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CONTENTS

Page
3 Editorial
4 Possible Neolithic Flint Mines at North End, Findon by Alex Vincent
5 Between the Wet and Dry: Malthouse Field, Sompting in prehistory by Gordon Hayden
10 Rough Copse Excavation Report 2017 by Amie Friend & Brendan Wyatt
16 A Note on the Pottery from Rough Copse Excavation 2017 by Gordon Hayden
18 Rough Copse, Rewell Wood Flint Report RC.17 by Gill & Bob Turner
24 Major Arthur Cecil Roper and his wife Frances Ann Hubbard by Liz Lane
27 Who was Madame Jabot? by Pete Skilton
29 A self-guided walk around Beach Town, Littlehampton by Cheryl Hutchins

Courtesy of Vicky Lillywhite
Dear Members

Once again the articles written by our members and published in this Journal reflect a wide range of interests and extend over a long timeline.

Alex Vincent has given us Possible Neolithic Flint Mines at North End, Findon as an article and his publication Neolithic Villages near Worthing is on sale in Worthing Museum.

Gordon Hayden gives his reflections on the prehistory of changing wet and dry landscapes of the coastal plain following his work at the summer 2018 dig at Malthouse Field, Sompting. By the way, the finds from this dig took us right into the 20th century with a glass top from a Daddies’ Sauce bottle and a flattened tube of toothpaste. We will be returning to Malthouse Pony Paddocks in June of 2019 under the guidance of Connie Shirley and Gordon Hayden where we hope to discover more of the Malthouse and activity before and after its build and use.

The archaeological report from the Rough Copse excavation in summer 2017 by co-directors Amie Friend and Brendan Wyatt is followed by Gordon Hayden’s note on the pottery and Gill and Bob Turner’s flint report. These reports are greatly detailed and will make interesting reading for the membership.

From the archives, Liz Lane and Sioned Vos have rediscovered the work of Arthur and Frances Roper from the early 20th century at, among others, Harrow Hill and the Highdown Bath-house site, and the setting up of the Museum Correspondents’ Corps, at its peak a group of up to 40 volunteers performing watching briefs on building sites in the Worthing area and so built up a full picture of its archaeology. Not to mention the souvenirs, including a piece of Hitler’s desk from the destruction of Hitler’s chancellory, brought back by Major Roper in 1945 and donated to the Museum.

Again from the scene of 20th century warfare, Pete Skilton has delved into Rustington Museum and other local sources to bring to life the story of a Belgium refugee whose memorial in the Roman Catholic cemetery in Angmering puzzled him for many years.

And last a self-guided walk around the 18th/19th century Beach Town of Littlehampton with a dash of local suffragist lore (a follow up to a walk around Littlehampton I took some of our members on last year).

And an especial thanks to Vicky Lillywhite for the photo on the front page. No, it isn’t a piece of delicious pie – it’s a Binsted pottery piecrust base, one of many excavated in the 1960s by Con Ainsworth and the Society which our dedicated Finds Team is currently analysing under the direction of Dr Ben Jervis of Cardiff University.

I wish you all good reading and a happy and fruitful New Year. And, of course, many thanks to this year’s contributors without whom there would be no journal.

Cheryl Hutchins
Editor, December 2018
There could be a possible Neolithic flint mine complex on a hill at North End, Findon centred at ca. TQ 123105. It is situated in a field north of the south-east to north-west footpath from The Pest House, Findon and east of the north-east to south-west footpath, which goes from North End, Findon to Chanctonbury Ring.

There are depressions on the contour of the hill in this field similar to those at Cissbury and some are tree covered. Just east of these depressions are humps, which could be spoil heaps. Other depressions, which once existed, may have been ploughed out. This possible Neolithic flint mine complex may only be a small one going north to south for about 200 to 300 yards.

The site could be a long linear one as at Stoke Down going along the contour of the hill, but the field east of the footpath to Chanctonbury Ring may also be part of the site. There are slight depressions in this field and the site could also be on the other side of the footpath from The Pest House as there are slight depressions here as well. The footpath from The Pest House is a hollow way at the site and could have cut through some flint mine shafts. The author has found flint flakes on the site.

Some dark markings are visible in the field from aerial photographs, which could be flint mine shafts. Briefing watches, field walking and excavations by future archaeologists are needed to confirm if the site is a Neolithic flint mine complex. A write-up, map, photographs and finds have been donated to Worthing Museum and Worthing Library. Cornwall was the main tin mining county in Britain and Sussex could have been the main flint mining county in Britain.
Between the Wet and Dry: Malthouse Field, Sompting in prehistory

By Gordon Hayden

Introduction

Why did people settle where they did? This is one of the fundamental questions in archaeology. This article focuses on some of the artefacts from the Worthing Archaeological Society Field Unit’s (hereafter WASFU) ongoing excavations at Malthouse Field in Sompting, and puts forward a social context for these finds. It is not the intention of this study to provide a detailed account of the results of the ongoing excavations. Nevertheless by taking already published research and comparing this with the rich dataset from WASFU’s own excavations on the West Sussex Coastal Plain, the aim is to shed light on human activity and its relationship with the landscape at the site of Malthouse Field in Sompting during prehistory.

Malthouse Field

WASFU has undertaken investigative work on the site in 2017 and 2018. At this moment in time it is envisaged that there will be further fieldwork on the site. Although dry in modernity the site lies on a natural junction where drainage off of the South Downs meets the water table of the Coastal Plain (Figure 1). Indeed, during the 2017 fieldwork one of the trenches was constantly wet; although it is unclear whether this phenomenon is the result of an ancient stream or inundation from the ancient coastline (Figure 2).

The site was mainly occupied during the medieval period, but there are finds covering most of the earlier periods of prehistory. Activity on site seems to cease during the Late Bronze Age with no evidence of Iron Age or Roman occupation. As there are both worked flint and pottery finds dating to the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age periods, this study will confine itself to these two phases, firstly by looking at how the artefact evidence has been perceived.

Figure 1. Topography model of Sompting (image courtesy of Connie Shirley)

Figure 2. Trench showing ancient watercourse (image courtesy of Connie Shirley)
The Archaeological Record: Problems and Perspectives

The Historic Environment Record

If one looks at the archaeological record for the Coastal Plain, one could be forgiven into thinking that the following pattern took place. During the Neolithic and the earlier period of the Bronze Age, people tended to settle on the higher ground of the South Downs. During the Late Bronze Age the settlement pattern shifts with more emphasis on the Coastal Plain, followed by a reversal of the pattern during the Early-Middle Iron Age, and finally almost continuous settlement on the Coastal Plain from the Late Iron Age to the present day. Whilst this is a gross simplification of the archaeological record, care must be taken when viewing the context of the findspots.

Development of the Coastal Plain from the post-medieval period onwards has more than likely masked the settlement pattern of earlier periods. Extensive survey work undertaken in the vicinity of the Chichester Peninsula (Manley 2008) highlights an extraordinary high number of prehistoric findspots, especially around the coast and related waterways. Yet we have to take into account the nature of each find itself. Many of these finds are singular worked flints, or small groups of flints. It is difficult to understand whether these have been accidentally dropped, deliberately deposited, or have been moved from their original entry into the archaeological record by water or gravity. What type of tool do they represent? Can we differentiate between killing animals and humans? Are we looking at a permanent settlement, a summer hunting camp or an overnight stay? In addition to this we have an incomplete environmental record for Sussex. We have yet to scientifically prove when, where, and in what magnitude, land clearance – crucial to understanding prehistoric occupation – took place.

The Neolithic: Sedentism and Community Spirit?

There is a tendency to view the Neolithic period as otherworldly. Undoubtedly people put their stamp on the landscape. It was a time when people became more sedentary. The concept of farming – domesticating animals and plants – was a way of life that slowly moved westwards across Europe over thousands of years. People invested time and resources into the landscape. We view them as people who settled down and grew their crops. However what did people do once the crop had been planted? Clearly they did not sit and twiddle their thumbs! Pottery is easier to produce once people became sedentary, and people most likely supplemented their diet through hunting. Neolithic people were not merely farmers then!

We perceive Neolithic people in community terms. They buried their dead in large communal long barrows which housed the disarticulated remains of the social group. The construction of Neolithic monuments – the causewayed enclosures and henges – certainly involved input from the larger community. These bounded areas were cut off, differentiated from the outside landscape as ‘special’ places for ritual activity and group gatherings. However this act of enclosing also indicates not everyone was welcome at the party!

The Bronze Age: Individuals and Boundaries?

