



Chris Butler MfA Archaeological Services Ltd



An Archaeological Evaluation on land adjacent to the Rose Cottage Inn, Alciston, East Sussex

Project No. CBAS0238

by
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Summary

An archaeological evaluation excavation was carried out in advance of making a planning application for a dwelling on land adjacent to The Rose Cottage Inn, Alciston, East Sussex. No archaeological features were encountered in Trench B, with only modern deposits being present above the natural. However, Trench A, situated towards the street frontage, revealed the footings of a post-medieval building, possibly dating to the 17th century, cut into the top of the natural and post-medieval material dating to the early 19th Century was recovered from the fill of the footing cut, suggesting it had been demolished by this date.

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Appendix I: HER Summary Form

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd was commissioned by Ian Lewis to carry out an archaeological evaluation in advance of making a planning application for a new house on land adjacent to the Rose Cottage Inn, Alciston, East Sussex TQ 5075 0579 (Fig. 1).
- 1.2** The site is situated within an Archaeological Notification Area designated because it lies within the historic core of the Medieval and Post Medieval village of Alciston (Fig. 2). The site is also within the Alciston Conservation Area.
- 1.3** The Rose Cottage Inn is an 18th Century Grade II Listed Building (MES19215), which is described as having two storeys, four windows, faced with flints, now painted, with a tiled roof and casement windows. It has two small gabled porches, and a projecting L-wing, stuccoed, with two gables to the south east.
- 1.4** Originally an Anglo Saxon settlement called Aelfsige tun (The enclosed land of Aelfsige), the Domesday book mentions Alistone as being quite a valuable estate owned by the Abbey at Battle . Later it was known as Alsistone, and finally Alciston¹. Alciston is in Alciston hundred and is part of the Rape of Pevensey.
- 1.5** The geology, according to the British Geological Survey sheet 319/443, is Gault Clay, with Chalk situated a short distance to the south of the site, and outcrops of Head deposits to the east and south.
- 1.6** The evaluation excavation was required to:
1. Establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains, especially Medieval, within the proposed development area.
 2. Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.
 3. Establish the ecofactual/environmental potential of archaeological features
- 1.7** The evaluation was carried out on the 8th September 2011 by the author under the direction of Chris Butler.

¹ <http://www.villagenet.co.uk/sevensisters/villages/alciston.php>

2.0 Historical & Archaeological Background (Fig. 3)

- 2.1 No prehistoric or Roman remains or artefacts are known from the site, although a number are known from the surrounding landscape. Prehistoric flintwork and stone axes have been found locally, and there are numerous Bronze Age burial mounds known from the north scarp slope of the South Downs to the south of the site².
- 2.2 Recent discoveries made with a metal detector nearby, include an Iron Age coin (MES2662) dating to the 1st century BC³, a metal knife of Roman date (MES11048), and a Roman coin of 4th century date (MES14671). Later finds include a Medieval coin (MES14668), a Medieval brooch pin (MES14672) and a Medieval buckle (MES14673), together with a Post Medieval jetton (MES14674).
- 2.3 Alciston has its origins in the Anglo-Saxon period when it was called Aelfsige tun (The enclosed land of Aelfsige). Before 1066 it was held by Young Alnoth from King Edward, and answered for 50 hides. No Saxon artefacts or sites are known nearby, although an excavation at the church in 1984 found evidence for a pre-Norman chalk-built apse⁴.
- 2.4 The Domesday Book tells us that in 1086 the Abbott of St Martin's of Battle held Alciston Manor, and it answered for 44½ hides⁵. There were 65 villagers who with seven smallholders had 21½ ploughs. There were 21 slaves and 50 acres of meadow.
- 2.5 Alciston Manor was an important manor forming part of Battle Abbey's extensive estates, and has retained its feudal topography almost intact⁶. The manor house (now Alciston Court Farmhouse – MES19219) was built in the early 14th century, and together with the church, the 16th century barn (MES19220) and 14th century dovecote (MES19221) form an important group of buildings (MES2628).
- 2.6 Alciston church (MES2629) was built in the 12th century, although excavation has shown that there was a pre-conquest church on the same site. The church was partly rebuilt in the 13th century, with a final Medieval phase of building in the 15th century. The church was 'restored' in 1853, and the porch was rebuilt in 1951⁷. The register of vicars dates from 1575. The church lies on the south-western edge of a quadrilateral churchyard whose original dimensions were 40 x 47 metres, and which is raised above the surrounding ground to the north and west.

² Grinsell, L.V. 1934 'Sussex Barrows', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **75**, 269-70.

³ Rudling, D. 1991 'Two Iron Age silver coins found in East Sussex', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **129**, 245.

⁴ Leach, P. 1987 'Excavations at Alciston, 1984', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **125**, 91-8.

⁵ Morris, J. 1976 *Domesday Book: Sussex*, Chichester, Phillimore.

⁶ Mason, R.T. 1978 'Alciston Court: A Manor House of Battle Abbey' *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **116**, 159-162.

⁷ The Churches of Selmeston & Berwick in the County of Sussex

- 2.7** In the 14th century Alciston Manor had a mixed agricultural economy, predominantly arable (wheat) and sheep, but also including cattle and pigs with chickens, geese, ducks and pigeons, with much of the produce being sent to Battle Abbey⁸. Alciston had flocks of over 2,000 sheep⁹, and formed the centre at which wool from the surrounding Abbey estates was collected, weighed and packed by the merchants before being transported¹⁰.
- 2.8** The plague reached Alciston in early 1349 and probably caused the death of over one third of the population, and it seems unlikely that the population ever recovered to the pre-plague levels. In 1336 there were 31 tenants at Alciston, but by 1433 there were only 24¹¹. It is likely that as a result of this, Alciston is a shrunken Medieval village¹² (MES2661).
- 2.9** It is possible that many of the tenants were living on dispersed farms rather than in the nucleated settlement around the manor house and church, however a survey of 1433 includes a detailed description of the tenements, and it has been possible to reconstruct the form of the 15th century settlement (Fig. 4)¹³. The 31 dwellings were arranged along Alciston Street, with one group ('North Town') situated in the vicinity of the Rose Cottage, and the other group ('South Town') to the south of the church and manor house.
- 2.10** A tile kiln, built in 1418 and part of the Battle Abbey estate, was situated about half a mile north of the church¹⁴. 42,000 tiles were produced in 1429-30¹⁵, and by 1599 it was also producing bricks. The tile kiln was out of use by 1666.
- 2.11** In the 15th century there was a decline in grain production, and a similar decline was experience in sheep farming, with flocks of only 800 being recorded in the 1480's¹⁶. However the manor appears to have been prosperous, as modifications to the manor house were carried out at in the late 15th century, and the large tithe barn was built in the 16th century¹⁷.

