

**A Geoarchaeological Watching Brief for  
SEEDA Funded Falmer Infrastructure Works, East Sussex**

**Watching Brief on  
Geotechnical Investigations**

**NGR TQ 345 085  
Project No: 3555  
Site Code: FIW08**

**ASE Report No. 2008171  
OASIS id: archaeol6-49035**

**Matthew Pope and Liane Peyre**

**12<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

**Archaeology South-East  
Units 1 & 2  
2 Chapel Place  
Portslade  
East Sussex  
BN41 1DR**

**Tel: 01273 426830  
Fax: 01273 420866  
Email: [fau@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:fau@ucl.ac.uk)**

**Abstract**

*A geoarchaeological watching brief was carried out as a first stage in the archaeological evaluation of the area of proposed infrastructure works for the Community Stadium project at Falmer, East Sussex. A series of 27 geotechnical test pits were monitored close to the line of the current A27 trunk road and within part of the north eastern portion of Stanmer Park. The investigation revealed an unpromising sequence of made ground and re-deposited head deposits disturbed or emplaced during the building of the A27 dual-carriage way. However the line of the proposed works located within Stanmer Park revealed a partially disturbed dry valley sequence offering archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential. This sequence can be expected, at least in part, to correlate with multi-phase solifluction and fluvial deposits recently investigated at Woollards Field, 1km to the south of the site. Pleistocene sediments recorded at Woollards Field offered modest potential for Palaeolithic archaeology, preserved Holocene colluvium and landsurfaces but poor preservation of palaeoenvironmental indicators.*

## **CONTENTS**

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

**Bibliography**

**SMR Summary Sheet**  
**OASIS Form**

### **FIGURES**

- Figure 1: A location map showing the position of the proposed area of works.
- Figure 2: A wide area topographic model showing the location of the site.
- Figure 3: Localised Topographic model showing the location of the test pits.
- Figure 4: Test Pits by sedimentary type.

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology (UCLCAA), were commissioned by Amey to undertake a watching brief on geotechnical investigations at the Falmer Infrastructure Project, East Sussex (NGR TQ 345 085), henceforth called the site.
- 1.2 The site is the proposed route of the infrastructure for the future Community Stadium, which was subject of a Desk Based Assessment (Greatorex 1999) and an Environmental Impact Statement (WSP Environmental, 2001). In accordance with the Environmental Impact Statement section on Cultural Heritage and Archaeology (section no. 5), Amey requested advice regarding the archaeology from Casper Johnson, the County Archaeologist of East Sussex County Council (ESCC) acting on behalf of Brighton and Hove County Council. He advised, via an email on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2008, that the site required an archaeological watching brief on the test-pits and boreholes. A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (Pope and Dawkes, ASE 2008) was produced in line with the ESCC Standards and Guidance 2008, and was duly approved by Casper Johnson.
- 1.3 The current document represents the report derived from results of the watching brief.
- 1.4 The geotechnical investigations are located on, and either side of the A270 at Falmer, by the A27 fly-over.

## **2.0 Archaeological Background**

- 2.1 For a full discussion of the archaeological and historic background of the site, reference should be made to the preceding Desk Based Assessment (DBA) (Greatorex 1999). In summary, sites and finds of note in the vicinity include Iron Age/Romano British settlement and field systems c. 500m to the south east of the site (MES265 & 1361), prehistoric and Romano British pottery recovered during fielding walking c. 100m to the north west, Bronze Age settlement c. 1km to the north west of the site (MES467), a find spot of a Late Bronze Age 'Brighton Loop' (possible armlet/currency item the majority of which have been found in this area) and other artefacts (flint dagger, leaf arrowhead, tanged arrowhead, unpolished Neolithic axe and several fragments of polished axe) c. 1km to the south west (MES321) and a potential Anglo-Saxon burial recorded c. 500m to the north west of the site (MES6928).
- 2.2 The British Geological Survey (BGS) Sheet (318) shows the site lies on head deposits overlying upper and middle chalk (Gallois 1969). Recent geo-archaeological monitoring of geotechnical works at Woollards Field by Dr Matt Pope and Dr Mike Allen has revealed that the underlying Upper and Middle Chalk is overlain by well rounded, probably fluvial/soliflucted, gravels that contain sarsen stones up to 2m in length. The gravels are in turn overlain by a loess Brickearth, colluvium and top soil. Neither pollen or molluscs were found to be present within the Woollards Field sediments, severely restricting the potential for palaeoenvironmental reconstruction.

2.3 The site has been affected, to a greater or lesser extent, by the construction of the A270 and A27. As the extent of disturbance is unknown, a precautionary watching brief is being undertaken on all of the investigations.

