

**GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL
INVESTIGATIONS AT PARK VIEW, THE STREET, SEDLESCOMBE, EAST SUSSEX**

**POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND
UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN**

NGR: 578297 117795

**Planning Ref No. RR/2010/1131/P
(renewal of consent RR/2004/3717/H)**

**ASE Project No: 4798
Site Codes: SMM12 and SOL12**

**ASE Report No: 2012249
OASIS ID:archaeol6-139831**



by

Simon Stevens BA MIFA

With contributions by

**Matt Pope, Liz Chambers, Rob Scaife, Karine Le Hégarat, Luke Barber, Trista Clifford,
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**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
www.archaeologyse.co.uk**

Abstract

This report presents the results of the archaeological excavation carried out in 2012 by Archaeology South-East at Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe, East Sussex (NGR 578297 117795). The site was found to have been heavily truncated but evidence of post-medieval industrial activity was recovered.

The fieldwork successfully mapped the distribution of alluvial sedimentation across the site. The geometry of the underlying bedrock surface and the alignment of surviving peat along a north-south axis suggests that the alluvial sedimentation relates broadly to the feeder channel of the Sedlescombe Stream. The modern stream is a misfit spring-fed stream of small flow volume and runs along the eastern boundary of the site.

There was a very thin scatter of prehistoric material across the investigated area, suggesting intermittent Mesolithic - Early Neolithic activity on or in the environs of the site. Material from the Romano-British period offers the first evidence of identifiable activity in the form of ironworking waste. However this assemblage was undoubtedly imported to the site in the post-medieval period, and although it is unequivocal evidence of the industrial activity known to have been widespread in the Weald at that time and in later periods, it did not relate to activity actually at the site.

Evidence of medieval activity was somewhat enigmatic, represented by a limited assemblage of often highly abraded sherds of pottery, usually recovered from provably later features, and two features tentatively dated to this period. It is more-than-likely that all of the medieval material recovered from the site was residual, and that this location on the fringes of the medieval village remained unoccupied at that time.

However, there was clear evidence of an upsurge in activity after 1500. A number of pits were dug over the next two or three centuries, as well as a shallow gully, presumably for drainage. A limited assemblage of domestic material was deposited in these features.

Physical evidence for the use of the site as a tannery dates to the 18th and 19th centuries, when it also appears to have been sub-divided with ditches, again acting as drainage. Some domestic material was also deposited in pits at this time. A block of tannery pits were active at this time, occupying much of the site; there are cartographic and documentary references to the presence of a tannery/fellmongery at the site at this time, and for the location of buildings.

It is suggested that the results of work at the site should be published in the form of a short article in the Sussex Archaeological Collections.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site location

1.1.1 The site lies on the southern fringe of the village of Sedlescombe and is approximately 0.2ha in area(NGR: 578297 117795) (Figure 1). The western boundary is with the fences of existing properties fronting onto The Street. There are open pasture fields to the north, east and south.

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The site lies on the edge of the former floodplain of the River Brede which lies c. 100m to the south, and slopes very slightly from north-west down to south-east reflecting this position, resulting in an average elevation of approximately 11.5m AOD

1.2.2 According to current data from the British Geological Survey the underlying bedrock at the site consists of the Ashdown Formation of sandstone, siltstone and mudstone. The superficial deposits consist of Head, comprising clay, silt, sand and gravel (BGS 2012).

1.3 Scope of the Project

1.3.1 Planning permission has been granted by Rother District Council (RDC) under planning reference RR/2010/1131/P (renewal of consent RR/2004/3717/H) for the construction of residential dwellings with associated access, car parking and services. The following planning condition (Condition 3) was attached to the consent.

'No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, including a timetable for the investigation, which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and works shall be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.'

Reason: To enable the recording of any items of historical or archaeological interest, as the development is likely to disturb remains of archaeological interest, in accordance with requirements within PPS5 'Planning for the Historic Environment' and Policy GD1 (viii) of the Rother District Local Plan.'

1.3.2 The current work represents the fourth stage of archaeological work at the site and follows a desk based assessment (DBA) (Wessex Archaeology 2007), recording of former buildings, subsequently demolished (Wessex Archaeology 2008a) and trial trench evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2008b). Six trenches were excavated, two of which revealed evidence of features relating to tanning, interpreted as a fellmonger's pits, provisionally dated to the post-medieval period.

1.3.3 Following these discoveries, consultation between ASE, the potential site developer (Constantgreen Homes Ltd) and the East Sussex County Council Archaeologist, Casper Johnson (ESCC) (in his capacity as advisor to RDC on archaeological planning matters) took place in 2008. Subsequently ASE

produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological excavation (ASE 2008) which was approved by ESCC.

- 1.3.4 Following a change in site ownership, ASE, Brite Design and Development Ltd (on behalf of F. C. Stark Limited) and the ESCC County Archaeologist met on site on 5th April 2011 to discuss whether the scope of archaeological work could be re-assessed. In order for an informed decision to be made the ESCC County Archaeologist requested that an Archaeological Impact Assessment document be produced.
- 1.3.5 ASE completed this document (ASE 2011), and submitted it to ESCC for review and a further site meeting was held between ASE, Brite Design and Development Ltd and ESCC in order to agree the appropriate scope of archaeological mitigation works.
- 1.3.6 Subsequently, a *Brief for Archaeological Mitigation in Advance of Development at Land at Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe, East Sussex* was produced by Casper Johnson (ESCC 2011, hereafter 'the ESCC brief'). This set out the requirement to undertake an initial auger survey followed by an open area strip, map and sample archaeological excavation (both in advance of development) combined where necessary with a targeted watching brief.
- 1.3.7 A WSI was prepared by ASE (ASE 2012a). The initial phase of archaeological fieldwork comprising an auger survey completed in February 2012 (ASE 2012b; Figure 5). Following approval of this report by ESCC, it was agreed that the next stage of archaeological fieldwork could proceed. This was the mechanical stripping of the area defined in Figure 6 of the aforementioned WSI (ASE 2012a,) (Figure 2).
- 1.3.8 Representatives of ASE and ESCC met twice on-site during the mechanical stripping. It was confirmed at the second meeting that the scope of subsequent hand excavation and sampling of the features revealed (principally tanning pits, structural remains, ditches, pits, etc.; see also Section 2 below) would be in accordance with the approved WSI (ASE 2012).
- 1.3.9 Owing to the potentially high cost of completing both the hand excavation and subsequent report production, a further meeting was convened on 15th May 2012 between representatives of ASE and ESCC, Andrew Billings (F C Stark Ltd.) and Andrew Camp (Brite Design and Development) in order to establish what options were available to ensure continued compliance with the existing archaeological planning condition whilst maintaining a financially viable development of the site.
- 1.3.10 The outcome of this meeting was the agreement that as meaningful and guaranteed preservation *in situ* of the most significant archaeological remains exposed on the site could be incorporated within the development (i.e. the majority of the fellmongery pits would be left *in situ*) (Figure 2). Hence the scope of further archaeological fieldwork and attendant costs could be significantly reduced.
- 1.3.11 Subsequently a second WSI was produced by ASE (ASE 2012c) outlining the methodology to be used in excavating and recording the archaeological

deposits which could not be preserved *in situ*, as well as one of the features identified as a tanning pit.

- 1.3.12 The excavation was undertaken by ASE during July and August 2012. The site was staffed by a team of ASE archaeologists, project managed by Neil Griffin and directed in the field by Nick Garland. Nick Garland left ASE in September 2012 and this post excavation assessment has been prepared by Simon Stevens.

1.4 Circumstances and dates of archaeological work

- Desk-Based Assessment undertaken by Wessex Archaeology (WA) completed in December 2007 and January 2008 (Wessex Archaeology 2007).
- Building Recording and archaeological watching brief undertaken during demolition by WA, completed in April 2008 (Wessex Archaeology 2008a).
- Archaeological evaluation of the site by mechanically excavated trial trenches undertaken by WA in May 2008 (Wessex Archaeology 2008b).
- Geological borehole survey undertaken by ASE, completed in February 2012 (ASE 2012b).
- Mechanical strip of the site under archaeological supervision by ASE, completed in April 2012.
- Excavation of selected archaeological contexts by ASE in July and early August 2012.

1.5 Archaeological Methodology

- 1.5.1 The initial phase of stripping the site to expose archaeological remains was undertaken by ASE in April 2012. The excavations were directed by a suitably qualified archaeologist and regular contact was maintained with the County Archaeologist or his delegated representative during this process, including two site visits.
- 1.5.2 The extent of the strip, map and sample excavation area as shown on Figure 2 was approved on site at a meeting between ASE and the County Archaeologist with the developer's agent (Brite Designs and Development) and Rother District Council notified via email.
- 1.5.3 All machine excavation was undertaken using a tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under the direct supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Overburden deposits (e.g. demolition material, modern made ground) were removed in spits no greater than 0.1m in thickness. Machine excavation was carried down on to the top of archaeological deposits or the surface of geological drift deposits, whichever was uppermost. The resultant exposed surface was hand cleaned whilst machining progressed and planned on a daily basis (see section 5.1.4

below). During this operation all earthmoving and other vehicles avoided travelling on any areas of archaeological investigation unless cleared to do so by the archaeological supervisor. All overburden was removed from the excavation area and stored in an area immediately to the north.

- 1.5.4 A full pre-excitation plan was prepared daily as the stripping progressed using Global Positioning System (GPS) planning technology in combination with Total Station surveying. This was made available to the Project Manager, the Supervisor and the ESCC County Archaeologist on a regular basis. This pre-excitation plan was supplied to the ESCC Archaeologist and Brite Design and Development in AutoCAD and/or PDF format and also printed at a suitable scale (1:20 or 1:50) for on-site use. This plan formed the basis for agreeing the detailed excavation strategy with the County Archaeologist as outlined in Section 1 above. The site boundary, limits of archaeological investigation and archaeological features have been located on to digital Ordnance Survey mapping covering the immediate surrounding area in addition to the revised development plan .
- 1.5.5 All excavation work was be carried out in line with Standards for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording and Post-Excavation Work in East Sussex (ESCC 2008).
- 1.5.6 The site had been left exposed to the elements for many weeks (the area of the tanning pits having been covered with plastic sheeting after six weeks to mitigate against desiccation). Hand cleaning of the stripped area containing archaeological features was undertaken. A single tanning pit located within the 'preservation *in situ*' area was excavated by hand
- 1.5.7 All features structures, deposits and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards. All archaeological contexts were recorded individually on context record sheets. A further more general record of the work comprising a description and discussion of the archaeology was maintained as appropriate. A Harris Matrix of context relationships was maintained during the excavation work and checked upon completion of the works.
- 1.5.8 The plan was updated by regular visits to site by the ASE Surveyor plotted excavated features and record levels in close consultation with the Supervisor and/or the excavators. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. All site plans were maintained on a day to day basis for full interpretation and presentation.
- 1.5.9 All hand-drawn sections were drawn on polyester based drafting film and clearly labelled. All hand drawn plans were accurately tied in to the site grid by means of GPS survey technology.
- 1.5.10 The stripped excavation area was surveyed by a metal detector prior to feature excavation. All features were scanned at regular intervals during hand excavation.
- 1.5.11 With the exception of the single, fully excavated, tanning pit, the recording strategy for all archaeological features and deposits within the agreed area of meaningful preservation in situ was limited to the following strategy:
- updating the plan as required following hand cleaning

- undertaking a photographic record of areas and individual features (including each tanning pit)
- surface finds retrieved and bagged by context
- preparing a basic context sheet for each feature in so far as was practicable without any hand excavation.

1.5.12 A full black and white, colour (35mm transparency) and digital photographic record was maintained.

1.5.13 Following completion of all archaeological hand excavation and sampling the agreed area of preservation *in situ* was undertaken by other contractors appointed directly by the developer or their agent in accordance with an agreed methodology. All remaining areas of the site were backfilled with care and under archaeological supervision using spoil derived from the initial stripping phase. Care was taken not to cause damage to or track over the area of preservation in situ.

1.6 The site archive

1.6.1 The site archive has been offered to Bexhill Museum. ASE has yet to receive a response from them.

| Type | Description | Quantity |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Context sheets | Individual context sheets | 194 |
| Section sheets | A1 Multi-context permatrace sheets 1:10 | 3 |
| Plans | Multi-context DWG plans | All features |
| Photos | Digital images | 378 |
| Environmental sample sheets | Individual sample sheets | 32 |
| Context register | Context register sheets | 5 |
| Environmental sample register | Environmental sample register sheets | 3 |
| Photographic register | Photograph register sheets | 6 |
| Drawing register | Section register sheets | 3 |

Table 1: Site archive quantification

1.7 Environmental Sampling Strategy

- 1.7.1 An appropriate and structured programme of environmental sampling was implemented. This was discussed and agreed in advance of full excavation of deposits. ASE were able to utilise an experienced in-house environmental archaeological team to supervise the implementation of an appropriate environmental sampling strategy.

1.8 Organisation of the Report

- 1.8.1 This post-excavation assessment (PXA) and updated project design (UPD) has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (English Heritage 2008).
- 1.8.2 The report seeks to place the results from the site within the local archaeological and historical setting; to quantify and summarise the results; specify their significance and potential, including any capacity to address the original research aims; lists any new research criteria; and lays out what further analysis work is required to enable the final dissemination of the information and what form the latter should take.
- 1.8.3 The ASE excavation work at the site ran as a single open area excavation, with the finds and environmental archives from the excavation campaign recorded under site code: SMM12. The geoarchaeological work was recorded under the site code SOL12 .

2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The DBA carried out by Wessex Archaeology identified archaeological sites and findspots within a 250m radius of the current site, and used that data to assess the potential for the survival of archaeological remains on a period-by-period basis (Wessex Archaeology 2007).
- 2.2 Given the paucity of archaeological deposits encountered in the area, there was considered a low potential for the survival of prehistoric and Romano-British remains within the Study Area (*ibid.*). However, there is evidence of significant Romano-British ironworking activity around Sedlescombe. It has been suggested that the Pestalozzi Village complex lies on the site of a Roman settlement, being at the convergence of a Roman road, wharf and the industrial iron-working site. Foundation excavations for the existing structures at the site uncovered a metalled road surface of Roman date (Cleere and Crossley 1995, 305)
- 2.3 The current site lies within both an Archaeological Notification Area (ANA) and a Conservation Area, which encompasses the whole village from Sedlescombe Bridge north to The Old Gun House, extending east and west into open fields. This designation is based on the village's long history and absence of more recent development in the historic core, suggesting that there is a strong possibility of the survival of archaeological deposits. The DBA recorded only one entry of medieval date, comprising documentary evidence for the site of a medieval monastic tannery, the suspected location of this site is within the open field immediately to the south of the current site (Wessex Archaeology *op. cit.*).
- 2.4 The DBA suggests that the site lies within an area of the village that may have been a focus of post-medieval industry, with a gunpowder mill, a corn mill, a tanyard, a wheel-wrights and a smithy all recorded in the vicinity. There it was considered that there was a moderate potential for the survival of post-medieval features and deposits within the site (*ibid.*).
- 2.5 Cartographic evidence indicates that the site lay behind an inn, the Coach and Horses, in the late 19th century and that the recently demolished buildings also occupied the site at that time (Wessex Archaeology 2008a). Documentary evidence indicates the presence of a tanyard or fellmonger's yard within the site during the post-medieval period (Stevens & Stevens 2003).

3.0 ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS

- 3.1 Following the proposal to preserve the most significant remains *in situ*, the following aims were outlined (WSI 2012c):

General

To identify, excavate and record all archaeological remains present beyond the limits of the area proposed for preservation in situ in addition to one tanning pit as a contribution to the knowledge of the archaeology and history of Sedlescombe and Rother District;

To investigate and understand the character, form, function and date of the past activity at the site through a study of the archaeological remains not scheduled for preservation in situ including

To investigate and understand the evolution of land use and change at the site in so far as is practicable within the reduced scope of detailed investigation;

To archive and publish the results of the investigations as a contribution to the understanding of the archaeology and history of Sedlescombe, Rother District and East Sussex.

Specific

OR1 *Is there evidence of activity at the site earlier than the medieval period and if so what form did this activity take?*

OR2 *Is there evidence of how the geo-archaeological and palaeoenvironmental history of the site determined the scope of past human activity at the site?*

OR3 *To sample and record the peat deposits in more detail, should these be encountered, in order to better understand its character, date and significance in terms of its relationship with the wider landscape.*

OR4 *How was the fellmongering and tanning industry laid out at this site, what stages of the process are represented and how did it change and develop over time?*

OR5 *What is the nature of the evidence for medieval and post-medieval fellmongering and tanning at the site?*

OR6 *What relationship did the demolished outbuilding have to below ground remains?*

OR7 *To ensure that features in the excavation area are fully exposed in plan and excavated in sufficient detail where appropriate/agreed.*

OR8 *To better understand the range of features and artefacts present on site and ensure that meaningful preservation in situ in perpetuity or by record is achieved.*

4.0 GEOARCHAEOLOGY RESULTS by Liz Chambers and Matt Pope

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Initial site assessment undertaken by Wessex demonstrated the presence of alluvial sedimentation preserving organic material as part of a fluvial sequence across the eastern portion of the site.

4.1.2 In order to characterise this sedimentary sequence further, establish the distribution of organic deposits and determine the environmental history of the site a programme of geoarchaeological window sampling was undertaken

4.2 Methodology

4.2.1 Twelve geoarchaeological borehole samples were undertaken under direct geoarchaeological supervision (Dr Matt Pope and Liz Chambers) in the positions shown on Figure 2 using a GeoTool GTR780 dynamic probing/window sampler rig capable of recovering sleeved cores (called Cores 1 to 12 in the flowing text). One location (11) was not successful due to the presence of concrete at depth, all the other holes penetrated into the underlying solid. Other locations were assayed below top soil using a hand augur.

4.2.2 Sediments were recorded in the following manner. Beneath the modern horizons, the running section was recorded to allow the development of a series of detailed sediment logs. These comprised detailed sediment descriptions at 0.25m intervals or at the junction of major stratigraphic or lithological boundaries. The descriptions comprised matrix lithology, coarse components, sediment cohesion as well as characterisation of superficial structures and likelihood of decalcification/oxidisation.

4.2.3 Recording, reporting and post excavation work was undertaken in accordance with the ESCC brief (ESCC 2011). The current programme of work created a lithological record and archive of a representative sequence as recovered sleeved samples.

4.3 Results

4.3.1 The observations showed a broad and consistent phasing of deposits at the site:

- I. **Solid Geology:** Ashdown Beds encountered at depths between 2.3m and 3.0m below ground level, surface falls to south east as fluvial channel cut
- II. **Alluvial Gravel:** High Energy fluvial gavel comprising local lithologies. Rarely exceeding 0.25m in thickness
- III. **Alluvial sands:** Medium energy mineralogenic deposits
- IV. **Peat.** Localised development to the east and south of the site (WS12, 5, 4, 8) of peat beds up to 0.4m thick. These are the equivalent of peats located in Wessex Trench 2 in 2008

- V. **Organic Alluvium:** Grey silty clay with organics flecks, the latter possibly reworked peats
- VI. **Anaerobic/Minerogenic Alluvium** Blue to Grey Alluvium, unoxidised with good potential for pollen recovery
- VII. **Weathered Alluvium:** oxidised shallow water alluvium with localised iron pans
- VIII. **Made Ground:** 20th century concrete foundations
- IX. **Modern Topsoil**

4.3.2 The observed sequences for Cores 1 to 12 are presented in Appendix 6 with linked logs drawn up and shown in Figures 3 to 5, displaying the basic stratigraphic sequence.

