

Lambs Philpots Quarry West Hoathly West Sussex

Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample

for Lambs Philpots Quarry and Fallowbond Ltd

CA Project:770012 CA Report: 13618

Nov 2013

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CA Project: 770012 CA Report: 13618

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SUMMARY

Project Name: Lambs Philpots Quarry

Location: West Hoathly West Sussex

NGR: TQ 3550 3220

Type: Strip, Map and Sample

Date: 27 August -18 September and 22 October 2013

Planning Reference: WSCC/011/13HO

Location of Archive: to be deposited with Grinstead Museum

Site Code: PQH13

An archaeological strip, map and sample was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundwork associated with the extension of the existing quarry site at Lambs Philpots Quarry.

A modern south-east/north-west aligned ditch, a possible pit, tree throws and a number of modern land drains were observed during ground works. No artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between August and October 2013 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological strip, map and sample for Lambs Philpots Quarry (centred on NGR: TQ 355323; Fig. 1). The strip, map and sample was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning consent for an extension for the area to be quarried (Planning ref: WSCC/011/13HO). The objective of the strip, map and sample was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the development.
- 1.2 The strip, map and sample was carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI no.3688) produced by CA (2013) prepared by Mark Collard and agreed by John Mills, Senior Archaeologist, Strategic Planning Environment & Heritage, West Sussex County Council, and with a subsequent detailed and approved by the LPA acting on the advice of John Mills. The fieldwork also followed the Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief (IfA 2009), the Management of Archaeological Projects 2 (English Heritage 1991), the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide (EH 2006). It was monitored by John Mills.

The site

- 1.3 The proposed quarry extension area covers an area of approximately 3ha in total, lies adjacent to and north of the existing working quarry area (shown on accompanying Fallowbond drawing no. S102/09/04) and is for the extraction of the underlying Sandstone. The development proposals would cover two Phases Phase 1 being 'greenfield' (c. 1ha) and Phase 2 (c. 2ha) being the sandstone deposit below significant depths of clay underlying the existing overburden mounds located to the north-west of the current quarry area. Although the Phase 1 area is notionally greenfield, the area has been disturbed in the past through the installation of water pipelines and ditches and was under agricultural use when the site was first taken over by Sussex Sandstone Limited in 2004.
- 1.4 This quarry exposes the upper parts (4m) of the Ardingly Sandstone Member of the upper Lower Tunbridge Wells Sand Formation and the lower member of the Grinstead Clay Formation (8.2m) capped by the base of the Cuckfield Stone Member (upper Hastings Beds Group). (English Nature 2013)

Archaeological background

- 1.5 A search of the West Sussex County Council Historic Environment Record was made prior to the compilation of this WSI. Although the site lies in an area of archaeological potential for the prehistoric, Roman and medieval periods, there are no recorded heritage assets or previous archaeological interventions on and immediately around the site. Designated heritage assets within the vicinity include the Scheduled Monument of Philpots Camp Iron Age Hillfort (SM 27083) (HER4406) which lies 100m to the north-west. A roughly triangular Iron Age promontory or ridge-end fort of 15 acres defended by a bank and external ditch to the northeast. Included in the Scheduled Monument are five probable Mesolithic rock shelter sites (HER 4405) located at the foot of the escarpments to Philpots Camp. The fort and rock shelters were excavated by I.C. Hannah in 1931. Investigations were carried out within a cave at the west end of the Philpots Camp promontory by Andrew Maxted and Mike Allen (Allen and Maxted 2008). Augering was conducted with a narrow-diameter gouge auger. Charcoal was recovered and identified by Dr. Alan Clapham as Betula (birch). Pollen samples rapidly assessed by Dr Rob Scaife indicated an Atlantic flora dominated by oak, lime, hazel and rare occurrence of holly, with some grass, and other acid loving ferns/polypodium and Calluna, and 1 of grain birch. This is and typical of the late Mesolithic and earliest Neolithic phases according to Dr Scaife. Subsequently a small key hole trench 2m × 2m was hand excavated over the location of the colluvium and buried soil within the cave. Which produced a Mesolithic buried soils and c. 135 flints, mainly the by-products of Mesolithic blade and microlith production. A podzolic buried soil had formed and was protected by colluvial sand. It is potentially Mesolithic in date with accompanying Mesolithic artefacts, and palaeo-environmental data. Elsewhere small-scale test pit excavation was carried out by Karine Le Hegarat in 2008-9 at the foot of the promontory which found Neolithic pottery (John Mills, pers. comm).
- 1.7 Stonehurst Garden, a Grade II Registered Garden (HER 5011) is located immediately west of the site. The gardens and pleasure grounds were laid out in 1907 by Thomas H Mawson, assisted by the architect Norman Searle.
- 1.8 There are two Grade II Listed buildings within 500m of the site; Chiddingly Farmhouse, a 15th-century timber-framed building, lies 390m north of the site and Lower Barn, a 16th-century tithe barn, lies 440m to the north-west on the edge of the village of West Hoathly. Several further Listed buildings are located in West Hoathly.

