



**Chris Butler MfA
Archaeological Services Ltd**



**A Desk-based Assessment
at
Land West of Barnfold Farm,
Loxwood Road,
Loxwood, West Sussex**

Project No. CBAS0359

**By
Dr Caroline Russell**

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Summary

An archaeological Desk-based Assessment has been carried out at Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood Road, Loxwood, West Sussex in order to establish the likely presence and importance of any archaeological remains that may be affected by a proposed compound for an oil well.

The assessment has established that the Application Site has a moderate to high potential for containing Roman, medieval and Post Medieval remains. A farmstead stood close to the Application Site in the Roman period. In the succeeding Saxon period, place name evidence implies the nearby presence of a livestock pen or enclosure. This 'fold' may be associated with a possible droveway that runs partly through but mostly directly past the Application Site. Having perhaps been grazed during the Saxon period, the Application Site may have been farmed and / or managed for wood products in the medieval period, when the droveway possibly became the access track of a farm sited to the east. In the 16th century, the farm track is likely to have led to a glasshouse that operated to the north of the Application Site. The use of the Application Site in the Post Medieval period may have been similar to that in the medieval period. By 1842, the Application Site was open farmland with no woodland.

The Application Site contains earthwork features that may be interpreted as field lynchets / wood banks indicative of its former uses. Their presence may suggest that any below ground archaeological remains have survived well within the Application Site.

Chris Butler MfA Archaeological Services Ltd

Rosedale
Berwick, Polegate
East Sussex
BN26 6TB

Tel & fax: 01323 811785

e mail: chris@cbsaltd.co.uk

Web site: www.cbsaltd.co.uk

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1. Introduction

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd has been commissioned by Celtique Energie Weald Ltd (The Client) to carry out an archaeological Desk-based Assessment at Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood Road, Loxwood, West Sussex (Fig. 1) in order to establish the likely presence and importance of any archaeological remains that may be affected by the proposed compound for an oil well and its new access track (Fig. 2).
- 1.2** The compound element of the Application Site (hereafter, the 'Proposed Site') is an irregular piece of land located within the east half of a long field of pasture, to the east of Loxwood village in the Low Weald, centred at TQ 04821 31784. The field is sited on the southwest-facing slope of a hill, which peaks at under 40m OD directly beyond the northeast end of the Proposed Site. Land within the field slopes gently downhill to the west to a stream that flows south through a small wooded valley to the River Lox. The Proposed Site lies at a height of 36m along its northeast end, 31m - 33m along its southwest side and 31m - 32m along its kinked south side.
- 1.3** The access element of the Site (hereafter, the 'Access Track') comprises the southwest end of a trapezium-shaped field of pasture, sited alongside Loxwood Road between a strip of woodland and Barnfold Farm. The new access will lead from Loxwood Road, through the field and then an old wooded track, into the southeast corner of the Proposed Site. The land within the Access Track slopes very slightly to the southeast from 32m to 30m OD.
- 1.4** According to the British Geological Survey¹, the geology of the Application Site may comprise both the mudstone and sandstone of the Weald Clay Formation.
- 1.5** There are no Scheduled Monuments or Conservation Areas designated within a 1km radius of the Proposed Site centre. This area does, however, contain ten Listed Buildings; all are of a Post Medieval date having been mostly built by the 17th century. The nearest to the Application Site is Hillgrove house, which stands c.465m to the southwest on Station Road, whilst Pephurst Farmhouse is the second closest, standing c.575m to the east on Loxwood Road. Both are 17th century in date or earlier.
- 1.6** There are several parcels of woodland surrounding the Application Site - Little Scrubs and Hurst Wood to the west, Caddick Copse to the northeast and Beggars Copse and Boardenhouse Furze Field to the east - which have been designated as Ancient Woodland² and so have stood since at least 1600.

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

² <http://sxbrcc.org.uk/projects/revised-ancient-woodland-inventory/>

- 1.7** 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 immediate area. Before a conclusion is drawn together, former impacts upon any potential archaeology within the Application Site are assessed, as is the possible archaeological impact of the proposed development.

2. Objectives & Scope of Report

- 2.1** The objective of this report is to gain information about the known or potential archaeological resource of the Application Site and its immediate area. This will include information relating to the presence or absence of any archaeology, its character, extent, date, integrity and 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 1km radius around the Proposed Site centre (hereafter, called the Study Area), whilst also taking into account sites further afield where these may be considered to have an impact or relevance to the Application Site in its landscape setting.
- 2.4** 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 Application Site. Its intention is to provide an overview of the known archaeology in the area of the Application Site, from which judgements can be made about the potential archaeological resource of the Application 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 Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment* (Institute for Archaeologists 2012); and West Sussex County Council's *Recommended Standard Conditions for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording and Post-Excavation Work* (version dated February 2007).

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

- Chichester District Historic Environment Record (HER)
- 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
- West Sussex Record Office (WSRO)
- Personal library resources
- British Geological Survey
- NMR aerial photographs

3.3 The following maps were used:

- Speed (1610)
- Morden (1695)
- Kitchin (1750 and 1763; not informative)
- Bowen (1756; not informative)
- Yeakell and Gardiner (1778-1783)
- Cole (1808; not informative)
- Cooper (1808; not informative)
- Moule (1837; not informative)
- Dugdale (c.1840; not informative)
- 1842 Wisborough Green Tithe map (WSRO TD W149)
- 1st Edition OS map (1875)
- 2nd Edition OS map (1897)
- 3rd Edition OS map (1912)
- Later OS Maps

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

- 3.4** The Monuments recorded on the HER are listed in Appendix 1 to this report and are shown on Fig. 3, along with archaeological Events. They are mentioned in the text where relevant. Historical and other sources are given as footnotes as appropriate.
- 3.5** A site visit was undertaken on 22nd February 2013. The Proposed Site is accessed from a disused stretch of farm track, once a public footpath, which runs northwest off Loxwood Road between Barnfold Farm and a rectangular plot occupied by Barnfold Cottage. Before the gate to the Proposed Site is reached, the track widens out to a small funnel-shaped area that was once larger, having been the junction of three tracks (Plate 1). The track from the south is now a substantial sunken track or hollow way (Plate 2; see para. 3.9), whilst that from the north was the public footpath but is now fenced off along with the pond beside it (Plate 3).
- 3.6** The gate leads into the northeast corner of the pasture field with the Proposed Site although the Proposed Site begins *c.*9m in front of it, to leave a passage for farm access. The Proposed Site is bound to its southeast side by the tall oak trees that line the hollow way (Plate 4) and to its south side by a hedgerow, with a mature oak tree, on a low bank with an external ditch (Plate 5). Rabbits have borrowed into the bank. The hedgerow to the northwest side of the Proposed Site has been partly grubbed out and includes several large holly trees and a mature oak tree, which stand within a ditch that may be double banked in places (Plate 6). The pasture field to the south is accessed through a gap cut through the banked hedgerow at the southeast corner of the Proposed Site, whilst the pasture field to the north is presumably entered through the widest stretch of removed hedgerow at the north corner of the Proposed Site.
- 3.7** The land within the Proposed Site slopes gently down to the southwest and south, and appears to rise very slightly in front of the south field boundary, to the east of the kink. From the ground, a distinct break of slope can be seen (Cover Plate and Plate 6); it is observed from satellite imagery and the aerial photographs of 1959 (Plate 7) to run northeast-southwest from the northeast corner of the Proposed Site to a point beyond it, aligned with the east edge of Little Scrubs wood to the north. From here, the break of slope looks to run north up to the north end of the adjacent field. This stretch is less distinct and so is presumably not quite so visible on the ground, although the west side of the north field was not entered. One or two other minor breaks of slope may run northwards to its east, with one falling just within the Proposed Site. These landscape features may be interpreted as former wood banks, now eroded, and / or as lynchets associated with past arable cultivation.
- 3.8** A gate just beyond the southeast corner entrance to the Proposed Site provides entry to the Access Track, via a level strip of grass that runs through the former track alongside fenced-off woodland. However, this current approach is located outside the Access Track and will not be used. The proposed link will instead run through the wooded track in alignment with the south side of the Proposed Site (Plate 8). The land within the Access Track is pasture bound by woodland to the southwest and a hedgerow alongside Loxwood Road to the southeast (Plate 9). There is an almost negligible slope of the land towards the road, with water pooling up alongside the hedgerow.

