

# Worthing Archaeological Society Journal

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In writing this editorial, I am aware that it's mid summer, it has been very wet, walks have been cancelled, but somehow excavations have managed to go ahead, be it a wee bit wet at times.

At the time of writing the big dig is about to start, so there will be a report out on how it has gone in November.

This edition I hope has a good mix of articles, and I do apologise for it being late once again, but this is due in part to contributions being sent in late to me. So thinking about the next edition; now is the time to start to send me any articles you would like to have included. Copy date is first week in October at the latest.

In this edition you will find dates for winter lectures, plus a date for our annual social, the social is a major date in our calendar, a chance to meet up with friends and colleagues; I cannot emphasize how important this is. So this year let's make it a really great social with a good mix of all members, be they mainly field unit diggers and non diggers. Let's remember there are many members who cannot dig, but love to meet with those who can, and do. It would be good to see all members of the committee there. We have great fun, good food, a grand raffle and a quiz, which will be a bit different this year!!

Over the next year or two, I would very much like to see more correspondence with all members, more information made available, more summaries of excavations, not in great detail, but it's letting members know what is happening within the society. The society and its members are one. Over the past few years the setting up of a field unit has been good for the society, but in doing so, many members who pay their subs. really do not get much in return. Their subs. help fund our field work, this is good, after all this is what the society is about, but because some members cannot dig or participate in field unit work they do need to be better informed of what is going on. We will all at some reach this point in our lives, some earlier than others, but they should not be forgotten. Therefore sending out a newsletter twice a year is really not good enough, this will be addressed over the next meeting of the main committee, to see the best way forward. I have been a member of the society since 1995, and was responsible with the Chairman at the time in setting up a field unit, this mainly came into its own in 1998/99 when we started work on the kiln site at Binsted under the direction of Chris Place. We have gone from strength to strength since then, but at some costs I now see to non digging members.

Rodney Gunner, Hon Secretary.

The views expressed are not those necessarily of the society as a whole.

*Please supply articles in .pdf format if possible and photos as separate .jpegs.  
Articles from members own research are most welcome.*

# The Great War

Rodney Gunner

Further to my research into WW1 in Slindon, and that in 2014 will be the anniversary of the start of WW1, a War to end all Wars !.

I have started researching the lost soldiers of Slindon, the names are recorded on the War memorial in Slindon Village.

One such lost soldier is.

**ROBERTS, WILLIAM ALFRED**

*Rank:*

*Private*

*Service No:*

*G/431*

*Date of Death:*

*18/12/1915*

*Age:*

*22*

*Regiment/Service:*

*Royal Sussex Regiment*

*7th Bn.*

*Panel Reference*

*Panel 69 to 73.*

*Memorial*

**LOOS MEMORIAL**

*Additional Information:*

*Son of Charles Roberts, of 58, Slindon Common, Arundel, Sussex, and the late Emily Kate Roberts.*

*Killed in action near Festubert.*

Festubert is known for the battle which was fought there in May, 1915. This followed shortly after that at Aubers Ridge, and commenced with a night attack just before midnight on the 15th of May. Over ten days the British made some small advances, but less than hoped. The attack was preceded by a bombardment that lasted longer than originally intended, but on the day of the attack the number of rounds fired over an equivalent front was actually slightly less than at Neuve Chapelle two months earlier. The need for munitions in Gallipoli has been blamed for this, and in fact on the day of the attack at Loos, a much larger attack four months later, there were even fewer artillery rounds fired per 1,000 yards of front.



## Historical Information

Dud Corner Cemetery stands almost on the site of a German strong point, the Lens Road Redoubt, captured by the 15th (Scottish) Division on the first day of the battle.

The name "Dud Corner" is believed to be due to the large number of unexploded enemy shells found in the neighbourhood after the Armistice.

The Loos Memorial commemorates over 20,000 officers and men who have no known grave, who fell in the area from the River Lys to the old southern boundary of the First Army, east and west of Grenay. On either side of the cemetery is a wall 15 feet high, to which are fixed tablets on which are carved the names of those commemorated. At the back are four small circular courts, open to the sky, in which the lines of tablets are continued, and between these courts are three semicircular walls or apses, two of which carry tablets, while on the centre apse is erected the Cross of Sacrifice.



Location Pas de Calais.

The memorial was designed by Sir Herbert Baker with sculpture by Charles Wheeler.

It was unveiled by Sir Nevil Macready on 4 August 1930.

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# Southwick Report

Giles Standing

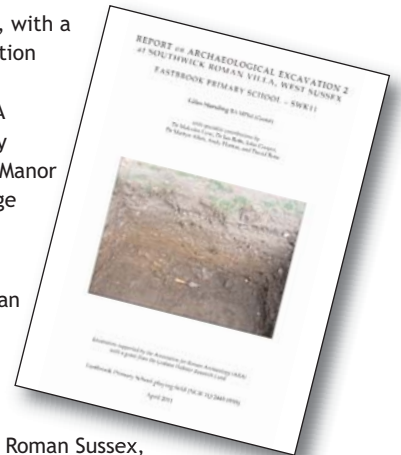
I finished work on the three-year (2008-11) community and research project at Southwick Roman villa, West Sussex, which I directed under the auspices of the Southwick Society, supported by Eastbrook Primary School in whose playing field the work was undertaken.

By way of a summary: the Southwick Roman Villa Environs Research Project has encompassed three geophysical surveys, five test-pits, a public finds open-day, finds-handling and talks at the school, two exhibitions on the villa at the Manor Cottage Heritage Centre in Southwick, and the erection of a public interpretation panel on the villa site (now Southwick Methodist Church), unveiled by local MP Tim Loughton during the Festival of British Archaeology. This work has spawned five reports for the West Sussex HER, and some short articles published in the Sussex Archaeological Collections, the Worthing Archaeological Society Journal, local newspapers and community magazines. Most recently, the excavation work has been generously assisted by a grant from the Association for Roman Archaeology (ARA), from the Graham Webster Research Fund. Specialist finds reporting for this project has also been kindly funded by the Council for British Archaeology and the Southwick Society. You can now even buy postcards of

Southwick villa, with a fine reconstruction drawing of the complex by ARA Trustee Anthony Beeson, at the Manor Cottage Heritage Centre!