- 1.9 Two parkscapes are recorded on the OS 1898-9 map at Philpots (HER 2862), 60m south-west of the site and at Rockhurst (HER 2861), 400m north-west of the site.
- 1.10 Historic Landscape Characterisation data records the majority of the site as postmedieval designed parkland, with a small portion recorded as part of a farmstead settlement. The surrounding land is generally formally enclosed fieldscapes and woodland.

Archaeological objectives

- 1.11 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
 - to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
 - at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

Methodology

1.12 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2013). All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision and ceased whenever the archaeological horizons or natural substrate was. Works comprised of the mechanical removal of non-archaeologically significant soils, under constant archaeological supervision, using a toothless ditching bucket. The generated spoil was monitored in order to recover artefacts. To avoid compaction of underlying archaeological deposits the machine rested on unstripped areas at all times, working back to expose the natural substrate without tracking over it. No machines ran over the natural substrate (other than in areas that have been cleared archaeologically to the satisfaction of the County Council Archaeologist). Hand-cleaning of the stripped surface, to better define any identified archaeological deposits/features, was undertaken where necessary. Spoil from hand-excavated archaeological features was removed either to the edge of the site, or to localised spoil heaps where this is not practical. All archaeological features were recorded in plan using a Leica 1200

series SmartRover GPS. Metal detectors were used to scan for metallic finds on spoil heaps, vacated areas, areas of modern disturbance and during the excavation of key archaeological features or deposits.

- 1.13 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.14 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Andover. The site archive will be stored at Grinstead Museum under thw appropriate accession number. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B. will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIGURES 2-3)

Trench 1a/b

- 2.1 The natural geological substrate (1002 and 1017) consisting of orange-grey-brown clay with areas of sandstone and sand, was revealed at an average depth of 0.6m below present ground level. This was overlain by mid-orange-brown silt-clay subsoil (1001 and 1016) averaging 0.3m in thickness, which was in turn sealed by 0.3m of grey-brown clay-silt topsoil (1000 and 1015).
- 2.2 The subsoil was cut by a southeast-northwest aligned ditch (1003, 1005, 1007 and 1009) of which a 40m length was exposed measuring up to 1.7m wide and 0.65m deep (Figure 3). It contained a single fill of grey-brown silt-clay.
- 2.3 The natural was cut by a shallow bowl-shaped circular feature (1011) measuring 0.3m in diameter and <0.05m deep that interpreted as a possible pit. It contained a mid-grey-brown silt-clay (1012) and contained no finds. A number of tree throws were also observed of which one (1013) was excavated. This was irregular in plan and profile and measured approximately 1m long, 0.6m wide and 0.4m deep and contained dark orange-brown silt clay (1014). A number of modern land drains were also observed.

Former running track

- 2.4 The natural geological substrate (2) consisting of light whitish yellow silty clay with a compact matrix, was revealed at location at an average depth of 0.46m below present ground level. This was overlain by (1) the topsoil consisting of a dark blackgrey humic silty clay with a loose friable compaction averaging 0.46m in thickness, no subsoil was observed.
- 2.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefact material pre-dating the modern period was recovered. Three tree throws and modern land drains were observed.

