



**Chris Butler MCIfA  
Archaeological Services Ltd**



**An Archaeological Watching Brief  
at  
Morley Manor,  
Shermanbury,  
West Sussex**

TQ 20803 19774

Planning Ref. DC/14/0905

Project No. CBAS0615

by

Steffan Klemenic

December 2015

### ***Summary***

*A watching brief was carried out on land at Morley Manor, Shermanbury, West Sussex as was part of the planning consent for the excavation of a pond at the Site. The monitoring of a topsoil strip down to the natural revealed no archaeological features, apart from a modern land drain and a fence line. An assemblage of artefacts included some prehistoric flintwork and fire-fractured flint, and medieval and post medieval pottery shreds. The pottery suggested periods of cultivation and pasture during the medieval and early post medieval periods.*

# **Chris Butler MCIFA Archaeological Services Ltd**

**Unit 12, Mays Farm  
Selmeston  
Polegate  
East Sussex  
BN26 6TS**

**Tel & fax: 01323 811785**

**e mail: [chris.butler@cbasltd.co.uk](mailto:chris.butler@cbasltd.co.uk)**

## Contents

1.0	Introduction	3
2.0	Archaeological & Historical Background	5
3.0	Archaeological Methodology	7
4.0	Results	9
5.0	Finds	13
6.0	Discussion	17
7.0	Acknowledgements	18

## Figures

Fig. 1	Site location
Fig. 2	Proposed Development
Fig. 3	Historic Environment Record
Fig. 4	Thomas Budgen (1806)
Fig. 5	Tithe (1840)
Fig. 6	1st Edition OS (1877)
Fig. 7	2nd Edition OS (1897)
Fig. 8	3rd Edition OS (1911)
Fig. 9	Site plan showing area monitored
Fig. 10	Phases of monitored work

## Plates

Plate 1	Initial trench excavated across the site
Plate 2	Part of site stripped of topsoil
Plate 3	Contexts <b>001</b> to <b>003</b>
Plate 4	Modern Deposits <b>004</b> and <b>006</b> overlying Contexts <b>001</b> to <b>003</b>
Plate 5	Service Pipe <b>005</b> cut into Context <b>003</b>
Plate 6	Working shot of chalk deposit ( <b>007</b> )
Plate 7	Posthole along removed field boundary

## Appendices

Appendix 1	Levels Record
Appendix 2	HER summary form.

## 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd (CBAS) was commissioned by Bill Kear Plant and Agricultural Contractors Ltd. (The Client) to carry out an archaeological watching brief at Land at Morley Manor, Shermanbury, West Sussex (Fig. 1) in order to establish the likely presence and importance of any archaeological remains, in connection with a planning application (DC/14/0905) for the construction of a new lake, associated landscaping and new vehicular access (Fig. 2).

1.2 Morley is a Grade II Listed Building (List Entry No. 1027330), described in the Listing as:

*'C17 or earlier L-shaped timber-framed building, restored and enlarged. The ground floor has been rebuilt in red brick. The first floor has roughcast Three windows Horsham slab roof. Casement windows with latticed panes. Two storeys. Three windows to the original portion. Modern addition to north.'*

1.3 Because of the large scale of the proposed lake, and the potential for impact onto, or removal of buried archaeological remains; the following planning condition will be attached to any planning permission which is granted:

*No development shall take place until a written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI, no development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI, which shall include:*

*The Statement of Significance and research Objectives: The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works.*

*The programme for further mitigation, post investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication & dissemination and deposition of resulting material: This part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI.*

*REASON: To confirm the presence of, and to characterise archaeological remains that may be present on the site and to enable the identification and implementation of a programme of mitigation.*

1.4 The proposed site comprises three fields located on the west side of the A281, immediately south of Morley Manor, and is centred at TQ 20803 19774. The site lies between 6m and 14m OD, on the gentle south-facing slope of the River Adur valley. The site is open fields, although the area is enclosed by woodland to its west and north, and bounded by the A281 on its east side. According to the British Geological Survey<sup>1</sup>, the geology of the Site comprises mudstone and sandstone of the Weald Clay Formation.

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 21/09/2015

- 1.5** The programme of archaeological work comprised an archaeological watching brief as specified in a brief issued by Horsham District Council. A written scheme of investigation covering the watching brief was submitted and approved by the local planning authority<sup>2</sup> prior to the commencement of fieldwork.
  
- 1.6** The watching brief on the groundworks was carried out by the author between the 12th and the 19th November 2015.

---

<sup>2</sup> Klemenic, S. 2015 *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief at Morley Manor, Shermanbury East Sussex*. CBAS0615

## 2.0 Archaeological & Historical Background

- 2.1 Historical information was taken from West Sussex Historic Environment Record (WSHER) provided by the client (Fig. 3)
- 2.2 There is no evidence for occupation of the Study area from the Prehistoric Period through to the Medieval period.
- 2.3 In the Domesday Book, compiled in 1087, the manor of Shermanbury, then called Salmonesberie is held by Ralph from William de Braose, having been formerly held by Azor from King Harold. There are two ploughs, one belonging to the lord and one shared by one villager and three smallholders. There is a small church and four slaves, and it had a value of 24s<sup>3</sup>. The overlordship of the Braoses and their successors was recorded until 1387. From Ralph de Buci the undertenancy of Shermanbury descended with that of Kingston in the Buci family until the 14th century, and then passed from the younger William Fyfield (d. 1387) to the Sandys family. The manor house, recorded in 1361, was rebuilt in the late 16th century or early 17<sup>th</sup>, and is now known as Shermanbury Place.
- 2.4 Domesday also records three other manors in Shermanbury parish, Woolfly, also held by Ralph, and Morley and Sakeham held by William son of Ranulph. Morley being recorded as answering for ½ hide, ½ plough and 2 smallholders with a value before 1066 of 10s and now 5s. It is now thought however that the Domesday estate called Morley was in Woodmancote Parish, as a reference for 1309 clearly belongs to Woodmancote<sup>4</sup>. In 1434 there were 8 a. of woodland at Woodmancote manor and a wood of 20 a. called Morley bushes at Morley manor<sup>5</sup>. There was a park of 80 a. in 1434 at Morley manor, which had presumably existed earlier, since a park was mentioned in 1422<sup>6</sup>.
- 2.5 In 1542 Thomas Sandys, Lord Sandys, leased Shermanbury Manor for 500 years. The lessee in 1542 was William Comber. By 1601 Ewhurst Manor had passed to William Comber (d. 1625) who in 1608 inherited Shermanbury. The two manors descended, sometimes jointly and occasionally as separate manors through until the earlier 20<sup>th</sup> century when they finally became separate estates. There appears to be no link between the Manor of Morley in Woodmancote and Morley Farm/Manor at Shermanbury.

---

<sup>3</sup> Morris, J. (Ed.), 1976. *Domesday Book: Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd.

