



**Chris Butler MCIfA
Archaeological Services Ltd**



**An Archaeological Watching Brief
at 1, Southbank Cottage, Lewes Road,
Westmeston, East Sussex**

SDNP/13/02452

**Project No. CBAS 0492
by
Keith Butler PCIfA**

August 2015

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was maintained on groundworks associated with the construction of a two-storey side extension and replacement single-storey rear extension, a soak-away with associated drain runs and the trench for a gas tank at 1 Southbank Cottages.

No cut archaeological features, structures or deposits of archaeological significance were discovered during the project, however after the demolition of the existing south-eastern extension the original southern exterior wall of the cottage was revealed, which comprised coursed flints with brick built quoin. The recovered artefacts comprised a small assemblage of 19th and early 20th century pottery and glass, together with a brass cornet manufactured in either 1919 or 1920.

The project failed to provide any new information on the known prehistoric, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon exploitation of the region, or any fresh insight into the medieval origin and post medieval development of Westmeston village.

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd (CBAS) was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Haynes to carry out an Archaeological Watching Brief on groundworks associated with the construction of a two-storey side extension and replacement single-storey rear extension at 1 Southbank Cottages, Lewes Road, Westmeston, East Sussex, TQ 33810 13730 (Fig. 1)

1.2 The site is located on the west side of the Lewes Road in the centre of Westmeston. It forms the southern part of a pair of semi-detached cottages, with No. 2 now known as Lily Bank. A building first appears on the site on a map of 1778-83. The property is not a Listed Building

1.3 The site lies within an Archaeologically Sensitive Area, which covers the historic core of the Medieval and Post Medieval settlement of Westmeston (Fig. 2). It also lies partly within the Westmeston Conservation Area. There are three Listed Buildings within close proximity to the site.

1.4 The site is located on the northern edge of the village, with the church of St Martin to the south-east on the opposite side of the B 2116. All of the groundworks monitored were in the garden to the south of the property, which is on level ground. The garden slopes steeply away on the eastern side down to the road, with the western side overlooking open fields and the South Downs.

1.5 The geology of the site, according to the British Geological Survey¹, comprises Lower Chalk.

1.6 As a result of the site's location, and the archaeological potential of the area, the local planning authority have put a condition on the planning consent for the development (SDNP/13/02452), requiring an appropriate programme of archaeological work to be undertaken.

3. *No development shall take place until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

Reason: To ensure that the archaeological and historical interest of the site is safeguarded and recorded to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework

¹ British Geological Survey map 318/333

4. *The development hereby permitted shall not be brought into use until the archaeological site investigation and post investigation assessment (including provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition) has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition [1] to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority, in consultation with the County Planning Authority.*

Reason: To ensure that the archaeological and historical interest of the site is safeguarded and recorded to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework

- 1.7 The appropriate programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a brief prepared by the Archaeology Team at ESCC, comprises an archaeological watching brief. The watching brief is required to monitor the excavation of any foundation trenches and service trenches, and any other groundworks carried out during the development. A written scheme of investigation² covering the watching brief was submitted to, and approved by, the local planning authority.

- 1.8 An archaeological watching brief was carried out by the author between the 2nd and 7th July for the excavation of the footings for the two extensions and the excavation of a trench including drain runs for a soak-away, and on the 18th September 2014 to watch the excavation of a trench for a 'Calor' gas tank. The project was managed for CBAS by Chris Butler MCIfA.

² Butler, C. 2014 *A Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief at Southbank Cottage, Westmeston, East Sussex*

2.0 Historical and Archaeological Background (Fig. 3)

- 2.1 The Lower Greensand ridge running east-west through Hassocks, Ditchling and on to Plumpton has produced a large number of Mesolithic sites, including a large site at Lodge Hill, Ditchling³, Keymer⁴ and Hassocks⁵. A Mesolithic site dating to the later seventh millennium BC was excavated at Streat Lane (TQ352146) in 1996/7, and produced evidence for a shelter and four pits containing large quantities of burnt flint, together with a large assemblage of flintwork⁶. Evidence for Mesolithic activity is also known from the South Downs to the south of the site.
- 2.2 Neolithic activity is represented by a single find of a stone axe found at Westmeston in the 19th century (MES2059). It is possible that Neolithic artefacts could be present on the site and if so may indicate the presence of underlying Neolithic features, although evidence for Neolithic settlement is very rare and the likelihood of finding Neolithic artefacts is considered to be low.
- 2.3 A feature of the Bronze Age landscape is the burial mound (or barrow). Numerous round barrows (burial mounds) located on the north scarp slope of the South Downs (e.g. MES2028). On Western Brow there is a group of some 20 Bronze Age round barrows (MES2065), whilst another was located on Home Brow (MES2063) until it was ploughed out in recent times. A number of Later Bronze Age settlements are known from the South Downs to the south and east of the site.
- 2.4 One major feature of the Iron Age is the hillfort, of which 25 are known from Sussex. Many of these appear to have originated in the Later Bronze Age and became important central places for control and redistribution in the Middle and Later Iron Age. An enclosure on Ditchling Beacon (MES1289) probably originated in the Later Bronze Age, and appears to have been in use throughout the Early Iron Age⁷. Although its function is unclear, it is possible that it was a hillfort, and if that was the case it would have dominated the area to the north of the South Downs, including Westmeston. A well-defined terrace way (MES2027) is situated to the south-east of the site may also date to the Iron Age.
- 2.5 The Roman period is represented by numerous finds of Romano-British coins including a single find of a coin of Tiberius (MES1283). A hoard of 61 late 3rd century antoniniani and a small, plain bronze ring were discovered in 1984 with the aid of a metal detector on the northern scarp of the South Downs (MES2072).