- 3.9** At the proposed link, the track comprises two low banks and has a third bank to its southwest side defining a possible sunken footpath (Plates 8 and 10). Slightly further to the northeast, the track is distinctly flat and defined by two ditches (Plate 11). After this point, the banks make a re-appearance and become progressively deeper to form a pronounced hollow way (Plates 2 and 12). The hollow way looks to fork into three at the top.
- 3.10** The tall oak trees that line the hollow way effectively mask a view of the Proposed Site from Loxwood Road (Plate 13).

4. Archaeological & Historical Background

- 4.0.1 This section considers each archaeological period in turn, reviewing the known archaeological resource of the Study Area, defining its location and extent, character, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality.
- 4.0.2 The HER records three Events to have taken place within the Study Area (Fig. 4). The earliest was a small archaeological evaluation (Event ID E693) that occurred in 2001 in advance of a housing development at Farm Close in Loxwood. No features or finds of archaeological significance were found. The other two Events (E80 and E1258) were carried out in 2006 at The Onslow Arms, to the south of the village, in association with the replacement of a water main beside the River Lox. The borehole survey of the initial geoarchaeological evaluation (E80) identified waterlogged environmental remains, including large fragments of wood. No wooden remains, either substantial or worked, were however exposed during archaeological monitoring of the trench cutting (E1258).
- 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 Application 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 A flint knife of probable Palaeolithic date (CD1900) was found in the garden of Chapel Corner, on the east outskirts of Loxwood, in 1956. Beyond the Study Area, the closest Palaeolithic findspot is a site beside the River Arun, outside Billingshurst³. The Weald has only a handful of Palaeolithic finds⁴. Such discoveries in Sussex are normally associated with the raised beaches of the Coastal Plain and also probably the gravel deposits in the river valleys⁵. As these specific geological conditions are not found within the Study Area, there is a low likelihood of finding Palaeolithic material within the Application Site.

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 basis⁶.
- 4.2.2 There is no evidence for Mesolithic activity within the Study Area. The nearest Mesolithic findspot is sited directly to the northeast of the Study Area⁷. It comprised two unretouched blades / flakes, whilst another nine such flints were found c.500m further to the northeast. Mesolithic flint scatters have also been discovered to the west of the Study Area between Loxwood and Ifold⁸. The Low Weald only contains the odd flint scatter, indicative of the limited exploitation of its woodland resources⁹.

³ Woodcock, A. 1999. 'Earliest Inhabitants', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 10-11.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Woodcock, A. 1999. 'Earliest Inhabitants', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 10-11.

⁶ 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,

⁷ Wymer, J.J. (Ed.) 1977. *Gazetteer of Mesolithic Sites in England and Wales*. Research Report 22. The Council for British Archaeology.

⁸ Drewett, P. 1999. 'Later Hunters and Gatherers', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 14-15.

⁹ *Ibid.*

4.2.3 With no Mesolithic site known from the Study Area, the Application Site is unlikely to contain finds or features of this date.

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

4.3.1 A number of changes occurred during the Neolithic, with environmental evidence suggesting that some woodland was being cleared for small-scale agricultural activities. However, the Low Weald has a sparse distribution of stone axes, including the two from Rudgwick to the east of the Study Area¹⁰, and these finds are most likely to represent the occasional exploitation of a landscape still dominated by woodland, rather than reflect any settlement or agriculture.

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. As all causewayed enclosures, burial mounds and flint mines in Sussex are sited on the South Downs¹¹, this would again imply that many Neolithic settlements were established well away from the Low Weald.

4.3.3 Given that this region is likely to have been largely exploited during the Neolithic period, there is a low possibility that Neolithic remains will be recovered from the Application Site.

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

4.4.1 The Bronze Age saw continued clearance of the woodland in the Weald. However, as this region has little evidence for complete clearance or widespread agriculture, hunting presumably continued in parallel with farming¹². There are no known settlement sites, transitory camps or even single finds of bronze flat axes from the Sussex Low Weald¹³, other than the Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age settlement at America Wood sited between the Arun and Adur¹⁴. In contrast, there is extensive evidence that the South Downs and Coastal Plain were densely populated by small farming settlements in the Middle and Late Bronze Age.

¹⁰ Drewett, P. 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.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² Gardiner, M. 1990. 'The Archaeology of the Weald - A Survey and a Review', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **128**, 33-53.

¹³ Greatorex, C. 1999. 'Emerging Hierarchies and the Rise of the Individual', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 18-19.

¹⁴ 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.

4.4.2 The borehole survey beside the River Lox (see para. 4.0.2) recorded a buried land surface at the edge of the floodplain, which was accessible to human exploitation in the Middle Bronze Age (CD8375). The palaeo-environmental remains from this basal layer of alluvium indicated the presence of a well-wooded riverbank. There is, however, no archaeological evidence that this floodplain, or the rest of the Study Area, was exploited in the Bronze Age.

4.4.3 It is, therefore, doubtful that groundwork at the Application Site will uncover material of Bronze Age date.

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

4.5.1 Rather than perhaps arable cultivation, farming in the Low Weald during the Iron Age may have comprised the grazing of livestock in the field systems of enclosed farms, as seen in the High Weald at Kings Standing on the Ashdown Forest¹⁵, for instance.

4.5.2 One major feature of the Iron Age is the hillfort. Many hillforts 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. However, hillforts only began to be built in the Weald during the Middle Iron Age¹⁶, if not the Late Iron Age¹⁷. The closest hillforts to the Application Site are located 7-8km away, to the northwest at Hascombe Hill in Surrey and to the southwest at Piper's Copse in Sussex. Either hillfort may have extended their range of influence to the Study Area.

4.5.3 The late appearance of hillforts in the Weald is believed to be associated with a more intensive exploitation of the region's iron sources¹⁸. The closest ironworking site of possible Iron Age date is an unexcavated bloomery at the Piper's Copse hillfort¹⁹. It has been dated to the 1st century AD.

4.5.4 On considering the absence of Iron Age remains from the Study Area, features and finds of this date are unlikely to be exposed at the Application Site.

¹⁵ Margary, I.D. 1946. 'War Damage to Antiquities on Ashdown Forest', *Sussex Notes & Queries* **11**, 1-3.

¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ Hamilton, S. and Manley, J. 1999. 'The End of Prehistory c.100BC-AD43', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 22-23.

