

**An Archaeological Evaluation at
Hilltop Drive, Rye, East Sussex**

NGR 591846 121416

**Rother District Council Planning Reference
RR/2010/1869**

**ASE Project No. 4776
Site Code: RHD11**

**ASE Report No. 2011103
OASIS ID: archaeol6-100607**



**by
Simon Stevens BA (Hons) MIFA**

**With contributions by
Luke Barber, Sarah Porteus and Elke Raemen**

May 2011

**An Archaeological Evaluation at
Hilltop Drive, Rye, East Sussex**

NGR 591846 121416

**Rother District Council Planning Reference
RR/2010/1869**

**ASE Project No. 4776
Site Code: RHD11**

**ASE Report No. 2011103
OASIS ID: archaeol6-100607**

**by
Simon Stevens BA (Hons) MIFA**

**With contributions by
Luke Barber, Sarah Porteus and Elke Raemen**

May 2011

**Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR**

**Tel: 01273 426830
Fax: 01273 420866
Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk**

Abstract

During early May 2011, six 10m long evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated at the site, located at the western end of Hilltop Drive, Rye. No significant archaeological deposits, features or finds were identified at the site, which had been heavily truncated, possibly as a result of the use of the area as a works compound during the construction of Hilltop Drive.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 The Finds**
- 6.0 Discussion**
- 7.0 Conclusion**

Bibliography
Acknowledgements

HER Summary Sheet
OASIS Form

FIGURES

- Figure 1 Site Location
- Figure 2 Trench Location
- Figure 3 Trench Plans

TABLES

- Table 1 Quantification of Site Archive
- Table 2: List of recorded contexts, Trench 1
- Table 3: List of recorded contexts, Trench 2
- Table 4: List of recorded contexts, Trench 3
- Table 5: List of recorded contexts, Trench 4
- Table 6: List of recorded contexts, Trench 5
- Table 7: List of recorded contexts, Trench 6
- Table 8 Quantification of Finds

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology (UCLCAA) was commissioned by Abbott Construction Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Hilltop Drive, Rye, East Sussex (NGR 591846 121416) (Fig. 1)

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site lies at a height of c.50mAOD, in an elevated position c.1km to the north of the centre of Rye. It is bounded on the eastern side by fences of properties fronting onto Hilltop Drive, and on the other three sides by pasture fields. In recent years it appears to have been used as an area for 'fly-tipping', especially for building rubble. The site enjoys far-reaching views to the west towards Winchelsea and beyond.

1.2.2 According to the British Geological Survey 1: 50 000 map of the area (Sheet 320/321, *Hastings and Dungeness*) the site lies on an outcrop of Wadhurst Clay, with Ashdown Beds to the south, and Sand in Wadhurst Clay to the west.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning permission has been granted by Rother District Council for the redevelopment of the current site (planning ref. RR/2010/1869) Following consultation between Rother District Council and East Sussex County Council (Rother District Council's advisers on archaeological issues) a condition (No. 11) was attached to the permission requiring archaeological work prior to the commencement of the development. It stated that:

'No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, including a timetable for the investigation, which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority and the works shall be undertaken in accordance with the approved details

Reason: The development is likely to disturb remains of archaeological interest, which need to be examined and recorded in accordance with Policy GD1 (viii) of the Rother District Local Plan and PPS5: Planning for Historic Environment'

1.3.2 Subsequently a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) was produced by ASE outlining the methodology to be used at the site, in this case mechanically excavated trial trenches (ASE 2011). The document was approved by East Sussex County Council before the commencement of work at the site.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

- 1.4.1 The stated aims given in the WSI for the current work (ASE 2011) were to establish:

'Whether archaeological remains are present on the site and if so, assess the date, survival and condition of said remains.

The character, date and quality of ancient remains and deposits.

How they might be affected by the development of the site

What options should be considered for mitigation

The final aim is to make public the results of the archaeological evaluation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.'