4.3.3 Two cores which offered sedimentary conditions likely to offer both good pollen preservation and material datable through AMS were selected for assessment. These were Cores 5 and 8 and the observed sequences are presented here:

| Sleeve no | Stratigraphy | Lithology | Munsell | Depth m | Samples | Sample No. |
|-----------|---|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|------------|
| 5.1 | Topsoil | | | 0-0.40 | X | |
| | Weathered alluvium with CBM | Silty Clay | 10YR 3/3 Dark Brown | 0.40-0.60 | X | |
| | Anaerobic alluvium with CBM flecks | Silty Clay | Gley 1 4/5GY Dark greenish Grey | 0.60-0.83 | Pollen at 0.70m | 22 |
| | Peat | Silty Clay | 10YR 4/1 Dark Grey | 0.83-1.00 | Pollen at 0.95m | 23 |
| 5.2 | Peat | As above | As above | 1.00-1.10 | | |
| | Alluvium with CBM/ceramic flecks | Silty Clay | 10YR 5/1 Grey | 1.10-1.36 | Pollen at 1.25 | 24 |
| | Oxidised Alluvium | Silty Clay | 2.5Y 6/4 Light yellowish Brown | 1.36-1.44 | Pollen at 1.42 | 25 |
| | Alluvium with rare roots/wood fragments | Silt-Fine sand | 2.5Y 6/2 Light brownish Grey | 1.44-1.68 | Pollen at 1.50 Pollen at 1.66 | 26 27 |
| | Sand and gravel | | | 1.68+ | | |

Table 2: Core 5 sediment log and sample location

| Sleeve no | Stratigraphy | Lithology | Munsell | Depth | Samples | Sample No. |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|---|----------------------|
| 8.1 | Topsoil | | | 0-0.40 | X | |
| | Disturbed, rooted grey alluvium | | | 0.40-0.69 | X | |
| | Alluvium | Soft clay | Gley 1 4/10Y Dark greenish Grey | 0.69-0.88 | Pollen at 0.76m | 28 |
| | Peat with clay (macro organics noted) | Soft clay | 10YR 2/2 Very dark Brown | 0.88-1.00 | Pollen at 0.94m AMS [33] at 0.88m | 29 33 |
| 8.2 | As above | As above | As above | 1.00-1.60 | Pollen at 1.14m Pollen at 1.52m AMS [34], [35] at 1.52m | 30 31 34 35 |
| | Alluvium with wood fragments | Silty clay | 2.5Y 3/2 Very dark greyish Brown | 1.60-1.80 | X | |
| | | Sandy clay | 2.5Y 5/4 Light olive Brown | 1.80+ | Pollen at 1.90 | 32 |

Table 3: Core 8 sediment log and sample location

4.3.4 Both show moderately contrasting sedimentary sequences with both cores presenting coarse material at the base (1.80m depth in Core 8 and 1.68m in Core 5) and alluvium throughout until the modern topsoil. Peaty lenses were present within the alluvial sequences of both cores at c. 0.8-1m with alluvium weathered in the upper parts through oxidisation and bioturbation (0.4-0.6m)

4.4 Radiocarbon dating

4.4.1 Three radiocarbon determinations were obtained on material taken from sub-samples of Core 8. Sub-samples from Core 5 were also examined with the aim of obtaining material for dating but no suitable organic remains were identified. The AMS radiocarbon dating was carried out at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC). The purpose of the dating programme was to date the geoarchaeological sequence of peat and alluvium.

4.4.2 Radiocarbon sample SUERC-43225 consisted of waterlogged wood (identified as *Alnus Sp.*), which was preserved in the peat layer. It was retrieved from sub-sample <34>, taken at 1.52m. Radiocarbon sample SUERC-43226 recovered from sub-sample number <35> was from an unidentified waterlogged wood fragment also from 1.52m.

4.4.3 The third radiocarbon sample, SUERC-43224, on peat, recovered from sub-sample <33> taken at a depth of 0.88m, which represents the top of the peat layer recorded between 0.88m and 1.6m.

4.4.4 Details of the results of the radiocarbon dating are given in Table 4 quoted in accordance with the international standard, Trondheim convention (Stuiver & Kra 1986), and are given as conventional radiocarbon ages (Stuiver & Polach

1977). 2 Sigma calibrated dates, obtained using IntCal04 (Reimer *et al.*, 2004), are also given at the 95% confidence level.

| Lab Code | Geoarch Sample No | Material | Analysis Method | Conventional Radiocarbon age (BP) | Delta C13 ‰ | 2 Sigma calibrated date (95% confidence) |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|
| SUERC-43224 | 33 | Peat: Humic Acid dated | AMS | 1572 ± 28 | -29.0 ‰ | cal AD 420-552 |
| SUERC-43225 | 34 | Waterlogged wood: <i>Alnus</i> sp | AMS | 2870 ± 29 | -28.9 ‰ | 1187-932 cal BC |
| SUERC-43226 | 35 | Waterlogged wood | AMS | 2904 ± 29 | -29.4 ‰ | 1211-1005 cal BC |

Table 4: AMS dates on material from Core 8

4.4.6 The dates suggest a long chronology for the development of the peat but should be treated with caution and further C14 dates should be obtained as part of the analysis stage to clarify this dating. This would help understand whether the peat is relatively young and incorporates older wood, or if there is a possible hiatus in peat development caused by complex fluvial processes.

4.5 Pollen by Rob Scaife.

4.5.1 Methodology

Samples were taken from two monolith profiles, Core 5 and Core 8, and have been examined for their sub-fossil pollen and spore content. The principal aims of the investigation were to establish whether the sediments are the fill of a palaeochannel and whether their environmental profile might relate to the medieval tannery. In addition the data provides a preliminary view of the past vegetation and environment of the site. Well-preserved and abundant pollen and spores have been recovered from all of the contexts examined and this report details the results of this assessment.

Samples of 1.5ml volume were processed using standard techniques for extracting the sub-fossil pollen and spores (Moore and Webb 1978; Moore *et al.* 1992). The recovered pollen and spores were identified and counted using an Olympus biological research microscope fitted with Leitz optics. Total counts of between 300 and 800 pollen grains per level plus fern spores were counted. Data are presented as pollen diagrams plotted using Tilia and Tilia Graph (Figure 8). Percentages have been calculated in as follows:

Sum = % total dry land pollen (tdlp).
 Marsh/aquatic = % tdlp + sum of marsh/aquatics (incl. *Alnus* and *Salix*).
 Spores = % tdlp + sum of fern
 Misc. = % tdlp + sum of misc. taxa.

Alnus has been excluded from the pollen sum because of its high pollen productivity (its consequent abundance) and it's on, or near site growth which tends to distort the percentage representation of other taxa within the pollen sum (Janssen 1969). Consequently the percentages of alder have been incorporated within the fen/marsh group for which it is botanically a part of this

community. Thus, some total pollen counts are large in order to obtain satisfactory values for other taxa present. Taxonomy, in general, follows that of Moore and Webb (1978) modified according to Bennett *et al.* (1994) for pollen types and Stace (1992) for plant descriptions. These procedures were carried out in the Palaeoecology Laboratory of the Department of Geography, University of Southampton.

4.5.2 The Pollen Data

The pollen is abundant and largely well preserved in these predominantly peat and humic sediments. The exception is the basal minerogenic sample of Core 5. However, sufficient was obtained to incorporate into the pollen diagram and to ascertain the past vegetation. The overall characteristics of the profiles are as follows.

Profile Core 5

Trees and shrubs: *Alnus* (alder) is the dominant species with high values (to 57% of the Pollen Sum + Marsh), increasing to the highest values at the top of the profile. Alder was clearly growing on-site and was almost certainly a floodplain alder carr woodland immediately adjacent to the channel. Taxa of the local drier ground/interfluves are dominated by *Quercus* (oak; to 39%) and *Corylus avellana* type (hazel; to 45%) with lesser numbers of *Betula* (birch) *Tilia* (lime/linden; 5%) and sporadic occurrences of *Pinus* (pine), *Fagus* (beech) and *Ilex* (holly). Oak and hazel appear to have been the principal woodland elements on adjacent drier soils. However, lime, beech and holly are often poorly represented in pollen spectra (for various reasons) and are also likely to have been present locally. This contrasts with the birch and pine which, being anemophilous, produce copious quantities of pollen which may be transported over long distances. Consequently these latter are of no significance here.

Values of these tree and shrub pollen decline upwards in the profile to low values (*ca.* 15% tree and 11% shrub of total pollen) in response to the increasing numbers and percentage values of herb pollen. This decline can be attributed to woodland clearance.

Herbs: The herb diversity is low in the lower part of the profile but becoming of greater importance in the upper levels in response to the declining numbers of trees and shrubs as noted above. In the lower half of the profile, Poaceae (grasses) are the most important herb (to 25%). However, the presence of *Plantago lanceolata* (ribwort plantain; 2-3%) and cereal type pollen is significant in suggesting agricultural activity and a Neolithic or later age for these sediments. There appears to be an increase in agricultural activity resulting in higher values of these taxa with Poaceae increasing to overall dominance

Marsh/wetland: *Alnus* (alder) is the principal constituent of this group/community and initially formed floodplain carr woodland adjacent to the channel. Cyperaceae (sedges) and occasional *Typha/Sparganium* (bur reed and/or reed-mace) probably formed the ground flora to this community and/or in more open fen patches. However, it appears that local conditions on the floodplain were becoming wetter as indicated by a reduction in the alder and some increase in Cyperaceae (sedges). It is possible that this occurred as a response to woodland clearance causing reduced evapotranspiration, increased ground water table and surface water run-off.

Ferns: These comprise *Pteridium aquilinum* (bracken; 16%) which is most important in the middle of the profile and is possibly associated with the greater numbers of agricultural elements. Monolete spore forms include *Dryopteris* type (typical Pteropsida) and *Polypodium* (polypody fern). The latter were probably ground flora elements of the carr woodland (*Dryopteris* spp.) and polypody fern growing as a saprophyte on trees, both alive and dead. *Osmunda regalis* (Royal Fern) in the upper part of the profile reflects the change to a wetter marsh reflected in the changing fen community.

Profile Core 8

Overall, this sequence has strong similarities with the profile from Core 5 (above) and as such, less palynological description is given. As with Core 5, there is a change from dominant woodland taxa in the lower part of the profile to a more open habitat (s) with increased numbers of herb pollen. The radiocarbon samples were recovered at 1.52m, close to the base of this sequence, and the onset of peat accumulation is dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age (SUERC-43225 <34> 2870±29BP, 1187-932 Cal BC, SUERC-43226 <35>2904±29, 1211-1005 Cal BC). The top of the peat sequence returned an early Anglo-Saxon date (SUERC-43224, 1572 ± 28 BP, 420-552 cal AD). This relatively long chronology may be the result of complex fluvial processes incorporating older material into younger sediments.

Trees and shrubs are dominated by on/near site *Alnus* (to 75% sum + Marsh) with *Quercus* and *Corylus avellana* type the principal terrestrial elements of the surrounding interfluves. *Tilia* and *Fagus* are represented in small numbers and, as poorly represented taxa, were also present in proximity to the site. In the lower part of the profile, there are few herbs with only small numbers of Poaceae including cereal type, sporadic *Plantagolanceolata* and other taxa. The marsh taxa, as noted, are initially dominated by *Alnus*. However, there is again evidence of increased wetness with increasing numbers of Cyperaceae (to 10%), that is, greater than in the profile from Core 5. There are also *Caltha* type (marsh marigold), *Hydrocotyle vulgaris* (marsh pennywort) and *Typha angustifolia* (bur reed and or reed mace).

5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Individual contexts, referred to thus [***], have been sub-grouped and/or grouped together during post-excavation analysis and features are generally referred to by their sub-group (SGP**) or group label (GP **). In this way, linear features, such as ditches which may have numerous individual slots and context numbers, are discussed as single entities, Environmental samples are listed within triangular brackets <***>, and registered finds thus: RF<*>.

5.1 Archaeological summary

5.1.1 The archaeology is discussed under provisional date-phased headings determined primarily through assessment of the datable artefacts, predominantly the pottery, but also including analysis of clay pipe, glass and ceramic building material.

5.1.2 There was a very thin scatter of prehistoric material across the investigated area, suggesting intermittent Mesolithic - Early Neolithic activity on or in the environs of the site.

5.1.3 Material from the Romano-British period offers the first evidence of identifiable activity in the form of ironworking waste. However this assemblage was undoubtedly imported to the site in the post-medieval period, and although it was unequivocal evidence of the industrial activity known to have been widespread in the Weald at that time and in later periods, it did not relate to activity actually at the site.

5.1.4 Evidence of medieval activity was somewhat enigmatic, represented by a limited assemblage of often highly abraded sherds of pottery, usually recovered from provably later features, and two features tentatively dated to this period. It is more-than-likely that all of the medieval material recovered from the site was residual, and that this location on the fringes of the planned element of the medieval village (Martin, Martin & Gardiner 2010, 67-8) remained unoccupied at that time.

5.1.5 However, there was clear evidence of an upsurge in activity at the site after 1500. A number of pits were dug at the site over the next two or three centuries, as well as a shallow gully, presumably for drainage. A limited assemblage of domestic material was deposited in these features.

5.1.6 Physical evidence for the use of the site as a tannery dates to the 18th and 19th centuries, when the site also appears to have been sub-divided with ditches, again also acting as drainage. Some domestic material was also deposited in pits at this time. A block of tannery pits were active at this time, occupying much of the site; there are cartographic and documentary references to the presence of a tannery/fellmongery at the site at this time, and for the presence of buildings (Stevens & Stevens 2003).

5.1.7 The site has seen significant localised truncation since the abandonment of the tannery.

5.2 Period 1 – Mesolithic to Early Neolithic

5.2.1 Overview of Period 1

A period characterised by sporadic hunter/gatherer activity, with no evidence of permanent habitation in the form of discernible alterations to the landscape in the Weald.

5.2.2 Residual flintwork

A small amount of struck and burnt flints of possible Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date were recovered from later deposits. However, no features which could be firmly dated to this period were encountered.

5.3 Period 2 - Romano-British

5.3.1 Overview of Period 2

A period characterised by increasingly visible activity in the Weald based around the exploitation of local iron ore deposits. The area may well have been a centrally controlled Imperial estate linked to security of the supply of iron for the Roman military machine (Cleere and Crossley 1995, 68).

5.3.2 Residual ironworking slag

This period is represented by an assemblage of ironworking slag possibly quarried from a local Romano-British site and imported to the site as a convenient hardcore during the post-medieval period. As such it is not in itself indicative of activity at the site, but does provide artefactual evidence of industrial activity in the general area.

5.4 Period 3 – Medieval (Figure 6)

5.4.1 Overview of Period 3

A period characterised by continued exploitation of local iron ore deposits, as well as a range of other resources, resulting in settlement pattern of dispersed farms and small settlements (Gardiner 1990). The village of Sedlescombe (originally *Sedlescombe Street* or *Iltonsbath*) was founded in the 1290s as a planned settlement under the ownership of Battle Abbey (Martin, Martin & Gardiner 2010, 67-8). Two possible features datable to this phase were located at the site.

5.4.2 Possible medieval pits

GP 9: Pit [039] (SGP 18), Pit [061] (SGP 27)

Possible medieval pits based on stratigraphic evidence. No datable material was retrieved from SGP 27, and SGP 18 (not shown on plan) contained only a tiny sherd of post-medieval pottery which may have originated in the features which truncate it. SGP 18 might also be a heavily truncated gully.

5.4.3 Residual Pottery

A small assemblage of often highly abraded residual medieval pottery was recovered from later features at the site. Arguably the low level of finds recovered again suggest there was no substantive occupation of the site at this date, but that it was used for deposition of domestic waste, probably via manuring.

5.5 Period 4 - Early post-medieval (c.1500 to 1675/1700) (Figure 7)

5.5.1 Overview of Period 4

A period characterised by further exploitation of local resources, but with a shift to production of iron by the blast furnace process introduced to the Weald in the 1490s (Cleere and Crossley 1995, 111-7). A survey of 1569 shows that there twenty houses in the village, and a mill or mills close to the river (*op. cit.*, 69). The current site was used for low level deposition of domestic waste.

5.5.2 Pits

GP 6: Pits [007] (SGP 3), [009] (SGP 4), [012] (SGP 5), [014] (SGP 6), [037] (SGP 17), [081] (SGP 37). All dated

GP 8: Pits [067] (SGP 30), [069] (SGP 31), [071] (SGP 32), [075] (SGP 34). Undated by artefacts

This is the first period for which activity can be clearly seen in the archaeological record, although it is characterised by often small assemblages of pottery, sometimes of relatively uncertain date. The small size of the assemblages does not suggest a systematic approach to disposal of rubbish, but perhaps opportune use of pits dug for another purpose.

5.5.3 Site Drainage

GP 4: Gully [078] (SGP 35), [079] (SGP 36)

A shallow gully presumably dug to aid in drainage of the low-lying site, perhaps in connection with the activity associated with the nearby contemporary pits. Heavily truncated by later features.

5.6 Period 5 - Later post-medieval (c.1750 to 1820)(Figure 8)

5.6.1 Overview of Period 5

A period characterised by a steady decline in the iron industry in the general area (Hodgkinson 1996), but a clear upsurge in activity at the current site, used as a tannery, probably more specifically in the process of fellmongery (i.e. removing the wool from the sheepskin prior to tanning).

5.6.2 The Tannery/Fellmongery Pits

GP 5: Pits [084] (SGPs 38 39), [086] (SGPs 40 41), [088] (SGPs 42 43), [096] (SGPs 47 48), [098] (SGPs 49 50), [100] (SGPs 51 52), [102]

(SGPs 53 54), [104] (SGPs 55 56), [106] (SGPs 57 58) [108] (SGPs 59 60), [110] (SGPs 61 62), [116] (SGPs 65 66), [118] (SGPs 67 68), [120] (SGPs 69 70), [122] (SGPs 71 72), [126] (SGPs 74 75), [128] (SGPs 76 77), [132] (SGPs 79 80), [140] (SGPs 84 85), [144] (SGPs 87 88), [146] (SGPs 89 90), [151] (SGPs 91 92), [153] (SGPs 93 94), [155] (SGPs 95 96), [157] (SGPs 97 98), [160] (SGPs 100 101), [162] (SGPs 102 103), [164] (SGPs 104 105), [166] (SGPs 106 107), [168] (SGPs 108 109), [170] (SGPs 110 111), [172] (SGPs 112 113), [174] (SGPs 114 115), [176] (SGPs 116 117), [178] (SGPs 118 119). Not excavated (preserved *in situ*)

Pit [112] (SGPs 63, 64). Excavated and recorded.

A block of 36 square pits were located in the centre of the stripped area. By prior agreement, the only one of these features was excavated and the others were preserved *in situ* (see Section 1.3 above). The feature was found to have vertical sides, a clay lining and a timber floor, and to have been backfilled with redeposited 'natural' clay containing material dating from the period c.1780 to 1810, when the tannery/fellmongery was known to have been in operation (Stevens & Stevens 2003). A small bead, (RF<3>), found in the clay lining is of post 1820 date but given its size could easily be intrusive and is not a reliable indication of construction date for the pit.

5.6.3 Pits

GP 10: Pits [016] (SGP 7), [020] (SGP 9), [042] (SGP 19), [047] (SGP 21), [050], (SGP 23), [052] (SGP 24), [063] (SGP 28)

A scatter of pits containing material datable to this period, and in one case (SGP 28), supporting stratigraphic evidence appears to be broadly contemporary with the use of the tannery pits. Two other features were placed in this period purely on stratigraphic evidence (SGPs 7 and 9), and on evidence of proximity to other features of this period (SGP 23). There was no clear evidence of function, although the finds assemblage recovered perhaps suggests an element of rubbish disposal. However, given that the pits are broadly contemporary with the tanning pits immediately to the east, there is the possibility that they are associated with the process.

5.6.4 Ditch

GP 1: Gully [004] (SGPs 1 & 2), [024] (SGP 12), [031] (SGP 15), [059] (SGP 26), [065] (SGP 29)

A drainage gully which ran from under the northern baulk of the site, before turning south-westwards, where it was truncated by later drainage ditch (GP 2), although it would make sense if this ditch was also open at this time. Given that tanning requires a water supply, it is possible that this ditch supplied water for use in the process.

5.7 Period 6 –Late post-medieval to modern (post tannery) (Figure 9)

5.7.1 Overview of Period 6

Following the abandonment of the use of the site as a tanyard, there was a considerable level of truncation in the immediate area of the tannery/fellmongery pits and elsewhere.

GP 11: Pits [054] (SGP 24), [090] (SGP 44), [092] (SGP 45), [094] (SGP 46), [124] (SGP 73), [130] (SGP 78), [134] (SGP 81), [136] (SGP 82), [138] (SGP 83), [142] (SGP 86), [159] (SGP 99), [192] (SGP 129), Deposit [041] (SGP 18)

None of these features were excavated, but appear to be the result of the use of the area as a garden following the backfilling and abandonment of the tannery pits. Brief examination of some of the fills showed the presence of CBM and sometimes fragments of timber, suggesting a recent origin.

5.7.2 Drainage Ditch

GP 2: Ditch [026] (SGP 13), [029] (SGP 14), [033] (SGP 16)

A ditch containing a ceramic drain and residual earlier material. It is probable that this ditch was open in the previous period and ditch GP1 flowed into it.

5.7.3 Remains of Buildings

GP 12: Construction Cuts [021] (SGP 10), [058] (SGP 25)

Remains of a concrete structure in western part of site.

GP 13: Masonry [182] (SGP 121), [184] (SGP 123), [185] (SGP 124), Cobbles [187] (SGP 126), Soakaway [183] (SGP 122), Rubble [186] (SGP 125), Deposit [194] (SGP 130)

Remains of brick-built path and associated deposits, which partially truncate some of the tannery/fellmongery pits.

5.8 Period 7 – Undated (Figure 10)

5.8.1 Only two features could not be dated on grounds of artefacts, stratigraphic or spatial relationships.

GP 3: Gully [044] (SGP 20), [049] (SGP 22)

A gully on a somewhat different orientation to the other linear features recorded at the site.

