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# FAIRLIGHT AND MARSHAM FARM, EAST SUSSEX: SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT

Site Code: FMF/DA/04

Project No: 2135

# 1 Introduction

# 1.1 Summary and Synopsis

A desk survey and brief site walk-over was carried out on the National Trust property at Marsham Farm in the Parishes of Fairlight and Pett, Sussex. The property consisted largely of pasture bounded by a coastline of stone and clay cliffs subject to erosion but also an area of valley marsh of potential importance for palaeo-environmental study. The cliffs adjoin a foreshore containing important remains of a submerged forest. The distribution of prehistoric and Roman finds in the area implies that, although there are no proven major archaeological sites within the property, these may exist. Two medieval and post-medieval farms at Mersham and Old Mersham Farm may overlie remains of earlier settlement and contain significant listed buildings. The site has potential for documentary and archaeological study of a Sussex farm of these periods.

# 1.2 Summary of management recommendations

The property is largely farming land in continuous use and well maintained, but the coastline is subject to erosion which may only be impeded in the short term. Monitor for land loss, especially following gales, severe storms and heavy rain. If substantial archaeological loss is evident there may be a need for a recording and rescue operation (see section 2.3.2).

Although not part of the property, the foreshore with its remains of a submerged forest is of great importance and might deserve some form of partnership research project into the conditions leading to its formation and the environmental history of the ancient landscape.

The potential presence of prehistoric and Roman settlement or industrial sites entails that any change in land use from pasture or any drainage and construction work should be subject to prior assessment and agreement for archaeological surveillance (see 2.3.3).

The existing farm buildings are of architectural merit and some are listed buildings; these would need careful maintenance and, again, any planned alterations or renovation should be subject to prior agreement and surveillance. In the case of Listed Buildings, statutory consents apply and archaeological controls may be placed on building works (see 2.3.4).

*The existing vernacular building survey for the farm should be enhanced (see section 2.3.5).* 

There is potential for fieldwork within the property with the aim of identifying early settlement remains and industrial sites and recording in more detail the structures and landscape features from more recent farming activity. Specifically, refer to section 2.3

to identify the types of archaeological fieldwork that might be advised and the reasons why this would be of value for the understanding of the site.

# 1.3 Acknowledgements

1.3.1 The survey was commissioned by Caroline Thackray, Archaeological Advisor for the National Trust. The fieldwork was carried out by the principal author, the drawings prepared by Peter Atkinson and Mark Duncan with the assistance of Simon Pratt. The entries for the NTSMR were made by Abby Guinness and Neil Cheney, following training and advice from Jason Siddall, National Trust Sites and Monuments Record Officer. Management recommendations were compiled in consultation with Caroline Thackray who also commented on earlier drafts of this report. I am grateful to Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh for her study of the documentary sources. The East Sussex Historic Environment Records have been used as a basis for a search of known sites in the area, their assistance is gratefully acknowledged. David Padgham of the Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group was of great assistance in providing data on recent work in the area and providing records and photographs not available from other sources. Background information on Romney Marsh was provided by Jill Eddison.

# 1.4 Background and purpose of survey

1.4.1 In December 2004 Canterbury Archaeological Trust was commissioned by the National Trust (NT) to carry out an archaeological and historical landscape survey of the property at Fairlight and Marsham Farm, East Sussex (TQ 957296) (Fig 1). The property comprises 228 acres of pasture, currently an active sheep farm, but also including two areas of woodland and a strip of scrub along the cliff on the south-eastern boundary adjacent to Cliff End (Fig 2).

1.4.2 Property management plans drawn up for the Winchelsea Countryside properties in 2003/4 showed a need for a study of their historic environment, the information gained informing both the management of the sites and their possible future interpretation for the general public.

1.4.3 The survey was intended to map and record all features of the historic environment within the present boundaries of the property, assess their significance for our understanding of the wider landscape and to make recommendations for the management and conservation of the area within each property.

# 1.5 Extent and methodology of survey

# 1.5.1 Desk Survey

A survey of the relevant documentary sources has been undertaken as a separate study by Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh and the results of this have been incorporated in this report. For the desk survey the usual sources of information were consulted and are listed below. Print-outs of the county record were obtained and checked against the list of sites on the national record. The relevant air photographs in the NMR collection were examined at the National Monuments Records, Swindon. Records consulted comprised :-

Kent Sites and Monuments Record (KSMR)

National Monuments Record (NMR)

Records at the National Trust (NT) regional office, Scotney Castle

Victoria County History

Other literature as quoted in the Bibliography

University of Cambridge Air Photograph Collection

English Heritage Schedule of Ancient Monuments

Listed Buildings Online - English Heritage

Defence of Britain database

Sale Documents for the Outlying Portions of the Fairlight Hall Estate 1917.

Historic maps and documents consulted include :-

Tithe Apportionment plans for the parishes of Pett and Fairlight, 1839

First edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1872-3.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1909

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map. 1917.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1936.

It should be noted that although the Tithe Apportionment Map was consulted the original was too fragile to copy or photograph and no existing illustration of it was available for reproduction in this report.

# 1.5.2. Field Survey

The field survey was carried out on 19-20 March 2005 following the initial survey and collation of the records. Access to the site was delayed due to bad weather conditions in late February and early March coinciding with the lambing season. The visit to the site was intended both to identify any previously recorded features and to identify previously unidentified structures, the observations recorded on the standard NT proforma (Historic Landscape Survey Field Recording Form). The walk-over allowed the present state of sites to

be assessed for survival, condition and vulnerability, these results informing any recommendations for the care of individual features.

# 1.5.3 NTSMR database enhancement and mapping

The sites identified within the boundaries of the NT property have been entered onto the National Trust Sites and Monuments Records (NTSMR) and assigned five-figure numbers unique to this system. These sites are detailed below in the Gazetteer of Sites within the NT property (Fig 2; Appendix A). Of the numerous sites identified outside, but within 300m of the property boundary, a proportion have been entered on the NTSMR (Appendix B1) but the majority are here listed only under their existing East Sussex Sites and Monuments Records (Appendix B2).

# 1.6 Location, topography and geology

1.6.1 The property comprises a tract of mainly farmland extending along the southern edge of the civil parish of Pett and the north-eastern part of Fairlight. On the south-east the area is bounded by the cliffs at Cliff End while, northeast, the area is bounded by the south-western margin of the marshland of the Pett Level (Plate 1).

1.6.2 The topography is dominated by three areas of high ground, the Fairlight hill on the coastline, rising to 49m above sea level, the hill occupied by Marsham Farm to the west and the eastward tending ridge occupied by Pett Road on the north. The first two are separated by a small valley containing a stream which rises to the south-west in Fairlight, while on their north they are separated from the Pett Road ridge by a more major valley containing the Marsham Sewer. This links with the first stream at Old Marsham Farm and then passes under the Chickhill Bridge to empty into the Pett Level to the northeast. The latter, approximately one kilometre distant, is an isolated area of marsh south of Winchelsea and south-west of the main Romney and Walland Marsh. On the south-east the cliff-face has been much eroded while the marsh to the north-east represents inundated land, remnants of an old ground surface and prehistoric forest surviving on the beach below the present low water mark.

1.6.3 Fairlight and Marsham Farm lie on the Wadhurst Clay and Ashdown Beds which here contain, respectively, bands of sand and bands of clay (Fig 3). The area is heavily faulted, the Haddock's Reversed Fault actually visible as a topographical feature on the southern side of the Fairlight hill above Fairlight Cove (Lake and Shepherd-Thorn 1987, 66-7). On the northeast of the hill another north-west tending fault, the Cliff End Fault, lies on the boundary of the property. The main valley on the north side of the property, below Pett Road, is on the line of the Marsham Fault while the small valley extending south-west towards Old Marsham Farm lies on another fault. Both valleys are occupied by areas of Head and Alluvium.

1.6.4 The origin of the cliff face deserves further study, especially its relation to the submerged forest visible at low water off the beach here (Lake and Shepherd-Thorn 1987,70; Woodcock 2003 fig 1.5F). The forest is visible as a bed of peat containing tree roots and tree trunks, this old ground surface overlying grey clay, the whole extending for some distance north-east along the beach at Cliff End but also extending in the opposite direction as far as the headland at Fairlight. A rapid visual examination of the foreshore at TQ 887126 shows that the present beach here extends 30m from the base of a stone cliff approximately 45m

high, beyond which is a band of coarse sand and boulders 60m wide. Beyond that, to the water's edge at medium low water, was a band of peat and wood 80m wide sealing grey clay. This observation suggests that the cliff face is of some age and pre-dates the deposition of the clay and the formation of this forested land surface. It should be noted that although the Royal Military Canal was continued onto the beach in this area its line would have lain to the northwest of the forest area and probably coincided with the band of sand and boulders noted below the beach (below, 2.2.6). In the area to the north the peat was sealed by stone boulders, suggesting that with the inundation of the forest and erosion of the cliff, debris had fallen onto the submerged surface. The survival of a cave, occupied in the Mesolithic period, in the cliff face of Fairlight Hill confirms that erosion in the post-glacial period has not been that extensive, assuming the cave had not originally penetrated for some distance into the early cliff face (NTSMR 129637). The process by which the cave had formed is not established but presumably is the result of ground-water action, perhaps exploiting the nearby Cliff End Fault.

1.6.5 This observation must be reconciled with the changes in sea-level over the ten millennia of the post-glacial or Flandrian period and with the consequent changes in the coastline and the low-lying Pett Levels to the north-east. These changes have been outlined elsewhere (Green 1988) but one of the most significant features for this area is the series of sequential shingle banks at Lydd, west of Dungeness, which must be of early Bronze Age or earlier date (Needham 1988). The alignment of these, if projected south-west to this section of coastline, would suggest that an earlier beach-line lay up to 4 km off the present coastline.

1.6.6. In recent times the coastline has been subject to variable amounts of erosion, this process being particularly active at the present on the stretch on the south-west of the National Trust property. At the Haddocks Coastguard Station, immediately outside the boundary of the property, the cliff edge can be shown to have receded 60m since 1873 but the harder rock cliff face below the Fairlight Hill appears not to have receded any distance in the same period of 130 years (Fig 4; Plate 1).

1.6.7 The property is crossed by several footpaths, the registered footpaths comprising FP 23a from the area of Marsham Farm to the Fairlight Road, FP 26 which starts from the junction of Stream Lane and the Fairlight Road and follows the southern edge of the property and FP 27 which follows the inland edge of the scrub along Cliff End, on the eastern side of the property. On the hill of Fairlight there are also three NT permissive paths around the perimeter of field 118 and 119 and along the northern perimeter of fields 114 and 116.

# 1.7 Previous archaeological work

There have been few casual finds and no programmes of archaeological fieldwork within the boundaries of the National Trust property but a number of sites are known within the surrounding area, particularly in the area of the ridge to the north, within the parish of Pett. The majority of these sites have been identified by the Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group (Woodcock 1988. 180-81).

No areas of archaeological significance as defined by East Sussex County Council lie within the property but three lie in the vicinity, the first comprising the zone at Cliff End on the north-eastern edge of the property which includes several finds of prehistoric finds including the site of the cave (NTSMR 129633, 129634 and 129637). The second, to the south-west,

comprises the site of the moated site at Lower Stonelink Farm (NTSMR 129638, 129642) and the third is the site of Gatehurst Farm on the Pett ridge to the north (ES 2104, 2155 and 2159).