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 The current report provides results of the archaeological evaluation of the site undertaken in early May 2011. The on-site work was undertaken by Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist), Gary Webster (Assistant Archaeologist) and John Cook (Archaeological Surveyor). The project was managed by Jon Sygrave (Project Manager) and by Jim Stevenson (Post-Excavation Manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The settlement at Rye has a long and well-documented history and is included in Aldsworth and Freke's study of the historical towns of Sussex (Aldsworth & Freke 1976). The town's medieval prosperity was based on the excellent natural harbour, and Rye became one of the earliest members of the Cinque Ports Confederacy, entering the exclusive group along with Winchelsea in the late 12th century as '*limbs*' (or members) of Hastings. The medieval name '*Five Ports and Two Antient Towns*' reflected the town's status (Clark 1999, 9).
- 2.2 The town received somewhat irregular murage grants for the cost of building a town wall from 1329 onwards, given urgency by the all-too-vulnerable position of Rye to French raids. Eventually a stretch of stone wall was constructed defending the town's northern side, apparently replacing a timber palisade, which is known to have existed at least in part as early as 1246 (Martin and Martin 2009, 2). The new stone wall eventually encompassed three main gates and a postern, although it is uncertain if the defensive external ditch was dug and/or improved at the time of the rebuilding in stone, or was associated with the earlier timber defences.
- 2.3 Documentary sources suggest the town wall was regularly repaired in the 15th and 16th centuries, during continuing conflicts with France and Spain (Mayhew 1984., Martin and Martin 2009, 3-4). Despite this continuing risk from enemy raids and the threat of erosion from the sea, the town prospered (Aldsworth & Freke, *op cit.*). However by the 16th century silting of the harbour had become a major problem and by the 17th century Rye was clearly in economic decline (Clark 1999, 35).
- 2.4 Although there has been previous archaeological excavation in the town, much was on a small-scale and little has been fully published. Much of the work has been targeted at, or has fallen close to the town wall, and its associated features. An excavation in Tower Street revealed the presence of a substantial ditch on the outside of the wall, which had been backfilled c.1750, although the date of its creation could not be established (Hadfield 1981).
- 2.5 More recent threat-led archaeological evaluations have uncovered the course of the town wall before and after the demolition of the Central Garage (SEAS 1993; ASE 2004). Investigations on sites fronting Market Street have also uncovered the alignment of the wall, as well as other medieval features (SEAS 1994; ASE 1999). Extensive medieval and post-medieval remains have also been uncovered further to the west behind the Cinque Ports Street frontage (ASE 1998; Stevens in prep.).
- 2.6 In 2010 ASE carried out a detailed fluxgate gradiometer survey on a site at Deadmans Lane c.300m to the south-east of the present site (ASE 2010a). Anomalies were recorded and subsequently tested by trial trench evaluation. Finds from the evaluation suggested a 14th century date for activity (ASE 2010b).
- 2.7 Further archaeological investigation in Mill Road, c. 200m to the south east of the site, revealed pits dating to the mid 14th to 17th centuries. Pot wasters were also recovered from the site but not in a sufficient number to suggest

that pottery production was taking place in the immediate vicinity (Seamen 2010).

- 2.8 The current site lies c.1km from the centre of the town in an area known to have been associated with the medieval tile and pottery industry (Vidler, 1932; 1933). Little published archaeological work has been undertaken in the area, but an archaeological evaluation at Fairfield, located to the north of the site, revealed evidence of 13th-14th century pottery production processes (ASE 2001). Other work has subsequently identified waste from the industry (Wetherill 2001).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 A pattern of six evaluation trenches was produced by ASE to investigate three of the four house plots proposed for the site (the fourth plot was found to contain buried asbestos during a previous site investigation). Each of the six trenches was 10m long and 1.8m wide, providing a c.5% sample of the available area of the site (Fig. 2).
- 3.2 The location of each of the trenches was checked with a CAT scanner for the presence of buried services prior to the commencement of work. The archaeological evaluation trenches were then excavated by a 5 tonne 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the constant supervision of staff from Archaeology South-East.
- 3.3 The mechanical excavation was taken down to the top of the natural geological deposits, or to the top of any recognisable archaeological deposits, whichever was the higher. Care was taken not to damage archaeological deposits through excessive use of mechanical excavation. Revealed surfaces of the natural were manually cleaned in an attempt to identify individual archaeological features. Spoil was scanned for the presence of artefacts, both visually and with a metal detector.
- 3.4 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards, using standard Archaeology South-East context record sheets. All trenches were levelled to the Ordnance Datum.
- 3.5 A full photographic record of the work was kept and will form part of the site archive. The archive, quantified in Table 1 below, is presently held at the Archaeology South-East office in Portslade and will be offered to Hastings Museum in due course. A unique Accession Number will be issued by the museum at that time.