¹⁸ Hamilton, S. and Manley, J. 1999. 'The End of Prehistory c.100BC-AD43', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 22-23.

¹⁹ <http://www.wirgdata.org>

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

- 4.6.1 The Roman invasion of Britain in 43AD resulted in dramatic changes to this island's social and economic environment²⁰. It is likely that many of the rural farmsteads and associated field systems that were in existence in the Late Iron Age continued throughout the Roman period. Where they have been excavated elsewhere, they provide evidence for a mixed farming economy of crops and animal husbandry.
- 4.6.2 Villa's are unknown in the Weald, being almost entirely concentrated on the Sussex Coastal Plain and immediately to the north of the South Downs, or in North Kent. There is also little evidence for any larger settlements. However, a fragment of a Roman quern (CD1888) was found in c.1961 in a field ditch behind Barnfold Farm, beside the disused track that leads to the Proposed Site. It was thought that the find had been ploughed in. This findspot would imply the presence of a Roman farmstead close to the Application Site, if not within the same field as the Access Track. In which instance, the breaks of slope observed in the field with the Proposed Site and the field to its north (see para. 3.7) may be lynchets that represent the remains of a Roman field system.
- 4.6.3 It has been suggested that the Weald was set aside as an 'Imperial Estate' for iron working²¹, which may explain its lack of villas and larger settlements. No iron working sites of Roman date have been identified near to the Study Area²².
- 4.6.4 The Application Site has a moderate to high potential for containing Roman remains associated with both settlement and farming. Settlement evidence may comprise the foundations of buildings, yard surfaces, drains and a scattering of brick and tile, whilst evidence for farming may comprise field ditches associated with the lynchets, drainage ditches, and pottery sherds indicative of manuring.

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

- 4.7.1 In the early Post-Roman period there was a change in the economy and land use, with many areas that had been previously cultivated reverting to woodland. The Weald, none the less, remained an important area for the grazing of pigs and other animals²³.

²⁰ Rudling, D. 2003. 'Roman Rural Settlement in Sussex: Continuity and Change', in Rudling, D. (Ed), *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD2000*, Kings Lynn, Heritage Marketing & Publications Ltd.

²¹ Cleere, H. et al. 1995. *The Iron Industry in the Weald*. Cardiff: Merton Priory Press.

²² <http://www.wirgdata.org>

²³ Gardiner, M. 1990. 'The Archaeology of the Weald - A Survey and a Review', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **128**, 33-53.

- 4.7.2 With few Domesday settlements located within the Low Weald²⁴, it is reasonable to assume that this region was just as poorly populated in the preceding Saxon period. For the wider area around Loxwood, this may be confirmed by the Old English place names of its settlements²⁵. Rudgwick originated as a farm ('Ridge farm') whilst Alford and Slinfold were both folds ('Old fold' and 'Slope fold' respectively), presumably associated with the transhumance of animals along droveways in the summer months. Only Wisborough Green may have been anything more substantial, as 'green' is a reference to an outlying settlement.
- 4.7.3 Barnfold is a relatively recent name first given to the house on the old track leading up to the Proposed Site sometime between 1875 and 1897 (see section 4.9.20). However, the 'fold' element may have been taken from Fernfold, a former wood that is believed to have stood to the north of the Proposed Site (the earliest OS map of 1875 does not show this wood, which may have been cleared or renamed by then). Given the possibility of a livestock pen or enclosure sited within close proximity to the Proposed Site, the old track / hollow way that runs through the Access Track, and then past the Proposed Site, may have originated as a droveway in the Saxon period.
- 4.7.4 As the rest of the Application Site was probably grazed woodland in the Saxon period, this land use is unlikely to have left a trace in the archaeological record.

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

- 4.8.1 No places in Wisborough Green or its neighbouring parishes are mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086²⁶. From the mid 13th century, the Bishops of Chichester had a large pastoral grange (Drungewick Manor) associated with a moated residence that stood c.1.6km to the southeast of the Application Site²⁷. This manor held in common an area or wooded 'mens' located between the parishes of Rudgwick and Wisborough Green²⁸. An inventory compiled in 1308 details the Knights Templar estate in Shipley, West Sussex as having had lands in Loxwood²⁹.
- 4.8.2 A church was built at Loxwood in c.1404 as a chapel of ease to Wisborough Green parish church³⁰. It stood just within the west boundary of the Study Area, at the Station Road / Guildford Road (B2133) junction³¹. The population living in and around Loxwood must have been sizeable for a chapel to be built. However, by virtue of a

²⁴ Morris, J. (Ed.), 1976. *Domesday Book: Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd.

²⁵ <http://kepn.nottingham.ac.uk/map/county/Sussex>

²⁶ Morris, J. (Ed.), 1976. *Domesday Book: Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd.

²⁷ Elwes, D.G.C. 1876. *A History of the Castles, Mansions, and Manors of Western Sussex*. London: Longmans.

²⁸ http://rudgwick-rps.org.uk/images/3/37/Tisman's_Common.pdf

²⁹ Page, W. (Ed.), 1973. *A History of the County of Sussex*. 2, 92-93.

³⁰ WSRO Loxwood Par/129

³¹ Loxwood VDS Steering Group. 2003. Loxwood Village: Design Statement. Loxwood Parish Council.

Royal Commission issued by Henry VIII, one muster in the spring of 1539 recorded 'Loxwood, Ibtnow and Kyreford' as having a population of just 70 able men³².

- 4.8.3 There is no known medieval iron working site within the Study Area, although bloomery tap slag was found *c.*750m to the north at Monktonhook, during the fieldwalking of a site known to have been occupied from at least 1325³³. Glass production in the medieval period was limited to the small-scale production of forest glass for window glass and vessels, and took place predominantly in the Weald³⁴.
- 4.8.4 In the medieval period, the Low Weald was a region of moderate fertility, with wheat and oat being grown and flocks of sheep and some cattle being kept³⁵. Within the Study Area, both Brewhurst Farm (CD9521) and Pephurst Farm (CD9553) are medieval in origin; however, Brewhurst and Pephurst may have been place names before the existence of the farms, as 'hurst' is Old English for 'a wooded hill'³⁶. Each farm stands *c.*550m - 650m from the Application Site. To the south, Brewhurst Farm on Brewhurst Lane has a regular U-plan courtyard with its later farmhouse set away from the yard. To the east, Pephurst Farm on Loxwood Road has a loose courtyard and a detached L-plan farmhouse of later date. One of its two courtyards has agricultural buildings that define three of its sides.
- 4.8.5 With Brewhurst Farm sited to the south of the River Lox, the lands of Pephurst Farm may have included the Application Site. The Tithe map of 1842 (Fig. 4) could substantiate this as Pephurst Farm was then accessed from the west only via a track that ran northeast up to the pond beside the Proposed Site, before turning eastwards. If the same can be inferred for the medieval period, the Application Site is likely to have been put to some use.
- 4.8.6 The Application Site, therefore, has moderate to high potential for the discovery of medieval remains. These may comprise the possible lynchets (see para. 3.7) and any boundary ditches and drainage ditches associated with field systems. Alternatively, all or part of the Application Site may have been wood or wood pasture, with the semi-open land having been grazed as well as managed for wood products. In which instance, the features may take the form of saw pits, charcoal burning platforms and the ditches and banks of wood partitions.

