

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL ROUND-UP

(June – November 2024)

East Sussex

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Alfriston	Lower Courts, Frog Firle, Alfriston	NGR 551841 101480	FFF 24	NT and ASE
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Simon Stevens ASE & Gary Webster NT	Research	July 24	Research	
Periods represented	12 th -13 th century, 21 st century			
Description				
The 2024 Frog Firle excavation allowed volunteers the opportunity to carry out archaeological investigation under professional supervision on the margins of the scheduled site. Artefactual evidence from the site suggests hunter/gather, later prehistoric and Roman activity in the area. Medieval pottery from the site and the masonry structures identified in the geophysical surveys provide evidence of occupation after the Norman Conquest. A probably medieval flint surface recorded in Trench 3, to the north of the middle of the scheduled area, appears to conform with a large anomaly revealed by the geophysics. In Trench 1, to the south-west of the scheduled area, features of recent origin were recorded. Other than a small assemblage of residual medieval pottery and post-medieval material recovered from the overburden, Trench 2 was archaeologically negative				
Volunteer opportunities: -			Contact details: Gary.webster@nationaltrust.org.uk	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Bells Yew Green	Manor Farm House	560198 135298 (TQ601352)	N/A	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Michael Shapland	Historic Building Record	2024	Planning	
Periods represented				
Description				
Bells Yew Green is a hamlet located in the High Weald of East Sussex, around 4km southeast of Tunbridge Wells, within the parish of Frant. Manor Farmhouse is a detached dwelling which occupies a large sub-rectangular plot of land, immediately to the south-west of its associated historic farmstead, which is now under separate ownership. Although Manor Farmhouse is not itself statutorily designated, it does lie adjacent to two Grade II Listed buildings. Manor Farmhouse represents a good, coherent and relatively well-preserved example of a well-appointed Georgian farmhouse executed c.1800, with a service range to the rear. It was updated during the mid-19th century with the construction of a second service range, refenestration, and various internal alterations. The house in its current form is considered to be of moderate overall heritage significance, although its particular interest is that it seems to have been moved from a different site within the same farmstead, and rebuilt using the materials of its suspected later 16th century predecessor. Its setting is considered to make a high contribution to its overall significance to the front elevation onto the wider landscape, but a Moderate/Low contribution to the sides and rear.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Bexhill	Fryatts Road	548363 121866	FRY 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Chris Russell	Evaluation	July 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	Neolithic, Medieval and Post Medieval.			
Description				
<p>A total of 96 trenches were excavated at Fryatts Way revealing 34 ditches and 6 discrete features. The geological substrate was recorded at 35.62m AOD in the east of the site and 13.59m in the west. The geological horizon appeared intact aside from agricultural land drains. The earliest evidence was a residual Middle/Late Neolithic flint chisel found in the subsoil in Trench 43. The only feature to contain dateable finds was a ditch terminus recorded in Trench 33 that contained fragments of 13th century cooking pot. Two other, differently aligned possible field systems were recorded, both remain undated by finds and do not appear on the reviewed early maps. Several other ditches represent fieldscapes that fell out of use, or were aggrandized during the post-medieval period.</p>				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Bodiam	Bodiam Castle	NGR: 578313 125804 & 578519 125200	ESBOD 24	Archaeology South-East/UCL & NT
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Simon Stevens, Nathalie Cohen / Steve White	Research	July-August 2024	Research	
Periods represented	Roman & Post Medieval			
Description				
<p>The first year of fieldwork as part of the Bodiam 100 project revealed several key things. Firstly, Roman activity was identified in Dokes Field, the Road running between trenches 5 and 6 was categorically roman based on the finds within various levelling layers and surfaces. Secondly, background Roman activity in Freren Mean allowed the observation that some of the deeper alluvial deposits correspond to historical flooding within the Roman period. While the depths it would be necessary to excavate would prohibit any further safe excavation towards the centre of the field, it allowed the identification that a programme of geoarchaeological boreholes would give</p>				

valuable information about the flood depositional sequence. Also, it has been observed that ‘base’ of the valley becomes shallower as one progresses to the south-west. If it was possible to trench in the far south-west of the field, then Roman activity may well be at a safe depth to fully investigate. Possibly a more intensive geophysical scan of this area might facilitate the identification of a suitable trench location. Finally, components of the post-medieval hop industry were identified in TR1.