GP 7: Gully [180] (SGP 120), [188] (SGP 127)

A gully with an uncertain relationship to the excavated tannery pit.

GP 14: Pit [190] (SGP 128)

An unexcavated pit of unknown extent encountered near to the north-eastern corner of the site

6.0 FINDS ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The excavations at Sedlescombe produced a moderate assemblage of finds. An overview is given in Table 5.

| Context | Pottery | wt (g) | CBM | wt (g) | Bone | wt (g) | Shell | wt (g) | Flint | wt (g) | Stone | wt (g) | Iron | wt (g) | Slag | wt (g) | Glass | wt (g) | CTP | wt (g) |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|
| 5 | 1 | 6 | 12 | 2164 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 7 | 102 | 2 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | | | 3 | 10 | 2 | 36 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | 1 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | 9 | 74 | 6 | 104 | | | | | | | | | 1 | 70 | 7 | 524 | | | | |
| 17 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 36 | 2 | <2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | 1 | 6 | | | | | | | | | 1 | 22 | | | | |
| 25 | | | 4 | 3310 | 3 | 354 | | | | | 1 | 4178 | 2 | 164 | 12 | 1168 | | | | |
| 28 | 2 | 6 | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2006 | | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 2 | 8 | | | 5 | 106 | | | | | | | | | 4 | 154 | | | 3 | 16 |
| 32 | | | | | 2 | 108 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 33 | | | 4 | 766 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 35 | | | 2 | 634 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | 18 | | |
| 36 | 6 | 40 | 3 | 84 | | | | | 1 | 8 | | | 1 | 18 | 3 | 24 | | | | |
| 38 | 1 | <2 | | | | | 1 | <2 | | | | | | | 1 | 10 | | | | |
| 46 | 12 | 86 | 14 | 530 | 3 | 40 | | | | | 1 | 670 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 832 | 9 | 26 | 1 | <2 |
| 53 | 2 | 16 | | | | | 1 | 20 | | | | | | | 15 | 460 | | | | |
| 60 | 1 | 18 | 5 | 2072 | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | 42 | 1 | 348 | | |
| 64 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 238 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 28 | | | | |
| 66 | 2 | 140 | 3 | 112 | | | | | | | | | 1 | 22 | | | 1 | 16 | | |
| 68 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1544 | | | | | | | | |
| 74 | 18 | 148 | 4 | 50 | 1 | 12 | | | 1 | 26 | | | | | 4 | 216 | 4 | 20 | | |
| 77 | | | | | 20 | 20 | 1 | 6 | | | | | | | 2 | 14 | | | | |
| 80 | | | | | 1 | 184 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 82 | 3 | 28 | 1 | 430 | | | | | | | 1 | 600 | | | | | | | | |
| 83 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 1922 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 20 | | | | |
| 115 | 7 | 50 | 23 | 6146 | 17 | 122 | | | | | 1 | 262 | 8 | 132 | | | | | | |
| u/s | 2 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 81 | 768 | 93 | 18620 | 57 | 988 | 3 | 26 | 2 | 34 | 6 | 9260 | 14 | 412 | 61 | 3514 | 17 | 428 | 4 | 16 |

Table 5: Quantification of the finds assemblage by count and weight (g)

6.2 The Worked Flint by Karine Le Hégarat

6.2.1 Two pieces of flint débitage weighing 34g and two fragments of burnt unworked flint (34g) were recovered from the site. Both pieces of struck flint display moderate to extensive edge damage. Both were broken; the distal ends are absent. The flake fragment from [074] is not chronologically

diagnostic. However, the blade fragment from context [036] exhibits platform preparation and parallel lateral margins, and the piece is most characteristic of the Mesolithic - Early Neolithic.

6.3 The Pottery by Luke Barber

6.3.1 Introduction

6.3.1.1 The archaeological work at the site produced 109 sherds of pottery, weighing just 822g, from 22 individually numbered contexts. This figure includes 27 very small sherds from the environmental residues. In three instances the only pottery from a context was from these residues. Overall, some different vessels are represented in the assemblage. As part of the assessment the pottery has been fully quantified (number, weight and ENV) for the archive on pro forma. This data has been input into an excel spreadsheet which also forms part of the archive.

6.3.1.2 Sherd sizes vary greatly. There are many small sherds (< 20mm across) as well as notable quantities of medium sized sherds (up to 60mm across) but no large pieces. This is reflected in the average sherd weight of 7.5g, which is notably small. Condition of the sherds is also variable. There are both quite heavily abraded pieces alongside fresher material with minimal signs of abrasion. Sherd size tends to be largest for the later material, with the earliest pottery generally being represented by smaller, often heavily abraded, sherds. As such, although the earlier material appears to have been reworked repeatedly, the later pottery appears to have only been subjected to low-level of reworking.

6.3.1.3 The assemblage spans a number of different periods with the earliest sherd being of medieval date and the latest sherds dating from the 19th- century. By far the majority of the assemblage, including all the largest sherds, belongs to the mid/late 18th to early 19th centuries. A breakdown of the pottery by period is given in Table 5. Although the late post-medieval material is easily placed within its chronological range, the earlier pottery is slightly more problematic. This is the result of a number of factors. Firstly, little pottery has been recovered from Sedlescombe to date, secondly, there are virtually no feature sherds or imported wares to help date the local fabrics and thirdly, many of the fabrics represented have a potentially long chronological range. As such the chronological divisions in Table 5 have been kept deliberately wide. Most of the contexts producing pottery can be considered stratified to a degree, though few are truly closed. Low numbers of sherds, often consisting of undiagnostic pieces in long-lived fabrics, do not allow a reliable assessment of residuality/intrusiveness in most instances, though it is clear residuality is present. The largest context group consists of just 12 sherds, nine of which were from the residue (context [005]).

| Period | No | Wt | Number of fabrics |
|---|------------|-------------|---|
| Medieval (C13 - 15 th century) | 12 | 95g | Local - 5 |
| Early post-medieval (C16 th – mid 18 th) | 41 | 255g | Local – 6 Regional – 1 |
| Late post-medieval (mid C18 th – 19 th) | 56 | 472g | Local - 2 Regional – 6 Imported - 1 |
| Totals | 109 | 822g | |

Table 6: Post-Roman pottery assemblage by sub-period

6.3.1.4 Owing to the size and nature of the assemblage it has been considered most appropriate to give an overview of the pottery by period rather than by dated context spot dates. As such all sherds of a period, whether residual/intrusive or not, will be considered if they are of specific interest. A full list of the assemblage by individual context is housed with the archive.

6.3.2 The Assemblages

Medieval (13th to 15th century)

6.3.2.1 The 12 sherds ascribed to this period are in one of five local fabrics, but there is only one rim sherd present. The earliest sherds consist of heavily abraded bodysherds in medium/coarse sand tempered ware (Fabric M2) of the mid 13th to mid 14th centuries (4/18g). At least one cooking pot and a green glazed jug are present. With the exception of a single 3g sherd from the residue from context [10], all sherds are clearly residual in the context they were found. There are two sherds (6g) from fine/medium sandy Brede-type greyware vessels of 14th- to 15th- century date. The sherd from context [17] is clearly residual, though that from context [43] (a 1g chip from the residue) is the only pottery present in that deposit.

6.3.2.2 The only rim, consists of an everted club rim from a greyware jar, tempered with sparse fine sand and rare flint inclusions to 1mm (M3). This sherd is not easily dated, but could sit comfortably in the 14th to early 15th centuries. As such it may well be residual in context [15] even though it is quite fresh. A single very pale greyware bodysherd (2g), tempered with moderate fine/medium sand and common iron oxides (M4), was recovered from context [15]. It is unfortunate that no further sherds of this distinctive fabric were present, but a general 15th- century date is quite probable. The final medieval fabric is represented by four sherds (49g), at least one of which is from a jar. The fabric is quite well fired and tempered with moderate fine/medium sand (M1), and a general 15th- to mid 16th- century date range is suggested and it appears quite closely related to the slightly later fabric HFE 4 (see below).

Early Post-medieval (16th to mid-18th century)

6.3.2.3 The early post-medieval assemblage is generally characterised by quite fresh sherds but is problematic for dating in that most of the fabrics are of local types which have a potentially long chronological range. This is not helped by the complete absence of feature sherds (no actual vessel forms are recognisable) and indeed the total absence of more closely datable German stonewares. The earliest (HFE 4) appears to be a well fired fabric tempered with moderate fine sand, that appears to be a finer version of M1 (3/12g).

Although a 16th- century date is likely, an earlier date cannot be ruled out. A similar situation is present with HFE 5, a hard-fired buff fabric tempered with sparse/common fine sand (2/7g). The two bodysherds were recovered from context [30] and can be placed anywhere between 1450 and 1550.

6.3.2.4 The most common fabric is HFE 3 (22/178g), a hard-fired ware tempered with sparse/moderate fine/medium sand and present as either deliberately reduced or, less commonly, oxidised vessels. This fabric could be as early as the late 15th century, but is more likely to be of 16th- to 17th- century date. Fabrics HFE 1 (2/13g) and HFE 2 (2/8g) are similar but notably finer, with virtually no sand visible, the distinction being the presence of a few calcareous inclusions in the latter. These are more likely to be of later 16th- to early 18th- century date. The other fabrics included within this period consist of four sherds (34g) of slightly sandy glazed red earthenware (GRE 1) and six scraps (3g) from a late tin-glazed earthenware vessel (TGW). Both of these are likely to be of the later 17th to mid 18th centuries.

Late post-medieval (Mid/late 18th to 19th century)

6.3.2.5 This period produced the largest assemblage of pottery from the site (Table 5). Only two local fabrics are now present: a fine, virtually untempered, glazed red earthenware (GRE 2. 13/291g) and unglazed earthenware (UE. 2/10g). The latter is only represented by flower pots, though the former includes fragments of two dishes and a bowl. The finer wares are totally dominated by English industrial wares.

6.3.2.6 Twenty sherds (102g) of creamware are present, including fragments from at least four bowls and a plate. The other major ware is pearlware, represented by 13 sherds (31g). Many of these vessels are of early type, with notably blue glazes. A range of vessels are present, including plates, bowls, cups and saucers, many with blue transfer-printed designs of different types. There are also four small sherds (15g) from Yellow ware vessels, including a jug and bowl, and a single sherd (4g) of English porcelain. There are also sherds from the handle of a refined red earthenware teapot (context [60]) and hand-painted Chinese porcelain vessel (context [53]). Considering the absence of later refined white earthenwares it would appear that the assemblage does not extend later than 1825.

6.4 The Ceramic Building Material (CBM) by Luke Barber

6.4.1 Introduction

6.4.1.1 The excavations recovered a relatively large assemblage of ceramic building material: 446 pieces, weighing 20,136g, from 20 individually numbered contexts. However, the total count is dominated by 354 small fragments recovered from one of eight environmental residues (1823g). In addition a small assemblage of mortar was recovered. The assemblage has been fully listed on pro forma for archive, with the data being entered into an excel database. Table 7 characterises the material by both period and type.

| Material | No. | Weight | % of weight |
|-----------------|-----|--------|-------------|
| Medieval | | | |
| Peg tile | 1 | 32g | 0.2% |

| Post-medieval | | | |
|----------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| Brick | 380 | 17,321g | 85.2% |
| Peg tile | 59 | 1638g | 8.1% |
| Pan tile | 3 | 1050g | 5.2% |
| Ridge tile | 1 | 3g | 0.01% |
| Floor tile | 2 | 92g | 0.5% |
| Mortar | 30 | 194g | 1.0% |
| Totals | 476 | 20,330g | |

Table 7: Summary of ceramic building material assemblage

6.4.1.2 Ceramic building material is notoriously difficult to date in its own right. This is partly due to the longevity of many fabrics and forms and the variety in sizes, fabrics and finishes at different contemporary workshops. Added to this is the problem of longevity of the materials once in use. There is often a significant time-lag between a tile or brick being made and its disposal in refuse, even if the piece has not been re-used for construction. The excavated assemblage is somewhat problematic in that there appears to be a notable degree of residual/old material in certain contexts. The broad dating and residuality of the associated pottery does not help the situation. It is clear however, that the vast majority of the assemblage is of post-medieval date. Most would fit comfortably within a 17th- to 18th- century time period.

6.4.2 Brick

6.4.2.1 The bulk of the assemblage is composed of brick fragments. There is a range of fabrics that could span the mid/late 16th to early 19th centuries, but most probably relate to the 17th and 18th centuries. The range of different types is summarised in Table 8. The potentially earliest fabric is B6, notably the only fabric to have produced a complete brick (context [83]). This measured 205 x 100 x 50mm (1928g), was notably crudely made and had some surface vitrification from firing. The piece can best be placed between the mid 16th and mid 17th centuries, a date not out of line with the associated pottery.

6.4.2.2 The remaining bricks fall into two overlapping groups, with the cruder examples probably being of the 17th century and the more crisply finished types being more in keeping with the 18th century. A number of these have accidental and more commonly, deliberate glazing, the latter most notably on the headers. There are certainly no definite 19th- century bricks present, though some of the 18th- century types could extend a little beyond 1800.

| Fabric code | Description | Comments | Heights | No./ weight | Suggested date range |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| B1 | Moderate black clinker to 4mm and common marl pellets/streaks | Quite well formed. Medium fired. | 54-65mm | 4/1964g | C17th – 18 th |
| B2 | Sparse fine sand & sparse iron oxides to 3mm. Occasional marl streaks | Quite well formed. Low/medium fired. | 61-65mm | 331/2593g | C17th – 18 th |
| B3 | Sparse fine sand with common iron oxides & sandstone pellets to 5mm | Well formed. Medium fired. | 60-64mm | 5/3226g | C18th |
| B4 | Sparse fine sand with common ferruginous sandstone pellets to 10mm & common marl streaks | Quite well formed. Medium fired. | 59-60mm | 6/1914g | C17th – 18th |

| Fabric code | Description | Comments | Heights | No./ weight | Suggested date range |
|--------------------|---|---|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| B5 | Sparse fine sand with moderate iron oxides/ ferruginous sandstone pellets to 4mm | Well formed. Medium fired. Some variation within group. | 48-66mm | 29/5686g | C17th – 18 th |
| B6 | Sparse fine sand with abundant mix of iron oxides and marl pellets/patches to 5mm | Crudely formed. Medium fired. | 50mm | 5/1938g | Mid C16th – 17th |

Table 8: Brick summary

6.4.2.3 Individual context assemblages are often slightly mixed, with both cruder and better-formed fragments appearing alongside each other, suggesting a certain amount of residuality or re-use. If the small fragments from the residues are excluded (they are normally not very diagnostic), few contexts produced more than 10 fragments. The largest was recovered from [115] (71/6028g), which produced a mixture of B2, B3 and B5 fragments. Most appear to be of 18th-century type, however, a few of the B5 bricks are notably cruder, harder fired and have heights of only 48 to 49mm, suggesting some may be of 17th-century origin if not slightly earlier. Three bricks from context [60] are also of this general cruder type, however two show extensive wear on one of their stretcher faces (B3 and B5), while another (B5) has wear to its upper face. All three have clearly been used for flooring.

6.4.3 Tile

6.4.3.1 With the exception of two fragments from a worn unglazed floor tile of 16th- to early 18th- century date (context [15]), all of the tile from the site relates to roof coverings. A single piece (T5) may be of medieval date, judging by its fabric and finish (context [17]). A 15th- to early 16th- century date would certainly be in keeping with the associated pottery. The bulk of the roof tile can more confidently be placed in a date range spanning the 17th to 18th centuries. A range of fabrics was noted that are summarised in Table 9.

| Fabric code | Description | Comments | Thicknesses | No./ weight | Suggested date range |
|--------------------|---|---|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| T1 | Sparse fine sand & abundant iron oxides to 1mm | Quite well formed. Hard fired. | 12-13mm | 2/58g | C17th – 18th |
| T2 | Sparse fine sand & sparse iron oxides to 1mm | Quite well formed. Well/hard fired. | 11-13mm | 10/181g | C18th |
| T3 | Sparse fine sand & common off-white marl pellets to 0.5mm | Well formed. Hard/very hard fired. | 9-11mm | 8/188g | Mid C18th – 19 th |
| T4 | Sparse fine sand with rare iron oxides to 1.5mm & marl swirls | Well formed. Hard/very hard fired. | 9-12mm | 35/850g | Mid C18th – 19 th |
| T5 | Sparse fine sand (abundant sanded surfaces) with common iron oxides to 0.5mm | Crudely formed. Medium/well fired. | 14mm | 1/32g | C14th – 15 th |
| T6 | Sparse fine sand with sparse iron oxides to 0.5mm and calcareous pellets to 1.5mm | Well formed. Hard fired. Pan tiles only | 16mm | 1/584g | C18th |

| Fabric code | Description | Comments | Thicknesses | No./ weight | Suggested date range |
|--------------------|--|---|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| T7 | Sparse fine sand with moderate iron oxides to 1mm & rare marl pellets to 1mm | Well formed. Hard fired. Pan tiles only | 14mm | 1/278g | C18th |
| T8 | Sparse very fine sand. | Well formed. Medium/hard fired. Pan tiles only | 13mm | 1/188g | C18th – 19th |
| T9 | Sparse fine sand with rare iron oxides to 0.5mm and common marl swirls | Well formed. Medium/well fired. | 10-11mm | 3/364g | C18th – 19 th |
| F1 | Moderate/abundant fine sand with a few larger quartz grains | Well formed. Medium fired. Bevelled floor tiles only | 29mm | 2/92g | Mid C16th – early C18th |

Table 9: Tile summary

6.4.3.2 Peg tiles dominate the 17th- to 18th- century assemblage. Most are well fired with either slightly crude or neater finishing. Only diamond-shaped peg holes are present. Finish tends to improve with time and there is a general, though not always synchronised, decrease in tile thicknesses. No large pieces are present and as a result no complete lengths or widths were measurable. Of note are the three fragments of pan tile recovered from contexts [25] and [35]. All are in different fabrics (T6-8). This, combined with the fact that the T6 fragment from [25] has mortar on its broken edge, suggest these tiles have been reused from another building that must have lain a little distance from the excavated area.

6.4.3.3 In addition, four highly abraded fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) with a combined weight of 10g were recovered from Core 7 at 2.1m depth. The fragments are in a fine orange sandy fabric with sparse, fine, black iron rich inclusions. The fragments are too small to be confident of assigning date, the fabric and inclusions are common to CBM from the Roman to post-medieval period, no form remains to further refine the date range (Sarah Porteus *pers. comm.*)

6.5 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

6.5.1 Introduction

6.5.1.1 The archaeological work at the site recovered 631 pieces of stone, weighing 9753g, from 11 individually numbered contexts. Of this total, the vast majority of pieces (by count) were recovered from one of five environmental residues (621/129g). The assemblage has been fully listed by context and stone type on pro forma for the archive as part of this assessment. The material has subsequently been discarded.

6.5.2 Overview of the Assemblage

6.5.2.1 Only five different stone types are represented in the assemblage. The majority of these, by weight, are of local origin with no obvious signs of human modification. Three large slabs of calcareous Tilgate stone were recovered (contexts [25], [28] and [46]), with a total weight of 6756g. This stone type would be available locally in the Wadhurst Clay, but the current examples

show no obvious signs of having been used in walling. All have slightly weathered/worn surfaces, and it is possible they were used as paving in the later 17th or 18th centuries.

6.5.2.2 There are also five pieces of relatively fresh clay ironstone, of ore quality (1058g), from contexts [15] and [82] (dated C17th – mid 18th). It is quite possible this material was inadvertently brought in from the Roman iron-working site with the smelting slag used for metalling. The only other local stone consists of a very weathered lump of hard, profusely shelly limestone (context [68]: 1548g), that probably also derives from the Wadhurst Clay Beds.

6.5.2.3 Non-local stone includes a single piece (262g) of well weathered chalk from context [115]. This could have been brought in to produce lime but little conclusive can be said about a single piece. The other stone type, recovered only from the environmental residues, consists of coal. The average size of the 621 pieces (0.2g) clearly shows only the smallest of pieces was allowed as wastage. Where datable, the coal always appears to relate to later 18th- to early 19th- century contexts (e.g. context [5] 31/14g and [115] 244/44g). It is clear that the difficulty and expense of transporting coal into the Weald at this time would have been fully appreciated.

