

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL ROUND-UP

(11th October 2016 – 6th March 2017)

East Sussex

Battle: rear of 93 High Street, Battle (TQ 74937 15803). (Site code: TMB 16. Director: Lisa Fisher). In September 2016 ASL was commissioned to monitor the excavation of two small geo-technical pits 1m square and 1.20m deep. These were excavated by hand to ascertain the depths and make-up of the soil in order to inform the structural engineer regarding foundation design as well as to enable the ESCC Archaeology Team to consider the best approach with regards to archaeological investigation. The soil consisted entirely of made ground to the maximum depth of the trenches. A few residual and degraded ceramics were recovered dating to the 12th and 13th centuries and limited numbers of early post-medieval artefacts but in the main the artefacts were 19th to 20th century in date and in a fresh condition (ASL).

Bexhill: Barrack Hall, Belle Hill (NGR 574480 108052, Bexhill Parish). (Site Code: BAH 16. Director: Ian Hogg). An archaeological evaluation at Barrack Hall was undertaken on 2nd November 2016. The evaluation comprised two trenches and revealed natural yellow grey clay at between 43.20m and 43.43m AOD. The natural deposits were cut by a robbed-out foundation, which is likely to be associated with a 19th-century building seen on historic maps. The building was likely demolished in the early 20th century. The feature was overlain by modern made ground and hard standing suggesting that the site has undergone horizontal truncation from previous developments (ASE).

Bexhill: Preston Hall Farm (NGR 573784 109856, Bexhill Parish). (Director: Seth Price). In November 2016 a historic buildings assessment of two remnant farm buildings at Preston Hall Farm was undertaken. Building 1 retains fragmentary remains of a structure known to have been in existence by 1839, the basic shell of the building largely relates to a subsequent phase of rebuilding in the mid-19th century. The original structure probably formed a shelter shed for cattle, whereas the rebuilt structure may have served as a stable with hayloft above. The legibility of the structure's earlier forms and uses has been substantially diminished by its conversion to residential use in the later 20th century, rendering it a poor example of its type and erasing much of its aesthetic value, such that its heritage value is now largely confined to it being a tangible element of the earlier farmstead whose buildings have otherwise (with the exception of Building 2) been lost. Building 2 comprises two main parts: one a structure of unknown function, the other, a pair of pigsties adjoining its west side. The earliest fabric seems to date to the mid-19th century, but like Building 1, both parts have suffered successive phases of alteration which have compromised their integrity as coherent structures and reduced their historical value to forming fragmentary tangible elements of the earlier farmstead (ASE).

Bexhill: St. Andrew's Church, Wickham Avenue (NGR 573875 107405, Bexhill Parish). (Director: Katya Harrow). In November a historic building assessment of St. Andrew's Church was undertaken. The church lies within a suburb adjoining the town centre of Bexhill, which was developed from the late 19th century. The church itself was built between 1899 and 1900, as a mission church for the Church of England to serve the increasing suburban population. It was designed by the architect Joseph Barker Daniel Wall. The original part of the church is of irregular cruciform plan. Its unusual north – south alignment is due to the constraints of the site, which is a reasonably narrow plot between late 19th-century housing. The church is constructed in the Early English Gothic style and is faced with randomly-laid flint cobbles over brickwork, with cement dressings giving the appearance of stonework, and has a steeply-pitched slate roof. The structure of the church has remained relatively unaltered and for the majority of its existence it was used for its original purpose. Later additions detract to some degree from the building's appearance, yet these alterations left the structure of the original

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church largely intact, and it remains possible to clearly discern the plan and form of the original building. However, its illustrative value has been diminished by the loss of the majority of its interior fixtures and fittings. The significance of the church is enhanced by its association with the architect J.B. Wall, whose work is prevalent in the local area (ASE).

Bexhill: Constables Farm, Old Marsh Road (TQ 6898 0752). (Site code: CFB 16/234. Director: Sean Wallis). Twenty trenches were excavated across the site, which is to be turned into a new equestrian centre. Despite the close proximity of the deserted medieval village of Barnhorn, the only possible feature of archaeological interest was an undated gully which was recorded in the south-east part of the site (TVAS).

Brighton: St Lukes Church (NGR: 532206 104809, Brighton and Hove District). (Site Code: BSL 16. Director: Catherine Douglas). An archaeological watching brief at St Luke's Church, Brighton was undertaken on the 11th October 2016. The Newhaven Chalk Formation was encountered at 0.17m below ground surface level. No archaeological features were identified (ASE).

