Worthing Archaeological Society Journal

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Courtesy of Amie Friend

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Editor

Dear Members

A happy and peaceful New Year and I hope that this 2015 Worthing Archaeological Society Journal will bring a ray of light into the current January gloom. As you will see it is packed with interesting articles. These include the archaeological report on St Nicholas' Churchyard, the publication of which within a year of excavation is a first for the Society. The Community version of the dig, complete with photographs of participants, by Amie Friend is on our website and includes references to the work of the many schoolchildren and villagers of Angmering who took part.

Other articles vary from a Roman pottery mystery, Roman roads, nineteenth century charcoal burners, a First World War personal investigation, to an article on Operation Nightingale (an archaeological investigation into the Polish piloted Hurricane which came down at Saddlescombe in 1940) and the post-war Polish Resettlement Camp in Petworth Park.

And many thanks to this year's contributors without whom there would be no journal. It is a pleasure to read of members' research and enthusiasms and I look forward to receiving more such articles next year. And an especial thanks to Connie Shirley for her invaluable help.

I hope you will make yourselves comfortable and enjoy this year's offering. Good reading . . .

Cheryl Hutchins
Editor

The Mutilation of Samian Stamps in the Chichester Hinterland

By Gordon Hayden

Introduction

Over the last decade of preparing pottery reports for various archaeological organisations in Hampshire and West Sussex, the writer has noted a peculiar pattern emerging, this being the phenomenon of deliberately removing the manufacturer's stamp on a small number of samian pottery vessels. The vessels in question all date to the early Roman period and are found on rural sites that do not illustrate a high degree of adopting 'Roman' forms of material culture and customs. What follows outlines when, where and how this was done, and proposes a motive for why people in antiquity carried out this practice.

Figure 1. A pre-Flavian South Gaulish samian bowl base from Thorney Island (photograph courtesy of Mike Dunn/Chichester District Archaeology Society).

Figure 2. Above view of a clay plug set in the base of a samian cup from the Goblestubbs Copse West complex (photograph courtesy of Sue Brown).

Chronology and Distribution

A distinct pattern emerges when looking at the phenomena of disfiguring the stamps. Firstly, on present evidence they all, without exception, appear on samian vessels which can be datable to the Claudian-Neronian period. In other words they would fit within a *c*. 43-68 AD date. Secondly, on present evidence where they have originated from a secure archaeological context rather than a surface find, they all appear on samian vessels found on sites where there is a lesser degree of 'Roman' influence. These sites can be classified as farmsteads or enclosures where only the existence of timber structures and/or earthwork enclosures appears to be present. The deliberate removal of the stamp is not found in areas of major Romanized occupation, such as Chichester and Fishbourne, and not seen on rural sites where the adoption of Roman forms of material culture are more evident. These latter rural sites which lack the practice of mutilating samian stamps fall under the 'villa' category, and would include sites where there is definitive evidence of masonry walls, roof tiles, mosaics and hypocaust heating systems.

Modes of Disfigurement

Two forms of disfigurement can be seen on the samian stamps. The most common manner was to scratch out the wording, as can be seen on an unstratified example from Thorney Island (Figure 1). Whilst one could argue the worn condition might have been the result of excessive use, the area adjacent to the stamp is comparatively pristine with the slip coating still virtually intact. The stamp appears to have been effectively scratched out removing even the edges of the stamp die on two sides. This act of removal was most likely carried out using some kind of metal point. Another form of mutilating the stamp can be seen in an example from the Goblestubbs Copse West complex excavated in 1972 (Figures 2 and 3). Here the stamp has been deliberately punched out and the subsequent hole filled with a clay plug (McOmish and Hayden forthcoming). The most likely explanation for this latter manner of disfigurement would be that the small size of the cup and the steep slope of the vessel wall would have prevented adequate defacement using the scratching method (Figure 4). The clay plug indicates that the vessel was still to be of some use to the consumer.

Figure 3. Underside view of a clay plug set in the base of a samian cup from the Goblestubbs Copse West complex (photograph courtesy of Sue Brown).

Figure 4. An early samian form 24/25 cup from the Goblestubbs Copse West complex; note the poor state of this vessel is likely to be a result of the soil conditions rather than use wear (photograph McOmish and Hayden forthcoming).

The Social Significance

The first motivation to consider is the Roman practice of *Damnatio memoriae*, the erasing from the collective memory. In this act images and objects naming a certain person would be obliterated. This practice was usually reserved for emperors who were considered bad or tyrannical such as Nero or Domitian (Russell 2010: 148). However, here we are dealing with pottery produced in South Gaul on a vast industrial scale and therefore unlikely that people in West Sussex would have held grudges against potters living in Gaul. If this scenario had occurred then the complete destruction of vessels would be a more reasonable outcome.

Another consideration would be whether the act of defacement is a deliberate attempt to hide the origin of the vessels if, for example, they had been stolen from their primary users. Though this is a plausible explanation, the fact that all the vessels in question are purely of pre-Flavian date, this would not provide a credible reason for this peculiar practice ceasing *c*. 69 AD. The date of this cessation would further indicate that the first hypothesis set out above is also very unlikely.

The writer therefore proposes the following. The area in question would have been part of the post-Conquest Atrebatic client kingdom which included not only Chichester and its hinterland, but also the areas around Winchester and Silchester (Wacher 1995: 274-275), and consequently outside direct Roman absorption of parts of southern Britain in 43 AD. It has also been further argued that the transitional phase in which specific elements of material culture and practices change, such as transformations in ceramic technology and burial practices, indicate that the client kingdom of the Atrebates/Regni, or at least the area of Chichester and its immediate hinterland, was absorbed fully into the Roman province *c*. 70 AD (Hayden 2011: 45-46). In consequence it is likely that most, if not all, of these particular samian vessels were being used by members of the indigenous population who would have wanted to retain parts of their cultural heritage and practices. In a culture where the written word appears absent or at least to us archaeologically invisible, the act of owning a vessel exhibiting the written word may have been perceived as polluting or dangerous to their society. Possibly this particular form of literacy was too 'Roman' or there was a fear of consuming from a vessel exhibiting the written word; perhaps a fear of being poisoned or changed through the act of consumption.

It is significant that the practice of mutilating samian stamps ceases by the early Flavian period, as this would be roughly a single generational time-span after the Roman Conquest. It could be argued that the older generation, somewhat set in their ways, found this form of literacy too alien, whereas the succeeding generation had grown up in a world with exposure to more 'Roman' forms of material culture, and were therefore more willing to accept new ideas and practices.

References

Hayden, G. 2011. Dialogues in Deposition: a reassessment of early Roman-period burials at St Pancras, Chichester, and other related sites. *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **149**: 35-48.

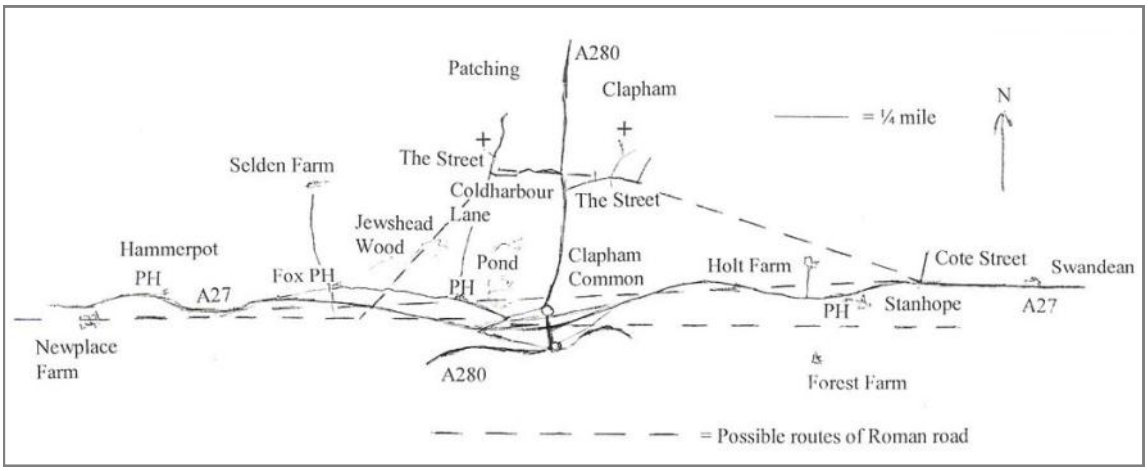
McOmish, D and Hayden, G. forthcoming. Survey and Excavation at Goblestubbs Copse, West Sussex. *Sussex Archaeological Collections* **153**.

Russell, M. 2010. Bloodline: the Celtic Kings of Roman Britain. Stroud: Amberley.

Wacher, J. 1995. *The Towns of Roman Britain, 2nd edition*. London: Routledge.

Roman Road through Clapham and Patching

By Alex Vincent



The Chichester to Brighton Roman road (Margary's No. 153), left Stane Street at Westhampnett about 1¾ miles north-east of Chichester, and went in an easterly direction to Brighton via Arundel, Worthing and Shoreham. It crossed the rivers Arun and Adur by means of a ferry, as these were wide estuaries in Roman times.

The route of the section through Clapham and Patching is uncertain and there are three possible routes it may have taken. The first possible route was thought to run along the A27 at Swandean, Durrington and then slightly north of it at Holt Farm. West of this, it would have gone through Clapham Common (where a tree line may mark it), then to the south of Patching Pond and just south of Arundel Road near the Fox Inn. After this, it went though Hammerpot and past New Place Farm, where a tree line marks it.

