

# Chris Butler MIFA Archaeological Services Ltd



An Archaeological
Watching Brief
at
Greenway, West Street,
Mayfield.
East Sussex

WD/2011/2430

Project No. CBAS0272

By Andy Bradshaw

October 2012

#### **Summary**

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at Greenways, Mayfield, East Sussex. Evidence from the OS maps indicated that Greenways was, for most of its life, an area of open agricultural land, until built on in the 1920/30's. The excavation revealed artefacts that were contemporary with this date, also a stratigraphy that appeared largely undisturbed and consistent with that which would be expected in the surrounding area.

All this supports the interpretation of a site which has remained mostly undisturbed throughout its history.

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### **Appendix 1** HER Summary Form

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd (CBAS) was commissioned by Vinycomb Bate Ltd (The Client) to carry out an Archaeological watching brief during the construction of a new extension at Greenway, West Street, Mayfield, East Sussex TQ58432684 (Fig. 1). 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 (WD/2011/2430), requiring an appropriate programme of archaeological work to be undertaken.
- 1.2 Greenway is a 1920/30's two-storey house situated on the south side of West Street, which runs off the south-west end of the High Street in Mayfield. The site is situated within the Mayfield Conservation Area, and is within an Archaeological Notification Area that defines the historic core of the medieval and post-medieval town of Mayfield (Fig. 1). Adjacent to Greenway is Tew Cottage, which is part of a 16<sup>th</sup> century timber-framed building, and is a Grade II Listed Building (DES6480).
- **1.3** The underlying geology of the site according to the British Geological Survey (sheet 303) is Tunbridge Wells Sand, with outcrops of Wadhurst Clay to the north and south of the site.
- **1.4** The appropriate programme of archaeological work comprised an archaeological watching brief, as specified in a brief prepared by the Archaeology Team at ESCC. A written scheme of investigation covering the watching brief was prepared and submitted to the local planning authority for approval<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.5 The watching brief was carried out by the author on the  $6^{th}$  February 2012.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Butler, C. 2012 Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief at Greenway, West Street, Mayfield, East Sussex. CBAS0272

#### **2.0** Archaeological & Historical Background (Fig. 2)

- 2.1 There has been very little archaeological work in the vicinity of the site with archaeological watching briefs carried out at St Dunstans Church, recently at North Lodge<sup>2</sup>, and an evaluation and recording work on land adjacent to Atherden to the rear of the High Street<sup>3</sup>. A targeted historical and architectural study of the village centre at Mayfield was carried out in 2005<sup>4</sup>.
- 2.2 There have been no discoveries of Palaeolithic artefacts in the immediate area of Mayfield, and there are only a handful of artefacts known to have a provenance in the Weald<sup>5</sup>. Such discoveries are normally linked to specific geological conditions, such as tertiary deposits and gravels, which are not normally found in this area.
- 2.3 There is a great deal of evidence for Mesolithic hunter-gatherer groups exploiting the resources of the High Weald woodland for hunting and gathering throughout the Mesolithic period. Although no Mesolithic flintwork has been found in the immediate vicinity of the site, there have been many discoveries in the wider landscape<sup>6</sup>. The evidence for this period suggests that there is some possibility of Mesolithic activity being present on the site, and it is possible that artefacts and features may be present.
- **2.4** A number of scatters of later Neolithic flintwork and individual finds of Neolithic axes have been identified in the High Weald. These are unlikely to represent settlements or agriculture, but are more likely to be occasional exploitation of the natural resources available in this area. The only Neolithic artefact to be found in the area is a partly polished flint axe found near the River Rother<sup>7</sup>.
- 2.5 The Bronze Age saw continued clearance of the woodland in the High Weald, although there is little evidence for complete clearance or widespread agriculture. The period of greatest exploitation appears to have been in the Later Neolithic and early Bronze Age, which may suggest that the soils became exhausted and settlement retreated subsequently. The only Bronze Age artefact known from Mayfield is a copper-alloy Middle Bronze Age palstave.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Atkin, D. 2011 Archaeological watching Brief at North Lodge, Mayfield, East Sussex. CBAS 0197

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Butler, K. 2007 Archaeological work at Land adjacent to Atherden, Mayfield, East Sussex, CBAS0107