³² Gairdner, J. and Brodie, R.H. (Eds), 1894. *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII*, 14 Part 1: January-July 1539, 264-330.

³³ English, J. 2002. 'Two possible Medieval bloomery sites in Alford, Surrey', *Wealden Iron, Bulletin of the Wealden Iron Research Group*. Second Series 22, 5-9.

³⁴ Kenyon, G.H. 1967. *The Glass Industry of the Weald*. Leicester: Leicester University Press.

³⁵ Gardiner, M. 1999. 'The medieval rural economy and landscape', in Leslie, K. and Short, B. (Eds), *An Historical Atlas of Sussex*. Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd, 38-39.

³⁶ <http://kepn.nottingham.ac.uk/map/county/Sussex>

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

- 4.9.1 Dungewick Manor was appropriated by Elizabeth 1 and later purchased by Sir Edward Onslow³⁷.
- 4.9.2 Loxwood Manor was a parcel of the Manor of Bury in West Sussex³⁸. In May 1585, its wood was leased to Richard Kynge for 21 years on the agreement that 300 cartloads of wood could be taken yearly from it³⁹. The Crown held Loxwood Manor during the reign of James I⁴⁰. It had no demesne or copyhold land, only waste or common with trees growing on it. Sometime prior to 24 May 1612, Richard Threele and Henry Barttelot requested permission to purchase the trees for their own use and that of the other tenants.
- 4.9.3 A mill has operated at a site to the south of the Application Site on the River Lox since the 16th century; the watermill (CD1909) that stands there today on Brewhurst Lane dates to the late 18th century.
- 4.9.4 Loxwood is shown on Speed's map of Sussex, dated 1610. A glasshouse is plotted to its northeast and as Speed marks no others on his map, it may have been the only working example in the county at that time. This would make it readily identifiable as a glasshouse of Jean Carré. This Frenchman was awarded a crown-sanctioned patent for the production of window glass, on the condition that prices remained low and that he taught the craft of glassmaking and blowing to the English. By 1567, he had built two glasshouses at 'Fernefol' (Fernfold Wood) to produce Normandy and Lorraine glass for windows. Carré inhabited a 'fair dwelling house' within the wood (see para. 4.9.13).
- 4.9.5 Evidence for the Fernfold glassworks has been found around 150m (CD 1918) and 250m (CD1906) to the north of the Proposed Site. Lumps of glass and some crucible fragments (CD1918) were recovered from the east edge of a ploughed field to the immediate north of the Proposed Site in c.1961. Although doubtful, these finds may represent a second kiln, with the first glass furnace (CD1906) having been discovered in 1934, c.100m to the northwest in the southwest corner of a clearing sited between Halffurze Field and Great Scrubbs. This brick-built furnace was 6m long by 1.9m wide, had a fire chamber that measured 2.4m long by 0.74m wide, and was associated with exceptional amounts of glass waste further up slope.

³⁷ Elwes, D.G.C. 1876. *A History of the Castles, Mansions, and Manors of Western Sussex*. London: Longmans.

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ WSRO Add Mss 37159

⁴⁰ Dyfnault Owen, G. (Ed.), 1976. *Calendar of the Cecil Papers in Hatfield House*, **24**: Addenda, 1605-1668, 210-229.

- 4.9.6 The southwest-northeast stretch of the medieval track to Pephurst Farm (see para. 4.8.5) very probably served the glassworks, with the heavier traffic perhaps explaining its pronounced sunken profile. There was presumably a northern extension to this hollow way that led straight to the glassworks, like that seen on the 1st Edition OS map of 1875 (Fig. 5); this track may have been reinstated after 1842, the date of the Tithe map (Fig. 4).
- 4.9.7 Carré's second glasshouse in Fernfold (CD1903) may be that located close to the northwest boundary of the Study Area, within the former wood of 'Glasshouse Piece'. Glass waste was discovered here in 1931. One or both of Carré's glasshouses were still operating at Fernfold in 1695, as seen from Morden's map of Sussex.
- 4.9.8 Amongst the Listed Buildings recorded within the Study Area, Hillgrove House on Station Road (CD5923), Garton House on Guildford Road (CD5593) and the farmhouses (CD6268 and CD7670) of Brewhurst Farm and Pephurst Farm were built in the 17th century, if not earlier. Little Pound Farmhouse on Spy Lane (CD5600) and Brewhurst Bridge (CD1908) are both of 17th century construction.
- 4.9.9 The barn (CD4949) at Brewhurst Farm and The Onslow Arms on Guildford Road (CD5594) were both built in the 18th century. The inn was a toll house in 1800⁴¹. Yew Tree Cottage (CD6022) on Merryhills Lane was constructed in the early 19th century. New farms sprung up in the 19th century, with the opening of Spy Farm (CD9520) and Songhurst New Farm (CD9519), sited around 480m and 680m to the west and northwest of the Proposed Site respectively.
- 4.9.10 The Wey and Arun Junction Canal runs through the Study Area, alongside the River Lox. Construction of the canal began in 1813 but the purpose for which it was designed had become obsolete by the time it opened in 1816⁴². Instead of carrying munitions between London and Portsmouth for the Napoleonic Wars, it was used to transport commercial produce. However, its working life was cut short by the arrival of the railways, which rapidly reduced business from about 1840 until its closure in 1871.
- 4.9.11 The Tithe map and apportionment for the parish of Wisborough Green record that the two arable fields containing the Application Site - Plot 293 (Long Slip) and Plot 301 (Rainbow Field) - were part of Farnfold Farm in 1842, under the tenancy of Jacob Hoar and ownership of Denzil Onslow of Drungewick Manor (Fig. 4). Although Long Slip is fully recognisable as the present-day field, a stretch of Loxwood Road had yet to be built between Brewhurst Lane and Pephurst Farm, which would cut Rainbow Field in two and merge its north end with adjacent lands.

⁴¹ <http://www.family-forest.co.uk/familytree/places/Sussex/Loxwood/loxwood.shtml>

⁴² Loxwood VDS Steering Group. 2003. Loxwood Village: Design Statement. Loxwood Parish Council.

- 4.9.12 Farnfold Farm held the mixed farmland around both fields, with the exception of Plots 291 and 294 - an osier (willow) bed and pasture field - which were part of Spy Farm to the west. Denzil Onslow tenanted Spy Farm out to William Churchman.
- 4.9.13 The Tithe map shows a track running northeast from what was then the east end of Loxwood Road. This track ran between Long Slip and Rainbow Field, and so through the Access Track and alongside the Proposed Site, to a pond at the southwest corner of a pasture field (Plot 297). From here, the track turned eastwards to pass the cottage and garden of William Puttock (Plot 299) before entering woodland (Plots 304 and 306) and reaching Pephurst Farm. Plot 297 is named 'Sawpit Field' and reflects the past use of this area.
- 4.9.14 Puttock's cottage probably stands today as Barnfold Cottage (see para. 3.5), with an extension built on to its northwest side. The original wing is of red brick construction with tile-hung gable ends and a roofed porch to its front. It is reminiscent in style to Hillgrove house on Station Road (CD5923), which was built in the 17th century or earlier. With no other residency shown on the Tithe map sited closer to the glasshouse to the north of the Proposed Site, it is conceivable that this building is Carré's 'fine dwelling house'.
- 4.9.15 In 1842, Stephen Knight operated a brickyard (CD1890) at Pephurst Farm⁴³. He was also the tenant of a brick kiln field and brickyard plat that stood further to the north, possibly just within the Study Area, which was accessed from the same track on which the brickyard stood.
- 4.9.16 A non-conformist chapel (CD8125) of the Independent Brethren (or Cokelars) was built on Spy Lane in c.1850; they came to own a significant proportion of the farms, cottages and shops in the village⁴⁴. Loxwood was a hamlet of 218 inhabitants in 1870-72⁴⁵.
- 4.9.17 The 1st Edition OS map of 1875 (Fig. 5) shows the missing link of Loxwood Road to have been built. The two fields with the Application Site were the same in plan as today. A strip of wood had developed to the southwest of the Access Track, between Loxwood Road and the track up to the pond. The pond and the land beside it were fenced off from the funnel-shaped area in front of the Proposed Site. The pond area had also been cordoned off from a new track at its northwest corner, which led northwards to Caddick Copse.