Number of Contexts	20
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	-
Photographs	20 digital images
Bulk finds	-
Brick Samples	-
Registered finds	-
Environmental flots/residue	-

Table 1: Quantification of Site Archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
1/001	Deposit	Overburden	300mm
1/002	Deposit	natural	-
1/003	Cut	Trench	not excavated
1/004	Fill	Trench	not excavated

Table 2: List of recorded contexts, Trench 1

- 4.1.1 Trench 1 was excavated to a depth of 210mm (49.03mAOD) at the western end and to 300mm (49.53mAOD) at the eastern end, at which depth the natural was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The overburden was a greyish brown sandy silt topsoil, context [1/001], which directly overlay the yellow clay natural, context [1/002].
- 4.1.2 There was a modern intervention at the extreme western end of the trench, which was recorded as cut [1/003]. It was a 1.8m wide linear feature which ran from north to south across the trench. The backfill, context [1/004] was modern brick rubble in a light greyish brown silty clay matrix. The feature was clearly of recent origin and was not investigated. A small assemblage of late post-medieval artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 3)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
2/001	Deposit	Overburden	610mm
2/002	Deposit	natural	-
2/003	Cut	Pit	not excavated
2/004	Fill	Pit	not excavated

Table 3: List of recorded contexts, Trench 2

- 4.2.1 Trench 2 was excavated to a depth of 610mm (50.64mAOD) at the northern end and to 300mm (50.23mAOD) at the southern end, at which depth the natural was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The single layer of overburden, context [2/001] and underlying natural, context [2/002] were similar in character to those encountered in Trench 1.
- 4.2.2 The only feature was clearly recent in origin. Pit [2/003] occupied much of the centre of the trench, and ran under both the eastern and western baulks, hence its full dimensions could not be ascertained. The fill, context [2/004] was a dark brown silty clay, which contained a variety of late post-medieval material including pottery, glass and metalwork. The feature was not excavated, but a small representative sample of artefacts from the fill was retained. A small assemblage of late post-medieval artefacts was also recovered from the overburden.

4.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 3)

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
3/001	Deposit	Overburden	730mm
3/002	Deposit	natural	-
3/003	Cut	Concrete	not excavated
3/004	Masonry	Concrete	not excavated

Table 4: List of recorded contexts, Trench 3

4.3.1 Trench 3 was excavated to a depth of 850mm (48.54mAOD) at the western end and to 730mm (48.84mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the natural was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The single layer of overburden, context [3/001] and underlying natural, context [3/002] were similar in character to those encountered in Trench 1.

4.3.2 The only feature was a 660mm wide concrete footing, context [3/004], which ran broadly from north-east to south-west across the trench. The construction cut [3/003] could not be seen in plan. A small assemblage of late post-medieval artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.4 Trench 4

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
4/001	Deposit	Overburden	410mm
4/002	Deposit	natural	-

Table 5: List of recorded contexts, Trench 4

4.4.1 Trench 4 was excavated to a depth of 410mm (49.91mAOD) at the northern end and to 230mm (49.37mAOD) at the southern end, at which the natural was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The single layer of overburden, context [4/001] and underlying natural, context [4/002] were similar in character to those encountered in Trench 1.

4.4.2 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered. A small assemblage of late post-medieval artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.5 Trench 5

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
5/001	Deposit	Overburden	310mm
5/002	Deposit	natural	-

Table 6: List of recorded contexts, Trench 5

4.5.1 Trench 5 was excavated to a depth of 310mm (50.52mAOD) at the western end and also to 310mm (49.53mAOD) at the eastern end, at which the natural was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The single layer of overburden, context [5/001] and underlying natural, context [5/002] were similar in character to those encountered in Trench 1.

4.5.2 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered. A small

assemblage of late post-medieval artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

4.6 Trench 6

Context Number	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness
6/001	Deposit	Overburden	720mm
6/002	Deposit	natural	-
6/003	Cut	Pit	not excavated
6/004	Fill	Pit	not excavated

Table 7: List of recorded contexts, Trench 6

- 4.6.1 Trench 6 was excavated to a depth of 610mm (48.56mAOD) at the northern end and to 720mm (also 48.56mAOD) at the southern end, at which the natural was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The single layer of overburden, context [6/001] and underlying natural, context [6/002] were similar in character to those encountered in Trench 1.
- 4.6.2 Again, the only feature was clearly recent in origin. Pit [6/003] had cut through the overburden layer, context [6/001], at the extreme eastern end of the trench. It was not manually cleaned, but was square in shape, measuring c.1m by c.1m. The fill, context 6/004 contained brick rubble and plastic (including hazard tape). The feature was not planned or excavated as it was clearly of recent origin. A small assemblage of late post-medieval artefacts was recovered from the overburden.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation. An overview can be found in Table 8. The assemblage, largely consisting of pottery, is of late post-medieval date. Finds were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were counted, weighed and bagged by context and by material. None of the finds require further conservation.