³ Garrett, S. 1976 'A Mesolithic Site at Lodge Hill, Ditchling', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **114**, 326.

⁴ Garrett, S. 1976 'Mesolithic and Neolithic finds from Keymer', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **114**, 326.

⁵ Butler, C. 1989 'An Early Mesolithic Site and Later Flintwork from Hassocks, West Sussex' *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **127**, 230-234.

⁶ Butler, C. 2007 'A Mesolithic site at Streat Lane, Streat, East Sussex', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **145**

⁷ Rudling, D. 1985 'Trial Excavations at Ditchling Beacon, East Sussex, 1983', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **123**, 251-4

Another hoard of nine silver denari was discovered in 1985, the latest coins showed only slight signs of wear and the hoard is likely to have been buried by c.AD 140 (MES2078). Two other coins were also found in the vicinity of this hoard (MES2076). A third hoard of 12 antoniniani was found in 1985 on the same northern scarp of the Westmeston downs where the two previous hoards had been found. This hoard was dated to c.270-80 AD (MES2077).

- 2.6** The Roman road the Greensand Way⁸ also runs from east to west to the north of the site, and a short distance to the west along the Greensand Way is the Roman settlement at Hassocks. A Roman villa is known at Plumpton⁹, whilst it is suspected that there were also villas at Streat and Ditchling, and the presence of these Roman coin hoards together with finds of Roman pottery at Ditchling Beacon and other sites nearby would suggest the presence of a Roman site at Westmeston.
- 2.7** The only Anglo Saxon find from Westmeston was a 9th century "Trehiddle style" strap end of copper alloy that was found in 1984 near an old trackway halfway up the hill on the east side of Westmeston (MES2079). To the west of the site an Anglo Saxon cemetery is situated at Coombe Bottom, with evidence for possible settlement in the adjacent field at Park Barn Farm¹⁰.
- 2.8** Evidence for the medieval settlement comes from St Martin's Church (MES2060) The nave was built soon after 1100 and the original north doorway remains. The chancel was reconstructed probably in the 13th century while the south chapel was added c.1500, while the south and north porches are 14th century. 12th century wall paintings were discovered but are not preserved. Earthworks (MES21600) to the east of the village may preserve medieval field boundaries. A number of farms are also thought to have originated in the medieval period; Wick Farm (MES17103); Old Middleton (MES17115) and Gote Farm (MES17116).
- 2.9** Westmeston Place (MES2064) is mainly of 16th century date¹¹. The house retains a wing with 14th century windows, but the main building, with its hall and oriel window, is the work of John Michelborne who bought the property in 1538¹², and whose initials are on the stone fireplaces. Michelbornes Barn is a Grade II Listed (DES10781) large timber-framed aisled barn originally in the ownership of Westmeston Place. It retains much late 16th century fabric up to tie beam level, with probable 18th century roof structure, fronted in local flintwork in the early 19th century and with some 19th century windows and eastern lean-to. April Cottage (MES7194) dates to the 17th century or earlier.

⁸ Margary, I. 1948. *Roman Ways in the Weald*. London. Phoenix House.

⁹ Allen, M.J. 1987 'Plumpton Roman Villa in its Romano-British Context' *Aspects of Archaeology in the Lewes Area*, Lewes Archaeology Group.

¹⁰ Butler, C. 1998 'Recent Excavations at Keymer', MSFAT Newsletter **35**

¹¹ *A History of the County of Sussex: Volume 7: The rape of Lewes* (1940), pp. 116-119

¹² ESRO SAS-M/1/524

- 2.10** Yeakell and Gardiner's map of Sussex 1778-83¹³ shows a building located at the site (Fig. 4), as does the OS Draft map of 1813. The 1st Edition OS map of 1875 (Fig. 5) shows a pair of attached cottages on the site, with possible extensions on the north, south and east sides a situation unchanged by the 2nd Edition OS map of 1899. The 3rd Edition OS map (1910) shows the cottages as a single unit with no internal division (Fig. 6). The 4th Edition OS map (1939) for the site is not available. A 1946 aerial photograph¹⁴ shows the site unchanged from the previous map.
- 2.11** It seems likely that the cottages were initially built during the 18th century, prior to 1778-83. An external viewing suggests that the form and character of the cottages is consistent with a Georgian date of construction.

¹³ http://www.envf.port.ac.uk/geo/research/historical/webmap/sussexmap/Yeakell_36.htm

¹⁴ 3G/TUD/UK/157 19APR1946

3.0 Project Objectives

3.1 The objective of the watching brief is to excavate and record any archaeological remains that will be damaged or destroyed by the development.

3.2 The research aims of the project are to establish whether the prehistoric, Romano-British or Anglo-Saxon remains present in the surrounding landscape extend onto the site, and to establish whether there is any evidence at the site for the medieval and Post medieval development of the village of Westmeston.

