

# **Searching for the Kings Manor: HSX18**

An investigation into the archaeology of the area between Orchard Place and East Street as part of a wider project related to central Faversham in Saxon Times

# Reports on:

KP167: 11 St Marys Rd Grid Ref. TR 01819 61221 KP169: 19 St Marys Rd Grid Ref. TR 01756 61098 KP170: 13 Newton Rd Grid Ref. TR 01700 61110



Fig 1: Scene of action at 19 St Marys Road, KP169.

### Contents

Part 1: General Introduction for Keyhole Pit Group	3
1. Introduction	3
2. Geographical and Historical background	3
a) Geography	3
b) Geology	4
c) Known historical background	4
3. Map Regression for 2018	6
Part 2: Individual Keyhole Pit Accounts	9
Keyhole Pit KP167	9
Keyhole Pit KP169	10
Keyhole Pit KP170	13
Part 3: Overall Conclusions	16
General interpretation	16
2. Final Comment	18
3. Acknowledgements	18
Appendix 1: Harris Matrices Appendix 2: Small Finds – KP167 Appendix 3: Small Finds – KP169 Appendix 4: Small Finds – KP170 Appendix 5: Lithics Appendix 6: Pottery Chronologies	19 20 21 23 24 26

#### Part 1: General Introduction for Keyhole Pit Group

#### 1. Introduction

The 2018 FSARG project follows on from the 2016 -2017 research, which has been an attempt to identify the site of the Saxon Royal Manor in upper Faversham. A document of AD811 named Faversham as the 'Kings little town' and the market dates to this time. In the 1860s an exceptionally rich early Saxon cemetery was discovered in the area where Faversham railway station now stands. In earlier projects, FSARG had found archaeological evidence for a Saxon settlement down in the Stonebridge Crossing area which we see as the working merchant town. Now we are looking for the Royal Manor itself.

In 2016 our starting point in the search was a single piece of evidence for domestic occupation in the upper town. This was a mid-Saxon loom weight found on a bomb site in East Street which was being cleared in 1953 to build the present-day Post Office. So far on nearby two sites we have found mid Saxon Ipswich ware and have identified a possible Saxon chalk floor and post holes. These lead us to realise that the Gatefield Lane-Cross Lane route was very probably the Saxon 'High Street'. Now we are looking closely at the zone around Gatefield-Cross Lane (except where it has been dug-off for brickearth for the brick industry (1860-1920s)): this group of house gardens fit these criteria very well.

#### 2. Geographical and historical background

#### a) Geography

The land between the Westbrook and Cooksditch valleys is a slope running down from 24m altitude at Watling Street to the south to 9m at St Marys church and 7m at Standard Quay, a total distance of 1.5km. This slightly higher ground falls away to either side, westward to the Westbrook Valley and eastward to the Cooksditch, both streams running south to north. The Cooksditch nowadays rises in a spring east of St Marys School and runs down past the Abbey Barns, to join Faversham Creek at Iron Wharf, Grid Reference TR 012354 62131. There is some evidence that the Cooksditch originally rose up near St Catherines Church<sup>1</sup> and was cut short by the creation of the Recreation Ground in 1862.

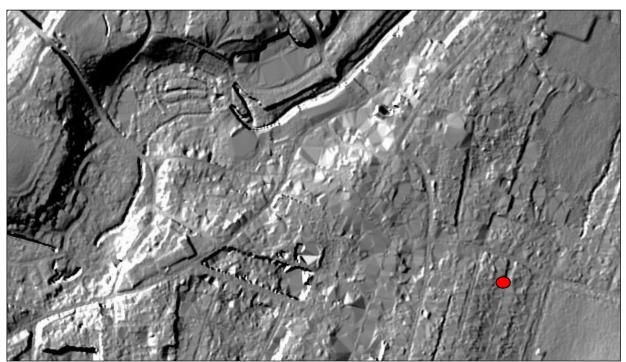


Fig 2a: The LIDAR map shows the relief of the land in Faversham town centre, with the 'dug off' areas showing up very clearly.

<sup>1</sup>FSARG website community-archaeology.org.uk/ archaeological investigations / Preston a most peculiar parish 2013-15/ Preston Farm report p5

3

#### b) Geology

The gentle downward slope to the north is related to underlying chalk dipping northwards to disappear under Thanet Beds and then under London Clay. Overlying the chalk, however, is a layer up to 2m - 3m thick of superficial deposits, laid down during the last major glaciation. These superficial deposits are very important for human settlement.

In this part of Faversham, the superficial deposits are mainly distinctive yellow-brown Head Brickearth, often overlying a gravel superficial deposit. The Kentish Stock brick industry flourished in the Faversham area between around 1850 and 1920, and large areas around and in the town under later housing development have been 'dug off', removing all except the most recent and most ancient archaeology.<sup>2</sup> In the LIDAR map in Fig 2a, the large 'excavations' in the lower centre are 'dug off' areas. The central areas have, however, escaped this destruction due to their pre-1860 enclosure of plots.

The most recent superficial deposit in this area is alluvium in the Westbrook and Cooksditch valleys. The Cooksditch valley lies just to the east of this area.



Key:

Orange: Head Gravels Yellow: Head Brickearth Thanet Sands Blue:

Light Green: Chalk Cream: Alluvium

Fig 2b: Geological map of central Faversham the same area as in Fig 2a.<sup>3</sup> The distinctive Davington Plateau (blue and orange) and Stonebridge Ponds (cream) areas can easily identified in Fig 2a. The group of sites is shown in red.