Context	Pot	Wt (g)	CB M	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	Cu Alloy	Wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)
1/001	4	14														
2/001	7	76														
2/004	7	134					1	94			2	206	1	22		
3/001	1	20	3	106											1	26
4/001			2	28	1	10										
5/001	3	20			1	24										
6/001	2	6	1	74					1	<2						
Total	24	270	6	208	2	34	1	94	1	0	2	206	1	22	1	26

Table 8: Quantification of the finds

5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 Virtually all of the pottery from the site was recovered from topsoil deposits (Trenches 1-6). On the whole the assemblage consists of small to medium-sized sherds (up to 60mm across) suggesting they have been subjected to some reworking. All of the topsoil material is of the late post-medieval period, fitting between the mid 19th and early 20th centuries. The majority is probably from the second half of this range. Trench 1 produced a single sherd of glazed red earthenware that could date to anywhere between the late 18th and early 20th centuries, however, the remaining pottery from [1/001] consists of two sherds of refined white earthenware and a single sherd of blue stoneware. Context [2/001] produced five further sherds of plain refined white earthenware (including a mug and plate) as well as two transfer-printed sherds, one from a bowl with late-style willow-pattern.

5.2.2 The assemblages from the topsoil in the other trenches are all dominated by plain refined white earthenwares typical of a very late 19th- to early 20th-century date. Bowls, plates and mugs are represented but none have makers' marks. Context [2/004] produced three sherds from the same English stoneware preserve jar with the remaining sherds deriving from plain refined white earthenwares (including a plate with blue line on the rim and a preserve jar). A very late 19th- to early 20th- century date is again likely. The dominance of plain refined white earthenwares and to a lesser extent English stoneware preserve jars, combined with the range of forms present, is quite typical of waste from military camps of the period. However, the current assemblage has no definite military issued pieces so no firm conclusions can be made – the assemblage could equally derive from a low status civilian site.

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

5.3.1 A total of six fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from three contexts. The earliest fragment recovered was from [3/001] and was a highly abraded fragment of brick in a pale creamy pink colour. The fragment may be of Flemish origin and 14th to 15th century in date.

5.3.2 The remainder of the assemblage is of post-medieval date. Context [3/001] contained a fragment of 20th century machine made white porcelain wall tile and a red brick fragment with calcareous speckling of 19th to 20th century date. Context [4/001] and [6/001] both contained fragments of roof tile in a coarse sandy fabric with sparse medium sized calcareous and iron rich inclusions.

5.4 The Glass by Elke Raemen

5.4.1 Two glass fragments were recovered, both from [2/004]. Included is a shoulder fragment from a green glass wine bottle, which dates to the mid 19th to early 20th century. The same context also contained a complete square-sectioned, clear glass bottle embossed "VAPO-CRESOLENE CO." and "PATD US JULY 17 94 ENG JULY 23 94". The Vapo-Cresolene Company was an American company established in 1879 and soon exporting to Britain. The bottle, patented in 1894, is of late 19th- to early 20th-century date.

5.5 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 A single clay tobacco pipe (CTP) stem fragment was recovered from the topsoil ([6/001]). The piece, which is unmarked and undecorated, dates to the mid 19th to early 20th century.

5.6 The Metalwork by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 An narrow iron binding strip (length 220mm, width 15mm) with rounded ends, both with countersunk holes, was recovered from [2/004]. In addition, [2/004] contained a hollow, copper-alloy sphere (diameter 40mm) with two perforations at 45° angle. The piece, of unknown function, dates to the mid 19th to 20th century.

5.7 Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.7.1 A single piece of coal was recovered from [4/001] and a single fragment from a Welsh roofing slate came from [5/001]. Both are likely to be of 19th- to early 20th- century date.

