



Chris Butler MfA Archaeological Services



Archaeological Watching Brief
at
Land at Burtenshaw Lane,
Market Street,
Hailsham,
East Sussex

WD/2009/2657

Project No. CBAS0110

by
David Atkin

March 2011

Summary

A watching brief was maintained during the excavations for the footings and service trenches for nine dwellings at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham, East Sussex. All excavations were carried out using an 8 tonne excavator and all trenches were cut well into the natural, exposing the natural geology of Wealden Clay. No archaeological features were encountered during the watching brief with all excavations being archaeologically sterile, possibly due either to all past activity having taken place further towards the street frontage, or more recent activity having destroyed it. Apart from five sherds of medieval pottery the small assemblage of finds dated to the later post-medieval period.

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd was commissioned by the Park Lane Group to carry out an archaeological watching brief on land at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham during the excavation of footings and other groundworks for eight new dwellings which were being built on the site.
- 1.2** Burtenshaw Lane is situated at TQ 5925 9400, on the east side of Market Street, which is to the south of Market Square and the main centre of Hailsham, and immediately to the north of Hailsham Market (Fig. 1). The development site had served until recently as the garden for a house known as the Town House, Market Street, which is located on the street frontage to the north-west of the site.
- 1.3** A planning application had been submitted (WD/2009/2080) for the erection of eight new dwellings at the site, and subsequently amended to nine dwellings (WD/2009/2657). However, as a result of the site's location, and the archaeological potential of the area (Policies EN25 & EN26 of the Wealden Local Plan, and Policy BE12 of the Non Statutory Wealden Local Plan), the local planning authority had put a condition on the planning consent for the development, requiring an appropriate programme of archaeological work to be undertaken.
- 1.4** The site is within the Hailsham Archaeological Sensitive Area (ASA). The adjacent Town House is an 18th century two-storey Listed Building, and there are a number of other Listed Buildings in Market Square and Market Street.
- 1.5** The site lies on a gentle south-facing slope, and is at a height of 29.7m OD at the north end of the site, falling to 28.2m OD at the south end. The geology of the site is Weald Clay, according to the British Geological Survey (sheet 319/334).
- 1.6** The site was the subject of an archaeological evaluation excavation in 2006 which established the possible presence of a late Medieval or early Post Medieval building, and other features¹. Subsequent to this the street frontage has been developed with a terrace of three dwellings and an access (Burtenshaw Lane) has been opened from Market Street without any further archaeological monitoring.

¹ Hunter, P. & Pine, C.A. 2006 *Summary report of an Archaeological Evaluation of land adjacent to the Town House, Market Street, Hailsham*, DAS Report.

- 1.7** The appropriate programme of archaeological work comprised an archaeological watching brief to monitor the excavation of the footing trenches for the new dwellings, together with any other associated groundworks. A written scheme of investigation² was prepared covering the watching brief, for submission to the local planning authority for approval.
- 1.8** The fieldwork was undertaken between the 3rd August 2010 and the 20th September 2010 by Keith Butler and the author.

² Butler, C. 2010 *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief at land at Burtonshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham, East Sussex*, CBAS Report.

2.0 Archaeological & Historical background

- 2.1 There have been no discoveries of Palaeolithic artefacts in the immediate area of Hailsham, and there are only a handful of artefacts known to have a provenance in the Weald³. Such discoveries are normally linked to specific geological conditions, such as tertiary deposits and gravels, which are not normally found in this area.
- 2.2 There is evidence for Mesolithic activity in the immediate vicinity of the site, with find spots of Mesolithic flintwork to the north at Upper Horsebridge (MES7145), and from recent fieldwalking to the north of Hailsham⁴. There have been numerous finds of Mesolithic flintwork around the edges of the Pevensey Levels⁵, including debitage, cores and microliths found between Westham and Pevensey⁶, and also at Magham Down⁷. The evidence for this period suggests that there is a possibility of Mesolithic activity being present on the site, given its location on the higher ground between the Pevensey Levels and the Cuckmere valley.
- 2.3 A Neolithic polished axe has been found to the north of the site (MES4365), whilst other Neolithic flintwork has been found in the surrounding landscape⁸. The discovery of two further Neolithic polished flint axe fragments during fieldwalking to the north of Hailsham⁹ suggests that there may have been woodland clearance taking place here at this time. It is therefore possible that Neolithic artefacts could be present at the site.
- 2.4 Although there is growing evidence for agriculture in the Weald during the Bronze Age, the evidence is that the Pevensey Levels continued to be used for hunting and fishing, although the peat had begun to accumulate during this period¹⁰, perhaps allowing greater access into the area. Bronze Age flintwork has been recovered from the surrounding landscape (e.g. MES7145), and therefore there must be a possibility of locating Bronze Age features or artefacts at the site

³ Pope, M. 2003 'The Earliest Occupation of Sussex: Recent Research and Future Objectives', in Rudling, D. (Ed) *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*, Kings Lynn, Heritage Marketing & Publications Ltd, 17-28, Fig. 2.8.

⁴ Butler, C. 2009 *Report on a Fieldwalking Project to the North of Hailsham, East Sussex*, Unpublished CBAS Report

⁵ Burton, C.E.C.-H 1940 'Mesolithic and Bronze Age Flints at Westham, Pevensey' *SN&Q* 8, 43-4.

⁶ Wymer, J.J. 1977 *Gazetteer of Mesolithic sites in England and Wales*, CBA Research Report 22.

⁷ Butler, C. 2002 'A Mesolithic site and later finds at Magham Down, near Hailsham, East Sussex', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 140, 139-144.

⁸ Butler, C. 2002 'A Mesolithic site and later finds at Magham Down, near Hailsham, East Sussex', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 140, 139-144.