# 2 Archaeology and Land-use History

# 2.1 Statement of Archaeological Importance

2.1.1 Palaeo-environmental considerations The present state of the ground in the lower part of the Marsham Sewer valley suggests that the existing woodland and marsh might overlie waterlogged valley bottom deposits and peat levels of importance for environmental study. There is potentially an important sequence of deposits recording the early environmental history of the area and perhaps containing evidence for early human activity, in view of the frequency of prehistoric finds on the hillside to the north and the finds further west up the valley. The potential of such a site is shown by the results of palaeo-environmental research to the north in the Pannel valley (Woodcock 2003, 2). Although outside the boundary of the site, the submerged forest on the seashore is of great interest in reconstructing the landscape history of the area and the processes which created the Fairlight cliff. This in turn has a bearing on the date at which the cave in the cliff close to the eastern edge of the property was formed and became accessible for human use (NTSMR 129637). The finds associated with this cave mark out the importance of the area and could suggest that other inhabited caves existed and have been either buried or eroded away, this cave only identified through its survival in the cliff face. The nature of the submerged forest below and its relation to the cliff is an aspect of the area that is of more than local importance and deserves further study (Bell 1997, 68-70).

2.1.2 *Early prehistoric settlement* The frequency of finds in area intensively surveyed by the Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group to the north, in and around the village of Pett, is significant. While mostly outside the boundaries of the National Trust property, some finds of prehistoric flints have been made within or close to the northern edge (NTSMR 129652-4, 129657-8). The frequency of these finds to the north suggests that the pasture areas of the property may well mask a similar scatter of early prehistoric sites.

2.1.3 *Roman settlement* Similarly, the frequency of Roman finds at the east end of the Pett ridge suggests some settlement and possible industrial site there but this need not be the only settlement within the area and the finds of pottery and slag on Fairlight could indicate another settlement on the hilltop immediately to the south, also overlooking the ancient coastline.

2.1.4 *Roman and medieval iron-working* The evidence for iron working on both Roman and medieval period sites is of interest in view of the more extensive and better known sites to the west. The question of the local source of ore raises the possibility that pit complexes such as those in the Stumblet Wood and on the cliff edge at Fairlight might be quarries of medieval or even Roman date.

2.1.5 *Medieval settlement* In the medieval period the property straddled the boundary of the two parishes of Pett and Fairlight and it is possible that the name Marsham applies to a settlement extending into both parishes. This could indicate that there was at an early period a discrete land-holding of that name between the two parishes but later subsumed within them. The post- medieval settlement on the southern boundary of the property at Marsham Farm (NTSMR 129639) and Barnfield (NTSMR 129667) deserve consideration, the visible

structures and slight earthworks (NTSMR 129666) perhaps succeeding a medieval settlement and potentially being of Anglo-Saxon origin. Although the main house and some ancillary buildings now lie outside the property boundary the presence of earthworks in the area of the Thatched Barn show the potential of this area. The considerable earthworks on the hillside and in the combe to the east of this show the existence of sizeable field lynchets from a former more extensive field system that also adds weight to the suggestion of medieval or earlier land use. Similarly the site of Old Marsham Farm (NTSMR 129673-4) might also have much earlier origins. By analogy with Stonelink Farm it is possible that these sites may have been moated although no trace of substantial enclosures have been identifiable surrounding either site.

2.1.6 *Post-medieval settlement* The area studied represents the major part of a substantial farm including the early focus at Old Mersham Farm and only lacking the main structures of Mersham Farm. The site is therefore important, holding out the possibility that further documentary research and archaeological survey could chronicle in greater detail the changing economy and land-use of a farm of this period.

# 2.2 Summary of Sites by Period

The following account covers the northern limits of the Fairlight parish and the southern part of Pett parish, summarising the present knowledge of the archaeology and history of the area, as far as it is relevant to the National Trust property. The lack of archaeological data, in particular, reflects the lack of any formal investigations in the area; the historical data the lack of surviving records. For information on and interpretation of the historical sources I am grateful to Sheila Sweetinburgh; her report is reproduced in the relevant historical sections below.

# 2.2.1. Prehistory and Roman Period

The earliest find is that of a Palaeolithic flint implement, a casual find from the general area of Fairlight (NTSMR 129640).

Of later date is the cave identified in the cliff face immediately outside the property boundary (NTSMR 129637) (Plate 2). This is probably only a remnant of a larger cave formed by water action and is now inaccessible and 18m above the present sea level. Access originally may have been via a talus of rock debris accumulated at the base of the cliff but now dispersed by recent sea action. When investigated in 1972 no objects were recovered but earlier extant finds, thought to come from the cave, comprised flint blades of Upper Palaeolithic or Mesolithic type and an axe of Mesolithic type (Palmer 1972 and 1977, 98-99).

Other finds of prehistoric flint-work, without specific identification or dating, have been made within the boundaries of the Fairlight property and on its northern perimeter (Fig 2), NTSMR 129652 - 129654, 129657 and 129658). Further finds are recorded to the west (NTSMR 129649 - 129651), on the higher ground in Pett village (ES2115, 2116, 2119, 2120, 2132, 2155), and on the lower ground close to the canal (ES2094).

Scatters of Mesolithic flints have also been recovered in the parallel valleys of the Pannel and Brede to the north. During field walking along the margins of the flood plain of the Pannel, several sites have been found, often close to spring sites (Holgate and Woodcock 1988, 72, fig

4.2). Other finds in the Brede valley indicate settlement close to the position of the prehistoric shoreline, at a time before the formation of the peat and silt layers recorded in the Pett and Rye levels to the south-east and east.

In the seventh millennium peat was developing in the Brede valley, suggesting changes to the environment which may have then led to the inundation of the lower parts of these valleys, a change that may well have affected the lower parts of the valley of the Marsham Sewer, below Old Marsham Farm.

As noted above, one notable feature of the present at Fairlight and north-eastwards is the remains of the old land surface and forest surviving below the beach at Cliff End and visible at low water. This surface has not been closely studied but may represent part of a prehistoric landscape that once extended inland, past the steeply rising ground, now an eroded cliff face at Cliff End, into the valley of the Marsham Sewer.

A prehistoric track has been identified approaching Fairlight from the south-west but this appears to be only based on supposition from its later use as a route, Margary considering that it might have linked with Roman ironworking sites to the west (NTSMR 129643; Margary 1948, Trackway III). Finds of later, Neolithic date have not been identified although some of the undated finds of worked flint might belong to this or the Bronze Age. From the latter period the bronze spear head from the foreshore at Cliff End is the most notable find (NTSMR 129635). The stated location suggests it came from the area of the submerged forest and may have been a casual loss within the ancient woodland rather than part of a hoard, such as that found in an ancient beach deposit at Lydd (Needham 1988). The Lydd find could have been in a beach on a coast line extending south-west on a line 1-2 km east of Fairlight.

Iron Age finds are rare but coins from the beach at Cliff End may derive from a context on the cliff edge (NTSMR 129636). Pottery recovered from a site above this point may date to the late pre-Roman Iron Age but also includes later material (NTSMR 129634). This find has led to the suggestion that a major Iron Age settlement existed here and it has even been suggested that slight earthworks around the Fairlight Hill might be the denuded ramparts of a hillfort (Feakes 1997, 16-17). Such an earthwork is unlikely here and a far more convincing case can be made for the earthworks at East Hill, near Hastings being an Iron Age hillfort (Padgham 2004, 2). The substantial scarps on the Fairlight Hill, however, visible on the south and west sides of the hill may result from a variety of processes at work on the steep slopes. On the south, between fields 119 and 454, the pronounced scarp may be simply a geological fault enhanced by the growth of a lynchet on the uphill side (NTSMR 129659). On the west the boundary between fields 120 and 121 may run along the line of another fault, the hedge again marking the line of a major lynchet (NTSMR 129660). A similar process of faulting and the build-up of lynchets along their line may account for the scarp along the uphill, eastern side of Stumblet Wood but here there has been some small scale quarrying of the bedrock. Beyond the wood the scarp between fields 114 and 115 and 116 on the higher ground may have formed by a similar process (NTSMR 129662). Air photographs do not show any sign of a continuation of this feature in field 112 to the north-east, only slight traces of strip lynchets being apparent (NTSMR 129663). If there had been any defence following the contour this should have been visible at this point.

Roman material is not common although some of the pottery from the cliff edge site is of this date. Pottery and slag is reported from the highest point of the Fairlight hill 200 m to the

south-west (NTSMR 129644). The main concentration of recorded finds from this area is on the Pett ridge, to the north, where further finds of pottery, slag and tile suggest a focus immediately northeast of the main part of the modern village, on the bluff overlooking Toot Rock and the marsh (NTSMR 129655, ES2117, 2119,2121, 2122). To the west, nearer the church, and on the hilltop above the north-western end of the National Trust property a Roman coin hoard has been recovered (ES2154).

Evidence for iron-working was associated with some of these sites and the undated evidence for a bloomery east of Pett may also be associated with this phase (ES2123). Within the National Trust property slag was found with the Roman pottery on Fairlight Hill but a bloomery site on the cliff edge at Fairlight has been dated to the medieval period.

# 2.2.2 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval periods

Few archaeological sites of the Anglo-Saxon period have been identified within the bounds of the property but pottery, possibly of Anglo-Saxon date, was recovered from above the cliff at Fairlight (NTSMR129634).

The major medieval settlement in the vicinity was on the ridge to the north, focussed on the church at Pett, but this seems not to have been a parish of pre-conquest date, the earliest church being of the mid thirteenth century. The early centre of Fairlight with its church lay 2 km to the south-west. The National Trust property occupies the Manor of Mersham in large part, this manor being shared between the two parishes with the boundary crossing through the northern part.

Within the National Trust property the present field system is likely to have originated in the later Anglo-Saxon or early medieval period and then to have been modified over time. In this respect the course of the Fairlight Road in the area of Stumblet Wood is noteworthy since the double dog-leg in the road at this point seems not to be dictated by any topographic feature and the northern dog-leg lies north of the present limit of the woodland. Other factors seem to have dictated the course of the road and it is possible that the pits surviving within the woodland and immediately east of it (NTSMR 129660 and 129661) are of early date and determined the course of the route; only later did this broken ground become partly wooded, being unsuitable for farming use. The name Stumblet is recorded in 1559 and refers to the stumps in an established coppiced wood, showing that the wood was in existence by the early sixteenth century. The line of the road and the area of woodland is also shown on a plan of 1799 when the surveying for the first Ordnance Survey map was undertaken.

The pits within the woodland must therefore be of medieval date or earlier and might, at least in part, be quarrying for ironstone. Early ironworking sites have been identified, most notably within the area of quarrying or land slippage above the cliff, immediately east of the property, where a bloomery of medieval date has been identified (NTSMR 129645). Another bloomery of uncertain date lies to the north, at the east end of the Pett ridge (ES2123). Thereafter, the growth and coppicing of the wood could be as a fuel supply for a nearby iron-working site.

No medieval settlement has been identified within the boundaries of the property but two

farms with an early origin lie close by the site, the first a moated farm existing to the west at Lower Stonelink Farm (NTSMR129642), the second a moated farm at Gatehurst Farm on the Pett ridge to the north (ES2159).

# 2.2.3 Early and post-medieval documentary sources

There are no recorded early documentary sources, such as charters, for the Anglo-Saxon period. One important advantage when surveying the documentary sources for this National Trust property is that the farm was for centuries the principal part of the manor of Mersham. At the centre was Mersham farm and its mansion house, the manorial lands extending across parts of the parishes of Fairlight, Pett and Icklesham. Unfortunately the manorial records do not appear to have survived.

For the Conquest period, Domesday is unhelpful because it has been impossible to ascertain which area of land within the Hundred of Guestling mentioned in the Survey is the National Trust's property at Fairlight and Pett. All that can be said is that the Hundred was divided among a considerable number of land holders. In the late twelfth century Alvred de St Martin founded a Cistercian abbey at Robertsbridge, endowing it with lands including those lying between Winchelsea and 'Clivesend' (*VCH Sussex*, vol. 2, p. 71). Thereafter the abbey received further gifts of land in the same area (*Cal. Chart. R. Abbey*, nos 2, 16, 46, 47, 69, 76, 95). It is feasible that some of this may have included land now held by the National Trust but most of the Trust's property is within the manor of Mersham, not Foder-Mersham which did belong to the abbey. From the few medieval references to Mersham it appears that the manor was in lay hands in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries (grants of free warren were made in 1290 and 1318, the first to Sir Giles de Fiennes, the second to Nicholas de le Beche), which presumably rules out any possibility that Mersham manor was ever held by Robertsbridge (*VCH Sussex*, vol. 9, p. 177).