⁸ Brent, J.A. 1968 'Alciston Manor in the Later Middle Ages', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **106**, 89-102.

⁹ Pelham, R.A. 1934 'The Distribution of Sheep in Sussex in the Early Fourteenth Century', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **75**, 128-135.

¹⁰ Brent, J.A. 1968 'Alciston Manor in the Later Middle Ages', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **106**, 89-102.

¹¹ Brent, J.A. 1968 'Alciston Manor in the Later Middle Ages', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **106**, 89-102.

¹² Burleigh, G.R. 1973 'An Introduction to Deserted Medieval Villages in East Sussex', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **111**, 45-83.

¹³ Brandon, P.F. 1962 'Arable Farming in a Sussex scarp-foot Parish during the Late Middle Ages', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **100**, 60-72.

¹⁴ Beswick, M. 2001 *Brickmaking in Sussex*, Midhurst, Middleton Press.

¹⁵ Brent, J.A. 1968 'Alciston Manor in the Later Middle Ages', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **106**, 89-102.

¹⁶ *Ibid*

¹⁷ Mason, R.T. 1978 'Alciston Court: A Manor House of Battle Abbey' *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **116**, 159-162.

- 2.12** After the dissolution of the monasteries the Manor was given to Sir John Gage in return for a knight's fee, i.e. the provision of armed horsemen for the king's service¹⁸. There are five houses in Alciston which date to the 17th century, of which two (including The Old Clergy House MES2627) may be earlier. A map of Alciston dating to 1647¹⁹ shows the church and manor house together with other associated farm buildings, but only a few other buildings further north.
- 2.13** Another 10 properties in the village date to the 18th century, including the Rose Cottage, however the village did not grow in size and this seems to be the result of properties being replaced or rebuilt rather than new properties, but represents the continuing prosperity of the area. Yeakell & Gardiner's map of 1778-83²⁰ shows the church and adjacent manorial buildings, together with properties lining the west side of Alciston Street to the north, although it is unclear whether a building occupies the location of the site (Fig. 5).
- 2.14** The 1846 Tithe map²¹ shows a similar situation, but with the Rose Cottage identifiable, and 34 – 36 Alciston Street (also 18th century (MES19214)) located to its north. The location of the site is open ground at this time. Kelly's Directory for 1867²² states that Lord Gage is principal landowner and lord of the manor. The chief crop is wheat. The area is 2,079 acres, and the population in 1861, was 220.
- 2.15** The 1st Edition OS map (1874) shows the Rose Cottage (although not named at this time) with 34 – 36 Alciston Street to the north. The area of the site appears to be an orchard. (Fig. 6). The 2nd Edition OS map (1899) shows little change, although the Rose Cottage is now named and shown as an Inn.
- 2.16** The 3rd Edition OS map of 1909-10 (Fig. 7) and 4th Edition OS map of 1928 also show little change, with the area of the site still shown as an orchard. By the 1970 OS, the northern part of the orchard has been built on (Nos. 1 & 2 Orchard Cottages), but the area of the site is open ground.

¹⁸ The Churches of Selmeston & Berwick in the County of Sussex

¹⁹ ESRO SAS G-45-24

²⁰ http://www.envf.port.ac.uk/geo/research/historical/webmap/sussexmap/Yeakell_36.htm

²¹ ESRO TD/E25

²² Kelly's Post Office Directory of Essex, Herts, Middlesex, Kent, Surrey and Sussex, 1867

3.0 Method Statement

- 3.1** The archaeological work was carried out in accordance with ESCC's *Standards for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording and Post-Excavation in East Sussex* dated April 2008 (Recommended Standards).
- 3.2** Two evaluation trenches were excavated both orientated north-west – south-east; Trench A measuring 4m x 1.5m, and Trench B measuring 6m x 1.5m, were positioned as shown in Fig. 8. The trenches were excavated by a 3 tonne machine in accordance with the Recommended Standards. Trench B was repositioned from the original specification due to space constraints caused by the presence of a chicken coop and pen and vegetable plot. Both trenches were excavated down to the natural Gault clay.
- 3.3** An archaeological feature cut into the Gault clay was encountered in Trench A and three slots were put across this feature to ascertain its nature and recover any surviving datable artefacts. The feature in Trench A and sections of both Trench A and B were recorded in accordance with the Recommended Standards.
- 3.4** Care was taken not to damage potential archaeological deposits through excessive use of the machine. All exposed sections and surfaces were inspected for archaeological features, structures or finds. The spoil from the excavations was inspected on a regular basis to recover any artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest. A Garrett Ace 250 metal detector was initially used to scan the location of the trenches however due to multiple signals that turned out to be mainly modern iron artefacts, retrieval was not considered worthwhile. The metal detector was used to scan the spoil heap and exposed features during the evaluation.
- 3.5** All archaeologically significant deposits, features and finds were excavated and recorded according to accepted professional standards and to the ESCC Recommended Conditions. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- 3.6** Both trenches were levelled in relation to an Ordnance Datum Bench Mark located on the wall outside Orchard Cottages in Alciston Street (44.09m OD). Ordnance Datum level values pertaining to each trench are given in the text below and illustrated in the relevant figures.
- 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 Ltd. A site reference of RCA11 has been allocated and after any further analysis, will be offered to Lewes Museum.

