



Chris Butler MIFA Archaeological Services



**An Archaeological Watching Brief
at
Menival,
52 East End Lane,
Ditchling,
East Sussex**

TQ 3281 1524

**by
Keith Butler**

October 2008

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at 52, East End Lane, Ditchling, during building work associated with the demolition of an existing dwelling and construction of a new house. An evaluation trench was also excavated at the south end of the garden.

The watching brief resulted in the recovery of Mesolithic flintwork and Roman tile, together with Medieval and Post Medieval pottery and other artefacts dating from the mid 12th to the 19th century. A single feature of 16th to mid 17th century date was also recorded.

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Cover Photograph: 16th to mid 17th century Context 7

1 Introduction

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services was commissioned by David Grey Associates to carry out an archaeological Watching Brief and the excavation of an evaluation trench at Menival, 52 East End Lane, Ditchling, East Sussex (TQ 3281 1524).
- 1.2** The site lies within the historic core of the Medieval and Post-Medieval village of Ditchling and is also known as an area of Prehistoric activity. The site is within a designated Archaeological Sensitive Area, and is also located within a Conservation Area (Fig. 1).
- 1.3** Menival is on the south side of East End Lane, opposite Cherry Tree Cottage which is dated to 1400AD. The site is situated on fairly steeply sloping ground from the south to the frontage on East End Lane, which is at a much lower level. There are properties on both the east and west sides, with the ground falling away beyond the southern boundary to a pit that was used for the extraction of sand. The northern end of the property is fronted by East End Lane.
- 1.4** The geology, according to the British Geological Survey sheet 318/333 is Folkstone Beds with the Lower Greensand immediately to its north. The Gault Clay lies to the south of the site, and there are outcrops of Head deposit to the east and west.
- 1.5** An application had been submitted for planning permission for the demolition of the existing building, and the construction of a four bedroomed house with a double garage (LW/07/1579). The planning consent had been granted by Lewes District Council (being the local planning authority). However, given the archaeological sensitivity of the development site, an archaeological planning condition requiring an archaeological watching brief was attached to the consent.
- 1.6** The watching brief took place on the 17th and 18th July and 15th September 2008. The fieldwork was carried out by the author with Ann Bacon assisting on site on the first two days. The project was managed by Chris Butler MIFA.

2 Archaeological & Historical Background

- 2.1** A large number of sites at Ditchling are recorded on the HER (Fig. 2). These comprise find spots of artefacts, earthworks and a large number of Listed Buildings.
- 2.2** The Lower Greensand ridge running east-west through Hassocks and Ditchling has produced a large number of Mesolithic sites, including a large site at Lodge Hill, Ditchling¹, Keymer² and Hassocks³, whilst a watching brief during the laying of a new water pipe-line between Ditchling and Wivelsfield Green located three large concentrations of Mesolithic flintwork (MES 7390-2).
- 2.3** Later prehistoric activity is represented by finds of Later Neolithic and Bronze Age flintwork, a Late Bronze Age cauldron (MES1306) and a possible Bronze Age barrow on Lodge Hill (MES1305). Recent assessment excavations at Keymer Burial Ground located a ditch, the fill of which contained flintwork and sherds of prehistoric pottery which range in date from the Late Bronze Age through to the Late Iron Age⁴. Two Iron Age coins have been recovered from fields around Ditchling (MES1313 and Rudling⁵).
- 2.4** The Roman period is represented by finds of Romano-British pottery, coins and Roman tile (MES1311) in fields to the north-east of the site, and a fragment of tegula roofing tile was found in Ditchling cemetery (TQ33301505) in 1994⁶. The Roman road the Greensand Way⁷ also runs to the north of the site, and was located during a recent watching brief (MES7393). A short distance to the west along the Greensand Way is the Roman settlement at Hassocks, whilst to the east there are a number of Roman villa sites.
- 2.5** The nucleus of the present village was established during the Saxon period on the narrow ridge of Folkestone Beds running east/west, where the soil is light and well drained and there are abundant fresh-water springs. The name Ditchling refers to Diccel's people (oe. *Diccelingas* → aet Diccelingum c. 880 → Dicelingas 1121 → Dicheling 1230 → Dichlinge 1589).

¹ Garrett, S. 1976 'A Mesolithic Site at Lodge Hill, Ditchling', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **114**, 326.

² Garrett, S. 1976 'Mesolithic and Neolithic finds from Keymer', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **114**, 326.

³ Butler, C. 1989 'An Early Mesolithic Site and Later Flintwork from Hassocks, West Sussex' *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **127**, 230-234.

⁴ Butler, C. 2004 *An Assessment Excavation at Keymer Burial Ground, Keymer, West Sussex*, MSFAT Interim Report.

⁵ Rudling, D. 1987 'An Iron Age coin found at Ditchling' *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **125**, 238.

⁶ Rudling, D. 1994 'A Roman tile from Ditchling Cemetery' *MSFAT Newsletter* **23**.

