Archaeology South-East

ASE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AT MONK'S HOUSE, RODMELL

NGR: 542116 106414
(TQ42116 06414)

A POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN REPORT

Planning Reference: SDNP/12/02247/FUL

ASE Project No: 5964
Site Code: ROD09

ASE Report No: 2013326
OASIS ID: archaeol6-168400

Anna Doherty

With contributions by
Gemma Ayton, Luke Barber, Trista Clifford, John Cook, Karine Le Hégarat, Dawn Elise Mooney, Susan Pringle and Elke Raemen

Illustrations by Justin Russell

January 2104

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by the National Trust to carry out an excavation in advance of a car park extension at Monk's House, Rodmell. The earliest stratified remains were a series of alluvial/colluvial layers and a possible boundary of Late Iron Age/ earlier Roman date.

Another probable Late Saxon ditch was overlain by a large earthwork platform, constructed from a subsoil-like deposit in the Norman period. This was clearly part of a larger system of earthwork terraces/platforms, identified during a previous phase of topographic survey. Although a scatter of features cut the platform deposit, these did not appear to be part of a building so the purpose of the earthwork remains uncertain. Of particular note is a fragment of litharge from this deposit which may suggest silver assaying or refining of silver in the vicinity.

During the mid 12th to 13th century, there was a realignment of the landscape. A possible ditch-and-bank enclosure was recorded on different orientation to the earthworks but a similar alignment to a nearby 12th century church. This phase of activity produced fairly rich finds and environmental assemblages, suggesting a peak in activity during this time. The final medieval phase was characterised by localised layers which may represent minor flooding events interspersed with attempts to consolidate the ground. There was a sharp contraction in activity in the 14th century, which can probably be tied to wider regional patterns of decline.

The report is written and structured so as to conform to the standards required of post-excavation analysis work as set out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (English Heritage 2008). Interim analysis of the stratigraphic, finds and environmental material has indicated a provisional chronology, and assessed the potential of the site archive to address the original research agenda, as well as assessing the significance of those findings. This has highlighted what further analysis work is required in order to enable suitable dissemination of the findings in a final publication. It is suggested that this should take the form of a journal article in Sussex Archaeological Collections.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location

1.1.1 The site occupies *c*. 0.1 hectares of land to the north of Monk's House, a National Trust property on the north-eastern edge of the historic village of Rodmell, East Sussex (NGR 542116 106414; Figure 1). The western edge of the site borders the Rodmell Conservation Area.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 2013), the underlying bedrock geology of the site is the West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation, overlain by superficial River Terrace Deposits (Sand and Gravel). However, the drift geology varies at the northern boundary of the site where a Clay, Silty, Peaty, Sandy Alluvium of the Quaternary period has been recorded.

1.2.2 Prior to development, the site made up part of an irregular pasture field. The excavation area is low-lying with a gentle natural slope; its highest point is along the eastern edge (*c*. 4m AOD), falling away towards the west (c.3m AOD). The site is bounded on its western side by a lane and a small stream runs parallel to this.

1.2.3 Several earthwork platforms are visible in the field, including one which falls partly within the southern part of the site. As a result there was a pronounced step in the middle of excavation area (Figure 3).

1.3 Scope of the Project

1.3.1 Planning consent has been granted by the South Downs National Park Authority for the extension of an existing National Trust visitor car park into the adjoining farmland (planning reference SDNP/12/02247/FUL). Prior to seeking the consent, the National Trust had commissioned a desk-based assessment of the site (ASE 2012a), which identified high potential for medieval and post-medieval remains based on the site's proximity to the historic core of Rodmell and the presence of visible earthworks. Given this evidence, the Assistant County Archaeologist at East Sussex County Council, (the SDNPA's advisors on archaeological matters) recommended that two conditions relating to archaeology should be attached to the planning consent.

1. No development shall take place until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the archaeological and historical interest of the site is safeguarded and recorded to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework

2. The development hereby permitted shall not be brought into use until the archaeological site investigation and post investigation assessment (including provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition) has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition [1] to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority, in consultation with the County Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the archaeological and historical interest of the site is safeguarded and recorded to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework.

1.3.2 In accordance with the archaeological conditions, Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracts division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL Institute of Archaeology, was commissioned by the National Trust to implement a programme of work beginning with a topographic survey of the entire field, which aimed to accurately locate and define the form and extent of the earthworks (ASE 2012b). This data was used to inform the methodology for a subsequent archaeological evaluation (ASE 2013a), comprising a T-shaped trial trench targeted on an earthwork which fell within the car park development area (Figure 3).

1.3.3 The results of the evaluation confirmed that the earthwork was of man-made origin and identified probable medieval features cutting the earthwork platform deposit. As a result, the Assistant County Archaeologist determined that further excavation would be necessary in order meet the archaeological planning conditions.

1.3.4 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared, setting out the research aims and objectives of the excavation and the methodology to be followed (ASE 2013b).

1.3.5 The National Trust had previously commissioned ASE to carry out a small-scale watching brief within the grounds of Monk's House prior to groundwork associated with new surface water drainage measures (ASE 2009). This was permitted development work unconnected with planning consent for the car park. However, both pieces of work used the site code, ROD09.

1.3.6 The fieldwork was undertaken by ASE between 31st July and 6th September 2013. The site was directed by Alice Thorne with the assistance of ASE staff Valentina Bernadi, John Cook, Rachel Cruse, Anna Doherty, Adam Dyson, Sarah Ebbern, Paola Ponce, Antonio Reis and Tom Revell. Surveying was carried out by John Cook and Vasilis Tsamis. The fieldwork was managed by Neil Griffin and during post-excavation by Jim Stevenson. The report was edited by Louise Rayner.

1.4 Project Stages and Dates of Work

- Desk based assessment commissioned by the National Trust, June 2012 (ASE 2012a)
- Topographic survey commissioned by the National Trust, December 2012 (ASE 2012b)
- Archaeological evaluation commissioned by the National Trust, January 2013 (ASE 2013a)
- Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological excavation prepared by ASE June 2013 (ASE 2013b)
- Archaeological excavation commissioned by the National Trust, July-September 2013

1.5 Archaeological Methodology

1.5.1 All excavation work was carried out in line with Standards for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording and Post-Excavation Work in East Sussex (ESCC 2008) and in accordance with the relevant Standards and Guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008a). The methodology for the archaeological excavation was originally set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2013b). The archaeological sequence encountered was more complex than originally anticipated and the methodology was therefore modified during on-site consultations between ASE, the Assistant County Archaeologist and the National Trust.

1.5.2 The excavation area shown on Figures 2 and 3 was stripped of topsoil and subsoil using a 360° tracked machine, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Mechanical excavation proceeded in spits of less than 0.1m, under constant supervision by ASE staff, until archaeological structures, features or deposits were encountered or until the natural geology was exposed.

1.5.3 There was a pronounced step in levels resulting from the presence of an earthwork platform in the southern half of the excavation area. This meant that archaeological deposits on the higher southern part of the site were likely to be directly affected by the (relatively shallow) impact of the development, whereas those on the lower northern part were likely to be less severely affected because this part of the site would be built up in order to level the car park surface. This led to different approaches to archaeological mitigation in the two areas.

1.5.4 On the higher, southern half of the site, after excavating and recording all features, deposits or structures at the top of the stratigraphic sequence, the earthwork platform deposit was machine excavated in spits under the supervision of ASE staff to the impact depth of c. 0.5m below current ground level. The platform deposit was not fully removed and natural geology was not exposed in this part of the site.

1.5.5 The archaeology on the northern part of the site was characterised by a deep sequence of deposits and linear features. Only a small area of natural geology was initially exposed in the north-east corner of the site. Given that these features/deposits lay below the proposed impact depth of the groundworks, it was decided – in consultation with the Assistant County Archaeologist – that they would not be fully excavated using the single

context method. Instead, five excavation trenches of 1m in width and between 2-10m in length were hand-excavated down to the underlying natural geology at depths of between (2.1-2.5m AOD) (Figure 3). This allowed the stratigraphic sequence to be recorded in section.

1.5.6 A minimum of 50% of discrete features and a minimum of 10% of linear features were excavated (wherever these were exposed in plan). Some discrete features were 100% excavated in order to obtain environmental samples of sufficient size.

1.5.7 A pre-excavation plan was prepared using Global Positioning System (GPS) planning technology in combination with Total Station surveying. This was updated as the visible cut features in the upper part of the site sequence were excavated. The locations of the five trenches on the northern half of the site were also added to the digital plan. Some hand-planning was carried out for features and deposits encountered within the trenches. Hand-drawn plans were drawn at 1:20 scale using a 10m grid which was surveyed and tied into the digital site plan. Sections were hand-drawn at scales of 1:10 (or 1:20 for some of the larger trench sections).

1.5.8 All excavated deposits, structures and features were recorded using standard ASE context record sheets.

1.5.9 A full digital photographic record of all features was maintained. This illustrated the principal features and finds both in detail and in a general context. The photographic record also includes working shots to represent the general nature of the fieldwork.

1.5.10 All finds recovered from excavated deposits were collected and retained in line with the ASE artefacts collection policy. The excavation area and spoil were metal detected for artefact recovery both by ASE staff and by a volunteer from a local metal detecting club who visited the site on a number of occasions.

1.5.11 Environmental sampling was carried out in line with English Heritage (2011) guidelines. Bulk soil samples (of 40 litres where possible or 100% of the context if smaller) were taken to target the recovery of plant remains (including wood charcoal, macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, as well as small artefacts. The sampling strategy aimed to provide environmental evidence from a representative range of features and deposits but focused on dated/datable buried soils, well-sealed slowly silting features, sealed hearths and sealed features containing evident carbonised remains.

1.5.12 On completion of the fieldwork, any deep features or trenches were back-filled. However, topsoil and subsoil were not fully reinstated by ASE as groundwork was scheduled to commence soon afterwards. As agreed between the tenant farmer and the National Trust, the removed topsoil was spread on other areas of the field.

1.6 Organisation of the Report

1.6.1 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).

1.6.2 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, listing any new research criteria; and to lay out what further analysis work is required to enable their final dissemination, and what form the latter should take.

1.6.3 Following on from a previous archaeological evaluation conducted by Archaeology South-East (ASE 2013a), work at the site ran as a single excavation, with the finds and environmental archives all recorded under the site code: ROD09. The context numbers for the evaluation started from 500 to avoid confusion with remains recorded during a previous watching brief on National Trust land nearby, which used the same site code (ASE 2009). Excavation context numbers ran on consecutively from those employed in the evaluation. Where possible, the results from the evaluation have been integrated and assessed with the results from the main excavation.

2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 A desk-based assessment of the site, carried out in advance of the current planning application included a search of entries on the East Sussex Historic Environment Record (HER) within a 1km radius of the site (ASE 2012a). That document gives a much more detailed background to the site, elements of which have been summarised below, with an emphasis on evidence pertinent to the results of the excavation.

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 The Ouse Valley is the setting for a wide range of prehistoric sites and monuments, including Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age barrows and downland settlement from the Middle Bronze Age onward. The distribution of these sites is concentrated on high ground although this may be the result of the masking effects of colluvium in the base of the valley. The Caburn, the site of a hillfort newly established in the Middle Iron Age, is visible *c*.4km to the north-east of the site (Hamilton 2003, 79). Middle to Late Iron Age settlement evidence has also recently been uncovered in central Lewes (Swift in prep), whilst other Middle/Late Iron Age sites are found on channel facing slopes of the Downs at Bishopstone, Norton and Peacehaven (Bell 1977; Seager Thomas 2005; Hart in prep).

2.2.2 Only two prehistoric find-spots are documented on the HER within a 1km radius of the site: two Palaeolithic handaxes found at Northease Farm and a Neolithic polished axe found just to the south of the site.

2.3 Romano-British

2.3.1 The lower Ouse Valley continued to be a focus for activity in the Roman period. Many of the Iron Age sites continued to be occupied, whilst the concentration of villas at Newhaven, Barcombe and Beddingham demonstrates the importance of the agricultural economy in this period. However, the only Roman evidence documented within a 1km radius of the site is a poorly-located reference to metal-detected coins and other Roman metalwork thought to come from the fields to the east of the site.

2.4 Anglo-Saxon

2.4.1 There is little direct evidence from Rodmell during the Anglo-Saxon period, despite the existence of numerous early cemeteries on the surrounding downland. Recent discovery of an early settlement site at Itford Farm across the valley (and at a similar altitude to Rodmell) suggests that further early settlements may lie buried beneath later deposits (James 2002). The Domesday entry suggests that there was a significant pre-conquest manor at Rodmell, held originally by Earl Harold (King Harold II). The manor contained a church, large amounts of meadow and woodland and 11 saltpans, with an outlying Wealden estate of 1.5 hides in the Hundred of Hartfield. The place name *Ramelle/Redmelle*, the name under which Rodmell is first recorded in the Domesday Survey means 'red earth'. This is almost certainly a reference to residues left behind by salt-working, suggesting that this was established as an important economic activity before the Norman Conquest.

2.4.2 No certain Anglo-Saxon sites are known within a 1km radius of the site, although a late Anglo-Saxon strap-end has recently been found by metal-detecting just over 1km to the south.

2.5 Medieval (with a contribution by John Cook)

2.5.1 During the medieval period, Rodmell developed as one of a string of small farming settlements located along both sides of the Ouse valley, operating an open field agricultural regime based on sheep-corn husbandry. The parish reflects this in its linear shape, stretching from the high downland sheepwalks to the arable lands (now enclosed) along the drier valley sides and the meadowland in the floodplain. The Domesday survey records that the manor was held in demesne by William de Warenne, lord of the Rape of Lewes, after the Norman Conquest. The manor remained in the hands of the lords of the Rape of Lewes until the mid-15th century, when it was acquired by the Lords Bergavenny (later Earls of Abergavenny). The church dates in its present form from the 12th century, but replaced an earlier structure, and the original manor house was placed to the south of it (Salzman 1940).

2.5.2 The HER records earthwork platforms of possible medieval/early post-medieval date in the field containing the site. The platforms were subject to further study in the preliminary stages of the current project. A topographic survey carried out in 2012 identified six possible earthwork sites (Figures 2 and 4).

- Site 1 (NGR 542117 106424)
  Possible platform, c.20m long and 15m wide, to north of existing car park the northern boundary is formed by a steep bank down to low lying, seasonally waterlogged area. Interpretation: possible building platform, part of a series of terraces to the north of St Peters Church.

- Site 2 (NGR 542156 106432)
  Low linear bank *c*.8m wide, running across a low grassy slope.
  Interpretation: terracing, possible former boundary.

- Site 3 (NGR 542147 106417 – 542127 106338)
  Terraced platform to the eastern side of the existing car park.
  Interpretation: terracing, possibly for buildings.

- Site 4 (NGR 542202 106431 – 542178 106357)
  Terraced platform to the eastern side of the existing car park.
  Interpretation: terracing, possibly for buildings.

- Site 5 (NGR 542116 106358)
  Possible platform, c.40m long and 25m wide, to south of existing car park.
  Interpretation: possible building platform, part of a series of terraces to the north of St Peters Church

- Site 6 (NGR 542164 106350)
  Possible platform, c.25m long and 22m wide, to the north of St Peters Church. Steep sided to the west and south. Interpretation: possible building platform

2.5.3 A subsequent evaluation in the southern half of the excavation area, targeted on earthwork Site 1, demonstrated the presence of a man-made platform of probable medieval date (Figure 3; ASE 2013a). The deposit forming the platform was cut by possible post-holes and a linear feature, interpreted as potential elements of a mid 12th to 13th century building

2.6 Post-Medieval

2.6.1 The post-medieval period saw little significant change in Rodmell, apart from a modest increase in size from the 19th century onwards. One possible reason for this may be its conservative status as a closed parish, where 94% was under the ownership of the Earl of Abergavenny. It also developed a small industrial base, producing tools and agricultural equipment (Austen 1999).

2.6.2 On the earliest historic maps, the built up core of Rodmell possibly extends slightly further up the eastern side of the main road through the village than on later maps. Buildings are depicted close to the southern half of the site on the Yeakell and Gardner map of 1778 and on the Ordnance Survey Draft of *c.*1800. Both maps are stylised and drawn at fairly small scale so it difficult to determine whether the buildings fall within the excavation area. On the 1800 map the built up area is shown as bounded by a slightly curving lane aligned broadly east-north-east west-south-west, with a field on its northern side. At this time, the south-west corner of the field appears to have been an acute angle. By the time of William Figg's (much more detailed) map of 1829, a straight east-west aligned lane is depicted approximately on the line of the current northern boundary of the Monk's House garden. The field containing the site appears to be larger, with right-angled corners at its southern end.

2.6.3 Monk's House comprises an 18th century weatherboard house bought by the Bloomsbury writers Virginia and Leonard Woolf in 1919. The house and garden were developed by the Woolfs, who added the field containing the site in 1928. Virginia Woolf committed suicide in the Ouse in 1941, but Leonard continued to live at the house until his death in 1969. The property was acquired by the National Trust in 1980.

2.6.4 During the Second World War a series of machine-gun emplacements (pillboxes) were built along the valley as part of the Ouse Divisional Stop Line, designed to confront a German invasion. One of these, a type 24 pillbox, stands adjacent to the site, in the north-eastern corner of the field.

2.7 Other Recent Fieldwork

2.7.1 A small-scale watching brief, carried out during drainage works in the garden at Monk's House, *c*.100m to the south, produced a fairly large quantity of wattle-impressed daub from the topsoil (ASE 2009). This hinted at the presence of a previous structure on the site. Whilst this material cannot be dated with certainty, on technological grounds, it is most likely to have originated from a structure dating to between the Iron Age and medieval periods. In addition, a flint-and-mortar garden wall foundation was uncovered. This was undated, but was differently orientated to other standing garden walls and may have represented an earlier property boundary.

3.0 ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS

3.1 Following on from the results of the previous evaluation on the site (ASE 2013a), the Written Scheme of Investigation for the excavation (ASE 2013b) identified the following general aims:

- To excavate and record all archaeological remains and deposits exposed in the excavation with a view to understanding their character, extent, preservation, significance and date before their loss through development impacts.
- To understand to what extent the features exposed during the evaluation can be explained through excavation of the wider area.
- To refine the dating, character and function of the landscape features at this site.

3.2 The WSI also set out the following specific research aims:

- To inform on medieval building techniques utilised on the site through the excavation of the extant building platforms.
- To use the results of the work to inform on the wider chronology, development and contraction of the medieval settlement of Rodmell
- To make the results of the investigation publicly accessible through submission of a report to the East Sussex Historic Environment Record

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 As part of the initial stratigraphic analysis, individual contexts, such as cuts, fills, deposits and masonry, have been assigned to subgroups following the method set out by Westman & Shepherd (1992). Linear features have also been also assigned provisional group numbers, which refer to the whole length of a ditch, for example, as opposed to its individual excavated slots. In the text which follows, all contexts are referred to in square brackets [***], subgroups as SG** and groups as GP**. Environmental samples are referred to in triangular brackets <**>, and registered finds are given as: RF<*>. References to numbered sections within this report are referred to thus (3.7).

4.1.2 The results are discussed within the following provisional period/phase structure:

Period 1 Late Iron Age/earlier Roman (c.50 BC-AD 100)
Period 2 Late Saxon/early medieval (c. AD 900-1100)
Period 3 Medieval: later 11th to mid 12th century (c. AD 1075-1125)
Period 4 Medieval: mid 12th to 13th century (c. AD 1150-1300)

- Phase 4.1
- Phase 4.2
- Phase 4.3

Period 5 Post-medieval: 17th to mid 18th century (c. AD 1600-1750)
Period 6 Post-medieval: mid 18th to mid 19th century (c. AD 1750-1850)

4.1.3 The date ranges ascribed to these periods take into account both the stratigraphic evidence and the spot-dating of all datable classes of finds. Some unstratified/residual finds of other periods were recovered but these have not been assigned to stratigraphic periods.

4.1.4 Many of the archaeological remains were only exposed in section in the five excavation trenches (see 1.5.5). However, the archaeology is discussed below by period, rather than in a continuous sequence by trench. The projected lines of linear features have been shown on plan wherever possible but it is recommended that the section drawings provided on Figures 5, 6, 7 and 9 are consulted alongside the text below. A context register with a concordance of contexts, subgroups, groups and periods/phases is provided in Appendix 1 and a full stratigraphic matrix is included as Appendix 7.

4.2 Summary

4.2.1 There was a background scatter of residual prehistoric flintwork but the earliest stratified remains were a series of alluvial/colluvial layers identified in section in the excavation trenches on the lower, northern part of the site. Two ditches of the same date were also recorded and may represent part of a contemporary boundary or enclosure. A moderate assemblage of finds and environmental material from these deposits may suggest settlement activity of this period in the vicinity.

4.2.2 Two beads of probable Early/Middle Saxon date were found in one of the alluvial/colluvial layers, although they were found with Late Iron Age/earlier Roman pottery and may be intrusive. Since beads are often found in funerary contexts they may derive from a nearby disturbed burial.

4.2.3 A single ditch of probable Late Saxon date was recorded, demonstrating that this area of the village was probably being utilised in the pre-conquest period. In the southern half of the site, its fill was overlain by a large earthwork platform, constructed from a subsoil-like deposit. This was clearly part of a larger system of earthwork terraces/platforms identified during a previous phase of topographic survey. A small amount of pottery from the deposit, suggests that it was constructed in the Norman period. Although a scatter of features cut the platform deposit, these did not appear to be part of a building so the purpose of the platform remains uncertain. Of particular note is a fragment of litharge from this deposit which may suggest silver assaying or silver-refining in the vicinity; both are unusual in a rural context.

