

# West Sussex County Council Event/Activity Full Report

29/08/2018

Number of records: 5

## Event/Activity Data

| Event ID | Event Name                                               | Event Type            |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| EWS1798  | Westergate Phase 1, Aldingbourne - Desk Based Assessment | Desk Based Assessment |

### External Reference:

Dates: 01/02/2017 - 28/02/2017, between (February 2017)

### Project Details:

#### Event/Activity Types

Desk-Based Assessment

#### Thesaurus Event Types

DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

#### Event/Activity References - None recorded

Organisation: Development Archaeology Services

#### Associated Individuals - None recorded

#### Associated Organisations - None recorded

### Location

Westergate Phase 1  
Westergate Street

#### Grid Reference

Centred SU 94126 04725 (470m by 909m) SU90SW Area

#### Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Aldingbourne, Arun, West Sussex  
District Arun, West Sussex

#### Address

Westergate Phase 1, Westergate Street, Aldingbourne, West Sussex

### Description and Sources

#### Description

A desk based assessment was carried out on land at Westergate (Phase 1) in advance of a proposed residential development. The site occupies a number of enclosed fields. A watercourse (Lidsey Rife) forms the eastern boundary of the assessment site and the railway line from Chichester to Brighton forms the southern site boundary. The site lies at a height of approximately 8m aOD. The site lies on deep stoneless silty soils of the Park Gate Series which overlie aeolian silty drift deposits of brickearth.

A Mesolithic flint working site has been found in the garden of Croft Cottages at Westergate, to the north-west of the assessment site. Other finds of late Mesolithic worked flint were found at an evaluation at Ivy Lane, Westergate in 2000 to the north of the assessment site. These finds indicate the potential for similar such activity and finds to be made on this site, though this is considered to be low.

An assemblage of Neolithic worked flints was found to the north of the assessment site in a ploughed field in 2005. This appears to be a relatively isolated find. It is considered that the potential for further archaeological activity and finds from this period to be found here is low.

Evidence for Bronze Age settlement activity and finds have been made to the north of the assessment site at 23-27, Ivy Lane, Westergate in 2000 and at two further evaluations at the Westergate Community College in 1996 and 1998 also to the north of the assessment site. The consistency of such finds and activity in this area to the north of this assessment renders the potential for such activity and finds to be made on this site to be low to possibly moderate.

Evidence for archaeological activity and finds from the Iron Age period has been limited so it is considered that the potential for such activity and finds to be made on this site is low.

The site of a Roman villa has been plotted from aerial photographic sources to the east of the assessment site. This is considered to be significant. Finds associated with this site comprising roof tile, pottery, animal bone etc. have also been found here. Sherds of Roman pottery have been found to the north of the assessment site at

Westergate School in 1975 along with further settlement activity during two evaluations in 1996 and 1998 at the Westergate Community College, also to the north of the assessment site. These findings suggest a greater potential for similar activity and finds to be made on this site, the potential for which is considered to be moderate. The settlements of both Eastergate and Westergate would appear to have had late Anglo-Saxon origins from place name evidence. Finds and activity from this period have also been made to the north of the assessment during an evaluation at Ivy Lane, Westergate in 2000 and also during a further two evaluations at the Westergate Community College in 1996 and 1998. Despite this, it is considered that the potential for similar such activity and finds to be made here is low as this assessment site may lie within the peripheral areas of such activity. Finds of medieval pottery have been made to the east of the assessment site. Settlement activity and finds from this period were made during an evaluation at Church Lane, Eastergate in 2000. Further activity and finds from this period were made during an evaluation at Ivy Lane, Westergate in 2000. The assessment site probably lies within peripheral areas associated with medieval archaeological activity, so this potential is considered to be low. The map regression undertaken for this study has identified a number of removed fields boundaries within the area of this assessment site. So the potential for similar such finds to be made here is moderate to high, though is not considered to be significant. Other finds and activity from this period have been made to the north during two evaluations in 1996 and 1998 at the Westergate Community College. It is considered that there is low to moderate potential for other finds from the post-medieval period aside from the field boundary ditches to be made on this site.