4 Results

- 4.1** The topsoil from Trench B (Context 1) was a very dark grey-black, silty loam with some very small pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) at <1% but was generally free of inclusions. There was obviously evidence of bioturbation from the various vegetables on site.
- 4.2** Context 2 from this trench was a soft, mid yellowish-buff, sandy deposit. Inclusions amounted to brick and tile that were concentrated at the south-eastern end of the trench at approximately 5%, but thinned out at approximately 500mm from the south-eastern end to a thin sandy deposit that was up to 120mm-80mm in depth (Fig. 9). This concentration of brick and tile of mid C18th to 19th date may well be a dump of material or possibly relates to a mid C18th to 19th building.
- 4.3** Below Context 2 lay the subsoil (Context 3). This was a firm mid grey silty-clay, up to 300mm in depth, with inclusions comprising CBM at 1%, pottery at 1%. Chalk flecks and pieces up to 20mm in size at approximately 20% were present at the interface with the natural Gault clay (Context 4)
- 4.4** Context 4 was the natural Gault clay that was very compact and firm, mid yellow-grey in colour and was excavated to a maximum depth of 100mm to the limit of excavation (Fig. 11).
- 4.5** Context 5 was a pea-shingle deposit in a dark grey black silty-clay that was present from the mid-section northwards in Trench B. It was up to 30mm in depth at the mid-point, widening out to 40mm at the south-eastern end of the trench and lay between Context 1 and Context 3.
- 4.6** Trench A contained Contexts 6 to 10 (Fig. 9). Context 6 was a loose, friable material; a silty-clay in composition with inclusions of CBM at 2%, pot <1%, glass <1%, bone <1% and plastic at 1% and some 700mm in depth and was deemed to be modern made-ground.
- 4.7** Underneath Context 6 lay Context 7, a compact, mid yellowish-grey silty-clay deposit. Inclusions amounted to chalk flecks and pieces up to 50mm in size at <1% along with CBM at 1% and the overall depth was 360mm. This was interpreted as a redeposited subsoil deposit.

- 4.8** Context **8** was a mid grey silty clay, and is a made ground deposit, which was some 200mm in depth and contained chalk flecks and pieces up to 50mm in size at <1% along with CBM at 1% and was below Context **7** and sealed Context **9**, although Context **8** and the fill of Context **9** (Context **10**) are contemporary.
- 4.9** Context **9** was a cut into the natural (Context **4**) and was a linear feature running along the middle of the trench and was approximately 3m in length, 300mm wide and 100mm in depth, with a rounded return, approximately 550mm in length and 350mm wide, situated at the north-west end of Trench A and turning approximately ninety degrees to the north-east (Figs. 9, 10 & 12). This feature is interpreted as the robbed-out footing trench for a building.
- 4.10** Context **10** the fill of Context **9** and contained CBM (<1%), pottery at <1% and chalk flecks and pieces at 1% and was 100mm in depth. The matrix of this fill was similar to Context **8**. However more chalk was present in this context and on excavating it, it was felt that there was a difference and different context numbers were assigned to the fill. This feature was at a height of 44.09m OD at its eastern end.
- 4.11** No other archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the evaluation.

5 Finds

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The finds are a typical assemblage that you might expect to find on a small scale evaluation such as this with typical later 19th and 20th century material with some 18th century material as well. However, the single sherd of mid 13th-14th pottery is interesting.

5.1.2 The assemblage does not hold any potential for further analysis and the majority is recommended for discard. The medieval pottery sherd should however be retained as little of this period has been recovered from the village to date.

Table 1: Quantification of finds assemblage (Number/weight in grams)

Context	Pottery (by chronological period)	Ceramic Building Material	Other	Comment
1	1750-1900+: 4/11g	Brick 4/295g Peg tile 2/100g	-	C19th. Some residual C16th- to 18 th - tile
2	1750-1900+: 1/12g	Brick 5/1616g	Iron 1/3g Mortar 1/89g	C19th
3	1750-1900+: 4/176g	Peg tile 2/284g	-	Mixed. C19th- pot but residual C16th – 17 th tile
6	1750-1900+: 2/73g	Peg tile 4/210g Floor tile 1/200g	Clay pipe 1/3g Iron 1/18g Stone 1/9g Glass 3/397g Bone 7/300g	Mixed. C19th- pot, early C18th- clay pipe but C20th- floor tile
7	1225-1350: 1/5g	Peg tile 9/364g	Bone 2/39g	Mid C13th- to mid 14 th - pot but mixed C16th- to 18 th - tile
8	-	Peg tile 6/135g	Bone 5/507g	C17th- to 18 th tile
10	1750-1900+: 2/4g	Brick 2/74g Peg tile 10/234g	Flint 1/8g	Late C18th- to early 19 th - pot with C17th- to 18 th - tile mix

5.2 *The Pottery* by Luke Barber

- 5.2.1** The archaeological monitoring recovered a small assemblage of pottery representing two periods. The earliest consists of a single small but unabraded sherd from a cooking pot tempered with moderate medium sand with very rare flint inclusions to 1mm. A mid 13th - to mid 14th - century date is probable.
- 5.2.2** The remaining pottery is all of the late post-medieval period. These sherds are of small to medium size (to 50mm across) with slight to moderate signs of abrasion. As such it would appear that some of this pottery has been subjected to reworking but not extensively. Context **10** produced two sherds (4g) from an early pearlware tea bowl with blue hand-painted decoration suggesting a date between 1780 and 1810. Context **1** contained a later 19th century group consisting of three sherds (7g) from a red transfer-printed bowl with foliage design and part of the base (4g) from an English porcelain plate. Context **2** produced a single fragment from a later 19th century cup in plain refined white earthenware.
- 5.2.3** Contexts **3** and **6** produced small groups of more general 19th century date. The former contains two sherds of local glazed red earthenware (96g) including the rim from a large dish, and fragments from an English stoneware bottle (1/56g) and Rockingham-type dish (1/23g). Context **6** produced another glazed red earthenware sherd (35g) as well as part of a yellow ware bowl (38g).

5.3 *Clay Tobacco Pipe* by Luke Barber

- 5.3.1** A single relatively unabraded stem fragment of early/mid 18th century date was recovered from Context 6.

5.4 *The Ceramic Building Material* by Luke Barber

- 5.4.1** The site produced a relatively large assemblage of post-medieval ceramic building materials. Both brick and tile are present. The brick occurs in one of three fabrics:
- B1 – Sparse fine sand with moderate iron oxide inclusions to 3mm and off-white marl streaks/pellets. Well formed and medium fired. Mid C18th to 19th. Contexts **1** and **2**. The only dimensions recordable were from Context **2** which produced a brick 110mm wide by 55-59mm tall.
- B2 – Moderate fine/medium sand with common sub-angular to sub-rounded clay pellets to 5mm. Well formed and medium fired. Mid C18th to 19th. Contexts **2** and **10**.

