistant Archaeologist.
- 1.4. Scheduled Monument Consent under Section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended) for the proposed buttresses was granted by the Secretary of State, Department for Culture, Media and Sport (Architecture and Historic Environment Division) (ref: HSD 9/2/10213).
- 1.5. The archaeological fieldwork was carried – out by Christopher Greatorex and Annalie Wood of C. G. Archaeology between the 22<sup>nd</sup> September and 6<sup>th</sup> October 2008. The examination of historic cartographic sources was undertaken by David Dunkin.

- 1.6. All aspects of the archaeological project were commissioned by Mr Christopher Bottomley of Wealden District Council, to whom thanks are extended.

## **2.0. GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.**

- 2.1. The 1: 50,000 British Geological Survey (Sheet 319: Lewes) records the underlying 'natural' geology at the site as Lower Chalk.



### **3.0. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.**

- 3.1. Long Man Car Park lies within the confines of Scheduled Ancient Monument Number ES 122 (Wilmington Priory) (see Section 1.2.).
- 3.2. In the years following the Norman Conquest of 1066 AD., the Benedictine Abbey of Grestain, Normandy acquired a number of properties including the Manor of Wilmington. Indeed, by the beginning of the 12<sup>th</sup> century, a priory cell with room for perhaps two or three monks had been established at Wilmington as the administrative headquarters of the Abbot of Grestain's representative in England. In 1243 the cell appears to have been enlarged to accommodate several monks under a prior. Now ruined, Wilmington Priory was eventually suppressed in 1414, under the reign of King Henry V.
- 3.3. The present L – shaped house is essentially a 14<sup>th</sup> century building incorporating some 13<sup>th</sup> century work; the whole being adapted and altered in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Two storeys and five windows. Faced with flints and stone rubble with red brick window dressings, the south wing cemented with an angle buttress. Hipped tiled roof. Sash windows with glazing bars intact. Doorway with flat hood on brackets. The west end of the ground floor was the porch. This has 14<sup>th</sup> century stone quadripartite vaulting and a 13<sup>th</sup> century stone pointed north doorway. To the south-west of the house are the ruins of the 14<sup>th</sup> century Upper Hall of ashlar, flints and some brick. This consists of two octagonal turrets with a wall between, having a large window of three tiers of three lights with stone mullions and transoms. To the north of the house are further ruins, beneath which is a 14<sup>th</sup> century vaulted undercroft.
- 3.4. The perimeter walls of the current Long Man Car Park once formed part of a large barn located at the southern end of the now scheduled area (see Section 6.1.). The East Sussex County Historical Environment Record (HER) (see

Section 6.2.) states that this building is of late medieval origin, but fails to cite any evidence for such a conclusion (see Section 6.1.5.).

- 3.5. In 2007 C. G. Archaeology maintained a watching brief on groundworks associated with the installation of a new fence and gate at Long Man Car Park. However, no deposits, cut features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance were discovered during this work (Greatorex 2007).

#### **4.0. PROJECT OBJECTIVES.**

4.1. The following objectives of the archaeological watching brief were defined within the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation (see Section 1.3.).

- Ensure that all archaeological deposits, cut features and structures exposed within the monitored footings are excavated, sampled, recorded and interpreted to an acceptable standard.
- Ensure that all significant discoveries of artefactual and / or ecofactual evidence are recorded and analysed to an accepted standard.

## **5.0. INVESTIGATIVE METHODOLOGY.**

### **5.1. Preliminary work.**

- 5.1.1. An inspection was first made of the East Sussex County Historical Environment Record (see Section 6.2.). This study was supplemented by an examination of historic cartographic sources held at the East Sussex Record Office, Lewes (see Section 6.1.). Relevant publications were also consulted for additional details concerning those sites / finds of archaeological significance identified within a c.500m. radius of Long Man Car Park.