#### c) Known historical background

As can clearly be seen on the map regression shown on the next pages, this part of Faversham was orchard and hop-fields up until the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The St Mary's road properties were the first to be built, in response to a greatly increased demand for housing coming from a combination of factors – the rapid growth of a large-scale brick making industry making Kentish Stock bricks, increased industrialisation alongside the Creek such as the cement industry and the continuation of the gunpowder industry, albeit as gun cotton manufacture and by this time being mostly made out on the marshes. The houses in St Marys, St Johns and Park Roads were modest, respectable homes, built initially in small terraced groups here and there from 1860 onwards and by 1907 forming a solidly built-up area.

<sup>2</sup> TWIST Sydney 1984 Stock Bricks of Swale The Sittingbourne Society: Sittingbourne, Kent

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> British Geological Survey, 1;50 000 series. Faversham England and Wales Sheet 273

Newton Road was developed later, from around 1900 onwards. The houses here were much grander with large gardens, and several of them were detached. Whereas in the mid-late 20<sup>th</sup> century, when Faversham was going through economically straightened times, the St Marys area became poor (though still respectable), the Newton Road houses retained their superiority. Nowadays the St Marys Road area has become desirable again, as it has well built, reasonably priced houses close to the railway station. Newton Road, although nowadays on a major transport road, remains posh.



Fig 3: Aerial view in 1927, looking from the south across the study area. Railway and St Catherines Church (left) in the foreground. Recreation Ground in the middle right. St Marys Road in the centre.

Fig 4: Map regression for 2018 - all sites.

# Cooksditch

# a) Jacob's mid-18<sup>th</sup> century map, published 1774.

Gatefield Lane and Church Lane are prominent routeways. The fields to the east of the town centre are under hops (tall, thin) orchard (trees), arable (dotted lines), or meadow (dots).

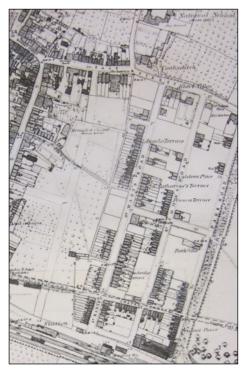
**Shooting Meadow** 

Rope Walk



#### b) Tithe map 1842.

This lists owners, tenants and land use. There have been few changes in land use since 1774, just one new building at the south end of the Rope Walk. The land use is listed as mostly meadow and orchard.



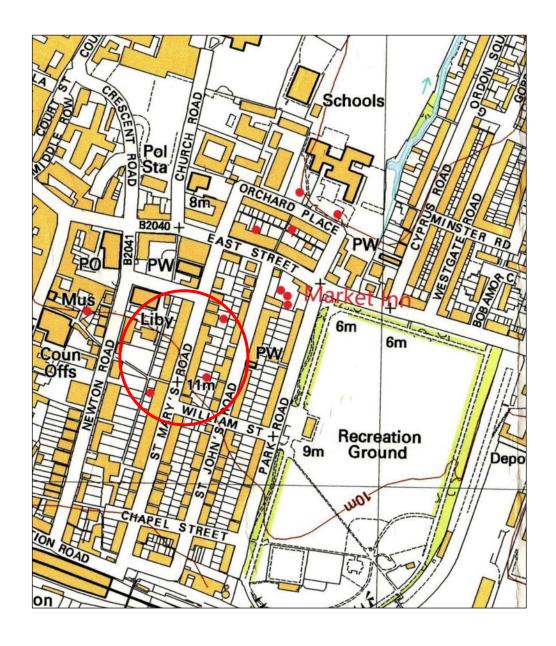
#### c) 1865 OS map, 6" to mile.

Now there are big changes in this eastern end of Faversham. St Marys and St Johns Roads are well under way, with many small terraces being built by different speculators. Houses have been built along both sides of East Street. The railway has arrived. A Methodist chapel has been built along Gatefield Lane. The Recreation Ground has been created to the east. Newton Road, however, is just a sketch on the map and the Crescent, of course, does not exist.



#### d) 1907 OS map.

A more limited area is shown on this map, but it well and truly shows the arrival of Newton Road in the years since 1865. Although the housing is very densely packed, a small orchard survives just north of East Street. The Methodist Church has become a Club. Note the splendid Institute on East Street and the large Congregational Church on Newton Road – both gone nowadays. Still no Crescent – that has to wait until the 1960s.



#### e) 2009 OS map.

This is now a densely built-up area, with the Recreation Ground, a charity donation, the only large open space. The red dots show the locations of all the Keyhole Pit excavations in 2018. The Physic Garden pit is just off the map to the north of St Marys church. The three keyholes described in this report are inside the red circle.

#### Part 2: Individual Keyhole Pit Reports

# A: Keyhole Pit KP167 Grid Ref: TR 01819 61221

#### 1A) Location of pit

The pit was located approximately half way down the garden, 7.7m from the rear of the house in a small grassed area. As most of the garden was laid to flowerbed and hard surfacing this was the optimal position. The pit was orientated North-South.

#### 2A) The procedures

A 1.5m by 0.6m pit was pegged out using poles and measuring tapes and the area delineated marked with string. The position of the pit was recorded by measuring to mapped corners of the house. Turf was removed carefully from the square, rolled and set aside in plastic bags. The pit was then hand excavated using single contexts, each of which was fully recorded. The keyhole was excavated to a depth of 1m. All excavated soil was sieved meticulously, and the spoil heap scanned using a metal detector. Finds were set aside for each context and special finds were given three dimensional coordinates, where possible, to pinpoint the exact find spot. Any features revealed were carefully recorded. Finally, the spoil was put back in, tamped down, watered and the turf replaced.