6.6 The Ironwork by Trista Clifford

6.6.1 Nails

6.6.1.1 Twenty seven nails weighing a total of 320g were hand collected and retrieved from environmental samples, from nine separate contexts dating predominantly to the 18th - 19th century. Only nine nails were complete. All are corroded, with several having large amounts of adherent stone slag or soil. Several types were recorded, shown in Table 9:

| Type | Description | Contexts | No |
|--------------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| A | GP, CH, SS | 36, 53 | 3 |
| B | GP, SH, SS | 5, 150 | 3 |
| C | HD, CH, CS | 115 | 6 |
| D | HD, SS | 5, 66, 115 | 5 |
| E | SP, FH, SS | 43 | 2 |
| F | T, CH, SS | 5 | 2 |
| Unk | | 5, 46, 113 | 6 |
| Total | | | 27 |

Table 10: Nail types Key GP general purpose, HD heavy duty, SP specialist, T tack, CH circular head, SH square/rectangular head, FH faceted head, SS square/rectangular section stem, CS circular section stem

6.6.1.2 Two nails from [43] are machine made, very regular in form with a square, faceted head. It is likely these were produced for a specialist purpose.

6.7.2 Other ironwork

6.7.2.1 A single rectangular iron strap weighing 72g and a large modern screw (96g) were recovered from [25]. The object is significantly corroded, particularly at one end

6.8 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

6.8.1 Introduction

6.8.1.1 The excavations at the site recovered 610 pieces of slag, weighing 7768g, from 18 individually numbered contexts. Of this total, the vast majority of pieces were recovered from one of seven environmental residues (i.e. 553 pieces, weighing 4670g). The material has been fully listed by context and type on pro forma for the archive, with the information being used to create an Excel database. Following recording the slag was discarded.

6.8.2 Overview of the Assemblage

6.8.2.1 The assemblage comes mainly from contexts spanning the 17th to early 19th centuries, though the ceramic dating is often slight or ambiguous. By far the majority of the assemblage is composed of bloomery tap slag, the waste product of smelting iron. This accounts for 550 pieces, weighing 7652g. The material is spread across a range of contexts though only context [005] produced a notable group of 433 small pieces (4305g), all recovered from the residue.

6.8.2.2 Despite being found in 17th- to early 19th- century contexts, the tap slag itself is almost certainly derived from one of the nearby Roman ironworks: the site at Footlands, Sedlescombe, is one of the largest in the Weald (Cleere and Crossley 1985). The slag heaps from these sites were often used to quarry aggregate for track and road-building in the Weald, particularly in the later post-medieval period. As such the presence of this material at the current site is probably the result of the construction of tracks and areas of hard-standing from at least the 17th century onward.

6.8.2.3 The three aerated and slightly glassy pieces of fuel ash slag (15g) and single piece of undiagnostic iron slag (12g) probably also relate to the re-use of Roman smelting waste. Contemporary iron smelting slag is surprisingly rare, being represented by just four pieces (44g) of glassy blast furnace slag (contexts [030] and [053]). This was also commonly re-used for road construction, but it would appear that the occupants of the current site had easier/closer access to a substantial Roman slag-heap.

6.8.2.4 The only other type of waste consists of 52 small (44g) fragments of black aerated clinker, all recovered from residues (contexts [043] and [115]). This material is likely to have derived from burning coal and as such is considered most likely to represent later 17th- to 19th- century activity.

6.9 The Glass by ElkeRaemen

6.9.1 Introduction

6.9.1.1 A small assemblage comprising 28 fragments (wt 450g) was recovered from eight individually numbered contexts. Included are both hand-collected fragments and pieces recovered from environmental residues. The assemblage ranges in date from c.1650 to c.1950 and consists largely of

featureless fragments. All glass has been recorded in full on *pro forma* sheets for archive and data has been entered onto Excel spreadsheet.

6.9.2 Overview of the Assemblage

6.9.2.1 The majority of glass consists of wine bottle fragments, comprising 25 fragments, and ranging in date from c. 1650-1750 to c. 1850-1950. Included are mostly small body shards, often of mixed date within a single context. None of the pieces are sufficiently large to establish the form of the bottle.

6.9.2.2 The remaining three fragments include a clear glass bottle fragment and a clear glass possible dish fragment, both found in pit [47] (fill [46], SGP 21, GP 9) and dating to the 19th to mid 20th century. A 19th-century clear glass window fragment was recovered from tanning pit [112] (fill [115], SGP 64, GP 5).

6.10 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

6.10.1 Introduction

6.10.1.1 A small assemblage consisting of eleven clay tobacco pipe fragments (wt 27g) was recovered from four individually numbered contexts. Included are both hand-collected fragments and pieces recovered from the environmental residues. The pipes were recorded in full on *pro forma* sheets for archive and data was entered onto digital spreadsheet. Guidelines followed are those set out by Higgins and Davey (2004). Bowls were classified according to the London 'Chronology of Bowl Types' (prefix AO) by Atkinson and Oswald (1969, 177-180). The marked clay tobacco pipe was assigned a unique accession number.

6.10.2 Overview of the Assemblage

6.10.2.1 The assemblage comprises eight stem fragments, two bowls and a mouthpiece. Stem fragments range in date between 1750 and 1910. A few show external burn marks. The mouthpiece, recovered from [005], was formed by simply cutting the end. A bowl fragment from pit [047] (fill [046], SGP 21, Group 9) consists of a small chip and cannot be dated closely (c. 1780-1910). The second bowl (RF <4>) was found in linear feature [029] (fill [030], SGP 14, GP 2) and is a type AO25 (c. 1700-1770) with maker's mark "J?" moulded in relief on the sides of the spur.

6.11 The Registered Finds by Trista Clifford

6.11.1 Introduction

6.11.1.1 Registered finds are washed, air dried or cleaned by a conservator as appropriate to the material requirements. Objects have been packed appropriately in line with IFA guidelines (2001). All objects are assigned a unique registered find number (RF<00>) and recorded on the basis of material, object type and date (shown in Table 11).

6.11.1.2 All finds were assessed for conservation requirements. Unless indicated in the relevant section no further conservation for stabilisation or analytical

purposes is required. Metal work is boxed in airtight Stewart tubs with silica gel.

6.11.1.3 The registered finds assemblage is summarised in Table 10, below. RF<4> is included within the clay pipe report.

| RF No | Context | Object | Material | Wt (g) | Period |
|-------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| 1 | 15 | HING | IRON | 70 | PMED |
| 2 | 5 <3> | BUTT | COPP | <2 | PMED |
| 3 | 113 <17> | BEAD | GLAS | <2 | PMED/MOD |
| 4 | 29 | CTP | CERA | 2 | PMED |

Table 11: Overview of the Registered Finds assemblage

6.11.2 Dress accessories

6.11.2.1 Context [5] <3> contained a single flat, circular copper alloy button (RF<2>) with separate loop attached to the reverse. The surface of the button has a white metal coating but is otherwise undecorated. An 18th century or later date is probable.

6.11.2.2 A small pale blue opaque glass bead (RF<3>) came from [113] <17>. The bead appears to have been pressed in a mould, indicating a 19th- 20th century date.

6.11.3 Fixtures and fittings

6.11.3.1 An iron hinge loop, RF<1> was recovered from [15]. The loop has a broken bifurcated terminal and one nail remains in situ. The hinge may originate from a door or large item of furniture. A late medieval to early post medieval date is probable.

6.13 The Animal Bone by Lucy Sibun

6.13.1 Introduction

6.13.1.1 Nineteen contexts produced a small animal bone assemblage, which included 53 fragments of hand collected bone, as well as approximately 124 grams of bone from environmental samples. This small assemblage has been fully recorded on an excel spreadsheet.

6.13.2 Overview of the Assemblage

6.13.2.1 The bone was generally in a good state of preservation but fragmentary. Wherever possible bone fragments have been identified to species and the skeletal element represented. The bone was identified using the in-house reference collection and Schmidt (1972). Elements that could not be confidently identified to species, such as longbone and vertebrae fragments, have been recorded according to their size. The larger fragments are recorded as cattle-sized and the smaller fragments as sheep-sized.

6.13.2.2 Where measurements were possible they have been taken using methods outlined by Von Den Driesch (1976). The state of fusion has been noted and

each fragment has also been studied for signs of butchery, burning, gnawing and pathology.

Post-medieval

6.13.2.3 The hand collected assemblage from post-medieval contexts contained 21 fragments of cattle, sheep, pig, horse. The environmental samples contained a small quantity of large and medium mammal bone as well as fish. Some ageing and metrical data is available, as well as limited butchery information. No pathology was noted.

6.14 The Shell by Trista Clifford

6.14.1 Overview of the Assemblage

6.14.1.1 Two complete upper valves of the common oyster, *Ostrea edulis*, were recovered from contexts [53] and [77], total weight 26g. Context [38] also contained a small fragment of probable upper valve. No parasitic activity was observed.

7.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL MATERIAL

7.1 The Environmental Samples by Karine Le Hégarat

7.1.1 Introduction

7.1.1.1 Bulk soil samples were taken during the archaeological work at the site for the recovery of environmental remains such as charred and uncharred botanical remains, bones and molluscs as well as to assist finds recovery. A total of 4 bulk soil samples were taken from clay and peat deposits in Trenches 2 and 5 during the evaluation phase (Wessex 2008) and a further 19 samples were extracted during the subsequent excavation phase (SMM12 / 4798). The latter came from a range of features including pits, tanning pits and ditches, ranging between 16th-19th century date. The report characterises these assemblages by providing an overview of the sample contents and by indicating the state of preservation of the remains. It assesses the potential of the botanical remains to provide evidence for the economy of the site as well as the local environment.

7.1.2 Methodology

7.1.2.1 The nineteen samples taken during the excavation phase were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank. The flots and residues were captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes and were air dried prior to sorting. The residues were sieved through 8, 4 and 2mm geological sieves and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Table 12). The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and an overview of their contents recorded (Table 12). Preliminary identifications of the macrobotanical remains have been made using modern comparative material and reference texts (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004). Abundance and preservation of the macrobotanicals have been recorded to establish their potential

7.1.3 Results

7.1.3.1 *Period 4: c.1500-1675/1700*

In total, eight samples were examined from features in Period 4. They originated from six pits (GP6) and a ditch (GP4).

Pit group GP6: [081] primary fill [083] <016>, uppermost fill [082]<015>, [037] uppermost fill [036]<07>, [014] single fill [015]<06>, [012] single fill [013]<05>, [07] single fill [08]<04> and [09] primary fill [010]<02>

The seven flots from pits [081], [037], [014], [012], [07] and [09] were relatively large with six flots measuring between 70ml and 350ml. They were dominated by uncharred vegetation including broken down plant matter, woody material (stems and roots), fine roots and uncharred seeds such as sun spurge (*Euphorbia helioscopia*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.), blackberry / raspberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.*lidaeus*), knotgrass / dock (*Polygonum* / *Rumex* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), fool's parsley (*Aethusa cynapium*), nightshade (*Solanum* sp.) and possible hemp-nettle (cf.

Galeopsis sp.). A single uncharred grape (*Vitis vinifera*) pip was present in the primary fill [083] of pit [081].

The samples contained very few charred macrobotanical remains. Charred cereal remains were only recorded in the fills [083] and [082] of pit [081]. The small assemblage consisted of three charred grains one of which was identified as wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and two as potential wheat. Sampling produced varying quantities of charred wood fragments. They occur sporadically in pits [09] and [012]. They were slightly more abundant in pits [07] and [037] as well as in the basal fill [083] of pit [081], and even more numerous in pit [014] and in the uppermost fill [082] of pit [081]. The pieces were relatively poorly preserved. The samples contained small quantities of mammal bones, fish remains and land snail shells. The residues produced small amounts of pottery and industrial debris.

Ditch GP4: [078] fill [077]<014>

Sample <014> produced a large flot (100ml) dominated by uncharred vegetation including weed seeds and roots. It contained no charred macroplant remains. Charred wood fragments were uncommon and consisted mainly of small-sized pieces although several fragments >4mm were also evident. The residue produced a moderate quantity of mammal bones and a small amount of pottery.

7.1.4.1 *Period 5: c.1750 to 1820*

Seven samples were assessed from deposits dated to the Period 5 occupation. They came from three pits (GP10), a tanning pit (GP5) and a ditch (GP1).

Pit group GP10: [052] single fill [053]<013>, [047] fill (046) <10>, [042] single fill [043] <08>Pit [050] single fill [051]<012>

The flots from the pits were again relatively large (between 50ml and 100ml) and produced a large concentration of uncharred vegetation including roots and weed seeds such as sun spurge, elder, blackberry / raspberry and fumitory (*Fumaria* sp.). Charred macroplant remains were limited to a possible grain of wheat (cf. *Triticum* sp.), a grass (Poaceae) caryopsis and a seed of goosefoot.

Charcoal was recorded in all samples although the fragments were infrequent and mainly small-sized. No other biological remains were recorded with the exception of a small amount of mammal bones and land snail shells. The residues produced a wide array of artefacts including small amounts of pottery, glass, slag, metal, nails and CBM.

Tanning pit GP5: [112] lining [113] <017>, backfill [115] <018> and fill [150]<021>

Uncharred vegetation including woody roots and weed seeds such as blackberry / raspberry, elder and goosefoot was particularly abundant in these large flots. No charred macroplant remains were present and the charcoal assemblage was very sparse. Sampling produced occasional unburnt

mammal bones and a moderate amount of artefacts including fired clay, CBM, pottery, coal, nails, magnetised material, bead, slag, clay tobacco pipe and metal.

Ditch GP1: slot [004] fill [005]<03>

The very large flot (350ml) from ditch slot [004] produced very little other than a large quantity of uncharred vegetation comprising broken down plant matter, woody roots and weed seeds. The sample contained very few charred botanical remains including uncommon charcoal and a single charred weed seed of knotgrass / dock. There were a small amount of mammal bones and land snail shells and marine molluscs. Artefacts were numerous in the residue including a large concentration of slag and small quantities of CBM, mortar, fired clay, metal, pot, coal, glass and clay tobacco pipe.

7.1.4.2 Period 7: undated

Three samples were extracted from a two linear features which are currently undated. These samples came from a pit (SG23) and two ditches (GP3 and SG120).

Ditch GP 3: slot [049] fill [048]<011> and slot [044] fill (045) <09>;

Ditch GP 7: slot [180] fill [181]<020>

The contents of these flots were very similar to the previous ones. They included high percentage of uncharred roots and broken down plant matter and numerous uncharred weed seeds. Charcoal was recorded in all three samples, although it consisted principally of infrequent small pieces. Slot ditch [180] produced a slightly larger assemblage including pieces >12mm. Charred macroplants were very uncommon, limited to a single possible grass (cf. Poaceae) caryopsis. Artefacts were also infrequent with small quantities of coal and pottery recovered only in the residue from slot ditch [180].

Table 12: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, * = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams**

| Provisional Period | Provisional Subgroup | Provisional Group | Sample Number | Context | Context / deposit type | Sample Volume litres | Sub-Sample Volume litres | Charcoal >4mm | Weight (g) | Charcoal <4mm | Weight (g) | Charred botanicals (other than charcoal) | Weight (g) | Bone and Teeth | Weight (g) | Fishbone and microfauna | Weight (g) | Marine Molluscs | Weight (g) | Other (eg ind, pot, cbm) |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|--|------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|---|
| Period 4 | 37 | 6 | 15 | 82 | Pit | 40 | 40 | ** | 8 | ** | <2 | | | * | 8 | | | | | |
| Period 4 | 37 | 6 | 16 | 83 | Pit | 40 | 40 | ** | 6 | ** | <2 | * Triticum sp. (1) | <2 | | | | | | | Pot*/<2g - Uncharred Vitis vinifera (1) |
| Period 4 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 10 | Pit | 10 | 10 | * | <2 | ** | <2 | | | ** | 2 | | | | | Pot*/2g |
| Period 4 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 8 | Pit | 40 | 40 | *** | 4 | ** | <2 | | | | | | | | | Slag*/<2g - Pot*/12g |
| Period 4 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 13 | Pit | 30 | 30 | * | <2 | ** | <2 | | | * | <2 | * | | | <2 | |
| Period 4 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 15 | Pit | 40 | 40 | *** | 14 | ** | <2 | | | | | | | | | Pot*/6g |
| Period 4 | 17 | 6 | 7 | 36 | Pit | 40 | 40 | ** | 6 | ** | <2 | | | | | | | | | Pot*/22g |

| Provisional Period | Provisional Subgroup | Provisional Group | Sample Number | Context | Context / deposit type | Sample Volume litres | Sub-Sample Volume litres | Charcoal >4mm | Weight (g) | Charcoal <4mm | Weight (g) | Charred botanicals (other than charcoal) | Weight (g) | Bone and Teeth | Weight (g) | Fishbone and microfauna | Weight (g) | Marine Molluscs | Weight (g) | Other (eg ind, pot, cbm) |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|--|------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|--|
| Period 4 | 4 | 35 | 14 | 77 | Ditch | 20 | 20 | ** | <2 | ** | 4 | | <2 | ** | 54 | | | | | Pot*/14g |
| Period 5 | 19 | 10 | 8 | 43 | Pit | 10 | 10 | ** | <2 | ** | 4 | | <2 | | | | | | | Pot*/4g - Slag*/8g - Nails*/10g - Glass*/<2g |
| Period 5 | 24 | 10 | 13 | 53 | Pit | 20 | 20 | ** | <2 | ** | 2 | | <2 | * | <2 | | | | | Slag**/236g - Metal*/18g - Pot*<2g - CBM**/22g |
| Period 5 | 21 | 10 | 10 | 46 | Pit | 40 | 40 | ** | <2 | ** | 4 | | <2 | * | <2 | | | | | Slag*/52g - CBM**/56g - Glass*/10g - Pot*/4g |
| Period 5 | 23 | - | 12 | 51 | Pit | 10 | 10 | * | <2 | * | <2 | | <2 | | * | <2 | | | | |
| Period 5 | 63 | 5 | 17 | 113 | Tanning Pit | 80 | 40 | ** | <2 | ** | <2 | | <2 | | | | | | | Coal***/66g - CBM**/20g - Metal*/8g - Bead*/<2g |

| Provisional Period | Provisional Subgroup | Provisional Group | Sample Number | Context | Context / deposit type | Sample Volume litres | Sub-Sample Volume litres | Charcoal >4mm | Weight (g) | Charcoal <4mm | Weight (g) | Charred botanicals (other than charcoal) | Weight (g) | Bone and Teeth | Weight (g) | Fishbone and microfauna | Weight (g) | Marine Molluscs | Weight (g) | Other (eg ind, pot, cbm) |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|--|------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|---|
| Period 5 | 63 | 5 | 21 | 150 | Tanning Pit | 50 | 40 | | | | 48 | | * | | | | | | | Slag*/24g - Fired Clay*/12g - Nails*/6g - CBM*/4g - Wood*/4g - Coal*/<2g - Mag.Mat***/<2g |
| Period 5 | 64 | 5 | 18 | 115 | Tanning Pit | 130 | 40 | ** | <2 | | <2 | | * | | <2 | | | | | Coal***/46g - Pot*/4g - Slag**/34g - CBM**/348g - TCP*/6g - Glass*/6g |
| Period 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | Ditch | 40 | 40 | ** | <2 | ** | <2 | | * | | 8 | | | ** | 66 | Slag****/4280g - CBM***/702g - Mortar ***/160g - Fired Clay**/124g - Metal*/114g - Pot*/12g - Coal**/14g - Glass*/8g - TCP*/8g |
| Undated | 20 | 3 | 9 | 45 | Ditch | 40 | 40 | ** | <2 | * | <2 | | | | | | | | | |

| Provisional Period | Provisional Subgroup | Provisional Group | Sample Number | Context | Context / deposit type | Sample Volume litres | Sub-Sample Volume litres | Charcoal >4mm | Weight (g) | Charcoal <4mm | Weight (g) | Charred botanicals (other than charcoal) | Weight (g) | Bone and Teeth | Weight (g) | Fishbone and microfauna | Weight (g) | Marine Molluscs | Weight (g) | Other (eg ind, pot, cbm) | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|--|------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Undated | 22 | 3 | 11 | 48 | Ditch | 40 | 40 | * | <2 | ** | <2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Undated | 120 | - | 20 | 181 | Ditch | 40 | 40 | ** | 6 | ** | <2 | | | | | | | | | | Coal*/<2g - Pot*/<2g |