Brighton: Moulsecoomb Boxing Gym, Hodshrove Lane (TQ 3330 0732). (Site code: MBG 17/13. Director: Teresa Vieira / Jim Webster). A watching brief was carried out whilst footings were dug for an extension to the existing gym building. The site was formerly occupied by Hodshrove Farm and, although the area had been disturbed by demolition in the 1950s and 1960s, the footings of a flint wall were recorded. Historic maps indicate that this wall was built between 1840 and 1870 (TVAS).

Buxted: Land at Grove Farm, Howbourne Lane (NGR 551510 124920, Buxted Parish). (Site Code: BGF 16. Director: Garrett Sheehan). This first phase of the evaluation comprised the excavation of two 20m x 1.8m trial trenches, and was carried out on the 27th of October 2016. This initial phase of trial trench evaluation identified no archaeological features, deposits or artefactual material (ASE).

Dallington: Oast House, Grovelye Lane (TQ 6440 1820). (Site code: OHD 16/210. Director: Teresa Vieira). A watching brief was carried out during pipe trench excavation in respect of a new ground source heating system. No archaeological finds or features were recorded (TVAS).

Ditchling: 28 West Street (NGR 53245 11522, Ditchling Parish). (Site Code: COD 16. Director: Michael Shapland & Seth Price). Between October 2016 and January 2017 a historic building record and watching brief was carried out at Cotterlings. Cotterlings is situated on the western edge of the medieval and later village of Ditchling, fronting West Street. Cotterlings originated as a timber-framed house of three bays, two storeys in height with a habitable attic space, of likely early-17th- century date. The house featured a timber-framed lean-to extension to its east, added during the 17th or early 18th century. The building's frontage was Georgianised c. 1800, at which time a large extension was added to the rear, and the original centrally-located chimney-stack rebuilt to improve access. A new service wing was added to the eastern side of the house shortly after (replacing the earlier timber lean-to), and other more minor alterations and additions made through the later 19th and early 20th centuries. The stable block is a two-storey structure of reddish grey brick, probably constructed in the 1860s or early 1870s. It was constructed for convenient access to the lane on the western side of the property, and was converted into a motor garage in the early/mid-20th century. The watching brief confirmed the presumed early 17th-century date of the building, and indicated elements of the original building's form. More specifically the roof construction has been shown to have originally been half-hipped, likely with windows at either end, and floored with oak floorboards. The roof was formed of a mix of timbers, some likely reused, with flat, to square

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sections. The two areas of excavation to the south and east of the dwelling revealed no archaeological deposits, excepting a 19th-century made ground/packing deposit adjacent to the building's walls (ASE).

Eastbourne: Larkspur Bridge, Langney (NGR: 562042 101896, Eastbourne District). (Site Code: LBL 16. Director: Kristina Krawiec). A watching brief at Larkspur Bridge was carried out between October and November 2016. The works did not reveal any archaeological remains but a record of the sediments of the site was made. This demonstrated the presence of the Willingdon Levels peat which thinned out to the south of the site. In addition, a layer of bivalve shells was recorded in the contact between the upper and lower alluvium (ASE).

East Dean: Bardolf's Hall, Birling Farm (NGR 555768 096908, East Dean and Friston Parish). (Director: Michael Shapland & Katya Harrow). In January 2017 a historic building survey of Bardolf's Hall was undertaken. The work was carried out in order to assess the building's date, history and sequence of development. Bardolf's Hall was listed at Grade II on 12th August 1981 (list entry number 1193109). The listing describes parts of the building as medieval in origin, being partly of 13th- century and partly of 18th- century date, and notes it was restored in 1926. Bardolf's Hall presently forms a long, linear range, aligned east-west, with a small, lean-to addition at its eastern end. The building is faced with flint with a combination of stone and brick dressings, and has a gabled, clay-tiled roof. To all intents and purposes its form and its principal elevation, which faces north towards Birling Manor House, conveys the appearance of a barn, while its rear elevation has a rather more domestic character. The surviving features of a medieval building which are incorporated into the fabric of Bardolf's Hall are, in their present context, somewhat fragmentary, meaning that the date, form and layout of this early building are largely conjectural at the present time. The construction of a new house at Birling Manor in c.1600 would have rendered Bardolf's Hall redundant or secondary as a dwelling, and it appears that around this date the building was repurposed, at least in part, as a barn. During the second half of the 18th century, the barn was re-roofed. The next major phase of alterations occurred in the 1920s, when the building, at that date known as 'Chapel Barn', was converted to a ballroom in advance of celebrations for the 21st birthday of Charles Gilbert Harding. The building owes much of its present appearance and character to these early 20th century alterations. The early 20th century alterations are clearly distinguishable and good evidence survives for the form and appearance of the building during its use as a barn. The more fragmentary evidence which hints at a medieval precursor to the present Birling Manor House highlights the potential for any future works to the building to elucidate this early chapter in Birling's history (ASE).