⁷ Margary, I. 1948. *Roman Ways in the Weald*. London. Phoenix House

- 2.6** The village was owned by Aelfred the Great, whose palace is believed to have stood opposite the Church of St. Margaret, and was the administrative centre of a large Saxon royal estate⁸. The Will of King Alfred 880 A.D. bequeathed the Manor of Ditchling to his relative, Osferth. The manor reverted to the Crown to form part of the demesne land of Edward the Confessor. Following the Norman Conquest the Domesday Survey of 1086 showed that the manorial lands had been divided up, William de Warenne acquiring the demesne lands.
- 2.7** The de Warennes based themselves in Lewes, selling some of the demesne land and granting some to Lewes Priory which became the Manor of Ditchling Garden. This reverted back to the Crown on the dissolution of the monasteries. There was never a resident 'Lord of the Manor' and a great deal of demesne land was leased to tenant farmers with the result that Ditchling developed as an 'open' rather than 'closed' village⁹. The Manor of Ditchling passed through various hands to the Lords of Abergavenny who held the lands until 1939, when the estate was divided up and sold.
- 2.8** Post-Medieval industry is represented by the large quarry for the extraction of sand (TQ 33500 15000), which is situated to the south of the site. Sixteen timber framed houses have so far been identified and recorded by members of the Wealden Buildings Study Group¹⁰, with many other buildings recorded on the HER dating from the 18th century. "Menival" stands almost opposite "Cherry Tree Cottage", which is a Grade II listed timber framed building dating to the 16th century and is the original farmhouse to East End Farm.
- 2.9** The 1st Edition OS map shows the area of the site to be three small fields on the south side of East End Lane, and the area continues to be open ground through all the following editions. The quarry is not shown on the 1st or 2nd Editions, but is present on the 3rd Edition OS map and appears to have been abandoned by 1937.
- 2.10** Recent archaeological watching briefs have been carried out to the rear of former Sandrock Public House (EES13935) where a Medieval boundary ditch, two Post Medieval pits and three undated post holes were found¹¹, at North End Farm where all the artefacts dated to the 19th/20th century¹², and at 5 Fieldway where two very abraded possible Saxo-Norman pottery sherds were found¹³.

⁸ Glover, J. 1975 *The Place Names of Sussex*, pps.47-8. Batsford, London.

⁹ Warne, H. Ditchling Parish Survey. unpublished.

¹⁰ Holt, M & Goodare. *Ditchling Timber Framed Buildings & Some Parish History*. Wealden Buildings Study Group.

¹¹ Archaeology South-East Report no: 1706

¹² Butler, C. 2004 *A Watching Brief at North End Farm, 3-5 East Gardens, Ditchling, East Sussex* MSFAT Report

¹³ Cudmore, D. 2006 *A Watching Brief at 5 Fieldway, Ditchling, East Sussex*, MSFAT Report

3 Archaeological Methodology

- 3.1** On arrival at the site on the 17th July the existing property had already been demolished and a substantial amount of ground disturbance had taken place. This consisted of the reduction of platform 9m long by 12.5m in width to the south of the original property. Trenches had been excavated and filled with rubble. The spoil from these and the other areas of reduction had been placed in heaps near the western boundary fence at the south end of the site, and another spoil heap at the north end of the site.
- 3.2** On instructions from Greg Chuter (Assistant County Archaeologist) a sample of 25% was to be sieved from the spoil heaps in order to retrieve a fuller sample from the impacted areas, also a metal detector was used on the spoil heaps for the retrieval of metallic finds. A 2m wide section (Section 1) was cleaned back and recorded on the western boundary and similarly on the eastern boundary, where a 3.5m wide section (Section 2) was cleaned back (Fig. 3).
- 3.3** On the 18th July a watching brief was carried out during the excavation of an area immediately south of the demolished building, this was carried out using a tracked mini-digger with a toothless bucket.
- 3.4** On a third visit to the site on the 15th September, a large amount of construction work had taken place including a large concrete raft that had been laid over the footprint of the demolished building. An evaluation trench 13m long by 1m wide was excavated across an area at the south end of the property (Fig. 3) where the garage and access drive were to be constructed.
- 3.5** The trench had to be placed on the western side of the site to avoid a shed and stored building materials. This also entailed the excavation of the trench in two stages, as access was required to the building materials. The size and location of the trench was also constrained by undergrowth and other obstructions. A second adjoining trench of 3m was also excavated at right angles to, and five metres from the south end of, the main evaluation trench (see Fig. 3).
- 3.6** All archaeological deposits, features and finds were excavated and 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. A TBM was established at the East End Lane end of the site.
- 3.7** A 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 and after any further analysis, will be offered to Ditchling Museum. A site reference of MVD08 has been allocated.

4 Results

- 4.1** A section along the eastern boundary (Section 2) of the site had been excavated to a depth of 500mm, with the section on the western boundary (Section 1) being deeper at 1.4m. After being cleaned back the sections revealed the complete stratigraphy down to the natural (Fig. 4).
- 4.2** Contexts **1** and **2** were only present in Section 1 as they had been removed from the eastern side of the site by earlier landscaping and a layer of concrete had been directly laid on top of Context **3**. Context **1** was a dark grey-brown sandy loam topsoil, which contained roots (3%), chalk fragments and flecks (<1%) and 20th century tile and brick fragments (1%).
- 4.3** Below Context **1** was a thin horizon of worm sorted, small chalk fragments and flecks (30%) in dark grey-brown soil (Context **2**). Context **3** was present in both sections and was a light grey-buff layer of loose sandy loam, containing roots (<1%), chalk flecks (<1%) and charcoal flecks (1%).
- 4.4** Context **10** was only apparent in Section 2 in the eastern boundary. It was visible beneath Context **3** and above Context **4** and was loose, light brown sand with mottled grey-brown and had yellow patches with roots (<1%), and would appear to be made up of redeposited natural sand mixed with sandy loam.
- 4.5** The natural, Context **5**, was an orange sand compact in nature and it contained two lenses (Contexts **4** and **6**), and these comprised a very dark brown sandy loam of a loose consistency with roots (<1%).
- 4.6** The only feature that was discovered during the watching brief was initially revealed as a darker strip of soil as the area was being cleaned back. When this was excavated, a cut (Cut **7**) comprising a roughly U-shaped linear feature with an almost flat bottom, and with a slight ledge on the south side (Fig. 4). The cut measured 1.7m in width, with a depth of 800mm. The cut was visible for a length of approximately 13m before becoming obscured by a large pile of building rubble (Fig. 3).
- 4.7** There were two fills in Cut **7**, the upper (Context **8**) being of a loose dark grey-brown sandy loam, with flint pieces up to 10mm (1%) and roots (1%). Finds from the fill consisted of clay pipe stems, animal teeth, pottery and fire cracked flint. The lower fill (Context **9**) was a much darker brown, loose sandy loam which produced a flint core and a large pottery base sherd of 16th to mid 17th century date. A soil sample of this fill was taken to be wet sieved.