4.2.4 At the base of the platform, a ditch containing slightly later (c. mid-late 12th century) pottery appeared to respect the same alignment as the earthworks suggesting that they may still have been a focus for activity at this time. However, soon after, there appears to have been a realignment. A possible ditch and bank enclosure was recorded on an orientation which is different to the earthworks but notably similar to the 12th century church which stands c. 100m to the south-east. This phase of activity in the mid/late 12th to 13th century produced fairly rich finds and environmental assemblages, suggesting a peak in activity during this time. The final phase of medieval activity was characterised by localised layers which may represent minor flooding events interspersed with attempts to consolidate the ground. There was a sharp drop off in activity during the 14th century which can probably be tied to wider regional patterns of decline.

4.2.5 A few post-medieval remains were recorded, cutting the top of the platform deposit. These included a short stretch of robbed out wall foundation and a shallow cut containing a dump of mid 18th to mid 19th century material.

4.3 Natural Deposits and Overburden

4.3.1 After the initial mechanical excavation of overburden deposits, only a small area of natural geology was revealed at 2.63m AOD, in the north-eastern corner of the site. This comprised a firm, mid orangeish brown, silty/sandy clay. This material proved to be fairly localised in this area and probably corresponds to Quaternary deposits of Alluvium recorded just to the north of the site (BGS 2013). Elsewhere, in the five excavation trenches, bedrock geology of weathered West Melbury Chalk was generally directly overlain by archaeological deposits. There was no evidence of the superficial Sand and Gravel River Terrace Deposits recorded as present by the British Geological Survey. Natural Chalk was recorded at heights ranging from *c*. 2.5m AOD in Trench 1 at the east end of the site to *c*.2.1m AOD in Trench 3 at the west end.

4.3.2 All of the archaeological remains were overlain by subsoil deposit [522], which was, in turn, sealed by topsoil [521]. In the south-western corner of the site, a deposit of made ground, [520], was noted overlying the topsoil. This was of

very recent origin and clearly related to the construction of the existing car park to the south of the excavation area.

4.4 Residual Prehistoric Material

4.4.1 A small assemblage of residual worked flint from the site probably indicates a background of prehistoric activity in the general vicinity (see 5.2). Only one chronologically distinct piece was recovered: a pyramidal core of Mesolithic to early Neolithic date.

4.5 Period 1 Late Iron Age/Earlier Roman (c.50 BC - AD 100) (Figure 5)

Features

4.5.1 Near the eastern limit of excavation, a broadly north-south aligned ditch, GP2, was partially exposed running close to the eastern limit of excavation (LOE). It was visible in plan as [609], cutting the small area of natural clay geology uncovered by the initial stripping; it continued in a north-north-east direction beyond the LOE. In Trench 1, more of the ditch was excavated as [578], after the removal of later deposits [568] and [571] (Figure 5; Sections 1 and 3). The ditch may have terminated within Trench 1; however, the profile was so shallow at this point that its southern end may simply have been truncated away.

4.5.2 Another north-south aligned ditch, [591] (GP1), was recorded at the southern end of Trench 1. This was not fully exposed in plan; to the north it was truncated away by later ditch GP6; it continued to the south of Trench 1 but was overlain by medieval platform deposit [594] (see 4.8). Although GP1 appears to run on a very similar alignment to GP2, the sections (Figure 5 Sections 1, 2 and 3) show that GP1 was clearly a much more substantial feature. It had an extant depth of about one metre, although both ditches may have been significantly truncated by medieval modifications to the site (see 4.8.10).

4.5.3 The only other cut feature thought to date to this period, [625], was seen in section at the base of Trench 3 (Figure 9, Section 10). Only one edge of the feature was exposed so its shape and extent are unclear; however the steeply sloping sides and relatively sharp break of slope at the base may suggest that it is a pit rather than a ditch. It contained a fairly rich assemblage of animal bone possibly derived from primary butchery waste.

Alluvial/colluvial deposits

4.5.4 In the north-western part of the site, in Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5, a similar sequence of Late Iron Age/earlier Roman deposits was noted in section. At the base of the stratigraphic sequence in each of these trenches, one or two silty clay layers, totalling around 0.2-0.5m in depth, were recorded, overlying the Chalk. In Trenches 3 and 5, in the north-west corner of the site, layers of disturbed water-percolated natural chalk, [595] and [620], were overlain by blueish grey silty clay deposits [596] and [617]; the latter also overlay the fill of possible pit [625] (Figure 9, Section 10; Figure 5, Section 4). It is worth noting that there was some slightly ambiguous dating evidence from [617]. It contained eight sherds of Late Iron Age/earlier Roman pottery and two glass beads. It was initially thought that these could have been of Roman date but

research on parallels now suggests that they are probably Early or Middle Saxon. The beads represent the only dating evidence of this period from the whole site and since it is possible that that they are intrusive, the layer has not presently been reassigned to a later stratigraphic period. This deposit, as recorded in section, was relatively thick so it is possible that it represents more than one phase of silting which could not easily be distinguished by colour or texture

4.5.5 The northern end of Trench 2 and the western end of Trench 4 contained a similar, though not identical, sequence of stratigraphically early deposits (Figure 6, Sections 5 and 6). Here two successive orangeish brown silty clay layers [618]/[640] and [635]/[639] overlay undisturbed natural in Trench 4 and a thin lens of disturbed chalk, [619], in Trench 2. The uppermost layer [635]/[639] was visible in plan near the northern limit of excavation, but was cut by two later ditches, GP3 and GP4 (Figure 5).

4.5.6 The Late Iron Age/earlier Roman layers are generally low-lying and those located at the extreme north-west are adjacent to a stream which runs parallel with the western side of the site. A landscape of brooklands and water meadows lies just to the north and east of this area, in the floodplain of the Ouse (LDC 2007, 4). It is therefore likely that the basal deposits recorded in Trenches 3 and 5 were laid down by waterborne action. The pronounced blueish grey colour of these layers appears to support this interpretation as this is a characteristic of deposits formed and sealed in anaerobic conditions. It was also observed that, even during brief periods of heavy rain, there was a visible slippage of surface deposits towards the north-west corner, which was at the base of the slope. It is therefore likely that colluvial processes also contributed to the formation of the site. The deposits noted in Trenches 2 and 4 were of a slightly more orangeish hue, suggesting that they had been subject to some degree of weathering and had perhaps accumulated in this way.

Period 1: Overview

4.5.7 The layers exposed in Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5 are probably the result of essentially natural processes of alluviation/colluviation but they produced a fair quantity of cultural material. This may imply that they represent deposits washing in from a settlement area nearby. This may have been located a little further upslope to the east or perhaps upstream of the small watercourse.

4.5.8 Some evidence of human activity is demonstrated, within the bounds of the site, by ditches GP1 and GP2 and feature [625]. Ditch GP1 was clearly quite a substantial feature and it could be speculated that it is part of a boundary or enclosure. The relationship between it and the much smaller ditch, GP2, remains slightly uncertain. Given the marked variation in their depths, it is perhaps unlikely that they represent a single contemporary phase of a boundary but they seem to respect the same orientation and it possible that one is a marginally later extension of the other.

4.5.9 Although most classes of finds were only sparsely represented in Period 1, there was a fairly substantial assemblage of animal bone, as well as some fish bone which was found alongside a small number of charred wheat grains in the environmental samples. Interestingly, feature [625] was thought to contain evidence of primary butchery waste. Pottery sherds, although few in

number, tended to be reasonably large and unabraded. A Roman coin, RF<2>, which was broadly dated to the 1st to 3rd centuries, was recovered from medieval deposit [523]. Further analysis may confirm whether this is contemporary with the stratified Late Iron Age/earlier Roman evidence or whether it demonstrates some later Roman activity. A fragment of litharge, derived from silver refining processes, found in the same deposit as the coin, is discussed below (4.8.4). Although it is currently treated as contemporary with its medieval context, it is considered possible that further scientific analysis will suggest that it is in fact of Roman date.

4.5.10 Overall, the finds and environmental material provides some evidence for the discard of waste and probably suggests settlement and butchery activity in the vicinity. A single fragment of wattle-impressed daub from layer [620] may hint at the presence of contemporary buildings nearby.

4.6 Early/Middle Saxon Evidence

4.6.1 As already noted, two probable Early/Middle Saxon glass beads were recovered from alluvial/colluvial layer [617] (see 4.5.4). Because these represent the only evidence of this period from the site and occurred in a layer containing a reasonable quantity of Late Iron Age/earlier Roman pottery, they have not been assigned to a stratigraphic phase; however it quite possible that they are contemporary with the deposit, particularly as [617] stratigraphically underlay [642], the only late Saxon layer from the site. This stratigraphic evidence will be reassessed at the analysis stage.

4.7 Period 2 Late Saxon/Early Medieval (c.AD900-1100) (Figure 6)

Ditch GP3

4.7.1 In the northern part of the site, a north-north-east south-south-west aligned ditch, [638] GP3, was visible in plan cutting the Late Iron Age/early Roman layer, [635]/[639]. Further to the south the feature was masked by later deposits but it was investigated in Trench 2 as [615] (Figure 6, Section 5). Here it was only partly exposed but was found to extend beyond the southern limit of the excavation trench and was clearly overlain by the Period 3 platform deposit [523] (see 4.8).

4.7.2 The dating evidence from the ditch is fairly mixed. In Trench 2, the feature only produced a few sherds of residual Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery from primary fills and some mid 12th to 13th century sherds from upper fills. Given that the ditch was cut by a Period 4 feature and directly overlain by other Period 4 deposits in this area, it is thought likely that these latest sherds are intrusive. Slightly earlier dating material, comprising a few sherds of 11th to mid 12th century date, were recovered from the fills investigated in Trench 4, where no later deposits were present. Taking into account the dating evidence from the stratigraphically later platform deposit (see 4.8.3), it seems likely that the ditch is of 11th century date and perhaps more likely of the pre-conquest period.

Layer [642]

4.7.3 The only other context assigned to Period 2 is a thin layer, [642], seen in section in Trench 3 (Figure 7, Section 7). This contained just three potsherds of overlapping but possibly marginally earlier date than those from Ditch GP3 (*c.*AD 950-1050). Although these could well be residual, the layer's position within the stratigraphic sequence is consistent with the spot-date, as it overlay Period 1 layer [617] and was overlain by Period 4 layer [608]. The layer was similar in character to the Period 1 alluvial/colluvial deposits and is possibly the result of similar processes.

Period 2: Overview

4.7.4 Interestingly, ditch GP3 is broadly parallel to the stream and to the road along which the village developed in the medieval period. The ditch is a fairly substantial feature and could have defined a narrow field close to the road. Local farming practices were described in an account by John Rowe from 1634 which refers to narrow 'laines', further divided into 'furlongs' and 'strips' (LDC 2007, 21). Given that the Domesday survey recorded an already prosperous settlement, it is likely that this basic field pattern had its origins in the Late Saxon period. The 12th century St Peter's Church, which replaced an earlier church, lies only *c.*100m to the south-east and it seems likely that the early nucleus of the village developed in this area. Although the finds assemblage from the ditch was quite limited there was a small but fairly varied assemblage of charred macrobotanical remains and fishbone from environmental samples, which may be suggestive of domestic activity in the wider vicinity of the site.

4.8 Period 3 Medieval: Later 11th to Mid 12th Century (c.AD 1075-1125) (Figure 7)

4.8.1 Period 3 is marked by the construction of a large earthwork platform recorded in plan as [523] and in section in Trench 1 as [594]. It was also investigated during the evaluation where several numbers were assigned ([507], [508], [511] and [513]); however, further investigation during the excavation failed to define any clearly differentiated layers within the earthwork.

4.8.2 The platform consisted of a thick subsoil-like deposit of silty/sandy clay. There was a fairly sharp and pronounced break of slope at the top of the earthwork, although a combination of slumping and a build-up of some later deposits against the base of the platform seems to have resulted in a more gradual break of slope at the base (see photograph on Figure 7). The precise thickness of the deposit was not ascertained as it was machine excavated to the impact depth of the development and not fully removed. It was recorded as *c.*0.5m in depth in the north-facing section of Trench 1, although this was not positioned at its thickest point (See Figure 5, Sections 1 and 2). In plan, the artificial difference in levels looked to be as much as 1 metre, although it is difficult to determine the gradient of the natural slope.

4.8.3 Only a limited amount of hand-excavation of the platform took place in Trenches 1 and 2 and in the evaluation trench. The excavation trenches established that the deposit overlay Period 1 ditch, GP1, and Period 2 ditch, GP3. Its stratigraphic relationship to other remains at the base of the slope was less certain although the platform was tentatively recorded as stratigraphically earlier than Period 4 ditches [621] GP5 (Figure 6, Section 5) and [567] GP6 (Figure 5, Section 1). Furthermore the small assemblage of

pottery recovered (dated to c. AD 1075-1125) is notably earlier than the vast majority of finds, suggesting that the platform was constructed before the main medieval period of activity on site. A single post-medieval coin (RF<1>), recorded as coming from this layer was actually found during metal-detecting of the surface of the site and cannot be regarded as securely stratified.

4.8.4 The most significant find from this layer was a fragment of litharge, a waste product derived from silver refining (see 5.11.13). This substance may be the result of assaying of silver (chemical testing of purity levels) or could be product of refining silver for use. Both of these activities would be very unusual in a rural settlement and may imply some important administrative function in producing or checking currency or alternatively, could suggest some specialised craft activity. However, it is possible that the fragment is a residual Roman find.

Period 3: Discussion

4.8.5 The platform deposit clearly represents the edge of larger feature previously identified by topographic survey of the entire field (see 2.5.2 and Figures 2 and 4). This defined an earthwork platform of at least 15m x 20m in size (Site 1). The southern end of this feature was obscured by the made-ground of the current National Trust car park. It is possible that the feature is actually part of a massive platform of *c*. 20m x 40m since a comparable earthwork, with no clearly defined northern edge, was noted to the south of the car park (Site 5). Other platforms or terraces of similarly large size were noted further up the slope (Sites 3 and 4) together with a smaller platform of c.25m x 22m (Site 6).

4.8.6 When the earthworks were first identified they were interpreted as possible foundation platforms for buildings (ASE 2012a). Although the platforms created a series of terraces, these seemed to be much more substantially modified than a normal agricultural lyncet system. It is also possible that the Site 1/5 platform was, in part, a measure against flooding in this very low-lying area, although the other earthworks were positioned much further upslope.

4.8.7 The evaluation and excavation revealed various features cutting the platform deposit, including some small sub-circular features which could be interpreted as post-holes. These contained later dating evidence than the platform and have consequently been assigned to Period 4 (see 4.9). Whilst this difference in dating could be attributed to the time lag between the construction and disuse of any structures, the features appeared to be fairly randomly distributed and there was no convincing evidence of a building plan. However, only a relatively small area on the edge of the platform was excavated and it possible that other structural evidence lies to the south. It is worth noting, for example, that a concentration of wattle-impressed daub was found in the topsoil during a watching brief in the Monk's House garden (ASE 2009).

4.8.8 It should be borne in mind that the quantity of finds recovered from the platform deposit is small and it remains possible that they are residual and that it is of slightly later date. However, one possible piece of supporting evidence for a Norman date of construction is the north-east south-west orientation of St Peter's Church. This is a completely different alignment to all of the earthworks and suggests that there must have been a significant change in the layout of landscape by the time the church was built in the 12th

century. There is some evidence to this effect amongst the features assigned to Period 4 (see 4.9.17).

4.8.9 The excavation provided confirmation that the platform identified as Site 1 in the topographic survey was entirely of man-made origin. With this in mind, it is worth highlighting the huge scale of work involved in creating the earthwork. If Sites 1 and 5, identified in the topographic survey, are part of a single platform of *c*.40m x 20m in area and *c*.1m in height, its construction would have involved moving *c*.800m^3 of soil. Given that three other possible platforms have been identified in the same field, it is clear that this must have been carried out by a large workforce.

4.8.10 There is evidence that some of the material which made up the earthworks may have been removed from the base of the platform itself. For example, in Trench 1, the Period 1 ditch GP2 appeared to have been truncated away and a possible bank associated with Period 4 ditch, GP 6, seemed to lie directly above the natural Chalk rather than on a buried subsoil or topsoil (see 4.5.1 and 4.9.8). Furthermore, layers of Late Iron Age/early Roman alluvium/colluvium in the north-eastern part of the site were generally directly overlain by similar layers of late 12th-13th century date. These appear to have been formed by natural processes which would have continued regardless of whether the site was occupied but none of the layers were devoid of finds. In one small area of Trench 3, there was evidence of a more continuous sequence, as [617], the layer containing the Early/Middle Saxon beads, was overlain by [642], a probable late Saxon layer. However, this was not generally the case, suggesting that a significant amount of soil could have been removed prior to Period 4.

4.8.11 Following the Norman Conquest, lands associated with the manor of Rodmell were given to William de Warenne, in recognition of his part in the Norman Conquest, having previously been controlled by Earl Harold. His successor, William II de Warenne, granted the Rodmell Tithe to Lewes Priory the 1090s (Mayhew 2014, 21). The large-scale work involved in shaping the landscape around the site would likely have been commissioned and paid for by a wealthy landowner or institution and these features may be linked to a new programme of building, following one of these changes in ownership or influence. It is however, worth noting that all of the earthworks follow a similar alignment to the Period 2 ditch, GP3; this suggests that the work respected the existing plan of the settlement rather than imposing a completely new layout.

4.9 Period 4 Medieval: Mid 12th to 13th Century (c AD1150-1300)

4.9.1 Within Period 4, there were at least three different stratigraphic phases which correspond to reorganisations in the spatial layout of the site. However, very little differentiation in the spot-dates of these features/deposits could be detected, despite the presence of some large and relatively diagnostic groups of finds. As a result, this period has been split into phases 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 without any further attempt to define individual date ranges. However, this sequence was only evident in the excavation trenches on the lower part of the site. A number of features of the same date cut the Period 3 platform deposit and can only be broadly attributed to Period 4.

Features cutting the platform deposit (Figure 8)

4.9.2 A shallow ditch, GP7, ran on a north-north-east south-south-west alignment. It was first noted in the evaluation as [503] where it was considered to be a possible beam slot; however, further excavation of the feature, as [553], showed that it had a fairly rounded basal profile and it is now considered more likely to be a shallow drainage feature (Figure 8, Section 9). The fill of the ditch was quite difficult to define from the underlying platform deposit. During the evaluation, it had been recorded as extending beyond the limit of the trench to the north; however, during the excavation, investigation of its visible northern extent showed that it could no longer be differentiated from platform deposit [523], but there was no clearly-defined terminus. In the evaluation trench, its southern extent was obscured by slight over-machining of the platform deposit and it was not picked up beyond this to the south, in the excavation area.

4.9.3 A shallow sub-circular feature, [529], displayed some evidence of in-situ burning to the surrounding soil and may represent a small hearth or fire-pit. However, very few charred plant remains were recovered from its environmental sample. Another discrete feature, [557], was larger and deeper than others in the vicinity and can almost certainly be interpreted as a pit.

4.9.4 The remainder of the Period 4 features cutting the platform deposit were all small, shallow and sub-circular in plan. Like ditch GP7 they were often fairly difficult to define from the underlying layer and, given that there was extensive rooting from trees along the edge of the excavation area, it was far from certain that all were man-made features. The small size of most of the features is perhaps more suggestive of post-holes than pits and one example, [533], contained a large flint nodule, which might have been used as packing material (Figure 8, Section 8). However, there is no clear pattern to the layout of these features and no convincing evidence of a building or other structure.

Phase 4.1 (Figure 9)

4.9.5 Some alluvial/colluvial layers of a similar character to those noted in Period 1 seem to have been laid down early in Period 4. A layer observed in section in Trench 3, [608], contained a reasonable assemblage of mid 12th-13th century pottery and was cut by GP5, the earliest cut feature attributable to Period 4 (see 4.9.6). A similar layer, [597], was visible near the top of the sequence in Trench 5 and contained late 12th to mid 13th century dating. In plan this layer appeared to be cut by a later ditch, GP4, assigned to Phase 4.2.

4.9.6 Shallow linear features of similar orientation and dimensions were noted in section as [574] in Trench 1, as [621] in Trench 2 and as [602] in Trench 3 (Figure 5, Section1; Figure 6, Section 5; Figure 9, Section 10). These have been interpreted as a single ditch, GP5, although this feature was not exposed in plan. In the area of Trench 2, the ditch appears to have cut through the very edge of the Period 3 earthwork deposit, [523], but overall it appeared broadly aligned with the platform and may have been a drainage feature deliberately positioned along its edge. As noted above (see 4.8) the earthwork seems to have been initially constructed in the Norman period, whereas pottery from ditch GP5 was of later 12th century date.

Phase 4.2 (Figure 10)

Ditch GP6

4.9.7 In Trench 1, a wide north-east south-west aligned ditch, [567] GP6, was recorded, cutting the edge of the Period 3 platform deposit, [594] (Figure 5, Section 1). This relationship was slightly unclear in section owing to the similarity of the deposits; however it seemed to be confirmed by the dating evidence, as a reasonably large assemblage of 13th century pottery was recovered from the ditch. Ditch GP6 also clearly cut [580], the fill of Phase 4.1 ditch, GP5.

4.9.8 On the north-western side of the ditch, a deposit of chalk rubble, [568], was recorded, which seemed to represent an associated partially-collapsed bank. The profile of the bank was most pronounced in the west facing section of Trench 1 (Figure 5, Section1). The edge of the deposit overlay [579], the fill of Period 1 ditch GP2. Most of the bank however, lay directly on top of the natural Chalk. There was very little evidence of a surviving buried subsoil or topsoil below the bank.

4.9.9 The ditch had a dark primary fill, [583], with a notably dense concentration of charred plant material. A further early episode of filling, [582], occurred prior to the partial collapse of the bank, resulting a chalk rich fill, [581], which was followed by a sequence of silty clay upper fills. In the lower part of the site, the surface of the ditch was masked by later deposits. However, had it continued to the south-west, it would have been visible in plan, cutting the surface of the Period 3 platform. This suggests that it probably terminated or changed orientation just beyond Trench 1.

