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An Archaeological Watching Brief at the Swan Inn, Falmer, East Sussex

LW/08/0526

Project No. CBAS0050

by
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March 2011

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at the Swan Inn, Falmer during work to create a new access ramp and drive. A background scatter of prehistoric flintwork was recorded, together with a few residual sherds of Medieval pottery. Artefactual evidence increases c.1750, coinciding with the construction of the Swan Inn, and peaks in the later part of the 19th century. A well and a small number of pits and cuts of later 19th century date were the only features encountered.

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Contents

1.0	Introduction	3
2.0	Archaeological & Historical Background	5
3.0	Methodology	7
4.0	Results	8
5.0	Finds	11
6.0	Discussion	17
7.0	Acknowledgements	17

Figures:

Fig. 1	Site Location map & Archaeologically Sensitive Areas
Fig. 2	Map showing the site and monuments from the HER
Fig. 3	Tithe map 1840
Fig. 4	1 st Edition OS map 1873
Fig. 5	Site Development Plan
Fig. 6	Site Plan showing area monitored & features located
Figs. 7 to 10	

Appendix:

Appendix I	HER Summary Form
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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd was commissioned by Thomas Aitchison (The Client) to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the construction of a new car park and entrance ramp, at The Swan Inn, Falmer, East Sussex (TQ 35320 08920). As a result of the site's location, and the archaeological potential of the area, the local planning authority have put a condition on the planning consent for the development, requiring an appropriate programme of archaeological work to be undertaken.
- 1.2** The Swan Inn at Falmer is situated in an Archaeologically Sensitive Area (Fig. 1). The location of the Swan Inn, fronting on to Middle Street is within the historic core of the Medieval and Post Medieval village of Falmer, and is covered by Policy S1 of the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Structure Plan 1991-2011.
- 1.3** The geology of the site, according to the British Geological Survey sheet 318/333, is an outcrop of Woolwich and Reading Beds which sits upon Upper and Middle Chalk. There are other similar outcrops of Woolwich and Reading Beds to the south of the site.
- 1.4** There are 13 known archaeological sites recorded on the HER in the immediate vicinity of the Swan Inn, and these are listed in the following table, and shown on Fig. 2:

HER Ref.	Name	NGR	Period
MES381	Falmer Railway platform	TQ 347 087	19 th Century Listed Building
MES1361	Settlement site	TQ 344 080	Roman
MES1364	Handaxe	TQ 35 08	Palaeolithic
MES1365	Corn-drying ovens	TQ 3523 0915	Roman
MES1371	Church of St. Laurence	TQ 3549 0873	Medieval/Post Medieval
MES1373	Deer Park	TQ 358 081	Medieval/Post Medieval
MES1375	Court Farm Barn	TQ 355 087	16 th Century Listed Building
MES1376	The Old Forge	TQ 355 089	Listed Building
MES1379	Bronze figurine of Cupid	TQ 35 08	Roman
MES1388	Falmer House	TQ 348 092	20 th Century Listed Building
MES6929	Burial	TQ 351 093	Undated
MES7255	Field systems	TQ 3681 0868	Prehistoric/Roman
MES7268	Falmer windmill	TQ 3516 0902	16/17 th century

- 1.5** In addition to the above sites, there are also a further 13 Listed Buildings in the immediate vicinity of the Swan Inn, and are listed in the following table. The Swan Inn itself is a Grade II Listed Building (DES 1388); its east range being dated to the 18th century and the west range to the 19th century.

Ref.	Name	NGR	Period
DES1389	78 Mill Street	TQ 35263 09019	Mid 18 th century
DES1392	66/67 West Street	TQ 35314 08783	18 th /19 th century
DES1692	61/62 West Street	TQ 35333 08740	18 th century
DES2115	68/69 West Street	TQ 35309 08817	Mid 19 th century
DES2118	43/47 Middle Street	TQ 35355 08928	Early 19 th century
DES2251	74/75 Park Street	TQ 35190 08972	18 th century
DES1691	Barn to NW of Swan Inn	TQ 35294 08928	16 th century
DES1387	Court Farmhouse	TQ 35559 08777	18 th century
DES2116	Primary School	TQ 35341 08817	19 th century
DES2250	Mill House	TQ 35295 09053	Early 19 th century
DES1690	Pelham Cottages	TQ 35294 09028	19 th century
DES1391	The Old Rectory	TQ 35298 08737	Early 19 th century
DES1388	Swan Inn	TQ 35344 08925	18 th century
DES1390	Victoria Cottages	TQ 35200 08800	18 th /19 th century

- 1.6** Six archaeological events are recorded on the HER, of which two produced archaeological remains. Fieldwalking undertaken by the Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society to the south of Falmer village recorded a general spread of humanly struck flintwork and occasional pottery sherds dating to the Iron Age, Romano-British and Medieval periods (EES14373). Recent excavations undertaken on the site of the new Falmer Stadium have revealed Mesolithic flintwork and later prehistoric roundhouses.
- 1.7** The appropriate programme of archaeological work comprises an archaeological watching brief. A Written Scheme of Investigation¹ covering the watching brief was prepared and approved by the East Sussex County Archaeologist and the Local Authority.
- 1.8** The watching brief is required to monitor the groundworks during the construction of the new car park and associated entrance ramp (Phase 1).

¹ Butler, C. 2009 *Written Scheme of Investigation for a Watching Brief at the Swan Inn, Falmer, East Sussex*, CBAS

2.0 Archaeological & Historical background

- 2.1 Given the presence of the Woolwich and Reading Beds underlying the site and elsewhere in the surrounding landscape it should come as no surprise to find that there have been discoveries of Palaeolithic flintwork nearby (MES1364). Together with the recent discovery of substantial quantities of Mesolithic flintwork at the Falmer Stadium site indicates that there could be remains from both these periods at the site.
- 2.2 Later prehistoric activity is evidenced by flint Neolithic axes and other flint artefacts recovered in the Falmer area², and the prehistoric flintwork recovered in fieldwalking to the south of Falmer (EES14373). Evidence for prehistoric field systems³ and iron Age activity have also been found in the vicinity of the site (MES7255)
- 2.3 There is a substantial amount of evidence for Roman activity in the area, apart from the persistent rumours of the discovery of a possible Roman building during the building of the University. Evidence for a Romano-British settlement has been found to the south-west of Falmer in the form of pottery sherds scattered over a large area, and cropmarks of enclosures visible on aerial photographs (MES1361).
- 2.4 Corn-drying ovens dating to the Roman period were found and excavated at Old Forge Nurseries to the north west of the site in 1953/4 (MES1365). Discoveries of Roman pottery and other artefacts around Falmer (e.g. MES1379) also suggest that there was a significant amount of activity here in the Roman period.
- 2.5 The Domesday Book tells us that Falmer was held by Wilton Abbey before the conquest⁴, and was assessed for 21 hides. In 1086 it was held by the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes, from William de Warenne. This continued until the dissolution of the Priory, when it the Manor of Falmer was granted to Thomas Cromwell, then to Anne of Cleves, reverting to the Crown on her death⁵.
- 2.6 Although the village of Falmer has Medieval or earlier origins, the majority of the buildings present today date from the 18th century and later, with just two barns dating from the 16th century. The church of St. Laurence was originally a 12th -13th century construction, but was destroyed in 1815 and entirely rebuilt (MES1371).

² John Funnell; pers. com.

³ Salzman, L.F. 1973 *Victoria County History*, Vol. 7, London, Dawsons.

⁴ Morris, J. 1976 *Domesday Book: Sussex*, Chichester, Phillimore.

⁵ Salzman, L.F. 1973 *Victoria County History*, Vol. 7, London, Dawsons.