- 4.8** A circular hole 1.3m in diameter had been previously excavated towards the centre of the site (Fig. 3), and had cut through the natural (Context **5**) to a depth of 1.6m This revealed no real change in the make up of the natural except that there were changes in colour, with bands of dark orange, yellow brown and buff coloured sand noted, each some 300-500mm deep.
- 4.9** The evaluation trench at the south end of the site was excavated to a depth of 1m at its southern end. This depth decreased along its length to about 800mm at the northern end and at this depth the natural was showing through. In the trench only two contexts were apparent.
- 4.10** Context **100** was a dark grey-brown sandy loam topsoil with a loose consistency and up to 0.5m in depth. It had a large amount of root disturbance (15%) and also contained small flecks of chalk and small pieces of flint, up to 10mm (both of less than 10%). The finds from this layer were of Medieval and Post Medieval pottery, clay pipe stems, fragments of brick and tile and worked flint, all of which were residual. It was also noticed that this layer was shallower at the north end of the trench, most likely due to the topsoil being washed down the site.
- 4.11** Below this layer of topsoil was Context **101**, which was up to 0.5m deep and was directly above the natural. This layer was made up of a loose mid brown-orange sandy loam which had a certain amount of root disturbance (2%) and most of the finds were retrieved from the upper levels of this layer. The finds comprised Medieval and Post Medieval pottery and worked flint.
- 4.12** There were no other features noted during the fieldwork, although further artefacts were collected from the ground surface and from the spoil heaps.

5 The Finds

The excavation produced an interesting assemblage of finds, with examples ranging from the Mesolithic period through to the 19th century; these are summarised in Table 1 and discussed further below:

Table 1 The Finds

Context	Pottery	Flint	Bone	Others
Surface finds	2 6gms	7 gms 3 FF flints 3gms		2 CBM* 422gms
Area excavated by mini-digger		4 20gms 1 FF flint 1gm		3 CBM 95gms 1 stone 10gms
Spoilheap	25 174gms	12 197gms 1 FF flint 34gms	2 3gms	4 glass 24gms 10 metal 60gms 1 slag 54gms 16 CBM 1155gms 5 clay pipe 11gms 4 stone 48gms
Finds from platform	30 133gms	16 330gms 4 FF flints 112gms	14 53gms	7 oyster 32gms 3 metal 31gms 2 slag 54gms 14 CBM 307gms 5 clay pipe 10gms 5 stone 174gms
Context 8	1 6gms	3 23gms	2 26gms	1 clay pipe 3gms
Context 9	2 124gms	3 68gms		
Context 100	15 138gms	4 56gms	9 176gms	4 oyster 59gm 7 glass 49gms 4 metal 29gms 12 CBM 361gms 10 clay pipe 30gms 1 stone 33gms
Context 101	5 68gms	7 36gms 1 FF flint 9gms	4 44gms	1 oyster <1gm 3 CBM 93gms 1 clay pipe 5gms 2 stone 124gms
Clean up W facing section		1 2gms		2 CBM 28gms

* CBM = Ceramic Building Material

A group of artefacts of similar range and date were collected by Greg Chuter on an initial visit to the site, prior to the watching brief. These are not included in Table 1, although the flintwork has been incorporated into the report below.

5.1 The Pottery by Luke Barber

A small assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site, with the majority of sherds being small and showing considerable signs of abrasion (Table 2).

Table 2 The Pottery

Context	Mid C12th – mid 13 th	Mid c13th – mid 14 th	Mid C14th – C15th	C16th – C17th	C18th	C19th
Platform clean-up	5/17g	14/57g	4/18g	-	3/16g	4/25g
Spoilheap 1 & 3	2/14g	6/24g	1/4g	2/18g	3/19g	9/79g
Spoilheap	-	-	-	2/16g	-	-
Surface finds	2/6g	-	-	-	-	-
8	1/6g	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	1/4g	1/120g	-	-
100	-	1/16g	1/7g	-	3/14g	10/101g
101	-	1/20g	3/42g	-	1/6g	-

