



**Chris Butler MfA
Archaeological Services Ltd**



**A Desk-based Assessment
at
The Former Bridge Inn Car Park,
Tanyard Lane,
Winchelsea, East Sussex**

Project No. CBAS0338

**By
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Summary

An archaeological Desk-based Assessment has been carried out at The Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Tanyard Lane, Winchelsea, East Sussex in connection with an application for the building of two detached houses with associated car parking and landscaping.

The Desk-based Assessment has established that the site may potentially have been a quayside during the medieval period. It may still have been a space open to the public in 1873, when it is first known to have had a building (probably a small shed) built upon it. The site was part of pasture in 1842 but may subsequently have grown hops prior to 1929, which The Bridge Inn may have used for the 'Cheap Fine Ale' that it advertised. When The Bridge Inn was extended west sometime between 1909 and 1929, the site served the customers as a parking lot and a rear outdoor seating area. The main car park was laid sometime after 1977.

Due to the potential archaeological deposits within the site, such as those that may represent the medieval quayside, which are likely to survive beneath an unknown depth of made ground below the car park, this site has a very high archaeological potential.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd has been commissioned by Gemselect Ltd to carry out an archaeological Desk-based Assessment at The Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Tanyard Lane, Winchelsea, East Sussex, in order to establish the likely presence and importance of any archaeological remains that may be affected by the proposed development of two detached houses with associated car parking and landscaping.
- 1.2** The site is a rectangular plot located at the northeast foot of the hill on which Winchelsea sits, and is centred at TQ 90793 17577 (Fig. 1). It is bound by the derelict public house of The Bridge Inn to the east, Tanyard Lane (the A259) to the south, The Old Malthouse to the west and the River Brede to the north. The site lies between 10m and 12m OD at its southwest end and 7m OD at its northeast end.
- 1.3** The west edge of the site lies in an Archaeological Notification Area (Fig. 2) that covers the medieval Cinque Port town of Winchelsea. A second Archaeological Notification Area, for the early 19th century Royal Military Canal, extends northwards up to the junction between Tanyard Lane and Sea Road, c.50m to the east of the site. It is the nearest Scheduled Monument to the site (SM Ref. ES 488); other Scheduled Monuments located close to the site are within the Archaeological Notification Area for the town and comprise the medieval town itself (ES 355), two of its medieval gates (Pipewell Gate, ES 19, and Strand Gate, ES 18), and the medieval remains of a Franciscan Friary (ES 7) and possible Dominican Friary (ES 166).
- 1.4** The site stands within the northeast corner of Winchelsea Conservation Area (Fig. 3), the north boundary of which lies just behind the site. The closest Listed Buildings to the site are a group of four that stand to its west, before Tanyard Lane meets Strand Hill. They comprise: a 17th century or earlier house (Apple Tree Wick) which stands in clear view from the site, slightly further uphill on the other side of Tanyard Lane; an 18th century or earlier house (The Old Malthouse) to the immediate west of the site, only the roof of which can be seen from the site; a timber-framed building erected c.1500 (The Strand House), which can be glimpsed from the site behind Apple Tree Wick; and a 17th century or earlier timber-framed cottage that adjoins the west side of The Strand House and is therefore not visible from the site. All four Listed Buildings are Grade II Listed.
- 1.5** According to the British Geological Survey¹, the geology of the site comprises sandstone, siltstone and mudstone of the Ashdown Formation, with overlying Tidal Flat Deposits of clay and silt.

¹ http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html

- 1.6** This Desk-based Assessment initially covers the objectives and scope of the report, then discusses the methodology used in the survey, followed by a review of the archaeological and historical assets of the area. Before a conclusion is drawn together, former impacts upon any potential archaeology within the site are assessed, as is the possible archaeological impact of the proposed development.

2. Objectives and Scope of Report

- 2.1** The objective of this report is to gain information about the known or potential archaeological resource of the site and its immediate area. This will include information relating to the presence or absence of any archaeology, its character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation, and the relative quality of the potential archaeological resource.
- 2.2** This will allow an assessment of the merit of the archaeology in context to be made, leading to the formulation of a strategy for the recording, preservation and management of the resource or, where necessary, the formulation of a strategy for further investigation where the character and value of the resource is not sufficiently defined to permit a mitigation strategy or other response to be defined.
- 2.3** The report will consider the archaeological resource within a radius of 1km around the site centre, although most of the monuments relate to the medieval hilltop town and so are of little relevance to the site located at its base. Furthermore, the assessment is only concerned with the four Listed Buildings closest to the site (see para. 1.4). The survey will also take into account sites further afield where these may be considered to have an impact or relevance to the site in its landscape setting.
- 2.4** The adjacent Bridge Inn has recently been granted consent for the change of use from a public house to a dwelling (RR/2012/1115/P). The car park area, which is now redundant, is the subject of this Desk-based Assessment, and the Bridge Inn itself is not considered within this report, other than its relevance to the site.
- 2.5** It should be noted that this report can only take into account the existing known archaeology, and by its nature cannot provide a complete record of the archaeological resource of the site. Its intention is to provide an overview of the known archaeology in the area of the site, from which judgements can be made about the potential archaeological resource of the site itself.

3. Methodology

3.1 This Desk-based Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012); the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001); and the *Standards for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording and Post Excavation Work in East Sussex* (ESCC 2008).

3.2 The research for this Desk-based Assessment has included an analysis of the following resources:

- ESCC Historic Environment Record
- PastScape (formerly part of the National Monuments Record or NMR)
- The National Heritage List for England (a list of all nationally designated heritage assets)
- Portable Antiquities Scheme database
- Defence of Britain database
- Historic mapping
- East Sussex Record Office (ESRO)
- Personal and online library resources
- British Geological Survey

3.3 The following maps were used:

- Speed (1610; not informative)
- Morden (1695; not informative)
- Bowen (1756; not informative)
- Kitchen (1750 and 1763; not informative)
- Map of Winchelsea by Charles Stephens (1763)
- 1767 map of Thorn Farm, Winchelsea (ESRO AMS 5778/1/2; not informative)
- A copy of the 1763 map of Winchelsea (1768 - ESRO AMS 5806/3)
- Yeakell and Gardiner (1778-1783)
- Cole (1808; not informative)
- Moule (1837; not informative)
- Dugdale (1840; not informative)
- 1842 Winchelsea Tithe map (ESRO TD E 90)
- 1st Edition OS Map (1874)
- 2nd Edition OS Map (1898)
- 3rd Edition OS Map (1909)
- 4th Edition OS Map (1929)
- Later OS Maps

Information gained from the map regression exercise is contained in the Post Medieval section below.

- 3.4** The archaeological Monuments recorded on the HER are listed in Appendix 1 to this report and are mentioned in the text where relevant. They are shown on Fig. 4 along with some Listed Buildings. Historical and other sources are given as footnotes as appropriate.
- 3.5** A site visit was undertaken on 12th November 2012. The site is a redundant car park for The Bridge Inn. The front of the site is on street level (Plate 1) and provides access to a ramp that leads up to the remaining car park (Plate 2). A concrete revetment wall separates the two levels and is topped with wooden fencing. A wooden fence also divides the site from the rear garden of the former public house and the property of The Old Malthouse. Plants, bushes and a few trees grow in beds established beside the dividing car park wall and the boundary fencing, as well as in two central strips that project opposite one another into the upper car park. A lawn runs across the rear end of the site, and along its west side which is well protected by tall trees that stand within the adjacent plot of The Old Malthouse. Brambles hide the River Brede from view except at the steps in the northeast corner of the site, which lead quite steeply down to the water's edge (Plate 3). The bank on the other side of the river looks to have been raised substantially as a method of flood protection.
- 3.6** The wider area around the site was quickly walked. The Bridge Inn was photographed from the front (Cover Plate and Plate 4) so that changes to its original façade could be recorded on comparison with old photographs. Inter-visibility between the site and its nearest Listed Buildings was noted. Photographs were taken of the 19th century workhouse under Strand Hill, the medieval town dyke opposite The Bridge Inn, and the Royal Military Canal; these photographs are archived within the digital file for the site.

4. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.0.1 This section considers each archaeological period in turn, reviewing the known archaeological resource of the area, defining its location and extent, character, date, integrity, state of preservation, and quality.
- 4.0.2 A considerable number of archaeological Events have been undertaken within a 1km radius of the site centre. However, with the exception of two Events - an excavation at Pear Tree Marsh to the west of the site in 1965 (EES9362) and a non-intensive archaeological survey on National Trust land at Brede Level, directly behind the site (EES14086) - all have occurred within the Winchelsea hilltop town and so cannot be easily related to the site and past activities that took place at the base of the hill beside the River Brede. Findings from the two Events are mentioned below.
- 4.0.3 The review of each period will also bring in evidence from a wider area, especially where there is little known archaeological evidence locally. This will enable a more accurate judgement to be made about the archaeological potential of the site. This evidence will include that taken from similar landscapes and geologies.

4.1 *Palaeolithic Period (750,000BC to 10,000BC)*

- 4.1.1 This period covers a huge expanse of time, during which early hominid occupation of Southern Britain was intermittent. The period is divided into warm and cold periods, with the evidence suggesting that hominid occupation occurred during some of the warm periods. Apart from a small number of exceptional sites (e.g. Boxgrove), most of the evidence for human activity in this period comes from isolated finds of stone tools, often in secondary deposits.
- 4.1.2 No Palaeolithic flintwork has been recovered from the site or its locality. A Palaeolithic handaxe was found in a field near New Gate to the immediate south of Winchelsea², whilst a Lower Palaeolithic axe and scrapper were discovered at two separate sites in Playden, to the north of Rye³. Another handaxe was found in an area to the south of Pett / Cliff End, southwest of Winchelsea. The odd Palaeolithic flint has been located further to the west beyond Fairlight Cove.
- 4.1.3 On the basis of the artefactual evidence, there is a very low likelihood of discovering Palaeolithic material within the site.

² Roe, D.A. 1968. *A Gazetteer of British Lower & Middle Palaeolithic Sites*. CBA Research Report 8.

