Wessex Archaeology

Alfoldean, Slinfold, West Sussex

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

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Alfoldean, Slinfold, West Sussex

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Summary

In October 2005 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's Time Team at the site of Alfoldean, Slinfold, West Sussex (centred on NGR 5117 1328) to investigate the remains of a Romano-British *mansio* and staging post complex which straddled the Roman road Stane Street, and the associated strip settlement. Part of the Site is a Scheduled Monument (WS222). The evaluation comprised an extensive geophysical survey and six trenches.

The Site had been investigated in the early part of the 20th century by Samuel Winbolt, who exposed parts of the *mansio* building and attempted to define the associated strip settlement along Stane Street to the south.

The geophysical survey successfully plotted the outline of the bank and ditch enclosure surrounding the *mansio* complex, some of the *mansio* walls, and elements of the strip settlement including field systems, trackways, pits and areas of possible industrial activity. Ditches and trackways were largely aligned on Stane Street, and the focus of the settlement appeared to lie on the eastern side of the Roman road. Trenching augmented these results with more detail of some of the rooms within the *mansio*, their construction and later robbing, enabling the definition of this site as a classic courtyard *mansio*. A trench was also excavated across the bank and ditches of the enclosure on the southern side.

To the south of the enclosure one trench investigated a roughly curving geophysical anomaly which originally appeared to represent part of a roundhouse (presumed to be prehistoric) with central hearth, but which on excavation was seen to be part of a Romano-British enclosure ditch. A second trench, towards the southern limit of the surveyed area, revealed two intercutting pits filled with domestic debris.

No evidence for Iron Age activity on the site was recovered, and the *mansio* and surrounding enclosure appear to have been constructed some time in the later 1st century AD. The focus of activity on the Site was from the later 1st century into the 3rd century AD, with sporadic later activity, broadly confirming the results of previous fieldwork on the Site. The end date of the *mansio* complex, however, remains unclear.

Post-Roman agricultural practices were seen to have had a significant impact on the underlying archaeology, with plough scars and land drains recorded in several of the excavated trenches.

Acknowledgements

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Michael Douglas (Series Editor), Melinda Smith (Production Manager), Oliver Twinch (Assistant Producer), and Kate Edwards and Nick Gillam-Smith (Researchers) and Jenny James (Production Co-ordinator) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Fiona Robertson and Claire Stephens of GSB Prospection. The field survey was undertaken by Henry Chapman, University of Birmingham. The excavation strategy was conducted by Neil Holbrook of Cotswold Archaeology. The on-site recording was coordinated by Steve Thompson, assisted by Naomi Hall, both of Wessex Archaeology. The finds were processed on-site by Naomi Hall.

The excavations were undertaken by Time Team's retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (of Wessex Archaeology), Raksha Dave, Kerry Ely, Matt Williams, Ian Powlesland and Brigid Gallagher with assistance from Dave Dunkin, David Yates, Karen Kirk, Tracey Smith, Sid Jeffries, Helene McNeill and a number of volunteers from Christ's Hospital School.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Steve Thompson, with specialist reports prepared by Lorraine Mepham and Talla Hopper (finds) and Jessica Grimm (animal bone), and Dr. Michael J. Allen, Dr Catherine Chisham, Dr Chris J. Stevens and Sarah Wyles (environmental). Environmental samples were processed by Hayley Clark. The illustrations were prepared by Linda Coleman. The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mepham.

The work also benefited from discussion on site with Neil Holbrook of Cotswold Archaeology, Roman pottery expert Mark Corney, Roman Sussex expert Miles Russell, local archaeologist Mike Luke, and Liz Wilson of the Portable Antiquities Scheme (Sussex).

Thanks also go to Judith Roebuck of English Heritage and John Mills and Mark Taylor, County Archaeologists for West Sussex County Council.

Finally thanks are extended to the Pallinghurst Farm Partners for allowing access to the Site for geophysical survey and archaeological excavation.

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Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the Romano-British *mansio* site of Alfoldean, Slinfold, West Sussex (hereafter 'the Site').

1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by Time Team, and presents an assessment of the results of these works, along with recommendations for further analysis and dissemination.

1.2 Description of the Site

1.2.1 The Site is located approximately 6km west of Horsham within the parish of Slinfold in West Sussex (centred on NGR 5117 1328) and occupies two fields situated on either side of the modern A29 and directly south of the River Arun. The Site derives its name from the modern bridge which crosses the Arun, originally known as Alfoldean (**Figure 1**).

1.2.2 The Site lies within a large meander of the River Arun, with the land sloping down to the flood plain of the river and its tributary from all directions, with the highest area of the Site c.31m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying geology comprises alluvial silts overlying Arun 3rd and 4th gravel terraces, overlying clay and sandstone (BGS 1972).

1.2.3 An area of the Site is considered of national importance and has been designated a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM WS222).

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.3.1 The Site straddles Stane Street, the main Roman road between London (*Londinium*) and Chichester (*Noviomagus*), in an area rich in prehistoric and Romano-British archaeology with numerous sites and finds spots identified in the vicinity.

1.3.2 At Rowhook, north of Alfoldean, a Neolithic tranchet adze (SMR No. WS4582) and a Bronze Age axe were found (SMR No. WS488) with a number of other Neolithic flint finds spots nearby (SMR No. WS6673 and WS6665).

1.3.3 At Iping, south-east of Alfoldean, the site of a *mansio* (SMR No. WS6499) was revealed on aerial photographs, and a Roman structure and burial at Robin Bottom (SMR No. WS2102) was also identified. Directly south of Alfoldean is the Roman posting station, enclosure and cemetery at Hardham

(SMR No. WS3200, WS2900, WS2905) with numerous finds of Roman coins as well in the area. Pulborough and Bignor villas are located to the south-west, with a third villa site at Ewhurst to the north-west. Pottery kilns are known at Itchingfield to the south-east, at Ewhurst to the north-west and the quarry at Broadfield to the east.

1.3.4 The Roman road between London and Chichester was referred to as Stane Street from around AD930 in Sussex and 1279 in Surrey, from a potential Saxon origin as *Stan Street*, referring to the stone slabs which formed the surface of the road (Glover 1997).

1.3.5 The Roman road system in Britain originated in the 1st century AD as a military system centred on strategically positioned London. The roads linked London to the Romanised towns constructed in the native centres of the south-east and to the legionary bases and later towns to the north and west. The Roman government needed it to control areas using the commanders of the regional forts, but it was also necessary for the administration of the Roman army, government officials and soldiers to travel between the various forts on government business. The government therefore authorised the construction of *praetoria*, a series of roadside accommodation sites for high ranking officials to eat, sleep and procure fresh transport for their journey. This system of roads and accommodation became known as the *cursus publicu*s, literally 'public passage'.

1.3.6 The staging posts of the 1st century AD were normally attached to earlier forts, although later, government officials were often billeted in the houses within roadside settlements or *vici*. These *vici* often preceded the construction of purpose-built accommodation for government officials, with bath-houses and stables and other such facilities within a defensive enclosure (Black 1995, 1).

1.3.7 The type of roadside accommodation within a staging post consisted of two categories, divided into 'standard' and 'first class' accommodation. As sites have been interpreted as containing both classes of accommodation, so the word *mansio* ('a place to stop the night') was used to refer to such places. A *mansio* differed from a *praetorium* in that it was not just for high ranking officials, and also from *mutation,* regarded as 'a place to change transport' and not 'a place to stop the night'. *Mansio* has now become the preferred term for a roadside accommodation site (Black 1995, 1 and 12).

1.3.8 English Heritage defines a *mansio* as a Roman building or complex of buildings which was intended to provide facilities, including accommodation and stabling for travellers involved with the provincial postal service (*cursus publicus*). *Mansio* complexes are normally built in stone and generally include suites of rooms and an integral or adjacent bath-house. By reason of their function, they occur exclusively on or immediately adjacent to major roads. *Mansiones* occur in urban areas, including small towns and fort *vici*, as well as in rural contexts. In some places they may have formed the nucleus of a growing roadside settlement (www.eng-h.gov.uk/mpp/mcd/sub/datman1.htm).

1.3.9 *Mansio* sites and other places of accommodation were positioned at convenient intervals along the length of a road between major urban centres. A list of such accommodation was recorded in the Bordeaux Itinerary, a 4th century book describing the route from Bordeaux to Jerusalem for pilgrims, and describes accommodation as *civitates*, *mansiones* or *mutationes*. The document was designed for travellers on horse-back or those travelling by carriage and listed accommodation at a distance of a single day's journey, on average 20-35 Roman miles (approximately 29-51km or 18–31 miles) apart.

1.3.10 The Antonine Itinerary contains a collection of routes from varying dates within the Roman world. The collection possibly dates from some time before AD 326, with the British section of the Itinerary dating to the late 3rd or early 4th century AD. The routes within the Antonine Itinerary were designed for travellers on foot or those accompanying slow-moving convoys or transport wagons, and listed accommodation at the distance of a single day's journey for them. The distances recorded between accommodation were between 20 and 15 Roman miles (approximately 22-29km or 13-18 miles) with only a handful less than 15 Roman miles apart (Black 1995, 12-13).

1.3.11 Stane Street is not mentioned as a route within the Antonine Itinerary, though the distances between accommodation centres between London and Chichester do conform to the average distances recorded. The distance from London to Ewell is 14 Roman miles. At Ewell a settlement was identified adjacent to the road, potentially 900m long by 200m wide, where a number of structures have been excavated, one dated AD 96-160 and another from the late 4th century AD, the whole settlement potentially surrounded by a defensive ditch. From Ewell to Dorking is just less than 10 Roman miles, where 2nd century AD deposits and features have been identified adjacent to Stane Street.

1.3.12 The distance from Dorking to the known *mansio* at Alfoldean is 11.5 Roman miles, and from Alfoldean to Hardham is 12 Roman miles. At Hardham a rectangular banked and ditched enclosure measuring c.134m by 122m and encompassing an area of some 4.125 acres was identified, although much of the enclosure was destroyed by the cutting of the Midhurst to Pulborough railway line (now disused), and the excavation of a large quarry pit for ballast for the railway line. A small excavation was carried out by S. E Winbolt in 1926 which revealed a rammed dark earth floor layer, a flint wall foundation, a number of cremations and large pits containing pottery wasters. There was evidence of late 1st to early 2nd century pottery production on site. The distance from Hardham to Chichester is recorded as almost 15 Roman miles (Black 1995, 15; VCH 1973, 36-7; Smith 1987, 274-7; Cleary 1987, 7 and 91).

1.3.13 Only one *mansio* has been excavated in its entirety in this country, at Inchtuthil in Scotland, located 40m from the south-east corner of the legionary fort there and dated to some time before AD 88. The enclosure contained two courtyards surrounded by barracks on one side and another timber building consisting of two rooms, heated by a hypocaust system, on the other – in other words, barrack-like 'standard class' accommodation and

'first class' accommodation separated by a courtyard area, with a detached bath-house and stabling. This type of layout and the type of buildings within the enclosure is considered as typical, and the norm within a *mansio* staging post.

1.3.14 The earliest *mansio* identified in Britain is recorded in the Antonine Itinerary; it is situated at Richborough in Kent, and dates to just after AD43. It is clear that *mansio* complexes continued to be built in the mid 4th century, with some sites such as Catterick being occupied in the late 4th century and possibly beyond, while it is clear that other sites were abandoned well before this time (Black 1995, 17; www.eng-h.gov.uk/mpp/mcd/sub/datman2.htm). The major period of *mansio* building seems to have lasted between 250 and 300 years, from about the 2nd quarter of the 2nd century until the late 4th century AD, with the peak of building in the middle of the 2nd century (www.eng-h.gov.uk/mpp/mcd/sub/datman8.htm).

1.3.15 Two main types of *mansio* complex have been identified, those with an open courtyard and those formed as a complex of discrete buildings, which may be contemporary or of different dates, and either linked by corridors or physically separated. The courtyard *mansiones* are the most common recorded, with examples at Silchester, Chesterholm, Chelmsford, Wanborough, and Wall.

1.3.16 Courtyard mansiones are described as basically square or rectangular in plan, comprising three or four ranges of rooms arranged around a central square or rectangular open courtyard. In most known examples the courtyard is enclosed on all four sides; ranges of rooms commonly occupy three sides while the fourth is often formed by a corridor, ambulatory or similar. The rooms vary in size both between and within individual mansiones; in the case of Silchester the rooms in the north and south wings appear to be arranged in 'suites', each suite consisting of one or two large rooms adjoined by two smaller ones and flanked by a service corridor. Larger rooms within the mansiones were frequently provided with hypocausts (www.eng-h.gov.uk/mpp/mcd/sub/datman3.htm).

1.3.17 *Mansiones* would probably have had stables and bake-houses, although no proof of such structures has so far been identified in the archaeological record.

1.4 Previous Archaeological Work

1.4.1 The *mansio* and staging post at Alfoldean was first identified as such following investigations at the beginning of the 19th century and excavations at the beginning of the 20th; a summary of the previous archaeological work within the staging post is given below.

1.4.2 The first evidence of archaeological remains at Alfoldean was made in 1775 when T. Warton (recorded in Dallaway's *History of Sussex*, 1819) stated that '*on the edge of a lane in the parish of Slynfold…I saw several deep fissures made in the Stane Street…The Dorsum* (surface of the road)*, not intended for heavy carriages, consists of sea gravel and sea pebbles, abounding on the*

Sussex coast, about 3 feet deep and 7 yards long (wide). *These minute materials must have been amassed by prodigious labour*' (Winbolt 1923, 87).

1.4.3 It was not until 1809-10 during road restoration, when the lane which ran through the Site was turned to a hard road by Charles, Duke of Norfolk following a Road Act by George III, that Romano-British archaeology and the existence of the staging post was revealed. Martin, writing in 1859 in the *Sussex Archaeological Collections* (Volume XI) states that '*the proper line of the causeway had fallen almost into a state of nature…The restoration brought in to notice a Roman station at Alfoldean Bridge…in approaching the bridge the road makers found they were passing through a bed of gravel. This is no other than a natural bed of drift, rare of its kind.*' This work saw the cutting through of the inner bank of the defensive enclosure and the identification of some coins, wall plaster, tiles and bricks. The alignment of the road was moved during this time, so the current A29 runs slightly to the west of the line of Stane Street and not directly on top of it. In the 1840s sporadic digging was carried out by the then owner Mr. Briggs, but nothing was recorded of his discoveries if any (Videotext Communications 2005, 7; Winbolt 1923, 87).