<sup>4</sup> A History of the County of Sussex: Volume 6 Part 3, Bramber Rape (North-Eastern Part) Including Crawley New Town. Originally published by Victoria County History, London, 1987. Pages 189-192

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* Pages 157-160

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* Pages 157-160

- 2.6** Morley Manor, formerly Morleys Farm or Morleys, was recorded from c.1650 and was perhaps named from the family of John Morley, a parishioner in 1642; its core is a two-bayed timber-framed building of the late 15th or early 16th century with a chimney on the south gable end, lengthened to north and south perhaps soon afterwards, and later given an L shape with a north wing running west. About 1840 it was a farmhouse in two tenements on Sir Timothy Shelley's estate, and after 1875 it was much enlarged on the west, part being demolished in the 1970s<sup>7</sup>.
- 2.7** Thomas Budgen's map of 1798/1806 (Fig. 4), shows the farm buildings and farm house, together with a layout of fields, although these do not relate to the fields shown on later maps.
- 2.8** The presence of Barrack Cottages to the south of the site suggests that soldiers were garrisoned here during the Napoleonic Wars, however it is not shown until the Tithe map of 1840 (Fig. 5) and in the VCH it is described as three tenements and later called the Barracks or Barrack Cottages<sup>8</sup> (Plate 9). The building is typical of the small barracks that were built in Sussex during the period 1793-1808.
- 2.9** The 1840 Tithe Map (Fig. 5) shows Morley's Farm with the L-shaped farmhouse and three farm buildings and two ponds. The farm is not named in the Tithe Apportionments, but is owned by Sir Thomas Bart Shelley and occupied by John Batchelor. Field 183 (meadow) to the south of the farm is called Morleys Mead, whilst 182 (arable) is called Pit Field, both under the same owner/occupier. The small field projecting west on the site is part of Stone Pit Field, and is owned and occupied by William Ede. The names of these two latter fields may suggest that stone/sand may have been quarried from them at some stage in the past.
- 2.10** The 1877 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map (Fig. 6) shows Morley Farm with formal gardens on its south side, and the farm to its north. To its south are the three fields that comprise the site. There is no change by the time of the 1897 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS map (Fig. 7) although a group of buildings within a rectangular enclosure to the south of the site are shown as The Barracks.
- 2.11** By the 1911 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition OS map (Fig. 8) an extension has been added to the farmhouse at Morley Farm, and there have been changes to the farm buildings. The field boundary across the centre of the site is no longer shown suggesting these two fields have been merged. On the west side of the site Mealhogs Wood now extends up to the edge of the site.

---

<sup>7</sup> A History of the County of Sussex: Volume 6 Part 3, Bramber Rape (North-Eastern Part) Including Crawley New Town. Originally published by Victoria County History, London, 1987. Pages 192-195

<sup>8</sup> A History of the County of Sussex: Volume 6 Part 3, Bramber Rape (North-Eastern Part) Including Crawley New Town. Originally published by Victoria County History, London, 1987. Pages 189-192

### 3.0 Archaeological Methodology

- 3.1 The archaeological monitoring involved watching a 20 tonne tracked excavator remove overburden down to the natural clay across the Site. The natural was observed across the site at depths ranging from 0.3m to 0.6m below the existing ground level.
- 3.2 An initial 2m wide evaluation trench was stripped to the natural across the Site on an east to west axis to determine the depth of the natural (Trench 1, Fig. 9 & Plate 1); then, following consultation with Bill Kear a 6m wide trench, on a north to south axis was stripped lengthways across the Site (Fig. 10). This approach was taken for two days, with all spoil being piled on the east side of the excavations.



**Plate 1:** Initial trench excavated across the site

- 3.3 A dumper was brought in on the third day to remove the spoil to the south corner of the Site, however, due to wet conditions making the ground difficult to traverse, it was decided that this approach was not viable, and that spoil would be piled onto the last excavated strip of the Site. As a consequence of this approach, after inspecting the ground surface for features and artefacts, several photographs (e.g. Plate 2) were taken of each north-south strip of the Site, before it was reburied under the spoil from the next strip.





**Plate 2:** Part of site stripped of topsoil

- 3.4** Natural was encountered across the Site during the monitoring save for a portion of the western part of the Site that had been buried by a large amount of spoil from the second and third day's excavations. Given the large percentage of the Site that had been monitored, and the lack of any archaeological deposits or features present, it was decided that the archaeological monitoring could cease.
- 3.5** Machined surfaces and spoil heaps were visually inspected and scanned with a Garrett ACE 150 metal detector for the recovery of artefacts.
- 3.6** All deposits were recorded according to accepted professional standards and to the *Sussex Archaeological Standards*. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not with reference to a Munsell colour chart.
- 3.7** A full digital 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 but will subsequently be deposited with Horsham Museum. The East Sussex Historic Environment Record will be supplied with a CD containing the report in PDF (archive) format and a selection of site photographs. A site reference of MMS15 has been allocated.
- 3.8** The Site was levelled from two Temporary Bench Marks (TBMs) shown in Figure 9. The level for these Temporary Bench Marks (19.971m aOD) was tied into the Ordnance Survey grid system, from an OS Bench Mark, located on no. 2 Morley Cottages (TQ 2087 1992).

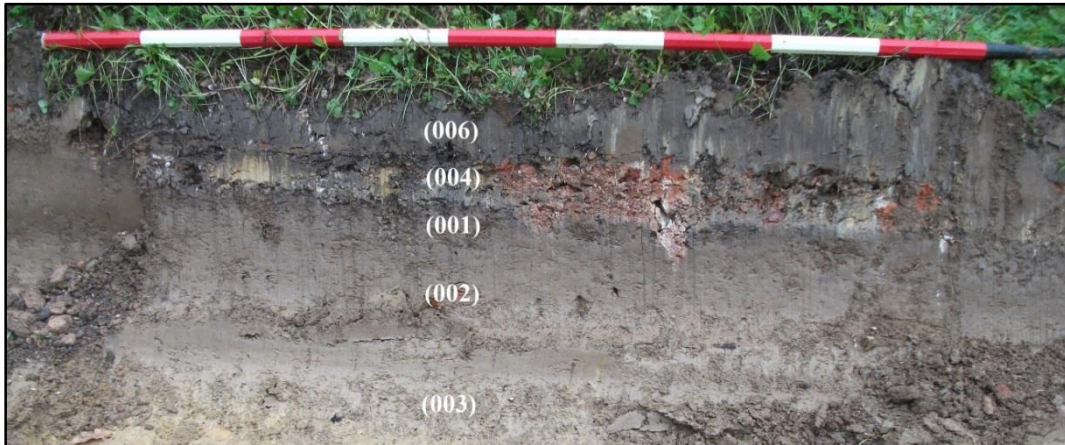
## 4.0 Results

- 4.1 The topsoil across the Site (Context **001**) comprised a soft mid greyish brown silty clay, between 100-150mm thick, containing <1% rooting inclusions (Plate 3).