So, I hope that Southwick Roman villa has been placed more firmly on the academic and popular map of Roman Sussex, and I am particularly gratified that in the process so many people locally and at the school have taken such an interest in their local heritage; the support from across the community has been notable.

A number of people have been extremely generous in their time and skills in assisting with aspects of this voluntary project, and I hope I have listed them fully in the acknowledgments in the various reports and articles. Thank you to everyone who has kindly taken part and assisted.



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# Shakespeare's Curtain Theatre

Society of Antiques of London

Shakespeare's Curtain theatre unearthed in Hackney Archaeologists from MOLA are becoming expert at finding Shakespeare's lost theatres. They found The Theatre in 2008, not to mention the Globe and the Rose, both now published, nearly twenty-five years ago, the latter important too for ushering in the era of the developer-funded excavation. This week MOLA announced that it had found The Curtain, the theatre that Shakespeare and his fellow players used for a short period in 1597 to 1599 while waiting for the Globe Theatre to be completed.

Earlier the players had been based at The Theatre, built by actor-manager James Burbage, located close by in Curtain Road. After a dispute with the landowner, the timber Theatre was dismantled and the materials used in the construction of the Globe, on Bankside. The Curtain thus became a temporary home that saw the first performance of Henry V, in which the prologue asks (referring to the shape and diminutive scale of The Curtain):

... can this cockpit hold

The vasty fields of France? Or may we cram

Within this wooden O the very casques

That did affright the air at Agincourt?

The precise location of The Curtain (named after the nearby road; the curtained proscenium arch theatre was a late seventeenth-century development) was lost after the theatre was closed and demolished some time after 1627. MOLA archaeologists have now discovered part of the gravelled yard where the audience stood to watch plays, along with the foundation walls that once supported wooden seating and two sections of exterior wall.

Plough Yard, the development company that owns the site, fronting on to Hewett Street, hopes to build a mix of retail, residential and office accommodation, but is said to be delighted about the discovery and keen to incorporate the find into the new development, along with a modern performance and exhibition space.

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These notes formed the basis for the WAS walk on Highdown on Saturday 7th January. Some of the sections don't have references.

## Summary

Highdown was first occupied in the late Bronze Age and was the site of a small early Iron Age hillfort which was deserted before the arrival of the Romans.

In the 2nd century A.D. a sizeable villa was built on the lower western slopes and continued in use until the mid 4th century. This was also the site of a Roman bath house probably built in the 1st-early 2nd century, discovered during excavations between 1936-38. Finds included the remains of a possible corn drying oven and a quantity of Iron Age pottery.

Highdown is best known for the large and rich Anglo-Saxon cemetery, which was first identified in 1892. The cemetery contained a mixture of cremations and inhumations. Only limited traces of an associated settlement have been found.

The early date of the cemetery is indicated by the presence of a number of reused Roman items and by Quoit Brooch Style pieces which probably date to the first half of the 5th century. Among the other finds are several items which strongly resemble material from late Roman workshops in Belgium and NE. France. None of the grave goods can be dated to later than the end of the 6th century.

## Excavations

The following is the list of excavations undertaken on the site:

Charles Hercules Read directed excavations there in 1893-94

Dr A. E. Wilson in 1939 and 1947. Target was the small IA hillfort and early Saxon cemetery, with the work being done on behalf of the Worthing Archaeological Society (WAS). Excavations resumed in 1947 and at some stage on the bath-house on Highdown Hill (SAC, 114).

1988 excavation following the 1987 storm.

## Background - Dating Periods

The following table summarises the dating periods used throughout this note.

| Date Range | Period | Artefact Types | Sussex |
|------------|--------|----------------|--------|
|------------|--------|----------------|--------|

|                              |                         |                          |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| End 2nd millennium to 1000BC | Later Middle Bronze Age | Deverel -Rimbury pottery | House settlement in enclosures and field systems |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|

|                |                 |                       |                                  |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1000 to 750 BC | Late Bronze Age | Plain post DR pottery | Cross Ridge Dyke Early Hillforts |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|

|               |                          |                |  |
|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|--|
| 750 to 500 BC | Later BA and earliest IA | Decorated post |  |
|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|--|

DR pottery Chanctonbury Ring Harrow Hill Highdown Hill

500 to 400/300 BC Early IA Open Settlement

400/300 to 100 BC Middle IA Small lead weights Early coins Increased use of storage pits Developed hillforts Open settlement Banjo enclosures

100 BC to AD 43 Late pre-Roman IA Movement from Downs to Coastal plain and Weald Demise of hillforts on the Downs

## Highdown Hill Enclosure

The monument consists of a Ram's Hill type enclosure situated on an isolated chalk hill which rises above the West Sussex coastal plain. The enclosure, which dates to the Bronze Age, is a roughly east-west aligned, raised sub-oval area or circa 1 hectares, the southern part of which is bounded by a bank up to circa 0.5 metres high and circa 8 metres wide, surrounded by a circa 10 metre wide ditch.

To the north, where the ground falls away steeply, the defences survive as a simple scarp. The southern ramparts are flanked by a second, smaller bank, which has been interpreted as an original feature, although its profile has been altered by long term ploughing. Arable cultivation has also partly disturbed the western ramparts.

Access to the interior was by way of a circa 8 metre wide gateway through the southern ramparts. Investigations of the enclosure during the 19th and 20th centuries indicated that its defences were remodelled at least once during the later prehistoric period. Traces of contemporary buildings and substantial amounts of pottery fragments and other artifacts were also revealed within the defended area, providing evidence of intensive use during the Middle and Late Bronze Age.