1.4.4 In 1912 during ploughing within the enclosure Belloc recorded that a 'red *tesserae* mosaic floor' was revealed (Winbolt 1923, 87). This is likely to have been a tessellated pavement and not a mosaic floor.

1.4.5 Systematic investigation of the Site began in 1922, conducted by Samuel Winbolt, Head of Classics at Christ's Hospital School in Horsham, with work carried out over several seasons from 1922-24 and 1934-5. Winbolt concentrated on the interior of the enclosure and published his results in the *Sussex Archaeological Collections*. Much of the reports are inconsistent and difficult to interpret and the plans difficult to follow and to compare with the text. A summary of Winbolt's findings is given here (Winbolt 1923, 81-93; 1924, 112-22; Luke and Wells 2000, 75-7).

1.4.6 Winbolt concentrated his efforts on the eastern side of Stane Street and was able to show that the *mansio* building was positioned centrally within the visible earthwork of the enclosure. During his investigation into the bank and ditch of the enclosure an *intravallum road* was identified. Winbolt identified and named a number of structures within the enclosure but due to the lack of dating it is difficult to ascertain whether these structures were contemporaneous. In the north-east corner of the enclosure a series of stone/brick walls was identified associated with a tessellated surface and a pink mortar corridor interpreted as a path. It is possible that the tessellated surface uncovered by Winbolt was the same as that recorded by Belloc in 1912. This building was interpreted as the 'officers' quarters'. To the north of this building a disturbed area of pink mortar floors was revealed, associated with a layer of large tiles, interpreted as possible evidence of a hypocaust system (Luke and Wells 2000, 77).

1.4.7 Winbolt identified a long, roughly north-south aligned corridor running parallel to Stane Street, and it is possible that this corridor lines up with the

corridor identified to the north associated with the 'officers quarters', and a number of rammed clay floor surfaces associated with other buildings within the *mansio* complex

1.4.8 Winbolt also carried out limited work outside the area of the enclosure to investigate the possibility of a strip settlement extending away from the staging post to the south. He recorded a single building and suggested that the settlement could extend for at least half a mile.

1.4.9 In 1929 Winbolt's investigations into Stane Sreet showed that its make-up deposits were partly constructed from iron slag, possibly brought in from elsewhere. In 1934 he recorded a series of upright piles and stakes within the River Arun and concluded that they derived from the original Roman bridge (Videotext Communications 2005, 4). Further work was carried out at the site in 1934, when the modern bridge was underpinned and a series of rubble spreads and Roman bricks and tiles were revealed as well as a number of wooden stakes. It was concluded that the rubble derived from masonry pier bases (NMR Report. No. TQ 13 SW 1).

1.4.10 During the 1980s and 1990s intermittent work was undertaken by Mike Luke and others, which included earthwork survey, field walking and aerial photograph analysis, which concluded that the *mansio* was part of a much larger settlement which was not included within the SAM. Luke records the site as a chain of deliberately planted settlements along Stane Street, extending from the enclosure and covering an area of some 9 hectares. During 1998 a watching brief was undertaken by John Mills of West Sussex County Council during the construction of a lay-by along the A29 and identified features associated with the Romano-British staging post.

2 METHODS

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled by Videotext Communications Ltd (Videotext Communications 2005), providing full details of the research aims and methods. This Project Design was agreed with the County Archaeologist and English Heritage following the granting of Scheduled Monument Consent from English Heritage for work within the Scheduled Area. A brief summary is provided here.

2.2 Aims and Objectives

2.2.1 The project provided the opportunity to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a Romano-British site about which very little is known, a site which has seen only limited excavation and none since the 1930s. The project aimed to ascertain the location, date, character, condition and extent of the underlying archaeology, using geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation.

2.2.2 The specific research questions for the project are as follows:

- What has been the effect of ploughing on the underlying archaeology?
- What is the size of the settlement and does it extend to the south of the SAM?
- What is the chronology of the settlement? Can the earliest and latest periods of activity be identified?
- What is the nature of the structures within the enclosure?
- Can the remains of Stane Street be identified?
- Why were the *mansio* and staging post positioned where they were?

2.3 Fieldwork Methods

2.3.1 The project design proposed that both sides of the A29 should be open for investigation with the geophysical survey being carried out in both these areas.

2.3.2 It was decided to concentrate the excavation on the eastern side of the road where Winbolt had carried out his investigations in the early 20th century. The project design proposed that both the SAM and the land to the south of the Scheduled area were to be investigated; it was agreed that the excavated trenches within the Scheduled area would not exceed 250 square metres (just over 2% of the Scheduled area). Prior to the commencement of work within the SAM, Scheduled Monument Consent was obtained from English Heritage.

2.3.3 Six evaluation trenches of varying sizes were excavated after consultation between the on-site director Neil Holbrook and other specialists. Their precise locations were targeted on geophysical anomalies.

2.3.4 The trenches were excavated using a Back-Hoe excavator with a toothless ditching bucket. All machine trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological remains, or where natural geology was encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits investigated, as outlined in the agreed Project Design.

2.3.5 The topsoil and subsoil excavated from the trenches were kept separate and set aside for reinstatement in the correct order. The excavated up-cast was scanned by metal detector, using detectorists recommended by the Finds Liaison Officer (Sussex) for the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

2.3.6 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10. All principle strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.

2.3.7 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising colour transparencies, black and white negatives (on 35mm film) and digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.

2.3.8 A unique site code was agreed prior to the commencement of works. The code is ALF 05.

2.3.9 All excavated artefacts and materials were transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

2.3.10 The fieldwork was carried out between the 11th and 14th October 2005.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features, a full geophysical report (GSB 2005) and results of the artefactual and palaeo-environmental assessments are retained in the archive. Detailed summaries of the excavated sequences are presented here in **Appendix 1**, while the results of the geophysical survey are incorporated here.

3.2 Geophysical Survey

3.2.1 The geophysical survey succeeded not only in providing the footprint of the *mansio* building and the surrounding banked and ditched enclosure, but also in identifying an extensive complex of archaeological features extending south of the enclosure, interpreted as part of strip settlement which grew up parallel to Stane Street following the establishment of the *mansio*.

3.2.2 The magnetic survey of the eastern side of the A29 (Area 1) revealed a complex of anomalies of archaeological interest. While the stronger anomalies are associated with the enclosure the better defined responses reflect the settlement that extends southwards (**Figure 1**).

3.2.3 Anomalies (1) and (2) represent the eastern and southern defences of the *mansio* complex and show a double-ditched enclosure, confirmed by the subsequent excavation of Trench 2. It is unclear whether the defences on the eastern side continue straight and utilise the River Arun as the northern defence, or turn to the west.

3.2.4 The complex of anomalies (5) includes a number of short linear features at right angles to each other interpreted as the walls of rooms. On excavation it became clear that these linear features were the robbed out walls of the eastern range of the *mansio* building. On this basis it was possible to identify in the magnetic data a number of small rooms and a linking corridor positioned on the eastern side of an open courtyard (6). The data also highlighted the inner western wall of the *mansio* fronting on to the courtyard

on the western side. These interpretations were later confirmed by the excavation of Trenches 4 and 6.

3.2.5 Along the eastern edge of the A29 an unusual band of anomalies (8) was identified. The strength of the results suggests that the features have a highly enhanced magnetic fill, perhaps indicating that a small scale industrial process was occurring in the vicinity or that the area had been subjected to some form of conflagration. Further north at (9) are several strong, well defined anomalies that could indicate small kilns or similar burnt/fired features. If not kilns, the features may represent large rubbish pits containing burnt material.

3.2.6 In the north-east corner of the enclosure was an area of very strong enhancement (10) which was difficult to interpret; the subsequent excavation of Trench 1 nearby revealed complex deposits of Romano-British material cut through by Winbolt's trenches and subsequently backfilled.

3.2.7 Directly south of the enclosure was a curving linear anomaly (11) initially interpreted as prehistoric due to its form; this area was subsequently investigated in Trench 3.

3.2.8 Linear anomalies (12) at various points along the field boundary support the view that the line of Stane Street was originally further east than the present day A29 (see above, section 1.4.2). It would seem that the course has changed by a few metres and that anomalies (12) indicate the position of the easternmost roadside ditch.

3.2.9 The magnetic results suggest an extensive settlement established on the eastern side of Stane Street, and was recorded for at least 300m south of the *mansio* enclosure. This strip settlement consists of paddocks, small fields and areas of houses and work shops connected by double ditched anomalies (13) and (14), interpreted as trackways aligned north-south and east-west. The north-south aligned trackway running parallel to Stane Street was probably the back lane of properties fronting on to the Street, thus allowing access into the properties from the east. The east-west aligned trackways (one at the north and one at the south end of the north-south aligned trackway) not only allowed access from Stane Street to the rear of the properties fronting the Street but also allowed access to the River Arun. The river could be used as a communication route as it was closer to the strip settlement at this point than the crossing at Alfoldean Bridge.

3.2.10 A number of large pit-like anomalies (15-17) were identified, probably associated with the strip settlement.

3.2.11 The survey on the western side of the A29 revealed that approximately one quarter of the enclosure survives within this field; however, the western defences were not as apparent in the survey due to a lack of magnetic responses. The survey in this area also showed that the strip settlement appeared to be concentrated on the eastern side of the A29, as a distinct lack of magnetic responses were observed. This may have been due to the easier access to the River Arun from the eastern side.

3.3 Archaeological Evaluation

*Trench 1 (**Figures 1 & 2**)*

3.3.1 Trench 1 was aligned roughly north-south and positioned to investigate one of Winbolt's 1920s excavation trenches within the northern wing of the *mansio*. It was located in an area of strong magnetic enhancement which was difficult to interpret.

3.3.2 Following the removal of the current ploughsoil (101), and (102), interpreted as a possible reworked ploughsoil, *in situ* archaeology was revealed. The exposed archaeology consisted of overlapping deposits of Romano-British material with no clear structures or features visible. A coin of Constantine I (AD 310-311) came from the ploughsoil, and a second coin, a barbarous radiate dated AD 270-96, from the subsoil.

3.3.3 The trench had been placed to investigate Winbolt's earlier excavations in an attempt to reinterpret his results. It seemed that he had followed possible structures and features, resulting in irregular-shaped trenches cutting across various layers and deposits. A number of interventions were excavated through the backfilled deposits of Winbolt's trench to investigate the *in situ* deposits through which he had dug, without removing any *in situ* archaeology. At least 0.70m of stratified deposits survived within the trench, and the nature of these layers could not be resolved in the time allowed. Therefore, following hand cleaning of the deposits, no further excavation occurred and interpretation of the exposed archaeology is based on limited investigation.

3.3.4 Winbolt's trench was recorded as cut (113) and was backfilled with a number of deposits, derived from the excavated up-cast, and recorded as (103), (104), (114) and (116); individual contexts were assigned to areas of backfilling of the trench where it cut through particular *in situ* deposits. Winbolt's trench consisted of two roughly east-west aligned slots joined at the eastern end by a north-south aligned slot. The two east-west slots were positioned perpendicular to the current A29 with the north-south slot running parallel to the road, and the trench may therefore have followed the walls of structures positioned alongside Stane Street, perhaps the walls of rooms within the *mansio*, although these walls were likely to have been robbed out.

3.3.5 No clear phasing of the deposits could be discerned although potentially the earliest deposit identified was a large-scale dumped layer of redeposited natural (126), containing small fragments of ceramic building material (CBM). This was interpreted as a backfilling deposit within a large quarry feature, a quarry which existed prior to the building of the *mansio* and the ditched enclosure of the staging post. The underlying geology is alluvium sealing green sandstone, and large fragments of green sandstone have been recovered from the surrounding area and identified as being used as foundation stones within Trench 4 (see below). The quarry may therefore have been dug to provide stone for the buildings. No dating evidence was recovered from (126).

3.3.6 On the eastern side of the trench a slot through Winbolt's backfilled trench revealed a possible rammed clay surface (122). This was recorded for 1.40m in length by 1.00m wide by 0.07m thickness, and overlay a possible earlier mortar floor surface (123), which was only noted in section (0.04m in thickness). This surface overlay make-up deposit (124), which in turn sealed a deliberate dump (125). Three sherds of pottery from (125) are undiagnostic body sherds of Romano-British greyware; a soil sample taken from this layer yielded no palaeo-environmental material.

3.3.7 No other structures associated with the floor surfaces were identified in Trench 1, although a number of possible demolition layers were revealed. At the southern end of the trench was deposit (121), which remained unexcavated, but which was probably later than redeposited natural layer (126) (although Winbolt's trench had obscured the relationship). Deposit (118) was similarly unexcavated but is also likely to represent *in situ* Romano-British archaeology.

3.3.8 At the northern end of Trench 1 was a large spread of *in situ* Romano-British material (119), overlain by a two later deposits - (123) and (115). Layer (123) was possibly the fill of a robbed out wall, but was unexcavated. Deposit (115) was revealed in the north-west corner of the trench, and was interpreted as a demolition deposit containing wall plaster and CBM. Winbolt recorded a pink mortar corridor and disturbed areas of pink mortar floors within this area and it is likely that deposit (115) represented part of this.

3.3.9 Interpretation of the exposed deposits in Trench 1 proved difficult due to limited excavation and partial destruction by the early 20th century excavations. Damage to the deposits had also occurred through more recent agricultural practices, and plough scars (107), (109) and (111) clearly cut the *in situ* layers. The plough scars, probably modern, were identified at a depth of 0.40m below the current land surface and penetrated the archaeology by about 0.10m.

3.3.10 Dating evidence from Trench 1 was limited; apart from the two coins mentioned above, small quantities of pottery were recovered, largely from topsoil, subsoil and 1920s trench backfill layers. Diagnostic sherds indicate a date range which need be no earlier than 2nd century AD, and no later than 3rd century, somewhat earlier than the coin dates.

*Trench 2 (**Figures 1 & 2**)*

3.3.11 Trench 2 was aligned north-south. It was positioned alongside the A29 to investigate the southern east-west aligned earthwork which was interpreted as forming the boundary of the staging post.