B3 – Abundant fine/medium sand. Quite crudely formed and low/medium fired. C17th to 18th century. Only a small piece (22g) was recovered from Context **10**.

5.4.2 The tile is a little more diverse in date with a number of pieces being of probable early post-medieval date. Four fabrics were identified:

T1 – Sparse fine sand with very rare iron oxide inclusions and marl streaks to 1mm. Very well formed and well fired. There is also a very hard-fired version of this fabric. Mid C18th to 19th. Contexts **1** (x1), **6** (x1), **8** (x1).

T2 – Sparse fine sand with sparse calcareous inclusions to 1mm. Quite crudely finished but hard fired. C16th to mid 18th century. Contexts **1** (x1), **3** (x1), **6** (x1), **7** (x5), **8** (x1)

T3 – Buff fabric tempered with common fine sand and rare white calcareous inclusions to 1mm. Quite well formed and fired. C16th to mid 18th century. Contexts **3** (x1), **6** (x1), **7** (x3), **8** (x1), **10** (x3)

T4 – As T2 but with very rare calcareous inclusions. C16th to mid 18th century. Contexts **6** (x1), **7** (x1), **8** (x3), **10** (x7)

5.4.3 The only other tile consists of a 20th century mould-formed floor tile from [6] in a uniform very fine, almost untempered, fabric. The tile is stamped LINTON T[ILES] on its reverse.

5.5 *Animal Bone* by Chris Butler

5.5.1 Animal bone was recovered from three contexts. Context **6** produced examples of cattle (3), sheep (1) and pig (2) bone, some of which displayed cut marks, while Context **7** produced two fragments of cattle bone.

5.5.2 The bone from Context **8** comprised a large piece from the femur of a cow, which had been chopped through and possibly used in the cooking of bone marrow, although it has subsequently been broken. The remaining pieces from this context were unidentifiable.

5.6 *Other Material* by Luke Barber and Chris Butler

5.6.1 Two pieces of late post-medieval iron were recovered from the site. One consists of a 4mm diameter wire fragment (Context **2**), the other a 107mm long nail with rectangular pyramidal head and rectangular shank (Context **6**).

- 5.6.2** A single fragment of 19th century Welsh roofing slate was recovered from Context **6** and a piece of dull yellow sandy mortar with occasional flint pebbles to 5mm was recovered from Context **2**. This type of mortar would be in keeping with a later post-medieval date.
- 5.6.3** A single small hard hammer-struck flint flake of later prehistoric date was recovered from Context **10**, and was almost certainly residual in this context.
- 5.6.4** Context **6** produced a glass bottle and two fragments of glass. The bottle was a small PEPSI bottle with spiralling fluting on the body and the remains of painted-on labels. This bottle probably dates from the period immediately after 1953. The other two pieces of glass comprised a fragment of clear bottle glass, and a fragment of clear window glass, both 20th century in date.

6 Discussion

- 6.1** The lack of any archaeological finds and features of any great antiquity from a stratigraphic secure context is disappointing given Alciston's origins in the Anglo-Saxon period and its subsequent Medieval development. This lack of archaeology would suggest that any use of the site has been extremely limited, which is surprising given its location along the nucleated settlement of Alciston Street, although the single unabraded pottery sherd of 13th to mid 14th century date hints at activity nearby.
- 6.2** This does support the hypotheses that many of the medieval tenants were living on dispersed farms rather than in the nucleated settlement around the manor house and church²³. The survey of 1433 includes a detailed description of the tenements, and it has been possible to reconstruct the form of the 15th century settlement. The 31 dwellings were arranged along Alciston Street, with one group ('North Town') situated in the vicinity of the Rose Cottage, and the other group ('South Town') to the south of the church and manor house.
- 6.3** However, from the excavation of the two trenches it would appear that the site must either fall between any Medieval dwellings or has always been used for agricultural or arboreal purposes during the Medieval and early post-medieval period. If this is the case this it may account for the lack of any significant Medieval material. Another possibility is that any later truncation of the site has removed all evidence of medieval occupation.
- 6.4** This later truncation may have been associated with the construction of the post-medieval building found in Trench A. Whilst no map evidence exists for this building, the footings discovered in Trench A (Context **9**) and the concentration of brick and tile at the south-eastern end of Trench B (Context **2**) suggests a small and fairly insubstantial building potentially dating to 17th-18th century, based on dating evidence from the tile, and going out of use in the early 19th century, based on the pottery evidence from the fill of the robbed-out footing, and it not appearing on any later 19th century maps.
- 6.5** The location of this building close to the street frontage may suggest that it was originally a cottage, although the foundation trench appears to be too small for a building of this type, so it may have been a smaller building of unknown function. It is unlikely to be the laundry rumoured to have been located until fairly recently on the site as its dating and lack of appearance on recent maps precludes that.

²³ Brandon, P.F. 1962 'Arable Farming in a Sussex scarp-foot Parish during the Late Middle Ages', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **100**, 60-72.

- 6.6** If any archaeology, other than post-medieval, survives along the eastern edge of the site then it is well sealed and protected by the deep deposit of made ground, although the lack of material from earlier periods would suggest that very little archaeology of this date is present.
- 6.7** The methodology adopted for this evaluation proved to be satisfactory, and the confidence rating should be considered to be very reliable.

7 Recommendations

- 7.1** The evaluation excavation undertaken at The Rose Cottage Inn was successfully completed and largely achieved its objectives. The depth of made ground across the site was established and, moreover, the potential for surviving deposits buried deeply beneath the made ground was also ascertained.
- 7.2** The discoveries made are located below the impact level of the new development at the front of the site, which will not extend to the depth of the post medieval footings found in Trench A. This together with the lack of any archaeological features in Trench B means that it is unlikely that any archaeological deposits will be disturbed. It is therefore recommended that no further archaeological works are required in respect of this development.

