

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL ROUND-UP
(12th June to 5th October 2018)

* volunteer opportunities

East Sussex

Alciston: The Studio (TQ 50701 05737). (Site code: SAP 18. Director: Emily Walsh). A watching brief was undertaken on the excavation of two footings trenches measuring 6.00m and 6.60m long for an extension to the rear (south) of the property. Deposit of modern building rubble over topsoil (Context 001) over subsoil (Context 002) over natural clay (Context 003) were encountered. A deposit of modern made ground (Context 004) was recorded next to the existing building. A small assemblage of finds was sampled from 001 and 002 (CBAS).

Bexhill: Preston Hall Farm (NGR: 573784 109856. Bexhill parish). (Site code: BXP 18. Director: Hannah Samuels). In August 2018 a historic buildings record (Historic England Level 3) of two structures at Preston Hall Farm, Watermill Lane was undertaken. The work was commissioned prior to their demolition ahead of the redevelopment of the site for residential use. Preston Hall Farm holds an historic association with two Grade II listed structures located a short distance to the north-east of the farmyard; Preston Hall and Preston Hall Cottage. Building 1 had early 19th- century origins and in-part formed one of the earliest structures within the present farmyard. The building is thought to have been constructed by 1839 and formed a shelter shed for cattle. During the 19th century the structure was enlarged and converted for use as stabling with hay loft above. During the latter half of the 20th century the building was redeveloped into a residential dwelling. Building 2, dated to a phase of expansion occurring during the mid- 19th century. Originating as a shelter shed and pigsty, the building was converted into stables by the 20th century and subsequently converted into a workshop and store. Changing agricultural practice had largely rendered the buildings redundant for agricultural purposes, hence their conversion into a residential dwelling and associated workshop/store. This is partly due to the use of modern oversized machinery, reduced land holdings and associated with the separation of the farmstead from Preston Hall during the 20th century (ASE).

***Bishopstone Tidemills.** (Centred NGR TQ 460 003). (Site code: TM 18. Director: Luke Barber). The 2018 season has been concentrating on the mill office and domestic buildings to the south. The domestic structures are showing a complex sequence of development and replaced an earlier small domestic cottage. The earliest cottage (facing the road) is well built but the eastern range behind it is of flimsy construction. Sanitary facilities have also been investigated – a double toilet and a late quadruple toilet block – all with bench seats and buckets, though the 20th- century concrete floors could conceal old cess pits below. Work in the greenhouse was completed and the other early kiln located below it, excavated. This proved to be an unfinished structure. As usual there has been a lot of interest from the passing public (SAS).

Brighton: 33 Roedean Road (TQ 33980 03510). (Site code: ROR 17. Director: Emily Walsh). A watching brief on the ground reduction of areas to the front and rear of the property in advance of redevelopment works was undertaken. To the front of the property an area measuring 11.50 x 5.60 m was reduced. A stratigraphy of topsoil (001) over natural chalk (002) was revealed. To the rear of the property areas measuring 10.90 x 5.00m and 4.95 x 3.10m were reduced. A truncated stratigraphy of topsoil (001) over natural was observed during reductions to the immediate south of the property but topsoil (001) over subsoil (003) over natural (003) was recorded during works to the far south of the Site. No finds or features were recorded to the front of the property. To the rear of the property a modern pit [004], an undated possible posthole [008] and a modern/Post-medieval linear feature [006] were recorded. Only a single piece of ?post-medieval CBM was retrieved from (007), the fill of [008] (CBAS).

Brighton: Mile Oak (NGR 524828 107547. Brighton parish). (Site Code: MIL 16. Director: Simon Stevens). Thirty-four trenches were mechanically excavated. The only features encountered consisted of two gullies, a ditch and a small pit, all of apparently post-medieval date. A substantial 'mound' was found to be recent in origin, as was a second less conspicuous earthwork. A small assemblage of late prehistoric flintwork was recovered from the topsoil across the evaluated area (ASE).

Catsfield: Hophouse Barn, Hophouse Farm, Catsfield Stream (NGR: 571443 113021. Catsfield parish). (Site code: HHB 16. Director: Chris Curtis). In May 2016 a historic building record of Hophouse Barn was undertaken. The work was commissioned by Michael D Hall Building Design Services Ltd to satisfy a condition placed on listed building consent in relation to the conversion of the barn to residential use. The record also included a neighbouring stable and cattle shelter. A previous survey had been carried out by David Martin in 1980. The barn was constructed as a five-bay threshing barn in the early 18th century. It has undergone several phases of alteration, including the addition of down-going shores and associated partitions at some point in the 18th century, the conversion of two bays to use as a cow house in the 19th century, and small-scale alterations in the 20th century. A late 19th- century building to the east of the barn was converted to use as a stable in the early 20th century, and at a similar date, an open-fronted cattle shelter was built to the west of the barn (ASE).

East Dean: Land East Of Gilbert's Drive (NGR: (TV) 5567 9726. East Dean parish). (Site code: EGD 18. Director: Susan Chandler). An archaeological watching brief visit was undertaken to check that the excavation of a gas service trench had not exposed any archaeological remains in a previously largely undisturbed area. The watching brief included the recording of sample sections along the service trench, photographic recording and the collection of material from the excavated spoil. No archaeological features were identified although a broken neolithic flint blade and some abraded Roman and medieval pottery was collected from the spoil (ASE).

Eastbourne: Victoria Drive Bowling club, The Drive, 153 Victoria Drive (NGR: 559114 99966. Eastbourne parish). (Site code: VDE 18. Director: Jake Wilson). Four trenches were excavated as part of an evaluation. Modern made ground was encountered throughout the site exceeding a depth of 1.2m. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were encountered during the evaluation (ASE).

