



## Ivy Cottage Nursery, Flansham Lane, Felpham, West Sussex

### Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report





**IVY COTTAGE NURSERY, FLANSHAM LANE, FELPHAM,  
WEST SUSSEX**

**Archaeological Trial Trenching Evaluation Report**

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**IVY COTTAGE NURSERY, FLANSHAM LANE, FELPHAM,  
WEST SUSSEX**

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**IVY COTTAGE NURSERY, FLANSHAM LANE, FELPHAM,  
WEST SUSSEX****Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report****Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Jacobs Foreman Developments Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a 0.8ha block of land at 42 Flansham Lane, Felpham, West Sussex, PO22 6AG centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 496290 100550. The evaluation consisted of 9 trenches, comprising an approximate 5% sample of the site and was carried out between the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2012.

The evaluation at Ivy Cottage Nursery established that archaeological remains are present within the Site. A small number of archaeological features, within four of the nine evaluation trenches, were identified. The features were comprised of a north to south aligned Romano-British ditch (**205**), a north-east to south-west ditch terminus (**304**), an east to west undated possible drainage ditch (**807**) and an undated pit (**404**). Two of the ditches and the undated pit were broadly located towards the northern half of the Site (Trenches 2, 3 and 4); the third possible ditch was located at the southern edge of the Site (Trench 8).

Very little datable material was recovered from the excavated features. A small quantity of Romano-British pottery was recovered from ditch **205** and context **806** immediately adjacent to ditch **807**. In addition, pottery of Middle to Late Bronze Age date was recovered from at the interface of the subsoil and the underlying natural in Trench 3. The pottery was not contained within a feature and probably represents the remains of a single vessel.

The depth of the underlying brickearth geology was tested by the machine excavation of sondages at the ends of four of the evaluation trenches and found to be approximately 2m in depth. A similar geological sequence to that recorded to the north of the Site in 2007 (Wessex Archaeology 2007) was recorded during the evaluation of the Site. No evidence of any underlying raised beach deposits or periglacial and periglacial/lacustrine deposits were observed.

The small number of features and finds found during the evaluation at Ivy Cottage Nursery indicates a low level of Middle-Late Bronze Age and Romano-British activity. No evidence was found to suggest any formal settlement or industrial activity within the Site although the datable material from the ditches and pit does suggest that this activity is associated with the concentrations of Bronze Age and Romano-British settlement activity found nearby to the north-west during previous evaluation in 2007.

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This project was commissioned by Jacobs Foreman Developments Ltd and Wessex Archaeology is grateful for the assistance of Samantha Collins in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Ford Civil Engineering and Cosham Plant for organising and providing the plant for the project.

The project was monitored on behalf of West Sussex County Council by John Mills (Senior Archaeologist- Strategic Planning - Environment & Heritage) and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank him for his help and advice during the course of the project.

The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andy Manning. The evaluation was undertaken by John Powell and Oliver Good. The report was written and compiled by John Powell and Andy Manning with specialist reports by Lorraine Mephram (finds) and illustrations by Linda Coleman and Rob Goller.

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**IVY COTTAGE NURSERY, FLANSHAM LANE,  
FELPHAM, WEST SUSSEX****Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report****1 INTRODUCTION****1.1 Project Background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Jacobs Foreman Developments Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a 0.8ha block of land at 42 Flansham Lane, Felpham, West Sussex, PO22 6AG centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 496290 100550, hereafter referred to as 'the Site' (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 Previous archaeological work in 2006 has found evidence for activity dating to the Middle Bronze Age and Romano-British period approximately 200m to the north-west of the Site (Wessex Archaeology 2007). In addition, the area is known to contain Holocene alluvium associated with the Lidsey Rife and raised Palaeolithic beach deposits.
- 1.1.3 In October 2011, approval of reserved matters (FP/115/11/) was received following outline planning approval in 2008 (FP/191/08/) for the proposed construction of 29 dwellings, a new access road and landscaping including open space provision within the Site.
- 1.1.4 Due to the potential for significant archaeological remains and deposits to exist within the Site, it was a condition of the planning approval (Condition 11) that a programme of archaeological work would be required within the Site. In the first instance, a 5% trial trench evaluation of the Site was undertaken to assess the presence or absence of archaeological remains and deposits within the Site. The results of this evaluation will be used to inform any subsequent stages of archaeological mitigation that may be required.
- 1.1.5 At present, the likely construction impact within the central and eastern areas is likely to be fairly deep, with overburden removed to the top of natural (approximately 0.2-0.50m below the present ground surface) and subsequent strip foundations likely to be up to 1.5m in depth below the present ground surface.
- 1.1.6 No details of services are known at this point, although trenches for the main services are likely to be between 2m to 1m in depth.
- 1.1.7 A Written Scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by Wessex Archaeology (WA 2011) and was submitted to, and approved by, West Sussex County Council's Archaeology Team prior to the commencement of fieldwork on Site.
- 1.1.8 The evaluation was undertaken between the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2012 and the results from this trial trench evaluation are contained within this report.