- 2.7** A deer park at Falmer is named on Speed's map of 1610⁶, and it seems likely that this was centred on TQ358081 (MES1373). Yeakell & Gardner's map of 1778-83 shows the east-west Brighton to Lewes road through the centre of the village on the line of the current Middle Street, and a building located in the current position of the Swan Inn⁷
- 2.8** The 1840 Tithe Map (Fig. 3) also shows the east-west Brighton to Lewes road with the Swan Inn on the road frontage, and immediately to the north a barn (DES1691). The site of the car park is shown as an open field.
- 2.9** The 1st Edition OS map (1873) shows the area of the car park to be situated in the same field, and there has been little change from the Tithe Map, apart from the railway line which is conveyed through a tunnel to the south of the road (Fig. 4). Later OS maps show little change to the area around the Swan Inn until the construction of the current A27 road in the later 20th century.
- 2.10** The 1946/7 aerial photographs show a small rectangular fenced/walled enclosure in the north-east corner of the field in which the car park is to be located, but this is not present on more recent photographs. The more recent aerial photographs do appear to show an elliptical-shaped feature extending across the centre of this field.

⁶ <http://www.envf.port.ac.uk/geo/research/historical/webmap/sussexmap/speedbrightonlrg.html>

⁷ <http://www.envf.port.ac.uk/geo/research/historical/webmap/sussexmap/Yeakelllarge34.htm>

3.0 Archaeological Methodology

- 3.1** A number of site visits were carried out between 22nd and 26th March 2010 to observe initial works being carried out by the contractors. No archaeological remains were found during these visits.
- 3.2** The next site visits took place on the 30th and 31st March 2010. On arrival at the site an area of paving slabs forming part of a beer terrace in the south eastern part of the site and a low wall which ran along the northern edge of the terrace had been removed. This was inspected for finds. The layer of soil below this was then stripped back into the natural to create an access ramp for the new pub car park and two soil test pits had been excavated to the north of the patio.
- 3.3** Another site visit took place on the 1st April 2010. Along the eastern boundary of the site a narrow trench had been dug to remove an in-situ hose pipe used to fill a water trough for sheep in the adjacent field and attached to a tap behind the beer terrace. This trench extended from the northern edge of the beer terrace to the boundary of the adjacent field. The work continued with the stripping back of the turf and soil along the eastern boundary of the site, continuing the trench for the new access ramp.
- 3.4** Further visits were made on the 6th and 7th April when the remaining excavation of the access ramp through to the fence at the north end of the garden was monitored. This completed Phase 1 of the works. We were subsequently advised that due to the unfortunate death of the client, Phase 2 was cancelled and would not be carried out.
- 3.5** All excavations were carried out using a 2.5 tonne tracked digger with a flat-bladed bucket, and were monitored by a qualified archaeologist. Removed spoil was placed on the site adjacent to the trench and was scanned visually and using a Garrett ACE250 metal detector for the presence of unstratified finds. The metal detector was also used to scan the excavated surfaces and any features. The spoil was subsequently removed from the site in dumper trucks.
- 3.6** All archaeological deposits, features and finds were excavated and recorded according to accepted professional standards. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- 3.7** 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. A site reference of SIF09 was allocated.

4.0 Results

- 4.1** The paving slabs on the beer terrace and part of a low wall were removed revealing a top soil (Context 1), which was a fairly firm, mid to dark brown silty clay containing chalk and flint pieces to 10cm (10%). This covered an area measuring 11.2m by 5.9m and was 150mm deep. This layer contained pottery and other artefacts dating to the 19th century, together with a single residual sherd of Medieval pottery.
- 4.2** Below Context 1 was a layer of firm, orange-brown, sandy clay (Context 2). This layer of natural clay contained rare flint pieces to 100mm (1%) and patches of chalk. Within this layer was a blackened area which included some 'burnt' stones, the material was hard and crumbly and was most probably a horizon of natural darkened soil known as Manganese. Two other smaller areas of similar material were also uncovered. This layer was excavated to a depth of 1m.
- 4.3** A trench of 200mm depth and 200mm width was excavated along the eastern boundary of the site to the north of the beer terrace to remove a hose pipe. This trench, cut into the top soil (Context 3) which consisted of a loose, dark brown, silty loam and contained chalk flecks to 1mm (< 1%). This layer contained pottery and other artefacts dating to the 19th century.
- 4.4** The excavation of the ramp continued to the north of the beer terrace. Below the turf was a layer of top soil (Context 4). This was the same as Context 3, containing chalk pieces to 5mm (< 1%) and was 120mm deep, with 19th and early 20th century artefacts..
- 4.5** Within Context 4 was an L- shaped brick wall (Context 8), constructed of orange-red fired unfrosted bricks of late 19th to early 20th century date, English bonded with mortar (Fig. 0). Both north/south and east/west faces of the wall measured 900mm by 900mm and went to a depth of 900mm. The right angle of the wall was situated 1.6m from the site boundary.
- 4.6** Situated against the west face of Context 8 was a small pit or midden deposit consisting a loose, dark brown, silty clay loam (Context 5), containing a mass of mainly scallop shells (50%) compacted against the wall, also a small amount of pottery and glass of mid to later 19th century date. This pit/deposit was 150mm wide, 900mm in length and 900mm deep, although no obvious cut could be seen.
- 4.7** The wall (Context 8) was entirely removed and below it was a thin horizon of loose, dark brown, silty loam (Context 6) containing shell and pottery of mid to later 19th century date. This context was the same as Context 4 and was allocated to secure artefacts sealed below the wall.

- 4.8** Below Context **4** was a firm orange-brown, sandy clay (Context **7**) containing rare flint pieces to 10mm (1%). This was the same as Context **2** but was allocated a new context number to differentiate between the different areas of the site. Within this context were two ceramic drainage pipes, one directly above the other, running in an east/west direction, on the same alignment as the east/west section of the wall, at a depth of 700mm and 760mm respectively.
- 4.9** The excavation continued northward to the boundary between the garden and adjacent field. The top soil here (Context **13**) incurred a gradual change to a loose, grey brown, sandy loam, containing irregular flint pieces to 30mm (1%), chalk flecks (<1%), charcoal (1%) and roots (1%). The top soil here was noticeably thicker than in other areas of the site. The owner advised that some top soil was brought into the site at some point in the past, which could account for the change here.
- 4.10** Below Context **13** was a continuation of Context **7** and cut into this were two rubbish pits dating to *c.* 1820-1860. The first was situated 2.5m north of Context **8** and 700mm to the west of the eastern boundary (Fig. 0). The cut of this (Cut **9**), was of an oval shape and measured 1m (E/W) and 800mm (N/S). It was orientated east-west and was cut into the slope, perhaps having been partly truncated in the past. The fill consisted of a firm, mid brown, sandy clay loam (Fill **10**) containing flint pieces to 40mm (2%), chalk flecks to 10mm (1%) and charcoal flecks (1%). This pit was not fully excavated as the slope was not being taken any deeper.
- 4.11** The second pit was situated 400mm to the west of the first (Fig. 0). The cut (Cut **11**) was again an oval shape and measured 900mm (E/W) and 700mm (N/S). Again, orientated east-west and cut into the slope, possibly partly truncated. The fill was of a firm, mid brown, sandy clay loam (Fill **12**) and contained flint pieces to 40mm (2%), chalk flecks to 10mm (1%) and charcoal flecks (1%). Again the depth was unknown as the required level for the excavation of the ramp had been reached.
- 4.12** Also below Context **13** was a well (Context **15**). This was situated 4.1m to the north of Context **8** and 1.5m to the west of the eastern boundary (Fig. 0) and was 150mm below the current ground level. It was a circular well with a square east end, and was formed of bricks with a concrete capping. The bricks were placed end-on forming the circle of the well and were bonded with a cream coloured, chalky mortar. The cut of the well (Cut **24**) was a roughly circular shape 170mm – 200mm greater in diameter to the well and the well itself was higher than the cut by two courses of bricks. Cut **24** was filled with compacted, off white, chalk pieces to 30mm (100%) (Fill **25**). The depth of the well was not known as it was only to be levelled to the impact level.

