



# **Chris Butler MIFA Archaeological Services**



**An Assessment Excavation  
at  
67 Manor Road  
Lancing,  
West Sussex**

**TQ 1815 0557**

by  
**Chris Butler**

**July 2008**

### ***Summary***

*An assessment excavation was carried out by Chris Butler Archaeological Services at 67 Manor Road, Lancing in advance of the construction of two new houses. The site occupies a street frontage adjacent to the parish church and on what may have been the main Medieval street through Lancing village.*

*A total of five evaluation trenches were excavated, which revealed a series of Medieval features dating from between the late 12<sup>th</sup> and mid 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. These features included a number of probable rubbish pits, which contained pottery, animal bone and marine molluscs. There was also a ditch, of late 12<sup>th</sup> to mid 13<sup>th</sup> century date, running parallel to Manor Road with adjacent post holes, possibly from a fence, which may have formed a boundary to a property on the street frontage.*

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Cover Picture: Lancing parish church of St. James the Less

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services was commissioned by Highview Projects Limited to carry out an archaeological assessment excavation in advance of the construction of two new dwellings at 67 Manor Road, Lancing, West Sussex (TQ1815 0557). As a result of the site's location, and the archaeological potential of the area, the local planning authority put a condition on the planning consent for the development (ADC/0389/07), requiring an appropriate programme of archaeological work to be undertaken.
- 1.2** The appropriate programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a brief prepared by WSCC, comprises an archaeological assessment excavation. A written scheme of investigation covering the assessment excavation was prepared<sup>1</sup> and approved by Adur District Council (the local planning authority).
- 1.3** The assessment excavation is required to establish whether there are any archaeological remains, especially those of Medieval date, surviving on the site. This will enable further decisions to be made regards the mitigation strategy for either in-situ preservation of the archaeology, or its preservation by record.
- 1.4** The site lies within the historical centre of Lancing, adjoining the 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> century parish church of St. James the Less (Fig. 1). The site fronts onto the original main street running through the village of Lancing, and therefore there may have been Medieval street front properties located there, for which above ground evidence has now disappeared. The site is within the Lancing Conservation Area.
- 1.5** The site is on a gentle south-facing slope at the foot of the South Downs at a height of between 14.5m and 15.4m OD. It is situated on the west side of the parish church with Upper West Lane running north-south between the site and the churchyard. Manor Road forms the northern boundary of the site with housing developments on the west and south sides.
- 1.6** A house, which has stood on the site since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, was derelict and has recently been demolished, with the resulting demolition material having been cleared from the site prior to the assessment excavation

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<sup>1</sup> Butler, C. 2008 *Specification for an Archaeological Assessment Excavation at 67 Manor Road, Lancing, West Sussex.*

- 1.7** The underlying geology of the site according to the British Geological Survey (sheet 318/333) is Head drift deposit overlying Upper and Middle Chalk.
- 1.8** The fieldwork was carried out on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June 2008 by the author, assisted by Keith Butler, Dorothy McBrien and Brenda Collins.

## **2. Archaeological & Historical Background**

- 2.1** A total of 25 sites are recorded on the West Sussex HER within a 1km radius of the site:

MWS5614	TQ1800006480	Palaeolithic	Flint implement – Lancing Ring
MWS1076	TQ1800006500	Neolithic	Flint implements – Lancing Ring
MWS280	TQ1800005000	Neolithic	Flint sickle
MWS284	TQ1800005000	Neolithic	Implements
MWS282	TQ1800005000	Bronze Age	Pottery
MWS3907	TQ175806220	Bronze Age	Hoard – Hill Barn Nursery
MWS279	TQ1800006000	Iron Age	weaving combs - Lancing Down
MWS286	TQ1730005600	Iron Age	Pottery sherds at Halewick Farm
MWS8176	TQ1804505113	Iron Age	Pottery & burnt flint
MWS1085	TQ1730005600	Roman	Pottery sherds at Halewick Farm
MWS1093	TQ1818004980	Roman	Burial at 92 Crabtree Lane
MWS1094	TQ1880006300	Roman	Pottery sherds at Lancing Hill
MWS274	TQ1788005140	Roman	Coin at 24 Pratton Avenue
MWS275	TQ1867005730	Roman	Objects found at North Lancing
MWS283	TQ1733005920	Roman	Lamp at 1 Sedbury Road
MWS1060	TQ 18620 05470	Roman	Pottery sherds at Willow Cottage
MWS377	TQ1795004890	Roman	Coins – South Lancing
MWS5616	TQ1730005600	Saxon	Pottery & ?cremation
MWS287	TQ1730005600	Medieval	Pottery sherds at Halewick Farm
MWS1081	TQ1820005600	Medieval	St James' Church
MWS3322	TQ1900005670	Medieval	Pottery in Old Shoreham Road
MWS481	TQ1866006130	Post Medieval	Lancing Down windmill
MWS838	TQ1866305760	Post Medieval	Lancing Manor park & icehouse
MWS3918	TQ1790006500	Undated	Earthwork
MWS4177	TQ1830006400	Undated	Pond/burnt flint
MWS7379	TQ1770606349	Undated	Linear feature (geophysics)
MWS7380	TQ1843006343	Undated	Linear feature (geophysics)
MWS7504	TQ186048	Undated	Flint celt - Stopes Collection
MWS815	TQ1705508938	Undated	trackway

Apart from St James's church there are no other sites in the immediate vicinity of the Manor Road site. A single event (EWS663) was recorded within the 1km radius; this was an extensive survey of a proposed route of the A27 improvements, and resulted in two of the sites recorded in the HER (MWS7379 & MWS7380).

- 2.2** Lancing (Lancinges) is mentioned in the Domesday Book<sup>2</sup> as being held by William de Braose & Robert le Sauvage. There were then numerous changes in ownership throughout the Medieval period, passing through the de Brok family before coming into the hands of Lord Bergavenny in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century<sup>3</sup>.
- 2.3** The Yeakell & Gardner map of 1778-83 shows the location of the church and the site, together with Upper West Lane, which separates them. It shows other buildings along the street frontage, but no buildings within the boundaries of the site. Other maps of the later 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries also show buildings along the street frontage, but again none are shown on this site.
- 2.4** Evidence from a map of c. 1800 and the 1838 tithe map shows the area of the site to be part of a field already enclosed from the East Furlong of Lower West Lain. The latter was originally part of the common fields of Lancing<sup>4</sup>. A building, possibly a tenement or barn, appears to have been situated on the adjacent plot to the west since at least 1770<sup>5</sup>. The building shown on the tithe map of 1838 on this site was apparently erected c. 1799.
- 2.5** The following Ordnance Survey maps were consulted:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map (1879)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS draft map (1898)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS map (1899)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition OS map (1913)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Edition OS map (1931)

The first four maps (to 1913) show the area of the site to be open ground, although the adjacent plot to the west appears to have a building on the street frontage. By the time of the 1931 map a building is shown located centrally in the site. This building is probably the one recently demolished.