Eastbourne: Cross Levels Way (NGR: 560295 100832. Eastbourne parish). (Site code: WLC 17. Director: Alice Dowsett). A geoarchaeological borehole investigation was carried out at Cross Levels Way, Eastbourne. Six window sampler boreholes recorded the presence of a significant amount of modern made ground and a small horizon of fine colluvium across much of the site. The typical stratigraphy recorded was an underlying solid geology of West Melbury Marly Chalk, which was overlain by a fine grey clayey silt with rolled chalk pellets, interpreted as being fine colluvium, which was overlain by a series of modern made ground layers and occasional concrete slabs, which was finally overlain by topsoil. The exact nature and age of the colluvial deposits is uncertain and therefore the cores were retained for possible future sub-sampling and palaeoenvironmental assessment. However, the condition of the sediment suggests that they are of relatively low geoarchaeological potential. No Willingdon Levels peat was encountered during this borehole survey (ASE).

Dallington: Martlets, The Street (TQ 65740 19089). (Site code: MSD 16. Director: Emily Walsh). Archaeological monitoring was maintained during the reduction of the ground to the rear of the property. A stratigraphy of imported topsoil (Context 001) over buried soil (002) over natural further from the existing building was noted next to the existing building, following removal of concrete/tarmac made ground (009) over natural. Contexts 004 and 005 relate to an undated pit and its fill. Contexts 006 and 008 were the sandstone and brick foundations to the existing building. A deposit of made ground (context 010) was recorded below 008. Context 007 was a sandstone feature, possibly a wall foundation, recorded running northwest to southeast. It was not possible to establish

the relationship of this feature to context 006 as the contractor reduced the ground between this feature and the existing building without supervision. The number of services in this area however, render it unlikely this feature had survived (CBAS).

Firle: Firle Church (TQ 547126 107130). (Site code: FCF 18. Director: John Backzowski).

Monitoring of external and internal construction works in association with an extension to the north side of Firle Church, including excavation of a foundation trench, internal floor reduction and drain trench. This summary relates only to the external church yard works, which have now finished. The final phase of the internal works is due to begin at the end of April 2018. The monitoring of the external works consisted of two phases, firstly the foundation trench for the proposed extension to the north face of the church and secondly the drain run, from the new extension to the existing Vicarage building, a distance of c. 80m. Neither phases of the monitoring exposed any significant archaeological features, although a total of twenty two articulated human burials were exposed, either fully or partially. It was also possible to record both foundations for the north and west walls of the church. The stratigraphic sequence encountered on site was simple and consisted of a silty topsoil, c. 0.1m to 0.2m in depth, overlying re-deposited churchyard subsoil, up to 1.0m in depth. The natural deposit, comprising marl chalk, was exposed at between 0.8m to 1.2m below the current surface.

The foundation trench measured 15m² and was 1.2m at its deepest point. The internal overburden of the trench was reduced to 0.35m below the current ground level. The only burials were exposed along the eastern end of the trench, where it was attempted to initially excavate a strip footing trench, which was abandoned due to the density of burial. The design was then altered to a raft foundation, which measured 15m² and did not expose any further burials, due to its shallow depth of less than 0.35m.

A total of seven east to west burials were exposed immediately adjacent to the north door of the church, running in a rough north to south alignment. Two of these burials were infants (SK1 and SK5) and buried at a depth of 0.4m. SK1 was between 2 – 5 years of age and was completely excavated and recorded, prior to re-burial. SK5, a neonate, was only partially exposed before being preserved *in situ*. Apart from SK1 only one burial was fully recorded and removed, this was SK7, an adult male aged between 40 to 60 years of age. The other burials (SK 2, 3, 4 and 6) were only partially exposed. After recording their location it was therefore possible to protect them *in situ*.

It was not possible to positively date any of the burials, although due to their location and a general alignment with other graves that still retained their headstones, a broad late 18th to 19th century date is favoured. The only exception being the two infants, which may have been ‘night time’ burials, and could therefore date to the late 19th to early 20th centuries, due to their stratigraphic location above, and therefore later than the adult burials. Finally, a section of the north wall of Firle Church was exposed and recorded during the works. The foundations were recorded as chalk block with flint nodules bonded by a buff sandy mortar with gravel inclusions. The foundations showed no signs of being earlier than the 16th century extension to the northern aisle of Firle Church and can therefore be considered as contemporary with the walls.

The drain trench ran from the new extension to the existing Vicarage dwelling and followed a broadly westerly direction. The trench ran close to the main east to west path to the west entrance of the church, and measured between 1.2m deep at its eastern end, to 0.6m at its western end. The trench measured 0.3m in width, which made excavation and recording of burials difficult. A total of fifteen articulated burials were exposed along the run of the drain trench. Exposure of these burials ranged from partial to whole, and where necessary they were recorded, removed and re-buried as close to their original position as possible when the trench was backfilled, following a method approved by the Church Archaeological Advisor. Thirteen of the burials were positively identified as adults, as well as one definite infant. Dating of the burials was again problematic, although a general late 18th to 19th century range was favoured, due to the position and alignment of the burials to others with dated headstones. The only feature of archaeological interest recorded was the remains of the western church boundary wall, located c. 25m to the west of the church and orientated in a north to south direction across the current pathway. Beyond this wall no more burials were found and the re-deposited churchyard layer ceased to be present, indicating that the wall marked the historic churchyard boundary to the west of the church. A small amount of medieval to 19th century pot

sherds and ceramic building material was recovered during both phases of the monitoring, as well as occasional oyster shells (CBAS).