³ Tyler, A. 2011. *Romney Marsh and the Western River Valleys: An Archaeological Gazetteer*. The Romney Marsh Research Trust. Source: <http://www.redcourt.dsl.pipex.com/gazetteer.pdf>

4.2 Mesolithic Period (10,000BC to 4,000BC)

- 4.2.1 The start of the Mesolithic period saw Britain largely covered by pine and birch woodland, which was gradually replaced by a mixed deciduous woodland that provided an ideal environment for the bands of hunter-gatherers who exploited the resources on a seasonal basis⁴.
- 4.2.2 There are no known Mesolithic finds from the site or even from Winchelsea. Although there is one Mesolithic findspot close to Udimore Road, northwest of Winchelsea (this being an assemblage which included *c.*200 blades and 66 implements), and two findspots from Playden, most Mesolithic flintwork in the wider area has been found further to the southwest, north of Pett and Cliff End, at Cliff End itself, and at or just west of Fairlight Cove⁵. An assemblage from the findspot at Fairlight Cove contained four axes, 41 blades or flakes and 27 scrapers, amongst other flintwork. An axe and four blades were discovered at a cave site at Cliff End, since destroyed by coastal erosion⁶; other than this possible exception, Mesolithic rock shelters in Sussex are sited away from the coast, well within the High Weald, in a line approximately west of Crowborough-Uckfield⁷.
- 4.2.3 The absence of Mesolithic finds from Winchelsea would suggest that the site is very unlikely to contain Mesolithic finds or features.

4.3 Neolithic Period (4,000BC to 2,500BC)

- 4.3.1 A number of changes occurred during the Neolithic, with environmental evidence from elsewhere suggesting that some woodland was being cleared for small-scale agricultural activities.
- 4.3.2 Other changes in the earlier part of the Neolithic period include the construction of large-scale monuments and the first industrial activity. However, all causewayed enclosures, burial mounds (or barrows) and flint mines in Sussex are sited on the South Downs⁸, so suggesting that the Neolithic population tended to settle in the river valleys or on the Coastal Plain or adjacent Weald.

⁴ Holgate, R. 2003. 'Late Glacial and Post-glacial Hunter-gatherers in Sussex', in Rudling, D. (Ed) *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*. Kings Lynn: Heritage Marketing and Publications Ltd, 29-38.

⁵ Tyler, A. 2011. Romney Marsh and the Western River Valleys: An Archaeological Gazetteer. The Romney Marsh Research Trust. Source: <http://www.redcourt.dsl.pipex.com/gazetteer.pdf>

⁶ Wymer, J.J. (Ed.) 1977. *Gazetteer of Mesolithic Sites in England and Wales*. CBA Research Report 22.

⁷ Peter, D. 1999. 'Later Hunters and Gatherers', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds) *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 14-15.

⁸ Peter, D. 1999. 'First Farming Communities and Communal Monuments, in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds) *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 16-17.

- 4.3.3 The closest Neolithic finds to Winchelsea comprise a sickle blade from Rye; a flint arrowhead from an area to the north of Winchelsea beside Udimore Road; a flint scrapper from the neighbouring village of Icklesham to the west; and the flintwork from a location outside Pett to the southwest of Winchelsea⁹. The nearest cluster of Neolithic findspots is, however, found further to the west, between Fairlight Cove and Hastings. At one of these findspots, at a place called Firehills, flintwork and pottery were found in association with grain and a posthole, thereby suggesting the presence of a settlement in the immediate vicinity.
- 4.3.4 Although the High Weald may have been settled, the evidence would imply that it was only sparingly so. There is, therefore, a very low possibility that Neolithic finds will be recovered from the site. If discovered, they will probably only be chance discoveries representing casual exploitation of the landscape.

4.4 *The Bronze Age (2500BC to 800BC)*

- 4.4.1 There is no archaeological representation of the Bronze Age in Winchelsea. Bronze Age artefacts have, however, been found to the west and east of the town at Fairlight Cove, Cliff End, Icklesham, Camber and Lydd¹⁰. The finds may simply comprise single objects, such as a pin (MES7203), a flint arrowhead (MES12951), a stone battle axe (MES4544/4545) or a bronze socketed spearhead (MES2162). Two hoards, one of five bronze axes and the other of eight bronze ingots, were discovered at Pioneer Quarry, at the north end of Lydd.
- 4.4.2 Directly to the west of the two hoard sites, a geophysical survey and excavation in the late 1990's uncovered a ring ditch and pit of potential Bronze Age date¹¹. The ring ditch could have been that identified along with an earthwork from a 1946 aerial photograph, although the National Grid Reference places this site slightly further to the west. Closer to the site itself, a curvilinear enclosure and possible round barrow at Playden may both be Bronze Age in date (MES2291).
- 4.4.3 With no finds or features to indicate occupation of the wider Winchelsea area in the Bronze Age, or even of its exploitation during this period, it is very doubtful that groundwork at the site will expose material of a Bronze Age date.

⁹ Tyler, A. 2011. Romney Marsh and the Western River Valleys: An Archaeological Gazetteer. The Romney Marsh Research Trust. Source: <http://www.redcourt.dsl.pipex.com/gazetteer.pdf>

¹⁰ Tyler, A. 2011. Romney Marsh and the Western River Valleys: An Archaeological Gazetteer. The Romney Marsh Research Trust. Source: <http://www.redcourt.dsl.pipex.com/gazetteer.pdf>

¹¹ Tyler, A. 2011. Romney Marsh and the Western River Valleys: An Archaeological Gazetteer. The Romney Marsh Research Trust. Source: <http://www.redcourt.dsl.pipex.com/gazetteer.pdf>

4.5 *The Iron Age (800BC to 43AD)*

- 4.5.1 One major feature of the Iron Age is the hillfort, of which 20 are known from Sussex. Many of these appear to have originated in the Late Bronze Age, with some having become important centres of control and redistribution in the Middle and Late Iron Age. There are no hillforts in Romney Marsh, or the High Weald other than the four possible Middle Iron Age hillforts to the northwest of Crowborough¹².
- 4.5.2 The closest Iron Age material to Winchelsea has been found to the southwest of the town, north of Cliff End, where pottery has been recovered from two separate sites (MES4994 and MES4988)¹³. Further pottery (MES2158) and two gold coins were discovered in the Cliff End / Fairlight Cove area (including MES3910). Just to the west of Fairlight Cove, is the site of a house platform (MES3909) at Warren Farm. This may have been the same site where a hut was excavated. Slightly further to the west, another hut was excavated at Fairlight Quarry.
- 4.5.3 At Playden, excavation recorded a wooden stake of possible Iron Age date, whilst an Iron Age silver coin was found nearby as a surface find in 2006.
- 4.5.4 On considering the complete absence of Iron Age remains from Winchelsea and the surrounding area, the site is very unlikely to produce material of this date.

4.6 *The Roman Period (43AD to 410AD)*

- 4.6.1 In the early Roman period (1st to 3rd centuries BC), the whole of 'Romney Marsh' was apparently an intertidal wetland, exploited for its rich natural resources, including the production of salt¹⁴. The River Rother then exited just to the south of Hythe, where a Roman Saxon Shore fort at Stutfall Castle overlooked the estuary. The marshlands included the flat low lying lands below Winchelsea, where the site is located.
- 4.6.2 During a non-intensive archaeological survey of National Trust property (EES14086), dark circular features were identified from aerial photographs on the open land behind the site (MES7243), and also to the opposite east side of the A259 (MES7245). They may be associated with saltworkings as they are sited close to the former saltmarsh creeks. The HER has dated the features to the medieval period.

¹² Hamilton, S. and Manley, J. 1999. 'Regional Traditions c.1000-100BC', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds) *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 20-21.

¹³ Tyler, A. 2011. Romney Marsh and the Western River Valleys; an archaeological gazetteer. The Romney Marsh Research Trust. Source: <http://www.redcourt.dsl.pipex.com/gazetteer.pdf>

¹⁴ Rippon, S. 2002. 'Romney Marsh: evolution of the historic landscape and its wider significance', in Long, A, Hipkin, S. and Clarke, H. (Eds). OUSA Monograph 56, 84-100.

- 4.6.3 Roman coin (MES4082) was discovered at the base of the hill leading to Strand Gate (MES3999), and so quite close to the site; no further information is known about this find which comprises the only Roman site within the locality of the site.
- 4.6.4 A number of findspots have been found in and around Icklesham¹⁵. Pottery and bloomery slag were discovered in Lower Crutches field to the east of the settlement, north of the A259 (MES4047), whilst pottery was recovered to the south of this findspot on Wickham Rock Lane (MES4049). At Old Place Cottages, in the east end of Icklesham, north of the A259, the remains of six bloomery furnaces (MES3985) were uncovered during quarrying operations in the 1930's¹⁶. Excavations here in 1981 revealed considerable quantities of slag and a slag-metalled road (MES4074). South of the A259, in the same part of the village, slag was unearthed at the vicarage (MES4072) whilst furnace debris and tile were found in Church Field (MES4066)¹⁷. Two coins of Hadrian from Old Place Farm (MES4068) and Old Place Cottages (MES3985) date some of this Roman activity to AD117-138.
- 4.6.5 Activity in the Fairfield Cove / Cliff End / Pett area, south of Icklesham, continued into the Roman period and included ironworking at three separate bloomeries (MES3908, MES2139 and MES2130)¹⁸.
- 4.6.6 Roman activity recorded at Icklesham may have been largely associated with the bloomery, and so need not have extended further east along the ridge, which ends with the hill on which Winchelsea stands. Nonetheless, as Winchelsea projected into the marshlands during the Roman period, it may have been visited to exploit the resources deeper within the marsh. It may also have provided access to one of the narrower passages across the east end of the Brede Level. These theories are based on supposition, however, and there is a very low likelihood of finding Roman remains at the site.