3.3.12 Archaeological deposits were revealed following the removal of the current plough soil (201). The earliest feature identified was an east-west aligned ditch (212). This feature was only partially excavated and the true dimensions are unknown; it was recorded for 0.60m in length and 2.30m wide with a depth of 0.65m. Ditch (212) cut the natural geology (217), with a gradual sloping southern side (the northern side was not exposed) and a flat base (**Figure 2, Section 2**). The earliest fill was (213) a slumping deposit

derived from the erosion of the ditch edges. Overlying this was a second natural slumping deposit (211). As the ditch fell out of use and became silted up it was eventually sealed by the formation of topsoil layer (204). Where the topsoil overlay the natural geology (217) it was recorded as (210). Pottery from (213), (211) and (204)/(210) is consistently early Roman (later 1st/2nd century AD), including samian, necked jars, a carinated bowl and an imitation Gallo-Belgic platter. Environmental samples were taken from the buried ground surface (204/210) and ditch fill (211) for general palaeo-environmental assessment, and two overlapping soil monoliths through ditch (212) for soil micromorphology (see below, **Section 5**). A possible dump of charcoal in the secondary ditch fill (211) may indicate local activity.

3.3.13 At the southern end of Trench 2 a ditch (216), seemingly dug later than (212), was excavated running parallel to ditch (212). This ditch was only partially excavated; neither the base nor the sides of the feature were exposed (**Figure 2, Section 1**). It was interpreted as the outer ditch of the enclosure of the staging post with an internal bank on the northern side created from the excavated up-cast (206) of the ditch, which sealed buried ground surface (210/204). The remains of the bank had been truncated by later ploughing activity (**Figure 2, plate**).

3.3.14 Following the disuse of the enclosure the ditch was allowed to silt up. The lowest recorded fill was (215), sealed by (214). These two deposits (both unexcavated) were sealed by charcoal-rich deposit (209), possibly representing waste material such as hearth clearances discarded into the silted up ditch. A large pottery assemblage from (209) (no finds were recovered from (214) or (215)) includes samian, Continental black-slipped wares and Nene Valley fineware, with a date range of 1st to 3rd centuries AD. Upper fills of the ditch comprised (208), probably derived from the erosion of the northern bank deposit (206), and (207), directly below the current topsoil (201).

3.3.15 Partially overlying the now eroded bank deposit (206) was layer (203). This may well be a deposit laid down during ploughing of the site following the abandonment of the *mansio* and staging post. One sherd of Oxfordshire fineware pottery from this layer has a probable late Roman (3rd/4th century AD) date. Overlying (203) was deposit (202), possibly the final infilling of the depression left by ditch (212) and probably derived from ploughing activity on the site following the abandonment of the site.

*Trench 3 (**Figures 1 & 3**)*

3.3.16 Trench 3 was 11.80m long by 7.40m wide and roughly east-west aligned with a 7.5m by 1.5m extension at the north-eastern corner. The trench was positioned in order to investigate geophysical anomalies in an area outside the main staging post and *mansio* enclosure, in an attempt to identify structures associated with the strip development along Stane Street. This area included anomaly (11), initially believed to be prehistoric in date due to its form. The features within Trench 3 were all highly truncated by later activity and it was clear that recent agriculture had impacted upon the archaeology with several clear plough scars and a modern land drain visible.

3.3.17 *In situ* archaeology was revealed following the removal of the current ploughsoil (301). The earliest archaeology cut deposit (349), a large spread of silty clay interpreted as a possible old subsoil. The earliest feature identified was a large curving ditch Group (350), of which only a portion was revealed. This feature coincided with geophysical anomaly (11) and was originally thought to be a roundhouse with a diameter of approximately 13.8m; subsequent excavation, however, and finds recovered, suggested an alternative interpretation.

3.3.18 Four slots were excavated through the ditch: (309), (331), (333) and (335). The ditch was flat bottomed with gentle sloping sides and varied in width from a maximum of 1.60m in (333), to 1.10 in (309) with an average depth of just 0.15m. Each slot revealed a single ditch fill (310), (332), (334) and (336), containing just over 100 sherds of pottery including samian, Cologne colour coated ware, Dressel 20 amphora and a possible New Forest mortarium, with a date range of 1st to 3rd/4th century AD.

3.3.19 An internal hearth structure partially exposed on the northern edge of the trench consisted of two deposits, which were cleaned but remained unexcavated. The upper layer of the hearth (329) contained abundant fragments and blocks of fire-cracked flint, probably a deliberate deposit within a shallow pit. The surrounding layer around (329) was (313), a compact silty clay; it is unclear if this is a deliberate deposition or whether it is heat affected natural.

3.3.20 Seven shallow post-holes were identified within the interior of the possible roundhouse, four following the curve of the ditch towards the eastern side, and three to the west of the central hearth (cuts (321), (323), (325), (347), (327), (341) and (343)). Only (327) and (321) were excavated. These post-holes may represent a post-built structure containing the hearth, but the relationship(s) between post-holes, hearth, ditch (350) and later ditch (351) is unclear.

3.3.21 Following the disuse and silting up of ditch (350), several other ditches were dug, possibly relating to later landscape divisions or property boundaries. Five such ditches were identified, three of which clearly cut the backfilled ditch (350). The earliest of these was (316), revealed in section following the excavation of ditch slot (335). This roughly north-south aligned ditch cut through (350) and was only recorded for a short distance; it was filled with (317), which contained pottery of early Roman (later 1st/2nd century AD) date. To the east of (316) was a second ditch (318), also north-south aligned. The relationship between (316) and (318) was unresolved. Both were sealed by a large gravelly silt spread (320).

3.3.22 Two roughly east-west aligned ditches (352) and (353) were identified cutting ditch (350) to the west of slot (331), the terminals of the two ditches almost butting. A third ditch (351) was aligned roughly north-south with the southern terminal almost butting the two other terminals.

3.3.23 Ditch Group (352) was 3.53m long by 0.62m wide and on average 0.12m deep, east-west aligned with a terminal at its eastern end. Two slots were

excavated across this ditch, (305) and the terminal (339). The ditch was filled with (306/340) which appeared to represent natural silting. Datable material from the ditch was restricted to two undiagnostic sherds of Romano-British pottery.

3.3.24 Ditch Group (353) was 8.5m long by 0.65m wide and on average 0.11m deep, east-west aligned with the terminal (314) at the western end and almost butting (339); it cut spread (320). One slot (337) and the terminal (314) were excavated through (353). The ditch was filled with (315/338), again probably a natural silting event. Pottery from the ditch includes a sherd of Nene Valley fineware (2nd century AD or later).

3.3.25 Ditch (351) was 3.8m long by 1.12m wide and 0.16m deep, north-south aligned with the terminus (345) at the southern end almost butting terminals (339) and (314). One slot (303) through the ditch, and the terminal (345), were excavated. Pottery from fills (304/346) included samian and 1st/2nd century AD coarseware forms, but a very corroded coin of 3rd/4th century AD date also came from (304), and later 3rd/4th century AD dropped flange bowls from upper fill (302).

3.3.26 These three ditches potentially form the corners of two areas of land division and may have been excavated at about the same time to create possible property or field boundaries. They do not, however, align with Stane Street (the current A29).

3.3.27 A north-west – south-east aligned ditch ran to the south of ditches (353) and (352). Ditch (307) was recorded for 2.80m in length by 0.65m in width and 0.14m in depth, cutting through layer (349). It was filled with (308), probably representing a natural erosion event. No finds came from this feature.

3.3.28 In the extension to Trench 3, north-south aligned ditch (311) was recorded for 1.90m in length by 0.58m in width and 0.20m in depth, filled with (312) which appeared to be derived from the surrounding surface. Pottery from this feature was undiagnostic. The orientation of (311) perhaps indicates that it relates to the division of land which followed the building of the staging post and *mansio*. The ditch runs parallel to Stane Street, and therefore may represent the back boundary of a property which fronted onto the road, part of the strip settlement which grew up along Stane Street following the *mansio* establishment.

*Trench 4 (**Figures 1 & 4**)*

3.3.29 Trench 4 was aligned north-west – south-east and targeted geophysical anomalies in an attempt to identify structures associated with the eastern range of the *mansio* building itself, and to locate a structure interpreted by Winbolt as an *intravallum* road.

3.3.30 Following the removal of topsoil (401) and subsoil (439), *in situ* archaeology was identified cutting through deposit (409), which overlay the natural geology and which has been interpreted as a levelling layer laid down for the floor surfaces within the *mansio* building. This was possibly the earliest

deposit within Trench 4 and was cut through by a series of robber trenches. The existing structure had been completely dismantled with all useable material being taken away to be recycled. From the robber trenches identified it was clear that at least five individual rooms had been revealed, extending to the west from what was interpreted as the exterior wall.

3.3.31 At the south eastern end of the trench was feature (407). This shallow scoop was filled with compact mix of CBM, ferruginous sandstone and greensand within clay silt. This fairly narrow deposit was aligned with the possible back wall of the *mansio* building, and has been interpreted as a track or pathway extending around the *mansio* building itself. It may have been the feature that was exposed by Winbolt and interpreted as an *intravallum* road.

3.3.32 No *in situ* structural remains of the *mansio* building itself were identified within Trench 4 but it was possible to interpret the layout and possible use of the rooms from the alignment of the robber trenches. Eight such trenches were identified, all probably dug at the same time. It seems that the robbing took place by the removal of the wall foundation at a particular point, then the foundation material was systematically removed from within the construction cut, resulting in the latter being left undamaged. The robber trenches therefore are essentially the same size, shape and depth as the original construction cuts. Robbed Wall (RW) numbers were assigned during post-excavation to aid the description and interpretation of the rooms and the structure as a whole. The eight robber cuts can be summarised as follows:

Cut No.	Removed	Alignment	Filled with	Contained
440	RW1	NW-SE	425	ferruginous sandstone & greensand fragments (redeposited foundation material)
423	RW2	NE-SW	422; 408	ferruginous sandstone slabs (*in situ* foundation); redeposited foundation material
420	RW3	NE-SW	437, 438/416; 408/421	ferruginous sandstone slabs (*in situ* foundation); redeposited foundation material
414 (continuation of 423)	RW5	NE-SW	415, 417	redeposited foundation material
410	RW4	NW-SE	411, 418	redeposited foundation material
412 (continuation of 410)	RW6	NW-SE	411	redeposited foundation material
404	RW7	NW-SE	405	redeposited foundation material
431 (continuation of 420)	RW8	NE-SW	444/432	redeposited foundation material

3.3.33 Despite all the wall foundations of the *mansio* having been removed, the manner in which the material was robbed, and the results of the geophysical survey, have resulted in the form and layout of the building being clearly visible. Five rooms were identified within Trench 4, four of which (Rooms 2-5) were interpreted as possible individual sleeping quarters or perhaps rooms

within self-contained suites, with the fifth (Room 1) being a corridor surrounding a central courtyard, to allow access to the rooms of the *mansio*. The five rooms within Trench 4 can be summarised as follows:

Room No.	Interpretation	Walls	Internal deposits
1	corridor	RW1, 2, 4	(409) & (435), levelling/floor make-up deposits
2	sleeping quarters	RW4, 5	(429), levelling/floor make-up deposit
3	sleeping quarters	RW2, 6, 7, 8	(428), levelling/floor make-up deposit; (424), ?floor bedding deposit
4	sleeping quarters	RW5, 6	(427), levelling/floor make-up deposit
5	sleeping quarters	RW3, 7	(433), levelling/floor make-up deposit

3.3.34 Room 1 (corridor) appears to be an 'L' shaped room. RW1 separated Room 1 from an area of natural geology (436) interpreted as a central courtyard to the *mansio* building, while RW2 and 4 separated Room 1 from the smaller sleeping areas. The exposed area of Room 1 appears to be the south-east corner, the corridor extending to north-west and north-east.

3.3.35 Room 3 was the only room to be revealed almost in its entirety. The room was 5.80m long by 3.3m wide, an area of 19.14m². Room 3 has been interpreted as a single room of four walls, but it is possible that RW7 to the north or RW6 to the south were dividing walls within a larger suite comprising a number of rooms.

3.3.36 The dimensions of the robbed out walls were all very similar, with an approximate width of 0.80m, and the two fully excavated robber cuts showed a depth to the foundations of around 0.90m - a significant depth, indicating a substantial structure of at least two storeys. The dimensions of the external walls of the structure were the same as the internal walls, suggesting that all the walls were load bearing.

3.3.37 RW3/8 was interpreted as the eastern exterior wall of the *mansio* due to the position of trackway (407). This wing of the *mansio* appears to be a single room wide with the corridor positioned on the inside overlooking the central courtyard. The walls of the *mansio* are aligned on, or are perpendicular to Stane Street, indicating it was constructed after the road's construction.

3.3.38 Despite the shallow depth of the overlying subsoil and topsoil it was clear that the archaeology within Trench 4 had not been impacted upon by modern farming activity, and there was no evidence of plough scars or land drains cutting across the trench.

3.3.39 Datable finds from this trench were scarce, most of the finds consisting of ceramic building material. A small pottery assemblage included samian and 1st/2nd century AD coarseware forms from the backfill of robber cut (423) and floor make-up layer (409).

*Trench 5 (**Figures 1 & 3**)*

3.3.40 Trench 5 was aligned east-west and targeted on a large geophysical anomaly and possible structures associated with the strip settlement along Stane Street.

3.3.41 Two features were revealed following the removal of current ploughsoil (501) and subsoil (502). These were two large inter-cutting pits, (504) and (505), which were surface cleaned but not excavated. The earliest pit (505), filled with (506), was not fully revealed, though was probably sub-circular in plan. Cutting the fill of (505) was a second pit (504), also sub-circular in plan, and filled with (503). Pottery from pit (504) included three sherds of samian, and a corroded coin of Nero (AD 54-68) came from the ploughsoil.

3.3.42 There was clear evidence of damage to the underlying archaeology in this trench by modern farming methods; no plough scars were visible, but three land drains cut across the trench and through the upper levels of the archaeology.

*Trench 6 (**Figures 1 & 3**)*

3.3.43 Trench 6 was a small trench targeted on a geophysical anomaly and the structures of the western wing of the *mansio* complex. Under the current ploughsoil (601) a large cut feature (603) was identified, aligned north-east – south-west and cutting through the natural geology (604). The natural geology was highly compacted at this point and was interpreted as having been utilised as an internal courtyard surface within the *mansio* complex, equivalent to deposit (436) identified within Trench 4.

3.3.44 A small sondage was excavated across (603), but only to a depth of 0.30m due to time constraints. The sondage revealed that (603) cut through deposit (606), an organic-rich sandy loam containing abundant fragments of charcoal and CBM. This was interpreted as a possible occupation deposit within the western wing of the *mansio*, although the abundant charcoal perhaps implies that it was deposited as a result of fire within the structure prior to its demolition. Feature (603) was interpreted as a robber cut for the removal of an external *mansio* wall. The cut was filled with deposit (602/605), containing abundant CBM fragments, interpreted as a deliberate backfill deposit containing un-recyclable material.