Ditch GP4

4.9.10 In the northern part of the site, a north-west south-east aligned ditch, [575] GP4, was visible in plan cutting the Period 1 alluvial/colluvial layer [635]/[639] and a similar layer to the south-east, which was not excavated but which is thought to be the same as Phase 4.1 layer, [597], seen in the top of the excavation Trench 5. The ditch was also recorded in Trench 2 as [604], where it was shown to cut [572], a fill of Period 2 ditch, GP3 (Figure 6, Section 5). In both interventions, ditch GP4 was notable for a very dark primary fill, rich in charred plant remains.

4.9.11 Cut [604] was very well-defined in the east facing section of Trench 2; however, the west facing section was difficult to interpret. Here the base of the ditch cut was still present, as was the primary fill, [605]; however, above this was a thick chalk rubble deposit, [573], which was not present in the opposing section. This was initially interpreted as sitting within a shallow oval cut, [583], which truncated part of the ditch. However, the chalk rubble was almost identical to the possible bank deposit associated with ditch GP6. Further investigation seemed to confirm that the chalk continued further than initially thought, underneath surface deposits to the east of Trench 2. This suggests two other possibilities: either that ditch GP4 also had a collapsed bank which did not continue along its whole length or that the collapsed bank material associated with ditch GP6 had been spread over a very wide area, perhaps even as a deliberate attempt to consolidate the low-lying ground after flooding.

4.9.12 To the south-east of Trench 2, ditch GP4 was masked by later deposits; however, it was not observed cutting the surface of the Period 3 platform deposit, meaning that, like ditch GP6, it is likely to have terminated or changed orientation. Given that the two ditches ran perpendicular to each other and had similar profiles and primary fills, it seems likely that they were contemporary associated features, perhaps forming the corner of a field.

4.9.13 A single deep post-hole, [598], was recorded cutting the Phase 4.1 deposit [597] in the top of Trench 5 (Figure 5, Section 4). This was undated although it is reasonable to assume that it belongs to the most intensive period of activity in Phase 4.2. However, this area of the site, which was extremely wet and low-lying, seems an unlikely place for a building or structure so it is difficult to interpret the function of this feature.

Phase 4.3 (Figure 11)

4.9.14 A single cut and a series of localised shallow deposits were recorded in Trenches 1, 2 and 3 and in plan on the surface of the site, overlying the Phase 4.2 ditches.

4.9.15 In Trench 1, the possible bank deposit [568] was overlain by a silty clay layer [571]. Beyond the trench this was overlain by similar layer [643], which also seemed to overlie various layers which were only recorded in plan, including [612], [623] and [644].

4.9.16 In the area of Trench 2, a shallow irregular cut, [560], was recorded cutting the concentrated chalk rubble deposit discussed above ([573]). This was investigated in a small sondage to the east of Trench 2. The fill of [560], [559], also contained a fair amount of chalk rubble, perhaps redeposited from the underlying layer; again this may be related to attempts at consolidation. At the southern end of Trench 2, [559] was overlain by a thin lens of silty/sandy clay, [566], which also overlay Phase 4.1 ditch, GP5. This was in turn overlain by a similar deposit [561].

4.9.17 Overlying [561] was a deposit of dark silty/sandy clay [515]/[564]/[565], which looked in plan like a linear feature. However, investigation of the deposit in Trenches 1, 2 and 3, and in the evaluation trench, revealed that it was shallow with no clear evidence of a cut. Instead it seemed to have built up against the edge of the platform deposit. This was stratigraphically the latest deposit on the lower part of the site and, again, contained 13th century dating material.

Period 4: Overview

4.9.18 At the beginning of Period 4, the earthwork platform still seems to have been in use because ditch GP5 seems to partly respect it and may even represent an attempt to drain water away from its edge. By contrast the possible ditch-and-bank enclosure suggested by the Phase 4.2 features, GP4 and GP6, lies on a completely different alignment suggesting that the series of platforms were no longer a focus of activity. It is of note that the 12th century St Peter's Church is similarly aligned to the new enclosure, with its main axis on a north-east south-west alignment, rather than the more usual east-west orientation. The fact that the Phase 4.2 features were quickly overlain by Phase 4.3 deposits suggests that this rearrangement was short-lived. The latest medieval activity on the site appears to have been fairly limited in scale,

perhaps amounting to no more than some successive periods of minor flooding interspersed with at least one attempt to consolidate the ground.

4.9.19 Period 4 clearly represents the height of activity on the site. Although only layers and ditches were recorded within the excavation area, the size of finds and environmental assemblages suggests fairly intensive settlement activity in the immediate vicinity of the site during the mid 12th to 13th centuries. The pottery sherds from Period 4 were generally larger and less abraded than in other periods, suggesting that they represented domestic waste which had been dumped from households nearby. Animal bone was also plentiful and included some evidence for high status consumption in the form of crane and fallow deer bones. The environmental remains suggested evidence of activities such as crop processing or food preparation in the vicinity, something also hinted at by the presence of querns in ditch GP7. The largest macrobotanical assemblage, from ditch GP4 produced fairly significant quantities of burnt unprocessed crops, which may have been damaged in an accidental fire or destroyed because of spoilage. This provides a strong indication that crops were stored nearby. Lastly there is some evidence of small-scale medieval lead-working because, although most of the lead recovered from the site came from post-medieval or unstratified contexts, one fragment was recovered from [577] a fill of ditch GP4.

4.9.20 There is a marked absence of later medieval occupation: almost all of the stratified medieval pottery from the site is earlier than *c.* AD 1300. Although a few sherds, mostly from post-medieval contexts, may be as late as AD 1350, there is a notable lack of diagnostic material dated to between AD 1350-1450 and only a handful of mid/late 15th century sherds from the overburden. This evidence probably reflects a wider regional trend of decline in the later medieval period.

4.9.21 A recent large-scale programme of excavation in Lewes identified virtually no medieval activity post-dating the mid 14th century (Swift in prep). This contraction in settlement activity probably resulted from a number of factors, possibly commencing with the Battle of Lewes in 1264, which must have caused considerable loss of life as well as having a severe impact on livestock and crops in the hinterland of the town (Mayhew 2014, 242). This was also a period when worsening climate began to have an impact on the region (Brent 2004, 167) Historical sources tell us that Lewes Priory, which collected the Rodmell Tithe, began to incur serious debts from the late 13th century, caused in part by agricultural shortages (Mayhew 2014, 243). The early 14th century was a period of frequent famine in much of north-west Europe. Later, the Hundred Years' War took a heavy toll on the significant local wool industry because of interruptions to continental trade. This, in particular, would have had an impact on rural settlements whose economies relied heavily on sheep husbandry. Outbreaks of the Black Death from AD 1348 undoubtedly also contributed to a rapid drop in both urban and rural populations.

4.9.22 It has been noted that the creation of the Sussex Rapes after the Norman Conquest increased the economic reliance of parishes like Rodmell on Lewes, whilst eroding longer distance trading links (LDC 2007, 21). Evidence from the current pottery assemblage seems to confirm the extent to which Rodmell fell under the economic influence of the town (see 6.2.4) so it is unsurprising that it followed a parallel path of decline.

4.10 Period 5 Post-Medieval: 17th to Mid 18th Century (c.AD 1600-1750) (Figure 12)

4.10.1 A west-north-west east-south-east aligned stretch of robbed out wall foundation was recorded in the southern part of the site; the wall may also have had short return, forming an L-shape. The foundation trench, [524]/[541], cut the fill of one Period 4 post-holes, [628], on top of the earthwork platform. At its eastern end, the structure ran beyond the limit of excavation. In this area, the wall, [525], consisted of a single, randomly-arranged course of unworked flint, generally of *c.* 0.1m size, bonded with white lime mortar. Further to the west, very little of the wall material, survived, having been completely robbed out by a later cut [527]/[543]. Small traces of mortar were noted throughout the most of the base of the cut; however this was less evident in the short L-shaped part of the feature. This area may therefore represent an extension of the robber cut rather than part of the original wall foundation. The robber trench was truncated by a modern machine-driven post-hole, [539].

4.10.2 The wall is uncertainly dated: the only associated find was a tiny fragment of medieval/post-medieval CBM from the robber trench fill. It has been tentatively assigned to the earlier post-medieval period based on its relationship to a Period 4 feature and because late medieval material seems to be lacking from the site. Historic maps show that the site was definitely part of an open field from the early 19th century but may have contained or been adjacent to properties in the earlier post-medieval period (see 2.6.2). Furthermore, the wall is probably closer in orientation to Monk's House itself, than to the – presumably later – boundary wall that surrounds it. A previous phase of watching brief in the garden also found a west-north-west east-south-east aligned flint-and-mortar wall footing, interpreted as a previous property boundary (ASE 2009). Given the lack of other associated walls, the present structure also seems more likely to represent a garden wall or boundary than part of a building.

4.11 Period 6 Post-Medieval: Mid 18th to Mid 19th Century (c.AD 1750-1850) (Figure 13)

4.11.1 A large sub-circular shallow feature, [535], contained a substantial dump of material, dated to AD 1750-1850, including pottery, CBM, a horseshoe and an iron key. Another oval shaped pit, [587], located nearby contained finds of similar date range. During this period the site was almost certainly a pasture field so both features may represent sporadic dumping of rubbish. The material may even derive from Monk's House itself which would have been the nearest property at this time.

5.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A large assemblage of finds was recovered during the excavations at Monks House, Rodmell (Appendix 2). All were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. Finds were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context. All finds have been packed and stored following IfA guidelines (2008b). Selected bulk metalwork has been x-rayed as required. No further conservation is required.

5.2 **Flintwork** by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 The archaeological work produced 41 pieces of struck flint, weighing 735g, as well as 46 fragments of burnt unworked flint, weighing 1568g. The flintwork was all recovered from Iron Age or later contexts and may therefore have been redeposited.

5.2.2 Few chronologically diagnostic pieces are present. A large proportion of the assemblage consists of unmodified pieces of flint débitage including 31 flakes, three blade-like flakes and a shattered piece. It is difficult to closely date this material on technological grounds because the pieces are mostly poorly preserved. They exhibit a mixed hammer mode, and some of the artefacts may be Neolithic or Bronze Age. On the other hand, considering the presence of buildings using flint for facework in the village, it is possible that some pieces in the assemblage are actually the result of later activities. However, architectural use of flint dates from around the beginning of the 14th century and therefore post-dates most of the medieval activity on site.

5.2.3 The only datable artefact is a single bladelet core recovered from the upper fill [572] of ditch [615] (GP3). The small pyramidal core (32g) had been extensively used. It displays platform preparation as well as regular removals, and it indicates Mesolithic or Early Neolithic knapping activity in the vicinity. Other retouched elements consist of a piercer (context [582]), a side scraper (context [522]), an end scraper (context [572]) and a miscellaneous retouch piece (context [639].

5.3 **Late Iron Age/Earlier Roman Pottery** by Anna Doherty

5.3.1 A small assemblage of Late Iron Age/earlier Roman pottery was recovered, totalling 56 sherds, weighing 490g. This includes some very small sherds from residues of environmental samples. The majority of the pottery was well stratified in Period 1 layers and features.

5.3.2 The pottery was examined using a x20 binocular microscope. Fabrics were recorded using a site-specific fabric type series, devised following the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010). The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight and Estimated Vessel Number

Site specific type-series

GROG1 Moderate to common grog. There is range of coarseness with most inclusions falling between 0.5-2mm. As is often the case with grog-tempered fabrics from East Sussex, many examples contain white calcareous argillaceous inclusions

GLAUC1 Moderate glauconite of *c*. 0.2mm in size with rare/sparse quartz of 0.3-0.6mm; some examples may include rare flint of up to 2mm

SHEL1 Abundant relatively fine shell of *c*.0.5-2mm in a silty background matrix

QUCL1 Moderate quartz of 0.2-0.4mm and sparse calcareous sedimentary inclusions of 1-2.5mm

QUAR1 A matrix dominated by common quartz of 0.2-0.3m

Overview of assemblage

5.3.3 Three-quarters of the sherds are grog-tempered fabrics typical of the 'East Sussex ware' tradition. In some contexts these were stratified alongside very small quantities of other tempered wares, including glauconitic, shell-tempered and coarse sandy fabrics. Each of these fabric groups are represented by fewer than five sherds. Two examples of post-conquest sandy fabrics were noted, although one of these was recovered from a Saxon/medieval context, [634]. The only securely stratified Roman piece, from layer [595], was in a greyish white ware, not dissimilar to coarse wares from the local Wickham Barn kilns; however, it seems unlikely that this sherd is as late as the known kiln products from this industry, which are all 3rd to 4th century.

5.3.4 Few diagnostic elements were present. Two examples of simple necked jars were recorded, as well as a sherd from a jar with pronounced grooves along its shoulder, producing a slightly corrugated profile and suggesting an affinity with Aylesford-Swarling/Atrebatic pottery traditions. This was also the case with several examples of pedestal bases. The Roman white ware sherd from layer [595] was a partial rim of uncertain orientation, possibly representing a lid.

Discussion

5.3.5 The shelly, glauconitic and sandy fabric types, recorded in small numbers in this assemblage have their origins earlier in the Iron Age. Even grog-tempered wares themselves, probably emerged towards the end of the Middle Iron Age in East Sussex. In recent excavations in central Lewes, a Middle/Late Iron Age phase of activity was characterised by assemblages made up by c.one third grog-tempered wares to two thirds other tempered wares (Doherty in prep). This included a significant element of flint-tempered fabrics, which are conspicuously absent in this assemblage. The dominance of grog-tempering at Rodmell probably points to activity beginning somewhat later, probably in the later 1st century BC to earlier 1st century AD.

Although grog-tempering was prevalent throughout the Roman period in East Sussex, the associated Iron Age tradition fabrics are unlikely to have survived long into the post-conquest period. Furthermore all of the diagnostic sherds are fairly typical of Aylesford-Swarling/Atrebatic traditions and likely pre-date c.AD100.

5.3.6 Although the assemblage is small, this probably reflects a limited amount of excavation at lower levels of the site. Many of the sherds are relatively large and unabraded, surprisingly so, in the case of some examples from alluvial/colluvial layers. This suggests that the material may derive from settlement activity nearby.

5.4 Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery by Luke Barber

Introduction

5.4.1 The excavations at the site produced 440 sherds of post-Roman pottery, weighing 5329g, from 42 individually numbered contexts (some 199 different vessels are estimated to be represented). These totals include 22 sherds (50g) from one of eight environmental residues. The overall assemblage is of variable condition with a great range of sherd sizes: although the general trend is toward small to medium sherds (ie up to 40mm across) larger sherds are also present (ie to *c*. 150mm). Most of the pottery is in good condition and despite many sherds being small they often exhibit unabraded breaks. As such most sherds, particularly those of the mid 12th to 13th centuries, do not appear to have been subjected to extensive reworking. Slightly more abrasion is in evidence on some of the earlier and later pottery suggesting this material has been reworked to some extent.

5.4.2 The vast majority of the assemblage is from a series of cut features such as pits/ditches and layers. Context groups are usually small: of the 42 deposits involved only five contained 20 or more sherds. By far the largest two groups were recovered from Phase 4.3 dump [559] (99 sherds weighing 1233g: SG24) and Phase 4.2 ditch fill [569], GP6 (66 sherds weighing 852g: SG32). Residuality is very variable. Many contexts have low to moderate levels of residuality, typically being a scatter of early/mid 12th- century sherds in later 12th- to 13th- century deposits. However, the assemblages from topsoil/subsoil deposits (contexts [521] and [522]), dated to the early post-medieval period, have quite high levels of 12th- to 16th- century residual material. Intrusiveness is also present in a few contexts though it is far less common and easier to isolate.

5.4.3 The assemblage has been fully quantified on pro forma by fabric and form during this assessment. The same fabric series used at Lewesfor the Baxters and Lewes House Residential sites (Barber in prep) was implemented for the current assemblage, as in virtually all cases the types were the same. The overall site assemblage is totally dominated by medieval wares with a chronological range covering the late 11th/early 12th to 14th centuries. In addition there are a few Late Saxon sherds and a scatter of late medieval and post-medieval pieces. The assemblage is characterised in Table 1.

PERIOD	NO./ WEIGHT	Average Sherd Weight	No. Fabrics (by probable source)	Number of contexts dated to this period (excludes mixed/ambiguous contexts)
LATE SAXON	3/8g	2.7g	Local - 2	1?
EARLY MEDIEVAL C. 1075-1150 *c. 1150-1225*	 39/221g 39/598g	 5.7g 15.3g	Local - 5	20
HIGH MEDIEVAL c. 1225-1375	326/3814g	11.7g	Local – 11 Regional - 1	11 (most c. 1200-1300)
TRANSITIONAL c. 1375-1550	12/233g	19.4g	Local - 4	0 (The majority could be placed in a 1475-1575 date range)
EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL c. 1550-1750	16/361g	22.6g	Local – 1 Regional - 1	2
LATE POST-MEDIEVAL c. 1750-1900	5/94g	18.8g	Local – 1 Regional - 2	2 (All can be placed within a 1775-1850 date range)

Table 1: Characterisation of post-Roman pottery assemblage (NB Totals include all residual/intrusive and unstratified material.

Late Saxon: 10th – 11th centuries

5.4.4 Just three small bodysherds from layer [642] are thought to be of this period. Although the reduced sandy sherd is notably worn, the two chalk-tempered examples are quite fresh. Although dating is uncertain, a 10th- to mid 11th-century date is probable for these sherds.

Early medieval: Later 11th to early 13th centuries

5.4.5 This period can be tentatively divided into two overlapping sub-periods based on the ceramics. Exact division is often difficult due to the similarities of the fabrics, which show a gradual evolution across the 12th century. This causes problems when trying to assess the degree of residuality in context groups of the latter part of the century. Even where rims or other feature sherds are present they demonstrate the similarity of the simple forms through much of the period. The local pottery is dominated by flint-tempered wares, usually incorporating some shell inclusions, up to about the middle of the 12th century. The assemblage of this period is quite limited in its range of fabrics and all can be exactly matched at Lewes. Feature sherds are few in number, but generally consist of cooking pots with simple everted or thickened rims. No other vessel forms were noted during the assessment and only a single incised line-decorated sherd is present. Whatever the case it would appear the onset of the main occupation at the site probably began in the first half of the 12th century.

5.4.6 From the middle of the 12th century sand began to be added to the flint temper in ever increasing quantities. These new fabrics, typified by sherds from Clay Hill/Ringmer, see the evolution of the hollow-topped rim form (four examples

in the current assemblage) though the simple earlier types remained in use for a while. Although present in similar numbers (Table 1), these sherds are notably larger than the earlier 12th- century examples and clearly represent *in situ* refuse disposal from the mid 12th to the early 13th centuries. Undecorated local cooking pots dominate once again, though there is a spouted example from the Phase 4.1 ditch fill [603] (GP5).

High medieval: early 13th to late 14th centuries

5.4.7 The flint and sand tempered wares get finer throughout the 13th century with the increased dominance of sand and phasing out of the flint (and shell). The wares are also fired to a higher temperature and tend to come from better-potted, thinner-walled vessels. Fine sand tempered glazed jugs were by now quite common, though many are still rather roughly made in quite coarse sandy fabrics. By the first half of the 14th century the local wares are virtually exclusively sand tempered albeit occasionally with sparse flint inclusions. The current site has produced a notably large assemblage from the High Medieval period, indicating quite intense domestic refuse disposal (Table 1). Ringmer fabrics totally dominate the group. The majority of these are of early type (HML 1A) with notable flint inclusions (137 sherds), but the slightly more refined fabric (HML 1B) of the mid/later 13th century is also well represented (125 sherds). Both these types are dominated by cooking pot sherds, typically with rectangular club rims for the HML 1B vessels and hollow-topped rims for the earlier HML1A vessels. Other forms include at least one frying pan and a couple of sparsely glazed jugs. Although 40 sherds of purely sand tempered Ringmer cooking pots are present (HML 3A), the proportionately low quantities, together with the sparse number of well-glazed fine sandy Ringmer jugs, suggest that most activity may have ended by the close of the 13th century. The only non-local sherd is from an off-white sandy green glazed jug (ditch [567], fill [569] SG32), possibly from a Dorset source.

Late medieval: late 14th to mid 16th centuries

5.4.8 The small assemblage of pottery from this period is all late, probably post-dating c. 1450/75. As such there appears to have been a break in activity sometime in the late 13th/early 14th centuries. The few sherds present demonstrate the typical range of hard-fired fine earthenwares of the time, deriving from pipkins and pitchers. No feature sherds are present and the assemblage is either intrusive in High Medieval deposits or, more commonly, residual in early post-medieval ones (e.g. subsoil [522]). This material almost certainly derives from other households in the village manuring what by now was probably open land. The absence of regional or imported wares may simply be the result of the small size of the sample.

Early post-medieval: mid 16th to mid 18th centuries

5.4.9 The assemblage of this period is similar to the late medieval one in that it derives from a somewhat scattered group, sometimes intrusive in earlier deposits, but more typically from topsoil [521] and subsoil [522]. It is likely the material represents the continued manuring of open land during the period, probably with the emphasis up to around 1750. A typical range of local glazed red and buff earthenware plates and bowls is present together with a single sherd from a Graffam/Verwood green-glazed plate from topsoil [521]. The forms would be in keeping with a domestic household group.

Late post-medieval: mid 18th to mid 19th centuries

5.4.10 There is a marked decrease in the quantities of pottery post-dating c. 1750 strongly suggesting the land was probably only very rarely cultivated at this time, if at all. There are three sherds of local glazed red earthenware, a fragment from a rouletted basaltes vessel and a sherd of pearlware with blue sponged decoration (pit [587]). The assemblage is too small to comment on reliably, but the presence of sponged decoration would suggest the lower end of the social spectrum.

5.5 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) by Susan Pringle

Introduction

5.5.1 A total of 38 fragments of post-medieval ceramic building materials and mortar weighing 5.53 kg was examined from five post-medieval contexts: [521], [525], [528], [536], and [540]. The assemblage consisted predominantly of post-medieval bricks, most of which were reduced or vitrified, early post-medieval peg tile and mortar, including a mortar sample from wall [525]. The total weight and number of fragments from each category is set out in Table 2.