- 2.6** In addition to the church, there are three Listed Buildings in the immediate vicinity of the site, with another nine within a 1km radius.

DWS446	TQ1822405668	18 <sup>th</sup> Century	Church Farmhouse
DWS448	TQ1826005611	17 <sup>th</sup> Century	61 Manor Road
DWS496	TQ1819305524	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	Glebe House, West Lane

<sup>2</sup> Morris, J. 1976 *Domesday Book: Sussex*, Chichester, Phillimore

<sup>3</sup> Kerridge, R.G.P. 1979 *A History of Lancing*, Chichester, Phillimore

<sup>4</sup> *ibid*

<sup>5</sup> *ibid*

- 2.7 The accumulated historical and archaeological evidence shows that there has been a substantial amount of activity in the area from prehistory through the Roman and Saxon periods, to the Medieval period, although there are few known archaeological sites in the immediate vicinity of the site. The more recent map and historical evidence suggests that the area of the site has been field for at least 200 years, and has only been built on during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### 3. Archaeological Methodology

- 3.1 The written scheme of investigation<sup>6</sup> proposed three trenches (Fig. 2) arranged across the site to cover the footprint of the two proposed new houses, and the entrance driveway. On arrival at the site, the existing house had already been demolished and cleared from the site. A CAT scan carried out prior to the excavation, and confirmed that there were no live services.
- 3.2 The three trenches were positioned broadly as proposed, except that Trench 1 was smaller due to obstructions and the need to have an access route to the rest of the site. As a result of this, it was agreed with John Mills, Assistant County Archaeologist for West Sussex, that two smaller additional trenches (Trenches 4 & 5) would be excavated closer to the street frontage to investigate the possibility of archaeology being present in that part of the site.
- 3.3 The trenches were excavated by JCB using a 1.8m wide toothless bucket, under archaeological supervision. The excavation was carried out in spits until either archaeology was encountered or the natural was reached.
- 3.4 The exposed archaeological features were then cleaned by hand and excavated in accordance with WSCC's *Recommended Standard Conditions for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording and Post-Excavation Work* (Version dated February 2007). A metal detector was used to scan the trenches and spoil heap.
- 3.5 All archaeological deposits, features and finds 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 All of the features were levelled to the Ordnance Datum by reference to a Bench Mark at No. 30 Manor Road of 17.15m OD.

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<sup>6</sup> Butler, C. 2008 *Specification for an Archaeological Assessment Excavation at 67 Manor Road, Lancing, West Sussex*.

- 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 and, after any further analysis, arrangements have been made for it to be deposited at Marlipins Museum, Shoreham. A site reference of MRL08 has been allocated.

## **4. Results**

- 4.1** Trench 1 was excavated on a broadly east-west orientation parallel to Manor Road, and close to the northern boundary of the site (Fig. 2). It was initially 12m long, but the easternmost 2m in which there were no archaeological deposits or features was immediately backfilled to ensure an access to the site. A garden topsoil (Context **16**) was 400mm deep at the west end of the trench, rising to 150mm deep at the east end of the trench. Context **16** comprised a loose dark brown silty loam, and contained fragments of 20<sup>th</sup> century building rubble (3%), roots (2%) and charcoal pieces and flecks (2%). It contained 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery, and some residual medieval pottery sherds.
- 4.2** Below Context **16** were thin layers of Contexts **2** and **3**, which are described under Trench 3. A large pit (Pit **14**) was cut into Context **2** at the west end of Trench 1. This pit was at least 4m by 1.8m, extending outside the trench on the north and south sides. It has steeply sloping sides with a shelf around its edge into a dished bottom, with an overall depth of 0.6m (Fig. 3). One half of the pit visible inside the trench was excavated, and showed the pit to contain a single fill (Fill **15**). This fill comprised a dark brown silty loam with some irregular flint pieces to 30mm and chalk pieces to 5mm and chalk flecks. Very few artefacts were recovered from this pit, with just six sherds of late 13<sup>th</sup> to mid 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery, and a few oyster shells being found, despite having sifted through the spoil. A modern service pipe cut through this pit.
- 4.3** A second pit was found in Trench 1 on the east side of Pit **14**. This pit (Pit **20**) was 2.5m wide, and extended outside the trench on the north side. One half was excavated (Fig. 3) to show that it had gradually sloping sides into a dished bottom, and was 320mm deep. The pit was filled by a single fill (Fill **21**) which comprised a buff coloured silty clay loam with irregular flint pieces to 100mm, and chalk fragments to 8mm and flecks. Three sherds of 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered from the fill of this pit, together with a few oyster shells.
- 4.4** Trench 2 was located on the east side of the site, and orientated north-south, parallel to Upper West Lane, and over the footprint of House Plot 1 (Fig. 2). It was initially 15m long, but was later extended by an additional 2m at the south end. The topsoil in Trench 2 was between 200-250mm deep, and comprised a dark grey-brown silty loam (Context **5**) which contained modern brick fragments, irregular flint pieces, roots and small pieces of shingle. There were a number of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds in this layer.



- 4.5** Below the topsoil at the south end of the trench was the remnant of a layer of sandstone paving stones, and below these was a dark brown silty clay loam (Context **6**), which contained some irregular flint pieces to 120mm. This layer was between 100mm and 250mm deep, and contained two sherds of 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery, but also some pieces of Post Medieval building material.
- 4.6** Below Context **6** was a compact orange brown silty clay (Context **7**), which contained irregular flint pieces to 120mm, but no artefacts. This context is very similar to Context **4** in Trench 3. Below Context **7**, which was between 150mm and 250mm deep, was a light orange-brown firm silty clay layer (Context **3**) which contained frequent flint pieces to 100mm and chalk flecks. There were no artefacts recovered from Contexts **3** and **7**.
- 4.7** At the south end of Trench 2 (Fig. 2) there was a shallow irregular cut (Cut **8**) approximately 1m by 0.8m and 200mm deep, cutting into Context **7**, although it extends outside the trench on its east side. On the south side of this cut there is a shallow linear cut (Cut **17**), possibly a small ditch or gulley at least 230mm wide and 220mm deep, running east-west across the trench and has an uncertain relationship with Cut **8**. It is not possible to determine the relationship between these two features (Fig. 4) as they both have the same fill (Fill **9**). This is a dark brown silty clay loam with irregular flint pieces to 80mm, and contains late 12<sup>th</sup> to mid 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery.
- 4.8** A small rectangular cut (Cut **18**) 560mm by 620mm and 260mm deep cuts through Context **7**, and extends out of Trench 2 on its east side (Fig. 4). This cut has almost straight sides and a slightly dished bottom, and is filled by a light brown silty clay fill (Fill **19**) with irregular flint pieces to 120mm and chalk flecks. No artefacts were recovered from this fill.
- 4.9** A further pit (Pit **12**) measuring 1.85m wide and 360mm deep, and extending outside the trench on both sides, was found. It had a bell-shape profile with the sides undercutting the rim (Fig. 4). The upper fill (Fill **13**) was a mid grey-brown silty clay loam with numerous flint pieces to 60mm, and produced 18 sherds of mid-late 13<sup>th</sup> to mid 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery, together with animal bone and oyster. Below this was a thin primary fill (Fill **22**) comprising a buff coloured silty clay with dark brown patches, containing irregular flint pieces to 50mm and small chalk pieces and flecks. This context did not produce any artefacts.
- 4.10** Sealed below Context **22** was another cut (Cut **23**) 570mm wide and 150mm deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat bottom, which was either an earlier linear cut underlying Cut **12**, or perhaps an earlier phase of the same pit, which had been capped by the natural looking Context **22**. It was filled with a compact dark brown silty clay (Fill **24**) with irregular flint pieces to 120mm, chalk flecks and fragments and some charcoal flecks. This fill produced two sherds of 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery, together with some oyster shell.