Table 13: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, * = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)**

| Sample Number | Context | Weight g | Flot volume ml | Volume scanned | Uncharred % | Sediment % | Seeds uncharred | Charcoal >4mm | Charcoal <4mm | Charcoal <2mm | Crop seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | Weed seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | Large mammal bone | Land Snail Shells | Industrial debris hammerscale | |
|---------------|---------|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 15 | 82 | 8 | 100 | 100 | 98 | 2 | <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i> sp. (*), <i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i> (*), <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (1), cf. <i>Ranunculus</i> sp. (1), <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*) | * | * | * | * | cf. <i>Triticum</i> sp. (2) | + | | | | | | | |
| 16 | 83 | 12 | 100 | 100 | 99 | 1 | Lamiaceae (*), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (*), <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (1), cf. <i>Ranunculus</i> sp. (1) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 10 | 4 | 30 | 30 | 98 | 2 | cf. <i>Galeopsis</i> sp. (1) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 8 | 20 | 200 | 100 | 98 | 2 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Solanum</i> sp. (*) | * | | | | | | | | | | * | * | * |
| 5 | 13 | 8 | 70 | 70 | 99 | 1 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Polygonum / Rumex</i> sp. (1), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1), <i>Aethusa cynapium</i> (1) | * | | | | | | | | | | * | | |
| 6 | 15 | 38 | 350 | 100 | 99 | 1 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (1), cf. <i>Galeopsis</i> sp. (*), <i>Fumaria officinalis</i> (*), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (*), <i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i> (*) | | | | | | | | | | | * | | |
| 7 | 36 | 16 | 150 | 100 | 98 | 2 | | * | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Sample Number | Context | Weight g | Flot volume ml | Volume scanned | Uncharred % | Sediment % | Seeds uncharred | Charcoal >4mm | Charcoal <4mm | Charcoal <2mm | Crop seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | Weed seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | Large mammal bone | Land Snail Shells | Industrial debris hammerscale |
|---------------|---------|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------|---|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 14 | 77 | 14 | 110 | 100 | 75 | 10 | <i>Fumaria officinalis</i> (*), cf. <i>Ranunculus</i> sp. (*), <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*) | * | ** | ** | | | | | | | | | * |
| 13 | 53 | 4 | 50 | 50 | 99 | 1 | <i>Fumaria officinalis</i> (1), <i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i> (1), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1) | | | | * | cf. <i>Triticum</i> sp. (1) | + | * | Poaceae (1) | + | | | |
| 10 | 46 | 16 | 225 | 100 | 98 | 2 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (*), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1) | * | * | * | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 43 | 6 | 100 | 100 | 99 | 1 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (1), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (*) | * | * | * | | | + | * | <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1) | + | | * | * |
| 17 | 113 | 22 | 150 | 100 | 99 | 1 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (**), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1), <i>Lamiaceae</i> (1) | ** | * | * | | | | | | | | | * |
| 21 | 150 | 54 | 230 | 100 | 99 | 1 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), cf. <i>Ranunculus</i> sp. (*), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1) | * | * | * | | | | | | | | | * |
| 18 | 115 | 52 | 160 | 100 | 99 | 1 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1), <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (1) | * | ** | * | | | | | | | * | * | * |
| 3 | 5 | 48 | 350 | 100 | 98 | 2 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1), <i>Lamiaceae</i> (1) | * | ** | ** | | | | * | <i>Polygonum</i> / <i>Rumex</i> sp. (1) | + | | * | * |
| 12 | 51 | 2 | 20 | 20 | 99 | 1 | <i>Lamiaceae</i> (*), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1) | | * | * | | | | | | | | | * |

| Sample Number | Context | Weight g | Flot volume ml | Volume scanned | Uncharred % | Sediment % | Seeds uncharred | Charcoal >4mm | Charcoal <4mm | Charcoal <2mm | Crop seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | Weed seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | Large mammal bone | Land Snail Shells | Industrial debris |
|---------------|---------|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 9 | 45 | 8 | 150 | 100 | 99 | 1 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (1) | * | * | * | | | | * | cf. <i>Poaceae</i> (1) | | | | |
| 11 | 48 | 10 | 150 | 100 | 99 | 1 | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg./ <i>idaeus</i> (*), <i>Polygonum</i> / <i>Rumex</i> sp. (1), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1), <i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i> (1) | ** | ** | ** | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | 181 | 186 | 770 | 100 | 99 | 1 | <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i> sp. (1), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1) | | | | | | | | | | | | |

7.2 The Wood Charcoal and Waterlogged Wood by Dawn Elise Mooney

7.2.1 Methodology

7.2.1.1 Charred wood remains from eleven samples were analysed from Park View, Sedlescombe. These samples were selected on the basis of their charcoal content, as established in the preliminary analysis of environmental samples from the site (see Le Hégarat above). Ten charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residue of each sample were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale and Cutler 2000).

7.2.1.2 Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. One timber from the site was examined for wood species identification. A sample taken from the timber was sectioned along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale and Cutler 2000), and examined under a transmitted light microscope at 50x to 300x magnification.

7.2.1.3 Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schoch *et al.* 2004), and by comparison with modern reference material held at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. Identifications have been given to species where possible, however genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit satisfactory identification. Where identifications were uncertain due to poor preservation or limited size of charcoal specimens the identification is preceded by *cf.*, denoting 'compares with'. Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

7.2.2 Results

Preservation

7.2.2.1 Preservation of charcoal remains from the site was in general poor. The assemblages from many samples exhibited signs of sediment infiltration and concretion, indicative of fluctuations in groundwater level. Additionally, the fragments were often soft and friable, which led to difficulty in obtaining the sections necessary for taxonomic identification. Vitrification was observed in charcoal fragments from context [5], sample <3>, and unidentifiable partially charred wood was observed in sample <20> from context [181].

Summary of recorded taxa

7.2.2.2 The anatomical structure of the charcoal fragments analysed from the site was consistent with the following taxa:

Identified to species:

Aceraceae: *Acer campestre*, field maple

Aquifoliaceae: *Ilex aquifolium*, holly

Betulaceae: *Corylus avellana*, hazel

Celastraceae: *Euonymus europaeus*, spindle tree

Fagaceae: *Fagus sylvatica*, beech

Oleaceae: *Fraxinus excelsior*, ash

Identified to genus:

Betulaceae: *Alnus* sp., alder; *Betula* sp., birch

Fagaceae: *Quercus* sp., oak

Rosaceae: *Prunus* sp., cherry, blackthorn, plum

Ulmaceae: *Ulmus* sp., elm

Identified to subfamily:

Rosaceae: Maloideae, including *Crataegus monogyna*, hawthorn; *Malus* sp., apple; *Pyrus* sp., pear; *Sorbus* sp., rowan, whitebeam

Identified to higher classification:

Salicaceae: *Salix/Populus*, comprising *Salix* sp., willow; *Populus* sp., poplar

- 7.2.2.3 In some cases, the differences between genera are not significant enough to conclusively identify wood remains to genus level. For this reason, no further division is given of the Maloideae subfamily, nor between willow (*Salix* sp.) and poplar (*Populus* sp.). Furthermore, the poor preservation of the charcoal did not always permit the differentiation of hazel (*Corylus* sp.) and alder (*Alnus* sp.). Taxa are referred to below by their English common names, with the exception of the Maloideae which are given their subfamily name.

Charcoal Remains

- 7.2.2.4 The results of the taxonomic identification of charred wood remains from the site are given in Table 13.

Period 4: 1500-1700

Six samples were analysed from Period 4 of the occupation at the site, from ditch [78] (sample <14>), and pits [7] (<4>), [37] (<7>), [81] (<15> and <16>) and [14] (<6>). Oak was the dominant taxon in all the samples from Period 4, while ash, Maloideae, cherry/blackthorn, hazel, birch, holly, willow/poplar and field maple were also present in small quantities. Roundwood of birch, holly and willow/poplar was present in the sample from pit feature [37], but no roundwood was observed in other samples.

Period 5: 1750-1820

Period 5 was represented in the charcoal analysis by four samples, one from ditch [4] (<3>), and the remainder from pits [47] (<10>), [52] (<13>) and [112] (<17>). As in Period 4, charcoal assemblage from Period 5 was dominated by oak, with small amounts of other taxa present including elm, Maloideae, cherry/blackthorn, hazel, alder, birch and spindle tree. Small quantities of Maloideae ([52]), cherry/blackthorn ([4]) and spindle ([47]) roundwood were also present. The charcoal from this Period was in general less well-preserved than in the samples from Period 4, and three of the samples contained fragments which were too distorted or poorly preserved to be identified.

Period 7: Undated

A single sample <20> from feature [180] was analysed from the undated Period 7. This sample again was dominated by oak, with birch also present

along with fragments of beech and holly roundwood. Some fragments were too distorted or poorly preserved to be identified.

Waterlogged Wood

- 7.2.2.5 A single waterlogged timber was recovered from the site, from context [148], the wooden floor of the excavated tannery pit, recorded as sample <19>. This sample represented the remains of a large tangentially-converted plank of beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). The wood was very poorly preserved and highly fragmented, and as such it was not possible to observe any further evidence of woodworking or fittings beyond the conversion of the timber. The plank measured a maximum of 0.22m in width, and was originally at least 1.5m long by 0.03m in thickness.

POTENTIAL & SIGNIFICANCE OF RESULTS

8.1 Realisation of the original research aims

OR1 Is there evidence of activity at the site earlier than the medieval period and if so what form did this activity take?

- 8.1.1 The presence of residual flintwork in later deposits is indicative of low level Mesolithic/Early Neolithic activity at or in the immediate vicinity of the site. The geoarchaeological sequence provides a record of landscape change, pollen from this suggests late prehistoric clearance of the landscape and possible changes in local hydrology and fluvial regime.

OR2 Is there evidence of how the geoarchaeological and palaeoenvironmental history of the site determined the scope of past human activity?

- 8.1.2 Geoarchaeological coring has established that the tannery site was situated on relatively high and dry ground immediately adjacent to both the Sedlescombe stream and the floodplain of the river Brede. This provided a marginal location away from the main settlement, with access to water and effluent discharge but relatively protected from flooding.

OR3 To sample and record the peat deposits in more detail, should these be encountered, in order to better understand its character, date and significance in terms of its relationship with the wider landscape.

- 8.1.3 Peat deposits were located on the eastern side of the site and sampled as part of complete sequences. They show the development of a fluvial sequence from initial high energy flow through to the onset of peat development and later fine grained alluvial overbank deposits. It is postulated that there is a shift in this sequence from localised channel development relating to the hydrology of the Sedlescombe stream through to the early medieval period where the locale become subject to overbank sedimentation from the larger Brede to the south. This could relate to wider changes in southern river hydrology, both anthropogenic and sea level driven. Pollen and dating evidence provide a framework of landscape change for the sequence.

OR4 How was the fellmongering and tanning industry laid out at this site, what stages of the process are represented and how did it change and develop over time?

- 8.1.4 Given that only one of the tannery pits was excavated, evidence of change to processes/layout could not be ascertained. However, the excavated pit does provide a good idea of the construction methods involved and the date of construction. The tanning pits were laid out on a well organised gird system, which is consistent with tanneries of this date. Further work is needed at the analysis stage to more fully understand whether the ditches and pits present just to the west of the tannery (and of a similar date) are part of the tanning process.

OR5 What is the nature of the evidence for medieval and post-medieval fellmongering and tanning at the site?

- 8.1.5 There is no evidence of medieval tanning activity at the site. The excavated material from the post-medieval tannery pit provided a 18th to 19th century date. At the analysis stage, an attempt will be made to reconcile information in the forthcoming RoHas volume, which for example, identifies possible houses occupied by tannery owners (Martin & Martin 2012, 76) with the archaeological data.

OR6 What relationship did the demolished outbuilding have to below ground remains?

- 8.1.6 Although the only remains of buildings encountered during the excavation clearly post-date the use of the site as a tannery, cartographic and documentary sources, and the results of previous work at the site by Wessex Archaeology will be used to address this question during the analysis stage of the project

OR7 To ensure that features in the excavation area are fully exposed in plan and excavated in sufficient detail where appropriate/agreed.

- 8.1.7 This was carried out. A range of features were excavated and recorded.

OR8 To better understand the range of features and artefacts present on site and ensure that meaningful preservation in situ in perpetuity or by record is achieved in accordance with this document.

- 8.1.8 This was carried out. Excavated archaeological features were preserved by record, and the majority of the exposed tannery pits were preserved *in situ*.

8.2 Significance and Potential of the individual datasets

8.2.1 Alluvial Geoarchaeology by Dr Matt Pope

- 8.2.1.1 The fieldwork successfully mapped the distribution of alluvial sedimentation across the site. It was successful in broadly isolating the distribution of organic peat deposits and the wider distribution of alluvial sedimentation with potential for persevering organic material and palaeoenvironmental evidence (Figures 3-5). The geometry of the underlying bedrock surface and the alignment of surviving peat along a north-south axis suggests that the alluvial sedimentation relates broadly to the feeder channel of the Sedlescombe Stream. The modern stream is a misfit Chalybeate spring-fed stream of small flow volume and runs along the eastern boundary of the site.

- 8.2.1.3 The BGS mapping shows this stream occupies a much larger valley which drains a portion of Wealden Ashdown beds ridge to the north of the site, the valley formed by this river comprising the etymological 'coombe' element of the place name Sedlescombe. The alluvial sedimentation therefore may largely relate to the development of this minor channel and not the main Brede River. However, Core 10 showed a slightly deeper and more complex

sedimentary picture, including organic gravel deposits. A confluence-related sedimentary environment might exist in this part of the site with potential to show interplay between both the main river and the feeder stream.

8.2.2 The Stratigraphic Sequence by Jim Stevenson

Period 1: Mesolithic - Neolithic

The evidence for the earliest activity at Park View is limited to a very small amount residual struck and burnt flint. Apart from suggesting limited activity in the environs, the evidence of this date is of minor significance and has no potential to further expand on the site's history.

Period 2: Romano-British

The only evidence for activity of Romano-British date is residual iron working slag, probably derived from the nearby Roman ironworks at Footlands, Sedlescombe and used, it appears, to infill 17th-18th century pits. As such, the Romano-British evidence is of minor significance and has no further potential.

Period 3: Medieval

The first cut features (two pits) probably date from this period along with a small assemblage of residual pottery. The remains are of relatively low significance and with little further potential other than adding weight to the suggestion that there was little substantive occupation at the site at this time.

Period 4: Early post-medieval

The features phased to the early post-medieval period are more securely dated than the two medieval pits and as such are the first definitive evidence of a more substantial occupation of the site and are of moderate significance.

There is no evidence of structures and it seems that these pits were used for opportune rubbish disposal, presumably a secondary use. The potential of this evidence lies in understanding the initial function of these pits (although this will be difficult, perhaps impossible) and how, if at all, this is associated with the subsequent use of the site as a tannery. Could they, for example, be early tanning pits?

Period 5: Later post-medieval

This is the most archaeologically significant period of the site's use. The potential lies in understanding how the tannery pits, ditches and other pits are associated and whether they are all connected with the tanning process. Because all but one of the tanning pits are preserved in situ, potential for the discussion of their construction and use is very limited, although further analysis of the single excavated pit will be useful to try to refine its construction date as closely as possible.

Period 6 Late post-medieval to modern (post tannery)

The use of the site in the late 19th to 20th century is characterised by garden features, brick and concrete structures and drainage ditches. These remains have little significance for the wider understanding of the site's history and have minimal further potential.

8.2.3 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

8.2.3.1 The assemblage from Park View is extremely limited in size. It represents isolated finds, and, as such, holds little significance or potential.

8.2.4 The Pottery by Luke Barber

8.2.4.1 Sedlescombe has produced negligible quantities of post-Roman pottery to date and in that respect the current assemblage should be of particular interest. However, the medieval and early post-medieval assemblages are seriously hampered by a number of issues in addition to their small sizes. The lack of feature sherds, combined with the longevity of many of the fabrics and absence of more closely datable imports, makes the group of frustratingly limited value. This situation is further worsened by the presence of residual material and the very small size of the context assemblages.

8.2.4.2 Although the range of medieval and early post-medieval fabrics represented can be described, the current site offers nothing to help understand them, either chronologically or through functionality (i.e. form compositions). The absence of feature sherds also makes comparison to the most notable local assemblage (from Battle Abbey: Streeten 1985) extremely difficult. Even the recently excavated small medieval assemblage from Whatlington church is more coherent in its fabric/form range (Barber in prep). The later post-medieval assemblage is composed mainly of common industrialised wares. These demonstrate domestic activity at the time, perhaps of a reasonable social standing, but the assemblage is too small to be considered reliable. As such the current assemblage is not considered to hold any significant potential for further analysis.

8.2.5 The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

8.2.5.1 The ceramic building material assemblage is too mixed and lacking in good associated dating to warrant detailed analysis beyond that undertaken for this assessment. The assemblage is also notably fragmentary with few full dimensions being present. However, some limited study of the final phased site stratigraphic matrix may allow a better understanding of the differences between the 17th- and 18th- century material.

8.2.6 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

8.2.6.1 The geological assemblage is both small, and mainly composed of locally available stone types with no obvious signs of human utilisation. The non-local stone was probably brought in specifically for the site but is too few in number or, in the case of the coal, cannot demonstrate an industrial, as opposed to domestic, usage. As such the assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis beyond that undertaken at the assessment level.

8.2.7 The Ironwork by Trista Clifford

8.2.7.1 The assemblage is fairly uniform and unremarkable, and holds no potential for further analysis. It has been recorded in full for the archive both on pro forma sheets and on an excel spreadsheet.

8.2.8 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

8.2.9 The slag assemblage appears to largely represent the quarrying of earlier Roman slag-heaps in order to provide metalling material. As such it relates to secondary 'enabling' activity on the current site rather than actual on-site processes. The few pieces of blast furnace slag, although contemporary with the site activity, almost certainly were also brought in for metalling. Only the clinker can be seen as relating to actual on-site activity, but this could be of industrial or domestic nature. As such the slag assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and no further work is proposed.

8.2.9 The Glass by Elke Raemen

8.2.9.1 The assemblage is small, lacking any intrinsically significant pieces. None of the features contain large groups, and within a single context dates are often mixed.

8.2.10 The Clay Tobacco Pipes by Elke Raemen

8.2.10.1 The assemblage is too small and lacks intrinsically important pieces to have any significance or potential

8.2.11 The Registered Finds by Trista Clifford

8.2.11.1 The assemblage is small and not considered to hold any potential for further analysis.

8.2.12 The Animal Bone by Lucy Sibun

8.2.12.1 Owing to the small size of the assemblage, it offers limited potential for further analysis. Statistical analysis would not be viable but some general observations could be made with regards to the species represented, and this will include an attempt to identify the small quantity of fish remains recovered. Reference will be made to the limited ageing, metrical and butchery data available.

8.2.13 The Environmental Samples by Karine Le Hégarat

8.2.13.1 The assessment of the nineteen samples from the excavation has revealed the presence of a limited amount of charcoal, charred macroplants, bones, land snail shells and marine molluscs. However, the samples produced also a diverse array of artefacts, and overall these appear to represent a mixture of industrial and domestic debris such as slag, fuel remnants (infrequent pieces of coal and wood charcoal fragments), building material (demolition debris), bones and molluscs. These remains suggest that some of the

sampled features may have been used for the deliberate dumping of occupational rubbish.

8.2.13.2 The contents of the nineteen flots were very similar. They consisted mainly of uncharred vegetation including roots and uncharred seeds. Although uncharred seeds can preserve in anoxic conditions, the deposits were recorded as dry or moist, and no evidence for waterlogged deposits that would provide such conditions were encountered during the excavation phase. These uncharred remains are therefore considered indicators of small-scale post-depositional disturbance such as root action through which seeds are introduced. Nonetheless, seeds preserved by waterlogging were noted in clay deposit [204] during the evaluation phase. Although uncommon, they could be contemporary with layer [204]. They comprised species associated with open and disturbed grounds and nitrogen rich soils.

Charred macroplants:

8.2.13.3 There was a general paucity of charred macrobotanical remains in these samples. While the charred cereal remains indicate the probable consumption of wheat, they have no further potential. The charred weed seeds were very scarce preventing any interpretation regarding the local vegetation. The assemblage of charred macroplants recovered during the evaluation phase was also very small with a single grain of oat (*Avena* sp.) found in context [204] (Wessex 2008).

Peat deposit

8.2.13.4 Two peat deposits ([205] and [506]) were sampled during the evaluation phase (Wessex 2008). Although peat [205] produced a small quantity of material associated mainly with open grounds, peat deposit [506] contained a larger concentration of seeds suggesting that it had formed in an alder carr environment, which is supported by the pollen evidence recovered during the excavation. This deposit could provide the opportunity to examine further the past vegetation during the prehistoric period and provide a complimentary sequence alongside the pollen. However, unless the deposit is well dated, the potential of the botanical remains in providing information on the local environment is limited.

8.2.14 The Charcoal and Waterlogged Wood by Dawn Elise Mooney

8.2.14.1 The charcoal assemblage is in general of low significance. No significant pattern was observed in variation over time of the taxa identified. As the samples originate from pit and ditch fills rather than from primary burning contexts, the assemblage cannot offer information regarding the choice of specific taxa for different purposes, and rather gives an overall view of fuel wood selection at the site.

8.2.14.2 The evaluation of the site by Wessex Archaeology suggested that the charred wood assemblage was dominated by oak, with roundwood present in the assemblage (Wessex 2008) and this is confirmed by the assessment presented in this report. The taxa identified in the charcoal analysis are likely to originate from local woodland, and indicate that firewood was sourced from oak-dominated deciduous woodland with other large trees such as beech and ash also present, and a shrubby understorey composed of a wide variety of taxa.