#### 3A) The findings

Context [01], turf, was removed and context [02] was excavated. This was garden soil with ash, coal and clinker, it was dark and dull in colour. Finds included pottery, shell, metal, clay tobacco pipe, brick, tiles, slate, flints. Pottery finds were mostly post medieval to late post medieval with a small amount of prehistoric. Flints included 2 Mesolithic pieces, a microlith and core, 5 Neolithic pieces of various use and one crude Iron Age piercer. A few pieces of clay tobacco pipes (CTP) were found, one dateable to 1760 – 1780.

Context [03] was like context [02] it was also garden soil but had more ash, coal and clinker were mixed throughout, it was harder to dig. The pottery was post medieval and late post medieval much less than in context [02] (10%). Pieces of marble were found which the owner remembered being from the front-room fireplace surround, discarded in the 1950's. Flints were dated from Mesolithic to Bronze Age, and included microliths and Horsham points. Two small pieces of CTP and a small squashed thimble was found, likely to be Victorian (Small Find).

Context [04] was softer soil than that above, still garden soil with inclusions as before (more coal) with the addition of pieces of tiles, at the southern edge animal bones were found, possibly a rabbit. Pottery was post medieval to late post medieval, no flints but more CTP than context [03]. The soil became lighter with small flecks of chalk so context [05] was started. This was garden soil resembling brick earth and showing dark worm holes. There were generally less finds than in the contexts above, but more shell and CTP. Pottery included prehistoric, medieval, then post medieval to late post medieval. More flints were found than in previous contexts, mostly Neolithic with a Mesolithic microlith, blade and Horsham point. The amount and date range of CTP suggested a small dump.

Finds were decreasing so the decision was taken (at a depth of 0.7m) to make a sondage in the centre of the pit, this became context [06], dimensions 0.6m x 0.40m. Within this sondage finds were sparse but included 2 flints, a Mesolithic Horsham point and a Neolithic scraper. Digging stopped at a depth of 1m.

#### 4A) Interpretation

KP167 was an excavation in a back garden in Faversham. Each context showed the soil building up over time, with the possibility of brick earth being in Context [06]. There was a mixing of different artefacts from different times throughout the Contexts [01] to [05] showing evidence of occupation from prehistoric times to modern times. CTP dates were consistent with the area being used as an orchard / farm during the 1700s and 1800s.

#### 5A) Final comments

This was a lovely garden to explore in hot summer days with the discarded marble from the mantelpiece, CTP and the rabbit burial illustrating that real people have lived and worked and continue to live in this area.

#### 6A) Acknowledgments

Many thanks to the householder for making us so welcome.

#### **Heather Wootton**

# B: Keyhole KP169 Grid Ref: TR 01756 61098

#### 1B) Location of pit

The trench was located off centre to the middle of the garden at the garden's widest part. The trench was measured from the edge of a patio consisting of paving stones to the rear of the property. The trench ran in an East / West alignment, the western edge being between 3.42m and 3.36m from the paving stones. The trench's northern edge was measured into the boundary fence, being between 1.68m and 1.76m away from the boundary fence.

#### 2B) The procedures

A 2m by 0.6m trench was pegged out and the area delineated marked with string. Turf was removed carefully from the surface of the pit, rolled and set aside in plastic bags. The trench was then hand excavated using spits and single contexts, each of which was fully recorded. We initially excavated in spits due to the inexperience of most of the diggers. The trench was excavated to a depth of 73cm, when brick earth was discovered. All excavated soil was sieved, and the spoil heap scanned using a metal detector. Finds were set aside for each context. Any features revealed were carefully recorded. Finally, the spoil was put back in, tamped down, watered and the turf replaced.

#### 3B) The findings

Upon beginning the excavation, the garden turf (designated Context [01]) was removed and bagged for later use when closing the trench down. The trench generally ran in an east / west direction. Under the south side of the turf was a section of broken brick, crushed material and sand. On discussions with the owner we discovered that this was an area where a path had previously been laid and had been removed and covered with turf. This area was designated spit 2. The soil was full of ash and consistent in colour. This context was rich in finds...16 small finds, predominately buttons, together with over 250 small pieces of pottery consisting of late post medieval or broken garden pot; large quantities of bone fragments, shell and some fish bones and over 180 pieces of metal fragments. Large numbers of coal / coke pieces and window glass sherds were also found. This is consistent with a general dump of material commonly found in Faversham gardens in houses of this age. This was excavated down to 20cm.

It was then decided to put a slot across the middle of the trench, initially to a depth of 10cm, which was extended down to a depth of 40cm. The contents of the slot were consistent with the composition and finds found in spit 2. Therefore, we removed the soil uniformly down to a depth of 40cm across the whole trench. A new slot was cut into the soil and at a depth of 45cm a lighter coloured surface started to appear. This was designated spit 3.

We then trowelled off the remaining spit 2 soil to reveal the surface of spit 3 across the trench. Trowelling of the surface of spit 3 revealed an area of darker soil identified as a pit. The cut was designated context [04] and the fill context [05]. The pit appears to have held the remains of a wooden post (washing post line?) There had been a section of iron guttering in spit 2, which probably acted as a support for the line, which had been removed for health and safety reasons. The pit was not visible in spit 2, suggesting that the pit had been covered when the garden path 'hardcore' was deposited. Fill context [05] was filled with ash coloured material like that found in spit 2. When clearing context [05] (fill) a void was discovered extending into the south side bulk of the trench. It was here that the toy tractor driver (SF15) was found. After bottoming out the pit [04] / [05] the remainder of spit 3 was excavated reaching brick earth designated Context [08] at a depth of 73cm.