3.3.45 The only find recovered from this trench was a copy of a silver denarius of Titus (AD 76) which came from the topsoil, although it is uncertain whether this is a contemporary copy or a modern electrotype.

4 FINDS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Finds were recovered from all six of the trenches excavated, although Trench 6 produced only one object. The assemblage is largely Romano-British in date, with a small amount of earlier (prehistoric) and later (medieval and post-medieval) material.

4.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and totals by material type and by trench are presented in **Table 1**. Subsequent to quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned in order to gain an overall idea of the range of types present, their condition, and their potential date range. Spot dates have been recorded for selected material types as appropriate (pottery, ceramic building material). All finds data are currently held on an Access database.

4.1.3 This section presents an overview of the finds assemblage, on which is based an assessment of the potential of this assemblage to contribute to an understanding of the site in its local and regional context, with particular reference to the construction and use of the *mansio* complex, and the development of the adjacent strip settlement along Stane Street.

4.2 Pottery

4.2.1 The pottery assemblage is almost exclusively of Romano-British date, with a few medieval sherds. Condition overall is poor, with sherds showing high levels of abrasion, and loss of surface detail; samian and other colour coated wares have suffered particularly badly and surface slips are very worn.

4.2.2 The whole assemblage has been quantified by ware type within each context, and the presence of diagnostic sherds noted. Pottery totals by ware type are given in **Table 2**.

Romano-British

4.2.3 The Romano-British assemblage includes a range of local, regional and imported wares, and has a date range which spans the Roman period, although the focus appears to be on the early Roman period (1st and 2nd centuries AD).

4.2.4 Imported wares make up just under 8% of the total Romano-British assemblage by number of sherds. Samian is the most common type; sherds have not been assigned to specific production centres, although both South Gaulish and Central Gaulish products are certainly present, and possibly also East Gaulish. Nearly all the samian is badly abraded, and a few pieces are burnt; poor condition combined with small fragment size means that few forms could be identified. Those recognised include form 15/17, 18 and 18/31 platters, 27 and 33 cups, and Ritt. 12 and Curle 11 flanged bowls, forms which potentially span the later 1st and 2nd centuries AD. The amphora sherds (from just two contexts in trench 3) consist entirely of Spanish Dressel 20 type, with a date range of 1st to 3rd centuries AD. Other Continental finewares make up the rest of the imports, including Cologne colour coated ware (1st to mid 3rd century AD) and Central Gaulish black-slipped ware (mid 2nd to early 3rd century AD).

4.2.5 British finewares are dominated by Nene Valley colour coated wares (2nd century AD onwards), amongst which are sherds making up part of the profile of a bag-shaped beaker with an applied barbotine hunting scene (ditch (216)). Single sherds of Oxfordshire and New Forest colour coated wares (both 3rd/4th centuries AD) were also recognised (upper fill of ditch 212 and

ploughsoil in Trench 2 respectively), while one other colour coat remains unidentified. Mortaria include at least one possible New Forest parchment ware (ditch (350)), but others are of uncertain source, either British or imported continental types.

4.2.6 Greywares predominate amongst the coarsewares, and this group is likely to include products of several different sources, including the kilns of the Adur valley (e.g. Hardham and Wiggonholt), and the Rowlands Castle, New Forest and Alice Holt production centres. Sherds of Black Burnished ware (BB1) from south Dorset were certainly identified. Identifiable vessel forms are mostly necked and everted rim jars (a few carinated), with some bowls (convex flat-rimmed; hemispherical hooked-rimmed; straight-sided 'dog dishes'; flared, lipped, flanged or dropped flange, and carinated forms), two lids and one imitation Gallo-Belgic platter. Most of these vessel forms can be accommodated within a later 1st or 2nd century AD date range, and parallels can be seen, for example, at Wiggonholt, including an unusual, sharply carinated jar or beaker, with slightly overhanging carination and rouletting above, dated to the later 1st century AD (Evans 1974, fig. 13, 76). Some of the less distinctive jar forms could extend the date range into the 3rd century, but the relative scarcity of identifiable 4th century forms (confined to three dropped flange bowls in ditch (351)) suggests that by this time any activity on the site was sporadic.

4.2.7 Sandy oxidised and whitewares, and grog-tempered wares, make up the remainder of the coarseware assemblage. The whitewares could include some products of the Adur Valley kilns – these were produced, for example, at Wiggonholt in the early 2nd century AD (Evans 1974) – but could also include imports, for example a flagon with pulley-wheel rim in a very fine fabric from deposit (330) overlying the hearth in Trench 3.

Medieval

4.2.8 Four sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from Trench 1 (ploughsoil and 1920s trench backfill). All are in fine, glazed sandy ware in the West Sussex tradition, and could all derive from the same vessel, probably a jug of 13th or 14th century date.

4.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

4.3.1 Large quantities of CBM were recovered from the site. The assemblage has been quantified by type, and totals by trench are presented in **Table 3**. The CBM occurred mainly in trenches 1, 2 and 4, with little coming from trenches 3 and 5, and none from trench 6.

4.3.2 No attempt has been made to identify different fabric types within the ceramic assemblage, as much of the assemblage comprises variants of relatively fine, orange-red fabrics with few visible inclusions. It is possible that at least some of the ceramic building material used on the site was made locally, perhaps even on the site itself (although no evidence for this was found).

Roof tiles

4.3.3 Roof tiles, of both *imbrex* and *tegula* form, make up a large proportion of the assemblage, in a ratio of approximately 1:2, which accords with the generally higher proportion of *tegulae* recorded on sites (Brodribb 1987, 24). Other roof tiles may be included within the miscellaneous flat fragments, and some may have been reused as ceramic tesserae. A few *tegulae* exhibit finger-smeared 'signatures', generally concentric semi-circles at the end of the tile.

Box flue tiles

4.3.4 Ceramic box flue tiles are relatively common. Box flue tiles (*tubuli*) were designed to carry heat from the underfloor hypocaust system behind the walls around a room; they would have been mortared into place in pipe-like arrangements, usually vertical. The *tubuli* from Alfoldean are fragmentary, but certainly included examples of rectangular cross-section, with the wider faces scored or combed (as keying for plaster) and the narrower faces left plain. Most of the *tubuli* came from Trenches 1 and 4, with a few fragments in Trenches 2 and 3.

Bricks

4.3.5 Bricks were manufactured in various standard sizes and performed various functions within Roman buildings. There are no complete examples here, so their function is uncertain, but they could be either *bessalis* or *pedalis* type. The main function of the *bessalis* was to form pillars (*pilae*) to support the floor above the hypocaust while the larger *pedalis* was used as capping or base brick for *pilae*.

Tegula Mammata (Type A)

4.3.6 Six fragments of this brick type are in the assemblage, from contexts in Trenches 1 and 2. These bricks carry deliberately attached lumps of clay which project from one surface. The examples here are all of Brodribb's type A, which appear to have been used to assist bonding when used in courses or for flooring (Brodribb 1987, 60-2). One of the earliest references to the occurrence of this brick type in Britain was in fact at Alfoldean Bridge (Winbolt 1923, 104).

Tesserae

4.3.7 A large number of ceramic tesserae were found, almost all from Trench 4 (the few examples of stone tesserae were all from Trench 1: see below). They are all of a fairly uniform size and colour. Most appear to have been made from a similar fabric to the *tegulae* and flat tile found on the site. Since most of them came from the robber cuts within Trench 4 their original location is unknown, although they may have been used in a tessellated pavement along the corridor (Room 1).

Miscellaneous building material

4.3.8 The CBM assemblage is very fragmentary, and a significant proportion could only be categorised as 'flat fragments' (which could include undiagnostic roof or flue tile), or 'undiagnostic', i.e. fragments lacking measurable thicknesses.

4.4 Opus Signinum, Wall Plaster and Fired Clay

4.4.1 Other building materials were present on the site in the form of *opus signinum* (a form of cement, comprising crushed fragments of tile within a hard matrix, used to line walls, floors and tanks or baths), wall plaster (small fragments, some red-painted and one with blue and blue-black stripes) and fired clay (small, abraded fragments, possibly used for hearth linings). None of these materials occurred in any great quantity; the *opus signinum* and wall plaster was confined to Trench 1.

4.5 Stone

4.5.1 In contrast to ceramic building materials, stone building material was scarce on the site, comprising nine tesserae and one small block of ferruginous sandstone of uncertain function. A piece of roofing slate from Trench 1 topsoil is post-medieval.

4.5.2 In addition, a fragment of a greensand rotary quern of Romano-British type was found unstratified.

4.6 Glass

4.6.1 All of the ten pieces of glass recovered are Romano-British in date. Two are distorted and could be either burnt vessel fragments or waste pieces. The remainder are small fragments of vessel glass in either pale blue/green or almost colourless glass. Only one can be assigned to a specific form – the base of a prismatic bottle, with moulded decoration (ditch (316)). These bottles were most common during the 1st and 2nd centuries AD.

4.7 Slag

4.7.1 A small quantity of iron smithing slag was recovered, from Trenches 2 and 3. Associated finds indicate a Romano-British date, but the quantity is insufficient to postulate on-site metalworking at this period.

4.8 Coins

4.8.1 Seven coins were recovered; six Roman and one modern (2001 penny from Trench 2 topsoil). Two of the coins date to the 1st century AD. Object 15 (Trench 5 topsoil) is an as of the emperor Nero, whilst Object 6 (Trench 6 topsoil) is a copy of a silver denarius of the Emperor Titus. It is not clear, without analysis of the metal content, whether the silver denarius is a contemporary copy or a modern electrotype.

4.8.2 Of the four other Roman coins, two could be dated to period. One, Object 3 (Trench 1 subsoil), is an irregular or 'Barbarous' radiate copy of AD 270-96. These irregular copies are common in the late third century, and appear to have circulated in the same fashion as 'official' coinage. The second is a follis of Constantine I, dated AD 310-11. The remaining Roman coins, Objects 7 and 8 (ditch (351) and Trench 3 topsoil respectively), are both badly corroded. Both can be dated on the basis of their size alone to the 3rd or 4th centuries AD.

4.9 Metalwork

4.9.1 Other metalwork includes objects of copper alloy, iron and lead. Copper alloy objects comprise two sheet fragments, a small strip fragment with attached iron rivet (all from Trench 1 topsoil), and a tiny ring (diameter 10mm) from ditch (352). None of these objects are datable. Ironwork consists largely of nails and other probable structural items, while the lead is composed entirely of waste fragments.

4.10 Worked Bone

4.10.1 One bone object was recovered (Trench 1 subsoil): a hair pin of Romano-British date, probably made out of a metapodium of a large mammal. The head and tip are missing.

4.11 Animal Bone

4.11.1 Sixty-seven bones were hand-recovered or came from samples. As almost none of it could be identified, the two categories were not separated. All bones derive from mammals. No bones from birds, fish or amphibians were present. Fifty-eight come from Romano-British contexts, seven from modern contexts and two from undated contexts. Only Romano-British contexts are considered here.

Condition and preservation

4.11.2 26% of the Roman bone fragments were moderately well preserved, with 67% in poor condition and even 7% in very poor condition. Almost all of the material was not identifiable to species (**Table 4**). All the bones from modern contexts were in poor condition.

4.11.3 Loose teeth were sparse in the material, attesting to the poor preservation. Gnawing was rare, seen on only one bone (medium sized mammal), and this indicates that scavenger destruction was not a significant biasing factor.

Animal husbandry

4.11.4 As only three of the bones could be assigned to species not much can be said about animal husbandry. The bones derived from adult cattle (maxilla tooth) and adult sheep/goat (distal tibia fragment >15-20 month at death and burnt adult astragalus).

Consumption and deposition

4.11.5 Butchery marks (cut) were observed on the rib of a large mammal. The overall poor condition of the material can account for the little evidence of butchery found.

4.11.6 It is noteworthy that 49% of the Roman material is burnt. Only when bone actually comes into contact with fire it changes its colour. To become powdery white, as in the Alfoldean material, it must have encountered temperatures of more than 950°C. This normally does not happen during cooking, and it is possible that bone refuse was thrown into a hearth.

4.12 Other Finds

4.12.1 Other finds comprise six worked flints (uncertain prehistoric date), three pieces of burnt, unworked flint (unknown date), and a single oyster shell.

4.13 Potential and Further Recommendations

4.13.1 The finds assemblage has served to confirm the nature of the site during the Roman period, and to indicate the date range of activity as spanning the period, but focusing on the later 1st and 2nd centuries AD.

4.13.2 Further analysis is unlikely either to refine further the provisional dating (provided largely by the pottery) or to provide more details of the nature of Romano-British activity on the site. Building materials made up the bulk of the assemblage (confirming the presence of substantial structures on the site), and other items of material culture were scarce. Any publication text prepared could include data gathered as part of this assessment stage.

5 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Eight bulk samples of between five and 60 litres were taken from Romano-British features in Trenches 1, 2 and 3 and were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals.

5.1.2 A single sample from a buried soil was processed for the retrieval and assessment of molluscs.

5.1.3 Three monoliths and four kubienas were taken from Trench 2. These were taken through ditch deposits, and an adjacent bank deposit sealing a buried land surface, to help to clarify the sedimentary history.

5.1.4 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods. Flots were scanned and the presence of charred remains and charcoals recorded (**Table 5**). Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

5.1.5 The flots were general quite large, comprising quite high amounts of wood charcoal. There were moderate numbers of roots and occasional modern seeds within most of the samples, which may be indicative of stratigraphic movement, reworking or the degree of contamination by later intrusive elements. Such elements were notably higher in Trench 3 from the ditch deposits and the post-holes. The charred material was generally poorly preserved, except for that from the buried soil.

5.2 Charred plant remains

5.2.1 Charred remains other than wood charcoal were generally poor. Grains of probable spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) were recovered from the ditches and buried soil horizon in Trench 2 and a single very well preserved glume base was also recovered from the soil horizon (210). A single fragment of hazelnut shell came from ditch (216). The remaining features in Trench 1 and Trench 3 contained almost no remains, bar a single spelt wheat grain from ditch (316).

