

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL ROUND-UP
(November 2012 to February 2013)

East Sussex and Brighton & Hove

Barcombe Nurseries: Small evaluation to see if Roman Greensand Way ran through the site of a new greenhouse. No archaeology located. (CBAS).

***Barcombe, Culver Archaeological Project:** The Culver Archaeological Project (CAP) has been awarded a grant of £90,900 by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for their *Roads, Rivers and Romans* project. The award makes possible the investigation of a newly discovered site on the banks of the River Ouse just north of Lewes, close to the excavated Roman villa and bathhouse at Barcombe (*see British Archaeology, March April 2010, pp.23-27*).

Recent geophysics and metal detecting surveys have indicated a substantial Roman settlement with activity stretching over four centuries. CAP will be involving the local community in the discovery of their historic environment and the project will include a six-week excavation for volunteers from 1 July to 10 August 2013, as well as other opportunities to experience archaeology at first hand. Further details of activities and results will be posted on the CAP website (www.culverproject.co.uk) over the coming months.

On 1-2 December 2012 CAP organised a systematic metal detecting survey by the Eastbourne & District, West Kent, and Ringmer clubs over the main settlement site. A large selection of finds were made, most of which are of post-medieval date, although several Roman coins and artefacts were also recovered (David Millum, Rob Wallace and David Staveley).

Battle, Battle Abbey School, (TQ 74928 15729). (Philippa Stephenson) Jan 2013. Client: Battle Abbey School Site Code: NWB12. Oasis Id: archaeol6-140333. A watching brief was undertaken during ground-works associated with the erection of a new shelter for a tractor and refuse bins and the erection of a timber framed maintenance workshop. A deposit resembling the local natural substrate was identified at 84.68m AOD, to the south-west of the site. The presumed alignment of the west wall of the abbey passes immediately to the west of the site. No cut for the foundation trench of this wall was observed. It is therefore possible that this deposit constitutes a layer of re-deposited natural associated with undated landscaping within the area occupied by the Abbey. A substantial possible linear N-S cut was partially identified across the centre of the area as well as two modern concrete footings representing a 20th- century machine-base which belongs to a phase predating the current land-use (ASE).

Battle, Walled Garden Battle Abbey (TQ 7490 1570). (Simon Stevens) Jan 2013 (on-going) Client: English Heritage. An on-going watching brief is being carried out at the Walled Garden during groundworks, planting and landscaping associated with the construction of new paths and a French drain. So far masonry possibly representing the corner of the Abbey infirmary has been uncovered. Further information to be included in future Sussex Summaries (ASE).

***Bishopstone Tidemills:** Fieldwork should resume in May 2013 (SAS).

Brighton, Beacon Hill (TQ 361 029): Due to the bad weather this project has been postponed until later in 2013, along with surveying of a possible Roman enclosure at Ovingdean (BHAS).

Brighton 25 Roedean Crescent, Brighton. Watching brief – No significant archaeology found (CBAS)

Burwash, 'Bateman's' (TQ 67040 23880): (Philippa Stephenson) Nov 2012. Client: National Trust. Site code BAT07. OASIS id: archaeol6-140055. An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the installation

of a new underground electric cable and transformer, to upgrade Bateman's current inadequate electrical infrastructure. The majority of the deposits identified belong to 20th- century landscaping or garden activity and may provide useful information regarding the history of this historic garden. Two probable ditch cuts pre-dated the 20th- century garden bed or terracing underlying the modern lawn in the centre of the upper walled garden. Of anecdotal interest was the possible identification of the early electricity supply to the house (ASE).

Chiddingly, Chiddingly Place (TQ 5415 1435): (Kathryn Grant) Aug 2012. Client: Richard Ashby Associates Site Code: CPC 12. OASIS ID: archaeo16-133093. The watching brief took place during ground reduction within an existing basement area of a Grade II* listed property. No archaeological deposits or features were recorded but a foundation thought to relate to the existing building structure was recorded in the south; this was preserved *in-situ* (Archaeology South- East).

Crowborough, Walsh Manor Farm (TQ 5258 2865): (Chris Russel) Jan 2103. Client: CgMS Consulting Ltd. Detailed fluxgate gradiometer and topographic surveys were carried out on approximately 2 hectares of land made up of scrub grassland bounded by hedges on all sides. Both surveys successfully detected features which may be of archaeological origin. The majority of these were linear in form and appeared to be a system of banks and ditches; there was a high degree of correlation between the two sets of results (ASE).