## **1.2 The Site, Location and Geology**

- 1.2.1 The Site occupies an irregularly shaped 0.8ha block of land, used until recently for greenhouses. The land is bounded to the west by residential housing fronting onto Flansham Lane (A259), to the south and north by residential housing and to the east by playing fields. The Site contains one existing house in the north-west which fronts onto Flansham Lane and which will be retained.
- 1.2.2 The Site lies at an average height of approximately 5m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying geology of the Site has been identified as brickearth overlying periglacial & periglacial/lacustrine deposits (Geological Survey of Great Britain 1996, Sheet 332 (Bognor).

## **1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 1.3.1 Although no archaeological work was been carried out within, or immediately adjacent to the Site, a significant amount of archaeological work (including a desk-based assessment and trial trench evaluation) was carried out in 2006 on the site of a proposed residential development and relief road route on land between Felpham and Flansham (CgMs 2006 and Wessex 2007). The south-eastern corner of this area lies only 200m to the north-west of the Ivy Cottage Nursery.
- 1.3.2 The desk-based assessment (DBA) (CgMs 2006) established that the area had medium/high potential for Bronze Age and Roman settlement remains. Although the potential for evidence for most other periods was generally low, the area is also noted as containing Holocene alluvium associated with the Lidsey Rife and raised Palaeolithic beach deposits.
- 1.3.3 Later in 2006, a trial trench evaluation was undertaken. Of particular relevance to Ivy Cottage Nursery, archaeological features were uncovered within two areas (Areas A and C in 'Zone 1' lying approximately 200m to the north-west of the Site (**Figure 1**). This activity comprised ditches, pits, postholes and a midden of predominately Bronze Age in date with some additional limited evidence of Romano-British activity (Wessex Archaeology 2007).
- 1.3.4 The evidence appeared to suggest significant settlement activity in the immediate vicinity. A number of other undated features (predominantly ditches) were also recorded, which may be an indication of field systems associated with the possible Bronze Age settlement.
- 1.3.5 At the same time, deep test-pitting along a number of transects was also undertaken within Areas A and C which were used to investigate the underlying, pre-Devensian, Pleistocene deposits. In particular, two transects running east/west (test-pits 31, 16, 140 and 122) and north/south (test-pits 26, 28, 7 and 2) were the subject of microfossil study.
- 1.3.6 Transect 26-2 showed deep brickearth deposits up to 2m in depth sealing sand and reworked sand clay deposits, while transect 31-122 contained brickearth deposits up to approximately 1.2m in depth which sealed deep periglacial and periglacial/lacustrine deposits.

- 1.3.7 Study of the samples from these test-pits showed that the recovered microfossil remains were non-marine in origin, relating to a low lying marshy wet area, with bodies of open water in a tundra-like climate. The relationship with the known raised beach deposits and indeed their date is unknown (M.B. Roberts (Appendix 2) and John E. Whittaker (Appendix 3) in Wessex Archaeology 2007).

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **2.1 Aims and Objectives**

- 2.1.1 The objectives of the trial trench evaluation, in line with the Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation (IfA 2008), were to;
- Locate, identify and to investigate and record the presence/absence of archaeological features or deposits,
  - If significant archaeological features or deposits are located, then the evaluation would establish, where possible, the extent, date, character, relationship, condition and significance of archaeological features, artefacts and deposits,
  - Assess the depth of brickearth deposits and the potential impact on potentially significant underlying deposits, and to
  - Inform the scope and nature of any requirements for potential future mitigation.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Fieldwork**

- 3.1.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Wessex Archaeology 2011). The evaluation comprised a 5% sample of the 0.8ha Site through the excavation of 8 machine dug trenches, each approximately 30m x 1.8m, an additional trench, measuring 8m x 1.8m, was excavated on agreement with West Sussex County Council's Archaeology Team (layout of which is shown on **Figure 1**). In addition, machine excavated sondages at one end of four of the eight evaluation trenches were recorded and used to assess the depth of brickearth across the Site.
- 3.1.2 The trenches were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation continued in spits through topsoil and subsoil down to either the uppermost archaeological features or natural deposits, whichever was encountered first. Topsoil was stored separately from subsoil and any other arisings. The spoil from the trenches was scanned for artefacts. The trenches were back-filled with the excavated spoil, topsoil last in order to preserve the soil stratigraphy.
- 3.1.3 Where archaeological features were encountered they were investigated by hand, with a sufficient sample of each layer/feature type excavated in order

to establish, their date, nature, character, extent and condition. As a minimum 50% of each discrete feature (i.e. pits, post-holes); 75%-100% structural features (beam slots, ring-ditches etc.); 15-25% of each linear feature's exposed area and all terminals and intersections were investigated.