- 4.13** Towards the northern most part of the site, north of the well, a layer occurred below the top soil. This was a firm, dark orange-brown, sandy clay loam (Context **14**), and contained irregular and rounded flint pieces to 50mm (3%) and chalk flecks (1%). The depth of this was about 150mm although it was not totally excavated over most of the area as it extended below the impact level. It contained artefacts dating to the late 19th and early 20th century.
- 4.14** Below Context **14** were a number of features that had been cut into the natural (Fig 0). The first of these (Cut **16**), was small circular pit measuring 600mm in diameter and 260mm in depth. The top break of slope was slightly eroded, it was steep sided and rounded into a dished base. The upper fill (Fill **17**) consisted of a loose to firm, mid grey-brown sandy clay loam, containing irregular flint pieces to 25mm (2%), chalk flecks (1%) and charcoal flecks (<1%). This fill was 120mm deep. The lower fill (Fill **18**) was a firm, yellow-brown mottled sandy loam with rare flint pieces to 30mm (2%) and charcoal pieces/flecks (2%) and was 140mm deep. It contained artefacts dating to the 19th century.
- 4.15** Another small circular pit (Cut **19**) was uncovered. This was 530mm in diameter and 200mm deep. It had a sharp break of slope at the top, steep sides which rounded into a dished base. The fill of this (Fill **20**) consisted of a loose to firm mid grey-brown sandy clay loam with yellow-brown sandy patches. Within this fill were irregular flint pieces to 25mm (2%) and two bricks. The artefacts recovered dated to the period c. 1820-1860.
- 4.16** Cutting into the south side of Cut **19** was a square posthole (Cut **21**) with rounded corners, measuring 330mm square and 180mm deep. It had a sharp break of slope at the top, with steep sides, rounding into a dished base and contained remains of a wooden post. The fill of this (Fill **22**) was a loose, mid grey, sandy clay loam containing irregular flint pieces to 20mm (2%) and charcoal flecks (1%). It contained a single brick dating to between 1750 and 1900.
- 4.17** The final feature was a shallow cut and fill (Context **23**). The cut of this feature was square with slightly rounded corners; it had steep sides with sharp breaks of slope and a flat bottom. It measured 280mm by 280mm and was 70mm deep. The fill consisted of a loose, mid grey-brown, sandy clay loam, containing irregular flint pieces to 30mm (3%). There were no finds from this feature, but it appears contemporary with the other adjacent cuts.
- 4.18** There were no other features or deposits found during the watching brief.

5. The Finds

5.1.1 The archaeological work recovered a relatively large assemblage of finds from the site. The material is quantified in Tables 1 and 2.

5.1.2 The assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and is recommended for discard.

Table 1: Quantification of Pottery and Building Materials.

Context	Pottery (by date bracket)	Ceramic Building Material (CBM)	Other	Comment
U/S	1750-1900+: 1/38g	-	-	c. 1800-1900
Test pit spoil	1750-1900+: 10/310g	Drain 2/328g	-	c. 1840-1900
1	1250-1400: 1/50g 1750-1900+: 5/90g	Brick 3/96g Peg tile 1/104g	-	Mixed c. 1780-1840, resid 1300-1450.
3	1750-1900+: 9/124g	Peg tile 1/72g	-	c. 1840-1900
4	1550-1750: 3/50g 1750-1900+: 84/1632g	Brick 2/1502g Peg tile 12/962g Drain 1/422g	Clay pipe 2/6g Stone 3/104g Mortar 1/10g	c. 1840-1900 (but e/m C20th brick too)
5	1750-1900+: 7/202g	Brick 3/3325g Peg tile 1/82g Drain 1/64g	-	c. 1840-1900
6	1750-1900+: 1/14g	-	Mortar 1/20g	c. 1840-1900
7	1750-1900+: 3/50g	Peg tile 1/78g Drain 1/68g	-	c. 1840-1900
8	-	Brick 1/5100g	-	c. 1850-1940
10	1250-1400: 1/4g 1750-1900+: 25/600g	-	-	c. 1820-1860 resid 1250-1350
12	1550-1750: 1/12g 1750-1900+: 27/342g	-	Clay pipe 5/12g	c. 1820-1860
13	1750-1900+: 81/1588g	-	Clay pipe 3/6g Stone 1/25g	c. 1840-1925
14	1750-1900+: 3/126g	-	Clay pipe 3/8g	c. 1840-1925
17	-	Brick 3/90g	-	c. 1800-1900+
18	1750-1900+: 1/8g	-	-	c. 1800-1900
20	1750-1900+: 2/14g	-	-	c. 1820-1860
22	-	Brick 1/12g	-	c. 1750-1900

5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The large assemblage of pottery from the site is in variable condition and spans a wide chronological period though the vast majority of the assemblage is of the late post-medieval period.

- 5.2.2** The earliest pottery from the site is of the medieval period. Just two residual sherds are present suggesting low levels of manuring at this time, however, that from Context **1** consists of quite a large, relatively unabrased, fragment. This piece is from the base of a well-fired oxidized jug in medium sand tempered ware, with crudely thumbled base giving a slight foot-ring to the vessel. Spots of clear glaze are apparent on the exterior of the vessel which is likely to date between 1300 and 1450. The other medieval sherd was residual in Pit **9**, Fill **10** and consists of a well fired oxidized sandy ware with rare/sparse flint inclusions similar to Ringmer products of the mid 13th to mid 14th centuries.
- 5.2.3** Very few early post-medieval sherds are present and it is quite probable the two vessels represented, although of probable 18th- century manufacture, were still in use in the early 19th century. These include parts of the base of an abraded tin-glazed ware drug jar with blue tinged glaze (Layer **4**) and an abraded sherd from a Staffordshire-type combed slipware dish (Pit **11**, Fill **12**).
- 5.2.4** The remainder of the large pottery assemblage is of the late post-medieval period. Amongst this are a number of sherds that are of later 18th to early 19th century manufacture. These consist of a scatter of creamware (plates from Context **1**, a joggled slipware bowl from Context **4** and a chamber pot from Context **12**) and pearlware vessels. The latter include blue shell-edged decorated plates and transfer-printed table and tea wares. However, at 15 (176g) and 20 (146g) these two wares do not form a large component of the late post-medieval assemblage. This together with the fact they are always found in contexts containing mid 19th century wares, suggests these early vessels may have been discarded around the middle of the century.
- 5.2.5** There are a number of wares which cannot easily be dated any more closely than the later 18th to 19th centuries. These include some sherds of English stoneware (Context **4**), a stoneware seltzer bottle (Context **4**), black basalts teapot (Context **13**), yellow ware bowls, Sunderland-type slipwares and notable quantities of local glazed red earthenwares. The latter form a large group (83/2,410g), and consist of a range of jars, bowls, dishes and mugs, often with rim sherds and at least two complete profiles being represented (shallow bowls). A scatter of unglazed earthenware flower pots is also present.
- 5.2.6** The bulk of the finewares consist of transfer-printed table and teawares, refined white earthenwares (including a blue sponge-decorated bowl from Context **13** and English porcelain (teawares), datable to the mid to late 19th century. Some of the pieces are notably of late 19th to early 20th century date – including a refined white earthenware Maling and a couple of Bristol-glazed ribbed English stoneware preserve jars (Layer **13**). The virtual absence of English stoneware ginger beer, ink and blacking bottles is notable. However, the assemblage as a whole is undeniably of domestic nature and appears to relate to a household of the lower social levels from the mid/late 19th century.