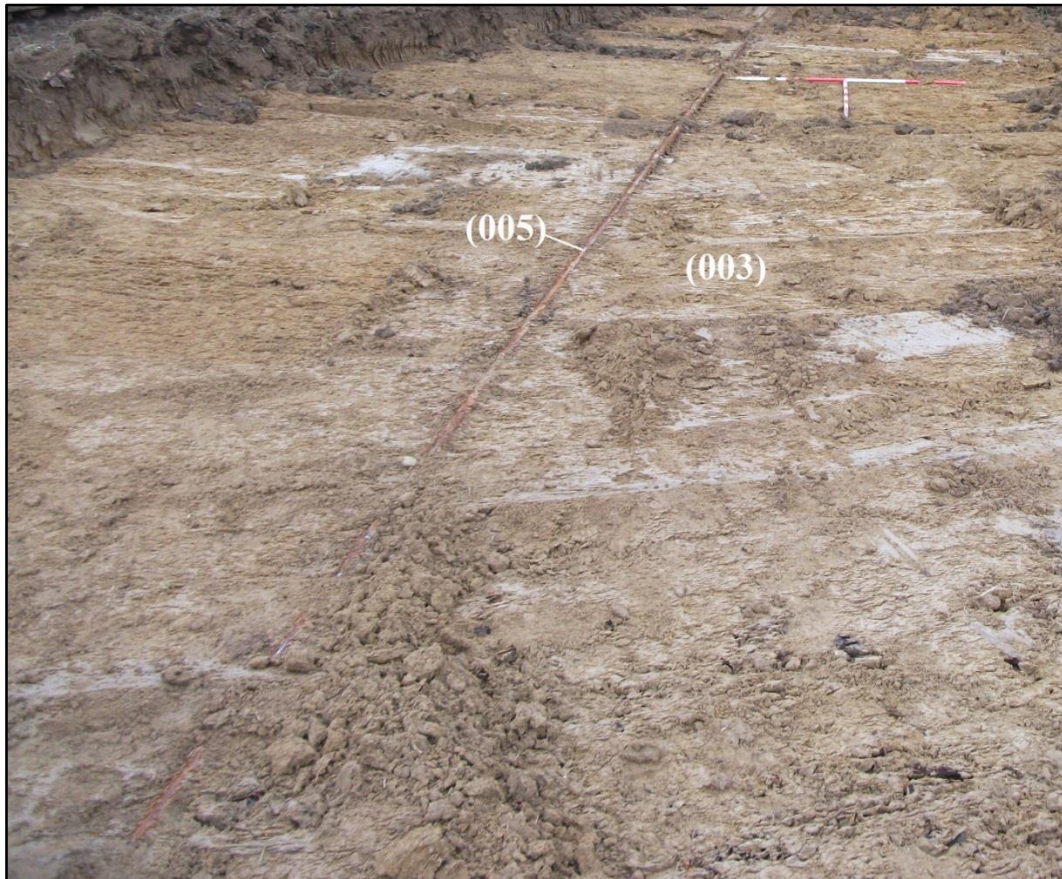
**Plate 3: Contexts 001 to 003**

- 4.2 The subsoil across the Site (Context **002**) was found below Context **001** across the Site. This comprised a soft, mid greyish brown silty clay, 250mm to 300mm thick, containing *c.*5% inclusions of manganese flecks.
- 4.3 The natural deposit (Context **003**; Plate 3) was found below Context **002**, and comprised a mid-firm, mid yellowish brown clay containing *c.*20% chunks of iron rich sandstone between 100mm and 250mm in size.
- 4.4 Another layer of topsoil (Context **006**; Fig. 9) overlays Context **004** (Plate 4). This Context (**006**) was the same as Context **001** in its composition, however, it was clearly a separate context, as a layer of turf and topsoil was visible beneath Context **004**. Context **004** is a layer of redeposited material intermittently found across most of the southern portion of the Site (extending 6m north of the removed central fence line). This was a firm, light yellowish brown clay, averaging 100mm in thickness, containing *c.*50% rubble inclusions. Turf was visible below this deposit (Plate 4).



**Plate 4:** Modern Deposits **004** and **006** overlying Contexts **001** to **003**

**4.5** A metal service pipe (Context **005**; Plate5) of 43mm diameter that ran across the Site, this was cut into the natural (Context **003**). The pipe broke during machining and a small sample was taken.



**Plate 5:** Service Pipe **005** cut into Context **003**

- 4.6 The service pipe (Context **005**) was associated with a brick drain, set into a layer of compacted chalk (Context **007**; Fig. 9). Context **007** (Plate 4) was observed to follow the line of a removed fence over an area of 4m by 6m, with a thickness of 200mm. Unfortunately the pipe broke whilst stripping this area, levering up the drain, and badly damaging the chalk surface, meaning that the best photographic record of this feature is a working shot (Plate 6).



**Plate 6:** Working shot of chalk deposit (007)

- 4.7 A line of 12 rectangular post holes was observed across the Site on the line of a removed field boundary. Historic mapping shows this boundary on the tithe (1840), and to have been removed by 1911, and not present in 1976; however it is shown on the current OS map (Fig. 1). The postholes were marked on the Site plan, but were otherwise not recorded. The lower portion of the wooden posts remained *in-situ* (Plate 7).



**Plate 7:** Posthole along removed field boundary

- 4.8** Careful inspection of the surface of the natural, and observation of the removal of the overlying layers revealed no other archaeological features or deposits during the watching brief.

## 5.0 The Finds.

**5.0.1** A moderate assemblage of artefacts was recovered during the watching brief, and are summarised in Table 1 below.

**Table 1:** Summary of artefacts

Context	Pottery	CBM	Flintwork	Other Finds
1	22/210g	-	-	FF Flint 4/254g Glass 1/<1g Metal 1/8g
2	79/968g	6/296g	4/41g	FF Flint 8/121g Stone 1/58g Glass 7/35g Metal 9/180g
4	1/72g	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	Metal 1/2,377g

**5.0.2** None of the finds had any potential for further analysis and have been discarded.

### 5.1 The Pottery by Luke Barber

**5.1.1** The archaeological monitoring recovered 102 sherds of pottery, weighing 1250g, from three individually numbered contexts. The material has been fully listed in Table 2 as part of the visible archive.

**5.1.2** The two worn sherds of medieval pottery from Context 2 are the earliest on the site. The coarser is likely to be of later 12<sup>th</sup> to early 13<sup>th</sup> century date, with the finer example being perhaps of the 13<sup>th</sup> to mid 14<sup>th</sup> century. Both are heavily worn and probable relate to a background manuring scatter. The single Late Medieval Painted Ware sherd is notably larger and fresher – if this was derived from manuring it has not been subjected to repeated reworking suggesting arable cultivation to have been interspaced by long periods of pasture from the mid 15<sup>th</sup> century on. Alternatively it may relate to nearby occupation. The Early Post-medieval period is represented by a scatter of slightly abraded sherds spanning the later 16<sup>th</sup> to mid 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**5.1.3** The majority of the assemblage relates to the Late Post-medieval period. Most of this consists of a typical range of domestic wares that most comfortably sit between c. 1760 and 1825. The size of these sherds together with the lack of any serious abrasion suggests these derive from a midden rather than manuring. The wares suggest a household of low/middling status. Relatively few sherds of the later 19<sup>th</sup> century are present suggesting a change in refuse disposal patterns at this time.

