

The Bourne From Source to Sea - a journey through sound, science and story

SCIENCE

REPORT FROM THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST PITTING AT MANOR GARDENS AND THE OLD PARSONAGE GARDEN, EASTBOURNE

TV 599539 & TV598994



Volunteers on a journey of discovery within a a test pit in Manor Gardens, Eastbourne, February 2024 (Blue Heart)

A limited programme of archaeological test-pitting carried out in late February 2024, based on the results of a geophysical survey to inform research and gather information for the Blue Heart Community Project in partnership with Changing Chalk— a project led by the National Trust and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Peoples Postcode Lottery

By Jonathan Seaman on behalf of the Blue Heart Project



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ABSTRACT

The Bourne Stream, also known as The Hawkswell and The Common Stream, has been associated with development of Eastbourne for the last 150 years at least. The archaeological story is slightly different but, The Bourne has undoubtedly played a huge role in the Eastbourne story for almost a millennia.

This project aimed to see how areas of the Town have developed over time but in particular whether we could find any evidence of the people's relationship with water and how they managed this essential, but potentially destructive, resource.

By undertaking archaeological test pits in two areas that were in the vicinity of or adjacent to known dwellings, we hoped to uncover something of this story.

Despite the wet and windy weather, the project was a great success with evidence of pre 1777 structures and targets for potential future investigation in Manor Gardens and a glimpse into the C17-18th life at the Parsonage, with buildings and landscaping including the building of a path to the well. In contrast to most test pits undertaken throughout the area in 2023's Big Dig, no medieval cultural material was identified within the Old Parsonage Garden, indicating that there was a period of landscape change after that time. It is suggested that a catastrophic flooding event may well have been the instigator of this change and this is discussed in detail.

Over 50 volunteers took part in this project and for many of them, this was their first tangible experience of archaeology and for most it will not be their last.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report is concerned with a limited programme of archaeological test pitting to test the results of a geophysical survey (carried out in November 2023) of a small area in the far west of Manor Gardens, parallel with Borough Lane on the southern edge of Old Town, Eastbourne and in the garden of the Old Parsonage, adjacent and to the north of St Mary the Virgin Parish Church, Church Street, Eastbourne. It is part of the Blue Heart community project in partnership with Changing Chalk (a project led by the National Trust with partners including Eastbourne Borough Council and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Peoples Postcode Lottery). The *Journey Along the Bourne* is a Blue Heart Project, principally examining the changing relationship between people in Eastbourne and the river that ostensibly gave the Town its' name. Through science and creativity it will help local residents to understand that the landscape has been constantly changed through the actions of water and will endeavour to create resilience for the likely water related changes in the future.
- Much of Eastbourne's identity was informed by the Bourne, an ancient water source that threads its way across (mostly under) the town, finally arriving at the sea. This community project will bring the Bourne's story alive through a range of activities: archaeology, creative writing, folklore, memory and local history. We'll be using sound recording to capture and share our experiences and discoveries and present the findings in a unique and unexpected aural journey. We are asking people to join us to explore how people have adapted to changing climate, water levels and environment

in the past, and reflect on how the changes we're experiencing in the *present* will prompt adaption now and in the future. How did people in the past impact on their environment – through farming, industry, or housing for example? What's their legacy, and what would we like our legacy to be? Understanding how water moves in the area is key to helping Eastbourne and south Wealden become more resilient to flooding and in managing water more sustainably.

1.3 The areas we are investigating are as follows –

- The far west of Manor Gardens just south of the C18th dwelling now known as Gildredge Manor House, but better known simply as The Manor House or more correctly, The Lushington or Gilbert Manor House, a Grade II listed building. The area to be investigated (see map below) lies alongside a bank that separates the ornamental gardens from the footpath that runs inside the perimeter wall on the east side of Borough Lane. From the C13th there were buildings in this area that were only cleared during the creation of Manor Gardens in the mid-C18th. We are hoping that the test pits will indicate whether any trace of these buildings, gardens or in particular the wells that served them survive beneath the ground.
- The Parsonage is situated just north and at right-angles to St Mary the Virgin Parish Church and forms part of a former manorial complex that stands around 3m below the Church (to the south) and is under the curtilage of the Church within the holdings of the Diocese of Chichester. The area under investigation is currently known as the Well Garden and is used occasionally by the church community for events and recreation. A test pit as part of The Big Dig (a Changing Chalk project carried out by Heritage Eastbourne) carried out in 2023 (report pending) indicated that there were archaeological features and a large quantity of material surviving that could go some way to interpreting the post medieval story of the area. The pottery, ceramic building material and metalwork reports by Luke Barber for The Big Dig have informed the finds reports in Section 5.
- 1.4 This report has been produced for Blue Heart by Jonathan Seaman.

 The archaeological survey, as specified below, follows the recommendations made by the Archaeology Section at East Sussex County Council as laid out in the Sussex Archaeological Standards (October 2019).

1.5 The investigation involved –

Manor Gardens - the digging of two 1m x 1m test pits to examine two areas of possible archaeological activity indicated on the resistivity survey results (see Figure 2). We also examined a sub-circular garden feature now used as an ornamental planting bed (see Figure 3).

Old Parsonage Garden - the excavation of two 1m \times 1m test pits targeting and adjacent to a possible, though slight, geophysical anomaly (see Figure 4) and a 3m \times 1m test pit alongside the test pit excavated in 2023 (as part of the Big Dig project) and continued north to butt against the standing wall of a now ruinous outbuilding. Originally it was

planned that we would examine the base of the existing well in the garden but the author was informed that the well head was completely rebuilt around 20 years ago and a large concrete plinth was constructed beneath it. Testing confirmed this to be the case, so resources were moved elsewhere.



Figure 1 - Area of geophysical surveys (in red) with Parsonage Gardens to the north and Manor Gardens below, also showing the Old Town Archaeological Notification Area shaded (Jo Seaman/EBC 2023)

- 1.6 The project took place between 26th February and 2nd March 2024, with the test pits in Manor Gardens taking priority from the 26th-28th February. The whole project was made possible only with the help of 50 volunteers who prevailed in the face of some really unpleasant and very wet late winter weather. Indeed, the weather, alongside the profusion of tree roots (even 6m from the nearest tree) did mean that the test pits in Manor Gardens in particular did not necessarily uncover all the in-situ archaeology. Nevertheless they have helped in our interpretation of this area that until now, was archaeologically blank.
- 1.7 This project was organised by the Blue Heart Project in partnership with part Changing Chalk a project led by the National Trust, partnered with Heritage Eastbourne and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Peoples Postcode Lottery. This was a community project, working with volunteers in order to explore the value of archaeological research in showing how people have adapted their built, societal and material culture alongside environmental and economic changes.

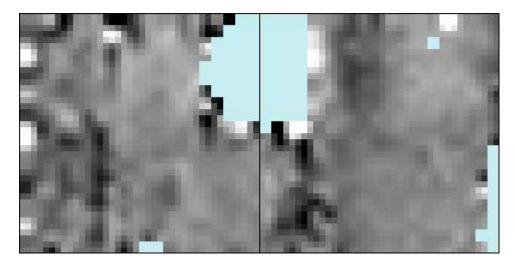


Figure 2 – Results of the resistivity survey, high resistance is darker, north is on the left (The National Trust 2023)

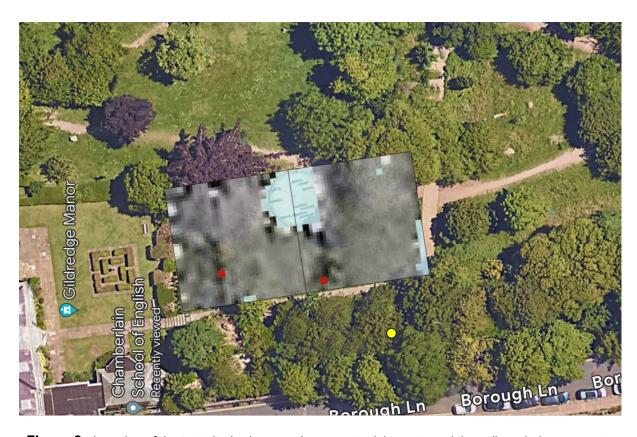


Figure 3 - Location of the test pits (red squares) over potential targets and the yellow circle represents the position of the sub-circular flower bed being investigated (J Seaman 2024/National Trust 2023)

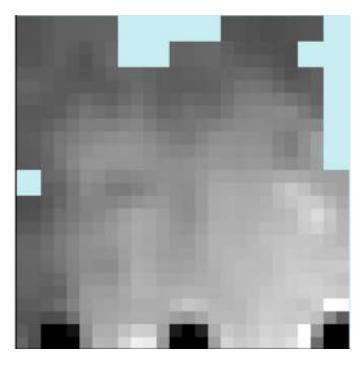


Figure 4 - Results of the resistivity survey in the Old Parsonage Garden, high resistance is darker, north is to the right (National Trust 2023)



Figure 5 – Location of the test pits (red squares) over potential targets, TP1 is lower middle, TP2 top left and TP3 just south and adjacent to TP1 (J Seaman 2024/National Trust 2023)



Figure 6 – The circular garden feature (MGBH24/3) to be investigated as part of this project – see Figure 3 for position within the garden, north is towards the right (J Seaman 2023)

2.0 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The geology of the sites are described in the British Geological Survey Map 319/334 Lewes and Eastbourne as:

Manor Gardens

Zig Zag Chalk Formation - Chalk. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 100.5 and 93.9 million years ago during the Cretaceous period.

The superficial deposits are not recorded but from experience consist of fairly organic topsoils over a chalk marl mix.

Parsonage Garden

Zig Zag Chalk Formation - Chalk. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 100.5 and 93.9 million years ago during the Cretaceous period.

Superficial Deposits -

Head - variable deposits of sandy, silty clay, locally gravelly; chalky and flinty in dry chalk valleys. Includes sandstone fragments in the Weald area.

- 2.2 Both sites lie within the ESCC Archaeological Notification Area DES13692, Old Town Eastbourne.
- 2.3 Both sites also lie within Eastbourne's Historic Urban Character Area (HUCA) 1, *Old Town* which itself has a high Historic Environment Value (HEV) of 4 (the highest being 5) and as such is one of the most important reflected within the Sussex Extensive Urban Survey (EUS) for this area.

2.4 The Manor House Grade II Listed Building

Built in 1743¹, 2 storeys and attic, 7 windows, 3 dormers. Grey headers with red brick dressings. Stringcourse of red brick and grey headers. Wooden cornice with modillions. Hipped slate roof with lead ridges. Doorway with Doric columns and pediment set in the thickness of the garden wall and no doubt

originally a porch but this now leads into the passage connecting the house with the billiard room. The main front faces the garden on the South. It has a large bay of 3 windows on the 1st floor supported by Doric columns below, behind which is the ground floor doorway with Doric pilasters and pediment. The door is modern. Above the cornice of the bay is a wooden-balustraded parapet and large dormer window with brick work on either side of it and pediment over. 1 ordinary dormer on either side of it. The East front has 3 bays of 3 windows each, 1 fronted with red brick, the others re-fronted with roughcast. The wing to the North has a 1st floor which is largely modern but the ground floor is earlier than the main part of the house. A billiard room of ground floor level only was added at the South-west corner of the house at the end of the C19 and has been joined to the main part of the house by a corridor with a balustraded roof.

The house was built by the then Vicar of Eastbourne, Dr Henry Lushington, a man of some wealth and standing in the later C18th. Though the exact date is not known, his will dated 13th January 1777, speaks of his '…new erected messuage or tenement…wherein I now dwell, situate at Eastbourne.". This along with Lushington's purchase of two 'gardens' in Eastbourne (most likely at least part of the site of Manor Gardens now) in 1770 indicates that the building is more likely form the late 1770's than the 1740's as described in the official listing above.

Stephen Lushington, the eldest son of the Vicar, sold the property to Charles Gilbert, an attorney from a prominent local family (and later co-builders of 'new' Eastbourne the seaside Town) in 1792 and this became the Gilbert Manor House. The gardens around the manor house grew over time with the area that was test-pitted one of the original pieces of attached land. To the south of the site, roughly where a footpath now lies was a Ha-Ha, separating the formal gardens from the parkland beyond. From this we can conclude that the investigated area was likely to have been semi-formal gardens in the later C18th.

Prior to the building of the Manor House, the site was once occupied by a series of small houses that also ran south along Borough Lane. Some of these continued to be occupied until the later C19th when those nearest to Church Street were demolished to form part of the Manor's northern courtyard. The buildings further south along Borough Lane, where our site is, were probably removed in the later C18th as part of the remodelling of this area to create a suitably imposing garden for the Manor House.

