

Land East of Tye Lane, Walberton, West Sussex, BN18 0PF

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

NGR 497321 106228

Arun District Council (WA/44/17/OUT)

ASE Project no. 180877

Site Code: TYL18

November 2018

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Prepared by:	Pip Stephenson	Archaeologist	
Reviewed and approved by:	Paul Mason	Project Manager	
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) has been commissioned by Linden Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land east of Tye Lane, Walberton West Sussex, hereafter 'the site' (centred on NGR 497321 106228; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The site consists of a large irregular arable field lying directly to the north of Walberton village, and a small parcel of land to the north-east providing access and previously forming part of a golf green. Measuring approximately 11.3ha the site slopes gently down to the south. It is bounded to the west by Tye Lane, to the south by residential properties, Walberton and Binsted C of E Primary School, the cricket pitch and Avisford Park Road. It is bounded to the east by residential properties and the B2132, Yapton Road, and to the north by Avisford Park Golf Club (Figure 2).
- 1.3 According to the latest data available from the British Geological Survey the underlying bedrock geology at the site is London Clay Formation of clay silt and sand with overlying superficial deposits of River Terrace Deposits consisting of sands, silts and clays (BGS 2018).
- 1.4 Outline planning permission has been granted by Arun District Council for the erection of 175 dwellings and associated access, parking and services (planning reference WA/44/17/OUT) as shown in Figure 2. The archaeological condition is as follows:

34. No development shall take place within the area indicated until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority

Reason : The site is of archaeological significance in accordance with Arun District Local Plan Policy GEN7. It is considered necessary for this to be a pre-commencement condition because archaeology can only be investigated before construction commences.

- 1.5 This document represents a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological evaluation of the site. It has been prepared in accordance with relevant Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a; 2014b; 2014c). All work will be reported upon in line with guidelines set out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE; Historic England 2015). It will be submitted to all parties for approval prior to the commencement of work at the site.
- 1.6 All work will be carried out in accordance with the *Sussex Archaeological Standards* (WSCC, ESCC, CDC 2015) which outlines the methodology to be used in the field, and in reporting and archiving of the results. The project will be managed by Paul Mason (Project Manager) and by Jim Stevenson (Post-Excavation Manager).
- 1.7 In the event that archaeological remains are found during the course of the evaluation, further archaeological mitigation may be required. Any such work would be subject to a separate Written Scheme of Investigation.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) has previously been prepared for the site (ASE 2017). A search of all sites with a 1km radius of the site held on the West Sussex County Council Historic Environment Survey (HER) was made. The following information is taken from that document with all due acknowledgement. A copy of the DBA will be retained on site for reference during the archaeological evaluation (numbers shown in bold refer to Figure 1 of that report).

2.2.1 Summary

- 2.2.1 Prehistoric worked flint has been found in the vicinity of the site including a flint arrowhead, a Neolithic axe and a Mesolithic site has been identified a short way north of the site at Avisford House though the HER does not elaborate on its nature. The HER has not produced evidence of Bronze Age occupation within the study area. There is evidence of Iron Age and Iron Age – Romano-British occupation of the landscape in the form of pottery retrieved to the south and the north-east and Iron Age earthworks to the east of the site.
- 2.2.2 A Roman corridor villa has been excavated to the south-east of the site, occupied from the mid first to fourth centuries, and a wider agricultural landscape with features such as field boundaries and trackways may extend beyond this. Further significant Roman activity is located to the north of the site at Stonyfield Farm, the area noted for Roman occupation debris and a Roman Cist Burial unearthed in 1817 containing a single cremation and grave goods. A Roman brick has been identified at Walberton Church.
- 2.2.3 The Manor of Walberton was owned by ‘three free men’ in 1066, the land being valued at £10. The manorial centre was located to the south of the village, in the vicinity of Walberton House. Three early medieval sites area recorded within the study area:
- Pre-Conquest gable cross – Walberton;
 - Pre-Conquest grave slab – Walberton; and
 - 15 Graves, St Mary's Church.
- 2.2.4 The medieval settlement at Walberton was a large one, and both St Mary’s Church and the Parish Church of St Mary are of medieval origin. Old Hall Cottage, to the south of the site, is likely the oldest secular building in Walberton, comprising a former two-bayed late medieval hall. The site formed part of an open field system.
- 2.2.5 In the post-medieval period the village expanded along The Street east and west from its historic core. The site is shown on historic mapping to have been enclosed from an early date, as early as 1630. The field system shown on the mapping suggests how earlier medieval open field strips were enclosed and gradually amalgamated through the post-medieval period, resulting in the existing modern, amalgamated field system. Eighteen post-

medieval sites are also recorded – primarily historic structures or farms shown on historic mapping and since lost (refer to DBA).