4.0 Archaeological Methodology

- 4.1** The groundworks monitored comprised of the excavation of the footing trenches for two extensions, the excavation of a trench for a soak-away with associated drainage runs and the excavation of a trench for a 'Calor' gas tank (Fig. 7).
- 4.2** The first extension was located in the south-eastern corner of the property. This was to replace an earlier smaller extension located in this position. This involved the demolition of the eastern and southern walls of the earlier extension. The eastern footing trench measured 4.6m in length, the southern trench measuring 4m, with a short length of the footing for the western return of the wall measuring 1.7m. All the footing trenches for the south-eastern extension were 1m deep and had a width of 600mm.
- 4.3** The second extension was located on the western side of the property and replaced a small conservatory. The footing trenches consisted of a western trench measuring 3.4m, with southern and northern trenches each measuring 2.7m in length. The three trenches were 800mm deep and had a width of 600mm. A trench for a soak-away was excavated to the south of the property, which measured 2.4m north-south by 1.5m east-west, and had a depth of 1.5m. The watching brief was also maintained on the excavation of two drain runs between the soak-away and the two new extensions. The western drain run measured 10.4m in length, and had a depth of 330mm at the northern end which increased to 820mm at the southern end. The eastern trench measured 5.1m in length, with a depth of 400mm at the northern end which increased to 820mm at the southern end of the trench.
- 4.4** All of the excavations were carried out using a 2 ton 360° tracked excavator fitted with a 600mm wide toothless bucket. The trenches being excavated in shallow spits under archaeological supervision until either the natural geology or the depth required by the developers had been reached, whichever was first.
- 4.5** On the 18th September a watching brief was maintained on the excavation of a trench for a 'Calor' gas tank, located to the south of the house and adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site. The trench measured 3m north-south by 2m east-west and was watched to a depth of 1.4m. The trench for the 'Calor' gas tank was excavated in shallow spits using a 3 ton excavator fitted with a 1.5m wide toothless bucket.
- 4.6** All of the trenches were visually inspected for the recovery of artefacts; they were also scanned with a Garrett ACE250 metal detector for the recovery of metal objects. The spoil was also visually inspected and scanned with the metal detector.

- 4.7** All archaeological deposits, features and finds were excavated and recorded according to accepted professional standards. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart
- 4.8** A full photographic record of the work was kept as appropriate and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held by Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd, and will be deposited in Lewes Museum or such other repository as is agreed with the County Archaeologist. A site reference of SBW 14 has been allocated.

5.0 Results

South-eastern extension.

- 5.1** In the footing trenches for the south-eastern extension (**Plate 1**), there were three deposits apparent, which were under red brick pavers (Context 1) at the southern end of the footing trenches. These pavers had headers measuring 100mm, with stretchers of a length of 230mm and a thickness of 50mm. The brick pavers had very shallow frogs and can be dated to the very late 19th or early 20th century. The pavers were originally the hard standing located at the southern end of the original extension (Fig. 7).



Plate 1: The Excavated Footing Trenches for the South-Eastern Extension taken from the South

- 5.2** Context 1 was found to overlie a loose dark brown silty clay loam topsoil (Context 2) with a maximum recorded depth of 220mm. This humic rich deposit had a loose consistence, and contained inclusions of angular pieces of flint up to 30mm (<1%), fragments of brick and tile (1%), and rooting (<1%) which was only apparent in the southern end of the eastern trench. No artefacts were recovered from this deposit.
- 5.3** Context 3 was below Context 2, and was a mid pink - brown clayey silt sub-soil with a firm consistence up to 200mm deep. This contained pieces of chalk up to 30mm (<1%) and angular flint pieces up to 60mm (<1%). At a distance of 1.9m from the northern end of the eastern trench a metal water pipe was discovered in this deposit and was left *in-situ*. The deposit produced a small number of sherds of pottery dating to the period c. 1800-1850, and a complete 20th century glass jar (see Section 6).
- 5.4** Below Context 3 was Context 4, which was the natural chalk. This was excavated to a depth of 550mm, which was the limit of excavation. The chalk was light grey to off white colour, with rare pieces of angular flint up to 70mm (<1%). No artefacts were recovered from this deposit.

- 5.5** The groundworks also exposed the foundations to the original eastern wall (Context 5) of Southbank Cottage, built in the 18th century (Fig. 7). These foundations were 400mm deep and were constructed of bricks with occasional flint nodules (1%). The foundations were bonded with an orange-grey sandy mortar.



Plate 2: Foundation of original Southbank Cottage (Context 5) viewed from the south

Western extension

- 5.6** The c.70mm thick concrete floor of a former 20th century lean-to conservatory (Context 6) was first removed from the footings (Fig. 7 & **Plate 3**). The concrete was a greyish brown colour with a red painted upper surface. This exposed the immediately underlying deposit of made ground (Context 7) which was cut by a large bore ceramic drain pipe running in a north-west to south-east direction (pipe left *in-situ*).
- 5.7** Context 7 up to 400mm thick and had a mixed composition of silty clay loams and clayey silts and a mixture of colours, ranging from a light grey-brown, orange-brown and dark brown. This deposit contained inclusions of flint pieces and nodules up to 120mm (<1%), ceramic building material (<1%) and light rooting (<1%). Most of the artefacts recovered from the watching brief were recovered from this deposit and consisted of pottery, building material, glass, bone and metal dating to the period date of c.1890-1930.