8 Acknowledgements

- 8.1** I would like to thank the client, Ian Lewis, for commissioning the archaeological evaluation, and John Eastes the digger driver for his assistance. Luke Barber and Chris Butler reported on the finds, and Andy Bradshaw digitised the drawings for the report. The project was managed for CBAS by Chris Butler, and monitored for ESCC by Greg Chuter.

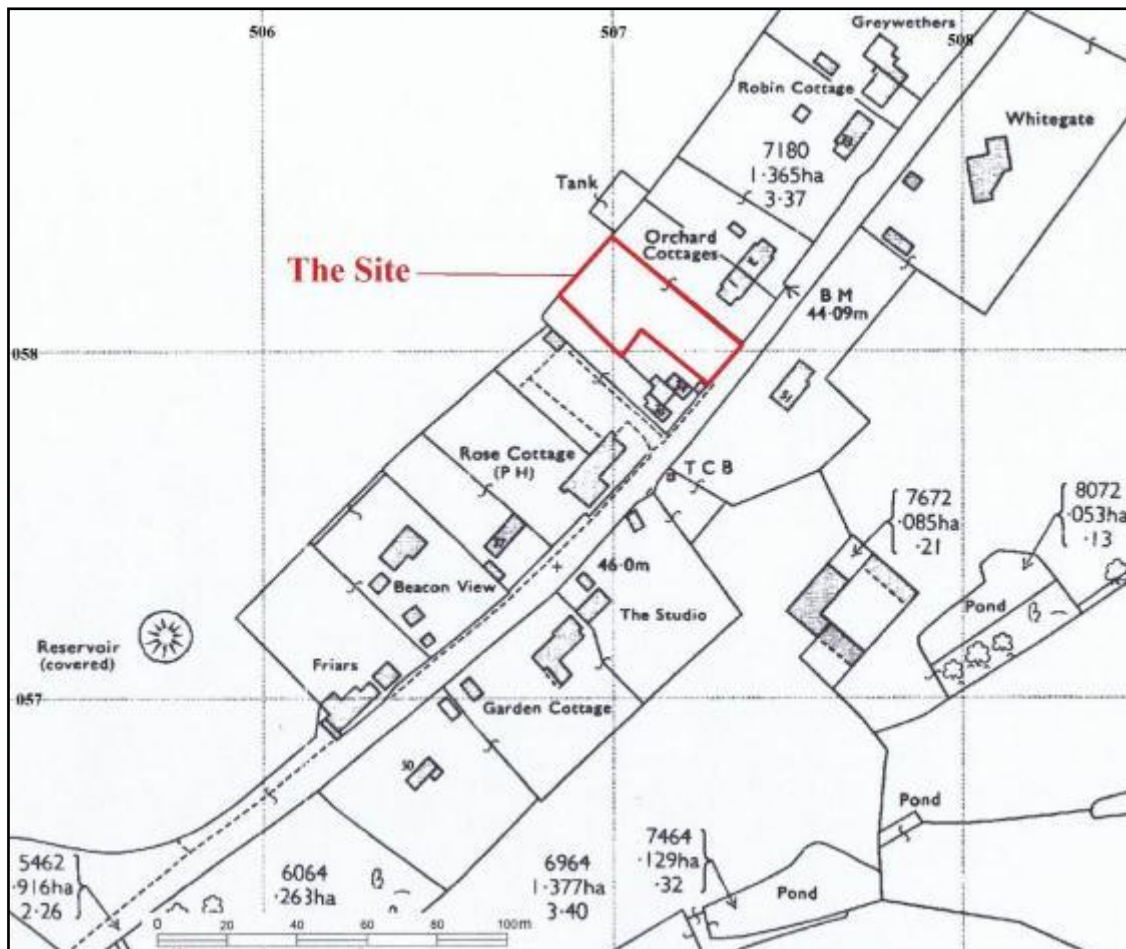


Fig. 1: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston: Location Map
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 1985 All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471



Fig. 2: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston: Archaeological Notification Area
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 1985 All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471