⁴³ Beswick, M. 2001. *Brickmaking in Sussex: A History and Gazetteer*. Midhurst: Middleton Press.

⁴⁴ Loxwood VDS Steering Group. 2003. *Loxwood Village: Design Statement*. Loxwood Parish Council.

⁴⁵ Wilson, J.M. 1870-72. *Imperial Gazetteer of England*; Source: <http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk>

- 4.9.18 From the OS maps, the HER has identified two pond bays (CD8127 and CD8128) and two possible pond bays (CD8130 and CD8129) sited along the stream to the west of the Application Site. Pond bays are a form of dam, usually associated with ponds that supply water for blast furnaces. According to the HER, a 'line across the stream' on the 1st Edition OS map represents a possible pond bay (CD8130) at the west end of the field with the Proposed Site. This feature, however, looks to have been part of a drain that diverted the stream east to create a small field. The other three examples are also not overly convincing; two (CD8127 and CD8129) are shown as small ponds from the 1st Edition OS map onwards and the third (CD8128) is a sizeable 'Fish Pond' on the 3rd Edition OS map of 1912, but none of these ponds are plotted on the earlier Tithe map.
- 4.9.19 However, two fragments of crucible and two pieces of slag (CD3210) were discovered in the field to the south of that with the Proposed Site, half way along their shared field boundary. This discovery at least confirms that metalworking took place near to the Application Site in the Post Medieval period. The finds may perhaps be associated with the supposed bay pond beside Loxwood Road (CD8129).
- 4.9.20 There was no apparent change to the Application Site by 1897, as seen from the 2nd Edition OS map (Fig. 6). The new stretch of Loxwood Road appears to have made the track leading through the Application Site obsolete, as it was wooded by this time. Access past the west side of the pond area was now open. The cottage had been extended and was called 'Barnfold Cottage', presumably after the two fields sited behind it and to its west, which were named Little Barn Field and Great Barn Field respectively in 1842.
- 4.9.21 The 3rd Edition OS map of 1912 shows the Application Site to have remained the same, whilst the pond area looks to have been closed off again. Barnfold Farm was built sometime between the OS map of 1920 and the aerial photographs of 1947. The aerial photographs reveal the field with the Proposed Site to have been arable in April 1947 and May 1959 and pasture in October 1965, whilst the field with the Access Track was pasture throughout these times. By 1973-1974 (Fig. 7), the track behind the farm was no longer in use, having been wooded. The field with the Proposed Site had yet to have the hedgerow to its north grubbed out.
- 4.9.22 In 1998, Barnfold Farm comprised 147ha, with 101ha used for beef production and the remainder for arable⁴⁶. Satellite imagery reveals that the field with the Proposed Site, and the fields to its north and south, were under arable cultivation in 2010. Each field is now pasture.

⁴⁶ <http://pawam.chichester.gov.uk/online-applications>

- 4.9.23 The closest evidence for glassmaking was found on the lower slopes of the field to the north of the Proposed Site. Even if the finds represent the presence of a second glass kiln, ploughing is unlikely to have transported any associated remains uphill and into the Proposed Site. The ironworking site is presumed to have been located downslope of the Proposed Site, and so any discovery of ironworking evidence within the Application Site will also be low.
- 4.9.24 The use of the Application Site during the Post Medieval period is unknown prior to 1842. If at least partly wooded when the glassmaking and ironworking industries were operating, the Application Site may have supplied the fuel, although there were probably closer sources to hand for the glasshouse. The field containing the Proposed Site was in existence by 1842, but the presence of possible lynchets within it would suggest that it was enlarged gradually over time, as the surrounding woodland was cleared. The Application Site may contain archaeological evidence of this process having taken place in the Post Medieval period. The Application Site, therefore, has moderate to high potential for containing Post Medieval remains (see para. 4.8.6 for the forms that these remains may take).

5. Impact of Development

- 5.1** This Desk-based Assessment has established that extremely limited human activity took place within the Study Area throughout prehistory, presumably because the Low Weald was heavily wooded and inhospitable at the time. A single find suggests that some woodland around the Application Site was cleared by the Roman period, in order for a Roman farmstead to be built close to or even within the more level land of the Access Track. The possible lynchets seen within the field of the Proposed Site may represent an associated field system.
- 5.2** The local place name of Fernfold Wood is no longer in use but may imply that an animal pen or enclosure existed near to the Application Site in the Saxon period. In which instance, the old track / hollow way, which leads through the Access Track and past the Proposed Site, may have originated as a Saxon driveway.
- 5.3** In the medieval period, the Application Site may have comprised the farmland and / or woodland of Pephurst Farm, which was possibly reached directly from the Application Site via a single track. To the north of the Proposed Site, Fernhurst Wood was the location of a glasshouse in the 16th century and the track / hollow way is likely to have served the glasshouse, as well as Pephurst Farm. The Application Site has been farmed since at least 1842, but could have been cleared of all woodland much earlier on in the Post Medieval period, if not before. The hedgerows of the field with the Proposed Site are of historical importance, as they have existed since at least 1842.
- 5.4** Any Roman remains present within the Application Site may have been impacted upon by a possible reinstatement of woodland in the Saxon period, as well as its later clearance. Ploughing of the Application Site may have damaged or destroyed any sub-surface archaeological features of a medieval and Post Medieval date.
- 5.5** 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	Low
Mesolithic	Low
Neolithic	Low
Bronze Age	Low
Iron Age	Low
Roman	Moderate - High
Saxon	Low
Medieval	Moderate - High
Post Medieval	Moderate - High