Plate 3: Completed Footings Trenches for Western Extension taken from the West

- 5.8** Below Context 7 was Context 8, which was a deposit of pink to grey-brown clayey silt which was visually indistinguishable from Context 3. In this footing trench the deposit had a thickness of up to 600mm to the limit of excavation. It had a firm consistence, with inclusions of flint pieces up to 30mm (<1%). A man-hole located to the south of the excavation was left *in-situ* but the ceramic drain pipe running from it was removed. No artefacts were recovered from this deposit.

Soakaway and drainage trenches

- 5.9** There were three deposits apparent in the excavation of the soak-away and associated drainage runs (Fig. 7 & **Plate 4**). Context 9 was a loose dark brown silty clay loam topsoil and associated turf, with a thickness of up to 400mm. This deposit had inclusions of sub-angular pieces of flint up to 40mm (<1%) and light rooting (<1%). This deposit appeared to have been un-disturbed and no artefacts were recovered from it.



Plate 4: Soak-away and Drain Runs viewed from the South

5.10 Context **10** was below Context **9**, and was the subsoil. This was up to 600mm thick and had inclusions of sub-angular pieces of flint up to 60mm (<1%) and pieces of chalk up to 30mm (<1%). The only artefact that was recovered from this deposit was an early 20th century brass cornet.

5.11 Below Context **10** was Context **11**, which was the natural chalk. This deposit was exposed to a thickness of 600mm at which depth the limit of excavation was reached. There were no inclusions apparent in this deposit and no artefacts were recovered from it.

Trench for the Calor gas tank

5.12 The same three deposits were apparent in this trench (Fig. 7 & **Plate 5**) as in the other excavations. Context **12** was the topsoil which was a fairly firm dark brown silty clay loam, up to 300mm thick. It had inclusions of sub-angular flints up to 20mm (<1%), together with flecks and pieces of chalk up to 20mm (<1%) and light rooting. No artefacts were recovered from this deposit.



Plate 5: Trench for Calor Gas Tank taken from the West

5.13 Below Context **12** was Context **13** which was the subsoil. This was a mid orange-brown clayey silt, with inclusions of sub-angular pieces of flint up to 40mm (<1%). The deposit had a firm consistence and had a maximum thickness of 400mm. No artefacts were recovered from this deposit.

5.14 Context **14** was the natural chalk directly below the subsoil (Context **13**). The only difference in this deposit from those in the other excavations was the inclusion of a light buff coloured silty clay, and sub angular flint pieces up to 40mm (<1%). This deposit was excavated up to a depth of 700mm where the limit of excavation was reached, with no artefacts being recovered from it.

Observations on Southbank Cottage

- 5.15** During the demolition of the original south-eastern part of the wall and the excavation of the footing trench for the south-eastern extension a certain amount of information was gained about the original building. The demolition of the south-eastern single storey corner part of the building revealed that this was a later extension to the original building which had probably constructed in the 18th century. This demolition also revealed that the two storey part of southern elevation was also a later extension (**Plate 6**).
- 5.16** These were both evidenced by exposure of the eastern end of the south-western extension which is a brick built cavity wall. The removal of the south-eastern single storey extension also revealed the original southern exterior wall of the cottage. This was of coursed faced flints bonded with a yellowish grey sandy mortar. Also apparent was the south-eastern brick built quoin, and the exterior face of the southern chimney stack. From the small area of the stack revealed this appeared to have the bricks laid in stretcher bond, with the addition of occasional closer bricks (**Plate 7**).



Plate 6: Wall Construction of Original South-Western Extension



Plate 7: Original South Wall and Chimney Stack of Cottage

Table 1: Context Register

CONTEXT	SUB DIVISION	PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIP
1	South-East Extension - Brick Paving	Above 2
2	South-East Extension - Topsoil	Above 3 , Below 1 , Cut by 5
3	South-East Extension - Subsoil	Above 4 , Below 2 , Cut by 5
4	South-East Extension - Natural	Below 3
5	South-East Extension - Original Foundations of Cottage	Cut 2 & 3
6	West Extension - Concrete Floor	Above 7
7	West Extension - Made-Ground	Above 8 , Below 6
8	West Extension - Subsoil	Below 7
9	Soak-Away - Topsoil	Above 10
10	Soak-Away - Subsoil	Below 9 , Above 11
11	Soak-Away - Natural	Below 10
12	Gas Tank Trench - Topsoil	Above 13
13	Gas Tank Trench - Subsoil	Below 12 , Above 14
14	Gas Tank Trench - Natural	Below 13

6.0 The Finds.

6.0.1 A moderate assemblage of finds was recovered during the watching brief and is discussed below.

6.0.2 The pottery consists nearly exclusively of late industrial wares that have a national distribution. The assemblage of artefacts is small and mixed and as such warrants no further analysis. It has therefore been discarded.

6.1 The Pottery by Luke Barber

6.1.1 The archaeological work recovered a small assemblage of pottery from just two individually numbered contexts. Context **3** produced five sherds suggestive of a c.1800-1850 date. These consisted of three sherds (92g) of local glazed red earthenware (two of which are from the same dog dish with inturned rim), a 2g sherd from a pearlware vessel with moulded decoration and industrial slip and a 2g sherd from a refined whiteware bowl with moulded decoration and tan glaze.