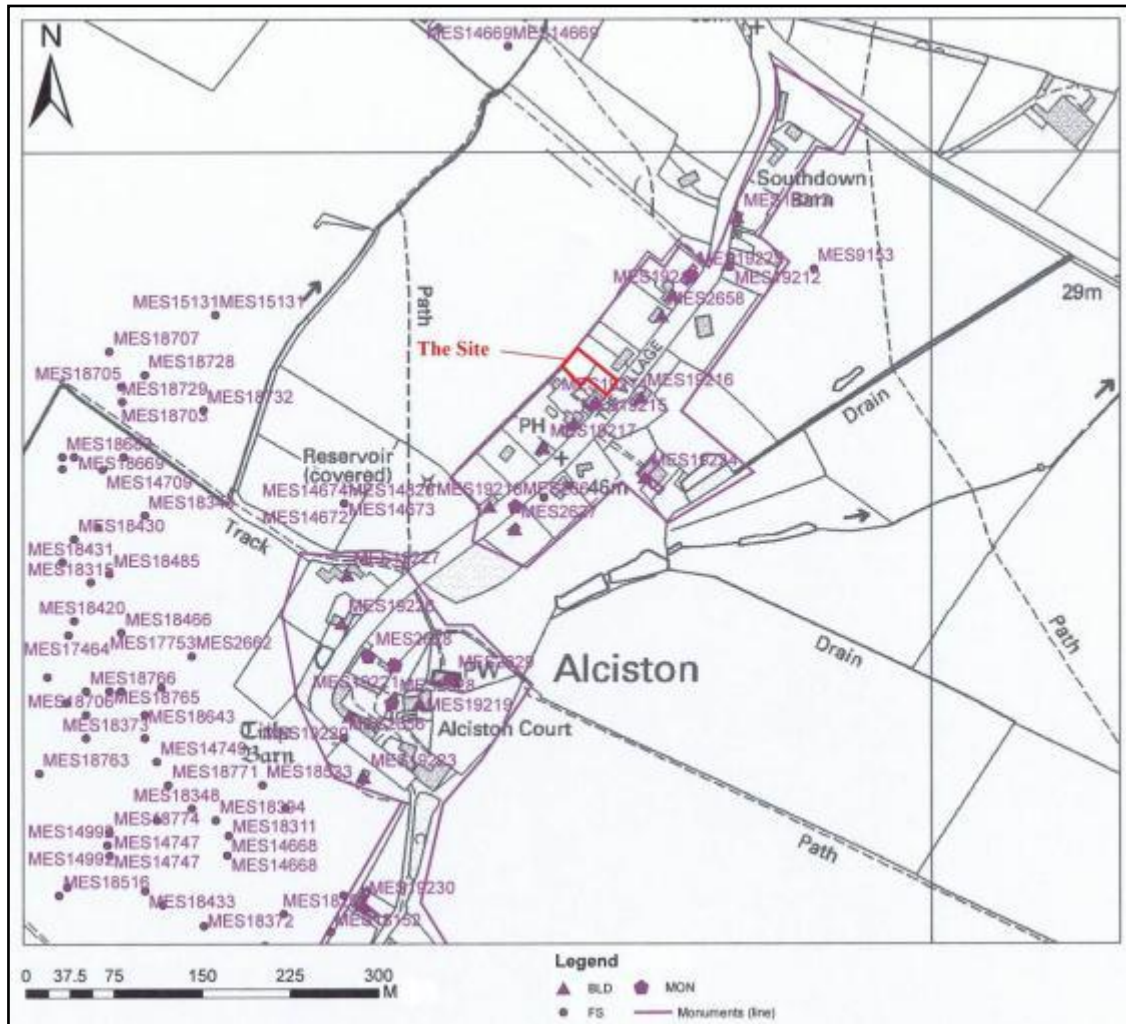


Fig. 3: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston: Monuments on the HER referred to in Section 2

Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 1985 All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471

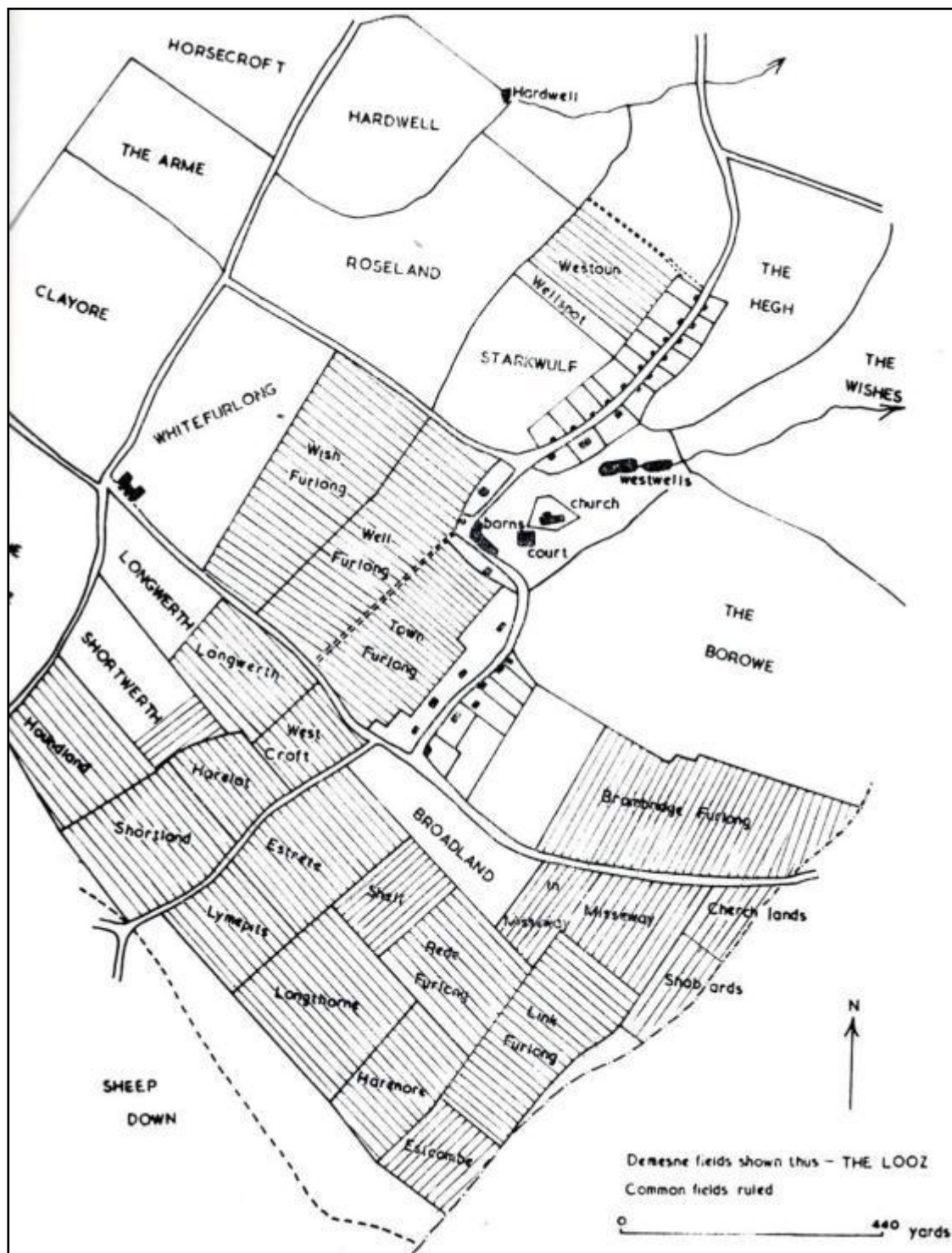


Fig. 4: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston: Reconstruction of Alciston c.1433
(From Brandon, P.F. 1962 'Arable Farming in a Sussex scarp-foot Parish during the Late Middle Ages', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 100, 60-72.)