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Martin, D. & Martin, B. 2005 A targeted historical and architectural study into the village centre at Mayfield, East Sussex, Archaeology South-East Report **1914**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Pope, M. 2003 'The Earliest Occupation of Sussex: Recent Research and Future Objectives', in Rudling, D. (Ed) *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*, Kings Lynn, Heritage Marketing & Publications Ltd, 17-28, Fig. 2.8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Tebbutt, C.F. 1974 'The Prehistoric Occupation of the Ashdown Forest area of the Weald', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **112**, 34-43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Tooth, S. 1933 'Reports from Local Secretaries', Sussex Archaeological Collections **34**, 244.

Needham, S. 1987 'The Bronze Age' in *The Archaeology of Surrey to 1540*, 97-137 Guildford, Surrey Archaeological Society.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Grinsell, L.V. 1931 'Sussex in the Bronze Age', Sussex Archaeological Collections 72, 30-68.

- 2.6 Ironworking became a major industry during the Romano-British period, with large numbers of iron working sites across the Weald<sup>10</sup>. There are a number of Roman ironworking sites in the Mayfield area, including Brickhurst Wood (TQ 5900 2776), together with numerous undated bloomery sites which may be Roman in date<sup>11</sup>. A Roman ironworking site has recently been excavated at Little Furnace Wood (TQ 5910 2430) to the south of Mayfield, revealing two furnaces and an ore roasting pit<sup>12</sup>.
- 2.7 In the early Post-Roman period there was a change in the economy and land-usage with any areas that had been previously cultivated reverting to woodland, although the Weald remained an important area of grazing for pigs and other animals<sup>13</sup>. Mayfield was part of the Manor of Malling, which was given by King Egbert around 838 to the See of Canterbury<sup>14</sup>. Before the Norman invasion, Mayfield was held by Godwin, and was assessed at 4 hides<sup>15</sup>. The name Mayfield is probably derives from the Anglo Saxon Maegoa feld (Heather field), or Maghefeld, or Maid's Field<sup>16</sup>.
- **2.8** In 1086 Mayfield was held by the Count of Mortain; it had land for two ploughs of which one was in lordship. There were four villagers and five smallholders. There was one mill, and from woodland 30 pigs. It had a value of 40s<sup>17</sup>. Mayfield was situated within Rotherfield Hundred which was within the Rape of Pevensey.
- 2.9 The village of Mayfield was becoming established as a central place by 1260 when Archbishop Boniface obtained a charter to hold a market there, and by 1388 the market was well established as a memorandum attached to the accounts describes 'various houses and shops burnt in the town of Mayfield after 29th September 1388' 18.
- **2.10** The Archbishops Palace at Mayfield (MES4636) was built *c*.1350, although probably replacing an earlier building, and was used as a summer palace by the Archbishops of Canterbury for the following 200 years. After the dissolution the Lordship and Manor of Mayfield were granted to Sir Edward North who subsequently sold it to Sir Thomas Gresham<sup>19</sup>. The presence of the Palace appears to have stimulated the local economy as in 1388/9 a fire damaged 85 shop places<sup>20</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Cleere, H. et al. 1995 *The Iron Industry in the Weald*, Cardiff, Merton Priory Press.

<sup>11</sup> WIRG Iron Site database (www.wirgdata.org/)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Butler & Hodgkinson forthcoming

Gardiner, M. 1990 'The Archaeology of the Weald – A Survey and a Review', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **128**, 33-53.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Mayfield Local History Society 2005 A short guide to Mayfield; past and present.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Morris, J. 1986 *Domesday Book: Sussex*, Chichester, Phillimore.

<sup>16</sup> http://www.villagenet.co.uk/esussex-iron/villages/mayfield.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Morris, J. 1986 *Domesday Book: Sussex*, Chichester, Phillimore.