Hartfield: Casablanca Nurseries (TQ 45311 33859). (Site code: CNH 18. Director: Chris Butler). Two 20m evaluation trenches (T1 and T2) were opened on the southern part of the site in an area currently used as a car park. These had the same stratigraphy; a metallised car park surface, c. 100mm thick with a material membrane below. Below this was a very compacted subsoil c. 200-220mm thick, from which a few post-medieval CBM fragments were recovered, and below this was the natural. The natural in both trenches was cut by ceramic and shingle-filled trench land drains. Three 20m trenches (T3 - T5) were located on the northern part of the site, and again had a similar stratigraphy, comprising a shingle layer c. 50 – 120mm thick with a material membrane below, above a subsoil c. 150-225mm thick from which further post-medieval CBM fragments were recovered, and below that the natural. Ceramic and shingle land drains were found in most trenches. The remaining 20m of trench length was excavated as 2 x 10m trenches (T6 & T7) either side of T4 to see if there were any other features in this area. These had the same stratigraphy as the other trenches in the northern part of the site and contained no archaeology. Trench 4 had a small cut feature at its east end which contained what appeared to be roasted iron ore and charcoal. The trench was extended to get the whole extent of the feature. No dateable finds located, but soil samples were taken. There were two further areas of 'disturbance' cutting into the natural some 10m west of the cut, which contain burnt material and charcoal. It was not clear whether this is burnt out tree roots or further evidence of potential 'ironworking'. Samples were taken for analysis. Trench 3 had a single linear cut in the natural, defined by a sterile blue silty clay. This is a geological feature. No other features were noted (CBAS).

Heathfield: Tilsmore Lodge (NGR: 557200 121550. Heathfield parish). (Site code: TLH 17. Director: Giles Dawkes and Hayley Nicholls). The ten evaluation trenches excavated did not identify any archaeological features or recover any finds. No evidence of the geophysical anomalies plotted during a previous phase of work were encountered. The magnetic and ferrous anomalies may be the result of naturally occurring iron deposits. No intact deposits associated with the 19th century Tilsmore Farm farmyard were identified. (ASE)

Herstmonceux: Lime Cross Recreation Ground (TQ 6372 1235). (Site code: LCH 18/156. Director: Odile Rouard). Several features including ditches, gullies, pits and postholes were identified in 8 out of the 38 trenches and although some have been dated to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period, a few remain undated and could be post-medieval field boundaries. In one pit, a baked clay pedestal was found and fired clay (possibly kiln waste) was retrieved from several other features, indicating the possible proximity of a pottery production centre (TVAS).

Lewes: 212 High Street (NGR: TQ 41764 10216. Lewes parish). (Site code: not notified. Director: Diccon Hart). An archaeological watching brief was carried out in September and October 2018 during groundworks associated with the conversion of the property to residential use. An area measuring c. 5m by 2m to the rear (north) of the property was reduced to c. 2m below existing ground level, exposing c. 1.80m of natural alluvial deposits overlying river terrace gravels. Archaeological features encountered included the eastern wall of a (possible medieval) chalk built cellar, an adjacent chalk lined well and probable cess pit (also of probable medieval date) and a post-medieval rubbish pit. The cellar appears to have been backfilled in the later 18th or 19th century, and a thick landscaping layer of garden soil deposited over the entire area, presumably representing landscaping of the rear garden of the present Georgian building fronting the High Street. Internal alterations to the building were also monitored in order to record any exposed historic fabric (HBAC).

Ninfield: Castle Croft, Lower Standard Farm. (TQ 6810 1160). (Site code: CC 18. Directors: Lynn and Kevin Cornwell). Four trenches were excavated between 22 September – 5 October on targets identified by the magnetometer survey. The main trench contained a Romano-British tile kiln and was $\frac{3}{4}$ excavated. Structures from within the kiln and the front wall with stoking entrance remain *in-situ*. The 2nd trench identified pit like features filled with kiln debris and building demolition and burning. This smallest trench confirmed the presence of a row of large post-holes. The final trench

looked at a feature next to an enclosure ditch. This feature has been interpreted as a 'Latrina'. (HAARG).

Northiam. (TQ 83 26). (Site code: NT 18. Directors: Lynn and Kevin Cornwell). A single test pit was excavated between 17-20 August 2018 to look at a feature identified by the magnetometer survey conducted by HAARG. A shallow pit containing Romano-British CBM, some bearing 'CLBR' stamps, was identified. There was a 'structure' consisting of a least six inverted complete tegulae which was not fully excavated due to time constraints. We hope to return to this trench. (HAARG).

Pevensey: St Mary's Chapel, Church Acre Field, Manxey level (retrospective report on) (TQ 6509 0684). On Friday 24th March and Sunday 2nd April 2017 magnetometry and resistivity surveys were undertaken on a field named Church Acre on Manxey Level, the proposed site of St Mary's Chapel which was believed abandoned during the 14th century. The site is in an exposed area surrounded by low laying land with drainage ditches on three sides. The chapel site lies approx 200m SSW of a moated site which has an associated Deserted Medieval Village (DMV) called Manxey. The resistivity survey clearly shows the ground plan of the chapel with nave and chancel. On the south side can be seen what appears to be a porch placed at the junction between the nave and chancel. The interior of the chapel still shows high resistance readings which could mean the floor is still in place. Overall though, the site seems to have been systematically cleared as there appears to be little evidence of much demolition rubble remaining. The magnetometer results show a number of high responses and a number of potential graves (ENHAS).

Piddinghoe: Land Adj. Dormer House (TQ 50701 05737). (Site code: DHP 17. Director: Emily Walsh). A watching brief was maintained on excavation of two footings trenches measuring 6.00m and 6.60m long for an extension to the rear (south) of the property. Deposit of modern building rubble over topsoil (Context 001) over subsoil (Context 002) over natural clay (Context 003). A deposit of modern made ground (Context 004) was recorded next to the existing building and a small assemblage of finds were recovered (CBAS).