5.2.2 Spelt wheat is the most commonly recovered of the cereal remains from Roman Sussex (Arthur 1977; Arthur and Hinton 1982; Hinton 1984; 1985; forthcoming). Given the nature of the settlement it is possible that grain was brought in either fully processed or perhaps even after milling, brewing or such preparation that leaves little evidence in the way of charred cereal grain or chaff. It is also possible that such activities may have been conducted in other parts of the settlement, away from the excavated areas.

5.2.3 The levels of charring indicate that the sampled features do not lie in the foci of a typical settlement accompanied by burning activity, and most of the charred remains are incidental.

5.3 Charcoal

5.3.1 Charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples (see **Table 5**). In general the samples were very rich in wood charcoal in comparison to many sites of this date. Such burning may be related to industrial activities, although no substantial evidence was seen in the excavations for such activities. Some of the samples contained occasional charred fragments of roundwood e.g. twigs and branches, as well as thorns of sloe/hawthorn and occasional buds. A possible dump of charcoal in the primary fill of ditch (212) may indicate some activity locally.

5.4 Land and fresh/brackish water molluscs

5.4.1 A sample of 2000g from the buried soil (210) was processed by standard methods (Evans 1972) for land snails. The flot (0.5mm) was rapidly assessed, but no shells were observed within this sample or within any of the samples examined for charred plant remains.

5.5 Soils and Sediments

5.5.1 The three monoliths were cleaned prior to recording and standard descriptions used (following Hodgson 1976) including Munsell colour, texture, structure and nature of boundaries, as given below in **Tables 6-7**.

Ditch (212)

5.5.2 The two overlapping monoliths taken through the Romano-British ditch (212) comprised a series of ditch fills and the top of the underlying alluvium (natural) into which the ditch was cut. The alluvium (natural) was a yellowish-brown to brown, slightly sticky, silty clay and is probably associated with Holocene overbank flooding of the River Arun. The primary ditch fill (213) was derived from these fine-grained sediments washed into the ditch soon after it was cut. It contained substantial quantities of wood charcoal. Secondary fills of brown, iron-mottled, clay silt (211) and dark brown slightly organic sandy silt loam (base of 204) indicate in-wash of alluvial sediments perhaps followed by some in-wash from an earlier soil. Both displayed a blocky structure, indicating some local soil development (B horizon of a later soil profile). The upper portion of (204) was a dark brown, friable, crumbly, highly organic silt loam with abundant charcoal fragments and represents an old land surface (A horizon), with the structure indicating an extended period of stasis, probably on a decadal scale. The dark yellowish brown silt loam of context (203) contained abundant CBM with a matrix, seemingly forming the tertiary ditch fill, and was overlain by the modern soil profile.

Bank and buried soil

5.5.3 A second soil and sediment sequence was collected adjacent to the ditch. This sampled the dumped clay bank (206) and the deposits which it sealed, (210) and natural (217). The basal alluvial silty clay (217) at 0.42m was the same into which ditch (212) was cut, its shallow burial enabling some transformation of this as a part (B horizon) of both the modern soil, and of the potentially earlier buried soil. Overlying this and under the 'bank' was a 0.16m thick dark brown, crumbly, organic clay loam with abundant charcoal (210) which represents a buried soil/old land surface (bA/B horizon). Visually this was no different to (204) in the upper fills of ditch (212).

5.5.4 Sealing (210) was clay dump layer (206), the excavated upcast from ditch (216) located to the south of ditch (212). The overlying dump of (alluvial) clay natural was of yellowish brown, faintly iron-stained clay with occasional CBM inclusions, into which the modern soil profile (and ploughsoil) had developed.

5.6 Potential

Charred plant remains

5.6.1 While the charred remains demonstrate the presence and probable consumption of spelt wheat upon the settlement they have no further potential. No further work is proposed, but the information presented in this assessment should be used in any publication.

Charcoal

5.6.2 Analysis of the wood charcoal has the potential to examine the utilisation of local woodland resources for fuel. Such potential would depend on the identification of activities associated with the high amounts of charcoal seen within some features. If such activities were identified it may be possible to examine such selection of fuel for use in specific types of activities. The concentration of wood charcoal in the primary fill of ditch (212) probably represents a defined dump of waste, and may therefore suitable for radiocarbon dating if required.

Land snails and fresh/brackish water molluscs

5.6.3 In the absence of any mollusc remains no further work is proposed.

Soils and Sediments

5.6.4 The monoliths have been fully described and interpreted here and have no further potential. There is no need, therefore, to undertake soil micromorphological analysis on the kubiena samples collected in order to identify the soil horizons, since they have been described from the monoliths.

5.6.5 No further work is proposed unless specific archaeological questions remain regarding human activity associated with buried soils (210 and 204). If no further work is required on the sequence following detailed examination of the finds, then the monoliths (which are not archivally stable) will be discarded.

Pollen

5.6.6 Pollen samples have been retained from the buried soil sequence (context (210) and the layers immediately under- and overlying, as detailed in **Table 6**). These could be assessed to indicate preservation of pollen and the potential to investigate the vegetation and landscape of the land surface prior to the Romano-British activity.

Radiocarbon

5.6.7 If the charcoal within the primary fill (213) of ditch (212) is both a clear dump, and contains short-lived remains, then this would be suitable for dating the deposition of the primary fill soon after the construction of the ditch.

5.6.8 Charcoal lumps present within the buried soil in the ditch (context 210) are dateable, but the precise origin is not clear (they may be residual from earlier activities); this (and the identification of the charcoal) would need to be examined before they could be considered suitable for dating.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The project largely achieved its stated aims, providing a greater understanding of the nature, extent and date of the Romano-British *mansio* and staging post complex of Alfoldean. This project provided the opportunity

to investigate the condition of the surviving archaeological remains which had not been exposed since the beginning of the 20th century and to assess the damage which had occurred as a result of modern agricultural techniques.

6.2 The effects of agricultural practices

6.2.1 The first of the original research questions was to investigate the effects of ploughing and modern agriculture on the underlying archaeology. It was clear from four of the six trenches that this had had a significant adverse effect on the remains of the Romano-British site and the structures within it.

6.2.2 Trench 1 revealed three clear plough scars which had penetrated the archaeology by a depth of 0.10m (**Figure 2**). Even where the topsoil and subsoil was at its deepest across the site, as it was in this area, as a result of hill wash down the gentle slope towards the River Arun, modern agricultural techniques were impacting upon the buried archaeology.

6.2.3 In Trench 2, the bank which surrounded the enclosure had been ploughed almost flat. The topsoil/subsoil in this area was only 0.22m deep and the effect of ploughing was clearly visible, cutting through the redeposited clay bank layer (206) (**Figure 2**).

6.2.4 In Trench 3 six plough scars and a ceramic land drain had impacted upon the archaeology (**Figure 3**). Trench 5 revealed three land drains but no evidence of plough scarring despite the relatively shallow depth of the topsoil and subsoil (**Figure 3**). The topsoil was similarly quite shallow in Trenches 4 and 6, but no evidence of plough scarring or land drains was visible.

6.2.5 All the plough scars recorded were on the same alignment (NE-SW). They do align with the current modern ploughing trend, and have therefore been interpreted as modern, but they could be earlier. Following the abandonment of the staging post and *mansio* any layout of fields is likely to have been aligned on the most visible feature in the landscape, namely Stane Street. It is, therefore, likely that all post-Roman ploughing activity would have followed this alignment.

6.2.6 On the eastern side of the A29 the depth of the topsoil and subsoil sealing the underlying archaeology varied across the site. It is clear that the effect of agricultural practices on the *in situ* archaeology is not directly linked to thickness of the deposits overlying it, as trenches with relatively shallow topsoil/subsoil deposits revealed no such evidence.

6.3 The size of the settlement

6.3.1 By looking at both the enclosed staging post and the believed strip settlement which grew up along Stane Street south of the enclosure, it was hoped to establish the overall size of the settlement. The staging post had been well recorded, with earlier earthwork surveys identifying the limits of the enclosure, and this was confirmed by the geophysical survey which was able to record the limits of the enclosure on both sides of the A29. The enclosure extended to a distance of 80m east from the A29 and 140m from the River

Arun, the backfilled ditches of the enclosure clearly visible in the results. On the western side of the A29 the enclosure was recorded for some 110m by 30m.

6.3.2 The geophysical survey demonstrated that the *mansio* enclosure was roughly square in shape with rounded corners and measured approximately 140m by 140m, covering an area of 1.96 hectares. It appears that the northern limit of the enclosure would have been the River Arun, thus allowing easy access to (and control over) the river.

6.3.3 Winbolt recorded the extent of the strip settlement along Stane Street as at least half a mile (approx 800m) south of the staging post. Luke suggested a total area of some 9 hectares, implying occupation covering roughly 50m either side of the road (Luke and Wells 2000, 75). The Time Team project neither confirmed nor contradicted this. Trench 5, the southernmost trench, was only 208m from the edge of the enclosure, and revealed two large, intercutting pits filled with domestic waste, in other words, features likely to be associated with settlement. The geophysical survey extended to a limit of 290m south of the enclosure and settlement features were still visible at the southern limit. The geophysical survey did, however, demonstrate that the strip settlement was concentrated on the eastern side of Stane Street and extended approximately 100m to the east of the current A29.

6.4 Chronology

6.4.1 It was also hoped to establish the chronology of the settlement, identifying the earliest and latest structures within the enclosure and the strip settlement, in an attempt to determine whether the strip settlement grew from the establishment of the staging post and *mansio* as was believed.

6.4.2 Relatively few Romano-British roadside settlements have an Iron Age precursor that was probably still occupied at the time of the Conquest; examples include Baldock and Braughing in Hertfordshire, Ancaster in Lincolnshire and Kelvedon in Essex, all possibly single farmsteads (Smith 1987), although residual Iron Age material has been identified on numerous sites (Smith 1987, 147, 311). The settlement at Alfoldean produced no evidence at all for any Iron Age activity on the site.

6.4.3 It is well documented that settlements both large and small tend to grow from a single focal point. The presence of a major establishment, such as a fort, temple or enclosed town alongside a major road way often encouraged the growth of a local centre or *vicus* - the lowest form of self-governing settlement recognised by Roman law. Due to the increasing networks of roads, the *cursus publicus*, which improved trade routes and enabled the movement of people and goods, there was a need to supply raw materials and goods to these new establishments and provide labour and craftsmen to construct the facilities for those travelling.

6.4.4 As *mansiones* were established for travelling government officials, the army and those governing each *civitas* or tribal area, so these were potentially used as residences from which officials could administrate the surrounding area.

Each *civitas* is likely to have had several settlements, in one form or another, either *vici*, *civitas* capitals or *mansiones*, in which officials could reside and control their area. As these settlements grew, so more people would be drawn from the surrounding area to meet the needs of the growing centres, providing labour and skills, and leading to the increasing expansion of the settlement (Hingley 1989, 25).

6.4.5 The growth of settlements centred around *mansiones* can be seen at Godmanchester, in Cambridgshire, where a small town grew up around a central market place and *mansio* (*ibid.*, 26, 90); at Wanborough (*Durocornovium*) in Wiltshire where a *mansio* alongside Ermin Street led to the growth of the small town around it (Corney 2001, 11-12); and at the *mansio* or *mutatio* at Stratford sub Castle, near the Iron Age hill fort of Old Sarum in Wiltshire (*ibid.*, 22).

6.4.6 The construction of the *mansio* complex, from finds recovered from Trenches 1 and 4, appears to have taken place sometime in the later 1st century AD, and this is also the likely date of the earlier of the two enclosure ditches excavated in Trench 2. One feature excavated in Trench 1, towards the north of the enclosure, appeared to pre-date the *mansio* building; this was a large pit, possibly a quarry pit for the green sandstone used in the construction of the *mansio*. The natural geology of the area comprises alluvium sealing natural bedrock of green sandstone, and the stone used in the *mansio* construction was presumably quarried on or close to the site. The evidence from Trench 1 showed that the 'quarry pit' was subsequently backfilled, using the excavated up-cast incorporating Romano-British material, but that it apparently pre-dated the *mansio* building as it lay under the robbed walls of the northern wing.

6.4.7 Pottery from the strip settlement (Trenches 3 and 5) also has a date range beginning in the early Roman period, but it is impossible to determine from this small assemblage any chronological sequence or development between the different elements of the site as has been suggested, for example, on the basis of previous fieldwork (Luke and Wells 2000).

6.4.8 The focus of activity appears, from the pottery assemblage from the Time Team project, to have been during the later 1st and 2nd centuries AD, and probably into the 3rd century. That there was some use of the site into the later Roman period is demonstrated by late 3rd/4th century pottery and a coin of similar date from one of the later ditches in Trench 3, and further 3rd/4th century coins from Trench 1, although not stratified. Ditches in Trench 3 may relate to a new phase of land division during this period, varying from the alignment of Stane Street. This broadly confirms the results of previous fieldwork, which revealed evidence for redefinition of the settlement in the 3rd century, with sporadic activity into the 4th century. The end of the *mansio* itself is still unclear.

6.5 The *mansio*

6.5.1 From the partial plan of the *mansio* provided by the geophysical survey, and evaluation trenches 1, 4 and 6, it appears that it was a 'classic courtyard *mansio*' like the establishments at Silchester, Chesterholm, Chelmsford, Wanborough and Wall (www.eng-h.gov.uk/mpp/mcd/sub/datman3.htm) (**Figure 5**).

6.5.2 The *mansio* consisted of a central rectangular courtyard enclosed on all four sides and surrounded by a corridor or ambulatory. Ranges of rooms were positioned along the northern, eastern and southern sides of the courtyard and ambulatory, leaving the western side with just the corridor. The northern range of rooms was revealed in Trench 1, although the wall foundations had already been excavated by Winbolt. The distance between Winbolt's backfilled trenches in Trench 1 showed that he had revealed rooms of a similar size to those seen in Trench 4, with a width of 3.30m.

6.5.3 It is unclear to what class the excavated rooms belonged to, but if the assumption that the rooms of the northern range had hypocausts is correct, they were likely to represent the first class accommodation suites (Luke and Wells 2000, 77). This would also have been the favoured position of any bath-house, due to the close proximity to the river Arun as a source of water; it is likely that hypocausts within the first class accommodation and the bath-house would have been fed from the same *praefurnium*.