The second possible route, being south of the A27 across fields where there is a hollow way (cutting) at Stanhope, and then as an agger (embankment) at Forest Farm, and an agger south of Clapham and a hollow way at Potlands Farm. The latter was destroyed by the A27 Patching bypass. After this, it would have gone south of the A27 at the Fox Inn, then through Hammerpot and past New Place Farm. This is assuming that the Roman road went on a straight east-west alignment.

The third possible route is that the Roman road deviated from its east-west alignment in the Clapham and Patching area. After running along the A27 at Swandean, it went in a north-westerly direction at Cote Street, passing north of Holt Farm and went across fields to the south of a footpath to Clapham. Here, it ran along the western end of The Street, Clapham, then across a field to the north of houses and along the eastern end of Coldharbour Lane , then across a field to Patching.

Possible route of the Roman road along Coldharbour Lane, Patching

On the other hand, the Roman road may have gone along the whole length of Coldharbour Lane via a slight terraceway to Patching. In Patching, the route turned to the south-west along The Street, Patching and through Jewshead Wood towards the Fox Inn where it regained its east-west alignment towards Hammerpot and New Place Farm.

This deviation of the route would have been chosen to avoid Patching Pond and any marshes associated with it. The names "The Street" and "Coldharbour" suggest a Roman road. The latter means "shelter from the cold", and is a construction of some kind such as a hut built along a road to protect travellers in bad weather. The eastern end of Coldharbour Lane is raised, which is typical of Roman roads.

Excavation at St. Nicholas' Garden, Angmering - June 6th to 27th 2015

Compiled by Peter Brannlund and Amie Friend

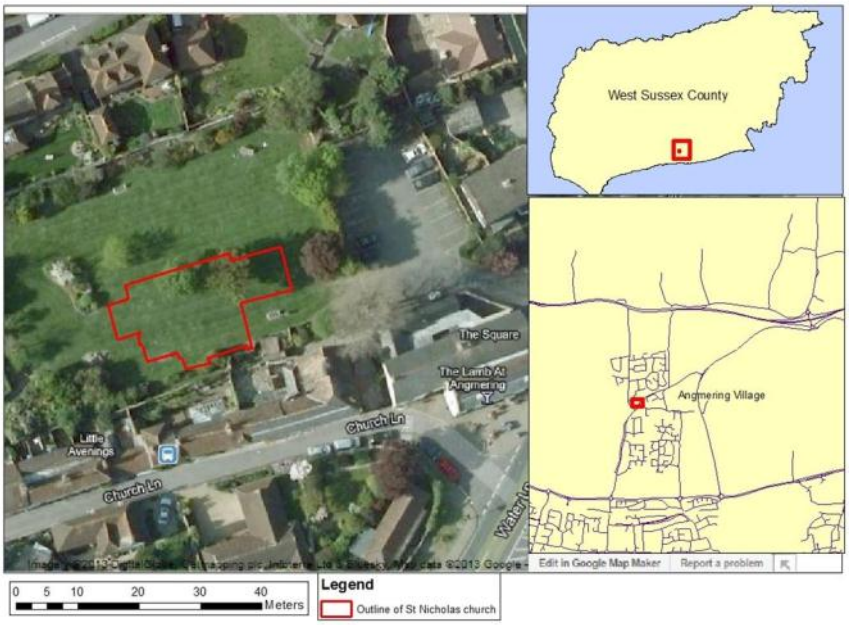


Figure 1. Site location

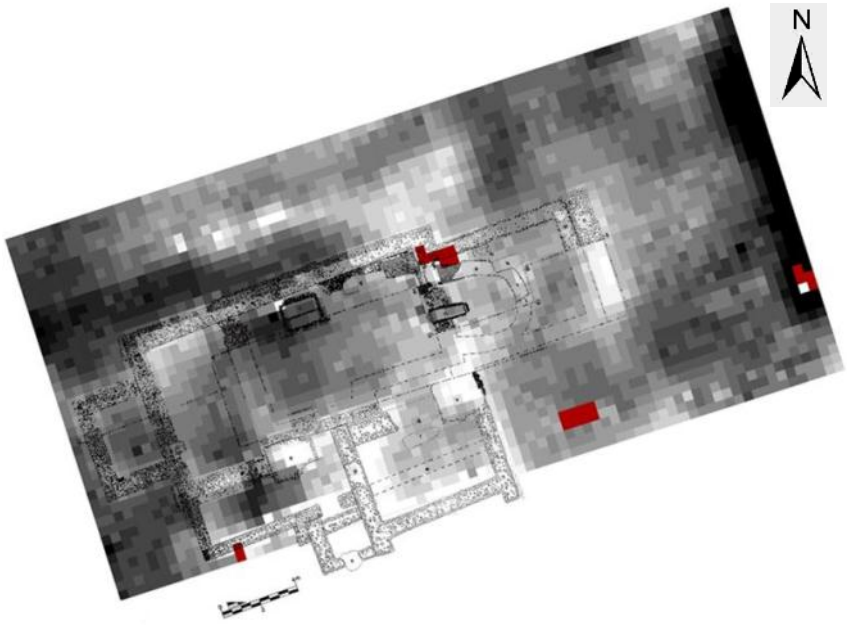


Figure 2. Results of Resistivity survey carried out by WAS

Background to the Project

In 2011 the Parish Council's Environment Committee identified that some of the trees planted in the gardens were dying, possibly because they had been planted over the archaeological remains. It was decided that there needed to be an investigation of the site to determine the exact location of the archaeology in order to ensure that future plantings were not in archaeologically sensitive areas of the site. This investigation would consist of three phases;

Phase 1 A non-invasive survey of the site to accurately locate the position of the building uncovered by Bedwin's excavations.

Phase 2 A community orientated excavation to confirm these locations and to investigate any further features thrown up by Phase1.

Phase 3 To mark out the foundations in a manner as yet undecided. In addition it is hoped to install a story board at the two entrances of the garden and write the history of the site and display the findings of the dig in the library or new heritage centre that is currently under discussion.

Worthing Archaeological Society was approached with a view to carry out Phase I of this investigation, i.e. a geophysical survey of the site. A WAS team, led by Mr P Skilton, conducted a resistivity survey of the available area in 2014. From the results obtained (see Figure 2) it was possible to identify the exact location of key features of the building revealed by Bedwin's excavation, as well as identify an area of potential archaeological interest to the north of the known building.

This report covers phase 2 of the project, i.e. the excavation.

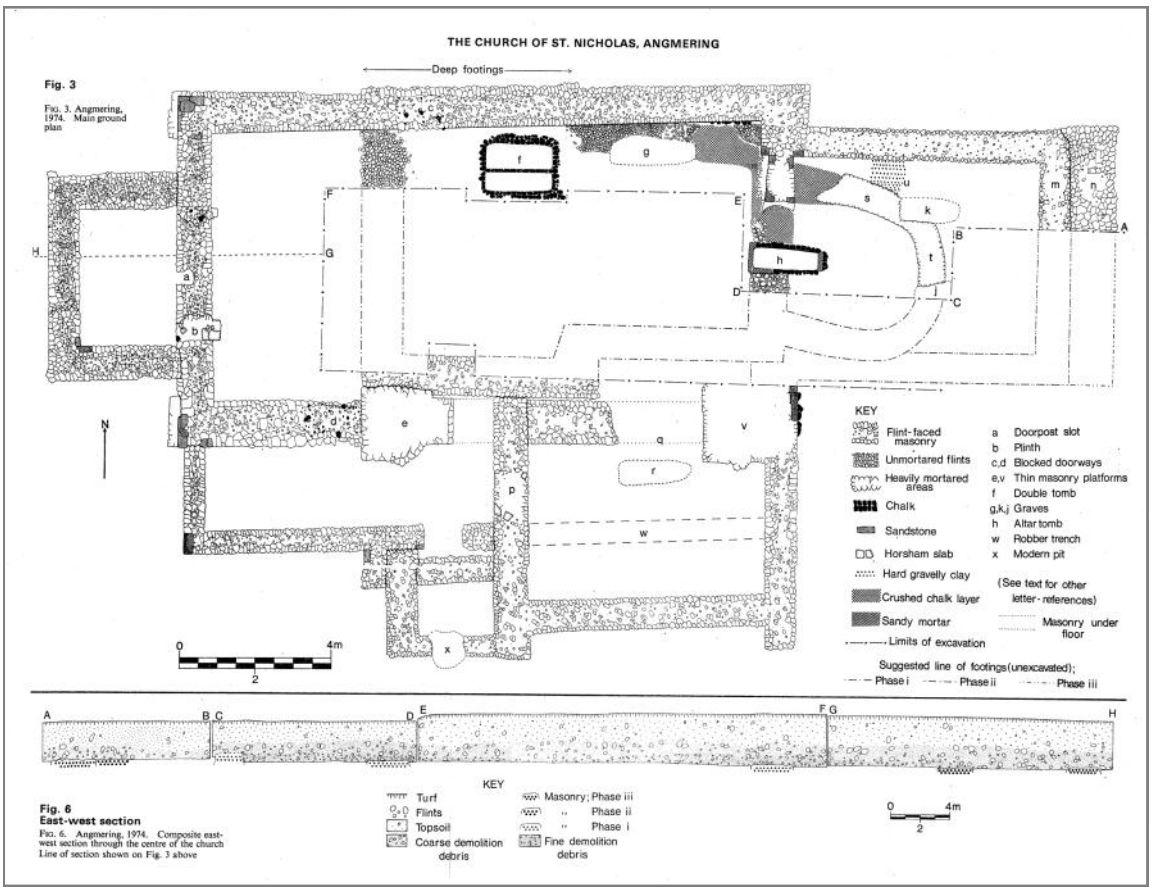


Figure 3. Plan of site produced by O. Bedwin (1974)

Site Location and Geology

The site is in the parish of Angmering, centred on TQ067044, at a height of c.15m above sea level, see Figure 1. It is in the centre of Angmering Village and is accessed by two entrances, to the east from the car park of The Lamb public house, the other western entrance being from the Library. The site forms a small 'plateau', with the ground sloping away from it to the east, south and west, and consists of a grassed area approximately 30m by 50m which slopes gently to the south and surrounded by borders of shrubs. The southern boundary is marked by a sharp slope of 3 to 4m into the back yards/gardens of a row of houses (Church Lane), to the north the boundary is a housing estate. Now known as St Nicholas' garden, the old name for the site is the 'lynchening field', which translates from the Anglo-Saxon as burial ground.

