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**An Archaeological Landscape Survey
of
Sheffield Park Gardens,
East Sussex**

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Summary

The survey area in Sheffield Park covered the majority of the two military camps, the Lewes Road Camp, No. 1 and the Fletching Camp, No.2, which were established to accommodate parts of the 3rd and 4th Canadian Infantry Divisions; the 4th Division later being converted to an Armoured Division. The boundary between the two camps was on the Old Fletching Road at the southern end of Lower Woman's Pond; access being from the Lewes Road and Fletching Village respectively. The Fletching Camp was primarily the home to three of the four Batteries of the 5th Anti-Tank Regiment, of the 4th Division. The Lewes Road Camp appears to have been the home of the 12th Field Regiment RCA, which was the self-propelled (SP) Artillery element of the 3rd Division at the time of the D-Day landings and also some of its Infantry elements.

The Survey has identified significant elements of the Fletching Camp and their purpose, also it has established there are areas to the south of the Old Fletching Road which still exist. The eastern boundary of the camp has not been firmly established and in all likelihood was further to the east, beyond the survey area at the Lodge Archway in Fletching. It is recommended that the survey be extended to establish and record the remaining elements of the camp in this area. Elements of the Lewes Road Camp were identified along the south-western shore of Lower Woman's Pond which appear to be billets and ablutions, possibly occupied by parts of the 12th Field Regiment, also elements on the south-eastern side of the Ground Staff compound. More elements of this camp exist eastwards towards the A275 Lewes Road, beyond the area of the current survey, and it is recommended that the survey be extended westwards to complete the record and understanding of this camp.

The aim of the survey in Walk Wood was to identify what remains of the original 17th/18th century Ornamental Walks as part of a National Trust project to restore and open these to the public. Sections of four of these original walks were identified, but later replanting and the use of brash to mark out the paths means most are either hidden from view or have been lost. Those that have been identified should be incorporated into the new public walkways and the survey extended once clearing operations have commenced.

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1. Introduction

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd (CBAS) was commissioned by The National Trust to carry out a programme of archaeological survey and assessment in the Walk Wood and East Park areas of Sheffield Park Gardens, Sheffield Park, East Sussex (Fig. 1). The area surveyed was divided into three parts, the first being East Park or ‘Fletching Camp’, and the second being the area of the park west of Lower Women’s Pond, or the ‘Lewes Road Camp’ and the third being Walk Wood.

The purpose of the survey is to provide a comprehensive record of the archaeological resource, allow for enhanced interpretation of the sites, and provide an evidence-base for the management and restoration of the area and to inform the reinstatement of historic walks and seats in the area and consolidation of Second World War remains.

This report outlines the methodology used in the archaeological survey, then looks at the results of the field survey, summarising the sites identified by period and type. A full listing of all the sites is contained in Appendix 1 to this report.

Table 1: Types and number of sites found

Type of Site	Definition	Number
Ornamental Walk	A planned route often defined by trees, ditches, or banks through a garden or woodland	4
Earthworks	Miscellaneous earthwork of indeterminate age and function	9
Dump/ Midden	A distinct area of discarded artefacts, usually of similar period that have been discarded	2
Military structure	Any structure, other than those listed separately, constructed for military purposes – can be of any post medieval date but predominantly WW2 in date	10
Hut Foundation	Brick or Concrete base for a hut, generally a Nissen hut of WW2 date	42
Concrete Path	A narrow, elongated, concrete feature that providing weather proof access through an area, or between features.	3
Slit trench/weapons pits	Military trench for 2 or more men, or heavier weapon plus crew - normally rectangular or square	1
Building Remains	Evidence for walls, floors etc indicating location of building(s)	4
Hut Platform	Rectangular platform raised above ground level or terraced into slope – possible hut or building base with no visible masonry	4
Trackway	Track or evidence of track, possibly cut or terraced, with or without metalled surface	2
Memorial	Specially raised monument or stone/concrete or brick, often inscribed with description	1
Deer Park Boundary	A large ditch and bank feature, with the ditch situated on the inside and the bank possibly flat topped and formally with palisade.	1
Boundary Feature	Usually a ditch and/or bank feature whose function appears to divide separate areas of the landscape – fields, woodland, etc	3
Drainage/Water Management Feature	Any feature that forms part of a brick/concrete drainage, sewage or Water Management system.	8
Artefact	Misc. artefact not covered above	1

A total of 95 features were recorded during the survey and are detailed in Appendix 1, and shown on Fig. 2. The main types of feature found in the survey are listed and defined in Table 1 below, and are described in more detail in the report.

1.1 Location & Background

Sheffield Park & Gardens is located on the north side of the Ouse Valley within the High weald AONB, 1km west of Fletching Village and 12km up stream of Lewes (Fig. 1). The property lies within Fletching Civil Parish in the Wealden District.

The property is listed Grade 1 in the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest, and comprises approximately 185ha of landscape parkland, designed gardens and plantation, coppice and ancient woodland.

The principal geological formation outcropping at Sheffield Park is the Tunbridge Wells Sand. This is overlain locally, and particularly within the garden, by Grinstead Clay, giving rise to acidic (pH 5.5) clay or clayey soils generally with impeded drainage of the Curtisden series (Masters 2010, 5-6).

This brief concerns the areas of the property known as Walk Wood and East Park (Figure 2). Walk Wood comprises *c.* 12ha of mixed conifer plantation woodland (principally in the north) with underlying remnants of Hazel and Hornbeam coppice and ancient woodland. The area is bounded to the northeast by a sinuous stream and to the east by an area of wet woodland ('the swamp') which was originally the head of the Upper Woman's Way Pond.

East Park comprises *c.* 16ha of mosaic woodland including modern plantations, abandoned coppice, clearings, bracken and scrub. To the west the area is bounded by the cricket pitch and 'the swamp'. Manley Wood marks the northern boundary of the area, while to the east are pasture and arable fields.

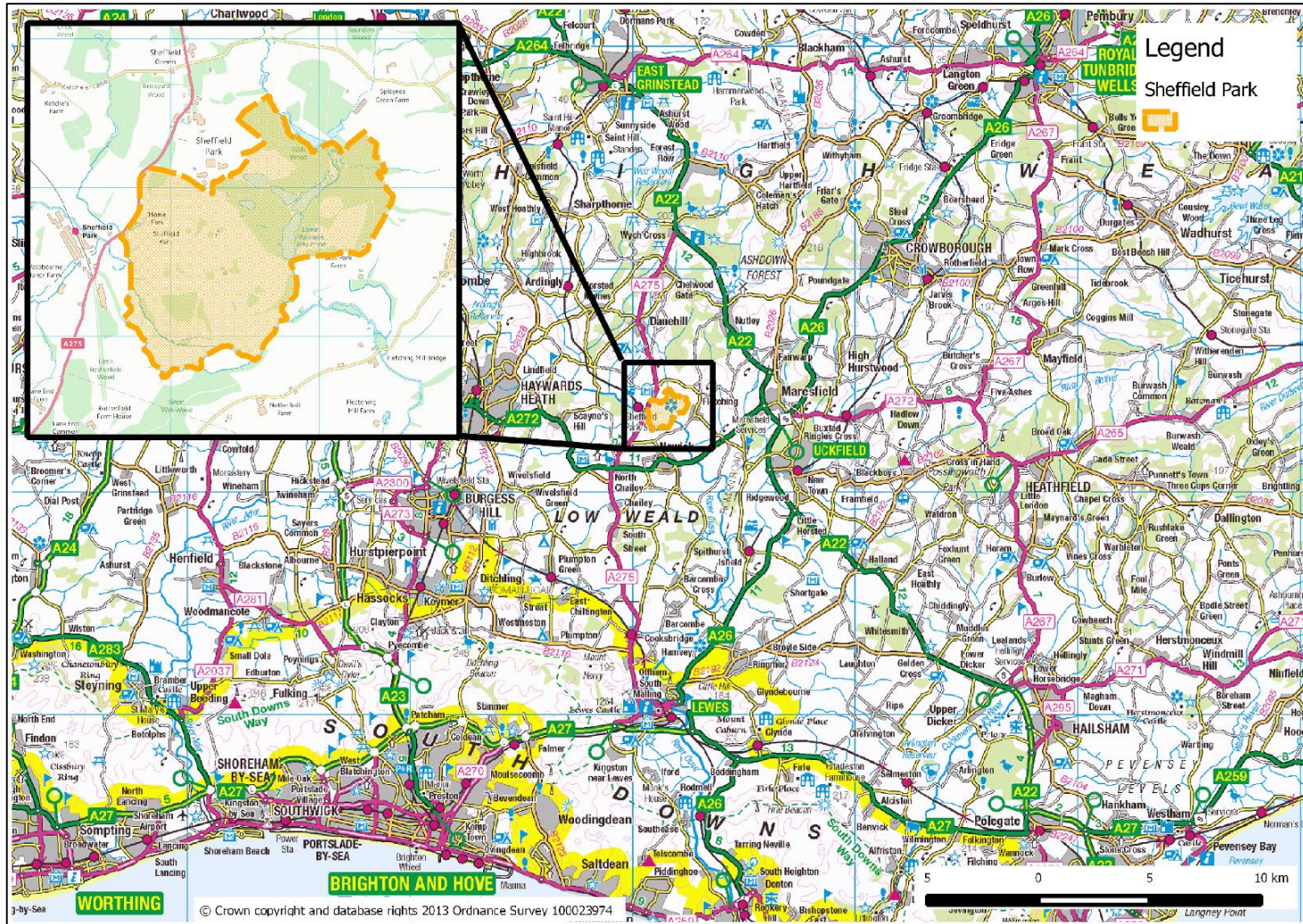


Fig. 1: Sheffield Park Location Map
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100037471

1.2 Project Rationale

A programme of archaeological field survey and investigation was required for both Walk Wood and East Park in order to inform future management of the sites.

Walk Wood has historically been an integral part of the Sheffield Park parkscape. However, in the 20th century the area has become separated from the Garden and used as plantation woodland. The National Trust now aims to reintegrate Walk Wood with the Garden and allow access to visitors. As noted in the 2010 Sheffield Park & Garden Conservation Management Plan (hereafter the ‘CMP’), this will involve the removal of conifers and restoration of the area to coppice and standards with bluebell and bracken understory, and the possible restoration of the 17th/early 18th century walks.

In line with the recommendations in the CMP, archaeological survey here – in the form of comprehensive topographic survey (where necessary), analysis of Lidar data and historic map regression – was required to inform this restoration work, provide management recommendations and allow for appropriate interpretation of the area, in addition to dendrochronological dating of trees/stumps associated with the walks and limited excavation to determine the construction method.

In East Park the National Trust aims to reintroduce cattle grazing in order to manage the land. In line with the recommendations of the CMP, a programme of field survey was required in order to record in detail the archaeological features in this area (particularly those relating to the Second World War Canadian Camps), produce recommendations for consolidation of the remains (in order to make the area safe for livestock and people), and to provide a greater level of understanding and interpretation for the area. The CMP notes that ‘Although floors and walls [relating to the Second World War camp] can be traced in East Park it is impossible to understand the layout and functional relationships of buildings without vegetation clearance and detailed recording.’

2. Historical & Archaeological Background

The Ouse Valley is likely to have been a focus for human movement and activity from the later glacial and early post-glacial periods. Within the locality, the Upper and Lower Palaeolithic periods are represented by a series of stray finds of flint tools. By the Mesolithic there was wide-ranging activity in Sussex, perhaps including semi-permanent settlement which continued into the Bronze Age. Pollen evidence suggests woodland clearance on the middle reaches of the Ouse Valley in the Mesolithic and Neolithic, and the river itself would have been important as a navigable river and natural resource. A Mesolithic or Early Neolithic scraper has been found in Walk Wood, part of a substantial spread of material to the north of the confluence of the Rivers Ouse and Uck.

There is no archaeological evidence for the Roman period at the property. The Roman Road from London to Lewes is nearby, 2.5km to the east and Roman pottery has been recovered from a bloomer close to the Park on edge of Coleham Green, although the major Roman iron-working sites lay to the north of Sheffield Park further into the High Weald.

By 1066 there was significant settlement at Sheffield - a six-hide estate with perhaps 330 acres in cultivation and a mill, the site of which remains unknown. The manor lay within the rape of Pevensey and in 1086 the lord of the rape, Robert, Count of Mortain, held the manor in hand.

The earliest mention of a manorial centre is in 1265 - by the mid-thirteenth century the manor was in the Overlordship of Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester. By the middle of the 14th century Roger Dallingridge (whose son was the builder of Bodiam Castle) had acquired the entirety of the manor of Sheffield, forming the powerbase where it might be expected there to have been a suitable high-status manor house.

Although there is no firm evidence of parks before the sixteenth century it is possible that several earthworks within East Park relate to medieval parks.

In 1558 the Sackville family purchased Sheffield Manor. A manorial survey of 1565 refers to the '*old park and Shepley ground*' to the north and east of the mansion - a long scarp slope extending through Walk Wood may relate to the *Shepley ground*, with further substantial earthworks at the north edge of Walk Wood (also referred to as 'Sheffield Wood').

The estate was sold to Christopher Nevill in 1623, and it remained in the family for 121 years. The Nevills principle changes to the landscape involved the addition of a number of walks (Howard Walk, Cascade Walk, Richmond Walk, Dalrymple Walk, Summer Walk, Abergavenny Walk, De La Warr Walk, Spring Walk) and seats, several of which were within the area of the current Walk Wood and were established by 1745.

John West acquired Sheffield in the right of his wife in 1745 and became First Earl de la Warr in 1761. His long military career and that of his son, who inherited in 1766 may account for features such as the battery. However, it seems likely that most of designed landscape shown by Scalé's 1774 mapping was inherited by the de la Warrs who may have contributed very little to the landscape.

By 1766 the family was deeply in debt and they had little option but to sell to John Baker Holroyd, the principal mortgagor, in 1769. Holroyd became the Baron Sheffield in 1781 and First Earl of Sheffield in 1816. The First Earl's contribution was to name the walks after the owners or reputed owners of the property.

In his *The Farmer's Tour through the East of England* of 1771 Arthur Young described the Sheffield estate - *the park is fine, forming varied lawns well wooded, shelving into winding vales, and commanding very noble sweeps of richly cultivated country... Near the house is a wood of 60 acres (Sheffield Wood, including the area of the current Walk Wood) , full of very fine timber, and cut into agreeable walks, one of which, that winds by the side of the river in a sequestered part of the valley, is beautiful.'*

Timber and underwood were essential to the economy of the Sheffield estate and there is good evidence of their importance before, during and after the First Earl's time. A valuation of 1767 listed 674 oak of timber value in Sheffield Wood.

In the later 18th century the First Earl commissioned the architect James Wyatt for alterations to the mansion, including cladding the Tudor structure and extension to the west. The North Lodges were completed at about the same time and Wyatt's other known contribution to the property was the Fletching Gate, an imposing entrance to the estate which gave the appearance of a ruined castle with its manorial church when viewed from within the property.

The landscape architect Lancelot 'Capability' Brown was involved with works at Sheffield Park - there is a general belief that Capability Brown was responsible for the Woman's Way Ponds, but the evidence for this and other work at Sheffield is sparse. It is possible that Brown was responsible for an early version of the Ten Foot pond and the watercourse above it, and various planting shown on mapping from 1774.

During the 1770s the area of East Park began undergoing reversion to parkland with removal of hedges, grubbing of roots and mowing of bracken and thistles. By 1775 Arno's Grove had been acquired by the estate, drained and grubbed to produce a water meadow to be viewed from Walk Wood. Portions were ploughed, pared and burned, with later references to harvesting heather and bracken.

Humphrey Repton became associated with Sheffield Park in 1789 and maintained a connection with Lord Sheffield until at least 1805. There is limited direct evidence of what he did, but there were certainly changes to the ponds below the house, to Arno's Vale and probably to the approaches and Walk Wood. He advocated grazing and fencing, and changes to water courses, suggesting that '*perhaps the brook [at the northeast boundary of Walk Wood] might be made the natural boundary of Arno's Vale, where a deep channel immediately at the foot of the hill, with or without posts and rails, would make an effectual fence.*

The Second Earl acquired Sheffield Park in 1821 and retained possession until 1876. Little evidence survives of his influence on the landscape, aside from the addition of the Gothic Seat Walk. It appears the Second Earl largely neglected the Park, and the process of siltation which has produced the wet woodland known as 'the swamp' began during this period.