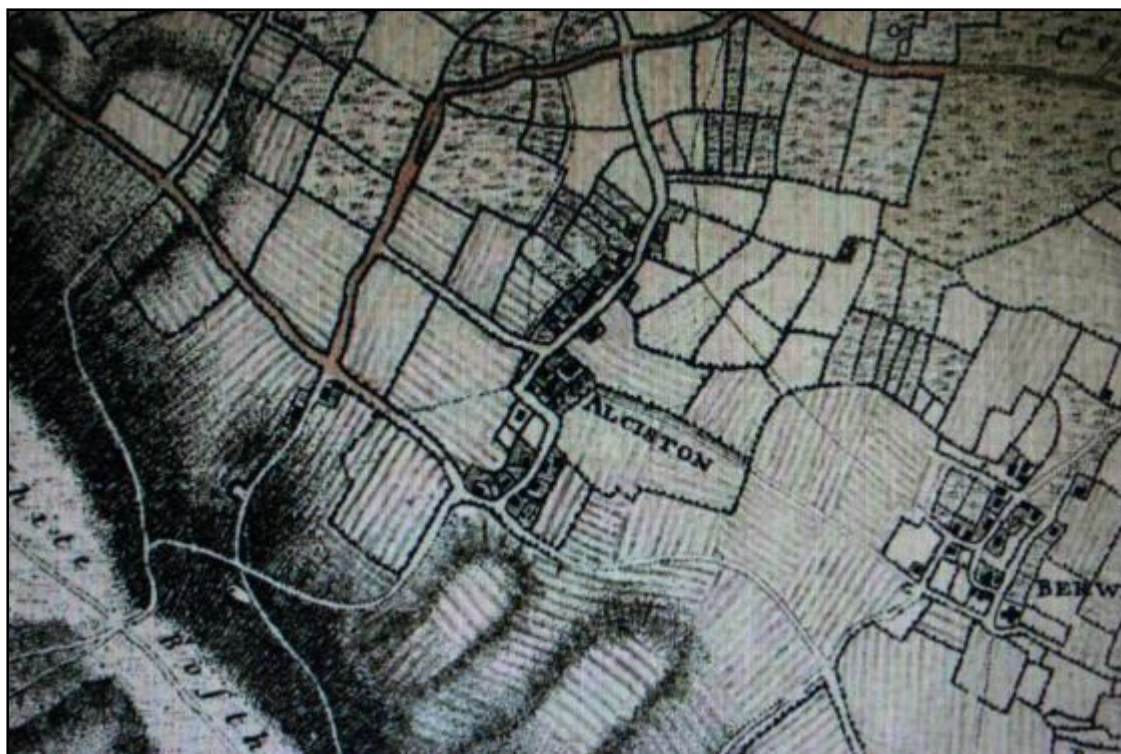


Fig. 5: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston: Yeakell & Gardiner's map of 1778-83



Fig. 6: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston: 1st Edition OS Map 1874

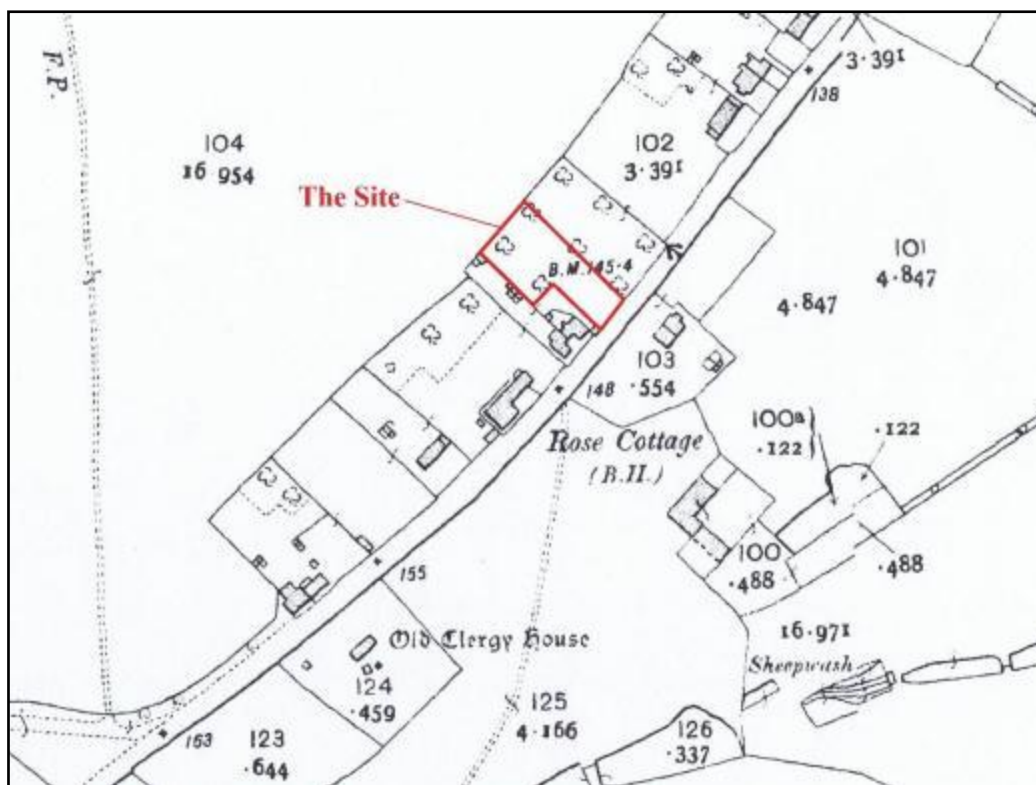


Fig. 7: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston: 3rd Edition OS Map 1910