## Bronze Age Evidence

### Pottery

Evidence of Bronze Age activity consists almost entirely of chance finds, in which metalwork predominates over pottery, except for the Beaker period. There is a single MBA and LBA settlement at Highdown, but this is on an isolated chalk hill top and is probably better considered in the context of the Downland settlement pattern. It is however, difficult to envisage an important BA settlement here if the surrounding areas of the coastal plain were uninhabited (Bedwin, 1983)

### Metalwork

Metalworking can be attested in Sussex at the LBA enclosure of Highdown. Excavations conducted in the late 1980's produced 'splashes' of lead and copper alloy together with various fragments of LBA metalwork. Unfortunately, due to the high levels of

disturbance across the enclosure, especially within the area of Saxon burials and Second World War defences, no definitive statement can be made as to the nature, form and status of metalworking (Russell, 2002).

### Hillfort

The enclosure on Highdown Hill stands well apart from all other enclosures on the Sussex Downs in that it encloses one hectare and so is over 4 times the size of the next largest enclosure in Sussex. Only limited excavations have taken place at Highdown but enough to show that in its original phase, which may be dated on pottery evidence to c.1400 - 1200 BC, it consisted of a sub-rectangular enclosure defined by a single bank and ditch. The ditch was 4m wide and 2m deep with a flat bottom (Wilson, 1940 & 1950). Within the bank on the NW side of the enclosure was a round hut with hearth area. (Re-examination of pottery from excavation has revealed the presence of small abraded Anglo-Saxon sherds, most likely to derive from a settlement than from a cemetery. The dating of this square structure to the Iron Age is thus doubtful - Bedwin: Iron Age Sussex - Downs and Coastal Plain, in *Archaeology in Sussex to AD 1500* ed. P.L. Drewett).

Highdown Hill appears to be at the edge of a number of artefact distributions. On this basis, Dr Ellison has suggested that Highdown Hill is one of at least 5 major enclosures in Southern Britain, which fulfilled a significant role in redistribution networks during the period c1400 - c. 600 BC. The accumulation of wealth at Highdown as shown by casual finds of metalwork, perhaps begins in the period 1400-1900 BC. The bulk of the metalwork is of the period 900-600 BC. (Drewett, Rudling and Gardiner, 1988).

As a major settlement and redistribution enclosure, Highdown Hill represents a focal point on the edge of redistribution areas, Highdown Hill faces the rich area of the Hampshire Basin and Wessex.

### Exchange Practices

Communal meeting places may have existed over much of southern England in the late 2nd millennium BC and four possible sites have been identified:

Rams Hill, Oxfordshire

Norton Fitzwarren, Somerset;

Highdown Hill, Sussex;

Martin Down, Dorset.

Ann Ellison has found that weapon and ornament finds cluster in the neighbourhood of these enclosure sites and suggests that each acted as a focus for the distribution of objects, and accordingly were located at the junction of several community areas. In this way they served to link small-scale interlocking exchange networks (Darvill, ????)

### Early Iron Age Evidence

Stabbed decoration is known from several Sussex sites, sherds with similar styles of decoration having been found at the Caburn, Stoke Clump and Kingston Buci. The pottery is broadly comparable to the earlier phases

of many sites in Sussex, such as the Trundle, Lancing, Highdown, and the Caburn (Bedwin 1979).

The Slonk Hill examples (of EIA pottery) compares with similar pottery from Highdown and Kingston Buci. (Hartridge 1978)

At Highdown, the original rampart, which was a vertical wall like Hollingbury, has been altered, the original ditch was filled up and a new ditch was dug much nearer to the rampart. The front of the rampart was then dug away to form a steep slope or glacis, from the bottom of the ditch to the crest of the rampart. The Highdown rampart has been interpreted as a wall with a forward revetment of chalk blocks and a line of timbers at the rear; no forward line of post-holes was found. The posts at the rear were widely separated and were set in shallow holes; they could not have functioned as a support for the wall but could have acted as the rear members of frames in a Hollingbury-type construction. (Holmes 1984).

### Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age Multi-Loci Enclosures

Certain sites can be dated to the end of the Late Bronze Age:

Harrow Hill;

Highdown Hill;

Castle Hill, Newhaven;

Hollingbury

Highdown Hill has produced MBA and early LBA pottery ('plain ware') from pre-rampart contexts. Enclosure however, probably took place towards the end of the LBA indicated by the presence of LBA decorated wares (8th-7th century BC) in the fill of the first rampart ditch.

A subsequent, second ditch which cuts through the silts of the first ditch also produced LBA decorated wares.

There is continuation into the EIA. At Highdown Hill the third recut of the enclosure ditch contained EIA bowls with incised decoration (6th - 5th century BC).

The location and occupation evidence from Highdown Hill and Hollingbury - both have substantial earthworks, round 'houses', metalwork hoards, fineware pottery and other occupational debris. These sites perhaps herald the MIA pattern of the association of 'domestic evidence' with prominent enclosures which encircle distinct, 'landmark' hills.

Collectively the various LBA/EIA enclosures suggest a predominant interest in locations which facilitate survey and access to surrounding landscapes and sites, with an emphasis not generally on full-time occupation but rather on intermittent use. They cannot, therefore, be seen as 'central places', but rather as 'peripheral' locations, form which landscape use could be viewed and evaluated, and rituals occasionally enacted (Hamilton and Manley 1997).

### Middle Iron Age

Chanctonbury Ring, along with Highdown and Harrow Hill has not provided any evidence of continued occupation or use after the MLA. This is broadly

contemporary with the construction of the massive Cissbury hillfort and has led to the hypotheses of the smaller hillforts being abandoned in favour of the large central fort (Tibble 2008).