- 3.1.4 Excavated spoil from each trench and excavated feature was scanned visually and by metal detector.

## 3.2 Recording

- 3.2.1 Archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Archaeological features and deposits were hand-drawn at either 1:10 or 1:20, including both plans and sections, these were referred to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels were calculated and this information is included on both plans and sections. A representative section of each trench was recorded showing the depth of the overburden deposits.
- 3.2.2 A photographic record was kept utilising black and white film, colour slides and digital images. The record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the Site as a whole.
- 3.2.3 The survey was carried out with a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below. All survey data was recorded using the OSGB36 British National Grid coordinate system.
- 3.2.4 A unique site code **83700** was allocated to the Site, and was used on all records and finds.

## 4 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features are retained in the archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in **Appendix 1**.
- 4.1.2 Due to on Site constraints in the form of tree root protection fencing the proposed trenches along the southern and eastern edges of the Site had to be rotated and shortened when excavated.

### 4.2 Results

- 4.2.1 Archaeological features were identified in 4 trenches (Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 8). All archaeological features were sealed by the top and subsoil and were cut into the underlying geology.
- 4.2.2 Trenches 1, 5, 6, 7 and 9 contained no archaeological features.

#### ***Natural Soil Sequences***

- 4.2.3 The natural soil sequence recorded across the Site was fairly uniform. A dark grey-brown sandy-clay loam topsoil (up to 0.31m deep) was present above a mid-grey-brown sandy-clay subsoil (up to 0.36m deep). The

underlying natural was a mid-yellow-brown, sandy-clay brickearth, archaeological features were cut into this layer.

- 4.2.4 Modern made ground deposits, related to the former use of the Site as a nursery were recorded towards the northern edge of the Site in Trenches 1 and 3. The made ground was comprised of a mixture of building rubble and crushed tarmac used to form an area of hard-standing.

### **Sondages**

- 4.2.5 The depth of the underlying brickearth geology was tested by the machine excavation of sondages at the end of four of the evaluation trenches (**Figure 1**). The sondages were spaced across the Site and were intended to assess the depth of brickearth across the Site and to identify any potential impact on underlying raised beach deposits or periglacial and periglacial/lacustrine deposits. No raised beach deposits were recorded within the sondages.
- 4.2.6 The brickearth was observed to continue to a maximum depth of approximately 2.30 below ground level (BGL), calcareous clayey silts were recorded in the two northern most sondages. This sequences matches well with the sequence recorded to the north of the Site in 2007 (Wessex Archaeology 2007).
- 4.2.7 In the northernmost sondage (Trench 1; **Plate 3**), a mid yellow-brown, sandy-clay brickearth was present below the topsoil and subsoil and continued to a depth of 2.30m, a layer of pale yellow-blue, calcareous clay silt was recorded within the brickearth between 0.70m and 1.20m BGL. Below the brickearth a mixed deposit of blue-grey clay and chalk was noted at a depth of 2.30m BGL in the base of the sondage. Within Trench 2 brickearth was recorded to a depth of 1.30m, below which was a whitish-yellow calcareous clayey silt to a depth of 2.00m In the two sondages excavated to the southern edge of the Site (Trench 6 and 7) a yellow-brown, sandy-cay brickearth was recorded to a depth of 2.30m.

### **Trench 2**

- 4.2.8 Within Trench 2 a possible Romano-British linear ditch, **205**, was recorded (**Figures 1 and 2; Plate 4**). The ditch was aligned north to south and was 2.12m wide by 0.98m deep; it had steep concave sides and a concave base. The features edges were diffuse on excavation due to the nature of the parent geology and the re-worked natural feature fills, subsequently the ditch was overcut to confirm the features edge. The ditch contained three deposits from which two sherds of Romano-British pottery (dating to the later 1<sup>st</sup> century) and burnt flint was recovered from the primary fill (**206**). The upper fill of the ditch contained common charcoal flecks and suggests that settlement/occupation may have been located nearby.
- 4.2.9 With the agreement of West Sussex County Council's Archaeology Team, an additional short length of evaluation Trench (Trench 9) was excavated to the south of Trench 2 to trace the alignment of ditch **205**. However ditch **205** was not visible within Trench 9, which suggests the ditch may have terminated or turned.
- 4.2.10 Ditch **205** may represent a drainage or boundary ditch. A similarly north to south aligned ditch (2.40m wide by 0.56m wide) was recorded in Area C of

the Felpham and Flansham evaluation, to the north of the Site in 2007 (Wessex Archaeology 2007).