- 4.11** In the northern part of Trench 2 there was a layer between 100-150mm deep of mid grey-brown silty clay loam with irregular flint pieces to 100mm, chalk flecks and some roots (Context **10**). This layer was below Contexts **5** and **6**, and above Context **3**. It contained 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery, and also numerous pieces of 13/14<sup>th</sup> century pottery, which may have derived from the upper fills of Pits **12** and **25**.
- 4.12** A Post Medieval post hole cutting through Contexts **10** and **3** was encountered towards the north end of Trench 2 (Context **11**). It was 170mm diameter and 190mm deep, and had a grey-brown silty clay loam fill with chalk flecks. A rotten wooden post 80mm diameter was still preserved within the post hole.
- 4.13** At the northern end of Trench 2 part of a pit, which extended outside the trench on its north and east sides, was exposed (Cut **25**). It was 750mm wide and 320mm deep (Fig. 4), and contained a mid brown silty clay loam with irregular flint pieces to 100mm, chalk flecks and charcoal flecks (Fill **26**). The fill contained mid 13<sup>th</sup> to early 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery, together with animal bones and oyster shell.
- 4.14** Trench 3 was 10m long and was positioned over the footprint of House Plot 2 (Fig. 2). A topsoil layer comprising a dark grey-brown silty clay loam up to 200mm deep incorporating 20<sup>th</sup> century building material, flint pieces to 150mm and shingle (Context **1**) covered the entire trench. Below this were three layers, each sloping southwards and overlying an earlier layer (Fig. 5). The upper layer was an orange-brown silty clay with irregular flint pieces to 80mm and rare chalk flecks (Context **4**).
- 4.15** Below this was Context **3**, a light orange-brown silty clay with frequent irregular flint pieces to 100mm and chalk flecks. Context **2** was a light orange-brown silty clay with few irregular flint nodules to 150mm, and chalk flecks. Apart from a modern drain, there were no archaeological deposits or features in Trench 3. Two sherds of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century pottery were found in Context **1**, but there were no other artefacts found in the other contexts, which appear to be geological rather than archaeological.
- 4.16** Trench 4 was 4.5m long, and was excavated close to the north boundary of the property and parallel to Manor Road (fig. 2). Below a thin layer (200mm max) of topsoil (Context **16**), a linear ditch feature (Ditch **27**) approx 1m wide and 240mm deep, running east-west was encountered (Fig. 3). Most of the ditch was within the trench, although its south edge extended just outside. The ditch was filled with a loose mid grey-brown silty clay loam containing irregular flint pieces, some to 100mm but most to 50mm, chalk flecks and some roots (Fill **28**). The fill contained late 12<sup>th</sup> to mid 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery, animal bone and oyster shell, with a single intrusive 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherd.

- 4.17** Along the north edge of the ditch were three post holes (Cuts **31**, **33** & **34**), approximately 1m apart, possibly part of a fence line on the same alignment. One of these (Cut **31**) was half-sectioned (Fig. 3) and was 480mm in diameter and 110mm deep. It had amid grey-brown silty loam fill (Fill **32**) and contained irregular flint pieces to 100mm, chalk flecks and roots. There were no artefacts found in the posthole to enable it to be dated.
- 4.18** Trench 5 was 4m long and located to the east of Trench 5 and was orientated north-South (Fig. 2). Below 270mm of Context **16**, the ditch located in Trench 4 (Ditch **29**) continued into this trench. It was 780mm wide and 290mm deep with a gently sloping south side and steeply sloping north side into a flat bottom (Fig. 4). Its fill (Context **30**) was a loose mid grey-brown silty clay loam containing irregular flint pieces, some to 100mm but most to 50mm, chalk flecks and some roots. Two sherds of 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered from the fill. A modern service trench cut diagonally across this trench.

## **5 Finds**

- 5.1** The excavation produced a large assemblage of finds from the topsoil and the features (Table 1), providing information regarding the dating and function of the site.

### **5.2 *The Pottery* by Luke Barber**

- 5.2.1** The evaluation produced a small but significant assemblage of pottery, the vast majority of which is Medieval in date (Table 1). On the whole sherd sizes tend to range from small to medium (e.g. to 30mm across) though a few larger sherds are also present. Most sherds show some slight abrasion from low levels of redeposition and the affect of the acidic subsoil.
- 5.2.2** The earliest pottery from the site can be placed in a 12<sup>th</sup>- to mid 13<sup>th</sup>- century date range. Perhaps the earliest piece consists of a chalk and flint tempered socketed skillet handle of 12<sup>th</sup>- century date from Context **9**. This deposit also produced two cooking pot sherds tempered with moderate/abundant medium sand and sparse flint and shell to 1mm. This fabric is likely to be of the later 12<sup>th</sup> to mid 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. Context **28** was also dominated by these low/medium fired sandy wares with moderate shell and flint inclusions (11 sherds).
- 5.2.3** However, the presence of seven purely sand tempered cooking pot sherds and two from finer sand tempered jugs with sparse glaze suggest a date of deposition somewhere in the first half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century for this deposit. A number of other contexts have a mixture of the sand with flint/shell and purely sand tempered wares (e.g. Context **24**) suggesting a period in the first half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century when the fabrics were generally becoming more sandy in this area of Sussex.