#### Relationship with Chanctonbury

Highdown Hill - presence of Post Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) pottery in the 'slow fill' of the earliest rampart ditch fills. Stray finds of LBA metalwork include a gold penannular ornament similar to the Harting Beacon example. The finds circumstances suggest a hoard.

The Chanctonbury Ring early 1st millennium BC pottery is best described as decorated PDR assemblage. It is very similar to:

The assemblage from Harting Beacon hillfort;

The decorated wares from Highdown Hill

The Highdown hillfort yielded a substantial quantity of pottery that extends from the MBA into the 1st millennium BC and includes decorated PDR pottery. However, its associated stratigraphy is very unclear.

The pre-rampart pottery from the Trundle.

Sussex hillforts are dated predominately by their pottery assemblages and their associated radiocarbon dates. The hillforts dated to the LBA and EIA are the most numerous. They often occupy locations on the edges of the Downs, rather than being centrally positioned - which characterizes the MIA hillforts.

Chanctonbury Ring being situated on the northern edge of the Downs, clearly epitomises this identified early pattern. Part of the role of these hillforts may have been to allow access to resources and environments off the Downs. The Chanctonbury Ring pottery fabrics certainly suggest contacts with the Wealden areas. For W. Sussex the essential commonality of style of the pottery assemblages from

The Trundle (pre-hillfort settlement);

Highdown

Harting Beacon hillfort

Suggest the existence of partially networked communities (Rudling 2001).

#### Roman Period

Goring - Northbrook College

A small villa on the coastal plain discovered in 1978, associated with ancillary buildings, ditches, pits and post holes. The villa consisted of a central range of three rooms, flanked by corridors, which were subdivided to create small rooms. The floors were destroyed by ploughing. A well and a bathhouse were positioned c.50 metres to the northeast. Pottery indicates 2nd to 3rd century AD occupation. Nearby, a late 3rd century coin hoard was found in 1907.

Layout and size of the villa is similar to:

Bignor (phase IIE)

Littlehampton

West Blatchington

Fishbourne Creek

Watergate

Plumpton

Brighton

#### TQ 00 SE 3 Highdown Hill Bath House

Excavations on Highdown Hill in 1936 and by Worthing Arch Soc in 1937 and 1938 revealed a late 1st or early 2nd century Romano-British bath-house which went out of use about the end of the 3rd century although some 4th century sherds were found.

A "hot room", not attached to the main bath house seems to have been contemporary with it and may have been part of a wooden corridor. Goodchild thought this a double-T type corn drying oven. A rubbish dump was also found.

A pottery fragments found must be intrusive from the adjacent site (TQ 00 SE 31). The main buildings seem to lie west of the area already excavated. (3-4). The field in which the buildings are situated has been ploughed, and nothing significant remains but a wide scatter of small fragments of Roman tile and flints in the area indicated.

Among the finds was a stamped tile dated c.90-110, but possibly re-used as the baths are apparently 2nd century. Baths disused by early 4th century but occupation may have continued after this. Listed as the possible site of a Roman villa. The stamped tile may indicate the presence of an earlier villa in the area.

The bath house lies within a field which has been regularly ploughed since at least 1970. This will have partly disturbed the buried remains. Study of aerial photos has revealed no further evidence for an adjacent, associated villa. There are reports from Worthing Museum that metal detectorists are active on the site, with the permission of the owner. They have received reports of "exciting" finds, including large metal sculptural objects and there is concern over the damage this is causing.

These finds indicate the presence of a possible villa or other large building, although the exact position, size and form of this remain unknown.

Lack of evidence for the exact form of the site means it is not possible to fully assess its importance at present, although the part excavation and recently reported finds suggest a building complex of some size, exhibiting good survival and proven archaeological potential. The presence of first century AD pottery indicates that it may form one of a group of important early villas which cluster in this area of West Sussex.

#### Function of Bath House

Villas (located on coastal plain) with common rights for running sheep on the Downs and indeed they may have exerted some control over the corn crop from the Downs. The isolated

bath-house at Highdown is considered to be a centre of administration of this type (Evans 1974).

This concept of an isolated bath-house acting as an administration unit appears in Wessex. Based on the premise of ritual bathing playing a significant part in primitive religion - which is associated with



administration. Backed up by an inscription found in Gaul, which associates a centre (locus) for an official group (Stevens 1966).

Corn dryers

3rd and 4th century corn dryers occur frequently on the Downs e.g.

West Blatchington

Thundersbarrow

Mill Hill (Shoreham)

Highdown (Evans 1974).

### **Anglo-Saxon Period**

#### **Cemetery**

In 1892 the Saxon cemetery was discovered within the Camp by Mr. Edwin Henty.

Six Anglo-Saxon cemeteries provide the bulk of the archaeological evidence for the early period in Sussex:

Highdown Hill

Group between the rivers Ouse and Cuckmere

Alfriston

Semeston

South Malling

Beddingham

Bishopstone

Highdown has over 170 graves, including 28 cremations with rich grave goods, objects which established the 5th century origin of the cemeteries. Of special interest is the occurrence in all these cemeteries of artefacts of Romano-British origin. Burials continued to be made in most of these cemeteries during the 6th century and at Highdown probably to the beginning of the 7th. At Highdown where a quantity of Saxon sherds came from the vicinity of wooden buildings excavated in 1939. Originally the buildings were dated to the Roman period, but they now appear remarkably similar to Anglo-Saxon building types.

It may be interesting to note that the Early Anglo-Saxon cemetery and associated settlement found at Highdown, a reused Late Bronze Age hillfort, appears to sit in splendid isolation from the remaining 5th century Saxon areas of activity recorded from East Sussex.