### **Trench 3**

4.2.11 In Trench 3 a linear ditch terminus was excavated **304** (**Figure 1; Plate 2 and 5**), the ditch was aligned north-east to south-west it had a U-shaped profile and rose steeply to a rounded end; the ditch measured 2.27m in length by 0.92m wide by 0.41m deep. Ditch **304** contained a single primary fill, the fill (**305**) contained worked and burnt flint but no dateable artefacts were recovered from the feature. The ditch could not be traced within evaluation trenches to the south.

4.2.12 To the southern end of Trench 3, prehistoric pottery of a Middle to Late Bronze Age date was recovered from the base of the subsoil (**302**). The pottery appears to have derived from single vessel. No evidence of associated features could be seen.

### **Trench 4**

4.2.13 A small, oval, undated pit, **404**, was excavated in Trench 4, to the eastern side of the Site (**Figures 1 and 2; Section 402**). The pit measured 0.66m by 0.38m and was 0.15m deep. The upper fill of the pit (**406**) was predominantly a dump of burnt flint; burnt flint comprised 70 to 80% of the deposit. The pit was 100% excavated but no dateable material was recovered, however the pit is considered to be of likely Middle to Late Bronze Age date.

### **Trench 8**

4.2.14 In Trench 8 to the southern edge of the Site, a possible linear ditch **807** was identified (**Figure 1; Plate 6**). The possible ditch was aligned broadly east to west and was mapped across the base of the trench, it measured 3.25m wide and 0.43m deep. The possible ditch feature contained three naturally derived fills that were probably water-lain; the earliest fill had a gleyed appearance.

4.2.15 The exact nature of the feature in Trench 8 was unclear, but it has been interpreted as a possible drainage ditch, with eroded edges. The edges of the feature were somewhat irregular and this may have been the result of tree rooting and/or water erosion into the edges of the cut feature. Although no datable evidence was recovered from the feature, a small quantity of burnt flint and a single sherd of medieval pottery of a 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century date were recovered from the top of the natural (**806**) at the edge of the ditch, during cleaning.

## **5 FINDS**

### **5.1 General**

5.1.1 The evaluation produced a very small quantity of finds, limited to pottery and lithics, and recovered from contexts within four of the trenches excavated (Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 8); quantities by context are summarised in **Table 1**.

## 5.2 Pottery

- 5.2.1 Pottery provides the primary dating evidence. The earliest sherds are later prehistoric; these comprise the group of 17 sherds from subsoil **302**. These sherds are all in coarse, flint-tempered fabrics and may derive from a single vessel; body and base sherds are present. The sherds are small and abraded (mean sherd weight for this small group is 5.1g). On fabric grounds, this group can be dated as Middle to Late Bronze Age; comparable fabrics have been recorded, for example, at Westhampnett (Every and Mephram 2006, appendix 1, fabrics FL3, FL7), but it is uncertain whether the sherds from **302** belong to the Deverel-Rimbury or post-Deverel-Rimbury ceramic tradition.
- 5.2.2 The two sherds from ditch **205** (fill **206**) are from a Romano-British whiteware vessel, possibly a beaker or flagon of later 1<sup>st</sup> century AD date. Similar whitewares have been found in some quantity in early Roman contexts at Fishbourne and in Chichester, but it has not been established whether they represent local, regional or imported wares (e.g. Rigby 1989, 117).
- 5.2.3 Finally, the single sherd from layer **806** is from a jug base of medieval date (13th/14th century) in a fine sandy fabric, with faint traces of external glaze. The fabric is slightly coarser than the standard West Sussex ware of 14th/15th century date, but may be a related, earlier variant.

## 5.3 Worked and Burnt Flint

- 5.3.1 The two pieces of worked flint, both from ditch terminal **304**, comprise one flake and one core fragment, neither of which is morphologically distinctive of any particular prehistoric period.
- 5.3.2 Burnt, unworked flint was the most commonly encountered material type; this is intrinsically undatable, although often taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity. At Westhampnett, for example, the distribution of burnt flint mirrored that of the Middle and Late Bronze Age activity on the site (Mephram 2006). In this instance burnt flint came from contexts associated with Romano-British and medieval pottery, and from one also containing only worked flint; the largest group can from an undated context (pit **404**). Its origins and possible function remain uncertain.

**Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)**

Context	Burnt Flint	Worked Flint	Pottery
206	14/123		2/21
302			17/87
305	11/156	2/48	
406	88/591		
806	3/315		1/13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>116/1185</b>	<b>2/48</b>	<b>20/121</b>

## **6 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS**

### **6.1 Environmental Samples**

- 6.1.1 One bulk sample of 30 litres was taken from ditch 205. After discussion with the archaeological monitor, it was agreed not to process the environmental sample.

## **7 CONCLUSIONS**

### **7.1 Archaeological Conclusions**

- 7.1.1 The evaluation at Ivy Cottage Nursery has identified a small number of archaeological features within four of the nine evaluation trenches. The features comprised a north to south aligned Romano-British ditch, a north-east to south-west undated ditch terminus, an east to west undated possible ditch and an undated pit. Two of the ditches and the undated pit were broadly located towards the northern half of the Site; the third possible ditch was located at the southern edge of the Site.
- 7.1.2 Worked and burnt flint comprised the majority of the finds assemblage from the Site, with a small quantity of Middle to Late Bronze Age and Romano-British pottery indicates a low level of Bronze Age and Romano-British activity was present, although no evidence was found to indicate any concentrated settlement or industrial activity.
- 7.1.3 The evaluation results from Areas A and C of the 2007 evaluation between Felpham and Flansham (Wessex Archaeology 2007) recorded both Bronze Age and Romano-British occupation less than 400m to the north-west of the Site. The results of this evaluation therefore fit broadly within the wider archaeological landscape and suggest a continuation of the occupation previously recorded. Ditch **205** had a similar north to south orientation and size to a ditch recorded in Trench 126 (Area C, Trench 126, Ditch 12607(WA 2007)) of the earlier evaluation and could potentially form part of a wider pattern of Romano-British field systems.
- 7.1.4 Machine-excavated sondages dug at the ends of four of the trenches confirmed that the brickearth deposit within the Site is relatively deep (at approximately 2m in thickness) similar to that recorded to the north of the Site in 2007 (Wessex Archaeology 2007). The evaluation did not identify any underlying raised beach deposits or periglacial and periglacial/lacustrine deposits in the excavated sondages, but the potential for these deposits remains beyond the excavated limit of 2.5m BGL. However, the potential impact from the development on these significant periglacial/lacustrine deposits is likely to be very low.

## **8 ARCHIVE**

### **8.1 Preparation of Archive**

- 8.1.1 The project archive was prepared in accordance with the relevant standards set out in 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (MoRPHE), English Heritage (2006), and in accordance with the *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (Walker 1990). The project archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex

Archaeology under the project code **83700**. In due course the complete archive will be deposited with Littlehampton Museum.

## 9 REFERENCES

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- Wessex Archaeology, 2011, *Ivy Cottage Nursery, Flansham Lane, Felpham, West Sussex, Written Scheme of Investigation for Trial Trench Evaluation*, unpublished client report. Report Reference: 83700.01



## APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

**NB** Depths are recorded below ground level (**bgl**) unless otherwise stated.

TRENCH 1		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 29.30m x 1.84m		Max. depth: 2.50m	Ground level: 5.56m aOD
Co-ordinates: E496266.32 N100548.73			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
101	Layer	<b>Topsoil:</b> Mid Grey-brown, sandy-clay-loam moderately well compacted with clear horizon to subsoil.	0 – 0.26m
102	Layer	<b>Subsoil:</b> Mid yellowish-brown, sandy clay moderately compact with diffuse horizon to natural. Manganese staining and rare flints less than 60mm in length.	0.26 – 0.47m
103	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Brickearth, mid yellow-brown (orange) and clay with lenses of yellow grey sandy clay and re-worked chalk flecks.	0.47m – 2.30m
104	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Mid yellowish-blue sandy clay, layer within the brickearth. More blue in colour – possible gley?	0.70 – 1.20m
105	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Mid blue-grey clay with chalk and flint throughout, observed at 2.30 – 2.50m depth in base of machine sondage.	2.30 – 2.50m
106	Layer	<b>Made Ground:</b> Modern made ground relating to demolition of nursery buildings on site, CBM, concrete, slate and glass. Noted at northern 10m of trench.	0 – 0.50m