Falmer: University of Sussex, Area C (NGR 534765 109575, Falmer Parish). (Site Code: UOS 16. Director: John Hurst). No archaeological features or deposits were encountered. Soils are interpreted as having been removed during landscaping at the site; across site various thick deposits of modern made ground were found to be overlying the chalk. To the east of the site, deposit modelling has demonstrated that a discrete area may preserve a buried undated land surface (ASE).

Firle: Bushy Lodge (NGR 548610 108501, Firle Parish). (Director: Christopher Curtis). In November 2016 a historic building assessment of Bushy Lodge was undertaken. The house is formed by a roughly square, double-pile main building and several outbuildings to the north. The house is built in a combination of brick and timber framing, with a rendered façade facing south and tile hung and brick side and rear elevations. The ground floor is constructed mainly with brick, while the first floor and internal structure is almost entirely timber-framed. The bulk of the house was built at some point between 1783 and 1789. The roof is tiled and hipped around a central valley. The principal elevation of the house faces south, away from the

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farmyard while the rear elevation faces north towards the yard. During the second phase of construction two structures were added to the north of the house. A precise date is not possible due to a lack of diagnostic features and they may not have been built at the same time. However they must have been built by 1843 when they appear on the Tithe map. Minor changes were made to the house in the mid-/late 19th century that coincided with a wider phase of building on the farm. The building's significance rests principally in it being a good example of a late 18th century farmhouse, set within a near contemporary farmyard. Its double-pile layout is typical of the period, as is its means of construction – there being an obvious concern for appearance, but with an eye to economy wherever possible. The building has a rendered front elevation to give the impression it was wholly of mass-construction, albeit being constructed partly in brick and partly timber-framed; has fully-concealed ceiling joists in the principal room on each floor of the house, while the principal members are left to view in the rest, and there is widespread reuse of fixtures and fittings including the fine early 18th century staircase (ASE).

Guestling: Rock Farmhouse, Rock Lane (NGR TQ 83985 13428, Guestling Parish). (Director: Amy Williamson). In October 2016 Archaeology South-East were asked to update the original report of April 2015, to include an assessment of the impact of proposed alterations on the significance of the property. The building as it survives today is ostensibly of the mid-/late 18th century, but under scrutiny reveals itself to be of greater complexity, being the result of several phases of construction and modification prior to its reworking in the 18th century. Evidence for the earliest phases is either fragmentary or implied by the remains from subsequent phases, although it is likely that further structural evidence survives concealed behind later finishes, meaning there is considerable scope for future building/repair works to provide the opportunity to gain additional information and further the understanding of the building. Being of greater antiquity than has previously been recognized, the surviving building embodies a complex sequence of development in which successive alterations have been made to adapt the house to the changing requirements of its occupants. Of particular interest is the evidence for the attached kitchen, which seems to have been added to a pre-existing building in the 16th century (ASE).

Hailsham: Land at Old Loom Mill (NGR: 558832 107151, Hailsham Parish). (Site Code: OLM 16. Director: John Cook). A magnetometer survey was conducted on a site totalling approximately 4.3 hectares of Land at Old Loom Mill, Hailsham. The work was undertaken on the 30th November and 1st December 2016. Evidence for possible archaeological features was represented by moderate positive anomalies. Though they could have an archaeological origin, they may equally be the result of the natural geology. As with previous geophysical surveys undertaken nearby (ASE 2009) archaeological features may only appear as very subtle variations within the data where the fills are geologically similar to the surrounding subsoil. In addition, the site is noted to be on alluvium. Where significant overburden exists any possible archaeology is likely to be masked (ASE).