2.5 The Old Parsonage Grade II* Listed Building

Now the Parish Hall, with the Verger's house over it. Built as the Rectory Manor House in the early C16 consisting of a hall with buttery and pantry at the North end and solar at the south end and 4 rooms over. It now has 2 storeys and attic, 5 windows. Walls of flint and rubble with stone frames to doors and windows. Red tiled roof. Large projecting chimney breast in the centre of the East side. This chimney has

¹ This date seems a little out, Budgen (1912) records it as around 1777

a large fireplace with carved stone mantel shelf. Pointed arched doorways. Square headed windows with stone mullions, those on the ground floor on the East side having transome as well as mullions with 3 lights above and below and dripstones over them. Timber and plaster partitions between the hall and the rooms at each end.

The present building is believed to date no earlier than 1492 after a devastating fire destroyed the former Treasurers Manor that stood on this site. At that time, John Doget, the Treasurer of Chichester Cathedral and Rector of St Mary's was petitioning the Bishop for Tithe payment relief as the damage was calculated at around £600 worth of rebuilding – a huge sum for the C16th.²

Doget died in 1501, so it would seem likely that it was either he or when of his successors, William Greene or Hughe Rolfe (who was appointed Treasurer in 1519) that had the current Manor House built. If it was the latter then it could be that it was completed in time for the Bishop's Visitation to Eastbourne in 1521.

The Treasurer continued to hold the Manor, even after the Reformation, but by then it was common for the building and manor to be wholly or partly leased out. William Ferrall was leasing the property by 1547 and "Master White" the tenant farmer of "The Rectory" in 1597. The building and farm were tenanted throughout the first half of the C17th and residents included Benjamin Scarlett, an Attorney. In 1651 the Commonwealth Government sold the Parsonage (as a property of the Cathedral) to Francis Riggs, a London grocer, but it was taken back by the Church on the Restoration of Charle II soon after 1660. It was then leased again and in 1685 Nicholas Townley is able to leave the lease in his will (including farms, windmill, pastures, rents etc) to be sold on. Throughout most of the C18th the building was held by members of the Worge family until 1774 when a London wool draper, George Chapman appears as the lessee.³ In 1819, George Cavendish and Davies Gilbert Esq. (the major landowners of the C19th) acquired the lease and soon after the Parsonage was divided up into tenements, which by 1846 were dilapidated. At this time the land to the west of the Parsonage was bought as an extension for the Churchyard (although at one time this had been part of the Manor) and it would appear to have been filled with soil to raise it to the level of the existing burial ground to the south. As this was happening it was suggested that the Parsonage along with "a cottage adjoining it" 4be pulled down to create more space for burials. £200 was offered to the Church Commissioners as compensation and this was thought to be a great deal as the buildings were in such a poor state. Ultimately though the purchase was refused although it isn't clear why and the building was saved. In 1911 soon after the death of the last resident, the Parsonage, then in the hands of the Duke of Devonshire was gifted back to the church community for use as a Parish Hall. Funds were then raised and by 1922, after heavy restoration the building was reopened and today contains a flat for the Verger, the parish offices and a hall for use by the local community.

2.6 A search of the HER (Historic Environment Record) of the area around Manor Gardens and Old Parsonage Garden shows six events recorded.

²Story, E. and Stevenson, J.H.*The Register of Edward Story, Bishop of Chichester 1478-1503,* 2016, Woolbridge, Suffolk, Uk: The Canterbury And York Society.

³ Budgen (1912), pgs 161-163

⁴ Budgen (1912) pg 165

The furthest from the site was an evaluation on the ridge to the north-east of Motcombe and did not record any significant archaeology.

Two excavations were carried out by Eastbourne Natural History and Archaeological Society between 1977 and 1984 as part of the Eastbourne Urban Medieval Excavation Project (EUMEP), which sought to shed light on the medieval origins of Bourne. This project is yet to be published but should prove a fascinating insight to the comparative fortunes of Bourne and Motcombe. The area investigated lies to the west of our site but the results have informed our expectations for it as being a former urban area.

Another event and part of the EUMEP project which falls within our search area was an excavation of three lime burning pits, archaeomagnetically dated to circa 1175 and likely to be the source of mortar for the rebuilding of the parish church of St Mary's at this time.⁵

The same event listing also records the excavation of a section across the course of the Bourne Stream, the source of which is Motcombe Gardens, in 1980.

The closest event records were basic interpretative surveys, of the Eighteenth Century Gilbert Manor House (now known, incorrectly as Gildredge Manor) and the other an urban survey from 2008.

Not listed on this version of the HER was another event undertaken by archaeologist Lawrence Stevens in 1974 consisting of an excavation of a supposed Roman road just 250m to the south east of the survey site. This intervention proved that the feature was actually a lynchet or field boundary that had been in use since the early-mid Iron Age.⁶

A map in the Chatsworth Estate archive known as the Gier Map (after the mapmaker) was created in 1636 to record the property under direct ownership of the Parker family (then holders of one of the Eastbourne manors). This map (see Figure 5, below) shows a number of buildings on the east side of Borough Lane that no longer exist and it is these that we hope to find evidence of in the survey. It seems likely that we will only see the gardens and outbuildings given the landscaping since 1777.

2.7 The resistivity survey in Manor Gardens in November 2023 (see Figure 3) gave some interesting results, most obviously a linear signal of low resistance on the north close to the modern boundary with the Manor House. It is possible that this could be the remains of a ditch, boundary or garden feature relating either to earlier buildings or the standing house. The other most distinctive response was in the central area of the site, on the western side, where there is an area or more likely a series of smaller areas of low resistance. This could represent pits or a larger dug feature relating to the earlier use of the site or possibly from garden features post 1743CE. Two of these potential features are being investigated as part of this project.

In contrast, the survey of the Old Parsonage Garden (see Figure 5), produced inconclusive results, with only a very slight high resistance anomaly showing in the centre of the garden running east towards the existing building. After further processing of the data, this anomaly was considered to be a possible feature, along with an associated linear running north from it (pers comm Gary Webster, The National

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⁵ Stevens L *Three Lime Burning Pits, Church Street, Eastbourne* 1990 Sussex Archaeological Society, Lewes, Vol 128, Pgs 73-87

⁶ Stevens L, Sussex Archaeological Collections 125 (1987), 69-74

Trust). Therefore it was decided to test this feature in a systematic way using two test pits running across it.



Figure 7 – The Gier Map of c1636 with the buildings that may be within the survey area outlined in red (The Chatsworth Estate)

3.0 OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The overall objective of the archaeological excavation is to contribute to our understanding of the site through the recording of any archaeological remains discovered as a result of the survey. It is hoped that the results will yield information about the urban history of the site. Particular attention will be made to character of the domestic settings including drainage or wells that may be recorded.
- 3.2 Specific research questions for the Manor Gardens site have been defined using the Historic Environment Research Framework suggested in the Sussex EUS for this area and for the Blue Heart Project and the Big Dig, can be summarised as follows:
 - Is there any evidence for occupation in this area prior to c1777?
 - Are there any garden features surviving relating to the post c1777 period?
 - What evidence is there for water and waste management of medieval and post medieval settlement?
 - Is the circular flower bed evidence of a well and if so, for which property did it serve?
 - What was the extent form and economic nature of the medieval and post medieval settlement
 - What different economic zones were there during the medieval period in this part of Old Town
 - What evidence is there for the economy of the medieval town?

 What different zones (eg social differentiation, or types of activity, especially farming and industry) were there during the later medieval/post medieval town and how did they change?

Specific research questions for the Old Parsonage Garden have been defined using the Historic Environment Research Framework suggested in the Sussex EUS for this area and for the Blue Heart Project itself, can be summarised as follows:

- Is there any evidence for other structures or buildings on the site?
- Do any of the structures recorded relate to the existing Manor House or an earlier iteration of it?
- What evidence is there for water and waste management of medieval and post medieval settlement?
- What was the extent form and economic nature of the medieval and post medieval settlement on this site?
- 3.3 The project engaged with the local community through scientific and creative interventions where volunteers undertook the role of citizen scientists. The project included open discussions regarding the nature of archaeology and how it reflects landscape change and mitigation in relation to flooding and water resources and show the significance that community based projects can have. We examined the impact that flooding (due to climate change) could have on the Eastbourne area in the future by understanding the climatic and environmental changes in the past. Volunteers with no previous archaeological experience worked alongside professionals.

Heritage Eastbourne/Blue Heart also held an open day with tours of the Church, volunteers washing the finds made during the excavations and active discussion encouraged at The Old Parsonage, St Mary's Church, Old Town on Saturday 1st March. 312 people visited the

4.0 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The excavations took place between 26th February 2024 and 2nd March 2024.
- 4.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was written and agreed by the land owners and the County Archaeological Team at East Sussex County Council and defined the methodology to be employed during the archaeological evaluation, including the excavation, recording, sampling, interpretation and reporting of all exposed archaeological remains. The document was prepared by Blue Heart in accordance with the East Sussex County Council document Sussex Archaeological Standards (April 2019).
- 4.3 The fieldwork, in Manor Gardens, consisted of the excavation of two 1m x 1m test pits and the investigation of the sub-circular flowers bed, located as indicated in Figure 3. The fieldwork in the Old Parsonage Garden consisted of two 1m x 1m test pits and one 2m x 1m test pit as shown in Figure 5. Specific site codes, for Manor Gardens, MGBH24/1, MGBH24/2, MGBH24/3 and Old Parsonage Garden PGBH24/1,

PGBH24/2 and PGBH24/3 were used to document all elements of the Project Archive.

- 4.4 The test-pits were carried out with the permission of the landowners (Eastbourne Borough Council, The Diocese of Chichester/St Mary's Church PCC) and with the agreement of the Friends of Manor Gardens & Gildredge Park by suitably qualified archaeologists (Jonathan Seaman Blue Heart, Gary Webster National Trust/Changing Chalk, Stephen Patton ASE) with assistance from a team of volunteers from the local community and beyond.
- 4.5 Finds were recorded on site and initially assessed by a commissioned archaeologist for recommendations of further reporting by archaeological specialists. The finds were then separated by type and specialist reports commissioned. These now form part of this report and the archive. The finds from Manor Gardens were archived by Heritage Eastbourne/Eastbourne Borough Council after reporting and those from the Old Parsonage Garden remain with the PCC for use as they see fit.
- 4.6 Each test pit was dug by hand to a maximum depth of 1m with most only achieving a depth with a maximum of 50-60cm. The garden feature was excavated using the current stone 'kerb' as the boundary of the intervention
- 4.7 Where practicably possible, the excavated spoil was be placed at least 1.5m away from the test-pit edges to comply with safe working practice and the excavations in Manor Gardens, being open to the public, were protected by Heras fencing.
- 4.8 On completion of the archaeological investigation, the test-pits were backfilled with spoil derived from the excavation and compacted. Turfs were then carefully reinstated and tamped down.

5.0 RESULTS

The two sites have been reported on as separate entities in terms of the results and the following are quantitative tables of finds with a discussion of each teat pit. Luke Barber was commissioned to report on the pottery, ceramic building material and majority of metal finds for all sites.

5.1 Manor Gardens

5.1.1 **MGBH24/1**

This test pit was located just over 27m south of the Manor House and 20m east of Borough Lane (see Figure 3)

Contexts/Features

3 contexts and no distinct features were recorded in this test pit.