6.5.4 The south-eastern corner of the courtyard, ambulatory and four rooms of the *mansio* were partially exposed in Trench 4 and it is similarly unclear what class of rooms these represent. There was no evidence of hypocaust heating and so it is likely that these were standard class accommodation comprising single rooms. Of the four rooms exposed only Room 3 revealed its full dimensions (5.8m by 3.3m, with an internal area of 19.14 m^2). It is, however, possible that Room 3 was only one room within a suite of rooms which were heated by free-standing braziers rather than hypocaust systems and which were in fact first class accommodation.

6.5.5 The ambulatory or corridor exposed in Trench 4 may have been floored with a tessellated pavement, as several *tesserae* were recovered from this area. Belloc and Winbolt both recorded a red tessellated pavement in the northern area of the enclosure which Luke implied was part of a pavement associated with the roughly north-south corridor exposed by Winbolt (Winbolt 1923, 87; Luke and Wells 2000, 77). It would appear that Winbolt had exposed part of the ambulatory surrounding the central courtyard and which was used to gain access to the individual rooms and suites of rooms.

6.5.6 No other structures were identified within the enclosure. There would presumably have been a bath-house and stabling for horses as well as possible granaries and bake-houses, but no evidence of such structures was revealed.

6.6 Stane Street

6.6.1 Following the restoration work of 1809-10 the road (later the A29) was repositioned slightly to the west, implying that remains of the Roman road were still present in the field to the east of the A29. Winbolt exposed a section of Stane Street in 1923 (Winbolt 1924, 12), but due to time constraints the Time Team project was unable to investigate the road. The geophysical survey did, however, confirm that Stane Street was originally positioned further to the east than the present A29, following the identification of the road side ditch which appeared periodically along the hedge line of the field on the eastern side.

6.7 Why Alfoldean?

6.7.1 Why was the staging post and *mansio* positioned at Alfoldean? Along the road system of the *cursus publicus*, accommodation for government officials and others was spaced at a distance of a single day's journey between any two adjacent sites. Alfoldean was one of four such accommodation sites located along Stane Street between London and Chichester. Its position at the junction of Stane Street and the River Arun allowed for the control and monitoring of transport and people along two different communication routes, and the subsequent taxing of those using them. At Catterick in North Yorkshire, the *mansio* which had replaced the fort in about AD 120, was positioned at the junction of Dere Street and the River Swale, a strategic position almost identical to that of Alfoldean.

7 FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1.1 No further analysis is proposed. A short article, probably between 3000-4000 words with two or three supporting illustrations, based on the results, finds, discussion and figures in this assessment report, in *Sussex Archaeological Collections* is suggested as an adequate level of publication given the results from this project. This would comprise a brief introduction detailing the circumstances of the project and the aims and objectives; a results section detailing the structural remains recorded, with finds and environmental information integrated into the text as appropriate; and a brief discussion of the results, with reference to the original project aims and objectives.

8 ARCHIVE

8.1.1 The excavated material and archive, including plans, photographs and written records are currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under the site code ALF 05 and project code 59473. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with the Horsham Museum, Sussex.

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Table 1: Finds totals by material type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)

Material	Tr. 1	Tr. 2	Tr. 3	Tr. 4	Tr. 5	Tr. 6	unstrat.	TOTAL
Pottery	49/591	414/3993	550/5875	34/377	26/215	-	-	**1073/11,051**
Romano-British	*45/570*	*414/3993*	*550/5875*	*34/377*	*26/215*	-	-	***1069/11,030***
Medieval	*4/21*	-	-	-	-	-	-	***4/21***
Ceramic Building Material	110/25,411	83/10,256	36/3268	414/26,404	14/2019	-	-	**657/67,358**
Opus Signinum	10/119	-	-	-	-	-	-	**10/119**
Wall Plaster	15/458	-	-	-	-	-	-	**15/458**
Fired Clay	-	31/149	-	2/151	-	-	-	**33/300**
Worked Flint	-	-	6/41		-	-	-	**6/41**
Burnt Flint	-	-	2/107	1/57	-	-	-	**3/164**
Stone	10/90	-	-	1/190	-	-	1/1161	**12/1441**
Glass	1/1	1/2	7/39	-	1/1	-	-	**10/43**
Slag	-	8/233	9/128	-	-	-	-	**17/361**
Metalwork (no. objects)	72	42	23	25	7	1	-	**170**
Coins	*2*	*1*	*2*	-	*1*	*1*	-	*7*
Copper alloy	*3*	-	*1*	-	-	-	-	***4***
Iron	*48*	*37*	*19*	*24*	*3*	-	-	***131***
Lead	*19*	*4*	*1*	*1*	*3*	-	-	***28***
Worked Bone (no. objects)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**
Animal Bone	21/59	35/10	10/13	2/6	-	-	-	**68/88**
Marine Shell	1/5	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1/5**

Table 2: Chronological breakdown of pottery assemblage by ware type

Date Range	Ware type	No. sherds	Weight (g)
ROMANO-BRITISH	Samian	65	369
	Amphora	7	122
	Other import	11	30
	Nene Valley colour coat	24	99
	Oxon colour coat	1	10
	New Forest colour coat	1	4
	Misc. colour coat	1	1
	Mortaria	10	391
	Greyware	828	8682
	Black Burnished ware	11	234
	Oxidised ware	56	491
	Whiteware	12	108
	Grog-tempered ware	42	489
	sub-total Romano-British	***1069***	***11,030***
MEDIEVAL	Sandy glazed ware	4	21
	OVERALL TOTAL	**1073**	**11,051**

Table 3: Ceramic building material totals by type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)

Type	Tr. 1	Tr. 2	Tr. 3	Tr. 4	Tr. 5	TOTAL
Tegula	15/3659	17/3407	3/590	37/6082	1/94	**73/13,832**
Imbrex	9/1330	5/858	3/141	23/3096		**40/5425**
Box flue	11/488	2/93	1/23	23/2000		**37/2604**
Brick	25/14,141	4/1228	8/1735	22/6480	5/1037	**64/24,621**
Tegula Mammata	4/2493	2/1387				**6/3880**
Tessera		3/100		264/4777		**267/4877**
Flat fragments	29/2887	32/2839	4/546	37/3672	5/776	**107/10,720**
Undiagnostic	17/413	18/344	17/233	8/297	3/112	**63/1399**
TOTAL	**110/25,411**	**83/10,256**	**36/3268**	**414/26,404**	**14/2019**	**657/67,358**

Table 4: Animal bone condition and potential, Romano-British contexts (% of total)

Unid.	Gnawed	Loose teeth	Burnt	Measure-able	Age-able	Butchered	Worked	Total no. fragments
45	-	2	49	2	2	2	2	58

Table 5: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature no	Context	Sample	Volume	Flot size	Roots%	Grain	Chaff	Notes	Charred other	Notes	Charcoal >4/>2mm	Other	Res. Charcoal
Roman													
Trench 1													
Make-Up Layer													
	125	4	5	100	15	-	-	-	-	-	5/20 ml	-	-
Trench 2													
Ditches													
216	209	1	60	250	5	C	-	4x Triticum grain	C(h)	1x hazelnut shell	20/20 ml	-	-
212	211	3	30	150	3	C	-	1x Cereal grain	-	-	25/20 ml	-	
Buried Soil													
	210	2	25	300	20	B	C	1x spelt glume. 5x spelt grain	C	-	20/20 ml	-	-
Trench 3													
Ditch (3rd – 4th century)													
303	304	5	10	60	30	-	-	-	-	-	5/10 ml	-	-
316	317	14	10	170	20	C	-	1x spelt grain	-	-	15/20 ml	-	-
Post-holes													
321	322	6	5	50	20	-	-	-	-	-	2/8ml	-	-
327	328	15	12	50	40	-	-	-	-	1 bud	1/3ml	-	-

KEY: A** = exceptional, A* = 30+ items, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items, (h) = hazelnuts, smb = small mammal bones; Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs Moll-f = freshwater molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs

Table 6: Sediment descriptions and sub-samples (Alfoldean monolith 7)

Adj to Feature 212, Dwg202, monolith 7, 0.53m monolith through bank deposit and buried soil 0cm= *m aOD [[1] is used to denote when top of monolith taken as 0cm]				
Depth [1](m)	*Pollen samples taken*	*Context (and excavators description)*	*Full sediment description*	*Interpretation*
0-0.08		201 topsoil and ploughsoil	10YR 3/3 dark brown slightly crumbly organic clay loam with irregular 1-4cm lumps of 10YR 5/4 yellowish brown clay (as below). Few small fragments of CBM (<2mm). Sharp boundary	Dumped topsoil/ ploughsoil
0.08-0.26	0.24	206 redeposited natural (from digging of ditch)	10YR 5/4 yellowish brown clay with faint fine mottles of 10YR 7/3 very pale brown and Fe staining (7.5YR 5/6 strong brown). Rare subrounded flints 1cm, rare fine (recent) rootlets and specks of CBM. Abrupt boundary	Dumped clay natural (bank)
0.26-0.42	0.28 0.32 0.36 0.40	210	10YR 3/3 dark brown crumbly organic clay loam with abundant charcoal including 1 wood charcoal fragment >1cm at 0.4m. Rare small (<2mm) fragments CBM. Occasional fine rootlets. 5cm sub-angular-angular sandstone clast @ 0.41-0.44m. Clear boundary	Buried soil A horizon (bA horizon)
0.42-0.53	0.44 0.48	217 (natural)	10YR 5/4 yellowish brown silty clay mottled with fine occasional faint Fe stain 7.5YR 5/6 strong brown. Common worm burrows and root voids filled with overlying organic clay loam. Well-developed small to medium blocky peds	fine (alluvial) sediments in which the buried soil B horizon (bB horizon) developed

Table 7: Sediment descriptions and sub-samples (Alfoldean monoliths 8-9)

Feature 212, Dwg202, monolith 8 (lower)-9 (upper), overlapping monolith sequence total 1.04m through ?RB ditch 0cm= *m aOD [[1] is used to denote when top of monolith taken as 0cm]				
Depth [1](m)	*Pollen samples taken*	*Context (and excavators description)*	*Full sediment description*	*Interpretation*
0-0.09	none	201	10YR 3/3 dark brown crumbly organic clay loam, common fine rootlets. Clear boundary	Modern soil A/B horizon
0.09-0.35		202	10YR 3/4 dark yellowish brown compact silt loam, very numerous macro-pores, medium small blocky structure. Common fragments CBM <1cm. Diffuse boundary	Modern B formed in ?final fill of ditch 212
0.35-0.44		203	10YR 3/4 dark yellowish brown silt loam (as above), abundant CBM and sandstone 1-5cm (possibly part worm-worked to base of modern soil B horizon). Clear boundary NB boundary to 204=?top of ditch with soil developed in upper fill and/or top of continuous OLS if context 204=210	Tertiary ditch fill/ made ground
0.44-0.61		204	10YR 3/3 dark brown friable crumbly highly organic silt loam, abundant charcoal fragments. Gradual boundary	Secondary/tertiary fill of ditch forming old land surface (bA horizon) Upper part 204=210?
0.61-0.79			10YR 3/3 dark brown slightly sandy silt loam, slightly organic, rare rounded-angular stones. Friable, crumb-small blocky structure	Secondary ditch fill (forming bB horizon) NB crumb structure may indicate some inwash of earlier soil as part of secondary fill
0.79-0.93		211	10YR 5/3 brown slightly sticky clay silt mottled with medium, moderate Fe staining (7.5YR 4/6 strong brown). Well-developed small blocky peds, abundant macropores. Occasional subrounded –angular stones, common small charcoal fragments	Secondary ditch fill derived from inwashed (alluvial) natural (also incorporated into bB horizon)
0.93-1.01		213	10YR 4/2 dark greyish brown slightly sticky clay silt loam. Similar to overlying but due to comminuted (as well as small-large) charcoal fragments, has grey tone. Abrupt boundary (ditch cut)	Primary ditch fill derived from inwashed (alluvial) natural
1.01-1.04		217 natural	10YR 5/3 brown clay silt loam with medium fine Fe mottles and organic-filled voids (worm burrows/ roots). Rare small charcoal (possibly worm-worked)	Alluvium (natural)

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

Trench 1

	Max Depth: 0.80m	Length: 14.70m	Width: 5.00m
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	
101	*Layer*	Current ploughsoil; light yellow brown silty clay.	
102	*Layer*	Subsoil; mixed mid yellow brown silty clay, containing CBM fragments.	
103	*Deposit*	Rubble deposit filling (113) at southern end of trench; abundant CBM fragments. 1920s trench backfill.	
104	*Deposit*	1920s trench backfill, as (103)	
105	*Layer*	Rubble deposit at northern end of trench.	
106	*Layer*	Band of light yellowish clay; redeposited natural overlying (104) in (113). 1920s trench backfill.	
107	***Cut***	**Plough scar, NNE-SSW aligned; cuts (114); penetrates to 0.50m below ground surface.**	
108	*Fill*	Fill of plough scar (107); mixed mid brown silty clay.	
109	***Cut***	**Plough scar, as (107).**	
110	*Fill*	Fill of plough scar (109), as (108).	
111	***Cut***	**Plough scar, as (107).**	
112	*Fill*	Fill of plough scar (111), as (108).	
113	***Group***	**Group number given to Winbolt's 1920s excavation trench. Irregular in shape, backfilled with excavated material ((103), (104), (114), (116).**	
114	*Deposit*	1920s trench backfill, as (103).	
115	*Deposit*	Dumped layer; light pinky grey mixed silty clay and mortar; abundant CBM fragments, mortar and painted plaster.	
116	*Layer*	1920s trench backfill, as (103).	
117	*VOID*		
118	*Layer*	Spread of material; mid brown silty clay. Unexcavated.	
119	*Layer*	*In situ* Romano-British material, possibly demolition deposit in NE corner of trench; very dark brown silty clay.	
120	*Layer*	Light yellow silty clay. Possible fill of robber cut. Unexcavated.	
121	*Layer*	*In situ* Romano-British archaeology; dark grey brown silty clay, common charcoal and CBM fragments. Unexcavated.	
122	*Deposit*	Redeposited layer, possible floor surface; light yellow clay, above mortar layer (123).	
123	*Deposit*	Possible mortar surface, only seen in section, above (124).	
124	*Deposit*	Make-up/levelling deposit for (123); mid to dark grey brown silty clay.	
125	*Deposit*	Deliberate dump; very dark grey brown silty clay; abundant charcoal and pottery.	
126	*Deposit*	Dump of redeposited clay; light yellowish clay; filling ?quarry pit.	