Geologically, there is a thin soil layer, below which is the Hamble Series of silty drift which overlies Tertiary Clays.

Historic Background

Angmering is mentioned in the Doomsday Book, where it is referred to as 'Angemare' or 'Langemare'. The present parish was formerly the three separate parishes of West Angmering, East Angmering and Bargham. As a result of the Reformation, these three parishes were amalgamated in 1573, with St Margaret's (formerly of West Angmering and 150m west of our site) adopted as the sole church for the new parish. St Nicholas' was then demolished, although the exact date that this occurred is the subject of debate. The historic record only allows us to establish usage up to 1559, for which there is a record of internments taking place in the graveyard.

After demolition, the land remained in the ownership of the Church. The enclosure map of 1809 shows it had not been built upon; the 1838 tithe describes it as 'gardens'. In the last century it was the playing field of the Primary School (now the Public Library to the west of the site). When the school was closed, the site was purchased for development. Planning permission was sought but was turned down. The site was purchased in 1975 by Mr & Mrs Oberman, who then sold it to Arun District Council. Angmering Parish Council leased it in 1978, maintaining it as an open space in the village.

Archaeological Background

When planning permission was applied for in the early 1970s, it drew the attention of the Sussex Archaeological Field Unit, led by Dr Owen Bedwin, who began a short trial excavation in September 1974. The local community provided help to the degree that it grew far beyond its original objectives. As a result the majority of the structure was uncovered over a five week excavation (see Figure 3), and as a result, Bedwin was able to recognise four phases of development for the church starting in the Saxon period (see Figure 4).

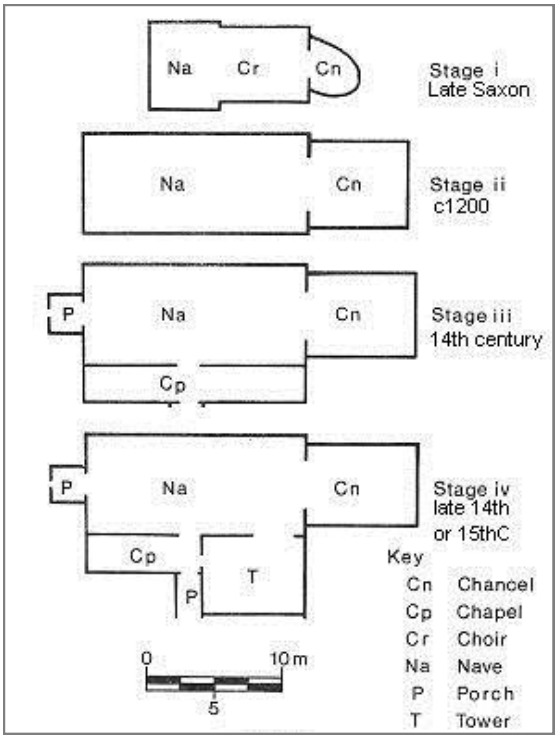


Figure 4. The development of St Nicholas' Church after Bedwin (1974)

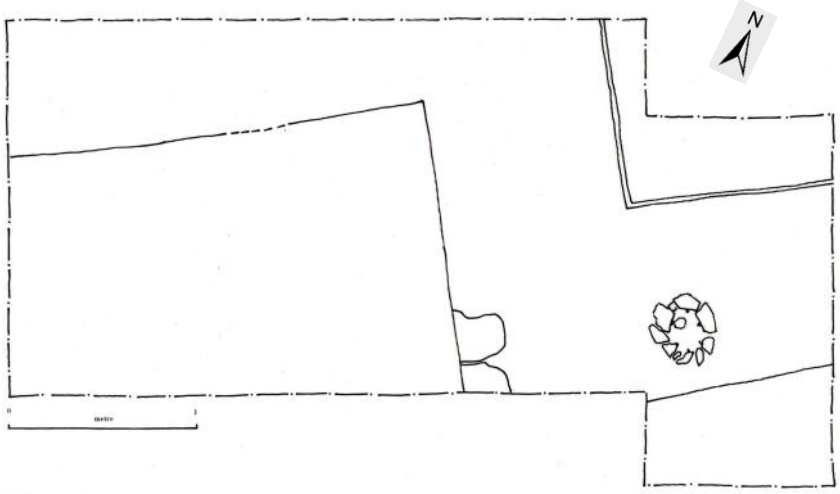


Figure 5. WAS excavation 2015, Trench A

The 2015 Excavations

Objectives

The project design identified the following three archaeological objectives.

- To locate the church building excavated by Bedwin in 1974
- To investigate the geophysical anomaly (as identified in Phase 1) to the north of the known building
- To investigate the relationship between the late Saxon and 12th century chancels

Four trenches were planned and excavated to test these objectives.

Trench A

This was dug to a depth of 70cm, walls being encountered at 60cm, see Figure 5 and Plate 1. The walls were built of flints in mortar with the exception of two dressed sandstone blocks on the outer surface of the north-south running portion. Three parts of the structure appear to be represented:-

- The south wall of Bedwin's porch;
- The north –south running wall that forms the western wall of the nave and continues as the west wall of Bedwin's side chapel;
- The wall east-west wall that divides the nave and side chapel.

These are built into each other so would appear to represent a single building phase. There were two features of note, the first being a flint and mortar free 'pit' within the nave/side chapel portion (context 141). It is possible that this represents the hole in which a piece of timber was placed during construction, a technique which is common during the period in question. The second was the presence of white plaster on the inside of the walls that formed the nave.

Plate 1. Trench A

Figure 6 WAS excavation 2015, Trench B

Trench B

Excavated to a depth of 60cm, with wall at a depth of 50cm, see Figure 6 and Plate 2. The construction was identical to trench A, i.e. flints in mortar, with larger flints forming the facing. Running the length of the trench was the southern wall, and its eastern return, of Bedwin's tower. There was also the suggestion of a buttress at its eastern end, though lack of space prevented excavation to confirm this.

Plate 2. Trench B

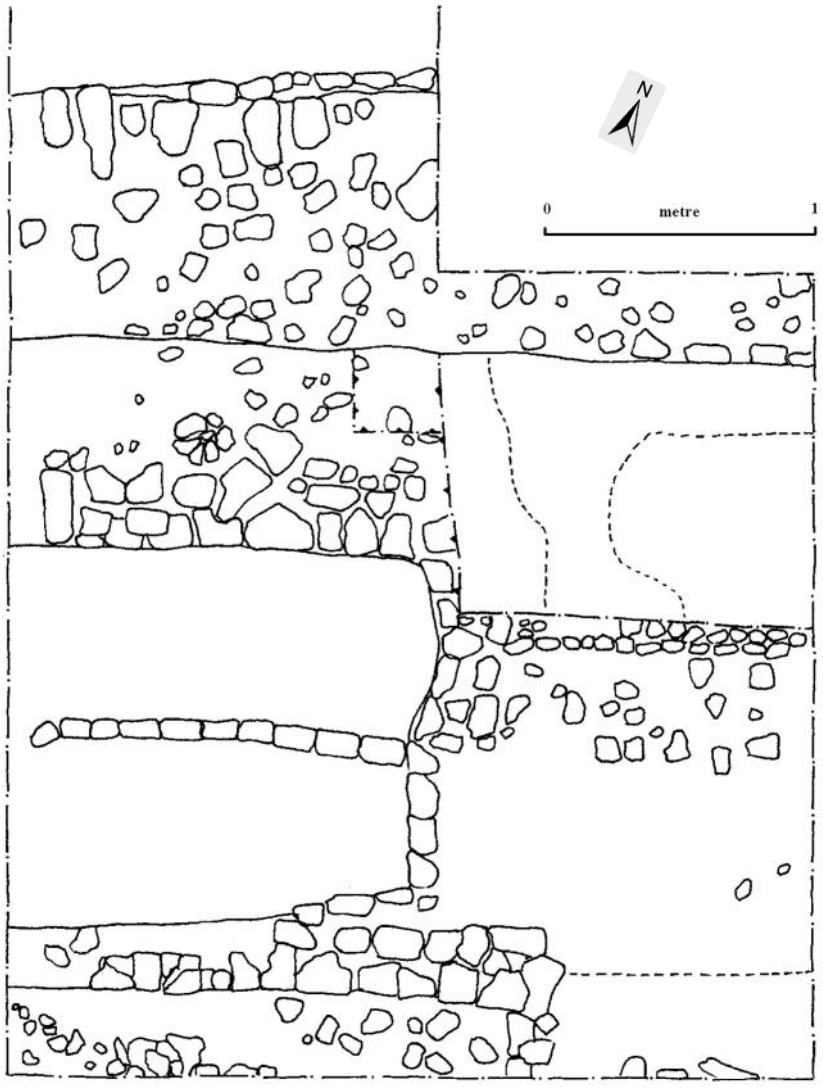


Figure 7a. WAS excavation 2015, Trench C, plan of southern part

Trench C

This L shaped trench had two objectives, the first being to position the north wall of the nave. As expected, it was found in the southern 'arm' of the trench at a depth of 30cm, see Figure 7a. The wall, which was just under 100 cm wide, was very well made of flints in mortar, the northern outside face showing one course of large flints facing it. Beneath this single course, the wall/foundations sloped slightly outwards. The southern edge was faced with a fine, white plaster layer which extended to a depth of 35cm, becoming slightly pitted and broken in the bottom 10cm.