¹⁵ Tyler, A. 2011. Romney Marsh and the Western River Valleys: An Archaeological Gazetteer. The Romney Marsh Research Trust. Source: <http://www.redcourt.dsl.pipex.com/gazetteer.pdf>

¹⁶ Woodcock, A. 1988. 'Gazetteer of Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon sites in Romney Marsh and the surrounding area', in Eddison, J. and Green, C. (Eds) *Romney Marsh: Evolution, Occupation, Reclamation*. OUCA Monograph 24, 177-185.

¹⁷ Tyler, A. 2011. Romney Marsh and the Western River Valleys: An Archaeological Gazetteer. The Romney Marsh Research Trust. Source: <http://www.redcourt.dsl.pipex.com/gazetteer.pdf>

¹⁸ Tyler, A. 2011. Romney Marsh and the Western River Valleys: An Archaeological Gazetteer. The Romney Marsh Research Trust. Source: <http://www.redcourt.dsl.pipex.com/gazetteer.pdf>

4.7 *The Saxon Period (410AD to 1066AD)*

- 4.7.1 By around the 11th century, in the Late Saxon period, the River Rother flowed into a new estuary at New Romney¹⁹. A new breach in the natural shingle at (Old) Winchelsea may have occurred by then. A port was established here, whilst Rye further up the inlet became a Hundred meeting place²⁰.
- 4.7.2 There is scant evidence of Saxon activity in Winchelsea and the wider area. A Saxon brooch was found at the western foot of the hill near to The Lodge²¹ and is likely to represent a casual loss. To the west of this findspot, pottery of possible Saxon date has been discovered at Icklesham and across the land to its south stretching down to the present coastline beyond Cliff End (including MES2158). The spread of these findspots may imply that farming took place close to the fringes of the marsh.
- 4.7.3 With just one find from Winchelsea itself, this isolated area of high ground in the marsh may still have been exploited rather than settled. For this reason, there is a very low possibility of Saxon finds being recovered from the site.

4.8 *The Medieval Period (1066AD to 1500AD)*

- 4.8.1 The first town of Winchelsea (MES4046) was a significant port in the 12th century and had joined the association of Cinque Ports by 1190²². It prospered on its fisheries, shipbuilding, royal dockyards and overseas trade. However, the extreme storms of the 13th century led to a permanent breach of the shingle barrier on which (Old) Winchelsea stood, allowing the tides to run eight miles north of the port by the late 1250's. In 1280, when the town was almost wholly submerged by the sea, Edward I ordered that the town be moved to its present hilltop site.
- 4.8.2 The medieval settlement of Iham was already in existence on this hill and included Iham Manor and its demesne²³. The marshlands to the southeast of the hill were part of the manor and were already occupied by the (Old) Winchelsea residents. The new town did not incorporate all of Iham, however, as the lands on the northwest corner of the hill were probably excluded.

¹⁹ Rippon, S. 2002. 'Romney Marsh: evolution of the historic landscape and its wider significance', in Long, A, Hipkin, S. and Clarke, H. (Eds). OUSA Monograph **56**, 84-100.

²⁰ Gardiner, M. 1999. 'Late Saxon Sussex c.650-1066', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds) *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 30-31.

²¹ Pratt, M. 2011. *Winchelsea: The Tale of a Medieval Town*. Bexhill-on-Sea: Malcolm Pratt.

²² Martin, B and D. 2004. *New Winchelsea Sussex: A Medieval Port Town*. Kings Lynn: Heritage and Publications Ltd.

²³ *Ibid.*

- 4.8.3 Between 1283 and 1292, (New) Winchelsea (MES19581) was laid out using a grid system that defined 39 quarters. The market was sited in the approximate centre of the town whilst the church (MES3996) was built in the second quarter to its north and Grey Friars (MES3997) in the second quarter to its east. According to David and Barbara Martin's interpretive model (Fig. 5)²⁴, the town was approached overland from the west either along the main road from Icklesham (i.e. the A259) or from the very south through New Gate. A road ran along the west side of the town and around the northwest foot of the hill to meet the ferry across the River Brede to Rye. This road continued eastwards to skirt around the base of the northern cliffs, passing the 79 plots flanking the harbour on the estuary (MES19582), before reaching the quayside, where the site is supposedly located, and the open public space known as The Strand to its south. From this section of the road two terraced roads led uphill to enter the town through either Pipewell Gate (MES4000) or Strand Gate (MES3999); these three roads are still present today with Strand Hill meeting Tanyard Lane in view of the site.
- 4.8.4 The three town gates (MES3999, MES4000 and New Gate) are the most visible remnants of the early defensive town wall (MES4096), which would have extended across the north and east sides of the town, so protecting the harbour. A town dyke also protected (New) Winchelsea, with that to the east dug around the base of the hill and up to the quay (Fig. 5); as mentioned earlier (see para. 3.6), The Bridge Inn stands directly in front of the surviving northern end of the dyke.
- 4.8.5 Below the northern cliffs of the town in the late 13th and 14th centuries, much of the River Brede estuary may have been tidal mud flats and salt marsh²⁵. In which instance, the waterfront plots may have been only accessible to ships at high tide. Perhaps to improve access to the tidal area, the town's urban elite requested that the king assist in enlarging the harbour during the foundation of the new town.
- 4.8.6 During the early years of the 14th century, the scale of its shipping traffic meant that (New) Winchelsea was a principal port on the southeast coast, specialising in the export of Wealden wood products. The 40 or so surviving cellars in (New) Winchelsea (see Appendix 1) also reflects how important the wine trade was to the economic growth of the town.
- 4.8.7 A reference to the quayside in 1325, mentions that several vessels could anchor at the port at the same time²⁶. The common quay would have been mainly used by visiting ships, as well as the resident merchants once private wharves / quays of the harbour plots had decayed; as early as 1344 / 1345, when few tenements in the town were deserted, over 40% of the waterfront plots had been abandoned, including a number to the immediate west of the quayside, and this may in part have been because they had no viable waterbourne access.

²⁴ Martin, B and D. 2004. *New Winchelsea Sussex: A Medieval Port Town*. Kings Lynn: Heritage and Publications Ltd.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ *Ibid.*

- 4.8.8 Decline of (New) Winchelsea began in the late 14th century. Beginning in the 1330's, attacks throughout the Hundred Year War with France damaged commercial enterprise of the Cinque Port through trade embargoes, prolonged ship service, privateering and damage to the harbour²⁷. In addition, the harbour was beginning to silt up, due to ballast dumping, the enclosure of marshland and the spread of a shingle bar across the river outlet. By 1440, if a boat wanted to moor at the quay beyond loading or unloading, they had to pay a wharfage charge, which implied to David and Barbara Martin that boats moored at the quay were impeding the passage of vessels upriver. The last merchant had reportedly left (New) Winchelsea by 1448.
- 4.8.9 An archaeological excavation (EES9362) in 1965 at Pear Tree Marsh, to the west of the site beside Tanyard Lane and below Pipewell Gate (MES4000), found no evidence of any medieval wharf or quay. However, to the immediate east of this site at Eastwoods, substantial wooden structures (MES7316) were uncovered whilst digging a pond in 1990, c.100m back from the present river edge. No more information is known about the discovery, other than that oak posts were observed. The structures were believed by the former County Archaeologist to be associated with the medieval harbour.
- 4.8.10 The discovery at Eastwoods, and more recent discoveries of waterlogged timbers just to the west of the site,²⁸ has shown that there is high potential for medieval waterlogged remains alongside the River Brede. The site is believed by David and Barbara Martin to be the location of the medieval quayside, and although they provide no supporting evidence for this, it would seem entirely plausible if the town dyke did drain into the quay, as they suggest. Archaeological evidence to support a common quay may, for instance, comprise wooden pilings for a fixed platform, or the remains of a more solid structure such as made ground contained behind a timber revetment.

4.9 *The Post Medieval Period (1500AD to the Present Day)*

- 4.9.1 The land below the northern cliffs may have been first built upon for housing in c.1500, as this is the date of The Strand House (DES3141; Grade II Listed), which is set back from the road opposite the site. In the 17th century, if not earlier, a cottage (DES4130) was built behind The Strand House whilst Apple Tree Wick (DES3125) was built to its north, but again set back from the road (both these buildings are Grade II Listed). At the close of the 17th century, the houses in Winchelsea were described as being in a 'pitiful spectacle of poverty and desertion', although it is unclear as to whether this also applied to the small community that appeared to be establishing itself at the base of the northern cliffs.

²⁷ Martin, B and D. 2004. *New Winchelsea Sussex: A Medieval Port Town*. Kings Lynn: Heritage and Publications Ltd.

²⁸ Greg Chuter, *pers. com.*

- 4.9.2 The oldest known map of Winchelsea is that by Charles Stephens, dated 1763 (not reproduced). It reveals the degree to which Winchelsea had shrunk, as the town was by then largely confined to the northeast corner of the hill. The very northeast corner of this map depicts the site as part of a rectangular plot called the 'Float'. This plot is open to the road, which may imply that it continued to serve a public function. A basic structure stands to the rear of the property; it may, for example, have been a shed that held fishing nets and equipment. To the adjacent west side of the Float is a building that was built back from the road in the 18th century or earlier (The Old Malthouse, DES3124, is a Grade II Listed Building). To the north of this building is a narrow riverside plot, with a small building, called the 'Shed Piece', and then two adjacent plots named the 'Tanyard' and 'Tanyard Piece'. The three riverside plots further to the north are larger and, given their names ('Walnut-tree Marsh', 'Pear-Tree Marsh' and 'Hop Garden'), were possibly cultivated at the time.
- 4.9.3 A later copy of the 1763 map, possibly dated to 1768 (Fig. 6)²⁹, is of poor quality but does clarify some details. The Old Malthouse (DES3124), for instance, is seen to stand behind a garden and is accessed from a driveway flanked by two buildings at its entrance.
- 4.9.4 By 1778-1783, as seen on a map by Yeakell and Gardiner (not reproduced), one or two additional buildings look to have been built below the northern cliffs, to the west of The Old Malthouse (DES3124) although this map is somewhat inaccurate in that it does not show The Strand House (DES3141) and the later buildings around it.
- 4.9.5 The Strand House (DES3141) was a workhouse in c.1816-1819 when Turner sketched it (but not the site) against the backdrop of Strand Hill and Strand Gate³⁰. Later in 1828, he used this scene to portray soldiers marching along the road past the site and up Strand Hill to Winchelsea. The Royal Military Canal (MES4112; SM Ref. ES 488) was in existence by this time, and c.50m to the east of the site it joined the Royal Military Road (the A259; also MES4112), which crossed the River Brede to link Winchelsea with Rye. The canal was excavated between 1804 and 1809 in anticipation of a Napoleonic invasion, and was the third line of defence after the British Navy and a line of Martello towers that stretched along the southeast coastline from Folkestone to Eastbourne³¹. Although it partly comprised the Rivers Brede and Rother, 22.5 miles of its overall 28 mile length was hand dug.
- 4.9.6 In 1842, the site is Plot 73 (The Float Field), which is pasture farmed by Thomas Hayward and others but owned by Henry Martin (the tithe map of Winchelsea is not reproduced). Plot 72 to the east of the site is a house and gardens owned by Alice Roberts and occupied by William Whiteman. The house stands on the road, within the footprint of The Bridge Inn. The old town dyke is seen to flow into the River Brede to the east of the house.