Tile type	No. of items	Weight kg.
Post-medieval brick	10	4.030
Post-medieval roof tile	8	0.506
Unidentified brick/tile	1	0.002
Lime mortar	19	0.992
Total	38	5.530

Table 2. Summary of building materials

Methodology

5.5.2 All the ceramic building material was recorded on a standard recording form. The tile was quantified by fabric, form, weight and fragment count. Fabric descriptions were compiled with the aid of a microscope. Items of interest were retained, together with examples of the bricks, tiles and fabric types; the remainder of the material was discarded.

Dating

5.5.3 The broad date range of the material in each context is summarised in Table 3. The dates for peg tiles and bricks are approximate.

Context	Date (approximate)	Material
521	1500-1700	bricks, all burnt and vitrified,1 re-used post-vitrification; peg tile, lime mortar with flint pebbles
525	undated	lime mortar with flint pebbles; undated but similar to that in other contexts
528	medieval/post-medieval	brick/tile flake, lime mortar with flint pebbles similar to that from other contexts
536	1500-1800	bricks, most burnt and vitrified; peg tile
540	undated	lime mortar with flint pebbles; undated but similar to that in other contexts

Table 3: Broad dating evidence from ceramic building material

The brick and tile fabrics

5.5.4 In the fabric descriptions the following conventions are used: the frequency of inclusions is described as being sparse, moderate, common or abundant; the size categories for inclusions are very fine (less than 0.125 mm), fine (between 0.125 and 0.25 mm), medium (between 0.25 and 0.5 mm), coarse (between 0.5 and 1 mm), and very coarse (greater than 1 mm).

T1 Micaceous orange matrix lightly streaked with cream and dark orange clays; common fine quartz, moderate fine and sparse coarse and very coarse red Fe and white calcium carbonate inclusions
T2 Orange matrix with abundant fine quartz; common fine to very coarse white calcium carbonate; moderate fine to medium red iron-rich inclusions
B1 Orange-red matrix with abundant fine quartz; moderate to common red iron-rich material; sparse calcium carbonate
B2 Orange-red matrix with common medium quartz; sparse to moderate red Fe and calcium carbonate
B3 Orange-red matrix with abundant fine quartz; inclusions of coarse to very coarse flint, moderate medium red iron and calcium carbonate

Period 5

Wall [525]

5.5.5 A mortar sample weighing 854 g from a robbed wall was examined. The lime mortar contained chalk and flint pebbles up to c. 42 mm in length; some smoothly curved impressions may have been the imprints of larger pebbles. Most of the mortar was fragmentary, although one original surface was present which also incorporated coarse pebbles.

Robber Trench fill [528]

5.5.6 A flake of tile or brick weighing 2 g and two fragments of lime mortar weighing 56 g were found in the fill of a robber trench. The mortar contained a flint pebble aggregate similar to that from [525]. The tile flake had a fine sandy fabric with common fine to very coarse white calcium carbonate and moderate fine to medium red inclusions (fabric T2); although the tile was too small for secure identification, the fabric resembled those used for medieval or early post-medieval roofing tiles. Both tile and mortar were undated.

Period 6

Fill [536], pit [535]

5.5.7 This fill contained five post-medieval bricks and four fragmentary late medieval or early post-medieval peg tiles. Two of the bricks were in an orange-red sandy fabric with common medium quartz and red iron-rich and calcium carbonate inclusions (fabric B2); a third was in a similar fabric with abundant fine quartz and inclusions of coarse to very coarse flint (fabric B3). The remaining two bricks were vitrified. All the bricks were unfrogged, and one of the vitrified bricks had an indented margin on its upper bed face, indicating that it probably pre-dated c. AD 1700. Most of the bricks had been burnt. At least one of the bricks in fabric B2 was very worn on the reduced or sooted ?top surface, suggesting use in a brick floor. No complete bricks were present; surviving dimensions are set out in Table 4.

Fabric	Width mm	Thickness mm
Vitrified	109	46
Vitrified	110	50
B2	119	48 (worn)
B2	0	52 (worn)
B3	0	52

Table 4: dimensions of the early post-medieval bricks in context [536]

5.5.8 All the roof tiles had similar though not identical fabrics based on a micaceous orange matrix streaked with cream and dark orange clays, with fine quartz and red iron-rich and white calcium carbonate inclusions. The only nail-hole present was angular and incomplete, possibly part of a square hole set diagonally which would suggest an early post-medieval date for the tile. One tile was vitrified, and two of the others were reduced, suggesting exposure to fire.

Modern fill [540], post-hole [539]

5.5.9 The only building materials examined were two pieces of lime mortar weighing 72 g. The aggregate included flint pebbles < c.40 mm, chalk pebbles and medium to coarse quartz; it appeared to be similar to the mortar from wall [525] which was cut through by this feature.

Topsoil [521]

5.5.10 This context contained five unfrogged post-medieval bricks, four of which were in an orange-red fabric with abundant fine quartz, red iron-rich material and calcium carbonate (fabric B1). The fabric of three of these bricks was reduced. The remaining brick had glassy vitrification on the top and bottom faces; the upper face appeared to have wear-abrasion, possibly post-dating the vitrification. One brick may have had a slightly indented margin, suggesting a 17th century date. None of the bricks was complete. One, in fabric B1, was 110 mm wide and 49 mm thick, the others ranged from 54 mm to 63 mm thick. In addition to the bricks, four conjoining fragments of peg tile in fabric T1 and a 10 g fragment of lime mortar with coarse flint aggregate were present.

5.6 **The Fired Clay** by Trista Clifford

5.6.1 Fifty-seven fragments of fired clay weighing 404g were recovered from 15 separate contexts. The assemblage as a whole is in poor, abraded condition. Mean fragment weight (MFW) is just 7g. The assemblage was examined using a x10 magnification microscope and with the naked eye for diagnostic characteristics indicating form and/or function, and data recorded on pro-forma archive sheets.

5.6.2 A single fine sand-tempered fabric was observed, minor variations of which include a very sparse iron-rich fine speckle or sparse grog inclusions. No difference in fabric was observable across periods. The vast majority of the assemblage consists of amorphous fragments with no sign of utilisation. A small number of utilised but otherwise undiagnostic fragments exhibited one smoothed surface (for example Period 4 ditch fill [605] and layer [608]). Parallel wattle impressions were recorded on a fragment from Period 1 layer [620]. A possible piece of undiagnostic briquetage was recovered from Period 2 ditch fill [572].

5.7 **The Clay Tobacco Pipe** by Elke Raemen

5.7.1 A single clay tobacco pipe fragment dating to c. 1750-1910 was recovered from Period 6 pit fill [590]. The fragment consists of a straight cut, plain mouthpiece.

5.8 **Geological Material** by Luke Barber

5.8.1 The excavations recovered 16 pieces of stone, weighing 1467g, from seven individually numbered contexts. Seven pieces of this total (199g) were recovered from one of three environmental residues. The material has been fully listed for archive on pro forma during this assessment. The vast majority of the assemblage was recovered from medieval deposits.

5.8.2 Only two contexts produced worked stone. Context [504] (Period 4 ditch [503], GP7) produced two 21mm thick fragments (138g) from a German lava quern RF<25> (dated c. 1150-1225), and an 830g fragment from a c. 300mm diameter upper stone (48mm thick) in Lower Greensand RF<26> was found in Period 4 chalk rubble layer [573]. Both are quite typical stone types used for querns in this period.

5.8.3 Two pieces of laminar slate (291g), of uncertain source (but not Welsh) were recovered from mixed context [536] (assigned to Period 6) and there is a scatter of coal granules in other late contexts [590] (3/6g) and [626] (1/3g). The only other stone was recovered from the residues and includes ferruginous Tertiary sandstone (context [577], GP4, Phase 4.2), Sarsen sandstone (1/21g) and calcite (5/110g), all of which could be obtained from the nearby Downs.

5.9 **The Iron-Working Remains** by Luke Barber

5.9.1 The excavations recovered a mere 167g of slag from eight individually numbered contexts. This total includes 15g of slag from six of the

environmental residues. The assemblage has been fully listed for the archive on pro forma and subsequently discarded.

5.9.2 Fuel ash slag, a type that can be created by any high temperature process, including domestic hearths, is well represented in the assemblage. Some 18g of this material was present, all of which can be dated to the 12th and 13th centuries. Medieval layer [608] produced a worn piece of dense but aerated iron slag (91g), likely to be from smithing. Definite proof of smithing came from the residues from Period 6 pit [587] (fill [590]) Period 2 ditch [638], GP3 (fill [636]) where a few flakes and a sphere were recovered. However, the negligible quantity of hammerscale present suggests the excavated area was not located near the smithy.

5.10 Bulk metalwork by Trista Clifford

Iron

5.10.1 Twelve bulk iron fragments weighing 140g were recovered. Seven handmade general purpose nails measuring between 42mm and 61mm in length were recovered from three separate pit fills ([536], [587] and [590]); the nails are similar in form, having sub-rectangular heads and rectangular sections. A single horseshoe nail came from [569]. It is a Type B (Goodall 2011, 364) which was used during the 13th-14th century. The remainder of the assemblage consists of undiagnostic amorphous lumps, strip and wire fragments.

Lead

5.10.2 A total of 11 lead fragments weighing 154g were recovered from four separate contexts, and unstratified. The assemblage consists of waste sheet, runnels and droplets and probably indicated small scale lead working. A fragment of litharge, RF<20>, was also recovered (see Registered Finds below).

5.11 The Registered Finds by Trista Clifford

5.11.1 Registered finds were washed or air dried as appropriate to the material requirements. Objects have been packed appropriately in line with IfA guidelines (2008b). 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 5). All metal registered finds are currently with the conservator at Fishbourne Roman Palace where they have been x-rayed to aid identification. As a result, a number of finds have been identified from the x-radiographs as they are undergoing conservation or cleaning. Metal work is boxed in airtight Stewart tubs with silica gel. Querns RF<25> and <26> are described in 'Geological Material' above (5.8).

RF no	Context	Object	Material	Period
1	539	COIN	COPP	PMED
2	523	COIN	COPP	ROM
6	523	?COIN	COPP	UNK
7	571	LOCK	COPP	MED
8	571	KEY	COPP	MED
9	559	RING with ?beads	IRON	UNK
10	522	BUCK	IRON	
11	536	HOSH	IRON	PMED
12	536	KEY	IRON	PMED
13	536	FITT	IRON	PMED
14	626	STPE	COPP	MED-PMED
15	u/s	MOUN	COPP	MED
16	u/s	COIN	COPP	PMED
17	u/s	BUCK	COPP	MED
18	u/s	RING	COPP	UNK
19	u/s	MOUN	COPP	MED
20	523	WAST	LEAD	ROM-MED
21	u/s	MOUN	COPP	MED
22	u/s	BUTT	COPP	PMED-MOD
23	u/s	BUTT	COPP	PMED-MOD
24	u/s	BUTT	COPP	PMED-MOD
25	504	QUER	STON	MED
26	573	QUER	STON	MED

Table 5: Summary of registered finds

Items of dress or personal adornment

Beads

5.11.2 Two beads of Anglo-Saxon date were recovered from alluvium layer [617], currently assigned to Period 1. It would be unusual to find Saxon beads outside a cemetery context; however their presence within an alluvial context here indicates that they have travelled from their original place of deposition.

5.11.3 RF<3> is a short barrel bead of transparent mid green glass with a pattern of very pale blue opaque double crossing trails and three 'eye' spots of opaque pale blue within opaque red. This pattern of decoration occurs in various colour combinations; however a direct parallel has yet to be found for this bead. RF<4> is a short ribbed bead in blue-green translucent glass with a red spiral trail decoration, similar to larger examples from St Annes Road Eastbourne (Clifford in prep) which are part of Brugmanns 5th century 'Candy' group (Brugmann 2004, 33). A similar early Saxon date is not unlikely for these beads.

5.11.4 In addition to this, an iron ring with three or four beads attached, RF<9>, was recovered from levelling deposit [559] SG24. The beads were revealed only

once the object was x-rayed. The object is currently undergoing conservation and will be described in full at analysis stage.

Buckles

5.11.5 An oval copper alloy buckle frame with forked spacer was recovered as an unstratified find, RF<17>. The sheet copper alloy pin remains intact however the oval frame is incomplete. A decorative sheet would have originally covered the spacer, attached to the strap. Buckles of this construction are 14th-15th century in date. A large iron D shaped buckle (RF<522) from subsoil [522] is a possible bridle fitting of post-medieval date.

Mounts

5.11.6 Three copper alloy mounts were recovered from unstratified contexts. RF<21> is an undecorated circular sheet copper alloy mount. The edges are broken and there is no obvious method of attachment. It is possible that originally it resembled 14th century examples from London with rivet holes within a band or with four tabs for separate rivets around the perimeter (Egan and Pritchard 1991, no. 905). A copper alloy sexfoil mount (RF<19>) of similar date also has parallels from London (*ibid*. no 974). Finally a small concave mount resembling a pinecone or pineapple was also recovered (RF<15>), possibly a terminal from a medieval bar mount.

Strap fitting

5.11.7 A possible strap fitting, RF<14>, was recovered from subsoil [629]. The fitting is formed from a small folded sheet of copper alloy joined by a central rivet. It is very small- L13mm, W5mm- however a medieval parallel exists from London (Egan and Pritchard 1991 no 743) which is classified as a strap end.

Buttons

5.11.8 Three modern copper alloy buttons were recovered unstratified (RF<22>, RF<23> and RF<24>). They have been recorded for the archive.

Horse equipment

5.11.9 Period 6 refuse pit [536] contained a branch from a post-medieval horseshoe, RF<11>, together with a possible bridle fitting, RF<13>. The horseshoe is worn and broken at the toe with three rectangular nail holes at the edge. There is no calkin. RF<13> is a large D shaped strap loop (or buckle frame) which possibly formed part of a bridle or horse harness.

Security equipment

Keys

5.11.10 Layer [571], assigned to Phase 4.3, contained a small copper alloy rotary key, RF<8>, together with a padlock bolt, RF<7> and <8>. The key measures 37mm long and, as such, was probably used to lock a casket or cupboard. It has a circular collared bow and symmetrical bit with a hollow shank. Similar keys from London are of 13-14th century date (Egan 1998, no 298).

5.11.11 A post-medieval iron rotary key, RF<12> came from the Period 6 refuse pit, [536]. The key has a kidney shaped bow, decorative reeled stem and asymmetric bit. A similar, larger example recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database is dated to the 11-13th century (see for example LON-DEE374) however a copper alloy example is of 16th century date (LON-8EEC54)

Lock

5.11.12 Padlock bolt RF<7> is a composite object; L shaped with two iron spines and leaf springs riveted to a copper alloy bolt. The bolt derives from a barrel padlock which would also have had a copper alloy casing (Egan 1998 no 243). This was found in the same context as the copper alloy key.

Metal-working

Silver-working

5.11.13 A triangular, concave lead waste fragment RF<20>, from the Period 3 platform layer [523] is a fragment of litharge (lead oxide). Litharge is a waste product produced during the cupellation (silver refining) process. This material could result from silver assaying (chemical testing to ascertain the purity of the metal). It is unusual, however, to find litharge on a rural context such as this, as assaying was an urban activity often associated with coin mints or precious metal working (Justine Bayley pers.comm.). Analysis of the chemical structure of the litharge should enable it to be identified to process, and answer questions such as how efficient the refining process was and also what was used as the hearth lining/cupel. This may also help to indicate the period within which the litharge was produced, as although the platform was constructed during the 11th-12th century, it may have incorporated earlier material. Litharge may also be associated with Roman activity and a Roman coin <RF2> was also recovered from this layer.

Coins

5.11.14 A total of three coins were recovered. The only stratified examples are a Roman dupondius or As of mid 1st-mid 3rd century date (RF<2> [523]) and a post-medieval farthing of uncertain ruler (RF<1>[523]). A Charles I 'Rose farthing' was recovered unstratified (RF<16>). A small (diameter 7mm) flat copper alloy disc, RF<6>, also came from [523] which may be a corroded coin flan although this identification is far from certain.

Objects of uncertain function

5.11.15 The Period 3 platform deposit [523] contained a small cross shaped lead object RF<5>, possibly part of a larger object or a piece of waste lead. A copper alloy ring (diameter 22mm) RF<18> was recovered unstratified; this object may have had several functions. Neither is intrinsically dateable.

5.12 **Animal Bone** by Gemma Ayton

5.12.1 An archaeological evaluation and subsequent excavation on land adjacent to Monk's House, Rodmell produced a moderately sized, animal bone assemblage that was both hand-collected and retrieved from bulk samples. The majority of the bone was recovered from medieval features, including ditches and layers.

Method

5.12.2 The assemblage has been recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet and larger specimens have been recorded in accordance with zoning system outlined by Serjeantson (1996). Wherever possible the fragments have been identified to species and the skeletal element represented. Elements that could not be confidently identified to species, such as long-bone and vertebrae fragments, have been recorded according to their size and identified as large, medium or small mammal.Tooth eruption and wear has been recorded according to Grant (1982) and all metrical data has been taken in accordance with von den Driesch (1976). The state of fusion has been noted and each fragment has then been studied for signs of butchery, burning, gnawing and pathology.

The assemblage

5.12.3 A total of 794 fragments of bone weighing 10922g were recovered by hand-collection. The hand-collected bone is in a moderate condition with some large, but few complete, bones remaining. A further 146g of bone was recovered from the bulk samples though the majority of these specimens are small and poorly preserved.

5.12.3 In total, 554 fragments of identifiable bone were recovered from stratified contexts. A range of taxa have been identified including cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse, red/fallow deer, cat, domestic fowl and possible crane (Table 6). The material recovered from the bulk samples includes unidentifiable mammal, anuran and a very small quantity of fish.

	Late Iron Age/ Early Roman	Medieval	Post-medieval
Cattle	250	40	1
Sheep/Goat	5	18	2
Pig	5	21	6
Horse	5	12	
Red/Fallow deer		1	
Dog		4	1
Cat		1	
Large Mammal	100	51	2
Medium Mammal	2	18	
Domestic Fowl		1	
Crane?		2	
Bird		6	
TOTAL	**367**	**175**	**12**

Table 6: NISP (Number of Identified Specimens) count for the hand-collected animal bone assemblage

5.12.4 The majority of the Late Iron Age/early Roman assemblage has been recovered from feature [625]. Most of the specimens have been identified as skull fragments, a number of which derive from cattle. Other skull specimens have been recorded as large mammal and were recovered alongside fragments of cattle scapulae and teeth. Although no butchery marks were recorded, this assemblage may represent the remains of primary butchery waste.

5.12.5 The majority of the identifiable animal bone derives from medieval features, particularly from the upper fills of Phase 4.2 ditch GP6 and Phase 4.3 layers [559] and [564]. The relative importance of species can be analysed through a comparison of NISP (Number of Identified Species) and MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) counts. Age data has been obtained from tooth eruption and wear and epipyseal fusion. Analysis of MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) counts for the three main domesticates will help to determine the origin of the animal bone, be it industrial or domestic waste, as well as providing information regarding the possible function of the site. Evidence regarding social and economic status may also be inferred by the presence of particular species including crane and fallow deer which, during the early-medieval period, are generally restricted to high-status sites (Albarella and Thomas 2002). The identification of these specimens will need to be confirmed using the extensive reference collection held by English Heritage.

5.12.6 The post-medieval assemblage is largely unremarkable and contains small quantities of the three most commonly occurring domesticates which includes cattle sheep/goat and pig. This assemblage is too small to provide useful information regarding animal husbandry techniques

5.13 **Marine Molluscs** by Trista Clifford

5.13.1 A total of 28 fragments of marine shell weighing 568g was recovered from 11 individual contexts. The assemblage consists predominantly of common oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) (MNI 15) with a small amount of common limpet (*Patella vulgata*) (MNI 6), shown in Table 7. Both species are edible.

Species	Period				
	2	3	4	6	Total
Ostrea edulis	2	1	5	6	14
Patella vulgata	0		1	5	6
Total	2	1	6	11	20

Table 7: MNI of each marine mollusc species per Period

5.13.2 The majority of both oyster and limpet individuals are mature. Some evidence of parasitic infestation was observed which could indicate overcrowding of the food resource.

5.14 **Environmental Samples** by Karine Le Hégarat & Dawn Elise Mooney

Introduction

5.14.1 As part of the archaeological work at the site, a total of sixteen bulk soil samples were collected for the recovery of palaeo-environmental remains such as wood charcoal, charred macroplant remains, fauna and mollusca as well as artefact remains. These bulk soil samples were taken from ditches, pits and/or postholes and from layers. They were generally of medieval date (Period 4, *c.* 1175-1300). Details of the features and deposits from which samples originated are recorded in Appendix 3. The potential of the botanical remains to address questions relating to the agricultural economy, fuel use and the local vegetation environment is considered in this report.

Methodology

5.14.2 The 16 samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively before being air dried. The residues were passed through graded sieves of 8mm, 4mm and 2mm and each fraction was sorted for environmental and artefactual remains. This information is recorded in Appendix 3. The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 4). Preliminary identifications of macrobotanical remains were made with reference to modern comparative material and published reference atlases (Cappers *et al*. 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

5.14.3 Eight samples contained sufficient quantities of charred wood to merit taxonomic identification of charcoal (see Appendix 3). 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 & Cutler 2000). 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. 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 UCL Institute of Archaeology. 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. Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997), and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Appendix 3

Results

5.14.4 All the flots were examined. These were small to moderately-sized (2 to 175ml). They contained varying quantities of uncharred vegetation, mostly modern rootlets with occasional weed seeds such as nettle (*Urtica* sp.), elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) and knotweed / dock (*Polygonum* / *Rumex* sp.). The latter are likely to be intrusive considering the frequency of rootlets in the flots.