Plate 3. Trench C, southern part

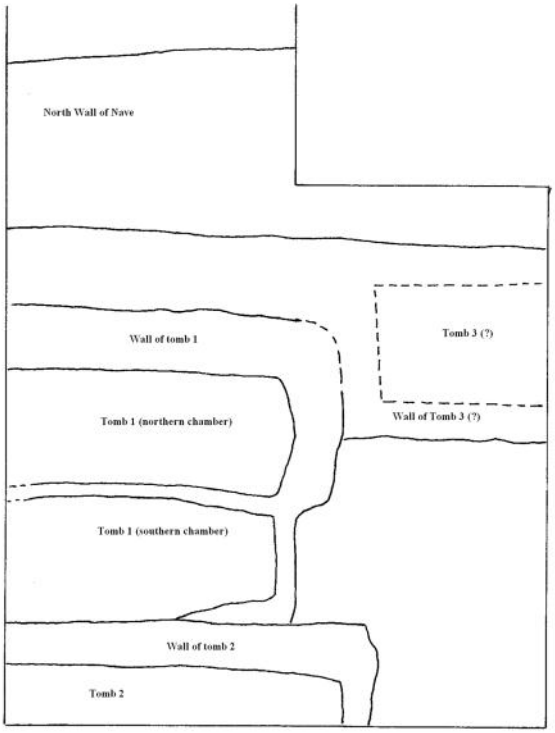


Figure 7b. WAS excavation 2015, Trench C, interpretation of southern part

To the south of the wall, i.e. inside the nave of the church, was series of structures that would have been below floor level, and almost certainly represent tombs, see Plate 3. Tomb 1 was a well-made double tomb constructed of chalk blocks, with a thin chalk wall separating the two chambers, the interiors of which were plastered. The area between the northern wall of the tomb and the nave wall was filled with flints packed in clay. Tomb 2 was south of Tomb 1. Again built of well laid chalk blocks, it cuts the wall of Tomb 1 and therefore appears to post-date it. A further wall-like feature, consisting of tightly packed flints in a clay matrix may represent a further tomb (Tomb 3 on Figure 7b) to the east of Tomb 1, if so it appears to have been cut by Tomb 1 and therefore pre-dates it.

The second objective of Trench C was to investigate the resistivity anomaly noticed in the 2014 survey. Figure 8 shows the northern part of Trench C where two relatively modern features were located. To the west was a man-hole, built of brick with glazed piping, all dating to the second half of the 20th century, see Plate 4. To the east was a large, 2.3m by 1.1m (the latter being the minimum as the full extent of the structure was not excavated) brick structure, capped, and sealed, by three concrete plinths, see Figure 8. Two further test pits were excavated to investigate the resistivity anomaly, Trenches E & F. The former showed a homogeneous layer of packed clay with flints extending to a depth in excess of 70cm. Trench F produced an area of loosely packed bricks enclosing a drain, and was on a line with man-hole and enclosed brick feature seen in trench C.

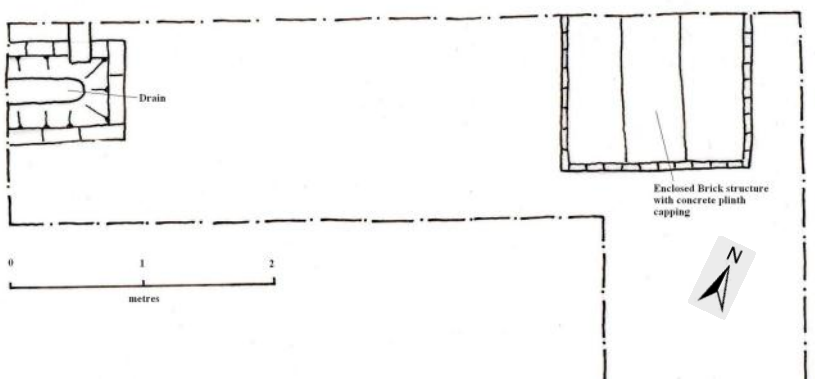


Figure 8. WAS excavation 2015, Trench C, northern part

Plate 4. Trench C , drain

Plate 5. Trench D, eastern part

Plate 6. Trench D, cut sandstone

Trench D

This was located over an area unexcavated by Bedwin's team, and sited to investigate the southern half of the chancel. Originally planned at 2m by 2m, it was extended during the course of the excavation.

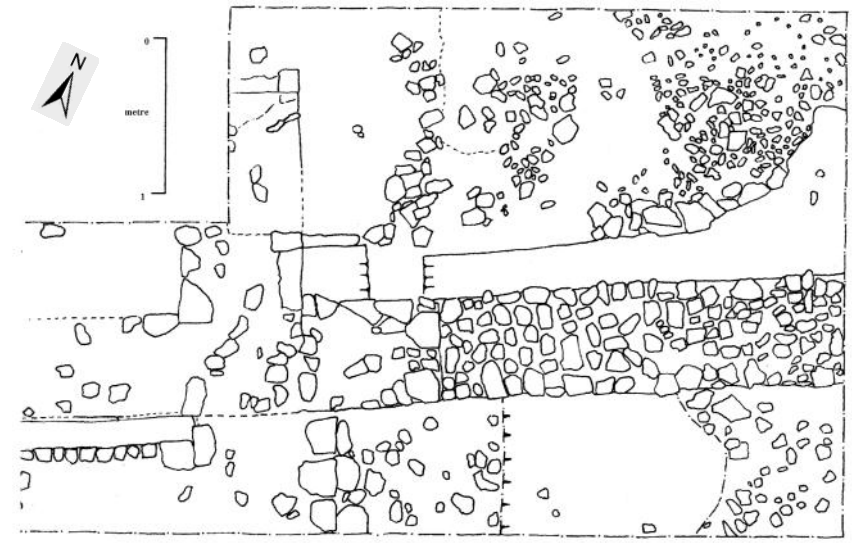
The features observed at the eastern end of the trench are shown in Figure 9 and Plate 5, with the Norman chancel wall prominent. Constructed of flints in mortar, it was c.70cm wide running east-west, with evidence of the flint being worked and laid to provide a facing. Separated from this by a gap of c.15cm was the Saxon chancel wall, also of flints in mortar but with some worked sandstone blocks providing a facing.

At the western end, this wall ran roughly parallel to the Norman wall for about 1.6m before curving away to the north, mirroring what Bedwin recorded for the northern half of the chancel. The gap between the two walls was filled with a fine, orangey sand. Running north from the Norman wall, and closing the gap between the two walls was a flint and mortar construction, possibly representing the structure dividing the Norman nave and chancel.

This arrangement of walls encloses a small area (c.30x20cm), the presence of which was defined by well dressed, large (up to 20x15x15cm) sandstone blocks on two faces. It is possible that this construction represents the Norman piscine, see Plate 6. Figure 8a shows the current author's interpretation of the features seen in the eastern part of Trench D.

Laying over the earlier, Saxon wall and extending into the northern part of the trench was a layer of mortar with small (<0.5cm) flints, probably representing the sub-floor of the chancel. This mortar contained the 'imprint' of a large, 86x24cm feature, most likely formed when a large flagstone was laid onto the still wet mortar. Also present, laying on top of the mortar were several broken, plain ceramic floor tiles. This mortared surface survived well on the western side but appeared to have been removed to the east, where demolition rubble in the form of loose flints was recorded.

The western part of Trench D was only partially excavated due to time constraints. Over much of it, the demolition rubble was not removed sufficiently to reveal any extant features. What was noted was a well marked 'drain' that appears to run along the south side of the nave wall, terminating at the eastern wall of the structure Bedwin ascribes as the tower. 1.8m in length and 11cm wide, it was defined and faced by worked chalk blocks, see figure 10.



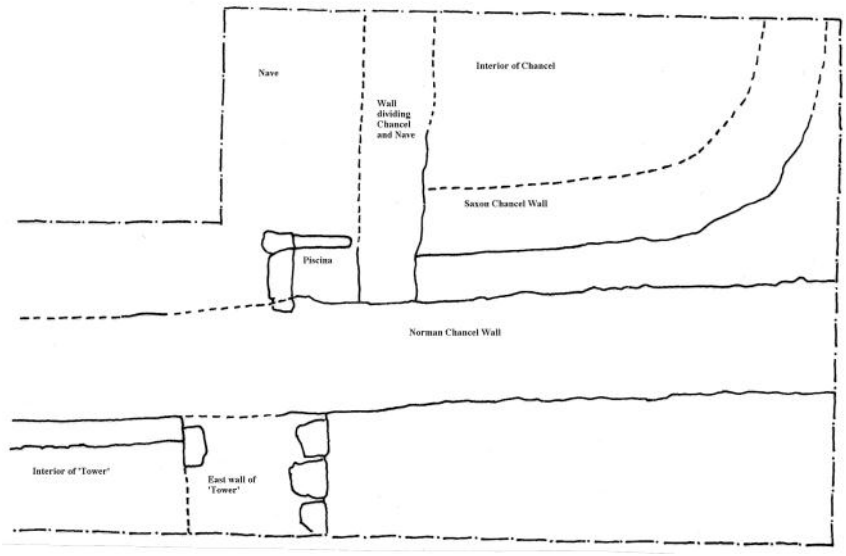


Figure 9. Trench D,
a. (above) plan of eastern part
b. (below) interpretation

Figure 10, WAS excavations, 2015, Trench D, central part

Plate 7. Trench D, bone assemblage

Human remains were encountered in two places within trench D. The first was between the Saxon and Norman walls (see figure 9a), where a skull was found and left *in situ*. The individual was small, the arch of the skull and fragility of the bone suggesting an infant very close to full term, possibly still born. The internment appears to have been deliberate, the remains being placed very carefully between the two walls. There are only really two possibilities of when this could have taken place as the gap between the two walls would have had to have been known about. Either the child was laid to rest during the construction of the Norman chancel, or when the church was finally demolished.