Fig 5: Bellarmine stoneware, made near Cologne in Germany in the 1600s.

The 'platforms' either side of the pit [04] / [05] were designated context [06] on the east and context [07] on the west ends of the trench. A piece of Bellarmine stoneware pottery (17<sup>th</sup> century) was revealed at a depth of 65cm (**Fig 5**). Lighter clay type material was seen coming through at both the east and west sections of the trench, suggesting that they were similar in composition. Finds from the contexts were different, however. Context [06] being mainly pottery, ceramic building material (CBM), flint and shell. Context [07] yielded shell, coal / coke, Clay Tobacco Pipe, CBM, glass, mortar and flint. Speculation was that both, while similar in appearance were dumps of material.

Both 'platforms' [06] and [07] were then excavated down to the brick earth. A further slot was dug into context [08] which revealed small amounts of bone, shell, chalk, flint and CBM, all found in the very top, transitional layer of context [08]. The excavation ceased at a depth of 95cm.



Fig 6: KP169 at the end of digging. Context [6] in the background, context [7] in the foreground. Note the characteristic yellowbrown colour of pure brickearth in the deepest part.

Clay Tobacco Pipe was only discovered in Spit 3 and contexts [06] and [07]. The areas designated contexts [06] and [07] were initially done to aid identification within the pit but it is a possibility that they all formed part of the same layer. Worked flint tools were found across the trench [02], [03], [05], [07] and [08] but in small quantities and were predominately Mesolithic with some Late Bronze age.

#### 4B) Interpretation

KP169 was an excavation in a back garden in Faversham. There was a mixing of different artefacts from different times throughout the Contexts [02] to [08] showing evidence of occupation from pre-historic times to modern times.

From the excavation it appears that this area of the garden has been built up as a series of dumped material. The brick earth [08] would have been the original orchard level, which has been covered with dumps of house rubbish and ash from Victorian times to date. The ground level [02] was a mixture of well dug garden soil, still with ash present, with some demolition material used to act as hardcore for a path. The pit [04] / [05] would appear to be from a period of 1929 to the 1960's, based on the metal figure found within it.

#### 5B) Final comments

At the start of the dig the soil was trowelled very carefully as three of the diggers had not used a trowel previously and training in excavation techniques was given.

Although a fairly 'normal' pit for Faversham in terms of deposits and finds, the excavation was complicated and made more difficult to read due to the number of dumps of different material. It was a nice place to dig.

#### 6B) Acknowledgments

Many thanks to the householder for making us so welcome. She was really enthusiastic and hopefully may join FSARG someday.





Fig 7: Trainee trowellers.

# C) Keyhole Pit KP170 Grid Ref: TR 01700 61110

#### 1C) Location of pit

The trench was located across the centre to the middle of the garden running in parallel with the back of the house. The trench ran on a north east / south west alignment. The trench was measured from the corner edges of the property being between 11.54m and 13.53m from the property. The trench was 2m in length and 0.75m in width. It was 3.73m from the south west boundary fence and 3.27m from the north east boundary fence.

#### 2C) The procedures

A 2m by 0.75m rectangle was pegged out and the area delineated marked with string. The position of the trench was recorded by measuring to mapped corners of the house. Turf was removed carefully from the trench area, rolled and set aside in plastic bags. The pit was then hand excavated using single contexts, each of which was fully recorded. The keyhole was excavated to a depth of 1.15m. All excavated soil was sieved, and the spoil heap scanned using a metal detector. Finds were set aside for each context. Any features revealed were carefully recorded. Finally, the spoil was put back in, tamped down, watered and the turf replaced.

#### 3C) The findings

The garden turf was identified as context [01], lifted and stored for later use. Context [02] was excavated down to a depth of 13cm and was really solid and almost impossible to trowel. It was eventually removed by forking and mattocking the soil out. Underneath this solid layer the soil colour changed to a more clay type consistency and yellowy brown in colour. This was designated context [03], which was excavated to a depth of 25cm. Context [03] was also quite compact and again the techniques used in context [02] had to be employed. Context [03] proved very difficult to sieve so a decision was made to only sieve half of the buckets excavated. Un-sieved soil was kept separately in a different spoil bag in case addition examination was required later. A softer darker layer began to be seen at a depth of 25cm and this was designated context [04], which could be trowelled.

At a depth of approximately 25cm the soil began to become more gravelly and contained CBM, bone, ash, flint and slate in greater quantities compared to the finds made in context [02]. After excavating approximately 30cm across the trench in total (approximately 5cm of context [04] excavated,) it was decided to put a slot 50cm wide across the middle of the trench to try and determine how deep context [04] extended. This was spaded out and sieved. At a trench depth of 64cm (20cm depth in the slot) the soil became slightly lighter in colour and more clayey. The was designated context [05]. The context [04] soil at the north east end of the trench was excavated without sieving (hand-picked instead) to expose enough of context [05] to work on. This soil contained more worked flints, also Ceramic Building Material (CBM), Clay Tobacco Pipe (CTP), pottery, red ware, Tyler Hill. The remainder of context [04] remained unexcavated. Context [05] was then excavated by trowel and was sieved.

An animal burial (a cat skeleton) was found and excavated within [05] (see **Fig 8**). It was decided to put a 30cm slot across the trench through context [05] in the same position within the trench that the earlier slot had been dug to try and determine how deep context [05] extended.