From the outset this writer would like to point to a soft spot for the Bronze Age. It was a time when individual people can be seen. The burial and votive deposition record clearly highlights evidence of class and gender distinctions, pan-European trading networks, ruling elites, craft specialists and organised warfare. They were spiritual, caring and compassionate, but also greedy, envious and argumentative. They were in effect ‘us’!

Large enclosures, linear cross-ridge dykes and lengthy dry-stone wailing, such as the Dartmoor Reaves (Fleming 1988) all carved up the landscape into parcels and introduced the concept of land ownership. This division of land suggests rulers who coerced their community into huge building projects, such as hillforts. Alongside this obsession with land division was a reverence for watery places. This veneration took place through deliberate deposition either directly into, or adjacent to wet regions. Richard Bradley’s seminal work (Bradley 1998) comprehensively covers possible motivations behind these acts of votive deposition, be it veneration of the ancestors or fundamental worship of the supernatural. The myth of Excalibur may have its genesis in Bronze Age deposition into water.

I thought this was about Sompting?

Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age

There were a number of worked flints datable to the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age period found at Malthouse Field. An initial assessment of these flints by Bob and Gill Turner indicate that this was not a site of permanent habitation. The blades are more closely associated with animal husbandry and there are an insufficient number of tools associated specifically with permanent habitation, such as awls and scrapers (Bob and Gill Turner pers. comm.). It is likely this assemblage represents a temporary summer hunting camp within what may well have been a marshland environment. This inference is given further credence by the arrowhead found (Figure 3).
Also present are a few sherds of pottery broadly contemporary with the flint. This raises interesting questions. Pottery is more associated with permanent settlement, as the pottery of the time was not robust and tended not to travel well. If this was a temporary camp why is pottery present? Were they making pottery exploiting the resources at site? Were some groups in the Neolithic not involved in farming, or unable for some reason to possess suitable land to farm?

**Late Bronze Age**

Apart from a few scrapers (Figure 4) the Malthouse Field Late Bronze Age worked flint assemblage again has an insufficient number of tools associated with permanent occupation (Bob and Gill Turner pers. comm.). In this respect there is much similarity with what was found during the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age period, and thus it is likely that the environment was also similar and exploited in the same way.

Amongst the small amount of pottery was a sherd from a biconical urn with a finger-impressed cordon below the rim (Figure 5). These vessels have often been found on sites adjacent to water. Some of these vessels contain cremated human bone, such as examples from Langstone Harbour (Allen and Gardiner 2000). When burials were located near to settlements, the social group’s control over its land may have been reinforced by the presence of the ancestors (Bradley 1984). Although not all of these types of vessel were used specifically as a burial urn, unlike the earlier pottery, the Late Bronze Age assemblage has a more meaningful context for its presence at this site.

**WASFU Excavations at Walberton**

If one was to compare the prehistoric material from Sompting with that at WASFU excavations at Lower Farm and Blacksmith’s Corner (Walberton), an interesting pattern emerges. Both sites at Walberton lie on a promontory, which in prehistory was bounded on at least two sides by tributaries of the River Arun. The Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age flint and pottery assemblages are incredibly similar to Sompting and it is likely that, at least at Lower Farm, the environment and activities were similar; a temporary summer hunting camp alongside marshland. The pottery assemblage from Blacksmith’s Corner – a site adjacent to what is now a dried out rife – also includes several sherds from a Late Bronze Age urn.

Figure 3. Late Neolithic arrowhead from Sompting (image courtesy of Gill Turner)

Figure 4. Late Bronze Age scraper from Sompting (image courtesy of Gill Turner)

Figure 5. Late Bronze Age urn from Sompting (image courtesy of Gill Turner)
The Wider World: the South Downs and Coastal Plain

The South Downs

In Sussex during the Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age, the chalkland distribution of funerary round barrows, suggests the creation of a vast sacred landscape extending from the Meon Valley to Beachy Head (Garwood 2003). Here activities were separated from areas of settlement and resource procurement on the Coastal Plain and in the intervening river valleys. By the Middle to Late Bronze Age Sussex had a large number of linear bank and ditch land boundaries known as cross-ridge dykes. Some were in the vicinity of settlements and others were associated with hillforts, indicating a major reorganisation of land divisions at the beginning of the 1st millennium BC, possibly associated with a growth in pastoralism (Hamilton 2003). So in essence although the function of the landscape had shifted slightly, the concept of possessing the land, firstly for the sacred (ancestors) then the secular (living) remained.

It has been argued that enclosure stresses the identity and integrity of group independence and maintains distinctions between individual households and wider society (Bruck 2000). This delineation of land and the concept of land ownership had vast implications. Not only does enclosure imply control over a finite resource, such as suitable land for growing crops and grazing animals, it also implies control over other resources, such as a source of good quality flint. Possession of land means ownership of flint mines, creating a surplus of quality flint which becomes a tradable commodity.

The Coastal Plain

Bounded fields formed barriers in the economic sense, perhaps to keep things in or out, but they also formed social boundaries perhaps related to ownership by groups or individuals. Many field systems of the Middle-Late Bronze Age respect burial monuments, such as barrows, whilst some terminate at watercourses. It is therefore probable that the watercourses of Bronze Age Britain may have been boundary markers between clan groups. There are a number of Late Bronze Age sites on the West Sussex Coastal Plain which are indicative of settlement, including Selsey (Seager Thomas 1998), Bosham (Gardiner and Hamilton 1998), Yapton (Rudling 1987), Ford Airfield (Place 2004) and Rustington (Rudling 1990), but only the latter two produced evidence of settlement structures. All these sites were situated adjacent to, or in the near vicinity of, either the coast or the River Arun.

It is likely that the environment of the West Sussex Coastal Plain was wetter in prehistory and therefore good quality land in this area would have been at a premium. With all this land division going on it is likely that some people would not have had access to quality land, putting them quite literally at the edge of society. It was stated above that it is hard to differentiate between flint tools used for hunting animals and people. However during the Bronze Age the introduction of metallic weapons and armour (namely swords and shields) indicate a culture actively involved in warfare, as people fought over access to resources.

Conclusion: get off my land!

Malthouse Field in prehistory would have been what archaeologists refer to as a liminal area. These liminal areas mark the boundary and crossing point between the wet and dry, the sacred and the secular, the ancestors and the living, or from one community to the other. In the wetter environment of the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age period clearly the site was occupied, but what was the nature of this occupation? How do we reconcile the contradictions between the worked flint and pottery finds? Certainly the flint finds would be suggestive of a temporary hunting camp, so could it be pottery was being made on site? Does the temporary camp indicate people hunting whilst waiting for the ripening of their crops, or were certain groups physically, socially and metaphorically forced to live on the edge of society?

In the Late Bronze Age again the flint finds are highly suggestive of a temporary camp. The pottery, specifically the urn, would indicate deliberate deposition in a watery place. It would be difficult to argue that this vessel held the remains of an ancestor as a boundary marker. It may well be the vessel contained some offering to the ancestors or the gods, placed in a location which acted as a portal between the wet and dry, the living and the afterlife.

Whilst we need to bear in mind that we are talking about time periods which are not exact, and last hundreds if not thousands of years, the finds from Malthouse Field provide a good example of comparing and contrasting broadly contemporary finds with each other and with the landscape itself, to understand the motivations of prehistoric people, in a world so far away, yet so similar to our own!
Acknowledgments

Collaboration with peers is crucial in archaeological research. In this respect the writer would like to offer his appreciation to Bob and Gill Turner for the many discussions on flint, and for permission to reproduce photographs of the finds from Sompting. The writer would also like to extend his gratitude to Connie Shirley, site director for the WASFU excavations at Malthouse Field, for her theories about the site and permission to use the computer model and trench photograph.

References


1. Background to the Project

In the late summer of 2014 members of English Heritage and Worthing Archaeological Society (hereafter WAS), had the opportunity to walkover the site of Goblestubbs Copse, in preparation for an article on previous work undertaken in the area. This would be for a subsequent Sussex Archaeological Collections volume (McOmish and Hayden 2015).

The walkover identified a series of features, some of which had been previously recognised but un-surveyed by WAS (Allison 2009). The features consisted of a number of unrecorded earthworks leading off the enclosure and at least one field system underlying the enclosure complex. The newly recognised earthworks are highly suggestive of phases of activity but were of unknown date. This interpretation was further enhanced by the LIDAR survey carried out on behalf of the South Downs National Park Authority Secrets of the High Woods project.