Period 1 - LIA/early Roman: layer [617] and ditch [591] (GP1)

5.14.5 Both samples <513> from layer [617] and <509> from ditch [591] fill (593) GP1 produced a very small amount of charred plant remains consisting of infrequent fragmented charcoal and two grains of wheat (*Triticum* sp.). The flot and residue from sample <509> contained a small quantity of shells from land snails. And while a small amount of mammal bones was present in the residue from sample <513>, both samples contained small amounts of fish bones. Pottery, FCF and worked flint were also recorded.

Period 2 – Late Saxon/ early medieval (11th century)

5.14.6 Three samples from three ditch slots excavated through ditch GP3 were examined; sample <512> from ditch slot [615] fill (616) as well as samples <515> and <516> from ditch slot [638] fill (637) and fill (636). All three bulk samples produced small quantities (between 10 and 20 items) of charred grains. Several caryopses were poorly preserved, mostly abraded and fragmented. The assemblage comprised wheat, some of which displayed a broad shape characteristic of free-threshing varieties (*Triticum* cf. *aestivum / turdidum*) and barley. Charred non-cereal crops were also uncommon with samples <515 and 516> producing three cultivated examples of vetch / bean / pea (*Vicia / Pisum* sp). A possible poorly preserved glume wheat (either emmer or spelt) spikelet base was present in sample <515>. Very little charcoal was recorded in the flots and residues of these samples.

5.14.7 Other biological remains included mammal bones, fish remains as well as some land and marine molluscs. The bones were more numerous in samples <512 and 516>. Various quantities of pottery, FCF, worked flint, stone, magnetised material and slag were present in the residues.

Period 4 – Medieval (c. 1175-1300)

Pit / postholes [501], [505], [509], pit [557] and pit / hearth [529]

5.14.8 Five samples from pit contexts were assessed. Charred grains were present in low to moderate numbers in four samples. Less than five items were recovered from sample <502> from pit [505] fill (506) and sample <505> from pit / hearth [529] (530), and between 20 and 50 items were present in sample <501> from pit / posthole [501] fill (502) and sample <504> from pit / posthole [509] fill (510). Nonetheless, they were more numerous (between 90 and 115 items) in sample <506> from pit [557] fill (558). Overall, the preservation was fair to poor with a large proportion of the caryopses being pitted and fragmentary. Wheat including free-threshing type wheat appeared to dominate the assemblage of charred grains, followed by hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Infrequent charred leguminous seeds were recorded in three samples including Celtic / broad bean (*Vicia faba* var *minor*) and vetch / bean / pea (*Vicia / Pisum* sp). The later were poorly preserved. No chaff was present, but small quantities of charred weed seeds were recorded including vetch / vetchling / tare (*Vicia / Lathyrus* sp.), knotgrass / dock (*Polygonum* / *Rumex* sp.). A single hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragment was present in sample <506>.

5.14.9 All samples contained small to moderate assemblages of wood charcoal fragments >4mm, except for sample <505> which only produced charcoal fragments <4mm. A range of woody taxa was recorded in these samples,

comprising beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), oak (*Quercus* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), cherry/blackthorn (*Prunus* sp.), and wood of the Maloideae subfamily, which includes hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), rowan, service and whitebeam (*Sorbus* spp.), apple (*Malus* sp.) and pear (*Pyrus* sp.).

5.14.10 Small quantities of unburnt mammal bone fragments were present in all the residues, and sample <504> produced a small quantity of burnt bone fragments. Fish bones were evident in samples <505 and 506> and marine molluscs in sample <501>. With the exception of sample <502> all residues contained some pottery. In addition, small amounts of slag were found in samples <505 and 506> and infrequent burnt clay in <501>.

Ditch slots [503] (GP7), [575] (GP4), [602] (GP5) and [604] (GP4)

5.14.11 Charred cereal remains were present in varying quantities in all four samples. Small to moderate quantities were recorded in sample <510> from ditch slot [602] fill (603) (less than 12 items) and sample <503> from ditch slot [503] fill (504) (between 35 and 40 items). Charred grains were more common in sample <507> [575] fill (577) (between 80 and 100 items), and sample <511> from ditch slot [604] fill (605), which produced a substantial amount of caryopses (between 250 and 300 items). The overall preservation was fair to poor with numerous grains being too pitted and fragmented to be identified (Cerealia). Nonetheless, the assemblage of charred cereal remains comprised grains of wheat including free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum* cf*. aestivum / turdidum*), hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and oat (*Avena* sp.). Wheat appeared to dominate. Several grains of oat exhibited remnants of adhering lemma and palea, and amongst them a floret base exhibited the oval disarticulation scar of wild oat. Large-sized pulses including vetch/pea/garden pea and Celtic / broad bean were also evident in three samples. They were particularly numerous in sample <511>. Their preservation varied, but most of the round pulses, hila and seed coats (testae) were well preserved, and it should be possible to identify further the type of cultivated pulses present in the assemblage.

5.14.12 In addition to charred grains and pulses, sample <511> contained a large amount of charred cereal or large grass culm nodes. Unfortunately no other chaff was recovered. Charred weed seeds were absent or uncommon in three samples, but again they were abundant in sample <511>. A moderate range of species representing arable weeds as well as common weeds of cultivation or waste / disturbed grounds were present such as bedstraw (*Galium* spp.), medick / melilot / clover (*Medicago* spp. / *Melilotus* spp. / *Trifolium* spp.), stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), knotgrass / dock *(Polygonum* / *Rumex* spp.), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) as well as some grass (Poaceae) caryopses. More charred plant remains or imprints of CPR were visible within hardened soil matrix fragments recovered from the residue of sample <511>.

5.14.13 The residues of all four samples contained small assemblages of charred wood remains, comprising charcoal fragments identified as beech, oak, birch, cherry/blackthorn and Maloideae. Vertebrate remains including mammal and fish bones, marine molluscs and fly puparia were present in varying quantities in the samples. The residues contained a wide array of artefact remains including CBM, burnt clay, copper alloy, iron, pottery and slag.

Layer [608]

5.14.14 Sample <514> (from layer [608] SG47) contained less than ten charred grains. These were poorly preserved but grains of wheat were noted. Charred wood fragments were also poorly represented. The sample produced a small amount of fish bones, shells from land snails, marine molluscs as well as a small quantity of pottery.

Period 6 – Later post-medieval c. 1750-1850

Pit [587]

5.14.15 A moderate assemblage of charred wood remains was recorded in the residue of sample <508> from pit fill context (590) SG40 with charcoal fragments identified as oak, beech and alder (*Alnus* sp.). A single grain of possible wheat was present in the flot. Other biological remains comprised a small quantity of fish bones and mammal bones. The residue produced a wide array of finds including pottery, metal object, fired clay, flint, magnetised material and coal.

6.0 POTENTIAL & SIGNIFICANCE OF RESULTS

6.1 Realisation of the original research aims

OR1 To excavate and record all archaeological remains and deposits exposed in the excavation with a view to understanding their character, extent, preservation, significance and date before their loss through development impacts.

The fieldwork has been successful in recording all archaeological remains threatened by the development. There was only limited trenched excavation through some of the lower deposits but these were not impacted by development and have been preserved *in situ*. The excavation showed that the depth and extent of medieval stratigraphy, particularly on the lower part of the site, was much greater that had been anticipated. The current document provides a summary of current interpretations of the date and character of the remains and the following section (6.2) attempts to assess their significance and proposes where further analysis is necessary.

OR2 To understand to what extent the features exposed during the evaluation can be explained through excavation of the wider area.

The excavation broadly supports the interpretation made in the original evaluation report (ASE 2013a) that the earthwork platform was constructed in the late 11th to earlier 12th centuries, although the total amount of dated material from this deposit remains small. Further excavation of features cutting the top of the platform also confirmed that these were largely of mid 12th to 13th century date. However, the interpretation of these features has changed. It was originally thought that post-holes and a linear feature in this part of the site represented elements of a building. Wider excavation of this area unfortunately failed to reveal a convincing building plan. The linear feature now seems more likely to be a drainage gully than a beam-slot and, whilst some of the discrete features could be post-holes, others may represent shallow pits or tree-throws.

OR3 To refine the dating, character and function of the landscape features at this site.

The excavation has significantly added to our understanding of the date, function and character of the site. In addition to the further investigation of features on top of the platform, an extensive sequence of layers and ditches has been recorded in the lower part of the site. This has contributed to our understanding of alluvial/colluvial site formation processes, and to a sequence of ditches which provide evidence for various changes in landuse from the Late Iron Age/earlier Roman period through to the 19th century.

OR4 To inform on medieval building techniques utilised on the site through the excavation of the extant building platforms.

As the excavation failed to provide any clear structural evidence and very little building material was recovered, the project was not able to contribute any additional information on medieval building techniques.

OR5 To use the results of the work to inform on the wider chronology, development and contraction of the medieval settlement of Rodmell

Given that no major archaeological work has previously been carried out in the historic core of Rodmell, the excavation provides key data about the development of the village. Despite the relatively small size of the area under investigation, the current project has brought out a number of wider themes regarding the growth and eventual contraction of the settlement in the medieval period: the major points being a very large scale programme of terracing the landscape in Norman period; a peak in activity in the mid 12th to 13th centuries, coinciding with a significant rearrangement of the landscape, and a rapid decline in the 14th century (see further discussion of significance in 6.2 below).

6.2 Significance and Potential of the Individual Datasets

6.2.1 The Stratigraphic Sequence

Period 1 Late Iron Age/earlier Roman (c.50BC-AD100)

Given that the Period 1 remains were largely masked by later deposits, it is difficult fully to characterise activity in the Late Iron Age/earlier Roman period. Although most of the layers assigned to this period probably derived from geoarchaeological formation processes, a substantial boundary is indicated by the north-south aligned ditches. These features, combined with assemblages of finds and environmental material, provide an indication of Late Iron Age/earlier Roman settlement activity which was not previously known in this area. Given this, the evidence is clearly of local significance and warrants dissemination by publication but there is limited scope to further interpret the stratigraphic element. Further analysis of the litharge fragment may determine that it is of Roman date. If this is the case, a consideration of the wider implications for the status and function of the site would be included.

Early/Middle Saxon

Although the probable Early/Middle Saxon beads are likely to have washed into deposit [617], they contribute some inherently interesting evidence for activity in this period. Beads of this type are most commonly found in funerary contexts, suggesting that there may have been Early/Middle Saxon burials or other activity in the vicinity. It had previously been assumed that the earlier Saxon occupation of Sussex river valleys was concentrated on high ground, although more recent work has begun to suggest that this picture is skewed by the masking effects of colluvium in valley bottoms (Gardiner 2003, 152). It is therefore suggested that some brief research is carried out in order to set the finds in their wider archaeological context.

Period 2 Late Saxon/early medieval (c.AD 900-1100)

Only one ditch and a single layer, recorded in section, were attributed to Period 2. Although these remains are limited, they contribute to the story of the site's development in the medieval period and provide the first archaeological evidence that the linear pattern of medieval settlement has its origins in the Late Saxon period. However, again there is very little potential for further analysis.

Period 3 Medieval: later 11th to mid 12th century (c.AD 1075-1125)

Although only a small part of the wider system of earthworks was investigated, the project has given the first confirmation that they are of man-made origin and provided fairly strong support for a Norman date of construction. There was unfortunately very little evidence of the function of these features: the excavation failed to confirm that they represent foundation platforms for buildings. However, by giving an indication of the sheer volume of soil that must have been moved to create the earthworks, the project has demonstrated that there must have been a concerted and organised, not to mention well-funded, programme of works at this time, perhaps even implying the direct involvement of the de Warennes.

The earthworks may have been constructed as early as the late 11th century, and could be seen as being imposed on the landscape. It is therefore worth considering a point raised in the South East Research Framework public seminar on the medieval period (SERF 2009) about the extent to which Norman cultural identity can be distinguished in the archaeological record. Further research may help to define how typical these types of features are before and after the conquest and perhaps even identify whether they have French parallels.

The number of finds recovered from this period was small but the possible evidence of silver processing, suggested by the litharge fragment, adds to the impression that Rodmell may have been a slightly atypical settlement at this time, perhaps being home to administrative or specialised craft activities. Overall this period clearly has the potential to contribute regionally important evidence.

Period 4 Medieval: mid 12th to 13th century (c AD1150-1300)

The Period 4 remains demonstrate some continuity with the preceding period, followed by another reorganisation of the landscape, perhaps at about the time that St Peters Church was constructed. The possible ditch-and-bank enclosure identified in Phase 4.2 is probably indicative of an agricultural field within the bounds of the site itself, although finds and environmental evidence suggest a wide array of different activities happening in the vicinity, including domestic settlement, crop-processing, grain storage and lead working.

The excavation seems to demonstrate that the fortunes of Rodmell were very much tied to those of Lewes. This was probably both as a result of its strong links to Lewes Priory, and because of a more general reliance on trade with its near neighbour. The near absence of mid 14th- mid 15th century material from the site indicates that Rodmell, like Lewes suffered a significant decline in this period. This last point ties in with a theme highlighted by the draft research agenda for the medieval period of the South-East Research Framework. This highlights the need to consider the relationship between towns and their hinterlands (SERF 2009). It is also relevant to research question RQ15 set out in the historic environment research framework, published in the historic character assessment for Lewes (Harris 2005):

'RQ15: What evidence is there for the economy of the town, especially with regard to its Downland and Wealden hinterland?'

Although fairly small in scale, the current excavation offered a fairly rare opportunity to investigate a core area of the medieval village, which has been subject to very little previous archaeological excavation. As a whole the Period 4 evidence is clearly locally significant and probably has the potential to contribute to some wider regional research questions, although arguably the finds and environmental evidence has as large a part to play as the stratigraphic element.

Period 5 Post-medieval: 17th to mid 18th century (c.AD 1600-1750)

Only a single robbed out wall foundation was recorded from Period 5, probably representing a garden wall or property boundary. This is of limited significance and can be omitted from the publication report.

Period 6 Post-medieval: mid 18th to mid 19th century (c.AD 1750-1850)

The Period 6 remains comprise just two features, likely associated with refuse disposal in the later post-medieval period. Although one of these, cut [535], contained a fairly rich finds assemblage, this material is not considered to have much inherent significance so again, it is recommended that these features are omitted from the final publication

6.2.2 Worked flint

The assemblage from Monk's House is limited. Its main significance is that it demonstrates knapping or use of flint tools in the vicinity of the site during the Mesolithic/early Neolithic period. However, the assemblage is comparatively small and the artefacts are thinly spread with no in-situ scatters or well-stratified pieces. Furthermore the bulk of the assemblage is not closely datable. As such the small assemblage is of low significance and has little potential for contributing to our understanding of prehistoric periods at the site. No further analytical work is required for this assemblage.

6.2.3 Prehistoric and Roman pottery

Although the pottery assemblage provides evidence for Late Iron Age to earlier Roman activity which was not previously known in the locale, the assemblage is relatively small and contains few diagnostic pieces meaning that it is of relatively low significance and has no potential for further analysis.

6.2.4 Medieval and post-medieval pottery

The post-Roman pottery represents the first excavated assemblage from Rodmell. As such it is of some interest in shedding light on the ceramic fabrics/forms in use within the village at different times. It is clear from the assessment that the village fell very much within the ceramic zone of Lewes: with the exception of the Saxon fabrics, all current fabric types can be matched to the Lewes series. The same can be said for the few rim/feature sherds in the current assemblage. The fabric and form series for Lewes will be published in the near future (Barber in prep). As such detailed further work on the fabrics/forms in the current assemblage is not required. Similarly, the small and often slightly mixed context groups from this site do not hold potential for furthering our knowledge of ceramics in the area: there are far

better context groups from Lewes. However, as the current group has provided a rare glimpse of the fabric suite within a Sussex medieval village, the different types ought to be briefly summarised for publication. It is unfortunate there are negligible quantities of Saxon sherds as the few pieces recovered have not been noted at Lewes. The Saxon sherds therefore have the potential to add to the growing dataset on fabrics of this period and ought to be integrated into the county fabric series.

6.2.5 Ceramic building material

All the bricks recovered from the site are early post-medieval in date, probably representing building phases between the later 16th and early 18th centuries. The small amount of roof tile was not closely dateable, but is likely to have been contemporary with the bricks. All the mortar examined was similar in appearance and, although not datable, is likely to have come from one structure or building phase. The assemblage is of low significance with no potential for further analysis.

6.2.6 Fired clay

The assemblage is small and undiagnostic in nature and therefore is of no significance and has no potential for further analysis.

6.2.7 Clay tobacco pipe

The assemblage consists of a single undecorated fragment and is too small to be of significance and has no potential for further analysis.

6.2.8 Geological material

The stone assemblage is small and limited in range of stone types. It also contains only two humanly modified pieces, with the remainder easily being sourced naturally in the vicinity of the site. The two querns are of typical type/form and therefore of no significance and do not offer any potential for further analysis.

6.2.10 Iron-working remains

The iron-working slag assemblage from the site is very small and represents low-level iron smithing in the general vicinity of the village. Most rural communities would have had a smithy and the presence of a little associated slag is to be expected. The assemblage is therefore of low significance with no potential for further analysis

6.2.11 Bulk metalwork

Whilst the lead waste provides limited evidence of lead working, this is fairly commonplace and therefore has little potential beyond informing the site narrative due to lack of secure contexts. The small iron assemblage is likewise of minimal significance and no potential for further analysis.

6.2.12 Registered finds

Although the Registered Finds assemblage encompasses a fairly wide chronological range of material within a small group of objects, it largely represents common types of personal or domestic object. The focus of activity is medieval, with a small amount of Saxon material probably brought in as a result of alluvial deposition, and later material discarded as refuse. As such the assemblage is of local significance only and has limited potential for further work.

Only one find has potential for further analysis. RF<20> indicates the presence of silver working or assaying nearby. Scientific analysis of the litharge has potential to pinpoint the broad date of this activity and this should be carried out by a metallurgy specialist. Hopefully this work may refine the date range of the piece and provide further information about the nature of the processes being carried out. This has the potential to contribute to our understanding of unusual administrative or craft activities in the village.

6.2.13 Animal bone

The late Iron Age/early Roman and post-medieval assemblages are too small to be significant and warrant further analysis, so no further work is required. Any text required for the site narrative may be taken from the information given above. The medieval assemblage is locally significant and has the potential to provide a limited quantity of information regarding contemporary animal husbandry techniques as well as defining the economic and social status of the site.

6.2.14 Marine shell

The assemblage is small and spread over several periods of occupation. None of the contexts contains statistically significant quantities of shell to warrant any further analysis therefore potential for further work is negligible.

6.2.15 Environmental samples

Sampling revealed evidence for a wide array of environmental remains including charred crop remains, charred weed seeds and chaff, charred wood fragments, burnt and unburnt mammal bones, fish bones, marine molluscs and land snail shells. Significance and potential for further analytical work of the botanical remains is considered here while the faunal assemblages are incorporated into the finds reports.

Macroplant remains

Late Iron Age/earlier Roman (Period 1), 11th c. (Period 2) and Later post-medieval samples (Period 6) produced no or very few charred macroplant remains. Medieval samples (Period 4) contained varying quantities of charred macroplants, with three samples producing moderate to rich assemblages. These were extracted from a pit (sample <506> context (558)) and two ditch slots, which were both part of ditch GP4 (sample <507> context (577) and sample <511> context (605)). The material in samples <506 and 507> is likely to represent the waste from a number of local domestic activities such as cereal processing, food preparation or even from fodder. Nonetheless the

significant amount of charred culm nodes and charred weed seeds in sample <511> together with the grains and leguminous seeds suggests the presence of unprocessed crops. These may have burnt in storage, or they may have been burnt because they became spoiled. The material is likely to represent a single deposition of burnt crops. On the other hand, the assemblage could also represent different phases of human activities (prime crops, processing waste, domestic debris).

With the exception of rye, the crop assemblage from Rodmell is in keeping with contemporary botanical assemblages from the area. During the medieval period, wheat was the main crop grown on the fertile coastal zone (Brandon 1971), but barley, oat, rye and legumes have also been recorded hinting to the establishment of mixed farming in this area of Sussex (Hinton 2008). Quite a few rural sites have now been investigated in South-East England (Van der Veen *et al.* 2013), but the assemblage from Rodmell, with the high quantity and high variety of crops and weed seeds, has the potential to address some of the remaining shortcomings presented by Van der Veen *et al.* (2013) regarding medieval agriculture such as cultivation practice, ploughing regimes, nutrient status of the soils, rotation schemes and arable strategies. For instance, the presence of stinking mayweed points to the use of heavy clay soils, wild radish is indicative of acidic soils and the presence of legumes suggests cultivation of impoverished soils.

The charred macroplant remains from samples <506>,<507> and <511> have the potential to examine the range of crops utilised at the site as well as some aspects of the arable regime.

Charcoal

The wood charcoal assemblage from the site was in general of poor to moderate preservation, with most fragments showing some evidence of sediment infiltration and concretion associated with fluctuations in groundwater level. Nevertheless, taxonomic identification of charcoal from the medieval (Phase 4) and post-medieval (Phase 6) occupations of the site revealed that a wide range of woody taxa were utilised as fuel at the site, including oak, beech, hazel, cherry/blackthorn, birch, alder and Maloideae. This suggests that wood for fuel was primarily procured from deciduous woodland dominated by oak and beech. The presence of taxa such as hazel, cherry/blackthorn, Maloideae and birch suggest that woodland margin and hedgerow environments were also being exploited for fuel acquisition. The presence of alder in pit [587] indicates that in the post-medieval period fuel wood was also being procured from damp woodland or wetland margin areas.

Other than this, there is little evidence for changes in the use of wood as fuel between the two phases examined. From the medieval period onwards most firewood in England was procured from managed woodlands, wherein underwood taxa were managed through coppicing, while trees such as oak and beech were reserved mainly for use as timber. The firewood produced in these woods was typically in the form of faggots, formed of underwood taxa bound together with smaller branches from timber trees (Rackham 1990). The composition of the charcoal assemblage from the site, which is dominated by woods known to be good fuels, is likely to indicate this practice. The presence of alder in the sample from post-medieval pit [587] is likely to be indicative of

the use of this taxon for charcoal production, as alder is known to be a poor fuel wood but makes excellent charcoal (Taylor 1981).