Danehill, Pollardsland Wood: A small undated bloomery has been located at the site (WIRG).

Ditchling Beacon: the recent wet weather had exposed a well at one of the farmsteads on the dip slope of the Downs (Tom Dommett/National Trust).

Hartfield, Great Cansiron Farm: Magnetometry survey of the Scheduled ironworking site and adjacent fields. The survey revealed an extensive ironworking site, covering most of the Scheduled Monument area, but also extending out into the edges of the surrounding fields. Within the central part of the site trackways and enclosures were identified, some of which contained evidence for ironworking activity, whilst along the old stream frontage there may be evidence for quays, suggesting links with the CLBR (CBAS).

Isfield Camp, Station Road: Building recording of the former Royal Engineers Depot. Several buildings were recorded including a number of Nissen and Romney huts (TVAS).

Langley, 2 Priory Road: An evaluation close to the medieval grange found no archaeological remains/artefacts (CBAS).

Lewes, 4 Foundry Cottage: Ongoing watching brief and building recording (CBAS).

Lewes, Land to the rear of 20-21 High Street (TQ 4175 10140): (Philippa Stephenson) Sept 2012. Client: John D. Clarke Architects on behalf of Steamer Trading Limited. Site code: LHS 10. OASIS id: archaeo16-134788. A single test pit was excavated by hand. This revealed five phases of activity: Saxo-Norman pitting; the build up of a later medieval to later 17th- century external land surface; the installation of a later 17th- century / early 18th- century flint stone surface; an 18th- century phase of rubbish dumping or land-levelling and finally the construction of an early 19th- century cobbled circulation surface - possibly a cambered road surface. No evidence of a second buried cellar or similar structure was recorded in the confines of the test pit. Natural deposits were recorded at 9.65m AOD, c. 0.80m below the existing land surface (ASE).

Michelham, 1 Flint Cottage: A watching brief revealed no significant archaeology (CBAS).

Northiam, Great Dixter House (TQ 81960 25110): (Simon Stevens) Dec 2010-Aug 2012. Client: Thomas Ford and Partners on behalf of the Great Dixter Trust. Site Code: GDN 10. OASIS ID: archaeo16-133125. The excavation of c. 250m of pipe trenches and ground reduction associated with the installation of a new biomass boiler were monitored. No archaeological deposits or features were encountered. However a significant discovery was that of an undated timber threshing floor within the Great Barn encountered during pipe

trenching, which necessitated the rerouting of the trench and allowed the recorded of this comparatively rare feature (ASE).

Peacehaven, 116 Phyllis Avenue: An evaluation produced no features but a small assemblage of Mesolithic flintwork was recovered from an abandoned badger sett (CBAS).

Pitdown Centenary project: In the year of the Pitdown centenary, 2012, British researchers, coordinated by the Natural History Museum began a programme of reassessment of materials, objects and documents relating the infamous scientific fraud. In order to provide another dimension to the process of reanalysis we initiated a reinvestigation of the original location at the centre of the Pitdown fraud, the gravel pit situated to the west of the drive leading to Barkham Manor, Pitdown. The aims of this work were simple:

- to document directly through field investigation a record of the **claimed geological context** of the fraud
- to make a **sedimentary record** of claimed Pleistocene gravels at the site and to understand their likely age and circumstances of formation.

These aims were to meet two main objectives: to provide a modern account of the deposit sequence at the site to current geoarchaeological standards, to throw light on the logic behind the progression of the fraud and to determine the genuine significance of the gravels as a possible context for Palaeolithic artefacts and associated palaeoenvironmental remains including mammalian fauna.

Two areas were investigated: a re-exposed section of the gravel pit immediately to the south of the monolith marking the position where the Pitdown 1 skull was claimed to have been found and a further test pit in undisturbed ground in the field to the immediate west of the site.

What was presumed to be the edge of the gravel pit was easy to identify on the basis of photographs taken during the Dawson and Smith-Woodward excavations. As our photographs show, the ground conditions have not changed considerably and the hedge still occupies the western flanks of the relatively shallow scoops which comprise the pit. Our intention was not to excavate through undisturbed gravel, but rather to re-expose the western section close to where we presumed Dawson had made his 1913 record of the stratigraphy.