- 5.2.4** Unfortunately the small size of the individual context groups makes it difficult to be certain of the degree of residuality that may be present in some of these 'mixed' fabric groups. The majority of the medieval assemblage can be placed to between the mid 13<sup>th</sup> and mid 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. Medium-fired fine/medium sand tempered cooking pots dominate the assemblages though fine sand tempered glazed jugs are also well represented for the first time.
- 5.2.5** Indeed Context **13** is dominated by such vessels (11 of the 18 sherds are from jugs) suggesting a deposition date perhaps in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. Although many of the glazed jugs are quite coarsely made a number of sherds are from the much better produced finer 'West Sussex Ware' jugs with good even external glazes. There appears to be very little pottery post-dating the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.2.6** Only one Transitional sherd was recovered, probably intrusive in Context **28**. This consists of a well-fired oxidized fine sandy earthenware of probable 15<sup>th</sup>-century date. Only two sherds can be ascribed an early post-medieval date (Contexts **10** and **26** top). These consist of well fired green glazed earthenware jar sherds of probably 16<sup>th</sup>- century date though again, it is likely they are intrusive.
- 5.2.7** The few remaining sherds of pottery are of late post-medieval date. The earliest of these consist of four glazed red earthenware bodysherds from Context **10** which are probably of later 18<sup>th</sup>- to mid 19<sup>th</sup>- century date. However, the majority of the late post-medieval assemblage is of late 19<sup>th</sup>- to mid 20<sup>th</sup>-century date and consists primarily of unglazed earthenware flower pots, white 'china' (including bathroom ceramics), yellow ware and transfer-printed china.

### **5.3** *Flintwork* by Chris Butler

- 5.3.1** There were pieces of struck flint found during the excavation, weighing 209g comprising nine flakes and four flake fragments (Table 1). The flint raw material is a grey flint which has derived from a Downland source, apart from one piece which was on beach pebble flint. The pieces were largely undiagnostic, with the flakes being hard hammer-struck, and having no evidence for platform preparation.
- 5.3.2** Apart from a few pieces which are very fresh looking and possibly the result of wall-knapped flint in the Medieval or Post Medieval periods, the majority of the flintwork is probably Bronze Age in date.
- 5.3.3** There were also 16 pieces of fire-fractured flint weighing 531g. These were recovered from a variety of contexts across the site, and are probably residual prehistoric artefacts.

**Table 1 The Finds**

<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Pottery No./gms.</b>	<b>Animal bone No./gms.</b>	<b>Shell No./gms.</b>	<b>Flintwork No./gms.</b>	<b>Other No./gms.</b>
<b>U/S</b>					1 CBM (1,022)
<b>1</b>	2 Post mid C18 <sup>th</sup> (38)	1 Bone (3)	2 Oyster (4)	1 Flake (4) 1 Fire fractured (14)	1 Post Med glass (11)
<b>5</b>	12 Post mid C18 <sup>th</sup> (225)	3 Bone (51)	2 Oyster (54)	1 Flake (110)	1 CBM (21)
<b>6</b>	2 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (12)	1 Bone (4)	2 Oyster (26)	2 Flakes (15) 2 fragments (3) 2 Fire fractured (84)	2 CBM (12) 1 Asbestos (2) 1 Stone (5)
<b>9</b>	3 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (35)	1 Bone (10)	2 Oyster (66)	1 Flake (3)	1 Nail fragment (1)
<b>10</b>	11 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (93) 1 Mid C16 <sup>th</sup> -mid 18 <sup>th</sup> (47) 4 Post mid C18 <sup>th</sup> (35)	2 Bone (46)	1 Oyster (48)		5 CBM (57) 1 Stone (25) 2 Nail fragments (28)
<b>13</b>	18 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (285)	9 Bone (41)	26 Oyster (726) 1 Mussel	1 Flake (2) 2 Fire fractured (86)	
<b>15</b>	6 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (85)		5 Oyster (145)	2 Fire fractured (68)	
<b>16 (T1)</b>	1 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (8) 3 Post mid C18 <sup>th</sup> (42)				
<b>16 (T4)</b>	2 Post mid C18 <sup>th</sup> (14)			2 Flakes (18)	2 CBM (11)
<b>16 (T5)</b>				1 Fragment (21)	
<b>21</b>	3 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (51)		3 Oyster (11)		
<b>24</b>	4 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (39)		6 Oyster (124) 1 unknown	1 Flake (19)	
<b>26 (top)</b>	15 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (191) 1 Mid C16 <sup>th</sup> -mid 18 <sup>th</sup> (20)	50 Bone (394)	26 Oyster (534)	4 Fire fractured (117)	4 CBM (31) 3 Stone (139)
<b>26</b>	3 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (108)	48 Bone (246)	5 Oyster (263)	2 Fire fractured (146)	
<b>28</b>	20 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (89) 1 C15 <sup>th</sup> -mid 16 <sup>th</sup> (3)	10 Bone (96)	26 Oyster (963) 1 Mussel	1 Fire fractured (2)	2 CBM (13) 1 Stone (471)
<b>30</b>	2 Late C12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> (16)	1 Bone (6)	2 Oyster (72) 9 Mussel 1 Winkel	1 Fragment (14) 2 Fire fractured (14)	

CBM = Ceramic Building Material

## **5.4    *Animal Bone* identified by Pat Stevens**

**5.4.1** There were a total of 126 pieces and fragments of animal bone weighing 897g (Table 1). Although some were recovered from topsoil contexts, the majority came from the various pit and ditch features on the site. Most of the fragments were from Pit **26**, although these were almost all from a single horse skull and a single pig skull.

**5.4.2** Cattle, pig, sheep and horse were represented in the assemblage along with a single goose bone, and another from an unknown large bird. From the Medieval features there were:

Pit 8:	1 fragment sheep pelvis.
Pit 12:	1 cow pelvis fragment; 6 cow fragments; 2 sheep rib fragments.
Pit 25:	1 adult Horse skull & mandible; fragments of horse/cow long bones; skull fragments and teeth from 1 young adult pig.
Ditch 27:	Cow rib, pelvis and foot fragments; 1 sheep fragment; 1 pig tooth.
Ditch 29	1 cow fragment

**5.4.3** Some of the bones had been knawed by dogs, and one bone had been sawn, although most of these were from topsoil contexts. Three fragments of cow rib in Ditch **27** had been burnt.

**5.4.4** Although this was only a small sample, the bones suggest that cattle and then sheep were the most common animals present in the Medieval period at 67 Manor Road, with smaller numbers of pig. It is not clear whether the single horse skull in Pit **25** was as the result of it being used for food or as disposal of part of the carcass of a dead animal.

## **5.5    *Marine Molluscs***

**5.5.1** A total of 121 complete or fragments of marine molluscs were recovered, weighing 3.036kg (Table 1). Some were found in topsoil deposits, but most came from the Medieval pits and ditch.

**5.5.2** The majority of the marine molluscs at Manor Road were oyster (83%), but there were also 11 fragments of mussel shell and 1 winkle, together with another shell which could not be identified. Most of the mussel shells were found in the ditch.

**5.5.3** Marine molluscs appear to be an important part of the diet of the Medieval population in Lancing, although the nutritional value would not have been high.

## **5.6     *Ceramic Building Materials* by Luke Barber**

**5.6.1** A very small assemblage of ceramic building material was recovered, all pieces consisting of small fragments, frequently intrusive in earlier contexts. With the exception of a fine sand tempered peg tile fragment of probable 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>-century date from Context **28** all of the ceramic building material is of the 18<sup>th</sup>- to 19<sup>th</sup>- centuries.