5.3 *The Clay Tobacco Pipes* by Luke Barber

5.3.1 The 13 fragments of clay pipe from the site are all in quite fresh condition. All consist of undecorated stem fragments which are in keeping with the 19th century date of the bulk of the ceramic assemblage.

5.4 *Ceramic Building Material* by Luke Barber

5.4.1 A small assemblage of ceramic building material was recovered from the site all of which is of late post-medieval date. The earliest brick fragments consist of a few medium fired examples tempered with moderate fine sand (e.g. Post-hole **21**, Fill **22**) which could be as early as the later 18th century, however, a 19th century date is also possible. There are a couple of complete brick samples of probable 19th century date. Both are well formed and quite hard-fired frogless types. The example from Context **5**, measuring 222 x 109 x 65mm, has traces of off-white sandy cement bonding. The example from Wall **8**, measuring 225 x 105 x 62mm, has clearly been re-used as its surfaces have traces of a dull yellow sandy mortar, overlain by a coarse grey concrete of later 19th to early 20th century date. The latest brick is probably a frogged example with granular fabric from Context **4**. This piece is stamped by the Warnham brickworks and is likely to be of early 20th century date.

5.4.2 The tile from the site all consists of well formed and fired peg tile fragments tempered with sparse fine sand (with rare iron oxide inclusions in some). Square and diamond peg-holes are present and at least three examples have a black glazed surface. All are of 19th to mid 20th century date. The only significantly different fabric was from Context **3**, where a single peg tile fragment was tempered with sparse fine sand and abundant dull yellow pellets and streaks. The piece would still be in keeping with a 19th century date.

5.4.3 In addition there are a few fragments of collared drain in the assemblage. Most of these are in a well formed and fired fine unglazed earthenware, however, the example from Context **5** is of the more usual later 19th /early 20th century salt-glazed type.

5.5 *Flintwork* by Chris Butler

5.5.1 A small assemblage of flintwork was recovered during the watching brief (Table 2). A number of pieces (unstratified and Context **4**) have probably resulted from the construction of flint walling, and are typified by being large and irregular in shape, with cortex on the dorsal side and, being hard hammer-struck.

5.5.2 The remainder of the assemblage appears to be later prehistoric in date, with just two small soft hammer-struck flakes being found. The other debitage comprised hard hammer-struck flakes and flake fragments, mostly from Contexts **13** and **14**, some of which are patinated and others a grey or black colour, and are all likely to date from the Later Neolithic and Bronze Age.

5.5.3 Two end scrapers were also found, the first is a well made horseshoe type end scraper from Context **13**, typical of those found in the Later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. The other was a small end scraper manufactured on a hard hammer-struck flake from Context **14**.

5.5.4 A small group of fire fractured flint was also recovered during the watching brief, and probably also derives from later prehistoric activity.

Table 2 Quantification of Other Finds

Context	Flint	Glass	Bone	Shell	Metal
U/S	4/376 5 FF/318g	1/97g	-	-	1/188g
Test pit spoil	-	-	2/9g	-	-
1	-	-	5/98g	-	-
3	-	6/207g	-	-	-
4	4/91g	15/467g	10/419g	8/195g	2/237g
5	-	2/275g	-	20/998g	1/171g
10	-	-	5/27g	1/9g	2/127g
12	1/39g 1 FF/42g	2/31g	-	-	1/11g
13	22/633g 8FF/216g	14/705g	20/183g	1/127g	4/39g
14	12/254g 3 FF/119g	-	-	-	-
18	2 FF/26g	-	-	-	-
20	-	-	3/4g	-	1/3g
23	-	2/772g	-	-	-

5.6 *The Glass* by Chris Butler

5.6.1 A moderately sized assemblage of glass was found during the watching brief, including both complete bottles and fragments (Table 2). As one might expect in the vicinity of an inn, most of the glass derived from bottles, but there was also a fragment from a decorated bowl and 10 fragments of window glass.

- 5.6.2** The bottles included a long necked light green sauce bottle (236g) with an applied lip embossed GOODALL BLACHOUSE & CO / YORKSHIRE from Context 4. This company was established in 1837, and the above name was used from 1858⁸, with the bottle probably containing 'Yorkshire Relish'. The form of bottle suggests a pre 1900 date.
- 5.6.3** A square aqua bottle embossed FOSTER CLARK LTD/MAIDSTONE/EIFFEL TOWER LEMONADE (102g) was recovered from Context 3. Foster Clark was producing lemonade at Maidstone from 1891⁹ and this bottle probably dates to post 1910. A small clear glass ink bottle (61g) of probable 20th century date was also recovered from Context 3, together with a LEA & PERRINS glass bottle stopper which can date back to the later 19th century.
- 5.6.4** Other bottle fragments include two late 19th to early 20th century mineral water bottle bases from Context 5; with a further example from Context 13. This latter context also produced two fragments from the same Codd bottle. A small ribbed jar (97g) embossed J. SAINSBURY LTD/LONDON was found unstratified.
- 5.6.5** Context 23 produced a light green Codd bottle (333g) embossed THE SUSSEX MINERAL WATERS CO/BRIGHTON, with 1916 embossed on the base. This company (originally Lawman & Wyborn) operated from 32 Henry Street in Brighton from 1889 to 1939. A dark green beer bottle embossed H & G SIMONDS LTD was also found in Context 23. This company had produced beer at Bridge Street in Reading since 1785, and became a limited company in 1885¹⁰. The bottle type suggests a late 19th or early 20th century date.

5.7 *Animal Bone* by Chris Butler

- 5.7.1** Animal bone was recovered from a number of different contexts, and included a mixture of cattle, sheep and pig bones. Cattle bones included a number of rib fragments (Contexts 1 & 4), with sheep bones being predominantly limb bones. Pig bones comprised one leg bone fragments and an incisor. All of the bones found together at the interface of Contexts 13 & 14 appear to be from the same dog/cat burial.
- 5.7.2** Many of the bones are fragmentary, with some have been obviously cut or chopped. This would suggest that they have derived largely from kitchen waste.

⁸ http://www.gracesguide.co.uk/wiki/Goodall,_Backhouse_and_Co

⁹ <http://fosterclark.info/Bottle%20Selection.htm>

¹⁰ <http://dl.dropbox.com/u/265441/Brewery-book.pdf>

5.8 *Marine Shell* by Rachel Butler

5.8.1 Marine shell was recovered from four contexts. Contexts **4, 10 & 13** produced only oyster shell, with Context **4** having eight fragments (lower and upper shells) and the other two contexts a single piece each. None had any indication of infestation.

5.8.2 Context **5** produced predominantly scallop shell with 19 pieces comprising 11 upper shells, three lower shells and five fragments, the complete shells being a good size. A single, highly infested, upper oyster shell was also recovered from this context, which appears to derive from a single disposal event.

5.9 *Metal* by Chris Butler

5.9.1 Apart from a copper-alloy ELEY shotgun cartridge base in Context **20**, all of the remaining metalwork was iron. Most pieces were unidentifiable fragments, but there was a large plasterers trowel (unstratified), a horse shoe fragment from Context **5**, and a nail from Context **12**.

5.10 *Other Building Material* by Luke Barber

5.10.1 A fragment of sandy cement mortar was recovered from Context **4** while an off-white/grey sandy lime mortar fragment was recovered from Context **6**. Both are likely to be of 19th to 20th century date.