Keeping some 2m from the monolith to prevent destabilising we excavated backfill away from the pit edge along a 1.5m stretch. This section was then cleaned vertically down to the top of the underlying Hastings Beds which form the solid Cretaceous geology at this location. Excavation continued a further 0.25 into the solid to prove its consistency. Once exposed, recorded and photographed, the section was cut back 0.2m on its southern side to obtain bulk gravel samples for each major sedimentary unit. Attempts were made to take two OSL samples: one from the upper sands and gravels and one from the basal 'yellow clay' only the latter was successfully retrieved due to the compact, cemented nature of the fluvial sediment.

The sequence recorded at the Pitdown find spot appears to accord directly with Dawson's interpretation, that the gravels are fluvial in origin and originate in the Middle Pleistocene drainage of the Weald. Like Dawson we too are struck by the large quantity and size of the flint gravel within the deposits, a fact we consider remarkable given the distance from the chalk downland that lies 6 miles to the south in the opposite direction to that of modern fluvial flow in the Ouse valley. Initial observations appear to show that while the gravels did not produce remains of Pleistocene fauna or humanly struck flint, it did contain a relatively abundant number of flints which had form reminiscent of Eoliths. Further analytical work will now be undertaken to establish the range of agreement between the forms of natural gravel in our sample and formal Eolithic 'types'. As McNabb has previously discussed, the accidental presence of Eoliths may have had a large influence on how the site was interpreted 100 years ago and on the progression of the fraud (Matt Pope/ASE).

Polegate, The Mill Development, Shepham Lane (TV 94500 50640): (Simon Stevens) April-Sept 2012. Client: CgMs Consulting Ltd. Site Code: SLP12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-127467. Trial trenching revealed a series of gullies and other features. The extension of some of the trenches and the mechanical stripping of two Mitigation Areas allowed the examination of a range of archaeological deposits in advance of development. A limited assemblage of residual struck flints dating from the Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age was recovered

from the overburden and from some archaeological features. A single feature was datable to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period. The majority of features could be dated to the medieval period, apparently forming a periodically realigned field system in use from the Saxo-Norman period through to the late 13th century. Only limited evidence of post-medieval activity was uncovered apparently relating to the clearance of trees and bushes (ASE).

Robertsbridge, Vue Valaise: No archaeological features were encountered during the watching brief. However, a small assemblage of material dating from the late 19th to the early 20th century was recovered from the topsoil and subsoil along with three WW2 barbed wire pickets and with some barbed wire. A strap-end, from webbing or a rucksack may be contemporary with the pickets and barbed wire (CBAS).

Rye, 1 Whitefriars: Test pits excavated in cellar. The concrete floor of the cellar was found to overlie a layer of laid brick. Varied layers of made ground were recorded below this, all of which could have been deposited in the 17th century when the house was apparently built (CBAS).

Rye, 53 Cinque Ports Street (TQ 9203 2046): (Dylan Hopkinson) Nov-Dec 2012. Client: Jonathan Dunn Architects. Site code: CGR09. Fieldwork has recently been completed but spot-dating and post-excavation work is not yet underway. The medieval town wall ran across the site and a number of contemporary refuse pits were excavated. A later 19th century wall also appeared to have reused elements of medieval masonry. Further information to be included in future Sussex Summaries (ASE).

Rye, Ypres Tower (TQ 92261 20281): (Ian Hogg) Nov 2012. Client: Rye Museum Association. Site Code: YPR 11. OASIS id: archaeol6-115788. An archaeological watching brief during drainage works at the Women's Tower, Ypres Tower comprised a hand dug soakaway pit and drainage trench in the northeast of the courtyard. In the drainage trench made-ground deposits overlain by concrete slabs were recorded. Natural clay was observed in the soakaway pit, it was overlain by made ground deposits, the earliest of which contained disarticulated human bone (ASE).

Seaford, Constitutional Club: An evaluation located an east-west orientated ditch containing 13th- to 14th- century pottery at the south end of the site. The northern part of the site had been previously truncated and only revealed recent features/finds (CBAS).

Seaford, The Pound, Blatchington: A watching brief located a deep well and other post medieval features (CBAS).

Sedlescombe, 1 Manor cottages, The Street (TQ 78060 182042): (Kathryn Grant and Nick Garland) Aug 2012. Client: Simon Lake. Site Code: MCS 12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-132798. The watching brief took place on groundworks associated with the construction of a new conservatory. Post-medieval finds including pottery sherds, clay tobacco pipe fragments and ceramic building material, were recovered from a levelling deposit contemporary with the construction of the cottages. Natural geology was recorded at depths of between 500-800mm below ground level within the footing trench. No features cut the natural geology and no subsoil layer was observed, suggesting truncation of the natural horizon during previous phases of construction at the site (ASE).