The Grade II\* listed parish church of St George at Eastergate is situated to the east of this assessment site. The setting of this listed building in relation to the assessment site will be a material consideration in respect of any proposed residential development here.

The impact of development on low archaeological potential is considered to be low and conversely the potential impact of development on the identified moderate and high archaeological potential will be high based on the currently available data. It is advised that a program of investigation, post determination, though undertaken in advance of development, at each phase, should be implemented. {1}

#### **Sources**

- (1) Grey Literature Report: Development Archaeological Services. 2017. An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment for Proposed Development at Phase 1, Westergate, Westergate, West Sussex.
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***Associated Monuments - None recorded***

**Event ID:** EWS1837      **Name:** Land at Eastergate (Three Villages), Eastergate - Desk Based Assessment

| Event ID | Event Name                                                              | Event Type            |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| EWS1837  | Land at Eastergate (Three Villages), Eastergate - Desk Based Assessment | Desk Based Assessment |

**External Reference:**

**Dates:** 01/12/2014 - 31/12/2014, between (December 2014)

**Project Details:**

**Event/Activity Types**

Desk-Based Assessment

**Thesaurus Event Types**

DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

**Event/Activity References - None recorded**

**Organisation:** Development Archaeology Services

**Associated Individuals - None recorded**

**Associated Organisations - None recorded**

**Location**

Land at Eastergate (Three Villages)

**Grid Reference**

Centred SU 94618 04138 (1816m by 3710m)      SU90SW      Area

**Administrative Areas**

|              |                                 |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Civil Parish | Aldingbourne, Arun, West Sussex |
| Civil Parish | Eastergate, Arun, West Sussex   |
| District     | Arun, West Sussex               |

**Address**

Land at Eastergate (Three Villages), Eastergate, West Sussex

**Description and Sources**

**Description**

A desk based assessment was carried out on land at Eastergate (Three Villages) in advance of development. The assessment site comprises an area (around 312 hectares) of land mostly consisting of open agricultural mixed use lands and enclosed fields. The Lydney Rife is visible within the central core of the site running north to south.

Bronze Age – the assessment identified widely scattered, limited and fragmented archaeological activity and finds from this period. Within the area of the assessment site, this has comprised a hoard consisting of eight celts and a palstave axe and a Bronze Age urn found off Eastergate Lane in 1954 to the immediate north of the assessment site. It is considered that the potential for Bronze Age archaeological activity and finds to be made on this assessment site is low.

Iron Age - No archaeological activity or finds from the Iron Age period have been made within the area of the assessment site. To the immediate north-east, a boundary ditch containing two residual sherds of Iron Age pottery has been identified. The potential for Iron Age archaeological activity and finds to be made on this assessment site is low. Overall the potential for general prehistoric archaeological activity and finds to be made on this assessment site is also low.

Roman Period - There is some evidence for archaeological activity and finds from the Roman period which have been made within the area of the assessment site. This consists of the site of a probable villa, which has been plotted from prior aerial photographic analysis to the north-west of New Barn. A large assemblage of pottery, fragments of roof tile, oyster shell and animal bone have also been found at this location, supporting this interpretation. To the north-east of the assessment site, a boundary ditch of Roman date has been identified and a fragment of Roman roof tile was found just outside the area of the assessment site. This represents scattered, fragmented and limited evidence of activity and finds, and so the potential is considered to be low to possibly moderate.

Anglo-Saxon - There is no evidence for archaeological activity and finds from this period within the area of the assessment site; though settlements such as Eastergate and Barnham appear to have had Anglo-Saxon origins

from place name evidence. It is considered that the potential for archaeological activity and finds from the Anglo-Saxon period to be made on this assessment site is low.