3. DISCUSSION

3.1 Though no finds were recovered from the ditch (1003) its alignment parallel to existing field boundaries and the height within the stratigraphy from which it is cut is suggestive of a modern date. Little further interpretation of the possible pit feature can be made due to its size and lack of artefact evidence, but it is also assumed to have been modern due to the lack of compaction of the fill.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Luke Brannlund and Adam Howard, and the report was written by Luke Brannlund and Adam Howard. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennett and Lorna Grey. The archive is being compiled for deposition for deposition John Hart. The project was managed for CA by Richard Greatorex.

5. REFERENCES

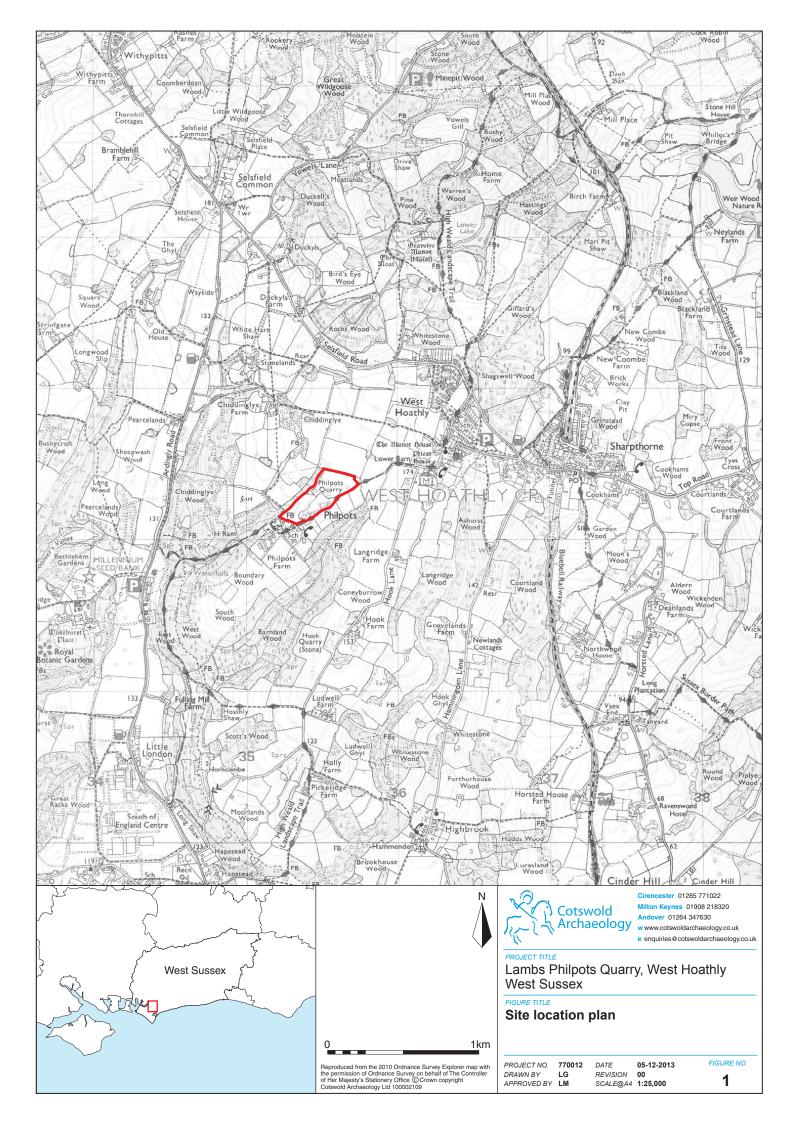
- Allen, M.J. and Maxted, A. 2008 Fragile in situ Mesolithic activity discovered at Chiddinglye Woods, West Hoathly, West Sussex. Project Summary/ Press Release
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 Philpots Quarry, West Hoathly, West Sussex: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief
- English Nature http://www.english-nature.org.uk/citation/citation photo/1002917.pdf (accessed 18 November 2013)