Context No	Description	Depth	Interpretation
001	Dark grey brown, fairly loose, organic soil with many roots	10cm	Garden topsoil
002	Mid brown to grey, clayey-silt, fairly compact with many roots, cultural material	10cm	Subsoil, historic garden soil
003	Compact layer of large pieces of chalk (upto 20cm) in a light brown-grey crumbly soil matrix, frequent pieces of CBM and other cultural material	30cm	Landscaping layer, levelling of gardens post or contemporary with the building of the Lushington Manor House

<u>Finds</u>

Pottery

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	1	Pottery	LPM	Blue transfer-printed whiteware	2	5	?Jug x1 (moulded decoration)
TP01	1	Pottery	LPM	Bone china (porcelain)	1	1	?Gas mantle x1
TP01	1	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	1	7	Colander x1 (green glaze internally)
TP01	1	Pottery	НМ	HM3a Medium/coarse quartz	1	7	?x1 (oxidised)
TP01	1	Pottery	LPM	Pearlware (transfer- printed)	1	1	?x1 (unclear design)
TP01	1	Pottery	EPM	Tin-glazed earthenware	3	3	?x1 (blue design) Flower pots x2
TP01	1	Pottery	LPM	Unglazed red earthenware	2	11	(simple & collared rims)
TP01	2	Pottery	НМ	HM1c Fine flint with quartz gritty ware	1	2	?x1 (oxidised)
TP01	2	Pottery	НМ	HM3a Medium/coarse quartz	1	5	Cooking pot x1 (oxidised, internal clear glaze on base, externally sooted)
TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	Tin-glazed earthenware	2	5	?x1 (white glaze)
TP01	3	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (metallic glaze)	1	2	?x1 (metallic glaze all over)
TP01	3	Pottery	LM/EPM	Hard-fired sandy earthenware	1	2	?x1 (reduced)

TP01	3	Pottery	EPM	Frechen stoneware	2	6	Bottles x2 (iron mottle, salt glaze)
TP01	3	Pottery	LM/EPM	Hard-fired earthenware	1	3	?x1 (oxidised)
	3	Pottery	EPM	Westerwald stoneware	1	2	Tankard x1 (cobalt blue horizontal line)

Clay Pipe

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	1	Clay Pipe	1750- 1800	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	1	Clay Pipe	1710- 1750	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	1	Clay Pipe	1680- 1810	Stem	2	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	1	Clay Pipe	1650- 1680	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	2	Clay Pipe	1750- 1810	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	2	Clay Pipe	c1680	Bowl	1	Large bulbous, spur type - just under half bowl surviving - cross section
TP01	3	Clay Pipe	1710- 1780	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	3	Clay Pipe	1650- 1660	Bowl	1	London type, larger bowl but not developed larger spur. The complete milling decoration around the rim would make this a finer quality pipe (illustrated)

Ceramic Building Material

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	1	СВМ	?	Burnt clay	1	10	Fine quartz, x1 flat face
TP01	1	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	2	43	Wealden thick type (with slight quartz)

TP01	2	СВМ	EPM	Brick	1	23	Amorphous
							Wealden thick
							type. Later
TP01	2	CBM	EPM	Peg tile	16	163	C16th-17th
							Heavy Wealden
							type. O peg hole.
TP01	3	CBM	EPM	Peg tile	2	15	Later 16th to 17th

Metalwork

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	3	Metal	?	Iron	1	6	Amorphous blob
TP01	3	Metal	?	Iron	1	18	Tapering strip (70mm+ long)

Bone and Shell

							Comments (? –
						Weight	undiagnostic of
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	(g)	form)
							Fragments
							including some
TP01	1	Bone	?	Medium Mammal bone	7	22	long bone and rib
							1 x large mammal
				Medium/Large mammal			molar and 1 x pig
TP01	1	Bone	?	teeth	2	9	canine
							7 x sheep(?) rib
							some butchery
							marks 24g/1 x
							skull fragment
							10g/3 x misc long
							bone fragments
							21g/1 x
TP01	2	Bone	?	Medium Mammal Bone	12	47.5	vertebrate 9.5g
							1 x long bone, all
							other fragments,
							some butchery
TP01	3	Bone	?	Medium mammal bone	15	51	marks
				Small/medium mammal			
TP01	3	Bone	?	bone	1	3	Small rib
11 01	3	DOLLE	•	DOTIC	'		
							Cow(?)
TP01	3	Bone	?	Large mammal bone	1	55	vertebrate
							Teeth from
TP01	3	Bone	?	Large mammal teeth	2	22	cow(?)
1101	1 0	Done		Large manimar teem	1 ~		00 W(:)

TP01	1	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	2	10	Periwinkle
TP01	1	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	3	4	Limpet
TP01	1	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	1	0.5	Oyster
TP01	2	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	1	3.7	Periwinkle
TP01	3	Shell	?	Marine mollusc shell	2	4	Limpet
TP01	3	Shell	?	Marine mollusc shell	5	162.6	Mature oyster and fragments

Burnt Material

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	1	Burnt Material	?	Burnt fuel	2	7	Probable coal

Stone

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	2	Stone	Pre1800	Local Greensand	3	518	Eastbourne greensand pieces, some tooling/demolition marks, building material
TP01	2	Stone	?	Flint	1	129.3	Fragment of flint cobble, has been exposed to heat

Discussion

Although no significant archaeological features were recorded in this test pit, we could see a developing story that could be explored more deeply in the future.

The topsoil across the site was a typical, fairly organic, clayey-silt topsoil with grass and herbaceous plant roots. Beneath this was an older subsoil that contained mixed cultural material from the later C19th back to some medieval pottery fragments and is likely to represent a mixed garden soil from Lushington Manor before the public park was established in the early C20th. The disturbed cultural debris was typical of the type that would be found deposited in refuse pits or middens, typically at the rear of domestic properties. The chalk layer contained more consistently C17th-C18th material and is likely to have been debris

from groundworks and demolition clearance during the development of the area from residential to that of a private Pleasure Garden. At least one Ha-Ha is known within this area which would have generated a great deal of chalk spoil and the grounds directly adjacent to the Manor House are at least 50cm lower than the surrounding park. The natural slope of the site, though not great, has certainly been levelled out across this part of Manor Gardens with the addition of this chalk layer probably as part of the landscaping processes explained above.

5.1.2 **MGBH24/2**

This test pit was located just over 48m south of the Manor House and 17m east of Borough Lane (see Figure 3)

Contexts/Features

6 contexts and and a sub-circular feature were recorded in this test pit.

Context No	Description	Depth	Interpretation
001	Dark grey brown, fairly loose, organic soil with many roots	10-15cm	Garden topsoil
002	Mid brown to grey, clayey-silt, fairly loose with many roots, cultural material	15cm	
003	Cut of sub-circular feature	-	Cut of small pit
004	Fill of sub-circular feature, very similar to 002 but looser and lighter in colour	30cm	Fill of small pit
005	Fairly solid chalk with very little chalky soil matrix, possible weathered head of the natural	-	Weathered chalk natural
006	Line of flint cobbles, all around 15cm, a little lime mortar	-	Possible degraded foundation of a wall, planting border?

Finds

Pottery

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP02	1	Pottery	LPM	Chinese porcelain	1	3	Saucer x1 (blue Chinese design)
TP02	1	Pottery	LPM	English stoneware	1	1	?x1 (tan top, Bristol glaze)
TP02	1	Pottery	LPM	Glazed red earthenware (late)	2	3	?x2 (clear glaze internally)
TP02	1	Pottery	LPM	Chinese porcelain	1	1	?Plate x1

TP02	1	Pottery	LPM	Creamware	1	1	Plate x1
TP02	1	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	2	46	Dish x1 (clear glaze internally, bulbous club rim); ?jug x1 (clear glaze all over, very worn)
TP02	1	Pottery	НМ	HM1a Developed Abbot's Wood	1	2	?x1 (oxidised)
TP02	2	Pottery	НМ	HM3a Medium/coarse quartz	1	4	?x1 (oxidised)
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	Westerwald stoneware	1	2	?Mug x1 (moulded quatrefoil, with cobalt blue & manganese purple infill)
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	White salt-glazed stoneware	5	9	Teabowl x1; ?mug x1
TP02	3	Pottery	LPM	Chinese porcelain	1	1	Saucer x1 (blue Chinese design)
TP02	3	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	1	39	Bowl x1 (clear glaze internally) C18th
TP02	3	Pottery	НМ	HM3c Fine/medium quartz	1	1	?x1 (oxidised/reduced)
TP02	3	Pottery	EPM	White salt-glazed stoneware	1	1	Saucer x1

Clay Pipe

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP02	1	Clay Pipe	1710- 1750	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method
			1710-			Fragment. The mark of a Crown on the left side of the spur is known from a number of Sussex pipe makers of the period. The mark on the right of the stem is not clear but appears to be a crown also. This could (according to Atkinson) ⁷ be for an East
TP02	1	Clay Pipe	1750	Bowl	1	Grinstead maker

 $^{^{\}rm 7}$ Atkinson D R, Sussex Clay Tobacco Pipes and the Pipemakers

Ceramic Building Material

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	2	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	3	77	Heavy Wealden type
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Brick	3	578	Well formed & fired. 58mm thick
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Peg tile	28	1246	Well formed & well/hard fired. Thin, fine
TP01	2	СВМ	?	Mortar	2	233	Buff/cream lime mortar with flint
TP01	4	СВМ	EPM	Brick	2	44	Low fired. Worn
TP01	4	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	6	293	Wealden thick types
TP01	4	СВМ	LPM	Brick	34	459	Very fragmented. ?C18th
TP01	4	СВМ	LPM	Peg tile	16	133	Small frags, well formed 7 fired. ?C18th
TP01	4	СВМ	?	Mortar	1	13	Cream lime with abundant flint/gritty

Glass

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
				Clear window type			Fragments of farm glass, 2mm
TP02	2	Glass	LPM/Mod	glass	3.8	1	thick
TP02	2	Glass	LPM	Clear window type glass	0.7	1	Very thin almost green window glass fragment, very oxidised
TP02	4	Glass	LPM	Aqua vessel glass	0.3	1	One fragment, very delicate1mm thick convex

Metalwork

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP02	1	Metal	LPM	Iron	1	5	Nail
1702	1	ivietai	LFIVI	IIOII		3	INall
TP02	2	Metal	?	Iron	3	13	Nails/frags
TP02	4	Metal	?	Iron	1	5	Nail shanks
TP02	4	Metal	?	Iron	1	15	Possible knife blade fragment

Bone and Shell

						Wajaht	Comments (? –
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Weight (g)	undiagnostic of form)
TP02	2	Bone	?	Small/Medium mammal	9	39	Various fragments, some butchery marks
TP02	2	Bone	?	Medium mammal teeth	2	9	1 x molar, 1 x incisor probably sheep
TP02	4	Bone	?	Medium mammal	11	33	Fragments of mammal bone some burnt
TP02	4	Bone	?	Medium mammal teeth	1	0.9	incisor probably sheep
TP02	2	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	2	7.9	Periwinkle
TP02	2	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	3	5	Limpet
TP02	2	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	5	8	Oyster
TP02	4	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	1	0.4	Mussel
TP02	4	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	1	0.7	Oyster

Burnt Material

						Weight	Comments (? – undiagnostic of
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	(g)	form)
							Mostly coke but
		Burnt					also some very
TP02	2	Material	?	Mixed material	5	23.8	burnt stone
							Mostly coke but
							also some
		Burnt					charcoal
TP02	4	Material	?	Mixed material	33	28	fragments

Discussion

Overall, the results from this test pit were very similar to those in MGBH24/1, with the same topsoil and the historic 'garden' subsoil with mixed cultural material. The main difference with this site though, was the absence of the chalk block layer, instead the subsoil (002) was lying directly on a weathered more natural looking chalk. This would fit in with the natural topography of the garden (sloping down to the north) with this excavation over what must have been a high point in the landscape.

This was chosen as a location for a test pit because there was a slight anomaly in the geophysics here and this proved to be a shallow, sub-circular pit. Though not particularly large or indeed with an identifiable purpose, it was deliberately cut to a regular depth of around 30cm and could have formed part of a garden feature or planting bed from the C18th or C19th Pleasure Garden associated with the Lushington or Gilbert Manor. The linear feature of large flint cobbles with some traces of mortar could be associated with this pit (see Drawing 2) and perhaps could have formed part of a low retaining wall.

5.1.3 **MGBH24/3**

This test pit was located within the established boundaries of a flower bed with a firmly mortared sub-circular form, which initially gave the appearance of being a rather small well head 10m south west of MGBH24/2 adjacent to a decorative gateway constructed as part of the formal manor gardens, presumably in the later C18th or early C19th and 11m east of Borough Lane. The restricted space available made excavation a rather difficult exercise and ultimately limited the depth that could be achieved. Given those limitations, the end results from this test pit were very satisfactory.

Contexts/Features

5 contexts were recorded and one feature, a wall was among them.