It was postulated that the Goblestubbs Copse enclosure complex forms part of a larger oppidum (McOmish 2013). If the sub-oppidum theory is correct it would be the first time that one has been positively identified on the chalk downs of West Sussex, east of the Chichester Entrenchments. Alternatively, given the presence of pottery datable to the Bronze Age and earlier phases of the Iron Age found during the previous excavation by WAS in 2006 (McOmish and Hayden 2015), these earlier earthworks could pre-date the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods. Given that the previous excavation had shown that not all the enclosure elements appeared to be contemporaneous, permission was sought from the landowner, the Norfolk Estate, to carry out a further excavation to ascertain the date of construction and abandonment of the enclosures, and also to record their condition for future research and conservation, due to the fact they are situated in a woodland environment which has had several episodes of tree planting and felling.

This was the Goblestubbs Copse excavation in 2016, led by WAS. However, the LIDAR which was used for this project also showed a further enclosure to the west of the original two. This Enclosure was much smaller, and of a different shape, but seemed to be on the same alignment as the two Goblestubbs enclosures. The decision was taken to excavate this third enclosure to determine if there was a relationship between the three enclosure complexes. This excavation was undertaken in August 2017. The location of this excavation fell within the modern woodland area of Rough Copse, adjacent to Goblestubbs Copse in Rewell Woods, so the excavation was titled in accordance with the modern boundaries.

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**Figure 1. Lidar view of Rough Copse and Goblestubbs Copse**
2. Site Location and Geology

The focus of this phase of the project was to investigate the third possible enclosure in the area marked Rewell Woods (Rough Copse). This enclosure had hitherto been unknown to archaeology, having been identified by new Lidar data, provided by the *Secrets of the High Woods* project in 2015/6. It was hoped that this new enclosure would shed further light on the development and use of the Goblestubbs enclosures.

The enclosure stands on a sand and gravel terrace at a height of 44m above Ordnance Datum, and has been built at an angle to the terrain contour, on gently south-facing slopes that lead to a dry valley some 300m to the south. The chalk is overlain here by a substantial tertiary capping of clay-with-flints, and the surface of the enclosure interior is strewn with flint detritus, some of it struck whilst other fragments are fire-cracked.

Today the enclosure sits within a dense section of conifer and birch woodland, which has been under woodland for a considerable period of time, certainly since the middle part of the 20th century. Indeed, apart from an episode of clearance during World War II, it may have been wooded since the medieval period (Forestry Commission pers. comm.)

This wooded area is located 200m to the north of the A27 and continues through the ancient hunting landscape to the west of Arundel. The parkland certainly extended to the south of the road into Binsted Wood and beyond, and there are many features associated with emparkment and woodland management in the surrounding vicinity.

3. Archaeological Background and Previous Research

The only other significant feature in the area was a larger circular hole which cut the northern boundary of the enclosure. This was thought to have been later sand extraction, however in conversations with Matt Pope it was deemed to be a possible sink hole.

To date the War Dyke, as well as a number of the earthwork complexes in the area, have received little attention. Perhaps the first to undertake any sort of concerted investigation in the area were the Curwens (1918; 1920; 1928). E. C. Curwen had noted the damage being wrought on downland landscapes by cultivation in the early part of the 20th century and had sought to identify areas for research. The heavily wooded landscape to the west of Arundel fulfilled his criteria, and so he began a series of investigations aimed at three of the earthwork complexes: Rewell Wood, Dalesdown Wood, and Goblestubbs, as well as the War Dyke near Whiteways Lodge.

At Dalesdown Wood only three sherds of Early Iron Age pottery and a fragment of early Roman amphora were found, with a conclusion that there was insufficient evidence to suggest a date or purpose to the enclosure complex (Hadrian Allcroft 1920). The Curwens’ survey at Rewell Wood, however, led them to suggest that the form of the earthworks was so similar that it must have been contemporary with Dalesdown. After further investigation, on this occasion at Goblestubbs Copse, they reached a similar conclusion, but despite their enthusiasm to continue work there, no corresponding willingness was forthcoming from other members of the Sussex Archaeological Society. As a result the project foundered leaving the Curwens to bemoan their colleagues’ obsession with open chalkland landscapes.

Following this no further fieldwork was undertaken in the area until the sites were re-visited by field surveyors from the Ordnance Survey in the 1970s. Again, noting the similarity in the form of the enclosure complexes, they concluded that as the area was described as sheepwalk before emparkment in 1786, the likeliest interpretation was that they were stock enclosures of medieval date.

Magilton (2003) speculated that the War Dyke may well have been constructed in the Late Iron Age and was ultimately associated with a series of linear boundaries in the vicinity of Chichester. This had been echoed in an earlier publication by Manley (1999), but these authors make reference to neither the associated archaeological complexes nor their socio-cultural context and significance.
More recent fieldwork, carried out in 2005/6 by English Heritage and the Worthing Archaeological Society, suggests that the earthwork complexes are potentially much earlier, possibly of late prehistoric and Romano-British date. Indeed, a search of the Worthing Museum archive by members of the Worthing Archaeological Society has brought to light a hitherto unknown excavation of the main (scheduled) Goblestubbs enclosure complex. Details of this work, undertaken in 1973 and co-directed by Con Ainsworth and H. B. Ratcliffe-Densham, remain elusive with only a brief series of hand-written notes by A.J. Pudwell surviving. The excavation came to an abrupt end due to the sudden death of Ratcliffe-Densham, but several small trenches were certainly opened, and substantial quantities of Roman ceramics were recovered, including a complete Samian cup. Much of the material seems to be of Early Roman date, and Pudwell’s notes speculate that Goblestubbs Copse was a military site. Members of the Worthing Archaeological Society are actively pursuing research into this archive at Worthing Museum.

As a result of this research Worthing Archaeological Society gained permission in 2016 to carry out an investigative excavation within the unscheduled, eastern enclosure at Goblestubbs. This investigation was carried out in two phases.

The first phase demonstrated that the square planned northern element of the enclosure was most likely to have been broadly contemporaneous with the annex arm leading away from it, and dating evidence suggests a construction phase early in the 1st century AD. In addition the project investigated a possible linear feature to the immediate south of the enclosure. The feature appeared to be leading away from the enclosure corner suggesting the possibility of a larger enclosure system, or perhaps a pre-existing feature. However, once opened the trench revealed what was most likely a natural flint lens.

The second phase focused on the perceived entry way to the main enclosure, as well as finishing the excavation of a trench laid over the southern bank and ditch of the enclosure, where much of the early pottery has originally been found. This phase indicated that the complex of earthworks on the south side of the enclosure were most likely the enclosure entrance way, with a clear pathway leading from the enclosure to the south, with a suggestion of cobbled. In addition the southern section of the enclosure showed a clearly defined bank and ditch with pottery at the base correlating with the earlier pottery finds.

4. The Project

The purpose of this excavation followed on from the Goblestubbs excavation with the aims of determining the relationship, structure and possible date of the third enclosure, in order to see where it fitted in to the tapestry of the Goblestubbs complexes.

4.1 Project Aims

The aims of this investigation targeted key features of the third Goblestubbs enclosure. Through systematic field work, it sought to identify how this enclosure related to the main East and West Goblestubbs enclosures (see Figure 1). During this planned work a maximum of three trenches were to be opened, initially to assess the date and construction of this newly identified enclosure.

The project aimed to:

- Identify the exact placement of this enclosure within the landscape
- Establish a provisional date for the main enclosure
- Develop understanding of how this enclosure relates to the previously excavated enclosures on the site
- Investigate the possible annex and trackway leading away from the site to the east.

4.2 Excavation Methodology

During excavation three trenches were opened in order to identify the exact placement of the enclosure within the landscape, establish a provisional date for the main enclosure, develop an understanding of how this enclosure relates to the previously excavated enclosures and investigate the possible annex and trackway leading away from the site to the east.

The trenches measured a maximum of 8x3m and were laid in accordance to the archaeology described above, along with reference to the surrounding tree coverage and health and safety factors. Each trench was dug no more than the requisite 2.2m and steps were dug at the directors’ discretion to ensure safe working conditions.
4.2.1 Position of the Trenches

*Trench 1* - was laid across the observed SW corner with the aim of establishing firmly this ephemeral enclosure in the physical landscape. The Trench was also dug with the secondary aim of establishing a date for the enclosure. It was eventually laid as an L-shaped trench.

*Trench 2* - aimed to sample the main line of the enclosure on the most accessible section of path, the southern boundary. This was to give the excavation team the clearest view of the design of the enclosure as well as the possibility of establishing a date for the enclosure. The trench was a standard rectangular trench, measuring 7m x 2m.

*Trench 3* - was laid over the southern half of the possible annex, where it intercepts the main enclosure. Time permitting this trench was also to be extended to sample the feature leading away from the enclosure. However, the extensions that were made to the trench were only made to get a better view of the primary intersection target.