Fig 8: Cat skeleton, in situ.

At a depth of 85cm the soil appeared to change colour to a more orange colour (brick earth) and was designated context [06]. Context [06] was excavated initially by trowelling but few finds found (flint, shell). Excavating revealed a small hole appearing, possibly a root hole. More of context [04] and [05] was removed by use of a spade to expose more of context [06] at the south west end of the pit. The excavated soil was rough sieved. At approximately 95cm depth, two small holes appeared, voids with no debris, slanting off at an angle extending down an additional 30cm. The area around the holes was spaded out and some wood fragments and decayed matter were found, different in colour from any observed worm hole soil, speculated to be possible tree roots, fence posts.





Fig 9: KP170 at end of excavation. Above, the time capsule placed in the pit before backfilling.

#### 4C) Interpretation

Finds analysis show a piece of Tyler Hill medieval pottery in [06] together with limited shell and flint together with some possibly painted wood fragments. Context [05] had over 100 shell fragments together with pottery ranging from Roman to LPM and several iron nails and other building fragments (CBM, mortar brick). Context [04] was full of finds, including pottery (Tyler Hill to Redware, LPM) as well as bone, shell, iron (nails, hook) coal / coke, glass CTP, CBM, mortar and worked flint. Plastic finds were also discovered. Context [03] was similar in feel to context [04], in terms of the range of finds but with

less quantity. Context [02] was also like context [04] in terms of the range of finds found. In terms of worked flint finds, they were found in all contexts bar [01] and [03]. The majority were found in contexts [04] – [06], including a blade, core, microlith, arrowhead, point and a knife with dates ranging from Palaeolithic, Neolithic to Mesolithic.

From the findings it could be argued that the garden surface had been raised over time by the deposit of a dump of possible brick earth and by the deposit of general house rubbish after the house was built in Edwardian times. The range of finds are consistent with that normally seen in many gardens in the Faversham area. CTP was found throughout the contexts down to context [05]. Context [06], which was identified as brick earth and the probable original orchard level had no CTP. The probable orchard level was covered with dumps of house rubbish and possible brick earth / clay from Edwardian times to date.

#### 5C) Final comments

Progress on excavating the trench was difficult due to the very hard nature of the soil we encountered, due to dry conditions.

#### 6C) Acknowledgments

Many thanks to the houseowners for allowing us to dig in their garden and for the deposit of a time capsule which hopefully someone may find long in the future.

#### **Chris Wootton**

#### Part 3: Overall Conclusions

#### 1. General Interpretation

As explained in the introduction, these three excavations took place in a relatively recently developed part of Faversham. Around 160 years ago, this area was under hops, orchard or arable use. We expected to find a depth of around 0.5m to 0.67m of household dumping, with plenty of cinder and coal. We also expected a substantial amount of building debris, resulting from improvements and extensions to these houses. What we were really interested in, however, was the archaeology below this level, at a depth perhaps of around 0.75m.

Inspection of the pottery finds in Appendix 6 and the accounts in the text will show you that in the two St Marys Road excavations, KP 167 and KP169, this pattern did emerge. Only the upper two contexts had 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery, with the 1600-1900 redware (kitchen, dairy and brewery wares) overlapping into lower contexts, especially in KP167. Below these levels, small amounts of earlier pottery, medieval, Saxon was found in KP167 and also in KP170 (Newton Road) which did seem to have a rather more mixed set of contexts. Between these layers was a small amount of post medieval finds, the most striking of which was the distinctive fragment of Bellarmine pottery (see Fig 5) found in KP169. Most of the clay tobacco pipe fragments found were of 18th century age. These finds must be attributed to the farm workers, maybe especially the hop pickers, working in this area in the 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> century (see map Fig 4a).

Of the early pottery, the most interesting to us was the tiny amount of Early Saxon pottery found in KP170. This is guite close to other spots in eastern Faversham where we have found Saxon pottery<sup>4</sup>, and will contribute to a map of Saxon Faversham.<sup>5</sup> What, however, is far more conspicuously striking is the large amount of worked flint found in KP167 (see Appendix 5 and Fig 10 below).

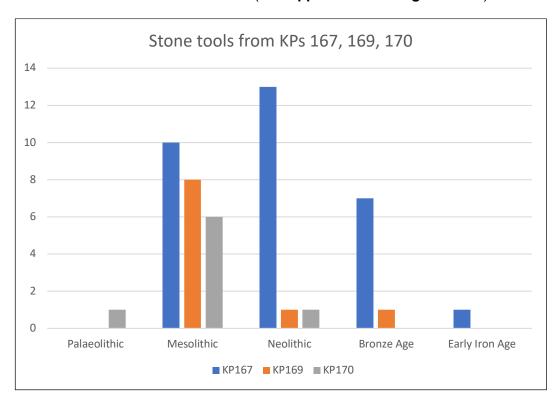


Fig 10: Lithics graph for KPs 167, 169, 170.

The KP167 flints are dated mainly to the Neolithic (4.000 to 2000BC in the UK) but overall, the most flint tools date from the Mesolithic, the period of the hunters in the Great Wild Wood, before the Neolithic and the introduction of farming. The KP167 finds are remarkable for such a small excavation. Because flint

See the Report on KP178. The Faversham Club, for example, www.community-archaeology.org.uk

REID P 'What we know about Saxon Faversham' in preparation 16

tools have been in the ground for thousands of years, they do tend to be found distributed through early to late contexts, as they have ben disturbed by countless events such as trees falling over and lifting their roots to modern digging for foundations of buildings or the creation of cellars. Small amounts of heat stressed flints were found in all three pits, and small sherds of prehistoric pottery in KP167.