- 5.1.1** The earliest pottery from the site consists of flint tempered and sand and flint tempered wares of probable mid 12th to mid 13th century date. All appear to be from cooking pots and at least the sand and flint tempered vessels are likely to have derived from the Ringmer/Clay Hill area.
- 5.1.2** The only stratified sherd of this period is from Context **8** which contained a sand/flint tempered cooking pot base sherd of Clay Hill type, probably dating between the later 12th and early/mid 13th centuries.
- 5.1.3** From the clean-up of the site and the spoilheaps some 22 sherds can be placed between the mid 13th and mid 14th centuries. These are predominantly sand tempered cooking pots with occasional flint inclusions typical of the Ringmer industry but a few sherds from fine/medium sand tempered glazed jugs are also present originating either from Ringmer or the Streat kilns.
- 5.1.4** A few sherds of well fired fine/medium sand tempered wares are present which are likely to be of mid 14th to mid 15th century date. One of these, probably dating to the 15th century was located in Cut **7** (Context **9**) though this deposit also produced a large sherd of 16th to mid 17th century glazed red earthenware bowl.
- 5.1.5** An oxidised well fired fine sand tempered flaring rim from a cooking pot of 15th - to early 16th - century date was recovered from Context **100** and the base of a possible pitcher of similar fabric/date from Context **101**.
- 5.1.6** From the sieving of the spoilheaps a sherd of green glazed red earthenware and a fragment of French stoneware bottle were found. Later material is represented by 18th century glazed earthen ware and white salt-glazed stone ware.

- 5.1.7** Later material is represented by 18th century glazed red earthenware and white salt-glazed stoneware (eg. Context **101**) and there is a small assemblage of 19th century material, most notably from Context **100**. The latter consists of glazed red earthenwares, unglazed earthenware (flower pots), Yellow ware, blue transfer-printed pearlware and plain china and is typical of a domestic assemblage of the first half of the 19th century.
- 5.1.8** Although small the pottery assemblage is of particular interest in demonstrating occupation on or near the site from the 12th century onwards.

5.2 Clay Tobacco Pipes by Luke Barber.

- 5.2.1** Twenty two fragments of clay pipe were recovered from the site. Virtually the whole assemblage consists of plain stem fragments though most do not show signs of extensive abrasion. The earliest material consists of stem fragments from the first half of the 17th century (Contexts 8 and 101). There is a good spread of stems from the second half of the 17th century through to the mid 18th century with surprisingly few later pieces (only two pieces from Context 100).
- 5.2.2** One of the early/mid 18th- century stems has part of a maker's initials 'H' but the other initial is illegible (Context 100). Bowl fragments were only recovered from cleaning of the platform and Context 100 all of which appear to be of early to mid 18th- century date.

5.3 Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

- 5.3.1** The earliest material recovered from the site consists of three pieces of Roman tile. These are made in a well fired fabric tempered with moderate medium sand and common iron oxides to 1mm. None of the Roman tiles appears to be significantly abraded. They are part of a tegula and flat tile recovered from above the concrete on the eastern boundary of the site, with one fragment of flat tile coming from the spoilheap.
- 5.3.2** No definite Medieval tile was obtained from the site, but there were a number of pieces of quite crudely finished early Post-Medieval peg tile in fine tempered fabrics, most likely dating to the 17th or to the first half of the 18th century. The majority of roof tile is hard fired and dates to the late 18th century to the 19th century. A blue 19th to 20th century ceramic wall tile fragment was recovered from the clean-up of the reduced area.
- 5.3.3** Of the 10 fragments of brick the earliest are of low to medium fired, tempered with abundant fine sand and iron oxides to 1mm. One fragment was found in the area excavated by the mini-digger and one fragment on the spoilheap. These two pieces of brick date to the late 16th to early 18th century. The rest of brick fragments are placed in the 18th to 19th centuries.

5.4 The Flintwork by Chris Butler

- 5.4.1** A small assemblage of flintwork was recovered from the site, including 10 pieces collected by Greg Chuter on an initial site visit, and comprised in total 55 pieces weighing 682gms (Table 3). In addition there were 11 pieces of fire-fractured flint weighing 214gms. The raw material comprised a range of mottled grey to black coloured flint, many pieces having a dull patina.

Table 3 Prehistoric Flintwork

Hard hammer-struck flakes	9
Soft hammer-struck flakes	4
Soft hammer-struck blades	3
Soft hammer-struck bladelets	2
Fragments	18
Shattered piece	1
Chips	6
Cores	4
Core fragment	2
Core rejuvenation piece	1
End scrapers	3
Truncated blade	1
Notched flake	<u>1</u>
<i>Total</i>	<i>55</i>

- 5.4.2** The flintwork comprised mostly debitage, with a mixture of hard and soft hammer struck flakes, some of which had prepared platforms. There were also three blades and two bladelets, one of the latter having a notch and break typical of microlith production.
- 5.4.3** The cores comprised of a two-platform flake core, a two-platform bladelet core, a single platform blade core and a single platform core with both flake and bladelet removals. There were also two core fragments and a rejuvenation flake from a blade core. All of these were typical of Mesolithic cores.
- 5.4.4** Implements comprised of three end scrapers, one manufactured on a long blade with abrupt retouch at the distal end, whilst the second was manufactured on a small flake and had some additional semi-abrupt retouch along part of one lateral edge, and the third was a small expedient end scraper. Finally, there was a truncated blade with a pointed end and a soft-hammer struck blade-like flake with a small notch on one lateral edge.
- 5.4.5** All of the flintwork would not be out of place in a Mesolithic assemblage, although it is not possible to say whether the pieces represent a base camp or hunting camp as the assemblage is too small. The recovery of the flintwork at this site, albeit unstratified, confirms the importance of this area during the Mesolithic period.