5.10.2 Context **4** produced a few pieces of Welsh slate, typical of the 19th century. Although two are clearly for roofing, the third fragment is polished and has a 13mm grid scribed onto one surface. As such it is assumed to be a school slate of similar date. Another piece of Welsh slate was recovered from Context **13**.

6.0 Discussion

- 6.1** The watching brief provided some evidence of prehistoric activity at and around the site. Most of the prehistoric flintwork recovered could be dated to the Later Neolithic, or more likely the Bronze Age. Although the quantity of flintwork suggests just a background scatter, the presence of two scrapers and numerous fire-fractured flints hints at more intensive activity in the vicinity of the site.
- 6.2** The village of Falmer dates back to the medieval period, or earlier, but there is very little evidence of this period on the site. Only two pottery sherds of medieval date were found during the watching brief, the earliest from a glazed jug dating between 1300 and 1450. Both of these sherds were found within residual contexts along with later post-medieval artefacts. No features of medieval date were encountered.
- 6.3** The Swan Inn is an 18th century building, and it is at this time that the archaeological evidence increases. The pottery assemblage begins to accumulate from *c.*1750 onwards, suggesting an increase in activity from about this date, which presumably coincides with the construction of the inn.
- 6.4** The vast majority of the activity however dates from the 19th century, with all of the dateable features and the vast majority of the artefacts coming from the mid 19th century onwards. The artefacts tail off from about 1925, and it is possible that reflects a change in the disposal of waste from the inn. The lack of earlier features could be attributed to landscaping during the 20th century, which has removed any features that may have been present.
- 6.5** The methodology employed during the watching brief has ensured that there is high level of certainty that all archaeological features and deposits present on the site have been recorded.

7 Acknowledgements

- 7.1** We would like to thank the late Mr Woodruff, and latterly his executors, for appointing us to carry out the work. We would also like to thank Tom Aitchison who co-ordinated the project. The watching brief was primarily carried out by Rachel Butler, with Chris Butler and Jim Ball also being involved on occasions. We would like to thank Luke Barber for his finds reports, and Greg Chuter who monitored the project for ESCC.