3.0 RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The general objective of the archaeological work is to ensure that any deposits, features, artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest exposed by the evaluation are recorded, interpreted and reported on to appropriate standards and to enable appropriate mitigation methods.

3.2 Site-specific research aims are proposed below with reference to the South-East Research Framework (SERF):

- Evidence for transition from Iron Age to Roman land use and / or settlement (SERF, Roman Period).
- Harness the potential of the historic landscape to inform an understanding of the Romano-British/Anglo-Saxon transition, notably on the long term evolution of field systems and their environmental context to establish definite cases of continuity in Roman estate boundaries and land use. The potential of palaeo-environmental studies needs to be maximised by targeting gaps in off-site sequences and by dating existing sequences more closely (SERF Anglo-Saxon, 2013, p26).
- Given the site location on the edge of a village of medieval origin with probable Anglo-Saxon precursor settlement, the site has potential through environmental archaeology to inform on intra- and inter-site dynamics, through examination of use of space, waste disposal, trade and supply links in the Anglo-Saxon period (SERF Anglo-Saxon, 2013, p26).
- Evidence for transition from open field exploitation to post medieval enclosure and the chronology of post medieval field boundaries to complement historic map evidence [SERF Post medieval and Industrial Research Agenda, 2013].
- The majority of the site formed a part of the Avisford Estate, belonging to Lady Elizabeth Reynell in 1846 and incorporated within the park of Avisford House between 1875 and 1938. Consider the site in terms of the impact of gentry ownership on the local landscape, economy and social structure [SERF Post medieval and Industrial Research Agenda, 2013]

4.0 METHODOLOGY

4.1 The trial trench evaluation will comprise the excavation of 72 trenches, each measuring 30m x c.2m (Figures 2 and 3). Trench locations may be altered, subject to on-site constraints.

4.2 A Risk Assessment will be produced prior to the commencement of the work. The locations of all the trenches will also be checked with a CAT scanner prior to the commencement of excavation.

4.3 The trenches will be excavated using a suitable mechanical excavator. The trenches will be excavated through undifferentiated topsoil and modern made ground in spits of no more than 0.10m with artefact recovery taking place

every scrape until archaeological deposits are encountered or the top of the underlying natural sediments reached. The excavator will be fitted with a smooth grading bucket and care will be taken that archaeological deposits are not damaged due to over machining. All machining will stop if significant archaeological deposits are encountered.

- 4.4 Any exposed archaeological deposits will then be cleaned by hand and recorded in plan and section. During the evaluation archaeological features/deposits will be excavated enough to characterise them.
- 4.5 Any finds believed to fall potentially within the statutory definition of Treasure, as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, shall be reported to the Finds Liaison Officer. Should the find's status as treasure be confirmed the Coroner, the landowner and the Archaeological Officer will also be informed. A record shall be provided to the Coroner and to the Archaeological Officer of the date and circumstances of discovery, the identity of the finder, and the exact location of the find(s) (OS map reference to within 1 metre, and find spot(s) marked onto the site plan).
- 4.6 If human remains are found they will be left in situ, covered over and protected. The client and the Archaeological Officer will be informed immediately.

5.0 RECORDING AND ANALYSIS

- 5.1 All recording and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with this document and the Sussex Archaeological Standards unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Archaeological Officer.
- 5.2 The spoil from the excavations will also be inspected by the ASE archaeologist to recover any artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest. A metal detector will be used at regular intervals to scan spoil derived from the excavations and at regular intervals during the excavation of archaeological deposits and features.
- 5.3 The Archaeological Officer will be kept informed of progress and given the opportunity to attend site once all the trenches have been opened.
- 5.4 All archaeological features will be recorded according to standard ASE practice. Where practicable, all features will be planned at 1:20 and section/wall elevation drawings will be at 1:10, unless this is impractical in which case an alternative will be agreed with the Archaeological Officer. Drawings will be on plastic draughting film. Features and deposits will be described on standard pro-forma recording sheets used by ASE. All remains will be levelled with respect to Ordnance Survey datum. A photographic record will be made in digital format, monochrome and colour transparency.
- 5.5 The strategy for sampling archaeological and environmental deposits and structures (which can include soils, timbers, animal bone and human burials) will be developed with reference to Historic England guidelines for environmental archaeology (Historic England 2011) and waterlogged wood and in consultation with the Historic England regional advisor or relevant specialists. Samples will be collected from suitable excavated contexts, including dated/datable buried soils, well-sealed slowly silting features, sealed

hearths, sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, peats, water-logged or cess deposits.