Trench 2

	Max Depth: 1.5m	Length: 35.00m	Width: 1.60m
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	
201	*Layer*	Current ploughsoil; mid brown silty clay.	
202	*Fill*	Upper fill of ditch (212); mid brown to reddish orange silty clay; possibly final silting.	
203	*Fill*	Upper fill of ditch (212), below (202); mid brown silty clay; abundant CBM fragments.	
204	*Fill*	Fill of ditch (210, below (203); very dark brown-black silty clay; equivalent to (210).	
205	*VOID*		
206	*Deposit*	Redeposited material, remains of bank, upcast from ditch (216); seals (210). Light yellow clay.	
207	*Fill*	Upper fill of ditch (216); mid to dark grey-brown silty clay.	
208	*Fill*	Fill of ditch (216), below (207); mid yellow brown siltyclay.	
209	*Fill*	Fill of ditch (216), below (208); charcoal rich.	
210	*Layer*	Buried topsoil/old ground surface; mid to dark brown, sandy silty clay; equivalent to (204).	

211	*Fill*	Fill of ditch (212); natural slumping; light yellow silty clay.
212	***Cut***	**Boundary ditch of enclosure.**
213	*Fill*	Lower fill of ditch (212); mid yellow brown silty clay.
214	*Fill*	Lower fill of ditch (216); light yellow-grey clay. Unexcavated.
215	*Fill*	Lower fill of ditch (216), below (214); mid grey silty clay. Unexcavated.
216	***Cut***	**Boundary ditch of enclosure, associated with bank (206). Not fully excavated.**

Trench 3

	Max Depth 0.50m	Length: 11.80m	Width: 7.40m
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	
301	*Layer*	Current topsoil/ploughsoil; mid yellow brown silty clay.	
302	*Fill*	Upper fill of ditch (303); mid to dark grey-brown silty clay.	
303	***Cut***	**Slot across N-S aligned ditch; part of Group 351.**	
304	*Fill*	Lower fill of ditch segment (303); light yellow silty clay.	
305	***Cut***	**Slot across WSW-ENE aligned ditch; part of Group 352.**	
306	*Fill*	Fill of ditch segment (305); mid grey brown silty clay.	
307	***Cut***	**NE-SW aligned ditch.**	
308	*Fill*	Fill of ditch (307); mid grey-brown silty clay.	
309	***Cut***	**Slot across curving ditch; part of Group 350. Equivalent to (331), (333), (335).**	
310	*Fill*	Fill of ditch segment (309); light grey silty clay; equivalent to (332), (334), (336).	
311	***Cut***	**NE-SW aligned ditch.**	
312	*Fill*	Fill of ditch (311); light grey-brown silty clay.	
313	*Layer*	Heat-affected soil around hearth (329); mixed mid red and light yellow silty clay.	
314	***Cut***	**Terminal of E-W ditch; part of Group 353.**	
315	*Fill*	Fill of ditch terminal (314); mid grey brown silty clay; equivalent to (338).	
316	*Cut*	Gully cutting ditch Group 350 at segment (335). Relationship with ditch (318) unclear.	
317	*Fill*	Fill of ditch (316); very dark grey silty clay.	
318	***Cut***	**N-S aligned ditch, to east of ditch (316), but relationship unclear.**	
319	*Fill*	Fill of ditch (318); dark grey silty clay.	
320	*Deposit*	Possible levelling/sealing deposit; light yellow brown gravelly silt.	
321	***Cut***	**Post-hole; adjacent to ditch Group 351.**	
322	*Fill*	Fill of post-hole (321); dark grey brown silty clay.	
323	***Cut***	**Post-hole; adjacent to ditch Group 351.**	
324	*Fill*	Fill of post-hole (323). Unexcavated.	
325	***Cut***	**Post-hole; adjacent to ditch Group 351.**	
326	*Fill*	Fill of post-hole (325). Unexcavated.	
327	***Cut***	**Post-hole; adjacent to ditch Group 351.**	
328	*Fill*	Fill of post-hole (327); mid grey-brown silty clay.	
329	*Deposit*	Dump of clay with deliberately set burnt flints, probably forming hearth base; dark red-black compact silt.	
330	*Deposit*	Deposit overlying hearth (329).	
331	***Cut***	**Slot across curving ditch; part of Group 350. Equivalent to (309), (333), (335).**	
332	*Fill*	Fill of ditch segment (331); mid grey-brown silty clay; equivalent to (310), (334), (336).	
333	***Cut***	**Slot across curving ditch; part of Group 350. Equivalent to (309), (331), (335).**	
334	*Fill*	Fill of ditch segment (333); equivalent to (310), (332), (336).	
335	***Cut***	**Slot across curving ditch; part of Group 350. Equivalent to (309), (331), (333).**	
336	*Fill*	Fill of ditch segment (335); equivalent to (310), (332), (334).	
337	***Cut***	**Slot across E-W ditch; part of Group 353.**	
338	*Fill*	Fill of ditch segment (337); equivalent to (315).	
339	***Cut***	**Terminal of WSW-ENE ditch; part of Group 352.**	
340	*Fill*	Fill of ditch terminal (339); equivalent to (306).	
341	***Cut***	**Post-hole; adjacent to ditch Group 350.**	
342	*Fill*	Fill of post-hole (341). Unexcavated.	
343	***Cut***	**Post-hole; adjacent to ditch Group 350.**	

344	*Fill*	Fill of post-hole (343). Unexcavated.
345	***Cut***	**Terminal of N-S ditch; part of Group 351.**
346	*Fill*	Fill of ditch terminal (345); equivalent to (304).
347	***Cut***	**Post-hole; adjacent to ditch Group 350**
348	*Fill*	Fill of post-hole (347). Unexcavated.
349	*Layer*	Possible buried soil.
350	***Group***	**Group number for curving ditch; includes ditch segments (309), (331), (333), (335). Cut by ditch Groups 352 and 353.**
351	***Group***	**Group number for N-S aligned ditch; includes segment (303) and terminal (345).**
352	***Group***	**Group number for WSW-ENE aligned ditch; includes segment (305) and terminal (339).**
353	***Group***	**Group number for slightly curving, E-W aligned ditch; includes segment (337) and terminal (314).**

Trench 4

	Max Depth: 0.55m	Length: 17.60m	Width: 5.20m
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	
401	*Layer*	Current topsoil/ploughsoil ; light yellow-brown silty clay.	
402	***Cut***	**Robber cut for N-S aligned wall. Equivalent to (414) and (423).**	
403	*Fill*	Deliberate backfill within (402), overlying (438); mid brown, compact, silty clay; abundant greensand fragments and CBM.	
404	***Cut***	**Robber cut for E-W aligned wall (Robbed Wall [RW] 7). Equivalent to (405).**	
405	*Fill*	Fill of (404); light brown silty clay; ironstone and greensand fragments and CBM. Equivalent to (430).	
406	*Surface*	Pathway surface; mid yellow-brown clay silt; common ironstone, greensand and CBM fragments. Fills scoop (407).	
407	***Cut***	**Shallow scoop; pathway alongside *mansio* wall. Winbolt's *intervallum* road.**	
408	*Fill*	Rubble backfill of robber cut (423); mid to dark brown silty clay loam; abundant ironstone fragments. Equivalent to (425).	
409	*Deposit*	Possible levelling deposit associated with flooring in Room 1; mid yellow-brown slightly clayey silt; small ironstone fragments. Equivalent to (426).	
410	***Cut***	**Robber cut for E-W aligned wall (RW4). Equivalent to (412).**	
411	*Fill*	Upper backfill within robber cut (410), overlying (418); mid brown silty clay; abundant ironstone and greensand fragments. Equivalent to (413).	
412	***Cut***	**Robber cut for E-W aligned wall (RW6). Equivalent to (410).**	
413	*Fill*	Backfill of robber cut (412). Equivalent to (411).	
414	***Cut***	**Robber cut for N-S aligned wall (RW5). Equivalent to (402) and (423).**	
415	*Fill*	Upper backfill within robber cut (414), overlying (417); as (411).	
416	*Fill*	Lower backfill within robber cut (420); compact mid yellow-grey silty clay; abundant ironstone, greensand and CBM fragments.	
417	*Fill*	Lower backfill within robber cut (414); as (416).	
418	*Fill*	Lower backfill within robber cut (410); as (416).	
419	*VOID*		
420	***Cut***	**Robber cut for N-S aligned wall (RW3). Equivalent to (431).**	
421	*Fill*	Upper backfill within robber cut (420), overlying (416); as (411). Equivalent to (430).	
422	*Fill*	Lower backfill within robber cut (423); compact, mid yellow-brown sandy clay; common ironstone and greensand fragments; green sandstone slabs at base.	
423	***Cut***	**Robber cut for N-S aligned wall (RW2). Equivalent to (402) and (414).**	
424	*Deposit*	Possible levelling deposit or floor bedding layer in Room 3, above (428); compact, mid yellow silty clay; ironstone fragments.	
425	*Fill*	Upper backfill within robber cut (423); as (411).	
426	*Deposit*	Possible levelling deposit in Room 2. Equivalent to (409).	
427	*Deposit*	Possible levelling deposit or floor bedding layer in Room 4; compact, mid yellow-brown clay silt; rare small ironstone and CBM fragments.	

428	*Deposit*	Possible levelling deposit or floor bedding layer in Room 3, below (424); mid yellow-brown clay silt.
429	*VOID*	
430	*Fill*	Upper backfill within robber cut (431); as 9411). Equivalent to (421).
431	***Cut***	**Robber cut for N-S aligned wall (RW8). Equivalent to (420).**
432	*Deposit*	Possible trample layer outside E wall (420/431) of *mansio*; compact, mid brown clay silt; common small ironstone and CBM fragments.
433	*Deposit*	Possible levelling deposit or floor bedding layer in Room 5; compact, mid brown silty clay.
434	*Deposit*	Possible levelling deposit or old ground surface, outside *mansio*; as (427).
435	*Deposit*	Possible levelling deposit or floor bedding layer in Room 1; Light yellow-brown clay silt.
436	*Deposit*	Courtyard surface; light yellow silty clay.
437	*Fill*	Lower backfill within robber cut (402), below (438); light grey silty clay; abundant greensand slabs.
438	*Fill*	Lower backfill within robber cut (402), overlying (437); compact, mid yellow-grey silty clay; abundant ironstone and sandstone fragments.
439	*Layer*	Subsoil; mid brown silty clay.
440	***Cut***	**Robber cut for E-W aligned wall (RW1).**
441	*VOID*	
442	*VOID*	
443	*Fill*	*In situ* ironstone slabs at base of robber cut (423).

Trench 5

	Max Depth: 0.32m	Length: 5.40m	Width: 4.50m
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	
501	*Layer*	Current ploughsoil; mid grey brown silty clay.	
502	*Layer*	Subsoil; light to mid yellow-brown silty clay.	
503	*Fill*	Fill of pit (504); light yellow-brown silty clay. Unexcavated.	
504	***Cut***	**Pit, sub-circular; cuts through pit (505).**	
505	***Cut***	**Pit, cut by pit (504), probably sub-circular in plan but not fully revealed.**	
506	*Fill*	Fill of pit (505); mid brown silty clay.	

Trench 6

	Max Depth: 0.55m	Length: 3.20m	Width: 2.70m
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	
601	*Layer*	Current ploughsoil; mid yellow-brown silty clay.	
602	*Fill*	Rubble fill in ?robber cut (603); mid yellow-brown silty clay; abundant CBM.	
603	*Cut*	Possible robber cut for N-S aligned wall.	
604	*Layer*	Natural clay subsoil, used as internal courtyard surface; compact, light yellow silty clay.	
605	*Fill*	Fill of ?robber cut (603); equivalent to (602).	
606	*Layer*	Possible domestic refuse layer; mid to dark brown, sandy organic soil; flecks of charcoal and CBM.	

APPENDIX 2: COIN LIST

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 20
Issuer Elizabeth II
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r. ELIZABETH.II.D.G REG.F.D.2001
Mint
Notes Very corroded indeed.
Reece Periods:

Object
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 3.6
Issue date 2001
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Portcullis and chains. ONE PENNY 1
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **101**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 18
Issuer Constantine I
Obverse condition Slightly worn
Obverse Bust r, laureate, cuirassed. CONSTANTINVS AVG

Mint Trier
Notes
Reece Periods: 15 - AD 296 - 317

Object **2**
Denomination Follis ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 2.2
Issue date AD 310 - 311
Reverse condition Slightly worn
Reverse Mars helmeted, standing r, leaning on spear, shield resting on ground. MARTI CONSERV. Mint Mark PTR
Officina: First
References RIC VI, Trier, 897
Casey Period: 21 - AD 296 - 317

Context **102**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 14
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Radiate bust r
Mint Unknown
Notes Barbarous Radiate.
Reece Periods: 14 - AD 275 - 296

Object **3**
Denomination Antoninianus ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.9
Issue date AD 270 - 296
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period: 19 - AD 273 - 286

Context **601**
Metal Silver
Diameter 18
Issuer Titus
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust r, laureate. T CAESAR IMP VESPASIANVS
Mint Rome
Notes A clear copy - the rim bears the marks where two halves of coin appear to have been joined. Some slight scratching on both obverse and reverse, as well as on edge. One major score down face of obverse
Reece Periods: 4 - AD 69 - 96

Object **6**
Denomination Denarius ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 3
Issue date AD 76
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Eagle on cippus, head l. CCOS V
Officina:
References Copy of RIC II, Titus, 11b

Casey Period: 3 - AD 68 - 81

Context **304**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 20
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Dated on size alone
Reece Periods:

Object **7**
Denomination antoninianus/follis ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 2.7
Issue date C3 - C4
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **301**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 22
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Dated on size alone
Reece Periods:

Object **8**
Denomination antoninianus/fol lis ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 2.6
Issue date C3 - C4
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **501**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 27
Issuer Nero
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, laureate
Mint Unknown
Notes As of Nero
Reece Periods: 3 - AD 54 - 69

Object **15**
Denomination As
Weight 4.6
Issue date AD 54 - 68
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period: 2 - AD 54 - 68

Reverse axis 0

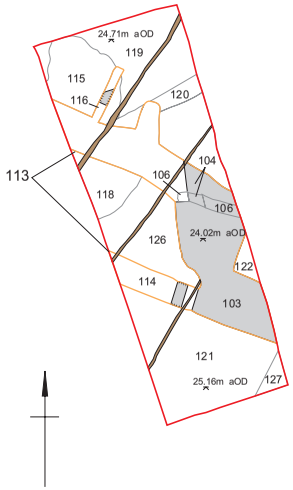
Wessex Archaeology

Date:	05/04/06	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:50 000, 1:10 000 & 1:2000	Illustrator:	LJC
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\59473TT\D.. O..\Report Figures\Alfoldean\06_04_05\Alfoldean.dwg		