Context	Description	Depth	Interpretation
No			
001	Topsoil, dark grey-brown, organic	29-30cm	A planting bed with organic soils made-up of compost,
	topsoil, a great deal of root matter and some compost		applied soils and root matter

002	A lighter grey-brown, less organic, more clay rich soil	13-15cm	Garden soil
003	Light grey-brown to darker brown, very loose, mixed soil fill	36cm	Loose fill of basement space
004	Brick, stone and mortar sub- circular construction. Brick course at base, mortar very siliceous and fairly modern	40cm deep, 95cm across, 10-15cm wide	The border of a sub-circular planting area, possibly originally for a trachycarpus type palm. Most likely to be mid C20th
005	Cut chalk blocks in a linear feature	95cm long visible, 30cm deep visible	A wall running north-south constructed well cut chalk blocks

<u>Finds</u>

Pottery

						Weight	Comments (? – undiagnostic of
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	(g)	form)
TP03	3	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	2	11	?x2 (clear glaze internally) C18th
TP03	3	Pottery	LPM	Unglazed red earthenware	1	8	Flower pot x1 (D-club rim)
TDOO	2.12	Dettern	EDM	OMortino and a decrease	4	40	Flask x1 (iron wash patch) Possibly
TP03	3 lower	Pottery	EPM	?Martincamp stoneware	1	10	Beauvais
TP03	3 lower	Pottery	EPM	Frechen stoneware	1	9	Bottle x1 (iron mottle, salt glaze)
TP03	3 lower	Pottery	EPM	Tin-glazed earthenware	1	2	?Bowl x1 (blue foliage)
TP03	3 upper	Pottery	LPM	Derbyshire stoneware	1	16	Tankard x1 (iron wash, salt glaze) C18th
TP03	3 upper	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	3	10	?x3 (clear glaze internally) C18th
TP03	3 upper	Pottery	LPM	Unglazed red earthenware	1	9	Flower pot x1

Clay Pipe

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
						Similar to types from West
	3		1710-			Sussex of c1730. The two
TP03	(Higher)	Clay Pipe	1750	Bowl	1	crown mark is known from

						this date and attributed to a maker from East Grinstead. (illustrated)
TP03	3	Clay Pipe	1750- 1800	Stem	2	Dated using Harrington's method
TP03	3	Clay Pipe	1710- 1750	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method
TP03	3	Clay Pipe	1680- 1710	Stem	4	Dated using Harrington's method
TP03	3	Clay Pipe	1650- 1680	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method

Ceramic Building Material

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP03	3 upper	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	14	1238	Heavy Wealden types
TP03	3 upper	СВМ	?	Mortar	1	85	Cream lime, sparse/moderate flint grits
TP03	3	СВМ	LPM	Paver	1	90	33mm thick
TP03	3	СВМ	EPM	Floor tile	1	51	30mm thick, chamfered edge, some green glaze C16th-17th
TP03	3	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	12	529	Well fired heavy Wealden types 13-15mm thick. O peg hole
TP03	3	СВМ	?	Mortar	1	230	Cream lime mortar, common flint grits
TP03	3 lower	СВМ	EPM	Brick	1	802	?x120x40mm Crude formed, low/medium fired. Mid C16th- 17th
TP03	3 lower	СВМ	ЕРМ	Brick	1	1161	?x115x47mm. Quite crude formed, medium fired, some self glaze. Mid C16th- 17th
TP03	3 lower	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	9	89	Heavy Wealden types

							Well formed & fired. 11mm
							thick, diamond
							peg holes.
TP03	3 lower	CBM	LPM	Peg tile	1	141	Probably C18th

Glass

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP 03	2	Glass	LPM	Clear Bottle Glass	1	9.5	Partial bottle top, milk bottle C20th
TP03	2	Glass	LPM	Clear window type glass	1	1	Fragment of farm glass, 2mm thick
TP03	2	Glass	LPM	Green bottle glass	1	8.5	Fragment of light green bottle glass, 5mm thick, heavily oxidised
50	_	0.000		S. co Somo glado		0.0	Very thin almost green window
TP03	3	Glass	LPM	Clear window glass	2	1.8	glass fragment, very oxidised

Metalwork

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP03	3 upper	Metal	?	Iron	1	6	Nail shank
TP03	3	Metal	?	Iron	4	45	Nails/frags. Much corrosion
TP03	3	Metal	?	Iron	1	57	Knife/tool blade frag (tanged)
TP03	3 lower	Metal	?	Iron	3	26	Nails/frags. Much corrosion

Bone and Shell

							Comments (? –
						Weight	undiagnostic of
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	(g)	form)
							Fragments of
							mostly long bone,
							some butchery
TP03	3	Bone	?	Medium/large mammal	5	48	marks

TP03	3	Bone	?	Medium mammal teeth	1	2.9	Probable sheep
TP03	3	Bone	?	Shaped bone	1	0.8	Small piece of shaped bone, slightly tapered
TP03	3	Shell	?	Marine mollusc shell	4	30	Oyster

Stone

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP 03	1	Stone	Pre1800	Local Greensand	1	129	Burnt fragment, possibly some working
TP03	3	Stone	?	Local Greensand	2	1382	Building material, 1 x 1190 possibly worked, some mortar, tooling marks from possible destruction
TP03	3	Mortar	?	Lime Mortar	2	98	Fairly coarse lime mortar with some large pebbles upto 1cm

Discussion

It was soon clear that the visible structure (which gave the impression of a rebuilt well head see Figure 6) was in fact just 35-40cm deep and constructed of roughly mortared (a siliceous fairly recent mortar) flint cobbles (>15cm) and brick pieces, above a foundation level of hardfired re-used, partial, late C19th-20th bricks, laid end-to-end. This was never a particularly substantial or well-constructed feature and it is pretty clear that it was built as decorative feature with only a minor function to contain soil for bedding, probably in the first half of the C20th. The soil within the feature was very organic and comprised of a large amount of decayed root matter with few archaeological finds. Beneath this soil though was a much looser and lighter deposit that contained cultural material from the C16-18th century and building material including greensand rubble, some hand-made brick and clay peg-tile. It became clear that this deposit was a fill associated with an as then undefined structure or cut feature. Though the confines of the later feature made excavating much further very difficult, exploration of this fill soon led to the discovery of a well-made wall or linear feature constructed of roughly cut chalk blocks bonded with a fairly indistinct lime mortar. This feature ran north-south across the very eastern side of the test pit, parallel to Borough Lane 11 metres to the east. At least four courses were visible consisting of fairly narrow chalk blocks around 10cm deep and between 25-35cm long. The type of chalk was not identified but both Holywell Nodular Chalk and Zig Zag chalk has been used around the south of England as a building material, though the latter is sometimes identified as clunch. Although

some people are still surprised that chalk was used as a building stone, it is easily cut, strong (if not exposed to the weather) and in Old Town Eastbourne very readily available from chalk pits less than 1000m to the west on the Downs. Examples of chalk block construction can be seen nearby in the interior of the medieval dovecote at Motcombe Gardens and also noted during excavations 230m to the north east at Edgmond Chapel on Church Street, where foundation or cellar walls were found internally lined with chalk⁸. Given this evidence it is suspected that this chalk feature is the interior lining of a wall, most likely part of a cellar of a building with an outer facing of greensand or flint. The position of the structure and the substantial fill (the depth of which was at least the same as the revealed chalk wall/feature) on the western side of the wall also point to the interpretation of this as a cellar or basement wall a distinct possibility. The dating of the finds would also fit with the removal of the structure above the wall as being completed by the middle to later part of the C18th.

5.2 The Old Parsonage Garden PGBH24/1-3

5.2.1 **PGBH24/1**

This test pit was located 3m west of the Parsonage and 3m north of the boundary wall with the churchyard. It was positioned to examine a roughly linear, fairly weak feature seen in the geophysical survey of the garden (see Figure 5).

Contexts/Features

5 contexts were recorded including a small cut feature

Context No	Description	Depth	Interpretation
001	Clayey silt, fairly loose, dark grey- brown	10cm	Garden topsoil
002	Sandy silt, firmer, dark brownish- grey with frequent gravel inclusions and occasional charcoal	30cm	Subsoil, including a build-up of cultural material, mostly CBM
003	A loose, sandy-silt, greyish-brown fill, with many inclusions (60% CBM, 20% burnt material, 15% Fe, 5% pottery/glass). Very similar to 003 but much looser.	18cm	The fill of a shallow feature running east-west across the test pit containing a large amount of cultural material.
004	Cut, straight in plan (west-east), longest axis 100cm, width< 40cm, depth 18cm. Steep slope, sharp base/break of slope, flat to slightly concave base	18cm deep, over 100cm long & 40cm wide	The cut of a shallow feature, probably a ditch partitioning the garden
005	Very firm, weathered chalk surface	Not known	Natural chalk, levelled across the garden

Finds

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⁸ Butler C (2014) Some Finds From Commercial Archaeology in Eastbourne, pgs 86-94 from Eastbourne – aspects of archaeology, history and heritage, Ed Allen MJ

Pottery

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Glazed red earthenware (late)	6	31	?x4 (clear glaze internally)
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Black transfer-printed whiteware	2	8	Saucer x1 (tree in design); preserve jar x1 (Keiller marmalade)
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Blue transfer-printed whiteware	3	6	?Plate x1 (landscape design); ?bowl x1 (Chinese design); ?jug x1 (floral design)
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Bone china (porcelain)		3	3
TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	Border Ware		1	4
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Chinese porcelain		1	1
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Creamware		6	12
TP01	2	Pottery	ЕРМ	Glazed red earthenware (early)		1	3
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Nottingham-type stoneware		1	3
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Pearlware (transfer- printed)		1	2
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Refined redware		1	3
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Refined white earthenware		7	27
TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	Tin-glazed earthenware		2	3
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Unglazed red earthenware		8	55
TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	White salt-glazed stoneware		2	4
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Yellow ware		2	45
TP01	2	Pottery	ЕРМ	Glazed red earthenware (metallic glaze)		1	2

TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (slip)	2	18
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Glazed red earthenware (late)	9	97
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Pearlware	1	1
TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	Border Ware	1	1
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Creamware	5	18
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	English stoneware	1	6
TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	4	14
TP01	2	Pottery	LM/EPM	Hard-fired earthenware	2	10
TP01	2	Pottery	НМ	HM2g Fine quartz, sparse flint & iron oxides	2	13
TD04			1184	HM3a Medium/coarse	4	0
TP01	2	Pottery	HM	quartz	1	9
TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	London stoneware	1	14
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Pearlware (transfer- printed)	4	6
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Refined white earthenware	4	27
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Sunderland slipware	1	7
TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	Tin-glazed earthenware	3	6
TP01	2	Pottery	EPM	Verwood-type ware	1	2
TP01	2	Pottery	LPM	Yellow ware	2	6
TP01	3	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (metallic glaze)	2	7
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Glazed red earthenware (late)	13	75
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Pearlware	4	9
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Black transfer-printed whiteware	2	3

TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Bone china (porcelain)	3	10
11 01		1 Ottory		Berre erima (perceram)		10
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Chinese porcelain	2	4
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Creamware	13	30
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	English stoneware	4	17
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Flow blue transfer- printed whiteware	1	2
TP01	3	Pottery	EPM	Frechen stoneware	1	2
TP01	3	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	4	49
TP01	3	Pottery	EPM	London stoneware	2	13
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Pearlware (transfer- printed)	3	3
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Refined redware	1	1
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Refined white earthenware	4	5
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Staffordshire black glazed whiteware	1	2
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Sunderland slipware	1	5
TP01	3	Pottery	EPM	Tin-glazed earthenware	2	6
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Unglazed red earthenware	2	11
TP01	3	Pottery	EPM	White salt-glazed stoneware	1	2
TP01	3	Pottery	LPM	Yellow ware	1	9

Clay Pipe

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
						Dated using Harrington's
						method. The tip or
			1750-			mouthpiece was of a simple
TP01	2	Clay Pipe	1800	Stem/Tip	2	sort with no wax coating

TP01	2	Clay Pipe	1710- 1750	Stem	5	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	2	Clay Pipe	1680- 1710	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	2	Clay Pipe	1750- 1800	Stem	5	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	2	Clay Pipe	1710- 1750	Stem	4	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	2	Clay Pipe	1680- 1710	Stem	5	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	2	Clay Pipe	1650- 1680	Stem	5	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	3	Clay Pipe	1800+	Stem	2	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	3	Clay Pipe	1750- 1800	Stem	10	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	3	Clay Pipe	1750- 1800	Decorated Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method – floral decoration (illustrated)
TP01	3	Clay Pipe	1710- 1750	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	3	Clay Pipe	1680- 1710	Stem	4	Dated using Harrington's method
TP01	3	Clay Pipe	1650- 1680	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method

⁴⁸ pieces of clay pipe found within archaeological contexts

Glass

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	2	Glass	Mod	Clear window glass	2	2	Modern farm glass 5mm thick
							1x clear bottle glass embossed with "DIS" then "E" – possibly from a Dispensing Chemist such as Boots 1 x amber bottle glass
TD04			514	Embossed moulded			embossed "TED"
TP01	2	Glass	PM	bottle glass	2	4	for Limited