The second set of human remains was found in the western part of trench D, see Figure 10 and Plate 7. This consisted of a jumble of bones, many broken, amongst the demolition rubble, all contained within an area smaller than 60x60cm. A total of 130 bones or bone fragments were lifted from amongst the rubble, analysis of which showed the presence of at least 2 individuals. The position and condition of these remains suggests that when the church was demolished at least some of the tombs inside it were opened and robbed for building materials, the bones of the occupants being discarded as waste.

Discussion

On completion of the excavation it was possible to overlay the results onto Bedwin's plan, see Figure 11. This shows an excellent correlation and provides the Parish Council with the ability to now accurately locate the entire layout of St.Nicholas' (objective 1). A more detailed examination of this shows that Bedwin's plan was incorrect in its conjecture as to the shape of the Saxon chancel. Bedwin suggests that the Norman wall would cut over this; clearly this is not the case and will allow for a more accurate plan of the relative chancels to be drawn.

The current excavators also have difficulty in agreeing with Bedwin's interpretation of the function of the various rooms within the church structure. If one considers the siting of the church, one is struck by the fact that it was constructed so close to a considerable change in slope. The church itself was on an area that slopes gently towards the south. However, about 2.5m immediately to the south of the church there is a change in gradient that drops steeply down c.5m to the houses in Church Lane, their back gardens being formed by this slope. To the south of Church Lane is the low lying, flatter area that now forms the centre of the village, with shops and other buildings either side of Water Lane. Now culverted below ground, this is also the site of the river that drains the area. There is considerable written evidence that this area was a lot wetter in the past, indeed the enclosure map of 1809 shows it to be the site of a pond running from the Lamb Inn to the junction with the Arundel road. The presence of a steep slope with wet land below would have presented problems when constructing the church. This can be seen in the archaeology, the WAS excavations suggesting the buttressing of the wall in Trench A also seen by Bedwin, who interprets the east room south of the nave as a tower. If this was the case, then it would have presented severe structural engineering problems, with a tall heavy structure almost immediately adjacent to a steep slope with wet land below, and would have required the use of much more substantial buttressing than that suggested by the excavations. For this reason, the current authors believe that it is much more likely that the tower was at the western end of the church in keeping with the vast majority of churches along the Sussex coastal strip.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due the following:-
Arun District Council for permission to excavate on their land;
Angmering Parish Council for organising funding and support for the excavation:
The residents of Angmering, whose interest, encouragement and participation made it so worthwhile.

Reference

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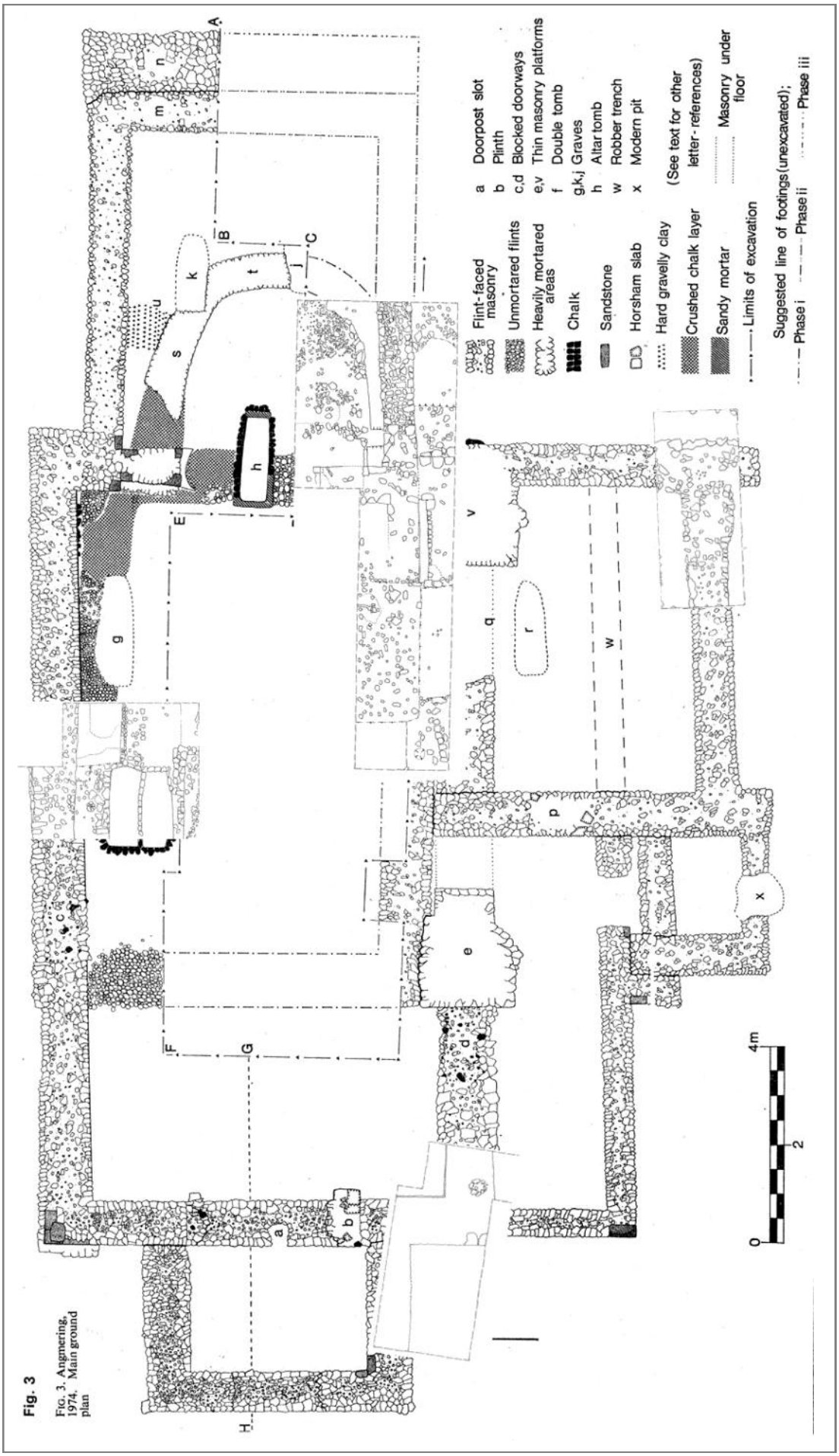

Figure 11. The final plan for trenches A, b, C and D (2015) overlaid on Bedwin's plan.

THE FINDS - *Compiled by Gill Turner*

This report is an overview of the finds recovered from the 2015 excavation. More detailed information is contained in the Finds Archive and can be accessed on request.

The majority of the finds were recovered from the topsoil and the backfill from Owen Bedwin's 1974 excavation. They are wide-ranging and cover a considerable period from Early Medieval, when the Church was rebuilt in the Norman style, through to modern times and reflect changes from the demolition of the Church to school playing field, allotments and gardens. There is also evidence of much earlier activity on the site from a small number of worked flint finds dating from the Late Mesolithic to the Late Bronze Age.

Only a few Medieval finds were recovered from secure contexts, notably painted/stained glass window fragments, painted wall plaster, decorated floor tiles and a few sherds of 14th/15th C pottery. Similar finds were recovered by Bedwin (1974, 31 & 32) from his excavation.

SF26 Medieval Large Dish 14th / 15th C

105 China Candlestick 20th C

SF558 China Doll Head 19th C

105 White Stoneware 18th / 19th C

POTTERY

The earliest pottery recovered is from the 12th/13th C but unfortunately all seven sherds of cooking or storage vessels were found in the topsoil and backfill. There are one or two green glazed handles and some sherds with partial decoration from Baluster Jugs dating to the 13th/14th C and a late 14th C rim from an unglazed vessel with applied and thumbed decoration.

The majority of the 14th/15th C pottery appears to be West Sussex ware and likely to be from the Binsted kiln. Many of the sherds are unglazed but some have green glaze splashes, either externally or internally, and are likely to be from jugs or large dishes and bowls. One large dish sherd with internal green splashed glaze and white painted decoration on the rim was recovered from a secure context in Trench D.

Examples of the later West Sussex painted ware, oxidised and reduced, of the 15th/16th C have also been recovered.

The transition to the Post Medieval period of the 16th C is represented by sherds probably from jugs of Surrey whitewares known as 'Tudor Green' that continued into the early 17th C. Stoneware sherds were also found from the 17th C from German Bellarmine jugs or bottles and from the highly decorated blue and grey Westerwald tankards or jugs as well as from English Stoneware vessels.

The 18th C is represented by the early industrially produced Staffordhsire slipware with combed/ feathered decoration, delftware, tin-glazed, white salt-glazed and cream wares. Other finds from this period include local glazed and unglazed red earthenware in the form of bowls, dishes and plates.

The vast majority of the pottery is of 19th/20th C date and in the case of topsoil contexts only representative samples have been retained. These include white and brown stonewares, English porcelain, bone china, blue & white transfer printed and plain white and coloured wares. The later patterned examples would appear to date to the 1950's/1960's. Local glazed red earthenware pottery for the kitchen and unglazed flower pots are also present from the 19th/20th C.

Unusual items recovered from the period include the head of a china doll and fragments from china ornaments and ceramic marbles from glass Cod bottles.