The archaeological evidence seems to indicate burials at Highdown began as early as the 4th century AD, it could be that the site was first a Roman cemetery which later became a focus for Saxon burial. This could in turn indicate that 'the Saxon community was here settled under the direct supervision of an existing Roman community' (Welch 1983, 217), possibly a mercenary force based within the circuits of the prehistoric fort. An alternative explanation could be that an existing population here were, from a very early date, more forward thinking in terms of fashion, changing from Romano-Britons to Germano-Britons on the basis of established trade links across the North Sea. Highdown could easily have been an early base for a trading enclave between Briton and Saxon at which two distinct cultures first met. Given the site's

position, on a strategic high point overlooking and commanding the Sussex coastal plain, the suggestion of a militarised outpost in which Germanic mercenaries (possibly elements of the former Roman field army) were settled in order to protect both the coastal and land approaches to western Sussex.

Highdown Hill has been identified as the possible site of an early mercenary settlement. It has been suggested by Welch that there are up to 10 4th century Romano-British graves in the cemetery, which lies within the ramparts of a prehistoric enclosure and that they represent small Romano-British community which initially supervised the Saxons. In the 5th century the objects used as grave goods show that Saxon culture had become dominant. The cemetery was in use up to the 7th century but the site of the associated Saxon settlement has never been found. Highdown is the only 5th century which has been found outside the area between the Ouse and Cuckmere.

The early Anglo-Saxon cemetery and associated settlement found at Highdown, appears to sit in splendid isolation from the remaining 5th century Saxon areas of activity recorded from East Sussex. If the burials at Highdown began as early as the 4th century AD it could be that the site was first a Roman cemetery, which later became a focus for Saxon burial. This could in turn indicate that "the Saxon community was here settled under the direct supervision of an existing Roman community" (Welch 1983), possibly a mercenary force based within the circuits of the prehistoric fort. An alternative explanation could be that an existing population here were, from a very early date, more forward thinking in terms of fashion, changing from Romano-British to Germano-British on the basis of established trade links across the North Sea. Highdown could easily have been an early base for a trading enclave between Britain and Saxon at which two distinct cultures first met. Given the site's position on a strategic high point overlooking and commanding the Sussex coastal plain, the suggestion of a militarised outpost in which Germanic mercenaries (possibly elements of the former Roman field army) were settled in order to protect both the coastal and land approaches to western Sussex (Welch, 1983) would perhaps be appear plausible.

#### **Burial Goods**

Perfectly preserved incised glass vase with an inscription in Greek. This was found in the cemetery. It could have only been made in the eastern Mediterranean and suggests loot from a Roman site and that such objects were highly valued (Armstrong 1974).

#### **Post-Medieval**

Beacon - 1587 located beside the mill.

#### **Second World War**

During the Second World War the monument was used as the site of a now demolished radar station, the construction of which partly disturbed the interior and ramparts of the earlier enclosure. It was a Coastal Defence/Chain Home Low (CD/CHL) station constructed in 1941 by the British Army to detect

approaching ships and aircraft. CD/CHL sites comprised an operations block with an aerial gantry mounted on the roof and a separate standby set house for the reserve power. Aerial photography from 1948 shows that buildings were located under trees at the south of the hillfort. Evidence of the radar station will survive as a buried feature.

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# Surveying and The Survey Team

Pete Skilton (Surveying Co-ordinator), Connie Shirley, Chris Lane, and Andy Maxted

Prior to March 2006, Worthing Archaeological Society did all its surveying with a 'dumpy level', string and tape measures. If 'small finds' were found in a trench, they had to be measured with a tape, as to how many metres it was from a given reference in eastings and the same for northings. The dumpy level was then utilized to record the height above datum (Newlyn) (Levels)

Needless to say, this was not only time consuming, but intrusive as far as the diggers were concerned. So the best time to do this was during refreshment breaks, which in turn was anti-social and therefore unpopular.

All this changed in 2006 when the society took delivery of a TCR 407 Leica Total Station. Ian Allison, a then member took it under his wing and looked around for members to train up on its operation. At first there were three, including the author, but eventually and for quite a period, this was reduced to Ian and your good self.

Ian, it has to be said was a 'natural' and a rock when it came to training. Apart from a five hour instruction period upon delivery, all training was self taught. (If you have ever tried to follow instructions, written by a geek, in Swiss French and translated into English you will understand what is meant)

For a couple of years the surveyors were not a lot of good to the society, as most of their time was spent in the corner of some field, wildly gesticulating and shouting loudly at each other. I'm sure many a member can attest to that!

Things did improve, but fundamentally the survey team was just the author. It was always a worry, to him, that

should he fall ill (or worse) there was no-one else to step in. Surveying in WAS is pretty much a full time job as you can get. Every week there is something to do for the society, or as a favour to other societies and/or individuals. On one occasion, thanks to Rodney, our esteemed Secretary, the team was loaned to Dorset for a few weekends. You can imagine the conversation "You cannot get a surveyor with all the kit? Don't worry. I have just the boy in mind for you." Mind? Of course he won't mind!" The point being of course that only people retired or semi retired were really in a position to take up the job.

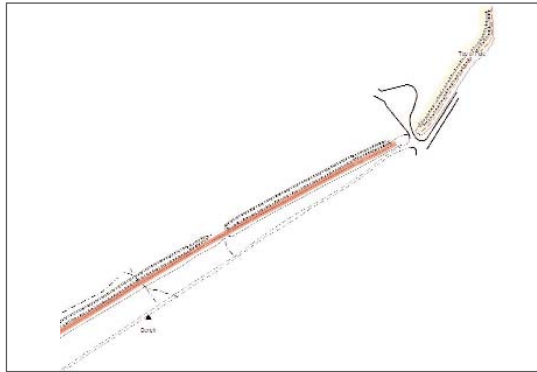
Oh well. It is fun helping others out and is still self training. So given the above it was decided to run a succession planning training course. A five day course was spread over five weeks in spring 2010 three days of which were spent on Littlehampton seafront doing practical and two inside doing the computer work. Originally four members took up the challenge with Andy Maxted assisting with the instruction. Of the original four, two have continued and they now make up the survey team.