5.5 The Animal Bone identified by Pat Stevens.

- 5.5.1** A total of 31 pieces of animal bone weighing in total 302gms was recovered in the watching brief. The species represent were cattle (39%), sheep (49%), pig (6%) and chicken (3%).
- 5.5.2** The bone from Context **100** was predominantly cattle, mostly being long bones and toes with evidence of butchery on the long bones, also in this context was a sheep horn and a single chicken bone.
- 5.5.3** The bone from Context **101** was sheep, apart from one unidentified fragment, again all long bones, one of which had been gnawed by a dog. The only bone retrieved from stratified contexts was from the upper fill of Cut **7** (Context **8**) and comprised two adult cattle teeth.

5.6 Marine Molluscs

- 5.6.1** Fourteen fragments of oyster weighing 114gms were collected during the watching brief. Oyster was a popular food resource during the Roman, Medieval and early Post Medieval periods, and the shells are often found in domestic contexts even at inland site such as Ditchling.

5.7 Foreign Stone by Luke Barber

- 5.7.1** Thirteen pieces of stone were recovered from the site and these are predominantly Horsham stone roofing slabs. These appear to have been popular for roofing during the 15th to 16th centuries and may explain the lack of ceramic roof tiles which can be attributed to this period..
- 5.7.2** A rough cube (30 x 25 x 20mm) of non-calcareous Wealden ferruginous fine sandstone could be interpreted as a Roman floor cube (tessera) though it has no signs of adhering mortar to prove this (from the platform). The only other stone retrieved from the site comprised four pieces of 19th century Welsh roofing slate.

5.8 Other finds by Chris Butler

- 5.8.1** Fourteen fragments of glass were recovered, weighing 104gms, made up of two fragments of window glass, two fragments from clear glass bottles, six fragments from green glass bottles and one base fragment from a clear glass tumbler. All of the glass fragments date to the 19th and 20th centuries.
- 5.8.2** A small number of metal finds were recovered from the site, of which the majority were nails of various types, all of which dated to the 19th or 20th century. One coin, a 1974 QEII penny, was found as a surface find, and two 19th or 20th century metal fittings were found in Context **100**.

- 5.8.3** There were three pieces of iron-working slag weighing 108gms. One of these pieces appears to be Post-Medieval, but the other two could be Roman or Medieval in date.

5.9 Environmental Evidence

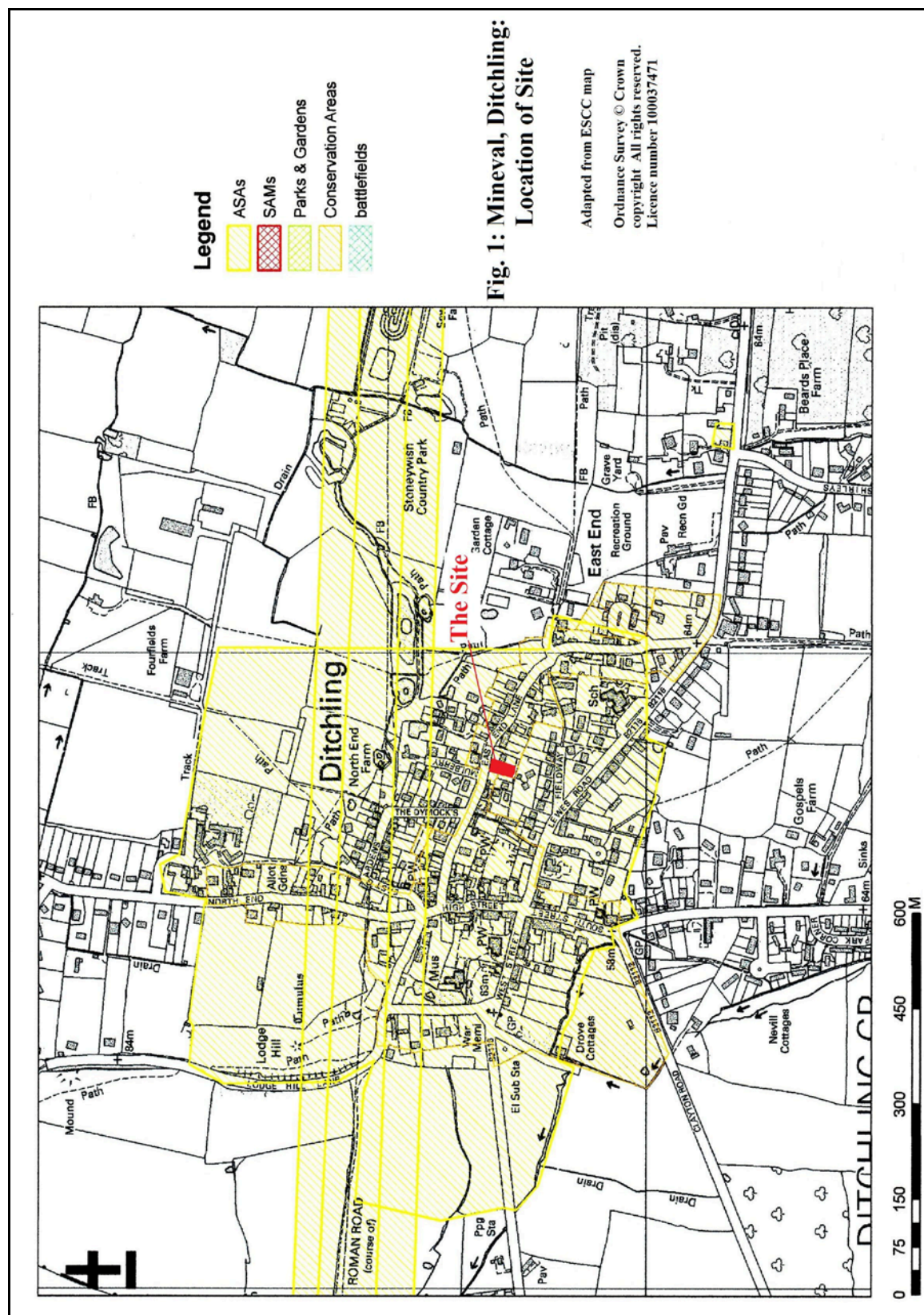
- 5.9.1** A single soil sample was taken from the lower fill of Cut 7 (Context 9). It was wet sieved through a 1mm sized sieve, and produced modern roots, together with charcoal, small natural flint fragments and small pieces of sandstone in the residue.