⁹ Butler, C. 2009 *Report on a Fieldwalking Project to the North of Hailsham, East Sussex*, Unpublished CBAS Report

¹⁰ Woodcock, A. 2003 'The Archaeological implications of Coastal Change in Sussex' in Rudling, D. *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*, Heritage Marketing and Publications Ltd.

- 2.5** During the Early Iron Age it seems likely that the Pevensey Levels had become untenable due to flooding from the sea¹¹, which may have led to a decrease in activity in the area, or more likely a retreat to the higher ground around Hailsham and Horsebridge. There are only a few finds of Iron Age date from close to the site, including a Late Iron Age coin (MES14025), which may indicate that artefacts or other evidence for Iron Age settlement may be encountered
- 2.6** There is limited evidence for Roman activity in the immediate area, but the presence of Roman fort at Pevensey, and evidence for Roman settlement at Arlington to the south west of Hailsham, means that the possibility of encountering Roman remains at the site is likely.
- 2.7** Before the Norman invasion, Hailsham was held by Alnoth as a freehold¹². The only Saxon entry on the HER is a possible Saxon glass bead (MES9706), and therefore it is considered unlikely that any evidence for Saxon activity will be encountered. Hailsham appeared in the Domesday Book as *Hamelsham*, which means ‘Haegel’s homestead’¹³. Hailsham was under the control of the Count of Mortain and was in the administrative area of the Hundred of Pevensey. The entry mentions that the Count had control over 11 salt-houses worth 24s 6d¹⁴. Much of the Pevensey Levels was reclaimed by the 13th century¹⁵, although the area was again inundated in the 15th century.
- 2.8** A weekly Wednesday market was granted in 1252 and clearly was successful. A charter of 1270-98 granted the men of *Haylesham* freedom from work services and heriot, and, thus, gave them some of the rights of burgesses, evidently to stimulate growth of the nascent town. Other documentary evidence suggests that Hailsham in the late 13th century was indeed a town¹⁶.
- 2.9** The modest scale of Hailsham in the late 13th century is evident from the 1296 lay subsidy roll for the *Villata de Heyllesham* which lists 26 taxpayers, suggesting a population of perhaps around 130. In 1327 this had risen to 41 taxpayers, but in 1332 there were only 33 taxpayers. By the end of the Medieval period the population was broadly similar to that in the early 14th century: in 1524, it was around 220¹⁷.

¹¹ Greatorex, C. 2003 ‘Living on the margins? The Late Bronze Age Landscape of the Willingdon Levels’ in Rudling, D. *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*, Heritage Marketing and Publications Ltd.

¹² Morris, J. (Ed) 1976 *Domesday Book: Sussex*, Chichester, Phillimore.

¹³ Mills, A.D. 1991 *A Dictionary of English place-names*, Oxford.

¹⁴ Morris, J. (Ed) 1976 *Domesday Book: Sussex*, Chichester, Phillimore.

¹⁵ Salzmann, L.F. 1910 ‘The Inning of Pevensey Levels’, *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **53**, 33-60

¹⁶ Harris, R.B. 2008 *Hailsham: Historic Character Assessment Report*, Sussex Extensive Urban Survey

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

- 2.10** The Parish Church of St. Mary, located a short distance to the north of the site, was originally a chapel to the church of Hellingly in the 13th century, was replaced by the present church in the late 14th/early 15th century, with the chapels being rebuilt in 1876-8, the south aisle and porch added in 1870.
- 2.11** A timber-framed building in Market Street, called ‘Ye Fleur de Lys’ and the ‘Inglenook Cafe’, dates to the 17th century or earlier. A number of other buildings in Market Street (Southerden House, The Old Manor House and Town House) all date from the 18th century, whilst other buildings in Market Square and the High Street, also date from this time.
- 2.12** The market died out in the 17th century to be revived on 15th December 1786 and by mid-19th century was the biggest cattle market in the county and attracted drovers from as far away as Wales. In 1868 the market ceased to be held in the High Street/Market Square and moved to a new walled-in site in Market Street, where it is still located¹⁸.
- 2.13** The 1842 Tithe Map (Fig. 2)¹⁹ shows the site to be an area of open ground, and by the time of the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1878, it is shown as formal gardens with the Cattle Market on its south side. The later edition Ordnance Survey maps (1899 -1929) all show the area of the site to be open ground between the Town House and The Granary on the north side, and the Market to the south.
- 2.14** During the Second World War Hailsham was designated a Nodal Point, and was put into a state of defence in 1940²⁰. The perimeter of the Nodal Point ran up Market Street, where concrete anti-tank cubes were positioned in the front garden of The Old Vicarage and other properties²¹. It then crossed Market Street at the northern boundary of the Market, where there was a roadblock (consisting of 7 sockets with 3 bent and 4 straight rails²²), and continued north-east across the southern-western part of the site and then north to Vicarage Road, passing behind Town House.

¹⁸ <http://www.localauthoritypublishing.co.uk/councils/hailsham/history.html>

¹⁹ ESRO TD/E140

²⁰ Butler, C. 2007 *East Sussex under Attack*, Stroud, Tempus Publishing Ltd

²¹ Farebrother, G. 1986 *Hailsham at War*, CCE, University of Sussex.