6.1.2 Context **7** produced a larger group most of which suggests a date of c.1890-1930, though with low residual quantities. By far the earliest sherd consists of a very abraded fragment (2g) from an English tin-glazed earthenware charger decorated with light and dark blue. There is also a 4g fragment from a mid/late 18th century creamware plate, also probably residual.

6.1.3 The remaining sherds appear to represent a domestic assemblage of the later 19th to early 20th century. This material includes unglazed earthenware (1/94g: flower pot), Nottingham stoneware (2/66g: a cylindrical jar with moulded beading), English stoneware (2/58g: a Hartley's preserve jar and a tan-topped wine/spirit bottle), transfer-printed whiteware (6/ 28g: a plate with Wild Rose design, a bowl with 'Amherst Japan floral design and a plate with red sheet pattern) and english porcelain (1/1g: a toy saucer).

6.2 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

6.2.1 Context **7** produced a single piece of 19th century Welsh roofing slate (14g).

6.3 Other Finds by Jan Oldham

- 6.3.1** A complete clear glass vessel with a fluted ridge beneath the rim was recovered from Context **3**, weight 124g, height 7cm and diameter of 17cm. This is likely to be an early 20th century potted meat jar. Three fragments of 20th century glass were recovered from Context **7**, a single fragment of brown beer bottle glass (3g), and one fragment from a clear bottle glass, (3g). Also recovered from this context was one piece of window glass, (7g), with mortar partly adhering to one surface.
- 6.3.2** A single piece of bone was produced from Context **7**, one partial sheep tibia (26g).
- 6.3.3** Two metal objects were recovered during the excavations. Context **7** produced a partial iron object/tool of unknown function and date. This was heavily corroded, and had a weight 116g.
- 6.3.4** A Boosey & Co brass cornet with the mouthpiece missing was recovered from Context **10** the subsoil in the excavation of the soak-away. This musical instrument is dateable from the serial number 107317, via the Boosey & Hawkes archive as being manufactured between 1919 and 1920¹⁵. The instrument is inscribed with 'Class B, Boosey & Co Makers, London, 107317. Guaranteed British Made throughout.'

¹⁵ Guide To Dating Boosey & Co./Boosey & Hawkes Instruments Based On Serial Number
http://www.horniman.ac.uk/media/_file/bandh_handlists_web.pdf

7.0 Discussion

- 7.1** No cut features, structures or deposits of archaeological interest were discovered during the archaeological watching brief carried out at 1 Southbank Cottage, Westmeston. The excavation of the footing trenches, the soak-away with associated drain runs, and the trench for a Calor Gas tank gave a good coverage of the site, and there was clearly no evidence for prehistoric, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon exploitation of the region, or any fresh insight into the medieval origin and post medieval development of Westmeston village.
- 7.2** All the areas of excavation appeared to be into an un-disturbed condition except for the western side of the property, which appeared to comprise made-ground, possibly resulting from the construction of the former greenhouse/conservatory that had occupied this part of the site, adjacent to the western wall of the property. This area of made-ground (Context 7) produced the majority of the artefacts recovered during the excavations. The pottery from this context had a date range from between 1890 and 1930, whilst the earliest pottery which was recovered from the footings for the south-eastern extension, comprised three sherds dating from the period 1800 to 1850, and would appear to be contemporary with the earlier occupation of the property.
- 7.3** The demolition of the original south-eastern extension revealed the original southern exterior wall of the cottages which was of coursed flint with red brick quoins. The demolition of this part of the building also revealed that the south-western projecting part of the building was also a latter addition. Both of the earlier extensions were of red brick construction, and both having cavity walls, which suggests a late 19th to 20th century construction date.
- 7.4** The methodology employed during the watching brief is judged to have satisfied the project objectives set.

8.0 Acknowledgements

- 8.1** I would like to thank Mr & Mrs Haynes for commissioning this archaeological watching brief, and Luke Barber and Jan Oldham who reported on the artefacts. I would also like to thank Andrew Bradshaw for preparing the site plan drawing for this report.
- 8.2** The report was audited by Chris Greateorex on behalf of CBAS as part of its peer review procedures. The project was managed for CBAS by Chris Butler MCIFA.