Medieval period - There is limited, widely scattered and fragmentary evidence for medieval archaeological activity and finds within the assessment area. Sherds of medieval pottery were found on the surface of a ploughed field to the north-west of New Barn and the site of a chapel at Lidsey to the south-west. The site of a second medieval chapel is situated to the immediate south of the assessment site at Sack Lane, Lidsey. Medieval boundary ditches were identified just outside the area of the assessment site which produced sherds of 11th-13th century pottery. It is considered that the potential for archaeological activity and finds from the medieval period to be made on this assessment site is low.

Post-medieval and early modern periods - There is more evidence for archaeological activity and finds from the post-medieval and early modern periods made within the area of the assessment site. The line of the former Chichester-Arundel Canal, survives on the ground as fragmentary earthworks. The site of an associated canal bridge shown on the 1880 map has also been identified here. The impact of potential development on the line, curtilage and setting of this site should be a material consideration in respect of any proposed development on this site. To the east of the present Headhone Farm, is the site of a former 19th century farmstead which is shown on the map of 1880. To the north-east and also within the area of the assessment site is the site of a 20th century brickfield at West Barnham. Within the northern portion of the assessment site, is the site of a second 19th century farmstead at Follyfoot Farm. At Woodgate, and to the immediate west of the assessment site is the site of a former brickworks.

The aerial photographic analysis identified evidence for the earthwork cultivation remains of ridge and furrow, of probable post-medieval date. These were in isolated locations and were highly fragmented and scattered in nature. Given all of these aforementioned factors, the potential for post-medieval and early modern archaeological activity and finds to be made on this assessment site is also considered to be low to possibly moderate.

There are a number of Grade II listed buildings which are located within close proximity to the assessment site. The settings of these various listed buildings in relation to the assessment site will need to be considered in respect of any proposed development within the area of the assessment site.

Overall, the desk based assessment has identified low potential for archaeological activity and finds from the Bronze Age, Iron Age, Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods with a low to moderate potential for Roman and post-medieval/early modern periods. It was noted that the known archaeological activity and finds from all periods both within and without the assessment site is fragmentary, scattered and limited. {1}

#### Sources

- (1) Grey Literature Report: Development Archaeological Services. 2014. An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment of Land at Eastergate (Three Villages), West Sussex.
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**Associated Monuments - None recorded**

**Event ID:** EWS1127      **Name:** Land to the Rear of 23-27 Ivy Lane, Westergate, West Sussex

| Event ID | Event Name                                                  | Event Type   |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| EWS1127  | Land to the Rear of 23-27 Ivy Lane, Westergate, West Sussex | Intervention |

**External Reference:** 2754

**Dates:** 01/11/2006 - 30/11/2006, between

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**Project Details:**

**Event/Activity Types**

Post Excavation Assessment

**Thesaurus Event Types**

ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

EXCAVATION

**Event/Activity References - None recorded**

**Organisation:** Archaeology South-East

**Associated Individuals - None recorded**

**Associated Organisations - None recorded**

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**Location**

Land to the Rear of 23-27 Ivy Lane,  
Ivy Lane  
Westergate

**Grid Reference**

Centred SU 9406 0527 (86m by 49m)      SU90NW      Area

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish      Aldingbourne, Arun, West Sussex

District      Arun, West Sussex

**Address**

Land to the Rear of 23-27 Ivy Lane, Ivy Lane, Westergate, Aldingbourne, West Sussex

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**Description and Sources**

**Description**

Eleven trenches were excavated in total. Archaeological features were discovered across the development site, particularly in trenches 1 and 2, dating from the Late Bronze Age to the Late Medieval period.

**Sources**

Grey Literature Report: Archaeology South East. 2007. Archaeological Investigations at Land to the Rear of 23-27 Ivy Lane, Westergate, West Sussex - Post Excavation Assessment and Project Design for Publication. Project Number: 2754.