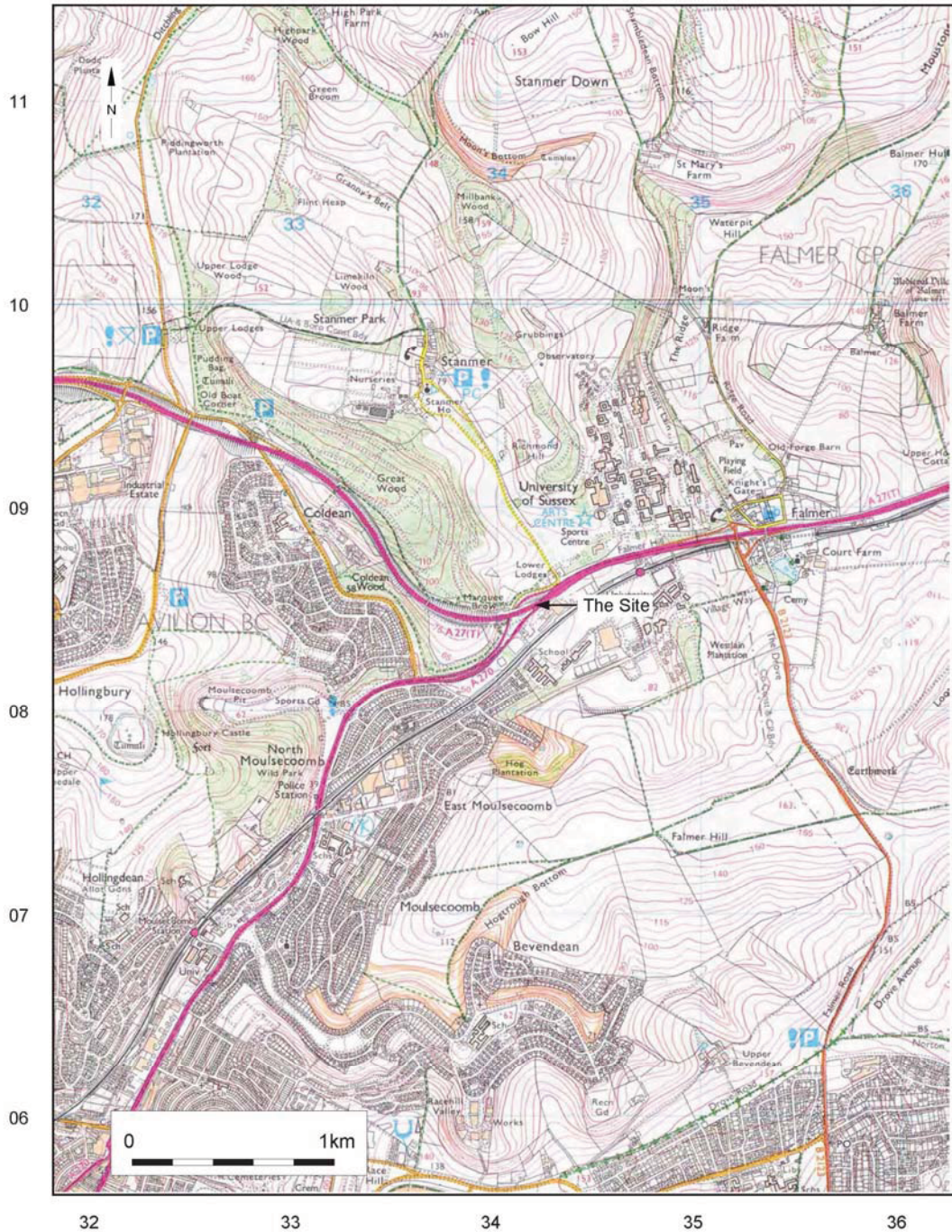


Figure 1: Location Map

- 2.4 No record exists of the valley, in which the site is located, having ever been named, despite it being a major topographical feature providing the main access from the coast (Brighton) with Lewes. Despite providing a continuous communication route this is not a single continuous valley but two chalkland valleys, both originating at Falmer and following diametrically opposite routes. The site sits approximately 1km to the south of the Falmer watershed.
- 2.5 The watershed is controlled by the presence of a local syncline in the underlying Cretaceous and Tertiary geology. The syncline is centred on the village of Falmer where Tertiary deposits, including weathered Reading Beds and Sarsen stones, outcrop on the modern landsurface. The precise limits of this outcrop are only broadly mapped by the BGS and it is expected that elements of the Tertiary geology will be encountered, albeit in a secondary context, within the alluvial and Head components of the sedimentary sequence at the site.
- 2.6 The valley itself has its origins in solifluction and fluvial processes associated with the Pleistocene weathering of the Chalk Downlands. The current network of dry valleys were carved out due to the removal, by melt-water, of rock weakened sediments made mobile through solifluction and fluvial over-steepening of the foot of valley slopes. Given the large, dendritic catchment area of the Lewes Road Valley, water volumes during seasonal thaws and glacial/interglacial transitions can be assumed to be vast and it should be expected that down-cutting and melt water associated with the last (Devensian) glaciation incised a major channel beneath the current level of the modern valley ground surface.
- 2.7 From the beginning of the Holocene we should expect to see features within the sedimentary sequence of the valley which relate to seasonal fluvial activity as a Downland Winter-Bourne river similar to those which current exist at Lewes and Eastbourne (Allen 2007). This may include poorly sorted and sub-rounded fluvial gravels and alluvial silts and clays. These might be expected to inter-digitate and give way to extensive colluvial sequences relating to the down-slope movements of valley side soils (Bell 1983). While the colluvial material will comprise remnant loessic soils which originally mantled the downs (Catt 1978), within these deposits it may be possible to determine the presence of occupation horizons, particularly relating to changing land use patterns within the valley during the Bronze Age and early Iron-age where local farmsteads and enclosures begin to appear in the valley catchment (Allen 2005b; Rudling 2002; Russell 2002)