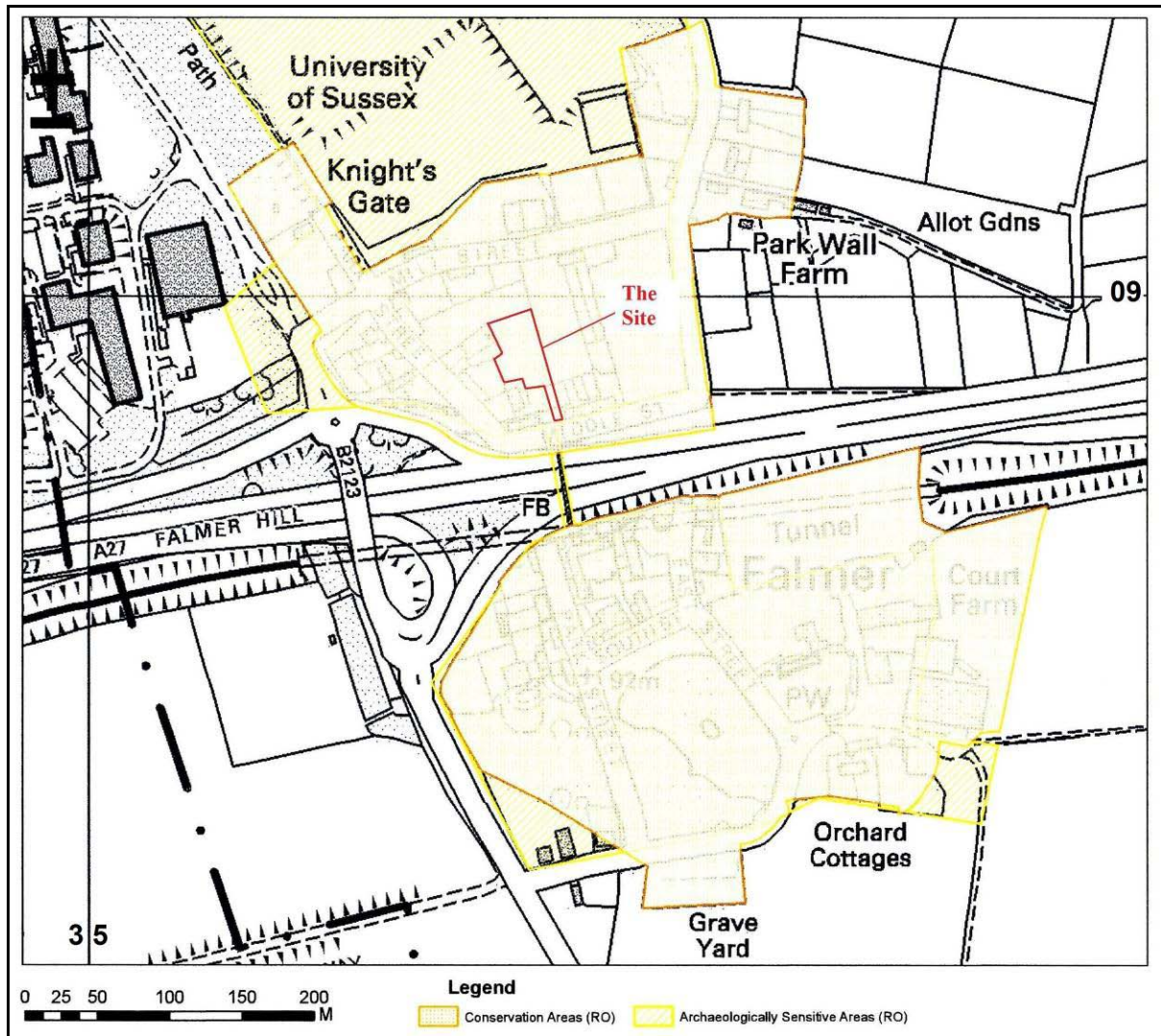


Fig. 1: Swan Inn, Falmer: Location of The Swan Inn, Falmer & Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (Based on map provided by ESCC)
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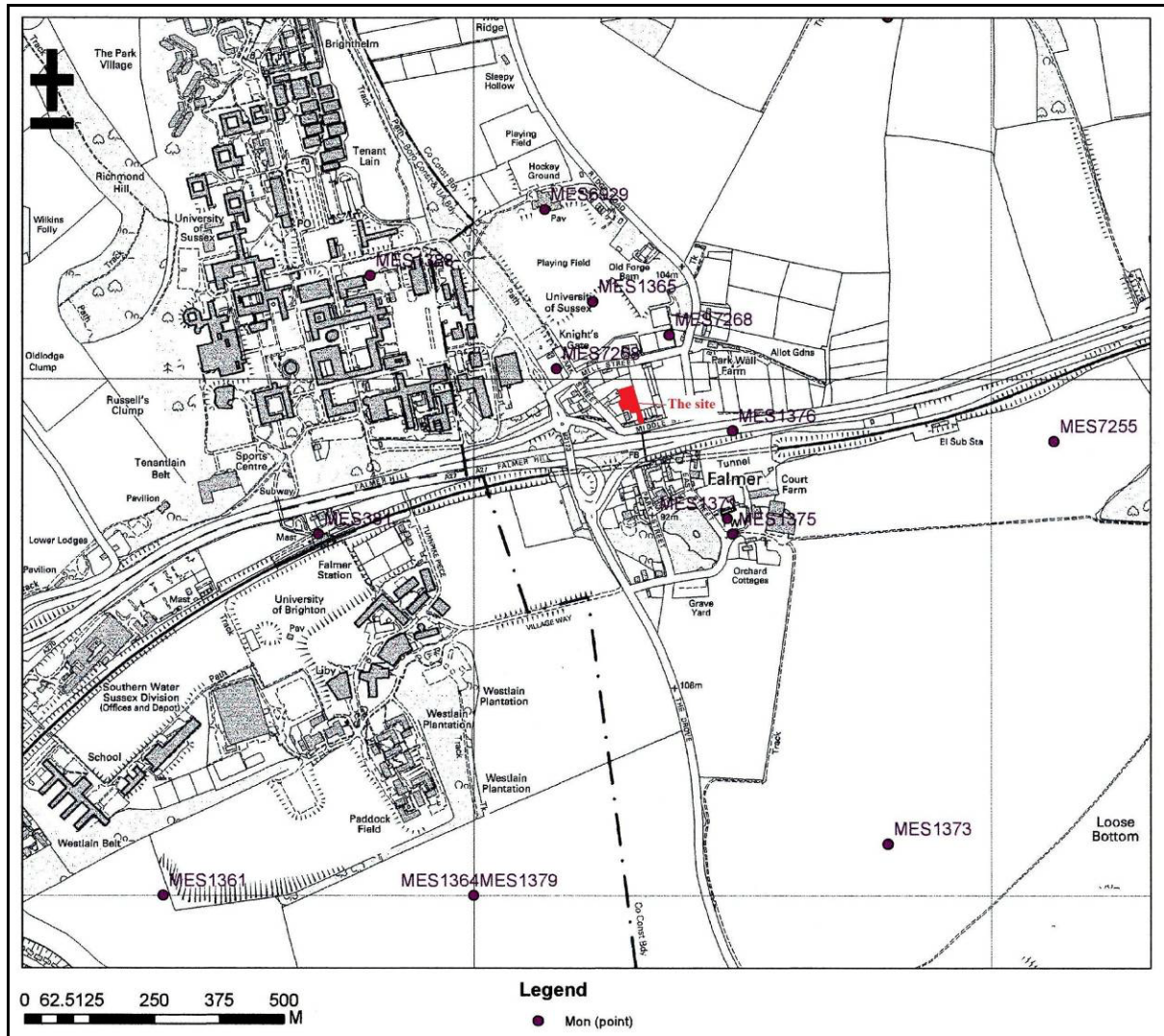


Fig. 2: Swan Inn, Falmer: Map showing the site and monuments from the HER
(Based on map provided by ESCC)
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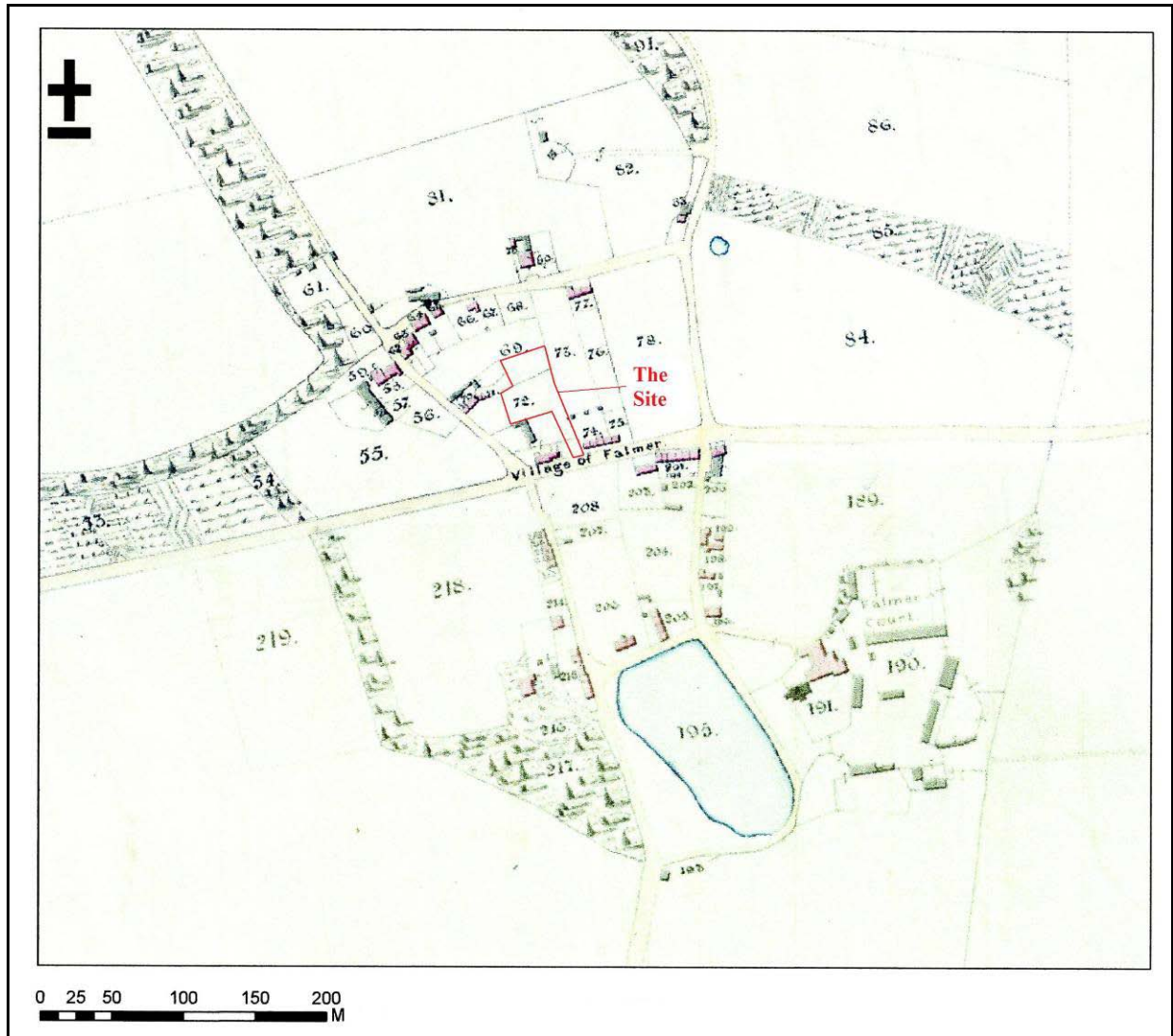


Fig. 3: Swan Inn, Falmer: 1840 Falmer Tithe Map
(Based on map provided by ESCC)