To summarise: the charcoal assemblage from the site is generally small, and although a range of taxa have been recorded in this assessment, it is not expected that further analysis would add significantly to these findings.

7.0 PUBLICATION PROJECT

7.1 Revised Research Agenda: Aims and Objectives

7.1.1 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.

7.1.2 RRA 1 (OR 1, OR2, OR3)

Do the probable Early/Middle Saxon beads necessarily imply funerary activity in the vicinity or could they be explained in other ways? How does this evidence add to our understanding of site distribution in valley bottoms?

7.1.3 RRA 2 (OR1, OR2)

Can further analysis of the litharge fragment confirm that it is contemporary with the late 11th / early 12th century platform deposit or whether it is more likely to be a residual Roman find?

7.1.4 RRA 3 (OR1, OR2)

Can technological analysis of the litharge fragment refine our understanding of the technological processes involved? Is it more likely to represent silver assaying or refining silver for the purpose of the manufacture of coins or other objects? What does this evidence tell us about the nature of administrative or craft activity in Rodmell and what are the wider implications of these activities taking place in a non-urban context?

7.1.5 RRA 4 (OR1, OR2, OR3)

Can any further information on the purpose of the large scale Period 3 earthworks be identified by locating parallels either in archaeological reports or other sources?

7.1.6 RRA 5 (OR1, OR2, OR3)

Can the style of earthworks be readily paralleled in other villages in the South-East or could they be indicative of Norman influence?

7.1.7 RRA 6 (OR1, OR2, OR3, OR5)

Can analysis of macrobotanical and animal/fish bone assemblages add to our understanding of diet, agriculture and social status during the medieval period?

7.1.8 RRA 7 (OR5)

Can historical research provide any further insight into the causes of major changes in landuse identified during the excavation? Specifically, these include the large, and presumably well-funded programme of earthwork construction in the late 11th/ early 12th century, a realignment of the landscape from the mid 12th century onward (perhaps connected to the construction of St Peter's Church) and the marked decline in activity in the 14th century

7.1.9 RRA8 (OR1, OR5)

What does the excavation tell us about the relationship between towns and villages in the medieval period? How does the site contribute to our understanding of the economic, administrative and social ties between Rodmell and Lewes?

7.2 Preliminary Publication Synopsis

7.2.1 It is suggested that the results of the excavation should be published in a journal article of *c*.8000 words in Sussex Archaeological Collections. This would present the Period 1-4 results but omit the less significant post-medieval remains. It is proposed that there should be standalone specialist reports on the medieval pottery, animal bone and macrobotanical remains. The Roman, Saxon and medieval registered finds should also be fully reported on although, as these are few in number and quite closely tied in with site interpretation, it may be more appropriate to integrate these texts into the stratigraphic narrative. It is also recommended that a short summary paragraph on the Late Iron Age/ earlier Roman pottery should be integrated into the text on Period 1. Other finds and environmental evidence will be drawn into main text where appropriate but these classes of material do not require individual reports. A historical research section may also be included, if warranted by the results of the proposed historical work. A discussion will bring together the different strands of evidence and attempt to address the questions posed in the revised research agenda.

7.2.2 The following structure is provisionally suggested:

- Introduction (c.750 words)
  Circumstances of fieldwork
  Site location, geology and topography
  Archaeological and historical background
- Excavation results (c.2500 words)
  Period 1: Late Iron Age/earlier Roman (incorporating integrated pottery and possibly registered finds summaries)
  Period 2: Late Saxon/early medieval
  Period 3: Norman (possibly incorporating registered find summaries
  Period 4: Medieval
- Specialist reports (c.2000 words)
  Medieval pottery
  Animal bone
  Macrobotanial remains
  Historical Research (if warranted)
- Discussion (c.2500 words)
- Bibliography

  Figures: *c*. six figures for selected plans, sections and photographs to accompany the stratigraphic narrative and one for finds illustration

7.3 **Publication project** (Table 8)

7.3.1 Stratigraphic method statement

All remaining subgroups will be grouped and a basic land use model will be established for the site. This will provide a land-use led chronological framework for the full analysis and reporting of the site. An integrated period-driven narrative of the site sequence will be prepared. This will require further archaeological research as well as drawing on the completed analysis of specialist finds, environmental and historical evidence in order to fully address the revised research aims. The narrative will include relevant selection of period/phase plans, sections, photographs and finds illustrations.

- Assign remaining contexts to groups and complete group register (c.10 additional groups) 1 day
- Define landuses and complete landuse register (c.7 landuses) 1 day
- Further reading on relevant local, regional and national parallels, with particular reference to the medieval earthwork platforms 2 days
- Consider and integrate specialist analysis 1 day
- Produce period and landuse driven site narrative 2 days
- Produce discussion text bringing together different strands of evidence to address revised research aims 3 days

Total **10 days**

7.3.2 Prehistoric and Roman pottery

It is recommended that summary paragraph describing the assemblage should be included in the stratigraphic text on the Late Iron Age/Roman archaeology. This can be drawn from the above assessment. There are no pieces suitable for illustration.

- Prepare summary paragraph on Late Iron Age/Roman pottery **0.25 days**

7.3.3 Medieval and post-medieval pottery

No further detailed analysis is proposed for the post-Roman assemblage beyond that undertaken for the assessment. The material ought to be published as it is the first from the village and the Saxon fabrics checked against/integrated into the county fabric series. As such most additional work will focus on preparing a summary report for publication. This will be largely based on the above assessment but will also give the full range of fabrics present together with their quantifications. The report will concentrate on a chronological overview rather than discussing the somewhat small context groups. Up to five sherds may be drawn for publication to illustrate the different periods represented.

- Check Saxon fabrics with county series 0.25 days
- Produce summary pottery report (including catalogue) 0.75 days

Total **1 day**

7.3.4 Registered finds

A small number of finds require further local parallels. A short report outlining the assemblage is proposed for publication, together with a catalogue of individual finds. A separate specialist report on the litharge fragment should be produced incorporating the results of the scientific analysis. Up to 5 objects are suitable for illustration.

Production of publication report and catalogue 1.5 days

Specialist analysis and reporting Fee

Total **1.5 days**

7.3.5 Animal bone

Further recording and consultation of reference collection material is required in order to fully address the question in the revised research agenda. A short specialist report will be prepared

Recording and analysis of bones, including fish, from bulk samples obtained from medieval deposits 0.5 days

Further identification of specific specimens using the English Heritage reference collection 0.5 days

Analysis of the medieval assemblage 1 day

Summary and production of publication report 0.5 days

Total **2.5 days**

7.3.6 Macrobotanical remains

Samples <507>,<507> and <511> (Period 4) are recommended for analysis. Analysis will include examination of the flots and retained residue (for sample <511>), confirmation and refinement of the preliminary identifications made during assessment, creation of a full species list, comparison with results from other sites in the area and preparation of a summary.

Sorting of charred macroplant remains and scanning the remaining residue from sample <511> for new species 2 days

Analysis and identification of charred macroplant remains 1 day

Data entry and manipulation 0.5 day

Report writing / literature consultation 1 day

Total **4.5 days**

7.3.16 Historical research

It is felt that a limited programme of professional historical research would aid site interpretation, by providing a historical framework for the development and decline of the settlement as well highlighting the evidence for the relationship between Rodmell and Lewes. Whether this research warrants a standalone section of the publication report would depend on the results of the research

Historical research **Fee**

7.3.17 Illustration

Around six figures are required for selected plans, sections and photographs to accompany the stratigraphic narrative and one figure is required for finds illustration (including five pottery illustrations and up to five registered finds)

Total **6 days**

Stratigraphic Tasks	
Assign remaining contexts to groups and complete group register (c.10 additional groups)	1 day
Define landuses and complete landuse register (c.7 landuses)	1 day
Further reading on relevant local, regional and national parallels, with particular reference to the medieval earthwork platforms	2 days
Consider and integrate specialist analysis	1 day
Produce period and landuse driven site narrative	2 days
Produce discussion text bringing together different strands of evidence to address revised research aims	3 days
Sub total	**10 days**
Specialist Analysis	
Prehistoric and Roman pottery	0.25 days
Medieval and post-medieval pottery	1 day
Registered finds	1.5 days
Metallurgical analysis	Fee
Animal bone	2.5 days
Macrobotanical remains	4.5 days
Historical research	Fee

Sub total	**9.75 days**
Illustration	
Pottery and finds illustration	2 days
There will be up to c.6 stratigraphic figures	4 days
Sub total	**6 days**
Production	
Report edit	0.5 day
Project Management	1 day
Referee edits and proof checking	0.75 day
Sub total	**2.25 days**
Publication grant to SAC	Fee
Total	**28 days + Fees**

Table 8: Summary of analysis and publication tasks

7.4 Artefacts and Archive Deposition

7.4.1 The site archive is currently held at the Sussex offices of ASE, in Portslade. It has been agreed that the National Trust will accept the site archive, following completion of all post-excavation and publication work. The archive is quantified in Table 9.

Type	Description	Quantity
Context sheets	Individual context sheets	142
Section sheets	A1 Multi-context permatrace sheets 1:10	62
Plans	Multi-context DWG plans A1 permatrace plan and section sheets 1:20 or 1:10	9
Photos	Digital images	207
Environmental sample sheets	Individual sample sheets	12
Context register	Context register sheets	5
Environmental sample register	Environmental sample register sheets	1
Photographic register	Photograph register sheets	9
Drawing register	Plan/section register sheets	1
Small finds register	Small finds register sheets	1
Bulk finds and environmental material	Large box	2
Registered finds	Objects	8

Table 9: Site archive quantification table

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Appendix 1: Context Register

Context	Area	Type	Feature Type	Parent Context	Subgroup	Sample	Overall spot-date	Dating comments	Group	Period	Phase
500	Eval	L		500						Overburden	
501	Eval	C	P/SP	501	1					4	0
502	Eval	F	P/SP	501	1	501	1150/75-1225			4	0
503	Eval	C	D	503	2				7	4	0
504	Eval	F	D	503	2	503	1150-1225 (resid 1075-1150)		7	4	0
505	Eval	C	P/SP	505	3					4	0
506	Eval	F	P/SP	505	3	502				4	0
507	Eval	L	MU	523	4		1075-1150			3	
508	Eval	L	MU	523	4		1075-1150			3	
509	Eval	C	P/SP	509	5					4	0
510	Eval	F	P/SP	509	5	504	1150-1225			4	0
511	Eval	L	MU	523	4					3	
512	Eval	L	?MU	507	6					Natural	
513	Eval	L	?MU	507	6					3	
514	Eval	L	?MU	507	6					3	
515	Eval	L	?MU	515	7		1225-1300			4	4.3
516	Eval	L		516						Overburden	
520	Exc	L	MU	500						Overburden	
521	Exc	L		500			1600-1725 (resid 1150-1250)	Small pot group; Small group of vitrified bricks- 1 reused after vitrification + pegtile		Overburden	
522	Exc	L		516			1650-1750 (Hi resid C12th - 16th)	Medium pot group; PMED buckle		Overburden	

Context	Area	Type	Feature Type	Parent Context	Subgroup	Sample	Overall spot-date	Dating comments	Group	Period	Phase
523	Exc	L	MU	523	4		1000-1125	Three pot sherds; ?resid Roman coin;		3	
524	Exc	C	S	524	8					5	
525	Exc	M	WA	524	8		Undated	Mortar only		5	
526	Exc	F	S	524	8					5	
527	Exc	C	S	527	9					5	
528	Exc	F	S	527	9		Medieval/post-medieval	Tiny CBM frag only		5	
529	Exc	C	P/HE	529	10					4	0
530	Exc	F	P/HE	529	10	505				4	0
531	Exc	C	P/SP	531	11					4	0
532	Exc	F	P/SP	531	11					4	0
533	Exc	C	P/SP	533	12					4	0
534	Exc	F	P/SP	533	12					4	0
535	Exc	C	PR	535	13					6	
536	Exc	F	PR	535	13		1750-1850 (Hi resid C12th - 17th)	Small pot group; vitirfied bricks; Pmed key & horseshoe		6	
537	Exc	C	P/SP	537	14					4	0
538	Exc	F	P/SP	537	14					4	0
539	Exc	C	P/SP	539	15					Modern	
540	Exc	F	P/SP	539	15		mixed: most 1225-1350, low resid C12th - e 13th, x1 ?intru 1400-1500)	small/medium pot group		Modern	
541	Exc	C	S	541	16					5	
542	Exc	M	WA	541	16					5	
543	Exc	C	S	543	17					5	

Context	Area	Type	Feature Type	Parent Context	Subgroup	Sample	Overall spot-date	Dating comments	Group	Period	Phase
544	Exc	F	S	543	17					5	
545	Exc	C	P/PH	545	18					4	0
546	Exc	F	P/PH	545	18					4	0
547	Exc	C	P/PH	505	3					4	0
548	Exc	F	P/PH	505	3		1150-1225	Small pot group		4	0
549	Exc	C	P/TH	549	19					4	0
550	Exc	F	P/TH	549	19		1175-1250	One potsherd		4	0
551	Exc	C	P/TH	551	20					4	0
552	Exc	F	P/TH	551	20					4	0
553	Exc	C	D	553	21				7	4	0
554	Exc	F	D	553	21				7	4	0
555	Exc	C	P/SP	555	22					4	0
556	Exc	F	P/SP	555	22					4	0
557	Exc	C	P	557	23					4	0
558	Exc	F	P	557	23	506	1200-1275 (resid C12th)	Small pot group		4	0
559	Exc (Tr 2)	C	SN	559	24		1225-1300 (low resid 1150-1225)	Large pot group; med Fe		4	4.3
560	Exc (Tr 2)	F	MU/ED	559	25					4	4.3
561	Exc (Tr 2)	L	EU	561	26		1225-1325	one potsherd		4	4.3
562	VOID	VOID	EU	VOID	VOID					VOID	VOID
563	Exc (Tr 2)	L	EU	563	26					4	4.3
564	Exc (Tr 1)	L	EU	564	27		1225-1300 (x1 ? Intru 1425-1525)	Small pot group		4	4.3
565	Exc (Tr 2)	L	EU	565	28		1175-1250	One potsherd		4	4.3

Context	Area	Type	Feature Type	Parent Context	Subgroup	Sample	Overall spot-date	Dating comments	Group	Period	Phase
566	Exc (Tr 2)	L	EU	566	28		mixed: most 1150-1225 but x2 1225-1325	Small pot group		4	4.3
567	Exc (Tr 1)	C	D	567	29				6	4	4.2
568	Exc (Tr 1)	L	EB	568	30		1225-1300	small pot group	6	4	4.2
569	Exc (Tr 1)	F	D	567	32		1225-1300 (low resid 1150-1225 & x1 ?intru 1425-1525)	Large pot group; med Fe	6	4	4.2
570	Exc (Tr 1)	F	D	567	32				6	4	4.2
571	Exc (Tr 1)	L	EU	571	33		1225-1325 (low resid 1150-1225 & x1 ?intru 1425-1525)	small/medium pot group; med key		4	4.3
572	Exc (Tr 2)	F	D	615	34		1150-1225; ?resid 1 x LIA-early Roman	small pot group	3	2	
573	Exc (Tr 1)	L	EU/EB	573	35		1200-1275	small/medium pot group		4	?4.2
574	Exc (Tr 1)	C	D	574	36				5	4	4.1
575	Exc	C	D	575	37				4	4	4.2
576	Exc	F	D	575	37				4	4	4.2
577	Exc	F	D	575	37	507	1175-1250	Small pot group + med/ e pmed Cu alloy	4	4	4.2
578	Exc (Tr 1)	C	D	578	38				2	1	
579	Exc (Tr 1)	F	D	578	38				2	1	
580	Exc (Tr 1)	F	D	574	36				5	4	4.1
581	Exc (Tr 1)	F	D	567	32				6	4	4.2
582	Exc (Tr 1)	F	D	567	31		1200-1275	small pot group	6	4	4.2
583	Exc (Tr 1)	F	D	567	31		LIA- early Roman	2 pot sherds	6	4	4.2
584	Exc (Tr 1)	L	NS	584						Natural	
585	Exc	C	P/SP	585	39					4	0

Context	Area	Type	Feature Type	Parent Context	Subgroup	Sample	Overall spot-date	Dating comments	Group	Period	Phase
586	Exc	F	P/SP	585	39					4	0
587	Exc	C	P	587	40		Med-Pmed	2 nails only		6	
588	Exc	F	P	587	40		1780-1825	Tiny pot sherd only		6	
589	Exc (Tr 2)	?C	EU	573	35					4	?4.2
590	Exc	F	P	587	40	508	mixed: latest 1750-1910; most 1200-1275 x2 ?1550-1750	Small pot group; two pot sherds and one CTP frag are later		6	
591	Exc (Tr 1)	C	D	591	41				1	1	
592	Exc (Tr 1)	F	D	591	41				1	1	
593	Exc (Tr 1)	F	D	591	41	509	LIA- early Roman	small/medium pot group	1	1	
594	Exc	L	MU	523	4					3	
595	Exc (Tr 5)	L	EU	595	42		Roman	One potsherd		1	
596	Exc (Tr 5)	L	EU	596	42		LIA- early Roman	small pot group		1	
597	Exc (Tr 5)	L	EU	597	43		1175-1250 (1x resid LIA/early Roman)	2 potsherds		4	4.1
598	Exc (Tr 5)	C	?SP	598	44					4	4.2/4.3
599	Exc (Tr 5)	F	?SP	598	44					4	4.2/4.3
600	Exc (Tr 5)	L	NS	600						Natural	
601	Exc (Tr 5)	F	?SP	598	44					4	4.2/4.3
602	Exc (Tr 3)	C	D	602	45				5	4	4.1
603	Exc (Tr 3)	F	D	602	45	510	1150-1200 (1 x LIA/early Roman)	small pot group	5	4	4.1
604	Exc (Tr 2)	C	D	604	46				4	4	4.2
605	Exc (Tr 2)	F	D	604	46	511			4	4	4.2
606	Exc (Tr 2)	F	D	604	46				4	4	4.2
607	Exc (Tr 2)	F	D	604	46				4	4	4.2

Context	Area	Type	Feature Type	Parent Context	Subgroup	Sample	Overall spot-date	Dating comments	Group	Period	Phase
608	Exc (Tr 3)	L	EU	608	47	514	1200-1275 (2 x resid LIA/RB)	small pot group		4	4.1
609	Exc	C	D	609	48				2	1	
610	Exc	F	D	609	49		LIA- early Roman	2 potsherds	2	1	
611	Exc	F	D	609	50		1225-1325 (4 x resid LIA/early Roman)	small pot group	2	1	
612	Exc	L	EU	612	51		1175-1250	small pot group		4	?
613	Exc	L	NS	613						Natural	
614	Exc	L	NS	614						Natural	
615	Exc (Tr 2)	C	D	615	34				3	2	
616	Exc (Tr 2)	F	D	615	34	512	LIA/early Roman	A few small sherds from enviro sample	3	2	
617	Exc (Tr 3)	L	EU	617	52	513	LIA/early Roman or Saxon	Small LIA- early Roman pot group; beads probably of Roman or Saxon date		1	
618	Exc (Tr 2)	L	EU	618	53		1125-1200	One potsherd		1	
619	Exc (Tr 2)	L	EU	619	54		mixed: x1 1175-1250, x1 LIA/RB	2 potsherds		1	
620	Exc (Tr 3)	L	EU	620	55		LIA- early Roman; slag still to come	three potsherds		1	
621	Exc (Tr 2)	C	D	621	56				5	4	4.1
622	Exc (Tr 2)	F	D	621	56				5	4	4.1
623	Exc	L	EU	623	57					4	?4.3
624	Exc (Tr 3)	F	P/D	625	58					1	
625	Exc (Tr 3)	C	P/D	625	58					1	
626	Exc (Tr 3)	L	EU	626	59		1600-1900	Cu alloy and coal		Overburden	

Context	Area	Type	Feature Type	Parent Context	Subgroup	Sample	Overall spot-date	Dating comments	Group	Period	Phase
627	Exc	L	NS							Natural	
628	Exc	C	P/SP	628	60					4	0
629	Exc	F	P/SP	629	60		LIA- early Roman	1 potsherd		4	0
630	Exc	L	NS							Natural	
631	Exc	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID					VOID	VOID
632	Exc	F	P	557	23		1175-1250	1 potsherd		4	0
633	Exc		NS							Natural	
634	Exc (Tr 2)		D	615	34		LIA- early Roman	2 potsherds	3	2	
635	Exc (Tr 2)	L	EU	635	61					1	
636	Exc (Tr 4)	F	D	638	62	516	1000-1125	three potsherds	3	2	
637	Exc (Tr 4)	F	D	638	62	515	1050-1150	1 tiny potsherd	3	2	
638	Exc (Tr 4)	C	D	638	62				3	2	
639	Exc (Tr 4)	L	EU	639	63					1	
640	Exc (Tr 4)	L	EU	640	64		LIA- early Roman	small pot group		1	
641	Exc (Tr 4)	L	NS							Natural	
642	Exc (Tr 3)	L	EU	642	65		?900-1050? Or earlier	three potsherds		2	
643	Exc	L	EU	643	66					4	4.3
644	Exc	L	EU	644	67		1225-1300	small pot group		4	?4.3