Martin, D. & Martin, B. 2005 A targeted historical and architectural study into the village centre at Mayfield, East Sussex, Archaeology South-East Report 1914.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Mayfield Local History Society 2005 A short guide to Mayfield; past and present.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Harris, R.B. 2008 Historic Character Assessment Report: Mayfield, Sussex Extensive Urban Survey

- **2.11** A 1498 rental survey records the number of shop-places making up the individual holdings within the core of the settlement. It also records that by 1498 small additional areas of land (called forelands) had been acquired in front of many plots, intruding into the highway, whilst areas of new assart had been acquired at the rear of the properties on the southern side of the High Street<sup>21</sup>.
- **2.12** The parish church of St. Dunstan has a 13<sup>th</sup> century tower, suggesting an early construction date, although most of the church can be dated to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. A number of the other buildings in the village have 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century origins (see Appendix 2).
- **2.13** Although there had been growth and development of the settlement ever since its initial foundation, by 1558 the settlement was shrinking, with properties being abandoned at the eastern end of town, away from the market area. At this date the reduction was not large, with the loss of between 3 and 8 houses only. However, by 1602 the palace was in severe decline, and this may explain the continued contraction of the settlement. The number of houses within the settlement declined from 46 or 47 in 1558 to between 41 and 43 by 1602.
- **2.14** The population of Mayfield appears to have grown steadily at this time, with the average annual conception rate for 1621-1640 being 2.8, consistent with other market centres in the north-eastern Weald<sup>22</sup>. The decline in properties seems at odds with the increase in population, although by the latter part of the 17<sup>th</sup> century many of the properties in Mayfield had been subdivided up into two dwellings<sup>23</sup>.
- **2.15** Although the land around Mayfield was relatively poor, agriculture formed an important source of wealth in the village, with fruit production noted<sup>24</sup>. Woodland remained common comprising 37% of Hawksden in Mayfield<sup>25</sup>, although this provided resources for coppicing and charcoal production. Between 1596 and 1650 1,000 to 1,500 acres of common were allotted to manorial tenants or leased out in Mayfield and Wadhurst<sup>26</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Martin, D. & Martin, B. 2005 A targeted historical and architectural study into the village centre at *Mayfield, East Sussex*, Archaeology South-East Report **1914**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Brent, C.E 1978 'Rural Employment and Population in Sussex between 1550 and 1640: Part 2', Sussex Archaeological Collections 116, 41-55.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Martin, D. & Martin, B. 2005 A targeted historical and architectural study into the village centre at Mayfield, East Sussex, Archaeology South-East Report **1914**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Brent, C.E 1976 'Rural Employment and Population in Sussex between 1550 and 1640', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **114**, 27-48.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Brent, C.E 1976 'Rural Employment and Population in Sussex between 1550 and 1640', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **114**, 27-48.

- 2.16 The largest industry of the area continued to be iron production, with iron works noted on the Archbishop of Canterbury's lands at Mayfield in 1545<sup>27</sup>. The Mayfield Furnace (TQ 5930 2820) was acquired by Thomas Gresham by 1570, perhaps when he acquired the rest of the Archbishop's lands. It was still working in 1653 and was repaired in 1664<sup>28</sup>. Mayfield Forge (TQ 5940 2810) was probably associated with the Mayfield Furnace.
- **2.17** A map of 1681<sup>29</sup> shows houses extending down West Street, with the last house on the south side probably being the current Tew Cottage. Tew Cottage is adjacent to the site on its east side, part of a 16<sup>th</sup> century timber-framed building, divided up in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and then extended.
- 2.18 The Mayfield survey established that in 1498 Alice a Kent held a tenement with a garden at the south end of the town of Mayfield and a parcel opposite the messuage on the other side of the road where the Poundfold is, lately purchased out of the lord's soil. In 1558 it was the property of Gregory Aynscombe, and he still held it in 1602, by which date the plot on the opposite side of the road was called a smithy and small piece of adjoining land (1/4r.) opposite the cottage. In 1843 the house and garden (0a.1r.5p.) were in the owner occupation of Benjamin Field<sup>30</sup>, and the Tithe map shows the location of the site to be an open plot adjacent to Tew Cottage
- **2.19** This is still the case on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map of 1875 (Fig. 3), and again on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS map of 1899. By the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition OS map of 1910 a small structure is shown on the site (Fig. 3), and although this still appears to be present on the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition OS map of 1931, the current house 'Greenways' has now been constructed, and other adjacent property boundaries have changed with other houses being built to the west and south of the site (Fig. 3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Cleere, H. & Crossley, D. 1995 *The Iron Industry of the Weald*, Merton Priory Press.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> ESRO Acc 4656/7

Martin, D. & Martin, B. 2005 A targeted historical and architectural study into the village centre at Mayfield, East Sussex, Archaeology South-East Report **1914**.