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**Associated Monuments**

MWS9493      Land to the Rear of 23-27 Ivy Lane, Westergate - Post Excavation Assessment (Monument MWS9493)

**Event ID:** EWS1810      **Name:** Land at Westergate, Aldingbourne - Evaluation

| Event ID | Event Name                                    | Event Type   |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|
| EWS1810  | Land at Westergate, Aldingbourne - Evaluation | Intervention |

**External Reference:** Project Number: 5981

**Dates:** 11/03/2013 - 28/03/2013, between (March 2013)

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**Project Details:**

**Event/Activity Types**

Environmental Sampling  
Evaluation  
Geoarchaeological Test Pits

**Thesaurus Event Types**

ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING  
EVALUATION  
GEOTECHNICAL SURVEY

**Event/Activity References - None recorded**

**Organisation:** Archaeology South-East

**Associated Individuals - None recorded**

**Associated Organisations - None recorded**

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**Location**

Land at Westergate

**Grid Reference**

Centred SU 94124 05794 (588m by 404m)      SU90NW      Area

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish      Aldingbourne, Arun, West Sussex  
District      Arun, West Sussex

**Address**

Land at Westergate, Aldingbourne, West Sussex

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**Description and Sources**

**Description**

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on Land at Westergate, Aldingbourne, in advance of a proposed redevelopment of the site. The evaluation consisted of the excavation of 72 trial trenches. 25 of these trenches contained archaeological features. Three periods of archaeological activity were identified:

Period 1: Early Neolithic (around 3650-3300BC): All of the Neolithic activity was identified at the northeast of the site and was represented by two possible pits. One was a sub-circular feature with clear sides and undulating base. It consisted of a single fill containing a small group of possible Early Neolithic pottery. Burnt food residue adhered to one of the sherds was radiocarbon dated and confirmed a C14 date of 3777-3652CalBC (SUERC-46777:4937±30BP). The other pit was a sub-circular small pit of probable Early Neolithic date. The feature contained two fills containing four large probable Early Neolithic pottery bodysherds from a plain bowl, worked flints and fire-cracked flints.

A possible tree bole was also identified that contained probable Early Neolithic bodysherds (from a plain bowl) and worked flints.

Period 2: Late Bronze Age (around 1150-800BC): Morphologically similar ditches, on the same west-northwest to east-southeast alignment were found in six of the Trenches. Dating evidence from this group of ditches was sparse; single sherds of 'prehistoric' date were recovered in three of the Trenches. Similarly aligned (west-northwest to east-southeast) ditches were found in two of the Trenches which were also morphologically similar to the first ditch group. However, no dating evidence was recovered was this second ditch group. A third ditch group consisting of two ditches on broadly the same west-northwest to east-southeast were morphologically similar to the first two ditch groups. Dating evidence was better for these ditches, with 13 sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery recovered from one of the ditches, and late prehistoric (with residual Neolithic sherds) found in another. The final two ditch groups were all on a north-northeast to south-southwest alignment and found in four of the Trenches. Again these were morphological similar to the other groups. Limited dating evidence was recovered from the ditch

in one of the trenches, two sherds of later Bronze Age date.

Taken together, ditch groups 1 to 5 appear to form a coherent, but intermittently surviving, field system, broadly aligned west-northwest to east-southeast. It is probable that where undetected, much of the system has been removed by later ploughing and it is notable that the best survival is broadly focussed on the two areas where the 'relict' subsoil also remains. Although sparse, the dating evidence would suggest that the field system was infilling sometime in the Late Bronze Age.

Period 3: Post-medieval (Late 18th Century): Morphologically similar ditches on a north-northeast to south-southwest alignment were found in four of the trenches. No dating evidence was recovered from them but they appear to be a good fit with plots recorded on the 1778-1783 Yeakell and Gardner map, suggesting that these boundaries were in use until at least the 18th century. The archaeological, combined with the cartographic evidence, suggests that the site remained in use as agricultural land throughout the post-medieval period, initially being divided up into several, relatively small, holdings until the 19th century when the holdings were 'rationalised' into larger plots.