These early finds are of particular interest to us. Although we are first and foremost hunting those elusive Saxons on the eastern borders of Faversham, and in fact have found a significant Early Saxon assemblage nearby<sup>6</sup> to which we are returning in summer 2019, it has become very clear to us that this was also a popular living place in prehistoric times. Later this year (2019) we will also be returning to a site which yielded *only* prehistoric material, a first time for us in Faversham where the prehistory is usually mixed in with later periods: watch the website for a report in 2020. Our current theory is that the Cooksditch was a much more manageable water supply than the Westbrook. The Roman villa down near the Abbey Barns, faced south east<sup>7</sup> and its associated buildings straddled the Cooksditch.<sup>8</sup> As mentioned earlier, there is reason to suppose that the Cooksditch rose further inland.

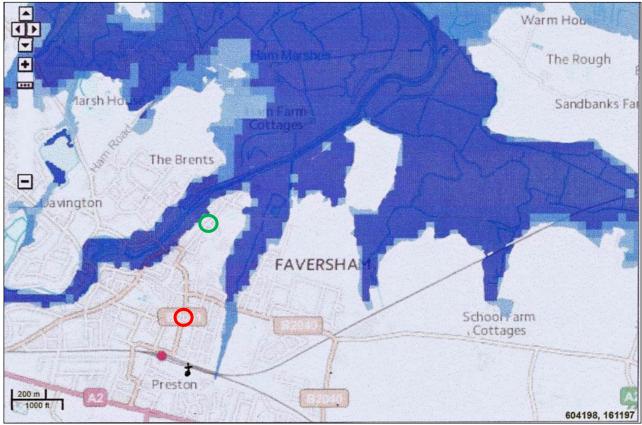


Fig 11: Flood risk map from DEFRA, 2015. The dark blue is high risk, the light blue lesser. This does suggest the ancestral course of the Cooksditch, rising possibly near St Catherines Church, Preston.<sup>9</sup> The red circle encloses KP167, KP169 and KP170. Green circle is the Roman villa.

17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Report for KPS 173, 174 and 180 on the FSARG website www.community-archaeology.org.uk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> PHILP, B 1968 Excavations at Faversham 1965 First Research Report pf the Kent Archaeological Research Groups' Council. pp 67-71

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> WILKINSON P Investigations in Abbey Fields: in preparation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> www.community-archaeology.org.uk Report on Preston Farm in Preston: a most peculiar parish

#### 2. Final comments

Our findings on this eastern edge of the main town of Faversham have been very intriguing. For the first time, our attention has been well and truly drawn away from the Westbrook and the Creek and towards what is nowadays quite a puny stream, the Cooksditch. The accounts in this report show the survival of considerable amounts of evidence for much of the prehistoric period, even including some small pottery sherds. We are all looking forward to following this up. Meanwhile, it's on with the Saxon Royal Manor.

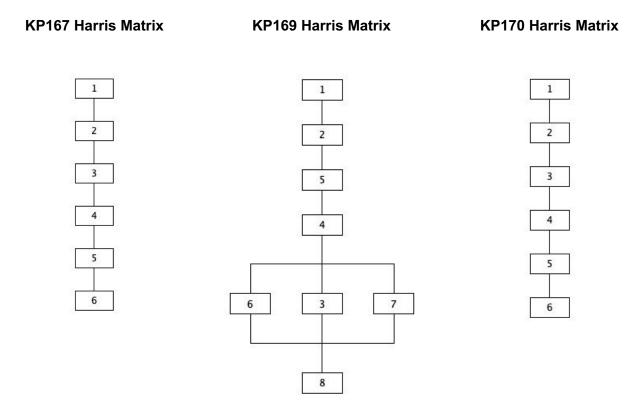
#### 3. Acknowledgements

Chris and Heather, the report writers, have already thanked all house-owners for your kind permissions to dig in your gardens and your interest and support. Please add my heartfelt thanks to theirs. Without your cooperation, much of Faversham would remain a mystery.