***Stanmer, Rocky Clump (TQ 328 101):** The 2012 season of excavations continued until early December when concerns about frost damage to the site caused digging to finish and after final recording back filling was completed. An extension to the site going northwards, within the possible enclosure, produced more ditches and floors including a surface full of soot and charcoal. The area has been covered with a tarpaulin and back filled with soil ready for next season. The new season of excavations will begin on Saturday 30th March (BHAS).

Uckfield, Bridge Cottage, High Street (TQ 4724 2092): (Philippa Stephenson) Oct-Nov 2012 Client: Uckfield & District Preservation society. Site Code: UBS 11. OASIS id: archaeol6-137272. ASE was commissioned to excavate seven trial pits to establish the depth of the wall footings and evaluate the archaeology underlying the

floor of Bridge Cottage, an aisled Wealden Hall house and Grade II listed building, in advance of works to develop the building as a Heritage Centre. Five hand-dug trial pits were undertaken inside the building and two against the outside walls. Excavated to a maximum depth of 0.70m within the walls, two successive floor levels were identified: an earlier beaten earth floor with a pit containing burnt deposits, and a clay hearth area. No dating was retrieved. However this outcome suggests a revision of findings from a previous fieldwork which identified probable natural at this level below ground surface. A second thick clay floor was identified throughout the building. A 19th- century make-up deposit sealed this floor, now supporting the actual floor level. A large rectangular sunken hearth, probably 19th century in date was identified at the north end of the Hall; sealed by the actual floor. Its presence suggests a contemporary floor surface associated with the 19th- century make-up deposit that has been removed (ASE).

Wartling, The Lamb Inn (TQ 6580 0921): (Ian Hogg/Philippa Stephenson) Jan 2013. Client: James Braxton. Site Code: TLW 13. Oasis ID: archaeol6-140645. Four discrete hand-dug areas were observed: foundation trenches against the rear wall of the east range; a trench along the rear of the modern toilet block, and two small trenches against the rear wall of the early 19th- range, within the modern toilet block. Natural substrate consisted of sandstone to the rear of the East range, yellow silty-clay to the rear of the toilet block and stiff blue clay-silt below the toilet block floor. To the rear of the toilet block, brick steps, possibly 19th century in date, associated with a possible garden soil deposit, provided access to a raised area/garden to the rear of the main building. Modern made ground extended across the area raising the ground level beneath the modern patio surface by a maximum of 0.60m. To the rear of the East range the made ground was cut by a single linear feature of modern date. The trenches within the building exposed the base of the brick foundations of the rear wall of the early 19th- century range. These descended to 0.20-0.25m below ground level, the lower course being stepped-out towards the western end of the wall, the foundation remaining flush at the eastern end (ASE).

Winchelsea, Bridge Inn: A four trench evaluation revealed the presence of the former medieval harbour, the waterlogged wooden remains of a possible medieval boat (not *in-situ* boat), and two phases associated with the infilling of the harbour between c.1450-1700. A southwest-northeast aligned boundary ditch may have been in use between each phase. The few other cut features recorded on site are either ephemeral or recent in date. The site was subsequently used first as pasture and then as a hop field in the 19th and 20th centuries (CBAS).

Winchelsea, Land North of Tanyard Lane (TQ 590689 117671): (Dylan Hopkinson) Sept-Oct 2012. Client: Balfour Beatty Mott MacDonald. Site Code: TLW 12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-139142. The underlying geology is Ashdown Formation sandstone, siltstone and mudstone overlain by tidal flat deposits of clay and silt. The site lies at an average 5m AOD. The development was a renewed floodplain alleviation system consisting of a storm drain running from Tanyard Lane, down the driveway of a residential property and into a grazing paddock on the river flood plain. A number of wooden stakes and planks were identified within the alluvium on the river flood plain either driven into the deposits or lying horizontally within them. One of these was a large timber with joints, slots and drilled holes that may have been lost to the river after falling from a building or wharf structure. No cut features were identified; however there was a marked difference between the alluvium of the floodplain and the dark silts identified in the driveway. The transition between these deposits was obscured however by the existing storm drain that was being replaced which ran along the property boundary of the residential property (ASE).