Hartfield: The Haywaggon Public House, High Street (NGR 547808 135694, Hartfield Parish). (Director: Katya Harrow). In December 2014 Archaeology South-East carried out a historic building assessment of The Haywaggon Public House. A further visit was made in December 2016 to undertake a historic building watching brief. The Haywaggon was listed at Grade II on 31st December 1982 as 'The Hay Wagon Inn'. The building comprises a number of ranges of varying age. The earliest part of the building is the main front range, which forms a two-storey, timber-framed range of four bays, which, on the basis of its constructional details and layout probably dates to the mid-16th century (Phase 1). A significant phase of alteration and modification appears to have occurred in the early/mid-18th century, when the external

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appearance of the building was updated, a new stair inserted, and the roof altered (Phase 2). Further alterations occurred in the late 18th/early 19th (Phase 3) and mid-19th century (Phase 4) with the construction of new ranges to the rear of the building, as well as a phase of mid-20th century alterations (ASE).

Hastings: Rocklands Holiday Park, East Hill (NGR: 583440 109955, Hastings District). (Site Code: HRH 16, Director Giles Dawkes). An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the excavation of four new balcony postholes and two drain runs at Rocklands Holiday Park on the 21st and 22nd November 2016. The watching brief area lay partially within the area of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (No 1011086) of an Iron Age promontory fort. The watching brief only identified a dumped deposit overlying natural clay and bedrock, relating to a late 19th- century terrace (ASE).

Hastings: Beauport WSE (NGR: 579080 113250, Hastings District). (Site Code: BWW 16. Director: Lucy May). An archaeological watching brief was carried out on the 10th and 12th January 2017. No surviving archaeological finds, deposits or features were found within the monitored area. Nearby activity from ironworking within the Roman period, does not seem to extend into the site. There were no signs of any archaeological deposits relating to any medieval or later development within the surrounding area (ASE).

Heathfield: The Beehive, Burwash Road (NGR 559333 121862, Heathfield and Waldron Parish). (Director: Seth Price). In January 2017 a program of historic building recording (Historic England Level 3) was undertaken at The Beehive. The Beehive (formerly The Crown, The Crown Inn, or the Crown Hotel) represents a fairly typical evolution of probable house, to inn, to pub and hotel, to a restaurant pub, and eventual closure – a near constant redevelopment and evolution of the building through the 18th, 19th, 20th and early 21st centuries. A short-lived market operated to the rear of the property for a period of the late 20th century. The site is a good example of the changing attitudes to social organisation, drinking, dining, accommodation and travel. The pub chain Marston's acquired the pub in the 2010s, which modernised the pub further and redubbed the pub as 'The Beehive' (ASE).

Lewes: Malling House, Church Lane, Malling (TQ 41646 11125). (Site code: MHL 16. Director: Lisa Fisher). In the Autumn of 2016, Archaeology Services Lewes was commissioned by Sussex Police to undertake an Historic Building Survey of the Police Head Quarters at Malling House, as a private commission. The main purpose of this survey was to establish which internal walls and features were the original and oldest phase of the building and to understand the heritage significance of the historic fabric. The survey established that although the building had been subjected to some internal changes throughout its life, particularly during the Georgian Period, some of the building's original Stuart features had survived although 're-purposed'. Follow up tours of the house for members of the public are planned as part of two heritage open days in the autumn of 2017 (ASL).

Northiam: Morley Farm Barn, Beckley Road (NGR: 582807 122636, Northiam Parish). (Site Code: MFN 16. Director: Lucy May). An archaeological watching brief was carried out by at Morley Farm Barn between the 4th and the 12th October 2016. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were encountered during the watching brief (ASE).

***Ovingdean: Hog Croft** (TQ 354 036: Ovingdean Parish). (Site code: 500209. Director: John Skelton). Excavation of a 13th- century manorial complex consisting of a stone manor house and timber structures bounded by earthwork banks. Evidence of several phases of occupation have been found, possibly extending from pre-conquest to about the 14th century. Features recently uncovered include a wood lined well and a possible charcoal producing pit kiln.

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Towards the end of the year excavations started to reveal a layer containing large amounts of pottery, bone and fire-cracked flint which will be further investigated when digging recommences. The digging finished in early October 2016 and the site was covered for the winter. Excavation within the same trenches will begin in early April 2017. When details are finalised they will be published on our website (<http://www.brightonarch.org.uk>). There will be digging opportunities for all members of BHAS and non-members can visit and join on site if they find that the activities are "for them" (BHAS).