Plumpton: Plumpton College Roman Villa (TQ 360147). (Site code: not notified. Director: David Rudling). During the summer of 2018 the Sussex School of Archaeology continued its programme of research and training excavations at Plumpton. The first task was to finish the excavation and recording of the main villa building (ie the Romano-British winged-corridor house) and then progress westwards to reveal the upper-most *in-situ* remains of the associated bath-house. In addition, the area to the south of the western end of the house and the baths was investigated and recorded, and some further work carried out in the area of the large flint dump to the east of the house which had been partly sampled during the summer of 2017.

In 2018 we fully revealed the footprint of the former bath house and, without sampling the exposed remains and deposits, recorded the surfaces of these by photography and detailed planning. We decided to leave these remains intact as they will hopefully now be protected from further plough damage and remain as an untouched resource to be more fully explored in the future. The north-south orientated bath suite, which was approximately 10.4 m long and 4.5 m wide internally, may have been multi-phased. It comprised a probable entrance room at its south-east corner. To the west of the suggested entrance room was the cold room which had a very solid mortared floor and along its west wall a semi-circular apsidal area partly paved with thin slabs of 'Horsham' sandstone. These slabs and some areas with various pieces of re-used tile found lying flat may have formed the base of an apsidal plunge bath, or the support for such. This bath was emptied to the west by means of a 'U' shaped lead pipe contained in a tile lined drain. It appears to have emptied into a lowered area marked at the exposed level by a wide 'halo' of flint rubble which surrounds the north, west and southern sides of the baths. This rubble has the appearance of the infilling of a lowered area generally around the baths. To the north of the cold room was a much more disturbed area (with some box-flue and other tiles on edge etc). Judging from the geophysical soil resistivity survey results this area may be the infilled remains of two rooms – one warm, the northern most being hot. Surface finds include a complete pila tile from a hypocaust system. Along the northern wall are the remains of a tile flue-arch, and beyond

this an external stokehole lined with pieces of Sussex Marble (*Paludina* limestone). This service area to the north of the baths proper contains traces of walls connected to the baths which may represent things such as a fuel store. Provisional dating of the tile finds suggests that the baths probably belong to the third or fourth century (ie similar to the site generally).

To the south of the baths were discovered (and sampled) two very truncated north-south and one east-west orientated ditches/gullies. Other discoveries to the east of these features included some flint-packed postholes and some pits containing much charcoal. There were also the remains of a 'bread oven', the infill of which included pieces of tile and some pottery.

The final area investigated in 2018 was the flint rubble spread to the east of the winged-house. This year the two trial trenches started the previous summer were finished and their sections drawn. Of particular interest are the two features (one in each trench) cut into the natural below the flint spread. One of these features appears to have been a north-south wall trench. Finds included more carbonised seeds and pottery (as found in 2017), including the complete profile of a large jar. Associated coin finds (fourth century) suggested that the provisional dating of some of the pottery found in 2017 as 'early' is wrong, and thus as yet nothing has been positively identified as dating to before the end of the second century.

There is still much to discover at Plumpton Villa and it is hoped that in the future attention will switch to the area south of the east-west modern track, ie the area which during fieldwalking yielded large quantities of pottery and is likely to include the farmyard and any surrounding buildings (perhaps an aisled structure as at Barcombe). The areas investigated in 2018 will be backfilled this October (SSA).

Ringmer: Ringmer WTW (NGR: 546370 112540. Ringmer parish). (Site code: RGM 17. Director: Thomas Simms). The work comprised the monitoring of the excavation of three trenches. This revealed a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil in Trench 2, with modern made ground overlying the natural in Trenches 1 and 3. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were encountered during the watching brief (ASE).

Ringmer: Green End, North Road (TQ 4498 1272). (Site code: GNR 18/62. Director: Virginia Fuentes). A watching brief monitored an area that had been significantly disturbed in the past, probably by the footings of the existing outbuildings and later modern services. As a consequence, no archaeological features were recorded (TVAS).

Ripe: The Lamb Inn (TQ 5103 1008). (Site code: TLR 18/75. Director: Sean Wallis). Post-medieval remains were identified, including two wells and several walls, possibly belonging to the buildings that stood on the site between 1875 and 1910. The site was heavily disturbed and apart from a possible medieval pit, all the features recorded dated to the post-medieval period (TVAS).

Ripe: Roseneath Farm (TQ 50831 09955, Chalvington with Ripe parish). (Director: Maggie Henderson). A Heritage Statement and Impact Assessment were prepared in advance of a proposed development scheme due to the site's location within an archaeological notification area. A small group of historic buildings remain discernible at Roseneath Farm (formerly part of Mill Farm). A timber framed building of five near equal bays complete with an integral rear aisle was recorded: the building was constructed in the late 18th or early 19th century as a purpose-built cattle-shed of unusual form. By the issue of the Tithe map in 1837 a further L-plan building had been added to the north of the original, the two buildings separated by a walled yard. The base of the L may have served as a cart-shed or wagon-lodge, the remainder commensurate in its layout and construction details with a typical cattle-shed in contrast to its aisled predecessor. Later historic alterations included the addition of a shelter within the yard extending between the two earlier, permanent buildings (HBAC).

Ripe: Channers Lane (TQ 5102 1006). (Site code: CLR 18. Director: Emily Walsh). The excavation of two evaluation trenches was undertaken at the site. Trench 1 aligned east to west and measuring 10.3m x 2m and Trench 2 aligned northwest to southeast and measuring 9m x 2m. Trench 1

contained no features. A stratigraphy of topsoil (1/001) over subsoil (1/002) over natural sand (1/003) was recorded. Trench 2 contained a cut and fill of modern building rubble (2/004 & 2/005) in the southeast end of the trench. A post-1900 midden (2/006 and 2/007) was recorded in section in the northwest of the trench. An undated linear feature (2/008 and 2/009), aligned roughly east to west, was cut into the natural of Trench 2. A stratigraphy of Topsoil (2/001) over subsoil (2/002) over natural (2/003) was recorded (CBAS).