The Third Earl's tenure at Sheffield Park extended from 1876-1909. His principal interests were cricket, the development of water features and his collection of ornamental trees and shrubbery. A cricket field was constructed in 1877, with pavilions and a garden. Alterations to the water features included enlargement of the Woman's Ways Ponds, the development of the Middle Lake and the addition of waterfalls at either end, constructed by the Pulham family in 1883. The estate's fortunes declined throughout his life, and the Third Earl was eventually forced to sell the estate to the principal mortgagee, Arthur Soames in 1909.

Soames' influence was largely limited to planting and the development of the woodland garden and the walled garden where plants were raised from seed and Rhododendron hybrids were bred. After Soames' death in 1934 his widow kept up the garden.

At the outbreak of the Second World War Sheffield Park was requisitioned, with the main military activity being between October 1941 and D-Day when two large camps were occupied by the Canadian Army. The Lewes Road Camp, Camp No.1, was established in October 1941 with the arrival of the Regiment de la Chaudiere, and utilised the current National Trust entrance from the A275 Lewes Road. The Fletching Camp, Camp No.2, situated in East Park, was first established in 1942 and was accessed from Fletching village via the Lodge Archway for the 5th Canadian Anti-Tank Regiment, and was subsequently occupied by the 17th Field Regiment and 5th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, and parts of the 4th and 5th Canadian Armoured Divisions. Nissen Huts were established on brick and concrete foundations, with water, electricity, drainage and roads being laid on in April 1942. After D-Day the camps was used for the training of Canadian reinforcements for the campaign in Europe and finally became a Repatriation Depot between August and September 1945, for Canadian troops returning home ¹

¹ *The Maple Leaf Army in Britain.* Longstaff-Tyrrell & Berry. Gote House Publishing 2002. P34

After the war Mrs Soames started to repair the damage to the gardens and in 1949 handed the property over to her nephew Granville Soames. Granville Soames died four years later.²

In 1953 the property was divided into lots and sold at auction – the National Trust bought the garden and most of East Park, with the remainder of the property being acquired piecemeal until the present holding was completed in 2007.³

To date archaeological survey at Sheffield Park has largely been limited to the survey undertaken as part of the Conservation Management Plan (Masters 2010). This comprised initial field survey and plotting of features on hand-held GPS, with *features later relocated* based on analysis of Lidar data (available through the High Weald AONB – see Enclosure 13.1, Figures 5-5i). The project included the collation and assessment of available historic mapping. Identification of features during field survey in East Park in particular was hampered by the level of vegetation (Richard James pers. comm. 2014).

Data from the original archaeological walkover survey (not fully incorporated into the CMP) provides a full gazetteer of sites and photographic record. However, the recording of features as points, rather than lines or polygons, and the fact that the data was only reconciled with LIDAR data after the survey, limits the utility of this data.

The most prominent features noted within Walk Wood are the series of historic walks of 17th/early 18th century date, sites of possible seats and features associated with water supply located adjacent to the watercourse which marks the north-eastern extent of the area. The walks have been described as being of National importance, and identified as a priority for further investigation. A single scraper of Mesolithic/Neolithic date has been recovered from Walk Wood.

In East Park the Second World War features and Canadian Camp were identified as being of regional significance and requiring further detailed recording. The other notable set of archaeological features comprises a series of earthworks which may relate to the Medieval parks.

² *A Chronicle of Sheffield Park*. Edited by H. Rawlings. Danewood Press.

³ Masters 2010: *Sheffield Park & Garden Conservation Management Plan*.

3. Methodology

- 3.1 Each wood was surveyed in turn, the methodology employed was similar for each location except the Water Pumping Site in Walk Wood, this being a specific Archaeological feature rather than a general area survey. The basic process was that volunteers would be divided into groups, depending upon the number available on any specific day, each under the supervision of a CBAS staff member.
- 3.2 The members of each group would then space themselves out across a designated search area (dependent on visibility and access) and then walk slowly across the area until a feature was discovered. The feature would be recorded by some of the group, whilst others continued the search. Distinct areas, denoted by features such as paths, fence lines, etc, would be used to divide areas into reasonable sections. Using this method, large areas could be fairly comprehensively covered with a high level of certainty that any remaining features would not be missed. The boundaries of each wood, entrances to the woods and known extant paths were all inspected, in addition attention was paid to possible communication fittings in trees and to concealed pathways leading to and from features.
- 3.3 For the recording of each feature a standardized National Trust recording form (Appendix 2) was used, this prompting the recorder to record the type of feature found, describe it, with measurements using hand tapes, draw a sketch, photograph it (where possible with a Ranging Pole for scale) and record its position (National Grid Reference) with a hand held GPS. Comments could be made on the state of the feature and the impact of any damage such as vehicles, burrowing animals and vegetation.
- 3.4 Ranging Poles were also used for probing, as concrete pathways were found, and for gauging depths of features sunk into the ground. Brief cleaning up using trowel was employed on features so that their dimensions could be fully recorded. Note was also taken of the age of surrounding vegetation and trees, where they might indicate past activity, the presence of features now disused or overgrown and assist in placing the features into their landscape environment.
- 3.5 The information from the recording forms was then entered into an excel spreadsheet to create a database of sites found during the survey. This database will form part of the archive.



Figure 2 – Complete Site Plan showing all features and areas surveyed

4.0 Results of the Survey. (Ref Fig.2)

4.1 East Park – Fletching Camp. (Ref: Figs 3 & 4)

4.1.1 The East Park area extends from the east side of Lower Woman’s Way Pond westwards along the axis of the Old Fletching Road to the Park boundary, then north to the boundary with Manley Wood and also to the south of the Old Fletching Road to the edge of the woodland. The extensive military remains revealed throughout this area indicate that a separate camp, ‘*The Fletching Camp*’,⁴ existed along both sides of the Old Fletching Road and also north to the area of the Cricket Ground and alongside Lower Womans Way Pond. A sketch map of the camp from November 1943 illustrates some of the features of the camp and their use (Fig.3).

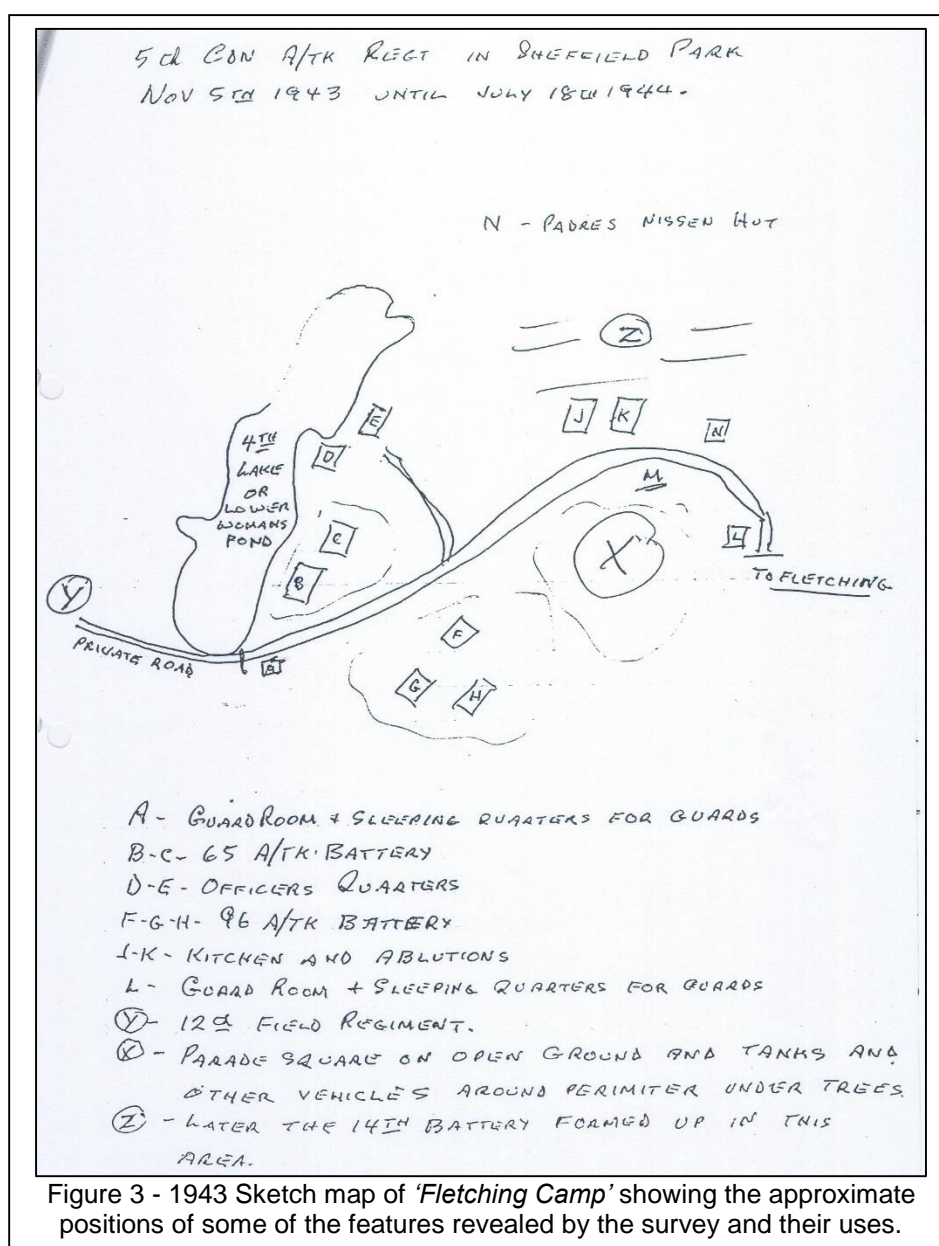


Figure 3 - 1943 Sketch map of ‘Fletching Camp’ showing the approximate positions of some of the features revealed by the survey and their uses.

⁴ *The Maple Leaf Army in Britain*. Longstaff-Tyrrell & Berry. Gote House Publishing 2002. P34

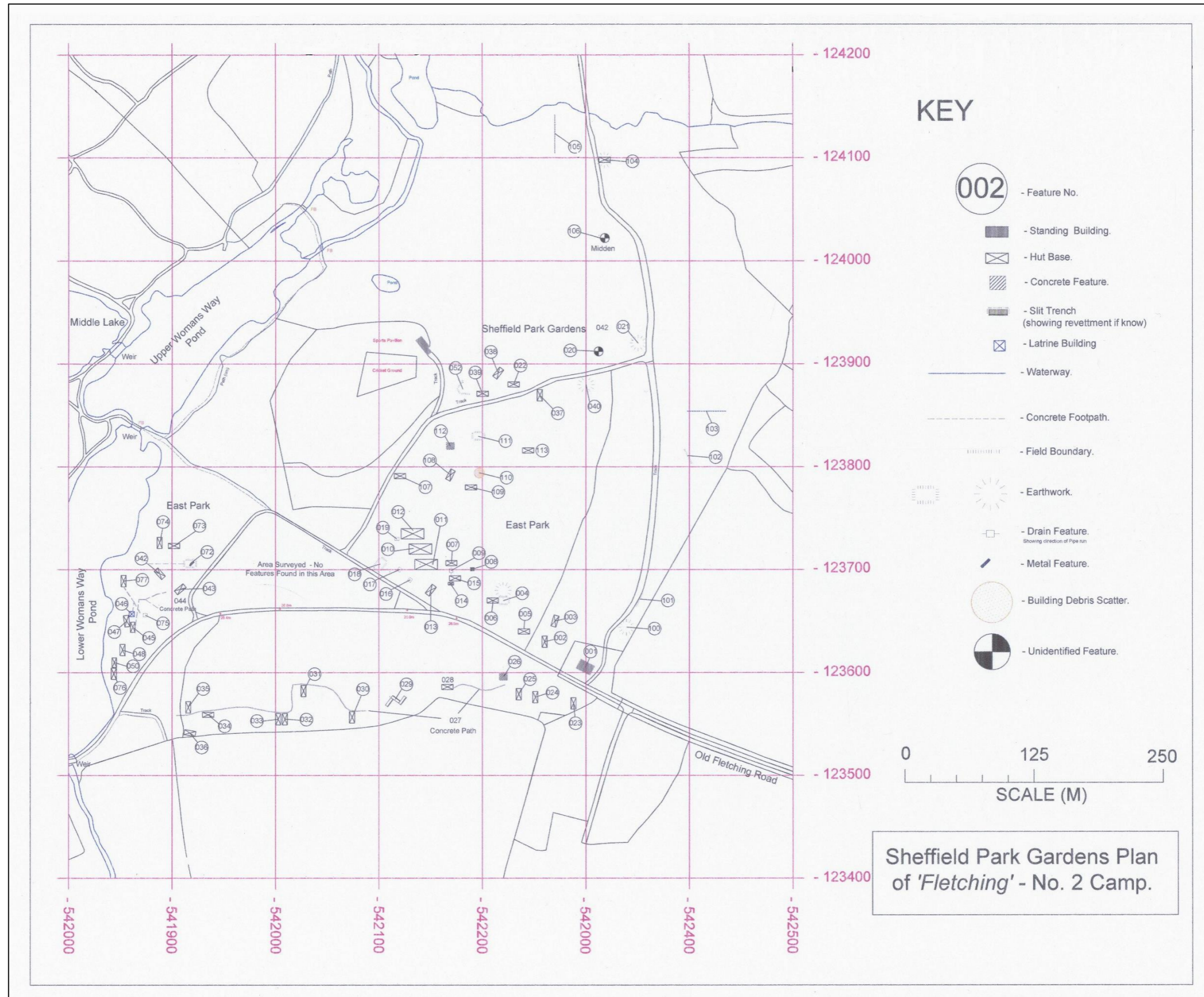


Figure 4 – Detail Map of the survey results from the Fletching Camp, Camp No.2

Paragraphs 4.1.2 – 4.1.20 describe the features of this camp, ‘Fletching Camp’ which run adjacent to the northern edge of the Old Fletching Road from the track at its western end, to the track at the east side of the Cricket Ground.

- 4.1.2 At the extreme western end of the park, to the north of the Old Fletching Road, stands feature SP.001. This consists of three conjoined Nissen Huts that have been raised on brick walls, all being on concrete foundations. The south-west ends have high double doors, now missing, set in brick walls. The north-east ends have wooden walls on brick with two, four-pane windows are set each side of a central door, the top most panes forming opening lights. Plate 1.



A slatted wooden vent has been fitted above centrally above the doors. At the rear of the central Hut is a square brick, bunded, structure which appears to have been built to for liquid storage; perhaps oil or other lubricants. These three huts appear to form a possible vehicle, MT (Mechanical Transport) repair/maintenance shop.

- 4.1.3 To the east of SP.001 are two former Nissen Hut bases, denoted now by the remains of their brick foundation walls. SP.002 is orientated north to south and is the largest of the pair being 11.2m x 5.0m. SP.003 is orientated slightly NNE to SSW and is 8.0m x 3m. The difference in size indicates that they may have originally had different purposes, but were possibly connected with SP.001. Plate 2.



- 4.1.4 Directly east of Sp.002/003 is feature SP.005, this is a brick foundation corner, possibly of another Nissen Hut, the area around it is considerably overgrown and no further details of the structure were visible; it could be associated with features SP.002 & 003 as they form a distinct group, which would by association link it possibly to SP.001. Plate 3 shows a typical wartime Nissen Hut.



Plate 3 - Example of WW2 Nissen Hut

- 4.1.5 There appears to be a gap eastwards between SP.005 and 004 which is closely associated with SP.006. Feature SP.004 consists of a rectangular cut, 3m x 4m and 0.6m deep. On its northern side is a sub-rectangular mound 10m x 8m and 0.8m high; no building material was noted around this feature. It was not possible to positively identify this feature, but if associated with the surrounding camp remains, it may be a shelter of some sort.