							C5mm thick bottle glass
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Green bottle	4	3.9	fragments
							Fragment of bottle top with double lip
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Green bottle	1	3	cC19th Very fine aqua
							glass
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Aqua bottle	1	0.9	base/stopper top
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Blue bottle	1	0.5	Light blue 4mm bottle glass - fine
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Dark bottle	10	26	Heavily oxidised vessel glass including a fragment of a double king bottle top Heavily oxidised,
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Early window	1	0.3	yellowish glass 2mm thick
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Clear window	2	10	Plain farm glass 4mm thick
TD04			. 5.4				Body of a clear
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Clear bottle	1	7	vessel 8mm thick Heavily oxidised
TP01	2	Glass	PM	Amber bottle (?)	4	8	vessel glass, possibly amber
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Green/Amber bottle	5	7	Heavily oxidised vessel glass
TP01	2	Glass	LPM	Green moulded embossed bottle	1	47.9	Large piece of bottle glass from body of a vessel approximately 12cm in diameter and embossed "L(?)RY Co Ltd"
11 01		Cidoo	LI IVI	SHIDOSOG DOME	'	77.0	Body fragments
TD04							from vessels mostly clear but some with blue
TP01	3	Glass	LPM	Clear/Aqua bottle	9	23	tint Clear glass
							sphere, most likely from carbonated
TP01	3	Glass	LPM	Cod Bottle Stopper	1	10.2	water bottle
							Mixed vessels, 1 x neck with
TP01	3	Glass	LPM	Green glass bottle	7	31	double ring

TP01	3	Glass	LPM	Green/Amber bottle	14	64	Heavily oxidised vessel glass possibly C18-19 th
TP01	3	Glass	LPM	Aqua bottle	1	6	Partial neck with simple ring at top, c2cm diameter
TP01	3	Glass	LPM	Moulded embossed bottle	2	7	1 x clear bottle "TABL" embossed, 1 x green bottle "?INST"
TP01	SPOIL	Glass	LPM	Lens	1	17	Hand held domed magnifying lens – would have had a casing – now lost

Ceramic Building Material

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	2	СВМ	EPM	Dog tile	3	59	Dull vallow type
TP01	2	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile Floor tile	1	117	Dull yellow type 24mm thick, bevelled edges. Sparse fine quartz & moderate iron oxides. C16th- 17th
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Brick	2	23	Amorphous
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Peg tile	29	82	Well formed & fired
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Mortar	1	1	Flat pointing/bedding
TP01	2	СВМ	?	Caen type stone tile	1	73	Crystalline type. Amorphous
TP01	2	СВМ	?	Horsham slab	6	629	Roof slab frags
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Brick	8	1091	Wealden. Most C18th
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Paver	1	587	Very worn top
TP01	2	СВМ	LM/EPM	Peg tile	1	48	O peg hole

TP01	2	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	13	414	Dull yellow & crude/thick Wealden types
							Well formed & fired. Wealden. Square & diamond peg
TP01	2	CBM	LPM	Peg tile	84	905	holes
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Ridge tile	1	47	
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Drain	1	13	English stoneware
TP01	2	СВМ	LPM	Mortar	3	169	Cream fine lime & hard grey cement types
TP01	2	СВМ	RB	Tegula	1	119	23mm thick, well fired sandy fabric. Re-used
TP01	3	СВМ	ЕРМ	Floor tile	1	70	Moderate quartz, 25mm thick, bevelled edge. C16th-17th
TP01	3	СВМ	ЕРМ	Peg tile	10	474	Dull yellow & cheavy Wealden types. C16th-17th
TP01	3	СВМ	LPM	Brick	3	907	Inc crude slaggy example 67mm thick
TP01	3	СВМ	LPM	Paver	1	354	Thin & worn. 33mm thick. Wealden
TP01	3	СВМ	LPM	Peg tile	6	251	Well formed & fired. Wealden. Some very fine
TP01	3	СВМ	LPM	Drain	2	122	English stoneware

Metalwork

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	2	Metal	LPM	Iron	18	75	Nails/frags
11 01		Wictar	LI IVI	11011	10	10	Trailo/ITago
TP01	2	Metal	?	Iron	2	8	Nails
TP01	2	Metal	2	Iron	7	38	Nail shanks

TP01	2	Metal	LPM	Iron	5	11	Smooth wire fragments
TP01	2	Metal	?	Iron	1	93	?Rove. 50 x 50mm
TP01	2	Metal	?	Lead	2	5	Sheet off-cuts
TP01	2	Metal	LPM	White metal	1	9	Toy cannon (IC19th-e 20th)
TP01	2	Metal	?	Copper alloy	2	7	Curved tubular sheet
TP01	2	Metal	LPM	Iron	4	47	Nails
TP01	2	Metal	LPM	Iron	1	1	Tack
TP01	2	Metal	?	Iron	6	25	Nails (probably PM)
TP01	2	Metal	?	Iron	1	65	Large structural nail
TP01	2	Metal	?	Iron	4	23	Nail shanks
TP01	2	Metal	LPM	Iron	1	5	Smooth wire frags
TP01	2	Metal	PM	Iron	1	49	?Wall hook Strip fragment
TP01	2	Metal	?	Iron	1	18	with expanded end
TP01	3	Metal	LPM	Iron	21	104	Neat formed nails/frags
TP01	3	Metal	?	Iron	12	85	Nails/frags. Cruder but prob PM
			-				
TP01	3	Metal	?	Iron	11	65	Nail shanks Sheet/can
							fragments
TP01	3	Metal	LPM	Iron	17	52	(rectangular)
TP01	3	Metal	LPM	Iron	16	33	Smooth wire frags
							Door/gate hinge pivot fixing (for masonry).
TP01	3	Metal	PM	Iron	1	533	160mm long
TP01	3	Metal	LPM	Iron	1	59	Dome from bicycle bell. 60mm di

TP01	3	Metal	?	Iron	3	17	Strip frags
11.01	3	ivietai	:	11011	3	17	Strip trags
TP01	3	Metal	PM	Iron	1	7	?Wall hook
TP01	3	Metal	PM	Pewter	1	7	?Shoe buckle frame frag with incised decoration. C18th
TP01	3	Metal	PM	Pewter	1	9	Crushed sheet top/cap?
TP01	3	Metal	LPM	Zinc	2	13	0.7mm thick sheet off-cuts
TP01	U/S	Metal	?	Lead	1	12	9mm di tubular off-cut
TP01	U/S	Metal	LPM	Zinc	1	1	Sheet fragment 0.7mm thick

Bone and Shell

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
						197	
TP01	1	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	1	5	Periwinkle
TP01	1	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	5	9	Limpet
TP01	1	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	2	57	Oyster
TP01	2	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	4	10	Limpet
TP01	2	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	13	327	Oyster – at least 5 individuals
TP01	1	Bone	?	Small mammal	3	15	Probably rabbit
TP01	1	Bone	?	Small/medium mammal	5	29.5	Mixed including sheep
TP01	2	Bone	?	Medium mammal	22	99	Mostly sheep – some butchery marks
TP01	2	Bone	?	Large mammal	8	126	Mostly cow – some butchery marks and burning
TP01	2	Bone	?	Medium mammal teeth	4	12	Mixed, 1x pig canine

TP01	2	Bone	?	Large mammal teeth	2	35	Cow(?)
							,
TP01	3	Bone	?	Small/medium mammal	17	34	Sheep?
TP01	3	Bone	?	Fowl	3	1	Possible chicken
TP01	3	Bone	?	Large mammal	2	30	Cow
TP01	3	Bone	?	Medium mammal	1	4	Sheep?

Burnt Material

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP01	2	Burnt material	?	Charcoal	2	0.4	Charcoal fragments
TP01	2	Burnt material	?	Mixed material	16	24	Clinker, charcoal and ?

Lead Token

A single lead token was recovered from TP01 in Context 2, 1.98cm diameter (around ¾ of an inch) with a Powell Classification as a Type 2 (Initials) token. The letters are on one side only and ambiguous but could be DP or DF. The function of this type of lead token is not certain but they are mostly interpreted as farm tokens issued by the farmer/farm manager for batches of work done and later recouped for cash. They can also be seen as small change used when small denomination coinage was in short supply. Lead tokens are often hard to date but generally a period of between 1700-1800 can be attributed to this type.

Copper Alloy Button

A copper alloy button ,1.65cm diameter, was found in Context 2. It has been identified (by Katherine Buckland of Heritage Eastbourne) as a Royal Navy button dating from between 1812-1825 and has a splendid crowned anchor design.

Discussion

Although only 60cm deep, this test pit gave up plenty of cultural material and other information that tells a story of the earlier post medieval treatment of this garden. Even such a small excavation provides us with evidence that relates to much larger changes in the local landscape.

Given the evidence of this test pit and also that PGBH24/3 revealed a similar story and the complete lack of medieval pottery from any of our investigations, it would appear that at sometime post 1500CE (probably in the C17-18th given the type of finds) the area that is now the garden was levelled and remodelled. It would appear that any soil build up was

removed and the ground taken back to the chalk bedrock in this area. A soil was then reintroduced or built up over the following 100 or so years, depending on the exact date of the remodelling. It is more likely that some topsoil was reintroduced in some areas and through a process of redistribution and development it grew to a depth of around 20cm. This would appear to be a general garden soil but some of the finds within it would point to a middle to higher status occupation with fairly good pottery and the find of a wig curler. Indeed it was noted by L.Barber that the mix of pottery in the Parsonage Garden is fairly typical for later early post medieval and late post medieval domestic site, with everyday vessels and some imports.

At some point in the second half of the C18th, further developments were undertaken in the garden with the addition of a shallow ditch of around 20cm deep and possibly 90cm or 3 feet wide running east to west. It is possible that this was one of at least two such boundaries that delineated garden plots for a now divided Manor House, occupied as tenements. Obviously much would depend on the length of this ditch but the geophysics used to target it does show it covering the width of the plot and possibly beyond. A shallow ditch could not only form a boundary, particularly if also planted with a hedge (though no evidence for this in the small section we examined) but would also functioned as a soakaway for the garden, again pointing to the management of water in this area.

The reasons for the above actions are discussed further in the conclusion.

5.2.2 **PGBH24/2**

This test pit was located 9.75m west of the Parsonage and 14m north of the boundary wall with the churchyard. (see Figure 5)

Contexts/Features

12_contexts were recorded including three cut features

Context No	Description	Depth	Interpretation
001	Clayey silt, fairly loose, dark grey- brown	10cm	Garden topsoil
002	Sandy silt, dark brownish-grey with frequent inclusions of cultural material and a scatter of loose chalk (>5cm)	15-30cm	Subsoil, including a build-up of cultural material, mostly CBM and modern window glass
003	A loose, sandy-silt, greyish-brown fill, with inclusions including larger pieces of building stone (chalk, greensand)	40cm	Similar to 002 but looser and with more building material and fewer cultural inclusions
004	Broken tiles laid horizontally, some mortar and gravel	c2-5cm	Roughly laid path using tiles as base
005	Degraded chalk, grey, friable	5-10cm	Weathered chalk above natural chalk
006	A fairly loose, sandy silt fill, brownish-grey to grey, some patches of darker silt, frequent CBM and geological building	50cm	Fill of a large foundation cut with many inclusions, mostly building material including dressed sandstone, much of it burnt or heavily soot covered

	material, some very large blocks c30cm		
007	Cut, linear, roughly straight (axis east-west), >100cm long, 100-110cm wide and 30-40cm deep, sloping down from the south to north, break in slope fairly clear and slightly convex	50cm	A wide foundation cut for or re-used for the present wall that runs east-west at right angles to the Parsonage
008	A loose, sandy silt, darker brownish-grey fill, some cultural material and organic soils	20cm	Fill of a roughly square cut, contemporary with or predates the standing flint wall, perhaps used during construction to support a post. Given the lack of fill above the foundation layer, it was likely to have been removed before the foundation cut [007] was filled.
009	Cut, squarish, straight sided, c20cm deep, 25cm long and 20cm wide, 90 degree break in slope to flat bottom cut in chalk	20cm	A fairly uniform cut, probably to house a post during the construction of the building now represented by the eastwest standing wall.
010	Very firm, weathered chalk surface	?	Chalk natural
011	A loose, sandy silt, darker brownish-grey fill, some cultural material and organic soils	25cm	Fill of a cut, possibly a sub- rectangular cut, similar size to [009]
012	Cut, two sides of a possibly sub- rectangular, fairly steep sided, 50cm across and around 25cm deep	25cm	A cut feature, possibly a small pit or post hole

<u>Finds</u>

Pottery

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
							Cream bowl x1 (bulbous club rim, clear glaze
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Glazed red earthenware (late)	4	128	internally); ?x3 (clear glaze internally)
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Blue transfer-printed whiteware	1	10	Bowl x1 (moulded beaded rim, willow pattern)
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	Border Ware	1	6	?x1 (clear glaze internally)

TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	English stoneware	2	40	Spirit bottle x1 (tan top, Bristol glaze); ?x1 (Bristol glaze)
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Flow blue transfer- printed whiteware	1	5	Cup x1 (floral design)
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	1	28	?x1 (black glaze internally)
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Green transfer-printed whiteware	1	2	?Saucer x1 (foliage design)
TP02	2	Pottery	LM/EPM	Hard-fired earthenware	2	29	?x2 (oxidised)
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Pearlware (transfer- printed)	3	16	Mug x1 (landscape design); ?x2 (x1 Chinese, x1 landscape with fishermen designs)
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Staffordshire black glazed whiteware	1	6	?x1 (black glaze all over)
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Unglazed red earthenware	1	6	Flower pot x1
TP02	6	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (metallic glaze)	2	11	?x1 (metallic glaze internally)
TP02	6	Pottery	LM/EPM	Hard-fired sandy earthenware	1	6	Jug x1 (buff)
TP02	6	Pottery	LPM	Creamware	1	8	?x1
TP02	6	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	1	11	?x1 (clear glaze internally)
TP02	6	Pottery	LM/EPM	Hard-fired earthenware	1	12	?x1 (reduced)
TP02	6	Pottery	EPM	Tin-glazed earthenware	2	12	?Jar x1 (white glaze)
TP02	8	Pottery	EPM	Border Ware	1	5	Dish x1 (clear glaze internally)
TP02	4	Pottery	EPM	Glazed red earthenware (early)	5	31	?x2 (clear glaze internally)
TP02	4	Pottery	LM/EPM	Hard-fired earthenware	2	65	?x1 (oxidised)
TP02	4	Pottery	EPM	Tin-glazed earthenware	3	2	?x1 (very worn)

Clay Pipe

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP02	2	Clay Pipe	1680- 1710	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method.
TP02	4	Clay Pipe	1710- 1750	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method.
TP02	3	Clay Pipe	1650- 1680	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method.
TP02	6	Clay Pipe	1750- 1800	Stem	1	Dated using Harrington's method.
TDOO	0		1700-	Baud	1	A fragment of fairly upright pipe bowl 2.6mm thick of approx C18th type
TP02	8	Clay Pipe	1800	Bowl	1	Dated using Harrington's
			1710-			method. Tip very simple with
TP02	8	Clay Pipe	1750	Stem/Tip	1	a cut end and no wax.