4.2.2 Trench Numbering

The trench numbering was in a standard chronological order as there has been no known archaeological investigation into this site previously.

4.3 Trench Layouts and Context

In the original project design there were to be four trenches. However, when the team went to survey and lay out the site it was decided to merge trenches 1 and 2 due to the tree cover and the practicalities of excavation. This created the L-shaped trench now listed as trench 1 and caused trenches 3 and 4 to be re-labelled trenches 2 and 3.

5. Excavation

5.1 Trench 1

The main aim for this trench was to find the south west corner of the enclosure. This was to definitively show the position of the enclosure within the landscape, as well as to define the profile of the enclosure bank and ditch.

The corner was located and linked with the Lidar survey. In the south west corner the bank and ditch profile appeared as a very shallow impression, something which was borne out during excavation. The profile of the ditch showed as a shallow scoop in the top part of the trench, and was filled with very loose flints and organic matter. This fill was almost certainly a result of later forestry works filling in landscape gaps or addressing access or drainage problems. Due to time constraints, tree roots and the instability of the trench the deeper it went, the decision was taken to close the trench before the bottom of the ditch was reached. As such no secure profile of the ditch in this section can be recorded. No firm dating evidence was found in this trench.

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<td>100</td>
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<td>101</td>
<td>Topsoil (30 cm spit)</td>
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<td>102</td>
<td>20 cm spit based on colour change</td>
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<td>103</td>
<td>20 cm spit</td>
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<td>104</td>
<td>Bank (west section)</td>
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<td>105</td>
<td>Cut of the ditch (west section)</td>
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<td>106</td>
<td>Ditch fill</td>
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<td>20 cm spit</td>
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<td>Tertiary west section fill</td>
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<td>Perceived corner turn</td>
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<td>Cut of ditch (north section)</td>
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<td>112</td>
<td>Fill level 1</td>
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<td>113</td>
<td>Fill level 2</td>
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However, excavation discovered a thin chalk layer, which appeared to be covering the top of the ditch feature, and which was interpreted to have been a form of capping. Unfortunately, the insubstantial nature of the chalk made it unclear as to whether it was a feature of the ditch itself or as a result of later drainage as part of the forestry works.

5.2 Trench 2

Trench two aimed to sample the main section of the south enclosure bank and ditch. This was the most accessible part of the site and it was felt this was the area which was most likely to yield dateable material.

Almost immediately the team discovered a linear chalk feature in the northern section of the trench. This was within the top soil, between 10 and 20cm in the first 20cm spit. The position and direction of the feature suggested that it would follow the trackway through the enclosure. The feature turned out to have very little width to it and it was thought it could have been a marker for the edge of the track way. However, the depth of the feature, and the ephemeral nature of it would also suggest that it was instead similar to the chalk found in Trench 1 and part of later forestry works.

In the centre of the trench the ditch of the enclosure was clearly defined. It was a substantial V-shaped ditch reaching a depth of 1.79m.

At the bottom of the trench several pieces of pottery were recovered and in subsequent analysis it was determined that this pottery dated from 43-60 AD. Unfortunately, the pottery was quite abraded, indicating that it had been on the surface for a while before being redeposited in the trench. (Please see separate pottery report).

5.3 Trench 3

This trench was the most inaccessible of the three due to tree and ground coverage. The original layout of the trench was extended twice to better understand the features that were uncovered. The layout was intended to understand the annex feature observed on the Lidar survey and to determine the relationship of this feature to the rest of the enclosure.

During the excavation the team located the southern boundary ditch, which continued through the annex. This aligned with the enclosure ditch found in Trench 2. However, within the northern wall of the trench a second ditch fill was observed. This was thought to have been the north/south ditch which was seen on the Lidar survey. The pottery recovered from this trench spanned through 60 - 180 AD. Due to less weathering on the pottery from this trench the dating evidence is more reliable. This could indicate that the annex was a later addition to the site. However, the placement of the pottery and the disturbance of this area of the site make this unclear.

Several features of disturbance were observed in this trench. Firstly, a rectangular feature, thought to be modern, had been dug into the north corner of the west section. There was also evidence of slump in the ditches indicating that the banks had seen some destruction at some point.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context No.</th>
<th>Context Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>Cut of the trench</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301</td>
<td>Topsoil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>302</td>
<td>20 cm spit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>303</td>
<td>20 cm spit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>304</td>
<td>20 cm spit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>305</td>
<td>20 cm spit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>306</td>
<td>20 cm spit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>307</td>
<td>Southern bank (west section)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>308</td>
<td>Cut of ditch (west section)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>309</td>
<td>Primary ditch fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>310</td>
<td>Secondary ditch fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>311</td>
<td>Tertiary ditch fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>312</td>
<td>Possible bank destruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>313</td>
<td>Cut of rectangular feature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>314</td>
<td>Fill of rectangular feature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>315</td>
<td>Cut of north-south ditch (north section)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>316</td>
<td>Primary ditch fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>317</td>
<td>Secondary ditch fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318</td>
<td>Perceived natural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319</td>
<td>Bank of inner feature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Discussion

The site was successfully positioned in the landscape, aligning with the Lidar survey. From this it would appear that the third enclosure is on an alignment with the two Goblestubbs enclosures with a potential connecting track between them, although this was not established during this excavation. Therefore, how this site was used in combination with the other two is as yet unclear.

While some pieces of pottery were discovered to help establish dating evidence, the weathering and suspect deposition of the pieces from Trenches 1 and 2 must be taken into account. Therefore, it is not possible to securely date the site. However, from the indications that we have it would seem that the site did see activity during the invasion period around 43 AD. The dating evidence would therefore suggest that this enclosure had more in common, and was roughly contemporary, with the Goblestubbs East enclosure which was in use during the 1st century AD.

The interesting aspect of this site is its shape. The enclosure differs greatly from the other two Goblestubbs enclosures, and similar enclosures observable on lidar to the north. It is much smaller and has only one internal partition (possible later annex). This may indicate that the usage of the site was confined to a singular purpose. Interior partitions normally indicate that the ground within an enclosure is being divided to purposefully separate activities. Examples of this could be the division of different livestock, different living and working sections or status-led divisions of society. The fact that this enclosure has no observable interior divisions would suggest that whatever the function of the site was it was singular. This could have been something like a storage facility or cattle enclosure, although there are many other possible interpretations. There is limited evidence for usage at the moment for any of the enclosures. Further environmental sampling might provide further indications of usage. However, the lack of interior partitioning would suggest a usage which needed clearer ground.

7. Bibliography


A Note on the Pottery from Rough Copse Excavation 2017

By Gordon Hayden

Introduction and Summary

The fieldwork undertaken by Worthing Archaeological Society at Rough Copse in 2017 yielded 36 sherds (weighing 146 grams) of pottery from four contexts (plus an unstratified find). The overall date of the assemblage is c. AD 43-180. This comprises two phases; the first dating c. AD 43-60, whilst the second dates to c. AD 60-180.

Methodology

All of the pottery was counted and weighed and then quantified by number and weight of sherds per fabric. Sherds were examined using a hand lens at X20 magnification, whilst a pocket microscope (at X60 magnification incorporating a built-in artificial illumination source) was used to ascertain the size, form, frequency and nature of inclusions, and also to determine a fabric series. Colour hues of the fabrics have been described using Munsell Soil Color Charts (2000).

The Forms

Table 1. Breakdown of the pottery rim forms found at Rough Copse 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fabric Group</th>
<th>Sherd Count</th>
<th>Weight (grams)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ST4A</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Fabrics

Table 2. Breakdown of the pottery fabrics found at Rough Copse 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fabric Group</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ST4A</td>
<td>A handmade fairly hard, rough fabric with an irregular fracture and rough feel which is subsequently tournette-finished. The surface is coloured light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4), with a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) core. Inclusions consist of abundant, well-sorted, sub-angular quartz particles up to 0.3-1.0mm in size, common sub-rounded fемorous particles up to 0.5mm, and rare angular mica of 0.05-0.1mm. Production dates to c. AD20-60 (Hayden 2013).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Petrological description of the pottery fabrics found at Rough Copse 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fabric Group</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ST5B</td>
<td>A handmade fairly hard, rough fabric with a smooth fracture and fairly smooth feel, which is subsequently tournette-finished with a burnished outer surface. The outer surface is coloured dark grey (7.5 YR 4/1), with a brown (7.5YR 5/2) inner surface, and a pale brown (10YR 6/3) core. Inclusions consist of common, well-sorted, sub-angular quartz particles up to 0.5mm in size, and sparse sub-angular fемorous and mica of 0.02-0.05mm. Production dates to c. AD20-60 (Hayden 2013).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 4. The pottery catalogue from Rough Copse 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Wgt</th>
<th>Fabric Code</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1001</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>F1 (LCF SA)</td>
<td>Drag. 15/17 platter footing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>St4A</td>
<td>Belgic style beaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>St4A</td>
<td>Same vessel</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>St4A</td>
<td>Same vessel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>St4A</td>
<td>Same vessel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>St6A</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>St4A</td>
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<td>2026B</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>St15B</td>
<td>Beaker body</td>
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<tr>
<td>3001</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>C2A</td>
<td>Jar (Fishbourne type 161.4)</td>
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<td>3002</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>F12C</td>
<td>Beaker bodies</td>
</tr>
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<td>3003</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>F12C</td>
<td>Same vessel</td>
</tr>
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<td>3529</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>F12C</td>
<td>Same vessel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion**