**Table 2: Pottery assemblage**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1	Staffordshire white salt-glazed stoneware	EPM	1	4g	Uncertain form x1. Worn
1	Glazed red earthenware (late)	LPM	5	100g	Bowls x2 (simple and rounded club rims), jug x1, uncertain form x2. Most C18th
1	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	1	16g	Flower pot x1
1	Yellow ware	LPM	1	8g	Uncertain form x1
1	Creamware	LPM	2	12g	Plates x2
1	Pearlware	LPM	1	4g	Plate with late blue shell-edge decoration
1	Pearlware (transfer-printed)	LPM	8	22g	Bowl x1 (Chinese pattern), plate x1 (Wild Rose pattern), cup x1 (floral), uncertain form x1
1	English porcelain	LPM	1	4g	Plate (hand-painted orange floral pattern copy of Satsuma ware. Stamped '2' on base)
1	Blue transfer-printed whiteware	LPM	1	20g	Tureen lid (sheet pattern)
1	Refined whiteware	LPM	1	20g	Dish
2	Oxidised abundant coarse sandy ware	EM	1	6g	Worn bodysherd. c. 1150-1250?
2	Oxidised medium sandy ware	HM	1	4g	Cooking pot (worn)
2	Painted ware	LM	1	66g	Bowl with thickened rim. c. 1450-1550
2	Glazed red earthenware (early)	EPM	5	74g	Jar x1 (beaded flaring rim), uncertain form x1. C16th – 17 <sup>th</sup>
2	Border ware (yellow glazed)	EPM	1	6g	Uncertain form
2	Tin-glazed earthenware	EPM	1	2g	Plate (plain white)
2	London stoneware	EPM	3	38g	Uncertain form x3
2	Staffordshire white salt-glazed stoneware	EPM	2	4g	Bowl x1, uncertain form x1
2	Frechen stoneware	EPM	2	10g	Bottle x1
2	Glazed red earthenware (late)	LPM	23	514g	Bread bins x3, jugs x2, jars/bowls x8 (rounded beaded rims x2 & x1 with external rouletting)
2	Unglazed red earthenware	LPM	3	18g	Flower pots x2
2	Yellow ware	LPM	4	22g	Bowls x2 (blue mocha & white annular lines), chamber pot x1
2	Creamware	LPM	15	118g	Jug x1, plates x2, uncertain form x1 (overglaze painted polychrome design)
2	Pearlware	LPM	2	2g	Teabowl x1 (hand painted ochre & green floral), pepper pot x1
2	Blue transfer-printed whiteware	LPM	1	4g	Plate (willow-pattern)
2	Refined whiteware	LPM	11	72g	Plate x1 (blue rim-edge line), bowl x1 (blue sponged), cups x2 (x1 hand painted polychrome), mug x1
2	English porcelain	LPM	3	8g	Saucer x2
4	Refined whiteware	LPM	1	72g	Mug (external green glaze)

(EM – Early Medieval c. 1050-1200/25; HM - High Medieval c. 1200/25-1350/75; LM – Late Medieval c. 1350/75-1525/50; EPM – Early Post-Medieval c. 1525/50-1750; LPM - Late Post-Medieval c. 1750-1900+).

**5.1.4** The pottery assemblage is small, mixed and of types well known of in the area. It is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis beyond that undertaken for this report and is recommended for dispersal rather than long-term curation in a museum.

## 5.2 Prehistoric Flintwork by Steffan Klemenic

**5.2.1** An assemblage of four pieces of worked flint weighing 41g (Table 3), was found in Context 2, alongside 12 pieces of un-worked fire fractured flint (375g) from Contexts 1 and 2. The raw material comprises a typical range of Downland flint, with an un-patinated black or grey colour, and a bladelet with a mottled blue/grey patination.

**5.2.2** The flintwork is all debitage, comprising hard and soft stone hammer-struck flakes, a broken Mesolithic bladelet and a broken axe-thinning flake of possible Neolithic date. While two of the pieces in the assemblage are datable, they were widely dispersed across the site, and are thought to all be casual losses rather than indicative of prehistoric activity or settlement sites. The flintwork does not require any further analysis and is recommended for discard.

**Table 3:** The Flintwork

Type	No
Soft stone hammer-struck flakes	1
Hard hammer struck flakes	1
Mesolithic bladelet	1
Axe-thinning flake	1
Total	4

## 5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

**5.3.1** A relatively small assemblage of brick and tile was recovered during the archaeological work, all being recovered from Context 2. The assemblage is summarised in Table 4.

**Table 4:** Ceramic Building Material

Fabric	Description	Comments	Suggested date
T1	Moderate medium quartz, moderate/abundant red iron oxides to 2mm	Quite well formed, medium fired. 12mm thick	C13th – 15 <sup>th</sup> Ridge tile 1/88g
T2	Sparse fine quartz with sparse marl pellets/streaks, and sparse iron oxides to 2mm	Well formed and fired. 12-14mm thick (peg), 17mm thick (floor)	C18th – 19 <sup>th</sup> Peg tile 3/112g Floor tile 1/84g (unglazed)
B1	Sparse fine quartz, common black iron oxides to 1mm	Quite well formed, medium fired	C18th – m 19 <sup>th</sup> Brick 1/12g (well worn floor brick fragment)



**5.3.2** The ceramic building material recovered shows a similar chronological spread to the pottery, with a little worn medieval material, but dominance of late post-medieval types from both roofing and flooring.

**5.3.2** The ceramic building material assemblage is from an open context with significant chronological mixing. As such the material is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis beyond that undertaken for this report. This material has been discarded though some fabric samples have been retained for a county series.

#### **5.4 The Geological Material** by Luke Barber

**5.4.1** Context 2 produced a 58g rounded and worn quartz gastrolith with no signs of human modification. The stone assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

#### **5.5 The Glass** by Jessica Butt

**5.5.1** Context 1 One 30mm fragment of pale green window glass, 3mm thick <1g, likely 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century.

**5.5.2** Context 2 One 35mm clear fragment of modern window glass, 4mm thick, 1g.

Six 30-40mm fragments of dark green bottle glass, 4-8mm thick, including part of a wine bottle punt, mostly worn and abraded, 34g, likely 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **5.6 The Metal** by Jessica Butt

**5.6.1** Context 1 One bent and heavily corroded iron nail, approx 55mm, weighing 8g.

Context 2 Eight bent and heavily corroded iron masonry nails, 40-110mm, some with heads remaining, 158g.

One curved, flat profile corroded iron piece, likely fixing, approx 110mm, 22g.

Context 5 One approx. 760mm long piece of corroded iron hollow piping, total diameter 35mm, thickness 5mm, weighing 2377g.