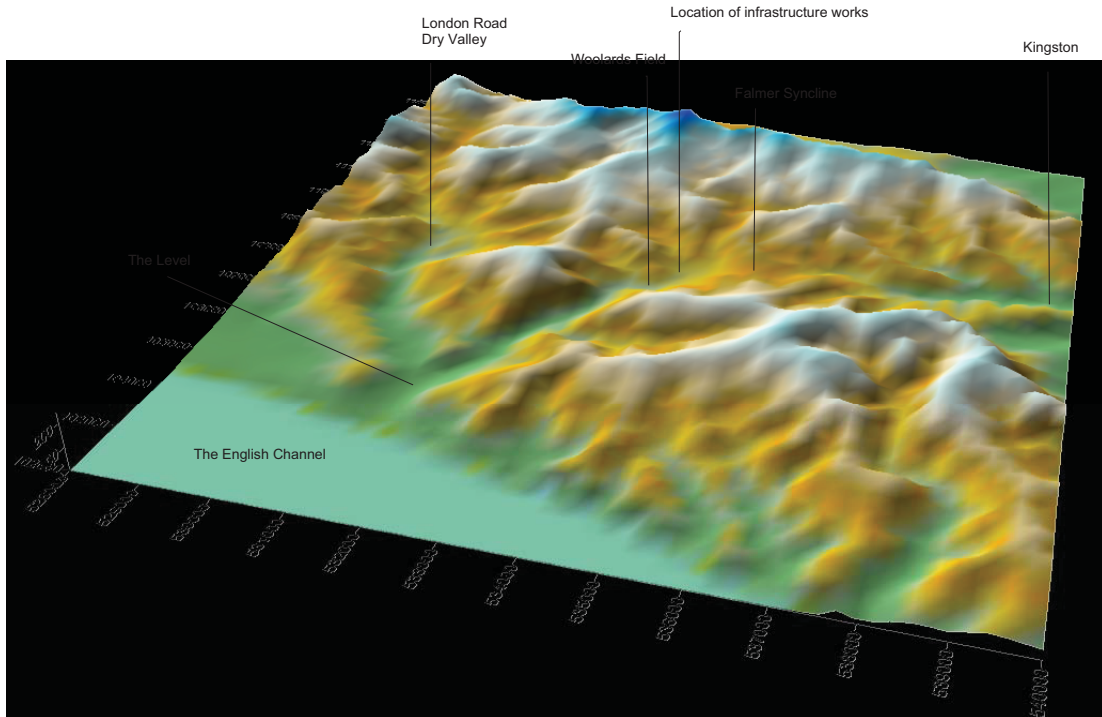


Figure 2: A wide area topographic model showing the location of the site and other key features mentioned in the text.