### **5.2. Fieldwork.**

- 5.2.1. Prior to the start of construction work, a written description supplemented by 35mm. black and white film and digital photographs was made of the car park's southern perimeter wall. Particular attention was paid to those parts of the structure soon to be impacted upon / covered over by the two new brick buttresses.
- 5.2.2. The two c.1.25m. - long and c.1.15m. - wide buttress footings (A and B) shown on Figure 2 were excavated manually by the client's main building contractor (Paul Reed Conservation Ltd.). These groundworks were undertaken in level spits under the constant supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist.
- 5.2.3. Each archaeological context identified during the project was investigated manually by C. G. Archaeology in order to assess its archaeological / palaeoenvironmental potential and then documented on an individual pro-forma.
- 5.2.4. The two archaeologically significant cut features discovered during the groundworks (see sections 7.2.6. and 7.3.5.) were excavated by hand,

recorded in plan at a scale of 1: 10 and levelled with respect to Ordnance Datum.

- 5.2.5. Two 1: 10 scale elevations (one for each monitored footing) showing the freshly exposed base of the barn / car park wall were also drawn and levelled to Ordnance Datum.
- 5.2.6. A groundworks location plan was prepared at a scale of 1: 100 and a full photographic record of the project maintained as appropriate.
- 5.2.7. Ten days after the completion of the fieldwork described above, C. G. Archaeology was informed by Paul Reed Conservation Ltd. that the length of wall highlighted on Figure 2 had 'fallen down' (for reasons that were not ascertained).
- 5.2.8. A requested site visit confirmed that nothing *in-situ* above the current ground surface now survived of this particular section of masonry. Nevertheless, the structural remains visible just below the surrounding ground level (i.e. the base of the wall) were cleaned by hand, photographed, drawn at a scale of 1: 20 and tied in to Ordnance Datum.

## **6.0. RESULTS OF BACKGROUND RESEARCH.**

### **6.1. The cartographic evidence.**

6.1.1. The following historic maps were examined at the East Sussex Record Office, Lewes.

- ‘A Survey and Map of Wilmington Manor (In the County of Sussex) Belonging to Rt. Hon. Sir Spencer Compton, Knight of the Bath’ 1725
- Tithe map and Apportionment for the parish of Wilmington (ref: ESRO: TD/E 117) 1839 (Figure 3)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 68 / 15) 1874 (Figure 4)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 68 / 15) 1899 (Figure 5)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 68 / 15) 1909 (Figure 6)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 68 / 15) 1928 (Figure 7)
- 25” Ordnance Survey (Sheet 68 / 15) 1938 (Figure 8)

6.1.2. Each of the maps listed above clearly records the large barn prior to its modern conversion into the current Long Man Car Park (see Section 3.4.). The ‘survey and map’ of 1725 (original held at Chatsworth, Derbyshire and not reproduced here) is indistinguishable in all relevant respects to the 1839 tithe map (Figure 3). The tithe apportionment describes the plot that encompassed the barn / car park as ‘buildings / yard’ (number 190). The property was then owned by Lord Burlington and occupied by a William Lambe. Full details of the apportionment form an integral part of the Project Archive (see Section 11.0.).

6.1.3. No significant changes to the basic floor plan of the barn appear to have been made between the years 1874 (Figure 4) and 1938 (Figure 8). However, it should be noted that a small structure located adjacent the western end of the building on the 1874, 1899, 1909 and 1928 Ordnance Survey sheets (figures 4, 5, 6, 7) was not recorded by the later survey of 1938 (Figure 8).

6.1.4. None of the examined maps document any structural, archaeological or topographical features across those precise areas of the site subject to the archaeological watching brief under discussion. The conversion of the barn into a car park clearly necessitated the creation of a new eastern access. Otherwise, the footprint of the current car park is identical to that of the building shown on each of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century Ordnance Survey maps (figures 4, 5, 6, 7, 8).

6.1.5. The study has confirmed that the perimeter walls of the present car park date from at least 1725. No cartographic evidence was found to support the theory that the original barn was constructed during the late medieval period (see Section 3.4.). However, a more detailed survey of historic documentary sources may have had greater success in resolving this issue.

## 6.2. The Historical Environment Record.

6.2.1. An inspection of the East Sussex County Historical Environment Record produced 22 entries of archaeological / historical / architectural significance within a c.500m. radius of Long Man Car Park. These are listed in numerical order and described briefly below. Full details of the search are held within the Project Archive (see Section 11.0).