The assemblage consisted of pottery from five vessels. Most of the sherds emanated from a ‘Belgic’ style beaker. Although this beaker appears in a Late Iron Age derivative fabric, the form itself can be paralleled – albeit with different decorative patterning – at Horndean (Cunliffe 1961: 27 and Fig. 2, no. 19) and Chichester (Down 1993: 240 and Fig. 30.2, no. 24). At both locations it has been dated as post-Conquest (Claudian-Neronian). The jar with an outbent rim and stubby neck can be paralleled at Fishbourne and dates from the pre-Flavian period until the late-2nd Century AD (Cunliffe 1971: 212 and Fig. 101, no. 161.4). The only piece of non-local pottery is the footring base from an imported samian Dragendorff 15/17 platter dating to the pre-Flavian period.

Although the pottery from Trenches 1 and 2 dates to c. AD 43-60, whilst the assemblage from Trench 3 dates to c. AD 60-180, it must be stressed that the dating of the site using the pottery is problematical, and extreme caution should be taken. All of the pottery from Trenches 1 and 2 show signs of long-term weathering and has undoubtedly been exposed to the elements – rather than rapidly deposited within a fill – for some not insignificant time before eventual deposition. The pattern of degradation noticeably differs from pottery exposed to acidic soil conditions. The pottery from Trench 3 is more reliable and was clearly deposited shortly after breakage. With this in mind it is hereby suggested that the pottery from Contexts 305 and 306 in Trench 3, given the present evidence, provide a less problematical indication of the date of occupation on this site.

**References**


Introduction

Following excavations by Worthing Archaeological Society of an enclosure in Goblestubbs Copse in Rewell Woods in 2006 and 2016 (Hayden & Friend, 2016 & 2017), the Society returned to Rewell Woods in 2017 to investigate a further enclosure in Rough Copse.

A total of 133 worked flint finds weighing 1519g were recovered from the Society’s excavation and 9 pieces of fire-cracked flint weighing 655g.

The flint was recorded by context and unstratified flint, recovered from the spoil heaps, by trench numbers. Each flint was also allocated a unique small finds number that indicates whether it was 3-dimensionally recorded within the trench or found in a disturbed context.

For analysis purposes the flint has been classified as a tool type or debitage and attributed to a specific time period. A full catalogue is available but only significant items are described and commented on in the report.

Compared with the flint assemblage from Goblestubbs Copse (Turner & Turner, 2016), there is a total absence of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age material from Rough Copse, where the main emphasis is Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic, but as at Goblestubbs, there is also significant Late Bronze Age material.

Worked Flint

The majority of the assemblage was recovered from top soil and open contexts with a single flint found in the ditch fill, context 106 of Tr. 1, two in the sealed context 206 and six in the ditch fill, context 210 of Tr. 2.

Most of the raw material used is of varying quality and sourced from local ‘clay-with-flint’ deposits. This is mottled grey to mid-grey with considerable light grey or white fossil inclusions. There is only one instance of good quality black flint that is not from the immediate vicinity and a further four with white patination from probably grass Downland.

Apart from a few exceptions, the overall condition of the material can be described as both weathered and eroded that would appear to indicate prolonged exposure on the ground surface before deposition.

Analysis of Assemblage:

Of the 133 flints recovered from the site, 102 (69.6%) have been classified as tools and 31 (30.4%) as debitage. The flint includes struck flint as well as thermal flakes and miscellaneous natural pieces.

For analysis purposes the tools and debitage have been attributed to the following time periods.

Tool typology has been used but it has not always been possible to distinguish between the Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic so the transitional period of LM/EN has been used. In the case of debitage, some assumptions have been made based on the quality of the struck flint and by association with other flints within a context.

EM Early Mesolithic 1
LM Late Mesolithic 16
EN Early Neolithic 73
LM/EN Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic 11
LBA Late Bronze Age 32

As can be seen, the largest proportion of the finds is attributable to the Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic, with the greater number from the latter. As stated previously, there is a total absence of material from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age but there is a significant presence from the Late Bronze Age.
Tools – 102 (69.6%)

Where there are indications of ‘use-wear’ but no secondary working, the finds have been classified as tools and shown as ‘utilised’ flakes, blades or pieces.

There are a small number of tools from the Late Mesolithic including microliths but the single flint from the Early Mesolithic (SF 1528) must be regarded as a sporadic find.

It is evident that the large number of knives and cutting tools, including retouched flakes, blades and pieces from both the early periods and the Late Bronze Age, suggests hunting and butchery activities taking place in the vicinity.

(See over the page for description and illustration)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tool Type</th>
<th>EM</th>
<th>LM</th>
<th>EN</th>
<th>LM/EN</th>
<th>LBA</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Utilised Bladelet &amp; Blade</td>
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<td>Utilised Piece</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Significant tools are described as follows:

**Retouched Truncated Blade** – SF 1528, Unstratified Tr. 1, size 34 x 26mm
Good quality black blade with a transverse truncation. Both lateral sides are retouched from the dorsal side to form a point at the distal end. The blade is slightly overshot and several removals were made from the distal end to flatten the overshoot and develop the point. Early Mesolithic

**Microliths – (10)** Late Mesolithic
All show signs of considerable use-wear

SF 1541, Context 104, size 28 x 8mm
Good quality grey bladelet partly backed with cortex and abrasion and retouched along the opposing lateral curved edge.

SF 1554, Unstratified Tr. 1, size
Burnt bladelet section with square tip, abraded back and retouched on opposing lateral edge.

SF 1561, Unstratified Tr. 1, size 20 x 11mm
Broken bladelet section with oblique end and retouched on all edges.

SF 2501, Context 201, size 14 x 11mm
SF 2502, Context 201, size 17 x 9mm
SF 2503, Context 201, size 16 x 9mm
All three are good quality grey bladelet sections with one square end and the other oblique and retouched on both lateral edges.

SF 2517, Context 202, size 22 x 8mm
Good quality grey bladelet section, backed and retouched along curved opposing edge.

SF 2531, Unstratified Tr. 2, size 15 x 7mm
Grey mottled bladelet section with oblique end and one end.

SF 2534, Unstratified Tr. 2, size
Grey mottled bladelet end section with bulb intact and retouched on both edges of the butt end and along one lateral edge.

SF 3505, Context 303, size 16 x 12mm
Good quality grey flake with bulb intact and retouched on three edges.

**Microburin** – SF 2527, Context 202, size 17 x 13mm
Grey mottled small blade with cortex remaining on butt and notched each side of the dihedral point that shows considerable use-wear. Late Mesolithic

**Fabricator** – SF 1518, Context 102, size 67 x 19mm
Grey mottled elongated wedge shaped blade. One end is abruptly retouched to form a ‘bec’ and the opposite end is invasively retouched to form a small nose on one lateral edge. There is little sign of use-wear. Early Neolithic

**Chisel** – SF 1520, Context 102, size 80 x 31mm
Manufactured on a grey mottled thick crested blade that narrows towards the butt with some cortex present on the dorsal side. The tip is abruptly retouched to form a chisel and shows signs of use-wear. Early Neolithic

**Scrapers – (2)**
End/Hollow - SF 1510, Context 101, size 32 x 30mm
A fairly good quality grey thick flake with a small patch of cortex on one edge. The edge adjacent to the bulb is invasively retouched to form a scraper with use-wear. The other edge is finely retouched to form a shallow hollow scraper. Early Neolithic

End Scrapper – SF 3514, Context 301, size 39 x 30mm
A fairly good quality grey thick flake with some cortex present on the dorsal side. The end opposite the bulb is retouched to form a scraper with use-wear. Early Neolithic

**Piercers – (3)**
SF 1543, Unstratified Tr. 1, size 30 x 23mm
A small flake with a pronounced tip retouched on both sides to form a short piercer. A well-made tool that has been subjected to a burning event. Early Neolithic

SF 1531, Context 102, size 51 x 38
A heavy grey mottled piece with some cortex on the dorsal side and retouched on both edges to form a slightly elongated piercer. Late Bronze Age

**Notched Tools – (6)**
SF 2532, Unstratified Tr. 2, size 31 x 33mm
Grey mottled short flake with retouched notch opposite bulb. Early Neolithic

SF 1559, Unstratified Tr. 1, size 54 x 53mm
A heavy grey mottled flake with a natural notch that has been retouched and resembles a ‘horned scraper’ Late Bronze Age.