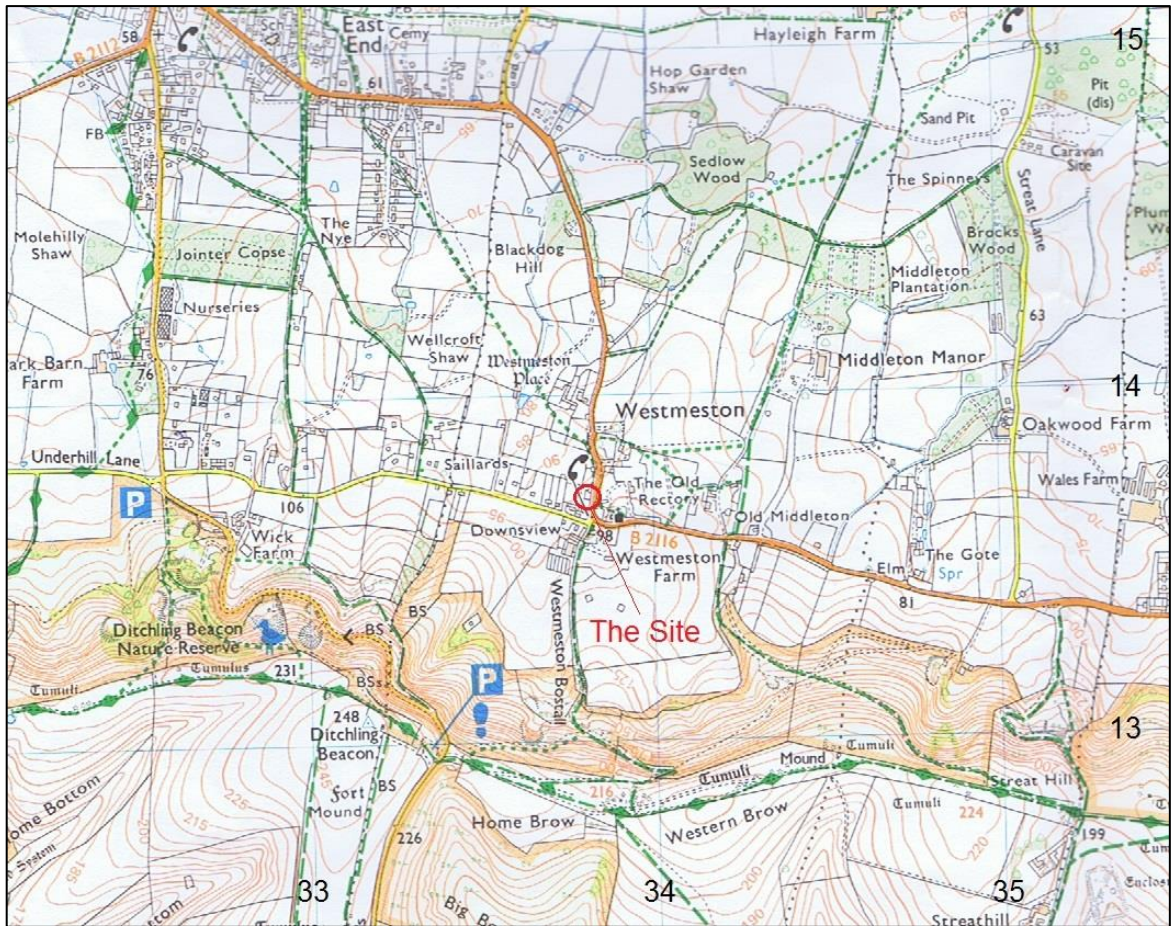


Fig. 1: 1 Southbank Cottages, Westmeston: Site Location Map
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471