Towards the end of 2011 it became apparent that the Geophysical surveying was a little stretched to say the least. On Ian Allison's retirement from the society, it fell by default to Ian Richardson. Although he did sterling work, in all fairness to him, he just did not have the time. Allied with this, the Geo would normally need to be placed into the landscape (Put on a map) It suddenly made perfect sense to amalgamate the two into the Surveying Team. So now there is only one group to get in touch with, instead of two. Connie is fast developing her expertise with the Geo and

environment. This probably puts the survey team ahead in numbers of even the 'Finds Team' How strange is that?

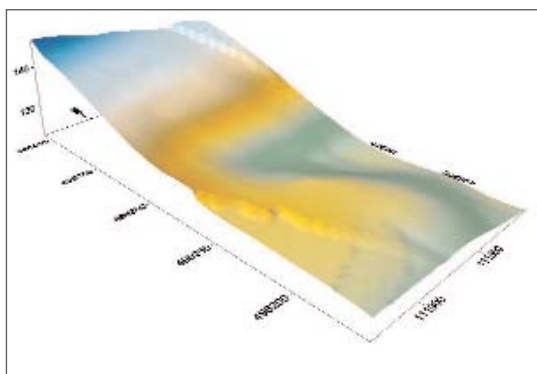


Part of the survey of Park Pale, showing the entranceway to Park Lane car park, that dissects the Pale bank and ditch.

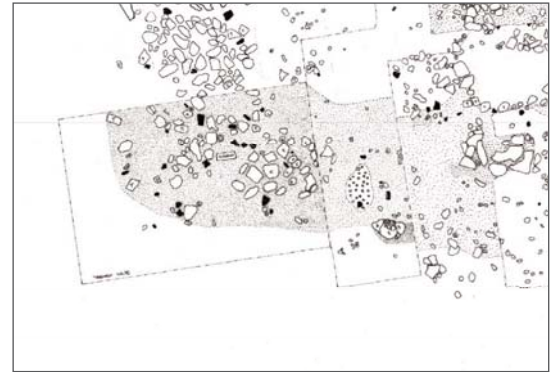


We try to bring different aspects to our mapping, some better than others. Unfortunately it all takes money.

Below is an example of 3D of the field at Gumber Farm and putting planning into the landscape.



Taking your planning and placing it into the landscape.



In 2011 WAS was honoured to be asked to run a five day basic surveying course at Barcombe on behalf of the University of Sussex. This year it is hoped to repeat the exercise with the addition of a five day Total Station course. Needless to say, this all hinges on government cuts to funding. The Total Station does get used a lot, but it does help to offset, in part some of the servicing costs. The more it is used, the more the operators become efficient. It is worth mentioning that servicing costs are escalating as the machine gets older. There will be a time in the near future when the purchase of a new machine becomes inevitable.

The society must then face some hard truths.

On a far happier note, if you want to know more, or have the time to come up to us whilst on site and find out what we are doing, then please do so. Our motto is 'we are here for you, not you for us'

From the Team

March 2012

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# The 'Brodgar Boy' Unearthed in Orkney

In Orkney (Scotland) at the excavation of the Ness of Brogar, a new find has excited researchers. In addition to a pot discovered in Structure 14, a volunteer from Cheshire has made a very exciting discovery - a ceramic piece that is anthropomorphic in nature. The day also included the find of pigments indicating possible in situ production of decorative paints.

The small clay 'figurine' is about only 30mm high but would seem to display a head, body and two eyes. One end of the object is broken - it may originally have been part of a larger clay object that, once broken, had 'eyes' added to create a small figurine now called the 'Brodgar Boy'.

The discovering volunteer was investigating a piece of flagstone lying at an angle against a wall when he noticed a piece of pot underneath it. The pot was gradually disinterred from its resting place. Sitting upright in the midden which had enveloped it, the vessel looked, initially, as if it had a round bottom. In fact, a lump of mud adhering to the base of the pot detached itself during removal, revealing not a round bottom but a perfectly formed flat base. It also became clear that the little pot was decorated.

The team wrapped the vessel in acid-free tissue as more of it emerged from the ground. This tissue was strengthened carefully by a further wrapping of parcel tape as gradually the pot was lifted from the ground. This small pot has sides which swell from the base to make a gentle flowerpot form. Wrapped in damp, acid-free tissue paper (to prevent drying and disintegration) it awaits some tender loving care from conservators.

In the Structure 10 site, cleaning behind the 'dresser' continued and a most intriguing find was made. Gathered together in a discrete area were examples of red and yellow ochre, stones with a depression in their centre - like little grinding dishes - and a small, stone rubber. Could this be a pigment production area - the location, and the materials, which went into the amazing painted stones which are turning up around the site?

It is more than likely that the essential ingredients of the paint for the stones was manufactured on site - further investigation will follow. At the last minute toward the end of the day, a volunteer digging in Structure Eight discovered what looks like another stone ball, similar to one found earlier in the week. These amazingly tactile artefacts are becoming a firm favourite with site visitors who are continuing to visit in increasing numbers.

Courtesy Orkneyjar

## Introduction

The aim of this article is to provide an overview of medieval deer parks and the deer park at Slindon when in the ownership of the Archbishops of Canterbury (1106 to 1542). The manor of Slindon was granted by Ceadwalla in AD684 to Bishop Wilfrid and soon after his death the manor (together with the manor of Pagham) passed to the Archbishops of Canterbury, becoming one in a series of manors in Surrey, Sussex and Kent used by the archbishops during their progress to administer the province.

Following the Conquest, the manor was given to Earl Roger of Montgomery. In 1106, Henry I was requested by Anselm to restore the manor and park to the Archbishopric of Canterbury, where it remained until 1542, when Archbishop Cranmer was 'persuaded' to give the property to Henry VIII in exchange for other property (Whitfield, 1994).