TRENCH 2		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30.80m x 1.86m		Max. depth: 2.00m	Ground level: 5.66m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 496278.56 N 100560.30			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
201	Layer	<b>Topsoil:</b> Mid to dark grey-brown, sandy-clay-loam with moderate compaction and sparse sub-angular and sub-rounded flints less than 60mm in length.	0 – 0.26m
202	Layer	<b>Subsoil:</b> Mid grey-brown, sandy clay loam with moderate compaction and a diffuse horizon to natural. Sparse sub-angular flints less than 60mm.	0.26 – 0.58m
203	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Brickearth, Mid yellow-brown to orange, sandy-clay with firm compaction.	0.58 m - 1.30m
204	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Light yellowish-grey with a sandy-clay texture and common sub-rounded degraded chalk.	1.30 – 2.00m
205	Cut	<b>Ditch:</b> North to south aligned linear ditch with steep concave sides (wide u shaped profile). Edges were somewhat diffuse given nature of the underlying geology.	0.48m – 1.58m
206	Fill	<b>Primary Fill:</b> Mid grey-brown, sandy clay with sparse flint inclusions. Two sherds of RB pottery. Build up of water deposited silts into open ditch.	0.98m (depth of layer)
207	Fill	<b>Secondary Fill:</b> Mid to dark grey, sandy clay with rare sub-angular flint and common charcoal inclusions, possibly built-up from nearby settlement?	0.15m (depth of layer)
208	Fill	<b>Secondary Fill:</b> Mid grey, sandy-clay with rare sub-angular flints, slow build up of material within top of ditch possible stabilisation layer.	0.20m (depth of layer)

TRENCH 3			Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 29.50m x 1.86m		Max. depth: 0.71m	Ground level: 5.50m aOD	
Co-ordinates: E 506921.12 N 173220.23				
Context	Description			Depth (m)
301	Layer	<b>Topsoil:</b> Mid grey-brown, sandy-clay-loam moderately well compact.		0 – 0.28m
302	Layer	<b>Subsoil:</b> Mid grey-brown with a yellowish hue, sandy-clay. Moderately compact with a diffuse horizon to natural		0.28m - 0.54m
303	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Mid yellow-brown to orange, sandy-clay brickearth. Compact with common manganese staining.		0.54m – 0.71m
304	Cut	<b>Ditch Terminus:</b> North-east to south-west aligned linear ditch terminus with steep convex sides. No dating recovered but contained worked and burnt flint.		0.55m – 0.99m
305	Fill	<b>Primary Fill:</b> Light yellowish-grey, sandy-clay with rare sub-angular flints. Formed through erosion of local edges of cut and tops and subsoil.		0.44m (depth of deposit)

TRENCH 4			Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 28.35m x 1.84m		Max. depth: 0.83m	Ground level: 5.47m aOD	
Co-ordinates: E 496333.27 N 100538.77				
Context	Description			Depth (m)
401	Layer	<b>Topsoil:</b> Re-laid topsoil that was spread over a geo-membrane. Dark grey-brown, sandy-loam with sparse small sub-angular flints		0 – 0.28m
402	Layer	<b>Subsoil:</b> Mid grey-brown, sandy-clay moderately well compact with a diffuse horizon to natural. Rare sub-angular flints less than 60mm in length.		0.28m – 0.60m
403	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Mid yellow-brown to orange, sandy clay. Brickearth. Patches/lenses of lighter yellow-blue, silty sand within brickearth.		0.60 m 0.83m
404	Cut	<b>Pit:</b> Small oval pit with moderate concave sides and a concave base. Feature contained a high % of burnt flint in upper fill.		0.49m – 0.64m
405	Fill	<b>Primary Fill:</b> Mid yellowish-brown, sandy-clay with sparse sub-angular flints less than 80mm in length.		0.09m (depth of deposit)
406	Fill	<b>Deliberate Backfill:</b> Dark grey-brown, sandy-clay with abundant burnt flint throughout layer. Dump of fire waste material.		0.08m (depth of deposit)

TRENCH 5			Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 27.6m x 1.84m		Max. depth: 0.76m	Ground level: 5.67m aOD	
Co-ordinates: E 496267.69 N 100529.28				
Context	Description			Depth (m)
501	Layer	<b>Topsoil:</b> Dark to mid grey-brown, sandy-loam with a well developed humic horizon for top 0.10m.		0 – 0.22m
502	Layer	<b>Subsoil:</b> Mid grey-brown, sandy-clay-loam with sparse sub-angular flints less than 60mm in length.		0 – 0.58m
503	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Mid yellow-brown to orange, sandy-clay with rare sub-angular flint inclusions and occasional light blue-yellow sand-clay lenses. Brickearth.		0.58m 0.76m