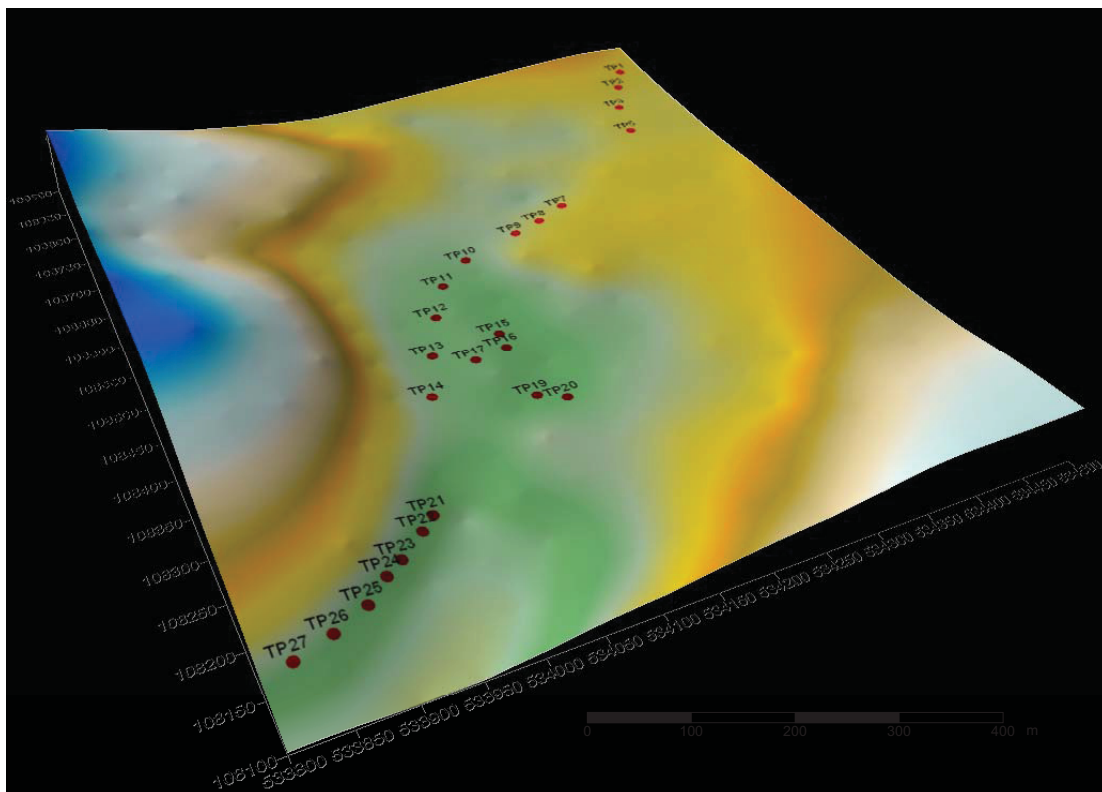


Figure 3: Localised Topographic model showing the location of the test pits.

### **3.0 Aims and Methodology**

3.1 The general objective of the archaeological work was to monitor the ground works specified below in order to ensure that any deposits and features, artefacts and ecofacts of archaeological and geoarchaeological interest, were recorded and interpreted to appropriate standards.

3.2 Research Aims for this area:

- To investigate the geological formation processes at work on the site.
- To understand the historic development of the settlement and land use of this area of East Sussex
- To understand the use and development of the access from the coast (Brighton) to the near interior (Lewes)

3.3 Specific Research Objectives for this area:

- To investigate evidence of the changing geological processes/topography of the area and ascertain its' potential for preserving archaeological artefacts/eco-facts.
- To investigate evidence of the changing geological processes/topography that may have covered earlier periods of archaeological activity through processes such as the formation of colluvium.
- To investigate and record any prehistoric flint and/or any other artefact scatters present in the top soil.
- To investigate the extent of remains relating to the Iron Age/Romano British settlement and field systems to the south east.
- To investigate and compare prehistoric activity on the site in relation to local find spots and monuments.
- To investigate evidence relating to the later development of the area during the Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods.

3.4 The methodology comprises machine and hand excavation, under archaeological supervision, of up to 27 test-pits (Fig 3). Works of ground excavation carried out by the developer on site in connection with proposed development (e.g. for new buildings / structures / services / landscaping) was carried out only in the presence of the monitoring archaeologist(s)).

3.5 The sedimentary sequences were recorded as follows: A representative section of each trench was logged at 0.25m horizontal intervals, or at lithological boundaries, to allow the development of a series of detailed and correlated sediment logs across the site. From this data a 3D model of site geology was developed during the post-excavation stage. The logs comprise detailed sediment descriptions at 0.25m intervals or at the junction of major stratigraphic or lithological boundaries. The descriptions comprise matrix lithology, coarse components, sediment cohesion and well as characterisation of superficial structures and likelihood of decalcification. Sediment chromas and hues were recorded using a Munsell Soil Colour Chart.

3.6 Some deposits suitable for environmental sampling were encountered at the site and 20\_litre samples taken. These included calcareous Head Deposits,



fluvial Nailbourne sediments, colluvial sequences and the possibility of localised organic-rich occupation horizons. As it was impossible to gauge the impact of local Tertiary geologies on the types of preservational environments which would be encountered, a fluid approach was implemented.

- 3.7 Where required sediment bulk samples were collected directly from the machine bucket or cutting shoe of the borehole equipment.

## 4.0 Results

4.1 The following test pit observations were made, all test pits were excavated to 1.5m unless otherwise stated.

### TP27

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	Modern inclusions, brick, fine rooting.
0.1	Made Ground	Sand		Made ground with frequent fragments of brick and concrete
0.5	Weathered Chalk	Chalk and silt		Rounded and angular chalk blocks (100-350 mm) in silty matrix.
1	Chalk	Chalk Silt		Chalk in brown red silt deposit, black flint angular and sub angular nodules (150-250mm)

### TP26

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	
0.1	Made Ground	Chalk silt	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	Brick and glass noted
1.5	Chalk	Chalk silt		

### TP25

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0.	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	
0.1	Made ground			Occasional cobbles & fragments of glass, concrete, brick, slate, nail
0.5	Chalk	Clay Silt	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	