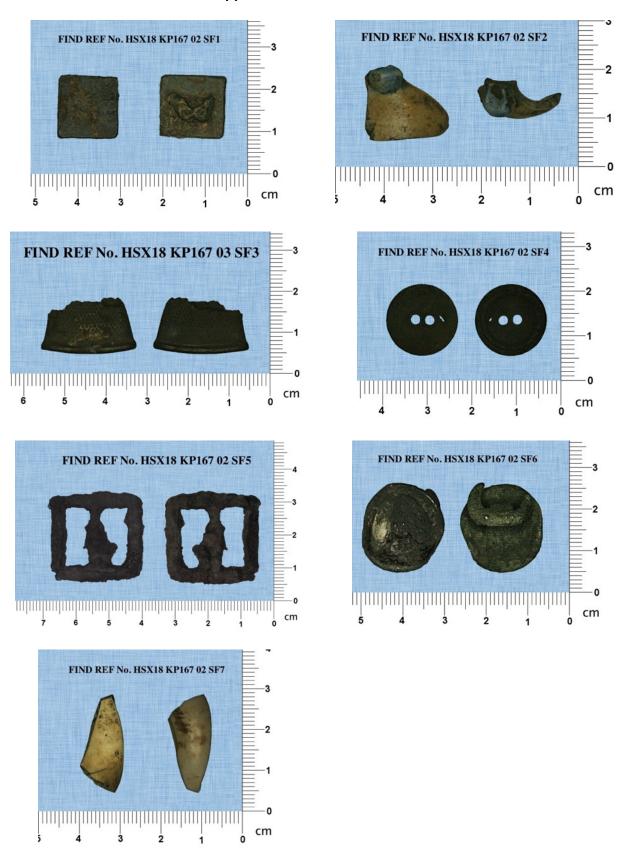
Pat Reid

**April 2019** 

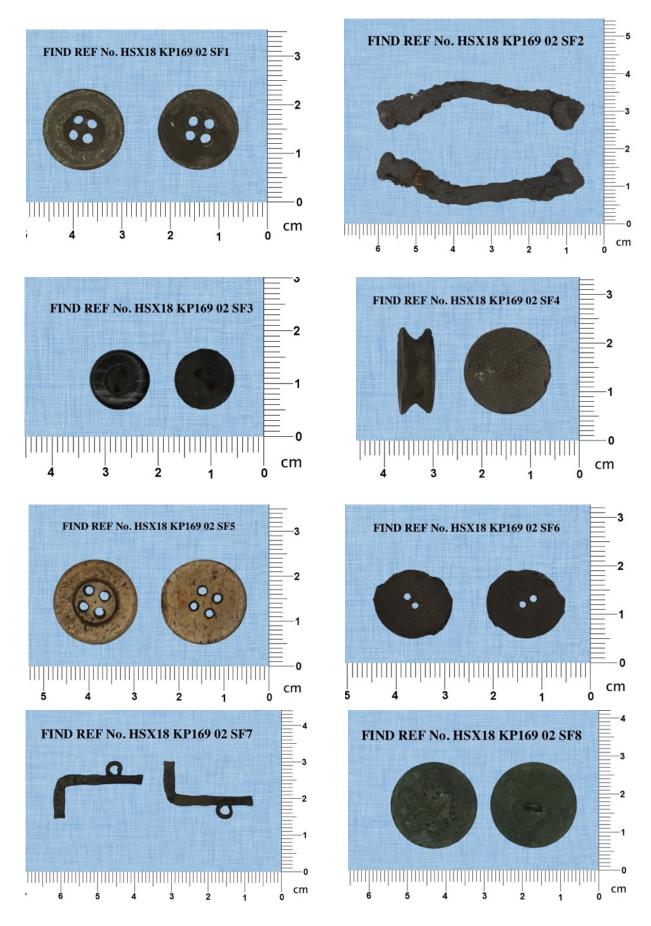
# Appendix 1: Harris Matrices for KP167, KP169, KP170