**5.6.2** A range of hard-fired peg tiles tempered with sparse fine sand, occasionally with iron oxides or white clay streaks, is present along with a few small brick fragments. The largest piece consists of an 18<sup>th</sup>- to 19<sup>th</sup>- century coping brick fragment tempered with crushed iron oxide and clay pellets to 1mm from unstratified deposits.

## **5.7     *Foreign Stone* by Luke Barber**

**5.7.1** A very small assemblage of stone was recovered. Two residual pieces of Medieval West Country roofing slate were recovered from Context **10**, with a further two pieces being recovered from the top of Context **26**. Such material is normally associated with buildings of some prestige with the main period of import being the 12<sup>th</sup> to early/mid 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. The same deposit also produced part of a Norwegian Ragstone (schist) hone of typical medieval type.

**5.7.2** The only other piece of worked stone consists of a fragment of rotary quern in Lodsworth-type Lower Greensand from Context **28**. The only other stone from the site consists of a single piece of pumice from Context **6**.

## **5.8     *Environmental samples***

**5.8.1** Five soil samples were taken from the fills of four of the pits, and the ditch. Each sample comprised a single bag of approximately 4 litres size. A sub-sample of 1 litre from each sample was initially processed to assess whether the samples had any potential for organic or micro-faunal remains.

**5.8.2** The samples were processed using bucket floatation, with the residue being washed through a 1mm mesh sieve. Once the residues were dry they were sorted by eye to extract material of archaeological and environmental interest. The results are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Environmental Samples**

Context	Modern roots	Charcoal	Seeds	Marine Molluscs	Residue
9	**	**	-	*	Medieval Pot
13	**	-	-	***	Small mammal bone CBM
15	**	**	-	**	Medieval Pot Nail
21	**	**	-	**	Flint flake
28	**	*	-	*	Flint fragments Fire fractured flint

Frequency Key: None - ; Very low \* ; Low \*\* ; Moderate \*\*\* ; High \*\*\*\*

**5.8.3** All of the residues contain quantities of modern roots, whilst most of the samples produced some small charcoal pieces and small fragments of marine molluscs, mostly mussel shell. Only Context **13** produced a single small mammal bone. Small pieces of Medieval pottery were recovered from the samples in Contexts **9** and **15**, whilst flint flakes and fragments were found in Contexts **21** and **28** respectively.

**5.8.4** The residues have been retained in the archive, together with the remaining un-processed samples.

## **6 Discussion**

**6.1** The assessment excavation at 67 Manor Road, has produced the first evidence for the Medieval settlement of Lancing. Although it had been suspected that the Medieval settlement was located along Manor Road there has never been an opportunity to confirm this through an archaeological excavation until now.

**6.2** The evidence suggests that the Medieval settlement starts in the late 12<sup>th</sup> to mid 13<sup>th</sup> century, and continues through until the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century.

**6.3** There appear to be two elements to the evidence; firstly the east-west orientated ditch encountered in Trenches 4 and 5, which is likely to have been situated at the rear of the houses situated along Manor Road, and may have marked the rear boundary of the property(ies).



- 6.4** It is not clear whether the postholes aligned alongside this ditch are contemporary with the ditch, or earlier/later in date. In any event it appears that these formed a fence that would have also marked the property boundary at some stage.
- 6.5** The second element comprises the various pits that were found during the excavation. These are almost certainly rubbish pits, containing domestic rubbish such as broken pottery, together with kitchen waste, such as animal bones and the marine mollusc shells, that was being discarded from the properties fronting Manor Road. Pit **14**, which has much smaller quantities of domestic waste may have been a cess pit, located just beyond the property boundary.
- 6.6** Although there was no evidence for any buildings, it is possible that these are located closer to the current property boundary, or perhaps even under the current road, as this will be a lot wider than the original Medieval street.
- 6.7** Whether there were also properties fronting Upper West Lane is unclear, however if there were, this might explain why there so many pits in Trench 2, some of which were some distance from Manor Road.
- 6.8** No evidence was found for prehistoric, Roman or Saxon activity, apart from the few pieces of prehistoric worked flint and fire-fractured flints which hint at possible Bronze Age settlement nearby.
- 6.9** There is also minimal evidence for Post Medieval activity until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with just a few sherds of pottery being found. This links in with the map evidence and together they suggest that since the Medieval period the area of the site has not been used for settlement.
- 6.10** The archaeology appears to survive well across most of the site, with the absence of any archaeology in Trench 3 being due to a real lack of any archaeology in that part of the site rather than later disturbance by the now demolished building. However, there could easily be surviving archaeology within the footprint of House plot 2, and therefore it is recommended that a watching brief should take place on this part of the site.
- 6.11** The evidence provided by the evaluation excavation suggests that there is good surviving archaeology in the area of House plot 1 and in the area of the entrance driveway. The assessment excavation has also shown that the surviving archaeology has the potential to provide important information relating to the Medieval settlement in Lancing, especially in relation to the economy, status and structure of the settlement.

- 6.12** Given the shallow depth of the surviving archaeology, it is very likely that it would be destroyed during any groundworks in these parts of the site, and therefore, unless any construction method can be found to mitigate this destruction, then a full excavation of the site should take place in advance of any building to ensure that the remains are adequately recorded.

## **7 Acknowledgements**

- 7.1** I would like to thank Keith Butler who assisted with the evaluation excavation, and Dorothy McBrien and Brenda Collins who helped on the second day of the excavation. Luke Barber provided specialist reports on the pottery, CBM and Foreign stone, whilst Pat Stevens identified the animal bone. Jane Russell drew the sections for this report.
- 7.2** I would also like to thank Pat Ciotte, Project Manager for Highview Projects Limited who made the arrangements for the excavation. John Mills, Assistant County Archaeologist for West Sussex provided guidance and monitored the project for WSCC. Details of the HER were provided by WSCC. FNR Plant Hire provided a JCB and Barry the driver who expertly excavated the trenches for us.