4.1.6 Feature SP.006 is a foundation for another Nissen Hut which stretched eight metres on an east to west alignment and five metres on its north to south alignment. The remains consist of concrete with brick tumble. There is a cut five metres away on the north side which may be the remains of another Hut; however this is uncertain without further investigation.

4.1.7 Feature SP.007 is a long, 18.20m x 5.4m, brick foundation orientated east to west with two internal dividing walls, the main east end wall was not visible. The remaining walls consist of two courses of brick laid perpendicular to the main buildings long axis, the dividing walls are laid in alignment to this axis. The outside walls are of two skins of brick, the whole structure is built on a raised platform and may be associated with features SP.008 & 009. This feature appears to form a Latrine/Wash Facilities as it is connected to drains directly outside, see feature SP.009, below, and may have been used to serve this part of the camp. Plate 4.



4.1.8 A small area of concrete, SP.008, its purpose unclear, sits to the east of Hut SP.007; this may form part of the retaining structure for the raised platform on which the hut sits. Further investigation would be required to establish its purpose.

- 4.1.9 Directly to the south of Feature No.007 is an area of concrete, 1.3m x 2.0m, with a Manhole Cover (0.7m x 0.6m); the Cover has '*Latrine Inspection Pit*' cast into the upper side. There are then a set of two concrete steps dropping down to the south and leading to a further Manhole Cover set in concrete. To the east of the steps a retaining wall has been built against the southern bank of the platform on which Hut SP.007 sits. This group forms feature SP.009. Plate 5.



- 4.1.10 There is a group of three buildings; features SP.010, 011 & 012, which form a distinct group at the western end of the camp, adjacent to the track that runs north to the Cricket Ground. All three are similar in size, c.20.5m x 7.5 – 7.65m, and are orientated east to west parallel to the Old Fletching Road, but respecting the line of the NW running track leading from it. Each building sits on one of three terraces, each rising slightly to the north and are connected to the drainage system; indicating they may be the site of possible Kitchens or Mess facilities. (Areas J & K in fig.3) Plate 6.
- 4.1.11 Feature SP.010 is a rectangular brick foundation wall, one brick wide, possibly of a large Nissen Hut, or building 20.5m x 7.5m. On its south edge is a concrete square base, approximately 1.5m x 2.0m. There are four concrete steps up from the terrace below (from feature SP.011). Cut into the edge of the terrace is a brick retaining wall. A hardstanding of concrete, 1.5m wide, extends two thirds of the way along the south wall and there is evidence of two, possible, concrete thresholds on the north edge.

- 4.1.12 Feature SP.011, immediately south of SP.010, is also a rectangular brick foundation, orientated east to west, of what was possibly again a large Nissen Hut, or building, 20.55m x 7.65m. There is a concrete drain in the SW corner and a Manhole cover labelled 'Air Tight Inspection Cover' adjacent to the south wall, along with a concrete hardstanding.



Plate 6 – The layout of Features SP.010, 011 & 012 looking south from Feature 012.

- 4.1.13 Feature SP.012, which sits upslope from SP.010, is another brick foundation wall possibly for a large Nissen Hut/building, 20.5m x 7.5m, with three courses surviving in the SW corner. A probable concrete threshold and step exist in the SW corner and there is an area of concrete walling adjacent to the south wall.

4.1.14 Downslope and to the south of Feature SP.011 is an open concrete sided Manhole, feature SP.013, indicating the route of a main drain run; presumably from the SP.010 – 012 group. The Manhole Shaft is 1.2m x 1.1m and its visible depth was 0.6m, no cover or frame remains in situ; this further substantiates the use of 010 – 012 as something other than simple accommodation. Plate 7.



Plate 7 – Feature SP.013 Manhole on drain run down slope from the group of buildings formed by 010, 011 & 012

4.1.15 Immediately to the north of the track junction with the Old Fletching Road is feature SP.014. This sits south of SP.011 and to the east of SP.013. It consists of brick foundation walls, 5.1m x 5.65m, with areas of concrete floor inside, built on a raised platform; its orientation being north to south. The structure is not consistent with the foundations of a Nissen Hut but may have been a completely brick structure of currently indeterminate purpose and possibly associated with SP.010 – 012. Plate 8.



Plate 8 – Outline of unknown Feature SP.014 to the south of 011

- 4.1.16 Feature SP.015, which is adjacent to SP.009 and east of SP.014, is the brick foundations of a Nissen Hut. With a length of 14.75m and width of 5.15m it is orientated east to west it sits in a waterlogged area and is extensively overgrown, but appears to have been built on a slightly raised platform. To the south between the hut and the track is a section of demolished wall which may be associated with this feature.
- 4.1.17 To the south-east of SP.011 sits feature SP.016, this is again, possibly, part of the camps drainage system and is formed of a square, two skin, brick lined pit with a measurable depth of 0.7m and a possible set of steps in the SW corner. The pit itself is 2.4m x 1.65m, and is larger than the standard Manholes on the site and big enough to allow limited access. It sits down slope from Hut SP.011 and up slope from a similar feature SP.017, see below. Possibly a cess Pit or major drain junction. Plate 9.
- 4.1.18 Feature SP.017, down slope from SP.016, is a square brick lined pit, 1.1m x 1.1m with a measurable depth of 0.25m. It has a cement internal facing, but has no visible signs of a cover or metal frame. Orientated NW – SE, it is possible that the brick masonry may have extended above ground level originally. Plate 9.

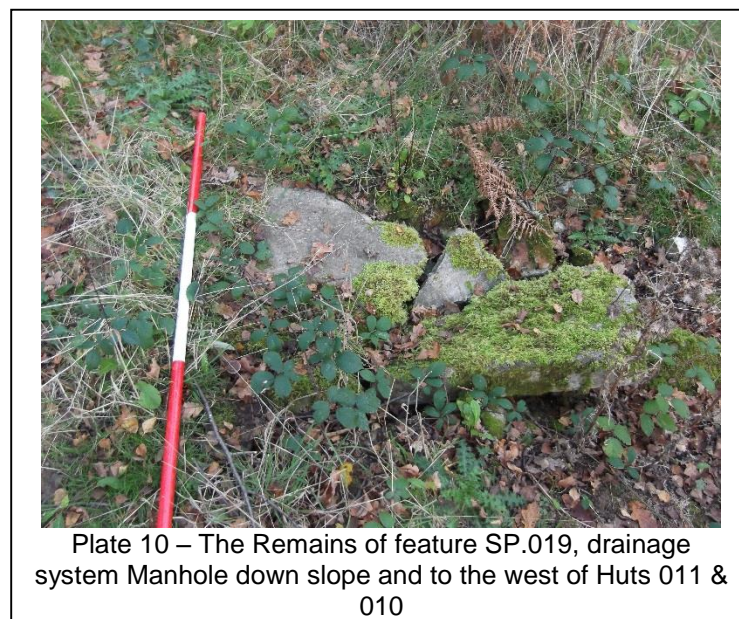


Plate 9 – Features SP.016 (left) & SP.017 (right), which both appear to form part of the camps drainage system which was installed in April 1942

- 4.1.19 Feature SP.018 sits against the north side of the track leading NW from the Old Fletching Road, and to the SW of feature SP.017. It is formed of a defined rectangular depression, 8.7m x 6.8m with a depth of 0.25m – 0.5m, which slopes up to the track at its southern end; possibly the original entrance. The NE end has traces of decayed brick with a more solid surface beyond. Internally there appears to be areas of solid surface beneath a grass cover. The entire feature is overgrown. It is not possible to associate this positively with the camp, and it may indicate an early feature of the Park. Plate 9.



4.1.20 Feature SP.019 sits directly to the west of SP.010 & 011 and is most probably part of the drainage system already noted. It consists of a brick lined pit with a broken concrete slab on the top, dimensionally it is 1.2m x 1.1m with a currently measurable depth of 0.25m, Plate 10.



There are further elements of Fletching Camp north of the Old Fletching Road which appear alongside the track running NNE to the Cricket Ground and then ENE through the woodlands, these will be described later. Further elements of this main part of the camp were found to the south of the Old Fletching Road and are described below so they can be understood in context with the above features.

- 4.1.21 To the south of the Old Fletching Road, directly opposite the probable MT Workshops, (feature SP.001), there is a single line of bricks with an area of concrete at its south end, feature SP.023. This line of bricks forms what is possibly the remains of a Nissen Hut foundation, but is heavily concealed in Woodland and ground foliage. There are areas of concrete hardstanding/pathway in the immediate area, all are positioned on a raised bank/building platform; the area also has scattered brick debris, indicating that the foundations may have been extensively demolished. There is also a discreet area of brick and sewage pipe debris in the wood to the west, which may also be associated with this feature; the sewage pipe is labelled H^vDO Ltd.
- 4.1.22 Moving to the west from feature SP.023 there is an old fence line, beyond this is feature SP.024 which is a rectangular brick foundation wall. The wall consists of two layers of brick visible at the southern end, 11.55m x 4.85m, orientated N – S, the northern end of this feature is overgrown.
- 4.1.23 A further 16 metres to the west is a similar brick foundation, feature SP.025, of two courses, on the same N – S orientation, but which is slightly smaller in length, 9.9m x 4.8m. Again this is possibly from a former Nissen Hut foundation and maybe associated with feature SP.024, but possibly served a different purpose; like SP.024 this feature is overgrown at the northern end, the bricks are marked with the makers mark 'Warnham'.
- 4.1.24 An area of concrete demolition rubble, another 15 metres to the west of feature SP.025, forms feature SP.026. This may indicate that there were originally three associated Huts in this area and may have formed part of the accommodation for the 96th Anti-Tank Battery noted on Fig. 3⁵. An Anti-Tank Battery, based on the 1943 Establishment would have required accommodation for 158 NCO's (Non-Commissioned Officers) and OR's (Other Ranks)⁶. (Officers may well have been accommodated in areas D & E, see Fig.3) Plate 11.

Based on the above, more huts probably existed in this area particularly along the southern edge of the Old Fletching Road which was overgrown at the time of the survey.

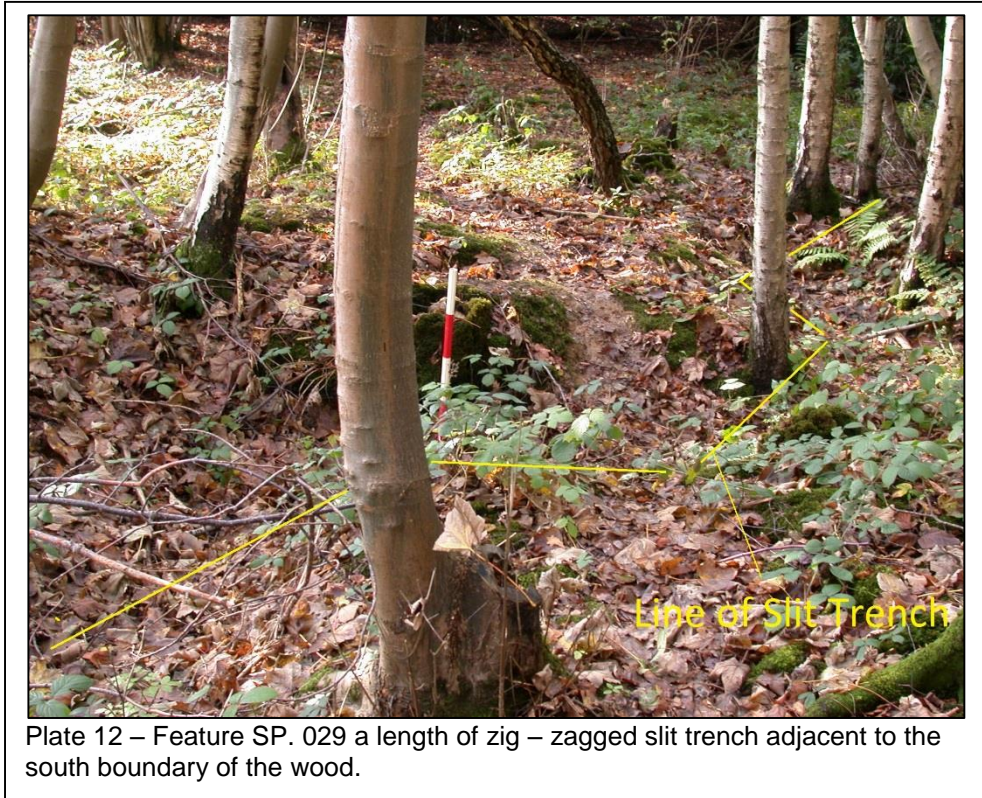
⁵ The 1944 strength of an Anti-Tank Battery would consist of three separate Troops. Footy G. 1998. British Army Handbook 1939 – 1945. P.163.

⁶ 'Anti-Tank Battery RA' WE II/186C/1 effective date 21 January 1944 and Appendix 5 to Artillery Training Volume 2, Pamphlet 5, 'Deployment of an Anti-tank Regiment'



Plate 11 – Feature SP.026 an area of concrete demolition rubble possibly the remains of a further Nissen Hut.

- 4.1.25 Feature SP.027 begins 15 metres to the west of SP.026 and is a concrete path, 0.95m wide and 0.08m deep, which runs generally E – W as far as feature SP.035, the most westerly feature south of the Old Fletching Road; see below. This pathway appears to connect the various buildings along this side of the camp. Three steps lead up to the path at this point (TQ42205 23588). There are no obvious indications of buildings around this point, but there appears to be a possible slit trench to the south. See Feature SP.029, para 4.1.27, below.
- 4.1.26 Continuing westward along the concrete path it leads directly to feature SP.028, which consists of the brick foundation walls of a Nissen Hut. The actual size and orientation of this hut are not certain as it is largely overgrown and disturbed by fallen trees; some evidence of a concrete floor remains. The bricks bear the makers mark of 'Warnham', similar to SP.025, only the south east corner remains but there is an area of metal debris local to the south west against the field boundary(TQ42145 23580).
- 4.1.27 A short section of zig-zag Slit Trenching is still visible west of feature SP.028, approximately 7.5m x 5.0m o/a width, the maximum measureable depth is 0.6m. This forms feature SP.029 and faces south, out of the wood across the open ground to the south. Plate 12.



4.1.28 The concrete path, SP.027, resumes again immediately prior to feature SP.030 which it provides a connection too at the features northern end. Feature SP.030 is a complete brick foundation wall for a larger type Nissen Hut, 11.1m x 4.9m, orientated N – S it is positioned against the southern boundary of the wood. Two courses of brick remain, 0.15m in height and part of a ceramic electrical light switch was discovered within the foundation and was labelled 'MEM DIX' 'MADE IN ENGLAND'. Plate 13.



- 4.1.29 The concrete path, SP.027, continues west with a junction prior to feature SP.031. The path itself continues around the west side of feature SP.031 turning southward. Feature SP.031 is another of the larger Nissen Hut foundations, 12.4m x 4.9m with a maximum surviving height of 0.65m at its southern end, where four courses of brick are visible. Again this is orientated N – S with the northern end overgrown, but with the wall line still discernible. Directly north and across the path is an open Manhole shaft, indicating that this hut was connected to the drainage system.



Plate 14 – General view of features SP.032 & 033, two identical larger type Nissen Huts.

- 4.1.30 The junction prior to SP.031 also leads SSW then turns west along the southern side of features SP.032 and 033. Both of these are foundation walls of identical larger Nissen Huts measuring, 11.1m x 4.8m, with a surviving height of 0.3m; the three courses of brick visible are orientated N – S, directly against the southern boundary. The bricks of these foundations carry a makers mark of 'FLB'⁷ and the fabric is darker in colour than those previously encountered. A Surveyors Eye⁸ is embedded in the south-east corner of feature SP.032, both huts have steps at their southern end. Plate 14.

⁷ Freshfield Lane Brickworks at Danehill, Sussex, was established over one hundred years ago and is now part of Michelmersh Brick Holdings PLC. The brickworks was started in 1899 on the west side of Freshfield Lane in the Parish of Horsted Keynes In 1907, brothers John & Alfred Setford, were recorded as brickmakers at the works. From 1927 onwards the company traded as Freshfield Lane Brickworks and was owned by the Hardy Family. They produce sand-faced, clamp-fired stocks and were still in production in 1993. Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society Gazetteer/www.penmorfa.com/bricks/.