SF716 Glass Bottle 19th / 20th C

105 Clay Pipe Acorn Type, Lewes 19th C

105 Clay Pipe Steyning 17th C

SF23 Medieval Painted Wall Plaster 14th / 15th C

105 Medieval Painted Floor Tile 14th / 15th C

GLASS

As previously mentioned, eight fragments of Medieval painted and stained Glass were recovered, mainly from Trench D. Most are small and degraded but two are dull red/brown in colour with obvious decoration and similar to those found by Bedwin (1974, 32). These are likely to date to the 14th/15th C.

There are some fragments from 17th/18th C globular bottles but the majority date to vessels and window glass from the 19th/20th C and again, only representative samples have been retained. More decorative examples are fragments of a cut glass bowl and a brightly coloured hand painted vessel. Also found were coloured children's marbles.

CLAY PIPE

Most of the pipes that could be identified are Sussex made, the earliest being from Steyning and Arundel c. late 17th C. Others date to the late 18th and 19th C including an acorn type made in Lewes, a basket design type by Pipemaker Stephen Leigh of Chichester, a stem from Horsham Pipemaker H. Harrington as well as a fish head stem from an angler's type and a bowl fragment from a figurehead type that could date to the early 20th C.

PAINTED WALL PLASTER

Only a few small fragments of Medieval painted wall plaster were recovered mostly from Trench D and none 'in situ'. Several are painted dark red with definite blue/black traces of possible decoration and one fragment has yellow paint. Bedwin (1974, 31) suggests that there may well have been murals within parts of the Church.

GLAZED AND PAINTED FLOOR TILES

A virtually complete Medieval yellow painted glazed tile was found and a number of fragments from two-colour yellow and red inlaid decorated tiles together with fragments of olive green glazed tiles. None was found 'in situ'. Again similar tiles were found by Bedwin(1974, 31) and he suggests a date of 14th/15th C.

BUILDING MATERIAL

A few fragments of Medieval glazed and unglazed crenellated crested ridge tiles were found.

Only representative samples were retained of the brick and tile and include roof peg tiles and plain floor tiles of probable Medieval date together with bricks from the Post-Medieval and Modern periods. Horsham Stone used for roofing and floors was also found across the site including two found 'in situ' in Trench D. Also worked stone and worked chalk building material were recovered.

SF503 Whale Bone Corset Stay 19th C

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

A fragment of a jet object of unknown date was found in Trench A. Worked bone items include a Victorian whale bone corset stay, a fragment from a domino inset and the base of a nail brush.

Items were also found relating to when part of the site was a School Playing Field. These range from a ceramic inkwell and paint palette to graphite slate pencils and a school rubber.

ANIMAL BONE AND SHELL

Butchered animal bone was found mainly in Trench A and D, most if not all from sheep and cattle. A dog fish/shark vertebra was also found in Trench A.

Oyster, Whelk, Scallop and Mussel shells were found across the site.

WORKED FLINT

The flint assemblage is small and includes a few identifiable tools from the Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic of knives, notched blades and a burin, Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age scrapers and Late Bronze Age scrapers and piercers.

METALWORK - *Compiled by Liz Walker*

There were 173 pieces of metal including coins, copper alloy and iron objects which are predominately 18th to 20th C in date. All but one were recovered from open contexts.

COINS

A total of seventeen coins were recovered. Twelve of these are modern coinage of Elizabeth II. The other coins are as follows:

- Incomplete Medieval silver long cross penny, possibly Edward I, 1300-1310 AD, Class 9b or 10 ab
- Rose farthing, single rose type II, no initial mark, Tower mint
- 1871 Queen Victoria silver 3 pence
- 1891 Victorian copper alloy farthing
- An illegible Post Medieval copper alloy coin (x-ray showed this may have been subject to a piercing above the head).

JEWELLERY

There are six pieces of jewellery/dress accessories which are all modern in date. This includes two copper alloy and coloured glass pendants, small badges, a marcasite dog brooch and a possible Victorian mourning brooch.

BUTTONS

There are a total of sixty-three buttons. These are mainly copper alloy dandy, tombac, livery and dungaree buttons. Some still have traces of gilding and some of the dungaree buttons have lettering giving details of traders from Lewes and London's Edgware Road and Pentonville.

OTHER COPPER ALLOY ARTEFACTS

- Two whole and three fragments of thimbles. Two thimbles have waffle tops and one fragment is hand punched
- A barrel tap key AD 1650-1850
- Two chafing dish handles
- Decorative inlay and furniture mounts
- Five buckles and one belt spacer

IRON OBJECTS

The iron objects are in a poor corroded condition with extensive mineralisation. They include a large key, two clothes hooks, a lino blade, a cutting blade and eight heel plates for shoes or boots. There is also a small animal shoe and a small bone handled penknife.

LEAD ALLOY

There were eight lead objects including a possible gaming piece, a crowned pan weight and a cloth seal.

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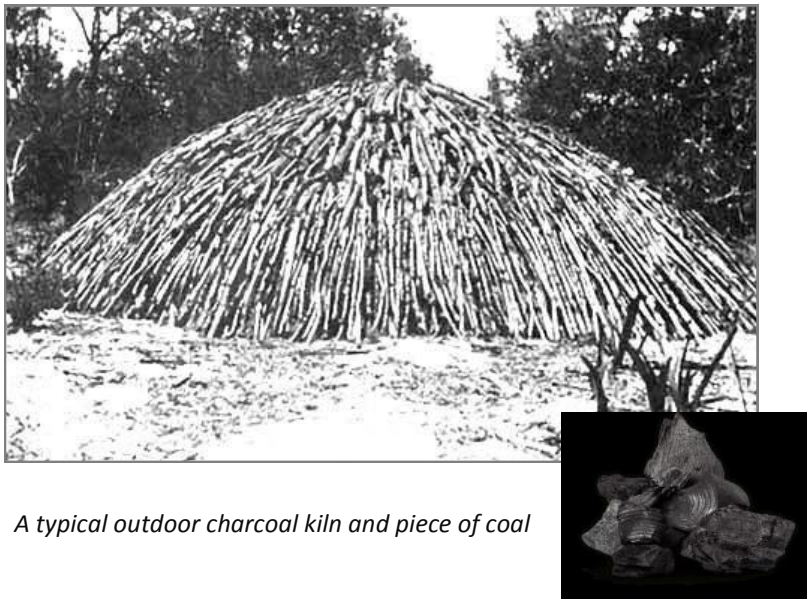
Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the assistance provided by Stephanie Smith, Finds Liaison Officer (Portable Antiquities Scheme) Sussex Archaeological Society in identification of the metal finds. Also thanks to Gordon Hayden, Bob Turner and the Finds Team for help on site and in processing the finds.

Slindon Charcoal Burners

By Rodney Gunner



A typical outdoor charcoal kiln and piece of coal

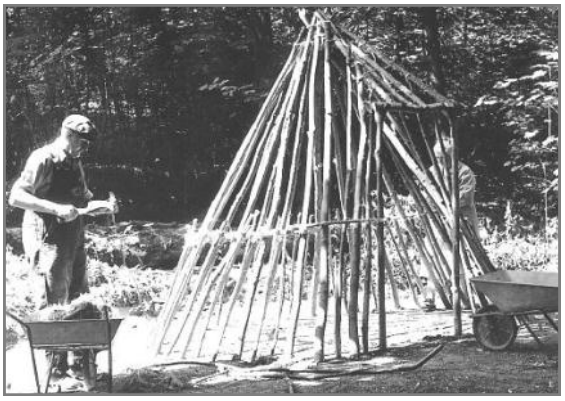
History and Technique

Charcoal is a light, black residue, consisting of carbon and any remaining ash, obtained by removing water and other volatile constituents from animal and vegetation substances. Charcoal is usually produced by slow pyrolysis, the heating of wood or other substances in the absence of oxygen. It is usually an impure form of carbon as it contains ash; however, sugar charcoal is among the purest forms of carbon readily available, particularly if it is not made by heating but by a dehydration reaction with sulfuric acid to minimise the introduction of new impurities, as impurities can be removed from the sugar in advance. The resulting soft, brittle, lightweight, black, porous material resembles coal.

Since the Iron Age, high temperatures have had to be produced for iron smelting, for glassmaking and for the working of precious metals. Charcoal has been used to do this for centuries and, in order to produce it, entire forests were felled. With the increasing use of stone coal from the 18th century, the charcoal burning industry declined.

Even in ancient times, charcoal was manufactured in kilns. Logs were arranged in a conical heap (a charcoal kiln or pile) around posts; a fire shaft was made using brushwood and wood chips and

Jean-Francois Millet 1814—1889 'The Charcoal Burner's Hut', drawing in charcoal (6).



Building the clamp. Mr and Mrs Langridge building a hut at the Weald & Downland Museum (5)

covered with an airtight layer of grass, moss and earth. The pile was ignited inside the fire shaft and, at a temperature of between 300 and 350 ° C, the carbonization process began. The process took six to eight days - in large kilns several weeks - during which time the charcoal burner had to control the draught (by piercing small holes and resealing them), being careful neither to allow the pile to go out nor let it go up in flames. By observing the smoke exiting the kiln, the charcoal burner could assess the state of the carbonization process. If the smoke was thick and grey, the wood was still raw; thin, blue smoke indicated good carbonization.

Uses

Charcoal has been used since earliest times for a large range of purposes including art and medicine, but by far its most important use has been as a metallurgical fuel.

Charcoal is the traditional fuel of a blacksmith's forge and other applications where an intense heat is required. Charcoal was also used historically as a source of carbon black by grinding it up. In this form charcoal was important to early chemists and was a constituent of formulas for mixtures such as powder., An ingredient of gunpowder Due to its high surface area charcoal can be used as a filter, and as a catalyst or as an adsorbent.