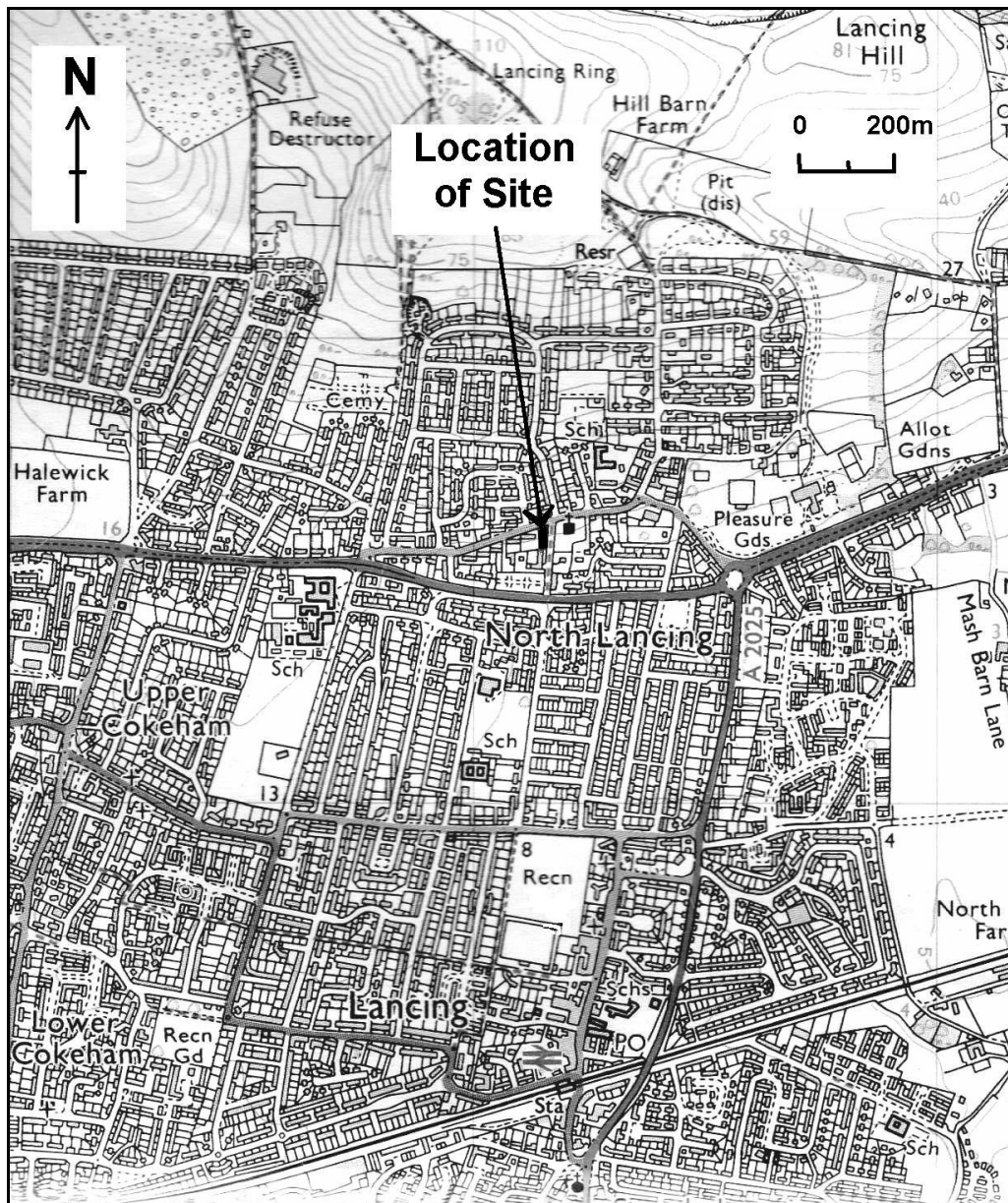


Fig. 1: 67 Manor Road, Lancing. Location of the Site

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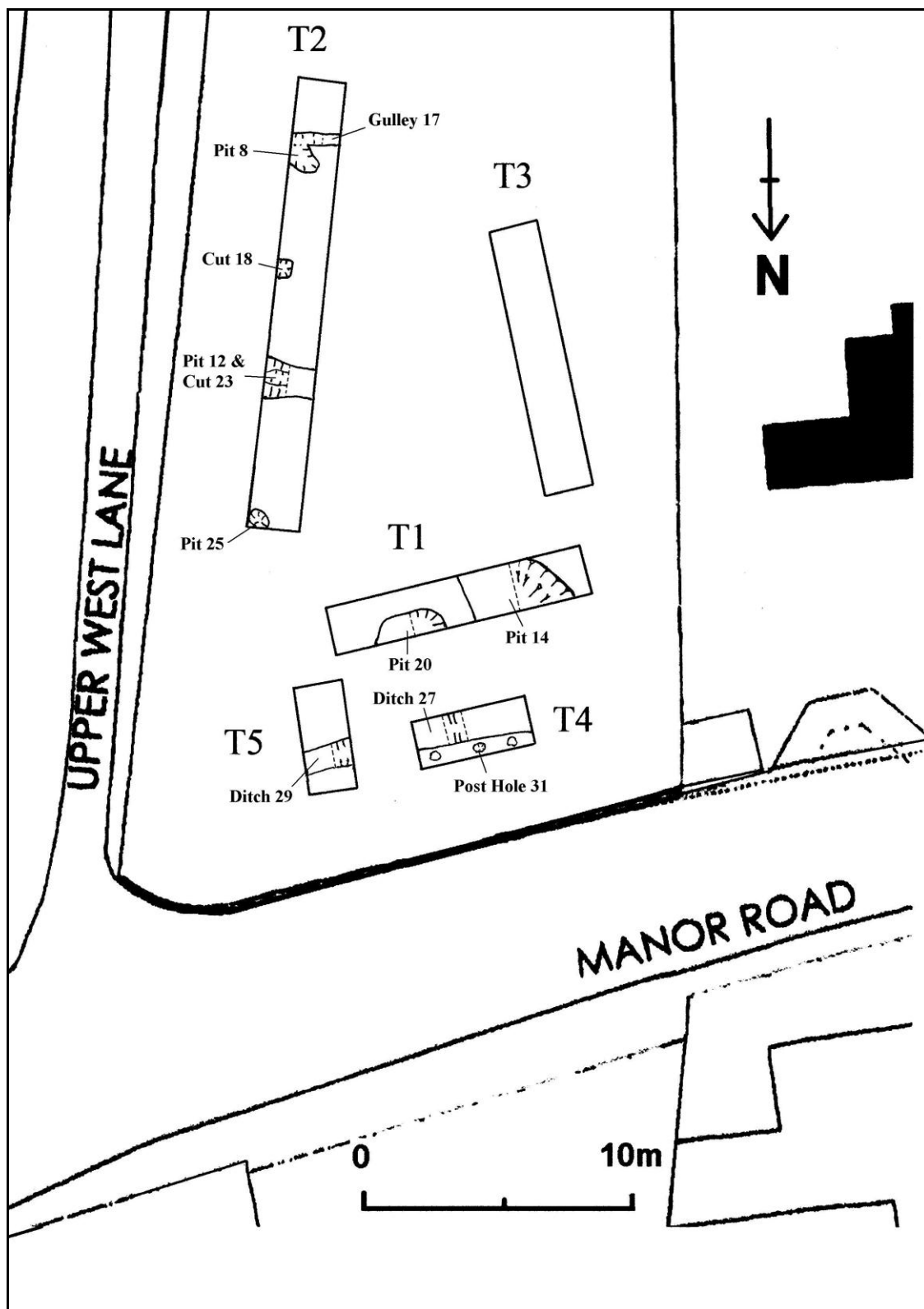


Fig. 2: 67 Manor Road, Lancing: Site Plan showing the location of the trenches and Medieval features