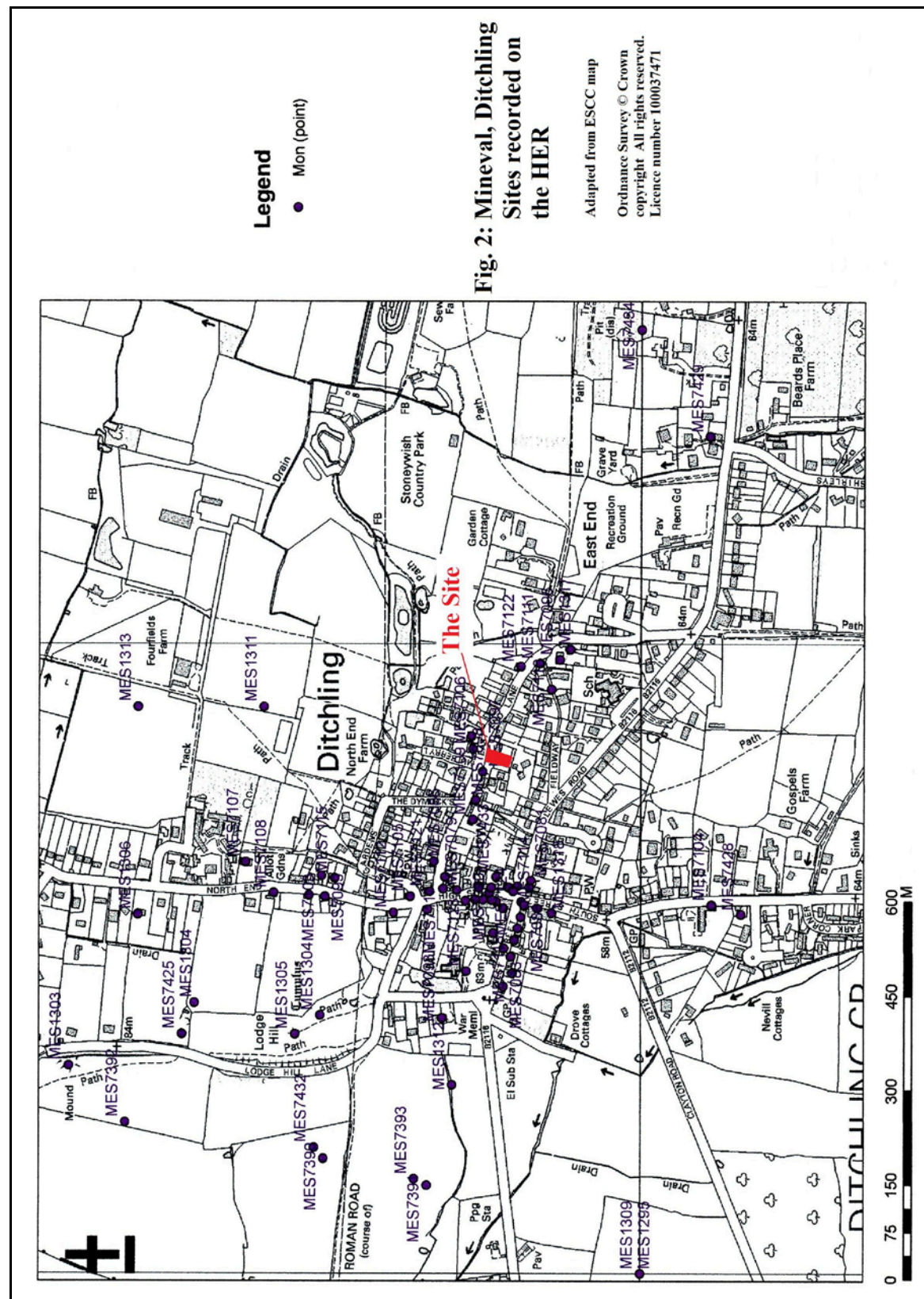
6 Discussion

- 6.1** Unfortunately much of the site had been disturbed both recently and in the past, with the result that most of the artefacts were unstratified. However, they provide evidence of frequent human activity from Prehistory to the present day. Although the flintwork assemblage is small it would appear to confirm the importance of this area during the Mesolithic period, and it is likely that there are undisturbed in-situ deposits surviving in the area.
- 6.2** Perhaps the most significant artefacts found on site are the three Roman tile fragments, which in their unabraded condition would suggest that there is a Roman building of some consequence in the immediate area. The small quantity of tile recovered would suggest that this building is not adjacent to the site, although they could have originated from an out-lying structure associated with it.
- 6.3** The pottery assemblage is of particular interest in demonstrating occupation on or near the site from the 12th century onwards. Very few groups of pottery have been excavated from the village to date and as such every assemblage adds significantly to our understanding of the settlement's spatial and chronological development.