Woodingdean, burial site: An evaluation excavation on the site of the proposed new woodland burial site followed a geophysical survey of the site. Five 20m long trenches were excavated to sample anomalies found during the geophysical survey. A north-south orientated ditch was located on the west side of the site, containing Bronze Age flintwork, some of which was conjoining. This may have formed part of the extensive prehistoric field system that covers this valley. Trench 1 also found evidence of Second World War activity, with a scatter of artefacts and a small cut feature. The remaining trenches only found periglacial features cutting into the chalk, although there was a scatter of prehistoric flintwork from the shallow topsoil across the entire site (CBAS).

West Sussex

Bignor, Bignor Roman Villa (SU 98786 14722): (Liz Chambers) May 2012. Client: Tom Tupper, Bignor Farms. Site Code: BRV12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-128698. In order to alleviate the risk of damage to the Roman mosaics at Bignor Villa from water penetration, a new French drain was installed requiring a watching brief on two test pits and a drainage trench. The aim of the work was a) to expose the original stoke hole which would have served the Roman building housing the 'Geometric' mosaic and b) to assess the level of the Upper Greensand outside the 19th- century cover building for the 'Venus & Gladiators' mosaic. The Roman stoke hole was uncovered, as was a tiled pier/buttress stub presumably associated with the hypocaust system. All other features/deposits were either of unknown or post-medieval date (relating to the construction of the cover buildings) (ASE).

Bognor Regis, Site 1, Bognor Community College (TQ 491885 998210): (Giles Dawkes). Oct 2012. Client: Bellway Homes Ltd. Site Code: WMD 12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-135850. The seven trench evaluation revealed a single undated but probably post-medieval ditch. Although there was some modern truncation, this was limited in depth and would not have removed any archaeological deposits cut into the natural Brickearth (ASE).

Bolney, Equine Rehabilitation and Physiotherapy Centre, Broxmead Lane: Watching brief. Work ongoing (ASE).

Burgess Hill, Land at Jane Murray Way (TQ 29824 18405): (Diccon Hart) Sept 2012. Client: RPS Planning and Development on behalf of Location 3 Properties. Site Code: MFS12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-136241. Thirteen trenches, totalling some 462m length, were excavated across the site to reveal the underlying natural Weald Clay between 34.18m AOD in the west of the site and 32.11m AOD to the east. Several features of Late Iron Age or Roman date were recorded in the far west of the site, including two ditches on a northeast-southwest orientation and two small pits. Finds recovered include a small assemblage of relatively unabraded pottery and fragments of a loom weight that suggest the features may be peripheral to settlement situated to the west. Elsewhere on the site, features recorded include a possible ditch (undated) to the north of the site and a series of modern ditches and a modern tree throw in the southeast of the site. Overburden on the site generally consisted of a sequence of subsoil and topsoil measuring up to 0.55m deep, though in the southeast corner of the site a layer of recent made ground was also noted (ASE)

Burgess Hill, Land at Jane Murray Way, Burgess Hill (TQ 298 198): (Philippa Stephenson). Client: as above. Site Code: JMW 12. A small excavation in Jan 2013 on an area of 10m² has recently been undertaken but spot-dating and post-excavation work is not yet complete. Features of probable Late Iron Age/ early Roman date have uncovered. Further information to be included in future Sussex Summaries (ASE).

Burgess Hill, Land north of Maltings Park: Further trenches were excavated and three linear features recorded during the earlier evaluation were noted. Despite sampling, no definite dating evidence was obtained (TVAS).

Crawley, Land north of Radford Road, Tinsley Green: A trial trench excavation has located Mesolithic flintwork in association with alluvial deposits of the Gatwick Stream, and a pit containing fragments of Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age rusticated beaker (Network Archaeology).

Crawley, site of former Sussex House and former Bar Med, High St (TQ 26758 36836): (Kathryn Grant) Oct-Nov 2012. Client: URS Scott Wilson. Site Code: SHC12. Fieldwork has recently been completed although spot-dating and post-excavation work is not yet underway. A very large volume of iron-working slag was recovered from medieval pits although no direct evidence of on-site smelting has been noted at this stage. Finds include part of a green-glazed "face jug", and from the base of the unlined well, three near complete C13-C14th-jugs. Further information to be included in future Sussex (ASE).

Crawley, Wilbury House, Church Street: Several possible archaeological features containing iron slag fragments were recorded. A small number of shallow and disturbed archaeological features were reported, containing a little ironworking slag. The only one to contain dating evidence was post-medieval (TVAS).

East Grinstead, Imberhorne Lane: Trial trench excavation revealed some linear ditches of post-medieval date, probably former tree or woodland boundaries (ASE).