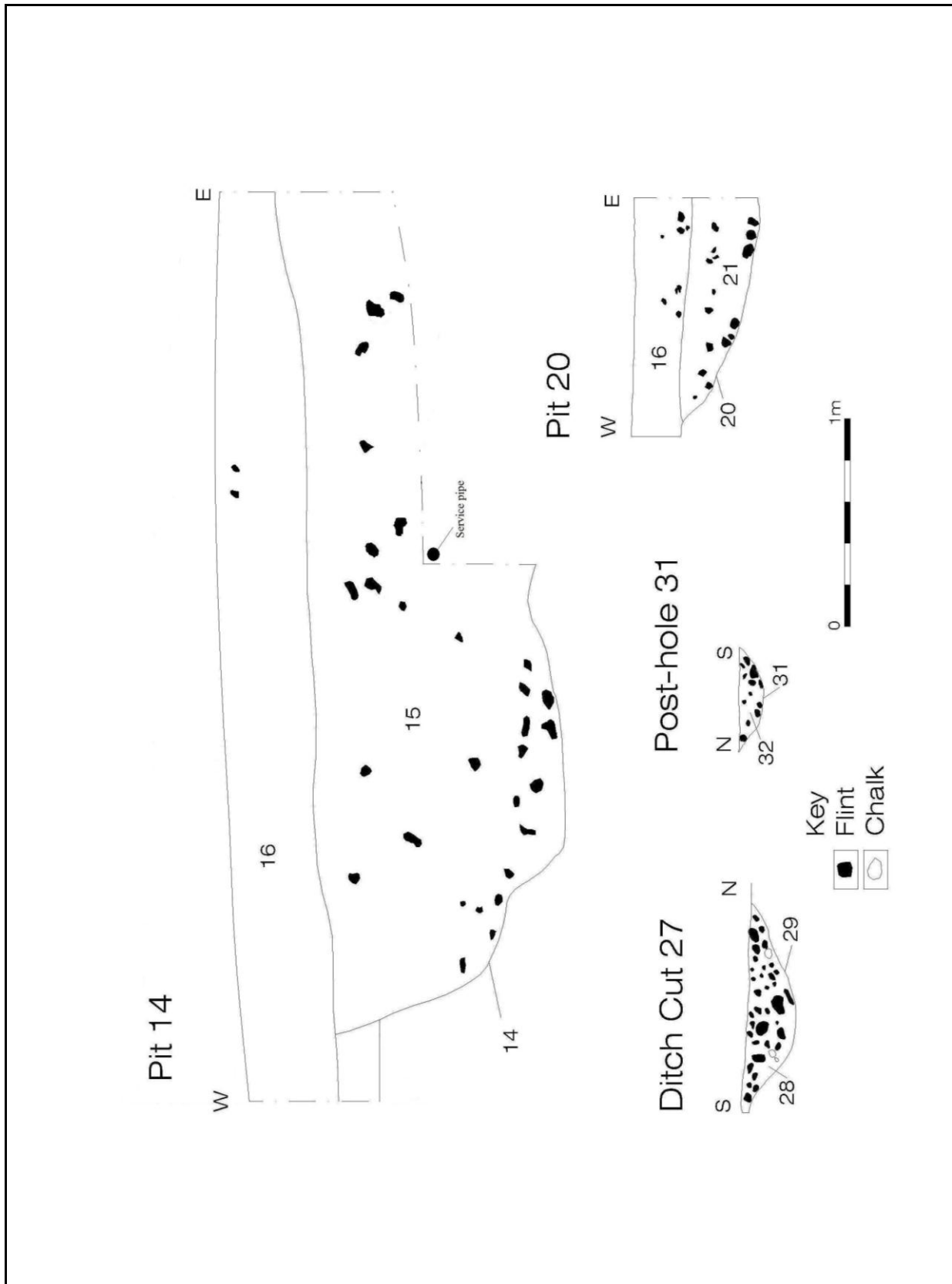


Fig. 3: 67 Manor Road, Lancing: Sections in Trenches 1 and 4.

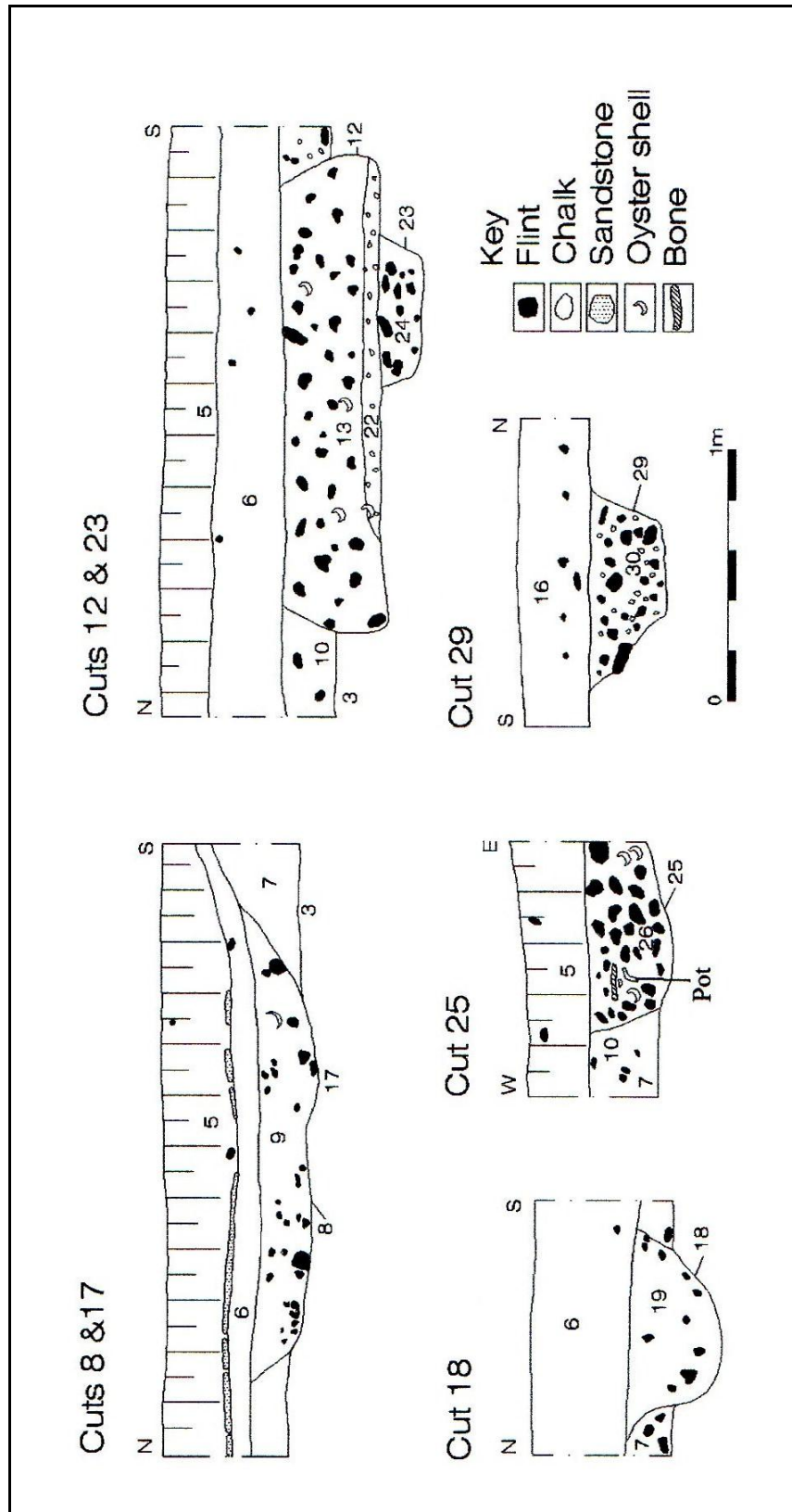


Fig. 4: 67 Manor Road, Lancing: Sections in Trenches 2 and 5.