²² <http://www.nbcd.org.uk/blog/detail.asp?ID=176>

3 Archaeological Methodology

- 3.1** On arrival at the site on the 3rd August and after some discussion about the removal of some of the trees on the eastern boundary, it was decided that excavation of the road would begin the following day. The site was photographed and a sketch plan made of the site.
- 3.2** The following day work commenced on the excavations for the road and a watching brief was maintained over the next two days while the foundations for the road were excavated by a 360° 8 tonne digger with a 1m wide toothless bucket. This covered an area some 20m in length x 4m wide with a square 1.4m wide at the northern end tacked on. The trench was 2m in depth from the original ground surface and cut well into the natural to form a surface water storage system (Fig 0).
- 3.3** Excavation then commenced on the footings using a 600mm toothless bucket and associated service trenches for the housing plots on the 9th August, starting with the middle plot. Work then carried on sporadically over the next 5 weeks, with the footings for the western plot and the associated drains runs, followed by the eastern plot and finally some landscaping and drain runs. A watching brief was maintained while all the footings and service trenches were excavated (Fig. 0).
- 3.4** The topsoil and spoil from the site was visually inspected for artefacts, and a Precision Gold metal detector was used to scan the spoil and excavated surfaces for artefacts.
- 3.5** No archaeological features or deposits were noted during the watching brief, however a small assemblage of topsoil finds were collected and all deposits were recorded according to accepted professional standards, using context record sheets. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- 3.6** A full photographic record of the work was kept as appropriate and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held by Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd. A site reference of MSL10 has been allocated, and after any further analysis, will be offered to the appropriate museum.

4 Results

- 4.1** The topsoil from the new access road (Context **1**) was a very disturbed sandy-loam with some small pieces of concrete comprising approximately 1% of the total make-up, along with ceramic building material (CBM) (<1%), mortar (<1%) and flint pebbles up to 20mm in size (<1%). There was evidence of heavy bioturbation from the trees on the eastern boundary of the site. A sheet of Terram membrane was exposed in the eastern road section and had been laid between the topsoil and subsoil suggesting that the topsoil in this area is re-deposited and relatively recent. The membrane was only present in this eastern section and immediately adjacent to it, and was not found anywhere else on site.
- 4.2** The subsoil (Context **2**) in this area was a friable, mid brownish-grey, silty-clay. Inclusions amounted to flint pebbles at <1% and was up to 300mm thick in places. There was also evidence in the subsoil of heavy root bioturbation from the trees on the eastern boundary.
- 4.3** Below Context **2** lay the natural Wealden Clay (Context **3**). This was a firm orange-yellow clay with patches of light grey which became more pronounced at a depth of 2m.
- 4.4** Context **4** was a topsoil deposit from the footing of the South-West building plot (plots 1-3) that only survived at the southern end of the footings to a depth of 300mm. This was a loose, brownish-grey, sandy-loam with irregular flint pebbles at <1%, CBM and pot at 1% and chalk flecks and pieces up to 40mm at 1%.
- 4.5** Below Context **4** lay the subsoil (Context **5**) with which it shared a very irregular and diffuse interface. Like Context **4** this context only survived at the southern end, having already disappeared from the northern edge of the footings. While still a silty-clay like its counterpart (Context **2**) it differs slightly in colour, being a brownish-orange and with irregular flint pebbles up to 40mm at <1% and chalk flecks also at <1%. This deposit was 400mm in depth.
- 4.6** Again, below Context **5** lay the natural Wealden Clay (Context **6**). This was, like Context **3**, an orange-yellow clay and was excavated to a depth of between 0.5m to 1.1m.
- 4.7** The trenches for the drains for the middle plot were excavated straight into the subsoil (Context **7**) and the natural (Context **8**) which were the same as the corresponding Contexts **5** and **6**, to a width of 500mm and a depth of 1m. No topsoil survived.

- 4.8** The footings for the middle plot were excavated to a width of 600mm and a depth of 2m and 2.7m. A very mixed and disturbed mid grey-brown silty-loam topsoil (Context **9**) was present to a depth of 200mm and had modern rubbish trampled into it. The subsoil (Context **10**) was a mid grey-brown silty clay which was some 300mm in depth and contained Post Medieval land drains which were back filled with chalk and just cut into the top of the natural (Context **11**).
- 4.9** The trenches for the drainage run for the middle plot ran some 13m along the front of the plot and were some 500mm wide and were 1m in depth. The stratigraphy, as would be expected, mirrored the contexts allocated to the footing trenches, and were assigned the context numbers **12**, **13**, **14** for the topsoil, subsoil and natural respectively.
- 4.10** The next area to be excavated was for plots 7-9, and were the furthest from Market Street at the north-east end of the site. This area had mostly been stripped down to the top of the natural. However, the original ground level did survive in the south-east facing section and sloped down to the south. At its highest point it was 1.9m deep and was made up of 300mm of a mid to dark grey-brown sandy loam topsoil (Context **15**) with CBM (<1%) and chalk flecks (<1%), 300mm of subsoil (Context **16**) and 1.2m of natural (Context **17**) to the limit of excavation. The make-up of the latter two contexts remained consistent with Contexts **5** and **6**.
- 4.11** Once all the housing plot footings had been excavated, the bank on north-west – south-east boundary was landscaped. This revealed a dark greyish-brown silty loam topsoil (Context **18**) containing modern detritus (cans, crisp packets, etc) at < 3% and was 400mm deep. The subsoil (Context **19**) was 400mm in depth and remained the same as the silty-clay found elsewhere on site. The horizon between the subsoil and the natural (Context **20**) was very diffuse at this point. The natural had 320mm removed before the limit of excavation was reached.
- 4.12** No features were encountered during the watching brief, and there were no other deposits or layers noted.

5 Finds

5.1 The archaeological work recovered a small quantity of finds. The assemblage is quantified in Table 1. The assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and is recommended for discard.