²⁹ ESRO AMS 5806/3

³⁰ <http://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/turner-winchelsea-the-workhouse-and-strand-gate-d10519>

³¹ <http://www.royalmilitarycanal.com/>

- 4.9.7 The 1st Edition OS map of 1874 (Fig. 7) shows the site to be part of a field which has a rectangular building built against its west side. The field is located between an unnamed house, with wooded grounds, to its west (i.e. The Old Malthouse; DES3124) and Bridge Inn to its east. All this land is linked by a path alongside the river and is owned by the one person. Station House stands to the other side of Bridge Inn, fronting the road.
- 4.9.8 An old photograph of The Bridge Inn (Fig. 8) shows it to comprise a pair of semi-detached buildings, as shown on the 1st Edition OS map (Fig. 7). This building still stands today (Cover Plate and Plate 4) although with modifications, namely the wooden cladding over the brick façade of the second floor and the addition of a window where a door once stood. From the photograph, it appears that the inn may also have served as a local shop, as Bovril and local and national newspapers are advertised on the side of the building. The building may also have sold railway tickets as a railway notice, presumably with a timetable, is attached to its front. Although undated, the photograph is likely to date to the late 19th century / early 20th century (pre-1929), when horse drawn carriages were still in use, like the one parked outside the inn.
- 4.9.9 In a second photograph (Fig. 8), taken at a different time during the same period, The Bridge Inn sign no longer says beneath it ‘? Finn & Sons Lydd Ales’ but ‘Cheapest Fine Ales’. The same photograph shows the land to the west of the inn to perhaps be growing hops, protected with netting. This ties in neatly with the name of the adjacent house (The Old Malthouse; DES3124) and would account for the odd position of the downpipe, which looks to be redirecting the flow of rainwater at an acute angle away from the building. A third photograph (not reproduced) shows the site bound by an irregular shaped hedge of sorts, above which is growing tall vegetation, possibly hops.
- 4.9.10 The 2nd Edition OS map (not reproduced) shows little change by 1898. The building within the field has disappeared although a smaller building may have been present up against the west side of the site, closer to the road. The house to the east of the inn is now definitely under the same ownership as the lands to its west.
- 4.9.11 The site is unchanged by 1909 (the 3rd Edition OS map is, therefore, not reproduced). The 4th Edition OS map of 1929 (Fig. 9) shows the field to have gone. Its boundary with Bridge Inn was removed so that the building could be extended west, as well as widened to the rear. A new internal boundary has been erected parallel to the road, adjacent to Bridge Inn, presumably to demarcate a parking area which exists today. The only building within the site is now located behind this parking area, up against its west side. The Old Malthouse (DES3124) was under different ownership by this time, so perhaps implying that the inn was being supplied ale from elsewhere.

4.9.12 In the Second World War, Winchelsea became a Category A Nodal Point³². A number of pillboxes were built on the high ground overlooking the Royal Military Canal (MES4112; SM Ref. ES 488) whilst others covered Strand Bridge and then continued the line northeast along the River Brede towards Rye. The Bridge Inn was apparently fortified.

4.9.13 Although no change had occurred to the site by 1977, The Bridge Inn had extended very slightly to the rear, and Station House had been replaced with a house and a garage (the OS map of this date is not reproduced). A 'Shelter' is shown on the map on the other side of the road opposite the public house, whilst another is sited beside the 'Pumping Station' to the east side of Strand Bridge. As the rear car park was laid out after 1977, this part of the site is likely to have been an outdoor seating area for the public house. It was probably lawn, with the remains of this grass seen today to the west side and rear end of the site.

³² Butler, C. 2007. *East Sussex Under Attack: Anti-Invasion Sites 1500-1990*. Stroud: Tempus Publishing.

5. Impact of Development

- 5.1** This Desk-based Assessment has established that there is very little evidence of activity within the immediate locality of the site prior to the medieval period. This may in part be because it was marshland, or on the fringes of the marsh, for a considerable period of time before land began to be reclaimed from the marsh in the medieval period. The extremely poor archaeological representation of the prehistoric, Roman and Saxon periods may also be explained by the almost complete absence of intrusive archaeological fieldwork at the base of the hill on which Winchelsea sits.
- 5.2** Subsequent to the surrendering of (Old) Winchelsea to the sea, the planned town of (New) Winchelsea was built in the late 13th century on a hill further inland. As with its predecessor, it prospered due partly to the import of wine and export of Wealden products. It has previously been suggested that the site was the town quayside, which is conceivable if the town dyke drained into the quay; today this open ditch stops in front of The Bridge Inn. Remains of the quayside may comprise the waterlogged remains of supportive pilings and wooden revetments, as well as made ground, for instance. Evidence may also be found of the quayside extending out gradually over time into the river estuary as the River Brede silted up and narrowed, restricting access upstream.
- 5.3** In 1763, the site was part of a plot with a small building to its rear that may have been a shed used by the local community for storing fishing nets and equipment. By 1842, this plot was entirely pasture. The pair of detached houses had been built by this time and later became The Bridge Inn. A building is known to have stood against the west side of the site between 1874 and 1977, although its size and exact location varied. The site was possibly cultivating hops by the time The Bridge Inn may have come under new ownership in the late 19th century / early 20th century. With the western extension of the inn sometime between 1909 and 1929, the adjacent plot with the site was reduced in size. The area of the street level car park was laid out at this time, and the rear car park followed sometime 1977.
- 5.4** The site has never had a large sturdy building built upon it. Although the front of the site is at street level, the entire ground level of the site has possibly been built up at some time to lift it above the surrounding marshland and beyond risk of flooding. The laying of the car park and any drainage or sewers associated with the public house or neighbouring properties would have disturbed the upper layers of this made ground.
- 5.5** Remains of the past uses of the site may survive in good condition beneath the hardstanding of the car park, as well as beneath and maybe even within the underlying made ground. Depending upon the type of structure that the medieval quayside took, any deposits pre-dating the Medieval period may also have a good chance of surviving within the alluvium.

- 5.6** Given the evidence accumulated during this Desk-based Assessment, the probability of finding remains from each of the different archaeological periods is shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1

Period	Potential
Palaeolithic	Very Low
Mesolithic	Very Low
Neolithic	Very Low
Bronze Age	Very Low
Iron Age	Very Low
Roman	Very Low
Saxon	Very Low
Medieval	Very High
Post Medieval	Very High

- 5.7** In addition, the site has a very high potential for the survival of waterlogged remains, (including medieval timber structures and wooden boats) and palaeo-environmental deposits.
- 5.8** Although the final location of the proposed houses has yet to be decided, the current proposal shows them to be set back from Tanyard Lane, with a shared entrance to a car park at the front of the site (see Fig. 10 for a preliminary development plan). Lawn is to be laid to the front and rear gardens of each house plot.
- 5.9** Excavation of any footings or pilings, and associated services, may destroy or disturb any archaeological remains within their footprint. However, this is dependant upon the depth of the assumed made ground, which could serve as a protective buffer to any underling archaeological deposits.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1** This Desk-based Assessment has established that the site may potentially have been a quayside during the medieval period. It may still have been an open space in 1873, when it is first known to have had a building (probably a small shed) built upon it. The site was part of pasture in 1842 but may subsequently have grown hops prior to 1929, which The Bridge Inn presumably used in the 'Cheap Fine Ale' that it advertised. When The Bridge Inn was extended west sometime between 1909 and 1929, the site served the customers as a parking lot and a rear outdoor seating area. The main car park was laid sometime after 1977.
- 6.2** It has not been possible to establish whether there is below-ground archaeology present on the site, due to the non-intrusive nature of this Desk-based Assessment. Pre-existing archaeological deposits within the site, such as those that represent the medieval quayside, are likely to survive beneath an unknown depth of made ground below the car park.
- 6.3** Given the site's location partly within an Archaeological Notification Area, it is recommended that a programme of archaeological work be undertaken prior to the proposed development in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework. An evaluation excavation which would enable further decisions to be made regarding the mitigation strategy for either in-situ preservation of the archaeology or its preservation by record is being carried out concurrently with the preparation of this DBA, and the results of that excavation should be considered in conjunction with this DBA.

7. Acknowledgements

- 7.1** I would like to thank Adam Slater and Ivan White of Gemselect Ltd for commissioning this Desk-based Assessment. Thanks are extended to the staff of East Sussex Record Office. Sophie Unger, Historic Environment Record Officer at ESCC, provided copies of the East Sussex HER.