Volunteer opportunities: **Contact details:** Nathalie.cohen@nationaltrust.org.uk

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Brede	Stubbs Lane WTW	582922 118866 (TQ829188)	BWL 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Jake Wilson	Watching Brief	2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				
The excavation of two footing trenches for site cabins were monitored. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were encountered.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Brighton	12 South Street	530846 104089 (TQ308040)	WSB 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Giles Dawkes	Watching Brief	5th September 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				
An archaeological watching brief was carried out in Brighton on the 5th September 2024. The archaeological watching brief was undertaken on eight test pits (B, D, E, F 8, 9, 12 & 13) and a simple stratigraphic sequence was recorded of modern overburden between c 0.3-0.5m thick overlying natural orange brown clay gravel geology. No further archaeological deposits, features or finds were exposed.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Brighton. Rocky Clump. The new season at Rocky Clump began in April and ended on the 28th September. There were new directors this season with Andrew Fanning leading the team with Simon Cooper and Mark Peck. A large feature was revealed and a possible trackway, and a number of large flint packed post holes. There were two dog burials, and a number of large stone padstones and gullies, indicating possibly entrances into something? The feature is too deep to be a house platform and has produced quite a collection of finds, 3 to 4 times more than last season. The site has been covered up in anticipation of a return in 2025 (BHAS).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Friston	Crowlink Corner	555225 97803 (TV552978)	FCL 23	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Hayley Nicholls	Watching Brief	29th April - 9th May 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	Post Medieval			
Description				
An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during mechanical excavations for two small trenches extending from the southern boundary of Crowlink Place to the south-west boundary of Crowlink Corner. The trackway had a total length of c.300m and crossed various possible earthworks recorded on LiDAR and Historic England mapping. A slight change in deposits was recorded in proximity to one of the earthworks, which could possibly comprise bank material (described by Historic England as part of a post-medieval quarry) however, it was impossible to confirm this hypothesis. No other archaeological features were identified, and no finds were recovered during the work.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Hooe	St Oswald's Church	568285 109179 (TQ682091)	SOH 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Amy Williamson	Historic Building Record	August 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	Post Medieval			
Description				

In its present form, the nave of the church is thought to date to the 15th century, though it is possible it has earlier origins. The blocked doorway within the north wall, with its pointed arched head, is commensurate with such a date. This historic building record has concluded that it is probable the doorway was blocked as part of the 1890s restoration of the church, though another possible occasion for its blocking may have been in connection with changes to liturgical procedures during the Reformation period. Confirmation of this, together with the doorway's minimum dimensions, may be resolved through intrusive investigation.

Volunteer opportunities:

Contact details:

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Maresfield	Land At Straight Half Mile	546708 124625 (TQ467246)	MLD 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Jake Wilson	Evaluation	3 rd June – 12 th June 2024	Planning	
Periods represented				
Description	<p>Four geoarchaeological test-pits were excavated. These exposed a Holocene colluvial sequence overlying possible Pleistocene head deposits filling a dry valley. Sediments observed in the geological sequence within the dry valley are considered to be of low geoarchaeological value based upon their relatively poor stratification, low potential to preserve palaeoenvironmental proxies, and lack of buried land surfaces. Twenty-four archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated across the site. No archaeological finds were recovered. The preservation of the archaeological horizon is good. Only two, undated features, a ditch and a pit found in two trenches in the southern part of the site were recorded. All features were sealed beneath an intact subsoil horizon which was recorded in all of the trenches. The ditch does not correlate with any features shown on the 1870 or 1890 Ordnance Survey maps and therefore most likely predates them.</p>			
Volunteer opportunities:		Contact details:		

Peacehaven Sports Park, Piddingho. Site Supervisors – Jamie Williams and Mark Learey. Site Code: PPP 24/81. Evaluation: seven trenches were dug prior to the replacement of a football pitch with all but one revealing archaeology. Features identified were primarily associated with agricultural land use, yielding prehistoric flint artefacts typical of the Neolithic to Bronze Age periods, and prehistoric pottery almost exclusively associated with Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age activity. A follow-up watching brief over an 18m x 5m x 2.8m trench for a soakaway in the NE corner of site revealed no archaeological deposits or features (TVAS).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation

Polegate	Dittons Road Pipeline: Aberdale Road Pevensey Road	559351 104796 (TQ593047)	DTR 24	Archaeology South- East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Lucy May	Watching Brief	June 2024	Planning	
Periods represented				
Description				
The mechanical excavation of single trench measuring 1.9m x 23m was monitored. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were exposed in the monitored area. The stratigraphy comprised of natural Weald Clay, overlain by subsoil and topsoil.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Ringmer	Laughton Place	544637 112351 (TQ446123)	LTN24	Archaeology South- East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Tom Munnery	Evaluation	20th and 22nd May 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	Medieval & Post Medieval			
Description				
The works were successful in enabling examination of the foundations of Laughton Place by a structural engineer. Because of the limited size of the trial pit, detailed examination of the archaeological remains was not possible, however, the works uncovered the foundation of both the tower and one of the adjacent buttresses. A possible third foundation of unknown date was also recorded, as was a probable phase of external paving/flooring, possibly installed after the demolition of many of the associated buildings in 1939. Numerous finds of medieval and post-medieval date were recovered, suggesting a rich archaeological resource exists within the site.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation

Ringmer	Fingerpost Field	545945 112978 (TQ459129)	FIN 23	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Teresa Vieira	Watching Brief	27 th – 28 th June 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				
An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during mechanical groundworks for the construction of a skate park. The geological substrate was observed overlain by undisturbed subsoil and topsoil horizons. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were encountered.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Ringmer. Bishop's Lane. Site Supervisor - Pierre Manisse. Site code: BLR 24/42. Excavation: Further work in light of substantial finds during the evaluation phase. The work investigated two brick-lined post-medieval kilns, two large pits thought to be used for clay extraction, some pottery dumps, a post-medieval trackway and a Victorian boundary ditch (crossed by a medieval ditch), a wooden structure possibly used for silt-catching, and a chalk-lined well. Later land divisions were also recorded (TVAS).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Stone Cross	Land At Friday Street Farm	561776 104101 (TQ617041)	STF 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Chris Russel	Evaluation	12 th August- 9 th September	Planning	
Periods represented	Bronze Age, Roman & Medieval			
Description				
Six Geoarchaeological Test-Pits (GTPs) exposed sequences of Holocene alluvium and colluvium. Alluvium was confined to the southeastern corner of the site whilst colluvial deposits were significantly more widespread. Where both alluvial and colluvial units were identified they appeared to interdigitate, suggesting both processes contributed to landscape formation contemporaneously, though widespread mineralisation and/or degradation was noted, presumed here to result from hydrological fluctuations. While the investigation points to a possible context of preservation of wetland archaeology, no significant remains were identified at the site. The tight topographical constraints of the site being sited above the main wetland to the east suggests that widespread organic alluvial are not preserved. Of the 108 archaeological trenches 15 contained archaeological features, with the rest being archaeologically negative. These were				

concentrated in the north of the site in Field 3. Three trenches in Field 1 in the south contained undated gullies. Field 2 in the east contained only 2 features in Trenches 71 and 94. Of the dateable features the earliest was a possible Middle Bronze Age cremation burial in Trench 104. This was only partially excavated during the evaluation but appeared to contain a complete or semi-complete pottery vessel. A single early Roman feature, possibly representing agricultural practice was recorded in the far north-east in Trench 71. Later Roman boundary ditches with possible evidence of nearby habitation were recorded in Trenches 27 and 28 and briquetage possibly linking Friday Street Farm with salt production was recovered from Trench 104. Medieval ditches were recorded in Trenches 35 and 38 but it was not clear if these related to nearby habitation or were agricultural in origin. The remainder of the features at the site did not produce dating evidence and may well relate to more modern agricultural or drainage activity.

Volunteer opportunities:

Contact details:

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Uckfield	Ridgewood House, Lewes Rd	547520 119431 (TQ475194)	RHL 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Chris Russell	Evaluation	June 2024	Planning	
Periods represented				
Description				
Ten evaluation trenches were excavated. Aside from rooting, burrowing and a land drain, the geological horizon was undisturbed. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were observed in any of the trenches.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Uckfield:	Hempstead Oast, Hempstead Lane	548363 121866 (TQ483218)	UHO 23	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Jake Wilson	Watching Brief	March 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during mechanical groundworks at Hempstead Oast. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were encountered.