TRENCH 6		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 26.75m x 1.85m		Max. depth: 2.50m	Ground level: 5.64m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 496282.0 N 100522.56			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
601	Layer	<b>Topsoil:</b> dark to mid grey-brown, sandy-loam with a well developed humic horizon for upper 10 – 15cm. Rare CBM and sub-angular flints up to 60mm in length.	0 – 0.26m
602	Layer	<b>Subsoil:</b> Mid grey-brown, sandy-clay with moderate compaction and a diffuse horizon to the natural brickearth.	0.26m – 0.60m
603	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Mid yellowish-brown, sandy clay with lenses of whitish-yellow sandy clay with chalk flecks. Brickearth.	0.60m – 0.81m

TRENCH 7		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 28.80m x 1.85m		Max. depth: 2.30m	Ground level: 5.58m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 496305.67 N 100533.24			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
701	Layer	<b>Topsoil:</b> Mid greyish-brown, sandy-loam. Moderately compact with a developed humic horizon.	0 – 0.31m
702	Layer	<b>Subsoil:</b> Mid grey-brown, sandy-clay moderately compact with rare sub-angular flints and a diffuse horizon to natural.	0.31m – 0.68m
703	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Mid yellowish-brown to orange, sandy-clay, fairly well compact with iron and manganese staining throughout. Lenses of yellow-grey silt within brickearth.	0.68m – 2.30m

TRENCH 8		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 20.75m x 1.80m		Max. depth: 1.06m	Ground level: 5.22m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 496316.68 N 100503.14			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
801	Layer	<b>Topsoil:</b> Very-dark brownish-grey, sandy-clay with sparse to moderate rooting and moderate modern materials. Possibly re-laid during construction of the nursery.	0 – 0.17m
802	Layer	<b>Subsoil:</b> Mid grey-brown, sandy-clay, quite compact with sparse rooting, and rare flint pebbles.	0.17m – 0.30m
803	Layer	<b>Alluvial/Subsoil:</b> Mid greyish-orangey-brown, sandy-clay. Sparse flint pebbles and rare burnt flint.	0.30m – 0.65m
804	Layer	<b>Made Ground:</b> Dark hardcore layer only visible towards the southern end of the trench.	0 – 0.20m
805	Layer	<b>Layer:</b> Very similar to the subsoil <b>802</b> , but this is found in the southern end of the trench and appears to be part of some disturbance possibly related to the hardcore <b>804</b> above.	0.20m – 0.50m
806	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Bright orangey-brown, sandy-clay Brickearth, with blue-grey mottles.	0.65m+
807	Cut	<b>Linear Ditch:</b> East to west aligned linear ditch with shallow concave sides and a wide concave base. This feature was diffuse in plan and had irregular edges and may represent a shallow ditch with eroded edges due to bioturbation and or water action.	0.54m – 1.00m
808	Fill	<b>Secondary Fill:</b> Mid grey, sandy-clay with rare charcoal flecks. Probably the result of silting through water action/erosion.	0.18m (depth of deposit)
809	Fill	<b>Secondary Fill:</b> Mid to light grey, sandy-clay with rare flints and sparse burnt flint. Water eroded silts and clays within ditch, had a gley appearance.	0.18m (depth of deposit)

810	Fill	<b>Secondary Fill:</b> Mid to light grey with orangey-brown mottles. Rare sub-angular flint. Thought to be the result of a slow build up of material into the ditch.	0.22m (depth of deposit)
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<b>TRENCH 9</b>		<b>Type: Evaluation</b>	<b>Machine excavated</b>
<b>Dimensions: 7.78m x 1.85m</b>		<b>Max. depth: 0.62m</b>	<b>Ground level: 5.69m aOD</b>
<b>Co-ordinates: E 496273.55 N 100538.08</b>			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth (m)</b>
901	Layer	<b>Topsoil:</b> Dark grey-brown, sandy-loam with a clear turf-line. Fairly humic with a clear horizon to the subsoil.	0 – 0.24m
902	Layer	<b>Subsoil:</b> Mid grey0brown, sandy-clay-loam. Moderate to sparse sub-angular flints and flecks of charcoal.	0.24 – 0.57m
903	Layer	<b>Natural:</b> Mid yellowish-brown, sandy clay. Well compacted and with blue-grey mottles. Brickearth.	0.57m