Findon, St John the Baptist Church (TQ 1163 0845): (Kathryn Grant). Sept 2012. Client: Mackellar Schwerdt Architects. Site code: SJP11. OASIS ID: archaeol6-137969. Work on an extension to the church required a watching brief on an area forming part of the existing churchyard cemetery. Natural chalk bedrock was recorded between 0.7m and 1m BGL. This was overlain by mixed cemetery soil and topsoil. Several disarticulated bones were recovered from the cemetery soil and were bagged and labelled for reburial. A total of 18 articulated burials were recorded *in situ* and those that were at risk of disturbance by the development were lifted for reburial. These included a stacked burial containing the remains of a husband and wife (Keaster Tugwell, died 1928, Aged 90 years and Amy Tugwell, died 1933, aged 89 years). Most of the burials are thought to be of post-medieval/modern date, although a reused 13th- to 14th century stone mortar served as a pillow stone, underlying the skull of one of the skeletons. All of the articulated skeletons recorded in this area were adult and there was a mix of male and female individuals. Only two of the burials had above ground grave markers. A small square brick feature was recorded in the southern section. The function of this feature is unclear although it is too small for a tomb and may have been a manhole (ASE).

Hayward's Heath, Land South of Butler's Green Road (TQ 3212 2386): (Diccon Hart). Nov 2012. Site Code: BGR12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-137727. A total of 22 trenches were excavated, totalling some 481m of trenching. The underlying natural geology, consisting of Tunbridge Wells Sand, was encountered at a maximum height of 94.41m AOD in the south central part of the site, falling away to 92.79m AOD in the far northwest of the site and 93.83m in the far northeast, with a minimum elevation of 91.34m AOD recorded in the north central part of the site. Archaeological features recorded during the course of the evaluation largely consisted of field boundary ditches, with at least three superimposed field systems present on the site, including a north-south/east west field system, a NNE-SSW/WNW-ESE aligned field system and a northwest-southeast aligned field system. Other features revealed include a handful of pits, most of which are scattered across the site with no obvious patterning, although a slight concentration of features, including a small hearth, in the south of the site might indicate transitory occupation. There were very few finds and the features and field boundary ditches remain essentially undated (ASE for CgMs).

Henfield, Manor Close (TQ 2166 1648): (Simon Stevens) Jan 2012 (on-going). Site Code: MCH13. An ongoing 31 trench evaluation is being carried out in advance of housing development at Manor Close, Henfield. So far no archaeological remains have been uncovered. Further information to be included in future Sussex Summaries (ASE for CgMS).

Horsham, Land West of Broadbridge Heath (TQ 150 305): (Andrew Margetts). May 2012-Jan 2013. Site Code: BHH08. Fieldwork was completed in January but spot-dating and post-excavation work is not yet underway. Significant remains include Middle/Late Iron Age roundhouses, medieval timber buildings and fields/enclosures of later Iron Age, Roman and medieval date. Large volumes of finds have been generated including a Bronze Age palstave axe. Further information to be included in future Sussex Summaries. (ASE for RPS Group).

Horsham, Broadbridge Heath, Heath Barn Farm, Billingshurst Road: No archaeological finds or features were recorded during an evaluation. The lack of features was surprising given the close proximity of a recently discovered 13th- to 14th century structure and medieval enclosure ditches to the south (TVAS).

Horsham, Land East of the A24 (TQ 15500 30000): (Ian Hogg). Nov 2012. Client: Berkeley Homes. Site Code: LWH09. OASIS id: archaeol6-140972. The monitoring was focused on the stripping of a road associated with redevelopment on land east of the A24. Natural Weald Clay was observed across the area. Topsoil overlay

natural geology in the south of the site; across the remainder of the area, horizontal truncation had occurred with only modern dumped material overlying the clay. No archaeology was observed (ASE).

Horsham, Land east of the A24: Excavation of trial trenches, in advance of development, has revealed a single ditch containing Iron Age pottery, and some undated but probably ancient linear ditches. Work ongoing (ASE).