Volunteer opportunities:

Contact details:

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Wellingham, Nr Barcombe	Bridge Farm	TQ 4313 1444	BF 24	Culver Archaeological Project (CAP)
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Rob Wallace David Millum	Excavation	End of May –mid July 2024	Continuation of research project into a Romano-British enclosed settlement	
Periods represented	Roman - mid 1 st to early 5 th centuries AD			
Description				
<p>2024 was the final season on the excavation of Trench 7 with emphasis on completing all the features from previous seasons and any opened in 2024, prior to closure of the trench in October. Whilst this area of the site continues to consist mainly of large deep pits, several new alignments of postholes were revealed and in one case a 5m square of 13-14 postholes F62 was completed suggesting the supporting timbers of a building. One very deep pit, F48W, was excavated to a depth of 3.4m a.O.D to reveal a well, where a consolidated chalk base was discovered within the square frame of timbers (600mm x 600mm internally). Reaching this feature involved a substantial stepped excavation to be able to work safely and constant pumping as the wooden frame was below the water table. This also involved 100% sampling of the interior fill which was floated for organic content, which included fragments of leatherwork. All other features on the trench surface were at least half sectioned. Many were deep, vertical sided, pits, both ovoid and sub-rectilinear some of which may have been a series of cesspits.</p> <p>T7 was a trench that kept on giving when it came to pottery and other artefacts with trench totals of 81,414 sherds of pottery including samian ware and some complete vessels, 1052kg of cbm/burnt clay, 9,990 animal bones including a deposit of dog bones from the well, 387 shards of glass including blue snake-thread, an intaglio and 33% of a fine glass bowl, 6,413 iron objects and 198 in other metals plus 82 Roman coins, 891kg of possible iron slag, and 5854 plain 20mm tesserae.</p> <p>The CAP finds team are currently reevaluating the samian makers marks from BF 23-24 which is showing a majority from the potters in the Lezoux district of Central Gaul in the mid to late 2nd century with a lesser amount of earlier pottery from La Graufesenque. They have also recently classified 46 out of the 62 brooches found from our past excavations and metal detecting which shows that nearly half were Colchester Derivatives from the 1st to early 2nd century. All adding to the picture of occupation and activity. A further open-area trench (Trench 8) has been opened with excavation planned from the 26th May to 4th July 2025 to investigate the area where the eastern road from Pevensey crosses the double-ditch enclosure. Full details of participation opportunities and past results can be found on the CAP website: www.culverproject.co.uk .</p>				
Volunteer opportunities: 2025: 26 th May to 4th July (dates to be confirmed) All aspects of the excavation, finds processing and recording. See www.culverproject.co.uk			Contact details: email join@culverproject.co.uk or information@culverproject.co.uk	

West Sussex

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Alfoldean		51170 13280 (TQ 5117 1328)	ALF 24	UCL/Archaeology South-East & HDAG
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Giles Dawkes, Andrew Gardner and Louise Rayner	Excavation	3rd and 15th June 2024	Research	
Periods represented	Roman			
Description				
<p>A student training excavation was undertaken by the UCL Institute of Archaeology, in conjunction with Horsham District Archaeology Group (HDAG) between 3rd and 15th June 2024. Three trenches were excavated by machine excavator down to the top of archaeological deposits c 0.3m below ground level. A series of deposits and negative features overlying and dug into the underlying Weald Clay were identified in all three trenches: these included pits, ditches, and possible floor surfaces, metalled areas and cobblestone post-pads associated with a building.</p> <p>Overall the stratigraphy and character of the archaeological deposits and features investigated in the 2024 season are in keeping with results from the previous excavations on the north-west side of Stane Street and suggestive of back-plot activity typically found behind domestic residences and properties which fronted onto Stane Street c 10m to the east.</p>				
Volunteer opportunities: N/A			Contact details:	

Billingshurst. Land south of Platts Roundabout, Newbridge Road.

Trial trench evaluation of the site by Allen Archaeology consisted of the excavation of eleven trial trenches in order to determine whether significant archaeology was present on the site. Six archaeological features were recorded consisting of an undated gully, four undated ditches, and a pit/ditch terminus from which a 17th-18th century brick was recovered. No further work advised (Allen Archaeology, reported by SCC).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Bosham	Land North Of Highgrove Farm, Main Road,	481789 105167 (SU817051)	BOS 24	Archaeology South- East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Giles Dawkes	Evaluation	13 th - 24 th May 2024.	Planning	

Periods represented	Bronze Age, Iron Age, Medieval & Post Medieval
Description	
<p>The natural deposits were cut by a series of ditches and gullies forming a probable coaxial field system, while many of these were undated a reasonable number contained finds of probable Middle Bronze Age to earliest Iron Age date suggesting the site lay within an organised agricultural landscape in this period. Interestingly, similarly aligned ditches were also found dating to the medieval/post-medieval and modern periods. In the south-western corner of the site, a concentration of later prehistoric features was found. Again, this was likely to date to the Middle Bronze Age to earliest Iron Age and included curvilinear ditches and possible pits. This activity could suggest settlement lay nearby. A ditch and possible pits of Roman date were also recorded in the part of the site. Roman remains were otherwise absent from the site.</p>	
Volunteer opportunities:	Contact details:

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Bracklesham	Land Off Clappers Lane	481242 96763 (SZ812967)	PER 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Tom Munnery	Evaluation	19 th August to 4 th September	Planning	
Periods represented	Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age & Roman			
Description				
<p>Forty-four evaluation trenches were excavated across the site. Over 90 features were recorded in 29 of the trenches, with the other 15 trenches being archaeologically negative. Archaeological survival at the site was good, with all but one feature preserved beneath an intact subsoil horizon. A range of archaeological periods were represented including a Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pit or tree throw, a Middle/Late Bronze Age coaxial field system and waterhole, and a Roman ditched field system. Most notably, a large ring ditch of probable Late Iron Age or early Roman date was recorded in Trench 13.</p>				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Bracklesham:	Land Off Clappers Lane	481242 96763 (SZ812967)	PER 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	

Tom Munnery	Excavation	October 2024	Planning
Periods represented			
Description			
Small targeted excavation just completed following our evaluation revealed Bronze Age ring ditch and pits/watering holes. Full results to follow as PXA winds through.			
Volunteer opportunities:		Contact details:	

Bramber. Bramber Brooks (Off) The Street.

Archaeological Monitoring by Wessex Archaeology during ground works associated with the creation of three compensatory low-lying ponds located within the Bramber Brooks floodplain, West Sussex. The creation of the ponds forms part of the planning condition for the Shoreham Adur Tidal Walls (SATW) flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCRM) The ponds are close to the scheduled group of Salterns and a possible moat 250m east of Bramber Castle. The work is on-going but to date no significant archaeological deposits or finds have been recorded (Wessex Archaeology, reported by SCC).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Burgess Hill:	Northern Arc Phase 1.3	531062 121202 (TQ310212)	NEB 17	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Jake Wilson	Evaluation	October 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				
Two archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated in the north-eastern area of the site during this phase of the archaeological evaluation. Extensive groundworks in the south and west, related to the construction of a large pond has removed the archaeological horizon from the majority of the site. The preservation of the archaeological horizon in the north-east of site is good, despite one instance of modern truncation observed. No archaeological finds, or other deposits or features were recorded.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Burpham. The Burpham Big Dig.

This took place between 10th-23rd August this summer, with 31 test pits and 3 larger trenches excavated in private gardens in both Burpham and Wepham villages. The project was led by Worthing Museum, with a huge contribution in manpower and expertise from the Worthing Archaeological Society, as well as help from residents themselves. Most test pits produced ceramics, which will undergo analysis in the near future. Much of this was post-medieval, though we did have some medieval sherds, mostly from two particular test pits in Wepham.

The stand out narrative from the ceramics, so far, is the almost complete lack of Roman/Romano-British wares. The only coin found during the two weeks was a very worn 4th century nummus. No other coins were found during the project. The three larger trenches concentrated on locating the external ditch to the Burh itself. Trench A & C were sited in Hillside Cottage, with the earthwork on the southern side of the garden. It was determined that Trench A was sited somewhere in the centre of the defensive ditch, with the trench reaching the chalk bedrock at 2.1m. Trench C, immediately to the north of Trench A, uncovered the outer slope of the ditch, the first time this has been located since Helen Sutermeister's excavation in the 1970s. Trench B was sited in Forge Field, to the west of Hillside Cottage but on the same alignment, and failed to locate the ditch. The museum and WAS plan to return to Forge Field in spring 2025 to open a larger area, find the ditch at this point of the earthwork and gain the full profile of the feature. Worthing Museum will be hosting an exhibition about the project at the end of 2025 (James Sainsbury/Worthing Museum).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Chichester	The John Edes House, West Street	485808 104865 (SU858048)	CED 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Chris Russel	Watching Brief	17 th September 20204	Planning	
Periods represented				
Description				
An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during excavations for a north-south aligned service trench located to the east of John Edes House, Chichester. The excavations revealed disturbed geology at the base of the trench overlain by modern made ground and a concrete surface. No archaeological deposits, finds or features were observed.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Chichester	Chichester Cathedral, Cloister East Walk Access Ramp	485979 104762 (SU859047)	CEW 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	