Speldhurst: Old Dairy (TQ 54955 42429). (Site code: ODS 17. Director: Emily Walsh). A watching brief was maintained at the site. New foundations had already been excavated prior to commencement of the monitoring so x3 test pits were excavated within the footprint of the building. Excavation of a large pit and services trenches to the northeast of the site, excavation of a second large pit to the southwest of the site were also monitored. Footings for a new garage in the centre of the site had been excavated prior to the arrival of the archaeologist. A stratigraphy of made ground (001) over subsoil (002) over natural (003 and 009) was observed throughout most of the site except where made ground directly overlay the natural or where deposits of chalk made ground existed (007) or building rubble (006 and 010) were deposited. A deposit of buried topsoil was recorded in the 2nd large pit. No archaeological features were recorded. Post-medieval finds were recovered from contexts 001 and 006 (CBAS).

***Stanmer (Brighton): Rocky Clump** (TQ 328 101. Stanmer parish). (Site code: 500300. Director: Pete Tolhurst). These excavations are of a Late Iron Age/early Romano-British enclosure. The enclosure is defined by ditches, some of which are over 2 metres wide and almost 1.5 metres in depth. This year's excavations have uncovered the north/east and south edges of the enclosure and possibly its entranceway. Five separate ditches have been revealed, along with pits and a vast number of post and stake holes. The finds include six Roman coins, with an exceptional Sestersius and Barbarous Radiate and a copper alloy bangle. There have also been large finds of animal bone and pottery. One of the highlights has been the discovery of a baby burial in the upper east/west ditch. We are hoping to determine what activities were carried out within this complex series of features. The excavation has a finish date of the 20th October when we will be completing the recording of the site and commencing the post excavation work of processing the finds. The County Archaeologist has kindly granted permission for the excavation to be continued next year, where we hope to finish the area to the south of the enclosure. This will be subject to the agreement of the tenant farmer, Mr David Robinson. There are always opportunities for non-members who, by appointment, can join us for any of our activities throughout the autumn/ winter months and into the 2019 season. Details can be obtained by visiting our website (<http://www.brightonarch.org.uk>) (BHAS).

Streat: Rectory Barn (NGR: 535051 115414. Streat parish). (Site code: RBN 18. Director: Susan Chandler). A watching brief was maintained during the conversion of the barn to residential use. Previously it had been in use as a parish hall. The watching brief was to monitor the excavation of foundations for two small external extensions to the northern elevation of the building and an internal foundation for a new internal wall. The watching brief confirmed that only a small part of the original (probably 18th century) structure of the barn survived and that the majority of it had been rebuilt in the 1980s. The interior floor of the barn was comprehensively modified and disturbed in the first half of the 20th century. The watching brief revealed an early 20th century cobbled floor and remnants of stall partitions suggesting that the barn was in use as animal accommodation at this time. A number of the timbers in the barn show sooting or charring and it is likely that it was damaged by fire to some extent in the second half of the 20th century. This event was likely the reason for the almost total rebuilding of the barn in the 1980s, evidence for which was very apparent through the substantial concrete underpinning, which truncates earlier 20th- century made ground and floors in all areas of the barn excepting the west wall of the east cross-wing, as discussed above (ASE).

Ticehurst: 20 Church Street (NGR: 568829 130149. Ticehurst parish). (Site code: CST 18. Director: Jake Wilson). The area in which the watching brief took place has been significantly impacted by modern groundworks resulting in the removal of any possible subsoil and the surface of the geological horizon. The area excavated exhibited a stratigraphic sequence of modern made ground

and redeposited natural overlain by garden topsoil. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered within the area (ASE).

Uckfield: Ridgewood (NGR: 546788 120066. Uckfield parish). (Site code: RWF 17. Director: Greg Priestley-Bell). No significant archaeological features were identified. Small quantities of residual worked flint were collected, together with iron-working slag and mixed 19th- to 20th-century material (ASE).

Uckfield: Sheffield Park & Gardens (NGR TQ 41854 23627). (Site code: SPEPC/SMR 18. Directors: Stewart Angell and Peter Hibbs). An excavation and survey has been carried out on a section of the WW2 East Park Camp within Sheffield Park. Organised by the National Trust (NT), Sussex Military Research were commissioned to oversee the project. A combination of volunteers from the NT and Sussex Military History Society (SMHS) assisted throughout. Findings include the base of four structures/huts, concrete paths connecting these, sewage pipes and drains and powerline insulators embedded within trees (SMR).

Wadhurst: 3 Gloucester Cottages, Sparrows Green (NGR 563640 132550. Wadhurst parish). (Site code: GCW 18. Director: Hannah Green). An historic building assessment of 3 Gloucester Cottages was carried out in order to assess the building's origins, historic development and significance, in order to inform the process of altering the property. In January 2018 Archaeology South-East returned to the property during alteration works to monitor groundworks associated with a rear extension. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered (ASE).