**5.6.2** All the iron is likely to date from the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

#### **6.0 Discussion**

- 6.1** A small assemblage of prehistoric flintwork and burnt flint hints at prehistoric activity in the area of the site. The scattered distribution of the flintwork suggests these pieces are all the result of casual losses, rather than being indicative of an activity area or settlement site. The presence of a number of streams and the River Adur nearby would provide an ideal landscape for hunter gather and later prehistoric activity.
- 6.2** The presence of two sherds of medieval pottery from Context **2**, which are both heavily worn, probably relates to a background manuring scatter, suggesting the fields may have been cultivated at this time. A single sherd of late medieval pottery was also found in Context **2**, and if this was derived from manuring it has not been subjected to repeated reworking suggesting that arable cultivation may have been interspaced by long periods of pasture from the mid 15<sup>th</sup> century.
- 6.3** Some 15 slightly abraded sherds of Early Post Medieval pottery spanning the later 16<sup>th</sup> to mid 18<sup>th</sup> centuries were found in Contexts **1** & **2**. These date to the earliest phase of Morley Manor, and could be the result of manuring or simply the disposal of rubbish from the house and gardens into the adjacent fields. This pattern continues into the later Post Medieval period (c.1760 to 1825), with the size of the pottery sherds, together with the lack of any serious abrasion, suggests they derive from a midden rather than as a result of manuring. The wares suggest a household of low/middling status, which is surprising if the pottery had derived from Morley Manor itself. Relatively few sherds of the later 19<sup>th</sup> century are present which suggests a change in refuse disposal patterns at this time.
- 6.4** The watching brief confirmed that no archaeological deposits or features were affected by the construction of the pond. The assemblage of artefacts recovered has however provided some insight into past land use and human activity at the site.

## **7.0 Acknowledgements**

- 7.1** I would like to thank Bill Kear Plant and Agricultural Contractors Ltd for commissioning this archaeological watching brief, and their on-site team for their assistance and co-operation. I would also like to thank Luke Barber reporting on the artefacts.
- 7.2** The project was managed for CBAS by Chris Butler MCIfA, and it was monitored by Horsham District Council



Fig. 1: Morley Manor, Shermanbury: Site Location  
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471



Fig. 2: Morley Manor, Shermanbury: Proposed Development  
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471