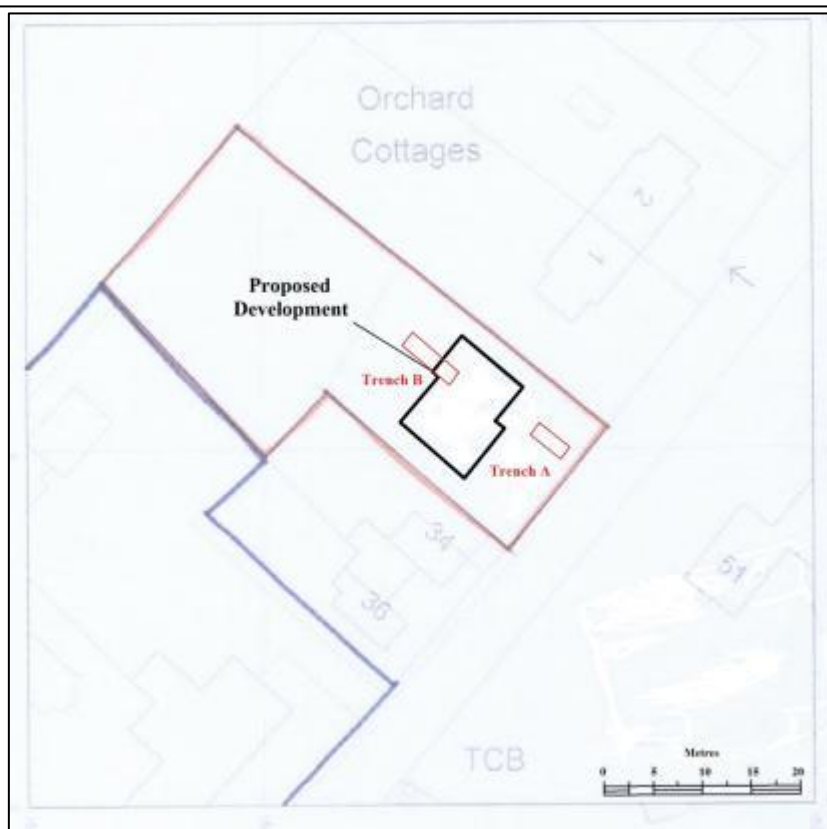


Fig. 8: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston: Site plan showing the location of the trenches

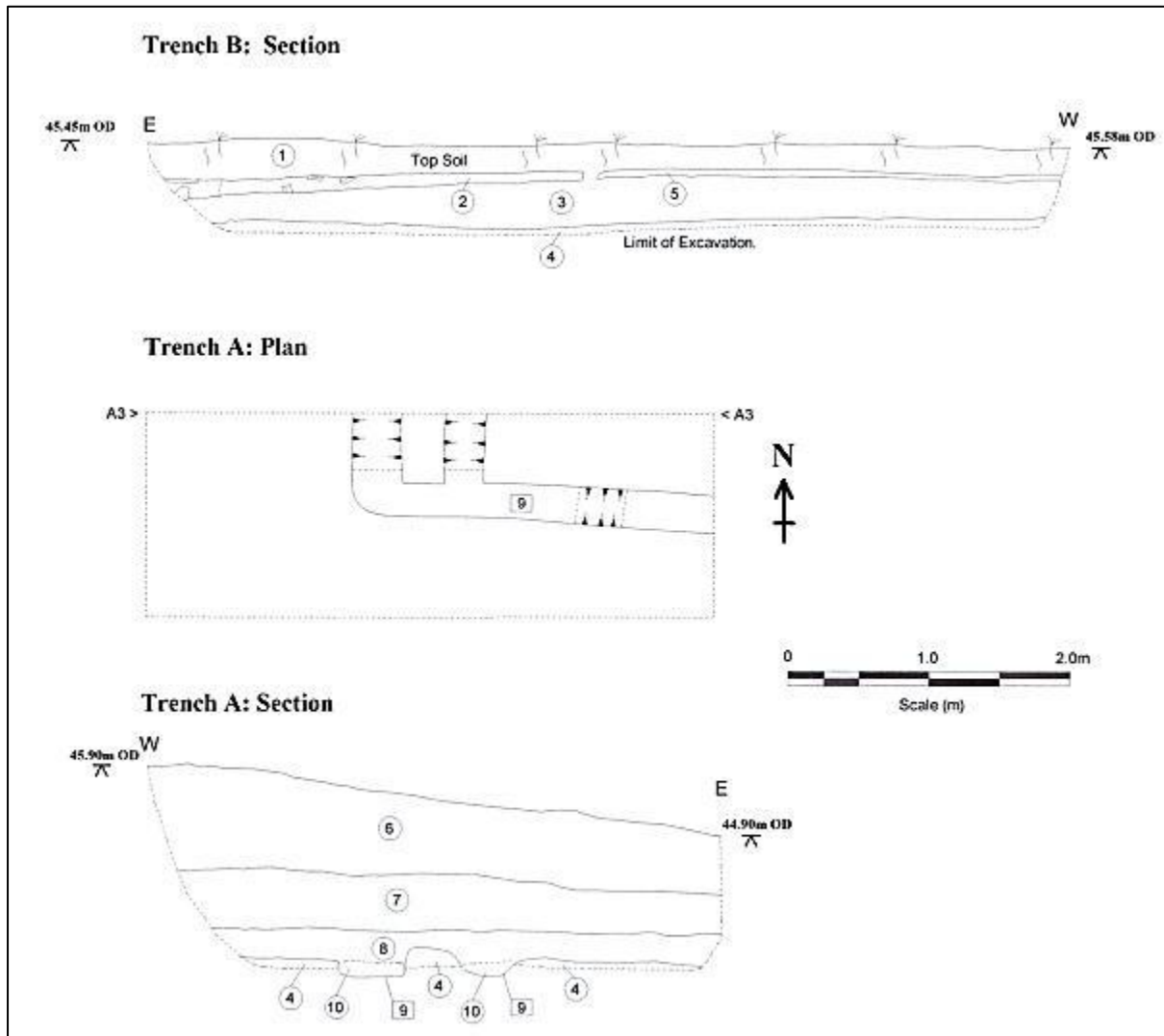


Fig. 9: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston: Trench A: Plan and Section;
Trench B: Section



Figs. 10 & 11: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston:
Left: Trench A showing footings feature; Right: Trench B under excavation



Figs. 12: Land Adjacent to the Rose Cottage, Alciston:
Left: Trench A looking NE showing footings feature

Appendix 1 HER Summary Form

Site Code	RCA11					
Identification Name and Address	Rose Cottage, Alciston, East Sussex.					
County, District &/or Borough	Wealden District Council					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 5075 0579					
Geology	Gault Clay.					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. X	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban X	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 08.09.11	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Ian Lewis					
Project Manager	Chris Butler MIFA					
Project Supervisor	David Atkin					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED X	PM X	Other		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>An archaeological evaluation excavation was carried out in advance of making a planning application for a dwelling on land adjacent to The Rose Cottage Inn, Alciston, East Sussex. No archaeological features were encountered in Trench B, with only modern deposits being present above the natural. However, Trench A, situated towards the street frontage, revealed the footings of a post-medieval building, possibly dating to the 17th century, cut into the top of the natural and post-medieval material dating to the early 19th Century was recovered from the fill of the footing cut, suggesting it had been demolished by this date.</i></p>						

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd

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

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

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

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

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