Ovingdean: Wick Bottom (TQ 353 037: Ovingdean Parish). (Director: John Funnell). Surface artefact collection over a small triangular field immediately northwest of Hog Croft excavations. Transects 20 metres apart running approximately east to west gave a 10% coverage and revealed a light scatter of flint flakes, medieval pottery and modern finds. A 100% coverage of the 20 metres of field closest to the Hog Croft excavations did not reveal any concentration of finds that would indicate a spread of occupation activity into this field, however, it did result in the recovery of a possible fragment of a Neolithic hand axe (BHAS).

Peacehaven: 24 Friars Avenue (TQ 4209 0063). (Site code: FPS 16/187. Director: Sean Wallis/Jim Webster). No archaeological finds or features were recorded during the excavation of footings in respect of a new extension. The site was located within an ANA associated with a Bronze Age barrow depicted on historic maps (TVAS).

Pett: Old Marsham Farm (NGR: TQ 88462 13317, Pett Parish). (Site Code: OMF 16. Director: Jake Wilson). An archaeological watching brief was carried out between the 26th October and the 21st November 2016. The fieldwork was commissioned by The National Trust to monitor the groundworks associated with the restoration and development of the farmhouse. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were encountered during the watching brief (ASE).

Plumpton: Whitehouse Farm, Station Road, Plumpton Green. (TQ 3641 1664). (Site code: WFP 16. Director: Lisa Fisher). In October 2016, ASL monitored the excavation of footings for a garden room to the rear of Whitehouse Farm. The trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.20m but contained no archaeological features of any great age. A 19th century brick path was the only feature *in-situ* and it was clear that the area had been disturbed to the top of the natural clay. This was probably due to deep digging when the garden was formally used to grow vegetables. A fairly large assemblage of artefacts was recovered, which range in date from 15th century ceramics to early post-medieval pottery and clay tobacco pipe. In addition, there were several Victorian artefacts, including a complete glass cameo (ASL).

Ringmer: Land at The Orchards, Uckfield Road (TQ 4414 1383). Fourteen trenches were excavated across the site, which is to be re-developed for housing. It is possible that the Roman road from Arlington to Barcombe was revealed in at least one trench, in the form of flint nodules. If this is the Roman road it has clearly been badly truncated. Several medieval linear features were recorded in the south-west part of the site. A subsequent excavation (February and March 2017) revealed more medieval features (TVAS).

Robertsbridge: Hodson's Mill (NGR 573734 124123, Robertsbridge Parish). (Site Code: HOD 16. Director: Jake Wilson). An archaeological evaluation was carried out between the 5th and the 8th of December 2016. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were encountered during the excavation of nine trial trenches due to significant truncation caused by 20th-century terracing of the area (ASE).

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Staplecross: East of Cricketers Field (NGR 578365 122402, Robertsbridge Parish). (Site Code: CRT 16. Director: Gary Webster). An archaeological evaluation on land east of Cricketers Field was undertaken on the 25th and 26th October 2016. The work was required in response to a planning condition in advance of the construction of 25 dwellings. The evaluation did not identify any archaeological finds, features or deposits, despite the stratigraphic sequence being intact across the site. The natural geology was identified between the 88.67m and 95.23m AOD. There was a slight variation in the natural in the north of the site, with a small increase in localised ironstone content. The anomalies identified during a preceding geophysical survey were likely the result of variations in the natural geology (ASE).

Telscombe: Bank Cottages, Gorham's Lane (TQ 40540 03326). (Site code: BCT 16. Director: Lisa Fisher). In October 2016 ASL was commissioned to undertake a programme of archaeological works which included an Historic Building Record (HBR) and a watching brief to monitor all groundworks on site during excavation. Two initial areas were stripped; the grading of the bank to the rear of the property (Area 1) and the demolition of two bathroom extensions which were subsequently extended by further excavation (Area 2). Area 1 was devoid of any features earlier than the 20th century but limited amounts of prehistoric flintwork were recovered from the hill-wash along with Victorian and modern debris. Area 2 contained three cut features which cannot be confidently dated due to the high amount of modern disturbance on site. However, fresh sherds of medieval pottery found within a linear [9] may tentatively date this and suggest that the feature could be a medieval negative lynchet. Two further cut features may be post holes or beam slots for a fence although no dateable objects were retrieved from the fills. The HBR proved that the roof has been raised and may have formerly served as a small, single storey outbuilding of some form. Remains of a wooden wall plate were evident as well as internal daub finish on the original flint walls. A small external room was discovered to the rear which had been subsequently blocked off and covered over. This is likely to have served as a larder but may well have been used to store contraband (ASL).