**TP24**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0.1	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	
0.2	Made ground			Chalky silt with modern brick inclusions
1.5	Made ground			

**TP23**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0.3	Topsoil		Dark grey 10YR 4/1	
1.5	Made ground			Modern brick and debris

**TP22**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt		
0.2	Made ground			
0.5	Head	Sandy silt	mid red brown	30% angular flint nodules 20-30mm
1.1	Head	chalky silt	pale red brown	As above but paler and chalkier to 1.1m depth

**TP21**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Mid brown grey	
0.1	Made ground			
0.5	Made ground			Re-deposited chalk
0.9	Head	Gravelly clay sand	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	Compact and flinty

**TP20**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	Fine rooting, no inclusions
0.5	Made ground			
1.4	Chalk			
1.6	Chalk			

**TP19**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	
0.2	Made Ground			Fragments of concrete, tile and brick
0.9	Chalk			To 1.10m

**TP17**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	Fine rooting, infrequent chalk flecks
0.2-1.1	Made ground			Chalk made ground, irregular chalk nodules, modern brick debris, pale brown white silty made ground to depth

**TP16**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	Fine rooting, chalk flecks
0.1	Made ground			No inclusions
0.6	Made ground			
0.8	Chalk			Possible in situ chalk

**TP15**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Made ground			Topsoil and made ground to depth, chalky silty made ground - irregular nodules to 0.9

**TP14**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Made ground			Topsoil and Made ground, chalky silty made ground. To 1m

**TP13**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	Fine rooting (see TP16)
0.1	Made ground			Sub angular chalk nodules, loose friable silty matrix, Made ground
0.3	Made ground	Chalk and silt		Loose, irregular flints
0.3	Chalk	Chalk		Possible in situ chalk

**TP12**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	Rooting, friable & fine
0.2	Made ground	Chalk		Layer of compact made grounded chalk
0.9	Head	Gravelly clay with sand	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	Chalk and flint diamicton

**TP11**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Made Ground	Medium to coarse grained sand	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	Chalk and flint diamicton
0.2	Head	Gravelly sandy clay	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	Chalk and flint diamicton
1	Head	Sandy Gravel	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	Chalk and flint diamicton to 1.4m

**TP10**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Made ground	Clay silt		Abandoned due to pipe hazard. To 0.4m

**TP09**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	
0.1	Made ground			Disturbed, irregular flint and chalk cobbles, made ground to 0.9m. Concrete noted.

**TP08**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	
0.1	Made ground			Disturbed, irregular flint and chalk cobbles, made ground to 0.9m. Concrete noted.
0.3	Head	Gravelly Clay	Mid red brown 10YR 4/6	Nodular Flint.

**TP7**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	
0.1	Made Ground			Fragments of concrete, tile and brick
1.0	Chalk			To 1.10m

**TP06**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Made ground	Mixed		Modern debris, chalk and brick inclusions, mid yellow sand, ashy deposits and modern CBM
0.9	Head	Clay silt	Mid red brown 10YR 4/6	10% Sub-rounded flint 20-60mm to 1.5m

**TP05**

<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>Stratigraphy</b>	<b>Lithology</b>	<b>Colour</b>	<b>Coarse Components/ Notes</b>
0	Made ground	Mixed		Layer of modern brick, ashy layer, chalk and flint angular nodules 100-300mm, CBM
1	Head	Clay silt	Dark yellow brown 10YR 4/6	Fairly compact, no inclusions, fine and friable, infrequent fine gravels

**TP04**

<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>Stratigraphy</b>	<b>Lithology</b>	<b>Colour</b>	<b>Coarse Components/ Notes</b>
0	Made ground			Modern brick, sand, ashy inclusions, irregular flint and chalk fragments
0.65	Head	Sandy silt	Brownish yellow 10YR 6/6	Flint Gravels, becoming more cobbl;y with depth.

**TP03**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	Fine and friable, rooting
0.3	Head	Clay silt	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	Chalk flecks, small irregular chalk cobbles, friable and fine silt. Molluscs recovered from grab sample

**TP02**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	Fine rooting, occasional irregular flint pebbles
0.15	Head	Silty clay	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	Fine and friable silt with gravels
0.45	Weathered chalk	Clay silt matrix		silty matrix with chalky inclusions, flecks and small rounded and angular chalk cobbles

**TP01**

Depth (m)	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Colour	Coarse Components/ Notes
0	Topsoil	Clay silt	Dark grey 10YR 4/1	Fine rooting, 10% chalk flecks
0.15	Head	Clay silt	Light yellow brown 10YR 6/4	20% chalk flecks and small rounded pebbles
0.5	Weathered chalk	Sandy silt	Pale yellow brown 2.5Y 8/3	Sandy silt matrix with 80% chalk flecks, rounded chalk fragments

4.2 Through observations made during the course of the watching brief it was possible to broadly characterise the sedimentary make-up of the proposed development area. From borehole observations contact between the superficial geology and the surface of the Cretaceous Upper Chalk was recorded. Across the study area topsoils largely comprised immature silty horizons with large quantities of modern debris as coarse inclusions. Most of this topsoil has either been imported as part of reconstruction works after the building of the A27 or developed subsequently during the past 20 years as part of natural pedogenic processes. Surface horizons are therefore of very limited archaeological importance.