In the early 16<sup>th</sup> century the manors of Mersham and Foder-Mersham appear to have been acquired by Sir Richard Guldeford, whose family had recently become major landholders in the region. The latter manor was bought from the monks and it is feasible that Sir Richard then also acquired Mersham manor by purchase. When he died in 1506 his estate was inherited by his son Edward, and following the death of Richard, Edward's son, the estate passed out of the male line (VCH Sussex, vol. 9, p. 177). It was inherited by Sir John Dudley through his marriage to Richard's sister Jane, the couple surrendering the property to Henry VIII in 1538 when it was described as the manors of Mersham and Fodermersham and tenements in Farelegh, Pett and Iklesham (Sussex Manors Fines, p. 299). Two years later they were sold to John Thetcher, the estate remaining in the family's hands for several generations (VCH Sussex, vol. 9, p. 177). A considerable number of estate documents relating to the Thetcher (or Thatcher) family are held at Lewes thereby allowing the history of ownership of Mersham manor to be traced from the late 16<sup>th</sup> century for about two hundred years (only a few of the documents will be used here). However, the senior branch of the family, at least, does not appear to have resided at Fairlight, instead the main family residence was Priesthawes at Westham.

Mersham manor was granted by John Thetcher in 1567 as part of the marriage settlement agreed with Sir Edward Gage following the betrothal of his son James to Mary, Sir Edward's daughter (ESRO: SAS/G21/50). The property is described as the house, place and site of the manor of Mersham, having 2 orchards (2 acres), a piece of pasture lying in several parcels called the Downes (35 acres), another part called Woodfyeldes (17 acres), a piece called

Tonges (4.5 acres), 10 acres of land and parcels of the quarry bank, a piece called Myllfyelde or Outfylde (12.5 acres), a marsh called Outfylde Marsh (19.5 acres), another marsh called Redebrokes (12.5 acres), a mead called Challcroftes (7 acres), a mead called Wyshe (3.5 acres) and certain other parcels called Margaret lands lying together in several parcels (50 acres) in the parishes of Fairlight and Pett. In addition, there were other parcels of land called Reches in Pett parish, a 3 acre piece of marsh land and part of Gattfylde Marsh, a piece of land called Phillipps land (50 acres) and a piece called Motes land, both in Farley parish, and parcels of marsh land of the Fother (20 acres).

Certain details of these, the first detailed records of the land holdings, deserve comment. The mention of orchards provides some detail of the land use while the name Tonges may be identified with the field of that name on the north-east of the property (NTSMR 129663). The name Myllfyelde might refer to the presence of a mill, presumably in the valley of the Mersham sewer; in the following century there is a reference to 2 mills (see below).

Following John Thetcher's death, his widow held certain rights in Mersham manor and other property in the area before she relinquished these to James in 1585 (ESRO: SAS/PN 547). Like his father, James granted Mersham to his son and daughter-in-law when William married Anne, one of the daughters of Sir Thomas Tresham and Dame Merrill in 1612 (ESRO: SAS/PN 548). However, the couple did not enjoy life together for long and neither William nor John, his elder brother, had any male heirs. As a consequence, the manors or farms of Mersham, Fodder Mersham, Fodder Marsh and Pett and the family's property elsewhere in the county were divided among their eight sisters. Of the eight, one sister died without issue, so reducing the division to seven shares (*VCH Sussex*, vol. 9, p. 191). In 1620 these manors or farms were said to comprise 16 messuages, 16 tofts, 2 mills, 2 dovehouses, 16 gardens, 200 acres land, 140 acres of meadow, 780 acres of pasture, 40 acres wood, 100 acres furze and heath, 760 acres marsh, and certain rights and privileges (ESRO: SAS/PN 550).

# 2.2.4 Post-medieval Period

Post-medieval farms existed just outside the south-western perimeter of the property at Marsham Farm (NTSMR 129639, 129665-7) and within it at Old Marsham Farm (NTSMR 129673 and 129674). No preceding medieval settlements have been recognised on these sites but earlier settlement may have existed on or close to these sites. To the west and north, at Lower Stonelink Farm and at Gatehurst Farm, Pett, the present farms are on the sites of identified moated sites (NTSMR 129638 and ES2104), while medieval and later settlement extended for almost a kilometre along the Pett Ridge from the area of the church to Gatehurst Farm and Lunsford Farm.

On the southern edge of the National Trust property, Marsham Farm stands isolated on a high ridge west of Fairlight (Plate 3), the buildings including not only a seventeenth century farmhouse and stables and a wagon shed of the late nineteenth century, but a fine isolated field barn. The farmhouse (NTSMR 129639) and ancillary buildings lie just outside the property, the field barn, 150m to the north, being within the National Trust boundary (NTSMR129667; Plates 4 and 5). Slight earthworks in the area between the farmhouse and the barn, are also just within the National Trust boundary and perhaps indicate the sites of other buildings or the levelled remains of earlier settlement on the hilltop, bounded by a prominent boundary bank and ditch on the west (NTSMR 129666; Plate 6). The field barn was probably a threshing barn with hayloft and opposed entrances in the long sides. It was erected in the mid

eighteenth century but the different construction of the upper part of the south-west gable suggests that that wall was later rebuilt.

Within the downhill area to the east there is a series of field terraces or positive lynchets, some following the line of the present hedges, others showing as ridges within the present pasture fields. These are most visible in fields 84, 'Barnfield'; 93, 'The Five Acres'; 94, 'The Nine Acres' and 124, 'The Garden 9 Acres' (Appendix C, Tithe Apportionment Plan). In the first of these fields east of the barn a series of prominent field lynchets occupy a small combe opening into the valley that separates this hill from the Fairlight Hill (NTSMR129665). Shown as a single pasture field but now divided, it contains two very prominent field boundaries or positive lynchets in the upper part near the barn, the lower one up to 2m high and topped by the line of a hedge. The existing footpath (FP23a) cuts through the centre of this. Further field terraces occur on the north-west boundary (TQ 87981298) and within the north-eastern side (TQ 88101295) of this field while downhill of the main lynchet is a slight terrace and a hollow immediately above the present sewage works in the south-eastern corner of the field. Another lynchet up to 2m high marks the southern boundary to Field 124 ('The Garden', 9 Acres, under arable in 1837). The western, uphill edge of the latter is marked by a 2m high scarp, while a slight terrace occupies its north-western corner. Another slight terrace follows the contour lower down the hillside. Another very prominent lynchet, at least 3m high, survives on the downhill side of field 93, bordering the brook in the valley.

On the opposite side of the valley further examples can be identified on the western and southern sides of Fairlight Hill. On the hillside above Stumblet Wood a very substantial but irregular terrace, up to 3m high, can be traced between fields 119 ` 18 acres' and 120/1 `18 acres Shaw' and `Stumblet Field' and 114/5 `Gatefield' to 116 `15 Acres' (NTSMR 129660 and 129662; Plate 8, foreground). Another substantial scarp occurs on the southern side of the Fairlight Hill where a steep scarp between fields 118/9, `18 Acres' and 454, `Cliff Field' can be traced to the cliff edge (NTSMR 129659; Plate 7). These field boundaries follow the contour and although interpreted as either following geological faults or as part of the rampart of a hillfort the visible earthwork may simply be very substantial positive lynchets on a steep slope. The whole system of lynchets in this valley probably originated on the line of downslope field boundaries and preserve the outline of arable fields established probably in the medieval period. The scale of these and their position would reinforce the identification of an early farm here, either at Old Marsham Farm down the valley or, perhaps, on the hilltop close to Marsham Farm.

It should be noted that the area now occupied by the sewage works, outside the National Trust property, is shown on the 1873 Ordnance Survey map as the site of two buildings (Fig 4). These were presumably ancillary farm buildings which had disappeared by 1936, their site destroyed in the construction of the sewage works.

Within the valley south-west of Old Marsham Farm there are areas of water meadow and, higher up, a meadow identified as 'Best Brook' (Field 95 on the Tithe map of 1839). At the southern end of this, early Ordnance Survey maps show a sheep fold or sheep wash on the east bank of the stream. This lies on the valley floor, opposite the steep scarp formed by the downhill side of field 93. Two phases of structure are visible, the earlier consisting of drystone revetments of the stream bank, the later structure a brick and concrete tank with access ramp. This suggests two phases of structure serving as a washing place for sheep, the later structure

perhaps of early to mid twentieth century date.

Old Marsham Farm itself lies to the north-east on the eastern side of the valley, close to the junction with the Marsham Sewer. The name is thought to be a corruption of Fodor Mersham, this being an estate subsumed within the main Mersham farm located on the ridge to the south-west. The late seventeenth century will of William Gage (summarised below) shows that the Manor of Mersham encompassed the present farm and the surrounding fields, many of the field names quoted in the vicinity of the present farm being identifiable with those given in the Tithe Apportionment.

The present farmhouse is mainly a construction of c.1600, but with outshuts of c 1735 (NTSMR 129673; Plate 10). Of Timber-framed construction on stone foundations and partly clad in red brick with tile-hung upper floors and plain tiled roof, it has accommodation on three floors and a originally had a basement. The original front entrance was to the north-east with an outshut at rear. It was possibly originally a farmhouse built by Thatcher family but was thereafter altered by Thomas Medley in 1717 to serve as cottages for agricultural labourers and their families, dependent on Marsham Farm.

The adjacent farm buildings are significant examples of their kind, replacing earlier buildings, as part of the agricultural improvements during the eighteenth and nineteenth century (NTSMR 129674-8; Plates 11-14). The similarity in construction of the barn and sheep-house to that of the Marsham Thatched Barn suggests that these were also erected in the mid eighteenth century but later re-roofed in slate. As with the barn these are in regular use at the present day and an important element in the present landscape

The drainage systems in the more marshy area of the Marsham Sewer was probably established as part of an earlier improvement, the channel systems visible today being of the eighteenth century although the field names imply that the marsh areas were in existence by the mid sixteenth century. As noted below, the existence of the name Salt Panns suggests salt winning at least during the seventeenth century if not before and the reference to Myllfyldes confirms the use of the main stream here to drive mills. No evidence on the ground for salt workings or a mill has been identified. The 19<sup>th</sup> century field Malt House Brook close to Old Marsham Farm also suggests the processing of grain for brewing, perhaps on a limited scale for the adjacent farm.

The name Straw's Castle is recorded on the earliest Ordnance Survey map of 1799 as referring to building shown on the map in the area of Stream Lane, 200 m south west of the southern edge of the NT property and inland from the site of Haddocks Coastguard Station. The area is now occupied by detached houses and the nature of settlement here is now uncertain but the name has been explained as referring to the location of hayricks here in a relatively sheltered location (Feakes 1997, 16).

The early nineteenth century saw a major change with the construction of the Royal Military Canal along the western and northern sides of the Walland and Romney Marsh, This was a defensive work built during the Napoleonic Wars between 1804 and 1809 in anticipation of invasion, at the suggestion of Lt. Colonel John Brown, Assistant Quartermaster General and Commandant of the newly formed Royal Staff Corp of Field Engineers. The canal was designed by Sir John Rennie and constructed partly by private contractors and later by military and civilian labour. On completion in 1806 it was inspected by the Duke of York but by this date was redundant as a defensive system, the threat of invasion having passed.

As originally constructed the canal consisted of, on the seaward side, a towpath with drain on the side nearest the marsh, then the canal which was approximately 18m wide and 3m deep. Beyond this was a rampart with a step or banquette on the landward side, a metalled military road and a government drain bounding the farmland rising beyond. On the more linear sections of the defence, such as the level ground of the Pett levels, north-east of the National Trust property, doglegs occurred at points approximately 500m apart, these designed to allow each length to be enfiladed by artillery. One such offset appears to be shown on the final section of defence on the beach below Fairlight, allowing a line of sight along the canal onto the beach and a final return in the bank and canal onto the base of the cliff (Fig 4).