In earlier times, charcoal burners led an austere, lonely life. They had to live near the kiln, usually in a charcoal burner's huts .During the Middle Ages, charcoal burners were ostracised. Their profession was considered dishonourable and they were frequently accused of evil practices. Even today there is certain denigration this former occupation. In the German language to have a charcoal burner's faith (*Köhlerglauben*) is to have blind faith. Due to the continuing requirement to keep the kiln at the right temperature, and carbon monoxide rising from the kiln it can be assumed that anxiety, lack of sleep, other psychological disorders and burn scars were part of the job.(1).

The Slindon Charcoal burners' lives were very lonely, they lived and worked in the area of North Wood. It is difficult to know when the practice was first started on the estate, but around the early 17th century seems to be around the time.

Charcoal was produced for various trades, iron working would have been one, blacksmithing another, plus charcoal was used for cooking.

The families lived more or less full time in the woods, they built their own huts, sometimes they had caravans, but this would have been later on. The life was harsh, very cold in the winter and it must have been very damp inside the huts.

During the summer months conditions would have been much better but the air was always full of smoke from the kilns, and this of course would have been breathed in, leading to various illnesses, carbon monoxide being the most common. This destroyed the lungs and heart over a period of time, and a slow death followed. Burns to the body was another hazard; arms being the most affected areas, and because the lack of cleanliness, burns would often turn septic.

The life was harsh, what is not always fully understood, is that the Charcoal burners were a part of the estate life, being employed in the winter months by landowners to clear scrub and bracken for no wages. In return for clearing scrub and bracken they were then allowed to burn wood into charcoal, some would have to go to the landowner for no cost to them, the rest could then be sold by the burners as they wished. This really was a hard life, many families lived in near poverty a lot of the time.

The women may have some work in the great house on the estate, but this would have been well below stairs, such as cleaning out the stables, helping in the kitchens washing up. For this they

usually were paid in kind, perhaps with a little money as well.

The children born in the woods grew up knowing nothing about life outside their compound, boys taking on jobs as soon as able to assist the men. Schooling was minimal; some lucky ones may have gone to the local school, but only when they were not needed to help the men. Girls would have to help their mothers from an early age, jobs would include spinning wool to make clothes, and some of the raw wool being collected from the fields and donations from sheep shearers whom they would have helped with clearing up after a session of shearing. It was common for the girls to be married off as young as twelve years of age, often in exchange for a little money, cooking and cleaning. With boys they would also have hunted for rabbits, and of course anything else they could catch and eat. (Poaching was rife).

Saint Alexander of Comana (died c. 251), known as "the charcoal burner", was Bishop of Comana in Pontus. Whether he was the first to occupy that see is open to discussion. The saint's curious name comes from the fact that he had, out of humility, taken up the work of burning charcoal, so as to escape worldly honours. He is noted for being exceptionally filthy and dirt. (4).


Charcoal burners and huts

The above two photos are subject to copyright, (2).

The top photo shows the construction of a typical hut, turf sides, dark inside, but insulated against the cold. It was a harsh life.

The average life span for these workers was forty one years for the men, and only 35 years for the women, lower for the women because they often had many children. Child mortality was high, many dying before their second birthday.

Tending the clamp

Building the clamp (3)

Photographs shown below

A. Taken in 1900, it shows a family, Son and Daughter and young child, it suggest that they all live in one hut, this was not unusual. The young woman is dressed up; perhaps it's a Mayday or Easter. The men look very poorly dressed in cheap clothing. Note the besom broom leaning by the door. This type of broom would have been made by the family and sold locally.

B. A little boy by a hut taken around 1890s, you can see how basic the huts were, made of poles and earth , very dark inside, the bed would have been made of bracken and straw.

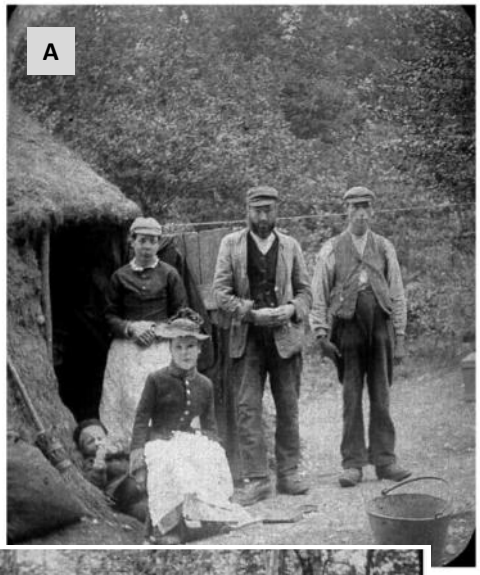
C. This is the same boy, taken 1890s, you can see that the cooking was basic and done outside over an open fire. The boy is wearing a cloak, which would have been made of a blanket type material.

D. A caravan more well off family would have lived in this; it would have had a cooking stove inside and proper beds, warmer in the winter and much dryer. Note the women holding a baby. There is a three legged stall by the wheel, always made in the woods.

E. Working the clamp, a dangerous job, always breathing in smoke and dangerous gasses. The clamp had to be attended 24 hours a day, making sure the temperature was correct, not burning too fast or too slow.

F. Showing children in the camp, they would have posed for the photo, keeping still for up to 3mins. Note the barrow used to transport the wood from the cutting down areas to the camp and kilns. The barrels would be for storage, water, food.

Slindon, circa 1900.
A family group of charcoal burners outside one of their huts in North Wood.
Picture taken and enhanced from a glass lantern slide.



Picture taken and enhanced from a glass lantern slide. Subject to copyright

The location of the main camp, it's adjacent to the location of the WW1 prison camp. North Wood. There are reminders on the surface, slight mounds, and some charcoal still to be found just underneath the present surface.

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3. Photos Robin Upton/ Rodney Gunner.

4. *Christie, Albany James (1867). "Carbonarius Alexander". In William Smith. Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology **1**. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. p. 115.*

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John Frederick Jervis (1891—1915)

By Liz Lane, (Tower Captain of St Botolph's Campanologists)

Private John Frederick Jervis, Heene, Sussex.
Died 25/09/1915 Age 24 Royal Sussex Regiment 9th Battalion. Service No. G/3780

Commemorated at Loos Memorial, France, Panels 69 to 73.
"Son of John Henry and Flora Jervis, of 116, Becket Rd., Tarring, Worthing.
Born: Worthing Enlisted: Worthing Resided: Worthing"

John Jervis was born in 1891, in Graham Road, Worthing. Father John Henry, born in Bayswater, was a Staircase Maker, mother Flora (nee Slaughter) was born in Worthing, daughter of a Fisherman and a Lodging House Keeper, in Warwick Buildings.

By 1901 John and Flora were living at 98 Becket Road. John F., now 10, was the eldest of 3 children. His brother Charles Henry was 8 and sister Flora 5.

In 1911 the family was still at 98 Becket Road. John had joined his father as a Stair Builder. Charles, at 18, was an Engineering Fitter, and Flora, 15, was a Milliner, working in a shop. Sarah Slaughter, Flora's 84 year-old widowed mother, was living with them.

The 9th Battalion trained on the South Downs and spent the winter of December 1914 in billets at Portslade. In April 1915, it moved to Shoreham and then to Woking in June 1915.

At the beginning of September 1915 the Regiment was sent to Southampton for embarkation to le Havre, then by train to Rimbovel and Embry, in the Pas de Calais. It was very wet, the regiment was billeted mostly in barns and houses. By Monday 6th September the Regiment was digging trenches. They were moved to Vermelles and the front on the 25th September.

The diary entry for the 28th September 1915, when the battalion had come out of the line, is more poignant: "At 10 a.m. on 28/9/15 a roll was called and the following were found to be missing, killed or wounded:" There follows a list of 19 of the battalion's officers and the blunt: "362 other ranks".
A third of the battalion had been lost in its first two days of fighting.

John Jervis was a Bellringer at St Botolphs, Heene, ringing there from January 1911 until December 1914. His name appeared in the Roll of Honour for Ringers which appeared in the Ringing World at the beginning of September.

On 25th September 2015, the 100th anniversary of his death, a quarter peal was rung at St Botolphs, in his memory, by local Sussex Ringers.

Brother Charles Henry, of the 1st/4th Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment, lost his life at Gallipoli on 27th August 1915.

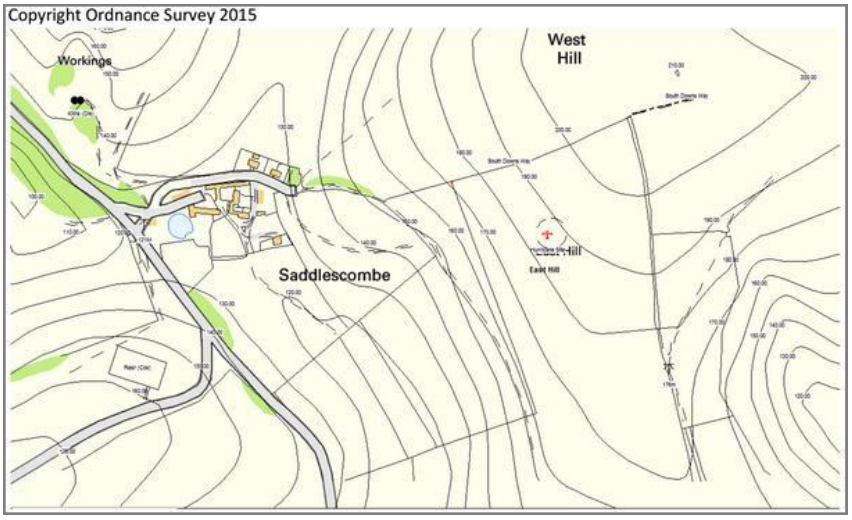
The names of the brothers are on the War Memorial in St Botolphs Church, and on the Town War Memorial.