⁸ A steel wire peg with a loop at one end used in surveying and laying out.

- 4.1.31 The concrete path appears to fade out westward of SP.033 but possibly continues, or originally continued, westwards passing along the northern edge of feature SP.034 and onto feature SP.035. Feature SP.034 is again a brick foundation of a Nissen Hut, 11.1m x 4.8m with two courses of brick visible (0.2m in height). The hut is orientated E – W.
- 4.1.32 Beyond SP.034 is feature SP.035. This is a brick foundation wall whose length is unknown but whose width is 4.8m, indicating that it is probably another Nissen Hut base of similar size to those described above and it is connected to SP.034 by a resumption of concrete path SP.027, which runs along its southern elevation. There is displaced concrete and brick block in the centre. Only the southern end of this hut is visible, the northern end appears to have been robbed out.
- 4.1.33 To the south and across the path from SP.035 is feature SP.034 which is possibly another Nissen Hut. This feature is heavily overgrown and robbed out so the dimensions are uncertain, but can be determined that it was orientated E – W.

This brings us to a point almost opposite to Lower women's Way Pond and the western limit of the survey of features to the south of the Old Fletching Road. A comparison with Fig. 3 indicates that this may be the extent of Fletching Camp in this area; one of the last two Features, possibly SP.035 may have been the Guardroom and Sleeping Quarters for Guards noted at 'A'. Fletching Camp continues north on the opposite side of the Old Fletching Road up the east bank of Lower woman's Pond. These features are described below.

- 4.1.34 Feature SP.042 is a rectangular building foundation to the east of Lower Woman's Pond, orientated NNW – SSE, 11.20m x 5.0m in size, it has brick wall surviving up to 0.24m high at the SW corner. Here the wall consists of a single skin of stretcher laid bricks which are bonded with a sandy mortar; the bricks are marked 'FLB' see para 4.1.30. The eastern end has been largely destroyed but survives at lower levels. There is a 'boot scraper' just outside the entrance in the west wall, where a concrete path extends out eastwards to feature SP.043, there is also a metal bar (20cm x 5cm) cut into the centre of a longitudinal brick. The building is set on a levelled platform close to the track with a view above and down into Lower Woman's Pond.
- 4.1.35 Feature SP.043 is another rectangular building, orientated NNE – WSW, it is 19.43m x 7.5m. Again sited on a raised and levelled platform there are five concrete steps leading up into the west entrance where there are 13 remaining courses of brick. A steel pipe is embedded in concrete at the NW end and a similar one at the NE end. A second entrance leads down out of the south wall via nine concrete steps, these have a groove down the centre and possible post hole in the top step. The steps lead to a concrete path heading SW. There are Tar stains, possibly water proofing, on the west side of this south elevation. The inner skin of the building has every other course with inclusions of 'concrete' bricks, there are black bricks in the outer skin; both possibly

a wartime utility measure to save on bricks. A concrete base/hardstanding extends from the east wall, possibly to the nearby track. Plate 14.

Plate 14 – Feature SP.043. Raised Building in the Officers Camp.



Feature SP.043 Looking SW (above left) and looking West (above right).



Detail of concrete 'brick' inclusions (above left), steps in south wall entrance with original kettle (above middle) and SW Wall showing variation in brick type (above right).

- 4.1.36 A branch of concrete path, SP.044, leads NW to the remains of another hut base, feature SP.077, which sits to the west of SP.042 & 043, this fronts onto the lake and has 3 – 4 courses of brick still standing. Set on a platform adjacent to the lake side track it is 10.5m x 4m and has a boot scraper at its south end. Plate 15.



Plate 15 – Feature SP.077 looking south (above left) & detail of Boot Scraper (above right)

- 4.1.37 To the NE of SP.042 & 043 is a hollow which measures 10m x 5m x 1m deep and has five steps leading down into it; feature SP.072. There is a concrete path leading towards the SP.042 & 043 group and a metal pipe coming from the ground to 0.5m in height that runs for 5m and stops, or possibly continues at depth. Its exact purpose is uncertain.
- 4.1.38 Feature SP.073 lies to the NW of SP.072 and is a Hut Base measuring 8.0m x 5.0m, orientated E-W. It consists of rough cast concrete and flint pebbles, there is a step out at the west end and a path leads to the next hut.
- 4.1.39 The next hut is feature SP.074, roughly to the NW of SP.073. This measures 11.1m x 5.0m with a 0.7m wide path leading to an entrance on its southern elevation. There are scant remains of the brick base, two courses high, but the foundations are almost complete; it varies from SP.073 as it has a complete concrete foundation. The base is cut into gently sloping ground, formed to make a level platform for the hut. The path leads SSW towards SP.042 & 043.

The group of features described above 042, 043, 072, 073, 074 & 077 appear to be a distinct group, they possibly form areas D & E on Fig.3 'Officers Quarters'.

The features described below, para 4.1.40 – 4.1.47 appear to form another discreet group and possibly were areas B & C on Fig.3, belonging to the 65th Anti-Tank Battery.

- 4.1.40 Connecting Features SP.042 & 043 to buildings further south is feature SP.044, which is a concrete path extending from the steps at the south end of SP. 043 (TQ41894 23678) heads west and then to a point (TQ41894 23678) where it disappears into brambles. The path is then picked up again at TQ41874 23671 and turns SW to TQ41868 23671 and continues to TQ41864 23641 where it becomes covered in leaf litter and brambles. The path itself is of rough concrete, 1.5m wide, and appears similar to that revealed to the south of the Old Fletching Road, SP.027.
- 4.1.41 The path, SP.044, leads SW and then south to foundations which form feature SP.045. This feature is formed of two foundations and a Manhole. The main foundation is orientated N-S and is formed of a concrete slab, 9.43m x 5.03m, with the remains of walls formed of 'FLB' marked bricks (see 4.1.30) and a drain on the east side. Adjacent, 0.7m, to the southern end of this main foundation is a rectangular block of concrete with four rectangular holes (0.11m x 0.17m), possibly for the legs of a small water tower. There are four metal studs, 0.23m in height, beside to the inboard corner of the post holes. There are remains of asbestos/concrete roofing material around the feature and a Manhole adjacent to the SE corner. To the north and NW are concrete paths the north one leading to feature SP.046. It is likely that we are looking at a small

shower block in feature SP.045 and given its small size and location possibly for Officers. Plate 16 & 17.



Plate 16 - An example of a Latrine/shower building associated with Nissen Huts

Plate 17 – Feature 045. Possible Officers Shower Block.



Feature SP.045 looking north (above left) and looking south (above right)



Concrete base to adjacent to the south end of SP.045 (above left) and detail of studs.
(above right)

4.1.42 Feature SP.046 is directly connected to SP.045 via the concrete path, it consists of a concrete base, 5.0m x 3.95m with the remains of brick walling around the edge. There are in-situ remains of a salt glazed toilet pipe, Ø17cm, with a smaller adjacent pipe of Ø10cm against the south wall. At the SW corner of the building is a Ø34cm section of salt glazed horizontal drain pipe on brick. Along the east wall there is a half round, salt glazed, urinal pipe set horizontally into the floor; this is 20cm wide and 10cm deep. In the NE corner is an upstanding, lead, water supply pipe and in the NW corner are fragments of opaque glass. Given this features connection to SP.045 it appears to be a possible Officers Latrine. Approximately 3 metres from the south wall is a drain and cover, of concrete and metal, set in a surround of rough concrete.

Plate 18 - Feature SP.046. Officers Latrine.



Overall view of SP.046 (above left) glazed toilet pipes (above right)



Drain in SW corner (above left) and the glazed urinal pipe (above right)



Water supply pipe in NE corner (above left) and drain cover adjacent from south wall (above right)

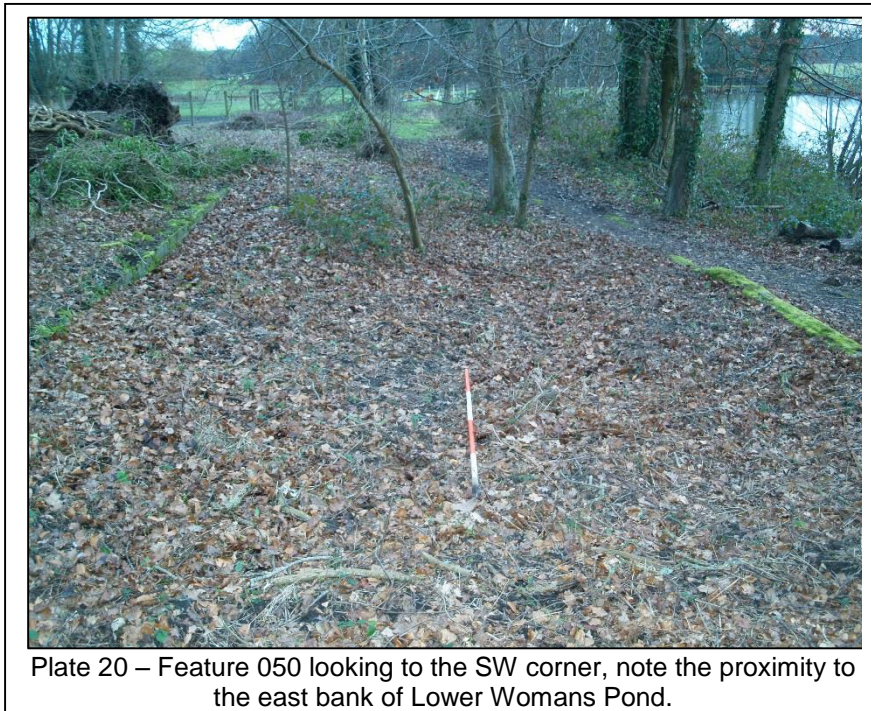
Adjacent to the SW corner is a possible Cess Pit with brick foundation with a concrete half slab covering part of it. The open side has brick and tile fragments, with a void under the concrete slab, generally filled with rubble, Plate 18.

- 4.1.43 The remains of a, possibly rectangular, hut base forms feature SP.047, it is sited adjacent to SP.045 and was built using 'Warnham' bricks, but has now largely disappeared. The width is approximately 5.3m, but the length is uncertain, Plate 19.



- 4.1.44 To the west of this group, SP.046, 047 & 048, on the opposite side of the concrete path there is a concrete and metal drain cover, feature SP.075, which possibly serves this group and the surrounding camp.
- 4.1.45 Feature SP.048 is a discreet levelled platform to the south of SP.047 and 045 which measures 13m x 6m and could possibly be the site of another hut. Most of the physical evidence for the actual building has disappeared apart from a partial wall at the south end, which is in a very poor condition. The path stops at this feature then another path leads to feature SP.050.
- 4.1.46 Directly beside the lake are the remains of a rectangular hut foundation, feature SP.050, which measures 7.2m x 6m, this has a concrete face on its east side and brick face on its western side. The brick elevation has concrete on top covering $\frac{3}{4}$ of the brick width, leaving a slightly exposed brick sill. The north end is dominated by a

large oak, the SW corner is cut by the modern path which runs along the eastern bank of Lower Womans Pond. Plate 20.



- 4.1.47 Directly to the south of SP.050 lies the scant remains of feature SP.076, this was a brick hut base, approximately 11.0m x 5.7m, on a N-S orientation. It sits tight against the path which runs along the eastern bank of Lower Womans Pond, but no longer has an obvious entrance or exit. Brick and tile rubble were noted in a nearby tree throw which consisted largely of yellow, unfrosted, bricks measuring 23.5mm x 11.4mm x 7mm, with some red frosted brick.

The features described above, paras 4.1.40 – 4.1.47 appear to form another discreet group and possibly were areas B & C on Fig.3, belonging to the 65th Anti-Tank Battery between November 1943 and July 1944.

A track leads NW from the Old Fletching Road with features SP.016, 017 & 018 to its NE. From this track another leads off from it to the NE and runs along the eastern side of the Cricket Ground. In the woods north of feature SP.012 the Fletching Camp continues. This maybe the area generally marked on Fig.3 as 'Z' where 'later the 14th Battery formed up...' A series of features were revealed, these are described below.

- 4.1.48 North of SP.012, and in the woods beside the Cricket Ground track, is feature SP.107 which is formed of rectangular hut brick foundation, 17.6m x approximately 5m, set into the slope of the hill with concrete levelling on the southern side. The bricks, forming two remaining courses, are 12cm x 22cm and are marked 'FLB', see para 4.1.30. The foundation is orientated E- W and has a salt glazed drain towards the eastern end with two brick drains, made from 'Warnham' brick, in a line to the east of

it. There is a second salt glazed drain in the SW corner leading to the outside. Outside of the south wall is a 1.6m fragment of concrete coping. Externally on the SE corner is a concrete and brick drain. Also standing 0.9m off the mid-point of the south wall is a substantially built brick feature, 65cm x 80cm with some asbestos tiles; this may have originally formed a chimney. It was noted that there was no evidence of toilets in this hut, but from the amount of drainage provided it may have been a Kitchen Block, which would require a chimney. There is evidence of an entrance at its west end. Plate 21.

Plate 21 – Feature SP.107, the possible Kitchen Hut.



Looking west towards the Cricket Ground (above left) and east (above right)



One of the drain features in SP.107 indicating a possible Catering facility.

- 4.1.50 Further into the woods and slightly to the north is feature SP.108, this poorly surviving hut foundation measures 11.2m x 4.9m and had an entrance at its eastern end and a salt glazed drain in its NE corner. To the east of SP.108 is a concrete and brick structure, approximately 0.9m x 0.8m but possibly longer, with walls 0.25m wide and a possible drain. Between SP.108 and this structure is evidence of an area of hardstanding.
- 4.1.51 Feature SP.109 lies in the woods to the SE of SP.108 and consists of a short length of brick wall, 4.6m by two bricks wide, similar in build to SP.108. There are large broken

slabs of reinforced concrete to the south of this wall line. The purpose of this feature is uncertain, but it is possibly connected to SP.108. Plate 22.



4.1.52 Feature SP.110 is a demolition mound of reinforced concrete, red brick & tile rubble and sits in the wood to the north of 109. Some complete tiles have been found marked with 'XL' within a circle. Plate 23.



4.1.53 Feature SP.111 sits in the woods to the east of SP.112 and is formed of a linear bank, 11m long x 0.5m high and 1.0m wide, and is of an inconsistent shape. There is some evidence of brick rubble and possible back wall of a building platform 4.0m wide. The undergrowth is thick and impenetrable to the north and the exact nature of this feature was not clear.

- 4.1.54 Feature SP.112 lies to the north of SP.108 and is formed of a concrete base, 17m long and 1m wide, orientated E-W. At its west end is a 0.75m high mound covered in brambles. It was not possible to discern where this feature started or where it continued too, but it may be a concrete path similar to SP.027 & 044, see paras 4.1.25 & 4.1.40.
- 4.1.55 To the SE of SP.112 lies feature SP.113, which is not part of Fletching Camp, but an earlier Ornamental Walk, in Walk Wood. It sits on level ground and runs NNW-SSE from TQ41772423 to TQ 41742431, curving slightly to the west, along its route there are vestiges of tree stumps. To the SW there exists a series of undiagnostic shallow pits. At TQ41702427 there is a more apparent old pathway, 2.5m wide, with a small bank on either side, now heaped with modern brushwood; tree stumps on either side were probably planted to mark the walk, Plate 24.