5.8 Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

5.8.1 A single piece of quite dense fuel ash slag was recovered from [3/001]. This has almost certainly derived from burning coal, quite probably in a domestic hearth or stove. A 19th- to early 20th- century date is likely

6.0 DISCUSSION

- 6.1 No significant archaeological deposits, features or finds were encountered during the archaeological evaluation at Hilltop Drive. Evidence from the trenches strongly suggests that the area had been utilised in the recent past for the disposal of late post-medieval domestic rubbish. Given the presence of the concrete footing, and other deposits clearly containing debris from the construction industry, it appears that the site may have been used as a works compound during the construction of Hilltop Drive and the overburden (topsoil and subsoil) removed during these works. This would have almost certainly impacted upon the surface of the archaeological horizon (the natural clay).
- 6.2 The almost complete absence of any medieval material at the site suggests that no archaeological remains were disturbed during the previous use of the site for these activities. It is presumed that if the site had been occupied during the medieval period in connection with the pottery and tile industry, then at least some evidence, perhaps in the form of a scatter of discarded pottery wasters would have been encountered during the evaluation. The single small fragment of possible late medieval brick was highly abraded, suggesting it did not come from a structure in the immediate vicinity.
- 6.3 Clearly there has been significant 'fly-tipping' of material at the site, hence the finds from the overburden may well have been imported from some distance away from the site, and cannot be treated as indicative of its history. This may be equally true of the buried deposits, and hence this material must be treated with the same caution.

7.0 CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The evaluation of the site by trial trenches was prudent given the potential archaeological sensitivity of the area, and would have resulted in the recognition and recording of archaeological features (associated with medieval tile and pottery production or otherwise) had they been present.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Aldsworth, F. & Freke, D. 1976. *Historic Towns in Sussex: an Archaeological Survey*. London: Institute of Archaeology

ASE. 2010a. Results From a Magnetometer Survey On Land at Deadmans Lane, Rye, East Sussex. Unpub ASE Report No. 2010048

ASE. 2010b. An Archaeological Evaluation on land at Deadmans Lane, Rye, East Sussex. Unpub ASE Report No. 2010093

ASE. 2011. *Hilltop Drive, Rye, East Sussex Archaeological Evaluation Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpub. ASE document

ASE 1998. *An Archaeological Evaluation at the Site of the Former Winter's Dairy Site, Cinque Ports Street, Rye*. Unpub. ASE Report No. 416

ASE 1999. *An Archaeological Evaluation at Market Road, Rye*. Unpub. ASE Report No. 1079

ASE 2001. An Archaeological Evaluation at Fairfield, Rye, East Sussex. Unpub. ASE Report No. 1370.

ASE 2004. *An Archaeological Watching Brief at the Former Central Garage, Cinque Ports Street, Rye, East Sussex*. Unpub. ASE Report No. 1697

Clark, K. 1999. *Rye A Short History*, Rye Heritage Centre

Hadfield, J. 1981. An excavation at 1-3 Tower Street, Rye, East Sussex, *Sussex Archaeological Collections* (hereafter SAC) **119**, 222-5

Wetherill, E. 2001. *A Medieval Kiln-Waste Tip on Rye Hill*, Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group Paper

Martin, D. and Martin B. 2009. *Rye Rebuilt; Regeneration and Decline within a Sussex Port Town, 1350-1660*. Romney Marsh Research Trust

Mayhew, G. 1984. Rye and the Defence of the Narrow Seas: A 16th-Century Town at War, SAC **122**, 107-26

SEAS 1993. *An Archaeological Assessment at Central Garage, Cinque Port Street (sic) Rye, East Sussex*. Unpub. South Eastern Archaeological Services Report No. 1993/60

SEAS 1994. *An Archaeological Evaluation at Land Adjacent to Market Road, Rye*. Unpub. South Eastern Archaeological Services Report No. 1994/64

Seamen, A. 2010. *Archaeological Recording at 27 Mill Road, Rye, East Sussex*. Unpub CBAS Report

Stevens, S. in prep. Archaeological Investigations at 59 & 59a Cinque Ports Street, Rye, East Sussex (for submission to SAC)

Vidler, L. 1932. Floor tiles and kilns near the site of St Bartholemew's Hospital, Rye

SAC **73**, 83-101.

Vidler, L. 1933. Medieval pottery and kilns found at Rye, SAC **74**, 44-64.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeology South-East would like to thank Abbott Construction Ltd. for commissioning the work Casper Johnson and Greg Chuter of East Sussex County Council for their advice and assistance during all stages of the project

SMR Summary Form

Site Code	RHD11					
Identification Name and Address	Hilltop Drive, Rye					
County, District &/or Borough	Rother District, East Sussex					
OS Grid Reference.	591846 121416					
Geology	Wadhurst Clay					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4776					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 09.05.2011	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Abbott Construction Ltd.					
Project Manager	Jon Sygrave					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED ✓	PM ✓	Other		
100 Word Summary.						
<p>During early May 2011, six 10m long evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated at the site, located at the western end of Hilltop Drive, Rye. No significant archaeological deposits, features or finds were identified at the site, which had been heavily truncated, possibly as a result of the use of the area as a works compound during the construction of Hilltop Drive.</p>						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-100607