Appendix 2: Quantification of Bulk Finds

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Shell	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	Cu alloy	Wt (g)	Pb	Wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)	F. Clay	Wt (g)	Mortar	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)
521	8	216	9	1818	32	358													1	28					1	10		
522	31	624			7	558	2	58	1	8					1	14												
523	3	30			3	8									1	46			3	52								
525																									14	930		
526					1	12																						
528			1	4																					2	58		
536	7	134	9	2734	16	196	17	310					2	290	7	258												
540	15	106			1	6																	1	22	2	74		
548	6	32																										
550	1	8																										
552					1	8																						
554	1	2																										
558	5	38																					1	4				
559	100	1242			38	626	1	62			3	232			4	52							1	6				
561	1	16			4	88																						
564	11	100			39	178	2	22																				
565	1	24			4	34																						
566	8	62			7	242					4	396																
568	7	36			2	16																	3	22				
569	67	854			27	244			2	2	4	120			2	14							1	12				
571	21	296			12	384			1	25							2	14					1	20				
572	5	124			38	2144	1	30	6	112	6	284											9	100				

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Shell	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	Cu alloy	Wt (g)	Pb	Wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)	F. Clay	Wt (g)	Mortar	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)
573	21	268			32	398	1	20	1	8			1	830														
577	14	98			6	234			6	97	12	144			1	18	1	<2	1	<2			1	<2				
582	6	64			12	204			1	19																		
583	2	26			2	10			1	<2																		
587							3	20							2	14												
588	1	<2	4	10	6	26																						
590	6	36			8	36			2	14	2	8	3	6	1	4			1	16							1	<2
592					2	74					2	110											1	14				
593	16	204			5	46			1	17													3	22				
595	1	18			30	476					5	106																
596	6	14			2	40			3	48	1	10											1	12				
597	2	12			6	42			3	122	3	66																
599					8	74																						
603	6	220			17	202																						
605					1	100																	3	18				
608	9	44			32	548	3	6	1	31											3	96	4	22				
610	2	30			2	8					1	48																
611	13	72			3	16																						
612	7	76			1	6																						
616					8	238																						
617	8	70			51	374					1	34											1	4				
618	1	6			2	72			2	28																		
619	2	22			3	2			2	5																		

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Shell	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	Cu alloy	Wt (g)	Pb	Wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)	F. Clay	Wt (g)	Mortar	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)
620	3	32			60	968									1	34					1	50	2	74				
624					229	1290																						
626					6	24							1	<2			1	<2	1	12								
629	1	10																										
632	1	10																					26	16				
634	2	10			1	14																						
636	3	14			15	154	1	28																				
637	1	<2			8	12																						
639					7	20			2	31																		
640	4	46			2	88			2	20	2	10																
642	3	8			4	24																						
644	6	88					1	62															12	76				
U/S									1	100					4	16	10	24	7	60								
Total	445	5442	23	4566	803	10922	32	618	38	687	46	1568	7	1126	24	470	14	38	14	168	4	146	71	444	19	1072	1	0

Appendix 3: quantification of environmental residues

Context / deposit type	Context	Sample Number	Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Idenitifications	Other Charred botanicals	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Marine Molluscs	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
D	593	509	40	*	<2	*	<2								**	<2			*	<2	Flint <2g - Pot */4g
EU	617	513	40	*	<2	*	<2				***	20			*	<2					Pot */6g - FCF */54g
D	616	512	30	*	<2	**	<2		*	<2	***	22			*	<2			*	<2	Stone */130g - Pot */6g - FCF */62g - Slag */<2g - Flint */<2g
D	637	515	40	*	<2	**	<2		*	<2	**	4			*	<2			*	<2	Slag */8g
D	636	516	40	*	<2	**	<2		**	<2	**	18			**	<2	*	<2	*	<2	Flint */4g - Pot */10g - Magnetised material **/<2g - FCF */4g
P/SP	502	501	10	*	<2	**	<2	*Fagus sylvatica* (6), *Quercus* sp. (3), Indet. (1)	**	<2	*	<2					*	112			Pottery */ 2g - B. Clay */2g

Context / deposit type	Context	Sample Number	Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Idenitifications	Other Charred botanicals	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Marine Molluscs	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
P/SP	506	502	5	*	<2	*	<2	*Quercus* sp. (4), *Fagus sylvatica* (1), *Corylus avellana* (2)	*	<2	*	12									
D	504	503	40	**	<2	**	<2	*Fagus sylvatica* (6), *Quercus* sp. (2), *Betula* sp. (1), Maloideae (1)	**	<2	**	16									Pottery */ 20g
P/SP	510	504	25	*	<2	**	<2	*Fagus sylvatica* (6), *Quercus* sp. (2), *Prunus* sp. (1), Maloideae (1)	**	<2	*	6	*	<2							Pottery */ 6g
P/HE	530	505	15			*	<2		*	<2	*	<2			*	<2					Slag */<2g - Pot */4g
P	558	506	40	**	<2	*	<2	*Fagus sylvatica* (6), *Prunus* sp. (2), *Quercus* sp. (2)	**	<2	**	12			**	<2					Slag */<2g - Pot */2g

Context / deposit type	Context	Sample Number	Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Idenitifications	Other Charred botanicals	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Marine Molluscs	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
D	577	507	40	*	<2	**	<2	*Quercus* sp. (3), *Prunus* sp. (2), *Fagus sylvatica* (5)	***	<2	**	14			**	<2					Pot */18g - Stone */66g
D	603	510	20	*	<2	*	<2		**	<2	**	6			*	<2					Pot */2g
D	605	511	40	***	10	**	<2	*Prunus* sp. (3 rw), *Quercus* sp. (2), Maloideae (1), *Fagus sylvatica* (3), *Betula* sp. (1)	***	12	**	6			**	<2					Fired clay */16g - Fe nail */8g - Pot **/72g - Soil matrix with CPR **/176g
EU	608	514	40	*	<2	**	<2		*	<2	**	4			*	<2	*	<2	*	<2	Pot */6g
P	590	508	10	**	<2	***	<2	*Quercus* sp. (1), *Fagus sylvatica* (2), *Alnus* sp. (2)			**	4			**	<2					Pot */12g - Metal object */<2g - Fired clay */2g - Flint */2g - Magnetised material ***/<2g - FCF */4g - Coal */<2g

Appendix 4: Quantification of environmental flots

Period	Context	Sample Number	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Preservation	Other botanical charred		Preservation	Fish, amphibian, small mammal bone	Land Snail Shells
1	593	509	<2	2	2	70	2	* *Sambucus nigra*		* (1)	*	*Triticum* sp. (2)	++							** 20%
1	617	513	<2	10	10	90	-	* *Polygonum* / *Rumex* sp.			***									
2	616	512	4	8	8	70	2			* (2)	***	*Triticum* sp., Cerealia	+ to ++	Poaceae (<5)	++					
2	637	515	4	50	50	80	2		*	*	**	*Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turdigum*, *Triticum* sp., *Hordeum vulgare,* *Avena* sp., Cerealia, *Vicia* / *Pisum* sp.	+ to ++							
2	636	516	4	90	90	85	2		*	*	**	*Triticum* sp., *Hordeum* sp., Cerealia	+ to ++			*	*Triticum* sp. spikelet base (1)	+		
4	502	501	2	15	15	85	10	* unid. seed (1)			*	*Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turdigum*, *Triticum* sp., *Hordeum vulgare*, Cerealia, *Vicia* /	+ to ++							

Period	Context	Sample Number	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Preservation	Other botanical charred		Preservation	Fish, amphibian, small mammal bone	Land Snail Shells
												Pisum sp.								
4	506	502	<2	2	2	90	10				*	*Triticum* sp., Cerealia	+							
4	504	503	18	80	80	70	20	* *Sambucus nigra*, *Urtica* sp.			*	*Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turdigum*, *Hordeum sp. , Triticum* sp., Cerealia, *Vicia* / *Pisum* sp.	+ to ++	*Vicia* / *Lathyrus* sp., Poaceae	++				*	
4	510	504	2	25	25	88	10	* *Sambucus nigra*, *Urtica* sp., *Polygonum* / *Rumex* sp.		*	*	*Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turdigum*, *Hordeum sp. , Triticum* sp., Cerealia, *Vicia* / *Pisum* sp.	+ to ++	*Vicia* / *Lathyrus* sp.	+				*	**
4	530	505	2	10	10	85	5	* *Urtica* sp.		*	**	*Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turdigum* (1), *Hordeum sp. ,* Cerealia (*)	+ to ++	*Polygonum* / *Rumex* sp. (2), Poaceae (1)	++					
4	558	506	4	10	10	70	2	* *Sambucus nigra* (1)	*	**	**	*Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turdigum*, *Hordeum* sp. , Cerealia, *Vicia* /	+ to ++	Poaceae (2), *Polygonum* cf. *aviculare* (1), unid. seed (2)	++					

Period	Context	Sample Number	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Preservation	Other botanical charred		Preservation	Fish, amphibian, small mammal bone	Land Snail Shells
												Pisum sp.								
4	577	507	6	20	20	20	2	* *Sambucus nigra* (2)	* (1)	*	***	*Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turdigum*, *Hordeum vulgare,* *Avena* sp., Cerealia, *Vicia* / *Pisum* sp., *Vicia faba*	+ to ++	*Vicia* / *Lathyrus* sp., *Polygonum* / *Rumex* sp., Poaceae, *Anthemis cotula*, *Medicago* / *Melilotus* / *Trifolium* sp.	+ to ++					*
4	603	510	2	8	8	80	-	** *Sambucus nigra*		* (2)	*	*Triticum* sp., *Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turdigum*, *Hordeum sp. ,* Cerealia	+ to ++							
4	605	511	34	175	175	5	2	* *Sambucus nigra*	**	*	*	*Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turdigum*, *Triticum* sp., *Hordeum vulgare,* *Avena* sp., Cerealia, *Vicia* / *Pisum* sp., *Vicia faba*	+ to +++	*Galium* spp. (**), *Medicago* / *Melilotus* / *Trifolium* sp. (***), *Anthemis cotula (**)*, *Chenopodium* sp. (**), *Polygonum* / *Rumex* spp. (***), *Fallopia convolvulus (*)*, *Raphanus raphanistrum (1)*, unid. seeds (**)	+ to +++	***	indet. nodes, stem frags	++		

Period	Context	Sample Number	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Preservation	Other botanical charred		Preservation	Fish, amphibian, small mammal bone	Land Snail Shells
4	608	514	8	8	8	60	30	* *Sambucus nigra*		*	**	*Triticum* sp., Cerealia	++ to +++							**
6	590	508	2	10	10	95	2	** *Urtica* sp., *Sambucus* sp.			**	cf. *Triticum* sp. (1)	+							

Appendix5: HER Summary Form

Site Code	ROD09					
Identification Name and Address	Monk's House, Rodmell					
County, District &/or Borough	East Sussex, Lewes, Rodmell					
OS Grid Refs.	542116 106414 (TQ42116 06414)					
Geology	West Melbury Marly Chalk					
Arch. South-East Project Number	5964					
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. 29.07.13-06.09.13	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	National Trust					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Alice Thorne					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		

Archaeology South-East were commissioned by the National Trust to carry out an excavation in advance of a car park extension at Monk's House, Rodmell. The earliest stratified remains were a series of alluvial/colluvial layers and a possible boundary of Late Iron Age/ earlier Roman date.
Another probable Late Saxon ditch was overlain by a large earthwork platform, constructed from a subsoil-like deposit in the Norman period. This was clearly part of a larger system of earthwork terraces/platforms, identified during a previous phase of topographic survey. Although a scatter of features cut the platform deposit, these did not appear to be part of a building so the purpose of the earthwork remains uncertain. Of particular note is a fragment of litharge from this deposit which may suggest silver assaying or refining of silver in the vicinity.

During the mid 12th to 13th century, there was a realignment in the landscape. A possible ditch-and-bank enclosure was recorded on different orientation to the earthworks but a similar alignment to a nearby 12th century church. This phase of activity produced fairly rich finds and environmental assemblages, suggesting a peak in activity during this time. The final medieval phase was characterised by localised layers which may represent minor flooding events interspersed with attempts to consolidate the ground. There was a sharp contraction in activity in the 14th century, which can probably be tied to wider regional patterns of decline.

Appendix 6: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-168400

Project details	
Project name	Monk's House, Rodmell
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East were commissioned by the National Trust to carry out an excavation in advance of a car park extension at Monk's House, Rodmell. The earliest stratified remains were a series of alluvial/colluvial layers and a possible boundary of Late Iron Age/ earlier Roman date. Another probable Late Saxon ditch was overlain by a large earthwork platform, constructed from a subsoil-like deposit in the Norman period. This was clearly part of a larger system of earthwork terraces/platforms, identified during a previous phase of topographic survey. Although a scatter of features cut the platform deposit, these did not appear to be part of a building so the purpose of the earthwork remains uncertain. Of particular note is a fragment of litharge from this deposit which may suggest silver assaying or refining of silver in the vicinity. During the mid 12th to 13th century, there was a realignment in the landscape. A possible ditch-and-bank enclosure was recorded on different orientation to the earthworks but a similar alignment to a nearby 12th century church. This phase of activity produced fairly rich finds and environmental assemblages, suggesting a peak in activity during this time. The final medieval phase was characterised by localised layers which may represent minor flooding events interspersed with attempts to consolidate the ground. There was a sharp contraction in activity in the 14th century, which can probably be tied to wider regional patterns of decline.
Project dates	Start: 31-07-2013 End: 06-09-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	ROD09 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	5964 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	DITCH Early Medieval
Monument type	EARTHWORK PLATFORM Medieval
Monument type	ENCLOSURE Medieval
Significant Finds	COIN Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	BEAD Early Medieval

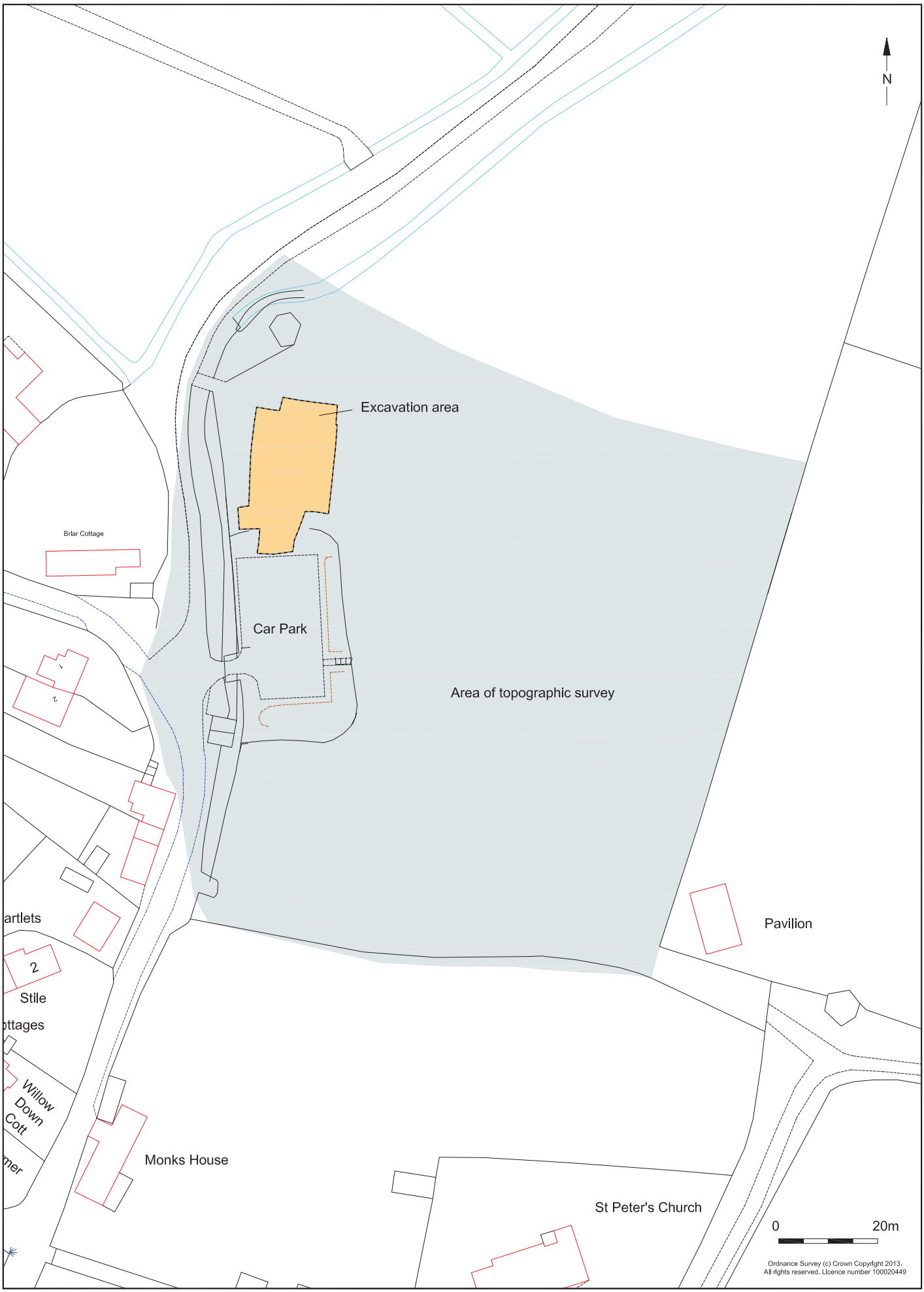
Significant Finds	VARIOUS REGISTERED FINDS Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	LITHARGE Medieval
Investigation type	"Full excavation"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX LEWES RODMELL Monk's House, Rodmell
Postcode	BN7 3HG
Study area	0.10 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 42116 06414 50 0 50 50 21 N 000 01 07 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 2.00m Max: 4.00m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	National Trust
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	Alice Thorne
Type of sponsor/funding body	Charity
Name of sponsor/funding body	National Trust
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	National Trust
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Industrial","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	National Trust
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets"
Paper Archive recipient	National Trust
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Industrial","Metal","Stratigraphic"
Paper Media	"Context sheet","Matrices","Plan","Section"

available

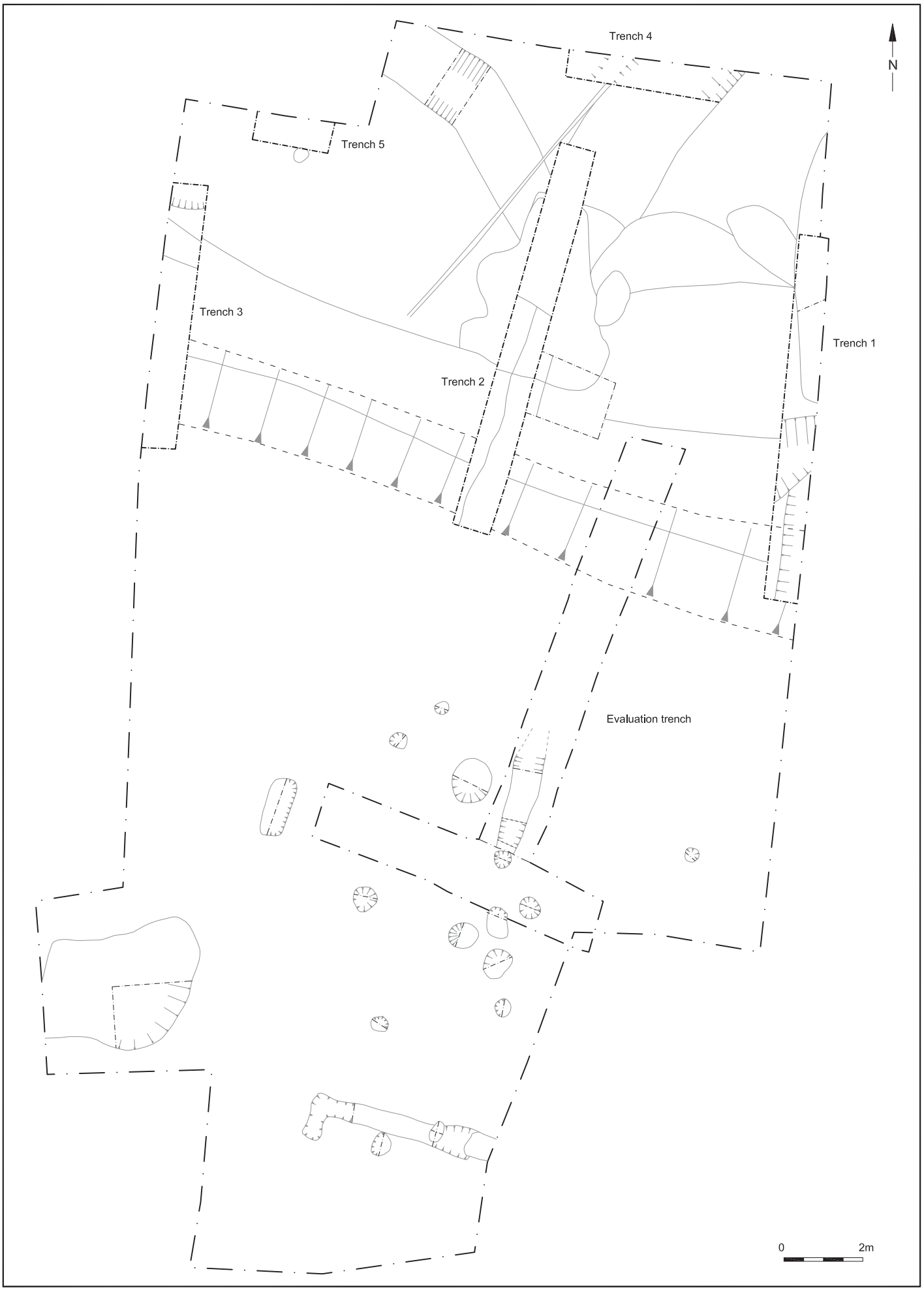
Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Arcaheological excavations at Monk's House, Rodmell: a post-excavation assessment and updated project design report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Doherty, A
Other bibliographic details	2013326
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade
Description	Grey literature report with figures
Entered by	Anna Doherty (anna.doherty@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	10 January 2014

© Archaeology South-East		Monk's House, Rodmell	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Site location	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		