**Combination Tools – (6)**
Knife/Denticulate – SF 2528, Context 202, size 44 x 32mm
A good quality grey blade with a small patch of cortex on dorsal side. One lateral edge is retouched to form a knife and the opposing edge has five notches to form a denticulate. Early Neolithic

Knife/Piercer - SF 3525, Context 305, size 41 x 23mm
Good quality grey blade broken at an oblique angle that may have been intended as a burin. Both lateral sides are retouched and the end notched and retouched to form a piercer. Early Neolithic
Rough Copse RC.17

Drawn by R F Turner
Knife/Notch - SF 3530, Unstratified Tr. 3, size 42 x 18mm
Good quality grey blade retouched on both lateral edges. One lateral edge is curved with a retouched notch and the tip of the blade is also retouched. Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic

Denticulates – (4)
SF 1512, Context 102, size 24 x 17mm
Grey broken blade with five notches along one lateral edge to form a denticulate with considerable use-wear and backed with an opposing abruptly retouched lateral edge. Early Neolithic

SF 1550, Context 106, size 61 x 42mm
Natural curved piece with retouched notches along two edges, both heavily worn. Late Bronze Age

Backed Knives – (16) – Early Neolithic
Of the 16 backed knives, 11 are backed with cortex, 2 with abraded backs, 1 with a natural squared edge, 2 are formed on starch fractures and 1 shows evidence of burning. Fifteen of the knives have retouched cutting edges and one has an unmodified edge. All show signs of considerable use-wear.

SF 1519, Context 102, size 41 x 28mm
Grey mottled broken blade with retouched cutting edge and abraded back edge.

SF 1552, Unstratified Tr. 1, 36 x 25mm
Reasonable quality grey mottled blade with retouched cutting edge and backed with cortex.

Knives - (4) – Early Neolithic
All 4 knives are formed on small flakes, 3 have unmodified cutting edges and only SF 1540 has a retouched cutting edge. All show use-wear.

Knives – (5) – Late Bronze Age
All are poor quality grey mottled flint of which 4 are flakes with large platforms and bulbs and one a starch fracture. Two of the knives have crudely worked retouched cutting edges and 3 have unmodified edges but all show signs of considerable use-wear.

Retouched Bladelet & Blades - (4)
The bladelet is SF 2009 and there are 2 broken blades of reasonable quality from the Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic and a poor quality blade from the Late Bronze Age, all with use-wear.

Retouched Flakes & Pieces - (22)
All show signs of use-wear. The 12 Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flakes vary from reasonably good flint to poor with 2 retaining some cortex. One Early Neolithic piece SF 1524 size 44 x 9mm is a retouched starch fracture.

The 3 Late Bronze Age flakes include a primary flake and all 6 pieces retain cortex. All are very crudely worked.

Utilised, Bladelet & Blade – (2) – Late Mesolithic & Early Neolithic
The bladelet SF 1530 is broken with use-wear on one lateral edge and the blade SF 3519 is also broken with a utilised lateral edge. Both are of poor quality.

Utilised Flakes & Pieces – (14)
The 7 flakes attributed to the Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic are of reasonable quality with 3 flakes and 4 pieces of poor quality from the Late Bronze Age.

Debitage – 31 (30.4%)
The table below shows the debitage recovered:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Debitage</th>
<th>LM</th>
<th>EN</th>
<th>LM/EN</th>
<th>LBA</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bladelet</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blade</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flakes</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the 2 bladelets is a primary removal. The blades, which are small in width, include a tip and 2 broken mid sections, one of which exhibits possible microlith preparation (SF 3528).

The flakes from the Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic are small in size compared with the large and heavier flakes of the Late Bronze Age. There are no primary flakes.

The quality of the flint used is reasonable in the early periods but is noticeably poor in the Late Bronze Age.

The small quantity of debitage recovered and the absence of cores, rejuvenation and primary flakes indicate that there were no knapping areas in the immediate vicinity of the site.

Fire-cracked Flint

The 9 pieces weighing 655g were found, recorded and reinstated on site. Eight pieces weighing 274g were recovered from top soil contexts and only a single piece was found in the ditch fill of Tr. 1, context 106, weighing 381g.
Discussion

The assemblage is small so some assumptions have had to be made regarding quality of both the raw material and the knapping techniques in attributing the finds to specific periods.

Of note are the number of microliths recovered and also a single retouched truncated blade that is likely to be Early Mesolithic. Overall most of the finds are Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic with the greater number dating to the Early Neolithic. Interestingly, there are no finds from Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age so there would appear to be a long gap with no known activity on the site until the Late Bronze Age.

All the tools show signs of considerable use-wear including the microliths. The large number of knives and cutting tools found and the absence of any significant number of scrapers or debitage associated with knapping areas, appear to indicate occasional hunting and butchery activities in the vicinity of the site rather than any kind of habitation.

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Major Arthur Cecil Roper and his wife Frances Ann Hubbard

By Liz Lane

The Ropers became WAS Members in 1936, and were immediately very active. They were then living in Findon Valley. They both served as Presidents, and on the Committee, and were among the volunteers at the 1936 Harrow Hill excavations, headed by Mr G.A. Holleyman. They were involved in the 1937 Highdown Hill excavation, and were thanked in the WAS Annual Report of 1938-39 for their work there. Captain Arthur Roper was thanked for being Leader of one of the teams. The Wellcome Foundation asked for some photos of the dig, and ‘these were supplied by Mr. Roper, and much appreciated’. In 1938 the couple reported very fully to WAS Committee on the Highdown Bath-house dig.

Locally ‘Doc’, as he was called, was a well-known excavator. It was said that ‘if you saw a hole in the South Downs with a non-stop jet of rubble flying out of it, you would be sure to find Roper at the bottom!’

By 1939, he was referred to as Captain Roper – he was active in the A.R.P. now, and unable to attend all the Committee Meetings. In the 1943-44 WAS Annual Report Captain Roper was not on the Committee as he was ‘on active service’. In 1947 Mrs Frances Roper was elected as WAS Liaison Officer to the newly-formed SAS Research Committee. (Con Ainsworth took over the role in 1965). She remained on the Committee until 1957, when she resigned and Major Roper re-joined.

He was very active in forming the Museum Correspondents’ Corps, which eventually consisted of between 35 and 40 folk, (of whom only 5 were retired!) who took on the role of Watching Brief on any developments in their chosen area, and reported back on a quarterly basis to the Corps Committee.

In his own words, reporting in 1965: “The seeds were sown in late 1956, when a sewer was being laid for the Ringmer Road Council Estate. Roman pottery and a habitation site were exposed, reported to the Museum and investigated by Mr Lewis, then Assistant Curator. Excavation went on until January 1960. During the development of this estate a contract was given to 8 brothers, named Bashford, to dig trenches, etc. They became thoroughly interested and reported everything they found to the Museum. As they moved on to other sites, they continued reporting, and every site was investigated.” The work grew and a car was used on regular Tuesday afternoon sorties to visit sites which were difficult to reach by bike. Contractors and surveyors were asked by the Town Council to report all their discoveries. With the aid of the newly arrived Mr Barton at the Museum, the Correspondents Corps was established in May 1961. The motto was ‘Notate et Narrate’ – observe and report. They established a pro forma for their reports and issued 6inch-to-the-mile maps to each Member, on which to mark their finds. The area covered was between the Arun, Adur and Pulborough. In 1964 the two ‘high spots’ were Wiggonholt and the finding and recovery of the six canoes in the Arun. And the cost to the Council was nil!

Major Roper was very proud that “A very comprehensive story is being built up, and recorded, of Worthing and District from Prehistoric times down to the present. 142 finds and sites have been plotted on the map in Worthing Borough alone. Interest by youngsters still at school, and those who have just left, is being stimulated, and has met with a good response.”

Major Roper donated various archaeological finds to the Museum, for example, fragments of pottery from the Boulevard, a fleshing knife from Steyning Tannery, and a pistol dug up from Offington Hall.