- 4.3 The majority of sequences contained significant depths of made ground, this varied from modern debris imported directly to the site during road surfacing or chalk rubble sourced from the nearby A27 cutting to make up the level ground on which the road sits.
- 4.4 A more limited number of test pits contained a combination of truncated Holocene colluvium and Pleistocene solifluction gravels (Test Pits 1-6, 8, 11, 12, 21 and 22). If surviving these were generally found toward the bottom of the exposed sections. Samples were taken for assessment. The grouping of Test Pits 1-6 within Stanmer Park represents an appropriate locality to investigate further, through purposive test pitting, the nature of the sedimentary sequence at this location. Trial pits might also be considered at TP8, TP11-12, TP 21-22.

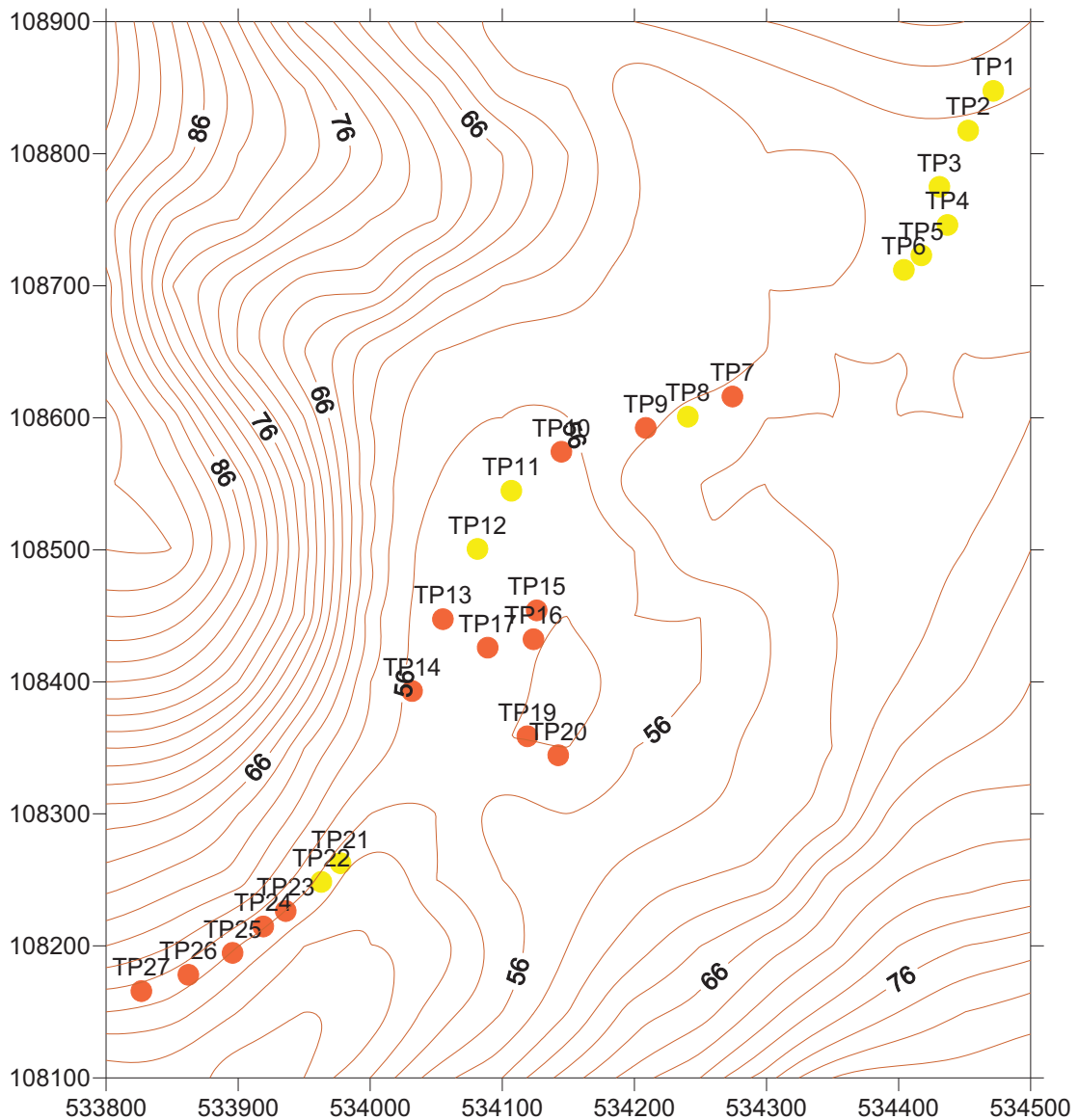


Figure 4: Test Pits by sedimentary type.  
Red: Made ground to surface of chalk or 1.5m.  
Yellow: Presence of Colluvium or Pleistocene Head.