***Wellingham, Nr. Barcombe Mills: Bridge Farm.** (NGR TQ 4313 1444: OD 6.5m. Ringmer parish). (Site code: BF 18. Directors: Rob Wallace and David Millum). The 2018 summer season has seen the excavation of the upper layers of the seventh trench to be opened at the defended Romano-British settlement site. Trench 7 is located in the very centre of the area enclosed by the 2nd- century double-ditch defences and it was hoped that this 45 by 20 metre area over the central crossroads would reveal evidence of further buildings. However we have to remember that this site represents over 300 years of activity and this year we have only been able to penetrate the upper layers which seem to mainly feature industrial remains. These consist of large pits, areas of fired clay, series of postholes with large flint packing and deposits with high carbon content. Some of the postholes appear to be in rows suggesting possible rectangular structures. One area was of particular interest as a deposit of fired clay appeared surrounded by lumps of chalk and Downland flint. The feature had the appearance of some kind of hearth or kiln with the presence of chalk leading us to think that it may be the remains of a simple clamp-type lime kiln. The only previous occurrence of chalk at the site was in the walls of the well excavated in 2017 but the chalk in this instance could not be argued as a structural element as it was in an obviously fired environment. The initial clean back of the whole trench surface produced a great deal of pottery and an area of road structure at only 200mm below the current ground level. The upper layer of this consisted of flint pebbles and small nodules which had been disturbed by ploughing but at the eastern end was an under-layer of compressed flint gravels which seemed to form the main base structure of the road. This however was not found anywhere else along the trench at this shallow depth and may have been ploughed and/or robbed out. This road is the continuation of the route to Arlington/Pevensey and so far the road from the southern grid heading north has not been seen other than possibly in two short sections of ephemeral roadside ditches. Many large pits were found and one in the northwest corner of the trench proved to be not only multi-layered but very deep. Most of the pit and postholes discovered were half-sectioned and recorded but still need fully excavating, offering a busy time from the very start of next season which will include the removal of the spoil heap adjacent to the northwest corner in order to safely excavate the deep pit more fully.

Amongst the varied assemblage of over 17,000 pottery sherds collected we observed a greater percentage of fine wares than in previous seasons. This included a good quantity of samian, some with embossed decoration, maker's marks and scratched graffiti. Close to our possible lime kiln was a pile of black colour-coated white fineware beaker sherds with a number of large amphora sherds

nearby. We also had more mortaria sherds than before including one almost complete mortarium in a light buff/cream fabric. Because this is obviously going to be another 2-3 year trench we will have to be patient before commissioning the pottery analysis. Metal finds, including coins, seem to be less numerous than from Trench 6 (2015-17) (www.culverproject.co.uk) (CAP).

Winchelsea: Richmond House (TQ 90662 17454. Icklesham parish). (Director: Maggie Henderson). A Historic Building Assessment of Richmond House was prepared in advance of a proposed scheme of alterations. The phase 1 standing building remains represent part of the 18th- century regeneration of Winchelsea rather than a survival of the town's medieval origins. The earliest extant remains are those of an early 18th- century stone-built house that had comprised a two-storey plus attics and cellar main range served by end chimney stacks. The main range was supplemented by a probable single storey rear outshot, separated from the principal accommodation by a timber partition. The rear outshot had provided ancillary service accommodation and stair access to the upper floors. The cellar below the main range has no discernible medieval features commensurate with those of known medieval origin within the town. A cross-wing was added to the south end at the turn of the 19th century and the earlier building was modernised resulting in its current coherent external appearance. The late 19th and early 20th century saw several additions and alterations, including most of the roughcast rendered finish to the house. Richmond House was substantially re-roofed during the late 20th century following fire-damage (HBAC).

Windmill Hill: Windmill Hill WTW (NGR: 564958 112776 to 64958 12776. Wartling parish). (Site code: WND 17. Director: Teresa Vieira). Mechanical ground reduction to install a temporary compound on the site was monitored. A ditch boundary and the remains of two buildings were identified. The buildings and the ditch can be related to features on the 1874 Ordnance Survey map and also the 1890's map, but the buildings had disappeared by the 1900's map. The brick fabric and the pottery recovered in association with the buildings suggest a late post-medieval construction date. (ASE)

West Sussex

Angmering: Angmering School (NGR: 507003 103492. Angmering parish). (Site code: ASA 18. Director: Chris Russell). An archaeological evaluation was commissioned in advance of a new three storey teaching block at the school. The geological horizon was encountered at 9.28-9.33 m AOD. This was overlain by a deep subsoil, which contained residual worked and fire cracked flint. Modern disturbance was noted in the topsoil in the form of plastic and modern brick, although the geological horizon appeared to have been protected by the deep subsoil. A single irregular gully or lynchet was noted towards the south of the trench, which contained abraded pottery, worked and fire cracked flint (ASE).

Binsted Woods. During October the surveying team is to re-visit the earthworks in Binsted Woods, just near the proposed route for the A27 Arundel bypass. For further details on any of these, contact Liz Lane (liz.13lane@gmail.com) (WAS).

Broadbridge Heath: Land East Of A281 (NGR 514405 131069. Broadbridge Heath parish). (Site code: BRB 17. Director: Simon Stevens). The presence of a buried gas main and ecological constraints limited the area available for the evaluation but a cumulative length of 267m of trenching was investigated. No archaeological deposits, features or finds were recorded in the evaluation and it is clear that the site has been heavily disturbed/truncated in the recent past (ASE).

Chichester: Excavation in Priory Park (NGR centres on SU 86283 05133). (Director: James Kenny). In mid-July CDAS took part in two weeks of excavation of a private Roman bathhouse, identified by previous Geophysics (CDAS - 2016) and GPR survey (David Staveley – 2015) and initially investigated by excavation in 2017. This was a Chichester & District Council excavation with CDAS providing community support. The excavation uncovered 2/3rds of the structure. Hollow voussoir tiles found amongst the remains of the superstructure collapsed into the hypocaust are closely paralleled at Fishbourne Palace, where they were used in a bathhouse built early in the 2nd century AD (CDC reported by CDAS).

Chilgrove Valley: Brooms Farm (NGR centres on SU 82867 15950). In late August, resistivity and magnetometry surveys were undertaken across a number of monuments, identified via aerial images, including an oval barrow, Bronze Age ring ditch, and suspected Neolithic enclosure. This survey was in support of a member undertaking their Master's by Research at Winchester University, specific case study of oval barrows in West Sussex. A 1x4m investigative trench was placed across the suspected Neolithic structure. Two post holes were revealed, pottery from one currently with the Institute of Archaeology UCL for analysis (CDAS).

Hardham Wellfield (NGR: 503579 117481 (North-West) to 504570 116655 (South-East). Hardham parish). (Site code: HWE 18 Director: John Cook).