Table 1: Quantification of finds assemblage.

| Context | Pottery (by date bracket) | Ceramic Building Material | Other | Comment |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| U/s | 1225-1350 5/29g 1750-1900+ 10/73g | Brick 2/70g Peg tile 4/161g Land drain 2/30g | Clay pipe 2/5g Bone 8/2g Shell 2/2g Glass 1/1g | Mixed C13th and later C19th/early 20 th |
| 1 | 1550-1750 1/3g 1750-1900+ 18/136g | Peg tile 3/104g Wall tile 14/151g Land drain 3/136g Sanitary ware 6/341g | Stone 2/40g Bone 1/2g Glass 4/59g Metal 4/122g | Later C19th – early 20 th (residual C18th – early 19 th) |
| 4 | 1750-1900+ 8/118g | Sanitary ware 1/35g | Clay pipe 2/4g Shell 1/89g Glass 14/573g | Later C19th – early 20 th |

5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The small assemblage of pottery from the site is in variable condition. The earlier pottery consists of small/medium sized sherds (to 50mm across) which show some signs of abrasion, although much of this could be the result of the acid subsoil. The later assemblage is characterised by unabraded though fragmented sherds. The earliest material was recovered from unstratified deposits. These produced five medieval sherds most of which are of 13th century date.

5.2.2 Two oxidised cooking pot bodysherds tempered with moderate sub-angular flint to 1mm are almost certainly from the Abbot's Wood kiln. Two further body sherds, one oxidised and one reduced, are tempered with sand and sparse/common sub-angular flint to 1mm. These may represent a finer Abbot's Wood fabric, perhaps associated with unglazed jugs (one sherd has combed decoration). The remaining medieval sherd consists of a reduced medium sand tempered body sherd of mid/late 13th-to mid 14th century date.

5.2.3 A single early post-medieval sherd was recovered. This consists of a scratch blue stoneware sherd of the 18th century. Later post-medieval pottery dominated the assemblage. The earliest pieces, of later 18th to early 19th century origin, include two creamware sherds (Context 1) and a single transfer-printed pearlware plate fragment (Context 1). These sherds could represent old vessels discarded later in the 19th century. Certainly the bulk of the pottery belongs to the later 19th or early 20th centuries. A typical range of domestic wares is represented including unglazed earthenware (flower pots), glazed redwares (dishes and jars), English stoneware (bottle), yellow ware (jug), transfer-printed wares (table and teawares), English porcelain (teawares and an eggcup) and refined white earthenware (including plain plates and preserve jars).

5.2.4 Only four fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered. All consist of plain stem fragments of probable 19th century date. All are in relatively fresh condition.

5.3 Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

5.3.1 A small assemblage of ceramic building material was recovered from the site. Two fragments of well formed and fired dull red brick tempered with sparse fine sand and iron oxide inclusions to 2mm were unstratified. These are likely to be of late 18th to 19th century date. A similar date can be ascribed to the peg tile from the site. These are in a similar fabric to the bricks, though some have marl streaking. The land drain fragments are also in a similar fabric but can be ascribed an early 19th to early 20th century date range.

5.3.2 A number of late 19th to mid 20th century glazed wall tiles were recovered from Context 1. Colours include white, blue and pink with most tiles having a moulded reverse. In addition there are a number of stone china fragments from sanitary wares such as sinks/water closets suggesting the waste from refurbishment of a kitchen and/or bathroom.

5.4 Glass by Chris Butler

5.4.1 A small assemblage of glass was recovered during the watching brief (Table 1). Most of the glass was from bottles, but a small quantity was window glass, and two pieces were from a glass bowl and a storage jar.

5.4.2 Three complete or almost complete glass bottles were recovered from Context 4. They comprised a clear bottle 95mm tall (114g), probably machine made, of late 19th or early 20th century date; a small dark blue ribbed medicine bottle (29g) with 'NOT TO BE TAKEN' embossed on one side, and a miniature clear bottle 40mm tall (12g) with an applied lip, both probably of later 19th century date.

5.5 Other Finds by Chris Butler & Luke Barber

5.5.1 Four metal items were recovered with the aid of a metal detector. These comprised an iron nail and iron fencing staple, an alloy oval house number plate (112), and an alloy food hand whisk. All of these are likely to be 20th century, although the food whisk probably dates to the early 20th century.

5.5.2 The two pieces of stone from the site consist of a piece of 19th century Welsh roofing slate and scrap of Wealden sandstone.

5.5.3 A small number of animal bones and oyster shell fragments were recovered during the watching brief (Table 1), all of which are likely to be relatively recent in date.

6 Discussion

- 6.1** The lack of any archaeological finds and features of any great antiquity from a secure context is always disappointing. The small assemblage of Medieval and Post Medieval finds from the topsoil is so relatively small that little importance or significance may be attributed to these few stray finds. Given the site's location it would have been usual to expect some Medieval and Post Medieval (most likely 18th or 19th Century) middens associated with any development along Market Street. However, the lack of any archaeology would suggest that any use of the site has been extremely limited, which is surprising given its location to the centre of Hailsham.
- 6.2** The evaluation excavation carried out in 2006 established the possible presence of a late Medieval or early Post Medieval building, and other features at the site²³, which are much more consistent with the archaeological remains that would be expected at a site in this location. However, all of these features were located towards the street frontage, and the three evaluation trenches (Fig.6: Trenches 3-5) located across the area covered by the watching brief did not locate any archaeological features.
- 6.3** It is possible, given the recent building activity on the Market Street frontage, and the large quantity of recent artefacts and obvious disturbance in the upper deposits on the site, that there has been some past truncation and disturbance which has resulted in the removal or destruction of any archaeological features and deposits here. However the evaluation excavation also suggested that there was an absence of archaeology on this part of the site.
- 6.4** According to the Post Medieval mapping, the area monitored during this watching brief was an open area throughout this period. The archaeological evidence from both the evaluation and watching brief appears to confirm that this has been an open area from a much earlier date, although Medieval and early Post Medieval settlement appears to have been located along the frontage of Market Street.
- 6.5** The methodology adopted for this watching brief proved to be satisfactory, and the confidence rating should be considered to be very reliable.

²³ Hunter, P. & Pine, C.A. 2006 *Summary report of an Archaeological Evaluation of land adjacent to the Town House, Market Street, Hailsham*, DAS Report.