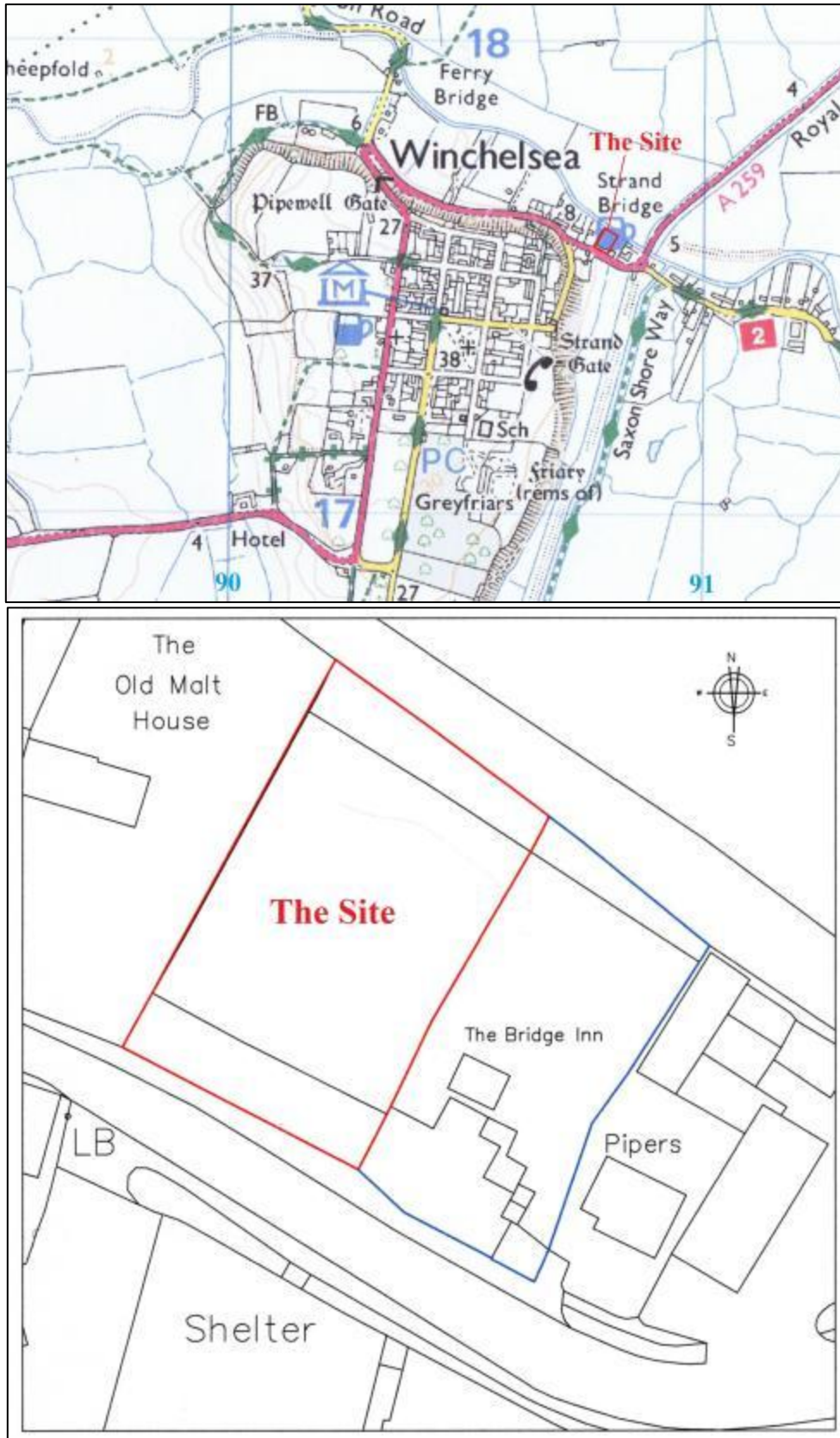


Fig. 1: Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Winchelsea: Site location map
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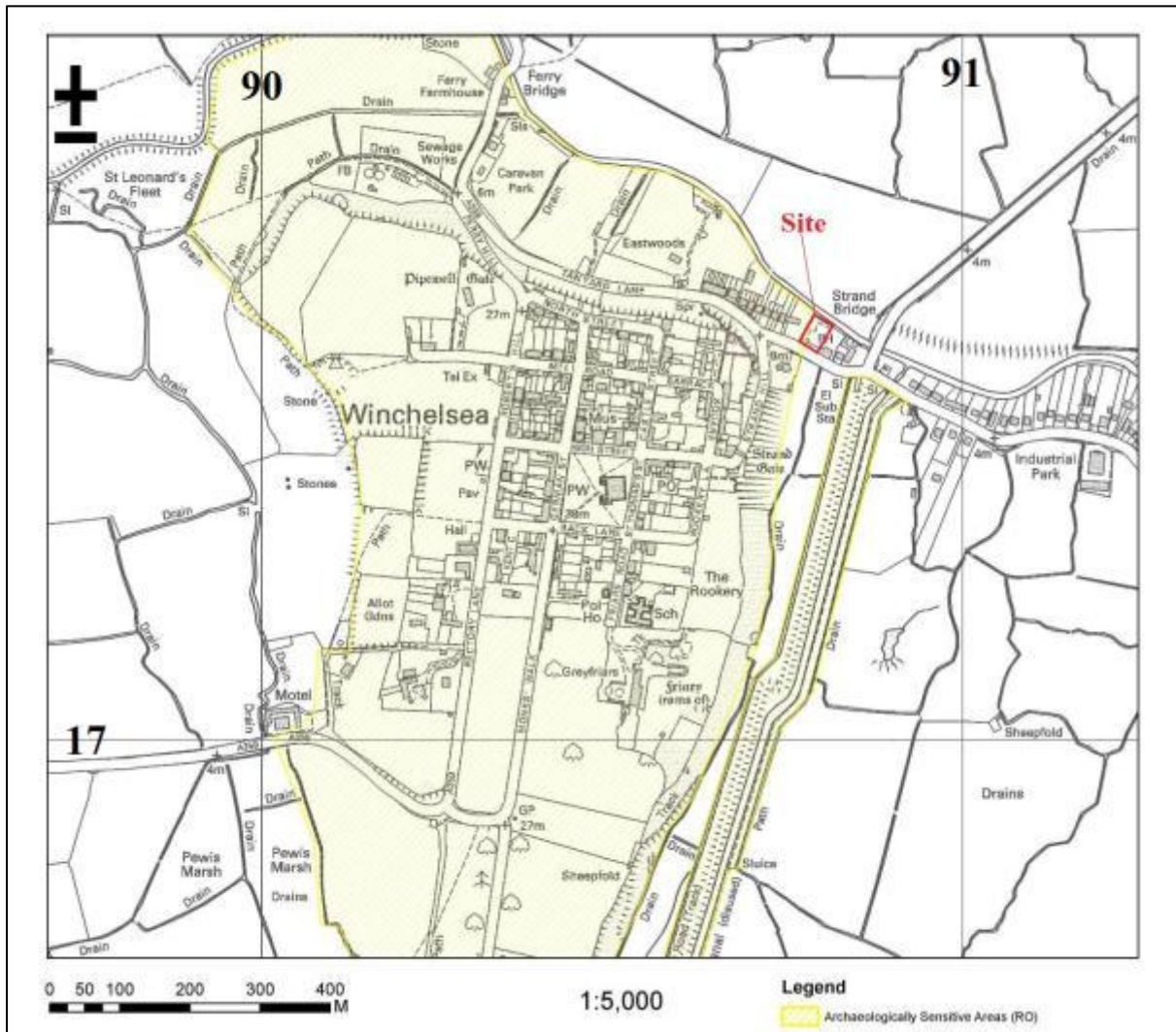


Fig. 2: Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Winchelsea: Map showing Archaeological Notification Areas

(Adapted from map provided by ESCC)

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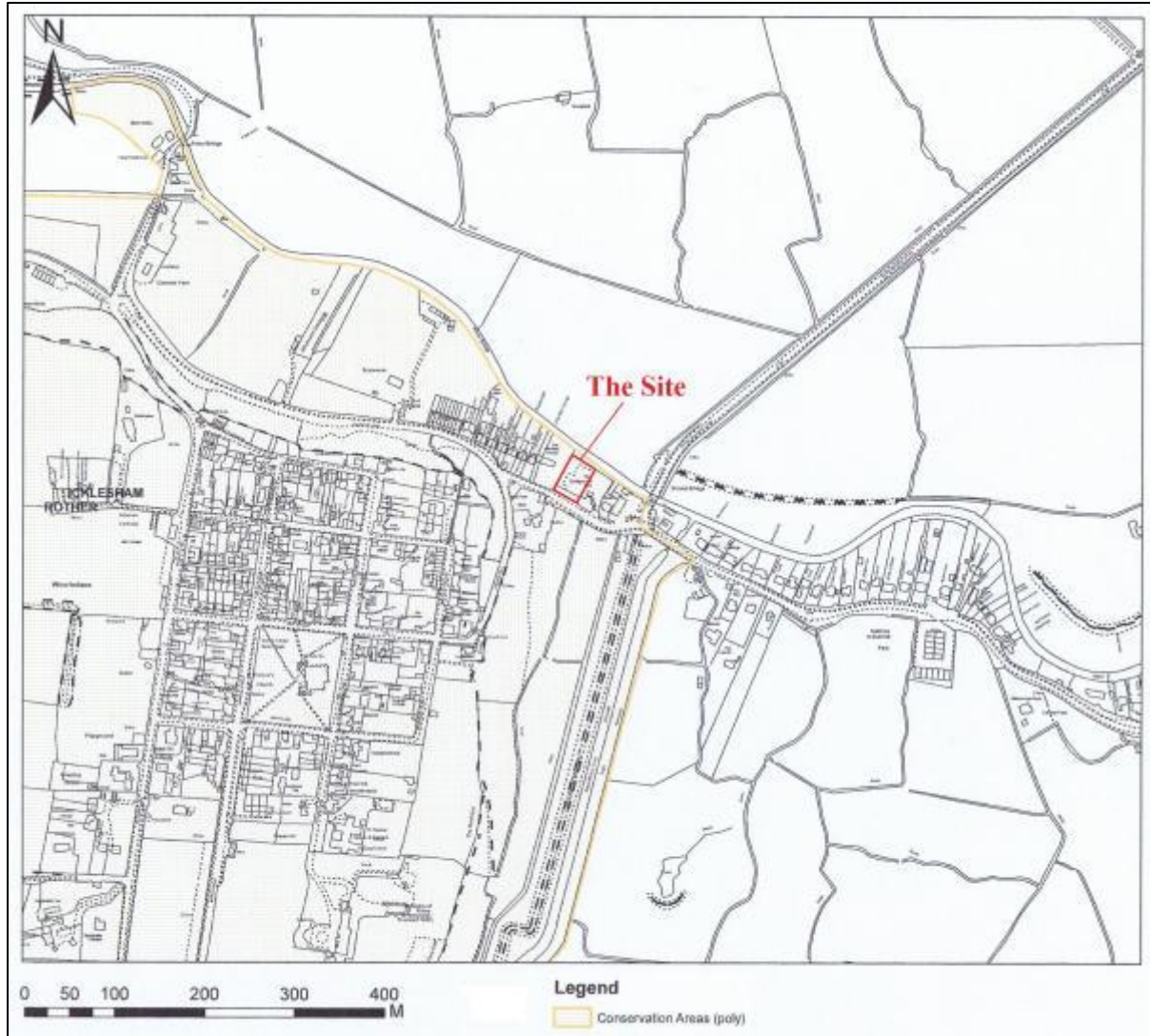