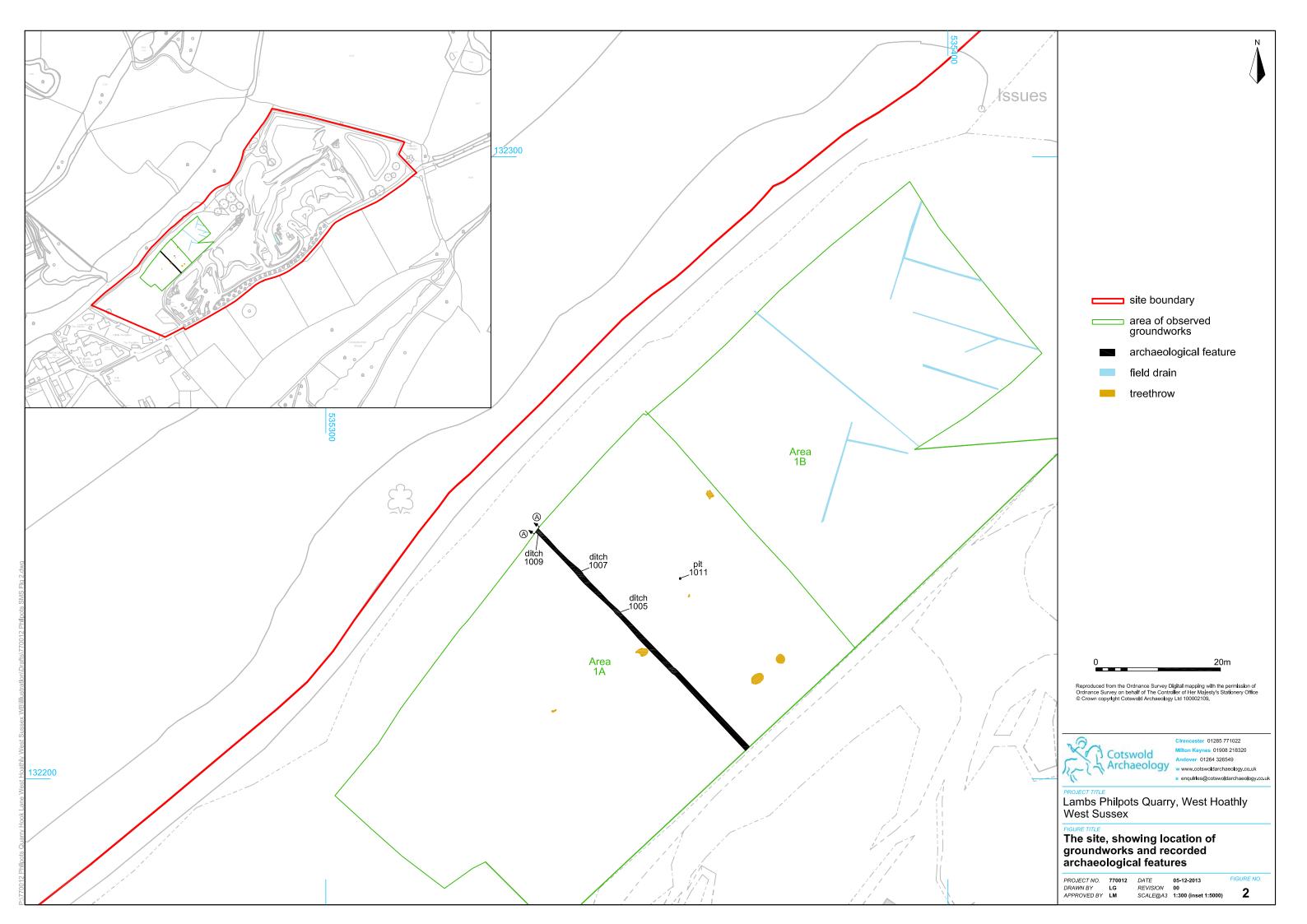
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench	Context	Туре	Fill	Context	Description	L (m)	W	Depth
No.	No.		of	interpretation			(m)	/thick
								ness
1-	1000	Lavian		Tanasil	Mid annu braura alau ailt			(m) 0.3
1a 1a	1000	Layer		Topsoil Subsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt Mid orange-brown silt clay			0.3
1a 1a	1001	Layer		Natural	Orange-grey-brown clay with		-	0.3
		Layer			sandstone			
1a	1003	Cut		Ditch	Southeast-northwest aligned linear in plan with V-shaped profile	40	1.7	0.4
1a	1004	Fill	1003	Fill of ditch	Mid grey-brown silt clay with stone	40	1.7	0.4
1a	1005	Cut		Ditch	Southeast-northwest aligned linear	1	0.65	0.2
					in plan with V-shaped profile			
1a	1006	Fill	1005	Fill of ditch	Mid grey-brown silt clay with stone	1	0.65	0.2
1a	1007	Cut		Ditch	Southeast-northwest aligned linear in plan with V-shaped profile	1	0.9	0.4
1a	1008	Fill	1007	Fill of ditch	Mid grey-brown silt clay with stone	1	0.9	0.4
1a	1009	Cut		Ditch	Southeast-northwest aligned linear in plan with V-shaped profile	1	1.1	0.65
1a	1010	Fill	1009	Fill of ditch	Mid grey-brown silt clay with stone	1	1.1	0.65
1a	1011	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan with shallow bowl- shaped profile		0.3	<0.05
1a	1012	Fill		Fill of pit	Mid grey-brown silt clay		0.3	<0.05
1b	1013	Cut		Treethrow	Irregular oval in plan with an irregular profile	1	0.6	0.4
1b	1014	Fill		Fill of treethrow	Mid orange-brown silt clay with stones	1	0.6	0.4
1b	1015	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.3
1b	1016	Layer	1	Subsoil	Mid orange-brown silt clay		1	0.3
1b	1017	Layer		Natural	Orange-grey-brown clay with sandstone			
Running track	1	Layer		Topsoil	Dark black-grey silt clay			0.45
Running track	2	Layer		Natural	Light grey-brown silty clay			