It is unclear which Archbishop built a 'palace' at Slindon and the associated deer park and the written evidence for the medieval period relates to the keepers and to the disputes with the Earls of Arundel. The earliest record relating to Slindon is for Archbishop Langton, who is said to have died at Slindon in 1228.

The Domesday Book recorded 35 parks and whilst forest law (note 1) limited the rate at which they increased from the early 13th the number of parks began to rise due to the area under forest law being reduced from its peak at the end of Henry II's reign (Donkin 1976, 99), as both Richard I and John undertook disafforestation of large areas in return for sorely needed funds (Hoskins 1981, 93). The increase in the number of parks was also assisted by the introduction of fallow deer (*Dama dama*) from the Near East in the 12th century (note 2), which were easier to keep within a park pale than wilder red or roe deer (Brandon 2003, 76).

A pre-requisite for enclosing deer in a park was a licence from the Crown. The granting of these licences rose to a peak in late 13th century but continued as a trickle into later Middle Ages.

Normally part of the demesne (note 3) lands of the lord of the manor, it typically consisted of an area of woodland and pasture enclosed by an earth bank often with an inside ditch (Hoskins 1982, 51). The park provided its owner with a ready supply of venison, a meat that was seen as being high-status and therefore reserved for their consumption and particularly welcome in winter when other meats were salted down (Cantor 1987, 108).

The average size of a park was about 100 to 150 acres (Brandon 2003, 77), with the number of deer kept varying with the size of the park. The park at Slindon has characteristic curvilinear boundaries as also shown by parks at Lapworth (Warwickshire), Writtle (Essex), Staverton (Suffolk), Beckley (Oxfordshire) and Barnsdale (Rutland) (Aston 1985, 113). Typically deer

parks were located on the edge of the manor away from the cultivated fields and consisted of unimproved land, including woodland (Cantor 1987, 107). However, at Slindon the deer park is adjacent to the main house (previously the Archbishop's 'palace'), the village and the church.

Because deer can leap up to 3m vertically and 6m horizontally (Stamper 1988, 141) the boundary had to be formidable and maintenance a significance expense, with the effort falling on the populace by way of customary work or labour service. The park pale was normally constructed of a pale of tall, cleft oak stakes (although other materials such as hedging or stone was used), set in a broad high earth bank with an internal ditch. The park pale bank at Slindon is still surviving but the nature of the pale is unknown. However, there is documentary evidence which implies that part of the custumal service undertaken related to the maintenance of the park pale.

Normally the enclosure was broken by gates and sometimes by "deer-leaps", specially contrived entrances which allowed deer to enter the park from the open country outside the park. Once within the park they were unable to get out again (Hoskins 1982, 51). There doesn't appear to be any obvious deer leaps at Slindon. The entrances may have been in filled in the 18th or 19th century or following the great storm in 1987, when the park pale was damaged by heavy machinery and then repaired.

Within Sussex, 135 Deer Parks have been recorded (Gardiner, 1999) and tended to be located on the poorer soils, either within the Weald or on the Downs, with a bias towards the Downs in the west of the county. Some of the parks were established shortly after the Norman Invasion, whilst others were created in order to protect land for hunting as areas under cultivation increased. The hunting scene was further complicated by the presence of forests, one of the largest being Arundel (note 4), which covered the whole of the Downs from the Arun westwards as far as Compton and extended to the west of Chichester (Gardiner, 1999). The fact that the park at Slindon was surrounded by the Arundel forest was to be constant source of neighbourly dispute between the Archbishops and the Earls of Arundel, which was finally settled in 1259 (note 5).

According to Brandon (1974, 104) the Archbishop of Canterbury owned nine parks in Sussex (note 6) and approximately 20 in total (Mileson 2007, 20).

## Keepers Lodge

A parker was employed to care and oversee the park, with a house or lodge provided. This was located within the park, thereby enabling him to oversee the livestock and act as a deterrent against possible poaching.

At Slindon, in the author's opinion, there are three

possible candidates for the location of the Keepers Lodge at Slindon: Slindon House, the building named Keepers Cottage (the current building dates from circa 1860) located on the western side of the park or the medieval building (dated from 14th century pottery recovered from the site) located in Park Middle field. Up to 1990 the remains of this building consisted of a wall constructed of brick, knapped flint and stone, standing 4m high and possibly forming part of a chimney breast. Unfortunately, the site was destroyed in 1990 and all that remains are finds (pottery, tile and CBM) from the site.

It is not possible to determine the full extent of the Archbishop of Canterbury's property, so it may have been smaller than the current Slindon House.

Whilst we do not know the location of the lodge at Slindon, there is documentary evidence (Redwood & Wilson, 1958) for the employment of a keeper, as follows:

*"To all whom these presents shall come etc Thomas (Bourchier), Cardinal Archbishop of Canterbury, greeting, know ye that we have for his good serve, granted to WILLIAM BROKE the office of keeper of our manor of Slyndon in Sussex and of our garden there, receive 2d per day plus other profits..."*

*"Grants by Archbishop Henry (Chichester) to HUGH, the arbalester, of the office of Keeper of the part of the manor of Slyndon and of the manor, woods etc (12th Oct 1441)."*

*In 1344 Archbishop John appointed ROGER DE SPYNEY his huntsman and keeper of the park, warren and outwoods of Slindon to receive weekly a bushel of wheat, ½ bushel of barley for his groom and 13s 4d yearly for his robe and shoe leather.*

*1457-8 accounts of Thomas Mutlow, chamberlain, include 2s - price of a sword in the custody of the parker of Slindon.*

*1458-9 Perquisites of Court returned by the chamberlain were £9.7.2d of the sum 12s was allowed, the price of an ox as heriot because it was given to the parker of Slindon to be kept until sold.*

### Ponds

Water was also an important component of parks, not only for use by the livestock but also as fishponds.