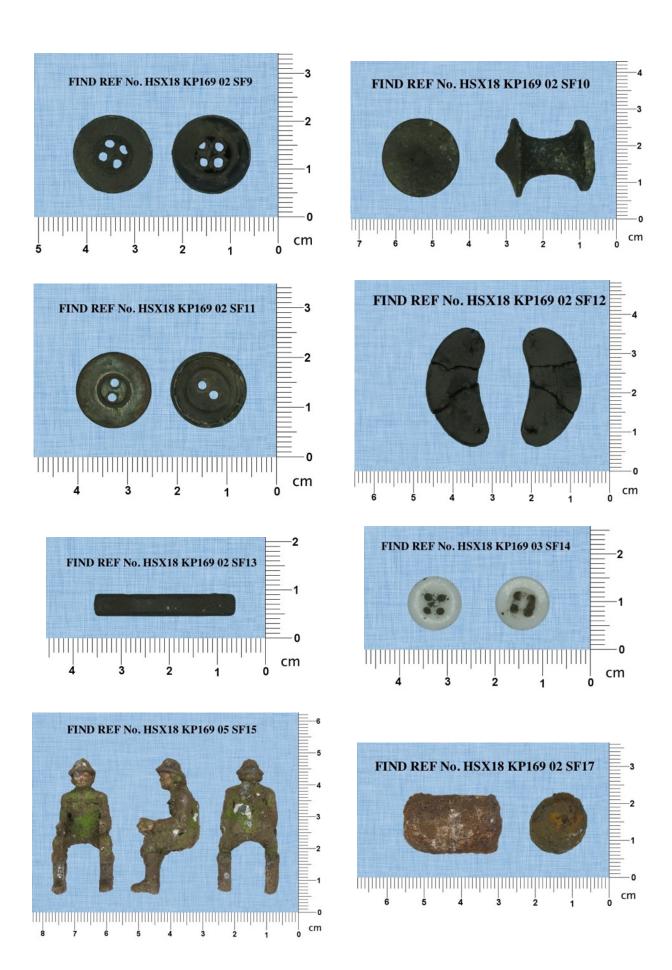


Appendix 2: KP167 Small Finds

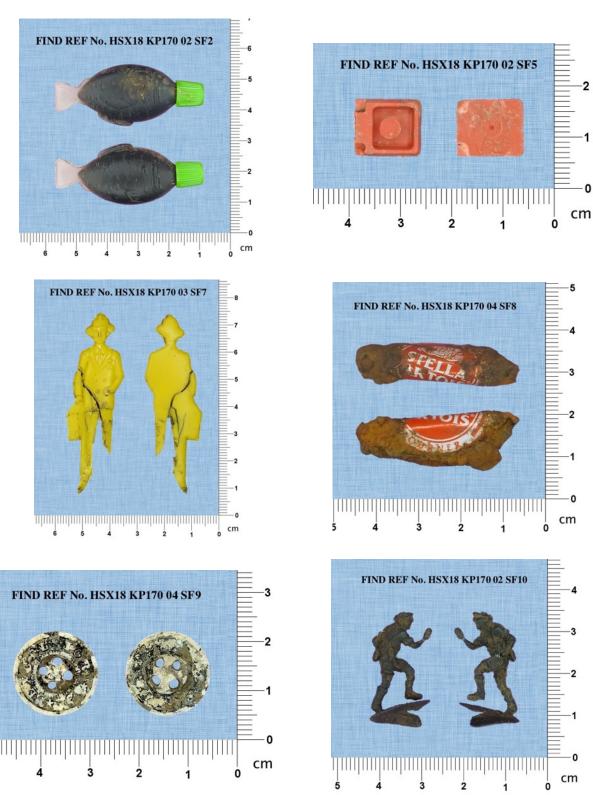


Appendix 3: KP169 Small Finds





Appendix 4: KP170 Small Finds



# **Appendix 5: Lithics Tables**

# **KP167**

Catalogue No.	Context	Туре	Qualifier 1	Sub Type	Broad Date
1088	2	piercer	crude		Iron age
1089	2	core	worked out		Mesolithic
1090	2	y-shaped	mini		Neolithic
1091	2	arrowhead	leaf shaped		Neolithic
1092	2	arrowhead	chisel?		Bronze age
1093	2	scraper	small	point	Neolithic
1094	2	microlith	triangular		Mesolithic
1095	2	crusher	well used		Neolithic
1096	3	microliths	3 toothed		Mesolithic
1097	3	core	worked out		Neolithic
1098	3	Point	Horsham		Mesolithic
1099	3	scraper	micro		Mesolithic
1100	3	scraper	horned		Bronze age
1101	3	point	Horsham		Mesolithic
1102	5	microliths	3		Mesolithic
1103	5	point			Neolithic
1104	5	microlith	toothed		Mesolithic
1139	5	blade	knife and notch		Mesolithic
1140	5	smoother	polished face		Neolithic
1141	5	smoother	polished face		Neolithic
1142	5	core	fragment?		?
1143	5	piercer	small		Neolithic
1144	5	scraper	end		Neolithic
1145	5	core	worked out		Neolithic
1146	6	scraper	thumbnail		Neolithic
1147	6	point	Horsham		Mesolithic
1301	4	awl			Bronze age
1302	4	microlith			Bronze age
1303	4	horned			Bronze age
1304	4	core	flake		Neolithic
1305	4	borer or piercer			Bronze age
1306	4	scraper	horseshoe	borer or piercer	Bronze age
1307	4	core	blade		Neolithic

# **KP169**

Catalogue No.	Context	Туре	Qualifier 1	Sub Type	<b>Broad Date</b>
1180	8	point	Horsham		Mesolithic
1181	7	hook	small		Х
1182	5	microlith			Mesolithic
1183	3	scraper	end		Mesolithic
1184	3	scraper	end		Mesolithic
1185	2	awl	small		Mesolithic
1186	2	micro blade	denticulate		Mesolithic
1187	2	awl			Bronze age
1188	2	microlith	toothed		Mesolithic
1189	7	scraper	discoidal		Neolithic
1308	6	microlith			Mesolithic

**KP170** 

Catalogue No.	Context	Туре	Qualifier 1	Sub Type	Broad Date
1196	2	microlith			Mesolithic
1197	2	knife	crude		Alaeolithic
1198	4	blade	small notch		Mesolithic
1199	4	core	blade		Mesolithic
1200	4	microlith	toothed		Mesolithic
1201	5	arrowhead	oblique		Neolithic
1202	6	point	Horsham		Mesolithic
1203	6	knife			Mesolithic

The main reference book for FSARG flint dating is Chris Butler's *Prehistoric Flintwork* 2005 Tempus publications: Stroud.

**Appendix 6: Pottery summaries** 

	KP167												
Context	Pre	Ro	EMS	MS	LS	EM	М	LM	РМ	RED	LPM	Unident	Totals by Context (g)
2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	148	38	0	197
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	8	0	18
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	9125	0	0	9130
5	12	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	1	37	0	0	90
Totals by Chronology	17	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	12	9320	46	0	9435

KP169													
Context	Pre	Ro	EMS	MS	LS	EM	М	LM	РМ	RED	LPM	Unident	Totals by Context (g)
2									11	627	260		898
3								3	32	49	43		127
5									2	35	69		106
6									21	15			36
7									10	71			81
8									1				1
Totals by Chronology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	77	797	372	0	1249

	KP170												
Context	Pre	Ro	EMS	MS	LS	EM	М	LM	PM	RED	LPM	Unident	Totals by Context (g)
2							3			42	65	12	122
3										28	7		35
4							4			328	30		362
5		12	3				18		8	12	19		72
6							1						1
Totals by Chronology	0	12	3	0	0	0	26	0	8	410	121	12	592

Quantities: (weight in grams)

#### **Key to Dates:**

Pre: Prehistoric 4000BC - AD43 Ro: Roman AD43 - AD410 EMS: Early to middle Saxon AD411 - AD700 MS: Middle to late Saxon AD701 - AD850 LS: Late Saxon AD861 - AD1050 EM: Early Medieval AD1051- AD1225 M: Medieval AD1226 - AD1400 Late Medieval LM: AD1401- AD1550 PM: Post Medieval AD1551- AD1800 AD1600 - AD1900 Redware RED: LPM: Late Post Medieval AD1801- now

Unident: Unknown