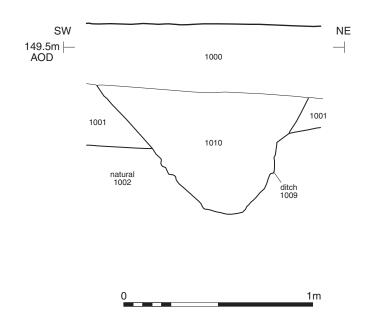
APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Name	Lambs Philpots Quarry			
Short description (250 words maximum)	An archaeological strip, map and sample was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundwork associated with the extension of the existing quarry site at Lambs Philpots Quarry. A modern south-east/north-west aligned ditch, a possible pit, tree throws and a number of modern land drains were observed during ground works. No artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.			
Project dates				
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Archaeological strip, map and sample			
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	None			
Future work	No further works			
PROJECT LOCATION				
Site Location	West Hoathly, West Sussex			
Study area (M²/ha)	3ha			
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	TQ 3550 3220			
PROJECT CREATORS				
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	Cotswold Archaeology		
Project Brief originator	West Sussex County Council			
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology			
Project Manager	Richard Greatorex			
Project Supervisor	Luke Brannlund and Adam Howard			
MONUMENT TYPE	none			
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none			
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archi (museum/Accession no.)	ve		
Physical	East Grinstead	None		
Paper	East Grinstead	1		
Digital	East Grinstead	1		
BIBLIOGRAPHY				
Cotswold Archaeology 2013 Lambs Philpo CA Report 13618	 ts Quarry, West Sussex: Archaeological	Strip, Map and Sample.		





Section AA





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Lambs Philpots Quarry, West Hoathly West Sussex

FIGURE TITLE

Section of ditch 1009

PROJECT NO. 770012
DRAWN BY LG
APPROVED BY LM FIGURE NO.
 DATE
 05-12

 REVISION
 00

 SCALE@A4
 1:20
 05-12-2013 3