- 5.6 Bulk soil samples (of 40 litres where possible or 100% of the context if smaller) will be taken to target the recovery of plant remains (including wood charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Specialist samples may also be taken to target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), fish and small bone, molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects (in small <20 litre samples) or large mammal bones and marine molluscs (in large samples of ~80-100 litres). When taken, large samples will be extracted wholesale from deposits to maximise the range of bone recovered. As a general rule waterlogged wood specimens will be photographed and recorded in detail in their original location prior to being lifted or sampled for more detailed assessment. Other scientific dating and geoarchaeological techniques will be considered and employed where appropriate. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.

6.0 TREATMENT OF ARTEFACTS AND ECOFACTS

- 6.1 All pottery, bone and worked flint recovered from the excavations will be washed and marked with an appropriate code to identify the site and context. Most ceramic and other building material and burnt flint will be identified, counted, weighed and discarded. Samples will be retained as appropriate. Finds will be bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.
- 6.2 The lithic and ceramic finds will be identified by specialists within Archaeology South-East, and preliminary identification of faunal remains may be undertaken if the nature of the deposits justifies such study. All finds in an unstable condition will be stabilised using passive conservation techniques where appropriate before being deposited with the receiving museum.
- 6.3 Bulk samples will be processed using tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate (such as for waterlogged samples). Waterlogged samples will be wet sieved through nested sieves and stored in wet, cool conditions or dried if considered an appropriate form of conservation for the remains. Flots and wet samples may be subsampled for assessment purposes.
- 6.4 If waterlogged wood specimens are removed from site they will be cleaned, recorded, photographed and a thin section sample will be taken for identification (unless considered detrimental to the artefact preservation or status). These specimens will be stored submerged in water in cool conditions and assessment will establish whether appropriate for conservation. Specialist samples as well as sub-samples of bulk soil samples (taken to recover pollen, parasites, fish and small bone, foraminifera and insects for example) will be sent to appropriate specialists for assessment and analysis.
- 6.5 Provision will be made for obtaining charcoal samples for radiocarbon dating from such archaeological features as structural features (e.g. post holes), hearths, kilns or features that contain good artefactual or ecofactual assemblages.

7.0 REPORTING

- 7.1 Reporting will be undertaken in accordance with the guidelines set out in the *Sussex Archaeological Standards*.
- 7.2 Within four weeks of the completion of the fieldwork a full report on the results of the field evaluation will be submitted. It will include the local geology and archaeological evidence. It will describe the work undertaken and results of elements described above. It will include a description of archaeological features and tabulated details of finds from each context. A list of environmental samples and any samples taken for dating will also be included. The report will include a plan showing the trench locations. Further plans, sections and photographs of features located and excavated will be included as necessary.
- 7.3 A draft report will be submitted to CgMs Consulting in the first instance, then to the Archaeological Officer for approval. Once any necessary changes have been made, the approved final report will be submitted to the client and should be passed to the local planning authority with a further copy submitted to Arun District Council so that the results may be added to the Historic Environment Record. A short summary of the work will be prepared for the relevant local archaeological journal.
- 7.4 A further digital copy of the report (including plans, illustrations and photographs) will be supplied to West Sussex Historic Environment Record on CD-ROM in a .pdfa format.

8.0 PREPARATION AND DEPOSITION OF THE FINDS AND ARCHIVE

- 8.1 The site archive will be assembled in accordance with the guidelines set out in Historic England's Management of Archaeological Projects 2 and in accordance with the guidelines published in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission, 1994).
- 8.2 Artefacts and ecofacts recovered during excavation form an important part of an archaeological site archive. The archive will be deposited in the local receiving museum.

9.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 9.1 A risk assessment for the project will be prepared prior to the commencement of work. All relevant health and safety regulations will be adhered to.

10.0 INSURANCE

- 10.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: employer's liability to the value of £50,000,000 each and every loss, any one occurrence; primary public/products liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate for products liability, with an extension for no-fault

compensation up to £15,000,000 in the aggregate; professional indemnity to the value of £15,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate.