Arthur and Frances’ family backgrounds and lives prior to 1936 are interesting. Arthur was born in June 1890 in Tasmania. His family were involved in exporting fine timbers, and the children grew up in the bush until it was thought they should have some education. Aged 11, Arthur and his older brother Charles were pupils at a school in Eastbourne, then Arthur went, as a day boy, to Brighton College from 1905 to 1909. In 1901 and 1911, his father, Arthur Charles Roper, was listed in the Census as living at Clifton Lodge in Chesswood Road with his family: Arthur, retired planter, born in India, wife Florence, who was...
born at sea...., plus daughters Florence Maud and Edith, both born in Tasmania.

Arthur became a Prefect at Brighton College in June 1908. He was a member of the Second Football XI in both 1905-06, and 1906-07, before becoming a member of the First XI in 1907-08 and 1908-09. He was also a Sergeant in the Cadet Corps. As a young man he went to Ceylon to help learn to oversee a tea plantation, but caught malaria and returned to England. He recovered and went on to an army career.

In May 1915 Arthur signed up as a Temporary Second Lieutenant with the 19th Battalion (2nd Public Schools) of the Royal Fusiliers, which, after training on Salisbury Plain, landed in France in November 1915. In February 1916 he transferred to GHQ.

On completion of his Service, in 1920, he was promoted to Captain.

In 1936 Captain Roper presented the 26th Battalion Royal Fusiliers WW1 flag to Brighton College. It is still in the Chapel there.

Frances was born in Chiswick in 1899 and trained as a hospital pharmacist, specialising in psychiatric medicine. She came from a family of archaeologists. Her father’s cousin was Sir Arthur Evans, of Knossos. She herself was very gifted in drawing sketches of finds and their positions, always ready with pencil and paper on archaeological digs. This was when photography was much slower and a sketch or two on a dig was immediate and thoroughly useful.

Arthur and Frances’ engagement was announced in the November 1932 issue of The Tatler, and a further announcement in the Gloucester Citizen advised that Mr Arthur Cecil Roper married Frances Ann Hubbard in August 1933 at St Stephen’s Church, Cinderford, in Gloucestershire. Arthur was described as an Estate Agent and his father, also Arthur, deceased, was described as a ‘Gentleman’. The occupation of Frances’ father, another Arthur, was noted as a Doctor of Medicine, and intriguingly, in 1911 he was described as a ‘Medical Practitioner, presently engaged in Literary Work.’ He co-wrote ‘Neolithic dew-ponds and cattle-ways’, published 1905, and other books.

At the end of 1936 Arthur and Frances made a ‘round voyage’ on the MV Lagardo of the Pacific Steam Navigation Co., to Valparaiso. In April 1937 they landed back at Hull, from Peru. In January 1945 Mrs Roper was warmly thanked for being the after-luncheon Speaker at WAS Annual Luncheon and in her ‘delightfully informal talk, she described some of the experiences she and her husband met with during a trip to South America in 1936, touching particularly on some of the sites of great archaeological interest they visited in Peru.’

The Ropers were very generous to Worthing Museum. When Frances’ mother died she gave many of her things to the Museum for safe-keeping. Arthur and Frances had no children to pass things on to. Examples are 4 albums of family photos, 13 daguerrotypes – all of family members going back 3 generations, a Victorian memorial brooch with hair inside, 10 ivory elephants from Ceylon, a locket which included portraits of Frances’ parents, a collection of 122 semi-precious stones, and a Broadwood piano!

Arthur was in Berlin at the end of the War. In 1945 he donated a collection of 33 German medals, including several Iron Crosses, a gold medal for Motherhood of 8 or More Children .......

The medals he was awarded

On completion of his Service, in 1920, he was promoted to Captain.

In 1936 Captain Roper presented the 26th Battalion Royal Fusiliers WW1 flag to Brighton College. It is still in the Chapel there.

Chapel plaque

Arthur was in Berlin at the end of the War. In 1945 he donated a collection of 33 German medals, including several Iron Crosses, a gold medal for Motherhood of 8 or More Children .......

Also, later, a piece of marble from Hitler’s desk in the Chancellory, the tab from the key to Hitler’s toilet in the Chancellory, and a programme for the 1945 British Victory Parade in Berlin. Plus a mechanical toy, in wood, made in England in 1946, by a German POW.
In September 1945 there was a small exhibition held in Worthing Museum. Reported in the Worthing Herald, headlined ‘Hitler’s Chancellory Medals on show in Worthing’, ‘Hitler has unwittingly provided Worthing Museum with one of its most interesting little exhibitions. Gold, silver and bronze medals, iron crosses, badges, buckles and certificates........are on view. They were saved from Hitler’s smashed Chancellory by Captain Arthur C Roper, of Stoke Abbott Court, Worthing, one of the first British Officers to set foot in Hitler’s domain. He has presented them to Worthing Museum.....’

Major Roper resigned from WAS Committee in 1970, due to ill health, and in 1971 Frances resigned for the same reason. They were both made Honorary Life Members.

The WAS 1976 Annual Report records that the John Pull Lecture was given by George Holleyman and a vote of thanks was proposed by Major Roper, who ‘had been associated with Mr Holleyman in many of the digs he described.’


With thanks to Judith Hubbard, and Sioned Vos, and Mr James Harrison (Archivist at Brighton College.)
Every year, on November 11th when possible, my wife Pauline and I visit a small R.C. graveyard off Arundel Road Angmering. The purpose is to lay a poppy on the gravestone of an unknown British Sailor, killed in the 2nd World War. This is because both Pauline and I served respectively in the WRNS and the RN.

Over the years, my eyes would continually be drawn to the headstone adjacent to the unknown sailor. It read ‘Marie. L. Jadot. Aged 73 years. Wounded in Air Raid Died 8th May 1942’.

It intrigued me so much that in November 2017 I decided to do something about it. Who was she? How did she die, and at such an old age from an air raid?

Even though I have been a resident of Angmering since the mid 1970’s I had not heard of an air raid over Angmering, let alone an elderly civilian lady being killed in one. It is well documented that nearby Poling had been heavily attacked on occasions, as it was then an RAF Radar Station.

It is also recorded that a JU 87 (Stuka) force landed on Angmering Golf Course. Depending which account you believe, the observer was shot dead by the Home Guard, or he was already seriously wounded from a dogfight and his pilot landed in a vain mission of mercy to try to save him. In any event, this incident was too early to be the one of interest (18/8/1940) (www.angmeringvillage.co.uk/villagehistorycentrehistory-general, 2013)

A Death Certificate was obtained and it gave her name as Marie Louisa Jadot, a widow, of Bramfield, Seaview Road Rustington. So the air raid was not in Angmering at all!

Further research at Worthing Library turned up a Littlehampton Gazette newspaper report of the raid, where it was reported another lady Mrs Irene Grace Wood 32 years was also fatally injured. Her 2 year old son Rodney was also seriously injured. The newspaper reports the touching story of how Mrs Wood hung onto life long enough to be assured that Rodney would survive. Rodney was later adopted and wrote an account as part of the BBC British Schools Museum (British Schools Museum, 2005).

The newspaper account is the first to use the title Madame Jadot. It describes “a low-flying lightning raid along the South Coast by bomb-carrying German fighters and retaliation fire from the ground. One small bomb landed in the village and fatally injured Mrs Irene Grace Wood aged 32 and Madame Jadot aged 73. Five other people were detained in Worthing Hospital when the house where most of the casualties occurred was almost completely destroyed” (Littlehampton Gazette 15 May 1942).

A search of Civilian war dead revealed she was the widow of Georges Jadot and a Belgium Subject. It names her as Jadot, Josephine Marie Louise and wrongly gives her age as 74.

No trace of the Jadots appears in any censi records, leading to a conclusion that she/they arrived in the UK sometime between 1931 and 1940.

Mrs Gail Cusden, overhearing my remarks whilst at Rustington Museum, offered to do some historical research. She came up with a Birth Certificate of Josephine Leonie Louise Baes, born 3/8/1868, in Brugge, West Vlaanderen, Belgium (personal communication).
So now being sure of whom she was, the next question is where did it happen? Wartime censorship would not allow exact locations to be identified, so it was a matter of looking for it. Mrs. Wood at the time of her death was living at Kogarah/Kogarali, Seafield Road Rustington. She had been evacuated there, so there is a good chance that so had Mde. Jadot when she lived at Bramfield. Neither now shows up on a map but luckily Phil Quinn had seen a photograph of the damage and identified it as being opposite Seafield Close (personal communication).

A visit to Seafield Road, opposite Seafield Close, shows a typical 1960/70’s housing development called Ashton Gardens (the unnamed road curving north on the map). Older maps do not show this but do show several buildings that in my contention show the former bombed houses.