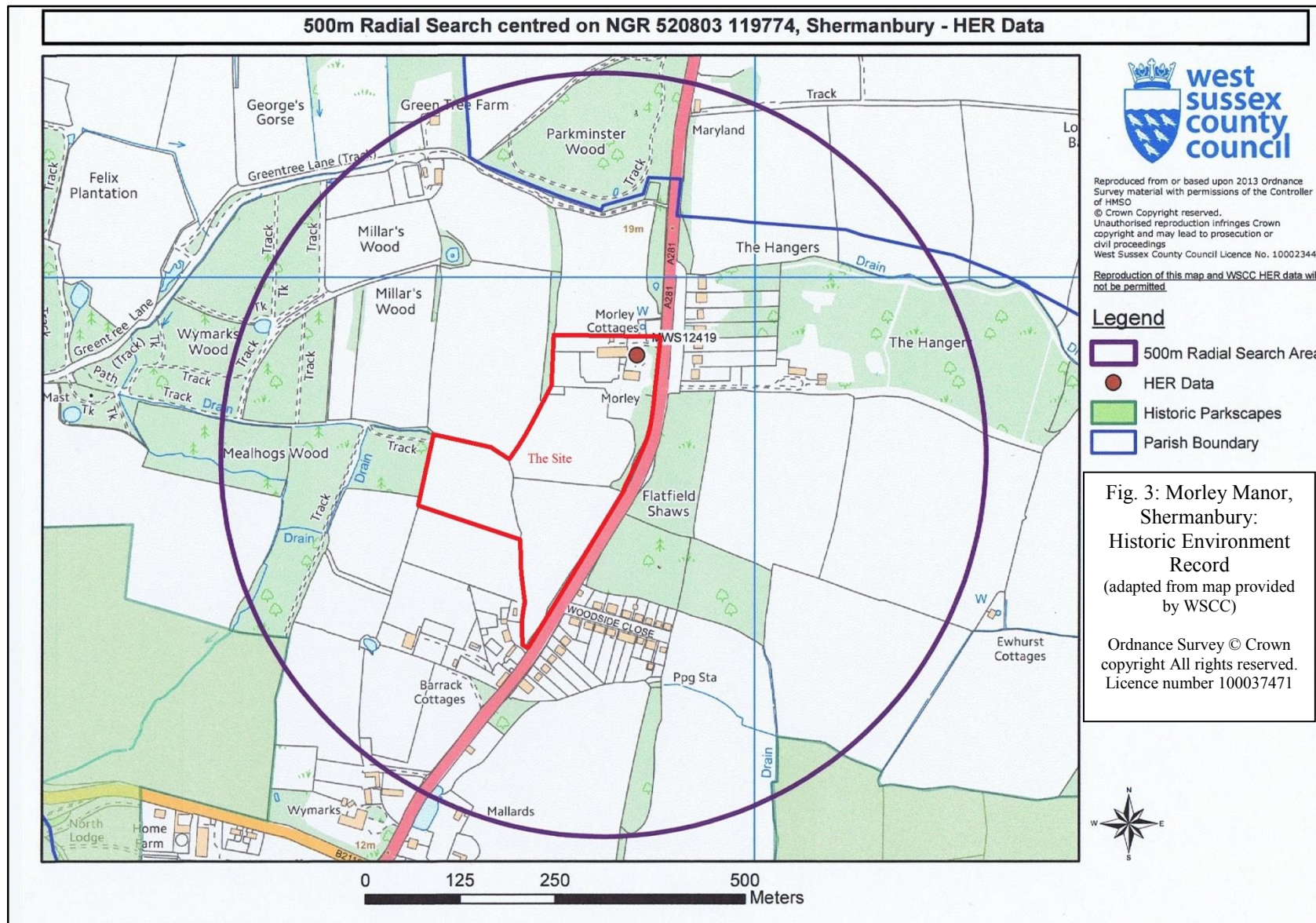




Fig. 4: Morley Manor, Shermanbury: Thomas Budgen's map of 1798/1806

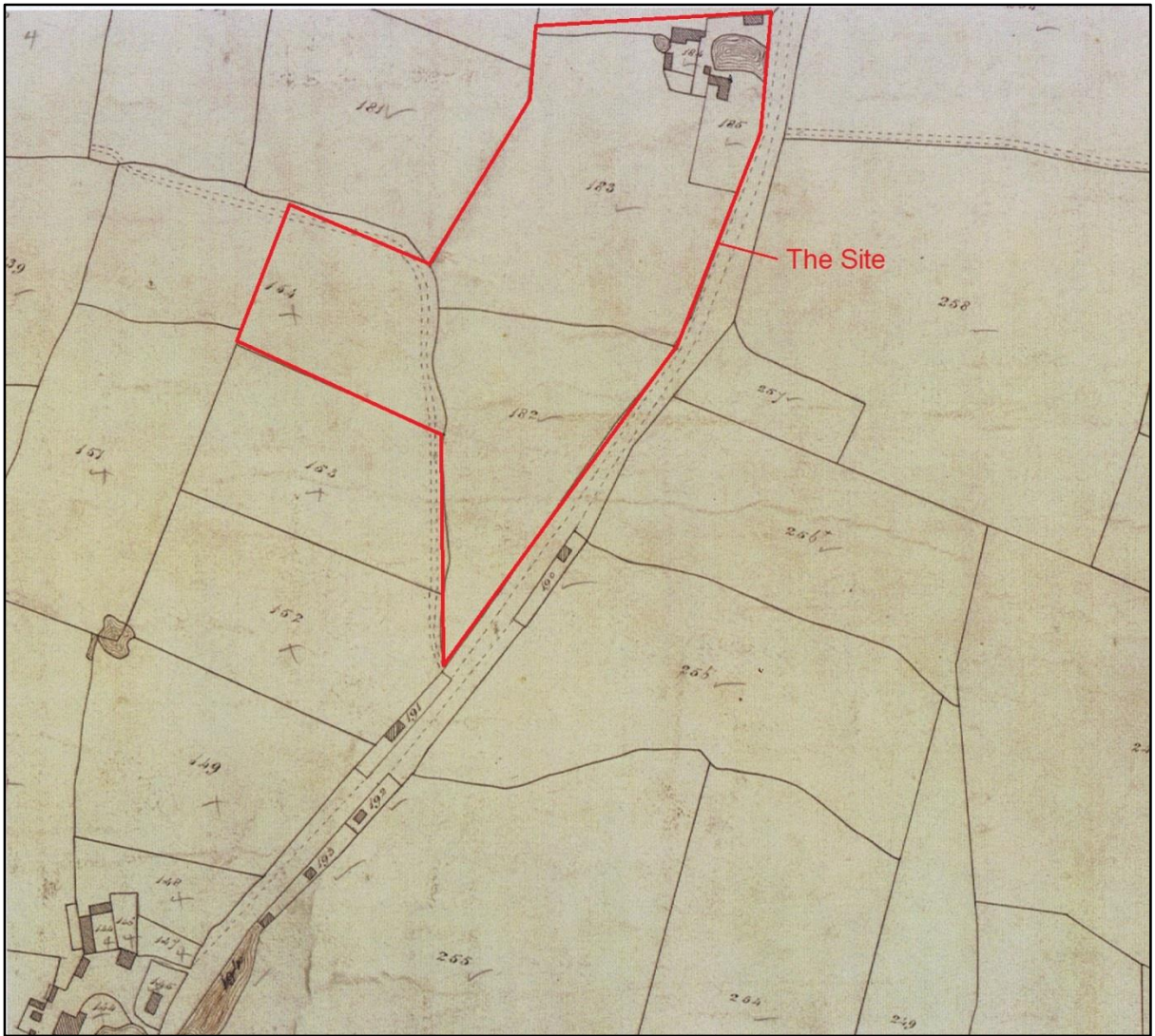


Fig. 5: Morley Manor, Shermanbury: Tithe Map of 1840



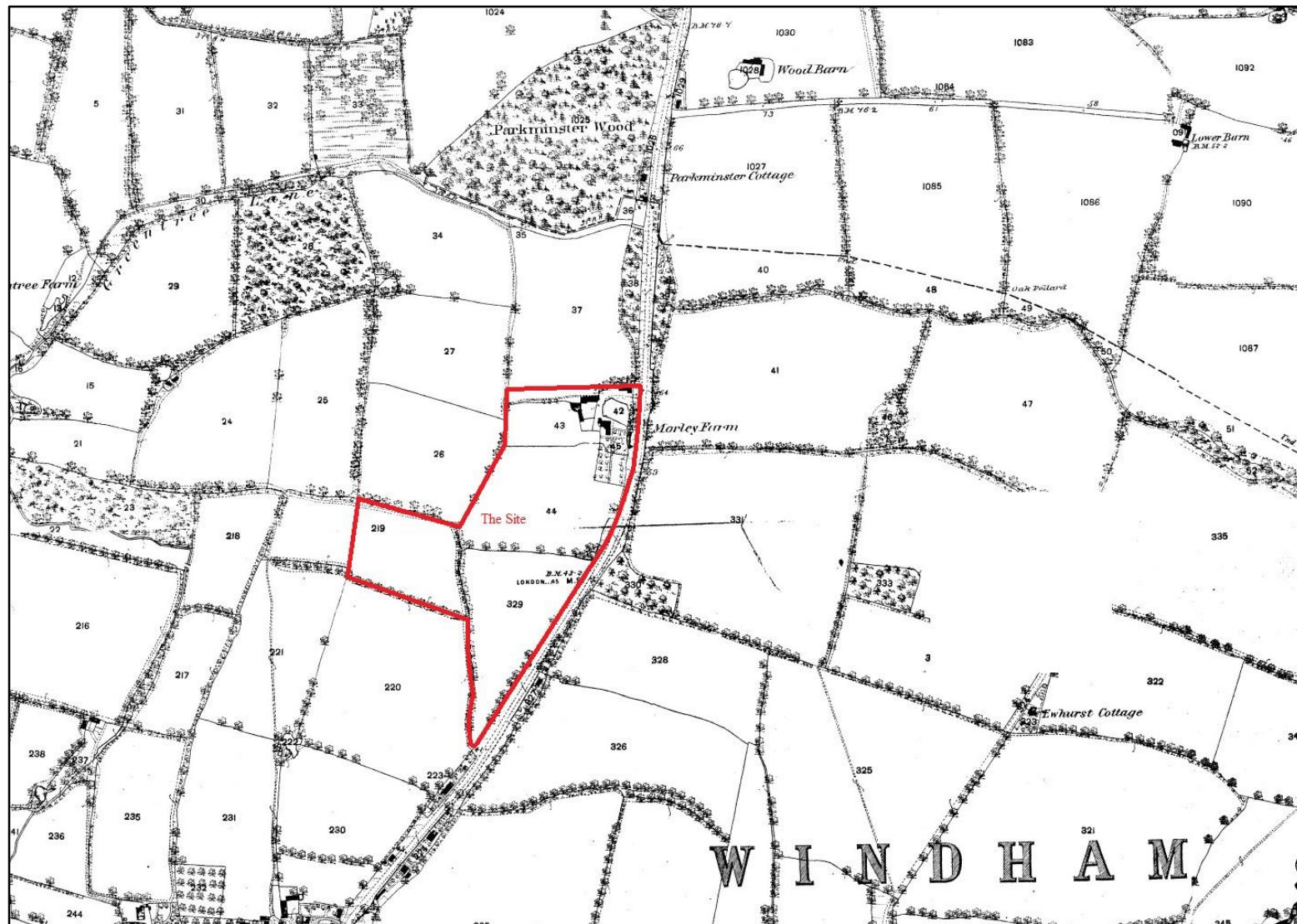


Fig. 6: Morley Manor, Shermanbury: 1st Edition OS (1877)