- 6.4** The only feature discovered during this watching brief, was what appeared to be a ditch terminal or possibly a large linear pit. This could be a feature connected with the extraction of sand, as it is in close proximity to the Post-Medieval sand quarry to the south of the site. However, the unabraded pottery from the primary fill of this feature suggests it is of 16th to mid 17th century date whereas the map evidence suggests the quarry is a late 19th century feature. It is therefore more likely that it is a boundary ditch perhaps relating to the boundary of a property that fronted East End Lane.

7. Acknowledgements

- 7.1** I would like to thank Mr David Grey and his on-site staff for their co-operation on site during this watch brief. The project was monitored by Mr Greg Chuter for ESCC, who also provided guidance on the watching brief and supplied the HER records.
- 7.2** I would also like to thank Chris Butler and David Rudling for their guidance and advice. Chris Butler for reporting on the flint and other finds, Luke Barber on the pottery, clay pipe and building material, Pat Stevens for identifying the bone, Ann Bacon for the historical background of Ditchling and her assistance on site, lastly Susan Birks for reading through the report for me. Jane Russell prepared the section drawings for the report.





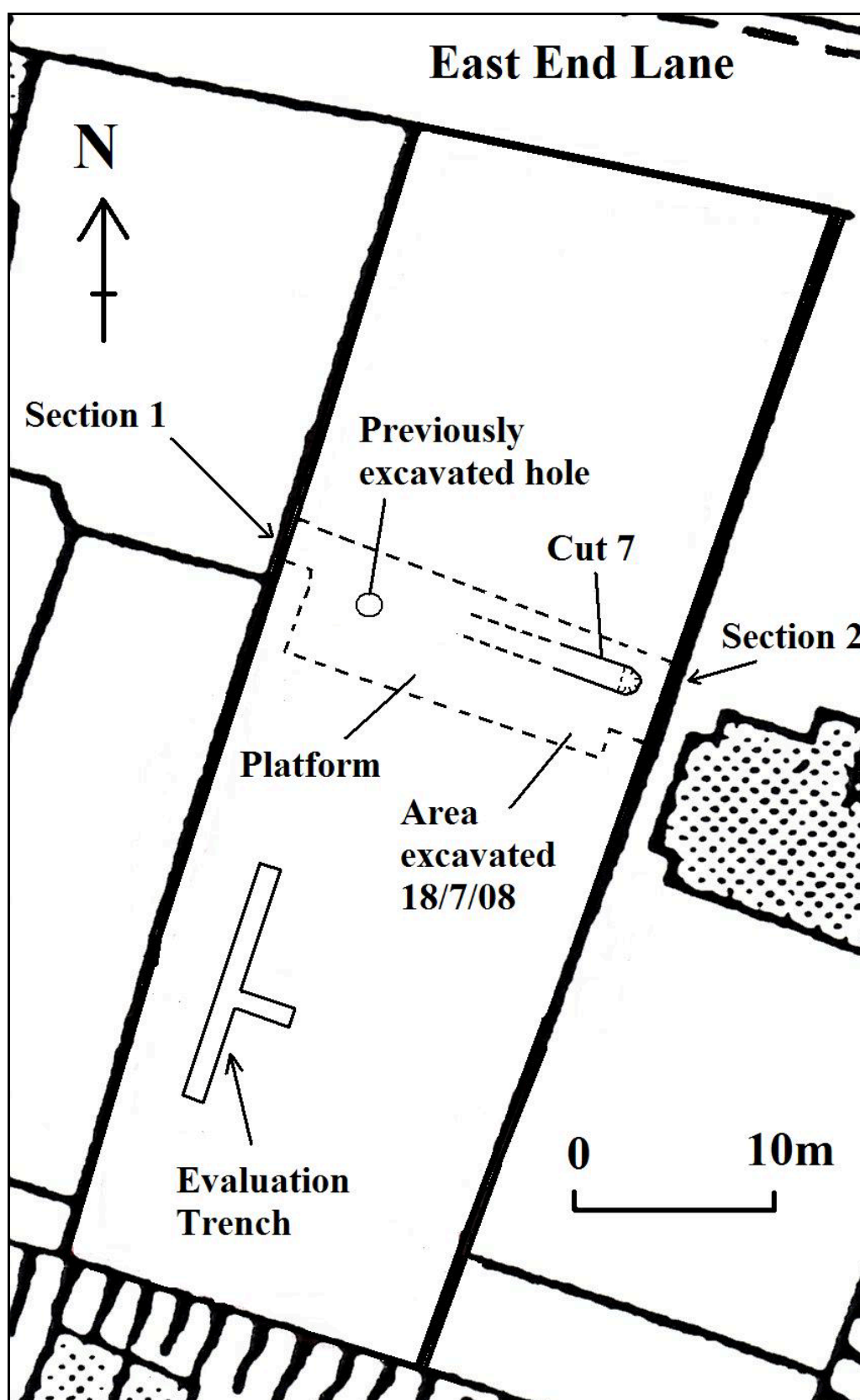


Fig. 3: Mineval, Ditchling: Plan of site showing location of sections, Cut 7, Evaluation trench and other features mentioned in the text