7 Acknowledgements

- 7.1** I would like to thank Park Lane Group for commissioning the archaeological watching brief, especially Laurence Hulkes who made all the arrangements for the watching brief. We would also like to thank the site foreman, Fred White, and his team from Cheesemur Building Contractors, for their cooperation.
- 7.2** Luke Barber and Chris Butler reported on the finds, and the project was managed for CBAS Ltd by Chris Butler. Greg Chuter monitored the project for ESCC.

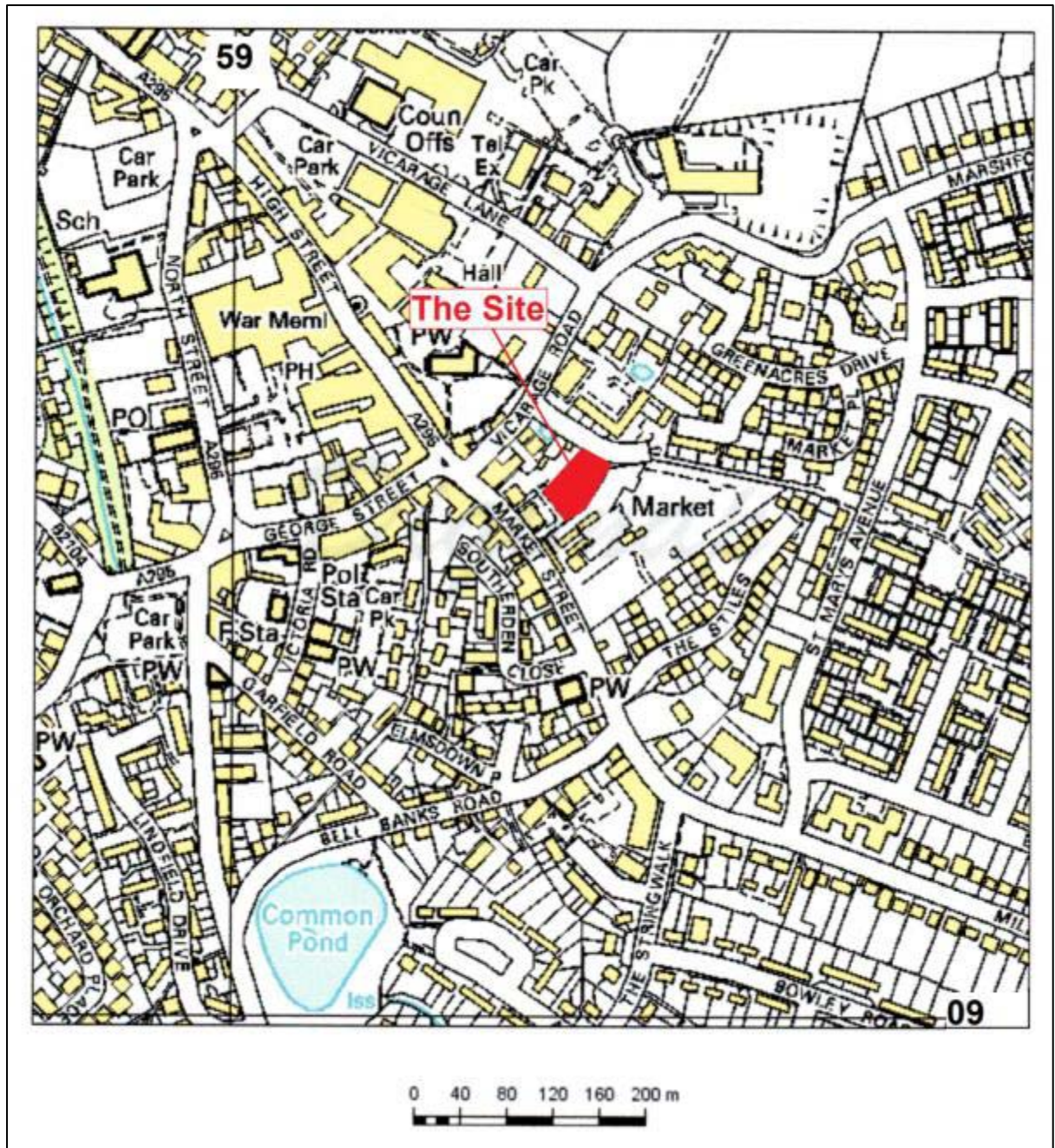


Fig. 1: Land at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham: Site location map