So, we now know, who, when, where and why but who paid for her burial and why at Angmering?

Angmering is obvious as the nearest R.C. Graveyard, in the area at that time.

I am indebted to Fr. David Rea, of Our Lady Star Of The Sea, for explaining to me the better off members of the congregation would have ‘Chipped in’ to cover the funeral costs. A practice that continues to this day.

Further enquiries into the unknown sailor and a ‘Lost’ German airman are ongoing. A full copy of the above can be viewed on www.worthingarchaeological.org under members’ publications or contact me at ppnido@hotmail.com

Update by C Hutchins

Pete took his research to Rustington Museum where more information was found together an actual fragment of the bomb. Sheila Marsden of the Rustington Heritage Association wrote up the incident on the front page of the Association’s Newsletter No. 141 of June 2018 and the museum has a display featuring Pete’s research. This display consists of the bomb fragment, photos, newspaper articles, and local historians’ comments, was highlighted in the Worthing Herald of 5 July 2018. A small rather sad post-script I noted when visiting the museum is that Madame Jabot was probably one of the at least 15,000 refugees who arrived in the UK at the end of 1940. She and Mrs Irene Wood were both evacuated from Croydon, together with others, to the safety of the south coast when Croydon Airport was converted to a front line RAF station and attracted the first Luftwaffe raids over London. I recommend a visit to the display in Sea Road, Rustington and when the museum moves to its new premises in the Sidney Wickens Centre, next to Waitrose in Rustington, sometime in 2019.

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www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx
A self-guided walk around Beach Town, Littlehampton

By Cheryl Hutchins

First park at East Beach car park (corner where South Terrace/Sea Road turns inland at the unmistakable East Beach Café). Charges: Up to 1 hour: £1.50, up to 2 hours £3.20, over 2 hours £7.40 incl weekends and Bank Holidays. On a do-it-yourself walking basis £3.20 should cover it. Basic walk 30 mins, with further 30 mins add-ons and a 20 mins brisk walk back. See sketch map at end of notes.

Stand on The Green with your back to the sea and before you is the part of Littlehampton built in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In the early 17th and 18th centuries the alteration to the river mouth, by diverting and straightening it to run into the sea, created The Green which was formerly a river channel. The Victoria County History covering Littlehampton relates how in 1757 the surface of the Green was undulating, with tussocky grass, furze, and some bare patches. In 1814 visitors to the resort were greatly annoyed by blown sand in windy weather. And while the town began to grow in the 1840s and 1850s a small and separate resort known as Beach, Beach Town or Beach Houses developed ¾ mile away. This consists of the houses along the front that you see today, formerly on plots owned by the Dukes of Norfolk. In fact the 11th Duke leased out bathing machines at Beach Town in the 1780s, and these plots, on 99 year leases, were made available for boarding houses in the 1790s (Victoria County History, 2009). A coffee house was built in ca 1775 (now demolished and the site occupied by the new flats of Beach Crescent – the yellow brick building on your left forming a semi-circle projecting into The Green). And Berkeley House, later Surrey House (also now demolished) and occupied by Osborne House to the right and behind the trees of the tennis courts was built at the same time.

Immediately in front of you is a modern block of flats inserted into the 19th century houses of South Terrace. This is Southlands Court and a local suffragist Cicely Hale lived at No. 10 until her death in 1981. Born in Kensington, she joined the Women’s Social & Political Union (WSPU) following a rally led by Mrs Pankhurst and Christabel Pankhurst in Hyde Park and worked as an assistant to the organisation and for the paper The Suffragette. Later she trained as a Health Visitor and moved to Littlehampton in 1934, moved back to London during WW2 where she wrote for the Women’s Own magazine, finally returning to Littlehampton in 1944. She retired for the first time in 1946, then became District Secretary of the Girl Guide Movement for 20 years, taking part in her first Guide camp when she was 64 (Tester 2018).

Turn and walk right between the terrace of former lodging houses and the tennis courts on South Terrace to the corner of Norfolk Place. Turn left and walk to the small triangular pieces of green and on the left is the cobble-built cottage called the Dolls House on South Passage which, a few years ago, featured in a TV programme with Nick Knowles, his team and local people who did it up for a man down on his luck. Turn left and walk along Western Road, filled with small cobble-built cottages including a former pub “The Surry Arms” (a friendly black moggie who appreciates a stroke lives along here). Cross over Norfolk Road, turn around and view the colourful seaside-style early 19th century houses, and then walk further along Western Road.
Take the first right – North Place – and turn left into Selborne Road. The Marine which was the ‘local’ of the Assault Unit based in the town during WW2, and some would say where the character of James Bond was conceived by Ian Fleming, has now been converted into flats but its former existence is commemorated by a blue plaque and the ironwork from which the pub sign once hung is still there.

Turn left just past the oak tree and walk down the alley, where the vine had grapes hanging over the wall in July this year, and into Western Road. The buildings here were for tradesmen who provided services to the lodging houses on the front (turn left) to see No. 6 the Library, No. 10 the Bakery and No. 29 with its elaborate green tiled archway. Other houses were built as lodgings. Turn completely round at the junction with North Place as you have completed a circle and walk back westwards. Bushby Terrace (a terrace of new white-painted houses) celebrates the 19th century builder Robert Bushby who built much of Beach Town.

At the junction with St Augustine Road, turn left, look south and see the new building of Beach Crescent, on the site of the 18th century coffee house. Walk to South Terrace.

On the corner with South Terrace is St Augustine House, the headquarters of the 30 Assault Unit Royal Marines. And the Beach Hotel (now Beach Crescent new flats) was the signal centre and contained storage and lecture rooms. The aim for this unit was to build the section up to full strength in readiness for the invasion of Europe, and was one of other similar units based in the town (Jones, 1995). You have completed the 30 minute walk and can turn left, cross South Terrace and walk diagonally across The Green to the car park.

For a longer walk (another 30 mins) turn right and walk along South Terrace, turn right into Granville Road (passing the towering ugly Kingmere which was built on tennis courts in the 1970s). Turn left into Irvine Road, then right into Fitzalan Road and walk past Lobb’s Wood (a small locally maintained “pocket park”, a frothy mass of white cow parsley in the spring). At the end of the trees cross Fitzalan Road and turn left into Granville Road. Walk to Caffyns Field and cross the road. Turn left and walk past the Catholic Church and right into Marina Gardens. Walk to the two trees planted in the middle of the gardens which commemorate local suffragettes:

St Augustine Road marks the end of Beach Town and as you cross over it into Irvine Road you walk into a part of Littlehampton which was developed in the 1860s and 70s, following the arrival of the railway in 1863. Stand on the corner and view William White’s 3 pairs of large semi-detached houses on the right-hand side of the street, built in red brick and tile with long front gardens for, it is said, six sisters. The Dukes of Norfolk owned the land between the village and Beach Town and planned improvements consisting of such large and prominent houses and so Beach Town became joined to the village of Littlehampton.
Cecily B Hale, 1884-1981, Suffragette, Midwife, Health Visitor, Columnist, Girl Guide Leader, Croquet Player, resident of Littlehampton 1934-1981 (unfortunately tree hasn’t thrived)

and

Mary Neal JP CBE, 1860-1944, Suffragette and Social Reformer, Pioneer of Working Women’s Holidays at the Green Lady Hostel Littlehampton, Folk Dance Revivalist

For a further 30 min walk please read further.

Mary Neal lived in St Flora’s Road where there is a blue plaque on No. 31, and the Green Lady Hostel in East Street (now a care home) is where she organised holidays for working women. To reach this former hostel, leave Marina Gardens by the way you come in and walk north to the war memorial, cross right to the other side of the road, cross road and walk up Church Approach (with Arun District Council offices on the corner). Walk through the churchyard, cross road and walk up Goda Road. Turn right and cross the busy road. The Green Lady Hostel lies on the north side of the street with a lane running up the side. This lane is also known as the Green Lady and there is a local saying that an old-fashioned dressed woman can be seen walking here in dark evenings. I’ve never seen her but who knows . . .? The blue plaque is erected so high up the building that you need the eyesight of a hawk to read it but perhaps it is placed out of reach of this dark lady for a reason. The plaque states:

Formerly “GREEN LADY HOSTEL” associated with the SUFFRAGETTE MOVEMENT and MARY NEAL English folk dance revivalist

But this is far to the north and ice creams/cups of tea etc. are available from the East Beach café next to the car park which lies due south. To return to South Terrace and the car park walk past the hostel, and right at the roundabout into Fitzalan Road, and walking briskly for 20 minutes straight down to the sea front. Turn left for the car park.

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Supply in Word format with inserted photos and send to  
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