

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report
Land at Sandrocks, Rocky Lane
Haywards Heath
West Sussex**

**NGR 532946 122167
(TQ 32946 22167)**

**Project No: 4851
Site Code: SRH 11**

**ASE Report No: 2011253
OASIS id: archaeol6-115165**

**By Nick Garland MA
Illustrations by Justin Russell**

October 2011

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report
Land at Sandrocks, Rocky Lane
Haywards Heath
West Sussex**

**NGR 532946 122167
(TQ 32946 22167)**

**Project No: 4851
Site Code: SRH 11**

**ASE Report No: 2011253
OASIS id: archaeol6-115165**

**By Nick Garland MA
Illustrations by Justin Russell**

October 2011

**Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR
Tel: 01273 426830
Fax: 01273 420866
Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk**

Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at University College London, was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of their clients Taylor Wimpey to undertake a watching brief on land at Sandrocks, Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex. The work was undertaken between the 18th March and 2nd June 2011.

Excavations monitored included the excavation of building foundations as well as three lines of drainage trenches with associated manholes. These revealed that in most areas, massive truncation had occurred.

No archaeological deposits, finds or features were uncovered.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 Discussion**

Bibliography
Acknowledgements

HER Summary Sheet
OASIS Form

TABLES

Table 1: Quantification of site archive
Table 2: Stratigraphy across site

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location
Figure 2: Plan of monitored areas
Figure 3: Photographs

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL), was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of their clients Taylor Wimpey to undertake a watching brief on land at Sandrocks, Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, (NGR TQ 32946 22167; Figure 1) hereafter referred to as 'the site'.

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site, on a previous housing plot and incorporating the gardens to the north and south, is located immediately to the south of Sandy Lane, on the southern edge of Haywards Heath; it is located in close proximity to small areas of woodland.
- 1.2.2 Close to Sandy Lane, the ground surface is at a height of 72.1m AOD and the site lies on a gentle slope from north down to south.
- 1.2.3 The British Geological Survey indicates that the underlying bedrock deposits comprise Grinstead Clay to the south and head deposits and Cuckfield sandstone outcrops to the north. No superficial deposits were recorded.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 After the production of desk-based assessments (ASE 2008 and CgMs 2009) and following consultation between CgMs Consulting and West Sussex County Council (WSCC) Archaeological Officers, it was decided that an archaeological watching brief should be conducted during intrusive groundworks at the site.
- 1.3.2 A specification for the watching brief was prepared by CgMs (2011) and approved by John Mills, WSCC Archaeological Officer, in advance of groundworks taking place.

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report details the findings of the watching brief which was undertaken by Nick Garland and Liane Peyre between the 18th March and 2nd June 2011. The project was managed by Andy Leonard (Project Manager, Fieldwork) and Jim Stevenson (Project Manager, Post-Excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 An archaeological background of the site was prepared as part of the Desk Based Assessment (ASE 2008). This included an HER search of a study area within a 1KM radius of the centre of the site and analysis of historical maps and aerial photographs. This background is summarised below.
- 2.2 Twenty-nine sites of archaeological interest are located within the study area, the majority of which are dated to the post-medieval period.
- 2.3 The earliest remains date from the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods, and include several fragments of worked flint, including polished axe fragments found in unstratified contexts during walkover surveys of the study area.
- 2.4 Evidence of an Iron Age/Romano-British double ditched hill-top enclosure was discovered during evaluation work ahead of the Bolnore Village development to the west of the site. Scattered Roman pottery within Furze Wood to the south of the site suggests further occupation in this area.
- 2.5 Medieval remains in the area are represented by a roadside ditch also found during the Bolnore Village evaluation works and two; Grade II listed buildings at Little Haywards Farm and Cleaveswater in Wivelsfield Road. The buildings date to c. 1400 and the c. mid- 15th of 16th century respectively.
- 2.6 Sixteen post-medieval listed buildings are within the study area, including the 18th century house at Sandrocks itself which was demolished in 1965. Additionally several parks are in close proximity to the site, as well as the Sussex County Lunatic Asylum and several brickfields.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and Objectives