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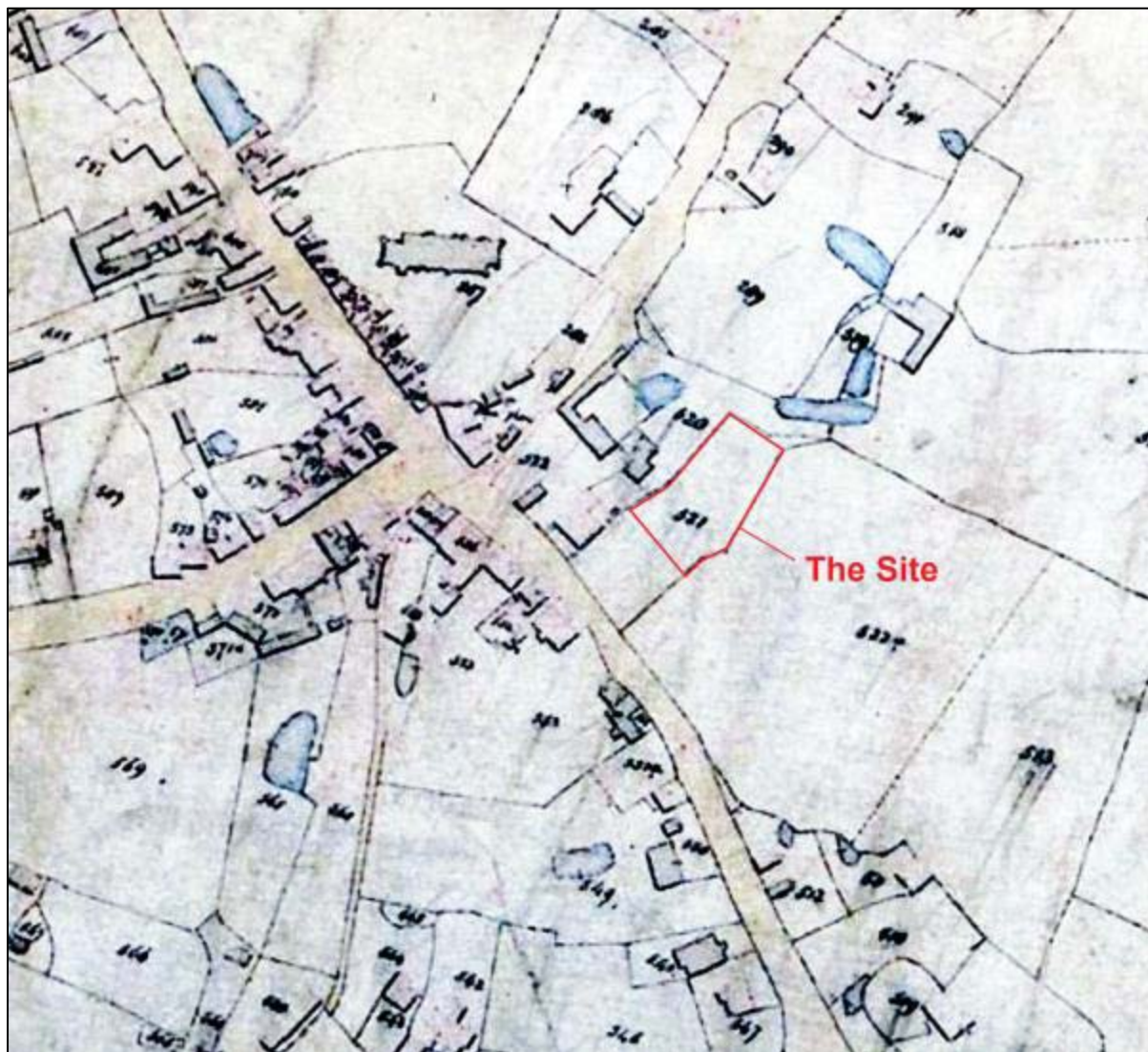


Fig. 2: Land at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham: Tithe Map 1842

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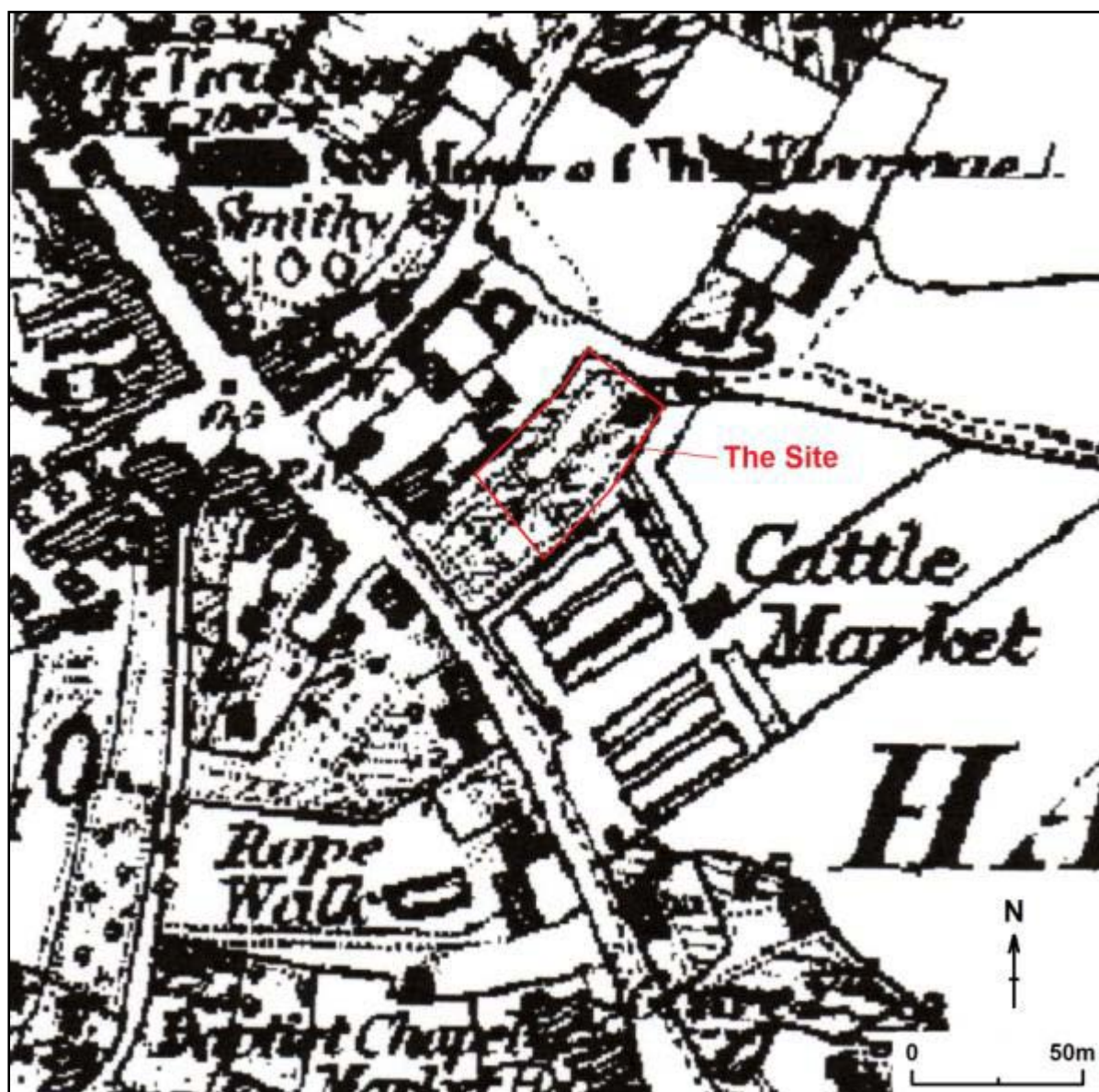