East Report

Evidence for possible archaeological features was represented by moderate positive anomalies. Though they could have an archaeological origin, such as pits or ditches, they may equally be the result of the natural geology. A probable geological feature such as a palaeochannel was observed running across the site.

West Report

The work was undertaken between Tuesday 12th June and Friday 13th July. Evidence of possible archaeological features was represented by positive anomalies ranging from weak to strong. Although they could have an archaeological origin, such as pits or ditches, they may also be the result of the natural geology. A number of linear anomalies forming a curve in an area adjacent to the possible Roman Camp (SAM no: 393011) appear likely to correspond with the south east corner ditch of the camp. Further anomalies spreading to the south and west of this site may represent settlement activity

and trackways. An additional enclosure may be represented by a possible ditch adjacent to the existing railway. In addition, the possible pits, ditches and ground disturbance in the western half of the site may indicate a spread of activity along the line of Stane Street. Probable geological features that may relate to palaeochannels are observed towards the south of the site (ASE).

Hardham: Hardham WTW Pipeline (NGR: 503394 117863. Hardham parish). (Site code: HDM 17. Director: Hayley Nicholls and Alice Dowsett). Eight evaluation trenches and three geoarchaeological test pits were excavated. Two field boundary ditches most likely of post-medieval date were recorded within the site and only very limited finds were recovered. The deposits in the north of the site comprised a series of higher energy fluvial gravels, alternating with lower energy fluvial sands. These deposits represent the Sussex Rother Terrace Deposits (Member 2), which are known to date to the Devensian period (c.115,000 – c.11,700 BP). No archaeology or artefacts were found in these deposits. The deposits in the south of the site comprised a sequence indicative of a Holocene fluvial environment. A low energy alluvial silty sand was encountered, which preserved an archaeological horizon found between 0.80-1.30m bgl (2.89-2.29m AOD). This archaeological horizon contained a small assemblage of worked flint, which dated to the Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. Several prehistoric find spots and sites situated in the local area provide some local archaeological context to the lithic horizon found in the alluvium. However, it is not possible to state exactly how the alluvial unit formed from visual inspection alone. Further work will be necessary to understand the nature of the depositional environment, the extent and concentration of the archaeological horizon, and to confirm the age of the artefacts (ASE).

Hassocks: London Road (NGR: 529930 115850. Hassocks parish). (Site code: LOH 18. Director: Jake Wilson). Forty five evaluation trenches were excavated along with a 0.2ha strip, map and sample excavation area. The site produced residual evidence of early prehistoric activity comprising flint work of possible Mesolithic to early Neolithic date. Sparse evidence of Roman land division and pitting was encountered by way of a single ditch and a pit. A high frequency of medieval archaeology was encountered dating from the 12th-14th centuries. The encountered boundaries further confirm a noted trend for the greater Weald/Greensand Ridge specifically a noted similarity between the grain of the Romano-British and subsequent medieval field-scape. The field boundaries encountered at the site appear to be roughly perpendicular to the nearby London Road, which is of Roman origin (ASE).

Henfield: Golden Square (NGR TQ 21557 15747). (Site code: HGP/SMR 18. Directors: Stewart Angell and Peter Hibbs). An excavation and survey has been carried out on a WW2 gun position located within the rear garden of a house adjacent to Golden Square. This brick built 'key hole shaped' position did not contain a gun mount and is now considered a weapons pit relating to the nodal point known to be in place here during WW2. No period related finds were recovered during excavation (SMR).

Lindfield, Land to the East of High Beech Lane (NGR 533930 126010. Lindfield parish). (Site code: LIN 18. Director: Simon Stevens). Ten evaluation and two contingency trenches were excavated in the southern part of the site. Archaeological activity was identified in the central and north-eastern part of the evaluated area. Undated features, comprising five linear features and three discrete feature (pits), were recorded beneath *in situ* subsoil and topsoil deposits in five of the trenches. No archaeological finds were recovered (ASE).

***Liss Archaeology**, volunteer archaeology led by professionals, to professional guidelines and standards. Liss Archaeology Autumn Excavation at Colemore, NE Hants (Director: Juliet Smith). The excavation investigated the third 'rung' of a ladder enclosure running north-south. Geophysics currently indicates at least four enclosures approx. 50m square. The outer and inner ditches were deep V-shape lined with large flint nodules. Two fills were encountered, the earliest dating to late IA/early RB – the second fill being mid Roman. Notable finds included an iron candlestick, lions head from a Samian mortarium and several Iron Age brooches. Two further trenches confirmed the small *in-situ* floor corner unearthed in spring 2018 is all that remains. The building (4th on the site) has a late RB re-use for iron working, drip gully suggesting an E-W ridge orientation. Evidence for iron production

in the form of furnace sites adds to that already known. Over 60 volunteers took part over 27 days including four days of educational activities for local schools and Scouts. Volunteer activities over the winter include finds marking, guided walks, geophysics at Colemore and near Petersfield, plus training opportunities and monument mapping. For more info see www.lissarchaeology.uk or email lissarchaeology@gmail.com (Liss Archaeology).

Littlehampton: Central Wetland and Playing Field (NGR: 503609 104108. Littlehampton parish). (Site code: LNR 16. Director: Tom Munnery). Seven trenches measuring up to 30m in length were excavated. No features of archaeological interest were observed. A single sherd of probably Roman pottery was recovered from overburden in one of the trenches (ASE).

North Bersted: New Barn Lane (SU 91571 01061. Bersted parish). (Site code: NBL 18. Director: John Hirst/Giles Dawkes). Three periods of archaeological occupation were identified during the archaeological investigations, from the earlier prehistoric to the medieval era. The earliest archaeologically identifiable feature was a single Neolithic pit. The first wide-spread occupation of the site was a Middle Bronze Age/Early Iron Age field system and a scatter of pits. Later activity comprised of isolated field boundary ditches of Roman and medieval date (ASE).