- 5.6** The proposed development will involve the construction of a large bunded compound and access track (Fig. 2). Groundwork will comprise cutting into the upper slope of the compound by 0.5m and building up its lower slope by 0.4m (Fig. 8); digging a perimeter ditch 0.6m into the original ground surface; and excavating a cellar for the drilling of the well. These excavations may damage or destroy any archaeological remains sited within their footprint, including the main potential lynchet. The made ground, on the other hand, will provide a protective buffer for any underlying archaeological deposits.
- 5.7** In general, topsoil stripping and the use of heavy excavators may result in the machine rutting, truncation or removal of any archaeological features present above or below the ground within the Application Site.
- 5.8** The access track will cut through a former track that possibly dates to the medieval period, if not earlier. The uprooting of trees will affect the profile of this banked track, which will be further harmed by any levelling works.
- 5.9** There are no Scheduled Monuments designated within the Study Area. The Listed Buildings that stand within Study Area have no inter-visibility with the Application Site.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1** This Desk-based Assessment has established that the Application Site has a moderate to high potential of containing archaeological remains associated with a Roman farmstead and its farmland, and with medieval and Post Medieval farming and / or woodland management. Although glass and iron were being produced near to the Application Site in the Post Medieval period, neither industry is believed to have extended into the Application Site. The earthworks seen within the Proposed Site may represent field lynchets and / or wood banks. There is low potential for the Application Site to comprise material of a prehistoric date, or of a Saxon date when the wooded lands around the Application Site were probably grazed on a seasonal basis.
- 6.2** Modern cultivation has not ploughed out the possible lynchets / wood banks within the Proposed Site, which may imply that the level of archaeological preservation below the ground is high. Given this possibility, a programme of archaeological work should be undertaken prior to any groundwork. A geophysical investigation would help to clarify the presence of archaeological features within the Application Site. A subsequent evaluation excavation would enable decisions to be made regarding the mitigation strategy for either in-situ preservation of the archaeology or its preservation by record in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 6.3** As a short section of the old track is to be destroyed by the new access track, this feature should be preserved by record through detailed survey and sample excavation, seeking to place its importance into a wider historical context. Although there is no proposal to remove any hedgerows of historical significance, care should be taken not to damage these prominent landscape features.

7. Acknowledgements

- 7.1** I would like to thank Celtique Energie Weald Ltd for commissioning this Desk-based Assessment and their Planning Officer, Jenny Massingham, for providing information of the proposed development and for arranging site access. Thanks are extended to the staff of West Sussex Record Office. James Kenny, Archaeology Officer at Chichester District Council, provided copies of the Chichester District HER.



Fig. 1: Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood: Location plan
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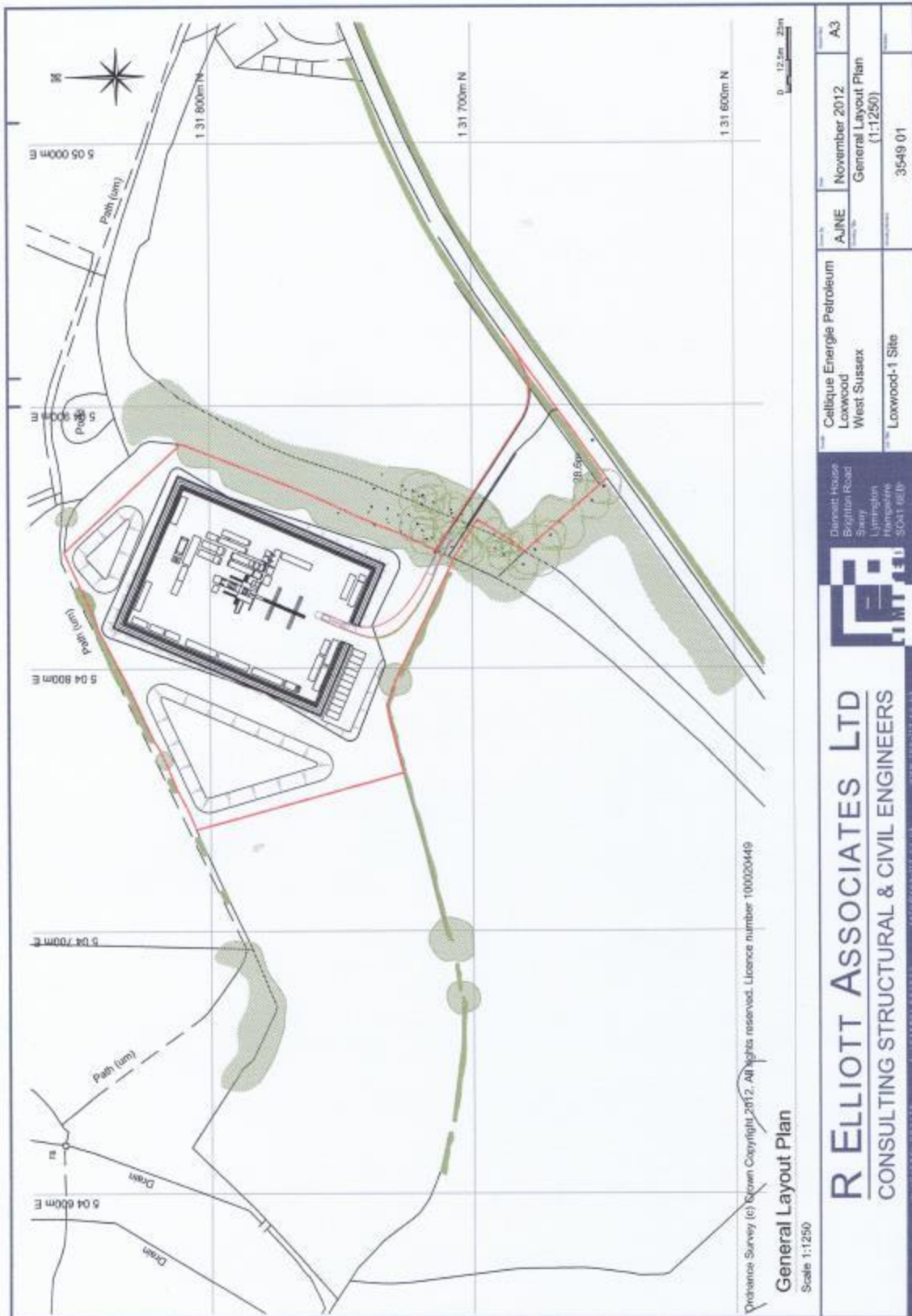


Fig. 2: Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood:
General arrangement plan of the proposed development
(Provided by The Client)