Ten environmental samples were taken during the evaluation. The majority of the samples came from ditches which have been interpreted as possible prehistoric field ditches. Sampling has confirmed the presence of a limited amount of environmental remains including bones, shells, charcoal and charred macroplant remains. It has also produced evidence for the presence of roots and uncharred weed seeds.

The assemblage of charred macrobotanical remains is very small and is limited to two grains of wheat, a single grass seed and a single small hazel nutshell fragment.

The wood charcoal remains recovered from the environmental samples were in general poorly-preserved, and the assemblages small. The range of taxa identified suggests that wood for use as fuel was procured primarily from oak-dominated deciduous woodland, with woodland margin environments also being exploited as evidenced by the presence of Leguminosae wood. However, as the samples originate from ditch and pit features the charcoal assemblage is likely to be composed of amalgams of wood remains from numerous burning events, and as such cannot contribute to a more detailed discussion of fuel wood procurement and use. {1}

### Sources

- (1) Grey Literature Report: Archaeology South-East. 2013. An Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Westergate, West Sussex. Project Number: 5981.
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### Associated Monuments

MWS14353 Land at Westergate, Aldingbourne - Evaluation (Monument MWS14353)

**Event ID:** EWS1765      **Name:** Land West of Westergate, Aldingbourne - Evaluation

| Event ID | Event Name                                         | Event Type   |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| EWS1765  | Land West of Westergate, Aldingbourne - Evaluation | Intervention |

**External Reference:** Project Number: 7487

**Dates:** 13/07/2015 - 21/07/2015, between (July 2015)

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**Project Details:**

**Event/Activity Types**

Evaluation

**Thesaurus Event Types**

EVALUATION

**Event/Activity References - None recorded**

**Organisation:** Archaeology South-East

**Associated Individuals - None recorded**

**Associated Organisations - None recorded**

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**Location**

Land West of Westergate  
Hook Lane

**Grid Reference**

Centred SU 93581 04671 (244m by 195m)      SU90SW      Area

**Administrative Areas**

Civil Parish      Aldingbourne, Arun, West Sussex  
District      Arun, West Sussex

**Address**

Land West of Westergate, Hook Lane, Aldingbourne, West Sussex

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**Description and Sources**

**Description**

An evaluation was carried out on land west of Westergate in advance of proposed residential development. Of the 17 trenches excavated during the evaluation, 16 contained archaeological features of prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval date. Four archaeological periods were identified.

Later Prehistoric: Small quantities of residual flints were recovered on the site. A large proportion of the pieces were not closely datable, however, it was considered that the bulk of the assemblage exhibited technological traits characteristic of a Middle Neolithic to Late Bronze Age date. In addition a Mesolithic core was identified.

Middle to Late Iron Age: Prehistoric flint-tempered body sherds were recovered from three ditch fills, three enclosure ditch fills, two gully fills and a pit fill. The dating of the pottery is uncertain but it is thought that the assemblage is probably of Middle or Late Iron Age in date.

The Middle to Late Iron Age activity is characterised by a large sub-square enclosure, with internal ditches, pits and post-holes. External to the enclosure is possible field boundary ditches of contemporary date along with two possible parallel trackway ditches.

Medieval: A single medieval pit was identified within the middle of the site area and dated by two fragments of peg tile of 13th to 14th century date.

Post-medieval: Post-medieval artefacts were recovered from three ditch contexts within the north half of the site. Two west-north-west to east-south-east aligned ditches were dated to the 17th to 18th century. Two parallel north to south aligned ditches in the middle east of the site have been dated to the 18th century as well as two ditches in the south-west corner of the site. {1}

**Sources**

- (1)      Grey Literature Report: Archaeology South East. 2015. An Archaeological Evaluation on Land West of Westergate, West Sussex. Project Number: 7487.

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**Associated Monuments**

MWS13955      Land West of Westergate, Aldingbourne - Evaluation (Monument MWS13955)