- 8.2.14.3 The presence of willow/poplar and alder may also indicate that the wetland margin environment close to the channel were exploited for fuel procurement. Although roundwood was noted in some of the samples, there is insufficient data here to provide clear evidence for woodland management through coppicing or pollarding. However, the range of taxa present is consistent with the common medieval practice of binding together branches from timber trees along with underwood species to form faggots for use as domestic fuel (Rackham 1996, Keene 2012). The beech timber plank was probably sourced from the same local managed woodlands.
- 8.2.14.4 The charcoal assemblage indicates that this practice of fuel procurement continued throughout the occupation of the site. This is consistent with data from nearby contemporary deposits (e.g. Challinor 2006, Barnett 2009) and presents a standardised system of fuel wood procurement in medieval and post-medieval south-east England. This consistency, combined with the origin of the charcoal from non-primary burning deposits and the generally poor preservation of the remains indicate that this assemblage has little potential to contribute further to the interpretation of the site.

8.3 Pollen by Rob Scaife (Figures 11 and 12)

- 8.3.1 The two profiles analysed are thought to have been recovered from a former river channel. The presence of cereal pollen and a range of herb taxa in the lower part of the profiles does indicate that the sediments are of Neolithic and/or Bronze Age at their earliest and the radiocarbon dating suggests the latter. Absence of lime (*Tilia*) in any quantity also suggests a post Lime Decline date, lending further support to the Middle to Late Bronze Age date. During the middle Holocene (late Mesolithic-middle Bronze Age) lime woodland was probably the dominant woodland species as indicated by numerous profiles from southern England.
- 8.3.2 Interpretation of the pollen assemblages can be considered in terms of the on-site flora (autochthonous) and off site (allochthonous) components of the adjacent drier ground.
- 8.3.3 The *on-site vegetation* in both of the sequences shows that this initially consisted alder woodland. This was either fringing the channel or more probably formed a well-developed alder carr, floodplain woodland. As noted this had a ground flora of typical fen carr herbs (Cyperaceae, reed mace, marsh ferns etc.). This carr woodland changed through time with reduction of alder and a change to a more open grass-sedge fen habitat. This increasing wetness may have been in response to woodland clearance increasing local ground water table and surface run-off.
- 8.3.4 The vegetation of *drier ground* comprised largely oak and hazel woodland which was being cleared for agriculture that is, as evidenced by the presence of cereal pollen and herbs of grassland such as ribwort plantain.
- 8.3.4 Pollen associated with the sedimentary sequence provides some contextual background to the tannery site in terms of defining the long term vegetation history of the locality. However the sequence relates to Late prehistoric to the

early medieval periods and is not directly relevant to the tannery site under investigation. Given that the pollen neither comprises an exceptional regional sequence, nor is directly associated with the main focus of the archaeological investigation, no further pollen analysis is recommended.

9.0 PUBLICATION PROJECT

9.1 Revised Research Agenda: Aims and Objectives

9.1.1 This section combines those original research aims that the site archive has the potential to address with any new research aims identified in the assessment process by stratigraphic, finds and environmental specialists to produce a set of revised research aims that will form the basis of any future research agenda. Original research aims (OR's) are referred to where there is any synthesis of subject matter to form a new set of revised research aims (RRA's) posed as questions below.

9.2 The Revised Research Agendas

RRA1 (OR1)

Does the paucity of the flint assemblage justify the inclusion of a Mesolithic/Neolithic period in its own right? Does the comparative rarity of prehistoric material from this part of the Weald justify its inclusion anyway?

RRA2 (OR1)

Although the Romano-British ironworking material clearly does not originate from the site, should a Romano-British period be included to highlight the industrial significance of the Weald at that time? Might the slag be derived from a more local site/bloomery?

RRA3 (OR4 and OR5)

How far does the available stratigraphic/environmental evidence contribute to the understanding of post-medieval industry at the site? Is it possible to tell what processes were undertaken in the excavated pit (?fellmongery)?

RRA4 (OR4 and OR5)

Is it possible that some of the excavated features at the site were used in other processes undertaken at the tannery? Could some of this evidence pre-date the use of the excavated tannery pit? If so, what is the earliest date of recognisable activity of this kind?

RRA5 (OR4, OR5 and OR6)

Can data from the evaluation, building recording and excavation be used to sequence building activity at the site? How useful are the cartographic sources?

RRA6 (OR7 and OR8)

How far have the assemblages from the site contributed to knowledge of post-medieval Sussex? Despite its size, does the pottery assemblage go some way towards redressing the balance with other, earlier periods in terms of publication (cf. Barber 2010, 193)?

9.3 Preliminary Publication Synopsis

9.3.1 It is suggested that the results of the excavation should be published as a short article in the local annual archaeological journal, the *Sussex Archaeological Collections*. This will comprise of an integrated text detailing the key elements of the site. The text will include supporting specialist information, figures, photographs and artefact illustrations as necessary and will consider the site in its local and regional context. The article will also address the research questions identified in this post-excavation assessment.

The article will be in the region of 3-4000 words and take the following proposed format:

Introduction

Circumstance of fieldwork
Archaeological background

Results

(including selected plans, photographs, sections and artefact drawings / photographs as appropriate)

The geoarchaeological sequence, including supporting pollen data

Medieval: pits

Post-medieval: the tannery and associated features, disuse of the tannery

(To include results of the Wessex Archaeology evaluation)

Summary of the Historic Building Recording

Specialist Reports

(where possible, supporting specialist information will be integrated into the site narrative (Results) section. Detailed data and thematic discussions will be presented where necessary in standalone specialist reports)

Pottery

CBM

Animal Bone

Macroplant

Charcoal

Other categories integrated into narrative text as necessary to provide supporting data

Discussion

To include:

the beginning of tanning at Park View (likely dates), the tanning processes (what activities were carried out at Park View), parallels in Sussex and further afield as necessary

A consideration of the geoarchaeological, archaeological and historic buildings recording evidence and what, taken as a whole, the project has told us about the occupation of Park View.

9.4 Publication Project

9.4.1 Geoarchaeological by Dr Matt Pope

An illustrated summary of the geoarchaeology, topographic and geological background to the site will be produced including illustrations showing the depositional sequence. This will include contextualisation within the wider region.

The two radiocarbon dates from the base of the peat (1.52m) appear to be statistically consistent, suggesting a date of deposition in the 11th-9th centuries BC, at the very end of the Middle Bronze Age or in the earlier part of the Late Bronze Age. The material from top of the peat (0.88m) was found to be of early Saxon date. That such an extensive time span is represented in a relatively short peat sequence suggests that there might be issues relating to either the possibility of intrusiveness for the upper material or truncation within the peat development.

Integration of the data derived from the bulk samples from the evaluation (archive held by Wessex Archaeology, requested by ASE for analysis phase). Contingency for two radiocarbon dates if suitable material is present in these bulk samples to further inform the chronology.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Contingency for two radiocarbon dates | fee |
| Preparation of publication text | |
| Total | 1day |

9.4.2 Stratigraphic Method Statement

Once the subgrouping has been finalised, the subgroups will be completely grouped and a basic land use model will be established for the site. This will provide a land-use led chronological framework for the analysis and reporting of the site.

After completion of the specialist analysis, reporting and documentary research, an integrated period-driven narrative of the site sequence will be prepared. This will draw on specialist information in order to fully address the revised research aims. The narrative will include relevant selection of period/phase plans, sections, photographs and finds illustrations.

9.4.3 The Worked Flint by Karine Le Hégarat

No further work on the assemblage is considered necessary. The flintwork will be mentioned in the site narrative.

9.4.4 The Pottery by Luke Barber

The assemblage has been fully recorded and entered into an excel database as part of the assessment. Although no further detailed analysis is proposed, it is recommended that the current factual statement be edited to create a summary report for publication and some text on the pottery be produced for key contexts for inclusion with the site narrative. No sherds are proposed for illustration.

Editing factual statement for publication
Text for site narrative

Total 1 day

9.4.5 The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

It is proposed to check the ceramic building material archive against the final phased site matrix in an attempt to establish if there are any consistent patterns that may allow firmer chronological divisions within the early post-medieval fabrics. Following that the above factual statement will be edited/upgraded for publication. No pieces are proposed for illustration.

Checking archive against site matrix
Editing/upgrading factual statement for publication

Total 1 day

9.4.6 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

No separate report is proposed for publication. The presence of this material will be mentioned in the site narrative.

9.4.7 The Ironwork by Trista Clifford

No further work on the assemblage is considered necessary. The material will be mentioned in the site narrative.

9.4.8 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

Although no separate report on the metallurgical remains is though necessary for publication, the re-use of Roman bloomery slag will be noted in the site narrative.

9.4.9 The Glass by Elke Raemen

No further work is recommended, although the glass will be mentioned in the site narrative.

9.4.10 The Clay Tobacco Pipes by Elke Raemen

It is proposed to extract information for the site narrative, if necessary, from the above statement and from the datasheets. No separate report is warranted and no further work is recommended

9.4.11 The Registered Finds by Trista Clifford

No further work on this material is considered necessary. Text for the site narrative may be taken from this report.

9.4.12 The Animal Bone by Lucy Sibun

A summary report will be produced utilising the limited data available.

Production of summary report

Total 0.5 days

9.4.13 The Environmental Samples by Karine Le Hégarat

The charred macroplants in the samples from Park View were poorly represented and they hold no potential to provide information regarding the range of activities or the local environment. Text for the site narrative will be taken from this report.

Production of publication report derived from assessment text

Total 0.5 day

9.4.14 The Charcoal and Waterlogged Wood by Dawn Elise Mooney

No further work is required on the waterlogged wood or the charcoal assemblage from the site. Text for the site narrative will be taken from this report.

Production of publication report derived from assessment text

Total 0.5 day

9.4.15 The Pollen by Rob Scaife

No further work is required on the pollen assemblage. Text for the site narrative will be taken from the current report

| | |
|--|----------|
| Stratigraphic Tasks | |
| Define groups and draw date phased group matrices. Define landuse. | 0.5 |
| Describe landuse, define and describe periods. Interpretative text will be written about each landuse element (to include the results of the Wessex Archaeology evaluation) | 1 |
| Documentary research will be conducted prior to commencement of the authorship of the period-driven narrative by the principal author. This should include relevant study of archaeological features, sites and published themes of the surrounding area, region, and the southeast. | 1 |
| Prepare period-driven narrative of the site sequence. This task comprises the combination of the stratigraphic period descriptions and the relevant portions of completed finds, environmental, documentary and integrated analytical reports. Suitable photographic and drawn images such as sections and plans will also be selected from the archive at this point. | 2.5 |
| Total | 5 |
| Specialist texts | |
| Pottery | 1 |
| CBM | 1 |
| Animal Bone | 0.5 |
| Production of publication texts from existing assessments (geological material, Ironwork, metallurgical remains, glass, ctp, registered finds) | 1 |
| Macroplant | 0.5 |
| Charcoal | 0.5 |
| Geoarchaeology | 1.5 |
| Scientific dating (contingency for two radiocarbon dates to clarify geoarchaeological sequence) | Fee |
| Illustration | |
| Publication figures | 1.5 |
| Production | |
| Editing | 1 |
| Project Management | 0.5 |
| Journal fees | Fee |

Table 14: Resource for analysis and publication

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Appendix 1: Context Register

| SITECODE | CONTEXT | CONTEXT_TY | FEATURE_TY | PARENT_CON | SAMPLE | SUBGROUP | GROUP | PHASE |
|----------|---------|------------|------------|------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|
| SMM12 | 1 | L | TS | | | | | |
| SMM12 | 2 | L | SS | | | | | |
| SMM12 | 3 | L | N | | | | | |
| SMM12 | 4 | C | D | | | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 5 | F | D | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 6 | F | D | 4 | | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 7 | C | P | | | 3 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 8 | F | P | 7 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 9 | C | P | | | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 10 | F | P | 9 | 1 2 | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 11 | F | P | 9 | | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 12 | C | P | | | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 13 | F | P | 12 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 14 | C | P | | | 6 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 15 | F | P | 14 | | 6 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 16 | L | OC | | | 7 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 17 | F | P | 18 | | 8 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 18 | C | P | | | 8 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 19 | F | P | 20 | | 9 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 20 | C | P | | | 9 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 21 | C | S | | | 10 | 12 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 22 | M | P | 21 | | 10 | 12 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 23 | M | WA | | | 11 | 12 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 24 | C | D | | | 12 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 25 | F | D | 24 | | 12 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 26 | C | D | | | 13 | 2 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 27 | F | D | 26 | | 13 | 2 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 28 | F | D | 26 | | 13 | 2 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 29 | C | D | | | 14 | 2 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 30 | F | D | 29 | | 14 | 2 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 31 | C | D | | | 15 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 32 | F | D | 31 | | 15 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 33 | C | D | | | 16 | 2 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 34 | F | D | 33 | | 16 | 2 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 35 | F | D | 33 | | 16 | 2 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 36 | F | P | 37 | 7 | 17 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 37 | C | P | | | 17 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 38 | F | P | 39 | | 18 | 9 | 3 |
| SMM12 | 39 | C | P | | | 18 | 9 | 3 |

| SITECODE | CONTEXT | CONTEXT_TY | FEATURE_TY | PARENT_CON | SAMPLE | SUBGROUP | GROUP | PHASE |
|----------|---------|------------|------------|------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|
| SMM12 | 40 | F | P | 37 | | 17 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 41 | L | OC | | | 18 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 42 | C | P | | | 19 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 43 | F | P | 42 | 8 | 19 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 44 | C | D | | | 20 | 3 | 7 |
| SMM12 | 45 | F | D | 44 | 9 | 20 | 3 | 7 |
| SMM12 | 46 | F | P | 47 | 10 | 21 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 47 | C | P | | | 21 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 48 | F | D | 49 | 11 | 22 | 3 | 7 |
| SMM12 | 49 | C | D | | | 22 | 3 | 7 |
| SMM12 | 50 | C | P | | | 23 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 51 | F | P | 50 | 12 | 23 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 52 | C | P | | | 24 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 53 | F | P | 52 | 13 | 24 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 54 | C | P | | | 24 | 11 | |
| SMM12 | 55 | F | P | 54 | | 24 | 11 | |
| SMM12 | 56 | F | MU | 58 | | 25 | 12 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 57 | M | WA | 58 | | 25 | 12 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 58 | C | S | | | 25 | 12 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 59 | C | D | | | 26 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 60 | F | D | 59 | | 26 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 61 | C | P | | | 27 | 9 | 3 |
| SMM12 | 62 | F | P | 61 | | 27 | 9 | 3 |
| SMM12 | 63 | C | P | | | 28 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 64 | F | P | 63 | | 28 | 10 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 65 | C | D | | | 29 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 66 | F | D | 65 | | 29 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 67 | C | P | | | 30 | 8 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 68 | F | P | 67 | | 30 | 8 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 69 | C | P | | | 31 | 8 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 70 | F | P | 69 | | 31 | 8 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 71 | C | P | | | 32 | 8 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 72 | F | P | 71 | | 32 | 8 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 73 | C | D | | | 33 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 74 | F | D | 73 | | 33 | 1 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 75 | C | P | | | 34 | 8 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 76 | F | P | 75 | | 34 | 8 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 77 | F | D | 78 | 14 | 35 | 4 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 78 | C | D | | | 35 | 4 | 4 |

| SITECODE | CONTEXT | CONTEXT_TY | FEATURE_TY | PARENT_CON | SAMPLE | SUBGROUP | GROUP | PHASE |
|----------|---------|------------|------------|------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|
| SMM12 | 79 | C | D | | | 36 | 4 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 80 | F | D | 79 | | 36 | 4 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 81 | C | P | | | 37 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 82 | F | P | 81 | 15 | 37 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 83 | F | P | 81 | 16 | 37 | 6 | 4 |
| SMM12 | 84 | C | TP | | | 38 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 85 | F | TP | 84 | | 39 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 86 | C | TP | | | 40 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 87 | F | TP | 86 | | 41 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 88 | C | TP | | | 42 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 89 | F | TP | 88 | | 43 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 90 | C | SP | | | 44 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 91 | F | SP | 90 | | 44 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 92 | C | SP | | | 45 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 93 | F | SP | 92 | | 45 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 94 | C | P | | | 46 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 95 | F | P | 94 | | 46 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 96 | C | TP | | | 47 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 97 | F | TP | 96 | | 48 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 98 | C | TP | | | 49 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 99 | F | TP | 98 | | 50 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 100 | C | TP | | | 51 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 101 | F | TP | 100 | | 52 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 102 | C | TP | | | 53 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 103 | F | TP | 102 | | 54 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 104 | C | TP | | | 55 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 105 | F | TP | 104 | | 56 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 106 | C | TP | | | 57 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 107 | F | TP | 106 | | 58 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 108 | C | TP | | | 59 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 109 | F | TP | 108 | | 60 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 110 | C | TP | | | 61 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 111 | F | TP | 110 | | 62 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 112 | C | TP | | | 63 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 113 | F | TP | 112 | 17 | 63 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | VOID | | | | | | | |
| SMM12 | 115 | F | TP | 112 | 18 | 64 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 116 | C | TP | | | 65 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 117 | F | TP | 116 | | 66 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 118 | C | TP | | | 67 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 119 | F | TP | 118 | | 68 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 120 | C | TP | | | 69 | 5 | 5 |

| SITECODE | CONTEXT | CONTEXT_TY | FEATURE_TY | PARENT_CON | SAMPLE | SUBGROUP | GROUP | PHASE |
|----------|---------|------------|------------|------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|
| SMM12 | 121 | F | TP | 120 | | 70 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 122 | C | TP | | | 71 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 123 | F | TP | 122 | | 72 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 124 | C | P | | | 73 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 125 | F | P | 124 | | 73 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 126 | C | TP | | | 74 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 127 | F | TP | 126 | | 75 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 128 | C | TP | | | 76 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 129 | F | TP | 128 | | 77 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 130 | C | SP | | | 78 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 131 | F | SP | 130 | | 78 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 132 | C | TP | | | 79 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 133 | F | TP | 132 | | 80 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 134 | C | SP | | | 81 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 135 | F | SP | 134 | | 81 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 136 | C | SP | | | 82 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 137 | F | SP | 136 | | 82 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 138 | C | SP | | | 83 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 139 | F | SP | 138 | | 83 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 140 | C | TP | | | 84 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 141 | F | TP | 140 | | 85 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 142 | C | SP | | | 86 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 143 | F | SP | 142 | | 86 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 144 | C | TP | | | 87 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 145 | F | TP | 144 | | 88 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 146 | C | TP | | | 89 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 147 | F | TP | 146 | | 90 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 148 | L | ST | 149 | 19 | 63 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | VOID | | TP | | | | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 150 | F | TP | 112 | 21 | 63 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 151 | C | TP | | | 91 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 152 | F | TP | 151 | | 92 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 153 | C | TP | | | 93 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 154 | F | TP | 153 | | 94 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 155 | C | TP | | | 95 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 156 | F | TP | 155 | | 96 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 157 | C | TP | | | 97 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 158 | F | TP | 157 | | 98 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 159 | L | OC | | | 99 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 160 | C | TP | | | 100 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 161 | F | TP | 160 | | 101 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 162 | C | TP | | | 102 | 5 | 5 |

| SITECODE | CONTEXT | CONTEXT_TY | FEATURE_TY | PARENT_CON | SAMPLE | SUBGROUP | GROUP | PHASE |
|----------|---------|------------|------------|------------|--------|----------|-------|-------|
| SMM12 | 163 | F | TP | 162 | | 103 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 164 | C | TP | | | 104 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 165 | F | TP | 164 | | 105 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 166 | C | TP | | | 106 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 167 | F | TP | 166 | | 107 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 168 | C | TP | | | 108 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 169 | F | TP | 168 | | 109 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 170 | C | TP | | | 110 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 171 | F | TP | 170 | | 111 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 172 | C | TP | | | 112 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 173 | F | TP | 172 | | 113 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 174 | C | TP | | | 114 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 175 | F | TP | 174 | | 115 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 176 | C | TP | | | 116 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 177 | F | TP | 176 | | 117 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 178 | C | TP | | | 118 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 179 | F | TP | 178 | | 119 | 5 | 5 |
| SMM12 | 180 | C | D | | | 120 | 7 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 181 | F | D | 180 | 20 | 120 | 7 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 182 | M | WA | | | 121 | 13 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 183 | M | D | | | 122 | 13 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 184 | M | WA | | | 123 | 13 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 185 | M | WA | | | 124 | 13 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 186 | M | ES | | | 125 | 13 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 187 | L | DS | | | 126 | 13 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 188 | C | D | | | 127 | 7 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 189 | F | D | 188 | | 127 | 7 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 190 | C | P | | | 128 | 14 | 7 |
| SMM12 | 191 | F | P | 190 | | 128 | 14 | 7 |
| SMM12 | 192 | C | P | | | 129 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 193 | F | P | 192 | | 129 | 11 | 6 |
| SMM12 | 194 | L | OC | | | 130 | 13 | 6 |