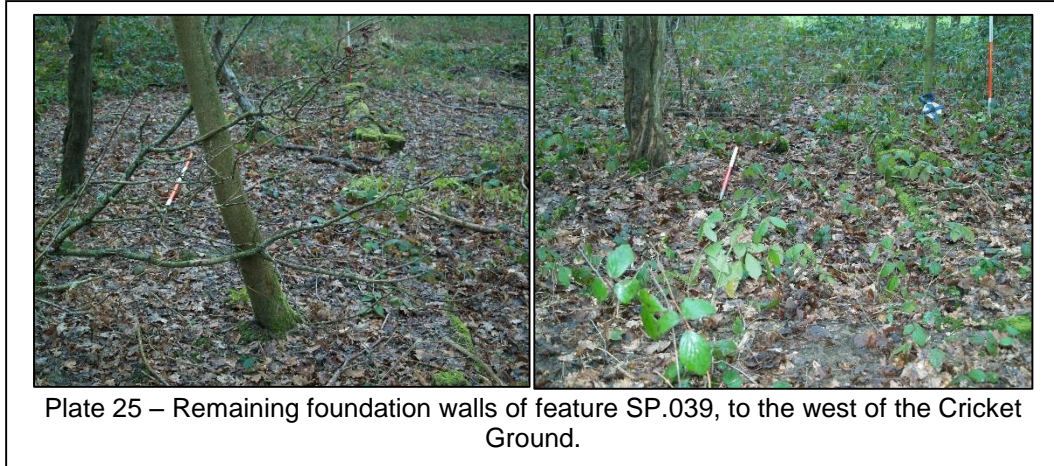


Plate 24 – The ornamental walk which forms feature SP.113

The track leading NE along the eastern edge of the Cricket Ground forks with one branch leading to the Cricket Pavilion and a second running ENE through the woods, to eventually join the track which runs north along the western boundary of the park, adjacent to feature SP.001. Predominantly to the north of this track, over-looking the Cricket Ground are a series of further features which belong to Fletching Camp.

- 4.1.56 This area begins with feature SP.052 which is a ‘Vee’ shaped earthwork; two banks with a hollow inside conjoining at one end. The feature itself is heavily eroded and is in poor condition. Its purpose is uncertain.

4.1.57 Continuing upslope and on the north side of the ENE track is feature SP.039, this consists of a rectangular brick foundation. The north wall is made of 'FLB' bricks, the south wall is completely missing the east and west walls are brick but incomplete. Total length is 11.1m and width of 4.3m. It links to Feature SP.038 by a concrete path which runs along its northern side. The whole feature, possibly another Nissen Hut Base, is dissected by a wire fence, Plate 25.



4.1.58 Feature SP.039 is connected to feature SP.038 by a concrete path. Feature SP.038 is a rectangular open fronted building foundation, 11.3m x 5.0m, it has a Sill with a groove on the SE elevation; possibly for drainage or sliding doors. The SE wall is constructed of red brick 22cm x 11cm x 6 cm, with 2 courses remaining and evidence of mortar on top. The SW elevation has no obvious indication of a cross wall, but has concrete extending 1.0m out from the elevation; this area was difficult to measure accurately



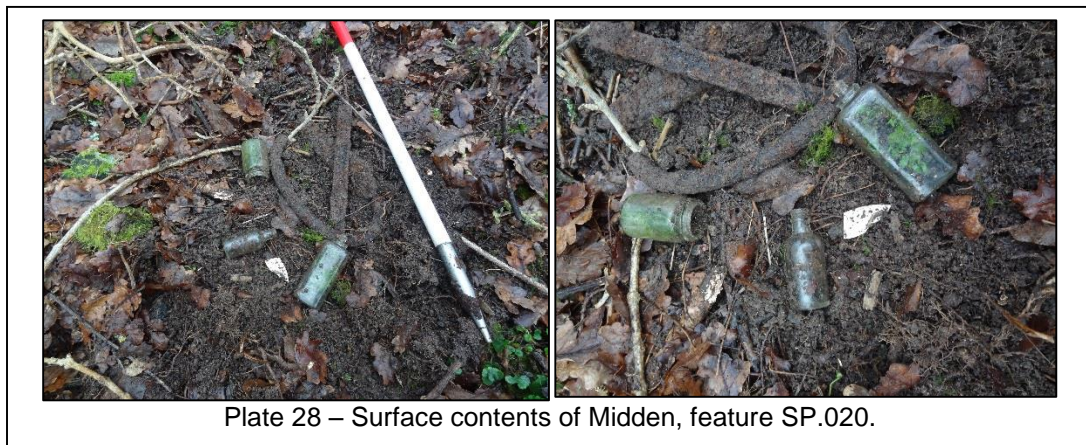
but certainly extends to the path at the east end. There was no apparent surface within the building. Behind the building, to the SE, the ground slopes directly up towards the track from the Cricket Ground. At the NE end a concrete path leads north for about 5.0m, from the corner of the building, then turns left towards feature SP.039, Plate 26.

- 4.1.59 Feature SP.037 is a similar building to SP.038, so possibly they had a similar purpose. Orientated N-S it is 11.2m x 5.4m and has a shared concrete path at the north end. It now consists of a brick foundation wall, the bricks are marked 'FLB', the remains of the east wall is of double beams of concrete with an overall width of 450mm; the outer beam is 190mm, the inner 150mm with a 100mm gap; again possibly for drainage or sliding doors which would give access to the track. The ground slopes up to the track and down to the Cricket Field to the west.
- 4.1.60 To the east of 039 and orientated E-W is feature SP.022, sitting beside the ENE track. This consists of a rectangular brick foundation wall, 11.2m x 5.2m with a possible ramp at the east end. It appears that this feature forms the foundations of another Nissen Hut sitting to the north of the track.
- 4.1.61 Further up the track and on its southern side is feature SP.040 which is a horseshoe shaped earthwork, on steeply sloping ground, with a hollow in the middle up to 0.75m deep. There is an entrance, approximately 2.0m across, the banks are formed by the natural slope raised up to 1.5m. The purpose of this earthwork is uncertain, it is possibly part of the original park, but may form a remote feature of Fletching Camp, Plate 27.



Plate 27 – Two views of feature SP.040 showing the height of the bank and the entrance in the SE corner.

- 4.1.62 To the north of the track and slightly further upslope is feature SP.020 which is a midden/dump. Sitting near to the track it is orientated N-S and it was noted that c.20th Century glass bottles, broken china, small metalwork and coal appeared to make up its contents; no extensive excavation was possible at the time of the survey. The contents of the Midden was left undisturbed for future investigation. Plate 28.



- 4.1.63 At the junction of the ENE track and the track running up the western boundary of the Park from feature SP.001 is a circular, dish shaped earthwork, feature SP.021. This is 0.75m deep with a possible exit on its NNW edge, where there is also evidence of a bank heading NNW down the slope of the hill; this could be a possible trackway. This feature appears unlikely to be a pond, possibly an ornamental feature of some sort. Currently its purpose is unclear.

The NNE track running up from the Cricket Ground eventually meets the most westerly track of the survey area, which runs north from the Old Fletching Road, beside Feature 001. There are several features along this track which were revealed during the survey.

- 4.1.64 Feature SP.100 sits slightly to the west of this track and is formed of a ‘C’ shaped enclosure adjacent with the open side 1.5m from a linear field boundary. Being roughly circular, 3.25m x 3.0m, inside and with a depth of 0.75m, there are traces of brick and flint. Adjacent and to the south is a possible similar earthwork which is extensively overgrown, making the form difficult to see without first clearing the site. It appears to have been used as a dump for fence posts and in addition there are metal objects, tyres and two green enamel cooking pots, Plate 29.

Plate 29 – Feature SP.100



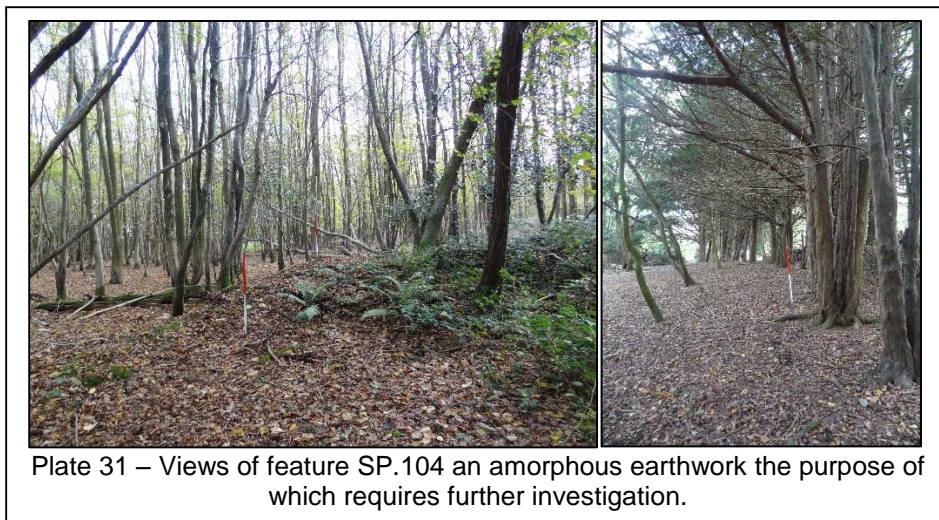
Images of the earthwork forming feature SP.100, including the two enamel pots found there.

4.1.65 There is a Field/Woodland Boundary which consists of a ditch and bank running along the edge of the woodland, feature SP.101. This boundary is 1.0m wide x 0.5m in height with some evidence of managed hedges which are now over grown. At TQ4235223674 there stands an old oak with a 5m girth, measured at 1.5m from the ground, there is damage evident from growths, there are also Beech and Holly growing through it. Plate 30.



Plate 30 – Old Oak which forms part of boundary feature SP.101.

- 4.1.66 The track continues north uphill and at approximately 220 metres from its junction with the Old Fletching Road and to the west is feature SP.102. This is a Linear Feature, possibly a Field Boundary, or Drainage Channel, which runs NNW-SSE, roughly in line with the track. It is shallow, 0.75m wide and runs through wet woodland.
- 4.1.67 Feature SP.103, slightly further north of SP.102 and still on the west of the track, is a relatively modern vehicle track through the surrounding woodland visible in a small clearing, surrounded by bramble and bracken; 8m to the east there is evidence of a second, parallel track which is fairly eroded.
- 4.1.68 No other features were noted along the east side of the track until feature SP.104, approximately 500m north of the junction with the Old Fletching Road. This consists of an amorphous earthwork, up to 0.75m high and 5m at its widest point and possibly dish shaped. It is irregular in plan with evidence of a vehicle track and coppiced hornbeam nearby. Across the track there is evidence of earthworks continuing. Further investigation, perhaps excavation, may reveal more about this features purpose, Plate 31.



- 4.1.69 At the northern end of the track and to its east, before it continues into Manley Wood and at the extreme edge of the survey area a note was made of feature SP.105. This is a Hollow/Trackway with a very stagnant iron rich bog. The trackway itself is 1.5m wide, 0.25m in depth and runs from S-N, uphill from the stream to the higher ground.
- 4.1.70 To the west of the track and further south is a Midden, feature SP.106. This is a 20th century dump of Glassware, Pot & Metal, it included a ‘Tamplins’ table water bottle and part of a Hut Stove. There is also evidence of coal, coke and bricks and some in-situ metal pipe. The latter, and the Hut Stove part, indicates the possibility of a more permanent structure close by, but no evidence was seen to confirm this. Plate 32.



Plate 32 – Details of the Hut Stove found at feature SP.106.

This completes the description of surveyed features to the east of Lower & Upper Womans Way Ponds, in and around the area of Fletching Camp. The survey was extended to the west of the Ponds to include an area of the Lewes Road Camp.