Horsted Keynes, Broadhurst Manor Barn (TQ 38683 30040): (Kathryn Grant). Nov 2012. Client: Nicole Calkin. Site Code: BMH 12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-139566. An archaeological watching brief was carried out during ground reduction within an existing late 16th- to early 17th- century barn. Three phases of archaeological activity were recorded. The first phase was represented by a late medieval northwest-southeast aligned ditch which has been partially preserved *in situ* underneath the new development. The second phase relates to the original late 16th- to early 17th- century construction of the building before it was converted into a barn. This was represented by two sandstone footing segments similar in construction type to the surviving external front wall footing. A series of 17th to 18th- century brick foundations make up the third phase of activity. These were probably constructed for the purpose of supporting room partitions/superstructures or floorboards within the original building. The sub-terra evidence therefore supports the idea that the structure was remodelled from a high-status industrial building, into a large barn, with the addition of an end and rear single storey lean-to structure in the 18th to 19th century. Natural geology was encountered at depths of between 9.95m AOD in the southeast of the barn and 10.25m AOD in the northwest (ASE).

Lancing, 67 Manor Road: A watching brief on building works, following previous trial trench excavation. Some further medieval pits have been recorded. W/c. (PRO Archaeology Services).

Lancing, Land south-west of New Monks Farm: Trial trench excavation. A small number of poorly dated gullies, possibly field boundaries, were reported (ASE for Ramboll).

Lancing, New Monks Farm, Lancing (Brighton and Hove Albion FC Training Ground) (TQ 190 048): (Diccon Hart). Dec 2012. Client: Buckingham Group Contracting Ltd. Site Code: BHT 12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-141028. A total of 39 trenches were excavated on the site, targeted on areas of elevated ground to the north and south of the site that are considered to have formed foci for past human activity. The underlying natural geology generally consisted of an outcrop of Head Deposits in the south of the site, recorded between 4.72m AOD and 4.28m AOD, with alluvial deposits of the River Adur across the remainder of the area, recorded between 4.56m AOD and 2.59m AOD. Archaeological features recorded during the course of the evaluation appear to be restricted to the higher ground targeted by the trenching exercise and largely consisted of elements of a historic agricultural landscape. This included evidence for the former Mash Barn Lane, depicted on historic mapping from the 18th century onwards, as well as a number of field boundary ditches broadly perpendicular to or parallel with the line of Mash Barn Lane and probably representing evidence for an associated field system. Other features recorded include an undated ditch on a northwest-southeast alignment that may represent evidence for earlier land division on the site and a small pit of possible prehistoric date containing a large quantity of charred hazelnut shells and wood charcoal as well as a small assemblage of undiagnostic struck flint (ASE).

Littlehampton, Arun Tidal Defences (TQ 02225 02175): (Dan Swift). Nov 2012. Client: Halcrow Group Ltd. Site Code: ATD 12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-137953. An archaeological watching brief was carried out during geotechnical investigations on the River Arun in Littlehampton. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were seen in the watching brief, only modern made ground and natural deposits (ASE).

Midhurst, No. 14 North Street (SU 88604 21633): (Simon Stevens). Aug 2012. Client: Gareth O'Connell. Site Code: HSM12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-125838. An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the erection of flats to the rear of No.14 North Street. Although no significant archaeological features were encountered, a sizeable assemblage of material was recovered from the overburden, including a single struck flint and pottery spanning the late 13th/14th to 19th centuries. Other material included

tile, clay tobacco pipes, glassware and animal bone. As a whole, the assemblage represents the largest group of artefacts yet recovered from a plot fronting onto one of the town's medieval thoroughfares (ASE).

Midhurst, Woolbeding House (SU 87250 22740): (Kristina Krawiec). Dec 2012. Client: National Trust. Site Code: WLP12. OASIS id: archaeol6-141458. A watching brief was carried out on groundworks associated with the installation of LPG tanks and pipework. The natural geology was recorded at 0.58-0.74m below current ground surface within the tank trenches. Two small sub-circular pits containing demolition debris were encountered at the one of the tank locations. These are thought to be associated with the demolition of Victorian wash-houses that once stood on the site. The subsoil in both trenches contained a mix of post-medieval tile, pottery and animal bone with the occasional sherd of medieval pottery. Pipe trenches in the garden of the lodge revealed several brick built bases for possible Victorian hot houses that once served the estate (ASE).

***Petworth Park Community Project:** Work has started looking at the history and archaeology of the park. This has included desk-based assessment, looking at lidar data, fieldwalking, documentary research on Petworth House archive, geoarchaeology and geophysics, to be followed by an excavation for the Festival of British Archaeology in July 2013, possibly on the 13th-/14th- century old wing or the 9th Earl's stables (c1622). There is a blog on the Petworth House website (Tom Dommett/National Trust).

Pyecombe, Fairlight: Watching brief – Nothing found (CBAS).

Pyecombe, High Bank: A watching brief located a possible Romano-British negative lynchet, and WW2 slit trenches (CBAS).