**Table 1: a summary of the HER search.**

HER NO.	GRID REF.	DATE.	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION.
<b>MES4520</b>	TQ 54 04	Palaeolithic	Three Lower Palaeolithic handaxes and two flint flakes.
<b>MES4522</b>	TQ 5441 0428	Medieval – Post-medieval	The Parish Church of St. Mary and St. Peter: Listed Building: from 12 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES4525</b>	TQ 5425 0420	Medieval – Post-medieval.	Wilmington Priory (Scheduled Ancient Monument Number ES 122). See sections 3.1., 3.2., 3.3.

			and 3.4. for details.
<b>MES4550</b>	TQ 5449 0447	Post-medieval	Twytten House: Grade II Listed Building: 17 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES7038</b>	TQ 5439 0425	Post-medieval	22 The Street: Grade II Listed Building: 17 <sup>th</sup> century or earlier.
<b>MES7039</b>	TQ 5449 0449	Post-medieval	Brightside: Grade II Listed Building: 17 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES7040</b>	TQ 5448 0441	Post-medieval	Carnoy: Grade II Listed Building: 17 <sup>th</sup> century or earlier.
<b>MES7041</b>	TQ 5449 0444	Modern	Chantry View: Grade II Listed Building: mid 19 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES7043</b>	TQ 5453 0452	Post-medieval	Etherstone: Grade II Listed Building: 17 <sup>th</sup> century or earlier.
<b>MES7044</b>	TQ 5439 0425	Post-medieval	Flint garden wall: Grade II Listed Building: 17 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES7046</b>	TQ 5439 0425	Post-medieval	Flint garden wall: Grade II Listed Building: 18 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES7048</b>	TQ 5451 0448	Post-medieval	Holly Tree Cottage: Grade II Listed Building: 18 <sup>th</sup> century or earlier.
<b>MES7049</b>	TQ 545 044	?	Lantern Cottage: Listed Building.
<b>MES7056</b>	TQ 545 045	?	Post Office Cottage: Listed Building.
<b>MES7057</b>	TQ 5448 0441	Post-medieval	Priory Place: Grade II Listed Building: 18 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES7060</b>	TQ 5452 0456	Modern	Telephone Box: Grade II Listed Building: 20 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES7062</b>	TQ 5448 0445	Post-medieval	The Barn House: Grade II Listed Building: 18 <sup>th</sup> century or earlier.
<b>MES7063</b>	TQ 5447 0444	Post-medieval	The Chantry: Grade II Listed Building: 18 <sup>th</sup> century or earlier.



<b>MES7064</b>	TQ 5439 0425	Post-medieval	The Cottage: Grade II Listed Building: probably 17 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES7065</b>	TQ 5449 0432	Post-medieval	The Glebe: Grade II Listed Building: 18 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>MES7067</b>	TQ 5439 0425	Modern	Rectangular flint pound: Grade II Listed Building: probably 19 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>EES14138</b>	TQ 5411 0376	Prehistoric and Medieval	Two concentrations of prehistoric and medieval pottery discovered during fieldwalking.

## **7.0. RESULTS OF FIELDWORK.**

### **7.1. The barn / car park wall: general character.**

7.1.1. The c.0.40m. – 0.55m. – thick southern perimeter wall of Long Man Car Park survives to a height above current ground level of between c.1.30m. and 2.60m. It is predominantly constructed from both roughly – faced and apparently unworked flints (c.20mm. – 0.20m. in visible length) plus rarer chalk pieces (c.0.10m. – 0.50m.) and greensand blocks (c.0.20m. – 0.60m.). However, one discrete area of masonry perhaps indicative of repair work or even a blocked – up entrance (location marked on Figure 2) is characterised by the presence of hard – fired red bricks set at an angle with only their ends (c.95mm. / 3¾” x 65mm. / 2½”) showing. These bricks are interspersed amongst both crudely – faced and seemingly unworked flint nodules (c. 0.10m. – 0.15m.) roughly – worked chalk lumps (c.10m. – 0.20m.) and occasional greensand pieces (c.0.15m.) all set within a light beige mortar with angular pea grit and chalk inclusions (c.1mm. – 5mm.). Five small triangular – shaped apertures framed with modern - looking bricks (one clearly incorporating a frog and thus almost certainly post–dating c.1840) are also positioned at irregular intervals along the length of the wall. These features of uncertain function are found at heights above the present day ground surface of c.0.90m. – c.1.10m. Prior to the latest conservation work at the site, the masonry was supported on its south – facing side by four modern brick buttresses. More importantly, it is believed that at least some of the worked greensand and chalk elements of the wall were first used in the construction of the nearby Priory complex (see Section 3.0.). A full written and photographic record of the wall is held within the Project Archive (see Section 11.0.).