APPENDIX 2: Logged Geoarchaeological Observations

| LOCATION | | BH1 | | |
|----------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|--|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES |
| 0 | Topsoil | - | Dark Brown | |
| 0.3 | Made Ground | - | - | Concrete and brick sub-base |
| 0.5 | Weathered Alluvium | Silt | Dark Yellow Brown | Fe pan development |
| 1 | Alluvium | Silty Clay | Yellow Brown | |
| 2.1 | Alluvial Sand | Medium Sand | Light Grey | Clean |
| 2.7 | Alluvial Gravel | Coarse Sand | Light Yellow Brown | High Energy Gravels of local lithology |
| 2.8 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock |
| 3.0 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock Proven |

| LOCATION | | BH2 | | |
|----------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES |
| 0 | Topsoil | - | Dark Brown | |
| 0.3 | Made Ground | - | - | Concrete and brick sub-base |
| 0.9 | Alluvium with organics | Silty Clay | Dark Grey | Flecks of organic material |
| 1.5 | Alluvium | Clay with fine sand | Yellow Brown | |
| 2.1 | Alluvial Sand | Medium Sand | Light Grey | Clean |
| 2.3 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock (Weathered) |
| 3.0 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock Proven |

| LOCATION | | BH3 | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES |
| 0 | Topsoil | - | Dark Brown | |
| 0.3 | Made Ground | - | - | Concrete and brick sub-base |
| 0.6 | Alluvium with organics | Silty Clay | Dark Grey | Flecks of organic material |
| 1.0 | Alluvial Sand with organics | Silty sand | Mid Grey | Flecks of organic material |
| 1.6 | Alluvial Sand | Silty Sand | Light Grey | Clean |
| 2.35 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock (Weathered) |
| 3.0 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock Proven |

| LOCATION | | BH4 | | |
|----------|------------------------|------------|--------------------|--|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES |
| 0 | Topsoil | - | Dark Brown | |
| 0.4 | Weathered Alluvium | Silt | Dark Yellow Brown | Fe pan development |
| 0.9 | Alluvium with organics | Silty Clay | Dark Grey | Flecks of organic material |
| 1.25 | Peat (Organic Beds) | Silty Clay | Very Dark Grey | Fibrous organic deposit |
| 1.6 | Alluvium | Silty Clay | Light Yellow Brown | |
| 2.2 | Alluvial Gravel | Silty Clay | Light Yellow Brown | High Energy Gravels of local lithology |
| 2.8 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock (Weathered) |
| 3.0 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock Proven |

| LOCATION | | BH6 | | |
|----------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|--|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES |
| 0 | Topsoil | - | Dark Brown | |
| 0.4 | Made Ground | - | - | Concrete and brick sub-base |
| 0.5 | Weathered Alluvium | Silt | Dark Yellow Brown | Fe pan development |
| 0.7 | Alluvium | Silty Clay | Mid Grey | CBM noted (contamination) |
| 1.1 | Alluvium | Silty Clay | Mid Grey | Some gravels seams noted |
| 1.7 | Alluvial Gravel | Silty Clay | Light Yellow Brown | High Energy Gravels of local lithology |
| 2.2 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock (Weathered) |
| 2.9 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock Proven |

| LOCATION | | BH7 | | |
|----------|-----------------|------------|--------------------|--|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES |
| 0 | Topsoil | - | Dark Brown | |
| 0.4 | Made Ground | - | - | Concrete and brick sub-base |
| 1 | Alluvium | Silty Clay | Mid Grey | CBM noted (contamination) |
| 1.5 | Alluvium | Silty Clay | Mid Grey | CBM noted possibly in situ @2.1m |
| 1.1 | Alluvium | Silty Clay | Mid Grey | Some gravels seams noted |
| 1.7 | Alluvial Gravel | Silty Clay | Light Yellow Brown | High Energy Gravels of local lithology |
| 2.2 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock (Weathered) |
| 2.9 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock Proven |

| LOCATION | | BH9 | | |
|----------|------------------------|------------|--------------------|--|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES |
| 0 | Topsoil | - | Dark Brown | |
| 0.4 | Weathered Alluvium | Silty Clay | Yellow Brown | |
| 1m | Anerobic Alluvium | Silty Clay | | |
| 1.2 | Alluvium with organics | Silty Clay | Blue Grey | Peat development |
| 1.5 | Alluvial Gravel | Silty Clay | Light Yellow Brown | High Energy Gravels of local lithology |
| 1.7 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock (Weathered) |
| 2.9 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock Proven |

| LOCATION | | BH10 | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES |
| 0 | Topsoil | - | Dark Brown | |
| 0.2 | Alluvium with organics | Silty Clay | Mid Grey | Flecks of organic material |
| 0.6 | Alluvium | Silty Clay | Mid Grey | |
| 1.0 | Alluvium with Organics | Silty Clay | Dark Grey | |
| 1.5 | Alluvium with Organics | Clay | Dark Grey | Clean |
| 2.5 | Alluvial gravel with organics | Clay | Yellow Brown | High Energy Fluvial gravel |
| 3.0 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock Proven |

| LOCATION | BH11 | OSNGR | | ELEVATION | |
|----------|---|-----------|--------|-----------|--|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES | |
| 0 | Situating on concrete raft. Impenetrable. | | | | |

| LOCATION | BH12 | OSNGR | | ELEVATION | |
|----------|------------------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| DEPTH | STRATIGRAPHY | LITHOLOGY | COLOUR | NOTES | |
| 0 | Topsoil | - | Dark Brown | | |
| 0.3 | Weathered Alluvium | Silt | Dark Yellow Brown | Fe pan development | |
| 0.8 | Alluvium with organics | Silty Clay | Dark Grey | Flecks of organic material | |
| 1.1 | Peat (Organic Beds) | Silty Clay | Very Dark Grey | Fibrous organic deposit | |
| 1.7 | Alluvium | Silty Clay | Light Yellow Brown | | |
| 2.3 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock (Weathered) | |
| 2.8 | Ashdown Beds | Clay | Yellow Brown | Bedrock Proven | |

APPENDIX 3: HER Summary Form

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------|--------------------|--------|-------|
| Site Code | SMM12 | | | | | |
| Identification Name and Address | Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe | | | | | |
| County, District &/or Borough | Rother District, East Sussex | | | | | |
| OS Grid Refs. | 578297 117795 | | | | | |
| Geology | Head Deposits over Ashdown Formation | | | | | |
| Arch. South-East Project Number | 4798 | | | | | |
| Type of Fieldwork | Eval. | Excav. ✓ | Watching Brief | Standing Structure | Survey | Other |
| Type of Site | Green Field ✓ | Shallow Urban | Deep Urban | Other | | |
| Dates of Fieldwork | Eval. | Excav. July 2012 – August 20 12 | WB. | Other | | |
| Sponsor/Client | Brite Design and Development | | | | | |
| Project Manager | Neil Griffin/Jim Stevenson | | | | | |
| Project Supervisor | Simon Stevens | | | | | |
| Period Summary | Palaeo. | Meso ✓ | Neo. ✓ | BA | IA | RB ✓ |
| | AS | MED ✓ | PM ✓ | Other | | |

Summary

This report presents the results of the archaeological excavation carried out in 2012 by Archaeology South-East at Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe, East Sussex (NGR 578297 117795). The site was found to have been heavily truncated but evidence of post-medieval industrial activity was recovered.

The fieldwork successfully mapped the distribution of alluvial sedimentation across the site. The geometry of the underlying bedrock surface and the alignment of surviving peat along a north-south axis suggests that the alluvial sedimentation relates broadly to the feeder channel of the Sedlescombe Stream. The modern stream is a misfit spring-fed stream of small flow volume and runs along the eastern boundary of the site.

There was a very thin scatter of prehistoric material across the investigated area, suggesting intermittent Mesolithic - Early Neolithic activity on or in the environs of the site. Material from the Romano-British period offers the first evidence of identifiable activity in the form of ironworking waste. However this assemblage was undoubtedly imported to the site in the post-medieval period, and although it is unequivocal evidence of the industrial activity known to have been widespread in the Weald at that time and in later periods, it did not relate to activity actually at the site.

Evidence of medieval activity was somewhat enigmatic, represented by a limited assemblage of often highly abraded sherds of pottery, usually recovered from provably later features, and two features tentatively dated to this period. It is more-than-likely that all of the medieval material recovered from the site was residual, and that this location on the fringes of the medieval village remained unoccupied at that time.

However, there was clear evidence of an upsurge in activity after 1500. A number of pits were dug over the next two or three centuries, as well as a shallow gully, presumably for drainage. A limited assemblage of domestic material was deposited in these features.

Physical evidence for the use of the site as a tannery dates to the 18th and 19th centuries, when it also appears to have been sub-divided with ditches, again acting as drainage. Some domestic material was also deposited in pits at this time. A block of tannery pits were active at this time, occupying much of the site; there are cartographic and documentary references to the presence of a tannery/fellmongery at the site at this time, and for the location of buildings.

APPENDIX 3: OASIS Form(ready for editing)

OASIS ID: archaeol6-139831

Project details

| | |
|--|---|
| Project name | Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe, East Sussex |
| Short description of the project | <p>The fieldwork successfully mapped the distribution of alluvial sedimentation across the site. The geometry of the underlying bedrock surface and the alignment of surviving peat along a north-south axis suggests that the alluvial sedimentation relates broadly to the feeder channel of the Sedlescombe Stream. The modern stream is a misfit spring-fed stream of small flow volume and runs along the eastern boundary of the site. There was a very thin scatter of prehistoric material across the investigated area, suggesting intermittent Mesolithic - Early Neolithic activity on or in the environs of the site. Material from the Romano-British period offers the first evidence of identifiable activity in the form of ironworking waste. However this assemblage was undoubtedly imported to the site in the post-medieval period, and although it was unequivocal evidence of the industrial activity known to have been widespread in the Weald at that time and in later periods, it did not relate to activity actually at the site. Evidence of medieval activity was somewhat enigmatic, represented by a limited assemblage of often highly abraded sherds of pottery, usually recovered from provably later features, and two features tentatively dated to this period. It is more-than-likely that all of the medieval material recovered from the site was residual, and that this location on the fringes of the medieval village remained unoccupied at that time. However, there was clear evidence of an upsurge in activity at the site after 1500, A number of pits were dug at the site over the next two or three centuries, as well as a shallow gully, presumably for drainage. A limited assemblage of domestic material was deposited in these features. Physical evidence for the use of the site as a tannery dates to the 18th and 19th centuries, when the site also appears to have been sub-divided with ditches, again also acting as drainage. Some domestic material was also deposited in pits at this time. A block of tannery pits were active at this time, occupying much of the site; there are cartographic and documentary references to the presence of a tannery/fellmongery at the site at this time, and for the location of buildings.</p> |
| Project dates | Start: 27-07-2012 End: 03-08-2012 |
| Previous/future work | Yes / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | 4798 - Contracting Unit No. |
| Any associated project reference codes | SMM12 - Sitecode |
| Any associated project reference codes | RR/2010/1131/P - Planning Application No. |
| Type of project | Recording project |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Site status | Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area |
| Current Land use | Other 13 - Waste ground |
| Monument type | TANNING PITS Post Medieval |
| Monument type | PITS Post Medieval |
| Significant Finds | POTTERY Post Medieval |
| Investigation type | "Open-area excavation" |
| Prompt | Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS |

Project location

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Country | England |
| Site location | EAST SUSSEX ROTHER SEDLESCOMBE Park View, High Street, Sedlescombe |
| Postcode | TN33 0QB |
| Study area | 0.20 Hectares |
| Site coordinates | TQ 78297 17795 50 0 50 55 53 N 000 32 15 E Point |
| Height OD / Depth | Min: 10.00m Max: 12.00m |

Project creators

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | Archaeology South-East |
| Project brief originator | East Sussex County Council |
| Project design originator | Archaeology South-East |
| Project director/manager | Neil Griffin/Jim Stevenson |
| Project supervisor | Nick Garland |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | Client |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | Brite Design and Development |

Project archives

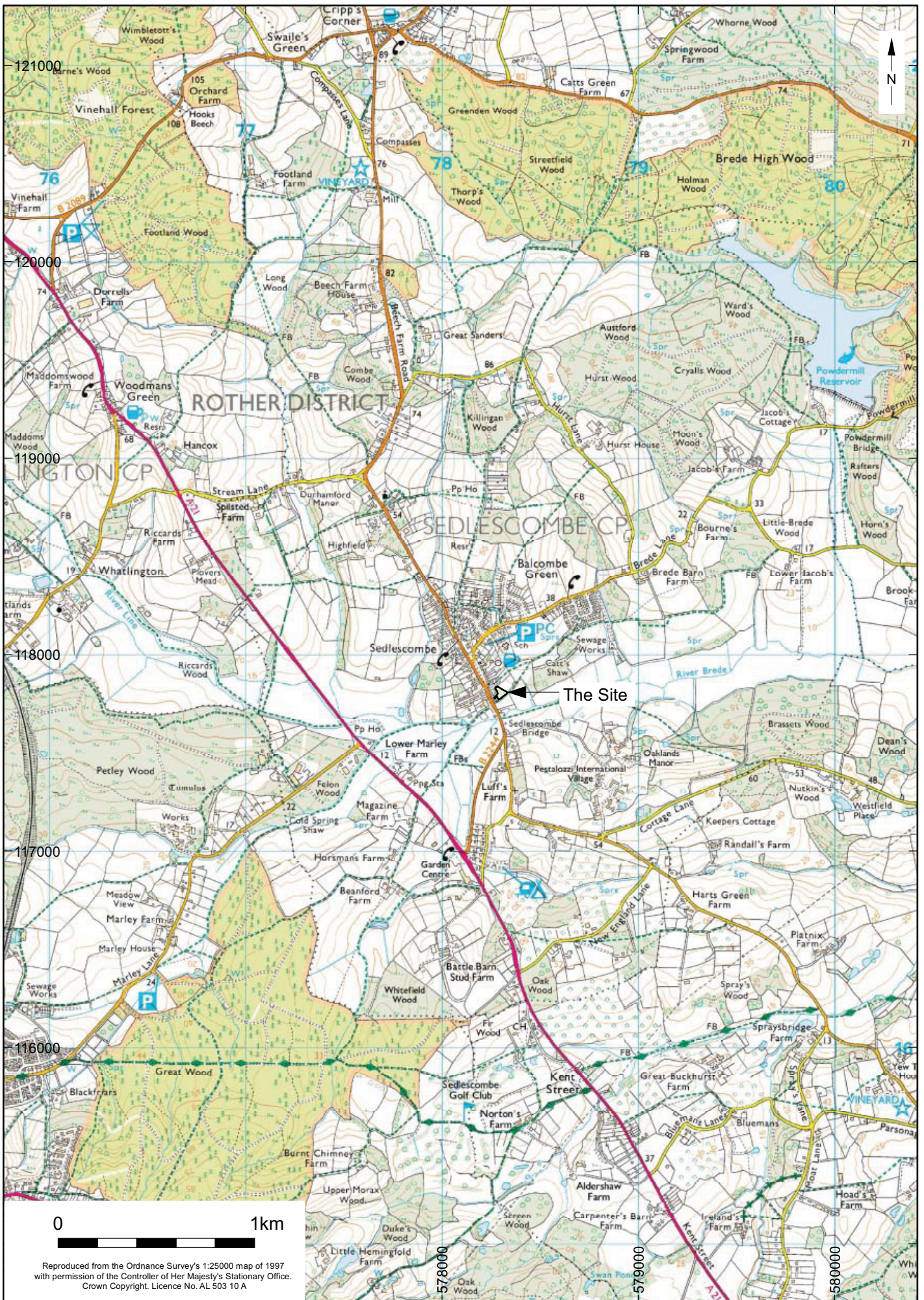
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|----------------------------|---|
| Physical Archive recipient | Hastings Museum |
| Physical Contents | "Glass", "Industrial", "Wood", "Worked stone/lithics", "Ceramics" |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Digital Archive recipient | Hastings Museum |
| Digital Contents | "other" |
| Digital Media available | "Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text" |
| Paper Archive recipient | Hastings Museum |
| Paper Contents | "other" |
| Paper Media available | "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Diary", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text" |

Project bibliography 1

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT PARK VIEW, THE STREET, SEDLESCOMBE, EAST SUSSEX POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Stevens, S. |
| Other bibliographic details | ASE Report No. 2012249 |
| Date | 2012 |
| Issuer or publisher | Archaeology South-East |
| Place of issue or publication | Portslade, East Sussex |
| Description | ASE Client Report A4-sized with cover logos |

| | |
|------------|---|
| Entered by | Simon Stevens (simon.stevens@ucl.ac.uk) |
| Entered on | 20 December 2012 |