Ceramic Building Material

							Comments (? –
	_					Weight	undiagnostic of
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	(g)	form)
							33mm thick.
							Well formed &
							fired. Very worn.
TP02	3	CBM	LPM	Paver	1	569	Iron oxides
							Dull yellow &
							thick Wealden
							types (13-14mm
							thick). Square
							peg hoe. Most
							probably C17th-
TP02	3	CBM	EPM	Peg tile	15	1432	mid 18th
							Well formed &
							fired, but still
							fairly thick
							Wealden types.
							Some probably
TP02	3	CBM	LPM	Peg tile	6	549	C18th
							Dull yellow &
							heavier Wealden
							types. O &
							square peg
							holes. Later
TP02	4	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	7	728	C16th-early 18th
							Wealden types.
							Some quite
TP02	4	СВМ	LPM	Peg tile	61	1779	thick. Well

							formed 7 fired
							C18th-19th but
							most probably
							C18th. Many
							fresh pieces
							100% complete.
							225x105x57mm.
							Quite well
							formed, well
							fired TP02
							(some self
							glaze). Mid
TP02	6	СВМ	EPM	Brick	1	2504	C16th-17th
11 02	0	ODIVI	LI IVI	Brick	'	2004	?x107x48mm.
							Crude formed.
							Iron oxides &
TP02	6	СВМ	EPM	Brick	2	757	'marl' C16th-17th
11 02		OBIVI		Briok		701	Quite well
							formed thickish
							Wealden tiles &
							dull yellow types.
							Later C16th-
TP02	6	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	9	602	early 18th
	-			- 3			Quite well
							formed. 57mm
							thick. C17th-
TP02	8	СВМ	EPM	Brick	1	656	early 18th
							Dull yellow &
							thick Wealden
TP02	8	CBM	EPM	Peg tile	6	194	types
				_			Dull yellow &
							thick Wealden
TP02	8	CBM	EPM	Peg tile	5	168	types

Glass

TP No	Context	Catagony	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
I P NO	Context	Category	Periou	rabric/illetal type	INO	(g)	3mm-4.5mm
TP02	4	Glass	LPM	Highly oxidised dark green bottle glass	3	17.3	thick, body fragments
TP02	6	Glass	LPM	Highly oxidised dark green bottle glass	4	37.2	3mm-5mm thick, body fragments
TP02	6	Glass	PM	Highly oxidised dark green bottle glass	1	68.5	1 x large body sherd of an onion bottle c1680-1750
TP02	8	Glass	PM	Highly oxidised dark green bottle glass	2	17.7	1 x body fragment, 1 x partial neck of c1700-1750,

			possibly from an onion bottle

Metalwork

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP02	4	Metal	LPM	Iron	1	38	Cast iron down- pipe or gutter frag
TP02	4	Metal	LPM	Cupro-nickel	1	5	Coin: 1982? 20 pence
TP02	4	Metal	?	Iron	1	9	Nail
TP02	4	Metal	?	Iron	1	46	D-ring 42x40mm. Much corrosion
TP02	4	Metal	?	Iron	2	72	Amorphous corroded blobs
TP02	8	Metal	EPM	Iron	1	414	Door hinge & hinge plate
TP02	U/S	Metal	LPM	Copper alloy	1	16	35x32mm buckle with iron pin. C19th
TP02	U/S	Metal	LPM	Copper alloy	1	14	13mm di sheet tube (chromed)
TP02	U/S	Metal	?	Copper alloy	1	11	Cast waste
TP02	U/S	Metal	LPM	Copper alloy	1	1	Narrow strip fragment
TP02	U/S	Metal	LPM	Copper alloy	1	9	Coin: 1922 one penny
TP02	U/S	Metal	LPM	Copper alloy	1	4	Coin: 1971 one penny
TP02	U/S	Metal	LPM	Iron	1	1	Twisted 1mm di wire (possibly to hold cork on bottle)
TP02	U/S	Metal	LPM	Iron	1	4	Cross-head screw C20th
TP02	U/S	Metal	?	Iron	1	2	Nail
TP02	U/S	Metal	LPM	Iron	1	28	Cast iron sheet frag. From stove?

TP02	U/S	Metal	PM	Lead	3	42	Sheet off-cuts
TP02	U/S	Metal	?	Lead	1	14	Twisted window cames

Bone and Shell

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP02	4	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	2	4.2	Whelk?
TP02	4	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	2	7.9	2 x limpet
TP02	4	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	4	200	4 Individual oyster shells
TP02	6	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	1	2.2	Limpet
TP02	7	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	1	6.2	Limpet
TP02	8	Shell	?	Marine Mollusc	1	2.4	Limpet
TP02	4	Bone	?	Small/Medium mammal	3	21.7	Probably sheep
TP02	4	Bone	?	Large mammal	1	13	Some butchery marks
TP02	6	Bone	?	Small/Medium mammal	5	34.1	Some butchery marks
TP02	6	Bone	LPM	Medium/Large mammal	1	27.3	Rib fragment
TP02	8	Bone	LPM	Medium/Large mammal	1	188.5	Partial lower mandible of an adult pig, 1 pair of premolars and incisors missing, canines present
TP02	8	Bone	LPM	Large mammal	4	190	Butchery marks present

Burnt Material

							Comments (? -
						Weight	undiagnostic of
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	(g)	form)

TP02	6	Burnt Material	?	Mixed Material	5	50.1	Mostly charcoal
TP02	8	Burnt Material	?	Mixed Material	7	4.6	Charcoal

Stone

						Weight	Comments (? – undiagnostic of
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	(g)	form)
11 110	Contoxt	Juliagory	1 01104	T do Tomotal typo	110	(9)	Broken
							fragments of
				Wealden/Hastings			sandstone
TP02	4	Stone	EPM?	Sandstone	10	1146	roofing tiles
							Burnt sandstone,
							some very rough
				Wealden/Hastings			tooling/chisel
TP02	4	Stone	EPM?	Sandstone?	3	1014	marks
							Broken
				AAA a Lala a Alaa a Caasa			fragments of
TDOO	_	Ctoro	EDMO	Wealden/Hastings Sandstone		F06	sandstone
TP02	5	Stone	EPM?	Sandstone	6	526	roofing tiles
							Broken fragments of
				Wealden/Hastings			sandstone
TP02	6	Stone	EPM?	Sandstone	2	123.6	roofing tiles
11 02	0	Otone	LI IVI:	Canastone		120.0	Heavily burnt
							sandstone, some
							very rough
							tooling/chisel
				Wealden/Hastings			marks c 10mm
TP02	6	Stone	EPM?	Sandstone?	4	2804	wide
							2 x fragments,
TP02	6	Stone	LPM?	Welsh Slate	2	40.5	possibly intrusive
11 02		0.0110		110.0110100		.0.0	Heavily burnt
							sandstone, some
							very rough
							tooling/chisel
				Wealden/Hastings			marks c 10mm
TP02	6	Stone	EPM?	Sandstone?	2	1638	wide

Discussion

The interpretation of Test Pit 2 can be broken down into two sections, roughly categorised the north or *wall* end and the south or *path* end, but before that we must discuss the overall pattern of its development.

The overall pattern of the development of this part of the garden is similar or the same as that uncovered in the other test pits in that the area was reduced to the chalk surface at some point. The lack of any definitively medieval material beyond some possible re-used building materials would indicate that, again, this development took place in the post

medieval period. There are at least two events that left archaeological evidence that differ somewhat from the other areas investigated.

It seems likely that both intrusions are either contemporary or at least of a similar date with some evidence that the feature we are calling *the well path* was created slightly earlier.

The *well path* is a linear feature (also found during The Big Dig test pit of February 2023) approximately 50cm wide and (as revealed in two test pits now) at least 2m long running parallel to the standing wall and 150cm to the south of it. It consists of horizontally laid clay peg tiles (mostly broken but with one or two more complete) and pieces of sandstone roof tile. This source of this material is not known, but most date to the post-medieval period, 1550-1800CE, making it likely it was laid at some point in the second half of the C18th. The fragments of sandstone tile (possibly from the Hastings beds) split to between 10 – 20mm thick could have also been from a building nearby, perhaps as with the CBM, the result of repairs or reordering of an existing building on the site (the Parsonage itself?). The tiles are laid directly onto the chalk with little or no mortar but may have had a gravel covering with the tiles acting as a form of drainage. The path would appear to lead directly to the well in the north-west corner of the garden from the Parsonage and also looked well-used before eventually being covered in a more generic garden soil.

The other feature that this test pit was able to examine was the extensive east-west standing wall that had previously either been interpreted as an outbuilding, extension, cottage or even great hall associated with the Parsonage.

The foundation of the wall (and therefore the building) was between 60-80cm below the current ground level and consisted of a slightly stepped course of large flint cobbles, with the wall proper directly above. There was a gap in the foundation course about 23cm wide with a corresponding cut into the chalk at the base of the wall again, around 20-25cm deep and almost 30cm from the base of the wall, making a rather regular hole. This could be interpreted either as socket for a wooden post integral to the building (though how this would work structurally is not clear), a scaffold type post used in the construction of the building and later removed, or a post that had some function related to the building but not structurally (such as for a lean to or similar. Without further investigation it is hard to create a strong case for any of the above, but if pushed, the idea of a covered lean to or gallery leading to the well feels most likely. This post seemed to be removed rather than rotting insitu and in its wake an intriguing tableaux was left behind consisting of the lower mandible of a pig, left standing upright, balanced on the ramus with the teeth pointing out from the wall, sat directly on a concave piece of dark green/black bottle glass of the C18th. The reason for this deposit will never be known but it must be suspected that the inimitable human spirit of mischievousness has rather a lot to do with it.

The foundation trench for the wall is rather large at about 80cm wide and it is possible that it utilised an earlier existing feature such as a ditch or wall cut, but as already stated, beyond building material (which could possibly be early), no medieval finds were identified. The foundation trench as we see it today, seems to have been cut directly into the chalk at roughly the same time or later than the path but this is not certain. It was filled with a mixture of silty soils with a fairly high chalk content, large quantities of ceramic roofing tile (mostly 1550-1800CE) and a high number of pieces of building material in the form of local greensand rubble, Hastings/Tunbridge Wells sandstone rubble and some dressed pieces of both. The dressing was fairly good in places and the use of greensand as a primary source of building material was dying out by the C18th, so this would appear to have originated in a building nearby of a similar or earlier date than the Parsonage. Many of these pieces of building stone had been severely burned and had evidence of heat damage and fracture,

though whether they were part of a fireplace or a housefire is not known (more of this in the Conclusion). It is presumed that this backfill was functional, creating a strong footing for the wall but could equally have acted as a convenient way to remove rubble from the site during the remodelling of this part of the garden.