Pease Pottage: Golf House, Horsham Road (TQ 2546 3294). (Site code: GHP 17/269. Director: Sean Wallis). No archaeological finds or features were recorded, and the area had clearly been affected by its previous use as a golf driving range. The trenches in the northern part of the site were situated in an area where any original subsoil deposits had been removed in the past, whilst the southern trenches demonstrated the extent to which the site had been truncated prior to the car park areas being created (TVAS).

Shoreham: Shoreham Fort (NGR TQ 23294 04552). (Site code: SFGP/SMR 18. Directors: Stewart Angell and Peter Hibbs). An excavation and survey has been carried out on a WW2 gun position revealed on a beach access trackway adjacent to Shoreham Fort. The trackway is due to be repositioned further away from the fort, then covered with a soil. The brick built 'key hole shaped' position was found to be a Spigot Mortar, its concrete pedestal still in place, albeit reduced in height to the level of the trackway and minus its stainless-steel pivot pin. No period related finds were recovered during excavation (SMR).

Slindon: Field 20, National Trust Estate. (TQ 955114). (Director: Keith Bolton). In July we did a watching brief on Slindon Field 20 as a pipeline was cut. No new archaeology found. For further details contact Liz Lane liz.13lane@gmail.com (WAS).

Sompting: Malthouse Field (TQ 164 054). (Directors: Connie Shirley, Gordon Hayden). Further excavations were undertaken between 19th June and 11th July to further investigate flint footings and chalk-lined well. For further details contact Liz Lane liz.13lane@gmail.com (WAS).

Worthing: Durrington Cemetery (NGR: 512913 105684. Worthing parish). (Site code: DCW 18. Director: John Cook). A geophysical survey produced evidence of possible archaeological features represented by both positive and negative anomalies ranging from weak to moderate. Although they could have an archaeological origin, such as earthworks, pits or ditches, they may also be the result of the natural geology. A number of anomalies correspond with a low bank observed crossing the site. An investigation of historical mapping has highlighted hedges running in an east to west orientation that may match these anomalies and may be part of an older field system. In addition, a Roman Road has been posited as running close to the site. Further parallel anomalies may represent land division in the form of ditches or relate to previous land cultivation (ASE).

Worthing: Durrington Cemetery, Findon Road (TQ 1290 0567). (Site code: DCW 18/154. Director: Odile Rouard). Six trenches revealed no archaeological features, even the ones targeting geophysical anomalies. The absence of subsoil and the shallow depths of the trenches suggest the site was landscaped at some point in the past, obliterating any potential archaeology that would have been

present. The only feature identified was a bank (recorded during the geophysical survey and still visible on site), a linear aligned west-east that consisted of a loose, sterile silty clay that did not yield any material or finds. It is highly probable this feature is a field boundary of late post-medieval date (TVAS).

Yapton: Bonhams Field (NGR: 497555 103460. Yapton parish). (Site code: YAP 18. Director: Lucy May). A total of 21 trenches were excavated, 11 of which revealed archaeological finds and features. The main focus of activity appeared to be on the western edge of the site whilst the remaining trenches with archaeology present were spread across the site. The features comprised mainly of ditches and gullies as well as a number of postholes, a pit and a potential quarry pit. The earliest dating came from a potential quarry pit which produced a fragment of Neolithic pottery and a fragment of flint. Four trenches provided evidence of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron activity in the form of gullies and postholes. Further south a series of ditches were found and have the potential to be medieval. A medieval pit and shallow ditch were also unearthed. Much later activity was visible in the south-eastern corner which had deposits which could be the remains of a previous post-medieval surface, potentially relating to the listed buildings seen to the east. (ASE)

Sources of fieldwork information

Colour code: **report of fieldwork received**; **contacted to say no fieldwork to report**; **no contact or report received**

(NB. Reports on fieldwork by organisations that do not regularly work in Sussex are usually provided by the District or County archaeological service or their archaeological advisors)

Abbreviation	Organisation
ASE	Archaeology South-East (UCL)
ASL	Archaeological Services Lewes
BHAS	Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society
CAP	Culver Archaeological Project
CBAS	Chris Butler Archaeological Services
CDAS	Chichester & District Archaeological Society
CDC	Chichester District Council (inc SDNP in Chichester District)
CITiZAN	Coastal & Inter-Tidal Zone Archaeological Network
CAG	Cuckmere Archaeology Group
DAS	Development Archaeological Services
EMS	Eastbourne Museum Service
ENHAS	Eastbourne Natural History and Archaeological Society
ESCC	East Sussex County Council
HBAC	HB Archaeology and Conservation Ltd
HCC	Hampshire County Council (for SDNP in W Sussex)
HDAG	Horsham & District Archaeological Group
HAARG	Hastings & Area Archaeological Research Group
IHRG	Independent Historical Research Group
IOA	Institute of Archaeology (UCL) (M. Roberts)
LAG	Lewes Archaeological Group
LISS	Liss Archaeology
NT (TD)	National Trust West Sussex & SDNP region (T. Dommett)
NT (NC)	National Trust East & Kent region (N. Cohen)
SAS	Sussex Archaeological Society
SCC	Surrey County Council (for Crawley Borough & Mid Sussex)
SIAS	Sussex Industrial Archaeological Society
SSA	Sussex School of Archaeology

SMR	Sussex Military Research
D. Staveley	David Staveley (Independent)
TVAS	Thames Valley Archaeological Services
WAS	Worthing Archaeological Society
P. Whitehill	Philipa Whitehill (Independent/CG Archaeology)
WIRG	Wealden Iron Research Group
WSA	West Sussex Archaeology Ltd
WSCC	West Sussex County Council