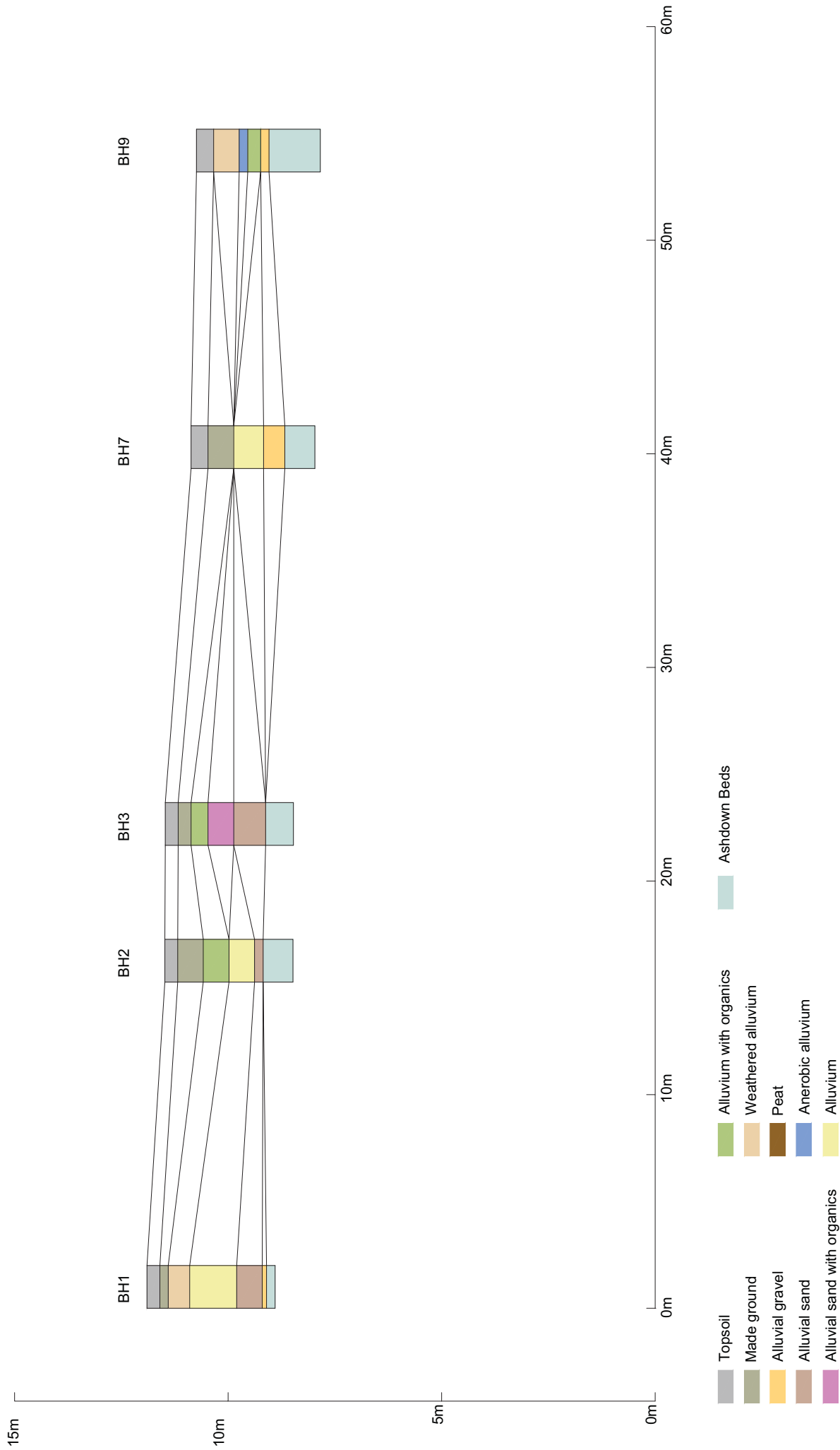


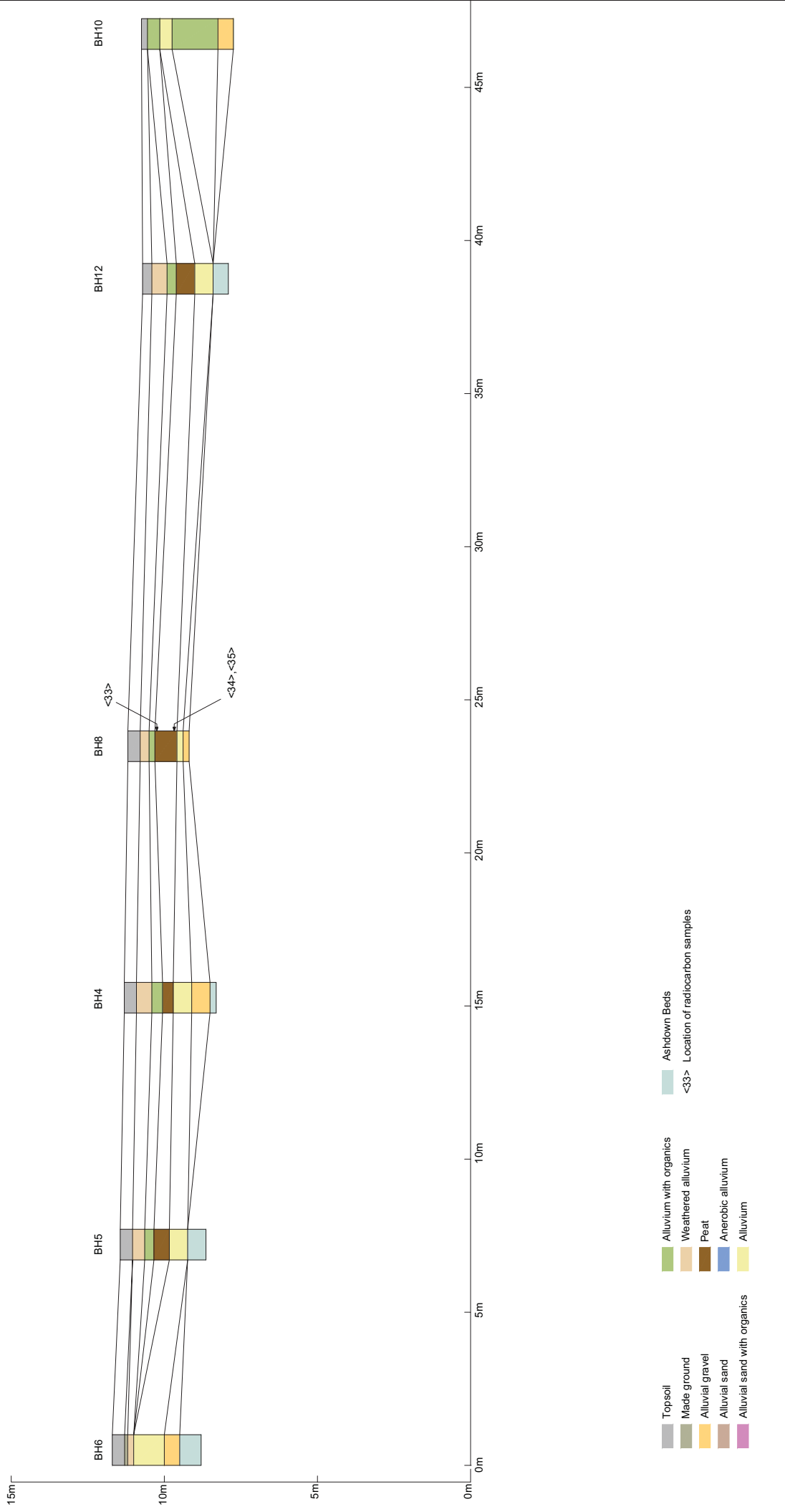
| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe | | Fig. 1 |
| Project Ref: 4798 | Jan 2013 | Site location | | |
| Report Ref: 2012183 | Drawn by: JLR | | | |

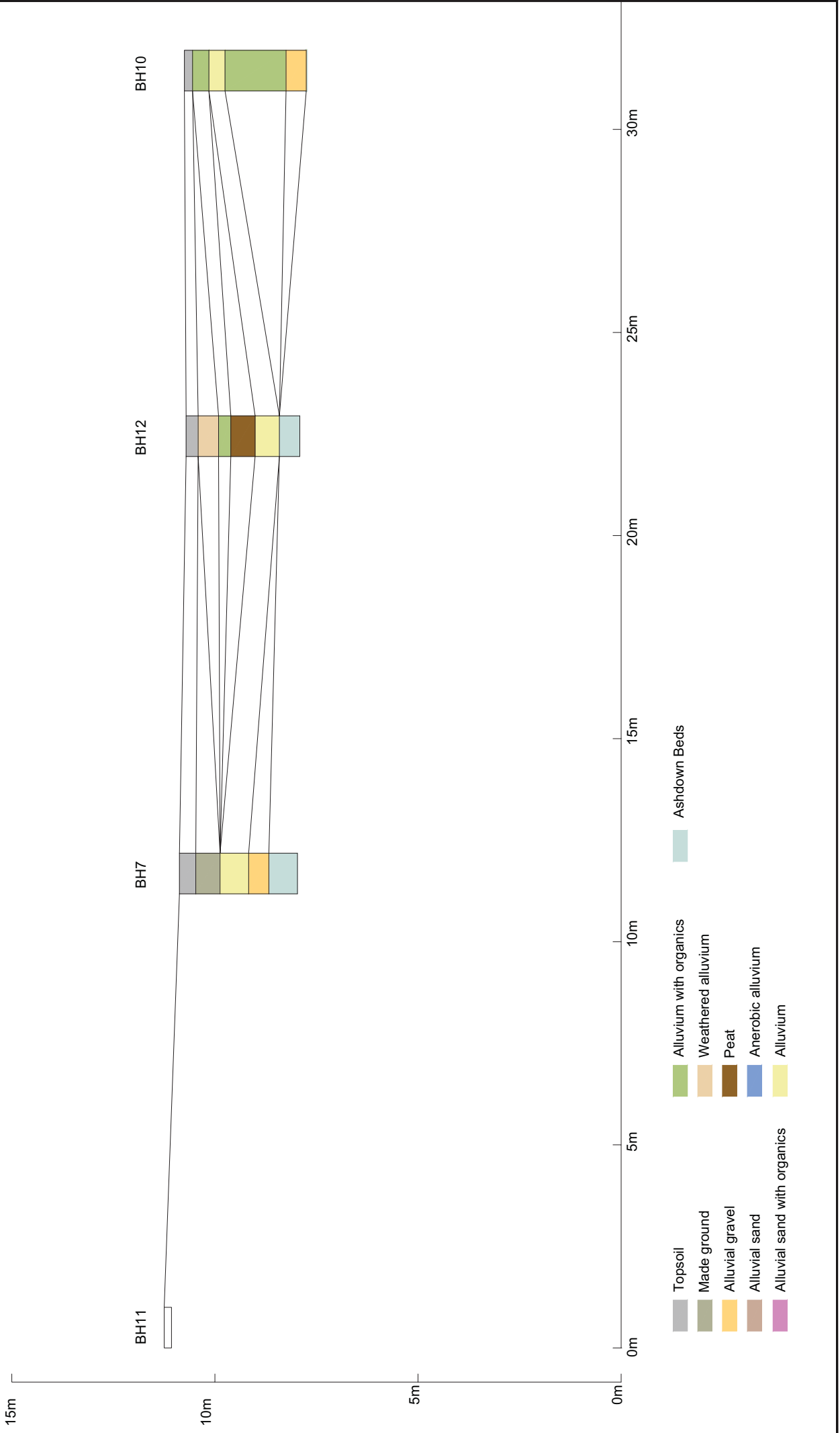


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© **Archaeology South-East** Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe
 Project Ref: 4798 Jan 2013 Site plan showing excavation areas, geoarchaeological auger locations
 Report Ref: 2012183 Drawn by: JLR and area preserved *in-situ*
 Fig. 2







© **Archaeology South-East** Land at Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe
 Project Ref: 4798 Jan 2013
 Report Ref: 2012183 Drawn by: FEG
 Transect 3
 Fig. 5



© **Archaeology South-East** Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe
 Project Ref: 4798 Jan 2013
 Report Ref: 2012/183 Drawn by: JLR
 Period 3, medieval plan, sections and photographs
 Fig. 6



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 Project Ref: 4798
 Report Ref: 2012183

Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe
 Period 4, early post-medieval, plan, sections and photographs
 Jan 2013
 Drawn by: JLR

Fig. 7



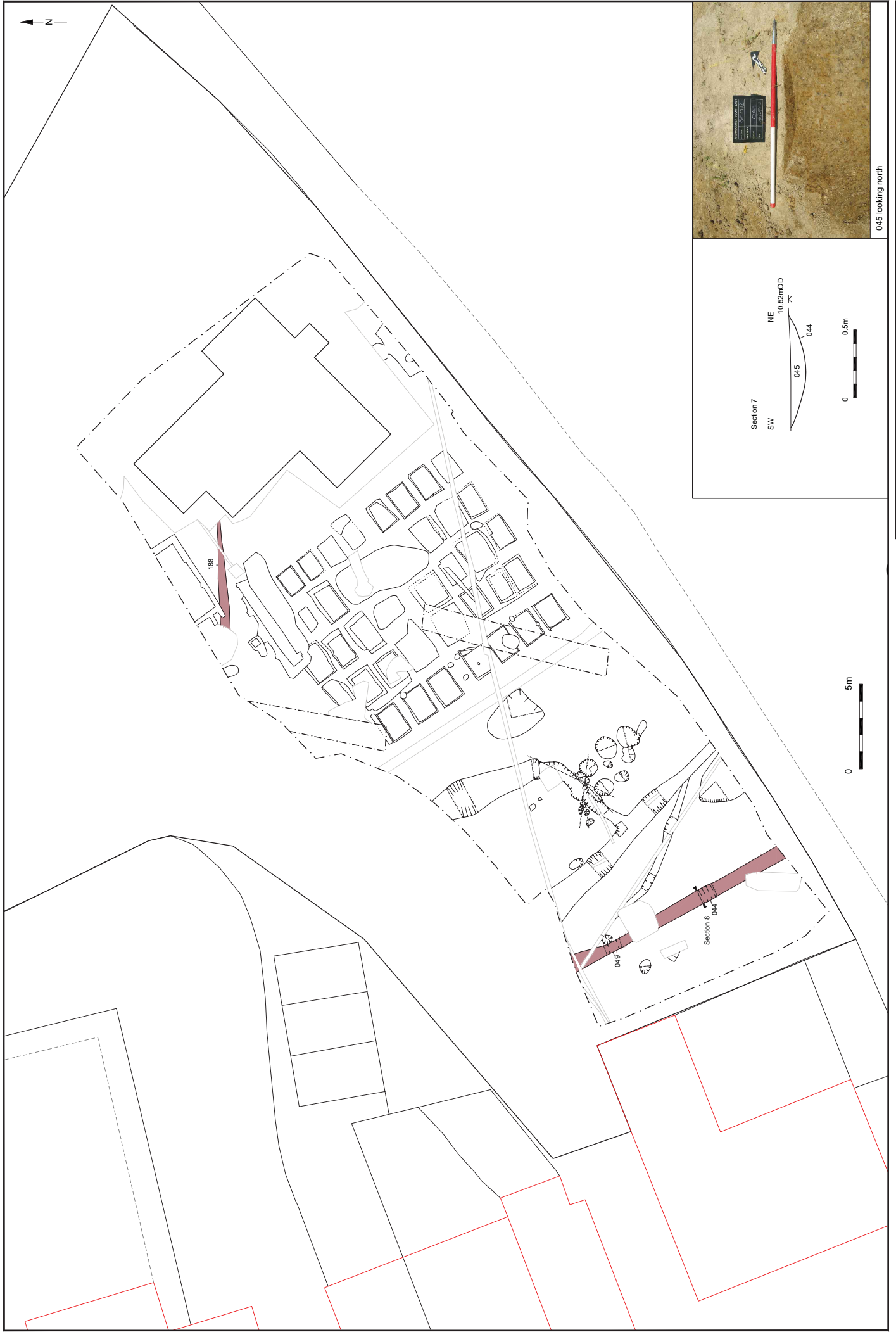
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 Project Ref: 4798
 Report Ref: 2012/183

Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe
 Period 5, later post-medieval, plan sections and photographs
 Jan 2013
 Drawn by: JLR

Fig. 8

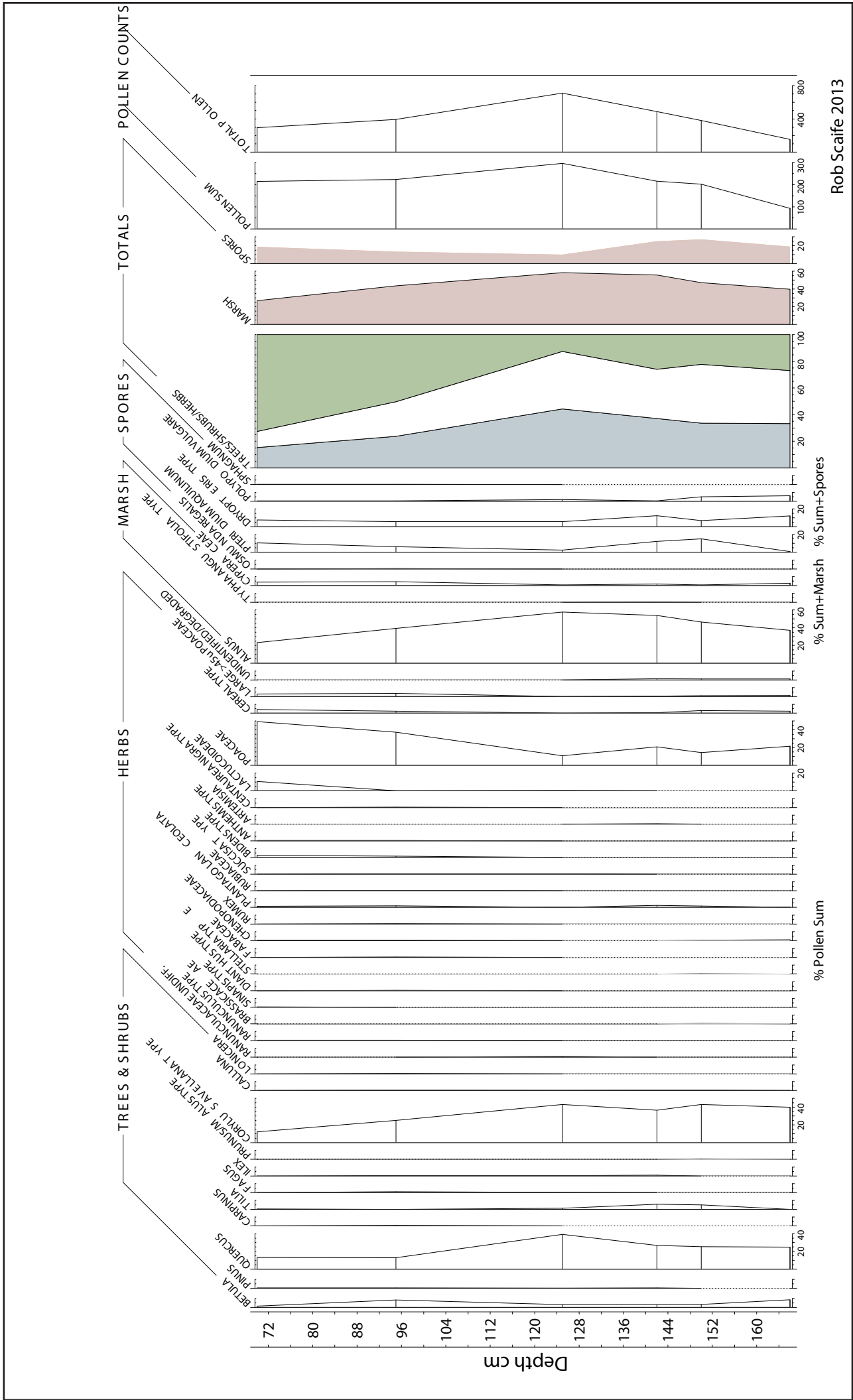


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 Project Ref: 4798
 Report Ref: 2012/183
 Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe
 Period 6, late post-medieval - modern, plans, sections and photographs
 Jan 2013
 Drawn by: JLR
 Fig. 9



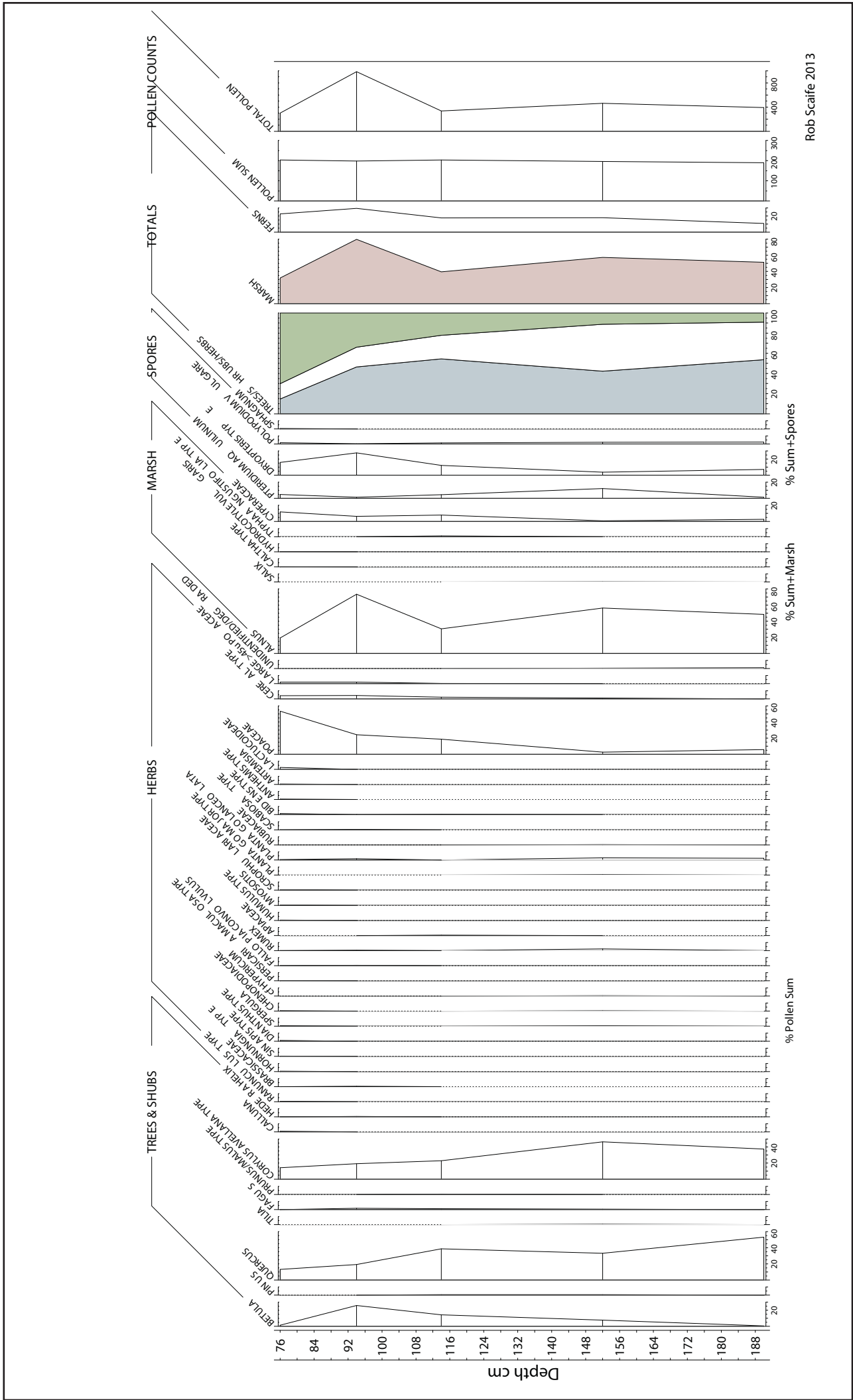
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 Project Ref: 4798
 Report Ref: 2012183
 Jan 2013
 Drawn by: JLR

Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe
 Undated, plan, section and photograph
 Fig. 10



Rob Scaife 2013

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--|---------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Park View, The Street, Sedlescombe | | Fig. 11 |
| Project Ref: 4798 | Jan 2013 | | | |
| Report Ref: 2012183 | Drawn by: JLR | Core 5 | | |



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 Project Ref: 4798 Jan 2013
 Report Ref: 2012183 Drawn by: JLR
 Core 8
 Fig. 12

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

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