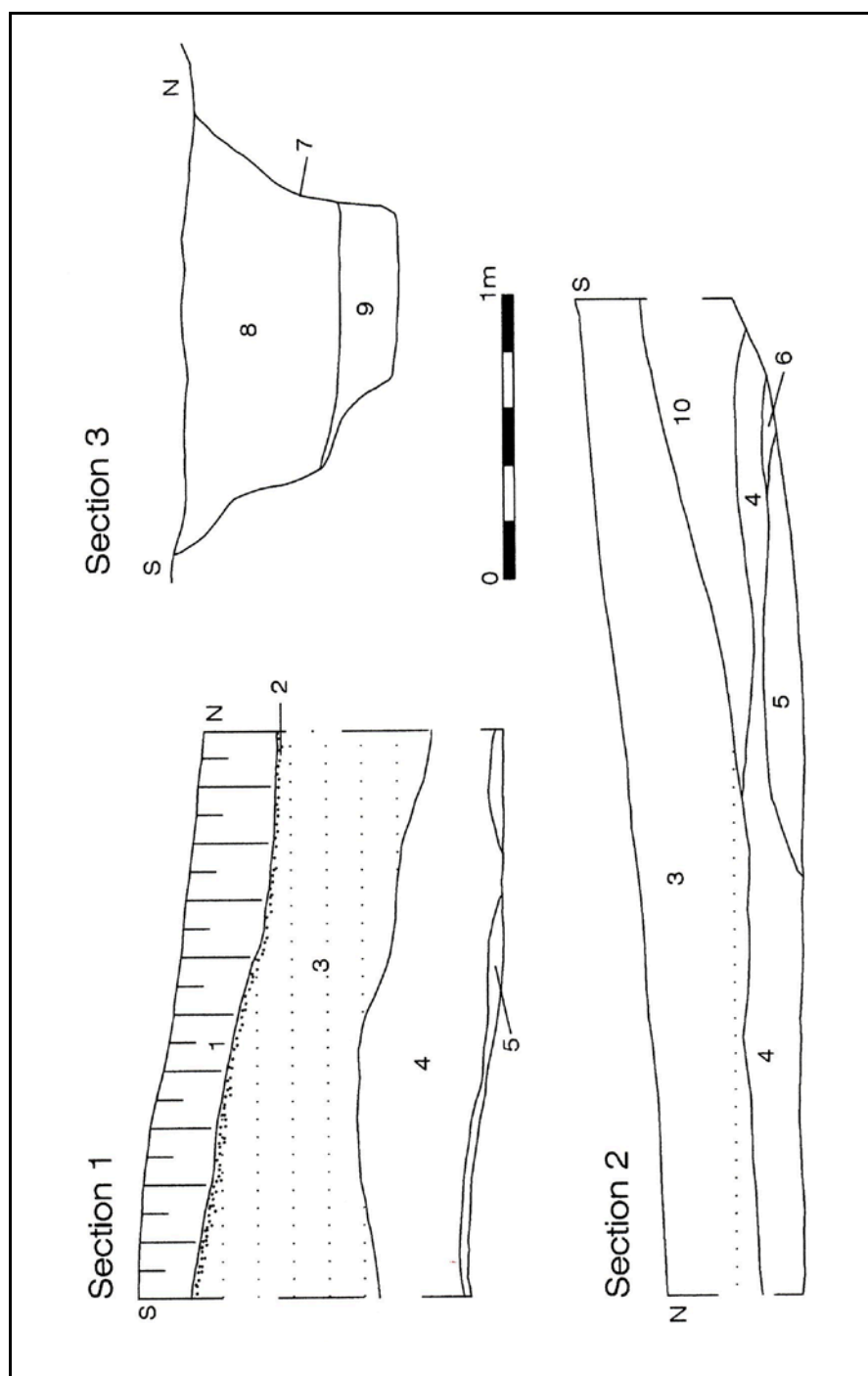


Fig. 4: Mineval, Ditchling: Sections

HER Summary Form

Site Code	MVD08					
Identification Name and Address	Mineval, 52 East End Lane, Ditchling, East Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	Lewes District Council					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 3281 1524					
Geology	Folkstone Beds					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. X	Excav.	Watching Brief X	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban X	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 17/7/08- 15/9/08	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	David Grey Associates					
Project Manager	Chris Butler					
Project Supervisor	Keith Butler					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso. X	Neo.	BA	IA	RB X
	AS	MED X	PM X	Other		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>An archaeological watching brief was carried out at 52, East End Lane, Ditchling, during building work associated with the demolition of an existing property and construction of a new house. An evaluation trench was also excavated in the area of a new garage and its access.</i></p> <p><i>The watching brief resulted in the recovery of Mesolithic flintwork and Roman tile, together with Medieval and Post Medieval pottery and other artefacts dating from the mid 12th to the 19th century. A single feature of 16th to mid 17th century date was also recorded.</i></p>						

Chris Butler Archaeological Services

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. 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. He has also recently undertaken an archaeological survey of Ashdown Forest and Broadwater Warren.

Chris Butler Archaeological Services 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.

Chris Butler MIFA Archaeological Services

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