Michael Shapland	Watching Brief	September 2024 to October 2024	Planning
Periods represented	Medieval		
Description			
<p>The east cloister walk was laid out around 1402 on the site of an earlier route, to provide a long covered passageway between the Vicars' Close and the cathedral church. The excavation involved the lifting of two floor slabs and the hand excavation of two small pits (less than 1sq metre) to a depth of 0.25m. The watching brief confirmed that the present paved floor is probably not original in this area, and has been re-laid or reconfigured in the relatively recent past. It recovered layers of made ground and mason's debris which probably relate to the original construction of the east cloister walk, dated by a small assemblage of pottery, Roman and medieval roof tile, and a medieval door stud. A surprisingly large amount of imported West Country roofing slate was recovered, of a type associated with high status medieval buildings, suggesting that this was the original roofing material of the east cloister walk. A metalled path or road surface was discovered at a depth of c.0.25m, which appears to confirm that the east cloister walk was laid out along an earlier route, presumably that between the early 13th century chapel of St Faith and the east end of the cathedral church.</p>			
Volunteer opportunities:		Contact details:	

Climping. Shoreline. Monitoring is still being undertaken on the shore at Climping, where erosion is revealing ancient cliffs etc. Finds so far have varied from Mesolithic to medieval. A cremation urn, found by Bill Watkins, was seen by John Mills, and eventually X-rayed at Fishbourne and micro-excavated by ASE. The finder paid for the investigation, and it is now in Littlehampton Museum (WAS).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Crawley	Steers Lane	529538 139714 (TQ295397)	ERL 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Lucy May	Evaluation	May 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				
<p>Twelve of 19 proposed trenches were excavated. Seven trenches could not be excavated due to a variety of site constraints. Tree root disturbance was expected and was found to be commonplace, however, truncation of the geological horizon in the areas evaluated was recorded as minimal. The natural geology was predominantly overlain by topsoil but in two trenches this had been removed and modern made ground imported for site levelling. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were recorded.</p>				

Volunteer opportunities:	Contact details:
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Crawley. Buchan Country Park. HDAG will be participating in a project led by Justin Russell, investigating the area of the Victorian period Rifle Butt and Martlet. This will be in two parts, initially a metal detecting survey provisionally scheduled week beginning 18th November, followed by a small-scale excavation, provisionally week beginning 13th or 20th January 2025 (reported by HDAG).

Faygate. New House Farm, Old Crawley Road.

Trial trench evaluation carried out by Brook Archaeology consisted of the excavation of three trial trenches in order to determine whether significant archaeology was present on the site. No archaeological features or finds were recorded in any of the trial trenches and it appears that at least part of the site had been truncated during historic development works. No further work advised (Brook Archaeology, reported by SCC).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Fernhurst	Castle Copse	SU 9159 2911		Newcastle University
Director/s of fieldwork Sam Turner	Type of fieldwork Research	Dates of fieldwork June 2024	Reason for fieldwork Research	
Periods represented	Prehistoric, Iron Age, Medieval			
Description				
Student training excavation undertaken at Castle Copse now part of Blackdown NT. A number of trenches were opened on a possible BA Barrow (excavated 2014) possible prehistoric enclosure recorded on 1724 map of Sussex and two trenches through common boundary bank. This was a training exercise for students but was undertaken to obtain a range of OSL dates to look at dating features with confidence. Excavation confirms that the possible enclosure at Castle Copse was constructed with ditch and bank answering one of the initial research questions. In similar vein to 2014 barrow excavation no dateable evidence was uncovered so OSL dating results are awaited.				
Volunteer opportunities: -			Contact details: James.brown@nationaltrust.org.uk	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Handcross	Nymans Ponds And Cattle Troughs	526479 129393 (TQ264293)	NYP 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Pip Stephenson	Watching Brief	14 th - 22 nd October 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			

Description	
Two wildlife ponds were excavated at Nymans, Handcross, between 14th – 22nd October and were located in agricultural fields in the north (Chodds) and south of the estate (Tanyard). A single possible feature was identified in the northern area, comprising an undated cut identified in section in the northern edge of the pond. A minor assemblage of pottery was recovered from the topsoil (results forthcoming). The second area, located on sloping topography, produced evidence of probable natural drainage gulleys and two phases of a drainage ditch, undated but considered likely to be either late post-medieval or modern.	
Volunteer opportunities:	Contact details:

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Handcross:	Nymans Gardens Electric Vehicle	526381 129431 (TQ263294)	NEV 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Tom Munnery	Watching Brief	17 th September 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				
The watching brief uncovered no archaeological evidence along the length of the cable trench. Disturbance of the overburden and in some places the natural geology of the site had occurred along much of the length of the trench from the construction of an adjacent toilet block and associated services and other services serving the National Trust buildings.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Haywards Heath	Perrymount Road	533030 124252 (TQ330242)	PHH 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Teresa Vieira	Evaluation	18th and 19th March 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			

Description	
Two trenches were excavated. Only modern made ground deposits were recorded overlying the natural geological substrate and no archaeological finds, deposits or features were uncovered. It is considered that horizontal truncation has occurred during the construction of the existing carpark and that this, excepting any possible deeper cut features, such as wells, has probably negated any possible archaeological potential at the site.	
Volunteer opportunities:	Contact details:

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Horsted Keynes	WTW	537642 128425 (TQ376284)	HKW 23	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Charlotte Mansfield	Evaluation	16th October 2023 and 8th August 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			

Description	
The archaeological watching brief at Horsted Keynes Wastewater Treatment works recorded the geological substrate at between 0.40 and 0.60m BGL overlain by undisturbed subsoil and topsoil deposits. Shallow made ground associated with the wastewater treatment works was noted in the north of the site. Plough scars and land drains were seen cutting the natural geology but it appeared otherwise undisturbed. No archaeological finds or features were observed.	
Volunteer opportunities:	Contact details:

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Littlehampton	Academy	503226 103164 (TQ032031)	LIA 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Teresa Vieira	Evaluation	4th and 13th March 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				

Thirty-seven archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated across the site. The recorded stratigraphy suggests that the evaluated area has remained generally undisturbed in the past. A small assemblage of unstratified artefacts dating to the prehistoric and Roman period was recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits, but no features of the same date were encountered. Late post medieval field boundaries (Trenches 16, 33, 35 and 37) and a farm building known as South Barn were the only archaeological features.

Volunteer opportunities:

Contact details:

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Petworth	Petworth	SU 9756 2192		DigVentures
Director/s of fieldwork Stephanie Duensing	Type of fieldwork Research	Dates of fieldwork July 2024	Reason for fieldwork Research	
Periods represented	16 th century – 18 th Century			
Description				
Three trenches opened in the parkland at Petworth during the Festival of Archaeology as part of the Historic Royal Palaces AHRC funding project looking at Henry VIII on tour. Excavations were overseen by Digventures and permission was granted by NT to excavate at Petworth. Work expanded excavation and research undertaken in 2012/3/4 seeking to further understand the story of the north wing which was dismantled at end of C17th. Volunteers and local community involved and report is awaited.				
Volunteer opportunities: -			Contact details: James.brown@nationaltrust.org.uk	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Pulborough	Swan Corner, Station Road	504594 118571 (TQ045185)	COS 23	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Chris Russel	Watching Brief	16 th & 17 th September 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				
A series of 1m wide foundation trenches were dug to 1.30m below ground level (BGL), c. 3.80m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). A simple stratigraphic sequence of clay geology directly overlain by modern made ground was recorded during the watching brief. No archaeological finds, deposits or features were observed. The site had been heavily truncated during the construction of Ransoms in the early 20th Century removing the potential to preserve archaeological deposits.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Shoreham By Sea	Brighton Rd	522019 105096 (TQ220050)	SSB 24	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Giles Dawkes,Chris Russel, Teresa Vieira	Geoarchaeology	29th July and the 25th September 2024.	Planning	
Periods represented	None			
Description				
An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks for the development of the site. Excavations in the north of the site revealed 2.5-3.0m of contaminated made ground containing modern material. It is not clear if the geological substrate was reached by these excavations as there was severe water ingress at around 2.5m BGL. Excavations in the south of the site were shallow in nature only impacting on modern made ground. No archaeological deposits, finds or features, or deposits with geoarchaeological potential were encountered.				
Volunteer opportunities:			Contact details:	

Sompting.