With the passing of the invasion threat the main section of the canal served as a water way, predominantly for military traffic though the road was used for civilian traffic and commercial barges were charged for use of the canal. The southern-most section of waterway or trench on the beach at Cliff End was soon disused and levelled but the earthwork at the northern landward remained until the early twentieth century. No trace of the works on the beach survives although part of the landward section of bank did survive until at least 1936. Much was removed during the erection and later removal of the Second World War beach defences; now all that can be identified is a bank at the rear of the caravan park close to the Fairlight Road at Cliff End.

# 2.2.5 Post – medieval Documentary History

The late 17<sup>th</sup> century saw the manors further divided before Pett and Mersham were purchased in their entirety by Joseph Gage (VCH Sussex, vol. 9, p. 177. ESRO: Add MSS 3193, 3194, 3197). According to his will (copy), dated 13 July 1714, the manor of Mersham was described as containing the mansion house or farm house called Mersham with all the outhouses, barns, stables, gardens, orchards and other lands; a close called Great Downing (16 acres), a close called Lower Tongs (8 acres), a close called Thirteacres, 2 closes called Cliffe Fields and Lower Cliffe Fields (19 acres), a close called Gate Field (4 acres), a close next to Gate Field (3 acres), a wood called Stumbletts Wood (4 acres, 1 rood, 28 perches), a close called Peartree Field (5 acres, 1 rood), 8 parcels of ground called Rushy Brookes (15 acres), a close called Barne Field (3.5 acres), a close called Upper Best Brooke (2.5 acres), a close called Best Brooke (4 acres, 1 rood, 30 perches), a close called the Hopp Garden next Best Brooke and Margaret Land (0.5 acre), 4 closes called Margaret Lands (15 acres), a close called Margaret Field (5 acres, 2 roods, 30 perches), Margaret Wood (16 acres), a hop garden next Margaret Wood (1 acre, 2 roods, 12 perches), 2 closes called the Brookes (6.5 acres), a close called Furrey Field next Pett Wood (6 acres), a wood called Great Pett Wood (12 acres), a wood called Little Pett Wood (3 acres), a piece of marsh land called Salt Panns (4 acres, 2 roods, 22 perches), a piece of marsh land next Salt Panns (7 acres, 3 roods, 14 perches), another piece marsh next to the last (2 acres, 1 rood, 10 perches), another piece of marsh (8 acres, 3 roods, 30 perches) next to the last (ESRO: SAS/G 7/17). The manor did not remain with the Gage family for long, being sold to Thomas Medley in 1717. His family retained control of Mersham throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century until it passed out of the family to the third earl of Liverpool by the right of his wife, Julia Evelyn Medley Shuckburgh, in 1835. It was in his

hands when the tithe assessment was recorded in 1839 and following his death in 1851 it was divided among his three daughters (*VCH Sussex*, vol. 9, p. 191).

Like the Medleys, Gages and Thetchers before him, the earl and his descendents were absentee landlords, Mersham farmed by a succession of tenants. The names of a few are known from the various title deeds but it might be possible to recover the names of others from a systematic search of all the surviving documentation. In 1567 the tenant at Mersham was Mathew Terrye, who held a 17 year lease of most of the manor lands. Other tenants of John Thetcher who held land in the manor were John Taylor, Edward Terrye (Mathew's kinsman?), Robert Drinker, William Hornbye and Hugh Carter (ESRO: SAS/G 21/50). By the late 17<sup>th</sup> century the tenant was Thomas Fuller. He paid annually £78 10s for Mersham, a further £12 for Brewhouse Farm (56 acres), £12 for lands called the Out Lands or Pett Salts and £10 for Quaile Marsh (14 acres, 15 perches).

The tithe assessments indicate that by the early 19<sup>th</sup> century farmland use was mixed, but traditionally this was probably an area dominated by livestock farming. In 1839 most of the fields near Marsham Sewer and adjoining the woodland were described as meadow or pasture, the arable lands broadly forming more consolidated blocks of land in between (TNA: IR 29/35/98; 29/35/205; 30/35/98; 30/35/205). The field names provide some details concerning land use and a small acreage of hops was possibly grown from the late 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards. Orchards are mentioned in the documents and Peartree Field suggests that apples were not the fruit. The 16<sup>th</sup> century name Woodfyeldes may indicate a previously wooded area but the woodland acreage had apparently stabilised by 1700, and may even have increased between then and 1839 because even though Margaret/Market Wood was said to cover 16 acres, Stumblet Wood seems to have grown by 2 acres to 6 acres by the later date. The core of these woods is thought to be ancient, the greatest change to their semi-natural structure being the introduction of sweet chestnut as coppice probably in the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century (NT: Fairlight report, 1990, reformatted 1997).

The names Salt Panns and Myllfyldes are presumably indicative of much earlier activities, though the 19<sup>th</sup> century field Malt House Brook (close to Old Marsham Farm) may record a relatively recent structure. Unfortunately, there do not appear to be any extant inventories for known tenants of Mersham. However, a draft deed of 1748 does list the farm buildings: 2 barns, a stable, an oasthouse, and a weynhouse (ESRO: SAS-B/343). The wills of those said to be of Fairlight or Pett are equally unhelpful but it is possible that the Thomas Fuller of Icklesham who died in 1701 was the tenant at Mersham (ESRO: A44, p. 92). If he was, then the new chamber at his house which he noted in his will may have been at Old Mersham Farm. Apart from this room he mentioned nothing about the house, or the farm. Very few of his successors made wills and none either name Mersham Farm or provide any details about their farming activities.

By the early 19<sup>th</sup> century the land was farmed by Edward and John Thorpe, the former holding Marsham Farm (in total almost 300 acres) and possibly residing there. By the last decades of the century, Old Marsham Farm had been converted to house 2 agricultural labourers and their families, one being James Thorpe, his wife and 4 children. Thus the farmhouse, which may have been built by John or James Thetcher in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, and apparently altered by the Medley family (or possibly the tenants) in the early/mid-18<sup>th</sup> century may have been home to members of the Thorpe family for most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The farmstead they would have known comprised several buildings as well as the farmhouse, including a

sheephouse/calfhouse (constructed early-mid 18<sup>th</sup> century, shown on tithe map as L-shaped); a barn (mid/late 18<sup>th</sup> century construction); cattle sheds (19<sup>th</sup> century construction); a cattle shed between the barn and cattle sheds (19<sup>th</sup> century, probably post-1839 because not on tithe map) and a couple of other buildings near the farmhouse (on the tithe map but now no longer there). Between this barn and the road was a stockyard wall and somewhat detached and to the south-east was a cluster of buildings: Old Marsham Barn, a stable block and a pole barn (NT: Fairlight report, 1990, reformatted 1997).

# 2.2.6 Modern Period

The document for the sale of the outlying portions of the Fairlight Hall Estate in Nov 1917 shows that the National Trust property comprises what was then the south-western sector of the Gatehurst Farm property (Lot 22, mauve on Fig 5) the majority of the land being Marsham Farm and its lands (Lot 36, yellow on Fig 5). At the time of the sale this lot included fields 127, 128, 130,131 and 138 on the sale plan, this land including Marsham Farm and Stream Houses, properties now outside the southern boundary of the property.

In these two lots the sales booklet refers both to 'Old Sussex Houses and Cottages', valued for their period charm and suited to 'occupation by gentlefolk', and to 'Sites and Building Land ' on the 'highest ground in Fairlight which are Probably Unequalled on the South Coast'. In the post-war period the north-eastern part of Lot 36 was developed, fields 69, 70 and the eastern part of 143 being used for detached properties. The OS maps of 1929 and 1936 show this development was concentrated in the decade before the war (Fig 6). In addition, at Old Mersham Farm, a pair of semi detached houses, Mersham Cottages, were built in the 1930's south-west of the farmyard and facing the present road.

The Royal Military canal remained a prominent feature of the Pett marshland into the twentieth century and its extension onto the beach, below the north-eastern end of the cliff at Cliff End, was visible as late as 1939, only to be erased with the construction of anti-tank obstacles and barbed wire entanglements along the beach in 1940 (Fig 6).

In the Second World War the coastline at Fairlight was the site of various defensive structures, air photographs showing activities on the peak of the Fairlight hill. There appear to have been no built structures such as pill boxes but trenches are visible between the existing buildings at Cliff End, to north-east of the site. The digging of a gun emplacement on the cliff edge at Tongs revealed Iron Age pottery NTSMR 129634). The cliff edge dug-outs were apparently designed to deter low-level air attacks off the sea (Vahey 1991, 25). In 1944 anti aircraft batteries were introduced to combat the V1 flying bombs and a considerable number were brought down in the area, 275 falling in Pett parish alone (Vahey 1991, 26). The exact location of the batteries and the points where the bombs fell has not been discovered.

The beach at Cliff End was defended with rows of concrete tank obstacles which remained in place until the 1970's but have now been largely destroyed by water action and presumably during works on the groynes and the grading of the shingle bank.

In the post-war period there was new construction at Marsham Farm, a Dutch hay barn, a garage, Tyler barn being erected close the road (Plate13).

During the same period the National Trust became the owner of land at Marsham, the initial gift comprising 57.861 acres (Stumblet Wood and 6 fields down to pasture) given in remembrance for her late husband by Mrs Bertha Sybil Eves in 1945 (NT: deed of gift 5/3/1945). Thirteen years later Grenville Eves, gave the Trust a further 170 acres adjoining that donated by his mother and in 1991 the Trust bought Tongs Field (again part of Old Marsham Farm), which adjoined the cliff land given by Mrs Eves (NT: deed of gift 22/4/1958. Deed of sale 29/7/1991). Of the £28,000 required to purchase the field from Herbert Smith of Wakeham's Farm, £5,000 was provided by the Hastings and St Leonard's Association, the balance by the Herbert Butler Request This field had been the subject of several failed planning applications for residential development (NT: Memo 25/9/1992). In the early 1990s the Trust agreed to make the remainder of its estate at Fairlight inalienable (that is the land in addition to the first 58 acres), except for the site of Marsham Stable which it was planned to sell to the current occupier. It was felt that this building was of little potential use to the Trust's tenant at Old Marsham Farm, was of limited architectural interest and had been used for several years by the holder of the adjoining holding of Marsham Farm. If sold, the Trust intended to retain its vehicular right of way and to place a covenant on the property regarding any future development (ibid.). However, the sale does not appear to have taken place and according to the Trust's own report, reformatted in 1997, only Mrs Eves' gift is inalienable, the remaining 170 acres is alienable and there are no covenants held by the Trust over adjoining or nearby property (NT: Fairlight report, 1990, reformatted 1997).

# 2.3 Management and Conservation recommendations

2.3.1 These recommendations have been made from the observation of the individual sites and features identified during the field survey, informed by the principles for conservation and management outlined in the Historic Landscape Survey Guidelines (NT 2000).

# 2.3.2 Cliff Erosion

Although much of the cliff is of a fairly durable sandstone, undermining by the sea and collapse of the cliff face appears to have taken place on the north-eastern edge of the property. The main erosion has, however, occurred on the south-east, near Haddock's Coastguard cottages which have now largely collapsed over the cliff edge. Coastal defences have here been strengthened but the present cliff edge is still subject to collapse, probably through the effect of rain and frost action on the softer clay, blocks of the cliff edge having slumped towards the beach. Comparison of Figures 2 and 4 shows the extent of erosion here over the period 1873 -2000. The cliff edge should be monitored for coastal loss following periods of storm and high rainfall and mitigation measures put in place if archaeological loss is apparent.