#### 3.0 Archaeological Methodology.

- **3.1** On arrival at the site it had been cleared ready for excavation to begin, with demolition of a former out building complete. A visual inspection of the site revealed no obvious features of archaeological interest, but the surface showed signs of modern garden disturbance and contemporary debris was obvious, a Metal Detector scan, using a Garrett ACE150 metal detector, revealed only modern garden debris, nails, wire, etc.
- 3.2 Excavation started with the Northern Footing Trench, Trench No.1 (Fig. 5), and was excavated in shallow 200mm spits, using a 0.5 tonne 360° tracked mini excavator with a flat bladed bucket, down to a depth of 1.1m. The trench was excavated from the eastern wall of the house to a length of 3.0m and a width of 0.8m. All spoil was taken by mini dumper to a skip for removal from the site. Dumper loads were scanned for any archaeologically significant artefacts.
- 3.3 The Western Footing Trench, Trench No.2, was then excavated, again in shallow spits, from the end of the Northern Footing Trench, southwards; this trench was 6.0m in length, 0.8m in width and 1.1m in depth; the stratigraphy continuing uninterrupted from the eastern end of Trench No.1. Both of the first two footing trenches were completed by midday.
- 3.4 Trench No.3, the Southern Footing Trench was commenced at 12.15 and completed by 14.30, making a return back to the Eastern Wall of the house. This trench was again excavated to a depth 1.1m and a width of 0.8m and to a length of 3.0m, in shallow spits.
- 3.5 All archaeological deposits, features and finds were excavated and recorded according to accepted professional standards, using context record sheets. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- **3.6** A photographic record of the work was kept as appropriate and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held by Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd, and will be deposited at Lewes Museum in due course.

#### 4. Results.

- 4.1 The Northern Footing Trench, Trench No. 1, extended eastwards from the house wall by 2.0m and revealed a series of three deposits (Figs. 4 & 5). The uppermost being Context 1 which consisted of a soft friable brown silty/clay with inclusions of contemporary roots, sandstone pieces at less than 1% and some burning, typically garden burning debris, at less than 1%. This context extended to a depth of 0.3m beneath the surface. (Plate 1). A small amount of contemporary, pottery fragments were recovered from this context, all of which appeared to be consistent with 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Century garden debris.
- 4.2 Directly beneath Context 1, in was a subsoil (Context 2) which consisted of a soft light brown silty/clay with inclusions of roots and small sandstone pieces at less than 10%. This context extended from a depth of 0.3m to 0.6m beneath the surface at the western end of the trench and gradually dropped to a maximum depth of 1.0m at the eastern end of the trench. (Plate 1).
- 4.3 From the lower boundary of Context 2, down to the limit of excavation (L.O.E.) at 1.2m a final context, Context 3, was revealed. This context consisted of soft clay, with inclusions, >50%, of chiefly soft areas of sandstone with some discreet areas of harder sandstone slabs, at the L.O.E. (This context extended from a depth of 0.6m



Plate 1. The junction of Trench 1 & 2 looking north from Trench 2.

at the western end to 1.0m at the eastern end of the trench, disappearing at a depth of 1.2m, at the L.O.E. This context appeared to be a Wadhurst Clay/ Sandstone mix which is consistent with the expected natural of the area.

4.4 The eastern Footing Trench, Trench No. 2, extended southwards from the eastern end of Trench No. 1 by 6.0m (Figs. 4 & 5). The stratigraphy already exposed in Trench No. 1, generally, continued in a similar alignment along the line of this trench (Plate 1). The upper Context 1 had a consistent depth of 0.3m, beneath this Context 2 then extended to a depth of 1.1m at the northern end and 0.8m at the southern end of the trench.