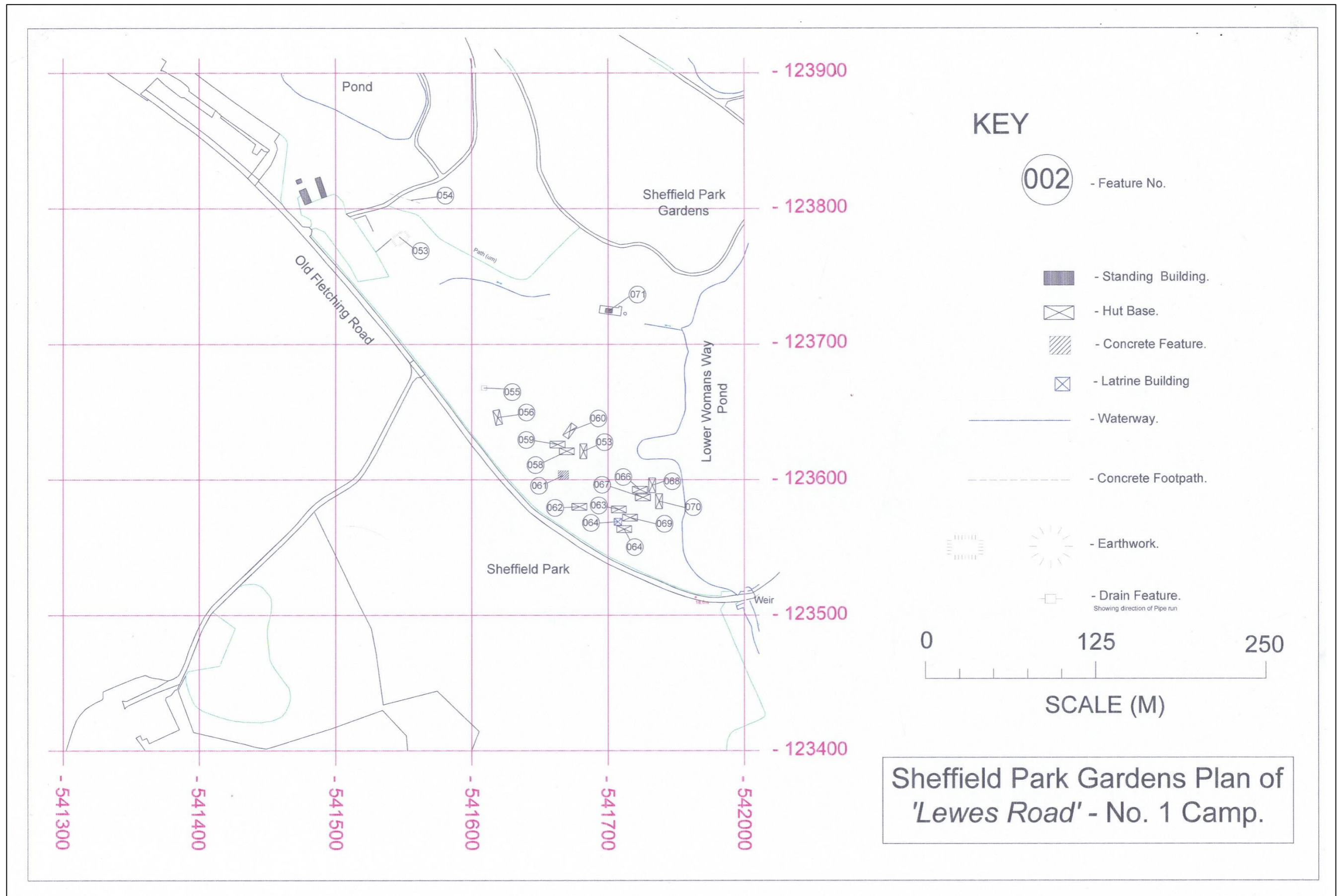


Figure 5 – Detail Map of the survey results from the Lewes Road Camp, Camp No.1

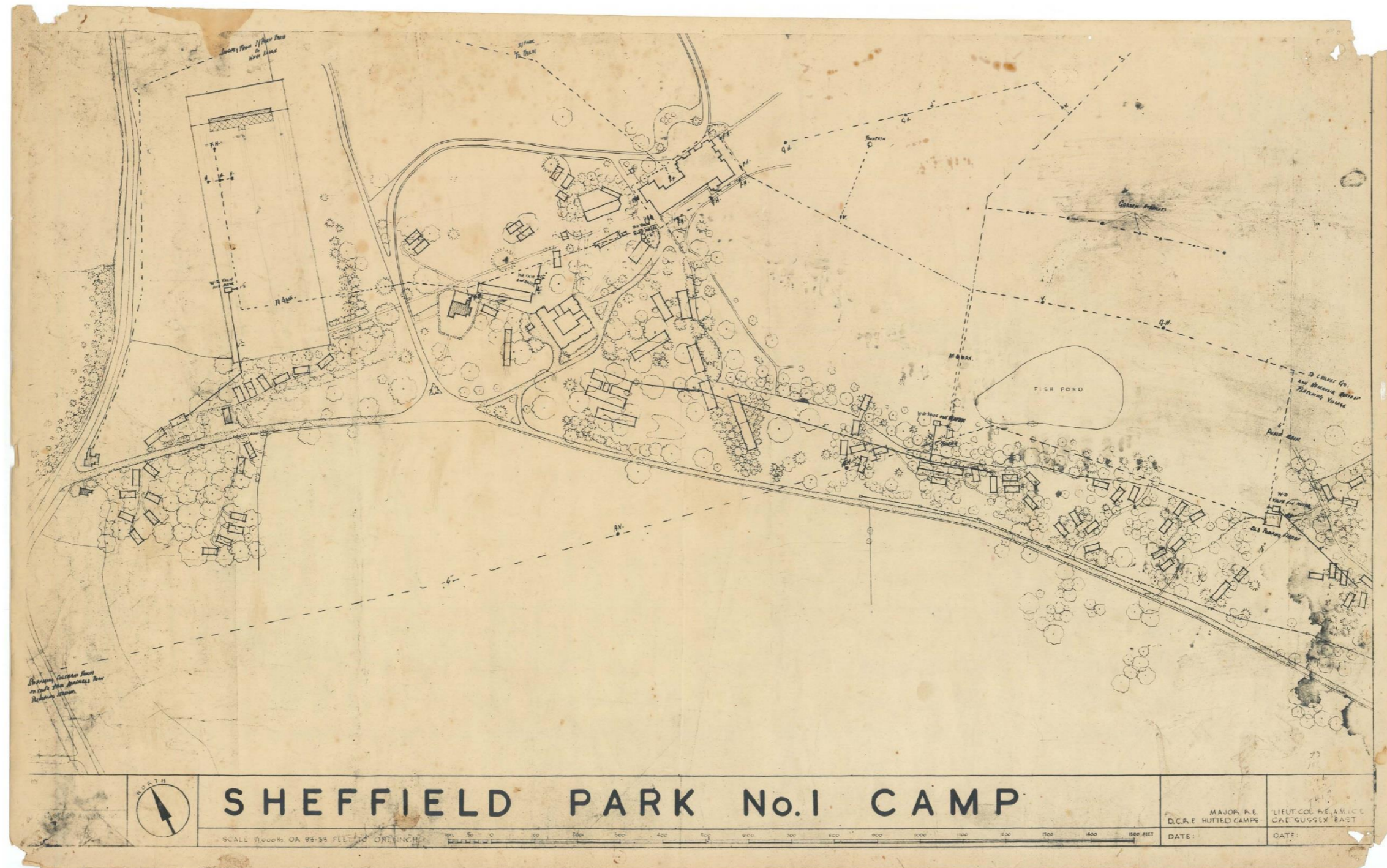


Figure 6 – Wartime Layout of Sheffield Park Camp, Camp No.1, the 'Lewes Road Camp'.

4.2 Sheffield Park – Lewes Road Camp, Camp No.1. (Ref: Figs 5 & 6)

The Lewes Road Camp, Camp No. 1, see Fig.6, extended from the Lewes Road in the west to western edge of Lower Womans Pond and was predominantly sited to the north of the Old Fletching Road and down to the weir at the southern end of Lower Womans Pond. The exception being at the western end, adjoining the Lewes Road, where there are a series of fifteen buildings shown to the south of the road, Fig. 6.

- 4.2.1 Feature SP.053 sits just to the NE of the Ground Staff compound and is formed of an earthwork platform, 8m x 5m, banked up, but also cut into the slope of the ground by up to 0.75m. There is a 2m x 2m concrete pad visible in places towards the north east corner, the concrete is a fine skin in good condition. At TQ 41546 23777, associated with this feature is a concrete path, approximately 1.0m wide on the same alignment as the hut base, running NNE-SSW, it appears to stop just beyond the fence line and is approximately 7m in length, Plate 33.

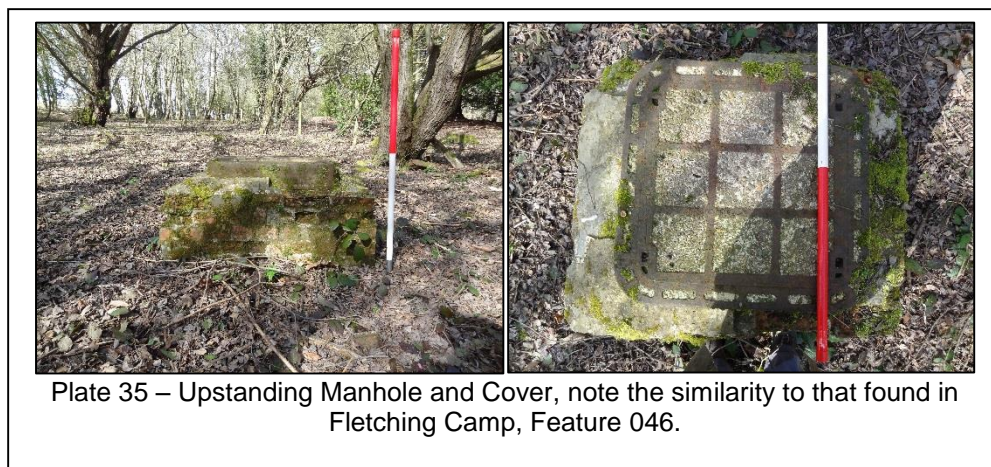


Plate 33 – Hut Base, feature SP.053.

- 4.2.3 Feature SP.054 is sited to the north of SP.053 and is a concrete path running from TQ41540 23811 to TQ 416298 23762. It is approximately 1.0m wide with up to 50% inclusions of flint pebbles, laid in sections it appears on the modern map and is currently still in use, but patched, and passes feature SP.053, Plate 34.



- 4.2.4 Feature SP.055 is an upstanding concrete Manhole with an iron and concrete cover. The upstanding drain is constructed in brick, 103cm x 88cm x 43cm high. The cover is formed of a metal lattice infilled in rough concrete, 70cm x 70cm, and fully set in an upstand covered in a fine mortar skin, which also covers the top of the brick structure. There is evidence of brick and concrete rubble in the vicinity and a large Hut foundation, SP.056, stands nearby, Plate 35.



- 4.2.5 Adjacent and to the south (of what) is feature SP056, which is a substantial Hut base, orientated NW-SE. It consists of brick foundations, 11.4m x 4.9m, with a flight of steps, 130cm wide x 48cm high, at the southern end which descends to a concrete hardstanding. The brick walls at the southern end stand approximately 0.5m high, by two bricks wide, the bricks are marked 'Warnham'. At the northern end is concrete hardstanding, 2.4m x 1.6m, by another entrance on level ground. At the SW corner is a possible drain. Although the Hut itself has been demolished the foundations are considered to be in good condition, Plate 36.



Plate 36 – Hut Foundation SP.056 showing detail of the steps at its southern end (above Left) and a view looking across the feature from the south (above right).

- 4.2.6 The area covered by feature SP.057 had a series of Huts standing on it; the surrounding area itself is very wet and boggy, which has led to a deterioration of some of these features. The best preserved consists of brick foundations, 11.10m long, which is cut into a wet slope with the east wall on more level ground, which is no longer upstanding, the other three walls survive in places up to 0.7m high, at the southern end is a small concrete hardstanding, 78cm x 40cm. Concrete paths probably link the hut bases and survive under deep woodland litter; certainly paths appear to run around the north, western and southern sides, Plate 36.



Plate 36 - Feature SP.057. A general view of the best preserved of the Hut bases here (above left) and a detail of the brickwork forming one corner (above right).

- 4.2.7 Feature SP.058 is another Hut Foundation wall sited to the west and upslope of SP.057, it runs for approximately 6.0m and is 4.9m wide and sits on an obvious platform cut into the gently sloping hillside. The brick wall survives below ground to at least 0.25m and above ground to 15cm. There are possibly the remains of a further wall surviving below ground, Plate 37.



Plate 37 – Feature SP.058 showing the surviving wall in what is very wet and boggy ground.

- 4.2.8 Directly adjacent to SP.058 there is another platform area, feature SP.059, with no visible walls surviving above ground, the platform itself measures 11.4 x 5.0m.
- 4.2.9 Feature SP.060 sits to the NE of SP.059 and is the location of another Hut foundation orientated NNE-SSW, with a concrete path linking it to SP.057. It measures approximately 11.4m x 5.0m and has one brick wall still upstanding, although a lot of the feature is covered in logs and deep leaf litter.
- 4.2.10 Small sections of brick wall, 3m x 0.22m, survive to show where feature SP.061 stood, which again was possibly a Hut foundation. At one end is a fairly level area of woodland with evidence of an upended concrete slab approximately 0.75m x 0.75m x 0.13m. Generally this feature is considered to be in a poor condition.
- 4.2.11 To the south of SP.061 and adjacent to the Old Fletching Road and sits feature SP.062 which is smaller hut base, 9.2m x 5.2m surviving up to 0.2m in height and one brick wide, on reasonably level ground, with only a minimum of digging into the slope. The ground in the centre is very wet and boggy, no obvious concrete path linking this to other huts was found, Plate 38.



Plate 38 – Feature SP. 062 looking west with the Park Road immediately beyond the fence.

4.2.12 Features SP.063 and 064 appear to form possible Latrine/Washing Blocks for, or at least part of, for the Lewes Road Camp. Feature SP.063 is an incomplete building base, possibly a Nissen Hut, but it is difficult to judge the nature of the building. Measuring 16.6m x 3.0m it forms a long narrow building orientated N-S at the lower end of the slope running down from the east. A single glazed, ceramic, drain is visible and a metal standpipe. The building stands above and beyond other Hut bases as the topography slopes up to the nearby Old Fletching Road, but more steeply down from the east. To the south is another building and metal standpipe (Feature SP.064, see 4.2.81) and a concrete path links them a slab, 0.125m x 0.122m x 0.28m exists at the northern end; an up ended concrete slab in the vicinity and path were found at TQ 41704 23574. Plate 39.



Plate 39 – Feature SP.063 showing the glazed drain (above left) the standpipe (above centre) and the concrete slab (above right).

- 4.2.13 Feature SP.064 sits on a levelled area below a possible standpipe and track, there are no visible walls surviving in the area, but in the SE corner, TQ41713 23562, there are possible toilet bases; which are close together making the layout a bit 'cosy'. The lack of surviving walls/foundations make it difficult ascertain the size or orientation, but this appears possibly to have been a latrine block for the part of the camp. Plate 40.



- 4.2.14 Below and to the east of the Latrine Block, SP.064, is another Hut foundation, SP.065, which is linked to the former by an area of concrete. The base is 11.0m x 5.1m with a foundation wall two bricks wide, 0.22m, which survives up to 120mm in height, the building itself is orientated E-W.
- 4.2.15 There stands another group of four huts to the slightly to the NE of the Latrine Blocks, starting with feature SP.066. Feature SP.066 is a levelled area with discreet remains of short brick walls 2.0m x 0.5m, which exhibits a similar build to other Hut foundations and areas of rough concrete. It was not possible to ascertain the size of the building or its orientation, but it appeared to be approximately 11.0m x 5.0m
- 4.2.16 Feature SP.067 measures 11.7m x 5.6m approximately and is sited on fairly levelled ground, but cut slightly back into slope. There are scant remains of up standing walls, which survive up to 0.22m aligned with the long axis parallel to Lower Womans Pond; N-S. This feature is generally considered to be in poor condition. Plate 41.



Plate 41 – Detail of the remaining wall of feature SP.067 showing the state of preservation.

- 4.2.17 Aligned N-S feature SP.068 is another hut foundation, 11.0m x 4.6m, constructed in brick which survives up to 0.3m. There is a large slab of concrete which has been uprooted by a fallen tree. The tree has ceramic insulators attached to it which would have originally been approximately 6m from the ground. The insulators are green glazed spool type with bolts and wire remains in reasonable condition; although they may have been associated with the camp, they probably date from post war activities in the park⁹, Plate 42.
- 4.2.18 There is a further possible hut, feature SP.069 to the SE of SP.068 and close to SP.064. The area has odd slabs of concrete similar to SP.068 and some outside drainage, it sits on level ground overlooking Lower Womans Pond. There is a single corner of a wall remaining at TQ 41720 23580, measuring 1.0m x 0.5m, and evidence of a concrete pad by the entrance. General condition is poor and it appears to have been demolished.
- 4.2.19 To the SE of SP.067 and SP.068 is feature SP.070 which appears to be another Hut Foundation. Sited on level ground by the pond the only concrete remains are a drainage edge and slight evidence of a cut into the bank. It was probably orientated N-S and possibly 11.0m in length; there was no indication of the width. The building appears to have been demolished.

⁹ This type of insulator is typically used for supporting electrical or telephone communications cable. Plate 42 shows that the insulators and the associated wire and bolts appear to be in good condition, not typical of them being there for seventy years. Historical research has not positively identified the type or manufacturer of this insulators, leading to the conclusion they may be relatively modern.

Plate 42 – Details from feature SP.068



Detail of Ceramic Insulators on the fallen tree (above left), the fallen tree and uprooted concrete slab (above right).



Closer view of the uprooted slab showing the thickness of concrete (above left) and a close up detail of the groove fabric of the concrete base (above right)

4.2.20 Feature SP.071 is part of the Park's water management system and is the remains of the pumping station; it is sited midway up Lower Womans Pond and approximately 50m to the west of it. The building is shown on the OS Map (circa 2000) but no longer exists, it is now enclosed by a chestnut paling fence, and has no access. Orientated E-W, there is a domed concrete feature with a lid on the top and a rectangular brick and concrete base, all with a square form wire cage over it. There are grids in-situ and an obvious drain, possibly leading up to this feature is a part concrete channel. In the NW corner are concrete covers over deep brick and concrete shafts. This feature may be part, or formerly part, of the Park's water management system, Plate 43.

Plate 43 – Feature SP. 071, former Water Pumping Site.



Feature 071 surrounded by the Chestnut Paling fence and brambles (top left), the concrete dome and cover (top right) and a view of the feature with its wire enclosure cage (bottom).

This completes the description of the features revealed, within the limits of the survey, across the areas of the former Fletching and Lewes Road Camps. In referring to Fig.6 it is obvious that the Lewes Road Camp extended further to the west and at one point to the south of the Old Fletching Road, a continuation of this survey would complete the understanding of the extent and remains of this camp. Equally if it were possible to extend the survey area eastwards it may be possible to reveal further elements of the Fletching Camp.

4.3 Walk Wood. (Ref: Fig.7)

Walk Wood forms the NW area of Sheffield Park and the survey was commissioned to look at any remaining features associated with the ornamental walks originally located in this wood, with a possible view to reinstating the original walks and ornamental features. The features revealed by this part of the survey formed features SP.113 – 118.

- 4.3.1 Adjacent to a modern track, running NE in walk wood is feature SP.113. This is an Ornamental Walk orientated NNW-SSE which curves slightly to the west. Sited on level ground it retains vestiges of tree stumps. To the SW of this walk are a number of undiagnostic shallow pits. At TQ 4170 2427 there is a more apparent old pathway, 2.5m wide, with a small bank on either side which is now heaped with modern brushwood. Tree stumps are visible on either side and were possibly planted to mark the original line of the walk, Plate 44.



Plate 44 – The ornamental walk, feature SP.113

- 4.3.2 Feature SP.114 is a bank which follows a boundary marked on the map, it is 3.0m wide, with no sign of an accompanying ditch, and 0.75m in height with a rounded top. It is obscured at the bottom end by a ridge of, probably, dumped soil. At TQ 4170 2429 the bank diverts from the modern boundary line and continues through woodland in a more eroded form and has the appearance of a Lynchet; at TQ 4170 2429 the bank is cut by feature SP.115.