# 2.3.3 Potential for prehistoric sites

The one arable field 96 south-east of Market Wood, presently under Kale, should be fieldwalked at some convenient time since this not only adjoins the post-medieval and possibly earlier features in adjacent fields (NTSMR 129640, 129665-7 and 129671) but provides an opportunity to check for the presence of earlier prehistoric activity. Opportunities should be sought for this through a local archaeological/historical society or group.

# 2.3.4 Significant Structures and Protected Buildings or Sites

There are no scheduled monuments as such within the boundaries of the property but there are two Listed Buildings. Under the rules governing the management needs of listed buildings

it would be a requirement that any proposals for alteration to the historic fabric of Old Marsham Barn and Old Marsham Farmhouse would need prior permission from English Heritage and may need prior recording and ongoing recording by an archaeologist during the repair/alteration process. This would apply for any repair work, improvement and reinstatement or any investigative work.

# 2.3.5 Listed Buildings within the National Trust Property

Both Old Marsham Barn and Old Marsham Farmhouse appear in good condition and in regular use but, whatever existing vernacular building survey exists, both deserve enhanced (interpretative) building surveys, especially in advance of any proposed repair or alteration. Any works to the standing structures would also carry implications for the buried archaeological levels associated with their early history or that of their predecessors and would require consultation with the relevant authorities and an approved archaeological scheme of works to be agreed. The main farm buildings at Old Marsham Farm might also deserve more detailed survey and any repairs or alterations would require prior consultation and an approved scheme of works covering archaeological and architectural considerations.

# 2.3.6 Use of Metal Detectors

In compliance with National Trust policy (see Appendix D) the use of metal detectors is not permitted. This should be made clear to the existing farm tenant and to any new National Trust tenants, should the lease be changed.

# 2.3.7 Dissemination of Information

If possible, an arrangement should be made to share the findings of this report with the existing farm tenant. This might help alert him to the archaeological value of the surrounding land and the potential within the National Trust land and be aware of any threats to its survival arising from changes in farm management.

# 2.3.8 Interpretation

Although there are no major visible ancient monuments within the NT property it may be worth considering some form of interpretative display on the footpaths that run close to the Field Barn and which pass through Old Marsham Farm, setting these sites within the context of their historic landscape (see 1.6.6).

# 2.3.9 Research Potential

Various features of the archaeological and historical background of the site deserve consideration as indicators of the potential of the National Trust property.

Discovery of prehistoric finds in the valley of the Pannell indicate settlement close to the position of the prehistoric shoreline, at a time before the formation of the peat and silt layers recorded in the Pett and Rye levels to the east. Similar material could well occur within the National Trust property, particularly in the valleys of the Marsham Sewer, north-east of Old Marsham Farm and possibly in the side valley below Marsham Farm. Casual finds suggest such sites could exist here hidden within the marshy deposits or under the pasture, the former, in particular, holding out the possibility of important environmental evidence in association with occupation sites. Any major farming operations affecting the valleys, particularly the waterlogged areas,

should be preceded by archaeological investigation and environmental sampling, especially since, as noted below, there may also be later features of interest in the area.

For the later prehistoric and Roman periods there is again the potential for important sites hidden beneath pasture and analogous to finds on the Pett ridge. In view of the geology there is a potential for iron-working sites and the identification of slag on several sites would support this. The hollows within Stumblet Wood might even be quarries for early ironstone winning. Where areas are brought into cultivation field walking should localise areas of interest and limited sample excavation might be undertaken of any particularly rich scatters. Investigation of the pit groups is more problematic, such sites being particularly unproductive of dateable finds that might provide a context for such works.

A series of major medieval sites have been identified in the surrounding landscape and the hilltop occupied by Marsham Farm, with its fine field barn, may be the site of the original farming settlement, bounded by the substantial bank on the west and overlooking the field system in the valley to the east. These areas would deserve, firstly, a contour survey and, secondly, a geophysical survey if it appears more than field enclosure boundaries exist there. Specific features such as the western boundary, the adjacent earthworks and the more substantial lynchets might deserve sample excavation; there is potential for environmental sampling of the soil sequence within the substantial positive lynchets.

In the area of Old Marsham Farm in the valley of the Marsham sewer the existence of field names such as Salt Panns, Myllfyldes and Malt House Brook suggest that structures associated with salt production, milling and malting might survive from the late medieval or post-medieval periods, perhaps preserved in the waterlogged deposits in the base of the valley here. Any major farming operations affecting this area should be monitored and, preferably, preceded by archaeological investigation and environmental sampling, in case structures related to these activities survive.

Christopher Sparey-Green BA MIFA 10th October 2005

# 3 Sites and Monuments Inventory and site specific recommendations

The following list is derived primarily from the relevant Sites and Monuments Records for the parishes of Fairlight and Pett, the catalogue including sites within or close to the boundary of the National Trust property, as shown on Fig 2. Other sites have been added from the National Monuments Register and from other sources, including new field observation. Some sites in this National Trust Sites and Monuments Record lie outside the property but are included because they are close to its boundaries or are of particular significance to the area. These are identified on tables in Appendices A and B.

# 3.1 Summary table of sites

Palaeolithic 500000BC to 10001BC Mesolithic - 10000 BC to 4001 BC Neolithic 4000 to 2000 BC Bronze Age 2000 to 800 BC Iron Age 800 BC to AD 43 Roman AD 43 to AD 410 Anglo-Saxon AD 410 to 1066 Medieval to Post Medieval - 1066 to 1865 Post Medieval - 1540 to 1900 Modern - 1900 to 2050

NTSMR No 129633 129634 129635 129636 129637	Site Name Lithic implement, Cliff End, E. Sussex Iron Age to Anglo-Saxon Pottery, Cliff End, E. Sussex Bronze Age Spear, Cliff End, East Sussex 3 Gold Coins, Fairlight, East Sussex Cave, with palaeo-mesolithic lithic implements, Cliff End, East Sussex	Type FINDSPOT FINDSPOT FINDSPOT CAVE FINDSPOT	<b>Parish</b> Pett Pett Pett Fairlight Pett	<b>Date</b> Lower Paleolithic to Roman Iron Age to Anglo - Saxon Bronze Age Iron Age Palaeolithic - Mesolithic	Status	NGR TQ 88701310 TQ 88691288 TQ 88801280 TQ 88801280 TQ 88001300 TQ 88761302
129638	Lower Stonelink Farm, Fairlight, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING		Post Medieval		TQ 87291284
129639	Marsham Farm, Fairlight, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Fairlight	Post Medieval	Listed Building	TQ 87821281
129640	Handaxe, Fairlight, East Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic		TQ 88001300
129641	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, East Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman		TQ 86901270
129642	?Medieval Moat, Lower Stonelink Farm, East Sussex	MOAT	Fairlight	Medieval		TQ 87231285
129643	Netherfield Ridgeway (LIN 130) East Sussex	TRACKWAY	Fairlight	Mesolithic – Roman		TQ 84991164
129644	Roman Pottery & Slag, Tongs Field, East Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Roman		TQ 88501280
129645	Medieval Bloomery, Fairlight, East Sussex	BLOOMERY	Fairlight	Medieval		TQ 88701280
129646	Wreck (Godild), Rye Bay, nr.Cliff End, East Sussex	WRECK	Pett	Post- Medieval		TQ 89281376
129647	Wreck (Clara), Rye Bay, nr.Cliff End, East Sussex	WRECK	Pett	Post- Medieval		TQ 89281376
129648	Wreck (Anne), Rye Bay, nr Cliff End, East Sussex	WRECK	Pett	Post- Medieval		TQ 89771362
129649	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, East Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman		TQ 87201310
129650	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman		TQ 87201270
129651	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman		TQ 87301240
129652	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman		TQ 88401250
129653	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman		TQ 88601280
129654	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman		TQ 88101310
129655	Roman Coin, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Roman		TQ 88751392
129656	Prehistoric Flints, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Mesolithic – Neolithic		TQ 88601400
129657	Prehistoric Flints, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Palaeolithic – Roman		TQ 87301350
129658	Prehistoric Flints, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Palaeolithic – Roman		TQ 87401360
129659	`18 acres and Cliff Field', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD BOUNDARY	Fairlight	Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 88321249
129660	`18 Acres and 18 Acres shaw', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD BOUNDARY	Fairlight	Medieval- Post Medieval		TQ 88251259
129661	Stumblet Wood, Fairlight, E. Sussex	WOODLAND	Fairlight	Medieval- Post Medieval		TQ 88261280
129662	'Gatefield and Little Gatefield', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD BOUNDARY	Fairlight	Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 88381291
129663	`Tongs', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD	Fairlight	Post Medieval		TQ 88551296
129664	Cliff End', Fairlight, E. Sussex	QUARRY	Fairlight	Post Medieval		TQ 88591261

129665 129666	`Barnfield' , Fairlight, E. Sussex `Barnfield', Fairlight, E. Sussex	LYNCHETS FIELD BOUNDARY	Fairlight Fairlight	Medieval - Post Medieval Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 87881290 TQ 87791290
129667	Field Barn, Old Marsham Farm, Fairlight, E.Sussex	BARN	Fairlight	Post Medieval	Listed Building	TQ 87821296
129668	`Best Brook', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD DRAINS	Fairlight	Post Medieval	5	TQ 88311309
129669	`Hopgarden Field and the nine Acres', Fairlight, E. Sussex	LYNCHETS	Fairlight	Medieval to Post Medieval		TQ 88141326
129670	`Boogy Brook', Fairlight, E. Sussex	LYNCHETS	Fairlight	Medieval to Post Medieval		TQ 88301329
129671	`The Five Acres', Fairlight, E. Sussex	LYNCHETS	Fairlight	Medieval to Post Medieval		TQ 88091307
129672	`House Brook', Pett, East Sussex	FIELD DRAINS	Pett	Post Medieval		TQ 88381333
129673	Old Marsham Farm House, Pett, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post Medieval	Listed Building	TQ 88461331
129674	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	BARN	Pett	Post Medieval	Ū	TQ 88491324
129675	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post Medieval		TQ 88481331
129676	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	FARM YARD WALL	Pett	Post Medieval		TQ 88511323
129677	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post Medieval		TQ 88491322
129678	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post Medieval		TQ 88481324
129679	`Malt House Brook' , Pett, East Sussex	FIELD NAME	Pett	Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 88501341
129680	`Best Brook', Fairlight,East Sussex	SHEEP WASH	Fairlight	Post-Medieval		TQ 88201301

# 3.2 Gazetteer of sites on National Trust Property including site-specific management recommendations

## 129640 Fairlight, Rother, East Sussex

Palaeolithic Hand Axe, findspot uncertain.