In July we returned to our Sompting site, excavating at the west end where we think we may have found an ale-house. We now have a group of folk researching ale houses and ownership of the land there. The date range for finds was from an Upper Palaeolithic flint to a George VI shilling! During a couple of days digging in October, a well was found – we will return there in the spring to half-section it (WAS).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
South Harting	Uppark House	477977 117605 (SU779176)	SHU 23	Archaeology South-East
Director/s of fieldwork	Type of fieldwork	Dates of fieldwork	Reason for fieldwork	
Giles Dawkes, Lucy May, Hayley Nicholls and Teresa Vieira	Watching Brief	17 th April - 11 th June 2024	Planning	
Periods represented	Post Medieval			

Description	
The archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the groundworks associated with the scheme. This generally revealed a sequence of natural geology overlain by subsoil and topsoil with occasional areas of made ground deposits related to existing services or trackways. A single archaeological feature comprised of a mid-19 th to 20th century brick drain was encountered within the Zone 3 excavations. No other archaeological finds, features or deposits were uncovered.	
Volunteer opportunities:	Contact details:

Steyning. 37 High Street.

A report was received detailing the results of archaeological monitoring by West Sussex Archaeology in 22/23. The results indicate that occupation began on the site within the 13th or 14th centuries, as evidenced by two pits. Activity on the site seems to have intensified from Tudor times, probably tied to three burgage plots fronting the High Street. The early 18th century saw a marked change in this, with the plots being merged, their rear portions being turned into gardens, and a barn built at its extreme western end. This situation was to remain largely unchanged, even as the houses to the front changed in ownership and usage into the 19th century, by the close of which a bank had come to occupy the whole frontage (West Sussex Archaeology Ltd, reported by SCC).

Town	Site Name/address	Grid Reference	Site code	Organisation
Storrington	Sullington Warren	TQ 0955 1447		NT and Worthing Archaeology Society
Director/s of fieldwork Keith Bolton	Type of fieldwork Research	Dates of fieldwork April 24	Reason for fieldwork Research	
Periods represented	16 th -18 th century			
Description				
Two trenches opened over parchmarks in central enclosed green area of Sullington Warren. Trench A revealed a line of foundations consisting of greensand stone with very occasional CBM inclusions. There were two returns as anticipated from the parch marks. However, the northern return was three times the width of the southern return. The only dateable find from this trench was a 1846 silver "groat", which was found in the top soil. The excavation of Trench B exposed a layer of CBM debris, some of which overlaid a shallow ditch. Unfortunately, the dateable pottery (two sherds) from this trench was found away from the CBM spread but at the same level. The pottery is provisionally dated to the 16th and 17th century. From an initial analysis of the roof tile, it appears that the material dates from the 16th to 18th centuries. What is known for certain is that by 1800 the structure/building is no longer <i>in-situ</i> and does not appear on any of the contemporary maps. Interim report not completed				
Volunteer opportunities: -			Contact details: James.brown@nationaltrust.org.uk	

Wivelsfield. Land East of Ditchling Road. Site Supervisor – Agata Socha-Paszkiwicz. Site Code: DRW 24/161. Evaluation: 52 trenches were dug, most of which were blank or of relatively recent provenance. However, three trenches near the western boundary revealed a number of medieval linears and an area of iron slag deposits. While no features directly related to iron working were found, the volume of slag, including bloomery slag and furnace bases, hints at iron production and working, probably also of medieval date (TVAS).

Worthing. Highdown Hill.

In July 2025 there will be a 2-week dig at Highdown to investigate one known remaining grave in the fort, and to put trenches around outside the monument. This will be a major rescue excavation, involving Worthing Museum, WAS, the National Trust and English Heritage, Sue Harrington, UCL, the Carola Headley Trust, Scott Chausee and ASE (reported by WAS).

Worthing. Northbrook College. Site Supervisor - Beth Tucker. Site code: NCW 23/238. Excavation: Continuation of ongoing works at the site (see TVAS monograph 34). Archaeological features included Roman pits and ditches, likely related to the villa situated where the college now stands immediately west of the site. Prehistoric features comprised a ring ditch, gullies and postholes (including evidence for two four-poster timber structures) (TVAS).

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
AVA	Arun Valley Archaeology
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)
CAG	Cuckmere Archaeology Group
DAS	Development Archaeological Services
EMS	Eastbourne Museum Service
ENHAS	Eastbourne Natural History and Archaeological Society
ESCC	East Sussex County Council
FLO	Finds Liaison Officer
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
LAG	Lewes Archaeological Group
LISS	Liss Archaeology
NT	National Trust West Sussex & SDNP region
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
WAG	Wealden Archaeology Group
WIRG	Wealden Iron Research Group
WM	Worthing Museum
WSA	West Sussex Archaeology Ltd
WSCC	West Sussex County Council