Rusper Nunnery, Horsham Road (TQ 18846 36349): (Philippa Stephenson). Nov 2012. Client: Environmental Assessment Services Ltd. Site Code: HRN12. OASIS ID: 139653. The natural clay substrate deposit sloped down from an approximate altitude of 83.50m AOD at the south-west, to approximately 82.00m AOD at the north and east. A substantial modern landscaping deposit overlay the original land-surface across the southern and eastern parts of the site. Natural clay was exposed immediately below the modern buried soil across the eastern part of the site. To the west, the reduction revealed only hardcore rubble below the modern floors of the demolished farm buildings. No archaeology clearly relating to Medieval Rusper Nunnery [1100-1599] was identified, although a large, vertical-sided pit, which could not be explored to its full extents, contained ceramic building material fragments dated to between 1450 and 1830. A small farm building in recent use proved to have an earlier 18th to 19th- century phase. A NNW-SSE ditch segment may have formed part of an earlier boundary ditch bounding the farm buildings to the east (ASE).

Slinfold, Slinfold Park Golf Course Trial trench excavation of one trench within the first phase of golf course re-landscaping, a ditch and pits, some containing early Romano-British pottery. Work continuing (West Sussex Archaeology Ltd).

Storrington, St Joseph's Orchard, Church Street: continuing excavation has revealed a substantial medieval enclosure ditch (CgMs Consulting & Wessex Archaeology).

Storrington, Land at Foxmead, Meadowside (TQ 09010 14190): (Ben Sharp). Oct 2012. Site Code: SLF12. CgMs Consulting Ltd. Site code: SLF12. OASIS id: archaeol6-136563. Three evaluation trenches were excavated in the northeast of the site and all revealed the same sequence of stratigraphy. Natural Folkestone Sand deposits were overlain by layers of late post-medieval buried topsoil and subsoil containing finds dating to between the 17th and 19th centuries. These deposits were sealed by layers of made ground and modern topsoil associated with the construction of the Foxmead care home in the 1970's. Two deeper trenches were excavated in the south and south western extremes of the site to characterise the nature and dates of deposits associated with the River Stor. One of these contained an organic rich deposit at a maximum depth of 35.55m AOD. Artefacts of 19th- century date were recovered from immediately above this layer. Alluvial layers were uncovered in a deep trench, one containing fragments of coal. Both trenches revealed results consistent with the site's location near to the River Stor and show no indication of any early archaeological activity (ASE).

West Durrington, Lower Northbrook Farm, West Durrington, Worthing: Linears dating from the Iron Age and Roman period were recorded, along with walls and surfaces possibly associated with North Brook Mansion. This building is shown on the 1839 Goring tithe map, but was demolished by the 1875 (TVAS).

Worthing, Land West of Hill Barn Lane (TQ 51410 10540). (Philippa Stephenson). Oct 2012. Client: CgMs Consulting. Site Code: HBL 12. OASIS id: archaeol6-136337. The integrity of the substrate appeared intact across most of the site although two trenches revealed evidence of modern truncation. Little evidence of archaeological activity was recorded – only four small undated pits/postholes, and, with the exception of a single residual Mesolithic or Bronze-Age worked flint, no finds were recovered (ASE).

Worthing, New pools Aquarena Worthing Aquarena, Brighton Road (TQ 15535 02641/515535 102641): (Philippa Stephenson). Feb to Oct 2012. Client: Drivers Jonas Deloitte. Site code:WNP 11. OASIS id: archaeol6-137162. Machine stripping was observed in area to the west and east of the northern edges of the present grounds of Beach House, a Grade II listed building. In both areas, only the topsoil was stripped, to a depth of 350-400mm. To the east, two probable garden landscape features were observed: a dry-stone wall and a pathway or rockery. These features may have belonged to the original gardens of Beach House or to a period of grounds refurbishment undertaken in the 19th or 20th century. No remains were encountered to the west (ASE).

Worthing, Northbrook College, Broadwater Road (TQ 14575 04177): (Dylan Hopkinson). Dec 2012-Jan 2013. Client: Morgan Sindall. Site code: WNC12. OASIS ID: archaeol6-142325. A watching brief indicated that extensive landscaping of the site has removed all deposits above natural geology. This truncation probably relates to the construction of the pre-existing college buildings. No archaeological artefacts or features were identified during the monitoring of these works which involved the excavation of lift and crane construction pits, wide foundation trenches and service trenches (ASE).