Fig. 3: Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Winchelsea: Map showing Winchelsea Conservation Area
(Adapted from map provided by ESCC)
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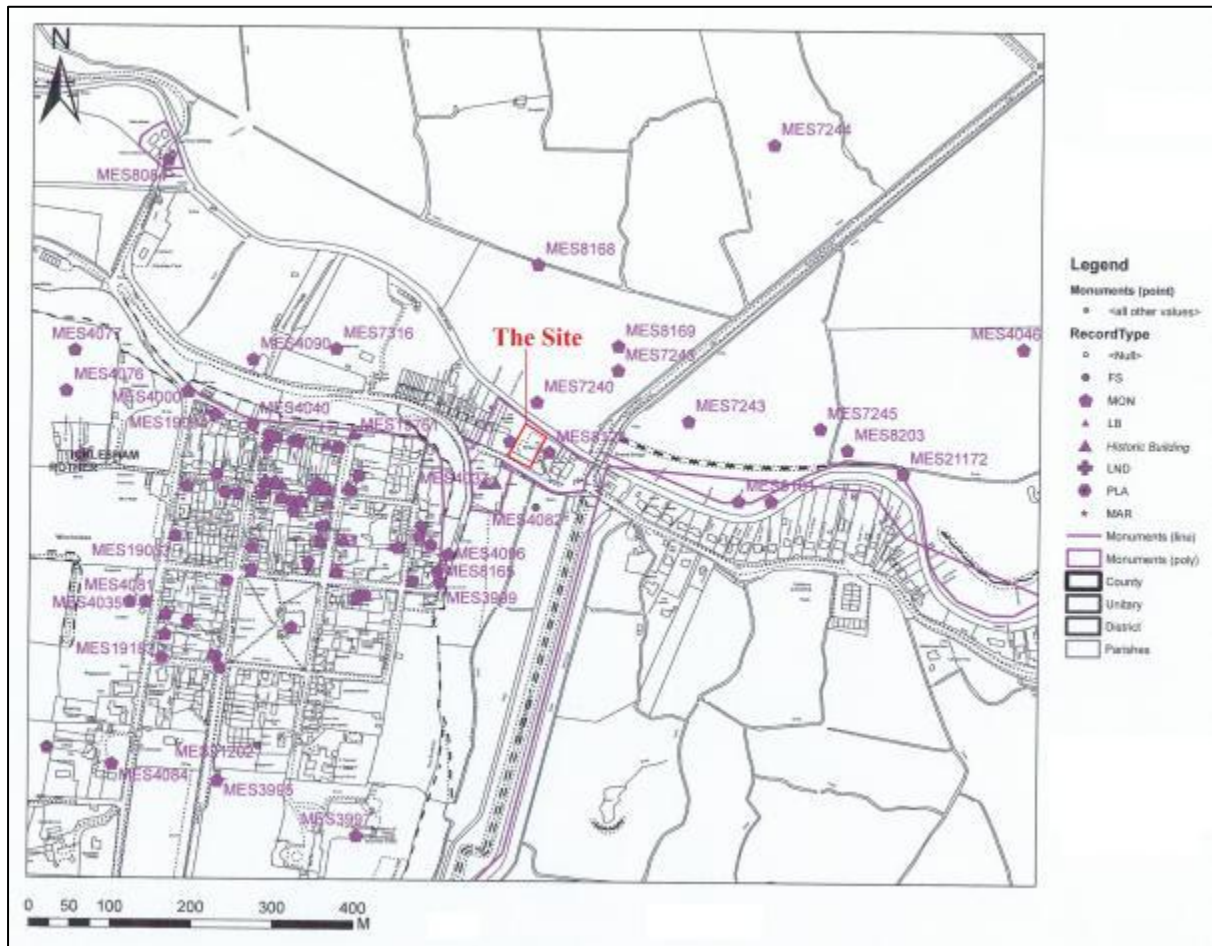


Fig. 4: Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Winchelsea: Map showing Monuments on the HER
(Adapted from map provided by ESCC)

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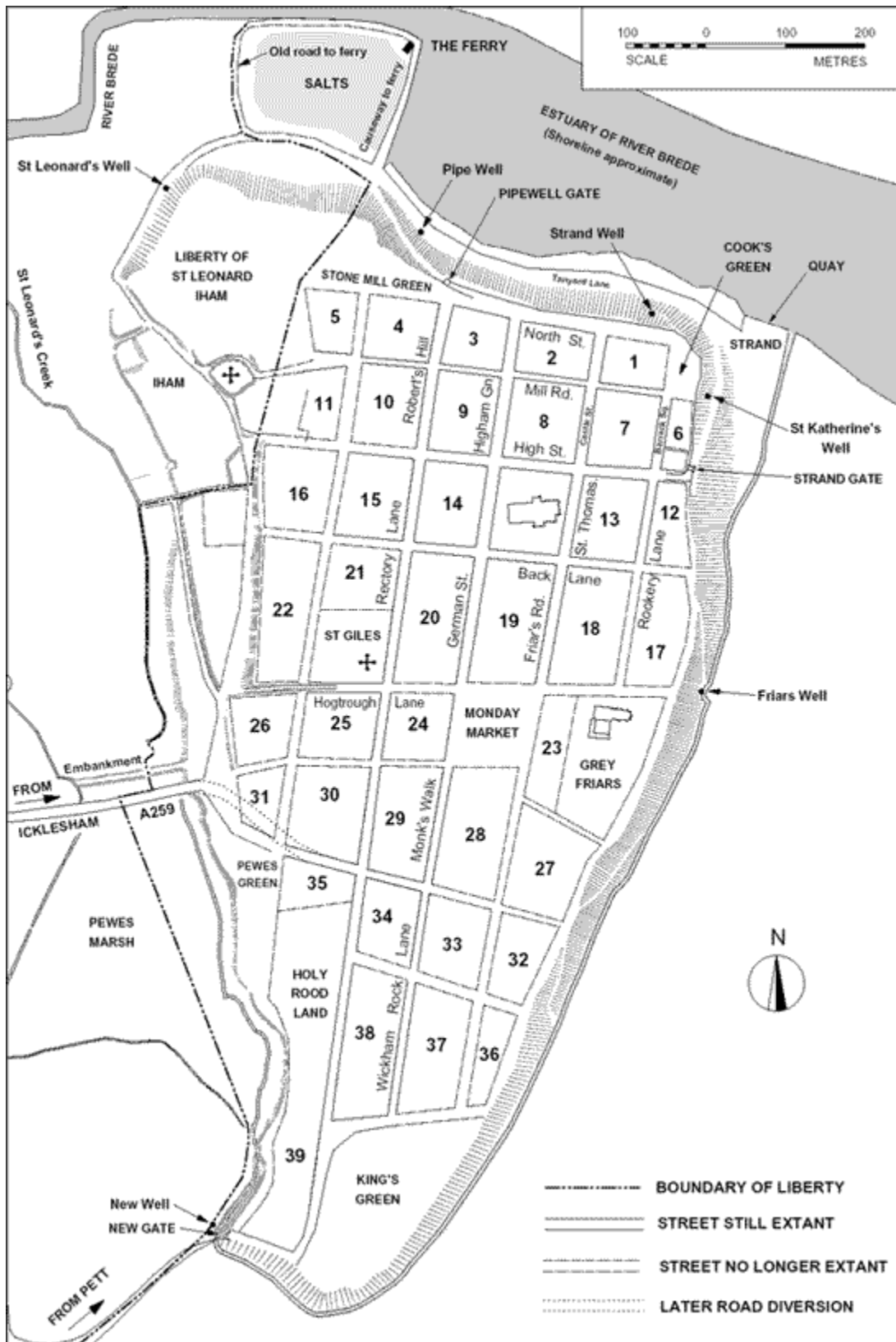


Fig. 5: Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Winchelsea: David and Barbara Martin's interpretive model of medieval Winchelsea (Martin, D and B. 2004. *New Winchelsea Sussex: A Medieval Town Port*. Fig. 4.2)