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation at Hilltop Drive, Rye, East Sussex
Short description of the project	During early May 2011, six 10m long evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated at the site, located at the western end of Hilltop Drive, Rye. No significant archaeological deposits, features or finds were identified at the site, which had been heavily truncated, possibly as a result of the use of the area as a works compound during the construction of Hilltop Drive.
Project dates	Start: 09-05-2011 End: 09-05-2011
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	4776 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	RHD11 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	RR/2010/1869 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX ROTHER RYE Hilltop Drive
Postcode	TN31 7HT
Study area	0.50 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 91846 21416 50.9595726685 0.732140451741 50 57 34 N
000 43 55 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 45.00m Max: 55.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	East Sussex County Council
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Jon Sygrave
Project supervisor	Simon Stevens
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Abbott Construction Ltd.

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	n/a
Digital Archive recipient	Hastings Museum
Digital Contents	'other'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography', 'Survey', 'Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Hastings Museum
Paper Contents	'other'
Paper Media available	'Correspondence', 'Miscellaneous Material', 'Report', 'Unpublished Text'

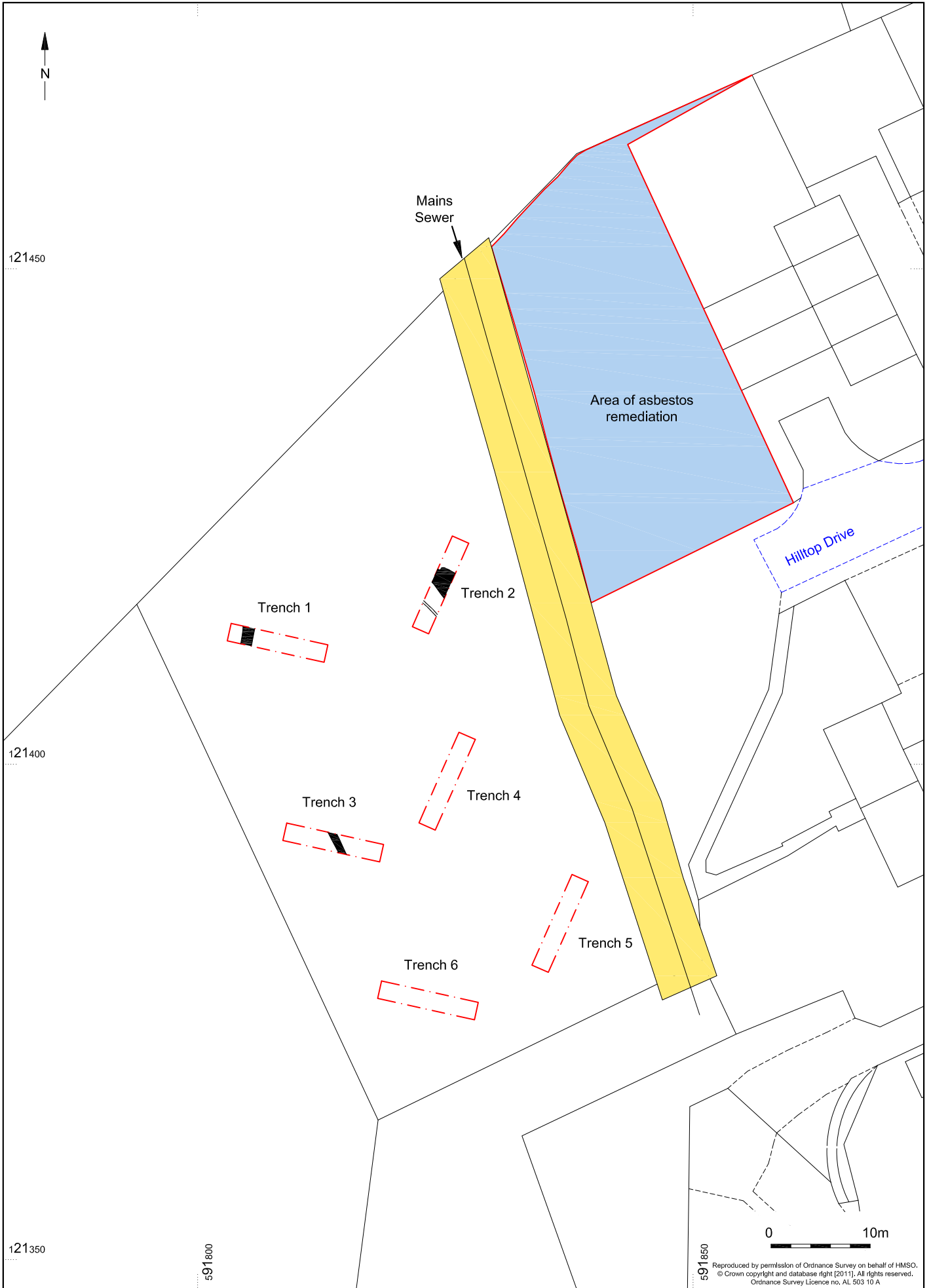
Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at Hilltop Drive, Rye, East Sussex