## APPENDIX 2: OASIS SUMMARY

**OASIS ID: wessexar1-118326**

### Project details

Project name	Ivy Cottage Nursery, Felpham
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a 0.8ha block of land at 42 Flansham Lane, Felpham, West Sussex, PO22 6AG centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 496290 100550. The evaluation consisted of 9 trenches, comprising an approximate 5% sample of the site and was carried out between the 9th and the 12th of January 2012. The evaluation at Ivy Cottage Nursery established that archaeological remains are present within the Site. A small number of archaeological features, within four of the nine evaluation trenches, were identified. The features were comprised of a north to south aligned Romano-British ditch (205), a north-east to south-west ditch terminus (304), an east to west undated possible drainage ditch (807) and an undated pit (404). Two of the ditches and the undated pit were broadly located towards the northern half of the Site (Trenches 2, 3 and 4); the third possible ditch was located at the southern edge of the Site (Trench 8). The small number of features and finds found during the evaluation at Ivy Cottage Nursery indicates a low level of Middle-Late Bronze Age and Romano-British activity. No evidence was found to suggest any formal settlement or industrial activity within the Site although the datable material from the ditches and pit does suggest that this activity is associated with the concentrations of Bronze Age and Romano-British settlement activity found nearby to the north-west during previous evaluation in 2007.
Project dates	Start: 09-01-2012 End: 12-01-2012
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	83700 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	PIT Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Middle Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods techniques	& 'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Position in the After full determination (eg. As a condition)  
 planning process

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX ARUN FELPHAM Ivy Cottage Nursery, Felpham
Postcode	PO22 6AG
Study area	0.80 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 962 005 50.7955016462 -0.634870308620 50 47 43 N 000 38 05 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 3.50m Max: 6.00m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project originator	brief City/Nat. Park/District/Borough archaeologist
Project originator	design Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	A Manning
Project supervisor	John Powell
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Foreman Homes

### Project archives

Physical recipient	Archive	Littlehampton Museum
Physical Contents		'Ceramics'
Digital recipient	Archive	Littlehampton Museum
Digital available	Media	'Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'
Paper recipient	Archive	Littlehampton Museum
Paper Contents		'Ceramics'
Paper available	Media	'Section','Context sheet','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Plan'

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**Project  
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Ivy Cottage Nursery, Flansham Lane, Felpham, West Sussex:  
Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Powell, J. and Manning, A.

Other bibliographic details 83700.03

Date 2012

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Place of issue or publication Salisbury

Description A4 soft cover standard illustrated evaluation report

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Entered by Andrew Manning (a.manning@wessexarch.co.uk)

Entered on 27 January 2012



- The Site
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Modern disturbance
- Excavated slot/sondage
- ★ Bronze Age pottery
- Evaluation 2007
- Area of Bronze Age activity
- Transect

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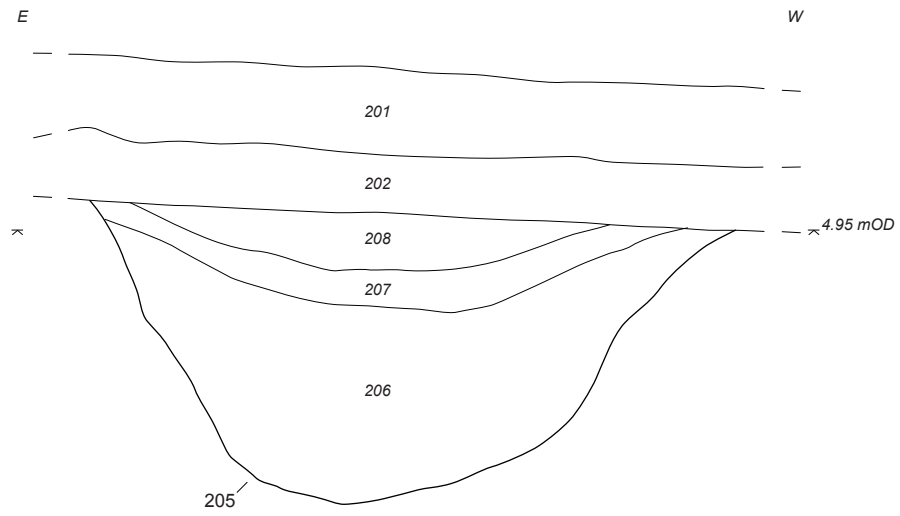


Site and evaluation trench location plan

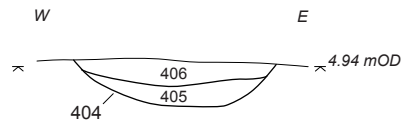
Figure 1




Section 202



Section 402



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North facing section of ditch 205 and south facing section of pit 404

Figure 2



Plate 1: North facing representative section of Trench 2 (1 x 1m scale)



Plate 2: Trench 3 viewed from the south (1 x 1m and 2m scales)


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Plate 3: Machine excavated sondage in Trench 1, viewed from east (1 x 2m scale)



Plate 4: North facing section of ditch 205 (1 x 2m scale)



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Plate 5: Ditch terminus 304 viewed from the north-east (1 x 0.5m scale)



Plate 6: West facing section of ditch 807 (1 x 1m and 2m scales)

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