## **5.0 Discussion and Recommendations**

- 5.1 As expected, the area of impact showed significant impact from the construction of the A27 by-pass work undertaken in the late 1980's. As this part of the original by-pass development was not subject to archaeological investigation (Rudling 2002), the character of the original Holocene/Pleistocene sedimentary sequences along the line of main route are unknown.
- 5.2 Surviving sequences preserving Holocene colluvium apparently overlying Pleistocene solifluction deposits were encountered, especially within the area of proposed works located in Stanmer Park (Test Pits 1-6, 8, 11, 12, 21 and 22); Head deposits in TP3 also showed the preservation of molluscs, a feature not yet observed elsewhere in the valley. Therefore, deposits in this part of the development hold the best potential for recovering palaeoenvironmental remains and for the sedimentological characterisation and phasing of solifluction and fluvial events during the Pleistocene. Recent excavations at Woollards Field, 1 km to the south of this area demonstrated potential for modest Palaeolithic archaeology and surviving loess pockets, both of great local significance. It was not possible to determine the overall geometry of these sediments within Stanmer Park due to the small-scale exposures of the sediments but two possibilities exist: that the depositional sequence relates directly to the sedimentary sequence recorded for the main north-south orientated fluvial valley established at Woollards Field, or that the sequence represents part of a major feeder valley into the Lewes Road system.
- 5.3 The following recommendations are made:
1. If the construction of the university link road through Stanmer Park is below existing ground level:
    - (i) That resources are provided to take logs to generate a first order sedimentary model for the site, integrating known borehole records from the surrounding area including Woollards Field.
    - (ii) That further, purposive geoarchaeological test pits are commissioned for detailed investigation within the area of the proposed development within Stanmer Park. Five 2x3m test pits machine excavated to the maximum reach of the machine should be enough to characterise the colluvial sequences and tie this in with the underlying Pleistocene solifluction sequence. Samples for pollen, molluscs and soil Micromorphology should be taken along with sediment monoliths where appropriate.
  2. If construction of the university link road is above existing ground level and requires the topsoil to be stripped, then a watching brief during excavation is necessary. This should be augmented by coring to establish an environmental profile across the area and to recover further palaeoenvironmental material
  3. If construction of the university link road is above existing ground level and does not require the topsoil to be stripped, ground disturbance can be avoided through placing a geotextile over the in-situ topsoil and

constructing the road above. However, any trenching associated with ancillary services should be mitigated through limited, purposive geoarchaeological trial pits aimed at the recovery of palaeoenvironmental material.

## **Bibliography**

- Allen, M.J., 2005b. Beaker and Early Bronze Age activity, and a possible Beaker valley entrenchment, in Cuckoo Bottom, near Lewes, East Sussex, *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 143, 35-45
- Allen, M.J., 2007. Evidence of the prehistoric and medieval environment of Old Town, Eastbourne: studies of hillwash in the Bourne valley, Star Brewery Site. *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 145, 33-66
- Bell, M.G., 1983. Valley sediments as evidence of prehistoric land-use on the South Downs, *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 49, 119-150
- Catt, J.A., 1978. The contribution of loess to soils in lowland Britain, in Limbrey, S. and Evans, J.G. (eds), *The effect of Man on the Landscape: the lowland zone*. London: CBA Research Report 21, 12-20
- Gallois, R. 1969, *The Geology of the Weald*. British Geological Survey.
- Dawkes G. and Pope M., 2008, *A Geoarchaeological Watching Brief for SEEDA Funded Falmer Infrastructure Works, East Sussex, Written Scheme of Investigation, Watching Brief on Geotechnical Investigations*. ASE.
- Greatorex, C, 1999, *Desk Based Assessment*, unpub grey report
- Pope M.I., 2001. Observations at Slindon Bottom. *Lithics* 23
- Pope, M., M. Allen and N. Garland. An Geoarchaeological and Archaeological Evaluation at Woollards Field, Falmer, East Sussex. unpub grey report
- Place Archaeological Consultants Ltd., 2004. An archaeological desk-based assessment of land at Woollards Field, Falmer, East Sussex. Unpubl. report, Job number J/2003/095 (March 2004)
- Rudling, D. (ed.), 2002. *Downland Settlement and Land-use; the archaeology of the Brighton by-pass*. London: UCL Field Archaeology Unit Monograph 1
- Russell, C., 2008. A Desk-Based Assessment of Land At Woollards Field, Falmer, East Sussex. Unpublished Report 2008116, Archaeology South-East.
- Russell, M., 2002. Excavations at Mile Oak Farm, in Rudling, D. (ed.), *Downland Settlement and Land-use; the archaeology of the Brighton Bypass*. London: UCL Field Archaeology Unit Monograph 1, 5-81
- Sygrave, J. & Pope, M., 2008. Woollards Field, Falmer, East Sussex; archaeological and geoarchaeological evaluation (stage 1); written scheme of investigation. ASE project no. 3352. Unpubl ASE client report
- WSP Environmental, 2001, *Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2*, Submitted on behalf of Brighton and Hove Football Club Ltd for the Community Stadium for the city of Brighton and Hove at Village Way North.