Uckfield: Maria's Seat, Sheffield Park & Garden (NGR 541662 124312). (Director: Simon Stevens). A community excavation was undertaken in February on a mound in Walk Wood, believed to be the site of the 18th century "Maria's Seat". The excavations suggest a single phase of construction for the mound, created with successive clay dumps. At the top of the mound the excavations revealed the foundations of an ephemeral brick structure. The remains had been heavily disturbed by tree roots, but clearly showed an apsidal or semi-circular footprint with an entrance on the western side. The bricks themselves appear to be 18th century in date, but traces of old mortar on some of them show that they had been part of another structure before being re-used on the mound at some later stage. With just a single course of bricks it seems unlikely that it could have supported any substantial structure, perhaps a simple timber frame offering some protection from the elements for seating within – the absence of any broken window glass suggests it was an open-sided structure. It remains a possibility that the structure served some other later purpose, potentially even relating to the use of the area in the 20th century, with the nearby remains of the Second World War camp in East Park (ASE reported by the NT).

Uckfield: Iron Gates Lock, Sheffield Park & Garden (NGR 540970 122759). (Director: James Miles (Archaeovision). A laser scan and photogrammetric survey was undertaken in February on the remains of the late 18th century "Iron Gates" lock on the Ouse navigation, providing an accurate and complete record of the structure to inform consolidation and repair work required to ensure the long term survival of the feature (Archaeovision, reported by the NT).

Upper Dicker: Land at Michelham Priory Road (NGR: 555040 109620, Arlington Parish). (Director: John Cook). A magnetometer survey on a site totalling approximately 4.6 hectares

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was undertaken on the 20th October 2016. Evidence for possible archaeological features was represented by moderate positive and negative anomalies. Though they could have an archaeological origin, they may equally be the result of the natural geology. Linear anomalies or trends in the data may indicate a number of former field boundaries possibly indicating former tenement plots (ASE).

Wadhurst: Little Pell Farm, Blacksmiths Lane (NGR: 564507 132074, Wadhurst Parish). (Site Code: PEL 16. Director: Christopher Curtis). In January 2017 a historic building record of the boiler house at Little Pell Farmhouse was undertaken. The boiler house was built as a lean-to extension in the late 18th or early 19th century and was either contemporary with the underbuilding of the main farmhouse in brick, or the rebuilding of the farmhouse roof. The function of the lean-to remains unclear but presumably served an agricultural function related to the farm (ASE).

Waldron: Whitehouse Lane (TQ 54990 19330). (Site code: WLW 16. Director: Lisa Fisher). During October to November 2016, ASL carried out a watching brief at Whitehouse Lane. This investigated parts of the site which were affected by the re-routing of electricity service cables by UK Power Network and so was outside of Planning Control but ESCC advised and requested monitoring in-line with Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989. No archaeological features of great age were recorded but the foundations of the former coach house and Listed boundary wall were exposed and fully recorded. Finally, 18th- century brick fragments and smithing waste was recovered which was recycled and mixed with mortar to make running repairs to the former track way underneath the existing road. This does suggest that a blacksmiths forge was once situated within the heart of the village which is not recorded in the HER, which was backed up by local knowledge in the village (ASL).

***Wellingham, Nr. Barcombe Mills: Bridge Farm.** (NGR TQ 4294 1457: 4.5OD: Ringmer Parish). (Site Code: BF15. Directors: Rob Wallace and David Millum). The 2017 excavations will return to the area investigated last year. Excavation will be between 26th June and 5th August. Volunteers welcome – detail of rates etc can be found on the website: www.culverproject.co.uk. (CAP).

Westham: 3 Pevensey Park Road (TQ 63790 04523). (Site code: PRW16. Director: Lisa Fisher). On 28th and 29th December 2016 a watching brief was maintained at 3 Pevensey Park Road during development for the construction of a new build house. The footings trenches for a single-unit house were monitored following on from an evaluation excavation in 2015. The trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of approximately 1.75m down through to the natural geology. Bronze Age, Roman and medieval pottery were recovered along with a small assemblage of prehistoric flint work but these all came from the plough soil so were not *in-situ* finds. No features were found and the project did not uncover the linear feature which was discovered during the 2015 evaluation (ASL).

Westham/Stone Cross: Vesta, Peelings Lane (TQ 6395 0460). (Site Code: VPL 16/233. Director: Jim Webster).

According to the East Sussex HER, the Roman road from Pevensey to Arlington was supposed to run through the site. However, no archaeological features were recorded during a watching brief carried out whilst the footings of a new extension were excavated. Modern made ground was recorded immediately above the natural geology (TVAS).