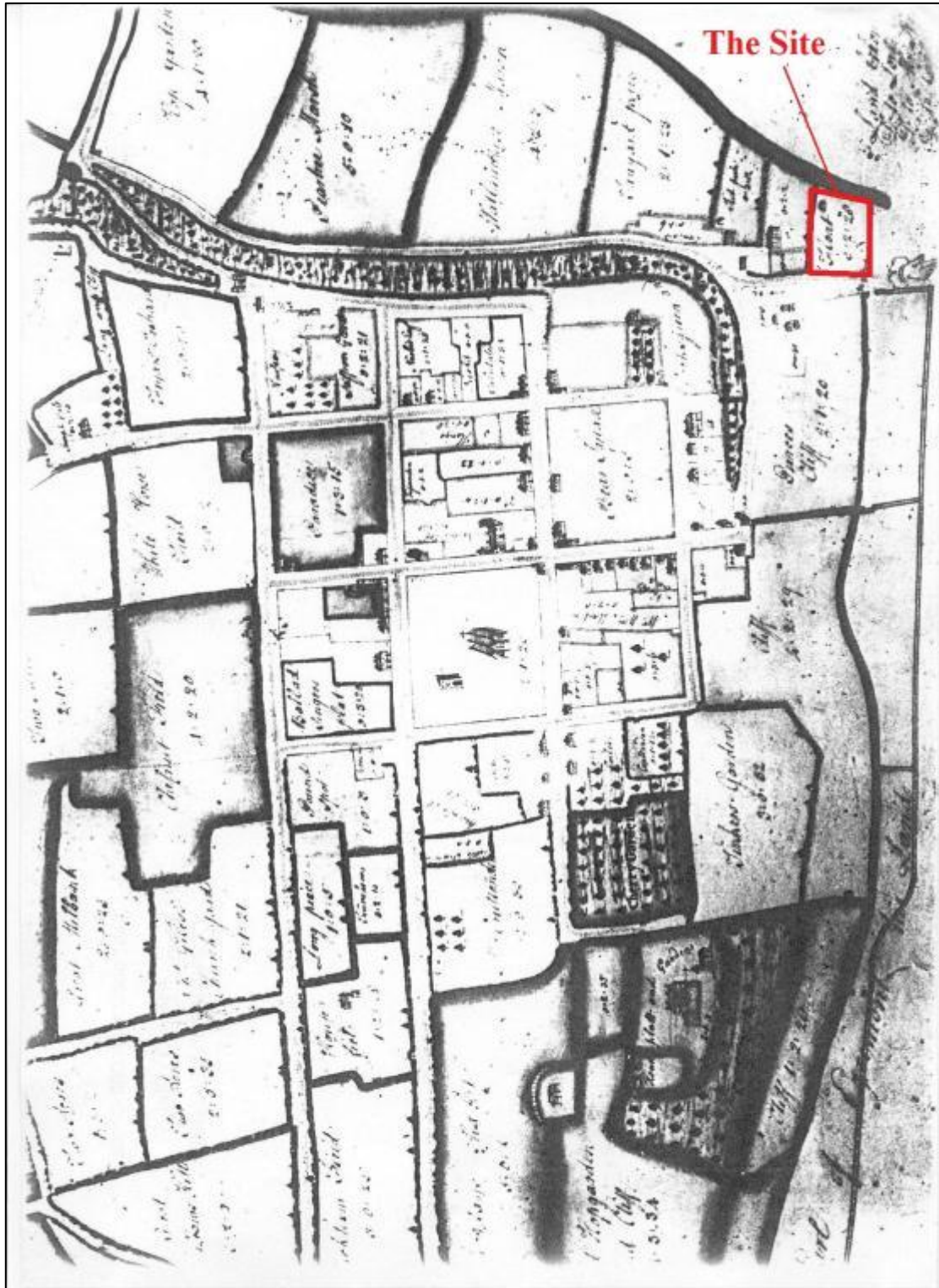


Fig. 6: Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Winchelsea: A 1768 map of Winchelsea (ESRO AMS 5806/3)



Fig. 7: Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Winchelsea: 1st Edition OS map (1874)



Fig. 8: Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Winchelsea:
Late 19th / early 20th century photographs of The Bridge Inn
(Provided by The Client)



Fig. 10: Former Bridge Inn Car Park, Winchelsea:
Preliminary plan of the proposed development
(Provided by The Client)



Plate 1: The Former Bridge Inn Car Park: The front car park, looking northwest



Plate 2: The Former Bridge Inn Car Park: The rear car park, looking southwest



Plate 3: The Former Bridge Inn Car Park: The River Brede to the rear of the site, looking north



Plate 4: The Former Bridge Inn Car Park: The modified 19th century building of The Bridge Inn, looking northeast

Appendix 1: Archaeological Monuments and Listed Buildings Recorded on the HER

HER No.	NGR	Period	Type of Site	Notes
MES3995	TQ 904 171	Medieval Post Medieval	House	Site of C13 - early C16 house recorded during full excavation in 1974.
MES3996	TQ 9050 1735	Medieval	Church	C14 church of St. Thomas
MES3997	TQ 9058 1709	Medieval	Chapel Franciscan Friary	Remains of church of Franciscan Friary (Grey Friars monastery). Church built c.1310-1320. Only its chancel survives. Ground penetrating radar survey in 2006 identified masonry footings thought to be associated with the monastery.
MES3998	TQ 9045 1742	Medieval Post Medieval	Court House Prison Town Hall	Court Hall was built in the C14. Used as the town hall from 1857 or 1587. Later became a prison.
MES3999	TQ 9068 1740	Medieval	Town Gate	Strand Gate. Early C14 town gate with four round towers. Originally lay by the bank of the River Brede and led to the harbour.
MES4000	TQ 9037 1764	Medieval	Town Gate	Pipewell Gate (Land Gate or Ferry Gate). Original town gate built during erection of Winchelsea. Led over the ferry to the then direct road to Rye. Largely destroyed by the French in 1380. Rebuilt in the late C14 / early C15.
MES4002	TQ 9032 1738	Medieval	Barn Cellar Dominican Friary	Possible site of Blackfriars (Dominican) House at Rectory Lane. Settled at this site in 1358. Barn with vaulted cellar dating to c.1300.
MES4025	TQ 9056 1745	Medieval Post Medieval	Timber Framed Building	The Armoury, Castle Street C14 part masonry building with rear wing at right angles to hall with vaulted cellar beneath.
MES4027	TQ 9054 1747	Post Medieval	Timber Framed Building	The Castle Inn, Castle Street C17 or earlier building
MES4028	TQ 9073 1753	Post Medieval	Timber Framed Building	Crownsnest, The Strand C17 or earlier building
MES4029	TQ 9052 1743	Medieval	-	7-8 High Street Medieval house with C17 alterations.
MES4030	TQ 9064 1740	Medieval	Cellar	Extant C14 cellar at The Retreat, High Street.
MES4031	TQ 9057 1738	Medieval	Cellar	Unconfirmed reports of a now inaccessible cellar beneath 11 High Street.
MES4032	TQ 9050 1753	Post Medieval	Timber Framed Bdg	Lines End, Mill Road Probable C17 or earlier with C18 addition.

HER No.	NGR	Period	Type of Site	Notes
MES4033	TQ 9054 1751	Medieval	Cellar	Extant cellar of c.1300 at The Salutation, Mill Road.
MES4034	TQ 9032 1738	Medieval Post Medieval	Site House	Barn and cellar in Rectory Lane Early C14 house with later alterations.
MES4035	TQ 9030 1738	Medieval Post Medieval	Cellar Barn (site of)	Blackfriars Barn Cellar of c.1330. Below the ruins of what was a barn in its modern life, which was burnt down in the 1950's.
MES4036	TQ 9024 1756	-	-	Mill Farm
MES4037	TQ 9075 1753	Post Medieval	Timber Framed Building Workhouse	Strand House, The Strand Building erected c.1500. Later workhouse.
MES4039	TQ 9054 1750	Post Medieval	Building	The Old Post Office, Castle Street C18 building
MES4040	TQ 9047 1759	Medieval	Building (site of) Wall	Original western wall of a destroyed medieval building on North Street.
MES4043	TQ 9055 1742	Post Medieval	Building	Periteau House, junction of High Street and Castle Street An early C16 town house with a possible contemporary cellar.
MES4046	TQ 914 177	Medieval	Deserted Settlement	Deserted medieval village of Old Winchelsea.
MES4076	TQ 9022 1764	Undated	Enclosure	Ditched enclosure in Castle Field discovered from resistivity survey. Perhaps a pre-New Winchelsea Farm or connected to the Blackfriars (who were granted Castle Field in 1318) or to the stone mill.
MES4077	TQ 9023 1769	Undated (site) Medieval (Corn mill)	Site Corn Mill	A geophysical survey of Castle Field revealed a circular anomaly of high resistance, which corresponds with the recorded location of a medieval corn mill at this spot in 1292.
MES4081	TQ 9032 1738	Medieval	Site Cellar House (in ruins)	Medieval house and cellar on Rectory Lane Rectangular building built in the late C13 and apparently deserted in 1363. It was probably of domestic origin although it has been reused as a barn.
MES4082	TQ 908 175	Roman	Findspot	Roman coin discovered at the base of the hill leading to Strand Gate. No further information is known.
MES4084	TQ 9028 1718	Medieval Post Medieval	Church	Site of St Giles Church. Struck by lightning in 1413 and burnt down. Probably not rebuilt. Last remains of church removed in c.1760.

HER No.	NGR	Period	Type of Site	Notes
MES4086	TQ 9050 1758	Medieval	Site House	Excavation of a site on North Street revealed traces of four medieval tenements. Two drains were discovered running at right angles to the street frontage and it is possible that these lie on tenement boundaries.
MES4087	TQ 902 172	Medieval Post Medieval	Site Boundary Wall Churchyard Inhumation Town Wall	Excavations at site of St Giles churchyard found the footings of probably the churchyard wall, part of which may have been incorporated into the new system of town wall defences in the C15. Trial excavations to east of boundary wall revealed a number of adult graves, including one in a tomb grave.
MES4088	TQ 904 175	Medieval Post Medieval	Building Cess Pit Pit	Excavations at Buckle House, Mill Road located a medieval building and several pits including a large stone-lined cess pit.
MES4090	TQ 9045 1768	Post Medieval	Building	Post Medieval building foundations found at Pear Tree Marsh. No evidence of any medieval wharf.
MES4096	TQ 905 175	Medieval	Town Defences	Medieval town wall.
MES4112	TQ 9165 1968	Post Medieval	Military Canal Military Road	Royal Military Canal. Napoleonic canal and military road built c.1804-1807. Incorporates part of the Rivers Brede and Rother.
MES7238	TQ 9109 1751	Post Medieval	Battery (site of)	Triangular earthwork called 'The Old Battery' is shown on the 1 st Edition OS map. Probable that this site was a gun battery constructed as part of the defensive system of the River Brede, which at this point formed part of the Royal Military Canal, constructed between 1807 and 1810.
MES7240	TQ 9080 1763	Undated	Earthwork	Undated earthwork recorded during a walkover survey of Brede Level. Possibly represents a WWII defensive position for the Strand Bridge.
MES7243	TQ 9090 1767	Medieval to Post Medieval	Salt Works	Approximately 15-20 circular cropmarks, c.2-4m in diameter, were identified from aerial photograph of Brede Levels. They appear to be in groups, with some in linear arrangements. They could be associated with salt production, as all are located close to former salt marsh creeks. But may be vegetation derived.
MES7244	TQ 9109 1795	Undated	Earthwork	Series of six roughly square cropmarks, with a circular cropmark at the centre. Identified from aerial photograph of Brede Level. Appear to be cut by the 'grip'.