## 7.2. Footing A (Figure 9).

- 7.2.1. The south facing area of wall impacted upon / now covered over by the first new buttress survives to a height above current ground level of c.1.75m. It comprises roughly – faced and seemingly unworked flint nodules (c.40mm. – 0.20m. in visible length) and occasional chalk pieces (c.0.10m. – 0.15m.) all bonded by a light beige mortar containing c.25% angular multicoloured pea grit and chalk inclusions (c.1mm. – 5mm.). A full written and photographic record of this masonry is held within the Project Archive (see Section 11.0.). For ease of recording, the base of the wall exposed during the groundworks was assigned an individual context number **(5)** (see Section 7.2.7. for separate description).
- 7.2.2. A c.0.37m. – thick layer of loose, mid grey – brown silty clay topsoil **(1)** was first stripped from Footing A. This deposit contained a large number of tile fragments dated by specialist examination to the late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century (see Section 8.0. for details) and was in effect piled up against the lowest courses of the barn / car park wall (i.e. Context 5).
- 7.2.3. The excavation of Context 1 revealed an immediately underlying layer of friable, light grey – brown silty clay **(2)** a single pit **(3 / 4)** and the base of the barn / car park wall **(5)**.
- 7.2.4. It should be noted that no evidence for a barn / car park wall foundation trench was recorded during the watching brief. Indeed, here the newly exposed masonry **(5)** appeared to sit directly on top of the uppermost surface of Context 2 (also see Section 7.2.7.).
- 7.2.5. No artefacts were recovered from the investigation of Context 2. This c.0.20m. – thick deposit directly overlay the natural chalk geology of the site **(6)** and within Footing A had been cut by Context 3.

7.2.6. Context 3 comprised an irregularly – shaped pit with a maximum recorded ‘length’ / ‘diameter’ of c.0.78m. and depth of c.0.50m. Its one homogeneous fill of very loose, mid grey – brown silty clay **(4)** contained a single fragment of late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century tile (see Section 8.0. for details) and the still partially articulated skeletal remains of at least one adult ewe and two foetal / new born lambs (see Section 9.0. for details). The cut extended into the natural chalk geology of the site **(6)**.

7.2.7. The base of the barn / car park wall **(5)** exposed during the excavation of Footing A (also see Section 7.2.4.) comprised both roughly – faced and apparently unworked flint nodules (c.40mm. – 0.18m. in visible length) set within a mortar visually indistinguishable from that found on the face of the ‘above ground’ masonry described in Section 7.2.1.

### 7.3. **Footing B (Figure 10).**

7.3.1. The area of wall impacted upon / now covered over by the second new buttress at the site survives to a height above current ground level of c.1.80m. It is built of roughly – faced and unworked flint nodules (c.20mm. – 0.20m. in visible length) plus a single worked greensand block (c.0.24m. x 0.31m.) all held within a mortar visually inseparable from that described in Section 7.2.1. A full written and photographic record of this masonry forms part of the Project Archive (see Section 11.0.). For ease of recording, the base of the wall exposed during the excavation was assigned an individual context number **(9)** (see Section 7.3.6. for separate description).

7.3.2. A c.0.40m. – thick layer of topsoil **(1)** as described in Section 7.2.2. was first stripped from Footing B. This procedure yielded a large quantity of late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century tile pieces and two brick fragments dating from the late 16<sup>th</sup> – early / mid 18<sup>th</sup> century and later 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century respectively (see Section 8.0. for further details). The excavation confirmed that Context 1 was here piled up against the lowest courses of the barn / car park wall (i.e. Context 9).