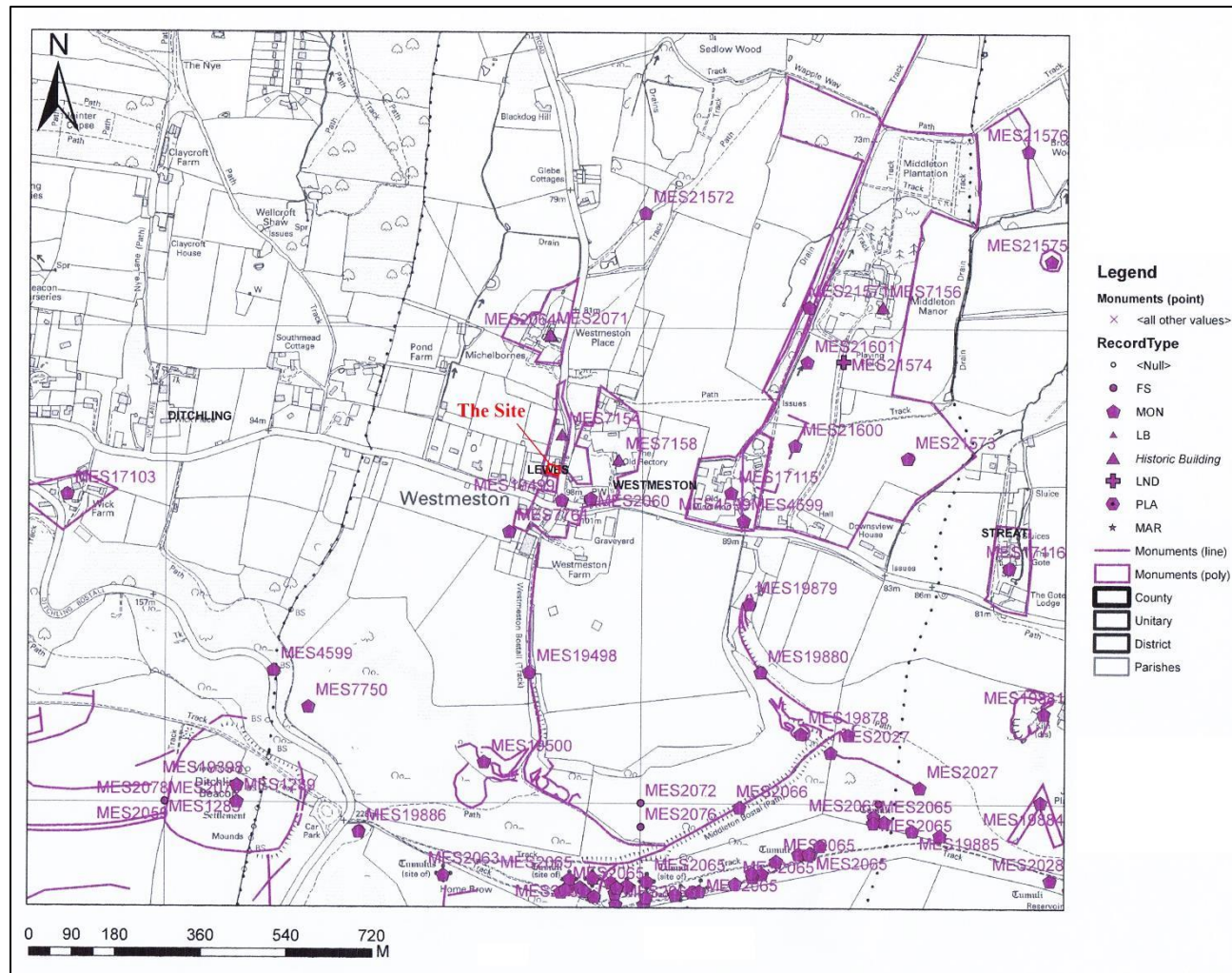


Fig. 3: 1 Southbank Cottages, Westmeston: Map showing sites on the HER
(adapted from map provided by ESCC)
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Fig. 4: 1 Southbank Cottages, Westmeston: Yeakell & Gardiner Map
1778-83

(<http://www.envf.port.ac.uk/geo/research/historical/webmap/sussexmap/Yeakell 36.htm>)