Management Recommendations: Without details of findspot none possible

Monument Status: National Trust SMR - 129640 E. Sussex HB SMR TQ 81 SE 104 ES3917

**Sources:** Wymer 1994, The Sussex raised beaches and the Bristol Avon, *The Southern Rivers Palaeolithic Project*, report no.3, 1993-94, Wessex Archaeology, Salisbury

129644 Tongs Field, Fairlight, Rother, East Sussex

Romano-British pottery and slag found in fieldwalking by Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group . Management Recommendations: Monitor site after any agricultural operations

Monument Status: National Trust SMR - 129644 E. Sussex HB SMR TQ SE38 ES3928

Sources: Bibliographic reference: Gazetteer of prehistoric, Roman and saxon sites in Romney Marsh and the surrounding area, Woodcock, A (in Eddison & Green eds.), 1988, 177-185

## 129652 Fairlight, Rother, East Sussex

Prehistoric flints found in fieldwalking by Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group . **Management Recommendations:** Monitor site after any agricultural operations

Monument Status: National Trust SMR - 129652 E. Sussex HB SMR TQ SE 36 ES3926

**Sources:** Bibliographic reference: Gazetteer of prehistoric, Roman and saxon sites in Romney Marsh and the surrounding area, Woodcock, A (in Eddison & Green eds.), 1988, 177-185

129653 Fairlight, Rother, East Sussex

Prehistoric flints found in fieldwalking by Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group . **Management Recommendations:** Monitor site after any agricultural operations

Monument Status: National Trust SMR - 129653 E. Sussex HB SMR TQ SE 37 ES3927

**Sources:** Bibliographic reference: Gazetteer of prehistoric, Roman and Saxon sites in Romney Marsh and the surrounding area, Woodcock, A (in Eddison & Green eds.), 1988, 177-185

#### TQ88401250

TQ88601280

TQ88501280

TQ88001300

#### 129654 Fairlight, Rother, East Sussex

Prehistoric flints found in fieldwalking by Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group . Management Recommendations: Monitor site after any agricultural operations

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129654 E. Sussex HB SMR TQ SE 40 FS3930

Sources: Bibliographic reference: Gazetteer of prehistoric, Roman and Saxon sites in Romney Marsh and the surrounding area, Woodcock, A (in Eddison & Green eds.), 1988, 177-185

#### 129657 Pett, Rother, East Sussex

Prehistoric flints found. No further information known, but the finds have been stored by the Hastings Area Archaeological Research group. (1)

Management Recommendations: Monitor site after any agricultural operations

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129657 E. Sussex HB SMR TQ SE90 ES2157

#### Sources:

Bibliographic reference: Gazetteer of prehistoric, Roman and saxon sites in Romney Marsh and the surrounding area, Woodcock, A (in Eddison & Green eds.), 1988, 177-185

#### 129658 Pett, Rother, East Sussex

Prehistoric flints found. No further information known, but the finds have been stored by the Hastings Area Archaeological Research group. (1)

Management Recommendations: Monitor site after any agricultural operations

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129658 E. Sussex HB SMR TQ SE89 ES2156

#### Sources:

Bibliographic reference: Gazetteer of prehistoric, Roman and Saxon sites in Romney Marsh and the surrounding area, Woodcock, A (in Eddison & Green, eds.), 1988, 177-185.

#### 129659 Fairlight, Rother, East Sussex

AI73 Field 454 pasture, with shallow dry ditch on NW of field 121, with recorded geological fault. Continues to cliff edge where no archeaological feature is visible.

Management Recommendations: Monitor site after any agricultural operations. Control animal burrow damage to scarp.

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129659 Sources: Tithe Apportionment Map 1839 Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

#### 129660 Fairlight, Rother, East Sussex

AI74 Tithe Apportionment Map field 119/120, arable & coppice 1839 park of '18 acres', fields 119/118 on high ground to east. Irregular & degraded west boundary to field, partly a lynchet from arable activity pre 1839, but also recorded as running along line of fault on geology map. Field now pasture, possible spring site draining down hill.

Management Recommendations: Monitor site after any agricultural operations. Control animal burrow damage to scarp.

# Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129660

Sources: Tithe Apportionment Map 1839 Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

## TO88251259

# TQ87401360

TQ88321249

TQ87301350

AI71

AI72

TQ88101310

# Monument Status:

Plot 117, named as Stumblet Wood, 6 acres.

Stumblet Wood, Fairlight

National Trust SMR - 129661

#### Sources:

129661

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

These may be quarries for ironstone, road metalling or building materials. There may be slight terraces or lynchets in the upper part of the wood.

#### 129662 Fairlight, East Sussex

North-east of Stumblets Wood on boundary of fields 114and 115 with 116 is a prominent scarp up to 3m high. Presumably result of ploughing of hill top, leading to soil creep downhill in 116. A spring exists in a slight hollow in the latter field, the site of a modern reservoir. No evidence was found from this survey to support a previously presented theory (see archive) that these earth banks might represent the remains of an unfinished defensive earthwork (see also for sites 129659 and 129660).

Management Recommendations: Monitor site after any agricultural operations. Control animal burrow damage to scarp.

Note that the boundary on the east has been straightened. A wood of some standards and coppice lacking any wood bank but bounded by a hedge on the western side close to the present road. There are irregular pits, some water filled, in the lower eastern part of the wood and one 'pond' in the upper south-eastern corner. Scarp to east in field 116 may also be a quarry.

Management Recommendations: Monitor any disturbance caused by removal of tree stumps or drainage work.

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129662

#### Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

## 129663 'Tongs', Fairlight, East Sussex

Field no 112, arable in 1839. Much denuded scarp following contour across upper, eastern part of field suggests line of lynchet, an area of one time arable.

Management Recommendations: Monitor site after any agricultural operations.

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129663

#### Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

#### 129664 Cliff End, Fairlight, Rother, East Sussex

Area north of the arable Field 118 of Tithe Map, now area of scrub and woodland. Steep but much weathered scarp from clifftop footpath. Irregular hollows extending to cliff edge, possibly faulted geological deposits but since cliff is solid rock this may be a quarry into these deposits. Depth up to 10m, and 30m wide.

Management Recommendations: Monitor effect of cliff erosion and growth of woodland.

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129664

#### Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

#### TQ88261280 AI76

AI77

TQ88381291

## TQ88551296 AI78

#### TQ88591261 AI79

#### 129665 'Barnfield', Fairlight, East Sussex TQ87881290 Al80

To the east of the barn a series of prominent field lynchets occupy a small combe opening into the valley that separates this hill from the Fairlight Hill (NTSMR129665). Shown as a single pasture field (Number 84, 'Barnfield') on the Tithe Apportionment Plan but now divided, it contains two very prominent field boundaries or positive lynchets in the upper part near the barn, the lower one up to 2m high and topped by an old hedge-bank. The existing footpath (FP23a) cuts through the centre of this. Further field terraces occur on the north-west boundary(TQ 87981298) and within the north-eastern side(TQ 88101295) of this field while downhill of the main lynchet is a slight terrace and a hollow immediately above the present sewage works in the south-eastern corner of the field. Another lynchet up to 2m high marks the southern boundary to Field 124 (The Garden 9 Acres, under arable in 1837). The western, uphill edge of the latter is marked by a 2m high scarp, while a slight terrace occupies its north-western corner. Another slight terrace, follows the contour lower down the hillside.

**Management Recommendations:** Restrict agricultural operations, main lynchet to be maintained as permanent pasture. Monitor site after any agricultural operations over rest of site.

## Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129665

#### Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05 and 16.8.05

#### 129666 'Barnfield', Fairlght, East Sussex

AI81 Field 84, pasture in 1839, now rough pasture. West side of field bounded by prominent bank topped by thorn bushes, ditch on east side. Boundary c 4m wide, the bank 1.5m high. Other slight earthworks in area. Management Recommendations: Monitor hedge bank and control animal burrow damage.

## Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129666

#### Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

#### 129667 32/41A The thatched barn at old Marsham farm,

AI82

Barn probably threshing barn with hayloft. Late C18, four bays (or three, two either side of central access?) Plinth of coursed sandstone of two phases, the first of irregular boulders, the second of squared rubble work. The walls are of 3 courses of flint pebbles alternating with brick header lacings and quoins. The upper part of the south-west gable is of random brick and flint and probably represents a rebuild. Half-hipped thatched roof supported on Queen post set with staggered purlins. Two central mid stray entrances on east and west. The walls are pierced by two rows of ventilation slits. Blocked accesses in north and south gables may have given access to loft. A good example of the late C18 barn in local materials.

**Management Recommendations:** Maintain building as present. Prior consultation with NT and HBMC necessary before any alterations or repairs. Vernacular Building survey to be undertaken.

## Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129667 Listed Building - 409558

#### Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , , Visual examination and photographs by CJSG 18-19.3.05 and 16.8.05

## TQ87821296

TQ87791290

#### 129668 Old Marsham farm, Fairlight, East Sussex

AI83 Field 95 Tithe map 'Best Brook' meadow seven acres, presently meadow/pasture. Linear system of drains on axis of field, draining to the mainstream on west hedge line. On uphill, west side scarp to boundary of field 94-possible lynchet eroded by stream, N.E. end parish boundary on line of drain forming field limit. Footpath 26a passes through field.

Management Recommendations: Maintain pasture as present. Monitor any drainage operations or recutting of ditches.

## Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129668

Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

#### 129669 Old Marsham Farm, Fairlight, East Sussex

AI84 No obvious features, but north perimeter to field 90 has 2m high lynchet at west end, presumably from arable use. Soil creeping downhill into valley side of Marsham sewer. Lynchet less pronounced to east. Top of lynchet marked by hedge line.

Footpath 24b passes on downhill side of lynchet.

In the Tithe apportionment map 1839, field 90 is named 'Hopgarden', presumably indicating it's use in the early nineteenth century.

Management Recommendations: maintain hedge and monitor burrowing animal damage.

## Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129669

## Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

Old Marsham farm, Fairlight, East Sussex. 129670

Field 97, on Tithe map 'Baggy Brook', one acre pasture in 1839- now waterlogged and covered in sedge grass. Lynchet circa 2m high scarp to west boundary with field 90. Drain/stream on east boundary-parish boundary with Pett. Footpath 23b passes through north end of field.

Management Recommendations: Maintain pasture as present. Monitor any drainage operations or recutting of ditches.

## Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129670

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Sources: Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

#### 129671 Old Marsham farm, Fairlight, East Sussex

Field 93, Tithe apportionment 'The 5 acre', arable in 1839, now pasture.

A large shallow hollow in the upper part of the field may be a filled quarry pit. The eastern margin of the field is a major lynchet up to 3m high on the western bank of the brook.

30

Management Recommendations: Maintain pasture as present. Any agricultural operations to be monitored.

#### Monument Status: National Trust SMR - 129671

Sources: Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , TO88141326

# TQ88301329

AI85

AI86

TQ88091307

Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

#### 129672 'House Brook' Pett, Rother, East Sussex

#### TQ88381333 Al87

Field 98, titled 'House Brook' 4 acres-pasture in 1839, now boggy with sedge grass and recent drains cut. Stream/parish boundary to Fairlight on west, scarp up to field 99 on south east. Marsham sewer forms north end of field, Old Marsham Farm to south east. Scarp on east topped by hedge and probably a lynchet formed by cultivation of field 99.

Management Recommendations: Maintain pasture as present. Monitor any drainage operations or recutting of ditches.

## Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129672

Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

# 129673 'Old Marsham Farm House' Pett, Rother, East Sussex. TQ88461331

Field 100 'Old Marsham' 2 acres close around farm house 1839.

Timber-framed farmhouse on stone foundations, partly clad in red brick with tile-hung upper floors and plain tiled roof. Two storeys, attic and basement (now blocked?). Original two-cell entry lobby on north-east front with present main entrance to continuous outshut at rear. The main building c 1600, the outshut of c 1735, with later rebuilds. The fenestration, at least, has been altered since the NT building survey of 1989. Half hipped roof with gablets and central brick chimneystack, the roof continuous over the rear outshot. Near regular fenestration on front of two light, off centre single light and three light wooden casements on each floor, boarded and ribbed door at left centre. Single casement at first floor to rear, two casements in northwest gable. Basement access from exterior on north-west but now blocked.

Possibly a farmhouse built by Thatcher family but altered by Medley in 1717 to serve as cottages for agricultural labourers and their families, dependent on Marsham Farm.

**Management Recommendations:** Maintain building as present. Prior consultation with NT and HBMC necessary before any alterations or repairs. Existing Vernacular Building survey to be revised.

Monument Status: National Trust SMR - 129673 Listed Building - 412722 Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , NT Architectural Survey 1989 Exterior visual examination by CJSG 18-19.3.05

## 129674 'Old Marsham Farm', Pett, Rother, East Sussex.

Mid-late C18 barn of brick with sandstone squared block footings on east side. 'English cross' brick courses (alternate headers & stretchers), two opposing doors in long sides, upper part lap-board, lower two leaf doors. Slate roof of C19 date.

**Management Recommendations:** Maintain building as present. Prior consultation with NT necessary before any alterations or repairs. Vernacular Building survey to be undertaken.