HER No.	NGR	Period	Type of Site	Notes
MES7245	TQ 9115 1760	Medieval to Post Medieval	Salt Works	Circular and linear cropmarks identified from aerial photograph of Nine Acres in Brede Level. There appear to be two roughly parallel former ditched running east to the former salt marsh creek. At the east end, next to the dyke, there are a series of roughly circular areas, slightly reminiscent of salt workings.
MES7316	TQ 90552 17694	Medieval	Wharf	Substantial wooden structures discovered whilst digging a pond in 1990 at Eastwoods, Tanyard Lane. Use of oak posts. Structures are likely to be associated with the medieval harbor.
MES8084	TQ 90334 17943	Post Medieval	Building Farmstead	Post Medieval building within a small C17 farmstead known as Ferrybridge. Building shown on OS surveyor's draft of c.1805-1810.
MES8101	TQ 91050 17510	Post Medieval	Battery	Strand Bridge battery. C19 battery shown on 1 st edition OS map.
MES8128	TQ 90816 17568	Post Medieval	Fortified House	The Bridge Inn was fortified during WWII. There is no visible evidence of this on the exterior.
MES8165	TQ 90680 17420	Post Medieval	Gun Emplacement	WWII gun emplacement at land adjacent to Tower Cottage.
MES8168	TQ 90800 17800	Post Medieval	Pillbox	WWII pillbox north of Winchelsea. Unknown type. Condition unknown.
MES8169	TQ 90900 17700	Post Medieval	Pillbox	WWII pillbox north of Winchelsea. Unknown type. Condition unknown.
MES8203	TQ 91184 17574	Post Medieval	Aircraft Crash Site	WWII air crash site of an ME109 on 01/09/1940 at Strand Bridge. Site excavated in 1971.
MES17337	TQ 9048 1750	Medieval	Cellar	Remains of medieval cellar at New Cottage, Mill Road.
MES18259	TQ 9020 1720	Medieval	Findspot	C13 coin found in February 2010 whilst digging an allotment.
MES19013 MES19014	TQ 9047 1752 TQ 9046 1752	Medieval	Cellar	Lines End, Mill Road - C17 or earlier timber-framed building with an C18 addition. Extant cellar of c.1300.
MES19015	TQ 9046 1753	Post Medieval	Building	Mana Platt, Mill Road - C18 building. Extant cellar of c.1300.
MES19016	TQ 9046 1751	Medieval	Cellar	Garages at corner of Mill Road - C17 or earlier timber-framed building with C18 addition. Extant C13 cellar.
MES19017	TQ 9050 1750	Medieval	Building Cellar	An archaeological evaluation at Three Kings, Mill Road revealed evidence of the destruction of a substantial probably medieval building, including a pit containing stone rubble, roofing slate and mortar. Lower courses of a stone wall were also uncovered, of a building or tenement boundary wall.

HER No.	NGR	Period	Type of Site	Notes
MES19018	TQ 9054 1752	Medieval	Timber Framed Building	The Salutation, Mill Road - building of probable C15 date. Restored and refaced after bomb damage in WWII. Cellar of c.1300.
MES19019	TQ 9052 1752	Medieval Post Medieval	Building	Wall remains of probable medieval building recorded during a watching brief at Salutation Cottages, Mill Road. Deposits of medieval and early Post Medieval date were seen in association with masonry foundations possibly dating from the late C13 or early C14.
MES19020	TQ 9054 1757	Post Medieval	Building	The Wall Cottage, North Street - C18 building
MES19021	TQ 9055 1757	Medieval	Cellar	C13 cellar beneath Old Forge, North Street.
MES19022	TQ 9047 1758	Medieval	Cellar	One of three C13 cellars beneath The Five Houses at 3 School Hill.
MES19023	TQ 9046 1757	Medieval	Cellar	One of three C13 cellars beneath The Five Houses at 5 School Hill.
MES19024	TQ 9047 1758	Medieval	Cellar	One of three C13 cellars beneath The Five Houses at 7 North Street.
MES19025	TQ 9051 1750	Medieval	Cellar	Site of C13 cellar at Sharon, Mill Road.
MES19026	TQ 9053 1747	Medieval	Cellar	The Castle Inn, Castle Street - C17 or earlier timber-framed building. Cellar of c.1300.
MES19027	TQ 9053 1745	Post Medieval	Building	Apple Tree, St Anthony's and Lion Cottage, Castle Street - C17 building, with some remains of C14 building incorporated. Cellar of c.1300.
MES19028	TQ 9053 1745	Medieval	Cellar	Extant cellar of c.1300 at St Anthony's, Castle Street.
MES19029	TQ 9045 1744	Medieval	Cellar	Extant cellar of c.1300 at Bay Tree House, Higham Green.
MES19030	TQ 9043 1751	Medieval	Cellar	Extant cellar of c.1300 at Lavander Cottage, Higham Green.
MES19031	TQ 9041 1751	Medieval	Cellar	Extant C13 cellar at April Cottage, Mill Road.
MES19032	TQ 9037 1752	Medieval	Cellar	Extant C13 cellar at Higham Lodge, Roberts Hill.
MES19033	TQ 9035 1746	Medieval	Cellar	Extant cellar of c.1300 at Higham Mews, Roberts Hill.
MES19034	TQ 9040 1761	Medieval	Cellar	Extant cellar of c.1300 at Pipewell Cottages, North Street.
MES19177	TQ 9040 1731	Medieval	Cellar	Extant C13 cellar at Yew Tree Plat, German Street.
MES19178	TQ 9040 1731	Post Medieval	Building	C17 or earlier building at Becket, Yew Tree Plat and Yew Tree House, German Street. Cellar of c.1300,
MES19179	TQ 9042 1740	Medieval	Cellar	Extant C13 cellar at The New Inn, German Street.
MES19180	TQ 9034 1734	Medieval	Cellar	Extant cellar of c.1300 at Black Friars Plat, Rectory Lane.
MES19181	TQ 9034 1736	Medieval	Cellar	Extant cellar of c.1300 at Evans, Rectory Lane.
MES19182	TQ 9037 1735	Medieval	Cellar	Extant C13 cellar to the rear of Evans, Rectory Lane. Inaccessible.

HER No.	NGR	Period	Type of Site	Notes
MES19183	TQ 9034 1731	Medieval Post Medieval	Building Ditch Hearth	Watching brief at The Oast House, Back Lane recorded medieval and Post Medieval features, including the north-south wall of a medieval building, a large ditch and possible remains of two hearths.
MES19581 MES19582	TQ 9041 1730 (Winchelsea) TQ 9079 1756 (Winchelsea Quay)	Medieval	Town	Medieval market town. Winchelsea was laid out in 1283 in the form of a continental bastides town as a commercial centre for the importing of wine. Rebuilt in C17 and C18.
MES19758	TQ 9058 1753	Medieval Post Medieval	Building Building	Remains of a C14 and C16 building recorded by a watching brief at Boundary House, Castle Street.
MES19759	TQ 9057 1751	Medieval	Cellar	Extant cellar dating of c.1300 at Five Chimneys, Castle Street. Pats of C15 successor to earlier medieval building survive within the current building.
MES19760	TQ 9056 1752	Post Medieval	Timber Framed Building	Five Chimneys, Castle Street - C17 or earlier building. Restored after WWII bomb damage. Cellar of c.1300.
MES19761	TQ 9057 1758	Post Medieval	Building	Kings Leap, Castle Street - C18 building
MES20010	TQ 9065 1747	Medieval	Cellar	Mount Edge, High Street - Extant cellar.
MES20011	TQ 9067 1745	Medieval	Cess Pit	Excavation at Richmond House, High Street recorded a stone-lined pit (possible cess pit).
MES20012	TQ 9065 1746	Medieval (?)	Cellar	Possible medieval cellar at Richmond House, High Street.
MES21097	TQ 9062 1744	Medieval	Cellar	Two adjoining medieval cellars (one C13 and the other C15) in the rear garden of the Armoury.
MES21172	TQ 9125 1754	Post Medieval	Sheep Fold	C19 or earlier. Shown on old OS maps from the 1st Edition but gone by the 4 th Edition.
MES21173	TQ 9125 1747	Post Medieval	Tow Path	Towing path along River Rother shown on old OS maps from the 1 st Edition.
MES21202	TQ 9046 1720	Medieval or Post Medieval	Findspot	Medieval or early Post-medieval pottery and CBM discovered during a watching brief at 12 Trojans Plat.

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, and until recently taught A-Level Archaeology at Bexhill 6th Form College.

Chris specialises in prehistoric flintwork analysis, but has directed excavations, landscape surveys, watching briefs and evaluations, including the excavation of a Beaker Bowl Barrow, a Saxon cemetery and settlement, Roman pottery kilns, and a Mesolithic hunting camp. Chris is Co-Director of the Barcombe Roman Villa excavations. 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, Fieldwalking, Landscape & Woodland surveys, Post Excavation Services and Report Writing.

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