- 3.1.1 The aims and objectives of the evaluation were laid out in the specification (CgMs 2011):
- 3.1.2 The principle objective of the archaeological monitoring was to record any archaeological artefacts and/or ecofacts and their context. Further objectives were as follows:
- To determine if possible the date of the earliest human activity in the area and the subsequent sequence of occupation
 - To help further inform understanding of past activity in the area of West Sussex.
 - To record any significant archaeological deposits exposed during construction work.

3.2 Methodology

- 3.2.1 For the complete adopted methodology, the reader is referred to the specification (*ibid*).
- 3.2.2 In accordance with which (*ibid*), excavations were monitored by an archaeologist until it became clear, beyond reasonable doubt, that no archaeological remains were present (e.g. once excavation reached undisturbed natural subsoils, below which there could be no archaeological remains present).
- 3.2.3 The works monitored (Figure 2) during the watching brief were:
- Excavation of foundations for two adjacent houses
- Excavation of four manholes
- Excavation of drainage trenches
- 3.2.4 No archaeological findings were made during the watching brief on the above and subsequent consultation between John Mills, WSCC Archaeological Officer and CgMs deemed that no further monitoring was necessary.

Number of Contexts	6 contexts
No. of files/paper record	1 folder
Photographs	87 Digital

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS (Fig 2 &3)

4.1 Building Foundations

- 4.1.1 To the north of the site, excavations for the foundations of 2 interconnected buildings were monitored. The building plots covered an area of approximately 33m x 17m. The foundation trenches measured 0.5m wide x 1m deep and revealed the same sequence across the whole building plot:

Compact light-yellow natural clay [002] with occasional small and medium sub-rounded stones sealed beneath a layer of made ground [001] (dark grey stony silt, with modern brick and CBM), which was around 0.25m in depth.

No archaeological finds, deposits or features were uncovered.

4.2 Drainage Excavations

- 4.2.1 Three drainage trenches and associated manholes excavations were monitored. The manhole excavations were 2m x 2m x 3.5m deep. The drainage trench excavations were 0.6m wide x c. 3.5m deep.

- 4.3.2 The 2 drainage trenches in the centre of the site revealed the same sequence:

Natural clay [002] sealed beneath a layer of made ground [003] 0.8m thick.

No archaeological finds, deposits or features were uncovered.

- 4.3.3 The drainage trench to the south of the site revealed the following sequence in the main part of the trench:

In one small area, natural clay, [002], was sealed beneath a thin layer (c.0.1m) of subsoil, [004]. This was overlain by made ground, [003], to a maximum depth of c.0.8m; however, in most areas of the trench, the subsoil was not present and the natural geology was directly overlain by the made ground.

In the manhole excavations to the south of the trench a slightly differing sequence was observed. Natural clay [002] was directly sealed beneath made ground, [003], to a maximum depth of 0.65m. Above this was buried a topsoil and turf horizon, [006], of c. 0.1m, which was beneath another layer of made ground, [005], measuring c. 0.65m.

No archaeological finds, deposits or features were uncovered.

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness
001	Deposit	Made Ground	As Ex.	As Ex.	0.3 m
002	Deposit	Natural Clay	As Ex.	As Ex.	N/A
003	Deposit	Made Ground	As Ex.	As Ex.	0.8 m
004	Deposit	Subsoil	As Ex.	As Ex.	0.1 m
005	Deposit	Made Ground	As Ex.	As Ex.	0.65 m
006	Deposit	Buried topsoil	As Ex.	As Ex.	0.1 m