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129674 **Sources:** 

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Exterior visual examination by CJSG 18-19.3.05

#### 129675 'Old Marsham Farm', Pett, Rother, East Sussex.

Sheephouse or calfhouse. Lower walls alternate courses of brick headers & stretchers interspersed with courses of flint cobbles. East gable brick, with access to loft. Slate roof.

**Management Recommendations:** Maintain building as present. Prior consultation with NT necessary before any alterations or repairs. Vernacular Building survey to be undertaken.

#### TQ88491324

TQ88471326

AI89

A190

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129675

Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Exterior visual examination by CJSG 18-19.3.05

## 129676 'Old Marsham Farm', Pett, Rother, East Sussex.

TQ88511323 AI91

Stockyard wall abbutting barn, with two entrances with brick piers. Wall of coursed flint cobbles, topped by rounded coping bricks. C19 date?

Management Recommendations: Maintain structure as present. Prior consultation with NT necessary before any alterations or repairs.

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129676

#### Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Exterior visual examination by CJSG 18-19.3.05

#### 129677 'Old Marsham Farm', Pett, Rother, East Sussex.

Cattle shed. Single story, timber frame with partial lapboard walls with glazed window, open at north-west end, verticals braced to roof frame. Slate roof.

**Management Recommendations:** Maintain building as present. Prior consultation with NT necessary before any alterations or repairs. Vernacular Building survey to be undertaken.

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129677

#### Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , Exterior visual examination by CJSG 18-19.3.05, ,

#### 129678 'Old Marsham Farm', Pett, Rother, East Sussex.

Cattle Shed. Brick walls with glazed windows on south-east, continuous brick wall on north-west. Slate roof.

Management Recommendations: Maintain building as present. Prior consultation with NT necessary before any alterations or repairs. Vernacular Building survey to be undertaken.

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129678

Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Exterior visual examination by CJSG 18-19.3.05

## 129679 'Old Marsham Farm', Pett, Rother, East sussex.

Al94 Field 102 on Tithe map recorded as pasture in 1839 but now marsh with reeds and woodland. 'Malt House Brook' name suggests presence of Malt house in post medieval period.

Management Recommendations: Maintain as marsh. Any recutting of drainage to be monitored.

#### Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129679 Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , Walkover by CJSG 18-19.3.05

32

TQ88481324

TQ88551332

TQ88491322

AI92

AI93

## 129680 Fairlight, East Sussex.

#### TQ88201300

Field 95, small extension on south edge of meadow 'Best Brook' on Tithe map of 1839.

Early OS map shows sheep fold at this spot on the east bank of the stream, later editions show a sheep wash. Surface indications of two phases of structure, the earlier consisting of drystone revetment of stream bank and similar foundations returning on the east, the later structure a brick and concrete tank with access ramp set back from stream. The type of brick suggests a date in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century for the latter.

Management Recommendations: Maintain as pasture and preserve visible structures . Any recutting of brook to respect stonework in side of brook.

## Monument Status:

National Trust SMR - 129680

Sources:

Map: Fairlight Tithe apportionment map 1839, , , , 1<sup>st</sup> Ed OS 1:2500 map Walkover examination by CJSG 16.8.05

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# APPENDIX A Table of Sites (within National Trust ownership)

NTSMR No	Site Name	Туре	Parish	Date	Status	NGR	
129640 129644	Handaxe, Fairlight, East Sussex Roman Pottery & Slag, Tongs Field, Fairlight, East Sussex	FINDSPOT FINDSPOT	Fairlight Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic Roman		TQ 88001300 TQ 88501280	
129652	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Romar	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman		
129653	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman		TQ 88601280	
129654	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Romar	ו	TQ 88101310	
129657	Prehistoric Flints, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Palaeolithic – Roman		TQ 87301350	
129658	Prehistoric Flints, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Palaeolithic – Roman		TQ 87401360	
129659	Cliff Field and 18 acres', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD BOUNDARY	Fairlight	Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 88321249	
129660	`18 acres and Shemblet Field', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD BOUNDARY	Fairlight	Medieval- Post Medieval		TQ 88251259	
129661	Stumblet Wood, Fairlight, E. Sussex	WOODLAND	Fairlight	Post Medieval		TQ 88261280	
129662	`Gatefield and Little Gatefield and 15 Acres', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD BOUNDARY	Fairlight	Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 88381291	
129663	Tongs', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD	Fairlight	Post Medieval		TQ 88551296	
129664	Cliff End, Fairlight, E. Sussex	QUARRY	Fairlight	Post Medieval		TQ 88591261	
129665	Barnfield' , Fairlight, E. Sussex	LYNCHETS	Fairlight	Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 87881290	
129666	Barnfield', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD BOUNDARY	Fairlight	Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 87791290	
129667	Field Barn at Old Marsham Farm, Fairlight, E.Sussex	BARN	Fairlight	Post Medieval	Listed Building	TQ 87821296	
129668	`Best Brook', Fairlight, E. Sussex	FIELD DRAINS	Fairlight	Post Medieval		TQ 88311309	
129669	`Hopgarden Field and The Nine Acres', Fairlight, E. Sussex	LYNCHETS	Fairlight	Medieval to Post Medieval		TQ 88141326	
129670	`Boogy Brook', Fairlight, E. Sussex	LYNCHETS	Fairlight	Post Medieval		TQ 88301329	

129671 129672	`The Five Acres',Fairlight, E. Sussex House Brook' , Pett, East Sussex	LYNCHETS FIELD DRAINS	Fairlight Pett	Post Medieval Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 88091307 TQ 88381333
129673	Old Marsham Farm House, Pett, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post Medieval	Listed Building	TQ 88461331
129674	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	BARN	Pett	Post Medieval	0	TQ 88491324
129675	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post Medieval		TQ 88481331
129676	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	FARM YARD WALL	Pett	Post Medieval		TQ 88511323
129677	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post Medieval		TQ 88491322
129678	Old Marsham Farm, Pett, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post Medieval		TQ 88481324
129679	`Malt House Brook', Pett, East Sussex	FIELD NAME	Pett	Medieval - Post Medieval		TQ 88501341
129680	`Best Brook', Fairlight, East Sussex	SHEEP WASH	Fairlight	Post-Medieval- modern		TQ 88201301

### APPENDIX B1 Table of Sites (outside National Trust ownership)

Table of sites outside NT property but within grid squares TQ 8712, 8812, 8713 and 8813 and assigned NTSMR numbers. The location of 129640 is uncertain and may derive from either within NT ownership or outside it.

NTSMR No	Site Name	Туре	Parish	Date	Status	NGR
129633	Lithic implement, Cliff End, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Lower Paleolithic to Roman		TQ 88701310
129634	Iron Age to Anglo-Saxon Pottery, Cliff End, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Iron Age to Anglo - Saxon		TQ 88691288
129635 129636 129637	Bronze Age Spear, Cliff End, East Sussex Gold Coins, Fairlight, East Sussex Cave, with palaeo-Mesolithic lithic implements Cliff End, East Sussex	FINDSPOT FINDSPOT CAVE FINDSPOT	Pett Fairlight Pett	Bronze Age Iron Age Palaeolithic - Mesolithic		TQ 88801280 TQ 88001300 TQ 88761302
129638	Lower Stonelink Farm, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Fairlight	Post Medieval		TQ 87291284
129639	Marsham Farm, Fairlight, East Sussex	FARM BUILDING	Fairlight	Post Medieval	Listed Building	TQ 87821281
129640 129641	Handaxe, Fairlight, East Sussex Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, East Sussex	FINDSPOT FINDSPOT	Fairlight Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic Lower Palaeolithic to Roman	5	TQ 88001300 TQ 86901270
129642	?Medieval Moat, Lower Stonelink Farm, East Sussex	MOAT	Fairlight	Medieval		TQ 87231285
129643	Netherfield Ridgeway (LIN 130) East Sussex	TRACKWAY	Fairlight	Mesolithic – Roman		TQ 84991164
129645	Medieval Bloomery, Cliff End, East Sussex	BLOOMERY	Fairlight	Medieval		TQ 88701280
129646	Wreck (Godild), Rye Bay, nr. Cliff End, East Sussex	WRECK	Pett	Post- Medieval		TQ 89281376
129647	Wreck (Clara), Rye Bay, nr.Cliff End, East Sussex	WRECK	Pett	Post- Medieval		TQ 89281376
129648	Wreck (Anne), Rye Bay, nr.Cliff End, East Sussex	WRECK	Pett	Post- Medieval		TQ 89771362

129649	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, East Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman	TQ 87201310
129650	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman	TQ 87201270
129651	Prehistoric Flints, Fairlight, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Fairlight	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman	TQ 87301240
129655	Roman Coin, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Roman	TQ 88751392
129656	Prehistoric Flints, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Mesolithic – Neolithic	TQ 88601400

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## APPENDIX B2 Table of Sites (outside National Trust ownership).

Table of sites outside National Trust ownership but within grid squares TQ 8712, 8812, 8713 and 8813 and not assigned NTSMR numbers.

E. Sussex SMR No	Site Name	Туре	Parish	Date	Status	NGR
ES 2094	Flint scatter, Chickhill Bridge, Cliff End, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Lower Paleolithic to Roman		TQ 88901360
ES 2101	Farm house, Lunsford Farm, Pett	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post-medieval	Listed Bldg	TQ 88311388
ES 2103	Barn, Gatehurst Farm, Pett	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post-medieval	Listed Bldg	TQ 87771387
ES 2104	Farm house, Gatehurst Farm, Pett	FARM BUILDING	Pett	Post-medieval	Listed Bldg	TQ 87801389
ES 2115	Flint scatter, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Lower Paleolithic to Roman		TQ 88201360
ES 2116	Flint scatter, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Lower Paleolithic to Roman		TQ 88301370
ES 2117	Roman pottery and slag, Hollow Field, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Roman		TQ 88301390
ES 2118	Flint scatter, Lunsford, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Lower Paleolithic to Roman		TQ 88401390
ES 2119	Roman pottery, Upper Chick Hill Field, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Roman		TQ 88501380
ES 2120	Flint scatter, Lunsford, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Lower Paleolithic to Roman		TQ 88501390
ES 2121	Roman pottery, tile and slag, Primrose Dell, Pett, E. Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Roman		TQ 88601400
ES 2122	Roman coins, Lunsford Farm, E Sussex	FINDSPOT	Pett	Roman		TQ 88701390

ES 2123	Bloomery, Cliff End,	FINDSPOT	Pett		TQ 88901390
ES 2154	Roman coin hoard, Elms Farm	FINDSPOT	Pett	Roman	TQ 87401390
ES 2155	Flint Scatter, Pett	FINDSPOT	Pett	Lower Palaeolithic to Roman	TQ 87501380
ES 2159	Moat, Gatehurst Farm, Pett	MOAT	Pett	Medieval	TQ 87821387
ES 4112	Royal Military Canal, Pett	CANAL and MILITARY ROAD	Pett	Post-medieval	TQ 88881336

Farm	Parish	Field No.	Owner's Name	Occupier	Field Name	Land	Area (Acres)
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	84	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Barnfield	pasture	14
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	85	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Barnfield Yard		0
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	86	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	The 8 acres	arable	7
Marsham Fm	Fairlight		Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Market Wood	Coppice	16
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	88	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Upper Brook	Hops	2
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	89	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Lower Brook	Hops	1
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	90	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Hopgarden Field	arable	9
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	91	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Shaw in Hopgarden Field	Coppice	1
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	92	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Market Wood Brook	pasture	2
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	93	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	The 5 Acres	arable	5
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	94	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	The 9 Acres	arable	8
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	95	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Best Brook	Meadow	7
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	96	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	The 10 Acres	arable	10
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	97	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Boogy Brook	pasture	1
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	98	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	House Brook	pasture	4
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	99	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Barn meadow	Meadow	4
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	100	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Old Mersham		2
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	101	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Fore Meadow	Meadow	5
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	102	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Malt House Brook	pasture	2
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	103	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Sewer Brook	pasture	3
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	104	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Knaves Acre	pasture	2
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	112	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Tongs	arable	10
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	113	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Shaw	Coppice	
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	114	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Gatefield	arable	3
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	115	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Little Gatefield	pasture	2
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	116	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	15 Acres	pasture	14
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	117	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Shemblet Wood	Coppice	6
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	118	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Part of 18 acres	arable	10
Marsham Fm	Fairlight		Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Part of 18 acres	arable	7
Marsham Fm	Fairlight	120	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	18 acres shaw	Coppice	1F'long