Fig. 3: Land at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham: 1st Edition OS Map (1878)

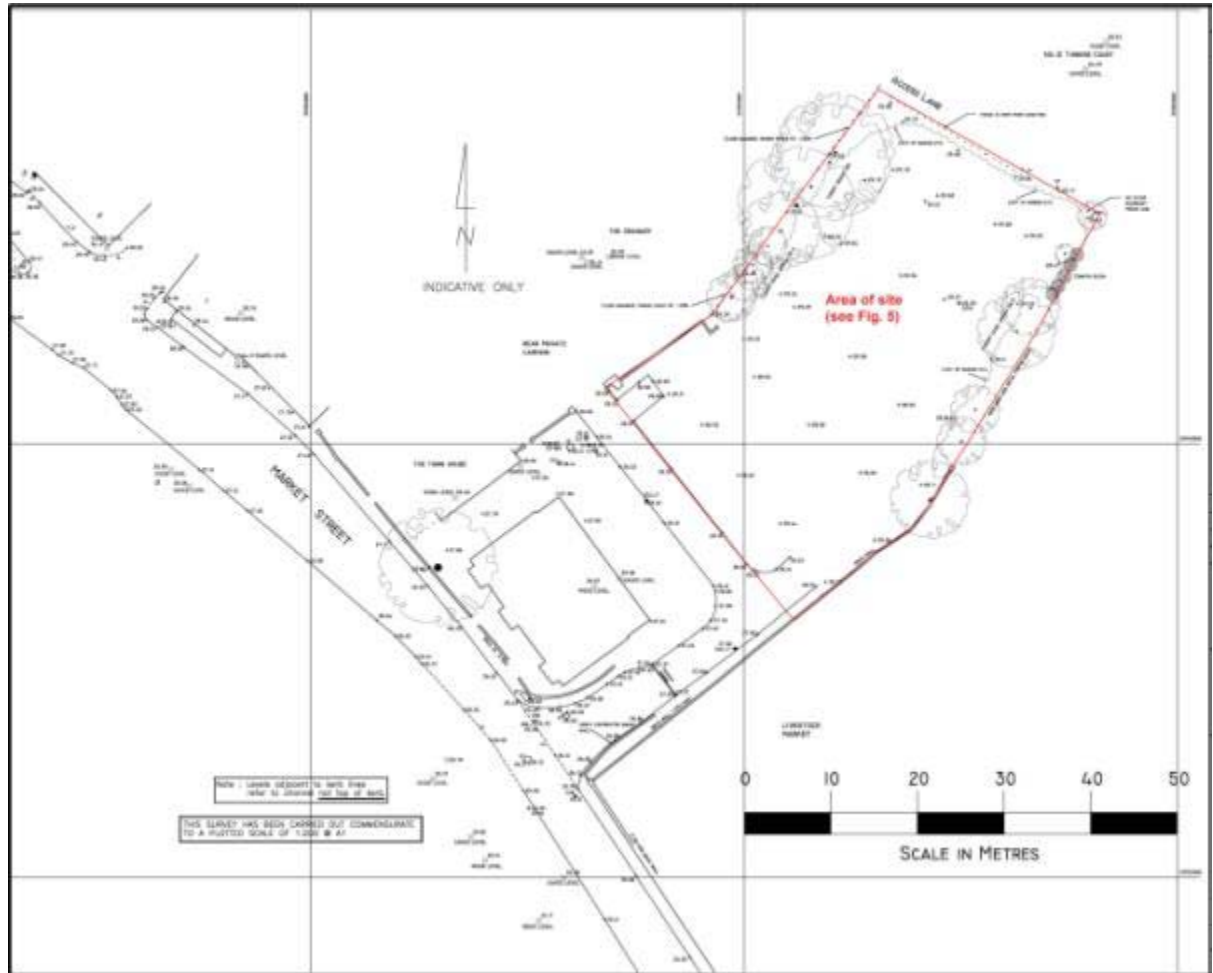


Fig. 4: Land at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham: Site Plan
(adapted from plan provided by Park Lane Group)