Site location and geophysical survey results

Figure 1

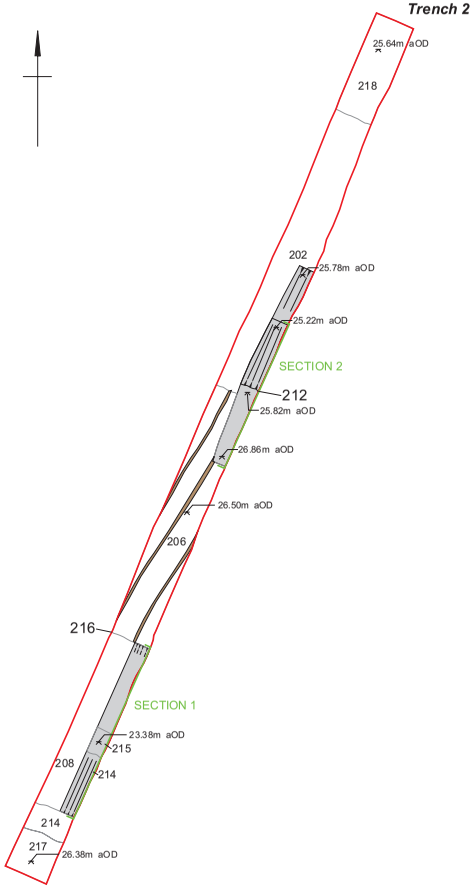
Trench 1



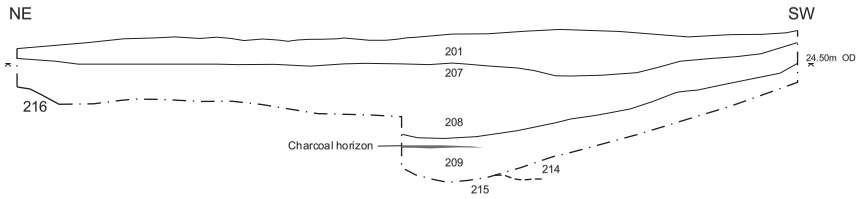
Trench 1 from the south east

Trench 2 from the south

Trench 2



SECTION 1

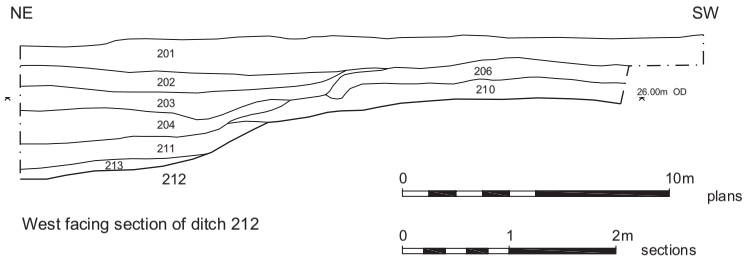


West facing section of ditch 216

West facing section of partially excavated ditch 216

West facing section of 212

SECTION 2



West facing section of ditch 212

West facing section showing remains of bank deposit 206 sealing buried ground surface 210

Winbolt's 1922-35 excavation trench

Excavated

Plough scar

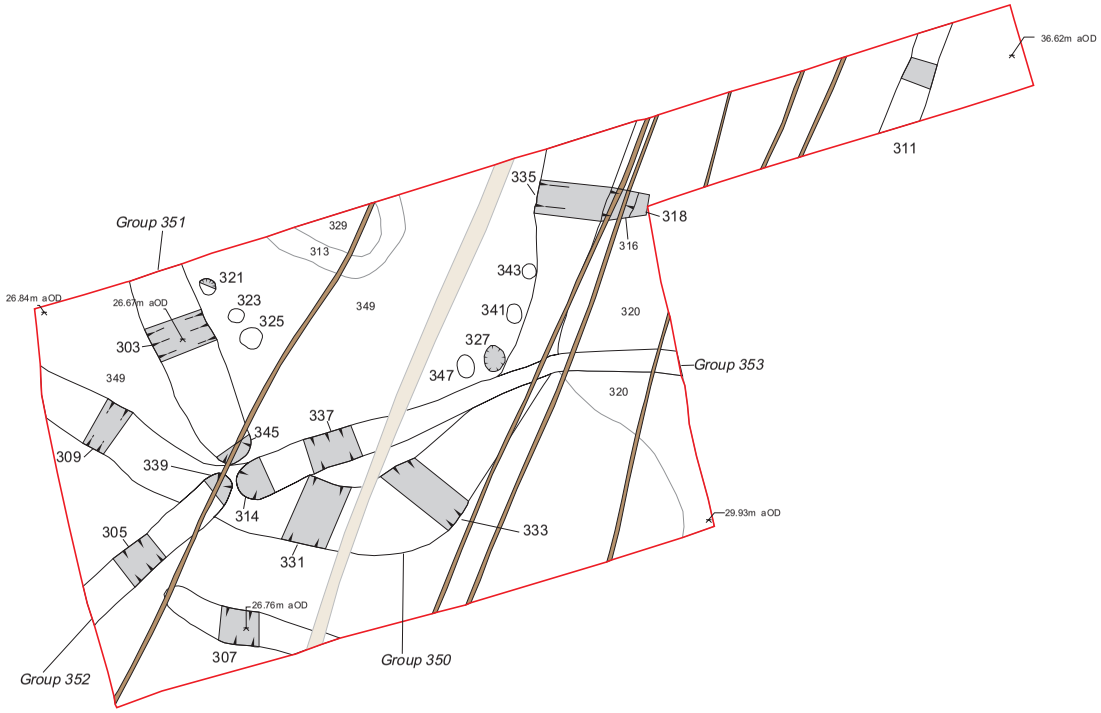
Wessex Archaeology

Date:	05/04/06	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plans 1:200, Sections 1:50	Illustrator:	LJC
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\59473TT\D.. O..\Report Figures\Alfoldean\06_04_05\Alfoldean.dwg		

Trenches 1 and 2, detail plans and selected sections and photos

Figure 2

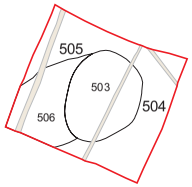
Trench 3



Trench 3 from the west

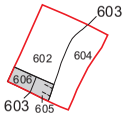
0 5m

Trench 5



Trench 5 from the west

Trench 6



0 10m

Land drain

Plough scar

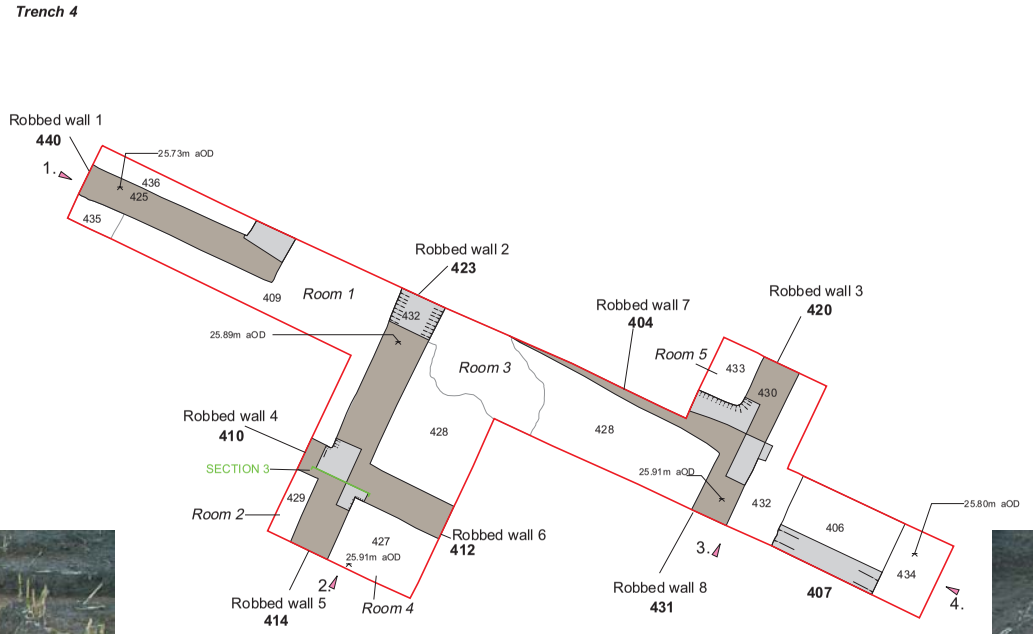
Excavated

Date:	05/04/06	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plans 1:100 and 1:200	Illustrator:	LJC
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\59473TT\D.. O..\Report Figures\Alfoldean\06_04_05\Alfoldean.dwg		

Trenches 3 , 5 and 6 detail plans and selected photos

Figure 3

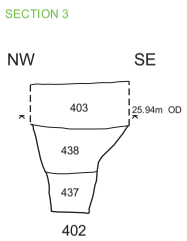
1. Trench 4 from the west



4. Trench 4 from the east

2. Trench 4 from the south

3. Trench 4 from the south



South facing section of robber cut 402

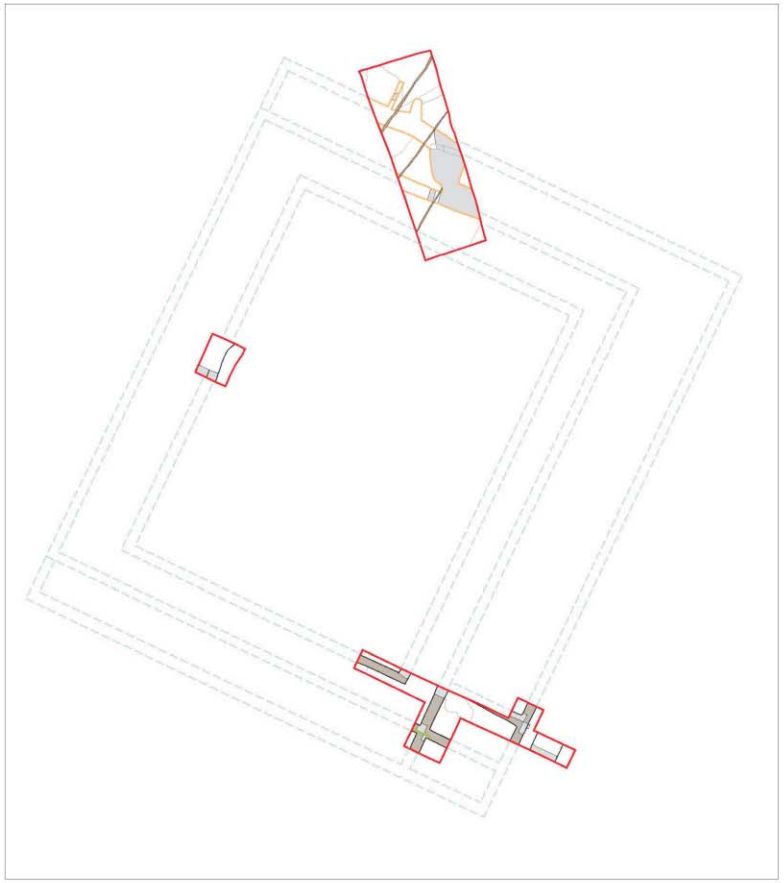
Wessex Archaeology

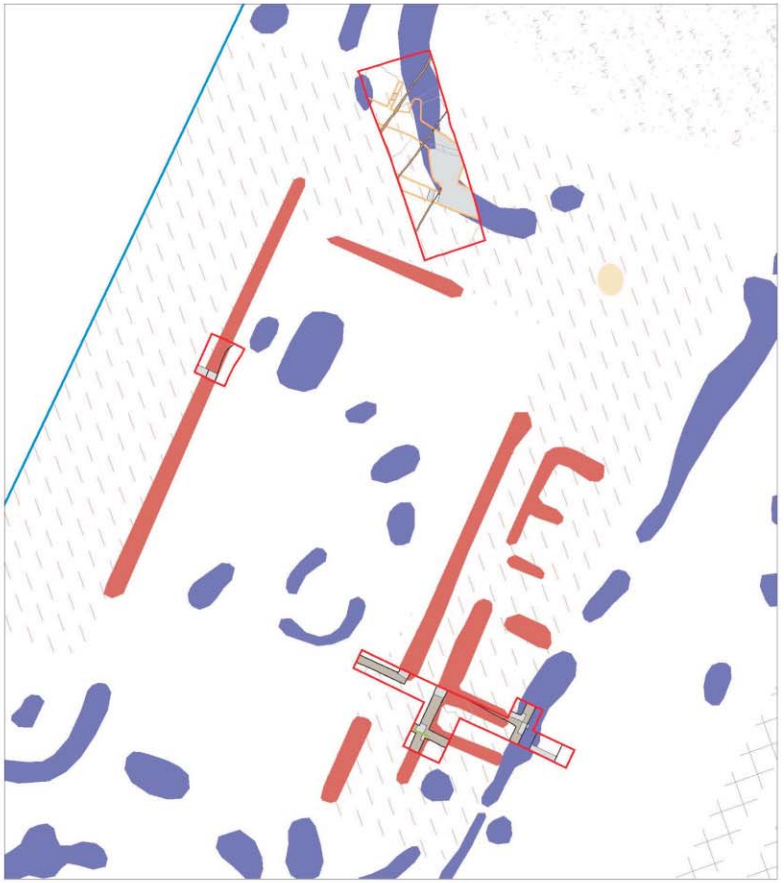
Land drain
Plough scar
Excavated
Photo location
Wall

Date:	05/04/06	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plan 1:100, Section 1:50	Illustrator:	LJC
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\59473TT\D.. O..\Report Figures\Alfoldean\06_04_05\Alfoldean.dwg		

Trench 4, detail plan and selected section and photos

Figure 4





Trench
Excavated
Winbolt's 1922-35 excavation trench
Plough scar
Wall
Extrapolated walls

Footprint of Mansio
Mansio Walls
Archaeology
Increased Magnetic Response
Ferrous

Wessex Archaeology

Geophysical data courtesy of GSB Prospection Ltd

Date:	05/04/06	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:300	Illustrator:	LJC
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\59473TT\D.. O..\Report Figures\Alfoldean\06_04_05\Alfoldean.dwg		

A classic courtyard mansio

Figure 5

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