Table 2: Stratigraphy across site

5.0 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 No archaeological deposits, remains or features were encountered during the excavations monitored at Sandrocks, Haywards Heath.
- 5.2 The watching brief shows that the site has been heavily truncated and levelled.
- 5.3 The surviving buried subsoil [004], topsoil and turf horizons [006] recorded in the southern part of the site as opposed to the complete truncation into the natural clay [002] recorded in the north are almost certainly reflect that the north was cut-into whilst the south was built up. This is due to the steep gradient of the site which slopes from the north down to the south.
- 5.4 Whilst there is probably no potential for archaeological survival in the northern part of the site, there may be some potential for archaeological survival in the south where topsoil [006] and subsoil [004] horizons appear to be intact.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASE 2008. An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Land At Sandrocks, Haywards Heath District, West Sussex. ASE Unpublished grey literature

CgMs. 2011. Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief: Land at Sandrocks, Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex. Unpublished grey literature

CgMs. 2009. Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land at Sandrocks, Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex. Unpublished grey literature

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeology South-East would like to thank Rob Bourn of CgMs Consulting and their clients Taylor Wimpey for commissioning the work and John Mills of West Sussex County Council for his guidance throughout the project.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	SRH 11					
Identification Name and Address	Land at Sandrocks Rocky Lane Haywards Heath, West Sussex,					
County, District &/or Borough	Haywards Heath, West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	532946 122167					
Geology	Grinsted clay and Cuckfield sandstone					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4851					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief X	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other X House within rural area		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 18/3/11 to 2/6/11	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Nick Garland					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other None		

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at University College London, was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of their clients Taylor Wimpey to undertake a watching brief on land at Sandrocks, Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex. The work was undertaken between the 18th March and 2nd June 2011.

Excavations monitored included the excavation of building foundations as well as three lines of drainage trenches with associated manholes. These revealed that in most areas, massive truncation had occurred.

No archaeological deposits, finds or features were uncovered.

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-115165

Project details

Project name	Sandrocks, Haywards Heath
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at University College London, was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of their clients Taylor Wimpey to undertake a watching brief on land at Sandrocks, Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex. The work was undertaken between the 18 th March and 2 nd June 2011. Excavations monitored included the excavation of building foundations as well as three lines of drainage trenches with associated manholes. These revealed that in most areas, massive truncation had occurred. No archaeological deposits, finds or features were uncovered.
Project dates	Start: 18-03-2011 End: 02-06-2011
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	SRH 11 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX MID SUSSEX HAYWARDS HEATH Land at Sandrocks, Hayward Heath
Postcode	RH16 4SD
Study area	22798.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 32946 22167 50.9829805860 -0.105800607114 50 58 58 N 000 06 20 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting

Project director/manager Andy Leonard

Project supervisor Nick Garland

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Local Museum

Digital Contents 'none'

Digital Media available 'Images raster / digital photography','Text'

Paper Archive recipient Local Museum

Paper Contents 'none'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Drawing','Photograph','Report'

Project bibliography

1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An Archaeological Watching Brief at Land at Sandrocks, Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex

Author(s)/Editor(s) Garland, N

Other bibliographic details 2011253

Date 2011

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

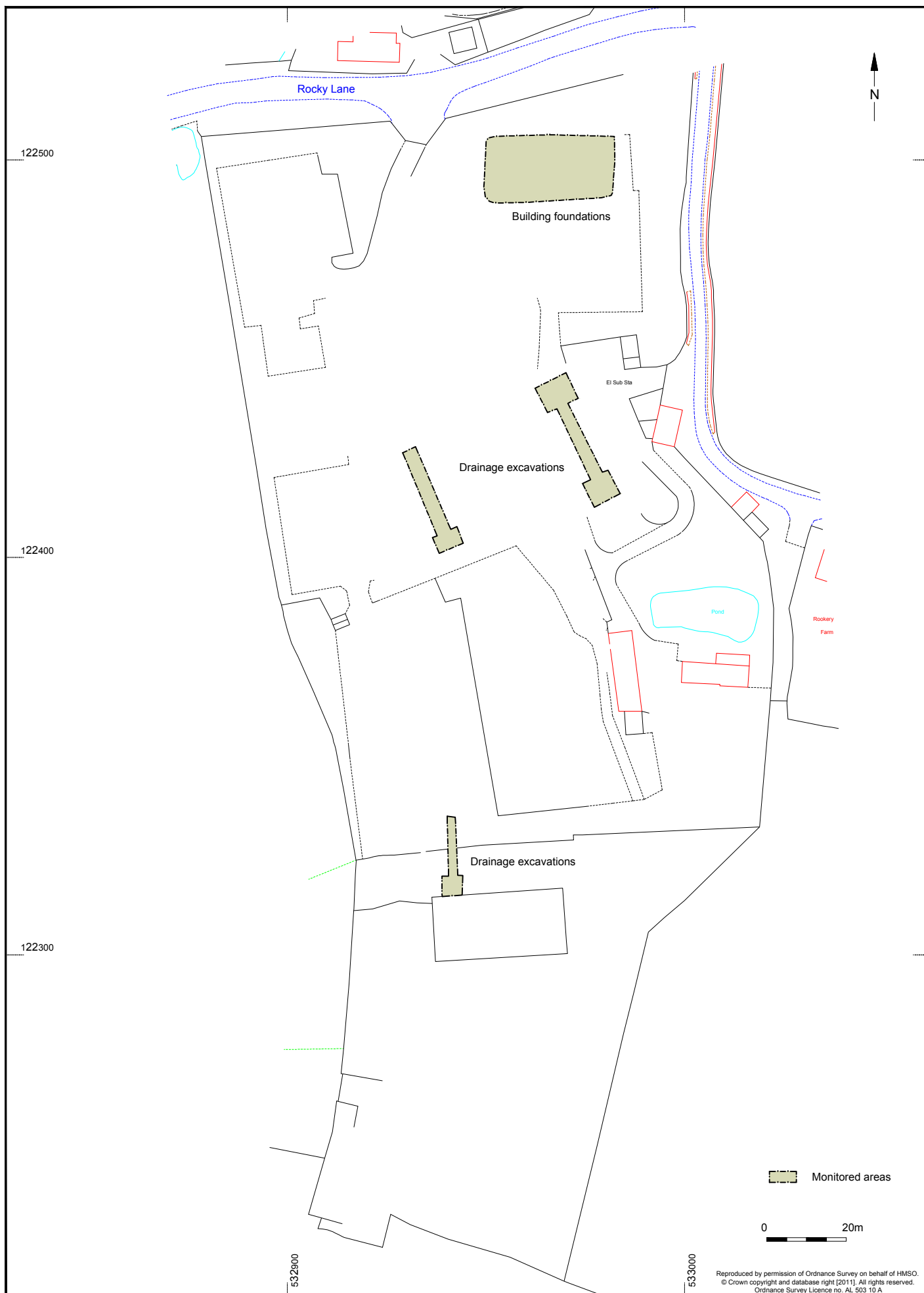
Place of issue or publication Portslade

Entered by Nick Garland (n.garland@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 2 December 2011



© Archaeology South-East		Sandrocks, Haywards Heath	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4851	Dec 2011	Site location	
Report Ref: 2011253	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Sandrocks, Haywards Heath	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4851	Dec 2011	Plan of monitored areas	
Report Ref: 2011253	Drawn by: JLR		



North facing section of deposit 006



West facing section of deposits 001 and 002

© Archaeology South-East		Sandrocks, Haywards Heath	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 4851	Dec 2011	Photographs	
Report Ref: 2011253	Drawn by: JLR		

Head Office
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1DR
Tel: +44(0)1273 426830 Fax: +44(0)1273 420866
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
Web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk



London Office
Centre for Applied Archaeology
Institute of Archaeology
University College London
31-34 Gordon Square, London, WC1 0PY
Tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778
Fax: +44(0)20 7383 2572
Web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

The contracts division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, University College London 

©Archaeology South-East