Operation Nightingale

By Chris Lane

Fl/Sgt. Kazimierz Roman Wünsche DFM. DFC. VM

Polish Airmen in front of a Hurricane



The impact site at Saddlescombe Farm

Chris, Connie and Theresa examining aircraft debris

Monday 9th September 1940. R.A.F. Northolt 17.25 hrs. Polish 303 Squadron Hurricane P3700 piloted by Airman Fl/Sgt Kazimierz Roman Wunsche took off to patrol the south coast of England. He and his colleagues met a formation of about 40 Ju88s near Beachy Head escorted by a large number of Me109s and Me110s.

During the engagement several Allied aircraft were shot down, one coming to earth near the Downs Hotel at Woodingdean whilst Fl/Sgt Wunsche, whose Hurricane was also hit, bailed out leaving his aircraft to bury itself in a field above Saddlescombe Farm near Poynings. Wunsche received a wound to his leg and suffered facial burns, however following treatment at Hove hospital he was able to return to active service in June 1941.

This and many other encounters of the Battle of Britain are well documented and are readily available on the internet but for me the event was brought to life when Worthing Archaeological Society was contacted to help assist Operation Nightingale.

Operation Nightingale is an initiative to aid the rehabilitation of injured soldiers recently returned from Afghanistan, supported by the Ministry of Defence Archaeologist Richard Osgood and directed by Sgt Diarmaid Walshe of 1Rifles. This group were seeking to recover any remains of Hurricane P3700 from the crash site at Saddlescombe Farm.

The initial contact with the Society was made through our Field Unit's only ex-Service man Peter Skilton (R.N. Rtd.) He was asked to assist in the location and layout of the crash site. The site itself is not easy to access, being on a steep downland slope, the only way in was on foot or by four-wheel-drive vehicles but with the support of the National Trust who own the farm and the Ministry of Defence a base camp was set-up for the duration of the dig.

With the assistance of Connie Shirley, Theresa Griffiths and myself, Peter was able to locate the site of remains reasonably easily, the difficulty was the recovery of a multitude of small fragments buried beneath hard flint and chalk soil.

Much of the aircraft's remains had been retrieved after the crash and over the years souvenir hunters and ploughing had resulted in any remains being buried quite deep.

Richard Osgood with daughter Grazyna and granddaughter Joanna

The excavation team with the descendents of Fl/Sgt Wunsche

To further aid the recovery the Polish Ministry of Defence seconded three much needed and fit service personnel to aid with the recovery.

On the 9th September 2015, seventy-five years to the day, the dig eventually struck gold, well aluminium, mainly in the form of three of the twelve pistons, two ammunition boxes and the large propeller hub radial hub gear.

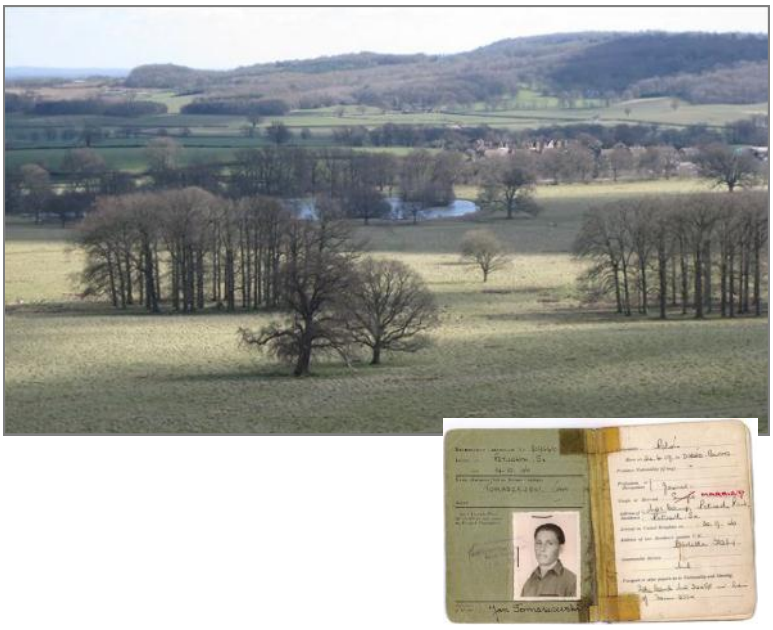
Also present at the dig were the daughter and grand daughter of Fl/Sgt Wunsche. They had travelled from Poland and Doha respectively to witness this recovery on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the crash.

During a break in the digging the daughter Grazyna had a try at excavation and to her amazement uncovered a radio switch gear. This was readily identified by Richard who has an encyclopaedic knowledge of this particular aircraft and was able to name virtually every item unearthed as well as point out where it would have been located in the Hurricane.

To add further poignancy to the occasion the Polish Government had funded the repainting of an historic Hurricane in the livery of the original P3700 Polish fighter aircraft and this plane paid its respects by flying over the site at midday. The whole occasion was most memorable and brought a tear to the eyes of many at the event.

The Polish Resettlement Camp in Petworth Park

By Cheryl Huchins



One sunny September morning a group of members were led by Henry Wakeford on a delightful walk through Petworth Park. Not only did we visit the sites excavated over the last three years but we had the benefit of Henry's little snippets of family knowledge as he is Petworth born and bred.

After tramping up and down Brown's undulating parkscape, we eventually reached the Lower Pond, to the north of which Henry said that after World War II there had been a Polish village. This sounded intriguing and indeed he was right. At the end of the war Poland was annexed by the Soviets and this left thousands of Polish troops who had fought alongside the West and who did not want to live under this regime homeless. Britain placed them in camps where they were joined by their families from displaced persons camps throughout West Africa and India where they had been housed by the British after the Polish Army left Siberia in 1942. Polish Resettlement Camps in Britain were established in old Ministry of Defence camps, in

rural areas such as country house parks where hospitals, army bases and airfields were placed during the war. The camps were organised by National Assistance Boards and Local Authorities.

Petworth was a family resettlement camp, in existence from 1949 to 1955, the families being housed in the Nissen huts of a former Tank Holding Camp erected prior to D-Day and later housing Canadians.

Vera, who had been in service at Petworth House, remarried John Niewczasinski lived at no. 27 and according to the memories of her little boy their nissen hut consisted of a large area with a kitchen, dining and living facilities, a couple of a bedrooms and a bathroom. The winters were icy cold although there was a coal-fuelled stove and paraffin heaters to warm the bedrooms before use. The atmosphere wasn't helped by the hut "leaking like a sieve". He and his stepfather fished for pike in Lower Pond and he remembers accompanying his mother and his stepfather to Leconfield Hall for the local hop where the parents jived and jitterbugged while the children played.

Anna Hughes remembers the camp consisting of about 100 nissen huts which Petworth Council had waterproofed and each family had its own toilet in a separate block. The families kept chickens and rabbits, the women worked in a small factory making shirts and a lot of the men worked in a brickyard in Chiddingfold. Anna's family eventually moved to London but her parents spoke of Petworth Camp as a small paradise.

Helena tells a harrowing story of a forced move from the Ukraine by Soviet troops to Siberia where the Poles lived in a camp and she cut wood. Then they were moved to Iran, Pakistan and finally to a Polish camp of 5,000 people in Bombay. After the war they were repatriated to Britain and found themselves in Petworth Park, hut no. 6. She describes packing apples and doing housework in Petworth for a living. She found the conditions damp but after Siberia not cold. She mentions one hut being used as a church and another as a men's club and that there were regular dances. She lived for 9 years before remarrying and moving to Bury. Petworth Camp had its own Polish school and a library, and a Polish priest said mass there. And according to Henry, it also had a cinema.

Most people left the camp to make a new life elsewhere and the authorities aided emigration to the US, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Argentina. According to the Highland Brigade's ship manifest of 1949 Ludwik Jeske travelled to Montevideo in Uruguay from Tilbury. His former address was noted as Hut 7, Camp 3, Petworth, Sussex and his future residence was Uruguay. He had received a letter 9 months previously from a friend or relative in Montevideo probably suggesting he immigrated there.

Many families stayed on in the camp after it officially closed in 1955 but eventually they integrated into Petworth and helped swell the congregation of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in the town, ensuring its continued presence. And, of course, this explains the fact that Henry, a Sussex man, has relatives with Polish surnames.

Reference

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http://www.gravelroots.net/petworth/johnson/petworth_polish_camp.html#here

Petworth Society Magazine 151March 2013 p20 "An Anxious Night"

Petworth Society Magazine104 June 2001 p.23 "The Polish Camp – a reminiscence"

This winter's planned activities are:

Saturday 23rd January 2016 10.00am to 4pm
UNDERSTANDING ROMANO-BRITISH ART
with Dr Miles Russell
in the Education Room, Worthing Museum

Saturday 13th February 2016 10.00am to 4pm
HISTORICAL BUILDING STONES OF WEST SUSSEX
with David Bone
in the Education Room, Worthing Museum

Saturday 5th March 2016 10.00am to 4pm
MAKING SENSE OF MONUMENTS
with David McOmish
in the Education Room, Worthing Museum

* *

Field Unit Members' Open Meeting
Saturday 27th February 2016 10.00am to 4pm
in the Worthing Lecture Theatre

ALL WELCOME

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All contributions to the Journal are very welcome!

Supply in Word format if possible, and photos as separate jpegs, and send to

Cheryl Hutchins, Editor

Any views and/or opinions expressed in this Journal are not necessarily those of the Society or its membership

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