REFERENCES

ASE 2018 *Land east of Tye Lane, Walberton, Arun District, West Sussex, BN18 0PF, Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, ASE Project No. 180302, ASE Report No.2017153

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ClfA 2014c. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*

Historic England 2011: *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (second ed.)*. English Heritage

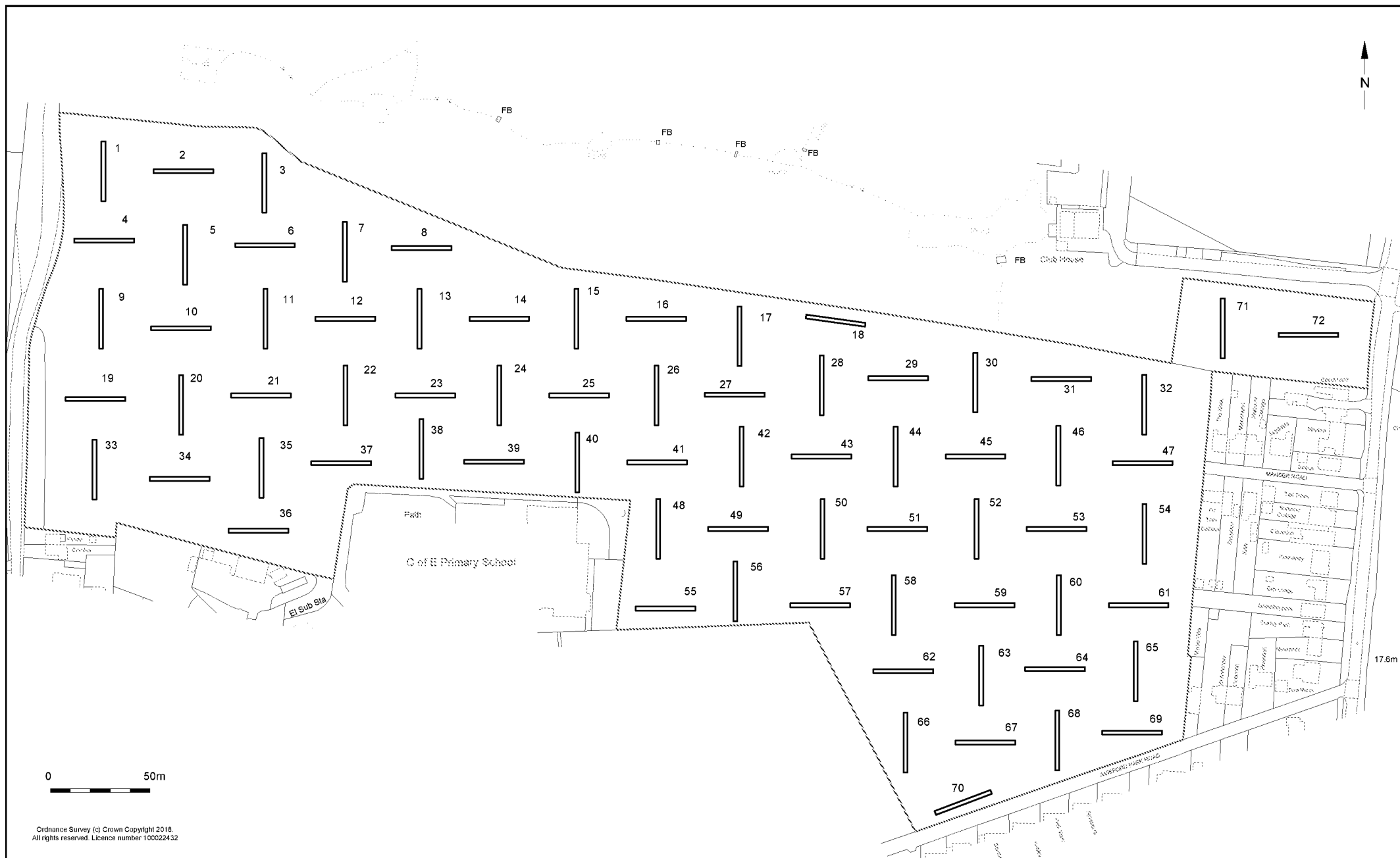
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Archaeology South-East
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Report Ref:

Drawn by: JR

Land East of Tye Lane, Walberton

Proposed trench location

Fig. 2



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Land East of Tye Lane, Walberton

Proposed trench location and proposed development

Fig. 3