- 4.5 The lower layer (Context 3) appeared at a depth of 1.1m at the northern end and 0.8m at the southern end, with its limit being 1.2m and 1.1m, the L.O.E., respectively. In the centre of the trench the L.O.E. consequently and maximum depth of Context 3 was 1.1m, in this area a localised patch of hard. natural. Sandstone was encountered.
- 4.6 This trench, again, revealed little in the way of finds; mostly pottery of similar date to that find in Trench No. 1 and from the same context. Some modern CBM and building debris also came from Context 1 as did two detached, rough-hewn stone blocks (Plate 2).



Plate 2. Two detached, rough-hewn stone blocks found in the upper part of Context 1 in Trench No.2.

4.7 The final trench, Trench No. 3, extended from the southern end of Trench 2 back to the eastern wall line of the main house. This trench continued the similar stratigraphy of the first two, indicating a lack of significant disturbance in the area. Context 1 dropped to a maximum depth of 0.25m across the length of this trench, it being slightly shallower due to the general fall in the ground. The immediate subsoil, Context 2, started directly underneath Context 1 and dropped to a depth of 0.5m at the eastern end, falling away across the trench to a maximum depth of 0.9m at the western end (Figs. 4 & 5 & Plate 3).



Plate 3. Trench No.3 looking eastwards from the line of the house wall.

- 4.8 The lower, natural, context (Context 3) appeared at a depth of 0.5m and dropped slightly to a depth of 0.9m at the western end adjacent to the wall line of the house. It disappeared into the L.O.E. which was deeper (1.2m) at the eastern end and then at the western end (1.1m). Again this consisted of the same soft clay with sandstone.
- 4.9 Only limited finds appeared from this trench and they again consisted of 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Century pottery and similar period building debris. A discreet set of finds were found, in Context 1, adjacent to the house wall, along with two former service pipes, now disconnected. The finds were of broken 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Century pottery and indicated that they had been discarded at some point in the gardens' history. This upper context, Context 1, was of the same type and consistency as in the other trenches but appeared more broken up with plant roots, indicating there may have been a flower bed along this side of the former building prior to its demolition.
- **4.10** No other archaeological features or deposits were found during the watching brief.

#### 5. Finds.

- **5.01** The archaeological work recovered a relatively small assemblage of finds from the site. These are summarized in Table 1.
- **5.02** The assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis or long-term curation in a museum and is recommended for discard.

Context **Pottery** Ceramic Glass Other **Deposit Date** (by date group) **Building** Material 1750-1900+: 31/279g 1 Peg tile 1/30g 4/934g Stone 1/40g c. 1890-1940 Clay pipe 1/1g Mortar 1/18g Shell 1/8g Worked bone 1/3g 2 1750-1900+: 26/318g Bone 2/54g c. 1890-1925 6/315g Clay pipe 1/19g Shell 1/14g (residual late C17th – early 18<sup>th</sup> Lead 1/40g clay pipe) 1750-1900+: 8/136g 2 (Tr 3) Bone 3/132g c. 1890-1925 Clay pipe 1/19g FF Flint 1/6g

**Table 1:** Quantification of finds (no./weight in grams)

#### **5.1 The Pottery** by Luke Barber

- **5.1.1** All of the pottery is of late post-medieval date. The assemblage consists of small to medium sized sherds (to 50mm across usually) with slight signs of abrasion. As such the material appears to have been subjected to some reworking. None of the pottery is likely to be earlier than 1875 and most is probably of the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century with some early 20<sup>th</sup> century vessels too.
- **5.1.2** Context **1** produced two sherds (104g) of local glazed red earthenware and a further two (51g) of late English stoneware with Bristol glazes (a plain grey preserve jar and a tan topped large spirit bottle with partial black vendors name, possibly from Lamberhurst). Finewares are dominated by plain refined white earthenware cups and plates, some with red or blue rim-edge lines (10/56g). More decorative finewares are represented by transfer-printed wares in blue (3/11g), red (1/3g) and green (4/31g), usually in the form of plates with floral patterns. A single commemorative Boar War green-printed mug sherd is also present. There are also a few sherds (8/23g) from English porcelain saucers, one with a very late overglaze polychrome transfer-printed design.