- 7.3.3. The removal of Context 1 from the footing again revealed an immediately underlying layer of friable, light grey – brown silty clay **(2)** plus part of a probable pit **(7 / 8)** and the base of the barn / car park wall **(9)**. As before, the exposed masonry **(9)** appeared to sit directly on top of the uppermost surface of Context 2 (see sections 7.2.4. and 7.3.6.).
- 7.3.4. No artefacts were recovered from the second investigation of Context 2 (see Section 7.2.5.). However, it was confirmed that within Footing B this c.0.22m. – thick deposit directly overlay the natural geology of the site **(6)** and had been cut by Context 7.
- 7.3.5. Context 7 is interpreted as a probable rounded pit with steep sides and a relatively flat base. It possessed a maximum recorded ‘diameter’ of c.1.04m. and a depth of c.0.50m. The single homogeneous fill of very loose, mid grey – brown silty clay **(8)** yielded two fragments of late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century tile (see Section 8.0. for details) and the jumbled, disarticulated bones of at least two adult ewes and three foetal / new born lambs (see Section 9.0. for details). The cut extended into the natural chalk geology of the site **(6)**.
- 7.3.6. The base of the barn / car park wall **(9)** exposed during the excavation of Footing B (also see Section 7.3.3.) comprised both roughly – faced and seemingly unworked flint nodules (c.20mm. – 0.20m. in visible length) plus three undated tile fragments all set within a mortar visually indistinguishable from that described in Section 7.2.1.
- 7.4. **Supplementary fieldwork (Figure 11).**
- 7.4.1. A plan showing the exposed base **(10)** of a c.5.10m. – long stretch of ‘dismantled’ barn / car park wall (see sections 5.2.7. and 5.2.8.) can be seen at the end of this document (Figure 11). The surviving / visible structural remains comprised occasional flint nodules (c.50mm. – 0.20m.) chalk and greensand blocks (c.0.14m. – 0.32m.) together with tile and brick fragments

all set within a similar type of mortar to that initially described in Section 7.2.1.

7.4.2. The main building contractors had set aside five worked greensand blocks once incorporated into the fabric of the now removed masonry. It is entirely possible that these stones were first used in the construction of the nearby Priory complex (see Section 3.0.). A full photographic record of the blocks is held within the Project Archive (see Section 11.0.).

7.4.3. It should be noted that no intrusive groundworks were undertaken during the construction of a replacement length of wall directly on top of the masonry base **(10)** illustrated by Figure 11. It is assumed that the worked greensand blocks noted in Section 7.4.2. were integrated into the new structure.

**Table 2: Context Register.**

CONTEXT NUMBER.	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION / PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIPS.	ASSOCIATED ARTEFACTS.
<b>FOOTING A.</b>		
<b>1.</b>	Silty clay topsoil. Above 2. 'Against' 5.	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> century tile.
<b>2.</b>	Silty clay layer. Above 6. Below 1, 5. Cut by 3.	
<b>3.</b>	Cut of pit. Cuts 2, 6. Filled by 4.	

<b>4.</b>	Fill of pit. Fill of 3. Contains the bones of at least one adult ewe and two foetal / new born lambs.	One fragment of late 18 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> century tile
<b>5.</b>	Exposed base of barn / car park wall. Above 2. 'Against' 1.	
<b>6.</b>	Natural chalk. Below 2. Cut by 3.	
<b>FOOTING B.</b>		
<b>1.</b>	Silty clay topsoil. Above 2. 'Against' 9.	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> century tile. One fragment of late 16 <sup>th</sup> - early / mid 18 <sup>th</sup> century brick. One fragment of later 18 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> century brick.
<b>2.</b>	Silty clay layer. Above 6. Below 1, 9. Cut by 7.	
<b>6.</b>	Natural chalk. Below 2. Cut by 7.	
<b>7.</b>	Cut of pit. Cuts 2, 6. Filled by 8.	

<b>8.</b>	<p>Fill of pit.</p> <p>Fill of 7.</p> <p>Contains the bones of at least two adult ewes and three foetal / new born lambs.</p>	Two fragments of late 18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> century tile.
<b>9.</b>	<p>Exposed base of barn / car park wall.</p> <p>Above 2.</p> <p>‘Against’ 1.</p>	
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY FIELDWORK.</b>		
<b>10.</b>	Exposed base of dismantled wall.	



## 8.0. THE ARTEFACTS by Luke Barber.

8.1. The small assemblage of finds quantified in Table 3 was presented for post – fieldwork analysis. It should be noted that only a sample of the ceramic building material contained within Context 1 (footings A and B) was removed from the site.