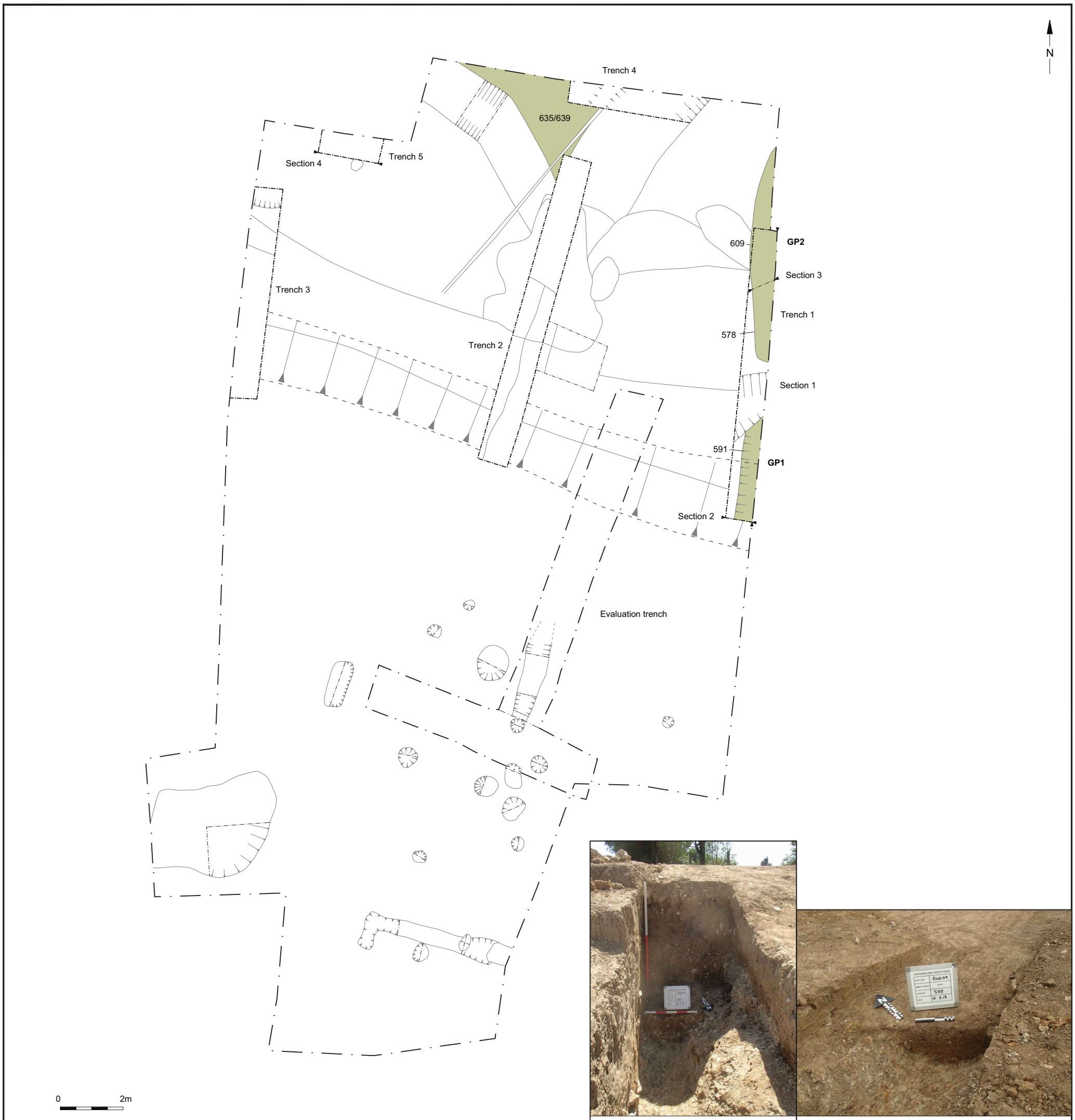


© Archaeology South-East		Monk's House, Rodmell	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Location of excavation area and topographic survey	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		



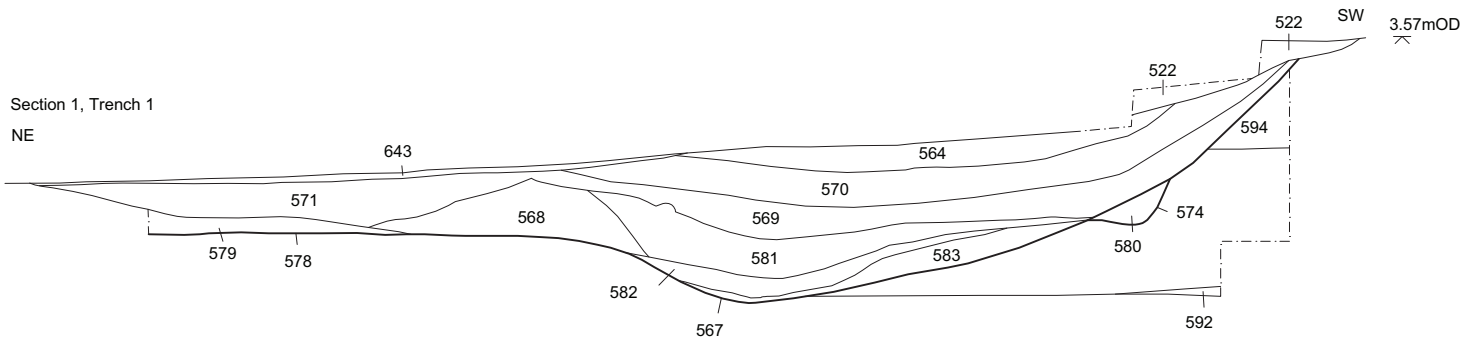
© Archaeology South-East		Monk's House, Rodmell	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Location of excavation area, excavation trenches and evaluation trenches	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		

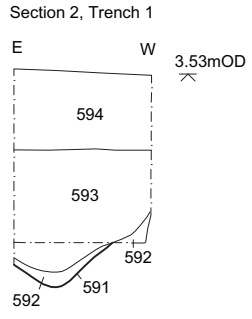
© Archaeology South-East		Monk's House, Rodmell	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Topographical survey and interpretation	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JC		

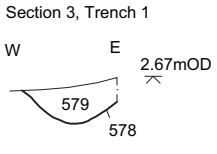


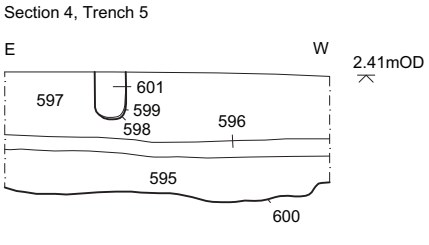
Ditch 591, GP1

Ditch 578, GP2



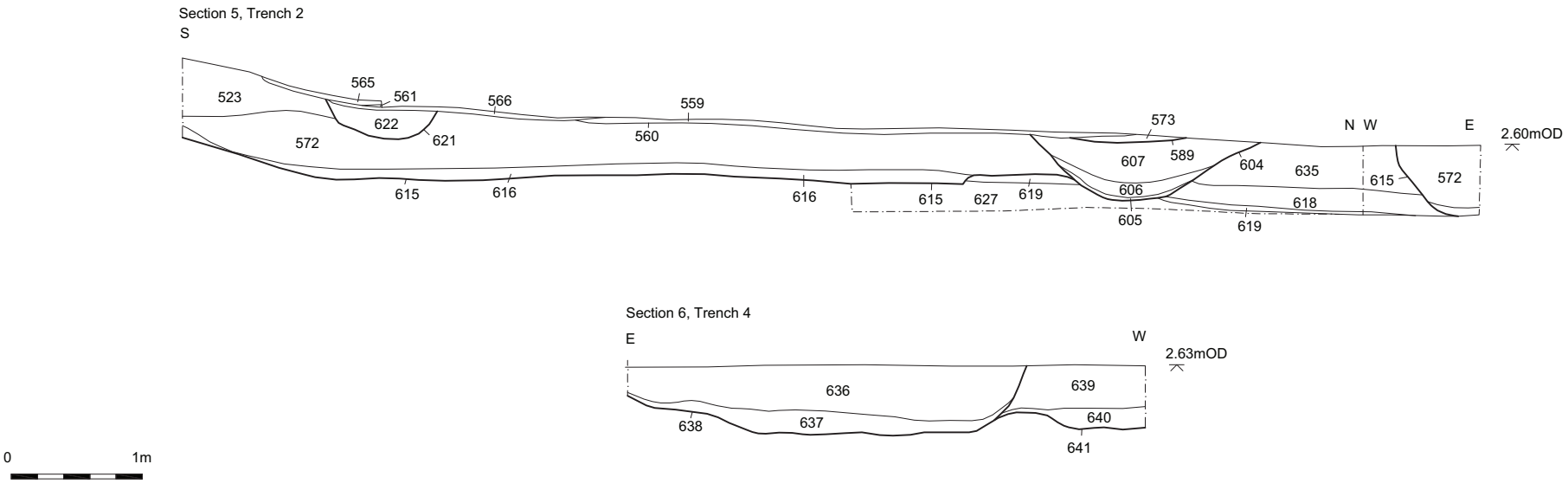






© Archaeology South-East		Monk's House, Rodmell	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Period 1 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		

Ditch 615, GP3



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Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Period 2, plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		

N

Trench 4

Trench 5

Section 7

Trench 3

Trench 1

Trench 2

594

523

Evaluation trench

0 2m

Slope of platform 523 facing south

Section 7, Trench 3

S N 3.07mOD

521

523

522

626

608

642

617

630

620

0 1m

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Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Period 3 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		

N

Trench 4

Trench 5

Trench 3

Trench 2

Trench 1

Evaluation trench

533

585

Section 8

553

Section 9

557

503

531

529

545

547

549

551

537

628

0 2m

Section 8

N S

3.49mOD

Flint

534

533

Section 9

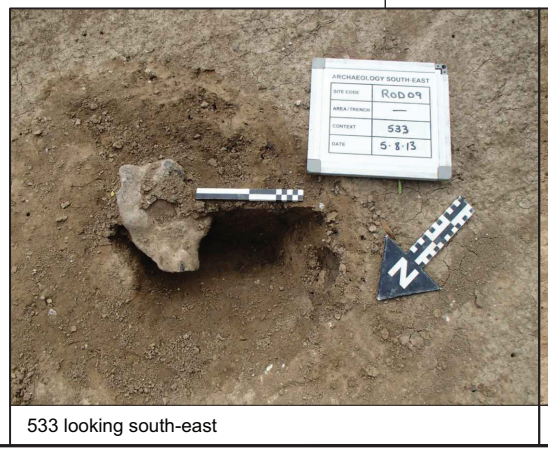
SE NW

3.64mOD

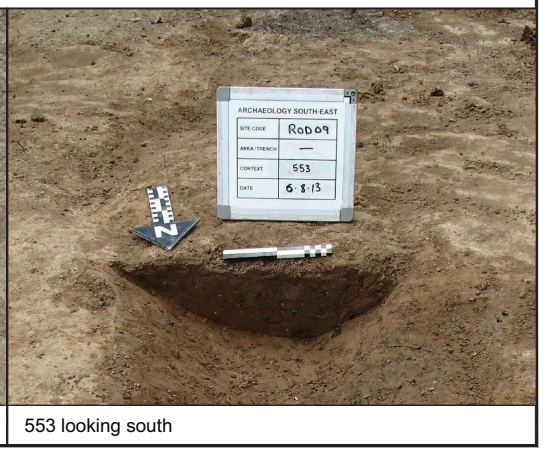
554

553

0 0.5m



533 looking south-east



553 looking south

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Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Period 4 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		

N

Trench 4

Trench 5

Section 10

602

Trench 3

GP5

Trench 2

621

Trench 1

574

Evaluation trench

0 2m

Ditch 602 facing west

Section 10

S N

2.37mOD

521

522

626

608

603

602

617

630

620

624

625

0 1m

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Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Period 4.1 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		

N

Trench 4

575

Trench 5

598

Ditch GP4

Trench 3

Possible bank

Trench 1

Trench 2

567

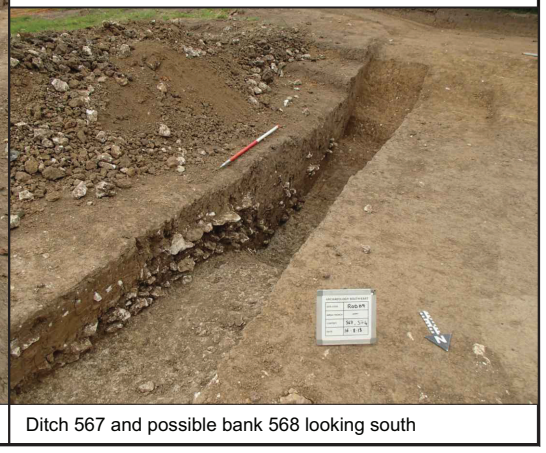
Ditch GP6

Evaluation trench

0 2m

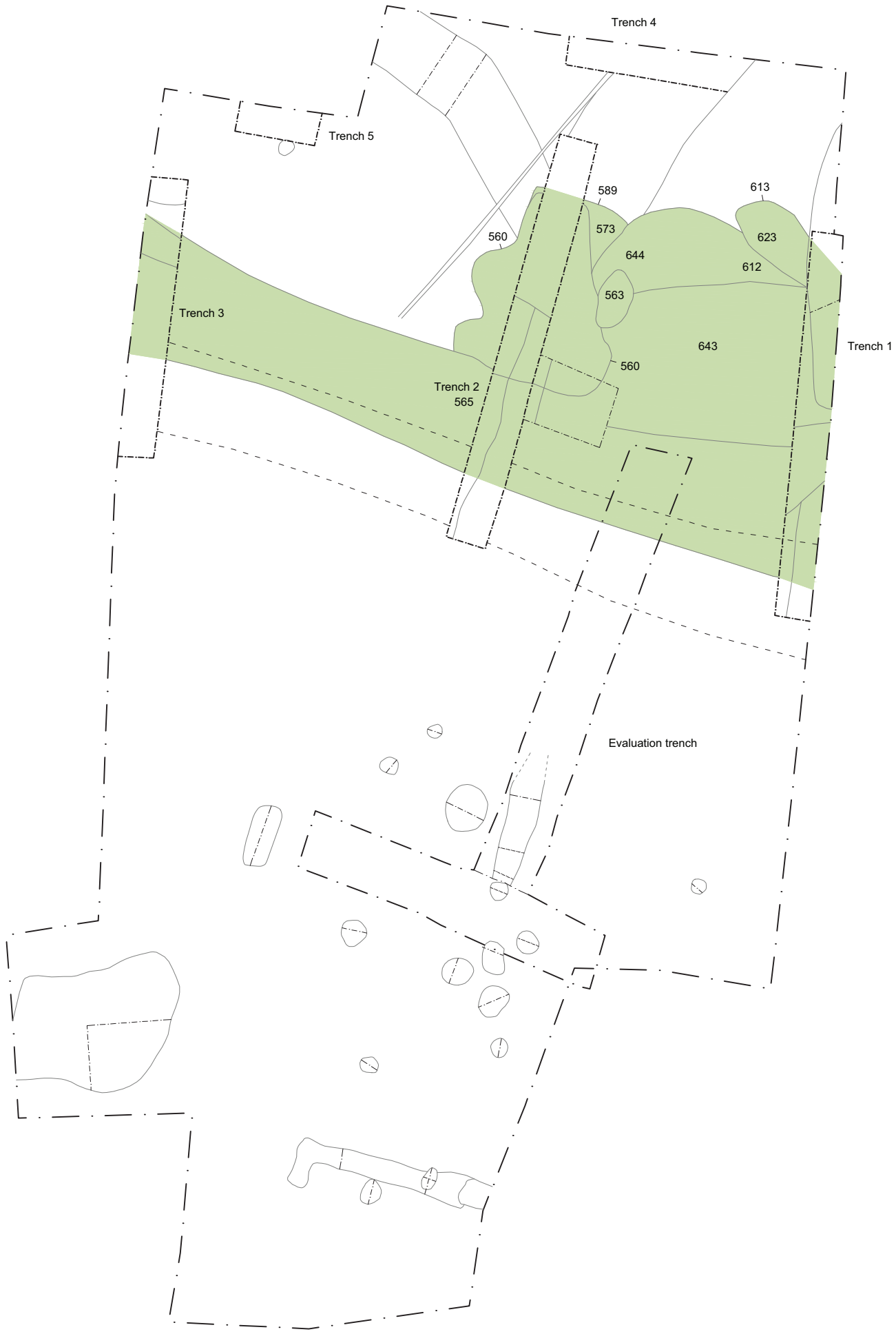
Ditch 575 looking south-east

Ditch 575 looking north



Ditch 567 and possible bank 568 looking south

© **Archaeology South-East**		Monk's House, Rodmell	Fig. 10
Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Period 4.2 plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		



559 before excavation of 560, looking south

© Archaeology South-East		Monk's House, Rodmell	Fig. 11
Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Period 4.3 plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		

N

Trench 4

Trench 5

Trench 3

Trench 1

Trench 2

Evaluation trench

543

527

525

0 2m

Wall 525 and robber trench 527/543 looking east

© Archaeology South-East		Monk's House, Rodmell	Fig. 12
Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Period 5 plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		

N

Trench 4

Trench 5

Trench 3

Trench 2

Trench 1

Evaluation trench

587

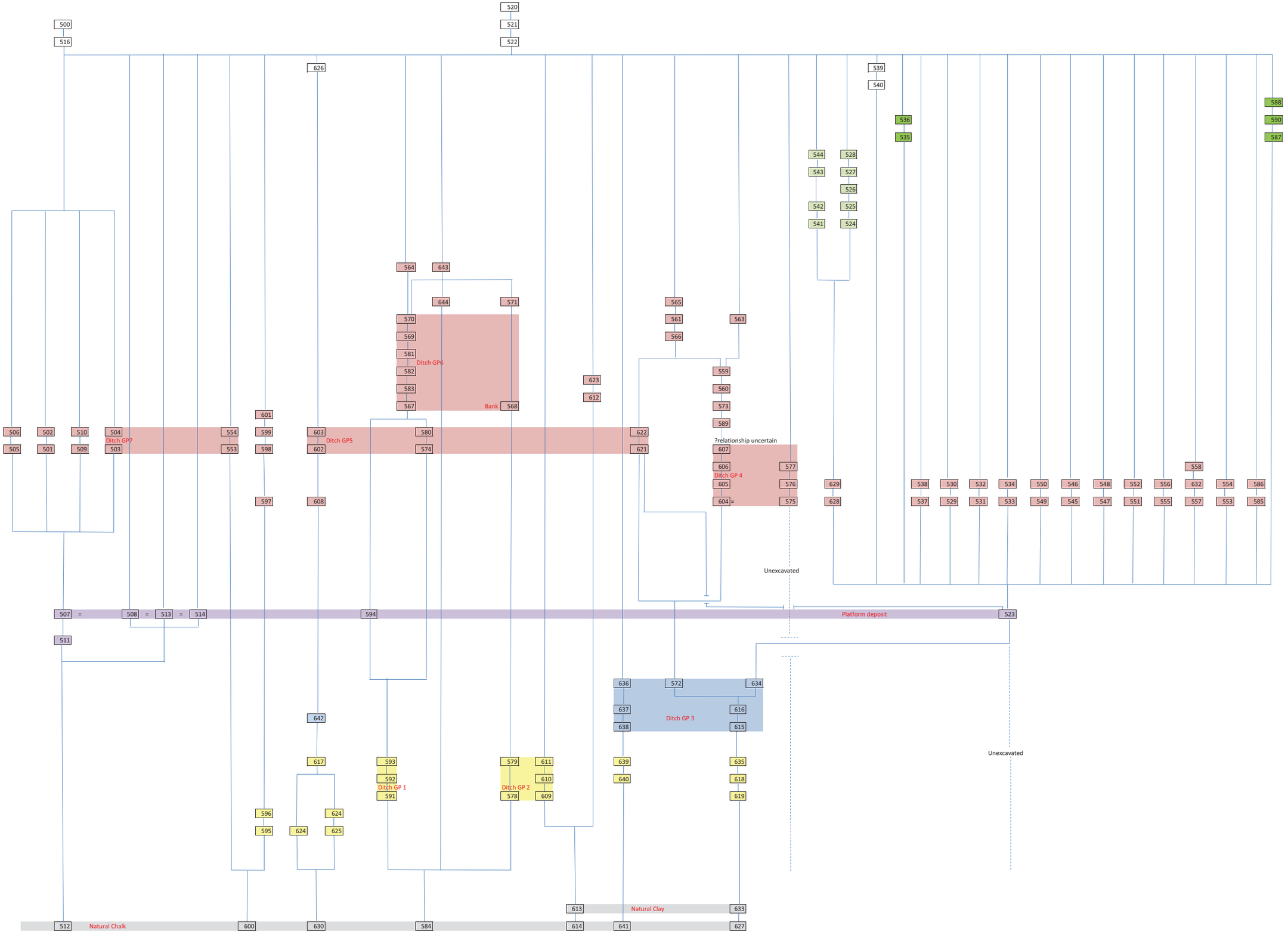
535

539

0 2m

535 looking north-west

© Archaeology South-East		Monk's House, Rodmell	Fig. 13
Project Ref: 5964	Jan 2014	Period 6 plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2013326	Drawn by: JLR		


500
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564
643
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571
565
561
566
563
570
569
581
Ditch GP6
582
583
567
Bank
568
623
612
559
560
573
589
601
506
502
510
504
554
599
603
580
622
505
501
509
Ditch GP7
503
553
598
602
Ditch GP5
574
621
?relationship uncertain
607
606
577
Ditch GP 4
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576
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604 =
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585
597
608
Unexcavated
507 =
508 =
513 =
514
594
Platform deposit
523
511
636
572
634
642
637
616
Ditch GP 3
638
615
617
593
579
611
639
635
592
610
640
618
Ditch GP 1
Ditch GP 2
591
578
609
619
596
624
595
624
625
613
Natural Clay
633
512
Natural Chalk
600
630
584
614
641
627

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