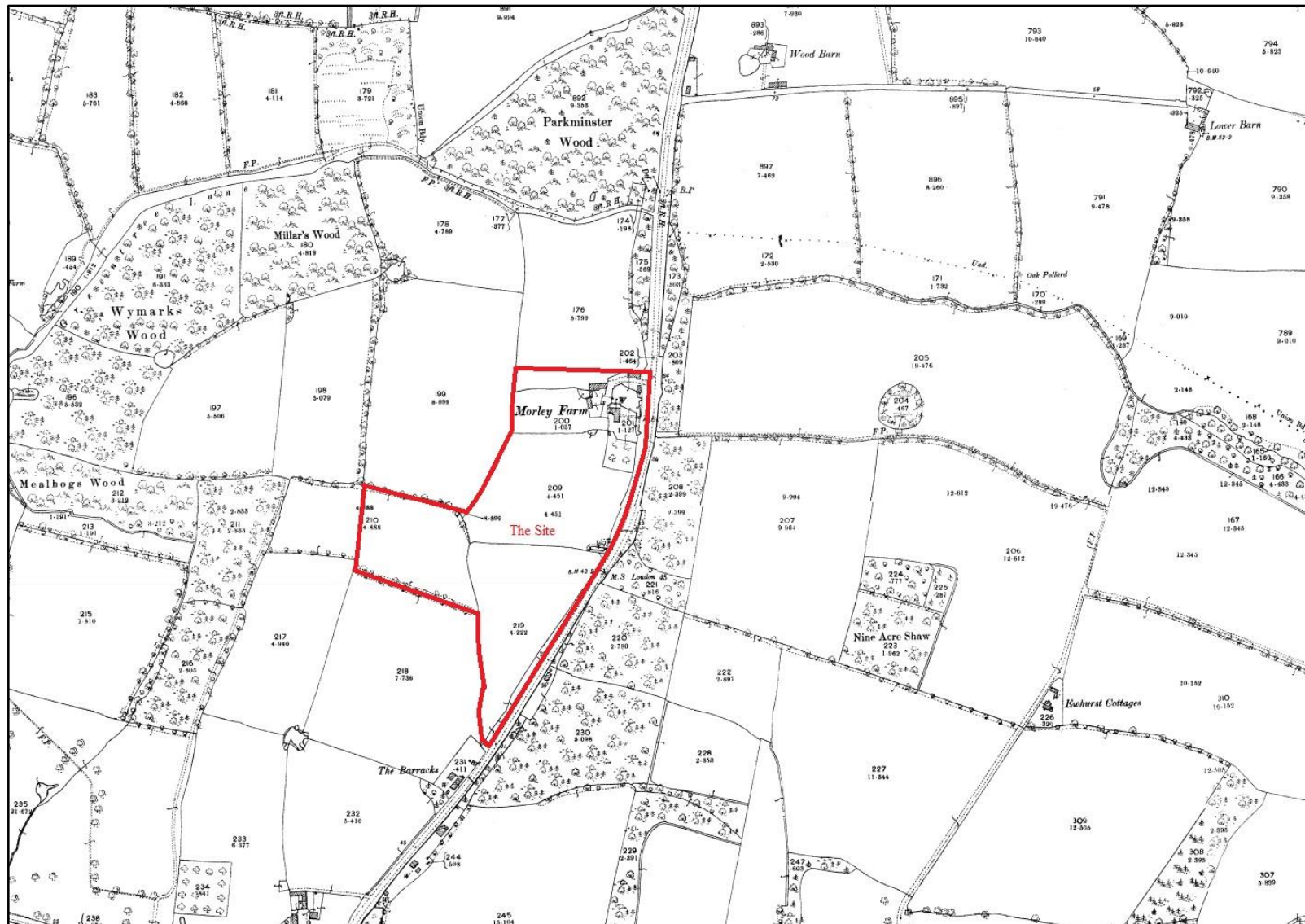


Fig. 7: Morley Manor, Shermanbury: 2nd Edition OS (1897)