**Table 3: Quantification of recovered artefacts (number of pieces / weight in grams).**

CONTEXT NUMBER.	BRICK.	TILE.	DATE OF DEPOSITION.
1 (A)	-	15/7,705g	19 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup> century?
1 (B)	2/2,340g	16/2,425g	19 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup> century?
4 (A)	-	1/325g	19 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup> century?
8 (B)	-	2/2,340g	19 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup> century?

8.2. Large fragments of roof tile from Context 1 (footings A and B) dominate the assemblage (though the average size is notably larger in Footing A). These consist of peg tiles measuring between 11mm. and 12mm. in thickness and between 150mm. and 158mm. in width. Where present, peg-holes are square or sometimes diamond - shaped. An example from Footing B has circular impressions around diamond - shaped peg-holes, where the tool used to create the holes has left an imprint. All of these tiles are tempered with sparse fine sand with sparse iron oxide inclusions to 1mm. and rare / sparse white clay pellets to 4mm. All are well formed and medium / well fired. A few have traces of adhering buff sandy lime mortar. A late 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century date is likely for all of this material.

8.3. Two brick fragments were also recovered from Context 1 (Footing B). The earliest consists of a red frogless example measuring 102mm. wide by 55mm.

high. It is crudely made and medium / well fired. The tempering appears to consist of sparse fine sand with iron oxide and clay pellets to 3mm. A late 16<sup>th</sup> to early / mid 18<sup>th</sup> century date range is probable. The other brick fragment consists of a red frogless example measuring 110mm. wide by 65mm. high. This is better finished and fired (though the tempering is similar, if a little finer). A later 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century date is probable.

- 8.4. The only finds from feature fills comprised a single fragment of peg tile from Context 4 (Footing A) and two other peg tile fragments from Context 8 (Footing B). These are the exact same type of tile as recovered from Context 1, in fabric, form and finish. One piece from Context 8 has adhering buff fine sandy mortar on both faces, similar to the mortar noted on some tiles in Context 1. A late 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century date range is therefore suggested.
- 8.5. No archaeological evidence was recovered to suggest a precise date of deposition for the large quantities of broken late 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century peg tiles seemingly spread across the area of investigation.
- 8.6. The finds assemblage was not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and as such has been disposed of appropriately.

## **9.0. THE FAUNAL REMAINS by Patricia Stevens.**

- 9.1. A collection of 344 animal bone fragments was recovered from the watching brief and presented for basic species identification. Specialist examination has confirmed that these bones all come from a group of adult sheep and foetal / new born lambs (see Table 4).

**Table 4: The faunal remains.**

<b>CONTEXT NUMBER.</b>	<b>NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS.</b>	<b>IDENTIFICATION.</b>
<b>4 (A)</b>	24	Foetal / new born lamb
<b>4 (A)</b>	28	Adult sheep
<b>8 (B)</b>	120	Foetal / new born lamb
<b>8 (B)</b>	172	Adult sheep

- 9.2. It has been ascertained that the bones gleaned from Context 4 (Footing A) represent a minimum of one adult ewe and two foetal / new born lambs. The assemblage from Context 8 (Footing B) comprises a minimum of two adult ewes and three foetal / new born lambs.
- 9.3. No evidence of gnawing, butchery or pathology was noted during the study of the skeletal remains. It would thus appear that the bones represent animals that died during, or soon after lambing.
- 9.4. The faunal remains assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and as such will be disposed of appropriately.