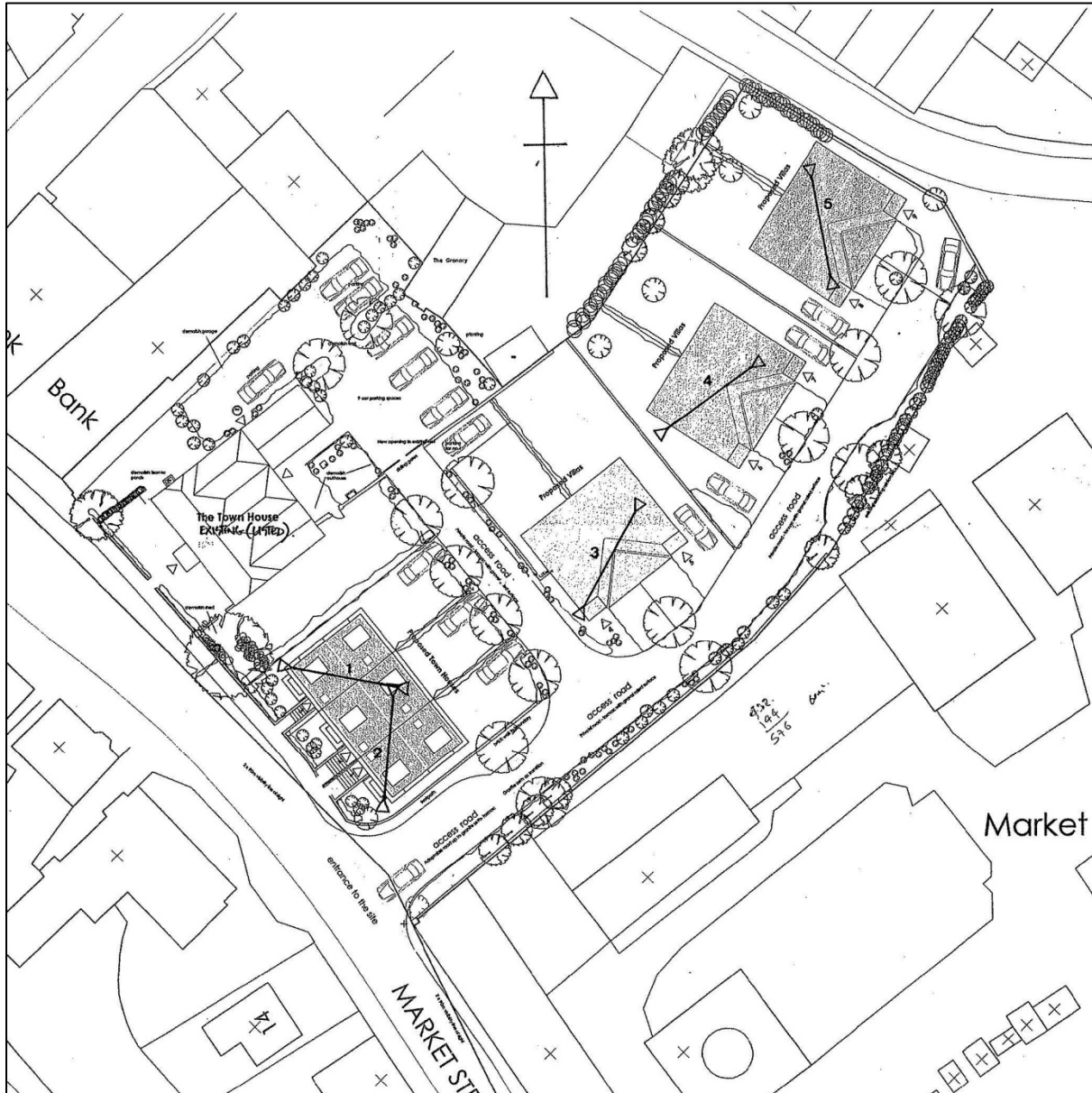


Fig. 6: Land at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham: Plan of site showing evaluation trenches excavated in 2006 (adapted from DAS Report)

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Fig. 7: Land at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham: Photograph of road and water storage facility excavation



Fig. 8: Land at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham: Photograph of house foundation excavation

Appendix 1 HER Summary Form

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------|-------|
| Site Code | MSL10 | | | | | |
| Identification Name and Address | Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham, East Sussex. | | | | | |
| County, District &/or Borough | Wealden District Council | | | | | |
| OS Grid Refs. | TQ 5925 9400 | | | | | |
| Geology | Wealden Clay. | | | | | |
| Type of Fieldwork | Eval. | Excav. | Watching Brief X | Standing Structure | Survey | Other |
| Type of Site | Green Field | Shallow Urban X | Deep Urban | Other | | |
| Dates of Fieldwork | Eval. | Excav. | WB. 03.08.10- 20.10.10 | Other | | |
| Sponsor/Client | Park Lane Group | | | | | |
| Project Manager | Chris Butler MIFA | | | | | |
| Project Supervisor | Keith Butler PIFA/David Atkin | | | | | |
| Period Summary | Palaeo. | Meso. | Neo. | BA | IA | RB |
| | AS | MED X | PM X | Other | | |
| <p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>A watching brief was maintained during the excavations for the footings and service trenches for nine dwellings at Burtenshaw Lane, Market Street, Hailsham, East Sussex. All excavations were carried out using an 8 tonne excavator and all trenches were cut well into the natural, exposing the natural geology of Wealden Clay. No archaeological features were encountered during the watching brief with all excavations being archaeologically sterile, possibly due either to all past activity having taken place further towards the street frontage, or more recent activity having destroyed it. Apart from five sherds of medieval pottery the small assemblage of finds dated to the later post-medieval period.</i></p> | | | | | | |

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd

Chris Butler has been an archaeologist since 1985, and formed the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team in 1987, since when it has carried out numerous fieldwork projects, and was runner up in the Pitt-Rivers Award at the British Archaeological Awards in 1996. Having previously worked as a Pensions Technical Manager and Administration Director in the financial services industry, Chris formed **Chris Butler Archaeological Services** at the beginning of 2002.

Chris is a Member of the Institute for Archaeologists, a committee member of the Lithic Studies Society, and is a part time lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Sussex. He continues to run the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team in his spare time.

Chris specialises in prehistoric flintwork analysis, but has directed excavations, landscape surveys and watching briefs, including the excavation of a Beaker Bowl Barrow, a Saxon cemetery and settlement, Roman pottery kilns, and a Mesolithic hunting camp.

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd is available for Flintwork Analysis, Project Management, Military Archaeology, Desktop Assessments, Field Evaluations, Excavation work, Watching Briefs, Field Surveys & Fieldwalking, Post Excavation Services and Report Writing.

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