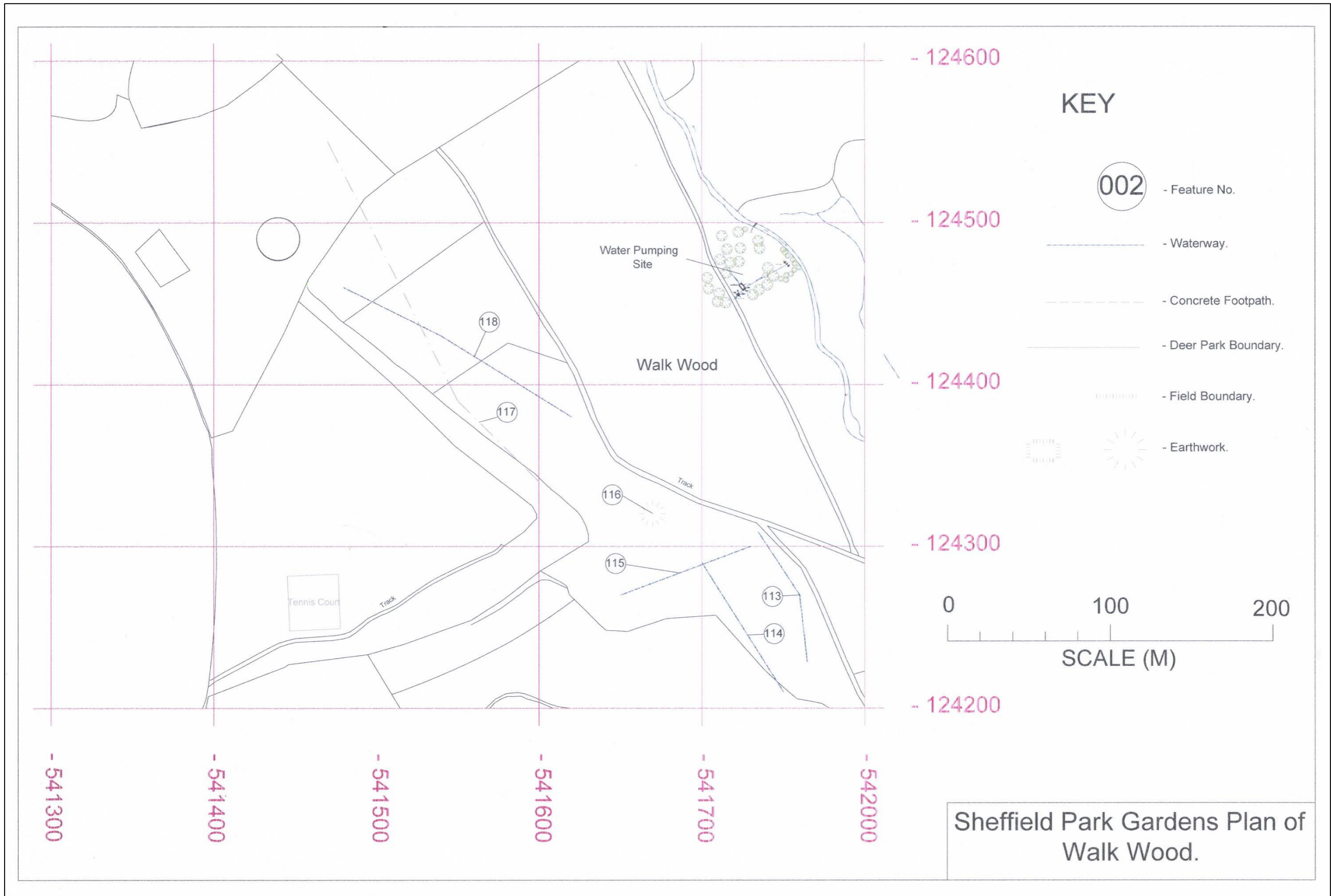
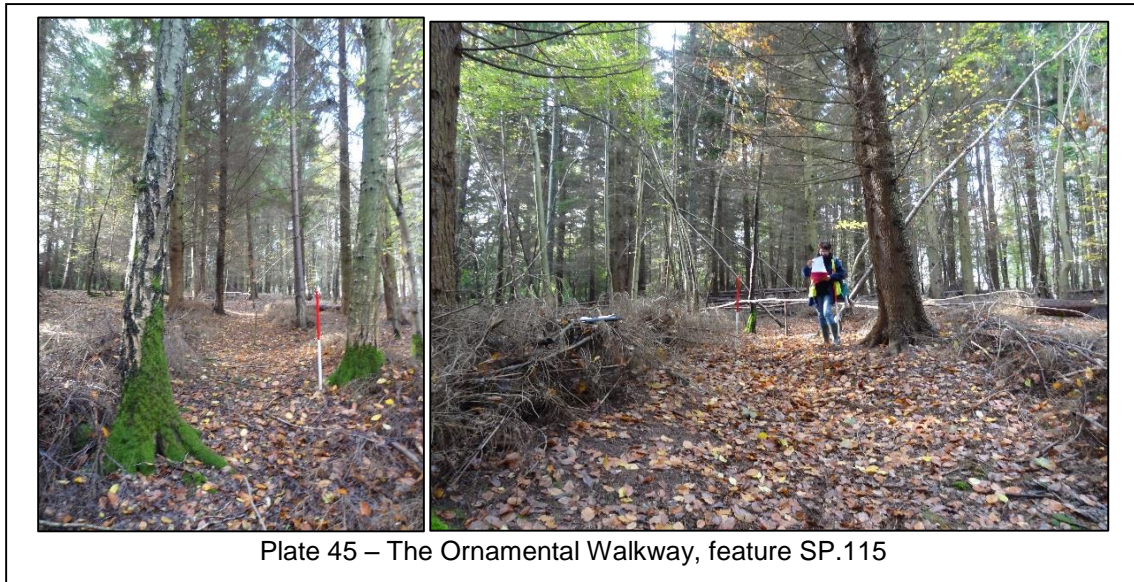


Figure 7 – Detail Map of the survey results from Walk Wood

- 4.3.3 Feature SP.115, meets SP.114 at its midpoint and is an Ornamental Walk running E-W, a brushwood lining on each side obscures its detail. It appears to be in the form of a Hollow Way running up the hill to the west. There are more undiagnostic pits situated to the north of this feature, which may be the remnant of tree throws; the trees having since been removed. At TQ 4165 2427 the feature fades out at a modern fence line and there is no visible signs of tree planting along its edges, Plate 45.



- 4.3.4 An Ornamental Walkway and Mound make up feature SP.116 which is deeper and more obvious, 2.0m x 0.7m than those already described. It runs NNE-SSW curving gently uphill passing a large mound on its west side, approximately 1.7m high and 4.0m in diameter. The ground at this point rises steeply so the mound tapers off to the west. At the top of the mound are some unfrosted bricks and sandstone, which may have been part of a building on the site and formed an ornamental garden feature. The NGR at the end of the feature coincides with feature SP.115. Severe storm damage to feature SP.116, with downed trees made it difficult to survey, but a lime tree was noted at the base of the track, Plate 46.

The presence of lime trees, which are not indigenous, are an indication of a planned landscape layout, they were often planted as avenues, or in towns and cities for their shade. The presence of a multi-stem lime, para 4.3.6, may be an indication of these being coppiced, but what for is unclear, alternatively it may simply be the result of the tree being felled. An example of coppiced lime can be seen at Westonbirt Arboretum.¹⁰

¹⁰ www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-73egts



Plate 46 – The route of Ornamental Walkway, feature SP.116, through Walk Wood (above left) and evidence of Coppiced Trees along the route (above right).

- 4.3.5 Feature SP.117 is a Deer Park Boundary formed of flat bank, approximately 12.0m wide, running E-W. The current boundary fence runs along the south edge of the bank, at TQ 4162 2428 the feature turns E-W and into smaller woodland type ditch, 3.0m wide and 0.5m high. Coppiced hornbeam were noted along the southern edge of the ditch along with remains of Barbed Wire and old metal railings. At TQ 4155 2439 the wide bank continues and finishes at TQ 4147 2455 where it tends to peter out into a less steep bank and ditch, with an old hedge line planted at the base of the ditch; coppice Hornbeam and Beech were noted adjacent to the feature Plate 47.



Plate 47 – The Deer Park boundary which forms feature SP.117.

- 4.3.6 Feature SP.118, which runs SE-NW, is the remains of another, shallow, Ornamental Walk; it is 2.0m wide and the edges are obscured with brushwood. Both multi stemmed lime and up rooted trees were noted on this walk. The route itself starts at TQ 4162 2438, curves very slightly to the south at TQ 4154 2443 and finishes at TQ 4148 2446 Plate 48.



Plate 48 – The route of Ornamental Walkway SP.118 defined by ranging poles.

- 4.3.7 A Hydraulic Pumping Site is also situated in Walk Wood, this originally had a water wheel driven pump with supplied water to the house and estate. This is the subject of a separate report by Keith Butler issued in July 2015, which is appended to this report. The site of this feature is noted on Fig. 2.

5 Finds by Andy Bradshaw.

5.1 SURFACE FIND FROM WITHIN THE FOUNDATION WALLS OF THE NISSEN HUT SP.030.

A single rectangular ceramic block, cream in colour, 58.48mm x 39.5mm x 14.9mm (Plate 13). Moulded on the front face with '*MEM DIX*' and '*UK Patent*' in a moulded circle. The reverse has two 'T' shaped raised blocks at either end, these blocks have pivoted metal end fittings of copper. Beneath these fitting are small wire-channels running in line with the long axis and underneath the 'T'. There is a counterbored hole, Ø15.88mm in the centre, with a smaller Ø6.64mm open hole at its centre. Moulded on to the reverse is '*Wire Thru Hole*', '*Made in England*', '*Copper*', '*10A 29.3 WG*', '*5A 34.8 WG*', '*Hole*', '*Copper*', '*63/2*' & '*B*'.

The artefact is the central portion of a MEM DIX light switch of mid-20th Century in date, which possibly formed part of the electrical system in the Nissen Hut, see para 4.1.28.

No. of Pieces: 1 Wt.: 76gm

6.0 Conclusions and Recommendations.

6.1 Camp No. 2 - East Park.

Camp No.2, the Fletching Camp, has revealed a series of new features adding to the understanding of the camp's extent, particularly to the south of the Old Fletching Road, SP.023 – 036. These features correspond to those labelled 'F, G & H' on the wartime sketch map and define the home of 96th Anti-Tank Battery RCA (Royal Canadian Artillery) at this period, November 1943 – July 1944, Fig.3. Additionally the feature labelled 'A' 'Guardroom & Sleeping Quarters for Guards' in fig.3 appears to be SP.035 and/or 036 in the survey; this and the barrier across the road at that point define the westerly entrance to the camp. This indicates that this Guardroom and barrier, SP.035 & 036, at the southern end of Lower Woman's Pond was a check point segregating the two camps where two different units of the Canadian army; the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division (Camp No.1) and the 4th Canadian Armoured Division (Camp No.2) were billeted.¹¹

Note - The blocks on Fig. 3 are should be interpreted as areas, not as individual huts or buildings, experience during the survey has revealed a number of huts or buildings in each location.

Referring back to Fig.3 the eastern extent of the camp is defined by 'L' again 'Guard Room & Sleeping Quarters for Guards'; locations 'M' and 'N' are not identified. However 'J' and 'K' are called 'Kitchen and Ablutions', these were identified during to the survey as SP.010 – 012 and so potentially place 'L' to the east of the survey area. This and the lack of defensive, or security, positions along the eastern edge of the survey area, see para 4.1.64 – 4.1.68, indicate that the survey has not defined the eastern edge of the camp. A contemporary account also states that the 'camp was accessed via the Lodge archway from the (Fletching) village'¹² so the eastern extent of the camp is beyond the current survey area.

Recommendation: that the survey be extended eastwards as far as the location of the Lodge archway with the purpose of recording and identifying the remaining features of the camp. This may also determine the position of 'X', 'Parade Square on open ground and tanks and other vehicles around perimeter under trees', shown on fig.3.

Features SP.010 – 012 appear to be the main Catering and Ablution blocks for the No.2 Camp, some smaller latrine blocks were identified scattered around the camp.

¹¹ General Order 132/42 effective 26 January 1942 converted the 4th Canadian Infantry Division to an Armoured Division, which may explain the mixture of units at Sheffield Park.
www.canadiansoldiers.com

¹² *The Maple Leaf Army in Britain*. Longstaff-Tyrrell & Berry. Gote House Publishing 2002. P34

Recommendation: These would provide an ideal target for a volunteer excavation to understand the full extent and construction of this group.

The only, potentially, defensive position possibly identifying a camp boundary found within the survey area was against the woodland boundary to the south of the Old Fletching Road, SP.029. This is a length of zig-zagged Slit Trench the purpose of which could also be as an emergency shelter in case of an air raid especially given the lack of other supporting defensive features along this line.

Areas 'B & C', on Fig.3, are identified as the home of the 65th Anti-Tank Battery RCA and some of these features have been identified during the survey; SP.045 – 048, SP.050 & SP.070 along the eastern bank of Lower Woman's Pond.

To the north of these features are D & E, fig.3, which are defined as 'Officers Quarters', these were also identified during the survey as SP.042, 043, 073, 074 and possibly 077, including two substantial structures, SP042 & 043, which may have been more elaborate buildings. A concrete path connecting the features along this eastern bank was also identified.

Recommendation: that a more extensive clearing back of brambles and undergrowth in this area to the east of Lower Woman's Pond may reveal more of the camp layout, pathways and form an attractive and informative visitors walk. Either SP.042 or 043, if stabilized and refurbished could form a viewing platform over Lower Woman's Pond.

The Fletching Camp continued alongside the track leading up the east side of the Cricket Ground, labelled as 'Z' 'Later the 14th Battery formed up in this area'.¹³ Several more sites were identified in the woods to the east, in area 'Z', including SP.037 & 038 which were of particular interest as they appeared to be open, or at least to have extensive doors, on one side; their exact purpose being uncertain.

Recommendation: the area around SP.037 & 038 was extensively overgrown, if it was cleared back further features may be exposed and a more detailed understanding of this part of the camp and its purpose may be possible. Additionally areas of concrete path were noted which would form the basis of a further visitor walk.

The survey noted that the area of the East Park Camp had been furnished with extensive drains, including manholes and possible cess pits, some of which lie open making this area unsuitable for grazing of cattle unless a programme of extensive clearance is undertaken and the extent of this system is determined and made safe. These drains were also evident in the Lewes Road Camp, on the opposite side of Lower Woman's Pond, all of these systems most probably connect with the Sewage Plant which is situated to the SSE of Lower Woman's Pond, NGR: TQ 417 233.¹⁴

¹³ All three of the Anti-Tank Batteries named, the 14th, 65th and 96th Batteries RCA formed the 5th Anti-Tank Regiment RCA along with the 3rd Battery and were part of the 4th Canadian Armoured Division. The location of the 3rd Battery may be in a part of the Park not covered by the present survey area.

¹⁴ *WWII Structures, Sheffield Park, East Sussex, Project No. 3510.* Henderson, M. Archaeology South-East. September 2008.

6.2 Camp No. 1 – Lewes Road Camp.

The Lewes Road Camp extends from the southern end of Lower Woman's Pond to the current Lewes Road entrance, Fig.6. However, the survey area only extended as far as the Ground Staff Compound on the north side of the Old Fletching Road, Fig.5.

The contemporary, wartime, plan of the camp shows the layout but does not indicate the use of individual features, or any units that may have been in residence there; although we know that the first unit to occupy the camp was the Regiment de la Chaudiere in October 1941, see Section 2 above. There is a slight overlap with Fig.3, and although not clearly discernible on the map, it may be area 'Y', located against the Old Fletching Road, to the east of Lower Woman's Pond; this area being labelled as '12th Field Regiment' (RCA).¹⁵

The survey revealed two features to the south-east of the Pond, 'Fish Pond' on the wartime map Fig. 6, both adjacent to the south west end of the Ground Staff compound; these were a Hut platform and a Concrete path, the latter being still in use today. No further features were revealed until the south western bank of Lower Woman's Pond, which may indicate that any features in this area have been effectively demolished and robbed out. An overlay of the wartime map Fig. 8 and this area of the survey map, Fig. 5, shows that huts did exist in this area and that the camp extended as far as the Lewes Road entrance, Fig. 6.