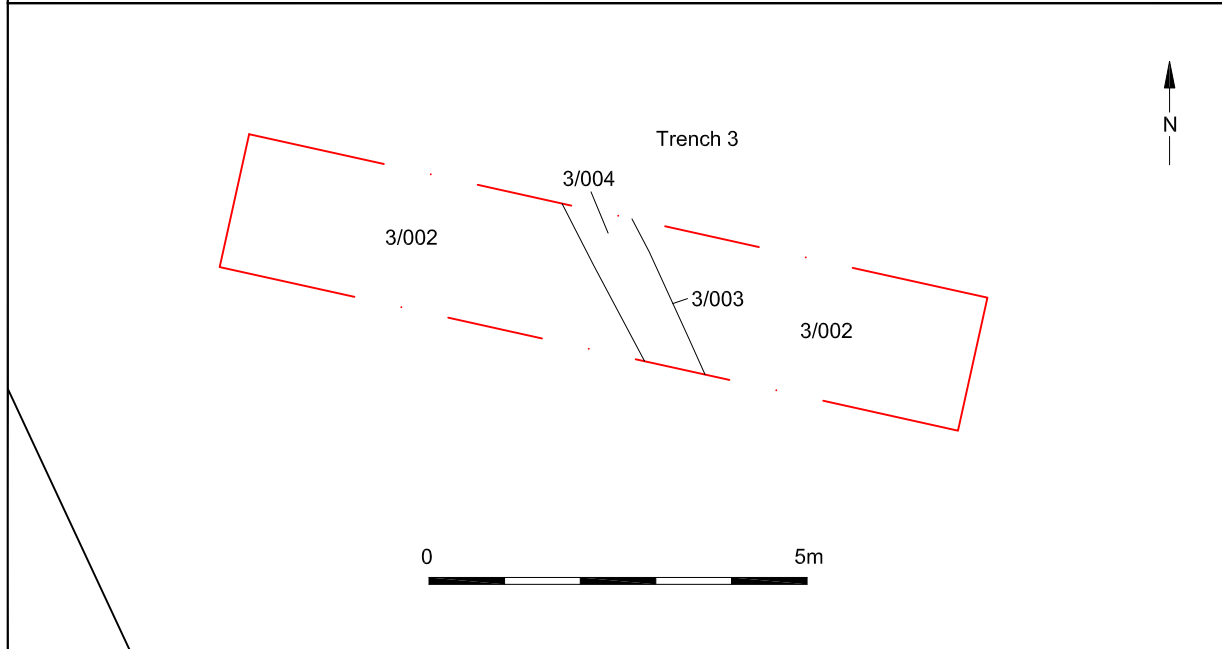
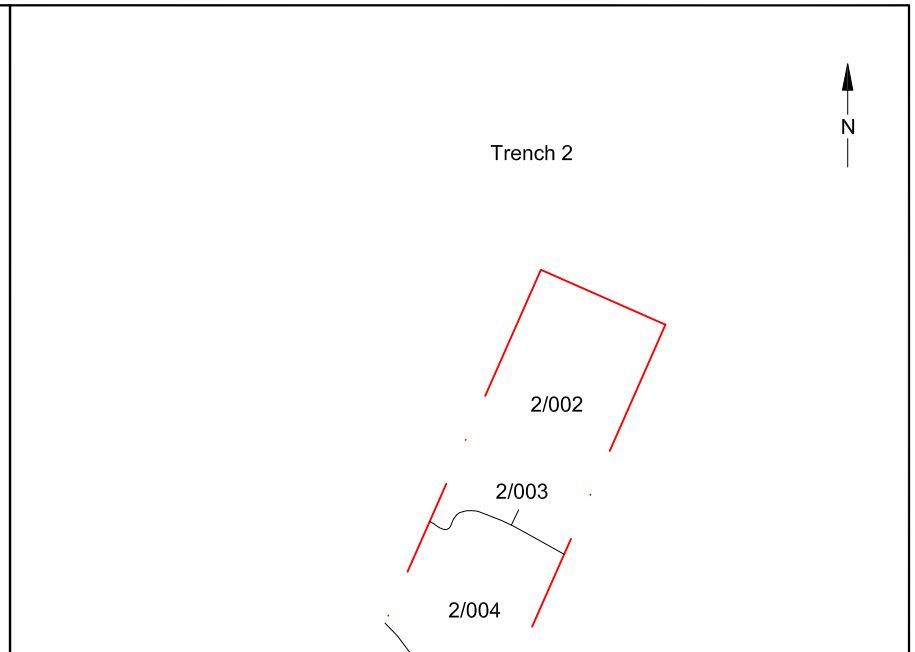
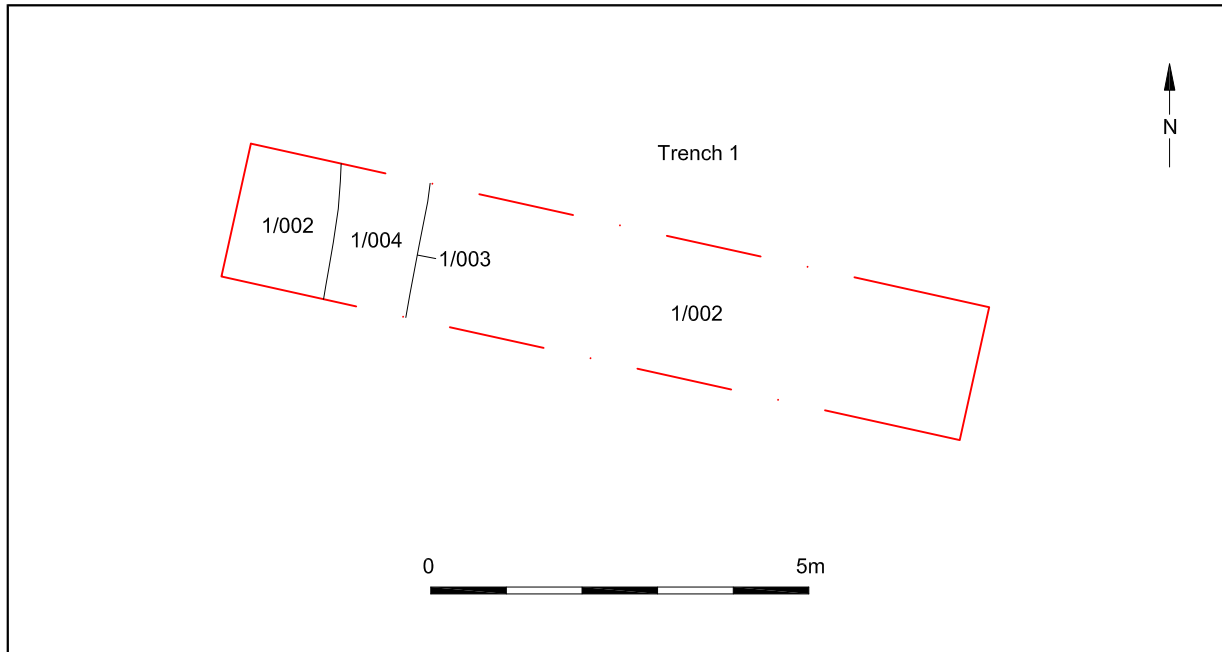
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Stevens, S.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No. 2011103
Date	2011
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade, East Sussex
Description	Standard ASE client report - A4 sized with cover logos



© Archaeology South-East		Hilltop Drive, Rye	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4776	May 2011	Site location	
Report Ref: 2011103	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Hilltop Drive, Rye	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4776	May 2011	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2011103	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		Hilltop Drive, Rye	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 4776	May 2011	Trench plans	
Report Ref: 2011103	Drawn by: DJH		

Head Office
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1DR
Tel: +44(0)1273 426830 Fax: +44(0)1273 420866
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
Web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk



London Office
Centre for Applied Archaeology
Institute of Archaeology
University College London
31-34 Gordon Square, London, WC1 0PY
Tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778
Fax: +44(0)20 7383 2572
Web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

The contracts division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, University College London 

©Archaeology South-East