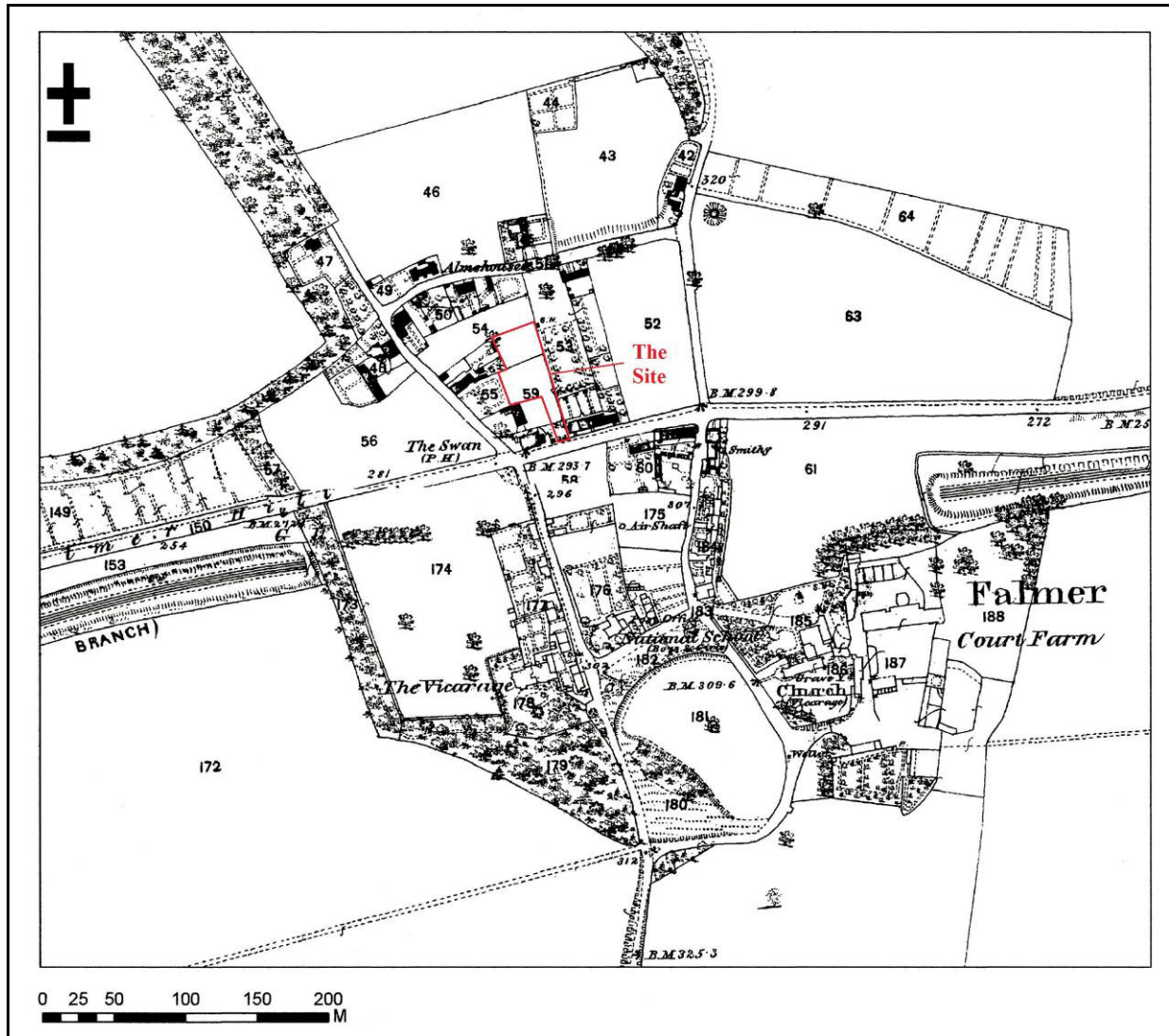


Fig. 4: Swan Inn, Falmer: 1st Edition OS Map 1873
(Based on map provided by ESCC)
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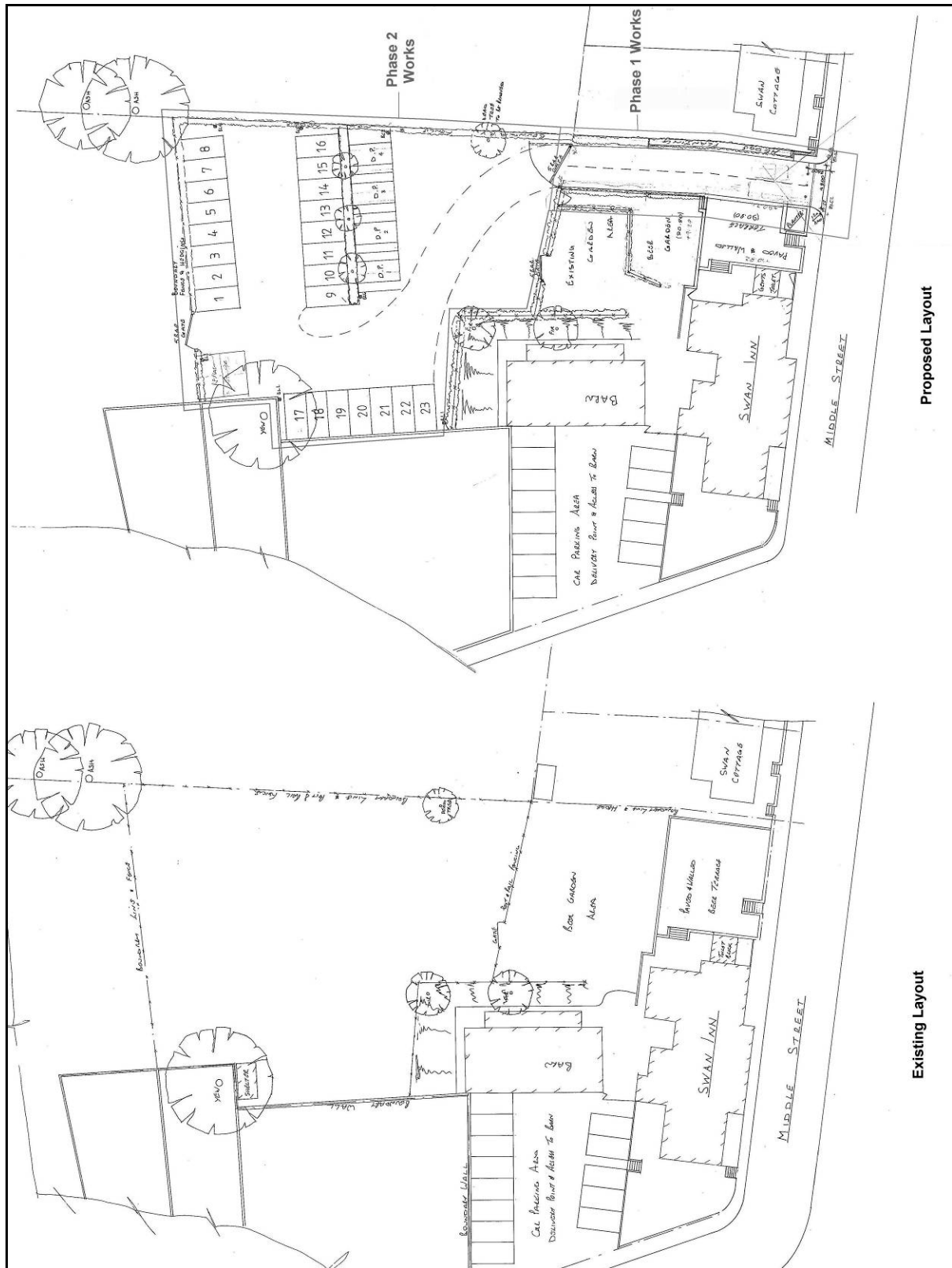


Fig. 5: Swan Inn, Falmer: Development Plan
(Adapted from Architects drawing)