**SMR Summary Form**

Site Code	FIW08					
Identification Name and Address	Falmer Infrastructure Works, Falmer, East Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	East Sussex, Brighton					
OS Grid Refs.	345 085					
Geology	Head deposits over Upper and Lower Chalk					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3555					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	<b>Watching Brief</b>	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	<b>Green Field</b>	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 12-22/08/08	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Amey					
Project Manager	Giles Dawkes,					
Project Supervisor	Matthew Pope, Liane Peyre					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	<b>Other Modern</b>		
100 Word Summary.						
<p><i>A geoarchaeological watching brief was carried out as a first stage in the archaeological evaluation of the area of proposed infrastructure works for the Community Stadium project at Falmer, East Sussex. A series of 27 geotechnical test pits were monitored close to the line of the current A27 trunk road and within part of the north eastern portion of Stanmer Park. These investigation revealed an unpromising sequence of made ground and re-deposited head deposits disturbed or emplaced during the building of the A27 dual-carriage way. However the line of the proposed works located within Stanmer Park revealed a partially disturbed dry valley sequence offering archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential. This sequence can be expected, at least in part, to correlate with multi-phase solifluction and fluvial deposits recently investigated at Woollards Field, 1km to the south of the site. Pleistocene sediments recorded at Woollards Field offered modest potential for Palaeolithic archaeology, preserved Holocene colluvium and landsurfaces but poor preservation of palaeoenvironmental indicators.</i></p> <p><i>Recommendations include the undertaking of a purposive test pit evaluation in this part of the site to properly characterise the nature of quaternary and Holocene sedimentation within the portion of the works located in Stanmer Park. This work, alongside that currently being assessed at Woollards Field could improve our understanding of the history of sedimentation of the valley and establish the degree to which palaeoenvironmental potential, controlled in part by decalcification, is variable across the valley long-profile.</i></p>						

## Oasis Form

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-49035**

### Project details

Project name	Geoarchaeological watching brief for Falmer Infrastructure works
Short description of the project	<p>A geoarchaeological watching brief was carried out as a first stage in the archaeological evaluation of the area of proposed infrastructure works for the Community Stadium project at Falmer, East Sussex. A series of 27 geotechnical test pits were monitored close to the line of the current A27 trunk road and within part of the north eastern portion of Stanmer Park. These investigation revealed an unpromising sequence of made ground and re-deposited head deposits disturbed or emplaced during the building of the A27 dual-carriage way. However the line of the proposed works located within Stanmer Park revealed a partially disturbed dry valley sequence offering archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential. This sequence can be expected, at least in part, to correlate with multi-phase solifluction and fluvial deposits recently investigated at Woollards Field, 1km to the south of the site. Pleistocene sediments recorded at Woollards Field offered modest potential for Palaeolithic archaeology, preserved Holocene colluvium and landsurfaces but poor preservation of palaeoenvironmental indicators.</p>
Project dates	Start: 17-07-2008 End: 01-09-2008
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	'Test-Pit Survey','Watching Brief'
Prompt	General structure plan/local plan/minerals plan guidance

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX LEWES FALMER Falmer Community Stadium

Postcode	BN1 9
Study area	800.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 345 085 50.8597749179 -0.08871387931660 50 51 35 N 000 05 19 W Point

---

### **Project creators**

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
----------------------	------------------------

Project brief originator	Amey
--------------------------	------

Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
---------------------------	------------------------

Project director/manager	Giles Dawkes
--------------------------	--------------

Project supervisor	Liane Peyre
--------------------	-------------

Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
------------------------------	-----------

---

### **Project archives**

Physical Archive Exists?	No
--------------------------	----

Physical Archive recipient	n/a
----------------------------	-----

Digital Archive Exists?	No
-------------------------	----

Digital Archive recipient	n/a
---------------------------	-----

Paper Archive	Local Museum
---------------	--------------

recipient

Paper Contents 'none'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Drawing','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Report','Unpublished Text'

---

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title A geoarchaeological nWatching Brief for Falmer Infrastructure Works, East Sussex

Author(s)/Editor(s) Pope, M. Peyre, L.

Other bibliographic details Report:2008171

Date 2008

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South East

Place of issue or publication Archaeology South East

Description Unpublished Grey Literature bound report and PDF file.

---

Entered by Sarah Porteus (s.porteus@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 30 September 2008

---

**OASIS:**

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2006 Created by [Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email](#) Last modified Friday 3 February 2006

Cite only: /dl/export/home/web/oasis/form/print.cfm for this page