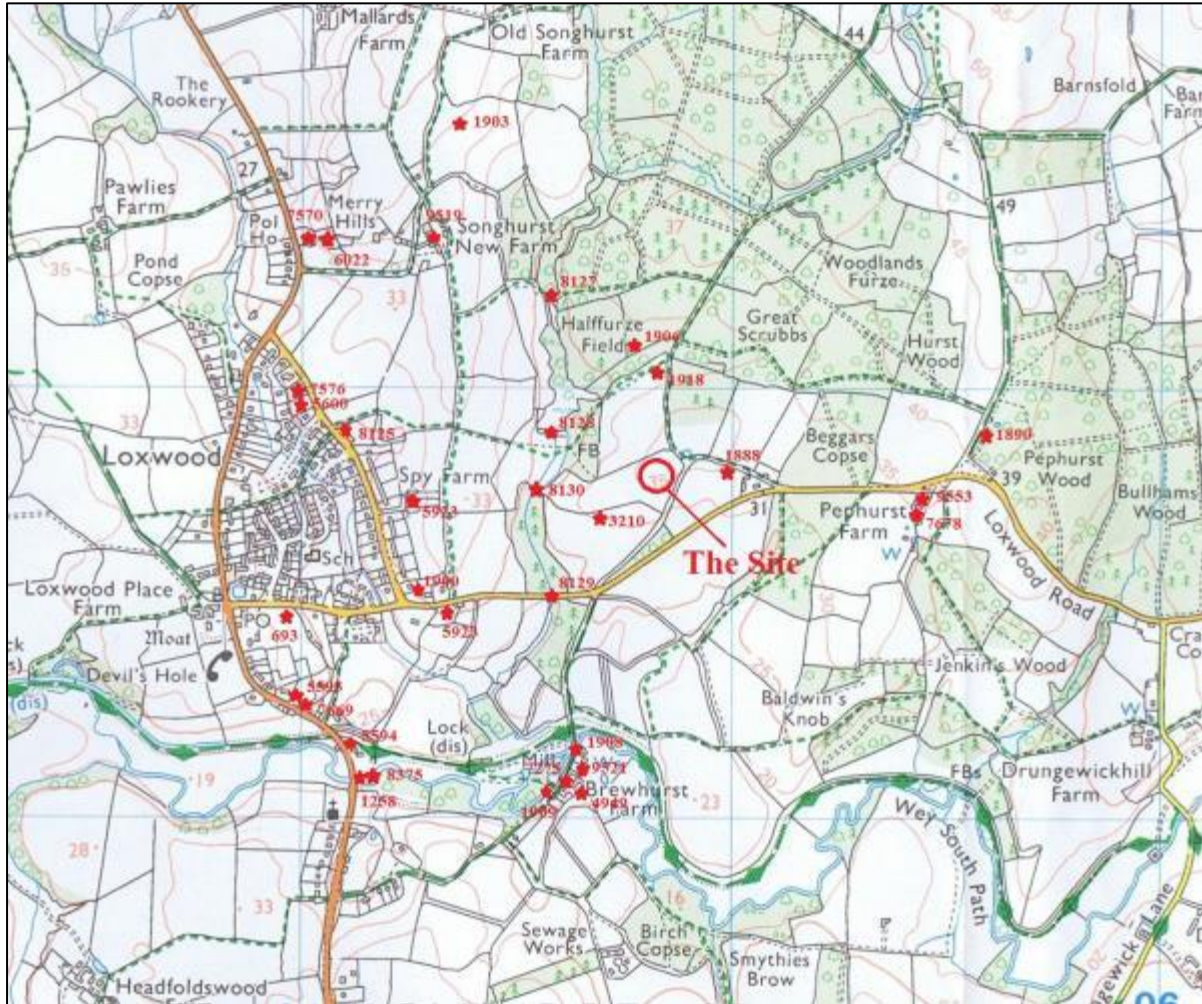


Fig. 3: Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood: Map showing Monuments and Events recorded on the HER

(Adapted from map provided by CDC)

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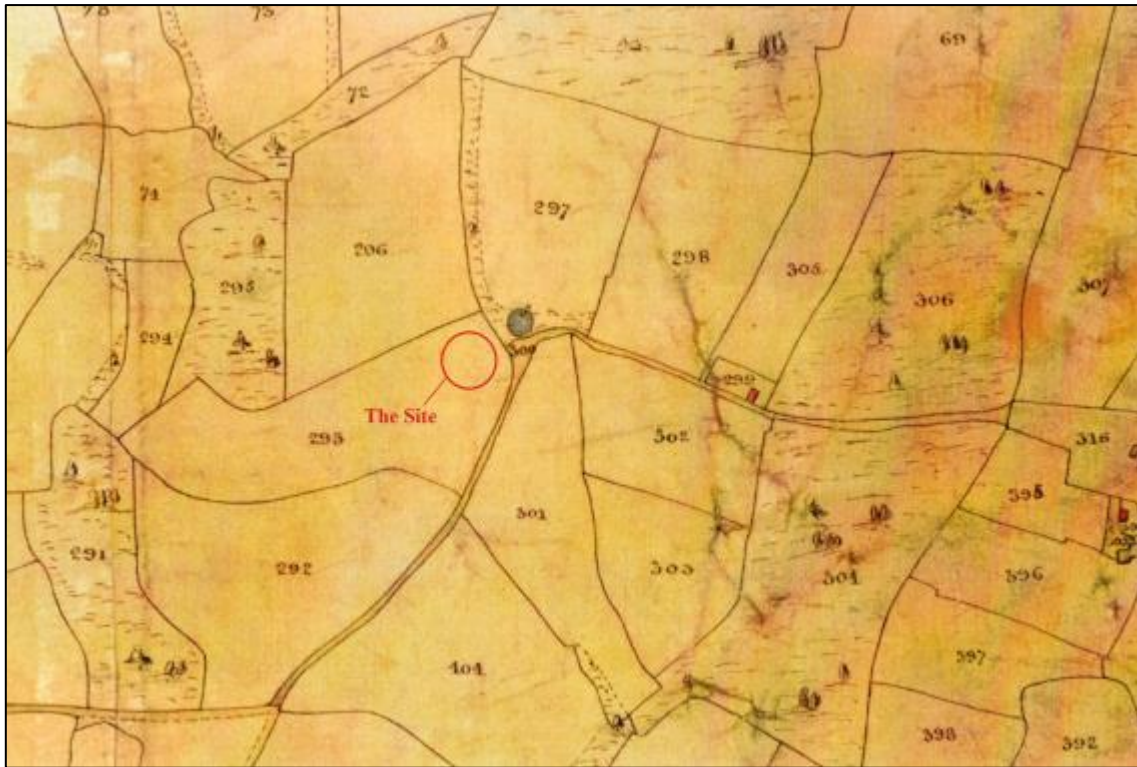


Fig. 4: Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood: Wisborough Green Tithe map (1842)
(WSRO TD W149)



Fig. 5: Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood: 1st Edition OS map (1875)



Fig. 6: Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood: 2nd Edition OS map 1897