Westham/Stone Cross: Land at Peelings Lane (NGR 561568 104488). (Site Code: PEE 16. Director: John Cook). A magnetometer survey on land adjacent to Peelings Lane took place on 9th and 9th November 2016. The survey area consisted of 3.7 hectares of rough pasture. A

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number of possible archaeological features were encountered across the site including field boundaries and potential cut features such as pits and ditches (ASE).

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Ashurst: Eaton's Farm, Footbridge (NGR: 519030 116177, Ashurst Parish). (Site Code EFO 16. Director: Seth Price). In October 2016 a programme of historic building recording (Historic England Level 2) at Eaton's Farm Footbridge, Ashurst, was undertaken. Other than four possible pile bases no sign of the earlier bridge, as shown on the early 19th-century mapping, was seen. Should the observed features pertain to the earlier bridge, it might be presumed that the structure would have been of a similar size to the existing crossing. The existing bridge was constructed in the early 20th century in the location of an earlier crossing. The bridge's haphazard appearance is owed to a number of repairs and alterations of 20th- and early 21st-century date. Such alterations include replacement and repair to the bridge's handrails, timber piles and the adjacent bank (ASE).

Chichester: Geophysics in Priory Park (NGR centres on SU 86283 05133). In November, the society concluded its planned geophysics (resistivity with limited magnetometry) following the radar surveys of David Staveley (2015 and 2016). The results were comparable to David's, with an addition of an area north of the Guildhall, recording responses from a rectangular series of structures that could be part of the Franciscan Friary (CDAS).

Chichester: Land at Fishbourne Road East (NGR: 484765 104681, Chichester Parish). (Site Code: FRE 16. Director: Greg Priestly-Bell). A two trench archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at Fishbourne Road East on 30th and 31st January 2017. The work revealed an E-W running Roman ditch dating to the 1st century AD that had also been recorded during a previous evaluation. Two undated features were also recorded, a pit and a probable tree throw. The Roman ditch was on the same alignment, and perhaps associated with, a possible Roman road that ran c. 25m to the north (formerly the Portsmouth Road, now Fishbourne Road East) (ASE).

Crawley: Mill Cottage, Ifield (NGR TQ 245 364). (Site code: IMC 16. Director: Simon Stevens). An archaeological watching brief during an extension to the building revealed extensive ground disturbance as a result of services (ASE, reported by Surrey CC).

Crawley: Forge Wood, NE Sector (NGR TQ 291 389). Continuing evaluation and Strip, Map Sample of land at Balcome Road. Results pending (ASE, reported by Surrey CC).

East Grinstead: Cable Trench Excavation at Standen House (NGR 538900 135600, East Grinstead Parish). (Site Code: STD 16. Director: Tom Munnery). An archaeological watching brief was undertaken between 3rd and 4th October 2016. No archaeological features were observed during the watching brief, but a single prehistoric flint flake, fragment of CBM and two iron nails were recovered from the overburden (ASE).

Ifield: Mill Cottage, Hyde Drive (NGR: 524517 136466, Ifield Parish). (Site code: IMC 16. Director: Simon Stevens). An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks for an extension at Mill Cottage. The property lies immediately adjacent to Ifield Mill, a grade II listed building, and Ifield Mill Pond, the remains of a long-lived industrial site. No significant archaeological deposits were encountered in the area of the new extension, which had been heavily disturbed during the installation of various services. A collection of 20th century glassware and a small assemblage of blast furnace slag were recovered from the garden soil (ASE).

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Littlehampton: Norway Lane and Worthing Road (NGR 504028 103554 to 504765 103076, Littlehampton Parish). (Site Code: WRL 16. Director: Simon Stevens). No archaeological deposits, features or finds were encountered during monitoring of groundworks immediately to the south and north of the A259 (ASE).

Littlehampton: Land at Toddington Lane (Phase 4) (NGR: 503351 104203, Littlehampton Parish). (Site code: LNR 16. Director: Hayley Nicholls). An archaeological excavation was carried out at Toddington Lane (Phase 4) between November 2016 and February 2017. The finds and stratigraphic data are currently being analysed and as such the dating and the interpretation of the site will be refined in the coming months. However, early analysis suggests multiple phases of archaeological activity of Bronze Age through to Medieval date including Iron Age enclosure ditches and storage pits and post-built rectangular enclosures of Roman date likely contemporary with similar features identified during previous fieldwork immediately to the south (ASE).