There are two ponds located in the park at Slindon, both close to the park boundaries. It is possible that the one to the east referred to as 'Conker Island' may be a later 19th century creation and that the pond adjacent to Keepers Cottage is a possible medieval fish pond. Another option is that both are post-medieval and created later as watering holes for cattle and sheep grazing in the park.

### Warren

Around 1230 to 1250 (Stamper, 145) the popularity of breeding rabbits increased and saw the construction of warrens (pillow mounds) sited in parks. These mounds could be 150 yards long, 6 feet high and 20 feet broad (Brandon 2003, 80).

The location of the rabbit warren at Slindon remains unknown. There is a documentary reference dating from 1344, when Archbishop John appointed Roger de Spynney as his 'huntsman, Keeper of the park, Warren and out woods of Slindon'. However, the only place name evidence (Warren Barn and Coneygate) refers to places some distance from the park (Whitfield 1994, 60).

### Notes

- The word 'forest' is a legal term. It implied land outside (foris) the common law and subject to a special law that safeguarded the King's hunting. Forest and woodland were not synonymous terms, for the forested areas included land that was neither wood nor waste and they sometimes covered whole counties. Even so a forested area usually contained tracks of wood. Within the forest no animals could be taken without express permission and the rights to cut wood and to make assarts (clearing of forest land for agricultural or other purposes) was severely restricted (Darby 1976, 55).

- Until recently it was thought that Normans introduced Fallow deer to England. However, recent finds at Fishbourne Roman Palace show that Fallow deer were introduced into southern England in the 1st century AD. It is not known whether these escaped to form a feral colony, or whether they died out and were reintroduced by the Normans (Sykes et al 2006).

- Demesne - all the land that was retained by a lord of the manor for his own use and support under his own management.

- The forest of Arundel (also referred to as the chase of Arundel) lay between Chichester, Arundel and Midhurst. From Fishbourne to the west of Chichester to Avisford then south to Cudlowe (now beneath the sea) near Middleton then east along the coast to the river Arun and then north along the course of the river to Bury. From Bury the bounds continued to Houghton and then bore to the west onto the top of the Downs and Up Waltham passing to the south of Cocking and onto North Marden. The boundary then turns south to Up Marden and Stoughton and back to Fishbourne (James 1981, 100).

- Settlement reached in 1259 by an agreement between the archbishop and Sir John Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel. The archbishop was not to hunt in Arundel forest while the earl renounced sporting rights in the wood of Slindon. The places called Overs and Baycombe in Slindon wood were not to be inclosed and earl was not to inclose any part of the forest adjoining the wood. This arrangement was confirmed by Edward I in 1274 (Whitfield 1994, 56). In 1272, it was agreed that the Earl of Arundel was bound to deliver to the Archbishop at this manor, 13 bucks or stags and 13 does or hinds in proper season, in compensation of the Archbishop's right of free warren. This right was commuted for a money payment in 1366, by Archbishop Islip (Shirley 1867, 64).

- This author has not been able to compile a detailed list of parks owned by the Archbishop of Canterbury. If anyone wishes to follow up this line of investigation, as well as the reference to 'Overs' and 'Baycombe' then please contact the author or John Green, WASFU Research Co-Ordinator.

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## PROGRAMME

### October 9

Bob Turner  
Fresh from his visit to USA  
**American archaeology from the Ice age to Columbus**  
Con Ainsworth Memorial Lecture  
Glass of wine or cup of coffee afterwards

### November 13

Michael Hughes  
Retired County Archaeologist  
**Artillery Fortifications from 15th to 19th centuries in Southern England**

### November 23

**Autumn Social –**  
Sure to be even more successful than last year at same super Venue.  
Tickets nearer the time

### December 11

Ian Robertson and Pete Branlund  
**An Illustrated talk on The Big Dig in Walberton**

2013

### January 8

Dudley Moore  
University of Sussex and CDAS  
**The Mycenaeans of Bronze Age Greece**

### February 12

Sarah Greene  
**Dead Men Do Tell Tales: what we can learn from skeletal remains**  
John Pull Lecture  
Glass of wine or cup of coffee afterwards

### March 12

AGM  
Keith Bolton  
**Will talk about the work of the field unit in the last 12 months**

### April 9

Stewart Angell  
**CART County Information Officer for Sussex**  
**The Secret Sussex Resistance**

# Service to Malaysia Award

Pete Skilton

Yesterday I was awarded a medal (P.J.M.) That is me and 249 others at Folkestone. The awarding officer was Brig. Gen Jamal, the Malaysian Embassy Military Attaché. There were about 250 ex-servicemen, a lot of which were Gurkhas. (Folkestone has a big Gurkha community). For me this was during 1964/5/6 on and off.



The citation reads:

PINGAT JASA MALAYSIA  
(PJM)  
Citation

Malaya's independence on 31st August 1957 came amidst a formidable threat to its sovereignty mounted by the Malayan Communist Party (MCP). MCP's ferocious and extensive guerrilla campaign required assistance which was provided by Britain under the auspices of the Anglo Malayan Defence Agreement (AMDA). British troops and soldiers from the Commonwealth countries of Australia, New Zealand and Fiji maintained bases, security personnel, civilian staff as well as other facilities in Malaya to safeguard its sovereignty. These troops further assisted Malaysia during the armed confrontation with Indonesia that ended on 12 August 1966.

In appreciation of the meritorious acts and supreme sacrifices made by the security forces and civilian staff from Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Nepal to Malaysia for one decade, the Supreme Head of the Federation on Malaysia wishes to award medals to all those who distinguished themselves in chivalry, gallantry, and loyalty while performing their services. The medal takes the form of an award titled 'Pingat Jasa Malaysia' (Service to Malaysia Award).



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### Journal

All contributions to the newsletter are very welcome!  
Please supply in pdf format if possible, and photos as separate .jpegs. to  
Secretary, Rodney Gunner.

Any views and/or opinions expressed in this newsletter are not  
necessarily those of the Society nor it's membership

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