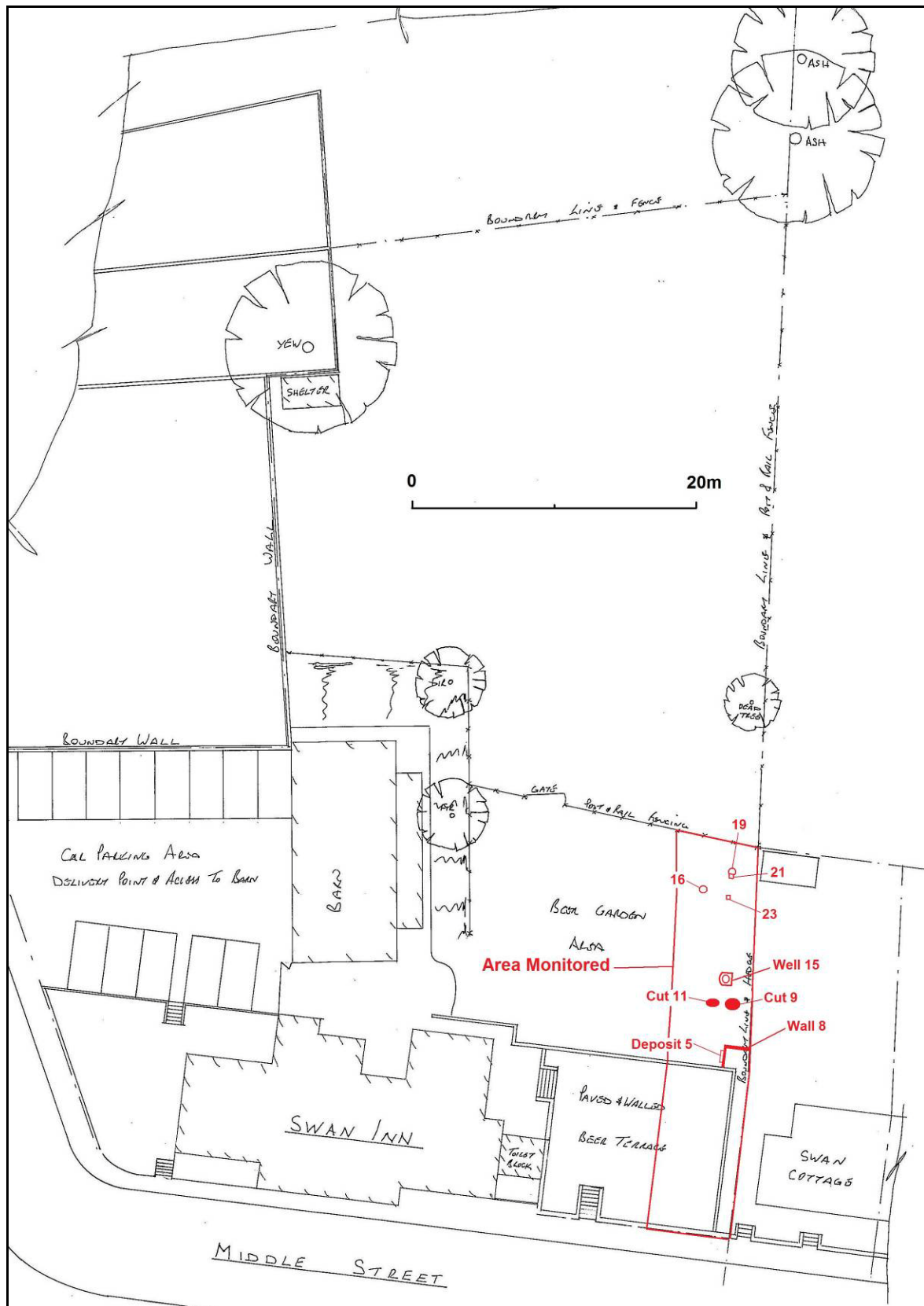


Fig. 6: Swan Inn, Falmer: Site Plan showing area monitored and features
(Adapted from Architects drawing)

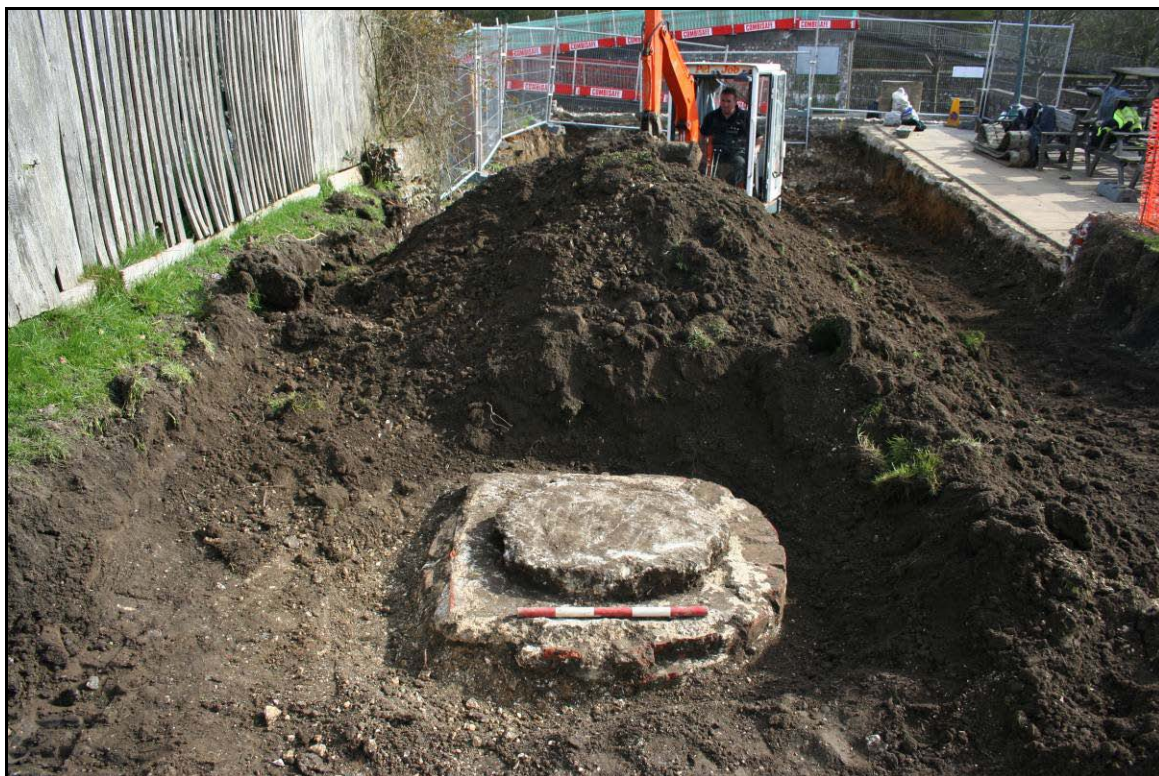


Fig. 7: Swan Inn, Falmer: Photograph of Well.



Fig. 8: Swan Inn, Falmer: Photograph of Cut 16.



Fig. 9: Swan Inn, Falmer: Photograph of Cuts 19 & 21



Fig. 10: Swan Inn, Falmer: Photograph of Cut 23.

Appendix I HER Summary Form

Site Code	SIF09					
Identification Name and Address	Swan Inn, Falmer, East Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	Lewes District Council					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 35320 08920					
Geology	Woolwich and Reading Beds					
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. 22/3/10- 7/4/10	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Mr Woodruff					
Project Manager	Chris Butler MifA					
Project Supervisor	Rachel Butler PifA					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA X	IA	RB
	AS	MED X	PM X	Other:		
<p><i>100 word Summary:</i></p> <p><i>An archaeological watching brief was carried out at the Swan Inn, Falmer during work to create a new access ramp and drive. A background scatter of prehistoric flintwork was recorded, together with a few residual sherds of Medieval pottery. Artefactual evidence increases c.1750, coinciding with the construction of the Swan Inn, and peaks in the later part of the 19th century. A well and a small number of pits and cuts of later 19th century date were the only features encountered.</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 of Field Archaeologists, a committee member of the Lithic Studies Society, and is a part time lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Sussex, and until recently taught A-Level Archaeology at Bexhill 6th Form College.

Chris specialises in prehistoric flintwork analysis, but has directed excavations, landscape surveys, watching briefs and evaluations, including the excavation of a Beaker Bowl Barrow, a Saxon cemetery and settlement, Roman pottery kilns, and a Mesolithic hunting camp. Chris is Co-Director of the Barcomvbe Roman Villa excavations. He has also recently undertaken an archaeological survey of Ashdown Forest and Broadwater Warren.

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

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