

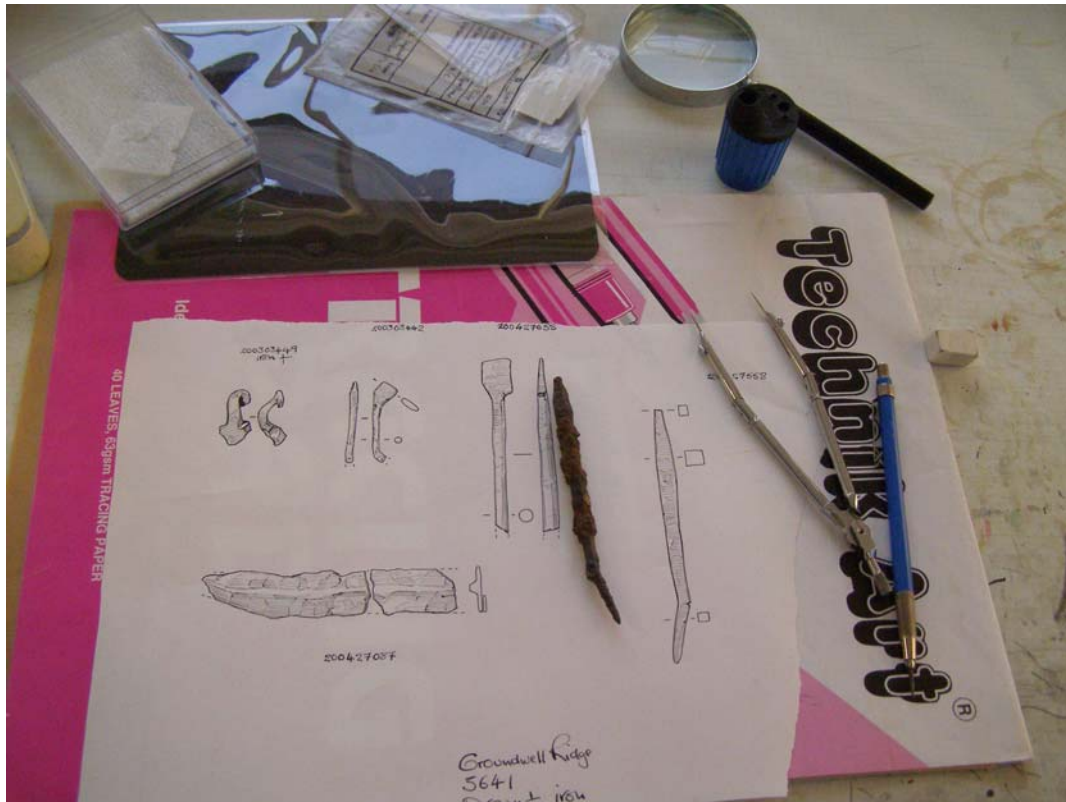
## Groundwell Ridge Villa Analysis Project, Pr 364I Update 4, October 2007

All the finds from the Villa have now been washed, conserved and analysed. The next stage is therefore to select the items that have enough individual importance that they need to be accurately drawn to scale and photographed for the archive and so that they can possibly appear in the final publication. The importance of photography of special artefacts is obvious, but the drawing of them is, in some ways, even more important. The artefact in the hands of an experienced illustrator may often reveal details that cannot be seen in even the best photo, this is through careful scrutiny and the use of x-ray photos.



An illustrator at work preparing drawings for the final publication

The illustrations will, in the end, cover the whole range of special finds from the excavations, from iron implements, to pottery and glass. The chosen illustrations will be used to highlight such aspects of villa life as the wealth, status and the fashion styles of the inhabitants, and such details as decoration can reveal much about the dating of the finds, and how closely the people were linked to the main stream of the Roman Empire. Once the final selection of illustrations for the publication has been chosen, then the final layout of the article can begin.



The full complement of the illustrators table including the item to be drawn, an x-ray photograph of it, dividers for measuring and a magnifying glass..

The report itself is now starting to take shape. Further work is required on the interpretation and discussion of all the main elements of the villa so that a final chronology for the various phases can be agreed upon, and also the remaining specialist reports need to be finished. Once these are complete, hopefully by New Year, we will need to integrate them into a single text with the structural information and overall discussion ready for publication later in 2008.