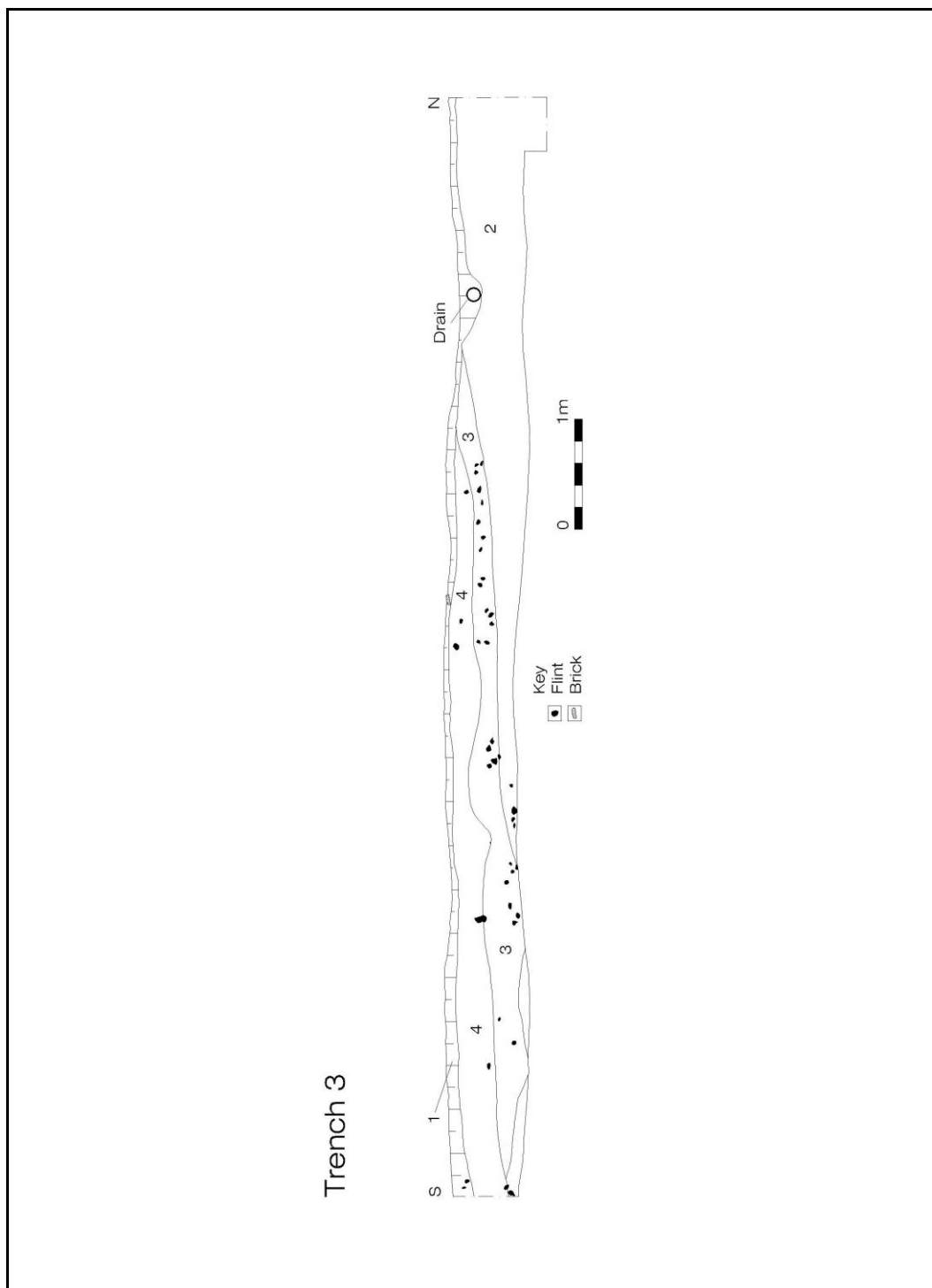


Fig. 5: 67 Manor Road, Lancing: Trench 3 Section.





Fig. 6a: 67 Manor Road, Lancing : General view of site



Fig. 6b: 67 Manor Road, Lancing : Trench 1, Pit 14





Fig. 6c: 67 Manor Road, Lancing : Trench 2



Fig. 6d: 67 Manor Road, Lancing : Pit 12 & Cut 23

### Appendix 1 - Table of Levels

Location	Level OD
Trench 1 west end ground level	15.08
Trench 1 centre ground level	15.11
Trench 1 east end ground level	14.96
Trench 2 south end ground level	14.51
Trench 2 north end ground level	14.79
Trench 3 north end ground level	14.54
Trench 3 south end ground level	14.31
Trench 4 west end ground level	15.08
Trench 4 east end ground level	15.41
Trench 5 north end ground level	15.13
Trench 5 south end ground level	15.03

## HER Summary Form

Site Code	MRL08					
Identification Name and Address	67 Manor Road, Lancing, West Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	Adur District Council					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 1815 0557					
Geology	Head drift deposit overlying Upper and Middle Chalk					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. <b>X</b>	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban <b>X</b>	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 11/06/08-12/06/08	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Highview Projects Ltd					
Project Manager	Chris Butler					
Project Supervisor	N/A					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA <b>X</b>	IA	RB
	AS	MED <b>X</b>	PM	Other		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>An assessment excavation was carried out by Chris Butler Archaeological Services at 67 Manor Road, Lancing in advance of the construction of two new houses. The site occupies a street frontage adjacent to the parish church and on what may have been the main Medieval street through Lancing village.</i></p> <p><i>A total of five evaluation trenches were excavated, which revealed a series of Medieval features dating from between the late 12<sup>th</sup> and mid 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. These features included a number of probable rubbish pits, which contained pottery, animal bone and marine molluscs. There was also a ditch, of late 12<sup>th</sup> to mid 13<sup>th</sup> century date, running parallel to Manor Road with adjacent post holes, possibly from a fence, which may have formed a boundary to a property on the street frontage.</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, a Mesolithic hunting camp, and a Roman Villa.

**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.

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