**5.1.3** Context **2** produced a similar range of wares including unglazed earthenware (flower pot 1/19g), glazed red earthenware (2/74g bowls) but no stoneware. The fine wares are again dominated by plain white refined earthenware (13/137g including preserve jars) and transfer-printed wares. The latter include blue (2/10g willow pattern and floral) and green (1/4g floral plate) types. There are also sherds of sponged and hand painted refined white earthenware, a 26g sherd from a Rockingham-type teapot and three (22g) sherds of English porcelain (including a cup with purple sprigged decoration). Context **2** in Trench 3 produced a smaller assemblage composed wholly of similar wares.

#### **5.2** Clay Tobacco Pipes by Luke Barber

**5.2.1** Context **2**, Trench 3 produced the earliest clay pipe from the site – a somewhat abraded stem fragment of late 17<sup>th</sup> to mid 18<sup>th</sup> century date. Context **2** produced a complete fresh bowl of late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century type. This is decorated on both sides of the bowl with a globe within a laurel wreath with postal horn above. The only other fragment consists of a plain stem piece of mid 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century date from Context **1**.

#### 5.3 Ceramic Building Material, Stone and Mortar by Luke Barber

- **5.3.1** A single peg tile fragment was recovered from Context 1. This is well formed, hard-fired and tempered with sparse fine sand with rare iron oxide inclusions to 1mm. A later 18<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century date is probable.
- **5.3.2** Context **1** produced a single piece of fine/medium grained dull yellow Wealden sandstone which need not have travelled far from source. Two pieces of roughhewn sandstone (not retained) found in Context **1** were not mortared and were most probably features from the 20<sup>th</sup> century garden, but may have come from a demolished building nearby.
- **5.3.3** A single piece of mortar was recovered from the site (Context 1). This consists of a dull yellow grey coarse sandy cement render with exterior thick white paint. A later 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century date is likely.

#### **5.4 Glass** by Chris Butler

**5.4.1** Context **1** produced a complete dark green coloured mineral water bottle, 268mm tall and 74mm diameter. It has been made in a two piece mould, one comprising the base and lower body and the other the upper body and neck, with the lip applied. The lip has two opposing indentations for a swing stopper holder. There are no makers or product details embossed on the bottle, but its method of manufacture suggests a later 19<sup>th</sup> century date.

**5.4.2** A base fragment of a second dark green mineral water bottle from Context **1** is embossed F. COUTTS & SON on the base. This and the remaining fragments of glass are all likely to date to the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

#### **5.5 Bone and Shell** by Chris Butler

- **5.5.1** Bone was only recovered from Context **2**, and comprised two cattle ribs, one of which had been sawn, a fragment of cattle tibia, which had been chopped and gnawed, and a fragment of sheep femur, which had been chopped. All of these pieces are the result of kitchen waste.
- **5.5.2** Context **1** produced a single common whelk shell, and Context **2** produced a fragment of oyster shell; both could have resulted from manuring.

#### **5.6** Other Finds by Chris Butler

- **5.6.1** A rectangular piece of lead, measuring 47mm x 38mm and 2.5mm thick, weighing 40g, was found in Context **2**. It had a number of cut marks along one edge. A single fire-fractured piece of flint was also found in Context **2** (Trench 3).
- **5.6.2** A fragment of a bone toothbrush was recovered from Context **1**. It was missing its handle, but the remaining length was 60mm, and it was 13mm wide and 3mm thick. It had 62 bristle holes arranged in two lines of 15 and two lines of 16. The design of bone toothbrushes changed very little throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, but this example probably dates from between 1870-1890.