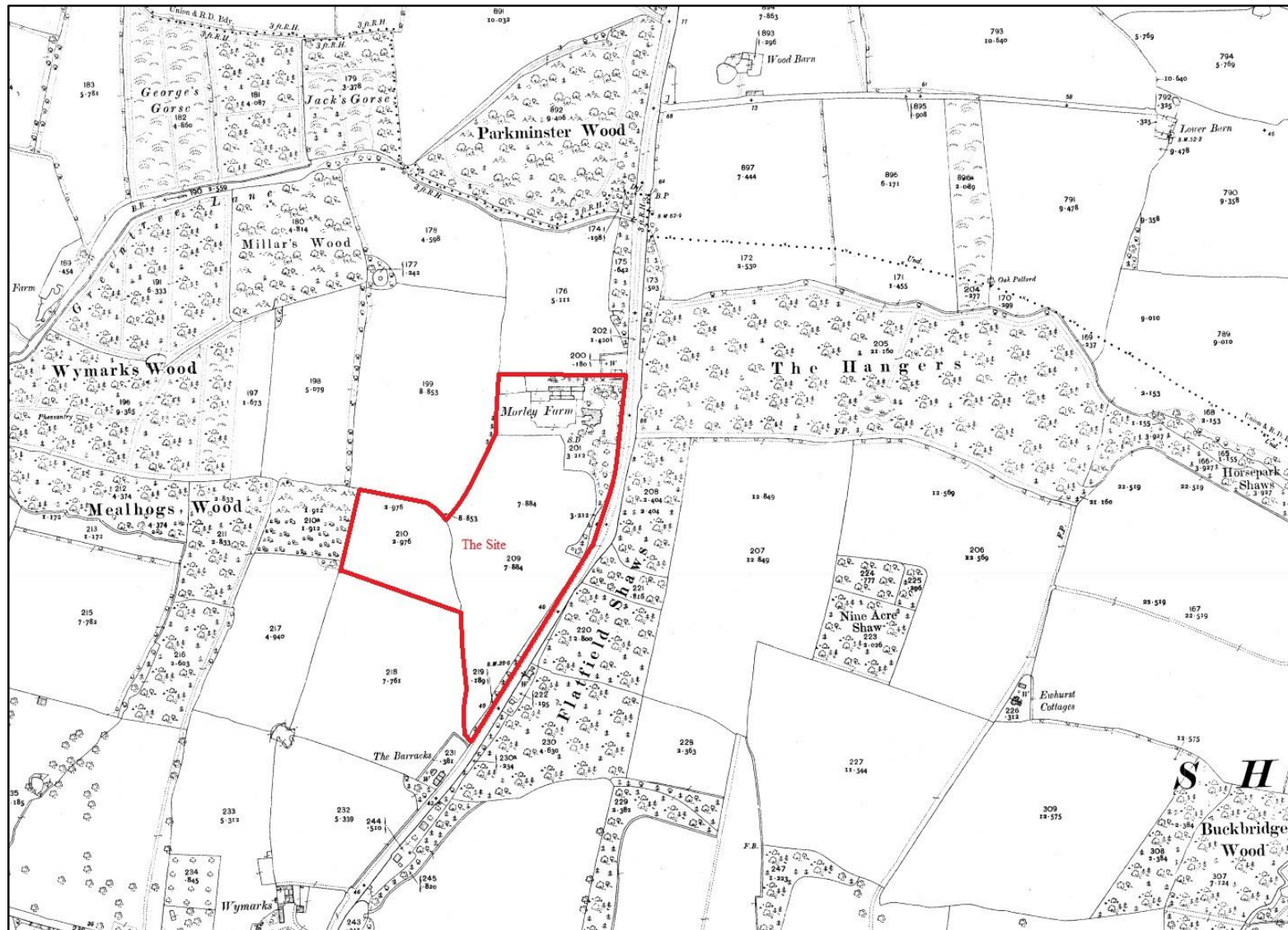


Fig. 8: Morley Manor, Shermanbury: 3rd Edition OS (1911)



Fig. 9: Morley Manor, Shermanbury: Site plan showing area monitored  
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471

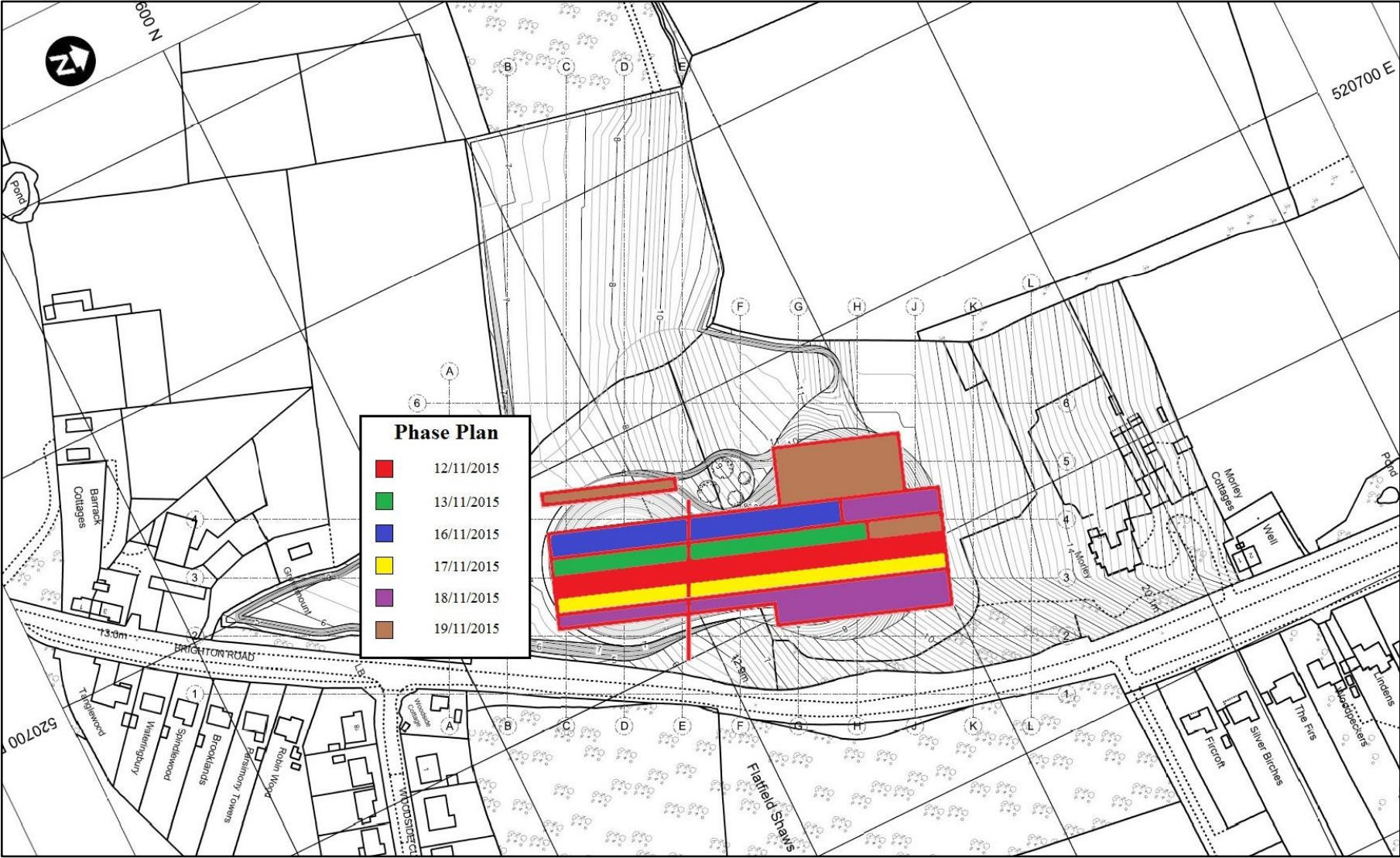


Fig. 10: Morley Manor, Shermanbury: Phases of monitored work  
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471

### Appendix 1: Levels Register

<b>Level No.</b>	<b>Reduced Level</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1	17.581	Natural at north end of excavation
2	16.771	Natural in the central portion of the northern half of the Site
3	16.361	Natural in the centre of the Site
4	13.601	Natural at the south end of excavation

## Appendix 2: HER Summary Form

Site Code	MMS15					
Identification Name and Address	Morley Manor, Shermanbury, West Sussex					
County, District &/or	Horsham District					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 20803 19774					
Geology	Mudstone and sandstone of the Weald Clay Formation.					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief <b>X</b>	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field <b>X</b>	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 12/11/15- 19/11/15	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Bill Kear Plant and Agricultural Contractors Ltd.					
Project Manager	Chris Butler MCifA					
Project Supervisor	Steffan Klemenic					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso. <b>X</b>	Neo. <b>X</b>	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED <b>X</b>	PM <b>X</b>	Other		
<p>Summary</p> <p><i>A watching brief was carried out on land at Morley Manor, Shermanbury, West Sussex as was part of the planning consent for the excavation of a pond at the Site. The monitoring of a topsoil strip down to the natural revealed no archaeological features, apart from a modern land drain and a fence line. An assemblage of artefacts included some prehistoric flintwork and fire-fractured flint, and medieval and post medieval pottery shreds. The pottery suggested periods of cultivation and pasture during the medieval and early post medieval periods.</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 Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists, a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and was 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.

# **Chris Butler MCIfA Archaeological Services Ltd**

**Unit 12 Mays Farm  
Selmeston  
Polegate  
East Sussex  
BN26 6TS**

**Tel & fax: 01323 811785**

**e mail: [chris.butler@cbasltd.co.uk](mailto:chris.butler@cbasltd.co.uk)**