By Lower Woman's Pond there were a complex of Hut Bases, including possible Ablutions and Hut platforms and more Concrete pathway. It is not possible to identify any units that may have been billeted here, or the uses of individual features; beyond latrines and ablutions.

Recommendations: The survey revealed features of the No.1 Camp that did not appear on the wartime map, the camp also extends beyond the surveys boundary. Extending the survey area to cover the entire area shown on the wartime map would document the remaining features of the camp and help to place in context the features revealed by the survey.

The survey showed that an extensive system of concrete paths were laid for both camps, some of those for the Lewes Road Camp are still in use. If the remaining were cleared and stabilized they could be used to provide public walks, particularly for the partially disabled.

¹⁵ The 12th Field Regiment RCA was part of the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade, 3rd Canadian Infantry Division, as was the Regiment de la Chaudiere.

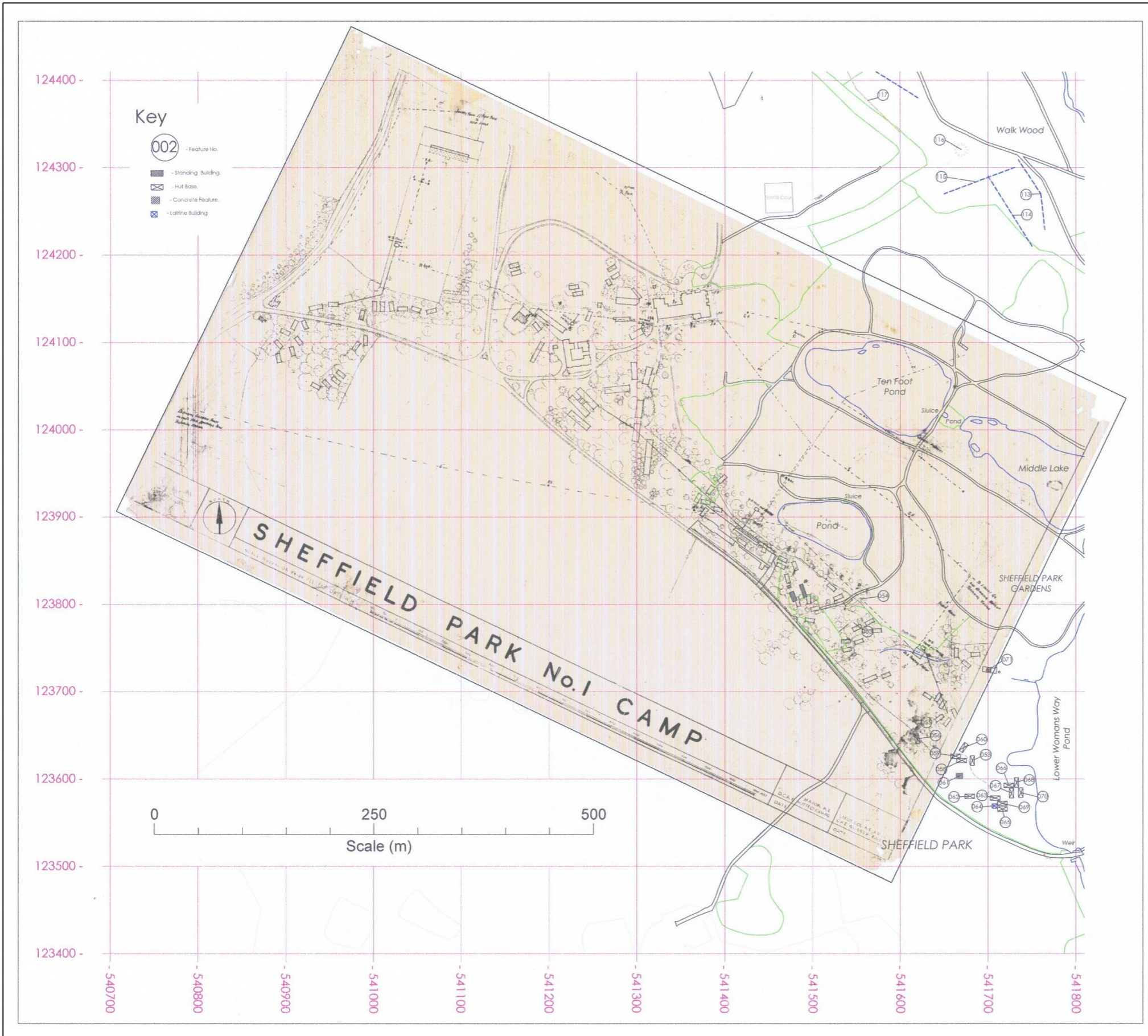


Fig. 8 – The Lewes Road Camp, No. 1, an area occupied by units of the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division.

The Survey Map is overlaid with the wartime map of the Lewes Road Camp, No. 1 Camp, showing the camp's original extent from the Lewes Road to the barrier at the south end of Lower Woman's Pond; the junction with Fletching Camp, No. 2.

There are a number of features missing between SP.053 & 054 and the group adjacent to Lower Woman's Pond, which indicate they have been demolished and removed.

Also it is noticeable how much existed to the west of the Ground Staff compound and the Lewes Road; and area in which the survey could be extended to complete the understanding of the entire camp.

The surviving remains of the two camps at Sheffield Park are significant in that a large amount of the camps infrastructure survives, all but as foundations, to provide us with detail about the layout and the daily life in this type of semi-permanent wartime camp; additionally more of the camp possibly remains to be identified by extending the survey area.

Apart from providing a memorial to the thousands of Canadian servicemen that were stationed here throughout those years of the second world war, the state of its preservation is possibly unique, in that it was not converted for other use after the war, but was decommissioned and so represents a unique example of a semi-permanent camp from this period preserved in its period condition.

Camps of the period tended to be relatively transitory, tented, or of temporary hutments, being dismantled once units moved on; even most pre D-Day camps did not have concrete paths, drains and few solid foundations on the scale identified at Sheffield Park. Other local camps, such as Isfield, were developed after the war for other uses, changed from their original form, and are now under threat of being cleared for modern development.

Sheffield Park, thanks to its preservation by the National Trust, provides an insight into life on a semi-permanent wartime training camp, a memorial to the citizen soldiers of the allied armies and a unique leaning resource about an important historical period now fast disappearing from living memory.

6.3 Walk Wood

In Walk Wood a number of archaeological features were identified and recorded, including a large boundary bank, which may have later been used as a pathway. Some of the original walk paths have been found, but due to later replanting and the use of brash to mark out the paths some archaeological features are either hidden from view or have been lost.

Walk Wood has historically been an integral part of the Sheffield Park parkscape, but during the 20th century the wood was separated from the Garden and used as plantation woodland. The survey revealed parts of four Ornamental Walks, SP.113, 115, 116 & 118, also a boundary bank, SP.114 and part of the Deer Park Boundary, SP.117. In addition a mound, its age and purpose being uncertain, was identified as part of SP.116.

A Hydraulic Pumping Site is also situated in Walk Wood, this originally had a water wheel driven pump with supplied water to the house and estate. This is the subject of a separate report by Keith Butler PCi/a issued in July 2015. The site of this feature is noted on Fig. 2.

Recommendations: The National Trust's aim to reintegrate Walk Wood with the Garden and allow access to visitors, with the removal of conifers and restoration of the

area to coppice and standards with bluebell and bracken understory, should attempt to incorporate the lengths of the original 17th/early 18th century walks identified by the survey. When clearing operations are commenced it is recommended that an extension of the current survey be undertaken to identify any lengths of these original walks which may then be revealed, before the course of the finished walks are finalised.

7.0 Acknowledgements

7.1 I would like to thank Tom Dommett of the National Trust for commissioning this survey, and all the Staff at Sheffield Park for their help, advice and hospitality during the survey. I would also like to thank Vivienne Blandford for the Walk Wood Survey as well as her help with the survey of the former Canadian Army Camps. Special thanks go to all the National Trust Volunteers who took part in the survey through rain and mud and without whose help it would not have been possible. The project was managed for CBAS by Chris Butler MCIfA.

Appendix 1 – Schedule of Sites found during the Survey.

Survey Ref No.	National Grid Ref	NT Property, Region	Monument Type	Period	MES/NMR Number
SP001	TQ4229 2358	Sheffield Park	Triple Nissen Hut	WW2	
SP002	TQ4226 2363	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP003	TQ 4227 2365	Sheffield Park	Robbed Out Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP004	TQ 4222 2367	Sheffield Park	Earthwork	Possibly WW2	
SP005	TQ 4224 2364	Sheffield Park	Fragment of Brick Structure.	WW2	
SP006	TQ 4221 2367	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP007	TQ 4217 2371	Sheffield Park	Brick Foundations	WW2	
SP008	TQ 4219 2370	Sheffield Park	Isolated Area of Concrete	Possibly WW2	
SP009	TQ 4216 2369	Sheffield Park	Manhole and Retaining Wall	WW2	
SP010	TQ 4214 2372	Sheffield Park	Large Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP011	TQ 4216 2370	Sheffield Park	Large Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP012	Unknown – adjacent to SP011	Sheffield Park	Large Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP013	TQ 4215 2368	Sheffield Park	Manhole	WW2	
SP014	TQ 4217 2369	Sheffield Park	Brick Foundation Walls	WW2	
SP015	TQ 4217 2369	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP016	4213 2369	Sheffield Park	Brick Lined Pit	WW2	
SP017	TQ 4212 2370	Sheffield Park	Brick Lined Pit	WW2	
SP018	TQ 4210 2371	Sheffield Park	Earthwork	Unknown	
SP019	TQ 4214 2373	Sheffield Park	Brick Lined Pit	WW2	
SP020	TQ 4214 2373	Sheffield Park	Midden	19 th – 20 th Century	
SP021	TQ 4235 2392	Sheffield Park	Earthwork	19 th – 20 th Century	
SP022	TQ 4223 2388	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP023	TQ 42288 23570	Sheffield Park	Part Brick Foundation	WW2	
SP024	TQ 422251 23576	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP025	TQ 42235 23579	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	

Survey Ref No.	National Grid Ref	NT Property, Region	Monument Type	Period	MES/NMR Number
SP026	TQ 42220 23596	Sheffield Park	Concrete Rubble	WW2	
SP027	TQ 42205 23588	Sheffield Park	Concrete Path	WW2	
SP028	TQ 42166 23586	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP029	TQ 42116 23574	Sheffield Park	Slit Trench	WW2	
SP030	TQ 42074 23559	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP031	TQ 42027 23584	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP032	TQ 42009 23557	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP033	TQ 42009 23557	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP034	TQ 41935 23559	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP035	TQ 41916 23565	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP036	TQ 41916 23565	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP037	TQ 42255 23874	Sheffield Park	Building Foundation	WW2	
SP038	TQ 42215 23891	Sheffield Park	Building Foundation	WW2	
SP039	TQ 42200 23871	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP040	TQ 42300 23885	Sheffield Park	Earth Work	Unknown	
SP041	Unknown	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP042	TQ 4188 23696	Sheffield Park	Building Foundation	WW2	
SP043	TQ 41908 23631	Sheffield Park	Building Foundation	WW2	
SP044	TQ 41885 23677	Sheffield Park	Concrete Path	WW2	
SP045	TQ 41862 23644	Sheffield Park	Building Foundation	WW2	
SP046	TQ 41864 23651	Sheffield Park	Building (Latrine) Foundation	WW2	
SP047	TQ 41856 23650	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP048	TQ 41852 23622	Sheffield Park	Building Platform	WW2	
SP049	TQ 41844 23606	Sheffield Park	Building Foundation	WW2	
SP050	TQ 42180 23877	Sheffield Park	Earth Work	Possibly WW2	
SP051		Sheffield Park		WW2	
SP052		Sheffield Park		WW2	

Survey Ref No.	National Grid Ref	NT Property, Region	Monument Type	Period	MES/NMR Number
SP053	TQ 41547 23779	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP054	TQ 41540 23811 to TQ 41629 23762	Sheffield Park	Concrete Path	WW2	
SP055	TQ 41609 23668	Sheffield Park	Concrete & Iron Drain Cover	WW2	
SP056	TQ 41619 23646	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP057	TQ 41681 23621	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundations	WW2	
SP058	TQ 41672 23621	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP059	TQ 41663 23626	Sheffield Park	Building Platform	WW2	
SP060	TQ 41672 23636	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP061	TQ 41667 23603	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP062	TQ 41679 23580	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP063	TQ 41708 23578	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP064	TQ 41710 23569	Sheffield Park	Latrine Block Foundation	WW2	
SP065	TQ 41712 23568	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP066	TQ 41725 23591	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation?	WW2	
SP067	TQ 41727 23590	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP068	TQ 41727 23590	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP069	TQ 41732 23594	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP070	TQ 41732 23594	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP071	TQ 41732 23594	Sheffield Park	Pumping Station	19 th /20 th Century	
SP072	TQ 41918 23706	Sheffield Park	Earthwork	Possibly WW2	
SP073	TQ 41902 23723	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP074	TQ 41888 23726	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP075	TQ 41874 23656	Sheffield Park	Concrete & Metal Drain Cover	WW2	
SP076	TQ 41845 23602	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP077	TQ 41853 236	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	

Survey Ref No.	National Grid Ref	NT Property, Region	Monument Type	Period	MES/NMR Number
SP100	TQ 42338 23645	Sheffield Park	Earthwork	Possibly WW2	
SP101	TQ 42346 23671	Sheffield Park	Field/Woodland Boundary	19 th /20 th Century	
SP102	TQ 42399 23810	Sheffield Park	Drainage Channel	19 th /20 th Century	
SP103	TQ 42416 23854	Sheffield Park	Track	Unknown	
SP104	TQ 42318 24098	Sheffield Park	Earthwork	Unknown	
SP105	TQ 42270 24123 to TQ 42313 24060	Sheffield Park	Hollow Trackway	Unknown+	
SP106	TQ 42310 24022	Sheffield Park	Midden	20 th Century	
SP107	TQ 42516 23791	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP108	TQ 42169 23792	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP109	TQ 42819 23780	Sheffield Park	Possible Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP110	TQ 42197 23794	Sheffield Park	Possible Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP111	TQ 42196 23830	Sheffield Park	Nissen Hut Foundation	WW2	
SP112	TQ 42169 23822	Sheffield Park	Concrete	Possibly WW2	
SP113	TQ 4177 2423	Sheffield Park	Ornamental Walk	19 th /20 th Century	
SP114	TQ 4175 2421	Sheffield Park	Boundary Bank	19 th /20 th Century	
SP115	TQ 4173 2430	Sheffield Park	Ornamental Walk	19 th /20 th Century	
SP116	TQ 4167 2432	Sheffield Park	Ornamental Walk & Mound	19 th /20 th Century	
SP117	TQ 4160 2434	Sheffield Park	Deer Park Boundary	19 th /20 th Century	
SP118	TQ 4162 2438	Sheffield Park	Ornamental Walk	19 th /20 th Century	

Appendix 3 – HER Summary Form.

Sussex HER summary sheet

HER enquiry No.	N/A					
Site code	SPG.14					
Project code	CBAS0517					
Planning reference	N/A					
Site address	Sheffield Park Gardens,					
District/Borough	Fletching, Wealden District.					
NGR (12 figures)	TQ 420000 240000					
Geology	Tunbridge Wells Sand with overlay of Grinstead Clay					
Fieldwork type	Eval	Excav	WB*	HBR*	Survey	Other
Date of fieldwork	January 2015					
Sponsor/client	National Trust – Tom Dommett					
Project manager	Chris Butler					
Project supervisor	Andy Bradshaw					
Period summary	Palaeolithic	Mesolithic	Neolithic	Bronze Age	Iron Age	
	Roman	Anglo-Saxon	Medieval	Post-Medieval	Other	
Project summary (100 word max)	Identified and recorded features of the WW2 Lewes Road and Fletching Canadian Army Camps. Identified and recorded remaining sections of Ornamental Walks and other archaeological features in Walkwood as part of the NT project to restore and return the wood to public access.					
Museum/Accession No.	N/A					

*WB – Watching brief; HBR – historic building recording

Finds summary

Find type	Material	Period	Quantity
Ceramic & Metal	Ceramic & Metal	Post Medieval	1pc/76g