#### 6 Discussion

- 6.1 The site is situated on the south side of West Street, Mayfield and is situated within the Mayfield Conservation Area, and within an Archaeological Notification Area that defines the historic core of the medieval and post-medieval town of Mayfield. The property itself was built during the 1920/30's. The 1875 edition of the OS map shows that the site was an orchard. The later 1910 OS map shows the site to be open field with a small structure in the northern corner, possibly this is a small agricultural shed. By the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition OS Map of 1931, the present property is shown.
- 6.2 Despite the widespread evidence for ironworking sites in the surrounding area no evidence of ironworking was found on the site. All three footing trenches displayed a continuous stratigraphy of three contexts, consisting of topsoil, subsoil and the natural, indicating that there had been no significant interruption to the site. No evidence of earlier activities, that are known to have occurred in the surrounding area, appeared during the excavation.
- 6.3 The village of Mayfield has chiefly been an area of agriculture, with a market being held there, evidence from OS maps of the area, which is supported by the modern pottery found during the excavation, indicates that Greenway was, until the 1920/30's an area of open agricultural land.
- 6.4 In summary, evidence from the OS maps indicated that Greenway was, for most of its life, an area of open agricultural land, until built on in the 1920/30's. The excavation revealed artefacts that were contemporary with this, and also a stratigraphy that appeared largely undisturbed and consistent with that which would be expected from relatively undisturbed agricultural land. The increase in material from the later 19<sup>th</sup> century probably represents more intensive agricultural activity, with the material coming from manuring of the land.

#### 7 Acknowledgements

- **7.1** I would like to thank Vinycomb Bate Ltd for commissioning CBAS to undertake the archaeological watching brief and Martin Saker along with his team for their invaluable help during the watching Brief. Luke Barber and Chris Butler reported on the artefacts.
- 7.2 Chris Butler managed the project for Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd and Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist monitored the project for East Sussex County Council.

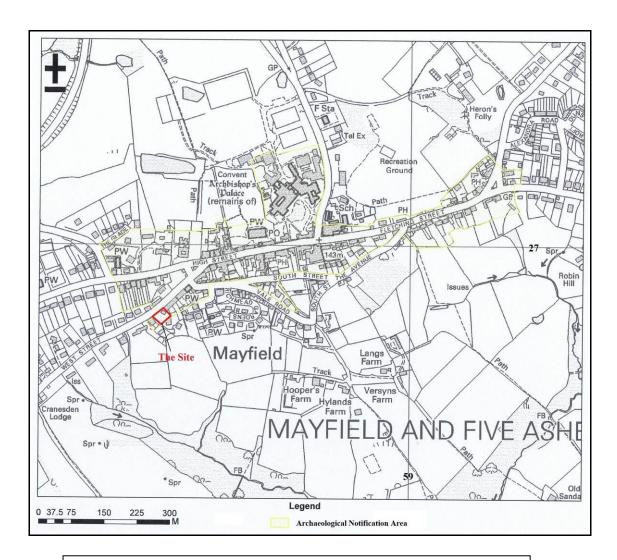


Fig. 1: Greenways, Mayfield: Site location & ANA map (adapted from map provided by ESCC)
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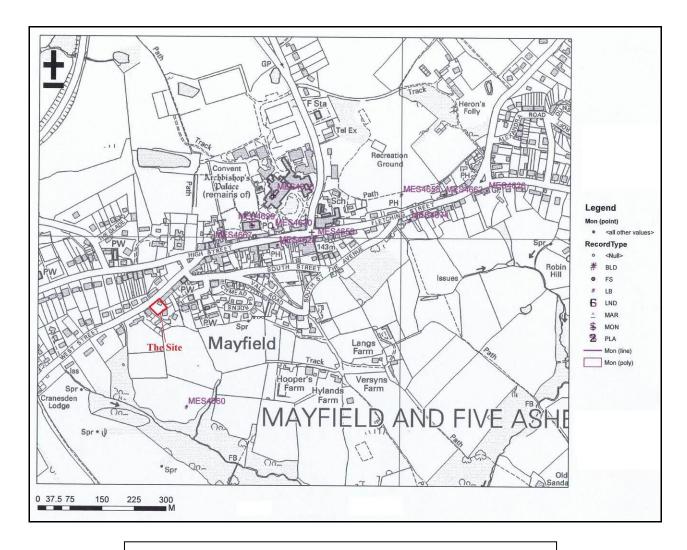