Littlehampton: Courtwick Lane (TQ 0180 0360). (Site code: CLL 10/85. Director: Sean Wallis). An ongoing watching brief is being carried out in advance of a new housing development. So far a handful of archaeological features have been found in the footing trenches (TVAS).

Shoreham-by-Sea: Foreshore of the River Adur, Adur Tidal Walls Reach E2 (NGR TQ 21106 05230, Shoreham-by-Sea Parish). (Site Code: ATW 13. Director: Kristina Krawiec). A hulk assessment was carried out on the foreshore of the River Adur in January 2017. The walkover survey determined that the hulk in Reach E2 was in fairly poor condition and that further recording is required in order to better understand the nature, date and function of the vessel. The lack of comparable material from the River Adur means that close dating was not possible on this visit, although it is likely to date to the mid-19th to early 20th century. It was recommended that limited hand/machine excavation is carried out to further uncover the vessel in order that a more complete record can be made. In addition, it is also suggested that documentary research is undertaken prior to fieldwork in order to determine the level of recording that is required (ASE).

Slindon Field 20 (TQ 955114, Slindon Estate). In February, temporary bench mark, were put in ahead of the March excavation. The excavation, to investigate the walls found a year ago, takes place between March 18th and 26th (WAS).

Slinfold: Alfoldean (NGR11650 32837) (7th & 9th Feb 2017) An intensified magnetometry survey was undertaken by Worthing Archaeological Society (Connie Shirley) on behalf of Horsham District Archaeology Group (Co-ordinated by Andy Bates, HDAG) on 7th and 8th February 2017. The survey comprised four grids of 20m x 20m prior to a proposed excavation March 2017. Within this area a resistivity survey was also undertaken of one 20m x 20m grid encompassing the 2014 excavated trench, extended Feb/March 2015 (HDAG).

Slinfold: Alfoldean (NGR11650 32837) (begun 4th March, ongoing) (Director Keith Butler and Susan Birks, Horsham District Archaeology Group). An excavation was begun on 4th March to further investigate the areas of interest suggested by the geophysical surveys and previous excavations. It is tentatively suggested that traces of a Roman/Romano British pottery kiln may have been found - awaiting completion of excavation; report to follow (HDAG).

Wisborough Green: Land at Petworth Road (NGR 504675 125811, Wisborough Green Parish). (Site Code: WSG 16. Director: Tom Munnery). An evaluation was undertaken on the

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5th and 7th October 2016. Eleven trenches measuring up to 30m in length were excavated. Small quantities of residual worked flint and Roman glass were recovered from the overburden along with an assemblage of medieval pottery and blast furnace slag. Three ditches were revealed across the site, which probably date from medieval period. Although the medieval pottery most likely derives from manuring, this is among the first archaeological interventions in Wisborough Green and the pottery recovered suggests that the village had closer links with the Surrey-Sussex pottery tradition, rather than that of West Sussex. Blast furnace slag suggests a nearby furnace; however, it could derive from elsewhere after having been used as road metalling (ASE).

Worthing: Stanhope Lodge (NGR 509568 105600 to 511182 105730, Worthing Parish). (Site Code: SLW 16. Director: Chris Russel). A total of six pits were monitored, four in the east of the scheme close to the Coach and Horses public house and two in the west in the grounds of Castle Goring. The area in the east had been heavily disturbed by recent road building and the area in the west showed signs of landscaping and bioturbation. No archaeological finds or features were observed (ASE).

Worthing: New Astroturf Pitch, Vale School, Vale Avenue (TQ 1272 0657). (Site code: WVF 16/154. Director: Sean Wallis/Simon Colcutt). The groundworks in respect of a new Astroturf pitch were monitored. The area had clearly been terraced in the past, and no archaeological features were observed cut into the natural chalk. The watching brief also examined the nature of the geology. Much of the material had worked its way down the slope under periglacial conditions, but no Palaeolithic artefacts or deposits were recorded (TVAS).

NB. No fieldwork to report for this period from:

Philippa Whitehill
CITiZAN
David Staveley
SMHS
WIRG

NB: No fieldwork reports for this period received by deadline from:

CBAS
CDC
Cuckmere Archaeological Group
Development Archaeological Services
Eastbourne Museum Service
ENHAS
HAARG (notified)
Sussex Industrial Archaeological Society
West Sussex Archaeology
WSCC
Winchelsea Archaeological Society

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