The wall itself is well constructed and the southern face was certainly external. An initial inspection of the northern side (though beyond the remit of this investigation) has evidence of a brick built fireplace and there is at least one opening, though much remodelled, that may be an original doorway to the west of the test pit. From the archaeology alone, it is not easy to give a precise date to this wall (and therefore building) but given the absence of early material, the form of construction and the sequence of events confirmed across the garden, a date in the second half of the C18th or early years of the C19th would seem likely. After the wall/building was constructed, soil from the construction trench was piled up against the base of the wall slightly raised from the ground level elsewhere, most likely as a result of the trench being partially filled with re-used building materials. There is evidence of a brick structure, most likely a post pad for a temporary shelter or lean-to adjoining the wall but other than saying that it post-dates the construction of the wall itself and the bricks are of a local C19-20th type, no accurate dating is possible.

There was a further build-up of soils adjacent to the wall over the last 100 years or so with over 100cm of the garden along the wall becoming a herbaceous border by the middle of the C20th.

5.2.3 **PGBH24/3**

This test pit was located 3m west of the Parsonage and 5m north of the boundary wall with the churchyard (see Figure 5).

Contexts/Features

Just 3 contexts were recorded with no features

Context No	Description	Depth	Interpretation
001	Clayey silt, fairly loose, dark grey- brown	10cm	Garden topsoil
002	Sandy silt, firmer, dark brownish- grey with frequent gravel inclusions and occasional charcoal	50cm	Subsoil, including a build-up of cultural material, mostly CBM
003	Very firm, weathered chalk surface	Not known	Natural chalk, levelled across the garden

Finds

Pottery

							Comments (? -
						Weight	undiagnostic of
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	(g)	form)

				0			0.47 4 111
TDO		Dottom	EDM	Glazed red earthenware	1	2	?x1 (metallic
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	(metallic glaze)	1	2	glaze all over)
							?x1 (trailed white slip, clear glaze
				Glazed red earthenware			all over). C18th.
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	(slip)	1	1	Probably a cup
02	-	, ottory			i i		
TDOO		D-#	LDM	Glazed red earthenware	_	40	?x7 (clear glaze
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	(late)	7	49	internally)
							Saucer x1 (x2 blue rim-edge
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Pearlware	1	1	lines)
11 02		1 Ottory	LI IVI	1 canware	<u> </u>		111100)
TDOO		D "	. 514				00 4 0 4
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Bone china (porcelain)	2	6	?Cup x1; ?x1
							Dish x1 (clear
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	Border Ware	1	6	glaze internally)
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Chinese porcelain	1	1	?x1
		,					Plates x2 (x1
							with moulded
							feather edge);
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Creamware	5	17	?x3
							Water closet x1
							(tan, salt glaze);
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	English stoneware	3	58	?x1 (salt glazed)
							Bottle x1 (iron
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	Frechen stoneware	1	7	mottle, salt glaze)
11.02		Follery	LFIVI		<u>'</u>	<i>'</i>	,
				Glazed red earthenware	١.		?x1 (green glaze
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	(early)	1	9	internally) C16th
							?x1 (iron mottle,
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	London stoneware	1	6	salt glaze)
							Plate x1 (willow
				Pearlware (transfer-			pattern); ?x4
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	printed)	6	15	(unclear designs)
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Red stoneware	1	1	?Coffee pot x1
				Refined white			
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	earthenware	1	3	?x1
					Ė	-	Bowl x1 (iron
							mottle, white slip
							& clear glaze
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Sunderland slipware	1	7	internally)
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	Tin-glazed earthenware	1	5	?x1 (blue lines)
							,
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Unglazed red earthenware	3	74	Flower pots x2 (D-club rims)
1702		rouery	LF IVI	cai li lei iwai e	3	14	Teapot x1; ?x1
				White salt-glazed			(scratch blue
TP02	2	Pottery	EPM	stoneware	2	3	decoration)
0=			ı 	40			

							?x1 (rouletted &
							horizontal
TP02	2	Pottery	LPM	Yellow ware	1	1	incised lines)

Clay Pipe

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Туре	No	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP03	2	Clay Pipe	1710- 1750	Stem	2	Dated using Harrington's method.
TP03	2	Clay Pipe	1680- 1710	Stem	4	Dated using Harrington's method.
TP03	2	Clay Pipe	1800+	Bowl	1	Bowl fragment. Small piece of a bowl, fairly thin c2mm, leaf decoration along mould seam, fairly common on C19th pipes in Sussex
TP03	2	Clay Pipe	1700- 1800	Bowl	1	Pipe bowl fragment, well burnished C18th straight sided, large bowl with cut rim inside and out

Ceramic Building Material

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP03	2	СВМ	EPM	Brick	4	50	Quite well formed, medium fired
TP03	2	СВМ	EPM	Peg tile	14	376	Dull yellow & thick Wealden types. O peg hole
TP03	2	СВМ	LPM	Brick	1	6	Air brick
TP03	2	СВМ	LPM	Peg tile	48	545	C18th-19th
TP03	2	СВМ	LPM	Mortar	1	51	Grey fine sandy cement

Glass

						Weight	Comments (? – undiagnostic of
TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	(g)	form)
TP03	2	Glass	LPM	Early window	2	0.7	Heavily oxidised , yellowish glass 2mm thick
	2	Glass	LPM	Clear window	4	34	Plain farm glass 4mm thick
	2	Glass	LPM	Clear bottle	1	17	Body of a clear vessel 6-8mm thick
	2	Glass	LPM	Green/Black bottle	8	27	Heavily oxidised vessel glass

Metalwork

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP03	2	Metal	LPM	Copper alloy	1	8	L-shaped wall hook
TP03	2	Metal	LPM	Iron	3	6	Nails
TP03	2	Metal	LPM	Iron	7	11	Smooth wire frags
TP03	2	Metal	?	Iron	9	61	Nails (Probably PM)
TP03	2	Metal	?	Iron	2	8	Nail shanks
TP03	2	Metal	LPM	Iron	3	23	Sheet frags

Bone and Shell

TP No	Context	Category	Period	Fabric/metal type	No	Weight (g)	Comments (? – undiagnostic of form)
TP03	2	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	3	12	Periwinkle
					0		
TP03	2	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	4	6	Limpet
TP03	2	Shell	?	Marine mollusc	5	112	Oyster

Lead Token

A single lead token which could be a Powell Type 6 (Ship) or 9 (Irregular or compound geometric) c2.07mm diameter found in (002). The design does show similarities to a 'Thames Boatman' design as described in Fletcher (2005)⁹ and pictured below but could also be a ship in full sail. If it is the former it could date to the C16-17th but could equally have been made in the 1700's, as mentioned before, the dating and interpretation of these tokens is gloriously ambiguous!

Lead Bag Seal

A single lead bag or bale seal was recovered from the spoil from TP03. It is small at 1.6cm in diameter and is very worn with the word 'PATENT' visible on one side. Little more can be discerned from the decoration but it is likely to be of a C19th type.

Discussion

Test Pit 3 was opened to test the results in Test Pit 1 and confirmed that the treatment of the garden in this area at least was the same, with the exception of the shallow ditch/gulley which was not present. Therefore the interpretation for PGBH/3 is the same as PGBH/1 in that it shows a remodelling or change in landscape in the post-medieval period that included the ground being reduced in height to the chalk natural and creating a more homogenous soil either through deposition or accumulation or most likely, a combination of both. Notably, once more, there were no medieval finds in this test pit to further back-up the interpretation above.

5.3 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS

No significant palaeoenvironmental deposits were encountered and thus no samples taken

6.0 **CONCLUSIONS**

Archaeologically and in terms of participation, this project was a great success, with good results backed up by historic events (see below) and over 50 volunteers and several hundred visitors. The messages concerning landscape change and our close historic relationship to water were shared and understood, as well as the reasons why archaeological investigation has relevance both to this specific subject and also to our wellbeing and community.

Ultimately the post-excavation research and reporting has also led us to a conclusion that shows how at least one of the sites that we investigated was formed directly because of a dramatic weather event and one we are more likely to experience again in the future.

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⁹ Fletcher E (2008) *Leaden Tokens & Tallies – Roman to Victorian* Greenlight Publishing

6.1 Manor Gardens

The excavations in Manor Gardens were intended to investigate whether any of the former buildings along Borough Lane (thought to have been demolished in the middle of the Eighteenth Century) left any archaeological trace and whether the feature known locally as a well, was part of this earlier townscape. We were also interested to see if any features of the C18-19th formal gardens associated with the Lushington (later Gilbert) Manor House survived as archaeological features.

In these aims you could say we were *unexpectedly* successful as the feature that we thought might be a well (but turned out to be a much later flower bed), hid the cellar wall of one of the earlier buildings and the other test pits, expected to show us boundaries or features of buildings, showed us the process of garden creation (TP1) and a possible feature of that garden (TP2). The archaeology in Manor Gardens is quite difficult to interpret using such keyhole techniques, but we saw enough to know that there are features present from both the earlier buildings and the formal gardens. Though dating the slight garden feature is virtually impossible.

Without further investigation, we may never fully understand the garden related features, but the evidence of the basement wall with the interior to the east gives us a starting point with which to build a picture of the buildings along this part Borough Lane prior to their demolition in or around the mid Eighteenth Century. The Gier Map of 1631 shows us a number of buildings in this area and though we may not be able to pinpoint the exact tenement (the map is certainly not accurate in terms of how we interpret maps today) it does give us an impression of the type of dwelling this may have been.



Figure 8 – A detail from the Gier Map (*Chatsworth Settlement*) – the buildings within the red line are in the area of the basement wall discovered in MGBH24/3

It is exciting to see these images and imagine the archaeological remains of the wall as part of a living environment, full of people, life and everyday activity, only to be purposefully hidden for the want for privacy and exclusivity by the privileged classes of the Eighteenth Century.

Although test pits 1 & 2 did not produce features relating to the pre-1777 landscape, they did produce a good number of finds that do indicate earlier settlement. Luke Barber states in his report that "the density of this material [High Medieval pottery] is quite high at MGBH 24 (6/21g)

suggesting occupation relatively close by or at least quite an intense regime of manuring with domestic waste." The Early Post Material pottery from the test pits also indicates domestic activity in the vicinity and includes the normal varieties found in refuse pits of this period. The later post medieval material is not represented very well in Manor Gardens and this points to a change of use in this area from domestic to gardens at this time.

It was also noted that the lack of medieval tile in any of the test pits would point to the earlier buildings being of thatch or reed, so not likely to have been particularly high status. In general the finds in Manor Gardens were not of high status at all and this would indicate that the road leading out of Bourne in the direction of Compton Place and Meads was not one of the most prestigious to build or consequently live on. The presence of higher status buildings at the northern end of the road where it meets the High Street/Church Street would also show that the further along this road that you went, the lower the status of the buildings became.

So in conclusion, the value of these test pits has been shown in establishing the presence and status of the dwellings in this southern part of Borough Lane and showing that people were living in the vicinity from the High Medieval period onwards, if not before. This in turn helps to add evidence to the idea¹⁰ that Old Town Eastbourne was developed as a New Town some time around 1200CE and not a development of an earlier settlement.

6.2 Parsonage Garden

In the summer of 1766 a sudden and violent thunderstorm brought catastrophic floods into the Town of Eastbourne, as described in The Universal Magazine –

"July 18th – On Saturday last, about 5 in the morning, there fell at Eastbourne, in the County of Sussex, the greatest quantity of rain, attended with the most dreadful claps of thunder and lightning ever known by the oldest person living. The water poured from the Downs in such a manner, that the streets soon became several feet deep. Many gardens have greatly suffered, particularly a curriers, where the gooseberry and currant trees look like a bed of colliflowers, by the muddy chalk washed from the hills. A soldier and his wife, who lay on the ground floor, very narrowly escaped drowning, being awakened by the cries of a child who was swimming around the room in a cradle. The Church has received great damage: and it is feared the inhabitants will not be able to hear Divine Service for many months, especially a sermon, as the pulpit has greatly suffered."