Fig. 2: Greenway, Mayfield: Sites on the HER (adapted from map provided by ESCC)
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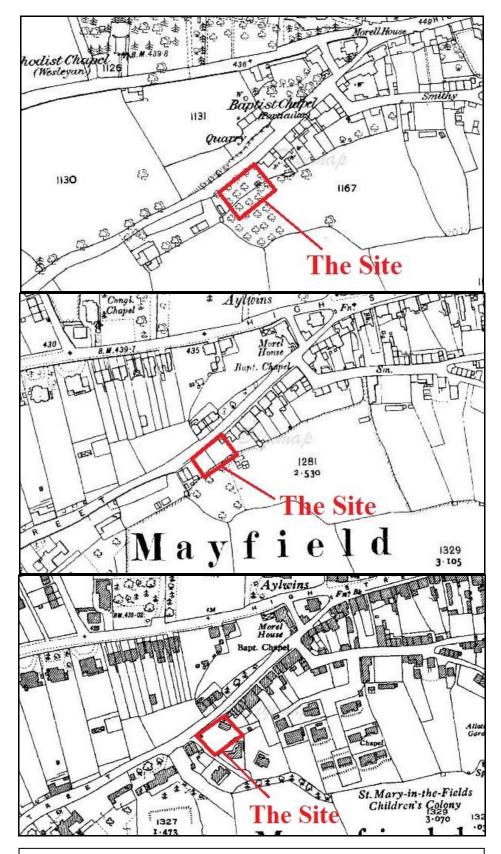
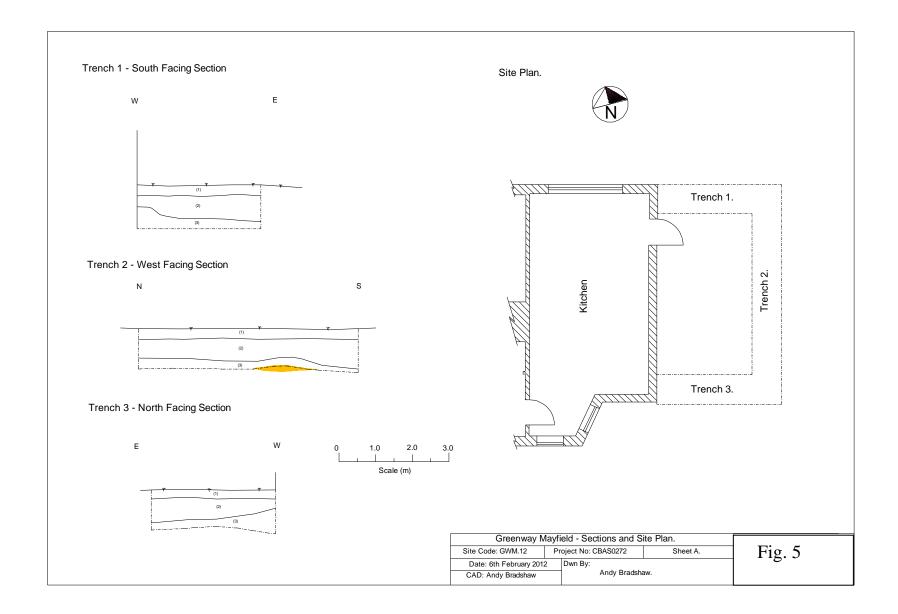


Fig. 3: Greenway, Mayfield: OS Maps: Top: 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map (1875); Centre: 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition OS map (1910); Bottom: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition OS map (1931).



Fig. 4: Greenway, Mayfield: Site Plan showing area monitored (Adapted from architects drawing)



# **Appendix 1** HER Summary Form

Site Code	GWM.12					
Identification Name and Address	Greenway, West Street, Mayfield. East Sussex.					
County, District &/or Borough	Wealden					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 5843 2684					
Geology	Tunbridge Wells Sand with outcrops of Wadhurst Clay.					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief <b>X</b>	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban <b>X</b>	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 09.12.11	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Vinycomb Bate Ltd.					
Project Manager	Chris Butler MIfA					
Project Supervisor	Andy Bradshaw					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso. X	Neo. X	BA X	IA X	RB X
	AS	MED X	PM X	Other		_

100 Word Summary.

In summary, evidence from the OS maps indicated that Greenway was, for most of its life, an area of open agricultural land, until built on in the 1920/30's.

The excavation revealed artefacts that were contemporary with this, also a stratigraphy that appeared largely undisturbed and consistent with that which would be expected in the surrounding area.

All this supports the interpretation of a site which has remained mostly undisturbed throughout its history.

#### **Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd**

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

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

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

Chris Butler Archaeological Services 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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