## **10.0. CONCLUSIONS.**

- 10.1. A large quantity of late 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century roof tile was recovered from the topsoil **(1)** excavated at Long Man Car Park, Wilmington (see Section 8.0.). These tiles were almost certainly associated with the barn that once stood on the site (or at least a nearby building). However, no evidence was recovered to suggest their precise date of deposition.
- 10.2. Just two cut features of limited archaeological significance were revealed during the watching brief **(3 / 4, 7 / 8)** (see sections 7.2.6. and 7.3.5.). The presence of these two sheep burials was not observed until the topsoil **(1)** had been removed from the monitored footings. Even so, both features contained late 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century tile of a type identical to that found within Context 1.
- 10.3. It would thus appear that in the 19<sup>th</sup> or perhaps even earlier 20<sup>th</sup> century, sheep that died during, or shortly after lambing were being buried against at least one of the barn / car park walls (see Section 9.0.). Other, as yet undiscovered sheep burials are likely to be located alongside the wall in question.
- 10.4. Although the groundworks undertaken at Long Man Car Park did expose the flint base of the barn / car park wall, no evidence for an associated foundation trench or any other structural features was discovered (see Section 7.2.4.).
- 10.5. An examination of historic cartographic sources has confirmed that the present perimeter walls of the car park date from at least 1725 (see Section 6.1.). No cartographic or archaeological evidence was found to support the theory that the original barn was of late medieval origin. However, it is believed that a number of worked greensand and chalk blocks incorporated into the barn / car park wall were first used in the construction of the nearby Priory complex. (see Section 7.1.1.). This would indicate that the barn post-dates the suppression of the Priory in 1414 (see Section 3.2.).

- 10.6. A more detailed study of historic cartographic and documentary sources than that undertaken / required here would almost certainly have provided more evidence for the origin and early history of the barn / car park. Nevertheless, the work carried - out by C. G. Archaeology is considered to have satisfied the Project Objectives set out in Section 4.0. of this report.

## **11.0. ARCHIVE.**

- 11.1. It is intended that the full paper and digital written, drawn and photographic records arising from this project will be collated in accordance with *'Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage'* (UKICI 1990) and deposited with a suitable local museum.

## **12.0. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.**

- 12.1. C. G. Archaeology would like to thank Greg Chuter the East Sussex County Council Assistant Archaeologist, Paul Roberts the English Heritage (South East) Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Paul Reed Conservation Ltd. and Christopher Bottomley and Christopher White of Wealden District Council for their assistance during the project.

### **13.0. REFERENCE.**

Greator, C. 2007. 'An archaeological watching brief undertaken at Long Man Car Park, Wilmington, East Sussex'. *Unpublished C. G. Archaeology Report No. 07 / 03*.



## HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET.

<b>Site Code.</b>	WIL 08					
<b>Site identification and address.</b>	Long Man Car Park, Wilmington					
<b>County, district and / or borough.</b>	East Sussex					
<b>O.S. grid ref.</b>	TQ 54335 04180					
<b>Geology.</b>	Lower Chalk					
<b>Project number.</b>	08 / 10					
<b>Fieldwork type.</b>	<b>Eval.</b>	<b>Excav.</b>	<b>W.Brief.</b>	<b>Survey.</b>	<b>Other.</b>	
			<b>X</b>			
<b>Site type.</b>	<b>Rural.</b>	<b>Urban.</b>	<b>Other.</b>			
	<b>X</b>					
<b>Date of fieldwork.</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> September – 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2008					
<b>Client.</b>	Wealden District Council					
<b>Project manager.</b>	Christopher Greatorex					
<b>Project supervisor</b>	Christopher Greatorex					
<b>Period summary.</b>	<b>Palaeo.</b>	<b>Meso.</b>	<b>Neo.</b>	<b>B. Age.</b>	<b>I. Age.</b>	<b>R – B.</b>
	<b>A. S.</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>P. Med</b>	<b>Other.</b>		
			<b>X</b>			
<b>Project Summary.</b> <p>An archaeological watching brief was maintained on groundworks associated with the construction of two new buttresses against the southern perimeter wall of Long Man Car Park, Wilmington. The walls of the current car park once formed part of a large barn. Indeed, a significant quantity of late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century tile, almost certainly associated with this barn (or at least a nearby building) was recovered from the excavated topsoil. Just two cut features of limited archaeological importance were revealed during the watching brief. These two sheep burials each contained late 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century tile of a type identical to that found within the topsoil. Although the monitored groundworks did expose the flint base of the barn / car park wall, no evidence for a foundation trench or any other structural features was discovered. An examination of historic cartographic sources has confirmed that the current perimeter walls of the barn / car park date from at least 1725. No cartographic or archaeological evidence was found to support a theory that the original barn was of late medieval origin. However, it is believed that a number of worked greensand and chalk blocks incorporated into the barn / car park walls were first used in the construction of the nearby Wilmington Priory complex. This would suggest that the barn post – dates the suppression of the Priory in 1414.</p>						