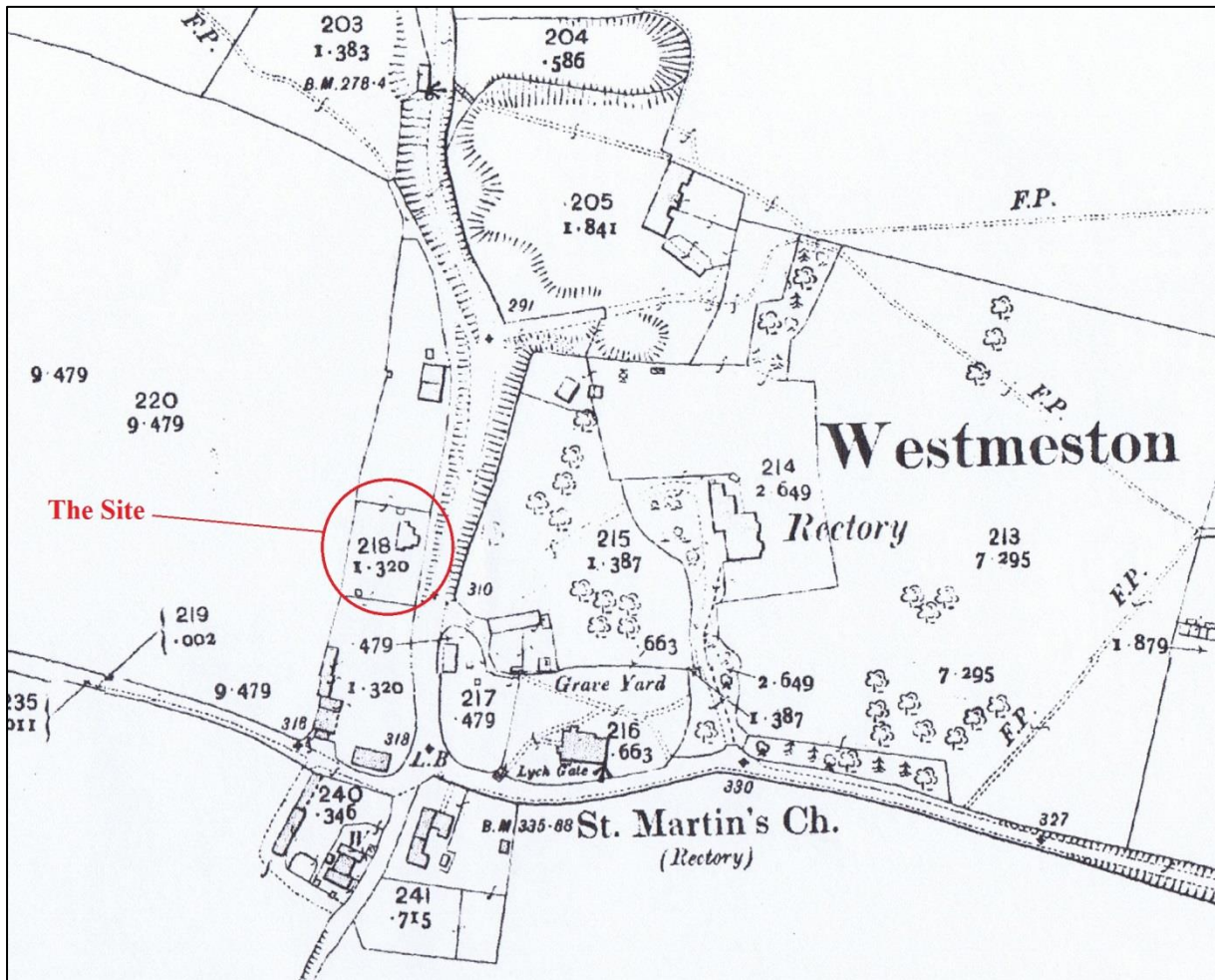


Fig. 6: 1 Southbank Cottages, Westmeston: 3rd Ed OS Map 1910

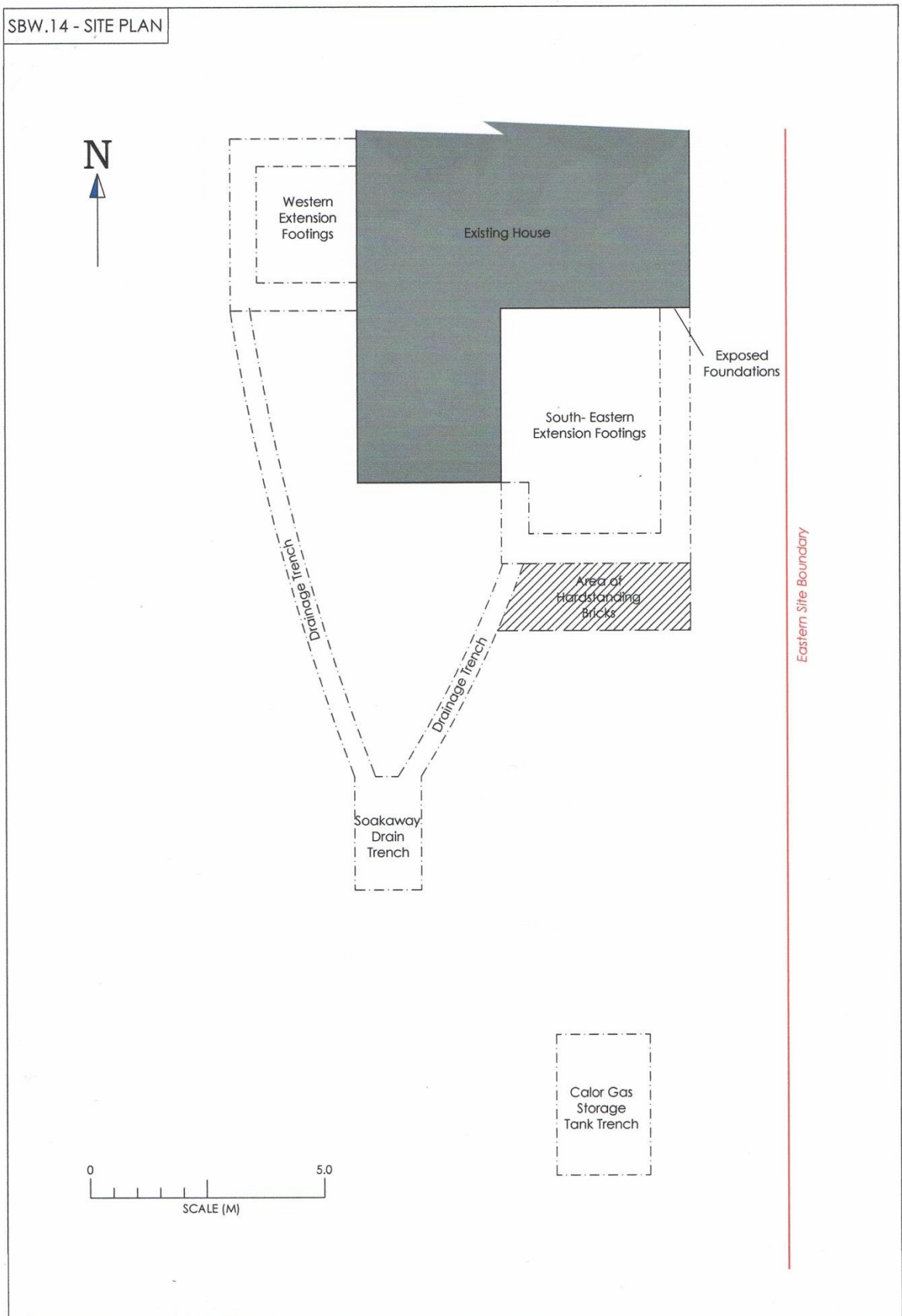


Fig. 7: 1 Southbank Cottages, Westmeston: Areas monitored

Appendix 1: HER Summary Form

Site Code	SBW 14					
Identification Name and Address	1 Southbank Cottages, Westmeston, East Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	Lewes District					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 33810 13730					
Geology	Lower Chalk.					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief X	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban X	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 2 nd -7 th /06 & 18/09/14	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Mr & Mrs Haynes					
Project Manager	Chris Butler MifA					
Project Supervisor	Keith Butler PifA					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM X	Other		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>An archaeological watching brief was maintained on groundworks associated with the construction of a two-storey side extension and replacement single-storey rear extension, a soak-away with associated drain runs and the trench for a gas tank at 1 Southbank Cottages.</i></p> <p><i>No cut archaeological features, structures or deposits of archaeological significance were discovered during the project, however after the demolition of the existing south-eastern extension the original southern exterior wall of the cottage was revealed, which comprised coursed flints with brick built quoin. The recovered artefacts comprised a small assemblage of 19th and early 20th century pottery and glass, together with a brass cornet manufactured in either 1919 or 1920.</i></p> <p><i>The project failed to provide any new information on the known prehistoric, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon exploitation of the region, or any fresh insight into the medieval origin and post medieval development of Westmeston village.</i></p>						

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd

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

Chris is a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and was a part time lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Sussex.

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

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

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