# APPENDIX C Tithe Apportionment Map 1840 Estate owners

Fairlight	121	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Shemblet Field	pasture		3
Fairlight	122	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Long Brook	Meadow		3
Fairlight	123	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Shaw and garden	Coppice	2 f'long	
Fairlight	124	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Garden 9 Acres	arable		8
Fairlight	135	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Part of Little Blacksmith's Field	arable		1
Fairlight	454	Earl of Liverpool	Edw. Thorpe	Cliff Field	arable		8
Pett	235	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	Jakes	arable	1	16
Pett	241	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	Brook	pasture		2
Pett	242	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	Wards Brook	hops		2
Pett	243	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	Greatwards	arable		9
Pett	255	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	Little Wards	hops		3
Pett	259	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	Rushy Brook	hops		1
Pett	260	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	The 15 acres	arable	1	15
Pett	261	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	Work house Brook	arable		1
Pett	239	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	Magpie Hall	plantation		1
Pett	240	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	Magpie Hall	Coppice	3 F'long	
Pett	229	Earl of Liverpool	Jhn Thorpe	House Farm buildings		3 F'long	
	Fairlight Fairlight Fairlight Fairlight Pett Pett Pett Pett Pett Pett Pett Pe	Fairlight 122   Fairlight 123   Fairlight 124   Fairlight 135   Fairlight 135   Fairlight 454   Pett 235   Pett 241   Pett 243   Pett 255   Pett 259   Pett 260   Pett 261   Pett 239   Pett 240	Fairlight122Earl of LiverpoolFairlight123Earl of LiverpoolFairlight124Earl of LiverpoolFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolFairlight454Earl of LiverpoolPett235Earl of LiverpoolPett241Earl of LiverpoolPett242Earl of LiverpoolPett243Earl of LiverpoolPett255Earl of LiverpoolPett259Earl of LiverpoolPett260Earl of LiverpoolPett239Earl of LiverpoolPett239Earl of LiverpoolPett239Earl of LiverpoolPett240Earl of LiverpoolPett240Earl of Liverpool	Fairlight122Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeFairlight123Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeFairlight124Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeFairlight454Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeFairlight454Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpePett235Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett241Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett242Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett243Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett255Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett259Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett260Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett261Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett239Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett239Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett240Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett240Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpePett240Earl of LiverpoolJhn Thorpe	Fairlight122Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeLong BrookFairlight123Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeShaw and gardenFairlight124Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeGarden 9 AcresFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpePart of Little Blacksmith's FieldFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpePart of Little Blacksmith's FieldFairlight454Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeCliff FieldPett235Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeJakesPett241Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeBrookPett242Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeGreatwardsPett243Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeLittle WardsPett255Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeRushy BrookPett259Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeThe 15 acresPett260Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeWork house BrookPett239Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeMagpie HallPett239Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeMagpie HallPett240Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeMagpie Hall	Fairlight122Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeLong BrookMeadowFairlight123Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeShaw and gardenCoppiceFairlight124Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeGarden 9 AcresarableFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpePart of Little Blacksmith's FieldarableFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpePart of Little Blacksmith's FieldarableFairlight454Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeCliff FieldarablePett235Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeJakesarablePett241Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeBrookpasturePett242Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeGreatwardsarablePett243Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeCoppiceArablePett255Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeRushy BrookhopsPett260Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeThe 15 acresarablePett261Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeWork house BrookarablePett239Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeMagpie HallplantationPett240Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeMagpie HallCoppice	Fairlight122Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeLong BrookMeadowFairlight123Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeShaw and gardenCoppice2 flongFairlight124Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeGarden 9 AcresarableFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpePart of Little Blacksmith's FieldarableFairlight135Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpePart of Little Blacksmith's FieldarableFairlight454Earl of LiverpoolEdw. ThorpeCliff FieldarablePett235Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeJakesarable1Pett241Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeBrookpasturePett242Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeGreatwardsarablePett243Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeGreatwardsarablePett255Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeRushy BrookhopsPett259Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeRushy BrookhopsPett260Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeThe 15 acresarablePett239Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeWork house BrookarablePett239Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeMagpie HallplantationPett240Earl of LiverpoolJhn ThorpeMagpie Hallcoppice3 F'long

### APPENDIX D Metal Detecting on National Trust land

This note sets out National Trust policy on Metal Detecting on its properties in England and Wales. It is intended for use by metal detectorists and aims to clarify why we will only allow metal detecting on our land under controlled circumstances.

#### Metal Detecting on National Trust land

Metal detecting is generally not permitted on National Trust land, unless under exceptional circumstances, and only ever under a Licence Agreement;

Licence Agreements will only be issued by a National Trust Archaeologist where metal detecting can help further archaeological knowledge or protect archaeological remains;

Unauthorised metal detecting contravenes National Trust bylaws and is a criminal offence on Scheduled Monuments;

All finds, with the exception of 'Treasure', remain the property of the National Trust;

#### Why can't I metal detect on National Trust land?

The National Trust recognises that metal detecting is a popular and growing hobby that can help increase our understanding of the past. We are keen to find ways of working closely with metal detecting clubs and societies that can help interpret and protect our properties for future generations. However, we cannot allow unauthorised or unsupervised metal detecting on our land, even where it's under the plough.

All land in National Trust ownership means it has been entrusted to our care for the benefit of everyone. We recognise that most metal detectorists are highly responsible and actively report finds to their local Finds Liaison Officer, but we remain concerned at finds being taken out of the ground without proper recording or archaeological supervision. Every National Trust property is of archaeological interest, and we are currently undertaking a long-term programme of survey and research to help understand them better. When finds are taken out of context, we lose another piece of the jigsaw, which means it makes it harder for us to care for our archaeology. This is why we only allow metal detecting under exceptional circumstances with the control of a Licence Agreement.

#### What is a Licence Agreement?

This is a written agreement between the National Trust and the metal detectorist that will allow access under special conditions. You are unlikely to receive a Licence Agreement unless you are able to show full commitment to its terms and conditions.

#### Under what circumstances can I get a Licence Agreement?

Licence Agreements will only be issued where it can be shown that metal detecting can actively increase archaeological knowledge, limit damage to archaeological sites, help locate pipes and services during engineering works, or very exceptionally to locate lost personal items.

**Archaeological research projects** - A proposal might be made for the use of metal detectors in a collaborative project in which the appropriate National Trust Archaeologist aims to supervise and work alongside metal detectorists to inform archaeological survey and research, or as part of a controlled excavation project.

Rescuing finds from arable landscapes or on eroding coastlines - Situations might arise in which areas of National Trust land are identified as being of archaeological significance, but are at risk to damage and loss of artefacts through arable cultivation, or natural processes such as coastal erosion or sea level rise.

**Engineering works or recovery of lost possessions** - Applications for using a metal detector for the location of underground service pipes by contractors, or genuine applications for the recovery of lost personal metal items by a member of the public.

The National Trust will not issue a Licence Agreement for metal detecting on Scheduled Monuments nor within its parks, gardens or farmland under pasture.

#### Who issues Licence Agreements?

Only a National Trust Archaeologist can issue a Licence Agreement (contact your nearest Property or Regional Office for details). National Trust property staff, tenants and farmers are not authorised to give permission to metal detect on Trust land.

#### Can I keep what I find?

This will depend on the nature of the Licence Agreement. All finds – with the exception of 'treasure' - remain the property of the National Trust. This is due to the 'inalienable' status of our land, which means it cannot be sold or exchanged without an Act of Parliament.

#### Can I make a claim for an Award if I find 'Treasure' on National Trust land?

Under the Treasure Act 1996 anything that might be considered 'treasure' must be reported to the local Coroner. Claims for awards cannot be made without the consent of the landowner. However, there may well be circumstances where an award can be shared between the finder and the National Trust. We will put any money we receive back into the conservation, storage and display of the object.

#### What happens if I metal detect without a Licence Agreement?

You will be asked to leave the property and not return with the intention to metal detect. We will report all unauthorised metal detecting on Scheduled Monuments to the Police and may take action to reclaim items taken from National Trust land without permission.

However, if you have made finds on National Trust land in the past, we do encourage you to tell us or report them to your local Finds Liaison Officer (see below). We are keen to see and learn more from them.

#### How do I know I'm on National Trust land?

All National Trust land is shown on 1:25000 scale Ordnance Survey maps. Access into National Trust land is clearly marked with a green oak leaf and acorn sign. If in doubt, contact the nearest Property or Regional Office, or ask the local tenant.

#### Are you discriminating against metal detectorists?

No – all archaeological research carried out on National Trust land, other than that undertaken by Trust staff or their contractors, must be subject to a Licence Agreement. This includes universities, students, local societies and individuals. We believe this is a fair and honest approach that ensures we can continue to conserve the special places in our care.

#### How can I find out more?

Contact the National Trust Archaeology Section on 01285 651818 or see our webpage at <u>www.nationaltrust.org.uk/archaeology</u>.

More details on the *Treasure Act, Finds Liaison Officers* and the *Government's Portable Antiquities Scheme* can be found on <u>www.finds.org.uk</u> or call 020 7323 8611.

Help is also available from the National Council of Metal Detectors – see www.ncmd.co.uk



Fig. 1. Location Plan: Ordnance Survey 1:250,000 map.



Fig. 2. The major earthworks and archaeological features superimposed on the current Ordnance Survey map. GIS map provided by National Trust.



Fig. 3. 1:50000 Geological Survey, parts of Hastings and Dugeness Sheet 320/321 British Geological Survey (1980).



Fig. 4. First edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1873.



Fig. 5. Map from sale catalogue for the Outlying Portions of the Fairlight Hall Estate, Nov 1917, based on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1909(?).



Fig. 6. Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1936.



Plate 1. View of Fairlight Hill and cliffs from the south-west, showing extent of erosion near Haddocks Cottages in the (?)1930's.



Plate 2. The late Palaeolithic or Mesolithic cave in the cliff face at Cliff End (NTSMR 129637).



Plate 3. Panorama northwest from Fairlight Hill with Marsham Farm on hilltop to left, Old Marsham Barn (NTSMR 129667) in the centre and the village of Pett to the right on the skyline. In the foreground is the lynchet (NTSMR 129660).



Plate 4. Old Marsham Barn from the south-east (NTSMR 129667).



Plate 5. Old Marsham Barn detail of construction, north-western corner (NTSMR 129667).



Plate 6. Old Marsham Barn from the south-west with, in the foreground, the old hedgeline (NTSMR 129666) on the west side of the field.



Plate 7. Fairlight Hill from the south-west showing boundary of fields on line of geological fault and, to west, lynchet on western side of hill (NTSMR 129659 and 129660).



Plate 8. Panorama north from Fairlight showing valley of Marsham Sewer with Old Marsham Farm in the centre. In the foreground is field boundary and lynchet (NTSMR 129662).



Plate 9. Old Marsham Farm from the north-west, showing its location on rising ground, south-west side of the Marsham Sewer valley.



Plate 10. Old Marsham Farmhouse (NTSMR 129673), detail from the north-west.



Plate 11. Old Marsham Farm, Sheephouse/calfhouse (NTSMR 129675) from the north-east, showing construction.



Plate 12. Old Marsham Farm, the Barn from the north (NTSMR 129674).



Plate 13. Old Marsham Farm, the farmyard from the east. On the left, the modern Tyler Barn, beyond the cattle sheds and the main barn on the right (NTSMR 129674, 129677 and 129678). In the foreground is the brick and flint stockyard wall (NTSMR 129676).



Plate 14. Old Marsham Farm, the Barn from the east (NTSMR 129674).