Fig. 7: Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood: 1973-1974 OS map
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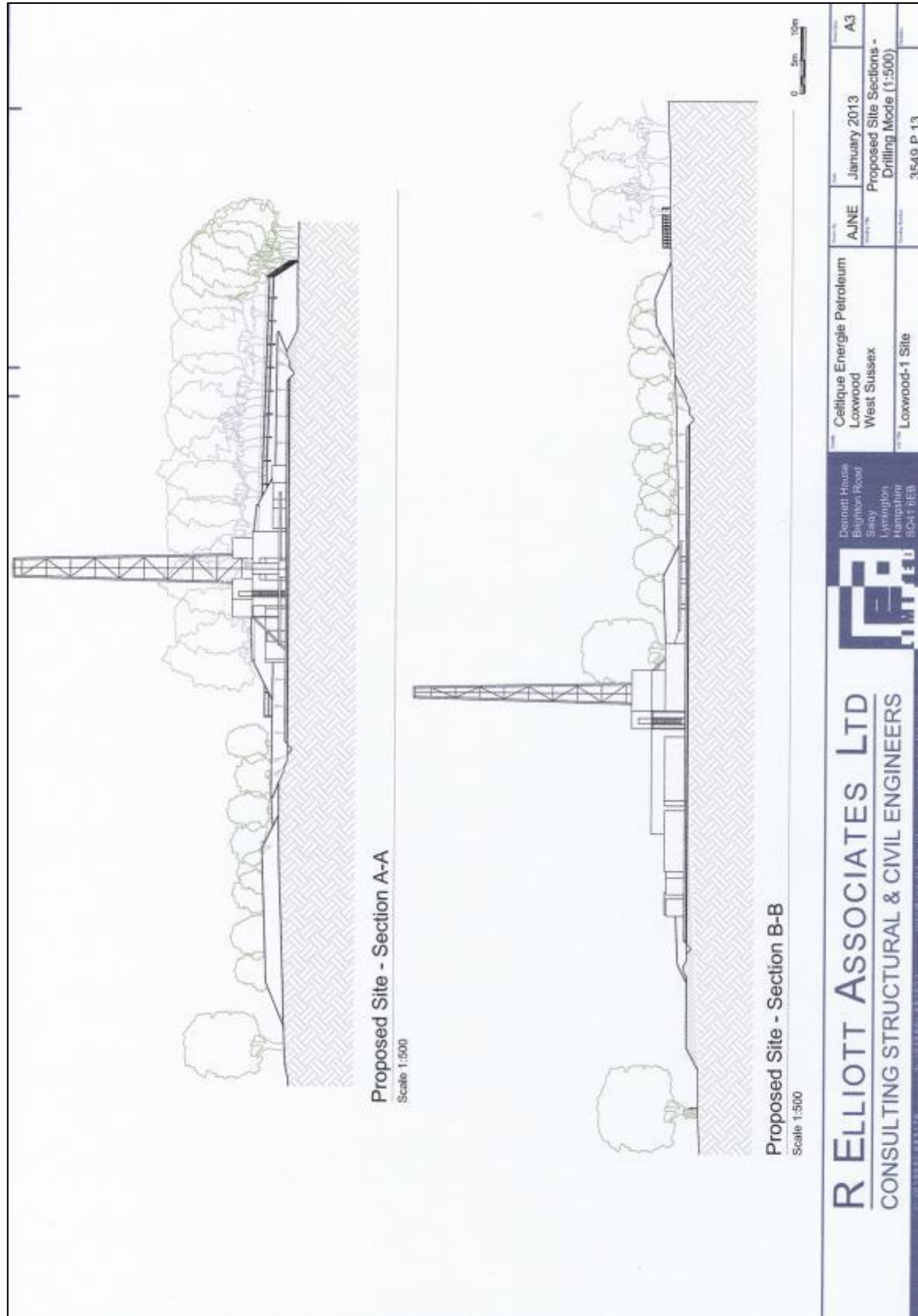


Fig. 8: Land West of Barnfold Farm, Loxwood: Sections across proposed site
(Adapted from drawings provided by client)



Plate 1: The funnel-shaped area where the three tracks meet; looking northeast from the entrance into the field with the Proposed Site



Plate 2: The hollow way; looking southwest from the funnel-shaped area



Plate 3: The pond; looking northwest from the funnel-shaped area



Plate 4: The southeast field boundary of the Proposed Site, showing the oak trees that line the hollow way; looking southeast



Plate 5: The south field boundary of the Proposed Site;
looking northwest



Plate 6: The possible lynchet / wood bank running NE-SW through the
Proposed Site; looking north across to the grubbed out northwest field
boundary



Plate 7: 1959 aerial photograph showing possible lynchets / wood banks
within the field with the Proposed Site



Plate 8: The old track through which the new access track will run;
looking northwest towards the Proposed Site



Plate 9: The Access Track; looking southwest



Plate 10: Possible footpath alongside the old track within the Access Track: looking northeast



Plate 11: The old track; looking southwest, with the south field boundary of the Proposed Site to the right-hand side



Plate 12: The hollow way; looking southwest



Plate 13: The view from Loxwood Road showing the Proposed Site hidden behind the trees of the old track / hollow way; looking west

Appendix 1: Monuments Recorded on the HER

HER No.	NGR	Period	Type of Site	Notes
CD1888	505000131800	Roman	Findspot	Roman quern - Barnfold
CD1890	505600131900	Post Medieval	Brickworks	Brickyard at Pephurst Farm - In existence by 1842. In operation until the 1920's.
CD1900	504280131530	Palaeolithic	Findspot	Flint knife - Loxwood
CD1903	504361132615	Post Medieval	Glass Works	C16 glasshouse SE of Loxwood House
CD1906	504770132090	Post Medieval	Glass Works	Fernfold Wood
CD1908	504638131163	Post Medieval	Bridge	Brewhurst Bridge - 1672 <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD1909	504587131074	Post Medieval	Mill	Brewhurst Mill, Brewhurst Lane - Late C18. <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD1918	504820132000	Post Medieval	Glass Works	Glasshouse waste - Barnfold
CD3210	504700131700	Post Medieval	Findspot	Crucible fragments and slag pieces
CD4949	504644131078	Post Medieval	Barn	Barn at Brewhurst Farm - C18 <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD5593	503998131272	Post Medieval	House	Garton House, Guilford Road - C17 or earlier. <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD5594	504130131150	Post Medieval	Public House	The Onslow Arms, Guildford Road - C18 <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD5600	503995131960	Post Medieval	Farmhouse	Little Pound Farmhouse, Spy Lane - C17 <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD5923	504339131480	Post Medieval	House	1 and 2 Hillgrove, Station Road - C17 or earlier. <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD6022	504048132347	Post Medieval	House	Yew Tree Cottage, Merryhills Lane - Early C19 <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD6268	504662131126	Post Medieval	Farmhouse	Brewhurst Farmhouse - C17 or earlier <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD7670	505443131703	Post Medieval	Farmhouse	Pephurst Farmhouse - C17 or earlier <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>
CD8125	504104131901	Post Medieval	Chapel Non-conformist chapel	Spy Lane, Loxwood - Shown on OS maps from 1875 onwards.
CD8127	504579132212	Post Medieval	Pond Bay Pen Pond	Pond bay - E of Songhurst, Loxwood. Shown on 1 st Edition OS map onwards. It may have originated as a pen pond.

HER No.	NGR	Period	Type of Site	Notes
CD8128	504578131897	Post Medieval	Pond Bay Pen Pond	Pond bay - SE of Halffurze Field, Loxwood. Shown on 1st Edition OS map onwards. It may have originated as a pen pond.
CD8129	504583131517	Post Medieval	Pond Bay Pen Pond	Possible pond bay - Loxwood Road, Loxwood. It may have originated as a pen pond.
CD8130	504543131762	Post Medieval	Pond Bay Pen Pond	Possible pond bay - N of Loxwood Road, Loxwood. It may have originated as a pen pond.
CD8375	504155131096	Bronze Age	Findspot	Palaeo-environmental evidence discovered during a borehole survey (E80) beside the River Lox.
CD9519	504303132339	Post Medieval	Farmstead	Songhurst New Farm - C19
CD9520	504256131729	Post Medieval	Farmstead	Spy Farm - C19
CD9521	504636131093	Medieval	Farmstead	Brewhurst Farm
CD9553	505440131720	Medieval	Farmstead	Pephurst Farm

Appendix 2: Vertical Aerial Photographs Inspected

Photograph Ref.	Dated
RAF_CPE_UK_1966_FS_2225	10 April 1947
RAF_CPE_UK_1966_FS_2226	10 April 1947
RAF_58_2860_F44_0402	14 May 1959
RAF_58_2862_F41_0123	14 May 1959
RAF_58_4462_F21_0199	14 June 1961
OS_65236_V_116	4 October 1965
OS_71370_V_122	14 July 1971
OS_95630_V_135	23 July 1995

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.

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Chris Butler MifA Archaeological Services Ltd

**Rosedale
Berwick, Polegate
East Sussex
BN26 6TB**

Tel & fax: 01323 811785

e mail: chris@cbasltd.co.uk

Web site: www.cbasltd.co.uk