Given that this report was made on the 18th July, it would seem that the storm took place on Saturday 12th July and we can see the power of the deluge as it was noted ten years later that the "…*lower or west end of the south aisle is out of repair and supported by a shore.*"¹¹ A watercolour painting by Petrie created in 1804¹² shows a three tier, covered pulpit located in the eastern end of the nave which is fairly typical of the C18th so we can assume that the parish did not have to wait so long for the sermons as they did for a suitable wall repair to the

¹⁰ Seaman J (2025) Eastbourne, Old Town New Town (not yet published)

¹¹ Budgen (1912) Pg 163

¹² A watercolour by Henry Petrie, 1804, *Eastbourne Church Interior looking NE*, Sussex Archaeological Society, Lewes

south aisle. There are also records (again in Budgen but from the Churchwardens accounts) of the school attached to the north side of the church tower also having to undergo considerable repairs in 1769. It would seem likely that this was also a result of the flood damage sustained a few years earlier. It should also be noted that prior to the second half of the C19th the town of Eastbourne ended just a hundred or so yards to the west of the churchyard and another small settlement was found at the start of the East Dean road at Upwick. From there fields, largely still open and unenclosed, ran up to the lower reaches of the Downs which were free from trees and therefore gave an open run to the water running in a torrent downslope in the storm. At this time too, the garden of the Parsonage ran at one level from the building to what is now Church Lane. The western portion only became part of the churchyard in 1846 when the ground level above the chalk was raised to enable burials to take place (without having to dig into solid chalk). In 1766 there were no or very few houses between the entrance to the garden and the rising slopes towards Upwick and the Downs. It also lies parallel to the High Street/Church Street along which the flood raged and water would be channelled north downslope along the narrow Church Lane into the Parsonage garden (itself sloping to the east) and on to Bay Pond to the north where the water would enter the Bay Pond and from there along to the Bourne Stream itself. During excavations prior to the development of a site on Baypond Road in 2013¹³, it was noted that only C17th-mid C18th finds were recovered from this site, although on higher but more sheltered ground to the west, there is a high concentration of medieval material. This site lies just west of the Parsonage Garden and downhill from the High Street on a lane leading directly to the Bay Pond in an area that must have seen some of the worst impacts of the 1766 flood event. This could be more evidence of the devastation caused by the flood in the removal of topsoils and the subsequent remodelling of gardens, paths and roads in the area. It should also be noted that excavations of the Bourne Valley in 1980¹⁴ did not find a substantial channel for the Bourne Stream or the alluvial deposits expected from it, but there was a 'midden filled ditch' with medieval material within it. It is possible that this was not a midden but the residue of the flood, particularly as the snail evidence within it showed no water species at all and that the Bourne itself flowed further to the south of the excavation.

It doesn't take too much imagination to relate this account of a torrential storm event to the evidence uncovered in the excavation of the Parsonage Garden where we have a late medieval building on the site of an even larger high medieval building but not one piece of cultural material from either period. In fact the majority of the finds that can be dated and are not building materials from potentially earlier buildings, are from the C18th or C19th with a smattering from the C17th. We also have a levelling or remodelling event that appears to have taken place right across the garden and reduced it to the natural chalk. In patches, most notably in the cut for the wall in PGBH24/2 we also have a layer of very chalky soil.

Whilst on this subject we should look at the potential date for this wall and the building it once formed part of in the context of the flood event. In terms of cultural material, there was little in the fill of the wall foundation trench to give an accurate date as much of the roofing and other building material was reused from an earlier structure or fairly generic post medieval tile. The strange tableaux left for us when the construction timbers/lean to structure were removed (see Picture 13) used a bottle of the later C18th but whether it was a

13 Butler C (2014) Some Finds From Commercial Archaeology in Eastbourne, pgs 86-94 from Eastbourne – aspects of archaeology, history and heritage, Ed Allen MJ

¹⁴ Stevens L & Allen M J (2007) An Interim Account of the Bourne Valley Excavation, Star Brewery Site, Eastbourne, East Sussex

discovered artefact at the time or a disposal of contemporary material cannot be known. The chalk bedrock was directly cut into to create the foundation and soils then deposited in it and mounded up to give the wall foundation strength so it would seem likely that the cut was made after the flood as part of the remodelling. The path of broken tile leading to the well that sits directly on the chalk also seems aligned with this wall so again, this points to the construction as being post flood/remodelling or contemporaneous with it.

It is worth thinking about the abundance of clay roofing materials dating from the post medieval period and about what these once covered. A suggested interpretation is that the rebuilt Parsonage was covered in a mix of stone slab and clay tiles, though the absence of virtually any clay tile earlier than c1550CE may give a slightly later date for the building itself or just a re-roofing event 50 or so years after being built. A series of repairs and construction phases then took place sometime prior to 1750CE and again after c1850CE during which time roofing seemed to be an issue.

Certainly, by 1846 when the demolition of the Parsonage and *a cottage adjoining* was suggested both buildings were in a dilapidated state¹⁵. This could suggest that not only was this building of a fairly low status, but also that it may not have been built to the highest standards of the day, having deteriorated to such an extent in under 100 years. In the 1841 census there are 8 family units within the address of 'Parsonage' with a total of 31 persons. All the males of working age were agricultural labourers at this point, showing that the buildings status within the town had changed drastically since the mid C18th and it was now divided into tenements which must also include the 'cottage' we were investigating. In 1861 there has been a reduction to just 4 family units and only 13 people yet twenty years later there were 4 family units at 'Parsonage Cottages' with a total of 22 residents and by 1891 four units remained with a total of 18 residents.

In the census of 1901 there was a change with just one family and a lodger (a total of 7 people) and two of the units were unoccupied, then ten years later there was still one family, the Gardiners, of 5 people and a single 80 year old resident within the building. From this census data, we can assume that while 4 units are occupied, this would have included the cottage in the Parsonage Garden, so it would appear that this goes out of use between 1891 and 1901, leaving just the Parsonage in occupation.

So, to summarise this rather lengthy conclusion, it does seem that the remodelling of the main body of the garden, including the building of an extra dwelling, was a direct result of the flood event of 1766 that either removed the existing topsoils/ground covering¹⁶ leaving a denuded mess behind or by so damaging a more formal garden that it was deemed unsavable.

To some it might seem a highly unlikely coincidence that a project undertaken to increase awareness of flooding through an archaeological excavation examining our past relationships with and management of water, might uncover such a dramatic evidence of a flooding event. Or perhaps we are just fitting the evidence into a story that suits our narrative? This potential bias cannot be ignored, but when the evidence of a major reordering of the garden landscape, including the reduction back to the chalk bedrock throughout, the lack of any

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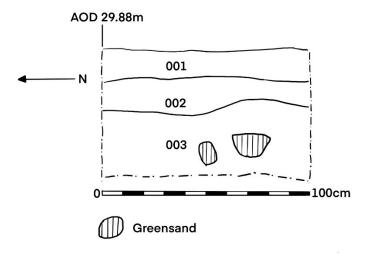
¹⁵ Budgen (1912) Pg 165-166

¹⁶ The presence of patches of gravel could indicate an earlier gravel or shingle surface in the vicinity, particularly if, as is suggested by the architecture of the building, the Parsonage's main entrance was originally on the western side with the garden having a carriage way to the front door.

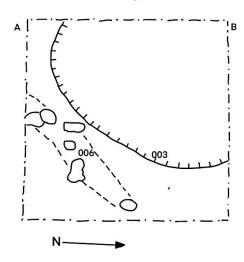
medieval material here when it is usually abundant in the nearby locality, the presence in the soils of mostly C18th and later material and the historic record of gardens in particular suffering in a deluge event that also damages, the adjacent church and the position of the Parsonage Garden downhill from the suggested flooding, I think it is a justifiable conclusion.

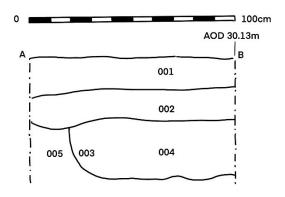
These one off extreme weather events may not leave much in the way of tangible evidence in the archaeological record, but it should always be considered as a possible explanation for anomalous results such as those encountered here. This event could also be proactively searched for in the results of earlier excavations in this part of Old Town and could prove an interesting project in the future. It is possible that the damage from the flood was relatively narrow in effect but it would certainly be worth including in future research questions at least.

7.0 **DRAWINGS**

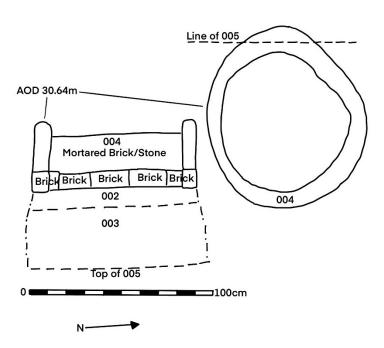


Drawing 1 - MGBH24/1 Section

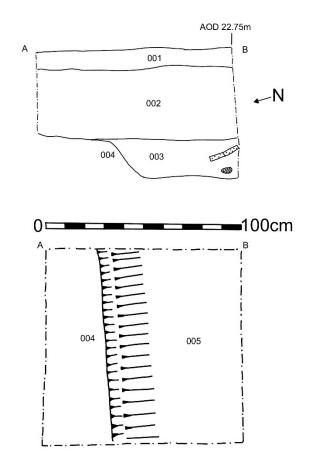




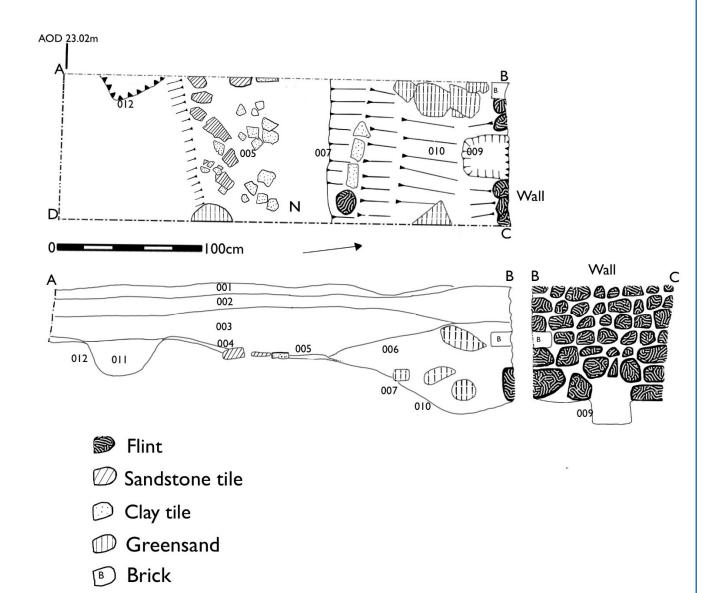
Drawing 2 - MGBH24/2 Plan and Section



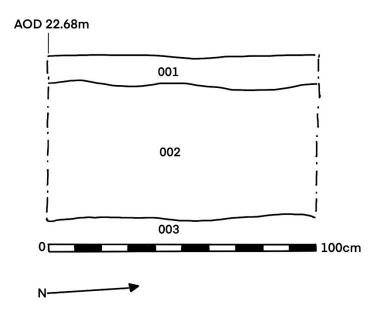
Drawing 3 - MGBH24/3 Section and Plan – measured sketch due to the difficulty of accurate measuring within the confines of the feature



Drawing 4 – PGMH24/1 Section and Plan

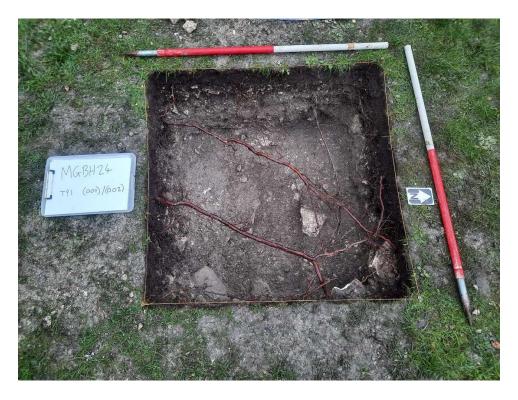


Drawing 5 - PGBH24/2 Plan and Sections



Drawing 6 - PGBH24/3 Section

8.0 **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Picture 1 – MGBH24/1



Picture 2 – MGBH24/1 Looking north



Picture 3 – MGBH24/2 (004) not yet excavated



Picture 4 – MGBH24/2 (004) excavated



Picture 5 – MGBH24/3 (005) is just out of view on the west side of the excavation



Picture 6 – MGBH24/3 Close up of the chalk wall (005)



Picture 7 – PGBH24/1 looking east



Picture 8 – PGBH24/1 looking east – section/detail



Picture 9 – PGBH24/2 looking north towards the wall



Picture 10 – PGBH24/2 detail of the southern end of the trench showing the well-path being excavated



Picture 11 - PGBH24/2 north end of the trench with (009) unexcavated



Picture 12 - PGBH24/2 north end of the trench during excavation of (009) with pig mandible



Picture 13 – PGBH24/2 (009) fully excavated



Picture 14 – PGBH24/3 fully excavated



Picture 15 – PGBH24 – Pipe clay wig curler found in the spoil (1750-1780CE)



Picture 17 – PGBH24/3 – Lead token possible ship type



Picture 18 – PGBH24/1 - Royal Navy button dating from between 1812-1825

THANKS

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This report has been prepared following advice from and referencing a template submitted by Christopher Greatorex of the East Sussex County Council Archaeology Team but any mistakes are down to the author and not the advice given.